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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z *have their usual values.*

g as in *g*o (g$\bar{o}^{u}$).
h ... *h*o! (h$\bar{o}^{u}$).
r ... *r*un (rʊn), ter*r*ier (te·riəɹ).
ɹ ... he*r* (həɹ), fa*r*ther (fā·ɹðəɹ).
s ... *s*ee (s$\bar{\imath}$), *c*ess (ses).
w ... *w*en (wen).
hw ... *wh*en (hwen).
y ... *y*es (yes).

þ as in *th*in (þin), ba*th* (baþ).
ð ... *th*en (ðen), ba*th*e (b$\bar{e}^{i}$ð).
ʃ ... *sh*op (ʃɒp), di*sh* (diʃ).
tʃ ... *ch*op (tʃɒp), di*tch* (itʃ).
ʒ ... vi*s*ion (viˑʒən), dé*j*euner (deʒ$\bar{o}$ne).
dʒ ... *j*u*dg*e (dʒʊdʒ).
ŋ ... si*ng*i*ng* (siˑŋiŋ), thi*nk* (þiŋk).
ŋg ... fi*ng*er (fiŋgəɹ).

(FOREIGN.)
n̂ as in *French nasal*, *en*viron (aṅvi*r*oṅ).
l^{y} ... It. sera*gl*io (serā·l^{y}o).
n^{y} ... It. si*gn*ore (sin^{y}ō·re).
χ ... Ger. a*ch* (aχ), Sc. lo*ch* (loχ, loχ^{w}).
χ^{y} ... Ger. i*ch* (iχ^{y}), Sc. ni*ch*t (nèχ^{y}t).
γ ... Ger. sa*g*en (zā·γĕn).
γ^{y} ... Ger. le*g*en, re*g*nen (lē·γ^{y}ĕn, rē·γ^{y}nĕn).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.	LONG.	OBSCURE.
a as in Fr. *à la* mode (a la mod').	ā as in *a*lms (āmz), b*a*r (bāɹ).	ă as in *a*mœb*a* (ămī·bă).
ai ... aye=*y*es (ai), Isa*i*ah (əizai·ă).		
æ ... m*a*n (mæn).		ă̈ ... *a*ccept (ă̈kse·pt), mania*c* (mē^{i}·niă̈k).
ɑ ... p*a*ss (pɑs), ch*a*nt (tʃɑnt).		
ɑu ... l*ou*d (lɑud), n*ow* (nɑu).		
ʊ ... c*u*t (kʊt), s*o*n (sʊn).	ʊ̄ ... c*u*rl (kʊ̄ɹl), f*u*r (fʊ̄ɹ).	ŭ ... dat*u*m (dē^{i}·tŭm).
e ... y*e*t (yet), t*e*n (ten).	ē (ēᵉ)... th*e*re (ðēᵉɹ), p*ea*r, p*a*re (pēᵉɹ).	ĕ ... mom*e*nt (mōᵘ·mĕnt), sev*e*ral (seˑvĕrăl).
e ... surv*ey* *sb.* (sɘ̄ˑɹvė), Fr. attach*é* (ataʃe).	ē (ē^{i})... r*ei*n, r*a*in (rē^{i}n), th*ey* (ðē^{i}).	ĕ̇ ... separ*a*te (*adj.*) (seˑpăr̈t).
‖ ɛ ... Fr. ch*e*f (ʃɛf).	ɛ̄ ... Fr. f*a*ire (fɛ̄r').	
ə ... *e*ver (evəɹ), nat*i*on (nē^{i}·ʃən).	ə̄ ... f*ir* (fə̄ɹ), f*er*n (fə̄m), *ea*rth (ə̄ɹþ).	ė ... add*e*d (æ·dėd), *e*state (ėstē^{i}·t).
əi ... *I*, *eye*, (əi), b*i*nd (bəind).		
‖ ɘ ... Fr. eau de vie (ō dɘ vī').		
i ... s*i*t (sit), m*y*st*i*c (mistik).	ī (īᵉ)... b*ie*r (bīᵉɹ), cl*ea*r (klīᵉɹ).	ĭ ... van*i*ty (væˑnĭti).
i ... Psyche (səiˑki), react (ri$_{\text{i}}$æˑkt).	ī ... th*ie*f (þīf), *see* (sī).	ĭ ... remain (rĭmē^{i}·n), believe (bĭlī·v).
o ... acho*r* (ē^{i}·koɹ), m*o*rality (moræˑlĭti).	ō (ōᵉ)... b*oa*r, b*o*re (bōᵉɹ), gl*o*ry (glōᵉ·ri).	ŏ ... the*o*ry (þī·ŏri).
oi ... *oi*l (oil), b*oy* (boi).		
o ... her*o* (hīᵉ·ro), z*o*ology (zo$_{\text{i}}$ŏlŏdʒi).	ō (ōᵘ)... s*o*, s*ow* (sōᵘ), s*ou*l (sōᵘl).	ŏ ... vi*o*let (vəiˑŏlĕt), par*o*dy (pæˑɹŏdi).
ǫ ... wh*a*t (hwǫt), w*a*tch (wǫtʃ).	ǭ ... w*a*lk (wǭk), w*a*rt (wǭɹt).	ŏ ... *au*thority (ŏþoˑrĭti).
ǫ, ǫ̇* .. g*o*t (gǫt), s*o*ft (sǫ̇ft).	ǭ ... sh*o*rt (ʃǭɹt), th*o*rn (þǭɹn).	ŏ̇ ... c*o*nnect (kŏ̇neˑkt), amaz*o*n (æˑmăzŏ̇n).
‖ ö ... Ger. K*ö*ln (köln).	‖ ō̈ ... Fr. c*oeu*r (kō̈r).	
‖ ö̇ ... Fr. p*eu* (pö̇).	‖ ō̈̇ ... Ger. G*ö*the (gō̈tĕ), Fr. j*eû*ne (ʒō̈̇n).	
u ... f*u*ll (ful), b*oo*k (buk).	ū (ūᵉ).. p*oo*r (pūᵉɹ), m*oo*rish (mūᵉriʃ).	
iu ... d*u*ration (diurē^{i}·ʃən).	iū, ¹ū ... p*ure* (piūᵉɹ), l*ure* (l¹ūᵉɹ).	iŭ, ¹ŭ verd*ure* (və̄·ɹdiŭɹ), measu*re* (meˑʒ¹ŭɹ).
u ... unt*o* (ʊˑntu), fr*u*gality (fru-).	ū ... *two* moons (tū mūnz).	ŭ ... alt*o*gether (ǭltŭgeˑðəɹ).
iu ... Matth*ew* (mæˑþiu), virt*ue* (və̄·ɹtiu).	iū, ¹ū ... f*ew* (fiū), l*ute* (l¹ūt).	iŭ ... circ*u*lar (sə̄·ɹkiŭlăɹ).
‖ ü ... Ger. M*ü*ller (müˑlĕr).		
‖ ü̇ ... Fr. d*une* (dü̇n).	‖ ṻ ... Ger. gr*ü*n (grṻn), Fr. j*us* (ʒṻ).	

ᵉ (see īᵉ, ēᵉ, ōᵉ, ūᵉ) } see Vol. I, p. xxxiv, note 3.
¹, ᵘ (see ē^{i}, ō^{u}) }
' as in able (ē^{i}b'l), eaten (īt'n) = voice-glide.

* ǫ̇ the *o* in s*o*ft, of medial or doubtful length. ‖ Only in foreign (or earlier English) words

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In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. *e*, *o*, representing an earlier *a*, are distinguished as ę, ǫ (having the phonetic value of ę and ǫ, or ǫ, above); as in *ęnde* from *andā* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *mǫnn* from *mann*, *ǫn* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.
a (as *a* 1300) ..... = *ante*, before.
a., *adj.*, adj..... = adjective.
absol., absol. ..... = absolutely.
abst. ..... = abstract.
acc. ..... = accusative.
ad. [in Etymol.]... = adaptation of.
adv., adv. ..... = adverb.
advb. ..... = adverbial, -ly.
AF., AFr. ..... = Anglo-French.
Anat. ..... = in Anatomy.
Antiq. ..... = in Antiquities.
aphet. ..... = aphetic, aphetized.
app. ..... = apparently.
Arab. ..... = Arabic.
Arch. ..... = in Architecture.
arch. ..... = archaic.
Archæol. ..... = in Archæology.
assoc. ..... = association.
Astr. ..... = in Astronomy.
Astrol. ..... = in Astrology.
attrib. ..... = attributive, -ly.
bef. ..... = before.
Biol. ..... = in Biology.
Boh. ..... = Bohemian.
Bot. ..... = in Botany.
Build. ..... = in Building.
c (as *c* 1300) ..... = *circa*, about.
c. (as 13th c.)..... = century.
Cat. ..... = Catalan.
catachr. ..... = catachrestically.
Cf., cf. ..... = *confer*, compare.
Chem. ..... = in Chemistry.
cl. L. ..... = classical Latin.
cogn. w. ..... = cognate with.
collect. ..... = collective, -ly.
colloq. ..... = colloquially.
comb. ..... = combined, -ing.
Comb. ..... = Combinations.
Comm. ..... = in commercial usage.
comp. ..... = compound, composition.
compl. ..... = complement.
Conch. ..... = in Conchology.
concr. ..... = concretely.
conj. ..... = conjunction.
cons. ..... = consonant.
Const., *Const.* ... = Construction, construed with.
Cryst. ..... = in Crystallography.
(D.) ..... = in Davies (Supp. Eng. Glossary).
Da. ..... = Danish.
dat. ..... = dative.
def. ..... = definite.
deriv. ..... = derivative, -ation.
dial., *dial.* ..... = dialect, -al.
Dict. ..... = Dictionary.
dim. ..... = diminutive
Du. ..... = Dutch.
Eccl. ..... = in ecclesiastical usage.
ellipt. ..... = elliptical, -ly.
e. midl. ..... = east midland (dialect).
Eng. ..... = English.
Ent. ..... = in Entomology.
erron. ..... = erroneous, -ly.
esp., esp. ..... = especially.
etym. ..... = etymology.
euphem. ..... = euphemistically.
exc. ..... = except.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.
f. (in subordinate entries) ..... = form of.
fem. (*rarely* f.) ... = feminine.
fig. ..... = figurative, -ly.
F., Fr. ..... = French.
freq. ..... = frequently.
Fris. ..... = Frisian.
G., Ger. ..... = German.
Gael. ..... = Gaelic.
gen. ..... = genitive.
gen. ..... = general, -ly.
gen. sign. ..... = general signification.
Geol. ..... = in Geology.
Geom. ..... = in Geometry.
Goth. ..... = Gothic (= Mœso-Gothic).
Gr. ..... = Greek.
Gram. ..... = in Grammar.
Heb. ..... = Hebrew.
Her. ..... = in Heraldry.
Herb. ..... = with herbalists.
Hort. ..... = in Horticulture.
imp. ..... = Imperative.
impers. ..... = impersonal.
impf. ..... = imperfect.
ind. ..... = Indicative.
indef. ..... = indefinite.
inf. ..... = Infinitive.
infl. ..... = influenced.
int. ..... = interjection.
intr. ..... = intransitive.
It. ..... = Italian.
J., (J.) ..... = Johnson (quotation from).
(Jam.)..... = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.
(Jod.)..... = Jodrell (quoted from).
L. ..... = Latin.
(L.)(in quotations) = Latham's edn. of Todd's
lang. ..... = language. [Johnson.
LG. ..... = Low German.
lit. ..... = literal, -ly.
Lith. ..... = Lithuanian.
LXX. ..... = Septuagint.
Mal. ..... = Malay.
masc. (*rarely* m.) = masculine.
Math. ..... = in Mathematics.
ME. ..... = Middle English.
Med. ..... = in Medicine.
med.L. ..... = mediæval Latin.
Mech. ..... = in Mechanics.
Metaph. ..... = in Metaphysics.
MHG. ..... = Middle High German.
midl. ..... = midland (dialect).
Mil. ..... = in military usage.
Min. ..... = in Mineralogy.
mod. ..... = modern.
Mus. ..... = in Music.
(N.) ..... = Nares (quoted from).
n. of action..... = noun of action.
n. of agent ..... = noun of agent.
Nat. Hist. ..... = in Natural History.
Naut. ..... = in nautical language.
neut. (*rarely* n.) = neuter.
NF., NFr. ..... = Northern French.
N. O. ..... = Natural Order.
nom. ..... = nominative.
north. ..... = northern (dialect).
N. T. ..... = New Testament.
Numism. ..... = in Numismatics.
obj. ..... = object.
Obs., *obs.*, obs. ... = obsolete.
occas. ..... = occasional, -ly.
OE. ..... = Old English (= Anglo-Saxon).
OF., OFr. ..... = Old French.
OFris. ..... = Old Frisian.
OHG. ..... = Old High German.
OIr. ..... = Old Irish.
ON. ..... = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).
ONF. ..... = Old Northern French.
Opt. ..... = in Optics.
Ornith. ..... = in Ornithology.
OS. ..... = Old Saxon.
OSl. ..... = Old Slavonic.
O. T. ..... = Old Testament.
OTeut. ..... = Original Teutonic.
orig. ..... = original, -ly.
Palæont. ..... = in Palæontology.
pa. pple. ..... = passive or past participle.
pass. ..... = passive, -ly.
pa. t. ..... = past tense.
Path. ..... = in Pathology.
perh. ..... = perhaps.
Pers. ..... = Persian.
pers. ..... = person, -al.
pf. ..... = perfect.
Pg. ..... = Portuguese.
Philol. ..... = in Philology.
phonet. ..... = phonetic, -ally.
phr. ..... = phrase.
Phren. ..... = in Phrenology.
Phys. ..... = in Physiology.
pl., *pl.* ..... = plural.
poet. ..... = poetic.
pop. ..... = popular, -ly.
ppl. a., ppl. adj.... = participial adjective.
pple. ..... = participle.
Pr. ..... = Provençal.
prec. ..... = preceding (word or article).
pref. ..... = prefix.
prep. ..... = preposition.
pres. ..... = present.
Prim. sign. ..... = Primary signification.
priv. ..... = privative.
prob. ..... = probably.
pron. ..... = pronoun.
pronunc. ..... = pronunciation.
prop. ..... = properly.
Pros. ..... = in Prosody.
pr. pple. ..... = present participle.
Psych. ..... = in Psychology.
q.v. ..... = *quod vide*, which see.
(R.) ..... = in Richardson's Dict.
R. C. Ch. ..... = Roman Catholic Church.
refash. ..... = refashioned, -ing.
refl., refl. ..... = reflexive.
reg. ..... = regular.
repr. ..... = representative, representing.
Rhet. ..... = in Rhetoric.
Rom. ..... = Romanic, Romance.
sb., *sb.* ..... = substantive.
Sc. ..... = Scotch.
sc. ..... = *scilicet*, understand or supply.
sing. ..... = singular.
Skr. ..... = Sanskrit.
Slav. ..... = Slavonic.
Sp. ..... = Spanish.
sp. ..... = spelling.
spec. ..... = specifically.
subj. ..... = subject, subjunctive.
subord. cl. ..... = subordinate clause.
subseq. ..... = subsequently.
subst. ..... = substantively.
suff. ..... = suffix.
superl. ..... = superlative.
Surg. ..... = in Surgery.
Sw. ..... = Swedish.
s.w. ..... = south western (dialect).
T. (T.) ..... = in Todd's Johnson.
techn. ..... = technical, -ly.
Theol. ..... = in Theology.
tr. ..... = translation of.
trans. ..... = transitive.
transf. ..... = transferred sense.
Trig. ..... = in Trigonometry.
Typog. ..... = in Typography.
ult. ..... = ultimate, -ly.
unkn. ..... = unknown.
U.S. ..... = United States.
v., vb. ..... = verb.
v. str., or *w.* ..... = verb strong, or weak.
vbl. sb. ..... = verbal substantive.
var. ..... = variant of.
wd. ..... = word.
WGer. ..... = West Germanic.
w. midl. ..... = west midland (dialect).
WS. ..... = West Saxon.
(Y.)..... = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Zool. ..... = in Zoology.

Before a word or sense.
† = obsolete.
‖ = not naturalized.

In the quotations.
* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.
1 = before 1100.
2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).
3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).
5–7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, Vol. I, p. xxx.)

In the Etymol.
* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.
:— = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

S.

S (es), the nineteenth letter of the English and other modern alphabets, and the eighteenth of the ancient Roman alphabet, derives its form (through the ⋟ and ⋦, ⋧ of early Latin and Greek inscriptions) from the Phœnician W (Hebrew ש *shīn*), which represented a voiceless sibilant: in some of the Semitic langs. (s), in others (ʃ). (Each of these phonetic symbols is intended to represent a class of sounds the articulatory positions of which vary considerably; the difference between the two classes is acoustically very recognizable, but the nature of the essential difference in formation is still obscure.) In ancient Greek and Latin the value of the letter is believed to have been always (s). In late L. *s* between vowels was in most instances pronounced (z), a sound which was not separately represented in the Latin alphabet. Hence when the Roman letters were adopted in OE., the letter S was used to represent both the unaltered Germanic (s), and the (z) which had been developed from that sound in certain positions.

In OE. *s* was pronounced (s) initially and finally, and medially when it was either contiguous with a voiceless consonant or began the second element of a compound; medially between voiced sounds it was pronounced (z). The southern dialect had in ME., and possibly in late OE., the peculiarity of voicing the initial *s* (in native words) as well as the initial *f* and *þ*. This phonetic habit extended to Kent as late as 1340, as is shown by spellings like *zenne* (OE. *synn*, sin) in the *Ayenbite of Inwyt*; it is now confined to the south-western dialects.

In mod. English the general rule is that *s* is pronounced (s) at the beginning of a word or of the second element of a compound, and when doubled or in contact with a voiceless consonant. Between vowels, and when phonetically final, a single *s* is mostly (z). But there are many anomalies and uncertainties, especially in classical derivatives: cf., e.g., *absurd* (æbsɜ·ɪd), *observe* (ǒ bz-); with regard to some words usage is divided, as in *absolve* (æbs-, æbz-), and the words in *-ive*, e. g. *effusive*, *evasive*. Even *ss* is in some words sounded (z), as in *dissolve* (against *dissent*, *dissect*, etc.), *dessert*, *possess*.

The phonetic combinations (sy), (zy), when rapidly pronounced, are very similar in acoustic effect to the simple consonants (ʃ), (ʒ), the position of the tongue for these being intermediate between the positions for (s) or (z) and (y). Hence in some words where earlier Eng. had (sy) or (zy), written either as *s* (before diphthongal *u*) or as *si*, the modern language has (ʃ) or (ʒ), so that the letter has acquired these two new values. Examples are *sure*, *sugar*, *censure*, *mission* (mi·ʃən), *Asia* (ē·ʃă), *treasure* (-ʒŭɹ, -ʒəɹ), *evasion* (-ʒən). In some varieties of vulgar speech this tendency is carried much further, as in the pronunciations (ʃū), (prĭʒū·m) for *sue*, *presume*.

S is silent in a few words adopted from Old French, as in *aisle*, *isle* (hence also pseudo-etymologically in *island*); in the Law French *mesne*, *demesne*, a silent *s* was inserted by false analogy.

1. The letter and its sound.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ii. (Z.) 6 *Semivocales* syndon seofan: *f, l, m, n, r, s, x*. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 2 An S. for Salisbery, without any avision. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 77 ᴘ 1 Some [lispers] never uttered the letter H; and others had as mortal an Aversion for S. 1842 *Gentl. Mag.* May 480/2 The letter S was the device of Henry of Lancaster.

2. The shape of the letter; an object having this shape.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17952 Every .s. y-crokyd is, lyche a crose higbe in the top. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* ii. ii, I doe water the ground in knots, as I goe like a great Garden-pot, you may follow me by the S. S.ˢ. I make. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* iii. xvi. (Roxb.) 58/1 The seuerall parts of a Viol...The S'es of the belly or round holes. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIII. 407/1 Make an S of wire, sharpened at one end. 1898 Hawkis *Old Violins* 77 One 'ſ' is a shade lower than the other, a practice so common with Strad.. that it must have been intentional. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* 331/2 Round the great S the river made She battled her blind way.

b. *Collar of S, S's, SS.*, or *Esses*: see Collar *sb.* 3 c.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *S-necked*, *-shaped* adjs.; *S-curve*, *-hook*, *-perforation*, *-piece*.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 139/1 He is compelled to connect by a *S curve. 1844 *Ibid.* VII. 152/1 An *S hook of iron must be fitted into the eye of the valve. 1896 *Royal Nat. Hist.* V. 89 The foregoing assemblage of *S-necked or Cryptodiran tortoises. 1851 D. Wilson *Prehist. Ann.* (1863) I. ii. iv. 391 Produce the appearance of an *S or Ogee perforation. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* viii, Uncouth brick and zinc mysteries supported by iron stanchions and clamped by *S-pieces. 1837 Kirby *Richardson's Fauna Bor.-Amer.* iv. 8 The third becoming a broken or *S-shaped band.

3. Used like the other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order; applied e. g. to the nineteenth (or more usually the eighteenth, either I or J being omitted) group or section in classification, to the eighteenth sheet of a book or quire of a MS., etc.

4. Abbreviations. **a.** S. = various proper names, as Samuel, Sarah, etc.; = Saint; so SS. = Saints; † = Sir (prefixed to the name of a knight or a priest); = Society (L. *societas*), as in F.R.S., Fellow of the Royal Society, F.S.A., Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, S.P.G., Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, etc.; *Mus.* = Solo; *Chem.* = Sulphur; *Anat.* and *Zool.* = sacral (vertebra); *Her.* (also *l.c.*) = Sable; = snow (in ship's log-book). S. B. = smooth bore (gun). S. M. = Silver Medallist (in shooting competition). S.S. = Steam ship.

a 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 690 S. Lucie virgyn. 1535 Joye *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 4 His felowe called Hijpinus pastour of .s. nicholas parisshe in Hambourg. 1549 Latimer *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 166, I am goynge to S. Tomas of Acres to the sermon. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur., Apol. Poetrie* ᴘ vij b, If S. Philip Sidney had counted this a fault. 1628 Sir J. Campbell in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spalding Cl.) 271, I rest, your loueing father S. J. Campbell of Calder. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.* 172 (*title*), To his Valentine, on S. Valentines day. 1724 *Explic. Foreign Words Mus.* 66 The letter *S* is used as an Abbreviation of the Word Solo. 1828-40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I, *S.* This letter..signifies sable, or black. 1885 *Daily News* 12 May 5/1 The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, familiarly known as the S. P. G. 1899 *Ibid.* 21 July 11/1 Who..was to have the honour of figuring in future records, with the letters 'S. M.' attached to his name. 1903 Sir M. G. Gerard *Leaves fr. Diaries* iv. 104 In 1870 our armament was still the old 12-pr. S. B. gun and 24-pr. howitzer.

b. S. = South; also S.E., SE., South-east, etc. Also †S.S. = South Sea (Company).

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4418/3 The Wind was, this Morning ..at 10, at S. and S. S. E. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xvi. (1840) 273 After that it blew..S. W. by S. then S. W. by W. 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 178 Transferring 50*l.* new S. S. annuities,..at the S. S. house, as if it had been his own. 1840 Marryat *Olla Podr.* III. 10 [The wind] is S. W. and by W. ½ W. 1884 H. A. Moriarty in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 277/1 A point of destination bore W. S. W. 10 miles; a current ran S. E. by S. 4 miles an hour.

c. s. = L. *solidus* and so used for shilling(s; † = Scilicet; = second (of time).

1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 1 Also y be-quethe genet my dowter xl. s. *a* 1450 Myrc *Festial* lxxiv. 300 Ther was a man on a time þat lant to anothur man iiii s of money to an certeyn day. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Prol. B iij b, Suche as opteyne vyctory (.s. in some great enterpryse). *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 241 b, A Subsedy, of twoo .s. of landes. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* July 33 Lurdanes s. Lord Danes. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 4 July, My wife..have lain out 25s. upon a pair of pendantes for her eares. 1702 De Foe *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 21 To talk of 5s. a Month for not coming to the Sacrament, and 1s. per Week for not coming to Church, this is such a way of converting People as never was known. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxviii, The best coals at — *s.* per chaldron. 1884 H. A. Moriarty in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 274/1 The chronometer showed 9ʰ 43ᵐ 15ˢ·5 as a mean. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 24 It [*sc.* a watch] is found to have lost 8 s.

'S, a euphemistic shortening of *God's* in certain oaths (now *Obs.* or *arch.*); written continuously with the following word, as in 'Sblood, 'Sdeath, 'Sfax, 'Slife, etc.

s', a colloquial shortening of *sal*, northern dialect form of Shall *v.* when occurring in unstressed positions. Written continuously with the preceding noun or pronoun, usually in the incorrect form **'s.**

's, representing a shortened pronunciation of various monosyllables when unstressed. (Written continuously with the preceding word.)

1. = *is*: see Be *v.* Now only *colloq.* and *poet.*

1584 Lyly *Sappho* iii. ii. 75 Whats he so swaggers in the Van? O! thats a roring Englishman. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* i. i, But I'le suppress him, he's a factious spirit. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) II. i. 19 In some Places there's very strong Clay. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 356 The Devil's in't if we are not agreed in so clear a case. 1821 Byron *Sardan.* iii. i. 401 Again the love-fit's on him.

2. = *has*: see Have *v. colloq.*

a 1845 Hood *Parental Ode* 38 He's got a knife!

3. = Us *pron.* Now *dial.* exc. in *let's* = let us (*colloq.*).

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 228 If you desire to dance, let's hold more chat. 1634 Milton *Comus* 599 But com let's on. 1662 Cokaine *Trag. Ovid* v. v, Let us go home, send for a Priest of Hymens, And presently each Couple on's be married. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 300 But come, I must love him! Let's find him out. 1893 Crockett *Stickit Minister* 100 What'll ye gie's?

4. = His *poss. pron.*, q. v. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

5. = As. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk* iii. 49 I've done my best..As well's I may. 1786 Burns *To a Haggis* i, A grace As lang's my arm. 1861 Quinn *Heather Lintie* (1863) 85 Let us crack the news As soon's we greet.

-s, *suffix*, forming adverbs, was originally *-es*, identical with the suffix of the genitive singular of many neuter and masculine sbs. and adjs. Several of the adverbs in *-es* that existed in OE. are genitives either of sbs. (neut. or masc.) as *dæges* by day, *nédes* Needs, *þances* voluntarily, or of neuter adjs., as *sóðes* truly; on the analogy of these, *-es* was added, with adv.-forming function, to feminine nouns, as in *nihtes* by night, *endelyrdes* in order. OE. had also advs. compounded of *tó* prep. and a genitive governed by it, as *tó-gegnes* (see To-gains), *tó-middes* (see To-mids); side by side with these there existed parallel and synonymous advs. like *on-gegn* Again, *on-middan* Amid, in which the dat. or accus. was governed by a prep. Hence there arose in early ME. mixed forms such as *ajeines*, *amiddes*; and the frequent coexistence of the two forms of the same adv., one with and the other without *s*, led to the addition of *s* to many advs. as a sign of their function. In some instances the extended form prevailed, as in *eftsoons*; in others it survived only in dialects, as in *oftens*, *gaylies* (Sc.). See also the articles -ling², -li(n)gs, -ward, -wards, -way, -ways.

In *once*, *twice*, *thrice*, *hence*, *since*, etc., the suffix is written differently. In Against, Alongst, Amongst, Amidst, and the dialectal *onst* (see Once), the original *-es*, *-s* has become *-st*.

Sa, obs. f. See *v.*, Soe *sb.*; obs. or dial. f. So.

Sa', obs. var. of Save *v.* in *God sa' me* and similar phrases.

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* A 4, Yet so god sa mee shees mine owne sister. *Ibid.* G 3 b, Thats all so god sa me, I thirst after. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* iv. 61 As Gad shall sa'me, she is a very ingenious Woman. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiv, Friend Isaac, will you pleasure us in this matter, and our day shall be truly kept, so God sa' me?

Sa. *Her.* Abbreviation of Sable *sb.*²

1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* I. *Arms Abbies* etc., Augustine's [St.] Monastery, Canterbury. Sa. a cross ar. 1828-40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* II, *Abbertbury*..or, a fesse embattled sa. 1871 Burke *Peerage*, etc. 195/2 Sa., a naked man, ppr.

Saa(e, Saac(ke, obs. ff. Soe, Sake.

Saad(e, obs. forms of Sad; pa. t. of Say *v.*, q. v.

Saaf(e, saaff, obs. ff. Safe and Save *prep.*

Saage, Saake, obs. f. Sage *a.*, Sack *sb.*

Saald, obs. pa. t. of Sell *v.*

Saale, Saand, obs. ff. Sale *sb.*, Sand *sb.*

Saap(pe, obs. forms of Sap *sb.*

Saar, Saara, obs. forms of Sore *adv.*, Sahara.

Saarce, -cyn, obs. forms of Searce, -cing.

Saat(e, obs. forms of pa. t. of Sit *v.*

† Sab. *Her. Obs.* Abbreviation of Sable *sb.*²

1660 M. Carter *Honor rediv.* 249 Bernards Inne Beareth party per pale indented Ermin and Sab. a Cheveron Gul. fretty.

Sab, obs. form of Sahib.

Sabadilla (sæbădi·lă). [a. Sp. *cebadilla*, dim. of *cebada* barley.] = Cevadilla. Also *attrib.*

1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 208 Sabadilla seed, Indian Caustic Barley, very useful in Medicine. 1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 71 Boil the seeds of the sabadilla with alcohol. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 596 Powdered sabadilla..may be sprinkled throughout the hair with good result.

Hence **Sabadi·llia, Sabadi·lline,** *Chem.*, an alkaloid obtained from sabadilla seeds.

1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 70 M. Couerbe ..has severally named them (*i. e.* the principles in sabadilla] sabadilline, veratrin [etc.]. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* (1892) III. 503 Three other poisonous bases, sabadillia, colchinia, and jervia, are found, along with veratria, in the *Veratrum album*. 1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* 29 Anemonine, peltierine, sabadilline.

Sabæan, Sabean (sæbī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Sabæ-us*, Gr. Σαβαῖ-os (f. *Saba*, Σάβα, Arabic ﺳﺒﺎ *Sabā'* = Heb. שְׁבָא *Shᵉbā*, the ancient name of the

people of Yemen; by Gr. and Roman writers imagined to be the name of the capital city) +-AN.

In one passage (Isa. xlv. 14) the Eng. Bible, following the LXX and the Vulgate, uses *Sabeans* for the quite different tribal name סְבָאִים *Sᵉbāīm*. Another instance of this is in Ezek. xxiii. 42, but the marginal reading in 1611 is *drunkards*, which the Revised Version (1884) adopts in the text.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the ancient population of Yemen in Arabia. In poetic use, often with allusion to the ancient renown of the spices brought from Yemen.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLV. iv, The fragrant riches of Sabean grove, Mirrh, Aloes, Cassia. 1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* IV. iii, Whole Hecatombes or Sabæan Gums. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 115 Two skins of Sabæan Asses. 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 323 Sabæan Fields afford her needful Rest. 1830 TENNYSON *Adeline* v, Dripping with Sabæan spice On thy pillow. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 345 The Himyaritic or Sabean Alphabet.

B. *sb.* One of the ancient inhabitants of Yemen.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 239 The Sabeans by reason of continual vse of Mirrhe and Frankinsens, grow to a loathing of that sauour. 1611 BIBLE *Joel* iii. 8 They shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people farre off.

Sabæan, erroneous form of SABIAN.

Sabahdaur, variant of SUBADAR.

Sabaism (sē·bā,iz'm). Also 8–9 **Zabaism,** 9 **Sabeism, Sabiism, Sabism, Tsabaism, Sabæism.** [f. Heb. צָבָא *ṣābā* host (after the presumed etymology of SABIAN) + -ISM. Cf. F. *sabéisme, sabaïsme, sabisme.*] The worship of 'the host of heaven'; star-worship. Also sometimes used for SABIANISM in its various historical applications.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Sabaism* consisted in the worship and adoration of the stars. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. xliv. 281 The first variation from the purer zabaism consisted in the ophilatreia, or worship of the serpent. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xiii. (1847) 148 The worship of the celestial bodies, or Sabæism, as it is termed. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 295/2 The religious books of Tsabaism were written in Syriac. 1859 J. M. ARNOLD *Ishmael* 36 The more corrupt form of superstition, which in a measure co-existed with Sabeism. 1878 A. FORNANDER *Polynesian Race* I. 36 Glimpses of Cushite Zabaism.

Sabalo (sæ·bălo). *U.S.* [a. Sp. *sábalo* shad.] The tarpon, *Megalops atlanticus.*

In recent U. S. Dicts.

‖ **Sabaoth** (sæ·bē,ŏuth). Also 6 **sabbaoth.** [L. *Sabaōth* (Vulg.), a. Gr. Σαβαώθ (LXX. and New Testament), a. Heb. צְבָאוֹת *ṣᵉbāōth* pl. of צָבָא *ṣābā* army.] A Hebrew word (lit. 'armies', 'hosts'), retained untranslated in the English New Testament (as in the original Greek and in the Vulgate) and the *Te Deum*, in the designation *The Lord of Sabaoth*, for which in the original Old Testament passages the English versions have the rendering 'The Lord of Hosts'.

The Gr. and L. forms being indeclinable, and therefore not easily recognizable as genitives, a frequent early form in Eng. was *The Lord Sabaoth.*

a 1325 *Prose Psalter, Te Deum* 6 Holy! holy! holy! Lord God Sabaoth. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxviii. (1495) 364 On the saterdaye in Albis..in the gospell we ben taughte to trauelle in the vyneyerde of our lorde Sabaoth. 1535 COVERDALE *Rom.* ix. 29 The Lorde of Sabaoth [1611 Sabaoth]. — *Jas.* v. 4 The cryes of them which haue reped, are entred in to the eares of the Lorde Sabaoth [1611 the Lord of Sabaoth].

¶ Confused with *sabbath.* (See also SABBATH *β.*)

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. viii. 2 But thence-forth all shall rest eternally With Him that is the God of Sabaoth hight: O! that great Sabaoth God, grant me that Sabaoths sight.

Sabarcane, variant of SARBACANE.

Sabat(e, -tille, obs. ff. SABBATH; SAPODILLA.

†Sa·batine. *Obs.* In quots. sab(b)atyne. [a. Pr. *sabatina,* dim. of *sabata*: see SABATON and -INE.] A kind of buskin.

c 1460 in *Archæologia* XVII. 295 First ye must set on sabatynes and tye them upon the shoo. *c* 1538 *Ibid.* XLIII. 248 A payr of sabbatynes; and a payre of syndalls.

Sabatine, obs. variant of SABBATINE.

†Sabaton. *Obs.* Also 4–5 **sabatoun,** 5 **sabatton,** 9 **sabbaton.** [a. Pr. *sabató* (mod. Pr. *sabatoun* shoe), augmentative of *sabata* = F. *savate,* Sp. *zapata* boot (also *zapato* shoe), Pg. *sapata,* It. *ciabatta* shoe. Cf. med.L. *sabbatum.*

The ultimate origin of the Rom. word is obscure. It exists in Arabic (*sabbāt, çabbāt,* etc., Dozy II. 626), in Berber (*tasbāt,* ibid.), and in Basque (*zapata*), but is prob. in all these a loan-word from Spanish.]

A broad-toed armed foot-covering worn by warriors in armour.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10026 Hym self was armed fynly wel Wyþ sabatons [*Wace causces de fer*], & spores, & iaumbers of stel. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 574 Penne set þay be sabatounz vpon þe segge fotez. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 346 Gauntlettes on hyr handys, & sabatouns on hyr fete. *c* 1450 J. METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 36 This forsayd knyght Blak sabatouns weryd. 1485 *Materials Reign Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 21 For making of a paire of sabatons of clothe of golde III s. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 594 The hernayes..was all ouer gylte frome the heade peece to the sabattons. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* x. (1874) 206 At the commencement of the 16th century, the pointed sollerets were succeeded by broad sabbatons, cut off square or rounded at the toes.

‖ **Sabbat** (saba). In 7–8 **sabat.** [Fr.; a special application of *sabbat* SABBATH.] A 'witches' sabbath'; see SABBATH 3. Also *attrib.,* and *fig.*

1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VII. 153 In this Desart corner, which..seemeth onely fit for a Sabat or Assembly of Sorcerers. 1658 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Char.* xiii. 54 As to the sabat-voyages, this is my beliefe; they noint themselves with some somniferous oyles, and as while they wake they easily fancy to be carried astride upon a broome through the chimny, into a Hall, where is feasting, dancing, and where they kisse the Goate's brich. 1763 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 15 Aug., My youthfullity, which bears me out even at a sabat. I dined last week at Lady Blandford's, with her, the old Denbigh, the old Litchfield, and Methuselah knows who. 1861 LYTTON *Str. Story* XXVI, I could have fancied myself at a witch's sabbat. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 75 The book was a perfect Sabbat of deviltry and dramatic horrors.

Sabbatarian (sæbătē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *sabbatāri-us* (Sp. *sabatario,* Pg. *sabbatario*), f. *sabbatum* SABBATH: see -ARIAN.] **A.** *adj.* **†a.** Of or pertaining to the Sabbath or its observance. *Obs.*

b. Having relation to the tenets of the Sabbatarians.

a 1631 DONNE in *Select.* (1840) 105 A sabbatarian righteousness is no righteousness. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 129 The rigour and strictnesse of Sabbatarian Ministers, in denying People recreations on the Sunday. 1668 WELLS (*title*) The Practical Sabbatarian or Sabbath Holiness crowned with Superlative Happiness. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 250 These Divines, instead of softening some excesses in Bradbourne's Sabbatarian strictness, ran into the contrary extreme. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 436 These are called Sabbatarian, or Seventh day Baptists. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 224 With references to Jewish Sabbatarian notions. 1859 MILL *Liberty* 161 Another important example of illegitimate interference with the rightful liberty of the individual..is sabbatarian legislation. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. Bp. Blomfield* I. vi. 154 He entertained rather strict, or what would now be called 'Sabbatarian' notions.

B. *sb.*

1. A Jewish observer of the (Saturday) Sabbath.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 149 The word *Masbothæi,* Scaliger saith, signifieth Sabbatists or Sabbatarians, because they professed to haue learned the obseruation of the Sabbath from Christ, and therein differed from the other Iewes. *a* 1641 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 454 These Esseni were yet further, more, and most rigid Sabbatarians, beyond all other sects and schismes amongst the Jewes. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I,* III. xv. 330 Sabbatarians, became a term of reproach for the Jews with the Polytheists.

2. A Christian who regards the Lord's Day as a Sabbath, deducing its obligation from the Fourth Commandment. Also, and more commonly, one whose opinion and practice with regard to Sunday observance are unusually strict.

1620 J. DYKE *Counter-poyson* 15 He is none of your precise Sabbatarians. 1656 HEYLIN *Extraneus Vapulans* 110 We are now come unto the business of the Lords day, in which our Author sheweth himself a stiffe Sabbatarian. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. xxiv. 237, I don't know whether you are a Strict Sabbatarian. 1864 EASTWICK *3 Years in Persia* I. 4, I am not a Sabbatarian, I showed it by travelling on Sunday.

3. A member of a Christian sect founded towards the close of the sixteenth century, the members of which maintained that the Sabbath should be observed on the seventh and not on the first day of the week; a Seventh-day Baptist. Cf. SABBATARY *sb.,* SABBATHARIAN.

1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1647) B j, The Sabbatarians affirme the old Jewish Sabbath to be kept, and not the Lords day. 1710 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 257 ¶ 12 Præ-Adamites, Sabbatarians, Cameronians, Muggletonians..and the like. 1820 *Trav. Cosmo III* 445 Robert Dogs, a coal-man in London, was the first founder of the sect of Sabbatarians.

Sabbatarianism (sæbătē·riăniz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] Sabbatarian principles or practice.

1673–4 Bp. WARD *Case of Joram* 34 [Laws] against Prophanation of the Lord's Day (I do not mean tending to Judaism or Sabbatarianism). 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 360 The rather judaical Sabbatarianism of Scotland.. was simply a form of Protestant tradition. 1894 MAX O'RELL *J. Bull & Co.* 54 Narrow Sabbatarianism is neither Protestant nor Christian: it is a Jewish institution.

†Sa·bbatary, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 6–7 **sabbatharie.** [ad. L. *sabbatārius,* f. *sabbatum* SABBATH: see -ARY. Cf. F. *sabbataire.*]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the Sabbath.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 204 They are of opinion, that themselues haue a superfluous Sabbatharie soule, which on that day is plentifully sent in to them, to inlarge their heart. 1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* II. (1636) To Rdr., This sabbatarie soule, may be a Pythagoricall μετεμψύχωσις. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* Pref., Had they left us no other demonstrations of their excellency that way then their Sabbatary Tracts, they should never have attained so high a repute amongst us. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 663 Seven..is sometime called the Sacred and Quiet, or Sabbatory [*sic*] Number.

B. *sb.* A Christian who observes the Jewish (seventh-day) Sabbath.

1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* I. III. v. 112 The sabbatharies contend with tothe and nail. 1621 *Three Quest. Answ. conc. 4th Commandm.* 3 The Sabbatharies, which heretofore would haue vs Christians obserue the Iewes Sabbath.

Sabbath (sæ·băþ). Forms: α. 1, 3–5 **sabat,** (3 *pl.* **sabaz**), 3 **sabadi,** 4 **sabath, -aat,** 4–5 **sabate,** 4–6 **sab(b)ot,** 4–7 **saboth,** 5 **sabott(e, sabbate, -atte, -ott,** 5–6 **sabote,** 5–7 **sabboth,** 6 **sabett, -att, -otte, othe,** *Sc.* **sabbuth,** 6– **sabbath;** β. (*erron.,* by confusion with SABAOTH) 4–8 **sabaoth,** 6 **sabaothe, sabbaoth.** See also SABBAT. [ad. L. *sabbatum* (partly through OF. *sabbat, sabat,* mod.F. *sabbat* = Pr. *sabbat,* Sp. *sábado,* Pg. *sabado,* It. *sabbato*), Gr. σάββατον, ad. Heb. שַׁבָּת *shabbāth,* f. root שָׁבַת *shābath* to rest. Cf. Goth. *sabbatus, -o,* MDu. *sabaet, sabbet, sabbot,* Du. and G. *sabbat.*

The Sp., Pg., and It. forms are the ordinary names in those langs. for Saturday; but Pr. used *dis-sapte* (:–L. *diēs sabbatī*) in that sense. A popular Latin nasalized form **sambatum* (of oriental origin) appears in F. *samedi* (:–**sambatī diēs*), OHG. *sambaztac* (mod. G. *samstag*) Saturday.

The confusion with SABAOTH was not peculiar to England; it occurs in MHG. and in med.Latin.

The word is now very often written (like the names of the days of the week and of festivals) with initial capital.]

1. a. In the original use: The seventh day of the week (Saturday) considered as the day of religious rest enjoined on the Israelites by the fourth (or in mediæval reckoning the third) commandment of the Decalogue. Phrases, *to keep, break the Sabbath.*

The word was never in England, as in some continental countries, a vernacular synonym for Saturday, though English writers of med.Latin used *dies Sabbati* as frequently as *dies Saturni.*

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. Capitula Lectionum § 87 From efernes sabates [L. *a vespere sabbati*]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 17 Low, godd him seolf seiþ þurh þe prophete: 'þeo þe hablieð from ham forcoruen flesches lustes, & haldeð mine sabaz'. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11987 (Cott.) And o lame o þaa lakes selue Wit handes made he sparus tuelue, Apon þair sabadt þus he did. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Þe þridde heste is þellich: 'Loke þet þou halȝi þane day of þe sabat (Zeterday)'..Þis word, zeterday, þet þe iurie clepeþ sabat, is ase moche worþ ase reste...And ine þe stede of þe sabat..zet holi cherche þane sonday to loky ine þe newe laȝe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 41 And Jesus spake to wyse men of þe lawe, and to Pharisees where it were leveful to hele in þe Sabot. 1382 — *Acts* i. 12 Thanne thei turneden aȝen to Jerusalem, fro the hil that is clepid Olyuete, the which is bisydis Jerusalem, hauynge the iurney of a saboth. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 267 Oure Saviour Criste was borne ..in the nyȝhte of the holy Sabotte [orig. *sancti Sabbati*]. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 36 By our holy Sabbath haue I sworne To haue the due and forfeit of my bond. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 119 The Primitive Church kept both the Sabbath and the Lords day. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Week,* The Days of the Week were denominated by the Jews, from the order of their succession from the sabbath. 1871 R. W. DALE *Commandm.* iv. 106 The Christian Sunday and the Jewish Sabbath are absolutely different institutions.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11987 (Gött.) Apon þar sabaoth þus he did. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. Test. in Scots* (S.T.S.) I. 11 [Jesus] Healith the ydropysie vponn the sabaothe. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 171 Of the Iewes, hating Circumcision, yet with them keeping their Sabaoth. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Sabaoth,..*a celebration of the seventh day of the week.

b. Since the Reformation, often applied to 'the Lord's day', i. e. the first day of the week (Sunday) observed by Christians in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ. This use was originally connected with the opinion that the sabbatic law of the Decalogue remains in force under the Christian dispensation, the date of the 'Sabbath' having by Divine appointment been changed from Saturday to Sunday; but it occasionally appears in writers who did not hold this view. In Scotland it is still very common. (Phrases as in 1 a.)

The notion that the Lord's day is a 'Christian Sabbath', or, more commonly (as in quot. 1340 under a) a substitute for the Sabbath, occurs in theological writings from the 4th c. onwards, but was not popularly current before the Reformation. In English, *Sabbath* as a synonym for 'Sunday' did not become common till the 17th century.

[*c* 1440: see SABBATH-DAY.]

a. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 175 Amonge the whiche preceptis this was one The sabbot to Worshyp and sanctyfy alway The seuenth day of the weke called the sonday. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* III. ii. 113 *Hast.*..Come the next Sabboth, and I will content you. *Priest.* Ile wait vpon your Lordship. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 150 Thou art laboured with from sabboth to sabboth..that thou maist be prepared for Christ. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xxiv. Introd., The first day of the week..which is now the Christian Sabboth. 1727 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 237 Mr. John Adamson, Sabbath was fortnight, intruded on the ministry. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* I. 74 Prayer should be offered up eminently, and emphatically..on the Sabbath. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 100 Severe and sunless remembrances of the Sabbaths of childhood. 1888 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 977/2 The British Sabbath is now-a-days always on its trial. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 66 The term Sabbath as applied to the Lord's Day is unknown to the Articles, the Canons, and the Prayer-book of the Church of England.

β. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. Pref. (1879) 11 To the prophanation of the Lord his sabaoth. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 940 Common Blaspheming of God's Name in Oaths: Usuall profaning of his Sabbaoths. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 3 The Bill for Sabaoth.

c. *gen.* Applied occas. to the day of the week set apart for rest or worship by any religious body, e. g. to the Friday as observed by Mohammedans.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) Table, Sabath..of Saracens on Friday..; of Peguans on Monday. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* 42 Friday is their Sabbath, or Gemahgune.

d. Applied to the sabbatical year of the Israelites.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* XXV. 4 The seuenthe forsothe 3eer of the loond shal be the saboth of the restynge of the Lord. [So in later versions.]

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A time or period of rest; a cessation from labour, trouble, pain and the like.

a. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 446 He would, this Sabbath should a figure be Of the blest Sabbath of Eternity. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* iv. 9 There remaineth therefore a rest [*marg.* keeping of a Sabbath] to the people of God. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 913 He..safe enjoys the Sabbath of his Toils. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* I. i. 3 Why will you break the Sabbath of my days? 1795 SOUTHEY *Pauper's Funeral* 8 Yes, I will weep; but not that thou art come To the cold sabbath of the silent tomb. 1854 NEALE *Hymn*, '*Oh, what the joy*', Those endless Sabbaths the blessed ones see. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 20 It was Sunday, and the scene was itself a Sabbath, with no sound to disturb its perfect rest.

β. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxviii. (1495) 364 Whan we come to the Sabaoth of endles rest thenne we shall haue joye. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 132 Th'eternall sacred Sabbaoth. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. vi, To keep an everlasting Sabbaoths rest.

3. A midnight meeting of demons, sorcerers and witches, presided over by the Devil, supposed in mediæval times to have been held annually as an orgy or festival. Often more explicitly *witches' sabbath.* Also SABBAT.

a. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 312 Divers Sorcerers ..have confessed that in their Sabbaths,..they feed on such fare. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 239 As Hags hold Sabbaths, less for joy than spite, So these their merry, miserable Night. 1860 J. A. HESSEY *Bampton Lect.* 399 Here malignant spirits have held their sabbath or hellish revelries. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 831/2 It might have been..a veritable Witches' Sabbath.

β. 1857 B. TAYLOR *North. Trav.* xi. 115 It would be far more picturesque to describe a sabaoth of Lapland witches than a prayer-meeting of shouting converts.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *Sabbath devotion, dress, evening, morning, music, rite, season, service, sound, work*; *Sabbath-like* adj.; objective and objective genitive, as *Sabbath-breach* (rare^{-1}), *-breaker, -breaking* sb. and adj., *-keeper, -keeping* sb. and adj. Also † **Sabbath-ceased** *a.*, discontinued during the Sabbath; **Sabbath-school**, (*a*) = SUNDAY-SCHOOL; (*b*) a Jewish school held on the Saturday for giving religious instruction to children.

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 653 To show at home By lewdness, idleness, and *sabbath-breach, The great proficiency he made abroad. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 234 It cutteth the *sabboth-breaker, to heare his prophanenesse still cried out vpon. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 658/2 The excellent Laws against Tippling Houses, Tipplers, Sabbath-Breakers, &c. 1853 CARD. WISEMAN *Ess.* I. 636 They tax Papists..with being habitual Sabbath-breakers. 1651 *Petition* in *Proc. Parl.* No. 85. 1304 Acts past against Blasphemies, prophan cursing and swearing, *Sabbath breaking, &c. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 92 In the commission of the peace,..he becomes..the..constant plague to sabbath-breaking butchers. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 63 Profanation of the lord's day, or sabbath-breaking. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 30 Theyr vnrespited, and not so much as *Saboth-ceased blood-shed. 1613 ZOUCH *Dove* To Rdr. E 6 b, Poetry..in which diuers haue shewed their thoughts not vnfit for solemne, yea *Sabaoth deuotions. 1825 J. WILSON *Poems* II. 94 Smiling in their *Sabbath-dress. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 87 Having ..spent a *sabbath evening at an inn. 1854 NEALE *Hymn*, '*Oh, what the joy*', There dawns no Sabbath,—no Sabbath is o'er; These *Sabbath-keepers have one, and no more. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 403 His rigid *Sabbath-keeping. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 28 A *sabbath-like pause of work and play, rare on a work-day. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 74 An almost Sabbath-like stillness prevailed. 1863 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 355 Your letter was a welcome addition to our sunshine this *Sabbath morning. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* VII. 1761 When the bells of Rylstone played Their *sabbath music—'*God us ayde*'. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 746 Till *sabbath-rites Have dwindled into unrespected forms. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* vi. (ed. 2) 133 The *Sabbath school generally supplies the sanctuary with its most intelligent hearers. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 14 Nature's *Sabbath-season reigns. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 365 John..neglected not the spirituall part of the *sabbath-seruice, though hee was restrained from the outward. 1855 LONGF. *My Lost Youth* 49 The early loves Come back with a *sabbath sound. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 500 His *Sabbath Worke, euer since, is the Illumination of his Spirit.

Sabbathaism (sæbăþē·iz'm). [f. *Sabbathai* + -ISM.] The doctrines of Sabbathai Zebi (Heb. *Shabbĕthai Çĕbī*), a false Messiah born at Smyrna A. D. 1626.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1129 Two Polish rabbis, who travelled extensively to propagate Sabbathaism.

Sabbatharian (sæ·băþē·riăn). *Hist.* [f. SABBATH + -ARIAN. Cf. SABBATARIAN.] **a.** = SABBATARIAN *sb.* 3. **b.** A member of the religious sect founded by Joanna Southcott in 1801–14.

1719 OZELL tr. *Misson's Mem. & Observ.* 235 These Sabbatharians are so call'd because they will not remove the Day of Rest from Saturday to Sunday. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2089 Sabbatharians or New Israelites,..a religious sect founded by Joanna Southcott.

Sabbatharie, -y, variant forms of SABBATARY.

Sa·bbath-day. Forms: (see SABBATH).

1. = SABBATH 1 a.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 17355 (Laud) After that sabot-day was gon Thedir come they euery-chon. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 58 He helid a sik man vpon þe sabaat day. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 327 Whiche peple keped theire Sabbatte day [orig. *Sabbatum*], and hade hyt in so grete veneracion, that thei wolde not ordeyne meyte þat day. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1308/1 So do..their sabbot dayes begynne in the euenyng, and endure to the euenynge folowynge. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* ix. 75 By necessitie of their enemies constreined they [*sc.* the Jews] ..fought on the Sabboth day. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 156 He..with the Iewes kept the Saboth day,..yet refused Circumcision. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 104 Christians must not Judaize and rest on the Sabbath-day; but work on that very day; and give the preference to the Lord's day. 1726 J. HENLEY *Prim. Liturgy* 10 Feasts, are all Lords-days, all Sabbath-days, or Saturdays [etc.].

b. *Sabbath day's journey*: the distance (2,000 *ammōth* or 'ells' = 1225 yards) which (according to Rabbinical prescription in the time of Christ) was the utmost limit of permitted travel on the Sabbath.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* i. 12 Mount olivete which is neye to Jerusalem..conteynynge a saboth dayes iorney. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Shee Precise Hypocr.* (Arb.) 63 Her oftest Gossipings are Sabaoth-dayes iourneyes.

2. = SABBATH 1 b.

The first two quots. may perhaps not be rightly placed here, as it was the common view that the commandment 'to keep holy the Sabbath-day', in its Christian interpretation, related to the festivals of the Church in general, and not to Sunday only or eminently.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* x. 30 (Harl. MS.) Hope we hit is our lord ihesu crist, þe which hath ordeyned for lawe, þat ech man shold kepe þe saboth day. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 879 A woman which brake the commaundement Of god and holy churche hye sabbot-day dyd violate Vnlaufully wurkynge. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 12 On sunday: the forenoon occupied (az for the Sabot day) in quiet and vacation from woork, & in diuine seruis. 1605 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 284 There shall be no meetinge as concerning any business about upon the Sabbath day. 1652 *St. Andrews, Newcastle-on-Tyne Par. Reg.* in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. I. 223 Robard Fenwick..which was drowned in the Bares myll dam wher he went to swim on the Saboth day. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iii. (1841) I. 63 As soon as they come home next Sabbath-day from the sermon. 1810 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 33 The sensations of pious cheerfulness, which attend the celebration of the sabbath-day in rural places. 1830–2 CARLETON *Traits Irish Peasantry* (1860) I. 146 (*Priest*) On the Sabbath day too, without my leave!

3. = SABBATH 1 c.

1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* 42 The *Hattech*, i.e. a Priest which is above the *Emaum*, officiates on their Sabbath-day.

4. *gen.* A Sabbath, day of sacred rest.

1755 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 12 No place is sacred, not the Church is free; Ev'n Sunday shines no Sabbath-day to me.

Sabbathine (sæ·băþəin), *a.* [f. SABBATH + -INE^1.] Affecting or pertaining to the Sabbath.

1850 T. M'CRIE *Mem. Sir A. Agnew* viii. (1852) 194 The Sabbathine rules enjoin the Sons of Abraham to prepare for the Feast, by laying in a stock of provisions the day before.

Sabbathize (sæ·băþəiz), *v.* [Altered form of SABBATIZE after SABBATH.] *intr.* To observe or keep a Sabbath or period of rest.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Esdras* i. 58 The land quietly kept her sabbathes, al the time of her desolation she sabbathized in the application of seventie yeares. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* Gen. ii. 2 Rested: or Sabbathised, that is, kept Sabbath. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 75 This dwelling in God is our spiritual sabbathizing, the type of the eternall. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. Wks. 1716 III. 52 The Solemn League and Covenant..Mr. Knox did..bring into Scotland, where it is rampant to this day, and more rigid than the Inquisition in Spain, with the additional Bigotism of Sabbathising.

Sabbathless (sæ·băþlĕs), *a.* [f. SABBATH + -LESS.] Observing no Sabbath.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 46 This incessant and Sabbathlesse pursute of a mans fortune leaueth not tribute which we owe to God of our time. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1688) 178 Prayer itself is Sabbathless, and admits no rest, no intermission at all. 1820 LAMB *Sonn.*, '*Who first invented work*', Sabbathless Satan! he who his unglad Task ever plies. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Oct. 2/2 In 1885 Austria-Hungary in response to the bitter cry of Sabbathless toilers enacted a stringent Sunday law.

Sabbathly (sæ·băþli), *a.* [f. SABBATH + -LY 1.] Recurring every Sabbath.

1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* III. xvii. 139 It was a Sabbathly theme of regret.

Sa·bbathly, *adv.* [f. SABBATH + -LY 2.]

1. Every Sabbath; Sabbath by Sabbath. *Sc.*

1627 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 34 Their absenceis fra the Kirk Sabbothlie at the direction of the bailyies and elderis. 1671 *Rec. Presbyt. Inverness* 29 Mar. (S. H. S. 1896) 9 They were refreshed very much by him Sabbathly. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 467 As the Rev. Mr. F——..Sabbathly says, in the peroration of his sermons.

2. In a manner befitting the Sabbath.

1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 110 The Squire was Sabbathly solemn and imposing.

Sabbatian (sæbē·ʃiăn), *sb.*^{1} [f. *Sabbati-us* (see below) + -AN.] A member of a sect founded by Sabbatius (originally a convert from Judaism), who seceded from the Novatianists before 380, having adopted Quartodeciman views.

1708–22 BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* XX. iii. § 5 The Marcianists ..kept the Sabbath also a fast. So did also the Sabbatians, Lampetians [etc.]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Sabbatians are recorded by ecclesiastical historians, as having a great abhorrence of the left-hand. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2090 By his followers, the Sabbatians, he was honored as a martyr.

Sabbatian (sæbē·ʃiăn), *a.* and *sb.*^{2} [f. **Sabbatius* (mod.L. form of *Shabbethai*: see SABBATHAISM) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to Sabbathaism.

1892 tr. *Grätz's Hist. Jews* V. 152 The Sabbatian mystics.

B. *sb.* A believer in Sabbathaism.

1892 tr. *Grätz's Hist. Jews* V. 159 At Venice..a quarrel broke out between the Sabbatians and their opponents.

Hence **Sabba·tianism** = SABBATHAISM.

1892 tr. *Grätz's Hist. Jews* V. Index, Sabbatianism, revival of, v. 219. 1898 ZANGWILL *Dreamers Ghetto* vi. 205 Sabbatianism did not play much part in my early life.

Sabbatic (sæbæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *sabbatique* (= Sp. *sabático*, Pg., It. *sabbatico*), ad. med.L. **sabbaticus*, a. Gr. *σαββατικός*, f. *σάββατ-ον* SABBATH: see -IC.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Sabbath; resembling or appropriate to the Sabbath. *Sabbatic year* = *sabbatical year* (SABBATICAL *a.* 2 a).

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 119 Strict and necessary rest..was one great part of the Sabbatick rites. 1650 *Vind. Hammond's Addr.* § 16. 6 The servant..is to be set free from that servitude..in the seventh, or sabbatick year. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. rule vi. § 46 They kept their first Sabbatick rest upon the very day in which their redemption was completed. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 30 Sabbatick Dawn, a Priest of old, By sound of Trumpet told. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, War* VII. v. § 1 They call it the sabbatick river. 1861 LEWIN *Jerusalem* 87 Provisions in the little garrison from the effect of the sabbatic year, began to run short. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 99 Grant Sabbatic peace to every soul.

†**B.** *sb.* A sabbatic year. *Obs.*

1650 *Vind. Hammond's Addr.* § 16. 6 The Jubilee, which is the great Sabbatick (made up of seven times seven).

Sabbatical (sæbæ·tikăl), *a.* Also 8 **sabbathical.** [f. mod.L. **sabbatic-us* (see prec.) + -AL.]

1. Pertaining to or appropriate to the Sabbath.

1645 *City Alarum* 20 The formerly mentioned are but our working dayes abuses, now followes our seventh and Sabbaticall errour, wherein we seeme to rest. 1799 CORRY *Sat. Lond.* (1803) 94 The Curate is so far from being prepared for his sabbatical avocation, that he is engaged during the week in some worldly pursuit. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* XV. (1874) 295 It seems, besides, to throw light on the prominence of the Sabbatical command. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Carita* II. xxxi. 291 This, too, was a kind of solemn sabbatical exercise. 1892 A. BIRRELL *Res Judic.* ii. 38 A sabbatical calm results from the contemplation of his labours.

b. *Sabbatical river*: an imaginary river celebrated in Jewish legend, which was said to observe the Sabbath. Similarly *Sabbatical pool*: see quot. 1649.

The legend of the 'sabbatical river' existed in two discrepant forms: cf. quots. 1671 (after Josephus) and 1849.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 519 This was the issue of their Pilgrimage to the Sabbaticall streame, which they supposed to finde in this Persian Gulfe. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. xiv. 51 The sabbaticall pool in Judea, which was dry six dayes, but gushed out in a full stream upon the sabbath. 1671 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* viii. (1673) 151 The famous Sabbatical River..which for 6. days bear's all before it..: the admirable nature of that River is, that it keeps the Sabbath and rests all that day. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* XI. (1857) 221 And must my life, then, be always like the Sabbatical river of the Jews, flowing in full stream only on the seventh day?

c. Of the nature of a Sabbath or period of rest.

1836 SIR H. TAYLOR *Statesman* xi. 79 It were to be wished that he should set apart from business, not only a sabbatical day in each week, but if it be possible a sabbatical hour in each day!

2. a. *Sabbatical year*: the seventh year, prescribed by the Mosaic law to be observed as a 'Sabbath' in which the land was to remain untilled and all debtors and Israelitish slaves were to be released. Also *allusively.*

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. Note 8 From hence contracts, and the account of Sabbatical years and Jubilees bare date. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. Wks. 1716 III. 24 Neither Seventh Days..nor Sabbath Days, nor Sabbathical Years..is now any more obligatory to us. 1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* p. viii, May it prove unto us as a sabbatical year of rest!

b. *Sabbatical millenary, millennium*: the last of the seven thousands of years which (on the analogy of the seven days of the creation) were supposed to form the destined term of the world's existence.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 278 He conceaveth the Elementall frame shall end in the seventh or Sabbaticall millenary. 1814 J. CHRISTIE *Ess. Early Idol.* 11 The supposed continuance of this earth as many thousand years, the last thousand of which, it was reported, would be a Sabbatical Millenium.

Hence **Sabba·tically** *adv.*, **Sabba·ticalness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II., *Sabbaticalness*, the Being of the Nature or Quality of a Sabbath. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xv, He sabbatically abstains from the debate or the rubber.

Sabbatine (sæ·bătəin), *a. Hist.* [ad. med.L. *sabbatīn-us* (and Sp. *sabatino*), f. *sabbat-um* SABBATH, Saturday.] **a.** *Sabbatine preacher*: one appointed to preach on Saturdays. **b.** *Sabbatine bull*: a bull of Pope John XXII, proclaiming, as a reward for the wearing of the scapular, a plenary indulgence available on the first Saturday after the death of him who gains it. So *Sabbatine indulgence.*

1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 437 Friar Gerund appeared a Priest *in facie ecclesiæ*, and Sabatine Preacher in full form. 1826 T. COLEMAN *Indulgences*, etc., *Order Mt. Carmel* 15 That the so celebrated name of the Sabbatine Bull might not be forgotten. 1886 *Month* Dec. 473 The second of these privileges..is..the Sabbatine Indulgence. It is a plenary..Indulgence..available on the first Saturday after the death of him who gains it, releasing him then and there from Purgatory and admitting him straightway to the joys of Heaven.

Sabbatism (sæ·bătiz'm). *rare.* [ad. late L. *sabbatismus*, Gr. *σαββατισμός*, n. of action f. *σαβ-*

βατίζειν to keep the Sabbath, f. σάββατ-ον SABBATH: see -ISM.]

1. A sabbatical rest: in allusions to Heb. iv. 9.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Heb.* iv. 9 Therefore there is left a sabbatisme [Vulg. *sabbatismus*, Gr. σαββατισμος; *Wycl.* 1382 a saboth halowynge; 1611 a rest; 1881 *Revised* a sabbath rest] for the people of God. 1647 J. COTTON *Sing. Ps.* iii. 11 There is now remaining to us another Sabbatisme, or day of rest, now in the dayes of the Gospel, different from the seventh day of rest. 1886 S. Cox *Expositions* II. xxvii. 376 This Divine sabbatism, this pure eternal rest.

2. The formal observance of the Sabbath.

1611 BROUGHTON *Require of Agreement* 13 In the Iubilee the Maiestie of God will be a remission, and redemption, and ending of Sabbatisme to Israell. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 29 Sabbatism. To a Seventh Day God Jews restrain'd, For Joy, Rest, Praise ordain'd. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 117 Sabbatism had been elevated above faith and purity.

Hence **Sabbati·smal** *a.*, characterized by holy rest.

1881 J. C. BURNS in *I. Bruce's Serm.* Biog. 102 Very peaceful, Sabbatismal, these years were.

Sabbatist (sæ·bătist). [f. L. *sabbat-um* SABBATH + -IST.] = SABBATARIAN.

1857 BADEN POWELL *Chr. without Judaism* 161 Some Sabbatists..keep holy the seventh day of the week. 1865 J. GILL tr. *Bovet's Banished Count* xxi. 222 The Sabbatists observed the Seventh day of the week instead of the first.

Sabbatization (sæbătaizē·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The action of sabbatizing: **a.** Observance of the Sabbath, Sabbath-keeping. **b.** The conversion (of Sunday) into a Sabbath.

1644 LAUD *Troub. & Tryal* xxxv. (1695) 345 Those Men who stand so strictly upon the Morality of the Sabbath, do by a gross and carnal Sabbatization, three times out-go the Superstition of the Jew. 1827 G. S. FABER *Orig. Expiat. Sacr.* 202 He actually mentions the non-sabbatisation of the patriarchal religionists as a circumstance quite indisputable. 1882 *Ch. Times* 11 Aug. 544 The Sabbatization of Sunday came in comparatively late.

Sabbatize (sæ·bătaiz), *v.* Also SABBATHIZE. [ad. L. *sabbatīs-āre*, ad. Gr. σαββατίζειν, f. σάββατον SABBATH: see -IZE. Cf. F. *sabbatiser*.]

1. *intr.* To keep the Sabbath; to observe a specified day as a day of rest.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 247 They are also commanded to keepe the Sabbaths rest, to Sabbatize. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 214 We do not so Sabbatise as we should do, if we give only one Day of the Week to God, and the other six Days to the Devil. 1882 BLACKIE *Lay Serm.* ii. 105 A Samaritan..made it a point..in whatever attitude the first moment of the day had found him, in that position to remain..: if sitting, then to Sabbatise in the sitting attitude.

b. *fig.* To enjoy or undergo a period of rest analogous to a Sabbath.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* i. 58 Al the time of ther forsaking he [*i. e.* the land] sabatisede, in the apliyng of seuenti 3er. 1596 BELL *Sworn. Popery* I. III. v. 109 Although the mind regenerate do sabbatize in the Lord. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* II. 140 But if there were no incarnation..neither our understanding, nor our sences could have any object wherein to rest and sabbatize. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 89 It was the Day which Jesus canoniz'd, When he from all his Dolours sabbatiz'd.

2. *trans.* To observe or keep as a Sabbath; to assimilate to a Sabbath.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Lev.* xxv. 2 Thou shalt sabbatize the sabbath to the Lord. 1880 *W. Smith's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 1052/2 The tendency to sabbatize the Lord's day is due chiefly to the necessities of legal enforcement. 1906 H. BEGBIE *Priest* xvi. 256 Silvia is inclined to Sabbatize the week-days.

†**3.** To give sabbatical rest to. *Obs. rare*—1.

1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 8 For the Type is Sacrifice Honourably Sabbatiz'd, and at Rest in the Antitype, Our Lord Jesus Christ, our great Sacrifice Sabbatizing All Sacrifice by the sacrifice of Himself.

Hence **Sa·bbatizing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Sa·bbatizer**, in quot. one who observes the Jewish Sabbath.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 122 The Jewes on their Sabbaths..did vse..to drink somwhat more largely (a Sabbatising too much, by too many Christians imitated). 1683 HICKES *Case Inf. Bapt.* 61 Let the Adversaries of Infant-Baptism consider..Whether rejecting of it..they do not teach others, especially Atheists, pure Deists, and Sabbatizers..a way to deny all the rest. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 20 Wear Jesus Yoke,..'Twill prove a Sabbatising to your Mind. 1742 J. GLAS *Lord's Supper* II. (1883) 76 Our sabbatizing, or resting from our own works on the first day of the week is a sign of the truth of the promise of entering into his rest. 1855 *People's Sunday* 5 I shall, therefore, further show the complete absence of scripture authority for the doctrines of our Sabbatizing brethren.

Sabbaton, -tyne: see SABATON, SABATINE.

‖ **Sabbe·ka.** *Antiq. rare*—1. [Biblical Aramaic סַבְּכָא or סַבְּכָה *sabb'kā*.] An ancient musical instrument mentioned in the Book of Daniel; in the English Bible erroneously called SACKBUT, q. v.

1844 WHITTIER *Ezekiel* ix. They listen, as in Babel's throng The Chaldeans to the dancer's song, Or wild sabbeka's nightly play.

‖ **Sabdariffa** (sæbdări·fă). [mod.L.; in Lobel *Plantarum Hist.* (1576) 375; of obscure origin.] An East Indian rose-mallow, *Hibiscus Sabdariffa* (Linnæus 1759), cultivated for its acidulous calyxes.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1002/2 Sabdariffa. *Hibiscus Sabdariffa*, called Red Sorrel in the West and Rozelle in the East Indies, where it is used in tarts, jellies and salads, and to form a cooling drink.

Sabe: see SAVEY.

Sabean, Sabeism: see SABÆAN, SABAISM.

Sabel, obs. form of SABLE.

†**Sabeline,** *sb. Obs.* Also 3 sablyne, 7 sabelline. [a. OF. *sabeline* (12th c. in Godef.), ad. med.L. *sabelīna* (*pellis*), sable (fur), f. *sabellum* SABLE *sb.*[1] Cf. ZIBELINE.] The fur of the sable.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 364 (Egerton MS.) Ne scal þer beo fou ne grei ne cunig ne ermine ne ocquerne ne martres cheole ne beuer ne sabeline [*c* 1275 *Jesus MS.* sablyne]. ?1700 *Cruel Mother* in Child *Ballads* (1882) I. 221/2 We neither wore the silks nor the sabelline. 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 439 *Sable, sabelline*, the skin of an animal of the weasel or marten kind.

Sabeline: see SABELLINE *a.*[1]

‖ **Sabella** (săbe·lă). *Zool.* [mod.L. (Gmelin *Linnæus Syst. Nat.*, ed. 12, 1788), perh. f. *sabulum* sand.] A tubicolous annelid of the family *Sabellidæ*.

a 1851 DALYELL *Powers Creator* (1853) II. 175 Different species or varieties of the Sabella are found on the shores and in the seas of Scotland. *Ibid.*, *Sabella alveolaria*.—The Honeycomb Sabella. 1851 MEDLOCK tr. *Schoedler's Bk. Nature* II. 530 There are besides, the Sabellas, or *pencil, fan*, and *comb-worms* (Sabella). 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 699 We now come to another pretty tube-inhabiting annelid, which is called Sabella, because it lives in the sand and forms its tube of that substance. Several species of Sabella are found on the British coasts, the most common of which is the Shore Sabella (*Sabella alveolaria*).

Sabellian (săbe·liăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] *Theol.* [ad. eccl. L. *Sabelliān-us*, f. *Sabelli-us* (see B): see -AN.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the Sabellians (see B) or their doctrine.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* VII. v. 126 Of the Sabellian heresie..The Sabellian heretickes. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 4 Under the Sabellian Interpretation I include all that belongs to Men of Sabellian Principles. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* ix. 259 The Sabellian theory is, that there exists no real diversity of Persons in the Ever-Blessed Trinity.

B. *sb.* One who accepts the view of Sabellius (an African heresiarch of the third century) that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are merely different aspects or modes of manifestation of one Divine person. Cf. MODALIST.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 92 He is callid an heretike that heresies sowith, as Arrians, Wyclyfanes, Sabellyanes, and other. 1556 CLEMENT in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. App. lxi. 214 From all Arians, Eutichians, Manichians, Sabellians..and all other heretikes. 1685 RYCAUT tr. *Platina's Lives Popes* 52 The Sabellians..asserted that the Father, Son, and holy Ghost were but one Person. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 619 Tho' those who then held this opinion were call'd Sabellians, yet the heresie itself was more ancient than Sabellius. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. iv. (1872) 45 Sabellians, or worshippers of one person under three different manifestations.

Sabellian (săbe·liăn), *a.*[2] and *sb.*[2] *Hist.* [f. L. *Sabell-us* + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to a group of related peoples who inhabited certain parts of ancient Italy, comprising the Sabines, Samnites, Campanians, and others. **b.** *sb.* A person belonging to any of these peoples.

In Latin poetry *Sabellī* is commonly used as a synonym of *Sabini*. The use of *Sabellian* by modern writers is somewhat arbitrary.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 64 Of Samnites, whom the Greekes called Sabellians and Saunites, The Colonie Bouianum, the old. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 277 The territory of those Sabellian tribes [*sc.* the Sabines, Marsians, Peligni ans, Vestinians, and Samnites], which are here classed together, includes the central heights and valleys of the Apennines. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 445/2 Oscan is..a useful term to designate the nation or group of tribes composed of the Samnites, together with their descendants or offshoots, the Campanians, Lucanians, and Bruttians. The name Sabellians, used by the Roman poets, has been employed by some modern writers in much the same signification.

Sabellianism (săbe·liăniz'm). [f. SABELLIAN *a.*[1] and *sb.*[1] + -ISM.] The doctrinal conception of the Trinity as held by the followers of Sabellius; belief in the Sabellian doctrine of the Trinity.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* Schol. (1713) 549 Sabellianism, which allows the Consubstantiality or Coequality in the Trinity. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. xi. (1876) 104 A heresy known by the name of Sabellianism or Modal Trinity. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* vii. 127 To avoid Tritheism on the one hand,..and Sabellianism on the other.

Sabellianize (săbe·liănəiz), *v.* [f. SABELLIAN + -IZE.] *intr.* To adopt Sabellian views.

1833–40 J. H. NEWMAN *Church of Fathers* (1842) 171 We have bid farewell to contentious deviations of doctrine,.. neither Sabellianizing nor Arianising. 1833 — *Arians* v. I. (1876) 356 Not only did he [Athanasius] reluctantly abandon his associate, the unfortunate Marcellus, on his Sabellianizing but [etc.].

Sabellic (săbe·lik), *a.* [f. L. *Sabellus* SABELLIAN *a.*[2] + -IC.] Pertaining to the language or the nationality of the Sabellians.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 126/1 The Sabellic inscriptions. 1902 GILES in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 898/2 The Sabellic alphabet,..found in a few inscriptions.

Sabellid (săbe·lid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. SABELLA + -ID.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to or connected with the family *Sabellidæ*, of which the genus *Sabella* is the type.

1900 *Nature* 6 Dec. 140/1 A paper..on the sabellid worms collectively designated as Polychætes.

B. *sb.* An individual of the family *Sabellidæ*.

1893 *Jrnl. Mar. Zool.* Nov. 13 On the method of dispersion and fertilization of ova in some sabellids. 1896 BENHAM in *Camb. Nat. Hist.* II. 286 The beautiful branchial crowns of various Sabellids.

Sabelline (săbe·lain), *a.*[1] Also (in Dicts.) sabeline. [ad. med.L. *sabellīnus*, f. *sabellum* SABLE *sb.*[1]] Of the colour of sable fur.

1888 *Longm. Mag.* July 297 Bird and beast must assume alike the uniform grey sabelline tint of external nature.

Sabelline (săbe·lain), *a.*[2] *Zool.* [f. SABELLA + -INE[1].] Pertaining to the genus *Sabella* or to the family *Sabellidæ* (Cent. Dict. 1891).

Sabelline, variant of SABELINE *Obs.*

Sabellite (sæbe·lait). *Zool.* [f. SABELLA + -ITE[1].] A fossil sabella, or some similar worm (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Sabelloid (săbe·loid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. SABELLA + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Of or resembling the annelidan *Sabellidæ* (Cent. Dict. 1891). **b.** *sb.* One of the *Sabellidæ* (ibid.).

Saber, obs. or U.S. form of SABRE.

Sabian (sē·biăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7–8 Zabian, 7–8 Sabean, 8 Zabæan, Tsabæan, 8–9 Sabæan, Tsabian. [f. Arab. صابى *çābi'* + -AN.

According to Nöldeke, the word represents the pr. pple. of the Aramaic צבא *ṣ'baʿ* to baptize (the ע being changed into א as is usual in the Mandæan and cognate dialects). In the actual form in which the word occurs in Arabic, it has the appearance of being derived from the same root as the Hebrew צבא *çābā* host (see SABAOTH); hence, as certain sects claiming the name of Sabians were alleged to be worshippers of the stars, the name was (already by Maimonides in the 12th c.) interpreted as referring to 'the host of heaven'.]

A. *sb.*

1. An adherent of a religious sect mentioned in three passages of the Koran (ii. 40, v. 73, xxii. 17), and by later Arabian writers.

In the Koran the Sabians are classed with Moslems, Jews, and Christians, as believers in the true God. On account of the toleration extended by Moslems to them, the name of Sabians was, some centuries after Mohammed, assumed not only by the Gnostic half-Christian Mandæans (whose religion is perhaps akin to that of the true Sabians), but also by certain actual polytheists. The statement of some Arabic writers is that the Sabians were professedly Christian, but secretly worshippers of the stars. (Cf. SABAISM.)

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 35 For want of knowing the Religion of the antient Zabians...Of those Zabiists..I find a deep and general silence in Classick Authors. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 462/1 The fourth [*sc.* apartment of hell] named *al Sair*, [Mohammedans assign] to the Sabians. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 295/2 That the unity of the Deity was however still acknowledged in the religious system of the Tsabians is manifest from the way in which this religion is spoken of in the Korán.

b. Used for MANDÆAN (see quot. 1883).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 458/2 The Sabians have several books which they attribute to some of the antediluvian prophets. 1883 K. KESSLER *ibid.* (ed. 9) XV. 467/2 *note*, In their dealings with members of other communions the designation they [*i. e.* the Mandæans] take is Sabians.

2. In erroneous use: A worshipper of 'the host of heaven'; a star-worshipper.

1716 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connected* I. III. (1718) I. 140 The remainder of this sect still subsists in the east under the same name of Sabians...That which hath given them the greatest credit among the people of the east is, that the best of their astronomers have been of this sect...For the stars being the gods they worshipped, they made them the chief subject of their studies. 1864 COL. GREENWOOD in *Athenæum* 23 July 115/3 Bishop Cumberland and Bishop Warburton..agree that Cain..and his descendants were Sabæans. Abraham and Moses were Sabæans till Jehovah revealed himself to them.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to the Sabians (in the various applications of the name: see A).

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 571 The Sabean Christians have, in their religion, a mixture of Judaism and Mahometanism. 1859 J. M. ARNOLD *Ishmael* 35 In a Sabian Almanac ..it is stated: 'They fast in it seven days..in honour of the great Lord, the Sun, the Lord of all Good.' 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 128/1 It is quite inappropriate to call star-worshippers in general Sabians or Zabians or to speak of a distinct Sabian religion, as older writers do.

Sabianism (sē·biăniz'm). Also 9 **sabæanism.** [f. prec. + -ISM.] The religion of the Sabians; chiefly in erroneous use, worship of 'the host of heaven', star-worship. Cf. SABAISM.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* V. l. 194 Sabianism was diffused over Asia by the science of the Chaldæans and the arms of the Assyrians. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 31 Astrolatry or Sabianism; that is to say, the worship of the Sun, the Moon, and the Host of Heaven. 1871 PROCTOR *Light Sci.* 333 Sabæanism, or star-worship.

Sabicu (sæbikū'). A timber tree, *Lysiloma Sabicu*, native of Cuba, the wood of which is greatly valued for its hardness and durability; the wood of this tree. Also *attrib.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 704/1 The valuable hard timber known as Sabich, Savacu or Savico wood. *Ibid.*, Sabicu timber is imported..from Cuba. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 68/2 *Acacia formosa* supplies the valuable Cuba timber called sabicu. 1879 *Man. Artillery Exerc.* 588 A number of 5-in. sabicu shifting rollers.

Sabiism: see SABAISM.

Sabill, obs. f. SABLE. **Sabin**(e, var. ff. SAVIN.

Sabine (sæ·bəin), *a.* and *sb. Hist.* [ad. L. *Sabīn-us* adj. and sb.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Sabines: see B.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 842 Sabine dames. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. ix. (1826) II. 75 An old Sabine sorceress. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 220 The .. valley of the Hernici .. separates the Sabine heights from the group of mountains anciently inhabited by the Volscians. 1908 O. CRAWFORD in *19th Cent.* Jan. 69 Liquor that Horace drank and sang of on his Sabine farm.

B. *sb.* One of a race of ancient Italy who inhabited the central region of the Apennines.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 61 Tacius kyng of Sabyns was i-slawe by assent of Romulus. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. iv. (S.T.S.) I. 29 Ane huge nowmer of Sabinis with bare wyiffis, barnis, & servandis. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 65 The Sabines..dwell hard by the Veline lakes. 1783 W. GORDON tr. *Livy's Rom. Hist.* (1823) I. xxxviii. 70 The Sabines fled to the Mountains. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 46 The Sabines, as it is..conjectured, had a settlement covering the Capitoline and Quirinal Hills.

b. *transf.* in allusion to the proverb *Sabini quod volunt somniant*, 'the Sabines dream what they will' (Festus).

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 542 Grimsby, which our Sabins, or conceited persons dreaming what they list, and following their owne fansies, will have to be so called of one Grime a merchant.

Sabino (səbī·no). [app. altered form of Sp. *sabina* SAVIN.] **a.** The bald or deciduous cypress, *Taxodium distichum* (Treas. Bot., Suppl., 1874). **b.** The Mexican swamp cypress, *Taxodium mucronatum* (Webster Suppl., 1902). **c.** The wood of a species of *Talauma* (Encycl. Brit. XIX. 532/2, 1885).

Sabir: see SAMBUR.

Sable (sē·b'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: **α.** 4 sabylle, 5 sabulle, 5–6 sabill, 5–7 sabel, 6 sabil(le, 7 sabell, 4– sable. **β.** 7 cebal. [a. OF. *sable, saible* sable fur, also quasi-*adj.* in *martre sable* ('sable marten') as the name of the animal and its fur, med.L. *sabelum, sabellum* sable fur, Icel. *safal, safali* sable (the animal), sable-fur, Du. *sabel* sable-fur. The OF. word was prob. adopted from Slavonic: cf. Russian соболь, Polish, Czech *sobol* (whence G. *zobel*, Da., Sw. *sobel*), Lith. *sabalas*, Hung. *czoboly*, the sable. See also ZIBELLINE, which represents a Romanic derivative from the same Slavonic word.

The rare 17th c. form *cebal* is of obscure origin; it may possibly be a shortening of one of the Rom. forms cited s.v. ZIBELLINE.]

1. A small carnivorous quadruped, *Mustela zibellina*, nearly allied to the martens, and native of the arctic and sub-arctic regions of Europe and Asia. Also *Russian, Siberian sable.* In ME. the animal and its fur are called also *martrix sable, martryn sable*, after OF. *martre sable.*

The American sable, *Mustela Americana*, native of the arctic and sub-arctic regions of North America, is now regarded as a geographical variety of the Old World species. The *red* or *Tatar sable* is the Siberian mink, *Putorius sibiricus.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clvii, The bugill, draware by his hornis grete; The martrik sable, the foynȝee, and mony mo. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 504/2 That noo Knyght..nor noo Wyf of eny such Knyght..were eny manere Cloth of Gold ..or eny Furre of Sables. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiii. 62 Furres of martirs, Zebelins, Sables,..and other fine skins. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 19 *Mustela Zibellina*,..the Cebal, or Sable. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xvi. 326 They..catch sables and foxes. 1877 COUES *Fur Anim.* iii. 95 The Sable is principally trapped during the colder months.

b. *Painting.* A pencil made of the sable's hair (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

2. The skin or fur of the sable.

14.. LYDG. *Life Our Lady* (MS. Bodl. 75, fol. 72 b) Ne martres sable [*Caxton and other texts* Ne martyrn ne sabyl]..Was noon founde in her garment. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 20 Item, put in the samyn [goun] sevin score of mertrikis of the Kingis and pairt of sabilles. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 20 The riche furres called *Zibellini*, which we call Sables. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 180 Raw silks, exchang'd for sables. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 30 Jan., This lady was in a gown..lined and faced with sables. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. vi/2 When we say furs, we should rather say fur, for sable is the only one adopted by ladies of high fashion. 1893 F. F. MOORE *Gray Eye or So* III. 211 Mrs. Mowbray's set of sables had cost..seven hundred guineas.

3. A superior quality of Russian iron, so called from being originally stamped with a sable.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 12 That kind [of iron] called old sable. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 462 Those [files] made from the Russian iron, known by the name of old sable, called from its mark CCND, are excellent.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *sable-skin*; (made of the hairs of the sable) *sable-brush, -pencil*; (used for taking the sable) *sable-trap*; (made of the fur of sable) *sable-coat, muff, tippet.* Also objective, as *sable-hunter.*

1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 2/1 Chinese white ..may be applied with a fine *sable-brush. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. I. 228 It is common to see a great man sit in his *sable-coat in the height of summer. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xvi. 335 They were the *sable-hunters of Siberia. 1784 KING *Cook's 3rd Voy.* VI. ii. III. 220, I had a present..of a handsome *sable muff. 1811 *Self Instructor* 518 The latter kind are called *sable pencils. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xv. 316, I was curious to see the *sable-skins. 1882 H. LANSDELL *Through Siberia* I. 208 A good sable skin fetches from 50*s.* to £10. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2202/4 Lost.., a *Sable Typpet. 1784 J. BELKNAP in *B. Papers* (1877) II. 188 We saw..abundance of *sable-traps, and one bear-trap.

b. Sable-mouse [= Ger. *zobelmaus*] = LEMMING.

1699 SIR P. RYCAUT in *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 110 In the Year 1697, these Sable-Mice were first observ'd. 1700 W. KING *Transactioneer* 81 Sable-Mice..are so fierce and angry that if a stick be held out at them, they will bite it.

Sable (sē·b'l), *sb.*[2] and *a.* Also 4–5 sabyll(e, 5–6 sabill. [a. F. *sable* sable (as heraldic term: in Godef. cited only from 15th c.), whence Sp., Pg. *sable*, MDu., Du. *sabel*. The identity of the word with SABLE *sb.*[1] is commonly assumed, though some difficulty is presented by the fact that the fur of the sable, as now known, is not black but brown.

Some have conjectured that it may have been customary to dye sable-fur black (as is now often done with sealskin), perh. in order to heighten its contrast with ermine, with which it was often worn.

The development by which the heraldic term has become a general (poetical or rhetorical) synonym for 'black' is peculiar to English.]

A. *sb.*

1. *Her.* Black, as one of the heraldic colours; in engraving represented by horizontal and vertical lines crossing each other. Abbreviated *S, Sa.*, † *Sab.*

1352 *Wynnere & Wastoure* 157 The thirde banere one bent as of blee whitte With sexe galeys I see of sable with inn. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 771 His hede and hys hals ware.. Oundyde of azure,..Hys feete ware floreschede alle in fyne sabylle. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. vi. 601 A shelde alle of Sabel. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. xvii. 280 That other colour is blak that men calle in armoyrie sable. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 87 b, These [Ogresses] are Pellets of guns, and are neuer of other colour, then Sable. 1611 COTGR., *Sable*,..the colour sables, or blacke, in Blason. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* XV. 175 Changing the tincture of the field of his shield from sable to azure.

2. The colour black; black clothing, also, esp. as a symbol of mourning. *poet.* and *rhetorical.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 284 Now haue ye cause to clothe yow in sable. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 372 A Peire of Bedes blak as Sable Sche tok and heng my necke aboute. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 20 Thair baneris schane with the sone, of siluer and sabill. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 126 Thare was Pluto..In cloke of grene, his court suit no sable. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 242 *Ham.* His Beard was grisly? No. *Hor.* It was, as I haue seene it in his life, A Sable Siluer'd. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 262 The King of dykes! than whom no sluice of mud With deeper sable blots the silver flood. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* VIII. 38 Painted was he with his warpaints,..Spots of brown and spots of sable.

† **b.** Blackness, darkness. *Obs.*

1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 56 The purpour sone,..Doing all sable fro the hevynnis chace. 1774 tr. *Helvetius' Child of Nature* II. 336 The sable of death was spread upon his face. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 872 Let no man charge me that I mean To clothe in sable every social scene.

3. *pl.* Mourning garments; a suit of black worn as an emblem of grief. *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 138 Nay then let the Diuel weare blacke, for Ile haue a suite of Sables. 1676 OTWAY *Don Carlos* v. i, You'll find her all in rueful Sables clad. 1795 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 164 Her gloomy sables change to pink and gold. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, Her little boy sate by her side in pompous new sables. 1867 'OUIDA' *C. Castlemaine* (1879) 18 The sables she wore were not solely for the dead Earl.

b. *fig.*

1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* I. 1 Already had the Night worn out neare half her Sables. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* I. 101 This Hatred..puts on the mournful Sables of Grief and Sorrow. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 162 Then the earth, disrobed of all her gay attire, must sit in sables, like a disconsolate widow. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 58 Thus Cowper kept on his sables, his melancholy countenance [etc.].

4. A book-name of several species of pyralid moths, esp. of the genera *Botys* and *Ennychia.*

1832 RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 149 The Wavy-barred Sable (*Ennychia anguinalis*). *Ibid.* The Silver-barred Sable (*E. cingulata*).

5. In full *sable antelope.* A large stout-horned antelope, *Hippotragus* (*Ægocerus*) *niger*, native of South and East Africa, the male of which is of a deep black colour.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 95/1 An old buck of the sable antelope, the rarest and most beautiful animal in South Africa. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 294, I saw the head and horns of a grand sable, looking straight at me. 1900 GROGAN & SHARP *Cape to Cairo* v. 49, I saw two grand bull sable browsing.

6. *Comb.*, parasynthetic and instrumental, as *sable-bordered, -cinctured, -coloured, -hooded, -lettered, -robed, -spotted, -stoled, -suited, -vested, visaged* adjs.

a 1758 RAMSAY *Death R. Alexander* i, Thou *sable-border'd sheet begone! 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* III. 97 Learning's garb, With formal band, and *sable-cinctur'd gown. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 233 It is besieged with *sable coloured melancholie. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 75 Night puts on her mistie sable-coloured vayle. 1770 W. HODSON *Ded. Temple Solomon* 13 The dreary Realms Of *sable-hooded Night. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vi, In vain, the learning of the age Unclasp'd the *sable-letter'd page. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 54 Like *sable-robed Ants. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 104 Walled towers..*sable-spotted with cannon-courses. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativity* xxiv, The *sable-stoled Sorcerers bear his worshipt Ark. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) G 3 b, Phœbus, put out thy *sable suted wreathe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 962 With him Enthron'd Sat *Sable-vested Night. 1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* Prol. 24 The silent *sable visagde night.

B. *adj.* In 6–7 also **sables.**

1. *Her.* Of a black colour; black.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. ix. 176 The knyght bare in his sheld thre gryffons of gold in sable charbuncle. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 193 In a shield sables, they beare for their armes six Swallowes argent. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* ix. 79 Paly gules and or, on a fess argent a dog in the act of bounding sable.

2. *gen.* Black. Chiefly *poet.* and *rhetorical.* **a.** Of material objects, persons, animals, etc. Now, as applied to negroes, slightly *jocular.*

1485–1509 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 408 The margent sylver and the notis sabill. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 447 According to my sable weid I mon haif sad maneris. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb. 81) He appearailed himselfe in armour, colour sables, as mourning for his Mistres. 1595 R. JOHNSON 7 *Champions* (1608) 72 The walles [were] behung with sable mourning cloth. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iii. § 29 This Year the English have cause to write with Sable letters in their Almanack,..that [etc.]. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Theodore & Honoria* 272 Last came the Fellon on the Sable Steed. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 22 His few gray locks a sable fillet bound. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 63 The ceremonies were performed by a sable archbishop. 1822 SOUTHEY *Vis. Judgm.* VIII. Poet. Wks. 1838 X. 232 He of the sable mail, the hero of Cressy. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 56/1 When the middle passage is safely passed and the death-scared sable crowd 'sold and delivered'.

b. Of sky, sea, land, night, and the like.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 2 Aurora did vpspring, With cristall ene chasing the cluddis sable. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXIX. vi, Doe thou thy best, O secret night, In sable vaile to cover me. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 15 Whose storie, Shall..shew it selfe..more bright, Then chast Latona on the sablest night. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xxxii, So when the South (dipping his sablest wings In humid Ocean) sweeps..Th' aire, earth, and seas. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 221 Was I deceiv'd, or did a sable cloud Turn forth her silver lining on the night? 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 415 The Night Wrapt in her sable Veil forbids the Chace. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxiv, As flashes flame through sable smoke. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* vi, Down the sable flood we glided.

c. Of agencies personified.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 308 Your future thought let sable Fate employ. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* IV. ii, Ha! Did'st thou say, revenge? Hail, sable pow'r.

d. Of dark-coloured liquids. *rare.*

1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 58 Quick flowed a sable current from the wound. *Ibid.* XXI. 200 The other as it flew Grazed his right elbow: sprang the sable blood. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 13 They..Caroused in seas of sable beer.

† **3.** Mournful. *Obs.*

1603 CHETTLE *Eng. Mourn. Garm.* D 3, Nor doth the siluer tonged Melicert, Drop from his honied muse one sable teare. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Sable*,.. mournefull. 1708 *Repl. to Swift's Bickerstaff detected* S.'s Wks. 1755 II. I. 167 A long sable elegy. 1780 COWPER *Lett.* 6 Apr., Such a sable state of mind as I labour under.

† **Sa·ble,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 7 **zable**, 7–8 **sabel**; and see SHABLE. [Prob. a. Du. or early mod.Ger. *sabel* (later Ger. *säbel*): see SABRE.] = SABRE *sb.*

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fight at Sea* Wks. (1630) III. 34/1 Some with Sabels, which we call Fauchions..and some with Half pikes. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* III. 50 Stanislas..came with his Sable in his Hand. 1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 184 They use Musquets, Bows and Arrows, Zables, Javelins; and for their Trumpets they employ great Elefants-teeth. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1765/1 The Moneys.. has on one side a Hand with a naked Sable in it. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sable*, or *Sabre.*

Sable (sē·b'l), *sb.*[4] [ad. Pg. *savel.*] An Indian fish; = HILSA. Usually *sable-fish.*

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *East India Vade M.* II. 154 The *hilsah*, (or sable fish,) which seems to be mid-way between a mackarel and a salmon,..is, perhaps, the richest fish with which any cook is acquainted. 1846 J. T. THOMPSON *Hindu Dict., Ilēesh*..the Hilsa or Sable. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 34 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) An anadromous shad termed 'Pulla' in the Indus,..'Sable-fish' by the Madrassees,.. [and] 'Hilsa' or 'ilisha' in Bengal.

Sable (sē·b'l), *v.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. SABLE *a.*] *trans.* To blacken or darken. Also, to clothe in 'sables'. Now *rare.*

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. XXXVI, And sabled all in blacke the shadie skie. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat, David's Sin* XXXII. (1867) 213 Sepian juice did sink Into his spongy paper, sabling o'er The same. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 103 Airy terrors sable ev'ry dream. 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* lix, Sabled by the solar beam, Now the fiery clusters teem. 1890 *Temple Bar* Sept. 14 She is probably no longer sobbing and sabled.

Hence **Sa·bled** *ppl. a.*, clad in black.

1804 *Something Odd* II. 88 The sabled gentleman fancies himself struck with the sublimities of Miss Gervaise.

† **Sableize** (sē·b'l,əiz), *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SABLE *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make black.

1611 DAVIES *Sco. Folly*, etc. 237 Some Chroniclers that write of Kingdomes States Do so absurdly sableize my White With Maskes and Enterludes by Day and Night.

Sableness (sē·b'lnes). [f. SABLE *a.* + -NESS.] Blackness; † mournfulness, gloom.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 128 This was a signe of some sablenes, of some saddnes. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 63 The funereal sableness of the far-stretching forests. 1884 G. P. LATHROP *True* xi. 117 The sable driver subsided completely into the depths of his sableness.

†**Sabliere**[1]. *Arch. Obs.* [a. F. *sablière*, of obscure origin.] 'A piece of wood as long as a beam but not so thick' (Phillips 1696).

†**Sabliere**[2]. *Obs.* [a. F. *sablière* sand-pit, f. *sable* sand :—L. *sabulum*.] A sand-pit or gravel-pit.
1706 in Phillips.

Sably (sē'·bli), *adv.* [f. Sable *a.* + -ly 2.] Darkly, blackly.
1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 336 The sably snowy swan. 1887 Mrs. C. Reade *Maid o' Mill* II. xxxviii. 285 A funeral train streams sably down Ewshot Hill.

Sablyne, variant of Sabeline *Obs.*

‖ **Sabot** (sabo). [F. *sabot* (OF. in 13th c. *çabot*, mod.Picard *chabot*) prob. related in some way to *savate* shoe, Pr. *sabata* : see Sabaton.]

1. A wooden shoe made of a single piece of wood shaped and hollowed out to fit the foot.
1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 299 Woodden shoes properly called sabots. 1673 C. Hatton in *H. Corr.* (Camden) 118 A sabot having a great bracelet of beades passed through y^e^ heel. 1765 H. Walpole *Let. to Y. Chute* 3 Oct., Two fellows were sweeping it [*sc.* the Dauphin's bedchamber] and dancing about in sabots to rub the floor. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 18 The ploughmen.. have neither sabots nor feet to their stockings. 1846 Church *Misc. Writ.* (1891) I. 92 Captains in the imperial armies.. resumed their sabots and baggy breeches. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. iv, Two boys in blouses and sabots.
attrib. 1800 Weems *Washington* viii. (1877) 62 The Sabot or wooden shoed nation, the French.

b. A kind of shoe having a thick wooden sole and 'uppers' of coarse leather.
1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Bagman's Dog*, He'd a 'dreadnought' coat, and heavy *sabots* With thick wooden soles turn'd up at the toes. 1879 Beerbohm *Patagonia* iii. 43 [He] would now and then wear a pair of sabots made with the skin of the hind legs of the guanacho.

2. *Mil.* a. A wooden disc attached to a spherical projectile by means of a copper rivet for the purpose of keeping it evenly in place in the bore of the piece when discharged. b. A metal cup fixed by means of metal straps to a conical projectile, to cause it to 'take' the rifling of the gun.
1855 Norton in *Mech. Mag.* LXII. 88 Expanding self-cleansing sabot for rifle-shot. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artill. Man.* (ed. 8) 86 The 'bottoms' or 'sabots' of all naval shells are hollowed out. *Ibid.* 97 Wooden Bottoms, or Sabots. 1860 Tennent *Story Guns* (1864) 209 The shot, unprotected by a sabot, may have shifted its place. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 355 An egg-shaped bullet, its base embedded in a *papier mâché* sabot. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions of War* 63 The fulminate which is put in a card-board *sabot* next the charge.

3. *Mech.* The iron shoe or point of a pile (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., 1884); an iron shoe used to protect the end of a file for working metal (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); a cutting armature at the end of a tubular boring-rod.
1884 *Public Opinion* 3 Oct. 432 The system of sinking shafts..by means of hollow iron tubes with cutting sabots.

4. A brace connected with the pedal of a harp and used for shortening the string.
1891 in *Century Dict.*

Hence **Sa·boted** *ppl. a.*, shod with sabots.
1862 Sirron in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 421 The bloused and saboted driver. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 11/2 Colonies of greasy, sabotted Frenchmen. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 27 Mar. 4/5 His blue-bloused and sabotted gardeners.

†**Sabras.** *Obs.* Also 3 sabraz, 5 saberas, saberace. [? a. Pr. *saboratz*, pa. pple. of *saborar* to season.] A decoction or infusion.
a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364 Þe on uorgeð al þet he luued of metes & of drunches, & drinkeð bitter sabraz uorto akoueren his hesle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/1 Sabrace, *sabracia*. *c* 1480 *Sloane MS.* 73, lf. 22I Tak thi lether and basche it wel in this sabras. *Ibid.*, That that saberas be wel drunken up in to the lether. *Ibid.*, Poure thi sabrace al aboven the lether.

Sabre (sē'·bəɹ), *sb.* Also 8 sabir, 9– *U.S.* sabər. [a. F. *sabre* (17th c.), an unexplained alteration of *sable* (Oudin 1640: cf. Sp. *sable*) a. G. *sabel* (now *säbel*), whence Sable *sb.*[3] The ultimate source is prob. to be sought in some Oriental language; forms with initial (ʃ) are found in Hungarian *szâblya* (whence perh. It. *sciabla*, Shable) and Polish *szabla*; the Russian сабля may be from German.]

1. A cavalry sword having a curved blade specially adapted for cutting.
1680 Otway *Orphan* II. iii. 514 With my good Sabir drawn ..I..clove the Rebel to the Chine. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3291/1 The Chief Officers..came with their Sabres in their Hands. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* xii, He received himself the stroke of a sabre on his head. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 41 My companions were well armed with pistols and sabres. 1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* x, Several pairs of foils, and sabers.

b. Put for: Military force.
1831 Gallenga *Italy* 91 The Milanese were long since under the rule of the sabre.

2. A cavalry 'unit'; a soldier armed with a sabre.
1849 Napier *Penins. War* (1878) II. 484 General total,.. 56,430 sabres and bayonets in the field. 1895 Sir E. Wood *Cavalry in Waterloo Camp.* v. 120 Somerset's Heavy Brigade :—..Total paper strength 1,220 sabres.

3. An implement used for removing scum from the surface of molten glass.
1892 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 102 Removing with a broad copper sabre any scum that may have formed on the surface of the glass. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 590 The bucket is skimmed by means of a copper tool called a sabre.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sabre-cut, -shaped* adjs.; **sabre-bayonet**, a weapon which can be used either as a sabre or a bayonet; **sabre-bill**, a South American dendrocolaptine bird of the genus *Xiphorhynchus*; **sabre-cut**, (*a*) a blow with a sabre; (*b*) a cut or scar left by the stroke of a sabre; **sabre-fish**, *U.S.*, the cutlass-fish, *Trichiurus lepturus*; **sabre-wing**, a humming-bird of the genus *Campylopterus* (and related genera).
1863 T. E. C. *Battlefields of the South* I. 252 Many more were destroyed with the *sabre-bayonet when our men closed in upon them. 1859–62 Sir J. Richardson, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* 319 The Brazilian *Sabre-bill (*Xiphorhynchus procurvus*). *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy* (1839) 216 On his wan cheek a *sabre-cut. 1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. 49 Against Justice and Constable, treadmill and stocks, the sabre-cut was a protection. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* II. vii, The captain..with his..sabre-cut cheek. 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 192/2 The Silvery Hair-tail..is called *Sabre-fish in Cuba. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 255 The Cutlass-fish.. is known..on the coast of Texas as 'Sabre-fish'. 1796 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 442/2 [Of a part of a plant.] *Sabre-shaped. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 423/1 The rostrum [of *Rhynchocinetes*]..is very large, sabre-shaped, and dentilated on both edges. 1895 A. H. Cooke *Molluscs* (Camb. Nat. Hist. III.) 236 Laterals simple, sabre-shaped. 1861 Gould *Humming-B.* II. pl. 43 *Campylopterus pampa*, Wedge-tailed *Sabre-wing. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 446 The group known as 'Sabre-wings'.

b. Sabre-toothed lion or tiger, a large extinct feline mammal of the genus Machairodus, with long sabre-shaped upper canines. Also **sabre-tooth** *a.* and *sb.*
1849 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 909/2 The great extinct sabre-toothed tiger. 1880 Dawkins *Early Man Britain* iii. 57 The great sabre-toothed lion, *Machairodus*. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas, Ung* iii, He..pictured the sabre-tooth tiger dragging a man to his lair. *Ibid.* v, Hath he..followed the Sabre-tooth home?

Sabre (sē'·bəɹ), *v.* [f. Sabre *sb.* Cf. F. *sabrer*.] *trans.* To strike, cut, or wound with a sabre.
1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 399 And now you send troops to sabre and to bayonet us into a submission to fear and force. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* VI. xii, The people were fired on and sabred. 1875 Clery *Min. Tact.* x. (1877) 123 Ponsonby's cavalry..sabred the gunners and stabbed the horses.
absol. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. xiii. (1872) VIII. 50 The Seidlitz cavalry went sabring till, for very fatigue, they gave it up.

Hence **Sa·brer** [cf. F. *sabreur*], one who cuts down with a sabre.
1831 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 416 When men and women were massacred at Manchester..did they dream it was love for the sabrers, that produced an after compliance with their mandates?

Sabre, obs. f. Sambur, Indian elk.

Sabred (sē'·bəɹd), *a.* [f. Sabre *sb.* + -ed 2.] Furnished or armed with a sabre.
1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Quality* (1792) IV. 162 An arrangement of sabred Hussars with their fierce-looking mustachoes. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 7/4 There were the Guardsmen, whiskered, mustachio'd, padded, epauletted, sabred. 1883 E. F. Knight *Cruise Falcon* (1887) 61 A gentleman most gorgeously uniformed and sabred.

Sabretache (sæ·bəɹtaʃ). Also sabretasch(e, -tash. [a. F. *sabretache*, ad. G. *säbeltasche*, f. *säbel* sabre, Sable *sb.*[2] + *tasche* pocket.] A leather satchel suspended on the left side by long straps from the sword-belt of a cavalry officer.
A MS. letter of 1812 has the word in the corrupt form *zappadash*. The Dicts. incorrectly give (sē'·bəɹtaʃ).
1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 167 A pouch belt and a sabre-tache. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* xv, As strapping a fellow as ever carried a sabretasch. 1858 Sir E. Cust *Ann. Wars* p. viii, The Volume has been so managed that it may not be too much for the pocket, or the sabretash. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VII. i. (1872) II. 237 He is withal a kind of soldier..a man of many sabre-tashes. 1901 *Scotsman* 7 Nov. 5/8 The King has been graciously pleased to approve the abolition of the sabre tache.

‖ **Sabreur** (sabrœ̃r). [Fr.; agent-n., f. *sabrer* to Sabre.] One who fights with a sabre; usually applied to a cavalry soldier distinguished rather for bravery than for skill in war.
1845 W. H. Maxwell *Hints to Soldier* 77 The humbler but no less gallant sabreur of New Ross. 1854 Badham *Halient.* 418 Our expert sabreur rushes to the conflict, and, carefully avoiding the sweep of his opponent's tremendous tail, soon effects his purpose, by stabbing the luckless leviathan at all points.

Sabuline (sæ·bĭuləin), *a.* [f. L. *sabul-um* sand: see -ine 2.] = Sabulous. In recent Dicts.

Sabull, obs. form of Sable.

Sabulose (sæ·bĭulōus), *a.* [ad. L. *sabulōsus*: see Sabulous and -ose.]
1. *Bot.* (See quot.)
1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1003/1 *Sabulose*, growing in sandy places.
2. = Sabulous. In mod. Dicts.

†**Sabulo·sity.** *Obs.* [ad. L. type **sabulōsitāt-em* : see next and -ity.] Sandiness.
1721 in Bailey; and in later Dicts.

Sabulous (sæ·bĭuləs), *a.* [ad. L. *sabulōs-us*, f. *sabul-um* sand: see -ous.] Sandy; consisting of or abounding in sand; arenaceous.
1632 Lithgow *Trav.* (1906) 226 The austiere conspicuosity of the sabulous and stony Desarts. 1670 R. Wyttie in *Phil. Trans.* V. 1076 Water..strained from all sabulous mixture. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 193 The quantity and species of sabulous matter that entered into the texture of the limestone. 1822 G. Woodley *Scilly Isl.* II. iii. 289 This part of the Island..appears rather to have gained from the sea by these sabulous accumulations. 1881 *Academy* 1 Oct. 252 The author [E. W. White] is terribly fond of long words. To him..plains are sabulous..parrots are psittacs.

b. *Med.* Applied to a granular secretion, esp. in the urinary organs.
1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 137 The one Water layes a stony Foundation for a Fabrick of Sabulous diseases. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 170/2 It..dissolves any tartarous or sabulous Coagulation in the Reins or Ureters. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1389 Sabulous depositions in the urine are of various characters. 1881 *Trans. Obstetric Soc. Lond.* XXVII. 39 Sabulous matter, mixed with mucus.

c. *Anat.*, applied to the acervulus cerebri, or gritty substance of the pineal body of the brain (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Hence **Sa·bulousness,** the state or quality of being sabulous. 1727 in Bailey vol. II.

‖ **Saburra** (săbʊ·rră). *Med.* [L. *saburra* sand, cogn. w. *sabulum*: see prec.] Foul granular matter deposited in the body, esp. in the stomach.
1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 316 This Medicament.. extirpates the Saburra..out of the whole Body. 1772 D. MacBride *Physic* II. 93 The terms Cacochylia and Saburra are used to denote the general accumulation of offensive matters in the alimentary canal. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 644 The slaty or purplish and granular saburra thrown up from the stomach.

Hence **Sabu·rral** *a.* [cf. L. *saburrālis* consisting of sand], of or belonging to saburra.
1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 714 An inflammatory fever passing into a saburral fever. 1876 Bartholow *Mat. Med.* (1879) 150 The saburral state of the mucous membrane.

†**Sabu·rrate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *saburrāre*, f. *saburra* : see Saburra.] To ballast a ship. 1623 in Cockeram. 1658 in Phillips.

Saburration (sæbʊrē'·ʃən). *Med.* [ad. mod.L. *saburrātiōn-em* (16th c.), n. of action f. L. *saburrāre* (in mod.L. sense to treat with sand) : see prec.] The application of heated sand to the body; sand-bathing, arenation.
1763 A. Sutherland *Attempts Anc. Med. Doctr.* I. 48 Saburration was a species of Bathing in antient use. The body was buried in sand and exposed to the sun. 1849 Pereira *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 16. 1860 R. Fowler *Med. Vocab., Saburration*, the application of hot sand enclosed in a bag or bladder to a part of the body.

Sabylle, obs. form of Sable.

Sac[1]. *Old Eng. Law.* Forms: 1 saca, 3 sacha, sache, 3, 6 sak, 2, 4, 7 sake, 5, 7 sack, (5 saca, sacke), 7– sac. [repr. OE. *saca*, accus. and genit. pl. of *sacu* str. fem., dispute, case at law, litigation, crime (see Sake), as occurring in the 11th c. phrases *saca and sócne habban* (*gifan*) 'to have (give) sac and soke', *saca and sócne wyrðe*, 'worthy of sac and soke'.
As both words occur in Scandinavian (OIcel. *sǫk*, *sókn*), it is not unlikely that the alliterative formula may be of Danish origin, though it has not actually been found in Scandinavian law-books.]

Properly only in *sac and soc* (or *soke*), a modernized form of the expression (see above) used in charters from the reign of Cnut onward to denote certain rights of jurisdiction which by custom belonged to the lord of a manor, and which were specified (along with others) as included in the grant of a manor by the crown.
1020–12.. [see Infangthief]. 1086 *Domesday-bk.* 280 b/1 Si tainus habens sacam et socam forisfecerit terram suam. [*Ibid.* in many other passages.] 1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 15/1 Teneant predictas villas.., cum Sacha & Socha, Thol & Them [etc.]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Sake: (a Frensche, court justice forfet ou achesoun). *c* 1460 *Oseney Regr.* 9 [tr. charter of Hen. I *c* 1130] Sake and soc, tol and teme, and infangenethefe. *Ibid.* 10 [explanation of terms] Sacke ys pleys and amendys of mysdoynges of your men in your courte, for *sacke* in Englysh is *chesou* in frensh,..and sacke also is a forfete. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 244 The priviledge called Sake is for a man to have the amerciaments of his tenants in his owne Court. *a* 1657 [see Infangthief]. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. v. § 47 There existed..side by side with the hundreds and wapentakes, large franchises or liberties in which the jurisdiction..was vested in private hands. The particular rights thus exercised were termed sac and soc.

Sac[2] (sæk). [a. F. *sac* or ad. L. *saccus* (see Sack *sb.*[1]) in mod.L. applications.]

1. *Biol.* Any natural bag-like cavity with its membranous covering in an animal or vegetable organism. a. in animal bodies. *Laryngeal sacs* [mod.L. *sacculi laryngis*], membranous pouches connected with the larynx, for the reception of air.
1741 Monro *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 77 The Lacteal Sac..is contracted into a slender..Pipe. 1780 Lachrymal sac [see Lachrymal *a.* 2]. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 205 The castor used in medicine is found in sacs formed behind the kidneys [in the beaver]. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 725 A small spot is discernible upon the yolk, composed of a membraneous sac containing fluid matter in which the embryo of the future chick swims. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* viii. 224 In the sea-star, the stomach is a capacious sac. 1854 Bushnan in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 143 In the monkeys of the old continent there are also laryngeal sacs. 1875 Houghton *Sk. Brit. Ins.* 140 The female beetle makes

a pear-shaped flexible bag of silk, in which she encloses her eggs; the sac is attached to some water weed. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 55 The air-sacs appended to certain bronchi are nine in number. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v., *Fœtal, gestation sac*,..the sac in which an embryo is enclosed in cases of extra-uterine pregnancy.

b. in plants.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 173 The embryo has no kind of vascular connexion with the sac that contains it. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* i. 5 Utricularia, an aquatic species [of Venus's Fly-trap *Dionæa Muscipula*], bears a number of utricles or sacs.

2. *Path.* A pouch formed by the morbid dilatation of a part, the membranous envelope of a hernia, cyst, tumour, etc.

[Cf. *hernial bag* 1736 *s.v.* HERNIAL *a.*]

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 40 In consequence of the distension ..a sac or pouch is usually formed, in which the food lodges. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 210 It [the blood] could be entirely expressed from the aneurismal sac. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 243 The same change follows the repeated tappings of the sacs.

¶ **3.** Used *occas.* for: A bag.

1869 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xi. 339 [Among the Hottentots] milk is kept in leathern sacs.

4. *Comb.*, as *sac-bearing*, *-like* adjs.

1888 *Cath. Househ.* 30 June 13 Sac-bearing spiders. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 186 The hood or sac-like appendage of the head.

Sac: see SACK.

Sac-à-lait. *U. S.* Also **sacalai, sacola** (*Cent. Dict.*). [Fr.: lit. 'milk bag'; perh. an etymologizing perversion of some Indian word.] A name locally applied to certain fishes of the genera *Pomoxys* and *Fundulus*.

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 407 The Crappie—*Pomoxys annularis*..is commonly called..'Sac-à-lait'..in the Lower Mississippi. *Ibid.* 466 *Fundulus grandis*, is known at Pensacola by the name of 'Sac-à-lait'.

Sacande, obs. pres. pple. of SHAKE *v.*

Sacar, -ing, obs. ff. SAKER [2], SACRING.

Sacatra (sæ·kătră). *local U. S.* [Of obscure origin; given in Littré as French.] (See quot.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Sacatra*, the name given in Louisiana to the offspring of a griffe and a negress. 1894 GOULD *Dict. Med.*, *Sacatra*, a person of seven-eighths black and one-eighth white blood.

Sacbut, obs. form of SACKBUT.

‖ **Saccade** (sakad). [Fr.] A jerk or jerky movement (in various specific applications).

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Saccade*, in the manage, a jerk or violent check which the rider gives his horse, by drawing both the reins very suddenly. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Saccade* (Fr.), strong pressure of a violin bow against the strings, which by forcing them to a level enables the player to produce three or four notes simultaneously. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Saccade*, the involuntary jerking movement in the act of swallowing.

Saccage, Saccaring: see SACKAGE, SACRING.

Saccate (sæ·kĕt), *a.* [ad. med.L. *saccātus*, f. *saccus* SAC [2]: see -ATE [2].]

1. *Bot.* Dilated into the form of a sac.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 19 The constant tendency of the outer series to become saccate at the base, which is not uncommon in the calyx of Cruciferæ. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 237 In the Snapdragon..the lower part of the tube of the corolla becomes dilated on one side, and forms a little bag or sac, it is then termed *saccate* or *gibbous*. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 76 In Perisporiacei..the asci are saccate.

2. = ENCYSTED. So also **Sa·ccated** *a.*

1846 SMART Suppl., *Saccated*, having the water (from dropsy) encysted. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Saccatus*. 1889 WAGSTAFFE *Mayne's Med. Voc.*, *Saccate*, encysted, or contained in a membranous bag: saccated.

Saccawinkee: see SAKAWINKI.

†Saccharaceous, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. med.L. *saccharum* sugar + -ACEOUS.] Containing sugar.

1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* vi. 42 In the Stomach the Rheum..converts..any such Saccharaceous Medicine, into a corroding Acid.

Saccharate (sæ·kărĕt), *sb. Chem.* [f. SACCHAR-IC + -ATE [1].] A salt of saccharic acid.

1815 *Ann. Philos.* V. 265 The objection that the saccharate analyzed might contain some other body besides sugar. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 948 Schobert recommended saccharate of lime as an antidote to phenol poisoning.

Sa·ccharate, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. med. L. *saccharum* sugar + -ATE [2].] = next.

1860 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Saccharated (sæ·kărē·tĕd), *a.* [f. med.L. *saccharum* sugar + -ATE [3] + -ED [1].] Containing or made with sugar; sweetened.

1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 319 Saccharated Magnesia. 1791 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 323 The saccharated soda immediately occasioned a slight precipitation. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 61 For ..children the saccharated carbonate of iron is a most valuable preparation.

Saccharic (săkæ·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. med.L. *saccharum* sugar + -IC. Cf. F. *saccharique*.] *Saccharic acid*: (*a*) a dibasic acid formed by the action of nitric acid on dextrose; oxalhydric acid; (*b*) a monobasic acid forming crystalline salts prepared by the action of bases on glucoses. *Saccharic ether*, an ether obtained from saccharic acid.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 185 By a chemical analysis, those crystals were found to consist of saccharic acid. 1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* for 1839. 347 Saccharic Acid..was first noticed by Scheele as being obtained from the action of acids upon mucous bodies, or sugar. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 325 Lactose, when oxidized, yields mucic, saccharic, tartaric, and oxalic acids. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 143 Saccharic ethers.

Saccharide (sæ·kărəid, -id). *Chem.* [f. med. L. *sacchar-um* sugar + -IDE.] **a.** 'An ether formed by the combination of saccharose with an acid radical' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **b.** A compound of sugar with a base.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 78 A peculiar body to which he [Gélis] gives the name of saccharide. 1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 316 By heating dextro-glucose with (organic) acids, compounds are formed ..which belong to the class of *Saccharides*.

Sacchariferous (sækări·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. med. L. *sacchar-um* sugar + *-fer* bearing + -OUS.] Yielding or containing sugar.

1757 T. BIRCH *Hist. R. Soc.* IV. 380 Mr. Hooke said, that there were several sacchariferous trees mentioned by Piso and some other writers. 1799 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* III. 337 The Russian bear's-breech from Kamtschatka..has long been known among the sacchariferous plants. 1906 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Mar. 4/1 Fermentation will set in after a time in almost any sacchariferous liquid.

Saccharification (sæ·kărifikē·ʃən). [Noun of action f. next.] The natural process by which starch and gum become converted into sugar.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 456 The vinous fermentation precedes the saccharification. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 12/2 Three principal methods of effecting the saccharification were in use.

Saccharify (săkæ·rifəi, sæ·kărifəi), *v.* [f. med. L. *sacchar-um* sugar + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To convert (starch) into sugar.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 400 The best heat for saccharifying starch. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 273 The fluid may.. saccharify starch and digest albumin and fibrin.

Hence **Saccharifying** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. *attrib.*). Also **Saccharifier** (see quot.).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 456 This saccharifying process advances much quicker. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Saccharifier*, an apparatus for treating grain and potatoes by steam under high pressure, for converting the starch into sugar previous to the alcoholic fermentation.

Saccharimeter (sækări·mĭtəɹ). [a. F. *saccharimètre*, f. Gr. *σάκχαρι* (= *σάκχαρον*) sugar + *μέτρον* measure: see -METER.

This form, taken from Fr., has been generally retained by English writers because the name SACCHAROMETER had been appropriated to a different instrument.]

A form of polariscope, an instrument for testing sugars by polarized light.

1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 349 The Saccharimeter of Soleil has the previously described double plate between the two Nicol's prisms. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 316/2 A polarising saccharimeter.

Saccharimetry (sækări·mĕtri). [ad. F. *saccharimétrie*: cf. prec. and -METRY.] = SACCHAROMETRY.

1851 *F. Knapp's Chem. Technol.* III. 434. 1858 WATTS in *Graham's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 469. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 357 Prof. Landolt's experience in saccharimetry.

Hence **Saccharime·tric, -me·trical** *a.*, pertaining to saccharimetry.

1851 *F. Knapp's Chem. Technol.* III. 435 The first saccharimetrical test was proposed by Barreswill, in the year 1844. 1876 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* II. 215 Influence of the Asparagine contained in the Sugar Liquors from Beets and Canes on the Saccharimetric Determination.

Saccharin (sæ·kărin). *Chem.* [f. med. L. *sacchar-um* or Gr. *σάκχαρον*, *σάκχαρ(ι)* sugar + -IN.]

1. The anhydride of saccharic acid. (Discovered and named by Péligot 1880.)

1880 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Abstr. 232 Saccharin is not a sugar; it does not ferment; it has not a sweet taste.

2. An intensely sweet substance obtained from coal tar, used in minute quantities for sweetening the food or drink of persons to whom sugar is injurious. In non-technical use commonly **saccharine** (sæ·kărīn).

1885 *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Ind.* 608/1 The inventors [*sc.* Fahlberg and List] name the new substance 'Saccharine', although it is not related to the class of sugars, but is a derivative of benzoic acid. The scientific name of the substance is benzoylsulphimide. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 8 Jan. 93/2 Saccharine is not at present procurable.

Saccharine (sæ·kărəin, -in), *a.* and *sb.* [Formed as prec. + -INE. Cf. F. *saccharin*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to or of the nature of sugar; characteristic of sugar; sugary.

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Saccharine*, belonging to Sugar, sweet like Sugar. 1685 BOYLE *Effects of Mot.* iv. 31 The lump [of sugar] consisted of very numerous saccharine corpuscles. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* iii. (1735) 53 Manna, which is an essential saccharine Salt, sweating from the Leaves of most Plants. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* I. i. (1760) 6 The..Saccharine Sweetness of the Malt. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Circles* Wks. (Bohn) I. 132, I am gladdened by seeing the predominance of the saccharine principle throughout vegetable nature. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xiii, Bovis had never said inwardly that he would take a large allowance of sugar, and..he was naturally disgusted at the saccharine excesses of Avis. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* viii, She precipitated herself against a treacle barrel and upset it. A gush of black saccharine matter spread over the floor.

b. *Saccharine fermentation* = SACCHARIFICATION.

1801 W. NICHOLSON tr. *Fourcroy's Syn. Tables Chem.* xi, The saccharine fermentation. I first described under this name the spontaneous formation of sugar in vegetable matters left to themselves. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 456 The saccharine fermentation, in which starch and gum are changed into sugar.

2. Composed chiefly of sugar; of a plant, containing a large proportion of sugar; also, of urine, containing sugar in excess of what is normal.

Saccharine diabetes, diabetes characterized by excess of saccharine matter in the urine.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 109 A Saccharine Draught. *a* 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne, Observ. Veget.* (1875) 359 All the maples have saccharine juices. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 257 Albuminous urine and saccharine urine. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 27 This salt has considerable power in checking the formation of sugar in saccharine diabetes. 1889 BARNARD *Noted Breweries* I. 16 In the mashing process the starch of the malt is converted into a saccharine liquid, called wort.

†3. *Chem. Saccharine acid*: oxalic acid. *Obs.*

1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 311 The residuum consisted of crystallized saccharine acid. 1802 T. THOMSON *Chem.* II. 103 At first, however, it was called the acid of sugar, or the saccharine acid.

4. Resembling sugar. **a.** *Geol.* Of rocks: Granular in texture = SACCHAROID *a.*

1833 [see SACCHAROID]. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. xvii. 406 Beds of saccharine quartz. 1858 GEIKIE *Hist. Boulder* xii. 242 Where they pass through limestone, they sometimes convert it into a white saccharine marble.

b. *Bot.* Covered with shining grains like those of sugar (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

5. *fig.* Chiefly in playful or sarcastic use: Sweet.

1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Prudence* Wks. (Bohn) I. 95 The abundant flow of this saccharine element of pleasure in every suburb. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.t.* (1865) 31 You will be saccharine enough in a few years. 1863 LD. W. P. LENNOX *Biog. Remin.* I. 179 A saccharine smile beamed upon the royal countenances. 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Plunges* I. v. 98 Those sweet, soft, saccharine sylphs. 1890 *Spectator* 1 Feb. 169/2 Too saccharine, is our short judgment on these poems.

B. *sb.* Saccharine matter, sugar.

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lviii. 226 They live.. without saccharine and without salt. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 670 Chemical analysis proves that a large amount of saccharine is still wasted.

Hence **Sa·ccharineish** *a.*, somewhat saccharine. **Saccharini·nity,** sweetness.

1857 *Tait's Mag.* XXIV. 6/2 Swedish turnips..being of a saccharineish and sugarish taste. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xii. (1876) 313 The polite stranger assiduously presents the fallacious palliative of the consequential saccharinity. 1888 *Nature* XXXVIII. 573/1 A streaky distribution of brine and water or of syrup and water, in which portions of greatest and least salinity or saccharinity are within half a millimetre of one another.

Saccharine: see SACCHARIN **2.**

Saccharinic (sækări·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. SACCHARIN + -IC.] = SACCHARIC.

1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Abstr. 149 Saccharin..is the anhydride, $C_6H_{10}O_5$, of a new acid, $C_6H_{12}O_6$, which the author [*sc.* Scheibler] calls saccharinic acid. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV 420/2 *Saccharinic acid.*

Saccharite (sæ·kărəit). *Min.* [Named by E. F. Glocker in 1845 (G. *saccharit*), from its resemblance to sugar: f. Gr. *σάκχαρ(ι, σάκχαρ-ον* sugar + -ITE.] A granular, massive mineral, at first referred to andesite, but now considered a mixture.

1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms*, *Saccharite*..is found in veins in serpentine, in the chrysoprase mines, near Frankenstein in Silesia. 1862 DANA *Min.* 175 Saccharite resembles a granular feldspar, of a white or greenish-white color.

Sa·ccharize, *v. rare*—[1]. [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To undergo saccharine fermentation.

1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 179 Poor tastes the liquor; coction long demands, And highest temper 'ere it saccharize. *Note*, It is hoped the reader will pardon the introduction of the verb saccharize.

Hence **Saccharisa·tion,** the conversion (of starch) into sugar. 1902 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl.

Saccharo- (sæ·kăro), comb. form of Gr. *σάκχαρ-ον* sugar, forming compounds (usually written with hyphen) with the sense 'partly saccharine and partly (something else)'; 'containing sugar and (something else)'.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 97 Mashing is the operation by which the wort is extracted..from the malt, and whereby a saccharo-mucilaginous extract is made from it. *Ibid.* 401 The saccharo-starchy matter. 1842 R. KANE *Elem. Chem.* (1849) 818 Saccharo-humine and saccharo-humic acid. 1889 *Nature* XXXIX. 433 Saccharocolloids. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 407 Saccharo-farinaceous elements.

Saccharoid (sæ·kăroid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *σάκχαρ-ον* sugar + -OID.]

A. *adj. Geol.* Having a granular texture resembling that of loaf-sugar.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 11 Saccharoid gypsum. *Ibid.* 79 Saccharoid, Saccharine. When a stone has a texture resembling that of loaf-sugar. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 560/1 Its frequent high state of granular or saccharoid crystallization. 1865 BRISTOW tr. *Figuier's World bef. Deluge* ii. 72 Limestone becomes granular and saccharoid—it is changed into marble.

B. *sb. Chem.* **a.** (See quot. 1868.) **b.** A saccharine substance.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Saccharoid*, a name given by Kane to a sweetish substance, probably identical with orcin, produced by the decomposition of Heeren's pseudo-erythrin

(ethylic orsellinate). 1882 *Athenæum* 2 Dec. 738/2 Non-nitrogenous food (stearoids and saccharoids).

Saccharoidal (sækărŏi·dăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = SACCHAROID *a.*

1838 W. F. AINSWORTH *Res. Assyria*, etc. 26 The chalk is indurated, compact, granular, or saccharoidal, at the foot of Taurus. 1852 TH. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. xi. 391 We find also saccharoidal limestone in gneiss of the most ancient formation. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 383 'Ferruginous' brown and red, coarse, friable sandstone, in some parts white and 'saccharoidal'.

Saccharometer (sækărǫ·mĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *σάκχαρον* sugar + -METER. Cf. SACCHARIMETER.]

1. A form of hydrometer for estimating the amount of sugar in a solution by specific gravity; used esp. in brewing to ascertain the amount of saccharine or fermentable matter in wort.

1784 J. RICHARDSON (*title*) Statistical Estimates of the Materials of Brewing, showing the use of the Saccharometer. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1257 An instrument not quite correctly called a saccharometer, since it is influenced by all the contents of the wort, and not by the sugar only. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict.* c. 24 § 21 The gravity of the wort or wash..can be ascertained by the prescribed saccharometer.

2. Used for SACCHARIMETER. *rare.*

1866 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* (1871) 392 An elegant instrument called the saccharometer, by which the quantity of sugar contained in a given solution is ascertained by simple inspection of the tint.

Saccharometry (sækărǫ·mĕtrĭ). [Formed as prec. + -METRY.] The process of determining the quantity of sugar in a solution.

1871 *Jrnl. Bot.* IX. 253 A paper on Saccharometry, giving the results of the determination of sugar in..sugar-beet.

‖ **Saccharomyces** (sæ·kărəmə·sīz). Also anglicized -myce. [mod.L., f. Gr. *σάκχαρον* sugar + *μύκης* mushroom.] A genus of ascomycetous fungi, including the yeast-fungi; a fungus of this genus, esp. the yeast-plant. Also *attrib.*

1873 B. STEWART *Conserv. Force* vii. 185 The..yeast-plant (saccharomyce). 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 96/1 We then place the flask in a chamber kept at the particular temperature which is most favourable to the development of 'saccharomyces'. The saccharomyces-cells..will multiply at a greater rate than the foreign cells. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 249 The genus *Saccharomyces*, which causes the alcoholic fermentation in saccharine fluids, consists of separate cells of an ellipsoidal form with smooth and thin walls.

Saccharon (sæ·kărŏn). Also -one. *Chem.* [f. Gr. *σάκχαρ-ον* sugar: see -ON.]

1. A white crystalline substance obtained by the oxidation of saccharin; the lactone of saccharonic acid. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. An oily liquid obtained by the reduction of saccharin. In recent Dicts.

Saccharonic (sækărǫ·nĭk), *a. Chem.* [f. SACCHARON + -IC.] Of, pertaining to or derived from saccharon. *Saccharonic acid*, an acid formed by oxidation of saccharin by means of nitric acid.

1894 in MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 421/1.

Saccharose (sæ·kărōs). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *σάκχαρ-ον* sugar + -OSE.] Any one of the group of sugars having the common formula $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$.

1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Ferment.* 32 Saccharose or cane sugar is changed, when hydrated, into two isomeric molecules. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 623/1 'Sugar' is now a collective term for two chemical genera named saccharoses (all $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$) and glucoses (all $C_6H_{12}O_6$).

Saccharous (sæ·kărəs), *a. rare.* [f. med.L. *sacchar-um* sugar + -OUS.] Saccharine, sugary.

1896 *Lancet* 21 Mar. 787/2 The crisp and saccharous tartlet. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Saccharum (sæ·kărŏm). [a. med.L. *saccharum* SUGAR.] An invert sugar prepared from cane sugar, used chiefly in brewing.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 397 In which mixture there is about one twelfth part of solid saccharum. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 51 § 7 Saccharum, glucose, or other saccharine substance.

Saccharumic (sækărū·mik), *a. Chem.* [app. f. med.L. *sacchar-um* sugar + HUMIC *a.*, a synonym of *ulmic*.] Derived from or containing sugar and ulmic acid. *Saccharumic acid*, an acid formed by the action of baryta on dextrose.

[1842: see SACCHARO-*humic*.] 1875 in *Watts' Dict. Chem.* and Suppl.

Sacche, obs. form of SACK.

† **Sacchola·ctate.** *Chem. Obs.* Also saccco-, and SACLACTATE. [f. SACCHOLACT-IC + -ATE 4.] A salt of saccholactic acid.

1807 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* IV. 755 Index, Saccho-lactates. 1815 *Ann. Philos.* V. 268 Saccolactate of lead. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 417 A genus of salts which are called *saccholactates* or *sulactates*.

† **Sacchola·ctic,** *a. Chem. Obs.* Also SACLACTIC. [a. F. *saccholactique*, f. *saccho-* contracted for SACCHARO- + L. *lact-*, *lac* milk: see LACTIC *a.*] *Saccholactic acid*, mucic acid (prepared from sugar of milk).

1790 KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 281 The saccholactic acid discovered by Scheele. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 191 Saccholactic or mucic acid.

† **Sa·ccholate.** *Chem. Obs.* Also saccholat, *erron.* saccolate. [a. F. *saccholat*, f. *sacchol(actique)*: see -ATE 1.] = SACCHOLACTATE.

1790 KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 280 Saccholat of lime. 1802 PYE *New Chem. Nomencl.* 32 Saccholates. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 302 The compounds which it forms with earths, alkalies, and metallic oxides, are denominated *saccolates*. 1815 *Ann. Philos.* V. 270 Saccolate of ammonia. 1819 BRANDE *Chem.* 438 Saccholates.

Sacchulmic (sækv·lmik), *a. Chem.* [f. med.L. *sacch(arum)* sugar + ULM(IN) + -IC.] *Sacchulmic acid*: an acid obtained by treating sacchulmin with alkaline solutions.

1842 [see SACCHULMIN]. 1858 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 354 Ulmic acid, the sacchulmic acid of Liebig, dissolves freely. 1894 in MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.*

Sacchulmin (sækv·lmin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. med.L. *sacch(arum)* sugar + ULMIN.] A brown substance obtained in the decomposition of sugar by dilute acids.

1842 R. KANE *Elem. Chem.* (1849) 817 When sugar is acted upon by a very dilute acid..two brown substances are formed...For these bodies the names *sacchulmine* and *sacchulmic acid* may be retained. 1858 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 7) 354 By long-continued boiling with water, sacchulmic acid is converted into sacchulmin.

Sacciferous (sæksi·fĕrəs), *a. Anat., Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. L. *sacc-us* SAC 2 + *fer* bearing + -OUS.] Bearing a sac.

1880 in WEBSTER *Suppl.* [Bot.].

Sacciform (sæ·ksifǫm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sacciform-is*, f. *sacc-us* SAC 2: see -FORM.] Having the form of a sac or pouch; sac-shaped.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 311/1 The sacciform branchiæ of the Ascidiæ. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VII. IX. 372 Another animal becomes developed, which has the form of a locomotive sac. These young sacciform larvæ..continue to live for a certain time. 1890 HUMPHRY *Old Age* 149 The calibre of the ducts..becomes increased and their terminal parts, or acini, become dilated and sacciform.

Saccine (sæ·ksin), *a. rare*−1. [f. L. *sacc-us* sac + -INE 2.] Composed of sacs or air-cells.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 366 The saccine vegetation of the confervas.

‖ **Saccolabium** (sækolē·biŏm). [mod.L., f. *sacco-* (assumed combining form of *sacc-us* SAC 2) + L. *labium* lip.] A genus of plants (N.O. *Orchidaceæ*); also a plant of this genus.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1882 *Garden* 30 Dec. 584/1 The Saccolabiums are also there in great numbers.

Saccoon (săkū·n). *Fencing.* ? *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 8 segoon. [Oral adoption of F. *seconde* (sə̆gŏ̃d).] = SECONDE.

1708 in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* I. 135 [There were the lively Gauls..] ready to wound every Pillar with their Canes, as they pass'd by, either in Ters, Cart, or Saccoon. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* IV, We'll go through the whole exercise: carte, tierce, and segoon, Captain! 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 72 In quarte, tierce, or saccoon, the same holds good.

Saccular (sæ·kiŭlăɹ), *a.* [f. SACCUL-US + -AR.] Of the nature of or resembling a sac.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 48 The generative products are lodged in saccular processes. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 34 A heart of saccular shape. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 346 The ducts may show uniform or saccular dilatations.

† **Saccula·rian.** *Obs.* [f. late L. *sacculāri-us* (f. *saccul-us* dim. of *saccus* bag) + -AN.] One of a class of jugglers mentioned in the Digest.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 362 They were also called Saccularians; because..they would charm and convey the money out of others purses into their owne.

Sacculate (sæ·kiŭlĕt), *a.* [f. SACCUL-US + -ATE 2.] = next.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 138 The sacculate character of the digestive tract.

Sacculated (sæ·kiŭlētĕd), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ED 1.] Composed of or divided into saccules.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 220/2 The circumference of each of these vessels is distended into three sacculated pouches. 1853 MARKHAM tr. *Skoda's Ausculit.* 70 Patients in whom the pleuritic fluid existed in a sacculated form. 1879 WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 10 In the kangaroos the whole extent of the stomach is sacculated. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 435 In some cases [of pyonephrosis] the kidney becomes completely sacculated.

Sacculation (sækiŭlē·ʃən). [f. SACCUL-US + -ATION.] The formation of or division into saccules; an instance of this.

1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 509 Distention and sacculation of the colon. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 70 A sacculation of a small bronchus is fatally exposed to an accumulation of secretion during periods of catarrh.

Saccule (sæ·kiŭl). [Anglicized form of SACCULUS.] A small sac, cyst, or bag; esp. the smaller of the two vesicles or sacs in the membranous vestibule of the internal ear.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 537/1 The component parts of the membraneous labyrinth [of the ear] are:—1. The common sinus. 2. The membraneous ampullæ...3. The saccule. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* IV. 76 In close relation with the pedal ganglia or ganglion, there are two minute saccules to which an auditory function is usually ascribed. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 464 It developes within a sac, which then bursts, disclosing a large arm with peculiar suckers, and a terminal saccule.

† **Sa·cculet.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *saccul-us* + -ET.] = SACCULUS 1.

1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 4 Dry Almond-Cakes..are used by some Barbers..in Sweet-waters,..Sacculets and Beautifying Medicines.

‖ **Sacculina** (sækiŭlə·nă). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *saccul-us*: see SACCULUS.] A genus of degenerate cirripeds parasitic on crabs; an animal of this genus.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 59 The most singular.. of all these cirrhipedes, are the Gallæ, which appear under the tail of crabs or the abdomen of paguri, and which zoologists designate under the names Peltogaster or Sacculina. *Ibid.* 60 A curious opinion..is that the Peltogaster of the Pagurus has become a Sacculina on the crab; the host having been transformed, its acolyte has done the same thing under the same influence. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 341 This simple organism is known to the naturalist as a Sacculina.

Sacculine (sæ·kiŭləin), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sacculīnus*, f. *saccul-us* little bag: see SACCULUS and -INE.] Of or belonging to the genus SACCULINA.

1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* 344 But instead of rising to its opportunities, the sacculine Nauplius, having reached a certain point turned back.

‖ **Sacculus** (sæ·kiŭləs). Pl. **sacculi** (sæ·kiŭləi). [L.; dim. of *saccus* SAC 2.]

† 1. A small bag containing medicaments (see quot. 1693). *Obs.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. v, Sacculi or little bagges of hearbs,..and the like applied to the head. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 163 Applied with mints and southernwood in a sacculus it helps..paines. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sacculi Medicinales*, several Simples, according to the Nature of the Disease, compounded and beaten together, and tied up in little Bags, to be applied to the part affected.

2. *Anat., Biol.* A small sac; a pouch-like dilatation of an organ.

1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 528 A large Sacculus, formed out of the very Coats of the Intestines. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 514 The oils appear to exist ready formed in the plant, being enclosed in little sacculi. 1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 70 Sacculi without involucra, and ending in a single filament. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 141 In the *Calycophoridæ*..complex organs..terminate each lateral branch of a tentacle. Each consists of an elongated sacculus, terminated by two filamentous appendages. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 972 Often a thin layer of muscle is spread over the whole surface of a sacculus.

Sace, obs. Sc. form of CEASE *v.*

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 207 God will haue his will, but mair, Fulfillit or he sace.

Sace, obs. form of SAUCE, SEARCE.

‖ **Sacellum** (săsē·lŭm). Pl. **sacella** (săsē·lă) [L., dim. of *sacr-um* shrine, neut. of *sacer* holy.]

1. *Eccl. Arch.* (See quot. 1842.)

1806 J. DALLAWAY *Obs. Eng. Archit.* 119 In that church [Winchester Cathedral] is an unrivalled series of sepulchral sacella. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Sacellum*...In old church architecture, the term signifies a monumental chapel within a church, also a small chapel in a village. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Ld. Thoulouse*, The sounds that were heard To proceed now and then from the father's *sacellum*. 1881 W. STEPHENS *Diocese Chichester* 167 *note*, A very beautiful sacellum, with an altar in it, on the south side of the nave.

2. *Roman Antiq.* A small, roofless temple consecrated to some deity. Also, see quot. 1842.

1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. iv. 49 The Pantheon..may be..considered as a place of feasting..under the protection of some deity, who, from his more elevated sacellum, was supposed to..patronize the banquet. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., s. v. *Sacellum*, Small sacella, too, were used among the Egyptians, attached frequently to the larger temples. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, A small sacellum, or fane to Bacchus.

Sa·cerdoce. *rare*−1. [a. F. *sacerdoce*, ad. L. *sacerdōtium*: see SACERDOCY.] = SACERDOCY.

1829 [J. R. BEST] *Pers. & Lit. Mem.* 378 In this connection, or alliance..of the sacerdoce and empire, the Church ..becomes itself secularized.

Sacerdocy (sæ·səɹdŏ·sĭ). [ad. L. *sacerdōtium* priestly office, f. *sacerdōt-*, *sacerdōs* priest: see SACERDOTAL *a.*] **a.** The sacerdotal character, spirit, or system. **b.** A priestly function or office.

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 21 And so it continued till the Levitical sacerdocy was fixed and confined to Aaron and his posterity. 1843 C. WORDSWORTH *Theoph. Angl.* (1850) 167 Let him [*sc.* the Bishop] make restitution ..lest under pretext of sacerdocy the pride of power should creep in. 1844 R. M. BEVERLEY *Ch. Eng. Exam.* (ed. 2) 101 He held true and real Levitical sacerdocy to be a constituent part of the clerical character. 1851 *Ecclesiologist* XII. 274 The sacerdocy of the whole machine being an emanation from the vagaries of a Presbyterian preacher. 1877 MRS. CHAPMAN *Ht. Martineau's Autobiog.* III. 78 Literature remained ever to her a Sacerdocy.

‖ **Sace·rdos.** *Obs.* [See SACERDOTAL.] The Latin word for 'priest'; in quot. used as a plural.

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vii. 121 No, no, out with your blades, and hamper these Iades,..And teach these Sacerdos, that the Bocardos..are meet for themselues.

Sacerdo·tage. *jocular.* [f. L. *sacerdōt-* (see next) with allusion to *dotage*. Cf. *anecdotage*.] **a.** Derisively used for: The sacerdotal order, or the partisans of sacerdotalism. **b.** Sacerdotalism as characteristic of a religion in its 'dotage'.

1859 LONGSTAFFE in *Archæol. Æliana* IV. 11 (*art.*) The Hereditary Sacerdotage of Hexham. 1875 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 382 Your representatives will have a sharper strife with the Sacerdotage. 1884 A. LANG *Custom & Myth* (1885) 47 A people fallen early into its sacerdotage and priestly second childhood.

Sacerdotal (sæsəɹdŏ·tăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 *erron.* -ial. [a. F. *sacerdotal*, ad. L. *sacerdōtāl-is*,

sacerdōt-, *sacerdōs*, f. *sacri-*, *sacer* holy, sacred (neut. pl. *sacra* sacrifices) + *dō-* ablaut-var. of *da-* in *dare* to give. The etymological sense of the sb. is thus 'one who offers sacrifices'.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the priests or priesthood; of or pertaining to a priest; befitting or characteristic of a priest; priestly.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 66 That Cytee [*sc.* Ebron] was also Sacerdotalle, that is to seyne, seyntuarie, of the Tribe of Juda. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1181 Encense is oblacionne ȝe wote is sacerdotale. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* c vj b, The .C vi. byshop was a woman. ..I would wit than if shee were chosen *Via Spiritus sancti*...Item whereby cam the sacerdotall Carecte, & many other thynges whyche for this tyme I let pas [etc.]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 24 Perugia, a Sacerdotall Vniuersity. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 179 A consular, sacerdotal, and triumphall familie. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* xx. 288 The Priestess..having on her the Sacerdotial ornaments. 1737 WATERLAND *Rev. Doctr. Eucharist* v. Wks. 1823 VII. 93 The ancient Fathers are still more particular in expounding the sacerdotal consecration, and the Divine sanctification consequent thereupon. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 110 A cholerick sacerdotal insolence. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* II. i, That's a sacerdotal thought, And not a soldier's. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. Introd. 10 Priests..arrayed in their sacerdotal robes, not unfrequently led the armies to battle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 326 Thus the sacerdotal office lost its attraction for the higher classes. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 3. 488 They had none of the sacerdotal independence which Rome had at any rate preserved.

Comb. 1845 S. AUSTEN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 7 The destructive forces..which this sacerdotal-military state had certainly not been able to neutralise or destroy.

b. Holding the office of a priest.

1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 223 He is a Sacerdotal King, *i. e.* a King that holds his Regal Power in the right and vertue of his Priestly intercession. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xlvi, His Lordship was a sacerdotal orator of repute.

2. Now often used as the epithet of doctrines that assert the existence in the Christian church of an order of priests charged with sacrificial functions and invested with supernatural powers transmitted to them in ordination.

1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* (1878) 173 It led to the sacramental and sacerdotal developments of Anglicanism. *a* 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* (1885) 166 High sacerdotal doctrines were openly proclaimed.

†**B.** *sb.* [Cf. med.L. *sacerdōtāle*.] Priestly function.

a 1640 J. BALL *Answ. Canne* I. (1642) 133 Since they made their new office or sacerdotall, thus they make their catechumine.

Hence **Sacerdo·tally** *adv.*, †**Sacerdo·talness.** Also † **Sacerdota·lity**, priestly character.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. xi. (1713) 447 *Philoth*...That is also a farther Intimation of their Sacerdotality. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sacerdotalness*, Priestliness, or Likeness to a Priest. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* ii, He has most sacerdotally put down all the jollity. 1864 *Reader* III. 671/3 Why does not some scientific man, clothing himself for the moment sacerdotally.., heave back the charges.

Sacerdotalism (sæsəɪdōu·tăliz'm). [f. SACERDOTAL *a.* + -ISM.]

1. The sacerdotal spirit or system; the principles or practice of the priesthood. Chiefly in unfavourable sense: Pursuit of the interests of the priestly order in opposition to those of the laity; undue assumption of authority on the part of the priesthood.

1847–54 WEBSTER, *Sacerdotalism*, the spirit of the priesthood. 1860 H. B. WILSON in *Ess. & Rev.* 150 A self-satisfied sacerdotalism..might succeed in keeping peace within the walls of emptied churches. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Jan. 4 A people so imbued with detestation of sacerdotalism or priestly assumption of power as are the English. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. xi. 128 In the eyes of Europe, the cause in which Becket fell was the cause of sacerdotalism. 1880 L. OLIPHANT *Gilead* xvii. 494 The influence for evil of the rival sacerdotalisms as they exist in Turkey.

2. The assertion of the existence in the Christian church of a sacerdotal order or priesthood having sacrificial functions and invested with supernatural powers.

1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 237 These sermons of Tauler assert so audaciously against sacerdotalism, the true priesthood of every Christian man. 1881 *Ch. Q. Rev.* XII. 434 Sacerdotalism, i. e. the belief in certain individuals ordained in a certain way being the exclusive instrument, in the Divine covenant, of sacramental graces. 1905 *Ch. Times* 22 Sept. 337/3 True sacerdotalism is all one with true Churchmanship.

Sacerdotalist (sæsəɪdōu·tălist). [f. SACERDOTAL *a.* + -IST.] One who advocates or defends sacerdotalism.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 10/2 The sacerdotalists are grievously mistaken if they take all this for the proof of a latent belief in sacramental theories. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. § 1. 298 The awful emphasis laid by the sacerdotalist on the efficacy of that ordinance [*sc.* baptism]. 1896 BP. STUBBS *Visit. Charges* (1904) 304 The advocate of religious education, the opponent of divorce and simony, the maintainer of the sanctity of Sunday, are all alike sacerdotalists.

Sacerdotalize (sæsəɪdōu·tăləiz), *v.* [f. SACERDOTAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make subservient to sacerdotalism. Hence **Sacerdo·talized** *ppl. a.*, **Sacerdo·talizing** *vbl. sb.*

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 10/2 As to the sacerdotalizing of the English poor by any such means as these [etc.]. 1883 MAINE *Early Law* ii. 26 The existing very imperfectly sacerdotalised customary law of the Hindus in the Punjab. 1899 *Sp.* in *Times* 11 May 15/1 The policy of the Bishops seemed to be to sacerdotalize the Church and substitute their own authority for that of the law.

†**Sacerdote.** *nonce-wd.* In 7 **sacerdott.** [ad. L. *sacerdōt-em.*] A priest.

1685 in Maidment *Bk. Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 285, I swear on word of Sacerdott.

†**Sacerdotical,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *sacerdōt-em* + -ICAL.] = SACERDOTAL.

1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* 69 As in the New, the Gospels are regall..the Epistles more Sacerdoticall.

Sacha, obs. form of SAC^{1}.

‖ **Sachamaker.** *Obs.* Also 8 **sacka-maker.** [app. a derivative or a corruption of *sachama* SACHEM.] = SACHEM, SAGAMORE.

1682 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 47 Indyan Sachamakers. 1683 PENN *Wks.* (1782) IV. 311 Another made a speech to the Indians, in the name of all the Sachamakers or kings. 1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 54 They have the greatest Sachim or Sacka-maker, i. e. King.

Sache, obs. form of SAC^{1}, SACK *sb.*^{1}

Sachel, -ell, -elle, obs. forms of SATCHEL.

Sachem (sē·tʃĕm, sæ·tʃĕm). Also 7 **sachama, sachema, sachim,** 9 **saquem.** [a. Narragansett *sachem* = Delaware *sakima*, Micmac *sakumow*, Penobscot *sagamo* (whence SAGAMORE).]

1. The supreme head or chief of some American Indian tribes.

The alleged distinction between *sachem* and *sagamore* (quot. *a* 1817) appears to be erroneous.

1622 *Relat. Plantation Plymouth, New Eng.* 49 They brought vs to their Sachim or Gouernour. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 5 Miantonimoh the chief Sachem or Lord of the Narhagansets. 1683 PENN *Wks.* (1782) IV. 310 Their government is by kings, which they call sachama. 1685 R. BURTON *Eng. Emp. America* 117 Sachema. 1710 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 571 Four Indian sachems, or kings of the 5 Indian nations, lately arrived here. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 119 Their principal chiefs were called Sachems; their subordinate ones, Sagamores. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* I. 52 Let them come, if they like, be it sagamore, sachem, or pow-wow. 1865 LEVER *Luttrell of Arran* xiii, He was a great Saquem, delivering the laws of his tribe.

2. *jocularly* applied to a prominent member of a society, etc.; a 'chief'.

1773 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 335 It is whispered that the Sachem has it in contemplation to go home soon. [*Note.* Adams refers to some one prominent in Mass. politics.]

3. *U. S. Politics.* One of a body of twelve high officials in the Tammany Society of New York. *Grand sachem*, the head of this body.

1890 *Nation* 20 Mar. 236/1 The tribulations of Tammany's former Grand Sachem, the Sheriff. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 23 Apr. 2/3 Among the Sachems unanimously re-elected by Tammany Hall are [etc.].

Hence **Sa·chemdom, Sa·chemship,** the position or 'realm' of a sachem; **Sa·chemic** *a.*, of or pertaining to a sachem.

1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. v. 459 Two cantons or sachemdoms of the cape Indians. 1772 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 Oct., A little traffic he drove in peltry during his sachemship among the Miamis. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 18 Alexander, the eldest son of Massasoit, died..and left the Sachemdom to Philip. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxvi. 395 The forests beyond the Sace, New Hampshire, and the country as far as Salem, constituted the sachemship of Penacook. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) VI. 163 The sachemic office was hereditary.

Sachemore, obs. form of SAGAMORE.

‖ **Sachet** (saʃē). [Fr. *sachet* (from 12th c.; in ONF. *saquet*: see SACKET), dim. of *sac*:—L. *saccus* bag, SACK *sb.*^{1} Cf. It. *sacchetto*.]

†**1.** A small bag, a wallet. *Obs. rare.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 224/2 He..ete..twyes a day of the same loof and alwaye on the morn he fond it hool in his sachet. 1487 — *Bk. Gd. Manners* I. xvii. (W. de W. *c* 1515) E v b, In stede of a celyer he [*sc.* Diogenes] had but a lytell sachet.

2. A small perfumed bag or satchel.

1838 *Times* 3 July 5/6 The 'letter of felicitation' forwarded by the Sultan to her Majesty on the occasion of her coronation..was put in an envelope..and the whole enclosed in a crimson cloth sachet or bag, somewhat resembling a lady's small reticule. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xxi, You will not perhaps be able to find your pocket-handkerchiefs at first. They are in this sachet.

3. A dry perfume made up into a packet for placing among articles of clothing, etc. (see quot. 1892).

1855 PIESSE *Perfumery* vii. 145 Besides the sachets mentioned there are many other substances applied as dry perfumes, such as scented wadding. 1856 *Athenæum* 18 Oct. 1268 He is scented like a sachet. 1892 G. W. ASKINSON *Perfumes* xvi. 208 Expensive sachets are sold in silk bags. ..Cheap sachets are sold in envelopes or in round boxes.

attrib. 1855 PIESSE *Perfumery* vii. 137 Sachet Powders.

Sacheverell (sătʃe·vĕrĕl). ? *Obs.* or *U.S.* Also **-el.** [Said to have been named by the inventor on account of the popularity of Dr. Sacheverell: see next.] (See quots.)

1769 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 325 This is seen in narrow stove chimneys, when a sacheverell or blower is used. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Sacheverel*, the iron door, or blower to the mouth of a stove, from a divine of that name, who made himself famous for blowing the coals of dissention, the latter end of the reign of Queen Ann.

Sacheverellite (sătʃe·vĕrĕləit). [f. *Sacheverell* (see below) + -ITE.] One who adopted the extreme High Church and Tory views of Dr. Henry Sacheverell, an English clergyman whose condemnation for 'seditious libel' in 1709 excited great popular indignation. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1710 *Chuse which you Please* 4 A Sacheverellite swears to Her Majesty only as Queen de Facto. *Ibid.* 7 The Sacheverellite Clergy have long groan'd under this their Subjection to the State.

Saciate, Sacietie, -ty, obs. ff. SATIATE, SATIETY.

Sack (sæk), *sb.*^{1} Forms: 1 **sacc, sæcc,** 3–4 **sac, seck(e,** (3 **sec,** 6 *north.* **seik**), 3–6 **sakke,** 3–7 **sacke,** 4–5 **sak, sekke,** 4–6 **sek,** (5 **sac, cek, sache, sake, saecke,** *Sc.* **secke,** 7 *Sc.* **seck**), 5– **sack.** [OE. *sacc* masc., ad. L. *sacc-us* bag, sack, sackcloth (F. *sac*, from 11–12th c., Pr. *sac*, Sp., Pg. *saco*, It. *sacco*), a. Gr. σάκκος, ad. Heb. (? Phœnician) שַׂק *saq* = Jewish Aramaic סַק *saq*, סַקָּא *saqqā*, Syriac ܣܩ *saq*, ܣܩܐ *saqā*, Assyrian *saqqu*. The word appears in most of the Teut. langs.: Goth. *sakkus* sackcloth is prob. from Greek, but in the other langs. the proximate source is Latin: MDu. *sak* (Du. *zak*), OHG. *sac, sach*, acc. pl. *secchi* (MHG. *sac*, mod.G. *sack* bag), ON. *sekk-r* sack (Sw. *säkk*, Da. *sæk*). The ON. and some of the OHG. forms, and perh. the OE. *sæcc* (confined to the sense 'sackcloth') indicate a prehistoric type **sakki-z*: cf. med.L. '*saccia, σάκκος*' in a Lat.-Gr. glossary.

The word is found also as Irish and Gael. *sac*, Welsh *sach*, Hungarian *zsak*, Russian САКЪ *sak'*, Polish, Czech, Serbian, Albanian *sak*, which are all directly or indirectly from the Latin or Greek.]

I. 1. A large bag oblong in shape and open at one end, usually made of coarse flax or hemp, used for the storing and conveyance of corn, flour, fruit, potatoes, wood, coal, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xliii. 25 He..bead his þeznum þæt hiz fyldon hira saccas mid hwæte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2223 Quan men ðo seckes ðor un-bond, And in ðe coren ðo aȝtes fond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5090 Your seckes sal i fil o gift. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 195 (*Dido*) Sakkes ful of gold. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 64/1 Cek, or Cekclothe, or poke, *saccus*. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 50 To kepe þe corne þat falithe when it is put into þe sekkis. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bk.* 3 *Poles* Wks. 1843 I. 200 Pecunyous fooles, that..weddeth these olde wyddred women, whych hath sackes full of nobles. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 176 Good huswifes be mending and peecing their sackes. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 421/2 Five men in sacks run for a guinea. 1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* 222 What do you think, Margaret, of having your head caught in a baker's sack, hot from the oven [as a cure for a 'blight in the eyes']. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 63 The younger people.., With bag and sack and basket.., Went nutting.

b. With reference to the punishment of drowning in a sack. *The sack*: the punishment (awarded in ancient Rome to a parricide) of being sewn in a sack and drowned.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 211 þe Iuge..gert bynd þe ȝounge man rath, and put hym in a sek to mere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 956 And if I do that lakke Do strepe me and put me in a sakke And in the nexte ryuer do me drenche. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 87 Gud Fame wes drownit in a sek. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Add. s. v. *Culeus*. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Clemency* (1696) 441 Caligula, in five years condemn'd more People to the Sack, then ever were before him. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* x, Didst thou think me fool enough to wait till thou hadst betrayed me to the sack and the fork!

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1300 *Sarmun* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 þi felle wiþ-oute nis bot a sakke. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12791 Ther Sak, ther wombe, (I vndertake,) Off hem ther goddys they do make. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Edw. IV*, vi, A man is but a sacke of stercory. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 45 Although perchance the sack of his owne faults, lye so behinde hys back. [Cf. SACKET, quot. 1549.]

†**d.** (See quots.) Cf. WOOLSACK. *Obs.*

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 8 Suche of them as shall happen to be under the saide degree of a Baron, shall sitt.. at the uppermost parte of the sakkes in the middes of the saide Parliament Chamber. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. viii. (1877) I. 174 In the middest [of the House of Lords].. lie certeine sackes stuffed with wooll or haire, whereon the judges of the realme, the master of the rols, and secretaries of estate doo sit.

†**e.** *Sack and seam*: pack-horse traffic. *Obs.*

1631 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1885) III. n. 312 [Two yeomen presented for stopping up the King's highway for] sacke and seame. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Sack-and-seam-road*, a horse road—properly a pack-horse road over moors.

2. A sack with its contents; also the amount usually contained in a sack; hence taken as a unit of measure or weight for corn, flour, fruit, wool, coal, etc.

1314–15 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 313/1, II sakes & x peres de leine. 1427–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 69 For iij sak lyme to be same mason..vj d. 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 425 That they bryng their sakkes of juste mesure. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 4 § 2 Be it also enacted that ther be but only ..xiiij lb. to the stone of Wolle and xxj stone to the sakke. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 334 The conservatour sall haif..of euer ilk sek of gudis twa sturis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Dav. II.* 44 There salbe ane maister of the Ilone, quha sall receaue fra the King, ane pennie for ilk seck of woll (quhilk conteines twentie foure staines). 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 229 Having taken out of her ten sacks of Carobs, they..let her go. 1704 *Lond. Post* 14–17 Apr.

2/1 Last Week 6 Sacks of Cocoa-Nuts were seiz'd by a Custom-house Officer, being brought up to Town for so many sacks of Beans. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 443 Of corresponding Prices per Load, Quarter, Sack, and Bushel. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 263 An ancient churl,..Went sweating underneath a sack of corn. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 143, 90 pounds is the weight taken per sack of interior ores.

3. Proverbs and proverbial phrases. † *To buy a cat in the sack* [cf. F. *acheter chat en sac* Cotgr.]: to buy an article without first inspecting it. *To bring, carry (more) sacks to the mill*: see MILL *sb.*1 1 b. † *To cover oneself with a wet sack* [= F. *se couvrir d'un sac mouillé*, 16th c.]: to make vain excuses.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 422 To bye a catte in þo sakke is bot litel charge. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 47, I promise you an olde sacke axeth much patchyng. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 340/2 Therefore the Papists couer them selues with a wet sack, when they say [etc.]. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 404 Where they alledge we sould have beene occasioun to caus our sonne follow his father hastilie, they cover themselves theranent with a wett seck.

b. in various similative phrases.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5127 Swych wer foul & blake of syht Lych to a colyers sak. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 263 þou faryst as a saccke wyth-oute botome, þere may no-thyng abyde þer-in. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xv. 437 Kyng Marke..tombled adoune out of his sadel to the erthe as a sak. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xvi, Tom was drawn wet as a sack to the opposite bank.

4. slang. *To give* (a person) *the sack*: to dismiss from employment or office; *transf.* to discard, turn off (a lover). So *To get the sack*: to receive one's dismissal.

The phrase has been current in Fr. from the 17th c.: cf. '*On luy a donné son sac*, hee hath his pasport giuen him (said of a seruant whom his master hath put away)' (Cotgr.). Cf. Du. *iemand den zak geven*, to give one the sack (already in MDu.), *den zak krijgen*, to get the sack.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 178 You munna split on me, or I shall get the zack for telling on ye. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, I wonder what old Fogg 'ud say, if he knew it. I should get the sack, I s'pose—eh? 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* v, The short way would have been..to have requested him immediately to quit the house; or, as Mr. Gann said, 'to give him the sack at once'. 1902 BESANT *Five Yrs.' Tryst* 12 Frivolity and even lightness of conversation were sure to be followed by the sack.

†**II. 5.** Sackcloth, esp. as the material of penitential or mourning garments. Also, a piece or a garment of sackcloth. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* I. 538 He aras þa of þære flora and of þam wacan sæcce þe he lange on-uppan dreorig wæs sittende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 [John the Baptist chose] stiue here to shurte and gret sac to curtle. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 457 She [*sc.* Poverty] nadde on but a streit old sak. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ix. 3 To preye and byseche in fastyngis, sac, and ashe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 196 This kynge Ezechie..hym clothid in a sake, he Put hym-Selfe to Penaunce. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 231 b/2 His bedde was alle enuyronned with asshes and hayre and with a sacke. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 2 Gyrde youre selues with clothes of sack & hayre. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Mind* H 1, Away with silke, for I will mourne in sack, Martin is dead. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-gl.* (1598) H 3 b, Lords,..see it straight proclaim'd, That man and beast..For fortie daies in sacke and ashes fast. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 35 For Silks I will with rugged Sack be clad.

†**6.** Some kind of material for ladies' dresses: = SACKING *sb.*3 2. *Obs.*

1595 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 327, j pece stro coler seck, xxvis.; and viij yeardes checker seckynge, vjs. viij*d*...Ite' j pece ashe coler seckynge, xxjs.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

7. a. simple attrib., as *sack-band, -barrow, -hoist, -weight*; **b.** objective, as *sack-bearer, -maker, -making*; in names of mechanical contrivances, as *sack-emptier, -holder, -lifter*; **c.** similative, as *sack-formed, -shaped* adjs.; *sack-like* adj. and adv.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 167 Hold ye my mare..Whylst I..lawse the *sek band. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artach.* Hj, For Salt, Yeast, Candle, and Sack-bands *ad.* 1850 OGILVIE, *Sack barrow. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Saccarius*, a *sackebearer. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 693/2 It is by a *sack-formed process of the mantle filled with this yellowish matter that the peduncle is first formed. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sack Emptier.* 1875 *Ibid.*, **Sack-hoist*, an adaptation of the wheel and axle to form a continuous hoist for sacks. 1880 J. W. HILL *Guide Agric. Implements* 468 Combined *Sack Holder and Barrow. *Ibid.* 469 This Machine is an efficient *Sack Lifter, Loader, Unloader, and Shooter. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 257 The *sack-like cases in which the larva resides. 1858 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 71 Sack-like droop bronze pears. 1780 *Westm. Mag.* VIII. Suppl. 730/2 *Sack and sacking-maker. 1685 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Jan. 5/1 A young woman named Mary Dawson, sackmaker..was found guilty of a robbery from the person. 1839 SOWERBY *Conchol. Man.* 21 The head..is placed above a *sack-shaped body. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 359/2 The *sak weyght is sold for XII Marc.

8. Special comb.: **sack-bag** (see quot.); **sack coal**, screened coal for delivery in sacks; †**sack custom**, a toll on sacks of wool; **sack-doodling** *ppl. a.*, quasi-*arch.* [cf. G. *dudelsack* bagpipe], that plays on the bagpipes; **sack-filter**, a form of filter used in sugar-refining (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); †**sack gown** *Sc.*, a sackcloth garment worn by an offender when doing public penance; **sack-pants** *U.S.*, loosely fitting trousers; **sack pipe** ? *U.S.* [after G. *sackpfeife*], a bagpipe (*Cent. Dict.*); **sack race**, a race in which each competitor is enveloped in a sack, the mouth of which is secured round his neck; so *sack racing, running*; also *sack-racer*; **sack-sailed** *a.* (nonce-word), having sails made of sackcloth; **sack-shoot**, an inclined plane or trough for delivering sacks to a lower level; **sack-tackle**, tackle for hoisting sacks; **sack tree** (see quot. 1866).

1885 WARREN & CLEVERLY *Wand.* '*Beetle*' 10 The *sack-bag, a sort of canvas bolster, an ever-ready receptacle for items forgotten in packing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 1/3 *Sack coal..has..been kept up to 1*s. 2*d.* a cwt. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 595 Yᵗ al straungers yᵗ caryed any wolles out of this londe, shuld pay xliii. s. iiii. d. for a *sakke custome. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, Stop though, thou *sack-doudling son of a whore! 1693 in G. Lorimer *Leaves fr. Bk. West Kirke* vi. (1885) 51 [In September 1693 Wm. MacMorran, a cobbler, confessed to a grave breach of morals. He was appointed to] buy ane *sack goun to stand in at the kirk door..on Sabbath next. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. x. 98 An extra jumper and *sack-pants for sleeping. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 303/1 The champion *sack-racer of the world. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. iii. 277 *Sack Running, that is, men tied up in sacks, every part of them being enclosed except their heads. 1882 CHR. ROSSETTI *Ballad of Boding* Poems (1904) 56/2 The *sack-sailed boat. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 7/3 A *sack-shoot at the north side of the warehouse. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 140 A granary..with..bins..to contain the different sorts of grain which is raised up by the *sack-tackle. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* Index, *Sack-tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Lepurandra*, the Sack-tree of Western India, a tree..now..called *Antiaris saccidora*...It is a gigantic tree..having a strong tough fibrous inner bark..of which the natives..make capital sacks.

Sack (sæk), *sb.*2 Forms: 6 sak, 6–7 sac, sacke, 6– sack. [a. F. *sac* (in phr. *mettre à sac*), ad. It. *sacco* (= Sp. *saco*, Pg. *saque*), of doubtful origin.

By some scholars it is regarded as identical with *sacco* bag, SACK *sb.*1, or as a verbal noun from the derivative verb *saccare* to put in a bag, with reference to the putting up of plunder into bags or sacks. This is possible, but evidence is wanting.]

The action of SACK *v.*2; sackage, plundering; esp. in phr. *to put to sack*, †*to put to* or *unto the sack* (*obs.*).

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 114 Thai gat entres vitht in the toune, and pat it to sac. 1567 TURBERV. *Dispraysе of Women* in *Epitaphes*, etc. 61 b, Helen that to vtter sack, both Greece and Troie brought. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 246/1 The said earle of March..comming to the said towne, tooke it, slue all the Englishmen found within it, put their goods to the sacke, and after set the towne on fire. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* II. 141 Graunt not license to thy souldiers to put all to sacke. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. ii. 11 Licence graunted to fall vnto the sacke and spoile. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* III. XXVIII. 147 Many also of the noblest cities and townes were put vnto the sacke. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* vi. 75 Before the Sac of Troy, 'twas said and sung up and down the streets. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) II. XIII. 136 He despaired to reduce so strong a place by sack and storm. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. XXXII, Or...call The burghers forth to watch and ward, 'Gainst southern sack and fires to guard. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 614 Those inhabitants who had favoured the insurrection expected sack and massacre. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 191 The storm..was a punishment for their impiety and pride during a sack of Troy. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 40 But Memphis was gone, having suffered a hundred sacks and dilapidations.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1622) 353 Alas sorrow, now thou hast the full sacke of my conquered spirits. 1590 GREENE *Neuer too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 105 Hast thou had the spoile of my virginitie, and now wouldest thou haue the sacke of my substaunce?

c. Plundered goods. *rare.*

1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 694 He found the sack and plunder of our house All scatter'd thro' the houses of the town.

Sack (sæk), *sb.*3 *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 6 *north.* wyn seake, *Sc.* wyne seck, vyne sekk; *β.* 6 seck(e; *γ.* 6 sakke, 6–7 sacke, 6– sack. [Early 16th c. *wyne seck*, ad. F. *vin sec*, 'dry wine'. Cf. G. *sekt*, earlier (17th c.) *sek*, Du. *sek*.

Vin sec is given by Sherwood 1632 (but not by Cotgrave 1611–32) as the Fr. equivalent of 'sacke'. According to Littré, *vin sec* meant only 'dry wine' in the current Eng. sense, i. e. wine 'free from sweetness and fruity flavour'; there appears to be no ground for the assumption made in Grimm's *Deutsches Wörterbuch*, s.v. *Sekt* (and in earlier German dictionaries from the 17th c. onwards), that it at some time meant 'wine from *dried* or partially dried grapes'. Some difficulty therefore arises from the fact that *sack* in English, as well as *sekt* in German, was often described as a sweet wine (so already in our earliest quot.), though Shakspere's mention of 'sack and sugar' shows that it was not always such even in the 16th c. It is possible that before the recorded history of the name begins it had already been extended from the 'dry' wines of a certain class to the whole class, and had afterwards come to be applied esp. to those wines of the class which were originally excluded. But evidence is wanting. The Sp. **vino seco*, It. **vino secco*, usually cited by etymologists, appear not to be recognized by the lexicographers of the respective langs.

The form *sack* is not a normal development from the original *sek*. It may perhaps be explained by the fact that in the 16th c. *sack* was a provincial form of SACK *sb.*1; persons who were accustomed to regard 'seck' as a mispronunciation of *sack* may have applied the supposed correction to the name of the wine. It is not, in the present state of the evidence, probable that there was ever any confusion with the OF. *vin de sac* ('*Saccatum*, vin de buffet, vin de sac', in a gloss quoted by Godefr.), OHG. *sacwin* (written *saicwin*), MDu. *sacwijn*, which according to early explanations meant a beverage made by steeping the lees of wine in water, and then straining through a bag.]

1. A general name for a class of white wines formerly imported from Spain and the Canaries.

α. 1536–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 691 Et in vino Clareto et le Wyn seake. 1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, Seck win, *seche*. 1558 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 311 Ane bot of wyne seck. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 320 Burdeous vyne gave v schilling the pynt and vyne sekk vij schilling.

β, γ. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 3 It is further enacted ..that no Malmeseis Romeneis Sakkes nor other swete Wynes ..shalbe rateiled aboue xij. d. the galon. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 255 Also these hote wynes, as malmesye, wyne course, wyne greke, romanysk, romny, seck [etc.]..be not good to drynke with meate. 1555–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 403 Item, payde in Claret wyne, sacke and sugar.. iij s. xj d. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 93 Haue with you for a pottle of burnt Secke. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV* (Qo. 1598) II. iv. 516 If sacke and sugar be a fault, God helpe the wicked. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 206 Ile go burne some Sacke. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. B 1, Come weele ha some muld Sack. 1620 [see *canary wine*: CANARY *sb.* 7]. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xliii. 103 Since the Spanish Sacks haue beene common in our Tavernes..our Nation complaineth of Calenturas [etc.]. 1623 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. 149 Your best Sacks are of Seres in Spaine, your smaller of Galicia and Portugall; your strong Sacks are of the Ilands of the Canaries, and of Malligo. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* I. i, My Business is to drink my Morning's-draught in sack with you. 1686 [see MALAGA]. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 165 Grate sugar round your dish, and serve them up with sack for sauce. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 227 The racy taste of Canary, now commonly called Sack.

b. With qualifying word, chiefly with words indicating the place of production or exportation, as *Canary, Malaga, Palm* [= Palma], *Sherris* or *Sherry* [= Xeres: see SHERRY] *sack.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV* (Qo. 1600) IV. iii. 104 A good sherris sacke hath a two fold operation in it. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. v. 45 A cup of good sherry Sacke, Malago, or Canary. 1632 Canary sack [see CANARY *sb.* 7]. *c* 1660 *New Mad Tom* 51 in *Roxb. Ballads* II. 261 A cup of old Malaga Sack. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Spain* (1685) 176 Hence come our Sherry-Sacks. 1735–7 BERKELEY *Querist* § 151 Men of nice palates have been imposed on,..by mead for palm sack. 1756 ROLT *Dict. Trade* s.v. *Canary islands*, Palma..is remarkable for its produce of wine, called palm-sack, or Canary.

c. The following passage is often alluded to as a proverbial type of flagrant disproportion, esp. where there is an absurd excess of what is unsubstantial or unimportant over what is solid.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV* (Qo. 1598) II. iv. 592 O monstrous! but one halfepeniworth of bread to this intollerable deale of sack?

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib., as *sack-pot*; **b.** objective, as *sack-guzzler*; **c.** instrumental, as *sack-sopped* adj.; **d.** spec. in the names of beverages, etc., made with sack, as **sack-cream, -mead, -posset, -whey.** Also SACK-BUTT.

1665 R. MAY *Accomplisht Cook* (ed. 2) 283 To make a *Sack Cream. 1767 *Mrs. Glasse's Cookery* 361 Sack cream like butter. 1823 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 536 Then came..the ultra-servile *sack-guzzler, Southey. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 331 To make *Sack Mead. To every gallon of water pour four pounds of honey, boil it.., then put it in your cask, and to thirteen gallons of the above liquor, add a quart of brandy or sack. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Shee composes a *sack posset well. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 80 To make an Excellent Sack-Posset. Beat fifteen Eggs..; then put three quarters of a Pound of White Sugar into a Pint of Canary [etc.]. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v, His genius had been nursed on sack posset, and not on dishes of tea. 1857 J. MARRYAT *Pottery & Porcelain* (ed. 2) 143 Of the *sack-pots one at Strawberry Hill was dated 1647. 1593 G. HARVEY *Lett. & Sonn.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 345 Thy Clarret spirite, And *sack-sopt miseries of thy Confutations. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 619/2 Drink plentifully of small, warm *Sack-Whey.

Sack (sæk), *sb.*4 Also 7, 9 sac, 8– sacque. [Cf. G. *französischer sack* (Grimm), Du. *zak*, both applied in the 18th c. to a French fashion of gown then worn by ladies. This, with Pepys' spelling (quot. 1668–9), would seem to indicate adoption from F. *sac*, but the Fr. lexicographers do not recognize the word in this sense.

It is possible that both the senses below, or sense 2 only, may have originated as transferred uses of SACK *sb.*1 To place them under that word would however be inconvenient, on account of the marked divergence of application, and the fact that the pseudo-Fr. spelling *sacque* is still frequent in both senses.

Sense 2 is given by M. Heyne (in *Grimm*) as a modern tailors' use of G. *sack* (also *sackpaletot* 'sack' overcoat); but this may possibly be from English.

In the following quot. *sackes* may denote some article of clothing, but its sense is obscure, and it is not certain that it is English:—

1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 112 Et eiusdem pipours et thrumpours pro vj. sackes de fostyon ex precepto domini, lx s.]

1. A loose kind of gown worn by ladies. ? *Obs.* Also, from the 18th c., an appendage of silk attached to the shoulders of such a dress, and forming a train (see quot. 1882).

1599 PEELE *Sir Clyomon* xv, But there's Frumpton's wench in the frieze sack [*orig. ed.* scake], it will do thee good to see What canvosing is at the milking-time between her and me. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. i, This straight-bodied citty attire (I can tell you) will strive a Courtiers blood, more, then the finest loose Sackes the Ladies vse to be put in. 1634 SIR T.

HERBERT *Trav.* 199 The women [of Macassar, or the Celebes]..weare a large long cawle or sack, like net-worke, which as a garment hides them wholy. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Mar., My wife this day put on first her French gown, called a Sac. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Conway* 27 June, The Prince himself..leading Madame l'Ambassadrice de Venise in a green sack with a straw hat. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxvii, I can assure you, my Lady Traill has had a sacque from this piece this very morning. 1775 *Lond. Mag.* July 343/1 Flowing loosely down her back Draw with art the graceful sack. 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Dec., I can't bear a sacque. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Wedding Day*, The flowered silk sacques, which they wore on their backs. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xv, How am I to go trapesing to Kensington in my yellow satin sack before all the fine company? 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Sac* (*Sack* or *Sacque*), an old term, still in use, denoting a superfluous, but decorative, piece of a dress material fastened to the shoulders at the back of the gown in wide, loose plaits, and descending to the ground, of such a length as to form a train. The gown itself is always complete without this appendage.

attrib. 1770 CHATTERTON *Let.* 8 July, Wks. 1803 III. 444 Direct for me at Mrs. Angel's, Sack-maker, Brooke Street, Holborn. 1896 *Daily News* 25 June 6/6 The last two, being children, were attired in pretty old-fashioned sacque frocks.

2. A loose-fitting coat the back of which is not shaped to the figure, but hangs more or less straight from the shoulders. Also *attrib.*

1847 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) II. 90 In fair weather he wears a brown linen sack. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* I. 33 He wore a velvet sacque to paint in. 1883 C. F. WOOLSON *For the Major* v, Miss Honoria disapproved of the rector because he occasionally wore a sack-coat. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* II. xxi. 204 The two women laughed together, and began to pull up their sacks, which had dropped from their shoulders into their chairs behind them. 1892 *Daily News* 3 May 2/4 The sack-back coat is now rapidly finding its way to the lower social strata. 1896 *Ibid.* 19 Mar. 6/5 Sacque jackets divide the honours with capes. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 June 4/2 The sac bolero..gives size to the slender and veils that of the stout.

Sack (sæk), *v.*[1] [f. SACK *sb.*[1]: cf. L. *saccāre* to strain through a bag (med.L. also to put into a bag), MDu. *sacken* (Du *zakken*), G. *sacken* to put into a bag.]

1. *trans.* To put into a sack; to pack or store (goods) in sacks. Also with *up*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 150 Whan the Mele is sakked and ybounde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xl. (1869) 156, I sakke as michel sum time as tweyne or thre poore men mihten wel fille here sakkes with. 1510–20 *Everyman* (Greg) 396 In chestes I am locked so fast, Also sacked in bagges. *a* 1710 BETTERTON (J.), Now..The grist is sack'd, and every sack well bound. 1772 R. GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* (1783) I. 206 The Tinker, however, sacked up his budget, and his companion her bundle. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 505 The pickled wheat is then sacked up and carried to the field in carts. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. II. 321 It threshes, cleans, and finally sacks the grain. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U.S.* 321 The ore..is being sacked for shipment. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 65 The corn would be threshed, dressed, and sacked, nobody knew how.

b. To put (a person) in a sack to be drowned.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 298/2 Ye said Erle lete sakke hym forthwith, and drounyd him in Thamyse. 1530 PALSGR. 696/2 He shall nat be hanged, but he shall be sacked and throwen in to Seyne. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. civ, A foolish or imprudent act Would..have..ended in his being..sack'd, And thrown into the sea. 1836 WILLIS *Summer Cruise in Medit.* xliii. (1852) 257 A Turkish woman was sacked and thrown into the Bosphorus this morning.

c. *Sporting.* To 'bag' (game).

1838 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 140 Shot 29 geese and sacked every bird.

† **2.** To heap up in or as in a sack. *Obs.*

1599 PEELE *Sir Clyom.* xv, He, whose heart more hard than flint Hath sack'd on me such hugy heaps of ceaseless sorrows here. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits' Downf.* 22 It was an old state principle of Machiavell, to packe and sack vp sackes of money to..binde mens tongues therewith.

3. *colloq.* To 'pocket'.

1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 59 All complained that he sacked the receipts, without letting them touch one farthing. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. ii. (1849) 47 To sack a reasonable profit. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 213 The money advanced had already been sacked and spent. 1888 CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 210 We sold the oil to one of the merchants, and sacked the dollars.

4. To put into a case or sack-like covering. *rare.*

1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* IV. xiii. 253 At the corners they placed pillows..sacked in cloth blue and crimson.

5. *slang.* **a.** To 'give the sack' to; to dismiss or discharge (a person) from his employment or office. Chiefly *passive.*

1841 in *Cath. News* 3 June (1899) 15/5 He said he had just come from Glasgow, and had been 'sacked'. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov. 2/1 If..the solicitor by whom he was employed, had made up his books, he (the plaintiff) would have been 'sacked six months ago'. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 363 The committee ought to be sacked.

b. To beat in a contest. (Cf. SACK *v.*[2])

1820–3 CARLETON *Traits Irish Peasantry* (1864) I. 275 The terms of defeat or victory..were called sacking and bogging..."Twas young Brady that didn't sack him clane.. and went nigh to bog the priest himself in Greek. 1841 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 71 F. Tennyson says that he and a party of Englishmen fought a cricket match with the crew of the Bellerophon..and sacked the sailors by 90 runs. 1846 in *Brasenose Ale* 80 The pluckiest crew on Isis stream..Is the one that has sacked the Christ Church Boat, And distanced all the rest.

6. *Lumber-trade.* See quot. 1860 s. v. SACKING *vbl. sb.*[1]

1860 [see SACKING *vbl. sb.*[1] 1]. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 715/1 And thus, wading and 'sacking' logs, the rear crew works..from daylight to dark.

7. *intr.* To bulge or 'bag'.

1799 [implied in SACKING *vbl. sb.*[1] 1].

Sack (sæk), *v.*[2] Also 6 *Sc.* **sact.** [f. SACK *sb.*[2] Cf. Pr., Sp., Pg. *saquear*, It. *saccheggiare.*]

1. *trans.* To give over (a city, town, etc.) to plunder by the soldiery of a victorious army; to strip (a person or place) of possessions or goods; to plunder, despoil.

a 1547 SURREY *Ecclesiastes* v. Wks. 1815 I. 76 The plenteous houses sackt; the owners end with shame Their sparkled goods. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 45 The toune was sacked to the greate gayne of the Englishemen. 1563 WINȝET *Vincent. Lirin.* To Marie Q. Scottis, Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 5 That al the enimeis thairof..suld nocht mak thame be force and plane violente to sact it, or onyways subdew it. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* v. 52 Spair not to gif thame all ane syse, Quhome ze beleif the King did sact. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 44 He wil be sacked of all his goods or be throwen into prison. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenh. Lost* I. Wks. 1874 I. 111 We sack't the Citty after nine Moneths siege. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 13 They sack the temples, the gay fields deface. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, People..are flying from the town which is sacked from end to end. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 295 From Bow to Hyde Park..there was no parish in which some quiet dwelling had not been sacked by burglars. 1879 GREEN *Read. Eng. Hist.* xvii. 83 The monastery was sacked by the Danes.

b. said of an inanimate agent.

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXV. 119 Gif fyre may þair buildings sacke, Or bullat beat þaim downe. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. xxxviii, When I woke, the flood Whose banded waves that crystal cave had sacked Was ebbing round me.

† **2.** To take as plunder or spoil. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1590 tr. *P. Ubaldino's Disc. conc. Span. Invas.* 21 The Englishmen departed,..hauing sacked 22000. duckets of gold,..and 14. coffers of mooueables.

fig. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* II. Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 155 Thou seekest not only to sacke mine honour, but to suck my bloud.

Sack, obs. form of SAC[1].

Sackage (sæ·kėdʒ), *sb.* Now *rare.* Also 6–7 **saccage.** [a. F. *saccage*, according to Hatz.-Darm. a verbal noun f. *saccager*: see SACKAGE *v.*]

1. The action, or an act, of sacking (a city, etc.).

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1097/1 For the defense and safegard of this citie from spoile and saccage. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 226 In sackages of Cities. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. xv. xviii. 443 Howbeit Cato survived not the rasing and saccage of Carthage, for he died the yeare immediatly following this resolution. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 190 The sackage endured from the 24. of November till the 5. of December. 1755 T. H. CROKER *Orl. Fur.* XXXIII. xli, Ravenna is in sackage laid. 1808 SOUTHEY *Chron. Cid* 386 Some among us, says he, in this city, count from the sackage of the Jews. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. ii, To guard and keep you whole and safe from all The spoil and sackage aim'd at by these rebels.

† **2.** Booty, plunder. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXIV. viii. 251 When the saccage therefore was divided and dealt,..himselfe tooke for his share a dumbe boy.

† **Sa·ckage, sa·ccage,** *v. Obs.* [a. F. *saccager*, prob. ad. It. *sa cheggiare*, f. *sacco* SACK *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To put to sack; to plunder.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii. 5 b, Their intent was to..haue good means to saccage vs. *Ibid.* xii. 13 b, The houses..hauing been twise saccaged [orig. *deux fois saccagees*] and spoyled by the Spaniardes. 1628 *Priv. Mem. Sir K. Digby* (1828) 28 Before they went out of it they saccaged the town. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 94 They..set upon the barch [? *read* bank] where the money was, and sackaged all. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 6 It..having been..saccaged and ruined by a Roman Army.

Hence † **Sa·ccaging** *vbl. sb.*, † **Sa·ccagement.**

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 48 b, The saccaging..continued 3. daies. *Ibid.* IV. xxxvi. 160 The ruine, saccagement, & desolation of their countrey. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 90 After the saccaging and burning of so many Provinces.

Sackalever (sækălī·vă). Also **sacoleva.** [ad. It. *saccaleva.* Cf. F. *sacolève.*] A small lateen-rigged sailing vessel used in the Levant.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. xii. 223 Meaning myself to go by land as far as Gallipoli, where the sacoleva was to ballast. 1878 TRELAWNY *Shelley* (1887) 83 A Turkish sackalever.

Sackbut (sæ·kbʊt). Forms: 6–7 **sagbut, -bot,** 6 **sagbout, saggebut,** 7 **sagbutt,** 6–7 **shagbot**(e, (6 **shakbott, shagbush,** 7 **-but**), 6 **sackbot,** 7 **-butt, sacke-but,** 7 **sacbutt,** 8–9 **sacbut,** 7– **sackbut.** [a. F. *saquebute*, earlier *saqueboute, -botte*, etc.; not found as the name of a musical instrument earlier than the latter half of the 15th c., but presumably identical with ONF. *saqueboute*, explained in the 14th c. as a lance furnished with 'an iron hook for pulling men off their horses' ('un grau de fer pour les garchons *saquier* jus de leurs quevaulz'). In the modern Norman dialect the word means a squirt. The first element is clearly ONF. *saquier* (= Sp., Pg. *sacar*) to pull, draw (which accounts for all the senses of the compound); the etymology of the second element is obscure; some scholars connect it with *bouter* to push.

The Sp. *sacabuche* (cf. the 16th c. Eng. form *shagbushe*), sackbut, also tube used as a pump, and the Pg. *sacabucha, -buxa*, with the same meanings, appear to be corrupt adoptions of the Fr. word. The Pg. word is identical in form with a word meaning a hook for drawing the wad from a gun, regularly f. *saca-r* to draw + *bucha, buxa*, wad. Possibly the Fr. word may, when adopted into Pg., have undergone assimilation to the native word and then passed in the altered form into Sp.; but evidence is wanting.]

1. An obsolete musical instrument; a bass trumpet with a slide like that of a trombone for altering the pitch.

The word is to most readers known only from its occurrence in Dan. iii, where it is a mistranslation of Aramaic *sabbᵉkā*, which the LXX and Vulgate render (doubtless correctly) by Gr. σαμβύκη, L. *sambūca*, the name of a stringed instrument (see SAMBUCA). Coverdale 1535 (for what reason is not clear) renders the word by *shawmes*, thus taking it to denote a wind instrument; the Geneva translators, accepting this view, seem to have chosen the rendering 'sackbut' on account of its resemblance in sound to the Aramaic word. In this they have been followed by the 'Authorized' (1611) and 'Revised' (1885) Versions.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 51 The entrayles..be exercised by blowyng, eyther by constraint, or playeng on shaulmes, or sackbottes. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 44 And shalmes, sagbuttes, and dromeslawes playing also in barges going before him. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Dan.* iii. 5 The cornet, trumpet, harpe, sackebut, psalteries, dulcimer, and all instruments of musicke. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 930/2 In which barge were shalmes, shagbushes, and diverse other instruments. 1638 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (ed. 5) 249 As he that playes upon a Sagbut by pulling it up and downe alters his tones and tunes. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* Pref. 3 The sound of a Sackbut or Trumpet, should skip from Concord to Concord. 1675 SHADWELL *Psyche* I. Wks. 1720 II. 16 Voices, Flagellets, Violins, Cornets, Sackbuts, Hautboys; all joyn in Chorus. 1797 SOUTHEY *Tri. Woman* 108 And shrill were heard the flute, The cornet, sackbut, dulcimer, and lute. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. xxxi, And sackbut deep, and psaltery. 1862 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* Prel. 213 In vision or in trance He heard the solemn sackbut play.

† **b.** A player on the sackbut. *Obs.*

1539 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 293 To Doctre Lee's shawmes and shagboshes that playt before my Lorde of Solfolke, iijs. iiij*d.* 1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xii. 241 Item, for Pilligrine, sagbut, wages, xls. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 25 Six Sackbuts: Fee *le peice*, 24. 6. 8.

¶ **2.** *Roman Antiq.* Used to render L. *sambuca*: see SAMBUCA 2. *rare*—[1].

1756 HAMPTON *Polybius* (1773) III. 131 These vessels.. carried to the walls certain machines called Sackbuts.

Hence † **Sa·ckbuter,** a player on the sackbut.

1503 in *Cal. Doc. rel. Scotl.* (1888) 347 [Warrant..to deliver ..a banner..to..the K.'s five trumpetters, and also to Johannes and Edward], shakbotters.

† **Sa·ck-butt.** *Obs.* [f. SACK *sb.*[3] + BUTT *sb.*[2]] A butt of sack.

1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 93 Will no man thrust the staue into a sack-but? 1623 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* ii. 149 The depth of euery Sack-Butt is the foure pricks next to the puncheon. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ezra* ix. 6 But he is past grace that is past shame, and can blush no more then a sackbut.

punningly. 1623–4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* II. i, *Al.*..You must not look to have your Dinner serv'd in with Trumpets. *Cor.* No, no, Sackbuts shall serve us. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. v, I' th' celler..He will make dainty musick among the sack-butts.

Sackcloth (sæ·k,klɒ̱θ). Forms: 4 **sekk-clathe, sekklath,** 5 **sekclath, -cloth, cekclothe, sak clothe,** 6 **sack**(e)**cloth**(e, **sacclothe, sack-cloath,** 6– **sackcloth.** [f. SACK *sb.*[1] + CLOTH.]

1. A coarse textile fabric (now of flax or hemp) used chiefly in the making of bags or sacks and for the wrapping up of bales, etc.; sacking.

1373–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 578 In Sekklath empt. in villa et in patria, xxvjs. iiij*d.* *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 290 Ceres, the goddesse, in a garment Of sak clothe..Embrowderyd with sheues & sykelys bent. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cix, Als like ȝe bene, as..sek-cloth is vnto fyne cremesye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 64/1 Cek, or cekclothe, or poke, *saccus.* 1484–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 415 Sol. pro ix uln. de Sekclath pro altaribus ecclesiæ, ijs. iij*d.* 1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1567), *Canauaccio*, canuasse or sackeclothe. 1623 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. iv. (ed. 3) 50 Cloath him temperately, as with a single cloth, of canuase or sacke-cloth. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Apr. 6/4 The latest novelty in dress materials is sackcloth...It is common hemp sacking,..but let no one imagine for a single moment that it is cheap. The open canvas ground is intended to be lined with the richest..silks and satins, and itself forms a groundwork for elaborate embroideries.

b. As the material of mourning or penitential garb; also (in contrast with 'purple' or 'gold') as the coarsest possible clothing, indicative of extreme poverty or humility. *In sackcloth and ashes* (Biblical): clothed in sackcloth and having ashes sprinkled on the head as a sign of lamentation or abject penitence. †Also with *a* (cf. SACK *sb.*[1] 5).

The penitential 'sackcloth' of the Bible (Heb. *saq*, Gr. σάκκος) was a dark-coloured fabric of goats' or camels' hair.

13.. *St. Alexius* 191 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 178 All hir bodi scho made bare & did apon hir a sekk-clathe. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 21 They had repented longe agon in sack cloth and asshes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* XXXIV. 13 When they were sick, I put on a sack cloth. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 5 He whiche cloteth [*sic*] an ape in purple, & a king in sacke-cloth. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 51, I was in sack-cloth I, now am I clad in gold, And weare such robes, as I my selfe take plesure to behold. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 14 And to augment her painefull penaunce more, ..shee ..next her wrinkled skin rough sacke-

cloth wore. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. iv. 128 S. Lewis King of France wore sack-cloth every day unless sickness hindred. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 47 And being clad in Sackcloth, he was to lie on the Ground, and..implore God's Mercy. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 55 While he groaned and prayed in sackcloth and ashes, his brother.. smiled at his remorse. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* IV. v, I should have gone into a convent and worn sackcloth. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 336 The low and great, Who in their sack-cloth or their purple, creep Beneath the summit of the viewless steep. 1885 'H. CONWAY' *Fam. Affair* XXVI, He knew that for all that had befallen she was mourning in mental sackcloth and ashes.

†**c.** *pl.* [See CLOTHES.] Garments of sackcloth.

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-gl.* (1598) H 4, He sits him down in sack-cloathes, his hands and eyes reared to heauen.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sackcloth-bag*, *-garb*, *-mourner*, *-prophecy*, etc.; *sackcloth-clad* adj.

1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 127 The sackcloth-prophecy of the witnesses. *Ibid.* 221 A sackcloth-mourner. *Ibid.* 229 Italy it self had several sackcloth-witnesses. *Ibid.* 232 That famous sackcloth-prophet John Wickliffe. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxviii, Ere his sackcloth garb Repentance wear. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. iii, It's ill-leaping now-a-days in a sackcloth-bag. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. viii. (1864) IX. 287 The sackcloth-clad bare-foot friar.

†**2.** A material for ladies' dresses. Cf. SACK *sb.*[1] 6.

1571 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 136 Sackclothe stripte with sylver. [1896: see 1.]

Hence **Sa·ckclothed** *a. rare*, clad in sackcloth.

1641 BP. HALL *Mischief Faction* Rem. Wks. (1660) 69 To be joviall when God calls to mourning,..to glitter when he would have us sackcloth'd and squalid, he hates it to the death. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* IX. 250 A healthy force of mind utterly incompatible with..the petty solicitudes of sackclothed abstinence.

Sacked (sækt), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SACK *sb.*[4] + -ED[2].] Wearing a sack.

1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xiv, Gentlemen in wigs, and ladies powdered, patched and sacked.

Sacked (sækt), *ppl. a.* [f. SACK *v.*[2] + -ED[1].] That has been given up to sack; plundered, ravaged.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1740 Who like a late sack't Iland vastlie stood Bare and vnpeopled. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 200 Semblable to that sacked Lacedemon in Sparta. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 350 Two large Goblets..which, when old Priam reign'd, My conqu'ring Sire at sack'd Arisba gain'd. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 239 An old woman..who looked as sacked and ruinous as everything around her.

Sacked Friar: see SACK-FRIAR.

†**Sa·cken,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SACK *sb.*[1] + -EN[4].] Made of sackcloth. *Sacken gown, sark, weed* = *sack gown*: see SACK *sb.*[1] 8.

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 334/47 Þat was a sakken curtil & a pilche also & a blak froccke þer-vppon. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 20. 2/2 Sacken bottom'd Beds. 1779 D. GRAHAM *Jocky & Maggy's Courtship* Writ. 1883 II. 20 And wha tan bide the shame, whan every body looks to them, wi' their sacken sarks or gowns on them. 1780 W. FORBES *Dominie* 6 In case they wear the sacken-weed For fornication. *Ibid.* 13 He'll get the dud an' sacken gown.

Sacker (sæ·kəɪ). [f. SACK *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who sacks or plunders.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, A sacker, *populator, direptor.* 1824 J. SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agam.* 71 O sacker of Troy town divine! 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. xiv. 360 He made no effort to discourage the sackers of Shawfield's house.

Sacker, variant of SAKER.

Sacket (sæ·kėt). Also 5 **sakett**, 6 **sakket**, 9 **sackit**. [a. OF. *saquet*, dim. of *sac* SACK *sb.*[1]; cf. SACHET.]

1. A bag. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 A grete sakett full of mony in his hand. 1520 M. NISBET *N. T. Scots* Luke x. 4 Tharfor will ye nocht bere a sacket [*Wycl.* sachel], nouthir scrippe, nouthir schonne. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvi. 138 Euerye man of this varld baris tua sakkettis vithi hym [viz., one before him containing his neighbour's faults, the other behind containing his own; see Phædrus *Fab.* IV. x]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 449 My Linnen, Letters, and Sacket was lying in my hostery. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 34 Fill with this Powder a little square Bag or Sacket of Sarsenet. 1834 SMART *Rhymes* 102 (E. D. D.) It was a weel-filled weighty sacket.

2. *dial.* as a term of reproach or abuse: see E. D. D. (Cf. G. *sack* in similar use.)

1868 R. M. FERGUSSON *Village Poet* (1897) 155 Ye needna craw, ye sneerin' sackit. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xxi, 'If he ever comes back, the sacket (rascal)', T'nowhead said to Jess, 'we'll show 'im the door gey quick'.

Sa·ck-friar, Also **Sacked Friar.** [SACK *sb.*[1] 5. Cf. MDu. *sachbroeder*, G. *sackbruder*, OF. *frere au sac.*] A member of a mendicant order of the 13th and early 14th c., called 'Fratres de Pœnitentia Jesu Christi' or 'de Saccis' (also *Saccati*, *Saccitæ*, *Saccini*, *Sacci*), who were clothed in sackcloth.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7462 So been Augustins and Cordileres, ..and eek Sakked Freres. 1553 in *Archæologia* (1775) III. 131 It. rec'd. of theyrs of Christopher Cornwall, for ferme of a parcell of grounde..sometyme parcell of the sakfryers by yere xvi s. 1772 PEGGE *ibid.* 125 Memoir concerning the Sac-Friars, or Fratres de Poenitentia Jesu Christi, as settled here in England. 1867 C. F. R. PALMER *Life P. T. Howard* 53 The Order of Sacked Friars was put down in 1307.

Sackful (sæ·kful), *sb.* [f. SACK *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] As much as would fill a sack; hence, hyperbolically, a great quantity, large amount.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. v, I haue a sak ful of scyences and wyles. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. viii. § 4 (1622) 287 Not..by the sackfull, but by the whole Barnefull.

1623–4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* I. v, This little ape gets money by the sack-full. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* IV. 127 The Enemy fortified the breach with sack-fuls of Sand. 1718 R. FRAMPTON in T. Evans *Life* (1876) 149 A sackfull of canting books. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 150 Wood..goes about with his sack-fulls of dross, odiously misrepresenting his prince's countenance. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* July 200 They had there found a number of broken mummies and a large heap of papyri. Of these last they offered him a sackful.

†**Sa·ckful,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SACK *sb.*[2] + -FUL.] Given to plundering.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 601 Now will I sing the sackfull troopes Pelasgian Argos held.

Sacking (sæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SACK *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of SACK *v.*[1], in various senses.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 362 The businesse that there was in chargyng and ladyng of shippes with haye, sackyng of Bisket [etc.]. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 6 To prevent the sacking of the paper. 1860 *Harper's Mag.* XX. 452 Another frequent and laborious part of the drive is sacking... When the logs have been lodged upon the shore..three or four men seize each log with their cant-dogs and absolutely lift or drag it along the mud and sand a considerable distance. 1887 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 98 Sacking, 41 sacks per ton, 20 days' labor, at $3.

†**2.** *cant.* The occupation of a prostitute. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) C 1 b, Sacking law, lecherie. *Ibid.* C 2, In sacking Law The Bawd if it be a woman [is called] a Pandar. 1592 — *Disput.* Ded. A 2, The sacking and crosbyting lawes, which strumpets vse. *Ibid.* A 4 b, Why Nan, are you growne so stiffe, to thincke..that your sacking can gaine as much as our foysting?

Sacking (sæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SACK *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of plundering (a city, etc.).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 74 Whan newes were brought into Spayn of the sacking of Rome. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 177 At the sacking of Jericho the spoils were devoted to the Lord. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xlix. 192 Yet for all that he could not keep the cabbins from sacking. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 184 The sacking of Panama in 1670 by John Morgan the English pirate. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 223 Sackings, burnings, plunderings, scalpings.

Sacking (sæ·kiŋ), *sb.*[3] Also 6 **seckynge.** [f. SACK *sb.*[1] + -ING[1].]

OE. had *sæccing* of equivalent formation, occurring with the sense 'bed' (Vulg. *grabatum*) in Mark vi. 55.]

1. A closely woven material of flax, jute, hemp, or similar material, used chiefly in the making of sacks, bags, etc. Also, a piece of such material.

1707 LD. RABY in Hearne *Collect.* 14 Sept. (O.H.S.) II. 42 His Horses stand with..Sackings instead of Cloaths. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. lxxxviii. 406 Sacking of different qualities for bags..is..exported. 1810 *Hull Improv. Act* 62 Such sack shall be made of linen called Sacking. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinnamon & Pearls* V, If his dress has always been sacking, his ignorant choice will be of sacking still. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* V. 168 The flax fabrics woven in Ireland are chiefly fine and coarse linens, canvas, sacking, and damask. *a* 1849 POE *Murders in Rue Morgue* Wks. 1895 III. 70 They were both then lying on the sacking of the bedstead. 1881 *Daily News* 23 Aug. 3/6 There is less doing in ropes..and sackings.

†**2.** A material for ladies' dresses. (Cf. SACK *sb.*[1] 6, SACKCLOTH 2.) *Obs. rare.*

1589 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 79, iii yeards & a d. striped seckynge, iis. xjd. 1595 [see SACK *sb.*[1] 6].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sacking-cloth, goods, -maker*; parasynthetic, as *sacking-bottomed* adj.

1707 *Rec. Baron Court of Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 158 To pay ..10sh. 8d...for 8 ells of sacking-cloth. *c* 1710 in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* I. v. 75 New sacking bottom'd Bedsteads at 11s. a piece. 1780 *Westm. Mag.* Suppl. 730/1 James Allen,..Wantage, Berks, sacking-maker. 1797 *Indenture Doncaster* (MS.), George Needham, sacking-manufacturer. 1881 WHITEHEAD *Hops* 61 The hops are picked into bins, long, light, wooden frames, with sacking bottoms. 1886 *Daily News* 15 Sept. 2/4 Canvas, and sacking goods meet with a fair sale at firm prices. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 185 He was..put in leg-irons, and a convict sacking-coat.

Sackit, variant of SACKET *dial.*

Sackless (sæ·klės), *a.* Forms: 1–2 **sacléas**, 2 **sacclæs, sacclese**, 3 **sac(o)les, sakelease**, 4–6 **sa(o)kles**, 4–5 **sa(e)keles**, (4 **saklas**, 5 **saklace**), 6 **saikles(e, sackelesse**, 6–7 **sakelesse, sackelesse**, 8 **saickless**, 7– **sakeless**, 8– **sackless.** [Late OE. *sacléas* (see SAC[1] and -LESS); perh. after ON. *saklauss* (Sw. *saklös*, Da. *sagløs*). Cf. MDu. *sakeloos.*

OE. *sacléas* occurs as adv. in the sense 'without cause' (*gratis*, Vulg.) in the Lindisfarne Gospels, John xv. 25. Cf. ON. *saklaust* adv. in the same sense.]

†**1.** Secure from accusation or from dispute; unchallenged, unmolested. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 14 And gif ðis zehered bið from ðen groefa we ze-trewað him & sac-leaso iwih we zedoeð [Vulg. *et securos vos faciemus*]. *a* 1067 *Charter of Ruadwearde* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 199 Ich kęðe eu ðat Ælfred hauet yseld Gise biscop his land at Hlytton sacleas and clæne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1106, Eadgar æþeling þe litle ær..was ze faren..þone let se cyng syððan sacleas faran. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 916 Oc al ðat euere fel him to, Sac-les he let him welden it so. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. x. 13 Turnus..behaldis the cite, Sakles of batale, fre of all sic striffe. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, Theow and Esne art thou no longer...Folkfree and Sackless art thou in town and from town, in the forest as in the field.

2. Not guilty, innocent. Const. *of.* Now *arch.*

a 1000 *Laws Ethelred* III. c. 3 (Schmid), Swerian..þæt hig pellan næenne sacleasan man forseegan ne næenne sacne forhelan. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 202 He ȝaff hiss aghenn lif..To þolenn dæþþ o rodetre sacclæs wiþþutenn wrihhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2440 And sco vnsoght saccles o sin. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (Hall) ii. 3 Þare slogh ȝe many sakles, als it was sene. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1286 And marye son be thaym slayne saklest yᵗ eure was manne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 73 Saikles he wes, tha wist weill, of sic thing. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 35 There was..a deale of whinyards drawne about him, and many sacklesse wights..run through the tender weambs. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 122 Curst be the hands, that sakelesse Troianes slay. 1670 *Deposit. York Castle* (Surtees) 177 As for the bewitchinge of any of his children, shee is sacklesse. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, They'd smoor the sakeless orphan in her bed. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 386 That you are sackless of this murder who shall testify? 1882 MISS YONGE *Unknown to Hist.* I. 11 Poor Lady she is, in all sooth, if sackless: poorer still if guilty. 1897 W. BEATTY *Secretar* viii. 62 My father would be sackless of all intent to make his market out of the misfortunes of his queen.

absol. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Þe treowe is misleued, & te sakelease ofte bilowen, uor wone of witnesse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 716 Schal synful & saklez suffer al on payne. 14.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (Galba) 950 ȝe childer of irraell, listens me, þat has þis sakles slayne. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXVI. 46 Thay sklander saikles, & thay suspectit.

b. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Innocent of wrong intent, guileless, simple; also, of a thing, harmless. Hence, in disparaging sense, feeble-minded; lacking energy, dispirited. (Cf. INNOCENT *a.* 3, 3 b.)

a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* li, ȝit thoght thou [the nightingale] sees not, sillie, saikles thing! The piercing pykis brods at thy bony breist. 1804 R. COUPER *Poetry* I. 228 Ill fated Du!..December's snaw, Fell saickless at thy side. 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xxii, 'It looks melancholy, does it not, Ellen?' 'Yes,' I observed, 'about as starved and sackless as you—your cheeks are bloodless.' 1862 [C. C. ROBINSON] *Leeds Dial.* Gloss. s.v., A poor sackless feal [= fool]. 1872 J. HARTLEY *Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. I. 81 Shoo'll..ax him if he knows who's writing that is? An' he'll luk at it as sackless as if he didn't know it wor his own.

†**3.** Of an accusation or penalty: Having no just cause; brought against or inflicted on an innocent person. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4625 þi saccles scam wel it is kyd. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 215 The saklace slauchter off hir, blith and brycht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 14 Wrangusly put to deid for cryme saikles. 1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 418, I denunce..all..the committaris of the said saikles murthuris. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 2 Quhat murther & oppressioun, Quhat saikless slauchter.

Hence †**Sa·cklessly** *adv.*, innocently, without just cause.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11563 And vtewit mani barntem Did he sacclesli o lijf. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 316/2 Saklesly, *jnculpabiliter.* 1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 417 How our Soverane Lordis trew liegis..ar saikleslie part murdrist, part slane. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 201 Wallace..Quhilk saiklislie of ony gilt or cryme,..sufferit hes the deid. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 211 He was bruited behind his back sacklislie. *c* 1626–7 in *Sel. Biog.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 352 Because of my carriage towards her, who suffered sakelessly for his cause.

Sacklet (sæ·klėt). *rare.* [f. SACK *sb.*[1] + -LET.] A little sack.

1844 TUPPER *Crock of G.* XXVI, Bridget..had made one of its [*sc.* a glove's] fingers into a very tidy little leather sacklet. 1847 R. HILL in Gosse *Nat. Jamaica* (1851) 466 The cutting just disclosed the uppermost of the blood-cells, but nothing of the sacklets that contained the honey.

Sacky (sæ·ki), *a.* [f. SACK *sb.*[4] + -Y.] Of a garment: Hanging more or less loosely from the shoulders; not fitted to the waist.

1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 51 A sacky frock-coat. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 25 Apr. 8/4 In the..dust coat the straighter and more sacky cuts will still predominate.

†**Saclactic** (sæklæ·ktik), *a. Chem. Obs.* Also **sac(o)hlactic.** = SACCHOLACTIC. So †**Sacla·ctate** = SACCHOLACTATE.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. (Amer. ed.) 542 The saclactic and the lactic acids. 1802 PYE *New Chem. Nomencl.* 32 Sach-lactic radical. 1826 Saclactate [see SACCHOLACTATE]. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sacchlactate*, *Sacchlactic acid.*

Sacola, variant form of SAC-À-LAIT. *U. S.*

Sacoleva: see SACKALEVER.

Sacque: see SACK *sb.*[4] **Sacra,** pl. of SACRUM.

Sacrad (sē·krăd), *adv.* [f. SACR-UM + -AD: see DEXTRAD.] Term proposed by Barclay for: Towards the sacrum, or the lower part of the body.

1803 BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 166 Sacrad will signify towards the sacral aspect. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* 315 If rotatory motions were to be admitted immediately sacrad and atlantad of the atlas. 1814 WISHART tr. *Scarpa's Treat. Hernia* I. 25 A little lower than [*note* Sacrad of] the ring it is attached to the spine.

Sacrafice, -ies, -ise, obs. forms of SACRIFICE.

Sacraire, variant of SACRARY *Obs.*

Sacrait, obs. Sc. form of SECRET.

Sacral (sē·krăl), *a.*[1] *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *sacrālis*, f. SACR-UM: see -AL.] Pertaining to the sacrum.

1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 423 Pain in the groins, *pubes* and sacral region. 1827 ABERNETHY *Surg. Wks.* I. 111 Disease had taken place in the bone..and had affected the sacral nerves. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 27 Five or six sacral vertebræ coalesce to form the sacrum.

b. Used by Barclay for: Belonging to the lower part of the body. (Cf. SACRAD.)

1803 BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 120 Instead of the words *Superior* and *Inferior*, I would therefore propose *Atlantal* and *Sacral*. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* p. xx, An aspect..towards the region where the sacrum is situated [is] *sacral*. 1814 WISHART tr. *Scarpa's Treat. Hernia* I. 20

The superior one [i.e. portion of the external oblique] is larger than the inferior [*vide* Sacral] portion.

c. quasi-*sb.* = *sacral vertebra.*

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 200 In the..iguana the pleurapophyses of the first caudal incline backwards as much as those of the second sacral do forwards. 1890 COUES *Ornith.* II. iv. 208 These sacrals proper are at or near the middle of the whole sacral mass.

Sacral (sē'krăl), *a.*[2] *Anthropology.* [f. L. *sacr-um* sacred thing, rite, etc. (neut. sing. of *sacer* sacred) + -AL. Cf. G. *sacral.*] Of or pertaining to sacred rites and observances.

1882 A. J. EVANS in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 77 A sacrificial knife, the use of which was possibly not unconnected with the sacral functions of these Naronese Seviri. 1899 J. S. REID in *Classical Rev.* July 312/1 They found it, not in the living language,..but in sacral or legal formulæ alone. 1901 A. J. EVANS in *Jrnl. Hellen. Stud.* XXI. 181 Sacral Gateways or Portal Shrines. 1901 F. W. MAITLAND in *Soc. Eng.* (illustr. ed.) I. 415 The arms..possibly..have been in use for this sacral purpose [*sc.* trial by battle].

Sacralege, obs. form of SACRILEGE.

‖ **Sacralgia** (sēkræ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. SACR-UM + Gr. ἄλγ-os pain.] Pain in the sacrum.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Sacrament (sæ·krămĕnt), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 sacrement, (*pl.* 2 sacramens, 3 sacra-, sacremenz, 4 sacremens), 4 sakermente, 5 sacramen, sacriment, sakyr-, sacurment, 5–6 sacramente, 2– sacrament. [a. F. *sacrement* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *sacrāmentum* (whence the Fr. popular form *serment* oath), f. *sacrāre* to consecrate, set apart religiously, to secure by a religious sanction, f. *sacr-, sacer* holy, dedicated, set apart: see SACRED *a.*

In accordance with the functions of the suffix *-mentum* (see -MENT), the etymological sense of L. *sacrāmentum* would be either (1) a result of consecration, or (2) a means of consecrating, dedicating, or securing by a religious sanction. The latter of these notions is that which seems to be present in the classical uses of the word: (1) the military oath, oath or solemn engagement in general; (2) the caution-money deposited by the parties to a lawsuit; hence (3) a civil suit or process. In Christian Latin from the 3rd century the word was the accepted rendering of Gr. μυστήριον MYSTERY[1]. This use is evidently not based on either of the specific applications above mentioned, but is the result of a recourse to the etymological meaning. In early Christian language *sacramentum* and the synonymous μυστήριον were applied indiscriminately to any ritual observance of the Church, or to any spiritually symbolic act or object; but they were also often applied in an eminent sense to the two most important observances, baptism and the Lord's Supper or Eucharist. For the later history of the use, see below in sense 1.]

1. *Eccl.* Used as the common name for certain solemn ceremonies or religious acts belonging to the institutions of the Christian church.

The English use before the Reformation adopts the enumeration of seven sacraments (believed to have been first formulated by Peter Lombard in the 12th c.; the same list is recognized in the Eastern Church): viz., Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Penance, Extreme Unction, Order, Matrimony. As late as the 14th c., however, there were still traces in English of the wider application of the word formerly current; while the seven sacraments were viewed as eminently entitled to the name, it could be applied in a more general sense to certain other rites (see quot. *c* 1315). From the 16th c., Protestants generally have recognized two sacraments only, viz. baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The formal definition of *sacrament* depends on the answer to the question what is the distinctive feature common to the seven or to the two 'sacraments', on account of which they form a separate class from all other observances. Those who accept the number seven, and many of those who admit only two sacraments, say that the sacraments differ from other rites in being channels by which supernatural grace is imparted. By those Protestants who deny that baptism and the Lord's Supper in themselves convey supernatural grace, the specific difference of the 'sacraments' from other observances is regarded as consisting in their paramount obligation as having been expressly commanded by Christ Himself, and in the special spiritual benefits obtainable by their faithful use.

By some of the English Puritans and Nonconformists, the word was avoided as being associated with opinions regarded by them as superstitious; the usual term applied by them to baptism and the Lord's Supper was *ordinance.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Þe halie sacramens þe me sacreð in alesnesse of alla sunfulle. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Al þet holi chirche redeð ant singeð, ant alle hire sacramenz strencðeð ou gostliche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12894 A! Ion..nan was worthier þan þou Hand to lai on suete iesu, To giue him þat hali sacrament. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 183 Al hit beþ cherche sacremens þet tokeneþ holi þynges, As hali water, and haly bred, Liȝt, and belryngynges To leste; And of alle oþer sacremens þes seuene beþ þe greste. 1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Þe zeve sacremens þet byeþ ine holy cherche. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 75 Mariage is a ful greet sacrement. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1115 in *Macro Plays* 72 Ande now ye be reformyde by þe sakyrment of penaunce. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 186 He tuke his sacramentis of holy kurk and dyed. 1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 375/2 By the sacrament of matrymonie. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 491 A pestilence ..folowede soone after at Cantebrigge, causynge moche peple to dye as sodenly as madde men withowte the sacramentes of the churche. 1509 FISHER *Hen. VII*, Wks. (1876) 273 The true byleue that he had in god, in his chirche & in the sacramentes therof, whiche he receyued all with meruaylous deuocion, namely in the sacrament of penaunce, the sacrament of the auter, & the sacrament of anelynge. 1604 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism, Q.* What meanest thou by this word *Sacrament*? *A.* I mean an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us [etc.].

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 198 [They suffered] the Sacraments themselves to be administered where the people had most mind to receive them. 1657 *Penit. Conf.* iv. 49 The Sacrament of Penance will supply all other defects. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 416 The fact of a parishioner dying without the Sacraments through his fault is terrible to him.

b. *In sacrament*: sacramentally. *rare.*

1628 *R. Field, Of the Church* III. App. 205 The crucified body of Christ thy sonne, which is here present in mystery, and sacrament.

2. *spec.* (with *the*). The Lord's Supper, Eucharist or Holy Communion. Often called *the sacrament of the altar, the Blessed Sacrament*, and (esp. formerly) *the Holy Sacrament.* Phr. *To receive, take the sacrament*, to communicate.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Al þe deofles strencðe melteð þuruh þe grace of þe holi sacrament,..þet ȝe iseoð ase oðte ase þe preost messeð & sacreð þet meidenes bearn, Jesu. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10198 Þe folk þat to þe preste went For to receyue þe sacrament. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 1 Comunynge of sacrament of þe autere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Þe sacrement of þe wyefde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 231 He ordeynede..þat þe grayel and þe offertorie schulde be i-seide to fore þe sacrement [orig. *ante sacrificium*]. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 339 He had a gude frend, a preste, þat said a mes for hym and offred þe sacrament for hym. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 86 Anis in the ȝeir to tak the sacrament. 1509 FISHER *Hen. VII*, Wks. (1876) 273 The sacrament of the auter he receyued at myd-lent, & agayne vpon eester day. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1337/2 Onelye this blessed sacrament is called and knowne by the name of sacrament alone. 1610 R. FIELD *Of the Church* App. to 4 bks. I. 34 The true presence of Christs body & bloud in the blessed Sacrament. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 199 The obliging all persons to come up to those rails to receive the Sacrament. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii, They never had a quiet night's rest, for getting up in the morning to early sacraments. 1804 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* II. 202 They received the sacrament weekly. 1835 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1847) IV. 136 A courageous priest.. at the hazard of his life, often administered to her the Sacrament.

b. The consecrated elements, esp. the bread or Host.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Ut of chirche þurle ne holde ȝe none tale mid none monne, auh bereð wurðschipe þerto, uor þe holi sacrament þet ȝe iseoð þer þurh. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 40 The sacrament of the auteer, which is whight and round, visible and palpable. 1419 in S. Bentley *Excerpt. Hist.* (1831) 30 The box or vessell in the whiche the precious sacrement is in. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Without any eleuacion, or shewing the Sacrament to the people. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Mar., The Sacrament being this day expos'd, and the reliques of the Holy Crosse. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 216 The people never behold the blessed Sacrament, but they bow their face to the ground.

c. *To take* or *receive the sacrament* (*to do* something, or *upon* a matter): to receive Holy Communion as a confirmation of one's word.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 28 Ten thousand French haue tane the Sacrament, To ryue their dangerous Artillerie Vpon no Christian soule but English Talbot. 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. iv. 208. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. iii. 156 Ile take the Sacrament on't. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 65 *Mr. Lun.* I will take the Sacrament upon it, what I say is true. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 191 The Irish under col. Clifford had took the sacrament to fight it out to the last man. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. vi, Notwithstanding the positiveness of Mrs Partridge, who would have taken the sacrament upon the matter, there is a possibility that the schoolmaster was entirely innocent. *Ibid.* XVII. iv. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* IV. i, *Harold.* Morcar and Edwin, will ye upon oath, Help us against the Norman? *Morcar.* With good will; Yea, take the Sacrament upon it, king.

†d. used in oaths. *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIV. 41 Ane fleschour swoir be the sacrament, And be Chrystis blud maist innocent, Nevir fatter flesch saw man with E. 1573 *New Custom* I. ii, Sacrament of God, who hath hearde suche a knaue? 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. iii. 27 Gogs sacrament, I would she had lost tharte out of her bellie!

3. In widened application: a. Something likened to the recognized sacraments, as having a sacred character or function; a sacred seal set upon some part of man's life; the pledge of a covenant between God and man.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 1 Þis psalme contens þe sacrament of all chosen men. 1399 GOWER *Praise of Peace* 309 The pes is as it were a sacrement Tofore the god. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Common Prayer & Sacram.* 146 b, And so was circumcision a sacrament, whiche preached vnto the outwarde senses the inwarde cuttyng away of the foreskyn of the harte, and sealed and made sure in the hartes of the circumcised, the promise of god. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 42 Herennto the Lord addeth the Rainbow, a new Sacrament, to seale his mercifull Couenant with the earth, not to drowne the same any more. 1679 CROWNE *Ambit. Statesman* IV. 65 Nature gives man a Sacrament In his own blood, never to hurt a woman. 1841 EMERSON *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 243 Economy is a high, humane office, a sacrament, when its aim is grand. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Myst.* vii. 258 To the true mystic, life itself is a sacrament.

b. A type, token, sign, or symbol. Const. *of.*

Derived from the accepted definition of a sacrament as a 'sign of grace'. Quot. 1660 exhibits an attempt to assign to the word a general sense in which the specific applications are included.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1331/1 For they make theym wene, that..it is none other but a bare sacrament onelye, that is to wytte a token, a figure, a sygne or memoriall of his bodye and hys blonde crucified and shed. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repair. Ch.* 85 The Temple..was a figure, a Sacrament, or a signification of Christe. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communicant* i. § 3. 61 When Jonathan shot his arrows beyond the boys, he then by a sacrament sent salvation unto David. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* IV. xxvii. (1876) 486 This second death is never set forth as a sacrament of immortality. 1904 A. R. WHITHAM *Epist. Consolations* vii. 87 Doubtless also those mysterious contents of the inner sanctuary..were copies of heavenly realities..; signs and sacraments they must have been of God's mercy and justice.

c. A mystery; something secret or having a secret meaning. [After L. *sacramentum*, used by Tertullian and in the Old Latin and Vulgate Bibles as a rendering of μυστήριον.]

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ii. 30 This sacrament, or hid trewthe [Vulg. *sacramentum hoc*]. — 1 *Tim.* iii. 16 And opynly it is a greet sacrament of pite. 1388 — *Rev.* i. 20 The sacrament [1382 mysterie, or priuytee] of the seuene sterris. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 51 God..make cleer þoure vnderstondynge to persayue þe sacrament of þis science. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Frag. on Sacraments in Eccl. Pol.* (1888) II. 550 In a word Sacraments are God's secrets, discovered to none but his own people. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* Ep. Ded. A 4 b, Seeing God hath vsed them as Sacraments or Mysteries to containe his will. 1867 MANNING in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* II. 362 All the words of Scripture are so many sacraments (or mysteries).

4. An oath or solemn engagement, esp. one which is ratified by a rite. (Chiefly as a Latinism.)

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 165 This..haue I saide for no harme, ne malyce of tho persones, but onely for trouth of my sacrement in my leigeaunce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 703 Here I aske you hertely þat ye may het here, With a solemne sacrement on þis sure gode, All þe forward to fulfille, þat ye first made. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xv[i]. (1494) D iv, He dyd varye From his promyse made by sacremente. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 483/1 And tofore theym make ooth and Sacrament convenient, to be true and lowly Subgettes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. i. 25 This doubtfull causes right Can hardly but by Sacrament be tride, Or else by ordele, or by blooddy fight. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i. Wks. (1616) 693 Nothing wants, then, But that we take a solemne sacrament, To strengthen our designe. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 25 Nor are the deepest sacraments or desperate imprecations of any force to perswade where reason only, and necessary mediums must induce. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* II. i, Those whom I swore, before they parted hence, In dreadful sacraments of wine and blood, To bring back such reports, as shou'd destroy him. 1801 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* (1819) I. 78 An infant at whose baptism she [as sponsor] had taken a sacrament to sustain and instruct in the best manner she was able. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 609 Bound by no sacrament of military obedience to the state. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* I. 7 Have not the young flowers been content, Plucked ere their buds could blow, To seal our sacrament?

5. *Roman Law.* The *sacramentum* or pledge which each of the parties deposited or became bound for before beginning a suit.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* IV. § 12 The procedure in those *legis actiones* was in one or other of five modes,—by sacrament, by petition for a judge [etc.]. 1886 — in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 682/1 He required sureties from the parties for the eventual payment by him who was unsuccessful of the sacrament he had offered to stake.

6. *attrib.* (sense 2), as *sacrament-wine*; †**sacrament-box**, a pyx; †**sacrament-cloth**, a cloth or veil for covering the pyx; †**sacrament-house**, a tabernacle; **sacrament-money**, the alms collected at Holy Communion, formerly used as a fund for poor-relief; **Sacrament Sunday**, the Sunday on which the Lord's Supper is celebrated (in Scotland formerly only once or twice a year).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 112 On þe morn sho went vnto þe preste, and askid of hym how many hostis war in þe *sacrament-box in þe kurk. 1535–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 369 Item, ffor dressyng of ij *sacrament Clothes. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xii. 206 Over the cup itself was cast the Sacrament cloth, or piece of thin, cloud-like muslin,—*pannus nebulatus.* 1551 *Inscr. in Deskford Old Ch., Banffs.*, This present loueable vark of *sacrament hous maid..the yeir of god 1551. 1726 *Rules Disposal Sacrament-Money* 3 In the appropriating all *Sacrament Money to the Poor only..they have the concurrent Sense of the whole Church of England ..for above an 100 Years after the Reformation. 1860 MRS. W. P. BYRNE *Undercurrents* II. 77 *note*, That fund known as the 'Sacrament money' is a relic of this venerable custom. 1796 C. SIMEON in Carus *Life* vi. (1847) 121 Sunday, 26th.—*Sacrament Sunday at Moulin. 1897 'IAN MACLAREN' *Dr. of Old School* I. 37 Black he wore once a year, on Sacrament Sunday, and, if possible, at a funeral. 1698 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 141 Theres a discovery of a designe to have poysoned his Majesty in the *sacrament wine on Christmas day.

Sacrament (sæ·krămĕnt), *v. rare.* [ad. med.L. *sacrāment-āre* to bind by an oath, f. *sacrāmentum* SACRAMENT *sb.* Cf. Sp., Pg. *sacramentar.*]

1. *trans.* To bind by an oath or solemn engagement. Const. *to* or †*to do*, also *against.*

Frequent in Sydney Smith.

1621–31 LAUD *Serm.* (1847) 55 When desperate men have sacramented themselves to destroy, God can prevent and deliver. 1804 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* II. 218 A nation of free men, sacramented together. 1834 EMERSON in *Corr. Carlyle & E.* (1883) I. iii. 34 A friend of mine and of yours remarked, ..'that people were not here as in England sacramented to organized schools of opinion, but were a far more convertible audience'. 1860 — *Cond. Life* vii. 160 All those who are..by many an oath of the heart, sacramented to you.

2. To make sacred, consecrate.

1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLI. 212 The prince was assured, also,..that..his name was sacramented in the hearts of the people. [Literal rendering from Pg.] 1844 *N. Brit. Rev.* I. 128 Chivalry might well be engaged in the service of religion, for religion sacramented profession.

Sacramental (sækrămĕ·ntăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a.

F. *sacramental* (now *sacramentel*) or ad. late L. *sacrāmentāl-is*, f. *sacrāment-um*: see SACRAMENT and -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a sacrament of the Church.

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 302 In this gostly mete and sacramentale commemoracioun of oure lord Jesu. 1452 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (E. E. T. S.) 23 In þe time of baptising, whan þe principal sacramental wordes wer said. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 15 Penaunce, bothe sacramentall, whiche is secrete, and also solemne or open penaunce. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 384/1 What meaneth he other then that..we bee borne againe by the sacramentall water and the sacramentall worde? 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. § 2 To make complete the outward substance of a sacrament, there is required an outward forme, which forme sacramentall elements receiue from sacramentall words. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Pref., Wks. 1851 IV. 16 Afterwards it was brought so Sacramentall, that no adultery or desertion could dissolve it. 1737 WATERLAND *Rev. Doctr. Eucharist* v. 136 But as there is a Sacramental Feeding and a Spiritual Feeding; and as the Spiritual is the nobler of the two [etc.]. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Myst.* vii. 255 There are three requisites..for the validity of a sacramental act.

b. *transf.* with reference to non-Christian religious rites.

1851 D. WILSON *Archæol. Scot.* I. v. 102 The petty persecutions with which the natives sought to revenge the destruction of their sacramental stone. 1836 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 137/2 Mystic sacrifices of this sacramental type prevailed also among the heathen Semites.

c. *fig.*

1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 582 The sacramental rites of fellowship In common woe. 1877 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* (1890) 246 The little action of laying her head upon her father's knee was endowed with sacramental efficacy.

d. *spec.* Pertaining to the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, The Sacramentall bread or wyne. 1625 QUARLES *Embl.* v. x. (1718) 285 Daily fed With sacred wine, and sacramental bread. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* iii. II. (1739) 472 It was their Office to deliver the Sacramental Elements..to the People. 1827 in *Haggard's Eccl. Rep.* II. 32 Any the smallest portion of the sacramental alms collected at Queen Square Chapel within my parish. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 181 The laws which instituted the Sacramental Test were passed without the smallest difficulty. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 274 Sacramental safe of Götland marble. 1863 *Chambers' Bk. Days* I. 732/1 A person came to my father [a clergyman] and asked him for a 'sacramental shilling'—i. e. one out of the alms collected at the Holy Communion, to be made into a ring and worn as a cure for epilepsy.

e. Of religious doctrine and the like: Based upon the sacraments; characterized by insistence upon the importance of the sacraments.

1871 [see SACERDOTAL *a.* 2]. 1879 R. T. SMITH *Basil Gt.* x. 116 There is no doubt that he held sacramental doctrine. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* vi. 142 The religion of the Incarnation..was essentially and fundamentally sacramental.

f. Applied, in Scotland, to communicants.

1818 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1850) II. 198, I cannot leave Glasgow till Tuesday..owing to my having to meet a few more sacramental people on Monday.

2. Of the nature of, relating to, or expressed by an outward sign or symbol (see SACRAMENT 3 b).

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1334/2 The verye naturall bodye and bloude of Christ in the forme of breade and wyne, be bothe sacramentall sygnes, because they sygnifye and also sacramental thinges because they be sygnified. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 3 That Ceremonies, Characters, and Charmes doe worke, not by any Tacite or Sacramentall contract with euill spirits, but [etc.]. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year, Winter* xii. 155 Though I cannot think that Nature was so sacramentall, as to point out the holy and mysterious Trinity by the triangle of the heart. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 221 Their whole Camp was but one living and moving Sacramental Image of Christ and his Body. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 307 Eck explained the sacrifice as merely a sacramental sign, in remembrance of that which was offered up on the cross. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. vii. 167 In a further stage the land becomes the sacramental tie of all public relations.

3. Of an oath, obligation, etc.: Peculiarly sacred; ratified by a religious sanction.

In quots. 1460 and 1644 the reference may be to an oath confirmed by the taking of the sacrament (see SACRAMENT 2 c).

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 250 In this Parlement the lordes desired of the Kyng to make his sacramental oth byfore the puple. 1644 K. CHAS. I in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 753 That holy Religion which, when We receiv'd the Crown and Scepter of this Kingdom, We took a most solemn Sacramental Oath to profess and protect. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* iii. 78 Contrary to the most Sacramental Obligations. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxvii, The fulfilment of her father's lifelong ambition about this library was a sacramental obligation for Romola.

†b. 'Sworn'; pledged as if by an oath. *Obs.*

1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 79 Depriving themselves ..of their Liberty in Philosophy by a sacramental adherence to an Heathen Authority.

c. ? Bound by a soldier's oath (with secondary allusion to sense 1). *poet. nonce-use.*

1784 COWPER *Task* II. 349 He..trains, by ev'ry rule Of holy discipline, to glorious war, The sacramental host of God's elect!

4. *Roman Law.* Belonging to an action in which a *sacramentum* or pledge was deposited by each of the parties beforehand.

1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* iii. 48 The alien..could not sue by the Sacramental Action. 1886 MUIRHEAD in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 683/1 Forfeiture of the sacramental cattle, sheep or money that would follow a verdict that an oath had been unjust.

5. *jocular.* Of a form of speech: Sacred to the occasion, 'consecrated'.

1896 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 3/3 With regard to the wager of a guinea the right hon. gentleman had not the presence of mind at the time to utter the sacramental word 'done'. 1898 *Times* 29 Oct. 11/4 As Lord Rosebery remarked last night in coyly introducing the sacramental quotation, many things besides Waterloo have been won in the playing-fields of Eton.

B. *sb.*

1. *Eccl.* A rite, ceremony, or observance analogous to a sacrament, but not reckoned among the sacraments; e. g. the use of holy water and of holy oil, the sign of the cross.

1529 *Petition of Commons* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1856) I. 194 To exact and take of your humble servants divers sums of money for the sacraments and sacramentals of Holy Church. 1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 27 That the sacramentes and sacramentalles be duely and reuerently ministred in their parishes. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 77 The Eucharist it self was in the external and ritual part, an imitation of a custome and a sacramental already in use among the Jews. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* Introd. (1668) 10 Marriage, Orders, Confirmation, and the Visitation (though not the Extream Unction) of the Sick being retained under the name of Sacramentals. 1850 S. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1886) II. ii. 65 Craving after confession and absolution, &c. as sacramentals. 1892 *Month* Nov. 440 Sacramentals are certain outward signs and usages instituted by the Church, which are the occasion of grace and blessing to those who piously use them.

†2. Occas. used for: Something which pertains to a sacrament; a constituent part of a sacrament.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* i. 6 (1630) 52 Comes it [sc. sitting at Holy Communion] vnder the Mandate, *Hoc facite*? then is it amongst the Sacramentals of the Supper. For (*hoc facite*) comprizeth not Circumstantials, but Sacramentals. 1633 T. MORTON *Discharge* 80, 81 That which wee are taught of him here, is, that these words Cup, and Testament, although they be Sacramentalls, yet are they not to be called The Sacramentals.

Sacramentalism (sækrămĕ·ntăliz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] = SACRAMENTARIANISM.

1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Lect. Mod. Hist.* Pref. 4 Sacerdotalism, sacramentalism [etc.]. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. 186 The revival of sacramentalism..found a voice in Keble.

Sacramentalist (sækrămĕ·ntălist). *rare.* [f. SACRAMENTAL + -IST.]

1. = SACRAMENTARIAN B. 1.

1840 tr. *Löwenberg's Persecut. Lutheran Ch. in Prussia*, In this sense I am..a Lutheran, and herein I separate myself from all sects, whether Papists, Sacramentalists, Anabaptists, or others.

2. One who holds 'high' doctrine in regard to the sacraments.

1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* v, [Hobbes *loq.*] We, doubtless, and not they, are the true sacramentalists, that is, the seekers for the hidden and the Divine truth. It is for this reason that I take the Sacrament in the English Church.

Sacramentality (sæ:krămentæ·lĭti). [-ITY.] Sacramental character.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. iii. Rule 9 § 31 He therefore that takes this [the wine] away, takes away the very Sacramentality of the mystery. 1843 NEALE & WEBB *Symbolism Ch.* Introd. Ess. 26 Sacramentality is that characteristic which so strikingly distinguishes ancient ecclesiastical architecture from our own. 1827 C. W. WOOD *Marriage* 31 The sacramentality of the contract depends solely on two facts.

Sacramentally (sæ:krămĕ·ntăli), *adv.* [f. SACRAMENTAL + -LY 2.]

1. In a sacramental manner; after the manner of a sacrament.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 170 þis oost is breed in his kynde, as ben oþer oostes unsacrid, and sacramentaliche Goddis bodi. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to die* 25 How a man sacramentally Receyue me shal wel and worthyly. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1065/2 Thys is ment..of theym that receyue the sacrament, not onelye sacramentallye, but also effectually. 1609 DOWNAM *Chr. Liberty* 15 You haue been..by baptisme sacramentally vnited to the body of Christ. 1736 CHANDLER *Hist. Persec.* 191 The Counsellor must absolve him sacramentally. 1884 A. R. PENNINGTON *Wiclif* viii. 253 When it has come to be sacramentally the body of Christ, it is still bread substantially.

†2. By way of oath or solemn obligation. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 34 In generous reguerdonment whereof he sacramentally obliged himselfe, that [etc.]. 1654 'PALAEMON' *Friendship* 26 Did not the satisfying of Curius his Lust cost him the lives of his dearest and Sacramentally-combined Partners?

Sacramentalness. *rare.* [-NESS.] The quality of being sacramental (see the adj.).

1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* I. 66 Pollute not..the Sacramentalnesse and Symbolicalnesse of the things of God by your unsutablenesse. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 222 The Sacramentalness of the Jewish Church in reference to the Christian.

Sacramentarian (sækrămĕntē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *sacrāmentāri-us* SACRAMENTARY + -AN.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Hist.* Relating to the views held by the 'Sacramentarians' in regard to the Eucharist (see B. 1).

1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* II. viii. 53 As for the Sacramentarian quarrels, Lord, how bitter have they beene. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 50 The Sacramentarian Controversie. 1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. i. § 24 He boasts that Luther predicted the deaths of Zwingle, Carlostadt, and Œcolampadius as the punishment of their sacramentarian hypothesis. 1845 J. H. NEWMAN *Ess. Developm.* 287 Ernesti seems to consider the [Syrian] school, in modern language, Sacramentarian.

2. *gen.* Relating to the sacraments (or to 'high' doctrine in regard to them).

1865 LECKY *Ration.* I. 287 Among the Protestants the same tendency is displayed with equal force in the rapid destruction of what is termed the sacramentarian principle. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* iii. 85 He [Laud] does not seem to have gone much upon sacramentarian symbolism.

B. *sb.*

1. *Hist.* A name given by Luther to those Protestant theologians (esp. Zwingli and Œcolampadius) who maintained that it is merely in a 'sacramental' or metaphorical sense ('sacramentaliter sive μετωνυμικῶς', Zwingli) that the bread and wine of the Eucharist are called the body and blood of Christ. Hence used in the 16th c. (by opponents) as a general name for all deniers of the doctrine of the Real Presence.

1535 in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1856) II. ix. 403 The anabaptists and sacramentarians. 1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 128 That the Kyng his Hyghtnes and Cownsell to be become Sacramentarians. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* ii. 47 The vehement speeches of Luther and some of his followers against those whom they call the Sacramentarians. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 194 Cranmer, whilst he was a Lutheran, consented to the burning of John Lambert and Ann Askew..; and when he was a sacramentarian he was the cause of the death of Joan Bocher, an Arian. 1903 *Cambr. Mod. Hist.* II. x. 333 Zwingli..made this Sacrament purely symbolical...In this he was followed by the later Sacramentarians.

2. *Hist.* A nickname given to the early Methodists at Oxford. (See quot. 1733.)

1733 *Oxf. Methodists* 7 The young Gentlemen..thought it requisite to Communicate as often as they had Opportunity; which at Oxford is once a Week; and hence their Ill-willers gave them the Name of Sacramentarians. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 623/2 To the name of *Methodists* two others were quickly added, viz. those of *Sacramentarians* and the *Godly club*.

3. One who holds 'high' doctrine as to the sacraments.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 214 The transubstantial migration of the grapy juice of the papall Sacramentarians. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. l. 10 Ye Ritualists, ye Sacramentarians.

Sacramentarianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] 'High' doctrine in regard to the sacraments (cf. prec. B. 3).

1882 *Athenæum* 9 Sept. 335/1 The advance of sacerdotalism and sacramentarianism. 1903 *St. George* VI. 191 The Broad-Church Sacramentarianism of Mr. Shorthouse.

Sacramentarist. *rare*—[1]. = SACRAMENTARIAN B. 1.

1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 16 An edict of 1534..which directed the immediate expulsion of Anabaptists and Sacramentarists from Bremen.

Sacramentary (sækrămĕ·ntări), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* Also 6 -arie, *Sc.* -aire. [ad. med. and mod.L. *sacrāmentāri-us* (= F. *sacramentaire*; as sb. = G. *sacramentirer, sacramenter*, both used by Luther), f. L. *sacrāmentum*: see SACRAMENT and -ARY.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the sacraments of the Church: a. *Hist.* = SACRAMENTARIAN A. 1. Of a person: Holding sacramentarian views.

1563 HARDING *Answ. to Jewel* v. vi. (1564) 98 Berengarius first beganne openly to sowe the wicked sede of the sacramentarie heresie. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traict.* 327 Thir sacramentaire Ministers, to hyde this trew worscheping of God be sacrifice..hes mutilat this passage. 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 20 May, Arnauld, and the other learned Romanists, are irresistible against the low Sacramentary doctrine.

b. Relating to 'high' doctrine in regard to the sacraments.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 149 These Sacramentarie doctors [orig. *les Papistes, quant à leur nombre de sept Sacremens*]. 1884 G. SMITH *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* II. vi. 74 All missionary effort which did not proceed on sacerdotal and sacramentary lines.

c. *gen.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* L 1, Ile hire them that make their wafers or sacramentary gods, to minge them after the same sort. 1641 T. EDWARDS *Reas. agst. Independ.* Ep. Ded. 2 The controversie of that age was concerning the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, being generally stiled *Bellum Sacramentarium*, and the Sacramentary Controversie. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Gal.* v. 26 It was this vice [i. e. vainglory] that..bred the Sacramentary war that is not yet ended. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 196/2 The question as to the sacramentary efficacy which has been sometimes attributed to the rite [of circumcision].

B. *sb.*

1. *Hist.* = SACRAMENTARIAN B. 1.

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 148 Certain persones denyeng the holy sacrament of Christes blessed body and blud of suche opinion as commonly they calle Sacramentaries. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 86 The Divisions that are between old and new Sacramentaries. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 29 The king began to discover his zeal against the Sacramentaries (as those were called who denied the corporal presence of Christ in the Eucharist). 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xv. 339 A few years later, a sacramentary had ceased to be a criminal.

†2. One who holds 'high' doctrine as to the sacraments. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1595 HUBBOCKE *Apol. Infants Unbapt.* 30 Zwinglius..calleth them sacramentaries who attribute so much grace to the sacrament, so much vertue to Baptisme of it selfe.

3. [med.L. *sacrāmentārium*.] An early form of office-book in the Western Church, containing the rites and prayers belonging to the several sacraments.

1624 USSHER *Answ. Jesuit Irel.* 200 Such is the prayer.. in Grimoldus his Sacramentarie. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* iv. 230 The Sacramentary of Gregory. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 308 The Sacramentary comprised the collects and the canon or prayers that never varied. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 293 *note*, The blessing..may be found in most sacramentaries.

† **Sacramentated,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. med.L. *sacrāmentāt-us* (f. *sacrāmentum* SACRAMENT) + -ED.] Made into a sacrament, received in the sacrament.

1651 HOWELL *Venice* 183 Impious Priests..who ev'ry day receave the Sacramentated Redeemer, peradventure more unworthily then Judas.

Sacramenter. *rare.* Also 6 -our. [f. SACRAMENT *sb.* + -ER^{1}. In sense 2 after G. *sacramenter* (Luther).]

† **1.** ? One who is frequent in attendance at the sacrament. *Obs.*

1536 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset. Relig. Ho.* (1892) 63 Doctour Tregonwell sertefying cornyshemen to be very good subjectes and sacramentours.

2. = SACRAMENTARIAN B. 1.

1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 187 They too exhorted the council to have nothing to do with the 'Sacramenters'.

† **Sacramenting,** *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [-ING 2.] ? That celebrates the Mass.

1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* I. 15 The short-English of the Device, was, to make as Arrant, a Jugling, sacramenting Rascal of me, (saving the Then Kings Evidences) as ever Renounc'd God upon the Holy Altar.

Sa·cramentism. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SACRAMENT *sb.* + -ISM.] = SACRAMENTARIANISM.

1840 GLADSTONE *Ch. Princ.* 187 It is not any blind sacramentism..that she would inculcate.

† **Sa·cramentize,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SACRAMENT *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To administer the sacraments. Hence **Sacramentizing** *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* XI. v. § 65 Ministers..lawfully ordained..both to Preach and Sacramentize. *Ibid.* vii. § 19 That the Governing part should be in the hands of the Bishops; the Teaching and Sacramentizing in the Presbyters.

† **Sacramently,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. SACRAMENT *sb.* + -LY^{2}.] Sacramentally.

In quot 1624 perh. a misprint for *sacramentally*.

c 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* vi. in *Anglia* X. 369/8 He is..after þe manhede sacramently to me presente. *Ibid.* 377/28 þere beþ summe þatte in this borde receyue me sacramently. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xxi. 86 All sacred signes ordained by God in the Israelitish Church, though they really and sacramently represented that which was by them figured..yet did [etc.].

Sacrarial (sākrē·riăl), *a. Ornith.* [f. SACRARIUM^{2} + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with the sacrarium of birds. 1890 COUES *Ornith.* II. iv. 211.

‖ **Sacrarium**^{1} (sākrē·riŭm). Pl. **sacraria** (-riă). [L. *sacrārium*, f. *sacr-*, *sacer* sacred, holy: see -ARIUM.]

1. *Roman Antiq.* Any place in which sacred objects were deposited and kept; the adytum of a temple; also, a small apartment in a house where the images of the penates were kept.

'In the time of the emperors, the name sacrarium was sometimes applied to a place in which a statue of an emperor was erected' (*Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.*, 1842, s.v.).

a 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Rem. Virgil* (1768) 291 The Lituus and Trabea of Romulus and the Ancilia were kept in the Sacrarium of the Salii. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 253 In more magnificent houses there were the sacrarium, the venereum, the sphæristerium [etc.].

b. *gen.* A repository for what is sacred. In quot. *fig.*

1890 J. MARTINEAU *Seat Author. Relig.* III. ii. 300 If either Church or Scripture could be constituted a *sacrarium* for secluding all that is simply divine.

2. *Eccl.* **a.** That part of a church immediately surrounding the altar or communion table; also called the sanctuary.

[1708-22 J. BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* VIII. vi. § 2 The Latins called it [*sc.* the chancel] *sacrarium*, 'the sanctuary': as in the first Council of Bracara, which forbids laymen to come into the sanctuary to communicate.] 1727 *Acc. Ceremonies Coronations* 31 In the midst of the Area or Sacrarium before the Altar. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* Apr. 134 By the sacrarium we mean the part of the church immediately set apart for the celebration of the highest mysteries, into which ..none but the clergy would ever, under ordinary circumstances, be allowed to enter: the part, in short, which in a common English church is within the altar-rails. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Nov. 5/4 The tablet..instead of being within the sacrarium, will be at the entrance to the chancel.

attrib. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 173 There are sacrarium-rails, no screen.

b. In Roman Catholic use = PISCINA 2.

1848 *Ecclesiologist* Dec. 157 *note*, Sacrarium in the present Roman ritual means exclusively the piscina. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xii. 167 The piscina, or sacrarium.

‖ **Sacra·rium**^{2}. *Ornith.* [mod.L., f. SACR-UM + -ARIUM.] (See quot.)

1890 COUES *Ornith.* II. iv. 209 Such is the general character of a bird's complex sacrarium, as I name the whole mass of bones that are ankylosed together.

† **Sacrary.** *Obs.* Also 4–7 **sacrarie,** 5 **sacraire, -ayre, sacrear, sacrarye.** [a. OF. *sacraire, -eire, sacrarie*, ad. L. *sacrārium* (see SACRARIUM^{1}); cf. Sp. *sagrário*, It. *sacrario*.]

1. *gen.* A place where sacred objects are kept; a sacred building or apartment; a temple, shrine, sanctuary.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* ix. 13 Thei that wirchen in the sacrarie, that is, a place where hooly thingis ben kept, eten tho thingis that ben of the sacrarie. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3823 Þei token al þat cam to her honde,..Reliques sacrid, þe holy eke vessels,..oute of þe sacrarie. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 59 This Yarbas..had..made an hondred temples wythin his royalme, wyth an hondred othre sacraryes, in whiche he had consecrated the fyre brennyng without ceasse. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* lxxviii. 226 Hys sacrary, which once in Sylo stoode. 1620 J. KING *Serm.* 24 *Mar.* 27 The dilapidation of any of Gods Oratories and Sacraries, his Heauens vpon earth, goeth to his heart like swords. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 256 The sacrary of Serapis, in Alexandria, was burnt.

b. *fig.*

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 425 Heil þou holy sacrarie, Vr askynges euer heryng [*Aue secretarium exaudicionis*]. 14.. LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxxvii. (1484) l v b, God chase thy wombe for his tabernacle And halowed it so clene in euery coost To make hit sacrarye for his owen ghoost. 1615 T. ADAMS *Myst. Bedlam* i. (1634) 12 The purified heart is Gods Sacrary, his Sanctuary, his House, his Heauen. 1668 M. CASAUBON *Credulity* (1670) 135 A more venerable..man..who would open all sacraries and fountains of Truth, should appear upon earth. 1676 NEEDHAM *Pacquet Adv.* 50 That draws a Reverence to the Throne itself; which should be religiously fenced about, not only as the Sacrary of Royalty, but as the Sanctuary also of other Princes.

2. *spec.* In a Christian church: = SACRARIUM 2 a.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 155 By schewynge of God he fonge [*read* fonde] a greet deel of þe cros in Seynt Peter his sacrarie. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 721/1 *Hoc sacrarium*, a sacrear. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* xiii. (Arb.) 35 Abowte the sacrarye of the same auter y knowe wele y left my selfe. 1560 BECON *Catech.* v. Wks. I. 455 b, The ashes to be reposed in the sacrary among the other reliques. 1727 *Acc. Ceremonies in Coronations* 22 The Bishops to their Seats on the North side of the Area or Sacrary.

† **Sacrate,** *a.* (*ppl. a.*) *Obs.* Also 6 **sacrat.** [ad. L. *sacrāt-us*, pa. pple. of L. *sacrā-re*: see next.] Consecrated, dedicated to God or a divinity; hallowed, sacred.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 401 Seynte Edburga, a virgyn sacrate to God. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2783 She..cast her sacrat vayle..to fle from the traytour. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 264 Hauyng no reuerence to that moost blessed eyes, nor to yᵉ heuenly visage & sacrate mouth. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Gg j, Thou doest complayne..of the sacrate senate. 1544 *Exhort. Prayer* A iij b, The holy and sacrate cuppe of the precious and blessed blood, which was shedde for vs vppon the crosse. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 301 Becaus we wold attempt nothing without the knowledge of the sacrate authoritie,..it was concluded, that..we should attempt the favouris..of the Quein then Regent, to a godly Reformatioun.

† **Sacrate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sacrāt-*, ppl. stem of *sacrāre*: see SACRE *v.*] *trans.* To consecrate, dedicate.

1653 WATERHOUSE *Apol. Learning* 51 His mind..called on him to write his memorial on the Marble of some Monument sacrated to Learning. 1660 — *Arms & Arm.* 82 Some are allowed what others are not, because they are of more conspicuity then others are, and therefore sacrated and separate from vulgar familiarities. 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1769) I. 72 By the most dreadful prophanation, she [*sc.* Rome] sacrates her temples to Satan.

† **Sacra·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sacrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sacrāre*: see prec.] Consecration.

1627-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxvi. 233 Why then should it not as well from this, be auoided as from the other find a Sacration? 1628 W. SCLATER *Three Serm.* (1629) 18 The worst mens speeches and actions receiue a kinde of sacration by their recording in holy writ.

[**Sacratyle, -til,** erron. form of SERRATILE.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D ij b, And other [bones] ben sacratyles [1579 G. BAKER *Guydo's Quest.* 11 b, sacratils] or sawe wyse, as the skull of the heade.]

Sacrayre, variant of SACRARY *Obs.*

† **Sa·cre,** *sb. Obs.* [a. OF. *sacre*, of twofold formation: (1) in sense 1, ad. L. *sacrum*, orig. neut. of *sacer* adj., sacred; (2) in sense 2, a verbal noun from *sacre-r* to consecrate (see SACRE *v.*).]

1. A religious observance or festival; *pl.* rites of worship.

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 2135 Which tent was church perochiall Ordaint was in espuciall For the feast and for the sacre Where archbishop, and archdiacre Song ful out the seruise. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 59 b, She customably resorted to all places, where any solemnitee of sacres or martes was. *Ibid.* 340 b, The sacres of Ceres. 1548 — *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 17 The ministring of the sacres and holy rites in the temple.

2. Consecration. **a.** The coronation of a sovereign. **b.** The festival of Corpus Christi. *rare.*

1584 [CARD. ALLEN] *Def. Eng. Cath.* 51 They [*sc.* the bishops] doubted also lest she [*sc.* Elizabeth] would refuse in the verie time of her sacre, the solemne diuine ceremonie of vnction (accustomed in the consecration of al Christian princes). 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxii, The next day was the great festival of Corpus Christi called the Sacre.

† **Sa·cre,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sacr-*, *sacer.*] Sacred.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 60 The sacre magesty of a prince. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 199 There dyd swere that they woulde obey the sacre & holy counsels, & woulde follow the Decrees of the Fathers. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 924/2 The..decrees and constitutions of the sacre and holie church.

† **Sa·cre,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *Inf.* 3–7 sacre, (3 sacri, 5 sacryn, sakyre, sakor). *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 3–4 sacrede, 3–5 sacrid, 4 sakred, (*Sc.*) sacryt, 4–5 (*Sc.*) sacrite, 5 sacride, sakird, sakyrd(e, sakeret, sacryed, (*Sc.*) sacrit, 5–6 sacryd, 6 (*Sc.*) sacreit, 3–7 sacred: also *pa. pple.* 3 i-sacret, 3–5 i-sacred, 4 y-sacred(e, 5 y-, i-sacryd. [a. F. *sacre-r* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), = Pr., Pg. *sagrar*, It. *sacrare, sagrare*, ad. L. *sacrāre*, f. *sacr-*, *sacer* sacred.]

1. *trans.* **a.** To consecrate (the elements, or the body and blood of Christ) in the Mass.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Ase ofte ase þe preost messeð & sacreð þet meidenes bearn, Jesu. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7209 Vor prustes mid vnclene honden..sacrieþ godes fless & is blod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Þet bodi of our lorde Iesu crist þet þe prestes sacreþ and onderuongeþ and betakeþ oþren. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 9 Anon þey brouȝte an obley þat was i-sacred. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 2068, I sakor þe body of ower lord Iesu cryst.

absol. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 34 Efter þe messecos, hwon þe preost sacreð, þer uorȝiteð al þene world, & þer beoð al vt of bodi. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 30 It semiþ hem to preche, it is profit to bles, it is congrew to sacre. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 363 He hath oftyn sacred as yt ys skylle.

b. To celebrate (the Eucharist).

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 207 Þe holi sacrement..þet ðe preost sacreð. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7038 To sacre þe haly sacrement. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 424 King Druskene with his lordis ilkone Into the tempill present at the mes, Solempnitlie quhen it sacreit than wes.

c. To sacrifice. *rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 612 Wið-uten ilc seuend clene der ðe he sacrede on an aucter. *Ibid.* 938 Ðre der he toc, ilc ðre ȝer hold, And sacrede god on an wold.

d. ? To worship. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 243 Hire god Moloch that with encense He sacreth, and doth reverence In such a wise as sche him bad.

2. To consecrate (a king, bishop, etc.) to office. Const. with compl. object (in *pass.*, subject); also *to* (an office), *to*, *into* (bishop).

c 1290 *Beket* 30 r in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 115 Þat dai of þe Trinite bischop i-sacret he was And onder-feng þis dignete. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10719, & maister Richard þe grant in is stede was ido & wende uorþ to rome to sacri him þer to. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 300 Ihesu..sacrede him to Bisschop wiþ boto his hondes. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1586 To sacre hurre abbas of þe abbay of Wynchestre. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 12 And sakeret hym byschoppe. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6494 Afþir warde, at 3orke cite, Sakird solemply was he Of archebischop theodere. 1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. v. 267 Beholde nowe thou arte made a preste and sacreyd to doo his holye mysterye. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 9 b, Henry Plantagenet..was at Westminster with great solemnitee and royal pompe, sacred, enoynted and crouned King by the name of Kyng Henry the fourth. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] tr. *Justin, Epit. Emp.* LI 5 b, Rodolph the second, eldest son of Maximilian, was sacred Emperour in the yeare 1577. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 251 Petronius was sacred to this Ecclesiasticall dignitie by Archbishop Honorius. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 53 This Prince was Sacred (to use the French term) at Reymes 25 of January, 1515.

b. Said of the vessel used in anointing. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 6 June, The Holy Ampoule, the same with that which sacres their Kings at Rhemes, this being the one which anoynted Hen. IV.

c. To unite in the sacrament of marriage; to celebrate (a marriage).

c 1425 *Brut* 365 And þere the Bischop of Worcestre wedded & sacred ham to-gedir, as holy churche it wolde. *Ibid.* 368 Þere was this lady weddid and sacryd to þe King of Denmark with moche solempnite. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 53 And ȝif it [an unlawful marriage] be sacryd, þer owyth be lawe to be made a deuorce. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 198 And the bysshop sacred and blessed them.

3. To hallow, bless, sanctify, make holy.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 480 ȝif freris founden wordis to sacre þe armes of a prest. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 186 Seyntes y-sacred opon erþe. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 253/1 The bishop sacreth the one [oyle] as well as the other. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* Prol. C j, To sacre, halow, yea and with theyr holye poeticall spiryte to breath ouer this booke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* X. vi. I. 274 They vsually lay three egs, whereof they take one of them to sacre and blesse (as it were) the other eggs and the nest, and then soon after they cast it away. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 251 To thinke, that God had sacred that Number [ten] above all other. 1627-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lix. 283 Prayer does sacre all our Actions.

4. To dedicate (a person) *to* a deity; chiefly *passive.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1139 For when a sawele is saȝtled & sakred to dryȝtyn, He holly haldes hit his. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 49 With hys two dowhters there I-sacryd to god. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 514 A yeerely Feast was there kept in honour of Diana, whereat all the young maides in the Countrey aboue fiue yeeres old, and vnder ten, were sacred, and dedicated vnto Diana. *a* 1641 — *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 204 He promiseth forgivenesse of sins by washings, and in this sort, as yet he sacreth men to Wittnes, where he signeth his soldiers in the forehead.

b. To dedicate (something) *to* (a particular person, a deity, or some special purpose).

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 84 b, Whan Jason..had sacred his shyp unto the Goddesse Pallas and to the goddesse of thesee. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. i. 160 And, O thow blissit woman, onto the Wise walit men [I] sall dedicat and sacre. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 9 Diuers flutes..which the auncient

Shepheards had often totore-time sacred vnto the Nimphes for their greatest offrings. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 5,8 Here with solemn vowes I sacre Unto thy glory..My Heart and Art, my Voyse, Hand, Harp, and all. 1608 *Ibid.* II. iv. *Schisme* Ded. 12 This Tract I sacre vnto Sackvil's Name. 1620 CAPT. SMITH *New Eng. Trials* Ep. Ded., How euer you please to dispose of him, that humbly sacreth himselfe and best abilities to his Countries good.

c. To make (a class of thing, as a tribe of animals, etc.) sacred *to* a deity.

1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 65 The ancients have sacred this Bird [the owl] to wisdome.

5. To take a solemn oath. *rare*—[1].

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1405 'ȝe', said he, 'þat wil y do, do say me now þy wille'. 'Þat wil y noȝt', quaþ sche þo, 'til þou me han sakred tille'. Þan Olyuer huld vp his hant; trewely for to holde By his power þat couenant.

6. *nonce-use.* To cremate as a religious act.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 46 Their Funerals are of the old stamp..sacring the Corps to Ashes in a holy fire.

Sacre: see SACRY, SAKER, SAKRE.

Sacré (sa·kré), *v.* [f. *sacré*, lit. 'sacred', used *elliptically* as an oath.] *intr.* To utter the French exclamation 'sacré'.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iv. 248 Vengeful Gardes Françaises, *sacreing*, with knit brows, start out on him. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* xxiii, The Frenchman *sacréed*, and fumed, and stormed.

Sacrear, variant of SACRARY *Obs.*

Sacred (sē·krĕd), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: see SACRE *v.* [f. SACRE *v.* + -ED[1].

The original ppl. notion has (as the pronunciation indicates) disappeared from the use of the word, which is now nearly synonymous with the L. *sacer*. A similar change of meaning has taken place in the corresponding Romanic forms, F. *sacré* (which prob. influenced the English use), Sp., Pg. *sagrado*.]

A. *adj.*

† 1. Of the Eucharistic elements: Consecrated.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 465 But nou in þe reume of englond stryuen manye of þe sacrid oost. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 383 in *Macro Plays* 15 By cokkys body sakyrde, I haue such a peyn in my arme. *Ibid.* 605 For Cokkes body sakyrde, make space!

2. (Followed by *to*.) a. Consecrated *to*; esteemed especially dear or acceptable *to* a deity.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6777 That on [tree] to the sonne..That othir ..Is sakret [*MS. Laud* sacrified] in the mone vertue. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 4408 Two tren..The ton y-sacryd to the mone, The tother halwed to Phebus. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 214 This fowle is sacred unto Jupiter. 1719 *Free-thinker* No. 116 P 1 The First of May has been, and will be Sacred to Love in all polite Nations. 1788 LEMPRIÈRE *Classical Dict.* (1792) s. v. *Jupiter*, The oak is sacred to him because he first taught mankind to live upon acorns. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 439 The dove sacred to Venus.

b. Dedicated, set apart, exclusively appropriated *to* some person or some special purpose.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 208 To destruction sacred and devote. *Ibid.* IX. 924 Had it bin onely coveting to Eye That sacred Fruit, sacred to abstinence. 1721 in *Collect. Epitaphs* (1802) 10 Sacred to the memory of Samuel Butler. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 79 The sacrifice being over, he retires alone to a solitude sacred to these occasions. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 571 Scenes Sacred to neatness and repose. 1811 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., Egypt* (abr. ed. 3) 756 The papyrus, sacred to literature. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 492 A pleasure-house Made sacred to his sister and his spouse. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 245 The parts [of a Roman house] which were sacred to the use of the family were the peristyle [etc.].

3. Of things, places, of persons and their offices, etc.: Set apart for or dedicated to some religious purpose, and hence entitled to veneration or religious respect; made holy by association with a god or other object of worship; consecrated, hallowed.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3822 Reliques sacrid, þe holy eke vessels. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 37 Said then the Palmer; 'Lo! where does appeare The sacred soile where all our perills grow'. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 183, I haue dispatch'd..To sacred Delphos, to Appollo's Temple, Cleomenes and Dion. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 510 Some pools have been made sacred for their immense profundity and opacity. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lond. & Lacedem. Oracles* Wks. 1709 III. III. 147 Their [the Jewish Priests'] sacred Garments were of Linnen. 1744 AKENSIDE *Ode, On Leaving Holland* 36, I trace the village and the sacred spire. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXIV, Thou art..one of those disorderly men, who, taking on them the sacred character without due cause, profane the holy rites. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* LXXVIII, By sacred Styx a mighty oath to swear. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 77 A circular building, called the Philippeum,..within the sacred precincts in which the Olympic games were celebrated. 1857 WILKINSON *Egypt Time of Pharaohs* 9 The sacred boats of the dead. 1883 H. YULE in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 330/2 Thus the Bo-tree (or pippal), so sacred among the Buddhists of Ceylon, is still cherished near mosques. 1885 J. H. MIDDLETON *Ibid.* XIX. 607/2 The other [vase], from Cyprus, has the Assyrian sacred tree, with similar guardian animals.

b. *Sacred book, writing*, etc.: one of those in which the laws and teachings of a religion are embodied. *Sacred history*: the history contained in the Bible. *Sacred number*: a number (esp. seven) to which is attributed a peculiar depth of significance in religious symbolism. *Sacred poetry*: poetry concerned with religious themes. *Sacred music*: music which accompanies sacred words or which has a certain solemn character of its own. *Sacred concert*: a concert of sacred music.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 61 His Weapons [are] holy Sawes of sacred Writ. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 59 Who for the space of certaine yeeres, brought him up in sacred letters. 1629 MILTON *Christs Nativ.* iii. Say Heav'nly Muse, shall not thy sacred vein Afford a present to the Infant God? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Bucol.* IV. 5 The last great age, foretold by sacred rhymes, Renews its finish'd course. 1709-29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 8 Seven is a Sacred Number, chiefly used in Holy Scripture. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 449 The sacred book no longer suffers wrong, Bound in the fetters of an unknown tongue. 1784 — *Task* VI. 634 Ten thousand sit Patiently present at a sacred song. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* IX. Sub-introd. 73 Sacred History is that narrative of events, commencing from the creation of the world, which is recorded in the Bible, and is so called, because it is assumed to be written under divine superintendence, and is evidently associated with the being, perfections, and plans of Deity. 1853 (*title*) Catalogue of the Library of the Sacred Harmonic Society. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* vi. (1878) 211 The relation in which sacred poetry stands to revealed teaching and Holy Writ. 1877 MONIER WILLIAMS *Hinduism* i. 13 India..has only one sacred language and only one sacred literature, accepted and revered by all adherents of Hinduism alike.

c. *rarely* of a deity: Venerable, holy.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 461 Now, sacred Pales, in a lofty Strain I sing the Rural Honours of thy Reign.

d. Applied as a specific defining adj. to various animals and plants that are or have been considered sacred to certain deities.

1783 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* I. II. 526 Sacred Cuckow... Inhabits Malabar, where the natives hold it sacred. 1790 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* 193 We this day shot the Sacred Kings-Fisher. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 243 The Sacred Ibis (*I. religiosa*). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 120/2 Bamboo, sacred, of the Chinese, *Nandina domestica*. *Ibid.* 781/2 *Nelumbium speciosum*, the Sacred Lotus. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* Ixxxiii. (1875) 657 The Sacred Monkey of the Hindoos (*Semnopitheeus entellus*). 1877 J. GIBSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 131/2 The Sacred Beetle of Egypt, *Ateuchus sacer*. 1879 C. P. JOHNSON *Ibid.* IX. 154/2 The Sacred Fig, Pippul, or Bo, *Ficus religiosa*.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* Regarded with or entitled to respect or reverence similar to that which attaches to holy things.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 247 In so sacred a senate [*sc.* the Council of Trent: orig. *in tam augusto conventu*]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 40 He..Doth but vsurpe the Sacred name of Knight, Prophaning this most Honourable Order. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 181 Sacred and sweet was all I saw in her. *a* 1645 WALLER *At Pens-hurst* II. 26 Goe boye and carve this passion on the barke Of yonder tree, which stands the sacred marke Of noble Sidneys birth. 1656 COWLEY *Misc., On Death of Crashaw* 2 Poet and Saint! to thee alone are giv'n The two most sacred Names of Earth and Heav'n. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 456 P 3 There is something sacred in Misery to great and good Minds. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 94 Ope the sacred source of sympathetic Tears. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 108 Ere he can lisp his mother's sacred name. 1842 BROWNING *K. Vict. & K. Chas.* 1st Yr. II, Ay, call this parting—death! The sacreder your memory becomes. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* XXI, To a feather-brained school-girl nothing is sacred. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 114 But the most sacred objects of all [at Greenwich Hospital] are two of Nelson's coats, under separate glass cases. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* IX. 292 To you America must be sacred as well as Judea.

b. *esp.* as an epithet of royalty. Now chiefly *Hist.* or *arch.*; formerly often in the phrase *His (her, your) most Sacred Majesty.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 133 Iustice most sacred Duke against the Abbesse. 1599 — *Hen. V*, I. ii. 7 God and his Angels guard your sacred Throne, And make you long become it. 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* III. iv, Sacred King, Be deafe to his knowne malice! 1639 MRQ. OF HAMILTON in *H. Papers* (Camden) I. 76 Most sacred Souuraigne. *a* 1645 WALLER *Danger His Majesty Escaped* 54 Yet the bold Britans still securely row'd, Charles and his vertue was their sacred load. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. vii, That his sacred Majesty, and the Council, who are your Judges, were [etc.]. 1757 *Acts Gen. Assembly Georgia* (1881) 127 We therefore pray your most Sacred Majesty that it may be Enacted.

c. in sarcastic use.

1820 SHELLEY *Œdipus* I. 5 And these most sacred nether promontories Lie satisfied with layers of fat. *Ibid.* II. i. 107 That her most sacred Majesty should be Invited to attend the feast of Famine. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Pref. 17 To obtain from Mr. Bentham's executors a sacred bone of his great, dissected Master.

5. Secured by religious sentiment, reverence, sense of justice, or the like, against violation, infringement, or encroachment.

1530 PALSGR. 696/2 Touch it nat, it is sacred. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 8 b, Syth that tyme, was neuer so vndeuoute a kynge that euer enterprised that sacred priuilege to violate. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 149, I am combined by a sacred Vow. 1667 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) II. 29 The sacredest Bonds which the Conscience of Man can be bound with. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 19 Let thy Oaths be sacred. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 28 The rights of man were sacred in his view. 1793 HORSLEY *Serm.* (1811) 187 Maintaining what in the new vocabulary of modern democracy is named the sacred right of insurrection. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 139 He assured them that their property would be held sacred. 1855 *Ibid.* xii. III. 210 Strong desires and resentments which he mistook for sacred duties.

transf. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 280 No buzzing Sounds disturb their Golden Sleep, 'Tis sacred Silence all.

b. Of a person (hence of his office): Having a religiously secured immunity from violence or attachment; sacrosanct, inviolable.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Sacrosancta potestas*, the sacred and vnuiolable power of the Tribunes. 1628 BOLTON *Florus* I. v. (1636) 14 The Augurship became sacred among the Romans. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* V. 48 The persons of Saturninus and Glaucia were doubly sacred, for one was tribune and the other prætor.

c. With *from*: Protected by some sanction *from* injury or incursion.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 63 No place was safe or sacred from their depredations. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 479 He is himself sacred from punishment of every description. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 152 Lapt In the arms of leisure, sacred from the blight Of ancient influence and scorn.

d. *fig.* Devoted to some purpose, not to be lightly intruded upon or handled.

1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* I. 15 Thus I had a supply when every water-skin was empty, and on the last day I divided my sacred stock amongst the men.

6. Accursed. [After L. *sacer*; freq. translating or in allusion to Virgil's *auri sacra fames* (*Æn.* III. 57).] Now *rare*.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 120 Our Empresse with her sacred wit To villainie and vengance consecrate. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. xii. 1 O sacred hunger of ambitious mindes. 1600 DEKKER *Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 95 If through golds sacred hunger thou dost pine. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 122 Hither the sacred thirst of gaine..alloureth the aduenturous merchant. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 254 For sacred hunger of my Gold I die. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 124 A feeble race! yet oft The sacred sons of vengeance; on whose course Corrosive famine waits, and kills the year. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 62 Smitten with a sacred rage for topography.

7. Special collocations. † **Sacred artery** (see quot.). **Sacred axe**, a mark on Chinese porcelain, supposed to designate warriors. **Sacred band**, *Gr. Hist.*, a body consisting of 300 young nobles, who formed part of the permanent military force of Thebes from B. C. 379. **Sacred bark** [Sp. *cáscara sagrada*], the bark of *Rhamnus Purshianus* of California, used as a tonic aperient. **Sacred college** (see COLLEGE *sb.* 1). † **Sacred elixir** = *sacred tincture*. † **Sacred Empire**, the Holy Roman Empire. **Sacred fire** [L. *sacer ignis*, see HOLY FIRE], erysipelas. **Sacred malady** [L. *sacer morbus*], epilepsy (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **Sacred month, place** (see quots.). † **Sacred tincture** [= mod.L. *tinctura sacra*: see Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* (1753) s. v. *Aloes*], a preparation of rhubarb and aloes. † **Sacred vein** [L. *vena sacra*] (see quot.). **Sacred War** (see WAR).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Artery*, **Sacred Artery*, a branch of the great Arteries descendent branch, goes to the Marrow which is in the *Os Sacrum*. 1866 CHAFFERS *Marks Pottery & Porcelain* (ed. 2) 389 The *sacred axe; a [Chinese] mark found on green porcelain. 1868 J. MARRYAT *Pottery & Porcelain* IX. (ed. 3) 274 The sacred axe is assigned to warriors. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch's Lives, Pelopidas* II. 335 Gorgidas as some say, first formed the **sacred band*. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sacred bark*. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 591/1 **Sacred Elixir*. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 660 Tincture of Rhubarb and Aloes; formerly, Sacred Elixir. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 284 It was decreed..that hereafter in the *sacred Empire the under written pieces of money should be coyned. 1693 *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* XIV. 127 In the year 1089 ..the *Sacred Fire..., having spread it self into several parts of Europe. 1872 W. N. MOLESWORTH *Hist. Eng.* II. 361 Among the other expedients that had been suggested in this convention [of Chartist delegates, 1838] was that of observing what was called a '*sacred month', during which the working classes throughout the whole kingdom were to abstain from every kind of labour, in the hope of compelling the governing classes to concede the charter. 1727-52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In the civil law, **sacred* place chiefly denotes that, where a person deceased has been interred. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 393/1 Aloetic wine, or *sacred tincture. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Vein*, **Sacred vein* (*vena sacra*) the second branch of the flank veine running to the *Os sacrum*, and thence getting this name.

† B. *sb. pl.* [after L. *sacra* neut. pl.] *Obs.*

1. Sacred rites or solemnities.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* 26 Her Sacreds and Festivalls were called Angeronalia. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 60 They might..also behold whatever Sacreds were solemnized within the Court of their great Jupiter Capitolinus. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. iii. 35 These Sacreds were first celebrated in the East by these She-priests of Bacchus. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. iii. § 3 By his manuscripts we are more acquainted in this last century with the Turkish sacreds than any one had ever informed us. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 216 The Romans became extremely fond of the Mithriac Sacreds.

2. Things consecrated or offered in sacrifice to the gods.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 24 This snake the holy dishes.. Did hast to touch, like as it would the sacreds tast. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 47 The sacreds that were made to these, were by such as having escaped any dangerous desease, or pestilent sicknesse, had bin spared by the fates.

3. Sacred utensils or vessels.

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 219 The Heads of Bulls ..have been found in and about our Antiquity, together with other Sacreds peculiarly appertaining to the Ministration of Their Idolatrous Rites. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. x. 56 Hieroglyphic Leters, i. e. Leters engraven in sacreds.

Sacredly (sē·krĕdli), *adv.* [-LY[2].]

1. With religious or strict care; inviolably; with rigid attention to the truth.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. viii. (1634) 26 The originall booke [of the Law] itselfe was appointed to be sacredly kept in the Temple. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. i. 130 Authors..kept sacredly and inviolably in certain Archives. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 14 Jan. (O.H.S.) I.

163 Observing these Oaths..sacredly. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* ix. 112 The sealing further implied that its contents were sacredly locked and concealed from public gaze.

2. In a sacred or religious manner.

1694 POMFRET *On Death Q. Mary* 137 Next mighty Pan, was her illustrious Lord, His high Vicegerent, sacredly ador'd. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 20 Mar. 535/2 [Paul's] only offering was the sum total of his Gentile converts, whom he sacredly and joyfully offered unto God.

Sacredness (sē'·krĕdnĕs). [-NESS.] The condition or quality of being sacred (see the adj.).

1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. vii. Wks. 1698 I. 416 When we consider how he is secluded by the infinite sacredness of his own Majesty from all immediate converse and intercourse with us. 1689 *Consid. Success. & Alleg.* 33 The Sacredness of an Oath makes it a strong Tie to bind us. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvi, Ellena immediately admitted the sacredness of the promise which she had formerly given. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 349 Such was the mystical sacredness which clung about the ordained clergy. 1868 J. S. MILL in *Morn. Star* 13 Mar., The sacredness of property is connected, in my mind, with feelings of the greatest respect. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 111/1 When the rule was first invented there was a sort of reason for it, as a certain sacredness attached to real estate.

Sacrefice, -fis(e, -fy, obs. ff. SACRIFICE, -FY.

Sacreit: see SACRE *v.* and SECRET *a.*

Sacrelage, -leger, -legie, obs. ff. SACRILEGE, SACRILEGER, SACRILEGY.

Sacreng, Sacret, obs. ff. SACRING, SAKERET.

Sacri, sacrid: see SACRE *v.*

† **Sacri·colist.** *Obs.*—° [f. L. *sacricol-a* sacrificer (formed as next + *col-ĕre* to tend, worship) + -IST.] (See quot.)

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sacricolist*, a devout Worshipper.

† **Sacri·ferous,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *sacrifer*, f. *sacri-*, *sacer* sacred (*sacra* neut. pl., sacrifices) + *-fer*: see -FEROUS.] (See quot.)

1655 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sacriferous*, that bears holy things.

† **Sacrifi·able,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *sacrifiable*, f. *sacrifier*: see SACRIFY *v.*] = SACRIFICABLE.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxix, For these wretched sacrifiable people..all ful of glee, singing, and dancing with the rest, they present themselves to the slaughter.

† **Sacri·fic,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *sacrificus*, f. *sacri-*, *sacer* sacred (*sacra* neut. pl., sacrifices) + *-ficus*: see -FIC.] = SACRIFICAL.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sacrifick*, used in Sacrifices.

Sacri·fic, *a.*[2] *Anat. rare.* [f. mod.L. SACR-UM + -FIC.] 'Entering into the composition of the sacrum: as, a sacrific vertebra' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

† **Sacri·ficable,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *sacrificāre* to sacrifice, f. *sacrific-us* SACRIFIC *a.*: see -ABLE.] Capable of being offered as a sacrifice.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xiv. (1658) 310 Yet might it [Jephthah's vow] be restrained in the sence, for whatsoever was sacrificable, and justly subject to lawfull immolation.

† **Sacri·fical,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *sacrificālis*, f. *sacrific-us* SACRIFIC: see -AL.] Pertaining to or employed in sacrifice.

1608 PANKE *Fal of Babel* 28 The blessed chalice of the aultar..hath the verie sacrifical blood in it that was shed vpon the Crosse. 1686 WAKE *Expos. Doctr. Ch. Eng.* 65 When we examine the first Institution of this holy Communion, we cannot perceive either in the words or action of our Blessed Saviour, any Sacrifical Act or Expression. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 502 A priestess of Bacchus, which in one hand holds the sacrifical knife. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. 1802 IV. 510 The sacrifical ministers (who were a sort of intruders in the worship of the new divinity).

Sacrificant (săkri·fikănt). *rare.* [ad. L. *sacrificant-em*, pr. pple. of *sacrificāre*: see SACRIFY *v.*] One who offers up as a sacrifice.

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 103 The Sacrificants might..behold both the Altar and Signum. 1885 J. FITZGERALD tr. *Schultze's Fetichism* vi. § 7 The sacrificant takes away the flesh of the victim.

Sacrifica·tion. *rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *sacrificātion-em*, n. of action of *sacrificāre*: see SACRIFY *v.*] The action of making a sacrificial offering.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. (1737) 232 And to kind Nature make Sacrification.

Sacrificator (sæ·krifikē·ītəɹ). *rare.* [a. L. *sacrificātor*, agent-n. f. *sacrificāre*: see SACRIFY *v.* Cf. F. *sacrificateur.*] One who sacrifices. Also *fig.*

?1548 tr. *Vivet's Expos. XII Art. Chr. Faith* E j b, He is called Christe bycause of the same oyntment, by the whyche he hathe ordeyned hym prophete, kynge, and sacrificatour. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xiv. 255 It is not probable the Priests..would have permitted it, and that not onely in regard of the subject or sacrifice it selfe, but also the sacrificator. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng., Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 361 The Noble Reformer, in the character of Arch-Sacrificator. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 28. 30 Here was evidently a grand Sacrificator, and an unexceptionable Altar.

So † **Sa·crificatory** *a.*, sacrificing, belonging to sacrifice. † **Sa·crificature,** the office or function of sacrificing.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 344 He seeth no markette of pardons,..no sacrificatory masses. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 22 The sky-perfuming prayers, & profuse sacrificatory expences of ful-hand oblationers. 1612 W. SCLATER *Minister's Portion* 9 A second sort [of tithes] which wee may call sacrificatory. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* vii. (1700) 99 Those Sacrificatory Phrases that they use in speaking of the Messiah. 1779 HORNE *Disc.* (1799) I. 107 Such were the ritual observances regarding sacrificature. *a* 1812 MCLEAN *Comm. Heb.* x. (1847) II. 80 The sacrifice of Christ's body once offered has for ever abrogated the whole of the Mosaic sacrificature. 1827 G. S. FABER *Orig. Expiat. Sacr.* 64 This grossly-corrupt mode of sacrificature is alluded to and justly castigated by Solomon.

Sacrifice (sæ·krifəis), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 sacrifise, sacrefice, -fise, 4 sacrifijs, -fies, -fys(e, sacrefis, -fyse, saker-, sacerfyse, sacrafies, -fyse, 4–5 sacrafice, 4–6 sacrifis, 5 sacrafise, sacryfyce, sacurfyce, 5–6 sacrifyce, 6 sacryfice, 4– sacrifice. [a. F. *sacrifice* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Pr *sacrifici*, Sp., Pg. *sacrificio*, It. *sagrifizio*, ad. L. *sacrificium*, f. *sacrific-us* SACRIFIC *a.*]

1. Primarily, the slaughter of an animal (often including the subsequent consumption of it by fire) as an offering to God or a deity. Hence, in wider sense, the surrender to God or a deity, for the purpose of propitiation or homage, of some object of possession. Also applied *fig.* to the offering of prayer, thanksgiving, penitence, submission, or the like. Phrases, † *to do, make sacrifice*; also, † *to put in sacrifice*, to devote as a sacrificial victim.

In the primary use, a 'sacrifice' implies an 'altar' on which the victim is placed. Hence the figurative uses are often associated with references to a metaphorical altar.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1064 And for his offrand was Rightwys, Godd tok to quen [*read* queme] his sacrifijs. *Ibid.* 3142 Bot now es he asked,..Til godd til make of sacrifise. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 92 And wende to his false godes, to do sacrifise. 1340 *Ayenb.* 187 Þer bye þ manie men..make þ sacrefices nazt to god. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 250 He let do make a riche feste With a sollempne Sacrifise In Phebus temple. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 205 Then sawe Maudelen mony pepyll comyng towart þe tempyll and þe lorde of þat contre, forto haue don ofryng and sacrefise to hor mawmetys. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 304 By this edicte.. many estrangers nobles and other were putte in sacrefice and had their blood shedde in egipte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 195 Yᵉ sayd women called & entyced the iewes to theyr sacrifices. *c* 1595 Capt. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 Wee did dailie aborde make sacrifice to God, in great devotion calling upon Him in hartie prayer for them. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 65 Their Sacrifices are never bloody. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Divines divide Sacrifices into bloody, such as those of the old law; and bloodless, such as those of the new law. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 181 An altar for sacrifices to the immortal gods. 1876 J. P. NORRIS *Rudim. Theol.* II. i. 147 Sin cannot be undone without Suffering; and we find Sacrifice instituted to give continual expression to it.

† b. A slaying as for a sacrifice. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 27 b, A cruel sacryfice vppon the person of Iohn Chabas.

2. That which is offered in sacrifice; a victim immolated on the altar; anything (material or immaterial) offered to God or a deity as an act of propitiation or homage.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 27 Stor þet me offrede wylem be þo ialde laghe to here godes sacrefise. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* l. 18 [li. 17] Trubled gost is sacrifice to God. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 507 Noe..heuened vp an auter & halȝed hit fayre, & sette a sakerfyse þer-on of vch a ser kynde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 517 Þere sacrifises shulden not be ȝoven to him, but taken fro him,..and anoþer trewe man..shulde be ordeyned to resceyve siche sacrifices. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12137 My maydynhed I merk to myghtifull goddis: Accepte hit as sacrifise, & my saule to! 1456 Sir G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 32 Tribulacioun is worthy sacrifice. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. ii, Come seruants, come bring forth the Sacrifize, That I may pacifie that gloomy Ioue, Whose emptie Altars haue enlarg'd our illes. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XI. 46 Before any saile departed from the shore, he slue sacrifices, making his prayer for victory by battell. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 77 Make of your Prayers one sweet Sacrifice. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* I. i, Does the mute sacrifice upbraid the priest? 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 81 The Skins of the Sacrifices..were to be given to the Priests. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* III. iv. 213 Only the larger sacrifices, as oxen, were thus adorned. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 556/1 Those daily sacrifices which each man brought to the door of the tabernacle.

3. *Theol.* The offering by Christ of Himself to the Father as a propitiatory victim in his voluntary immolation upon the cross; the Crucifixion in its sacrificial character.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Marcus*) 72 Þe sacrifice þat he mad for man one þe rud-tre. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 261 For a calfe þat was offerd yn sacurfyce yn þe old law for synne, yn tokenyng þat Cryst schuld come, þat schuld be offurt yn sacryfyce for synne of þe pepull yn þe auter of þe crosse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 313 b, Ther be in al ii sacrifices of christ, the one, blody upon the crosse, thother, wherin..he himself offred up unto his father, his body and blud. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 463 In consideration of Christ's Death and Sacrifice, he would freely forgive all penitent and believing Sinners their personal Obligation to eternal Punishment. *a* 1769 RICCALTOUN *Notes Galat.* Wks. 1772 III. 127 A Sacrifice there was, and still is, the way God in his wisdom chose to condemn and put away sin and by which the pardon of sin was conveyed. 1825 J. MONTGOMERY *Hymn*, '*Go to dark Gethsemane*', Mark that miracle of Time,—God's own sacrifice complete. 1861 W. THOMSON in *Aids to Faith* viii. 337 The sacrifice of the death of Christ is a proof of Divine love, and of Divine justice.

b. Applied to the Eucharistic celebration: (*a*) in accordance with the view that regards it as a propitiatory offering of the body and blood of Christ, in perpetuation of the sacrifice offered by Him in His crucifixion; (*b*) in Protestant use, with reference to its character as an offering of thanksgiving (cf. sense 1).

1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. i. 262 For if the sacryfyce of this holy sacrament were done onely but in one place and but of one preest in all the worlde, with howe great desyre wene ye the people wolde go to that plase and to that preest to here the godly mysteryes done of hym. 1548 RIDLEY *Answ. Queries touching Mass* iii, The Representation and Commemoration of Christ's Death and Passion, said and done in the Mass, is called the Sacrifice, Oblation or Immolation of Christ. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 He exhorteth the people to flee from the accustomed sacrifices of the masse. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* II. ix. (1739) 579 The Christian Sacrifice wherein Bread and Wine are offered. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 814/1 In the sacrifice of the Mass, 'the immutatio', as the Fathers technically call the sacrificial act, is not the destruction but the production of the victim. 1899 B. J. KIDD 39 *Art.* (1901) II. II. xxxi. 245 Nor does it (Art. xxxi. § 2) condemn the sacrifice of the Mass but the sacrifices of Masses. 1901 GORE *Body of Christ* iii. 201 Only by communion can we in any effective sense share the eucharistic sacrifice.

4. The destruction or surrender of something valued or desired for the sake of something having, or regarded as having, a higher or a more pressing claim; the loss entailed by devotion to some other interest; also, the thing so devoted or surrendered. Cf. SELF-SACRIFICE.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 304 As rich shall Romeo by his Lady ly, Poore sacrifices to our enmity. 1601 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 151 The lively affections you beare to her person (for which you desire to bee made a Sacrifice). 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 166 The benefit which a Soveraign bestoweth on a Subject, for fear of some power.. are not properly Rewards..but are rather Sacrifices, which the Soveraign..makes. 1742 GRAY *Eton* viii, To bitter Scorn a sacrifice. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 86 An eager sacrifice of means to an end. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 647 Clarendon saw that he was not likely to gain anything by the sacrifice of his principles. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. x. 474 One more ecclesiastical appointment must, at some slight sacrifice of chronological order, be recorded.

b. A victim; one sacrificed to the will of another; also, a person or thing that falls into the power of an enemy or a destructive agency. Now *rare.*

1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 60 They are caused to make Vows, when 'tis often the Father or Mother, or some near Relation, who pronounce them for them, whilst the little Sacrifice disports herself with Sugar-plums, and lets them dress her how they will. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 25 The two greatest sacrifices were John Fisher bishop of Rochester, and Sir Thomas More. 1779 *Mirror* No. 1 (1787) I. 5, I was prevented from falling a sacrifice to that languid inactivity which a depression of spirits never fails to produce. 1821 *John Bull* 15 Apr. 143/3 The organ fell a sacrifice to the devouring element. 1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 95 On one occasion an acquaintance had.. nearly fallen a sacrifice to one of these animals.

5. A loss incurred in selling something below its value for the sake of getting rid of it. Hence (*nonce-use*), an article sold 'at a sacrifice'.

1844 DICKENS *Chimes* ii. (1845) 53 Its patterns were Last Year's and going at a sacrifice. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxi, He bought a green shawl for Mrs. Bolton, and a yellow one for Fanny: the most brilliant 'sacrifices' of a Regent Street haberdasher's window.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sacrifice-maker*; **sacrifice allowance** (see quot.); **sacrifice hit** *Baseball* (see quot.); **sacrifice market,** a market in which goods are sold below cost price, a 'dumping ground'; **sacrifice-offerer,** one who immolates himself (said of Christ); **sacrifice price,** a price entailing loss on the seller.

1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Sacrifice Allowance*, a weekly sum paid by workmen's unions to those men who are discharged from work because they take an active part in their organisation or are too weak to make the average. These latter are called *sacrificed* men. 1896 KNOWLES & MORTON *Baseball* Gloss., **Sacrifice-hit*.—When the batsman purposely makes a hit upon which he is retired, but which advances a base-runner. ?1548 tr. *Vivet's Expos. xii Art. Chr. Faith* E iv, He is the true..prophete and the Soueraygne **sacrifice* maker, whyche was figured by the kynges, and prophetes of Israell. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Jan. 2/1 Americans..would make this a **sacrifice-market* at first, simply to kill all our manufacturers. *a* 1560 BECON *Chr. Knt.* Wks. II. 153 Our mediatour, our satissfyer or **sacrifyce* offecer [? *read* offerer]. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 12 June 11/2 A 'clearance sale', in fact, at '**sacrifice* prices'.

Sacrifice (sæ·krifəis), *v.* Forms: see the sb.; also 3 **sacrefize**, 7 **sacrifize**. [f. SACRIFICE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To offer as a sacrifice; to make an offering or sacrifice of. Const. *to.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3262 For quas luue he wild not warn To sacrifise his auen barn. *a* 1425 *Ibid.* 3201 (Trin.) Þe sheep he sacrifised & brent. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 308 The egypciens cryed vnto hercules sacrefice sacrefice hym, whan hercules cam in to the temple he sacrefised hym. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 158 When hee had fyrst sacrifyced them to his Zemes. *a* 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 68 Though he sacrifize Hecatombs. 1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. viii. 246 The Picture of..Abraham sacrificing his son. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 485 If they Sacrifice their Enemies it is not necessary they should Eat them too. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 94 There are nations in which mankind still sacrifice their fellow men.

† b. *nonce-uses.* To slay or burn in the manner of a sacrifice; to burn in a sacrifice.

1602 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 258, I..tooke Ocanes brother prisoner..(whom I sacrificed in the place) and so

passed by. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 39 They sacrifice him [a dead man] to ashes, in costly perfumes.

2. *intr.* To offer up a sacrifice.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 69/43 Anoure ore godes, ich rede, a-non and heom sacrefise. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 118 Saul, for he sacrifised, sorwe hym be-tydde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1082 Þare lengis him lefe þe kynge & logis all a neuen, And sacrifyce þar eisones to many sere godis. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. x, I..toke on me for to sacryfyce and to synge before the goddes. 1628 J. Hume *Jewes Deliv.* i. 10 They were wont to immolate and sacrifice vnto their heathenish Gods. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 411 An idol, at whose shrine Who oft'nest sacrifice are favour'd least. 1818 Shelley *Homer's Castor & P.* 13 The sailors..sacrifice with snow-white lambs.

b. *Eccl.* To celebrate the Eucharist.

1661 tr. *Erasm. Life Colet* in *C.'s Serm.* 74 Whereas it is the custome in England for Priests to consecrate the host, and receive it almost every day, he was content to sacrifice on Sundays and Holi-days, or some few days beside.

3. *trans.* To surrender or give up (something) for the attainment of some higher advantage or dearer object. Const. *to.*

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Sacrifice*,..to quit or leave a Thing upon some Consideration. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Sept., Deuce take Lady S——; and if I know D——y, he is a rawboned-faced fellow..; she sacrifices two thousand pounds a year, and keeps only six hundred. 1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. v. 298 The first Obligation which a Roman lay under..was to sacrifice his Life in Defence of the Public Liberty. 1837 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 416 Henry [VIII]..was never known to sacrifice an inclination to the interest or happiness of another. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 126 Everything seems to have been sacrificed to a false notion of equality. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* vii. 97 Generally, the only men who can be persuaded to wear protecting glasses are those who have already sacrificed one eye to their objections.

b. To permit injury or ruin to the interests of (a person) for the sake of some desired object. Also *refl.* Const. *to.*

1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 145 ¶ 13 Instead of sacrificing each other to malice and contempt. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* xviii. III. 49 Pericles..was charged with sacrificing the Samians to private feelings. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 222 Could it then be doubted that, if the Churchmen would even now comply with his wishes, he would willingly sacrifice the Puritans? 1870 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* iv. (1876) 88 How will persons sacrifice themselves to their objects! 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xviii, He is too much an artist to sacrifice himself to his clothes. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* vii, It isn't got at by sacrificing other people,..you must sacrifice yourself.

† Sacrificeable, *a. Obs.* Also 5 sacrefysable. [f. Sacrifice *v.* + -able. Cf. Sacrifiable, Sacrificable.] Proper to be sacrificed.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 333/2 The oxe is a moralle beest ..and it is a best sacrefysable. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1299 If they [*sc.* kine and oxen] have but one haire blacke or white, they be not sacrificeable.

Sacrificed (sæ·krifəist), *ppl. a.* [f. Sacrifice *v.* + -ed 1.]

† 1. Made sacred; sanctified. *Obs.*

1504 Lady Margaret tr. *De Imitatione* iv. i. 261 All cristen people..kysses the sacryfyced bones [orig. *sacra ossa*] of sayntes, wrapped in clothes of Sylke and Golde.

2. Offered as a sacrifice.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 7 What merit force or vertue soeuer there is in his sacrificed body & bloud. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 400 It is reported by one of the Ancients, of credit, that a Sacrificed Beast hath lowed, after the Heart hath been severed. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 184 This Address is performed by the presenting his sacrificed Body to the Father in Heaven. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 77 The Entrails of sacrificed Beasts. 1768 S. Bentley *River Dove* 14 Still yearly, to popular Rage, A sacrific'd Bull is the Sport.

3. Given up or abandoned for the sake of others.

1884 M. Arnold in *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec. 6/2 Those classes which, in comparison with the great possessing and trading classes—who may be called the fortunate classes—may be called the sacrificed classes. 1891 [see Sacrifice *sb.* 6].

Sacrificer (sæ·krifəisəɹ). [f. Sacrifice *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who offers up a sacrifice.

1563 Winȝet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 25 Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 90 Quhy teche ze..that the wordis of sanctificatioun of the sacrament of our Lordis body and bluid ar nocht to be pronounceit to the end, that thair suld be ony transubstantiatioun thairby, or be the intent of the sacrificear [*Edinb. MS.* sacrifiar]? 1597 *Cert. Prayers in Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (Parker Soc.) 672 We..live and die the sacrificers of our souls for such obtained favour. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Pref. (1644) 2 A famous man in Israel could not but oblige his conscience to be the sacrificer..of his innocent and only daughter. 1742 Blair *Grave* 140 Like..victim..That throbs beneath the sacrificer's knife. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* xii. (1852) 305 The earthly sacrificer truly exhibits to the Father that body of Christ which is the one only Sacrifice for sins. 1884 Whiton in *Chr. World* 4 Sept. 663/2 Paul boldly intimates, that if Christ is the only sacrificer and sufferer for humanity, then something is lacking in the saving work of the Saviour.

2. *spec.* A sacrificial priest.

1547 *Bk. of Marchaunt*es e v b, It is much better to here ..Helie alone than all the sacryficers of Baal. ? 1548 tr. *Viret's Expos. xii Art. Chr. Faith* E iv, Whyche was figured by the kynges and prophetes of Israell, and by the sacrificers of the Leuites. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 168 The great sacrificer and high priest Melchisedech. 1693 J. Edwards *Author, O. & N. Test.* 385 He being a Jewish priest, a legal sacrificer. 1727 De Foe *Hist. Appar.* iii. (1840) 24 The patriarchal heads of families, who..were the only sacrificers at that time, as Abraham and as Job were. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 518 The chief sacrificer advanced, leading a Hebrew boy,..whom he laid on the altar.

Hence **† Sa·crificership,** the office of a sacrificer.

1562 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* Table of Matters s.v. *Orders*, Of Priesthode or sacrificership.

Sacrificial (sækrifi·ʃăl), *a.* [f. L. *sacrifici-um* + -al. Cf. the older Sacrifical; also 16th c. F. *sacrificial.*]

1. Pertaining to or connected with sacrifice.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 81 Raine Sacrificiall whisperings in his eare. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sacrificial* (*sacrificialis*) of or belonging to a Sacrifice, Offering, or Oblation. 1737 Waterland *Rev. Doctr. Eucharist* i. 53 This Observation will be of use, when we come to consider the Eucharist in its Sacrificial View. 1799 Gilpin *Serm. Country Congregat.*, etc. III. xxxviii. (R.), The law may be explained as an institution..threatening judgment on every transgression; at the same time, accepting, in mercy, certain sacrificial atonements. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Stonehenge* Wks. (Bohn) II. 123 The *sacrificial stone*, as it is called, is the only one in all these blocks, that can resist the action of fire. 1864 Max Müller *Chips* (1867) I. 104 Innumerable sacrificial utensils. *Ibid.* 110 All this would be embodied in the sacrificial formulas known in later times principally by the name of Yagush.

b. *Sacrificial mound*: a prehistoric mound built by the natives of certain parts of America and containing a hearth or altar, on which are found relics exhibiting traces of the action of fire.

1862 D. Wilson *Preh. Man* I. xii. 370 The name of sacrificial mounds has been conferred on a class of ancient monuments..peculiar to the New World.

2. Self-sacrificing. *nonce-use.*

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 160 'That's all very well', said the sacrificial parent, 'but five or six hours are not so easy to dispose of at sixty odd'.

3. *Comm.* Involving 'sacrifice' or loss to the vendor.

1895 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 6/2 Jewelled trimmings..will be sold at much reduced prices during next week's sacrificial sales. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 19 June 7/2 The first Monday in July, the traditional date for the opening of the summer sales, when ladies demand sacrificial prices.

Hence **Sacrificialness.** *rare*—0.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Sacrificialness*, the being of the Nature of a Sacrifice.

Sacrificing (sæ·krifəisiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Sacrifice *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Sacrifice.

1601 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 152 The vttermost of our endeuours and seruices, euen to the sacrificing of our liues. *a* 1639 W. Whateley *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 32 Sacrificing was a profession of their owne guiltinesse. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Sacrifice*, The manner of sacrificing among the ancient Hebrews, is amply described in the books of Moses. 1742 J. Glas *Treat. Lord's Supp.* III. iv. (1883) 114 The apostle sets forth Christ's death as the truth of the sacrificing of the passover.

b. *attrib.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxv. i, Thou my sinns..Dost turne to smoake of sacrificing flame. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxx. 426 They presently tooke the sacrificing rasors, the which they washed and clensed from the blood of men. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 618 Two sacrificing dishes of smooth and pollished red earth. 1672 R. Veel *New Court-Songs* 35 My winged Feet, each Sacrificing day, Lead me to gaze upon her, more than pray. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* 2 Dec. (O. H. S.) II. 319 Roman sacrificing Axes.

Sacrificing (sæ·krifəisiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Sacrifice *v.* + -ing 2.] That offers sacrifice; that makes sacrifices.

1826 T. Coleman *Indulgences*, etc. *Order Mt. Carmel* 61 He..for another Memento of the sacrificing priest, grants, to the souls in Purgatory, rest and peace in the kingdom of glory. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* xii. (1852) 293 He [the High Priest] was the type of Him who stretched out His sacrificing arms upon the Cross.

Hence **Sa·crificingly** *adv.*

1601 Chester *Love's Mart., Dialogue* (New Shaks. Soc.) 128 And in a manner sacrificingly, Burne both our bodies to reuiue one name.

† Sacrificul(e. *Obs. humorously pedantic.* [a. F. *sacrificule* (Rabelais), ad. L. *sacrificulus* an extension of *sacrificus* Sacrific *a.*] A priest.

The misapprehension in quot. 1604 is found also in a Fr. glossary to Rabelais.

1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Sacrificule*, a little offering. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. vi, I mumble off little parcels of some missick precation of our sacrificuls.

† Sacrifi·culist. *Obs.* [f. L. *sacrificul-us* (see prec.) + -ist.] A sacrificing priest.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 309 This, said the soothsaying sacrificulists, presaged victory to the Bœotians. *Ibid.* 352, 365.

† Sacrificy, *v. Obs. rare.* In 6 sacrificie. [ad. L. *sacrificium.*] = Sacrifice *sb.*

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 36/1, I [am] preste after the outshewyng of sacrificie of the auters.

† Sa·crifier. *Obs.* [f. Sacrify *v.* + -er 1.] A sacrificing priest.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xix. 3 Thei shul aske..ther deuel cleperes and ther deuel sacrifieres [Vulg. *ariolos*]. 1547 *Bk. of Marchaunte*s e v b, The Pharisiens, sacrifiers, Scribes, and docters. 1553 Bale *Vocacyon* 7 Baals..sorcerouse sacrifiers. 1563 [see Sacrificer 1].

† Sa·crify, *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *sacrifi-er* (12th c.), ad. L. *sacrificāre*, f. *sacrific-us*: see Sacrific.]

1. *trans.* To offer as a sacrifice.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10389 Þam hale þan sacrified he, And delt þam siþen al thre. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 336 And forth unto the temple he com.., Hise yiftes forto sacrifie. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Auian* xxvii, Thow shalt be take.. and shalt be sacryfyed to theyre goddes. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 181 Melchizedec sacrifeit breid and wyne in figure of the bodie and bloud of our lord. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 49 A mightie mazer bowle of wine was set As if it had to him been sacrifide.

refl. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxiv. 87 Alwayes she doubted her self in noo wyse, that her suster wolde..sacryfyse hir self with funerailles mortalle, by fyre horrible.

2. *intr.* To offer sacrifice.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* liii[i]. 6 Y shal sacrifye to þe wyþ gode wylle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 295 Þa.. to þe tempil of dyane drew hym rudly, ore þai fane, for to strenȝe hym to sacrify. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* x. 11 Go ȝe oonly men, and sacryfye to the Lord. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* III. i. 120 He sulde..Deuotly to God sacryfy. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. v. 52 That there might be none occasion of filthinesse, when they shold ministre or sacrifie.

3. *trans.* To offer sacrifice to.

1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 124 As he sacrefyed his goddes he receyuyd lettres from the senate of rome. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. lv. 111 [He] was broughte..in to a temple of ydolatrye..for to adoure and sacreiye the ydolles.

4. *nonce-use.* To consecrate.

1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 167 Whan the great Kirk was sacrify'd.

Hence **† Sa·crifying** *vbl. sb.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 272 (Bodl. MS.) To goddes I made sacrifyeynge. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. 114 (Camb. MS.) The sory preest yeuith in sacryfyinge the wrechched kuttynge of throte of the douhter.

Sacrilege (sæ·krilèdʒ), *sb.*1 Forms: 3–4 sacrilage, 4 sacre-, sacrylage, sacrilegge, 4–6 sacrylege, 5 sacrilag, 6 sacrileage, *Sc.* sacralege, 6–7 sacrileadge, -lidge, 7 sacrileg, 3– sacrilege. [a. OF. *sacrilege* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; mod.F. *sacrilège*) = Sp., Pg., It *sacrilegio*, ad. L. *sacrilegium*, f. *sacrilege-us* one who steals sacred things or commits sacrilege, f. *sacri-*, *sacer* sacred + *-leg-*, *legĕre* to gather, after the phrase *sacrum* or *sacra legere* to purloin sacred objects, to commit sacrilege.]

1. The crime or sin of stealing or misappropriating what is consecrated to God's service. In ecclesiastical use, extended to include any kind of outrage on consecrated persons or things, and the violation of any obligation having a sacramental character, or recognized as under the special protection of the Church. Also, an instance of this offence.

In mediæval writings the classification of 'sacrilege' as a branch of avarice, which is based on the primary meaning of the term, is somewhat inconsistently combined with an enumeration of the varieties of sacrilege implying the wider sense explained above. Cf., e.g. *Ayenbite* pp. 40–41 Chaucer's *Parson's Tale* ¶ 727–9.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27840 O couaitise..cums..sacrilege, to reue or stele Of halud thing. *Ibid.* 27946. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8608 Þey þat haue cherches broke, And stole þo þynges þat were þer-ynne, 'Sacrylage' men calle þat synne. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Macc.* iv. 39 Many sacrilegis don in the temple. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 160 An-oþer is sacrilege, þat is, brekyng of þe sacrament of holy cherche. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 Some..for theyr pryde and sacrilege, god suffreth oftentymes to make an ende lyke as a beest. 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* 381 The stinke of their divelish sacrilege in robbing the Church. 1649 Howell *Pre-em. Parl.* 9 Rufus (who came to such a disastrous end, as to be shot to death in lieu of a Buck for his sacrileges). 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XIX. (1827) VIII. 326 After this adding sacrilege to profanation he carried away the altar of incense. 1827 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* II. 239 In consideration of the sacrileges which the enemy committed.. they were enlisting the peasantry. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* (1846) I. xxi. 457 An unscrupulous sacrilege, which appropriated the very offerings to the Gods, so made, to his own individual uses. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* ix. 235 The very books that are used in the worship of God are Sacred. The man who steals them is guilty of sacrilege.

b. *spec.* in popular use as a name for robbery from a church or other place of worship.

The term is not technically used in Eng. Law, though formerly special penalties were imposed for the offence. From the 17th c. a robbery from a church has been regarded legally as a 'larceny' or a 'burglary' according to the circumstances.

1820 *John Bull* 17 Dec. 8/2 Norwich.—Sacrilege is now very common, the churches of Carbrook and Eaton were broken into; out of the former the thieves stole all the plate, communion cloth and surplice. *Mod. newspaper*, Sacrilege at Middleton.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* The profanation of anything held sacred.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 371 The cause why that he so doth Is forto stele an herte or tuo,..And as I seide it hier above, Al is that Sacrilege of love. 1529 More *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 267/1 That it is as Luther sayth, great sinne and sacrilege to go about to please god by good woorkes, and not by onely fayth. ? 1548 tr. *Viret's Expos. XII Art. Chr. Faith* B j b, That were a greate blasphemie & sacrilege to haue suche an opinion of God as to think that [etc.]. 1623 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* v. i, 'Tis sacrilege to violate a wedlock, You rob two Temples. *a* 1678 Marvell *Upon Appleton House*, T'were Sacrilege a man to admit To holy things, for heaven fit. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 193 To kill a herald was, by the law of arms, sacrilege. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 204 Almost every stone..is a historical monument, which it would be sacrilege to remove or destroy.

† Sacrilege, *sb.*2 *Obs.* [ad. L. *sacrileg-us*: see Sacrilege *sb.*1] One who is guilty of sacrilege.

1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xl. 61 b/2 Yf

ony defaylled there that hadde not ben atte theyr laste seruyce, They were reputed and holden as Sacryleges. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 74 They bewray themselues..to be theues and sacrileges. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xxxiii. 155 He was aswel condemned to death, as if he had bin a murtherer, or sacrilegde.

Sacrilege (sæ·krilēdʒ), *v. rare.* [f. Sacrilege *sb.*] *trans.* To commit sacrilege upon. Hence †**Sa·crileging** *ppl. a.*

1554 Latimer in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) III. ii. 293 Wherfor stande from the aulter you sacrileginge (I shulde have said you sacrificinge) preistes. 1578 Florio *1st Fruites* 73 The ende of warre is this,..churches are profanizated and sacrileged. 1778 *Hist. Eliza Warwick* I. 10 Lord Huntley will not be tempted to sacrilege the temple—to storm a convent. 1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 92 Thou didst rend Pentheus, and him thy rites who sacrileged Lycurgus.

Sacrileger (sæ·krilēdʒəɹ). *arch.* Also 4 **sacrelegir, sacrilegeer,** 5 **sacrilegier,** 6 **sacre-, sacryleger, sacriledger, -leager.** [f. Sacrilege *sb.*1 or *v.* + -er 1.] One who commits sacrilege.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 273 Curseden [*read* curseder] sacrelegires þan bodily þeves þat breken chirchis and stelen chalicis, vestementis, or nevere so moche gold out of hem. 1395 Purvey *Remonstr.* (1851) 49 A sacrilegeer, that is, a theef of holi thingis. ?*a* 1500 in Becon *Relig. Rome* (1563) 253 Al sacrilegiers, yᵗ is to say, al yᵗ wrongfulliche doen away any thing halowed. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 175 All sacrelegers whiche goodes of chirchis perteyning.. aweye taken. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* iv. i. § 4 II. 162 [They] for refusall were exposed as Sacrilegers, and accursed to all their Neighbour-Nations. 1642 Bp. Morton *Presentm. of Schismatic* 25 Thou Sacrileger art as ill as the Idolater is. 1838 G. S. Faber *Inquiry* 444 These impostors, sacrilegers, and idolaters, ought..to be removed from their degree. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 453 The adulterer and the sacrileger.

Sacrilegious (sækrilē·dʒəs), *a.* [f. L. *sacrilegi-um* Sacrilege *sb.*1 + -ous.]

1. Committing sacrilege; guilty of sacrilege.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xix. 37 These men being neither sacrilegious nor blaspheming your Goddess. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxiv. iii, Lord,..This sacrilegious seed Roote quickly out. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 102 He might without processe of condemnation be killed as a sacrilegious person. 1696 De la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 319 The wicked sacrilegous, non-conformists. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, Reproving the sacrilegious mortal who thus dared to disturb their holy precincts. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* iv. viii. (1864) II. 422 His conduct..contrasted..with that of the sacrilegious Iconoclast Leo. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xix. (1875) 341 Leave the church lands in the grasp of sacrilegious spoilers.

absol. 1682 Norris *Hierocles* 8 The Offerings which they hang up in the Temple, serve only to enrich the Sacrilegious.

2. Involving sacrilege.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. i. i. (1624) 35 The like happened to Brennus..vpon such a sacrilegious occasion. 1673–4 Bp. Ward *Case of Joram* 1 The Sacrilegious and Bloody Martyrdom of our late most Excellent Sovereign. 1736 Bolingbroke *Patriot.* (1749) 11 A most sacrilegious breach of trust. 1844 Thirlwall *Greece* VIII. lxiv. 275 He ..repeated his sacrilegious devastations in the sanctuary of Apollo. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) V. xxiv. 380 The practices introduced by Flambard..were deemed to be sacrilegious.

Hence **Sacrile·giously** *adv.*, **Sacrile·giousness.**

1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 355 Then is he Sacrilegiously false. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 66 Those villians had most sacrilegiously rifled and ransacked his habitation. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Sacrilegiousness.* 1848 Lytton *Harold* i. i, In the center of which had been sacrilegiously placed an altar to Thor.

Sacrilegist (sækrilē·dgist). [f. Sacrilege *sb.*1 + -ist.] One addicted to or guilty of sacrilege.

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 102 To the third Generation, neuer yet did prosper, nor euer shall, the Sacrilegist. 1683 O. U. *Parish Ch. no Conventicles* 6 He doth..charge us.. with being Sacrilegists, worse than the worst of Conventiclers. 1865 Annie Harwood tr. *E. de Pressensé's Jesus Christ* i. iii. 98 A sacrilegist never hesitating to elevate his creatures to the priesthood. 1898 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* (1900) 109/1 Secrecy is the first thing for us sacrilegists to consider.

†**Sacrilegy.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **sacri-, sacry-, sacrelegi(e, -iegy(e,** 6 **sacralagie.** [ad. L. *sacrilegium*] = Sacrilege *sb.*1

13.. *Ipotis* 251 (Vernon MS.) in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 344 In sacrilegye he sungede sore. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 132 What eucre þou haldest to þe..ouer symple liflode & streit cloþing..is þefte, raueyne & sacrelegie. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 463 3if 3e despiseþ God wytyngly, þanne 3e beeþ i-holde in þe synne of sacrelegy. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. xix. 409 It is raueyn, it is sacrilegi [*sacrilegium est*], that is to seie thefte of holi good. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Hist. Pap.* (1811) 40 Banished for sacralagie.

Sacring (sēi·krin), *vbl. sb.* Now only *literary.* Also 3–6 **sacringe,** 4 **sakryng, -ring,** 4–6 **sacryng(e, sakeryng(e,** 5 **sacryn, sacreng, sakering(e, sayerying, sac(c)aring,** *Sc.* **sacryne.** [f. Sacre *v.* + -ing 1.]

1. The consecration of the eucharistic elements in the service of the mass. Sometimes more fully, the *sacring of (the) mass.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6818 Riȝt atte sacringe he stod as be lowe In þe churche at westmunstre. 13..*Coer de L.* 222 And whene the belle began to ryng The preest scholde make the sakeryng, Out of the kyrke sche wolde away. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 400 þen tyme is nere of sakring, A litel belle men oyse to ryng. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 137 Bitwene þe sacringe of þe masse and þe pridde Agnus Dei. *c* 1451 Agnes Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 217 And on Friday after sakeryng, one come fro cherch warde, and schoffe doune all that was thereon. 1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* iv. xxxii. 222 b, The gravel and the offretory sholde be sayde to fore the sacrynge [*MSS.* sacrement; L. *sacrificium*]. 1550 Cranmer *Defence* 101 What made the people to runne..from altar to altar, and from sakeryng (as they called it) to sakeryng? *a* 1571 Jewel *On Thess.* iii. 5–10 (1594) 90 It is a small matter to looke vp and holde vp thy handes at the sacring. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xv. xxvii. (1886) 376 Words..written in the canon, or rather in the saccaring of masse. 1626 *Scogin's Jests* (? 1680) 12 By and by the Bells were tolled for sacring, and Scogin hied him to Church lustily and merry. 1871 Rossetti *Poems,* tr. *Villon's Mother's Service to our Lady* ii, Oh help me, lest in vain for me should pass..The blessed Host and sacring of the Mass.

†**b.** *concr.* Used for: The consecrated elements.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 358/105 Muche folk þare was in Rome þat in guode bi-leue nere Ne bi-lieueden nouȝt þat þe sacringe ore louerdes licame were. 1448 M. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 72 [The Parson of Oxened] being at messe in one Parossh Chirche, evyn at levacion of the sakeryng.

2. The ordination and consecration of persons to certain offices, as those of bishop, king, queen, etc.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2318 Ac him sulf him crounede & made him king so His sacringe was lute worþ & na)eles it was ydo. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 393 þe clerkis han many grete & smale perquisitiuys,..as..for halowynge of chapels..& for sacrynge of ordres, & fulle many mo. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vi. 105 We wolde that his sacringe and coronacion be respite to Penticoste. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) vii. xviii. 305/1 Yf the offycer of yᵗ bysshop axe of custome ony gyft..in sacrynge of bysshopes..yf they yᵗ sholde be..sacred gyue theym suche gyftes..is it symonye. 1672 Temple *Ess., Govt.* Wks. 1731 I. 98 The Sacring of the Kings of France (as Loysel says) is the Sign of their Soveraign Priesthood, as well as Kingdom. 1814 Southey *Roderick* xviii. 107 For acclamation and for sacring now One form must serve. 1902 *Q. Rev.* July 356 The fullest development of the service for the sacring of the French Kings is contained in the Coronation Book of Charles V.

†**3.** *gen.* The action of consecrating. *Obs.*

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* Ep. Ded. 2, I will screw-vp this Key with the prostrate sacring of my selfe ..at the Shrine of your gracious Clemencie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* II. viii. 136 Elias Leuita describeth the forme of sacring or hallowing their Teraphim in this sort.

4. *Comb.* as *sacring time,* Sacring-bell.

1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* VIII. xix. 414 The lyeutenaunt .forth with commanded that euery man shold kepe his wepen in his hond sacryng tyme and other. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 946/2 Those that..held not vp their hands at the sacring time. 1594 T. Bedingfield tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 198 The time of the execution should be at the sacring time of Masse.

†**Sa·cring,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **sacrand.** [f. Sacre *v.* + -ing 2.] In senses of the vb.

In quot. 1508 used for the vbl. sb. attrib.: see next.

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 160 And quhen thow heiris ane guse cry in the glennis, Thow thinkis it swetar than sacrand bell of sound. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 138 Because it hath a sacring and sanctifying signe.

Sacring-bell. [Sacring *vbl. sb.*]

1. A small bell rung at the elevation of the host.

1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 5, I bequethe a chales and a paxbred,..and a sacrynge belle. 1449 *Churchw. Acc. Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 40 For a rop for the sacryng bell, iiiiᵈ. 1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1900) II. 343 Item, for tua small sacryne bellis, tane at ane cremar. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* v. iii. (1886) 76 He heard a little saccaring bell ring to the elevation of a morrowe masse. 1846 R. Hart *Eccl. Rec.* 225 The sacring bell, which was rung at the elevation of the host. 1884 *Sunday at Home* Feb. 102/2 No latticed confessional—no sacring bell.

¶ **2.** In post-Reformation times, sometimes applied to a small bell rung to summon parishioners to morning prayers, or to mark the point in the Communion Service at which the people should go up to communicate.

1598 Drayton *Heroic Ep.* iii. 71 Who would not rise to ring the Mornings Knell, When thy sweet Lips might be the sacring Bell? 1641 I. H. *Petit. agst. Pocklington* 2 He hath caused a Bell to be hung up in his Chancell, called a Sacring Bell, which the Clarke always rings at the going up to second Service. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 75 A lantern, which..incloses the sacring-bell, to call the parishioners to prayers.

Sa·cripant. *rare.* [a. F. *Sacripant,* ad. It. *Sacripante,* a character in Boiardo's *Orlando innamorato.*] A boastful pretender to valour.

1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 320 He is surprised by a nymph..who is at length seized by the supervening Itifal, a Sacripant of knighthood.

Sacrist (sēi·krist). Also 7 **sachriste.** [a. OF. *sacriste* (= It. *sacrista*), ad. L. *sacrista,* f. *sacer* sacred (*sacra* neut. pl. sacred objects) + *-ista*: see -ist.] An official charged with the custody of the sacred vessels, relics, vestments, etc., of a religious house or a church.

In English cathedrals the 'sacrist' (sometimes called 'sacristan') is always in orders, often a minor canon.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1241/2 Frier Combe, a sacrist of that house of Westminster. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* III. (1636) 103 Two Sacrists, carrying two silver Lanthorns. 1656–61 [See Sacristan 1]. 1665 S. Bing in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 23 It is said the Sacrist [of St. Paul's] is out of town, and there will be no Communion as customarily. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 111 To the which committee..was summoned..the principall of the King's Colledge of Old Aberdein, the four regents, canonist, doctor of medicine, civilist, sacrist, and cantor. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 216 A Sacrist or Treasurer which are not Dignitaries in the Church of Common Right, but only by Custom. 1883 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 1/1 [Died.] Mr. W. Sanders, for many years Sacrist and Librarian of Westminster Abbey.

Sacristan (sæ·kristăn). Also 4–5 **-ane,** 7 **-on.** See also Sexton. [ad. med.L. *sacristānus* (whence mod.F. *sacristain*), f. *sacrista* Sacrist: see -an.

OF. had the semi-popular forms *segrestain,* etc., whence Eng. Sexton.]

1. **a.** The Sexton of a parish church. *Obs.* or *arch.* **b.** = Sacrist.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 245 Quhene I mad me bowne þat holy body to lay done, & to þe sacristane to kepe gafe, quhene ȝe raysit me fra slepe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 315/1 A Sacristane, *sacrista, edilis.* 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 246 And als the Sacristanis, beand Vicaris of the said paroche kirk, wer in use..to mak and uphald the glassin windoes of the said kirk. 1608 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 213 Item: that the Sacriston shall not presume to breake anye grave in the church without the consent of the Churchwardins. 1656–61 Blount *Glossogr., Sacrist* or *Sacristan,* a Sexten or Vestry-Keeper in a Church, or Religious house. 1763 Del Pino *Span. Dict., Escolano,* the sacristan..that has charge of the vestments and holy vessels of the church. 1800 Coleridge *Christabel* II. 8 The sacristan, Who duly pulls the heavy bell, Five and forty beads must tell Between each stroke. 1854 J. D. H. Dale *Sacristan's Man.* Pref. 10 The Pope's Sacristan is a Bishop. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* i, The Sacristan locks the iron-barred gates that divide the sanctuary from the chancel.

2. In a nunnery, a sister charged with a function corresponding to that of sacrist. Cf. Sacristine.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 319 Sho was sacristan of þe kurk and sho had grete deuocion vnto our Ladie. 1896 tr. *Huysman's En Route* vii. 92 A sacristan-sister, tall and pale and rather bent, entered like a shadow.

Hence **Sa·cristane·ss** *nonce-wd.* = Sacristine.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XIV. 440 The sacristaness was going through the corridor..on her way to ring the bell for matins.

†**Sacristanry.** *Obs.* [f. Sacristan + -ry. Cf. OF. *segrestainerie* Sextonry.] = Sacristy.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 315/1 A Sacristanry, *sacristarium.*

‖**Sacristine** (sæ·kristēn). [F. *sacristine,* altered form of *sacristaine* fem. of *sacristain* Sacristan.] A female sacristan.

1832 Moore in *Mem.* (1854) VI. 286 Rogers..told a story of a young girl who had been sacristine..in a convent.

Sacristy (sæ·kristi). [a. F. *sacristie,* a. med.L. *sacristia,* f. *sacrista* Sacrist.] The repository in a church in which are kept the vestments, the sacred vessels and other valuable property.

[1630 Wadsworth *Further Observ. Pilgr.* 6 Betweene this house and the high Altar stands the Sacristia, within which is the Custodia of the holy Eucharist (as they call it). 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Nov., Through this we went into the Sacristia, where..one of the Order preach d.] 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 93 In the Sacristy of this church I saw the chains in which St. Peter was fettered. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III 630 The Lübekers took the confiscated church treasures out of the sacristies. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* Jan. 5 Sacristies, or, as they are more usually called now, Vestries. *Ibid.* 6 The proper situation of a Sacristy is on the north side of the chancel, towards its eastern part.

Sacrit(e, obs. Sc. pa. t. and pple. of Sacre *v.*

Sacro-[1] (sæ·krō, sē·krō), assumed as combining form of L. *sacer* sacred, in various nonce-words, as **sacro-pictorial** *a.*, relating to sacred portraiture; **sacro-secular** *a.*, partly sacred and partly secular; **sacro-seric** *a.* (*jocular*), sacred and silken.

1849 [K. H. Digby] *Compitum* II. 357 All which form a code of *sacropictorial law. 16.. Dorothy Osborne *Lett. to Sir W. Temple* (1888) 18 The Priory is a low-built *sacro-secular edifice. 1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 372 The *sacro-seric vestments which adorn the priest in the celebration of the sacrifice of the mass.

Sacro-[2] (sē·krō), *Anat.,* used as combining form of L. (*os*) *sacrum* Sacrum, prefixed (usually with hyphen) to various adjs., forming compounds with the sense 'pertaining jointly to the sacrum and (some other part indicated by the second element)', as in *sacro-caudal, -coccygeal, -coccygean, -costal, -cotyloid, -cotyloidean, -femoral, -iliac, -inguinal, -ischiac, -ischiadic, -ischiatic, -lumbal, -lumbar, -pectineal, perineal, -pubic, -rectal, -sciatic, -spinal, -vertebral* adjs. Also **sacro-me·dian** *a.*, the epithet of the artery running along the median line of the sacrum (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 193 *Sacro-coccygeal Articulation. *Ibid.*, Anterior Sacro-coccygeal Ligament. 1875 Sir W. Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 822/1 At the time of birth the sacro-coccygeal part of the spine is concave forwards. 1840 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 110 The posterior *sacro-coccygean ligament. 1890 Coues *Ornith.* II. iv. 211 These 'sacral ribs' or *sacrocostals are furthermore distinguished by being devoid of the epipleural or uncinate processes, with which other true ribs are furnished. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 865 *Sacro-femoral or 1st lumbar area. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 193 Irregular fibres placed before the *sacro-iliac articulation. 1836 J. M. Duncan *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 438 Rheum of a sacro-iliac joint. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 865 *Sacro-inguinal or 12th dorsal area. 1790 R. Bland in *Med. Commun.* II. 437 Where the *sacro-ischiatic ligaments cross. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 18 The sacroischiatic notch of anthropotomy. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 207/1 The bones composing the *sacro-lumbar articulations. 1876 Gross *Dis. Bladder* 20 The pain shoots along..to the sacrolumbar region. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 454 The *sacro-perineal region. 1841 Ramsbotham *Obstet. Med.* 23 The antero-posterior, *sacro-pubic, or conjugate [diameter]. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Sacro-sciatic ligaments... The small *sacro-sciatic, or internal sciatic ligament. 1782 A. Monro *Anat. Bones, Nerves,* etc. 146 Two strong ligaments which are extended to the *os ischium*; and are therefore called

sacro-sciatic. 1893 A. S. Eccles *Sciatica* 55 The cause of obstinate sacro-sciatic tenderness. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 193 *Sacro-vertebral Ligament. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 57 The sacro-vertebral angle is generally replaced by almost a straight line.

Sacrosanct (sæ·krosæŋkt, sē·krɔ-). Also 7 -sainct, -sant, sackersaint. [ad. L. *sacrōsanctus*, properly two words, *sacrō* abl. of *sacrum* sacred rite (neut. of *sacer* sacred) and *sanctus* pa. pple. of *sancīre* to render holy or inviolable. Cf. F. *sacro-saint*, earlier *-sainct* (whence some 17th c. Eng. forms), Sp., Pg. *sacrosanto*, It. *sacro-, sagrosanto*.] Of persons and things, esp. obligations, laws, etc.: Secured by a religious sanction from violation, infringement, or encroachment; inviolable, sacred.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 178 Armed as he was with his sacrosanct and inuiolable authoritie. 1603 — *Plutarch's Mor.* 1332 Which [Isles] he found to have very few inhabitants, and those all were by the Britaines, held for sacrosainct and inviolable. 1637 Heylin *Answ. Burton* 80 Perhaps you thinke, because Mass. Prinne is of a factious Tribunitian spirit, he must be Sacrosanct and uncontrolable. 1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 291 What confederacy can be imagined more noble, more sacrosant, than that between Man and Wife? 1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 331 Let them establish your fundamental rights by a sacrosanct declaration. 1871 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 270 Truth, which alone of words is essentially divine and sacrosanct. 1891 C. E. Norton *Dante's Purgat.* xxix. 184 O Virgins sacrosanct. 1895 Sala *Life & Adv.* II. lvi. 327 Beyond this sacrosanct city the railway was only available for about fifty miles.

transf. 1880 *World* 16 June, When the persons of hares and rabbits have ceased to be sacrosanct, what guarantee of inviolability is there for the grouse?

Hence † **Sacrosanctified**, † **Sacrosanctious** *adjs.* = Sacrosanct; **Sacrosanctness** = next.

1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* (1678) 57 Where plighted faith, and Sacro-sanctious vow Hath given possession, dispossess not thou. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 28 The Sacro sanctified Domicile of your Celestial Brain. 1876 Cartwright *Jesuits* 206 The Pontifical utterances of which the dogmatic sacrosanctness is open to no doubt.

Sacrosanctity (sæ·kro-, sē·krosæŋkti·ti). [f. Sacrosanct *a.*, after *sanctity*.] The condition of being sacrosanct; inviolability; sacredness.

1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 94 His bold entitling of his own writings to the Sacrosanctity of Mysteries. 1831 H. Coleridge in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 521 Protected by the sacro-sanctity of an Ambassador. 1900 E. Lummis *Speaker's Chair* 34 All they did was to wrap themselves in their sacrosanctity, and 'curse for their tithes'.

Sacrosant, obs. form of Sacrosanct.

Sacrum (sē·kriźm). *Anat.* Pl. **sacrums, sacra.** [Subst. use of neut. sing. of L. *sacer* sacred: see *os sacrum* s.v. Os.] A composite, symmetrical, triangular bone which articulates laterally with the ilia, forming the dorsal wall of the pelvis and resulting from the ankylosis of two or more vertebræ between the lumbar and coccygeal regions of the spinal column.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Sacro-sciatic*, The false transverse apophyses of the sacrum. 1797 Abernethy *Surg. & Physiol. Ess.* III. 137 The medulla spinalis, or a substance of an apparently similar nature, was continued into the sacrum. 1845 Todd & Bowman *Phys. Anat.* I. 140 The spinal column, in man,..rests upon the sacrum. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 74 There are [in a double-headed human monster] two well-developed sacra, placed side by side. 1886 J. M. Duncan *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 438 A clergyman's wife was thrown out of a little pony phaeton, and fell on her sacrum. 1890 Coues *Ornith.* II. iii. 138 The numerous anchylosed..vertebræ compose the *sacrum*.

† **Sa·cry.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **sacre, sakare, sacry.** [ME. *sacrē*, app. due to a confusion of Secree (the 'secret of the Mass') with F. *sacré* pa. pple. of *sacrer*: see Sacre *v.*] The consecration of the Mass; = Sacring *vbl. sb.* 1.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7297 Here ȝyt a messe, Al holy, and no lesse, And nat symple, a sakare, For hyt ys nat y-now for þe. *Ibid.* 7949 For enery prest, aftyr þe sacré, He parteþ þere Goddys body yn þre. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 282 [He said] Ihesu was not þat oble þat was raised atte sacre. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 29 To do the chymes goo at y^e sacry of the messe of Jhū.

b. *attrib.* **Sacry bell** = Sacring-bell.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 255 Than gon to chirche or heare the sacry belle. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 388 Sacrybelle, *tintinabulum*.

Sacryt, obs. Sc. pa. t. and pple. of Sacre *v.*

Sact, obs. Sc. form of Sack *v.*[2]

Sad (sæd), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1–3 **sæd,** 3 **saȝ, sead, sed,** 5–7 **sade,** 4 **saad, zed,** 4–5 **said,** 4–6 **sadd(e,** 3– **sad.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *sæd* = OS. *sad*, MDu. *sat* (Du. *zat*), OHG., MHG. *sat* (mod.G. *satt*), ON. *saðr* (rare: superseded by *sadd-r*, pa. pple. of the derived verb *sēðja* to satiate), Goth. *saþ-s* (pl. *sadai*) :—OTeut. **sadо-* full, satiated :—WIndogermanic **sətó-* in **g-stó-s*, Gr. *ā-astos* insatiate (cf. L. *sat, satis* enough, *satur* satisfied, full, OIrish *sathech* satiated); the word is a pa. pple. with suffix *-tó-* from the root **sā-* to satisfy; cf. Gr. ἄδην (:—**sə-dānm*), enough. A parallel form from the strong grade of the root (with unaccented suffix) is Goth. *sōþ* (:—pre-Teut. **sōtо-m*) satisfaction, whence *gasōþjan* to satisfy.]

A. *adj.*

I. Of persons and immaterial things.

† **1.** Having had one's fill; satisfied; sated, weary or tired (of something). Const. *of* (in OE. *genitive*) or *infinitive.*

a 1000 *Riddles* vi. (Gr.), Ic eom anhaga iserne wund,.. beadoweorca sæd, ecȝum werig. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxvii. 29 Swiðe ætan, and sade wurdan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 Ich nam noht ȝiet sad of mine sinnes, and forþi ne mai ich hie noht forlete. *c* 1205 Lay. 9315 Claudien þe kæisere Að wes of þon compe. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 30 in *Cott. Hom.* 193 Vor heo neuer ne beoð sead þi ueir to iseonne. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 452 (Jesus MS.) Ich..skente hi myd myne songe Ac noþeles nouht ouer longe; Hwenne ich iseo þat men beoþ glade, Ich nelle þat hi beon to sade. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23436 Þof þat þou euer apon him se, Of him sadd [*Edinb.* said] sal þou neuer be. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vii. 29 For selden y am sad that semly forte se. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 324 Yet of that Art they kan nat wexen sadde ffor vn-to hem it is a bitter sweete. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 9 Now men beþ al-sad [orig. *modernorum saturitatem*]. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1265 Al our lyf..Ys but a maner exile here, Of which he ought[e] to be sad. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 716 To serve hym was there no man sad.

† **2.** Settled, firmly established in purpose or condition; steadfast, firm, constant. *Obs.*

c 1315 Shoreham VII. 298 So þat hyt was god and sad, Al þys world, þat was ymad Of hym þat can. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Non ne is aryȝt preus..þet ne ys..zed and stable uor to uolȝy. *c* 1350 *St. John* 349 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 38 When saynt John herd..how sad trowth in þam was set [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1371 Al saxoyne was set wiþ wel sadde lawes. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. x. 70 (Camb. MS.) Ther may no man dowte that ther nis som blysfulnesse þat is sad [L. *solidam*] stydefast and parfyt. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 36 As quincyane persawing had þat scho wes of wil sa sad. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Pet.* i. 19 We han a sadder [Vulg. *firmiorem*] word of the prophet. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4784 Ther may no prince in his estate endure, Ne ther-yn any while stande sad, But he be loued. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 234 Sho sall be to þe a sadde frende. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 64 þat her graunt shold be sure & sad, she strenȝthid hit with her seele. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 75 b, Be ye stable & sadde in the fayth. 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 175 b, All christen people that will be saued, must haue sad beliefe in the holy Sacrament. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xi. 45 More eath to number with how many eyes High heven beholdes sad lovers nightly theeveryes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 541 Settl'd in his face I see Sad resolution and secure.

† **3.** Strong; capable of resisting; valiant. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xv. 1 Forsothe we saddere [Vulg. *nos firmiores*] owen for to susteyne..the feblenesse of syke men. 1388 — *Ezek.* xxxiv. 16 Y schal make sad that that was sijk. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3289 The secunde sir..Was sekerare to my sighte, and saddare in armes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xiv. 159 And it [the diamond] maketh a man more strong and more sad aȝenst his Enemyes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1277 þan pollux full pertly aprochet in hast With seuyn hundrithe sad men assemblit hym with, ffrochit into þe frount & a fray made. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4876 Noble knightes ten, Stronge, hable, and light, men sad and myghty.

† **4.** Orderly and regular in life; of trustworthy character and judgement; grave, serious. Often coupled with *wise* or *discreet. Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 175 In thewis sad dare þane wes he ere. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 37 In Surrye whilom dwelte a compaignye Of chapmen riche and therto sadde and trewe. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 338/2 Ye Kyng shall..come to sadder yeres of discretion. 1440 in Glew *Hist. Walsall* (1856) 106 One of the sadest and weldesposed Prest of Saynt John's Gylde. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 98 He shold behote, afore good men and sadde in Wycombe, openly. 1486 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 4 Twelve sad and discreet Persons, of the Cheque Roll of the King's honourable Houshold. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxix. 113 Sadde of behauoure, and of symple contenaunce. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. vii. (1895) 225 A sad and an honest matrone [orig. *grauis et honesta matrona*]. 1562 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 292 The..wyseste Baylliffs and other sadd and discreate cytezens. 1579 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 167 What woman nowe-a-dayes (that is sadde and wyse) will be knowne to haue skill of dauncing, &c.? 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 5 Of this wisedome it seemeth some of the auncient Romanes in the saddest and wisest times were professors. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 71 The solid, and sad man, is not troubled with the floods and ebbes of Fortune. 1665 Powell in Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 48 An old donation of the College to a sad priest that preaches on that day.

† **b.** Of looks, appearance: Dignified, grave, serious. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 228 Of lere ne of lykame lik him nas none, ne of so sad a semblant þat euer he say wiþ eiȝen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 887, & þe alder-men so sadde of chere, Her songe þay songen neuer þe les. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 860 And whiche eyen my lady had, Debonayre, good, glad, and sad. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4627 She, demurely sad of chere.

† **c.** Profoundly or solidly learned (*in*). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1485 A philosoffer,..In þe Syense full sad of þe seuyn Artes. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 Those persons that be profounde, sad, & discrete, groundly lerned, and depely studied in Phisicke.

d. Of thought, consideration: Mature, serious. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* in the phrase *in sad earnest*, which as now used belongs rather to sense 5.

1485 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 43 The said Maire, after sad and mature examinacion of the said recordes..decreed [etc.]. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 24 And so, aftir sad deliberacion, he answerd the messengere yn this maner. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 The said Maistres or Governours..aftre their sadd discretions,..shall [etc.]. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. xcix. 253, I wᵈ. I cᵈ. begin to be a Christian in sad earnest. 1643 J. M. *Soveraigne Salve* 38 At least they may deigne this last motive the honour of a deep and sad thought or two. 1649 Bp. Hall *Confirm.* (1651) 73 They are exceeding weighty and worthy of sad consideration. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 5 May, An attack that made me shed tears in sad earnest.

5. Of persons, their feelings or dispositions: Sorrowful, mournful.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 211 She was cleped Avarice. ..Ful sad and caytif [orig. *megre et chetive*] was she. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 187 Ay sorowfull and sad at evin song and houris. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 188 Malancoly he was of complexioun,..Soroufull, sadde, ay dreidfull but plesance. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 87 Consyderyng some persones to be iocunde and mery, some sadde and heuy. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 56 This Ambassade was sent..to visite & comforte the kyng, beyng sorowful & sad for the death of so good a quene & spouse. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 43 But why speake ye so faintly, or why are ye so sad? *R. Royster.* Thou knowest the prouerbe, bycause I can not be had. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xl. 6 And Ioseph came in vnto them in the morning, and looked vpon them, and behold, they were sad. 1667 Milton *P. L.* X. 18 Th' Angelic Guards ascended, mute and sad For Man. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 196, I was very sad, I think sader than at any one time in my life. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IX. 72 With sails outspread we fly th'unequal strife, Sad for their loss, but joyful of our life. 1754 Gray *Poesy* 77 The sad Nine in Greece's evil hour. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 88, I felt a little sad at the thought. *a* 1878 P'cess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 63, I ought not to make you sadder, when you are sad enough already.

absol. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech., Cert. Devout Prayers* 39 The hop and comforter of all sad, haue mercie on me. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 665 Behold that figure, neat, though plainly clad; His sprightly mingled with a shade of sad.

b. *Phrase.* (Possibly suggested by the older association of *sad* and *wise*: see 4.)

1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VII. *ad fin.*, A sadder and a wiser man He rose the morrow morn. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxiii, 'A sadder and a wiser man', he felt [etc.]. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 175 When he takes his way homewards, he is a sadder and a wiser man.

c. Of looks, tones, gestures, costume, etc.: Expressive of sorrow.

c 1385 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2127 With a sad visage he siked stille. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5052 With sare sighingis & sadd for sake of his wirdis. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 447 According to my sable weid I mon haif sad maneris, Or thai will se all the suth. 1535 Coverdale *Matt.* vi. 16 When ye fast, be not sad [1611 of a sad countenance] as y^e ypocrytes are. 1634 Milton *Comus* 235 Where the love-lorn Nightingale Nightly to thee her sad Song mourneth well. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 221 A sad pale countenance. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 43 Them amidst With looks agast and sad he thus bespake. 1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* I. 320 His sad inquiring eye. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, Two halberdiers, clad in black,..and others, in the same sad livery. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xii, Poor little Amelia, with rather a sad wistful face.

d. Of times, places, actions, etc.: Characterized by sorrow, sorrowful.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 525 Ne þe swetnesse of somer, ne þe sadde wynter. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 243 We passed a sad night in this place, and never had more need of Job his patience then heere. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 252 This was the saddest night we had in all our Voyage. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 478 Immediately a place Before his eyes appeard, sad, noysom, dark, A Lazar-house it seemd. 1722 De Foe *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 10 'Tis a sad life, for a woman to have no help from her husband in things that are good. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 201 His was one of the saddest lots I have ever known in life. 1888 Lowell *Heartsease & Rue* 149 It gives me a sad pleasure to remember that I was encouraged in this project by my friend the late Arthur Hugh Clough.

† **e.** Morose, dismal-looking. *Obs.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. v. 70 And how com'st thou hither? Where no man euer comes, but that sad dogge That brings me food, to make misfortune liue?

f. Causing sorrow; distressing, calamitous, lamentable. In early use partly fig. of sense 7, 'heavy'.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 189, & [of] þat sad ded þe ranowne Sowne rane throw al þe towne. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 33 Him will he scurge with plagues sad and sair. 1637 B. Jonson *Sad Sheph.* I. ii, A sadder chance hath given allay Both to the Mirth and Music of this day. 1654 Fuller *Two Serm.* 8 It is not improbable that this Psalm [xi] might be composed on the sad murther of the Priests by Saul. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 135 With sad overthrow and foul defeat. 1688 Penton *Guard. Instruct.* (1897) 22 It quickly appear'd how sad is the condition of a Gentleman without Learning. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 536 P 2 'Tis sad so considerable a part of the Kingdom..should be of no manner of use. 1793 Cowper *To Mary* 33 Partakers of thy sad decline, Thy hands their little force resign. 1823 Byron *Juan* XIII. ix, Of all tales 'tis the saddest—and more sad Because it makes us smile. 1859 Tennyson *Guinev.* 492 How sad it were for Arthur, should he live To sit once more within his lonely hall!

6. Deplorably bad; chiefly as an intensive qualifying terms of depreciation or censure. Often *jocular. Sad dog*: cf. Dog *sb.* 3 b, and 5 e above.

1694 Echard *Plautus* 60, I am the saddest shiftless creature upon earth. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 30 His French Sea-men were the saddest creatures that I was ever among; for tho we had bad weather that required many hands aloft, yet the biggest part of them never stirr'd out of their Hammocks, but to eat or ease themselves. 1706 Farquhar *Recruit. Officer* III. ii, *Sil.* You are an ignorant, pretending, impudent Coxcomb. *Braz.* Ay, ay, a sad Dog. *c* 1720 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 71 A sad poore thatch'd place. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* I. viii, Our Polly is a sad slut. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xvi, I suppose you think me a sad dog,..and I do confess that appearances are against me. 1771 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* 252 Red brick should not

be used [for scouring fire-irons] for it makes sad work. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xii, All Peter did on this occasion Was, writing some sad stuff in prose. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. CXXVII, Heaven knows what cash he got or blood he spilt, A sad old fellow was he, if you please. 1835 J. MACDONALD in Tweedie *Life* iii. (1849) 240, I am a sad coward. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Charact.* vii, The sad-dog sort of feeling came strongly upon John Dounce. 1892 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 5/3 Unpolished granite..is a sad harbourer of soot and dust.

II. In various physical senses.

7. Of material objects. † a. Solid, dense, compact; massive, heavy. *Obs.* [So early mod.G. *satt.*]

13.. *K. Alis.* 5587 Two grete ymages..of golde sad. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 198 With iren nayles sad..his fete was schod. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3189 Þe mast veniel syns sal þar bryn langly, Als wodde brinnes, þat es sadde and hevy. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1072 No strengþe him wiþstod of sad stonen walles. 1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXXVIII. 7 Forsothe thilke auter was not sad [Vulg. *solidum*], but holowe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/1 Sad, or hard, *solidus*. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* XXIV. (Shaks. Soc.) 236 In feyth it is an holy ston, Ryth sad of weyth and hevy of peys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 47 The schaft was sad and sound, and weill ybaik. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. i. (1878) II. 2 The flesh of buls..is of sadder substance and therefore much heauier as it lieth in the scale. 1611 COTGR., *Fourmage de taulpe*, heauie or sad cheese. 1625 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* 29 This kind of timber..growes so sad and hard that it cannot rot. *c* 1638 STRAFFORD in Browning *Life* (1891) 219 To those that..tell you..I am but as a feather, I shall be found sadder than lead. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 147 Short barley-strawe..is the best for stoppinge of holes ..because it is sadder, and not soe subjeckt to blowe out with everie blast of winde, as other light and dry strawe is. *fig. c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6907 For sadde burdens that men taken Make folkes shuldres aken. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 45 Wo worþ 3ow þat tiȝen mynt, aneis, & comyn, & ilke herbe, & leuen þe sadder þings of þe lawe, dome, feiþ, & mercy. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1328 The wordes of Andrewe beyn sadd & ponderose. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* IV. i, Damsel right faire, I am on many sad adventures bound, That call me forth into the wildernesse.

† b. Solid as opposed to liquid. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 259 þer mete was þer bileve þat þei hadden of sadde þingis, and þer drynke was þer bileve þat þei hadden of moist þingis. 1382 — *Heb.* V. 13 To whom is nede of mylk, and not sad mete [Vulg. *solido cibo*].

† c. Firmly fixed. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 305 St[r]ength suld non haf had, to perte þam þorgh oute, So wer þei set sad with poyntes rounde aboute. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 258 Þenne he seos Ihesu crist in a sad Roode. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Tim.* ii. 19 But the sad foundement [Vulg. *firmum fundamentum*] of God stondith. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 137 Beo a staf stondeþ sad, Whon 3e fongen flesch in godes hous, þat staf is Cristes Crouche.

d. Of soil: Stiff, heavy. ? *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 912 For to sowe & to sette in þe sad erthe. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 173 Vynes preueth best yf they Be sette anoon aftir the spade or plough, Er then the lond be woxen sadde or tough. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* V. xviii. 702 Nauets and turneps delight in a light and fine mould, and not in a churlish and sad ground. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 66 Chalky Lands are naturally cold and sad. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 44 The Clay-land..is the toughest, or most tenacious, and the most dense of all our Soils; upon this Account, on the Thrapston Side, they call it Sad-land. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Land is *sad* when the frosts of winter have not mellowed it.

e. Of bread, pastry, etc.: That has not 'risen' properly; heavy. Now *dial.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 317/1 Bakers Terms in their Art.. Sad, heavy, close Bread. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiii. 191 It makes the crust sad, and is a great hazard of the pie running. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 82 Let him place the accessaries on the table lest what is insipid and clammy, and (as housewives with great propriety call it) sad, grow into duller accretion and inerter viscidity the more I masticate it. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. E. Thring* 51 Of what meagre straw and doughy brick was our weekly batch! It was what bakers call 'sad'.

† f. Of a number of persons or things: Forming a compact body. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2614 þe multitude ware to me meruaile to reken, þat sammed was on aiþir side many sadd thousand. *Ibid.* 5559 þai sett in a sadd sowme & sailid his kniȝtis. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 119 Of sadde leues of þe wode wrowȝte he hem wedes.

8. Of colour: Dark, deep. In later use, influenced by sense 5: Not cheerful-looking; neutral-tinted, dull, sober.

The Ger. *satt* and MDu. *sat* (Du. *zat*) have the sense 'dark' or 'deep' as applied to colours, as a direct development from the primary sense 'full' (see sense 1 above).

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 695 And where be my gounes of scarlet, Sanguyn, murreye, & blewes sadde & lighte. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* (Stage direction) in *Macro Plays* 76 þe iiij dowteris schul be clad in mentelys;..Trewthe in sad grene, & Pes al in blake. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 14/38 Yelow, reed, Sad blew [Fr. *entrepers*], morreey. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 53 Noo more to use rede stomachers but other sadder colers in the same. 1578 HUNNIS *Hyvef. Hunnye* XXXVII 92 Colours lyght and sad. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 802 Russet wines: In the number wherof, are contained the red wines, or sad, and light red. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 105 The second Summer, this light yellow is changed to a sad. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 936 Long and slender shanks of a very sad black colour. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 201 First of a dark greenish colour, growing sadder by degrees as the plant decays, till it approaches a black. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 311 Dubbing, of the down of a sad grey cat. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 241 The leaves are of a sad green, sharply notched, and divided in three lobes. 1855 BRIMLEY *Ess.*, *Tennyson* 99 Sad greys and browns. 1867 O. W. HOLMES *Guard. Angel* iii, She had always..been dressed in sad colors. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiii, The general colouring was uniform and sad.

† b. Dark-coloured, sober-coloured. *Obs.*

1560 BECON *Catech.* VI. Wks. I. 536 If they be olde women and maryed: not lyght apparell, but sad raiment pleaseth a godly husband. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 5 Arayd in antique robes downe to the grownd, And sad habiliments. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Aug., My wife is upon hanging the long chamber..with the sad stuff that was in the best chamber. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4919/4 A Man..between 20 and 30 years of Age, pale Visage and sad Hair.

† 9. Of sleep: Sound, deep. *Obs.*

a 1350 *St. Nicholas* 329 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 15 Sodanly he fell on full sad slepe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. V. 4 Þanne waked I of my wynkynge and wo was with-alle, þat I ne hadde sleped sadder and yseiȝen more. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 679 Medea..Persauyt..þat all sad were on slepe. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 585 in *Macro Plays* 22 3e may here hym snore; he ys sade a-slepe. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 20, I couerd my hede and fylle in to a sadde slepe.

† 10. Of blows: Heavy, delivered with vigour. [So early mod.G. *satt.*]

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2775 He..set hire a sad strok so sore in þe necke, þat sche top ouer tail tombled ouer þe haccheȝ. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1263 One caupet with hym kenely,.. And set hym a sad dynt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. iv. 576 And there they dasshed to gyders many sadde strokes. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* XI. xix, But I my swerd in my hand had Strykynge at hym with strokes sad. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 222 The strampe of Mr Patrickis was so sade wpoun his brotheris foote.

† b. Of a fire: Violent. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1911 Hurre thou3t þat hurre chaufere ..Was set ouer a feure bothe gret & sadde.

† c. Of rain: Heavy. *Obs.*

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 30 Heaven it self at that instant weeping so abundantly, that I never saw a sadder raine and of lesse continuance. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 184 In a sad shower of rain.

III. 11. *Comb.* in many adjs., chiefly parasynthetic, as *sad-avised* (quasi-*arch.* after BLACK-A-VISED), *-coloured, -eyed, -faced, -hearted, -natured, -paced, -seeming, -tuned, -voiced*; **sad-cake** *dial.* and *U.S.*, an unleavened cake.

1878 BESANT & RICE *Monks Thelema* III. 124 She did not writhe as she walked; she was not *sad-avised. 1889 J. NICHOLSON *Folk Sp. E. Yorksh.* 79 *Sad keeaks and dip form a favourite breakfast. 1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* II. (1680) 27 His Majesty..cloathed in a short Juppa of *sad coloured cloath. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iv, A decent suit of sad-coloured clothes. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 202 The *sad-ey'd Iustice with his surly humme. 1588 — *Tit. A.* V. iii. 67 You *sad facde men, people and sons of Rome. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 123 *Sad-hearted-men, much ouergone with Care. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 36 This *sadde natured, and hard witted child. 1599 MARSTON *Sc. Villanie* I. Proem., Stay his quick iocund skips, and force him runne A *sad pas't course. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 131 So all is Joy againe; till this *Sad-seeming Tydings come. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 4 And downe I laid to list the *sad tun'd tale. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Wine of Cyprus* vi, I am *sad-voiced as the turtle Which Anacreon used to feed.

B. *adv. Obs.* exc. *poet.*

† 1. Firmly, strongly, fixedly. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 353 Loke þat þou be armed sad & hele þy bare scolle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2078 He þat set is full sad on a soile euyn,..Hym þar not hede to be hurt with no hegh falle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 59 Nowe potage ware in askes mynge, & kepe In oil barelles or salt tubbis done; Saad cleyed wel, they saaf beth leyd to slepe. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3859 Adieu, my suete loue prented in hert sad!

† 2. Heavily, with force. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 605 þey fow3t euer sore & sadde; Men nyst ho þe betere hadde. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* XXV, He stroke him sadde and sore. 1629 Z. BOYD *Balme of Gilead* 41 (Jam.) The longer the stroake be in comming it commeth down the sadder. *a* 1743 RELPH *Misc. Poems* (1747) 4 Up flew her hand to souse the cowren lad, But ah, I thought it fell not down owr sad.

† 3. Steadfastly. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partonope* 1863 These covenauntis to holde surely and sadde. *a* 1450 MYRC *Instr. Par. Priests* 260 Teche hem alle to leue sadde, þat hyt þat ys in þe awter made, Hyt ys verre goddes blode.

† 4. Seriously, soberly, discreetly. *Obs.*

14.. *How Gd. Wyfe taught Dau.* 198 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* (1869) 50 And þus thi frendes wylle be glade þat thou dispos þe wyslye and sade.

† 5. Thoroughly, truly, certainly. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 56 Maister, þei seiden, we witen wel þat þou art sad trewe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3605 In sorow may be sene who is sad wise. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 874 Ful wel thay sad knew it the fayry was. *Ibid.* 950 Merueles,..I se ful sad; Neuer humain ey saw to it egal!

6. Sorrowfully.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 28 Sometimes towards Eden..his grievd look he fixes sad. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* II. 49 Why will you plead yourself so sad forlorn?

b. *Comb.* = *sadly-*.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1590 Which when her sad beholding husband saw. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv, Their sad-sweet glance.

Sad (sæd), *v.* Forms: see the adj. [f. SAD *a.* Cf. SADE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make solid, firm, or stiff; to compress. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Cf. SADDEN *v.* 1.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* iii. 7 And anoon the groundis and plauntis of him ben saddid to gidere [Vulg. *consolidatæ sunt*]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lviii. (1495) 272 The matere is thycked and sadded and not obedyente to dygestyon. 14.. *Tretyce* in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 47 Sowe your wyntur corne tymely so þt your lande may be sadid & your corne rotyd afore þt grete wyntur com. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/1 Saddyn, or make sadde, *solido, consolido*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VI. xxi. 268/2 The fende by suffraunce of god may sadde the ayer and make hym a bodye of the ayer. 1807 HOGG *Mtn. Bard, Sandy Tod* III Sandy..Then the hay, sae rowed an' saddit, Towzled up that nane might ken.

† 2. To make steadfast, establish, confirm (*in*).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. X. 242 Austyn þe olde here-of he made bokes, And hym-self ordeyned to sadde vs in bileue. *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* I. in *Anglia* X. 333/2 þe sowle þat is not 3it fullye saddete and stablete in þe moste parfyte degre of loue. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. l. 120 My mynde is saddid [orig. *solidata est*] in god, & groundid in crist.

† 3. To darken (a colour). *Obs.*

1573 *Art of Limning* 4 Two parts azure and one of cereuse and sadded with the same azure or with blacke incke. 1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat.* 124 You may alay your Orpment with chalke, and sadde it with browne of Spain [etc.].

† 4. To make sorrowful; to sadden. *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, May it not sad your thoughts. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 24 The Lords hearing of these proceedings were much sadded. 1692 *Covt. Grace Conditional* 73 The Hearts of your Friends [are] exceedingly sadded. 1810 *The Age: A Poem* 3 When nature's visage sads the sight.

† b. To make dull or gloomy. *Obs.*

1620 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. ix, As when a vapour ..sads the smiling orient of the springing day.

† c. *intr. To sad it*: to talk in a sad manner.

1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* II. v. 95 While you sad it thus to one.

Sad, obs. form of SAID, SHED.

Sadaiceus, obs. pl. of SADDUCEE.

† **Sa·dded,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SAD *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb: a. Solidified; compacted. b. Confirmed, strengthened. c. Saddened, made sorrowful.

c 1520 NISBET *N. T. in Scots, Rom.* XV. 1 Bot we saddit men aw to sustene the febilnes of seek men, and nocht pleise to our self. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. XXXVIII, The sadded aire hung all in cheerlesse blacke. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 693 The sadded Soldiers marched in the first Ranks. 1680 LACY *Prol. to 'Love Lost in the Dark'*, Which keeps our sadded Hearts in deep suspence.

Saddeli, -ly, obs. forms of SADLY.

Sadden (sæ·d'n), *v.* [f. SAD *a.* + -EN.]

1. *trans.* To make solid, firm, or stiff; to compress, render cohesive; to press or beat *down* into a compact mass. Now *dial.*

1600 G. PLAT in Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1669) 44 Also the roots of the Corn will spread better..if the ground be saddned a little in the bottom of every hole. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 Hee woulde have the water sattle away, and the grownd somewhat saddened. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv.* xvii. 102 For your Lime after it is ouce Slacked, and Melted, it is of a very cold Nature; for it will sadden your Land exceedingly. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 73/1 Treading it [*sc.* Hay] is to sadden it down either in the Mow or Rick, &c. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 94 If Marle sadden Land, or make it stiff or binding, you must dung it well. 1813 T. BATCHELOR *Gen. View Agric. Bedf.* 342 (E. D. D.), The soil below will, instead of being brought up, be trampled and saddened.

† b. *intr.* To become stiff or solid. *Obs.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 If there bee any winds aloft without raine, the grownd will sadden and the fields waxe dry. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. xcii. 407 After which the ground began to sadden. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 117 Then take them off the fire and let them stand a little to sadden.

2. *trans.* To render sad or sorrowful; to depress in spirits. Also, to give a sad appearance to.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] lviii. 166 He smarts, and pines, and sadneth his incumbred soule. 1717 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 167 Her gloomy presence saddens all the scene. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, With a heart saddened by disappointment. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 28 Its beauty was saddened by care and anxiety. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XX, Her round face much paled and saddened since he had parted from it. 1884 *Graphic* 4 Oct. 358/2 It saddens me to enter a Government bureau at the present day.

b. *intr.* To become sad or gloomy.

1718 POPE *Iliad* XIV. 558 Troy sadden'd at the View! 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 979 And Mecca saddens at the long delay. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* XVIII, Her countenance saddened in a moment. 1818 KEATS *What the Thrush said* 12 He who saddens At thought of idleness cannot be idle. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* XXXIX, Better be merry with the fruitful Grape Than sadden after none, or bitter, Fruit. *fig.* 1795 COLERIDGE *Aeolian Harp* 7 And watch the clouds, that late were rich with light, Slow saddening round.

3. *Dyeing* and *Calico-printing.* To tone down (colours) by the application of certain chemicals.

1792 HAMILTON *Bertholllet's Dyeing* II. II. III. V. 196 These substances however saddened the crimson colour and gave it less lustre than alum. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 414/2 *Saddening*, a peculiar method of applying certain mordants in dyeing and printing cloths, so as to give duller shades to the colours employed. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 30/2 Winch 30 minutes, and lift for saddening. 1874 SIR W. CROOKES *Handbk. Dyeing & Calico-print.* 53 For saddening olives, drabs, clarets, &c.,..it [*sc.* copperas] has been generally discarded in favour of a nitrate of iron.

Saddened (sæ·d'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. SADDEN *v.* + -ED 1.] Made sad.

1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 768 The Limping Smith observ'd the sadden'd Feast. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xi. (1848) I. 146 There is something peculiarly touching in the saddened tone of these few words. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. ii. 47 A bright flush swept over her..rather saddened face. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 58 The Resurrection of Christ had scattered every cloud from their saddened souls.

Saddening (sæ'd'niŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

† 1. That saddens or renders stiff. *Obs.*

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 135 In..working it [lime] into the Land..it seems & appeares to be Coldest, and most sadning of Land of any Soyl whatsoever.

2. Causing sadness.

1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* IV. 24 And shrieks and sorrows load the saddening wind. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 705 He never longs to read the saddening tale Of endless wars. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 190 The circumstances under which this session opened were..grave and saddening. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 23 Oct. 21/3 It is saddening to hear that the Sunderland engineers have been on strike for 60 weeks.

Saddil, obs. form of SADDLE.

† Sa·dding, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SAD *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of making sad.

1643 W. GREENHILL *Axe at Root* 35 Those Nations are remisse in Justice: besides the sadding of those are innocent, they abound in Delinquents and dangers. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xxiv. 277 There is a sadding of the spirit,..which is forbidden.

† Sa·dding, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SAD *v.* + -ING 2.] a. That makes sad. b. Becoming sad.

1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* IV. vi. § 7 (1654) 154 Are these such sadding and madding thoughts? *a* 1839 GALT *Demon Destiny* v. (1840) 34 Alas! my son, the sadding matron cried.

Saddish (sæ'diʃ), *a.* [f. SAD *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat sad (see the adj.). Also *Comb.*

1647 W. BROWNE *Polex.* II. 265 Our Heroe..put off aswell all his saddish Ornaments, as his triumphant. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2192/4 A saddish coloured stuff Sute. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* 336 His companion..in a hesitating, saddish voice, said that he was an Englishman.

Saddle (sæ·d'l), *sb.* Forms: 1 **sadol,** 3–6 **sadel,** 4–6 **sadill,** 5–6 **sadell, sadil,** 5 **saddill, sadille, -yl, -yll(e, -elle, -ul,** 5, 9 *Sc.* **saidle,** 5–7 **sadle,** 6– **saddle.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *sadol, -ul* masc. = MDu. *sadel* (mod.Du. *zadel, zaal*), OHG. *satal, -ul* (MHG. *satel,* mod.G. *sattel*), ON. *sǫðull* (Sw., Da. *sadel*):—OTeut. **sadulo-z.*

Possibly adopted in OTeut. from some other Indogermanic language, and if so perh. a derivative of the root **sod-*, ablaut-var. of **sed-* (see SIT *v.*), whence the synonymous L. *sella* (:-**sedlā*), OSl. *sedlo* (Russian сѣдло *sʹedlo,* Pol. *siodło*). No known language, however, has a corresponding derivative from the *o* grade of the root.]

I. 1. A seat for a rider to be used on the back of a horse or other animal; esp., a concave seat of leather having side flaps and fitted with girths and stirrups. Also an analogous kind of seat for use on a cycle.

For the saddle, for riding purposes. *In the saddle,* on horseback. *To lose one's saddle,* to become unhorsed.

Beowulf 1033 (Gr.) Eahta mearas..þara anum stod sadol ..þæt wæs hildeseti heahcyninges. *c* 1205 LAY. 6473 Æt his sadele an ex. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3949 Vp-on hise asse his sadel he dede. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3871 (Kölbing) Mani in sadles held hem stille, & mani al so of hors felle. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1199 Vpon a thikke palfrey paper white With sadel rede..Sitte Dido. 1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 65 Lyke as by the sadyl a knyght is sure upon his hors. 1595 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* II. i. 6, I prethee Tom, beate Cuts Saddle, put a few Flockes in the point. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. 182 [They] let fly .with such a force, that they had almost lost their saddles. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. v. § 31. 91 Yea, such was his persevering beauty (fair in the Cradle and Saddle too)—that it lasted unto his old-age. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 56 The 16,000 Families have for the Coach and Saddle near 40 M. Horses. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants, Groom,* Contrive that the Saddle may pinch the Beast in his Withers. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 113 Taking a couple of horses, one for the saddle, and the other as a pack-horse. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 96 Sir King, mine ancient wound is hardly whole, And lets me from the saddle. 1887 BURY & HILLIER *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) 340 A suitable saddle is a necessity for the comfort of the cyclist. *fig.* 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 42 Nothing awes a great River so much as a bridge;..a bridge is the saddle to ride the Sea-horse.

b. With qualifying word indicating a particular kind of saddle; esp. *great saddle,* a saddle for the 'great horse' (see HORSE *sb.* 21).

For *hunting, pad, portmanteau, running, war saddle,* etc. see the first element. Also PACKSADDLE, SIDE-SADDLE.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* IV. 119 Item, for v French sadilles to gif away; ilk sadill xxviij *s.* 1581 *Will of Wyltshire* (Somerset Ho.), Scottisch sadell. 1598 FLORIO, *Scrignuto naso,* a camoset, a flat-nose, a nose like a scotch-saddle. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavelarice* VI. ix. 49 [*margin*] The great horse saddle. *Ibid.* 50 Next vnto this saddle is the Morocco saddle.., and these two Saddles for seruice in the warres, are..sufficient. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Apr., The designe is admirable, some keeping neere an hundred brave horses, all managed to y greate saddle. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 314 Saddles..high and close, like our great Saddle. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 345/1 A Burford Saddle, hath the Seat plain, and the Skirts plain and streight. 1701 P. WARWICK *Mem. Chas. I,* 66 He rid the great horse very well; and on the little saddle he was ..a laborious hunter, or field-man.

† c. *Saddle curule* [nonce-use, tr. L. *sella curulis*], the curule chair.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. iii. (S.T.S.) I. 47 He cled him with riche & riall abilzementis, þat he was wourthy to sett in þe sadill curall. *Ibid.* 25, 181.

2. Figurative phrases. a. *In the saddle,* in a position of active management and guidance of affairs, in office; also, in readiness for work. Similarly *to get into the saddle. To cast out of saddle,* to deprive of office or position.

1660 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Mar., He told me he feared there was new design hatching, as if Monk had a mind to get into the saddle. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* vii. (Rtldg. 1883) 52 Such as by the favour of fortune..have got into the saddle. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 225 The Presbyterians being now again in the saddle. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxv, I have known when my bare word would have cast the best man-at-arms among ye out of saddle and out of service. 1879 *19th Cent.* 668 All the states of Italy accepted the new Pope; and Rodrigo Borgia, once in the saddle, was not a man to be easily dislodged. 1881 R. G. WHITE *Eng. Without & Within* xiv. 323 The phrase 'in the saddle'—as an expression of readiness for work, is a peculiarly English phrase. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 28 Otherwise the happy-go-lucky..system of production could not keep itself in the saddle to any durable extent.

b. † *To be beside the saddle*: to be beside the mark. (Cf. CUSHION *sb.* 10 b.) † *To put* or *set beside the saddle*: to put 'out of the running', to defeat the plans or ruin the career of. (Cf. CUSHION *sb.* 10 c.) † *To sit beside the saddle*: ? to abandon oneself to despair.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 873 The French king..fearing least when he had almost runne his race, King Henry would put him beside hys sadell, whome he did halfe suspect to be a back friend of hys. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Tiberius & Caius* (1656) 693 If he could obtain it [*sc.* the Consulship], he was fully bent to set Caius beside the saddle. *a* 1590 GREENE *Metamorph.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 81 Well, howsoeuer it be, Lucidor shall be mine, hee shall haue my heart, and I his, or else I will sit beside the saddle. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* (1844) 19 As that no power either of Prince or Parliament, shall ever be able to set us, hereafter, beside the saddle. 1664 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 36 This Doctor is besides the Saddle, what is now in Use is not our Enquiry.

c. (*I will*) *either win the saddle or lose the horse* (or vice versa): said by one engaging in an adventure of which the issue will be either highly profitable or ruinous. Hence in various similar phrases.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 62 b, He hath both leoperded the horse, and lost the saddle. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1883–4 V. 131 Whatsoeuer two resolute men will goe to dice for it, and win the bridle or lose the saddle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 22 But Blandamour.. lite prays'd his labours evill speed, That for to winne the saddle lost the steed. 1603 BRETON *Packet Mad Lett.* 7 But my state being so downe the winde..I will..thrust my selfe into some place of seruice in the warres, where I will either winne the Horse, or lose the Saddle. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. § 42. 894 They..resolve either to 'win the saddle or loose the Horse'.

d. *To lay* or *set the saddle upon the right horse* (and similar phrases): to lay the blame on the right person.

1635 in Sainsbury *Cal. of Court Min. E. I. Co.* (1907) 15 [Resolving how they might] sett the saddle upon the right horse. 1652 COLLINGES *Caveat for Prof.* (1653) ii. C 1, You have laid the saddle upon the wrong Horse. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 37 To remove this scandal, the apostle setteth the saddle on the right Horse, and sheweth, that [etc.]. 1690 WOOD *Life* 25 July (O.H.S.) III. 336 E. G. with child, layd on the tapster, who said that 'set the saddle on the right horse'. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 83 But let us bring things to a right understanding, do Satan justice, and set the saddle upon the right devil. 1752 MRS. C. LENNOX *Female Quixote* (1820) II. VII. xii. 154 I'll clear myself, and put the saddle upon the right horse! 1839 HOOD *Tale of a Trumpet* xlviii, And the cat at last escapes from the bag—And the saddle is placed on the proper nag.

e. *To put* (one) *to every corner of* or *to all the seats of* (one's) *saddle*: to compel to try every expedient. *Sc.*

1825 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1837) VI. 24, I have the dregs of Abbotsford House to pay for..so I must look for some months to be put to every corner of my saddle. 1825 JAMIESON *Dict.* s.v., *To put one to a' the seats o' the Saddle,* to nonplus, to gravel one, S.

f. In proverbial similative phrases.

1566 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. (1846) I. 242 Als seimlye a sight..as to putt a sadill upoun the back of ane unrewly kow. 1663 *Aron-bimn.* 88 But for this pretence of pulling down Antichrist, it is a saddle that will fit any back. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. xii. 215 That becometh him as handsomely (according to our Proverb) as A saddle doth a Cowes back.

3. That part of the harness of a shaft-horse which takes the bearing of the shafts (see quot. 1851); a cart- or gig-saddle.

[1377: see *cartsaddle* vb., CART *sb.* 6. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wright-Wülcker 665/33 *Hoc dorsilollum,* cartsadylle.] 1794 [see HOUSING *sb.*² 2 b]. 1837 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* XXXVI, The shaft horse neither felt his saddle nor his belly-band. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. of the Farm* (ed. 2) I. 430 The shaft-horse requires bridle, collar, haims, saddle, and breeching, to be fully equipped...The saddle—as saddle and breeching together are commonly called—is placed on the horse's back immediately behind the shoulder. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* III. III iv. 543/1 The supporting and backing part [of gig harness] consists of the Pad or Saddle...This has two rings for the reins, called the Terrets, and a Hook for the bearing rein. 1875 [see PAD *sb.*³ 2 b]. 1882 J. PHILIPSON *Harness* 25 The pad is sometimes used instead of a saddle for single harness.

II. Something resembling a saddle in shape or position.

4. *Physical Geogr., Mining,* etc. a. A depression in a hill or line of hills. [So G. *sattel.*] b. A long elevation of land with sloping sides; a ridge, esp. one connecting two hills; also, a similar formation of ice or snow.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 350 A lowe longe lande, and a longe poynt, with a saddle throwgh the myddeste of it. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 267 A very high Hill..with a Saddle or bending on the top. 1779 FORREST *Voy. New Guinea* 159 [We] discerned other land, bearing from N. W. to N. N. W. forming in saddles and hummocs. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix, There was a long narrow saddle or ridge of limestone about five hundred feet high. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. 134 The carboniferous strata are thrown into partial saddles and curvatures. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 108 The..glacier, being terminated by a saddle which stretches across from mountain to mountain. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xl. 23 The Palatine is connected with the Esquiline by the low ridge or saddle of the Velia. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) 130 We stepped at last on to the little saddle of snow. 1876 GREEN *Phys. Geol.* ix. § 3. 347 When the beds have been bent into the form of arches these are called Anticlinals or Saddles.

5. In mechanical uses. a. *Naut.* A block of wood, hollowed out above and below, fastened to a spar to take the bearing of another spar attached to it.

1512–13 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 463 Item..for viij greit treis to mak the sadillis to the greit schip and Margret..xlviij *s.* 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Saddle,* a small..wooden block...nailed on the lower yard-arms, to retain the studding-sail booms in a firm and steady position. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 178 To get the heel of the boom..down in the saddle.

b. *Bridge-construction.* (*a*) A block on the top of a pier to carry the suspension cables. (*b*) A frame used in the construction of a pontoon-bridge (see quot. 1853).

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 108 On the extreme height of the suspension piers are placed the cast iron blocks or saddles. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 30 The Saddle [of a pontoon bridge] is a frame of fir timber, which is placed centrally over the axis of a pontoon..and serves to receive the ends of the balks. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 14 Apr., A fresh pontoon was brought alongside, fresh saddles were lashed to it, another length of balks..was dropped into the saddle. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 301/2 Suspension Bridges.—The chains where they pass over the piers rest on saddles.

c. A 'seat' or support on which a gun is placed for bouching.

1862 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (ed. 9) 190 Saddle [for Armstrong gun], with Tightening Screws. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

d. (See quot. 1888.)

1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.* s.v., The seatings or supports which carry horizontal cylindrical boilers..are called saddles. 1899 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 5/3 The saddles that held the six thirty-ton boilers in place broke.

e. *Telegraphy.* A bracket to support the wire on the top of a pole or ridge.

1867 R. S. CULLEY *Pract. Telegr.* (ed. 2) 122 The saddle or bracket must be fixed with screws. 1885 *Ibid.* (ed. 8) 148 At the top of the pole a galvanised iron roof is fixed, and over it a cast-iron saddle, into which the insulator bolt fits. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 161/2 The attachments to buildings were made..by means of standards or ridge saddles attached to the roofs.

f. *Railways.* (? *U.S.*) (*a*) The bearing resting on the journal of an axle in the axle-box. (*b*) A chair for a rail. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 459, 2011.

g. In various machines: The base of a slide rest, drilling head, etc., which slides along its support.

1869 W. J. M. RANKINE *Cycl. Mach. & Hand-Tools* Plate H 8 The self-acting motion for the saddles is arranged as follows. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 355/1 The saddle (which carries the wood) is drawn to the hand-wheel end of the machine. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 264/2 The lower part of the slide-rest is termed the 'saddle'. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Saddle,* the base of a slide rest. ..Similarly, the sliding plate which carries the drill spindle and gear wheels of a radial drill.

h. (*a*) A saddle-shaped electrical conductor. (*b*) A concave pad to be applied to a limb that is to be electrified.

1838 FARADAY *Exper. Researches* (1844) II. 5 A plate of copper..was bent into a saddle shape,..a jacket of sheet caoutchouc was put over the saddle. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 492 If, then, we wish to administer *direct* shocks to a paralytic limb, say the leg, we apply a sponge director or saddle..to the hip.

i. In various applications: see quots.

1750 BLANCKLEY *Navy. Expositor, Saddles* are used by the Smiths to turn Thimbles hollow on. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Arch.* 492 To pebble-pave the byres..with proper cribstone and saddle (the former partitions off the crib; and the latter the gutter behind). 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric., Provincialisms, Saddle,* (Fife), that part of stall between manger and grip. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 61/2 [Varnish making.] A saddle, which is a sheet of plate-iron, or tin, 12 in. broad, and turned up 1½ in. at each side..to prevent the spilling of the varnish during the time of taking..out. 1875 T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 76 There are two very efficient aids to the saw...The first is the bench saddle...It is a piece of wood with reverse shoulders; the under shoulder hooks against the side of the bench,..the upper shoulder catches any piece of wood laid against it for sawing. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 250 *Saddles,* the steel bars in a gill box on which the fallers travel. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict., Saddle,* a term used in Suffolk for a thin piece of wood fixed on the floor between the jambs of a door and under it.

6. *Cookery.* In full *saddle of mutton.* A 'joint' of mutton, venison, etc., consisting of the two loins and conjoining vertebræ.

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 4 The Saddle of Mutton (which is the two Loins). *Ibid.* 24 To French a Hind Saddle of Mutton. It is the two Rumps. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 338 A saddle of mutton, or more properly a chine. 1806 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 75 Hams and saddles of venison. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. of the Farm* II. 99 When cut double, forming the chine or saddle. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 20. 57 Nowhere can the equal of a

Sussex haunch or saddle be obtained. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* p. ix, They took merely the skins and 'saddle' of the antelope they killed.

7. Applied to certain parts of animals. **a.** A natural saddle-like marking on the back of the Harp Seal. Cf. Saddle-back *sb.* 4 c.

1784 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* I. 165 The Newfoundland Seal-hunters call it the Harp, or Heart Seal, and name the marks on the sides the saddle. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 62.

b. *Conchol.* † (*a*) A saddle-oyster (see 10); (*b*) see quot. 1851.

1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 156 Saddle, *Anomia Sella.* 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* 78 The shell..is an extremely elongated cone,..divided into cells or chambers by a series of partitions (*septa*)...When they are folded, the elevations are called 'saddles'. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 436 Shell (cast) discoidal, with somewhat inflated whorls;..outer saddle only partly known.

c. (See quot.)

1872 L. Wright *Poultry* xvii. 205 *Saddle*, the posterior part of the back, reaching to the tail, in a cock, answering to the cushion in a hen; often, however, applied to both sexes, cushion being more restricted to a great development, as in Cochins, while 'saddle' may be applied to any breed.

8. *Bot.* A ridge separating the fovea and loveola in the leaves of *Isoetes*.

1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 475 Above the fovea and separated from it by the 'saddle', lies a smaller depression.

III. attrib. and Comb.

9. Simple attrib., as *saddle-flap, -girt, -girth, -horn* (Horn *sb.* 21 b), *-lap, -lashing, -nail*, †*-panel* (Panel *sb.*1 1), *-place, -pommel, -soap, -spring, -strap, -stuffing, -tack, -withers*; *saddle-like* adj.; with the sense 'used for riding', as *saddle-ass, -colt, -horse, mare, -ox, pony*; with the meaning 'saddle-shaped', as *saddle flange, key*; in the names of affections incident to the use of the saddle, as *saddle-bruise, raw, soreness*; also appositive, as (sense 5 a) *saddle-crutch*, (sense 4) *-glacier*, (sense 5 g) *-piece*; objective, as *saddle-maker, -making*.

1657 J. Watts *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 112 God once opened the mouth of Balaams *Saddle-asse. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4523/4 He had..a white Spot on his Back, that came by a *Saddle-bruise. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 208 The first Year *Saddle-Colts should only be walked. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Saddles*, We have a *saddle-crutch for the main or driver boom on the taffarel. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Saddle Flange*, a curved flange hollowed out to fit a boiler, a pipe, or other cylindrical vessel. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. of the Farm* II. 219 The *saddle-flaps should be sponged clean of mud. 1813 J. C. Hobhouse *Journey* (ed. 2) 712 We..found the stream as high as the *saddle-girts. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* vi. xxxiii, And, bursting in the headlong sway, The faithless *saddle-girths gave way. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 June 11/1 The summit of the [Kangla] pass..is crowned by a noble *saddle glacier. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 73, I..threw the rein of his horse up over the *saddle-horn. 1662 Gerbier *Principles* 32 To accustome the Neapolitan great *Saddle-Horse to raise their Neck. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxvii. 238 He hired a saddle-horse..and started after breakfast. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Saddle Key*, a key whose inner face is hollowed to fit its shaft. 1803 *Scott's Minstrelsy* III. 266 He louted owr his *saddle lap, To kiss her ere they part. 1822 A. Cunningham *Tradit. Tales, Last Ld. of Helvellyn* (1887) 217 My fathers have fought to the saddle-laps in English blood for the men of the house of Maxwell. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 1 The muzzle and *saddle lashings of guns. 1784 J. King *Cook's Voy.* III. vi. iii. 238 On each side of this break the land is quite low; beyond the opening rises a remarkable *saddle-like hill. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 43 Raymondyn sent for a *Sadlemaker, to whom he said: 'My frend..ye muste cutte this hyde in fourme of a thonge'. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 142/1 The saddle-maker has to consider the ease and comfort of both horse and rider. *Ibid.*, *Saddle-making and the cutting and sewing of bridles. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4312/3 Lost.., a bay *Saddle Mare. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Saddle-nail*, a short nail having a large, smooth head, used in making saddles. 1824 W. J. Burchell *Trav. S. Africa* Index, s.v. *Oxen*, *Saddle Oxen: their rate of travelling. 1465-6 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 90 Pro ij *Sadillpanell empt. pro le ffissheman, ij s. iiij d. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Saddle*, Some stuff their Saddle-Pannels with well dry'd Moss. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 322 When the screw is turned round, the *saddle-piece will slide uniformly along the triangular bar. 1890 Slingo & Brooker *Electr. Engin.* xvii. 600 The channelling [for underground cables] consists of blocks of bituminous concrete made in six-foot lengths and jointed by a saddle-piece of the same material. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 209 Whoever..takes not off his [horse's] Saddle 'till he is cold, and then rubs the *Saddle-place well. 1593 Markham *Horsemanship* B 3 b, Casting the raynes thereof ouer the *Saddle pomell. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* xxiv. (1905) 308 His return blow..grazing the Lean Man's saddle-pummel as it fell. 1887 Anstey in *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 261/2 My riding was interrupted for a while. Brutus was discovered..to have a *saddle-raw. 1889 *Field* 7 Dec. LXXIV. 793/2 The *saddle soap made by Messrs. B——. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 1 Mar. 7/5 *Saddle soreness is provoked if every stroke of the pedals extends the leg to the utmost. 1887 Bury & Hillier *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) 340 The combined *saddle-springs recently introduced. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, **Saddle-straps* ..are used to hold the girths fast to the saddle. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 193 Cut a straight sapling while we rouse out the saddle-straps for a splice. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xiii, We saw the husk carded out ..for..*saddle-stuffing. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 132 Hogg should purchase a pennyworth of *saddle-tacks, and..nail the ears of the Gude Grey Catte to his stable-door. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Saddle*, The *Saddle-Withers should be low.

10. Special comb., as **saddle-band** *Sc.*, ? the band of a pedlar's pack; **saddle-bar**, (*a*) *Glazing*, each of the small horizontal iron bars (fitting over the upright stanchions) to which the lead panels are secured; (*b*) *Saddlery* (see quot. 1875); **saddle-billed** *a.*, an epithet applied to the stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*, from the recurved shape of its bill; †**saddle bitten** *a.*, galled with a saddle; **saddle-blanket** *U.S.*, a small blanket used, folded, as a saddle-cloth; **saddle boiler**, a boiler of concave form for use with heating apparatus; **saddle-bracket**, (*a*) a receptacle for a saddle when not in use; (*b*) *Telegr.* = 5 e above; **saddle carp** (see quot.); **saddle-carpenter**, one who makes the frames or trees of saddles; **saddle-case**, † (*a*) the housing of a saddle (*obs.*); (*b*) a travelling case for a saddle; †**saddle-charge**, ? a saddle load; **saddle clip** (see quot.); †**saddle drum**, ? a small drum carried on the saddle; **saddle-eaves** *pl.*, jocularly used for the side of a saddle; **saddle-fast** *a.*, firmly seated in the saddle; **saddle-gall**, a sore produced on the back of a horse by the chafing of the saddle; **saddle-galled** *a.*, chafed with the saddle; affected with saddle-gall; **saddle-grafting** (see quot.); †**saddle-hill**, a saddle-back hill; **saddle-house**, † (*a*) a saddle-cloth (*obs.*); (*b*) a building in which saddlery is kept; **saddle-iron** *Sc.*, a stirrup; **saddle-joint**, (*a*) *Mech.* (see quot. 1875); (*b*) *Building* (see quot. 1901); (*c*) *Anat.* (see quot. 1897); **saddle leaf** *U.S.*, the saddle-tree, or American tulip-tree (*Cent. Dict.* 1891), **saddle-leather**, the leather composing a saddle; also, leather specially prepared for saddle-making; **saddle-mat**, a mat used in the Western U. S. as a saddle-cloth; **saddle-nose**, (*a*) a flat or snub-nose; (*b*) see quot. 1897; **saddle-nosed** *a.*, having a saddle-nose; also, of a bird 'having a soft nasal membrane saddled on the bill' (*Cent. Dict.*); **saddle-oyster**, a name given to certain anomioid bivalves, the shape of which resembles that of a saddle; **saddle-pin**, the pin of a cycle saddle which fits into a socket on the cycle frame; **saddle pistol**, a holster pistol; **saddle-plate**, the bent plate which forms the arch of the furnace in steam boilers of the locomotive type (*Cent. Dict.*); **saddle-quern** (see quot.); **saddle-rack** = *saddle-bracket* (a); **saddle-rail, -reed** (see quots.); †**saddle-rings**, circular marks on the back of a horse caused by the abrasion of the saddle; **saddle-roof**, a saddleback roof; **saddle-room**, a room in which saddlery is kept when not in use; **saddle-rug**, a saddle-cloth made of carpeting (*Cent. Dict.*); **saddle sealing**, hunting and catching the saddleback seal; **saddle seat** *dial.*, a horse for riding purposes; **saddle-shaped** *a.*, resembling a saddle in shape; *Geol.*, anticlinal; **saddle-shell** = *saddle-oyster*; **saddle-sick** *a.*, *Sc.*, indisposed through riding; †**saddle side**, the concave lower side (of the liver); **saddle-skirts** *pl.*, the lowermost parts of a saddle; also, the part of a horse's flanks covered by these; **saddle-sore** *a.*, chafed with the saddle; †**saddle-speck**, a mark caused by the abrasion of the saddle; **saddle spot** = prec.; hence **saddle-spotted** *a.*; **saddle-stead** *poet.*, the place of the saddle; **saddle-stone**, (*a*) *Arch.*, the stone forming the angle at the summit of the coping of a gable; (*b*) 'an old name for a variety of stone containing saddle-shaped depressions' (*Cent. Dict.*); **saddle-stool** = *saddle-bracket* (a); **saddle-tank** (see quot. 1871); also *attrib.* as **saddle-tank engine** (see quot. 1888); †**saddle tore** (see quot.); **saddle wire** *Telegr.*, the wire running along the tops of telegraph posts. Also Saddle back, -bag, -bow, -cloth, -tree.

a 1604 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 463 It [*sc.* the ministrie] will die in thy hand Therefor the backe shall beare the *sadle-band. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 638 Frames [in lead-work] intended to receive these lights are made with bars across, to which the lights are fastened.. called *saddle-bars. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 293 It is now most common to place the saddle-bars outside the glass. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Saddle-bar*, the side-bar, side-plate, or spring-bar of a saddle-tree, one on each side connecting the pommel and cantle. 1877 *Nature* 17 May 54/1 The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens..include..a *Saddle-billed Stork. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 80 He..made him spotted in the backe, as if he had been *saddle bitten. 1885 B. Harte *Maruja* vi. His quick eye was attracted by a *saddle-blanket. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 228/2 The *saddle boiler is very efficient in form, steady and sure in its working. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1254/2 Wanted, saddle boiler ..to heat small greenhouse. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. of the Farm* I. 190 The riding-horse-stable should have *saddle-brackets. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 210 If a wire is to be run along the top of the pole, brackets.. named saddle-brackets, or simply saddles, are..used. 1888 G. B. Goode *Amer. Fishes* 416 When there is a row of large scales down the back it [*sc.* the King Carp] is called the '*Saddle Carp'. *a* 1720 W. Gibson *Diet of Horses* viii. (ed. 3) 125 A Country where there is perhaps the most expert *Saddle-Carpenters and Saddlers in the World. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, **Saddle-case*. See the article *Housing*. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc. Price List* 497 Tin-lined Saddle Cases for Ladies' Saddles. *a* 1500 *Lat. & Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/35 *Sauma*, a *Sadylcharge. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Saddle Clip*, a clip which straddles the spring and axle. 1617 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 593 *Saddle drummes of gold set with stones, vsed in Hawking. 1663 Butler *Hudibras* I. i. 412 But after many strains and heaves, He got up to the *saddle-eaves. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* III. vi, Still sate the warrior *saddle-fast. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), **Saddle-gall.* 1831 Youatt *Horse* 169 For saddle galls there is no better application than [etc.]. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1555/4 One brown bay Nag..having been lately *Saddle-galled. 1898 Doyle *Trag. Korosko* i, The saddle-galled donkeys. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* § 2032 *Saddle-grafting is performed by first cutting the top of the stock into a wedge-like form, and then splitting up the end of the scion ; it is then placed on the wedge, embracing it on each side. 1773 *Cook's 1st Voy.* II. vii. in *Hawkesworth's Voy.* III. 419 There is,..very near the shore, a remarkable *saddle-hill. 1431-2 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 231 Et in j nova hakney-sadyll et j nova *Sadyllehouse. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Oct. 1/1 A very excellent Mansion House with coach house, saddle house and stabling. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* III. 101 The Squire sought out Bob in the saddle-house. 1822 Galt *Gilhaize* i. 3 His father having a profitable traffic in *saddle-irons and bridle-rings among the gallants of the court. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Saddle-joint*, a form of joint for sheet-metal...One portion overlaps and straddles the vertical edge of the next. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Saddle-joint*, a joint in which the articulating bony surfaces are convex in one direction and concave in the other. 1901 R. Sturgis *Dict. Archit.* s. v. *Joint, Saddle Joint.* In a weathered course of masonry,..a joint formed between two adjoining stones whose ends are cut higher than the surface of the weathering between. These projections at the ends are usually sloped or rounded away from the joint ..so as to shed water from the mortar. 1832 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* III. iii, Thick-jewell'd shone the *saddle-leather. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 523/1 Mats, called 'cocas',..are much sought after by California ranchmen as *saddle-mats. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 27 The Raising gently of the Bridge of the Nose [of an infant], doth preuent the Deformity of a *Saddle Nose. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Saddle-nose*, a nose the bridge of which has sunk, in consequence of necrosis of the nasal bones. 1598-9 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 101 His wife..had cut and pared her nose betweene the eyes, that she might seeme to be more flat and *saddle-nosed. 1742 C. Jarvis *Quix.* I. III. ii. 86 An Asturian wench, broad-faced, flat-headed, and saddle-nosed. 1856 Woodward *Mollusca* 256 *P[lacuna] sella*, called, from its shape, the '*saddle-oyster', is remarkably striated. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 5/2 He carried the despatches in the *saddle-pin of his bicycle. 1881 Greener *Gun* 376 The Double-grip *Saddle Pistol. Side-lever action Saddle Pistol. 1872 J. Evans *Anc. Stone Impl.* x. 226 The name of *saddle-quern has been given to this form of grinding apparatus [*sc.* a bed-stone slightly hollowed on its upper surface and a large oval pebble for a muller]. 1850 A. T. Fisher *Through the Stable* xii. 93 *Saddle-racks are usually fixed to the walls of a saddle-room. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Saddle-rail*, a railway rail which has flanges straddling a longitudinal and continuous sleeper. *Ibid.*, **Saddle-reed*, small reeds used in the place of cord to form the edges of gig-saddle sides. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3017/4 Stolen..a brown bay Mare with a bald Face, *Saddle-rings [etc.]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Saddle-roof*, a double gabled roof. 1883 *B'ham Weekly Post* 18 Aug. 8/6 He procured a loaded gun from the *saddle-room. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 527/1 The majority of the vessels, after prosecuting the '*saddle' sealing at Newfoundland or Greenland, proceed direct to Disco. 1895 'Hugh Haliburton' *Dunbar* 70 Farmers that hed a *saddle seat,..Keep nae beast noo but cats an' mice. 1833-4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 594/2 The limestone is uplifted into a *saddle-shaped or anticlinal ridge. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 17 Being concave from side to side and therefore saddle-shaped. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Saddle-shaped*, applied to such valves of Diatoms as those of *Coscinodiscus*. 1863 J. G. Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 419 *Saddle-shell, *Anomia ephippium*. 1823 Galt *Entail* vii, Weel do I ken what it is to be *saddle-sick mysel'. 1844 Mrs. Carlyle *Let.* 7 July, New Lett. & Mem. 1903 I. 140 The girls were dreadfully saddle-sick. For me, my old habit of riding, I suppose, had saved me. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 1 The inward face of the Liuer which is the lower, is..hollow, vnequall, and is called the *Simus* or *saddle side, that it may giue way to the stomacke strutting..with plenty of meat. 1610 Markham *Maister-p.* II. xliv. 286 Of Wennes or Knobs growing about the *saddle skirts. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* vi. (1658) 153 Pharnabazus..rid his horse into the very sea, up to his saddle-skirts. *a* 1725 Thoresby *Diary* (1830) I. 295 We missed the deepest of the Wash..though we rode to the saddle-skirts for a considerable way. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 22 Oct. 8/4 Nicholas *saddle-sore by this time, and the mare too weary to shy. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2062/4 Lost a black Coach Mare.., hath a small *Saddle-speck. 1668 *Ibid.* No. 272/4 A Baye Mare, no white, save some *Saddle spots. 1676 *Ibid.* No. 1098/4 Stolen ., a large brown bay Coach Gelding,..*saddle-spotted. 1876 Morris *Sigurd* II. 133 And his war-gear clanged and tinkled as he leapt to the *saddle-stead. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 320/1 Modern gables too are generally awkwardly terminated at the eaves by..*saddle-stones. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 583/2 Hooks and *saddle-stools, or brackets, for the saddles or harness. 1871 *Young Gentleman's Ann.* Dec. 28 Other engines of this class [*sc.* tank-engines], however, carry their water in a tank (called a *saddle-tank) which rests on the top of the boiler. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Saddle Tank Engine*, a locomotive engine in which the water tank envelops the top and sides of the boiler. 1681 Colvil *Whigs' Supplic.* (1741) 13 A Pistol..at either *Saddle tore. *Note.* Saddle tore, *Saddle Bow.* 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 253 The most important circuit is generally worked upon the *saddle wire.

Saddle (sæ·d'l), *v.* Forms: 1 sadolian, sadelian, 3–6 sadel, (6 -ell), 4–5 sadyl(l, (5 -ylle), 4–7 sadle, (5 sadulle, sadil, 6 -ill), 6– saddle. [OE. *sadolian*, f. *sadol* SADDLE *sb.*; cf. MLG. *sadeln*, MDu. *sadelen*, Du. *zadelen*, OHG. *satalôn* (MHG. *satelen*, mod.G. *satteln*), ON. *sǫðla* (Sw. *sadla*, Da. *sadle*).]

1. *trans.* To put a riding-saddle upon (a horse or other animal); also *to saddle up*. Also *absol.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxviii. (Z.) 165 *Sterno*..ic sadelige hors. *c* 1205 LAY. 13512 Fortiger hehte his sweines sadeli his blonken. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 763 (Cambr. MS.) Horn sadelede his stede. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 757 (MS. A.) Beues let sadlen is ronsi. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xiii. 13 And he seide to hise sones, Sadle ȝe an asse to me. And whanne thei hadden sadlid, he stiede, and ȝede after the man of God. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxviii, Quen Sir Amadace hade etun, To sadulle his horse was no3te for3etun. 1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 4 A spare coursar lad in hand.. sadlet with a saddell of estate. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* iv. 69 b, He sadled vp his horse, and roade in post away. 1637 J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 206 What needs the Writer saddle up his Horse. 1761 GRAY *Odin* 2 Uprose the king.. And saddled strait his coal-black steed. 1839–55 W. IRVING *Wolfert's Roost* 47, I almost determined..to..saddle my horse, and ride off. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Aug. 5/5, I then asked him to saddle-up my horse while I was dressing.

†b. *intr.* or *absol.* To inure a colt to the saddle.

1656 *Markham's Perfect Horseman* 19 When to Saddle.

c. *To saddle and bridle* fig., to subject to control.

1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 133 The cover [of the kettle] was chattering with the escaping steam, which had thus vainly begged of all men to be saddled and bridled, till James Watt one day happened to overhear it.

†2. *trans.* To ride, bestride (an animal). Also *transf. Obs.*

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 18 b, Take that benefyce to you (sayth he to the priest) but saddle nomore the nonne. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 68 Vpon Alhallow ene, Quhen our gude nichtbors rydis..Some sadland a sho ape, ..Some hottcheand on a hemp stalk. 1598 R. DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* X 2 b, No maruell then, the bridle being left in their owne [French wives'] hands, though sometimes they be saddled, and their husbands know not. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 184 Its lower Leaves are like the Garden Poppy, which higher saddle or ride the Stalk.

3. *intr.* To get into the saddle. In Colonial use *to saddle up.*

1835 BURNES *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) II. 198 We dressed ourselves..and saddled at three P.M. 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 12 Another term of Colonial import is that of 'saddling-up', and 'off-saddling'. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ii. 33 We saddled and went in pursuit. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* I. i. 61 Ay, every churl who owns a manor, must needs arm and saddle and levy war. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 206 Bothwell, myself, and the six troopers, saddled up and departed.

4. *trans.* To charge or load *with* (a burden); now only *fig.* to load *with* (something) as a burden.

1693 DRYDEN *Persius* v. 207 The Slaves thy Baggage pack, Each saddled with his Burden on his Back. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* I, His Estate..was left him saddled with two Joyntures, and two weighty Mortgages upon it. 1731 BAILEY vol. II. s.v., To saddle,..to embarrass, as to saddle a Cause. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 162 But Mr. Justice saddles the parish with whatever burthen he thinks proper. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. iv, I'll saddle him with this scrape. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) III. ix. 295 The earnest wish of Scott and Ballantyne to saddle the publisher of the new poem with part of their old 'quire stock'. 1858 SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xliv. 196 The chances then, are, that he is saddled with a sort of old man of the sea. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. iv. 157 We are perhaps inclined to saddle Scott unconsciously with the sins of a later generation. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 691/1 Otherwise a testator would be able to saddle people with duties of an onerous description.

b. ? To secure *for* (a burdensome task). *rare*$^{-1}$.

1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 25 Oct., Sotheby..endeavoured to saddle me for a review of his polyglot Virgil.

5. To put (a burden) *upon* (another's back).

1808 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XIV. 547 The men..who, if they serve us but for a few years, are saddled upon our devoted ass-like backs for life. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 153, I should not wonder if that Bully Mitchell saddles this poisoning upon me. 1820 L. J. JENNINGS in *Croker Papers* I. vi. 158 The whole of the Bergami family had..been saddled upon the Princess. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* III. 248, I found her only too eager to marry anyone upon whom she could saddle her debts.

6. a. *Masonry.* To work (a joint) so as to form a 'saddle' projecting above the horizontal surface of the stones joined. b. *Carpentry.* To join or fit together by HALVING.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 311 A process by workmen called saddling the joints. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Sept. 2/1 These consist of one log laid upon another, saddled in at the corners.

7. To bend downwards in the middle.

1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 327 Saddling the cards..is bending the sixes, sevens, eights, and nines, in the middle longways. 1820 *Standard* 10 Dec., Walls are cracked and roofs 'saddled' in every direction.

8. (See quot.)

1732 BAILEY vol. II. s.v., To saddle,..to furnish, as to saddle a spit.

†9. Comb.: **Saddle-goose**, a nickname for a fool; **saddle-nag**, a stable-boy, groom. *Obs.*

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1834 Sym Sadygose was my syer, and Dawcocke my dame. 1546 J. HALL *Poems* 7 Who would employ his Sadle-nagg to come And hold a trencher in the Dining-roome?

Saddleback (sæ·d'lbæk), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SADDLE *sb.* + BACK *sb.*] A. *sb.*

1. †a. *Archery.* A saddle-backed feather. *Obs.* b. A saddle-backed hill. (Cf. SADDLE-BACKED *a.* 1.)

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 133 The swyne backed fashion..gatherith more ayer than the saddle backed, and therefore the saddle backe is surer for daunger of wether. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 289 A saddleback is usually healthy..so are positions near the top of a slope. 1907 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 247 A regular saddleback of grey Silurian blocks the wayfarers path.

†2. A back (of an animal) having a depression in the middle of it. *Obs.*

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1694 Certaine beasts..much like unto a Deere, hauing a Saddle-backe like unto a Camell.

3. *Arch.* A roof of a tower, having a gable at two opposite sides connected by a ridge-roof; a packsaddle roof.

1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 238 The gabled tower..does not seem to occur; but we meet with the form usually called a saddle-back. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 243 The due and moderate use of the gabled tower of the German style..may be adopted,..so too may the saddle-back. 1893 C. HODGES in *Reliquary* Jan. 15 The finish of the tower was what is generally known as a saddle-back, a form common in Normandy, but rare in England.

4. A name of various birds and fishes. a. The Grey or Hooded Crow, *Corvus cornix*; also called *saddleback crow.* b. The adult of either of the Black-backed Gulls, *Larus marinus* and *L. fuscus*; also *saddleback gull.* c. The male of the Greenland or Harp Seal (*Phoca grœnlandica*) when three years old; in full *saddleback seal.* d. The *Creadion carunculatus*, a bird of New Zealand. e. A variety of the goose (see quot. 1885). f. A kind of oyster (see quot. 1876).

1847 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 275 A huge saddle-back gull. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. ii. 22 The valued furs of the saddle-back seal. 1864 ATKINSON *Prov. Names Birds*, Saddleback Crow..Hooded Crow. *Corvus cornix. Ibid.*, Saddle-back, Saddleback Gull..Great Blackbacked Gull. *Larus marinus.* 1868 W. BULLER *Ess. Ornithol.* in *Trans. N. Z. Inst.* I. 5 (Morris) The Saddle-back (*Creadion carunculatus*) of the North is represented in the South by *C. Cinereus*, a closely allied species. 1872 *Daily News* 23 Aug., The decrease of the gulls would be attended with certain loss to fishermen who were often directed and piloted to the shoals by the keen-eyed saddle-back. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 312 Great Black-backed Gull. Saddle-back. 1876 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Saddle-backs*, in fishery, a name given to a bastard kind of oyster by the fishers; they are considered unfit for human food. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 647/1 The common variety [of the goose] frequently marked with dark feathers on the back, and hence termed 'saddlebacks'. 1895 P. H. EMERSON *Birds* etc. *of Norf. Broadland* xlix. 140 A useful bird is the handsome but sluggish 'saddle-back' [*i.e.* the grey crow]. 1896 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammals* 156 It is not till the third year that the males (then called 'Saddle-backs') assume the characteristic dark harp-shaped markings.

5. a. *Coal-mining* (see quot.). b. *Geol.* An anticlinal (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1887).

1883 GRESLEY *Coal-mining Terms, Saddleback*, a depression or valley in strata.

B. *adj.*

1. = SADDLE-BACKED *a.*, in various senses.

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1257/4 Stolen or strayed.., one dapple gray Gelding..a little saddle-back. 1696 *Ibid.* No. 3202/4 A brown Mare,..Saddle Back, well risen on the Crest. 1862 *Ecclesiologist* XXIII. 252 Gabled or saddle-back towers. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 472/1 [Coping] sloping to both sides from the middle..is technically termed saddle-back coping. 1897 *Daily News* 3 May 7/3 The Greek troops occupied..a saddleback hill. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Sept. 4/1 A high saddle-back peak. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 114 A plain..building.. with two low gable or 'saddle-back' roofs.

2. *Saddleback crow, gull, seal*: see A. 4.

3. *Mech.* (See quot.)

1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 236/2 At the bottom of the hopper there is a number of angular or 'saddle back bars', placed transversely..; the 'saddle back bars' will have the effect of dividing the ores. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Saddle Back Rail*, or *Barlow Rail*, a rail whose sides curve rapidly outwards and downwards.

4. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1854 PAGE *Introd. Textbk. Geol.* § 31 When strata dip in opposite directions from a ridge or line of elevation..the axis is termed anticlinal or saddleback.

5. *Path.* (Cf. *saddle-nose*, SADDLE *sb.* 10.)

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 686 As a result of cicatricial contraction of the connective-tissue..the so-called 'saddle-back' nose may be formed.

6. Put for 'horse-back'. Also *advb.*

1899 'ZACK' *On Trial* xiv. 124 If 'tworn't that I can trust 'ee saddle-back..I shuld hold you had done the mare a mischief. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Feb. 1/3 His love of saddle-back exercise.

Saddle-backed (sæ·d'lbækt), *a.*

1. Having the back, upper surface, or edge curved like a saddle; having a concavely curved outline; *spec.* in *Archery* (see quot. 1545).

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 129 Fourthly in couling or sheryng [the feather of a shaft],..whether somewhat swyne backed (I must vse shoters wordes) or sadle backed, whether rounde, or square shorne? 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 126 It is a hill sadlebacked..: and..we saw a row of hils sadlebacked also. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 238 They [dolphins] are saddle-backed. *Ibid.* 492 The Walnut tree wood soone bendeth, and is saddle-backt as it lieth. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* I. 235 A saddle-backed hill.

2. Of a horse: see quot. 1831.

1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 967/4 Strayed or stolen.., a bright Bay Gelding,..a little Saddle-back'd. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 166 Some horses have a very considerable hollow behind the withers. They are said to be saddle-backed. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 July 2/3 A thoroughbred Arab..should be..very slightly saddle-backed. To be 'saddle-backed' is to have a depression where the saddle would naturally come.

3. *Arch.* a. Of coping: see quot. 1842. b. Of a tower: Having a SADDLEBACK.

1842 GWILT *Archit.* s.v. *Coping*, Coping thicker in the middle than at the edges is called saddle-backed coping. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 23 A small straight saddle-backed tower.

4. An epithet applied to birds having saddle-like markings on the back, as *saddle-backed crow*, the Grey Crow, *Corvus cornix.*

1838 HOLLOWAY *Provinc., Saddle-backed crow*, the Royston, or sea-crow, so called from its mixture of black and grey feathers. *Sussex.* 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 12 The Hooded, or Saddle-backed Crows. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath from Veldt* vii. 142 Here also are a big flock of saddle-backed Jabiru storks (*Mycteria senegalensis*).

Sa·ddle-bag.

1. A bag carried at the saddle; esp. one of a pair laid across the back of a horse, behind the saddle.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 542 Manufactures of leather ..holsters, saddle-bags [etc.]. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 43 He..put his hand into his saddle-bag, and eat a morsel of bread and a date which were among his provisions. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 67 The great saddle bags act like sails to the camels. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, A visit..which the Squire made on his horse with a pair of saddle-bags containing his wardrobe.

2. *attrib.* Used to designate a fine quality of carpeting, made in sizes and designs imitating the saddle-bags carried in the East by camels; now chiefly employed as a covering for cheap classes of dining-room furniture.

1882 *Daily News* 30 May 5/7 Settees and easy-chairs upholstered in what is known as the Persian saddle-bag pattern. 1900 FLO. WARDEN *Plain Miss Cray* 80 There was ..a saddle-bag couch and two big easy-chairs. 1903 MCNEILL *Egregious English* 125 A saddle-bag suite.

Sa·ddle-bow. Now *arch.* or *poet.* [BOW *sb.*1 Cf. OHG. *satilpogo* (MHG. *satelboge*, mod.G. *sattelbogen*).] The arched front part of a saddle-tree or of a saddle.

c 725 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 11/17 *Carpella*, sadulboza. *a* 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 209 in *O. E. Misc.* 116 If þu hauest seorewe, ne seye þu hit nouht þan arewe, seye hit þine sadelbowe [*a* 1275 seit þin sadilbowe] and ryd þe singinde forþ. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8148 (Kölbing) Wawain him ȝaue a dent of howe & cleued him to þe sadel bowe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xvi, And the lady of the lake took vp her heed and henge it vp by the heyre of her sadel bowe. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 14 Vouchsafe, thou wonder, to alight thy steed, And rein his proud head to the saddle-bow. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magick* XIV. 314 We use to hang up Turkies alive by the bills, at the sadle-bow, when we ride. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 411 The beast ..plunged, and threw his rider violently on the saddle-bow. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. v, Steeds..Barb'd with frontlet of steel, I trow, And with Jedwood-axe at saddlebow. 1879 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* 7 He lifted his hat, and bowed down to his saddle-bow as he passed her.

Saddle-cloth. Forms: see SADDLE and CLOTH; also 5 sadyclow. A cloth placed on a horse's back beneath the saddle; †in early use = foot-cloth, housing-cloth.

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 222 Item,..paied.. for ij. yerdes and di. and. di. qrter of blak cloth, for a sadyclow for my Lord. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 142 Spere, male, hode, halter, sadelclothe, spores. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1786/4 A bay Mare, with..a black Saddle, and a green Saddle-Cloth. 1776 BOSWELL *Johnson* II. 349, I observed them [at Lichfield] making some saddle-cloths. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, The Laird..has had his running footman here..to see when the broidered saddle-cloth for his sorrel horse will be ready. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 31 There is no bed like the saddle-cloth. 1867 S. W. BAKER *Nile Trib. Abyssinia* v. 111 We were requested to mount two superb white hygeens, with saddle-cloths of blue Persian sheep-skins.

Saddled (sæ·d'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SADDLE *v.* + -ED1.]

1. Furnished with a saddle.

1002 in Kemble *Cod. Diplom.* VI. 147 Ic ȝeann minum hlaforde..feower hors twa ȝesadelod and twa ungesadelode. 1890 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 2/5 A saddled horse was seen in a field without a rider.

2. As the epithet of fishes, insects, etc., having saddle-like markings.

1803 SHAW *Zool.* IV. 467 Saddled Sparus. Sparus Ephippium. *Ibid.* 596 Saddled Mackrel. Scomber Equula. 1880 SWINTON *Insect Variety* 162 The common Saddled Leaf-cricket of the Vine (*Ephippigera vitium*) has especially thick cup-shaped elytra.

Saddleless (sæ·d'lləs), *a.* [f. SADDLE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a saddle; esp. of a horse, not furnished with a saddle. Also *rarely* of a rider: †(thrown) out of the saddle.

14.. *Sir Beues* 253–8 (MS. C.) The erle, amonge them all To the grounde he ys falle And ys sadulles. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* 268 But he had no sadel upon his horse. ..Whan Reynawd sawe brayforde sadeles, he called to oger, & sayd [etc.]. *a* 1500 *Prophecy* in *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E. E. T. S.) 18 The Egyll and þe antelope..And Sadilles horse. 1886 G. GISSING *Isabel Clarendon* I. ii. 33 She had learned her riding on a saddleless colt.

Saddler (sæ·dlər). Forms: 4–5 sadelere, 5 sadel(l)er, 5–8 sadler, (5 sedler, sadlare), 5

sadyllar, -yl(l)er, 5–6 *Sc.* **sadillar, 6 sadiller,** *Sc.* **saiddlair, saidlar, 7- saddler.** [f. SADDLE *sb.* + -ER 1. Cf. MLG. *sadeler, sedeler*, MDu. *sadelare, saellaer*, OHG. *satilari* (MHG. *sateler*, mod.G. *sattler*).]

1. One who makes or deals in saddles or saddlery.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 42 Yese ordenaunce of fraternyte of Sadeleres and Sporyeres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1585 Saddlers, souters, Semsteris fyn. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 43 Raymondyn sent for a Sadlemaker, to whom he said: '..ye muste cutte this hyde in fourme of a thonge.'..The Sedler dide cutte it. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 5 Here is saunder sadeler of froge strete corner. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 56 Oh sixe pence that I had..To pay the Sadler for my Mistris crupper. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xliii. 315 One Power may be subordinate to another, as the art of a Sadler, to the art of a Rider. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants, Groom*, Come home by the Street Door with the same Bridle..dangling in your Hand, as if you came from the Sadler's. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene Aram* II. vi. 98 'How long have you had this whip?' said Walter to the saddler. 1887 BURY & HILLIER *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) 166 Some of the cycling saddlers do not see that their iron-workers cut the threads far enough up the screw. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 Oct. 9/7 Sit[uation] wanted by first-class brown saddler.

2. *Mil.* An official who has charge of the saddlery in a cavalry regiment. Also *saddler corporal, sergeant.*

1865 H. M. HOZIER *Equipm. Cavalry* 30 Organisation.. of the Household Cavalry...Composition of a Regiment of Life Guards or Horse Guards...Non-commissioned Officers and Privates...Armourer Corporal, Saddler Corporal [etc.]. *Ibid.* 51 Cavalry of the Line...Composition of a Regiment of Cavalry...Second Class Staff Serjeants:—Armourer-serjeant, Saddler-serjeant [etc.]. *Ibid.* 152 Promotion to the superior grade of saddler-serjeant will be open to saddlers.

3. A saddle-horse. *colloq. U. S.*

1838 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 16 June 1/1 Another auction sale of choice family horses (including matched pairs and saddlers). 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* Apr. 9 A thoroughbred filly, which..bids fair to make a fine saddler.

4. The Saddleback Seal: see SADDLEBACK 4 c.

1873 M. CARROLL *Seal & Herring Fish. Newfoundl.* in Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* (1884) 62 The reason why they are called Harp Seals, or 'Saddlers', is, [etc.].

5. *attrib.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 49 Whanne that a point or a treuthe..of sadeler craft is affermed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 315 A Sadyller schoppe, *sellarium*. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 584 Ane craftisman of the saidlar craft.

Saddlery (sæ·dlәri). [f. prec. + -Y: see -ERY.]

1. The art or occupation of a saddler.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 49 Euen as sadelarie and talarie been ij. dyuerse facultees and kunnyngis. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 296 A new impulse was given to saddlery by the introduction of coaches.

2. *collect.* Articles made or sold by a saddler; saddles and other articles pertaining to the equipment of a horse, esp. of one used for riding.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 258 Harness and saddlery of all kinds. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 77 The saddlery should be..examined. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 156 Modern boots and saddlery are utterly intractable in a picture. 1887 BURY & HILLIER *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) 340 A great many firms have made a speciality of cycling saddlery.

3. A place where saddles and other equipment for riding-horses are made or kept when not in use.

1841 ORDERSON *Creoleana* vi. 60 Premises..occupied as a saddlery. 1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 430/1 A room for drying, saddlery, &c.

Sa·ddle-tree.

1. The framework which forms the foundation of a saddle.

1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. sadeltre. 1483 *Act* 1 *Ric. III*, c. 12 § 2 No Merchant Stranger..shall bring into this Realm..Saddles, Saddle-trees, Horse-harness [etc.]. 1536–7 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 697 Cum frenis, stirropleders, sadletreys, et ceteris illis pertinentibus. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavalarice* VI. ix. 54 The greatest goodness in saddles consisteth in the saddle tree. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 81 Saddle-Trees per 100 Weight, 00 10. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 49 For saddle-tree scarce reached had he, His journey to begin. 1877 W. MATTHEWS *Ethn. & Phil. Hidatsa Ind.* 19 They now make saddle-trees in somewhat the same way as we do.

Comb. 1619 *MS. Canterb. Marr. Licences*, John Worsiter of Challocke, saddle tree maker. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6171/7 Joshua Tipping.., Saddletree-maker. 1865 H. M. HOZIER *Equipm. Cavalry* 152 Saddlers' and saddletree makers' tools.

2. = *Saddle-rack*: see SADDLE *sb.* 10.

1864 R. KERR *Gentlem. House* 294 A row of saddle-trees from 6 to 8 feet from the floor, with hooks and brackets for the bridles, girths, and stirrups under them.

3. The North American tulip tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera.*

1856 *Treas. Bot.* 688/1 The leaves [of Liriodendron] large, ..four-lobed and somewhat like a saddle in shape; hence the tree is sometimes spoken of as the Saddle-tree.

Saddling (sæ·dlin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SADDLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. SADDLE.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 315/2 A Sadyllinge, *sellatura.*

b. *esp.* The action of putting on the saddle and other equipment of a racehorse preparatory to a race; also *attrib.* as *saddling bell, paddock.*

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxi, That is the saddling-bell. 1890 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 3/4 No horse could possibly have looked better..in the saddling paddock.

† Sa·ddling, *sb. Obs. rare*−1. [f. SADDLE *sb.* + -ING.] = SADDLE *sb.* 4.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 112 The Land is low, making a saddling between 2 small Hills.

Sadducaic (sædiŭkē·ik), *a.* [f. Gr. Σαδδουκαῖος (see SADDUCEE), after PHARISAIC.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the Sadducees.

1840 MILMAN *Hist. Christianity* I. vii. I. 293 The Sadducaic party. 1883 J. M. WILSON *Theory of Inspir.* 30 It is as wrong..to have the Sadducaic pride of scepticism as the Pharisaic pride of religion.

† Sadduca·ical, *a. Obs. rare*−2. Also 7 Sadusaicall. [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* II, I alowe not your pestiferous opinions, iumping so pat with the Parepateticall and Sadusaicall sort. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 121 Herod's guilty conscience, notwithstanding his Sadducaical principles, made him..suspect that it was John himself risen from the dead.

Sadducean, Sadducæan (sædiŭsī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 Saducian, Saducæan, 6–7 Saducean. [f. late L. *Sadducæ-us* SADDUCEE + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or resembling the Sadducees.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 58 What are these Atheists but Saducæan sectaries that deny the resurrection? 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* ii. 26 This dull Sadducean Age. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 455 There is a latent Atheism at the root of the Saducean Principle. 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Christianity* II. i. I. 392 The unpopular Sadducean party. 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Irish Hist.* 61 It is not surprising to find Pharisaical fanaticism..linked with Sadducean depravity and worldliness. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 425/1 The Sadducæan aristocracy.

† B. *sb.* = SADDUCEE (in both senses). *Obs.*

1547 *Bk. of Marchaundes* e iij, Full simply faining a lowting countenance selling them selfe as the Essians, Saducians, or Pharisians dyd. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 8 Saduceans of this age. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 6 The Sadduceans, among the Jews, have been noted for the same.

Sadducee (sæ·diŭsī). Forms: *pl.* 1 sad(d)ucéas, 3–4 Saduceus, 3–5 Saduceis, 4 Sadaiceus, 4–5 Saducees, 4–7 Saduces, 6–8 Sadducees; (also 4 Saducey repr. L. *Sadducæi*); *sing.* 6– Sadducee. [ad. late L. *Sadducæus*, a. late Gr. Σαδδουκαῖος, f. late Heb. צדוקי *Çaddūqī*, app. f. the personal name *Çaddūq* (LXX Σαδώκ, 2 Sam. viii. 17, etc.; English Bible Zadok).

The prevailing modern view is that the Zadok referred to is the high-priest of David's time, from whom the priesthood of the Captivity and later periods claimed to be descended. The late Jewish notion of a post-exilian Zadok (*Çaddūq*), the founder of the sect, is now regarded as baseless; the hypothesis that the word is directly derived from *çaddīq*, righteous, is philologically untenable.]

1. A member of one of the three 'sects' (the others being the Pharisees and Essenes) into which the Jews were divided in the time of Christ. According to the New Testament and Josephus, they denied the resurrection of the dead, the existence of angels and spirits, and the obligation of the unwritten law alleged by the Pharisees to have been handed down by tradition from Moses.

In origin the Sadducees seem to have been not so much a theological or philosophical sect or school, as a political party composed of the nobility, i. e. the members and connexions of the high-priestly family.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 1, & eodun to him fariseas & sadduceas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19123 Þa saduceis [*Fairf.* sadaiceus, *Gött.* saduceus, *Trin.* saduces]..For þe vprising ner wald wede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 36 þer weren in Cristis tyme, Essey, Saducey, and Pharisey. 1382 — *Acts* xxiii. 8 Saducees [1388 Saduceis, 1534 TINDALE Saduces, 1557 (Geneva) Sadduces, 1582 (Rheims) Sadducees]. 1592 SYLVESTER *Tri. Faith* II. xxxiv, In foremost rank, heer goe the Sadduces, That doe deny Angels and Resurrection. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* I. 3 The Atheist, Sadduce, and Mahumetan. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sadducees*, or *Saducees*. 1879 FARRAR *Christ* (1881) 471 This wretched, dissolute Idumæan Sadducee.

2. A person of Sadducean disposition; a materialist, a denier of the resurrection. Also as *adj.*

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* xxxiv. 58 Hobbists, Infidels, Atheists, Sadduces. 1857 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) II. 282 The world is Sadducee itself; it cannot be anything else ..without ceasing to be the world.

Sadducee·ic, *a. rare*−1. [f. SADDUCEE + -IC.] = SADDUCEAN *a.*

1875 LE FANU *Willing to Die* xxxi, That smiling Sadduceeic world without a home..that..accepts..satire and pleasure in lieu of the affections.

Sadduceeism (sæ·diŭsīiz'm). Also 7 Sadduceisme, 9 Sadducæism. Also SADDUCISM. [f. SADDUCEE + -ISM. Cf. F. *Saducéisme.*]

1. The doctrine or tenets of the Sadducees.

1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s.v. *Sadducee*, Sadduceeism. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 142/1 The common view that Sadduceism was essentially a philosophico-religious school is due partly to Josephus. 1891 DRIVER *Introd. Lit. O. T.* (1892) 446 An absence of national feeling and religious enthusiasm, in which the author [of Ecclesiastes] seems to be a forerunner of the later Sadduceeism.

2. The character and spirit of the Sadducees; materialistic unbelief; denial of immortality.

1661 BAXTER *Mor. Prognost.* I. xvii. 4 When they incline to Brutishness or Sadduceisme. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxii[i], And on this and on other matters he thought he would compromise with his conscience, and that Sadduceeism was a very convenient and good-humoured profession of faith. 1872 M. COLLINS *Two Plunges for Pearl* II. viii. 126 The subtle melancholy Sadduceeism of the 'Saturday Review' is not in the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount.

So **Sa·dduceeist** [-IST], in quot. *adj.*, sceptical, indifferentist.

1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* viii, Your friends..are not so tolerant and Sadduceeist as some of us up here.

† Sadducism (sæ·diŭsiz'm). *Obs.* Also 7 Sadducisme, Saducism. [ad. mod.L. *Saddūcismus*, either irreg. f. late L. *Saddūcæus*, or f. the personal name *Saddūc*: see SADDUCEE and -ISM.] = SADDUCEEISM 1 and 2.

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* I. 3 Atheisme and Sadducisme disputed; Their Tenents argued, and refuted. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* To Rdr. 6/2 The best Antidotes against that earthly and cold disease of Sadducisme and Atheisme. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. 309 The Discourse may prove as useful for reclaiming men from Saducism. 1778 T. HARTLEY *Pref. Swedenborg's Heaven & H.* (1851) 21 A general disbelief of all things supernatural has..introduced Sadducism amongst us, to the denying of all spiritual visions and apparitions of angels as things incredible.

Sadducize (sæ·diŭsəiz), *v. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To hold the doctrines of the Sadducees. Hence **Sadducizing** *ppl. a.*

1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Bennet's Funeral Serm.* 31 Sadducizing Christians, I suppose they were, who said there was no Resurrection, neither Angel or Spirit, Acts 23. 8. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. viii. (1864) II. 402 His whole conduct seemed tinged with a kind of Sadducising Judaism.

Sade (sēd), *v.* Forms: 1 sadian, 5 sadde, (9 seed), 4– sade. [OE. *sadian* = MLG., MDu. *saden*, Du. (*ver*)*zaden*, OHG. *satôn* (MHG. *saten*):—WGer. **sadôjan*, f. **sado-* SAD *a.*]

† 1. *intr.* To become satiated or weary. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 4 Me þincð eac þæt þu sadige hwæthwugununges, & þe ðyncen to ælenge þas langan spell. *c* 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 4 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 133 Whon men beoþ muriest at heor mele With mete and drink to maken hem glade With worschipe and with worldliche wele þei bene so sette þei conne not sade. 14.. *Pety Job* 179 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 126 Although I can of synne nat sade, Yet *Parce michi, domine. c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxiv. 175 Of the lake of good he felte no greef, Al whyles þat the ryng he with him hadde; But faylynge it his frendshipe gan sadde.

2. *trans.* To glut, satiate; to make weary (*of*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxlvii. 3 He..þe gesadade, mid þy selestan hwæte cynnes holde lynde. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (1864) II. 455 He was so sadded of the werre. 1611 COTGR., *Assouvir*,..to cloy, glut, sade. *Ibid.*, *Ressasier*, to fill, glut, sade, satiate, satisfie. 1764 *Coles' Lat. Dict.* (ed. 17), To sade (cloy), *satio.*

Sade, obs. form of SAD *a.* and SAID *ppl. a.*

Sadel(l, Sadely, obs. ff. SADDLE, SADLY.

† Sa·dful, *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. SAD *a.* + -FUL.] Sorrowful.

1658 MERITON *Love & War* IV. ii. H iv b, The service of a sadfull humour.

Sa·d-iron. [f. SAD *a.* or *v.*] A smoothing iron, properly a solid flat-iron, in contradistinction to a 'box-iron'.

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xvii. (ed. 3) 153 Sad-irons and other castings. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 253 Dealers commonly distinguish these useful implements by the terms 'sad-iron', 'box-iron' and 'Italian-iron'. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 2/7 Sadirons 10s. per ton [dearer].

Sadism (sā·dizm). [ad. F. *sadisme*, f. the name of the Count (usually called 'Marquis') de *Sade* (1740–1814; infamous for his crimes and the character of his writings): see -ISM.] A form of sexual perversion marked by a love of cruelty.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Sept. 4/2. 1897 *Lancet* 13 Nov. 1263/2 Crimes committed by people afflicted with what is technically known as 'sadism'.

So **Sa·dist,** 'an individual affected with sadism' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897); **Sadi·stic** *a.*, 'related to sadism' (Dunglison *Dict. Med. Sci.* 1893).

1897 *Lancet* 13 Nov. 1263/2 Several recent tragedies having probably had their origin in sadistic impulses.

Sadler, obs. form of SADDLER.

Sadly (sæ·dli), *adv.* Forms: 4 sadd(e)li, sadlyk, sadly, 4–5 saddely, sadli, sadliche, -lyche, 4, 6 sadely, 6 sadlich, sadlie, -ye, 4 sadly. Also 4 *compar.* sadloker. [f. SAD *a.* + -LY 2.]

† 1. Heavily. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22478 þe sterns wit þair leman leuen Ful saddli fall sal þai dun fra heuen. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1313 So sadly one his scholdire it [the blow] felle, The knyghte by-gane to knele. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1625 Glad pluckys there he toke, Set sadly and sare. *a* 1568 *Knt. Curtesy* 77 In swoune [she] fell downe hym upon, So sadly that the Knyght awoke. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 222 Mr. Patrick Lindsay..strampit sadlie on his brotheris foott to gar him wnderstand that [etc.]. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* cxxxvi. 335 An empty cart runs lightly away: but if it be soundly laden, it goes sadly.

† 2. Firmly, tightly, closely. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1135 þere his burnus he bad bulden of marbre A piler sadliche i-picht or he passe wolde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 374 Knyt 3ow als sadly as 3he may. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1744 In goon the speres ful sadly in arrest. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (1495) 597 In smale trees is more hete and drynesse that byndeth the partyes therof faste and sadly togyder. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 102 þus sall I iune it with a gynn, And sadly sette it with symonde fyne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xxiii. 768 And whan we haue delyuerd hem, lete vs thre hold vs sadly to gyders.

† 3. Solidly, fully; (to drink) deeply; (to sleep) soundly, heavily. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 442, & þer he swowed & slept sadly

al nyȝt. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 4 þenne Wakede I of my wink me was wo with alle þat I nedde sadloker I-slept and I-seȝe more. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 11 þis fillyng is not voide but sadly replenchid. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 645 This Messager drank sadly ale and wyn.

†4. Resolutely, vigorously, hardily. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2751 Whan þe ludes where neiȝ lond he leped ouer borde, sadli in al here siȝt for þei him sew schold. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 494 In Cambuskynneth the kyngis vittale He tuk, and sadly gert assale Schir Wilȝame of Herth, and him slew. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 763 They went to sadly, And set ther dyntis. 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 84 The Perseys stwart sadly till him socht. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 269 The two champions approchid eche other and smote to gyder so sadly and sore that the place redounded of her strokes. *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 646 The stewarde at hym full sadly fought.

†5. Steadfastly, firmly, fixedly, unchangingly.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 14 Whene þe mynde es stablede sadely with-owttene changynge and vagacyone in Godd. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks* (1880) 199 þat alle brennynge charite ..be so sadly rotyd in vs. *c* 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 957 Loke þou withstande sadly þe furst begynnynge of þe temptacoun of þe fend. *c* 1385 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 124 Fro that tyme that he loueth sadly oure lord Ihesu crist [etc.]. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 48 Sadly beleue the fader is full god almyghty. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 877 Empreut my speche in your memorial Sadly. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 133 But the King finding that he did sadly, and constantly (without hesitation or varying,..) stand to that that hee had said.

†6. Steadily, quietly, without excitement. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13544 þe batailles neygned ney & ney, Sadly passing, and softely. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 29 Tak thanne thyn Astrolabie with bothe handes sadly & slely. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cvi. (1869) 56 Wel j telle thee that sureliche and sadliche thou miht go.

†7. Seriously; in earnest; gravely, soberly. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 557 What ȝif I saide him sadly þat i sek were, & told him al treuly þe entecches of myn euele? *c* 1357 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 176 Til hym þan sancte Iames prechit, and crystis law sa sadly techit. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 76 This Marchant vp ariseth, And on his nedes sadly hym auyseth. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 62 Saie me sadly þe soth. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xv. 40 Mesurably and sadly demened. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, I. 69 Thei daunsed with Ladies sadly, and communed not with the ladies after the fashion of Muskers, but behaved themselves sadly. 1570 Jewel *Def. Apol.* II. (1571) 161 This booke..was readde sadly vnto the people, and had in reuerence. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 229 This can be no tricke, the conference was sadly borne. 1611 Chapman *Widowes T.* III. i. (1612) F 4 b, But doe you brother sadly intend the pursuite of this triall? 1634 Milton *Comus* 509 To tell thee sadly Shepherd, without blame, Or our neglect, we lost her as we came. 1642 Jer. Taylor *Episc.* § xxxi, But this to them that consider things sadly, is true or false according as any man list. 1777 M. Morgann *Ess. Dram. Char. Falstaff* 122 As a caution to the audience not to take too sadly what was intended only..' as an argument for a week'.

8. Sorrowfully, mournfully.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 539 Sadly sikand & sore for sorwe atte here herte. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 42, I herd ane petuoss appele, with ane pur mane, Solpit in sorowe, that sadly couth say [etc.]. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xl. 7 Why loke ye so sadly to daye? [So 1611.] 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* viii. 1 Musick to heare, why hear'st thou musick sadly? 1627 May *Lucan* I. 583 Sadlyer barke Scyllaes doggs then they were wont. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 13 He died in the month of May, 1630, sadly bewailed. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 505 Near his Paternal Stream he sadly stands, With down-cast Eyes, wet Cheeks, and folded Hands. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. x. 107 He speaks sadly..of the fortunes of the winter. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 43 There at the head of a late filled grave Sadly a youth and a maiden stood.

Comb. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* x. 1167 A sadly pleasing Thought. 1826 Wordsw. *Ode* 1815, 44 To..utter England's name with sadly-plausive voice.

†b. With regret; reluctantly. *Obs.*

1621 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* v. v, I must request of you One fauour, and will sadly be denyed.

9. In a manner to cause sadness; lamentably, grievously, deplorably, badly.

1638 *Whole Duty Man* Sund. iii. § 7. 29 That have provoked so great a Majesty, who is able so sadly to revenge himself upon you. 1731-8 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 202 Mr. Neverout we wanted you sadly. 1753 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 27 Mar., Drawings..which I am sure will charm you, though none of them are quite well engraved, and some sadly. 1782 Cowper *Friendsh.* 87 Authors..Are sadly prone to quarrel. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* III. viii, O, he is so ill! indeed I am sadly, sadly afraid he will never be well again! 1819 Byron *Juan* II. lxxx, Who had already perish'd, suffering madly For having used their appetites so sadly. 1857 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 47, I have written you a sadly long letter, but I could not manage to get it shorter. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 340 The flies torment us sadly. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. ix. 391 The poor girl was sadly buffeted by the indignant saint. 1879 Huxley *Hume* x. 196 Metaphysicians, as a rule, are sadly deficient in the sense of humour.

†10. Sombrely, in dark colours. *Obs.*

1607 B. Jonson *Entertainm. Theobalds* Wks. 1616 I. 887 A gloomie obscure place, hung all with black silkes, and in it only one light, which the Genius of the house held, sadly attir'd.

11. Used *predicatively*: In bad health, ill, 'poorly'. Now *dial.*

1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 May, I look better already, for faith I looked sadly. 1866 Geo. Eliot *R. Holt* xxvii, Lyddy had said, 'Miss, you look sadly; if you can't take a walk, go and lie down'. 1898 Mrs. H. Ward *Helbeck of B.* v. ii. 395 Mrs. Fountain's nobbut sadly, I unnerstan.

Sadness (sæ·dnės). [-ness.] The condition or quality of being sad.

†1. Firmness, hardness, solidity. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xvii, The fyfþe is sadnesse and þiknesse of þe þinge þat is sen [L. *solititas sive densitas rei visæ*]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 90 þou schalt knowe by reednes & sadnesse of fleisch þat is wipinne þe festre al aboute. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 152 When hit [cheese] is wel confourmed to sadnesse. *c* 1485 *Cath. Angl.* 515/1 A Sadnes, *solidamen, soliditas.* 1577-87 Harrison *England* II. xxii. 212/2 If you respect the sadnes therof, it doth proue in the end to be verie hollow & not able to hold out water. *Ibid.* 214/1 Which moulds wanting their due sadnesse are now turned into moorie plots.

†2. Seriousness, soberness, staidness; gravity of mind or demeanour. *Obs.*

c 1315 Shoreham 7 *Sacram.* 1428 For ȝeres Ne makeþ so nauȝt þane prest ald, Ac sadnesse of maneres. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 347 Another stant so in the peples grace ffor hire sadnesse, and hire benygnytee. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* (E. E. T. S.) 20 A bord on whech þei vsed to pleye certeyn games to refresch with þe sadnesse of her study. 1495 *N. Riding Rec.* (N. S.) I. 127 We trustyng in youre politicie, sadness, wisdome, and discrecion. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorelles B.* 13 They banysshed prayer, peas, and sadnes; And toke with them myrthe, sporte, and gladnes. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 77 But mightie Lord, this merry inclination Accords not with the sadnesse of my suit. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xix. (1632) 928 Other persons of approued sadnesse, prudence, pollicy and experience.

†b. Phr. *In sadness, in good* or *sober sadness*: in earnest, not joking. *Obs.*

1544 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 102 But in good sadnesse Toxophile thus you se. *a* 1553 Udall *Roister D.* IV. iii. (Arb.) 61, I haue nought to them, nor they to me in sadnesse. 1593 Nashe *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 245 Thou hast borrowed aboue twenty phrases and epithites from mee, which in sober sadnesse thou makst vse of as thy owne. *c* 1610 Middleton, etc. *Widow* v. i. 228 Pray, in sadness, say, what is the gentleman? 1696 S. Sewall *Diary* 13 Oct. (1878) I. 435 Seem'd to I e in good sober sadness. 1705 Vanbrugh *Confederacy* III. ii, In serious sadness. 1708 Mrs. Centlivre *Busy Body* I. i, In sober sadness she cannot abide 'em.

†3. Dignity, importance. *Obs.*

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. clix. 149 The sayd Lewys..causyd them to vse and were browne, and sad colours, accordynge to theyr honours and sadnes.

†4. Steadfastness, constancy; firmness of faith.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 150 Catoun and canonistres conseilleth vs to leue To sette sadnesse in songewarie, for *somptnia ne cures.* 1382 Wyclif *Coloss.* ii. 5 The sadnesse of that ȝoure bileue that is in Crist. — 2 *Pet.* iii. 17 Lest ȝe..falle awey fro ȝoure owne sadnesse [Vulg. *a proprio firmitate*]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11177 But yiff he hadde ffeet off led, In gret sadnesse to endure. *a* 1529 Skelton *Dyuers Balettys* iii. 17 Saphyre of sadnes, enuayned wyth indy blew.

5. Sorrowfulness, mournfulness.

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxiii. 13 Seik to solace quhen sadnes the assailis. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 7 How canst thou part sadnesse and melancholy my tender luuenall? 1611 Bible *Eccl.* vii. 3 By the sadnesse of the countenance the heart is made better. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 23 Dim sadness did not spare That time Celestial visages. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 409 In a malignant Fever from Heat, there is a Delirium, Fluxes, Sadness. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 464 Thy clime..disposes much All hearts to sadness. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* VII. 14 Sadness on the soul of Ida fell.

b. A condition of sorrowfulness.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 147 [He] Fell into a Sadnesse. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xlv. 450 To blow away and scatter these sadnesses with a false, an illusory, and a sinfull comfort. 1737 L. Clarke *Hist. Bible* (1740) II. v. 96 After this he thunders out woes and sadnesses against their impieties. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. lxxii, She look'd a sadness sweeter than her smile.

c. Gloomy appearance.

1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* iii. § xii. 76 The architect not being able to secure always the same depth or decision of shadow, nor to add to its sadness by colour.

†**Sa·dore.** *Obs.* (See quot.)

1681 Grew *Museum* App. 386 Sadore, or Bitter Wood. It hath a brownish Barque.

Sa·d-tree. [f. Sad *a.* (sense 5); transl. of mod.L. *arbor tristis.*] The Night Jasmine of India, *Nyctanthes Arbor-tristis.* (Earlier called Melancholy *tree.*)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Nyctanthes*, During the day it loses its brightness, whence its specific name *Arbor tristis* or Sad-tree. [In recent Dicts.]

Saduce(e, -ean, etc.: see Sadducee, -ean, etc.

Sadue, obs. form of Shadow.

Sadusaicall: see Sadducaical.

Sae: see Saw, Save, Say, Sea, See, So, Soe.

Sæcular: see Secular.

Saefte, Sael, obs. ff. Safety, Seal *v.*

Saer, obs. form of Sawyer, Seab.

Saf, obs. form of Safe, Save.

Safare, obs. Sc. form of Saviour.

Safe (sēf), *sb.* Also 5, 7 save. [Originally *save*, f. Save *v.*; later assimilated to Safe *a.*]

1. A receptacle for the safe storage of articles: esp. a. A ventilated chest or cupboard for protecting provisions from insects and other noxious animals; a meat-safe (see Meat *sb.* 6).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 109/1 Almery of mete kepynge, or a saue for mete, *cibutum.* 1611 Cotgr., *Chasiere*, ..the great, or grated Saue hung by a pulley, to the top of a Dayrie-house, or Store-house; and seruing to keepe cheese, white-meates, and other belly-timber in. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 17/2 The Arke or Safe, is a kind of little house made of wood and couered with haire cloth, and so by two rings hung in the midle of a Rome, thereby to secure all things put therein from the cruelty of devouring Rats, mice [etc.]. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Safe*, a sort of Cup-board to keep Victuals, contrived with Holes to let in the Air. 1881 B. W. Richardson in *Gd. Words* XXII. 51/2 It is good practice, whenever the air of the safe is close and tainted, to have it fumigated with antiseptic gas.

b. A fire-proof and burglar-proof receptacle for plate, money, deeds, and other valuables. Usually made of steel and iron, with one or more doors secured by elaborate locks.

1838 Bethune *Sc. Peasant's Fireside* 70 A penknife..and a letter..were found lying near the safe, as if they had been lost by the robber. 1850 Chubb *Locks & Keys* 17 The bank may be entered, the misnamed safe, or strong room, be entered. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 164 An iron fire-proof safe must be built into the wall.

2. *Saddlery.* 'A piece of leather placed under a buckle, to prevent it from chafing' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Hence **Safed** *ppl. a.*, provided with a safe.

1881 *Blackw. Mag.* CXXIX. 176 A solidly furnished though dismal apartment, duly safed and grated.

Safe (sēf), *a.* Forms: 3-6 sauf, (3-4 sauve), 4-6 saufe, 5 saauf, 5-6 sauff(e; 3-5 saf, 4-5 saff(e, 4-6 saaf, (5 saafe, saaff); 4-6 saulf, salve, 5-7 salf(e, 6-7 salfe, saulfe; 5-7 *Sc.* saiff, 6 saif, saiv, sayfe, sailf, 6-7 saife, 7 saiffe; 3-5 (6-7 *Sc.*) save, 4- safe. [ME. *sauf, sāf*, a. F. *sauf* (fem. *sauve*) = Pr. *salv-s, sal-s*, Sp., Pg., It. *salvo* :—L. *salvus* uninjured, entire, healthy (whence *salūt-, salūs* health, *salvē* imperative, 'hail').

The L. word corresponds in root and suffix, though prob. not in ablaut-grade, to Gr. ὅλος (Ionic οὖλος) whole, Skr. *sarva* all, whole :—Indogermanic **solwo-*. The root occurs also in Irish *slán* healthy, and in OL. *sollus* whole, Welsh *holl* all, whole :—**solno-*.

With regard to the phonology in Eng. cf. *sage* (the plant) from F. *sauge*, and *gage* (*gauge*) from ONF. *gauge*.

The forms with *v* in ME. usually represent either the plural or the definite inflexion of the adj. From the 15th to the 17th c. *save* sometimes occurs (latterly only Sc.), in most instances prob. as a mere graphical alteration of *safe*.]

I. Free from hurt or damage; unharmed.

1. Unhurt, uninjured, unharmed; having been preserved from or escaped some real or apprehended danger. Chiefly (now only) with quasi-advb. force after verbs of coming, going, bringing, etc.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6895 ȝif hire vet beþ þanne sauf wipoute wemminge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11546 þai ferd al sauf in to þair kyth. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 þet hi habbe, huet cas yualle, hire catel sauf. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. T.* 397 Somtyme his good is drenched in the see, And somtym comth it sauf un-to the londe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 559 That ye sholde yeve hym trewys saf to come and saf to go ..be-twene this and yole. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 217 Ye shall retorne saulf fro this entrepryse. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. i. 104 Suffyr that ȝyng Ascanyus mot be Salf [*v.r.* sauff] fra all wapynnis [L. *ab armis incolumem*], and of perrell fre. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 67 As gud maryneryes..bryng theyr schype saue out of tempestys into the sure port. 1600 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 458 To retowrn saulfe without any molestacion. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xv. § 57 As if the principal art requisite in the captain of a ship had been to be sure to come home safe again. 1737 C. Pitt in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 98 The papers came safe to hand. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 83 As the Moors are excellent swimmers, I suppose most of them got safe. 1785 Cowper *Let. to Lady Hesketh* Wks. 1836 V. 198 My desk..is safe arrived. 1799 T. Holcroft *Mem.* (1816) III. 229 [In a stiff breeze a sailor swore that] he could not keep his hair safe on his head. 1831 *Society* I. 209 He always insists on seeing us safe across the Downs. 1902 Wister *Virginian* xix, Your..man brought us out..safe and dry.

b. Often in phr. *safe and sound.* Occas. †*sound and safe*; also *safe and sure*, †*safe and sicker*, †*quit and safe.* [F. *sain et sauf*; L. *sanus et salvus, salvus sanus, salvus et sospes*, etc.] Also †*safe and soon*, †*soon and safe.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7867 Sauf and sond ai mot þou be To all þe folk es vnder þe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2816 þei were gretli glad..þat he sauf was & sound fro þe men a-schaped. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 233 So that thei mihten sauf and sone The water passe. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cii. (1495) 667 Deed bodyes ben kepte sauf and sounde whan they ben bawmyd wyth confeccyons of mirra. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saaf, and sekyr, *salvus.* *c* 1450 Myrc *Festial* 17 And soo he ȝede sonde and saf hys way. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 29, I shall lete you goo quyte & sauf. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ix. 42 b, [He] was by a Dolphin brought safe and sound to the porte. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 635 *Gobanium*.., keeping the ancient name, as it were, safe and sound is tearmed Aber-Gevenny. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. i. 49 And soone, and safe, [she] arriued where I was. 1819-24 Byron *Juan* IV. liv, I leave Don Juan for the present, safe—Not sound, poor fellow, but severely wounded. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. I. (1862) IV. 353 He would again replace him 'safe and sound' in the fortification.

c. *To be, arrive*, etc., *safe* (or *safe and sound*): often merely a colloq. or epistolary formula for 'to be duly arrived', 'to be at one's destination', etc.

1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Sept., I send this only to tell that I am safe in London. 1882a Sala *Amer. Revis.* ii. (1885) 25, I was safe and sound in the Brevoort coach. 1887 *Century Mag.* Dec. 197/2, I promised to bring you both to lunch, safe and sound.

†d. (*To come*) *to safe hand*: confusedly used for 'to come safe to hand'. *Obs.*

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) III. xviii. 27 Your last of the fourth current came to safe hand.

†2. In sound health, well, 'whole'; *usually* healed, cured, restored to health. Also *safe and sound*; also const. *of*. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 458/51 Þe Quen a-non þoruȝh is bone deliuered was of childe, In guod lif, and hire child al-so.. þo the king i-say þe Quene sauf, and þat child al-so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8170 Thoru þe, he said, sal þis mesele Be sauf and sund of al vn-hele. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 868 He was al sauf & sound of alle his sor greues. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xviii. 42 Thi feith hath maad thee saaf [Vulg. *te salvum fecit*]. *c* 1400 *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 He þat drynkys it, with þe sauour þeroff he shall fele hele, and he shal be sauf of catarre, of Malencoly..and of many oþer syknes. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3661 Þe seke man with his hand he blisse; Fra he him touched safe he was. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vj b, Put som in the Roofe of her mowth and she shall be saafe. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* viii. 48 Thy fayth hath made the safe.

†3. *Theol.* [After L. *salvus* in the Vulgate.] Delivered from sin or condemnation, saved; in a state of salvation, spiritually 'whole'. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19967 All to be sauf o sin and scam, þat wald tru in his hali nam. *a* 1300–1400 *Ibid.* 10867 (Gött.) His folk all saf [*Cott.* saued] þan sal he make, And bring þaim vte of sinne and wrake. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2959 Bot yhit has the saul mare drede þan, Til þe dome be gyven and it may se Whether it sal dampned or saufe be. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xvi. 31 Bileue thou in to the Lord Jhesu and thou schalt be saf [Vulg. *salvus eris*; Gr. σωθήσῃ]. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 81 As my soule be saff ffrom synne at myn ende. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xli, Some by sorowe..some by prechyng & techyng..shal be saaf & come to blisse. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 81 God makis ws sauff be the lawar of regeneratioun [*Tit.* iii. 5].

†4. Mentally or morally sound or sane. *Obs.*

The phr. *with* (*a*) *safe conscience* was suggested by L. *salvâ conscientiâ* (cf. 5 below).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 32, I mai wel with sauf conscience Excuse me of necgligence Towardes love in alle wise. 1492 In god mynde and saf memorye [see MEMORY 2 b]. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* D j, The which treasure, if it be not sufficiente, he maye lawfully and wyth a salue conscience, take taxis of hys subiectes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 6 b, To revoke his sentence already taught and defended, he cannot with a safe conscience [orig. *cum bona conscientia*]. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Rec.* (1891) 172 Any personne..beinge of the full age of twenty and one yeares, of saulf memorie. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 91 Fewe men or women come from playes, and resortes of men, with safe and chaste mindes. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 14 A Trade Sir, that I hope I may vse with a safe Conscience. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 280 Are his wits safe? Is he not light of Braine? 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 131 No single soule Can we set eye on: but in all safe reason He must haue some Attendants.

†5. Used in a construction corresponding to the L. ablative absolute (e. g. *salvâ fide, salvo jure*; so F. *sauf votre respect*) with the sense: Keeping..safe or intact, without hurt or prejudice to..., without loss of..., making reservation of..., with due respect to... *Obs.* (See also *safe*, SAVE *prep.*)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 120/488 Trewenesse we þe sworen ase riȝt was, and eorþelich honour al-so, Sauue ore ordre and ore riȝte, bote þat was out i-do. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1242, & þat he vor is neueu wolde, vorto abatie strif, Do hey amendement, sauue lume & lif. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 480 But elles wol I fonde, Myn honour sauf, plese him fro day to day. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxliii, Hir worschip sauf. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1208 Tharfor till him is no comparisoun, As off a man, sauff reuerence off the croun. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 17 *Non feray, sauue le vostre grace*, I shall not, sauf your grace. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 3 Saaf theire juggement.

II. Free from danger; secure.

6. Not exposed to danger; not liable to be harmed or lost; secure.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 227 Þey bulde hem smale cootes and cabanes..þat hire lyf myȝte be þe more saaf. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* (E.E.T.S.) 18201 Off no-thing were thei a-dredde; Thei wende thei hadde ben saue & sure. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 363 And wrie hem that noon ayer vppon hem shyne, So beth they sauf. 1447–8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 88 To bryng yn stuf for the werre..ther to be kept stronge saf and sure. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 105, I greatly feare my monie is not safe. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* V. ii. 151 Whil'st thou ly'st warme at home, secure and safe. 1591 SPENSER *Daphn.* XX, Safe then and safest were my sillie sheepe, Ne fear'd the Wolfe. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 662 No second witness could be found...Cornish thought himself safe. *Ibid.* vii. II. 190 Apprehensions that the interests of the Anglican Church might not be safe under the rule of a man bred among Dutch Presbyterians. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii. 43 No, no, Harry darling! mother can't eat till you are safe!

quasi-*adv.* 1860 *Bohn's Handbk. Games, Billiards* 572 Either decline the chance altogether, and lay the balls safe, or make that stroke which seems most sure and easy.

b. Const. *from*, †*of* (= secure against).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 153 That he mesure in his expence So kepe, that of indigence He mai be sauf. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 973 Al the lond that thou hast goon aboute ffro cloudis wicke is saaf [*Bodl. MS.* saue]. *Ibid.* 982 Thy seedis with cucumber rotis grounde Let stepe, and saaf of euery mys they are. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxi. 9 Their houses are safe from all feare. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 33 Yf they be steeped in Capons blood, they wyll be safe from all hurtful weedes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 1065 Where then he liv'd obscure, but safe from Jove. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 403 That a person once infected with the small-pox is safe from having it a second time. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* v. (1878) 66, I did not feel safe from him till I was once more in my study. 1891 HELEN B. HARRIS *Apol. Aristides* ii. 14 The hermits..petitioned him to build them a house where they might be safe from the incursions of the Arabs.

7. Of a place or thing: Affording security or immunity; not exposing to danger; not likely to cause harm or injury.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 165 Neptunus..kept hire in so sauf a place Fro Polipheme and his manace, That he..Ne mihte atteigne hir compaignie. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 78 Answer me, In what safe place you haue bestow'd my monie. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 111 A good and safe roade for shippinge. 1666 *Act* 18 & 19 *Chas. II*, c. 8 § 5 The building with Bricke is not onely more comely and durable but alsoe more safe against future perills of Fire. 1680 LADY R. RUSSELL *Lett.* I. iii. 11 The Iesuits' Powder is..held most safe to be taken by the best doctors. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 608 A Station safe for Ships, when Tempests roar. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 129 All kinds of linen and bedding, when not frequently used, become damp. How then is it possible that beds, which are not slept in above two or three times a year, should be safe? 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 14 The safest atmosphere of all for a patient is a good fire and an open window. 1866 YOUNG *Fires* 59 Staircases, to be fireproof, or at least safe under the ordinary circumstances of fire. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* viii, That part of the world is at a safe distance.

8. Used *transf.* in the compounds SAFE-CONDUCT, SAFEGUARD, q. v.; hence with sbs. of similar meaning, as *safe convoy, custody* (cf. L. *tuta custodia*), † *stowage*; also SAFE KEEPING, SAFE WARD.

1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 9 To kepe the same Offeley in your salve custodye. 1547 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. i. 129 Which lettres were forwyth Delyuered ouer to the sauffe Custody of Master Chamberleyn. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlix. 22 Than grant thou vs..Thy saiv sure conduct [cf. OF. *salf et seur conduit*]. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 192 And I am something curious, being strange, To haue them in safe stowage. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 81, I shoot from Heav'n to give him safe convoy. 1649 CROMWELL *Let.* 24 Nov. in Carlyle App. C. No. 14, I have by this Bearer returned a Safe-convoy, as you desire, for what Commissioners you think fit to send out to me. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxviii. 164 The safe custody of a man accused. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 505 His only business being to keep the goods in his safe custody.

†b. *Safe pledge* (see quot.). *Obs.*

1684 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Manley), Safe pledge, *Salvus plegius*, is a Surety given for a Man's Appearance against a day assigned, *Bracton lib.* 4. *cap.* 2. *num.* 2. where it is also called *certus plegius*.

9. Of an action, procedure, undertaking, plan, etc.: Free from risk, not involving danger or mishap, guaranteed against failure. Sometimes = free from risk of error, as in *it is safe to say* . . .

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 23 Therefore, Sir knight, Aread what course of you is safest dempt. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 148 Our safest way Is to auoid the ayme. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* II. i. 21 What haue you there? *Bl. Bs.* A Note (Sir) of State-Policie, And one exceeding safe one. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxvii. 151 It is safer to erre on that hand, than on the other. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 43 'Tis never safe to despise an enemy. 1728 SWIFT *Charac. Mrs. Johnson* Wks. 1824 IX. 286 Perhaps she was sometimes too severe, which is a safe and pardonable error. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 173 ¶ 11 It is always safer to err in favour of others than of ourselves. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* XXIII. 150 To me the safest counsel and the best. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxvi, Far up the lake 'twere safest land. 1854 J. B. LANGLEY *Life-Agent's Vademecum* 53 If an assurance company has obtained 1000 policies, it is statistically safe. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* xi. 254 This is Choate, who made it safe to murder. 1893 *Law Times* XCIV. 454/1 It is safe to say that propositions of this kind will not figure upon the Statute-book yet awhile.

†b. In stronger sense: Conducive to safety. *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 407 An Embleme, no doubt, to shew, how safe it is for Monarchs, to make sure of the good Will of Common People.

c. Phr. *On the safe side* = with a margin of security against error.

1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xi, Be on the safe side, and do not trust him too far. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 84 They should rather err on the safe side. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 307 For the sake of being on the safe side, I have taken the lowest value.

d. applied *transf.* to the agent.

1874 HEATH *Croquet-Player* 53 Remember that the dead ball is not so safe a helper as your partner. 1884 *Liverpool Merc.* 18 Feb. 5/2 One is perfectly safe in saying that the position of the defendants has relatively improved.

10. Secured, kept in custody; unable to escape. Hence, not likely to come out, intervene, or do hurt; placed beyond the power of doing harm, not at present dangerous.

† *c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 200 What, madam? is he salve asleepe? Most soundlye, Sir. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. iv. 25 But Banquo's safe? *Mur.* I, my good Lord: safe in a ditch he bides. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 21 My Father Is hard at study; pray now rest your selfe, Hee's safe for these three houres. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 97 Receiue him, And see him safe i' th' Tower. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. x. (1636) 204 Cæsar was at this time absent out of Gallia;..and so the wayes cloyed up, they presumed hee was fast and safe enough. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 815 And other care perhaps May haue diverted from continual watch Our great Forbidder, safe with all his Spies About him. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Epist.* v. (1696) 490 When the Snake is Frozen, 'tis safe. 18.. *Nursery Rhyme*, *Three children sliding on the ice*,' Ye parents that have children dear,..If you would have them safe abroad, Pray keep them safe at home.

Prov. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 173 Drie sunne, drie winde, Safe binde, safe finde. [Cf. FAST *adv.* 2, quot. 1596.]

11. a. Sure in procedure; not liable to fail, mislead, or disappoint expectation; trustworthy. b. Cautious, keeping to 'the safe side'.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 205 My blood begins my safer Guides to rule. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 372 Ascend, I follow thee, safe Guide, the path Thou lead'st me. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 37. 24 (1820) I. 367 That safe and sure-footed interpreter, Alex. Aphrodisius. 1887 A. BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 46 As a master of style and diction, Milton is as safe as Virgil. 1894 *Daily News* 3 May 5/3 The first [hymnal] is described by Canon Twells as being generally acceptable to high churches, the second to low churches, and the third to intermediate, 'sometimes called safe churches'.

12. a. With *of*: Sure to obtain. ? *Obs.*

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Aug., I find most people pleased with their being at ease, and safe of a peace. 1802 SOUTHEY *La Cava* 3 Here I stand, Safe of my purpose now! 1846 THACKERAY *Let.* 9 Feb. (MS.), What I meant by 'Safe' is the best word to be applied to a play I think—safe of a real agreeable—of course I don't know how permanent—success.

b. *To be safe*, followed by inf. or † const. *for*, is predicated of a person or thing to express the certainty of the fact or event involved in the predication.

Hence used *attrib.* in colloquial phrases like 'He is a safe first' = he is safe to take a first class.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) Suppl., 'He is safe enough for being hanged.' Cumb. 1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* XXVII. 204 Society had better shut up shop at once, for it's safe to be 'uprooted from its very foundations'. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 107 He'll win it, as safe as safe! 1865 F. OAKELEY *Hist. Notes* 46 If..you had happened to enter any common-room in Oxford..you would have been safe to hear some ten or twenty voices eloquent on the subject of Tract 90. 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* VIII. I. 225 The foreign horse was safe to win the Two Thousand. 1882 B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* I. vii. 137, 'I am sure a man never sent it,' said Helen. 'I'm sorry to say it of my own sex, but it's safe to be a woman'. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 50 You know the Colonel is as safe as houses to come round after church parade.

†c. ? Certain, established as fact, not to be called in question.

1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* I. i. 14 For want of acquaintance with history, we are apt to pronounce *a priori* many things to be impossible, which in fact really exist, and are very safe.

†13. quasi-*sb.* *In safe* (OF. *en sauf*): in a safe place, in safety. *With safe*: with safety, safely. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xvii. (1869) 13 Þe official turned him, and bar with him þe oynementes, and putte hem in saaf. 1569 PRESTON *Cambises* E 3 b, If I with safe may graunt this deed, I will it not refuse.

14. Special collocations. **Safe deposit** (orig. *U. S.*), a place in which valuables are stored; also *attrib.* **Safe edge**, (*a*) a smooth edge of a file; hence **safe-edge, -edged** *adjs.*; (*b*) *Photogr.* (see quot. 1891). † **Safe lamp, lantern, light**, a safety-lamp. **Safe load**, a load which leaves a required margin of security against causing breakage or injury to a structure (cf. SAFETY 6).

1783 J. HUNTINGTON in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 27 West Point..may be made a *safe deposit where every military article may be kept in good order and repair. 1880 W. NEWTON *Serm. Boys & Girls* (1881) 338, I went down into the vaults of one of our great safe-deposit buildings. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 145/1 The public safes or safe-deposits erected in most of the great cities of America and in London. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* etc. II. 821 Some files have one or more edges that are left uncut, and these are known as *safe-edges, because such edges are not liable to act upon those parts of the work against which they are allowed to rub,..The safe-edge file is principally required in making a set-off, or shoulder [etc.]. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 230 *Safe Edged File. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 66 The negative to be printed from, should have an opaque border, called a safe edge, about a quarter of an inch wide made around it. 1815 DAVY *Let.* 30 Oct. in Paris *Life* (1831) II. 82, I trust the *Safe lamp will answer all the objects of the collier. 1815 — in *Phil. Trans.* CVI. 12 The first *safe lantern that I had constructed, was made of tin-plate, and the light emitted through four glass plates in the sides. 1816 — *Ibid.* 23, I have already had the honor of communicating to the Royal Society an account of a *safe light. 1868 HUMBER *Strains in Girders* 67 Breaking and *Safe Loads for Bridges, Girders, etc. 1908 *Daily Tel.* 30 Jan. 15/4 This particular chain was certified ..as being capable of standing a strain of three tons, so that its 'safe' load was 1½ ton.

15. Comb., as †*safe-bestowing*, †*-maker*, †*-making* (where 'safe' is objective); *safe-borne, -marching, -moored, -sequestered* ppl. adjs. (where 'safe' is quasi-adv.).

1575 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 254 Putting in order and *safebestowinge of the garmentes. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 38 Average fifteen hunder souls *safe-borne fra' port to port. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlix. 10 Others render *Shiloh, Tranquillator, Salvator*, The *Safe-maker, The Peace-maker. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 13 Their ministration is the *safemaking ministration. 1755 J. N. SCOTT *Ess. Transl. Homer's Wks.* 3 *Safe-marching through the Camp. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. xii, *Safe-moored in some stillest obscurity. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 561 Some smooth ascent, or *safe-sequester'd bay.

† b. In verbal phrase used subst.: see quot. *Obs.*

c 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 96 He hath letters of safe come, safe goe, and safe staye for five dayes.

¶ *Vouch . . safe, safe vouch*: see VOUCHSAFE.

†**Safe**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SAFE *a*.] *trans.* To render safe or secure. Also, to conduct safely *out of*.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. H j b, Deare Lord, what means this rage, when lacking vse: Scarce safes your life, will you in armour rise? 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 55 My more particular, And that which most with you should

safe my going, Is Fulvias death. *Ibid.* IV. vi. 26 Best you saf't the bringer Out of the hoast. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 122 Thus he brau'd, and yet his violent shaft Strooke short with all his violence, Tydides life was saft. *Ibid.* VII. 285 At which we will erect Wals, and a raueling, that may safe, our fleet and vs protect.

Safe-conduct (sēˈlfkɒndʊkt), *sb.* Forms: see SAFE *a.* and CONDUCT *sb.*[1] [a. F. *sauf-conduit* (13th c.), f. *sauf* SAFE *a.* + *conduit* CONDUCT *sb.* Cf. Sp., Pg. *salvoconduto*, It. *salvocondotto*, med.L. *salvus conductus*.]

1. The privilege, granted by a sovereign or other competent authority, of being protected from arrest or molestation while making a particular journey or travelling within a certain region. Phrases, *in* or *with safe-conduct*, *under* or *upon* (*a*) *safe-conduct*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10226 To vinde him gode borewes, & sauf condut al so. *c* 1325 *Coer de L.* 3617 Ye schole gon in saff coundyte; No man schal do ye despyte. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 260 In stede of messengeres, saue coudite vs gyue, Þorgh þi lond to go in þin auowrie, þat non vs robbe ne slo, for þi curteysie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 160 For he anon hem wolde assaile..His sauf conduit bot if thei hadden. 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* I. 935 For þei of pryde, with-outen any leue Or saf̃condyte, han þe stronde y-take. 1433 *Rolls Parlt.* IV. 475/1 Letters of save condut. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 82 Thei hadde saf̃ condite to returne to Tintagel. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 93 Gif a man be tane presonare apon ane otheris sauf condyt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxii. 322 Thenne the Barons sente for syr Tristram vnder a sauf conduyte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 34 Then the capitayne sent woorde that with saufeconduyte he would come and speke with the kynges counsayll. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 107 Nor scottis men til entir on inglis grond vtht out the kyng of ingland saue conduct. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 254 Graunting to all comners out of every Countrie safe conduyte to come and go. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) I. 53 To be short, upon safe-conduct, the bishop commeth to the king's presence. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 83 The Earle gat saff candit to come throw Ingland. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 238 Sixtus V, and Clement VIII, granted Safe-conduct to the Maranes, to remain, and traffick in the Town of Ancona, without being molested or disturbed by the Inquisitors. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, The task of conveying one female in safety through such scenes as we must encounter..is enough...If you accept the service I tender..she shall be instantly placed in safe conduct. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 35 He had come over under a safe conduct, and he was not detained. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* xxi, A pass..giving you and Miss Jess Croft a safe conduct to Mooifontein.

2. A document by which this privilege is conveyed.

[1392 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camd.) 179/32 Pro scriptura et sigillacione vnius saueconducti Ducis de Stulpez.] ? 1404 SKYDMORE *Let.* 5 July in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 20 And ther y was and spake with hym [Owen Glendower] upon trwys, and prayed of a saufconduyt under his seal to send home my wif and hir moder and thaire mayne. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1877) I. 67 Traistand at the said Inglisman had na saulf conduct, and tharefti[r] he schew a conduct. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 503 Some shewid his saifecundight, some shewid his charter. 1620 SIR R. NAUNTON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 115 And humbly praies his Majesties signature to this safe conduct here inclosed. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 401 Such goods as are brought into this country by an alien enemy..without a safe-conduct or passport. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 576 Feversham was asked for his safe conduct. He had none. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 122 The safe conduct granted them on their departure is dated on the 27th of July.

3. The action of conducting or conveying in safety; safe convoy.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 80 He praied þam of alle þing..To haf saf̃ condite, vnto þe New Kastelle. & Hugh did as he bight, led þam sauely welle. 1529 *Household Bk. Hen. VIII* in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 152 For the costes of him and such other with him, as attended upon the salve conduct of the said moneye. 1577 E. HOGAN in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 156 For my safe conduite to the Court he had sent foure captaines. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 481 And give them such safe Conduct and Convoie, as they shall reasonably require.

4. *fig.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 112 Vn-to synnerys, that deye repentaunt, To yive pardon off hys benynge graunt, [The] Wych ys to hem, vn-to ther refut, Protecc̃yon and true sauf̃-conduit, Hem to save, that thay be nat lorn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, In heuynesse, feblenes, and trouble of enmemyes, it is our conforte, our strengthe, saueconducte and peace. 1552 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) A 3 b, This worke maie not at the first enteraunce, haue the saufe conducte and protection of your most noble roiall Maiestie. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* 267 Being as we are fallen into the most grievous sinnes, we do live, and go so contented, as though we had received of God a safeconduit to be saved. 1625 tr. *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 146 God vnder his mighty protection, and by his owne safe-conduct, brought that holy burthen thither. 1872 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) IV. 102 A great controlling reason in whose safe-conduct we trust implicitly.

†**Safe-conduct**, *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To lead, convoy, or conduct safely.

In verse stressed *safe-cónduct* as well as *safe-cónduct*.

1564 JEWKINSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 346 That he would..giue me..men to safeconduct me vnto the sayd Sophy. 1567 DRANT *Hor. Ep.* I. vii. D iij, If he maye be safeconducted and welcum to thy grace. 1590 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. ii, Bearing his priuie signet and his hand To safe conduct vs thorow Africa. *a* 1600 (?) HOOKER *Serm. Jude* ii. § 22 He indeed was able to Safe-Conduct a Theefe from the Crosse to Paradise. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. xiii. 96 This Sword (I trust) shall well safeconduct mee. 1639 AINSWORTH *Pentateuch* Contents 2 This Second Booke of Moses sheweth..the bringing out of Israel..the safe-conducting of them in the Wildernesse.

Safe-guard (sēˈlfgɑɹd), *sb.* For forms see SAFE *a.* and GUARD *sb.* See also SAGGAR, SEGGARD. [ME. *savegarde* (*sauf-*, *safe-*, etc.), a. F. *sauvegarde* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *sauve* fem. of *sauf* SAFE + *garde* GUARD *sb.* Cf. It., Sp. *salvaguardia*, Pg. *salvaguarda*, med.L. *salvagardia*.]

1. Protection, safety. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (see b).

1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 159/2 The pore Soudeors..have truly served the sauf garde of the forsaid Town. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 652 Saiffgarde he gat wndir a bowand tre. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1641) 450 King Richard, as the fame went, might have escaped and gotten safegard by flying. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. IV* 8 b, Besechyng the Duke to grant to him the safegarde of his lyfe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 6 To the which they flye for safegarde if any man resorte vnto them. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 132 That na men..tak vpoun thame the saulfgaird and protectioun of ony knawin inymeis or convoy..to thame.. ony gudis. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* II. (1603) 89 Preferring the savegard of his people before his owne life. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 83 A place of safeguard, called commonly the Monastery of refuge. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 200 The women [of Sumatra] are for courage, Amazonian, and of such account with their tyrannique Lords, that the safeguard of their bodies are committed sometimes to their care. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* s. v. *Attributa*, He attributeth to me the safe guard of the whole empire.

b. *For* (*the*) *safeguard of* (now *arch.*), †*to* (*the*) *safeguard of*, †*in safeguard of*: for the defence or protection of, in order to the safety of. Formerly freq. in phr. *for safeguard of one's life.*

[1347 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 194/1 Pur salve garde de la pees.] 1433 *Ibid.* IV. 445/1 To walle,..and fortefie, youre seid Towne and Havyn, sufficiently..for the saufgarde of alle Marchaundises and other Goodes thedir comynge. 1440 in Slew *Hist. Walsall* (1856) 107 For the more suertye and saufgard of the tresour and euydence of that Gylde. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 398 For savegarde of the kynges cite. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 17 And there the lady Pressyne stablysshed a strong geaunt to the saugearde of the tresoure. 1519 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 315 For savegard of my lyf and for savegard of my body. 1536 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 139 For safeguard of his life he was fayne to leape from ye bridge. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 2039 To saugearde of the iust & synners ponnyshment. 1571–2 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 285 Boxes for the belles ropes to run in for savegard of the ropes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 43 b, The streit of Hellespont, for the safegard wherof there are 2. strong castles. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. iii. 259 If you do fight in safegard of your wiues. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 13 A. flyeth as much as he can for safeguard of his life. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 39 To rase ones house on fire, in safegard of the neighbours houses. 1669 MRS. ALICE THORNTON *Autobiog.* (Surtees) 18 But the king, being constrained for the saveguard of his owne life, passed that fatall bill. 1727 THRELKELD *Stirpes Hibernicæ* Pref. 23 He was for the Safeguard of his Life compelled in his Age, to fly into High Germany. 1848 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* I. viii. I. 297 [Form of policy], To make every exertion in their power 'for the defence, safeguard, and recovery' of the property.

†c. *In safeguard*, in safety or security. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 468 Forto kepe the towne in saufgarde from oure enemys. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 5/2 The seid sommes of money..to be put in sauf gard. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 30 Fortresses where his men might lye in safegarde. 1611 BIBLE I *Sam.* xxii. 23 With me thou shalt bee in safegard. 1642 J. M[ARSH] *Argt. couc. Militia* 4 The King ought to provide that his Subjects have their passage throughout the Realme by all high wayes in safeguard.

†d. Custody or safe-keeping. *Obs.*

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 112 They put men in soche savegarde That with in a whyle afterwarde They be sure to go no forther. 1817 SIR F. BURDETT in *Parl. Debates* 1693 The safeguard of the prisoners had originally belonged to the sheriff.

2. Protection or security afforded by a specified person (or thing). Phr. *in* or *under* (*the*) *safeguard of*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 238 Thay ar all in the protectioun and salvegarde of the pape. 1484 CAXTON *Æsop* II. ii. (1889) 34 Who that..submytteth hym self vnder the saue gard or protection of the euylle. *c* 1490 *Paston Lett.* III. 366 Our Lord..have you in His blissid saufegard. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 136 Whome he..had receiued into his sauegard, custodie, and protection. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXI. XXVII. 789 To commit themselves vnder the protection and savegard of the Romanes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 84, I detained my selfe vnder safe-guard of the Cloyster. 1657 *Whole Duty of Man* v. § 14 (1660) 117 [We] therefore should tremble to venture on the perils either of day or night without his safeguard. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VII. 125 Under the safeguard of the colony of their nation.

†b. *To stand upon one's safeguard*: to stand on the defensive, to defend one's self. *Obs.*

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 236 If any Prince were euer forced to stand vpon his safe-guard, and fence himselfe with Lawes.

†**3.** Guarantee of safety or safe passage given by a person in authority; safe-conduct. *On safeguard*, on the strength of such guarantee. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 221 (239) And whan Priam his sone garde sente Thembassadours to troie strenghe wente. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 128 For where as I my sauegard grauntyd, Ay in that cost he comonly hauntyd. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 475/2 Letters of save conduct and save gard. 1526 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 402 If anny man..will convey him oute of the town under any Irishman [his salfe garde or winges. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 154 He tooke his penne and wrote his warrant of sauegard with these most goodlie wordes, *Viuat Varro vir doctissimus*. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 45 For the ease, savegard, and passage of the inhabitants of the said townes, villages [etc.]. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 81 Crassus..was slaine as he parlied on safe-guard. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 9 On safegard he came to me.

†b. *Law.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Safe-guard.* See *Salva-guardia*. *Salva Guardia*, is a Protection given by the King to a stranger, fearing the violence of some of his Subjects, for seeking His Right by course of Law.

4. A permit for safe passage: = SAFE-CONDUCT 2. Also, a guard or escort granted for the same purpose.

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xi. 72 Whereupon second Letters together with a safe guard were dispatched unto him. 1642 *Laws of War Army Earl Essex* A 4 b, Whosoever shall presume to violate a Save-guard, shall die without mercy. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 199 So a trumpet was sent to the earl of Essex for a safe guard or pass to those two lords. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 79 Without a farthing of money in your pockets, guides to conduct you or safeguards to protect you. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2380/3 They..have need, for themselves and 100 Persons, of Passports and Safeguards to be sent from your Army. 1860 WOOLSEY *Introd. Internat. Law* § 147 (1875) 283 Passports and safeguards, or safe-conducts, are letters of protection, with or without an escort, by which the person of an enemy is rendered inviolable. 1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 6 June, I am obliged to see all that can be seen of the South at once, and then, armed with such safeguards as I can procure, to make an effort to recover my communications.

5. A warrant granted by a military commander to protect a place from pillage. Also, a guard or detachment of soldiers sent to protect the place.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Safe-Guard*, In Military Affairs, a Protection given by a Prince or his General, to some of the Enemy's Country, to be secur'd from being ravag'd by his Men or quartering them; also Soldiers left in such Places for that Purpose. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4377/2 The Princess was there, and had..Safe-guards granted her for the Protection of the Place.

†**6.** A picket or outpost of soldiers. *Obs.*

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1238/4 The Mareschal d'Humieres has called in all his Safe-guards, and caused the Bridges on the Canal to be taken up. 1707 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 195 Vendosm has called in all the safeguards round his camp.

7. *gen.* Something that offers security from danger; a defence, protection. Now chiefly in immaterial applications: e. g. a legal proviso or a stipulation serving to prevent some encroachment; a course of action, a habit or sentiment, tending to protect the subject against some temptation; or the like. (The chief current sense.)

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.*, *Ep. to Edw. IV* in Ashm. (1652) 109 O Honorable Lord,..The savegard of England, & maynteyner of right. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 47 That sacred Sainctuary, that hath bene the safegarde of so many a good mannes life. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 18 This maner of foldynge..shall be a greate sauegarde to the shepe for rottynge. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 32 Whitch saiing I..do now recount a soverain save gard against all incumbrancis. 1584 R. NORMAN (*title*) The safegard of Sailers, or great Rutter. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 701 [York] a singular safeguard and ornament both, to all the North parts. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 88 His owne valour was his safeguard. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. (1782) I. 393 Their poverty indeed became an additional safeguard to their innocence. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 43 No new safeguards for public liberty were devised. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. ix. 425 There was a still further reason for placing some special safeguard on that border. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vii. 251 Admirable skill of expression is..no real safeguard against logical blunders. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 419/2 The old reticence of the Bench was a grand safeguard of its dignity.

†**8.** An outer skirt or petticoat worn by women to protect their dress when riding. (See also quot. 1706.) Also SEGGARD. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 167 *Limus*,..a kind of aray or attire reaching from the nauill downe to the feete, by this description like a womans safegard, or a bakers. 1588 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 3 A safegard with a jhup or gaskyn coate of faire cullored satten. 1590 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 23 My cloake and savegarde. 1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* I. i. (Stage Direct.), The gentlewomen in cloakes and safeguardes. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. i. D1, Enter Mol in a freese Ierkin and a blacke sauegard. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v., There is also a kind of Dust-gown, or upper Garment worn by Women, commonly called a *Safe-Guard*; also a coloured Stuff-Apron, and a sort of Swathing-Band for a young Child. 1789 *Append. Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 264 Habited in loose white gowns, with nankeen safeguards.

b. Similarly *attrib.* (see quot.).

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 69 With a safe-guard handkerchief, enveloping her turban.

†**9.** Alleged term for a 'company' of porters.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A Safegarde of Porteris.

10. A name for various technical contrivances for ensuring safety.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* III. 83 Purdey's Patent Safeguard, to prevent the accidental discharge of guns. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Safeguard* 1. *a.* A *rail-guard* at a switch or crossing. *b.* A contrivance attached to a locomotive for throwing stones and other obstructions off the track.

11. A name for the monitor lizards of America.

[After F. *sauvegarde*; for the origin of the appellation cf. MONITOR *sb.* 5. Shaw *Zool.* III. 215 (1802) gives the equivalent Sp. *salvaguarda* as the South American name.]

1831 CRAIGIE *Anat.* 160 The American safeguard. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 469–70. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 288/1 Safe-guards (*Tejus*).

Safeguard (sē·fgārd), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *sauvegarder*, which Littré and Hatz.-Darm. call a 'néologisme'.] *trans.* To keep secure from danger or attack; to guard, protect, defend. Now chiefly with immaterial obj. (e.g. interests, rights).

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. xxix. 21 Brenne..was fayne to Sauegard hymselfe by flyght. 1501 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 51 Suche thyng as may safegard hym yᵗ is born in England that he shall not be suspect for a Skott. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 17 The Quene muste sauegarde all the hole prouince. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 111 b, Building in their countries fortresses thereby to safegard the trafficke of the East. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 64 Heat doth safegard and thicken the Milke. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1619–20) II. 393 The walls of Jericho could not savegard it from the invasion of Joshua. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 551 By auoiding ill shewes, we safegard our fame. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 169 The coast is safeguarded from sand and stealth by a defensive wall. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 489 This angel secured and safeguarded them all the way through the wilderness. 1865 *Times* 23 Jan. 9/5, I am very thankful that their [my decisions'] correctness is safeguarded. 1887 *Standard* 13 May 5/3 A compromise calculated to safeguard French interests. 1889 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 329 Nor could the troops be safeguarded against a surprise.

† b. To send or conduct in safety. *Obs.*

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Justine* xv. 63 b, Demetrius ..safegarded home into Egipt, Leuticke Ptolomies son, and Menelaus his brother ransomelesse. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 31 With his Army to safegard him to the Kings Metropolis.

Hence **Sa·feguarding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Sa·feguarder.**

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 429 Wherfore in safe-gardynge of hym selfe, he fled with a small companye to warde Walys. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. x. (1553) G v b, My strength and my prayse is our Lorde, he hathe bene my safegarder. 1621 USSHER *Serm.* 5 The Watchmen ..who were appoynted for the safegarding of the Church. 1658 OWEN *Temptation* viii. 152 We are arrived then to the summe of this safeguarding Duty. 1862 J. SEVERN in *Atlantic Monthly* LXIX. 636 The French troops..have been ordered to concentrate here at once, for the safeguarding of the Eternal City.

Safe-hold. [f. HOLD *sb.*¹: cf. *stronghold.*] A place of safety from attack.

1793 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 332 That misleading enthusiasm which led her..far from the safe-holds of her native country. 1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 304 The chamberlain..commenced the war by..securing the strong tower of Blacater...To this safehold the queen..now resolved to retire. 1843 BROWNING *Ret. Druser* III. Poems (1905) 238/1 From this safehold of mine Where but ten thousand Druses seek my life.

Safe-keeper. *rare*⁻¹. [cf. next.] A protector.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. Pref. 2 b, She assuredly trusteth that he is her safekeper and defender.

Safe-keeping, *vbl. sb.* The action of keeping safe; protection, preservation; custody.

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 390/1 For the safe kepyng of the See. 1587 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 378 The Arringes, brushinges & salffe kepinge of the robes. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. xiii. 123 A number of people were in boats to see her..heavy for her trouble, seeing her go under safe-keeping. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Dec. 5/1 He was willing to pay for the safe-keeping of his wife in Dr. W.'s asylum.

Safely (sē·fli), *adv.* Forms: 3–4 sauveli, 3–5 saveliche, 4–5 -lich, -lych(e, -like, (*compar.* saveloker, -lokr), 4–5 salvely, 4–6 savely, (5–6 -lye, 6 -lie); 3–5 saufli, 4–5 saufliche, -lych(e, -like, sauffly, sawf(f)ly, 4–6 saufly, 6 saulfly(e, saulfely; 3–6 safly, 4–5 safliche, saff(e)ly, salfly, 6 saf(f)eli, *Sc.* saifly, 5– **safely.** [f. SAFE *a.* + -LY ².] In a safe manner.

1. Without harm or injury occasioned or received. Often with verbs of *coming*, *going*, *keeping*, and the like, where the adj. might be used (see SAFE *a.* 1).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4944 Lede þam sauueli [*Gött.* safly, *Fairf.* sauely] to þair land. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6622 Sauelike held þey þer castels & touns. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 359 The queyn..sawffly come to the castell. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 44 And also that it be put in a bagge, & asselid, and safly kepid. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6456 Ye shall..savely come and savely goo. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 178 How suld thai be callit sauf condytis, bot gif thai condyte thair maisteris saufly and surely? 1529 CROMWELL *Will* in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 58 All the which parcelles of plate and houseold stuf I will shalbe savelye kept to thuse of my saide Soonne Gregorye. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 58 They aryuyd sauely at the port of Jaffe. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 70 God safely quit her of her Burthen. 1635 HAKEWILL *Apol.* v–vi. 116 The earth being safely delivered from that inundation. 1765 WARBURTON in *W. & Hurd's Lett.* (1809) 365, I hope this will find you safely returned. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xliii, They were safely at home again the same evening. 1859 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 239 Your article..came safely to hand. 1868 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 169, I send the Contemporary Review by this post. Pray let me know that it has reached you safely. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 461/2 She was in the train, lawfully.., and therefore a duty was cast upon the company of carrying her safely.

2. In a manner free from danger or hazard; securely, without risk.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) I. 347 (Harl. MS.) Ȝe mowe sauflyche bet holy þyng as he dude auonge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 686 Be-tuix þe wolues lai þe schepe, Sauueli [*Gött.* sauli, *Fairf.* sauely] moght þai samen slepe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 248 And thanne he may sauffiche ynowh His Oxen yoke into the plowh. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1362 Ther myghte no wapen his medys ryfe, So Savely was he dighte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 Are we not hereby..admonished which wee may safeliest cleaue vnto? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 837 Nor safely cou'd they shear the fleecy Store. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 162 ¶ 4 No man can safely do that by others, which might be done by himself. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 205 He could not safely venture to outrage all his Protestant subjects at once. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 May 4/7 The demand for advances will exceed..the sum which the State can safely or conveniently lend.

b. Without risk of error.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3051 But saufly þis may [i] seye & þe sope proue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 33 For o thinge, sires, saufly dar I seie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 308 Bot I dar saufly make an oth, Mi ladi was me nevere loth. 1573 T. CARTWRIGHT *Reply to Whitgift's Answ.* 17 Howe can we doe safelyer then to follow the Apostles customes? 1647 GREAVES *Roman Foot* 103 Therefore wee may the safelier give credit to them. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 250 ¶ 1, I can safely say, I acted according to the best of my Understanding. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 26 Such a one (safeliest spoken of by the neuter pronoun). 1875 T. W. HIGGINSON *Hist. U. S.* xxxii. 328 We can safely assume something more than this.

† **3.** In safe confinement or custody. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Brut* 429 All his prisoneris weren..brought into the Toure of London, to kepe hem there-ynne saufly. 1505 *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 268 That he shuld resayve and savely kepe the said rebell. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. i. 104 Ile keepe him darke and safely lockt. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xvi. 23 Charging the Iaylour to keepe them safely.

† **4.** With confidence or assurance. *Obs.*

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Kings* xvi. Comm., King David was here abused by false information: to which he ought not so safely to have geven credite. 1674 CAMPION *Art of Descant* 38 Doing that safely and resolutely which others attempt timorously and uncertainly.

Safeness (sē·fnés). [-NESS.] The quality or state of being safe (in various senses).

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 18742 (Fairf.) Þe toþer [man] vs come fra heyuen toure þat brost us sauenes & socoure. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saafnesse, or salvacyon, *salvacio.* 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Safenesse, *sauueté.* 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 69 Besides the safenesse and no danger in the cure. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 651 Neither is this Haven famous for the secure safeness thereof. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xiii. (1640) 130 The nearnesse of the way is to be measured not by the shortnesse but the safenesse of it. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 2 Tim. ii. 3 The Life of a Minister or Bishop is not a Life of Ease, and Idleness, and Safeness. 1688 SOUTH *Serm.* xii. (1697) I. 546 If a Man should forbear his Food,..till he had Science and Certainty of the Safeness of what he was going about, he must starve, and die Disputing. 1889 *Spectator* 28 Dec., He must be, first of all, a man of sure judgment, or the public will not trust him long, they discerning the quality we call 'safeness' clearly enough.

Safer, obs. form of SAVIOUR, SAVOUR.

Safer *Sc.* = *so far* adv.: see So.

Safer(e, Saferay, obs. ff. SAPPHIRE, SAVORY.

Saferen, -erne, -ero(u)n, obs. ff. SAFFRON.

Safety (sē·fti). Forms: 3–4 sauvete, savte, 4–5 savetee, sawete, savite, -yte, 4–6 savete, 5 salvetee, 6 savity, salvetie; 4–5 safte(e, sawfte, (5 saefte), 4–6 saufte, 5 *Sc.* saifte, 6 safftie, safetye, saulftie, saulfty(e, saufftye, sauftie, salf(e)ty, *Sc.* saiftie, 6–7 safetie, saftie, 7 safty, 6– safety. [a. F. *sauveté* (11th c. *salveteit*), ad. med.L. *salvitāt-em*, f. *salv-us* SAFE. Cf. Pr. *salvetat*, *sauhetat*, Sp. *salvedad.*]

Scanned by Spenser (and in Shaks. *Ham.* I. iii. 21 Qq.) as a trisyllable.

1. The state of being safe; exemption from hurt or injury; freedom from danger. Phr. *in safety.*

Committee of Safety: a body of 23 members appointed in Oct. 1659 by the parliamentary army to conduct the government of England during the interregnum following the practical deposition of Richard Cromwell.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 489 Þat was þe syngne of sauyte þat sende hem oure lorde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 183 And he eftyr his mengze raid; And in-till saufte thaim led. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3410 Þay bup in sauete. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xvii. 272 The lorde of palerne..shall lede the pray to saftee. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* iv. 8 For it is thou Lorde onely, that makest me dwell in safetye. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 17 Here now behoueth vs well to auyse, And of our safetie good heede to take. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xi. 14 In the multitude of counsellers there is safetie. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 243 Merchants, passengers and drivers of loaded Camels, keeping together for safety against theeves. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xvii. 87 In those things which concerne the Common Peace and Safetie. 1659 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1853) IV. 367. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 697 All Dangers past, at length the lovely Bride In safety goes, with her Melodious Guide. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxii. (1820) 322 It is..his duty..not to hazard the safety of the Community. 1856 C. J. ANDERSSON *Lake Ngami* 9, I arrived late in the evening at our hotel, where they had begun to entertain some doubt of my safety. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 48 The least presence of mind would be sufficient to place him in safety.

Proverb. There is safety in numbers.

† b. Salvation (of the soul). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13093 Yee ask him if he be þat gom þat for man sauuete suld com. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 376 Lord Ihesu, þat dengnit þe fore oure sawfte to mane be. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6869 For her soules savetee. 1675 M. CLIFFORD *Hum. Reason* 32 Those whose Ignorance in these matters has been invincible, they left to the hands of God, without declaring a definitive Opinion either of their safety or perdition.

† c. *With (the) safety of*: without damage to, preserving .. unhurt. *Obs.*

1619 in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 10 The King my master professeth he could neither with the saftie of his honor or conscience leave them to be consumed by the sword. 1633 MARMION *Antiquary* III. i. (1641) E 4 b, I am..a kinde of lawlesse Justicer,..that will kill any man with my safety. 1640 SHIRLEY *St. Patrick* III. ii, That I with safetie of thy sence, Emeria, Might visit thee.

† d. Sometimes *pl.* = the safety of more than one person. (In quot. 1605? = occasions of safety.)

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. iii. 30 Let not my Iealousies be your Dishonors, But mine owne Safeties. 16.. *Chevy Chase* i. (Percy MS.) God prosper long our noble king, our liffes and saftyes all! 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 439 To attend his or their own safeties, every one at his perill. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) II. 55 But still a more predominant regard to their safeties, obliged him to spend all his time in spurring..his own and his mistress's beast. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxviii, To Allan's eyes was harder task, The weary watch their safeties ask.

† e. Phr. *To be safety* = to be safe (*for*). *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 623/1 The Irish were not ameanable to lawe, soe as it was not safetye for the townesmen to goe to them foorth to demaund theyr dett.

† f. A deliverance or rescue from peril. *Obs. rare.*

1657 HEYLIN *Eccl. Vind.* II. i. § 10. 111 Noah..offered unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving..for so miraculous a safety.

g. *Billiards.* See quot. 1884. Also *attrib.*

1873 BENNETT *Billiards* 386 It is, of course, a matter of judgment, when to play for a score, and when to play for safety. 1884 W. COOK *Billiards* 12 When a player, instead of playing to score, plays to leave some position in which his opponent will be unable to score in his next stroke, he is said to play for safety. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Feb. 9/1 By some judicious safety play [he] succeeded in reaching his points without allowing his opponent to improve his position.

† **2.** Close custody or confinement. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 236 Þe mayden Edward toke, als he was fulle curteys, In saufte did hir loke. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 183 Hold him in safety, till the Prince come hither. 1595 — *John* IV. ii. 158 Away with him! imprison him;..Deliuer him to safety.

† **3.** A means or instrument of safety; a protection, safeguard. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 362 For þis payne þat done is to me þe saufte of my saule sal be. 1399 *Rolls of Parit.* III. 451/2 Syche Juggement..os myght be savete and seurtee..to the Kynges hegh Estate. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. viii. 623 He that suffred vpon the crosse..he be vnto yow good conduyte and saufte. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 12 Beside, the pargetting or seeling, is a good safetie against fyre. ?*c* 1580 in Rye *Cromer* p. lxii, The said Peere..will..in tyme be made a very competent harborough or safetie to the Coast men., and a sound safetie to the Towne. 1689–90 TEMPLE *Pop. Discontents* Wks. 1731 I. 260 The first Safety of Princes and States, lies in avoiding all Councils or Designs of Innovation in Ancient and Establish'd Forms and Laws. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 52. 334 Political Fear and Aversion ..is generally the Safety of a People. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 332 Two lights..not only of great benefit, but an absolute safety to all navigators on that coast.

† **4.** Used in active sense: The action of saving.

a. *Sc.* Protection. *Under safety of*, under protection of. *For the safely of*, in order to save or avert. *Obs.*

1465 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* VII. 321 *note*, For saufte of his lyffe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 938 To saiff his lyff thre ȝer he duelt in But;..Wndir saifte off Jamys than lord Stewart. 1504 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 188 For recovering, saufte, and getting of thar merchandice. *Ibid.*, Returning fra the saufte and getting of thair saidis merchandice. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 587 My Lord Regent for the sauftie of the inconvenient and danger quhilk..wes lyke to follow, enterit ane servand of his awin in Ingland.

† b. Saving (of money). *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, D iij, But I feare one thynge, and it is: lest for a salfety of a lytle money, you wyll put in chaunatrye Pryestes, to saue theyr pentions.

5. The quality of being unlikely to cause or occasion hurt or injury; freedom from dangerousness; safeness. *With safety*, without occasioning danger or risk.

1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Miss S. Chiswell* 1 Apr., I am very well satisfied of the safety of the experiment. 1806 *Med. Frnl.* XV. 386 If these incisions into the abdomen can be made with safety. 1816 BUDDLE *Let.* 1 June in Davy *Mem. Sir H. Davy* (1836) II. 112 The safety of the lamps is..easily proved by taking them into any part of a mine charged with fire-damp. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 18 Sept. 4/3, I have found it necessary never to go out shooting with a miscellaneous lot of 'young men from town', until I have had a report..as to their safety in the field.

b. Sureness, steadiness. ? *nonce-use.*

1841 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. viii. 119, I am, and always have been, a very active person..with great fearlessness and safety of foot and limb.

6. Engineering. *Factor* or *coefficient of safety*: see quots. (Cf. *safe load*, SAFE *a.* 14.)

1858 RANKINE *Man. Appl. Mechanics* § 247. 274 Factors of Safety are of three kinds. 1868 HUMBER *Strains in Girders* 56 Coefficients of Safety are numbers representing the proportions of the ultimate strength of materials to the strains that can safely be brought upon them. 1891 ANGELL *Design Structures* 17 The ratio of the ultimate strength to the working strength is termed the *factor of safety* of the material.

7. *Patent Safety* (*Cab*): the original HANSOM CAB, which was furnished with a contrivance to prevent an upset if the cab tilted up or down.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 308/2 Hansom's Patent Safety. 1864 F. W. ROBINSON *Mattie* II. 25 Dodging the policeman behind a Patent Safety. 1882 *Builder* 8 July 44/1 The 'Patent Safety Cab'.

8. In full *safety-bolt*. A contrivance for locking the trigger of a gun, so as to prevent accidental discharge. Also, a gun fitted with this contrivance.

1881 GREENER *Gun* 332 The safety is fixed upon strap of break-off. *Ibid.* 344 A safety bolt is fixed to this gun, which bolts the scears to the triggers. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 25 Aug. 6/2 The old safety-bolts..were never very general favourites. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 36 A safety,..which bolts the triggers effectually.

9. In full *safety bicycle*. The type of bicycle now in use, differing from the old 'Ordinary' in the lower position of the saddle, whereby greater safety is afforded to the rider.

Some of the earlier 'safeties' had a geared front driving-wheel still much larger than the trailing-wheel. In the present form the driving wheel is behind, and the two wheels are equal in diameter.

1877 *Bicycle Jrnl.* 4 May 16 Advt., The 'Challenge' Bicycle, and the 'Safety' Bicycle. 1884 GRIFFIN *Bicycles of Yr.* 82 The Devon Safety Roadster...One of the oldest and simplest of safety bicycles. 1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 121/3 Advt., The Club Safety has been constructed so as to contain all the merits of existing 'Safeties'.

10. *attrib.* Used very freely since *c* 1800 as a specific designation for contrivances for ensuring safety, or for implements, machines, etc., constructed with a view to safety in use; as *safety arch, bell, belt, buoy, car, cartridge, gun, hook, keel, lintel, lock, plug, rail, rein*, etc.; **safety bicycle** (see sense 9); †**safety boat**, a life-boat; **safety bolt** (see sense 8); **safety cab** (see sense 7); **safety cage**, (*a*) the wire guard of a safety lamp; (*b*) a miner's cage fitted with apparatus to prevent its falling if the rope breaks; **safety car** (see quots.); **safety distance**, the distance which suffices to ensure safety; **safety fuse**, a fuse which can be ignited at a safe distance from the charge; **safety lamp**, a miner's lamp the flame of which is so protected that it will not ignite fire-damp (the kind best known is that invented by Sir H. Davy); also called †*safe lamp* (see SAFE *a.* 14) and †**safety lantern**; **safety match**, one which ignites only when rubbed on a prepared surface; **safety tube**, a tube specially contrived to furnish outlet or inlet for gases, etc. Also SAFETY-PIN, SAFETY-VALVE.

1850 OGILVIE, **Safety-arch*, a discharging arch. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2015–18 **Safety-beam*, etc. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 539/2 *Safety bell on swinging coil (fastened to shutters or doors). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Safety-belt*, **Safety-buoy*, a swimming belt or buoy, intended as a protection from drowning. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* (1877) III. IV. xiv. 155 Lionel Lukin, the inventor of the *safety-boat. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1079 This lamp gives so little light as to tempt rash men to remove its *safety-cage. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 172 A number of inventions, to which the name of safety-cage, in French *parachute*, has been applied. 1840 TANNER *Canals & Rail Roads U. S.* 258 **Safety car*, a machine which follows or precedes rail-road cars in their passage of inclined planes, and prevents their descent in case of accident to the machinery, or otherwise. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Safety-car*. See *Barney*. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 505 *Safety cartridges. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Birds & Fl.*, *House-Sparrow* iv, He knows the *safety-distance to an inch. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/1 Two motor-omnibuses require 46 ft. of street with a safety distance of 18 ft. between each of the two omnibuses. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 575 Accidents, however, are frequent..notwithstanding the invention of the *safety-fuse. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 25 Aug. 6/2 *Safety-guns..have now been brought to a high pitch of perfection. 1875 R. F. MARTIN tr. *Haweis' Winding Mach.* 95 Good *safety hooks will hold up the cage, but they allow the rope to be hurt. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 53 The late Mr. Lang introduced what were termed '*safety keels' and are now known as 'thick garboards'. 1816 WALDIE *Let.* 25 Mar. in Paris *Life Davy* (1831) II. 110 The great and important discovery of your *Safety-lamp for exploring mines charged with inflammable gas. 1815 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* CVI. 14 The second *safety lantern that I have had made is upon the same principle as the first. 1850 OGILVIE, **Safety-lintel*, a name given to the wooden lintel which is placed behind a stone lintel, in the aperture of a door or window. 1863 ABEL in *Lond.* etc. *Philos. Mag.* Nov. 357 Varieties..of so-called '*safety matches'. 1855 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc. s.v. *Lucifers*, Such matches, as not being affected by accidental friction, and as being free from poison, are called safety matches. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 103 The front [of the pigeon-holes in the theatre-gallery] is provided with a *safety-rail. 1815 DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* CVI. 22, I had another chimney fitted to this lantern, furnished with a number of *safety tin-plate tubes. 1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 480 The escape of any uncondensed gas [should be] provided for by a *safety-tube.

Sa·fety-pin.

1. A pin for fastening clothing, bent back on itself so as to form a spring, and with a guard or sheath to cover the point and prevent its accidental unfastening. In *Archæology*, a *fibula* or brooch made on the same principle.

1857 *Prov. Patent Specif.* No. 134 Imp'ts in safety pins. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* 388 The peculiar brooch made of twisted wire, of the 'safety pin' kind, so abundant in the Etruskan tombs of Bologna. 1882 A. J. EVANS in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 100 As an example of a Roman safety-pin this *fibula*, so far as I am aware, is altogether unique.

2. A pin used for fastening, locking, or securing some part of a machine.

1878 *M. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 387 Some say that the Russians had neglected to take out the safety-pins, thus leaving the torpedoes as it were on half-cock. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 143 The object of the safety-pin is to prevent the wheel being unlocked except when the impulse pin is in the notch of the lever. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Safety Pin*, a temporary pin in a percussion fuse, to prevent the plunger from striking accidentally against the percussion powder. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 4/4 Lifting the cotter, or safety pin, which locked the bolt.

Sa·fety-valve.

1. A valve in a steam-boiler which automatically opens to permit steam to escape when the pressure is becoming dangerous. Also, a similar valve opening inwards, to admit air when a partial vacuum has been formed.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 134 The safety-valve..is loaded so that the steam escapes when it is stronger than the engine requires. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* ii. (ed. 3) 26 The boiler of a steam engine sometimes bursts even during the escape of steam through the safety-valve.

transf. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 371 The volcanos in different parts of this island are observed..to be in activity by turns, one vent often serving for a time as a safety-valve to the rest. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Wint. Nile* i. 22 The volcanic islands which serve as chimneys and safety-valves to this part of the world.

2. *fig.* An opening or channel for 'letting off steam', giving vent to excitement, getting rid of a dangerous excess of energy, or the like.

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 172 Our hereditary nobility have safety-valves in their rank, and in the offices of which they are the inheritors in church and state. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1344 As a sort of 'safety valve',.. recourse is had..to the flinging about of..cabbage stalks. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xix, I am convinced that they [*sc.* public lotteries] were beneficial, acting as safety-valves to the gambling spirit of the nation. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 183 What a safety-valve to the high pressure of a compulsory system is here! 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 276 Commercial activity..was..a safety-valve for energies shut out of their proper sphere.

†**Safe ward.** *Obs.* [WARD *sb.*] Safe-guard, safe-keeping.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. viii. (Tollem. MS.), The ye liddes..reulen and hilen and gouerne þe yen in saue warde [*L. tuta custodia*]. 1414 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 142 That..the sauf warde of alle youre [? realm] be wel and suffissantly purveied. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxx, Inne saue-ward that byurde bryȝte To Carlele to bringe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 129 To putte hyt in seure and sauf warde and kepynge.

Safewr, obs. form of SAPPHIRE.

Saff(e, obs. forms of SAFE, SAVE.

Saffage, obs. form of SAVAGE *a.*

Saffer(e, obs. forms of SAPPHIRE, ZAFFRE.

Saffern, -eron, obs. and dial. forms of SAFFRON.

Saffi, variant of SAPHIE, amulet.

Saffian (sæ·fiăn). Forms: 6 saphian, -ion, 8– saffian. [a. Russ. САФЬЯНЪ, corruptly a. Roumanian *saftian*, a. Turkish (Persian) سختیان *saχtiyān*. Cf. Ger. *saffian*.] A leather made from goatskins or sheepskins tanned with sumach and dyed in bright colours. Also *saffian leather*.

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* xix. 74 Whither the Russe marchants trade for raw silks, syndon, saphion, skins, and other commodities. *Ibid.* xxviii. 114 His buskins..are made of a Persian leather called Saphian. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 460 The skins of these sheep, and skins of goats, are used in making Saffian and Morocco leather. 1834–6 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 551/2 A valuable Saffian or dyed Maroquin leather, almost equal to that of Turkey, is prepared at Astracan and in other parts of Asiatic Russia. 1882 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 388/1 The Germans distinguish between saffian and morocco, including under the former term leather tanned with sumach, and dyed bright colours without previous stuffing with fats..Saffians are, according to this classification, the leathers principally used for bindings and fancy purposes.

Safflor(e, obs. forms of SAFFLOWER.

Safflorite (sæ·flŏrəit). *Min.* [a. G. *safflorit* (1835), f. *safflor* SAFFLOWER: see -ITE¹.] An orthorhombic arsenide of cobalt and iron.

1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 146. 1862 DANA *Min.* 263.

Safflower (sæ·flauəɹ). Forms: *α.* 6 *corruptly* samfleure, -floure; *β.* 7 saf(f)lore, (erron. salfore), 8 saf(f)lor; *γ.* 7 safflower, saflower, 8 saff-flower, 8– safflower; *δ.* 8–9 saflow. [a. Du. *saffloer* (*s* = G. *safflor*, a. OF. *saffleur, safour*, a. early It. *saffiore*, also *asfiore, asfrole, zaffrole*, etc. (Yule). The ultimate source is obscure: the Arabic عصفر *ʿuṣfur* is prob. a foreign word assimilated to اصفر *aṣfar* yellow.

The form has been influenced by association with the words *saffron* (F. *safran*) and *flower* (It. *fiore*, F. *fleur*); although safflower is a wholly different plant from saffron, the former was often used as a substitute for the latter in medicine, whence the name *bastard saffron*.]

1. The dried petals of the *Carthamus tinctorius* (see 2), also the (red) dye produced from these petals. Used in the preparation of rouge.

α. 1583 L. M[ASCALL] tr. *Bk. Dyeing* 20 Yee shall take one pound of samfleure and let it soke halfe a day [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Samfloure.

β. 1642 *Rates Merchandizes* 47 Saflore the pound 00. 01. 00. 1662 *Stat. Ireland* (1678) 658 Safflore. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 588 Saffior, which the Portuguese employ to colour their eatables yellow.

γ. 1666. PETTY *Hist. Dyeing* in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 298 This Mather..dyeth on Cloth a colour the neerest to our Bow-dye,..the like whereof Safflowr doth in Silk. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 385 Then take the safflower out of the bag. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1113 Safflower contains two colouring matters, a yellow and a red. 1877 O'NEILL in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 571/2 Specimens of mummy cloth of a reddish colour appeared to have been dyed with safflower.

2. The thistle-like plant *Carthamus tinctorius*, extensively cultivated in Southern Europe, Egypt, India, and China for the dye obtained from its flowers (see 1); the seeds yield an oil used for lamps.

β. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 536 Woad, saflor, or wild-saffron, and garden-fruits.

γ. 1682 S. WILSON *Acc. Carolina* 18 Sumack growes in great abundance naturally, so undoubtedly would Woad, Madder and Sa-Flower, if planted. 1756 *Compl. Body Husb.* 535 Saff-flower, or Carthamus, is cultivated for the sake of its flower, as the Saffron is. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 6 Other Philippine dye plants..are the sibucao, or sapan wood, the beri, or safflower [etc.].

δ. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 131 In Oxfordshire, about Norton and Ashton, grows a sort of herb that they call Safflow or Bastard Saffron, which the Dyers use for the dying of Scarlet. 1885 STALLYBRASS tr. *Hehn's Wand. Plants & Anim.* 201 The Safflow or Zaffer..a kind of thistle native to the East Indies.

3. *attrib.*

1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 204 The Seeds of the Safflower Plant. 1857 E. BALFOUR *Cycl. India* 1631 Safflower Oil. *Ibid.*, Safflower Seed.

‖ **Saffo.** *rare*⁻¹. Pl. saffi. [It. 'a catchpole, a sergeant' (Florio, 1598).] A bailiff.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. viii. (1607) H 4 *Volp.* Hearke, who's there? I heare some footing, Officers, the Saffi, Come to apprehend vs!

†**Saffora.** *Obs. rare.* Also saphora. [Of unknown origin.] = BARILLA 2.

a 1618 *Rates Marchandizes* D 2, Barilia or Saphora, to make glasse. *Ibid.* K 3, Saffora to make Glasse.

Safforn(e, obs. forms of SAFFRON.

Saffranon (sæ·frănŏn). Also 8 saffranoune. [App. a var. of F. *safranum* with the same meaning, a. med.L. *safranum* SAFFRON.] = SAFFLOWER 1.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 451 As the *Jacob*,..bound from Alexandria with Hides, Coffee, Saffranon, &c. to Leghorn lay off Monte Christo, the Saffranon smothering in the Hold, on opening the Hatches the Flames burst out. 1743 R. POCOCKE *Egypt* I. iv. 39 An export of coffee, senna, saffranounes for dying, flax [etc.]. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 1001 The flowers..are sometimes sold under the name of *saffranon*.

Saffre, variant of ZAFFRE.

†**Sa·ffred,** *a.* ? *Anglo-Irish. Obs.* In 5 saffyrred, 6 saufred. [f. SAFFR(ON) + -ED².] = SAFFRONED.

1466 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 326 Ne woman..use to werre saffyrred smokes ne saffyrred kewryches. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 38 The roabe pretiouse colored lyke saufred Achantus [*croceo Acantho*]. *Ibid.* 40 With roabs of saffrod [? *read* saffred] Acanthus.

Saffrene, variant of SAFFRONE.

Saffron (sæ·frən), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 3 saffran, 4–5 saffroun, saf(f)run, 4–6 safron, 5 saffronn, safroun, -ryn, 6 saphron, saffrane, -rone, saffroune, 7 safran, 5– saffron; *β.* 5 safforn, 6 saf(f)orne, -erne; *γ.* 5 saferen, saferoun, saipheron, sapheron(e, saferon, saffyron, 5–6 safferon. [a. F. *safran* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), whence also MLG. *safferân*, MDu. *saffraen* (Du. *saffraan*), MHG. *saffrân* (mod.G. *safran*). The ultimate source is Arab. زعفران *zaʿfarān* (adopted unchanged in Turkish, Persian, and Hindustāni); also Jewish Aramaic זעפרנא *zaʿpʿrānā*). The Arabic word with prefixed definite article, *azzaʿfarān*, is represented by Sp. *azafran*, Pg. *açafrão*; the word without this prefix gives rise to It. *safferano, zaffrone*, Pr. *safran, safrá*, Cat. *safrá*, F. *safran*, med.L. *safranum*, med.Gr. *ζαφράς*, mod.Gr. *σαφράνι*, Russian шафранъ.

The origin of Arab. *zaʿfarān* is unknown; it is not connected with *ṣafrāʾ* fem. of *aṣfar* yellow. The Turkish synonym *ṣafrān* (Zenker; given in Redh.-Wells only as an incorrect pronunciation) may however be derived from this adj., and may be the source of some of the European forms.]

A. *sb.*

1. An orange-red product consisting of the dried stigmas of *Crocus sativus* (see 2). Now used chiefly for colouring confectionery, liquors, etc., and for flavouring; formerly extensively used in medicine as a cordial and sudorific.

Hay saffron, cake saffron: see quot. 1849.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire winpel wit oðer maked ȝeleu mid saffran. *a* 1350 *St. Stephen* 318 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 32 The ferth [panier]..ful of safron semyd it right. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 19 His heer, his berd was lyk saffroun. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 70 Cast thereto Sapheron and salt. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 177 Peper and saffyron and spycis smale. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 176 Cloves and safferne. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* 91 A bason of silver to wash his hands in, full of Saforne. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 48, I must haue Saffron to colour the Warden Pies. 1685 TEMPLE *Ess., Health* Wks. 1731 I. 284 Saffron is of all others the safest and most simple Cordial. 1718 PRIOR *Pleasure* 460 Saffron and myrrh are on his garments shed. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 118 Syrup of saffron, a sufficient

quantity to form an electuary. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 674, 4,320 flowers are required to yield one ounce of saffron. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1068 These stigmata are either dried in the loose state, forming Hay Saffron, or compressed into masses, constituting Cake Saffron. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* vii. 119 Saffron..is a grateful addition to fried, boiled, or stewed.

Prov. phrase. 1778 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 11 Jan., Called on Bliss, who is as yellow as saffron with the jaundice.

b. *Indian saffron*: turmeric.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Turmeric*, The Indians use it to dye their rice, and other foods, of a yellow colour; whence some call it Indian saffron. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Saffron, Indian*, the roots of various species of *Curcuma*.

2. The Autumnal Crocus, *Crocus sativus*, which produces saffron.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 645/18 [*Nomina herbarum*] *Hic crocus*, safurroun. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. L iij b, Colchicon..bryngeth furthe a whytishe floure lyke vnto safforne in the ende of autumne. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lv. 216 Saffron..groweth plentifully also in some places of England and Irelande. 1669 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.*, Aug. (ed. 3) 23 Note, that English Saffron may be suffered to stand for increase to the third or fourth year. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 68 *Crocus officinalis sativus*...Common or autumnal Saffron. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 113 Cantabrian hills the purple saffron show.

b. Bastard Saffron = SAFFLOWER 2; called also American, Dyer's, †Mock Saffron. Meadow or Wild Saffron, *Colchicum autumnale*. Spring Saffron, †Saffron of the Spring, *Crocus vernus*. African or † Cape Saffron, *Lyperia crocea*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 29 Cnecus..is called..in englishe Bastarde saffron or mocke-saffron. *Ibid.*, Cholchicum...It maye be called in englishe, wylde saffron. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxii. 34 The seede of Bastarde Saffron.. is hoate. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxxi. 126 In English spring time Saffrons, and vernall Saffrons. 1599 — *Catalogus* B 2 *Crocus vernus*..Saffron of the spring. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 178 Colchis' banefull Lilly, (With us Wilde-Saffron). 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Nov. 79 Flowers in Prime...Anemonies, Meadow Saffron [etc.]. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VI. lviii, Cape Saffron with a knotty stalk. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 69 Spring Saffron, or Crocus. 1856 *Treas. Bot.* 1004/2 Saffron, African, *Lyperia crocea*.

3. The orange-yellow colour of saffron (sense 1).

1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* iv. 5 That weren nurshid in faire clois of saffroun [Vulg. *qui nutriebantur in croceis*]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 2 Your sonne was misled with a snipt taffata fellow there, whose villanous saffron wold haue made all the vnbak'd and dowy youth of a nation in his colour. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 265 ¶ 9 Aurora..is robed in Saffron. 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* II. 212 Go early, ere the gladsome Hours Strew saffron in the path of rising Morn. 1895 YEATS *Wand. Usheen* Poems 35 When the sun once more in saffron stept.

4. *Old Chem.* = CROCUS 3.

1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 54 Draw off the Menstruum, till the Saffron of the Gold remain almost dry. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Saffron of Steel*, or *Mars*. See *Crocus Martis*. *Ibid.*, *Crocus Martis Astringens, Binding Saffron of Steel*. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Saffron is also a name given to several chymical preparations, from the resemblance of their colour to that of the vegetable Saffron, but more usually called *Croci*. Such are Saffron of Venus...Saffron of Mars...Saffron of Gold. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 368 Saffron of Mars. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Saffron of Antimony*. Sesquisulphuret of antimony.

5. Short for *saffron butterfly, moth*: see B. b.

1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 171 *Lozotænia croceana*..the Saffron. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 2 The Clouded Saffron (*Colias Edusa*, Fabricius).

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as *saffron bulb, colour, head, -kiln, ointment, yellow* (adj.).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xli. (1495) 626 Crocomagma is callyd the superfluyte of spycery: of the whyche saffron oynement is made. *Ibid.* XIX. lxxi. 873 Saffron colour dieth and colloureth humours and lycours more thanne cytryne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 545 Now saffron bulbes beth to sette or sowe. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v., *Saffron-kiln*, a Kiln to dry Saffron with. 1728 DOUGLAS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 572 To take up the Saffron Heads. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 2 Wings..above deep saffron yellow.

b. objective, as *saffron-gatherer*; parasynthetic, as *saffron-coloured, -hued* adjs.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Crocotularius*, a dyer of *saffron coloured garmentes. *a* 1585 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 207 But (as the Poets say) Hymen had not there his saffron coloured coat. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 51 Aperture white, and throat saffron-coloured. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 42 The *saffron-gatherers in the field. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iii. 97 With *saffron hewit frute.

c. Special combinations: †**saffron-bag**, ?a bag in which saffron is kept; cf. 5; **saffron cake**, (*a*) a cake flavoured with saffron; (*b*) (see quot. 1867, cf. *cake saffron* in sense 1); **saffron cordial**, a cordial made with marigold-flowers, nutmeg and saffron; **saffron crocus**, the *Crocus sativus* (see 2); † **saffron cut** *a.*, the designation of a kind of tobacco; †**saffron noble**, ?a saffron-cake made in imitation of the coin; † **saffron sauce**, ?sauce flavoured with saffron; **saffron-tea**, 'an infusion of the flowers of *Carthamus tinctoria* [SAFFLOWER 2], used as a diuretic in febrile disorders' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897); **saffron-thistle** = SAFFLOWER 2 (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); † **saffron-tree**, the American hackberry, *Celtis crassifolia*; **saffron wood** (see quot.).

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 171 Thy skolderit skin, hewd lyk ane *saffrone bag. 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) Life 6, I haue beene slaundered to preache that our lady was but a Saffron bagge. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 139 To make a fine Seed or *Saffron Cake. 1867 TRISTRAM *Nat. Hist. Bible* 479 These [stigmas of the saffron crocus] are pressed into small tablets before drying, when they form the saffron cake of the bazaars of the East. 1892 'Q.' (QUILLER-COUCH) *Three Ships* V. 87 A slice o' saffern-cake, crowder, to stay ye. Don't say no. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* 229 The *Saffron Cordial. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 588 The *Saffron Crocus, *C. sativus*. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 324, 10 hhds *saffron cut tobacco. 1593 DEE *Diary* (Camden) 45, I gave him a *saffron noble in ernest for a drinkpeny. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 421 The swete meitis servit in plaittis clene, With *saipheron sals of an gude sessoun. 1716 *Petiveriana* I. 276 *Saffron-tree, Celtis Amer. fol. Citri subtus aureo fructu rubro. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* III. 801/1 The timber of *Elæodendron croceum*, called *Saffron-wood at the Cape of Good Hope, is much used there in building and cabinet-making.

B. *adj.* Resembling saffron in colour. In early use also, †Coloured with saffron.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 35 Cammomill..there is three kindes hereof. One which hath a Saffron flower. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 64 Did this Companion with the saffron face Reuell and feast it at my house to day. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 622/1 [The law] which putteth away saffron shirtes and smockes. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 126 There let Hymen oft appear In Saffron robe. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IV. 840 Aurora now had left her Saffron Bed. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 384 Nor lazy Jaundice dulls your Saffron Eye. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 136 Array'd in bright broidery, saffron of hue. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxvii, The clear saffron glory of the western sky.

b. Special collocations: **saffron butterfly, moth**, collectors' names for certain lepidoptera having yellow wings; † **saffron pear**, a variety of winter pear; **saffron plum**, a West Indian and mainland sapotaceous tree (*Bumelia cuneata*) having a yellow fruit.

1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* II. xiv, *Papilio croceus, apicibus nigricantibus*...The *Saffron Butterfly. 1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 3 *Colias Edusa*...Clouded yellow or Saffron B. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Oct. 76 Lombart-pear, Russet-pear, *Saffron-pear. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX.) 103 *Bumelia cuneata*...Ants' Wood. Downward Plum. *Saffron Plum.

c. *Comb.*, as *saffron-fruited, -mantled, robed* adjs.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* VI. Piv b, But saffronfrutid [*orig.* 207 *croceo fetu*] bows the stubbes therof doth ouerspreede. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 1 The saffron-mantled morning ['Ηὼς κροκόπεπλος]. 1842-63 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. XXVIII. (1874) 141 Saffron-rob'd descending Charity.

Saffron (sæ·frən), *v. rare.* Also 5 **saferon, safroun**. [f. SAFFRON *sb.* Cf. F. *safraner*, med.L. *saffranāre*, It. *zafferanare*, Sp. *azafranar*.] *trans.* a. To season with saffron. †Also *fig.* b. To dye with saffron; also, to give a saffron-yellow colour to.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 17 And in Latyn I speke a wordes fewe, To saffron [*MS. Bod.* 686 saferon] with my predicacion. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Safroun it wel. *Ibid.* 49 Safroun pin cofynn a-boue. 1593 DRAYTON *Idea, Eglog* ii. (1870) 6 The lothlie morpheu saffroned the place. 1622 T. STOUGHTON *Chr. Sacrif.* xii. 166 In Ireland..they saffron all their wearing linnen. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 540 She saffrons the hills, and azures the mountains, to delight him.

Saffroned (sæ·frənd), *a.* Forms: 4 **saffrunde**, 5 **saffrond**, 6 **saferned**, 6–7 **safrond**, 6– **saffroned**. [f. SAFFRON *sb.* or *v.* + -ED. Cf. F. *safrané*.] Coloured with saffron, or having the colour of saffron; also, flavoured with saffron.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3445 Wymples, kerchyues, saffrunde betyde [orig. *Les gympeus ausi safrones*]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4600 3our women has..no gay gere to glyffe in 3our eȝen, Silke of Sipris, ne say ne saffrond kellis. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 173 Their shirtes, and smokes are saffroned. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 149 b, On their head is a yelow Tulbant safrond. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Sheep* (1627) 199 The yellow sheepe be in Asia, the which they call red Saferned sheepe. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* (1641) 51 Give us..Ribands, bells, and Safrond lynnen. 1881 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 516, I saw seven hundred dishes served...Everything in them was saffroned and peppered. 1903 KIPLING *Nations* 22 In the saffroned bridesails scenting all the seas.

† **Sa·ffronish**, *a. Obs.* [+-ISH.] = next.

1530 PALSGR. 323/1 Safronnysshe of the coloure of safrone, *saffronneux*. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 7 Thre colours one saffronish, another rede, and the thyrde grene. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 44 Underneath of a pale saffronish hue.

Saffrony (sæ·frəni), *a. rare.* [f. SAFFRON *sb.* + -Y.] Of a colour somewhat resembling saffron.

1630 LORD *Banians* 9 This woman was of complexion yealowish or Saffrony. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 39/2 The Agate is of a Saffrony or pale yellow colour. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Jaundice*, The Yellow Jaundice is of a Saffrony, or Lemon Colour. 1838 GRANVILLE *Spas Germ.* 378 The cheeks, formerly tallowish and saffrony, became ruddy.

Saffyr, Saffyron, obs. ff. SAPPHIRE, SAFFRON.

Safir, Safitie, obs. forms of SAPPHIRE, SAFETY.

Saflor, Sa-flower, obs. forms of SAFFLOWER.

Safour, obs. form of SAPPHIRE.

Safranin (sæ·frănin). *Chem.* Also **-ine**. [f. F. *safran* SAFFRON *sb.* + -IN[1].] **a.** The yellow colouring matter of saffron. **b.** A coal-tar colour which dyes yellowish-red.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 145 *Safranin* or *Saffron-yellow*..a colouring matter obtained, though not in the pure state, from saffron. 1875 *Ibid.* 2nd Suppl. 1063 *Safranine*..a red dye prepared commercially..by treating aniline with nitrous acid [etc.]. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 380 An alcoholic solution of safranin. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 215 Solution of safranine.

Safranophile (sæfră·nofil), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -PHILE.] 'Having an affinity for, or staining readily with, safranin' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1890 in BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*

Safrene (sæ·frĭn). *Chem.* Also **saffrene**. [ad. G. *safren* (Grimaux and Ruotte 1869), f. (*sas*)*saf*(*as*): see SASSAFRAS and -ENE.] (See quot. 1897.)

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 1014 The hydrocarbon, safrene, has the composition $C^{10}H^{16}$. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Safrene*...A volatile compound obtained by the fractional distillation of sassafras oil.

Safrol (sæ·frǫl). *Chem.* [See prec. and -OL.] (See quot. 1897.)

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 1014 Safrol is insoluble in water. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Safrol*...The stearoptene of sassafras-oil...It is used therapeutically in neuralgic affections; and is used also as a perfume for soaps.

Safron, -oun, -un, -yn, obs. ff. SAFFRON.

Saft, obs. f. *saved* (see SAVE *v.*), SHAFT; Sc. var. SOFT. **Safur, -yr(e**, obs. forms of SAPPHIRE.

Sag (sæg), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 6–7 **sagge**. [var. of SEG, SEDGE.] = SEDGE.

1531 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 184 Payment to James Hole for sagge. *Ibid.* 186 Paide to James Hole, of Collam, for saggde for the brykmakrs..for savyng of the brykkes. Paide to Mychell Bynde for reede for the saide brykmakers. 1598 FLORIO, *Sermenti*..flags, sags, or reeds growing by the water side. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 9 Leave about a yard, either to tye a bunch of sags or a bladder to boy up the Fish. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. iv. (Roxb.) 299/1 A Pond or pitt of water surrounded with Reeds and Sagges Vert. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Lagoons* 118 They say eels are hid up this weather..but these weren't...I think they must have worked out of the sags (hovers).

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sag-bed, -bottomed, -seated*; † **sag-spear**, ?a 'spear' or stalk of sedge.

1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Phys.* 28 Like those Sag-beds which grow many together in some..boggy places in England. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. v. (Roxb.) 310/2 On a crowne three sagge-speares in Triangle O. tyed together with a Rubin G. the ends extended. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 396 Ah! on that yielding Sag-bed, see, once more His Seal I view. 1890 *Gloucestersh. Gloss.*, *Sag-seated chair*, a rush-bottomed chair. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss.* App., *Sags*, rushes, used for the seats of chairs, such chairs being called 'sag-bottomed chairs'.

Sag (sæg), *sb.*[2] [f. SAG *v.*] The action of sagging.

1. *Naut.* Movement or tendency to leeward.

1580 BURROUGH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 436 It is very necessary that you doe note at the ende of euery foure glasses, what way the shippe hath made,..and howe her way hath bene through the water, considering withall for the sagge of the sea to leewards, accordingly as you shall finde it growen. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 2 Sept. (Cassell), Shoving through it very slowly, with a surprising sag to leeward.

2. In a rope, wire, etc. supported at two points: The dip below the horizontal line, due to its weight; the perpendicular distance from its lowest point to the straight line between the points of support.

1861 *Ann. Reg.* 73 The 'sag' or droop of the cable from a straight line is 12 feet. 1889 PREECE & MAIER *Telephone* 136 A consideration which is of the highest importance for telephonic networks of wire is the length of the sag, or dip, of the wires between two supports. 1892 C. T. DENT *Mountaineering* IV. 104 The rope..should stretch from one waist-loop to the next without any sag at all.

3. A sinking or subsidence; quasi-*concr.* a place where the surface has subsided, a depression.

1872 C. KING *Mountain Sierra Nev.* viii. 167 A gray canopy of cloud which stretched from wall to wall, hanging down here and there in deep blue sags. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 324 To cross with pipes a 'sag' in the divide 280 feet deep and..eight miles wide from one crest to the other. 1888 'PAUL CUSHING' *Blacksmith of Voe* I. ii. 61 There was a deep sag in the seat, which, however, added to the comfort of sitting in it. 1892 C. LAPWORTH in *Proc. Geog. Soc.* 689 Where the great continental sag sinks below the ocean level.

4. *Comm.* A decline in price.

1891 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 2/2 In the American market there is a slight but general 'sag'.

† **Sag**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SAG *v.*] Hanging or sagging down. Also in Comb. *sag-bellied*.

? *a* 1550 *Schole-ho. Women* 472 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 123 Put me two bones in a bag..; That doon, holde it some what sag, Shake it also, that it may wag. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Feast* 27 Then..He..eates the sagge And well bestrutted Bees sweet bagge. 1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 208 An old Sag-bellied Toad.

Sag (sæg), *v.* Inflected **sagged, sagging**. Forms: 5–7 **sagge**, (6 **sacke**), 9 **sagg**, 6– **sag**; 8–9 *dial.* **seg**(**g** (see E.D.D.). [First recorded in the 15th c.; the meaning (as well as the 16th c. form *sacke*) appears to point to connexion of some kind with mod.Du. *zakken*, MLG. *sacken*, Sw. *sacka*, Norw. dial. *sakka* to subside, settle down (also *sakk* subsidence), Da. *sakke* to lag behind (the Du. and Sw. words have also the nautical sense below). With sense 3 cf. Norw. dial. *sagga* 'to walk heavily and slowly, as from weariness' (Ross), for which other dialects have *sigga, sugga*.

The Du., LG., and Sw. forms appear to admit of no etymological explanation as native words; on the other hand the Norw. dial. *sakka* may be related to *sakka* (ON. *sækva*) to SINK. It seems possible that the word is originally W Scandinavian, and has passed (? as a nautical term) into Sw., Du., LG., and (perh. through LG.) into English.

On this hypothesis the representation of the continental Teut. *kk* by *gg* would be an instance of the common uncertainty in the phonetic appreciation of foreign sounds. It is uncertain whether the Norw. dial. *saggja* abovementioned is related to the other words, and whether its resemblance in sense to the Eng. word is more than a coincidence.]

1. *intr.* To sink or subside gradually, by weight or pressure.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1294 in *Macro Plays* 116 Mankynne is soylyd & saggyd in synne! *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saggyn or sallyn [? *read* satlyn] (satelyn, *P.*, stytlyn, *S.*), *basso*. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 96/1 Quilte the bagge least the herbes sacke the one vppon the other. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 492 The Cherrie tree wood is firme and fast; the Elme and the Ash are tough; howbeit, they will soone settle downward and sag, being charged with any weight, but bend they will before they break. 1630 J. LEVETT *Ord. Bees* (1634) 19 Leaving a shoulder on the inside to stay it and this is good to keep the crowne of Hives from sagging downewards. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* iv. 215 We see in these three sections..that the old pavements have sunk or sagged considerably. 1889 *Nature* 5 Dec. 103 The crust of the earth must have sagged foot by foot as additional feet of burdens were laid upon it.

b. Of a part of the body (occas. of a person): To droop; to sink or hang *down* loosely.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 304 b, Thy blessed body, whiche synkynge downe, sagged & honge by ye crosse. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1114/1 At last his feruour began to grow cold and faint, & his handes sagged downward. *a* 1565 SIR T. CHALLONER tr. *Boeth.* I. metr. i. 12 in *Q. Eliz. Englishings* App. 150 My skynne do sagg in wrinkles slacke, my fflaggy lymbes do tremble. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XI. (1593) 263 Apollo could not suffer well his foolish eares to keepe Their human shape, but drew them wide, and made them long and deepe. And fild them full of whitish heares, and made them downe to sagge. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* B 4 b, Cheeks that sag like a womans dugs ouer his chin-bone. *a* 1600 DELONEY *Thomas of Reading* (1827) 73 It is, sir, your ill-favoured great nose, that hangs sagging so lothsomely to your lips. 1816 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 144 O could this wrinkled hand unlearn to sag I'd go; and from this crosier shake the union flag. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* xxi. 132 Except little Alfred, who was tired and cross, and sat sleepy and sagging on his father's knee. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 June 2/1 The head slowly sagged down on to the cushions.

c. 'To hang down on one side' (Phillips, ed. Kersey 1706). Of a garment: To hang unevenly, to slip out of position. Now chiefly *dial.* and *U. S.* Hence occas. of a person: †To wear 'sagging' clothes, to be dressed untidily.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* A 2 b, Sir Rowland Russet-coat, their dad, goes sagging euery day in his round gascoynes of white cotton, & hath much a do..to keepe his vnthrift elbowes in reparations. *Ibid.* A 3, A paire of trunke slops, sagging down like a Shoomaker's wallet. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. viii. 32 If the croisant or bodie of the moone haue sagging. 1611 COTGR., *Glacer*, ..to flesh-bast; or stitch downe the lyning of a garment thereby to keepe it from sagging. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peace-maker* Wks. (1625) 541 The girdle of whose equity sags downe on that side, where the purse hangs. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 29 To prevent a Door from sagging, or sinking at the fore corner. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 193 A load of hay or corn that is badly put on the waggon, leaning on one side, and, as it is termed, top-heavy, is said to *sag*. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Rebecca's made my Sunda' goun sag sorely. 1878 *Masque Poets* 156 His coat is green and sags. 1883 MRS. ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 190 It [the bridge] sags to one side. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* May 867/1 The..gates sag apart. 1903 J. Fox jun. *Little Sheph. Kingd. Come* 345 The gate sagged on its hinges.

d. To bend or curve downwards in the middle, from its own weight or superincumbent pressure. Said, e. g., of a rope supported at two points, of a beam, plank, etc. *Naut.* opposed to Hog *v.*[1]

1777 W. HUTCHINSON *Pract. Seamanship* 13 And that their bottoms not only hog upwards, but sag (or curve) downwards, to dangerous and fatal degrees. 1819 RAINBIRD *Agric. Suffolk* (1849) 298 (E. D. D.). 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2031 The beam by its own gravity..would have a tendency to sag or bend in the middle. *Ibid.*, When the rafters are of such length that they would be liable of themselves to sag down, supports *aa* are introduced at the points where such failures would occur. 1859 WHITTIER *Proph. Sam. Sewall* 102 Great beams sag from the ceiling low. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 290/1 The rod will lose its straightness, first sagging in the middle, then dropping. 1885 E. S. MORSE *Jap. Homes* i. 27 One..comes to wonder why the whole ceiling does not sag.

transf. 1688 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 152 The sky saggs low with convoluted cloud.

e. To bulge (*out*); to belly *in*. Chiefly *dial.*

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *La Aforjar* II. 151 It sagged in like a bellying sail. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Sagg'd out*, bulged out at the side, as a bowing wall. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 108 The other half come up sagging full o' big uns.

2. To decline to a lower level, through lack of strength or effort. Chiefly *fig.* (Common in U. S.)

1508 FISHER *Seven Penit. Ps.* XXXVIII. Wks. (1876) 88 Yf the helpe of his grace be not redy at all seasons we must nedes saggs & bowe. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. iii. 10 The minde I sway by, and the heart I beare, Shall neuer sagge with doubt, nor shake with feare. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 644/1 Is she sagging towards Realism or rising towards Idealism? 1902 GILDERSLEEVE in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XXIII. 137 Professor Lawton..says that Parmenides sags in his flight.

b. *dial.* 'To decline in health; to begin to show signs of old age' (E.D.D.).

1784 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* iii. 173 He begins to *sag*. To decline in his health. 1893 ZINCKE *Wherstead* 267 For anything to be over-poised, or metaphorically to decline in health, is to 'sag'.

c. *Comm.* To decline in price. Also with *down, away, off.*

1887 [see SAGGING *ppl. a.*]. 1892 *Daily News* 12 May 3/5 Wheat..further sagged down owing to the increase in amount on passage. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Aug. 7/1 With lack of support the market has sagged away, and closes some 2*s.* 6*d.* below last week's values. 1905 *Ibid.* 1 June 9/1 There are appreciable advances on the share figures of three months ago on those investments which sagged through last year's bad balance-sheets.

3. To drag oneself along wearily or feebly. Also *U. S.* (see quot. 1880).

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* x. E e j b, Encounter them at land Whilest fearful they come forth, and their first steps do sag in sand. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xvi. 219 This said, the aged Steed sagd sadly on alone. 1880 *Webster's Suppl., Sag*, to loiter in walking; to idle along; to drag or droop heavily. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose* 165 'And I am not more than a third of the way along', said he to himself, as the horse sagged slower at every stride.

4. *Naut.* Of a ship or boat: To drift, be carried out of the intended course. Chiefly in the phrase *To sag to leeward.*

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 93 [In tacking] we did sagge upon the maine rand of Ice. 1769 [see SAGGING *vbl. sb.*]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 256* *To Sag to leeward*, to make considerable lee-way. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 726 The want of actual headway making the Indiaman sag dead away to leeward. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxix. 287 McGary hung upon his oar, and the boat, slowly but noiselessly sagging ahead. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 206 We're sagging south on the Long Trail.

†**b.** *transf.* To drift, deviate insensibly (*into, from*). *Obs.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. xix. (1640) 202 We see elective States in Christendome, though bound with the straitest laws, often sagge aside into schismes and factions. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* IX. v. § 2 Yet such [spheres] as are excentricall can never observe equall distance in their motion, but will sagg aside to grind, and grate one the other. *a* 1661 — *Worthies* (1662) II. *Lond.* 224 No Hospital is tyed with better or stricter laws, that it may not Sagg from the intention of the Founder.

5. *trans.* in causative senses. †**a.** [From sense 4.] Of a current at sea: To cause to 'sag' or drift; to carry out of the intended course. *Obs.*

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 77 The current sagged me into the bay deeper towardes the eastward. 1635 *Voy. Foxe & James to North West* (Hakl. Soc.) 191 After he was loos'd he was sagged into the Bay.

b. [From sense 1 d.] To cause to bend downwards in the middle.

1755 JOHNSON, *To Sag, v. a.* To load; to burthen. 1777 W. HUTCHINSON *Pract. Seamanship* 13 Their bottoms were thus sagged down by the cargoes. *Ibid.*, Sagged downwards six inches by her cargo. 1869 SIR E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* v. 93 The ultimate measures of the strengths of the ships to resist a strain tending to hog or sag, or break them across is as 5 : 4. 1892 C. LAPWORTH in *Proc. Geogr. Soc.* 689 The surface of this American arch is sagged downwards in the middle into a central depression which lies between two long marginal plateaux. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 July 8/3 The vessel will first be 'sagged' by being hung by the head and the stern only from two platforms, one at each end.

Sag, variant of SEG (castrated bull).

‖ Saga[1] (sā·gă). [ON. and Icel. *saga* wk. fem. (Sw. *saga*) narrative, story, history; corresp. (exc. in declension) to OE. *sagu* str. fem.: see SAW *sb.*[2]]

1. Any of the narrative compositions in prose that were written in Iceland or Norway during the middle ages; in English use often applied *spec.* to those which embody the traditional history of Icelandic families or of the kings of Norway.

1709 HICKES in *Peyps' Diary* (1879) VI. 202 The histories of the old Northern nations, which commonly have the title of Saga, which signifies a narration of History. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) I. 326 The credit of this story rests, as far as I know, on the authority of the Saga, or Chronicle of King Olaus..published by Perinskiold at Stockholm A. D. 1697. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. xxii, Many a Saga's rhyme uncouth. 1897 W. P. KER *Epic & Romance* 66 The Icelandic Sagas—the prose histories of the fortunes of the great Icelandic houses.

b. *transf.* A narrative having the (real or supposed) characteristics of the Icelandic sagas; a story of heroic achievement or marvellous adventure.

1857 LONGF. *Discov. North Cape* viii, For the old seafaring men Came to me now and then, With their sagas of the seas. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 63 With this last visit terminates my saga of Gripsholm. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* v, Dick delivered himself of the saga of his own doings.

¶ **2.** In incorrect uses (partly as the equivalent of the cognate Ger. *sage*): A story, popularly believed to be matter of fact, which has been developed by gradual accretions in the course of ages, and has been handed down by oral tradition; historical or heroic legend, as distinguished both from authentic history and from intentional fiction.

1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* i. (1875) 1, I shall begin.. with a saga. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 265 The Popular Tale is thus..distinguished from..the Myth, or Saga. 1873 MISS R. H. BUSK *Sagas fr. Far East* 242 While displaying the usual exaggerations common to the Sagas of all nations, these Indian Sagas have one leading peculiarity. 1883 KENNEDY tr. *Ten Brink's E. Eng. Lit.* 150 The Sagas of Guy of Warwick and Bevis of Hampton.

3. *Comb.*, as *saga-writer*; **saga-man**, a narrator of sagas, also the hero of a saga [= ON. *sogu-maðr*].

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Saga-man* (Archæol.), a tale-teller, or secret accuser. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* XXIX, You are the hero! you are the Sagaman! We are not worthy. 1866 *Reader* 3 Mar. 221/3 All the skalds and sagamen of any note were Icelanders. 1866 BARING-GOULD *Myths Mid. Ages* Ser. I. 113 An arrow..penetrated the windpipe of the king, and it is supposed to have sped, observes the Saga writer, from the bow of Hemingr.

‖ Saga[2] (sā·gă). [L. *sāga.*] A witch.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 312 Thair Saga slew ane saikles beast. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* III. x, 'Patience', resumed the witch,..'My mother was herself a saga'.

‖ Saga, pl. of SAGUM.

Sagacious (săgē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *sagāc-em* (whence F. *sagace*), *sagax*, f. the root **sāg-* (= OTeut. **sōk-*, SEEK *v.*) in *sāgīre* to discern acutely.]

†**1.** Acute in perception, esp. by the sense of smell. Const. *of. Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* Ep. Ded. A 5, The Bees seeke out their King if he loose himselfe, and by a most sagacious smelling-sence, neuer cease till he be found out. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sagacious*, ..quick of scent, taste or sight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 281 So sented the grim Feature, and upturn'd His Nostril wide into the murkie Air, Sagacious of his Quarry from so farr. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 751 With Might and Main they chas'd the murd'rous Fox,.. Nor wanted Horns t' inspire sagacious Hounds. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 214 And hound sagacious on the tainted green.

2. Gifted with acuteness of mental discernment; having special aptitude for the discovery of truth; penetrating and judicious in the estimation of character and motives, and in the devising of means for the accomplishment of ends; shrewd.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 145 It would seem a wonder if sagacious Nature should faulter only in the forming of that part. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 6 True Charity is sagacious, and will find out hints for beneficence. 1704 RAY *Creation* I. (ed. 4) 95 The Study and Endeavours of the most sagacious Naturalists. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 125 Our very sagacious author found them in this condition. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 742 The world grown old, her deep discernment shows, Claps spectacles on her sagacious nose. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 136 He appeared to the greatest advantage, sagacious in distinguishing and observing. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 194 He had been urged by an adviser less sagacious and more impetuous than himself, to try a bolder course. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xix, Bardi was entirely under the ascendency of his sagacious and practical friend.

b. Of observations, sayings, actions, etc.: Resulting from or exhibiting acuteness of mental discernment; characterized by sagacity.

1831 BREWSTER *Newton* ix. 108 Hence he concluded that diamond 'is an unctuous substance coagulated',—a sagacious prediction, which has been verified in the discoveries of modern chemistry. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 161 The Esquimaux examines the track with sagacious care. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 438 This sagacious conjecture has since been fully verified by the discoveries of Wurtz and Hofmann. 1876 BLACKIE *Lang. & Lit. Sc. Highl.* ii. 87 In Homer himself,..we find not a few of those sagacious, curt sentences, into which men unacquainted with books are fond of compressing their experience of human life.

3. Of animals: Intelligent.

1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 4 Of all the solitary insects I have ever remarked, the spider is the most sagacious. 1819 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xli, The wakeful bloodhound rose, and shook his hide, But his sagacious eye an inmate owns.

Hence **Saga·ciously** *adv.*, **Saga·ciousness.**

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 28. 33 Wherefore they sagaciously apprehended, that there must needs be [etc.]. *Ibid.* iv. § 14. 250 Where this Love is not only called πολυμητις, of much-counsel or sagaciousness,..but also πρεσβυτατος. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 102 But Edmund..Sagaciously the Pageantry suspects. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 64 But his measures had been so sagaciously taken, that except through that perverseness of fortune,..he could hardly fail of success. 1884 J. HAWTHORNE *A. Malmaison* iii, It is always a delicate matter to fathom the depth of a medical man's sagaciousness.

Sagacity (săgæ·sĭti). [ad. F. *sagacité*, ad. L. *sagācitāt-em*, f. *sagāc-em* SAGACIOUS *a.*: see **-ITY.**] The quality of being sagacious.

†**1.** Acute sense of smell. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 151 marg., What smelling or sagacity in Dogs is. *Ibid.* 451 This Beast is not onely enemy to the crocodile and Aspe, but also to their Egges, which she hunteth out by the sagacity of her nose. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 179 Ladies, who commonly have great sagacity in smelling, may hereby be directed in the choice of their Melitæi or Lap-dogs. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 616 Some [animals] show that nice sagacity of smell. 1798 PENNANT *Hindoostan* II. 36 All this genus are remarkable for their voracity and their sagacity of nostril.

2. Acuteness of mental discernment; aptitude for investigation or discovery; keenness and soundness of judgement in the estimation of persons and conditions, and in the adaptation of means to ends; penetration, shrewdness.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 13 b, Both for age and prudent sagacitie, fatherly, a wyse & a grave personage, which for renuyng of the olde amitie, were commanded [etc.]. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Sagacitie*, sharpnes of wit; witnesse. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 24 As he had a wonderfull Sagacity in such Reflections, a thousand Difficulties and Dangers occurred to him. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 18 Men of skill and sagacity do sometimes foretel futurities. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 107 These are the general Rules, but after all, many things must be left to the Sagacity and Invention of the Artist. 1792 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* x, She was somewhat surprised at Peter's sagacity. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxviii, Relying on your advice as a man of great sagacity in money matters. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.*

ii. I. 182 He discerns the signs of the times with a sagacity which to the multitude appears miraculous. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 160 It was beyond human sagacity..to predict the Roman Empire.

b. *pl.* Sagacious observations.

1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 103 His native sagacities.. made him the most delightful of companions. 1891 *Spectator* 13 June 829/1 Who..is always pressing her homely sagacities on the imagination of the young.

3. Of animals: Exceptional intelligence; skill in the adaptation of means to ends.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 189 Are there many of such sagacitie and industrye as the lyke is not seene in beastes of greater quantitie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. iv. 112 Why they placed this invention upon the Bever..might be the sagacitie and wisedome of that animall. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 337 Black cattle..by a natural sagacity, apprehensive of being swept away with the flood. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 4 The sagacity of some insects. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 134 He had heard much of the sagacity of the beaver in cutting down trees.

Sagamité (sagă mitē'). Also 8 **shaggamitie, sagamitty, sagamite,** 9 **sagamity.** [a. F. *sagamité* (Sagard, 1632), repr. Cree Indian *kisamitew*, hot drink of any kind.] **a.** A kind of gruel or porridge made from coarse hominy. †**b.** (See quot. 1748.)

1748 H. ELLIS *Voy. Hudson's Bay* 188 The broth of fish, which they call shaggamitie. 1763 tr. *Father Charlevoix' Acc. Voy. Canada* 279 (Stanf.) The women come for several days and pour Sagamitty on the place. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* II. 103 But they were all refreshed with as much Indian corn pounded and stewed with bear's grease as they could eat, which they call sagamity. 1807 G. HERIOT *Trav.* 586 Sagamité, pudding made of Indian corn. 1829 H. MURRAY *N. Amer.* I. vii. 375 The dishes were Sagamity or boiled Indian Corn.

Sagamore (sæ·gămōər). Also 7 **sagamos, sagomo, sagomore, saggamore, segamore, sagamor,** 7–8 **sagamo,** 8 **sachemore.** [a. Penobscot *sagamo*: see SACHEM.] = SACHEM 1.

1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 750 He obserued a feast made by Anadabijon the great Sagamo, in his Cabin. *Ibid.* 756 When a Sagamos dieth, they blacke themselues. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 240 The Massachusets call..their kings there abouts Sachems: the Penobscotes..their kings Sagomos. 1642 LECHFORD *Plain Dealer* (1867) 115 They are governed by sachems, kings, and saggamores, petie lords. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1017/1 King Philip the Indian Segamore of those parts, had raised about six hundred Men in Arms. 1751 C. GIST *Jrnls.* (1893) 72 This Beaver is the Sachemore or Chief of the Delawares. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* xxx, Uncas,..the wisest Sagamore of the Indians! 1865 PARKMAN *Champlain* iv. (1875) 246 But the vision of the centenarian sagamore put them all to shame.

transf. 1882 DOWDEN in *Academy* 30 Dec. 464/1 But readers on this side of the Atlantic cannot be supposed to owe allegiance to every local sagamore of learning or Puritan pow-wow of the old colonial days.

†**b. Sagamore's head**: ? some American tree.

1741 P. COLLINSON in *Mem. Bartram* (1849) 148 The butter-nut..with the Medlar and Sagamore's head.

Hence †**Sa·gamoreship.**

1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 123 The three Kingdoms or Sagamoreships of the Mattachusets were very populous, having under them seven Dukedoms or petti-Sagamoreships.

‖ **Sagan** (sē'·găn). *Jewish Antiq.* Also 9 **segan.** [Late (Talmudic) use of Heb. סָגָן *sāgān* or *se·gen* (found only in pl. *s·gānīm*), Jewish Aram. *s·gan*, a. Assyrian *shaknu* prefect (of conquered city or province). In the Bible the word denotes only a civil governor.] The deputy of the Jewish high-priest; the second highest functionary of the Temple.

In Biblical times this official seems to have been called 'second priest' (Heb. *kōhēn hammishneh*): see Jer. lii. 24.

1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. (1641) 18 The High Priest and his Sagan, resembled our Bishop and his Suffragan. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 866 With him the Sagan of Jerusalem, Of hospitable soul and noble stem. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* Ix. (1879) 737 The ancient hierarchy as consisting of the high priest; his deputy, or Sagan: two suffragans of the Sagans, [etc.]. 1904 *Jewish Encycl.* VI. 390/2 Every high priest had a 'mishneh' (a second) called the Segan, or 'memumneh', to stand at his right.

†**Sagapen(e.** *Obs.* Also 6 ? **sagape.** [Anglicized form of next.] = SAGAPENUM; also the plant producing sagapenum.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 37 *Ferula*...It maye be named in englishe herbe Sagapene or Fenel gyante. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 26/37 Herbe-sagape [rimes *ape, grape*, etc.], *ferula*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 67 As for our Sacopenium here in Italy, it differeth altogether from that which grows beyond sea. For the outlandish kind..is called Sagapen. 1611 COTGR., *Ferule*,..the hearbe Ferula, Sagapene, Fennell Giant. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 86 The root of the reedy Hearb Sagapen. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 190 Chuse your Sagapen in fine Tears, clear and transparent, of a strong smell.

‖ **Sagapenum** (sægăpī·nŭm). [Late L. *sagapēnum, -on*, a. Gr. σαγάπηνον a plant (prob. *Ferula persica*); also the gum obtained from it.] A gum-resin, the concrete juice of *Ferula persica*, formerly used as an antispasmodic and emmenagogue, or externally. Also *gum sagapenum.*

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 573 Sagapenum or Serapinum..is a precious gumme, the best shineth through darke in colour yelow without and white within. 1626 BULLOKAR *Engl. Expos.*, *Sagapenum*, the sappe or Gum of a plant growing in Media..vsed in Physicke against diuers cold diseases. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 125 Sagapenum..is likewise the Tear or Gum of a Tree. 1825 KAUFFMAN *Dict. Merchandize* Gum sagapenum. 1851–9 HOOKER in *Man. Sci. Eng.* 424 Compared with assafœtida and galbanum, sagapenum is a rare and costly drug.

Sagar, obs. form of CIGAR and SAKER[1].

Sagaret, obs. form of SAKERET.

‖ **Sagaris** (sæ·găris). *Antiq.* Also anglicized 8 **sagar.** [Gr. σάγαρις, from some Eastern language.] A single-edged battle-axe used by Scythians, Persians, Amazons, etc.

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 69 A weapon called *Sagaris*, such as the Amazons beare. 1776 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* III. 140 Their chief arms were..battleaxes, and sagars. 1860 RAWLINSON *Hist. Herodotus* IV. 65 The Sacæ..carried the battleaxe, or *sagaris*.

Sagarston, obs. form of SEXTON.

†**Sagate,** *a. Her. Obs.*[–1] [ad. L. type **sagātus*, f. *sag-um* mantle.] Clothed in a mantle.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. viii. (ROXB.) 328/2 A Headpeece..Argent..Mantled with a Rockett, or Sagate Gules, lynned with white.

Sagat(e, -gates, obs. northern var. ff. SOGATE(S.

Sagathy (sæ·găþi). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 8 **sagathea, saggathe, sagathee,** 8–9 **segathy,** 9 **sagathoy, -thay.** [In Fr. *sagatis* (Boiste 1840; not in Littré or Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *sagalí*; of unknown origin.] A woollen stuff (see quot. 1727–41).

1707 *Postman* 15 Nov. in Ashton *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) I. 151 Broad Cloaths, Camblet, Druggits and Sagathys. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 9/1 Any Camlets, Drugets, or Sagathies. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 270 P 4 Making a Panegyrick on Pieces of Sagathy or Scotch-Plod. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sagathee*,..a slight woollen stuff; being a kind of serge, or ratteen; sometimes mixed with a little silk. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxvi. (1841) I. 261 Norwich buys..serges and segathies from Devon and Somersetshire. 1804 *Monthly Mag.* 418 Not more than three persons are engaged in making..serges, duroys, sagothoys and dimities. 1810 J. T. in *Risdon's Surv. Devon* Introd. Remarks 25 Segathies, druggets, coatings, beavers, ..found a market in Spain. 1882 J. ASHTON *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* I. 151 They [*sc.* clothes] were made of drugget and sagathay, camlet, but the majority of men wore cloth. 1884 BESANT *Dorothy Forster* ii. He..went about dressed in grey sagathy and woollen stockings.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Made of sagathy.

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4901/4 A brown-colour'd Sagathea Wastcoat and Breeches. 1712 *Ibid.* No. 5058/4 A Led-coloured Saggathe Coat and Wastecoat. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* ii. 14 Beneath my sagathy stuff jacket.

Sagay, variant of ZAGAIE.

Sagbo(u)t, -but(t, obs. forms of SACKBUT.

Sage (sēi̯dʒ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 **sauge,** 4–5 **sawge, salge,** (5 **sauoge**), 6 **saulge, sayge,** 5–**sage.** [ME. *sauge*, a. F. *sauge* (13th c. in Littré):—L. *salvia* (whence late OE. *saluie*, ME. SAVE *sb.*). Cf. Pr., Sp., It. *salvia*, Pg. *salva*; also MLG. *salvie, selve*, Du. *salie*, OHG. *salbeia, salveia* fem. (mod.G. *salbei* masc.). For the phonology in Eng. cf. CHAFE *v.*, GAUGE, SAFE, SAVE.]

1. A plant of the genus *Salvia*, N.O. *Labiatæ*; esp. *S. officinalis*, an aromatic culinary herb. Hence, the leaves of this plant used in Cookery.

Sage, much esteemed formerly as a medicinal herb, is not now included in the British Pharmacopœia, but in domestic medicine is still used in the preparation of sage-tea (see 5 b).

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* (Percy Soc.) 26 He is blosme opon bleo brihtest under bis, With celydoyne ant sauge, as thou thi self sys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 131 Salge is his herbe appourtenant Aboven al the remenant. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 11 Do þer to sage and persely 3oyng. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xvi. (1541) 29 Sauge. It healeth, and sommewhat byndeth. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxvii. 250 There be two sortes of Sage, the one is small and franke, and the other is great. The great Sage is of three sortes, that is to say, greene, white, and redde. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xi. 33 Sage is vsed commonly in sawces, as to stuffe veale, porke, rosting pigges, and that for good cause. 1590 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 187 The wholesome saulge, and lavender still gray. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* II. ii, These for frenzy be A speedy and a soueraigne remedie. The bitter Wormewood, Sage and Marigold. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* II. 13 Marbled with Sage the hard'ning Cheese she press'd. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* II. (1807) 77 But what's the sage without the goose? 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 289/2 Sage, *Salvia officinalis*, a hardy evergreen undershrub, belonging to the labiates, of which there are two varieties, the green-leaved and the red-leaved.

2. *Cookery.* †**a.** A force-meat, 'pottage', or sauce in which sage is the chief ingredient. *Sage yfarced*, sage stuffing. Also quasi-*adj.* in partly anglicized names of culinary preparations containing sage, as *fritter sage, sauce sage. Obs.*

? *c* 1390 *Forme of Cury* (1780) 23 Pygges in sawse Sawge. *Ibid.* 72 Sawge yfarced. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Sauge. Take Gyngere, Galyngale, Clowys, & grynde in a morter; þan take an handfulle of Sawge, & do þer-to [etc.]. *Ibid.* 41 Sauoge. Take Pigis fete clene y-pekyd; þan tak Freysshe brope of Beff, & draw mylke of Almaundys, & þe Piggys þer-in; þen mence Sawge [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 72 Pigge or chiken in Sauge. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 501 Frutur sawge.

b. *Sage and onions*: a stuffing chiefly composed of those ingredients, used for goose, duck, pork, etc. Also *sage-and-onion stuffing.*

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 4 Some love the Knuckle [of pork] stuffed with Onions and Sage shred small. 1824 *New Syst. Cookery* 113 Ducks roasted. Stuff one with sage and onion,..crums,..and pepper and salt. 1845 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) s.v., Sage-and-Onion Stuffing.

3. In the names of plants of other genera. **Bengal sage,** *Meriandra bengalensis* (Treas. Bot. 1866). **Bitter,** †**garlick,** †**mountain** or **wood sage,** *Teucrium Scorodonia.* **Black sage,** (*a*) *Cordia cylindrostachya*; (*b*) in California, *Trichostema lanatum* (Cent. Dict. 1891). **French sage,** *Phlomis fruticosa.* †**Jerusalem sage,** also †**sage of Jerusalem** or †**Bethlehem,** (*a*) *Pulmonaria officinalis*; (*b*) *Phlomis fruticosa.* **Seaside sage,** *Croton balsamiferum* (Treas. Bot.). †**Rock sage,** a species of *Sideritis.* **White sage,** in U. S., a woolly chenopodiaceous plant used as a febrifuge, *Eurotia lanata*; also applied to other plants of the same order, *Kochia prostrata* and *Audibertia polystachya* (Cent. Dict.). **Wild sage,** (*a*) = *bitter sage*; (*b*) see quot. 1866.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 10/2 *Ambrosia*, wild sauge. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbs* (1881) 18 Bacchar or Baccaris is the herbe (as I thynke) that we call in english Sage of Hierusalem. 1562 Rock sage [see IRONWORT]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxv. 125 Sage of Jerusalem hath rough, hearie, and large, browne greene leaues, sprinckled with diuers white spots. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccv. 535 Wood Sage, or Garlicke Sage. *Ibid.* ccliii. 625 Of French Sage, or woodie Mullein...They are called of the learned men of our time *Verbasca syluestria*...In English it is generally called French Sage, we may call it Sage Mullein. *Ibid.* cclxxv. 663 *Pulmonaria*,..Sage of Ierusalem, Cowslip of Ierusalem, Sage of Bethlem. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Scordium*,..Wild Sage, *vulgo*. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 Several other..Shrubs..are now in Flower, as the several sorts of Jerusalem Sage. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787 Black sage: *Cordia cylindrostachya*. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 15 The wood germander, or bitter sage. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Wild Sage, a name in the Cape colony for *Tarchonanthus camphoratus*.

4. ? = *Sage-brush* (see 5 b).

1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 127 A kind of wild sage or hyssop, as high as a man's head,..grows in these bottoms. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 206 The country, hereabout,.. producing very little grass, but a considerable quantity of sage or wormwood. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvi, A desert country, here and there covered with wild sage and mezquite. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xiii. 265 Desert too gentle and overspread with sage to be terrible.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *sage colour, juice, leaf, oil, root*; also in the names of preparations flavoured or medicated with sage, as *sage ale, bread, drink, gargle, wine*; **instrumental,** as *sage-covered* adj.; **similative,** as *sage-leaved* adj.; parasynthetic, as *sage-coloured* adj.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xi. 33 Much after the same manner [as the making of sage wine] is made *Sage ale. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclii. 624 Sage ale, being brewed as it shoulde be, with Sage, Scabious, Betonie, Spikenard, Squinanth, and Fennell seedes. 1668 R. SHARROCK *Let. to Boyle* 7 Apr., B.'s Wks. 1744 V. 4, I have known *sage bread do much good in drying up watry humours. 1596 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 79 Sould him of the leight *sayge culler q' & d. *Ibid.*, iij yeardes of leight *sayge cullerd fustian. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xlii, We passed over *sage-covered plains. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 121 *Sage Drink. 189– *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett), *Sage gargle. 1755 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* CXX. 73 Hoarseness...Take a Spoonful of *Sage-juice Morning and Evening. 14.. *Med. MS.* in *Anglia* XIX. 78 Take a *sawge-leef and wryte þeron. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 5 They have a slate of three sorts, blew, sage-leaf-coloured, and gray. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Phys.* (1762) 88 Apply boiled Sage leaves hot. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* Prol., Sage-leaf is bitter-pungent—so's a quince. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 13 *C. Salvifolius*. *Sage-leaved Cistus. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 95 *Phlomis Lychnites*...A sage-leaved whitish rugose plant. 1888 W. T. BRANNT *Treat. Anim. & Veget. Fats* 539 *Sage oil, *oleum salviæ*, obtained by distillation from the leaves of the sage. 14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* II. 867 in *Anglia* XVIII. 328 Rwe is eke a soureyn bote, To settyn abowtyn a *sawge-rote. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 575 Vse it as *Sage wine to consume flegme.

b. Special Comb.: **sage-apple,** a gall-apple formed on a species of sage, *Salvia pomifera*, eaten as a fruit in Crete; **sage-brush, -bush,** a collective name applied to various species of *Artemisia*, esp. *A. tridentata*; also *attrib.*; **sage-cheese,** a kind of cheese which is flavoured and mottled by mixing a decoction of sage-leaves with the cheese-curd; **sage grass,** *U.S.* = *sage-brush*; **sage-green,** a shade of dull greyish green resembling that of the foliage of the sage plant *Salvia officinalis*; hence **sage-greeny** *a.*, of the colour of sage-green; †**sage mullein** = **French sage** (see 3 above); **sage rose,** †(*a*) a plant of the genus *Cistus* (obs.); (*b*) a shrub, *Turnera ulmifolia*, found in the W. Indies and S. America; **sage tea,** an infusion of sage-leaves, used as a stomachic and slight stimulant; **sage tree,** (*a*) *Phlomis fruticosa*; (*b*) see quot. 1884; **sage-willow,** a dwarf grey American willow, *Salix tristis*; **sage wood** = *sage-brush.*

1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 321 *Sage-apples. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 233 Confined to the sterile plains and *sage-brush (*Artemisia*) tracts of Western U. S. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. II. xlvii. 217 A desert..whose lower grounds were covered with that growth of alkaline plants which the Americans call sage-brush. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 204 The *sage bushes..grow in great abundance on some parts of these plains. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. s.v., Sage-bush, *Artemisia tridentata*. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* II. 16 But Marian now..Nor yellow Butter nor *Sage Cheese prepares. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, It [the sea] is habitually hard upon Sir Leicester, whose countenance it

greenly mottles in the manner of sage-cheese. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 801/2 To inhale the odor of..pungent aromatic things in the tall '*Sage grass'. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 642 *Sage-green, pea, and sea-greens. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* I. 49 Three afternoon dresses, the grey,..the *sage-greeny æsthetic one, and the peacock-blue. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 161 The wilde one [Verbascum]..may be called in Englishe *Sage mullen. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Table, *Sage rose and his kinds, looke *Cistus*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787 Sage-rose: *Turnera ulmifolia*. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. vi. 62 As for *Sage-Tea, it being an English Drink,..I care not if they Drink it without the assistance of Mr. Say-Grace. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 4141 The decoction called sage-tea is usually made from one variety, the small-leaved green, or sage of virtue. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii, There are several other Trees ..in Flower, as..Phlomis or *Sage Trees. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v., Sage of Jerusalem, or Sage-tree. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.*, Sage tree, Brush-land, of Australia. *Psychotria daphnoides*. 1860 WORCESTER (citing G. B. Emerson), *Sage-willow,..*Salix tristis*,—called also dwarf gray-willow.

c. In the names of animals and birds found chiefly in the sage-brush districts of N. America, as **sage cock, grouse**, the largest grouse found in America, *Centrocercus europhasianus*; **sage hare** = *sage rabbit*; **sage hen**, the female of the sage grouse; **sage rabbit**, a small hare, *Lepus artemisia*; **sage sparrow**, each of the two fringilline birds *Amphispiza bilineata* and *A. belli*; **sage thrasher**, the mountain mocking bird, *Oreoscoptes montanus*.

1859 S. F. BAIRD *Catal. N. Amer. Birds* (Smithsonian Misc. Coll.) 462 *Centrocercus urophasianus* Sw. *Sage Cock. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 580 *Sage Grouse. 1861 G. F. HERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* ii. 25 There is a certain bird of the grouse species..called the '*sage hen'. 1859 S. F. BAIRD *Mammals N. Amer.* 602 *Lepus Artemisia*, Bachman. *Sage Rabbit. 1879 GOODE etc. *Catal. Anim. Resources U.S.* 20 *Lepus sylvaticus* Bach., var. *Nuttalli*.—Sage Rabbit. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 375 *Amphispiza*..*Sage Sparrows. *Ibid.* 249 *Sage Thrasher.

Sage (sēdʒ), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Also 6 **saage**, *Sc.* **saig(e, sauge**. [a. F. *sage* adj. and sb. (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; OF. had also *saige, savie*):—Com. Rom. *sabio* (Pr. *satge-s, sabi-s*, Sp., Pg. *sabio*, It. *saggio, savio*):—popular L. **sapius* (cf. L. *nesapius* ignorant) f. *sap-ĕre* to be wise (pr. pple. *sapiens* wise).]

A. *adj.* Now only *literary*.

1. Of a person: Wise, discreet, judicious. In ME. often *the sage* (following a proper name). In modern use in narrowed applications: Practically wise, rendered prudent or judicious by experience.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4069 Nou it worþ iended þat Sibile þe sage sede biuore. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1576 As þe sage sathrapas þat sorsory coube. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 257 For salamon þe sage þat sapience made. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 383 This..Is that Sibille of whom ye wite, That alle men yit clepen sage. *c* 1460 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 1222 To speke litil, is knowen a man sage. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* liii. 148 Retourne agayn towarde eneas and make peas wyth hym yf ye be sage. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxvi. 274 There is no clerke lyuynge so sage that can put it in wrytynge. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 45 The best learned and sagest men in this Realme..both loue shoting and vse shoting. 1562 WINȝET *Cert. Tractates* i. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 5 ȝour wyse, saige, and grave familiar servands. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 11 Bott schaw thyselff both scharpe, sauge [*v.r.* saig], and sinceir. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 227 Cousin of Buckingham, and sage graue men, Since you will [etc.]. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 121 All you sage Counsailors, hence. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 481 The Chancellor, and Treasurer, taking to them the Iustices, and other such sage persons, as they thinke fit. *a* 1687 WALLER *Maid's Trag.* v. Wks. (1729) 348 Can you expect, that she should be so sage To rule her blood, and you not rule your rage? 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 35 The wise reasoning of a certain sage magistrate. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxvii, For most men (till by losing rendered sager) Will back their own opinions with a wager. *Ibid.* xxxv, No wonder such accomplishments should turn A female head, however sage and steady. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* ii. 70 These housekeepers, made sage by circumstance, looked and spoke with something very little like mirth. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xiii. 346 But sager Juxon..withdrew from the proud but perilous office. *a* 1872 MAURICE *Friendsh. Bks.* i. (1874) 12 If I thought of him [*sc.* Bacon], even as the sagest of book-makers and not as a human being.

b. Of advice, conduct, etc.: Characterized by profound wisdom; based on sound judgement.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxii. (1534) 218 b, Roboaz..comtempned the sage counsayle of auncyente men, and imbraced the lyght perswasions of yonge men. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* I. i. 97 Come..make me blest with your sage conference. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 413 Weel whisper ore a couplet or two of most sage sawes. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 45 Little thought he of this sage caution. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 380 The infinitely sage plans of Nature. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 176 He gives sage counsels about the nursing of children.

c. Of the countenance, bearing, etc.: Exhibiting sageness or profound wisdom. In mod. use commonly somewhat *ironical*.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* ix, Miss Oldbuck re-entered, with a singularly sage expression of countenance. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xix, Mr. Dick had regularly assisted at our councils, with a meditative and sage demeanour.

2. In phraseological combinations after Fr. use: †**a.** *Sage fool* (also in Fr. form *fol sage*): a jester or court fool. *Obs.* b. *Sage woman* (also in AF. form †*sage femme*): a midwife. *rare*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 423 ȝe lordes and ladyes..þat fedeth foles sages, flatereres and lyeres. *Ibid.* 444 A fol sage syttynge at the heyȝ table. *?c* 1475 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 77 There was A grete lorde þat had A Sage fole, the whyche he lovyd Marvaylous well. 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 2 Baptisme 'tis thought may be administred by a sage feme. 1833 DISRAELI *Cont. Flem.* III. xix, A sage woman of great reputation was at our house.

†**3.** Grave, dignified, solemn. *Obs.*

1564 *Brief Exam.* C iij b, I woulde haue the Ministers of Churches to vse sage vesture. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* A iij, He wore..a garnish of night-caps, which a sage butten cap..ouer spread very orderly. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 260 We should prophane the seruice of the dead, To sing sage Requiem, and such rest to her As to peace-parted Soules. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 117 And if ought els great Bards beside In sage and solemn tunes have sung, Of Turneys and of Trophies hung. 1644 — *Judgm. Bucer* Wks. 1851 IV. 301 In a point of sagest moment.

B. *sb.*

1. A man of profound wisdom; *esp.* one of those persons of ancient history or legend who were traditionally famous as the wisest of mankind; hence, one whose exceptional wisdom entitles him to a degree of veneration like that which was accorded to these. In early use sometimes with weaker sense, a wise man.

The 'seven sages of Greece' were Thales, Solon, Periander, Cleobulus, Chilon, Bias, and Pittacus, to each of whom some wise maxim is attributed by ancient writers. The 'seven sages of Rome' are the personages of a romance, of Oriental origin, which was popular throughout Europe in the Middle Ages. 'Eastern sages': often applied in hymns (after Milton) to the 'three Magi': see MAGUS 2.

13.. *Sewyn Sag.* (W.) 4, I sal yow tel,..Of the senen sages of Rome. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 7 Me thynkyth, Sauynge souereynes and sages avise, þat þe moste mysceff ..Is demed þe dede y-do aȝeins kynde. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 88 This old fader..Of vij Saugys callid the wysest That was in Rome. 1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 1 There were besides these sophistes, another kinde called sapientes, or sages, as was Thales, Solon [etc.]. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. x. (1592) 223 Musonius, Hierocles, and other auncient sages. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* xi. § 739. 323 Master Littleton who was an honorable sage of the Law. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 362 A Starr..proclaims him com, And guides the Eastern Sages, who enquire His place. 1735 THOMSON *Liberty* II. 222 The great Athenian Sage, And Father of Philosophy [*sc.* Socrates]. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xviii. 337 He was..but as one of the old chiefs of the bygone age—half warrior, half sage.

b. In playful or ironic use.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 120 ¶ 2 He called for help upon the sages of physick. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* XXVI. 238 In vain did the sages of the village interfere. 1893 *Times* 8 May 9/3 They have cited..some of the mustiest sages of the law in confirmation of this view.

2. *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *sage-like* adj.; objective, as *sage-inspiring* adj.; instrumental, as *sage-exalted, -instructed* adjs.

1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 209 The dissolving clouds..to the sage-instructed eye unfold The various twine of light. 1735 — *Liberty* II. 197 The Sage-exalted Chief [Xenophon]. 1745 T. WARTON *Pleas. Melancholy* 256 Tho' thro' the blissful scenes Ilissus roll His sage-inspiring flood. 1879 R. H. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iii. 72 He alone, possessing all the sage-like qualities, shows himself..fitted to exercise rule.

Sage, obs. f. SEDGE; var. SEG *Obs.*

†**Saged**, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. SAGE *sb.*[2] + -ED[1].] Befitting a sage; characterized by wisdom.

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* I. (Arb.) 31 And many a saged sawe lies hyd within thine aged brest. *Ibid.* 32.

Sageer: see SAKIA.

Sagely (sē·dʒlĭ), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SAGE *sb.*[2] + -LY[1].] Belonging to or befitting a sage.

1867 LEGGE *Confucius* iv. 54 His gorgeous but unsubstantial pictures of sagely perfection.

Sagely (sē·dʒlĭ), *adv.* Also 5 **sagilly**. [f. SAGE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a sage manner.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3359 So bus a kyng to consaile haue a clere hert, To se at syttis him to se & sagely to wirke. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5315 Sagilly hym ruled to intelligens. 1522 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. vii. 5 The kyng..demaunding right sweetely of her astate and besaynesse. And she answered him ryght sagely. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 29 Sober he seemde, and very sagely sad. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 285. 1724 POPE *Wife of Bath* 341 He, against this right sagely would advise. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* v. 87 Paul explained, very sagely, how right it was. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 11 If he adroitly or sagely preserved his buckler.

‖ **Sagene**[1] (sa·ʒen). Also 8 **sajen**, 9 **sachine, ssahen, sashine, sajene, sazhen**. [Russian САЖЕНЬ.] A measure of length used in Russia, equal to seven English feet.

1737 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 29 Wersts, divided each into 500 Sagenes, and each Sagene supposed to be exactly seven Feet English. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sachine, Sashen*, other names for the sagene, a Russian linear-measure. 1896 REDWOOD *Petroleum* I. 285 Boring, at 75 roubles per sagene (1 sagene = about 7 feet) for the first 100 sagenes [etc.].

Sagene[2] (sădʒī·nē). *rare.* [ad. L. *sagēna*, a. Gr. σαγήνη.] A fishing-net. In quots. *transf.* and *fig.*, a network (of railwnys, etc.).

1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. I. I. 5 At this time, when the iron roads are tearing up the surface of Europe,..when their great sagene is drawing and twitching the ancient frame and strength of England together. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mry. & Merch.* II. I. 24 Fortunate folk who live beyond the grasping reticulation of the great railway sagene.

Sageness (sē·dʒnĕs). [f. SAGE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sage; profound wisdom.

1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* XXXIV. (1517) H vij, He is a foole without sagenesse. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* xiv. (1541) 24 A man..whom for his great witte and sagenes in apparance, the Emperour had in syngular fauour. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. v. 196 The sagenesse, civility, thrift, abstinence, and such like personated parts and customes at home, will be all laid aside. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sageness*, gravity, prudence. 1814 COLERIDGE *Let. to Y. Kenyon* (1895) 640 Public prudence and practical sageness. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 365 If we [*sc.* Confucians] could renounce our sageness and discard our wisdom it would be better for the people a hundredfold.

Sagenite (sădʒī·nəit). *Min.* [Named by H. B. de Saussure, 1796: f. Gr. σαγήνη net + -ITE.] A variety of rutile in which slender crystals are interlaced, forming a network.

1802 THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* IV. 120.

Hence **Sageni·tic** *a.*, of or belonging to sagenite (Cassell's *Encycl. Dict.*).

†**Sa·geously**, *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SAGE *a.* + -OUS + -LY[2].] Sagely.

c 1500 *Melusine* XXXVI. 259 Whan the knight herd her speke so sageously [Fr. *sagement*].

Sagerston, obs. form of SEXTON.

Sageship (sē·dʒʃip). *rare.* [f. SAGE *sb.*[2] + -SHIP.] The personality of a sage; the quality of being a sage.

a 1832 BENTHAM *Deontol.* iii. (1834) I. 40 Men, who by whatever name they called their own sageships, were called by others wisest of men. 1887 F. H. BALFOUR *Leaves fr. Chinese Scrapbook* 110 (*title*) Confucius on Sageship.

†**Sagess.** *Obs.* In 5 **sagesse**. [a. F. *sagesse*, f. *sage* SAGE *a.*] Sageness, profound wisdom.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 119 Yf he haue not sagesse and wysedom in hym self of dyuerce wrytynges. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6224, I hold it no gret wisdome ne sagesse To ouermoche suffre sorew and paine. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* VI. 13 Thus the Sagess, and grandeur of the Prince of Darkness need not be brought in question on this Occasion.

Sagewar, obs. form of SAGWIRE.

Sagey, sagy (sē·dʒi), *a. rare.* [f. SAGE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Of, pertaining to or of the nature of sage.

1747 POSTON *Pratler* I. 134 The sagy wholsome Herb of Wisdom is more stable..than the rosy fading Flower of Beauty. 1871 MRS. WHITNEY *Real Folks* iii, How sagey and doughnutty, and good it always smelt.

Sagg, variant of SAG.

Saggamore, obs. form of SAGAMORE.

Saggar (sæ·găr), **seggar** (se·găr), *sb.* Forms: [7 **shrager**], 8–9 **saggar, seggar**, 9 **sagger** (**saggard**), **segger, sagre**. [Prob. a contraction of SAFEGUARD *sb.*

This explanation is supported by the existence of the form SEGGARD for *safeguard* as the name of an article of dress. The earliest recorded form, *shrager* (quot. 1686 below), seems to be a corruption due to etymological association with G. *schragen* to prop up; perhaps it may have been invented by the German workmen employed in the Staffordshire potteries.]

1. A protecting case of baked fire-proof clay in which the finer ceramic wares are enclosed while baking in the kiln.

[1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* iii. 123 If they be leaded hollow-wares, they do not expose them to the naked fire, but put them in shragers, that is, in course metall'd pots, made of marle (not clay).] 1768 WEDGWOOD *Let.* 6 Nov. in *Life* (1866) II. 83, I shall..put some men into them to make Saggars, prepare Clay, build ovens, &c. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6420 *note*, The cases are called by English potters, seggars. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 493 Cylindrical earthen vessels, formed of pounded fire-bricks and clay, called seggars. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Saggard*, the rough vessel in which all crockery, fine or coarse, is placed when taken to the oven for firing. 1879 MISS J. J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 77 The Japanese do not make any extensive use of seggars.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *saggar-maker*; **saggar-bung**, a pile of saggars; **saggar-house**, the room where the articles to be baked are put into the saggars.

1828 *Potter's Art* II. 184 The *saggar bung Or column. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 454 When ready it is carried to the '*sagger-house'..and here it is placed in the 'saggers'. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 468 The *sagger-maker is expected to know [etc.].

2. The clay of which 'saggars' are made. Also *saggar-clay*.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1020 Space appointed as a depôt for the sagger fire-clay. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Sagger*. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 350/1 The sagger clay from the Staffordshire pottery was also a fire clay. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 45 *Sagre Clay*.—Fire-clay; a soft argillaceous shale.

Saggar (sæ·găr), *v.* Also **sagger**. [f. SAGGAR *sb.*] *trans.* To place in or upon a saggar.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1023 When..any piece, a soup plate for example, is to be saggered.

†**Sa·ggard.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [?f. SAG *v.* + -ARD.] ? One who 'sags' or hangs helplessly.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXXVI. 82 Þou saggard [Christ on the Cross], þi selfe gan þou saue.

Saggard, variant of SAGGAR.

Saggathe, var. SAGATHY. **Sagge**, var. SAG.

Saggebut, obs. form of SACKBUT.

Sagged (sægd), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SAG *v.* + -ED[1].] That has sunk in the middle; hanging loose.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 185 Sagg'd cheeks, wherein such wrinkles are descry'd. As..we see scratcht in an old she-ape. 1893 'Q' (QUILLER-COUCH) *Delect. Duchy* 235 A sagged and lichen-covered roof.

Sagging (sæ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAG *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb SAG in various senses.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saggynge, or satlynge, *bassacio, bassatura.* 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Sagging to leeward*, the movement by which a ship makes a considerable *lee-way*, or is driven far to leeward of the course whereon she apparently sails. It is generally expressed of heavy-sailing vessels. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 420/1 Practical observations on the hogging and sagging of ships. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 252 The stakes also prevent the sagging of pleached or obliquely laid saplings. 1898 F. DAVIS *Silchester* 14 The sagging of some of the tesselated pavements.

Sagging (sæ·giŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SAG *v.* + -ING 2.] That sags (in various senses of the verb).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 37 A sagging paire of cheeks like a sows paps that giues suck. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 178 This goodly sagging Dugs, a Pap fashion. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 32 The Raz de marée, or rollers, that hurling sagging sea, so trying to small vessels upon the Mozambique coast..is here little feared. 1887 *Scott. Leader* 21 June 5 The tone on the Chicago market was dull and weak, with a 'sagging' tendency. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 107 The long, sagging line may twitch a boat under in a flash.

†**Sa·ggish**, *a. rare* −1. [f. *sag* SOG *v.*1 + -ISH 1.] ? Somewhat moist and decayed.

a 1595 SOUTHWELL 100 *Medit.* (1873) 373 As a little spark is wont to be quenched by casting wet and saggish wood upon it.

Saggy (sæ·gi), *a.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. SAG *sb.*1 + -Y.] Sedgy, reedy.

1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* XV. xxviii. 391 Fear gave my body winges. In a deepe Saggy couert I obscure me. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*

Saggy (sæ·gi), *a.*2 *dial.* [f. SAG *v.* + -Y.] Apt to 'sag' (see quots.).

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 391 The observatory of Sir James Ross at Leopold Island was moist and saggy. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 193 That gate wants knocking up at the hinges, it hangs so saggy. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* s.v. *Sag*, 'A saggy body,'—a very stout person, whose flesh appears to hang. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Saggy, adj.* said of anything drawn or bent down by weight.

Sagh(e, saȝ, obs. forms of SAW.

Saght(e, -il, etc., var. ff. SAUGHT, -LE, etc.

†**Saginary.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sagīnāri-um*, f. *sagina*: see next.] A place where animals are fattened.

1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xvii. 14 The rich Glutton (who thought this life to be his saginary or boares-frank).

Saginate (sæ·dʒineit), *v. rare.* [f. L. *sagīnāt-*, ppl. stem of *sagīnāre*, f. *sagīna*, process or means of fattening.] *trans.* To fatten (animals). Also *fig.* Hence **Sa·ginated** *ppl. a.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Saginate*, to fatten a beast. *Sagination*, the fattening thereof. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 22 At last when they are saginated and franked, their turn comes to bleed. 1650 tr. *Caussin's Ang. Peace* 45 The odious rejoycings of the unjust are saginated with the tears of the miserable. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 447 Chickens,..when saginated and castrated, [are] fit for Courtiers. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 40 Many a saginated boar [θαλέθοντες ἀλοιφῇ]. 1854 LANDOR *Lett. Amer.* 78 The [French] Emperor..has saginated the priesthood, and has winked at the miraculous apparitions that winked at him.

Sagination (sædʒinēi·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. *sagīnātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sagīnāre*: see prec.] The action of fattening animals for food.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 81 After their labour which bringeth leannesse, they vse to put them [*sc.* oxen] by for sagination, or..for feeding. 1623 [see prec.]. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 12 There are very many persons whose intellect will not submit to this priestly sagination. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 484 We see the greedy porker before us in all the glories of sagination.

Sagirstane, obs. form of SEXTON.

†**Sagit.** *Obs. rare* −1. [Anglicized form of SAGITTA.] The sagittal suture.

*c*1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* xii. Evij, On the foreparte of the head by the ioynte Sagit.

‖ **Sagitta** (sădʒi·tă). [L., lit. an arrow.]

1. *Astr.* A northern constellation lying between *Hercules* and *Delphinus*: = ARROW *sb.* 4.

1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. [And in mod. Dicts.]

2. *Geom.* **a.** The versed sine of an arc: = ARROW *sb.* 6.

[1594: see ARROW *sb.* 6.] 1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 9/2 The..Line..from the middle Point of the Chord up to the Arch, leaving equal Angles on each Side, is call'd the Sagitta. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 32 The sagitta, or versed sine, of the curvature being about one fifth of the side of the triangle.

†**b.** In extended sense: The abscissa of a curve. *Obs. rare* −0. 1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*

3. *Arch.* The key-stone of an arch.

1703 R. NEVE *Builder's Dict.* (1736). 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 592. 1849–50 WEALE *Dict. Terms.*

4. The middle horizontal stroke in the Greek letter ε. [App. an application of sense 2.]

1864 ELLICOTT *Pastoral Ep.* (ed. 3) 103 The thickened extremity of the sagitta of ε. 1881 *Dublin Rev.* VI. 134 The disputed line is really the sagitta of an epsilon.

5. *Anat.* 'The sagittal suture' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

6. *Zool.* **a.** One of the otoliths of a fish's ear.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 86 There are [in the ear of the perch] generally two large otoliths, a sagitta in the sacculus, an asteriscus in the recessus cochleae. 1897 PARKER & HASWELL *Text-bk. Zool.* II. 199.

b. One of the components of certain spongespicules: see quot.

1898 SEDGWICK *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 83 The Triæne consists of the rhabdome, or shaft, and the cladome, which consists of the three cladi, a straight line joining the ends of the two cladi is the chord. The sagitta is a perpendicular from the origin of the cladome to the chord.

Sagittal (sădʒi·tăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sagittālis*, f. L. *sagitta* arrow: see -AL. Cf. F. *sagittal.*]

1. *Anat.* **a.** *Sagittal suture* († *addition*, † *commissure*): 'the median antero-posterior suture between the two parietal bones on the vertex of the skull' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F ij, There commeth .ix. [muscles to the tongue] that brede of the addycyon called sagitall of the bone named Lapheoides. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 40 b/2 The sagittal suture, where she ioyneth her self with the Coronalle suture. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xliv, The sagittal commissure or dart-like seame which distinguisheth the right side of the head from the left. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* 183 In Human Anatomy the sagittal suture is confined to the articulation of the two parietals with each other, the two frontals uniting so early that they are considered as a single bone.

b. Pertaining to the sagittal suture; pertaining to or lying in 'the median longitudinal antero-posterior plane of the body, or to any plane parallel with this' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 57 Four Edges. The upper or sagittal (*margo sagittalis*) is the longest. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 250 The sagittal and occipital crests.

2. Pertaining to an arrow; resembling an arrow or an arrow-head in shape. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sagittal..*; Also belonging to an Arrow. ..Tongue, short, sagittal. 1785 — *Arctic Zool.* II. 207 Feathers of the thighs long, white, crossed with sagittal bars of yellow. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 148 Sagittal shots from eyelids Sagittarius threw. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 416/2 (Fig. 13) [Forms of sponge-spicules] *h*, sagittal triod.

Hence **Sagi·ttally** *adv., Anat.*, 'in the direction of the sagittal plane' (*Cassell's Suppl.* 1902).

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.*

†**Sagittar.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 4 **sagittaire**, 7 **sagittar.** [a. F. *sagittaire* (12th. c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *sagittārius.*] = SAGITTARIUS 1.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 123 The Sagittaire. *Ibid.* 127 Libra ..and Sagittaire. 1604–22 [see SAGITTARY A. 2 b]. 1634 T. CAREW *Cœlum Brit.* Wks. (1824) 160 The centaure the horn'd goatfish capricorne, The snake-head gorgon, and fierce sagittar.

‖ **Sagittarius** (sædʒitē·riŭs). [L. *sagittārius* archer: see SAGITTARY. Cf. F. *sagittaire.*]

1. *Astr.* (With capital S.) The zodiacal constellation of the Archer; hence, the ninth sign of the zodiac, which the sun enters about 22 Nov.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 123 The nynthe Signe..Is cleped Sagittarius. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. x. (1495) 313. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Sagittario*, the signe Sagittarius. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The constellation Sagittarius. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 382 The bifurcation continues through the Wolf, the Altar, the Scorpion, and Sagittarius, as far as the Serpent.

b. The mythic Centaur who was fabled to have been transformed into this constellation.

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) E 4 b, As though that Sagitarius in his pride, Could take braue Laeda from stoute Iupiter?

2. *Her.* A bearing representing a centaur (or perh. in early use a horseman) with a drawn bow.

1619 R. BROOKE *Catal. Kings*, etc. ▶ 3 b, It is said, that King Stephen entring this Realme, the signe being in Sagitarius, and obtayning great victory by the helpe of his Archers, assumed the Sagitarius for his Arms. 1707 SANDFORD *Geneal. Hist.* 38 *marg.* 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* vi. (1893) 101 In addition to these [supporters] may be enumerated..the Sagittarius, or Centaur.

Sagittary (sædʒitări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *sagittārius* adj., pertaining to arrows, as sb. an archer; f. *sagitta* arrow. Cf. F. *sagittaire.*] **A.** *sb.*

†**1.** *Astr.* = SAGITTARIUS 1. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 102 The sonne entred the sygne of Sagitary that is the Archer. *a* 1547 COPLAND *Hye Way to Spytel Hous* 89 Scorpio, pisces or sagyttary. 1641 *Witt's Recr.* X 8 b, If thou wouldst please the lasse that thou dost marry The signe must ever be in Sagitary. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* xxi. (1697) 445 Being under the Dominion of Jupiter and Mercury, in the Sign Sagitary. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 322 While the sun was in Capricorn, another comet appeared to follow in the Sagitary.

2. A centaur; *spec.* the centaur who according to mediæval romance fought in the Trojan army, against the Greeks.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XI. (Percy Soc.) 40 Unto the Sagittary They feyne the Centures to be of lykenesse, As halfe man and halfe horse truely. 1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* To Rdr., Chiron the Sagitarie was but a fained conceipt. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 14 The dreadfull Sagittary Appauls our numbers. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 158 The Castle is..defended by a troop of leane fac't, beardlesse, memberless Eunuchs, who like so many angry Sagittaries guard their ladies. *a* 1859 L. HUNT *Cambus Khan* Poems (1860) 165 A chief who had a mother a seafairy And slew a terror called the sagittary.

¶ **b.** ? As the name of an inn.

For the disproof of C. Knight's conjecture that this was a name for the Arsenal at Venice, see the note on the passage in H. H. Furness *Variorum Shakspere.*

Cf. 'Centaur' as the sign of an imaginary inn at Ephesus in *Comedy of Errors* I. ii. 9.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 159 Lead to the Sagitary [1st Qo., 1622 sagittar] the raised Search. *Ibid.* I. iii. 115.

3. A representation of a centaur or of a mounted archer; *spec.* in *Her.* = SAGITTARIUS 2.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. i. (1660) 5 The Persians [bare] an Archer or Sagitary stamped on their coynes. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 250 The sagittary, or mounted archer, the badge of King Stephen, is not unfrequently met with.

†**4.** A daric, because the figure of an archer was stamped on one side. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2, 1638) 230, referring to Plutarch *Agesilaus.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 243 Timagoras..had received a bribe of ten thousand Dariques or Sagittaries.

5. An archer.

1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 175 The imperial sagittary [Commodus],..whose hand was so steady and whose eye so true, that he was never known to miss. 1863 *Pilgrimage over Prairies* I. 275 Seeing how certain was my fate, remaining where I was, I darted towards the bank, to engage the fell sagittary at close quarters.

†**B.** *adj.* Pertaining to arrows. *Obs.*

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* i. (1683) 82 With such differences of Reeds, Vallatory, Sagittary, Scriptory, and others they might be furnished in Judæa.

Sagittate (sæ·dʒitēit), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *sagittātus*, f. L. *sagitta* arrow: see -ATE 2.] Shaped like an arrow-head.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1776) 191 *Sagittate*, Arrow-shaped; when they [*sc.* leaves] are triangular, hollowed at the Base, and furnished with Angles at the lower Part. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 324 [Woad has] the stem-leaves sagittate or shaped like the head of an arrow. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 262 *Sagittate...* Arrow-shaped. Triangular, hollowed out at the base with posterior angles. 1840 SWAINSON *Malacol.* 390 Shell very much compressed,..sagittate. 1864 GRAY in *Reader* 30 Apr. 559/2 The linear or elongated and sagittate anthers, and petals with long canaliculate claws. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 195 With sagittate dusky marks on the sides.

Sagittated (sæ·dʒitēitĕd), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] = prec.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 403 The tongue [of Cuculus] is entire and of a sagittated figure. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf.* 1802 SHAW *Zool.* III. II. 526 Sagittated Snake...Brown Snake, with whitish sagittated dorsal spots edged with black. 1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 524/2 In the Sagittated Calamary this important cartilage consists of three portions.

Sagitta·to-, used as comb. form of SAGITTATE.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* § 328 Stipulæ sagittato-cordate.

†**Sagittel(le.** *Obs. rare* −1. Also **sagy**telle. [ad. med.L. *sagittella*, dim. of L. *sagitta* arrow.] Some plant. Also *attrib.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 91 With þe leeues of sagittel [*v.r.* sagytelle, orig. L. *sagittellæ*]. *Ibid.*, Fille it [the ulcer] ful of drie leeues of sagittelle & leie a sagittel-leef aboue.

Sagittiferous (sædʒiti·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sagittifer*, f. *sagitta* arrow: see -FEROUS.] (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sagittiferous*, that bears or weares Arrowes. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Sagittiferus,..Bot., Conchol.* Applied to a plant, one of the petals of which is like an arrow, as the *Pleurothallis sagittifera*, and to a shell having arrow-like spots, as the *Trochus sagittiferus*; sagittiferous.

Sagittiform (sædʒi·tifɔm), *a. rare.* [ad. L. type *sagittiformis*, f. *sagitta* arrow: see -FORM.] Having the shape of an arrow or arrow-head.

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Sagittiform*,..arrow-shaped. 1904 WINDLE *Rem. Prehist. Age Eng.* ii. 19 It is true that sagittiform chips are common enough in some parts of the country.

†**Sagittipotent,** *a. Obs. rare* −0. [ad. L. *sagittipotent-em*, f. *sagitta* arrow + *potent-em* POTENT *a.*] 'That can do much by shooting with Arrows, a cunning Archer' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Sagitto-, used as combining form of SAGITTATE.

1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1299 Spiculum sagitto-capitate.

Sagittocyst (sæ·dʒitŏsist). *Zool.* [irreg. f. L. *sagitta* arrow + CYST *sb.*] A structure occurring in the ectoderm of turbellarian worms (see quot.).

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 667 *note*, Still more rare are the structures known as sagittocysts, i. e. capsules similar to those of the nematocysts, but inclosing a needle-like rod, which is expelled on irritation of the animal.

Sago (sēi·go). Forms: 6–7 **sagu**, (7 **zago**, ? erron. **sagous**), 7–8 **sagow**, 8 **sagoe, -oo, sego, seago**, 7– **sago.** [a. Malay ساڬو *sāgū.* Cf. F. *sagou*, Sp. *sagú*, Pg. *sagu*, *zagu*, It. *sagù*, G. *sago.*]

1. The tree from which sago (see 2) is obtained.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 229 In all the Ilandes of Molucca is founde cloues, ginger, breade of the roote of Sagu, ryse, goates [etc.]. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 143 Beside the cocoa tree, the Moluccas produce a singular kind of palm, which is called sago. 1820 CRAWFURD *Hist. Ind. Archipelago* I. 385 The sago, like other palms, is propagated from the seed or fruit.

2. A species of starch prepared from the 'pith' of the trunks of several palms and cycads, esp. *Metroxylon lævis* and *M. Rumphii*, chiefly used as an article of food.

French S., common ARROWROOT (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

Japan S., the sago prepared from various species of *Cycas*. *Pearl S.*, *Portland S.*: see the epithets.

c 1580 *Sir F. Drake's Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1600) III. 740 We receiued of them meale, which they call Sagu, made of the tops of certaine trees..whereof they make certaine cakes. *Ibid.* 742 Certaine wordes of the naturall language of Iaua. ..*Sagu*, bread of the Countrey. 1619 W. PHILLIP tr. *Schouten's Wonderf. Voy.* 75 Wee bartered for a great deale of Sagow and some Ryce, for Linnen, Beades [etc.]. 1688 BRAMSTON *Autobiog.* 381 She tasted and tryed all waters,.. and all the opiats, asses milk, and zago, to prevent consumption, but yet was wasted to the lowest degree. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xl. 94 The inland People subsist mostly on Sagow. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 120 To boil Sago. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 431 He allows chicken broth, salop, seago, milk-pottage, for breakfast. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 95 Have ready two ounces of sago sufficiently boiled. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 700 This fecula (Japan sago) is quite unknown to me; and I doubt whether it ever reaches this country. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1048 From the stems of *Cycas revoluta* and *circinalis*, a kind of Sago is made. 1862 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 684 *Caryota urens*... From the trunks of the old trees a kind of Sago is obtained in Assam. 1884 MARY HARRISON *Skilful Cook* 167 Simmer the sago in the milk until it thickens.

b. A prepared food made by boiling sago in water or milk, etc. ? *Obs.*

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 309 The chief ingredients in gruels, sagos, and wheys.

fig. 1769 [E. THOMPSON] *Trinculo's Trip* 40 Yes—your pap—poetick sago, Quite a soporifick pill.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: as *sago* †*-bread*, *-cake*, *-flour*, *-gruel*, *milk*, *-pudding*, *-starch*; *sago-like* adj.; **sago-grain**, *transf.* a granule on the eyelid in granular ophthalmia; **sago-palm (tree)** = sense 1; **sago-spleen**, amyloid degeneration of the Malpighian corpuscles of the spleen, resembling boiled sago; **sago-tree** = sense 1.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xvi. 453 A piece of *Sagu bread. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 42 A *sago cake. 1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Printing* 188 Other kinds of starchy substances in occasional use for printing..as..*sago flour—which is not a flour at all, but nearly pure starch. 1873 R. B. CARTER in *Lancet* 20 Dec. 872/1 In technical nomenclature they are known as 'follicular granulations', but to-day I will call them '*sago grains'. *Ibid.*, The very existence of these 'sago grains' remained unknown until the year 1848, when they were discovered by Dr. Löffler. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 136 To make *Sagoo Gruel. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 134, I infinitely prefer the original Icelandic Saga of Frithiof to his sago-gruel imitation of strong soup. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 159 The solitary glands of the intestine were swelled and *sago-like. 1847 *New Syst. Cookery* 287 *Sago, Rice,..or Macaroni Milks. 1769 W. STORK in J. Bartram *Jrnl.* (*Florida*) (ed. 3) p. v, *Cycas Circinalis*...*Sago Palm-tree. In Java, and the warmest parts of the East-Indies. 1820 CRAWFURD *Hist. Ind. Archipelago* I. 383 The Sago Palm (*Metroxylon sagu*). 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 178 The art of extracting sago from their native sago-palms. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 106 A *Sagoe Pudding. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 66 A Sagoo Pudding. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 70 Amyloid degeneration of the spleen is met with in two forms—one in which the disease is limited to the Malpighian corpuscles ('*Sago Spleen'), and the other [etc.]. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. iii. 377 The *Sagous-Tree; which those that inhabit the Molucca Islands, eat instead of Bread. 1777 MILLER *Sumatra* in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 262 The houses..are..thatched with the leaves of the sago-tree. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 700 *Cycas revoluta*, or the Japan Sago tree.

Sagoin (sāgoi·n). Forms: 7–9 **sagouin**, (8 **sangwyn**), 9 (in Dicts.) **saguin**, 7– **sagoin**. [a. F. *sagouin*, †*sagoin*, a. Pg. *saguim*, a. Guarani *sagui*, *çagui* (= Tupi *sahy*: see SAI [1]), whence by misreading the synonym CAGUI.] A small South American monkey, *esp.* one of the genus *Callithrix*.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 18 This figure of the Sagoin, I receiued of..a very learned Apothecary of Antwerpe. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 838 A kind of Monkey called Sagouin. 1704 *Nieuhof's East Indies* in *Churchill's Voy.* II. 362 Those [monkeys] called sangwyns. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 235 Those [monkeys] with muscular bolding tails, are called Sapajous; those with feeble, useless tails, are called Sagoins. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 62 The Masked Sagouin (*Callithrix personata*, Geof.), the Widow Sagouin (*C. lugens*, Humb.). 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. viii. 279 They never play like the young sagoins.

†**Sa·go,ize**, *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SAGO + -IZE.] *trans.* To put on a regimen of sago as diet.

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 794 The excellence of the test may recommend a course of 'sagoizing' to all those guardians who are never done with tests and testing.

Sagomo(re, obs. forms of SAGAMORE.

Sagoone, var. SAGOON (= SEOONDE, in *Fencing*).

Sagow, obs. form of SAGO.

Sagre, dial. form of SAGGAR; obs. f. SAKER [1].

†**Sagree.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [?Connected with SHAGREEN.] The Picked Dogfish, *Squalus acanthias*.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 300 The Sagree..This is frequent in the Mediterranean...Willughby and Ray call it *Calus acanthias sive spinax fuscus*, the brown, prickly Hound-fish. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App.

Sagu, obs. form of SAGO.

‖ **Saguaro** (sägwä·ro). Also **saguara**, **suwarrow**. [?Mexican.] The giant cactus, *Cereus giganteus*, of Arizona and Mexico. *Saguaro woodpecker*, the Pitahaya woodpecker (*Centurus uropygialis*) usually nesting in the giant cactus.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 502/2 We made haste..to cut down an example of the..saguaras, the organ-cactus. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* (10th Census IX.) 90 *Cereus giganteus*...Suwarrow. Saguaro. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 488 Saguaro Woodpecker.

Saguin, Saguire: see SAGOIN, SAGWIRE.

‖ **Sagum** (sē·gŏm). *Roman Antiq.* Pl. **saga.** [L.; also *sagus*, = late Gr. σάγος: said to be of Gaulish origin.] A Roman military cloak; also, a woollen cloak worn by the ancient Gauls, Germans, and Spaniards.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sagum*, a sort of Woollen Coat or Cassock for Soldiers, which the Greeks and Romans us'd, and was peculiar to the Gauls. 1800 J. DALLAWAY *Anecd. Arts Eng.* 399 A statue of Colonel Codrington..in a Roman military Sagum. 1851–9 PRICHARD in *Man. Sci. Eng.* 261 The Germans [were known] by their saga or military cassocks. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 701 The scarlet sagum of the Procurator.

‖ **Sagwire** (sæ·gwəi·r). Forms: 7 **sagewar**, 8 **saguire**, 9 **sagueir**, 9– **sagwire**. [app. ad. Pg. *sagueiro*, f. *sagu* SAGO. Cf. F. *sagouier*.] The Gomuti palm, *Arenga saccharifera*, of the Indian Archipelago. Also, the toddy or palm-wine obtained from this tree.

1681 GREW *Museum* IV. iii. 377 A Sagewar-Tree; whose Flower being cut, renders a Juyce like Wine. 1792 T. FORREST *Voy. Mergui* 73 (Y.) The natives drink much of a liquor called saguire, drawn from the palm-tree. 1820 CRAWFURD *Hist. Ind. Archipelago* I. 397 One of the most useful and abundant of all the palms is the Saguire or Gomuti (*Borassus gomutus*). 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archipelago* I. 362 His palm-trees supplied him all the year round with 'sagueir', which takes the place of beer.

Sagy, variant of SAGEY.

Saȝel: see SOWEL *Obs.* **Sah**, obs. pa. t. of SEE.

Sa-ha. Also 7 **sa-haw.** [? Var. of SO-HO.] A cry used in coursing.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captains* 410 With shrill *Sa-haw*, *here-here ho*, *here-again*, The Warren rings. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Feb. 235/2 We are nearly across the field when the cry of 'Sa ha' tells us that some one has seen a hare in her form.

Sahab, obs. form of SAHIB.

†**Sahagun.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? From *Sahagun*, a city in Castile.] ? A sword made at Sahagun.

a 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* IV. (1669) 57 Suppose that with a Sahagun, or with a Rapier of Toledo, I were pierc'd like a Cullender.

Sahara (sähā·rä). Also 7 **Sarra**, 8–9 **Zaara**, 9 **Saara**, **Sahra.** [a. Arab. صحراء *çahrā* desert.] The great desert of Libya or northern Africa. (With capital S as proper name.)

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 556 Lybia, he calleth Sarra, for so the Arabians call a desert. 1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg., Sahara.* The stonie countrey, the sands: the same almost that *Sarra* is. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 246 He withdrew among his Arab Confederates in the Sahara, or Desart. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 28 Having some resemblance to the Stepps of Tartary, or the Saara's of Africa.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A desert, wilderness.

1862 'SHIRLEY' [J. Skelton] *Nugæ Crit.* i. 4 During this autumnal season...the city is a desert, a Sahara. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, Between Battle Bridge and that part of the Holloway district in which he dwelt, was a tract of suburban Sahara. 1893 *Lit. World* 3 Nov. 332/1 In the Sahara of contemporary verse there are sometimes..oases full of beauties and surprises.

Hence **Saha·ran, Saha·rian, Saha·ric** *adjs.*

1849 M. ARNOLD *Consolation* viii, Saharan sand-winds Sear'd his keen eyeballs. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 76. 606 We were to have one of the hottest days of a Saharan summer. 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* I. ii. 216 As well might one hope to squeeze rain from a Saharic sand-cloud. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 129 The Saharian district.

Sahe, obs. form of SAW.

‖ **Sahib** (sā·ib). Also 7 **sab**, **sahab**, 8–9 **saib**, 9 **saheb**, **saheeb.** [Urdū, use of Arab. صاحب *çāḥib*, orig. 'friend'.] A respectful title used by the natives of India in addressing an Englishman or other European (= 'Sir'); also, in native use, an Englishman, a European. Also affixed as a title (equivalent to 'Mr.' prefixed) to the name or office of a European. (See also MEM-SAHIB.)

1696 OVINGTON *Voy. Suratt* 326 Thus the distracted Husband..often in his Indian English confest, English fashion, sab, best fashion have, one Wife best for one Husband. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 417 To which the subtle Heathen replied, 'Sahab (*i. e.*) Sir, why will you do more than the Creator ever meant?' 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 43 This Saib..purposed returning with me. 1811 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry & Bearer* 25, I used to be so pleased when anybody bowed to me, and said 'Sahib'. 1822 *Fifteen Yrs. in India* Gloss., *Saheeb.* 1832 in *Rep. Sel. Comm. Salt Brit. India* (1836) App. 34 If a bird flies, saheb shoots it. 1834 *Baboo* II. ii. 28 (Stanf.) These English Sahebs are white-skinned white-livered lepers. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 323 'They are strangers to me, Sahib', said the khansamah,..'but their bearers say that they are Lord Sahibs'. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulakha* (1892) 201 The lady sahib kissed me on both cheeks.

So **Sa·hiba(h** [Arab. *çāḥiba*], mistress, lady.

1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 88 What calamity is this that the Madam Sáhebah is so fond of! 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 114/2 Oh, dear Sahiba, the gods are very wise and terrible!

Sahidic (sähi·dik), *a.* [f. Arab. سعيد *sacīd*, with article *as-sacīd*, lit. 'the Fortunate', a name for Upper Egypt + -IC.] Belonging to the dialect of Coptic spoken in Thebes and Upper Egypt, in which a version of the Bible is extant. Also quasi-*sb.*, the Sahidic language, or the Sahidic version of the Bible.

1830 TATTAM *Egypt. Gram.* 14 Sahidic words which change their termination to form the plural. *Ibid.* 49 Numbers are usually expressed in Sahidic by words. 1898 J. A. ROBINSON in *Expositor* Apr. 257 Both forms of this Version—the Bohairic (or Memphitic) and the Sahidic (or Thebaic)—take the verb in the passive sense.

Sahlite (sā·ləit). *Min.* Also **salite.** [a. G. *sahlit*, named in 1800, f. *Sahla* (*Sala*) in Sweden: see -ITE.] A variety of pyroxene.

1807 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 279. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 190 The fifth and sixth minerals [analysed above] are sahlites; so named because they occur in the lead mine of Sahla in Sweden. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 16 A sahlite, termed malakolite, is found separately imbedded in granular limestone.

Saht(e, sahut, etc.: see SAUGHT *Obs.*, etc.

‖ **Sai** [1] (sai). [a. Brazilian *sahy*, *çahy*; in Fr. *saï*. Cf. SAIMIRI, SAGOIN.] A South American monkey, *Simia capucina* L.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 236 The Sai..is somewhat larger than the Sajou... It is also called the Bewailer. 1859 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 92 The Weeper Monkey or Sai.

‖ **Sai** [2] (sai). A bird, *Cœreba cyanea*, inhabiting tropical America.

1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 3 The voice of the Sai is only capable of producing a gentle twitter.

Sai, obs. form of SAY; obs. pa. t. of SEE.

Saibling (sē··blin). Also **sæbling.** [a. Upper German dial. *saibling* = *salbling*, *sälbling* the char.] The European char, *Salvelinus alpinus*, introduced into N. America.

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 503 The Saibling, which through the courtesy of the German Government is now being introduced into the United States, is the European Char in its highest state of perfection. 1896 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 501 The sæbling (*Salmo salvelinus*) of the mountain-lakes of Bavaria and Austria.

‖ **Saic** (sē·ik). Forms: 7 **saich**, **saicque**, 8 **shyke**, 7–8 **saique**, 7–9 **saic**, **saick.** [a. F. *saïque*, ad. Turkish شايقا *shāīqā*.] A kind of sailing vessel common in the Levant (see quot. 1769).

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 119/2 Two large Saichs laden with Horses, were taken by some of our Vessels in their passage from Napoli di Romania to Canea. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 64 The Saic lay at an Anchor. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 73 They build Saiques, and other Merchants Vessels pretty well. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* 63 There are many of the Turks Merchant-Men, navigated by Greeks, which are called by the name of Shykes, somewhat like our English Ketches, of Two or Three Hundred Tun. 1715 *Comm. Yrnls.* 45/1 The Fishing-Ships and Saicks employed at Newfoundland. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Saic*, a sort of Grecian ketch, which has no top-gallant-sail or mizen-top-sail. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. iv, From Scalanovo's port to Scio's isle, The Saick was bound. 1834 [MORIER] *Ayesha* III. 31 The bark..which was called a saique, was square-rigged.

Saice, variant of SYCE.

Saickless, obs. form of SACKLESS.

Said (sed), *ppl. a.* Forms: see the vb. [Pa. pple. of SAY *v.*]

1. Named or mentioned before. (Also *abovesaid*, *aforesaid* qq. v.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14978 (Cott.) Son þar went disciplis tua Vnto þe said [*Gött.* þis said] castel. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 16 Þe sad king agabarus (L. *prædictus rex Abgarus*). 1435 *Contract Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 20 At my seide Lord's cost. 1457–8 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 297 Aftyr the sayd terme to ber the saydyn v. *s.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iij b, Lay thessaid hede and the necke therupon. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect St. Matthew* To folowe thy sayed sonne Jesus Christ. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 251 The King of England gaue the sayde Castell to the sayde Erle. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5450/4 The Administratrixes of the said Wilson, do hereby give Notices. 1868 T. H. KEV *Philol. Ess.* 282 The said chapter begins with an admirable extract from a work of Dugald Stewart's. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 51/2 The said chimney belonged to the said brewery.

absol. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 186 Some English or Holland ships was abroad at sea..and the said were sometimes lurking about the Islands of St. John.

† b. With inflected pl. *Obs.*

Continued in Sc. until the 17th c.

1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 8 The Felowes of the seid college..and Thomas Sturgeon of the seides town and shire carpenter. 1527 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 25 Tenants of the saidis landis. 1581 HAMILTON *Cert. Orth. & Cath. Conclus.* Ded. 3 And yair ye saidis ministers and ye being assemblit. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme Proces* 125 The officiar..may sell and assigne the saides landes.

† 2. Spoken, uttered. In phr. (*old*) *said saw.*

1530, *c* 1570, 1828 [see OLD D. 1. c.]. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. i. (Arb.) 11 Therefore an other sayd sawe doth men aduise, That they be together both mery and wise. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 202 b, Accordyng to the old sayd saw Quite agaynst the heare. 1659 HOWELL (*title*) Proverbs, or Old Sayed Sawes & Adages.

† 3. quasi-*sb.* Something said or spoken. *nonce-use.*

1578 FLORIO *1st Fruites* 28 b, So say I also. But from the said vnto the deed there is a great throw.

Said, obs. f. SAD, SIDE. **Saie,** obs. f. SAY.

Saie, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SEE.

Saif, obs. Sc. form of SAFE, SAVE.

Saifare, saiffer, obs. Sc. forms of SAVER.

Saif(e, saiff(e, obs. Sc. forms of SAFE.

Saiffer, obs. form of SAPPHIRE.

Saifte, -tie, obs. Sc. forms of SAFETY.

Saiga (sāi·gă, sai·gă). [a. Russ. сайга. Cf. F. *saïga.*] A kind of antelope (*Saiga tartarica*) of the steppes of Russia. Also *saiga-antelope.*

1801 SHAW *Zool.* II. II. 339 The Saiga, or Scythian Antelope. *Ibid.* 340 The Saigas are of a migratory disposition. 1896 LYDEKKER *Brit. Mammals* 305 The Saiga Antelope.

Saige, obs. f. SIEGE. **Saih,** obs. pa. t. of SEE.

Saik, obs. Sc. form of SAKE.

Saikles(se, obs. Sc. forms of SACKLESS.

Saikyr, obs. Sc. form of SAKER (cannon).

Sail (sēil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 segel, segl, 3 sæil(e, 3–4 seil, 3–5 seile, seyle, 3–7 sayle, 3–8 saile, 4 seille, seyll(e, 4–5 seyl, 4–7 sayl, 4–8 sale, 5 ceyle, seylle, 5–6 saill(e, sayll(e, 6 sal, saule, 4– sail. [Com. Teut.: OE. *seg(e)l* neut. (and masc.), corresp. to OS. *segel* (MLG. *segel*, MDu. *zeghel, zeil*, Du. *zeil*), OHG. *segal, segil* (MHG., mod.G. *segel*), ON. *segl* (Sw. *segel*, Da. *seil*) :—OTeut. **seglo*[m].

The ulterior origin is obscure. No certainly equivalent form is known outside Teut., and the only known root of the form **seg-* (:—Indogermanic **segh-*) has only the senses 'to hold, have, conquer', which do not satisfactorily account for the meaning of the word. Some scholars refer the word to the root **sek-* (Teut. **seh-*), to cut, taking it to mean a piece of cloth cut to shape.]

1. One of the shaped pieces of canvas or other strong textile material fastened to the masts, spars or stays of a vessel, so as to catch the wind and cause it to move through the water. Also occas. a similar apparatus for propelling a wind-driven carriage.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 3 Hæt fealdan þæt segl & eac hwilum lecgan þone mæst. *a* 900 *OE. Martyrol.* 4 Mar. 34 Ferað nu swa swa eowre seglas sendon geseted. *c* 1205 LAY. 1101 Heo rærden heora mastes heo wunden up seiles. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1803 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 158 In þe schipes seile an heiȝ: þis holi man let do Ane Croiz, þat Man fer isaiȝ. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2828 Hor seiles hii spredeþ in þe se & hider hii comeþ iwis. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24829 Þair sail þai sett up o þair scipp. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 692 Thai rasit salys but abaid. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 346, I vndertake with-outen Mast and seyl Yet shal I sauen hire and thee and me. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 183 Schippes..wiþ seilles and wiþ oores. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 258 Thei gon withinne schipes bord, The Sail goth up, and forth thei strauhte. *c* 1440 [see 5]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 53 The seymen than..Thair lynys kest, and waytyt well the tyd; Leyt salys fall, and has thar cours ynom. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxiv. 127 They made to take vp the ancres & to hale vp their saylles. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 295 Item..for jxxiiij elne cammes to the schip callit the Mergreit for hir sales..summa *v li.* xj *s.* viiij *d.* 1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Seyle of a shyppe, *uoille.* 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 165 For xij elnis canves to mend hir saulis. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 242 He drew vp the sayles and came with a quarter winde to haue the vauntage of the sonne. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxiii. 23 Thy tacklings are loosed..they could not spread the saile. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 439 The barren plaines Of Sericana, where Chineses drive With Sails and Wind thir canie Waggons light. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. 17 Now the Sail is furled, and you have the Ship in all her low Sails. *c* 1764 GRAY *Triumphs Owen* 15 The Norman sails afar Catch the winds. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXV, The flocks are whiter down the vale, And milkier every milky sail On winding stream or distant sea. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 20 What is meant by small sails? Topgallant sails and royals, topmast, topgallant, and lower studding sails. *Ibid.*, What are meant by storm sails? Fore storm staysail and trysail, main staysail and trysail, and mizen trysail.

fig. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1537) N nij, They lacke the reyne of knowlege, & the sayles of wisedome, & the ankers of experience. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 151 Where Tullie doth set vp his saile of eloquence. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 274 But tell the Dolphin, I will keepe my State, Be like a King, and shew my Sayle of Greatnesse, When I do rowse me in my Throne of France.

b. *transf.* Applied to the wing of a bird. *poet.* Also *techn.* in Falconry, the wing of a hawk.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 18 He, [a dragon] cutting way With his broad sayles, about him soared round. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* c j b, To clippe the winges of a high towring Faulcon, who..was wont..to looke with an amiable eye vpon her gray breast, and her speckled side sayles. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Sails*, in Faulconry are the Wings of a Hawk. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. iii, The mountain eagle..Spread her dark sails on the wind.

c. *transf.* Applied to something that is spread out like a sail, or that catches the wind.

1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* (ed. 2) D 2, The Pehen drest her selfe and spred her taile, The Turky-hen aduanc'd her spotted saile. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 246 The Fan of Bacchus, with the flying Sail. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* lxxiii, The drooping capes, arms, sails, and tails of his cloak were all in commotion.

2. Sails collectively. Also *fig.* Often in phrases *to carry, cross, crowd, hoist, lower, make, set, shorten, strike* (etc.) *sail*, for which see also those verbs.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 654 (*Cleopatra*) Fleth ek the queen, with al hire porpere sayl. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1426, I rede we take down sayle & rowe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 209 The kynges shyp was good with sayle. 1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* v. (1898) I. 232 It ought to have sufficed to have revoked, and made hym cross saile, from the pursute of so bad an adventure. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 65 The Admiral..carried all sail. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* II, Every way qualified to bear me through the cross currents of the court by main pull of oar and press of sail. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gipsy* XXV, [He] snatched his rudder, and shook out more sail. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 155 Our captain was a handsome, dissipated, and 'loud' young man, with rather more sail than ballast, but good-natured and obliging.

† **b.** *transf.* See quot. *Obs.*

1759 STILLINGFL. tr. *Riberg's Econ. Nat., note* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 45 As I have..weighed several kinds of birds, I shall here subjoyn a table..with the proportions of the weight to the sail. N.B. By sail I mean the extent of the wings and tail.

3. Phrases (senses 1 and 2). † **a.** *To bear sail*: said *lit.* of a ship; hence *fig.* to be exalted, to be prosperous, also *to bear a great, high* or *lofty sail. To bear* (*a*) *low sail, to be of low sail*: to demean oneself humbly; to live at a modest rate; to cut down expenses (see BEAR *v.*[1] 3 b.). *To live at a low sail*: to live humbly. *To pull down one's sail* or *sails*: to moderate one's ambitions or one's scale of expenditure. *Obs.*

a 1300 [see BEAR *v.*[1] 3 b]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 65 Bot whanne he berth lowest the Seil, Thanne is he swiftest to beguile The womman. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 140 Whiche maie by pinchyng and bearyng a lowe saile, Waxe riche and be set at libertie. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. 18, I was utterly mynded to pulle downe my sayles againe. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* To Rdr. (Arb.) 51 Put downe thy sayle. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 211 Then waies I saught, by wisdome taught, To beare low saile, least stock should quaile. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. v. in *Holinshed* I. 164/1 How diuerse of them also coueting to beare an high saile doo insinuate themselues with yoong gentlemen and noble men newlie come to their lands. 1587 FLEMING *Concl. Holinshed* III. 1592/1 If the helpe of such as are furnished with varietie of knowledge,..had beene as forward to aduance this worke,..as some of low saile, willing to laie out their poore talent, haue affoorded what furtherance they were able [etc.]. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1) I. i, Moderate your expences (now at first) As you may keepe the same proportion still. Beare a low saile. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. iii. 1941 Schollers must frame to liue at a low sayle. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 731 If learning had many such friends as he, it would beare an higher sayle then it doth. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 211 They drew in their Mooned and crescent Squadrons into the Body of the Fleet, and that one might not go before another, bore less Sayl. 1733 *Oxf. Methodists* 6 Be not high-minded; but fear...Bear no more Sail than is necessary.

† **b.** *To come to sail*: to set out on a sailing voyage; = SAIL *v.* 3. ? Also (earlier) in the same sense, *to go* or *fere to* (*the*) *sail.* (Cf. SAIL *sb.*[2])

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2731 þe werwolf waited wiȝtly which schip was ȝarest, to fare forþ at þat flod & fond on sone þat was gayly greyt to go to þe seile, & feiþliche fraust ful of fine wines. *Ibid.* 2745 And faire at þe fulle flod þei ferden to saile. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 5 Wee came to Sayle. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* 3 About twelve we fir'd a Gun, and all came to sail. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 6 At Eight weigh'd, and came to Sail.

c. *Full sail*: a sail (or sails collectively) filled or distended by the wind; the condition of a ship with sails so filled. *At,* † *with full sail(s* [= L. *pleno velo, plenis velis*, F. *à pleines voiles*]: (sailing) with a strong favourable wind, at full speed; *fig.* making rapid and unresisted progress; so also *full sail* as advb. phrase. In mod. use, *in full sail* is applied to describe the condition of a ship with all sails set.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 208 Yonder comyth a shyppe with full sayle. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 134 b, Sathan..shall make towardes us with full sayle [orig. *plenis velis*]. 1564 GRINDAL *Serm. Ferdinandus* D j, The doctrine of purgatorie and praying for the dead hath gone with full saile. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxxvi, Was it the proud full saile of his great verse. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* Ded. (1636) 2 To increase in the full saile of fortune. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xxi. 201 So the two ships..sailed away *con Viento en Popa*, with full Sail. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xiv. § 7 Faith and Desire ought to be full-sail to make such Voyages prosperous. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. 39 Constant..Landwinds, by which the Wherry-men run with full sail, both to..and back again. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5357/2 The Danish Fleet having the Wind came full sail up with the Swedes. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) II. 274 Smith went full Sail to reconnoitre the Enemy. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, Her father..often took an opportunity of going full-sail into controversial subjects. 1848 A. & H. MAYHEW *Greatest Plague of Life* xiii. 202 The stupid engravings..that had nothing at all to do with the song, for I declare if there wasn't a ship in full sail put as an illustration to 'Away, Away, to the Mountain's Brow!' 1858 W. H. HASWELL in *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 208 The vessel was at full sail. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 12 The Protestant wind, before which the Dutch armament had run full sail down the Channel, had driven King James's navy back into the Thames. 1864–8 BROWNING *Jas. Lee's Wife* II. iv, With whom began Love's voyage full-sail. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Full sails*, the sails well set, and filled by the wind. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* I. 400 Thy vessels..the haven have entered, or bend Now full sail for its mouth.

transf. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 582 So Satan fell and strait a fiery Globe Of Angels on full sail of wing flew nigh.

d. *Under sail*: having the sails set.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 21 Þæt þæt scip wæs ealne weg yrnende under segle. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 457 Quhen that the schip was saynit, et vndir saile [etc.]. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 549 The ship is vnder saile, and here she coms amain. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 454 Suppose..you see a Ship..under Sail, making towards the Land. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 162 In the afternoon [we] got under sail. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiii, About ten miles distant, followed by the Harpy, under all sail. 1857 C. GRIBBLE in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1858) V. 1 Weighed anchor.., under all sail. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Under sail*, the state of a ship when she is in motion from the action of wind on her sails.

4. a. In collective sing. (also formerly † in plural), chiefly with numeral: (So many) sailing-vessels.

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 501/1 A Navey..to ye noumbre of xii score Sailles. 1458 *Paston Lett.* I. 428 Ther were xxviij sayle of Spaynyards on the se. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxliv. (1482) 296 The kyng ordeyned his nauye of shippes in the hauen of southampton in to the nombre of cccxx sailles. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 237 The Frenchmen were .xiij. sayles great and small. 1590 *Disc. Sp. Fleet inv. Eng.* 4 The whole nauie was at this present about 90. saile of all sorts. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 2 So by a roaring Tempest on the flood A whole Armado of conuicted saile Is scattered and dis-ioyn'd from fellowship. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. viii. (1821) 325 Of their fiue and fourtie Saile of ships, seventeene saile onely are fitted for men of warre. 1649 W. GRAY *Surv. Newcastle* 19 The Shipping which comes into this River for Coales, there being sometimes three hundred Sayles of Ships. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 3 We were informed of ten Sail of Ships cruising off and on, to the Westward. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxvi. 258 He saw from the mast-head eighteen sail of ships. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. viii. 727 The Royal navy comprised in all twenty-seven sail.

b. A ship or other vessel, esp. as descried by its sails. *Sail ho!* 'the exclamation used when a strange ship is first discerned at sea' (Adm. Smyth).

1527 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 12 The Duke [Doge of Venice]..went in ther Archa triumphali, which ys in maner of a sayle of a straange facion. 1556 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 99 We spyed a saile comming towardes vs, and as soone as wee spyed him we..manned out our Skiffe. After the saile had espyed vs, he kept about. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 59 A saile, how beares she or stands shee, to wind-ward or lee-ward, set him by the Compasse. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 11 Our Admirall descried a Saile, and immediately made towards her. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 A Sail, a Sail. Where? Fair by us. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, I descried a Sail steering to the South-East. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. ii, Gaze where some distant sail a speck supplies, With all the thirsting eye of Enterprise. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii, Her decks were filled with passengers who had come up at the cry of 'Sail ho!'

5. An apparatus (consisting formerly of a sheet of canvas stretched on a frame, now usually of an arrangement of boards) attached to each of the arms of a windmill for the purpose of presenting a surface to be acted on by the wind. Also (windmill) sails collectively, surface presented by the sails.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Ceyle of a schyppe, or mylle, *velum. carbasus.* 1589 R. HARVEY *Plain Perc.* (1590) 3 The clacke of thy mill is..noisome.., thou hast wind at will to thy sailes. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 340/2 The parts of a Wind-Mill...The Sail or Wind end. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sails*, Hawk's Wings; also Windmill-wings. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 161 The velocity of the extremities of Dutch sails,..are considerably quicker than the velocity of the wind. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 122 Into these arms are mortised several small cross-bars, and to them are fastened two, three, or four, long bars,..so that the bars intersect each other, and form a kind of lattice work, on which a cloth is spread to receive the action of wind. These are called the sails. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 131/2 There are usually four states in which it can be set according to the velocity of the wind..which are termed *full sail, quarter reef, sword point*, and *dagger point.* 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 218/1 The amount of sail that a windmill can carry with advantage is limited. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 86 One day pussy was ingeniously examining the machinery [of a windmill], when the wind suddenly rose, the sails revolved, and she was ground up. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/2 *American windmills*...The sails consist of narrow boards or slats arranged radially.

6. *Zool.* **a.** The large dorsal fin of the sail-fish. **b.** One of the two large tentacles of the Nautilus, formerly believed to be used as sails.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. xxvi, A Nautilus upon the fountain played, Spreading his azure sail. 1822 RAFFLES *Let.* 30 Nov. in Lady Raffles *Mem.* (1830) 526 The only amusing discovery which we have recently made is that of a sailing fish,..I have sent a set of the sails home. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 210/2 The first two arms [of the Argonaut] are more robust than the others, and should be so, because they serve as masts to support the sails, which, spread out, act before the wind as such. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 390/1 The descriptions..of argonauts..employing six of their tentacula as oars, and spreading out two..as sails to catch the breeze, are now regarded as entirely fabulous.

7. *S. Africa.* A tarpaulin or canvas sheet for covering a wagon.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 220, I covered my waggon with new sails. 1891 OLIVE SCHREINER *African Farm* II. xii, He drew the sails down before and behind, and the wagon rolled away slowly.

8. *Naut.* and *Mining.* A funnel-shaped bag or orifice on the deck of a vessel or on the ground over mine-galleries, for the purpose of ventilation. Cf. WIND-SAIL.

1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* (1875) 117 In Cornwall ..the writer has seen a zinc rain-water pipe.. with a miner's jacket extended by wires at the top for a 'cap-head' or 'sail'. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

9. Obvious combinations. **a.** simple attrib., as *sail canvas, drill, pulley,* † *-rope, sewing-machine, -spread*; **b.** objective, as *sail-carrying, furler, -keeper, looser, -making, sewer, sewing, trimmer*; also *sail-bearing, -filling* adjs.; **c.** instrumental, as *sail-assisted, -dotted, -propelled*; **d.** similative, as *sail-broad, -stretched* adjs.

1593 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* (1594) G 2 b, As the Estrich hath a sharpe goad or pricke wherewith he spurreth himselfe forward in his *saile-assisted race. *c* 1595 J. DICKENSON *Sheph. Compl.* (1878) 12 And *saile-bearing pine glide through thin aire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 930 At last his *Sail-broad Vannes He spreads for flight. 1482 in *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 169 Of the hundreth *sail canves ij s. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 444/2 We believed in great beam for *sail-carrying power. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 21/1 To gain stability [in a canoe] for sail-carrying. 1898 KIPLING in *Morn. Post* 9 Nov. 5/1 The little strip of *sail-dotted blue. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Sept. 11/1 While at *sail drill an ordinary seaman..fell..on to the upper deck. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 8 A goodly breeze *sail-filling. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 45 The *sailfurlers..get the sail out of the sailroom. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 *Seyl kepare, or rewlare, *p[ro]reta. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 45 *Sail loosers will go aloft at the order 'bend sails'. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 431/2 A few general observations on *sail-making. 1888 *Times* 14 Jan. 16/2 *Sail-propelled training ships. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 390 Whereof they vse to turne for curtain rings and *saile pullies. *c* 1205 LAY. 17395 Ȝe mote uaste heom wriðen mid strongen *sæil-rapen. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 805/7 *Hic rudens*,..a seyllerope. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 471 Item, to iij *saill sewaris for iij wolkis wagis. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sail Sewing Machine*, a large-sized sewing machine with extensive table for sewing widths of duck to form sails. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 823/2 In determining what *sail-spread can be safely given to a ship. 1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* I. iii, O're our heads with *sayle stretch'd wings, Destruction houers. *c* 1810 ADM. PATTON in 19*th Cent.* Nov. (1899) 724 *note*, *Sail trimmers were immediately sent to clear the sail.

10. Special Comb.: **sail-arm**, (*a*) one of the radiating beams to which the sails of a windmill are attached; a 'whip'; (*b*) one of the tentacles of a nautilus which bear the 'sails'; **sail-axle**, the axle on which the sails of a windmill revolve; **sail-boat** (*? rare*), a sailing-boat; †**sail-bond**, (? error for *-bonet*) = BONNET *sb.*[2] (cf. quot. 1483 there); **sail-burton** (see quot.); **sail-duck** [a. Du. *zeildoek*] = DUCK *sb.*[3] 1; †**sail-fan**, a species of fan used in winnowing corn; **sail-fluke**, the whiff, *Rhombus megastoma*; **sail-hook**, a small hook for holding the seams of a sail while it is being sewn; **sail-hoop**, one of the wooden rings by which fore and aft sails are secured to masts and stays (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **sail-house**, a house where sails are stored; **sail-lizard** (see quot.); **sail-loft** (see quot. 1769); **sail-maker**, one whose business it is to make, repair, or alter sails; *spec.*, on board ship, a sailor (in the U. S. navy, a warrant officer) whose duty it is to take charge of and keep in repair all sails, awnings, etc.; **sail-needle**, a large needle used in sewing canvas; **sail-room**, a room (in a ship) for storing sails; **sail-shell**, a name for the nautilus; **sail-ship**, a sailing-vessel; **sail-swelled** *a.*, having filled sails; **sail thread, twine**, thread or twine used in sewing sails; †**sail wand**, one of the rods forming the framework of a windmill sail; **sail-winged** *a.*, *poet.* [after L. *vēlivolus*], (*a*) of ships, having sails that serve as wings; (*b*) *transf.* as an epithet of the sea; (*c*) having wings like sails.

1760 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* (1764) 52 The same velocity that it would move if put upon the *sail-arms. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 210/2 In fact, the series of suckers of the sail-arms, when the membrane of the sails is wrapped about the shell, is placed exactly over the keel of it in such a manner that [etc.]. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 218/1 A whip or radius of from 33 to 40 feet in length, firmly fastened at right angles to the *sail-axle. *a* 1835 Mrs. HEMANS in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1837) II. 17 Neither steam-packet nor *sail-boat was attainable. 1888 F. M. CRAWFORD *With Immortals* II. 129 The happiest moments of my life? I think they were spent in a sail-boat. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 805/8 *Hec supera, -eris*, a *seyllebonde. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sail burton*, a purchase extending from topmast-head to deck, for sending sails aloft ready for bending. 1795 *Scots Mag.* LVII. 610/1 *Sail-duck manufacturer. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 145 Sail Duck. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 112 Four Men with either the Wicker or *Sail-fan. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 190 *Sail-fluke. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* x. 194 It is said..the sail-fluke gets its name from a habit of..lifting its tail out of water like a sail, running before the wind into shallow water. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 *Sail-hook. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 155/1 The tools..of a sailmaker are..fids,..sail-hook, bobbin for twine, and sundry small articles. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 22 Feb. 7/1 It is apparently the inside of a *sail-house at a fishing-port. 1885 *Standard Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 413 The *sail-lizard, *Histiurus ambotuensis*, so called from the enormous perpendicular development surmounting its tail. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Voilerie*, a *sail-loft, or place where sails are constructed. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 9 Oct. 4/4 Dr. Hurst..traced the history of Methodism in America from the first meeting held in a sail-loft in New York in 1776 to the present day. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 80 He is a *saile-maker in Bergamo. 1773 *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. xii. in *Hawkesworth's Voy.* III. 722 Every individual had been sick except the sail maker. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 297 *Sayle Nedylles price the c xij*[d]. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* Un ij b, Sail-needles, or bolt-rope needles. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xxii, The sail-needles are in the green locker. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 126 *Sail-Rooms are built between decks upon the orlop or lower deck to contain the spare sails. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* I. 310 The captain then had the sail-room amid-ships cleared out for men to sleep in. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. Tab. 99 Common Indian Nautilus or *Sail-shell. *a* 1850 MARG. FULLER *At Home & Abr.* (1860) 438 It went into the mail-bag of some *sail-ship, instead of steamer. 1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* lii, As *sail-swel'd barks are droue by wind. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 471 Item, for xliiij li *saill threid..xlviij s. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 13, vj skaynes of *Saile Twyne. 1497 *Ibid.* 185, c weyght seye twyne—xxxiij[s] iiij[d]. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 52 Sails are sewn with sail twine. 1342–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 543 In *Saylwandis emp. et aliis reparac. factis in molend. de Hesilden—xxiiij s. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIV. xi, There the *saile-winged shipps on waves doe glide. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 180 They should make it their Knightly adventure to.. vanquish this mighty sailewing'd monster. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 236 Gazing down Upon the sail-winged ocean.

Sail (sēl), *sb.*[2] [f. SAIL *v.*[1]]

1. An act of sailing; a voyage or excursion in a sailing vessel.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 268 Heere is my butt And verie Seamarke of my vtmost Saile. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Athrom.* I. ii. § 2 (1622) 12 Where in the Lawes broad Sea, with wind and tyde, Ther's happier saile, then any where beside. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 109 Six weeks sail from England. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 195 We made an easy sail for the bay. 1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 163/2 The nearest of these harbours is not two days' sail from the southern coast of Ireland. 1853 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) IV. 157 We went by way of the lakes, and had a magnificent sail (if I may use the word) down Lake Champlain in a steamer to Plattsburg. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xii. 212 We had a delightful sail among the numerous islets. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 99 Hiogo and Kobé..are situated upon two bays of the inland sea, about 365 miles' sail from Yokohama. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 Aug. 14/1 The day was beautiful and the sail was delightful.

b. *transf.* (*Sc.* and *Irish.*) A ride in a vehicle of any kind.

1830 GALT *Laurie T.* VI. viii, I thought it my duty to take a sail in our wagon with Mr. Herbert. 1902 *Ballymena Observer* (E. D. D.), Wull ye gie me a sail in the kert?

c. *To take sail*: to embark.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 May 8/1 He took sail in the capacity of a cabin-boy in a vessel bound for New Orleans.

2. *? nonce-uses.* A number sailing: **a.** of ships; **b.** of water-birds.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. iv. 61 Wee haue descryed vpon our neighbouring shore, a portlie saile of ships make hitherward. 1727 SWIFT *Country Post* Wks. 1755 III. I. 175 Yesterday a large sail of ducks passed by here.

3. Sailing qualities; speed in sailing.

In many contexts hardly to be distinguished from SAIL *sb.*[1]

1602 MANSEL *True Rep. Service* 9 The Gallies being.. quicker of saile then they. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 87 A ship of better defence then saile. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* li. 122 Being of better saile then we, and the night comming on, we lost sight of her. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 179/2 Finding his Ship but ill of Sail. 1643 *Declar. Commons, Reb. Irel.* 51 [He] could not take her [the ship], because she fled away, and was more swift in sayle then he. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 534 Back with speediest Sail Zophiel, of Cherubim the swiftest wing, Came flying.

4. *Comb.* †sail-star = LODESTAR; †sail-stone [= Du. *zeilsteen*] = LOADSTONE.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 That men the northe sayle sterre or pollumarticum, or the waghen called, no more may be seen. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Magnes*, the adamant, the saile-stone. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 320 The Magnet is also called the Sail stone, for the Sailors look upon it as their Chief Instructor.

†**Sail,** *sb.*[3] *Arch. Obs.* [app. f. SAIL *v.*[3] (sense 3). Cf. the synonymous F. *saillie*, f. *saillir* to project.] Amount of projection from a surface. Also Comb. *sail-over* = OVERSAIL *sb.*

1611 COTGRAVE, s.v. *Couronne*, The Corona, crowne, or member of greatest sayle, in a Cornish. 1660 H. BLOOME *Archit.* A, *Projectura*, the sayle of every moulding. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 267 Sail over, is the overhanging of one or more courses [of bricks] beyond the naked of the wall.

Sail (sēl), *sb.*[4] *dial.* [? repr. OE. **sægel* var. of *sægol* staff: see SOWEL.] (See quot.)

1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* in *Archæol. Rev.* (1888) Mar., *Sails*,..upright rods of hurdles used for sheep folding. 1893 Mrs. A. KENNARD *Diog. Sandals* vi. 90 There are ten 'sails' to each 'wattle hurdle'.

Sail (sēl), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 *siglan*, *segl(i)an*, 3 *sæilien*, *seili(en*, *sayli*, 3–4 *seily*, *seile*, 4 *seylle*, *seille*, 4–6 *sale*, (5 *ceylyn*, *seylyn*), 5 *sayll(e*, 6 *saill*, 4–7 *sayl(e*, 3–7 *saile*, 6–7 *sail*. [OE. *siglan*, *segl(i)an* corresponds to MDu. *seghelen*, *zeilen* (mod. Du. *zeilen*), MHG. *sigelen*, *segelen* (mod. G. *segeln*), ON. *sigla* (Sw. *segla*, Da. *seile*):—OTeut. type **segljan*, f. **seglo*[m] SAIL *sb.*[1]

The Teut. vb. was adopted in OF. as *sigler* to sail (whence *sigle* a sail); an altered form of the same word is believed to exist in later OF. *singler*, mod.F. *cingler* to sail (in a specified direction), whence Sp. *singlar*, Pg. *singlar*.]

I. Intransitive uses.

1. Of persons: To travel on water in a vessel propelled by the action of the wind upon sails; now often in extended sense, to travel on water in a vessel propelled by any means other than oars; to navigate a vessel in a specified direction.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 14 He..siȝlde ða east be lande. *Ibid.* IV. x. § 10 Þa he hamweard seȝlde. *c* 1205 LAY. 20889 And swa heo scullen wræcchen..sæilien [*c* 1275 sayli] ouer sæ. *Ibid.* 28797 Þeo comen Sexisce men seilen to londe. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1013 Þai seylden in to þe wide Wiþ her schippes two. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 236 Now þei saile and rowe to Wales to Leulyns. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24833 (Gött.) Forth þai sailed [*MS. Cott.* floted] on þat flode, for all to will þe wind þaim stode. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2673 Þat he may nouȝt saile swiftli as he wold. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 322 A lang way furthwarde salyt he. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' Prol.* 2 Now longe moote thou saille by the cost, Sire gentil maister gentil Maryneer! 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 163 Egbertus þe monk..hadde i-seilled about Bretayne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 26 King Demephon, whan he be Schipe To Troieward with felaschipe Sailende goth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Ceylyn vpon watyr, *velifico*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 797 Thai saylyt furth by part of Ingland schor. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxi. 517 Thenne sir palomydes sailed euen longes humber to the costes of the see. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 139 He sayled and rowed vnto the cyte. 1530 PALSGR. 696/2, I loue nat to sayle by see, but when I can nat chose. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 333 That nane saill in marchandice without he be honestlie abelyeit lyk ane marchand. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 2 b, We sayled along..towardes the..cape De creo. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 63 A league from Epidamium had we saild. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 201 An observing man, that had sailed to and fro between Europe and the East Indies. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 489 ¶ 1 A troubled Ocean, to a Man who sails upon it, is, I think, the biggest Object that he can see in Motion. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. xix, Till noon we quietly sailed on, Yet never a breeze did breathe. 1830 TENNYSON *Sea-Fairies* 1 Slow sail'd the weary mariners. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 41 [They] sail down that river to its supposed exit near the straits of Annian. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 425 We sailed..one day 191 miles, another 225 miles.

fig. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 606 Loue..Wiþ dessespeir so sorwfully me offendeth þat streght vn-to þe deth myn herte saileth. 1551 HADDON *Exhort. Repent.* in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 324 But .lv. yere after, it [the plague] sayled into Flaunders. 1623 A. TAYLOR in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1847) 203, I spent my dayes in sorrow for thy good, I sayl'd to th' cradle in teares, to the graue in blood.

b. *spec.* To make excursions in, or to manage, a sailing-boat; to practise the sport of yachting.

1898 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 4/5 She is devoted to sports and outdoor exercises...She boats and sails.

c. In figurative context. Chiefly in proverbial phrases: † *To sail all in one ship*, to 'row in the same boat', to belong to one party or class; † *to sail on another board* (see BOARD *sb.* 15); *to sail near* (or *close to*) *the wind*, to come very near to transgression of a law or a received moral principle.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 7 You be all of one Church, saile all in one ship. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 123 They will alwaies saile by the Carde and Compasse of their own mind. 1823 BYRON *Juan* IX. xxvi, My words, at least, are more sincere and hearty Than if I sought to sail before the wind. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & B.* iv, A certain kind of young English gentleman, who has sailed too close to the wind at home, and who comes to the colony to be whitewashed. 1883 W. E. NORRIS *Thirlby Hall* viii, With regard to Turf transactions again, he may sail very near the wind indeed, and be pardoned.

†**d.** quasi-*refl.* *Obs.*

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. xxviii. 116 Away they sayled them, as they hoped with a prosperous wind.

2. Of a ship or other vessel: To move or travel on water by means of sails, or (in modern use) by means of steam or any other mechanical agency.

c 1205 LAY. 25525 Þer comen seilien sone ȝeond þa sæ wide scipes uniuȝe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 567, I sayle now in þe see as schip boute mast, boute anker or ore. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 193 Marchand-schippis that saland war Fra Scotland to Flandriss with war. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 395 And beheldе..shippis seyllynge in the see. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XXX. 305 It rennethe in so grete Wawes, that no Schipp may not rowe ne seyle azenes it. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxviii. 29 Where many a barge doth saile, and row with are. 1530 PALSGR. 696/2, I sayle, as a shyppe doth in the see whan she is under sayle, *je single*...Some shyppe wyll sayle as faste with a syde wynde as some wyll with a full wynde. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* XXXIII. 21 In that place..shal nether Gallye rowe, ner greate shippe sale. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 277 (Qo.) Light boates saile swift, though greater hulkes draw deepe. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 110 These Saiques..carry great Cargoes of Goods, but they sail not fast, unless they be before the Wind, or rather they sail no otherwise, for they cannot go upon a Wind. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 385 Say, shall my little bark attendant sail, Pursue the triumph, and partake the gale? 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 34 The vessels..are built so as to sail either end foremost, by removing the rudder. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 376/2 It would be an easy matter to determine the form of a ship intended to sail by means of oars. 1828 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 20) 60 A ship from the Lizard, in lat. 49° 58′ N. sails S.W. by W. 488 miles. Required the latitude she is in. 1886 GLADDEN *Applied Chr.* I. 3 Steamships sail from every shore with the contributions of all the continents to the world's trade.

3. To begin a journey by water; to set sail, start on a voyage; to leave the port or the place of anchorage. Said both of a vessel and of the persons on board.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 235 Þis done, þai sailyt but bad quhare-to þare tryst wes mad. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 105 Þe queen Alianore..and meny oþer compelled hym for to seille aȝen. 1493 *Ledger-bk. A. Halyburton* 2 His costis in Medilburgh bydand quhill the schip saillit. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxi. 2 And finding a ship sailing ouer vnto Phenicea, wee went abroad, and set foorth. 1777 *Cook's 2nd Voy.* I. i. I. 5 On the 13th, at six o'clock in the morning, I sailed from Plymouth Sound. 1802 in W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (1817) II. 932, I think the captain will sail to-morrow. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* XXXIV, I have taken my berth in an East Indiaman which sails on the twentieth of June. 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* XIII, A friend of mine..met with an accident the very night before the steamer sailed. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 2/2 The deceased.. wrote a letter..in which he stated that he ought to have made his will before sailing.

†b. Conjugated with *to be*. *Obs.*

1633 *Fife Witch Trial* in *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* (1796) XVIII. App. 656 Her husband being newly sailed, she craved some money of her. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 84 The fleet of the prince was already sailed. 1776 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 20 Jan. II. 8 He says six of the seven Regiments at Corke were embarked, and he concludes the whole have been sailed some days. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscretions* V. 111 Sir James..was sailed for India on an appointment from government. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 281 Should the packet be sailed, I will pray you to send my letter by the first of the vessels which you mention.

4. *transf.* To glide on the surface of water or through the air, either by the impulsion of wind or without any visible effort.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 304 And now I se where a soule cometh hiderward seyllynge With glorie & with grete lizte. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 32 A winged messenger of heauen..When he bestrides the lazie puffing Cloudes, And sailes vpon the bosome of the ayre. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 268 Down thither prone in flight He speeds, and..Sailes between worlds and worlds, with steddie wing. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 529 Swans that sail along the Silver Flood. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 116 Sailing with supreme dominion Thro' the azure deep of air. 1804 SCOTT *Bard's Incant.* 34 Mute are ye all? No murmurs strange Upon the midnight breeze sail by. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. i. 74 The high moon sails upon her beauteous way. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 43 Where great whales come sailing by, Sail and sail, with unshut eye, Round the world for ever and aye? 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxiii, When a man, under pecuniary difficulties,..dives out of sight, as it were, from the flock of birds in which he is accustomed to sail. 1865 MATHIAS *Sport in Himalayas* 16, I shot an immense eagle..as he was sailing in fancied security over my head. 1884 *Munch. Exam.* 19 Feb. 5/4 The flowing clouds..sail over the scene of the hay harvest in the Welsh meadow. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Aug. 4/1 As for blackcock..the wary old birds..sail in the open over the moor a hundred yards out of shot.

b. Of a vehicle: To move smoothly and without apparent propelling force.

1902 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Lightning Conductor* 26 The car..looked so handsome as it sailed up to the hotel door that my pride in it came back.

5. Of persons, in various transferred senses.

†a. *slang.* To saunter, go casually. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *How you Sail about?* How you Santer about? 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* viii. 121 From thence I sailed into a Presbyterian Meeting near Covent-Garden.

b. To move or go in a stately or dignified manner, suggestive of the movement of a ship under sail. (Chiefly of women.) Also *occas.* of an animal.

1841 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. iv. 84 Stately *dames de la cour* would sail into the room and sail out again with their long trains sweeping after them. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* vii, Then all the great people sailed in state from the room. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxviii, A rumour spread that reached Mrs. Doria's ears. She rushed to Adrian first. ..She sailed down upon Richard. 1860–1 THACKERAY *Lovel* iii. 110 Lady B. sailed in..., arrayed in ribbons of scarlet. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* iv, A troop of tall giraffes, who galloped, or rather sailed off, with their strange gait.

c. *To sail in* (slang): to proceed boldly to action.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 561/1 A man must dismiss all thoughts of..common-sense when it comes to masquerade dresses, and just sail in and make an unmitigated fool of himself. 1891 *Morn. Advertiser* 30 Mar. (Farmer), John Harvey called William Tillman a liar 150 times,..and offered to lick him 104 times. At the 104th William..thrashed John. The verdict of the jury was that William ought to have sailed in an hour and a half earlier. 1894 FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 164 'I'll tell you the whole affair, if you care to listen to it.' 'Sail right in, Colonel,' cried the company.

II. Transitive senses.

6. Of persons, also of a vessel: To sail over or upon, to navigate (the sea, a river, etc.). Now somewhat *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xliii. 26 Who seilen the see [Vulg. *qui navigant mare*; 1388 The that seilen in the see]. *c* 1500 *Priests of Peebles* 204 Then brocht he wol, and wyselie couth it wey; And efter that sone saylit he the sey. *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Tragedy* 104 Quhowbeit his grace Had salit the sey. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* Prol. 146 [To sum] Ingyne hes geuin to saill the see. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vi. 92 The river of Amazons..which our Spaniards sailed in their discoveries. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iv. 2 Thus time we waste, & long leagues make short, Saile seas in Cockles, haue and wish but fort. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XII. 9 A thousand Ships were man'd to sail the Sea. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 459 Now turn thine Eye to view Alcinous' Groves,..from whence, Sailing the Spaces of the boundless Deep, To Ariconium pretious Fruits arriv'd. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 354 Far on the left those radiant fires to keep The Nymph directed, as he sail'd the deep. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* 2 It was the schooner Hesperus That sailed the wintry sea.

†b. To visit (a region) by sailing; to sail along (a coast). *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* (1550) 88 This lusty Capitain saylyng al the cost of Susseix and Kent, durst not once take lande, til he arriued in the dounes. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 123 b, In ancient times the North was sailed by the commandement of Avgvstvs.

7. With cognate object: †To perform (a voyage, etc.) by sailing (*obs.*). Also *To sail through, out*: to continue (a sailing-match, race), to the end.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 123 Where as she many a shipe and barge seigh Seillynge hir cours. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. 5 Such as may never have an occasion or inclination to sail such long Voyages. 1886 *Field* 4 Sept. 364/2 The match [for yachts] could not be sailed through before the close time, 6.30. 1899 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 3/2 The uninjured vessel shall sail out the race.

b. To 'sail' or glide through (the air).

1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 126 Sublime she sails Th' aerial space, and mounts the winged gales. 1765 BEATTIE *To Churchill* 34 He soars Pindaric heights, and sails the waste of Heaven. 1899 *Daily News* 26 June 8/3 The buzzard..is a fine-looking figure, as on broad wings he slowly sails the sky.

8. To navigate (a ship or other vessel).

1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 371 But onely in English ships and sailed for the most part with English Mariners. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1024/1 She had on board about 80 or 90 Negroes, and was sailed by Greeks. 1848 J. F. COOPER *Capt. Spike* III. 207 The Poughkeepsie was admirably sailed and handled. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 177 He's a Rip van Winkle skipper,..who sails his bedevilled old clipper In the wind's eye, straight as a bee. *a* 1890 R. W. CHURCH *Oxford Movement* iii. (1891) 35 He [R. H. Froude] loved the sea; he liked to sail his own boat. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Mar. 3/1 We were rowed and sailed by an amusing..ex-sailor.

b. To put (a toy boat) on the water and direct its course.

1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* I. 270 Schoolboys sail little boats on the river or play at marbles.

†**9.** To cause to sail, carry away sailing. *Obs.*

16.. *Balow* in *Laneham's Let.* (1871) p. clxxi, Till from myne eyes a sea sall flow, To saile my soule from mortall woe To that immortall mirtall shore.

†**10.** With adv. *To sail down*: to bring (an object) below the horizon by sailing away from it.

1847 A. M. GILLIAM *Trav. Mexico* 276 We at once determined to sit up all night, to watch that the steersman would not sail the light down. We were induced to do so for..the night previous..he saw a light-house,..and steered from the object.

†**11.** To provide with sails. *Obs.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 862 It is ordeined that the shippes haue double sailes, that is, that they bee thorowly sayled, and all newe sayles [etc.].

†Sail, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4 sail, sayly, 4–5 saile, sayle, 4–6 saill(e, sale, saylle. See also SAILYIE *v.* (Sc.) [Aphetic form of ASSAIL *v.*]

1. *trans.* = ASSAIL *v.* in various senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9654 Ne he mai scap, ga quar he ga, þat him ne sailles ai his fa. *Ibid.* 24846 þe see þam sailed on ilk side. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4134 When þe dragon seye com Gij þe lyoun he forlett, & gan him sayly. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 395 Þane, tholand god, hyre he can saile with felone feuere & gret trawale. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5559 Þai sett in a sadd sowme & sailid his knigtes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 506 The feynd ful fast salys you, In wan-hope to gar you fall. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 342 That cruell cald hes saillit him so soir.

2. *absol.* quasi-*intr.* To make an assault.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4364 When alle were set in ylka bataille, & schept .. whilk of þam suld formast saile. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7338 Than was ther nought, but 'Every man Now to assaut, that sailen can'. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 414 'Falowis', he said, 'agayn all at this place Thai will nocht saill'.

Hence † Sai·ling *vbl. sb.*[2]

13.. *K. Alis.* 7392 Aither gan so areche, With 'saylyng, and with smytyng. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8257 In þe first of þat seylinge þai slowen michel heþen genge. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24206, I [Sekenesse] ouerthrowe hir [*sc.* Helthe] ageyn,..And, ne were that medicyne Ys cause that she doth releve, My sayllyng shold hir often greve.

†Sail, *v.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 sayle, 4 saile, saille, sailly; also (sense 3) 7 sailie. [a. OF. *sailler* to dance, also as in mod.Fr. to issue forth, sally, to project = Pr. *salir*, *salhir* to dance, issue forth, Sp. *salir*, Pg. *sahir* to go out, It. *salire* to ascend :— L. *salīre* (pres. ind. *salio*) to leap. Cf. SALLY *v.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To dance.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5633 Vor þe deuel com biuore him & hoppede & lou & saylede & pleyde & made ioye ynou. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 233, I can..noyther sailly ne saute, ne synge with þe gyterne.

2. To issue forth, sally.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 93 The Souldiers of the Towne, sayling out, chased the Enemy.

3. *Arch.* To project from a surface. *To sail over* = OVERSAIL *v.*

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* Civ b, The Proiectures be like vnto their heightes but that Corona, doth sayle ouer twise his height. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 138 That part of Corona which sailies over.

Sail, variant of SEAL; obs. form of SALE.

Sailable (sē·lăb'l), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. SAIL *v.*[1] + -ABLE.]

1. Of a ship, etc.: That can be sailed or navigated; that is in a condition to sail.

1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 16 How to make a Sea-castle or Fortification Cannon-proof .yet sailable at pleasure. 1698 LANGFORD in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 410 If a Man keeps his Ship sailable.

2. Of the sea, a river, etc.: That can be sailed on, navigable.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 196 The Gerrites..dwell vpon the floude Boristhenes, about the place wher it becometh first saileable. 1611 COTGR., *Nauigable*, nauigable, sailable, passable by shipping. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 56 The River which is Sailable round to Durmapatan.

Sailage (sē·lĕdʒ), *sb.* [f. SAIL *sb.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. The speed of a ship under sail. ? *Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 181 Pirats..gaue vs diuers assaults to their owne disaduantages; our saylage being swifter.

2. The sails of a ship collectively. Also *transf.*

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 20 June 3/1 The machinery will.. enable the vessel to go to sea without any sailage. 1904 *Harper's Mag.* May 907/1 The filaments that buoy her [the spider] up and give sailage surface to the wind.

Sailcloth (sē·lklɒ̤þ). [f. SAIL *sb.*[1] + CLOTH *sb.*]

†**1.** A piece of cloth forming or designed to form part of a sail of a vessel or a windmill. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 4549 Sulkene wes þat seil-clæð. 1351–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 553 Et in Saylclathis empt. pro molend. de Fery, 5*s.* 1455–6 *Ibid.* 191 In reparacionibus factis circa molend. ventriticum de Hemingb. viz. in newe sayl clas, 14*s.* 7*d.* 1562 BULLEYN *Bk. Simples* (1579) 27 The sayle clothes, the shroudes,..can not be made without it [Hempe]. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 163 Whatsoeuer sale-clothes are..to bee transported out of England into Prussia by the English marchants..whether they be whole cloathes or halfe cloathes, they must containe both their endes. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/1 Sometimes the sails [of a windmill] consisted of a sail-cloth spread on a framework.

2. Canvas or other textile material such as is used for sails.

1615 THOMAS *Lat. Dict.*, *Lintearius*,..a maker of sale cloathes and other necessaries of linnen. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* (Arb.) 790 The Boteswaine is to haue the charge of all the Cordage,..sailes,..saile-cloth [etc.]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 118 Sail-Cloath, Cables, and all other sorts of Cordage. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. XXV. 108 Sail-cloth he made of cotton.

attrib. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 3 The sail-cloth manufacture produced nearly as much. 1812 *Examiner* 31 Aug. 553/2 Sail-cloth-manufacturer. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 197/1 There I hung up my sailcloth cap.

b. A piece of this material used as a covering.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 27 July an. 1774, The Sail-cloth saved the flat stack surprisingly. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 411 Protected from the sun by sail-cloths, hung across from the opposite houses. 1804 *Anna Seward's Lett.* (1811) VI. 203 The shelving roof is also painted green, the floor a mosaic sale-cloth.

3. A similar material used for ladies' dresses.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 May 3/3 Optimists are ordering linen dresses now, and sail cloth is in request, a coarse flax fabric that is serviceable and smart.

Sailed (sē·ld), *a.* [f. SAIL *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].

But cf. OE. *gesegled* ppl. a. in *gesegled scip* Sal. & Sat. (Gr.) 225.]

Of a vessel: Fitted with sails. Chiefly in parasynthetic derivatives, as *full-sailed*, *white-sailed* adjs.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 335 Prostrated, in most extreme ill fare, He lies before his high-sail'd fleet, for his dead friend. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 221 Her Fleet could hardly be over sailed, or under ballasted. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 100 A great heavy boat which seemed to have been a large ships longboat, built into a kind of yacht, but ill masted, and sailed heavily. 1832 TENNYSON *Eleanore* iv, How may full-sail'd verse express, ..The full-flowing harmony Of thy swan-like stateliness? 1892 *Black & White* 25 June 805/2 Sailed boats lay to be loaded. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 3/2 White-sailed yachts.

Sailer (sē·lər). Also 6 salar, saler, sayler. [f. SAIL *v.*[1] + -ER[1]. Cf. G. *segler* sailor, sailer, Du. *zeiler*, Sw. *seglare*, Da. *seiler*.

See SAILOR, a variant spelling of this word, now restricted to a specific application and regarded as a distinct word.]

1. One who sails. Now *rare*.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4359 We ere na sailers on þe see to sell ne to byi. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4589 All softe was the see to sailers þerin. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iii. 43 On the huge deip quhen [= *wheen*, few] salaris did appear [Virg. *adparent rari nantes in gurgite vasto*].

†**b.** = SAILOR 1. *Obs.*

15.. *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 64 The best salers in Christentie! 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 31 b, Cape S. Ange, very dangerous for saylers. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* I Furnished with shipping and Saylers.

†**c.** The Nautilus; = SAILOR 3 a. *Obs.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 178 *Nautilus*..the Nautilus, or Sailer. 1723 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. X, *Nautilus tenuis & legitimus*...Great brittle Sayler.

2. A ship or vessel with reference to her powers of sailing.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xlix. 106 For that theyr ships were great saylers. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* V. 185 A small Barke, but an excellent sailer. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 69 A very strong tight ship, and a pretty good sailer. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 338 The fastest sailers lead the way. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* xix. 438 His excuse was that his principal caravel was a poor sailer.

b. A sailing vessel.

1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 11 That first sailer of all [i.e. Argo] burst ever on Amphitrite. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 35 A Steamer costs much more than a Sailer. 1908 *19th Cent.* Aug. 235 Wooden sailers were superseded by iron creatures of the engineer.

Sailf, obs. Sc. form of SAFE.

Sai·l-fish. A name applied to various fishes having a large dorsal fin: in the British Isles to the Basking shark, *Selachus maximus*; in the U. S. to species of *Histiophorus*, *Xiphias*, and *Carpiodes*.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 381 *marg.*, The sayle-Fish. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* V. 356 The sail-fish, or, as it is called by the Scottish fishermen, the basking shark, frequently appears here [Northern Sea] in May or June. [1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 24 *Histiophorus*, called..by the Dutch *Zeyl-fish*, or 'Sail-fish', because it is said that it raises the dorsal fin like a fan and employs it as a sail.] 1879 GOODE, etc. *Catal. Anim. Resources U. S.* 39 *Histiophorus americanus*...Sail-fish. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N. S. Wales* 190 Sail-fish. *Carpiodes*. N. America.

†Sai·lful. *Obs. rare.* [f. SAIL *sb.*[1] + -FUL[1].] Enough of wind to fill the sails.

1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 486 Some points of wind may serve to make the way, every ship hath not sail-ful.

Sailie, var. SAIL *v.*[3] *Obs.*, to project.

Sailing (sē·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SAIL *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of travelling on water in a ship or other vessel which is propelled by means of sails; the action or method of directing the course of such a vessel. In modern use also in wider application: the action of travelling in or of directing the course of a ship or vessel of any kind.

For *circular, globular, oblique, parallel sailing*, see those words. *Great circle sailing*, see CIRCLE *sb.* 2 b. See also PLAIN SAILING, PLANE SAILING.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. i. (Cambr. Univ. MS.), Swa reðe stormas coman þæt we [ne] mid seglinge ne mid rownesse [L. *neque velo neque remigio*] owiht fremian mihte. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 70 He had redy sailyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 175 þe Romayns..hadde no siker seillynge wiþ oute oþer socour. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3678 Hor sister to sese, with sailyng þai wend. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Ceylynge, *velificacio*. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 1 Making them expert and connyng in the arte and science of shippmen and sayling. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iv. 58 There's no more sayling by the starre. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 37 After three dayes sayling..we arriued at..Venice. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 146 Of all pastimes and exercises I like sailing worst. 1671 W. PERWICH *Despatches* (1903) 136 This may not turne to their account, for want of ships and cheap sailing. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Mercator's Sailing*, is the Art of finding on a Plane the Motion of a Ship upon any assign'd Course. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 391 Provision for their subsistence, during their sailing down the river. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., *Sailing* also implies a particular mode of navigation,.. regulated by the laws of trigonometry. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Navig.* II. iv. 21 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) This method is called middle latitude sailing. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 5/2 The four cutters made a splendid start over a course of forty-six miles, which will provide a test on all points of sailing.

b. In particularized use: A voyage.

1535 COVERDALE *Acts* xxvii. 10, I se that this saylinge wyl be with hurte and moch dammage. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 413 The Frost again approaching, will not suffer any Sailings.

2. Progression, speed or style of progression, of a ship or other vessel (originally, of a sailing-vessel).

a 1687 PETTY *Treat. Nav. Philos.* 127 How Top-sails [etc.]..may be fitted to promote or hinder the Sailing upon occasion. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 115 Ships, more especially such as are sharp and built for Sailing. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 377/2 These are very important circumstances, and would contribute much to improve the sailing of such vessels. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 135 A vessel..remarkable for her fast sailing.

3. Departure (of a ship) from port.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 253 The time fixed by the Viceroy for her sailing. 1785 T. HUTCHINSON, jun. in *T. H.'s Diary* 9 June II. 418 Hearing there is a vessel upon sailing for America [etc.]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 601 A fleet of transports was awaiting the signal for sailing. 1887 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 2/6 London sailings...Dec. 13. Tenedos, Dunkirk; Cormorant, 5, Boulogne [etc.].

4. *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., as in *sailing day, instructions, match.* Also **†sailing cloth** = *sailing ware*; **sailing-ice** (see quot. 1820); **sailing-line**, the line on a vessel's hull which marks the level of the water when she is ballasted and rigged for sailing, but not laden or armed; **sailing-master**, an officer charged with the navigation of a vessel (in British use chiefly with reference to yachts; in the U. S. navy, a commissioned officer, usually a lieutenant, appointed to direct the navigation of a ship of war); **sailing orders**, the directions given to the captain of a vessel with regard to time of departure, destination, etc.; **sailing thwart**, the thwart at or through which the mast of a sailing-boat is stepped; **sailing ton**, the 'ton' used in measuring the capacity of sailing vessels; **†sailing ware**, ? cloth suitable for wear at sea.

1593 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 71/1 *Sailing cloths [made in Somerset]. 1879 *Yachtman's Holidays* 20 Next morning promised a poor *sailing day. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 179 When the sailing day comes..Jack must get on board. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 229 Open ice, or *sailing-ice, is where the pieces are so separate as to admit of a ship sailing conveniently among them. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ii. 15 He delivered them their fighting and *sailing instructions. *a* 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* 125 Our second Water-line..I call the *sailing-line, as the first was called the launching-line. 1836 MARRYAT *Three Cutt.* i, He ..is..on board as *sailing-master of the yacht. 1871 W. COLLINS *Miss or Mrs.?* II, On one side there were the sleeping-berths of the sailing master and his mate. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1892) 130 Ernest caught the sound of some reference to a 'sailing match. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 545 This day another express was sent to the Downes with *sailing orders. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxvii, About this time, Captain Oakum, having received sailing orders, came on board. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 Feb. 142/1 You [to a governess] told me what were your sailing orders from Mrs. Meeburn. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 7 The man on the lee side of the *sailing thwart gathers the sail forward. 1898 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 5/2 Calculating a steam ton as equal to three *sailing tons, the tonnage has increased [etc.]. 1483-4 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 8 (end), La feisure daseun drap lanuez appellez *Sailyngware.

b. In compounds designating vessels propelled by sails, as *sailing-barge, -boat, -ship, -vessel, -yacht*; also *sailing-car, -carriage, -chariot, -waggon.*

These combinations admit of being regarded as collocations of SAILING *ppl. a.*[1] Cf. however *rowing-boat.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 362, I shall not here mention anything of the Sailing-Waggons, and several other Contrivances of that kind. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 758/2 Another contrivance for being carried without draught, is by means of a sailing chariot or boat fixed on four wheels. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 302 [They] would be forced to cross the channel in a sailing-packet. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl., Sailing Car*, a car..rigged with sail..used on the railroads on the plains, by telegraph repair parties. ..Sailing chariots were tried in Holland..more than two hundred years since. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 2/1 There are still no fewer than 15,000 sailing ships registered in Great Britain. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 176 The Thames sailing-barge match is also an event to be noticed. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss. s.v. *Steam*, A *steam trawler* is a fishing vessel..propelled by means of steam power, in contra-distinction to a *sailing trawler* which is propelled by sails only.

†Sailing, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see under SAIL *v.*[2]

Sailing (sē·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[3] *Arch.* [f. SAIL *v.*[3] + -ING[1].] The condition or fact of projecting from a surface; projection.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B iv b, The proiecture, or saylling out or hanging ouer of the foote of the pillor. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. i. 92 The Modul upon which afterward I regulate all the Members as well for their height as sailings over and projectures of their Profiles. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Projecture*, These the Greeks call *Ecphoræ*,.. the French *Sailles*, our Workmen frequently *Sailings over.* 1842 in GWILT *Archit.* Gloss.

Sailing (sē·liŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SAIL *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

1. That travels on water by means of sails. (Cf. SAILING *vbl. sb.* 4 b.)

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 8 The sayling Pine; the Cedar proud and tall. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 43. 2/1 To Persons in a Sailing Ship the Shoar seems to be in motion. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 415 A swift sailing vessel was instantly despatched to warn Rooke of his danger.

b. In names of animals.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrupeds* II. 417 Sailing Squirrel. 1803 SHAW *Zool.* IV. II. 224 Sailing Coryphene.

2. Spreading out like a full sail.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 865 Ryche robes..þat sete on hym semly, wyth saylande skyrtez. 1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* II. vi, His fame and family have growne together, And spred together like to sayling Cedars, Over the Roman Diadem.

Sailing (sē·liŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] *Arch.* [f. SAIL *v.*[3] + -ING[2]. Cf. F. *saillant.*] Projecting. *Sailing course*: a projecting course in (usually) the upper part of a light-house or other tower-like building.

1493-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 197 Item, payd to parys for a saylyng pece for sentt stevyn ys Antyr, iiij d. 1531 *Ibid.* 37 A Rowmde cobbord with a saylyng hause [? *read* hanse]. 1857 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 47) 73 Sailing courses are generally measured in with the work, in which case take the length by the width, three or six inches, as it may appear quarter brick sailing.

Saill(e, obs. forms of SAIL.

Sailless (sē·l,lés), *a.* [f. SAIL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no sails. **a.** Of a boat, rigging, etc.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Mem. Mortal.* xxv, But, Beauty, Graceless, is a Saile-lesse Bark. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 765 Oarless and sailless sped we. 1895 MARG. STOKES *Three Months in Forests France* 230 The phantom ship, sail-less, rudderless, and unmanned.

b. Of the sea: Destitute of ships, vessels, etc. Also *fig.*

1827 POLLOK *Course T.* III. (1869) 80 What nights he spent, Of tideless, waveless, sailless, shoreless woe! 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* III. 37 The disk of the ocean, Sailless, sombre, and cold. 1859 WHITTIER *Double-headed Snake* 15 On the desolate shore of a sailless sea.

†Sai·llie. *Arch. Obs.* [a. F. *saillie*, f. *saillir* to project: see SAIL *v.*[3] Cf. SAIL *sb.*[3], SALLY *sb.*[1]] A projecting member.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 124 Beneath the Projectures of the Stylobata Cornices and other Saillies.

Saillour: see SAILOUR *Obs.* **Sailly,** var. SAIL *v.*[3]

Sailor (sē·lər). Also **7 saylor.** [An altered spelling of SAILER, prob. assimilated to *tailor*, in order to distinguish the designation of a regular calling from the unspecialized agent-noun. The differentiation, however, does not appear in our early examples, and was not fully established before the 19th c.]

1. One who is professionally occupied with navigation; a seaman, mariner. Also, in narrower sense, applied (like 'seaman') to a member of a ship's company below the rank of officer.

[25... 1585, 1605: see SAILER 1 b.] *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 214, 500 Men at Sea, whereof 340 Mariners, 40 Gunners, 120 Sailors. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 296 Nor must the Ploughman less observe the Skies..Than Saylors homeward bent. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 94 Let us e'en turn about, and view honest Jack the Sailor. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780) Y y 3 b, It is..the office of the commissaire general to keep a list of the..sailors, able and ordinary. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 542 She would sit and weep At what a sailor suffers. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 354 Nor has a single soldier or sailor been prevented from doing his ordinary duty. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Death Wellington* 86 Thine island loves thee well, thou famous man, The greatest sailor since the world began. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 344 The credulity of sailors is notorious.

transf. 1847 EMERSON *The Humble Bee* 15 Sailor of the atmosphere.

b. *To be a good sailor* [= F. *être bon marin*]: to be exempt from sea-sickness.

1833 DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* III. xvi, We were excellent sailors, and bore the voyage without inconvenience. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *Rob. Lynne* II. vi. 142 He wished people who were bad sailors would not travel. *a* 1895 LD. C. E. PAGET *Autobiog.* iii. (1896) 70 He pleaded that he was a wretched sailor.

†2. Said of a ship; = SAILER 2. *Obs.*

a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* V. (1704) 492/2, 10 or 12 Ships, choice Sailors. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4643/4 The Ship Triton,. being the best of Sailors,..is to be sold. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 62 She was a heavy schooner of about 70 tons, and a dull sailor.

3. As a name for various animals and plants.

†a. Used as a vernacular rendering of NAUTILUS.

[1668, 1713: see SAILER 2 c.] 1776 [see PEARLY *a.* 2 b]. 1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 156 Paper Nautilus, Paper Sailor, *Argonauta Argo. Ibid.*, Great Sailor, *Nautilus Pompilius.*

b. *dial.* A kind of beetle, *Cantharis fusca*; 'a child's name for any Telephorus of a bluish colour' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1887).

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sailor,..Cantharis fusca.* 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 472 The Telephoridæ..represented in England by the well known beetles, popularly called from their red or bluish colours, Soldiers and Sailors.

c. = *sailor-fish* (see 5 b).

1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 24 The *Histiophori*, or 'Sailors', differ, however, from the *Tetrapturi* by the greater comparative height of the dorsal fin.

d. *West Indian.* (See quot.)

1883 A. J. ADDERLEY *Fisheries Bahamas* 7 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) At certain times of the year myriads of small fish, known as 'sailors', arrive at the field and stir up the muddy bottom to such an extent that not a single sponge can be seen.

e. *Blue sailors*: the flowers of the wild chicory.

1902 *Outing* (U. S.) June 272/2 The wild chicory, or blue sailors (*Cichorium intybus*).

4. Short for *sailor hat.*

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/2, I have tried in many shops to get a quite round sailor. 1903 *Ibid.* 2 July 4/2 Big hats very round in shape need not be avoided, nor Breton sailors.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib., as in *sailor fashion, mind, phrase, soul*; *sailor-like* adj.; appositive (quasi-*adj.*), 'that is a sailor', as in *sailor-boy, fisherman, -lad, -poet*; 'consisting of sailors', as in *sailor-train*; similative, as *sailor-looking* adj.

1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Perseus* I. 4 Halcyone..loved a *sailor-boy [Ceyx] and married him. 1903 C. E. OSBORNE *Fr. Dolling* vii, The sailor boys from the *St. Vincent.* 1848 J. F. COOPER *Capt. Spike* III. 160 Captain Mull was slow to yield his confidence, but when he did bestow it, he bestowed it *sailor-fashion, or with all his heart. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Indust. U. S.* 26 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The 20,000 or more men who may properly be designated the '*sailor fishermen' of the United States. 1842 TENNYSON *'Break, break'* ii, O well for the *sailor lad, That he sings in his boat on the bay! 1808 LAMB *Ulysses* in *Mrs. Leicester's School* (1885) 121 With such *sailor-like sayings and mutinous arguments ..they [etc.]. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 168 Paul, with a couple of *sailor-looking men, was down at the jetty. 1894 GUNTER *King's Stockbroker* I. 7 Wondering in his *sailor mind what the deuce the whole affair means. 1812 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* I June (1862) I. 69 We are now entering the Archipelago, or, according to the *sailor phrase, the Arches. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xvi. 169 Every bag was, in sailor-phrase, roped and becketed. 1877 TENNYSON *Sir J. Franklin* 2 Thou, Heroic *sailor-soul, Art passing on thine happier voyage now. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 441 Now descends the *sailor train.

b. Special combinations: **sailor-fish** = SAILFISH; **sailor hat**, a hat such as is worn by sailors; hence applied to a form of hat (with flat brim of even breadth all round) worn by women, and to a different form (with turned-up brim) worn by children; **sailor-man**, an uneducated and jocular use = sense 1; also *occas.* an adult sailor; **sailor-plant** *U. S.*, the strawberry-geranium, *Saxifraga sarmentosa* (Cent. Dict. 1891); **sailor-shape**, the shape worn by sailors, the shape of a sailor hat (also *attrib.* as *adj.*); so **sailor-shaped** *a.*

1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 70 The great sail—or *sailor—fish (*Histiophorus*) of the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean. 1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* II. ii. (1887) 39 A parcel of *sailor men and boys got round me. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 61 'Twas Fultah Fisher's boarding-house, Where sailor-men reside. 1897 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 6/6 Some of the new felt hats are quite *sailor-shape. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 8/2 The new French sailor shape of chapeau. 1902 *M. A. P.* 29 Mar. 327/1 There were many of the large, round, and *sailor-shaped collars now so much worn.

c. Possessive combinations: **sailor's Bible** *U.S. slang*, Bowditch's *Navigator* (Cent. Dict. 1891); **sailor's choice** *U.S.*, a name given locally to various American fishes; **sailors' home** (see quot. 1867); **sailor's knot**, any of the kinds of knot (KNOT *sb.*[1] 1) used by sailors; also, a kind of knot used in tying a neck-tie; **sailor's pocket, purse** *U.S.*, the egg case of a skate or oviparous shark (in recent U.S. Dicts.); **sailor's waiter** *Naut. slang* (see quot.).

c 1860 HOLBROOK in Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* (1884) 399 The '*Sailor's Choice' makes its appearance in our waters about the month of April and continues with us until November. 1879 GOODE, etc. *Catal. Anim. Resources U. S.* 46 *Lagodon rhomboides*... Sailor's Choice. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 551 *Pomadasys fulvomaculatus*... Sailor's Choice; Hog-fish. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 80 *Diabasis chromis* the 'Sailor's Choice'. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* 144 The establishment of *Sailors' Homes. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sailors' home*, a house built by subscription, for the accommodation of seamen on moderate terms. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 128/1 **Sailors' knots.* 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, The crew call him [the second mate] the '*sailor's waiter', as he has to furnish them with spunyarn, marline, and all other stuffs that they need.

Sailoress (sē'·lərəs). [f. SAILOR + -ESS.] A female sailor.

1890 *Yacht Racing Cal.* 159/2 The introduction of sailoresses on board racing yachts. 1894 *Yachting* (Badm. Libr.) I. 236 Solent sailoresses.

Sailoring (sē'·lərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAILOR + -ING¹.] The work of a sailor.

1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* i. (1874) 2 He had found the romance of sailoring [etc.]. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xi, If ye miss that, ye must be as feckless at the sailoring as I have found ye at the fighting.

Sailorizing (sē'·lərəizin), *vbl. sb. collcq.* [f. SAILOR + -IZE + -ING¹.] The pursuits or work of sailors.

1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xi. 254 You will find them busy on various branches of work, such as shoemaking, patching, whittling out..miniature ships, and, in fact, sailorizing of all sorts. 1880 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweeth.* (1881) I. iv. 118 With a high barometer and a harbour always under your lee, sailorizing can't fail to be enjoyable. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise 'Cachalot'* 209 Many of the crew were quite unable to do any sailorizing, as we term work in sails and rigging.

attrib. 1882 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* xi, Translated it into sailorizing language.

Sailorless (sē'·ləles), *a.* [f. SAILOR + -LESS.] Without sailors.

1816 BYRON *Darkness* 75 Ships sailorless lay rotting on the sea. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* III. vi. i. 6 The seams of the sailorless ships yawned to the sun.

Sailorly (sē'·ləili), *a.* [f. SAILOR + -LY¹.] Befitting a sailor; having the characteristics of a sailor.

1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxiv, Great asking of questions; brief sailorly answers. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I. ii, He was not sailorly.

†**Sailour.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ɛ. OF. *sailleor*, f. *saillir* to dance: see SAIL *v.*³] A dancer.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 770 Ther was many a timbestere, And saylours [*MS. Glasgow* saillouris], that I dar wel swere Couthe hir craft ful parfitly.

†**Sail·rife,** *a. Obs.* In 6 **sailrif.** [f. SAIL *sb.*¹ + RIFE *a.*] Abounding in sails.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. v. 3 Quhen Iupiter, frome his hich spheir, adoun Blent on the sailrif seis [L. *velivolum mare*].

Sails (sēilz). *Naut. slang.* [pl. of SAIL *sb.*¹, used as sing.] A name for a ship's sailmaker.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Sails*, the sail-maker on board ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sail-maker*, a qualified person who (with his mates) is employed on board ship in making, repairing or altering the sails; whence he usually derives the familiar sobriquet of *sails.*

Sailsman (sē'·lsmăn). [f. *sail's*, genitive of SAIL *sb.*¹ + MAN *sb.*¹] A sailor; also one who manages a sailing-boat.

c 1601 KEYMOR *Observ. Dutch Fishing* (1664) 7 The Sailsmen and the Marriners..there cannot be less then 200. 1890 W. G. BLACK in *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 1/3 They [the fisherfolk] live, in the main, by acting as ferrymen to steamers.. and as pleasure sailsmen.

†**Sail·worthy,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SAIL *sb.*¹ + WORTHY.] Of weather: Admitting of the use of sails.

c 1595 Capt. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 36 Yt blew soe much all the daie that it neither was saileworthy, nor coulde they possiblie use theire owers. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 34 It began to blow a storme not sayleworthy.

†**Sai·ly,** *a. Obs.* [f. SAIL *sb.*¹ + -Y.] Having the appearance of a sail or sails.

1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moone* 193 His sailly Wings. 1612 — *Poly-olb.* x. 66 From Thrace when hee her tooke, And in his saylie plumes the trembling Virgin shooke.

Sailyard (sē'·lyārd). Forms: see SAIL and YARD. [f. SAIL *sb.*¹ + YARD *sb.*]

1. *Naut.* One of the yards or spars on which the sails are spread.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 588 *Antemna*, seġlġerd. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 182/3 *Cornua*, þa twezen endas þære seġlġyrde. 1295 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 258 Et in vno masto et vna seylyarde emptis pro eadem Galya. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvii. 271 Of the Mastes and the Seylle ȝerdes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Ceyl yerde, *antenna*. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 13 To be hanged on the sayle yarde of the shyp. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xv. 289 They began to run whither the wind's violence drave them, leaving some sayles to the sayle-yard. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* v. 325 With crossing sail-yards dancing in the wind. 1834 WRANGHAM *Homerics* II Distant were sail and sail-yard thrown.

†**2.** One of the radiating beams bearing the sails of a windmill. *Obs.*

1351–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 553 In uno Saylyerde empt. pro molendino de Hesliden, iij s. viij d. *c* 1380 *Ibid.* 181 In uno Saleyerd empto pro eodem (molendino), iij s. *c* 1419 *Ibid.* 616 Canxaoc..pro vestura de lez Saylyendez molendini ventritici de Fery. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5426 The seyl yerdys off the melle, Wych tournede abouten offte, Wer clad in cloth that was not soffte. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 39 b, The mylner shall neyle vp the bordes make his shafte and the sayle yardes vpholde.

†**3.** *Ent.* = ANTENNA. *Obs.*

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1125 The sailyards and the nippers are of a watry red colour.

†**Sai·lyie, sail3(i)e,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* [Aphetic var. *assailȝe*, ASSAIL *sb.*] Hostile attack, assault.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 18 Still saxte dayis at sar sailȝe thai baid. Fortrace, and werk..Thai brak, and brynt, and put to confusioun. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 13 The Romanes..maid ane sailȝe baith be se and land. *Ibid.*, Instrumentis..That neidful war to mak sailȝie or salt. 1550 LYNDSAY *Sq. Meldrum* 952 Now, vailȝe quod vailȝe, Upon the Ladie thow mak ane sailȝe. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 169 Their hands wagg'd wapons a' kinkinds; And sic varietie o' graith, Gather't for sailzie and for skaith. *Ibid.* 204 Dissin'lar men, but sim'lar minds, In formidable sailyie, Cam whurrin' in.

†**Sai·lyie, sai·l3(i)e,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [Aphetic var. *assailȝe* ASSAIL *v.* See SAIL *v.*²] **a.** *trans.* To assault, make a hostile attack upon. **b.** *intr.* To make an attempt.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 992, I wald sailȝe..Lowmahan hous. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. vi. (S. T. S.) I. 151 And þocht my aventure was first, euery ane of þame sall sailȝe as þai best may. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 22 He and the clerk..shall no be laith To raise the mob,.. And sailzie kirk wi' weir and wraith.

Saim, dial. and obs. form of SEAM (lard).

‖ **Saimiri** (saimī·ri). Also 8 **samiri** (g in Dicts. **saimari, saimir**). [Brazilian Pg. *saimirim*, a. Tupi *çahy miri* little monkey (*çahy* SAI¹ + *miri* little).] A small South American squirrel-monkey of the genus *Chrysothrix* (formerly *Saimiris*).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 236 The fifth and last of the sapajou kind, or monkies that hold by the tail, is the Samiri, or Aurora; which is the smallest and the most beautiful of all. 1780 SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 199 The saïmiri is commonly known by the name of the golden, orange, or yellow sapajou. 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* II. 97 The Saimiri (*Chrysothrix*).

Sain (sēn), *v.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 seġnian, sénian, sæġnian, 2 seinian, 4–5 seyne, 4–6 sayn(e, 8–9 sein, 3–7 saine, 3–9 sane, 3– sain; *pa. t.* 4–5 **saynned**; *pa. ppl.* 8 **saint.** [OE. *segnian* = OS. *segnon* (MDu. *zechenen*, Du. *zegenen*), OHG. *seganôn* (MHG. *segenen*, mod.G. *segnen* to bless), ON. *signa* to sign with the cross, bless (Sw. *signa*, Da. *signe* to bless); ad. L. *signāre* to sign (in eccl. use to sign with the cross), f. *sign-um* SIGN *sb.*, whence OE. *segn* sign, banner, MLG. *segen*, MDu. *zeghen* sign of the cross, blessing (Du. *zegen* blessing), OHG. *segan* sign of the cross (MHG., mod.G. *segen* blessing).]

1. *trans.* To make the sign of the cross on (a thing or person) in token of consecration or blessing; or for the purpose of exorcizing a demon, warding off the evil influences of witches, poison, etc.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* V. v. § 2 (1890) 396 Þa sang he orationes ofer hiene & hiene ġeblætsade & ġesægnade [L. *dixit orationem, ac benedixit eum*]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 114 Þa stod se hælend..and mid his halȝum handum husel senode. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 We sculen ure forheafod..mid þere halie rode tacne seinian. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 599 With þat þe cop in hand tuk he, & sanyt it dewotly. *a* 1400 *St. John Evang.* 228 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 471 Þou..saynede þe coppe [of poison] swetely and suppede it off syne: Thow hade no harme. 1508 KENNEDY *Flyting w. Dunbar* 457 Quhen that the schip was saynit, et vndir saile, Foul brow in holl thow preposit for to pas. 1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 272 Then the said Umphray saynd the said Thomas and corssed hym, and spyttyd, and said, 'Away, devill', many tymes. 1701 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney, Zetl.*, etc. (1703) 62 Especially on Hallow-Even, they use to sein or sign their Boats and put a Cross of Tar upon them...Their Houses also some use then to sein. 1802 SCOTT *Minstr. Scot. Bord.* II. 179 *note*, Many of the vulgar account it extremely dangerous to touch any thing which they may happen to find without *saining* (blessing) it, the snares of the enemy being notorious and well attested. 1887 W. STOKES tr. *Tripartite Life St. Patrick* 37 Patrick sained [Irish *senaix*] the earth and it swallowed up the wizard. *Ibid.* 111 Patrick sained their hands, and their hands grew stiff.

b. *refl.* To cross (oneself).

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxv. § 5 (1890) 348, & þa him seġnede & hine ġesegnode mid Cristes rode tacne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7986 He..Bitaght him þan to godd at kepe, And sanid him and fel on-slepe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 521 Sanct petir sowne come in hy, and sanyt hym with þe Rycht hand. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 456 Þanne sat sleuthe vp and seyned hym swithe [*v.r.* to A. v. 229 seynide hyine faste], And made avowe to-fore god for his foule sleuthe. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 966 Thow saynned the vnsekyrly to seke to þese mountez. *c* 1450 *Merlin* IV. 66 And she lifte vp hir hande, and hir sayned [*printed* fayned], and seide, 'A mercy god!' 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 444, I sane me as I war ane sanct. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech., Confession* 15 Needful alsua is it..to saine ws aft, putting beffoir our eyes Christ Iesus crucifide. 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 159 Bess sain'd herself, cry'd 'Lord, be here!' 1768 ROSS *Helenore* (1789) 65 She—frae the ill o't sain'd her o'er and o'er. 1788 SHIRREFS *Poems* (1790) 332 She'd raise her hands, and sain hersel', And think you on the road to Hell. 1828 J. RUDDIMAN *Tales & Sk.* 62 I sained mysel' thrice this morning before I had seen the face o' man.

†**c.** *intr.* for *refl. Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 7 Þan þis monke saynyd for mervell & said, 'sur, whi say ye so?' 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 24 And with that word I went sum thing abak, And bad say on, and, with God saif me, sanit.

2. *trans.* To bless.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxii. 5 Swa sal I saine þe in life mine. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 746 Now sayned be þou sauiour. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 287 So Criste mote me sayne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6080 And with his goddis he hem sayned, And bad hem gon In here name. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 106 And thou [Jacob] shal full well saynyd be. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 41 Sum sanis the Sait, and sum thaim cursis. 1616 T. SCOTT *Philomythie* (ed. 2) B 1, Against wise vigilant Statists, who like Ianus, Looke both waies squint, and both waies guard and sane vs. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 120 God sain your Eye, Man. Spoken when you commend a Thing without blessing it. 1780 *Archie O Cawfield* xxxvii. in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 488/2 For the man had needs to be well saint That comes thro the hands o Dicky Ha. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, God sain us. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. *Beware! beware* vi, Heaven sain him! fair or foul. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. vi, Mary sain us! 1898 N. MUNRO *John Splendid* II. 19 Blow, present, God sain Mackay's soul!

b. *esp.* in conjunction with *save.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 107 So now god the saif and sayne! 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. to Douglas* s.v. *Sane*, Hence Scot. Bor. the expression, God safe you and sane you. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) I. 146 Mary, Mother, sain and save! 1842 BROWNING *In a Gondola* Poems 1863 I. 210 They trail me, these three godless knaves, Past every church that sains and saves. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xl. 336 Guid save us an' sain us! I like not this day.

¶ **c.** app. associated by some mod. writers with L. *sānāre* to heal (see SANE *v.*).

1832 J. H. NEWMAN *Sonn.*, '*They do but grope*' in *Lyra Apost.* (1836) 47 As if such shapes and moods, which come and go, Had aught of Truth or Life in their poor show, To sway or judge, and skill to sain or wound. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xiv, There flowers no balm to sain him.

3. *trans.* To secure by prayer or enchantment *from* evil influence. Cf. BLESS *v.*¹ 3.

1670 RAY *Prov.* 293 Saine (bless) you weill fra the Devil and the Lairds bairns. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 288 Sain your self from the Dee'l and the Laird's Bairns. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 6 The jizzen-bed wi' rantree leaves was sain'd. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. viii, While angels..Will sain us from the roaming adversary With scent of Paradise.

Hence †**Sained** *ppl. a.*; **Sai·ning** *vbl. sb.*

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 102 Than ma na sanyne me save fra that auld Sathane. 1593 NAPIER *Plain Discov. Rev. St. John* 58 Beside their daylie crossings with their right hande on their fore-heads, which they calsaning. 1858 EDMONSTON & SAXBY *Home Naturalist* 214 Jaimie instantly turned back, for he knew that they had power at such times, and the saining might be neglected.

Sain, obs. f. SAINT, SAY *v.*, SEE *v.*, SEINE (net).

Sainctify, Sainctuary, obs. ff. SANCT-.

Saind, Sc. var. SAND *sb.* (message, etc.).

Saine, obs. f. SAY *v.*, SEE *v.*, SEINE (net).

Sainfayle, obs. form of SANSFAIL.

Sainfoin (sē'·nfoin). Forms: 7 **S. Foyne, Saint-, St. Foine, sainct-foin, santfine, -foyne,** 7–8 **St. Foyne,** 8 **St. Foin, sainfoine,** 6– **saint-foin,** 7– **sanfoin,** 8– **sainfoin.** [a. F. *sainfoin*, also †*saintfoin* (16th c.), app. f. *sain* health-giving, wholesome + *foin* hay.

The identification of the first syllable with *saint* holy, was common in Fr. in the 16th c., and in Eng. in the 17th c. Cf. *holy hay* (see HOLY 5 b), G. *heilighau*, and Pg. *sanfeno.*]

A low-growing perennial herb, *Onobrychis sativa* (formerly *Hedysarum Onobrychis*), much grown as a forage plant. Also, locally, lucerne [*Medicago sativa*).

1626 A. SPEED *Adam out of E.* xiv. (1659) 108 A Gentleman..hath this yeer about thirty acres of S. Foyne. 1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxvii. 187 St. Foyn is a French Grass much sowed there, upon their barren, dry, hasky Lands, and sometimes in our Gardens hath a kind of it been much sowed, called the French Honysuckel. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 27 This St. Foyn, or Holy-hay, hath in several places of England, obtained the preferrence above Clover-grass, for that it..is so great an improvement on our barren Lands. 1726 *Dict. Husb.* II. s.v., Saintfoin, or Holy-Hay, a sort of Grass otherwise call'd Medick-Fodder, Spanish Trefoil, and Snail or Horned Clover-grass. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 152 Large quantities of sainfoin, which he used for fattening oxen. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 554 It is possible to cultivate both lucern and saintfoin as a one or more years' crop of grass in rotation with corn crops instead of red clover. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* III. 133 Pink saintfoin. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 50 For early spring feed and summer fattening,..sanfoin, mustard, and lucern, will be found invaluable.

attrib. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1073/4 Pure Trefoile and Santfine Seed. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiv. 195 Cut off the St. Foin Heads an Handful deep. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. 465 Saintfoin hay is excellent food for horses. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 357 A considerable portion of these calcareous districts should be thrown into sainfoin courses. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 350 Old saintfoin lays. 1902 CORNISH *Nat. on Thames* 174 The crimson of stray sainfoin clusters.

Saing fayle, variant of SANSFAIL.

†**Sainse, Saynsure,** obs. ff. CENSE *v.*¹ and CENSER.

1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Treat. Cross* ii. 53 b, We haue sainsed thy saincts, we haue..honored thy Crosse. *Ibid.*, The sweete perfume of prayer should haue arisen from the saynsure of your heart to me.

Saint (sēint; *unstressed* sĕnt, snt), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2–6 seint, 3–6 seinte, seynt(e, sainte, 4–5 saynt, (2 zeinte, 3 sceinte, 5 seyntte, 6 seeynt, sayent), 4– saint. *β.* (prefixed to a name beginning with a cons.) 3–4 sein, 4 san, sen, 4–6 sayn, 5 sayne, sain, syn. *γ.* 3–5 sant, 4–6 sent, (3 sante, sente, 4 santt, sande, sont, 5 synt, scent, 6 sentt(e), 8–9 *Sc.* saunt. *δ.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 4–8 sanct (6 -e), 5 senct, 5–6 saynct, seynct, 6–7 sainct. [a. OF. *saint, seint*, fem. *sainte, seinte* (*sancte, saente, sente*), later *sainct*, as prefix occas. *saen, sain*, mod.F. *saint* = Pr. *sanct, sant*, It., Sp., Pg. *santo* (before a cons. Pr., It., Sp. *san*, Pg. *são*):—L. *sanctus*, properly pa. pple. of *sancīre* to enact, ratify, devote, consecrate (cf. SANCTION).

The Latin word was adopted in most of the Germanic langs.; the variants with vowel other than *a* are due, partly to loss of stress in the prefixed position, partly to Fr. influence: OE. *sanct*, OFris. *sinkt, sunkt, sant, sent, sint*, (prefixed) *sancte, sente* etc., MDu. (chiefly as prefix) *sanct, sante, sentle, sintle, sunte, sonte*, Du. *sint*, dial. *seint, sunt, sünt*, Flemish *sant*, MHG. (prefixed) *sancte, sanct(e, sent(e*, mod.G. (prefixed) *Sanct, sankt*, Da. *sankt-*, Sw. *sanktc-*.

The forms *saaynt, sauyn* (printed *sanynt, sanyn*) in the *Ayenbite* are difficult to account for.]

A. *adj.* = HOLY, in various special applications.

1. Prefixed to the name of a canonized person (see B. 2), also to the names of the archangels: now felt to be the sb. used appositively. Commonly abbreviated S. or St. (see below).

[In OE. *sanctus* and *sancte* (orig. the L. vocative) were used for the masc. and *sancta* for the fem.]

The possessive of names preceded by 'Saint' is often used ellipt. in names of churches, as *St. Paul's, St. Peter's*. Hence various names of towns, villages, etc., as *St. Albans, St. Andrews, St. Bees*; also the anglicized forms of some foreign place-names, as † *St. Omer's* (= F. *St.-Omer*).

α. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Seint gregori. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Ure louerd sainte powel. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 26 Ure lauedi seinte Marie. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8423 þis bataile ido was A seinte peteres eue. 1340 *Ayenb.* 233 Axe zayþ saint austin. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 173 The reule of seint Maure or of seint Beneit. 1452 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 277 The feste of Seynte Michell the Archangle. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 9/2 Which is as trew as the gospell of seint John. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 57 Seinte Hughe Bishoppe of Lincolne. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* v, The rites due to good Saint Valentine.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 Þe godspelle þe sein lucas makede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762+ 10 þe swerd of sorow was at hir hert, Als sayde san symeon. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1585 Bi sein geme. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 54 Ye sunday after ye Natiuite of sein Jon day, baptist. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 42 Sain Benet leris vs in þis sentence, how we sal chese vre abbesse. *a* 1470 *Gregory's Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 168 Syr Phylyppe Dymmoke, that rode in the halle i-armyde clene as Syn Jorge. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 20 Aftur the mynd of Sayn Poule.

γ. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 As sente pawel seiđ, Alle þinge turneđ þe gode to god. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 154 And hit sal be reddynn þanne O Ioachim and of sant tanne [*Fairf.* seynt anne]. *Ibid.* 469 Sent micheal..Rais a-gain him for to fight. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 12863 (Fairf.) Sande John nerehand him stode. 14.. in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1907) IV. 24 Synt Petyrys mynyster of Exeter. 1557 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 58 It' Re'd of thomas browne for sentmari day rent iiˢ.

δ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 336 The folk..Held to Sanct Brydis kirk thar way. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 282 Quha sperd, scho said to Sanct Margret thai socht. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 12/2 And remember these wordes of Sainct Paule also. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* iii. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 27 Sanctis Hierome and Augustine. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 230 Sancte Columba.

¶ Abbreviations: S. and St., *pl.* SS. and Sts.

In the 18th and 19th c. 'St.' is the form usually employed; but since about 1830 'S.' has been favoured by ecclesiologists. In place-names, and in family names derived from these, only 'St.' is used.

[*c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963 To Elig, þær S. Æđelđriđ liđ. *c* 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1132 On S' Petres messe dei.] *a* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 693 Fynding of S. Steuen martir. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible*, The gospell of S. Mathew...The epistles of S. Paul. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 8 S. Chrysostome that lined in S. Hieromes time. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 33 St. Francis Shyvier the Navarrean Jesuit. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 344 The storys of their giants, their dragons, and St. George's. 1850 J. H. NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* xii. (1857) 263 Those early Religious, of which St. Benedict is the typical representative. 1852 (*title*) The Homilies of S. John Chrysostom..on the Gospel of St. Matthew. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 177 The Octave of S. Stephen.

2. *transf.* † **a.** of heathen deities, etc. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 7458 (Fairf.), I sulde him sla be seint Mahoun. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5953 By my modir seint Venus. *Ibid.* 6781 My moder flemed him, Seynt Amour. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 366 Saint Cupid then, and Soulders to the field.

b. allusively or ironically. *Obs.* in gen. use.

St. Monday: see MONDAY 2. *St. Lubbock's day*: a jocular name for any of the bank holidays instituted by Sir John Lubbock's Act, 1871: see BANK HOLIDAY.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 40 Ze þat sechep seynt Iame and seintes at Roome, Sechep Seint Treuþe for he may sauen ow alle. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I ij b, That holy sayntye fylgutte or saynte panchart. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 3 b, He sits down in the chaire wrapt in fine cloaths, as though the barber were aboute to make him a foot-cloth for the vickar of saint fooles. 1657 TITUS *Killing no Murder* A 3 b, As Hugh Capet, in taking the Crown, pretended to be admonish't to it in a dreame by St. Valery, and St. Richard: so I beleeve will his Highnes [*sc.* Cromwell] doe the same, at the instigation of St. Henry and St. Richard his two Sonnes. 1665 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. § 4 (ed. 3) 214, I think the best time to try this, is upon St. Jefferies day, which is neither before Christmass nor after it. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 39 Our late Anti-Sabbatarians..call'd it Saint-Sabbath.

† **3.** Prefixed to various common nouns (in collocations taken over from Latin and French), esp. *Charity, Cross, Spirit, Trinity. Obs.*

Sometimes abbreviated as in 1.

In dedications of churches there occur *St. Cross, St. Faith, St. Saviour, St. Sepulchre.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21465 Bi sant drightin Mi thinc þe wers part es mine. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 104 Al-þough men made bokes, god was þe maistre, And seynt spirit þe saumplarye. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn't.'s T.* 863 But sle me first for seinte charitee. *c* 1386 — *Sompn. T.* 116 Chideth him weel, for seinte Trinitee. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4282 He..askyd almes for seynt charite. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. i. 413 By seynt crosse said syre Vwayne he is a stronge knyght. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 206 Cause a masse to be song or sayde in the honoure of Saint Spirite. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 58 By gis, and by S. Charity, Alacke, and fie for shame. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 722 The Altar..was that which was first built to Saint seruice. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4688/1 The Annual Procession..in Honour of the Saint Sudario [i. e. *il Santo Sudario*].

4. Attributive and possessive collocations of proper names with the prefix 'Saint' (St.) in sense 1.

a. Many plants, animals, and other objects have been named after saints of the calendar. For these appellations see the saints' names in their alphabetical places or the sbs. qualified by them.

b. Many diseases have been named after saints that are supposed to ward them off or relieve them.

A long list of these is given in Dunglison's *Dict. Med. Sci.* and *Syd. Soc. Lex.* For *St. Anthony's, St. Francis's fire*, see FIRE *sb.* 12. *St. Vitus' dance*: see DANCE *sb.* 6 *b.*

c. Many objects are called after a place-name or a surname beginning with 'Saint' ('St.'); the following are some of the more important.

St. Bernard (**dog**), in full *Great St. Bernard dog*, a dog of a breed kept by the monks of the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard (a dangerous pass in the Alps between Switzerland and Italy) for the rescue of travellers in distress. **St. Domingo cuckoo**, etc., species of cuckoo, etc., found in San Domingo. **St. Domingo fever**, yellow fever. **St. Germain pear**, a fine dessert pear. **St. Gobain glass**, a fine kind of plate glass manufactured at St. Gobain in France. **St. Helena tea** (see quots.). **St. Johnston's riband, tippet**, *Sc.*, a halter or hangman's rope. (*St. Johnston* = Perth.) **St. Kilda cold** (see quot.). **St. Leger**, the name of a horse-race for three-year-olds run at Doncaster: instituted by Colonel St. Leger in 1776. **St. Louis group**, a section of the mountain limestone of North America, well developed in states bordering on the upper Mississippi. **St. Lucia** (**Lucie**) **bark**, the bark of the West Indian shrub *Exostemma floribundum*, used in tanning. **St. Michael's**, the name of one of the Azores, which produced a fine quality of orange. † **St. Omer's** (corruptly *St. Thomas*) **worsted**, a kind of worsted manufactured at St. Omer's.

1839 SIR T. D. LAUDER in C. H. Smith *Dogs* (1840) II. 142 My *St. Bernard dog, Bass. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 327/2 The Great St. Bernard Dog of the present day is a powerful animal, as large as a mastiff. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 464/1 A big St. Bernard. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. II. 541 *St. Domingo Cuckow. *Ibid.* I. III St. Domingo Falcon. 1793 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* VIII. 231 The St. Domingo Chesnut.. *Columbus Dominicus*, Linn. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 644 From the depredations it has committed in the West Indies and on the American Coast, it has been called the *St. Domingo..fever. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 93 This *St. Germain-pear, otherwise called the Unknown Pear of the Fare, has a very tender Pulp. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* IV. (1859) 77 Milton was a Saint-Germain with a graft of the roseate Early-Catherine.. Russet-skinned old Chaucer was an Easter-Beurré. 1870 SAUZAY *Marvels of Glass-making* 91 *note*, According to M. Péligot the *St. Gobain glass is composed of, Silica 73·0, Lime 15·5, Soda 11·5. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 239 *Frankenia portulacæfolia*, Spreng...*Beatsonia portulacæfolia*, Roxb.; *St. Helena Tea...I find no record of the plant having been ever used as a substitute for tea. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *St. Helena tea*, a kind of tea made in the island of St. Helena by infusing the leaves of the plant *Beatsonia portulacifolia*. 1638 H. ADAMSON *Muse's Threnodie* (1774) 119 Hence of *St. Johnston's ribband came the word. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* VII, To be sent to Heaven wi' a Saint Johnstone's tippit about my hause. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *St. Kilda cold*...A variety of Influenza occurring in the Hebrides, believed to be brought by strangers from ships touching at the islands. 1778 in *Baily's Racing Reg.* (1845) I. 470/1 *St. Leger's Stakes of 25 gs. each. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* (1907) I. 327 This is the settling day for all bets made upon the great Doncaster St. Leger. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 307 The *St. Louis limestone (250 feet thick), overlaid by ferruginous sandstone (200 feet). 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 350/2 St. Louis group.—Limestones with shale, in places 250 feet. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 992 *St. Lucia Bark. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 94 St. Lucia Bark.. is said to be suitable for tanning. *c* 1830 *St. Michael's oranges [see ORANGE *sb.*¹ 1]. 1892 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 3/1 It may be that some day sweet St. Michaels may pout in upon us again. 1530 PALSGR. 269/1 *Seynt Homer's worstedde, *demy ostade*. 1552 *Inv. Church Goods* (Surtees) II. 61 A cope of read Saint Thomas worsted.

B. *sb.* A holy person.

1. One of the blessed dead in Heaven. Usually *pl.* [*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 355 Þær habbað englas eadigne dream, sanctas singað.]

13.. *Cursor M.* 10402 (Gött.) Felauschip..Of saintes [*Cott.* halus] hye in heuen bliss. 138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 467 A thowsand þowsandis bene moo seintis in heven þen we kanonysen in þo kalender. *c* 1420 *Prymer* (1895) 7 (*Te Deum*) Make hem to be rewardid wiþ seyntis in endeles blis. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. i. 329 To liue With God and his elected saints in heauen. 1657 JER. TAYLOR *Funeral Serm. Sir G. Dalstone*, The consummation and perfection of the saints' felicity shall be at the resurrection of the dead. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 150 She, half an angel in her own account, Doubts not hereafter with the saints to mount. 1851 G. ROBISON *Hymn*, '*Three in One*', With the Saints hereafter we Hope to bear the palm. 1864 BP. W. HOW *Hymn*, For all Thy Saints who from their labours rest. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* vii. 191 A multitude who have not been canonised on earth, though they are saints in heaven.

2. *Eccl.* One of those persons who are formally recognized by the Church as having by their exceptional holiness of life attained an exalted station in heaven, and as being entitled in an eminent degree to the veneration of the faithful; a canonized person. In Pre-Reformation use, the term implies that the persons so designated may be lawfully addressed in prayer for their intercession with God, and that miracles have been wrought through their aid after death. † *To seek, visit a saint*: to pay one's devotions at his shrine. (Cf. HALLOW *sb.*¹ 2.)

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Sweet *A.-S. Reader* (1894) 85 God ġeswutelode þæt he haliġ sanct wæs swa þæt heofonlic leoht of þæt ġeteld astrehit stod up to heofonum. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 979, He wæs on life eorðlic cing, he is nu æfter deaðe heofonlic sanct.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28604 To godd i merci cri..And all seyntes of heuen sere. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiv. 96 Preye we alle to oure levedy, Ant to the sontes that woneth hire by. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 69 (118) In a cave To bidde, and rede on holy seyntes lyves. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xvii, I salle garre seke sayntes for thi sake. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6287 For seyntys wych that suffrede so, I wot ryht wel that they be go To paradys. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxv. 65 We pray to all the Sanctis of hevin, That ar aboif the sterris sevin. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 206 This præsent Kalendar quhairin is comprehendit the Sanctes and martyres vith the tyme of thair death or suffering. 1614 BP. HALL *No Peace with Rome* § 21 Neither will we only glorifie God in his Saints.. but wee will magnifie the Saints. for their excellent graces. 1726 BOYS *Expos.* 39 *Art.* 146 Pardons or Indulgences, which are promis'd to those that visit such a Saint or Chapel. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 44 The castle of St. Elmo, or St. Eramo, so called from a church dedicated to that saint. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* xii. 134 A considerable number of churches are called after the names of the primitive saints of our island. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* IV. 323 Technically, to make a saint, there should be an act of pontifical jurisdiction.

Proverb. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 105 b, These adages myght than haue bene founde true, suche saynt, suche shryne, suche bere, suche bottell.

b. A representation or image of a saint.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Images* III. Q q iij, Such a creple came and saluted this saint of Oke. 1679 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 594 And who, to furnish his own want, Can seize Gold Cross, or Silver Saint. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 92 Fruit in wax-work, and saints in *or moulu*. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* XV, Far readier to worship a gold angel than a painted saint. 1893 BATES *Eng. Relig. Drama* 27 As if the chiselled, painted saint himself..stepped down.. from marble niche.

c. *transf.* Applied e.g. to persons who are the objects of posthumous reverence in non-Christian religions. † Also *rarely* to heathen deities, etc.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6763 Thou schalt fynde trowes two: Seyntes and holy they buth bo. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2000 All the buernes in the bote,..Besoght vnto sainttes & to sere goddes. *Ibid.* 12071 Þe sayntis of hell Were wode in hor werkis for wreke of Achilles. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 4 Others..are punished by the saints whom they adore, and the holy ceremonies which they observe. 1626 METHOLD in Purchas *Pilgrimage* 999 One Saint they haue..whom they expresse by a plaine round stone. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* viii. 342 There are many gay kiosques rising over the graves of Moslem saints.

3. In biblical use, one of God's chosen people; in the New Testament, one of the elect under the New Covenant; a member of the Christian church; a Christian. Hence used by some religious bodies as their own designation, e.g. by some puritanical sects in the 16–17th c., and by the Mormons (see LATTER-DAY).

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* i. 2 To the halowid in Crist Ihesu, clepid seyntis. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* ix. 32 As Petei walked throughoute all quarters, he cam to the saincts which dwelt at lydda. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 103 God, for thy grace,..Ceis not to send thy Sanctis sune support. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. 123 The fellowship of his Saincts in this present world. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, A seruant of the exil'd Brethren, That deale with widdowes and with orphanes goods And make a iust account vnto the Saints; A Deacon. 1626 — *Staple of N.* III. ii. 125 Ha' you in your prophane Shop, any Newes O'the Saints at Amsterdam? 1658 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* III. i, What preaching, and houling, and fasting, and eating among the Saints! 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* xxxiv. (1739) 419 In the beginning of Christianity, the word Saint was applied to all Believers. 1710 [H. BEDFORD] *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 170 We seem to have forgot the *Saints Reign* from 41 to 60. 1782 C. SIMEON in Carus *Life* (1847) 28 Now he scruples keeping a horse, that the money may help the saints of Christ. 1786 BURNS *Sc. Drink* viii, Godly meetings o' the saunts, By thee inspir'd. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* iii. 31 It is not..improbable..that St. Paul should have become acquainted with some of these captives, by means of some of the Saints in Cæsar's household. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xx, The Preface, dated Manchester, 1840, ran thus:—'The Saints in this country have been very desirous for a Hymn Book adapted to their faith and worship'. 1886 *Whitaker's Almn.* 204 Religious Sects..Saints.

b. In biblical use applied to angels.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxxiii. 2 The Lord..aperide fro the

hil of Pharan, and with hym thousandis of seyntis. 1611 BIBLE *Jude* 14 The Lord commeth with ten thousands of his Saints. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 46 Gabriel..lead forth my armied Saints.

4. A person of extraordinary holiness of life. Sometimes ironically, A person making an outward profession of piety.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1258/2 *Boner.* Well mayster Controller, I am no sainct. *Ibid.* 1374/2 Surely you would moue a Saint with your impertinent reasons. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 28 For such an iniurie would vexe a very saint. 1625 BACON *Ess., Suspicion,* What would Men haue? Doe they thinke, those they employ and deale with, are Saints? 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. v. 99 We have read of Canniballs that devour the flesh of Men. Tush! They are Saints to Papists. For, They devour their God! 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 246 Odious! in woollen! 'twould a Saint provoke. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* ccix. (1792) II. 301, I have sometimes known Saints really religious. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 296/1 Were you a saint at college? 1884 H. A. JONES (*title*) Saints and Sinners. *a* 1887 H. W BEECHER *Prov. Plymouth Pulpit* 178 It will not do to be saints at meeting and sinners everywhere else.

b. Proverb.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 35 Of 3ung sanctis growis auld feyndis but fable. 1552 LATIMER *7th Serm. on Lord's Prayer* (1562) H 4 b, The old prouerb yong saints, old deuils. 1616 S. PRICE *Ephesus Warning* 73 That Prouerb inuented by the Diuell that young Saints proue old Diuels. 1655 FULLER *Serm.* iv. 4 David began to be good betimes, a young Saint, and yet crossed that pestilent Proverb, was no old devill. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxiv. 254.

5. A nickname for: **a.** A member of a religious association at Cambridge (see quots.). Now *Hist.*

1793 *Acc. Proc. agst. W. Frend* 107, I shewed them [sc. two letters] to some of my friends, as instances of the gratitude of the saints. 1803 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* 116 *Saints,* a set of men who have great pretensions to particular sanctity of manners and zeal for orthodoxy. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* III. 38 [Dean Milner] was at the head of the party vulgarly called the Saints, the preachers of world-renunciation and self-denial. Another leader of this party ..was Charles Simeon.

b. One of the party which promoted the agitation in England against slavery. Now *Hist.*

1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 281 The friends of negro emancipation..are already (1823–4) honoured with the nickname of 'Saints'. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xv, 'But do you think that this is likely to occur?' 'I do, most certainly, if those who govern continue to listen to the insidious advice of the party denominated 'Saints'. 1880 S. WALPOLE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 196 The West Indians were furious with Stanley for doing so much; the 'Saints' were annoyed with him for doing so little.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *saint-author, -martyr, -protectrice*; *saint-beseeming, -eyed, -faced, -holy, -pleasing, -seeming* adjs.; *saint-maker, -making, server, -worship, worshipper*; **saint's day,** a day set apart by the Church for observing the memory of a saint; **†saint's head stone,** a name for a kind of limestone.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 165 A *saint-author of all men least values politeness. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. iv. § 5. 29 That *Saint-beseeming work. 1778 *Epit. in Stretton Church Yard* in *Bye-Gones* 18 July (1894) 376 Go *saint-eyed patience from affliction's door. 1829 H. HAWTHORN *Visit Babylon* 61 Some usurious and *saint-faced Quakers. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 7 Such beleevers ..who will not be accounted *Saint-holy. 1604 HIERON *Answ. to Popish Ryme* B 2, Who made the Pope a *Saint-maker? 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 19 A man who was called the saint-maker..married five shrews in succession, and made Grizels of every one of them. 1802 RANKEN *Hist. France* II. ii. § 2. 186 The church of Rome, desirous of engrossing this power of *saint-making. 1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Exam. Fox's Cal. Prot. Saints* 473 Fox being in want of a *saint-martyr, thought proper to canonize a self-destroyer. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B 7 b, Thy sweete *saint-pleasing songs forgotten. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 273 The ladys..were the *saint-protectrices to whom the champions chiefly paid their vows. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 267 Þogh we halowen but few *sayntes-dayes, 3et we ben full neclygent yn oure seruyce. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 473, I cannot find..that we can trace what we call the Saints'-Days higher than the eighth or ninth Century. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xxi, Eliza was gone to attend a saint's-day service at the New Church. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 100 On a Sunday or Saint's day. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 395 Their *saint-seeming sanctity. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 293 As the *Sainct seruers [L. *cultores diuorum*] doe in our dayes. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxv. 379 There is frequently found in the clay very hard lyas, or *saints-head stones. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E 7, Acton did march in *Saint-triumphing showes. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 173 The imputation of *Saint-worship. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 207 The popish saint-worship. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2098 The abuses of saint-worship. 1615 BYFIELD *Expos. Col.* i. 19 (1628) 127 Sancti-colists, Pharises and *Saint-worshippers. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 174 All that were there present, as well Saint-worshippers, as indeed that Idols worshippers.

Saint (sēⁱnt), *v.* Forms: see SAINT *sb.*; also 3 *pa. pple.* **isonted.** [f. SAINT *sb.*]

1. *pass.* To be or become a saint in Heaven. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Þeo pilegrimes þet goð touward heouene, heo goð forte beon isonted. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 34, I hold you as a thing en-skied, and sainted. 1854 LONGF. *Birds of Passage, Prometheus* iv, Only those are crowned and sainted Who with grief have been acquainted.

2. *trans.* To call (a person) a saint, give the name of 'saint' to; to reckon among the saints; *spec.* to enroll among the number of saints formally recognized by the Church; to canonize.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 875 This thomas, That on this vis maid martir was, Wes sanctit and myraclis did. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 180 He [*sc.* Pope John XXII] sainted also Thomas of Aquine the blackefrier. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* F 3, He praisd, adornd, and for a martyr sainted, Whilst I (Rome's scoffe) my rites of buriall wanted. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 960 There other holy Kings were likewise, who confess'd, Which those most zealous times have sainted. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., She Hypocrite* (Arb.) 63 She doubts of the Virgin Marie's Saluation, and dare not Saint her. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 135 The most generous and brave Spirits, those whom Paganism has Deify'd, and Christianity has Sainted. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Sienna* 391 A Shooe-Maker that has been Beatify'd, tho' never Sainted. 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 4 June, [Jeremy] Taylor..saints every trumpery monk and friar, down to the very latest canonizations by modern popes. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon Stylites* 152 They shout, 'Behold a saint!' And lower voices saint me from above. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 June 5/1 The sandy shores of River Nid, where Holy Olaf's bones were laid to rest before he had been sainted.

†b. *fig.* (Also *absol.*) *Obs.*

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. vii, Sure will he haue saint her in his Calendere. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* III. iii, If fortune dare play the Slut againe, I'll never more Saint her. 1632 BROME *Novella* IV. i, Lovers shall saint thee; and this day shall be For ever callendered to Love and thee. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1481 Alfred..whose hallow'd name the virtues saint. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 357 Prompt or to guard or stab, to saint or damn.

3. To cause to be regarded, or to appear, as a saint; to represent as a saint. *rare.*

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. liii, And in the vnconceiuing vulgar sort, Such an impression of his goodnes gaue As Sainted him. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* Pref. B 3, Though the Picture sett in Front would Martyr him and Saint him to befoole the people. 1701 *Baxter's Paraphr. N. T.* Postscr., However holy Salvian excuse them, and the Life of Bobeline saint them, the generality of Christian Writers disown them. 1853 J. HAMILTON *Lives Bunyan,* etc. 176 He fell upon a time when the Church of England contained many men whose genius and piety would have immortalized and sainted them in an earlier age.

absol. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, Bernard de Mandeville* ii, Brave sins which saint when shriven.

†4. To ascribe holy virtues or a sacred character to. *Obs.*

1652 FRENCH *Vorksh. Spa* xvii. 119 Whether this Well was Sainted from its real vertues, or onely supposed vertues. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iv. § 22 After-Ages..over-acted their part in shrining, sainting and adoring his Relicks. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 90 It is an easie matter..to professe the Gospell, to Saint a fancied cause.

†b. To name (something) after a saint. *rare*⁻¹.

1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* in Floyer *Hist. Cold Bathing* II. 319 A..Well, Sainted with the Name of Anne.

5. *intr.* To act or live as a saint; to live a saintly life; to play the saint. In later use chiefly with *it.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 209 *Mak*..I must haue reuerence; why, who be ich?..Bot, mak, lyst ye saynt? I trow that ye lang. 1530 PALSGR. 697/1, I praye God I saynte than. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 204 Nane I accuse, I come not heir to Sant. *c* 1585 *Haire Em* III. 1280 Let Mistress nice go saint it where she list. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 342 Thinke women still to striue with men, To sinne and neuer for to Saint. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 183 What need to Saint it in youth? time enough to repent in age. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 15 Whether the Charmer sinner it, or saint it. 1737 RAMSAY *Prov.* (1750) 76 Neither sae sinfu' as to sink, nor sae haly as to saunt. 1880 A. I. RITCHIE *Ch. Baldred* 26 He sainted it and sinnered it in turns.

Saint, variant of CENT ², SEYNT.

†Sai·ntage. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. SAINT *sb.* after *homage.*] Honour (done) as to a saint.

1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 85 When he is before them they must do their Homage, and their saintage unto him.

Saint-bell: see SANCTUS BELL.

Saintdom (sēⁱntdəm). [f. SAINT *sb.* + -DOM.] **a.** The condition or status of a saint. **b.** Saints collectively.

1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon Stylites* 6, I will not cease to grasp the hope I hold Of Saintdom. 1862 M. NAPIER *Life of Visct. Dundee* II. 82 Nor until that great man, Wodrow, arose, was the Saintdom of Scotland properly recorded. 1887 E. JOHNSON *Antigua Mater* 202 Patience..is a cardinal virtue of Jewish saintdom.

Sainted (sēⁱntėd), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **sancted.** [f. SAINT *v.* + -ED ¹.]

1. Enrolled among the saints; canonized; that is a saint in Heaven.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 301 These Sainted Archbishops. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 224 Some others he [*sc.* the Pope] hath let in for Sainted Martyrs, of whom some..beleeve, that they were rather executed Traitors. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 312 Love's victim then, tho' now a sainted maid. 1845 LONGF. *Norman Baron* x, The lightning showed the sainted Figures on the casement painted. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 397 Lewis [XIV]..instituted ..a new military order of knighthood, and placed it under the protection of his own sainted ancestor [St. Louis].

2. Of sanctified or holy life or character.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. iii. 109 Thy Royall Father Was a most Sainted-King. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 15, I..pray for a blissful issue to the union of the sainted pair. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. viii, The eve thy sainted mother died. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. iv, His virtuous and sainted wife. 1857 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 302 The former home of sainted princesses.

3. Such as belongs to or befits a saint; sacred, holy.

1598 *Mucedorus* Epil. 21 Case vicious Diuels vnder sancted Rochets. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. iv. 7 Bare-foot plod I the cold ground vpon With sainted vow my faults to haue amended. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 11 Amongst the enthron'd gods on Sainted seats. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* xvii. 123 Let not any one judge me to be a Catholick by this my approbation of this Sainted Well. 1760 SMOLLETT *Contn. Hist. Eng.* I. 10 Bolingbroke..resided at Battersea, where he was visited like a sainted shrine by all the distinguished votaries of wit. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Paradise & Peri* 351 And, like a glory, the broad sun Hangs over sainted Lebanon. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* l, She rocked him in her arms, and wept silently over him in a sainted agony of tears.

Hence **†Sai·ntedly** *adv.*, in a saintly manner.

c 1789 TERRY in T. Campbell *Life of Mrs. Siddons* (1834) II. vi. 149 So saintedly beauteous is the sickness and the grief of Katharine.

Saint-errant. *ironical.* ? *Obs.* [Modelled on KNIGHT-ERRANT.] A saint who travelled in quest of spiritual adventures.

1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 156 Rhode-Island a Harbour for the Shunamitish Brethren, as the Saints Errant-the Quakers..&c. 1688 H. WHARTON *Enthus. Ch. of Rome* 24 At last he [*sc.* Ignatius Loyola] resolved to become Saint-Errant. *Ibid.* 33 Don Quixot fancied that all Knight-Errants went to Heaven, or at least to Purgatory; and surely Saint-Errants deserved to be placed in a higher degree. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* 316 The fate of these saints-errant had hitherto remained a mystery.

Hence **Saint-errantry,** the character, practice, or spirit of a saint-errant.

1688 H. WHARTON *Enthus Ch. of Rome* 24 Saint-Errantry was a much easier, and more certain way than Knight-Errantry. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. 20 If something of this militant Religion, something of this Soul-rescuing Spirit, and Saint-Errantry prevails still. 1760 STERNE *Serm.* (1764) I. 30 If we can so order it, as not to be led out of the way, by the variety of prospects, edifices, and ruins which solicit us, it would be a nonsensical piece of saint-errantary to shut our eyes. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 173 The system of Saint-Errantry..forms as conspicuous a part of history in this age, as Knight-Errantry in the succeeding centuries.

Saintess (sēⁱntės). [f. SAINT *sb.* + -ESS.] A female saint.

1449 in Nichols *Illustr. Manners Ant. Times* 132, Y beseche al the glorious seyntes and seyntesses in heaven [etc.]. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richm.* Wks. (1876) 306 The moost blessyd company of sayntes and sayntesses. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. xxviii. § 1 Saints are not our immediate intercessors, but some Saintesse may make immediate intercession. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 287/2 This Maid of Orleans, whom divers French Historians picture out as a Saintess. 1865 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) I. 334, I made a speech likening her to all the crowned saintesses in ecclesiastical history.

Sainthood (sēⁱnthud). [f. SAINT *sb.* + -HOOD.] The condition, status, or dignity of a saint; also, saints collectively.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 85 b, Couplynge it with the degre of hys sayntwode. 1753 *World* No. 8. 45 The supreme honour of monkish sainthood. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, He felt no call to any expedition which might endanger the reign of the military sainthood. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 554 The glorious prophecy of Christian sainthood.

†Sai·nting, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [-ING ¹.] Enrolment among the number of the saints; canonization.

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 225/2 The saincting of Thomas Becket. 1630 W. T. *Justific. Relig. now Prof.* IX. 62 Saints of the Popes Cannonizing and saynting. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 298 Theodore succeeded Deodat, as in seat, so in Sainting. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Epit. to Mrs. K. Cross* 22 A Land, where many..themselves as Saints esteem; Yet Sainting after Death prophaness deem.

attrib. 1604 HIERON *Answ. to Popish Ryme* E 2, Thou ask'st who them canonized..? You say the Pope. I aske againe, Wilt thou that sainting power maintaine?

Saintish (sēⁱntiʃ), *a.* [f. SAINT *sb.* + -ISH.] Saint-like. (Chiefly contemptuous.)

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 284/1 Seme he neuer so saintish with any new construccion of Christes holy gospell. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Epil., They be no diuels (I trow) which seme so saintish. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 (1619) 618 The affectation of a Saintish puritie. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 375 He could not bear people to be so damned saintish. 1840 HOOK in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 285 Don't think I am getting saintish.

†Sai·ntism. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SAINT *sb.* + -ISM.] The principles or practice of a Puritan 'Saint' (see SAINT *sb.* 3).

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 829/1 The pains he took in converting him to Godliness, *i. e.* to canting Puritanism and Saintism.

Saintite, -y, obs. forms of SANCTITY.

Sai·ntless, *a. rare.* [f. SAINT *sb.* + -LESS.]

†1. That is no saint. *Obs.*

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 544 That Saintlesse Saint and sinfull Souldier of the Pope, Thomas Becket.

2. That has no patron saint.

1892 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 5/5 The saintless parish church.

Sai·ntlike, *a.* [See -LIKE.] Resembling a saint or that of a saint; of saintly life, character, etc.

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* IV. v. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* XCIX. 40 Who so Saintelike as she? 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 70 This Prince, as he was one of the stoutest, so was he the Saint-likest man of all the Dukes. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 113 That I, May Saint-like live, Saint-like to die! 1809 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 75 The saintlike meekness and resignation of Lady Jane [Grey]. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 32 And women smile with saintlike glances Like thine own mother's.

Saintliness (sēⁱntlinės). [f. SAINTLY + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being saintly.

1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* VI. ii. (1862) 418 The pageantry of

processions and the merry saintliness of festivals. 1880 R. W. Dale *Evang. Revival* 268 The inner life of saintliness in all churches has a common root.

Saintling (sē̆·ntliŋ). [f. Saint *sb.* + -ling.] A little or petty saint. (Usually contemptuous.)

1622 Boys *Wks.* (1630) 780 For either they worship his saints as himselfe, or else their owne saintlings and not his saints. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 180 All the Glory, which Popish and other Saintlings propose by afflicting the Body. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Mahomet & Sergius* Wks. 1853 I. 443/2 The blindest and tenderest young saintling that ever was whelped. 1854 Mrs. Oliphant *M. Henburn* I. 118 In niches and smaller shrines apart, a host of little saintlings keep their place.

Saintly (sē̆·ntli), *a.* [f. Saint *sb.* + -ly 1.] Of, belonging to, or befitting a saint or saints; of great holiness or sanctity; sainted.

1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 43 The Saintly King Edward Confessor. 1665-6 Pepys *Diary* 17 Jan., The same weake silly lady as ever, asking such saintly questions. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 103 Which is the saintlier worthy of the two? 1819 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* v, Wing'd St. Agnes' saintly care. 1847 De Quincey *Sp. Mil. Nun* Wks. 1854 III. 53 Solitary Arab's tent, rising with saintly signals of peace, in the dreadful desert. 1858 Milman *St. Paul's* xi. 274 There might..be found Farrers and Bernard Gilpins, of most saintly lives.

†**Sai·ntly,** *adv. Obs.* [-ly 2.] Holily.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 720/2 Babble he neuer so sayntely. 1653 Ld. Vaux tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 209 Doe not think your selves so saintly disposed, as is requisite.

Sainto·logy. [f. Saint *sb.* + -ology.] Hagiology. So **Sainto·logist,** a hagiologist.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 184 Do you know that we have historical painters for modern saintology. 1885 Beveridge *Culross & Tulliallan* I. ii. 65 The later saintologists had a rage for burying all their great saints together. 1892 *Public Opinion* (N.Y.) 5 Nov., The angelology and the saintology of orthodoxy.

†**Sai·ntrel.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *sainterel*, dim. of *saint*. Cf. Santrel.] A saintling.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 Seyntrelle, *sanctillus, sanctilla.*

Saints-, saint's bell: see Sanctus bell.

Saintship (sē̆·ntʃip). [f. Saint *sb.* + -ship.]

1. The condition or status of a canonized saint.

1631 Hevlin *St. George* 206 From thence to prove St. George's Saintship. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. xxii. 150 After his [*sc.* Dominic's] death, Pope Honorius for his good service bestowed a Saintship on him. 1700 Osborn *Let.* in Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) T 4 b, His Body being found so entire would have entitled him to Saintship. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng.* 35 Saint Dunstan,..whose Saintship consisted in pulling the unclean spirit by the nose. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. vii. 138 The veneration for Becket's memory, acknowledged by his elevation to the honour of saintship.

2. The condition of being a saint or saintly person; saintliness of life or character.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* 328 These must be believed for this Saint-ship, although they he neuer so shamefully. *a* 1675 Glanvill *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* VII. (1676) 31 Each Sect confin'd the Church, Saintship, and Godliness to it self. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 349 The Dev'l was piqu'd such saintship to behold. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xi, Whose..eyes..Might shake the saintship of an anchorite. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* ii, He had felt sure that her face would be mantled with the smile of conscious saintship. 1871 Lowell *Pope* Wks. 1890 IV. 11 From the compulsory saintship..of the Puritans men rushed..to the opposite cant of sensuality.

3. With possessive pron. prefixed, used as a kind of title. Often *ironical.*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XV. xcviii. 389 Their Saintships are as capable thereof as sinfull men. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* IV. xxvii. 151 Where he did his Devotions to his Saintship with prayer and fasting in most humble manner. 1717 De Foe *Mem. Ch. Scot.* 25 They pulled St. Giles out of his Throne,..threw his Saintship into the Dirt. 1850 P. Crook *War of Hats* 8 Beside his saintship stands the holy nun, who broke her vows. 1893 A. Walters *Lotos Eater in Capri* vii. 149, I feel bound to throw what light I can upon his saintship's rather obscure personality.

Saint-Simonian (sē̆nt-, sē̆nt,simō·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **St.-** [f. *Saint-Simon* (see below) + -ian.]

a. *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of the socialistic system propounded by the Comte de Saint-Simon (1760–1825), who advocated state control of all property and a distribution of the produce according to individual vocation and capacity. **b.** An advocate of this system. Also **Saint-Simonist, -Simonite** (sē̆·mŏnist, -ĭt) in the same sense. Hence **Saint-Simo·nianism, -Si·monism,** advocacy of or adherence to this system.

1831 *Monthly Repos.* Mar. 189 The exposition of the Saint Simonian faith or doctrine. *Ibid.* Apr. 279 The St. Simonite faith. *Ibid.* Feb. 82 The French sect of Saint Simonites and the 'New Christianity' of its Founder. 1832 *John Bull* 6 Feb. 46/3 Massacre of old men and women in the Midi—Abbé Chatel—and Saint Simonists. 1841 Mary Hennell in C. Bray *Philos. Necess.* II. 610 St. Simonianism and Fourierism. *Ibid.* 562 The completion of the St. Simonian doctrine is to be found in the future full development of the religious sentiment which it contemplates. *Ibid.* 555 *note*, The St. Simonians complain that Guizot in reviewing the course of history has borrowed the ideas of their master. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* II. i. § 4 (1865) I. 264 The two elaborate forms of non-communistic Socialism known as St. Simonism and Fourierism. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* II. i. 122 St. Simonism, even if it alleviated poverty would introduce greater evils.

†**Saintuaire.** *Obs.* Also 4 sa(y)ntuare, seyntwar(e, *Sc.* sanctwar, 5 sayntware. [a. OF. *saintuaire, santuaire*, semi-pop. ad. late L. *sanctuārium* (see Sanctuary).] Sanctuary.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 688 And ilk waand þat þai þere bare He sperd wit-in þer santuare [*Gött., Trin.* seyntwar(e]. *Ibid.* 8274 Þat hali arke þai bare A-bute, wit all þair santuare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 65 He of þe apostolis all In-to þe sanctwar can ga. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 14 The libraire Which longeth to the Saintuaire. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1567 Of þe sayntware many sere thingis.

Saintuary, obs. form of Sanctuary.

†**Sainty.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 6 seynty. ? A mock-affectionate formation on Saint *sb.*

a 1529 Skelton *E. Rummyng* 583 There was a pryckemedenty, Sat lyke a seynty, And began to paynty, As thoughe she would faynty.

Saip, Sc. var. Soap. **Saipheron,** obs. f. Saffron.

Sair, Sc. var. Savour, Serve *v.*, Sore.

Saircenett, obs. form of Sarsenet.

Sais: see Say and See *v.*; var. Syce.

Saise, Saisen, etc., obs. ff. Seize *v.*, Seisin.

Saisin, variant of Sasin, Indian antelope.

†**Saisne.** *Obs. rare.* Also sasne. [a. OF. *Saisne* :—L. *Saxonem* Saxon.] = Saxon.

c 1450 *Merlin* xii. 176 Thei were in grete affray, and without counseile of the saisnes, that all day rode thourgh the londe. *Ibid.* 172 We haue herde the trouthe that the sasnes of the kyn of Aungier, of Saxoyne, be entred in-to oure londes and in-to oure heritages.

Sait, obs. Sc. f. Seat *sb.*, Set *ppl. a.*; obs. pa. t. of Sit *v.*

Saite (sē̆·ĭəit), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *Saītē-s* sb. and adj., a. Gr. Σαΐτης, f. Σάϊς, Sais: see -ite.]

a. *sb.* An inhabitant of Sais. **b.** *adj.* = Saitic *a.*

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 342 *marg.*, Theopompus affirmeth the Athenians to have been a Colony of the Saites. *Ibid.* 479. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 432/1 Many fine statues of basalt of the 26th or Saite dynasty.

Saithe (sēiþ). *Sc.* Forms: 7 sheath, 7–9 seath, 8 seeth, 8–9 saith, seth, 9 se(e)the, seythe, 9– saithe. [a. ON. *seið-r* (Edda Gl.), mod. Norw. *seid, sei*, Icel. *seiðr, seiðr* fry of codfish. Cf. Gael. *saigh, saighean* (*saoidhean, saoithean*), the coal-fish; Irish *saoidhean* (Dinneen) the young of any fish, esp. of the codfish or coal-fish.] The mature coal-fish. Also *attrib.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 500 Ling, Turbet and Seaths. *c* 1680 in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) III. 248 It is called Shetland, because in old time, there were many Sheath-fish caught about its Coast. 1710 Sibbald *Hist. Fife & Kinross* 52 *Asellus Niger*, the Cole-fish of the North of England; our Fishers call it a Colman's-Seeth. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 79 The fish commonly taken on this coast, are cod,..whitings, saiths or cuddies. 1793 *Ibid.* VII. 397 The tenants have from their landlords..a halfpenny for a seth (colefish). 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* (1841) II. 251 Among the Scotch islands the Coalfish is called Sillock,..Sethe, Sey, and Grey Lord. 1863 Johns *Home Walks* 114 Shoals of small fish, principally Sethe and Lythe. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xxvii, He proposed he should go ashore and buy a few lines with which they might fish for young saithe or lythe over the side of the yacht. 1892 *Gentlew. Bk. Sport* I. 67 The process of making a saithe-fly is very simple. 1895 *Athenæum* 14 Sept. 349/2 The angler may easily make a large catch either of mackerel or of pollack, scythe or herrings.

Saitic (sē̆i·i·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *Saītic-us*, a. Gr. Σαϊτικός, f. Σαΐτης: see Saite and -ic] Of or pertaining to Sais, the ancient capital of Lower Egypt. *Saitic dynasties*: the 26th and four following dynasties of the kings of Egypt. Hence *Saitic period, art*, etc.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 506 That excellent Monument of Egyptian Antiquity, the Saitick Inscription often mentioned, I am all that Was, Is, and Shall be. 1826–7 G. C. Renouard in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVIII. 411/2 The third [mouth of the Nile], called the Saïtic. 1836 G. Higgins (*title*) Anacalypsis, an attempt to draw aside the veil of the Saitic Isis; or, an inquiry into the origin of languages, nations, and religions. 1884 Amelia B. Edwards in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 21/2 The Saitic period (Dynasties XXVI. to XXX.) is distinguished by the minute finish and artistic beauty of its sculptured sarcophagi.

Saitt, obs. Sc. f. Seat *sb.*; obs. pa. t. of Sit *v.*

Saiv, obs. Sc. form of Safe.

Saixe, variant of Sax (a slater's tool).

Sajene, variant of Sagene.

‖ **Sajou** (sazū·). [Fr., shortened from *sajouassu* (Buffon), a. Tupi *saiuassu*, f. *sai* (*sahy, çahy*) monkey (see Sai) + *-uassu* augmentative suffix.] One of various small South American monkeys, varieties of Sapajous, and Capuchin monkeys.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 236 The third [of the sapajous] is the Sajou; distinguished from the rest of the sapajous by its yellowish, flesh-coloured face. 1855 W. S. Dallas in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Zool.* II. 503 The White-throated Sajou (*Cebus hypoleucos*).

Sak, obs. form of Sac 1, Sack *sb.*1, *sb.*2

Sakawinki (sækăwĭŋki). Also 8–9 saccawinkee, 9 sakka winkee. [Corruptly a. Du. *sagwijntje*, dim. of *sagwijn*: see Sagoin.] A South American monkey, the White-headed Saki, *Pithecia pithecia* or *capillamentosa*.

1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 135 The Saccawinkee is the smallest of the Ape tribe in Guiana. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xvi. 13 So very delicate is the saccawinkee, and so sensible of the cold, that scarcely one of them is brought to Europe alive. The Dutch call them the *shagarindee*, from their being chagrined at the smallest trifle. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIII. 396/1 *Pithecia Capillamentosus*, Spix;..Native of French Guiana, where it is called the Sakka Winkee, and also of Brazil. 1903 Des Voeux *Colonial Service* I. 90 One or two sakawinki or marmoset monkeys.

Sake (sēik), *sb.* Forms: 1 sacu, 2– sake; also 4–5 sak(k, (4 saac, sack, 5 saacke, 6 sacke), 4–6 *Sc.* saik, sayk, (5 saike, salk, 6 saek, sayck). [OE. *sacu* str. fem. = OFris. *sake, seke* affair, thing, sake, OS. *saka* lawsuit, enmity, guilt, thing (MLG., MDu. *sake* lawsuit, affair, cause, reason, guilt, Du. *zaak* lawsuit, cause, sake, thing), OHG. *sahha* cause, sake, thing (MHG. *sache*, mod.G. *sache* thing, affair), ON. *spk* crime, accusation, action at law, cause, sake (Sw. *sak*, Da. *sag* in the same senses; also, influenced by Ger., thing) :—OTeut. **sakā*, related to the str. vb. **sak-*, represented by OE. *sacan* to quarrel, fight, claim at law, accuse, OS. *sakan* to accuse, OHG. *sahhan* to strive, quarrel, rebuke. From the same root are OE. *sæcc* (:—**sakjā*), Goth. *sakjô* (:—**sakjōn*), strife. An ablaut-variant of OTeut. **sak-* is probably the **sōk-* represented by Seek *v.*, q.v. for the cognates outside Teutonic.

The only use surviving in mod Eng. ('for the sake of') has not been found in OE., and was prob. adopted from ON. It existed, however, in OHG. and OFris., and there is a possibility that it may have been in OE., though not evidenced in the literature. It seems to have arisen from the use of the sb. to denote a litigant's cause or case (see 1 b). Cf. L. *causā*.]

†**I.** As an independent substantive. *Obs.*

1. Contention, strife, dispute; in OE. also, a contention at law; a suit, cause, action.

Beowulf 154 Grendel wan hwile wið Hroðgar, heteniðas wæg..singale sæce. *a* 1000 *Laws of Hlothhære & Eadric* 8 Ðif inan oþerne sace tihte. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xiii. 7 Wearð.. sacu betwux Abrames hyrdemannum and Lothes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 He ne remde ne of bitere speche nes, ne he sake ne asterde. *c* 1205 Lay. 26290 And æðmodliche hine beden þat he wið Romleode summe sake arerde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1160 Oþer þu bodest cheste an sake. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 3510 So þai atonede wiþ oute sake.

2. A charge or accusation (of guilt); a ground of accusation. *Without sake*, without good reason (= L. *sine causa*).

c 1200 Ormin 10211 Her he forrbæd te cnihhtess ec.. To sekenn sakess o þe folle, To rippenn hemm & ræfenn. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* iii. 7 Alle to me witherwendand With-outen sake or any skil [Vulg. *omnes adversantes mihi sine causa*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27483 If þou man gas þin offrand to mak, And þi broþer haf gain þi sak. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 37 (Digby MS.) Hi nomen me wiþouten sake, Bounden min honden to mi bake. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 167 Nero, mesure þi gret foly, and sla na man fore-owt sake. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 204 We schul presenten þis pleint,..And sei sadliche þe soþ, rigt as we haue sene, O Sake.

3. Guilt, sin; a fault, offence, crime. Often coupled with *sin*.

Beowulf 2472 Ða wæs synn and sacu Sweona and Ʒeata, ..wroht gemæne. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 54 (Gr.) Nis ðær on ðam londe..synn ne sacu. *c* 1200 Ormin 1127 Þa lakess mihhtenn clennsenn hemm Off sakess & off sinness. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11553 For he moght find nan wit sak, On þe sakles he suld ta wrake. *Ibid.* 29022 Fasting fiemes flexsli sakes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 800 þat gloryous gyltlez þat mon con quelle, With-outen any sake of felonye. *c* 1400 A. Davy *Dreams* 90 And so shilde fro synne & sake! *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3213 þat sloȝe so þaire souerayne þat neuire sake hadd.

b. *Without sake*, without guilt, fault, or blame (both as adj. and as adv. phrase). Hence *transf.* = without physical blemish.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1430 Heo mai hire guld at-wende arihte weie þurh chirche-bende, an mai efte habbe to make hire leof-mon wiþ-ute sake. *a* 1272 *Luve Ron* 62 in *O. E. Misc.* 95 Him waxeþ þouhtes monye and fele hw he hit may witen wiþ-vten sake. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4043 He [Joseph] was fair, wit-outen sake. *Ibid.* 6067 And siþen sal ilk hus in-take A clene he lambe, wit-vten sake. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 33 þat noble wyf anna,..treuly to god seruit ay in þe tempil, nycht & day, foure schore of ȝere, forout sak.

4. *nonce-use.* Regard or consideration for some one. [After *for the sake of* in sense 5.]

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 12 Tho mov'd with wrath, and shame, and Ladies sake.

II. Phr. *For the sake of* (also †*for sake of*); *for* (one's, a thing's) *sake.*

In the latter of these forms, the word which precedes *sake* is a possessive (noun or pronoun); but down to the middle of the 19th c. the *'s* of the possessive of common or abstract nouns was very commonly omitted (doubtless owing to the difficulty of pronouncing the two sibilants in succession), and from the 17th to the early 19th c. the two sbs. were often connected by a hyphen, as if forming an attributive compound. The omission of the *'s* is now obsolete, but it is still not uncommon to write *for conscience sake, for goodness sake, for righteousness sake*, etc., without the apostrophe which is ordinarily used to mark the possessive of words ending in a sibilant.

The paragraphs marked β contain illustrations of the omission of the *'s*; some of the early examples there placed must be explained by the fact that the sbs. occurring in them (e.g. *soul*) had originally no *s* in the genitive.

5. Out of consideration for; on account of one's interest in, or regard for (a person); on (a person's) account.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 98 For hare sake ane dale ha etheold of hire ealdrene god. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1589 þat gode

wif..al for hire louerdes sake haueþ daies kare & nistes wake. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1454 Þis tur he let make Al for þine sake. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 244 Scho said, 'all that traualand ere, For saik of ane, ar welcom here'. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 596 Fore I hafe schawit hym quhat he mone thole for þe sayk of me. 1530 TINDALE *Gen.* xviii. 32, I will not distroy them for twenties sake. *Ibid.* 32, I will not destroy them for .x. sake. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 103 And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake. 1595 J. KING *Queens Day Serm.* in *On Jonas* (1618) 703 Hee spareth our countrie for his anointeds sake. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 637 Content to hear..Messiah's eulogy for Handel's sake! 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 277 For my own sake as well as for yours, I will do my very best. 1884 J. PAYN *Some Lit. Recoll.* 6 When it became necessary for him to exert himself for the sake of his family.

β. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 135, & þus quathe he his þing, for his soule sake. *Ibid.* 292 For þe comon sake. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 229 For Thetis his moder sake. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1813 And for þaire souerayne sake þam send to þe galawis. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xvii, This socur thou hase send me, For thi Sune sake I *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4087 Crist descendid to helle fro the heven for mankynde sake.

† b. Occas. with unfavourable notion: On account of enmity to; because of the guilt of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 162 Herode kyng wit wogh For crist sak þe childer slogh. *c* 1375 *St. Andreas* 96 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 5/1 Or els I sall for þi god sake Ger hang þe right on swilk a tre Als þou sais suld so honorde be. 1530 TINDALE *Gen.* iii. 17 Cursed be the erth for thy sake.

c. When the preceding genitive is pl., the pl. *sakes* is often used.

1530 TINDALE *Gen.* xviii. 26, I will spare all the place for their sakes. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 182 All the exempillis of the Law Ar writtin..For our saikis. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 765 For your faire sakes haue we neglected time. 1596 — *Tam. Shrew* v. ii. 15 For both our sakes I would that word were true. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 9 P 14 We desire you will put yourself to no farther Trouble for our sakes. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 505 'Then for God's sake', he answer'd, 'both our sakes, So you will wed me, let it be at once'.

6. Out of regard or consideration for (a thing); on account of, because of (something regarded in the light of an end, aim, purpose, etc.); often = out of desire for, in order to attain, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Ye schullen..wel witen þe inre [riwle] & þe uttre vor hire sake. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 217 For lucre and nought for loves sake. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 99 For consciences sake. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. 110 For argumentes sake, mark what wold follow. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* vii. (1652) 281 Men in their prosperity are not regarded for any thing in themselves, but for their prosperities sake, for their moneys sake, for their cloaths sake. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 689 This year..one Fabian Philipps..was a Student and Sojournour in the University for the sake of the Bodleian Library. 1693 *Humours Town* 56 One that drinks for drink's sake. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 35 P 10 He pursues no Point either of Morality or Instruction, but is Ludicrous only for the sake of being so. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1772) I. i. 10 It is doing mischief for mischiefs sake. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Wks. 1825 III. 132 The business for the sake of which the journey was undertaken. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) I. ix. 289 The icteric oriole is kept by the Americans in their houses for the sake of clearing them of insects. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 63 Flattering of rich men for the sake of a dinner. 1875 T. W. HIGGINSON *Hist. U. S.* ix. 66 There was no persecution for opinion's sake.

β. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* ii. 274 Adam, husband, I red we take thes figg-leaves for shame sake. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xiv. 9 Neuertheles for y^e ooth sake [*Mark* vi. 26 for the oothes sake]. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. xi. R iv, I shall for breuitie sake set foorth one onely rule generall. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. i. § 1 To suffer all things, for that worke sake which we couet to performe. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 16 It was mooued by some after supper, for entertainement sake. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 404 We are pitied, for fashion-sake of many, relieved of none. 1731 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 127 To flatter a man, from whom you can get nothing,..is doing mischief for mischief-sake. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) IV. xiv. 111 For sex-sake, for example-sake, Lucy, let it not be known. 1784 COWPER *Let. to Unwin* Wks. 1836 V. 57, I am writing in the greenhouse for retirement sake. 1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 398 Imagery or mere declamation, that is, speaking for speaking-sake. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 10. 3 It is our duty to reverence them for their office-sake. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Lect. Turks* i. (1854) 13, I shall call..the populations..Tartars, for convenience-sake. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i, For sweet marriage-sake.

† b. Because of, by reason of, through; in return or requital for. *Obs. rare.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 283 But say þou nouht, sire king, for sake of enuie þat me were loþ of our lif ludus to teche. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2022 And for þe sake of þi sede þou sent w^t þi lettre, Loo, here a purse full of pepire my powere to ken. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8902 Some of hem her deth schal take, Er it be nyȝt, for that wounde sake. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 158 Fearing lest for my sinnes-sake..I might be taken in some trap.

c. *For one's name('s) sake*, out of regard for one's name; also *for name sake*.

This has been suggested as the origin of NAMESAKE, q.v.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* ix. 16, I wyll shewe hym howe great thynges he must suffer for my names sake. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* II. 915, I love you for your name-sake. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 97 Thence to Harrington, be it spoken! For name-sake I gave a token To a beggar. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xix. 29 All.. that lose and forsake any thing here, for my Name-sake.

7. In exclamatory phrases of adjuration, as *for God's sake, for goodness' sake*.

For further illustration see GOODNESS 5, GOD *sb.* 12, MERCY *sb.* 4, PITY *sb.* 2 c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4800 And i yow pray, for drightin sak [*Gött.* for goddes sake]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 24 Now spede yow hastily for cristes sake. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxviii. 279 For goddes sake aduyse you well that ye come not there. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* vi. 4 Oh saue me, for thy mercies sake. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Aroostook* xvi, Hold on, for Heaven's sake! 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Vinted Venus* 32 'For goodness' sake, say something', he cried wildly.

† 8. With a pronominal adj. in place of the possessive. *For that sake*, for the sake of that, on that account, for that reason. *For any sake*, in any case, at all events. *For many sakes*, out of consideration for many things. *Obs.*

Quot. 1879 appears to be an unauthorized extension of this use.

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 321/512 A frere hadde I-trespased & for þat ilke sake a disciplyne he cholde habbe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2019 Þer-fore for soþe gret sorwe sche made, & swor for þat sake to suffur alle peynes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3771 (Trin.) She sent him soone into aram To hir broþer þat het laban þere to soiourne for þat sake Til his broþper wrabþe wolde slake. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 322 Aye me I fell, and yet do question make, What I should doe againe for such a sake. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) IV. xlii. 317 He shall, for many sakes, find it very difficult to provoke me. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xv, For any sake let us have one night of peace and rest. 1879 L. S. BEVINGTON *Key-notes* 133 Men are aglow to live for some great sake, Or die, if need be.

9. Phr. † *For sake('s) sake*: (*a*) euphemistically = 'for God's sake', in adjurations; (*b*) for the sake of some person understood; (*c*) for its own sake. *Obs.* Also, *For old sake's sake*: for the sake of old friendship.

1665 R. HOWARD *Four Plays, Committee* III. 102 Run after him, and save the poor Fellow for Sakes sake. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* II. i, Meaning some Body, that for sake-sake shall be nameless. 1728–9 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 191 Cupid knows he is only civil to me for sake's sake. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 86 But alas, Madam, he was not so well pleased with my Virtue, for Sake's sake, as Lady Betty thinks he was. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, I've a been long minded to do't for old sake's sake. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* v. 216 Yet for old sake's sake she is still, dears, The prettiest doll in the world. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* 17, I continue to take an interest in him for old sake's sake as they say.

10. *Sakes alive!* and simply *Sakes!*: a vulgar exclamation expressing surprise. *dial.* and *U.S.*

1846 MRS. KIRKLAND *West. Clearings* 78 'Law sakes alive!' was the reply, 'I ain't no how'. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) s.v., 'La sakes!' 'massy sakes!' 'sakes alive!' are very common exclamations among the venerable matrons of the interior parts of the country. The first two expressions are evidently corruptions of 'for the Lord's sake!' 'for mercy's sake!' 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 91/2 Good sakes alive!—what harm? 1896 J. DE BOYS in *Pall Mall Mag.* Apr. 548 Clever! Sakes! You call *him* clever!

Sake, *v.* Aphetic form of FORSAKE.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17183 And sua ur sinnes for to sake [*Gött.* to forsake]. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 592 Trew charite so for to sake. *c* 1420 *Metr. St. Kath.* (Halliw.) 11 For sche sakyth owre lay!

Sake, obs. form of SAG[1], SACK *sb.*[1], SHAKE.

‖ **Saké** (sæ·ke). Forms: 7 saque, 8 sakki, 9 saki, sake, saké. [Japanese *sake.*] A Japanese fermented liquor made from rice. (Hence used by the Japanese as a name for alcoholic liquors generally.)

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 112 Their ordinary drink is a kind of Beer (which they call Saque) made of Rice. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 71/1 Sakki, or rice-beer, is clear as wine, and of an agreeable taste: taken in quantity, it intoxicates for a few moments, and causes head-ach. 1878 MISS J. J. YOUNG *Ceramic Art* 170 Saki, or Sake, is the chief alcoholic drink of Japan, and is made from rice. 1901 HOLLAND *Mousmé* 315 Oblige me with a glass of whisky sake.

attrib. 1884 GORDON in *Mission. Herald* (Boston) 310/2 (Stanf.) A little beyond lives a young saké brewer. 1885 E. GREEY *Bakin's Captive Love* i. (1904) 12 Raising the saké-bottle from the hot-water vessel. *Ibid.* iii. 26 Acquaintances recently made in the saké-shops.

† **Saked**, *a. Obs.* [f. SAKE *sb.* + -ED[2].] Guilty.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1223 Vnseli caym þat ai was saked [*Gött.* þat was forsakid]. *Ibid.* 27471 And if he wat and warnis noght O ded es he saked if it be wroght.

Sakeen, variant of SKEEN (Himalayan Ibex).

Sakelease, -les(s: see SACKLESS.

Saker[1] (sē'·kəɹ). Forms: 5 sagre, 6 sagar, 5–9 sacre, 6– saker. [a. F. *sacre*, ad. Sp., Pg. *sacro*, It. *sagro*, prob. a. Arab. صَقْر *ṣaqr.*

In form the Sp., Pg. and It. word coincides with the adj. repr. L. *sacer* SACRED; it has in consequence been supposed to mean 'sacred falcon' (cf. mod. scientific Latin *Falco sacer*), and Diez ingeniously conjectured that the designation was suggested by a confusion between Gr. ἱέραξ falcon and ἱερός sacred.]

A large lanner falcon (*Falco sacer*) used in falconry, esp. the female, which is larger than the male, the latter being distinguished as *sakeret*.

'A related falcon of western North America, *Falco polyagrus* or *F. mexicanus*, is known as the *American saker*' (Cent. Dict. 1891).

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 117 Laneres, sagres [(1839) xxii. 338 *reads* Sacres], sperhawkes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iv, There is a Sacre and a Sacret. And theis be for a knyght. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 327 Some beheilde the tournes and tournynges of the sakers and gerfawcons. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn Sacret*, the tiercelet of a Saker. 1606 BRETON *Sidney's Onrania* H 1 b, The princely Sagar and the Sagaret. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Spun. Gipsy* II. i. 102 Let these proud sakers and gerfalcons fly. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 65 *Falco Sacer*..the Saker, or British Falcon. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 87 As a saker or jerfaulcon darts down upon a heron. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xii. 226 The Saker (*Falco sacer*) is much prized here, and is well known as distinct from the peregrine and the lanner. 1888 *Daily News* 25 Aug. 3/4 A fine Asiatic hawk (a Saker).

Saker[2] (sē'·kəɹ). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Also (6 sakir, *Sc.* saikyr), 6–7 sacre, (sakar, 7 sacar, 9 erron. sacker). [a. F. *sacre* (= It. *sagro*), a transferred use of *sacre* SAKER[1]. (Cf. *falconet, musket.*)] An old form of cannon smaller than a demi-culverin, formerly much employed in sieges and on ships.

1521 LD. DACRES in *Archæologia* XVII. 205 First of grete peces, a Saker, Two Faucons, viij small Serpentyns. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 145 M^r. Seymour,..beyng chased furst by that knave cowerd Burley, and put in gret dawnger with the shot of a sacre. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Mak reddy 3our cannons,..saikyrs, half saikyrs, and half falcons. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lii. 23 Potgoons, sakirs, cannons, double and demie. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 197 He found small hope to recouer any thing, saue a Cable and an Anchor, and too good Sacars. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 226 Culverin, Sakar, Minion, and other the like Ordnance of Brass. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* I. iv. 28 According to my own Observations made with one of Her Majesties [Qu. Anne] Sakers,..a Bullet..flies [etc.]. 1881 PALGRAVE *Visions of Eng.* 135 Shooting from musket and saker a scornful death-tongue of flame. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 21 Four sizes of cannon..called respectively, cannons, culverins, sackers and falconets.

b. *attrib.* as *saker shot*, etc.

1547 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 193 Sacre-wheles shod and unshod, three payr. *c* 1556 TOWRSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 38 The 14 day we came within Saker-shot of the castle. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 60 With a fayre saker shott they strake the verie blade of his leadinge staff into manie peeces. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 8 Captain John Bartlett..returneing into his Majestie's store 40 saker shott, being six poundes weight. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 65 A Saker-bore Piece of Iron. *a* 1690 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 281 [1643] A Demi-Culverin, Four small Drakes in one Carriage, a Sacre-Cut [see CUT *sb.*[2] 30 a].

† **Saker**[3], *Obs. rare*[−1]. [App. of Fr. origin: cf. '*sacquerelle*, a dock for a horses tayle' (Cotgr.); also *saquarelle* 1553 in Godefr.] = DOCK *sb.*[2] 2 a.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. (1617) 31 This done you shall buckle on his breast plate, and his crooper,..then you shall lace on his saker or docke.

Sakeret (sē'·kərĕt). *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 5 sacrette, 5–7 sacret, 6 sagaret, 7 sakret, sacaret, sakaret, 8– sakeret. [a. F. *sacret*, dim. of *sacre* SAKER[1].] The male of the 'saker'.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 238 Faukons gentyls, Lanyeres, Sacres, Sacrettes. 1486 Sacret, 1606 sagaret [see SAKER[1]]. 1620 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. iii. 83 Hawkes: as the Falcon,..Saker, Sakret, Marline. 1655 WALTON *Angler* i. (1661) 13 Of the first kind [*sc.* long-winged hawks], there be chiefly in use amongst us..the Saker and Sacaret. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 236/1 A Sacret or Sakaret is the male of a Saker or Sacre. 1721 BAILEY *Sakeret*, the Male of a Saker Hawk. And in later Dicts.

Sakeret, obs. var. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SACRE *v.*

Sakerfyse, obs. form of SACRIFICE.

Sakering(e, **-yng**(e, obs. forms of SACRING.

Sakett, obs. form of SACKET.

† **Sa·kful**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *sacfull*, f. *sacu* SAKE + *full* -FUL.] **a.** Contentious, quarrelsome. **b.** Guilty, criminal.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *De octo vitiis* in *Lamb. Hom.* 301 Se seofoþa unþeaw is þæt se cristena mann beo sacfull [*c* 1175 *Ibid.* 113 sacful]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26678 Bot þai na be samen partenar Sekand til an sakful dede.

Saki (sā'·ki). [a. F. *saki* (Buffon), app. incorrectly a. Tupí *çahy*: see SAI.] A South American monkey of the family *Cebidæ*, of either of the two genera *Pithecia* or *Brachyurus*; also with various defining names.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 236 Of the sagoins with feeble tails, there are six kinds. The first and the largest, is the Saki. 1780 SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 201 The saki, which is commonly called the fox-tailed monkey,..is the largest of the sagoins. 1896 H. O. FORBES *Hand-bk. Primates* I. 183 The hairy Saki. *Pithecia monachus. Ibid.* 185 The white-headed saki. *Pithecia pithecia.* 1898 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 5/1 An interesting South American Saki monkey known as *Pithecia chiropotes.*

Saki, variant of SAKÉ.

‖ **Sakia** (sā·kiă). Forms: 7 saki, 8 sakiah, 9 sakie, sackiyeh, sageer, sakhyia, sak(i)yeh, sakieh, sakia. [Arab. سَاقِيَة *sāqiyah*, fem. pr. pple. of *saqā* to irrigate. In North Africa the *q* is pronounced (g), whence the form *sageer*.] A machine for drawing water for irrigation, consisting of a large vertical wheel to which a number of earthen pots are attached, and to which motion is imparted by a horizontal wheel turned by oxen or asses.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 139 Eight Sakis turned all by Oxen, that discharge Water into a great Bason. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 603 (Stanf.) One of the ways in which the water is generally raised is by the Sakiah, or Persian wheel. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 21 The Nubian cultivators..employ sakies, or water-wheels, for the purpose of irrigating the fields during the summer. 1836

LANE *Mod. Egypt.* (1848) II. 163 Another machine..almost the only one used for the irrigation of gardens in Egypt, is the 'sâkiyeh'. 1844 KITTO *Phys. Hist. Palestine* vii. 295 The *Sachiyeh*,..which is usually in all places called 'the Persian Wheel'. 1866 BAKER *Albert N'Yanza* II. 37 Saat ..works away with his spoon like a Sageer (water wheel),.. the soup disappearing like water in the desert. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 50 A *sakhyia* or water-wheel, turned by oxen or donkeys. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 93/1 In Egypt, under the name of *sakia*, this machine is in common use.

attrib. 1873 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 324 The two characteristic sounds are the sakyeh creak, and the chattering of villagers at sunset.

Sakin, variant of SKEEN (Himalayan Ibex).

Sakir, obs. form of SAKER [2] and SACRE *v.*

Sakke, obs. form of SACK *sb.*[1], *sb.*[3]

Sakket, Sakki, obs. ff. SACKET, SAKÉ.

Saklace, -las, -les, obs. ff. SACKLESS.

Sakor, variant of SACRE *v.*

†**Sa·kre.** *Obs. rare.* Also sacre, sakar. [Of obscure origin.] Some kind of sea-going vessel.

1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 255 He toke occation to aske me..whethur I wolde goo to Callayes or Boulloigne by land, orelles in the gallyes with hym, or in the sakre which was taken by the gallyes, the which the King his masters pleasour was should be delyveryd agayne. *Ibid.*, [The writer replied] neither seyeng that I wold receave the saied sacre, nor that I wold refuse her. 1590 NASH *Pasquil's Apol.* B 4, Penrie..was built but for a Flie-boate, to take and leaue, when the skyrmish is too hote for him to tarrie, he may sette vp his sayles and runne away...Tantara, tantara, is he fled indeede? let me sende a Sakar after him.

Sakred, obs. var. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SACRE *v.*

Sakret, variant of SAKERET.

Sakring, -ryng, obs. forms of SACRING.

Sakyre, obs. variant of SACRE *v.*

‖ **Sal** [1] (sæl). *Chem., Alch.,* and *Pharm.* [L. (masc. and neut.) = salt.]

†**1.** = SALT *sb.*[1] (in various senses). *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 257 Sal tartre, Alkaly, and sal preparat. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 12 Sal comen preparate. *a* 1626 MEVERELL in *Baconiana Physiol.* (1670) 117, I can truly and boldly affirm, that there are no such principles as Sal, Sulphur, and Mercury, which can be separated from any perfect Metals. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 662 All Sublunary Bodies consist of the three principal Substances, Sal, Sulphur, and Mercury.

2. With qualifying word: †**sal anatron** = ANATRON; **sal attincar** = ALTINCAR; †**sal lambrot,** corrupt form of *sal* ALEMBROTH; †**sal marine** [med.L. *sal marinus*], common salt (see MARINE *a.* 1 b); **sal mirabile (-is)** [mod.L., 'wonderful salt', so named by Glauber], Glauber's salts, sulphate of soda; **sal soda,** †**sode** [med.L. *sal sodæ*], crystallized sodium carbonate; †**sal-tartre** [med.L. *sal tartari*], salt of tartar. See also *sal* ALEMBROTH, *sal* ALKALI, *sal* POLYCHREST; SAL-AMMONIAC, SAL ENIXUM, SALERATUS, SAL-GEM, SAL-NITRE, SAL-PETRE, SAL-PRUNELLA, SAL VOLATILE.

1775 ASH, **Salanatron,* Anatron, a kind of native salt. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. v. in Ashm. (1652) 190 *Sal Attinckarr. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), **Sal Lambrot,* or *Salebrot.* 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 7 They..become determined into a saline Body; in one place into Allom, in another in *Sal-marine. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 739 Sal marine is common salt (chloride of sodium). 1729 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 33 Glauber's *Sal Mirabilis, which is made of common Salt and Vitriol. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 675 Glauber's Salt,..formerly known as 'sal mirabile Glauberi'. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. v. in Ashm. (1652) 190 Sal Peter, *sal Sode, of these beware. 1884 A. WATT *Soap-making* 93 The dried sal-soda is produced by passing currents of hot air through the crystals until they fall into a powder. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 129 Sal soda gives detail and bromide gives contrast. *c* 1386 *Sal tartre [see 1 above]. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. v. in Ashm. (1652) 190 Sal Tarter, sal Comyn, sal Geme most clere. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, I, I know, you'haue arsnike, Vitriol, sal-tartre, argaile, alkaly, Cinoper. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 121 Sal Tartar.

†**b.** Short for SAL VOLATILE. *Obs.*

1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* Epil, Your Sal, and Harts-horn Drops.

Sal [2] (sāl). Also **saul.** [Hindī *sāl* = Skr. *śāla.*] A valuable timber tree of India, *Shorea robusta* yielding the resin dammar. Also *attrib.*

1789 SAUNDERS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 80 Saul timber, bamboo, and plantains. 1800 *Suppl. Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 131/2 The forest, thro' which we passed, consisted of saul trees, setsaul, bamboos. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 435/2 Great sal forests exist along the southern base of the Himalaya Mountains. 1873 Miss R. H. BUSK *Sagas fr. Far East* 331 His death..took place under a Shala-grove, or grove of sal-trees. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. (ed. 2) 336 The Teak and Saul of India. 1901 *Harper's Mag.* CII. 775/2 The gate was of solid sal-wood.

Sal, obs. f. SAIL; obs. north. f. SHALL, SOUL.

‖ **Sala** [1] (sā·la). [It., Sp., Pg. *sala*: see SALLE.] A hall or large apartment; *spec.* a dining-hall.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 205 Hee had entred with his whole troupe of men into the Sala where the Duke sat. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 54 Passing from hence through the *Sala* again, I was led into the great room hard by. 1774 WRAXALL *Tour North. Europe* iii. (1776) 26 The grand sala or dining-room [of the palace of Rosenbourg]. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* vii, [In Mexico] The ball room was a long oblong *sala,* with a 'banquette' running all round it.

‖ **Sala** [2] (sā·la). [Hindī, Skr. *śālā* house.] An Indian rest-house or inn.

1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 265 We find two Salas or travellers' rest-houses. 1890 H. S. HALLETT 1000 *Miles* 257 Passing through the village we put up at the *sala* or rest-house, which is situated on the banks of the Meh Wung.

Salaam (sălā·m), *sb.* Also 7 **salame, sallam, salema, salom, selame,** 7–8 **selam,** 7–9 **salam,** 8 **schalam,** 8–9 **salem.** [Arab. سلام *salām* (hence in Pers. and Urdū) = Heb. שָׁלוֹם *shālōm* peace.] The Oriental salutation (*as*)*salām* (*ʿalaikum*), Peace (be upon you). Hence applied to a ceremonious obeisance with which this salutation is accompanied, consisting (in India) of a low bowing of the head and body with the palm of the right hand placed on the forehead.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 546 He..presenteth himselfe to the people to receive their Salames or good morrow. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 113 Some of the bridemaids came out unto us, and after a Sallam or Congee began a Morisko. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 152 When they give one another the Selam, after the Prayer of Kouschlouk. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 214 Tuan Hadjee got up, and, without making the ordinary selam, went abruptly out of the hall. 1800 *Suppl. Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 152/2 On being informed that I was a Brahman, he made me some very respectful salems. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xlvii. 65 We were received with a profusion of Salaams by the sultan's perfumer. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 114 Good morning, sar: great chief, salam! 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* I. 287 After a long chat, I made my salaam, and went to inspect a most conspicuous object on a neighbouring height. 1867 'OUIDA' *Under Two Flags* II. viii. 213 The Moor rose instantly, with profound salaams, before her. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* 181 'Salaam, Tarvin Sahib', he murmured.

b. *transf.* Respectful compliments.

1786 HAN. MORE *Let. to Lady Middleton* 14 June, Pray present my proper salams (is that spelt right?) to Mrs. Bouverie. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 267 Rutton Singh sends his best salaams.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *salaam-like* adj.; **salaam convulsion, -spasm,** a form of convulsion incident to children and characterized by nodding of the head.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xvii. II. 9 A 'salaam-like' movement of his trunk. 1850 *Lancet* I. 485 *Eclampsia nutans* of Mr. Newnham, or the 'salaam convulsion' of Sir Charles Clarke. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* II. 287 Wry-neck, writer's cramp, spinal trepidation, salaam spasm.

Salaam (sălā·m), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To make a salaam to; to salute with a salaam; to offer salutations to.

1693 T. SMITH *Obs. Constantinople* in *Coll. Cur. Trav.* II. 71 They..take it ill to be salam'd or saluted by them. 1728 OCKLEY *Saracens* II. 182 Obeidollah appearing, Muslim did not Salàm or salute him. 1837 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 111 Two rows of his own servants and ours, salaming him at every step. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* 199 He [sc. an ape] used to salaam me in the mornings like Luchman Rao, the prime minister.

2. *intr.* To make a salaam or obeisance.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 18 It being their Custom only to Salam, giving a bow with their Hands across their Breasts. 1824 *Edin. Rev.* XLI. 41 They salaamed to me with an air that said [etc.]. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 139 He fell on the ground salaming (the most submissive obeisance). 1852 Miss YONGE *Cameos* I. xxix. 249 Putting their hands to their brow, and salaaming down to the ground. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 49 When he comes into the room he salaams profoundly.

Hence **Salaa·ming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 45 *note,* Salaming is the mode of salutation in India. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 43 Hordes of respectfully salaaming natives from all parts of India.

Salacious (sălē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *salāci-, salax,* f. root of *salīre* to leap: see -IOUS.]

1. Lustful, lecherous; sexually wanton.

1662 FELTHAM *Lett.* in *Resolves,* etc. x. 74 If you remember how you have seen the salacious and devouring Sparrow beat out the harmless Marten from his nest. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 25 Pigeons, Poultry and other Salacious Corn-fed Birds. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 55 Let every man thou seest give new desires And not one quench the rank salacious fires. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. v. 427 Animals of the hare kind..are remarkably salacious. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 484 A disorder of the spinal marrow incident to persons of a salacious disposition. 1865 *Sat. Rev* 28 Jan. 101 The perusal of the amatory diaries and salacious confession of incipient guilt. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 992 Its [i. e. arsenic's] more immediate effect on the system is to make the people lively, combative and salacious.

2. Tending to provoke lust. *rare.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xxvii, Which makes fish more salacious commonly than flesh. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 199 Feed him with Herbs..Of generous Warmth, and of salacious kind. 1775 *Sterne's Sent. Journ.* IV. 219 (*Consequence*) It is well known..that turtle is very salacious food.

Hence **Sala·ciously** *adv.*, **Sala·ciousness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Salaciousness,* Salacity, Lechery, Lustfulness. 1755 JOHNSON, *Salaciously,* lecherously; lustfully. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVIII. 509 His frequent salaciousness is an aroma, disgusting to the pure and corruptive of the temperate taste. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 564 Small doses do cause evident salaciousness and irritation of the genital organs.

Salacity (sălæ·sĭti). [ad. L. *salācitāt-em,* f. *salāc-, salax* (see SALACIOUS). Cf. F. *salacité.*] The quality or condition of being salacious; lustfulness, lecherousness, sexual wantonness.

1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 333 The salacitie and wantonnes of their nation. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. I. ii. 327 Sparrows, which are..short liued because of their salacity. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 6 Some Earths appear to be totally barren, and some though not altogether so unfruitful, yet wanting Salacity to conceive. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 385 Lepers are notorious for their salacity and longevity. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 485 Morbid salacity is no uncommon cause of madness. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 9/2 The Oxford fellow whose conversation..was traversed by a vein of salacity. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Apr. 428/1 A reading of this book inspires us with a fear lest French salacity is to be paraded in the English tongue.

Salad (sæ·lăd). Forms: *α.* 5 **selad,** 5–7 **salade,** 6–7 **sallade,** 7–9 **sallad,** 7– **salad**; *β.* 6 **sal(l)ett(e, -otte, -ite,** 6–7 **salat,** 6–9 (now *dial.* or *arch.*) **sallet,** 7 **sallat(e.** [a. OF. *salade* (14th c.), a. Pr. *salada* = Olt. *salata,* Pg. *salada* (cf. It. *insalata,* Sp. *ensalada*):—popular L. **salāta,* f. **salāre* (It., med.L. *salare,* Pr., Sp., Pg. *salar,* F. *saler*) to salt, f. L. *sal* salt.

The Romanic word has been generally taken into the Germanic langs.: Du. *salade* (*salaet* in Kilian, also *sla* from **slade*), late MHG. *salât* (G. *salat*), Sw., Da. *salat*; also Russ. САЛАТЪ.]

1. A cold dish of herbs or vegetables (e. g. lettuce, endive), usually uncooked and chopped up or sliced, to which is often added sliced hard-boiled egg, cold meat, fish, etc., the whole being seasoned with salt, pepper, oil, and vinegar.

For an earlier wider use see quot. 1688 in *β.* and cf. quot. 1687 s. v. SALADING.

α. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 398 Item, for erbes for a selad j. d. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 41 Yonge men..shell eate..salades of cold herbes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 125 This herbe..is much vsed in meates and Salades with egges. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 37 If you would make a delicate sallad of Cucumbers, boile them first, then pill from them their rind, serue them vp with oile, vinegre, and honey. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 72 Purslain ..tis very sweet, and makes a good Salad for a hot Country. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xvi, She turned away one servant for putting too much oil in her sallad. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, Wholesome herbs, which I boiled, and eat as sallads with my bread. 1846 FORD *Gatherings from Spain* (1906) 147 The salad is the glory of every French dinner and the disgrace of most in England. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 107 The most approved autumnal salads are those mainly composed of endive.

β. c 1390 *Forme of Cury* (1780) 41 Salat. Take persel, sawge, garlec [etc.]..waische hem clene..and myng hem wel with rawe oile, lay on vyneger and salt, and serue it forth. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 30 (1877) 64 Oyle olyve whiche was brought out of Espayne, very good for salettes. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 8 A Sallet of greene herbes. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradis.* 468 Asparagus..whose young shootes..being boyled, are eaten with a little vinegar and butter, as a Sallet of great delight. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 14 May, A Sallet and two or three bones of mutton were provided for a matter of ten of us. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 84/2 Sallet, is either Sweet Herbs, or Pickled Fruits, or Cucumbers, Samphire, Elder-Buds, Broom-Buds, &c. eaten with Roasted Meats. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 173 Samphire..is very good in Sallets. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 30 ₱ 5 Pudding, which, it must be confess'd, is not so elegant a Dish as Frog and Sallet. 1908 A. NOYES *Drake* VI, Sallets mixed with sugar and cinnamon.

b. *fig.* and allusively, as a type of something mixed († or savoury).

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 18 She was the sweete Margerom of the sallet, or rather the hearbe of grace. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 462, I remember one said, there was no Sallets in the lines, to make the matter sauoury. *a* 1635 CORBET *Iter Bor.* (1647) 487 The Puritan, the Anabaptist, Brownist, Like a grand sallet. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 11 Our Garrick's a salad, for in him we see Oil, vinegar, sugar, and saltness agree. 1831 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 373 How the united robbers, after a sallad of murder and *Te Deums*, of conflagrations and general fasts, succeeded in dividing Poland. 1856 F. SAUNDERS (*title*) Salad for the Social. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) LVII. 133/1 Close at hand the building is an entertaining salad of styles.

2. Any vegetable or herb used in a raw state as an article of food, esp. in the kind of dish described in 1; = *salad-herb.* See also CORN-SALAD.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 97 Beware of saladis, grene metis, and of frutes rawe. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* lix, They yede about gadring Plesaunt salades, which they made hem ete. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 52 b, And your Potte herbes and Sallets in another place. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. i. 91 That all rawe hearbs and sallets breed Melancholy blood, except Buglosse and Lettice. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 1, I could digest a Sallad gathered in a Church-yard, as well as in a Garden. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 395 They are very temperate in their diet, eating a great deal of sallet and but little flesh. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 304 To pick A cheap but wholesome sallad from the brook. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, The Cloisterham children grow small salad in the dust of abbots and abbesses, and make dirt-pies of nuns and friars. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 273 Watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*..). The well-known salad.

b. *spec.* (*dial.* and *U. S.*) Lettuce.

1838 *Philadelphia Ledger* July (Bartlett), Salad goes to head by the middle of May, on Vancouver's Island. 1860 *Darlington's Amer. Weeds,* etc. 205 Those forms known as Curled and Head Salad. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Sallit*.. the lettuce plant before preparation for the table.

†**c.** in proverbial or allusive use, *esp.* in *to pick a salad,* (*a*) to be engaged in some trivial occupation, (*b*) to make a selection (*out of*). *Obs.*

1540 WHITINTON *Vulg.* 2 He that laboreth nothyng holy, but catcheth a patche of euery thyng, is mete to pycke a salet. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 5 b, Angisus..byshopp of Metis, vsurpynge the hygh stewardshypp of Fraunce, at

layser made the kynge to go pyke a salett. 1568 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. lii. 525 As for your new Doctors, it is good to pick a Sallet out of them, now and then. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 102 If not, like an vnthankefull Hackney-man shee meant to tourne him into the bare leas, and set him as a tyrde iade to picke a sallet. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 15 'Twas a good Lady. Wee may picke a thousand sallets ere wee light on such another hearbe. 1603 DEKKER *Batchelors Banquet* Wks. (Grosart) I. 176, I would haue turnd the queane out of doors to picke a Sallet.

3. *attrib.*, as *salad bowl, -cream, -dish, -dressing, -plate, -root, -spoon*; **salad burnet**, the common burnet, *Poterium Sanguisorba*; †**salad clover**, *Melilotus cærulea*; **salad days**, days of youthful inexperience; **salad furniture** (see FURNITURE 6 b); **salad-herb** ?*Obs.*, = sense 2; **salad rocket**, *Eruca sativa* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); †**salad sorrel**, ? *Oxalis Acetosella*. Also SALAD-OIL.

1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre of Tappington*, Curled like a head of celery in a *salad-bowl. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (1861) 236 The *Poterium sanguisorba*, ..derives its English name of *salad-burnet from its being used as a salad. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 42, I know no Englishe name for it [sc. *Lotus urbana*]: howbeit, it may be named..gardin clauer or four clauer, or *sallat clauer. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Salad-cream*, a prepared dressing for salads. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 73 My *Sallad dayes, When I was greene in iudgement, cold in blood. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* May 554 Being in want of a horse at the time—it was in my salad days, reader—I looked through the advertisements in *The Times*, and noticed one which at any rate promised well. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xii. 83 All the newspapers that flourished in the green and sallet days of the Press have been replaced by more adventurous rivals. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* (Roxb. Club) II. 4/1 A *sallett dish. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Oct., And so you only want some salad-dishes, and plates. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xviii, An unrivalled compounder of *salad-dressing. 1538–48 ELYOT *Dict., Acetarium*,..a gardeine, where *salet herbes do growe. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 243 An other garden full of all sorts of sallet hearbes. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 468 Asparagus is a principall and delectable Sallet herbe..boyled. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 665/2 *Sallad Herbs*:..the principal..are lettuce, endive, cellery, and small herbs, such as cresses, mustard, radish, &c. 1796 [see BURNET *sb.*² 1]. 1573 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) I. 370 Item, for *sallet roots 0 2. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Saletie, Petite saletie*, Pettie Sorrell, *sallet Sorrell. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Salad-spoon*, a wooden, ivory, or other spoon, for mixing and serving salad.

Salade, var. form of SALLET, helmet.

Saladine (sæ·lădin), *sb.*¹ Also 5 **salendyne**, 5–6 **-andyne**, 6 **saledyne, -endinne**, 9 **salladin.** *Obs.* and *dial.* Variant of CELANDINE.

c 1430, 1486 [see CELANDINE 1 a]. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Salandyne..*celidoyne*. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* H 6 Let the rote of Saledyne stampte sethe in wyne. 1573 *Art of Limning* 2 The yellow milke of green salendine. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 639 Saladine hath a yellow Milk, which hath ..much Acrimony. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Salladin*, the plant celandine, *Chelidonium majus*. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Saladine*.

†**Saladine,** *sb.*² *Obs.* ? = CELIDONY 2.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 223 Wythe dyamandes fulle derely dyghte, Ryche saladynez sette on every syde.

Sa·ladine, *a.* (*sb.*³). *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *saladīnus* (in *decimæ saladinæ*), f. *Saladin*, the name of the Sultan of Egypt and Syria (1137–93).] *Saladine tax* (also absol.); a tax, consisting of the tenth of a man's income, first imposed in 1188 on England and France for the support of the crusade against Saladin (see above).

Modern writers substitute the proper name used attrib. or possessively.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Saladine-Tax was thus laid; That every Person who did not enter himself a Croise, was obliged to pay a Tenth of his yearly Revenue. 1752 *Ibid.*, The Carthusians, Bernardines, and some other religious, were exempted from the Saladine.

[1832 *Encycl. Amer.* XI. 172/2 The Saladin Tenth. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 185/2 Saladin's tithe. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. (1897) 597 The Saladin tithe.]

Salading (sæ·lădiŋ). Forms: see SALAD; also 7 **salletine**, 8 **salatine**. [f. SALAD + -ING¹.] Herbs and vegetables used for salad.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 190 Sow Chervil, Lettuce, Radish, and other..Salletings. *Ibid.* 216 Fill your vacant Beds with Sallading. 1670 NARBOROUGH in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 69 Some Herbs..we boiled for Salleting. 1687 in Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 236, 36 plates of sallating, piled high and copped, viz., oranges, lemmons, olives, samphire, &c. 1709 E. WARD tr. *Cervantes* p. v, Several Cart Loads of Endive, Celery, Celician, Lettice, and Tarragon, were sent into the Kitchen to accommodate the Table with raw Salatine. 1771 SIR J. BANKS *Jrnl.* (1896) 442 Garden stuff and salletting. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* May 69 Continue to make sowings..of Peas, Beans, Turnips,.. every fortnight, with small salading every week. 1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept. 301/1 The small saladings which make an intermittent appearance at the table.

b. *attrib.*: †**salading-burnet**, = *salad-burnet*.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 27, I spoke of it as the garden pot-herb, and sallading burnet.

Sa·lad-oil. Olive oil of superior quality, such as is used in dressing salads.

1558–9 *Will of T. Hynde* (Somerset Ho.), Layde out..for sallett oyle. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. xvii. 31 Take sweete Sallette Oile twentie pounde. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. 99 Oyle Oliue, which we commonly call Sallet Oyle. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* II. 74 Paste, Sallad-Oyl, and such accidental Requisites as the Press-man in his work may want. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 580 Salad oil, or sweet oil (olive oil), is obtained by crushing olives. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 302 The oil, *Oleum Olivæ*, called also Salad oil, is of a pale straw colour.

Salal (sæ·lăl). Also **sallal**. [Chinook Jargon *sallal* (= Chinook *ɬl-kwu-shá-la*).] An evergreen shrub (*Gaultheria Shallon*) of California and Oregon, bearing sweet edible berries.

1838 PARKER *Expl. Tour* (1846) 221 The salalberry is a sweet and pleasant fruit of a dark purple color, oblong, and about the size of a grape. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 522/2 The Shallon or Salal of the north-west coast of America. 1886 *Good Words* 73 Great woods of Douglas fir cover the whole region [of Vancouver Island], with a lovely undergrowth of arbutus, sallal, an evergreen shrub, and small maples.

Salamander (sælămæ·ndəɹ), *sb.* Also 4–5 **salamandre**; 5–7 in L. form. [a. F. *salamandre* (12th c.), ad. L. *salamandra*, a. Gr. σαλαμάνδρα. Cf. MHG., mod.G. *salamander*.]

1. a. A lizard-like animal supposed to live in, or to be able to endure, fire. Now only *allusive*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Þe salamandre þet leueþ ine þe uere. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 170 And salamandra most felly dothe manace. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. vi. 74 This Salemandre berith wulle, of whiche is made cloth and gyrdles that may not brenne in the fyre. [Cf. *salamander's wool* in 6.] 1590 GREENE *Roy. Exch.* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 230 The Poets..seeing Louers scorched with affection, likeneth them to Salamanders. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 9 Like the Salamander, that is ever in the fire and never consumed. 1616 R. C. *Cert. Poems* in *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 119 Yet he can live noe more without desire, Then can the salamandra without fire. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 20 The Aery Camelion and fiery Salamander are frequent there [sc. in Madagascar]. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxvii. 464 Sin like a Salamander can live to eternity in the fire of God's wrath. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 205/1, I have some of the hair, or down of the Salamander, which I have several times put in the Fire, and made it red hot, and after taken it out, which being cold, yet remained perfect wool. [Cf. 1481 above.] 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 129 He had 2 Salamanders, which lived 2 hours in a great Fire. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* iv. 131 That he will henceforth [in the island of Volcano] follow the example of a salamander, which always lives in fire.

b. Any tailed amphibian of the urodelous family *Salamandridæ*, or some closely allied family.

The land salamanders form the typical genus *Salamandra*; the water salamanders are the newts or tritons.

1611 COTGR., *Salmandre d'eau*, the water Salamander; black-backed, red-bellied, and full of yellow spots. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 26 *Lacerta Salamandra aquatica*, the water Salamander. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VI. lviii, Small Cape Salamander...It squeaks like a Rat. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, The *salamandra aquatica*, or water salamander...The *salamandra terrestris*, or land salamander. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 187 Aquatic Salamanders always retain the vertically compressed tail. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxii. 421 The other [sc. *Menopoma*]..has been called by American writers the giant salamander. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 30 The Black Salamander (*Triton alpestris*) has no spots. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 405 The Japanese Giant Salamander (*Cryptobranchus japonicus*).

c. A figure of the mythical salamander used as an emblem.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 205/1 He beareth Argent, a Salamander in flames. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Salamander* (*Her.*), an emblem of constancy, is represented in flames. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 138 The last cavalier..belongs to the suite of the King of France, which is seen by the royal salamander on his back. 1841 G. A. POOLE *Struct. & Decor. Churches* 9/2 A salamander also appears on this font [in Winchester Cathedral],..in allusion to the words which St. John spake of our blessed Lord [Matt. iii. 11].

2. *transf.* and *fig.* applied to persons, etc. with reference to sense 1 a. **a.** *gen.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 53, I haue maintain'd that Salamander [= fiery-red face] of yours with fire, any time this two and thirtie yeeres. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 45, I sate too hot, yet still I did desire, To liue a Salamander in the fire. 1666 SPURSTOWE *Spir. Chym.* 103 At a far cheaper rate they might have been Saints in Heaven than Salamanders in Hell. 1670 BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 441 God's people are true salamanders, that live best in the furnace of afflictions. 1854 *Househ. Words* VIII. 159/1 She is a salamander in temper..for all her innocent name. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iv, Madame Midas was a perfect salamander for heat.

b. A spirit supposed to live in fire.

See Paracelsus *De Nymphis, Sylphis, Pygmæis, et Salamandris*, etc., Wks. 1658 II. 388 seqq.

1657 PINNELL *Philos. Ref.* 27 To the Fire or the Firmament doe belong the Vulcanals, Pennats, Salamanders. 1712 POPE *Rape Lock, To Mrs. Arabella Fermor*, According to these Gentlemen [sc. the Rosicrucians], the four Elements are inhabited by Spirits, which they call Sylphs, Gnomes, Nymphs, and Salamanders. 1712–14 *Ibid.* I. 60 The Sprites of fiery Termagants in Flame Mount up, and take a Salamander's name. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiii, Like salamanders executing a frolic dance in the region of the Sylphs. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. iv. 55 A prince I seemed o'er many a salamander.

†**c.** A woman who (ostensibly) lives chastely in the midst of temptations. *Obs.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 198 P 1 There is a Species of Women, whom I shall distinguish by the Name of Salamanders. Now a Salamander is a kind of Heroine in Chastity, that treads upon Fire [etc.]. 1771 *Generous Husb. or Hist. Lord Lelius* 37 The real beauty and avowed virtue of those lovely salamanders.

d. A soldier who exposes himself to fire in battle.

1705 SWIFT *Descr. of Salamander* 22 Wks. 1751 VII. 79 Call my Lord C[utts] a Salamander. [1807 SIR R. WILSON *Jrnl.* 15 May in *Life* (1862) II. vii. 217 As I know that Buonaparte exposes himself as little as possible; not amongst his other vanities believing that he is a salamander. *c* 1849 in *Spectator* 21 May (1904) 810/2 Paddy Gough's a cross betwixt A bulldog and a salamander.] 1897 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 8/4 In battles a man who feared fire was of no use, and Mr. Gee was the soundest Salamander he had ever known.

e. *slang.* A fire-eating juggler.

(Cf. quot. s.v. SALAMANDERSHIP.)

1859 HOTTEN *Slang Dict.*, *Salamanders*, street acrobats and jugglers who eat fire. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* I. vi, We ain't a show. Lotty ain't a clown; I ain't a jumping-horse; Liz ain't a salamander.

3. Applied to various articles used in fire or capable of withstanding great heat. †**a.** Asbestos. (Cf. *salamander-stone*; also F. *salamandre pierreuse*.)

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 254 *Amianthus..aliàs Asbestinus Lapis..Salamandra*..the Salamandre, or incombustible stone, and Salamanders wool. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Salamander*, a Stone (lately) found in Pensylvania full of Cotton, which will not consume in the Fire.

b. An iron or poker used red-hot for lighting a pipe, igniting gunpowder, etc.: see quots.

1698 W. KING tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 27 Multitudes had little Tin Kettles in their Houses, with Small-coal kindled, to light their Pipes withal; though in some places they use Candles, in others Salamanders. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Salamander*,..a red-hot Iron to light Tobacco with. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict., Salamander*, a piece of metal with a handle attached, which is heated for the purpose of firing guns. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Salamander*, a large poker. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* L xv. 196 Peggy appeared with a salamander—that is a huge poker, ending not in a point, but a red-hot ace of spades. 1898 *United Service Mag.* Mar. 621 The salamander—an iron kept red hot in the galley for firing the salutes.

c. *Metallurgy.* 'A mass of solidified material in a furnace hearth' (Raymond); called also *bear, horse*, and *sow*.

[1866 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* 3rd Ser. LII. 128 The matte melting (rohschmelzen) of the Stefanshütte does..not produce any secretions of metallic iron, (eisensauen, salamander).] 1871 [see HORSE *sb.* 12]. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 335 To throw away in mattes, slags, and salamanders the iron it [sc. hematite] contains.

d. *Cookery.* A circular iron plate which is heated and placed over a pudding or other dish to brown it.

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 253 Hold a hot salamander over it till it is very brown. 1804 FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* 192 Lay in the fritters, strew a little sugar over them, and glaze them over with a red-hot salamander. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* viii. 84 Their chronometer spits—their intense Salamanders—their ovens—their pots, that can soften old ganders. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* vii. 169 This is done with a salamander, as it is called...A kitchen shovel is sometimes substituted for it.

e. (See quots.)

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1059 The milk of wax, thus prepared, may be spread with a smooth brush upon the surface of a painting, allowed to dry, and then fused by passing a hot iron (salamander) over its surface. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Salamander*, a term sometimes applied to a fire-proof safe. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.*, *Salamander*, ..a metal drum or box for containing hot coals, etc., used in drying plaster.

4. *local U. S.* A pouched rat or gopher, esp. *Geomys pinetis*.

1859 S. F. BAIRD *Mammals N. Amer.* 371 The species [of *Geomys*] are termed 'gophers' in the west, but in Georgia and Florida they are almost universally called 'salamanders'. *Ibid.* 380 *Geomys pinetis*,..Salamander.

5. A form of drinking a toast common among German students.

The full expression is *einem einen salamander reiben* (cf. first quot. below).

1858 *Daily News* 12 Aug., [One of the ceremonies] is called 'rubbing a salamander'. Every student fills his glass ..to the brim, and at the command of the toastmaster rubs it on the table, while the latter counts three. 1891 *Times* 12 May 9/3 The German emperor when he responded to the 'thundering salamander' in which the Bonn students drank his health.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *salamander-gathering, -like* adj. and adv.; †**salamander('s) blood** (see quots.); **salamander-cloth**, an incombustible cloth made from asbestos; †**salamander-fly**, a kind of fire-fly; **salamander's hair** [cf. G. *salamanderhaar*], a kind of asbestos (see quot.); **salamander safe** *U.S.*, a fire-proof safe; †**salamander stone** = AMIANTHUS 1; **salamander-stove** *U. S.*, a small portable stove for heating rooms; †**salamander('s) wool**, asbestos (cf. quots. 1481 and 1688 in 1).

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 57/2 This Spirit, from its coming forth in red Vapours, is by some Authors called, The *Salamanders Blood. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Salamanders Blood*, is a foolish Term that the Chymists give to the red Vapours, which in Distillation of Spirit of Nitre, towards the latter end, do fill the Receiver with red Clouds. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 337/1 The *salamander-cloth sent by the Tartar king to the Roman pontiff. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 46 *Pyrogonus*..the Fire-fly, or *Salamandre Fly. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *All fools' Day*, Good master Empedocles, you are welcome. It is long since you went a *Salamander-gathering down Ætna. 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* 14 English Talc, of which the coarser Sort is call'd Plaister, or Parget, the finer, Spaad, Earth-Flax, or *Salamander's Hair. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 68 On the *Salamander-like Ierusalem, haue I cast the coole water of my Teares. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 32. 219 A Person..that Salamander like feeds in the Fire of Contention. 1798 C. DIBDIN *Song*, *'The Anchorsmiths'*, While, Salamander-like, the pond'rous anchor lies. 1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.*

(1888) III. 308 Salamander-like animals with four well-developed but short limbs. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Salamander-safes*, an American name for patent fire-proof iron safes. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s. v. *Safe*, They are now generally made fireproof; and some of these are called 'salamander safes'. 1583 Greene *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 61 The *Salamander stone, once set on fire, can neuer be quenched. 1590 — *Never too late* Ibid. VIII. 22 Their eyes are like Salamander stones, that fier at the sight of euery flame. 1852 Hawthorne *Blithedale Rom.* v. (1885) 42 She has been stifled with the heat of a *salamander-stove. 1892 *Daily News* 9 Aug. 5/4 Artificial heat was furnished by one hundred small salamander stoves. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 774 *Salamanders Wooll; Being a Kinde of Minerall, which whiteneth also in the Burning, and consumeth not. *a* 1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 152 A Garment of Salamander-wooll. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xiv. 139 Incombustible napkins and textures which endure the fire, whose materialls are call'd by the name of Salamanders wooll. 1668 [see 3 a].

b. passing into *adj.* = Salamandrine *a.* 1.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 198 ¶ 3 As for this part of the fair sex who are not of the salamander kind, I would.. advise them..to avoid..what religion calls Temptations. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1356 And is Lorenzo's salamander-heart Cold and untouch'd, amid these sacred fires? 1814 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* II. 302, I would rather..have gone through the same proportion of fire, as I have more salamander than dolphin properties.

Hence **Salamandership** (cf. Salamander *sb.* 2 e).

1787 *Microcosm* No. 21 ¶ 11 This illustrious Phænomenon of *Salamandership* and Virtue [*sc.* Mr. Powel, the Fire-eater].

Sa·lamander, *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] **a.** *intr.* To live amidst fire, like the salamander. **b.** *trans.* To submit to great heat.

1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VII. 25 In one apartment..dwells a maker of lucifer-matches, salamandering in fire and brimstone. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 782/1 His [*sc.* the Arab peasant's] garments must be salamandered and his carcass must be baked.

Salamandrian (sælămæ·ndriăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *salamandra* Salamander + -ian.] **A.** *adj.* **1.** Resembling (that of) a salamander.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 2 The Iesuits were the first beginners thereof [of scandal], and haue continued on this Salamandrian smoake of vaporous heats. 1647 Owen *Death of Death* Wks. 1852 X. 155 It is not..any Salamandrian Complexion that was the motive to this undertaking.

2. Belonging to the genus *Salamandra*.

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 656 A salamandrian larva. 1888 G. Allen in *Good Words* 232 A few other salamandrian creatures.

B. *sb.* A salamandrian batrachian.

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 656 A great fossil salamandrian.

Salamandrid (sælămæ·ndrid). [ad. mod.L. *Salamandridæ*, f. *salamandra* Salamander: see -id.] A salamander of the family *Salamandridæ*.

1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 345 Salamandrids.—Species without gills or gill-openings in the adult state.

Salamandriform (sælămæ·ndrifōm), *a.* [f. L. *salamandra* Salamander: see -form.] Resembling or having the form of a salamander.

1869 Huxley *Introd. Classif. Anim.* v. 112 The Labyrinthodonta.—The body is salamandriform, with relatively weak limbs, and a long tail. 1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* III. (1879) 390.

Salamandrine (sælămæ·ndrin), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *salamandra* Salamander + -ine 1.] **A.** *adj.* **1.** Resembling or characteristic of the salamander in being able to resist fire, or live in it.

1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 281 ¶ 13 A certain Salamandrine Quality, that made it capable of living in the midst of Fire and Flame. *a* 1849 Poe *Hawthorne* Wks. 1865 III. 190 'It becometh not a divine', saith Lord Coke, 'to be of a fiery and salamandrine spirit'. 1870 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Oct. 446 They led their salamandrine dance over the glazed delft plaques vis-à-vis to the leaping flames. 1886 A. Simson *Trav. in Ecuador* xiv. 184 There was a hot fire and the necessity of carrying on culinary operations in its immediate vicinity, which tended to call our salamandrine qualities into requisition.

2. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the *Salamandrinæ*.

1865 Cope in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 104 The representatives of these [types] in the Palæotropical region do not exhibit such decided salamandrine tendencies. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* xii. 287 Fashioning flank and limb into due salamandrine proportions. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 408 The Salamandrine *Amblystoma mexicanum*.

B. *sb.* **1.** = Salamander 2 b.

1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 507 The charms of Amenoe, a salamandrine. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 226 Every horrible legend of demon, ghost, goule, gnome, salamandrine, and fireking. 1885 Battersby *Elf Islands* 15 Then perhaps the elves, and the fairies and the beautiful salamandrines will come back to us.

2. = Salamander 1 b.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Salamandroid (sælămæ·ndroid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *salamandroïdes*, *-oïdeus*, f. *salamandra* Salamander: see -oid.] **A.** *adj.* Resembling a salamander, salamandriform.

1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 194 Salamandroid fishes. 1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 493 A Salamandroid Amphibian..four feet long.

B. *sb.* A urodele of the genus *Salamandra* or allied genera.

1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 344 Salamandroids, or *Batrachia Urodela*. 1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 349 The skeleton of a Salamandroid of large size.

Salama·ndrous, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *salamandra* Salamander + -ous.] Living as it were in fire; fiery, hot, passionate.

1711 G. Cary *Phys. Phyl.* 29 My Salamandrous Spirit.. my Æthnous burning Humours.

So **Salama·ndry** *a.*

1610 Boys *Expos. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1629) 76 If a Salamandry spirit should traduce that godly labour, as the silenced Ministers haue wronged our Communion Booke.

‖ **Salame** (sălā·mē). Pl. **salami.** [It., repr. pop. L. **salāmen*, f. *salāre* to salt.] A kind of sausage.

1852 Pfeiffer *Journ. Iceland* 19 White bread and salami? 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Salami.* 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Oct. 6/2 We must lunch on bread, cheese, and salame.

Sal-ammoniac (sælămō·niæk). Forms: see Ammoniac; also 5, 7 **sal almoniack,** 6 *Sc.* **sal aramoniakle, salmoniakill,** 7 **Sal Armeniac, salhormoniacke.** See also Salmiac. [See Ammoniac A. 1.] Ammonium chloride.

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 184 Salgemme and salpetre, Salarmoniac ther ys eke. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 84 And the spirit which is secounde In Sal Armoniak is found. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 41 Or whether I shall sal Almoniack take? 1507–8 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 104, ij pund sal aramoniakle [*sic*; *read* aramoniakle]. 1540 *Ibid.* VII. 357 Quik siluer, aqua vite, salmoniakill. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 351 The white of an egg incorporat with salhormoniacke finely puluerized. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 55 To which Aqua-fortis if you put a fifth part of Sal-Armoniack, and set them in a gentle heat, it makes Aqua-Regia. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* iv. 150 Equal quantities of spirit of Sal Armeniac and spirit of Wine mixt. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 33 Sal Armoniac very elegantly imitates the Branches of a Tree. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 87 The camels, which had been left unmolested to make sal ammoniac. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 294 Sal-ammoniac ..is now largely manufactured from the ammoniacal liquid of the gas-works.

Hence † **Sal-ammoni·acal** *a.*, pertaining to sal-ammoniac.

1760 Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 63 Urine by Glauber is reckoned to be of a destructive..nature to vegetables, because of the sal-armoniacal quality that is in it.

Salamon, variant of Salomon.

Salampo(o)re, -pora, variant ff. of Salempore.

Salamstone (sălæ·mˌstōun). *Min.* [ad. G. *salamstein* (Werner).] A blue variety of sapphire from Ceylon.

1816 Jameson *Min.* (ed. 2) I. 32 Werner has formed a new subspecies of spinel, under the name Salamstone, which is the Indian name of that mineral. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts*, etc. 743 *Salamstone* is a variety which consists of small transparent crystals..of pale reddish and bluish colours.

Salangane (sæ·lăngēin). *Zool.* Also 8 saligan, 9 **salagane.** [ad. F. *salangane* or mod.L. *salangāna*, sc. *avis*, f. *salaṁga*, name of the bird in Luzon.] One of the birds of the genus *Collocalia*, which make edible nests; an esculent swallow.

1793 Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* VI. 577 Nothing better shews that the Salangane has remained long unknown, than the different names bestowed on it. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 589 The nest of the bird saligan affords that dissolving jelly. 1869–73 T. R. Jones *Cassell's Bk. Birds* II. 119 The Salangane usually builds in such deep and dark cavities that [etc.].

† **Sala·rian,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* [Incorrectly for **Saliarian,* f. L. *Saliāris*, f. *Salii* (see Salian 1).] = Salian 1.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* II. xix. (1622) 60 A Salarian verse [orig. *Saliari carmine*], which Mars Priests were wont to sing. [Hence in 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*]

† **Sala·rian,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. L. *salāri-us* (f. *sal* salt) + -an.] Pertaining to salt. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

† **Sala·riate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *salāri-um* Salary + -ate 3.] *trans.* To pay a salary to; to supply the salary of. Hence **Sala·riated** *ppl. a.*, salaried.

1656 J. Harrington *Oceana* (1658) 202 The Seats of the Bean in Athens, because it was but annual, was moderately salariated. 1672 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 37 Salariated Masters of Chancery. *a* 1687 — *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 49 About 72,000*l.* at the medium of 3*l* per Man, would Salariate the whole number of twenty four thousand.

Salaried (sæ·lărid), *ppl. a.* [f. Salary *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

1. Having or receiving a salary.

1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* I. i. 36 Most of them are his salaried schollers, or agents. 1818 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XIX. 96 A regular inspection of the school by the salaried overseer. 1858 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) III. i. 36 To become a salaried class of servants of the crown. 1894 J. Knight *D. Garrick* iv. 59 He appeared as a salaried actor at Drury Lane.

2. Having a salary attached to it.

1836 Landor *Pericles & Aspasia* cxiv. Wks. 1853 II. 399/1 The other offices that are salaried are the lower. 1872 Minto *Eng. Prose Lit.* II. x. 610 The poorly-salaried Chair of Civil History.

Salary (sæ·lări), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 **salerie,** 4–6 **-arye,** 4, 7 **sallery,** 4–8 **salarie,** 5 **saleri, selarie, -are,** celarie, -rye, 5–7 **sallarie,** 5–8 **-ary,** 6 **sellary,** 7 **sallerey,** 8 **-erie,** 5– **salary**; *β.* 5 **sala(l)re,** 6 **-alr.** [a. AF. *salarie* = OF. *salaire*, It. *salario*, Sp., Pg. *salario*, ad. L. *salārium*, orig. money allowed to Roman soldiers for the purchase of salt, hence, their pay; subst. use of neut. sing. of *salārius* pertaining to salt, f. *sal* salt.]

1. Fixed payment made periodically to a person as compensation for regular work: now usually restricted to payments made for non-manual or non-mechanical work (as opposed to *wages*).

From *c* 1390 to *c* 1520 commonly applied to the stipend of a priest, esp. a chantry priest.

a. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 142 Riȝt as a seruaunt taketh his salarye bifore & sitth wolde clayme more. *a* 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 40 in *Adam Davy*, etc. 83 Chese þe a witty hyne & loue hym with al þi miȝth; Of his Salerie wiþholde þou nouȝth. 1428 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 80 And to a prest for to singe for me and all cristin soulis, competent saleri for an hole here. 1483–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 121 Payde to the preste, Syr Iohn plommer, for hys celarie for ij yer, xiij li vj s viij d. 1516 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 2, I will that a descritt and an honest preste have sellary to syng for my soull. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xii. 93 Phisitions..for their salarie haue euery one of them tenne aspres a day. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 360 For competent viande and sallarie to vndergoe the defence of the Realme. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 166 Reward, is either of Gift, or by Contract. When by Contract, it is called Salary, and Wages. 1659 D. Pell *Impr. Sea* 69 Are not some so taken up with the..gilded Cabbins, Lanthorns, and great Salaries which they have, that they minde little else? 1677 *Seasonable Argt. Grand Juries* 3 Sir Humphry Winch, Baronet, hath from the Court 500*l.* per annum Sallery. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett. to C'tess of Bristol* 10 Apr., The slaves..have no wages; but..clothes to a higher value than our salaries to any ordinary servant. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. i. II. 324 Fixed salaries were appointed to the judges. 1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. § 2 (1876) 36 That large portion of the productive capital of a country which is employed in paying the wages and salaries of labourers. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 37/1 A manager of a bank or railway—even an overseer or a clerk in a manufactory, is said to draw a salary. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 43 The salary of the Prime Minister is £5,000 per annum.

β. 1433 Lydg. *St. Edmund* I. 934 The laborer neded no stuff to borwe For his salaire abood nat til the morwe. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 144 Suppos the ȝere be nocht all past, or bot begomnyn, his [*sic*] sall have his full feis and salare. 1563–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S. T. S.) 26 The salair of the rectour.

† **2.** Reward or remuneration for services rendered; fee, honorarium. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiv. 88 (Harl. MS.), But if þou pay now, I shal holde thi wif to wed, tyll tyme that I be paied fully my salary. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 119 Shal I haue none other salaire ne none other gwerdon for all my merites? 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iii. 79 Oh this is hyre and Sallery, not Reuenge. 1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 390 Their Exchanges are made vpon this imaginarie ducat of three hundreth seuentie and fiue Maluedies, to be payed in Banke, with fiue vpon the thousand, which is the sallarie of the Banker. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 245 Salarie..signifies a recompence or consideration given unto any man for his paines bestowed upon another mans businesse. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* II. § 9 When I doe him [*sc.* my patient] no good, me thinkes it is scarce honest gaine, though I confesse 'tis but the worthy salary of our well-intended endeavours.

† **b.** *gen.* Reward, recompense. *Obs.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* vii, Alle the sallary or payment of them that mokken other is for to be mocqued at the last. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. viii. § 1 (1622) 279 Felicitie, which is the salarie and reward of Vertue, is giuen vs of God. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. vi. (1699) 67 This is the Sallery which the Goods of the Earth bestow on those who serve them. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 406 You that have repented and are become good People, receive your Salary entring there for ever.

3. *attrib.*: salary grab, an opprobrious term for the act of the U. S. Congress of 1873 by which the salaries of congressmen were increased.

1879 A. Johnston *Hist. Amer. Politics* (1884) 220 The Act..was commonly known as the Salary Grab.

† **Sa·lary,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [?f. Sale *sb.*[1] + -ary.] Open to sale, venal, Saleable.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 157 Can it be so many brothel-houses, of salary sensuality, and six-penny whore-dome,..should be set vp and maintained? 1596 — *Saffron Walden* To Rdr., Wks. (Grosart) III. 27 He [*sc.* Tetzel] that..first stird vp Luther, pronouncing from the Pope free salarie indulgence to anie man.

† **Sa·lary,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [ad. L. *salāri-us*, f. *sal* salt: see -ary.] Saline.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. XII. 338 From such salary irradiations may those wondrous varieties arise, which are observable in..Peacocks feathers.

Salary (sæ·lări), *v.* [Chiefly f. Salary *sb.* In early use a. F. *salarier* (15th c.).] *trans.* To recompense, reward; to pay for something done (*Obs.* or *arch.*); to pay a regular salary to.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 128 How..shall I be salaryed of suche payement in the recompensacion of the saluacion of your lyf? 1637 J. Williams *Holy Table* 46, I am not salaried to defend the Writer of the Letter. 1659 Heylin *Exam. Hist.* I. 210 They..salared some Lectures in such Market Towns where the people had commonly lesse to do. 1814 D'Israeli *Quarrels Auth.* I. 218 He [*sc.* Cibber] knew he was no poet, yet he would string wretched rhimes, even when not salaried for them. 1837 Hr. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 290 The seven Judges of the Supreme Court are salaried with the same moderation as other members of the federal government. 1865 Lecky *Ration.* II. 375 For the great majority of nations agriculture is the single source of wealth; all manufactures are ultimately salaried by it. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* ii. 69 The good man..is often unhappy, while vice is not unfrequently salaried and crowned with rewards. 1893 G. Travers *Mona Maclean* III. 198 The Chinese system—salary the doctor and stop his pay when you get ill.

Salband (sā·lbænd). *Geol.* Also 9 **salebande, sahlband.** [G. *salband* selvage, earlier *sahlband*

(from 16th c.), alteration of *selb-ende* 'self-end' (cf. *selvage* = 'self-edge').] A thin crust or coating of mineral, etc.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 594 *note*, The amber is found between two salbands of lignite. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 316 These are often found upon both sides of the vein, so as to form cheeks or salebandes. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 199 The tachylytes occur mostly as salbands or thin crusts at the sides or margins of basalt dykes.

Salband: see SALE *sb.*[3]

Salbe, freq. spelling in ME. and early mod.Eng. of *shall be*: see SHALL *v.*

Salcepareille, obs. form of SARSAPARILLA.

Salcer, Salcery, obs. ff. SAUCER, SAUCERY.

†**Sald**, *v. Obs.* [ad. It. *saldare.*] *trans.* To balance (an account, etc.).

1588 J. MELLIS *Briefe Instr.* E vij b, To salde them afterwardes in the Leager, ye shall make gaines and damages, of all these parcels, and the expences in their places Creditors. *Ibid.* F j b, In salding of the same accompt.

Sald(e, obs. pa. t. of SELL *v.*

†**Sale**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 sæl, sal-, 4–7 sale, 5 sall, saile, 5–6 saill, sayll. [OE. *sæl* (pl. *salu*) str. n., = OHG., MHG. *sal* (G. *saal*) :—OTeut. **saloz*-, orig. an *-es*, *-os* stem (cf. OE. *salor*). Romanic adoptions of the Teut. word are F. *salle*, Pr., It., Sp. *sala*: see SALE *sb.*[4] and SALLE.

The form **salīs*- of the OTeut. stem is represented by OE. *sel, sele* hall (appearing as the second element in LEVESEL), OS. *seli*, OHG. *sali, seli*, ON. *salr*, which have become masculine *i* stems.]

A hall or spacious chamber; a king's or noble's lodging, palace, castle; occas. a tent.

In ME. alliterative poetry *in sale* is a frequent tag.

Beowulf 2075 (Gr.) Gæst yrre cwom, eatol æfengrom user neosan, ðær we gesunde sæl weardodon. *a* 1000 *Riddles* liii. 2 (Gr.) Ic seah ræpingas in ræced fergan under hrof sales hearde twegen. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1187 (Cambr. MS.), Wyn for to schenche, After mete in sale. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 444 And worthliest in ich a wede, And semliest in sale. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 502 þe king was sett in his sale with septer in hand. *Ibid.* 4016 þan sett he sales vp of silke & sacrifece makis. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 10 Kele hit with a litelle ale, And set hit downe to serve in sale. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1150 The seymly souerane of the sail. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xvi. 713 Ryghte soo as they sat at her dyner in the chyef sale. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iv. 45 Thair stud ane gret tempill, or saill riall. 1522 *World & Child* A j b, My selfe semely in sale I sende with you to be.

b. *fig.*

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 158 A mey hym harbered yn hur hall, Scho socourd hym soth[l]y yn hur sale.

Sale (sēl), *sb.*[2] Also 5 saale, sayll, 5–6 saill, 7 saile, 7–8 sail. [late OE. *sala*, prob. a. ON. *sala* wk. fem. (ON. had also *sal* neut.) = OHG. *sala*, MHG. *sale*, *sal* str. fem., f. root *sal-* of **saljan* to SELL.]

1. The action or an act of selling or making over to another for a price; the exchange of a commodity for money or other valuable consideration. Also, with qualification: (Ready, slow, etc.) disposal of goods for money; opportunity of selling.

Bill of sale: see BILL *sb.*[3] 10. *Bargain and sale* (Law): see BARGAIN *sb.* 6.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 180 *Distractio*, ceap. *Uenditio*, sala. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19239 'Sai me', he said, 'Ananias, Qui has þou tempted sathanas, To mak sli lesing o þi sale?' *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 37 Better chepe sal ye selle þan þe men of þe werld dose, þat god may be payde of yure sale. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 Þ* forseyd sale of my londes and tenementes. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 79 When he [*sc.* Iudas Skaryot] segh þat Crist was demed to þe deth by hys sale. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 245 Thow sall haue for thy fewaill, For my sake, the better saill. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 26 In the cytie of Panchi there is great sale of silke. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xlii. 97 He was told what ill sales he shoulde finde there of such Merchaundize as he had brought. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 138 Thy sale of Offices and Townes in France. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* XXV. 50 The price of his sale shalbe according vnto the number of yeeres. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* To Rdr. (1708) A v b, Permit it..to hang in View at..some such eminent Place of Sale. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. vi, They are of sure sale from our warehouse at Redriff among the seamen. 1786 *Chamb. Cycl.* I. Pref. 4 The extensive sail of this edition. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 231 The terms of sale were lowered by him to the standard fixed by Mr. Stuart. 1837 CHANNING *Addr. Temperance* 32 After these remarks, it will follow, that we should discourage the sale of ardent spirits.

b. *spec.* A putting up of goods to be sold publicly; a public auction. See also PORT-SALE.

1673 TEMPLE *Misc.* (1680) 136 Both those that won the Plate, and those which are thus sold, ought immediately to be marked so as they may never return a second time, either to the Race or to the Sale. 1700 [see CANDLE *sb.* 5 d]. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 108 P 1 On Thursday next..will begin another Publick Sale by Inch of Candle. 1753 *News, Boys, News!* (Oxf. Jrnl.) 11 Apr., On Saturday, the 14th Instant, ..will be held at the Town-Hall in this City, a Sale of great Part of the Goods..belonging to the..Old Interest of this County. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lxiii. 205 He should pull down the bills advertising the sale of his effects. 1888 ANNIE S. SWAN *Doris Cheyne* viii. 128 An auction sale ..for behoof of the creditors of Robert Cheyne.

c. A special disposal of shop goods at rates lower than those usually charged in order to get rid of them rapidly, e. g. at the end of a 'season'

1888 *Daily News* 10 Jan., The low prices at the stock-taking sales. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Jan. 3/2 Wait till you see my pretty new sale-frock. 1900 *Ibid.* 4 Jan. 3/2 Sale-time, when everything at the shops, from a collar to a costume, is reduced to low prices.

2. Phrases. a. *To sale* = 'for sale' (see 2 e). Now only in *to put up to sale*, formerly † *to set to sale* (often *fig.*; in quot. 1576 app. to abandon), *expose*, etc. *to sale*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 393 Welle ni3 alle her blessyngis ben sett to sale and to prise. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 297 The Ston he profreth to the sale. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1909 And chepede me that chyld to sale, For syxty florencys all be tale. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 Such persons as brew for theyr owne prouision, and not to sale. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* (Arb.) 104 But Progne (now in priuie place) Set silence al to sale. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* D 3 b, Whereby they have set to sale for money Christ himselfe. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 7 A strong presumption that his modesty set there to sale in the frontispice, is not much addicted to blush. 1649 — *Eikon.* viii. 66 She pawn'd and set to saile the Crown-Jewels. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 15 Fair piazza's,..where the Merchants ..expose to sale their drugs. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* v. ii, My price?—Why, king, you do not think you deal With one who sets his services to sale? 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 58 Those who set themselves, their trusts, and their country, to sale. 1810 *Act* 50 *Geo. III*, c. 41 § 6 Every Hawker, Pedlar, Petty Chapman,..carrying to sell, or exposing to Sale, any Goods. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. XXV. III. 494 The most considerable offices in church and state were put up to sale.

†b. *To make sale (of)*: to sell. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. ix. (1869) 180 Which if men made of you saale, mihte no man livinge overbigge yow. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 26, I wille..the Sexteyn of Bury and the Priour of Dusgylde..make a sale of myn seid hefd place. 1552 HULOET, Make sale of vyle thynges and trifles, *agitor*. 1557 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 114 When God should sende vs to any place where we might make sale. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* IV. 1441 Thou mayst make sale of it to whom thou list.

c. *To set on* (or † *a*) *sale* = 'to set to sale' (see 2 a); (*to be*) *on* or † *upon sale* = 'for sale' (see 2 e).

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 63 Here is a tale, For honestie, meete to set the diuell on sale. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 72 They bestowe not only benefices..but also set a sale..the holy sacred gyftes of the holy Goost. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 59 How those bookes have been dispersed by them upon sale or otherwise. 1793 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 30 June, If it is out of print, it is no longer upon sale. 1835 SOUTHEY *Cowper's Wks.* I. Pref. 6 A book which has been upon sale ever since it was published, twelve years ago. 1901 *Times* 16 Dec. 8/6 The Times is on Sale for 3d. per Copy at all railway bookstalls in England and Wales.

†d. *Of sale*: that is to be sold; vendible, venal.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii, 240 To things of sale, a sellers praise belongs. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 8 (1891) 141 As to the confections of sale which are in the shops. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 84 The house you dwell in proclaims you to be a creature of sale.

e. *For sale*: used adjectively, = intended to be sold; used advb., = with a view to selling.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iv. 92 The other is not a thing for sale. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* iii. § 28. 124 Then they draw them [*sc.* pots] for Sale, which is chiefly to the poor Cratemen. 1808 *Times* 24 Feb., Feathers and Quills for Sale. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* vii, They..sometimes had good pointers for sale. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* I. 257 We went into a bookseller's shop to inquire if he had any description of Boston for sale.

f. *Sale and* (*or*) *return*: see quot. 1838.

1795 T. PEAKE *Cases Nisi Prius* 56 Two questions were made, first on the sale and return. *Ibid. marg.*, If goods are delivered on the terms of sale or return. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot., Sale and return* is a contract, by which goods are delivered by a wholesale dealer to a retailer, to be paid for at a certain rate, if sold again by the retailer; and if not sold, to be returned to the vendor. 1897 [see RETURN *sb.* 15].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sale-factor, -market, price, -room*, † *-shop*; **sale-block**, a block on which slaves are exposed for sale; **sale-boat**, a boat that conveys fish from the fishing ground to market; † **saleman** [cf. OHG. *salaman*, MHG. *sal(e)man*], = SALESMAN; **sale note** *U. S.* (see quot.); † **sale-piece**, ?the sample that attracts purchasers (in quots. *fig.*); **sale ring**, the ring of buyers formed round an auctioneer at a sale; † **sale-worth, -worthy** *adjs.*, saleable.

1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 54 The prisoner was made to stand on the *sale-block so that all might have a fair view of him. 1840 R. BREMNER *Excurs. in Denmark*, etc. II. 389 They [fish] are recaptured at dawn to be again imprisoned on the *sale-boats. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 829/2 Nor would he trust to the common customs of *sale-factors, auctioneers [etc.]. 1642 T. HILL *Trade of Truth* 34 Christians should be Chapmen to buy, rather than *Salemen to sell. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 22 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The *sale-market is large and wide enough. 1856 BOUVIER *Law Dict.*, **Sale note*, a memorandum given by a broker to a seller or buyer of goods, stating the fact that certain goods have been sold by him on account of a person called the seller to another person called the buyer. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. ii. (1651) 463 Sweet breath, white and even teeth, which some call the *sale-piece. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 135 White teeth being so justly accounted a precious and natural beauty, that they are hence called the Sale-piece. 1793 NEMNICH *Comptoir-Lex., Eng.* s. v., On the *Sale price, *zum Verkaufspreise*. 1901 *Essex Herald* 9 Apr. 4/8 The whole of this choice herd came into the *sale ring. 1813 *Examiner* 10 May 297/1 Public *Sale-rooms. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. vi. I. 446 The learned babble of the Sale-room. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 25 Oct. 3/7 These curious sale-room methods. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Imit. Hor.* I. xii. 31 Who soon shalt keep a *saleshop for good places. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 233 A sale shop for most articles. 1481 in Foster *Par. Ch. Whaplode* (1889) 94 The said trees..when thei shall be felled ..at such tyme as thei be *saleworth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 *Sale worthy, *vendibilis*. 1547 *Bk. Marchaundes* c vj, I would wit..if her marchantdyse were sale worthy.

b. *Comb.* with *sales-*, modelled on SALESMAN, SALESWOMAN, e. g. *sales-gentleman, -lady, -master*. Also with the plural, **sales-book**, a book or record of sales; **sales-room** = *sale-room* (see above); † **sales-work** = *sale-work* (see 4 a).

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 619/1 *The Sales-book*. This book too is chiefly used by factors; and into it is posted, from the Waste-book, the particular sales of every consigned cargo. 1775 ASH, *Saleswork*, work done for sales, work slightly performed. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 76 The manner that a Sales-book is ruled. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 610/2 The..ranks of seamstresses and 'sales-ladies'. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 1/3 The salesmasters and dealers. 1891 *Century Dict., Salesroom*, same as sale-room.

4. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* a. That is made to be sold; that may be purchased (not being needed for home use); hence, ready-made (as opposed to *home-made*); of inferior quality; e. g. *sale bread, cloth, door, gimlet, ram, ware, work* (also attrib.). Also, connected with or producing things sold or intended for sale, e.g. *sale gardener, kiln, pond*. ?Now applied only to animals bred or fattened for sale.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 304/1 The Subsidie and Awenage of sale Clothes, in the Counte of Wiltes. 1505 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 392 That there be no sale bread ..mad in towne, but by ffre men. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 69 In old time there were almost an hundreth shops of sale-bookes. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 43, I see no more in you then in the ordinary Of Natures sale-worke? 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1603) 35 God hath not given such gifts unto men to the end they should make sale-ware of them. 1671 CLARENDON *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 314 They would find ample recompense in the first growth of their children, unimpaired by any ill qualities of sale-milk. 1679 SHADWELL *True Widow* Epil., Our Poet therefore Sale-work Habits makes. 1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæologia* XII. 191 Darby, at Hoxton,..is master of several curious greens that other sale-gardeners want. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 20 Feb. an. 1777, A middling field-load of wheat will yield a sale-load of straw, of 1296 lb. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 396 Most of the farmers here burn lime for themselves..and think they have it much cheaper than it could be got from a sale kiln. 1815 S. PARKES *Chem. Ess.* I. 300 In the end they [*sc.* ash-pit doors] will be found to be more economical than any ready-make sale-doors. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 166 The common English sale gimlets are either soon broken at the point by our woods, or else the handle becomes loose. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 151 The sale ewe lambs. *Ibid.* 157 These sale rams are injured, and in many cases rendered useless by overfeeding. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict., Sale-pond*, ..a pond devoted to fishes kept for sale.

† b. That may be had for payment; venal, mercenary. (Cf. SALARY *a.*[1]) *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 936 Sale-tongu'd Lawyers, wresting Eloquence, Excuse rich Wrong, and cast poore Innocence. 1602 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. vi, Belike then shee's some sale curtizan. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 293 A multitude thronged together of vendible or sale souldiors. 1650 MILTON *Eikon.* i. 12 Nothing troubl'd or offended at the working upward of thir Sale-venom thereupon.

†**Sale**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 6 saile, sayle. [Northern form of SOLE *sb.* (OE. *sál*). The form *saile* may represent directly the cognate ON. *seil.*] A rope for tying up cattle. Also *attrib.* † **saleband**.

c 1299 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 496 In tractubus, cordis, salband (etc.), 28*s.* 11*d.* 1434–5 *Ibid.* 232 Redyls, 6 hoxes bowes, 7 salys, ferrura boum et plowshon. 1599 *Mem. St. Giles's Durham* (Surtees) 27 Paid for a saile to the bull, j*d.* 1668 *Ibid.* 75 For a sayle and band to ty the Bull in.

†**Sale**, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [a. or ad. OF. *sale* (see SALLE) or It. *sala*: cf. SALE *sb.*[1]] A hall.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 401 This great Cell or Hall, is a yard deepe of blackish Water..: Hauing more than halfe way entered in this Sale [etc.]. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 233 The next day, obtained Audience of the King; Who in a great Sale (or Hall) sate on his Throne.

Sale, *v. rare*—[1]. [f. SALE *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To sell.

1809 GIFFORD in *Mem. F. Hodgson* (1878) I. 115 Lord Byron's poem sales well I understand.

Sale: see SAIL, SEAL, SOUL.

Saleability (sēlăbi·lĭti). Also **salability**. [f. next: see -BILITY.] Saleableness.

1797 COLERIDGE in *Sotheby's Catal. Bks. & MSS.* 30 Nov. (1891) 58 So much for the priceableness of the volume—now for the saleability. 1818 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VIII. 248 Saleability is the thing with the booksellers. 1881 JEVONS in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar., To throw taxation off land on to personalty..is to increase the value of English land; but to restrict its salability or letting is to diminish its value. 1885 *Times* 9 Oct. 9/2 The saleability of Church property.

Saleable (sēlăb'l), *a.* Also (6 salehable), 6– **salable**. [f. SALE *sb.*[2] + -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being sold; fit for sale; commanding an easy or ready sale.

1530 PALSGR. 323/1 Saleable, *vendible*. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 42 Wyne that is saleable and good nedeth no bushe. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 66 That which in England is not saleable, doth passe here amongst them for most excellent. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, London* (1662) II. 219

His book..had been more salable, if more conformed to our modern language. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 27 Being at a loss what to do with my crop, which was not saleable in my neighbourhood. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 621 *note*, Certain offices in the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas were saleable by the chief justices of those courts respectively till the year 1825. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. vi. 189 A horse saleable at three hundred guineas. 1881 *Times* 29 Jan. 11 Grenada Cocoa is more readily salable than other qualities. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 144 After..the saleable lambs and draft ewes have been disposed of.

Comb. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 233 To cut good, salable-sized potatoes for seed.

transf. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* Concl., As for your Eloquence,..as it serueth wel, to make the mater more salehable in the sight of the simple, so [etc.].

†**b.** On sale, for sale. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 115 They were content to let it be translated.., as also some number of Copies to be saleable a while at the beginning.

c. Said of the price which an article will fetch.

1778 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 186 Divers goods to the saleable value of 172*l.* 1881 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VII. iii. 327 If the land belong to the people, why..should the people pay its salable value for their own?

2. Venal, mercenary. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XIII. (1599) 624 The corruptions of men salable, would not be sufficient to transport the Empire from the Germaine nation to the house of France. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 633 We finde the Alman in his fight courageous, But salable. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. viii. 172 Saint Paul eloquently defended his innocence, against the salable tongue of Tertullus. 1798 MRS. INCHBALD *Lovers' Vows* V. i, Tell him, my honour has never been saleable.

Sa·leableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The condition of being saleable; fitness for sale.

1727 BAILEY vol. II. 1754 T. SECKER in Nichols *Illustr. Lit. Hist.* (1818) III. 492 You might probably give him a better notion of the value, that is, the saleableness of the work. 1807 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 6 My own judgement of the saleableness of books. 1894 *Times* 25 July 10/1 The intrinsic saleableness of his novel.

Saleably (sē'·lăbli), *adv.* [Formed as prec. + -LY[2].] In a saleable manner.

1755 JOHNSON, *Saleably.* 1898 *Times* 13 Apr., Every constituent..is..used up, and used up saleably.

Sale·brity. *rare*—°. [ad. late L. *salebritās*, f. *salebra* roughness.] = SALEBROSITY.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1731 BAILEY vol. II.

Salebrosity (sælĭbro·sĭti). [ad. L. **salebrōsitās*, f. *salebrōs-us* SALEBROUS.] Ruggedness, unevenness. Also *fig.*

1638 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 140 His Grace here wiselie brought the Doctor off salebrosities, whence all his witts could not have delivered him with his credit. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves, Upon Eccles.* 378 Yet is not this without its Thornes and salebrosity.

†**Salebrot** = *sal* ALEMBROTH. *Obs.*

1678 PHILLIPS, *Sal Lambrot* or *Salebrot.*

Salebrous (sæ·lĭbrəs), *a.* [ad. late L. *salebrōsus*, f. *salebra* roughness: see -OUS.] Rough, rugged. Also *fig.*

1633 *Battle of Lutzen* 30 The entrie of his Raigne..was thorny and sallebrous. 1641 OUGHTRED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 60 Others of my profession..refuse to tread these salebrous and uneasy paths. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 54 We now again proceed Thorough a Vale that's salebrous indeed.

Hence †**Sa·lebrousness.** 1727 BAILEY vol. II.

Salempore (sæ·lĕmpōəɹ). Also 6 **sarampura**, 7 **salampora**, 7–9 **salam-**, 8 **sallampoore**, 8–9 **-pore.** [= F. *salempouri* (18th c.), Du. *salamporij* (17th c.): of unascertained origin. Cf. *palampore.*] 'A blue cotton cloth formerly made at Nellore in India, and largely exported to the West Indies, where it was the usual slave cloth' (Knight *Dict. Mech.*).

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. i. 28/1 This linnen..is called Sarampuras, Cassas, Comsas, Beatillias, Satopassas, and a thousande such like names. 1614 in W. Foster *Lett. E. India Co.* (1897) II. 32 Salampora, being a broad white cloth. 1680 *Notes & Extr. Govt. Rec. Fort St. George* III. (1873) 16 (Y.) Salampores, Blew, at 14 Pagodas per corge. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3933/4 The Cargo of the Star of the East, consisting of Long Cloth, Sallampoores, Betelles [etc.]. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 74, 8 Bales, each containing 60 Pieces Sallampores blue. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* iii. (1842) 40 Wide white petticoat trowsers..made of some strong cotton stuff of the same fabric as the India salampore. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* I. 21 Paid them on arrival with brass wire and blue salempore, or calico.

†**Salen.** *Obs.* [Cf. mod.L. *salena* kind of fish found in Lake Como (Benedictus Jovius *a* 1544).]

1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 280 Grene fysshe, pyke, lampraye, salens, porpas rosted.

†**Sal enixum.** *Chem. Obs.* Also -on. [mod.L. (Paracelsus): see SAL. The second word is the neut. of L. *ēnixus*, app. in the sense 'that has given birth' (*scil.* to the acid).] Crude potassium sulphate, produced in the manufacture of nitric acid.

[1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 673 The sal enixum of Paracelsus is the caput mortuum of spirits of nitre with oil of vitriol, or what remains in the retort after the distillation of this spirit.] 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. 298 Sal-Enixum is an acid sulphate of potash. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 738 *Salenixon.*

Salep (sæ·lĕp). See also SALOOP. [= F. *salep*, Sp. *saldp*, Pg. *salepo*, a. Turkish سالب *sālep*, a. Arabic ثعلب *thaʿleb* (pronounced in some parts *saʿleb*), taken to be a shortening of خصى الثعلب *khasyu 'th-thaʿlab* orchis (lit. 'fox's testicles'; cf. the Eng. name 'dogstones'.)] A nutritive meal, starch, or jelly made from the dried tubers of various orchidaceous plants, chiefly those of the genus *Orchis*; formerly also used as a drug.

1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 519 Put an ounce of salop or salep, into a quart of water. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 43 To boil Salep. Take of the powder of salep a large teaspoonful [etc.]. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 365 The root [of *Orchis mascula*] being washed, baked, and ground to powder, is salep. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (1861) 295 Salep is used in the preparation of a mucilaginous jelly like arrow-root. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 677 A nutritive substance termed Salep, somewhat resembling Arrow-root or Sago. 1861 [see SALOOP 1].

attrib. 1768 MOULT in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 3 The jelly of Salep-powder is clear and transparent. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 345/2 One part of salep-powder with forty-eight parts of water boiled or heated forms a thick mucilage. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 147 Salep-mucilage.

†**Sa·ler.** *Obs.* Also 4 salure, 5 salere, sallyer, 5–6 seler. See also SALT-CELLAR. [a. OF. *sal(l)iere* fem., mod.F. *salière* (= Pr. *saliera*, *saleira*, It. *saliera*), also OF. *salier* masc.:—L. *salāriam*, *-um*, properly adj. 'pertaining to salt'. cf. SALARY *sb.*] A salt-cellar.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1099 The saler on the table stood. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 886 Sanap, & salure, & syluer-in sponez. 1439 in *Archæol.* XXI. 36, ij Salers of gold, whereof yt oon ys a man and yt other a woman, holdyng ye salers in her hondes. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* (1868) 7 The salte also touche nat in his salere Withe nokyns mete. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* ibid. 368 The boteler or panter shall sette the seler in the myddys of the tabull accordyng to the place where the principall soverain shalle sette, and sette his brede iuste couched unto the salte-seler.

Saleratus (sælərē·ĭtəs). *U.S.* Also **salæratus.** [a. mod.L. *sal aerātus* 'aerated salt'.] An impure bicarbonate of potash containing more carbon dioxide than pearl-ash does, much used as an ingredient in baking-powders. Now also applied to sodium bicarbonate used for the same purpose.

1846 WORCESTER (citing ADAMS), *Saleratus*, a sort of refined pearl-ash. 1854 MRS. STOWE *Sunny Memories* xx. II. 19 Hot biscuits, hot corn-cakes, and other compounds got up with the acrid poison of saleratus. 1880 *New Virginians* ii. I. 64 Bread made with carbonate of soda, saleratus, or any other kind of baking-powder. 1883 B. HARTE *Carquinez Woods* iv. 98 Without extra trouble kneaded flour, water and saleratus need not be essentially heavy.

attrib. 1867 [MRS. WHITNEY] *Summer in L. Goldthwaite's Life* 71 They think it is only saleratus cakes and maple molasses. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 297/1 Salæratus bread, heavy pastry, and fried meat do not form the best diet.

†**Salerne.** *Obs.* Anglicized f. L. *Salernum*, It. *Salerno*, the name of an Italian maritime town near Naples, used attrib. = SALERNITAN *a.*

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv, Tho neuer haue I Salerne rimes profest To be some Ladies trencher-criticke guest. 1607 *Englishman's Docter* (1830) 125 The Salerne Schoole doth by these lines impart, All health to England's king. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1643) 240 The Salern school makes this demand, *Cur moriatur homo cui Salvia crescit in horto?*

Salernitan (sălə·mĭtăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Salernitān-us*, f. *Salernum* (see prec.).] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Salerno or the medical school which formerly flourished there. **b.** *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Salerno; a physician of the Salernitan school.

The reference in quots. 1621, 1826 is to the following lines of the poem *Regimen Sanitatis Salernitanum*, 'Si tibi deficiant medici, medici tibi fiant Hæc tria, mens læta, requies, moderata dieta.'

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* II. 190 Some have called..a toade the brother of the Salernitans, & the Lizard the brother of the Lombards. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. iv. 375 This is one of the three Salernitan Doctors, Doctor Merriman, D. Diet, and D. Quiet. 1826 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* (1907) II. 57 Mirth is the principal of the three Salernitan doctors. 1878 VILLARI *Machiavelli* I. 254 A great admixture of the Neapolitan and Salernitan dialects.

Salesman (sē'·lzmăn). Also 6 salys-man; and see *saleman*, SALE *sb.*[2] 3. [f. *sale's*, genit. of SALE *sb.*[2] + MAN *sb.*[1] Cf. *craftsman*, *tradesman.*] A man whose business it is to sell goods or conduct sales.

The following are specific applications: **a.** One who sells goods or produce for another, e. g. one who acts as middleman between the grazier or the killer of cattle and the butcher. † **b.** One who sells ready-made clothing. (Cf. SALE *sb.*[2] 4 a.) **c.** *U. S.* A commercial traveller (*Century Dict.*).

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 134 It is not conuenient that the salesman, that selleth the wod, shuld be partener with the bier. 1548 W. FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 441 in *Starkey's Life & Lett.* p. xcvi', What the Salys-man is the ware ofte dothe teache. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3341/8 Tho. Middleton late of West-Smithfield, London, Salesman, deceased. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sales-men*, brokers who sell Cattel for the Graziers to the Butchers, before, and at the Beast-Market; also Sellers of ready-made Cloaths. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 166 This looks, friend Dick, as Nature had But exercis'd the Salesman's Trade: As if She haply had sat down, And cut out Cloaths for all the Town. 1717 SWIFT *Prol. to Gay's Three Hours after Marriage* 25 Poets make Characters, as Salesmen Clothes. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 28 ₱ 3 Miss Mohair, the daughter of a salesman. 1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* 183 A generous Benefactor (a salesman in Smithfield) often sends the Prisoners beef and bread. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 47 He [pc. Eclipse] was..sold at his death to Mr. Wildman, a sheep salesman, for seventy-five guineas. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 378/2 Should the salesman [*i. e.* a pedlar] succeed with the mistress, he carries out his promise to the maid by presenting her with a cap ribbon, or a cheap neckerchief. 1851 Meat-salesman [see MEAT *sb.* 5]. 1851 Dead salesman [DEAD *sb.*[1] 6]. 1883 COTTON in *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 723/1 The defendants have let all these stalls to salesmen. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 248 Salesmen had brought their carts with fruit or vegetables to Spitalfields Market on the market days. 1891 *Ibid.* Weekly Notes 80/1 A farmer in Northamptonshire sent certain meat to a salesman in the Central Meat market..for sale.

b. †*Salesman's dog*: a tout.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Salesman's-dog*, the same as *Barker.*

Hence **Sa·lesmanship,** the condition or character of being a (good) salesman.

1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* II. ix. 162 He made a good stroke of salesmanship. 1887 *Old Man's Favour* I. II. i. 202 The art-pottery stall, under the attractive salesmanship of Canon Elwyn.

Saleswoman (sē'·lzwu·măn). A woman who sells goods (e. g. in a shop).

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4025/4 Ann Scadding, of the Parish of St. Buttolp Aldgate, Saleswoman. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U. S.) VIII. 800 In 1790 [she] went to Paris, where she was a saleswoman in a linen shop. 1887 *Old Man's Favour* I. II. i. 204 The stall was well-furnished, the saleswoman was pretty and animated.

Salew, Salewt: see SALUE, SALUTE.

Salews, obs. pl. SALUTE *sb.*[2]

†**Salfay.** *Obs.* Also 5 **safye**, 6 *Sc.* **salfer** (?). [Origin unknown, but prob. ultimately connected with L. *salvus* SAFE.] The reward paid to the finder and restorer of lost goods.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 434 Bod þe riche man, when he had þe sakett agayn, wolde not pay þe salfay. *Ibid.*, Becauce he wold nott hafe gyffen þe pure man a hondreth talentis to safye, as he promysid he sulde do. 1551–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 123 All sik gudis stollin or reft, lauchfullie Convict, salbe restorit and redressit with the thre dowbillis and salfer.

Salf(e, salffe, obs. ff. SAFE, SALVE, SAVE.

Salfe, obs. form of SAUGH, willow.

Salfleme: see SAUCEFLEME.

Salft, Salfty, obs. forms of SALVE *sb.*[1], SAFETY.

Salge, obs. form of SAGE.

Sal-gem (sæ·lˌdʒe·m). Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 4–9 **gemme**, 5–8 **-geme**, 7 **gemm**; and in L. form. [ad. med.L. *sal gemma* or *gemmæ*, lit. 'gem-like salt'. Cf. F. *sel gemme.*] Native chloride of sodium; rock-salt.

c 1325 [see SAL-AMMONIAC]. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 99 Poudres of sal gemme. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Adm. v. in Ashm. (1652) 190 Sal Tarter, sal Comyn, sal Geme most clere. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* E iv, Make pouder of Roses suger and salgem. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xii. 336 No other salt that I know will strike the colour with galles; neither Alom, Sal-gemme, Nitre, nor Armoniack. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 9 That which is termed fossile Salt, or Sal Gemma. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 100 Rock salt, sal-gemme, muriate of soda. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 8 The interior of Spain forms a vast plain,..covered with secondary formations, grit-stone, gypsum, salgem. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 262 Perfectly pure specimens [of rock-salt]..are styled sal gem.

Salgh(e, obs. forms of SALLOW, willow.

Salian[1] (sē'·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Sali-us* (usually sb. pl. *Salii*, lit. 'leapers, dancers', f. *salīre* to leap) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Salii or priests of Mars in ancient Rome. **b.** *sb.* One of the Salii.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 22 Numa Pompilius also instituted 12 Salian Priests in the honour of Mars. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXVIII. (1787) III. 71 The confraternities of the Salians, the Lupercals, &c. practised such rites, as might extort a smile of contempt from every reasonable man. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 462 Among the Romans, too, there were sacred dances: the Salian and Lupercalian being named as of that kind. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 107 The catacomb triumphed over the Grecian temple; the cross of shame over the wine-cup and the Salian banquet.

Salian[2] (sē'·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. late L. *Sali-ī*, the Salian Franks + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to a tribe of Franks who inhabited a region near the Zuyder Zee, and to whom the ancestors of the Merovingian dynasty belonged. (Cf. SALIC.) **b.** *sb.* A Salian Frank.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* II. i. 175 The old Franks which were Teutonique, and calld also Salians. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Obs. Proph. Daniel* I. v. (1733) 43 By the access of these Gauls, and of the foreign Franks also,..the Salian kingdom soon grew very great. 1830 GRATTAN *Hist. Netherlands* 11 The Salians, and the other petty tribes of Franks, their allies, were essentially warlike. 1837 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 208 This regulation of the descent of the French crown, was said, though improperly, to depend on a law of the Salian Franks, hence called the Salic law. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 529/2 There is in the Salian law no trace of a primitive nobility.

†**Sa·liaunce.** *Obs.* [f. *saliaunt*, SALIENT: see -ANCE. Cf. *salience.*] An assault, or sally.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 29 Now mote I weet,..why with so fierce saliaunce,..ye did at earst me meet.

Salic (sæ·lik, sē'·lik), *a.* Also 6 **salicque**, 6–7 **-like**, 7 **sallick**, 7–8 **salick**, 6–9 **salique.** [ad. F. *salique* or med.L. *Salicus*, f. *Salii* (see SALIAN 2).]

1. *Salic law*: in early use, and still in popular language, the alleged fundamental law of the French

monarchy, by which females were excluded from succession to the crown; hence *gen.* a law excluding females from dynastic succession. In this sense still often spelt *Salique* and pronounced (sălī·k).

The ancient text which under the name of the 'Salic law' was adduced in favour of the succession of Philip V in 1316, and afterwards used to combat the claims of Edward III of England (and his successors) to the French crown, was really a quotation from the *Lex Salica* (see sense 2); the words however (cap. lix. § 5 of modern editions) have no reference to succession to the crown, but merely state that a woman can have no portion of the inheritance of 'Salic land' (*terra Salica*); the precise meaning of this term is disputed, and in the earliest form of the code the word 'Salic' is omitted.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* (1550) 4 b, The lawe Salicque was only fayned and invented to put your noble progenitours and you [Hen. V.] from your lawfull right and true inheritaunce. For they say that Pharamond made the lawe for the land Salicque, which the glose calleth Fraunce. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 39. *Ibid.* 91 They would hold vp this Salique Law, To barre your Highnesse clayming from the Female. 1674 *Ch. & Crt. of Rome* 29 In despite of the Sallick Law, [they] endeavour that the Infanta..should succeed unto the Crown. 1837 [see SALIAN²]. 1842 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 232 By long usage, the Salique law of France.. had become naturalized in Spain. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 117 She fulmined out her scorn of laws Salique.

transf. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 2 Orinda does in that too raign, Does Man behind her in proud Triumph draw, And Cancel great Apollo's Salick Law. 1773 HAN. MORE *Search Happ.* ii. 139, I scorn'd the salique law of pedant schools, Which chain our genius down by tasteless rules. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* ii. 29 Nature's old salique law will not be repealed.

2. In the original sense of L. *Salicus*: Pertaining to the Salian Franks. Chiefly in *Salic law* or *code* (L. *Lex Salica*), a Frankish law-book, written in Latin, and extant in five successively enlarged recensions of Merovingian and Carolingian date.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 583 Before the election of the Merovingian kings, the most powerful tribe, or nation, of the Franks, appointed four venerable chieftains to compose the Salic laws. *Ibid.* 594 Besides these royal and beneficiary estates, a large proportion had been assigned, in the division of Gaul, of allodial and Salic lands. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 476/1 The Salic code..shows us the Salian king as in all respects the centre of his state.

Hence **Sa·licly** (**saliquely**) *adv.*, with reference to the Salic law.

1784 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to C'tess Ossory* (1848) II. 207 Numerous as were the sons of Edward III., only Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, continued the masculine line, and I cannot (upon memory alone) affirm that. If he did, the Duke of Buckingham beheaded by Henry VIII., had *saliquely* speaking the best title to the Crown.

Salicaceous (sælikē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *salicāce-us*, f. L. *salic-*, *salix* willow: see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N. O. *Salicaceæ*, which consists of two genera, *Salix* (willow) and *Populus* (poplar).

1846 in SMART Suppl.

Salicet (sæ·liset). [a. G. *salicet* (1703 in Zedler), f. L. *salic-*, *salix* willow + -ET. For the suffix cf. *dulcet* sb.] = SALICIONAL.

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 104 Salicional, or 'salicet'..is one of the finest organ registers. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 66 Salicet in the Pedal is a soft 16 feet register.

Salicify, erron. form of SILICIFY.

Salicin (sæ·lisin). Also **-ine.** [ad. F. *salicine* (Leroux), f. L. *salic-*, *salix* willow: see -IN¹.] A bitter crystalline principle obtained from willow-bark, much used medicinally.

1830 *Philos. Mag.* VIII. 304 Salicine, burnt with oxide of copper in a proper apparatus, yielded a gas entirely absorbable by potash. 1840 *Ibid.* XVI. 210 Salicin is now..employed in medicine as a substitute for quinine. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 230 The power of salicin and salicylic acid in counteracting the rheumatic poison.

attrib. 1837 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 421/1 Salicine crystals.

Salicional (sălī·ʃənăl). Also erron. **salcional, salicinal.** [a. G. *salizional* (18th c.), f. *salic-*, *salix* willow, with obscure suffix. Cf. SALICET.] An organ stop of a soft reedy tone resembling that of a willow pipe.

1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 6 The plan has long been used in Germany for the Salcional. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 171 Pipes which are conically narrowed at the top, such as the salicional and the gems horn. 1884 BOSANQUET in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 833/1 The salicional, salcional, or salicet. 1897 F. E. ROBERTSON *Organ-building* 117 If there be any shade of difference between these stops, it is that the Salicional should be beautifully soft and stringy, yet not without fulness, the Dulciana quite and a little less reedy, and the Vox Angelica the thinnest of all.

Salicyl (sæ·lisil). *Chem.* Also **-yle, -ile, -ule.** [ad. F. *salicyle*, f. L. *salic-*, *-salix* willow: see -YL.] The diatomic radical of salicylic acid.

1840 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 6) III. 852 Under the name of hydruret of salicule, a peculiar acid was made known by Piria, who discovered it as a product of the decomposition of salicine. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 409 Hydride of salicyl. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 415 Gently heated with sulphuric acid and bichromate of potash, it [*sc.* salicin]..is converted into fragrant oil of meadow sweet or hydride of salicyle.

attrib. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 871 Salicyl Series of Compounds. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 409 The salicyl group. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxix. 388 Salicyl Aldehyde, $C_7H_6O_2$. 1888 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 205 Salicyl compounds, invaluable as they are in rheumatic fever.

Hence **Salicyla·mic** *a.*, derived from salicyl and ammonia; **Salicy·lamide,** a compound formed when oil of gualtheria is dissolved in a solution of ammonia; **Sa·licylide,** the anhydride of salicylic acid; **Salicy·limide,** a yellow crystalline powder produced by the action of heat on salicylamic acid; **Sa·licylite,** a salt formed by the action of salicylol on oxides and hydrates of metals; **Sa·licylol,** a colourless or reddish oil intermediate in composition between salicylic acid and salicylic aldehyde; also, extended to include a class of bodies of this type in which part of the hydrogen is replaced by a metal; **Salicylu·rate,** a salt of salicyluric acid; † **Salicylu·ret,** a compound of salicyl with a metal; **Salicylu·ric** *acid*, an acid derived from the urine evacuated after the administration of salicylic acid.

1840 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 6) III. 855 Saliculimide. *Ibid.*, Saliculite of Ammonia. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 872 In the salicylites, the atom of hydrogen of the formula of salicylous acid is replaced by a metal. *Ibid.* 873 Solutions of alkalies and acids act upon salicylimide,..as they do upon amides. 1845 W. GREGORY *Outl. Chem.* II. 345 Salicyluret of ammonium..is formed when concentrated ammonia is poured upon hydruret of salicyle. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 544 It [*sc.* benzamic acid] is isomeric with anthranilic acid and with salicylamide. *Ibid.* 567 Both salicylide and salicylic anhydride are rapidly converted into ordinary salicylic acid. *Ibid.*, The solutions of salicyluric acid give a violet colour with persalts of iron. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 557 Salicylite of copper is a green insoluble powder. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 150 *Salicylamic-acid*, ..this compound is produced by the action of ammonia on methylsalicylic or ethylsalicylic acid. *Ibid.* 167 *Salicylol*.. Salicylous Hydride. Hydric Salicylite. Salicylous acid. *Ibid.* 172 Salicylurates.—The acid decomposes carbonates. Its salts crystallise easily. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxix. 389 Sodium Salicilol. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 212/2 Salicin is eliminated from the system partly in the form of salicylic and salicyluric acids, and partly as saligenin.

Salicylate (sălī·silēt), *sb. Chem.* [f. SALICYLIC + -ATE¹.] A salt of salicylic acid.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 874 Salicylate of silver is an insoluble white precipitate, anhydrous. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 180 The oil of winter green is a salicylate of methyl. 1878 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) 900 By far the most..efficacious treatment of acute rheumatism is that by salicylic acid or salicylate of soda.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 13 The salicylate treatment pushed too freely.

Salicylate (sălī·silēt), *v.* [f. next + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To mix or impregnate with salicylic acid.

1880 *Times* 28 Dec. 7/6 By salicylating the drinking-water of the beasts by the addition of two tablespoonfuls of the acid dissolved in hot water. 1883 MARTINDALE & WESTCOTT *Extra Pharmacop.* 71 Salicylated Camphor. 1886 *Lancet* 2 Oct. 638/1 The salicylated beer of Paris.

Salicylic (sælisi·lik), *a. Chem.* Earlier **salic**ulic. [f. SALICYL + -IC.]

1. *Chem.* Belonging to a group of benzene derivatives obtainable from salicin; esp. in *salicylic acid*, a white crystalline substance, prepared commercially from sodium phenol, and much used as an antiseptic and in the treatment of rheumatism.

1840 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 6) III. 857 Salicylic Acid. Discovered by Piria. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 874 The salicylic acid is liberated by adding an excess of hydrochloric acid. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 560 Salicylic Series. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxix. 388 Salicylic group. The members of this group are closely connected with the benzyl and benzoyl series. 1881 *Athenæum* 4 June 754 The use of salicylic acid as a disinfectant.

2. *Therapeutics.* Made from, impregnated with, or involving the use of, salicylic acid.

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 10 On the eleventh day the salicylic ointment was employed. 1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 215 The inguinal regions..should be well padded with salicylic wool. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 57 As a rule such articular pains yield rapidly to salicylic treatment.

Salicylism (sæ·lisiliz'm). [f. SALICYLIC + -ISM.] A toxic condition produced by the administration of salicylic acid or salicylates.

1889 *Lancet* 19 Jan. 114/2 If patients bleed at all as a result of salicylism, they should do so from their gums.

Salicylize (sæ·lisiləiz), *v.* [f. SALICYLIC + -IZE.] To treat with salicylic acid in order to prevent fermentation. Hence **Sa·licylized** *ppl. a.*

1881 *Nature* 12 May 48/1 It is estimated that 5,000,000 hectolitres of wine were salicylised in France in 1880. 1881 *Athenæum* 4 June 754/2 The daily use of salicylized food or drink does not..injure the health.

Salicylous (sălī·silәs), *a. Chem.* Earlier **salic**ulous. [f. SALICYL + -OUS. Cf. F. *salicyleux.*] *Salicylous acid*: an oily liquid obtained by distillation of salicin with sulphuric acid and bichromate of potash; salicyl aldehyde.

1840 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 6) III. 854 Saliculous acid combines with metallic oxides to form the saliculites. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 735 Oil of spiræa, or salicylous acid. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 415 Salicylous acid ..differing from salicylic acid by an atom less of oxygen.

Salie, variant of SAULIE *Sc.*

Salience (sē·liĕns). [f. SALIENT: see -ENCE.]

1. The quality of leaping or springing up. *rare.*

1836 L. HUNT in *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 479 What fresh, clean, and youthful salience in the lynx! 1840 — *Seer* I. 6 The suddenness and salience of all that is lively, sprouting, and new.

2. The fact, quality, or condition of being salient or projecting beyond the general outline or surface. Also of immaterial things.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* x. i, No wonder that thou seemest ..to have a great cavity where thy brain should have the bump of 'conscientiousness' in full salience! 1877 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Fine Arts* III. vi. 299 His character does not emerge with any salience from the meagre notices we have received concerning him. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 149 These subsidiary shafts may be..subordinated one to another, both in size and salience. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* July 142 There is not the same unity of composition or salience of colour.

3. A salient or projecting feature, part, or object.

1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* I. 144 To people who would merely lounge along, side by side, these saliences are sorely annoying, they are abominable things. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* ix. 299 Saliences are indicated conventionally [in illumination] by paling the colour. 1894 R. ELLIS *Phædrus* 26 An imitator reproduces the saliences of his model. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 2/1 The Badakshan district..forms a salience, running deeply into Russian territory.

Saliency (sē·liĕnsi). [f. SALIENT: see -ENCY.]

† **1.** Leaping or jumping. *Obs.*

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 25 It [*sc.* the ant] trips so nimbly away without any saliency or leaping.

2. = SALIENCE 2.

1834 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* vi. § 1. 114 In order to give as great a saliency as possible to these lunettes. 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* III. viii. 208 The great attenuation of the face..gave a singular saliency to the features. 1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* II. 275 Its merits are not to be sought in the saliency of any predominating excellence. 1882 C. D. WARNER *Washington Irving* vi. 118 A man,..whose..strong patriotism did not need the saliency of ignorant partisanship.

3. = SALIENCE 3.

1831 *Examiner* 68/2 They should be replete with saliencies, and..poke quaint peculiarities at the spectator. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 266 Their little chronology..stepped briskly over the centuries solely on the names of kings and sanguinary saliencies.

Salient (sē·liĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **saliaunte,** 7 **salliant,** 7–9 **saliant,** 8 **saillant.** [ad. L. *salient-em*, pres. pple. of *salīre* to leap. The form has been freq. assimilated wholly or partly to F. *saillant* (from the same source).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Leaping, jumping; *esp.* of animals, saltatorial. Used by Sydney Smith app. for 'dancing': cf. SALTANT.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. iii. 237 Salient animalls, and such as move by leaping. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* X. ii. § 53 Behold a straw besprinkled with some drops of his blood..leaped up on this Wilkinson [etc.]..when this straw salient leaped first up into Wilkinson's lap [etc.]. 1803 SHAW *Zool.* IV. 167 Salient Blenny. *Ibid.* 585 Salient Mackrel. 1826 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 89/1 With ten or a dozen stars and an Oonalaska chief, and followed by all vicious and salient London, Mrs. Clotworthy takes the field. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 804 *Salient*, moving by leaps, as frogs.

b. Of water: Jetting forth; leaping upwards.

1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* IV. 17 We could take notice of the Lines describ'd by the Salient water, as the ejaculation of that Liquor grew still fainter and fainter. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 162 Who best can send on high The salient spout, far-streaming to the sky. 1830 TENNYSON *Adeline* iii, Do beating hearts of salient springs Keep measure with thine own? 1892 LD. LYTTON *K. Poppy* II. 289 Nor any better could that Dragon sage Hinder the sources of the salient springs From listening.

fig. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 46 He had in himself a salient, living spring, of generous and manly action.

c. Of the pulse: Beating strongly. *poet.*

a 1791 BLACKLOCK *Ode written when sick* 15 The salient pulse of health gives o'er.

d. Math. *Salient point* (see quot.).

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 122 The points of curves which have been called shooting or saliant points, when the function $\frac{dy}{dx}$ becomes discontinuous by changing suddenly of value.

2. *Her.* Having the hind legs in the sinister base and the fore paws elevated near together in the dexter chief, as if in the act of leaping.

1562 LEGH *Armorie* 78 He beareth Argent, a Lion saliaunte,..this lifteth up hys right pawe to the right corner of the Escocheon, and the Rampande, lifteth up his left pawe to the same corner. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 227 A demy Ramme salient Argent. 1718 A. NISBET *Ess. Armories* Index Terms, *Salient*, when any Beast is erected Bendways. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xx. (ed. 3) 334 A pegasus salient.

transf. 1740 *Gentl. Mag.* X. 460/1 [A little cur] salient on her nether feet, Extorts your very fav'rite bit.

3. *Salient point* [= F. *point saillant*, mod.L. *punctum saliens*]: in old medical use, the heart as it first appears in an embryo (cf. quot. 1706); hence, the first beginning of life or motion; the starting-point of anything. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 5 His end was not unlike his beginning, when the salient point scarce affords a sensible motion. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Punctum Saliens*, a little Speck or Cloud that appears in a Brood-egg, and seems to leap before the Chicken begins to be hatch'd.] 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* VI. 337 The Salient Point, so first is call'd the Heart. 1769 *Junius Lett.* (1820) 154 That was the salient point from which all the mischiefs ..of the present reign took life. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 7 The heart is the salient point of the circulation. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. V. What a progress, since the first salient-point of the Breton Committee! 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* IV. 39 What is the salient point, the spring, of a virtue?

425/0107 S18764.

b. Similarly, † *salient motion.*

1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 119 The earthly bud of young Life first appears in a salient Motion.

4. Of an angle: Pointing outward, as an ordinary angle of a polygon (opposed to *re-entrant*); chiefly in *Fortif.*, 'formed by two lines of works meeting and pointing towards the country' (Voyle), i. e. away from the centre of the fortification. So *salient point*, etc.

1687 J. Richards *Jrnl. Siege of Buda* 19 We pierc'd the Wall of the Lower Town looking into St. Paul's Valley, and carry'd on a 3d Angle Salliant. 1702 *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Bonnet*, A Work consisting of two Faces, which make an Angle Saillant in the Nature of a small Ravelin. 1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 79 Each Point, or Saliant Angle of each of the Piers. 1812 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IX. 12 When the attack upon the salient angle ..succeeded. 1816 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 2) 170 In ordinary crystals, the faces adjacent to each other always form salient, and never re-entering angles. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 375/2 We obtain about 360 yards for the distance between the salient points F and E of the two bastions. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict., Salient Order of Battle*, an order of battle, the front of the army being formed on a salient or outward angle.

5. a. Of material things: Standing above or beyond the general surface or outline; jutting out; prominent among a number of objects.

1789 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. 32 He..Crowns with high Calpè Europe's saliant strand. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 268 The hinge always furnished with salient and well-marked teeth. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* vi. 93 The town is on a salient point. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 451 Large salient eyes. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 201 The salient parts of the body and limbs should always be seen through the drapery. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 229 The salient physical features of the spot. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 480 The Mastoid is never salient.

b. Of immaterial things, qualities, etc.: Standing out from the rest; prominent, conspicuous. Often in phr. *salient point* (cf. 3).

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. 177 The great salient points are admirably seized. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xx. II. 87 His personal ascendancy..is the salient feature in the picture. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. viii. 153 Some few salient points emerge full of eternal significance. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* xii. 401 In the midst of our activity we have so little that is salient or characteristic in our life. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 421 No salient peculiarity seems to have left its trace on the memory of his contemporaries.

B. *sb. Fortif.* A salient angle or part of a work.

1828 J. M. Spearman *Brit. Gunner.* (ed. 2) 209 If lunettes are constructed beyond the saliants of the bastions and ravelins. 1868 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) III. i. 216 Two sides of a triangle whereof the salients pointed straight to the front. 1897 Gen. H. Porter *Campaigning with Grant* in *Century Mag.* June 210 The fort was an enclosed work, and formed a salient upon the enemy's line.

Hence **Sa·lientlly** *adv.*, in a salient manner.

1847–54 in Webster. 1868 E. Edwards *Raleigh* I. Introd. 30 His name stands out saliently in several events which serve to mark epochs..in English history. 1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XVI. 159 They stand saliently in the van of civilization.

Saliewe, variant of Salue.

Saliferous (sălĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sal, sali-* salt + -ferous, perh. after F. *salifère.* (Cf. Kirwan's *saliniferous.*)] Containing a large proportion of salt: said chiefly of strata.

Formerly used *Geol.* to define the Upper Trias.

1828–32 Webster (citing Eaton). 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 332 A saliferous red marl. 1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 612/2 Saliferous System of Europe. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* I. 65 The name *saliferous* has sometimes been given to this group [*sc.* the new red sandstone series]. 1847 H. Miller *First Impr.* x. 181 The saliferous district of Cordova. 1879 G. Gladstone in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 315/1 The water in percolating through the saliferous strata will dissolve out the salt.

Salifiable (sæ·lĭfəi̯ăbl), *a. Chem.* [a. F. *salifiable*, f. *salifier* to Salify.] Capable of combining with an acid to form a salt.

1790 Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 150 Acids may.. be considered as true salifying principles, and the substances with which they unite to form neutral salts may be called salifiable bases. 1836 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 4) 322 The salifiable oxides. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 102 Under the proper conditions of temperature, moisture, supply of oxygen, and presence of salifiable base.

† **Sali·ficate**, *a. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *salificāt-us*, pa. pple. of *salificāre* to Salify.] Turned into a salt.

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 314 A very small portion of the Oyl will be turned into a resinous gumme, distinct from that which is salificate.

Salification (sæ·lĭfĭkē·ʃən). [ad. mod.L. *salificātiōn-em*, f. *salificāre* to Salify.] Conversion into a salt; the action or condition of being salified.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 769/1 The liquor being filtrated and evapourated the salts run into crystals. Such kind of salification succeeds well [etc.]. 1828–32 in Webster, and in recent Dicts.

Salify (sæ·lĭfəi), *v. Chem.* Now *rare.* [ad. F. *salifier*, ad. mod.L. *salificāre*, f. L. *sal, sali-* salt: see -fy.] *intr.* To form a salt.

1790 [see Salifiable].

Saligenin (sælĭ·dʒĕnĭn). *Chem.* Also 9 -ine. [a. F. *saligénine*, f. *sali(cine)* Salicin: see -gen and -in 1.] A substance obtained in the decomposition of salicin by dilute acid.

1852 W. Gregory *Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 147 Salicine is composed of saligenine and sugar. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 558 Saligenin forms colourless, nacreous scales, freely soluble in water, alcohol, and ether.

So **Sali·genol, Sali·genyl** (see quots.).

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 212/2 It [*sc.* salicin] may be split up by digestion with emulsin or saliva into salicylic alcohol (saligenol, $C_7H_8O_2$) and glucose. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Saligenyl*, the hypothetical radical of Saligenin.

Saligot (sæ·lĭgɒt). Also 7–8 salligot. [a. OF. *saligot.*] The water-chestnut, *Trapa natans.*

Urquhart (quot. 1653) uses 'salligots' to render F. *tribars* (said to mean 'ragouts of tripe'), evidently because of Cotgrave's '*Tribule*, the water Caltrop, Saligot'.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. lxxii. 535 Theophrast and Dioscorides haue described two kindes of *Tribulus*, the one of the lande... The other of the water, called Saligot. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxiv. 677 The leaues of Saligot be giuen against all inflammations. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xxxi, Gallant salligots with garlick [orig. *beaux tribars aux ails*]. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 56 The Potatoe is a root much like the Saligots growing in Gardens, which are called Topinambous, or Jerusalem Artichokes. 1736 Bailey *Househ. Dict.* 517 *Salligot*, or Water Caltrop. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Salimeter (sălĭ·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *sal, sali-* salt + -meter.] An instrument for determining the amount of salt in a solution.

1866 Atkinson tr. *Ganot's Physics* § 109.

‖ **Salina** (săləi·nă). [a. Sp. *salina* :—L. *salīna*, only in pl. *salīnæ* (sc. *fodīnæ*), fem. of **salīnus* Saline.] A salt lake, pond, well, spring, or marsh; a salt-pan, salt-works.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 265 A dry Salina or Salt-pond. 1748 Brownrigg *Art Making Salt* 16 Salinas of the same kind have been taken notice of by travellers, in many other parts of the world. 1829 W. Irving *Conq. Granada* II. lxxxviii. 312 El Zagal relinquished his right to one half of the salinas, or saltpits, of Maleha. 1879 Beerbohm *Patagonia* v. 76 We rode past a long chain of salinas, which glittered and sparkled whitely in the sun.

Salination (sælinēi·ʃən). *rare*—1. [ad. L. type **salīnātio* : see Saline and -ation.] Salting.

1705 Greenhill *Embalming* 59 It is not improbable the Egyptians might have been accustom'd to wash the Body with the same Pickle they us'd in the Salination.

‖ **Salina·tor.** *rare.* [L. *salinātor*, f. *salīna*: see Salina and -ator.] A salter.

1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2107 A Dissector or Anatomist; a Salinator or Salter. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 67 *note*, The salt of Rome is at present monopolized by one or two *salinators*, who farm it from Government.

Saline (sēi·ləin, săləi·n), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. **salīnus*, f. *sal* salt: see -ine 1. Cf. F. *salin*, fem. *-ine* (17th c.), Sp., Pg., It. *salino.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. † Composed of salt (*obs.*); of the nature of salt; having salt as a preponderating constituent.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3377 Loths wif loking bakwards was turnyd til a stone Salyne. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxii. 167 Some saline Corpuscles dispers'd through the Air. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 136 Lot's wife turn'd into a saline pillar. 1733 P. Shaw *Chem. Lect.* iv. (1750) 67 Under the general Head of Saline Earths may be reckoned all those that are calcined or burnt in the Fire. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 364 The water would gain admission to the saline strata. 1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 21 The saline contents of sea-water. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 124 The river contains less saline matter.

b. Of natural waters, springs, lakes, etc.: Impregnated with salt or salts.

1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 230 A valuable property which this water possesses in common with the other bitter saline waters. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlix. IV. 499 Brackish waters and saline marshes. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* liii. VII. 240 *note* 2, Mehadia, long celebrated for its saline baths. 1872 Jenkinson *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 265 Medicinal springs, saline and sulphurous.

¶ c. *loosely* used for Salt *a.*1 2.

1812 Crabbe *Tales* vii. 21 With bacon, mass saline, where never lean Beneath the brown and bristly rind was seen.

3. Like that of salt; like salt; salty.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 144 The acid saline vitriolated qualities of wine, vineger or juice of Limons. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 270 By this saline Quality, the Juices of Shell-Fish..are diuretick. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. 33 The fountain at Selinus in Sicily was of bitter saline taste. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 78 The..saline taste of nitre. 1875 Darwin *Insectiv. Pl.* viii. 178 The solution was sufficiently strong to taste saline.

4. Of or pertaining to chemical salts; of the nature of a salt.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 70/1 The chemists have not yet been able to produce a saline substance by combining earth and water together. 1790 Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 167 There is reason to believe that many of these supposable saline combinations [*viz.* neutral salts] are not capable of being formed. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1085 A few have rashly offered to cut the knot, by excluding from the saline family, chloride of sodium, the patri arch of the whole. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 269 The great resemblance in properties between the two classes of saline compounds, the haloid and oxy-salts. 1881 Williamson in *Nature* No. 618. 414 When a constitution, similar to that attributed to salts, was imagined for other compounds not saline in their character.

5. Of medicines: Consisting of or based upon salts of the alkaline metals or magnesium.

1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 681 Saline Mixture. Dissolve a drachm of the salt of tartar in four ounces of boiling water. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 32 The use of saline purgatives. 1876 Bristowe *Theory & Pract. Med.* 241 Saline effervescents may both relieve sickness and at the same time promote urine. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Mar. 678/2 Saline aperients were..useful in children of full habit.

6. Of plants, † animals: Growing in or inhabiting salt plains or marshes.

1802 Shaw *Zool.* III. 219 Saline Frog. *Rana Salsa*...It is an inhabitant of salt marshes in some parts of Germany. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 441/1 Saline Plants are those which require for their healthy and vigorous growth a considerable supply of chloride of sodium..and other salts.

B. *sb.*

1. = Salina.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 669 One salyne that is called a salte pitte. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xiv. (S.T.S.) I. 79 He biggit als In þe mouth of tyber þe ciete callit hostia, And mony Salynis war edifyt about þe samyn. 1589 M. Phillips in Hakluyt *Voy.* 568 We came to the North side of the riuer of Panuco, where the Spanyards haue certaine Salines. 1748 Brownrigg *Art Making Salt* 15 The learned Doctor Shaw hath given us the most accurate description of several of these salines in the kingdom of Algiers. 1808 Ashe *Trav.* III. 3 It [*sc.* Salt River] received its name from the number of salines on its banks which impregnate its waters. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 739 Its highest ridges do not rise more than the height of a man above the salines on either side.

2. (See quots.)

1662 Merrett tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* cxvii. 173 Saline of the Levant. 1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), Saline of the Levant, is a salt extracted from the froth of the Sea, coagulated through the extreme heat of the Countrey. 1850 Ogilvie, *Saline*,..potash before it is calcined. 1860 Worcester (citing Loudon), *Saline*, a dry saline, reddish substance, obtained from the ashes of potato leaves, etc. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict., Salin*, the residue obtained from the evaporation or calcination of vinasse.

3. A saline purge (see A. 5).

1875 B. Meadows *Clin. Observ.* 71 Acids and alkalies, quinine and colchicum, rhubarb and salines, all kinds of remedies were useless. 1883 Thomson & Steele *Dict. Domestic Med. & Surg.* (ed. 17) 520/1 Pyretic saline. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 656 Free purgation with salines will often, as in eczema, alleviate the itching.

Salineness. *rare.* [-ness.] Salinity.

1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 59 It having..lost its saltiness, and its vitality. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 357 A vitriolic salineness.

† **Saliner.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *salinier*, ad. late L. *salīnārius*, f. L. *salīna* Salina.] A salt-maker.

1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) IX. 260 The saliners do gyve out of hande 15000 muys of salt to be delivred [etc.].

Saliniferous (sælini·fĕrəs), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. L. **salīn-us* Saline + -ferous.] Saliferous.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 389 The saliniferous hill Konigshorn in Westphalia, consists of marly limestone.

Saliniform (sălĭ·nifɒ̄ɹm), *a.* [irreg. f. L. **salīn-us* Saline + -form.] Having the form of salt.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 399 Most metals..are found in four states, native, sulphurated, calciform, or saliniform.

Salinitrous (sæ·linəi̯trəs), *a.* [f. L. *sal, sali-* salt + Nitre + -ous. Cf. Salitrose, -ous.] Pertaining to or containing nitre.

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Salinitrous*, compounded with salt or salt-petre. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 7/2 The salinitrous districts.

Salinity (sălĭ·nĭti). [f. Saline + -ity. Cf. F. *salinité.*] The quality of being saline; saltness.

1658 R. Franck *North. Mem.* (1694) 181 The Salinity of the Ocean. 1869 *Sci. Opinion* 14 Apr. 445/2 We want information..as to the degree of salinity..of the water at different levels. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 332 Deeper down [in the Dead Sea] the salinity amounts to saturation.

Salino- (săləi·nō), used as combining form of Saline, in the sense 'consisting of salt (and . . .)', as *salino-sulphureous, -terrene, terreous* adjs.

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 69 An Acid Salino-sulphureous steam. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 49 Salino-sulphureous spirits. 1744 Parsons in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 19 *note*, The salino-sulphureous Particles of the Blood. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 357 We are not acquainted with the action of salinoterreous matters on arsenic. 1828–32 Webster, *Salino-terrene*, denoting a compound of salt and earth.

Salinometer (sælinɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. Saline + -(o)meter.] An apparatus or instrument for ascertaining the salinity of water, *esp.* one for indicating the density of brine in marine boilers.

1844 *Mech. Mag.* XL. 34 Mr. J. Scott Russell's Salinometer. 1876 *Catal. Sci. Appl. S. Kens.* 97. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Salinometer*, an instrument for testing the strength of a brine or salt pickle.

† **Sali·nous**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. **salīnus* Saline + -ous.] Saline, salty.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. 50 Salinous spirits, concretive juyces, and causes circumjacent. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 327 Spaws of different sorts, as vitrioline, aluminous, nitrous, salinous. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 119 Rain-water,..incorporating with that Salinous Earth, produces a Salt, that works out of the Surface of it.

Salipyrin (sælipəi̯·rin). [f. Sali(cylic) + (anti)pyrin.] Salicylate of antipyrin.

1892 A. H. Allen *Comm. Org. Anal.* (ed. 2) III. II. 37 Salicylate of antipyrine has been employed with favourable results in medicine under the name of 'salipyrin'.

Saliretin (sælirē·tin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *salirétine* (Piria), f. Sali(cin) + Gr. ῥητίνη Resin.] A resinous substance obtained by the action of dilute acids on saligenin.

1840 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 6) III. 861 The white precipitate obtained, when salicine is boiled in dilute muriatic or sulphuric acid is saliretine. 1853 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 88 Saliretin is isomeric with hydruret of benzoyle.

Salit, variant pa. t. Salue *v. Obs.*

Salite, variant of Sahlite.

Salited, *ppl. a.* ? *Obs.* [f. L. *salīt-us*, pa. pple. of *salīre* to salt + -ED [1].] Impregnated with salt.

1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 443 Salited magnesia dissolves in spirit of wine. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 438 Salited Arsenic may also be precipitated in its Metallic form by Zinc.

†Sali·tion. *Obs.* [ad. late L. *salitiōn-em*, n. of action f. *salīre* to leap.] Leaping.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Comm.-pl. Bks.* Wks. 1835 IV. 393 What kind of motion natation or swimming is,..whether not compounded of a kind of salition, and volation.

Salitre (sæ·litəɹ). [a. Sp. *salitre* saltpetre: see SAL-NITRE.] Sodium nitrate.

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 9 Nov. 4/2 The Committee of the Combination of Salitre Elaborators. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict., Saliter*, soda niter.

Salitrose (sæ·litrōus), *a.* [ad. Sp. *salitroso*, f. *salitre* (see prec.).] Containing saltpetre.

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 559 Roads..clouded in a salitrose dust. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 726 The Bayou Salade especially, owing to the salitrose nature of the soil and springs, is the favourite resort.

So **Salitrous** (sæ·litrəs) *a.*

1897 GADOW *In North. Spain* 77 A spring of salitrous water.

†Sa·liture. *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *salītūra*, f. *salīre* to salt (see SALITED).] Salting, pickling.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 87 As Saliture and Farture rather seem to appertain to a Cooks [shop]. 1657 *Physical Dict., Saliture*, the art of salting or seasoning any meats.

Saliva (săləi·vă). [a. L. *salīva.*] Spittle; the mixed secretion of the salivary glands and of the mucous glands of the mouth, a colourless liquid, having normally an alkaline reaction, which mixes with the food in mastication.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* IV. vii. 333 Not meeting with that disturbance from the *Saliva* as in the former work. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distemp. Horses* 172 He will..pour out a great deal of Saliva, and his Gums will swell. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 415/2 The presence of food in the mouth caused a rapid flow of saliva. 1877 FOSTER *Physiol.* II. i. 158 Saliva contains but few solids.

transf. 1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (ed. 2) II. 247 The carrion-beetles..defile us..with brown fetid saliva.

attrib. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xl. IV. 110 The usual saliva-reservoirs. *Ibid.* xli. 125 The most usual number of the saliva-secretors is two. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Saliva-pump* (*Dentistry*), a device to remove the saliva from the mouth during dental operations.

Salival (săləi·văl), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *salīvāl-is*, f. L. *salīva*: see prec. and -AL. Cf. OF. *salival.*] **A.** *adj.* = SALIVARY.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvi. (1686) 116 Salival conduits and passages. 1662 H. STUBBE *Ind. Nectar* iii. 34 That salival ferment in the mouth which inchoates digestion. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xi. 195 To afford that noble digestive salival Liquor to be mixed with the Food in Mastication. 1740 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 441 The Vessels called salival Ducts by Coschivitzius. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xli. IV. 124 He suspects that they may be salival vessels. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free-Lance* I. iii. 81 The salival froth dropping from the jaws of a bloodhound.

†**B.** *sb. pl.* The salivary glands. *Obs.*

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* IV. viii. 334 Ranula is a soft Swelling possessing those Salivalls under the Tongue.

Salivan (săləi·văn), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SALIVA + -AN.] = SALIVARY 2.

1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 14 Nov. 632 The..salivan secretion.

Salivant (sæ·livănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *salīvant-em*, pres. pple. of *salīvāre*, f. *salīva* SALIVA. Cf. F. *salivant.*] **a.** *adj.* Promoting salivation; sialagogic. **b.** *sb.* A sialagogue.

1846 WORCESTER (citing Caldwell), *Salivant, a.*, a promoting salivation. 1857 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.*

†Saliva·rious, *a. Obs.*—[o] [f. L. *salīvāri-us* SALIVARY + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Salivarious*, clammy and thick like spettle.

Salivary (sæ·livări), *a.* [ad. L. *salīvāri-us*, f. *salīva*: see SALIVA and -ARY.]

1. Secreting or conveying saliva.

The salivary glands in man are the parotid, submaxillary, and sublingual.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 37. 2/1 The Salivary Glands. 1793 BEDDOES *Consumption* 142 Some persons whose skin is no sooner touched with quicksilver ointment than it is felt in the salivary glands. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 30 The encephalous mollusks are always furnished with well-developed salivary glands. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 162 That..mutton..moved my salivary apparatus. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 124 Salivary glands..are absent in fishes.

2. Consisting of saliva.

1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 562 The auxiliary secretions subservient to digestion..are the Salivary, the Hepatic, and the Pancreatic. 1880 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 116 The salivary secretion cannot be swallowed.

3. Pertaining to or existing in the saliva or salivary glands.

1807 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* II. v. 228 A salivary fistula is an opening on the cheek, from which saliva escapes. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 473 In man salivary calculi are of rare occurrence, but the formation of tartar on the teeth is continually observed. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 457 In salivary fistula, the salivary duct must find a natural outlet before its unnatural orifice can be expected to close.

†Sa·livate, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SALIVA + -ATE [2].] = SALIVARY 1.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 181 It [*sc.* the gargle] ..helps..the laxity of the salivate Glands.

Salivate (sæ·livēt), *v.* [f. L. *salīvāt-*, ppl. stem of L. *salīvāre*, f. *salīva* SALIVA.]

1. *trans.* To produce an unusual secretion of saliva in (a person), generally by the use of mercury; to produce ptyalism in.

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1050, I designe to salivate her, in hopes to correct that vitious ferment. 1720 BECKET *ibid.* XXXI. 109 Any Proof..that Persons had been Salivated in their Leprosy. 1827 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 7 Aug. (1884) I. 380 He gave Mr. C[anning] so much [mercury] that he actually salivated him. 1879 KNORY *Princ. Med.* 4 Quinine salivates a few.

absol. 1708 J. KEILL *Anim. Secretion* 63 Why does Mercury salivate, or Nitre force Urine? 1845 P. H. LATHAM *Lect. Clin. Med.* I. xiii. 266 Even within this time mercury must be made to salivate, if mercury is made to cure.

2. *intr.* **a.** To secrete or discharge saliva. **b.** To secrete saliva in excess under the influence of sialagogues.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Salivate*, to spit. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Salivate*, to gather or make Spittle. 1725 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 381 Two adult Persons,..who neither salivated, nor purged, except when some lenient Catharticks were given them. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1749) 152 Horses easilier salivate than Men. 1829 SIR R. CHRISTISON *Treat. Poisons* xiii. (1832) 369 She immediately began to complain of soreness of the mouth, salivated profusely, and even put on the expression of countenance of a salivating person. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 843 He [*sc.* an American] salivates for some threescore years,..and is gathered to his fathers, to spit no more.

Hence **Sa·livating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 101 As the Devil is fabled not able to hide his cloven foot, so Mercury will still be betraying its..salivating quality. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat., Lues Ven.* 8 The methods of Salivating are divers, but all by Mercury. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 513/2 It is more gentle than *Turpethum Minerale*, or any other salivating Precipitate. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salivation*, A..French Physician, M. Chicoyneau,..has lately done some Discredit to the Practice of Salivating. 1829 [see 2 above].

Salivation (sælivē·ʃən). [a. F. *salivation* or its source late L. *salīvātio*, n. of action f. *salīvāre* to SALIVATE.] Secretion or discharge of saliva: *esp.* the production of an excessive flow of saliva by administering mercury.

1598 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* (1880) 10 Phisition Mirus talkes of saliuation. 1686 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 202 Whore houses increase, surgeons have work, and great salivation used. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. ii. § 4 (1734) 127 Salivation by the internal Exhibition of Mercurials only, seldom succeeds. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 17 [He] having been blind for some years of a *gutta serena*, was restored to sight by salivation. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 570 Salivation, a symptom that is often remarked at the period of teething. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xvi. 192 His mouth was still sore in consequence of severe mercurial salivation. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 157 Caution must be exercised in the administration of narcotics, should there be much bronchial catarrh or salivation.

b. with *a* and *pl.* Now *Obs.* or *rare.*

1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* viii. Wks. 1709 III. 74 As if they were all clapt, and under a Salivation for the cure on't. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 25 Apr., Lord Elcho was in a salivation. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 310 She had lost her hair and teeth in a salivation! 1831 J. DAVIES *Man. Mat. Med.* 23 An old woman..was affected with a considerable salivation every time she made use of opium.

†**c.** *concr.* Saliva or an excretion resembling it. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 413 The noysome saliuation or spittle of the Aspis called Ptyas. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 107 Engendered from the salivation and slime of snakes.

†Salivative, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *salīvāt-*, ppl. stem of *salīvāre* to SALIVATE + -IVE.] Causing a flow of saliva; salivant.

1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* To Rdr., I have..rejected all Mercurial and Antimonial Medicaments, whether Vomitive, Purgative or Salivative.

Sa·livator. *rare*—[1]. [f. SALIVATE *v.*: see -ATOR.] One who uses sialagogues.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 661 The salivators..have not been more successful than other practitioners.

†Saliva·tory, *a. rare.* [f. late L. *salīvāt-* (see SALIVATE *v.*) + -ORY.] = SALIVARY.

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 241 Salivatory glands.

†Sali·vous, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *salīvōsus* or F. *salivеux*, f. *salīva* SALIVA: see -OUS.]

1. Pertaining to saliva; of the nature of saliva.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 62 This last being kept awhile in the mouth dryeth vp the tongue and saliuous humor. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 150 After a fuller mastication, and salivous mixture. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 285 Their [*sc.* snails'] salivous mucus which they vomit out when pricked. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* IV. vii. 333 An Elongation of the *Vvula* through the abundance of salivous Humour flowing upon it.

2. Using spittle (in baptism).

1813 MOORE *Post-bag* iv. 67 Let no one tell us To free such sad salivous fellows—No—no—the man baptized with spittle Hath no truth in him.

Sall, obs. form of SOUL. and SHALL *v.*

Sallad(e, obs. forms of SALAD, SALLET.

‖ **Salle** (sal). See also SALE *sb.*[3] [Fr.; of Teut. origin: cf. SALE *sb.*[1]]

1. A hall, room. *rare.* (Only with reference to foreign countries.)

1819 BYRON *Let.* 31 Dec., in Moore *Life* (1839) 432/1 Music, dancing, and play, all in the same *salle.* 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xx, A knowledge not merely confined to its open streets, but penetrating to all its galleries, salles, and cabinets.

2. In Fr. combinations. **Salle-à-manger** (salamãʒe), a dining-hall, dining room. **Salle d'attente** (saldatãt), a waiting-room (at a station).

1762 STERNE *Let.* 14 Aug., The house consists of a good *salle à manger* above stairs [etc.]. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* II. ix. 201 At a pretty early hour the various occupants of the crib at the Rue Poussin used to appear in the dingy little salle-à-manger, and partake of the breakfast there provided. 1879 FROUDE in *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. XX. 624 It was a large barely furnished apartment like the *salle d'attente* at the Northern Railway Station at Paris. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1883) I. vii. 111 Without any crowding ..we passed from the *salle d'attente* to the platform. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 172 James Forbes and his wife were with us in the otherwise untenanted *salle-a-manger.*

Sallee-man (sæ·lĭmæn). Also **Sally-man.** [f. *Sallee*, the name of a Moroccan seaport formerly of piratical repute.]

1. A Moorish pirate-ship. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* So also **Sallee rover.**

1637 J. DUNTON *Jrnl. Sally Fleet* Ep. Ded., Being sent out Master and Pilote in a Sallyman of warre, with twenty-one Moores and five Flemish rennagadoes, unto the coast of England to take Christians. 1686 J. DUNTON *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 29 One of the Seamen having descry'd to the S.W. a ship which he took for a Sally-Man. *Ibid.* 30 This Supposed Sally-Rover prov'd nothing else but a Virginia Merchant-Man. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 2 On the 9th we had a sight of another Vessel,..she seem'd to be a Sally-man, and might carry about 30 pieces of cannon. 1734 *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scotl.* (1885) V. 593 A ship-master in Boness and his crew who were taken by a Salee Rover and are now at Algeirs. 1754 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 24 Aug., A Sallee man, which cruizes from Cape Bon to the Isle of Galeta. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* II. xii. 235 A Sallee rover gave chace to our ship.

2. A marine hydrozoan, *Velella vulgaris.*

It floats on the sea with its vertical crest acting as a sail.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 387 The Sally Man. This insect is more firm and opake than either of the foregoing. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 54 *Velella limbosa*, or Sallyman, is abundant. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 739 A remarkable creature called by the popular name of *Sallee Man*, sometimes corrupted in nautical fashion into *Sallyman.*

Sallender (sæ·lĕndəɹ). Now only *pl.* Forms: 6–7 **selander, 7 sellander, sellender, sallander, 8 solander; 8 selenders, 8–9 sallenders.** [Of obscure origin: in F. *solandre* (1664 in Hatz.-Darm.).] A dry scab affecting the hock of a horse.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 95 A selander is in the bendynge of the legge behynde. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VII. (1617) 79 A Mallander is a drie scabbe vpon the bought of the fore leg: and the Sellanders vpon the hinder. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 6 No way subject to mainge, mallender, sellender. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2092/4 Stolen.., a large strong grey Gelding,..hath a small Sallander. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s.v. *Malenders*, Others alledge, that what cures the Scratches will cure both the Malenders and Selenders. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 273 In the inside of the hock., there is sometimes a scurfy eruption called mallenders in the fore leg, and sallenders in the hind leg. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 27/2 It is a breach of a warranty of soundness if the warranted horse suffers from..sallenders.

Sallendine, obs. form of CELANDINE.

Saller, obs. f. SOLLAR *Min.*, platform.

Sallery, obs. form of CELERY, SALARY.

Sallet (sæ·lĕt), **salade** (sălā·d). *Antiq.* Forms: 5–8 **sallet,** 5–6 **salett(e, salet** (also 8–9 *arch.*), *Sc.* **sellat, -et,** (5 **salecte, salate**), 6 **sallett(e, (-att),** 6–7 **sallat(e,** 7 **sallad(e,** 5–7, 9 *arch.* **salad(e.** [a. F. *salade*, ad. Sp. *celada* or It. *celata*, believed to represent L. *cælāta* (sc. *cassis* or *galea*), (a helmet) ornamented with engraving. Cf. MDu. *salade, sallade, salla.*

The L. adj. has not been found in this elliptical use. Cf. 'loricæ galeæque aeneæ, cælatæ opere Corinthio' (Cicero).]

1. In mediæval armour, a light globular head-piece, either with or without a vizor, and without a crest, the lower part curving outwards behind.

c 1440 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* iv. 11 (MS. Rawl.), Ham-Selfe wel wepenyd with haubergeons, and bryght Salletis and sheldys. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 189 Imprimis, a peyr brygandyrs, a salet, a boresper [etc.]. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* colv. (1482) 331 He toke syr vmfreys salade and his brigantyns..and also his gylt spores and arayd hym lyke a lord. *c* 1537 *Thersytes* 55, I wolde have a sallet to were on my hed, Whiche under my chyn with a thonge red Buckeled shall be. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxviii. 146 b, On their heads [they] hadde sallets of leather. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 9 Many a time but for a Sallet, my braine-pan had bene cleft with a brown Bill. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Leys le Roy* 113 b, The men that were heauily armed had a salade, which couered their head, and came downe as far as their shoulders. *a* 1600 *Floddan F.* ii. (1664) 12 Some of a share can shortly make A sallate for to save his pate. 1786 GROSE *Anc. Armour* II. The Salade, Salet, or Celate. Father Daniel defines a Salet to be a sort of light casque, without a crest, sometimes having a visor, and being sometimes without one. 1824 MEYRICK *Ant. Armour* III. Gloss., *Salet*,..a light head piece sometimes worn by the cavalry, but generally by the infantry and archers. It..was generally a steel cap greatly resembling the morian. 1844 JAMES *Agincourt* II. v. 109 He caused his archers to put on the cuirasses and salades. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 4 Armed with sword and spear, a steel salet on his head, a leather jack upon his body.

b. *jocularly* referred to as a measure for wine.

1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) C j, Make a proclamation..That..Sacke be sold by the Sallet.

†c. *transf.* Headpiece, head. *nonce-use.*
1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* 56 When Wine was got into his drunken Sallat.

† 2. Some kind of iron vessel. *Obs.*
1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 51/2 With fyere brought with theym in a Salette thider. 1507–8 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 101 Item, for ane sellat to mak gwn powdir vij s. 1582 Hester *Secr. Phioraν.* III. cxvi. 141 Sette the same potte in a Sallette of Iron, and lute them close together.

Hence †**Sa·lleted** *a.*, wearing a sallet.
1455 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 282 An hundred of goode-men..with bowes & arowes, Jakked & saletted. 1461 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 36 The peple was jakkyd and saletted, and riottously disposed.

Sallet, Sallfe, obs. forms of Salad, Salve.

†**Sa·lliable,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Sally *v.*2 + -able.] Suitable for making a sally.
1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 98 It is alwayes important for him to know the wayes..most salliable for the souldiers..out of the campe.

Sallibube, obs. variant of Sillabub.

†**Sa·llier**[1]. *Obs.*$^{-0}$ In 5 salyare. [f. Sally *v.*[1] + -er[1].] A dancer.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salyare, *saltator, saltatrix.*

Sallier[2] (sæ·liəɹ). *rare.* [f. Sally *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who takes part in a sally.
1685 Travestin *Siege Newheusel* 10 The Salliers were obliged, without any more effect, to retire. 1848 Aird *Trag. Wold* II. x. Poet. Wks. 39 Dunley with a party of salliers is fighting outside one of the open gates.

Sallow (sæ·lo), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 sealh, (seal, salh, salch); *β.* 4–5 salwe, (4 salew, salugh), 5–6 salgh(e, salow(e, (5 salwhe, 6 sallowe, sallo, 7 salloo), 4– sallow; *γ.* [1 saliz-], 3 selihe, salyhe, 5–6 saly, 6 salye, 6, 9 salley, 7– sally. (See also E. D. D., and the forms placed under Saugh.) [OE. *sealh* (Anglian *salh*):—prehistoric **salho-z* masc.; cogn. w. OHG. *salaha* wk. fem. (MHG. *salhe*, mod.G. in comb. *salweide*):—**salhōn-*; ON. *selja* wk. fem. (Sw. *sälj, sälg*, Da. *selje*):—**salhjōn-*; cognates outside Teut. are L. *salic-, salix*, Gr. ἑλίκη, Irish *saileach*, Welsh *helyg* (collect.). The Fr. *saule* is an adoption from Teut.
The OE. nom. sing. is directly represented by the dialectal Saugh. The *β* and *γ* forms above descend from the late Anglian flexional form *salg-, salig-*, where the *g* is introduced on the analogy of those sbs. in which final *h* is a euphonic modification of *g*. The form Seal appears partly to represent the normal flexional form of the stem in OE., as in *seales* genit. sing., *sealas* pl., and partly to be adopted from ON. *selja*.]

1. A plant of the genus *Salix*, a willow; chiefly, in narrower sense, as distinguished from 'osier' and 'willow', applied to several species of *Salix* of a low-growing or shrubby habit: see quot. 1866. Also, one of the shoots of a willow.
a. *a* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 892 *Salix*, salch. *a* 800 *Erfurt Gloss.* 1767 *Salix*, salh. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 18 Wið heafod ece ȝenim sealh & ele.
β. 1377–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 131 In posicione de Sallowys juxta ripam de Wer, xxd. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 655 Who so that buyldeth his hous al of salwes ..Is worthy to been hanged on the galwes! 1388 Wyclif *Lev.* xxiii. 40 And ȝe schulen take to ȝou..salewis [1382 withies] of the rennynge streem. *c* 1450 Lydg. & Burgh *Secrees* 2014 Afftir, ovir a ryveer rennyng, To be set Arrayed to thyn estat, With salwys, wyllwys Envyronnd preperat. 1555 Eden *Decades* 38 Elmes, wyllowes, and salowes. 1583 L. M[ascall] tr. *Bk. Dyeing* 76 Take oole of a willo or salio. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 573 Sallows and Reeds, on Banks of Rivers born. 1725 T. Thomas in *Portland Pap.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 131 There is a small shrub growing over the greatest part of it ['the Carr', near Carlisle] which they call soft sallows. 1782 J. Scott *Poet. Wks.* 96 And lofty sallows their sweet bloom display. 1818 Shelley *Pr. Wks.* (1880) III. 18 We sit with Plato by old Ilissus..among the sweet scent of flowering sallow. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 223 A robe..In colour like the satin-shining palm On sallows in the windy gleams of March. 1865 *Treas. Bot., Sallow*, a name for *Salix cinerea, S. Caprea*, and the allied species, which are not flexible like the osier, but furnish the best charcoal for gunpowder. 1907 *Gentl. Mag.* July 38 The yellow sallows, locally sallys, which the cottage children call palms, flame in gold.
γ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxxvi. 2 On saliz[um] we sarize, swiðe ȝelome, ure organan up-ahengan. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxvi. 2 In selihes [*v.r.* salyhes, wilthes] in mide ofe ite Our organes henge we yhite. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/1 Salghe for Saly *A.*), *salix*. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xix. 39 Of the Withy, Sally, Ozier, and Willow. *Ibid.* 40 We have three sorts of Sallys amongst us: The vulgar..and the hopping Sallys..: And a third kind..having the twigs reddish. 1694 Westmacot *Script. Herb.* 222 Sallies grow the faster, if planted within the reach of the Water. 1750 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* IV. II. 41 (E.D.S.). 1882 *W. Worc. Gloss., Sallies*, willow-boughs.

2. The wood of the sallow tree.
β. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 178 If þe beed be smyte wiþ a list drie staf as of salow. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 88 Smal-coale..is made of Sallow, Willow, Alder, Hasell, and the like. 1658 — *Hydriot.* iii. 44 Sallow..makes more Ashes then Oake. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning*, etc. I. 104 Sallow (*Salix caprea*), is white, with a pale-red cast, like red deal, but without the veins. 1882 *Athenæum* 26 Aug. 271/2 A Sussex trug..is a flat basket..of flakes of sallow braced with ash.
γ. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 113 Ther is a wood..conteynyng..xx acres of okes, asshes, salyes and other woodes. 1582 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 424 Spoylinge of hasells, salleys, and other woods readie for sale. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xxxvii. 453 They doe not take Sally, or Willow, or Birch, and such other Materialls. 1810 W. H. Marshall *Rev. Board Agric., W. Departm.* 275 The softer woods, such as ash, sallies, alder, are regularly cut from twelve to fourteen years' growth. 1835 J. Wilson *Biog. Blind* 212 The old harp.. the front of which is white sally, the back of fir.

3. A collectors' name for certain moths the larvæ of which feed on the sallow or willow; esp. a moth of the genus *Xanthia.*
1829 J. F. Stephens *Syst. Catal. Brit. Ins.* II. 98. 1832 J. Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 85. 1830 O. S. Wilson *Larvæ Brit. Lepidopt.* 270.

b. ? = *sally-fly* (see 4 b).
1902 *Webster's Dict.*, Suppl., *Sally*, a stone fly.

4. *attrib.* as *sallow* (or *sally*) *bush, charcoal, land, pole, stake, switch, tree, twig, willow, wood.*
1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 69/2 A few low *sallow bushes. 1615 Markham *Eng. Housew.* 81 Take of *Sallow Charcole vj. ounces. 1907 *Gentl. Mag.* July 38 Down by the river we have the Sallens, or *Sally lands. 1898 *B'ham Daily Post* 26 Mar. (E. D. D.), 'White and black *Sally poles' for sale. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 139 And put a *saly stake in hit. 1802 H. Martin *Helen of Glenross* I. 55 A *sally switch. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 188 Take..half soo myche of coles of *salow or of wylow tree. 1850 K. H. Digby *Compitum* III. 206 A brook that winds through bending sally trees. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 18 And softe a *saly twigge aboute hym plie. 1776–96 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 54 *Sallow Willow. *Salix caprea*... This is perhaps the most common of all our willows. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Art* II. 17 Charcoal is to be chosen of *sallow wood.

b. Special comb.: **sally-fly**, some kind of stone fly; **sallow kitten**, a moth (see quot.); **sallow moth**, a moth of the genus *Xanthia* (*Cassell's Dict.*); **sally picker** *Anglo-Irish*, a name for the Chiffchaff, Sedge Warbler and Willow Warbler; **sallow thorn**, a plant of the genus *Hippophae*; **sallow †withe, withy** [= G. *salweide*] = sense 1.
1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 114 The Yellow *Sally Fly. Comes on about the twentieth of May...It is a four winged fly; as it swims down the water its wings lie flat on its back. 1880 O. S. Wilson *Larvæ Brit. Lepidopt.* 189 *Dicranura furcula*, Linn. The *Sallow Kitten. 1885 Swainson *Provinc. Names Birds* 25, 26, 28 *Sally picker (Ireland). 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 157 *Hippophae.* L. *Sallow-thorn. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 68 The Goats gnaw'd the green *Sallow With in pieces. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.*, **Sally-withy*, a willow.

Sallow (sæ·lo), *a.* Forms: 1 salo, 4–6 salowe, (5 salloh, salwhe, 6 sallowe, 7 salow), 6– sallow. [OE. *salo* = MDu. *salu, saluwe* discoloured, dirty (Du. †*saluw*), OHG. *salo, salew*-dark-coloured (MHG. *sal, salw-*, mod.Ger. dial. *sal*), Icel. *söl-r* yellow:—OTeut. **salwo-*, whence F. *sale*, It. *salavo* dirty. Cf. Russian соловой *solovoy* cream-coloured.] Of the skin or complexion: Having a sickly yellow or brownish yellow colour.
a 1000 *Riddles* lxxx. 11 (Gr.) Good is min wise & ic [*sc.* ?a horn] sylfa salo. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 355 Ful salowe was waxen hir colour. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7392 That false traitouresse untrewe Was lyk that salowe hors of hewe, That in the Apocalips is shewed. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxix. (1869) 41 Al blac thei bicomen and salwh,..and elded. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441 Salwhe of colowre (*P.* salowe), *croceus*. 1530 Palsgr. 323/1 Salowe yolowe coloured as ones skynne is for sycknesse, *jaunastre*. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 13 Colour of inward causes...Of inequalytie of humoures, wherof doo procede, blacke, salowe, or white onely. Red, Blacke, Salowe, do betoken domynion of heate...Salowe, choler citrine. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 70 What a deale of brine Hath washt thy sallow cheekes for Rosaline! 1613 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Salow*, white. 1656 Earl. Monm. tr. *Boccalini, Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 256 [She] is of so sallow a complexion, that she shadows upon the Moor. 1744 Armstrong *Preserv. Health* IV. 48 Hence..The Lover's paleness; and the sallow hue Of Envy. *a* 1745 Swift *Panegyric on Dean* Wks. 1751 X. 170 Pale Dropsy with a sallow Face. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 194 They were of a sallow or brownish complexion. 1813 Byron *Corsair* I. viii, That man..Whose name appals ..And tints each swarthy cheek with sallower hue. 1856 Bryant *Death Schiller* iii, The sallow Tartar. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxx, The eldest daughter was rather pretty but sallow and unhealthy.

b. *transf.* and of things personified.
1746 Collins *Ode Evening* 45 While sallow Autumn fills thy lap with leaves. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 438 He..who, imprisoned long..and a prey To sallow sickness...Escapes at last to liberty and light. 1827 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 50 They are believers; but their faith is no sallow plant of darkness. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 72 Pining to a sallow idiocy.

c. *Comb.*
1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 52 b, A man maie be high coloured, or *sallowe coloured, and yet not blacke. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* IV. i, The sallow-coloured brat Of some vnlanded banckrupt. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 148 That *sallow-fac't, sad, stooping Nymph. 1877 Black *Green Past.* v, A tall, thin, sallow-faced man. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* 100 A *sallow-looking, close-cropped Pole. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 292 The *sallow-visaged party.

Sallow (sæ·lo), *v.* [f. Sallow *a.*] *trans.* To make sallow.
1831 T. L. Peacock *Crotchet Castle* i, Her quondam lover, whose physiognomy the intense anxieties..had left blighted, sallowed, and crow's-footed. 1861 Du Chaillu *Equat. Afr.* xviii. 325 The whole complexion is sallowed. 1868 Lowell *Under the Willows* 41 July..sallows the crispy fields.

†**Sallowie.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. Perh. a dial. form of *sallow-withe*; see Sallow *sb.* 4 b.
1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Tri.* I. ii, Bees that flie About the laughing bloosms of sallowie.

Sallowish (sæ·loiʃ), *a.* [f. Sallow *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat sallow in hue.
1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) III. v. 32 Her complexion, sallowish, streaked with red. *Ibid.* VII. xxxiv. 158 He..has..a complexion a sallowish brown. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xi, A youngish sallowish gentleman in spectacles. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 410/2 'Twas now of a cold, sallowish green.

Sallowness (sæ·lonės). [f. Sallow *a.* + -ness.] The state of being sallow.
1722 Bp. Downes in Nicolson *Ep. Corr.* 546 It..has cast such a sallowness (if there is such a word) on his countenance, that [etc.]. 1797–1805 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* IV. 13 He was still pale, even to sallowness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 595 A little yellowness of the conjunctiva and sallowness of the skin.

Sallowy (sæ·loui), *a.* [f. Sallow *sb.* + -y.] Abounding in sallows or willows.
1840 Louisa S. Costello *Summer amongst Bocages* II. 96 We waded along till we reached..the sandy and sallowy Isle du Vieux Pont. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 147 Where the brook..ran By sallowy rims. 1871 — *Last Tourn.* 421 Many a glancing plash and sallowy isle.

Sally (sæ·li), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6 sale, saley, (salew), sallie, 7–8 salley, 8 sailly, 7– sally. [a. F. *saillie* issuing forth, outrush, outbreak (hence 'sally' of wit, etc.), projection, prominence (also in OF. leap), f. *saillir*: see Sail *v.*[3], Sally *v.*[1]
Parallel formations on the etymologically equivalent vb. in the other Rom. langs. are Sp. *salida*, Pg. *sahida, saida*, exit, sortie, It. *salita* ascent.]

I. An issuing forth.

1. A sudden rush (*out*) from a besieged place upon the enemy; a sortie; esp. in the phrase *to make a sally.*
1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 414 b, The French men that wer besieged make many sales oute. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 141 That night the Spaniards made a salley..to disturbe our Campe. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 170 Poyer making lately a salley out of Pembrooke Castle, and those from Tenby..assisting him, they haue utterly defeated the besiedgers. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 380 The Captains..of the Town of Mansoul agreed, and resolved upon a time to make a salley out upon the camp of Diabolus. 1786 W. Thomson *Watson's Philip III* (1839) 375 A garrison ..which is able to resist assaults..and often to make successful sallies. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 396 He there remained..without throwing away his ammunition excepting when he could do it with effect in judicious sallies. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lvii. (1862) V. 119 A well-timed sally..dispersed the Leontine land-force.
fig. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 26 Courage, is able..with a sudden assault to surprise..the enemie. Iudgement hath its scouts ever abroad, to prevent such like sallies and cavalcadoes, that he be not taken sleeper. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. vii. 73 As for the..Orientall languages he rather makes sallies and incursions into them, then any solemn sitting down before them. 1844 Emerson *Lect. New Eng. Ref.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 263 It is handsomer to remain in the establishment,..and conduct that in the best manner, than to make a sally against evil by some single improvement.

†b. A place whence a sally may be made; a sally-port. *Obs.*
1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 149 Of this Abbey they have made a bulwerk, and a platforme above, and a salew unto the same out of the cytadell. 1590 Sir R. Williams *Brief Disc. War* 50 Euerie Bulwarke ought to haue two sallies, one for horse and foote, the other a little secret sallie. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 252 Sallie..is also a secret issue for the souldiers to passe out of a wall, bulwarke, or fort.

2. A going forth, setting out, excursion, expedition (of one or more persons).
1657 Howell *Londinop.* 49 We will now make a salley out of Algate. 1697 Dryden *Virg.* Ded., A Lark, melodious in her mounting, and continuing her Song till she alights: Still preparing for a higher flight at her next sally. 1743 Fielding *Wedding-day* II. iv, Doth this early sally of yours proceed from having been in bed early..? 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iv, Here..is notice of his return from the first of these sallies into England.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*
1650 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 50 She [the soul] makes out salleys which cause men to believe that though she be fastened to the body, yet she is not a Prisoner. 1722 De Foe *Moll Flanders* (1840) 208, I made my second sally into the world. 1753 Johnson *Adventurer* 107 ₱ 3 At our first sally into the intellectual world, we all march together. 1836 Emerson *Nature, Prospects* Wks. (Bohn) II. 172 Is not prayer also a study of truth—a sally of the soul into the unfound infinite? 1849 W. Irving *Goldsmith* iii. 49 [He] made his second sally forth into the world. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 24, I make a sudden sally.

3. A sudden start into activity.
1605 Daniel *Philotas* v. *Chorus*, How well were we within the narrow bounds Of..Macedon, Before our kings inlardgd them with our wounds And made these salies of ambition. 1665 Glanvill *Def. Van. Dogm.* To T. Albinus, For what ever heat attends the first sallies of young Inventions, Time ..cools these delights. 1703 Collier *Dissuas. fr. Playhouse* 15 [They would] make us believe the Storm was nothing but an Eruption of Epicurus's Atoms, a Spring-Tide of Matter and Motion, and a blind Salley of Chance. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Hist. Jew. War* I. Pref. § 7 What places the Jews assaulted..in the first sallies of the war. 1807 Wordsw. *Ode on Intimat. Immort.* 89 Behold the Child.. See, where 'mid work of his own hand he lies, Fretted by sallies of his mother's kisses. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 358 Nature goes by rule, not by sallies and saltations.

4. A breaking forth from restraint; an outburst or transport (*of* passion, delight, or other emotion); a flash (*of* wit); a flight (*of* fancy).

16.. Stillingfl. (J.), These passages were intended for sallies of wit; but whence comes all this rage of wit? 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 172 ¶ 4 She is apt to fall into little Sallies of Passion. 1727 Swift & Pope *Misc.* I. Pref. 10 We have written some Things which we may wish never to have thought on. Some Sallies of Levity ought to be imputed to Youth. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 225 It is difficult to abstain from some sally of panegyric. 1775 T. Sheridan *Art Reading* 292 When she [fancy]..acknowledges no superior, her vigorous and wild sallies..are.. vain and fruitless. 1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 10 That sudden burst of confident self-sufficiency, by the vigorous sailly of which virtue herself may be sometimes confounded. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* xi. II. 40 Sufficient guards against the sallies of democratical extravagance. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. xviii. III. 313 He was..sometimes hurried.. into a sally of passion. 1841-4 Emerson *Ess., Friendship* Wks. (Bohn) I. 87 It [friendship] keeps company with the sallies of wit and the trances of religion. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* viii. 216 Sudden sallies and impetuosities of temper.

† b. Outlet, 'vent'. *Obs. rare.*

1799 C. Winter in Jay *Mem.* (1843) 19 While Mr. Whitefield was giving full sally to his soul, and..inviting sinners to the Saviour.

5. A sudden departure from the bounds of custom, prudence, or propriety; an audacious or adventurous proceeding, an escapade. Now *rare.*

a 1639 Wotton *Parallel Essex & Buckhm.* (1641) 3 At his returne all was cleere, and this excursion was esteemed but a Sally of youth. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* I. viii. (1897) I. 386, I made at this time a sally that may be mentioned, since it had some relation to public affairs. 1723 Waterland *Wks.* (1823) III. 261 It might be on account of some of these uncautious sallies of Origen, that he was forced to purge himself to Pope Fabian:..after which..he..kept closer to the language of the Church. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* I. II. xxi. 56 We find people very brisk and active in seasons of joy, breaking out continually into wanton and extravagant sallies. 1871 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* V. xliii. 219 But the sally [ed. 1 1856 V. 110 *reads* enterprise] of an obscure slave was far less formidable than the intrigues of illustrious nobles.

6. A sprightly or audacious utterance or literary composition; now usually, a brilliant remark, a witticism.

1756-82 J. Warton *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) II. viii. 34 We must not try the charming sallies of Ariosto by the rigid rules of Aristotle. 1779-81 Johnson *L. P., Shenstone* Wks. IV. 219 His poems consist of elegies, odes and ballads, humorous sallies and moral pieces. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 98 After this sally of the preacher of the Old Jewry, which..agrees perfectly with the spirit and letter of the rapture of 1648. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1765, Voltaire, in revenge, made an attack upon Johnson, in one of his numerous literary sallies. 1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* xiii, The sprightly sallies of the two won attention like a fencing match.

II. 7. A leaping movement. *Obs.* exc. *Naut.* (see quot. 1867) and *dial.*

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. x. (Arb.) 98 As the Dorien because his falls, sallyes, and compasse be diuers from those of the Phrigien. 1718 Steele *Fish-pool* 178 On every sally of the boat, the water in the Well must shift its place. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Sally,..*a sudden heave or set. 1887 Donaldson *Jamieson's Dict.* Suppl. 210 *Sally,..*a rush or dash; a swing from side to side, rocking; a continuous rising and falling,..the swinging or bounding motion of a ship at sea.

III. 8. a. *Arch.* A deviation from the alinement of a surface; a projection, prominence. **b.** *Carpentry* (see quot. 1842).

1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 73 This Authour did first conceive, that they were not shadows but some Sallies or Prominencies in that Belt. 1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 69 The Sally, or Projection of a..Cornish. 1757 Robertson in *Phil. Trans.* L. 292 Add to this the sally of the head, the weight of the forecastle [etc.]. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Sally*, a projecture. The end of a piece of timber cut with an interior angle formed by two planes across the fibres. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 396 The 'sally', or point given to the end of each part to resist lateral pressure. 1887 Donaldson *Jamieson's Dict.* Suppl. 208 *Saillie, Sailye, Sally*, a projection; outjutting; applied to a room, gallery, or other building projecting beyond the face of a house or wall.

Sally (sæ·li), *sb.*[2] *Bell-ringing.* Also 9 **sallie.** [Perh. an application of Sally *sb.*[1] 7.]

1. The first movement of a bell when 'set' for ringing; a 'handstroke', as distinguished from the reverse movement of 'backstroke'; also, the position of a bell when it is rung up to a 'set' position. ? Now *local.*

1668 F. Stedman *Tintinnalogia* (1671) 54 Whole-pulls, is to Ring two Rounds in one change..so that every time you pull down the bells at Sally, you make a new change. *Ibid.* 134 But sometimes the fault of the stroke [*i. e.* when longer on one side than the other] is in the Sally. 1677 — *Campanologia* 26 The falling of the bells from a Sett-pull must gradually be done, by checking them only at Sally, until the low compass renders the Sally useless. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 462/2 The several wayes of Ringing Bells. 1. Is the Under Salley, that is when the Bells are raised but Frame high, so as the Clapper strikes on both sides of the Bell. 2. Is the Hand Salley, when they are rung almost up, and one hand is put to the Rope to raise it. 1702 J. D. & C. M. *Campanalogia Impr.* 11 The first Step..is to learn perfectly to set a Bell,..and to have it so much at his Command, as that he may be able to cut it down, either at hand (being the Sally) or back Stroke. *Ibid.* 13 He must likewise be careful, when they lie under Sally, (for so 'tis term'd) to keep his Bell at so constant a Pull, as not to pull harder one time than another. 1872 Ellacombe *Ch. Bells Devon* 13 *note*, The half-wheel action is distinguished by the name of the dead-rope pull, there being no sally. *Ibid., Bells of Ch.* x. 551 It was at this time that the bells were altered from the dead-rope pull to the sally. 1897 F. T. Jane *Lordship* vi. 66 The tuftin being worn, she hurt a man's hands a good deal on the sally, and had mainly to be rung on the backstroke.

2. The woolly 'grip' for the hands near the lower end of a bell-rope, composed of tufts of wool woven into the rope.

1809 T. Batchelor *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 142 *Sally*, the serving, or pluffy part of a bell rope. 1869 Trovte *Change Ringing* i. 2 The 'hand stroke' blow will be the one on which he pulls the 'sallie', or tuffing on the rope. 1871 T. Hardy *Desperate Remedies* Epil., Bright red 'sallies' of woollen texture..glowed on the ropes.

3. *Comb.*: **sally beam** (see quot. 1872); **sally hole**, a hole through which the bell-rope passes; **sally-pin, -pulley, -wheel** (see quots.).

1872 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IX. 186/2 The *sally-beam is a beam ..through which the bell-rope is passed to steady it. 1901 H. E. Bulwer *Gloss. Techn. Terms Bells* 5 *Sally-beams*, light wooden cross beams..with guide pieces attached through which the bell-ropes pass. 1851 C. Rogers ['Tom Treddlehoyle'] *Bairnsla Foak's Ann.* (E. D. D.), He wor drawn up bit bell an knocked his heead again t' *sally-hoil. 1879 Troyte in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 219/2 When the rope has been pulled enough to bring the fillet or '*sallie-pin' down to the nearest point to the ground pulley that it can reach. 1901 H. E. Bulwer *Gloss. Techn. Terms Bells* 4 *Sally-pin*, a reel inserted between the 'shrouds' over the rope to assist the purchase of the latter, when the 'fillet-hole' is placed near the top of the 'wheel'. *Ibid., Pulley*, a sheave of hard wood on the lower part of the frame which guides the rope to the wheel. In some localities it is called ..'*sally-pulley',..'*sally-wheel'.

† **Sa·lly,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 salyyn, 6 **saly,** 7 **sally.** [irreg. ad. F. *saillir*: see Sail *v.*[3]]

1. *intr.* To leap, bound, dance.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salyyn, *salio* (P. *salto*). 1543 Becon *Invect. agst. Swearing* 54 Herode also made a promyse to the doughter of Herodias, whan she daunced & salyed so plesantly before hym.

2. *trans.* Of a horse: To leap (a mare).

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvi. 300 They use to ring Mares..,to keep them from being sallied by Stoned Horses.

Hence † **Sa·llying** *vbl. sb.*, dancing.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salyynge, *saltacio.*

Sally (sæ·li), *v.*[2] Forms: 6 **salee, salie, saly,** 7– **sally.** [f. Sally *sb.*[1], which first appears at the same time. The sense of the vb. may have been influenced by association with its ulterior source, F. *saillir*: see Sail *v.*[3]]

1. *intr.* Of a warlike force: To issue suddenly from a place of defence or retreat in order to make an attack; *spec.* of a besieged force, to make a sortie. Also *to sally out.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 430 Duke Henry..hauinge lost..many of his men what tyme the Marques saleed out, and fought. 1590 Sir R. Williams *Brief Disc. War* 51 Hauing an easie entrie into the ditch, the defendants dare not sally. *Ibid.* 52 Alledging..that the defendants may the better saly out. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XXIV. 375 And now, all girt in armes; the Ports, set wide, They sallied forth. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 200 The happy repulse of the Spaniards sallying upon our Cannon. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1813 V. 367 Leyva, with his garrison, sallied out and attacked the rear of the French. 1777 W. Heath in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 338 The enemy had sallied, early one morning, and surprised one of our outguards. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xix. 382 A nest of lake pirates who sallied out by night to kill and plunder. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 172 The Mitylenaeans with their whole force sallied out against the Athenian camp.

fig. 1651 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvi. (1739) 114 Like a good Soldier, whilst his strength is full, he sallies upon the people's liberties.

2. Of a person or party of persons: To set out boldly, to go forth (from a place of abode); to set out on a journey or expedition. Const. *forth, off, out.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 38 Where gladsome Guyon salied forth to land. 1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* 41 To return now into Italy from whence we first sallied. 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 19 Feb., Where Sir Andrew Fountain dined too, who has just began to sally out, and has shipt..his nurses back to the country. 1762 Foote *Lyar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 282 But let us sally. 1766 Cowper *Let.* 20 Oct., Wks. (1876) 23 After tea we sally forth to walk in good earnest. 1786 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 9 Vessels may enter and sally with every wind. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 52 These frontier settlers form parties..and prepare for a bee hunt. Having provided themselves with a waggon.. they sally off, armed with their rifles. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* i, [He] had risen and was adjusting his riding-cloak preparatory to sallying abroad. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1879) 112 In the morning we all sallied forth to hunt. 1888 W. S. Caine *Round the World* i. 2 We settled down in our comfortable cabins..and then sallied forth for a tour of inspection round the ship.

transf. and *fig.* 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 178 He.. takes pen in hand..and sallies forth into the fairy land of poetry. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 87 Where the tall trees crowd round and sally Down the slope sides.

† **b.** *To sally out*: to make a digression in speech. *Obs.*

1660 *Trial Regic.* 51 And we have, with a great deal of Patience, suffered you to sally out. *Ibid.* 55 My Lords, this ought not to come from the Bar to the Bench; if you sally out thus about your Conscience. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 58 Sometimes the Prophets, in the midst of the Mention of particular Mercies,..Sally out into Pathetical Excursions relating to the Messias.

3. Of things: To issue forth; *esp.* to issue suddenly, break out, burst or leap forth.

1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 237 A little Mountain, whence there sallies a stream of water that turns three Mills. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* Ded., It may very well.. pass amongst good natur'd men, with other things, that every day sally from the Press. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 646 Fierce in his look his ardent valour glow'd, Flush'd in his cheek, or sally'd in his blood. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* II. vii. 265 It is not at all likely that the soul sallies out of the body. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XI. 326 While yet his warm blood sallied from the wound. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Merlin* i, When the God's will sallies free.

Hence **Sa·llying** *vbl. sb.* (also attrib.) and *ppl. a.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 401 b, To leave behynde my backe no fortified place, out of the whiche any force or saleinge out is to be feared. 1590 Sir R. Williams *Brief Disc. War* 53 The salying of the asseged. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 473 Delicious..As to the hunted hart the sallying spring. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* XXVI. III. 424 A sallying place for marauding inroads. 1839 Thackeray *Major Gahagan* iii, I found our sallying party.

Sally (sæ·li), *v.*[3] [f. Sally *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To bring (a bell) to the position of 'sally'.

1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 250 Hark! now again the Chorus fills. As Bells Sally'd awhile at once their Peal renew.

Sallyer, variant of Saler *Obs.*

Sally Lunn (sæ·li lʌn). [See quot. 1827.] A kind of tea-cake (see quot. 1892).

1798 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVIII. II. 931/2 A certain sort of hot rolls, now, or not long ago, in vogue at Bath, were gratefully and emphatically styled 'Sally Lunns'. 1824 Carlyle *Early Lett.* (1886) II. 289 Robinson gives me coffee and Sally Lunns. 1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1561 The bun ..called the Sally Lunn, originated with a young woman of that name in Bath, about thirty years ago. She first cried them...Dalmer, a respectable baker and musician, noticed her, bought her business, and made a song..in behalf of Sally Lunn. 1845 Dickens *Chimes* iv, It's a sort of night that's meant for muffins. Likewise crumpets. Also Sally Lunns. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxiii, A meal of green tea, scandal, hot Sally-Lunn Cakes, and a little novel-reading. 1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) II. 361/1 *Sally Lunns.*—These are sweet light teacakes...Sally Lunns should be cut open, well buttered, and served very hot.

b. *Sally Lunn pudding*, a kind of pudding made with a Sally Lunn cake.

1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) 361/2.

Sally-man, Sally rover: see Sallee-man.

Sa·llyport. [f. Sally *sb.*[1] + Port *sb.*[3]]

1. *Fortif.* An opening in a fortified place for the passage of troops when making a sally; sometimes used for 'postern'. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV* cccxii, Soe lyes the Worme, safe in her treeble hedge And eats the Purple Garden, ere wee find Her Sally-Ports. 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 3 My slippery soul had quit the fort, But that she stopt the Salley-port. 1688 J. S. *Fortification* 69 Little Ports are made in the middle of the Courtains..called Sally-Ports. 1694 Congreve *Double-Dealer* IV. v, Were you provided for an Escape? Hold, Madam, you have no more holes to your Burrough, I'll stand between you and this Sally-Port. 1704 *Lond. Gaz* No. 4008/2 The rest made their Escape out of a Sally-Port. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict., Sally-ports*, or postern-gates..are those underground passages, which lead from the inner to the outward works. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* XXX, In the outwork was a sallyport corresponding to the postern of the castle. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 261 The Sallyports are openings cut in the glacis...They are used in making sallies from the covered way.

attrib. 1799 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 36 Tippoo Sultaun's body was discovered in the sallyport gateway.

2. (See quot. 1867.)

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Sally-port*, in a fire ship, is a great opening in her side..for the men to escape by, when they have..fired their train. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Fire-ship.* 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Sally-port,..*a large port on each quarter of a fire-ship, out of which the officers and crew make their escape into the boats. ..Also, the entering port of a three-decker.

3. A landing-place at Portsmouth set apart for the use of men-of-war's boats (Adm. Smyth).

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* iv, The porter wheeled my chest down to the Sally Port. 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* xi, After which hour the sally-port is only opened by special permission.

Salm, obs. form of Psalm.

Salmagundi (sælmăgʌ·ndi). Forms: 7–8 **salmagondi,** 8 **salamongundy,** (**sallad-magundy, Solomon Gundy, salmi-, salmogundy, salmagunda**), 8–9 **salmagundy,** 7– **salmagundi.** [a. F. *salmigondis* (in the 16th c. *salmiguondin, salmingondin*), of obscure origin.]

1. *Cookery.* A dish composed of chopped meat, anchovies, eggs, onions with oil and condiments.

1674 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Salmagundi* (Ital.), a dish of meat made of cold Turky and other ingredients. 1709 W. King *Cookery* ix, Delighting in hodge-podge, gallimaufries, forced meats, jussels, and salmagundies. 1710 P. Lamb *Royal Cookery* 118 To make Sallad-Magundy. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* I. xxxviii. 287 A barrel of excellent herrings for salmagundy, which he knew to be his favourite dish. 1764 Eliz. Moxon *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 103 To make Solomon Gundy to eat in Lent. 1892 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett), *Salmagundi.*

attrib. 1892 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett), *Salmagundi Salad.*

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1761 T. Twining in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 18 After all this salmagondis of quotation, can you bear another slice of Aristotle? 1764 Foote *Patron* II. Wks. 1799 I. 340 By your account, I must be an absolute olio, a per-

fect salamongundy of charms. 1777 COLMAN *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) III. 218 Unbuttoned cits..Throw down fish, flesh, fowl, pastry, custard, jelly, And make a Salmagundy of their belly. 1781 H. WALPOLE *Let. to C'tess Ossory* 2 Jan., A salmagundi of black and blue, and red and purple, and white. 1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* III. 316 His mind was a sort of salmagundi. 1833 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 34 A kind of Salmagundi of law, literature, joke, and blunder. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* (1894) 274 *The Devil's Law Case*..despite fine passages, [is] a mere 'salmagundi'. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 26 May 539/1 The House of Commons..was chiefly busy with the Estimates, on which the usual Salmagundi of subjects was served up.

Salme, -ede, obs. forms of PSALM, PSALMODY.

Salmi (sæ·lmi). Also 8 salmy. [a. F. *salmi*, according to Hatz.-Darm. shortened from *salmigondis*: see SALMAGUNDI. Cf., however, SALOMENE.] 'A ragoût of partly roasted game, stewed with sauce, wine, bread, and condiments' (Garrett's *Encycl. Cookery* 1892).

1759 W. VERRAL *Cookery* 132 (Stanf.) Salmis des becasses. Salmy of woodcocks. 1823 MOORE *Fables* 7 Truffles, salmis, toasted cheese. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. lxxi, The salmi, the consommé, the purée. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xv, Tancred was going to give them a fish dinner..cutlets of salmon, salmis of carp. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* (1888) 150 Salmi of wild duck [India].

attrib. 1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) s.v. *Sauces*, Salmi Sauce.

Salmiac (sæ·lmiæk). *Min.* Also 8 sælmiak. [a. G. *salmiak*, contraction of L. *sal ammoniacum*.] Native sal-ammoniac.

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 198 Large lumps of sulphur and salmiak. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 384, art. *Mineralogy*, Salmiac...A sublimate on active volcanoes.

Salmody, obs. form or PSALMODY.

Salmon (sæ·mən), *sb.*[1] and *a.* Forms: 4–5 samoun, -own(e, (5 samoon, samwn, sawmon, sawmun), 4–6 samon, 7 sammon, 8 *Sc.* sawmont, 9 *Sc.* saumon; 4 salmoun, 4–7 *Sc.* salmond(e, 5 salmone, (6 saulmon, salmont, 7 sallmon), 4– salmon. [a. AF. *samoun, saumoun, salmun* (OF. and mod.F. *saumon*):—L. *salmōnem, salmo* (Pliny); the spelling with *l* is from the Latin form.

Cf. Pr. *salmo*, Sp. *salmon*, Pg. *salmão*, It. *salmone, sermone*. The Latin word is prob. a derivative of the root of *saltre* to leap.]

1. A large fish belonging to the genus *Salmo*, family *Salmonidæ*, esp. *Salmo salar*, comprising the largest fish of this family, which when mature are characterized by having red flesh, and a silvery skin marked with large black and red spots; highly prized as an article of food.

In mod. use the collective sing. takes the place of the pl.; *salmons* being used only in scientific language to denote different species, or, *rarely*, individual specimens.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5446 (Laud MS.) And of perches, & of salmouns, Token & eten grete foysouns. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3515 Fysch, flesch, salmoun, and cungyr. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 576 He wrocht Gynnys, to tak geddis & salmonys. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 407 They eteþ hote samoun alway. *Ibid.* II. 13 Þere is grete plente of small fische, of samon, and of elys. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 354 Euerych cart comynge in-to towne wiþ samown. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15365 Swettere than samoun. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 823 Sewes on fisshe dayes..The baly of þe fresche samon. 1515 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 67 Of my ferme of my fyshynges in Yarom I give her ij salmons yerely. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. (S.T.S.) 100 Thay saw the Scottis eit rawe Salmonte, new drawen out of the flude. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 156 She that in wisedome neuer was so fraile, To change the Cods-head for the Salmons taile. 1655 WALTON *Angler* I. vii. (1661) 134 The Salmon is accounted the King of fresh-water-Fish. 1787 BURNS *Tam Samson's Elegy* vi, Now safe the stately Sawmont sail. 1819 SCOTT *Let. to Dk. Buccleuch* 15 Apr. in *Lockhart*, Where I lie, as my old grieve Tom Purdie said last night,..'like a haulded saumon'. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* viii, 'It wasn't the wine,' murmured Mr. Snodgrass, in a broken voice. 'It was the salmon'. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1873) 69 Male salmons have been observed fighting all day long. 1882 DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. Introd. 71 The so-termed land-locked salmon..might prove invaluable to upper riparian proprietors. *Ibid.* II. 87 The 'blue poll' and 'blue cock' of the Fowey in Cornwall,..are sold in Billingsgate as 'Cornish salmon'. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 222/1 In North America there occurs one Salmonoid..viz., *Salmo salar*, var. *sebago*, L...This form is called variously the Landlocked Salmon or the Schoodic Salmon. *Ibid.* 225/1 A salmon newly arrived in fresh water from the sea is called a clean salmon, on account of its bright, well-fed appearance.

b. Applied to fishes belonging to other genera of the same family; esp., a fish of any of the species of the genus *Oncorhynchus*, called the *Pacific salmon*.

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 468 According to the latest system..the first [group] for which the name *Salmo* is retained includes the Atlantic Salmon, and the black-spotted species of the west [etc.]...In this same group are included the Quinnat, or California Salmon, and its allies...These have been placed in the genus *Oncorhynchus*. 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 180 The Pacific Salmon...The English-speaking people call it [*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*] generally the 'Hump-back Salmon', and often the 'Dog Salmon'...This is one of the smallest Salmons. *Ibid.* 482 The Blue-back is the most graceful of the Salmons. 1888 W. S. CAINE *Round the World* viii. 122 The Pacific salmon takes no bait or fly in fresh water, but may be taken readily in salt water.

c. Applied to fishes resembling a salmon, but not belonging to the *Salmonidæ*. (*a*) In U.S., the SQUETEAGUE; also the *pike-perch* (see PIKE *sb.*[4] 3). (*b*) In Australia and New Zealand, *Arripis salar*.

1798 D. COLLINS *Acc. N. S. Wales* I. 136 A fish, named by us, from its shape only, the salmon. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 393 *Arripis salar*, South Australia. Three species are known, from the coasts of Southern Australia and New Zealand. They are named by the colonists Salmon or Trout. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 908/1 The pike-perch becomes a 'salmon' in the Susquehanna, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 365 [The Spotted Squeteague] is usually known on the Southern coast as the 'Salmon' or 'Spotted Trout'.

†d. Phrase. *To seek for a salmon's nest.* (Cf. MARE'S NEST.) *Obs.*

1589 *Hay any Work* 30 Where hast ti bene, why man, cha bin a seeking for a Samons nest.

2. The name of a kind of potato with red 'flesh'.

1845 *Morn. Chron.* 22 Nov. 5/2 The salmons are considered a good potato for the chalky soil; they are what in some parts are called red kidneys. *Ibid.* 5/3 Salmon potatoes.

3. Short for *salmon colour* (see 4 c).

1892 *Gard. Chron.* 27 Aug. 245/1 Hollyhocks, ranging in colour from pure white through yellows to salmons, pinks [etc.]. 1892 EMILY LAWLESS *Grania* I. 87 The horizon was tinged with faint salmon.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as *salmon farm, fishery, hatchery, heck* (HECK *sb.*[1] 2), *hutch* (HUTCH *sb.* 3 a), *kettle* (KETTLE 2 a), *leister*, †*lumber-pie*, †*pie*, *rawn* (Sc.), *river, roe, spear, stream*; in names applied (chiefly locally) to a young salmon indicating the different stages of its growth, as *salmon-fry, mort* (sb.[3]), *peal* (sb.[2]), *pink, smelt, sprint*; in the names of appliances used in angling for salmon, as *salmon bait, fly, line, reel, rod, tackle, winch*. Also *salmon-like* adj.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 51 *Salmon baits. 1868 PEARD *Water-farm.* i. 10 The..construction of a *Salmon-farm. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 53/1 A gentleman who resides at Berwick, near the great *salmon-fishery. 1888 W. S. CAINE *Round the World* viii. 121 A fresh development of the salmon fishery has sprung up. 1704–6 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Fishing-fly*, *Salmon Flies. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 341 *Salmon-fry are taken with a fine Hair-line. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 224/2 *note*, The first important series of experiments..was made at the *salmon-hatchery of Stormontfield. 1858 *Law Rep.* Q. B. Div. III. 289 In this side-stream..the said *salmon-hutch or hutches are situated. 1773 J. S. *Ep. to R. Fergusson* 48 I'se tak ye up Tweed's bonny side ..And shaw you there the fisher's pride, A *sa'mon kettle. *a* 1625 JAS. I in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1677) VII. 529 [A longing he had to see the place of his breeding,] a *Salmon-like instinct [so he was pleased to call it]. 1850 'EPHEMERA' *Bk. Salmon* 16 *Salmon-lines. 1834 *Salmon lister* [see LEISTER]. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iv. 52 In the hall hung..salmon-listers, whips [etc.]. 1665 R. MAY *Accomplisht Cook* (ed. 2) Index, *Salmon lumber pie. 1893 J. WATSON *Confess. Poacher* 168 There were 90 trout, 37 *salmon-mort, and 2 salmon. 1533–4 *Salmon peal [see PEAL *sb.*[2]]. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 127 To bake a *Salmon Pie to be eaten hot. 1747 in MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 115. 1805 J. DUNCUMB *Agric. Heref.* 16 The spawn..are in some parts termed salmon-fry or *salmon-pinks. 1841 T. SOUTH *Fly Fisher's Handbk.* ii. 13 *Salmon Reel Lines. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 51 Salmon Reels. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Salmon*, The richest *salmon river in France. 1841 T. SOUTH *Fly Fisher's Handbk.* iii. 40 The *salmon-rod should consist of four parts. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. vi, The water being in such a rare trim for the *saumon raun, he couldna help taking a cast. 1832 *Ibid. note*, The bait made of *salmon row salted and preserved. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vii. (1880) 265 The only things I resolutely bar..are salmon-roe and wasp-grub. 1700 J. CHETHAM *Angler's Vade Mecum* (ed. 3) 110 *Salmon Smelts. 1552 *Salmon spear [see LEISTER]. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 31 An instrument somewhat like the Sammon-speare. 1790 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* Suppl., **Salmon-sprint*, a young salmon, North. 1847 T. T. STODDART *Angler's Compan.* XV. 284 Let the angler take his place at the head of the cast or *salmon stream. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 51 *Salmon Winches.

b. objective, as *salmon-breeding, -fisher, -rearing, spearer, spearing*; instrumental, as *salmon-haunted* adj.

1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 447/2 *Salmon-breeding ponds. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Poems, Appleton Ho.*, And now the *salmon-fishers moist Their leathern boats begin to hoist. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 33 The silvery and *salmon-haunted Tweed. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* (1886) XXI. 226/2 *Salmon-rearing establishments. 1899 *Daily News* 29 June 6/3 The fly-fishers and *salmon spearers. 1879 DOWDEN *Southey* VI. 144 The guests went *salmon-spearing on the Tweed.

c. Special combinations: †**salmon bellows**, ? the sound or air bladder of a salmon; **salmon belly** (*U. S.*), the belly of a salmon prepared for food by pickling; **salmon berry** (*U. S.*), a name for certain species of *Rubus*, esp. *R. Nutkanus* the white flowering raspberry; **salmon cast** (see CAST *sb.* 5 b, c); **salmon coble**, a boat used in salmon fishing; **salmon-colour** (see quots.); **salmon fishing**, (*a*) the catching of salmon; (*b*) a place where salmon may be caught; **salmon-fishery**; **salmon flounder** (see quot.); **salmon killer** (*U.S.*), a stickleback, *Gasterosteus aculeatus*, destructive to salmon fry and spawn (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **salmon ladder**, a fish ladder for salmon; also, *transf.* 'a contrivance used in the chemical treatment of sewage' (*Cent. Dict.*); **salmon leap**, see LEAP *sb.* 2 b; **salmon louse**, 'a parasitic crustacean, *Caligus piscinus*, which adheres to the gills of salmon' (*Cent. Dict.*); **salmon pass** = *salmon ladder*; **salmon pipe**, 'an engine to catch Salmon' (Cowel *Interpr.* 1607); **salmon pit, pool** (see quots.); **salmon-scurf**, a dial. name for the salmon trout; **salmon stair** = *salmon ladder*; **salmon steak**, a fried slice of salmon; **salmon-tithe**, a tithe payable in salmon; **salmon twine**, linen or cotton twine used in the manufacture of salmon-nets (*Cent. Dict.*); **salmon weir**, a weir for the taking of salmon (*Ibid.*).

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 719 Musclade or menows, with þe *Samoun bellows. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Industr. U.S.* (Fish. Exhib. Lit. 1884 V.) 32 Pickled *salmon-belly is a favourite delicacy of the region. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 178 The *salmon-berry..(*Rubus chamaemorus*). 1875 W. M^CILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 20 In the vicinity of Penninghame House are some excellent *salmon-casts. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 51 Salmon Casts, plaited gut [etc.]. 1787 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut, Mare* vii, Tho' now ye dow but hoyte and hoble, An' wintle like a *saumont-coble. 1842 D. R. HAY *Nomencl. Colours* (1846) 42 *Salmon colour is the name usually given to such tints as those produced by the attenuation of orange. 1860 WORCESTER, *Salmon-color*, a golden-orange tinge. 1588 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 336 The fewmaill of the *salmound fisching upoun the water of Connan. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* 67 The like of a Salmon fishing, wherin the Lord lost two parts in three. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* V. 153 A salmon-fishing of some value. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 45 The finest salmon-fishing is in mild weather. 1815 J. ARBUTHNOT *Hist. Acc. Peterhead* 18 (Jam.) *Pleuronectes Flessus*, Flounder, vulgarly called *Fresh-water Fleuk, *Salmon Flounder*. 1867 *Lond. Rev.* 22 June 696/1 One great obstacle to the erection of *Salmon-ladders. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 369 Also in Irlond beeþ þre *samoun lepes. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 236 The Salmon leap (which is a steep slope composed of large loose stones), 1867–99 *Salmon-pass [see PASS *sb.*[1] 3 h]. 1533 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 No maner of persone..shall..take..in fludgate, *salmon pipe or at the tayle of any mylle or were..the yonge frye..of.. Salmon. 1787 *Surv. Kirton-in Lindsey* in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1877), There are particular places in the river (Trent) to which the Salmon resort that are called *Salmon Pits. 1866 *Mass. Rep.* 32 (Cent. Dict. s.v. *Pool*[1]) **Salmon-pools*, eddies where the salmon collect. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Wds.* (ed. 3), *Scurf*, or **Salmon-scurf*, salmon trout. Tees, Wear, &c. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Salmon-stair*. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 6, I had breakfasted..on eggs and *salmon-steaks. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXX, He hath had frequent disputes with them about the *salmon-tithe.

B. *adj.* [The sb. used *attrib.*: cf. A 3.] Of the colour of the flesh of salmon; a kind of orange-pink. Also *Comb.*, as *salmon-pink, -red, -rose*.

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 234 Radishes..both of the common short top and salmon kinds. [Cf. quot. 1824 s.v. SALMON-COLOURED.] 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* xi, A..room painted white and salmon. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 223/2 Large blossoms..of a beautiful, deep, salmon-pink colour. *Ibid.* 29 Apr. 299/3 Carnations..Conqueror, salmon-rose. 1885 BLACK *White Heather* iii, Just over them was a line of gleaming salmon-red. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 558 The patches in such parts may then assume a salmon tinge. *Ibid.* 573 The colour of the base has more of a salmon hue when fresh. 1901 *J. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 38 A good salmon tint is produced by adding to the dissolved whiting a little of the same [venetian] red.

†**Sa·lmon,** *sb.*[2] *Cant. Obs.* Also 6–8 salomon, 7 saloman, 8–9 salamon, 8 solomon. [Of obscure origin: cf. SAM *sb.*] In oaths or asseverations, as *By (the) salmon, so help me salmon*.

Harman's interpretation (quot. 1567) may be correct; it is doubtful whether any of the subsequent writers quoted really knew the word in actual use.

a 1550 COPLAND *Hye Way to Spyttel Hous* 1050 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 69 Cyarum by salmon and thou shalt pek my jere. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 83 Salomon, a alter or masse. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girle* V. i. K 4 My doxy I haue, by the *Salomon* a doxy, that carries a kitchin mort in her slat at her backe. 1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. (1659) F 4 b, By Salmon, I think my Mort is in drink. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Salmon*, c. the Beggers Sacrament or Oath. *Solomon*, c. the Mass. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXIV, She swore by the salmon. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, You must repeat the 'Salamon', or oath of our creed. *Ibid.*, So may help me, Salamon!

Salmon, variant of SAMMEN *dial.*

Sa·lmon-co·loured, *a.* = SALMON *a.*

1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 170 Gills salmon-coloured. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 362, I have..sported a pair of salmon-coloured small-clothes. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 3756 Radishes...Long sorts. Scarlet, or salmon-colored, and its subvarieties. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XVIII, Salmon-colored worsted drawers.

Salmonet (sæ·mənĕt). Also 6 samonett. [f. SALMON *sb.*[1] + -ET.] A samlet.

1576 in J. Noake *Worcestersh. Relics* (1877) 62 That noe maner of persons..use ne occupy anie manner of takynge of trowte or trowte samon or samonetts within the said streame. 1800 LADY HUNTER in *Trnl. Sir M. H.* (1894) 154 A John Dory and some Salmoners. 1850 in OGILVIE.

Salmonic (sælmo·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. SALMON *sb.*[1] + -IC.] *Salmonic acid* (see quot.).

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Salmonic acid*, a reddish fatty acid, existing, according to Frémy and Valenciennes., in the reddish muscles of various species of salmon.

Salmonid (sæ·lmonid). *rare.* Also -ide. [ad. mod.L. *Salmonid-æ* pl., f. L. *salmōn-* SALMON *sb.*[1]: see -ID.] A fish of the family *Salmonidæ*.

1858 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 329 The creature..looking..more like a spiritual polliwog than a real salmonide. 1882a A. NICOLS *Acclim. Salmonidæ at Antipodes* 83 The presence of migratory salmonids in their rivers. 1888 *Daily News* 19 May 7/3 Highly satisfactory results have attended salmonide culture this season.

Salmoniform (sælmɒ·nifɔim), *a.* [f. SALMON *sb.*[1] + -(I)FORM.] = SALMONOID.

1891 in *Century Dict.* (citing HUXLEY).

Salmonize (sæ·mənəiz), *v.* [f. SALMON *sb.*[1] + -IZE.] *trans.* To make (a river) fit for salmon.

1886 *Longm. Mag.* VII. 293 Much is talked about 'salmonising' the Thames.

Salmonoid (sæl·mŏnoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SALMON *sb.*[1] + -OID.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the family *Salmonidæ*; resembling a fish of this family.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1948. 279/1 Salmonoid fishes. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May Suppl., An extensive collection of salmonidæ and salmonoid fishes.

B. *sb.* A fish of the family *Salmonidæ*.

1842 in BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1867 (*title*) Reports on the Natural History and Habits of Salmonoids in the Tweed. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 23 Mar. 175 There is one little peculiarity common to all the salmonoids—the graylings and gwyniads as well as the trout and charr.

† **Sa·lmonsews.** *Obs.*—° [ad. A.F. *salmonceux* pl. (1389–90 *Act* 13 *Ric. II.* st. 1 c. 19), dim. of *salmon*. Cf. HERONSEW.] Salmon-fry.

1607 COWEL *Interpr.*, *Salmon sewse* seemeth to be the young fry of Salmon. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

Sa·lmon-trout.

1. A fish of the species *Salmo trutta*, resembling the salmon, found in rivers of northern Europe.

1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 132/1 Frie de Samon-Trought. 1540 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 302 A great salmon trowte. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 155 *Trutta Salmoneta*.. a Salmon-Trout. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 17 There is also a kind of salmon-trouts called Gangfische. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 61/1 Jim, the black cook boy..caught a twenty-pound salmon-trout with bait.

2. In U. S. and N. S. W. applied to other fishes (see quots.).

1882 J. E. TENISON-WOODS *Fish N. S. W.* 35 *Arripis salar*,..is in the adult state the salmon of the Australian fishermen, and their salmon trout is the young. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 468 According to the latest system..the second group [of the old genus *Salmo*] includes the Chars, or Red-spotted Trout, and the gray-spotted species known as Salmon Trout, or Lake Trout. These are assigned to the genus *Salvelinus*. *Ibid.* 474 The Steelhead—*Salmo Gairdneri*. Large individuals are often called 'Salmon Trout'.

† **Sal-nitre.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *sal nitrī* 'salt of nitre'; see SAL and NITRE. Cf. It. *salnitro*, Pr. *salnitre*; also Sp., Pg. *salitre* (whence SALITRE), G. *salniter*, *saliter*.] Saltpetre.

1416 in *Essex Rev.* (1907) XVI. 159 Sal niter. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 420, I may not put off the treatise concerning the nature of Salnitre, approching so neer as it doth to the nature of salt. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. cxlv. 447 Adde to it of Sal-niter an ounce. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 320 Subliming it with Sal Niter.

Hence † **Salni·tral** *a.*, of the nature of saltpetre.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* vi. (1697) 104 Until the Sun and Cœlestial Influences have endu'd it [*sc.* earth] with a Salnitral Vertue.

Salod, var. pa. t. of SALUE *v. Obs.*

Salol (sæ·lɒl). *Chem.* [f. SAL(ICYL) + -OL.] A white, crystalline, aromatic powder, prepared from salicylic and carbolic acids, used as an antipyretic and antiseptic. Also in *Comb.*

1887 *Athenæum* 19 Feb. 260/1 Salol is said to have a most powerful effect in cases of rheumatism. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 129 Salol-coated permanganate pills.

† **Salomene.** *Obs.* Also 5 salome, -mere. [Of obscure origin: cf. It. SALAME; also F. *salmis* (see SALMI), which agrees closely in sense.] (See quot.)

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 21 Salomene. Take gode Wyne, an..pouder, & Brede y-ground, an sugre..; þan take Trowtys, Rochys, Perchys, oþer Carpys,..an..roste hem..; þan hewe hem in gobettys:..fry hem in oyle a lytil, þen caste in þe brwet;..take Maces, Clowes [etc.]..an cast a-boue, & serue forth. *Ibid.* 33 Capoun in Salome. *Ibid.* 35 Soupes of Salomere.

Salometer (sælɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *sal* salt or *sal-um* brine + -(O)METER.] = SALINOMETER.

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) ii. § 102 The salometer confirms it.

Salomonic (sælɔmɒ·nik), *a.* [f. L. *Salomōn* Solomon. Cf. SOLOMONIC.] Of or pertaining to Solomon. So **Salomo·nian** *a.*

1873 *Speaker's Comment. Bible* IV. 667/2 Those who have denied its Salomonic authorship. *Ibid.* 15/1 The description of the Divine Wisdom, Proverbs viii, in which the Salomonian theory culminated. 1881 W. R. SMITH *Old Test. Jewish Ch.* v. 122 The collection of Salomonic proverbs formed by the scholars in the service of King Hezekiah. *Ibid.* 403.

‖ **Salon** (salɔñ). Also 8 sallon. [Fr.: see SALOON.]

1. a. A large and lofty apartment serving as one of the principal reception rooms in a palace or other great house. b. A room, more or less elegantly furnished, used for the reception of guests; a drawing-room.

Now only with reference to France or other continental countries. Cf. SALOON 1.

1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 52 Great Halls or Sallons for Feasting. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 523 It [the palace of the Barberini in Rome] hath many noble chambers and salons. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1723) II. 276, I rise..about seven a-clock ..to walk in the garden; or, if rainy, in a *Salon* filled with pictures. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Salon*, or Saloon,..a very lofty, spacious Hall, vaulted at Top, and sometimes comprehending two Stories, or Ranges, of Windows..Embassadors, and other Great Visitors, are usually received in the Salon. 1758 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Chute* 22 Aug., I have seen the plan of their hall..and both their eating-room and salon are to be stucco, with pictures. 1834 H. GREVILLE *Diary* 23 Oct., Finding Barras had not come home he established himself with a book in the salon until he should return. 1881 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 505 The principal salon had a dome, which, turning day and night imitated the movements of the terrestrial bodies.

2. *spec.* The reception-room of a Parisian lady of fashion; hence, a reunion of notabilities at the house of such a lady; also, a similar gathering in other capitals.

1810 F. JEFFREY in *Edin. Rev.* XV. 485 When she [Mlle. de Lespinasse] is visibly within a few weeks of her end..she still has her *salon* filled twice a day with company. 1853 C. C. FELTON in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) II. 253 There is not a *salon* in Paris which is not proud to welcome him. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. cv. 508 One hears of attempts made to establish political 'salons' in Washington. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xvii. 225 Famous in London society for her relationship, her audacity, and the *salon* which ..she managed to collect round her.

3. *The Salon*: the annual exhibition at Paris of painting, sculpture, etc. by living artists.

Originally held in one of the 'salons' of the Louvre.

1875 T. G. APPLETON in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) III. 252 The *Salon* is open. 1908 *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 191/2 He received a medal at the Salon of 1864..; two of his pictures were in this year's Salon.

Saloon (sălū·n). Also 8 salloon. [a. F. *salon* (= Sp. *salon*, Pg. *salão*), ad. It. *salone*, augm. of *sala* hall: see SALE [2].]

1. = SALON 1 a. b. = SALON 1 b. Now *U. S.*

1728 [see SALON]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 352 What Mr. Lovelace saw of the house (which was the saloon and two parlours) was perfectly elegant. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. xciii. 427 They were then lining the grand salloon with silesia marble. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 19 July, Ditchley..is a good house, well furnished, has good portraits, a wretched saloon [etc.]. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 414 Strange! there should be found, Who, self-imprison'd in their proud saloons, Renounce the odours of the open field. 1810 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* (1839) 21/1 The *coup d'œil* upon entering the grand saloon is inconceivable...The company consisted of nearly two thousand persons. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 438 Saloons are frequently raised the whole height of the building. 1828 J. F. COOPER *Notions of Amer.* I. 262 A young American.. is just as happy in the saloon, as she was a few years before in the nursery. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 365 *Saloon* signifies, in its stricter architectural meaning, a room.., not only the principal room as to spaciousness, but loftiness also...At present however..the name of saloon is indiscriminately or ostentatiously bestowed on any unusually large room. 1842 *Literary Gaz.* 3 Sept. 612/1 Neither was she received altogether in the saloon, as she was of too humble a grade to mix with gentry and nobility. 1860 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* xiii. 291 In all grades of society, from the wigwam to the saloon. *Ibid.* xx. 440 The aim of a numerous class of popular writers is..to make books..speak the dialect of the saloon. 1907 *Connoisseur* XIX. 139/2 [Eaton Hall] The saloon.. forms part of the hall...Divided by pillars alone from the entrance hall, the two form one large room.

2 = SALON 2. Now *rare*.

1810 F. JEFFREY in *Edin. Rev.* XV. 451 It is to this..that the French are indebted for the superiority of their polite assemblies. Their saloons are better filled than ours. 1820 SHELLEY *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1880 IV. 263, I find saloons and compliments too great bores. 1838 EMERSON *Addr., Lit. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 214 How mean to go blazing, a gaudy butterfly, in fashionable or political saloons. 1881 STANLEY *Chr. Institut.* (1882) 297 Materials of conversation at the dinner tables of London or the saloons of Paris.

3. A large apartment or hall, esp. in a hotel or other place of public resort, adapted for assemblies, entertainments, exhibitions, etc.; also, rarely, any unusually large apartment.

1747 *General Advertiser* 12 May, Mr. Rose and others will play in the Great Room, and in the Salloon in the Gardens. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 126 In digging near the Latin-gate, two subterraneous saloons have also been discovered, in which were found four tombs. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvi, The great pump-room is a spacious saloon, ornamented with Corinthian pillars. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 11 The Restaurant des Echelles..has a handsomely furnished saloon. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 40 In this saloon are two Table-cases containing tablets of baked and unbaked clay from Babylonia.

4. a. A large cabin in a passenger-boat for the common use of passengers in general or for those paying first-class fares.

1842 DICKENS in Forster *Life* (1872) I. 271 One man lost fourteen pounds at vingt-un in the saloon yesterday. 1888 W. S. CAINE *Round the World* x. 147 The saloon accommodates just sixteen persons to table. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Sliprails* 113, I should have gone over steerage with nothing ..and come back saloon with a pile.

b. In full *saloon car* or *carriage*: A railway carriage without compartments, furnished more or less luxuriously as a drawing-room or for a specific purpose, as *dining*, *sleeping saloon*. Also (U.S.) the main room of a compartment-car or a small subdivision of a sleeping-car' (*Funk's Standard Dict.*).

1855 D. K. CLARK *Railway Machinery* 275/1 Saloon carriages may..be planned variously...The business public appear generally to prefer the ordinary partitioned carriage. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 16 Oct. 6/2 He stepped lightly from the saloon-car. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* LXXXII. 581/1 The car at the head of the New York and Chicago Limited was divided..; the two small apartments 'amidships', so to speak, were arranged, one as a bath room, and the other as a barber-shop; and then came the more spacious saloon reserved for the smokers. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Sept. 6/2 In the rear of the express was..the saloon in which the distinguished travellers were making their journey...They travelled..to Aberdeen in an ordinary sleeping saloon.

5. An apartment to which the public may resort for a specified purpose, as *billiard*, *boxing*, *dancing*, *shaving saloon*, etc.

1852 C. J. TALBOT *Meliora* Ser. I. 166 In London..we went to places of entertainment, and low dancing saloons. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* viii. 241 We hear of no hells, or low music halls, or low dancing saloons [at Athens].

6. *U. S.* A place where intoxicating liquors are sold and consumed; a drinking bar.

1884 *N. Y. Herald* 27 Oct. 6/3 [Two men] demanded drinks in the saloon of ——, Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn. 1888 W. S. CAINE *Round the World* viii. 106 Here [at Rogers Pass, Canada] is a collection of wooden shanties, used as liquor-saloons, music and dancing-houses. 1892 J. RALPH in *Harper's Mag.* LXXXIV. 716/2 The fee for a permit to maintain a saloon or hotel bar in cities of more than 100,000 population is $1000. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 282 A rather first-class saloon, bar, and restaurant on Broadway.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *saloon-bar*, *licence*, *passengers*, *steward*, etc.; b. special comb., as **saloon car, carriage** (see 4 b); **saloon deck**, a deck for the use of saloon passengers; **saloon-keeper** *U. S.*, one who keeps a drinking saloon; **saloon pistol, rifle**, light firearms for firing at short range; **saloon smasher** *U. S. slang*, one who practises or advocates the practice of the wrecking of drinking saloons as a protest against the liquor traffic; so also *saloon smashing*.

1888 W. S. CAINE *Round the World* i. 3 The *saloon-deck presents the usual aspect. Ladies are grouped about in pleasant corners in easy deck-chairs. 1879 G. CAMPBELL *Black & White* 242 The publicans, or *saloon-keepers, as they are called in America. 1892 J. RALPH in *Harper's Mag.* LXXXIV. 712/1 The *saloon licence system is another village development. 1879 FROUDE in *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 625 The *saloon passengers were taken next. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 65 Rabbit-shooting with *saloon-pistols. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 368 *Saloon rifles..are small, smooth-bore guns,..firing a bulleted breech-cap...Pistols..are also made on the same principle. In all saloon rifles and pistols the propellant is fulminating powder contained in a small copper case. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 9/2 The notorious *saloon smasher. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 11 July 5/7 '*Saloon-smashing' methods of reform by wrecking with dynamite buildings in which liquor selling was carried on.

Saloon, obs. variant of SHALLOON.

Saloonist (sălū·nist). *U.S.* [f. SALOON + -IST.] a. A saloon-keeper. b. One who upholds the system of drinking saloons.

1882 *Chicago Advance* 3 Aug. 499 Just think of a saloonist coming into court expecting to justify..his 'business' by exhibiting his 'license' as a contract by the people to let him sell liquor. 1883 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXX. 16 (Cent. Dict.) Any persistent effort to enforce the Sunday laws against the saloon is met by the saloonist with the counter-effort to enforce the laws against legitimate business.

Saloop (sălū·p). Also 8 salob, salup, 8–9 saloup, salop. [Altered form of SALEP.]

1. = SALEP.

1712 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplexed Lovers* v. i, Salup, what is that Salup? I have often seen this Fellow sauntering about Streets, and con'd not imagine what he sold. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) VI. 125 Here's Salop brought from foreign Parts. 1727 A. HAMILTON *Acc. E. Indies* I. 125 They [in Sind] have a Fruit..called Salob...They dry it hard.. and being beaten to a Powder, they dress it as Tea and Coffee are, and take it with powdered Sugar-candy. 1728 [see 2]. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 120 To boil Salup. It is a hard Stone ground to Powder, and generally sold for one Shilling an Ounce. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Orchis-root*, in the materia medica, is otherwise named salep, vulgarly called saloop. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 325 The Jamaica Salop...It may be used with great propriety as a stomachic. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 112 This powder is no other than that of sago or China salop. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 94 The roots..of the orchis of which saloop is made. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. x. 266 Salop or Saloop is the farina obtained from several species of *Orchis*, especially the *O. Mascula*. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 8 Saloop (spelt also 'salep' and 'salop') was prepared, as a powder, from the root of the *Orchis mascula*. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 667 *Eulophia vera* and *E. campestris*.—The tubercular roots of these species are used in India in the preparation of the nutritious substance known by the names of Salep, Salop, and Saloop.

2. A hot drink consisting of an infusion of powdered salep or (later) of sassafras, with milk and sugar, formerly sold in the streets of London in the night and early morning.

1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* 149 To make Salop. Take.. Water, and let it boil..; then put in a quarter of an ounce of Salop finely powdered, and let it boil..; drink it in China Cups as Chocolate. *c* 1759 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 58 Here's fine saloop, both hot and good. 1803 *Censor* 1 Dec. 135, I was taking my pot of saloop, (for I am not so extravagant as to drink coffee). 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimneysw.*, There is a composition, the groundwork of which I have understood to be..sassafras. This wood boiled down to a kind of tea, and tempered with an infusion of milk and sugar, ..is saloop. 1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* 799 Sassafras

tea, flavoured with milk and sugar, is sold..under the name of saloop. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 183 The vending of tea and coffee, in the streets, was little..known twenty years ago, saloop being then the beverage supplied from stalls. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xviii, Those now forgotten delicacies, saloop and tansy pudding.

b. *attrib.*, as *saloop-house, -man, -stall*, etc.

1764 *Low Life* (ed. 3) 1 The Salop-man in Fleet-Street shuts up his Gossiping Coffee-House. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* xvii. (1809) 136 He knock'd down and went over Alice Turner, the Saloup Woman. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 8/2 The saloop-stalls were superseded by the modern coffee-stalls. 1873 THORNBURY *Old & New Lond.* I. 69 A 'saloop-house', where the poor purchased a beverage made out of sassafras chips. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 35 Within the last twenty years saloop vendors might have been seen plying their trade in the streets of London.

3. *Saloop bush* (see quot.).

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Saloop-bush, of Australia, *Rhagodia hastata.*

Hence **Salo·pian** *a.*, *nonce-wd.*

1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimneys* w., Mr. Read, who hath time out of mind kept open a shop..for the vending of this 'wholesome and pleasant beverage'...—the only Salopian house.

Salophen (sæ·lofen). *Chem.* [f. SAL(ICYLIC) + -O + PHEN(OL).] A derivative of salicylic acid (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 474 Such drugs as salicylate of sodium, salicin, salol, salophen and salipyrin.

Salopian (sălō·piăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Salop*, a name of Shropshire (evolved from *Sloppesberie*, an A.F. corruption of OE. *Scrobbesbyrig*, Shrewsbury, the county town) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to Shropshire.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. ii, Thou Peerless Princess of Salopian Plains. *c* 1814 SOUTHEY *Affair Arroyo Molinos* 38 Salopian vales. 1886 T. L. K. OLIPHANT *New English* I. i. 9 A Salopian bard.

b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Shropshire.

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. ii, Ay, ay, come, will you March my Salopian? 1886 T. L. K. OLIPHANT *New English* I. i. 6 William de Shoreham..uses *e* like the Salopians.

Salow(e: see SALLOW *sb.* and *a.*, SALUE *v.*

Salp (sælp). *Zool.* Also **salpe.** [a. F. *salpe*, ad. mod.L. *salpa.*] = SALPA 2.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vii. 222 The Salpes or biphores, as the French call them—phosphoric animals so transparent that all their internal organs..may be distinctly seen. 1850 OGILVIE, *Salpa* or *Salp*, a genus of soft-shelled or tunicated acephalous molluscs which float in the sea. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 540 The chains remain within the body-wall of the solitary salp.

‖ **Sa·lpa** 1. *Obs.* [L. *salpa*, ad. Gr. σάλπη. Cf. F. *saupe.*] Some kind of salt-water fish used by the ancients as stockfish.

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* lxxix. in *Babees Bk.*, Salpa is a fowle fisshe and lytell set by. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 269 Dryed fysshe as soles, maydens, playces, salpas, stockefysshes, and such other. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* v. iii, The *Salpa* from Ebusus [in ed. 1 and MSS. Eleusis]; or the *Pelamis* (which some call Sommer Whiting). 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Salpa*, the Goldlin; a sort of Fish.

‖ **Salpa** 2 (sæ·lpă). *Zool.* Pl. **salpæ**; also **salpas.** [mod.L. *salpa* (Forskål *a* 1763); prob. an application of class. L. *salpa* (see prec.), but the reason for the selection of this word does not appear.] A genus of tunicates, the sole representative of the family *Salpidæ*; also, a tunicate of this genus.

1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 27 The genus dagysa..belongs to the salpas (biphores of Bruguière). 1854 A. ADAMS *Man. Nat. Hist.* 336 Those curious double gelatinous animals the *Salpæ*, which resemble two little glassy bells, one fixed to the inside of the other. 1860 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 102 In the *Salpæ* the component individuals adhere so slightly that a blow on the vessel of water in which they are floating will separate them. 1883 C. F. HOLDER in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 107/1 The fantastic glaucus and luminous salpa, hover about in close attendance.

Hence **Salpa·cean**, a salpian or salp.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 366/1.

† **Salpege.** *Obs. rare* −1. [ad. mod.L. *salpega*, corruption of L. *sol, sōl pugæ.*] Some kind of serpent.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxxxd. 138 Serpents, Salpeges, Scolopenders.

† **Salpe·tre.** *Obs.* Also 4–6 **salpeter**, 5 **salpetyr**, 6 **-ir**, **sall-petter**, **saulpeter.** [a. OF. *salpetre* (mod.F. *salpêtre*), ad. med.L. *salpetra*, prob. for *sal petræ* 'salt of stone' (*sal*, see SAL 1; *petræ* gen. of late L. *petra*, whence F. *pierre* stone), so called because the salt occurs as an incrustation on stones. Cf. G. *salpeter.*] Saltpetre.

c 1325 [see SAL-AMMONIAC]. 1384–5 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 594 Item pro Salpetre emp. pro Gonnis, vij s. vj d. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 255 Sal peter, vitriole. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/2 Salpetyr. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 9 A refyng sone of rakyng Muris..That fulle dismemberit hes my meter, And poynound it with strang salpeter. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xxxi. x. 421 The true marke to know good sal-petre, Is to be verie light in hand [etc.]. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (ed. 2) 115 It [*sc.* vitriol] is wont to be reckon'd with Sal-petre, Sea-salt, and Sal Gem among true Salts.

Hence † **Sal-petery, Salpetrous** *adjs.*, impregnated with saltpetre, nitrous.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 674 Rich Jericho's (sometimes) sal-peetry soyl..Brought forth no fruit. 1731 BAILEY (vol. II), *Salpetrous.* 1883 D. COOK *On Stage* I. 221 Sparks and smoke and fearful salpetrous fumes.

Salpian (sæ·lpiăn). [f. SALPA 2 + -IAN.] An individual of the genus *Salpa*; a salp.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 49 The salpians produce long chains of embryos. 1854 A. ADAMS *Man. Nat. Hist.* 164 Others among them [*sc.* the Tunicaries] are free and pelagian, as the Salpians and Pyrosomes.

‖ **Salpicon** (sæ·lpikŏn). *Cookery.* ? *Obs.* [Fr., a. Sp. *salpicon*, f. *salpicar* to sprinkle, pickle, f. *sal* salt + *picar* to pick.] A kind of stuffing for veal, beef, or mutton.

1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), *Salpicon*, a Ragoe usually made for large Joints of Beef, Veal, or Mutton, which are to be served up roasted for the side Dishes. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xv. lxvi, Then there was..'A l'Espagnole', 'timballe', and 'salpicon'. 1828–32 WEBSTER (citing Bacon, prob. in error).

Salpiglossid (sælpiglŏ·sid). [f. next: see -ID.] A plant of the tribe *Salpiglossideæ* (typical genus *Salpiglossis*: see next), one of Bentham's divisions of the order *Scrophulariaceæ.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 682 Mr. Bentham remarks that the nearest Order to Figworts is undoubtedly that of Nightshades, through the medium of Salpiglossids.

‖ **Salpiglossis** (sælpiglŏ·sis). [mod.L., irreg. f. Gr. σάλπιγξ trumpet + γλῶσσα tongue, from the trumpet-shaped corolla.] A genus of herbaceous plants of the N. O. *Scrophulariaceæ*, natives of Chile, cultivated for their showy blossoms.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 682 Petunia and Salpiglossis, two genera closely allied in habit. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 426/1 The garden varieties of Salpiglossis rank amongst the finest of all half-hardy annuals.

Salpingian (sælpi·ndʒiăn), *a.* [f. mod.L. *salping-*, SALPINX 2 + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to the Eustachian or the Fallopian tubes. So **Salpi·ngic** *a.*, in the same sense.

1891 *Century Dict.*, Salpingian. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Salpingian, Salpingic.

‖ **Salpingitis** (sælpindʒəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σαλπιγγ- (see SALPINGO-) + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the Fallopian or the Eustachian tubes.

1861 *Lancet* 14 Dec. 571/1. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 481 Tuberculous salpingitis.

Hence **Salpingitic** *a.*, pertaining to salpingitis.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Salpingo- (sælpi·ngo), combining form of Gr. σαλπιγγ-, σάλπιγξ, lit. 'trumpet', but used in mod.L. form *salpinx* to denote either the Fallopian or the Eustachian tubes. In various compounds (*Anat., Phys.* and *Obstet.*). **Salpi·ngona·sal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Eustachian tube and the nose. **Salpingo-oöphore·ctomy, -ovario·tomy,** excision of a Fallopian tube and ovary. **Salpingo-oöphoritis,** salpingitis and oöphoritis occurring together. **Salpingo-palatal, -palatine** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the Eustachian tube and the palate. **Salpingo-pharynge·al** *a.*, belonging to the Eustachian tube and the pharynx. ‖ **Salpingo-pharyngeus,** an occasional muscle passing from the Eustachian tube to the pharynx. **Salpingopte·rygoid** *a.*, pertaining to the sphenoid and hamular processes. **Salpingo·rrhaphy,** suturing of the Fallopian tube. **Salpingo·stomy,** 'the operation of establishing an artificial fistula of the Fallopian tube' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **Salpingo·tomy,** excision of or incision into the Fallopian tube (*ibid.*).

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. *Epit.* 83 Acute appendicitis with concomitant *salpingo-oöphoritis. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 253 The yellow orifice of the Eustachian tube can be seen, bounded by the *salpingo-palatine fold on its inner, and the *salpingo-pharyngeal fold on its outer side. 1891 E. SAJOUS in *Ann. Univ. Med. Sci.* II. Sect. G. 31 This operation he [Skutsch] calls *salpingostomy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 491 A successful *salpingotomy for a hypertrophied left ovary.

‖ **Salpinx** (sæ·lpiŋks). [Gr. σάλπιγξ; in sense 2 used as mod.L.]

1. *Antiq.* An ancient Greek trumpet.

1865 J. HULLAH *Transit. Period Mus.* 118 The pipe of Pan, the lyre of Mercury, the salpinx [etc.]. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 592/2 The Roman tuba and the Greek salpinx are supposed to be one and the same instrument.

2. *Anat.* **a.** The Eustachian tube. **b.** The Fallopian tube.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Salpinx*, the Eustachian tube, or channel of communication between the mouth and the ear. [In recent Dicts.]

‖ **Sal-prunella** (sæ·lprune·lă). Also 8 **sal prunellæ**, **prunel**, 9 **prunelle.** [mod.L. *sal prunella* or *prunellæ*: see SAL and PRUNELLA 3.] Fused nitre cast into cakes or balls.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Sal-prunella*, a salt made out of salt-peter. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 30 Two teaspoonfuls of Sal Prunellæ an hour before the Fit. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, In Mrs. Glasse's Cookery ..salt-petre and sal-prunella are spoken of as different substances, whereas sal-prunella is only salt-petre burnt on charcoal. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 198 Sal Prunelle is a preparation of Saltpetre, useful in Medicine and in curing provisions. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 108 Nitrate of potash..when cast into moulds, solidifies, and is known in this form as sal-prunelle.

Salrar, obs. form of CELLARER.

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 201 Twynty sukkar kyddis..to be kepit and delyuerit at the ordinans of the salrar and wardane.

Sals, obs. form of SAUCE.

Salsaf(a)y, Salsage: see SALSIFY, SAUSAGE.

‖ **Salsamenta·rious,** *a. Obs.*−0 [ad. L. *salsāmentārī-us* (f. *salsāmentum* pickling brine, pickled fish) + -OUS.] 'Of or belonging to salt, or to any salt thing' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Salsaparilha, -illa, -illia, -perilla, -parillin: see SARSAPARILLA, -PARILLIN.

Salsar, -ary: see SAUCER, SAUCERY.

† **Salsature.** *Alch. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *salsātūra* (Raymond Lull), f. L. *sals-us* salted, salt.]

1650 ASHMOLE *Chym. Collect.* 3–4 By another digestion it will be another thing, which we call Argent Vive, Earth, Water, and Ferment, Gumm and our second Salsature,..In our Magisteriall there are three proper Earths, three Waters, and three proper Ferments; three proper Gumms, three Salsatures, three Argent Vives Congealing.

Salse (sæls). *Geol.* [a. F. *salse* (Humboldt), ad. It. *salsa*, orig. proper name of a mud volcano at Sassuolo, near Modena.] A mud volcano.

1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* 133 'Salses' or mud volcanoes. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* x, Now and then this 'Salse'..is said to be seized with a violent paroxysm. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 202 Conical hills, known as Salses, or mud volcanoes.

Salser, -ery: see SAUCER, SAUCERY.

Salsify (sæ·lsifi). Also 7 **salsifax**, (**salsfy**), 8 **sassafy, salsafay**, 8–9 **salsafy.** [a. F. *salsifis* (in the 16–17th c. variously *sercifi, serquify, sassify, sassefy, sassefique, sassefrique*), believed to be corruptly ad. It. *sassefrica*, of unknown origin. Cf. Sp. *salsifi*, Pg. *sersifim.*]

1. A biennial composite plant, the Purple Goat's-beard, *Tragopogon porrifolius*, indigenous to Great Britain and the Continent of Europe, producing an esculent root.

Meadow salsify (U. S.): the Yellow Goat's-beard, *Tragopogon pratensis* (Britton & Brown *Flora Northern U. S.* III. 269).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Salsifie*, (*Fr.*) Goats-bread [*sic*], an eatable root. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 482 Salsifie or Goatsbeard. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Tragopogon*..commonly call'd Salssafy or Sassafy. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiv. (1796) 229 So likewise you may dress root of salsify and scorzonera. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 85 Salsafay is estimable both for its roots..and for the young shoots rising in the spring. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 201 Many of the species are useful articles of food;..for instance..the roots of..Tragopogon, or Salsafy. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 287/2 The Salsafy (or Salsify)..is a hardy biennial, with long cylindrical fleshy esculent roots. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 425/3 Salsafy..when boiled in milk or fried in butter..has a peculiar resemblance to oysters.

2. **Black,** † **Spanish salsify,** *Scorzonera hispanica*, producing a dark esculent root, used in the same way as salsify (sense 1).

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 61 Salsifax, *Scorzonera.* 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 482 Spanish Salsifie or Scorzonera, is multiplied by Seed. 1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., *Black salsify*, ..a related plant... It is similarly used, and its flavor is preferred by some.

† **Salsi·potent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *salsipotentem* (as if f. *sals-um* neut. adj., salt), a false reading for *sali-potentem*, f. *sal-um* salt water + *potentem* POTENT *a.*] That rules the salt sea.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 33 The supreame salsipotent Monarch Neptune. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Salsister, variant of SAUCISTER *Obs.*

† **Sa·lsitude.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *salsitude*, ad. L. *salsitūdo*, f. *salsus* adj., salt: see -TUDE.] Saltness, brackishness.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxii. 271 Their..smarting Salsitude. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. & Provid. God* I. 171 The heat of the sun is not the cause of the salsitude of the waters. 1721– in BAILEY.

† **Sa·lso-a·cid,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. *salso-*, assumed comb. form of L. *salsus* adj., salt.] **a.** 'Having a taste compounded of saltness and sourness' (J.). **b.** *sb.* A substance partaking of the qualities of a 'salt' and an 'acid'.

1697 SIR J. FLOYER *Enq. Baths* 17 Salso-acid Baths. *Ibid.* 20 Salso-acid Medicines. 1707 — *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 335 Salso Acids, volatile Salt, or fix'd Vitriolate, *Sal Catharticum* is a nauseous, bitterish, Salso Acid.

Sal-soda: see SAL b.

‖ **Salsola** (sæ·lsŏlă). [mod.L. (Cæsalpinus *De Plantis* 1583 IV. xxxix. 170), a. It. † *salsola*, dim. of *salso* salt *adj.*] A genus of herbaceous plants belonging to the N. O. *Chenopodiaceæ*, found on the sea-coasts and salt-impregnated soils of warm and temperate regions, chiefly in the Old World; esp. *S. soda*, a species yielding soda. Also, a plant of this genus.

1801 J. BARROW *Trav. S. Africa* ii. 91 The plant..was a species of *salsola*, or salt-wort. 1890 E. F. KNIGHT *Cruise of 'Alerte'* iv. 57 [An island] green with salsola or saltwort and other alcalescent plants.

Salsolaceous (sælsŏlē·ʃəs), *a.* [See -ACEOUS.] Belonging to or resembling the genus SALSOLA.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xliii, The salsolaceous plants, so long the only vegetation we have seen, are gone. 1863 SPEKE *Source of Nile* i. 6 A small island..covered with salsolacious shrubs. 1880 J. C. CRAWFORD *New Zealand & Austral.* 8 Dry plains thinly clad with a salsolaceous vegetation.

Salss, obs. Sc. form of SAUCE.

†Sa·lster. *Obs.* [Formed after SALTER: see -STER.] A female salter.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 692/37 *Hec salinaria*, a salster.

Salsuginous (sælsiū·dʒinəs), *a.* Also 7 **-eous**, **-os.** [f. L. *salsūgin-em* saltness (f. *sals-us* adj., salt) + -OUS.] †**a.** Impregnated with salt; brackish. *Obs.*

b. Of plants: Growing in salt-impregnated soil.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 677 A certain..salsugineous liquor is educed. 1664 BOYLE *Experim. Colours* III. xl. Refl. 314 Salts..are discriminated into Acid, Volatile, or Salsuginous (if I may for Distinction sake so call the Fugitive Salts of Animal Substances) and fix'd or Alcalizate. 1665 DUDLEY *Mettall. Martis* (1851) 38 His white Arcenical, Salsuginos and Sulphurious substance which is in that Cole. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 54 If this acidulated water find a salsuginous glebe, it becomes coagulated. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 302 'Tis owing to the salsuginous nature of the valley grass, that the Cape graziers never give..their..cattle any salt to lick. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Salsuginous*, epithet applied to plants that grow in a soil that is impregnated with common salt.

†Sa·lsure. *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *salsūra*, f. *sals-us* adj., salt.] 'A salting or seasoning brine' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). 1658 in PHILLIPS; 1721- in BAILEY.

Salt (sɔlt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 sealt, (3 salit, *Ormin* sallt), 4–6 salte, (5 sawte, 6 saulte), 6–7 sault, 8–9 *Sc.* saut, sawt, 1– salt. [Com. Teut.: OE. *sealt* (*salt*) str. neut. = OFris. **salt* (mod.Fris. *salt*, *sâ(l)t*, *saut*, *solt*), OS. *salt* (MLG. *salt*, *solt*), MDu., Du. *zout*, OHG. (MHG., G.) *salz*, ON. (Sw., Da.), Goth. *salt*:—OTeut. *salto*[m], cogn. with Gr. ἅλ-ς masc., L. *sal* masc., neut. (whence F. *sel*, Sp., Pg., Pr. *sal*, It. *sale*), OIr. *salann*, W. *halen*, OSl. *solĭ*.]

1. A substance, known chemically as sodium chloride (NaCl), very abundant in nature both in solution and in crystalline form, and extensively prepared for use as a condiment, a preservative of animal food, and in various industrial processes. Salt for domestic use is manufactured from SEA-SALT (*marine salt*, BAY-SALT), ROCK-SALT (*mineral salt*, †*salt mineral*), and (now chiefly) from brine pumped up from rock-salt strata. Frequently called *common salt*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 76 Wiþ blæce, wyl eolonan on buteran, meng wiþ sote, sealt, teoro. *Ibid.* 344 Do haliges sealtes fela on. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1653 Forr witt & skill iss wel inoh þurrh salttess smacc bitacnedd. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 187/95 So þat þe salt scholde is woundene frete with þe brenninde fuyre. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xciv. (Bodl. MS.), Salte makeþ potage and oþer mete sauourye. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 245 Nad I ben babtyzyd in water and salt. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 57 Loke þy salte be sutille, whyte, fayre and drye. 1557 SEAGER *Sch. Vertue* 440 in *Babees Bk.*, Saulte with thy knyfe then reache and take. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. 92 The best and most common of all Sauces is Salt. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Bacon.* 50 They boile Salt out of Salt-water. 1729 [see SALT-CELLAR]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 146 Salt seems to be much more efficacious in destroying these animals [*sc.* lizards], than the knife. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 614/2 Regular strata of gypsum below, and regular layers of salt above. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1087 The rock is a mass of saccharoid and anhydrous gypsum, imbued with common salt. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 380 Beds of salt occur ..in China, and many districts of North America.

b. With qualifying word.

White salt: salt prepared and refined mainly for household use (as contrasted with rock-salt, which is of a brownish red colour). †*Great salt*: salt in large crystals or lumps; rock-salt. †*Small salt*: salt powdered as for table use. †*Pattow, Pateu salt* [i.e. Poitou salt = F. '*sel de Poitou*, blacke salt, gray salt' Cotgr.]: ? a coarse kind of salt manufactured in Poitou. Also *Newcastle, Spanish salt*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 138 Cnuca mid greatan sealte. *Ibid.* III. 20 Ado..hwites sealtes fela. 1377–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 586 In 2 quar. de Pattowsalt, *7s. 3d.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 63 In stede of Oxes He let do yoken grete foxes, And with gret salt the lond he siew. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj, Put therto spanyshe salte. 1583–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 638 Na small salt sould be careit furth of this realme. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *Eng. Way to Win Wealth* 24 Ships may come vnto them with Salt from Mayo, or Spanish salt. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Salt is brown when taken out of the Pits,..in some Places they make it into White-Salt by refining. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 50 Northumberland and Durham; from whence this salt is exported in large quantities, under the name of Newcastle salt. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 74 Fishery Salt..Common Salt, Middle Grain Salt, Table Salt,..Kitchen Salt. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 232/1 As usually made, white salt from rock-salt may be classified into two groups.

†**c.** *Salt upon salt*: see quot. 1748. *Obs.*

1580 HITCHCOCK *Politic Plat* A ij b, To..barrill theim [*sc.* herrings] after the Flemishe maner, with salte vpon salte, whiche is the beste kinde of Salt. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *Eng. Way to Win Wealth* 24 This place [*sc.* Ipswich] is also most conuenient for the erecting of Salt-pans, for the making of Salt vpon salt. 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 23 Of Salt upon Salt, or Salt made by Refining of Forreign Salt. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 49 Salt upon salt; which is bay salt dissolved in sea water, or any other salt water, and with it boiled into white salt.

fig. 1659 G. WITHER (*title*) Salt upon Salt: made out of certain ingenious verses upon the late Storm and the death of his Highness ensuing.

d. *In salt*: sprinkled with salt or immersed in brine; in pickle.

1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 187 Let it remain in salt during twenty-four hours.

2. Proverbial and allusive uses. **a.** *gen.*

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 57 Passe not ouer salt and the table: as who shulde saye, neglecte not the Company of frendes, or breake not the lawe of amitie. *c* 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 9 Seruice without salt, by the rite of England, is a Cuckholds fee, if he claime it. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 3 The poor sheep would eat him without salt (as they say). *c* 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 23 As much out of order, as if the Salt had been thrown down, or an Hare had crossed his way. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* iii. 50 Some account the falling of salt upon the table ominous. 1865 S. EVANS *Bro. Fab. MS.*, etc. 49 If the salt thou chance to spill, Token sure of coming ill. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 889/1 They threw the salt over their shoulders,..in propitiation of evil powers, when they spilled it at table.

b. Taken as a type of a necessary adjunct to food, and hence as a symbol of hospitality. Phr. *To eat salt with* (a person), *to eat* (a person's) *salt*: to enjoy his hospitality; also occas. to be dependent upon him. *Bread and salt*: see BREAD *sb.* 2 d.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezra* iv. 14 Wee thanne mynde hauende of the salt that in the paleis wee eeten. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 30 Trust no man onles thou hast fyrst eaten a bushel of salte with hym. [Cf. Gr. *τὸν ἁλὸν συγκατεδηδοκέναι μέδιμνον.*] 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 11 b, You who haue eaten much salt out of your owne house. 1608 BP. HALL *Epist.* I. viii, Abandon those from your table and salt, whom your own..experience shall descry dangerous. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gleig *Life* App. (1862) 702 The real fact is..I have eaten the King's salt. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. iv, Why dost thou shun the salt? that sacred pledge, Which, once partaken..Makes ev'n contending tribes in peace unite. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. v. 43 One does not eat a man's salt, as it were, at these dinners. There is nothing sacred in this kind of London hospitality. 1889 NORRIS *Miss Shafto* i, One has no business to eat a man's salt and then say nasty things about him.

c. In allusions to the jocular advice given to children to catch birds by putting salt on their tails.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 327 It is..a foolish bird that staieth the laying salt on hir taile. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 278 Such great Atchievements cannot fail, To cast Salt on a Woman's Tail. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* vii, Men catch Knowledge by throwing their Wit on the Posteriors of a Book, as Boys do Sparrows by flinging Salt upon their Tails. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 380 You will ne'er cast Salt on his Tail. That is, he has clean escap'd. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* viii, If they go on playing this game, some day we shall lay salt upon their tails. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxvii, Having dropped a pinch of salt on the tails of all the cardinal virtues and caught them every one. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* I. viii, I will never be persuaded that you could not help us.. to put salt on Alan's tail.

d. *With a grain of salt* [=mod.L. *cum grano salis*]: (to accept a statement) with a certain amount of reserve. Also in similar phrases.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* vi. 11 This is to be taken with a grain of salt. 1648 SPARKE *Pref. to Shute's Sarah & Hagar* b j b, Read them then but with such a grain of salt as intimated. 1883 *American* VI. 280 An Extremist,—and we may add more or less salt to his expressions. 1908 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 118/1 Our reasons for not accepting the author's pictures of early Ireland without many grains of salt.

e. With reference to the bitter saline taste of tears.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 45 *Hen.* Oh that there were some vertue in my teares, That might releeue you. *John.* The salt in them is hot. 1602 — *Ham.* I. ii. 154 The salt of most vnrighteous Teares. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. i. v. 43 There was salt as well as sorrow in her tears.

f. *Not to be made of sugar or salt*: not to be readily affected by moisture; hence, not to be disconcerted by wet weather.

1786 *Har'st Rig* lxxxi. (1794) 27 But Highlanders ne'er mind a douk, For they're na'e sawt. 1855 CARLYLE in *E. FitzGerald's Lett.* (1889) I. 235, I persist in believing the weather will clear,..at any rate I am not made of sugar or of salt. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. xv. 254, I am made neither of sugar nor salt...Do you call this rain?

g. (*To be*) *worth one's salt*: efficient or capable. Usually with expressed or implied negative.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* lii, The captain..is not worth his salt. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, Every one who is worth his salt has his enemies. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xviii, It was plain from every line of his body that our new hand was worth his salt.

h. With reference to the saltness of the sea, in phrases denoting fondness for or adaptability to a seafaring life. (Cf. II.)

1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 July 42/3, 'I would be a sailor, if only before the mast'. 'Why there!' cried the admiral..'What else could the boy be? He is salt all through'. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 24 May 3/3 The man..with the salt in his blood, and a yearning for the blue water.

3. *fig.* **a.** *The salt of the earth* (after Matt. v. 13): the excellent of the earth; in recent trivial use, the powerful, aristocratic, or wealthy.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 ðee sint salt eorðes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sonipn. T.* 488 Ye been the salt of the erthe and the savour. *?c* 1420 26 *Pol. Poems* xxi. 145 Of erþe 3e ben cleped salt, For salt of wisdom soule saues. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 141 The vniuersities of Christendome which should be..the leauen, the salt, the seasoning of the world. 1790 H. VENN in Carus *Life C. Simeon* 84 They are the truly excellent of the earth—its salt, who..reach the heart and conscience. 1842 *Literary Gaz.* 28 May 371/3 To dine like queens, kings, princes, potentates, and the other 'salt of the earth'. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 517 The army was, under the Imperial system, the 'salt' of the Roman world. 1872 MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 195 A little band, the supposed salt of the earth.

b. That which gives liveliness, freshness, or piquancy to a person's character, life, etc. Often in phr. *salt of youth*, from Shakspere.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 688/1 They are such that haue neither salt nor sause in them. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. iii. 56 Wee haue some salt of our youth in vs. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 26 The Things of Religion, that Divine Salt, that will give a wholesome and relishing savour to our Conversation. *a* 1718 PENN *Tracts* in *Wks.* (1726) I. 732 A Man insipid, of no Sense or Salt. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. ii. 24 His character has the salt of honesty about it. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiv. 153 He was a man not yet forty years of age, with still much of the salt of youth about him. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democracy* 19 A people without the salt of these qualities would arrive at the pettiness of China.

c. That which gives life or pungency to discourse or written composition; poignancy of expression; pungent wit; †point. *Attic salt*: see ATTIC *a.* 2.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* s.v., *Salte*, a pleasaunt and mery worde that maketh folke to laugh and sometimes pricketh. 1609 *Skaks.'s Tr. & Cr.* Ep. (Qo. 1), So much and such sauored salt of witte is in his Commedies, that [etc.]. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* II. iii, She speaks with salt, And has a pretty scornefulnesse. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 63 Exceptions are not logically deduc't from a divers kind, as to say who so puts away for any naturall cause except fornication, the exception would want salt. 1682 SHADWELL *Medal of J. Buyes* 2 For Libel and true Satyr different be; This must have Truth, and Salt, with Modesty. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* clxiii. (1743) IX. 3884 He..could with salt and sharpness enough upbraid those whom he sees guilty of them. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* V. 75 The prince comprehended all the salt and spirit of that ingenious pleasantry. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* II. viii. 20 That salt and poignancy.. derived from writers of taste. 1874 *Q. Rev.* CXXXVII. 106 Humour, the salt of well-bred conversation. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 120 We could not discover any salt in them [*sc.* the witticisms].

†**4.** *Alch.* and *Old Chem.* One of the supposed ultimate elements of all substances. *Obs.*

?*c* 1585 HESTER tr. *Paracelsus'* 114 *Exper.*, etc. C 8, These three mercurie, Salt and Sulphur can not bee one without another. 1605, 1729 [see MERCURY *sb.* 8]. 1650 FRENCH tr. *Paracelsus' Nat. Things* 10 Mercury, Sulphur, Salt, of which all the seven Metalls are generated. For Mercury is the Spirit, Sulphur the Soule, and Salt the Body. 1651 — *Distill.* vi. 181 Salt is that fixt permanent earth which is in the center of every thing that is incorruptible, and inalterable. 1670 D. CABLE tr. *Basil. Valent. Of Nat. & Supernat. Things* viii. 124 [Tin] hath no excess of Mercury, nor of Salt, and it hath the least of Sulphur in it. 1719 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* s.v. *Principle.*

5. †**a.** *Old Chem.* A solid soluble non-inflammable substance having a taste. *Obs.*

The name originally comprised such substances as resembled common salt (sense 1) in their appearance or properties, e. g. substances produced by the evaporation of watery liquids as salt is produced by the evaporation of sea-water. The quality of taste was not originally considered to be a criterion of the class, but was added in the 18th c., when these substances were ultimately divided into 'acid salts' (*salia acida*), 'alkaline salts' (*salia alkalina*), and 'neutral salts' (*salia neutra, media*, or *salsa*), corresponding to the modern 'acids', 'alkalis', and 'salts'.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15632, I..Vive hem vergows and vynegre..And yive hem other sawtys mo. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 10 Coppers..Niter..vitrial..allom..Borras, ..Suger..Sublimate..Saltpeter..all these are diuers kindes of saltes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 645 Out of the Ashes of all Plants, they extract a Salt which they use in Medecines. 1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* I. xiv. 347 If there were any Salt in this petrified Plant, it would dissolve in hot water like other salts. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 219 Sugar is a balsamick Salt. 1729 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. I. 98 The Vitriolic Salts, with which the Pyrites abounds. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 166 By divesting a quantity of earth of all its oils and salts. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 599 Salts..are soluble in water, sapid, and not inflammable. They are either Acids or Alkalies.

b. Particular substances of this class are distinguished by defining words (q.v., and cf. SAL[1]); e.g. †*salt ammoniac* (=SAL-AMMONIAC), †*essential s.*, †*fixed s.*, †*s. perlate*, †*s. sedative, volatile s.*; †*salt of antimony, of lemon*, †*of Mars*, †*of Saturn, of soda*, †*of steel*, †*of wisdom*; †*salt anatron*, †*s. gem* (*me* (=SAL-GEM), †*s. prunel* (*la* (=SAL-PRUNELLA), †*s. nitre* (=SAL-NITRE), †*salt sode* (=sal-soda), †*s. tartar*; GLAUBER'S SALT, *Rochelle s.*, etc.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 4 A water þat is clepyd salt gemme. 14.. *Chaucer's Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 257 (Corpus & Petw. MSS.), Salt tartre. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccliii. (1529) Y j b, Salt armeniake is hote and drye in the fourth degre. *Ibid.* Y ij, Salt gemme..hath the vertues of salt armonyake. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Ammoniacus*, Salte armonike. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 439 Salt Sode for Glasse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 133 If some salt-nitre be put to them whiles they be a boiling ouer the fire. 1670 D. CABLE tr. *van Suchten's Secr. Antimony* 118 This Salt of Antimony..performs almost all that the Salt of Gold doth. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 180 An Ounce of beaten Salt-prunel. 1756 WRIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 681 Fossil sea-salt or salt-gem. 1765 DELAVAL *ibid.* LV. 31 *note* f, A solution of salt-ammoniac. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1084 Salt of amber is succinic acid. Salt of lemons is citric acid.

c. *colloq. pl.* (*a*) Smelling salts, consisting usually of ammonium carbonate.

1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 73 [She] was several Times obliged to have recourse to her Salts. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxxxix, Much hartshorn, salts, and sprinkling faces. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xiv, Virginia had run for the salts as soon as she perceived that her mother was unwell.

(*b*) Short for *Epsom salts* (see EPSOM).

1772 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 98/1 A servant maid..thinking to take some salts..took arsenic instead thereof. 1877 *N. W.*

Linc. Gloss. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* xix, A neffow [=nieveful] of salts and a neffow of senna.

6. *Mod. Chem.* A compound formed by the union of an acid radical with a basic radical; an acid having the whole or part of its hydrogen replaced by a metal. (In wider theoretical use the term 'salt' includes acids as salts of hydrogen.)

The first marked step towards the modern conception of a chemical salt was Rouelle's definition (*a* 1770) of a neutral salt as a compound formed by the union of an acid with any substance serving as a base for it and giving to it a concrete or solid form. Various modifications of this or earlier views were put forward until the publication of Lavoisier's definition of a salt as the union of an acid with an oxide; this definition, however, was found to be inadequate when the composition of the halogen compounds, sulphides, etc. came to be accurately known. A further revolution in the theory of salts was made by Berzelius, who divided them into two classes; viz. HALOID salts, formed of an electropositive element and a halogen, and AMPHID salts, resulting from the union of an acid and a base; the latter he subdivided into oxy-salts, sulpho-salts, selenio-salts, and telluri-salts. According to more recent conceptions (Arrhenius 1888) salts, including acids, are regarded as composed of positive ions or kations (hydrogen and metals) and negative ions or anions (halogens and acid radicals).

1790 KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 150–1 Acids may therefore be considered as true salifying principles...This view of the acids prevents me from considering them as salts. ..I shall not arrange the alkalies or earths in the class of salts, to which I allot only such as are composed of an oxygenated substance united to a base. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 151 [Acids] combine with all the alkalies, and most of the metallic oxides and earths, and form with them those compounds which are called salts. 1838 — *Chem. Org. Bodies* 924 The tannin of areca gives a black colour to salts of iron. 1855 HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* 15 The principal Salts of Silver which are employed in the Photographic processes are four in number, viz. Nitrate of Silver, Chloride of Silver, Iodide of Silver, and Bromide of Silver. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 332/1 Most of the blood-salts are present in increased quantity in the gastric juice. 1890 WALKER tr. *Ostwald's Outl. Gen. Chem.* 281 The conductivities of the neutral salts are additively composed of two values, one depending only on the metal or positive ion, the other only on the acid radical or negative ion.

7. = SALT-CELLAR.

1493 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 310 To John Wymer and Margarete his wif a cuppe and a salt of silver. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxii. 212 Knyues spones & saltes [*Bodl. MS.* salers] ben sett on y^e^ borde. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 47 Two Rownde saltes with a Couer. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. iii, One salt of agat. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 29 Oct., Under every salt there was a bill of fare. 1775 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 199 Eight silver salts for the Corporation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Another salt was fashioned of silver, in form of a swan in full sail. 1894 *Times* 7 Apr. 9/5 A pair of hexagonal salts, of Limoges enamel.

b. *Above* (or *below, beneath, under*) *the salt*: at the upper (or lower) part of the table, *i. e.* among the more honoured (or less honoured) guests.

The reference is to the formerly prevailing custom of placing a large salt-cellar in the middle of a dining table.

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. vi, That he do, on no default, Euer presume to sit aboue the salt. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. ii. (1616) 200 Hee neuer drinkes below the salt. 1602 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* D, Set him beneath the salt and let him not touch a bit, till euery one has had his full cut. 1658 *Wit Restor'd* 43 Hee..humbly sate Below the Salt, and munch'd his Sprat. 1826 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1333 The marshals were the lowest above the salt. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 347 At the banquet of fame they sit below the salt. 1885 J. PAYN *Luck of Darrells* xxxvii, Though of Tory sentiments, she by no means approved of those feudal times when the chaplain was placed below the salt.

8. A salt marsh or salting.

1621 in Boys *Hist. Sandwich* (1792) 705 Two acres of salts, overagainst the old crane.., granted to John Gason..for the erecting of his waterworks. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4525/4, 164 Acres of fresh Marsh, and 10 Acres of Salts, well water'd. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 698 Immediately after you leave the salts, begin the valuable rice swamps. 1836 W. D. COOPER *Prov. Sussex, Salts*, marshes near the sea flooded by the tides. 1900 *Academy* 28 Apr. 364/2 There remains on her seaward front [*sc.* of Rye], that green space the Salts.

9. *pl.* Salt water entering a river from the sea.

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 173 Here the Salmon relinquish the Salts because by the Porposses pursued up the Freshes. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Salts*, the salt water of rivers entering from the ocean. *S. Carolina.* 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 469 'Freshes' and 'salts'. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxii. 225 The last incursion of the salts was seven years ago. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 10/2 The stormy weather and high tides, which have caused 'salts', *i. e.* the forcing of the sea water up the rivers.

10. At Eton, money collected for the Captain at the Montem. Now *Hist.*

See *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* 1813 I. 337 seqq., and Maxwell Lyte *Hist. Eton Coll.* (1889) 507 seqq.

a 1769 in *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 345 *note*, Every scholar gives a shilling for Salt; the noblemen more. 1806 D. & S. LYSONS *Magna Brit.* I. 558 Tickets inscribed with some motto..are given to such persons as have already paid for *salt*, as a security from any further demands. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 75 As long as salt and sock abound. 1899 C. K. PAUL *Memories* 113 The sixth-form..stopped coaches, post-chaises, and carriages,..asking for 'Salt'.

11. *colloq.* A sailor, esp. one of much experience. (Cf. 2 h.)

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* i, My complexion and hands were quite enough to distinguish me from the regular *salt*. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 416 If you want to hear about the sea, talk to an 'old salt'. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* iii, The 'green' hands..had been very judiciously intermingled with the experienced 'salts'.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *salt-basket* (Sc.), *barrow* (BARROW *sb.*[3] 3), *bed, boat, brig, coffer, crystal, district, gauge, girnel, incrustation, manufacture, market, monopoly, pannier, room, shop, shovel, -spoon* (hence *-spoonful*), *spring, trough, vase*; also (sense 5 c *a*), *salts-bottle*. b. objective, instrumental, similative, etc., as *salt-boiler, -cured, -curing, -heaver, holder, -incrusted, -laden, -loving, manufacturer, owner, -resembling, -seller, -spilling, -white, -worker*.

1756 PENNECUIK *Coll.* 47, I spake nae mair than our *salt-backit. 1881 W. GREGOR *Folk-lore Scot.* ix. 51 A wooden box in the shape of a house, with a round hole in the exposed end; it was the saat-backet. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 608 Certaine women..put it [*sc.* salt] in baskets, they call them *Salt barowes, out of which the liquor runneth, and the pure salt remaineth. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 230/1 The Cheshire and Worcestershire *salt-beds are by some attributed to the Permian. 1791 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames & Isis* 51 The Droitwich *Salt boat stopt here. 1748 *Salt-boiler* [see *salt-officer* in 12 c]. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii, The Jersey *salt-brigs. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vi, Where the only chance of collecting a few grains of dust would be to climb on the *salt-coffer. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 233/2 The mother-liquor ..becomes..totally unfit for further service after yielding but two or three crops of *salt crystals. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 40 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) *Salt-cured fish during the 'scarce season'. *Ibid.*, *Salt-curing..is somewhat resorted to, as is also 'smoking'. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 615/2 The ancient hydrography of the *salt districts. 1864 WEBSTER, **Salt-gauge*, an instrument used to test the strength of brine or salt-water. *c* 1688 DALLAS *Stiles* 584 Salt-Pans, and *Salt-Girnals..lying in the said Parochin. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Salt heavers*, men who discharge the salt from the barges by heaving or throwing it up, either upon the deck..or into a tub. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. iii, In the centre of the table, at the corners of which stood the Lares and the *saltholders. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 471/1 Great tracts of the plain are covered with *salt incrustations. 1856 *Times* 5 May 5/2 The margin of the *salt-incrusted shallows of the Dead Sea. 1878 SMILES *Robt. Dick* iii. 25 He enjoyed the *salt-laden breath. 1849 JOHNSTON *Exp. Agric.* 142 *Salt-loving plants. 1836 *Rep. Comm. Salt Brit. India* 24 The Bullooah molunghees found that the *salt manufacture..was no longer so profitable as of old. *Ibid.* App. 143 *a*, Two Petitions of *Salt Manufacturers in the Agency of Tumlook. 1477 in *Charters*, etc. *Edin.* (1871) 140 The *salt market to be haldin in Nudreis Wynde. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 332 The provinces which had been always exempted from this *salt-monopoly. 1673 in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden Soc.) II. 244 The good of the kingdome, the King's profite, and the interest of the *salt-owners. 1530 in *Ancestor* Oct. (1904) 182 A staffe or in his hande and a *salt panyer v[ert] at his backe. 1611 COTGR., *Nitre*, Niter; a (*Salt-resembling) substance of colour light-ruddie, or white. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvi. 133 The water is now drawn into the last range of vats or rooms, called *salt-rooms. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* II. iv. 89 My mother sat..with her *salts' bottle in her hand. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, Madly inhaling her salts-bottle. 1611 COTGR., *Saulnier*, a Salter, *Salt-seiler, Marchant of salt. *Ibid.*, *Saulnerie*, a *Salt-shop, or Garner for salt. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 3/2 Tea-Cups, Sugar-Tongs, *Salt-Shovels, and Gloves made up in Wall-nut-shells. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 153 The sin of *salt-spilling. 1858 RAMSAY *Scot. Life & Char.* iii. 33 Last time Mrs. Murray dined here, we *lost* a *salt-spoon. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* 15 O'er hard-boil'd eggs the saltspoon shook. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 356 A *salt-spoonful of salt. 1904 *Queen* 30 Jan. 211/3 A salt-spoonful of powdered cloves. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 18 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A *salt-trough, and a sheep-rack for hay, should be found with every flock. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Pitt & Canning*, From every *salt-vase a spoonful. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 78 Kerman's sands *salt-white. 1680 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* To Rdr., Mr. William Martin..who..gave me an account of the sad Condition of those *Saltworkers. 1861 NEALE *Notes Dalmatia* 72 A little white chapel for the salt-workers.

c. Special combs.: †**salt-ark**, a salt-box; **salt bag,-bearer** (at the Eton montem), **block, bottom** *U. S.* (see quots.); **salt bush**, any of the plants of the genus *Atriplex* (and of some allied genera) which grow extensively on the interior plains of Australia; **salt-cake**, (*a*) salt in the form of a cake; (*b*) see quot. 1858; †**salt-corn**, a grain of salt (in quot. *fig.*); **salt-dropping** = BITTERN *sb.*[2]; **salt-duty** = GRANAGE; **saltgardens** [= G. *salzgärten*], shallow ponds laid out upon a sea-coast for the collection and evaporation of sea-water for the manufacture of salt; **salt glaze** (see quot.); **salt-glazed** *a.*, prepared with salt glaze; **salt-glazing**, (*a*) the use of salt glaze; (*b*) = *salt-glaze*; **salt-looking** *a.*, of sailor-like appearance; **salt-master**, a collector of salt-duty; **salt mine**, a mine yielding rock salt; **salt money**, † (*a*) salary; (*b*) salt used as a medium of exchange; (*c*) = sense 10; †**salt-office**, the office concerned with the collection of salt-duty; so **salt-officer**; **salt-pie** *dial.* a salt-box (see E. D. D.); **salt-radical** *Chem.*, in the binary theory of salts, any body which forms a salt with a metal or its equivalent; **salt-raker** (see quot.); **salt-rock**, †(*a*) rock-salt; (*b*) rock impregnated with salt; †**salt-rover**, one who sails the seas; †**salt-silver** (see quots.); **salt-sprinkler**, a closed vessel for salt having holes through which it is sprinkled; †**salt stack**, a mound of earth from which salt was manufactured; **salt-stand**, a salt-cellar; **salt-tax** = GABELLE; **salt-tree**, a tree of the genus *Halimodendron*, esp. *H. argenteum*; **salt-weed**, (*a*) the Toad-rush, *Juncus bufonius*; (*b*) *U. S.* a plant of the genus *Hedeoma*; †**salt-wich**, a salt-pit; **salt-wife** [cf. G. *salzfrau*], a woman who sells salt.

1348 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 43 In 1 *Saltark, 13d. 1481 *Ibid.* 97,] Saltarke. 1847 S. R. MAITLAND in *Brit. Mag.* XXXI. 367 *note*, He told me that when, as a freshman [at Cambridge], he was getting his gown from the maker, he made some remark on the long strips of sleeve by which such gowns are distinguished, and was told they were called **salt-bags*. *a* 1769 in *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 344 *note*, Two of the scholars called *Salt-bearers, dressed in white, with a handkerchief of Salt in their hands. 1864 R. CHAMBERS *Bk. Days* II. 665/2 The salt-bearers were accustomed to carry..a handkerchief filled with salt, of which they bestowed a small quantity on every individual who contributed his quota to the subsidy. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2023/1 **Salt-block*, an apparatus for evaporating the water from a saline solution. The technical name for a salt-factory. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, **Salt-bottom*, a plain or flat piece of land covered with saline efflorescence. These places abound in Western Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. 1863 WESTGARTH in J. Davis *Tracks of McKinlay* 14 As cattle can live upon the *salt-bush, this country is thus suitable for pastoral pursuits. 1870 BRAIM *New Homes* ii. 89 This inland salt-bush country suits the settler's purpose well. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 100 Garrandilla consisted wholly of saltbush plains. 1818 MARSDEN tr. *Trav. Marco Polo* II. xxxviii. 427 They obtain a *saggio* of gold for sixty, fifty, or even forty of the *salt-cakes. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Salt-cake*, a name for sulphate of soda made at alkali works, for the use of crown-glass manufacturers and soap makers. 1883 H. J. POWELL, etc. *Princ. Glass-making* 146 The 'salt-cake'..or sulphate of soda, is likewise pulverized and afterwards sifted. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 273 Thou strowist such *saltcornys [orig. *aspersis salibus*] amonge þi spechis as amphion is founde vnlike To the in talkyng. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 278 A liquid, something of the appearance of oil,..which.. the people here call *salt-droppings. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. vi. (ed. 23) 509 The Commissioners and other Officers for the *Salt-Duty. 1848 *F. Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 257 These *salt-gardens are nothing more than a series of very shallow ponds, intended to spread the water over a very large surface. 1855 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 432 The Lambeth stone ware, and some other kinds are glazed by a thin..varnish of silicate of soda...This is known by the appellation of '*salt glaze', from the method of imparting it, which is as follows:— Whilst the stoneware is yet glowing in the furnace, a door is opened, and common salt is thrown in. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 12 The patent *salt-glazed socketed drain pipes. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 59/1 Patent Salt-Glazed Earthenware Latrine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2023/1 **Salt-glazing*, a glaze for earthenware, prepared from common salt. 1885 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 37/1 Salt-glazing is..almost invariably confined to down-draught kilns. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, He..had been a pilot, or a skipper, or a privateersman,..and was a very *salt-looking man indeed. 1656 in *Misc. Scott. Burgh Rec. Soc.* (1881) 11 The Comissioners..had some treaty with the *salt-masters touching the farme of theyr salt. 1847 *Crabbe's Poet. Wks.* Life 2 He rose to be collector of the salt-duties, or Salt-master. 1685 E. BROWN *Trav.* 70 Half an hours going from the City of Eperies in upper Hungary, there is a *Salt-Mine of great note. 1811 HOLLAND in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* I. 56 In countries where salt-mines occur, fragments of primitive rocks appear in great abundance over these beds. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* cxxvii. (1902) I. 436 There is due unto his grace the hole pencion and *salt moneye for the last yere. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. VII. v. § 7. 1055 *marg.*, Through all Æthiopia, Salt runneth as a principal merchandize. Salt-money. *a* 1769 HUGGETT in *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 345 *note*, The price of the dinner to each is 10*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* 6*d.* for Salt-money. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 24. 4/2 James Cardonnell Esq; is made a Commissioner of the *Salt-Office. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 56 An office for his majesty's *salt officers, and a dwelling house for the salt boilers. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/2 A *Salte pye, *salinum*. 1842 GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 163 The acid and oxygen are thus always together in the exact proportion to form the *salt-radical. 1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 253 It has been found necessary to create two classes of salts: in the first division will stand those constituted after the type of common salt, which contain a metal and a salt-radical. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Salt-raker*, a collector of salt in natural salt-ponds, or enclosures from the sea. 1693 *Act 5 Will. & Mary* c. 7 § 24 Whereas *Salt-Rock or Rock-Salt taken out of pittes is in such great Lumps that it cannot be measured without breaking the same to powder. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 242 This mine of salt-rock has been worked these 600 years past. 1834–6 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 429/2 Salt rocks, in which the salt is combined more or less with earthy matter. 1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *World Tost* 633 [*Land-captain to Sea-captain*] Proud *salt-rover, Thou hast the salutation of a thief. 1363 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1695) 496 Quilibet virgatarius dabit Domino unum denarium pro *Salt-Sylver per annum..vel cariabunt salem Domini de foro ubi emptus fuerit ad lardarium Domini. [*Ibid.* Gloss., *Salt-Sylver*, one penny paid at the Feast of St. Martin, by the servile Tenants to their Lord, as a commutation for the service of carrying their Lord's Salt from Market to his Lardar.] 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 369 *Salt-sprinklers. 16.. ARCHBALD in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Coll.* (1908) III. 189 Then they carry a sufficient quantity of the *Saltstack & spread it over the whole Coach. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* I. xxi. 238, I know ..their hospitality is more of the knife than the *salt-stand. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 555 The *gabelle*, or *salt-tax. 1834 M^c^CULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 1004 It was not the nature of the salt tax, but the absurd extent to which it had been carried, that rendered it justly odious. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* II (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The fisherman's and fish-curer's occupations are injured by the incidence of a heavy salt-tax. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) Index, *Salt-tree, *robinia halodendron*. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 42 A plant called *saltweed, resembling pennyroyal. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Salt-weed*, toad-rush. *Suffolk.* 1881 GEIKIE

in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 237/1 Here and there [in the Bad Lands of Wyoming] a bunch of salt-weed. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 607 These are very famous *Saltwiches,..where brine or salt water is drawne out of Pittes. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl, Ye wad hae kend nae odds on her frae ony other *saut-wife.

† **Salt,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 saute. [a. F. *saut* (lit. 'leap'):—L. *saltus* (*u*-stem), f. *salīre* to leap. Cf. ASSAUT *adv.*, and, for the spelling, SALT *a.*[2]] Sexual desire or excitement (usually, of a bitch).

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 110 My dogge proferth to the saute or bytchewatch. *Canis meus catulit.* 1519 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 33 That no man lett no bitchis un[*read* in] salte go aboght in the town. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* D ij b, The weddinges of oure virgyns..ar moare like vnto the saute of a bitche then the marienge of a reasonable creature. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp., Parting Verse* 25 The expressions of that itch And salt, which frets thy Suters.

Salt (sɔlt), *a.*[1] Forms: see SALT *sb.*[1] [OE. *sealt* = OFris. *salt*, MLG., LG. *solt*, Du. *zout*, ON. *salt-r*:—OTeut. **salto-z*:—pre-Teut. **sald-*; cf. L. *salsus*, f. **sald-* + *-tos*.

In certain collocations it is doubtful whether *salt* is to be regarded as an adj. or as the sb. used attrib. Cf. the Ger. compounds *salzfleisch* salt flesh, *salzfisch* salt fish, etc.]

1. Impregnated with or containing salt; hence, having a taste like that of salt; saline. a. Of water, brine-springs, etc. See also SALT WATER.

In ME. poetry *salt sea, salt flood* (now occas. *arch.*), *salt foam, salt stream* are frequent phrases for the sea.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 677 Sum mæg fromlice ofer sealtne sæ sundwudu drifan. *c* 1205 LAY. 6116 He..fram þan londe hælde ofer þane saltne strem. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3272 He was maroner wel gode, A stertte in to þe salte flode. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1462 So longe he seylith in the salte se Til in the yle of lenoun aryuede he. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. i. (1495) 383 The North see is but lytyll salte and the see that hyght Ponticum is as it were fressh. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1458 She roos of the foom most salt. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 302 The roy rial.. socht to the cietie of Criste, our the salt flude. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Salsilago*..a salt licour; bryne. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 393 His [*sc.* Neptune's] salt greene streames. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. v. 76 We see water being wrung through ashes, to grow salt. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Proc. Worcs. Hist. Soc.* II. 301 After the deathe of Richard the Saltspringes of Wich fell to decaye. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 356 It appears that, the Baltic is much less salt than the ocean, and that it is salter under a westerly than under an easterly wind. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* vii. 286 *note*, It is sometimes supposed that the Dead Sea is the saltest water in the world. 1877 BRYANT *Odyss.* v. 553 He loosed The veil..And to the salt flood cast it. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxiv. 236 What are known as the salt-tides are chiefly the bane of the angler. 1885 R. BUCHANAN *Annan Water* iii, Day and night the salt spray of the ocean was blown upon it.

in phrases used attrib. 1599 ? GREENE *Alphonsus* v. Wks. (Grosart) XIII. 405 If that the salt-brine teares,..Can mollifie the hardnes of your heart. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. i. 24 The rauin'd salt Sea sharke. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* I. 232 Bespattered with the salt-sea foam. *a* 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 20 The Sabbath's wander in the woods, An' by the saut-sea faem.

b. Applied to tears; † also, to humours, etc. See also SALT-RHEUM.

c 1200 ORMIN 13849 Þurrh beззske & salte tæress. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1028 With hire salte teeres She bathed bothe hire visage and hire heeres. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 154 Sekand þar souerayn with many salt terys. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 196 b/1, In requyryng our lord with salte teris that..he wolde delyuer them of this pestylence. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) B iv, An excessive rednesse.. commynge of brente humours or of salte fleume. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 193 His Stomacke, full of grosse and salt humors. 1591 SPENSER *Teares of Muses* 112 Her Sisters..their faire faces with salt humour steep. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 443 The Seas a Theefe, whose liquid Surge, resolues The Moone into Salt teares. 1717 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* xi, Could our saut tears like Clyde down rin. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* xxi, The salt tears in her eyes. 1870 'H. SMART' *Race for Wife* ii, She wept salt tears in the solitude of her own chamber.

c. Of tracts of land, marshes: Flooded by the sea. (See also SALT-MARSH.) Of rocks, ground: Having salt mixed with the earth; (in biblical use) barren.

1279 *Feod. Prior. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 110 *note*, Cum toto prato quod vocatur Saltmedus. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xvii. 5 In a salt and vnoccupied londe. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xxxix. 6 Whose house I haue made the wildernesse, and the barren lande [*marg.* Heb. salt places] his dwellings. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 157 They March'd.. until they came unto the Salt Meadow. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 338 Virgil reprobates a salt soil. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* Introd. 80 The range of salt hills. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xix, Sea-mud, salt-sand,.. and river-sludge. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 231/2 The great salt range of the Punjab.

d. Of other things, chiefly with regard to taste.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxix. (1495) 575 Nitrum is bytter soure and somdeale salt in sauour. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 74 Five of these Nyne [Sapors] be ingendred by Heat, Unctuous, Sharpe, Salt, Bitter.., Doulcet. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x, I dayne not to ete of this mete..for it is to salte. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 297 They use a kinde of newe and extreme salt cheeses. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horseman* 348 The leanest and saltest martlemas-beefe. 1849 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T., Foot-pr. on Sea-shore* 2 That far-resounding roar is Ocean's voice of welcome. His salt breath brings a blessing along with it. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* vi. 92 They drove on through the keen salt air.

2. Treated with salt as a preservative; cured, preserved, or seasoned with salt; salted.

909 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 290, & tu hriceðeru oþer sealt oþer fersc. *c* 1000 in *Techmer's Zeitschr.* (1885) II. 125 Ðonne þu for hwylcere neode sealtfiæsc wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4688 Ma þan a thusand selers Fild he wit wins..And warnistore o salt fless. *c* 1390 in *Forme of Cury* (1780) 177 Great Salt Eels. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 554 Of alle maner salt fische, looke ye pare awey the felle. 1590 in *Black Bk. Taymouth* (Bann. Cl.) 306 Of..martis fresch and salt..iiiˣˣ xiii martis iii quarteris ii m. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 259 We..omitted to provide any dried or salt meates at Candia. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 64 Two horses, which being..probably better feeding than their salt Beef and Pork, they killed and eat them. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* ii, Packages of salt salmon. 1821 *John Bull* 19 Mar. 111/3 Salt butter sold as high as twenty shillings a stone. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 Many a cargo of salt cod for Lent.

in phr. used attrib. or Comb. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 290 Mechanicall-salt-butter rogue. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Boeuf*, The salt beefe-eater needs no candle to find his liquor withall. 1710 P. LAMB *Roy. Cookery* 71 A Salt-Fish Pie.

b. *Naut.* (*jocular*). **Salt eel:** a rope's end; compared to the tail of an eel. **Salt horse:** salted beef. **Salt junk:** see JUNK *sb.*[2] 3.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 342 A good Ropes end, (which your Sea-faring men call a *salt Eele). 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Apr. (1876) II. 188 Up betimes, and with my salt eele went down in the parler and there got my boy and did beat him. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* III. vii, An he comes near me mayhap I may giv'n a salt eel for's supper. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* V. i, If you wou'd let me alone, I wou'd give him a Salt Eel, I warrant you. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Salt-eel*, a rope's end cut from the piece for starting the *homo delinquens.* 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 189 *note*, A return..to the '*salt horse', which no one is more ready to abuse than an old sailor. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 42/1 The..hard fare of 'weevily' biscuit and 'salt-horse'. 1792 *Salt junk [see JUNK *sb.*[2] 3]. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleyyow* I. xii. 152 So while they cut their raw salt junks, With dainties you'll be crammed. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 309 The same sergeant-major, Canot, is now cooking salt junk in Baffin's Bay.

3. † a. Of fishes: Living in the sea: opposed to *freshwater*. b. Of plants: Growing in the sea or on salt marshes.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 14 Engelonde is vol inou3..Of foweles & of bestes..Of salt fichz & eke verss. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 22 The Luse is the fresh-fish, the salt-fish, is an old Coate. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 606 From the marshy Land Salt Herbage for the fodd'ring Rack provide. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 413 This..answers for any sort of hay, except salt-hay and red clover. 1857 FABER *Sir Lancelot* II. 478 The drowsy plains, Where brittle salt-herbs struggle with wild thyme. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 38 Where the salt weed sways in the stream. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Salt grass* and *Salt hay*, the grass and hay growing in salt marshes. 1861 WHITMAN *Elem. Drifts* Poems (1868) 269 Leaves of salt-lettuce, left by the tide.

† 4. *fig.* Of experience, etc.: Bitter; vexatious.

c 1500 *Priests of Peblis* 1206 And he to me wit thow maid ony falt, To the that wil be ful sowre and salt. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. Prol. 98 Wald thou..mak amendis, I sal remyt this falt; Bot, other wais, that sete sal be full salt. 1592 GREENE *Quip Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 241 The yoong vpstart that needes it, feels it salt in his stomack a month after.

5. Of speech, wit, etc.: Pungent, stinging. Now *rare*.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. (1648) 92 Of which opinion Tertullian making (as his usuall manner was) a salt Apologie. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 248 He salted, powdred, and made them stir with his salt and sharpe quipping speeches. 1609 ARMIN *Ital. Taylor* ad fin., Thy wit, not worthie's any Schoole, T'is salt, and too precise. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Eph.* v. 4 Salt jests,..to the just grief or offence of another. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan., The far-reaching issues of human emotion, which by a sentence he bites into our memory, give exceptional if a rather salt truthfulness to his creations.

transf. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 371 The pride and salt scorne of his eyes.

6. *slang.* and *dial.* Of expense, cost: Excessive in amount; costly, dear.

1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. to Douglas* s.v. *Salt*, I shall make it salt to you *i.e.* I shall make you pay dear for it. 1808 JAMIESON, *Salt*...2. Costly, expensive; applied to any article of sale. 1860 HOTTEN *Slang Dict.* s.v. 'Its rather too salt', said of an extravagant hotel bill. 1887 *Fun* 21 Sept. 126 A magistrate who was lately fined 20*s.* for striking a man in the street, seemed somewhat astonished on hearing the decision, and remarked, 'It's rather salt'.

7. *slang.* Of high rank or great wealth. (Cf. SALT *sb.*[1] 3 a.)

1868 *Daily Tel.* 27 May, The salt ones of the earth in their private boxes.

8. *Comb.*, as *salt-tasting, -waved* adjs.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1231 Those fair suns..Who in a salt-wayed ocean quench their light. 1904 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Double Harness* ii. 17 The exhilaration of the salt-tasting air.

† **Salt,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 saut(e, sawt(e, 7 sault. [Aphetic f. ASSAUT *adv.* in phr. *to go* or *be assaut*. Cf. SALT *sb.*[2]] Of bitches: In heat.

1541 *Court Roll Pershore Portsmouth Manor, Worc.* 22 July (Westm. Chapter Munim.), Nullus permittet licescas catulantes vocatas 'Sawtebytches' adire ad largum. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxiii. 200 They [*sc.* Otters] goe sault at suche times as firrets goe sault. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 154 b, The Dogge is thought better than the Bitche, because of the trouble shee bringeth when shee is sawte. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 701 If you take a bitch Fox when she is salt. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 518 Salt Goats, and hungry Cows. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. 250 *note*[8], Smelling..as Dogs do to a salt Bitch.

b. *transf.* of persons: Lecherous, salacious; hence (of desire), inordinate.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i, Hee lies wallowing..on his Brothel-bed, Till his salt bowels boyle with poysonous fire. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iii. (1616) 142 Let mee perish, but thou art a salt one! 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 406 Whose salt imagination yet hath wrong'd Your well defended honor. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 244 His salt, and most hidden loose Affection. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i. (1616) 464 It is no salt desire Of seeing countries..hath brought me out. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Wks.* (1686) 3 Bawds shall turn Nuns, Salt D—s grow chast.

Comb. a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* III. v. (1647) 59/2 Ye villains, Ambitious salt-itcht slaves:..The mountain Rams topt your hot mothers.

Salt (sɔlt), *v.*[1] Forms: α. 1 sealtan, (*Mercian pa. pple.* salten), 4–6 salte, 6 (8–9) *Sc.* saut, 7 sault, 4– salt; 4 *pa. t.* selt, salt. β. 1 seltan, syltan, (*pa. pple.* ȝeselt, ȝesylt); 4 *pa. t.* silt; *pa. pple.* 3 iselt, 4 isult(e, selt. [(1) OE. *sealtan*, ? redupl. str. vb., pa. pple. **sealten, salten*, = mod. Fris. (pa. pple.) *sâlten*, MLG. *solten* wk., Du. *zouten* wk., OHG. *salzan*, pa. t. *sialz* (MHG., G. *salzen*, wk.), ON. *salta* wk. (Sw. *salta*, Da. *salte*), Goth. *saltan*, pa. pple. (*un-*)*saltans*; f. OTeut. **salto-*:—pre-Teut. **saldo-* SALT *sb.*[1] Cf. the synonymous L. *sallĕre* (:—**sald-*). (2) OE. **sieltan* (Northumb. *sælta*), *seltan, syltan* (pa. pple. *geselt, gesylt*):—prehistoric **saltjan*, f. OTeut. **salto-* SALT *sb.*[1] The form *salte* as it appears in the 13–14th c. prob. partly represents OE. *sealtan*, and partly is a new formation on SALT *sb.*[1]

OE. *syltan* may be either the late WS. form of **sieltan* or may represent an umlaut-formation on the stem *sult-*, from which are derived OE. *unsylt* unsalted, OS. *sultia*, MLG. *sülte*, OHG. *sulzia* (MHG., G. *sulze, sülze*), Du. *zult* salt water, salted flesh, etc.]

1. *trans.* To treat with salt as a preservative; to cure or preserve with salt, either in solid form or in the form of brine. Also with *down*, † *up*.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13230 In a wall his heued sco hid, Sco has it salted in a wall. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 168 Thai strak his hed of, and syne it Thai haf gert saltit in-till a kyt. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxiii. (1495) 904 Butter is somdeele salted that it may the better be kepte. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 In Fraunce the peple salten but lytill mete, except thair bacon. 1530 PALSGR. 697/2, I never salte my befe but in the potte. 1562*a Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 6 Any Herring, not being sufficiently salted, packed and casked. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 38 They [*sc.* fish] are left on the dry ground, sometimes two or three thousand at a set, which are salted up against winter. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 183 As swine after their death are salted. 1764 E. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 75 Then salt it [*sc.* beef] with common salt and two ounces of saltpetre. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 139/1 The French..were obliged to live chiefly on the flesh of their horses, which was salted down. 1851 *F. Knapp's Chem. Technol.* III. 55 The one [method] consists in salting the butter, which preserves it for immediate use by hindering the decomposition of the casein. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 308 The custom of salting and keeping the heads of enemies killed in battle. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 46 [She] had fed herself..through the winter upon snails she had salted down in a barrel.

absol. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiii. 149 Beside that Cytee, is a Hille of Salt; and of that Salt, every man takethe what he will, for to salte with.

β. *a* 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 212/40 *Condit*, ..selt. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXX. (Z.) 192 Ic..sylte, *condio*. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 234 Selte mon hiora mettas. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9164, & suþþe þe bones hii bere Wel iselt [*v.r.* isulte] & isode to þe abbeye of redinge. 1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 35 Hit was wel isult & in mani leþer ido. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxxii. (1495) 623 The floures of Capparis ben selt and so kepte to gode vse.

b. slang. *To salt down, away*: to put by, store away (money, stock).

1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 57 Give an Egyptian the same [*sc.* a sixpence], and instead of thanking or drinking, he will salt it down, and promptly beg for more. 1885 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/2 He was 'salting down' money for the joint benefit of Ward and himself. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Slang Dict.* s.v., To salt down stock, to buy stock and keep it for a considerable period. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* vii. 126 No one to hinder you from salting away as many millions as you can carry off!

† c. *Students' slang.* To admit (a freshman in a university) with certain burlesque ceremonies, one of which was making him drink salt-and-water or putting salt in his mouth. *Obs.*

1570, etc. [see SALTING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* II. i. 32, I warrant you Sir, I haue not beene matriculated at the Vniuersity, to be meretriculated by him: salted there to be colted here. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 317 At Witteburg they still retayne the old custome of Salting freshmen, or admitting them with ridiculous Ceremonyes,.. and the Ceremony is by them called the deposition of hornes.

d. *pass.*: see SALTED 4.

2. a. In biblical use: To sprinkle salt upon (a sacrifice); to rub (a new-born child) with salt. b. To rub salt into (a wound). c. To sprinkle (snow) with salt in order to melt it.

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 58 (Ashm. MS.) And of is flesc þat was vorbarnd þe wounden hi selte also [*Vernon MS.* salt, *Harl. MS.* silte]. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xvi. 4 And in water thou art not wasshen in to helth, neither bi salt salfid, neither wlappid in clothis. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Introd. A 2 b, Till Time the Midwife..have washt and salted the Infant. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE (J.), If the offering was of flesh, it was salted thrice. 1890 *Daily News* 31 Dec. 3/1 Many of the vestries..won't clear the snow away themselves, and they won't let us salt the roads.

3. To season with salt. *Obs.*

α. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 Gif þæt salt awerdað in þæm þe hit bið salten? *c* 1000 in *Techmer's Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 125 Do mid þin þrim fingrum, swillce þu sealte. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 13 That ȝif the salt shal vanyshe awey, wherynne shal it be saltid? *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1865) 19 Salt hit, serve hit, as I þe say. *Ibid.* 31 Salt and messe forthe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Þen kytte þin Brewes & skalde hem with þe same broþe; Salt it wyl. *Ibid.* 41 Salt it þan, & þanne serue forth.

β. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 13 Gif salt forworðes, in ðon gesælted bið? [*Ags. & Hatton* ȝesylt.] *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 50 Gif þæt sealt unsealt bið, on þam þe ȝe hit syltað? [*c* 1160 *Hatton* selteð, *v.r.* sealtað.]

4. To render salt or salty. Also *fig.*, to embitter.

1785 Burns *Dream* xv, But ere the course o' life be thro', It may be bitter sautet. 1826 J. Jekyll *Corr.* (1894) 164 Clever plan..to supply the new palace with fish, by salting the Serpentine river to breed tame turbot. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 2/2 A sea which salts all the rivers that flow into it.

5. *fig.* To season; to render poignant or piquant.

[*c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 536 Lareowum ȝedafenað þæt hi mid wisdomes sealte geleaffulra manna mod sylton.] 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* A ij, Coriolanus .. whose .. continuall course of life being leauened and salted with the best things that nature could deuise. 1758 *Misc.* in *Ann. Reg.* 381/1 Hardly any thing..was received there with applause, that was not salted with some obscene raillery. 1882 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* cxix. 116 It is not wrong to make resolutions, but it will be useless..unless we salt them well with believing cries to God. 1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* vi. 230 Lodge began to write pamphlets vigorously.. salted with charming poems. 1889 Skrine *Mem. Thring* 217 There was piety salted with practical good sense. 1895 Meredith *Amazing Marr.* I. ii. 22 He salted his language in a manner I cannot repeat; no epithet ever stood by itself.

6. † **a.** To make (soil) barren by impregnating it with salt. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* cvii. xii, How many where doth he convert Well watred grounds to thirsty sand? And saltes the soile for with hart The dwellers beare that till the land! *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* x. (1683) 166 Salting and making barren the whole Soil.

b. To treat (land) with salt; to strew salt in (hay) to prevent mould. Also 'To fill with salt between the timbers and planks, as a ship, for the preservation of the timber' (Webster 1828–32).

1824 *Trans. Highl. Soc.* VI. 173 Of these, 40 falls were ..salted on the surface. 1825 Loudon *Encycl. Agric.* § 5233 Hay that had been flooded, was preferred by cattle to the best hay that had not been salted.

c. *Soap-making.* To separate *out* (the soap) by adding salt to the lye after saponification.

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) III. 331 The coagulated soap is then to be re-dissolved in water, and salted out once or twice more. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 203/1 In curd soaps..the uncombined alkali and glycerin are separated by 'salting out'.

d. To provide (cattle) with salt.

1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XVII. 53/2 They [*sc.* sheep] make many lively expeditions for the farm-boy—driving them out of mischief,..or salting them on the breezy hills.

7. a. *Photogr.* To impregnate (paper, etc.) with a solution of a salt or a mixture of salts.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 230 Excellent prints may, however, be produced upon paper which has been simply salted. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1881) 145 When a paper is weakly salted, say, having half the amount of chloride given in the formula for albumenising paper.

b. To treat with chemical salts.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 558 Only from old cultures or from younger cultures which have been salted with ammonium sulphate can any poisons be obtained by filtration through porcelain.

8. *Comm. slang.* (See quots.) Cf. F. *saler.*

1882 Ogilvie s. v., *To salt an invoice, account,* &c., to put on the extreme value on each article, in some cases in order to be able to make what seems a liberal discount at payment. 1897 Barrère & Leland *Slang Dict.* s. v., Making fictitious entries in the books to simulate that the receipts are greater than they really are, when about to sell a business connection, is called salting the books.

9. *Mining slang.* To make (a mine) appear to be a paying one by fraudulently introducing rich ore, etc., into it, sprinkling gold dust in it, etc.

1864 Hotten *Slang Dict.* s. v., At the gold diggings of Australia, miners sometimes salt an unproductive hole by sprinkling a few grains of gold dust over it. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 6/1 The mine had possibly been 'salted', for no gold was forthcoming. 1892 Muddock *Grip of Law* 285 He purchased some valuable specimens of gold quartz, with which he salted the estate. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 9/3 The supposed great oilfields in Florida have been fraudulently 'salted' with refined petroleum.

10. *intr.* 'To deposit salt from a saline substance: as, the brine begins to salt' (Webster 1828–32).

Salt, *v.*2 [f. Salt *a.*2] In pa. pple. = Salt *a.*2

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 Thee winter season too wast in leacherye wanton, Retchles of her kingdom, with rutting bitcherye sauted [orig. *turpique cupidine captos*].

Salt, Saltable, var. ff. Sault, Saultable.

Salta-di-banco: see Saltimbanco.

† **Sa·ltage.** *Obs. rare*−°. [f. Salt *sb.*1 + -age, after F. *salage.*] Salt-duty. 1611 Cotgr., *Salage,* saltage.

‖ **Saltamarti·no.** *Obs.* [It.] A kind of ordnance: see quot. 1688.

1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exhor.* 145 We fitted upon a Carriage with Six Horses, a Saltamartino. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 138/1 The Saltamartino, a smal peece of the Venetians 15 diameters long and carrieth 4 pound ball.

Saltant (sæ·ltănt), *a.* [ad. L. *saltant-em,* pres. pple. of *saltāre* (see Saltate).]

1. Leaping, jumping, dancing. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xvi. I. 202 When he chaseth and followeth after other beasts, hee goeth alwaies saltant or rampant. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. 117 This prophesying spirit-errant, processional, and saltant. 1755 Johnson, *Saltant,* jumping; dancing. 1819 H. Busk *Vestriad* I. 676 Thou, whose turn'd legs, main pillars of the stage, Support its glory in this saltant age. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* II. x. 28 No professor of the saltant art ever applied himself with greater industry than [etc.].

b. *Zool.* = Saltatorial. In mod. Dicts.

c. *Her.* Applied to small animals when salient.

1850 Ogilvie, *Saltant,*..a term applied to the squirrel, weasel, rat, and all vermin, and also to the cat, greyhound, ape, and monkey, when in a position springing forward.

‖ **Saltarello** (sæltăre·lo). Also **salterello, -ella, -arella.** [It. *salterello* cracker, squib, jack of a spinet, animated dance, Sp. *saltarelo*; related to It. *saltare,* Sp. *saltar* to leap, dance.]

1. A very animated Italian and Spanish dance for one couple in which there are numerous sudden skips or jumps. Also, the music for this, or a movement resembling it in a musical composition.

[1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* III. 181 The Italians make their galliardes (which they tearme *saltarelli*) plaine, and frame ditties to them.] 1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Saltarella,* a particular kind of Jig so called. 1833 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ix. 378 A merry party of the inhabitants, who..danced the saltarello in every variety. 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarel* II. 175 The salterello and the stornello were all the gayer and the sweeter on his mandoline. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/2 The finale..including a saltarello, is more or less Mendelssohnian.

2. The jack of a spinet or harpsichord.

1598 [see Jack *sb.*1 14]. 1882 Ogilvie, *Saltarello,*..a harpsichord jack, so called because it jumps on the key being struck.

Saltarter, -tartre: see Sal1 2.

† **Sa·ltary.** *Obs.* Also -ery. [ad. med.L. *saltārium,* f. L. *saltāre* to leap. Cf. Saltatory *sb.*2, Saltory.] (See quot.)

1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* xx. 160 Neither may any man make any salteries [*ed.* 1615 saltaries] or leaping places out of the Forrest into the Fouralles, where any Deere may easily leape in, but cannot returne backe again. 1615 *Ibid.* xxii. 227 Any Saltaries or great gaps, called Deere leapes. *Ibid.* xxiv. 242 You shall enquire..what saltaries and leapes they haue in hurt of the said Forest.

Saltate (sæ·ltēt), *v. rare.* [f. L. *saltāt-,* ppl. stem of *saltāre* to dance, frequent. of *salīre* to leap.] *intr.* To leap; to jump; to skip. Hence **Sa·ltating** *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*

1623 Cockeram II, To Dance. *Saltate, Tripudiate.* 1846 in Worcester (citing *Month. Rev.*). 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 299, I must here confess that they saltated to a mandolin touched by this hand. 1852 Dana *Crust.* II. 1180 The species of Cyclops swim..with a saltating motion.

Saltation (sæltē·ʃən). [ad. L. *saltātiōn-em,* n. of action f. *saltāre* to Saltate.]

1. Leaping, bounding, or jumping; a leap.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. iii. 236 Locusts..being ordained for saltation, their hinder legs doe far exceed the other. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 129 Those odd Epileptic Saltations called St. Vitus's Dance. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 396 The posterior legs of..the Orthoptera, are remarkable for the largeness of their thighs, and for their spinous tibiæ, which are adapted for saltation. 1852 Dana *Crust.* II. 1062 The animal swims by saltations, with great agility. 1881 *Trans. Obstetr. Soc.* XXII. 152 The conclusion one might arrive at from the violent saltation of the fœtus. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 11/1 It is not every flea..that is gifted with the power of saltation. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Saltation...* Especially applied to the leaping sometimes noticed in cases of chorea.

b. *spec.* Dancing; a dance.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Saltation,* a dancing. 1685 E. Brown *Trav.* 10 The old Pyrrhical Saltation, or Warlike way of Dancing. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxviii, Still keeping time to the music.., he..continued his saltation without..intermission. 1879 Miss Braddon *Clov. Foot* iv. 34 Her dancing was distinguished for its audacity rather than for high art. She was no follower of the Taglioni school of saltation. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 797/2 These spangled saltations.

c. *fig.* An abrupt movement, change, or transition.

1844 Gladstone *Glean.* V. xviii. 94 He must substitute for the saltations by which he reaches his conclusions..the patient and measured march of thought. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims* i. (1875) 61 The number of successive saltations the nimble thought can make. 1870 Huxley *Lay Serm.* xiii. 343 We greatly suspect..that she [*sc.* Nature] does make considerable jumps in the way of variation now and then, and that these saltations give rise to some of the gaps which appear to exist in the series of known forms.

† **2.** *spec.* Pulsation or spurting forth (of blood).

1672 Wiseman *Treat. Wounds* II. ix. 64 If it [*sc.* the blood] flow..from the left side, we suppose it the Artery, you will discover it by its saltation and florid colour. 1752 C. Smart *Hop-Garden* I. 146 His verdant blood In brisk saltation circulates and flows. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 87 When veins are wounded, the blood does not flow with that impetuosity and saltation, as when proceeding from an artery.

Sa·ltativeness. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *saltāt-* (see Saltate), after *acquisitiveness.*] The faculty of leaping or jumping.

1829 T. Hook *Bank to Barnes* 105 He discovered the Organ of Saltativeness [in a flea's skull] magnificently developed.

‖ **Saltator** (sæltē·i·tŏr). *Ornith.* [mod.L. use of L. *saltātor,* agent-n. f. *saltāre* (see Saltate).] A tanagrine bird of the genus *Saltator.*

1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* App. 795 Allied Saltator (*Saltator similis*). 1886 Sclater *Brit. Mus. Catal. Birds* XI. 282 The Saltators keep to the bushes and smaller trees outside the dense forests.

Saltatorial (sæltătō·riăl), *a.* [f. L. *saltātōri-us* Saltatory + -al.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by leaping (or *spec.* dancing).

1789 Twining tr. *Arist. Poet.* I. vii. 72 [In tragedy] the Trochaic tetrameter was made use of, as better suited to the satyric and saltatorial genius of the Poem at that time. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 84 Yarrell..confines their saltatorial powers only within ten or twelve perpendicular feet. 1877 Coues & Allen *N. Amer. Rod.* 532 The saltatorial nature of the animal. 1893 W. A. Shee *My Contemp.* ii. 39 Whirled away into every species of saltatorial excess.

2. Fitted or adapted for leaping; *spec.* belonging to the group *Saltatoria* of insects.

1842 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 30 July 220 A pair of thickened saltatorial legs. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 354 The *Orthoptera* fall readily into two great sections—namely, the saltatorial and cursorial Orthoptera. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* (1890) II. x. 282 The males in the three saltatorial families in this Order are remarkable for their musical powers.

So **Saltato·rian** *a.*, involving dancing.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 297/2 The progress of the saltatorian drama. 1825 *Ibid.* XV. 390 Pantomimic and saltatorian representations.

Saltatoric (sæltătŏ·rik), *a. Path.* [Formed as prec. after G. *saltatorisch* (Bamberger): see -ic.] *Saltatoric spasm:* a kind of nervous disease in which the patient when set on his feet begins to leap.

1877 Gowers in *Lancet* 14 July 45/2 The saltatoric spasm persisted for nine months, and then gradually ceased. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 902 They are wanting in the regularity and precision of those of saltatoric spasm.

Saltatorious (sæltătō·riəs), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ous.] = Saltatorial.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxii. (1818) II. 283 These maggots have long been celebrated for their saltatorious powers. 1826 *Ibid.* xlvi. IV. 345 *Saltatorious...* When the hind legs have strong incrassated thighs formed for leaping.

Saltatory (sæ·ltătəri), *a.* and *sb.*1 [ad. L. *saltātōri-us,* f. *saltātor*: see Saltator.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to, characterized by, or adapted for dancing.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Saltatory,*..of or belonging to dancing, vaulting, &c. 1821 Edgeworth *Mem.* I. 93, I soon began to avoid exhibiting my saltatory talents, and I seldom danced. 1851 Hawthorne *Snow Image,* etc., *Old News* I. 155 There is an incidental notice of the 'dancing-school near the Orange-Tree', whence we may infer that the saltatory art was occasionally practised. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 183 He could make a saltatory automaton.

2. Pertaining to, characterized by, or adapted for leaping; *spec.* = Saltatorial 2.

1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. iii. 43 The way in which sheep carry themselves on abrupt and saltatory occasions. 1874 Mivart *Common Frog* 1 What is a Frog?.. 'The Frog is a small saltatory Reptile', will probably be the reply of the majority. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 262 The Amphipoda..are characterized by..their ordinarily saltatory habits. 1891 *Punch* Christmas No. 8 The position of the Moon..is also favourable to saltatory exercise on the part of the cow.

b. *Path.* = Saltatoric.

1881 J. Ross *Dis. Nervous Syst.* II. 341 Saltatory Spasm. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 106 Or when placed on her feet [a patient] may be forced to progress by a series of springing movements (saltatory spasm).

c. *fig.* Proceeding by abrupt movement.

1844 Emerson *Ess., Experience* Wks. (Bohn) I. 183 Nature hates calculators; her methods are saltatory and impulsive. 1894 H. F. Osborn *From Greeks to Darwin* 200 Another highly characteristic feature of his theory was, that he [St. Hilaire] included in it what has recently been termed 'saltatory evolution', and strongly opposed Lamarck's fundamental principle that all transformation is extremely slow.

† **B.** *sb.* A dancer. *Obs. rare*−1.

a 1625 Fletcher, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* III. i, A second, a lavolteteere, a saltatory, a dancer with a Kit at his bum.

Sa·ltatory, *sb.*2 *Antiq.* [ad. med.L. *saltātōri-um,* neut. sing. of *saltātōrius* (see prec.) used subst. Cf. Saltory.] = Saltary.

1903 *Edin. Rev.* July 179 The saltatory was a contrivance by which deer could make their way into the park, but could not jump back again.

† **Salta·tress.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Saltator: see -tress. Cf. It. *saltatrice.*] A female dancer.

1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* I. 120 Her le volts were the highest of any Saltatress in Italy.

Sa·lt-box. [f. Salt *sb.*1 + Box *sb.*2]

1. A box for keeping salt for domestic use.

'Billy in the Salt-box' was the title of a caricature referring to Pitt's budget of 1805, in which the salt-tax was greatly increased.

1611 Cotgr., *Saulnier,*..a Salt-box. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 651/2 A few grains from the salt-box. 1862 W. Barnes *Homely Rhymes Dorset Dial.* I. 5 The zalt-box an' the corner-cupb'ard.

b. (See quot. 1847–54.)

1763 B. Thornton *Ode on St. Cecilia's Day* ad. fin., The saltbox..With clattering and clapping shall sound. 1774 J. T. Smith *Bk. Rainy Day* (1861) 30 A famous player on the salt-box. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 19 The divine harmony of the Gong, the French-horn, and the Salt-box. 1847–54 Webster s. v., In burlesque music, the salt-box has been used like the marrow-bones and cleaver, tongs and poker, etc.

2. *slang.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Salt-boxes*, the condemned cells in Newgate are so called. *Ibid., Salt-box-cly*, the outside coat-pocket, with a flap. 1820 *Lond. Mag.* Jan. 29 Their..leaving the stone-jug, after a miserable residence in the salt-boxes, to be top'd in front of the debtor's door.

3. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Salt-box*, a case for keeping a temporary supply of cartridges for the immediate use of the great guns.

Sa·lt-cat. [Originally northern. The original meaning of the second element is unknown; *cat* is used dialectally as a name for several mixtures of which clay is a constituent: see E. D. D.

Cf. '*Cat*, a chump of clay stone'; '*Clay-cat*, a kind of large roundish stone found in clay' (Barnes *Dorset Gloss.*).]

A mass of salt, or salt mixed with earthy or other matter; *esp.* a mixture of salt, gravel, old mortar or lime, cummin seed, and stale urine, used to attract pigeons and to keep them at home.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xii. 51 At þe riȝt side of þis see was Loth wyf turned intil a salt catte. 1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 149, j Saltcatt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/1 A Salte catte. 1629 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 264 To Mr. Chambers his manne bringing 3 salte catts. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 154 A Lump of Salt, which they usually call a Salt-cat, made for that purpose at the Salterns. 1765 *Treat Dom. Pigeons* 33 The best way is to put your salt cat in jars, with holes in the sides for them to peck it out. 1864 Knight *Passages Work. Life* II. i. 17 The business-house of a young publisher had..the sort of attraction for flights of authors as a saltcat has for pigeons.

Sa·lt-ce·llar. Forms: 5–6 saler, (5 sellere, seler, 6 celler), 5–8 seller, 6–7 sellar, 7– cellar. [f. Salt *sb.*[1] + Saler (which has been assimilated in spelling to Cellar).] A small vessel used on the table for holding salt.

1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 102 A feir salt saler of peautre with a feyre knoppe. 1445 *Will* in Madox *Formul. Anglic.* (1702) 434 Duas Saltsellers Argenteas. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/2 A Salte seler. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 269 Take thy salte seller in thy lefte hande. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 53 A salt celler for salt. 1633 Wotton in *Relig.* (1672) 464, I send you..a triangular Salt celler. 1669 Woodhead *St. Teresa* II. 269 A Sister..found at last a little Salt-celler in a Chest. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv.* i. Wks. 1751 XIV. 23 Fold up the Table-cloth with the Salt in it, then shake the Salt out into the Salt-cellar to serve next Day. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, Putting down the glasses and salt-cellars as if she were knocking at the door.

attrib. c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 60 Loke..þy salte sellere lydde towche not thy salt bye.

b. In phrases as in Salt *sb.*[1] 7 b.

1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 244 You may giue any Iustice of peace, or yong Knight (if he sit but one degree towards the Equinoctiall of the Salt-seller) leaue to pay for the wine. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 19 That which never yet afforded corn of savour to his noddle, the Salt-seller was not rubb'd. 1648 Herrick *Hesp., His Age* vii, If we can meet, and so conferre, Both by a shining Salt-seller. 1843 James *Forest Days* ix, We have no salt-cellar here, to make a distinction between highest and lowest. 1847 Lytton *Lucretia* 32 This green banquet of nature, in which at least no man sits below the salt-cellar.

† **Sa·lt-cote, -coat.** *Obs.* [f. Salt *sb.*[1] + Cote *sb.*[1]] A salt-house.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 670 *Hec salina*, saltecote. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 78/2 A Saltcote, and 111 acres of pasture with their appurtenaunces. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/2 A Salte cote, *salina, est locus vbi fit sal. a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* (1769) IV. 111 There be a great number of Sault Coates or Furnaces about this Well. 1612 Capt. Smith *Map Virginia* 18 The Bay and rivers haue much marchandable fish and places fit for Salt coats. 1630 *Maldon, Essex, Doc.* Bundle 208. No. 7 Went downe to the saltcoate of Mr. John Hastler at the heith [= hythe].

Salted (sɔ̀·ltĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Salt *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ed.]

1. Cured, preserved, or pickled with salt.

13.. *Cursor M.* 4688 (Gött.) Ma þan a thousand celers Fild he wid wines neu and fress, And lardineris wid saltid fless [*Cott., etc.* salt]. 1555 Eden *Decades* 55 They..gaue them great plentie of salted fysshe. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 74 It preserves the Moisture of Salted Meats. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 269 A Diet of salted Flesh throws Ships Crews sometimes into Diarrhœas. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* ii, They..Split open the kegs of salted sprats. 1851 *F. Knapp's Chem. Technol.* III. 162 The preparation of sauerkraut and salted cucumbers. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 474/2 The salted goose is a famous dish.

2. Having salt as an ingredient; containing or impregnated with salt.

1526 *Grete Herball* xcix. (1529) F v b, Sethe these herbes ..in salted water or in kyndly salt water. 1700 Dryden *Iliad* I. 628 Their salted Cakes on crackling Flames they cast. 1755 *Man* No. 28. 4 Innumerable species of the finny tribe, taking their solace in the bosom of the salted ocean. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 38 In one of the pots with the salted earth, and in one of those with the washed earth, he planted fennel. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Feb. 6/3 The contact with the salted earth had caused considerable corrosion to the stone.

b. Treated with salt.

1824 *Trans. Highl. Soc.* VI. 174 The grass-crop on the salted land will not exceed two-thirds of the weight of what is promised on the parts not salted. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xii. 108 A spirit lamp with a salted wick. 1884 A. Watt *Soap-making* 42 Salted soda, is composed of soft soda and common salt.

c. *Photogr.* Impregnated with a salt or a mixture of salts in solution.

1855 Hardwich *Photogr. Chem.* II. v. 279 This albumenized and salted paper will keep any length of time in a dry place. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 9 The prints..on plain salted paper.

3. *fig.* 'Seasoned' with wit or good sense; sensible. (? Orig. with reference to Mark ix. 50.)

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 40 It was a well salted speech. 1869 Mrs. Whitney *We Girls* iv. (1874) 91 There's a pretty good piece of the world salted, after all. 1900 Phillpotts *Sons of Morning* II. iv, I'd warn 'e to fill her mind with gude, salted sense.

4. *slang.* or *colloq.* Of horses, etc.: Seasoned (from having survived attacks of disease, etc.); hence of persons: Experienced in some business or occupation.

1879 Atcherley *Boërland* 209 A 'salted' horse will always command a good price. 1889 F. Oates *Matabele-Land* 236 The old man tells me that a man gets a pain in his head and lies down, and next morning, if he is alive, he is 'salted'. 1892 Stevenson & L. Osbourne *Wrecker* i. 9 Mr. London Dodd, though he was new to the group of the Marquesas, was already an old salted trader. 1899 G. H. Russell *Under the Sjambok* xiv. 137 My friend has a very good 'salted' horse, just the sort of thing you will require in the Low Country. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 9/2 An expert and thoroughly 'salted' journalist.

5. *slang.* (See Salt *v.*[1] 9.)

1886 P. Clarke *'New Chum' in Australia* vii. 71 Taken in with a 'salted claim', a 'pit' sold for a £10 note in which a nugget worth a few shillings had before been 'planted'. 1889 Mrs. C. Praed *Rom. Station* 200 Their bogus companies and their salted gold-mines.

Saltee (sɔ̀·lti). *slang.* [Said to be ad. It. *soldi*, pl. of *soldo* = Sou.] A penny.

1859 Hotten *Slang. Dict.* 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* III. iv. 77 It had rained kicks all day in lieu of 'saltees', and that is pennies. 1875 Frost *Circus Life* xvi. 277.

Salten (sɔ̀·ltn), *a. rare.* [f. Salt *sb.*[1] + -en 4.] a. Salted. b. Made of salt.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. ix. 233 Bread, Broder, Bacon, Boutter salten. 1875 Reade *Wand. Heir* iii. 67 Lot's wife, in salten pillar, still looks on.

Salter[1] (sɔ̀·ltəɹ). [OE. *sealtere*, f. *sealtan* Salt *v.*[1]: see -er[1].]

1. A manufacturer of or dealer in salt; also *spec.* = Drysalter, as in the title of one of the London livery companies (incorporated in 1558).

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 97 Sealtera [*sic*], hwæt us fremaþ cræft þin? *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 47 *Hic salinator*, þes sealtere. 1392 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 342 Rob's Scott salter. 1402 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 519 Robt Brendewod, William Estace, Salters. 1418 *Jrnl. Archives City of London* I. 51 Sal emptum per Bemond et Edwardum, Salters, infra civitatem Londoniarum vend'. 1507 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 22 Andrewe Evyngar, Cytezen and Salter of london. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 293 The saidis salteris sall sell salt to the subjectis and carearis of this realme of sufficient mett and stuff. 1611 Cotgr., *Maligne*, a Spring-tyde; called so by the Salters of Xaintonge. 1682 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 125 It is commonly sold in Salters-shops at Billingsgate. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. iv. 25 As a salter, A. B. has had experience enough in the materials for dyeing. 1846 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* CXXIII. IV. 567 The subject of this memoir was the son of a grocer and salter at Exeter.

2. A workman at a salt-works.

1606 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI*, c. 10 That na persone..sall fie hyre or conduce ony saltaris Coilȝearis or coilberaris without ane sufficient testimoniall of thair Maister quhome they last seruit. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, If sae mickle as a collier or a salter make a moonlight flitting. 1869 Rogers *Hist. Glean.* I. 103 The colliers and salters..were only finally emancipated in 1799.

3. One who salts meat or fish.

1611 J. Spicer (*title*) The sale of Salt, or, The seasoning of Soules, Namely such, as..whom the Author, which taketh the name of a Salter, is willing..to season with the Salt of the Word. 1714 R. Smith *Poems* (1869) 12 Thy Colledge has been at Buckhaven, Where thou hast past thy time years seven among the Salters and the Fishers. 1757 W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 41 They were salted by the King's Salters. 1778 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 125/1 The salter..crams as much salt as he can into the belly of the fish. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 310 His wife and daughters are 'gutters' or packers or salters.

b. One who salts bodies, in embalming.

1705 Greenhill *Embalming* 283 The Surgeon or Embalmer, and..all other inferior Officers under him, such as the Dissector, Emboweller, Pollinctor, Salter.

4. A large vessel in which flesh is salted. *dial.*

1884 Jefferies *Red Deer* 85 A farmer who had shot a deer put the animal as soon as possible into the salter out of sight. 1891 *Hartland Gloss., Salter* (zâlter), a large stone or earthenware trough used in salting bacon, etc.

† **Sa·lter**[2]. *Building. Obs.* (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. viii. 343/1 The Salter or Brick Axe..is to cut the rough and knotty places of Bricks, to make them lye flat and even in the Bed of Mortar.

Salter, obs. f. Saltire. **Salter(e,** obs. ff. Psalter. **Salterello,** see Saltarello.

Salterium, obs. f. Psalterion.

Saltern (sɔ̀·ltəɹn). [OE. *sealtærn*: see Salt *sb.*[1] and Earn *sb.*] A building in which salt is made by boiling or evaporation; a salt-works; also, a plot of land, laid out in pools and walks, into which the sea-water is admitted and allowed to evaporate naturally.

858 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 101 Butan ðem sealtern et fefresham & butan ðem þioda ðe to ðem sealtern limpð. 1681 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 262 The refuse salt Earth that at the Salterries is cast out and of no value. 1682 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 32 A Boyling-House is called a Saltern. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 38 Ye greatest trade is by their Salterns. Ye sea water they draw into Trenches. 1748 Brownrigg *Art of Making Salt* 50 At some convenient place near the sea shore is erected the saltern. This is a long, low building, consisting of two parts; one of which is called the fore-house, and the other the pan-house or boiling-house. 1792 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 88 The coast becoming flat between this place and Lymington, is commodiously formed into salterns. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 234 A considerable precipitate of muriate of soda has taken place in these natural salterns. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 338/2 When salt was much dearer than it is now, the sea-water used to be concentrated in salterns.

Saltery (sɔ̀·ltəri). [f. Salter: see -ery.]

† **1.** Only *attrib.* in *saltery ware*: the goods dealt in by salt-merchants. *Obs.*

1628 *Order in Council* in Abram *Mem. Preston Guilds* (1882) 41/2 To sett on saile..any manner of..grocery wares. or saltery wares. 1643 *Ord. Parlt. for Levying Moneys by Way of Excise* 7 All sorts of Saltery-wares Imported.

2. A salt-works.

1899 H. G. Graham *Social Life Scot. 18th C.* vii. I. 228 The salteries of Prestonpans, where the salters were bondsmen for life.

Sa·ltfat. Chiefly *Sc.* Also β. *Sc.* corruptly saltfoot. [OE. *sealtfæt*: see Salt *sb.*[1] and Fat *sb.*[1] Cf. LG. *saltfat*, Du. *zoutvat*, MHG. *salzfaz* (G. *-fass*), ON. *saltfat.*]

1. A salt-cellar.

α. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 126/32 *Salinare, uel salinum*, sealtfæt. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 264 Sealtfæt, sticfodder, piperhorn. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 81 A litill coffre of siluer ouregilt, with a litil saltfat and a couir. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 445 Ane coverit saltfatt. 1599 Alex. Hume *Poems* (S.T.S.) vii. 44 Saltfats outshorne, and glasses chrystalline. 1640-1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 43 Ane gilt silver salt-fat.

β. 1679 Ld. Somerville *Mem. Somervills* (1815) II. 394 Sir Walter Stewart of Allontoune..whose predecessors untill this man never came to sitt above the saltfoot when at the Laird of Cambusnethen's table. [Cf. Salt-cellar b, Salt *sb.*[1] 7 b]. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. II. 437/2 A salt, or a salt-foot; a salt-cellar. 1863 R. Chambers *Bk. Days* I. 647/2 One of the customs of great houses, in former times, was to place a large ornamental *salt-vat* (commonly but erroneously called salt-foot) upon the table.

† **2.** A salt 'boilery'. *Obs.*

a 1647 Habington *Surv. Worcs.* in *Proc. Worcs. Hist. Soc.* II. 298 The owners of these saltphates have byn aunciently called Burgeses.

3. *In saltfat*: in the pickling tub; hence, disposed of, out of the way.

1820 Scott *Monast.* ix, The sooner the skin is off, and he is in saultfat, the less like you are to have trouble.

† **Sa·lt-house.** *Obs.* [OE. *sealthûs*: see Salt *sb.*[1] and House *sb.*[1] Cf. OHG. *salzhûs*, G. *salzhaus.*] A building in which salt is made or stored.

c 1000 Ælfric *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 185/36 *Salinarium*, sealthus. 1340 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 540 In sarracione plancorum pro le Saltehous. 1465-6 *Ibid.* 90 Pro le puyntyng super le caponhous et salthous. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, La Saline*, a salte house, where salte is made. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xxxi. x. 420 Into the salthouses they let in sea water. 1670 [see Boilery]. 1730 S. Dale *Taylor's Hist. Harwich* 13 *note*, Here is a Salthouse at which they refine Salt.

Saltier: see Saltire.

Saltigrade (sæ·ltigrēd), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Saltigradæ* pl., f. *salt-us* leap + *gradī* to step, advance.] a. Belonging to the *Saltigradæ*, a group of vagabond spiders having legs adapted for leaping. b. *sb.* A spider of this group.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 464 The second section of the Wandering Spiders, that of Saltigrades. 1885 H. C. McCook *Tenants Old Farm* 196, I was standing by a fence-post watching a small saltigrade spider mount into the air.

‖ **Saltimbanco** (sæltimbæ·ŋko). Also 7 **saltinbancho,** (erron. **salta-di-banco**), **salt'in-,** 8 **saltinbanco,** 9 **saltimbank** (pseudo-*arch.*), **-banque.** [It. (= Sp. *saltinbanco, -banque*), f. *saltare* to leap + *in* on + *banco* bench; whence also F. *saltimbanque.*] A mountebank; a quack.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 11 Saltimbancoes, Quacksalvers, and Charlatans. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 1007 He play'd the saltinbancho's part, Transform'd t'a Frenchman by my art. 1675 Cotton *Scoffer Scoft* 114 An Archer, Fidler, Poetaster, A kind of Salt'in-banco too. 1675 A. Huyberts *Corner-stone* 15 No more than what may serve the Salta-di-Banco's upon a Stage. 1850 James *Old Oak Chest* I. 125 To make the contortions of their 'Saltimbanks', and 'tomblesteres' act as a sort of argument or introduction to what was to follow. 1865 Sala *Diary in Amer.* I. 368 Those..marchands forains, saltimbanques and buffoons, who in Europe are afoot on every holiday.

attrib. a 1734 [see Non-jurable].

Hence **Saltimba·nquism.**

1861 *Temple Bar* II. 508 That gorgeous temple of saltimbanquism in Leicester Square [*sc.* the Alhambra].

Saltiness (sɔ̀·ltinĕs). [f. Salty *a.* + -ness.] The quality or condition of being salty.

1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 69 The last are indued with a saltiness. *c* 1885 Lafcadio Hearn in Gould *Life* (1908) 89 Have you forgotten the divine saltiness of that unfettered wind?

Salting (sɔ̀·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Salt *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The curing of fish, meat, etc., with salt.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26751 Þai sal yow vp on balkes lift Als suine þat ar to salting tift. 1494 *Act 11 Hen. VII*, c. 23 The same Herring..should be of one Time taking and salting. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Salsura*..The salting of porke or baken. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 45 New fresh flesh,

for good and durable salting. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 82 Fish of long salting..is vnwholsome. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 354/2 Fish can be the more readily cured dry after having been exposed to this preliminary salting.

fig. a 1536 TINDALE *Expos. Matt. v.* Wks. (1573) 196/2 True preachyng is a salting that stirreth vp persecution, and an office that no man is mete for, saue he that is seasoned hym-selfe.

2. In various technical, colloquial, and slang uses (see the vb.).

1570 *Lamb. MS.* 807 in *Brit. Mag.* (1847) XXXII. 366 My lord edward zou[ch]..hys matriculation ij^{s}..hys salt-yng iiij^{s}. [In a later account spelt also 'psalting'.] 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* Ded. ¶ iv b, Having once knowen the price of an admission, Salting, and Matriculation, with the intertayning of Freshmenne in the Rhetorike schooles. a 1644 TWYNE in *MS. Twyne* xxi. 753 (Bodl.), The saltinge of fresh men which hath beene antiently and is yet at Oxford vsed at their first comminge, was perhaps borrowed or con-tinued from this custome at Athens [see Gregory Naz. *Orat. Fun. Basilii Magni* xvi]. 1693 J. BYROM *Let. to Aubrey* in *Lett. from Bodl.* (1813) II. i. 167 'Twas..said, that the college [at Eton] held some lands by the custome of salting. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 69 When violent fires are used towards the end of the process, whilst the salt is forming, which they call the time of salting. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 332 Chloride of potassium cannot be substituted for chloride of sodium in salting out. 1887 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 886/2 The traffic in stolen and spurious diamonds, and the nefarious practice known as 'salting'. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 376 Any.. change in the number of grains to the ounce of salting in an emulsion or in a developer.

3. Chiefly *pl.* Salt lands; in some parts *spec.*, lands regularly covered by the tide, as distinguished from salt-marshes. *local.*

1712 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 483 These Lands they call Saltings, when covered with Grass. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 59 The land in front of my sea-wall to the southward (called saltings, from the sea overflowing it except at low water). 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 309 Two extraordinary large eels were taken..upon the saltings at Steeple, in Dengie Hundred, Essex. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 267 Here ran a broad bulwark bank, keeping the saltings and marshes distinct. 1901 *Spectator* 17 Aug. 215/2 The marsh ..is dotted with white-fleeced sheep and white-faced bullocks grazing on the saltings. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 25 At the bridge of the lower saltings the cattle gather and blare.

4. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *salting beef, -house, kit* (KIT *sb.*^{1}), *-pan, -press, -room, -trough, -tub*; (*Photogr.* : see SALT *v.* 7 a) *salting bath, solution*; (sense 3) *salting-mound*; **salting-box, point** (see quots.); **salting-place**, (*a*) a place where cattle resort to lick salt; (*b*) ? *nonce-use*, the place where a stream joins the sea.

1856 HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 3) 122 The Strength of the *Salting Bath. 1778 *Learning at a Loss* I. 135 What Piece of *salting Beef should be ordered from the Butcher. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, **Salting-boxes*, .. are boxes .. for holding mealed powder, to sprinkle the fuzes of shells, that they may take fire from the blast of the powder in the chamber; ..these boxes are now laid aside. 1682 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 110 The fisher men..were obliged to bring in all the congress they took..to the kings *salting house. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1021 After the cheeses have been properly salted..they are carried from the salting-house to the cheese-room. 1855 J. R. LEIF-CHILD *Cornwall Mines* 19 Inside the salting-house, companies of chattering and screaming females are building up pilchards to heights of four and five feet. 1719 *Will of John Hirst*, A *salting kitt. 1908 *Essex Rev.* XVII. 33 The mysterious *salting-mounds known as 'Redhills' on the marshes of the Essex coasts. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 214 A large, common, glazed *salting-pan. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 180 In vain..do we employ every ingenious artifice of temptation—supplying our '*salting-place' with the great delicacy of the grazing people. 1865 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 163, I could hear not only the waves, but the millstream tripping down to its salting-place. 1884 A. WATT *Soap-Making* xxvi. 219 After settling, he adds a solution of alum, chloride of lime, or crude pyroligneous acid, stirring thoroughly. If preferred, he evaporates to nearly *'*salting point' before adding any of the substances mentioned above. c 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 24 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, When the cheeses are taken from the *salting-presses, they are put on the shelf in the dairy for a day or two. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 59 The *salting-room should be laid with flags. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 205 Certain modifications of the *salting solution. 1842 J. ARTON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 239 A *salting trough which has a gutter round its edges, to drain away the brine. 1556 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 92 In the larder housse iij *sowlting tobbes. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 254 A cellar where salted meat had been kept for a great length of time in a salting-tub. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxviii, A turf back and a salting tub, which stood on either side of the narrow exterior passage.

† **Saltion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. Also 6 salcion. [ad. L. type **saltiōn-em*, f. *salt-*, ppl. stem of *salire* to leap. Cf. SALITION.] Leaping.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) III. i. 52 b, Stertynge or saltion [*other edd.* salcion] of the members.

Saltire (sæ·ltəi·əɹ). *Her.* Forms: 4–5 **sawtu-roure**, 5 **sawtire**, 7 **saltoyre**, **-tyr**, 8 **saltoer**, **salter-**, 6–9 **saltier**, 6– **saltire**. [a. OF. *saut(e)oir, sauteur, -our, -ouer, salteur, saultoir* (from 13th c.), mod.F. *sautoir*, † (1) silken or hempen stirrup-cord (?forming a deltoid figure when in use), (2) stile to keep cattle from straying, (3) saltire :—L. *saltātōrium* (see SALTATORY).] An ordinary in the form of a St. Andrew's cross, formed by a bend and a bend sinister, crossing each other. Hence, *In saltire*: crossed like the limbs of a St. Andrew's cross. *Per saltire* (see quot. 1828–40).

? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4182 He had sothely for-sakene the sawturoure engrelede, And laughte vpe thre lyons alle of whitte siluyre. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxiv, A sawtire en-grelede of siluer fulle schene. a 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *W. Armory* (1898) 5 Sa : a saltier engr : arg. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 45 b, The seuenth particion is this. Partye per Saltier, Argent, and Sable. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxiii, Upon his Surcote, valiant Nevil bore A Silver Saltoyre, upon Martiall Red. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 346 King Henry the sixt had two feathers in saltire. a 1695 WOOD *Oxford* (O.H.S.) III. 169 Two keyes in saltire. a 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 6 A saltire, which the martyr'd Andrew bore. 1801 SCOTT *Fire-King* xxxiv, The Saracens, Curdmans, and Ishmaelites yield To the scallop, the saltier, and crossleted shield. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* s. v., When the field of a coat, or any charge upon it, is divided by two diagonal lines, crossing each other,..it is termed *per saltier*. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 359 Two pastoral staves, in saltire.

attrib. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 98 So farre asunder, as they made from corner to corner the fashion of a Saltier crosse. 1727 BOYER *Dict., Eng.-Fr.* s.v., A Saltire Cross, *Croix de S. André*. 1851 R. HILL in Gosse *Nat. in Jamaica* 466 Zig-zag lacings of a thickened tissue corresponding to the Saltier position of the Spider's legs.

Sa·ltireways, *adv.* [See -WAYS.] = next.

c 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *W. Armory* (1898) 5 Arg: 5 martlets saltireways sa. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vi, Two long and bony arms..folded saltire-ways in front of her person. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* ix. 513 A shield in the centre cross keys, saltier ways.

Sa·ltirewise, *adv.* [See -WISE.] With or in the form of a saltire; (disposed) like the arms of a St. Andrew's cross; in saltire.

1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6382/2 Two Pens placed Salterwise. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. xxix. 295 Gules, two swords, saltire-wise. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiii, The back-ground was crossed saltierwise..by the masts of two lighters that lay waiting for the tide. 1848 J. GRANT *Adv. of Aide-de-camp* ii, Leathern gaiters, laced saltire-wise up the legs with red straps. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. (ed. 3) 63 Two Foxes are leaping, saltire-wise, on the ancient shield of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne.

Saltish (sɔ·ltiʃ), *a.* [f. SALT *sb.*^{1} or *a.*^{1} + -ISH.] † a. [f. the sb.] Of the nature of, characteristic of, or like that of, salt; impregnated with salt; salt, salty. *Obs.* b. [f. the adj.] Chiefly in mod. use: Somewhat salt.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 74 The Tast thereof must needs Saltish be. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 112 Loke vpon her mylke, that it be not blackysshe, blueysshe, grey or reddysshe, neyther sowre, sharpe, salt-ysshe, or brackysshe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 75 A cold sweat saltish through my ioyntes fiercely dyd enter. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 31 Ofte soust in swelling Tethys saltish teare. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 77 The.. pickled Herring..glueth a saltish and vnprofitable nourish-ment. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. v. (1635) 75 That the Sea is of a saltish Quality, no man hath euer doubted. a 1647 T. HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Proc. Worcs. Hist. Soc.* II. 295 The channell or bottom, scorched with the heate of the sun, appeare the whyte and saltysh. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 104 A saltish soil most commonly is fat and unctu-ous. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 228 Deer, which come in the warm season, to eat the saltish moss and grass. 1805 SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 299 The water..tastes saltish, like weak sea water. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* vi. 108 Thus we have a surface current of saltish water from the poles to-wards the equator.

Hence **Sa·ltishly** *adv.* (1828–32 Webster).

Saltishness (sɔ·ltiʃnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being saltish.

1562 TURNER *Bathes* 9 The water..semeth to shewe a littel saltishnes. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. v. (1635) 75 Those which defend the saltishnesse to bee accidentall. 1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* (ed. 2) 12 The waters of the Sea may be said to receive their saltishness from nothing else but this Salt dissolved in them. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 184 The saltishness is owing to the evaporation of the serosity of the mouth.

† **Sa·ltitant,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *saltitant-em*, pres. pple. of *saltitāre*, frequent. of *saltāre* (see SALTATE).] Leaping or springing.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. iii. 41 Which Goat-provisions were most agreeable with their Errant bodies, which were alwaies saltitant, passant or currant.

Saltless (sɔ·ltlés), *a.* [f. SALT *sb.*^{1} + -LESS. Cf. Du. *zoutteloos*, G. *salzlos*, with sense 2.]

1. Without salt; unsalted.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxiv. (1495) 905 Salt-lesse chese is moost nourysshynge and moysteth the body. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 96 He that hath be-held what quantity of lead the test of saltless ashes will imbibe. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 414 [He] took the Earth to be quite Saltlesse. 1823 BYRON *Island* III. iii, Its bounding crystal..gush'd from cliff to crag with saltless spray. 1863 *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1096/2 (*Salt*), It was the belief of the Jews that salt would, by exposure to the air.., become saltless. 1905 *Punch* 25 Oct. 290/1 It is the landsman's lusty throat That rends to-day a saltless air.

2. *fig.* Lacking piquancy, poignancy, interest, or liveliness; insipid, 'flat'.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 8 A heavy and saltless oration is insufferable to a quick hearer. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Agst. Ale* iv. Poems (1687) 305 Saltless and galless be thy Curse. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jut. Guynne* I. iii. 73 It promises to afford a slight pungency of flavour to my tasteless life in this saltless wilderness. 1885 D. C. MURRAY *Rainbow Gold* III. 219 The days went by, saltless, lifeless.

Hence **Sa·ltlessness.**

1682 BOYLE in R. Fitzgerald *Salt-Water Sweetened* 16 The main thing of all that convinced me of the Saltlessness of the Water I speak of.

Sa·lt-lick. [LICK *sb.* 2.] A place where cattle collect to lick the earth impregnated with salt.

1751 [see LICK *sb.* 2]. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lxiv. 209 We give this name of salt licks to the salt springs, which, in various places, issue naturally out of the ground, and form each a little rill. 1767 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 39 The marsh, called the Salt-Lick, near the River Ohio. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 10/2 They visit the salt-licks, and are there to be found at all seasons of the year; some leaving the saline morass, others travelling towards it.

Saltly (sɔ·ltli), *adv.* [f. SALT *a.*^{1} + -LY^{2}.] With the taste or smell of salt.

1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, Saltly, *salse*. 1827 J. MITCHELL *First Lines Sci.* 63 Saltly bitter, saltly cool-ing. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 354 The winds That whistle saltly south from Polar seas. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 237/1 A sickly yellow spume that saltly stank.

Sa·lt-ma·ker. [Cf. Du. *zoutmaker*, G. *salzmacher.*] A manufacturer of salt.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/2 A Salte makere, *salinator*. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Salinero*, a salt maker. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. x. 493 The *Betua* are Salt-makers. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4373/4 Thomas Elmes, late of Milford in the County of Southampton, Salt-maker. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 179 About noon Captain Clarke with 14 men came to the salt-makers camp. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 233/1 The warping or buckling, the scaling, and the formation of 'cats', ..arising from leaks in the pan, are perhaps among the worst annoyances of the saltmakers. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Salt Makers*, term embracing all the men directly engaged in the manufacture of white salt from brine.

So **Sa·lt-ma·king,** the manufacture of salt; † also *pl.*, salt-works.

1534 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 281 The chargys that belongythe to the salte makyng. 1611 COTGR., *Salaison*, Salt-making. a 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Proc. Worcs. Hist. Soc.* II. 297 Some of meaner ranck had and have salt-makings heere. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 234/1 Saltmaking is by no means an unhealthy trade. *attrib.* 1823 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 319 There are no excisemen in these salt-making places in France.

Sa·lt-marsh. [SALT *a.*^{1} : cf. G. *salzmarsch.*] Marsh overflowed or flooded by the sea; *spec.* one in which the sea water is collected for the manufacture of salt. (Cf. SALTING 3.)

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cvi. 33 He þa weaxendan wende eorðan on sealtne mersc [Vulg. *in salsuginem*]. [So : a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cvi. 34 Stremes in wildernes sete he..In salt-mersche land fruitberande. a 1325 *Prose Psalter* cvi[i]. 33 Saltmerche.] 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 53 Good kyne go in good pasture off salt maries. 1583 in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 234 If any lands or salt marsh are reclaimed from the sea. 1686 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1856) VI. 183 It is ordered, that Patience..shall haue..the vse of about two acres of salt marish att the island. 1725 *Fam. Dict., Salt-marsh*, a sort of Grazing Ground near the Sea, which is commonly very rich land. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salt*, Low Marshy Grounds, disposed by Nature for the Reception of the Sea-waters when the Tide swells, and provided with Banks and Sluices to retain the same, are called a Salt-marsh. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Eng. Flora* II. 95 In muddy salt-marshes. 1832 TENNYSON *Mariana in the South* 9 Down in the dry salt-marshes stood That house darklatticed.

b. *attrib.*, in specific names of plants and animals found on salt marshes.

1855 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) 462 The salt-marsh shrimp, *Artemia salinus*. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 198 The Salt-marsh Club rush (*Scirpus maritimus*). 1872 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XII. 475 The salt-marsh terrapin.

Saltness^{1} (sɔ·ltnés). [f. SALT *a.*^{1} + -NESS.]

1. The property or state of being salt; the condition of being impregnated with salt.

In OE. only quasi-concr. transl. L. *salsilago, salsugo.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cvi. 34 Sette..eorðan westembere in salt-nisse. [So Wycl. (1388) saltnesse; Vulg. *posuit..terram fructiferam in salsilaginem* or *salsuginem.*] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 265 Þe rootes mowe not take depnesse and fat-nesse for saltnesse of þe erþe. 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xvii. 6 He schal dwelle in drynesse in desert, in the lond of saltnesse. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 208 By the tonge we felen the dyuersite of Sauores, Swetnes and bittyrnesse, Saltnesse and egyrnesse. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. vi. (1895) 187 The ebbinge, flowinge, and saltenes of the sea. a 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* II. i, If I had buried him in a wave at sea,..I would not to the saltnesse of his grave Have added the last teare. 1676 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 454 Being troubled with a scorbutic humour, or saltness of blood. 1764 E. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* 103 Boil them [some herrings] as soft as you would do for eating, and shift them in the boiling to take out the saltness. 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 5 The superior salt-ness of the Mediterranean..is attributed to the evaporation of its surface. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* viii, The delicious sense of saltness and freedom one feels on the deck of a good ship.

2. Piquancy, poignancy.

1612 BACON *Ess., Discourse* (Arb.) 17 Men ought to finde the difference betweene saltnesse and bitternesse. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 3/1 By reliance on beauty shows, variety turns, or saltness of dialogue.

Sa·ltness^{2}, *rare*$^{-0}$. [f. SALT *a.*^{2}] Lecher-ousness, salacity.

1611 COTGR., *Chaude-colle*, saltnesse, leacherousnesse.

Saltorel (sæ·ltŏrĕl). *Her.* [app. ad. OF. **saltorel*, dim. of *saltoir* SALTIRE.] (See quots.)

1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Saltorels*, the same as Saltiers. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.* 528 The term *saltorel* is sometimes used when three or more saltires occur, but it is hardly required.

Sa·ltory. Alteration of SALTARY after L. *saltātōrium* SALTATORY *sb.*2

1867 E. P. SHIRLEY *Eng. Deer Parks* viii. 179 This right of saltory or deer-leap was once not uncommon.

Saltou, obs. f. *shalt thou*: see SHALL.

Saltoyre, obs. form of SALTIRE.

Sa·lt-pan. [Cf. Du. *zoutpan*, G. *salzpfanne*.] **a.** (Usually *pl.*) A shallow depression near the sea into which sea-water is allowed to flow, where it evaporates, leaving a deposit of salt; in Africa, applied (after Du. *zoutpan*) to dried-up salt lakes or marshes. **b.** A shallow vessel in which brine is evaporated in salt-making; *pl.*, a salt-works.

1493 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 195, iiij salt pannes standynge vp on the north syde of yᵉ water of Blyth. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* App. (S.T.S.) II. 265 *note*, Salynis ar callit certane places besyd þe se quhair þe salt Is made. We call þame salt pannys. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 265 Havand commissioun of the rest of awnars of the salt pannis of Dysert. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 11 The best Coals are best for the Salt Pans and Salt too, and make most and best Salt. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 52 The salt pans are made of an oblong form, flat at the bottom, with the sides erected at right angles. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. Hope* II. 14 A good mile and a half from the river, we met with the capital *Zout-pan*, or Salt-pan. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* iv. 78 In every salt-pan in the country there is a spring of water on one side. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 9 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The salt used there costing about threepence per 82¾ lb. weight, whereas in the contiguous British territory it stood at the salt-pans at about four shillings.

Saltpetre (sɔ̆ltpī·tər). Also 6–9 (now *U.S.*) **-peter**, 6 **petir**, **-ur**, 7 **-ar**, 6–7 **peeter**. [Alteration of SALPETRE after SALT *sb.*[1] (see sense 5 b).]

1. Potassium nitrate; = NITRE *sb.* 1 b. *Chili* or *cubic saltpetre*: sodium nitrate.

Saltpetre is a white crystalline substance having a saline taste; it is the chief constituent of gunpowder, and is used medicinally.

1501–2 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 139 For ij pund salt petir to the leich. 1528–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 347 The tyme that the kyng caused Salte peter to be made in the said house. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 21 Like Saltpeeter, that fiereth at the first, and yet proueth but a flash. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 209 Salt-Peeter..is of excellent use for medicine. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 80 The Shot is driven forth..by the Air's exaltation, or Wind, caused through the Salt-Peter. 1722 *Phil. Trans.* (abr. ed.) III. 371 The pendent Rocks were glazed with Salt Peter. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* i. (ed. 2) 52 There are also mines of allum, and of salt-petre, in several parts of Corsica. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 241 On account of the property which saltpetre possesses of giving a pleasing redness to beef, it is always an ingredient in the brine with which meat is preserved. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 21 Gunpowder is an explosive propellant compound, consisting of saltpetre or nitre, charcoal, and sulphur. 1877 [see CUBIC *a.* 1 b]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 235/2 A large quantity of saltpetre is now prepared from Chili saltpetre, the nitrate of soda.

† b. *Oil of saltpetre* [? error for *oil of* PETRE]: petroleum. *Spirits of saltpetre*: nitric acid. *Obs.*

1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* 95 The Spirits of Salt-peter will readily corrode silver. 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xxxi. 144 Fill these with good Powder dust, moistned with Oyle of Salt-Peter.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *saltpetre-boiler*, *-boiling*, *cave*, *crystal*, *earth*, *-maker*, *work(s)*, *-worker*; **saltpetre flour** (see quot.); **saltpetre house**, (*a*) a building in which saltpetre is made or stored; (*b*) = F. *la Salpêtrière*, a hospital for aged and infirm women at Paris; formerly a prison for women; **saltpetre-lye**, 'a liquid obtained by the treatment of saltpetre with water' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897); † **saltpetre man**, a man appointed to find saltpetre for the manufacture of gunpowder; **saltpetre paper** = TOUCH-PAPER; **saltpetre rot**, white efflorescence which forms on new or damp walls, caused by saltpetre working through to the surface; † **saltpetre salt** (see quot. 1683).

1580 *Faversham Par. Reg.* (MS.), Edward Hale, a *saltpeeter boyller. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 333 Some Salt-Petre Boylers (who sell the raw unpurified Earth-Petre). *Ibid.* 338 A true large Instruction of the *Salt-Peter boyling. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 397 *Saltpeter Caves in the South. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 7 These beautiful rods which we call *saltpetre crystals. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. Index, *Saltpetre earth good for plants. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. i. 8 Probably there may be Salt-Petre-Earth in other Places. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 373 The saltpetre is obtained as a snow-white powder, consisting of fine crystalline needles—' *saltpetre-flour'. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 340 The fore-part of the *Salt-Petre House, wherein the Lee Tubs do stand. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 77 A woman..condemned..to be branded and confined to the saltpetre-house for nine years. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 321 How the weak *Salt-Petre Lee is to be made richer and boil'd to greater profit. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 49 Saw-dust, boiled in saltpetre-lye. 1611 COTGR., *Salpestrier*, a Salt-peter-man, or *Salt-peter-maker. 1843 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 424/1 In 1607 the saltpetre-makers were authorized to take away the ground of all dove-houses, stables, lairs, or other places where cattle were kept. 1578 *Acts Privy Council Eng.* XXVIII. 382 For chardges of William Shill and John Tyrret, *saltpeter-men. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) I. 147 That haue chosen a Saltpetre man for their foreman, and a gunne powder house..for their printing shop. 1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarrel* I. i, They are saltpetre-men...And they bring commission, the king's power indeed. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 43 We seldom find Salt-peter in the earth, but that there is sea-salt mixed with it, which puts the salt-peter-men to a great deal of trouble to separate it. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xiii. 320 The heat of the wire is always sufficient to kindle a piece of German fungus or *saltpetre paper. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 351 A floccular, white, crystalline efflorescence..which is called *salt-petre rot. 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 126 *Salt-Petre Salt as to goodness hath no great Repute. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 337 The black or grey Salt-Petre Salt, which is found (in boyling Salt-petre) below in the Kettle and slender Tub. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Mortar*, The finest of all kinds of Mortar for *salt-petre work, is such as is had from the ruins of old buildings in a low situation. *Ibid.*, The common managers of the saltpetre-works. *Ibid.*, The *salt-petre workers in France using the Mortar of old buildings.

b. quasi-*adj.* Explosive.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* C 3, Tearms of quick Camphire & Salt-peeter phrases.

Hence **Saltpe·treing**, the formation of saltpetre rot; † **Saltpe·trish**, † **-pe·trous** *adjs.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or impregnated with, saltpetre.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 84 Their Salt-petrous Earth. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 322 The .. Clay of very old Walls..where the Earth it self is Salt-Petrish. 1885 *Spons' Mech. Own Bk.* 602 The surfaces of walls are often covered with an efflorescence of an unsightly character, formed by a process known as 'saltpetreing'.

Sa·lt-pit. A pit where salt is obtained.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xciv. (Bodl. MS.), [It] is somtyme idrawe oute of salte pittes and isode. 1535 COVERDALE *Zeph.* ii. 9 Moab shalbe as Sodome, and Ammon as Gomorra: euen drie thorne hedges, salt pittes and a perpetuall wyldernes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 338 b, The daye before he died, he released the customes which he had imposed upon Salt pits. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* III. I. i. 3 Out of those Salt-pits Baatu and Sartach haue great Reuenues. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Salt-pits*, reservoirs on a coast, to contain sea-water for the purposes of making salt. 1889 *Helps Study Bible* xlii. 125 A ridge of salt-rock runs into that sea [*i. e.* the Dead Sea], and there are salt-pits, and a plain of salt.

Sa·lt-pond. A natural or artificial pond into which sea-water is run in order to be evaporated: cf. SALT-PAN a.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 49 On the South side.. is a good Salt-pond, where Dutch Sloops come for Salt. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 69 We..sent an Officer on shore to the salt-pond..to procure a quantity of salt. 1836 EARL CARNARVON *Portugal & Gallicia* II. 38 The salt-ponds, which are situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the sea. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 48 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The many 'salt ponds' [*Note*, Brackish inlets or salt-water lakes] adjacent to the African coast line.

Salt rheum. [See SALT *a.*[1] 1 b.]

† **1.** An irritating discharge of mucus from the nose; a running cold. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 132. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 51, I haue a salt and sorry Rhewme offends me.

2. *U.S.* **a.** A popular name for 'almost all the non-febrile cutaneous eruptions which are common among adults, except perhaps ringworm and itch' (Webster 1854).

1828–32 WEBSTER (citing MINER). 1855 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med., Rheum, Salt*, a popular name..for various cutaneous affections of the eczematous and herpetic forms more especially. [Also in recent U. S. dicts.]

b. *attrib.* **Salt-rheum weed**, *Chelone glabra*, which is supposed to be a remedy for herpes.

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 400.

Saltry, obs. form of PSALTERY.

† **Sa·lt-stone.** *Obs.* [OE. *sealtstān*: see SALT *sb.*[1] and STONE *sb.* Cf. Du. *zoutsteen*, MHG. *salzsteyn* (G. *-stein*), ON. *saltsteinn*.]

1. Rock-salt; a mass of rock-salt.

In early use chiefly in allusions to the fate of Lot's wife.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2564 (Gr.) Heo on sealtstanes sona wurde anlicnesse æfre siððan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 374 Genim geoluwne stan & salt stan & pipor. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2855 In a salt stan men seis hir stand. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 768/2 *Hic cautes*, a salt-stone. 1535 FISHER *Wayes to perfect Religion* Wks. (1876) 370. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 409 *Sal nativus vel fossilis*,..Salt naturall, or that is digged out of the earth: saltstone. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 37 Besides its saltness it [*sc.* the water] has such a stink, that it equals the salt stone. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Hungary* (1685) 94 The colour of the Saltstone is somewhat gray.

attrib. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 91 The woman..keeping still her old posture in the same salt-stone image.

2. A salt-cat for pigeons.

1425 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 255, i saltstone empt. pro columbario. 1584 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* VI. 575/1, 4 saltstones for the dovecot @ 1/9. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxii. 165 Pigeons delight in salt stones.

Saltsage, obs. form of SAUSAGE.

† **Sa·ltuary.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *saltuāri-us*, f. *saltus* woodland, forest-pasture.] (See quot.)

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Saltuary*, a Forrester, Woodward, or Ranger.

† **Sa·lture.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *saltūra*, f. *salt-*, *salīre* to leap.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Salture*, a leaping or dancing.

Saltus (sæ·ltŭs). [L. = leap.] A 'leap' or sudden transition; a breach of continuity.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 228 No Experiment yet known to prove a Saltus, or skipping from one degree of rarity to another. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiv. 291 These would be the real analogues of speech, and would bridge the saltus of which some are so afraid,

Salt water, *sb.* and *a.* [SALT *a.*[1] Cf. LG. *salt-wat(t)er*, MDu. *sout-water*, G. *salz-wasser*.]

A. *sb.* (stressed *salt wa·ter*). Water impregnated with salt; sea-water.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxvi. 13 Swez micel sealtera wætera. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Đe wop þe man wepeð for his agene sinne is swiðe biter alse saltwater. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salt water, or see water, *Nereis*. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 129 Gonnepoudre wett in saltwater. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Saltewater, *saulmevre*. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 296, I laboured no otherwise, then..he that hauing sore eyes rubbeth them with salt water. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 268 Salt-waters, out of which they boile salt. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 5 By watering the place with brine or Salt water. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 8 Seeing his Spot of Territory incircl'd with Salt-water. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 368/2 Hot parts of the world where the soil is saline or there is salt water in the vicinity.

fig. a 1450 MYRC *Festial* xxvii. 120 When he passyth þrogh þe salt-watyr of payne of deþe.

b. Applied humorously to tears. (See SALT *sb.*[1] 2 e.)

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15694 He wepis..Many a tere of salt watir. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 71 How much salt water throwne away in wast, To season Loue that of it doth not tast. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* K, 'Faith, for some few howers salt water will runne most plentifully in euery Office o' th Court. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 128 Let us hear what all this salt water is about.

c. Applied to the sea. Hence, a jocular form of address to a sailor.

1839 H. AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* I. vi. 111 'Hark'ee, Ben', said the old sailor,..'you may try, but dash my timbers if you'll ever cross the Thames to-night'. 'And why not, old saltwater?' inquired Ben. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xv, When this sun will have disappeared behind the salt-water.

B. *attrib.* as *adj.* (stressed *sa·lt-water*). Of, pertaining to, consisting of, or living in salt water.

1528 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, IV. II. 2232 The warffs gittes and saltwater bancks, beginning at Calais and continuing to Graveling. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 72 Notable Pyrate, thou salt-water Theefe. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 129 Salt water ditches between Greenwich and Woolwich. 1810 SCOTT *Let. to Miss J. Baillie* 19 July in *Lockhart*, The salt-water loch called Loch an Gaoil. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* i, It does not follow that I wish to be pickled in brine because I like a salt-water plunge at Nahant. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xii. 384 Salt-water fish can with care be slowly accustomed to live in fresh water. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* I. iv, The train..crossing the Harlem, skirts that pretty little salt water river.

b. In specific names of sea animals.

1828 SIR H. DAVY *Salmonia* (1840) 72 The salt-water louse adheres to his sides. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 405 The bluefish, which is called the 'Salt water Tailor'. 1892 *Chamb. Encycl.* s.v. *Terrapin*, The terrapin *par excellence* is the *Malacoclemmys palustris*, the diamond-back salt-water terrapin.

Hence **Salt-watery** *a.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 167 All very greasy, blowsy, dabby, dusty, salt-watery, and so on.

Sa·lt-well. [OE. **sealtwielle*, *-wylle* (Northumb. *-wælle*).] A salt spring, well, or pit; now, a bored well from which brine is obtained for salt-making.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Prol. 1 Of saltwælla ðone æne in-dranc. [1042 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 70 Đer ofer ða strætt æfter ðam gemære in saltwyllan; of saltwyllan in seȝchæma gemær.] 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. liii. (1495) 894 Some lycoure comyth of veynes of the erth: as water of salt welles. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* in *Proc. Worcs. Hist. Soc.* II. 296 The freashe water with exceedynge fluddes overflowethe the banckes and for a season drowneth the saltwells. 1656 SMITH & WEBB *Vale-Royal Engl.* I. 19 The Salt-wells, which they call Brine-pits; out of the which, they make yearly a great quantity of fine white Salt. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 30 Salt was..made in Cappadocia from salt wells. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 260 Salt wells..are..frequently found ready formed in nature, wherever a spring, during its course, has come in contact with a bed of rock-salt. 1892 JACKSON in Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 791 While working in the saltwells of Virginia.

Hence † **Saltweller**, one who works at salt-wells.

1624 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* Bundle 108 If. 2 Samwell Smyth, saltweller.

Sa·lt-works. Formerly also **-work.** [Cf. G. *salzwerk*.] A salt manufactory.

1565 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 258 Your letters requesting timber and firewood for your salt-works. 1674 BOYLE *Saltness of Sea* 29 A friend of mine that is Master of a Salt-work. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3307/4 At the Salt-Works of Samuel Acton in Namptwich. 1712–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Feb., Griffin..says he knows nothing of a salt-work at Recton. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 242 Gallicia..is famous for its immense salt-works at Wielitzka. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 261 The salt-works at Salzhausen.

Sa·ltwort. *Bot.* [prob. after Du. *zoutkruid*; cf. G. *salzkraut*.] A name for several maritime and salt-marsh plants. Cf. GLASSWORT.

1. Any plant of the genus *Salsola*, spec. *S. Kali* (Common or Prickly Saltwort); = KALI 1.

1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 37. Kali..hath no name in English..But lest this herbe shoulde be without a name, it maye be called Saltwurt, because it is salt in taste. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl., Bot., Salt-wort*, Kali. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 101 A Plant..which the Botanists call Kali, and we Salt-wort. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* I. 41 Here sampire-banks and salt-wort bound the flood. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Eng. Flora* II. 18 *Salsola fruticosa*. Shrubby Saltwort. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. 177 The salt-wort or glass-wort (*Salsola kali*), grows freely on most of the shores. 1884 [see KALI 1].

2. Black Saltwort, *Glaux maritima*. = MILKWORT 2.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clix. 447 Of blacke Salt woort.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 326. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 234 Sea Milkwort, or Black Saltwort. 1867 Sowerby *Eng. Bot.* (ed. 3) VII. 154.

3. A plant of the genus *Salicornia*, esp. *S. herbacea*; = Glasswort a.

1597 [see Glasswort]. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 326. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xvii. (1794) 233 *note*, Marsh Sampire, called also jointed Glasswort or Saltwort. 1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* (ed. 14) 110 b, *Salicornia annua* (Saltwort). 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787.

Salty (sɔ̄·lti), *a.*[1] [f. Salt *sb.*[1] + -y.]

1. Containing or impregnated with salt; tasting of salt; = Salt *a.*[1] 1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salt, or salti..*salsus*. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* II. liv. (1608) 133 Infused in warm and salty water for a season. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 65 Sand and salty Desarts. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 161 Any convenient humour, whether bitter, acerb, salty, or oyly. 1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 59 This yellow green salty liquor. 1860 R. C. A. Prior *Danish Ball.* I. 5 Launching over the salty sea. 1872 J. Hatton *Valley Poppies* II. i. 27, I smell the salty breath of the wind. 1875 Lanier *Symphony* 222 Her eyes with salty tears are wet. 1889 A. T. Pask *Eyes Thames* 49 From this sandy salty loam is made the best Portland cement.

†2. Consisting of salt. *Obs. rare.*

1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 219 God could turne a womans bodie into a saltie piller. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 7 [Lot's wife] was turned into a material salty pillar. 1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 393 If the Salty part becomes extravagant for want of the Spirit and Sulphur to restrain..it.

3. Piquant; racy.

1866 *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 332/2 This..only makes the books more salty; and we must add, that the piquancy is not diminished by [etc.].

†**Sa·lty**, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Salt *sb.*[2] or *a.*[2] + -y.] Of a bitch: In heat.

1603 Sir C. Heydon *Jud. Astrol.* xx. 416 A bitch..is 9. daies saltie, goeth 9. moneths with whelps, and hath her whelps 9. daies blind. 1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* Ser. I. 59 (E.D.S.) *Salty*, of a bitch, when she is proud, or in her heat.

Saltyr, Salu: see Saltire, Salue *v.*

†**Saluberrime,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *salūberrim-us*, superl. of *salūbris*: see Salubrious.] Highly salubrious.

1509 Watson *Ship of Fools* lx. (1517) O v b, All vacabondes.., the which gothe beggynge from dore to dore.. come vnto me and I shall gyue you an almesse saluberryme.

Salubrify (sălū·brifəi), *v. rare.* [f. L. *salūbri-s* (see next) + -fy.] *trans.* To render salubrious.

1842 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 407 The rain..washes out from the subsoil those noxious ingredients.., sweetens and salubrifies it to the depth of the drains.

Salubrious (sălū·briəs), *a.* [f. L. *salūbri-s* (f. *salū-s* health) + -ous.] Favourable or conducive to health.

a. Of food, medicine, etc. Now *rare.*

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* 121 b, I myghte here shewe of many salubriouse medecines. 1667 Flavel *Saint Indeed* (1754) 121 The Unicorn's horn..in the Apothecaries shop, where it is made salubrious or medicinal. 1709 W. King *Art of Love* VIII. 1065 Give the salubrious draughts with your own hand; Persuasion has the force of a command. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 220 A species of food so very palatable and salubrious as turtle. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 341 The more slowly they [ices] are eaten, the more refreshing and salubrious will they become. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 68 Fish. In the hot months all kinds are less salubrious than in cold weather.

b. Of air, climate, places, etc.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 8 The forraine merchants here [Zacynthus] resident..by their frequent deaths do disprove the aire to be so salubrious as is reported. 1774 Pennant *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 175 In summer the air is remarkably salubrious. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. I. iv. 164 The Roman officers seem to have had many villas along its salubrious shore. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Berkeley the Banker* I. i. 3 Foreseeing the possibility of his having four or five Masters Cavendish as boarders in his salubrious..establishment. 1875 Browning *Inn Album* 2 Hail calm acclivity, salubrious spot!

c. Of an occupation. *rare.*

1675 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* xii. (ed. 2) 253 Angling; a moderate, innocent, salubrious, and delightful exercise.

d. Of physiological processes: = Salutary.

1855 Ramsbotham *Obstetr. Med.* 70 The salubrious change which the fœtal blood undergoes, is accomplished in the placental mass.

e. *transf.* and *fig.*

1659 Hammond *On Ps.* xcvii. 485 Dispensed by the divine providence for many salubrious and beneficial ends. 1737 Thomson *To Mem. Ld. Talbot* 147 In Senates, He to Freedom firm, Enlighten'd Freedom, plann'd salubrious Laws. *a* 1780 H. Blair *Serm.* II. 31 If that fountain [the heart] be once poisoned, you can never expect that salubrious streams will flow from it. 1809 Campbell *Gertr. Wyom.* I. ix, And dwells in day-light truth's salubrious skies No form with which the soul may sympathise? 1855 Landor *Imag. Conv., A. Pollio & L. Calvus* II. Wks. 1876 II. 443 Religions, like the sun, take their course from east to west: traversing the globe, they are not all equally temperate, equally salubrious; they dry up some lands, and inundate others.

Hence **Salu·briously** *adv.*; **Salu·briousness.**

1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 1 In the..salubriousness of the Air..most resembling the Country from whence it borrowed its appellation. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 238 Does not the sweat of the mason and carpenter..flow as pleasantly and as salubriously, in the construction and repair of the majestic edifices of religion, as in the painted booths and sordid sties of vice and luxury. 1888 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1391 The salubriousness of their climate.

Salubrity (sălū·briti). [ad. L. *salūbritās*, f. *salūbri-s* Salubrious.]

1. The quality of being salubrious or healthful.

a. Of the air, a country, etc.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 75 Paradise..hath salubrite [orig. *Habet enim salubritatem*] and wholsomnesse. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Salubritie*, wholesomeness. 1685 Boyle (*title*) An Experimental Discourse of some unheeded Causes of the Insalubrity and Salubrity of the Air. 1767 *Byron's Voy. rd. World* 57 The salubrity of the air had a surprizing effect in strengthening both the appetite and digestion. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 400 In many instances, salubrity will be promoted by inclosures. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* I. ii. 12 Penzance and Torquay, in mildness and salubrity, resemble Madeira. 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* ii. 73 This decrease of salubrity is attributed..to the great destruction of forests.

†b. Of food, etc.: Wholesomeness. *Obs. rare.*

1620 Venner *Via Recta* iii. 69 The heart of a fat Calfe is for pleasantnes of taste,..and salubrity of iuyce, the best. 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* v. (Dublin) 41 What can we say then to the Salubrity of those Roots themselves, bred up and fatten'd amongst these Toads and Corruption?

†c. *fig. Obs.*

c 1643 *Observ. his Maj. late Answ. & Expresses* 8 A.. proofe of the integrity, and salubrity of that publick advice.

¶ 2. Healthy condition, health. (Also *fig.*) *rare.*

1654 [see Salvifical *a.*]. 1786 *Pogonologia* 58 This bushy hair on man's face must have an influence on the salubrity of the neighbouring parts. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 63 The feet..ulcerated and healed, with a speedy return of general salubrity.

Salud, var. pa. t. of Salue *v. Obs.*

‖ **Saludador.** Spanish form of Salutator.

1685 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Sept.

†**Salue**[1], *sb. Obs. rare.* Also **salew.** [a. OF. *salu* (in mod.Fr. written *salut*: see Salute *sb.*[1]) = Sp. *saludo*, It. *saluto*, a Com. Rom. vbl. sb. f. *salūtāre* Salute *v.*] A salutation.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 8 They..Goyng owtward gave the kyng salue [*rime* dewe]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 506 The quene..seide thei were welcome, and thei dide yelde hir a-gein hir salewe debonerly. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* (1868) 32 Parys rendred hys salewes ayeyn moche humbly.

†**Salue**[2], *v. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **saluwe, saliwe, salwe,** 4–6 **salew,** 5 **salowe,** 6 **salu,** 4–7 **salue**; *pa. t.* 4 **salewede, saluet,** 4–5 **salu(e)de, salewed, salwed, saluwed, saluyd,** 5 **salut(e,** ? **salit, salod, -ud, saylut, salowed, -id, saluid, saluyed,** 6 **salewd,** 4–7 **salued.** [a. F. *saluer* = Pr., Sp. *saludar*, Pg. *saudar*, It. *salutare*:—L. *salūtāre* to Salute.]

1. *trans.* = Salute *v.*

c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 868 (MS. Sion) To Ierusalem come on a day Thre prestes of þe Iewery, Tille þe temple held þai streke þe way And saluede þe clergy. *c* 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 1076 Anone come petyr, with wepyng chere, And salude Mary and Ion yn fere. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1619 (1668) Eleyn in al hire goodly soft wyse Gan hym salue and wommanly to pleye. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 781 And he saleweth hire with glad entente. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 101 þey emperoures þat were to fore hym were i-salwed as iuges. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 4981 þai salut not þat souerain with no sad wordes. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xi, Ho sayd, 'Sir, welcum most þe be!' A[nd] salit him anon ryȝte [Weber's ed. l. 112 And salod hym anon ryght]. *Ibid.* xxxvii, He saylut him anon ryȝte [Weber 409 Bot salud hym full ryght]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 242 The amerous fowlys with motetys and carollys, Salwe that sesoun every morwenyng. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 83 (Harl. MS.) Thei fille doun on kne..and salowid him, as thei aught to do to themperour. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* xiii. 40 He..salewed hym in the name of the Patriarke ..of Surye. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 159 Salu me highly with honorable salutacions to the honorable Lordis. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 122 Diogenes..salued or hailed hym wt this verse of homere. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vi. 25 Glaucè ..her salewd with seemely bel-accoyle, Joyous to see her safe after long toyle. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 297 Euen Tiberius Cæsar..rejoiced in that manner to be salued and wished well vnto, whensoeuer he sneezed.

fig. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. xci. 369 Great'st Ladies with their women, on their Palfries mounted faire,..Which now in Coches scorne to be salued of the aire.

b. *absol.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1473 þe lady nost forȝate, Com to hym to salue. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 333 Yet is ther a priuee spece of pride, that waiteth first to be salewed er he wole salewe [*Harl. MS.* to be saluet er he saliewe]. 1596 Drayton *Leg. Cromw.* 827 Peace, the good Porter,..prayes him God to saue, And after saluing, kindly doth demand What was his will.

2. By confusion = *salve*, Save *v.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* V. ix, The lyon ansuerd to hym God salewe the swete frend come nyghe me and kysse me.

Salue, written for *salve*, obs. form of Save.

Salufer (sæ·liufəɹ). [irreg. f. L. *salū-s* health (see Salutary) + *-fer* producing.] Silicofluoride of sodium, used as an antiseptic. Hence **Salu·ferize** *v.*, to cleanse or purify with 'salufer'.

1894 *Times* 5 May 6/1 Mr. Thomson, the successor of Playfair..at the Manchester Royal Institution Laboratory. He has a plan of attacking the mud in the bottom of the canal with a powerful antiseptic compounded of sodium, silicon, and fluorine. Salufer the mixture is named. *Ibid.*, It may be requisite to saluferize not only the canal water, but that of the river for some distance higher up. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 May 1147 The ear was syringed once or twice daily with a solution of salufer in boiled water.

Salugh, obs. form of Sallow *sb.*

Saluid, var. pa. t. of Salue *v. Obs.*

†**Salu·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Salue *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Salue; a salutation.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1519 (1568) Lat vs of hire saluynges pace. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 791 Ther nas no good day ne no saluyng. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 916 Make him noo privey salewing, But openlie afore hem all Profre youre seruice in the hall. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* v. 23 The knyght, right humbly and wyth a right lowe voyce,.. rendryd hym ayen his salewyng.

Salumin (sæ·liźmin). [f. Sal(icylate) + (Al)umin(ium).] Salicylate of aluminium used in nose and throat diseases. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Salure, variant of Saler, salt-cellar.

†**Salus,** *sb. Obs.* Also **saluz.** [Perh. a. early OF. *saluz, salus*, subj.-case sing. or obj.-case pl. of *salu*: see Salue *sb.*] A salutation.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 And wrot mid his owune blode saluz to his leofmon, of luue gretunge. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4647 To Alexander..salus & ioye. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3640 Let vs send to hom salus solemli by letre, Praiand hom..To helpe vs in hast our harmys to venge. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5923 þe schipmen wendys to þe priour, And haylsid him with honour, he said saluz agayne. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 896 The Erle ther saluz yilding ryght goodly Vnto euery man.

†**Salus,** *v. Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Also 5 **salose,** 6 **saluse, saluis.** [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* = Salute *v.* Hence **Salusing** *vbl. sb.*, greeting.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 509 Than went thai to the kyng in hy, And hym salusit full curtasly. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 318 (Harl. MS.) And so she come to him, and worshipfully she salusid him. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3419 The abbot salust him on hyght. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* X. 593 Thar salusyng was bot boustous and thrawin. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1309 Nothir of thi salosing, nor the, Ne rak I nocht. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 18 With notis glaid..This joyfull merle so salust scho the day. 1528 Lyndesay *Dreme* 149 Me thocht ane lady..Did salus me, with benyng contynance. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 41 And Incontinent all þe remanent pepil salust him as king and fader of þe romane ciete. *Ibid.* xviii. 105 Scho ..was þe first þat salust him king. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 290 Greit salusingis, with gretingis full of gloir. *Ibid.* II. 37 [He] saluist thame on his best wayis anone.

absol. c 1470 Henry *Wallace* V. 576 Quhen Wallace saw that thai war ma than he, Than did he nocht but salust curtasle.

Salus, salut: see Salute *sb.*[2] *Obs.*

Salut, variant pa. t. of Salue *v. Obs.*

†**Salutaire,** *a. Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 **saluter,** 6 **salutaire.** [a. F. *salutaire*, ad. L. *salūtāris* Salutary.] Salutary.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1234 And marie wombe flovred & broght forth ffruyt saluter to mankynde. 1593 A. Hume *Treat. Conscience* v. in *Poems*, etc. (S.T.S.) App. A. 108 Sicknes may be healed, by the application of salutaire medicaments. 1600 J. Hamilton *Facile Traictise* Ep. Ded. 3 For the reduction of dissauit people in maters of religion, to the salutaire vnion..of Christs halie Catholik kirk.

Salutarily (sæ·liźtărili), *adv.* [f. Salutary *a.* + -ly[2].] In a salutary manner.

1532 R. Copland in *Prymer of Salysbury vse* 27 b, The maner to lyue well, deuoutly and salutarily. 1846 in Worcester (citing *Ed. Rev.*). 1861 Sala *Dutch Pict.* xii. 175 Very many vagrants..were salutarily scourged by the parish constable. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1275 [Lanfranc] says that those who unworthily partake..receive the essence of the body and blood of Christ, without, however, being salutarily affected thereby.

Salutariness (sæ·liźtărinės). [f. Salutary *a.* + -ness.] The property of being salutary.

1727 Bailey vol. II. 1755 Johnson, *Salutariness*, wholsomeness; quality of contributing to health or safety. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 98 The desire felt by the pious Israelites for some new aspect of religion such as Jesus Christ presented, is..the best proof of its..salutariness. 1879 H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* iii. 41 Insistence on the salutariness of a state in which the wills of slaves and citizens are humbly subject to the wills of masters and rulers.

Salutary (sæ·liźtări), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. F. *salutaire* (see Salutaire) or its source L. *salūtāris*, f. *salūt-em*, *salūs* health, well-being: see -ary[2].]

1. Conducive to health; *chiefly*, serving to promote recovery from disease, or to counteract a deleterious influence.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad. § 1. 15 Abana and Pharpar..were not so salutary as the waters of Jordan to cure Naamans leprosie. 1685 Boyle *Eng. Notion Nat.* 225 Experience hath oblig'd Physicians to divide Crises's..into Salutary, that quite deliver the Patient, and Mortal, that destroy him. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 83 P 5 The man that first..climbed the mountains for salutary plants. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 8 June, At Brambleton Hall, I..breathe a clear, elastic, salutary air. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* XV. (1839) 69/1 When a current sets in from the sea, it [the water of the Sea of Azof] is more salutary. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 119 When due to plethora of the vessels from any cause, it [*sc.* epistaxis] is often salutary.

2. Conducive to well-being; calculated to bring about a more satisfactory condition, or to remedy some evil; beneficial, 'wholesome'. Often with figurative notion of sense 1.

In early instances often='bringing salvation'.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xii. 43 Consideringe the waye salutary to reuerte sone her sorow in to gladnesse. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Q ij, The sayd dissease is penaunce salutary for the saluacion of theyr soules. 1729 Stackhouse *Body Divin.* IV. i. § 2 (1776) II. 422 The blessings of Christ's salutary passion. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* II. xii. 569 Cicero's [virtue] will be found..always beneficial, often salutary to the Republic. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 154 The French..I look upon to be our natural and salutary enemies. They..hold us in exercise, and keep quarrelsome people from falling out among themselves. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 360 The plot which ruined Bohun..produced important and salutary effects.

1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* ii. 45 The natives having a salutary dread of the guns.

†**3.** *absol.* as *sb. pl.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Salutaries (Med.)*, such diseases as admit of an easy cure, and are supposed to have a salutary effect on the constitution.

Salutation (sælĭŭtē·ʃən). Forms: 4–5 **salutacioun**, 4–6 **-acion**, **-acyon**, 5 **-acioune**, 6 **-atioun**, **-atyon**, **-asyon**, 6– **salutation**. [a. OF. *salutacion* (mod. F. *salutation*), ad. L. *salūtātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *salūtāre* to SALUTE. Cf. Sp. *salutacion*, It. *salutazione*.]

I. The action, or an act, of saluting; a manner of saluting; an utterance, form of words, gesture, or movement, by which one person salutes another.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 41 As Elizabeth herde the salutacioun of Marie, the ȝonge child in hir wombe gladide. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 8 Swiche salutacions and contenaunces Passen as dooth a shadwe vp on the wal. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 307 Þanne a poore sowtere fondede to teche a chouȝe to speke and seie þe same salutacioun. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 352 Whan hercules sawe the salutacion..of this man, he toke hym by the hande [etc.]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 201 Whan all the company had made there salutasyons one to an nother. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. *Stage Direction*, Enter seuerall strange shapes, bringing in a Banket; and dance about it with gentle actions of salutations. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 23 He..kissed her.., after this salutation, he said [etc.]. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 5 (1686) 101 In all publick meetings, or private addresses..use those forms of salutation..which..[are] usual amongst the most sober persons. 1706 J. POTTER *Antiq. Greece* IV. xix. (ed. 2) II. 374 The most common Salutation was by the conjunction of their right Hands. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 88 The commonalty of late are, by their salutation, come to be immediately known, whether they are protestants or papists. Sixtus V..granted an indulgence of one hundred days to the salutation, 'Praised be Jesus Christ', and the answer, 'For ever or amen'. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Out into the yard sallied mine host himself also, to do fitting salutation to his new guests. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* vii. (1852) 76 He made a salutation, or, to speak nearer the truth, an ill-defined, abortive attempt at courtesy. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* iv. (1872) 32 He had bowed his head and taken off his hat in salutation. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* vii. 202 Their usual salutation was—'welcome'.

transf. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 210 The early Village Cock Hath twice done salutation to the Morne.

b. *The Angelic(al salutation*, †*the salutation of our Lady*, etc.: the AVE MARY (see Luke i. 29). Also a representation of the Annunciation.

1459 in *Archæologia* XXI. 37 A Tablet of gold of yᵉ Salutacion of our Lady. 1534 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 197 A masar..with a prynt in the bothom of siluer & gilte of the salutacion of ovr lady. ?*c* 1600 *Soc. Rosary* xiii. 192 Next after our Lords praier the Angells Salutation is vsually saide. *Ibid.* xi. 170 The Angelicall Salutation. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* Introd. (1857) 25 Towards the end of the tenth century the custom of adding the angelic salutation, the 'Ave Maria', to the Lord's prayer, was first introduced.

c. Applied to certain liturgical formulas of greeting between the minister and the people.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 294 The preste..sayeth *Dominus vobiscum*...The quier answereth, *Et cum spiritu tuo*, And with thy spirite. In this salutacion of the preste, and answere of the people, or of the quier, the preste prayeth that oure lorde be with them, & they pray that oure lorde be with hym. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 161 Then followed the salutation and kiss of peace; after which the priest read the collect, 'ad pacem'.

d. *Naut.* The action of saluting by firing of guns, lowering of flags, etc.; an instance of this, a salute. Now *rare*.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 15 b, The chains of the hauen being opened with salutation accustomed of the one side & other. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep. Ded. 13 That egregious attempt upon your Shipping, under pretence of a friendly salutation. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salutation*, Saluting with the flag, is performed two ways; either by holding it close to the staff, so as it cannot flutter, or by striking it so as it cannot be seen at all, which is the most respectful salutation. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxiii, And distant salutation past From the loud cannon's mouth.

2. Elliptically for 'I offer salutation'. *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezra* vii. 12 Vnto Eszdras..peace and salutacion. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 38 Most millitarie sir salutation. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 39 Salutation and greeting to you all. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 224 The donor says: 'Salutation to this land with its produce, salutation to the priest to whom I give it'.

3. *Antiq.* A visit of ceremony paid to a Roman in his house.

a 1700 DRYDEN tr. *Horace, Epode* ii. 17 And court and state, he wisely shuns, Nor brib'd with hopes, nor dar'd with awe, To servile salutations runs. 1741 JOHNSON *Life Morin* Wks. IV. 478 It is easy to conceive that a man of this temper was not crouded with salutations; there was only now and then an Antony that would pay Paul a visit.

¶ **4.** *nonce-use.* (Cf. SALUTE *v.* 5.)

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxi, For why should others false adulterat eyes Giue salutation to my sportiue blood?

5. *attrib.* or passing into *adj.*

1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 137 ₱ 5, I have seen him in every inclination of the body, from a familiar nod, to the low stoop in the salutation sign. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 106 Thus a patient may be constantly making bowing movements (salutation spasm). 1903 SIR H. C. MAXWELL-LYTE in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. Pref. 5 In form, a Charter is distinguished from Letters Patent by the salutation clause addressed to Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Earls, Barons and so forth..by the *quare volumus* clause.

Hence **Saluta·tional, Saluta·tionless** *adjs.*

1855 *Household Words* XII. 388, I would not advise the shooting of squires for breaches of salutational reciprocity; only, if his worship did not take off his hat to me in return, I would never again take off mine to his worship. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* II. 116 The two came out together, and parted in their salutationless fashion.

‖ **Salutator** (sælĭŭtē·tǫ̈r). *Hist.* [eccl. L., use of L. *salūtātor* one who salutes, agent-n. f. *salūtāre* to SALUTE.] The designation given to a class of persons in Spain who professed to work miraculous cures in the name of St. Catherine. See also SALUDADOR, SALUTER.

1668–72 M. CASAUBON *On Credulity & Incred.* 147 The Salutators of Spain.

Salutatorian (sălĭŭtătō·rĭăn). *U. S.* [f. next + -AN.] In American schools and colleges the student who delivers the 'salutatory' oration at the annual commencement day exercises.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 636 The graduating class were the heroes of the hour. The valedictorian, the salutatorian, the philosophical orator, walked on air.

Salutatory (sălĭū·tătəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *salūtātōrius*, f. *salūtāre* to SALUTE.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a salutation.

1895 *Critic* 19 Jan. 57/2 Henry Ward Beecher's salutatory editorial. 1898 J. R. HARRIS in *Expositor* Sept. 175 Jowett's argument for the authenticity of the Epistle is based on the salutatory formulae.

b. *U. S.* The distinctive epithet of the address of welcome (usually in Latin), which introduces the exercises of commencement in American colleges.

It is delivered by the senior of second highest position in his class for four years, or sometimes by a junior who has the highest position in his class. Cf. *valedictory*.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* IV. Introd. (1852) 13 These exercises were, besides an oration usually made by the President, orations both salutatory and valedictory. 1846 WORCESTER (citing Kirkland), *Salutatory*, containing salutations; greeting, as 'a salutatory oration' (U. S.).

c. *Gram.* [tr. L. *salutatorius casus*.] *Salutatory case*: the vocative case.

1818 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 32/2 The fifth case is the vocative or salutatory.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** [= med.L. *salūtātōrium*.] An audience-chamber; *spec.* in a church or monastery, a chamber where visitors were received to give their salutations.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 63 Coming to the Bishop with Supplication into the Salutatory, some out Porch of the Church, he was charg'd by him of tyrannicall madnes against God, for comming into holy ground. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Salutatory* (*salutatorium*), a place where men stand to salute a Prince.

2. *U. S.* **a.** An address or greeting to the reader of the first number of a newspaper or magazine.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* July 455 Its salutatory is worth quoting as a piece of brave crowing. 1887 *Lit. World* (U.S.) 25 June 206/2 In his salutatory the editor declares his paper to be 'a very modest effort to assist in a practical way the "Literary Movement in Chicago"'.

b. The 'salutatory oration' (see A. b) delivered at 'commencement' in American colleges.

a 1851 *Amherst Indicator* II. 96 (Hall *College Words*) We ask our friends..not to ask if he had the Valedictory or Salutatory.

Hence **Salu·tatorily** *adv.* (*rare*), by way of greeting or salutation.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1863 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* vi, 'Well, Melindy', said Mrs. Griggs, salutatorily.

Salute (sălū·t), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 **salut**, (6 **saluyte**). [a. F. *salut* masc., of twofold origin: (1) = Sp. *saludo*, It. *saluto*, vbl. sb. f. Common Rom. (L.) *salūtāre* to SALUTE; (2) originally fem., = Sp. *salud*, Pg. *saude*, It. *salute*:—L. *salūt-em* (nom. *salūs*) health, safety, salvation.]

I. An act of saluting.

1. An utterance, gesture, or action of any kind by which one person salutes another; a salutation. Now chiefly used with reference to other than verbal modes of saluting: cf. the following senses.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1490 'I bringe þe bodword of blis ser bischop' he said, 'With salutis of solas I am sent fra þe trone'. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 436/1 The preest.. tourneth hym toward the peple & saleweth them sayeng Dominus vobiscum and that sygnefyeth salut whyche our lorde gafe to his appostles after his blessyd resurrexyon. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 32/1, I Pope Iohn ..gyue saluyte the Emperour of Rome..& also the kinge of France. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic Ep., Mortimer to Q. Isabel* 1 As thy saluts my sorrowes doe adiourne, So backe to thee their interest I returne. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* v. i. I 3 b, The doublers of a Hare, or, in a morning, Salutes from a splay-footed witch,..Are not so boading mischiefe as thy crossing My priuate meditations. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 67 O what avails me now that honour high To have conceiv'd of God, or that salute Hale highly favour'd, among women blest. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* II. Wks. 1766 III. 35, I shall not trouble myself nor my Reader with the first salutes of our three friends. 1790 J. BRUCE *Source Nile* I. 18 We passed near enough, however, to give them the usual salute, *Salam Alicum*. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iv, He waved his hand, and Valancourt..returned the salute and started away. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 723 Last, coming up quite close, and in his mood Crying, '.. Take my salute', unknightly with flat hand, However lightly, smote her on the cheek. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 16 From no far mound Waved salute a tall white figure. 1879 — *Pheidippides* III So, to this day, when friend meets friend, the word of salute Is still 'Rejoice!'

2. A kiss, by way of salutation. (Cf. SALUTE *v.* 2 e.)

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 93 To her hee goes, and after his wonted salute sat downe by her. 1684 EARL ROSCOMMON *Ess. Transl. Verse* 314 There, cold salutes, But here, a Lovers kiss. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 169/2 In Dances,..a Salute, a Kiss, or Kiss of the hand with a bow of the Body. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) V. 80 With a kind Salute, and without Dispute, He thought to gain her for his own. 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 26 Oct., Dr. Johnson..received me..with a salute so loud, that the two young beaux..have never done laughing about it. 1828 SCOTT *Fair M. Perth* xix, He folded the fair maiden in his arms, and was permitted to take the salute which she had refused to bestow. 1906 H. WALES *Mr. & Mrs. Villiers* vii, She extricated his right arm also, and was rewarded by the complimentary salute on the left cheek.

3. *Mil.* and *Naut.* **a.** A discharge of cannon or small arms, display of flags, a dipping of sails, a cheering of men, manning the yards, etc., as a mark of respect, or as military, naval, or official honour, for a person, nation, event, etc.

A salute is said to be of as many guns as there are volleys fired.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 107 Their way of Salutes are with Even, as ours with Odd Guns. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salutation*, Father Fournier has an express treatise of sea-salutes and signals. 1744 J. PHILIPS *Yrnl. Exped. Anson* 181 He saluted us with eleven Guns, and we returned the salute with three. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* III. xx. 232 As we passed Forday's town, a salute of seven guns was fired off. 1838 J. L. STEPHENS *Trav. Russia* 88/1 A frigate..was firing a salute. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v., In firing salutes 10 seconds is to be allowed between each round. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 307 The culverins on the keep fired their salutes.

transf. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe ed.) 569 As we found them [the enemy] within Gun-shot, our Leader ordered the two Wings to advance swiftly, and give them a Salvo on each Wing with their Shot... And indeed that Salute clogg'd their Stomach, for they immediately halted.

b. (See quot. 1876.)

1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. v, 'Beg pardon, Squire,' said he, with a military salute. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v., A salute is made by an inferior meeting or passing his superior, when in uniform and even out of uniform, by raising his hand to his cap or chaco.

c. The position of the sword, rifle, hand, etc., or the attitude assumed in saluting. Phrase, *to stand at* (*the*) *salute*.

1833 *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 36 Officers recover their swords.., and drop them to the 'Salute'.

4. *Fencing.* A formal greeting of swordsmen when about to engage, consisting of a conventional series of guards, appels, thrusts, parries, parades, etc.

1809 J. ROLAND *Fencing* 139 The salute of *carte* and *tierce* is practised on the same principle. 1889 POLLOCK, etc. *Fencing* (Badm. Libr.) 98 The Salute, or prelude to the Assault.

†**II. 5.** Safety, well-being, salvation. *Obs.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 275 She shall dye for the salute and helthe of troye. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 430/2 As the auncyente thobye gaue to them admonestyng of salut techyng them ouer alle thynges to drede god. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* Argt. A j, This booke compyled for the felycyte & salute of all the humayne gendre.

†**b.** Used *ellipt.* (= L. *salutem*) in epistolary salutations. *Obs.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Let. iv. (1535) 107 b, Marke oratour Romayn..to the Domitian of Capue, salute and consolacion of the goddis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 116 Pausanias duc of spart, to the kyng xerxes salut.

Salu·te, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5–8 **salut**, 6, 9 **salute**; *pl.* 5 **saluz**, **saluts**, **salews**, (**salux**), 5–6 *Sc.* **salutis**, (5, 8 **salus**). [a. OF. *salut*, *saluyt*, pl. *saluts*, *saluz*, *salus*, a special use of *salut* salutation, SALUTE *sb.*[1]] A gold coin bearing a representation of the salutation of Gabriel to the Virgin Mary; struck by Charles VI of France, and also by Henry V and Henry VI of England for circulation in their French dominions.

1388 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* I. 79 Item, in Hari nobilis and salutis fourti and ane. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 360 For the value and denombrement of iiij. m[l]. saluz of yerly rent. 1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 181/1 Oon obligation of the Duchesse of Burgoyne of XVm. salutz. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 19 Johan..paied to the said regent duc of Bedforde for his raunson and finaunce allone clx. M. salux. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 17 Ryallis nobles of englond, Salews of gold lyons, Olde sterlingis pens. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 75 The kyng of England..caused a new coyne to be made called the Salute, where in wer the Armes of Fraunce, and the Armes of England and Fraunce quarterly. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xxv. (1877) I. 363 We haue yet remaining, the riall..the salut, the angell [etc.]. 1580 STOW *Chron.* 618 King Henry [VI] caused a peece to be stamped called a Salus, worth two and twentie Shillings and Blans of eyghtpence a peece. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xlvi, The summe of three score and two thousand saluts (in English money fifteen thousand and five hundred pounds). 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 29/1 The Salute of England, worth six shillings ten pence. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 79 Hen. 5's Golden Coyns were Rose-Nobles, Half-Nobles and Farthings, and Salus. *Ibid.*, Hen. 6. brought in the Rials, or Royals, Angels, Angellets and Salut. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 331/1 To these [coins].. Henry V. [added] salutes, and half-salutes. Henry VI. coined salutes, angelots, and francs in gold.

Salute (sălū·t), *v.* Also 5 **salewt**. [ad. L. *salūtāre*, f. *salūt-em*, *salūs* health. (Cf. SALUE *v.*) It is possible that this may have coalesced with an independent formation on SALUTE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To accost or address with words expressive of good wishes, respect, or homage, esp. with some customary formula of that import; to greet in words.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 9 Marie..went mekeli in hast to salute her cosyn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 193 He saluted and grette þe senatoures, and spak to eueriche of þe peple þat come aboute hym by his owne name. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1283+291 (Camb.) [He] saluted þe kyng on þys manere, As ye may aftur here. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 78 With aue or kirye salute a kyng. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* A v, Thou sholdest salewt and grete the peple gladly. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 Forgete not to salute her with this swete word Aue. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 60 He drew thedyr & salutyd yᵉ olde man in yᵉ name of god. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 32 *Rom.* Good morrow Father. *Fri.* Benedicite. What early tongue so sweet saluteth me? 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Jan., T'other day at the Court of Requests Dr. Valden saluted me by name. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 22 Being admitted to his presence they saluted him in the queen's name. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 160 He saluted me as an acquaintance whom he remembered from my former visit.

b. *I salute you*: used as itself a formula of salutation. Similarly in the 3rd person, of one who 'sends greeting'. [So L. *salutare.*] *arch.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 22 You English Princes all, I doe salute you. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. ii, 'Fair Julia, we salute thee', said Clodius. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 252 'My mistress', said she, 'salutes you, and I come from her to beg you to deliver this letter to the prince of Persia'. 1881 TENNYSON *To Virgil* x, I salute thee, Mantovano, I that loved thee since my day began.

† **c.** *Salute me* used for: Give my greeting (*to*). Cf. *remember me to . . .* REMEMBER *v.* 8 c. *Obs.*

1700 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 5 Salute me to the commissioners.

d. To hail or greet (as king, etc.).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 101 b, All people saluted hym with the tytle of the Emperour Auguste. *Ibid.* 423 He is saluted Prynce Electour. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, II. ii. 61 Be we the first, That shall salute our rightfull Soueraigne With honor of his Birth-right to the Crowne. 1595 — *John* II. i. 30 Till that vtmost corner of the West Salute thee for her King. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 2 King Henrie ..for the time was saluted Lord of Ireland. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 40 Now they heare it as their ord'nary surname, to be saluted the Fathers of their countrey. 1755 W. DUNCAN *Cicero's Sel. Orat.* xi. (1841) 217 It was but lately that L. Torquatus..was, at my instance, saluted emperor from this province.

e. In extended sense: To accost or address (whether courteously or otherwise).

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 438 On a rewde maner he salutyd all the rout, With a bold voyse, carpyng wordys stout. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 303 Adiute..beeing returned to towne, saw himselfe saluted by a letter of defiance.

f. *poet.* Of birds, etc.: To hail or greet (the sun, the dawn) with song.

1682 CREECH tr. *Lucretius* II. 39 The Morning climbs the Eastern Skies, And tuneful birds salute her early rise. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 38 The Morning-Lark, the Messenger of Day, Saluted in her Song the Morning gray. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 941 Victorious Wrong, with vulture scream, Salutes the rising sun, pursues the flying day!

2. To greet with some gesture or visible action conventionally expressive of respect or courteous recognition.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 83 (Add. MS.), All his [the emperor's] knyghtes and other men, whan thei sawe hym, worshipfully thei saluted hym. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 216 Huon approchyd & salutyd hym humbly. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. Ecl. i. (1598) 82 When that noble toppe doth nodd, I beleeue she salutes me. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 30 He faire the knight saluted, louting low. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 6 Deere Earth, I doe salute thee with my hand. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 80/1 As soon as the Sun arose, [he] saluted it, and retir'd. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salutation*, In England, we salute one another by uncovering the head, inclining the body, &c. The orientals salute by uncovering their feet, laying their hands on the breast, &c. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxix, One curtsies to the ground, the other salutes the audience with a smile. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1763) III. xx. 67 Among the ancients, it was customary after a long voyage to salute the natal soil. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 93 Were they to stand erect and covered while everybody else saluted him?

b. *absol.* and *intr.* To perform a salutation.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 292 With them [the men of the East] to congratulat and salute by giuing a becke with the head, or a bende of the bodie, with vs here in England, and in Germany..to shake hands. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 50 You told me, you salute not at the Court, but you kisse your hands. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 174 They..salute by bending the body and laying their left hand on their right side.

c. *spec.* in *Mil.* and *Naval* use. (*a*) *trans.* To pay respect to (a superior) by a prescribed bodily movement, the presenting of arms, or the like. (*b*) Of a ship, a body of troops, a commander: To honour or ceremoniously recognize in the customary manner, by a discharge of artillery or small arms, by lowering of flags, or the like. (*c*) *absol.*, and *intr.* To perform a salute.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 5 b, They came to sight of their Captaine Generall,..and saluting him with many shot of ordinaunce, and with sound of Trumpets, they spake unto him. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., The Colours also salute Princes and Generals, which is done by Bowing them down to the Ground. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 94 We saluted the Spanish flag. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Salutation*, In the army, the officers salute by certain orderly, studied motions of the half-pike, &c. *Ibid.*, *Saluting with the Sails*, is performed by hovering the topsails half way of the masts.—Only those vessels which carry no guns, salute with the sails. 1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 148 We saluted the Governor of Macao with 11 Guns. 1769 *Regul. Sea-Service* in Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) K k 4, When a captain salutes an admiral..he is to give him fifteen guns. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., When a regiment is to be reviewed by..the king, or his general,..the officers salute one after another, pointing their swords downwards. The ensigns salute together, by lowering their colours, when his Majesty, or any of the royal family, are present. 1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 139 You are not to salute the Fort of his Catholic Majesty, unless you receive a positive assurance that an equal number of guns will be returned. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 32 Officers wearing Hats, are not on any occasion to take them off in saluting; but when their Swords are not drawn, they are to salute, by bringing up the right hand to the forehead horizontally, on a line with the eyebrow. 1877–81 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* Suppl. (ed. 3) s.v., Her Majesty the Queen as Empress of India is saluted in India with 100 guns; the viceroy and governor-general of India with 31 guns. 1878 D. KEMP *Man. Yacht Sailing* 341 The ensign is lowered or dipped as a means of saluting a commodore, &c. or member of a club. 1889 *Infantry Drill* I. 24 When a soldier is about to pass an officer, he will salute with the further hand on the third pace before reaching him, and will lower the hand on the third pace after passing him.

d. *Fencing. intr.* To perform the salute used in fencing. See SALUTE *sb.*[1] 4.

1809 J. ROLAND *Fencing* 135 As it is understood when you salute, that it is a compliment you pay to the company, you should, while forming the parade of carte, turn your face to the spectators. *Ibid.* 136 Although I have directed that in saluting you should, in general, do it in *carte first*, and tierce *afterwards*.

e. *trans.* To kiss, or greet with a kiss. *arch.*

1716 ADDISON *Drummer* III. (1722) 31 You have the prettiest Tip of a Finger—I must take the Freedom to salute it. *Ibid.* IV. 37 *Ab.* Ay! but you han't saluted me. *Fan.* That's right; Faith I forgot that Circumstance. [*Kisses her.*] 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* v, He..was going to salute my daughters as one certain of a kind reception. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Sept., I had the honour of saluting the far famed Miss Flora Macdonald. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* viii, He once more saluted the tips of Mrs. Pendennis's glove.

intr. 1629 DAVENANT *Albovine* III. i, It is a piece of courtship to salute at parting.

† **f.** To honour (a person) *with* a present, gift, etc. Cf. GREET *v.* 3 d. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *George a Greene* (1599) C 1 b, And first I saluted her with a greene gowne. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 249 Wouldst haue a Ballet to salute her with? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 346, I saluted the Princesse Palatine, with certayne rare Relickes of the Holy Land.

g. *ironically* used for: To assail.

1607 ROWLANDS *Famous Hist.* 60 Here is a weapon that must do me right. So draws his sword, salutes him with the same About the head, the shoulders, and the side.

† **h.** *To salute Tyburn*: jocularly, to be hanged.

1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 205 Conspired with the Holy Maide of Kent..and salnted Tiburne for his paines.

† **3.** To pay one's respects to; to pay a complimentary visit to. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 The Ambassador sent to salute the Caddy. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 41 To-morrow .. Don Alphonso, With other Gentlemen of good esteeme Are iournying, to salute the Emperor, And to commend their seruice to his will. 1638 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 26 Eayrlie in the morning they sent ther commissioners doune to salut me. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 367 Having not saluted the Temple Twelve times since he began to Reign.

† **4.** *fig.* To begin acquaintance with. *Obs.*

1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* (1851) 190 Methusalah..did not more truly live; than the child, that did but salute and leave the world. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* iii. (1738) 60 Every one, who has but just saluted the mathematics and philosophy, must be convinced, that [etc.].

5. *transf.* and *fig.* Of inanimate things, in various applications: † To bow or incline towards (*obs.*); to appear or come forth as if in welcome of; to approach, come into contact with; † (in Shaks.) to affect or act upon in any way (*obs.*).

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 62 And there let bowis multiplie, And afterlong on euery side hem plie, Salutyng eest & west, & north & south. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 5 As when the golden Sunne salutes the morne. 1595 — *John* II. i. 590 Not that I haue the power to clutch my hand, When his faire Angels would salute my palme. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. iii. 103 Would I had no being If this salute my blood a iot. 1660 WALLER *To King on Return* 88 Like Ears of Corn when wind salutes the field. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 59 It [the elm] is the first tree that salutes the early spring with its light and cheerful green. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. 219 A land bathed in sunset light, overarched by rainbows, saluted by cool zephyrs.

b. Of a sound or sight: To strike (the eye or ear).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 117 Her eyes were saluted with a tuft of trees. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXVIII. x, And ere the light Salute my sight. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* IV. ii. (1848) 173 Our Ears were saluted with the melodious Musick of a good number of Larks. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 100 You may look..a huge way into their gardens, which even from thence will salute your eye with a fair prospect. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl., To Dr. Lewis* 28 Apr., The first object that saluted my eye was a child, full of scrofulous ulcers. 1791 COWPER *Retired Cat* 89 A long and melancholy mew, Saluting his poetic ears. 1805 T. J. DIBDIN *All's Well* 14 Some well-known voice salutes his ear.

Hence **Salu·ted** *ppl. a.* In quots. used *absol.*

1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* 1. Wks. 1871 V. 9 This first verse presenteth us with the two first circumstances, the saluter and the saluted. 1804 W. HANNA *Earlier Years Lord's Life* 293 The Ruler..who..might have counted on being the saluted rather than the saluter, does not hesitate to address him thus: 'Rabbi, we know' [etc.].

Salute, var. pa. t. of SALUE *v.* *Obs.*

Saluter (sălū·tər). [f. SALUTE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who salutes or greets.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 250 b, We have enough of suche saluters as this at home alreadie. 1611 COTGR., *Bailleur de bons iours*, an ordinarie saluter of euery one he sees, or meets. 1730 WALL *Crit. Notes N. T.* 295 Both he [*sc.* Aristarchus] and Epaphras are mentioned as saluters. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Salutation*, The women too had their crowds of saluters attending them every morning. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 69 With a great lady, the saluter fell upon his knees, and kissed the hem of her gown.

2. = SALUTATOR.

1586 ROWLAND *Lazarillo* C vj *marg.*, A Saluter is a kinde of drunken prophets in Spaine which take vpon them the healing of mad dogges. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Saludador*, a saluter, a charmer, *Salutator, incantator.* 1738 [G. SMITH] *Curious Relat.* II. v. 152 The Saluters (a certain Order in Spain) make the People believe, that by uttering the Name of St. Catharine, they have Power to heal Wounds.

† **Salutifere,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 salutiffere. [a. OF. *salutifere* (*salutiffere*), ad. L. *salūtifer*: see next.] Salutiferous.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 1 It bringis furtht salutiffere & hoilsum frute of honour.

Salutiferous (sælĭu·tĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* Also 6 salutiferus. [f. L. *salūtifer* (f. *salūt-* health, safety, salvation + *-fer* bringing) + -OUS: see -FEROUS.]

1. Promoting or conducive to health.

1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* 35 Safe, wholesome and salutiferous Medecins. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* Pref. 4 The pleasant influences and salutiferous Breezes of Wind in a hot season. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 77 Such exercise is not much less salutiferous than riding. 1752 C. SMART *Hop-Gard.* I. 41 Tunbridgia's salutiferous hills. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxviii, As soon as the ancient priestess had handed him his glass of the salutiferous water. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. (1872) X. 41 Forcing-on his salutiferous drains and fruitful canals through the morasses of the Weichsel.

2. Conducive to well-being, safety, or salvation. (Very common in the 17th c.)

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 209 The fowntaine beetokened the salutiferus water of baptisme. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 253 The sweet and salutiferous streames of the waters of life. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 139 France: Which he furnished with things necessary, salutiferous, good Lawes and customes. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 63 He means to instruct us in following his salutiferous steps. 1760 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* I. xxx. 266 Her Ladyship thought Fasting and Mortification most salutiferous for my Soul.

Hence **Saluti·ferously** *adv.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 509 The Chief Prince of this great City..who governeth all things salutiferously. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* v. 142 [The] Preparations [of Corn Foods].. are very wholsom and salutiferously used in many Countries.

† **Saluti·gerous,** *a. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *salūtiger* (f. *salūt-em* health + *-ger* carrying) + -OUS.] 'That brings commendation from another, or that is sent with *How-d'yees*' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Saluting (sălū·tĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SALUTE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SALUTE.

1533 *Mystik Rosary* A j b, The saluting of the wounde of the right fote of our Lorde. *a* 1617 CORYAT in Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1824 The Turke doth neuer at the saluting of his friend..put off his Turbant (as wee Christians doe our Hats one to another). 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 139 One day, Good-bye met How-d'y-do, Too close to shun saluting.

b. *attrib.* as *saluting-colour, -ground, -point.*

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Saluting-color, Mil.*, a camp-flag, distinguished by a transverse cross. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Aug. 7/2 The saluting-ground. 1905 *Ibid.* 13 Sept. 3/2 The grim guns are disclosed as the artillery rattle past the saluting-point.

Saluting (sălū·tĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SALUTE *v.* + -ING[2].] That salutes.

1800 *Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 46/2 His suite arrived at this Presidency, under a salute of thirteen guns from the saluting battery. 1885 *Athenæum* 11 July 44/3 The English pilgrim passed to the palace between bewildered boys and saluting soldiers.

Salutz, obs. pl. form of SALUTE *sb.*[2]

Saluwe, variant of SALUE *v.* *Obs.*

Saluy(e)d, var. ff. of pa. t. of SALUE *v.* *Obs.*

Saluyte, obs. form of SALUTE *sb.*[1]

Saluz, obs. var. SALUS; obs. pl. f. SALUTE *sb.*[2]

Salvability (sælvăbi·lĭti). *Theol.* [Formed as next + -ITY.] Capability of being saved.

1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 52 We have only a salvability by Christ, but no certainty of salvation. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Five Cases Consc.* (1666) 4 Holding that there is no Salvability but in the Church. 1700 J. H. *Salvab. Heathen* 3 You and I do believe a Salvability for some Heathen. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VII. 355 Chillingworth makes good use of the concessions of his opponent as to the salvability of Protestants.

Salvable (sæ·lvăb'l), *a.*[1] [ad. L. **salvābilis*, f. *salvāre* to SAVE: see -ABLE.]

1. *Theol.* Capable of being saved, admitting of salvation.

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. P 6. 167 Our wild Phancies about Gods Decrees have in event reprobated more than those Decrees,..and have bid fair to the damning of many, whom those left salvable. 1734 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 50 He is not in a salvable state. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxiii. (1848) 294 If God be Love, Or man a being salvable. 1888

G. MACDONALD *Elect Lady* 253 It was enough to be a Christian like other good and salvable Christians.

2. Of a ship, cargo, etc.: That can be saved or salvaged.

1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 130 The adventurers could not find anything that was salvable. 1892 *Standard* 30 Mar. 5/1 The vessel was in a salvable condition. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Jan. 7/1 A number of the ships were possibly salvable.

Hence **Sa·lvableness**; **Sa·lvably** *adv. rare*—°.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Salvableness*, capableness of being saved. 1847–54 WEBSTER, *Salvably*, in a salvable manner.

†**Sa·lvable**, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SALVE *v.*[2] + -ABLE.]

1. Of a difficulty, doubt, etc.: That can be met, explained or cleared up (see SALVE *v.*[2] 2).

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 88 We sometimes read him to have Answer'd, without being ask'd the Question (though that be otherwise salvable by a Critick). 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 112 Admitting this [doubt] to be salvable.

2. Of 'phenomena': see SALVE *v.*[2] 1.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 691 The Phænomena of Nature being no way Salvable, nor the Causes of things Assigneable, without a Deity.

Salvage (sæ·lvėdʒ), *sb.* Also 7 **silvage.** [ad. med.L. *salvāgium* or a. OF. *salvage*, *-aige* (in sense 1), f. L. *salvāre* to SAVE: see -AGE.]

1. A payment or compensation to which those persons are entitled who have by their voluntary efforts saved a ship or its cargo from impending peril or rescued it from actual loss; e. g. from shipwreck or from capture by the enemy (called respectively *civil* and *military* or *hostile* salvage).

1645 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. I. 186 Whether the Ambassadors had not cause to have acknowledged a kind and good respect in taking of Custom, or Silvage only, of that Ship. 1648–9 *Act Encouragem. Officers & Mariners* § 4 The Proprietor shall pay for salvage one moyety of the true value of such ship so retaken; which salvage..shall be divided and distributed proportionably to the Captain..and other Officers and Marriners. *a* 1715 SALKELD *K. B. Rep.* (1775) I. 393 And therefore they are ready to deliver the goods, if the plaintiff will pay them 4*l.* for salvage, &c. 1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 112 What..would satisfy the Captains, Officers and Men, for their renouncing all claim to the French property and all salvages. 1815 DODSON *Adm. Rep.* I. 317 Whether civil salvage is to be given to the king's ship, in addition to the military salvage, to which she is entitled under the statute. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Mar. 9/2 The Admiralty court yesterday awarded..the Southampton tugs..a total salvage of £10,372 for services rendered to the Antwerp steamship.

transf. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* XXX. (1889) 296 Mrs. Mountstuart told him he ought to pay salvage for saving the wreck of her party.

2. The action of saving a ship or its cargo from wreck, capture, etc. Phr. *to make salvage of.*

1713 *Act* 13 *Anne* c. 21 § 2 Three of the neighbouring Justices of the Peace..shall thereupon adjust the Quantum of the Monies or Gratuities to be paid to the several Persons acting or being imployed in the Salvage of the said Ship Vessel or Goods. 1851 DICKENS *Our Eng. Watering-Place*, Repr. Pieces (1868) 168 These men [boatmen] live chiefly on the salvage of valuable cargoes. 1857 T. F. KNOWLES in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1858) V. 57 In the salvage of the crew.., I have but done my duty. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, The stranger..succeeded in making salvage of Tom's coat. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 238/1 Salvage of life is rewarded at a higher rate than salvage of property.

b. *gen.* The saving of property from fire or other danger. (Cf. *salvage corps* in 4.) Also *fig.*

1878 HALE *Mrs. Merriam's Scholars* xxiii. 236 (Funk) They had no thought of using these minutes for any salvage of their little personal effects in the school-room. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 July 4/3 The happy turn taken by the King's illness..is enabling some salvage to be made from the Coronation arrangements.

3. Property saved or saved.

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 356 The trouble of Hinsch and Labée, who had been aboard the Ship, having chartered the same and took great Care of the Salvage. 1787 PARK *Mar. Insurances* 130 The question upon this case was, whether as the freight exceeded the salvage, this was not to be considered as a total loss. 1883 SIR W. B. BRETT in *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 226/2 Whatever is recovered or preserved by the solicitor's exertions is to be treated as a salvage. 1893 *Scotsman* 28 June 7 Directly after the vessel disappeared beneath the water the boilers exploded with a loud report, throwing up a quantity of salvage.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1857 J. HAMILTON *Less. Gt. Biog.* (1859) 106 The Sabbath ..still survives, a small but precious salvage from the world's great shipwreck. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 38 The broad eaves of the houses, too, make a salvage of shade, almost always. 1881 MALLOCK *Rom. 19th Cent.* I. ii, I still retain a certain salvage of wisdom.

4. *Comb.* **Salvage charge, loss** (see quots.). **Salvage corps**, a body of men kept in some towns to save property from fire; a fire brigade. **Salvage money** = sense 1 above.

1866 C. F. T. YOUNG *Fires* 417 The following is a scheme for the formation of a *salvage corps. 1813 R. STEVENS *Ess. Average* I. ii. (1835) 79 The charges incurred are called '*salvage charges'—the property saved is 'the salvage',—and the difference between the amount of the salvage (after deducting the charges) and the original cost, or value of the property, is called 'the *salvage loss'. 1866 *Arnould's Marine Insur.* (ed. 3) II. III. v. 838 The claim must be adjusted as a salvage loss—that is, the underwriter pays the difference between the prime cost, or insured value of the goods, and the net proceeds of the damaged sales. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), **Salvage Money*, is a recompence, allowed by the Civil Law, in lieu of all damages sustained by that ship that rescues another ship, which was set upon by Pirates or Enemies. 1689 in Magens *Insurances* (1755) II. 473 The Recompence which shall be made to the Captain and Mariners of a Man of War, who retake a Ship or Vessel,..shall be paid out of the Salvage-Money.

Salvage (sæ·lvėdʒ), *v. recent.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To make salvage of; to save or salve from shipwreck, fire, etc. Also *fig.*

1889 *Times* 25 Nov. 6/5 A gang of men were at once set to work to salvage and remove the remainder of the grain. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 3 July 2/2 Mr. Balfour, nevertheless, will endeavour to salvage enough Bills to reclaim the Session from absolute barrenness. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* June 842 The records were salvaged with little loss.

Salvage, obs. form of SAVAGE.

Salvage, Salvagee: see SELVAGE, -EE.

Salvager (sæ·lvădʒəɹ). *rare.* [f. SALVAGE *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1].] One who salves or salvages; = SALVOR 1; see also quot. 1867.

1829 *18th Rep. Comm. Crts. Justice Irel.* 10 A petition having been presented to the [High] Court [of Admiralty] by Mr. Henry Pyne Masters, one of the salvagers. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Salvager*, one employed on the sea-coast to look to the rights of salvage, wreck, or waif.

‖ **Salvatella** (sælvăte·lă). In 7 anglicized salvatel. [med.L. *salvatella* (It., Pg. *salvatella*, F. *salvatelle*), f. *salvāre* to save + dim. suffix (see -EL[2]); framed to render Arab. *al-usailim*, a derivative with dim. form from the root *s-l-m* implying safety, salvation, etc.] Old name for a vein on the back of the hand near its ulnar edge; bloodletting from this vein was held to be of great efficacy in the cure of diseases (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 158 Sche is clepid saluatella or ellis epatica in þe riȝthand, & in þe lifthand splenatica. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* vii. 53 And there it is called *Saluatella.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Vein, Salvatel vein.* [From Cotgr. 1611, *Veine salvatelle.*] 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1407 The '*vena salvatella*'.

Salvation (sælvē·ʃən). Forms: *α.* 3 sauvaciun, 4–5 sauvacion, -acioun, savacion, -acyon, -aciun, 5 savation, (savacyowne, -asyon, -aysione, sawacyon); *β.* 4 salvaciun, 4–5 -acioun(e, -acyoun, 4–6 -acion, -acyon, -atioun, (5 -acyone, -atioune, 6 -acione, -aciounn, -atiounn, -atyon, *Sc.* sallwatioun), 4- salvation. [a. OF. *sauvacion, -un, salvatiun*, etc., mod.F. *salvation* (Pr., Sp. *salvacion*, Pg. *salvação*, It. *salvazione*), ad. late L. *salvātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *salvāre* to SAVE.] The action of saving or delivering; the state or fact of being saved.

1. The saving of the soul; the deliverance from sin and its consequences, and admission to eternal bliss, wrought for man by the atonement of Christ. [eccl. L. *salvatio*, rendering Gr. *σωτηρία*.]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 242 Hwat te were leouest efter þi sauuaciun. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17958 (Arundel MS.) His owne sone shal he sende doun In erþe to monnes saluatioun. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 126 Sorwe of synnes is sauacioun of soules. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Ad beatam Virginem* 53 O spryng and welle of our sauuaciouu. 1535 COVERDALE *Phil.* ii. 12 Euen so worke out youre awne saluacion with feare and tremblynge. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 92 Some acte That ha's no relish of Saluation in't. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxviii. 245 The joyes of Life Eternall, are in Scripture comprehended all under the name of *Salvation*, or *being saved.* ?1709 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., To Mrs. Hewet* (1887) I. 23 His first wife..ventured her own salvation to secure his. 1738–9 BP. BUTLER *Serm. S.P.G.* 9 It is indeed true, God willeth that all men should be saved: yet..the Salvation of every man cannot but depend upon his Behaviour. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxx, Men who believed that the pale of salvation was open for them exclusively. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* ix. (1877) 181 The whole economy of salvation has been put into Christ's hands.

b. in formulas of asseveration.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 332 (381) God so wys be my sauacioun. *c* 1386 — *Manciple's Prol.* 58 By my sauacion I trowe lewedly he wolde telle his tale. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1601) II. iii. E 4, *Bob.* I assure you (vpon my saluation) 'tis true. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 154 Foure thousand Spaniards (for so the prisoner that we tooke delivered them to be upon his salvation).

†c. *Year of (man's) salvation*, a year reckoned from the birth of Christ: after med.L. *anno salutis.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 160 b, In the yeare of mans salvation .M.C.LXXI. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 624 About the yeere of Salvation 1328.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1886 *Times* 14 May 9/5 Mr. Campbell-Bannerman 'found salvation' in the shape of a conviction of the necessity of Home Rule, some time after the general election. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 88 Only those who have worked out their own photographic salvation can realize the difficulties to be overcome.

2. *gen.* Preservation from destruction, ruin, loss, or calamity. In mod. use chiefly with more or less allusion to sense 1.

†*For* or *in salvation of*: in order to save or preserve.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 10 (Camb. MS.) Shal I clepe it..a synne þat I haue desired the sanacion of the ordre of the senat. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* I. 208 That he shulde drenche Lorde and lady, grome and wenche, Of all the Troian nacion Withoute any savacion. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2, I havyng doute of harme of my body, in myn entent for salvation of myself dyd assemble thise persones. *c* 1430 *Brut* 438 To gouerne and kepe the londe..in sauacion of his pepull and good kepynge of his Rewme. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 (Harl. MS.) The lady drowe to a bord, the which bare hire to þe londe; And þe maister tooke an othir bord, and so passid to þe londe, But neither of hem knewe of otheris saluacion. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 202 In any thyng that he canne doo tochyng the savacyon of the dedys gode, other in lyflode, other in other godys, he sayth that he wyll doo. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 52/1 [Your Petitioner] in salvation of his lyffe..came forth and submitted hym to the said Riottours. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 11 The wife may doe this for salvacion of the state of the wardeine in chivalry. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xiv. 45 Shall Ionathan die, who hath wrought this great saluation in Israel? 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 18 The remedy..to which I owe the salvation of numbers, is cold bathing. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* X. lxvi. § 35. 147 Many a Burgoyne has capitulated because the means of salvation were not..put into his hands. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* ii. (1872) 65 When men have a purse and a skin, they seek salvation at least for these. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp. Amer.* 4 Dec. (1868) I. 184 What then do you think would have been the regard of the Government ..for personal liberty, if it interfered with..the salvation of the State? 1898 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 2/3 He thought the salvation of the District Company,..depended to a certain extent on the substitution of electricity for steam.

3. A source, cause or means of salvation; a person or thing that saves. Now chiefly in phr. *to be the salvation of.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 213 My right lady, my sauacyon. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Shepe & G.* 42 (Lansdowne MS.) Hors in cronyclis, wo-so looke a-riht, Hav be savacion to many a worthi knyht. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* xxvii. 1 The Lorde is my lyght, and my saluacion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 15 The talents and even the virtues of her first six French Kings were a curse to her. The follies and vices of the seventh were her salvation. 1878 HOLBROOK *Hyg. Brain* 62 Sleep is the salvation of the nervous system.

4. *Comb.*, as *salvation-monger, -work.*

1656 T. WATSON *One Thing necessary* 9 Salvation-work is difficult in regard of the deceits about the work. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. viii. 345 The arch-heretic Arminius, the salvation-monger.

Salva·tional, *a. rare.* [-AL.] Relating to or concerned with salvation.

1858 J. EADIE *Comm. Philippians* 44 His present Christ-like frame of spirit was salvational, if the expression may be coined—it was an index of present attainment, and the sure instrument of subsequent glory. 1894 *Thinker* Aug. 107 This purpose was of vital importance, if Israel was really to become Jehovah's salvational people in behalf of the Gentile world.

Salvation Army. An organization, on a quasi-military model, founded by the Rev. William Booth for the revival of religion among the masses in this and other countries.

The name was adopted in 1878 (the body until then was styled 'the Christian Mission'). The officers bear military titles ('general', 'captain', etc.). Both sexes take part in the work, of which open-air services are a prominent feature.

c 1880 BOOTH *Salvation Soldier's Song-bk.* No. 123 The Salvation Army is marching along. 1881 — *Doctr. & Discipl. Salvation Army* § 29 When the organization had been in existence some eleven years, we found that it was fashioned, substantially, on the model of an army, and as its object was the salvation of men, we named it..'The Salvation Army'.

Salva·tioner. *rare*—[1]. [-ER[1].] = SALVATIONIST.

1889 'M. GRAY' *Reproach of Annesley* III. VI. v. 209 The frantic Salvationers..make night and day hideous with profane bawlings.

Salva·tionism. [-ISM.] **a.** Religious teaching which lays prime stress on 'salvation', or the saving of the soul. **b.** The principles or methods of the Salvation Army.

1883 *American* VI. 233 The emotional variety of religion which is called 'salvationism'. 1889 *Academy* 11 May 319/3 The gentler aspects of Salvationism find their exponent here in the labours of a beautiful self-denying girl, who voluntarily gives herself to the service. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exper.* viii. 267 In their extreme forms, of pure naturalism and pure salvationism, the two types are violently contrasted.

Salva·tionist. [-IST.] A member of the Salvation Army.

1882 *Standard* 17 Jan., As the 'Salvationists' started on their 'triumphant march'..they were pelted with mud and brickbats. 1892 *Guardian* 13 Jan. 33/2 The Eastbourne Salvationists seem to believe that they serve their cause by making Sunday hideous.

†**Salvative,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. type **salvātīv-us*, f. *salvāre* to save: see -IVE.] ? Healing; or ? preservative (*for* = against).

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b] b, Archangel, physiognomising the fingers, is salvative for the fellon breeding on those parts.

†**Salva·tor**[1]. *Obs.* Also 5 -owr, 5–6 -our. [ME. *sa:lvatour*, ad. late L. *salvātōr-em* (accus.), agent-n. f. *salvāre* to SAVE. In quot. 1707 a. *salvātor* (nom.).] One who saves or delivers; esp. the Saviour, Christ.

a 1400 *Stacions of Rome* 298 (Vernon MS.) In þe Rof ouer þe popes se A saluatour þer may þou se Neuer I-peynted with hond of Mon. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 473 Our Salnatouris sepultur. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 123 b, Though eche of these were..helpers: and in maner salvatours of the people..but there was never none that was unyversall savyoure..but our lorde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 1 Sanct Saluatour I send siluer sorrow. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 860 Our Saluatour to fell the feyndis feid Was he not borne of the bour virginall? 1707 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. VII. 28 His holy Nose b'ing something greater Than that which grac'd our late Salvator [*i. e.* William III].

†**Salvator**[2]: see next.

Salvatory (sæ·lvătəri), *sb.* Also 7–8 **salvator**(e. [ad. med.L. *salvātōri-um* place of preservation (only *spec.* a fishpond), f. *salvāre* to SAVE. Sense 1 is due to association with SALVE *sb.*1]

†1. A box for holding ointment. *Obs.*

1549 *Will of T. Laund* (Somerset Ho.), A salvatory of syluer. 1561 VICARY *Will* in *Anat.* 189 My best plaister box, garnisshed with siluer, my salvitory of siluer. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 16 The Salvatorie if it contain six severall Unguents, it is sufficient for any present use. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* IV. ii, Thou art a box of worme-seede, at best, but a saluatory of greene mummey. 1638 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 438/1 The Surgeons Salvator or Salvatory, or his Box of Unguents..is a Box with a Lid made generally of Latin or Tin. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Salvatory*, a Surgeon's Box, with Partitions, to hold several sorts of Salves, Ointments, and Balsams. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5370/4 A Salvatore furnished with Balsam.

2. *gen.* A repository for safe storage. *rare.*

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. iv. 156 When I consider ..the admirable powers of Sensation, of Phantasie, of Memory, in what Salvatories or Repositories the Species of things past are conserved. 1863 JEAN INGELOW *Poems* 98 (*A Dead Year*) 'All the kings of the nations lie in glory' [see Isa. xiv. 18]; Cased in cedar, and shut in a sacred gloom; ..Silent they rest, in solemn salvatory.

Salvatory (sæ·lvătŏri), *a. rare.* [ad. L. **salvātōri-us*: see prec.] Saving, imparting safety or salvation (*to*).

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 525 Such and such redeeming points ..these salvatory accidents. 1852 JERDAN *Autobiog.* I. xvii. 131 To aid us in our salvatory endeavours [viz. to save a convict from execution]. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. xi. (1872) VI. 74 Fine feat, salvatory to the Cause of Liberty, and destructive of French influence. 1898 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Crook of Bough* 124 The raw young thinker who believes in the salvatory power of education.

†**Salvatrice.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *salvātrīc-em* (nom. *-trix*), f. *salvāre* to SAVE.]

1. A female saviour.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 67 [To our Lady] Oratrice, mediatrice, salvatrice.

2. Old name for one of the coats (*tunicæ*) of the eye; in full *tunicle salvatrice* (= L. *tunica salvatrix*).

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physic* I. xxx. (1596) 50 Some.. imagin but only two coates, the one whereof they tearme Saluatrix, because it saueth and keepeth the humors. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 54 The tunicle saluatrice. *Ibid.* 55 It is not safe to aduenture to cure it [the 'second pannicle'], when by continuance of time, it hath vnited it selfe with the saluatrice.

Salve (sāv), *sb.*1. Forms: 1 **salb, salf, sealf, sealfe,** 2 **sealfe,** 3 (Orm.) **sallfe,** 4 **sealve,** (**salft**), 4–5 **salf, save,** *Sc.* **sawve,** 4–9 *Sc.* **saw,** 5 **salffe,** 6 **saulve,** *Sc.* **saufe,** 7 **sawf,** 3– **salve.** [OE. *sealf* fem. = OS. *salba*, MLG. *salve* (whence MSw. *salva*, Sw. *salfva*, Da. *salve*), MDu. *salve, salf* (Du. *zalf*), OHG. *salpa, salba* fem., *salb, salp* neut. (MHG., G. *salbe* fem.):—OTeut. **salbā* str. fem. :—pre-Teut. **solpā*, cogn. w. Skr. *sarpis* clarified butter, *sṛpra* greasy, and Albanian *galpe* butter; perh. also with Gr. ὅλπη, ὅλπις oil-flask.]

1. A healing ointment for application to wounds or sores. See also EYESALVE, LIPSALVE.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 635 *Malagma*, salb. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 110 Genim þas ylcan wyrte, wyrc to salfe [*v.rr.* sealfe, sealue]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 5 Þeos sealf mihte beon geseald to þrim hund penegum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6477 Þe þridde þatt tezȝ gæfenn himm Wass an full deore sallfe, ..Myrra bi name nemmnedd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Ure Louerdes sonde þet brouhte hire salue uorto helen hire tittes. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM i. 18 And for þe goute sealue Me makeþe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlvi. (*Anastace*) 102 Bot mekly vald scho wesch þar fet, & with softe sawis þare saris bet. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 631 Now kan nat Canacee but herbes delue Out of the ground and make saues [*v.r.* salues] newe. 14.. *Sir Beues* 605 (MS. M.) With drinke and salffe she helid hym softe. 1530 PALSGR. 729/1, I splette a saulve abrode upon a clothe, *je placque.* 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 21 If an old wife had openly applied her one salve for all sores. 1704 W. KING *Orpheus & Eurydice* 152 She..bade him 'noint himself with salve; Such as those hardy people use, Who walk on fire without their shoes. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 242 Linen spread over with spermaceti salve. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlv, 'Twill hurt, but here are salves to friend you, And many a balsam grows on ground.

b. Formerly often (now *arch.*) in proverbial collocation with *sore.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27397 Til all sares sere es sett, salues sere to be wit bett. 1399 GOWER *Praise of Peace* 122 Ley to this olde sor a newe salve. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xxi. 363 Where there is no sore, there needes no salue. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 184 Or if better, Counsel or Consolation we may bring, Salve to thy Sores. 1825 JAMIESON s.v. *Saw*, Ye hae a saw for ilka sair.

c. A mixture, usually of tar and grease, for smearing sheep.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 44 To make brome salue [for sheep]. 1837 YOUATT *Mountain Sheph. Man.* 31 The scab —a disease which the common salve, made of tar and grease, seems effectually to resist. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1117 This compound..forms a salve for 100 sheep.

fig. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 129 b, As when we saye of a wanton childe, this shepe hath magottes in his tayle, he must be anoynted with byrchin salve, which speach I borow of the shephardes.

2. *fig.* a. A remedy (esp. for spiritual disease, sorrow, and the like). Now *rare.* See also 1 b.

c 1200 ORMIN 13489 Jesumm Mannkinne sawle sallfe,.. Himm hafe we nu fundenn. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Prudes salue is edmodnesse. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 888 Ich helpe monne on eiþer halue, Mi muþ haueþ tweire kunne salue. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 1133 Þank we now oure sa[u]youre, þat salue vs haþ brozt, Oure syke soules to saue, whan synne haþ hem soȝt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 370 Contricioun..Þat is the soureynest salue for alkyn synnes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1245, I am so drad of monyes scantnesse..Wisseth me how to gete a golden salue. *c* 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 203 And to my soule goosteli salue þou sende! 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* II. (1859) 541 That they may receive at their hand the comfortable salve of God's word. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 766 Schir, ȝe knaw, This raritie will be ane saw, To mak the word estemit moir Nor euir it was heirtofoir. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 457 Wherefore we have devised these letters as a salve for this mischiefe. *c* 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 8 Sinne hath no salue but mercy.

b. *esp.* Something which serves to soothe wounded feelings or honour, a tender conscience, etc.

This use has prob. developed from a misinterpretation or punning acceptation of phrases containing SALVE *sb.*4

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 669/1 This however was no Salve for the tender Consciences of the Quakers. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xli. (1865) V. 115 For them Horace had a salve in his specious disparagement of illustrious parentage. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv, Ranald had this salve for his conscience. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. ii. 54 Let us hope that this little salve to self-esteem never lost its efficacy.

c. *slang.* See quot., and cf. LIPSALVE.

1864 HOTTEN *Slang Dict., Salve*, praise, flattery, chaff.

3. *Comb.*, as *salve-box.*

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* III. i, A Sawf-box for a Wounded Conscience.

†**Salve,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* [a. F. *salve* (16th c.), ad. It. *salva*: see SALVO. Cf. G. *salve.*] A SALVO or discharge of fire-arms.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1151/1 At whose arriuall there..they sounded their trumpets, & with a thundering peale of great ordinance gaue a lowd salue vnto the Britains. 1587 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Let. to Leicester* 29 June (MS. Cotton Galba D I. 146–7), I and other English gentilmen will approch theire Boates in such sorte that we will force them to giue theire salue of Artillerie vppon vs. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 182 They made a Salue, euery one of the Musketiers three shot. 1635 BARRIFFE *Mil. Discipl.* CXX. (1643) 420 A salve is when 2, 3, or more rankes powre out all their shot together in one volly. 1637 R. MONRO *Exped.* II. 66 They were prepared with a firme resolution to receive us with a salve of Cannon and Muskets. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 47/2 In which state they entred the City of Naples, where the..Spanish Garrison, welcomed them with the continued thunder of the Cannons and salves of small shot. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxiv. 288 The Thundring of Nineteen hundred Canons at a Salve.

†**Salve,** *sb.*3 *Obs.* [Origin and meaning obscure: perh. some error.] Some kind of boat.

1588 ARCHDEACON tr. *True Disc. Army K. Spain* 36 There are 20. Carauels for the seruice of the aboue named Armie, and likewise 10 Saluës with sixe Oares a peece. [Reproduced by Strype, Tindal and Hume.]

†**Salve,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* [f. SALVE *v.*2 Cf. SALVO *sb.*1] a. A solution of a difficulty; also, a sophistical excuse or evasion. b. A 'salvo' or means of 'salving' a person's honour, etc.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 11 In their losse..there be buried many delicate images, and differences between the reall and large complexions of those active times, and the narrow salves of this effeminate age. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiii. 366 While we referre it unto the Moone, we give some satisfaction for the Ocean, but no generall salve for Creeks, and Seas which know no floud. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xliv. 114 The worst point in the case was that the Duke was a Bastard,..nor was there other salve thereto but the Norman custom, that made no difference. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xi. 49 They will rather hazard their honour, which may be salved with an excuse; than their lives, for which no salve is sufficient. 1657 *Treat. Conf. Sin* vi. 109 A discourse not capable of a Roman salve, but needing the spunge throughout, with a *deleatur.* 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 24 Whether what is said be a clear salve or a shuffle.

‖ **Salve** (sæ·lvī), *sb.*5 Also 6 **salvy.** [L. *salvē* 'hail!', 'good morning', 2nd sing. imper. of *salvēre* to be well or in good health. Cf. F. *salvé* in sense 2 (14th c. in Godefroy).]

1. The utterance of the word *salvē* (see above) or its equivalent; a greeting or salutation on meeting.

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 22 After he had curteously giuen her the *Salue. Ibid.* 196 To salute thee with a *Salue.* 1588 — *Metam.* ibid. IX. 20 An interchange of salues passed, between her and me. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 176 His Salve, or Present, when he came to his Disciples, [was] Peace be with you. 1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 56 But the amaze soon went off with a *salve tu quoque*, and a Bottle of Wine.

2. (More fully *Salve Regina.*) In the R. C. Ch., an antiphon, beginning 'Salve, Regina', now recited after the Divine Office from Trinity Sunday to Advent; also sung as a separate office or 'devotion'. Also, a musical setting for this.

1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 81 Also to-fore oure ladi in Senct Marie Chapell..1 Tapre of a pounde, to brenne euery euen of oure lady, and þ day as atte salue. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 5 That he be euery Day in the same Chirch after evensong, at the tyme of syngyng of Salue Regina. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 277 Item we fynde that for defaute of good prouision bothe of the chirche wardeyns and also of the mastirs of the salue, neither the priestis nor clarkis that ben retayned for the chirche wil nat com to our lady masse nor salue. 1557–8 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 103 For the Syngyn men that song at Salvy. *c* 1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 149 He dyd dyvers tymes helpe to singe salvaes at mattynes and even songe. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* III. 529 The *salmi, stabat maters, miserere*s, and *salve reginas*, with solo airs. 1888 *Century Mag.* Aug. 495/2 It is the hour of the Compline, the Salve, and the Angelus.

b. *attrib.*, as †*Salve time*; †**Salve-light,** a candle lighted during the singing of the *Salve.*

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 114, ij Tapers to stonde on the Auter of our lady..þer to be lighte and brenne at Salue tyme. 1486 *Will of W. Cromwell* in *Misc. Gen. & Her.* Ser. III. I. 95 To the lighting of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the same chapel, called Salvelight.

Salve (sāv), *v.*1 Forms: 1 **sealfian,** 3 *Ormin* **sallfenn,** 5 **salf**(e, **sauf, save,** 6 **sawve,** (9 *dial.* **sauve, soave, sove**), 3– **salve.** [OE. *sealfian* = OFris. *salvia*, OS. *salbōn*, MLG. *salven* (mod.LG. *salven, salfen*; Da. *salve* from LG.), MDu. *salven* (Du. *zalven*), OHG. *salbōn* (MHG. and mod.G. *salben*), Goth. *salbōn*:—OTeut. **salbōjan*, f. **salbā* SALVE *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To anoint (a wound, wounded part) with salve or healing unguent. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 800 *Erfurt Gloss.* 325 *Delibutus*, ȝisalbot. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 406/13 *Fotam*, sealfode. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3132 (Dubl.) He gart seke þair sarys & þaim salue with suurgers noble. 1530 PALSGR. 697/2, I salve, or playster a sore bodye with salves, *je emplastre.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 17 Where many skilfull leaches him abide To salve his hurts, that yet still freshly bled. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 38 Where is he that salved and cured him which was wounded by the Theives? 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* II. xxvi. 176 There are some, who by all means would have Fractures salved and annointed. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, Marry, her husband that made the weapon might have salved the wound. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxiii, Is there a wound on your limbs, which my hands have not salved?

†b. To anoint to an office. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 13243, & Crist bitacneþþ uss þatt mann þatt smeredd iss & sallfedd, Nohht þurrh nan eorþlizz smere, acc all þurrh Haliz Gastess sallfe.

c. In figurative contexts, where the language is literal; esp. in phr. *to salve a sore.* †Also with *up.*

c 1200 ORMIN 9427 Alls iff he brohhte læchedom & herrtess eȝhesallfe, To sallfenn & to clennsenn firrst þe follkess herrtess eȝhe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 194 Þe gostliche hurtes ne þuncheð nout sore, ne ne saluеð ham mid schrifte. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 15 Þou ert god my hele þat salues þe wounde of my syn. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9193 There is no medcyn on mold, saue the maiden one, þat my sors might salue, ne me sound make. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Testament* Min. Poems (Percy Soc.) 248 Sauf al my soorys that they nat cankryd be With noon old rust of disesperaunce. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 52 Al which sores I haue salued vp with apt plasters. 1604 CHURCHYARD (*title*) A blessed Balme to search and salue Sedition. 1623 T. SCOT *Tongue-Combat* 54 Matters..did..salve vp this sore from further festring. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 249 Since plain speech salves the wound it seems to make.

†d. *intr.* To smear salve *upon* a sore; in quot. *fig. Obs. rare.*

1579 LODGE *Def. Poetry* 42 But after your discrediting of playmaking, you salue vppon the sore somewhat.

e. *trans.* To smear (sheep) with a mixture of tar and butter, or the like. Cf. GREASE *v.* 2.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 44 A medicyne to salue poore mennes shepe, that thynke terre to costely. 1544 *Supplic. Hen. VIII* (E.E.T.S.) 39 A shepherde..which nother wolde nor coulde feade, handle, salue, nor ones see his shepe commytted to his charge. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 349 To *salve sheep*, to dress them with tar and grease. 1860 KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH *Scarsdale* II. 79 He would linger three or four days to help to 'salve' the sheep.

†2. In extended sense: To heal or remedy (a disease). Chiefly *fig.*, to heal (sin, sorrow, etc.).

1411 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 164 Þe holy gost saluеþ soule syknesse. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7719 No tryacle may the venym saue. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxvi. (Shaks. Soc.) 253 Alle your langoris salvyn xal he. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 320/1 We are not worthie that God should salve our sinnes gently and with a fatherly affection. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 187 But Christ saluеth this disease, for he fulfilled the lawe for vs. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Glasse* (1598) D 3, Content thee sweet, ile salue thy sorrow straight. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. 1. i. (1651) 220 They can..salve gouts, epilepsies [etc.]. 1624 QUARLES *Job* Div. Poems (1717) 180 Why, rather, didst not thou remove my sin, And salve the sorrows that I raved in?

†b. To heal (a person) *of* (sickness, sin, etc.).

Occas. found coupled with *sawe* (see quots. 1377, *c* 1470).

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 22 Of þis sunne lauerd loke me nu salue. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 202 For to saluen [*Lamb. Hom.* 187 sauuin] seke ine sunnen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 212 Cryst to a comune woman seyde..þat *fides sua* shulde sauen hir and saluen hir of alle synnes. *Ibid.* XX. 303 Go salue þo þat syke ben and þorw synne ywounded. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XX. 266 Þe sight of þe Hath salued vs of all oure sore. *Ibid.* XXIX. 263 He saluеd þame of sikenesse. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 793 The king..prayt to the grete God to grant him his grace, Him to saue and to salf. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 599 His stripes are plasters to salve me. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. v. 43 For, seeking thus to salve the Amazon, She wounded was with her deceipts owne dart.

†c. To soothe, mitigate, assuage (an 'appetite').

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 11 Neuer endeauoring to tame and salue their wilde appetites.

†3. *fig.* To heal, remedy, mend, make good, make up, smooth over (something amiss, a troubled state of affairs, a defect, offence, disgrace, dispute, etc.).

In many examples not distinguishable from SALVE *v.*2

1575 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 246 They seeke not to salue what is amisse. 1579 E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. to Harvey P 1, Which default whenas some endevoured to salve and recure. 1587 GREENE *Penelopes Web* D 3, The lady Barmenissa,..still salued her want with labour and

her pouertie with patience. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 21 But Ebranck salved both their infamies With noble deedes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 509 If my conjecture missed the truth, the confession of my errour may salue it. *c* 1622 FORD, etc. *Witch Edmonton* I. i, To salve the infamy Of my disgraced house. 1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 341 Which, 'tis thought, will salve the difference betwixt the two houses about the treason bill. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Salve the Matter*, to make up a Business, so as to come off well. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 63 His Confirmation salved all defects.

†b. with intensive *up*. *Obs.*

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiii. (1596) 217 That steward, whom his master called to accompt, reseruing a good portion of the goods to his owne behoofe, salued vp all his reckonings, and got his quietus est. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 2 (1619) 571 These speaches are farre off from saluing vp the matter. 1656 FINETT *For. Ambass.* 222 In observation of which direction I repaired to them, salved up all as dextrously as I could. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. II. 230 There will be a Θεὸς ἀπὸ μηχανῆς, Christ coming in the Clouds, that shall salve up all.

4. *fig.* (From sense 1, after phrases containing SALVE *v.*[2]) To soothe, 'lay flattering unction to' (irritated feeling, 'wounded pride', an uneasy conscience, etc.). Also *to salve over*.

1825 LAMB *Unitarian Protests*, So long as you Unitarians could salve your consciences with the *æquivoque*. 1831 CAMPBELL *Power of Russia* 70 Rome could impart what Russia never can—Proud civic right to salve submission's shame. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xiv, I salved over that feeling, being desirous to see everything in the brightest light. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xii, At first Chousam would hear of nothing but 'l-a-w'. Bullfrog's wounded honour could only be salved that way. *Ibid.* xxv, Jack salved his conscience over with the old plea of duty. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 144 Or any of the other benefits by which we seek to compensate the natives..and salve our own consciences. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xv. 343 A supreme satisfaction —salving over many wounds of vanity. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 373 In the endeavour to salve their wounded pride.

b. *To salve over*: to talk over or persuade by smooth speech. *collog.*

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* I. xi. 157 'Lady Augusta and Dr. Burrows are great friends, you know'; and we hear that they have been salving over Pye—' 'Gently, Tom!' put in Mr. Channing. 'Talking over Pye, then,' corrected Tom.

†**Salve,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [app. ad. L. *salvāre* to SAVE.

In the astronomical sense 1, the L. form was prob. adopted because the vernacular *save* did not sufficiently indicate the technical import of the word. In this use the word became virtually equivalent to 'solve', 'explain', and it seems probable that sense 2 (though in our quots. appearing earlier) arose as a generalized application of this notion. The remaining uses were no doubt suggested by mod. Latin phrases like *salvo jure, salvo honore*, etc.; see SALVO *sb.*[1]

1. *Astr.* To SAVE (*the appearances, the phenomena*), i. e. to frame a hypothesis which will account for all the observed facts of the apparent motions of the heavenly bodies. Hence *gen.*, to account for, explain by hypothesis. (Cf. SOLVE *v.*, used in the same phrases.)

1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vi. (1635) 140 To salue this Apparence, Ptolomy inuented a slow motion of the Starry Heauen. 1647 HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. iv. § 4. 95 Who to salue these different observations invented a new Hypothesis, which yet was not received by Astronomers of after times. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. § 2 (1643) 207 Serving to no other purpose but to salve the annuall motion of the earth. 1646 [see PHENOMENON 1 c]. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* IV. xxvi. 320 That circular motion (which is commonly attributed to them) about a fixed Axis,..is insufficient to salve their Appearances. 1662 BOYLE *Def. Doctr. Spring of Air* II. v. 57 To salve the Phænomena of the Torricellian Experiment. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 18 Such perplexities must needs arise, when men will undertake to salve the inward operations of the soul by meer motion. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 8 A remarkable coincidence, which tho Astrology hath taken witty pains to salve, yet hath it been very wary in making predictions of it. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxix, Inventers, whose discoveries have only salved the Phœnomena.

2. To clear up, explain, account for (a difficulty, point in dispute, etc.); to overcome (a doubt, objection); to harmonize or reconcile (a discrepancy).

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* xv. (1633) 48 Here Cambrensis to salve the contradiction, thinketh [etc.]. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 80 If the first doubt may be salued. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 475 So, by making the seventeenth yeare of Jeroboam to be newly begun, all may be salved. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Pop.* ii. (1689) 172 As for those phrases then of *Repenting, Grieving*, &c., which are spoken of God in the Scriptures; that συγκατάβασις, whereof St. Chrysostom so often speaketh, salveth them. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 80 What may we do then to salve this seeming inconsistence? 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. v. § 20 To salve all, some have found out another Patrick, called Seniour, or Sen Patrick. 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 3 The reason given by some Interpreters seems not sufficient to salve the Knot. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. 82 And this does salve two Objections at once. 1686 R. DUNNING *Overseer of Poor* 11 This Exception may be thus salved. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. (1724) 199 The objection before us, tho we could not salve the difficulties in it,..yet ought to be no prejudice against the belief of the immortality of the soul. 1744 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. I conceive, this will not salve the matter at all.

b. To explain away, excuse by a 'salvo'.

1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Cozens* 73 What answer can you make to mittigate or salue this bloody and soule-slaying sinne? 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. § 20. 202 He flew out into some expressions indeed, but yet such as in other places he doth either salve or contradict.

3. To render tenable, obviate the objections to (an opinion); to vindicate from incredibility (an alleged fact).

1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* III. ix. 397 To salue their beggerly doctrine. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xviii. § 2 Such.. labour to salve the truth of the Propheticall prediction. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iii. 19 But the soul subsisting, other matter clothed with due accidents, may salve the individuality. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 88 There was no way to salve the eternity or antiquity of the World..but by supposing innumerable deluges and deflagrations. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. v. 298 As the *esse reale* salves the infinity, so the *esse formale* does equally secure the ideality. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 116 To salve their Hypothesis, They make bold with the..Construction of the Words.

4. To preserve or maintain unhurt (one's honour, credit, reputation, etc.). Hence, to preserve the credit of, make good (one's oath, etc.).

In the later examples prob. apprehended by the writers as a figurative use of SALVE *v.*[1]: see SALVE *v.*[1] 4.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 27 To salve his name And purchase honour to his friends behalve. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. ii, I devised a formal tale That salv'd your reputation. 1628 HOBBES tr. *Thucyd.* I. (1629) 65 *marg.*, The Oracles were alwayes obscure, that evasion might be found to salue their credit. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashful Lover* V. i, My onely Child Being provided for, her honor salv'd too. 1657 W. MORICE *Cæna quasi* Κοινή Pref. 9 The gentleman hath in one respect salved the honor of his judgement. 1689 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Jan., They were all for a Regency, thereby to salve their oathes. 1697 T. SMITH *Voy. Constantinople* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 7 The Seamen, to salve their Credit, and to excuse their Error,..pretended that we were set in by a strong Current. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 262 He was forced to make use of an Equivocation to salve his Oath. *a* 1721 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 433 His Truth in Threats to punish Guilt, Was salv'd in Blood of Jesus spilt. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* IV. vii. (1806) II. 402 Those who believe that the character of a woman is salved by such a forced engagement. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XXII. 133 An afterthought to salve decorum.

b. *refl.* To save one's credit.

1657 W. MORICE *Cæna quasi* Κοινή XII. 156 Unless perhaps they can think to salve themselves by saying [etc.].

c. With *from*: To clear from a charge or imputation of.

1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* 243 Charles left behind no harsh decree For schoolmen with laborious art To salve from cruelty.

d. To save the credit of (an author).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. ii. 182 In these considerations must Aristotle be salved, when hee affirmeth the heart of man is placed in the left side.

Salve (sælv), *v.*[3] [Back-formation from SALVAGE.] *trans.* To save (a ship, its cargo) from loss at sea; to save (property) from destruction by fire; to make salvage of.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Salve*, to save or preserve: as *To Salve a Ship or the Goods of it*. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5330/3 Clarets and White Wines salved..out of two Dutch Ships lost in January. 1796 J. TROUTBECK *Scilly Isl.* 229 Part of her cargo was driven on shore, and..consisted of wine and oil. After it was salved, some of the inhabitants insisted on one half in kind. 1888 in *Pall Mall G.* 1 June 10/2 In 1886 this gun was salved, having lain nearly 100 years below the sea. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 8/7 The Steamer..has stranded at the entrance to the harbour: means are being taken to lighten and salve her.

absol. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 21 Dec. (Cassell), Crews of twenty boats scattered all over the islands are salving as quickly as they can.

Hence **Salved** *ppl.a.*, **Sa·lving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1869 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 7/2 The wreck lying in a favourable position for salving operations. 1884 SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 9 Probate Div. 203 The salving vessel is often herself exposed to imminent peril. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Feb. 8/3 The value of the salved vessel was £225,000. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 113 The small craft which clung to our side receiving the salved cargo.

Salve, obs. form of SAFE, SAVE.

†**Salvedi·ction.** *Obs.*—° [f. L. *salvē* hail, imp. of *salvēre* to be well, after VALEDICTION.] Salutation on meeting.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 237 *Salvediction*, accost, greet, hail. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Salvediction*, a greeting or bidding God save.

†**Salvee.** *Obs.* [Precise formation uncertain: cf. SALVE *sb.*[3]] A SALVO (of fire-arms).

1632 *Swed. Intelligencer* II. 169 Teaching them especially how to give a Charge or Salvee; some upon their knees, others behind them stooping forward; and the hindmost ranke standing upright, and all to give fire at once. *c* 1651 G. GORDON *Contin. Hist. Earls Sutherld.* (1813) 526 At the first incounter they gave the Lord Gordon a salvee of shot from the folds, where he was slayn, with dyvers others.

Salvelin, -ine (sæ·lvĭlin), *a. Ichth.* [ad. mod.L. *salvelinus* sb. (Linnæus), specific name of the char, prob. ad. Ger. *salbling* (in 17th c. *salvelin*, Willughby *Hist. Pisc.* 195): see SAIBLING.] Belonging to the species (now usually regarded as a sub-genus or genus) *Salmo salvelinus*, the char.

1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 59 [heading of page] Salvelin Trout. 1891 *Century Dict., Salveline.*

Salvenap, variant form of SANAP.

†**Sa·lver**[1]. *Obs. rare.* Also salvour. [f. SALVE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who salves or heals; applied to Christ or the Virgin Mary.

14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 146 Heyle tho saluer of our solace. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 4 Heil comeli queene,.. Heil be saluour of al sore! *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 507 Hayll! saluer of our sores sere. *a* 1500–34 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays, Weavers* 956 But I troo amonst vs he [Christ] be sent To be the saluer of owre sore.

Salver[2] (sæ·lvəɹ). Also 7 salvor. [Formed (with suffix *-er* after *platter* or some other word of like meaning) on F. *salve* (1666 in Hatz.-Darm.), a tray used for presenting certain objects to the king, ad. Sp. *salva* (= Pg. *salva*), primarily 'a foretasting, as to a prince' (Minsheu 1617), the 'assaying' of food or drink (= CREDENCE *sb.* 6), and hence a tray or salver on which the cup was placed when the tasting had shown that its contents were free from danger (cf. CREDENCE *sb.* 7), f. *salvo* SAFE *a.* or *salvar* to save, render safe, to 'assay' food or drink. Cf. the synon. SERVER (late 17th c.).

Minsheu 1617 explains Sp. *salva* as 'the lid of the cup, in which it is customary to taste the drink before presenting it to a prince', but this is perh. a misunderstanding.]

A tray, used for handing refreshments or for presenting letters, visiting-cards, etc.

For the earlier sense, see quot. 1661.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Salver* (from *salvo*, to save) is a new fashioned peece of wrought plate, broad and flat, with a foot underneath, and is used in giving Beer, or other liquid thing, to save the Carpit or Cloathes from drops. 1685 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 242 Presented for the use of this Ch. one Silver Salver. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/4, 3 Silver Porringers, 3 Salvors one of them deep, two flat. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 160 These Dishes have feet like our Salvers, but almost half a Foot high. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* II. i, Where are my new japan salvers? 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* i. Wks. 1751 XIV. 19 Gather the Droppings and Leavings, out of the several Cups and Glasses and Salvers, into one. 1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 159 Between each Act the trembling salvers ring, From soup to sweetwine, and God bless the King. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxii. (1841) I. 207 Six fine large silver salvers to serve sweetmeats. 1759 *Compl. Lett.-writer* (ed. 6) 229 The company treated..with morning salvers of champaigne. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl, Nor would he permit her to break off a fragment, and lay the rest on the salver. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 238 Great trays of tea and coffee and bounteous salvers of cake, biscuits [etc.]. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xv, Always brings in a letter on a salver. 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* xiv. II. 96 A ubiquitous mess-waiter..presently appeared with the visitor's card on a salver. 1888 M. ROBERTSON *Lombard St. Myst.* iv, On the silver salver enriching the hall-table.

†b. ? A dish on which a jelly or the like is served up for the table.

1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 332 If you want it for the middle, turn it out upon a salver. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 187 When you turn them [the jellies] out, dip your bason in warm water,..then turn your dish or salver upon the top of your bason, and turn your bason upside down.

c. *Comb.* **Salver-shaped** *a.* (*Bot.*) = HYPOCRATERIFORM.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. (1776) 7 Hypocrateriform, Salver-shaped. 1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 218 Vinca..Bloss. salver-shaped. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 380 Hypocrateriform or salver-shaped [corolla], when there is a straight tube surmounted by a flat spreading limb, as in Primula. 1877–84 F. E. HULME *Wild Fl.* p. x, Larger Periwinkle.—Corolla salver-shaped.

Salver, obs. form of SALVOR.

Salverform (sæ·lvəɹˌfōm), *a. Bot.* [f. SALVER[2] + -FORM.] = HYPOCRATERIFORM. (Cf. SALVER[2] c.)

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 37 Corolla salverform. 1880 [see HYPOCRATERIMORPHOUS].

Salvetee, -ie, obs. forms of SAFETY.

‖**Salvia** (sæ·lviă). *Bot.* and *Gardening.* [L. *salvia* SAGE *sb.*[1]] A large genus (Tournefort 1700) of *Labiatæ*, including the common sage; a plant of this genus (in popular use, chiefly applied to the ornamental varieties).

1844 LADY G. FULLERTON *Ellen Middleton* (1854) II. xiv. 149 Some sprigs of the deep red salvia were fastened in her hair. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* III. 43 There were great bands of scarlet salvia blossoming. 1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* ix, The flower beds flamed with geraniums and salvias. 1900 MRS. DEVEREUX in *Academy* 3 Feb. 104/1 Terraces radiant with red salvia, and golden with orange trees.

†**Salvi·fic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *salvific-us* saving, f. *salv-us*: see SAFE *a.* and -FIC.] Tending to save, causing salvation.

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. M 2 b, The mair that this Countrie is watered by that saluifik and heauenlie dewe. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *On Hebr.* xiii. 15 The sacrifice of salvifick praise. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 65 There is most use for them, when their presence is salvifique and repulsive. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 511 To Souls born blind, their cheerful Sight, The Radiance of Salvifick Light.

†**Salvi·fical,** *a. Obs.* [See -AL.] = prec.

1581 STUBBES *Two Wunderf. Examp.* in *Shaks. Soc. Papers* (1849) IV. 85 Or els we neuer can be saued by Jesus Christ his death, A sacrifice saluifical to them that liue by faithe. 1637 BP. REYNOLDS *Serm. July 12th* (1638) 39 The Foundation of Salvation, whatsoever things are simply and absolutely necessary to the spiritual, vitall, and salvifical state of a Christian. 1642 J. JACKSON *Bk. Conscience* 58 That faith is..no true, justifying, salvificall faith. 1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* Ep. Ded. 1 Such [things] as concern our Souls salubrity or salvifical felicity. 1678 T. JONES *Heart & Right Sov.* 586 He is of this salvifical church.

Hence †**Salvi·fically** *adv.*

1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 11 There is but One Who died salvifically for us.

Salving (sā·vĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SALVE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of anointing with salve (*lit.* and *fig.*);

healing as if with salve, soothing. †Also semi-*concr.*, a healing application.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29020 Saluing þat es for þe fot es noght for mans heued bote. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 334 Harke sone! sum saluyng of our sare. 1584 *Mirr. Mag.* 24 For the saluynge of which, and all other Infirmyties, of the commonwealth, her Godly wisdome..established many Medicinable Lawes. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xii. (1592) 177 Hauing recourse..to searing, cutting, launcing, and sawuing of euery sore. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 330 Some waters are better..for..washing, brewing, salving, boyling of meat. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1154 On the approach of winter, they are..brought home in order to undergo the operation of smearing or salving. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* vii. 183 Though a Moslem he drinks wine, but says aloud for the salving of his conscience, 'It is only sugar and water'. 1887 *Athenæum* 3 Dec. 745/1 There is no commonplace salving of her wounds by the provision of an earl or a viscount in the third volume.

†Sa·lving, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SALVE *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] In senses of the vb.

1575 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 369 Therwth a salving allwaies of yᵉ libertie of yᵉ Cittie. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 20 Now therefore, Lady, rise out of your paine, And see the salving of your blotted name. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 447 But how little soever some bodies may be, yet I will not suppose their quantity to be less than is requisite for the salving of the phenomena. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref. 6 Epicurus..did by violence introduce Liberty of Will, into his Hypothesis; for the Salving whereof, he ridiculously devized, That his Third Motion of Atoms.

Salving (sā·ving), *ppl. a.* [f. SALVE *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] Healing as with salve, soothing.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. xli. 242 This was what I returned, with warmth, and with a salving art, too.

‖ **Salvinia** (sælvi·niă). [mod.L., named by Micheli in 1729 after Antonio Maria *Salvini* (1653–1729), a Greek scholar of Florence.] The typical genus of the N.O. *Salviniaceæ* of small cryptogamous plants; a plant of this genus.

1887 *Athenæum* 7 May 610/3 The ferns with the salvinias and marsilias are united into one group.

Hence **Salvinia·ceous** *a.*, pertaining to the N.O. *Salviniaceæ*.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Salviniaceus*, applied by Bartling to a Family (*Salviniaceæ*..), having the *Salvinia* for their type: salviniaceous. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Salviol (sæ·lvi,ol). *Chem.* [f. L. *salvi-a* SAGE *sb.*[1] + -OL.] A liquid body present in oil of sage.

1877 MUIR & SUGIURA in *Lond.*, etc. *Philos. Mag.* 5th Ser. IV. 345 For this liquid, which represents the oxidized liquid constituent of sage-oil, we propose the name of salviol.

Salvo (sæ·lvo), *sb.*[1] [a. L. *salvō*, abl. neut. sing. of *salvus* uninjured, intact, SAFE *a.*, as occurring in med.L. law phrases like *salvo servicio forinseco*, 'foreign service excepted', *salvo jure* (*jūre* abl. sing. of *jūs* right) 'without prejudice to the right of' (some specified person).]

1. A saving clause; a provision that a certain engagement or ordinance shall not be binding where it would interfere with a specified right or obligation; a reservation. Const. *of*, †*to* (a right, etc.).

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* x. § 650 (1657) 241 In this case, this *Salvo* shall make the Donee to hold of the Donor by Knights service. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xli. (1739) 68 In case any one died intestate, the Children should equally divide the Goods; which I take to be understood with a salvo of the Wife's Dower or Portion. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* xiv. 114 They admit anie man's senses of it, though divers, or contrarie; with anie salvo's, cautions and reservations. 1655 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 22 If they could propose any expedient with a salvo to the security of that Nation, hee was willinge to answer their desires therein. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 172 Neither let the condition of Books..and Records burnt or lost, be unprovided for by some Good and Grave Salvo, pleadable for the Loosers Indempnitie. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 53 ¶ 7 However any one may concur,..it is still..with a Salvo to his own private Judgment. 1754 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1761) I. viii. 176 In these words was virtually implied a salvo for the rights of their order. 1819 J. MILNER *End Relig. Controv.* (ed. 2) 100 Judges have even refused to admit the following Salvo in addition to the Subscription. 1826 C. BUTLER *Life Grotius* vi. 105 With an express salvo of their right to liberty of conscience. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 532 He..wished to find out some salvo which might sooth his conscience. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* (1868) 109 A qualification, or salvo, that very nearly unchristianizes Christianity itself. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 155 It contained a salvo of the rights of the nation.

†**b.** Reservation of a point in dispute. *Obs.*

a 1644 LAUD *Troub. & Trial* (1695) 274 Here I desired a Salvo, till I might bring Arch-Bishop Parker's Book, to shew his Judgment in this Point.

2. In unfavourable sense: A dishonest mental reservation; a quibbling evasion; a consciously bad excuse.

1665 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 166 Within Spahawn I found that Column or Pillar of Heads of Men and Beasts which was erected as a Salvo and expiation of the King's Oath. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 78 Some pitiful salvo or silly evasion to blind the eyes. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xiv. 479 This looks now like a Salvo to come off with Mr. B. and to reconcile the New Piece and the Old together; but it's perfectly a Banter upon him. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 ¶ 12 The new Salvo to satisfy a Man's Conscience in sacrificing his Friend. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 80 He flatt'ry hated, Counsel well could time, And never studied Salvos for a crime. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *Y. Kettlewell* III. xliv. 299 Most also did seem bent to take up with any Shift or Salvo, which might ease them of such Duties. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxv. 261 There never was a rogue who had not a salvo to himself for being so. 1757 J. EDWARDS *Orig. Sin* (1837) II. II. i. 135 This evasion or Salvo is so far from helping the matter, or salving the inconsistence, that it increases and multiplies it. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. x. (Rtldg.) 369 My tongue gave consent; but with a salvo in my heart..to give him the slip just at the moment of embarkation. 1828 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 26 Aug., Some new attempt on his part to find a salvo for staying in office. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* liv. (1865) VI. 400 For all the iniquities he himself practised, he had no doubt a salvo in his own breast.

†**b.** *Under the salvo of*: on pretext of. *Obs.*

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 471 After having taken our Leaves under the Salvoe of a chearful Glass, we weighed Anchor.

†**3.** A solution, explanation (of a difficulty), an answer (to an objection). *Obs.*

1659 *Gentl. Calling* viii. § 25 Let not men therefore pretend the fear of reproach, as an excuse, since here is so ready a salvo for that objection. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 305 Some of the ancient and learned Fathers..apprehended this to be a convenient Salvo for this Difficulty, to suppose that Orpheus had by Fits and Turns, been of different Humours and Perswasions. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. cii, Great men are like the heavenly bodies that find much veneration but no rest, unless we find a Salvo for their having the latter, by saying what the Philosophers do of the Heavens, that *Movendo quiescunt*. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* II. Wks. 1799 II. 71 *Jack.* But then how comes the note to remain in plaintiff's possession? *Serj.* Well put, Jack; but we have a salvo for that.

4. An expedient for saving (a person's reputation) or soothing (offended pride, conscience).

Cf. obs. F. *salve-d'honneur*, and the med.L. phrase *salvo honore*.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) III. xvii. 138 Lady L... cannot help throwing in a salvo for the pride of her Sex. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlii. (1820) 221 As a salvo for his own reputation, he has been advised to traduce the character of a brave officer. 1778 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 64 The minister was humorously advised, as the only means of extricating himself from that dilemma, and as affording the only salvo in his power for the indignity offered to that House, to impeach those ministers. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* v. (1848) 180 This account of the matter affords the most favourable salvo for their reputation. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* xxxix. (1810) II. 184 The only object of the present negotiation is to find a salvo for the punctilious honour of the Spaniards. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. ii. (1866) 678 This would be a salvo for the disgrace of removing them. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* viii. 513 The law..is transformed into a salvo to conscience, by which others are condemned rather than self rectified.

Salvo (sæ·lvo), *sb.*[2] In 6 **salva.** [Originally *salva*, a. It. *salva* (whence F. *salve*) = Sp., Pg. *salva* salutation, salvo, perh. a Common Rom. formation on L. *salvē* hail! (see SAFE *a.*).

The change from *-a* to *-o* in the ending of words from It., Sp., and Pg. is common: cf. -ADO.]

1. A salute consisting in the simultaneous discharge of artillery or other firearms.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 347 Display the Standard, let the News be shown, With Salvos raise the Genius of the Town. 1815 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* App. (ed. 2) 319 Salvoes of artillery were fired on the evening of the 24th to announce the commencement of the fête. 1834 E. EVERETT *Orations & Sp.* (1850) I. 522 When your cannons proclaimed his advent with joyous salvos. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. ix, Salvos of cannon saluting him. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. xix. 485 Those ships of Spain, which lay there,..discharging salvoes of anticipated triumph.

attrib. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. iv, And, from the platform, spare ye not To fire a noble salvo-shot.

2. A simultaneous discharge of artillery or other firearms, whether with hostile intent or otherwise.

The earliest sense in Eng.; it was developed already in Italian.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 11 If..his company be commanded to discharge certain volies of shot, or a salua, he must either hold his Peece side-long the ranckes, or [etc.]. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 569 As we found them [the enemy] within Gun-shot, our Leader ordered the two Wings to advance swiftly and give them a Salvo on each Wing with their Shot. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvii, After bursting their gates with a salvo of our cannon. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 83 Occasionally firing salvoes at the part to be brought down. 1879 FIFE-COOKSON *Armies of Balkans* viii. 124 The Russians..were firing salvoes by batteries of eight guns. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eyewitness* 93 When a movement of men was discernible on the ridge, a salvo was discharged, and the blow..would alter the shape of the rocks before our very eyes.

b. *transf.* (Chiefly, a 'volley' of applause.)

[Cf. F. *salve d'applaudissements*, etc.]

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 95 (1740) 578 All which was performed with fitting Salvos of the Rabble echoed from the Club. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 277 Amidst deafening salvos of applause. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xlix, The fair occupants of the balcony favored Kenyon with a salvo of confetti. 1875 G. JACQUE *Hope*, etc. ii. 26 Peals of laughter break out here and there The dread sardonic salvos of despair. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. viii. 221 A great round of applause from their ranks set everybody peering towards the door, only to encounter the stern gaze of the magnificent beadle, whose entry had prompted the salvoes.

c. Of rockets, etc.

1799 [G. SMITH] *Laboratory* I. 38 Of Salvo's. These, in fire-works, are a great number of strong iron reports, fixed either in a post or plank, and, with a fire, discharged at once. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.* s.v., A salvo of rockets.

†**3.** A salutation or salute. *Obs. rare.*

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiv. 89 Whereupon with great devotion and zeal we sung a Salvo, before an image of Our Lady. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. viii. 218 Whenever an Opportunity offered, to..meet her in the Street, I would give her a Hat Salvo, with a low Bow.

Sa·lvo, *v.* [f. SALVO *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To salute (a vessel, etc.) by firing of a salvo or volley of guns.

1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* viii, See the gunners ready with their linstocks to salvo the supercargo.

‖ **Sa·lvo,** *prep. rare*—[1]. [L. *salvō*: see SALVO *sb.*[1]] Excepting, saving.

1601 A. C[OPLEY] *Answ. Let. Jesuited Gentl.* 19 Let them either yet make amends..or else be sure that they sit fast; for that (*saluo* the Appeale) they are like to carrie as good as they bring.

Sal volatile (sæ:l vŏlæ·tilĕ). [a. mod.L. *sal volātile* 'volatile salt': see SAL and VOLATILE *a.*] Ammonium carbonate, *esp.* an aromatic solution of this used as a restorative in fainting fits.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. v. 197 'Tis that fire, that *sal volatile* which makes them of so strange agility. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 16/3 Betty ran for a Glass of Water, her Sister, for the Sal-Volatile. 1727 SWIFT, etc. *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 160 A sufficient quantity of the vivifying drops, or Byfield's *sal volatile*. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 458/1 A preparation called in the *Pharmacopœia*, *Spiritus Ammoniæ Aromaticus*, and commonly *Spirit of Sal Volatile*. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* I. 124 Let me send for a glass of wine or some *sal-volatile*.

attrib. 1731 FIELDING *Lottery* iii, Here are some hartshorn and sal-volatile drops.

Salvor (sæ·lvəɹ, sæ·lvɔ̄ɹ). Forms: 7–8 **salver,** 9– salvor. [f. SALVE *v.* + -OR.]

1. One who saves or helps to save vessels or cargo from loss at sea; one who effects or attempts salvage.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1277/4 A..Ketch,..being forsaken by all her men, was..taken up by John Duncke..and by him brought into that Port, and there secured by the Saluer until the right Proprietor shall appear and make out his Propriety. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Salver*, one that has sav'd a Ship or its Merchandizes. 1802 ABBOTT *Law Merch. Ships* III. x. 322 The labor and peril incurred by the salvors. 1839 STORY *Bailments* § 622. 391 Wherever a ship and cargo, or any part thereof, are saved at sea by the exertions of any persons from impending perils, or are recovered after an actual abandonment or loss, such persons are denominated salvors; and they are entitled to a compensation for their services, which is known by the name of salvage. 1883 *Times* 28 Nov. 9 The salvors, at great personal risk, put off in a small skiff. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 61 The captain is beset by a gang of salvors.

b. One who saves or attempts to save some one from drowning.

1890 *Daily News* 16 Oct. 7/1 Among the..cases of saving, or attempting to save life from drowning..there are 13 in which the salvors' ages ranged from eight years to 16. 1891 *Ibid.* 24 Oct. 2/6 Watching the peril in which the salvor and his burden were placed.

2. A vessel used in salvage.

1815 DODSON *Adm. Rep.* I. 415 The question was, whether the post-office packet the *Eliza* was to be considered the sole salvor, or jointly with H. M. brig the *Challenger*. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N.Y.) XIII. 83 Those who navigate the saved ship into port..[have] double the share of those who remain on the salvor vessel.

Salvor, obs. f. SALVER[2]. **Salvour,** var. SALVER[1].

Salvy (sā·vi), *a. dial.* (? and *U.S.*) [f. SALVE *sb.*[1] + -Y [1].] (See quots.)

1884 SHELDON in *West. Daily Press* 24 May 3/6 It is this oxydation of the curd..which..develops the flavour of the cheese, and mellows down the casein into a salvy and textureless mass. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss., Sauvy*, (1) of curd, greasy, buttery; (2) *metaph.* unctuous of speech and manner. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Salvey*, close, soapy; spoken of potatoes that are not floury. 1891 *Century Dict., Salvy*, like salve or ointment. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Salvy*, unctuous. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 16 July 4/4 British cheese should be mild, nutty, and salvy.

Salweour, obs. form of SAVIOUR.

Salw(h)e, saly(e, obs. forms of SALLOW.

Salys-man, obs. form of SALESMAN.

Sam (sæm), *sb. slang.* Also **Sammy.** [Of obscure origin.

Commonly identified with *Sam* shortened form of the Christian name *Samuel*, and hence written with capital S. The two uses may belong to different words.]

1. *To stand Sam*: to pay expenses, esp. for refreshment or drink.

1823 MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. v, Landlady, serve them with a glass of tape, all round; and I'll stand Sammy. 1840 H. COCKTON *Val. Vox* xli, They make John Bull stand Sam. 1887 FARRELL *How He Died* 61 I'll stand Sam this time for Jemima's sake.

2. *Upon my Sam*: a jocular mode of asseveration. [Cf. SALMON[2], SANG.]

1879 'FRANK' (F. J. SQUIRES) *Nine Days in Devon* 12 Or 'pon my zam! oi really think as Zal'd a zot on moine. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 17 'Pon my sacred Sam, though, it's enough to drive a man to drink.

Sam (sæm), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: α. 1 *samnian*, 3–4 **samen, samne** (3 Ormin *samme-nn*), 4 **samin, sammyn, samyn,** 4–5 **sammen,** 5 **sampne**; β. 4–5 **same,** 4–7 **samme,** 9– *dial.* **sam.** [OE. *samnian, somnian*, corresp. to OFris. *somnia*, OS. *samnon* (MLG. *samenen, samnen, sammen*), MDu. *samenen, samnen, samen*, OHG. *samanōn* (MHG. *samenen*), ON. *samna, safna*:—OTeut. **samanōjan*, f. **samanō* together: see SAMEN *adv.* Synonymous forms, with substitution of *l* for *n*, are MDu. and MLG. *samelen* (Du. *samelen*), MHG. *samelen* (mod.G. *sammeln*); the Sw. *samla*, Da. *samle*, are from German.

For the ME. forms descending from OE. *sǫmnian*, see †SOMNE *v.*[1] The *β* forms exhibit the same simplification of final *mn* to *m* that appears in the pronunciation of *damn*, *limn*, *contemn*.]

†1. *trans.* To assemble (persons). *Obs.*

a 1000 *Daniel* 228 Þa he þyder folc samnode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2515 Quen he herd þan o þis tyþand; He did to-geder samen his men. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 100 Whan he had samned his oste of folk fer & nere. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1732 For þou has samed [*Dubl.* sampned], as men sais a selly nounbre Of wrichis & wirlingis out of þe west endis. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3232 To alle the lordes that there were Were redy dyght and samed there With ther meyne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiv. 43 Oure gere behoues to be grayde, And felawes sammed sone.

†b. To bring together, join (in marriage, friendship, love, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 322 Þatt Daviþ kingess kinness menn Off weress oþþr off wifess Wiþþ Aaroness kinness menn Off siþre wærenn sammnedd. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxi. 7 Þat neghburs & breþere be samynd in charite.

refl. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2239 Þis fol folk þam sammen þan Brathli þai þis werk bigan. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlvi. 10 Princes of folke þai samened þam With þe God of Abraham.

† c. *intr.* for *refl.* To assemble, come together.

[*a* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) xxx. 17 Hi ȝederedon *vel* somnodon samod togeanes me.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 2412 ȝa mihhte ȝho sket affterr þatt Wiþþ hire macche sammnenn. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 434 He ches a stede toward eden, And to him sameden oðer men. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1932 Þe names of contres Ben chaunged..Als straunge folk han hider y-samed.

2. *trans.* To bring together, collect (things); now only *dial.* (Yorks., Lancs., etc.), chiefly with *together*, *up*. †Also in occasional senses: To bring together the edges of (a wound), *OE.*; to join or fasten together; to amass, hoard up; to fill full *of*.

Modern dialectal uses (for which see E. D. D.) are *to sam up*, to pick up eagerly; *to sam hold of*, to clutch, grasp.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 22 Þonne samnað hio þa wunde & hælð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1552 Þu sammnesst all þin mele inn an & cnedesst itt togeddre. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 659 Vch-one..Ne samned neuer in no syde, ne sundred nouþ[er]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1520 He plyes ouire þe pauement with pallen webis, Mas on hiȝt ouire his hede for hete of þe sone, Sylours of sendale to sele ouire þe gatis, And sammes [*Dubl.* sampnez] þaim on aithire side with silken rapis. *Ibid.* 5290 Þan scho laches him be-lyfe & ledis him forthire, In-to a clochere with a kay þe clennest of þe werde, Was sammed all of sipris & seder-tables. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27762 (Cott. Galba) Slewth oft samnes sorow strang, and þat vnmekely lastand lang. 1893 SNOWDEN *Tales Yorksh. Wolds* 168 We sammed together all we could find.

3. To coagulate († const. *together*). Now only *dial.*, to curdle (milk) for cheese; also *absol.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 263 There is nothing to be seene but the seede coagulated or sammed together. *Ibid.* 429 Whereby those things which otherwise could hardly be sammed together might receiue their conglutination. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *To samme Milk*, to put the running to it, to curdle it. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 349 'When do you sam?' 'When do you set your milk? or, When do you make cheese?

Sam (sæm), *v.*[2] *Leather Manuf.* [Of doubtful origin: the explanation in quot. 1870 may point to derivation from some word with SAM- *prefix*.] See quots. Cf. SAMMY *v.*

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 534/2 Hang until about half dry, or, technically speaking, 'Sammed'. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 367/1 The skins are allowed to drain,..and after 'samming', or damping with cold water, are staked.

†**Sam,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3–5 same, 4–6 samme, sam. [Shortened form of SAMEN *adv.*] Together; mutually.

For *in sam(e*, see INSAME, I-SAME. For *to sam*, see TO SAME.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4561 Þe maide & Miles wer spused same In þe toun of Notinghame. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9750 (Göttl.), I sal crie pes in lande i-wiss, And dome and pes do sam [*Cott.* samen] þen kis. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 363 Syþen þay redden alle same, To ryd þe kyng wyth croun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 240 Doun thei seten bothe same. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1127 They seyde, 'God be at yowre game!' He seyde, 'Welcome, alle same!' *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4895 Þe scottys were gadird sam. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 179 Now god gyf you care foles all sam. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iv. 59 And heyr full oft at buyrdis by and by The heris wer wont togiddir syt all sam. *c* 1525 *Tale of Basyn* 8 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 44 Off a parson ȝe mowe here,..And of his brother that was hym dere, And louyd well samme. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 168 For what concord han light and darke sam? *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* ii. (1664) 18 When they were all assembled Sam The town of Edenbrough before, Fifty great Lords there were of Fame. *Ibid.* vii. 68 All Sam the souldiers then replied.

Sam- (sæm) *prefix. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [OE. *sam-*, repr. (with vowel-shortening usual in compounds) prehistoric **sém-*:—W.Ger. **sâmi-* (e.g. in OS. *sâmquik*, OHG. *sâmiqueck* = OE. *samcucu* 'half-quick', *semianimis*):—OTeut. **sēmi-*:—Indogermanic **sēmi-*: see SEMI-.] = HALF-, in various adjs. as *sam-crisp*, *-dead*, *-red*, *-ripe*; sam-hale, 'half-whole', in poor health; sam-sodden, half cooked, half done; also *fig.* 'half baked', stupid.

c 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* xxxix. 98 Yolowe her & *sam-crysp. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3416 Ȝut ichabbe leuere *samded hom ouercome þan hol & sound be ouercome. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* I. (Napier) 273 Nu ne beoþ naht fela manna ætsamne, ðæt heora sum ne sī seoc and *samhal. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5153, I mai noght rise, i am sam-hale. *Ibid.* 13262 Þe sam-hale fast til him þai soght. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IX. 312 Chiboles and chiruylles and chiries *sam-rede [MS. M. *sam-ripe]. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* xxi. 54 (Dubl. MS.) He was samroed, with grey eghen. *c* 1440 *Ibid.* xxxvi. 89 (Rawl. MS.) The kynge henry the othyr, was a man same rede [*Dubl. MS.* saunrede]. *a* 1000 *Ecgberti Confessionale* § 40 Ȝif man awiht blodiges þicge on healf-sodenum [MSS. X. Y. *sam-sodenum] mete. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 85 Any thing heated for a long time in a low heat so as to be in part spoiled, is said to be zamzodden. 1891 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Noughts & Cr.* 97, I'm afeard you'm o' no account,..but sam-sodden if I may say so.

Samaca, samakade: see SAMBOCADE.

‖ **Samara** (sæ·mărā). *Bot.* [mod.L. use of L. *samara* or *samera* seed of the elm.] The indehiscent winged fruit of the elm, ash, sycamore (etc.).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 103 He that will plante a Groue of Elmes, must gather the seede called Samara. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 40 Sow the Sameria [*sic*] of the Elm, and Bay-berries, all which come up the first Year. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 131 Its ovarium..finally changes into a samara which is 1-celled and 1-seeded by abortion.

Samaria: see SAMARIUM.

Samariform (sămæ·rifōm), *a. Bot.* [f. SAMARA + -(I)FORM.] Having the form of a samara.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Samarin: see ZAMORIN.

Samaritan (sămæ·rităn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 Samerytane, 6–8 Samaritane. [ad. late L. *Samarītānus*, f. Gr. Σαμαρείτης Samaritan, f. Σαμαρεία Samaria.] **A.** *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Samaria, a district of Palestine named from its chief city, anciently the capital of the kingdom of Israel; *esp.* one who adheres to the religious system which had its origin in Samaria.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 5 Ne ga ȝe innan samaritana ceastre. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 48 Þanne seye we a samaritan sittende on a mule. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/2 There be some crystened that in the holy land is namyd samerytanes. 1577 HANMER tr. *Eusebius' Eccl. Hist.* IV. xxi. 70 Sundry sectes among the children of Israell..the Samaritans: the Sadduces: the Pharises. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 439 The Samaritans who, in a life of solitude and retirement, incessantly contemplating the deity, abstained from the use of flesh. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 376/1 Samaritans are still found in their old country, especially at Nablous, near Sichem, and also in Egypt.

b. *fig.* with reference to the 'good Samaritan': see Luke x. 33.

Samaritan's balsam, 'a mixture of wine and oil, formerly used in treating wounds' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **Samaritan hospital,** a hospital specially devoted to the sick poor; **Samaritan schools,** 'common name in the United States for ambulance classes' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1644 (*title*) The compassionate Samaritane: Vnbinding the Conscience, and powring oyle into the wounds which have beene made upon the Separation. 1649 P. CHAMBERLEN (*title*) The Poore Mans Advocate, or, Englands Samaritan. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, The bonny Scot had already accosted the younger Samaritan. 1846 LD. ASHBURTON in *Croker Papers* III. xxiv. 77, I wish some good Samaritan of a Conservative with sufficient authority could heal the feuds among our friends. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xxxix, The Samaritans laughed and bade them not to think of price or money until their captain should return.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Samaria or the Samaritans; used by the Samaritans.

Samaritan Pentateuch: a recension of the Hebrew Pentateuch used by the Samaritans; the MSS. are written in 'Samaritan' (i. e. archaic Hebrew) characters.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* x. 33 Forsoth sum man Samaritan, makynge iourney, cam bisydis the weye. 1624 in *Abp. Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 311 The five Books of Moses in the Samaritan Character. *Ibid.* 321, I also told him of your Samaritan Pentateuch. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 21 As little doe wee esteem your Samaritan trumpery, of which people Christ himselfe testifies, Yee worship you know not what. 1858 G. F. NICHOLLS (*title*) A grammar of the Samaritan language. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 582/1 The greatest of the Samaritan festivals, the Passover, is still celebrated on the top of Gerizim.

b. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) in various contextual uses, e. g. the Aramaic dialect formerly spoken in Samaria; the character in which this is written; the Samaritan text of the Hebrew Pentateuch.

1627 ABP. USSHER *Let. to Selden* 30 Nov. *Lett.* (1686) 385 In the numbering of the Years of these Fathers..there is not the like consent betwixt the LXX, and the Samaritan, as was before. 1653 *Ibid.* 588 The Persian Pentateuch.. being translated not out of the Original, but out of the Chalde and the Hebrew Samaritan. 1770 [LUCKOMBE] *Hist. Printing* 159 Pica Samaritan. 1787 *Printer's Gram.* 300 Long Primer Samaritan. 1797 J. PRATT *Prospectus New Polyglot Bible* 8 Printing the Samaritan and Syriac in a character familiar to the Hebrew scholar. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 648/2 The false notion that Samaritan is a mixture of Hebrew and Aramaic.

†**Samaritanish,** *a. Obs.* [f. SAMARITAN + -ISH.] Belonging to Samaria; Samaritan.

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 33 Sum samaritanisc man.] 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 693/2 Of thys ye haue an ensample John .iiij. of yᵉ Samaritanish wyfe.

Samaritanism (sămæ·rităniz'm). [f. SAMARITAN + -ISM.]

1. The religious system of the Samaritans. In the 17th c. often *transf.*

a 1642 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 474 All these consented to the generall Samaritanisme, of receiving Moses his Law. 1683 L. MILBOURNE (*title*) Samaritanism Reviv'd. 1693 *Consid. Explic. Trinity by Dr. Wallis*, etc. 32 What the Mystical Divines teach, cannot be called an Explication; they deny all Explications: we must say therefore 'tis Samaritanism; for what our Saviour says of the Samaritans, by way of Reproof and Blame, that these Gentlemen profess concerning themselves, that they worship they know not what. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 244/1 Before that time Samaritanism cannot have existed in a form at all similar to that which we know.

2. An idiom or form of expression belonging to the Samaritan dialect of Aramaic.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 582/1 Insertions of foreign passages, alterations, Samaritanisms, and changes in support of Samaritan doctrine.

3. Imitation of the 'good Samaritan'.

1843 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 522 Mankind are getting mad with humanity and Samaritanism. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 348 A shrew's vituperations rewarded him for his Samaritanism.

Samarium (samē·rĭŏm). *Chem.* [f. SAMAR(SKITE) + -IUM.] An alleged metallic element, the existence of which rests only on spectroscopic evidence; the bands supposed to indicate its presence were first found in the spectrum of samarskite. Hence **Sama·ria** [-*a* after *potassa*, etc.], the hypothetical oxide of samarium.

1883 *Athenæum* 14 Apr. 480/3 This metal is proved by the author to be samarium. 1898 SIR W. CROOKES *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 23 The persistence of the samarium spectrum in presence of overwhelming quantities of other metals, is almost unexampled in spectroscopy: thus one part of samaria can easily be seen when mixed with three million parts of lime. 1907 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 244/3 A sulphide of calcium containing a trace of the rare element samarium.

Samaroid (sæ·măroid), *a.* [f. SAMARA + -OID.] Resembling a samara.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 111 Fruit either consisting of 3 samaroid carpella, or berried with from 1 to 3 cells.

Samarr, variant of SIMARRE.

‖ **Samarra** (sămæ·ră). *Hist.* Also 8 **samarre.** [med.L.: see SIMARRE.] A kind of cassock, painted with flames, etc., worn on the way to execution by persons condemned by the Inquisition to be burnt.

1731 CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. IV. xli. 295 They [prisoners designed for the fire] are..cloathed with the Sackcloth, or kind of Mantle, which some call the Sambenito, others the Samarra or Samaretta. 1736 — *Hist. Persec.* 265 The infamous Samarre. 1841 BARHAM *Ingold. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, Each clothed in a garment more frightful by far, a Smock-frock sort of gaberdine, call'd a Samarra.

Samarskite (samā·rskəit). *Min.* [Named by H. Rosé in 1847, after Colonel *Samarski*: see -ITE.] A complex columbate of uranium and other bases.

1849 in J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 285. 1884 *Brit. Almanac & Comp.* 164 A few exceedingly rare minerals—..samarskite.

Sambenit, -benita, -i, -o: see SANBENITO.

Samber, sambhar, sambhur, var. ff. SAMBUR.

Samble, var. SEMBLE *sb. Obs.*, assembly.

Sambleblie, obs. form of SEMBLABLY.

Sambo (sæ·mbo). Pl. **-bos, -boes.** Forms: 8 **samboe,** 9 **zambo,** 8– **sambo.** [a. Sp. *zambo*, applied in America and Asia to persons of various degrees of mixed negro and Indian or European blood; also, a name for a kind of yellow monkey; perh. identical with *zambo* bandy-legged (according to Diez repr. L. *scambus*).]

1. (See quot. 1884.)

1748 *Earthquake Peru* iii. 240 Sambo de Mulatto, sprung from Negroes and Mulattos. *Ibid.*, Sambo de Indian, sprung from Negroes and Indians. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) I. xiii. 340 A Samboe is between a mulatto and a black. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxi, A quadroon looks down upon a mulatto, while a mulatto looks down upon a sambo, that is, half mulatto half negro. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 319/2 *Zambo*: any half-breed, but mostly the issue of Negro and Indian parents; in the United States, Peru, and West Indies of Negro and Mulatto.

attrib. 1748 *Earthquake Peru* iii. 240 Giveros, the Offspring of Sambo Mulattos and Sambo Indians.

2. (With capital S.) A nickname for a Negro. [Perh. a different word; it has been suggested that it may be the Foulah *sambo* uncle.]

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Sambo*, a term often applied to negroes. 1866 W. REED *Hist. Sugar* 32 Sambo tells him the skip is ready; but it would never do for the sugar master to seem to be taught by Sambo.

†**Sambocade.** *Cookery. Obs.* Also in corrupt forms: 5 **samakade, samaca, samaka, semaka, samata, samartard,** 6 **semeca.** [f. L. *sambūcus* elder; cf. It. *sambucato* flavoured with elder flowers.] A kind of fritter flavoured with elder flowers.

? 1390 *Forme of Cury* (1780) 77 Sambocade. Take and make a Crust..& take a cruddes..do þerto sugar..& somdel whyte of Ayrene, & shake þerin blomes of elren. *c* 1420 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 90 Semaka fryez. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 59 Samaca. *Ibid.* 62 Frutoure Samata. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 450 At the seconde course..a leche and samakade, and bake mete. *c* 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (ed. Mrs. Napier 1882) 45 To mak samartard tak wetted cruddes [etc.]. 1502 *Arnolde's Chron.* Q iiij b/2 Freature semeca.

Sambock, obs. form of SJAMBOK *sb.*

Samboo, variant of SAMBUR.

‖ **Sambook** (sæmbŭk). Also 6 **sambuco,** 9 **sambucco, sambuk.** [Origin uncertain: in Arab. written سنبوق *sanbūq*. Cf. Pg. *sambuco*, It. *sambuco*.] 'A kind of small vessel formerly used in Western India, and still on the Arabian coast' (Yule).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. x.

26 b, They discouered two Sambucos (which are little Pinnacies). 1855 BURTON *Pilgr. El-Medinah & Meccah* I. 263 The Sambuk [is a vessel] from 15 to 50 [tons burden]. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* (1888) 15 A sambook or craft such as are now used in those seas [about India].

‖Sambouse. *Obs.* Also 7 samboyse. [Persian سنبوسه *sanbūsaʰ* (phonetically *samb-*), whence Arab. *sanbūsaʰ*, *-saj*, *-sak*, *-saq* (Dozy).] A pasty of hashed meats.

1609 W. BIDDULPH in T. Lavender *Trav.* (1612) 36 Wee dined [near Aleppo] with Musmelons, Sambouses, and a Muclebite. 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* xiii. 25 Samboyses and Muselbits are great dainties.

Sambre, variant of SAMBUR.

Sambu, variant of SAUMBUE *Obs.*

‖Sambuca (sæmbiū·kă). Also in anglicized forms: 4, 6 sambuke, 5 -buce, 6 -buque, 9 sambuc. [L. *sambūca*, ad. Gr. σαμβύκη, prob. of Eastern origin, cogn. with Aramaic סַמְבּוּכָא *sabbʾkā* which it renders in the Book of Daniel. See SACKBUT.]

1. *Ancient Music.* 'A triangular stringed-instrument of a very sharp shrill tone' (Lewis & Short).

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 5 Harpe, sambuke, sautrie, symfonie. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 39 This I am sure, yat lutes, harpes, all maner of pypes, barbitons, sambukes, ..be condemned of Aristotle. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* IX. 451 The sambuc was, it is believed, similar to the psaltery. 1902 W. L. NEWMAN *Politics of Aristotle* III. 550 The *sambuca* was high-pitched and piercing in tone.

2. *Roman Antiq.* A military engine for storming walls.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 154 Sambuce is an engyn whiche is made in manere of a harpe able to perce a walle. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 117 The rest followed them by the Sambuque.

Sambucco, variant of SAMBOOK.

Sambucene (sæmbiusīn). *Chem.* [f. L. *sambūc-us* elder tree + -ENE.] (See quot. 1875.)

1872 J. H. GLADSTONE in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* Ser. II. X. 3, I would suggest the following:—..Hydrocarbon from Elder. Sambucene. 1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 2nd Suppl. 1073 *Sambucene*, $C^{10}H^{16}$, the terpene from elder oil.

Sambuco, sambuk, variant ff. SAMBOOK.

Sambuke, sambuque, obs. ff. SAMBUCA.

Sambur (sæ·mbəɹ). Forms: 7 sabre, 9 sabir, samboo, sambar, samber, sambhur, sambhar, sambre, sambur, saumer. [a. Hindī *sābar*, *sāmbar*.] The Indian elk, *Rusa aristotelis*.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 175 Our usual Diet was.. spotted Deer, Sabre, Wild Hogs, and sometimes Wild Cows. 1813 in J. Forbes *Oriental Mem.* (ed. 2) II. 400 (Y.) Four large sabirs or samboos, one considerably bigger than an ox. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* I. Introd. 11 The saumer, or black rusa of Bengal. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 161 Sambhur, a gigantic deer of the elk species. 1883 MRS. BISHOP in *Leisure Hr.* 85/1 The palandok..and the sambre may not be far off.

attrib. 1829 E. T. BENNETT *Tower Menag.* 187 The Samboo Deer..belongs to the Rusa group. 1883 LD. SALTOUN *Scraps* II. 175 Long yellow sambur-skin boots. 1898 R. G. BURTON *Tropics & Snows* 261 He may find a sambhur stag.

†Sa'm-cloth. *Obs.* [app. repr. OE. **sēamclāð* (see SEAM *sb.*[1] and CLOTH *sb.*). Huloet's explanation might suggest derivation from SAM-, though that prefix is not found with sbs.] (See quots.)

1552 HULOET, Samcloth or vesture from the bealye downward, *limus*. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 98/2 A Samcloth, a cloth to sow on, a Canvice cloth. *Ibid.*, A Samcloth, vulgarly a Sampler.

Samdel, variant of SOMEDEAL.

Same (sēim), *a.* (*pron., adv.*). Forms: 4–7 sam, 5 ssame, 6 some, 3– same. [ME. *same*, a. ON. *same* masc., *sama* fem., neut., rarely in str. form *sam-r* (Sw. *samma*, *samme*, Da. *samme*); a Com. Teut. word, but lost in OE. and OS. (which have only the derived adv., in OE. *swá same*, OS. *so sama*, *-o*, likewise) and in the mod. Teut. langs. retained only in Eng. and Scandinavian. Cf. OHG. *sama* same (rare, though the derived adv. *sama*, *-o*, likewise, similarly, is common), Goth. *sama* same :—Indogermanic **somo-*, whence Skr. *samá* level, equal, same, Gr. *ὁμό-s* same (cf. *ὁμαλός* level), OIrish *som* same.

Ablaut-variants of this root are (1) **sem-* in Gr. εἷς (>-**sems*) one; (2) **s'm-* in OTeut. **sumo-* SOME, Skr. *sama* any, every, Gr. ἅμα together, L. *similis* like, OIrish *samail* likeness, image, Welsh *hafal* like; also as prefix in Skr. *sakŕt* acting at once, Gr. ἁπλόος, L. *simplex* simple; (3) *sōm-* in Skr. *sāma* similarity, OSl. *samŭ* same, OE. *sōm* agreement (see SEEM *v.*).]

The ordinary adjectival and pronominal designation of identity, equivalent to the older ILK *a.*[1], to L. *idem*, Gr. *ὁ αὐτός*, Ger. *derselbe*. Normally preceded by *the*, exc. after a demonstrative; the omission of the article occurs only in dialectal or vulgar speech and in certain specially elliptical varieties of diction (e. g. in commercial correspondence). As the prefixed article is functionally a part of the word, it is often difficult to distinguish the simple predicative use (='identical') from the absolute and elliptical uses.

A. *adj.*

I. Not numerically different from an object indicated or implied; identical.

1. With forward reference: Identical with what is indicated in the following context.

It is remarkable that this use is all but entirely absent from the writings of Shakspere; the only clear instance appears to be quot. 1598 in 4 below

a. Followed by a clause with relative pronoun (*that*, *who*, *which*) or relative adverb (*when*, *where*). Cf. VERY *a.*

In this construction *that* sometimes has not the strict pronominal syntax, but is equivalent in meaning to 'in (on, by, etc.) which', 'where', 'when'. Cf. the similar use of F. *que*.

c 1200 ORMIN 9914 He mihhte makenn cwike menn þær off þa same staness, þat stodenn þær bi Sannt Johan. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4511 Þan sal Iewes þe sam lawe halde, þat þai haf. *Ibid.* 5288 Þis taken..sal noght be þe sam cros, ne þe sam tre, On whilk God was nayled fot and hande. 1537 STARKEY *Let. to Pole* in *England* (1878) p. xlvij, Euen the same thyng wych you percas thynke hathe byn the chefe roote of thys motyon. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 141 The old saying is a good one, Doe that every day, which thou wouldest doe the same day that thou dyest. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* I. Wks. 1766 III. 22 He would often show us the same face on an old Coin that we saw in the Statue. 1707 — *Pres. State War* ¶ 7 ibid. 246 The same causes which straiten the British commerce, will naturally enlarge the French. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 ¶ 5 At the same time that I am endeavouring to expose this Weakness in others. 1809 J. ROLAND *Fencing* 89, I return to the same situation where I found your blade at the time I began my first motion. 1810 SOUTHEY *Let.* 5 Aug. in *Life* (1850) III. 290 As for my contempt of the received rules of poetry, I hold the same rules which Shakspeare, Spencer, and Milton held before me, and desire to be judged by those rules. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 561 Care was taken that the prisoner should pass through the same gate and the same streets through which Montrose had been led to the same doom. 1876 J. DENNIS *Stud. Eng. Lit.* 422 He defends it on the same ground that he would defend the 'Lycidas' of Milton. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 578/2 They may recite his [Shakspere's] works with the same restraint of gesture..which interpreted his works in his own day.

b. With ellipsis of the relative pron. or adv. Also (in careless use) followed by a pa. pple with ellipsis of relative and copula.

1514 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 21 Vppon condicion that they shall kepe solemply, my seid Obett or Annuersary yerely for euermore þe same day of the Moneth my sowle shall depart from þe body, in þe parisshe church of Seint Mary at hill within london. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* v. § 449 The standard itself was blown down the same night it had been set up. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 29 Sept., Why do you trouble yourself, Mistress Stella, about my instrument? I have the same the Archbishop gave me; and it is as good now the Bishops are away. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* v, So many princes..aim, it is pretended, at nothing else than the same extravagant purpose announced by the brute multitude who first appeared in these regions. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* III. 307 It is regarded with the same interest accorded in Europe to its red-breasted relative.

†c. In the 16–17th c. often followed by *that* with ellipsis of the verb, so that *the same that* becomes equivalent to 'the same as' or 'the same with'. *Obs.*

1577 FULKE *Answ. True Christian* 64 The Pope chosen by the councell of Constance, was of the same iudgement that the councell. 1582 G. MARTIN *Manif. Corrupt. Script.* iii. 44 Here he citeth many authors and dictionaries idly, to prooue that *idolum* may signifie the same that Image. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 88 The next marches of this higher prouince is the same that the tract of Tarracon. *Ibid.* 105 The Pisidians..whose chiefe colony is Cæsaria, the same that Antiochia. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xi. 30 Some say, that Iscah in Chaldee signifieth the same that Sarai in Hebrew. 1652 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* II. 132 And having applyed unto them the same things that to my Master's, they laboured to recover him from the sound he was in. 1664 H. MORE *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* viii. (1669) 124 So that I understand by φιλαδελφία the same that ἀγάπη, universal Love. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 413 Such was thy zeal To Israel then, the same that now to me.

d. Followed by *as*. Now the commonest construction.

Four varieties of use may be noted. (*a*) *As* may serve as a relative adv. or pron. introducing a clause (cf. 1 a); (*b*) it may precede the subject or object of a verb omitted by ellipsis; (*c*) by ellipsis of the copula, it may be followed by sb. or pronoun denoting that with which identity is stated; (*d*) it may elliptically precede an adv. or phrase.

(*a*) 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 835 Þan sal he on þe same wys hethen wende..right als he cam þe first day fra his moder wam. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2371 On þe sam wise sall ilk soueraȝn Do os þai wil take o-gaȝn. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 196 He was the same person and of the same good mynde towarde the kynge, as he was before the tyme of hys legacion. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Rome* 350 The Horse and Man on the Medal are in the same Posture as they are on the Statue. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1842) II. 257 *note*, She was exactly in the same predicament as Philip had been during his marriage with Mary I. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 40 A patent of Henry II..., in which he..licenses the sale of Rhenish wine at the same price as French is sold at. 1894 SWINBURNE *Stud. in Prose & P.* 56 Entering college at the same age as Fletcher had entered six years earlier.

(*b*) 1692 *Emilianne's Frauds Romish Monks* 148 We follow'd this Troop of Pilgrims at a small distance, being Mounted in the same manner as they, tho' we could not joyn our selves in company with them. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1086-7 Salt springs occur nearly in the same circumstances..as the salt rock. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 179 The sailors in the fleet all received the same pay as the soldiers. 1895 CHITTY in *Law Times Rep.* LXXII. 866/1 Other rules in Order XLV. point in the same direction as the first rule of the order.

(*c*) 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. II. 351 The Ratio of *GH* to *IK*, which is the same as the given Ratio of the Sines of the Arcs *AB*, *CD*. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* III. xxi. 325 Olympia, a city of the Pisæans, or, as some say, the same as Pisa.

(*d*) 1662 BP. HOPKINS *Funeral Serm.* (1683) 39 They return again to the same glut of lusts and pleasures as before. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* II. Wks. 1766 III. 69 You see the metaphor is the same in the Verses as in the Medal. 1716 — *Freeholder* No. 42 ¶ 6 We receive the same profit from them, as if they were the Produce of our own Island. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 24, 'I again consulted your magnificence, and you gave the same answer as before.'

e. Const. *with*. The regimen of *with* may denote either (*a*) a participant in the possession, attribute, etc. qualified by *the same*, or (*b*) that with which the object mentioned is said to be identical.

(*a*) 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 259 Þerfore of þre þe firste kyngdoms, as it were of þe same age wiþ þe kyngdom of Assiries, firste we schal write. 1601 DOLMAN tr. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 803 The blossomes have the same nature with the fruite. *Ibid.* 804 The seede and roote of this plant have the same operation with the leafe. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 42 The bishop, being of the same mind and opinion with the rest, was [etc.]. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* VI. xxvi, Then is that Parallelogram about the same diagonal with the whole. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 69 He is of the same size for Learning with the late Editor. 1740 *Johnson's Debates* 2 Dec. (1787) I. 23 Debate relating to a seditious paper of the same kind with the considerations on the Embargo on provisions. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Bridge*, Rochester bridge is built in the same style with that of London. 1763 GOLDSM. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) II. 502 They are incapable of the same docility with terrestrial animals, and are less imitative of human perfections. 1803 SOUTHEY *Let.* 9 June in *Life* (1850) II. 212 Scott, it seems, adopts the same system of metre with me. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. x. 325 [He] died..at the same age with Burns and Byron, in 1811. 1842 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* III Words of the same nature with those he had heard were chanted at intervals. 1858 H. SPENCER *Ess.* I. 254 This.. will be found to come under the same generalization with the others.

(*b*) *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 319 As þe spirit þat is mannis soule is þe same persone wiþ him, so the secounde persone of God is þe same persone wiþ þis man. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 225 The Chaonian Horses are the same with the Aprirolan Horses. 1618 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 62 He could not be ignorant that his quality was the same with theirs. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 179 She was native..of Phrygia and so peradventure was the same with Trojana. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 30 (1713) I. 197 The third was a Paper of Directions, what, and how to plead, which was also denied him, being the same thing with allowing him Council. 1764 GOLDSM. *Introd. Gen. Hist. World* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 531 The materials to which we have had recourse are the same with those which other historians for several ages have employed before us. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. 194 It rested with him to prove that the expectation of a pleasure, or of a pain, is the same thing with the desire, or aversion. 1873 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. II. 188 This was no difficulty to the Greeks and Macedonians, who looked on the Egyptian Ammon as the same god with their own Zeus.

†f. In certain rare constructions: (*a*) const. *of* (perh. a Gallicism); (*b*) const. *to*. *Obs.*

1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 5 'Tis an extraordinary thing to find a Successor endowed with the same Qualities of his Predecessor. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 13 And the Nourishment and Difference of Colours given these Bodies..I suppose to be produced by a cause nearly the same of that which gives us the different Colours in the Leaves and Flowers of Vegetables. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 33, I am of the same opinion to the gentleman, who spoke last. 1771–2 *Ess. Jr. Batchelor* (1773) I. 96 They fancy themselves in the same situation of the Jews, when their being victors, or vanquish'd, solely depended on the raising or depressing of Moses's hands.

2. With backward reference: Identical with what has been indicated.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 25 Þe sam God sythyn was þe bygynnyng And þe first maker of alle thyng. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 896 Also ȝe sente vs to saie in þe same time Of oþur manerus mo miche for to lakke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 106 Tauerners to hem tolde þe same tale Wiþ good wyn of Gaskoyne And wyn of Oseye. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 76 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 123 Into poudre must I crepe, ffor of that same kynde I am. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1234 And sche ken þe perils of cursing, Sche salbe cursid for þat same þing. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 147 About the same tyme rang money cuning men be quhose labouris & trawell goode letteris flurischit. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 384 How great a Difference there may be between a Body consider'd absolutely, or by itself, and the same Body consider'd in such Circumstances, as it may be found in. 1886 LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 32 Chanc. Div. 28 The same observations are true of all other contracts similarly circumstanced.

†b. = The aforesaid. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 126 To Normundie ageyn suld turne þe duke Henry, & Ingland alle holy after Steuen þe kyng Suld turne to þe same Henry, withouten geynsaiyng. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 286 And in case that the sam man or person in hys takyng, make recistens not to be take. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 429 We send yewe same bill herin enclosed. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 9 Thursday, the vij Day of May, we retornyed by the same watir of Brent to Venese ageyne. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* xii. 9 The same preacher was not wyse alone, but taught the people knowlege also: he gaue good hede, sought out the grounde and set forth many parables.

†c. *The same day*: to-day. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 848 On loud said the Sarazine: 'I heir the now lie! Befoir the same day I saw the neuer with sicht'.

3. Expressing the identity of an object designated by different names, standing in different relations, or related to different subjects or objects. In this use the sb. qualified by *same* often denotes an

indeterminate or hypothetical object, so that *the* becomes (with a sing.) functionally equivalent to the indefinite article, or (with a plural) redundant; hence result occasional ambiguities.

Cf. the Fr. 'Deux mots qui signifient *une* même chose', '*De* mêmes causes doivent produire *de* mêmes effets' with the ambiguous English 'Two words which signify *the* same thing', '*The* same causes must produce the same effects'.

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 553 Bacchus and Sabasius is the same god. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 14 Both these Prophets considered the same people under the same circumstances, and with the same conditions. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 160 At this time a Germain and a Fleming were in the same Pension in the Town. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 9 Having Ideas, and Perception, being the same thing. 1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 8. 55 The same Person is to be paid twice for the same thing. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 221 They cannot live peaceable together in the same House. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* I. (ed. 2) 33 Some kinds of animals,..such as horses, cows, and sheep, are nourished by the same food. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 457/2 The flowers are male and female upon the same or different roots. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 142 Sooner or later the same causes, or their equivalents, will call forth the same opposition of opinion, and bring the same passions into play. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xix, With whom I have so often sat at the same board, and drunken of the same cup. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 437/2 The old barcarolle was sung in parts, at stem and stern of the same boat, by its own gondoliers. 1858 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 10 (1879) 55 All the planets travel round the Sun in the same direction. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* ii. 16 Even in the same eye, half of the iris is sometimes brown, and the other half blue. 1884 Brett in *Law Times Rep.* 10 May 315/2, I have come to the conclusion ..that the Legislature intended in this case to be verbose and tautologous, and to say the same thing twice over.

b. More explicitly, *one and the same.*

[After L. *unus et idem*, Gr. (ὁ) εἷς καὶ ὁ αὐτός.]

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* S iv b, Out of one and the same floure the Bee sucketh hony, and the spider draweth poison. 1584 ? Sidney *Disc. Def. Earl of Leicester* Misc. Wks. (1829) 272 In sum, in one the same man, all the faults that in all the most contrary-humoured men in the world can remain. *c* 1650 Leighton *Serm.* xviii. Wks. 1869 II. 227 Never think that one and the same soul can have much pride and much of Christ. 1659 H. More *Immort. Soul* II. i. 113 Perception being really one and the same thing with Reaction of Matter one part against another. *a* 1806 Horsley *Serm.* (1816) II. xxvi. 304 A sameness of the terms..would be an argument for assigning one and the same meaning to the promises. 1862 Latham *Channel Isl.* III. xviii. (ed. 2) 411 They belong to one and the same class.

4. Coupled for emphasis with a synonymous adj.: † *that ilk* (*thilk*) *same*, † *the same self*, † *the same very*, *the very same*. See also Selfsame.

The same self was exceedingly common in the 16th c.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1919 (Göttt.) þat ilk same day [*Cott.* þat ilk dai, *Fairf.* þat same day]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 95 Thilke same speche Which, as thou seist, thou schalt me teche. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Priests* 668 þenne schale he wyth hys owne hondes Brenne þat ylke same bondes. 1503 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 522/2 They..shall have..lyke auctorite..as the same selfe Bisshoppes shulde, ought or myght do. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 24 And the same selfe mysteryes he afterwarde declared to his discyples. 1589–90 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 465 Baith having the same selff freindis and commoun enemeyis. 1590 L. Lloyd *Diall of Daies* 169 Q. Metellus triumphed over Creet at the same verie day that Pompei the great triumphed over the Pyrats on sea. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. ii. 49 This same very day. 1598— *Merry W.* IV. v. 37 Shee sayes, that the very same man that beguil'd Master Slender of his Chaine, cozon'd him of it. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ix. 9 The Snake, after his Recovery, is the very same Snake still, that he was at first. *Ibid.* xviii. 19 Several of the very same Birds that she had forewarn'd.

5. Appended redundantly to a demonstrative (*this, these, that, those, yon*). Common in 16–17th c.; usually expressing some degree of irritation or contempt, sometimes playful familiarity. (Cf. the vulgar *this here, that there.*) Now *arch.*

Out of the 95 instances of the word *same* in Shakspere, 55 occur in collocation with a demonstrative.

For examples in which *same* has its normal force when preceded by a demonstrative, see senses 1–3.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 197 In þis same wise. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* v. i. 18 That same knaue (Ford hir husband). 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. i. 270 Call that same Isabell here once againe. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 499 This same Truth, is a Naked, and Open day light. 1628 Milton *Vac. Exerc.* 16, I pray thee then deny me not thy aide For this same small neglect that I have made. 1634 —*Comus* 738 Be not cosen'd With that same vaunted name Virginity. 1726 Swift *On reading Young's Univ. Passion* Wks. 1751 X. 246 If that same *Universal Passion* With ev'ry Vice hath fill'd the Nation. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. xxv, If this same Palmer will me lead From hence. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. iii, What is the use of these same lamps? 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* x. 26 Just for courtesy lend me, dear Catullus, Those same nobodies.

6. Phrases. *At the same time*: see Time *sb.* *By the same token*: see Token *sb.*

II. In modified senses.

7. Applied to an object as having the same attributes with another or with itself at another time; exactly agreeing *in* (amount, quality, operation, etc.). Of a person: Unchanged in character, condition of health, etc. Chiefly *predicative* (cf. B. 1, 2). Constructions as in 1–3.

Phrase, *Much the same*, approximately the same (cf. Much *adv.* 3).

1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 256 The mind is its own place, and in it self Can make a Heav'n of Hell, a Hell of Heav'n. What matter where, if I be still the same. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. 138 If the Course and Distance had been first agreed upon from the Place they were bound to, to be just the same, unto the..Land they first descried. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 91 ₱ 5 Human Nature is perpetually the same, ever subject to the same Passions and Corruptions. 1758 R. Price *Rev. Quest. Morals* viii. (1769) 293 *note*, A distinction much the same with this may be found in the letters between Dr. Sharp and Mrs. Cockburn. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* ix. (1852) 284 God himself remains the same before and after the interposition of Christ. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* II. vi. II. 518 Bigotry is the same in every faith and every age. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 585 His salary was the same with that of the Lord Lieutenant. 1860 Ld. Lytton *Lucile* II. ii. iii, Do not think that years leave us and find us the same! 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Steelyard passed with the rest of the parish by the same easy gradations from the old to the new faith. 1893 *Bookman* June 86/1 Her ambitions superficially so different at different times, and yet substantially the same.

b. *predicatively.* Of a person: Unchanged in behaviour *to* another.

1850 Dickens *Dav. Copp.* ix, But she was always the same to me. She never changed to her foolish Peggotty.

c. Corresponding in relative position.

1672 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 18 About 504 M. of the Irish perished..between the 23 of October 1641 and the same day 1652. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxviii, He and I were both shot in the same leg at Talavera. 1856 Sir G. C. Lewis *Lett.* (1870)317 The Foreign Office..now holds the same place in our social economy as the Colonial Office used to hold. 1892 'J. S. Winter' *Lumley* xii, The doctors..have decidedly better hopes than they had yesterday at the same time.

8. Predicatively: Equally acceptable or the contrary; indifferent. Also *all the same, just the same.*

1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* I. 245 He don't vally what he says to young or old, man or woman—it's all the same to old gruffy! 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vii, It's all the same to me. 1847 Upham *Mme. Guyon & Fénélon* II. iii. 31 (Funk) To Daniel the lion's den and the monarch's palace are the same.

9. Predicatively, without article: Characterized by sameness, monotonous. *rare.*

1891 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Feb. 6/2 The choruses in 'Judith' are numerous, and to the lay mind perhaps a little same.

III. 10. *Comb.*, as *same-kidneyed, -seemingness, -sized, -soundingness*; **same-ways** *adv.*, in the same direction.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., The *same-kidneyed men, who have..a sharp flowt at the end of their tongue. 1839–48 Bailey *Festus* xx. 231 Lest long *same-seemingness should send me mad. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. lii. 229 Let this be done deep, and still in the *same-sized ridges. 1839–48 Bailey *Festus* iv. 33 The sea..In its sublime *samesoundingness laughed out. 1887 Sir W. Thomson in *Nature* 3 Oct. 546/2 Every A is at the centre of an equal and similar, and *same-ways oriented, tetrahedron of O's.

B. *absol.* and as *pron.* (Constructions as in A.)

1. The same person or persons.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 780 ȝe ben soþli þe same of wham þei so tolde. *c* 1365 Chaucer *A.B.C.* 77 Now queen of comfort sithe þou art þat same To whom j seeche for my medicyne [etc.]. 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* xxxiii, On Sir Iohn Roe...To the same. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 707 An appeal from the King's Council, to the King in Council, was ridiculed, even by the opponents of the bill, as an appeal from the same to the same.

† b. Conjoined with a personal pronoun or with a designation of a person, to indicate identity with one who has been mentioned. *Obs.* [A latinism.]

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 26 Thanne lauȝte þei leue, þis lordes, at Mede. With that comen clerkis to conforte hir þe same. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* I With the aduise and consente of the moste prudent and the same his moste dere vncle. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* II. xvii. (1622) 57 Shew the people of Rome Augustus neece, and the same my wife [L. *Augusti neptem eandemque conjugem meam*].

2. The same thing. (See A. 1, 2, 3.) † Formerly also *that same, this same.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1009 But þe same þat ȝe so by vs silf trowe Longeþ, ludus, to ȝou þat liuen so in ese. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 19 Who that here wordes understode, It thenkth thei welden do the same. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9772 þe sam to my-self, sothli, may happyn. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 488 And also crist in his godspell Of þis same makes minde o-mell. *a* 1450 Myrc *Festial* 8 Anon he made to take hym, and constrayne hym forto haue done þe same. *a* 1536 Tindale *Pathw. Script.* Wks. (1573) 383/2 What soeuer is done to the lest of vs..it is done to Christ, and what soeuer is done to my brother (if I be a Christen man) that same is done to me. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 142, I have commended S— unto you oftentimes: and do the same againe at this instant. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 489 Here that common Proverbe holds true, 'When two do the same it is not the same'. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 112, I failed not to speak to our Vice-Consul of the Light I had seen in the Isle of Samos, and he told me all the same that the rest did. 1711 J. Greenwood *Eng. Gram.* Wallis's Pref. 2 So the French Words *guerre* [etc.]..signify the same with these English Words. 1812 Southey *Let. to Jas. White* 16 Feb. in *Life* (1850) III. 328 It is the same in our age that it was in our youth. 1848 Kingsley '*Bad Squire*' xiv, If your misses had slept, squire, where they slept, Your misses would do the same. 1864 Newman *Apologia* v. (1904) 168/1 When I became a Catholic, nothing struck me more..than the English out-spoken manner of the Priests. It was the same at Oscott, at Old Hall Green, at Ushaw. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* xliii, Bring the eternal seed to light, And morn is all the same as night.

† b. Phrases. *Of the same*: in the same way. *To the* (*this*) *same*: to the same effect. *With the same*: at the same moment. *Obs.*

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 14 All þe londe..ros with him rapely to riȝtyn his wronge, For he shulde hem serue of þe same after. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 373 Also we se ȝit to þe same. *Ibid.* 461 For hali writ sais on þis wise: 'Þe fole with word may non chastese'..And to þis sam, als clerks may kun, þe wise man sais: 'Chastise þi sun [etc.].' 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1027 He spake the word, and with the same, Immediatly out came the name.

¶ c. With omission of article. *rare*—1.

1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. (1818) 45 What I was once, same I am now.

† 3. Pleonastically emphasizing a demonstrative, used absol. or with ellipsis of sb. *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 194 Sir, I pray you a word: What Lady is that same? 1591 — *Two Gent.* III. i. 138 What Letter is this same? 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 147 What a pestilent knaue is this same. 1611 Bible *Acts* xxiv. 20 Let these same here [1881 *R. V.* these men themselves] say, if they haue found any evill doing in mee.

4. *The same*, † *that* (or *this*) *same*: the aforesaid person or thing. Often merely the equivalent of a personal pronoun; he, she, it, they. Now *rare* in literary use; still common in legal documents; also (with reference to things) in commercial language (where *the* is sometimes omitted). Cf. G. *der-, die-, dasselbe.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 27 þenne [lauȝten] þei leue þis lordynges, at Meede. Wiþ þat þer come Clerkes to Cumforte þe same. *c* 1400 *Lansdowne Ritual* in *Rule St. Benet*, etc. 143 þe nouyce sal..singe þare thrise: 'Suscipe me, domine' &c. þe couent..sall reherce þe same again thrise, and 'Gloria patri'. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) viii. 97 Upon that same schalle he sytte,..righte as himself seyde. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 25 Take this appyl and ete this ssame, This ffrute is best as I the telle. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* Ded., That ye sawe gladly the Inhabitants of ye same enformed in good, vertuous, prouffitable and honeste maners. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* III. vii, [Men] ought to preyse and loue the chirche and the commaundements of the same. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lii. 11 ȝour Hienes can nocht gett ane meter, To keip your wardrope, nor discreter, To rule ȝour robbis, and dress the sam. 1503 in Kerry *Hist. St. Lawrence, Reading* (1883) 111 Also ij staynyd clothis wt ryddels to þe same. 1509 Fisher *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 290 Above all these same there is a foure maner of noblenes. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xiii. 40 Whan the hayres fall out of the heade of a man or a woman, so that he is balde, the same is cleane. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 1st Sunday after Epiphany*, Graunt that they maie both perceaue and knowe what thinges they ought to do, and also haue grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 65 Watermen haunt the waters, and fishes swim in the same. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 11 In the instant that I met with you, He had of me a Chaine, at fiue a clocke I shall receiue the money for the same. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. x. 5 That was a temple..farre renowmed ..Much more then that which was in Paphos built, Or that in Cyprus, both long since this same. 1611 Bible *Matt.* xxiv. 13 But he that shall endure vnto the end, the same shall be saued. 1621 in Owen & Blakeway *Hist. Shrewsb.* (1825) I. 574 Laid out in stocking up of the gorst in Kingsland, making the same into faggottes. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 8 An over-shot-mill, which is the water brought to the top of the wheel, in landers or troughs which cast the same into Buckets made in the wheel for the receipt of the same, the force and weight of which water drives the same. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1755 The natives thinking we were determined to pay not the least consideration, at length ceased to apply for the same. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 324 If such tenant for life die on the day on which the same was made payable, the whole [rent must be paid]. 1819 Keats *Isabella* ii, Her lute-string gave an echo of his name, She spoiled her half-done broidery with the same.

b. † As an answer when addressed by name; = 'I am he'. *Obs.* Also *colloq.* in confirming a conjecture as to the identity of a person mentioned by the speaker.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 191 *Ben.* Count Claudio. *Claud.* Yea, the same. 1889 *Chatterbox* 24 Aug. 323/1 'Have you ever heard of Red Jim?' 'The bushranger, do you mean?' asked Allan. 'The same. Well, this man [etc.]'.

† c. (*The*) *same*; = Ditto. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iij, Take the Juce of percelly Moris otherwise calde percelly Rootis, and thossame of Isop. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* 18 June (Hakl. Soc.) I. 11 He gave me a present of 3 nestes gocas, with their trenchers and ladells of mother of perle, with 10 spoons same, and a peece of white Liquea cloth. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 72 Rafters ten and seven inches, Purloyns the same, Plates the same.

† d. Chiefly Her. *Of the same*: of the kind or description last mentioned. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 25 The Kyng was appareilled in almayne ryuet crested & his vambrace of the same. ? *a* 1588 *Glover's Ordinary* 38 in *Edmondson's Her.* I, Ar. in fesse three pellets betw. two bars sa. in chief two goats heads erased gu. attired or.; in base one of the same. *Gethinge.* 1625 Bacon *Ess., Building* (Arb.) 552 A Greene Court Plain, with a Wall about it: A Second Court of the same, but more Garnished.

5. quasi-*sb.* An identical thing. *nonce-uses.*

1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* v. i, *Tran.* Two drops of water cannot be more like. *Pol.* They are two very sames. 1700 — *Ovid's Met.* xv. Fables 515 Ev'n our own Bodies daily change receive,..Nor are to Day what Yesterday they were; Nor the whole same to Morrow will appear.

C. *adv.* and in adverbial phrases.

1. *The same*: a. in the same manner. Const. *as.* *To think the same of*: to have the same (good) opinion of (a person). Similarly, *to feel the same to.* Now rare in literary use; common *dial.*, often with omission of *the.*

1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 240 Sow the seed broad-cast, ..then harrow it in, the same as turnep seed. 1827 D.

JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 154 There is a physical cause for this, which operates the same in India as in the holy land. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xviii. 325 You'll never think the same of me again.

b. = 'all the same': see 2. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* v. viii, Suppose I am a cabinet-maker? When I send in my chairs, do I ask who is to sit upon them? No; it's all one to me..; I must be paid for the chairs the same, use them who may. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* (1885) 39 For as our liege the Shah's sublime estate Merely enhaloes, leaves him man the same, So [etc.].

2. *All the same*: in spite of what has been mentioned; even if circumstances had been otherwise; nevertheless, notwithstanding.

1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* I. 121 But who would have thought of my Lady Countess having a maid sent with young Miss, whilst my Dolly have nothing to do, but to milk a cow or two, and dust and scrub a bit, and cook a bit; and could all the same wait upon she too! 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* VI. iv, What you say is well worth attention; but all the same I feel we are on the eve of a regular crisis. 1852 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 187 This winter is extraordinarily mild: to day a little hoar frost, but bright sunshine all the same. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 164 No, thank you. Obliged to you, Henry, all the same. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 340 Audrey remarked that the said allowance made little difference; the money would have gone all the same. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 176 A man is locked up, with keys of gold indeed, yet is he a prisoner all the same. 1878 RUSKIN *Let. to Dr. J. Brown* 21 Oct., I was very sorry to come away. All the same, I'm glad to be at home again.

3. *Just the same*: **a.** Exactly in the same manner. Const. *as*. **b.** None the less.

1874 ALDRICH *Prudence Palfrey* xiv. 281 And in the meantime Dillingham will continue his visits here just the same? 1901 H. MCHUGH *John Henry* 59 'My mother was a lady', so She said, but just the same She ate boiled cabbage with a knife Except when company came.

Same, variant of SAM *adv.* and *v. Obs.*; obs. f. PSALM; var. SEAM, lard; obs. f. SHAME *sb.* and *v.*

†Sa·med, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **samod, somed, somod**, 3 **somed, somǽd, somet**. [OE. *samod* = OS. *samod, samad*, Du. (17th c.) *samet*, OHG. *samet, samit, samant* (MHG., mod.G. *samt*), Goth. *samaþ*, f. OTeut. **samo-* SAME *a.*] Together.

Beowulf 1063 Þær wæs sang and sweg samod ætgædere for Healfdenes hildewisan. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1236 Þær bið on eadgum eðgesyne Þreo tacen somod. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 789 (Gr.) Þa hie fela spræcon sorhworda somed, sinhiwan twa. *c* 1205 LAY. 20132 Ford we biline Þeies ohte alle someð [? somed] heom to. *Ibid.* 25747 Þat heo sculden somed faren. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 532 Ha somet seiden, Þæt [etc.].

Same(i)kle, etc.: Sc. ff. *so mickle*; see So *adv.*

Samel (sæ·měl). Also 7 **sammell**, 7–8 **sammel**; *erron.* 8 **sandal, -el**. See also SAMMEN. [Of obscure origin; possibly repr. an OE. **samǽled* half-burnt, f. SAM- + pa. pple of *ǽlan* to burn.] Of a brick or tile: Imperfectly burnt.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 26 To suffer no Sammell Bricks to be made use of. *Ibid.* 28 See the Brick-layers take good sollid Bricks to hue, since if any thing Sammel the work will molder away. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 48 He had burnt several Kilns of Tiles and..not had above 50 waste, broken, and Sandal Tiles in all. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5446/8 All that are samel, or under burnt, to be excluded. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Brick, Samel*, or *sandal bricks*, are such as lie outmost in a kiln or clamp, and consequently are soft and useless; as not being thoroughly burnt. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* iii. (1841) I. 23 The brick-maker's men..turned their hands from the grey, hard, well-burnt bricks, to the soft, sammel, half-burnt bricks. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 443/2 The outside bricks are necessarily under-burned. These are called samel bricks.

Sa·meliness. [f. SAMELY *a.* + -NESS.]

†1. Identity. *Obs.*

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 22 An unexcusable disagreement of every Similitude, remote from identity or sameliness. *Ibid* 338.

2. Want of variety, monotony.

1897 WEBSTER (citing Bayne). 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Oct. 4/2 The sameliness of Longfellow's trochaic metre in 'Hiawatha'.

Samely (sē·mli), *a.* [f. SAME *a.* + -LY 1.] Without variety; monotonous.

1799 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVII. 122 To..separate parts [of the forest] that were in some places too heavy and samely. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 58 O samely naked leas, so bleak, so strange! 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii.(1864) 198 The earth is so samely, that your eyes turn towards heaven. 1902 *Monthly Mus. Record* 1 Jan. 16 Mr. Thomas F. Dunhill's Sixteen Variations on an original theme are too long and samely.

†Sa·men, *a. Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4 **saymne**, 4–6 **sammyn(e**, 4–7 **samyn**, 4–9 **samine**, 5–6 **samin, samyne**, 6 **sammin, samyng**, 7–8 **samen**. [A derivative of SAME *a.*; the formation is obscure; possibly due to the influence of next.] = SAME.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 252 And in the samyn tym come him to His wyff. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 348 Sancte Iohne 3et but abaysitnes Þe saymne drink tak neuir-Þe-les. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 25 Alssua in the samyn wys, did the Emperour Frederike. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test Cres.* 58 For worthie Chanceir, in the samin buik, In gudelie termis, and in Ioly veirs, Compylit hes his cairis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 184 Geif that my mynd can ocht ymagine rycht, I wene that he suld be the samyn knycht. *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Tragedy* 331 Brether,..quhen 3e were consecrat, 3e oblyste 3ow all on the sammyn wyse. 1577–95 *Descr. Isles Scotl.* in Skene *Celtic Scotl.* III. App. 428 Yit thai keip the lawis and uses of the samine for the maist part. *c* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1503 Lyk as befoir we did submit, Sae we repeit the samyn 3it. 1638 CHAS. I in Spalding *Troub.* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 62 Wee have taken notice therof and doe give you heartiely thanks for the samen. 1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* VII. 398 The samine is there truely and more fully to be found. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. XV. § 4 (1699) 214 He writes upon the Bill, soverty is found; & subscribes the samine. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, And had I fifty times as meikle mair Nane but my Jenny should the samen skair. 1815 FINLAYSON *Rhymes* 95 (E.D.D.) Thousands are o' the samen mind.

†Sa·men, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 **somen**, 3 *Orm.* **samenn**, 3–5 **saman, samine, sammin, sammyne, samun**, 4–5 **samin, sammyn**, 4–6 **samyn**, 4–7 **sammen**, 5 **samene, samne, sampnen, samyne, samynge, somun, somyn**. [OE. **samen, somen* (with prep. *æt somne*) = OFris. *samin, semin, to-semine, to saminen*, OS. *saman, at-samna, to samne* (MLG. *sam(m)ene, to samene*), MDu. *samen, te-samen* (Du. *tezamen*), OHG. *saman, zi samane* (MLG. *zesamene*, mod.G. *zusammen*), ON. *saman, til samans* (Sw. *samman, tilsamman(s*, Da. *sammen, tilsammen*), Goth. *samana*, f. root of SAME *a.* Cf. Skr. *samanā* together.] = SAM, together, mutually. For *in samen* see INSAME.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John xxi. 2 Werun somen simon petrus & ðe ðeȝn seðe wæs cweden didimus. *c* 1200 ORMIN 377 Þeȝȝ baþe samenn cwemmdenn Godd þurrh heore rihhtwisnesse. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 59 Ha ne muhen nawt somen [*MS. Bodl.* somet] earden in heuene. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 40 In firme biginning, of noght Was heuene and erðe samen wroght. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7151 Thre hundreth fox he samun knitt, (I wat noght hu he on þam hitte). *Ibid.* 11998 And iesus samen his handes smat, and said. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1849 Bot þe body and þe saul..Lufes mare samen þan man and hys wyfe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 111 Þan kissit þai [ilk] oþer sammyne, gretand faste with gastly gammyne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10118 Seyuyn dayes somyn sesit pai noght. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxviii. 128 Þai ware all gadred samemen. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lv, A fayre knaue child hade thay somun. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 78 We suld schewe lufly songis, to we be..broght in-to þe inward dwellynge-place, samne takand a seet emongis heuenly citesenes. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3217 In this ffasscicle of mirre ware bonden samen paynes alle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 16 On athir half, than gaderis hym about Of Troianis samyn and Sicilianis a rowt.

†Sa·men, *v. Obs.* ? Aphetic for EXAMINE *v.*

? 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire Spy-knaves* (1872) 6 They samen him according to their skils.

Samen, obs. form of SAM *v.*

Samene, variant of SAMEN *adv.*, together.

Sameness (sē·mnés). [f. SAME + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being the same; = IDENTITY 1, 2.

1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxii. (1887) 118 They were ill sundred, whom the samenes of time so vniteth together. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 28 They meane a samenesse for some proportion that is betweene them. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 559 We worship, the Father of Truth, and the Son the Truth it self, being Two Things as to Hypostasis; but one in Agreement, Consent, and Sameness of Will. 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 119 If there be the sameness in sinning, the same shall be in suffering. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iv. § 4 Our Idea of sameness, is not so setled and clear, as to deserve to be thought innate in us. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. 17 Personal identity or the sameness of living agents. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 17/2 The sameness of the electrical fire with that of lightning. 1759 CAPELL *Prolusions* Pref. (1760) 7 Sameness of rythmus, sameness of orthography, and a very near affinity of words and phrases. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* App. (ed. 2) 305 Sameness, in the primary sense, does not even necessarily imply Similarity. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 139 Likeness is sameness of affections.

2. Absence of variety, uniformity, monotony; an instance of this.

1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 27 Jan., We are in such a state of sameness that I shall begin to wonder at the change of seasons and talk of the Spring as a strange accident. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) II. viii. 20 There will arise..a sameness and a flatness. 1820 J. W. CROKER in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) II. xxiii. 86, I shall endeavour to enliven a little the sameness of my author. 1842 VIGNE *Trav. Kashmir* II. 404 The scenery is sameness itself. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 238 The steady occupations, the beloved samenesses, and the sacred customs of home.

3. ? *nonce-use.* Agreement in character or style.

1790 in W. Wrighte *Grotesque Archit.* Frontisp., Each will require a sameness to the Spot, For this a Cell, a Cascade or a Grot.

†Sa·menfere. *Obs.* [f. SAMEN *adv.* + FERE *sb.*1] A fellow-traveller, an associate.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 985 Þay slipped bi & syȝe hir not Þar were hir samen fered.

†Sa·mening. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **somnung**, 1–2 **samnung**, 3 **samening, somnunge, sompnunge**, 4 **samenyng, samnyng, sampninge**. [OE. *samnung*, vbl. sb. f. *samn-ian* SAM *v.*: see -ING 1.]

a. A gathering, an assembly. **b.** Intercourse, communion.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark I. 23, & wæs in somnung [*c* 1160 *Hatton* samnunge] hiora monn in gast unclæne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 Me is andsete Þe samninge of Þe hinderfulle. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 12 (Bodley MS.) Þet bestelich gederunge, Þet scheomelese sompnunge [*Titus MS.* somnunge], Þet ful of fulðe stinkinde & untobe dede. *c* 1250 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 23 Hy troue hy Þeli gast, and hely kirke, Þe samnings of halȝhes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1442 He fazneđe hire wiđ milde mod, Here samenin[n]g was clene and god. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2719 Gret noise at her samny[n]g was. *Ibid.* 6718 At Londone Þey sette a Parlement;..And Þus Þey seyde at Þer sampninge.

†Sa·menly, *adv. Obs.* Also 4 **sammenly**. [f. SAMEN *adv.* together + -LY 2.] Together.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28391 Munk, nunne, or spused wijf, Þat sammenly aght to lede Þair liue. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 91 The hali gast, That samenly comes of bothe the fadir and the son.

†Sa·mentale, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3 **somentale**, 4 **samentale, sammentale**. *β.* (as *adj.* only) 4 **samer-tale, samirtale, sammertale**. [App. f. SAMEN *a.* + TALE *sb.* Cf. SAMTALE *a.*

The *β* forms seem to represent a genitive phrase = 'of the same tale' (ON. **samrar*, unrecorded str. genit. sing. fem. of *sam-r* SAME *a.*; *tǫlu* genit. of *tala* TALE); the sb. may have arisen from the substitution of a phrase with prep. for the genitive phrase.]

A. *sb.* Concord, agreement.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 Seihnesse & some [*MS. T.* sachtnesse & somentale]. *a* 1375 *Cursor M.* 683 (Fairf.) Þe bestes weren in samen tale [cf. B].

B. *adj.* Concordant, agreeing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 683 Þe bestes self war samer-tale. *Ibid.* 10169 Was suilk a cuple neuer nan, Sua sammertale [*Gött.* samirtale], wit-vten strijf. *Ibid.* 23521 Þai er sa selcut samen tale.

†Sa·menward, *adv. Obs.* [f. SAMEN *adv.* + -WARD.] Together.

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 15117 (Fairf.) Þai geddered ham samneward & mened ham of Þaire care.

Sameria, variant of SAMARA.

†Sa·meron, *dial.* (Yorks.) *Obs.* Also 6 **samoron**, 6–7 **samron**, 7 **sameran**, 7 **sammaron**. See quot. 1684.

1556 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 73 Thre yerdes of sameron. 1564 *Ibid.* 96, xj paire of samoron and hardin sheetes, xiij s. iiij d. 1583 in *Ripon Charter Acts* (Surtees) 380, xl yeredes of sameron, 20 s. 1598 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 211 My best blankett, samron and a harden shete. 1617–18 *Ibid.* II. 50 One paire of sameran sheetes. 1638 *Ibid.* 162 One little paire of samron shetes. 1684 G. MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 45 Thy Sammaron web..Is stown. *Ibid.* 107 (Alphabetical Clavis), *Sammaron*, is a Cloath between Linnen and Hempen, not altogether so course as the one, nor fine as the other.

Samer-tale: see SAMENTALE.

Samerytane, obs. form of SAMARITAN.

Sameyel, Samfast, obs. ff. SAMIEL, SHAMEFAST.

Samfayl(e, -ffayl: see SANS FAIL.

Sam-hal: see SAM-.

Samian (sē·miăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Sami-us*, Gr. Σάμιος (f. *Sam-us, -os*, Gr. Σάμος) + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Samos, an island in the Ægean Sea, the birthplace of Pythagoras. **Samian earth** (see quot. 1728). **Samian letter**, the letter Y, used by Pythagoras as an emblem of the different roads of Virtue and Vice. **Samian stone** (see quot. 1728). **Samian ware**, originally, pottery made of Samian earth; hence the designation of a fine kind of pottery found extensively on Roman sites.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch, Pericles* (1595) 182 The Samian prisoners. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. Table, Samian earth of two kinds. *Ibid.*, Samian stone. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* iii. 109 Where the Samian Y directs thy Steps to run To Virtue's narrow Steep, and Broad-way Vice to shun. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Samian Earth*, Earth brought from the Isle of Samos..esteemed very astringent, proper to dry, and draw Wounds..There is also a *Samian Stone*, taken out of the Mines in the same Island..'Tis astringent and cooling, and is also used by the Goldsmiths to burnish their Gold, and give it a greater Lustre. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 151 When Reason doubtful, like the Samian letter, Points him two ways, the narrower is the better. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. *Isles of Greece* xiii, Fill high the bowl with Samian wine! 1859 LUARD in *Archæol. Cantiana* II. 7 The articles found consisted of Samian ware of various shapes. *Ibid.*, The vases, urns, and Samian vessels, were filled with bones.

B. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Samos.

1580 NORTH *Plutarch, Pericles* (1595) 181 He..kept the Samians besieged within their owne citie. 1759 W. WILKIE *Epigon.* v. 138 Ulysses then, with thirst of glory fir'd, The Samian left, and to the prize aspir'd. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 249/2 The great battle of Mycale (480), which..freed the Samians from the Persian yoke.

Samie, obs. form of SHAME *v.*

Samiel (sē·miěl). Also 8 **sameyel**. [a. Turkish سموم *samyel*, f. *sam* a. Arab. *samm* (see SIMOOM) + *yel* wind.] The Simoom.

(Sometimes confused with SHAMAL, north wind.)

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 54 Having spoken so much of the Samiel, it is but reasonable I should relate what I have been told of it. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 153 A very dangerous wind prevails, which the natives [of Persia] call the *sameyel*. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 49 The samiel or mortifying wind of the deserts near Bagdad. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R., Veiled Prophet* (ed. 2) 90 Burning and headlong as the Samiel wind.

Samin, obs. form of SAM *v.*!

Samin(e, var. ff. SAMEN *a.* and *adv. Obs.*

†Sa·ming. *Obs.* [f. SAM *v.* + -ING. Cf. SAMENING.] A meeting, assembly.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3823 Suche a peple was neuere y-sene..To-geder broght at o samyng.

Samiri, variant of SAMIRI.

Samirtale: see SAMENTALE.

‖Samisen (sæ·misen). Also **samsien**. [Japanese form of Chinese *san-hsien* (*san* three, *hsien* string).]

A Japanese guitar of three strings, played with a plectrum.

1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 55 The *san heen* of China, and the *samsien* of Japan. The two instruments are almost identical. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *Jap. Wife* (ed. 11) 4 The music of guitars or *samisens* being played in the tea-houses.

Samite (sæ·məit). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 samit, samet, 4–5 samyt, 4–6 samyte, 5–6 samite, 6 *arch.* samitte, 9 *arch.* samit(e, sammit. [a. OF. *samit* = Pr. *samit*, Sp. *jamete* (older *xamete*), It. *sciamito*, med.L. *examitum*, *exametum*, *samitum*, *samiltum*, ad. med. Gr. ἑξάμιτον (whence OSl. *oksamitŭ*, Russian АКСАМИТЪ velvet), f. Gr. ἑξα- combining form of ἕξ six + μίτος thread; cf. Gr. δίμιτος double-threaded, as sb. DIMITY. From Fr. the word passed into MHG. as *samît* (mod.G. *sammet*, *sammt*, *samt*, velvet). Cf. MSw. *examit*.

The med. Gr. name, lit. 'six-threaded', has been variously explained. Usually it has been supposed that the original 'samite' was woven of thread composed of six strands of silk; but according to Middleton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 210/1 it 'was so called because the weft threads were only caught and looped at every sixth thread of the warp, lying loosely on the intermediate part'.]

A rich silk fabric worn in the Middle Ages, sometimes interwoven with gold. Also, † a garment or a cushion of this material.

13.. *K. Alis.* 2094 (Bodl. MS.) Alisaunder sytt on a samyt And plaieþ atte ches in his delyst. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 873 In an over-gilt samyt Clad she was. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXX. 608 Ther-on hinge a gipser of purpill samyte bete with golde. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. XXV. 73 In the myddes of the lake Arthur was ware of an arme clothed in whyte samyte. *Ibid.* XVIII. XIX. 760 That my barget be couerd with blak samyte ouer and ouer. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 156 She was vestured wyth a samyte of grene. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 35 'Dalmaticam de eodem samitto..', which is to saye, 'the kinges dalmaticall garmente of the same samitte'. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* viii. 93 [A robe for Hen. III] to be made of the best purple-coloured samite (a rich silk). 1842 [see MYSTIC A. 5 b]. 1847 THACKERAY *Barbazure* i, A surcoat of peach-coloured samite..bespoke him noble.

¶ *jocularly*. (Scarlet) plush.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. vii. 69 Springing down from his station behind his mistress, the youth clad in the nether garments of red sammit discharged thunderclaps on the door of Mrs. Newcome's house.

Samlet (sæ·mlĕt). [Contracted f. SALMON[1] + -LET. Cf. the earlier SALMONET.] A young salmon.

1655 WALTON *Angler* vii. (1661) 135 [There they leave the spawn] to become Samlets early in the spring next following. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* IV. iv. § 11. 192 Salmulus, Herefordiæ *Samlet* dictus. 1742 R. CORNES in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 129 What goes here by the Name of Samlet, a small Fish spotted with Red, not much unlike the Trout. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 253 The samlet is the lest of the trout kind. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 34 They commonly spawn in October, and the young become samlets the following year. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 62 They are called indifferently, samlets, par, last spring, or fingerlings. 1884 BRAITHWAITE *Salmonidæ Westmld.* v. 18 The samlets have in the fresh water been content with small worms [etc.].

† **Sa·mly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SAM *adv.* + -LY[2]. Cf. SAMENLY *adv.*] Agreeingly.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1835 Kindeli eche oþer clipt and kessed ful oft,..Slepten wel swetly samli to-gadere.

Samme, obs. f. SAM *v.*; var. SAM *adv.*, together.

Sammen (sæ·mən). Also **salmon.** [Etymologizing alteration of SAMEL.] = SAMEL.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Sammen-bricks*, bricks insufficiently burned; soft and friable. They are commonly understood to be salmon bricks, and to be so called, because ..they..assume a reddish hue, supposed to be something like that of the flesh of the salmon. 1876 ADAMS in *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Mar. 162 The arches, from necessity, are overburned in consequence of prolonging the firing sufficiently to burn the top and sides of the kiln into respectable salmon. 1889 C. T. DAVIES *Bricks* (ed. 2) 47 This test applies only to hard-burned bricks, not to salmon stock.

Sammen, obs. f. SAM *v.*; var. SAMEN, together.

Sammenly, variant of SAMENLY *adv. Obs.*

Sammentale, sammertale: see SAMENTALE.

Sammier (sæ·miəɹ). [f. SAMMY *v.* + -ER[1].] (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Sammier*, a machine for pressing water from skins in the process of tanning.

Sammin, Sammit: see SAMEN, SAMITE.

Sammy (sæ·mi), *v. Leather-dressing.* [Extended form of SAM *v.*[2]] *trans.* To dry partially (leather). = SAM *v.*[2]

1892 J. W. STEVENS *Leather Manuf.* iii. 20 After being sammied, take one side at a time and..dampen it. *Ibid.* 24 Sammieing. This term..I have failed to learn the origin of...It appears to have originated in the Western and Southern states, for in the East, 'hardening' is generally used when the leather is hung on poles or in the lofts to dry out a certain percentage of moisture, in order to prepare it for splitting and stuffing. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 416 If the light color is desired, the leather is hung up and allowed to harden, as it is termed in the East, or to sammy, as it is termed in the West, for setting.

Sammyn, Samne(n: see SAM *v.*[1], SAMEN *adv.*

Samnite (sæ·mnəit), *sb.* and *a.* Also 4 sampnite, 7 samnit. [ad. L. *Samnītes* pl. (sing. *Samnis*); perh. etymologically cognate with SABINE.]

A. *sb.* One of a people of ancient Italy, believed to be an offshoot of the Sabines; their territory, called Samnium, was adjacent to Latium.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 179 Whan the Sampnites to him broghte A somme of gold [etc.]. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. (1556) M vj b, Caius Pontius the Samnite. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 45 Then, moved upon the petition of the countrey of Campania, they invaded the Samnits. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* II. 224 When the proud Samnites Troops the State defy'd. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 298 The Etruscans and Samnites by turns possessed both.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Samnites; in use among the Samnites.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Shield*, The Germans, beside the samnite-shield, have two others pretty much in use. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 380/1 The Samnite war.

Hence **Samni·tic** *a.* [ad. L. *Samnīticus*.]

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Shield*, The samnitic-shield used by the Romans. 1864 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 375/3 Built ..on the conclusion of the Samnitic war.

† **Samni·tis.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: perh. some error.] Some poisonous plant.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 52 Mortall Samnitis, and Cicuta bad.

Samoan (sămō·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Samoa*, an island kingdom of the Pacific, + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to Samoa, or the Samoans. *Samoan dove* or *pigeon*, the tooth-billed pigeon. (In recent Dicts.: cf. quot. 1864.)

1846 LUNDIE *Mission. Life in Samoa* xxii. 140 The Samoan language. 1864 *Reader* 28 May 687/1 A species of ground-pigeon from the Samoan Islands.

B. *sb.* **a.** A native of Samoa. **b.** The Samoan language.

1846 LUNDIE *Mission. Life in Samoa* xxi. 135 Mrs. Murray prayed in Samoan. 1875 JEVONS *Money* iv. 28 The fine woven mats so much valued by the Samoans. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 355/1 Roast pig is a joy for ever to a Samoan.

Samoed, samoid, etc.: see SAMOYED.

‖ **Samolus** (sămō·lŭs). [L. *samōlus* (Pliny); said to be a Celtic word.] **a.** *Antiq.* A plant said to have been used in ancient Druidical ceremonies. **b.** *Bot.* Adopted (by Linnæus) as the name of a genus of plants belonging to the order *Primulaceæ*. Also, a plant of this genus.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Samolus*, in botany, the name of a genus of plants. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Samolus*, small marsh plants with white flowers..belonging to the *Primulaceæ*. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Open Verd.* II. 14, I wonder whether he was going to gather the samolus, left-handed and fasting. 1884 C. ROGERS *Soc. Life Scot.* I. i. 16 The leaves of the Samolus were gathered by the priest fasting. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 254 The selago flourished on the heath and the samolus by the running stream.

Samon, obs. form of SALMON.

Samony(e, obs. Sc. ff. *so many*: see SO *adv.*

Samoom, variant of SIMOOM.

‖ **Samoreus.** [Du.] A kind of boat used on the Rhine.

1622 T. SCOTT *Belg. Pismire* 71 An infinite number of people are imployd in Shippes, Samoreuses, Hoyes [etc.].

Samori, Samorine, Samorit: see ZAMORIN.

Samoron, variant of SAMERON *Obs.*

Samosatenian (sæmōsătī·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 Samosatonian, 9 -anian. [f. L. *Samosatēn-us*, Gr. Σαμοσατηνός (f. *Samosata*) + -AN.]

a. *sb.* A follower of Paul of Samosata. = PAULIAN *sb.* 1. **b.** *adj.* = PAULIAN *a.*

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 6 For the baptisme which Nouatianists gaue stoode firme, whereas they whome Samosatenians had baptised were rebaptised. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 123 With which are joyned the Samosatonians and Sabellians. 1697 STILLINGFL. *Disc. Trinity* 42 Directly contrary to the Samosatenian Doctrine. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., St. Epiphanius will have the Samosatenians to be real Jews, without any thing more than the name of Christians. *a* 1861 CUNNINGHAM *Hist. Theol.* (1863) II. xxiii. 160 The Samosatanian heresy.

Samothracian (sæmōþrē·ʃiăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *Samothrācē*, Gr. Σαμοθράκη, an island in the Ægean Sea + -IAN.] **a.** *sb.* An inhabitant of Samothrace. **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Samothrace; *esp.* with reference to the Cabiric mysteries which originated in Samothrace.

1653 COGAN tr. *Diodorus Sic. Hist.* VI. x. 249 The Samothracians do report, that among them there was another great deluge before that of Deucalion. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Cabiri*, in antiquity, certain deities worshipped more especially by the Samothracians... 'Tis disputed.. whether they be of Phœnician, Samothracian, or Egyptian origin. 1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 351 The Samothracian mysteries. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 250/2 When the Samothracians sent a contingent to the Persian fleet.

‖ **Samovar** (sæmōvā·ɹ). [Russian САМОВАРЪ, 'self-boiler', f. САМО- *samo-* self + ВАРИТЬ *varit'* to boil.] A Russian tea urn.

1830 tr. *Kotzebue's New Voy.* II. 22 *note*, A Samowar, or self-boiler..generally stands in the middle of the tea-table. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 14 June 2/1 The samovar is a tea-kettle which has its fire in a tube running through it, and which, with a few pieces of lighted charcoal dropped into the tube, maintains the water at boiling point with a minimum of evaporation.

Samoyed (sæ·moyed), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 7 Samoit, Samoed, 7–8 Samoid, Samoied, 8–9 Samojede, 9 Samoiede, 7– Samoyed. [Russian САМОѢДЪ. The rendering 'self-eater' (cf. МЯСОѢДЪ *myasoyed* flesh-eater), interpreted as 'cannibal', is already mentioned by Purchas 1613.] **A.** *sb.* One of a Mongolian race inhabiting Siberia.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 432 The Samoits or Samoyeds are clad from head to foot in Deeres-skinnes. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 129 The countries inhabited by the Samoids. 1726 BOLINGBROKE *Study of Hist.* (1777) II. 34 The Samojedes wondered much at the Czar of Muscovy for not living among them. 1756 DYER *Fleece* IV. 145 The hardy Samoid. 1812 SHELLEY in Dowden *Life* (1887) I. 319 The poor are as abject as Samoyeds. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* i. 31 Among Lapps and Samoyeds.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Samoyeds. Also quasi-*sb.*, their language.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 695 From the North Of Norumbega, and the Samoed shoar. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 639/1 It is said that all the Samoied women have black nipples. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 230 The second branch [of the Turanian family of languages] is the Samoyed.

Samoyedic (sæmōye·dik), *a.* Also **Samojedic, -iedic.** [f. SAMOYED + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the Samoyeds. Also quasi-*sb.*, their language.

1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 288 The Samojedic nations are situated north of the Tartars. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 474/1 The nations of Samoiedic origin occupy two different countries distant from one another. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. vi. II. 78 Peter, the Russian (say rather Samoeidic [*sic*]) Czar. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 2/2 Certainly Turkic lies much closer to Mongolic than it does to Samoyedic and Tungusic.

Samp (sæmp). *U. S.* Also 7 **sampe.** [a. Algonkin *nasamp* (Wood *Vocab.* 1634), Narragansett *nasaump* (R. Williams), lit. 'softened by water', applied subst. to 'every kind of spoon meat, bouillon, or porridge' (Trumbull in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LV. 454). Cf. SUPAWN.] Coarsely-ground Indian corn; also a kind of porridge made from it.

1643 R. WILLIAMS *Key* 11 *Nasàump*, a kind of meale pottage, unpartch'd. From this the English call their Samp, which is the Indian corne, beaten and boild, and eaten hot or cold with milke or butter. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 101 The corn is light of digestion, and the English make a kind of Loblolly of it, which they call Sampe. 1833 WHITTIER *Passaconaway* Prose Wks. 1889 I. 276 My squaws have fine mat, big wigwam, soft samp. 1899 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Mar. 133 Samp, a beautiful form of hominy.

Sampan (sæ·mpæn). Also 7–8 **champana,** 8 **champan, -e, sampane, siampan,** 9 **sampaan, sampang, sanpan.** [a. Chinese *san-pan* (*san* three, *pan* board); cf. Annamite *tam-ban* (*tam* three). Cf. the Sp. spelling *cempan* (Oviedo 1535); also Pg. *champana*.]

1. A Chinese word meaning 'boat', applied by Europeans in the China seas to any small boat of Chinese pattern.

1620 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 122 Yt was thought fytt and brought in question by the Hollanders to trym up a China sampan to goe with the fleete. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xx. 72 Quiay Panian puisued them in a Champana. 1730 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 9 Sept., Took in 2 Sampan Loads of Wood. 1745 T. PASCOE *Jrnl. Voy. S. Seas* 296 Several Chinese Champans, or small Fishing-Boats. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sampaan*, or *Sampan*, a neatly-adjusted kind of hatch-boat, used by the Chinese for passengers, and also as a dwelling for Tartar families, with a comfortable cabin.

2. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) July 362/2 But the bay has a boat whose style is peculiar to the place. It is called a 'sanpan', and is an eight-foot punt, made of a few pine boards, which in light winds simply skims along the surface of the water.

Sampel, obs. form of SAMPLE.

Samphire (sæ·mfəiəɹ). Forms: 6 **sampere, sampiere, samphier,** 6–8 **sampier,** 6–9 **sampire,** 7 **sampeir, samper, samphyre,** 7– **samphire.** [In 16th c. *sampere, -pire* (the altered form may have been assimilated to *camphire*), a. F. (*herbe de*) *Saint Pierre* (Cotgr. 1611), lit. 'St. Peter's herb'. Cf. mod.L. *sampetra* (in Dodoens ed. 1616). Diefenbach cites mod.L. *herba divi Petri* from a work of 1694. Cf. G. *meerpeterlein*. Possibly the attribution to St. Peter may have been suggested by late L. *petra* (F. *pierre*) rock.]

1. The plant *Crithmum maritimum* (growing on rocks by the sea), the aromatic saline fleshy leaves of which are used in pickles. Also called *Rock samphire*.

1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Crethmos* uel *Cretanus*, an herbe growing on the sea rockes, whiche we call Sampere. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. xxi. 577 Sampiere hath fat, thicke, long smal leaves. 1590 R. PAYNE *Descr. Irel.* (1841) 7 The Phisitians there [in Ireland] holde, that Samphier is a present remedie against the stone. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 15 Halfe way downe Hangs one that gathers Sampire: dreadfull Trade. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 344 Stately cliffes bringing forth Samphyre in great quantity. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 10 In this shire grows greater store of samphire and Sea-holly. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 178 Sampier clothes the rock in abundance. 1702 FLOYER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1167 Sampire is of an Acrid Aromatic Taste. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, Crithmum;.. Smaller Samphire, or Sea-Fennel. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 194 Samphire..almost the only wild plant..gathered for.. luxury. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 176 The water has to be given a flavor by the squeezed berries of the Samphire.

b. As a name for various other maritime plants, esp. the glasswort (*Salicornia*). For GOLDEN, MARSH, PRICKLY *samphire*, see those words.

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 121 The Mould is Sand by the Sea-side, producing a large sort of Sampier, which bears a white Flower. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xvii, Golden Samphire. *Ibid.* xxviii, Prickley Sampire. *a* 1794 BARHAM *Hortus Amer.* 165 Sampier... There

is another sort, which resembles the English *Kali*, *kelp*, or glass-wort; another sort hath a thick juicy saltish leaf, in shape of purslane..; another sort hath a turnsole leaf. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 122 *Articulatus*, jointed, as in Samphire, *Salicornia annua*. 1847–54 WEBSTER, *Samphire*... In the United States, this name is applied to *Salicornia herbacea*, which is called glass-wort in England. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787 Samphire: *Borrichia arborescens*. Jamaica Samphire: *Batis maritima*. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 12/1 The glasswort is still called 'samphire' in Suffolk, and is gathered for purposes of pickling.

2. *Cookery.* The leaves of samphire, used chiefly as a pickle.

1624 BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 138 A smale Barricke of Sampier. 1641 MURREL *Cookerie* (ed. 5) 68 To boyle Pigeons with Capers or Sampyre. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery* 3 To pickle Sampier green. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 244 All Pickles, especially Samphire, which is stimulating. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 147 Then put in the Meat, and a few Capers and Samphire shred. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xix. 306 Take the samphire that is green, lay it in a clean pan.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1810 CRABBE *Borough* i. 41 Here sampire-banks and saltwort bound the flood. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 380 *Inula Crithmifolia*. Samphire-leaved Inula. 1849 C. H. STURT *Narr. Exped. Centr. Austral.* I. 367 A shallow salt lagoon also fringed round with samphire bushes.

Samplar, obs. form of SAMPLER.

Sample (sɑ·mp'l), *sb.* Forms: 4 **sampel**, **saumpel**, **-pul**, **-ple**, **saunpil**, 4–5 **saumpil**, 4–6 **sampill**, **saumple**, 5 **sampil(le**, **sampull**, **saumpyl**, 4– **sample**. [ME. *sample*, aphetic f. *essample*: see EXAMPLE *sb.*]

†**1.** A fact, incident, story, or suppositious case, which serves to illustrate, confirm, or render credible some proposition or statement. (Cf. EXAMPLE *sb.* 1.) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10351 Yitt samuel..And sampson als,.. Bath þam bar tua wimmen geld..þou trou þir samples witerli, For þou sal haf a child in hi. 13.. *E. E. Allit P.* A. 499 As mathew melez in your messe, In sothful gospel of god al-myȝt In sample he can ful grayþely gesse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* xlix. Sel. Wks. I. 142 And efte Crist tellip a kyndely saumple. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5306 Þar in perchement depayntid his person scho schewid. Said 'se þi-selfe a sampill þat I þe sothe neuyn!' 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Wagner) 6 Of suche a sampull y wyll ȝou telle, That he, þat wyll hit well unþerstande, In herte he may be full dredande. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 230 A sample we mow se al day, That God sent amonges us alle. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 48/1 And as simple as that saumple is, yet is there lesse reason in our case, then in that. 1529 — *Dyalogue* II. ibid. 202/2 Thys wer not like yᵉ sufferance of an vnconsecrate host, wherof ye putte the saumple.

2. A relatively small quantity of material, or an individual object, from which the quality of the mass, group, species, etc. which it represents may be inferred; a specimen. Now chiefly *Comm.*, a small quantity of some commodity, presented or shown to customers as a specimen of the goods offered for sale. (An individual article offered as a specimen of goods sold by number and not by weight or measure is now more commonly called a *pattern*.)

The commercial use is now apprehended as the primary one, the wider application being felt as transferred.

1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 6 Of ye whilk plaster and lyme a sample ys redy in ye chambre to shew. 1561 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 335 Nor na skaiffry, sic as sampill and scheit schakin, to be tane thairof [*sc.* of malt and meal]. 1573–4 in Cunningham *Revels Acc.* (Shaks. Soc.) 60 For making of vj patternes, and for cutting therof for samples for the gownes of Cloth of golde, iij s. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 45 In one of these [galleries] wee place Patternes and Samples of all manner of the more Rare and Excellent Inuentions. 1699 *Poor Man's Plea* 20 Ye might let People buy by Samples, or at Barn-doors. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3963/3 The Cargo of the Ship No. 7,..consisting of..White Wines, Sweets and Brandy; Samples of which may be seen at the said Hall. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sample*, some part of a Commodity, given as a Pattern, to shew the Quality or Condition of it. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 100 P 3 The hands and face were the only samples they gave of their beautiful persons. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xlvi. (1841) II. 181 The farmer..rubs out only a few handfuls of it [wheat] with his hand, and puts it into a little money-bag; and with this sample, as it is called, in his pocket, away he goes to market. 1775 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. p. vi, From those curious samples of Egyptian Sculpture at the British Museum. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 394, I was induced to apply to his Sicilian Majesty..for samples of the seed. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scotl.* s. v., When goods are sold by sample, there is an implied warrandice that the bulk is of equal quality with the sample. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvi. 261 During these surveys, numerous samples of the sea bottom were secured. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 297 The collection of samples of air for analysis. 1896 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 3/5 The Bench were of opinion that samples were goods.

b. of immaterial things.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 89 He..is oftentimes shewing you a sample of his Ingenuity. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 169 It was by a private person giving a sample of the utility of lamps. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Quakers' Meeting*, Once only..I witnessed a sample of the old Foxian orgasm. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 526 Of the general character of those outlaws an estimate may be formed from a few samples. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xlviii. II. 235 Illinois furnishes so good a sample of that [township] system in its newer form, that I cannot do better than extract from a..trustworthy writer, the following account.

†**3.** A person's action or conduct viewed as an object of imitation; also, a person whose conduct deserves imitation; = EXAMPLE *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 409 Hymself þan gaf us sample þare. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 22 O þis maner sal þabbesse folize þe saumpyl of Iesu. 1548 PATTEN *Exped.* Pref. b iij b, Since what he could doo, they could not resiste, and what he should do, they had set hym a sample. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 119 And nowe they bene to heauen forewent, Theyr good is with them goe: Theyr sample onely to vs lent, That als we mought doe soe. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 106 For if his errour such pardon accrew, More by his sample will be couraged. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. i. 48 [He] Liu'd in Court (Which rare it is to do) most prais'd, most lou'd, A sample to the yongest.

†**4.** Precedent; = EXAMPLE *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1193/1 Therefore is his case both playn against Goddes open precept, and the dispensacion straunge and without saumple.

†**5.** A warning; = EXAMPLE *sb.* 3. Phrases, *In sample*, by way of warning. *To take sample. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20889 Bath ananias and his wife For suike he dampnid tam o life, þat all suld tak þaim sample bi For to naman do tricheri. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 595 Þar-for, in sampill of ewill dede to wekit dede I sall ȝow lede. *c* 1420 *Brut* 196 In sample þat þe Scottes shulde haue in mynde forto bere ham amys a3eynz her lorde eftesones. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 403 On the sall fall the fyrst part off thir harmys, Sampill to geyff till all thi fals natioune. *Ibid.* XI. 834 Nane sampill takis, how ane othir has beyn For cowatice put in gret paynys fell.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive, quasi-*adj.*, serving as a sample.

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 458 If the 'sample blade', that is, the largest lamina in the series, weigh 7 pounds, the whole produce may be estimated at a ton. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xliv, Why did you leave that..sample-bottle of Hollands out of the cupboard? 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 263 It is just possible that the sample ores you see in London, or some other city, have come from any mine except the one projected, or offered to your consideration. 1863 *Reader* 12 Dec. 688 By culling a few sample-extracts. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, Miss Abbey filed her receipts, and kept her sample phials.

b. Special Comb.: **sample-bag**, a bag containing the samples carried by a commercial traveller; also, a small holland bag tied up with an attached tape, used by merchants and farmers to carry samples of corn, etc.; **sample card**, a piece of cardboard to which is fastened a sample of cloth, etc.; = *pattern card*; **sample cutter** (see quot.); **sample hand**, an operative employed in producing 'sample' goods; **sample passer**, one whose business it is to select the articles that are to serve as samples; **sample-room**, (*a*) a room in which samples are kept for inspection; (*b*) *U. S. slang*, a place where liquor is sold by the glass; **sample-trier** = *sample passer*.

1884 *Manch. Guard.* 26 Sept. 5/1 He..deposited his *sample-bag in the dining-room. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sample cutter*, a species of rotary shears. A sharp edged disk on a table rolling against an edge and cutting narrow strips of cloth from the roll, to form tailor's or traveler's samples. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 10/3 Experienced *sample hands for children's costumes, pelisses, &c. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, **Sample Passer*, a proficient smelter who chemically tests a sample of metal drawn from the furnace when to the eye it seems about the desired quality. 1874 ALDRICH *Prudence Palfrey* XV. 297 Colonel Todhunter..had been refreshing himself at the *sample-room attached to Odiorne's grocery. 1895 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 5/1 Commercial institutions, of which inquiry offices, museums, and sample rooms..should form a leading feature. 1776 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 217 In the knowledge of which the *sample-triers or Tin-dressers are very expert. 1814 W. PHILLIPS in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* II. 143 When a pound or two of the ore is given to the sample-trier, as a fair sample of 50 or 100 tons.

Sample (sɑ·mp'l), *v.* [f. SAMPLE *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To be or find a match or parallel to; to parallel; to intend as a match *for*. Also, to put in comparison *with*. *Obs.*

1592 LD. VAUX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. IV. IV. 109 Throwgh uncath to be sampled infortunacy I may neither dispose of my owne to my requisite reliefe [etc.]. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 702 Whensoeuer afterwards there was taken vppe any great lamentation, it was sampled and matched with that of Hadadrimmon. 1602 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 241 If Cambricke you wud deale in, there's the best, all Millan cannot sample it. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. i, She would ha' had you, to ha' sampled you With one within, that they are now a teaching; And do's pretend to your ranck. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* 173 Who can sample, amongst Heretiques, that [patience] of Laurence on the Gridyron? 1630 LORD *Banians* 9 Modest were her Aspect, and her eyes Indices of so melancholly soberpesse, and composed lookes, as if she seemed to be sampled for him that met her. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) III. 635 This notion [is] nowhere else sampled in any Greek Author. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* ii. B iij, Which Prelacie he samples and parallells with the..Lordship, which Heathen Princes exercise over their people. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Ceremony Monger* v. Wks. 1716 II. 435 A Lean and Cadaverous Clergy, the whole Protestant World cannot sample such a jejune Crew.

†**2. a.** To set an example to. **b.** To set an example of. *Obs.*

1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 5 The morne, who sampling men their sinnes to rue, Hath washt earths motley face in weeping dewe. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. ciii. 406 We Church-men should to Lay-men sample good.

†**3.** To illustrate, to explain by examples or analogies; to symbolize. *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 599 Ortelius..supposeth ..that Vmbilicus was accounted the Deitie it selfe..which shapelesse shape hee sampleth by many like in other Nations. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 191 Therefore this wee may doe, some way sample that, which no way we can expresse. 1664 H. MORE *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* Pref. (1669) (a 3). Mr. Mede..seems to insinuate that they should Prophetically sample unto us a sevenfold successive Temper and Condition of the whole visible Church.

†**4.** To imitate, to copy. *Obs.*

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, Walla by chance was in a meadow by Learning to 'sample earth's embrodery. 1626 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XX. vii, A modell of this more exquisite frame is sent to Urijah, the priest; and must be sampled in Jerusalem. 1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* 530 Is it not a strange Copy that differs in kind from its Idea?.. As if you should propound a House for your patern, and draw a Horse to sample it.

5. To take a sample or samples of; to judge of the quality of (a thing) by a sample or specimen; to obtain a representative experience of.

1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxi, She..looks at it,—considers it,—samples it,—measures it. 1858 HUGHES *Scour. White Horse* 196, I won't turn my back..on any man in the country at sampling wheat. 1883 V. D. MAJENDIE in *Fortn. Rev.* May 647 Every cargo is sampled by the Customs on its arrival and chemically examined. 1890 N. HIBBS in *Big Game N. Amer.* 22 The Moose has a hump on his nose... it excels any other meat dish I have ever had the pleasure of sampling. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 354 Some one who has personally sampled Africa.

b. To present samples or specimens of. Also, to serve as a sample of.

1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 208 Chaucer never shows any signs of effort, and it is a main proof of his excellence that he can be so inadequately sampled by detached passages. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gl. Ice Age* (1894) 607 The literature of the subject has grown to such an extent,..that it is hopeless.. to do more than sample it. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 8 July, The fifty thousand men who would have sampled the drill, discipline, and patriotism of a hundred and fifty thousand more. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Nov. 3/2 English editors of Irish chronicles and histories often make grave blunders, some of which he samples.

Sampled (sɑ·mp'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SAMPLE *v.* + -ED.] Tested to ascertain the quality.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 241 An assay of sampled ore gives 40 ounces silver and 60 per cent. lead.

Sampler (sɑ·mplə(r)), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **saumplarie**, **-ye**, **sawmplere**, 4–5 **samplere**, **saumpler**, 4–8 **samplar**, 6 **sawmplar**, 9 *dial.* **sampleth**, 6– **sampler**. [Aphetic f. OF. *essamplaire*: see EXAMPLAR.]

†**1.** An example to be imitated; a model, pattern; an archetype; the original from which a copy is or may be taken. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28073 Bot nu sal i tell þe her nest Hu þu sal sceu þi scrift to preist,..þat laud men mai sumquat lere To scape þair scrift wit þis samplere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1439 For þai till hyme war as samplar to lewe his kyne þat mychty war, & þis gret pilgrimag to tak. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 104 Al-þough men made bokes god was þe maistre, And seynt spirit þe saumplarye and seide what men sholde write. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 40 Bihold and do after the sawmplere, that to thee is shewid in the hil. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2947 Off ther beyng here will I leue and cease, To declare and say make me will redy, As of my samplere to procede plainly. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 382 There are not two sorts of Adoration.. but one onely Adoration, both of the Image, and also of the Samplar, whereof the Image is. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 445 But the Type is past, and the veritye supplyeth the place. Latt us make a comparison betwixt the sampler and yᵉ trueth [Melchisedech and Christ]. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 490 The verie whores ..paid him a yearely reuenue for their bauderies: which act ..is made a sampler to some of our holie Popes to imitate. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 778 Arachne first invented.. working with the needle, which this mayd of Lydia first learned from the Spiders, taking her first Samplers and patterns from them for imitation. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xvi. 208 Christ's baptism was the perfect sampler and patterne of ours. 1656 JEANES *Fuln. Christ* 296 The holinesse of Christ, which God hath propounded unto us for a samplar to imitate. 1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* Wks. 1871 V. 85 God is the original fountain and sampler of holiness. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 259 True holiness consists in a likeness to the most exact sampler.

attrib. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 48 A stone,..some way conform to..Christ the Sampler-stone.

†**2.** An illustrative or typical instance; a specimen. Also, a representation, symbol, type. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10892 þat þou be noght o þis in weir, Ald elizabeth be þi samplere. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* (1638) 24 So thou maist yet at least be furthered somewhat by this little sampler [A. S. *bysne*]. 1644 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* 253 What is man but a sampler of weakness? 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 73 And God is giving some Specimens hereof, some Samplars. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 25 The Temple..a Type and Samplar.. of the Heavenly Temple that is above.

3. †**a.** A piece of embroidery serving as a pattern to be copied. *Obs.*

1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* (1578) 54 The Hoppesackes that are brought out of Flaunders, may be good samplers for you to worke by. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 119 Alas then, o Loue, why doost thou in thy beautifull sampler sette such a worke for my Desire to take out, which is as much impossible? [1608: see 1.] 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 284 Such as begin to work with the needle, look much on their sampler and pattern.

b. A beginner's exercise in embroidery; a piece of canvas embroidered by a girl as a specimen of her skill, usually containing the alphabet and some

mottos worked in ornamental characters, with various decorative devices.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 789 The saumpler to sow on, the lacis to enbraid. 1546 MARG. THOMSON *Will* in *Essex Rev.* (1908) XVII. 147, I gyve to Alys Pynchebeck my sawmpler with semes. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. ii, When didst thou, with thy sampler..sit sowing? 1639 MAYNE *City Match* II. ii, Your schoole-mistresse..teaches To knit in Chaldee, and worke Hebrew samplers. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 2 ¶ 3 Our girls forsake their samplers to teach kingdoms wisdom. 1789 BURNS *Let. to Mrs. M'Murdo* 2 May, Never did little Miss with more sparkling pleasure show her applauded sampler to partial Mamma, than I now send my poem to you. 1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 61 Sin I furst work'd a sampleth at Biddy Forsyth's. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Tr.* (1894) 80 Now not all they seek to do Is create upon a sampler Beasts which Buffon never knew. 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* (1889) 136 There is a 'sampler' worked by some idiot related to the family.

attrib. 1859 MISS CARY *Country Life* i. (1876) 19, I see that it was marked with sampler letters in one corner. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 170 Esther, for her part, taught her embroidery and sampler work.

transf. and *fig.* 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* Prol. 5 Take out thy fescue, and spell here, in this one-leau'd booke. Tell the stitches in this sampler of blacke and white. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* II. 448 Distinguished Slashes deck the Great; As each excells in Birth, or State His Oylet-holes are more, and ampler, The King's own body was a Samplar. 1819 KEATS *Wks.* (1889) III. p. CXXV, The more he may love the sad embroidery of the *Excursion*, the more will he hate the coarse samplers of Betty Foy and Alice Fell.

4. *Forestry.* A young tree left standing when the rest are cut down.

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 161 Take a good straight Pole or sampler growing of Ash or Willow. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 19 Cutting down samplers and young trees even for faggot and stack wood..has been..a common practice. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 246 Standards or samplers are always left, but seldom raised to timber.

†5. = SAMPLE *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.*

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 136 Test for proving Steel. Take weak aqua-fortis, and drop a little on the sampler in question.

Sampler (sɑ·mplər), *sb.*[2] [f. SAMPLE *v.* + -ER[1].] One whose business it is to sample goods.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 216 To make a rough guess or coarse essay, the sampler takes a handful of it, and washes it on a shovel [etc.]. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 382 The sampler takes charge of the piles. 1906 *Act* 6 *Edw. VII*, c. 27 § 3 (2) An official sampler shall at the request of the purchaser..take a sample for analysis by the agricultural analyst of any such article.

†Sa·mpler, *v. Obs.* [f. SAMPLER *sb.*[1]] = SAMPLE *v.*

1628 PRYNNE *Brief Survay* 54, I will therefore now confine my selfe to the Matter, and Substance of these Deuotions, which I will now Paralell, and Sampler with those Popish Authors.

Samplery (sɑ·mplĕri). [f. SAMPLER *sb.*[1] + -Y.] The making of samplers; sampler work.

1613 T. MILLES tr. *Mexia's*, etc. *Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* I. 762/2 Feare God, and learne womens huswiuery; not idle Samplery, or Silken follies. 1840 DICKENS *Old. C. Shop* viii, The art of needle-work, marking, and samplery.

Sampling (sɑ·mplĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAMPLE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. SAMPLE.

†1. Following an example, imitation. *Obs.*

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 158 And this conformity and sampling (as I may say) of Christ, extends not only to those Acts of his which he did as man, where the imitation is plain and direct.

2. The action of testing the quality of anything by means of samples; an instance of this.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 326 The persons employed are called Samplers; and the business itself Sampling. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 64 Sample Box, Sampling and Duty..5s. 6d. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. II. 476 Numerous gaugings and samplings of the sewage..have been undertaken. 1889 *Athenæum* 15 June 753/2 It is..not one to be estimated on..a chance sampling.

Sampsæan (sæmpsī·ăn). *Eccl. Hist.* [f. Gr. Σαμψαῖ-οι pl. + -AN.

Epiphanius renders the name by 'Ηλιακοί 'solar', regarding it as f. Heb. *shemesh*, Syriac *shemshā* the sun. He does not, however, accuse the Sampsæans of sun-worship, though he says they venerated water almost as a deity. Perhaps the word is from the Heb.-Aram. root *sh-m-sh* to minister.]

An adherent of a heretical sect that existed in Persia, identified by Epiphanius with the Elcesaites.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* (1614) 148 And in worshipping of the Sunne, whereof they were called the Sampsæans, or Sunner, Sunmen, as Epiphanius interpreteth that name. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* 88 *note*, The historical connexion of the Sampsæans with the Essenes is evident.

Sampson: see SAMSON.

†Sampsuchine. *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. (*oleum*) *sampsūchinum*, Gr. σαμψύχινον (oil) of marjoram, f. σάμψῡχον, -*os* marjoram.] Oil of marjoram.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, I savour no sampsuchine in it.

Samptsoo, Sampull, obs. ff. SAMSHOO, SAMPLE.

Samsered, obs. form of SANSKRIT.

†Samscreda·mic, *a. Obs.* [f. *samscredam* (early transliteration of Skr. *saṃskṛtam*: see SANSKRIT) + -IC.] = SANSKRIT.

1800 *Acc. Bks.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 44/1 The Ethiopic alphabet, which has a certain resemblance to the Samscredamic.

Samscretan: see SANSKRIT.

‖ Samshoo (sæ·mʃū). Also 7 **sam shu,** 8 **samptsoo, samshew, samshue, samso,** 8–9 **samsu, samtchoo,** 9 **sams-choo, sam-shee, samshoe, samshoo, samshu, san-tchoo.** [Pidgin-English: said by S. W. Williams to be a. *sam shiu*, Cantonese pronunciation of Chinese *san shao* 'thrice distilled'; but Chinese scholars consider this doubtful.] The general name for Chinese spirits distilled from rice or sorghum.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 419 The Officer brought aboard..2 great Jars of Arack..called by the Chinese, Sam Shu. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. l. 222 He loaded me with fair Promises, and sent after me..a small Jar of Samshew, or Rice Arrack. 1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 155 We also received on board..a But of Samshue. 1795 ANDERSON *Brit. Embassy China* 52, 6 Large jars of samptsoo..a liquor made in China. *Ibid.* 163 A small quantity of samtchoo, a spirituous liquor. 1836 J. F. DAVIS *Chinese* I. iii. 86 Ardent spirits, called samshoo, generally adulterated with ingredients of a stimulating and maddening quality. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1291/1 The Chinese make rice wine perfumed, and distil the lees, whence they obtain a spirit like brandy, which they call sam-tchoo, or san-tchoo. 1852 F. A. NEALE *Narr. Resid. Siam* 75 That most baneful and least desirably-flavoured spirit in the world, samshoe. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 264 The Chinese beverage, sam-shee, is made from rice. 1888 A. J. LITTLE *Through Yang-tse Gorges* 218 The business of the day commenced with swallowing endless thimblefuls of hot 'samshu'.

Samsien: see SAMISEN.

Samson (sæ·msən). Also 6–8 **Sampson.** [a. L. (Vulgate) *Sam(p)sōn*, Gr. (LXX) Σαμψών, a. Heb. שִׁמְשׁוֹן (in Masoretic vocalization *Shimshōn*).]

1. The name of the Hebrew hero whose exploits are recorded in Judges xiii–xvi. Applied allusively to persons, with reference to Samson's enormous strength, to his having been blinded, or to some incident in his story. Also attrib. *Samson-like* adj. and adv.

1565 HARDING *Confut. Jewel* III. v. 147 Such mighty Samsons, such constant Laurences, your ioyly gospell breedeth. 1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 33 None but Sampsons and Goliasses It sendeth forth to skirmish. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 146 Then it [conscience] riseth, and Sampson-like rouseth up it self, and bestirreth it self lustily, as a giant refreshed with wine. 1649 *Alcoran* 417 To bring out to the open view of all, the blinde Sampsons of their Alcoran. 1651 R. WILD *Poems* (1670) 21 He stands, And snaps asunder, Samson-like, these bands. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 52 Foolishness..is a Sampson, whose eyes are out, the scorn and derision of all. 1689 in W. W. Wilkins *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 4 They had on their heads such a Sampson-like power. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 399 Such as no Sampson could overthrow. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 1 July 14/3 Intellectual Samsons toiling with closed eyes in the mills and forges of Manchester and Birmingham.

†2. a. *dial.* = SAMLET. *Obs.*

1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 254 Near Shrewsbury (where they [the samlet] are called Samsons).

b. Australian. *Samson-fish*: see quots.

1874 in Tenison-Woods *Fishes N. S. Wales* (1882) 60 The Samson-fish (*Seriola hippos*, Günth.) is occasionally caught. ..The great strength of these fishes is remarkable. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *ibid.* 190 Samson-fish. In Sydney *Seriola hippos.* In Melbourne, young of *Arripis salar.*

3. *Mech.* = CRAMP *sb.*[2] 3. ? *Obs.*

1852 in BURN *Naval & Mil. Tech. Dict.* I., s. vv. *Cric, Davier, Sergent.*

4. Samson bar: = SAMSON'S POST 2 a.

1889 *East. Morn. News* 10 Apr. 3/8 The prisoner lashed him to the sampson bar and mizenmast.

Hence **Sa·msoness** [-ESS], a female Samson.

1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 395, I am a Female Sampsoness, for all my strength lies in my Hair.

Samsonian (sæmsōu·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SAMSON + -IAN.] **a.** *sb.* A strong man. **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Samson; resembling Samson or his attributes.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* 56 All Foyters, men o' th' sword, Hectors, Herculaneans, Samsonians. 1861 FITZPATRICK *Bp. Doyle* (1880) I. 208 The Samsonian determination with which he grasped the leading pillar of the Irish Church Establishment. 1865 W. H. L. TESTER *Poems* (1867) 69 A beard, 'maist Samsonian, sae knottit an' thready. 1884 A. A. PUTNAM 10 *Yrs. Police Judge* iii. 20 Riddles of the Samsonian type are not easily expounded.

Samsonistic (sæmsəni·stik), *a.* [f. SAMSON + -ISTIC.] Strong, powerful.

1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 212 He commenced dealing..the most ferocious and Samsonistic blows.

Samson's post. Also 9 **Samson-, Sampson-post.** [Prob. named in allusion to Judges xvi. 29.]

†1. A kind of mousetrap (see quot. 1609). *Obs.*

1577 HARRISON *England* III. vi. 107 b/2 [Halifax gibbet.] Which being drawne vp to the top of the frame is there fastned with a woodden pinne, (the one ende set on a peece of woode,..& the other ende being let into the blocke, holding the Axe, with a notche made into the same after the maner of a Sampsons post). 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* vii. (1634) 120 *note*, There is none [*i.e.* no mousetrap] better than a Samsons Post, which is a flat Coouer or Roofe supported by a triangular Pillar or Prop, whose three sides doe so hold one by another, through the Weight of the Roofe, that the loosing of one is the loosing of all, and so the Prop failing, the Roofe falleth. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Sampson's-posts*, a mouse-trap. [Described.]

fig. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Contents* Wks. (Grosart) I. 262 Croatia may learne to be prouident in Triumph; which hath often fealt the ioyfulnesse of a Sampsons post.

2. a. *Naut.* A strong pillar or stanchion passing through the hold of a merchant-ship, or between the decks of a man-of-war; also, in a whaling vessel, a strong post, firmly fixed in the deck, to which the fluke-rope may be fastened. **b.** *Oil-mining.* (See quot. 1881.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Samsons-post*, a sort of pillar erected in a ship's hold, between the lower deck and the kelson, under the edge of a hatchway, and furnished with..notches that serve as steps. 1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Sept. 285/3 The schooner was showing a white light on the sampson-post. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Samson-post.* 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Sampson-post*, an upright post which supports the walking-beam, communicating motion from the engine to a deep-boring apparatus.

Samsu, -tchoo, variant forms of SAMSHOO.

†Samtale, *a. Obs.* [f. SAME *a.* + TALE *sb.* Cf. SAMENTALE.] Accordant, agreed.

c 1200 ORMIN 5731 Swa þatt hiss bodiȝ wiþþ hiss gost Sammtale & sahhte wurrþe. *Ibid.* 1535, 6037.

Samum, Samun, var. ff. SIMOOM, SAMEN *adv.*

‖ Samurai (sæ·murai). [Japanese.] In Japan during the continuance of the feudal system, one of the class of military retainers of the daimios; sometimes in wider sense, a member of the military caste, whether a samurai proper or a daimio. Now applied to any Japanese army officer. (Unchanged in the plural.) Also *attrib.*

1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* II. i. (1878) 222 He has..his vassals, his Samurais, or knights with two swords (the others having only one). 1885 E. GREEY *Bakin's Capt. Love* ii. (1904) 14 Amada, who had been a samurai, taught the lad to read and write. *Ibid.* iv. 30 For a samurai woman, even when mortally wounded, always endeavours to conceal her pain. 1906 SLADEN *Lovers in Japan* vi, Mr. Jevons told us that we ought to have Samurai servants.

Samyn(e, obs. ff. SAM *v.*, SAMEN.

San: see SANS.

†Sa·nable, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *sānābilis*, f. *sānāre* to heal, f. *sān-us* healthy: see SANE *a.*]

1. That heals or is concerned with healing; curative. *rare*[−1].

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 1 b/1 *Therapeutica* is the curinge or sanable parte of Physicke.

2. That may be healed; curable. *lit.* and *fig.*

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1664 H. MORE *Antid. Idolatry* To Rdr. § 1 That those that are sanable or preservable from this dreadful sin of Idolatry may find the efficacy of our Antidote. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 10 No Plant..doth sooner..cure all Sanable Burnings and Scaldings. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. § 69. 361 Whilst the corruptions seem Sanable and admit hopes of Cure.

Hence **Sanabi·lity,** † **Sa·nableness,** the state of being curable.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, Sanableness. 1860 WORCESTER (citing *Med. Jour.*), Sanability.

Sanachy, obs. variant of SENNACHIE.

Sanad: see SUNNUD.

†Sa·nap. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **sauvenap,** (**saufenap, sayfenap, salvenap**), 4–5 **savenap**(**e,** 4 **saunap**(**e,** **sawnap**(**e,** **sannap,** 4–5 **sanap,** (4 **sanop**), 5 **sanapp,** (**sanope**). See also SURNAPE. [Orig. *sauvenape, savenape*, a. OF. **sauvenape*, f. *sauve-r* to SAVE + *nape* table-cloth, NAPE *sb.*[2] Latinized *salva mappa* in *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) an. 1338 and 1343.]

A strip of cloth placed over the outer part of the table-cloth to preserve it from being soiled.

1312 *Finchale Priory Acc.* (Surtees) p. v, Duo mappæ, ij sauuenapys. 1313 *Bolton Compotus* 279 Pro mappis & Sauuenapys emptis apud London. xxx. s. vij. d. *c* 1330 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 518 In salvenap' conficiend., 7*d.* 1337 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 200, j savenape iiij*d.* 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 886 A tapit..Clad wyth a clene clope,.. Sanap, & salure, & syluer-in sponez. 1391 *Will J. Marischall* in *Ingleby MS.* 62 Vnum tuallium cum vno sausenap [? *read* saufenap] de optimis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 Þai vse nowþer burde cloth ne sawnape. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 721 *Hoc manutergium*, a sanope. 1430 *Will of Cheymy* (Somerset Ho.), j towells j sauenap. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1387 Towellus .. Whyȝth as the seeys fame, Sanappus of the same, Thus servyd thei ware.

Sanashy, sanasse: see SUNYASEE.

†Sanate, *v. Obs.*[−0] [f. L. *sānāt-*, ppl. stem of *sānāre* to heal, f. *sān-us* SANE *a.*] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Sanate*, to heale.

†Sana·tion. *Obs.* [ad. L. *sānātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sānāre*: see prec.] The action of healing or the process of becoming healed; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 301 Pechis, ablaqueacioun, putacioun, & sanacioun. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xlvii. 87 b/2 He that hathe made the, yeue the sanacyon and helthe atte thys presente tyme. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 E j b, That curacyon or sanacyon is none other thynge but a retourne to the fyrste symmetrye or commoderacyon of the sayd conduytes. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. v. 122 It is no marvell if the report of so miraculous, and universall sanations drew customers. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 351 Which holy King Edward was the first to whom was granted the gift of Sanation. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 297 Reflecting on all Motions whatever, v.g. Generation,..Augmentation, Sanation, etc.

Sanative (sæ·nătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **sanatyf,** (**sanetyf**). [a. OF. *sanatif* or med.L. *sānātīvus*, f. L. *sānāre*: see SANATE *v.* and -IVE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having the power to heal; conducive to or promoting health; curative, healing.

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 912 in *Anglia* XVIII. 329 To woundys it is confortyf With oper erbys sanatyf. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* A ij, Herbes and floures sanatyf to

remedy all syknesses. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 8 The sauar sanatiue of the sueit flouris. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* (1579) 59 b, Gum Sarcocoll..is a sanatyue gum to incarnat woundes and sores. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 787 Brass hath, in it selfe, a Sanative vertue;.. But Iron is Corrosive, and not Sanative. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. vi. § 33 That..Kings should receive that peculiar Priviledge, and sanative Power, whereof daily Instances are presented unto us. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 91, I speak not of their medicinal operations, those alterative or sanative effects which they have upon our bodies. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* I. xv, A sanative soporiferous draught. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 166 Handkerchiefs used to be inserted..to touch the place whereon the body had first been laid, and derive a sanative influence. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Feb. 3/2 The special treatment which has been proved serviceable and sanative by practical hydropathists. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* iii. 108 The place was sanative; the air, the light, the perfumes..concord in happy harmony.

b. *fig.*, esp. Promoting moral or spiritual health.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 4 Vsing the same for a remedy & medicine of their peine, addyng euer somwhat therto that was sanatyue & wholsome. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* I. iii. 91 The mysteries themselves, being duly considered, have had a very sanative influence on many that contemplated them. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* App. D. (1852) 109 A sort of sanative counter-excitement, that holds in check the more dangerous disease of Methodism. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii, Imposture is of sanative, anodyne nature. 1859 MASSON *Brit. Novelists* iv. 289 The sanative virtue of action..to dispel doubt and despair.

2. Of, pertaining to or concerned with healing.

1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* III. 180 How congruously do the Musical and Sanative Art meet together? 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 146 The absorption of the fluid being the first step in the sanative process. 1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Oct. 397 The sanative process by which despair is transformed..into triumphant faith.

†**B.** *sb.* A remedy. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 248 Other [healing] Erbys ther ben alsoo..'Operys satisfaccio' [ys] the souereyne sauetyff [? *read* sanetyff]. 1678 *Lively Orac.* viii. § 3 As if he that had an ulcer in his bowels, should apply all his balsoms and sanatives only to his head.

Hence †**Sa·nativeness,** healing quality.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Huntingdon.* (1662) II. 48 An obscure Village..called Haile weston whose very name Soundeth something of sanativeness therein.

Sanatorium (sænătōˑrĭvm). Pl. **sanatoria.** Also *erron.* **sanatarium.** [a. mod.L. *sānātōrium*, f. *sānāre* to cure, heal: see SANATE *v.* and -ORY.

Cf. G. *sanatorium.* The erroneous form *sanatarium* is due to confusion with SANITARIUM.]

1. An establishment for the reception and medical treatment of invalids; in recent use chiefly either of convalescent patients, or of consumptives undergoing the open-air treatment.

1840 *Mech. Mag.* 152 [A prospectus of 'The Sanatorium'—a self-supporting establishment for the lodging, nursing and cure of sick persons]. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 6/1 Quite a little shoal of companies for the establishment of sanatoria has recently made its appearance. The latest company is the Harrogate Sanatorium for Consumptives.

2. A place to which, on account of favourable climatic and other conditions, invalids resort for the improvement of their health; *spec.* a hill-station in a hot country, esp. in India, to which residents periodically resort to recuperate.

1842 VIGNE *Trav. Kashmir* I. 38 These ladies are known by the well-selected epithet of 'Grass Widows'; and there are sometimes more than fifty of them at each sanatorium. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 248 On a ridge of the outer Himalaya, stands the cantonment, or depôt, of Landour. It was established in 1827, as a sanatarium for European troops. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* (ed. 2) II. 263 Neuera-ellia, as a sanatarium, is little to be relied on for the relief of active ailments. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 11/1 An English physician, who, as the custom is, has taken one of the rising sanatoria on the shores of the Mediterranean under his especial patronage. 1880 *Athenæum* 24 Apr. 533/2 There was a time when Minnesota was regarded as a sanatorium for the victims of consumption.

Sanatory (sæˑnătəri). [As if ad. mod.L. *sānātōrius*, f. L. *sānāre*: see SANATE *v.* and -ORY.]

1. Conducive to healing; curative.

a 1832 BENTHAM *Deontol.* x. (1834) I. 151 There are, he [our moralist] tells you, three doses of the moral medicine... In the proper dose there is health and safety... Has he not noted down the sanatory quantity? Not he! 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vi. 174 The righteous retribution of Heaven which ..is altogether of a sanatory influence. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 127 Sanatory excursions.

2. Of or pertaining to healing.

1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* vi. (1880) 48 It [the name *surgeon*] has long been specialized..to those who perform the mechanical parts of the sanatory art. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxvii. 318 Miss Florence Nightingale..had from a very early period turned her attention to sanatory questions.

¶**3.** Pertaining to health. (Misused for SANITARY.)

1846 *Punch* XI. 87 The Sanatory Condition of the City. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 20 Nov. 347 A..meeting in favour of an effective and comprehensive sanatory bill took place.

Sanbenito (sænbenĭˑto). Forms: 6 (9 *arch.*) San Benito, 6 S. Benito, 6–7 Sambenit(e, 7 Sambenita, San-benit, 7–9 san-, sambenito. [a. Sp. *San Benito* St. Benedict (as common noun written *sambenito*). Cf. Pg. *sambenito*, It., F. *san-benito* (16th c. F. *santbeni*).

So called from its resemblance in shape to the scapular introduced by St. Benedict.]

Under the Spanish Inquisition, a penitential garment of yellow cloth, resembling a scapular in shape, ornamented with a red St. Andrew's cross before and behind, worn by a confessed and penitent heretic; also, a similar garment of a black colour ornamented with flames, devils and other devices (sometimes called a SAMARRA) worn by an impenitent confessed heretic at an auto-da-fé.

c 1560 TOMSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 584 We were brought into the Church, euery one with a S. Benito vpon his backe, which is halfe a yard of yellow cloth, with a hole to put in a mans head in the midst. 1568 SKINNER tr. *Gonsalvius' Discov. Sp. Inquis.* Pref., A newe kinde of Consistory..set vp..to compell them..by Rackes..Chaines, Halters, Barnacles, Sambenites. *Ibid.* 21 b, The marks [of having been 'within the Inquisitours pawes'] are commonly these:..A white linen garment with a red crosse called a Sambenit, and..a perpetuall slaunder and ignominy to all his stocke. *Ibid.* 45 b, Such as..defended their profession against their detestable falshoodes, weare the Sambenit vnto the very stake, which is a linen garment of the coulour of earth,..and all to be painted with black deuils. *c* 1582 M. PHILLIPS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 480 The Inquisitors..bringing with them certaine fooles coats..called in their language, *S. Benitos*, which coats were made of yellow cotten & red crosses vpon them, both before & behind. 1624 *Gag for Pope* 12 In the inquisition to be clothed with the Sambenito, a punishment as vituperious as the carting of Bawdes in England. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 276 Sambenitas, painted with all the flames and devils in hell. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1574 By laying Trains to..blow us up in th' open Streets; Disguis'd in Rumps, like Sambenites. 1731 CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. iv. xli. 294 Penitent Hereticks..received the blessed Sackcloth, commonly called the Sambenito...As to those who are designed for the Fire, viz. Such as have confessed their Heresy, and are impenitent...They are..cloathed with the Sackcloth.. which some call the Sambenito, others the Samarra or Samaretta. And tho' it be of the same make as the Sambenito is, yet it hath different Marks, is of a black Colour [etc.]. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxv, Who seemed as effectually doomed to death as if they wore the *sanbenitos* of the condemned heretics in an *auto-da-fe*. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) II. 107 Dreadful death-scenes painted like Spanish *Sanbenitos*. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, All the flames and the devils were turn'd upside down On this habit, facetiously term'd *San Benito*.

Sance, obs. form of SANS.

Sance bell: see SANCTUS BELL.

†‖ **Sanchet.** *Obs.* [F. *sanchet* 'an old coyne of gold worth about 2*s.* sterl.' (Cotgr.).]

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parlt.* App. 72 That the Estates should pay unto them for their expences an hundred thousand Sanchets, or other French money equivalent.

‖ **Sancho** (sæˑŋko). Also **sanko.** [Ashanti *osanku.*] A kind of simple guitar used by West African negroes.

1817 BOWDICH, etc. *Mission to Ashantee* I. ii. (1819) 38 Small drums, sankos, stools [etc.]. 1854 MRS. LEE *Afr. Wand.* xvii, Sankos, which were wooden boxes, covered with deer skin. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 211 The sancho a small stringed instrument of the negroes of Guinea. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sancho.*

†**Sanci·te,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Irreg. f. L. *sancīre*: see SANCTION *sb.*] *trans.* To sanction.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xviii. 9 Now righteousnesse beares sway, and vice put downe,..The lawe of God sancited with renowne.

Sanct (sæŋkt), *a. rare.* [a. L. *sanct-us* holy: see SAINT *a.*] Holy, sacred, consecrated.

1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise Christendom* 58 [tr. from Roman law] Sanct things..are such as the walls and gates of a city. 1895 PURCELL *Manning* I. xxix. 692 When the sanct and stately edifice is with the blessing of God completed.

Sanct, obs. f. SAINT. **Sancta,** pl. SANCTUM.

Sanctanimity (sæŋktăniˑmĭti). *rare.* [f. L. *sanct-us* holy + *anim-us* mind + -ITY. Cf. LONGANIMITY, MAGNANIMITY, etc.] Holiness of mind.

1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 43 Would not these words be..fairly expressed by the single word sanctanimity or religion? 1873 F. HALL *Mod. English* I. 17 A *hath*, or a *thon*, delivered with conventional unction, now well nigh inspires a sensation of solemnity in its hearer, and a persuasion of sanctanimity of its utterer.

Sancte, -ed, obs. forms of SAINT, SAINTED.

Sanctefie, obs. form of SANCTIFY *v.*

†**Sa·ncteous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *sanct-us* holy, SAINT + -EOUS.] Pertaining to saints.

1631 J. DONNE *Polydoron* 185 Pictures of sancteous histories are but notes of divine actions in humane characters.

Sancti·colist. ? *nonce-wd.* [f. L. **sancticol-a* (f. *sancti-*, *sanctus* SAINT + *col-ĕre* to worship) + -IST.] A worshipper of saints.

1615 BYFIELD *Expos. Coloss.* i. 19 This also reproves the justiciaries and sancticolists, pharisees and saint-worshippers.

Sanctifiable (sæŋktĭfəiˌăbl), *a. rare.* [f. SANCTIFY *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being sanctified. Hence **Sa·nctifiableness.**

1894 A. B. BRUCE *St. Paul's Concept. Chr.* xiv. 272 The body is sanctifiable. The flesh unsanctifiable. *Ibid.* 271 It teaches plainly the sanctifiableness of the flesh.

†**Sancti·ficate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. eccl. L. *sanctificāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sanctificāre* to SANCTIFY: see -ATE 2.] Sanctified, holy.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1555 To þi blyssyd name sanctificatt. *c* 1502 *Joseph Arim.* 401, O Ioseph, sanctificate is thy fyrst foundation, Thy parentycle may be prayssed of vs all. 15.. *Gold. Litany* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1882) III. 264 By the concepcion of thy blyssid modir and virgine whyche was sanctificate in her mothers wombe: haue mercy on vs. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* VII. (Dodsley) 33 In thy mother's wombe wert thou sanctyfycate By my godlye gyft.

Sancti·ficate, *v. rare.* [f. eccl. L. *sanctificāt-*, pple. stem of *sanctificāre*: see prec. and -ATE 3.] *trans.* To sanctify.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) II. xxxiv. 493 Wherefore likewise doth Saint Peter ascribe our election to the Father predestinating, to the Son propitiating, to the Holy Ghost sanctificating? 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. iv. 8 Pope Gregory our arms sanctificates.

Sanctification (sæŋktĭfikēˑʃən). [ad. eccl. L. *sanctificātion-em*, n. of action f. *sanctificāre* to SANCTIFY; cf. F. *sanctification* (16th c.; OF. had the semi-popular *saintification* from the 12th c.).]

1. *Theol.* The action of the Holy Spirit in sanctifying or making holy the believer, by the implanting within him of the Christian graces and the destruction of sinful affections. Also, the condition or process of being so sanctified.

By the majority of theologians sanctification is regarded as a gradual process, not (at least normally) completed in this life. The doctrine of *entire* or *perfect sanctification* (or of *Christian perfection*: see PERFECTION) is the view, held by some Protestants, that the condition of freedom from sin (though not from ignorance or infirmities) is attainable in the present life.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 215 Whiche be the werkes of our sanctificacyon and glorificacyon. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 2 *Thess.* ii. 13 That he hath chosen you..in sanctification of spirit [1611 through sanctification of the spirit; *Tindale, etc.* sanctifying]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. § 10 That the grace of sanctification and life..might passe from him to his whole race as malediction came from Adam vnto all mankinde. 1616 W. FORDE *Serm.* 19 The Prophets were indued with a great measure of sanctification. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 202 The renewing of our nature according to the Image of God, in righteousnesse and true holinesse: which is but begun in this life, and is called Sanctification. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. vii. Wks. 1718 I. 370 Another of these ordinary Operations of the Spirit, is Sanctification; which consists in the purifying our Wills and Affections from those wicked Inclinations and inordinate Lusts, which [etc.]. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* viii. (1755) I. 247 The only sign of Sanctification is Holiness. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 509 By sanctification we are saved from the power and root of sin, and restored to the image of God. 1876 J. P. NORRIS *Rudim. Theol.* I. iii. 65 Sanctification is that growth in holiness through the influence of the Holy Spirit, which must..follow justification.

¶**b.** *nonce-use.* 'Sanctified' or pious demeanour.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 94 [She] was the holiest of all saints, without any parade of sanctification.

2. The action of consecrating or setting apart as holy or for a sacred use or purpose; hallowing.

15.. in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* III. Rec. xxi. § 12 It appeareth also that in the Old Testament, in the ordering of Priests, there was both Visible and Invisible Sanctification. 1550 VERON *Godly Sayings* H vj b, All impietye and vngodlynes, which myght in any wise obscure the sainctycation [sic] of his name, beyng banished away [from us]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxx. § 1 The sanctification of dayes and times is a token of that thankfulnesse..which we owe to God. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. i. 6 Sanctification is the setting apart of a thinge for a holy or religious vse, in such sort, that thereafter it may be put to no other vse. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 125 This Prayer [Giving of thanks before Meat] was call'd Sanctification, because if it had not preceded, the eating and drinking were reputed Prophane, but became Holy by this Prayer. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 165 The liturgy of the Gallican church originally contained always some invocation or prayer to God for the sanctification of the elements.

3. *Eccl.* The action of making a person a saint; canonization.

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. 418 Those honours of Beatification and Sanctification.

Sanctifica·tionist. *rare.* [f. SANCTIFICATION + -IST.] One who has attained 'entire sanctification' (see prec. 1).

1868 DIXON *Spir. Wives* II. 130 With the Methodists she took rank among the Sanctificationists, having many times lost her strength by a sudden illumination from some invisible sphere.

†**Sanctificative,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. eccl. L. *sanctificāt-*, ppl. stem of *sanctificāre* to SANCTIFY + -IVE.] Serving to sanctify or make holy.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 160 The hypocrisie of the Crosse in prayer is proued in respect it is thought to be operatiue, sanctificatiue, and helpfull thereto.

†**Sanctificator.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. eccl. L. *sanctificātor*, agent-n. f. *sanctificāre* to SANCTIFY. Cf. OF. *sanctificateur*, 'a sanctifier, hallower' (Cotgr.).] = SANCTIFIER.

1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 113 b, So is ther none other sanctificatour mencioned..but he alone.

Sanctified (sæŋktĭfəid), *ppl. a.* [f. SANCTIFY *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Of a person: Made holy, endowed with saintly character; *spec.* made holy by the divine grace of the Holy Spirit.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1001 Whom seke ye, women sanctifiede? 1548 R. HUTTEN *Sum of Div.* F ij b, That much infirmity and vice doeth remayne as yet, euen in them whyche be santifyed. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* B iv, Monkes..seperated from the world,..for to liue euen so as sanctified ones of God. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 233 Lo this deuice was sent me from a Nun, Or Sister sanctified of holiest note. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xiii. 3, I haue commanded my sanctified ones. 1647 CUDWORTH *Serm. Ho. Comm.* Ded. 6 All Philosophy..to a truly sanctified Mind..is but..Matter for Divinity to work upon. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxvii, He finds no character so sanctified that has not its failings, none so infamous but has somewhat

to attract our esteem. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* x. (1852) 234 That sanctified humanity of the Son of God.

2. Affecting holiness; sanctimonious.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 13 Your vertues gentle Master Are sanctified and holy traitors to you. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 130 Breathing like sanctified and pious bonds [*Theobald conj.* bawds], The better to beguile. 1662 *Rump Songs* II. 89 A sanctify'd Colonel in beaten Buff. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State, To King of France* May an. 1658, Those sanctifi'd Cut-throats, who professing themselves to be the ..Disciples of..Christ,..abuse his meek and peaceful Name ..to the most cruel slaughter of the Innocent. 1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* IV. iv, No mind was ever yet formed entirely free from blemish, unless peradventure that of a sanctified hypocrite. 1778 FOOTE *Trip Calais* III. Wks. 1799 II. 373 For all her sanctified looks. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. (1862) 237 About 120 men of puritanical and sanctified habits. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* vi. (1861) 118, I see not why we should give ourselves such sanctified airs.

† b. *absol.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 59 The Separatists or Sanctified, as they terme themselues.

3. Of things: Holy or consecrated; rendered spiritually profitable.

1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 555 A sober and sanctifyed vse of the Creatures. 1660 T. GOUGE *Chr. Directions* xvii. (1831) 93 When an evil report is raised of you, be not so much inquisitive who raised it, as to make a good use and sanctified improvement thereof. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xiv, He could not help testifying some displeasure against the Blessed Bear, which had given rise to the quarrel, nor refrain from hinting, that the sanctified epithet was hardly appropriate. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* v. 251 Levi's fierceness had become a sanctified zeal. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Apr. 7/2 Here are a body of men who will mix the anodyne in a spirit of 'sanctified commonsense' (Mr. Welldon's famous expression).

ironically. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. ii. (1607) B 3 And will drop you forth a libell, or a sanctified lie, Betwixt euery spooneful of a Natiuity Pie. 1682 *Enq. Elect. Sheriffs* 9 Or suppose that they [Papists] are again provided of one or two bigotted Fellows .. that have promised to do the sanctified job [the assassination of Charles II] for them.

b. Of ground, buildings, etc.: Consecrated, hallowed. *rare.*

1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 201 To be beried within sanctified grownde whereso it please Almyghtie God that I shall departe. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 152 Virginitie murthers it selfe, and should be buried in highwayes out of all sanctified limit, as a desperate Offendresse against Nature. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvi, Remember this place is sanctified. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, Out of respect to the sanctified ground, they lowered their weapons.

c. *transf.* = CONSECRATED 3.

1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iv, Where everything is old-fashioned, cheery, and sanctified by long usage.

Hence **Sa·nctifiedly** *adv.* Now *rare.*

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 2 There be many causes in nature to make men die quietly, not sanctifiedly. 1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* II. (1652) D 2 b, He never looks upon us, but with a sigh,..tho' we simper never so sanctifiedly.

Sanctifier (sæ·ŋktifəi,əɹ). [f. next + -ER 1.]

1. *Theol.* One who sanctifies or makes holy; *spec.* the Holy Spirit.

1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 140 God the holy gost, is the commen sanctifier or halower, of all theim that haue a true faithe in God. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 50 God the Dignifier, the Sanctifier, and Beautifier of the sacrifice. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* iii. (1770) I. 53 The Duties ..which we owe to God, as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; to his Son, as our Redeemer; to his blessed Spirit, as our Sanctifier. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 2 God the Holy Ghost is the Sanctifier.

2. *occas.* Something that sanctifies.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) III. i. 1 Self..is a very wicked thing; a sanctifier..of actions, which, in others, we should have no doubt to condemn. 1829 E. BATHER *Serm.* II. 147 A great sweetener and a great sanctifier of your toil it shall be to you.

Sanctify (sæ·ŋktifəi), *v.* Forms: 4 **seintefie, 5 seintifie, sayntifie, -efy, (6 santifye, -yfy); 5 saynctyfy, 6 sainctify; 5–7 sanctifie, 5–6 sanctyfy, 6– sanctify.** [ME. *seintefie*, etc., later (after Latin) *sanctifie*, a. OF. *saintifier* (12th c.), *sant-, sanctifier*, etc., ad. eccl. L. *sanctificāre* to make holy or treat as holy, to sanctify, consecrate, dedicate, f. L. *sanctus* holy: see -FY.]

† **1.** *trans.* To set apart religiously for an office or function; to consecrate (a king, etc.). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 234 Bot yit a kinges hihe astat, Which of his ordre as a prelat Schal ben enoignt and seintefied. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. vi. 99 He hath blessyd and saynctyfyed a newe precious plante that is comen of theyr lyne and descendyd fro the stock of dauyd. 1526 TINDALE *John* x. 36 Saye ye then to hym, whom the father hath sanctified [ἡγίασε], and sent into the worlde: Thou blasphemest..? 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 115 Let all the Teares, that should bedew my Hearse Be drops of Balme, to sanctifie thy head. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* i. § 3. 59 Thus God sanctified Aaron.

† **2.** To canonize, make a saint of. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 317 The feste and the profession.. Was mad with gret solempnete, Where as Diane is seintefied. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 427/1 Saint yues was borne in litel britayn..and was reuelyd to his moder in hyr slepe that he shold be sayntefyed. 1529 [implied in SANCTIFYING *vbl. sb.*]. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 272 Sanctifying such as did..build them houses.

† **3. a.** To honour as holy; to ascribe holiness to; = HALLOW *v.*[1] 3. *Obs.*

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xvi. 292 And Alle the tothere gonnen forth to gon, Cristes Name to sanctefien Anon. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 35 Pitagoras saide that it is..a noble thing to serue god, & to sayntifie his sainctes to dispreyse the world [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 171 Sanctificetur nomen tuum: that is, Sanctifyed be thy name. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Pet.* iii. 15 Sanctifie the lorde god in youre hertes. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* vi. 9 Ovr father which art in heauen, sanctified be thy name [*other versions* hallowed]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. iv. 11 Whilst I from farre, His name with zealous feruour sanctifie.

b. To manifest (God, his might, etc.) as holy.

1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xx. 13 This is y^e^ water of strife, where the children of Israel stroue with the Lorde and he was sanctified vpon them [1611 he was sanctified in them]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 116 In all his wayis the Lord is just and rycht, In all his warkis is sanctifyit his mycht. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxxvi. 23 And I will sanctifie my great Name which was prophaned among the heathen,.. and the heathen shall know, that I am the Lord,..when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

4. To consecrate (a thing); to set apart as holy or sacred.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 260 b/2 The ayer and the heuen were puryfyed by thassumpcion of the sowle..and the water was sayntyfyed by the wasshyng of the body. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Exod.*, Sanctefie, to clense and purifie, to apointe a thinge vnto holie vses and to seperate from vnclene and unholye vses. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* ii. 3 And [God] blessed the seuenth daye, & sanctified it. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 8 b, Which ground was sanctified by Sainct Peter him selfe. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 162 A verbal oblation of the bread and wine, and an invocation of God to send his holy Spirit to sanctify them into the sacraments of Christ's body and blood. 1899 W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Nov. 437 The new moon was then declared and sanctified, even though it had not actually been seen and reported by any witnesses.

b. To keep (a day, etc.) holy; to keep or observe as holy. = HALLOW *v.*[1] 4.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Sanctifie*, to make holie, hallowe, or keepe holy. 1709 ABP. SHARP *Serm.* (1754) I. ix. 241 Those men have little or no sense of religion, that make no conscience of sanctifying that day, or that put no difference between it and other days. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sanctification*, By sanctifying the sabbath, is meant, the spending it in prayer, praise, &c. not in worldly concerns.

5. To make (a person) holy, to purify or free from sin; to cause to undergo sanctification.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* vi. 11 Ye are wesshed: ye are sanctified: ye are iustified [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 697/2, I santifye, I halowe, or make holye, *je sanctifie*...We rede in Scripture that some have ben sanctyfyed in their mothers wombes. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism.* God the holy goste, who sanctifyeth me. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxv. 220 The Elect in the New Testament were said to bee sanctified. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 257 ¶ 8 What Actions can express the entire Purity of Thought which refines and sanctifies a virtuous Man? 1865 R. W. DALE *Jew. Temple* iii. (1877) 38 It is still true that we need the power of the Holy Ghost to sanctify our hearts.

absol. 1531 FRITH *Judgem. Tracy* Wks. (1573) 78/2 S. Paule committeth the power of sanctifying to Christ only. Heb. 2. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. § 2. 185 All truth ennobles, and some sanctifies.

b. Chiefly in the Old Testament: To free from ceremonial impurity.

a 1500 in *Tundale's Visions* (1843) 128 Sche of prest halowed and sanctyfyed Retowrned hom all fully puryfyed. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xix. 10 Go vnto the people, and sanctifie them today and tomorrow, y^t^ they maye wash their clothes, and be ready agaynst the thirde daye. 1535 — *Num.* xi. 18 Vnto y^e^ people thou shalt saye: Sanctifye youre selues agaynst tomorow, y^t^ ye maye eate flesh. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* iii. 5.

6. To render holy, impart sanctity to (a thing, quality, action or condition); to render legitimate or binding by a religious sanction.

? 1402 QUIXLEY *Ball.* xi. in *Yorksh. Arch. Jrnl.* (1908) XX. 45 A wedloke suche was neuer gracieuse, Where god lyst not it to senitifie [sic]. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Tim.* iv. 5 For all the creatures of God are good: and nothynge to be refused, yff it be receaved with thankes gevynge: For it is sanctified by the worde of god and prayer. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 4 Wee will our Youth lead on to higher Fields, And draw no Swords, but what are sanctify'd. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 164 That holy Man, amaz'd at what he saw, Made haste to sanctifie the Bliss by Law. 1718 POPE *Iliad* IX. 223 Yet, more to sanctify the word you send, Let Hodius and Eurybates attend. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 103 The Island Queen becomes thy bride And God and Nature sanctify the vow. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. IV. 60 Ambition was sanctified by Religion. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 320 The Puritans of a former age imagined, that by the employment of Scripture phraseology they sanctified common conversation. 1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 207 The Church could neither make nor unmake a king, she could only sanctify his election by her benediction.

7. *transf.* To impart real or apparent sacredness to; to entitle to reverence or respect; to give a colour of morality or innocence to; to justify, sanction. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 190 As true as Troylus, shall crowne vp the Verse, And sanctifie the numbers. 1702 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i. 179 Thy function too will varnish o're our Arts And sanctifie dissembling. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 246 Truth guards the Poet, sanctifies the line. 1749 JOHNSON *Irene* III. viii, Be virtuous Ends pursued by virtuous Means, Nor think th' Intention sanctifies the Deed. 1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 109 Does not this Letter adopt and sanctify the American distinction of taxing for a revenue? 18.. BENTHAM *Draught of Code* Wks. 1843 IV. 380 Custom, which sanctifies all absurdities. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. v. vii. 607 If under such circumstances as these a zeal for the Government which he served could sanctify his actions, then may Jefferies be regarded as a virtuous judge. 1818 SCOTT *Let. to Joanna Baillie* Dec. in *Lockhart*, So let the intention sanctify the error, if there should be one. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxx, And he argued stoutly with St. Peter and with his own conscience, that the means sanctify the end, and that he had done it all for the best.

8. 'To make a means of holiness' (J.); to render productive of or conducive to holiness or spiritual blessing.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 5 The vertues which sanctified those sufferings and made them pretious in Gods sight. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* ii. 8 Those Judgments God hath pleased to send upon Mee, are..a means (I hope) which his mercie hath sanctified so to Mee, as to make Mee repent of that unjust Act. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick*, Sanctifie, we beseech thee, this thy fatherly correction to him. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* i. 8 Sufferings..are sanctified and made a means of preparing for heaven. 1802 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 160 They have made peace, and may the Lord sanctify it to them.

Sanctifying (sæ·ŋktifəi,iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SANCTIFY *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb SANCTIFY.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Thess.* iv. 3 Every one of you shulde knowe howe to kepe his vessel in sanctifynge and honoure. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* II. Wks. 199/2 Though those [saints] bee none whose writing ye wold authorise by their sanctifyeng. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sanctification*, The sanctifying of the sabbath..is of divine..institution.

Sa·nctifying, *ppl. a.* [f. SANCTIFY *v.* + -ING 2.] That sanctifies.

1586 HOOKER *Serm. on Justif.*, etc. § 3 (1612) 3 There is a glorifying righteousnes of men in the world to come; as there is a iustifying and a sanctifying righteousnes here. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 525 Do not..provoke him to withdraw those sanctifying Graces from you, which are given you as an Earnest of your Salvation at the last Day. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LI. x, But perfectly my Soul renew By sanctifying Love. 1858 HOLLAND *Titcomb's Lett.* iv. 206 Both have been chastened..by a relation as sanctifying as it is sacred. 1886 WELLDON *Serm. Harrow* x. (1887) 151 It is to be in the world, yet not of it; to live above it; to let your presence be a sanctifying influence among men.

Hence **Sa·nctifyingly** *adv.*

1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* viii. (1861) 202 Sanctifyingly touched by his Spirit.

† **Sa·nctiloge.** *Obs. rare.* [After MARTILOGE: see next.] = next.

1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* Pref., And the addicyons for theyr more edificacyon, we gadered out of the sanctiloge, legendaurea, catalogo sanctorum. 1608 I. W. *Eng. Martyrol.* Advt. to Rdr., This little worke or Sanctiloge of myne.

Sanctilogy (sæŋktɪ·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [f. L. *sancti-, sanctus* SAINT, after *martilogium* MARTILOGE.] A catalogue of saints, or a collection of saints' lives. Cf. SANCTOLOGY. 1867 [see FESTILOGY].

Sanctiloquent (sæŋktɪ·lŏkwĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. L. *sancti-, sanctus* holy + *loquent-em*: see LOQUENT *a.* Cf. eccl. L. *sanctiloquus* speaking holily.] Speaking of or discoursing on holy or sacred things.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sanctiloquent*, that speaks holily. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, Grown sanctiloquent of late, he always knew how to say the right thing.

Sanctimonial (sæŋktimō·niăl), *sb.* ? *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *sanctimoniale*, or directly ad. eccl. L. *sanctimōniāl-is* (Augustine) a nun, subst. use of late L. *sanctimōniālis* holy, pious: see next. Cf. MONIAL *sb.*] A nun.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2594 The hye perfeccyon and proued holynesse Of this pure vyrgyn and sanctymonyall. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 265 Women were by women (meaning Diaconisses and Sanctimonials) to be taught. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xliii. 169 That is..what our Sanctimonials alias Nuns in their Dialect call ringing backwards. 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 421 All Religious Orders of Monks and Sanctimonials they reprobated: saying, that They are vain and superfluous.

† **Sanctimo·nial,** *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *sanctimōniāl-is* holy, pious, f. L. *sanctimōnia*: see SANCTIMONY.] = SANCTIMONIOUS 1.

1721 BAILEY, *Sanctimonial*, pertaining to Holiness. 1773 J. ROSS *Fratricide* III. 12 (MS.) Not such was Abel's sanctimonial pledge, So favour'd at the Altar.

Sanctimonious (sæŋktimō·niəs), *a.* [f. L. *sanctimōnia* SANCTIMONY + -OUS.]

† **1.** Possessing sanctity, holy in character; sacred, holy, consecrated. *Obs.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 58 Thou dost make me violate, The chastest and most sanctimonious vow. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 16. 1627 LEVER *Crucifix* lxxxvi, They gaze upon that sanctimonious tree The Holy Crosse, (O sacred worthinesse!). 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 281 The sanctimonious puritie of one Odo. *Ibid.* 309 Inuested in the sanctimonious robes of a Bishop. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* 35 All that by sage and sanctimonious rites Might of the gods be ask'd, we have essay'd. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 170 [Iona] is still famous for its reliques of sanctimonious antiquity. 1802 J. JONES tr. *Bygge's Trav. Fr. Rep.* iii. 43 There were two cloisters. One of those sanctimonious erections was converted into a barrack.

2. Of pretended or assumed sanctity or piety, making a show of sanctity, affecting the appearance of sanctity.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 7 Thou conclud'st like the Sanctimonious Pirat, that went to sea with the ten Commandements, but scrap'd one out of the Table. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* ii. 30 Easy to be appeased again by some flattering devotions, especially if performed with sanctimonious shows, and a solemn sadness of mind. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccclvi. 327 'Tis not a Sanctimonious Pretence..that will serve the Turn. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* III. 111 And, bending oft their sanctimonious eyes, Take homage of the simple-minded throng—Ambassadors of Heaven! 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* 22 Dec. an. 1796, The sanctimonious air which the murderer maintained during

his trial. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 400 To that sanctimonious jargon which was his Shibboleth, was opposed another jargon not less absurd and much more odious. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iv. III. 237 He informed us that they were a set of sanctimonious humbugs and thieves.

Hence **Sanctimo·niously** *adv.*, **Sanctimo·niousness.**

1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* I. i, Ye know deer Lady..How truly I have lov'd ye, how sanctimoniously Observ'd your honour. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. ii. (1713) 21 Upon all occasions he exposed the sanctimoniousness of their admired Pharisees. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 3, I will most sanctimoniously perform my part of the covenant. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 94 'Henceforward there is laid up for me a crown of glory'. There was no touch of sanctimoniousness or cant in her utterance of these words, only a childlike and implicit faith.

Sanctimony (sæ·ŋktiməni). [a. OF. *sainct-, sant-, sanctimonie*, ad. L. *sanctimōnia* sacredness, sanctity, virtuousness, f. *sanct-us* holy: see -MONY.]

†1. Holiness of life and character; the profession of holiness; religiousness, sanctity. *Obs.*

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 102 The chaste liuing, sanctimonie and prudence of our reuerend mother. 1546 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacrament* C j, That we be therby more vehementlie stered vp to sanctimonie and puritie of lyfe. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 59 Which holy vndertaking [a pilgrimage], with most austere sanctimonie she accomplisht. 1623 R. CARPENTER *Conscionable Christian* To Rdr. B ij b, The sauing power of inward sanctimony. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 252 In old times it florished for nothing more then the Sanctimony and learning of the Bishops. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 9 For conspicuous Vertue, sanctimony of Life, and acuteness..he was in great renown. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 238 It came into my Mind that, to arrive at universal Holiness all at once, I would take a Journey to the holy Land, and so would return Home with a Back-Load of Sanctimony.

b. Of a writer: Chastity or decorum of expression. *rare*⁻¹. Cf. SANCTITUDE 2.

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Tim.* Wks. 1853 II. 27/1 While I admired, with a species of awe,..the majesty and sanctimony of Livy.

†2. Sacredness. *Obs.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 111 If they should repose any religion, holinesse or sanctimonie in them [*sc.* surplice, tippet, etc.] as the doting Papists doe. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 321 The Rites are solemnized with greatest Sanctimonie, and Oathes taken of greatest consequence. 1629 WHITELOCKE in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 688 Is there such Sanctimony in the place [Parliament], that they may not be questioned for it elsewhere? 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 232 The whole Nation being bound to the Observance of this Law by the Sanctimony of an Oath, the Refusal whereof was made High Treason.

†b. *pl.* Things sacred. *Obs.*

a 1547 *Doctour Doubble Ale* 40 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 304 And so this folish nation Esteme..all dum ceremonies, Before the sanctimonies, Or Christes holy writ.

3. Pretended, affected or hypocritical holiness or saintliness; assumed or outward sanctity.

a 1618 RALEIGH *War* E vij, Questionlesse there was great reason, why all discreet Princes should beware of yeilding hasty beliefe to the Robes of Sanctimonie. 1749–51 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 319 Various appearances and arts of sanctimony. 1823 H. BELFRAGE *Monitor to Fam.* 241 With the frown of sanctimony on the countenance. 1830 DE QUINCEY *Bentley* Wks. 1863 VI. 69 *note*, This epithet, bestowed playfully upon Whiston by Swift, in ridicule of his sanctimony. 1831 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) I. 102 The *Edinburgh* [Review] which has no great reputation for sanctimony. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 290 The hard and false sanctimony of Pharisaism.

¶4. App. misused for SANCTIMONIAL *sb.*

1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 26, I haue done as great wonders as these, when I extracted as much chastity from a Sanctimony in the English Nunnery, as cur'd the Pope of his lechery.

Sanction (sæ·ŋkʃən), *sb.* [a. F. *sanction* (16th c.) or ad. L. *sanctiōn-em* action of ordaining as inviolable under a penalty, also a decree or ordinance, n. of action f. *sancīre* to render sacred or inviolable, ordain, decree, ratify.]

1. A law or decree; esp. an ecclesiastical decree. [So L. *sanctio*; cf. F. 'sanctions ou ordonnances ecclesiastiques', 1516 in Godefroy.] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Pragmatic Sanction: see PRAGMATIC A. 1.

1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 5/1 Whereas now both the rule of Scripture, and sanctions of the old councels set aside, all things..are decided by certeine new decretal or rather extra decretal and extravagant constitutions. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xix. (1877) I. 311 Canutus..did at the last make sundrie sanctions and decrees. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 15 The breach or violation of any humane lawe, ordinance, constitution, statute, or sanction. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. i. rule ix. § 9 But even in this original rule and great sanction God did dispense with the Israelites. 1668 DENHAM *Of Justice* 1 'Tis the first Sanction, Nature gave to Man, Each other to assist in what they can. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 105 The sanctions and constitutions of his own Nation. 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 97 Secure the sacred Quiet of thy Mind, And keep the Sanctions Nature has design'd. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sanction*, Decree, Ordinance, especially such as relate to Ecclesiastical Affairs; as the Constitution made at the Council of Basil, for the Reformation of the Church. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 107 Bid him..The Sanction of th' assembled pow'rs report: That wise Ulysses to his native land Must speed, obedient to their high command. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 19 The bishop is to appoint priests and other prudent men, skilled in the divine law, and conversant with the ecclesiastical sanctions.

2. *Law.* The specific penalty enacted in order to enforce obedience to a law.

a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 267 The feare, or Sanction, of the Commandements preserves the Memory of the Law in our hearts. 1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Noncon f.* 316 The sanction and pain of this divine Law being by sin incurred. 1696 STILLINGFL. *Doctr. Christ's Satisfaction* I. Pref. (1697) 15 If there were such a Sanction of the Law, whereby an Obligation to Punishment did follow the Offences forbidden by it. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. 35 If..civil Magistrates could make the Sanctions of their Laws take place, without interposing at all, after they had passed them. c 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xxii. 59 When savage robbers every sanction brave. c 1765 BURKE *On Popery Laws* Wks. IX. 338 The mode of conviction is as extraordinary as the penal sanctions of this Act. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 553 He gives a perfect rule..And guards it with a sanction as severe As vengeance can inflict, or sinners fear. 1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metr. Syst.* III. (1871) 278 To require, under suitable sanctions that all the weights and measures.. should be conformable to the national standards. 1829 MACAULAY *Mill on Govt.* in *Edin. Rev.* Mar. 187 The fear of death..is the most formidable sanction which legislators have been able to devise. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1873) I. 92 The evil which will probably be incurred in case a command be disobeyed..is frequently called a *sanction*, or an *enforcement of obedience*. 1844 GLADSTONE *Glean.* V. liii. 122 [In the Bible] it is declared under the most awful Sanctions, that God will not endure that his honour shall be given to another. 1845 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 733/2 Sanctions of the Law of Nations...These sanctions..may..be reduced to two classes:—(1) Reprisals...(2) War. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ii. 39 Another example..of the want or weakness of the sanction in the Brehon law.

b. Extended to include the provision of rewards for obedience, along with punishments for disobedience, to a law (*remuneratory*, as distinguished from *vindicatory* or *punitive*, *sanction*).

1692 TYRRELL tr. *Cumberland's Law Nat.* iii. § 13. 126 The strictest Sanction which any Soveraign Power can give unto its Laws, is, when it..hath.. declared, That it will confer a sufficient share of good Things, or Rewards, for so doing; and of Evils, or Punishments, upon any breach, or neglect of its Commands. 1727 J. MAXWELL tr. *Cumberland's Laws Nat.* v. § 35. 247 A Law is a practical Proposition concerning the Prosecution of the Common Good, guarded by the Sanction of Rewards and Punishments. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 56 Human legislators have for the most part chosen to make the sanction of their laws rather *vindicatory* than *remuneratory*. 1825 WHATELY *Ess. Pecul. Chr. Relig.* i. 44 The temporal sanctions of the [Mosaic] law, the plenty and famine, the victory and defeat. 1845 R. JEBB in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 686/1 We feel fully warranted in classing rewards amongst legal sanctions.

c. The part or clause of a law which declares the penalty attached to infringement. Similarly in a charter (see quot. 1844). [So L. *sanctio.*] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 175 The Law hath two parts, the mandate and the sanction. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 54 The sanction, or vindicatory branch of the law; whereby it is signified what evil or penalty shall be incurred by such as commit any public wrongs, and transgress or neglect their duty. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. App. H. 369 The sanction or close of the charter in these instruments is almost always the same, at least in substance—a sort of blessing promised to those who observe the grant, and of imprecation against those who break it.

3. *Ethics.* A consideration which operates to enforce obedience to any law or rule of conduct; a recognized motive for conformity to moral or religious law, operating either through the agent's desire for some resultant good or through his fear of some resultant evil.

As a technical term of Ethics, the word is favoured by the Utilitarians. For the classification of the different 'sanctions' see quots. 1780 and 1887. The sanction of law in the strict sense (see 2 above) is distinguished as 'legal' or 'political'. Bentham's 'moral sanction' corresponds to the 'social sanction' of other writers.

1681 S. PARKER *Demonstr. Law Nat.* 72 The most powerfull and effectual Sanction in the World, *viz.* the Pleasures or Torments of Conscience. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xix. 90 Religious zeal is a strengthener, a confirmer, of all the social sanctions. 1758 R. PRICE (*title*) A Review of the principal Questions and Difficulties in Morals. Particularly Those relating to the Original of our Ideas of Virtue, its Nature, Foundation, Reference to the Deity, Obligation, Subject-matter and Sanctions. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* iii. § 2 There are four distinguishable sources from which pleasure and pain are in use to flow: considered separately, they may be termed the *physical*, the *political*, the *moral*, and the *religious*: and inasmuch as the pleasures and pains belonging to each of them are capable of giving a binding force to any law or rule of conduct, they may all of them be termed *sanctions*. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. ii. (1817) 55 To supply what was much more wanting than lessons of morality, stronger moral sanctions, and clearer assurances of a future judgement. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 709 The undivided reputation of good measures, the undivided ignominy of bad, redounded to the Court of Directors. The great sanction of public opinion therefore acted upon them with concentrated energy. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* iii. 39 With regard to any supposed moral standard—what is its sanction? what are the motives to obey it? 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* II. v. (1890) 164 These 'sanctions' we may classify as External and Internal. The former class will include both 'Legal Sanctions'..and 'Social Sanctions'. 1887 FOWLER *Princ. Morals* II. iii. 144 Physical sanctions are the pleasures and pains which follow naturally on the observance or violation of physical laws, the sanctions employed by society are praise and blame, the moral sanctions..are..the approval and disapproval of conscience; lastly, the religious sanctions are either the fear of future punishment, and the hope of future reward, or, to the higher religious sense, simply the love of God, and the dread of displeasing Him. 1896 'M. FIELD' *Attila* IV. 102 For he rejects our sanctions, he is bound By nothing we are bound by.

4. Binding force given to an oath; something which makes an oath or engagement binding; †a solemn oath or engagement.

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. C 4 There cannot be A fitter drinke, to make this Sanction in. Here I beginne the Sacrament to all. a 1745 SWIFT *Serm., Testimony Conse.*, This Word [honour] is often made the Sanction of an Oath; it is reckoned a great Commendation to be a Man of strict Honour. 17..tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* III. ii. (ed. 5, 1768) II. 28 [Sennacherib] The Assyrian, regarding neither the sanction of oaths nor treaties, still continued the war. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. xxix, We swear by thee! and to our oath do thou Give sanction, from thine hell of fiends and flame. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 242 When he knew by how awful a sanction he had unwittingly bound his soul.

5. The action of rendering legally authoritative or binding; solemn confirmation or ratification given to a law, enactment, etc. by a supreme authority.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Sanction*, a decreeing, enacting, or establishing, any Law or Ordinance. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. i. rule i. § 41 It became a law only by the authority and proper sanction of God. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 85 All which laws have their..sanction from the supreme lawgiver. 1699 T. BAKER *Refl. Learn.* xiv. 167 As to Lancelottus's Book of Institutes, which Dr. Duck seems to make a part of the Corpus, he is therein mistaken, for wanting Sanction and Authority, it is only yet a private work. 1784 COWPER *Epist. Jos. Hill* 57 Could a law like that which I relate Once have the sanction of our triple state? 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxxii. 221 It even appears that a decree might be first moved in the Assembly, and then be sent up to receive the formal sanction of the Council, which could not be withheld. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 85 The day on which the royal sanction was, after many delays, solemnly given to this great Act, was a day of joy and hope. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ii. 27 Thus when a body of Brehon judgments was promulgated by an Irish chief to a tribal assembly it is probable that convenience was the object sought rather than a new sanction.

6. An express authoritative permission or recognition (e. g. of an action, procedure, custom, institution, etc.).

1720 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 246 Then with his sable Brow he gave the Nod, That seals his Word; the Sanction of the God. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* I. i. (1777) 7 And implore A parent's sanction to support my claim. 1769 *Junius Lett.* viii. (1788) 63 You pardon the offence, and are not ashamed to give the sanction of government to the riots you complain of. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. I. 95 He will permit me to apply myself to the House under the sanction of his authority. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.* II. 103 [He] told her, this experiment had not only his sanction, but warmest approbation. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 157 But what was he who taught them that the God Of nature and benevolence hath given A special sanction to the trade of blood? 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) I. 108 The mother country..had never hesitated to lend her sanction to that iniquitous method of cultivation. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 77 He had caused it to be announced that, at every church in the kingdom, a collection would be made under his sanction for their benefit. *Ibid.* ix. 441 He could not make a descent on England without the sanction of the United Provinces. 1883 SIR W. B. BRETT in *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 561 The trustee may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the creditors, accept any composition offered by the bankrupt.

b. *fig.* Now also in looser sense, countenance or encouragement given (intentionally or otherwise) to an opinion or practice by a person of influence, by custom, public sentiment, etc.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 34 Authentick Expressions, I mean, such as must receive a Sanction from the polite World, before their Authority can be allowed. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 112 The multitude gave fiction the sanction of authority. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 298 Such length of time does it require to root out follies that have the sanction of antiquity. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 24. 87 This testimony, as popularly interpreted, does present great appearance of sanction to some of the views which are discountenanced in these Pages. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 283 Religion gave her sanction to that intense and unquenchable animosity. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) I. vii. 213 His behaviour was giving a strong sanction to the very heresy which was threatening the existence of the Church.

7. Something which serves to support, authorize, or confirm an action, procedure, etc.

1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* V. 154 We grant that beauty is no bar to sense, Nor is't a sanction for impertinence. 1856 PATMORE *Angel in Ho.* II. II. iv, The wedded yoke that each had donned, Seeming a sanction, not a bond. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. iv. 60 To a cause having all these sanctions the voice of prophecy could not be wanting.

†b. A recommendation or testimonial. *Obs.*

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* Advt., What reason I had to hope for the countenance of that venerable Gentleman to this Work, will appear from what he wrote to me upon a former occasion...Such a sanction to my faculty of giving a just representation of Dr. Johnson I could not conceal. 1813 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* (ed. 5) Pref., The author..thinks it [*read* he] is but doing himself justice by republishing the following sanctions, as they occurred on the first Edition.

¶8. Assurance of protection under the laws of hospitality. (Confused with *sanctuary*?) *rare*⁻¹.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xlv. (III. xiii), I cannot forgive myself—To suffer myself to be provoked by two such men, to violate the sanction of my own house!

Sanction (sæ·ŋkʃən), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *sanctionner* (18th c.).] *trans.* To give sanction to.

1. To ratify or confirm by sanction or solemn enactment; to invest with legal or sovereign authority; to make valid or binding.

1778 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 146 Preserving ..the very words of the established law, wherever their mean-

ing had been sanctioned by judicial decisions. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 548 That charter sanction'd sure By th' unimpeachable and awful oath And promise of a God! 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* 12 Tests against old principles, sanctioned by the laws. 1823 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 284 The titles held under the Indians were sanctioned by length of possession. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. iii. I. 182 They entered into a covenant sanctioned by all the solemnities of religion usual on these occasions, not to re-enter [etc.].

2. To permit authoritatively; to authorize; in looser use, to countenance, encourage by express or implied approval.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* viii, My own voice never shall sanction the evils to which I may be subjected. 1798 FERRIAR *Of Genius* in *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 286 Such a preference ought not to be sanctioned by philosophers. 1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 416 The employment of bandages in these cases is sanctioned by high authorities. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* v, Nor..will I ever sanction a theatre with my presence. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* Notes (1852) 366 These statements are sanctioned by common sense. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* P 121 (1897) 536 The Directors..were not disposed to sanction any increase of the salaries out of their own treasury. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. viii. I. 499 The system of commerce and administration which had been sanctioned by the existing charter. 1857 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. xli. 73 Etymologically it is not tied to the one rather than the other sense; and usage will sanction either. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. v. 190 Positions..which the dialogues themselves do not even sanction, much less suggest. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 329 He renounced on principle..large profits sanctioned by usage.

b. To allege sanction for; to justify as permissible.

1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* i. § 21 I. 21 If Spinoza and Hobbes were accused of Atheism, each of them sanctioned his speculations by the sacred name of theology.

3. To enforce (a law, legal obligation, etc.) by attaching a penalty to transgression. Cf. SANCTION *sb.* 2, 2 b.

1825 WHATELY *Ess. Pecul. Chr. Relig.* i. 45 The temporal rewards and punishments..which sanctioned that Law. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1873) I. 92 The command or the duty is said to be sanctioned or enforced by the chance of incurring the evil. *Ibid.* 522 Laws are sometimes sanctioned by nullities.

Sanctionable (sæ·ŋkʃənăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SANCTION *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be sanctioned.

In recent Dicts.

Sanctional (sæ·ŋkʃənăl), *a. rare.* [f. SANCTION *sb.* + -AL.] 'Of or pertaining to sanction or sanctioning' (*Funk's Standard Dict.* 1895).

Sanctionary (sæ·ŋkʃənări), *a. rare.* [f. SANCTION *sb.* + -ARY 1.] Relating to sanctions (see SANCTION *sb.* 1).

1845 R. BALMER *Lect. & Disc.* I. x. 403 The Son of God has so satisfied the preceptive and sanctionary demands of the violated law of God. 1850 J. BROWN *Disc. & Sayings of our Lord* (1852) I. 30 Such suffering..signally honoured the sanctionary part of the divine law.

Sanctionative (sæ·ŋkʃənătiv), *a. Law.* [f. SANCTION *sb.* + -ATIVE.] Pertaining to sanctioning.

c 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1873) I. 389 Rights of Action are classed with Obligations; whilst obligations to suffer punishment (which are not more sanctionative than the former), are referred..to Public Law. *Ibid.* II. 947 If this be so, quasi-delicts should be classed with 'Sanctionative Rights and Obligations'. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Comm. (ed. 2) 140 As women were capable of administration, the functions of the guardian, which in the case of infants were either administrative or sanctionative, in the case of women were confined to sanctioning.

Sanctioned (sæ·ŋkʃənd), *ppl. a.* [f. SANCTION *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Allowed by authority; that has received sanction or solemn recognition.

1799 GEO. [IV] *Let.* 7 Jan. in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 149 So long as you are to be one of the sanctioned Spies, & hidden lamps of Lord Grenville. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* v. 109 Their lives, too, sometimes endangered by sanctioned robbers, under the pretext of repressing usury. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iii. (1876) 41 On these academical bodies, as subsidiary to the divinely-sanctioned system, devolved the defence and propagation of the faith. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 11/2 The total sanctioned mileage open and under construction was 16,870 miles.

2. *Law.* Of a right: Defined or created by a sanction antecedently to any wrong. Cf. SANCTIONING *ppl. a.* 2.

c 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1873) II. 797 Primary (or sanctioned) Rights and Obligations distinguished from sanctioning. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 4 Sanctioned, or primary, or final rights, are such rights as exist antecedently to any Wrong, rights whose Title or origin from which they spring, ..is some circumstance other than a Wrong.

3. *Roman Law.* Used to translate L. *sanctus* 'inviolable'.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. § 8 Sanctioned places are to a certain extent under divine dominion, such as city gates [etc.].

Sanctioner (sæ·ŋkʃənəɹ). [f. SANCTION *v.* + -ER 1.] One who sanctions.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. I. i. 9 Horkos, the ever-watchful sanctioner of oaths. *a* 1890 CHURCH *Oxford Movement* xvii. (1892) 305 He [W. G. Ward] admitted that he *did* evade the spirit, but accepted the 'statements of the Articles', maintaining that this was the intention of their original sanctioners.

Sanctioning, *ppl.a.* [f. SANCTION *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That sanctions or authorizes.

1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 51 What they call 'Honour', the sanctioning deity of which is that wonderful 'Force of Public Opinion'. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* IV. 305 Their keen love of family and tribe Shall no more thrive on cunning, hide and lurk In petty arts of abject hunted life, But grow heroic in the sanctioning light. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 87 They meet beneath the sanctioning roof of the amiable professor.

2. *Law.* Of a right: Creating or providing a sanction; arising as a consequence of a delict or wrong. Cf. SANCTIONED *ppl. a.* 2.

1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1873) I. 45 Rights and duties which are consequences of delicts, are *sanctioning* (or preventive) and *remedial* (or reparative). *Ibid.* II. 790 Those [rights and duties] which I call secondary or sanctioning (I style them sanctioning because their proper purpose is to prevent delicts or offences) arise from violations of other rights and duties, or from injuries, delicts, or offences.

Sa·nctionless, *a.* [f. SANCTION *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no sanction or legal penalty attached.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. (ed. 2) 126 Consuetudinary law..inflicted positive sanctions on acts that originally had only been prohibited by the sanctionless law of honour.

Sa·nctionment. *rare.* [f. SANCTION *v.* + -MENT.] The action of sanctioning.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 403 Securities for trustworthiness [of evidence], viz. sanctionment, or interrogation, one or both of them. 1818 — *Ch. Eng.* 112 Appropriate sanctionment given to each of these sorts of acts respectively.

Sanctitude (sæ·ŋktitiūd). [ad. L. *sanctitūdo*, f. *sancti-*, *sanctus* holy: see -TUDE.]

1. The quality of being holy or saint-like; holiness, sanctity. Now *rare.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 96 Be the rud I am richt rad For to behald 3our halyness, or my tale tell; I may nocht suffyss to se 3our sanctitud sad. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 682 Insufficient I am for to discrywe Hir sanctitude, and eik hir halie lyfe. 1616 *Marlowe's Faust.* (1631) E 1, *Pope*... Finde the man that doth this villany, Or by our sanctitude ye all shall dye! 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 293 In thir looks Divine The image of thir glorious Maker shon, Truth, Wisdom, Sanctitude severe and pure. 1738 H. BROOKE *Tasso* II. 26 For ill the Wizard's pedant Arts retain That Sanctitude which Macon's Laws ordain, Whose Tenets, all replete with Lore divine, Prohibit Idols from his hallow'd Shrine. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Johnson & Horne Tooke* Wks. 1846 I. 153 The sanctitude of Milton's genius gave it [*sc.* our language] support until the worst of French invasions overthrew it. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xviii, Whether he goes to the Crusade or abides at home, the character of Hugh Lacy will remain as unimpeached in point of courage as that of the Archbishop Baldwin in point of sanctitude. 1870–4 J. THOMSON *City Dreadf. Nt.*, etc. (1880) 65 Through rhythmic years evolving like a psalm Of infinite love and faith and sanctitude.

†b. *pl.* (as attribute of more than one.) *Obs.*

1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5862 That day, 3our faynit Sanctytudis Sall nocht be knawin be 3our Hudis.

2. = SANCTIMONY 1 b. *rare.*

1855 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Pollio & Calvus* ii. Wks. 1891 II. 122 [Sallust.] His manners ill corresponded with the austerity and sanctitude of his style.

Sanctity (sæ·ŋktĭti). Forms: 4–5 **saunctite, sauntite, saintite,** 6 **sainctite, santytie,** 6–7 **sanctitie,** 7– **sanctity.** [a. OF. *saint-, saincteté, -ité*, mod.F. *sainteté* (= Prov. *sanctitat, sanctetat*, Catal. *santetad*, Sp. *santidad*, Pg. *santidade*, It. *santità, -ade, -ate*), ad. L. *sanctitās, -tātem*, f. *sancti-*, *sanctus* holy: see -ITY.]

1. Holiness of life, saintliness. *Odour of sanctity*: see ODOUR 5.

The phr. *sanctity of manners* was common in the 18th c.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 105 Of all men opon mold we Menures most schewþ þe pure Apostells life wiþ penance on erþe, And suen hem in saunctite & suffren well harde. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 54/98 Heil temple of grace most, Temple of Sauntite [*templum sanctitatis*]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 201 b, For otherwyse myght God neuer be conceyued than in purite & sanctite. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 357/2 But woulde God they would ones rather folow him truely in faith & good workes, then in simulacion of like santytie with their holy salutacions. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iv. 14 His kissing is as ful of sanctitie, As the touch of holy bread. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 141 Puritanes..by whose apparant shew Of sanctity doe greatest evils grow. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 148 From seeing the Extraordinary sanctity of his life. 1686 tr. *Bouhours' St. Ignatius* VI. 402 Illustrious for his Saintity, his Miracles, and for his Zeal. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 349 P 8 One who does not resemble him [Sir T. More] as well in the Chearfulness of his Temper, as in the Sanctity of Life and Manners. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 116 The master of the pack Cries—Well done, saint! and claps him on the back. Is this the path of sanctity? Is this To stand a way-mark in the road to bliss? 1784 — *Task* III. 260 Fam'd For sanctity of manners undefil'd. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 216 A few of them [bishops] were men of eminent sanctity. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XVI. III. 697 He committed this base action with all the forms of sanctity. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. iii. 34 Alexander had no liking for Becket..and had no belief in the lately assumed airs of sanctity.

personified. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 23 In pure white Robes Like very sanctity she did approach My Cabine.

b. *pl.*

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 21 The very Opener, and Intelligencer, Betweene the Grace, the Sanctities of Heauen, And our dull workings. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Oxford in Vac.*, The coalition of the better Jude with Simon—clubbing (as it were) their sanctities together, to make up one poor gandy-day between them. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Relig.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 96 The priest translated the.. sanctities of the old hagiology into English virtues.

c. The rank of a (canonized) saint. *rare.*

1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. ii. VI. 418 Saints at length multiplying thus beyond measure, the Pope assumed the prerogative of advancing to the successive ranks of Beatitude and Sanctity.

2. The quality of being sacred or hallowed; sacredness, claim to (religious) reverence; inviolability.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 395 This youth that you see heere, I snatch'd one halfe out of the iawes of death, Releeu'd him with such sanctitie of loue. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Macc.* iii. 12 The maiestie and inuiolable sanctitie of the Temple, honoured ouer all the world. 1665 DRYDEN & HOWARD *Ind. Queen* III. i, Princes are sacred. *Zemp.* True, whilst they are free; But Power once lost, farewel their Sanctity. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 487 On she came, Led by her Heav'nly Maker, though unseen, And guided by his voice, nor uninformd Of nuptial Sanctitie and marriage Rites. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 216 The idea of sanctity, which the Britains, by a long course of hereditary reverence, had annexed to that island. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 211 It [the Ganges] is not only esteemed by the Indians for the depth, and pureness of its stream, but for a supposed sanctity which they believe to be in its waters. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, His affirmations have the sanctity of an oath. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* v. (1858) 240 Gerizim, the oldest sanctuary in Palestine, retained its sanctity to the end. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 52 Stonehenge was at one time a spot of great sanctity. 1888 D. C. MURRAY *Weaker Vessel* I. xiii. 208 We have grown quite accustomed nowadays to the invasion of what used to be called the sanctity of private life.

b. *pl.* Sacred obligations, feelings, etc.; also quasi-*concr.*, objects possessing sanctity.

1808 WORDSW. *White Doe* V. 1295 Bear it to Bolton Priory, And lay it on Saint Mary's shrine; To wither in the sun and breeze 'Mid those decaying sanctities. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. xvi. (1876) 210 Christian love which dreads to tamper with the sanctities of a brother's conscience. *a* 1890 CHURCH *Oxf. Movemt.* iii. (1891) 41 He saw in it [Milton's poetry] only an intrusion into the most sacred of sanctities. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 330 Woman completes her destiny by occupying herself with the industries and sanctities of the home.

3. = HOLINESS 2. *rare.*

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. vii. (1821) 314 The petition to the Popes sanctitie. 1897 *Daily Record* 21 Sept. 5/1 An encyclical from the Armenian Patriarch was read, in which his Sanctity exhorts the faithful to continue faithful to the Sultan.

†**Sa·nctize,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *sanct-us* holy + -IZE.] *trans.* To make holy, sanctify.

1691 SIR P. KING *Worship Prim. Ch.* (1712) 119 But not attributing unto them any such Holiness as to Sanctise those Services that were performed in them.

Sancto·logy. *rare.* [f. L. *sanct-us* SAINT + -(O)LOGY.] = SANCTILOGY. Hence **Sancto·logist,** the compiler of a 'sanctology'.

1824 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. 167 The sanctologies do not recognize such a saint; and we must look for some other Osbern, though of less sanctity. *Ibid.* 192 St. Marjorie is not mentioned by the Sanctologists.

†**Sanctoral.** *Obs.* Anglicized form of next.

1641 R. B. K. *Parall. Liturgy w. Mass-Bk.*, etc. 86 This abhominable Masse hath three parts; The Ordinary..: The Temporall..: The Sanctorall.

‖**Sanctorale** (sæŋktōrē·lĭ, -ā·lĭ). *Eccl.* [med.L. *sanctorāle*, f. *sanct-us* SAINT, after TEMPORALE. Cf. Sp. *santoral.*] That part of the breviary and missal which contains the offices proper for saints' days.

1872 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. *Temporale*, The temporale..as opposed to the sanctorale..which treats of the Saints' days. 1905 M. RULE in *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 20/1 The Sanctorale of the Canterbury Missal.

Sanctorian (sæŋktō·rĭăn), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Sanctōri-us* (It. *Santorio*), a Venetian physician (1561–1636): see -AN.] Of or pertaining to Sanctorius, who made experiments and calculations on insensible perspiration by means of a 'statical chair'. **Sanctorian perspiration,** insensible perspiration, first discovered by Sanctorius. **Sanctorian table,** a register of the quantities of perspiration, etc.

For earlier references to the experiments of Sanctorius (not containing this adj.) see 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iv. 116 and 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 25 P 2.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p. liii, To try, by a Sanctorian Chair, the Quantity and Quality of those Foods that perspire the most and soonest. 1743 LINING in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 318 Two Columns in my Sanctorian Tables, where I have daily supposed the Ingesta to be 100 Ounces. 1744 tr. *Boerhaave's Inst.* III. 306 Through these [vessels] is perpetually transpired a very subtle Humour from every Point of the Body, called from its Inventor the Sanctorian Perspiration. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 219 *note*, From this experiment also, the learned may gather upon what a weak foundation the whole doctrine of the Sanctorian perspiration is built. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 842/1 Sanctorius..made lengthened experiments on perspiration. The insensible perspiration has..been termed 'Sanctorian' in honour of him.

Sancto·rium. *rare*—1. [quasi-Latin, irreg. f. L. *sanctus* SAINT *sb.*1 + -ORIUM.] A shrine.

1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 326 Edriss,..the great saint of the Moors,..fled hither, and a sanctorium to his memory is now extant..near Fez, which..was founded by this sect.

†**Sancto·rum.** ? *jocular. Obs.* [a. L. *sanctōrum*, gen. pl. of *sanctus* holy, SAINT.] **a.** ? Persons of superior rank. **b.** quasi-*adj.* Irreproachable.

1675 A. HUYBERTS *Corner-Stone* 19 The Sanctorum must not be made too common, nor the Commons be over-stock't. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 395 An age like this..So bright its magisterial quorum, Its kings so holy in alliance, Its navy, every man sanctorum.

Sanctuaried (sæŋktiu,ărĭd), *a. rare.* [f. SANCTUARY *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] That is made, or that contains, a sanctuary.

1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 175 If a thought Should cream the blood in sanctuaried court. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 26 In the sanctuaried East.

‖**Sanctua·rium.** *rare.* [L.] = SANCTUARY *sb.*1 2.
1796 *Mod. Gulliver's Trav.* 67 He knew me, so without ringing or inquiry, opened the portal of the sanctuarium.

Sanctuarize (sæŋktiŭˌărəiz), *v. rare.* [f. SANCTUAR(Y *sb.*1 + -IZE.] *trans.* To afford sanctuary to; to shelter by means of a sanctuary or sacred privileges.
1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 128 *Laer.* To cut his throat i' th' Church. *Kin.* No place indeed should murder Sanctuarize; Reuenge should haue no bounds. 1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to T. H[iggons]* 15 The Jesuites, you knew, were no ordinary guls, and therfore, if you ment to be Sanctuarised by them, it lay you in hand first, *Audere aliquid carcere dignum*, to ascertaine them by some audacious proiect, of your future fidelitie. 1829 JAMES *Richelieu* XXXV, 'Were he charged with all the crimes which disgrace humanity,' replied the bishop, 'here he is sanctuarized.'

Sanctuary (sæŋktiuˌări), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–6 saint-, saynt-, seint-, seyntuary(e, -uarie, -(e)warie, -wary(e, (4 seyntiwarie, 5 sceyntewarye, seyntery); 4–6 sentuary(e, -uarie, -wary, (6 senttuary, centuary, sentory, centory, cent(e)ry); 6 santuary; 5–7 sainctuarie, -uary; 4–7 sanctuarye, 4– sanctuary. [a. OF. *sain(c)tuarie, sain(c)tuaire* (whence the form SAINTUAIRE), mod.F. *sanctuaire* (= Pr. *sanctuari*, Cat. *santuari*, Sp., Pg., It. *santuario*), semi-pop. ad. L. *sanctuārium*, app. irreg. f. *sanct-us* holy (? on the analogy of SACRARIUM). The present form of the word, which is due to recourse to the original Latin, occurs almost as early as the forms taken from OF.
The Latin word is post-Augustan; in classical Latin (Pliny) it occurs only in the sense of 'the private cabinet of a prince' (L. & Sh.); the sense of 'holy place' is common in the Vulgate and in Christian Latin generally.]

I. A holy place.

1. *gen.* A building or place set apart for the worship of God or of one or more divinities: applied, e. g., to a Christian church, the Jewish temple and the Mosaic tabernacle, a heathen temple or site of local worship, and the like; also *fig.* to the church or body of believers.
a 1340 HAMPOLE *Cant. Moysi* 21 in *Psalter* (1884) 507 Þi sanctuary lord þe whilk þi hend festynd; lord sall regne wiþouten end and ouyre. In þat sanctuary oure lord sall be kynge, þat is in all sauyd men, wiþouten end. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 8 And thei shulen make to me a seyntuarye, and Y shal dwelle in the myddil of hem. 1508 FISHER *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 198 *Filij seruorum tuorum habitabunt.* The children of thy seruauntes shall be permanent in thy sentuary. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Exod.*, Sanctuarie, a place halowed and dedicate vnto god. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* xiii. 11 The people shal come vnto the from farre, they shal bringe giftes, and worshipe y^e Lorde in the, and thy londe shal they haue for a Sanctuary, for they shal call vpon the greate name in the. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 171 Hauing waste ground enough, Shall we desire to raze the Sanctuary And pitch our euils there? 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1674 Chaunting thir Idol, and preferring Before our living Dread who dwells In Silo his bright Sanctuary. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Serm.* xvii. (1735) 371 Let it not be imagined, that they contribute nothing to the Happiness of the Countrey, who only serve God in the Duties of a holy Life; who attend his Sanctuary, and daily address his Goodness to pardon the Sins of the Land. 1830 LEAKE *Trav. Morea* II. 426 Strabo..describes the Epidaurian sanctuary as 'a place renowned for the cure of all sorts of diseases'. 1863 H. B. HACKETT in *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1278/1 Shiloh was one of the earliest and most sacred of the Hebrew sanctuaries. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxiii. 3 When he near'd the leafy forest, dark sanctuary divine [L. *loca Deæ*]. 1888 W. R. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 165/2 A temple implies a sanctuary; but a sanctuary or holy spot does not necessarily contain a temple.

b. *fig.* Used for: The priestly office or order.
c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 25 In þis dede þat Crist dide, he techiþ his Chirche to bygynne for to purge his seintuarie, þat ben preests and clerks þerof. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xx. (1787) II. 217 But the Christian sanctuary was open to every ambitious candidate, who aspired to its heavenly promises, or temporal possessions.

c. Applied to Heaven.
1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxvi. 15 Bihold fro thi sanctuary, fro the hize dwellynge place of heuens [Vulg. *de sanctuario tuo*]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii. 19 For He loketh downe from his Sanctuary, out of the heauen doth the Lorde beholde the earth. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xx. ii, From santuary hy Let him come downe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 672 Had not th' Almightie Father where he sits Shrin'd in his Sanctuarie of Heav'n secure, Consulting [etc.].

d. *transf.*
1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 261 Fides thyn herte enbracyth As hir propir sanctuary, and medelith with al thi deedys. 1584 WHETSTONE *Mirrour for Mag.* 23 The Dicing-houses and other lyke Sanctuaries of iniquitie. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 170 The famous isle of Iona was once the seat and sanctuary of western learning. 1821 BYRON *Two Foscari* IV. i, *Senator*]. I sought not A place within a sanctuary; but being Chosen..I shall fulfill my office. 1831 BREWSTER *Newton* x. 120 Admiring disciples crowded to this sanctuary of the sciences [*sc.* Tycho Brahe's observatory of Uranibourg] to acquire the knowledge of the heavens. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 142 Entirely expelled from the sanctuary of the human mind.

e. *To weigh* (or *examine*) *with the weights* (or *scales*) *of the sanctuary*: to test by the standard of divine revelation. Also, to examine by an equal and just scale (see 1728), after F. *peser une chose au poids du sanctuaire, dans la balance du sanctuaire* (Littré).
Suggested by Vulg. *ad* (or *juxta*) *pondus sanctuarii, pondere sanctuarii* Lev. v. 15, Num. vii. 13, 19. 25, 31, 37, xviii. 16. The force of the orig. Heb. expression would be more accurately rendered by 'according to the sacred shekel'.
1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 43 Setting humane experience aside, we will waigh this by the holy scales of the Sanctuarie. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., To..examine a Thing by the Weight of the *Sanctuary*, is to examine it by a just and equal Scale.

2. A specially holy place within a temple or church. **a.** In the Mosaic tabernacle and the Jewish temple: The HOLY PLACE, including the 'Holy of holies' (see HOLY *sb.* 5); sometimes applied to the latter only.
†*Sanctuary* (or *sanctuaries*) *of the sanctuary*: a literal rendering of the Vulg. *sanctuarium* (*-aria*) *sanctuarii*, which inaccurately represents the Heb. for 'Holy of holies'.
1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxvi. 33 The veyle forsothe be it sett yn bi cercles, with ynne the whiche thou shalt put the arke of testymonye, and with the which the seyntuarye, and the seyntuarye [*v.r.* sayntuarise] of the seyntuarie [Vulg. *sanctuarii sanctuaria*] shulen be dyuydid. *a* 1656 USSHER *Power Princes* I. (1683) 66 To be put in Tables of Brass, and to be set up within the compass of the Sanctuary in a conspicuous place. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* III. vi. § 4 It [the veil] was to be drawn this way or that way by cords, the rings of which..were subservient to the drawing and undrawing of the veil, and to the fastening it at the corner, that then it might be no hinderance to the view of the sanctuary, especially on solemn days.

b. *Eccl.* That part of a church round the altar, the sacrarium; also used by some for the chancel.
a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1567 (Dublin MS.), And of þe sanctuary [Ashm. MS. saynt-ware] mony seere þinges, With tabels & tapers & tretes of þe law. 1577 HANMER tr. *Eusebius' Eccl. Hist.* X. iv. 189 *margin*, A space betwene the Sanctuary & the porche. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 307 *Sacrarium*..the sanctuarie or chauncell. 1708–22 J. BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* VIII. vi. § 11 Wks. 1726 I. 300 In the middle of the Bema, or Sanctuary. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 97 That all the images should be removed from the sanctuary and altar to a proper height in the churches. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 35 The sanctuary is raised one step. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 40 The chancel, or rather the sanctuary, was apsidal, with a surrounding aisle. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Sanctuary*, the part of the church round the high altar reserved for clergy.

c. The most sacred part of any temple; the 'cella', 'adytum'.
1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3810 For þei cast no longer for to tarie, But prowdely entre in þe seintuarie, In-to þe chapel callid Cytheroun. *Ibid.* IV. xxx. (1513) S v b, With many flawme and many hydous lyght That brent enuyrowne in the seyntuarye [1555 sentuarye]. 1857 WILKINSON *Egypt. Pharaohs* 141 Within this sanctuary was the statue of the god, and the altar for sacrifice or for libation; and to it the priests alone had access. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 388/2 The sanctuary, *adytum*, or σηκός (fig. 4), still contained the idol and its altar.

d. *fig.*
1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 2 We are come now beyond the Porch and Sanctuary, even to the Holy of Holies. 1686 [HICKES] *Spec. B. Virg.* 38 They pray to her..to admit them within the Sanctuary of her Audience. 1795 BURKE *Let. to W. Elliot* Wks. 1842 II. 244 But now the veil was torn, and, to keep off sacrilegious intrusion, it was necessary that in the sanctuary of government something should be disclosed not only venerable, but dreadful. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 38 And, though ne'er yet Thou hast unveiled thy inmost sanctuary. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 129 His writings..form only the portico to the temple of wisdom; but the singular beauty of the approach invites the student, and its ease of access secures his progress to the sanctuary beyond.

†**3.** A shrine or box containing relics. *Obs.*
c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 625 But by the croys which that seint Eleyne fond, I wolde I hadde thy coillons in myn hond In stede of relikes or of seintuarie. 1393 LANG. *P. Pl.* C. vi. 79 Popes and patrones poure gentil blod refuseþ, And taken symondes sone seyntewarie [*v.r.* sanctuarye] to kepe. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18043 Thei did the relikes brynge,..Here sayntearius with al her gere..Diomedes was fiurst that swore, And made his othe vpon the flore, He swor by al here sayntwaries. *c* 1450 *Merlin* IV. 75 Than the kynge made be brought the hiest seintewaries that he hadde, and the beste relikes, and ther-on they dide swere as Merlin dide hem devyse. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 664 Than cam the day that the grekes sholde swere the peas fayndely vpon the playn felde vpon the sayntuaryes. 1481 — *Godeffroy* xxxvii. 205 They helde the crosse and the saincturyes with whiche they blessyd the peple.

4. A piece of consecrated ground; the precincts of a church; a churchyard, cemetery. Now *dial.* (See also *sanctuary garth* in 8 below.)
There seems to have been some confusion between *seintuary, cantry*, etc. (ME. forms of *sanctuary*) and CEMETERY.
1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 65 [He] made a seyntuary [*Trewisa* chirchehawe, L. *cæmeterium*] in the cite of Rome, in the way callede Via Appia, to bery the bodies of martires. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 330 Also wyth-ynne chyrche and seyntwary Do ryȝt thus as I the say. 1872 *J. Clyde's Norfolk Garland* i. 28 'If I were on any occasion to urge a parishioner to inter a deceased relative on the north side of the church, he would answer me with some expression of surprise,.."No, sir, it is not in the sanctuary."'

II. 5. A church or other sacred place in which, by the law of the mediæval church, a fugitive from justice, or a debtor, was entitled to immunity from arrest. Hence, in wider sense, applied to any place in which by law or established custom a similar immunity is secured to fugitives.
By English common law, a fugitive charged with any offence but sacrilege and treason might escape punishment by taking refuge in a sanctuary, and within forty days confessing his crime and taking an oath which subjected him to perpetual banishment. By the act 21 Jac. I. c. 28 § 7 (1625) the right of sanctuary in criminal cases was abolished. Certain places, chiefly actual or reputed precincts of former royal palaces, as Whitefriars, the Savoy, and the Mint, continued to be sanctuaries in civil cases until their privilege was abolished by the acts 8 & 9 Will. III. c. 27 § 15 (1696–7) and 9 Geo. I. c. 28 (1722). The abbey of Holyrood is still by law a sanctuary for debtors, but the abolition of imprisonment for debt has rendered the privilege useless.
c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 10 (Camb. MS.) To whiche Iugement they nolden nat obeye but defendedyn hem by the sikernesse of holy howses, þat is to seyn fledden in to sentuarye. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 507/2 Eny persone.. that shall dwelle or inhabit within the Sayntwarie and Procyncte of the same Chapell. 1474 *Ibid.* VI. 110/1 Such persones as were endetted..and by fraude went to seyntuaries. 1477 *Ibid.* 183/2 Eny persone or persones havyng eny places of Tuitionez comonly called Seintwaries, as to eny Privilege, Libertee, Tuition or Fraunches. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccli. x 2 b, Also this same yere the shereuis of london fette oute of Seint Martins the graunt the sayntwarie fiue persones, whiche afterward were restored agayne to the Saynt-warie by the kynges Iustices. *c* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) p. xxxix, Perkin Warbek..fled to Bewdeley sentwary [cf. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 25 He flede to Bewdley senttuary]. 1534 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 39 Men sayd that the sayntuary shall, aftre this settyng of the parliament, hold no man for dett, morder, nor felenye. 1537 *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* H vij, The churches are a centuary for mysdoers. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 19 That all the while he by his side her bore, She was as safe as in a Sanctuary. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 811 Who ..withdrew himselfe into a monastery hard by, which was counted a Sanctuary, and therefore not to be forced or broken. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 68 Just by the Communion table is the Sanctuary or place of refuge where Criminalls flee for safety. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xli, If thou breathest aught that can attaint the honour of my house, by Saint George! not the altar itself shall be a sanctuary. 1839 H. AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* I. ii. 42 In order to guard against accidents or surprises, watchmen or scouts.. were stationed at the three main outlets of the sanctuary [*sc.* the mint at Southwark] ready to give the signal in the manner just described. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxiv, The church was a sanctuary which he had a right to claim.

b. Applied to a similar place of refuge in a non-Christian country; an asylum.
c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 66 That Cytee [Ebron] was also Sacerdotalle, that is to seyne, seyntuarie, of the Tribe of Juda: And it was sc fre, that Men receyved there alle manere of Fugityfes of other places, for here evyl Dedis. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 353 He caus'd the Place where he was kill'd to be encompass'd with a high Wall, made a Sanctuary of it. *c* 1700 *Tarquin & Tullia* 10 in *Poems Aff. St.* (1704) III. 319 To form his Party, Histories report, A Sanctuary was open'd in his Court, Where glad Offenders safely might resort. 1878 P. GARDNER in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 468/1 Besides being a place of worship, a museum, and a sanctuary, the Ephesian temple was a great bank. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* xx. 466 From the penalty and inconveniences of these accusations of witchcraft there is but one escape, namely flight to a sanctuary. There are several sanctuaries in Congo Français.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*
1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 49 Vsing alwaise soch discrete moderation, as the scholehouse should be counted a sanctuarie against feare. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* V. 49 My house is your Sanctuary, and here to offer you violence, wou'd prejudice myself. 1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 34 The reformation was preceded by the discovery of America, as if the Almighty graciously meant to open a sanctuary to the persecuted in future years, when home should afford neither friendship nor safety. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 41 They have made..London..a sanctuary to refugees of every political and religious opinion. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Purit.* I. 38 His [Abbot's] house was a sanctuary to the most eminent of the factious party.

6. Immunity from punishment and the ordinary operations of the law secured by taking refuge in a sanctuary (sense 5); the right or privilege of affording such shelter; shelter, refuge, protection as afforded by a church, etc. Also *privilege of sanctuary*. † *To keep sanctuary*: to resort to a sanctuary for protection. *To violate* or *break sanctuary*: to violate the privilege or right of a sanctuary or place of refuge.
c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 294 Þei chalengen fraunchise and privylegie in many grete chirchis, þat wikid men..þere schullen dwelle in seyntewarie, and no man empeche hem bi processe of lawe. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 280 þat þefte & raueynen & mansleyng & robberie be not meyntened in seyntiwarye vnder colour of priuylegie. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 167 He is like a fugitif that rennythe to seyntwarye For drede of hangyng. 1464 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 322 The parker & oþer Officers of Cheylesmore pretendyng..that eny persones owed not to be arrested there, seying that Cheylesmore was seyntwary. 1471 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 15 The Erle of Oxenffordys bretheryn be goon owt off Sceyntewarye. 1509 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 12 Your pore orator.. neuyr dare come oute off seyntory. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Hall *Chron., Edw. V* (1548) 8 That y^e kynges brother should be fayne to kepe sanctuary. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1079/1 This woman..fled in the night to Westminster for sanctuarie. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 42 God forbid We should infringe the holy Priuiledge Of blessed Sanctuarie. *Ibid.* 47 You breake not Sanctuarie, in seizing him [the Dk. of York]. 1623–4 *Act* 21 *Jas. I*, c. 28 § 7 And be it alsoe enacted..That no Sanctuarie or Priviledge of Sanctuary shalbe hereafter admitted or allowed in any case. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 155 Theft, rapine, contempt of religion, and breach of sanctury. 1708–22 J. BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* VIII. x. § 12 Wks. 1726 I. 334 Both by general Custom and Law under the Christian Emperors, every Church was invested with the Privilege of an Asylum, or Place of Sanctuary and Refuge in certain Cases. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xx. (1787) II. 223 The ancient privilege of sanctuary was transferred to the Christian temples. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvi, Get into Whitefriars or somewhere for sanc-

tuary and concealment, till you can make friends or quit the city. 1831 *Ibid.* Introd., Alsatia..possessing certain privileges of sanctuary, became for that reason a nest of..mischievous characters. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 140 Mine enemies Pursue me, but, O peaceful Sisterhood, Receive, and yield me sanctuary. 1871 R. W. DALE *Commandm.* vi. 148 The altar of God itself was to be no sanctuary for.. an actual murderer. 1898 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Cath.* 63 Those who sought sanctuary fled to the church and knocked.

b. in non-Christian countries (see 5 b); also *transf.* and *fig.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 138 The Priuiledged place whereinto the Persians vse to retyre for sanctuarie. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Aug., The Chapell and Refectory [of the Convent] full of the goods of such poor people as at the approach of the Army had fled with them thither for sanctuary. 1654 in *T. Burton's Diary* (1828) I. Introd. 23 Which, if in truth any would offer to impeach, by violence from without, it could receive no sanctuary nor advantage at all from such a declaration. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 32 A Heathen could say when a bird (scared by a Hawke) flew into his bosome, I will not betray thee unto thy enemy, seeing thou comest for Sanctuary unto me. How much lesse will God yield up a soule unto its enemy, when it takes Sanctuary in his Name. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxii. 7 On him only I rely..for sanctuary when any distresse surrounds me. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* liii. 53 A Stag that was hard set by the Huntsmen, betook himself to a Stall for Sanctuary, and prevail'd with the Oxen to Conceal him the best they could. *a* 1711 KEN *Past. Let.* Wks. (1838) 476 Many poor Protestant strangers are now fled hither for sanctuary, whom as brethren, as members of Christ, we should take in and cherish. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 294 When a Bitch Fox is bragged, and with Cub, she is hardly to be taken; for then she lieth near the Earth, and upon hearing the least Noise, she betakes herself to her Place of Sanctuary. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. (1846) V. 18 The precincts of Mecca enjoyed the rights of sanctuary. 1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 43 The churches, to which the miserable inhabitants had fled for sanctuary, were violated and defiled with blood. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xlv. V. 469 Pleistoanax..lived for a long time in sanctuary near the temple of Athênê, at Tegea. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 397 It now rained heavily and..we..betook ourselves to sanctuary, taking refuge in St. Paul's Cathedral.

c. *To take sanctuary*: to take refuge in a sanctuary. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 360/2 Merchantz straungiers, yat.. have stollen away, and daily taken seyntuaries. 1472–3 *Ibid.* VI. 20/1 That he never toke eny seyntwary, ne withdrewe hym from your good grace. 1504 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 8 Your saide besechar whan he was at large toke sayntewary and lost his goodes. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 31 What if a mannes wyfe will take saintuary because she lyste to runne from her husbande. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lii. 14 The spiders..In the copweb took sentuarie for defence. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. ii. 12, I haue the gould; what care I though it be knowne I Ile crosse the water and take sanctuary. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 75 The fishes which are many, haue taken Sanctuary in these waters, and none dare take them, but holde them holy. 1625 J. ROBINSON *Ess.* xxiv. (1851) I. 110 What intention could be better or action worse? We must not therefore take the sanctuary of fools by good meanings without knowledge. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 40 In the beginning of King Edward's raigne, she was forced to take sanctuary at Westminster. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 627 The Evasions of this Nature being only such miserable Shifts, as the Jews of later Ages have taken Sanctuary in. 1708–22 J. BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* VIII. xi. § 3 Wks. 1726 I. 335 Next..we are to consider..in what Cases they were allowed to take Sanctuary in their Churches. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 72 The gunner who had taken sanctuary in the woods. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 41 The Sea-Lions..will..if you pursue them, be glad to take Sanctuary in the Water. 1785 WILKINS tr. *Bhagvat* xiv. 97 They take sanctuary under this wisdom. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy., Oise in Flood* 104 Terrified creatures taking sanctuary in every nook along the shore.

7. *Hunting*, etc.: The 'privilege of forest'; also 'close time'.

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 265 As for hartes and hindes..yett some there are, and those lyve without sanctuarye or priviledge of fforest, free for every man to chase and hunte, at theire pleasure. 1892 *Daily News* 19 Apr. 3/5 Application was made to the Chief Ranger..for her [the hind's] recapture; but he promptly refused, on the grounds that the Forest was a 'sanctuary', and any wild animal escaping into the same was 'of right free of the forest'. The impossibility of uncarting a deer and preventing its getting into the forest,..has by the enforcement of this 'right of sanctuary', aided the authorities in putting a stop to 'Easter deer-baiting'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 3/1 He would.. extend the weekly close time, and he believes that if the present period of sanctuary was doubled, in a year or two at most the nets would be catching far more fish [salmon] than they now do in the longer period.

III. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Of senses 1–4, as *sanctuary lamp*, †*observance*, *stair*, *temple*; †**sanctuary garth** = sense 4.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 35 3e..han put kepars of my sanctuari obseruaunce to 3or silf. 1412–13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 610 Subtus cameram d'ni Prioris versus Seynterygarth, 14*d.* *c* 1600 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees) 52 The sentuarie garth. *Ibid.* 53 The Sentory garthe. *c* 1624 *Ibid.* 205 *note*, Sanctuary garth. 1850 WILKINSON *Archit. Anc. Egypt* 82 Sanctuary Temples, consisting of a single chamber. 1862 H. E. M. tr. *Monnin's Curé d'Ars* Pref. 7 When I saw, by the light of the sanctuary-lamp, that wasted and withered form. 1866 *Direct. Anglic.* (ed. 3) 259 Sanctuary Lamp, that which burns before the Blessed Sacrament when it is reserved. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 45 The cowled night Kneels on the Eastern sanctuary-stair.

b. Of senses 5 and 6, as *sanctuary-breaking*, *knocker*, *place*, *-seat*, *town*.

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 496 So myche *sayntuary brekyng, and preuylegidde barrydd. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 255/2 The sanctuary seats at Hexham and Beverley and the *sanctuary knocker at Durham are still in existence. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 297 Wherefore suche gentylmen as had appoynted to eyde the duke fled, some to *sentwary places, and some beyonde the sea. 1886 *Sanctuary seat [see *sanctuary knocker* supra]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 54 Richard Horsnayle Bailyfe of the *sanctuary towne called Good Esture in Essex.

† c. **Sanctuary man** (so also *sanctuary woman*, etc.), a man who has taken refuge in a sanctuary or privileged place of protection. *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 530 They went to Westmynster, and toke wt them all maner of seyntwary men. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 31 Verely I haue often heard of saintuarye menne. But I neuer heard erste of saintuarye chyldren. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 282 She went into Westmyster, and there regystarde her selfe as a sentwary woman. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 39 If any Sanctuarie-man did by night or otherwise, get out of Sanctuarie priuily, and commit mischiefe and trespasse, and then come in againe, hee should loose the benefit of Sanctuarie for euer after.

Sanctuary, *sb.*[2] *dial.* [Corruption of CENTAURY.] [1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Seyntuary an herbe.] 1877 E. LEIGH *Chesh. Gloss.* 175. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*

† **Sanctuary**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SANCTUARY *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To place in safety as in a sanctuary. Of a place: to afford protection or shelter (*from*).

1615 HEYWOOD *Foure Prentises* D 3, Thy purse is sanctuary'd. 163– — *Fair Maid West* I. 9 Feare not sweet Spencer, we are now alone, And thou art sanctuar'd in these mine armes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. iv. § 19 The Kings enemies once Sanctuaried, daring him no less then the Iebusites in their strong fort of Sion defied David. *c* 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 32 St. James's where she had lodgings to sanctuary her from debt.

‖ **Sanctum** (sæ·ŋktŏm), *sb.* Also 9 *pl. rare* **sancta.** [L. *sanctum*, neut. of *sanctus* holy.]

1. The 'holy place' of the Jewish tabernacle and temple. Also applied to a sacred place or shrine in other temples and churches. Cf. SANCTUARY *sb.*[1] 2.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. 340 The tabernacle, that is diuided..into the *Sanctum* and the *Sanctum sanctorum*. 1847–8 H. MILLER *First Impr.* ii. (1857) 24 Who, in exploring a magnificent temple, passed through superb porticoes and noble halls, to find a monkey enthroned in a little dark sanctum as the god of the whole. 1855 *Englishwoman in Russia* 72 We ladies are not allowed to enter the 'sanctum' [of the Kazan church].

fig. 1858 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xvii, Flower shows.. are open to ladies who cannot quite penetrate the inner sancta of fashionable life.

2. = SANCTUM SANCTORUM 2.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) III. xiv. 362 He..then dragged us by main force into what he called his sanctum. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* III. iii, He found the banker in his private sanctum. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* vi, His sanctum behind the shop. 1870 H. SMART *Race for Wife* ii, Maude flits away to her own little sanctum. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *My Reminis.* I. ii. 26 This room was..the sanctum of a scholar and a man of refinement.

‖ **Sanctum sanctorum** (sæ·ŋktŏm sæŋktō·rŭm). Pl. **sancta sanctorum.** [L. *sanctum* neut. nom. sing. and *sanctōrum* neut. gen. pl. of *sanctus* holy; a Hebraism, transl. (= LXX. τὸ ἅγιον τῶν ἁγίων) of קֹדֶשׁ הַקֳּדָשִׁים *qōdesh haqqŏdāshīm*, 'Holy of holies' (see HOLY *sb.* 1). The Vulgate (following the LXX) several times uses the pl. *sancta sanctorum* in the same sense as the sing., without any warrant from the original Hebrew.]

1. The Holy of holies of the Jewish temple and tabernacle. † In early use also pl. in the same sense.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 35 þei..schal not nye to al My sanctuari, bi þe sancta sanctorum [*Ezek.* xliv. 13]. ? 1493 *St. Katherine* (W. de W.) biij a/1 (Stanf.) That holy place that is called Sancta sanctorum. 1558 MORWYNG tr. *Joseph Ben Gorion's Hist. Jews* (1561) 36 b, Thei entred also into the Sanctuary, and attempted to enter into the *sanctum sanctorum*. 1577 [see SANCTUM 1]. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 580 ¶ 3 In Solomon's Temple there was the *Sanctum Sanctorum*. 1787 *Minor* 181 Mysteries, which, like the sanctum sanctorum of the Jewish Tabernacle, should never be exhibited to the profane world. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* lviii. (1844) II. 232 The Jews had their sanctum sanctorums.

fig. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. II. iv. 123 [He] that buyes an Office, whose money only (without any other merit) hath inthroned him in the *Sancta Sanctorum* of the world. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 13 There is no danger to profound these mysteries, no *sanctum sanctorum* in Phylosophy. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 5 June, The inner apartment, or 'Sanctum Sanctorum' of this political temple.

b. *transf.*

1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. xliv. 82 The doore of their *Sancta Sanctorum*, or rather *Diabolorum*, being opened, it shewed within like a Lime-kill,..neither was ther any light in al the Church, but that which came in at the doore we entered by. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 146/2 The Door of the Inner Temple, or *Sanctum sanctorum* opened, and discovered the most frightful Idol that ever the wit..of men contrived. 1806 *Edin. Rev.* VIII. 95 Sometimes there is a smaller circle [of stones], which is a sort of *sanctum sanctorum*, in the centre. 1878 J. PAYN *By Proxy* I. iii. 35 Oh, that is the *sanctum sanctorum*, in which the..blessed relic of Buddha is kept.

2. A person's private retreat, where he is free from intrusion.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 7 The great Cabin is the *Sanctum Sanctorum* he inhabits. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 169 We went by appointment to the archbishop confessor's and were immediately admitted into his *sanctum sanctorum*, a snug apartment [etc.]. 1874 ALDRICH *Prud. Palfrey* xvii. 368 And now, if you please, we will inspect the sanctum sanctorum of the late incumbent.

transf. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* (1875) 122 Here was the sanctum sanctorum of female privacy.

‖ **Sanctus** (sæ·ŋktŭs). Also (senses 2 and 3) 6 **saunts, saunce, saunt**(us, 6–7 **sant**, 7 **santus, santo, santez**, 6 (9 *arch.*) **santis.** [L. *sanctus* 'Holy', the first word of the hymn: see SAINT *a.*]

1. The 'angelic hymn' (from Isa. vi. 3) beginning with the words '*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus*' ('Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts') which forms the conclusion of the Eucharistic preface. Also called TERSANCTUS (thrice holy). Also the music to which the words are sung.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 169 Ioly chauntynge þat..lettiþ men fro þe sentence of holy writt, as Magnyficat, sanctus & agnus dei. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 119 Therfore accordynge to the aungels, ye synge quyer to quyer, one Sanctus on the tone syde, and another on the tother syde. 1528 ROY *Rede Me* (Arb.) 36 Fare wele O holy consecration With blyssed sanctus and agnus dei. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 129 Quhair day and nycht we sall not ceas Ay singand Sanctus sweit. 1895 BENHAM in W. Andrews *Curs. Ch. Cust.* 265 We always sang the Canticles, and the metrical Psalms..and a few Sanctuses.

† 2. *transf.* An outcry. Also, something repeated with wearisome iteration. *Obs.*

1594 *2nd Rep. Dr. Faustus* xxii. I 2, The people on both sides exceedingly amazed and affrighted, especiallye the Turkes who sent out such a dolefull Sauntus that it would haue moued the stones to ruth. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 626 For all this they are at their old santez, *What do we?*

† 3. **Black sanctus**, a kind of burlesque hymn; a discord of harsh sounds expressive of contempt or dislike (formerly used as a kind of serenade to a faithless wife); 'rough music'. Also, *To sing the black sanctus*: to lament. *Obs.*

1578 LUPTON *All for Money* B iij, I will make him sing the blacke sanctus, I holde him a grote. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 37 But euery man singes his own song, as in a black sanctus. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Cor.* xiv. 23 *note*, Singing Psalmes.., one in this language, and another in that, all at once like a blacke saunts, and one often not vnderstood of another. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* IV. ii. 33 It [the sonnet] is sette to the tune of the blacke Saunce, *ratio est*, because *Dipsas* is a black Saint. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 128 A great number had rather heare a iarring blacke-sant, then one of their balde Sermons. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. vii. 85 The language that they speake Is the pure barbarous blacksaunt of the Geate. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* V. xxxvii. 204 An hideous and dissonant kind of singing (like a blacke Santus). *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* IV. i, Lets sing him a blacke Santis. 1632 HEYWOOD *2nd Part Iron Age* II. i. D 2 b, Many a blacke-saint..Haue I sung at his window. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. x. 41 Sometimes their Stigian cries Send their Black-Santos to the blushing Skies. 1861 *All Year Round* V. 14 The surly sinners sing A horrible black santis, so to cheer The work in hand.

Sanctus bell. Forms: α. 5– **sanctus bell.** β. 5–6 **sanctes, sauntes,** (**-ys**), 6 **santes, saunctes, 7 sants-.** γ. 5 **sawnse**, 6–7 **sans, savns, sawnce**, 6–7 (9 *arch.*) **saunce-, sance-.** δ. 6–7 **saints, 7 saynts-**, 7–8 **saint's.** ε. 7 **saint-, St. bell.** ζ. 6 **sauncte, 9 sancte bell.** [f. SANCTUS + BELL *sb.*[1]] A bell, commonly placed in a 'cote' or turret at the junction of the nave and the chancel (but often a handbell), rung at the Sanctus at Mass; in post-Reformation times often used to summon the people to church, being rung immediately before the service, when the pealing had ceased. (In 16–17th c. freq. used jocularly or allusively.)

α. 1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 101 Item, for nayle to amende the whele of the Sanctus bell. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Sance Bell* (*campana sancta*), the sanctus Bell. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 472/2 Sanctus bells have also been placed over the gables of porches.

attrib. 1867 WALKER *Ritual Reason Why* 113 Sanctus-bell-cotes remain in many of our churches. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 472/2 Sanctus Bell-Cot or Turret.

β. 1492–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 185 Item, to the smyth for mendyng of the sauntys bell, xxij d. *Ibid.* 186 For mendyng of the sanctes bell. 1553 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 56 For hangynge of the sauntes bell, and for the corde, ij d. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. v. i. (1903) 457 They ring a knell with one great Bell..or with the Santsbell where they haue none greater.

γ. 1499–1500 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 238 Item, ffor a Rope ffor the lytyll Sawnse bell. 1501–2 *Ibid.* 244 The Sans bell. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 270 Item, ij belles, one a sauncebelle. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii. 47, I am neither so profanely vncharitable as to send him to the Sancebell, to trusse vp his life with a trice. 1623–33 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt.-Walker* III. iii, Alas, this is but the Saunce bell, here's a Gentlewoman Will ring you another peale. 1655 J. PHILLIPS *Satyr agst. Hypocrites* 5 Like a crackt Sans-bell jarring in the Steeple. 1885 W. RYE *Hist. Norfolk* 233 A saunce bell or 'ting-tang' *in situ*.

attrib. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 111 Two sance-bell ropes still hang down in the middle of the Chancel.

δ. 1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. i. 119 Whose shril saints-bell hangs on his louerie While the rest are damned to the plumberie. 1678 *Poor Robin's True Char. of Scold* 4 Her Tongue is the Clapper of the Devil's Saints-bell, that rings all-in to Confusion. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 213 It hath 3 Bells and a Saints Bell. 1839 *Hints Study Eccl. Antiq.* (Cambr. Camden Soc. 1842) 24 A Saint's bell, long disused, still hangs in the tower of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge.

ε. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 461/2 A Saint Bell, or Hand Bell. *Ibid.* 466/1 St. Bell, a little Bell rung in the Mass [etc.].

ζ. *a* 1553 in *Surrey Archæol. Coll.* IV. 18 Item a sauncte bell. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 434/1 The inscription 'Signis cessandis', &c. ..is..on the 'sancte' bell of the adjoining

parish of Clapton. 1855 Rock *Ibid.* XI. 151/1 The first ringing was on the *signa*, or large bells; the last quarter of the hour's ringing was on the smaller bell, the sancte bell.
attrib. 1839 *Hints Study Eccl. Antiq.* (Cambr. Camden Soc. 1842) 25 Sancte-bell cot. A small but frequently elegant erection at the east end of the nave. 1845 *Ecclesiologist* IV. 282 A beautiful sancte-bell cot remains. [1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sancte cot*, a turret upon a Church roof for the 'Sacring bell'.]

Sanctwar, Sc. form of Saintuaire *Obs.*

† **Sand**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1–2 sand, sond, 3–6 sand(e, sond(e, 3 saand, sund, 5 saande, sonnd, sound(e, soonde, sownde. 4–5 *Sc.* saynd(e. [OE. *sand*, *sond* str. fem., f. OTeut. **sand-* in **sandjan* to Send.]

1. The action of sending; that which is sent, a message, present; (God's) dispensation or ordinance.
c 1000 Ælfric *Hom., Judith* (Assmann) ix. 114, & him dæghwamlice com þurh heora drihtnes sande mete of heofenum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5099 Noght wit your rede, bot godds saand, Was i þus sent in-to þis land. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2351 Bot vp he stirt bidene And heried godes sand Almizt. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 114 At Rokesburghe his parlement he helde, þe folk did somon þorgh..& gaf þam sonde at wille in Inglond forto fare, Man & beste to spille. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* III. 349 þe soule þat þe sonde [of the text] taketh bi so moche is bounde. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 292 Whether prelatis now ben more confermed in grace þanne was seynt petir þanne aftir sonde of þe holy goost? *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 728 She taketh in good entente The wille of Crist, and, kneling on the stronde, She seyde, 'lord! ay wel-com be thy sonde!' 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 415 Men hadde craft by Goddes sonde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10506 A sonnd will I send by a sad frynd. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1079 (Cambr. MS.) Thay thanked God of his sant [*rime* ferrant; *Linc. MS. corruptly* here shaunce, *with rime* ferrauns]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 244 It is goddis will, it sall be myne, Agaynste his saande sall I neuer schone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 464/2 Sond, or sendynge, *missio*. Sond, or syfte sent, *eccennium*. *c* 1450 *Ratis Raving, Craft Deyng* 4 To thank hyme [God] of al his sayndes and gyftes. *c* 1500 Kennedy *Passion of Christ* 914 This crabbit theif,..Betakinnis men, quhilk euer mair is murnand, The sayndis of God ay reput myschance. *c* 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2360 To thanke God of his sonde. ? *c* 1525 *Tale of Basyn* in Hazlitt *E. P. P.* III. 44 A riche man wer he..And knowen for a gode clerke thoro goddis sande.

b. The action of sending for; invitation.
1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. ccx. 225 This Robert was a monke of an howse in Normandy, & came ouer by the sonde of the kynge.

2. A person or body of persons sent on an errand; an embassy; an envoy, messenger.
1038 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1846) IV. 57 þa com cristes cyrce sand to þam biscop. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1095, Eac on þis ylcan geare togeanes Eastron com þæes Papan sande hider to lande þæt wæs Waltear biscoep. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1135, Here sandes feorden betwyx heom. *c* 1205 Lay. 3125 He sende his sande into þisse lande to Leir þan kinge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 190 Euerich worlich wo is Godes sonde. Heie monnes messager me schal heiliche underuongen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14158 þe sandes soght ouer all Inde, Faand þai him noght in þat contre. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliv. 29 But firste he saide he schulde doune sende His sande. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 189 The saynde of God, the quhilk was to be send fra the fader of hevyn, war cummyn. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 47 [Arthur said:] 'I rede we send furth ane saynd to yone ciete'. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XXI. i. 840 Than Syr Mordred sought on quene Gueneuer by letters & sondes..for to haue hir to come oute of the toure of london.

b. *A, on sand*: on an embassy or message.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 710 Bot adam son was sent a saand. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 2283 Syr Camppanus forthe ys gon on sond, To the kyng of Sesanay-lond.

3. A serving of food; a course, mess.
a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 188 *Commeatos*, *commeatus* sandæ [*a* 800 *Erfurt Gloss.* sondæ]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 And þer hi hadden brad and win and vii. sandon. *c* 1205 Lay. 24601 þas beorn þa sunde from kuchene to þan kinge. *c* 1250 *Death* 106 in *O. E. Misc.* 174 Hwer beoð þine dihsches midd þine swete sonde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2795 Of euerile sonde, of euerile win, most and best he gaf beniamin. 13.. *Sir Beues* 1927 And of eueriche sonde, þat him com to honde, A dede hire ete al þer ferst. *c* 1440 *Floriz & Bl.* 1072 (Trentham MS.) þere was fest swythe breeme; I can not telle al þe sonde, But rycher fest was neuer in londe.

4. *Comb.*, **sand-man**, messenger, ambassador. (Cf. Sandesman, Sendman.)
c 1205 Lay. 12747 And heo us habbeoð worð isend bi vre sond-monnen.

Sand (send), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 sand, sond, 3–5 sond, 3–6 sonde, 4–7 sande, (4 sonnd, 5 scand), 3– sand. [Com. Teut. (but not recorded in Goth.): OE. *sand*, *sond* neut. = OFris. *sond-*, OS., MLG. *sand*, MDu. *sant*, *sand-* (Du. *zand* neut.), OHG. *sant* (MHG. *sant*, *sand-*, mod.G. *sand* masc., dial. also neut.), ON. *sand-r* masc. (Sw., Da. *sand*) :—OTeut. **sando-*, prob. :—earlier **samdo-*, **samado-* (? whence OHG. **samat*, MHG. *sampt*) corresp. to Gr. ἄμαθος.]

1. A material consisting of comminuted fragments and water-worn particles of rocks (mainly silicious) finer than those of which gravel is composed; often *spec.* as the material of a beach, desert, or the bed of a river or sea.
c 825 [see 2]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* ii. 12 þa ofsloh he þone Egiptiscan and behidde hyne on þam sande. *c* 1200 Ormin 14802, & Drihhtin hær toclæf þe sæ..& sett itt upp onn e33berr hallf All allse twe33enn walless, & tær bitwenenn wass þe sand All harrd to ganngenn onne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12527 A nedder stert vte of þe sand, And stanged Iam in þe hand. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* I. 486 Al the feld nas but of sond As smal as man may see yet lye In the desert of Libye. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* cci. 182 A drope of drye blode and smale sond cleued on his hond. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 Rose vp and wente forthe and fylled a greate sacke with sande. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 170 And I as rich..As twenty Seas, if all their sand were pearle. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 207 That finer Matter,..vulgarly called Sand, being really no other than very small Pebles. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 102 Who taught the nations..to ..Build on the wave or arch beneath the sand? 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 254 Siliceous sand, flint, clay and loam, constitute the principal part of the soil. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* iv, Ten times the Mother of the Months had..bidden..the billows to indent The sea-deserted sand. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. III. 305 A shore of hard white sand Met the green herbage. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 132 As a rule both the gravel and the sand consist chiefly of the substance called silica. 1897 Gladstone *Eastern Crisis* 1 Every grain of sand is a part of the sea-shore.

† **b.** *poet.* and *rhet.* used for: The shore (of a sea); also 'land' as opposed to 'sea', esp. in (*by*) *sea and sand*. *Obs.*
c 1205 Lay. 123, I þere Tyure he eode alond þer þa sea wasceð þat sond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10910 þat all wroght.. Sun and mone, and se and sand. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14476 So longe he ferde & þe se sailand, & kynges slow by se & sand. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 341 þenne he [*sc.* Jonah] swepe to be sonde in sluchched clopes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4299 And we sitt all-way so sure be sand & be wattir, þat na supowell vndire sonne seke we vs neuire. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 128 Er they myght be ware he [*sc.* Eolus] drofe hym on the sande. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 141 Mahowne the menske, my lord kyng, And save by see and sand. *Ibid.* xiv. 399 Borne is newly, in this land, A kyng that shall weld se and sand. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 589 He tuke the se,.. In Ingland syne arryuit at ane sand, With all his power thair passit to the land.

c. With *a* and *pl.* A sand-bank, shoal.
1495 *Acts Crt. Requests* (1592) 11 De..spoliatione dictae nauis..existentis in periculo infra le Goodwine sandes in mari. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 76 But you leaue all anker holde, on seas or lands. And so set vp shop vpon Goodwins sands. 1555 Latimer in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. 99 They that have buylded upon a Sande wilbe affraied, thoughe they se but a Clowde aryse. 1588 N. Gorges in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) I. 357 On the 30th of July, passing through the sands, we were becalmed. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 100 *Williams*...What thinkes he of our estate? *King*. Euen as men wrackt vpon a Sand, that looke to be washt off the next Tyde. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 504 A ship (called Saint Peter) fell vpon sands..and split. 1738 Weddell *Voy. up Thames* 42 On a sudden our Ship struck on a Sand. 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 95 She struck on a sand about three or four miles from Yarmouth. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 181 The position of the principal sands in the estuary of the Thames.

d. A sandy soil. Chiefly *pl.*
1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 547 The West part is taken up with the Forrest of Shirewood..This part because it is sandy, the Inhabitants tearme The Sand, the other..the Clay. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1676) 19 As of Sands, so are there as different sorts of Clays. 1794 A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 22 On bad sands trefoile and ray grass are chosen. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 241 Sands.—Some of the best description of these soils nearly approach to hazel moulds. *Ibid.*, Light Sands.

e. A grain of sand. (See also 2 a and 5.)
1596 *Edw. III*, IV. iv. 42–3 As many sands as these my hands can hold Are but my handful of so many sands. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* V. v. 120 One Sand another Not more resembles that sweet Rosie Lad [etc.]. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1676) 34 Clay consisted of most exceeding smooth and round Sands of several opacous colours.

f. *Geol.* and *Mining.* A stratum of sand or soft sandstone. *Oil sand*: see Oil *sb.*[1] 6 e.
1851 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* s.v., 'The sand' is a stratum of soft sandstone, frequently met with in sinking through the lower new red sandstone. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 464 Fawn-coloured Sands and Marls.

g. *Golf.* Sand-holes or bunkers on a course. *To be in sand*, to be 'bunkered'.
1842 G. F. Carnegie in *Golfiana Misc.* (1887) 82 'Give me the iron!' either party cries, As in the quarry, track, or sand he lies. 1897 *Encycl Sport* I. 466/1 Balls in Sand—When a ball lies in a sand bunker [etc.].

2. In various metaphorical and similative uses.
a. with reference to the innumerability of the grains composing sand.
c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 27, & rinde ofer hie swe swe dust flæsc & swe swe sond sæs ða flegendan geðorede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2571 þe barns þat o þe sal bred Naniar sal þou þam cun rede, þan sterns on light and sand in see. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 33 A heart As full of sorrowes, as the Sea of sands. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 903 They..Swarm populous, unnumber'd as the Sands Of Barca or Cyrene's torrid soil. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* XI. xxiii, Great People! as the sands shalt thou become.

b. with reference to its instability as a foundation or a constructive material. *Rope of sand*: see Rope *sb.*
c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 26 Selic..were..se ðe getimberde hus his on sonde. 1542–5 Brinklow *Lament.* (1874) 92 It is a token that your foundacion was buylded vpon the sande. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 84 Cowards, whose hearts are all as false As stayers of sand. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 427 They cannot bear to hear the sands of his Mississippi compared with the rock of the church. 1817 Shelley *To Ld. Chancellor* xi, Their error —That sand on which thy crumbling power is built. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* IX. ii, Schemes of sand.

c. In phrases implying the exercise or employment of fruitless labour. *To plough the sands*: see Plough *v.* 10 b.
1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 194, I am in beliefe (I may peraduenture sowe my seede in the sande) that you will doe nothing vnto me. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 218 b, Surely I shall seeme to measure the sandes, when I enter uppon the gulfe of thys Romish Ierarchy. 1842 Tennyson *Audley Court* 49, I might as well have traced it in the sands.

3. *pl.* Tracts of sand: **a.** along a shore, estuary, etc. or composing the bed of a river or sea.
1450 W. Lomner in *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 125 [He] leyde his body on the sonds of Dover. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 94 b, The Cardinall received hym on the Sandes. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 376 Come vnto these yellow sands. 1704 Pope *Spring* 61 O'er golden sands let rich Pactolus flow. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 224 The great Rhine..a part of which is no doubt lost in the sands, a little above Leyden. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* XII. xvii, A melody, like waves on wrinkled sands that leap. *a* 1858 Kingsley *Poems* (title) The Sands of Dee. 1859 Tennyson *Guinevere* 291 They found a naked child upon the sands Of dark Tintagil by the Cornish sea.

b. Sandy or desert wastes.
a 1547 Surrey *Æneid* IV. 832 May he..fall before his time vngraued amid the sandes. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 110 The long desarts and sandes, whereby they must passe. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiii. 112 Why is all the coast of Peru, being ful of sands, very temperate? 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 355 Her barbarous Sons..spread Beneath Gibraltar to the Lybian sands. 1738 Gray *Tasso* 32 Oceans unknown, inhospitable sands! 1781 Cowper *Friendship* 184 So barren sands imbibe the show'r, But render neither fruit nor flow'r. 1822 Shelley *Calderon* II. 143 A pirate ambushed in its pathless sands. 1843 Borrow *Bible in Spain* vii, We were in the midst of sands, brushwood, and huge pieces of rock.
fig. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. iii, A sterile track..O'er which all heavily the journeying years Plod the last sands of life, where not a flower appears.

† **c.** Phrase. (Sc.) *To leave* or *put* (a person) *to the long sands*: app., to leave in the lurch, to place in a difficulty. *Obs.*
1671 Fountainhall in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Decis.* (1826) II. 539 It would appear Udney transacts for the haill [*sc.* bond for the payment of himself and Pitreichy], pays himself, and leaves Pitreichy to the lang sands. 1678 J. Brown *Life Faith* I ii. (1824) 33 How quickly were they put again to the long sands (as we say).

4. As used for various economic purposes; also, as an adulterant. *Fire of sand* = *sand fire*: see 10.
1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Without eny more oyle brene moistur dust sonde or other thyng deceyvably puttyng to..the same Webbe. 1530 Palsgr. 265/1 Sande to skoure vessell with, *sablon*. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes* II. vi. 345 The saline Corpuscles are distill'd over in a moderate Fire of Sand. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* XXIII, The walls had been cleaned..and everything..was..shining with soft soap and sand. 1850 Holtzapffel *Turning*, etc. III. 1090 Sand, which is nearly pure silex, is used in sawing and smoothing building stones and marbles. 1857 Hassall *Adulterations Detected* 188 There is..but little foundation for the tales we hear about the presence of sand in sugar.

b. as an ingredient of mortar.
1427–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 69 Also payd for a lode sonde..*vd.* 1455–6 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 290 The sayd Jhon shall repeyre sayd towyr and slype..with lym and scand. 1703 T. S. *Art's Improv.* 6 This Mortar is made of Lime..and Brook-Sand. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* liv. (1865) VI. 459 His system, as Caius said of his style, was sand without lime.

c. as used to dry wet ink-marks.
1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, White Sands...1. A fine shining kind, commonly used for strewing over writing. 1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) 175 In writing:—neither sand, blotting paper, nor a fire, to dry your paper. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 52. 33 He was continually shaking sand from a pepper-box over scrawling entries in marble-covered copy-books.

d. as used in making founders' moulds; *spec.* a mixture of common sand with a binding material.
Dry, *green sand*: see Green *a.* 9 d. *Facing*, *Parting sand*: see Facing, Parting *vbl. sbs.*
1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 518 The experienced moulder knows how to mix the different sands placed at his disposal.

5. The sand of a sand-glass or hour-glass; also, with *a* and *pl.*, a grain of this. Chiefly *fig.*
1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 138, I saw, my tyme how it did runne, as sand out of the glasse. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 25 The Sands are numbred, that makes vp my Life. 1608 — *Per.* V. ii. 1 Now our sands are almost run. *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* Solil. ix. 14 Deaths impartiall hand Wounds all alike, and death will give no sand. 1732 Pope *Ep. Cobham* 225 Time, that on all things lays his lenient hand, Yet tames not this; it sticks to our last sand. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* V. x, The remaining sands of my life are few. 1899 J. Chamberlain *Sp.* in *Times* 28 Aug. 6/4 Will he [*sc.* President Kruger] speak the necessary words. The sands are running down in the glass.

† **6.** = Arena. *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.*
1587 Thynne *Contin. Ann. Scot.* Pref., in *Holinshed*, Thus hauing laid before thee, that he writeth best that trulie writeth publike affaires, that I was commanded by my deere freends to enter into this sand [etc.]. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 25 Andreas Laurentius hath taken worthy paines, and sweate much in this sande. 1618 Bolton *Florus* III. xxi. (1636) 241 That citizens should encounter citizens, as if they were fencers..in the heart and forum of the city, as in a fighting ground or theatral sand.

7. *slang.* † **a.** (See quot.) *Obs.*
1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Sand*, moist sugar. 1823 P. Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulg. Tongue*.

b. Chiefly *U. S. slang.* Firmness of purpose; pluck, stamina. Cf. Grit *sb.*[1] 5.
1883 E. Ingersoll in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 202 Good, solid man he was, too, with heaps of sand in him. [1884 'Mark Twain' *Huck. Finn* viii. 62 When I got to camp I warn't feeling very brash, there warn't much sand in my craw.]

8. *Anat.* and *Path.* Applied to various substances resembling sand, present either normally or as morbid products in certain animal organs or secretions. *Brain sand*: see quot. 1856; also called *pineal sand* (Syd. Soc. Lex.). *Urinary sand*: a substance of finer particles than those of gravel (GRAVEL *sb.* 4).

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyf. News* I. 19 The chief vertue that it hath, is in the paine of the stone in the Kidneis and Raines, and in expellyng of Sande and stone. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 60 A Seaman much troubled with Sand and gross Humors, eating of it..found so much benefit [etc.]. 1822–9 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 522 Urinary sand..is of two kinds, white and red. 1856 GRIFFITH & HENFREY *Microgr. Dict.* 559/2 Brain-sand, or the acervulus cerebri, is found in the pineal gland and the choroid plexus, sometimes also in the pia mater [etc.]. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 290 Concretions of considerable size are occasionally to be seen with the naked eye in the urine (urinary sand).

9. General Combinations. **a.** simple attrib., as *sand-bay*, *-beach*, *down*, *-dune*, *-flat*, *-grain*, *heap*, *-land*, *-rip* (RIP *sb.*[5]), *-shore*, *-waste*, *-wave*; 'made of sand', as *sand core*, *walk*; employed in the storing, carrying, working, etc. of sand, as *sand bin*, *creel* (CREEL *sb.* 1), *-scoop*, *-wheel*.

1645–52 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 22 A *sand-bay where it is good anchoring. 1878 LANIER *Poems*, *Marshes of Glynn* 54 Softly the *sand-beach wavers away. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Sand Bin*, a trough..in ..foundries, used as a convenient receptacle for sand..for ..the moulder. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 474 The *sand cores for filling up that part of the shell which is to be hollow. 1402–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 217, 2 panyhers, et 1 par de *sande crelys. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 14 The Souldiers were forced to recouer the..*sande downes. 1856 C. J. ANDERSON *Lake Ngami* 157 Soil as yielding as that of an English sand-down. 1830–3 *Sand-dune [see DUNE]. 1899 C. REID *Orig. Brit. Flora* 13 Many of the sand-dune..species are more properly desert plants. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 516/2 Locality...The *sand-flats of the Cape of Good Hope. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. 349 Two thousand men were in arms upon the sandflats towards Deal. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 27/1 Dusty with little *sand-grains. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 19 b, A little before plowing time, they scatter abroad those..small *Sand heapes vpon the ground. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v., The grey, black, and ash-coloured *sand-land are the worst of all. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 195 They lie in wait for them on the *sand-rips and catch them as they swim over. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sand-scoop*, a shovel for obtaining sand from the bottom of the river. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 301 The waste *sand-shores 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Walk*, *Sand walks are also frequently made in gardens. 1817 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* 26 The unprofitable *sand-waste. 1819 KEATS *Ode Melancholy*, Then glut thy sorrow on..the rainbow of the salt *sand-wave. 1883 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* LXXIV. 338 *Sand-wheel Motor...A large overshot wheel operated by sand instead of water. 1892 P. BENJAMIN *Mod. Mechanism* 589 Sand Wheels [in ore-dressing machinery] are..elevators..for raising the..tailings.

b. objective and obj. genitive, as *sand crusher*, *-elevator*, *mixer*, *-rammer*, *sifter*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Sand Crusher and Washer. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 750 The sand..is again lifted by the *sand-elevator. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Sand Mixer*, a machine used in mixing sand for foundry use. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 802/2 The *sand-rammers employed in making foundry moulds. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Sand Sifter*, a machine made for sifting foundry sand.

c. instrumental, as *sand-blown*, *-built*, *-buried*, *-hemmed*, *-invested*, *-strewn* adjs.

1907 C. C. BROWN *China* 139 Low dunes and *sand-blown farmsteads. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode Mem.* 97 A *sand-built ridge. 1888 *Daily News* 3 July 6/1 The *sand-buried cities of Western Mongolia. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Consolation* 27 In a lone, *sand hemm'd City of Africa. 1870 LONGF. *Div. Trag.* 1st Pass. II. iii, The vast desert, silent, *sand-invested. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 35 *Sand-strewn caverns, cool and deep.

d. parasynthetic, as *sand-beached*, *-bottomed* adjs.

1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 12 Sand-bottomed, clear but not shallow streams. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 166 Some granite-tipped, sand-beached islet.

e. adverbial, chiefly similative, as *sand-coloured*, *-like* adjs.; locative, as *sand-wading*.

1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. 822 'Sand-colour'd Ammodytes. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/5 Sand-coloured cloth. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sieges Jerus.* Wks. I. 10/1 [Adam] from whose Star-like, *Sand-like Generation, Sprung euery Kindred, Kingdome, Tribe, and Nation. 1884 *Cornh. Mag.* May 459 We had an hour's *sand wading after leaving O-Bak.

10. Special combinations: **sand-ball**, a kind of toilet soap (see quot. 1884); **sand-bar**, a bank of sand formed at the mouth of a river or harbour by the action of the water; **sand-bat**, **-battery** (see quots.); †**sand-bearded** *a.*, having a sandy-coloured beard; **sand belt**, an arid ridge of sand frequently extending many miles; **sand-belt machine**, a variety of sand-papering machine; **sand-binder**, a plant which tends to hold loose or shifting sand; **sand-blight** = *sandy-blight* (see SANDY *a.* 5 b); **sand-blower** (see quot.); **sand board**, (*a*) a board or tray sprinkled with sand in which letters may be traced and obliterated in teaching the alphabet; (*b*) see quots. 1875–95; **sand bowls**, bowls for playing upon sand; **sand brake**, an appliance for stopping a train by the automatic packing of the axles with sand; **sandbreak**, a patch of sandy ground in a landscape; **sand-brush**, the brush or underwood of a sandy district; **sand-bunker**, a small well-fenced sand-pit (Jam.); **sand-burned, burnt** *adjs.*, of a casting, injured by the partial fusion of the sand in the mould; **sand-burr** = *sand-bat* (see also 10 c); **sand cake** [tr. G. *sandkuchen*, *sandtorte*], a kind of cake which crumbles in the mouth; **sand-canal** *Zool.* (see quot.); **sand-cloud**, a cloud-like mass of sand accompanying a simoom; **sand-club** = SAND-BAG *sb.* 2 c (*Cent. Dict.*); **sand-coal, cone** (see quots.); **sand-crack**, (*a*) a disease incident to the hoofs of a horse; (*b*) a crack in the human foot caused by walking on hot sandy soil; (*c*) a crack in a moulded brick, prior to burning, due to imperfect mixing (*Cent. Dict.*); **sand-crater** (see quot.); **sand-dance**, a step-dance performed on a sanded surface; hence **sand-dancing, sand-dance** *vb.*; **sand-dashing** (see quot.); **sand-drift**, drifting sand or an accumulation of this; †**sand dust** *nonce-wd.* = DUST *sb.*[1] 3 b; †**sand-fire** = SAND-BATH 1; **sand-flag**, ? = flag-sandstone (FLAG *sb.*[2] 5); **sand-flask**, a frame for a sand-mould; **sand-flaw**, a flaw in the surface of a brick due to the uneven coating of sand given to the clay in moulding; **sand flood**, an inundation of moving or drifting sand; **sand-furnace** = SAND-BATH 1; **sand-gall**, †**-gavel** (see quots.); †**sand-gelt**, in Flanders, ? an impost levied on shipping to pay the cost of clearing the harbour from sand; **sand gold**, gold dust; **sand groper** *Austral.*, a jocular appellation for a native West Australian; **sand-hole**, (*a*) a small hole or flaw in a casting, also in glass or stone; (*b*) a water-hole in sand; **sand-iron**, (*a*) see quot. 1789; (*b*) *Golf*, an 'iron' adapted for lifting the ball out of sand; **sand-jet**, (*a*) = SAND-BLAST 1; (*b*) a jet of sand from the sand-box of a locomotive; **sand-joint, -letter** (see quots.); **sand-lug** *U.S.*, a low grade of tobacco, manufactured from leaves that grow near the ground (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); †**sand-mail**, ? = *sand-gavel*; **sand-man**, one who digs sand; also, in nursery language, a personification of sleep or sleepiness (cf. G. *sandmann*, *-männchen*, and DUSTMAN 2); **sand mortar** (see quot.); **sand-mould**, a mould for a casting, composed of sand; hence **sand-moulder**; **sand-moulding**, a process of moulding bricks in which the moulds are sprinkled with sand; **sand-picture**, a picture formed by laying coloured sands on an adhesive ground (Ogilvie 1882); **sand-pillar** = *sand-spout*; **sand-pipe**, (*a*) *Geol.* (see quot. 1839); (*b*) a pipe conducting sand to the rails from the sand-box of a locomotive; **sand plain**, a sandy plain; spec. in *Geol.*, a flat-topped hill of peculiar structure formed as a delta at the margin of a Pleistocene ice sheet; **sand plant** = *sand-binder*; **sand-plate**, (*a*) = *sanding-plate* (Funk's Stand. Dict.); (*b*) a contrivance for facilitating the transporting of a life-boat over sand; †**sand-plot**, (*a*) = ARENA; (*b*) a patch of sand; **sand plug** (see quot.); †**sand-poke**, a sand-bag; **sand-pot**, †(*a*) an iron pot used with the sand-furnace; (*b*) *dial.* a quicksand; **sand-pump**, a pump for raising wet sand, detritus, etc., from a drill-hole, oil-well, caisson, etc.; also *attrib.*; **sand-red** *a.*, of a sandy red colour; **sand-reel** (see quot.); **sand-rock**, a sandstone rock; **sand-scratch** (see quot.); **sand-shoes**, shoes adapted for wearing on the sands or at the sea-side, *spec.* canvas shoes with gutta-percha or hemp soles; **sand-shot** (see quot.); **sand-soap** = *sand-ball*; **sand-spout**, a pillar of sand raised by a whirlwind in a desert; **sand-stock (brick)**, see quot.; **sand-storm**, a desert storm of wind accompanied with clouds of sand; **sand-strake** = GARBOARD (see quot.); **sand-tube**, (*a*) *Geol.* (see quot. 1841); (*b*) *Zool.* = *sand-canal*; also, a protective tube of agglutinated sand formed by some annelids; (*c*) *Mech.*, a conductor for sand; **sand valve, vent** (see quots.); †**sand-walker** *dial.*, ? one employed in shrimping or other similar work on the sands; **sand warped**, swept by the tide on to a sand-bank; also, 'silted up, or choked with sand' (*Whitby Gloss.*, 1876); **sandweld** *v. trans.*, to weld (iron) with sand, which forms a fluid slag on the welding-surface (*Cent. Dict.*); **sand-whirl**, a whirlwind whose vortex is filled with dust and sand (*ibid.*).

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sand-balls. 1884 A. WATT *Soap-making* xix. 164 Sand-Balls are made by incorporating with melted and perfumed soap certain proportions of fine river sand. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 77 A great many *sand-bars [in the Missouri River]. 1876 H. B. WOODWARD *Geol. Eng. & Wales* vii. 169 Beds of concretionary sandstone or sandy lime-stone called '*sand bats' or 'sand burrs'. 1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xv. § 1 This [galvanic] battery is made more portable by filling the cells with sand...In this form it is called the common *sand battery. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* I. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, A short fellowe..*sand-bearded and squint eyde. 1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* ii. (1865) 19 Superior Bay and its tributary rivers with their spits and *sand-belts. 1881 F. OATES *Matabele-Land* (1889) 238, I went on with the waggons.., finally stopping on a sandbelt near a pan of water. 1892 P. BENJAMIN *Mod. Mechanism* 763 The *sand-belt machine. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 390 Creeping and twining plant, found on the sea-shore; it is a good *sand-binder. 1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 16 In New South Wales these storms sometimes cause the eye-blight, or *sand-blight, as the malady is indifferently called. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sand-blower*, a device for powdering with sand a freshly painted surface, in order to make it resemble stone. 1817 A. BELL *Instr. Conduct. Schools* (ed. 6) 8 The scholars copy..the capital printed letters on sand at the *sand board. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Sand-board*, a bar over the hind axle [of a vehicle] and parallel therewith. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Sand-board*, in car-building, a spring-plank. *a* 1683 SHAFTESB. in *Gentl. Mag.* (1754) XXIV. 160/1 A bowling green..long but narrow, full of high ridges...; they used round *sand bowls. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sand Brake*. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiii, This even tint was indeed broken up by streaks of yellow *sandbreak in the lower lands. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* i, A little swamp of foul brown water, backed up by the *sand-brush. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, A' the gangrel bodies that ye..find cowering in a *sand-bunker upon the links. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sand-burned*. 1876 *Sand burr [see *sand-bat*]. 1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) I. 253 *Sand Cakes. Sand Cake with Marmalade (German). 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* I. Closs., **Sand-canal*, the tube by which water is conveyed from the exterior to the ambulacral system of the *Echinodermata*. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxxi. (1854) 517 The desert *sand-cloud or simoom. 1848 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* I. 33 Other kinds of coal..leave a coke of the same form without caking. When pulverized, they leave a powdery coke. This variety is called *sand-coal. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., **Sand cone*, a low pinnacle of ice on a glacier, protected from melting by a layer of sand. 1754 J. BARTLET *Gentleman's Farriery* (ed. 2) 312 What is called a *sand-crack is a little cleft on the outside of the hoof. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 102 His feet were so sore with sand-cracks he could not walk. 1883 *Science* I. 67/2 '*Sand-craters'..are shown to result from the wet quicksand being forced up through a vent..in the overlying clays. 1879 STEVENSON *Ess. Trav., Amateur Emigrants* (1905) 23 That's a bonny hornpipe now,..they dance the *sand dance to it. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 24 Feb. 6/3 Only an expert in *sand-dancing could have found a hair's-breadth of difference in their ability to sand-dance. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1435. 683 The external walls to be of stone..., walled rough for stucco or *sand-dashing (rough-casting). 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xiv. 445 Running streams of water arrest the progress of the *sand-drift. 1604 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i, What but faire *sand-dust are earths purest formes. 1677 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* 57 Place the Matrass in a small *Sand-fire digesting for a day. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 150 [The water] must be renewed as often as it is evaporated by the sand-fire. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 9 Aug. in Lockhart *Life*, These lofty cliffs are all of '*Sand-flag, a very loose and perishable kind of rock. 1822 — *Pirate* vii. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 10/2 A *sand-flask is then placed upon the board over the model. 1884 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks & Tiles* 124 (Cent.) The brick shall contain no cracks or *sand-flaws. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* II. 722 A *Sand-floud, which hath lately overwhelmed a great tract of Land in..Suffolk. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 301 The commencement of the sand-flood might have been long posterior to the formation of the greater portion of that continent. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* II. vii. 370 We very gently in a *Sand Furnace distill off the Menstruum. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Galls*, *sand-galls, spots of sand through which the water oozes. Norf. and Suf. ? 1811 *Agric. Surv. Dumbart.* 330 (Jam. s.v. *Gaw*) A few narrow sand gaws. 1876 H. B. WOODWARD *Geol. Eng. & Wales* xiii. 409 The Chalk is worn away into pipes and hollows. *Note.* Called 'Earth pots' in Norfolk, and sometimes 'Sand-galls'. 1663 S. TAYLOR *Gavelkind* ix. 113 In the same Lordship [of Rodely, Glos.] is also another called *Sand-gavel, which is..a Payment due to the Lord, for the liberty granted to the Tenents to Digg up Sand. 1527 *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 103 Without paying ..*sandgelt, wharfgelt [etc.]. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) IV. 110 It is found..sometimes in a powdery form, and then called gold-dust, or *sand-gold. 1902 J. H. M. ABBOTT *T. Cornstalk* i, In delicate reference to the nature of their country the West Australians are [called] '*Sand-gropers'. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 96 Certain defects in Castlead..called by the Plumber Blow-holes and *Sand-holes. 1867 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 615 Air bubbles, striae, sand-holes,..of course,..are bad [in an object glass]. 1887 [see *sand vent*]. 1896 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xiii, While they scoop the muddy water from the sand-hole for their tea. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 464 Jared Eliot..invented *sand-iron, or the making of iron from black sand, in 1761. 1882 FORGAN *Golfer's Handbk.* 28 He should ..firmly grasp his weapon (Niblick or Sand-Iron). 1871 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Sept. 155 The blocks [for engraving] are protected with an open design..and the steam *sand jet directed upon them. 1900 *Daily Express* 19 June 5/7 The switching-on of the sandjets [of a train]. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Sand Joint*, the parting or joint between the different portions of the sand of a foundry mould. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 456/1 Large letters..were formerly cast in sand moulds, and hence called *sand-letters. 1287 *Yorksh. Inquisitions* (Yks. Rec. Soc.) II. 61 *Sondemale, 10*d. at Easter and Michaelmas. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 116 The *sand-man's delving spade. 1861 WEHNERT tr. *Andersen's Tales* (1869) 237 Of an evening, as soon as it begins to grow dark,..the Sandman comes. 1775 ASH, *Sandmortar*, mortar in which sand is a principal ingredient. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 325 Plaster of Paris and *sand moulds. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 55 There is hardly a single article..in wrought-iron the like of which the ingenuity of the *sand-moulder cannot produce in cast metal. 1843 *Mem. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* II. II. 147 The process was a kind of intermediate one between slop and *sand-moulding. 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., **Sand-pillar*, a sand-storm in desert tracts,

like those of the Sahara and Mongolia. 1839 LYELL in *Lond. & Edin. Philos. Mag.* XV. 257 On the tubular Cavities filled with Gravel and Sand called '*Sand-pipes', in the Chalk near Norwich. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 15 Dec. 5/5 The sand-pipes which are fixed in front of the wheels of the engine. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 4/2 The *sand-plains of Berlin. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1139 *Sand plants; as *Carex arenaria*, *Ammophila arenaria* [etc.] which tend to fix the loose sand. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 232/2 (art. *Life-boat*) *Sand-plates. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 267 The first field and *Sand-plot of civill Warre was Italy. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 163 The Bottom very foul, being Riffs of Coral Rocks, interspersed with small Sand-plots. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.* s.v. *Plug*, A *sand plug..is..the ball of sand..with which the riser of a mould is covered while the metal is being poured at the ingate. 1415-16 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 612 Item in 2 uln. di. de canvas empt. pro 1 *Sand-poke, 10*d*. 1421-2 *Ibid.* 228 Pro sandepokes. 1758 *Elaboratory* 15 Procure a proper *sand-pot, and large plate for forming the sand-bath. 1877 E. LEIGH *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Sand Pot*, a quicksand. Often met with in draining. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Sand-pump.* 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 530/2 Sand-pump dredgers. *a* 1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1651) 524 She trips to milk the *Sand-red Cow. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 329/2 The *sand-reel..serves to lower or raise the sand-pump. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* IV. 276 They took the way above the excavation of *sand-rock where I sat. 1872 DANA *Corals* ii. 155 These sand-banks..become cemented into a sand-rock. 1871 STORMONTH *Dict.*, **Sand-scratches*, in *geol.*, rocks or rock-surfaces worn smooth, or marked with scratches and furrows, by sand carried by the wind passing over them. 1855 PATMORE *Angel in Ho.* II. xii. 1 While the shop-girl fitted on The *sand-shoes. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Sand Shot.* In Artillery, small cast-iron balls; so called because they have always been cast in sand. 1855 PIESSE *Perfumery* viii. 166 *Sand Soap. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 931 Salicylic acid..followed by friction with pumice-stone or sand-soap, will [etc.]. *a* 1849 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 264 A *sandspout out of that sandy ocean, upcurls. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 176 The sand-spouts, so frequent in these regions. 1843 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* II. II. 145 The mould is dipped into water previous to its receiving the clay, instead of its being sanded as is the case in making *sand-stock bricks. *Ibid.* 146 Sand-stock and slop-moulding. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 155 The *sand storm of Africa exhibits a very different appearance. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 448 *note*, Garboard-strake, or *sand-strake, is the first range of strakes or planks laid..next the keel. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1814 *Trans. Geol. Soc.* II. 532 *Sand Tubes. 1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 276 *note*, What are termed sand-tubes appear to be formed by the passage of lightning through a sandy soil which it fuses in its passage. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* 202 Implements by which the sand-tube [of a Terebella] is thus built up. 1871 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* 195 An annular passage surrounding the sand tube. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 67/2 Large coherent masses of coarse gravel and sand-tubes are formed..by *Sabellaria*. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Sand Valve*, the valve by which the escape of sand from the sand box of a locomotive is regulated. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, *Sandhole* in stone; also called a *sand vent. A deposit of sand in a block of stone. 1637-8 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* (Bundle 149 No. 3). Warne all..ferrymen, marshmen, and *sandwalkers within your townshippe.. to be and appeare before our..vice-admirall. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cambs.* (1662) I. 159 Crossing Humber in a Barrow-boat, the same was *sand-warpt, and he drowned therein. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sand-warpt*, left by the tide on a shoal. Also, striking on a shoal at half-flood.

b. In the names of animals, etc., as **sand asp**, ? = *sand-lizard*; **sand-badger**, (*a*) a Javanese badger, *Meles ankuma*; (*b*) the Indian badger, *Arctonyx collaris* also called **sand bear**; **sand-beetle** (see quot.); **sand bird**, a bird whose habitat is the seashore, esp. the SANDPIPER; **sand-bug**, (*a*) a member of the family *Galgulidæ*; (*b*) *N. Amer.*, a sand-wasp, *Ammophila arenaria* (Ogilvie 1855); (*c*) a burrowing crab, *Hippa talpoida*; **sand-clam**, *N. Amer.*, the common Long Clam, *Mya arenaria*; **sand cock**, the redshank; **sand-collar** = *sand-saucer* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-crab**, (*a*) a crab of the family *Ocypodidæ*; (*b*) the Lady Crab, *Platyonichus ocellatus*; **sand-creeper** [? a. Du. **zandkruiper*], a South African fish; **sand-cricket**, *U.S.*, a cricket belonging to the genus *Stenopelmatus*, esp. *S. fasciatus*; **sand dab**, (*a*) see quot. 1884; (*b*) *dial.* = DAB *sb.*[2]; **sand dart**, a moth, *Agrotis ripæ*; **sand-darter**, an etheostomine fish of the genus *Ammocrypta*, esp. *A. pellucida* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-diver**, a West Indian lizard fish, *Synodus intermedius* (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **sand-dollar** (see quot.); **sand-fish**, (*a*) a fish of the family *Trichodontidæ*, esp. one of the genus *Trichodon* (Cent. Dict.); (*b*) a book-name for *Diplectrum formosum*; **sand flea**, (*a*) = CHIGOE; (*b*) *U.S.*, a crustacean belonging to the genus *Orchestia*; (*c*) a brine-shrimp, *Artemia salina*; **sand fluke** *dial.*, a flat-fish, *Pleuronectes microcephalus*; **sand-gaper** = *sand-clam*; **sand-hopper**, a crustacean, *Talitrus locusta*; also, a sand flea of the genus *Orchestia*; **sand-hornet**, a sand-wasp; esp. one of the family *Crabronidæ* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-jumper** = *sand-hopper*; **sand-launce** = SAND-EEL I; **sand-lizard**, a common European lizard, *Lacerta agilis*; **sand lob** = *sand-worm* (Cent. Dict.); **sandlurker** = PRIDE *sb.*[2]; **sand martin**, a variety of the MARTIN, *Hirundo* or *Cotile riparia*, which nests in the side of a sand-pit; **sand-mason**, a tubeworm (see quot.); **sand-mole** [Du. *zandmoll*], a mole of the S. African species *Bathyergus maritimus*; **sand-monitor**, the land-crocodile, *Monitor* or *Psammosaurus arenarius* (Cassell's Encycl. Dict. 1887); † **sand-mussel** (see quot.); **sandnecker**, a flat-fish, *Platessa limandoides*; **sand-partridge**, a partridge of the genus *Ammoperdix* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-peep**, a familiar name in the U. S. for various small sandpipers; **sand-perch** *U.S.*, the grass-bass *Pomoxys sparoides* (Cent. Dict.); **sand pigeon**, (*a*) see quot.; (*b*) the stock-dove, *Columba œnas* (E.D.D.); **sand-pike** (see PIKE *sb.*); **sand plover**, a local name for plovers of the genera *Ægialitis* and *Squatarola*; **sand-prey**, **-pride** = PRIDE *sb.*[2]; **sand rat**, a N. American rat of the genus *Thomomys*, esp. *T. talpoides*; **sand roller**, the trout perch (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **sand runner**, a sand-plover or sandpiper (Newton); **sand-saucer** (see quot.); **sandscrew**, an amphipod, *Lepidactylis arenaria*; **sand-shark**, (*a*) *U. S.*, a kind of shark (see quot. 1884); (*b*) *Australia*, a variety of ray-fish (see quot. 1882); **sand shell**, a yellow river mussel, or naiad (*Lampsilus anodontoides*) of the Mississippi River; also, applied to *L. rectus* (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **sand shrimp**, a shrimp, esp. *Crangon vulgaris* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-skink**, a skink found in sandy places; esp. *Seps ocellatus* (ibid.); **sand-skipper** = *sand-hopper*; **sand-smelt**, the smelt *Atherina presbyter*; **sand-snake**, (*a*) a snake of the genus *Eryx* = AMMODYTE I; (*b*) = *desert-snake* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-snipe** (see quot.); **sand-sole**, the sole *Solea lascaris*; **sand-star**, a starfish of the genus *Ophiura*, esp. *O. texturata*; **sand-sucker**, (*a*) the flat-fish *Platessa limandoides*; (*b*) *U. S.*, a popular name for soft-bodied animals which hide in the sand, as ascidians, holothurians, or nereids (*Cent. Dict.*); **sand-swallow** (see quot.); **sand-viper**, (*a*) = *sand-snake* (a); (*b*) *local U. S.*, a snake of the genus *Heterodon* (Cent. Dict.); **sand-wasp**, a digger-wasp (see DIGGER 4, quot. 1847); **sand whiting**, (*a*) see quot. 1883; (*b*) the Carolina whiting *Menticirrhus Americanus* (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **sand-worm**, the lug-worm *Arenicola marina* or *piscatorum*. Also SAND-EEL, -FLY, -GROUSE, -LARK, SANDPIPER, etc.

1833 COLERIDGE *Love's Apparition*, A ruined well, Where the shy *sand-asps bask and swell. 1873 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 761 Two *Sand-badgers (*Meles ankuma*..), presented. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 89 The sand-badger..(*Arctonyx collaris*). 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 440/1 The best-known species is *Arctonyx collaris*, the *Sand-Bear. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 188 *Sand-Beetles (*Trogidæ*). 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 213 *Sand birds, *Tringa parva*. 1878 *Masque Poets* 51 Far off some sand-bird pipes its evening song. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 242 *Sand-Bugs (*Galgulidæ*). 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 779 The Sand Bug—*Hippa talpoida*, Say. This is..related to the Hermit Crabs. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvii. 144 Rich in fish and in *sand-clams (*sabella granulata*). 1804 BEWICK *Birds* II. 91 Redshank. Red-legged Horseman, Pool Snipe, or *Sand Cock (*Scolopax calidris* Lin.). *a* 1851 J. G. DALYELL *Powers of Creator* I. 183 *Cancer (portunus) pusillus*.—The *Sand Crab. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 642/1 The swift-footed sand-crabs (Ocypoda) are exclusively terrestrial. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 774 The 'Lady Crab', or 'Sand Crab' [*Platyonichus ocellatus*], is abundant..from Cape Cod to Florida. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) App. 24 [*Pisces Indici*] *Sand Creeper *Belgis*. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 203 There is a fish at the Cape call'd a Sand-Creeper, from its keeping near sandy shores. 1885 *Standard Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 185 Throughout the Rocky Mountain region..are found several species of large, fierce looking insects...They are popularly known as *sand-crickets. 1880-4 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 33 Of Yorkshire it [*Pleuronectes limanda*] is..abundant, and known as the '*sand-dab' at Redcar. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 197 The Sand Dab, or Rough Dab, *Hippoglossoides platessoides*..is taken in winter by the line fishermen of New England. 1880 O. S. WILSON *Larvæ Brit. Lepid.* 243 *Agrotis ripæ*, Hub. The *Sand Dart. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 839 The '*Sand Dollar', or 'Flat Sea Urchin' (*Echinarachnius parma*), of the New England coast. 1896 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. & Mid. Amer.* I. 1207 *Sand-fish. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* xiv. 352 The chigoe..is a kind of small *sand-flea, that gets in between the skin and the flesh. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Sand-Flea*, or *Beach-Flea* (Genus, *Orchestia*, Leach). 1884 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 391/2 You are surrounded by clouds of little sand-fleas (*Artemia salina*). *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Hund. Berkeley* (1885) III. 319 The *sand flooke, resemblinge the sole. 1880-4 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 29 *Pleuronectes microcephalus*... Sand-fleuk, Edinburgh. 1887 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 580 English books and people call it [*Mya arenaria*] the '*sand-gaper', the 'old maid', &c. 1790 HASSELL *Tour Isle of Wight* II. xxv. 131 Another particular species of fish..to which they give the name of *Sandhopper, from its motion, which consists of a hop or bound, like that of a grasshopper; in all other respects it resembles a shrimp, as well in make as in colour. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* II. 158 Such insects as '*sea-lice' and '*sand-hoppers'. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. ix. 337 The male sand-hopper (Orchestia) does not acquire his large chaspers..until nearly full-grown. 1900 CROCKETT *Little Anna Mark* xviii, Pools to dabble your feet in..out among the dulse and the *sand-jumpers. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 127 *Sand Launce. 1864 P. H. GOSSE in *Gd. Words* 358 What is this writhing, wriggling thing, that looks like a narrow tape of burnished silver? It is a Sand-launce. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., **Sand-lizard.* 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 734/1 The Sand-Lizard (*Lacerta agilis*), which is confined to some localities in the south of England. 1859-62 RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* II. 111/1 The various names of Prid, Pride, Sandpride, *Sand-lurker [etc.]. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 90 *Hirundo riparia*..the *Sand, or Bank Marten. 1678, 1774 [see MARTIN[1]]. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Mar. 220/1 Steep banks of sandstone, riddled with the holes of the sand-martin. *a* 1851 J. G. DALYELL *Powers of Creator* (1853) II. 183 *Terebella littoralis, seu arenaria*. The *Sand Mason. 1850 A. WHITE *Pop. Hist. Mammalia* 232 Another member of this family..is also a native of South Africa: this is the Coast Rat or *Sand-Mole (*Bathyergus maritimus*). 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. vi. ii. 147 The *Sand-Muscle. *Tellina*. They live much in the Sand. 1835 L. JENYNS *Man. Vertebr. Anim.* 459 *Platessa Limandoides*, Nob. (*Sandnecker). 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 254 This species and the last are usually confounded under the common name of '*sandpeeps'. 1884 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 562 The Sand-grouse (better *Sand-pigeons) or *Pterocletes*. 1842 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Ornith.* II. 52 *Charadrius Hiaticula*, Ringed *Sand-Plover. *Ibid.* 53 *Charadrius Cantianus*, Kentish Sand-Plover. 1889 PARKER *Catal. N. Zealand Exhib.* 116 (Morris) But two genera of the group [Wading Birds] are found only in New Zealand, the Sand-plover and the Wry-billed Plover. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 459 The Pride, and *Sandpride. *Sandprey, and Mud lamprey. 1781 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* II. 466 *Sand Rat, *Mus Arenarius*. 1894-5 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 149 In size the naked sand-rats (*Heterocephalus*) may be compared to a common mouse. 1885 *Standard Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 346 The egg masses of the *Nauticas* bear the common name *sand-saucers. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 623 *Sand-screw, *Sulcator arenarius*... So called from the odd movements which it makes when laid upon dry sand, wriggling along [etc.]. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fishes N.S. Wales* 93 *Rhinobatus granulatus*, blind or *sand shark. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 671 The Sand Shark—*Odontaspis littoralis*. This species..is found..from New England southward to Charleston. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. ix. 334 This same naturalist separated a male *sand-skipper (so common on our sea-shores), *Gammarus marinus*, from its female. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 214 The Atherine, or *Sandsmelt. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, Ammodytes..or *sand-snake, from its sand-like colour. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 193 From their allies, the sand-snakes are distinguished by the small scales being either smooth or singly keeled [etc.]. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2137 All the sand-pipers..are indiscriminately known as '*sand-snipes' [Leicestershire]. 1880-4 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 42 *Solea lascaris*.. The..'*sand-sole' from the localities it frequents. 1841 E. FORBES *Brit. Starfishes* 23 Common *Sand-star. *Ophiura texturata*. Lam. *Ibid.* 27 Lesser Sand-star. *Ophiura albida*. Forbes. 1862 GÜNTHER *Cat. Fishes Brit. Mus.* IV. 405 *Hippoglossoides limandoides*. The rough Dab or *Sandsucker. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xiv. (ed. 4) 287 Amongst the rare fishes caught by them were the Sandsucker, *Platessa limandoides* [etc.]. 1797 BEWICK *Birds* I. 258 Sand Martin. (*Cotile riparia.*)..*Sand Swallow. (*Hirundo riparia.*) 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 30 *Ammodites*,..the *sand Viper. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 233 Another well-known poisonous European snake is the long-nosed, or sand-viper (*Vipera ammodytes*). 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 257 The Blue *Sand-wasp. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 270 Sand-wasps (*Crabronidæ*, *Pompilidæ*). These..have a simple trochanter, a stalked abdomen, and a sting. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 207 The next baits in esteem are ..*sand worms, muscles, and limpets. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* VI. 435 We may take as our first example [of the group Tubicola] the sand-worm (*Arenicola piscatorum*).

c. In the names of plants: **sand blackberry** (see quot.); **sand bur**, **-burr**, any one of several plants abounding in the sandy districts and great plains of western U. S., the fruit of which becomes a bur, esp. (*a*) the beaked nightshade (*Solanum rostratum*); (*b*) a composite plant (*Gærlneria acanthicarpa*); (*c*) the burgrass (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **sand cherry** *N. Amer.*, a dwarf shrub, *Cerasus* or *Prunus pumila*; **sand elm**, a variety of elm, *Ulmus suberosa*; **sand grass**, any species of grass which grows in sand and serves the purpose of a sand-binder (see quots.); † **sand-hooker tree** = *sand-box tree* (see SAND-BOX 3); **sand-jack** (see quot.); **sand-leek**, the rocambole, *Allium Scorodoprasum* (Cassell's Encycl. Dict. 1887); **sand myrtle**, *Leiophyllum* or *Ledum buxifolium*; **sand pear**, *Pyrus sinensis* (Sanders 1895); **sand pine**, **pink** (see quots.); **sand-reed**, the beach-grass of the great Lakes and of the Atlantic coasts of Europe and N. America (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **sand rocket**, the wall mustard; † **sand-rush** *U.S.*, perh. *Equiselum arvense*; **sand-sedge** = *sand-reed*; **sand-spurry**, a plant of the genus *Spergularia* (Cent. Dict.); **sandstay** (see quot.); **sand-willow**, *Salix fusca*; **sand wood** (see quot.).

1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 128 *Rubus cuneifolius*,..*Sand Blackberry. 1896 *Voice* (N. Y.) 12 Mar. 4/4 The Prohibitionists of the state [Kansas] are soon to meet at Topeka again and feed *sand-burs to Governor Morrill. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 168 On its banks are found amazing quantities of *sand cherries. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 152/1 The Dutch or *Sand Elm is a tree very similar to the wych elm. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 556 *Triplasis purpurea* (*Sand-Grass)...In sand, Massachusetts to Virginia along the coast, and southward. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 594. 426 The sand-grasses, *Elymus arenarius*, *Arundo arenaria*,..are valuable binding weeds on shifting sandy shores. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxiii. 164 The *sand-hooker tree..receives its name from the fruit, which being

divested of its seed, is used as a sand-box by writers. 1884 SARGENT *Forests N. Amer.* 153 *Quercus cinerea* Michaux. ..Upland Willow Oak. Blue Jack. *Sand Jack 1845–50 *Sand myrtle [see MYRTLE *sb.* 2 b]. 1884 SARGENT *Forests N. Amer.* 199 *Pinus clausus* Vasey... *Sand Pine 1852 *Cottage Gard. Dict.* (ed. G. W. Johnson) 325 *Dianthus arenarius* (*sand pink). 1805 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 109 In Iceland, the grain of *sand-reed approaches so nearly to maturity, that [etc.]. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 153 *Sinapis muralis* (*Sand-rocket). 1805 LEWIS & CLARK *Trav. Missouri*, etc. (1815) II. xii. 2 The..*sandrush, and narrow dock, are also common. 1842 J. B. FRASER *Mesopot. & Assyria* xv. 361 There is no combat here, such as when the sand-reed or *sand-sedge..endeavours to climb above the perpetually accumulating sands. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 642 *Leptospermum lævigatum*.. **Sandstay'...This shrub is the most effectual of all for arresting the progress of drift sand. 1786 J. ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem. in Gard. Assist.* 35/2 *Sand willow, downy leaved. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.* s.v., *Sand-wood. *Bremontiera Ammoxylon.*

Sand (sænd), *v.* [f. SAND *sb.*2]

1. *trans.* To run (a ship) on a sandbank; also *pass.* of a person, to be run aground.

1560 JEWEL *Answ. to Cole's 3rd Let.* 98 b, Although ye be sanded, & set aground, yet ye kepe vp the sail still, as if ye had water at your will. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 129 This skyphier haue I seen through dotage To sand his ship in calme and quiet floud. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. iii. (1651) 148 Seamen..when they have been sanded or dashed on a rock, for ever after fear that mischance.

2. To sprinkle with or as with sand.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 773 (822) This gardeyn was large and rayled all þe aleyes..and sonded alle þe weyes. 1453 in S. Bentley *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 391 Þat the place where þat the said bataille shalbe be..wel graveled and sanded. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 154 If now, when the way is thus sanded forth vnto you, you will say, as they did of old, 'We will not walke therein'. *Ibid.* 414 If we desire fame, we see here the way sanded out vnto vs; Doe worthily, and be famous. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 34 All these Paths should be sanded. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2308 This wide waste of worlds; this visto vast, All sanded o'er with suns. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* xii. 62 He wrote,—Upon paper gilt-edged,..Then sanded it over with silver and azure. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 102 The floors are sanded in the most primitive country-inn fashion. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 716/1 Tawdry modern cast-iron work, 'sanded' to represent stone. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 472 The skin [in myxœdema] becomes rough and scaly, almost as if it were sanded.

3. To overlay with sand, to bury under a sand drift; also *to sand up, over.*

1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 224 This weather, that flood, such a storm, hath blasted our fruits, sanded our grounds [etc.]. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 222 That vessel perished ..in Dunbar Bay, and..was thought to be sanded up. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 39 Should the broken tree be sanded over,..it will be difficult..to find the..channel. 1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* I. 239 The hay crop in the Lower Croft had been hopelessly sanded.

b. To put sand upon (land) as a dressing.

1721 J. EDMONDS in Mortimer *Husb.* I. 101 'Tis now.. twenty four Years since he sanded it first. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. II. 662 The heaviest clay lands are being sanded to a depth of 3 or 4 inches.

4. To intermix sand with (sugar, wool, etc.) for purposes of fraud.

1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xv. To sand the sugar, and sloe-leave the tea. 1880 in Goode, etc. *Hist. & Meth. Fish.* (Fish. Industr. U. S. v.) 1887 II. 840 To affirm..that the packers in question were sanding their sponges would not perhaps be justifiable. 1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 133 Sanding or adulterating with a variety of mineral matter, chiefly iron or steel filings, to add to the weight.

5. To grind or polish with sand.

1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* (ed. 48) 90 Old Sienna, ..or other similar marbles,..sanded, polished, and re-set.

Sandal (sæ·ndăl), *sb.*1 Also 4 **sandalie**, 5 **sendell**, 6 **sandale**, **-dell**, 7 **sandall**, 7– **sandal**. [ad. L. *sandalium* (pl. *sandalia*, whence as fem. sing. Sp., Pg. *sandalia*, F. *sandale*), ad. Gr. *σανδάλιον*, dim. of *σάνδαλον* (whence It. *sandalo*) = Æolic *σάμβαλον*; the remoter etymology is unknown.]

1. A protective covering for the sole of the foot fastened by means of fillets or thongs of leather passed over the instep and round the ankle.

The common foot-gear of the ancient Greeks and Romans, and still in use among some Oriental peoples. Of late years sandals have been used somewhat extensively in England instead of shoes for children, and sometimes for adults.

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* vi. 9 And he clepide twelue,..and comaundide hem, that thei schulde not take ony thing in the weye.., but schoon with sandalies [1388 schod with sandalies;, *c* 1520 NISBET schod with sandalis]. 1493 *Dives & Paup.* (Pynson) I v, Do on thy galoches or sandalynes [*bread* sandalyes; ed. 1534 has sandalines]. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xii. 8 And the angell sayd vnto him: gyrde thy silfe and bynde on thy sandalles. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 195 Preistis..preiche the Euangell on zour feit, And set on Sandellis full meit, Bot cast zour pantonis of. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 35 His sandales were with toilsome travell torne. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 187 While the still morn went out with Sandals gray. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Jan., The Priest was in his cell, with his hair clothes to his skin, bare-legged, with a sandall only on. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 30 The Moors and Persians shod with Sandals. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 267 Shoes ..tied on like sandals. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 34 The Basques and Navarrois..wear sandals. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 72 Lightly the polish'd floor creak'd to the sandal again.

b. *Her.* used as a bearing.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 13/2 He beareth Or, two Sandals, Sable. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I.

2. a. A kind of half-shoe of red leather, silk, etc., richly embroidered and fastened with straps and bands, forming part of the regalia of a sovereign or of the official dress of a bishop or abbot.

c 1485 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 17 His hosen, sendellis, and spurres. *Ibid.* 19 With regall sandelles and spurres. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 754 As for shauen crownes, and purple sandales,..they were neuer taken for ..mysteries. 1687 F. SANDFORD *Coronat. Jas. II* 38 The [King's] Sandals were made with a dark-colour'd Leather Sole, and a Wooden Heel covered with Red Leather, the Straps or Bands..were of Cloth of Tissue. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 238 The richest silks, elaborately embroidered, were used in England for making episcopal sandals.

b. Applied to various kinds of low shoes, slippers, etc.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxvi, Barnardine was wrapt in a long dark cloak, which scarcely allowed the kind of half-boots, or sandals, that were laced upon his legs, to appear. 1900 T. W. GREIG *Ladies' Dress Shoes* Finis, Dancing sandals worn in the ballet by Madame Cerri, made of pink satin.

c. *U. S.* 'An india-rubber overshoe, having very low sides and consisting chiefly of a sole with a strap across the instep' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

3. A strap for fastening a low shoe or slipper, passed over the instep or round the ankle.

1829 *R. Ackerman's Repos. Fashions* 4 Cherry-colour shoes and sandals. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinnamon & Pearls* v. 86 Alice, love, come and tie my sandal. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xx, Her white satin shoes..being firmly attached to her legs with strong tape sandals. *Ibid., Char.* ix, A young lady, with her shoes tied in sandals all over her ankles.

4. *attrib.*, **sandal shoon** (*arch.*), sandals.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 26 By his Cockle hat and staffe, and his Sandal shoone.

Sandal (sæ·ndăl), *sb.*2 Forms: 5 **sandell**, 6 **sandall**, **sandol(e**, 5– **sandal**; β. 6 (in Lat. form) **sandalum**, (in It. forms) **sandolo**, **sandalo**. [a. med.L. *sandalum* = Sp. *sándalo*, Pg., It. *sandalo*, F. † *sandal*, also OF. *sandle* (whence G. *sandel*), *sandre* (whence the older Eng. SANDERS); a med.L. variant *santalum* survives in mod.L. as generic name (hence mod.F. *santal*). The ultimate source appears to be Skr. *čandana* (Hindī *čandan*); cf. Arab. صندل *çandal*, late Gr. *σάνδανον*, *σάνταλον*.] = SANDALWOOD, in its various applications. †Also, an ointment made of powdered sandalwood.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 81 With sandell confyt ennoynt his body. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2016 Anoynted..With the Onyment callyd Sandal. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccxvii. (1529) Y v, Sandales is a wood called Sandres. 1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 5 These barkes be lade in with all sorts of spices, with..Sandole [etc.]. 159– FITCH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 265 The white sandol is wood very sweet &..the Indians..grinde it with a litle water and anoynt their bodies therewith. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 93 Senting themselves with Essence of Sandal. 1715 J. STEVENS *Hist. Persia* 110 The King..loaded his Ship with Sandal and dismiss'd him. 1813 W. MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* (1825) 158 The merchants sometimes divide sandal into red, yellow, and white; but these are all different shades of the same colour. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 19 Fans Of sandal. 1864 *Intell. Observer* IV. 74 Sandal..being a most excellent wood for carving.

β. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 21 *Sandalum*, called saunders. 1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 19 b, Euery yeare hee sendeth a small Ship to Timor to lande white Sandolo. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* Comm. xxiv. 400 When the king..doth die, they do..burne his bodie with wood of Sandalo. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xii. (1636) 557 From the Ile Timor doth come..the white and pale medicinable simple called Sandalum.

b. *attrib.*, as *sandal-dust, oil*; **sandal-tree**, (*a*) the white sandalwood tree; (*b*) a tree of the meliaceous genus *Sandoricum*; **sandalwort**, Lindley's name for a plant belonging to the order *Santalaceæ*.

1873 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 343 We bought *sandal-dust in the drug bazaar. 1823 BYRON *Island* IV. viii, And *sandal oil to fence against the dew. 1864 *Intell. Observer* IV. 75 The..almug trees..are supposed to have been *sandal-trees. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1014/2 Sandal-tree. *Sandoricum*. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 787 *Santalaceæ*.—*Sandalworts.

Sandal (sæ·ndăl), *sb.*3 [a. Turkish and Persian سندل *sandal*, Arab. صندل *çandal* (Dozy). Cf. late Gr. *σάνδαλον*, *σανδάλιον*, F. *sandale*.] A long, narrow two-masted boat used in the Levant and on the northern coast of Africa.

1742 WOODROOFFE in Hanway *Trav.* (1753) I. I. xxiii. 149 There are some larger vessels..of 30 or 40 tuns, which are called sandalls. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xi. 295 He..bounded into his own ricketty sandal, and rowed away.

Sandal (sæ·ndăl), *v.* [f. SANDAL *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To furnish with or as with sandals.

1713 C'TESS WINCHILSEA *Misc. Poems* 301 These feet shall bear me sandal'd to the battle. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 218 Then, from the caverns of my dreamy youth I sprang, as one sandalled with plumes of fire. *a* 1822 — *Ess. & Lett.* (1840) I. 157 Socrates..walked barefoot upon the ice; more easily..than those who had sandalled themselves so delicately. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 47 The bare foot being sandalled.

2. To fasten with sandals (SANDAL *sb.*1 3).

1897 GUNTER *Susan Turnbull* xxi, Little white dancing slippers are sandaled on her delicate ankles with satin bows.

Hence **Sa·ndalled** *ppl. a.*

1802 H. K. WHITE *Elegy Mr. Gill* vi, As early I..Hail the grey-sandal'd morn. 1803 HEBER *Palestine* 311 There barbarous kings their sandal'd nations led. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 75 She from the ripple cold Updrew her sandalled foot. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* I. 11 Sandalled slippers..remained in fashion till the early portion of the reign of Victoria.

Sandal: see SAMEL, SENDAL.

Sandal(i)e, obs. forms of SANDAL *sb.*1

Sandaliform (sæ·ndălifɔm), *a. rare*—°. [f. SANDAL *sb.*1 + -(I)FORM.] Shaped like a sandal.

1848 in CRAIG. 1889 WAGSTAFFE *Mayne's Med. Vocab.* (ed. 6), *Sandaliformis*, Bot., having the appearance of a sandal or slipper.

[Sandaline: see SANDAL *sb.*1 1, quot. 1493.]

Sandaling (sæ·ndălin). Also **sandling**. [f. SANDAL *sb.*1 + -ING 1.] Elastic web woven in narrow strips for 'sandals' (SANDAL *sb.*1 3).

1881 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 3/6 In elastic webs there is a better inquiry for gussets...There is also an improved trade in sandalings. 1894 *Times* 19 Mar. 13/2 The elastic web trade is quiet...Cords, braids, dress-boltings, and sandlings, however, sell freely. 1909 *Price List Elastic Webs*, Black Silk Sandling, White Silk Sandling, Bronze Silk Sandling.

Sandalwood. Also 6 **sandelen-**, 7 **sandall-**, 8 **sandle-wood**. [SANDAL *sb.*2]

1. A scented wood obtained from several species of *Santalum*; also, an inodorous dye-wood, *Pterocarpus santalinus*, RED SANDERS.

White sandalwood is obtained from *S. album*, a tree resembling the myrtle, found on the Malabar coast. *Citron* or *Yellow sandalwood* is from *S. Freycinetianum*, found in the South Sea Islands. *Red sandalwood* = RED SANDERS (see also 2 below).

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 29/1 Whyte & red sandelen wodde. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 295 There is great plentie of ciuet and Sandall-wood 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 112 Sandle wood, which is of a yellowish colour, and has a most agreeable smell. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xxvii, While on her hearth lay blazing many a piece Of sandal wood, rare gums, and cinnamon. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 787 The Sandal-wood of the Sandwich Islands is the wood of Santalum Freycinetianum and paniculatum.

2. Applied, usually with distinguishing epithet, to trees of other genera, which produce a wood often used as a substitute for the true sandalwood.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 553 A deep red is yielded by the chips of *Adenanthera pavonina*, called in India *Ruktachundun*, or Red Sandal-wood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1014/2 Queensland Sandalwood. *Eremophila Mitchelli.* 1874 *Ibid* Suppl. 1339/2 False sandal-wood of Crete. *Quercus sabricea.* 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 256/1 *Bucida capitata*..is known in the West Indies as sandalwood. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 401 *Eremophila mitchelli*..Bastard Sandalwood...*E. sturtii*..Scentless Sandalwood...*Alyxia buxifolia*,..called Native Sandalwood in Tasmania.

Sandalo: see SANDAL *sb.*2

†Sandapile. *Obs.*—° [a. L. *sandapila.*] 'A Coffin or Beere' (Cockeram 1623).

Sandarac (sæ·ndărăk). Forms: 6 **sandarache**, 7–8 **-arack**, 7–9 **-arach**, 8 **-arick**, 9 **-aric**, 7 **sanderick**, 8 **sandrick**, 9 **sandrake**, 8–9 **sandrac**, 7– **sandarac**. [ad. L. *sandarac-a*, a. Gr. *σανδαράκη*, *-άχη* (senses 1 and 3), prob. a foreign word. Cf. F. *sandaraque* (Cotgr. 1611 *sandarac, -ache*), Sp., Pg. *sandaraca* (senses 1 and 2), It. *sandaraca, sandracca* (sense 1).

It is difficult to see any connexion between the three senses; possibly two distinct words were already confused in Gr. Sense 2, in mod.L. *sandaracha Arabum*, represents Arab. *sandarūs* (Dozy, from P. de Alcalá 1505), also *sandalus* (Freytag, from Golius); but the word cannot be native Arabic. According to the Persian and Urdū dictionaries, Pers. *sandaros, sandara* and Urdū *sandaros* are used both in sense 1 and in sense 2. Connexion with Skr. *sindūra* (Hindī *sindūr*), red lead, vermillion, seems unlikely on the ground of form.]

1. Red arsenic sulphide. = REALGAR.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xxix. (1495) 878 Sandaracha growyth in Topasion..is of red coloure..and is founde amonge metall of golde and of syluer] *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* V ij, Take..of Sandaracke, whyte and red [etc.]. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 90 Arsenick red and yellow, that is, Orpement and Sandarach may perhaps doe something, as being inflamable. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 41 The Sandarack is an inflammable fossil substance. 1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise of Christendom* 264 A hollow bull of bronze was filled with naphtha, sandarac, sulphur and lead.

2. In full *gum sandarac.* A resin which exudes from the tree *Callitris quadrivalvis*, native of N. W. Africa; it is used in the preparation of spirit varnish and pounce.

1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* I. i. 4 Take..Frankinsence and Sandarach, of each two Scruples. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* II. iv. 321 Spirit of Wine will dissolve some Bodies, as Sanderick, Mastick, Gum-Lac, &c. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 87 A most excellent Varnish ..is made of Sandarack and lintseed Oyl. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 73 To make the Paper bear Ink well,.. rub the Paper with the fine Powder of Gum sandrick, tied in a Rag. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 99 Gum Juniper or Sandrake. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1046 *Callitris quadrivalvis* (*Thuya articulata*), the Arar-tree, supplies a solid resin called Sandarach or Pounce.

attrib. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 744 Sandarac Varnish. 1878 HOOKER & BALL *Marocco* 389 The Arar, Thuja or Gum Sandrac Tree.

†3. = BEE-BREAD 2. *Obs.*

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* x. (1623) Vij, Breake the

Combes..into three parts; the first sheere Honie and Wax, the second Honie and Wax with Sandarach, the third dry Wax. 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 179 This Bee.. gathers as the Hive-Bee sandaracha. 1747 R. Maxwell *Bee-master* § 419 (1756) 113 The Sandrach or Bee-bread.

Sa·nd-bag, sa·ndbag, *sb.* [Sand *sb.*2 Cf. G. *sandsack.*] A bag filled with sand.

1. *gen.* (Used in proverbial simile.)

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. v, All the Ladies and Gallants lie languishing...And (without we returne quickly) they are all (as a youth would say) no better then a few Trowts cast a shore, or a dish of Eeles in a Sand-bag. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* H 3 b.

2. *spec.* a. *Fortif.* (see quots.)

1590 Sir R. Williams *Brief Disc. War* 50 Wooll sackes, gabions, sand bagges, faggots and such deuices. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Sand-bags*, in Fortification, are Bags holding about a Cubick Foot of Sand or Earth: they are used for raising Parapets in haste, or to repair what is beaten down. 1799 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 29 We did all our work last night except filling the sand bags. 1885 *Standard* 7 Apr. 5/4 [They] marched out..to build..a block-house with timber and sand bags.

attrib. 1884 *Milit. Engineering* (ed. 3) I. II. 72 The tools ..required are..a clean sandbag, and a sandbag fork.

b. used as ballast; esp. for a boat or balloon.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. v, A hapless Air-navigator, plunging, amid torn parachutes, sand-bags, and confused wreck, fast enough, into the jaws of the Devil! 1855 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil., Hydrost.*, etc. 184 The aeronaut..is provided with ballast composed of sand-bags, by casting out which he diminishes the weight of the balloon. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Sand bags*, small square cushions made of canvas and painted, for boats' ballast.

c. as a weapon. In early use, a bag of sand attached by a string to the end of a staff; also, one similarly attached to the arm of a quintain. In recent use (chiefly *U. S.*), a weapon used by ruffians, consisting of a long cylindrical bag (sometimes an eelskin) filled with sand, by which a heavy blow may be struck without leaving a mark.

1594 *1st Pt. Contention* D 1 b, Enter at one doore the Armourer..with a drum before him, and his staffe with a sand-bag fastened to it, and at the other doore, his man with a drum and sand-bagge. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. iii. (1674) 136 [He] was set upon by some..who beat him so cruelly with Sand-bags, as they left him for dead. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 80 They now begun With law and conscience to fall on..Engag'd with money-bags, as bold As men with sand-bags did of old. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Quintain*, A slender Beam..at one of whose Ends was a sloap or flat Board, and at the other a Bag of Sand or Dirt.—The Sport was..to ride a-tilt at the Board, and..to escape the Blow of the Sand-Bag. 1871 Rossetti *Poems, Last Confess.* 512 And there I handed him [the mountebank] his cups and balls And swung the sand-bags round to clear the ring. 1894 Stead *If Christ came* 354 The predatory rich do not shrink even from using the sandbag and the revolver—of course by deputies.

d. A bag or cushion filled with fine sand, used (*a*) in *Engraving*, as a support for the plate.

1658 Phillips, A *Sand-bag*, in Etching or Graving, is that on which they use to turn their plate. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Art* II. 46 Let the table..be firm..upon which place your sand-bag with the plate upon it 1837 Whittock, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 214 (*Engraver*) The sand-bag, or cushion, ..is for laying the plate upon, for the conveniency of turning it in any direction, but is seldom used by artists. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 149/1 A sand-bag, on which to rest the block whilst engraving it.

(*b*) *Surg.* as a support for a set limb.

1875 W. R. Smith *Lect. Nursing* viii. 144 The rest of the limb must now be bandaged, and sand bags placed along either side of it.

e. A long narrow cylindrical bag, usually of flannel, containing fine sand, and used to cover a crevice and exclude draught or light.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade.* 1908 A. C. Benson *Altar Fire* 225 The poky, comfortable arrangements,..the sand-bags for the doors, all spoke of a timid invalid life.

3. The stomach of a crab.

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.* (marked 'Eng.').

Sa·ndbag, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with sand-bags.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 440 The Bank [was] sandbagged and barricaded. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 11 Dec. 10/5 He not only fastens all his windows, he sandbags them.

2. To fell with a blow from a sand-bag.

1889 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 16 Sept., John Lehner and Henry Koontz were sandbagged Saturday night. 1897 Howells *Landl. Lion's Head* 421 He had not been sand-bagged, or buncoed.

Sandbagger (sæ·nd,bæ·gəɹ). *U. S.* [f. Sand-bag *sb.* and *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who uses a sand-bag as a weapon.

1884 *Chicago Advance* 10 Apr., Not a prize fighter, or street loafer,..or sand-bagger appears among them. 1894 Stead *If Christ came* 340 The sand-bagger and blackmailer.

2. A sailing-boat that uses sand-bags as ballast.

1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 477/2 He..enjoys the sea in every form, whether racing in a sandbagger [etc.].

Sa·nd-bank. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Bank *sb.* 1.]

1. A bank of sand formed in a river or sea by the action of tides and currents.

1589 Rider *Bibl. Scholast.* 1268/60 A sand banke in the Sea,..*pulvinus.* 1659 D. Pell *Impr. Sea* 510 Frothy breaches of the Seas over the Sand-banks. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 147 She talled aground upon a sand-bank. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xix. 524 The Nile flows wide among sandbanks, like a tidal river near the sea. *fig.* 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* VI. I. (1866) 781 Its foundation was the shifting sandbank of female and royal coquetry.

2. *Founding.* (See quot.)

1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Sand Bank.* In foundries where small pipes are cast in quantities the moulding boxes are placed, and the metal run on a bank of sand.

Sa·nd-bath. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Bath *sb.*1]

1. A vessel of heated sand used as an equable heater for retorts, etc. in various chemical processes.

1677 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* 11 These Furnaces may also serve for Distilling by the Refrigeratory, in..the Sand-Bath. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 214 Set the retort in a sand-bath fixed over a reverberating furnace. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 178 Six of the radicles in a jar..which stood on a sand-bath, raised to a temperature varying from 76° to 82° F., became hooked.

attrib. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 454 This process must be preceded by the sand-bath operation.

2. A medicinal bath of heated sand or sea-sand.

1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 75 We saw a patient undergoing the sand-bath..for rheumatism.

3. A bath taken by fowls in sand; a dust-bath.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Sa·nd-bed. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Bed *sb.*]

1. A bed, layer or stratum of sand.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wulcker 798/13 *Hec sertis*, a sandbedde. 1611 Cotgr., *Sablonniere*, a sand bed. 1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* I. 137 Factitious islands..have been made..by..the aggestion of sands and sand-beds. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 969 Where the strata are connected with rivers, sand-beds filled with water, or marsh lands. 1889 C. T. Davis *Treat. Manuf. Bricks* x. 303 Micaceous sand-bed. *Ibid.* 304 It reposes on a sand-bed.

b. *transf.* One who 'absorbs' much liquor; a toper. *Sc.* (see E.D.D.).

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxiii, That sandbed old MacTurk, upon whom whole hogsheads make no impression.

2. *Founding.* A bed of sand into which the iron from a blast-furnace is run; also, any bed of sand in which castings are made.

1873 R. Hunt *Weale's Dict. Terms* s.v., The side troughs in the sand-bed are called pigs.

Sa·nd-blast. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Blast *sb.*]

1. A contrivance for depolishing or grinding glass, stone, wood or hard metal by means of a jet of sand impelled by compressed air or steam. Also *attrib.*, esp. *sand-blast process.*

1871 *Frnl. Franklin Inst.* 155 An engraving produced by the use of the sand-blast...This is then passed beneath the sand-blast, and the cutting obtained. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 136/1 Permanent Tablets, being texts and mottoes..engraved by the Sand-blast process. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Sand Blast Sharpening*, the sharpening of files by the direction of a current of sand and water across the teeth.

2. A blast of sandy or sand-laden wind.

1898 T. Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* XII. iv, Hot and stifling as sand-blasts of the desert.

Hence **Sa·nd-blasted** *a.*, *nonce-wd.*, scored by wind-driven sand. Also **Sa·nd-blaster,** a workman who uses sand-blast.

1908 *Edin. Rev.* July 82 In Triassic times England itself was a desert, as the sand-blasted granite boulders of Charnwood Forest attest. 1881 *Instr. Census Cuerks* (1885) 89 Glass Sand Blaster.

Sa·nd-blind, *a.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* [Prob. a perversion of OE. **samblind* (see Sam- and Blind *a.*), after Sand *sb.*2

Cf. Johnson's explanation: 'Having a defect in the eyes, by which small particles appear to fly before them'.]

Half-blind, dim-sighted, purblind. Also *fig.*

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wulcker 709/14 *Luscus*, he that is sandblynde. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Lippio*, to be poreblynde, or sande blynde. 1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* H j, If one that is sandblynde woulde take an asse for a moyle. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 347 Drumlanrick being sum thing sand blind and saw nocht weill. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 37 This is my true begotten Father, who being more then sand-blinde, high grauel blinde, knows me not. *a* 1623 Fletcher *Love's Cure* II. i, I have been Sand-blinde from my infancie. 1627 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 50 His minde, no more than sand-blind in the things of God. 1790 A. Wilson *Rabby's Mistake* Poet. Wks. (1846) 102 Sic was the day, whan san'-blin' Rab...Set out in eager search for game. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. x, Thou hitherto art a Dilettante and sandblind Pedant. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxxv. He is bald, sand blind, grey-haired.

Hence **Sand-blindness.**

1552 Huloet, Sandblindnes, *luscio.* 1905 *Outlook* 16 Dec. 852/2 But there is a sort of sand-blindness endemic in the Liberal party just now.

Sa·nd-box. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Box *sb.*2]

1. A box with a perforated top for sprinkling sand as a blotter upon the wet ink of a manuscript. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1572 Huloet (ed. Higins), Sandboxe, or a duste boxe, to spreade dust on writing. 1626 Middleton *Women Beware Women* IV. ii, He would prick my skull as full of holes as a scrivener's sand-box. 1681 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1637/8 Stolen ..a Silver Inkhorn, the Sand box to it left behind. 1740 Swift *Will* Wks 1751 XIV. 272, I bequeath to Deane Swift, Esq...an Ink Pot, a Sand Box and Bell. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VI. vi. (1872) II. 187 '*Erz-Sandstreuer*', who solemnly brings up the Sandbox (no blotting-paper yet in use) when the Holy Roman Empire is pleased to write.

2. A box holding sand for various purposes; esp. a. A sand-mould. b. A box of sand on a locomotive (see quot. 1849) for use when the wheels slip. c. A receptacle for the sand used to 'tee' the ball on a golf course.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 382/2 He beareth Gules, a Lapidaries Sand Box, or Dust Box, covered, Or...In such kind of Boxes with covers, Lapidaries keep their fine Dust of Diamond..made into a kind of Sand. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 39 So largely has the sand-box superseded the anvil in this manufacture [of scissors]. 1849 Weale *Dict. Terms, Sand-boxes*, in locomotive engines, boxes filled with sand, usually placed near the driving wheels, with a pipe to guide the sand to the rails. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Sand-Box*, a primitive sort of spittoon, consisting of a wooden box filled with sand. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 750 The sand-box [of a sand-blast apparatus]. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Nov. 8/4 Proceeding to the sand-box at the first tee.

3. The fruit of the West Indian forest tree, *Hura crepitans*. Also, the tree itself.

1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 114 The Sand-box Tree. *Ibid.* 115 These Trees are called Sand-boxes from the Use that is made of their Fruit to that Purpose. 1757 Parsons in *Phil. Trans.* L. 405 This is undoubtedly the young Sand-box, or fruit of the Hura. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 178 We made our first halt, under a large sand-box-tree.

Sa·nd-boy. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Boy *sb.*1]

1. ? A boy who hawks sand for sale. In proverbial phr. *as jolly as a sandboy*, etc.

1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, Sand-boy*, all rags and all happiness; the urchins who drive the sand-laden neddies through our streets, are envied by the capon-eating turtle-loving epicures of these cities. 'As jolly as a sand-boy', designates a merry fellow who has tasted a drop. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xviii, The Jolly Sandboys was a small road-side inn.., with a sign, representing three Sandboys increasing their jollity. 1841 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 70 We will smoke together and be as merry as sandboys. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. xxiv, Everything combined to make him as jolly as a sand-boy.

2. = *sand-man*: see Sand *sb.*2 10.

1873 *St. Paul's Mag.* Feb. 139 But you are sleepy—the sand-boys are in your eyes.

Sande, obs. form of Saint, Sandy *sb.*

Sanded (sæ·ndėd), *ppl. a.* [f. (in senses 1–4) Sand *sb.*2 and (senses 5–7) Sand *v.*]

†1. Of a sandy colour = Sandy *a.* 3, 4. *Obs.*

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 125 My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kinde, So flew'd, so sanded. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 515 The colour of Swine is uncertain, ..some are white, some branded, some sanded, some red. 1667 Cotton *Scarron.* IV. 10 The Sun..that spruce light-headed fellow With frizled locks of sanded yellow. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2136/4 A white Sanded gray Mare, eight years old.

†2. Sand-blind. *Obs.*

1629 Gaule *Pract. Theories* Rules to Rdrs., My Poring, Prying, Pious Reader; With sanded, searching or with simple Eye. 1787 Grose *Provinc. Gloss., Sanded*, short-sighted. N[orth].

†3. Composed of or covered with sand; sandy.

1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* II. ii. 26 With Nations like the sanded Shore. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 100 Dreadful down it [the river] comes..Then o'er the sanded valley floating spreads.

†4. Cast in sand, as opposed to 'minted'. *Obs.*

1732 in J. Tait *Two Cent. Border Ch. Life* iii. (1889) 64 Uncurrent money..consisting of doits, Irish halfpennies and sanded bodles. 1759 in *Scott. N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. (1902) IV. 5/2 Bad sanded halfpennies.

5. Sprinkled with sand.

1760–2 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* XXX, The sanded floor that grits beneath the tread. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxvii. 377 Fine lines resembling those produced by the passage of a rake over a sanded walk. 1869 Trollope *He Knew*, etc. xxxii. (1878) 181 [He] was up-stairs in the sanded parlour of the Full Moon public-house.

b. Of wood, etc.: Covered with a layer of sand to represent stone.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 716/1 Tawdry modern cast-iron work, 'sanded' to represent stone. 1889 C. T. Davies *Bricks* ii. (ed. 2) 56 It is not considered an honest treatment of material to make painted and sanded wood take upon itself the appearance of stone.

c. Of land: Dressed with sand.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 106 In well sanded Lands little or no Snow lies.

6. Adulterated with sand.

1883 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 6/7 They never would get free from this sanded wool so long as they paid such big prices for it, since it really paid better at the price obtainable than the clean wool. 1895 *Min. 9th Nat. Council Congr. Ch. U.S.* 151 To refrain from short yardsticks and sanded sugar.

7. Reduced to sand-like grains.

1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Sanded gum*, powdered gum arabic.

Sa·nd-eel. Also 4–5 sandel, 4 sandhell, 5 sawndel, 6 sand el. [f. Sand *sb.*2 + Eel.]

1. A fish of the genus *Ammodytes*, having a slender, cylindrical, silvery body resembling that of an eel.

1307 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 3 In c de makerell,..cccc di. merling. et sandelis. 1338 *Ibid.* 35 In Sandhells empt. pro familia die Veneris, 14*d.* 1425–6 *Ibid.* 620 Et de 3*s.* 4*d.* rec. pro tractatu de Sandeelez. *c* 1440–60 [see Sandling 1 1]. [1558 Rondelet *Gesn. Hist. Anim.* IV. 1260 De Ammodyte pisce, vt nos vocauimus, pro Anglico Sandilz.] 1671 Ray in *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2276 Those little long fishes, which our Fishermen dig out of the Sands at low water, and therefore call in some places Sand-Eeles. *c* 1731 Petiver *Gazophyl.* VI. lix, Brasil Sand Eel...About 9 Inches long; very good Meat. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 550 The 'Sand-eels' or 'Launces' (*Ammodytes*) are extremely common on sandy shores of Europe and North America.

2. *New Zealand.* The fish *Gonorhynchus greyi.*

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Hence **Sand-eeling,** fishing for sand-eels.

1861 Ansted *Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 212 Sand-eeling at midnight..is one of the amusements of all classes.

Sandel: see Samel, Sendal.

Sandelen wood: see Sandalwood.

Sandeling, obs. form of Sandling 1.

Sandell, obs. form of SANDAL *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Sandemanian (sændĭmē·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the name *Sandeman* + -(I)AN.] **a.** *sb.* A member of a religious sect developed by Robert Sandeman (1718–1771) from the Glassites. **b.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the Sandemanians.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 324 In the town of Portsmouth there is a society of Sandemanians. 1810 W. WILSON *Dissent. Ch. Lond.* III. 326 The discipline in this church is conducted pretty much in the same manner as in other Sandemanian societies. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 224 The Sandemanian heresy. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2109 The sect..called 'Glassites' in Scotland, and 'Sandemanians' in England and America.

Hence **Sandema·nianism.**

1766 *Causes Pres. Declension Congr. Churches* title-p., Interspersed with Reflections on Methodism and Sandimanianism [*sic*]. 1822 J. BROWN *Mem. J. Hervey* 453 Fuller of Kettering..opposes Sandemanianism.

Sander (sæ·ndəɹ), *sb.* [f. SAND *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who or something which sands or sprinkles with sand; one who collects sand.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* IV. viii. § 3 (1630) 396 The *Arena*,.. so called, for that it was strowed ouer with sand..,and officers they had purposely for this businesse,..termed *Arenarii*, Sanders. 1854 E. GIFFARD *Deeds Nav. Daring* 262 Mr. Edward Henry A'Court, with a marine and seven seamen, was despatched from the Blanche in the red cutter to collect sand..The midshipman and his party of sanders [etc.]. 1889 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 321/2 A sudden whirl of the driving-wheels,..followed by the application of the steam sanders [of a locomotive]. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 21 Feb. 10/6 Drum (Single), 28in. automatic feed sander..to be Sold.

2. A workman employed to sandpaper the soles of boots and shoes.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 76 Boot and Shoe Making: ..Levanter. Sander.

†**Sa·nder,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 **sannyr, sonder.** [Comparative of ME. *sōne*, SOON *a.*, with vowel-shortening and euphonic *d*; the phonology is somewhat obscure.] Sooner.

a 1450 MYRC *Festial* 43 Moche more and sannyr he heruth hom þat callyth to hym wyth all hor hertys. *Ibid.* 166 þat he may be sondyr come to beleue. *Ibid.* 267 þis day your prayers schull be sandyr herd of God þen anoþer day. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 29 How y might the sandyr and lyghter scape. *Ibid.* 37 Mony of them that sodenly scapyd ..and sander hastid hem selfe thanne other to go the weye that was before hem. 1532 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 373 A litle brieff information..emprinted..to make theym the sander to understande the same. *Ibid.* 403 That suche thinges as are promissed..suld the sander comme to passe.

Sanderbode: see under SANDESMAN.

Sanderick, obs. form of SANDARAC.

Sanderling (sæ·ndəɹling). Also 7 **sanderlin,** 7, 9, **sandling.** [Possibly repr. OE. **sand-yrðling*, f. *sand* SAND *sb.*[1] + *yrðling* ploughman (see EARTHLING [1]), also the name of some bird (? the plover).] A small wading bird, *Calidris arenaria.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 35 Coots, Sanderlings, Sea-larkes. 1623 N. H. in Whitbourne *Newfoundland* 114 The Fowles and Birds..of the Sea are..Teale, Snipes,..Sanderlins. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 15) 6 Sandlings, knot, curlew. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 197 Sanderling, *Charadrius calidris*, Lin. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. II. 34, I rather think, Sanderling, ..is the name..tho' the fishermen call them Sandlings. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xx. 259 A sanderling, the second migratory land-bird we have seen, came to our brig today. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. Prel. 77 The plover, peep, and sanderling, That..pipe along the barren sands.

Sander(r)man(n, var. ff. SANDESMAN *Obs.*

Sanders[1] (sa·ndəɹz). Forms: 4 **saundres,** (**zaunders**), 5 **sawndres, -dyrs, saun-, sawnderys,** 4–8 **saunders,** 6– **sanders**; with sing. form 4 **zawndre, sandery,** 5 **sander, sandrey,** 5–7 **saunder.** [a. OF. *sandre* (Hatz.-Darm. s. v. *santal*), var. of *sandle*: see SANDAL[2]. The word has in Eng. been most commonly plural in form, and occas. in construction.]

1. = SANDALWOOD, in its various applications. (Cf. RED SANDERS.)

1329–30 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 16 In..2 unceis de Saundres, 3*s.* 1340 *Ibid.* 35 Saundres pro colore. 1388 *Ibid.* 48 In una li. de zawndre. 1390 *Ibid.* 49 Di. li. de zaunders, 2*s.* 6*d.* 1331 *Acc. Chamberl. Scotl.* (1771) 25 Et de 484 lib. diversarum confectionum..2 lib. de sandery [etc.]. ?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* xx. in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1780) 19 Color it with saundres a lytel. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 225 That I mai stonde in thilke rowe Amonges hem that Saundres use. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 12 þen take Sawnderys, an Vynegre, an cast þer-to. 14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 30 To mak longe de bef, tak ox tunges..then tak..parsly, yspope, tyme sandrey [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 22 b, A precyous tree: wherof the stock is saundres, the barke synamom, the fruyt nutmygges or maces. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linscholen* I. lxxiv. 120/2 There are 3. sorts of Sanders, that is, white, yelow and red. 1623 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 2) 108 Take..good store of suger, cinamon, a few saunders and rosewater. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. II. iv. 205 With the addition of sanders [F. *santal*]..they stand much better. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 787 Sanders, yellow: *Bucida capitata.*

†**2.** The sandalwood tree; sandalwood trees.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 507 In Tymor, an Iland by Iaua, are whole woods of Sanders. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* II. 94 The santalum or sanders grows to the size of a walnut-tree.

3. *attrib.*, as *sanders-beater, cup, powder, tree*; **sanders-wood** = sense 1.

1544 *Will of R. Osborne* (Somerset Ho.), I will that the *saunder beaters at Grocer's Hall beare my boddy to the churche. 1617 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 434 Payde the saunder beaters..11*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* 1491 *Will of Vaughan* (Somerset Ho.), My *saunder cupp. 1481–9 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 42 Item, *sander poder di. lb. ij. s. vj. d. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1605 The *Saunders tree..groweth to be as bigge as the Wallnut tree. 1615 *Cal. St. Papers, E. Ind.* (1862) 380 *Sanders wood. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 52 Brandy..having its red colour from burnt sugar, Saunders wood, &c. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 190/1 Dyed red with the aromatic saunders-wood. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Sanders-wood.*

Sanders[2] (sa·ndəɹz). Also **saunders.** (See quot. 1892.)

1827 *New Syst. Cookery* 51 To dress the same [*sc.* cold beef], called Sanders. 1864 *Englishw. in India* 128 Saunders. Put a layer of mashed potatoes [etc.]. 1892 *Encycl. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) II. 377 Sanders. This name is given to a preparation of minced beef or other meat.

Sandery, obs. form of SANDERS[1].

†**Sa·ndesman.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 2 **sander man,** *Ormin* **sanderrmann,** 3 **sonder(e man,** 3–4 **sandirman.** β. 3 **sondes-,** 4 **sondezmon,** 4–5 **sondes-, sandes-, sandis-, soundis-,** 5 **sayndis-man.** [f. ME. *sandes*, genit. of SAND *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1] The α forms come from Scandinavian districts, and the *-er* seems to represent the ON. genitive ending *-ar*, although SAND *sb.*[1] does not appear to have existed in ON. Cf. *sand-man* s. v. SAND *sb.*[1]; also SENDMAN.] A messenger, envoy, ambassador.

α. 1123 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. Laud), & þær comen þes eorles sander men of Angeow to him. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19383 He [S. John Bapt.] nass nohht Crist..Acc sanderrmann biforenn Crist To kiþenn Cristess come. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1410 Laban and his moder wiþ-ðan faȝneden wel ðis sondere man. *a* 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 21408 (Gött.) þan sent þe king costantine, sandirmen [*Cott.* send men] till his moder eline.

β. *c* 1205 LAY. 13595 Heo..nomen ænne sondes-mon and senden toward Lunden. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 469 He sechez an oþer sondez-mon & settez on þe douue. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2399 Now ere þe sandismen sett on þaire horsis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* XXI. 8866 Then sent were þere sone soundismen two, To Priam, the prise kyng, purpos to hold. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 326, I rede ane sayndis-man ye send to yone senyeour.

So †**Sa·nderbode.** [BODE*sb.*[1] Cf. ON. *sendiboðe.*]

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 And þo tweien sander-bodes ferden and cudden in þe bureh, þat þe helende was þiderward.

Sandever, -devoire: see SANDIVER.

†**Sa·nd-eyed,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SAND *sb.*[2], supposed to be the first element in SAND-BLIND *a.*] Sand-blind.

1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 223 A sawcie Signor there is, whose purblind eyes can scarcely discerne a Lowse from a Flea... I doubt the sandeyde Asse, will kicke ..if I rubbe him on the gaule.

Sa·nd-fly. [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + FLY *sb.*[1]]

1. A small fly or midge, esp. one belonging to the genus *Simulium.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 46 The muscatos..were succeeded by an infinity of sand-flies. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 111 The burning-fly (*brulot*) or sand-fly of America and the West Indies. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Naturalist India* 59 That prince of gallynippers, the sand-fly, whose bite produces a painful and irritable swelling. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 276 The Sand-fly (*Simulia*), a small fly-like Midge, the females of which..are blood suckers.

b. An artificial fly used in angling.

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* (1700) 229 Sand Fly... Made of the Wooll gotten off the Flank of a black Sheep. 1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 202 The dace were rising furiously, and we got to work at once with a sandfly and a blue dun.

2. *Sand-fly bush*: see quot.

1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Nat. Pl. Australia* 282 *Zieria Smithii*, Andr...Colonial names are 'Sandfly Bush' and 'Turmeric'.

Sandgiac, variant of SANJAK.

Sa·nd-glass. [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + GLASS *sb.*[1]]

1. A contrivance for measuring time, consisting of two glass vessels of approximately conical shape, connected at the apex by a narrow neck, and containing so much sand as will take a given time to flow from the receptacle placed uppermost into that placed below; an hour-glass, a minute-glass, an egg-boiler, or the like. Also *fig.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 65 b/2 A sande glasse, or houre-glasse, *vitreum horologium.* 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d iv, Houre, halfe houre, and three houre Sandglasses. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 268 They turn a half minute Sand-Glass,..and then drop the Log from the Stern. 1779 BOSWELL *Let.* 22 Oct. in *Life Johnson*, But my sand-glass was now beginning to run low, as I could not trespass too long on the colonel's kindness. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxiii, My span must be a brief one, but let not your hand shake the sand-glass! 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 1/1 The two-minute sandglass on the table of the House of Commons ..has to be turned, and whilst the sand is running down the division bells are set in motion.

†**2.** = SAND-BOX 1. *Obs.*

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VIII. xxiv, Emptying the ink-glass, (by mistake for the sand-glass) on a paper which you have just written out fairly.

Sa·nd-grouse. [SAND *sb.*[2]] Any bird of the group *Pteroclomorphæ*, inhabiting sandy tracts of the old world, consisting of two genera *Pterocles* (esp. *P. arenarius*, the Sand-grouse proper, and *P. alchata*, the Pin-tailed Sand-grouse) and *Syrrhaptes.*

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 751 Sand Grouse. *Tetrao arenaria.* This is bigger than the Partridge. 1864 *Intell. Observer* IV. 197 The new British Sand-Grouse. (Pallas's Three-toed Sand-Grouse—*Syrrhaptes paradoxus.*) 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Naturalist India* 119 The painted or lesser sand-grouse (*Pterocles fasciatus*). 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 29 In the early morning the Namaqua sandgrouse come to their margins..to drink.

Sa·nd-heat. [SAND *sb.*[2]] Heat applied by means of heated sand; also = SAND-BATH 1.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, I meane to tinct C. in sand-heat, to morrow, And giue him imbibition. 1677 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* 317 You may distil the Spirit on a Sand-heat. 1746 R. JAMES *Mouffet's Health's Impr.* Introd. 42 By a Sand-heat, gradually increased, it yields first a..Liquor,..then a white volatile Salt. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 13 By evaporating the solution..to dryness by a strong sand heat.

Sa·nd-hill. [SAND *sb.*[2]] A hill or bank of sand; esp. a dune on the sea-shore.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 440 *Alga*, scaldhyflas *uel* sondhyllas. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 464/2 Sond hylle, or pytte, *sorica.* *a* 1603 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* 88 The space betwixt the sea and the sand-hills or Downs. 1709 PRIOR *Lady's Looking-Gl.* 2 Celia and I..Walk'd o'er the Sand-hills to the Sea. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 300 Chains of sand-hills have also accumulated on the shores of the delta of the Nile. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxviii, Easily, on the flowing tide,..she has slipped up the channel between the two lines of sand-hill. 1890 *Murray's Handbk. for Lincolns.* Introd. 26 The sand-hills or 'dunes' have little beauty beyond their wildness.

b. Sand-hill crane, *Grus canadensis* and *Grus mexicanus* or *pratensis* of North America.

1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 305/1 The great sand-hill cranes ..looking as big as the horses we rode.

c. Sand-hill Rosemary, a small heath-like evergreen shrub, *Ceratiola ericoides.*

1895 T. W. SANDERS *Encycl. Gard.*

Hence **Sa·nd-hiller,** one of a class of 'poor whites' living in the pine-woods that cover the sandy hills of Georgia and South Carolina.

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 506 The sand-hillers..are small, gaunt, and cadaverous, and their skin is just the color of the sand-hills they live on.

‖ **Sandia** (sa·ndĭa). [Sp.] A water-melon.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 87 Excellent fruits, especially Pines and Sandia's. 1902 in WEBSTER Suppl.

Sandifer, obs. form of SANDIVER.

†**Sandi·ferous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + -(I)FEROUS.] Producing sand.

1578 SIDNEY *Wanstead Play* in *Arcadia* (1629) 619 What said that Troian Æneas, when he soiourned in the surging sulkes of the sandiferous seas.

Sandiness (sæ·ndinĕs). [f. SANDY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being sandy.

c 1642 *Observator Def.* 6 The sandinesse and incoherence of the Animadversors consequence. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 132 The sandiness of their walks. 1873 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* 173 The eyes are injected and watery, with a feeling of soreness and sandiness.

2. *U. S. slang.* The quality of having 'sand' or pluck. (Cf. SAND *sb.*[2] 7 b.)

1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 31 Their persistent 'sandiness' compelled his admiration.

Sanding (sæ·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAND *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. SAND in various senses.

1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 10 Lands..Improved by..Marling, Liming, Sanding,..and such like helpes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict., Sanding*, a Term in Gardening, signifying the placing of Sand in an Alley. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2277 The process of sanding..is performed with fine sand thrown on the last coat of paint while wet. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* XXVIII, It was the subject of more stamping and sanding than I had ever seen before. 1887 R. RATHBUN *Hist. & Meth. Fisheries* (Fish. Industr. U.S. v.) II. 821 The New York dealers advocate their [*sc.* sponges'] sale by count, in order to circumvent certain fraudulent practices.. such as sanding and liming. *Ibid.* 840 The sanding process consists in mixing with the sponges..fine sand.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sanding-box, -gear, -machine*; **sanding plate,** a lap (LAP *sb.*[4]) used, with sand and water, in grinding marble.

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 367/2, I knew his *sanding-box would be empty before he shook it over his writing. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Aug. 9/3 An engine with..valve motion, break-gear, and *sanding-gear complete. 1882 *Builder* 18 Nov. 668/1 Watering and *sanding machines. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. III. 1210 The [horizontal revolving] lap, or as it is called the *sanding plate. 1866 *Cycl. Useful Arts* (ed. Tomlinson) II. 127/2 In the grinding of works of small or moderate size..sanding-plates are used.

Sandirman, variant of SANDESMAN *Obs.*

†**Sa·ndish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + -ISH.] Somewhat sandy.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Oct. 77 You may plant some Anemonies..in fresh sandish earth. 1675 — *Terra* (1676) 22 Some of them [*sc.* Chalks] have a Sandish, others a blacker and light surface.

Sandisman, variant of SANDESMAN *Obs.*

Sandiver (sæ·ndivəɹ). Forms: 4 **saundyuer,** 5 **sandifer,** 7 **sandivoir(e, sandevoire, sandover,** 7, 9 **sandever,** 6– **sandiver.** [App. a. F. *suint de verre* (*suint*, now *suint*, exudation from wool, app. f. *suer* to sweat; *de* of; *verre* glass).] A liquid saline matter found floating over the glass after vitrification; glass-gall.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1036 [Dead Sea.] Þe clay þat clenges þer-by arn corsyes strong, As alum & alkaran,..Soufre sour, & saundyuer, & oþer such mony. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 39 Calx vive, Sandifer, and Vitriall. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 145 Then put of the powder of Sandiuer finely made, into his eye. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 357 Martin saith, that hee alwaies vsed to blow a little sandiuoire [1658 Sandivoir] into the [horse's] eie once a day. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* ix, The water may take from it a sort of salt called *Sandever*. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. v. 118 One may melt the clean and rich Gold slicks..in a Crucible with a little of *Caput Mort.* and Sandover. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 39 Sandiver, Scoria Vitri, is the fæces and dregs of glass. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 166 Sandiver is purchased by refiners of metals, who use it as a powerful flux.

Sandjak, -djakate: see SANJAK, SANJAKATE.

Sand lark, sand laverock. [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + LARK *sb.*[1], LAVEROCK.]

1. A name applied, chiefly locally, to some of the smaller limicoline birds.

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 181 Besides here [*sc.* Ross] are Eagles,..Seapyes, Sandelevericks [etc.]. 1800 WORDSW. *Idle Sheph. Boys* 24 Along the river's stony marge The sand-lark chants a joyous song. 1831 J. RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict., Dulwilly* (*Charadrius Hiaticula*). Provincial...Sand Laverock. Ibid., *Sand Lark*, a name for the Ringed Plover, and the Sandpiper. Ibid., *Sandpiper* (*Totanus hypoleucus*)...Provincial...Sand Lavrock. Sand Lark. 1880 J. E. HARTING *Rodd's Birds Cornw.* 103 Under a variety of names, as Dunlin,..Sandlark, the bird [*Tringa alpina*] is well known to shore-shooters. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *Life* I. 335 Sand-grouse and sand-larks were occasionally seen.

2. A lark of the genus *Ammomanes*.

1869-73 *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 199 The Sand Larks (*Ammomanes*) easily recognisable by their strong beaks..and sand-coloured plumage.

3. *Austral.* The Red-capped Dottrel, *Charadrius ruficapilla*. (Morris *Austral Eng.*)

1867 W. RICHARDSON *Tasmanian Poems* Pref. 11 The nimble sand-lark learns his pretty note.

Sandle wood: see SANDALWOOD.

Sandling[1] (sæ·ndliŋ). Also 5 **sandel-, sawndelynge.** [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + -LING[1].]

†1. = SAND-EEL 1. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Sandel, or sandelynge, fische, *anguilla arenalis*. *c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winchester MS.), Sawndel, or sawndelynge. 1526 *Housek. Exp. Sir T. Le Strange* (B. M. Add. MS. 27448, lf. 30b), Item, in whytyngys and sandlyngs, *xid.*

2. A small flat-fish; a dab.

1611 COTGR. *Barbue*, ..a kind of lesse Turbot, or Turbot-like fish, called by some, a Dab, or Sandling. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx. 236 Dabs and Sand[l]ings. 1834 A. SMART *Rhymes* 90 (E. D. D.) Down by the Watermou' to wade An' howk for sandlings side by side Wi' nimble hand. 1907 *Nation* (N. Y.) 5 Oct. 13/1 Dabs or sandlings with the white side semi-transparent.

Sandling[2] (sæ·ndliŋ). *local.* [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + -LING[1].] (See quots.)

1794 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 12 The title of sandling being given peculiarly to the country south of the line of Woodbridge and Orford, where a large extent of poor, and even blowing sands is found. *Ibid.* 42. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 265 The eastern maritime sandy districts or sandlings, and the north-west sandy districts or fieldings.

Sandling, var. SANDALING, SANDERLING.

Sand lot. *U.S.* An epithet applied to the followers of Dennis Kearney, the leader of a socialistic or communistic party which existed 1877–80 (see quot. 1888). Hence **Sand lotter.**

1886 *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 416/2 We can or could appoint a Fenian [as ambassador] to London,..a sand-lot politician to China [etc.]. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 17 Feb. 107 [The California Chinese Mission] raised the last year in California $3,756, hoodlums, sandlotters and politicians to the contrary notwithstanding. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. V. XC. 232 On the west side of San Francisco..there.. was a large open space, laid out for building,..covered with sand, and hence called the Sand Lot. Here the mob had been wont to gather for meetings. *Ibid.* 245 After the session of 1880..what remained of the Sand Lot group was reabsorbed into the Democratic party.

Sandol(e, -dolo: see SANDAL *sb.*[2]

Sandover, obs. form or SANDIVER.

Sa·nd-paper, sa·ndpaper, *sb.* [f. SAND *sb.*[2]]

1. Paper upon which a layer of sand has been fixed by means of an adhesive, used chiefly for smoothing or polishing woodwork by abrasion.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 641 The surface of the work [must] be carefully rubbed down with sand-paper. 1830 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. III. 1091 Sand Paper is made with the common house sand, and only of one degree of coarseness, but in other respects exactly like glass paper. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* ix. 134 The sand and finer particles ..scour the walls..as effectually as though they were well rubbed with fine sand-paper.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sandpaper maker*; **sandpaper stick,** a shoemaker's tool for finishing the soles of boots; **sandpaper tree,** a name for several tropical trees, the rough leaves of which are used by the natives for polishing (see quots.).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 927 Examples of which [*sc.* dermatitis] are seen in the case of stone-cutters, *sand-paper makers [etc.]. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 2) 240 The Shoemaker's 'buff knife and *sandpaper stick'. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 567 The *sand-paper tree [*Kigelia pinnata*], whose leaves resemble a cat's tongue in roughness. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Sandpaper-tree, *Curatella americana*. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 367 Sandpaper Trees—*Dillenia scabrella* and *D. sarmentosa*,..natives of India.

Sa·ndpaper, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To smooth with or as with sand-paper; also with *down*.

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 122 The body-coachman..caused himself to be..sandpapered and scrubbed into presentability. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xii, Surely the..smooth..turnpikes are jack-planed and sand-papered every day. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 221 The whole is then sand-papered down thoroughly.

Hence **Sa·ndpaperer; Sa·ndpapering** *vbl. sb.*

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 60 Tobacco Pipe Making: ..Sand Paperer or Scourer. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* xxiv. 199 Sand-papering Machine.

Sandpiper (sæ·ndpəipəɹ). [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + PIPER[1].]

1. A common name for any limicoline bird which is not a plover or a snipe; esp. *Tringoides* or *Actitis* / *ypoleucus*, the Common Sandpiper, and *A. macularia*, the common N. American Sandpiper.

1674 RAY *Collect. Words* 90 Sand-piper: *Tringa minor*. 1768 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 8 Oct., The sandpiper, *tringa hypoleucus*. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 170 Green Sandpiper. *Tringa ochropus*, Lin. 1824 J. F. STEPHENS *Shaw's Zool.* XII. 130 Wood Sandpiper. (*Totanus glareola.*) *Ibid.* 144 Spotted Sandpiper. (*Totanus macularia.*) *Ibid.* 146 Purple Sandpiper. (*Totanus maritimus.*) 1835 AUDUBON *Ornithol. Biogr.* III. 444 The Curlew Sandpiper. *Tringa subarquata*, Temm. 1886 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 260/1 The birds commonly called Sandpipers seem to form three sections,..*Totaninæ*, *Tringinæ*, and *Phalaropodinæ*. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* ii. 78 Sandpipers trot in and out by troops after the retiring waves.

2. A kind of lamprey (see quot.).

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 693 The 'Pride' or 'Sand-Piper' or Small Lampern (*Petromyzon branchialis*).

Sa·nd-pit. [f. SAND *sb.*[1] + PIT *sb.*[1]]

1. A pit from which sand is excavated.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 464/2 Sond hylle, or pytte, *sorica*. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sandepytt, *sabloniere*. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Arenarius*.., one that kepeth sande pittes. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 35/2 There is no want of Sand-pits. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 823/1 (*Golf*), The ground is diversified by knolls, sand-pits, and other *hazards*. 1876 BUCKLEY *Short Hist. Nat. Sci.* xxxix. 418 Tools were found in..the sandpits of Abbeville.

2. *Founding.* (See quot.)

1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.* s.v. *Foundry Pit*, Foundry pits are either sand pits or open pits..Sand pits are so termed because the mould is of so weak a character as to require the support of sand rammed around in the space between it and the walls of the pit.

Sandrac, variant of SANDARAC.

†Sandragon. *Obs.* Also 5 **sank dragoun,** 7 **sangdragon.** [a. F. *sang* (*de*) *dragon*.] = DRAGON'S BLOOD.

1334-5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 525 In Sandragon, Coppros, et vertegrece empt. pro pede j equi. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 35 Leie aboue þe wounde a poundir maad oon partie of frankencense, & of two parties of sandragoun. *Ibid.* 151 Þe poudre of lym ffrankensence and sank dragoun. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 476 The true Cinnabaris or Sangdragon is worth fiftie sesterces by the pound. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 17 Take..of Sandragon one dram.

Sandrake, obs. form of SANDARAC.

†Sandre. *Obs. rare.* Shortened form of ALEXANDER *sb.*, a species of striped silk.

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 192 Item,..vij elnis and half ane quartar gray sandre; price elne xiiij *s.*

Sandrey, -drick, obs. ff. SANDERS[1], SANDARAC.

Sa·nd-ridge. [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + RIDGE *sb.*] A ridge of sand; a sandbank. Hence **Sand-ridged** *a.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (D.) 75 *Haec syrtis* þes sandhricg. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 210 This Banke or Sand-ridge, Portland. 1823 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 330 Westerham..lies between the sand-ridge and the chalk-ridge. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 417 The lagoons behind the sand-ridged beach.

Sandstone (sæ·ndstōun). [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + STONE *sb.*] A rock composed of consolidated sand. *Old* and *New Red Sandstone*: two series of British rocks lying respectively below and above the carboniferous.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 241 *Saxum Arenarium*, Sandstone. 1761 CATCOTT *Deluge* III. (1768) 249 A red Sand-stone. 1820 FOSBROOKE in *Q. Jrnl. Sci., Lit. & Arts* IX. XVII. 45 Old red sandstone. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 263 Fair Island, said to be composed of sandstone with high perpendicular cliffs. 1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* xi. (ed. 2) 235 We enter on a district of New Red Sandstone. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* IV. 261 There the ancient Arrow-maker Made his arrow-heads of sandstone. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 65 Sandstones are essentially littoral and shallow sea formations. 1879 HARE *Bunsen* II. viii. 437 Low round-headed arches of red sandstone.

attrib. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 358 Sandstone Porphyry. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 287 A sandstone quarry. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 127 Sandstone-schist.

†Sandwich, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [? The name of the town of *Sandwich*, Kent.] Used *attrib.* to designate some kind of cord used in the 15–16th c.

1494 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 560/3 Sion.. 6 pieces sandwich line @/4. 1498 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's Canterb.*, Sandwyche corde for the clothe afore ye Roode. 1526-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 339 Item, paid for a pece of Sandwych lyne for the chirch, iiij d. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 164 Sandwiche corde, packthreade, twyne.

Sandwich (sæ·ndwitʃ), *sb.*[2] [Said to be named after John Montagu, 4th Earl of *Sandwich* (1718–1792), who once spent twenty-four hours at the gaming-table without other refreshment than some slices of cold beef placed between slices of toast.

This account of the origin of the word is given by Grosley *Londres* (1770) I. 262. Grosley's residence in London was in 1765, and he speaks of the word as having then lately come into use.]

1. An article of food for a slight repast, composed of two thin slices of bread, either plain or buttered, with a layer of sliced meat, usually beef or ham (or, in later use, of almost any savoury comestible) placed between; frequently with specifying word prefixed, as *ham, egg, watercress sandwich*.

1762 GIBBON *Jrnl.* 24 Nov., Misc. Wks. 1796 I. 110 *note*, I dined at the Cocoa Tree...That respectable body..affords every evening a sight truly English. Twenty or thirty.. of the first men in the kingdom,..supping at little tables.. upon a bit of cold meat, or a Sandwich. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 208 *Sir Chr.* Not a morsel, Tom, if you would give me the universe! *Rack.* Pho, man! only a Sandwich or so. 1800-1 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 231 At Oakley Hall..we did a great deal—eat some sandwiches all over mustard [etc.]. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* XI. 21 Our Nimrods..have felt..the propriety of carrying a sandwich into the field. 1836-9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* iii, The supper consisted of small triangular sandwiches in trays. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 468 A..Glasgow confectioner..has the credit of making one hundred different kinds of sandwiches. 1872 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* III. 224 Egg Sandwiches. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* XXVI, He ordered a hasty lunch of claret and sandwiches.

transf. and *fig.* 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, A pale young man..came walking down the lane *en sandwich*—having a lady, that is, on each arm. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 468 A naval potentate..whose talk was a perfect sandwich of oaths and orders. 1884 EDNA LYALL *We Two* iv, The very oddest day, a sort of sandwich of good and bad.

2. Applied to a man carrying two advertisement boards suspended from the shoulders, one in front and the other behind; = *sandwich-man*.

[1836-9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Char.* ix, So, he stopped the unstamped advertisement—an animated sandwich, composed of a boy between two boards.] 1864 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 1460 The poor 'sandwiches' might justifiably have been kept moving, but to prohibit them altogether is a bit of unreasonable tyranny. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Feb. 12/2 We have, and not so very long ago, seen girls employed as 'sandwiches'.

3. *attrib.*, as *sandwich-bag, supper, tray*; (sense 2) *sandwich advertisement*; **sandwich beam** (see quot.); **sandwich-board,** a board carried by a sandwich-man; **sandwich-boat,** the boat which rows in two divisions of the bumping races at Oxford and Cambridge, occupying the last position in a higher division and the first position in a lower division; **sandwich box, case,** a box or case in which to carry sandwiches; **sandwich-man** = sense 2.

1884 *Times* 27 Oct. 4/2 Yesterday..I met..a procession of..girls,..bearing *sandwich advertisements. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvi, A closet in which the day boarders hung their bonnets and *sandwich-bags. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, **Sandwich beam*, a name sometimes given to the flitch girder. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 572 Some of my other men are only fit to carry *sandwich-boards for Day and Martin's blacking. 1884 *Oxf. & Camb. Undergrad. Jrnl.* 28 Feb. 273/1 Wadham was the *sandwich-boat. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XV, *Sandwich-boxes. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 203 Do not forget the *sandwich-case and flask of brandy. 1864 *Morn. Star* 26 May 4 He encounters a *sandwich man bearing placards. 1802 LEMAISTRE *Rough Sk. Mod. Paris* XXXII. 297 With only a standing or *sandwich supper. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 28 Dec. 3/1 Desert sets of dishes, plates, &c., and *Sandwich Trays.

Sandwich (sæ·ndwitʃ), *v.* [f. SANDWICH *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* ? To make a light repast.

1815 J. WILSON in *Mem.* vi. (1879) 133, I called..at Glencorse where I sandwiched for an hour.

2. *trans.* To put in or as in a sandwich; chiefly *fig.*, to insert (something) between two other things of a widely different character; also *to sandwich in*; rarely, to enclose like a sandwich.

1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 204 If capital would only turn its attention to the supplies of animal food..every man might have a slice of good beef sandwiched between his free-trade bread. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 28 Nov. 4/4 Mr. Disraeli sandwiches between sensible suggestions some of his very worst thoughts. 1881 *Times* 24 Feb. 8/3 The target was formed of two steel plates, 'sandwiching' an inch of deal. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. V, The wash..being sandwiched in between a bed of white pipe-clay and a top layer of brownish earth. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 78 (The Song of the Baujo)..I'm sandwiched 'tween the coffee and the pork.

intr. for *refl.* 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 103 The way in which the different functions 'sandwich' in with each other.

3. *intr.* To be employed as a sandwich-man.

1886 [implied in SANDWICHING *vbl. sb.*].

Hence **Sa·ndwiching** *vbl. sb.*

1886 *Gd. Words* 247 Election sandwiching is paid for at higher rates than ordinary advertisement sandwiching. 1886 *Times* 1 Apr. 9/1 The sandwiching of the Budget between the two declarations of policy.

†Sa·ndwicher. *Obs.* [-ER[1].] A native of the Sandwich Islands in the Pacific Ocean (named by Cook in 1778 after the fourth Earl of Sandwich); a Sandwich Islander.

1817 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVII. 9 One of the Sandwichers was ordered a few days after to commit the murder. 1824 W. E. ANDREWS *Rev. Fox's Bk. Martyrs* I. 402 Where are the persecutions to try the faith of the Sandwichers?

Sandwort (sæ·ndwɒ̃t). [f. SAND *sb.*[2] + WORT, plant.] A name given to the genus *Arenaria* and other plants growing in sandy localities.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xcvi. 347 Buckeshorne..is called also by certaine bastarde names, as *Harenaria*, or Sandwort. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 421–4. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 57 *Alsine*..Grove Sandwort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1015/1 Spurrey sandwort, *Spergularia*. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 34/3, I have not yet tried these Sandworts in shade.

Sandy (sæ·ndi), *sb.* Also 5 **Sande**, 6 **Sandie**. A shortened form of the name Alexander, chiefly used in Scotland. Hence used as a nickname for a Scotchman. Cf. SAWNEY.

1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 17 Item fra Sandy Wardrowpar, iij elne of blac. *Ibid.* 89 Item, to Sande Boyd ..iiij li. x s. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 69 He has Blind Hary, et Sandy Traill Slaine with his schour of mortall haill. 1585 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 390/2 Sandie clark. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue, Sawny* or *Sandy*, a general nick name for a Scotchman. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 493 A party of Lowland Sandies who filled the other seats.

Sandy (sæ·ndi), *a.* Forms: 1 **sandiz**, 4 **sondi**, 4–5 **sondy**(e, 4– **sandy**. [OE. *sandig*: see SAND *sb.*[2] and -Y. Cf. Du. *zandig*, MHG. *sandic* (G. *sandig*), ON. *sǫndug-r* (Sw., Da. *sandig*).]

1. Of the nature of sand; composed of or containing a large proportion of sand.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 94 Ðeos wyrt..wihst..on sandiȝum landum. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 17 Thei vseden girdyng to gidere of schipp, dredynge lest thei schulden falle into sandy placis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 447 Lond myxt with cley, or sondy cley, faat sonde. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. vi, Where the deepe did show his sandy flore. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 28 The Mason must work no Stone with Sandy veines. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 285 With sandy Ballast Sailors trim the Boat. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 55 In other parts it [the ocean] leaves wide sandy plains. 1787 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 216 Rubbed in with a brickbat or sandy stone. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 200 The term sandy..should never be applied to any soil that does not contain at least seven eighths of sand. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 169 A subsoil, the deeper the sandier. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xi, The spit of sandy rock which juts Spitefully northward.

b. Of or containing sand as used for measuring time. (Cf. SAND-GLASS.) *poet.*

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 36 Ere the Glasse that now begins to runne, Finish the processe of his sandy houre. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 138 O God, that it were possible..That time could turne vp his swift sandy glasse..to redeeme these houres! 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 31 The sandy glass hence bear—Antique remembrancer.

2. *fig.* Resembling sand as lacking the quality of cohesion or stability.

1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. A iij b, You may easily perceiue what successe they are like to haue, that deale with so leaden and sandie braines. 1592 — *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 265 The short shredder out of sandy sentences without lime. *a* 1609 DONNE *Lett.* (1654) 162 It were no service to you, to send you my notes upon the Book, because they are sandy, and incoherent ragges. 1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Corens* 29 Who build the Antiquitie of their Canonicall Howers vpon such a sandy foundation. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 105 But mark how sandy is your own pretence. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* III. (1722) 107 He said they [*sc.* the Quakers] were built upon a sandy Foundation, and so call'd them Shakers. 1822 B. CORNWALL *Dram. Scenes, Amelia Wentworth* i, Oh, what a picture have I raised upon My sandy wishes. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. i. 41 Now it was that men might clearly see on how sandy a foundation the grandeur of Spain was built.

3. Having hair of a yellowish-red colour; of hair, yellowish-red.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 68 A sandy colte, lyke an yren grey. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* IV. i, Hath your browne cow cast hir calfe, or your sandy sowe her pigs? 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 841 The Tocomans..are sandie, small, but not so little as they say of the Pigmees. 1731 SWIFT *Cassinus & Peter* Wks. 1755 IV. i. 163 Why, plague confound her sandy locks. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* viii, He was a florid young man..with sandy hair. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. xi, The ladies Fitz-Warene were sandy girls.

4. Qualifying the names of colours.

1819 WARDEN *United States* II. 409 Oak, sandy red. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xcix, My mother's sandy-red cat. 1885 J. BEDDOE *Races Brit.* 266 Red [hair], and a sort of sandy-flaxen hue. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 67 Wing-coverts edged with sandy-buff. *Ibid.* 78 The.. plumage is obscured by sandy-rufous edges to the feathers.

5. Comb., parasynthetic, as *sandy-bottomed, -coloured, -haired, -pated.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 66 From the Banks of Wye, And *sandy-bottom'd Seuerne. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 86 The red or *sandy coloured are the best. 1871 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 272 Her hair was cut..so as to cover her forehead with a straggling sandy-coloured fringe. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii, She was..pale, *sandy-haired. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 Your *sandy-pated companions.

b. Special Comb., as **sandy blight** *Austral.*, a kind of ophthalmia in which the eye feels as if full of sand (Morris); **sandy carpet**, a moth (see quot.); **sandy laverock** = SAND LARK; **sandy mocking-bird** *U. S.*, the brown thrush, *Harporynchus rufus*; **sandy pate**, a sandy-haired person; **sandy ray**, *Raia circularis*, also *R. maculata.*

1869 J. F. BLANCHE *Prince's Visit* 20 The Prince was suffering from the *sandy blight. 1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Syst. Catal. Brit. Ins.* II. 148 [*Emmelesia decolorata*] *Sandy Carpet. 1710 FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Decis.* (1826) IV. 793 To restrict him to the fifth part of the rent, was to send him to lift the rest of his stipend from windle-straws and *sandy laverocks. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, I had rather that the rigs..bare naething but windle-straes and sandy lavrocks. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Sandy-pate*, one red-hair'd. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue.* 1870 GÜNTHER *Cat. Fishes Brit. Mus.* VIII, *Raja circularis.* *Sandy Ray. 1880–4 DAY *Brit. Fishes* II. 346 *Raia maculata*..Sandy ray. *Ibid.* 348 *Raia circularis*...Sandy-ray.

Sandyish (sæ·ndi,iʃ), *a.* [f. SANDY *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat sandy.

1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 130 A light sandyish soil. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* vii, A tuft of sandyish hair.. ornamented his low forehead. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* ii, He had fair hair, sandyish beard.

‖ **Sandyx** (sæ·ndiks). *Hist.* Also **sandix** (Dicts.). [L. *sandyx, -dix*, a. Gr. *σάνδυξ, -δικ-*.] A red pigment, mentioned by ancient writers.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xxix. (1495) 878 Cerusa.. yf it is euen tostyd and medlyd wyth Rubrita thenne it torneth in to Sandix.] 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 533 Calcine this [Sandarach] and Ruddle together, and..you shall haue the color called Sandyx. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Sandix*, a kind of Minium, made of Ceruss or rather of red Masticot, calcined and rubified, called also a *Factitious Sandaract.* 1892 O. WILDE *Intentions* 106 On a wall of fresh plaster, stained with bright sandyx.

Sane (sēin), *a.* [ad. L. *sānus* healthy; cf. F. *sain*, Sp., It. *sano*, Pg. *são.*

The almost entire restriction in Eng. to the sense 'mentally sound' is due to the use in antithesis with *insane*, which (like the L. *insānus*, its source) always referred to mental condition.]

1. Of the body, its organs or functions: Healthy, sound, not diseased. *rare.*

[1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Ep. by Lymosin 251 For in veracity these Times denote Morbs to the Sane, and Obits to th' Ægrote.]

1755 JOHNSON, *Sane*,..sound; healthy. Baynard wrote a poem on preserving the body in a sane and sound state. 1777 MASON *Ep. to Dr. Shebbeare* 135 As Pringle, to procure a sane secretion, Purges the *primæ viæ* of repletion. 1826 MRS. SHELLEY *Last Man* II. 231 Pestilence had become a part of our future..it became our part to..raise high the barrier between contagion and the sane. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xviii, He touches the gland, and finds the skin sane and sound. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* lxxxviii, Mind, sound in body sane, Keeps thoughts apart from facts.

2. Sound in mind; in one's senses; not mad. Also, of the mind: Not diseased.

1721 BAILEY, *Sane*, sound, whole, in his Sences. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) I. 2 The activity of sane minds in healthful bodies. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii. (1850) 32/1 Every patient is as freely trusted with the tools of his trade as if he were a sane man. 1884 TENNYSON *Falcon* I. i. 46 To call a madman mad Will hardly help to make him sane again.

b. *Of sane memory*: see MEMORY 2 b.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. 166 If Coparceners make partitions at ful age and vnmarried, and of sane memorie of Lands in Fee simple, it is good & firme for euer.

3. Sensible, rational; free from delusive prejudices or fancies.

1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 44 A drunken physician, is an anomaly from which every sane man must turn with feelings of dislike. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 917 One of our noblest, our most valorous, Sanest and most obedient. 1899 [see IMPERIALISM 2]. 1908 *Athenæum* 29 Aug. 232/1 This is a sane and lucid study of twelve poets.

†**Sane**, *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *sānāre*, f. *sān-us* healthy: see SANE *a.*] *trans.* To cure, to heal.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 973 For, as seith Ierom, by fasting be saned [Skeat prints *saved*; Pseudo-Jerome (Migne XXX. 616) has *sanandæ*] the vices of flesh, and by prayere the vices of the soule. *c* 1400 *Hymn to Jesus Christ* 40 in *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 84 He will.. with his mercy sane my sore. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 693 (Thornton MS.) Surgeones sanede [*Douce MS.* saned] thayme, sothely to saye.

Sanedrim, -drist, obs. ff. SANHEDRIM, -DRIST.

Sanely (sēinli), *adv.* [f. SANE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a sane manner.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* ii, Her mind was still sanely capable of picturing balanced probabilities. 1884 TENNYSON *Freedom* viii, Of saner worship sanely proud.

Saneness (sēi·nnés). *rare*—[0]. [f. SANE *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being sane, sanity.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Saneness*, Soundness of Health.

Sanetyf, obs. form of SANATIVE.

Sanfaile, Sanfoin: see SANS FAILE, SAINFOIN.

Sang (sæŋ). *Sc.* and *north.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SAM *sb.* 2.] Used in the asseverative phrase (*By*) *my sang*; also shortened to *sang.*

1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Sang is't*, indeed it is. N. 1790 A. WILSON *Poems* 87 But by my sang! now gin we meet, We'll hae a tramp right clever. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets*, etc. 70 'Ma sang!' said McKeel, 'ye've come to the richt shop.'

Sanga(r, var. ff. SUNGA, a stone breast-work.

Sangarede, variant of SANGREDE *Obs.*

Sangaree(sængărī·). Also **sangarie, sangre**(e. [a. Sp. *sangría* (lit. 'bleeding'), 'a drink composed of lemon water and red wine' (*Novísimo Dicc.*, 1868).] A cold drink composed of wine diluted and spiced, used chiefly in tropical countries.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* Sept. 551 Mr. Gordon, a Punch-seller in the Strand, had devised a new Punch made of strong Madeira wine and called Sangre. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Sangaree*, rack punch was formerly so called in bagnio's. 1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant* (ed. 2), *Sangree*, rack punch. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. 293 Sherbet, sangaree, and wine and water. *Ibid. note*, Water, Madeira wine, nutmeg, and sugar. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 302 The worthy manager then retired to his sangarie. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxvii, Which..enabled the fortunate owner to take his last tumbler of port-wine sangaree. 1865 *Indian Dom. Econ.* (ed. 6) 329 Sangarie. Mix three bottles of red wine with three half pints of water [etc.]. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vii, Come, and I'll show you how to brew sangaree.

attrib. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life in India* i. 4 The Anglo-Indian is generally believed to be a luxurious idler, whose life is spent in hookah-smoking,..sangaree-drinking.

Hence **Sangaree**· *v. trans.*, to make (wine) into sangaree.

1860 R. FOWLER *Med. Vocab.*, *Sangareed*, reduced in strength and sweetened.

‖ **Sang-de-bœuf** (sɑ̃dəbœf). [Fr.: lit. 'bullock's blood'.] 'A deep red colour found on old Chinese porcelain' (Stanf.). Also *attrib.*

1886 *Athenæum* 13 May 650/3 His claret-jug with a body of *sang de bœuf*. 1897 *Daily News* 29 July 2/7 A slender vase of splashed sang-de-bœuf crackle.

Sangdragon, variant of SANDRAGON.

Sange, Sangeak: see SONG, SANJAK.

Sangester, obs. form of SONGSTER.

Sangewyn, obs. form of SANGUINE *a.*

‖ **Sang-froid** (sɑ̃frwa). [F. *sang-froid*, lit. 'cold blood' (*sang* blood, *froid* cold).

In the 17th c. the expression was in France often written erroneously *sens froid*, as if it contained *sens* 'sense' instead of the homophonous *sang* 'blood'.]

Coolness, indifference, absence of excitement or agitation.

1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 27 Don Louis, with the same *sang froid* as constantly persisted, till he at last prevailed. 1790 J. P. ANDREWS *Anecd., Add.* Index 5 Sang-froid of a chess-player. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VIII. CXXI, With great sang-froid..he sat smoking Tobacco. 1888 'ANNA K. GREEN' *Behind Closed Doors* v, Cameron accepted the situation with his usual *sang froid.*

Sangiac(c)o, -iac(h, -ia(e)que: see SANJAK.

Sangister, obs. form of SONGSTER.

Sangle, obs. form of CINGLE.

†**Sa·nglier.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 5 **synglere**, 5, 7 **singuler**, 7, 9 **singler**; *β.* 6 **sangleir, sangweler**, 6–7, 9 **sanglier**, 6, 8 **sangler**. [a. OF. *sengler, sanglier, sanglier* (mod. F. *sanglier*) = Pr. *singlar-s, senglar-s*, It. *cinghiale, cignare*:—L. *singulārem* solitary (see SINGULAR *a.*), used subst. in late L. (Vulg. Ps. lxxix. 14 after Gr. *μονιός* in the LXX) for a boar separated from the herd.

The forms *synglere, singler* show normal phonetic development from early ME. **sengler*, a. OF. *sengler*; the form *singuler* is due to assimilation to the Latin.]

A full-grown wild boar (see quots.).

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3124 Boyes in þe subarbis bourdene flulle heghe, At a bare synglere that to þe bente rynnys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xii. 47 Lyke to the strenthy sangler, or the bore. 1541 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VII. 472 Ane pale of tymmer within the park of Falkland to the sangweleris. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 100 The next yere he shall be called a Sanglier of three yeres old. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv. § 5 (1615) 43 After the fourth yeere, if not before, hee departeth from the Sounder, and then you shall call him, a Singler, or rather, Sanglier. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 132/1 A Boar [of 5 years is] a Singuler, or more properly a Sanglier. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wild Boar*, He is also call'd Singlet or Sangler.

Sangrado (sangrā·dō). [The name of a character in Le Sage's *Gil Blas*, a physician whose sole remedies were bleeding and the drinking of hot water; suggested by Sp. *sangrador* bleeder.] A medical practitioner resembling Dr. Sangrado; a doctor given to bleeding, or an ignorant pretender to medical knowledge.

1820 SCOTT *Lett.* (1894) II. 90 One is sadly off in France and Italy, where the Sangrados are of such low reputation, that it were a shame even to be killed by them. 1873 E. H. CLARKE *Sex in Educ.* 63 Our fathers' physicians were too often Sangrados.

‖ **Sangrador** (sangradō·r). [Sp. = 'bleeder'.] = SANGRADO.

1832 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 248 In Spain, every village has even now its *Sangrador*, whose only cast of surgery is blood-letting; and he is rarely idle.

Sangrail (sængrē·l). In 5 **sangrayle, -grayll**(e, **seynt graal**, 7–9 **sangreal**, 9 **sangreall**. [a. OF. *Saint Graal* 'Holy Grail': see SAINT *a.* and GRAIL[2].

The pseudo-etymological form *sang royal* (confusing the word with SANG-ROYAL 2) appears in AF. of the 13th c.: see Godefr. *Compl.* s. v. SANC. Another spurious etymology formerly common appears in the following quot.:—

1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* i. 13 Others think that the word was *Sangreal*, being some of Christ's real blood..said to be somewhere found by King Arthur.]

1. = GRAIL[2].

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 10 The knights of the table Round, The sangrayle when they had sought. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 32 Thi boke shalbe cleped the boke of the seynt Graal. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xi. 88 Soone after the aduentures of the Sangrayll shalle come among yow and be enchened. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. *Introd. Epist.* 268 He took the Sangreal's holy quest. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* II. 145 They bear the veiled sun like a sangreal aloft to the wavy marble flooring of stainless cloud.

†**2.** The book of the Grail. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xiii. 91 As it telleth after in the sangraylle.

†Sa·ngrede. *dial.* (*Suffolk*). *Obs.* Also 6 **sangarede, sangered, sangred.** [Of obscure origin: perh. f. OE. *sang* SONG + *rǽde* reading.] A service chanted for the souls of the departed.

1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 30, I wil the seid Will^m Baret..paye yeerly..iij s. iiij d. for a sangrede, that my soule, my fadrys and modrys sowlys, and my frendys, may be preyd fore in the pulpet on the Sunday. 1492 *Ibid.* 80 That aftyr myn decesse be song and kepte yerely..a sangrede for the sowlys of the seyd John Odeham, Margarete hys wyff [etc.]. 1504 in Wright *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Eng.* II. 821 To the sepulkyr lyght vi. hyves of beene to pray ffor me and my wyffe in the common sangered. 1539 *Will of Bryan* (Somerset Ho.), That myn Executours kepe..by the space of xx^ti yeres a Sangrede for my sowle.

†Sa·ngris. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Of obscure history, but repr. mod.L. *synagris* (Rondelet 1554), a. Gr. σύναγρις.] A fish of the genus *Synodus*.

1598 *Epulario* F iiij, To dresse a Sangris or tooth fish [It. *dentale*].

†Sang ro·yal. *Obs.* Also 5 **sanke royall, saunke realle, 6 sangue, sank royall.** [Fr.; *sang* (OF. *sanc*) blood, *royal* ROYAL.]

1. Royal blood.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 179 Taghte mene and towne..Of saunke realle in suyte, sexty at ones. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xxv. (1558) 16 As Sanke royall doth playnly determyne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 6 One that descended from the high progeny of the Sangue royall.

derisively. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 490 He came of the sank royall, That was cast out of a bochers stall.

2. The blood of Christ.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1463 That goodly place.. Where the sank royall is, Crystes blode so rede.

Sangstar(e, obs. forms of SONGSTER.

Sangsue (sæ·ŋsiū). ?*nonce-wd.* [a. F. *sangsue*: see SANGUISUGE.] A leech.

a 1849 POE *Tale Ragged Mount.* Wks. 1865 II. 320 The poisonous sangsue of Charlottesville may always be distinguished from the medicinal leech by its blackness.

Sanguane, -guen(e, obs. ff. SANGUINE *a.*

Sangue royall, variant of SANG ROYAL *Obs.*

Sangueyn(e, obs. forms of SANGUINE *a.*

Sanguicolous (sæŋgwi·kɒ̄ləs), *a.* [f. mod.L. **sanguicol-a*, f. L. *sangui-s* blood + *col-ĕre* to inhabit: see -OUS.] Inhabiting the blood, as a parasite. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Sa·nguiduct. [f. L. *sangui-s* blood + *ductus* DUCT.] **†a.** A blood-vessel (*obs.*). **b.** *nonce-wd.* (after *aqueduct*). A drain for carrying off blood.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Sanguiducts*, the vessels that carry the blood through the body, as the veins and arteries. 1853 J. W. CROKER *Hist. Guillotine* 81 It became neçessary to build a kind of sanguiduct, to carry off the streams of blood from the Guillotine.

Sanguiferous (sæŋgwi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. **sanguifer*, f. L. *sangui-s* blood: see -FEROUS.] Bearing or conveying blood.

1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) p. v, A vein is a sanguiferous vessel. 1793 ABERNETHY in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 60, I shall first relate those varieties of the sanguiferous system which were found on the thoracic side of the diaphragm. 1857 BULLOCK *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 191 The sanguiferous apparatus of the yolk of fowls.

Sangui·fic, *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. **sanguificus*, f. L. *sangui-s* blood: see -FIC.] Blood-producing.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 294 Upon the failing of the fermentation and sanguifick virtue of the Bloud. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 543 It [swooning] more commonly originates in the sanguific or digestive organs.

Sanguification (sæ·ŋgwifikā·ʃən). [ad. mod.L. *sanguificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sanguificāre*: see SANGUIFY *v.* Cf. F. *sanguification.*] The formation of blood, conversion into blood.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* V. 80 The liuer the shoppe of sanguification. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 381 The work of Sanguification or bloud-making is performed by the Bloud. 1702 FLOYER *Hot & Cold Bath.* I. iv. (1709) 101 The Sanguification of the Chyle. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. iv, The lungs the only organ of sanguification. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* Note 215 It appears..that he had discovered the circulation of the blood, and the sanguification of the heart. 1856 in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 305 The aggregate of the changes which..foods undergo up to sanguification is called digestion. 1876 MᶜKENDRICK *Outl. Physiol.* 206 Sanguification, or the preparation of a nutritive fluid called the Blood, which [etc.].

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 130 This Concoction, is as it were the Sanguification of the Common-wealth. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Sage*, Botanists are now generally agreed, that all Plants are furnish'd with Organs and Parts necessary both for Chylification and Sanguification.

†Sangui·ficative, *a. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *sanguificātivus*, f. *sanguificāre*: see -ATIVE.] Blood-producing.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 209 Because the Liver was not a Kitchin, but a family Governour by its own Sanguificative ferment.

†Sa·nguifier. *Obs.* [f. SANGUIFY *v.* + -ER¹.] Something that produces blood.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 40 It is the first Sanguifier or the workhouse wherein the bloud is made. 1696 FLOYER *On Humours* (J.), Bitters, like choler, are the best sanguifiers, and also the best febrifuges.

†Sangui·fluous, *a. Obs.* [f. mod.L. **sanguiflu-us* (f. L. *sangui-s* blood + *flu-ĕre* to flow) + -OUS.] Flowing with blood.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IX. 340 When Bile and Phlegm falls by a sanguifluous Vein. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1860 R. FOWLER *Med. Vocab.* 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sanguifluous*, flowing or running into blood.

†Sa·nguify, *v. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *sanguificāre*, f. L. *sangui-s* blood: see -FY.]

1. *intr.* To produce blood.

1624 BP. HALL *True Peacemaker* in *Var. Treat.* (1627) 540 The head to deuise and command, the eies to see,..the liuer to sanguifie. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* (1656) 375 If the Liver be weak and cannot make Blood enough, (I would have said sanguifie if I had written only to Schollers). *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 29, I do not digest, sanguifie, nor my Heart move, nor my Blood circulate..by any immediate command of my Will.

fig. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 66, I doubt his will like a hard spleen draws faster than his understanding can well sanguifie.

Hence **†Sa·nguifying** *ppl. a.*

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 40 Which..it doth..enfeeble, and dispoliate of its sanguifying facultie. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 400 The liquor hath less of a Vital Sanguifying power than it had before.

Sanguigenous (sæŋgwi·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [f. L. *sangui-s* blood + -GEN + -OUS.] Producing blood.

1852 W. GREGORY *Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 496 The food of animals should contain a due admixture of sanguigenous and respiratory food.

†Sanguina·ceous, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *sanguinem, sanguis* blood + -ACEOUS.] (See quot.)

1816 T. BROWN *Elem. Conchol.* 163 *Sanguinaceous*, of a blood colour, or resembling blood.

‖Sanguinaria (sæŋgwinē·riă). *Bot.* and *Pharm.* [mod.L. application of L. *sanguinārius* (sc. *herba*), fem. of *sanguinārius* pertaining to blood: see SANGUINARY *a.*

The plant so called in classical Latin (identified by Pliny with Gr. πολυγονον POLYGONUM) had the name from its real or supposed property of stanching blood; the modern application refers to the blood-red colour of the root.]

The blood-root, *Sanguinaria canadensis*; also the rhizome of this, used in medicine.

1842 BRYANT *Fountain* iv, The flower Of sanguinaria, from whose brittle stem The red drops fell like blood. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 435 As an emetic, sanguinaria has fallen into well-deserved disuse. 1887 *Homeopathic World* 1 Nov. 506 In reference to Sanguinaria, he said that its most brilliant triumphs were in edematous laryngitis.

†Sanguina·rian, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *sanguinārī-us* (see SANGUINARY *a.*) + -AN.] = SANGUINARY *a.* 2.

1637 HEYLIN *Answ. Burton* 89 Such a rayling Rabsakeh, so sanguinarian a spirit.

Sanguinarily (sæ·ŋgwinărili), *adv.* [f. SANGUINARY *a.* + -LY².] In a sanguinary manner.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1893 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 243 A mosquito ..adhered sanguinarily to the side of his aristocratic nose.

Sanguinarine (sæ·ŋgwinărin). *Chem.* Also **-in**; earlier **sanguinarina.** [f. SANGUINARIA + -INE. Cf. F. *sanguinarine.*] (See quots.)

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 292 Of Sanguinarina. This substance was discovered by M. Dana in the root of the *sanguinaria canadensis*. 1852 GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 366 Sanguinarine..forms a grey powder, which is alkaline and yields red salts. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 194 Meconidine is Homologous with Sanguinarin, an alkaloid contained in *Chelidonium majus*, a papaveraceous plant. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sanguinarin*, $C_{17}H_{15}NO_4$. The alkaloid of blood-root, the rhizome of *Sanguinaria canadensis*...Also, $C_{34}H_{15}NO_8$, a brown, resinoid substance obtained by precipitation from a tincture of the root of *Sanguinaria canadensis.*

Sa·nguinariness. [f. SANGUINARY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sanguinary.

1689 *Myst. Iniq. working* 30 The Treachery, Sanguinariness, Violence and Cruelty which the Papal Principles mould, influence, and oblige Men unto. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensland* II. xxxi. 150 Blucher accompanies them, and greatly amuses his master by the excessive sanguinariness of his disposition.

†Sanguina·rious, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sanguinārī-us* SANGUINARY + -OUS.] Sanguinary.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 89 To expresse his Sanguinarious Nature, he [etc.].

†Sa·nguinary, *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *sanguināria*, fem. of *sanguinārius* pertaining to blood (see SANGUINARY *a.*), used *ellipt.* as a name for various plants (see 1 below and SANGUINARIA), also, in med.Latin as the name of a jewel (see 2 below).]

1. A name applied to certain plants having styptic properties, esp. milfoil, *Achillea Millefolium*, and shepherd's purse, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*; also to *Polygonum Hydropiper* (see 2nd quot. 1526). In some recent Dicts. said to be used in the sense of SANGUINARIA.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Sanguinarye, herbe, or mylle-folye..*sanguinaria, millefolium.* 1526 *Grete Herball* lxxii. (1529) E ij b, Bursa pastoris is shepeherdes purs, some call it sanguynary, bycause it stanncheth bledynge of the nose. *Ibid.* cccliii. I v b, Persicaria..Some call it sanguynary or blodeworte bycause it draweth blode in places that it is rubbed on.

2. A kind of BLOOD-STONE.

1465 *Will of Blyton* (Somerset Ho.), Anulum..cum lapide infix. vocat. Sanguinarye. 1504 in Wadley *Bristol Wills* (1886) 178 A chevne of gold with a Sanguinarye. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* A vij b, The Sanguinarie which in Greek is called Amatites, which being well chafed and rubbed, bleedeth. 1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 511 Item one sworde, with a pomell of sanguimarie [*sic*].

Sanguinary (sæ·ŋgwinări), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. L. *sanguinārius*, f. *sanguin-em, sanguis* blood: see -ARY. Cf. F. *sanguinaire*, Sp., Pg., It. *sanguinario.*]

1. Attended by bloodshed; characterized by slaughter; bloody. Of laws: Imposing the death-penalty freely.

1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 431 We may not ..propagate Religion, by Warrs, or by Sanguinary Persecutions, to force Consciences. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxix. 70 The eagerst, and most sanguinary Warrs are about Religion. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 107 For the Penal Laws (those only excepted which were Sanguinary,..) were never more rigidly executed. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. iv. 368 Here endeth this sanguinary act. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 137 His [Charlemagne's] laws were not less sanguinary than his arms. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* VI. i. II. 21 A sanguinary conflict took place, and the prince gained a complete victory. 1877 BROCKETT *Cross & Cr.* 27 Twenty-one years out of ninety were spent in war, often of the most sanguinary character.

2. Bloodthirsty; delighting in carnage.

1623 COCKERAM II, *Blood thirsty*, sanguinary. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sanguinary*, cruel, thirsty, bloody, desirous of, or delighted in shedding blood. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. x. 357 They aggravated the treacherous and sanguinary ambition of Daluca. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 170 The facetious Fuller, speaking of one Morgan, a sanguinary bishop in the reign of Queen Mary, says of him, that [etc.]. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xvi, Brissac is somewhat of a sanguinary person to deal with.

†b. *absol.* as *sb.* A sanguinary person. *Obs.*

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* I. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 415 He that thus dothe cary Is a mercenary, Yea, a sangunary. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. v, A Souldier..Who being by custome growne a Sanguinarie..Is more delighted i' the chase of an enemy..Then all the..happinesse of Issue could bring to him.

3. Of or pertaining to blood. *rare.*

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Mater tenuis*, a Membran which..clothes the Brain and Cerebellum, extreamly full of sanguinary Vessels. 1908 P. T. FORSYTH in *Expositor* Sept. 215 Sacrifice, in the ritual sense, in the sanguinary sense, has long had no real place in our religion.

¶4. *slang.* Used as a jocular euphemism for BLOODY, in reports of vulgar speech.

†Sanguina·tion. *Obs.* [n. of action f. L. *sanguināre* to bleed, f. *sanguin-em, sanguis* blood: see -ATION.] A flow of blood.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51 b/1 There followeth such a superfluous sanguination, that by noe meanes it can be restraygned. 1599 — *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 67/2 Vse this every moneth in the increasing of the Moon, till the sanguination be stenched.

Sanguine (sæ·ŋgwin), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **sangueyn(e, -gweyn(e, 4–6 sanguyn(e, -gwyn(e,** 4–8 **sanguin,** 5 **sangewyn, -gwayn, -gwen, -gwynne,** 6 **sangwane, sanguane, -uene,** 7 **sanguen,** 4– **sanguine.** [a. F. *sanguin* (fem. *sanguine*), ad. L. *sanguineus*: see SANGUINEOUS. Cf. Sp. *sanguino.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Blood-red. Also *sanguine red* (sometimes hyphened), **†*red sanguine, †brown sanguine.** Now only *literary.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xlv. 12 With..blyu vyolet silc, and sanguyn silc [Vulg. *hyacintho et purpura*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1310 His colour was sangwyn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xxiv. (1495) 877 Sinopis is a red colour and is callyd Rubrica for it is nexte to redde sangweyne. 1399 in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) II. 449 A longe sangwyn gowne furryd with Calabir. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 106, ij girdils y^e tone redde and tother sangvyn. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1932 His colour was sangweyn. 1494 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 323 A sangewyn kyrtyll and a smoke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ii. 4 Within hir rosy cartis cleirlie schane Aurora vestit into broun sanguane. 1526 *Grete Herball* xxviii. (1529) B v b, It is an vnpure thynge and hath a sanguyne coloure. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 625 Interlaced..with certain knots, both white and also of a sanguine red. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 106 Like to that sanguine flower inscrib'd with woe. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 153 In Persia the womens pale colour is made sanguine by adulterate complexion. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* clii, Her flag aloft, spread ruffling to the wind, And sanguine streamers seem the flood to fire. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 112 The vault is painted with a deep sanguin red. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 185 Yon sanguine cloud, Rais'd by thy breath. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 158 The lilac, various in array, now white, Now sanguine. 1820 SHELLEY *Cloud* 31 The sanguine sunrise, with his meteor eyes, And his burning plumes outspread. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 26 In an obscure corner grew the sanguine beet. 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana* iii, The beautiful virgin devoted to the sanguine coat.

b. *Nat. Hist.* Chiefly in names of animals and plants, usually as transl. of mod.L. *sanguineus* in specific names.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 657 Sanguine Turtle. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. II. 487 Sanguine Paradise-bird, *Paradisea sanguinea.* 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 82 The sanguine ants at length rush upon the negroes. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 480 Sanguine; dull red, passing into brownish black. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 261, I may compare the Sanguine Sponge to an uneven, rather than a hilly country.

2. Of or pertaining to blood; consisting of or containing blood. Now *rare.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 259 Dyssentyrye..Wych ..Sendyth owte sangweyn agestyoun. 1584 COGAN *Haven*

Health cxl. 125 The tongue is of a spungie and sanguine substance. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sanguin flesh*..is that which is engendred of blood; of which sort is the flesh compounded in the Muscles, the Heart [etc.]. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 60 The Barber, that has stept from the demolishing of Beards, to the Practice of more sanguine Operations. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 4 Without any Pretensions to that Sanguine Discovery [of circulation of blood], or knowing any thing considerable of it, much less of his Teaching it to Dr. Harvey. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 300 That this Poison may duely operate, it is necessary that it should be externally admitted into the sanguine vessels. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 368 The colouring part seems to be richer in the sanguine principle. 1812 [see FRUSTUM 2]. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VII. iv. § 17. 146 It was..to serpents, that the Greeks likened the dissolving of the Medusa cloud in blood. Of that sanguine rain..I cannot yet speak. 1873 MRS. H. KING *Disciples, Giov. Nicotera* (1877) 307 One sanguine sacramental cup.

b. Causing or delighting in bloodshed; bloody, sanguinary. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 19 The *Inquisition*, the *Hangman*, the *Dragoons*, and the *Jaylors*, are the Holy Pillars of their Sanguine Priest-craft. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlii. 115 Ordered both their Heads to be struck off, which ended their Disputes effectually.. but Governor Sowdon was sent for to Fort St. George, and another sent in his Place less sanguin. 1736 LD. J. HERVEY *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) I. 346 The long and sanguine war that soon followed. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. xxxi, And Fear, the demon pale, his sanguine shrine forsook. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 85 The fiends in hell delight to view The sanguine slaughter done. 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* ix. 331 The craziest career which ever closed a brilliant dynasty in sanguine gloom.

3. In mediæval and later physiology: Belonging to that one of the four 'complexions' (see COMPLEXION *sb.* 1) which was supposed to be characterized by the predominance of the blood over the other three humours, and indicated by a ruddy countenance and a courageous, hopeful, and amorous disposition.

In the strict use as connected with the doctrine of the four 'complexions', the word is now only *Hist.*; but the modern writers (chiefly phrenologists) who have attempted a classification of 'temperaments' usually retain it as one of their descriptive terms.

c 1385 CHAUCER *Prol.* 333 Of his complexioun he was sangwyn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXXI. (1495) 689 The vse of pepyr is not prouffitable to Sangueyne men. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 196 The sangueyn man of blood hath hardynesse, Wrouhte to be lovyng, large of his dispence. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 58 The iiij [*sc.* complexions]..sanguyn, melancolyk, phlegmatyk, and coleryke. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron. Edw. IV* 192 b, A prince of haut corage, young lusty and sanguyne of complexion. 1587 GREENE *2nd Pt. Tritameron* Wks. (Grosart) III. 144 The Saturnine temperature is necessarie to dry vp the superfluities of the sanguine constitution. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 309 A fat sanguine Woman. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Sanguine constitutions require a frequent use of phlebotomy. Sanguine people are usually observed to be brisk, bold, daring, and even presumptuous. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) II. lxii. 228 [A disease] more apt to seize people of a sanguine constitution than others. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVII. 346 Persons of a sanguine temperament are in general the most susceptible. 1855 BROWNING *An Epist.* 109 The man—it is one Lazarus a Jew, Sanguine, proportioned. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 88 (1879) 98 Small brains and great activity, betoken what are known as the sanguine and nervous temperaments.

b. *Astrol.* Of signs, etc.: Favourable to the sanguine complexion.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astr.* vi. 48 [The First Quadrant is] called the Orientall, Vernall, Masculine, Sanguine, Infant quarter.

c. With reference to 'complexion' in the modern sense (see COMPLEXION *sb.* 4): Red in the face. Cf. sense 1.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1982/4 He is very tall, having curled brown Hair, or sanguine Complexion. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 138 A sanguine complexion had, of late years, usurped upon the original bronze-tint.

4. Of persons or their dispositions: Having the mental attributes characteristic of the sanguine complexion (see sense 3 above); chiefly, disposed to hopefulness or confidence of success.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 73 For sanguyne youth it is al contrary. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, He is neither too fantastickally Melancholy; too slowly Phlegmatick, too lightly Sanguine. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *B, Our two Great Poets, being so different in their Tempers, one Cholerick and Sanguin, the other Phlegmatick and Melancholick. 1841 BREWSTER *Mart. Sci.* II. iv. (1856) 147 He was of sanguine temperament. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. I. vii. 97 Philip was not of that sanguine temper which overlooks..the obstacles in its way. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xix. 144 It was published..under difficulties which would..have killed any man of less sanguine temperament.

b. Of persons and expectations, etc.: Hopeful or confident with reference to some particular issue.

1673 *Lady's Call.* Pref. (1684) 4 When the most sanguine of his Disciples had denied, yea forswore, and all had forsaken him. 1712 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mr. W. Montagu* 9 Dec., Sanguine groundless hopes, and..lively vanity.. make all the happiness of life. 1735–6 T. SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 151 Do not think me sanguine in this; for more unlikely and less reasonable favours have been granted. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 242 In the fond imaginations of a sanguine avarice. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. ix. 139 He now looked forward with sanguine hope to the accomplishment of all his plans. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Y. Marchmont* iii, It's kind of you to look at it in this sanguine way, Arundel. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* ix. 417 And yet how fascinating is Ragusa still! It far surpassed our most sanguine expectations.

5. *Comb.*, parasynthetic and adverbial, as *sanguine-coloured*, *-complexioned*, *-streaming*, *-valiant* adjs.; **sanguine-bilious** *a.*, partly sanguine and partly bilious; **sanguine-heart** *a.*, *nonce-wd.*, crimson at the heart; **sanguine-nervous** *a.*, partly sanguine and partly nervous; †**sanguine-rod**, the wild cornel or dogwood; **sanguine root** = BLOOD-ROOT; †**sanguine stone** (see quot.).

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXXI. 424 Jane McKernan, aged 28—*sanguine bilious. 1552 *Inv. Ch. of Surrey* (1869) 31 A *sangwyne coloured coope of Sattyn. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 24 Wrapped warmly in a sanguine-coloured cloak. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2773/4 Round Shoulder'd and *sanguine Complexion'd. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* III. 356 Where in maple-chamber glooms, Crowned with what *sanguine-heart pomegranate blooms, Advanced it ever? 1842 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 277 A mixture of the sanguine and nervous, the **sanguine-nervous*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 189 The plant called the *Sanguin-Rod. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XXXIII. 48 The sixth [kind of Geranium] is called..*Sanguine roote, or Bloud roote. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Sanguine stone*, lapis Sanguinalis, a kind of Jasper, brought from New-Spain. 1799 H. GURNEY *Cupid & Psyche* xiii. (1800) 35 And *sanguine-streaming fires arise Meteorous from the trembling ground. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii. 101 Audacity and hope alternate in him with misgivings; though the *sanguine-valiant side carries it.

B. *sb.*

†1. A cloth of blood-red colour, also a piece of this.

1319 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 131 [Also two] sanguynes [in grain, value 15 pounds]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 439 In sangwyn and in pers he clad was al. 1411 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 51 [To the aforesaid Alice two] Kirtells, [one of] Sangwyn.

†2. A blood-red colour. *Obs.*

a 1500 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 90 Thanne 3our flote is made fore 3our sangweyns, and also for 3our viollettes saddere thanne 3our morreys. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* (1812) 592 Grained clothe of sondrie coloures, as scarlettes, crimosins, sanguines. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 114 This face [in a picture] had bene more cumlie, if that hie redde in the cheeke, were somwhat more pure sanguin than it is. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 39 From which forth gusht a stream of gore blood thick,..And into a deep sanguine dide the grassy grownd. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 68 They..had all the coate coulours of sanguin, purple, crimson, copper, carnation that were to be had in their countenaunces. 1612 PEACHAM *Genl. Exerc.* I. xxiii. (1634) 80 With which water you may Diaper and Dammaske upon all other blewes, and sanguines to make them shew more faire and beautifull.

b. *Her.* (See quots.)

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 22 The last of all collours, of Armory, which is called Murrey. This is blazed Sanguine, and is a princely colour. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. iii. 11 The last of the seuen mixed colors we doe commonly call Murrey, but in Blazon, Sanguine. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sanguine*, the Heralds term for the Colour usually called *Murry*, being made of Lake with a little Spanish Brown. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* iii. 51 Sanguine [is represented] by diagonal lines intersecting each other.

†3. The sanguine 'complexion' or temperament.

1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sanguyn a complexion, *sanguin.* 1594 LADY RUSSELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 40 Your Lordships so honorable most kynde..visitacion, as turned melancoly into a sanguin. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 25 That it is the Reign of Sanguine, not the rule of the Spirit, is discoverable both from the Complexion of the Head of this Sect, as also from the general disposition of his followers. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* I. ii. 15 His temper was a Mixture of Sanguine and Choler.

4. *Art.* A crayon coloured red with iron oxide; a drawing executed with red chalks.

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art*, *Sanguine*, a deep blood colour, prepared from oxide of iron. 1882 HAMERTON *Graphic Arts* 115 When an artist uses red chalk or sanguine he does not intend to produce a very powerful effect. *Ibid.*, Examples of fine sanguines are..extremely frequent in every large collection of drawings by the old masters. 1886 *Academy* 21 Aug. 127/2 An interesting Greuze sketch in sanguine.

†**Sa·nguine,** *v. Obs.* [f. SANGUINE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To stain or paint a sanguine colour.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Pavonado*, sanguined as a sword hilt. *Politus.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 558 Iron-smiths also haue much vse of bitumen, and namely, in sanguining or colouring their ironworke. 1611 COTGR., *Sanguine*, the bloud-stone wherewith Cutlers doe sanguine their hilts. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 140 His face was also sanguined with Vermilion. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 91/2 Sanguining, is to make it [the Hilt and Pommell] of a pure Purple colour.

2. To stain with blood.

1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. vi. (1611) 54 It is the honour of a generous minde, to put off his belt, and not to sanguine his blade with cold blood. 1689 J. BENT *Bloody Assizes* 16 He breathed Death like a destroying Angel, and sanguined his very Ermins in Blood.

Hence **Sa·nguined** *ppl. a.*, stained with blood; of eyes: bloodshot.

1700 PARNELL *Battle Frogs & Mice* I. 111 He rolls his sanguin'd Eyes. *a* 1814 *Gonzaga* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 126 That life..Which..Heav'n did preserve In battle on Bulgaria's sanguin'd plains.

Sanguinean (e, var. ff. SANGUINIAN *Obs.*

†**Sa·nguineless,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SANGUINE *sb.* + -LESS.] Bloodless.

1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* II. 45 But they shall see her, in her native dress, Such as she is 'mongst shades, pale, sanguinless.

Sanguinely (sæ·ngwinli), *adv.* [f. SANGUINE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sanguine manner.

1. Hopefully; confidently.

1653 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 29 My Lord of Rochester hath written very sanguinely hither about his negotiations at the Dyett. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 334, I cannot speculate quite so sanguinely as he does. 1857 BUCKLE in A. H. Huth *Life* (1880) I. ii. 140 My mother is a little better, and writes very sanguinely about herself.

†2. In a manner characterized by bloodshed. *Obs.*

1765 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 2/2 Intermarriages, by which the heretofore so sanguinely rival houses of Austria and Bourbon have been drawn nearer to each other.

Sanguineness (sæ·ngwinˌnės). [f. SANGUINE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sanguine. †**a.** Of 'complexion' (see SANGUINE *a.*). *Obs.* **b.** Hopefulness, confidence of success.

1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sanguynesse, *sanguinevr.* 1659 *Genil. Calling* (1696) 94 Whether the Sanguineness of their Temper make them lustful, or the melancholy revengeful. 1727 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* (1728) I. 3 To give a wicked Man a little View of that World he must enter into, divested of Flesh and Blood, may make him drop some of his Arguments supported only by the Sanguineness of his Constitution. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 417 The sanguineness of my temper kept me in a constant expectation of my friends return. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 13 A boy of eighteen or twenty has, as a general rule, a healthy fund of sanguineness with which to start on life's journey.

Sanguineo- (sæŋgwi·nio), used as combining form of L. *sanguineus* SANGUINEOUS, SANGUINE *a.*, prefixed (with hyphen) to adjs., forming physiological terms with the sense 'partly sanguineous (or sanguine) and partly something else'; also in **sanguineo-vascular** *a.*, pertaining to blood-vessels. Cf. SANGUINO-.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 417 Of a sanguineo phlegmatic temperament. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 257/1 Sanguineo-vascular Ganglia. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 144 The sanguineo-bilious temperament. 1879 LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* (ed. 3) 521 *Sanguineo-black*, blood-red black.

Sanguineous (sæŋgwi·nias), *a.* [f. L. *sanguine-us* (f. *sanguin-*, *sanguis* blood) + -OUS.]

1. Of or pertaining to blood; of the nature of or containing blood.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. ix. 127 This part, or animall of Plato, containeth not only sanguineous and reparable particles, but is made up of veynes, nerves, arteries. 1673–4 GREW *Anat. Trunks* I. ii. § 34 As the Sanguineous Vessels in an Animal are composed of a number of Fibres. 1704 RAY *Creation* II. 332 To supply the sanguineous Mass with Nitro-Ærial Particles. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 225 Different organs secrete and assimilate different substances from the sanguineous fluid. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sanguineous cyst*, a cyst containing blood, whether it be primarily a blood-cyst, or one into which hæmorrhage has secondarily occurred. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 466 In exceptional cases vesications are produced..whose contents may become sanguineous or puriform.

†b. Of animals: Having blood. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvi. 144 Sanguineous corticated animals, as Serpents, Toads, and Lizards. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 59 It is plain that a Louse is a Sanguineous Animal. 1667 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (ed. 2) 323 Perfect and sanguineous animals.

2. Of the colour of blood.

Sanguineous creeper, *honey-eater*, book-names for *Certhia sanguinolenta* (1811–1826 Shaw and Stephens *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 232, XIV. 263).

c 1520 *Interl. Beauty & Gd. Prop. Women* A j, I know that nature hath gyuyn me bewte with sanguynyous complecyon fauour & fayrenes. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xviii. 120 He may give an account also of a Red-angry Sun, *Sol Rutilus*, in Kepler, which others call Sanguineous. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* II. 76 His passion, cruel grown, took on a hue Fierce and sanguineous. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 280 Sanguineous (*Sanguineus*), red with a tint of black. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. i, For swinging of incense-pans and Eighty-three Departmental Banners, we have waving of the one sanguineous *Drapeau-Rouge*. 1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 59 Wings sanguineous at base. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 356/3 Large flowers ..[of] a very deep sanguineous crimson.

3. Of or pertaining to bloodshed; giving rise to bloodshed; bloodthirsty, sanguinary. Now *rare.*

1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* Ep. Ded. 2 A detestation against all Popish, Ignatian, bloody, and sanguineous attempts. 1642 HALES *Schism* 11 No occasion hath produced more frequent, more continuous, more sanguineous Schismes, than this hath done. 1663 J. H. *Hist. Cromwell* v. in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 275 His other Victories..were very sanguineous, and fatally cruel. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 244 When a chancellor, more experienced than Rhadamanthus, more sanguineous than Draco, shall have the care of the innocent flock! 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 305 Sanguineous histories of queens who sewed their lovers into sacks.

4. Of persons, their constitution or temperament: = SANGUINE *a.* Also, in recent use, Full-blooded, plethoric. *Sanguineous fever* (see quot. 1753).

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 287 All things which accelerate the Motion of the Blood are hurtful to sanguineous Constitutions. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Sanguineous fevers*, a term used by the medical writers to express a kind of fever, in which there is always a plethora, or fullness of blood. 1806 SIR C. BELL *Anat. Expression* vi. (1844) 144 Courage..is witnessed in the pale and fragile, more than in the strong and sanguineous. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXXI. 421 Edward Fitzgerald, labourer.. temperament sanguineous. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 6 Four principal temperaments are described, the sanguineous, lymphatic, bilious, and nervous.

b. Of mental temperament: = SANGUINE *a.* 4.

1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* V. v, Therese, who was of a less sanguineous temperament than her sister, affected despair.

Hence **Sangui·neousness**, in quot., the condition of having a blood-red colour.

1865 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 7 June, The women..are ruddy to sanguineousness.

†**Sangui·nian**, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 4 sanguinien, 6–7 sanguinean(e. [a. OF. *sanguinien*, f. *sanguin*: see Sanguine *a.*] a. *adj.* Having the sanguine temperament. b. *sb.* A person of sanguine temperament.

1340 *Ayenb.* 157 Pane colrik mid ire and mid discord. Pane sanguinien mid iolimeté and mid luxurie. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* Prol. 11 The secund is Sanguineane sicklike. 1607 Earl Stirling *Cæsar* IV. ii, No corpulent Sanguinians make me feare. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 347 Sanguineans must take no more of it than lightly to relish their unsavoury Meat. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 119 Sanguinians did only laff, Choleric Melancholians chaff.

†**Sangui·nical**, *a. Obs.* [f. Sanguine *a.* + -ic + -al.] = Sanguine *a.* 3.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* (1906) 130 He was..of a sanguinicall complexion, and a couragious stomacke.

Sanguini·colous, *a. rare*—°. = Sanguicolous.

1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v.

Sanguini·ferous, *a.* = Sanguiferous.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

Sanguinification (sæŋgwinifikē·ʃən). [f. L. *sanguin(i-)*, *sanguis* blood: see -fication.] = Sanguification.

1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* 536 The functions most at fault, whether of digestion, assimilation, or sanguinification, must be carefully attended to.

Sanguinism (sæ·ŋgwiniz'm). *rare.* [f. Sanguine *a.* + -ism.] Sanguineness of temperament.

1897 *Times* (weekly ed.) 5 Oct. 656/2 The mingled *insouciance* and sanguinism of that fair-haired adventuress.

†**Sa·nguinist.** *Obs.* [f. Sanguine *a.* + -ist.] A person (or animal) of a sanguine temperament.

1628 Jackson *Worthy Churchman* 36 To sanguinists we must pipe; to melancholists mourne. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* II. 5 Y 4. The Black [Horses] with white Marks, are Sanguinists.

Sanguinity (sæŋgwi·nĭti). [f. Sanguine *a.* + -ity.]

1. †**a.** = Consanguinity. [So OF. *sanguinité*, med.L. *sanguinitas*.] *Obs.* b. (See quot. 1897.)

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* lxiii. xi, Alle menne hym loued for his sanguynite [*v.r.* consanguynyte (he was the uncle of the empress Helena)]. 1741 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 22 Oct., Some say that the duel would have been no breach of sanguinity. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sanguinity*..the quality of likeness or unlikeness between parents.

2. The quality of being sanguine. *rare.*

1737 Swift *Let. to Sheridan* Wks. 1761 VIII. 278 But I distrust your sanguinity so much (by my own desponding temper) that [etc.]. 1822 J. MacDonald *Mem. J. Benson* 291 Whatever severity might appear from time to time in Mr. Benson's manner..may be attributed to the sanguinity of his temper.

Sanguinivorous (sæŋgwini·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sanguin(i-)*, *sanguis* blood: see -vorous.] = Sanguivorous.

1828–32 in Webster. 1895 A. H. Miles *Nat. Hist. in Aneed.* 38 The Vampire Bat of South America has long been credited with sanguinivorous habits.

Sanguino- (sæŋgwino), used as combining form of Sanguine *a.*, prefixed with hyphen to adjs. to form physiological terms with the sense 'partly sanguine and partly something else'. Also in **sanguino-purulent** *a.*, consisting of pus mixed with blood. Cf. Sanguineo-.

a 1697 Aubrey *Lives* (1898) I. 138 He was..sanguino-cholerique, middle sized, strong. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 160 Oozing of sanguino-purulent fluid.

‖ **Sa·nguinole.** *Obs.* [Fr., f. *sanguin* Sanguine *a.*] A kind of pear.

1693 Evelyn *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 123 The Sanguinole or Bloody-Pear, August. 1786 Abercrombie *Arr.* in *Gard. Assist.* p. xii, Pears principally for Baking. ..Sanguinole or blood pear.

Sangui·nolence. *rare*—°. [See -ence.] = next.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

†**Sangui·nolency.** *Obs.* [f. next: see -ency.] The quality of being sanguinolent; in quot., addiction to bloodshed.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 247 That great red Dragon with seven Heads is so called from his Sanguinolency.

Sanguinolent (sæŋgwi·nolĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *sanguinolentus*, f. *sanguin-*, *sanguis* blood: see -olent.]

1. Of or pertaining to blood; tinged or stained with or containing blood. Now chiefly *Path.* †Also of a patient: Suffering from hæmorrhage.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 47 b/2 The Dysenteria or bloodye flixe is a sangvinolent excrement of the Bellye. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 67/1 Agaynst bleedinge of the Nose...Take the Mosse of a dead mans Cranium,..and applye that to the sanguinolent Patient his nose, and it helpeth. 1613 Marston *Insatiate Countesse* v. Wks. 1856 III. 181 Yet the sanguinolent staine would extant be! 1697 Headrick *Arcana Philos.* 39 Preparation in Sanguinolent Ulcers. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 194 Find a home In some grim lion's den sanguinolent. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 598 Pericarditis with abundance of sanguinolent effusion.

†**2.** Having the colour of blood, blood-red. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4109 Fore rede sangvinolent was alle cristis clothing. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. v. 141 The comete stern sanguynolent, Wyth hys red cullour trist and violent.

3. Bloodthirsty; cruel; merciless. *rare.*

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1115/2 Others of good behaviour, have beene most cruellie cast awaie by these former sanguinolent thirstie lawes. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 30 He makes Sanguinolent outcrys against those of the Clergy who [etc.]. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIV. 569 From the days of sanguinolent Sulla until now.

Sanguinous (sæ·ŋgwinəs), *a.* [ad. OF. *sanguineux*, ad. late L. *sanguinōsus*, f. *sanguin-*, *sanguis* blood: see -ous.]

†1. Of eyes: Bloodshot. *Obs.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxvii. 103 Her fayre eyen..were incontynent tourned in-to a right hidouse lokynge mobyle, & sangwynouse to see.

†2. Bloodthirsty; attended by bloodshed; cruel, merciless. *Obs.*

1755 T. H. Croker *Orl. Fur.* xxxvi. xxx, The skirmish terrible and sanguinous.

3. Of or pertaining to blood.

1833 J. Eberle in *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* (1897) IX. 18 [It] depends mainly, if not wholly, on great sanguinous engorgement of the pulmonary blood-vessels.

Sanguisorb (sæ·ŋgwisɔ̄ɹb). [ad. mod.L. *Sanguisorba*, f. L. *sangui-s* blood + *sorbēre* to absorb; so called from the use of burnet as a styptic.]

1. A plant of the N. O. *Sanguisorbaceæ*, typified by the genus *Sanguisorba* (now a sub-genus of *Poterium*), which includes the common burnet.

1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 561 Its habit, indeed, is by no means that of Sanguisorbs.

¶ **2.** quasi-etymologically: A 'blood-sucker'.

1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 73 A pluralist and a sanguisorb of the deepest dye.

†**Sa·nguisuge.** *Obs.* Also 7 sanguisug. [ad. L. *sanguisūga*, f. *sangui-s* blood + *sūg-ĕre* to suck.] a. A blood-sucker (*fig.*). b. A leech.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* II. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 431 That blody judge And mighty sanguisuge, The Pope that is so huge, Is ever ther refuge. 1575 Banister *Chyrurg.* I. (1585) 23 Sanguisuges also serue to this purpose. *a* 1609 A. Hume *Ep. to G. Mont-Creif* 175 As sanguisugs quhilk finds the feeding gud, Cleaues to the skin.

Sanguisu·gent, *a. rare*—°. [f. L. *sangui-s* blood + *sūgent-em*, pr. pple. of *sūgĕre* to suck.] Blood-sucking. In recent Dicts.

Sanguisugous (sæŋgwisiū·gəs), *a.* [f. L. *sanguisūga* (see Sanguisuge) + -ous.] Blood-sucking; †also *fig.* bloodthirsty, cruel.

1615 T. Adams *Lycanthropy* Ep. Ded., To expose his foming malice and sanguisugous cruelty to mens censure and detestation. *Ibid.* 29 These were the sanguisugous wolues, Papists. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

[**Sanguivolent** (in Dicts.), misprint for *sanguinolent* in (? Beaum. & Fl.) *Faithful Friends* III. iii.]

Sanguivorous (sæŋgwi·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sanguis* blood: see -vorous.] Feeding on blood.

1842 Blyth in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* XI. i. 255 Notice of the predatory and sanguivorous habits of the Bats of the genus Megaderma. 1883 G. E. Dobson in *Nature* XXVII. 412 The vampire..believed by the older naturalists to be thoroughly sanguivorous in its habits.

Sangweler, var. form of Sanglier *Obs.*

Sanhedrim, sanhedrin (sæ·nĭdrim, -in). *Jewish Antiq.* Also 6–7 **sanedrim**, 7 -in. [a. late Heb. סַנְהֶדְרִין *sanhedrīn*, a. Gr. *συνέδριον* council, lit. 'sitting together', f. *σύν* together + *ἕδρα* seat. The incorrect form *sanhedrim*, which has always been in England (from the 17th c.) the only form in popular use, seems to have arisen from a notion that the ending of the word was the Aramaic plural suffix *-īm*, the Heb. equivalent of which was *-īm*. Cf. G. *sanhedrin*, F. *sanhédrin*, It., Sp. *sanedrin*, Pg. *sanedrim*.] 'The name applied to the highest court of justice and supreme council at Jerusalem, and in a wider sense also to lower courts of justice' (W. Bacher in *Hastings' Dict. of the Bible*, s. v.); the 'Great Sanhedrim' is said to have consisted of 71 members. Also, the title given to the assembly of representative Jewish rabbis and laymen convened by Napoleon I in 1807 to report on certain points of Jewish law.

1588 J. Udall *Demonstr. Discipl.* i. (Arb.) 15 For priests, pastours;..for rulers of the Synagogue, Elders;..for the Sanedrim, the Eldership. 1625 T. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* v. (1641) 190 The greater court by way of excellency, was called the Sanhedrim, which word came from the Greek *συνέδριον*, a place of judgement. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 146 Ezra the President..of this Sanedrin, or great Synagogue. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sanhedrim* or *Sanhedrin*. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. v. § 3. 169 The cognizance and tryal of false Prophets did peculiarly belong to the great Sanhedrim. *c* 1800 Moore *Devil among Schol.* 56 Priest and holy Sanhedrim Were one-and-seventy fools to him! 1877 C. Geikie *Christ* lii. (1879) 618 The great ecclesiastical court of the nation, known in the Talmud as the Sanhedrim.

b. *transf.*

1653 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 4 The management of the Governement is now resolved to bee by a Sanedrim or 70 of the best men that can bee thought of through England. 1797 Burke *Affairs Ireland* Wks. IX. 464 This Protestant Apostle is as much above all suspicion of Popery as the greatest and most zealous of your Sanhedrim in Ireland can possibly be. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* VI. i, Occupied in that way, an august National Assembly becomes for us little other than a Sanhedrim of Pedants. 1865 Lowell *Reconstruction* Prose Wks. (1890) V. 222 Here [is]..an acknowledgment of the human nature of the negro by the very Sanhedrim of the South. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* I. vii. (1878) 68 It is quite possible for whole sanhedrims of the most respectable divines..to misunderstand important doctrines of revelation.

Sanhedrinist (sæ·nĭdrinist). [f. Sanhedrin + -ist.] = Sanhedrist.

1880 A. J. Mason in *Academy* 10 Jan. 20/3 What their authors deemed good for an ideal Sanhedrinist.

Sanhedrist (sæ·nĭdrist). Also 6 **sanedrist.** [f. Sanhedr(im) + -ist.] A member of the Sanhedrim; also *fig.*

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 179 Me thinkes the wisest Sanedrist of a thousand, should hardly persuad me, that he is a frend of Princes, and no enemie of Monarchies. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 4 The inquisitorial agent of Priests and Sanhedrists.

Saniacco, -iacho, -iack(e, etc.: see Sanjak.

Sanicle (sæ·nik'l). Also 5 **sanycle**, 6 **sanickle**, 6–7 **sanikell**, (7 **sanikl**, 8 **sanicula**). [a. OF. *sanicle* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; AF. *c* 1265 in Wr.-Wülck. 553/9), ad. med.L. *sanicula*, *saniculum*, prob. f. L. *sān-us* healthy, with reference to the healing powers formerly attributed to the plant. Cf. Sp., Pg. *sanicula*, It. *sanicola*, G. *sanikel* (late OHG. *sanikela*).]

1. The umbelliferous plant *Sanicula europæa* (more fully *wood sanicle*). Also, in extended sense, any plant of the genus *Sanicula*, as *S. marilandica*, the black snakeroot.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 263 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 Take sanycle and grynde it smal. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 86 Sanicula is named in englishe Sanicle. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* xvi. 66 With a sufficient quantity of the juice of Sanicle..make thereof Trochisqus. 1852 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vii. 254 A sanicle not unlike the S. Marilandica. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* II. 183 Compare, also, fruits of Sanicle, covered with stout hooked prickles. 1889 *Daily News* 20 May 5/2 Patches of woodsanicle.

2. Applied to various plants of other genera. †**a.** = Satyrion (*obs.*). †**b.** = Saxifrage (*obs.*). **c.** With defining words, as **Alpine, bear's ear sanicle**, the primulaceous plant *Cortusa matthioli*; **American sanicle**, *Heuchera villosa* (Miller *Plant-n.*, 1884); **(American) bastard sanicle**, the genus *Mitella*; †**great sanicle**, Lady's mantle, *Alchemilla vulgaris*; **Indian, white sanicle** *U.S.*, the white snakeroot, *Eupatorium ageratoides* (Cent. Dict.); †**Yorkshire sanicle**, butterwort, *Pinguicula vulgaris.*

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 613/33 *Stinctum*, i. *Satirion*, sanycle. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xcviii. 140 Great Sanicle or Ladies Mantell, groweth in some places of this countrey. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxiii. 643 *Pinguicula*..Butterwort, or Yorkshire Sanicle. *Ibid.* 645 The first is called..in English spotted Sanicle; of our London dames pratling Parnell. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* xi. 24 The Bears eares according to their name Sanicle are no lesse powerful for healing then the former. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 345 Next Spotted Sanicle and Navel-wort. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 326 Sanicle, *Saxifraga*. *Ibid.*, Sanicle, American Bastard, *Mitella.*

Sanidine (sæ·nidīn). *Min.* [a. G. *sanidin* (K. W. Nose 1808), f. Gr. *σανιδ-*, *σανίς* board: see -ine.] A glassy variety of orthoclase, found in flat crystals (Chester).

1815 Aikin *Man. Min.* (ed. 2) 197 Glassy Felspar. Sanidin. 1849 J. Nicol *Man. Min.* 121 The glassy felspar or sanadine is by some considered a distinct species. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Sanidine*,..a name given to Glassy Felspar, on account of the tabular form of its crystals.

Hence **Sanidi·nic** *a.*, containing sanidine. **Sa·nidinite**, a rock consisting largely of sanidine.

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 748/2 Modern volcanic rocks (quartzose trachyte, amphiboliferous and sanidinic trachyte).

‖ **Sanies** (sē·ni,īz). [L. *saniēs*. Cf. F. *sanie*.]

1. *Path.* A thin fetid pus mixed with serum or blood, secreted by a wound or ulcer.

1562 Bullein *Bulwark*, *Soarnes & Chir.* 27 Now sanies is nothyng els, but corrupted foode or nourishemente which natur was not able to digest. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 789 For the stanching of bloud, the curation of ulcers, the hindering of sanies. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Lev.* xv. 4 Paul found it as noisom to his soul..as the sanies of a plague-sore to a rich robe. 1707 P. Blair *Misc. Observ.* (1718) 43 There flowed out a great deal of Sanies and Ichor, scarce any purulent Matter. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 220 A bloody sanies was discharged. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 283 The whole hand was a mass of yellow pus, streaked with sanies.

†**b.** *fig. Obs.*

1652 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* ii. II. (1653) 19 Gods heavie hand shall press the *sanies*..out from all our sins.

†**2.** Any watery fluid of animal origin. *Obs.*

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 54 The Sanies, or matter of a Goats liver rosted, helps the dimnesse of sight. 1792 Belknap *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 184 Mr. Peck..has assured me, that 'the sanies of many testaceous marine animals will give the same tint'. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxviii. 5 Those having..cold white sanies in the place of blood. 1834 Macgillivray *Lives Zoologists* 59 Every living creature has a humour, blood, or sanies the loss of which produces death.

†Sani·ferous, *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *sānifer*, f. *sān-us* healthy: see -FEROUS.] Health-bringing.

a 1706 EVELYN *Sylva* II. iii. (1776) 342 Not that there are no nociferous trees, as well as saniferous.

Sanify (sæ·nifəi), *v.* [f. L. *sān-us* healthy (see SANE *a.*) + -(I)FY.]

1. *intr.* To become sane or reasonable.

1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump., Anger*, This seasonable arrest of our functions gives us time to sanify.

2. *trans.* To make healthy; improve the sanitary conditions of (a city, etc.).

1872 [see below]. 1891 *Nation* (N.Y.) 3 Dec. 423/2 Palermo is transformed—cleansed, sanified, and..beautified. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 691/2 To sanify Jeddah and its vicinity.

Hence **Sa·nified** *ppl. a.*

1872 W. R. GREG *Enigmas Life* 30 *note*, The premature deaths of the bread-winners [will] disappear before sanified cities and vanishing intemperance.

Sanikell, sanikl, obs. forms of SANICLE.

Sanious (sē·nios), *a.* [ad. F. *sanieux*, ad. L. *saniōsus*, f. *saniēs*: see SANIES and -OUS.] Of the nature of sanies; consisting of, or containing sanies; yielding a discharge of sanies.

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Soarnes & Chir.* 22 b, Take heede ..that passage be left in the loweste parte, for sanious matter. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* II. iv. 177, I was sent for, and observing the Ulcer sanious, proposed Digestion. ?1780 COWPER *Recipr. Kindness* 15 The cure was wrought; he wip'd the sanious blood. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 351 Cells..containing a sanious fluid. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 394 The ulcer presenting the well-known raised, hard, ragged edges, and sanious base.

Sanitarian (sænitē··riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SANITARY *a.* + -AN.] **A.** *sb.* One who studies sanitation; one who is in favour of sanitary reform.

1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. Introd. 11, I will go with you and see the chief sewers..and if that is not an inducement to offer to a sanitarian [etc.]. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* May 602 Energetic and practical 'sanitarians' had made successful war upon dirt, overcrowding, and foul air. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 924 A crusade in favor of 'fresh air' was fought by the sanitarians.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to sanitary matters; advocating sanitary reforms.

1884 *Athenæum* 5 Apr. 446/2 Its serious interest is rather antiquarian than sanitarian. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* 275 In some sanitarian salon Macaulay's New Zealander..will exhibit his sketch.

Hence **Sanita·rianism.**

1881 R. N. BOYD *Chili* 3 The monotonous regularity prescribed by modern sanitarianism is observed. 1891 EBSWORTH *Roxb. Ball.* VII. 425 At which some of our modern puritanic hypocrites affect to be shocked, resenting it as an outrage on their fastidious Sanitarianism.

Sanitarily (sæ·nitărili), *adv.* [f. SANITARY + -LY 2.] With regard to sanitary condition.

1881 A. ELWES tr. *Pinto's How I crossed Africa* I. ii. 36 A small amount of goodwill would make it, sanitarily, far better than it is. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Apr. 14/1 A miniature mansion, tastefully and sanitarily fitted. 1889 *Twentieth Cent.* (N.Y.) 6 Apr., You can make a prison..as sanitarily perfect and as administratively humane as you like.

Sanitariness (sæ·nitărinės). [f. SANITARY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being sanitary.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Dec. 2/2 To secure the sanitariness of all premises within its area.

Sanitarist (sæ·nitărist). [f. SANITARY *a.* + -IST.] = SANITARIAN *sb.*

1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 130 This new 'National Association' seems the most hopeful and practical move yet made by the sanitarists.

Sanitarium (sænitē··riŭm). [quasi-Lat., f. *sānitās* health: see next and -ARIUM.] = SANATORIUM 1 and 2.

1851 LADY BENTHAM in *Mech. Mag.* LV. 304 Sanitariums, wherein the diseased of all ranks might, at moderate cost obtain superior medical advice. 1861 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* I. vii. (1875) 192 Mentone has made a great step in advance..as a winter sanitarium. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Sept. 5/1 The Mansion House committee for the provision of sanitaria for diseased cattle have thrown up their work.

Sanitary (sæ·nitări), *a.* Also *erron.* sanitory. [ad. f. *sanitaire* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.), as if ad. mod.L. **sānitārius*, f. L. *sānitās* health: see SANITY and -ARY 2.]

1. Of or pertaining to the conditions affecting health, esp. with reference to cleanliness and precautions against infection and other deleterious influences; pertaining to or concerned with sanitation. Also *occas.* of conditions or surroundings: Free from deleterious influences.

Sanitary cordon: see CORDON 4.

1842 (*title*) Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of Great Britain. 1849 *Act* 11 & 12 *Vict.* c. 63 § 1 Provision..for improving the Sanitary condition of Towns and populous places. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 427 It may well be..that sanitary police and medical discoveries may have added several more years to the average length of human life. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 38 A committee of persons was formed, who were supposed to have some skill in sanitary science. 1875 *Act* 38 & 39 *Vict.* c. 55 § 5 Urban sanitary authorities and rural sanitary authorities..invested with the powers in this Act mentioned. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 798/1 The want of constant supervision of the slaughter-houses is thought..to be a serious defect in the sanitary law of the country.

b. Used as the distinctive epithet of appliances specially contrived with a view to sanitary requirements; e. g. of certain makes of wall-paper, of glazed tiles for flooring and walls, of non-absorbent pipes for drainage; and the like.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 27 Flanged and unflanged sanitary tubes, from four to twelve inches in diameter. 1872 CROOKES *Wagner's Handbk. Chem. Technol.* 321 Sanitary ware is one of the largest branches of stoneware manufacture. 1884 A. WATT *Soap-making* xii. 112 Chloridised Sanitary Soap.

2. Intended or tending to promote health.

App. found only in U. S. writers.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 298 All hands went out for a sanitary game of romps in the cold light. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 154 Solitary communion with Nature does not seem to have been sanitary or sweetening in its influence on Thoreau's character. 1872 FISKE *Myths & Myth-Makers* ii. 61 (Funk) In Sweden sanitary amulets are made of mistletoe twigs, and the plant is supposed to be a specific against epilepsy and an antidote for poisons.

Sanitas (sæ·nitæs). [a. L. *sānitās* health.] (See quot. 1897.)

1878 *Med. Times & Gaz.* 12 Jan. 51/1 'Sanitas'. This fluid has been brought out as 'the only true antiseptic and disinfectant combined'. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Sanitas*,.. name for a commercial preparation consisting of an aqueous solution of oxidised oil of turpentine, the active principle of which is peroxide of hydrogen. Used as an antiseptic.

Sanitate (sæ·nitēt), *v.* [Back-formation from SANITATION.] *trans.* To put in a sanitary condition; to provide with sanitary appliances. Also *absol.*

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* II. viii. 106 An epidemic which.. will..scourge her again..unless the town be 'sanitated'. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* (1899) 15 Rustem Beg of Kolazai..Lusted for a C. S. I.—so began to sanitate. 1892 B. W. RICHARDSON in *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 201 We in rural England are better sanitated than are the rural populations of France.

†Sa·nitating, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. L. *sānitās* + -ATE 3 + -ING 1.] Health-giving; healing.

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* I. vi. (1719) 39 Searching about the Grove for some sanitating Simple; he at last lighted upon that..weed called *Morsus Diaboli*.

Sanitation (sænitē··ʃən). [irreg. f. SANIT(ARY) + -ATION.] The devising and application of means for the improvement of sanitary conditions.

1848 CLEVE (*title*) Hints on Domestic Sanitation. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* II. 242 Rural sanitation, again, comes to the front day by day. 1881 P. S. ROBINSON *Under the Punkah* 84 The Government sent down its chiefs of sanitation.

Hence **Sanita·tionist,** one who is skilled in or who advocates sanitation.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 4/1 'Sanitationists' (will that be the terrible word?) will contract to supply so much public health per 1,000 for so much a year. 1894 *Liberal* 24 Nov. 42/2 Such farseeing sanitationists.

Sanite, obs. form of SANITY.

†Saniti·ferous, *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *sānitās* health: see -(I)FEROUS.] Health-bringing.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 214 Those whose spirits want refection..require sanitiferous Perfumes.

Sa·nitist. *rare.* [f. SANIT(ARY) + -IST.] = SANITARIAN. 1882 in OGILVIE (citing *Examiner*).

Sanitize (sæ·nitəiz), *v. rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To make sanitary; to disinfect.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 14 Human industry is God's vicegerent in sanitizing, if I may dare to coin a word, the earth we tread, and the air we breathe. 1899 *N. B. Daily Mail* 28 Feb. 4 He, too, was closured, and every precaution taken to sanitise his surroundings.

Sanitory, erron. form of SANITARY.

†Sa·nitude. *Obs. rare*—1. [As if ad. L. **sānitūdo*, f. *sān-us* healthy: see SANE *a.* and -TUDE.] Healthy condition.

1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* ix. 81 Nature..will..the sooner recover its natural vigour, and sanitude.

Sanity (sæ·nĭti). Also 5 sanite, 6–7 sanitie. [a. F. *sanité*, ad. L. *sānitās*, f. *sān-us* healthy: see SANE *a.* and -ITY.]

1. Healthy condition, health. *arch.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 333 The flesche of that cuntre inducethe sanite to men of that londe. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 192 For safetie and sanitie of his stomacke. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 230 Therapeuticke or curative Physicke, we tearm that which restoreth the Patient unto sanity. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* II. 94 Each extreme From the blest mean of sanity departs. 1778 [W. MARSHALL.] *Minutes Agric.* 16 Jan. an. 1776, His heart, liver, entrails, and nutriment in each state, bear every mark of perfect sanity. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VII. i, Slow regular growth, though this also ends in death, is what we name health and sanity. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. 33 *Salus*—salvation—for the Romans, had come to mean bodily sanity.

fig. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 1 Whether thou hast yet entred the narrow Gate, got up the Hill and asperous way, which leadeth unto the House of Sanity. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 156 A restoration of national sanity and strength.

†**b.** Wholesomeness. *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 907 They had Tabacco in religious estimation, not onely for sanity but for sanctity also. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 176 A raging wind clears the country of all the Flies and Fleas it meets with, and restores sanity to the air.

2. The condition of being sane; soundness of mind; mental health.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 214 A happinesse, That often Madnesse hits on, Which Reason and Sanitie could not So prosperously be deliuer'd of. 1746 FRANCIS *Horace, Sat.* I. v. 59 Is there a Blessing, in the Power of Fate, To be compar'd, in Sanity of Mind, To Friends of such companionable Kind? 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 193 The same sanity of mind with the true patriot display. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Comic* Wks. (Bohn) III. 206 The perception of the comic is..a pledge of sanity. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XII. ii. (1875) 442 Much of the sanity of his [Goethe's] genius may have been due to his residence in so tranquil a place as Weimar. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 512 The sense of limit belongs to sanity, and is natural to normally constituted minds.

†3. Soundness (of material). *Obs. rare.*

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 58 Want of sanity in the materials can never be supplied by any art in the building.

†4. *Comb.*, **sanity-institution,** a hospital. *Obs.*

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* II. 177 From this brief account of the medical college..we will proceed to describe the sanity-institutions connected with it.

‖ Sanjak (sæ·nˌdʒæk). Forms: 6 saniac, saniacho, sania(c)ke, saniaque, sanjake, senjaque, zanziac, 6–7 sangiac(c)o, sangia(c)que, 6, 8–9 sangiac, 7 sangiach, saniacco, saniack, sanjack, sansack, sansiak, sanzack(e, -ake, -iack, zaniacci, -o, zanzack, 7–8 sangiak, 9 sandgiac, -jak, sangiack, sangeak, 8– sanjak. [Turkish سنجاق *sanjāq*; lit. 'banner'.]

1. In the Turkish Empire, one of the administrative districts into which an eyalet or vilayet is divided.

1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 706 *note*, The Begeler Bey of Grece..hath seven sanjakes. 1640 E. DACRES tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* 25 Deviding his whole Kingdom into divers Sangiacques or Governments, he sends severall thither. 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 52 A pachalic is divided for military purposes, into certain districts, called sangiacs, or standards. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 654/2 The immediate possessions of the sultan are divided into vilayets (provinces), which are again subdivided into sanjaks or mutessariks. 1895 *Times* 25 Nov. 5/1 Perfect tranquillity reigns..in the sandjaks of Ismid, Zor, and Tchataldja.

†2. Misused for SANJAKBEG. *Obs.*

1546 P. ASHTON tr. *Jovius' Turk. Chron.* 126 b, The Saniackes..be the lyeutenauntes and Capitaynes of the prouinces. 1546 HARVEL in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 160 The Saniacho of Bossena, a man of grete estimacion. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 41 b, The Bashas, Bellarbies and Senjaques of the Turkes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 73 Sanzacks, or Iudges deputies of Iurisdictions. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 99 The residence of a Turkish sanjak. 1832 *Encycl. Amer.* XI. 196 *Sangiac* (Turkish *horsetail*) signifies, in the Turkish army, an officer who is allowed to bear only one horsetail, the pachas having two or three.

Hence †**Sa·njakry,** †**Sanjakship,** = sense 1.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 211 Tendring to the Testadar or Treasurer the reuenew of that Sanziackry. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 539 Servia..was taken by the Turke in 1438, and reduced into a Sangiak-ship under the Beglerbeg of Buda. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* II. 121 It..consists of three Sangiakships. 1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav.* 9 These three names..are yet borne by a city and sangiackship in the Turkish pachalik of Servia.

Sanjakate (sæ·nˌdʒækĕt). Also 7 sangiacat, 9 sandjakate, sangiacat(e. [f. SANJAK + -ATE 1.] = SANJAK 1.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 11 The Sangiacat of Sefet hath been annexed to Saide and its dependances. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* Map, The Vilayet of Bosnia, including the Herzegovina or Sandjakate of Mostar.

‖ Sa·njakbeg, -bey. [Turkish: see SANJAK and BEG *sb.*, BEY.] The governor of a sanjak.

1524 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. 1. 83 It was reported to vs from the campe, they were three saniacbeis, that is to say, great seneshalles or stuards. 1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 170 Last of all the Beglerbegs, and Zanziacbegs. 1599 *Ibid.* II. 1. 181 Whereas sundry exactions..be offered ours by such Byes, Sanjacbies iustices and Cadies. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 71 Sangiac Bey is like a Lord of a Manor. 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 53 The janizaries..and timariots of the district, are obliged in case of war, to unite under the colours of a commander, called Sangiac-bey.

†Sank, *v. Obs.* Also 4 sanck. [a. ON. *sanka*, rarely *sanka* (Sw. *sanka*, Da. *sanke*), frequentative f. *samna, safna* to collect (see SAM *v.*).] a. *trans.* To assemble; bring together. b. *intr.* To come together. Hence †**Sa·nking** *vbl. sb.*, an assembly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13843 He dos vs mani geddering mak, And mani sancking for his sak. *Ibid.* 27663 O nith cums.. conspiraciun, als quen þam sankes samen þe nithful men. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 16042 (Fairf.) Alle þai geddered atte his court & þer þai sammyn sanke.

Sank dragonn, variant of SANGDRAGON.

Sanke, obs. form of SHANK.

†Sa·nker. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 83 b, The kynge of England gaue to the Frenche kynge a colloure of Iewels..the Sanker furnished with great Diamantes and Perles.

Sank(e royall, variant ff. SANG-ROYAL *Obs.*

‖ Sanko, variant of SANCHO.

†Sann, *v. Obs.* [a. ON. *sanna* to maintain as true, affirm (Sw. *sanna*, Da. *sande*) = OE. *sōðian*; OTeut. **sanþōjan*, f. **sanþo-* true (see SOOTH *a.*).] *intr.* To argue.

c 1200 ORMIN 11289, & 3iff þatt anig læredd mann Shall sannenn her onnzæness [etc.]. *Ibid.* 17930 þatt hise Lerninngcnihhtess Tokenn to sannenn fasste onnzæn þe Judewisshe lede Off Johaness fullwhht.

‖ Sannah (sænă). ? *Obs.* Also 7 sannow, 8 sano, sanno, sana. [Of obscure origin; presumably East Indian.] Some kind of cotton fabric formerly exported from India.

1696 J. F. *Merchant's Warehо.* 36, I could mention many

other sorts, as Sannows a sort of Callico. 1708 SEWEL *Eng. Du. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sanoes*, sanen. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5815/3 A Parcel of Sanoes. 1757 *New Hist. E. Ind.* II. 144, 6900 pieces sanas. 1850 OGILVIE, *Sannah.* the name of certain kinds of India muslin.

Sannap, variant of SANAP *Obs.*

Sannup (sæ·nŭp). *Amer. Ind.* In 7 **sannop, sanapp.** [a. Narragansett *sannop* = Penobscot *senombi*, Abnaki *seenanbé*.] A married male member of the community; the husband of a squaw (*Cent. Dict.*).

1630 WINTHROP *Hist. New Eng.* (1853) I. 58 Chickatabot came with his sannops and squaws. 1632 *Ibid.* I. 103 Where he had lodged two nights with his squaw, and about twelve sanapps. 1725 S. WILLARD *Jrnl.* in *Appalachia* (1881) II. 342 Our Indian said there was Squaws as well as Sannups. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Musketaquid* Wks. (Bohn) I. 484 Through which at will our Indian rivulet Winds mindful still of sannup and of squaw.

Sanope, Sanpan: see SANAP, SAMPAN.

Sans (sænz), *sb. Typog.* A shortened form of SANSERIF.

Sans (sænz), *prep.* Forms: α. 4 **san, saune, (saunt),** 4–5 **saun.** β. 4–5 **sanz, saunz,** 5–6 **sauns,** 5–7 **saunce,** 6–7 **sance,** 4– **sans.** See also SANS FAIL. [a. OF. *sen* and *sens*, later *san* and *sans, sanz*, mod.F. *sans* = Pr. *senes, sens, ses*, OCat. *senes* (mod. *sens*), OSp. *sen* and *senes*, mod.Sp. *sin*, Pg. *sem*, formerly *sen*, OIt. *sen* :—pop.L. **sene* (for class. L. *sine*) and **senes* (with analogical *s*).

The It. *senza* is now believed to represent L. *absentia* absence, prob. with some influence from the popular L. prep.]

1. Without. Now *arch.* (chiefly with reminiscence of Shakspere) and *Her.*

Before the time of Shaks. used almost exclusively with sbs. adopted from OF., in collocations already formed in that language, as *sans delay, sans doubt, sans fable, sans pity, sans return.* Even in some of our earliest examples, however, a native Eng. synonym has been substituted for the Romanic sb. in the phrase, as in *sans biding* = *sans delay.*

α. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2253 Þat mani man miȝt y se San schewe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 600 He schal beo poisond, sain return Of his owne traitour. *Ibid* [see FABLE *sb.* 1 d]. 1375 *Canticum de Creatione* 62 in *Anglia* I. 304 Bote mete founde þeȝ non saun doute such as hy hadden byfore. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 181 (MS. A) Þe prestes saun pite, And ful of falshede. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 74 in *Macro Plays* 79 Þe vycys arn ful lyckely Þe vertues to opresse saun dowte. β. *c* 1320 *Gosp. Nicod.* 127 (Sion MS.) Saunz doute swa dide þai alle bydene. 13.. *Coer de L.* 681 Go in, sans bydyng. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 286 Religioun sanz reule and resonable obedience. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2150 Tell on, saunce delay. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xli. 407 Here came a knyght called sir Breuse saunce pyte. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 478 Thou art sauns faulte the tyrant that I seke. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. 168/1 It is a greefe vnto them though now sans remedie sith the thing is doone and past. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 415 My loue to thee is sound *sans* cracke or flaw. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 166 Second childishnesse, and meere obliuion, Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans euery thing. 1610 *Muses Gard. for Delights* II. ii. 3 My life thou may'st command saunce doubt. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 765 A man in compleat Armour in brasse, sans Helme. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 210 If we step higher to trees *sans* date. *a* 1687 COTTON *Poems* (1689) 94 The Bears and Foxes, who *sans* question Than we by odds have warmer Vests on. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiii. 470 Some term this tower, Sans Port, or Gate. 1797 BRYDGES *Hom. Trav.* II. 239 Therefore, sans favour and affection, Take thou, my boy, thy own election. 1828 40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* s.v., A dragon or griffin, sans wings. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. 208 Sans accident we arrived,..and sans steamer..we were obliged to trust to our little tremulous craft. 1883 BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. i 13 A sailer-made-steamer, sans boats, sans gunwales.

† **b.** With the exception of. [So in Fr.]

1659 EVELYN *Let. to Boyle* 3 Sept., All play interdicted, sans bowls, chess, &c.

2. ‖ **a.** Used in various Fr. phrases and combinations (not naturalized) either in their original Fr. use or in derived applications: **sans appel,** used *subst.*, a person from whom there is no appeal; **sans cérémonie,** unceremoniously, without the usual ceremony or polite form; also *attrib.* suitable for unceremonious occasions; † **sans dener** [see DENIER 8], a penniless person; **sans façon** = *sans cérémonie*; **sans-gêne** [*gêne* constraint], disregard of the ordinary forms of civility or politeness; † **sans-pareil,** lit. not having its like, used subst. for a kind of perfume or smelling salts; hence **sans-pareilly** *a. nonce-wd.*, unexampled; **sans peur,** without fear, fearless, often in (or with allusion to) the phr. *sans peur et sans reproche*, which was applied to the Chevalier de Bayard; **sans phrase** [after *la mort sans phrase*, the alleged words of Sieyes in giving his vote for the death of Louis XVI], without more words, without circumlocution; **sans prendre** (see VOLE); † **sans-punie,** with impunity; **sans reproche,** without reproach, blameless (see *sans peur* above); **sans souci,** lit. without care or concern; as *sb.*, unconcern; also, † a free-and-easy social gathering; hence **sans-souci-ism,** unconcern.

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* II. xi. 299 He had followed in full faith such a *sans-appel* as he held Frank to be. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Feb., The burying-place for the common prostitutes, where they are put into the ground, **sans ceremonie.* 1773 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 27 Apr., The Sheriffs of Middlesex, *sans cérémonie*, summoned Wilkes, instead of Luttrell. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1811) I. 158 The honest old comfortable *sans-ceremonie* furniture is discarded. 1857 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* III. ii, This evil.. obliged neighbours to be hospitable to each other, sans cérémonie. 1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 349 We pore **sanz deners* of Castr have brook iij. or iiij. stelle bowys. 1672 W. PERWICH *Desp.* (Roy. Hist. Soc.) 224 His Ma'ty replyed hee might doe it at that time **sans façon.* 1838 GRANVILLE *Spas Germ.* 257 The simple, quiet, and *sans façon* manner in which this daily intercourse..took place. 1865 'OUIDA' *Strathmore* II. xxiii. 305 His usual sans façon, good-humoured style. 1893 SALTUS *Sapphira* 87 With the **sans-gêne* of a married man, Nevius dropped in a chair. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Lett. to Shenstone* (1775) 167 Methinks I smell the **sans pareille* hither. 1753 J. COLLIER *Art of Tormenting* 55 Hastily take snuff, or smell to your sans-pareil. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* iii. 26 Eau de Chipre, Eau de Luce, Sans Pareil, and Citron Juice. 1818 KEATS *Wks.* (1889) III. p. cxxxi, An unpardonable offence, so **sans pareilly.* 1812 *Amer. St. Papers* For. Relat. (1832) III. 556 He told them that he had nothing to fear, that he was '**sans peur et sans reproche*'. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VII. xiii [x], The Knight, sans peur et sans reproche. 1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasphemer's Warning*, He had been *sans reproche*, as he still was *sans peur.* 1808 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. iv. 139, I hope you will remember how impatient I shall be to hear your opinion **sans phrase.* 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* V. iii. 110 Laying down a *Vole*, **sans prendre.* 1731 FIELDING *Mod. Husb.* I. iv, If it had not been for a cursed Sans-prendre-vole, that swept the whole table. 1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 138 His Proclamations..must bee either calumniated, or *sans-punie transgressed. 1847 **Sans reproche* [see *sans peur*]. 1858 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* III. i. 23 His conduct had been *sans reproche.* 1781 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1858) VIII. 65 Mrs. Hobart did not invite me to her **sans souci* last week, though she had all my other juvenile contemporaries. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 685/1 Their *tout ensemble* indicates health and delight, or at least an air of *sans souci.* 1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 390 Buoyant with youth, wine, *sans-souci-ism, and a holiday.

b. In jocular nonce-wds.: **sans-breech** = SANSCULOTTID; **sans-potato,** an indigent Irishman.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* XVIII. iv, Our intercalary Days Sans-breeches. 1839 — *Chartism* iv. (1840) 25 The Sanspotatoe is of the selfsame stuff as the superfinest Lord Lieutenant.

Sansack, obs. form of SANJAK.

Sans bell, obs. form of SANCTUS BELL.

Sanschrite, -screet, -scrita, obs. ff. SANSKRIT.

‖ **Sansculotte** (sænzkiulɒ·t, as Fr. sɑ̃külɔt). [Fr., f. *sans* without (see SANS) + *culotte* knee-breeches: usually explained as one wearing trousers instead of knee-breeches; but the origin is disputed (see Littré Suppl.).]

1. In the French Revolution, a republican of the poorer classes in Paris. Hence *gen.* an extreme republican or revolutionary.

1790 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 13/2 A numerous army of ragged *Sans Culottes.* 1793 BURKE *On policy of Allies* Wks. 1802 IV. 104 A desperate set of obscure adventurers, who led to every mischief, a blind and bloody band of Sans-Culottes. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIV. 863 A *Sans-Culotte* approaching him [i.e. Robespierre] very coolly pronounced these words in his ears, *there exists a Supreme being.* 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Parad.* vii. 120 He was no crude Belleville orator; ..no *sans-culotte* with brains ablaze.

attrib. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Ld.* 65 The true sansculotte criticks. 1812 J. BRADY *Clavis Calend.* I. 35 The *Sans Culotte* adherents of Robespierre. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. v, Sansculotte Scylla hardly weathered, here is Aristocrat Charybdis gurgling under his lee! 1906 B'NESS ORCZY *I Will Repay* xviii, The sansculotte mob of Paris.

2. *transf.* 'A man shabbily dressed; a tatterdemalion; a ragamuffin' (Worcester).

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 4 The Hampshire barber being no *sans culotte*, but in buff. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xliv, Bertram..was dragged..across the threshold, amid the continued shouts of the little *sans culottes.*

Sansculotted, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Unbreeched.

1801 W. FELTON *Carriages* 131 The head of the horse imitates much the head-dress of a French lady, while the posteriors are left sansculotted.

‖ **Sansculotterie** (sænzkiulɒ·təri, as Fr. sɑ̃külɔtri). Also anglicized **-ery.** [Fr., f. *sansculotte* (see above) + *-erie* -ERY.]

1. The principles, spirit or behaviour characteristic of sansculottes.

1794 tr. *Brissot to his Constituents* 99 Certain hypocritical chiefs who talk continually of *Sans Culotterie* whilst they are affecting an insolent luxury. 1814 COLERIDGE *Princ. Genial Crit.* iii, The Sans-culotterie of a contemptuous ignorance. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 817 The hoof of modern Sansculotterie..will trample on the bowers of Chatsworth. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 231 Modern Unitarianism is..the *sans-culotterie* of religion.

2. Sansculottes collectively.

1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Ld.* 72 The rabble rout of this Sans Culotterie of France. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. ii, What profit were it for the Paris Sansculottery to insult us?

Sansculottic (sænzkiulɒ·tik), *a.* [f. SANSCULOTTE + -IC. Cf. *culottic.*]

1. Pertaining to the sansculottes or to sansculottism; revolutionary.

1822 C. BUTLER *Remin.* xv. 211 The reader probably remembers the *sans-culottic* exhibitions, equally ridiculous and disgusting, of the Goddess of Reason. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, Those Sansculottic violent Gardes Françaises, or Centre Grenadiers. 1903 *Q. Rev.* July 133 The rising storm of sansculottic frenzy.

2. *allusively.* Without breeches, unbreeched; hence, inadequately or improperly clothed.

1833 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Diderot* (1888) V. 54 He is utterly unclean, scandalous, shameless, sansculottic-samoeidic. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* iii, He would not have gone on ordinary days in a sansculottic state. He would have worn that most comfortable of loose nether garments..slops. 1883 *Times* 13 Feb. 9 These poor wretches were denied clothes altogether, and..there is a sort of fitness in the accompaniment of bad language which they provided for their sansculottic Sunday.

Sansculottid (sænzkiulɒ·tid). Also **-ide.** [a. F. *sansculottide*, f. *sansculotte* (see above).] One of the five (in leap-years six) complementary days added at the end of the month Fructidor of the Republican Calendar; *pl.*, the festivities held during these days. Also attrib. in *Sansculottid days.*

1813 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* X. 96 The festivals in their new Calendar were called Sans Culottides. 1877 MORLEY *Robespierre* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 93 If Greece..had its Olympian games, France too shall solemnize her sans-culottid days. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 July 4/7 Its five or six Sans-culottide days thrown in at the end of the year.

Sansculottish (sænzkiulɒ·tiʃ), *a.* [f. SANSCULOTTE + -ISH.] = SANSCULOTTIC.

1798 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1805) II. 286 Because the *sansculottish* example of a crop administration would ruin all the hair-dressers in the three kingdoms. 1885 MORLEY in *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 254/2 You are just as *sans-culottish* and rash as I would have you.

Sansculottism (sænzkiulɒ·tiz'm). [ad. F. *sansculottisme*, f. *sansculotte*: see above and -ISM.] The principles or practice of sansculottes.

1799 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* III. 148 Liberty, Equality, and Sansculottism. 1833 *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 42 The abolition of all distinctions of dress, language, condition, and refinement; in a word, the establishment of general *sans-culottism.* 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* 572 The *sansculottism* of the early revolution.

So **Sansculo·ttist,** one who favours sansculottism; also *attrib.* **Sansculo·ttize** *v. trans.*, to make republican in character; *intr.*, to favour sansculottic or republican principles.

1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 32. 254/2 The *Citizen Imitator* seems to have Sans-culottized the Original. 1831 SIR C. WETHERELL in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. IV. 862 The sans-culottizing principles of the French Revolution. 1831 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* II. 103 [Sir C. Wetherell] is..full of fears lest the Bill should loosen the braces of the Constitution, and..'*sansculottise*' it...He should be the last person in the world to talk of *sansculottising* with such horror. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ix, Teufelsdröckh, though a Sansculottist, is no Adamite. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* III. 404 The vain sansculottist scribblers.

Sanserif (sænse·rif). *Typog.* Also **sans-serif(f, -surryph, -ceriph.** [Prob. f. SANS *prep.* + SERIF (q.v.).

The word *serif*, however, has not hitherto been found till much later than the first appearance of *sanserif*, and it has been suggested that it may have been evolved from the supposed compound.]

A form of type without serifs: called also *grotesque.* Also *attrib.*

1830 *Figgins's Spec. Printing Types*, 8 Lines Pica Sans-Serif. 1832 *Blake & Stephenson's Spec. Printing Types*, Ten Lines Sans-Surryphs. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXVI. 23 Calendars, occupying half the space set in sans-seriff figures looking twice as bold. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 699/1 Sanserifs or grotesques, which have no serifs, as M. 1903 *N. & Q.* 23 May 418 His initials G. M., written in sanserif characters.

† **Sans fail.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 3–5 **saun,** 4–5 **san,** 5 **sain, saing, sawm, sawn,** 5–6 **sam;** β. 4 **sauntz,** 4–5 **sauns, sanz,** 4–6 **saunz, sans,** 5 **saunce;** 3–6 **faile,** 4 **feil,** 4–5 **fayle, faille,** 4–6 **fayl, fail,** 5 **fayll, faill,** 6 **fale.** [a. OF. *sans-fail(l)e*: see SANS and FAIL *sb.*²] Without fail; without doubt, doubtless; in ME., a common riming tag.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8360 Go & seie hom þis þat hii turne aȝen to me & icholle to hom saun faile [*v.rr.* samfayle, san fail(lle, sawmfaile]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 217 Of hire faired, saun faile, He hadde in hert gret mervaile. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 439 Þe Muchelnesse of Men sainfayle Ys nat victorie in Batayle. 14.. *Sir Beues* 4021 (MS. M.) All oure londis Hathe the kynge arested, samffayll, Thorouȝe Brians counsell of Cornwayll. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1592 [He] both his penon And baner sanfaill Put within the town, so making conqueste.

β. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 285 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 282 Ant Luces the emperour, sauntz fayle, He overcom in bataille. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2350 'It is now', quaþ he, 'sanzfaile to late ber-to to gon'. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 188 (Fairf.) And seyde he most vnto Itayle As was hys destanye sauns faille. 1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dial.* 461, I feele now, sanz faille, That in this cas yee can nat wel consaill. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 91 Antor ansuerde, 'This is the childe that the kynge me praide to norisshe of my wif'...And he seide, 'It is the same saunz-faile'. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 61 Ȝe bene in the marchis of Libie, sans fail, Inhabeit with peple vndowtable in battail. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 117 Under the cloth of their estate, saunz faile [*rime* availe], The king and quene ther sat.

¶ Misused as if = 'sans avail'.

1597 *Guistard & Sismond* II. C 4 b, But all his excuse was euin samfayll.

Sansiak, obs. form of SANJAK.

Sansing bell: see SAUNCING BELL.

Sanskrit, Sanscrit (sæ·nskrit), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 7 (**Samescretan**), **Sanscreet,** 8 **Shanscrit(t)a, -krit, -chrita, -creet, -kreet, Sanskirrit, Samscred, Hanscrit,** 8–9 **Shan-, Sham-, Sanscrit,** 9 **Sung-, Sangskrit,** 8– **Sanskrit.** [ad.

Skr. *saṃskṛta* (neut. *saṃskṛtam*) put together, well-formed, highly wrought, perfected, f. *saṃ-* together (related to *sama*: see SAME *a.*) + *kṛ* to make, do, perform. Cf. F. *Sanscrit*.

The 18th c. form *Hanscrit*, which occurs also in Fr. at the same period, has not been satisfactorily explained.]

A. *sb.* The ancient and sacred language of India, the oldest known member of the Indo-European family, in which the extensive Hindu literature from the Vedas downward is composed. In a narrower sense, the 'classical Sanskrit' (opposed to the 'Epic' and 'Vedic'), the grammar of which was fixed by Pāṇini (? 4th c. B. C.).

1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xi. 636 The Iesuites conceiue that these Bramenes are of the dispersion of the Israelites, and their bookes (called *Samescretan*) doe somewhat agree with the Scriptures. 1696 OVINGTON *Voy. Surat* 248 It is the Learned Language among them [*sc.* the Bramins], called the *Sanscreet*. 1760 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* I. 202 (Y.) They have a learned language peculiar to themselves, called the Hanscrit. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 448 Their language is the Nagri..more ancient than even the Shanscritta. 1785 C. WILKINS (*title*) The Bhăgvăt-Gēētā,..translated from the original, in the Sānskrēēt, or ancient language of the Brāhmāns. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 518/2 The language called *Shanscrit* or *Sanscrit*. 1801 H. LEBEDEFF *Gramm. E. Ind. Dial.* Pref. p. ix, The alphabetical characters of the Shamscrit. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. III. v. 277 There are, in Shanscrit, treatises on rhetoric and composition. 1876 WHITNEY *Lang. & Study* vi. 225 We possess it in two somewhat varying forms, the classical Sanskrit, and the older idiom of the so-called Vedas.

¶ In corrupt form *Sanscript* used for 'Sanskrit writings'.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 161 Who founded these, their Annals nor their *Sanscript* deliver not.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1794 [MATHIAS] *Purs. Lit.* (ed. 6) 286 With Jones, a linguist, Sanskrit, Greek, or Manks. 1831 B. E. P[OTE] *Assassins of Parad.* 98 Explained by a Shanscrit Authority. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 404/1 A. W. von Schlegel and Lassen have founded in Bonn a Sanscrit school. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 578 The institution of a Sanscrit college in Calcutta for the tuition of Brahmans. 1874 L. J. TROTTER *Hist. India* I. iii. 25 Sanskrit-speaking Hindus.

B. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or written in Sanskrit.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 498 The loss of the Sans-skirrit language, and the confinement of it to the priesthood. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 582 The Sanscrita words are spelt according to the method practised by Sir William Jones. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* V. 44/1 The Samscred language. 1804 W. CAREY *Gram. Skr. Lang.* 35 There are six Declensions of Sungskrit Nouns. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 164 They retain very few vestiges of their Indian original, except their Sanskrit speech. 1876 WHITNEY *Lang. & Study* vi. 225 The Prakrit dialects are chiefly preserved in the Sanskrit dramas.

Sanskritic (sænskri·tik), *a.* Also **-critic.** [f. SANSKRIT + -IC. Cf. F. *sanscritique*, mod.L. *Sanscriticus*.] Relating to, derived from, based on, or resembling Sanskrit; using the Sanskrit language.

1853 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. iii. 79 A form [of word] peculiarly Sanskritic. 1883 *Athenæum* 21 July 85 The Sanskritic vernaculars of Northern India. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* vi. 305 The very foundations of the Sanskritic school of interpretation.

Sanskritist (sæ·nskritist). Also **Sanscritist.** [f. SANSKRIT + -IST. Cf. F. *sanscritiste*.] A person versed in the Sanskrit language or writings. Also, one who bases a mythological theory upon Sanskrit myths. Also *attrib.*

1864 T. H. KEY in *Reader* 4 June 717/1, I have thus endeavoured to show, in defiance of the Sanskritists, that the first person of this pronoun derives its nominative from the same base as its other cases. 1884 MAX MÜLLER in *Athenæum* 11 Oct. 462/3 The first place among Sanscritists, both dead and living. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* vi. 316 Mannhardt, after having been a disciple of the Sanskritist school, has been obliged to confess that comparative mythology has not borne the fruit that was at one time expected. *Ibid.* 317 The case of the Sanskritists rests on these four Indian names, Bhaga, Parjanya, Varuna, and Dyaus.

Sanskritize (sæ·nskritəiz), *v.* [f. SANSKRIT + -IZE.] *trans.* To translate into Sanskrit; to reduce to a Sanskrit form; to introduce Sanskrit elements into. Hence **Sanskritiza·tion.**

1881 *Academy* 1 Oct. 251/2 That prince's foreign name would never have been Sanskritised in such a form in the seventeenth century. 1884 KERN tr. *Saddharma-Pundarîka* Introd. p. xi *note* 2, An erroneous Sanskritisation of the present tense dakkhanti. 1887 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Thought* vii. 344 *note*, Mistakes in sanskritising vulgar, apabhramsa, and Paisâki words.

Sans nombre, † sans number. Now only *Her.* Also 6 saunce, 7 sance. [a. F. *sans nombre*: see SANS and NUMBER *sb.*] Innumerable. Also occas. as adv.: Innumerably, infinitely.

1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* (1877) 85, vi. thousande lordes, knyghtes, and esquiers, and of the commons, sans nombre. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* 104 Theare liuing things saunce number creepe. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 146 Locusts sans number and monstrous. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 155 Any Author of a Book may multiply them [*sc.* Patrons] Sance-number. 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* v. i. 60 We'll swinge these Rogues with Indictments for a Riot, and with Actions *Sans Nombre*. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* viii. 119 *Semé, Aspersed, Gerated, Sans Nombre*, and *Powdered*: These terms are used to signify that a Shield or Charge is covered with an indefinite number of minor Charges promiscuously scattered over the surface. *Powdered, Gerated, Sans Nombre*, and *Aspersed*, however, commonly imply that the Charges are to be smaller, and more thickly distributed than *Semé*.

† Sans-peer, saunce-pere. *Obs.* Forms: see SANS and PEER *sb.*] As *adj. phr.*: Without equal, peerless. Also occas. *advb.*: As one that has no equal. Often used as a proper name or surname; hence *sb.*, a person who has no equal.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 33 (MS. I) Prestes hye of priuylage were praysed saune pere. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14087, I wolde be holden ay sanz per, And by my syluen synguler. *c* 1460 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 291/19 Lady saunzpere. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 51 The owner therof is lady of estate, Whoos name to tell is dame Saunce-pere. 1576 N. R. in Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* To Author (Arb.) 46 In Elegies, and wanton loue writ laies Sance peere were Naso, and Tibullus deemde. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 8 The Iesuits being men holden of all,..to be sance peres of the Christian globe. *Ibid.* 16 All..right Alchumists, that is, sance peeres in all things.

Sans-seriff, variant of SANSERIF.

Sant, variant of CENT 2.

1591 GREENE *Notable Disc. Coosenage* (1592) B 2 b. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 41.

Sant, obs. var. SAINT and SANCTUS (senses 2, 3).

‖ Sa·nta. *Obs. rare*—1. A female saint.

App. ad. L. *sancta*, with assimilation to SAINT.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 5 For-yete not.. to recomaunde you to the seintes and santas.

Santa Claus (sæ·ntă klɑ̄z). Also 9 **Santiclaus.** [Orig. *U. S.*, a. Du. dial. *Sante Klaas* (Du. *Sint Klaas*), Saint Nicholas: see NICHOLAS.] In nursery language, the name of an imaginary personage, who is supposed, in the night before Christmas day, to bring presents for children, a stocking being hung up to receive his gifts.

1828 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 152 Gew-gaws for the *Bifana*, who acts here the same comedy for children that Santiclaus does in America. 1850 SUSAN WARNER *Wide Wide World* xxviii, I used to think that Santa Claus came down the chimney. 1863 MISS YONGE *Chr. Names* I. 213 The Dutch element in New England has introduced Santa Klaus to many a young American who knows nothing of St. Nicholas or of any saint's day. 1872 BRET HARTE (*title*) How Santa Claus came to Simpson's Bar.

Santal (sæ·ntăl). [a. F. *santal* (16th c.), ad. med.L. *santal-um*, a. Gr. *σάνταλον*: see SANDAL *sb.*2]

1. Sandalwood. Also *santal-wood.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Santalum*, There are santals of three different colours; citrine, white, and red. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 214/2 The santal or saunders is a hard wood imported from the Indies. 1883 MARTINDALE & BENNETT *Extra Pharmacopœia* 194 Capsules of Santal Oil are prepared. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 932 Oil of santal wood very rarely causes even a slight erythema.

2. *Chem.* A substance ($C_8H_6O_3$) obtained from sandalwood.

1894 in MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 427.

Santalaceous (sæntălē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* [-ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Santalaceæ*, typified by the genus *Santalum* or sandalwood.

1845 G. DON in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 179*/1.

Santalate (sæ·ntălēt). *Chem.* [Formed as SANTALIN + -ATE.] A salt of santalic acid.

1849 *Chem. Gaz.* VII. 132 Santalate of baryta and lime.

Santalic (sæntæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [Formed as next + -IC.] *Santalic acid.* **† a.** An acid said to have been found in 1849 by Leo Meier in white sandalwood (*obs.*); **b.** = SANTALIN.

1849 *Chem. Gaz.* VII. 131 Santalic acid. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 646 A resinous ruby-coloured crystalline substance called santalin or santalic acid.

Santalin (sæ·ntălin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [a. F. *santaline*, f. mod.L. *santal-um* (see SANDAL *sb.*2 and -IN).] The colouring principle of red sanders.

1833 *Lond. & Edin. Philos. Mag.* III. 312 Santaline. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 410 Santalin. *Ibid.*, The colouring matter which it [*sc.* red sanders] contains was examined by Pelletier in 1814, who distinguished it by the name of *santalin*. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1092 Santaline.

‖ Santa Maria (sa·nta marĭ·a). [Sp. = Saint Mary.] The calaba-tree, *Calophyllum Calaba*, of tropical America, and its timber.

1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 180 Bastard Mammee Tree or Santa Maria. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 372 The Santa Maria..is reckoned pretty good timber-wood. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 178 Very stout timbers of the wild calabash, bally or Santamaria Wood. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIII. 353/2 Strong posts of indestructible santa maria.

† Santar. *Thieves' slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1591 GREENE *and Pt. Couny-catching* (1592) Table, In lifting Law. He that first stealeth, the lift. He that receiues it, the Markar. He that standeth without and caries it away, the Santar.

San-tcinoo, variant of SAMSHOO.

Sante, Santer, obs. forms of SAINT, SAUNTER.

Santes bell, obs. form of SANCTUS BELL.

Santez, obs. var. SANCTUS (senses 2 and 3).

Santfine, -foyne, obs. forms of SAINFOIN.

Santifye, obs. form of SANCTIFY *v.*

‖ Santir, santour (santī·r, santū·r). Also **santur.** [Arab. سنطير *santīr* (Pers., Turkish سانطور *sāntūr*), corruption of Gr. *ψαλτήριον* PSALTERY; cf. Biblical Aramaic פְּסַנְתֵּרִין *p'santerin*.] The dulcimer of the Arabs and Persians.

1853 LAYARD *Discov. Nineveh & Babylon* xx. 454 An instrument not unlike the modern santour of the East, consisting of a number of strings stretched over a hollow case or sounding-board. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 43 The Persians possess..a dulcimer called *Santir*, which in construction and in the mode of its treatment is almost identical with the German Hackbret.

Santis, obs. var. SANCTUS (senses 2 and 3).

‖ Santo (sa·ntŏ). [Sp. or Ital. *santo*.] = SANTON.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 235 The Church-men, Clerks, and Santos. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 150 The Santo's, or Mad-men. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 451/1 Like the new bits of cloth sewn on the tattered cloak of a 'Santo'.

Santo, obs. var. SANCTUS (senses 2 and 3).

‖ Santolina (sæntŏlə·ĭnă). [mod.L., ? alteration of *santonica, santonicum*: see SANTONICA. (Cf. LAVENDER COTTON, quot. 1577 'some call it .. Santonia'.) Cf. It. *santolina* (Florio), F. *santoline*.] A genus of fragrant undershrubs, allied to the camomile, native of the Mediterranean region; Lavender Cotton. Also, a plant of this genus.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xix. 29 Some of the later writers do call it *Santolina* and *Camphorata*:..some call it in English Lauender Cotton, and som Garden Cypres. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1990. 848/2 The flowers of *santolina*.

Santon (sæ·ntɒn). Also 6–7 **santone, 7 zanton, sancton, santoon.** [a. F. *santon* (in the 16th c. also *sainton, santoron, sanctoron* santon, hypocrite), or its source Sp. *santon* santon, also hypocrite, f. *santo* SAINT. Cf. Pg. *santão*.]

1. A European designation for a kind of monk or hermit among the Mohammedans, a marabout; also, incorrectly † a yogi, Hindoo ascetic.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 204 There go in this foreward 6 Santones with red turbants vpon their heads. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 220 The Santons or Turkish Priests. *Ibid.* 224 This Chappell is kept by a Turkish Zanton, that is a kinde of their Priests. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 125 These Santons, Joguies, or Indian Anchorites, lodge in the field, in hollow trees. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1834) 49 Calenders, santons, and derwiches. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xx, A little old Turk, poorly dressed like a marabout or santon of the desert.

Comb. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 43 The wretchedest mosques and most beggarly Santon-tombs.

2. The chapel or shrine of a santon. [So F. *santon*. Cf. MARABOUT 2.]

1835 tr. *Lamartine's Pilgr. Holy Land* II. 241 For the purpose of supporting..the roof of a santon.

Santonate (sæ·ntŏnēt). *Chem.* [f. SANTON-IC + -ATE 1.] A salt of santonic acid.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 409/1 Santonate of soda and santonate of lime. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 293 Santonin..dissolves in solutions of the caustic fixed alkalies, forming definite compounds called santonates.

Santonic (sæntɒ·nik), *a. Chem.* [ad. L. *Santonic-us*: see next.] *Santonic acid*: an acid derived from santonin.

1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1252 *Artemisia santonica.* The seeds contain a substance which has been called *santonin* or *santonic acid.* 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 539 Heated with an alkali, santonin is converted into santonic acid, which is isomeric with santoninic acid.

Santonica (sæntɒ·nikă). [a. L. *Santonica* (sc. *herba*), a kind of wormwood, fem. sing. of *Santonicus* pertaining to the Santones or Santoni, a people of Aquitania. The plant was also called *absinthium Santonicum* (Pliny), Gr. (*ἀψίνθιον*) *σαντονικόν, σαντόνιον.* Cf. 16th c. F. *santonique*.] The dried unexpanded flower-heads of species of *Artemisia*, produced in Turkestan, used as an anthelmintic; Levant or Alexandrian wormseed.

1658 J. ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1119 Such things as we said to be good against Worms..such as are Wormwood, Southernwood, Santonicum. 1871 RANSOM in *J. R. Reynolds' Syst. Med.* III. 198 A very general concurrence of opinion..in favour of the use of santonica or worm-seed.

Santonin (sæ·ntŏnin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [f. SANTON-ICA + -IN. Cf. F. *santonine*.] A bitter principle obtained from santonica and used as a powerful anthelmintic.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 133 Santonin. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* viii. 95 Persons under the influence of santonin cannot see the violet end of the spectrum.

Santoni·nic, *a. Chem.* [f. SANTONIN + -IC.] *Santoninic acid*: an acid obtained from santonin, isomeric with santonic acid.

1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* and Suppl. 1076.

Santoon, obs. form of SANTON.

Santorinian (sæntŏri·niăn), *a.* [f. the name *Santorini* + -AN.] Named after the Venetian anatomist Santorini (1681–1737), as, the Santorinian plexus. In recent Dicts.

Santour, variant of SANTIR.

Santre, obs. form of SAUNTER.

† Sa·ntrel. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. OF. *sainterel* or It. *santarello* (Florio), diminutives of *saint, santo* SAINT: see -REL and SAINTREL.] A little saint.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxvii. 129 With a thousand other jolly little Sancts and Santrels [orig. *et mille autres bons petis saincts*].

Santsbell: see SANCTUS BELL.

Santuare, variant of SAINTUAIRE.

Santuary, obs. form of SANCTUARY.

Santur, variant of SANTIR.

Santus, obs. var. SANCTUS (senses 2 and 3).

† Sa·nty. *Obs.* Also santie, sancti, *pl.* sonties. [Of obscure origin: perh. corruption of *saintitie* SANCTITY.] Used in a form of oath, (*God's*) *santy, by God's sonties.*

c 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 459 (Brandl), Gods santie, this is a goodlie Booke in deede. *Ibid.* 763 Santy amen, here are saintes a great sort. *Ibid.* 1828 *Sancti*, Amen, where is my goodly geare? 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 47 Be Gods sonties 'twill be a hard waie to hit. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* xiii. K 2, Gods santy yonder come Friers.

Sanz, obs. form of SANS.

Sanzack(e, -zake, -ziac, obs. ff. SANJAK.

Sanze (sanze), obs. Sc. form of SENE.

Saouari, souari (sŭwā·ri). Also souarri, s(o)uwarrow, sawarrow, sawarra, sawari, sawarri, saouwarri, sewarri; *corruptly* savory. [a. Galibi (Cayenne) *sawarra*; in the Gal.-Fr. dict. of 1763 written *saouari*.] *Saouari nut*, the 'butter-nut' of *Caryocar nuciferum* and *C. tomentosum*, lofty trees of Guiana. *Saouari wood*, the hard durable timber of these trees, used for shipbuilding.

1806 PINCKARD *W. Indies* III. 287 The Souwarrow nut. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 7 The Savory tree is famed for its immense fruit. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 333/2 The Suwarrow or more properly Saouari nuts of commerce. 1855 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 213 Saouwarri, saouari, or sewarri nut. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 410/2 *Pekea tuberculosa* yields a nut known in the shops by the name of the Saouari or Sawarra nuts. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Saouari* or *Souari-wood. Ibid.*, Souari-nuts. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 664/2 The Souari or Surahwa nut, called also the 'Butter nut of Demerara', and by fruiterers the 'Suwarrow nut'.

Sap (sæp), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 sæp, sep, 4 *Kentish* zep, 5 saap(pe, 5–7 sappe, 6 sape, sapp, 4– sap. [Com. WGer.: OE. *sæp*, genit. *sæpes* (prob. neut.) = MLG., LG., MDu., Du. *sap*, neut. (Flemish *zap*), OHG. *saf*, genit. *saffes*, neut. (MHG. *saf*, *saft*, neut., mod.G. *saft*, masc., whence Sw. *saft*, fem., Da. *safl*), prob. repr. OTeut. types **sapo*^{m}, **sappo*^{m} :—pre-Teut. **sapnó-*, cogn. w. ON. *safi*, masc., sap (Sw. *safve*, *saf*, masc.) :—OTeut. **safon-* or **sabon-* :—pre-Teut. **sapon-*.

On this assumption the Teut. words may be cognate with L. *sapère* to taste, *sapor* taste, savour; also with *sapa* must boiled thick, whence (with change of meaning prob. due to association with the WGer. word) Pr., Sp. *saba*, Fr. *sève* sap. The hypothesis that the WGer. word was adopted from L. *sapa* is improbable in view of its relation to the Scandinavian synonym; besides, the assumed development of meaning in popular Latin (of which the Rom. words afford the only evidence) appears unlikely unless as a result of extraneous influence.]

1. The vital juice or fluid which circulates in plants.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1177 (Gr.) Ða wearð beam moniz blodigum tearum birunnen..sæp wearð to swate. *a* 1000 *Gloss. in Germania* N. S. XI. 391 *Sucum*, sep. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/16 *Cedrus*, cederbeam. *Cedria*, his sæp. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 Þet zep of þo traue and þe tyeres weren nour wel preciouses þinges. † *c* 1377 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 218 Weor that impeffully growe, That he had sarri, sap, and pith [etc.]. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 Alwaye se that the toppe lye hyer than the rote a good quantyte for els the sappe wyll nat renne into the toppe kyndely. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 43 Like three faire branches budding farre and wide, That from one roote deriv'd their vitall sap. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 7 The sap is the life of the tree, as the bloud is to mans body. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 837 Whose presence had infus'd Into the plant sciential sap. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 398 The sugar maple is a most valuable tree... The sap is extracted in the months of February and March. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 84 The sap shrank to the root through every pore. 1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* xi. (1874) 183 We kept some sap for vinegar. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 650 All functions are brought into play only when the temperature of the plant..rises to a certain height above the freezing-point of the sap.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 43 The barke hat defendeth the tree from stormes and tempestes, is hope. And the sap that gyueth lyfe to bothe, is charite. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 277 A hand-kercheefe, which..did dreyne The purple sappe from her sweet Brothers body. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ix. 335 The Moral part of the Law of Moses, which is the Sap and Marrow of the whole. 1791 A. WILSON *Eppie & Deil* Poet. Wks. (1846) 86 Ye maybe think that spinning's naething! And that it wastes na sap nor breathing? 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. vi, The sap of youth shrinks from our veins.

c. Moisture in stone.

1881 *Dict. Arch. Publ. Soc., Quarry Damp*, or *Sap*, the natural dampness of the stone when in the quarry. 1892 MIDDLETON *Anc. Rome.* I. 5 *note*, What stone-masons call the 'sap' should always be allowed to dry out of stone before it is used.

† **2.** Ear-wax. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Saap [*Winchester MS.* sap] of the ere, *pedora*.

† **3.** Juice or fluid of any kind. *Obs.*

Cf. *Sc.* and *north.* '*Sap*, anything used for drinking, esp. milk or beer'; *sap-money*, money allowed to servants for liquor. (See E. D. D.)

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* b ij, Other lyquor or sape which ye wyl puryfye from all troublous and unclere substaunces. 1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* viii. 2 The swete sappe of my pomgranates. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* To Indiff. Rdr., It is said that camels neuer drinke, til they have troubled the water with their feete, and it seemes these Martins cannot carouse the sapp of the Church, til by faction they make tumults in religion. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 449 That the three principall Elements whereof the world is made, namely, Water, Aire, and Fire, should haue no tast, no sauor, nor participation of any sap and liquor at all. *fig.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 143 If with the sap of reason you would quench, Or but allay the fire of passion.

4. = SAP-WOOD.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 97 Þat thilke thing þat is ryht softe as the marye (i. sapp) is. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 318/1 Þe Sappe of a tre, *suber*. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 270 The ioyner though an honest man, yet hee maketh his ioynts weake, and putteth in sap in the mortesels, which should be the hart of the tree. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 14 Deale of thirty foot long, the sap cut off. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 57 The old black-rinded Trees..have less sap, and require but little pains to chip and cut it. The sap is white and the heart red. 1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 22 To lay a Barn Floor with double Deals,..and to List off the Sap. 1864 *Intell. Observ.* IV. 74 The sandal cutters carefully remove the outer..portion of the wood, which they term the 'sap'. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Yr.* (1899) 121, I noticed that the wood was as hard as iron, and that there was..practically no 'sap', that is, soft outer wood, which is useless for most purposes.

5. The core (of unaltered iron) in the middle of a bar of blister steel.

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* 411.

† **6.** = SAP-GREEN. *Obs.*

1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 178 Sapp..Crymsen..white. 1573 *Ibid.* 210 Sape .j. quarterne xx^{ti}.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: as *sap-boiling, -monger, -trough, -vessel*; *sap-consuming, -sucking* adjs.; **sap-ball**, a local name for certain fungi of the genus *Polyporus*, 'the stems of which, after the juice has been squeezed out, are sometimes used by boys as their foundation for tennis-balls' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **sap-beetle** *U.S.*, any beetle of the family *Nitidulidæ* (Cent. Dict.); **sap-boiler**, a furnace with pans for evaporating the sap of the maple (Knight *Dict. Mech.*); **sap-colour** (see quot.); † **sap-pate**, = SAP-HEAD, SAPSKULL; **sap pine** *U.S.* [perversion of F. *sapin*], the pitch-pine, *Pinus rigida*; **sap-rot**, a disease of timber, dry-rot; **sap-sucker**, a name in N. America for many of the smaller woodpeckers, esp. those of the genus *Sphyropicus*; † **sap-time**, the time of year when the sap circulates; **sap-tree**, the mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*; also the sycamore, *Acer pseudo-platanus* (E. D. D.); **sap-tube**, a vessel that conveys sap (Ogilvie, 1850); † **sap-whistle** *dial.*, 'a whistle made from the green twig of a tree, esp. mountain ash or sycamore' (E. D. D.); in quot. referred to proverbially; † **sap-wiser**, an instrument for indicating the motion of the sap in plants; **sap-wort** (see quot.). Also SAP-GREEN, -LATH, -WOOD.

1876 W. BOYD in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, The great event of the spring is the *sap-boiling in the maple-woods. 1816 S. PARKES *Chem. Catech.* (ed. 7) 532 **Sap-colours*, a name given to various expressed vegetable juices of a viscid nature, which are inspissated by slow evaporation for the use of painters, &c. Sap-green, gamboge, &c. are of this class. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 312 Though now this grained face of mine be hid In *sap-consuming Winters drizled snow. 1652 CULPEPER *Eng. Physic.* (1656) 383 Let such *Sap-mongers answer me to this Argument, If the Sap fal into the Root in the fal of the Leaf, and lye there al the winter, then must the Root grow only in the winter. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Sap-pate*, a Fool. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 56 A new species of pine, called the French *Sap pine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Pine*, Sap Pine, *Pinus rigida*. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 191/1 The sap-wood is the part in which the decomposing operations commence, and hence the propriety of the term *sap-rot. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) I. 167 This, and the two former species [i.e. *Picus varius*, *P. villosus*, and *P. pubescens*] are generally denominated *sap-suckers. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 194 Genus *Sphyrapicus* Baird... Of the several small species commonly called 'sapsuckers' they alone deserve the name. 1884 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 485 *Sphyropicus*. ..*Sap-sucking Woodpeckers. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 133 Beware, that thou croppe hym not, nor heed hym (specially) in *sappe-tyme. 1840 GOSSE *Canadian Nat.* 22 The timber ..is..made into *sap-troughs for the sugary. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. v. § 22. 20 The Liquor of the adjacent *Sap-Vessels. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 123 If he would not be a *Sap-whistle, he might be a Sling at any time. 1670 TONGE in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2071 *Sap-wiser. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 948 In damp situations, *Œnanthe crocata*, water *sap-wort, grows.

† **Sap**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [a. F. *sappe* (now *sape*): see SAP *sb.*[3]] Some kind of spade or mattock.

1566 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 254, I giu to Richard walton my..stele sappe. 1598 FLORIO, *Zappa*, a mattocke to dig and delue with, a sappe.

Sap (sæp), *sb.*[3] *Mil.* Forms: 6–7 zappe, 6–8 sappe, 7–8 sapp, 8– sap. [Late 16th c. *zappe*, *sappe*, ad. It. *zappa* and a. F. *sappe* (16th c. also *zappe* after It.; now *sape*) spade, spadework, sap. Cf. Sp. *zapa*, late L. *sappa* (6th c.). The ulterior origin is uncertain: see Diez and Körting.]

1. † The process of undermining a wall or defensive work (*obs.*); the process of constructing covered trenches in order to approach a besieged place without danger from the enemy's fire.

1591 UNTON *Corr.* (Roxb.) 247 The King now resolveth to gaigne the fort by the zappe. *Ibid.* 248 Now we labor by sappe to win the fort. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. xii. 334 Untill such time as they might gaine it by Sapp or Myne. 1683 SIR J. TURNER *Pallas Armata* 316 This Sappe or Zappe is nothing else but a digging. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sappe*, in Fortification, formerly signified the undermining, or deep digging, with Pick-axe and Shovel at the Foot of a Work to overthrow it without Gunpowder. 1710 *Ibid.* II, *Sap*, in Fortification, is digging deep under the Earth,..to open a way to come under cover to the Passage of the Moat. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 22 Like pow'rful armies trenching at a town, By slow, and silent, but resistless sap. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 328/1 The French advanced, by sap, quite up to the foot of our entrenchment. 1812 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VIII. 549 We had made some progress by sap towards the crest of the glacis. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 368 The sap is a mode of carrying on the approaches at a siege, under cover. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sap*, that peculiar method by which a besieger's zig-zag approaches are continuously advanced in spite of the musketry of the defenders. 1875 CLERY *Min. Tactics* xvii. 253 A solid redout ..made it necessary to advance from house to house by sap.

b. *fig.* Applied to stealthy or insidious methods of attacking or destroying something.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. iii. 35 Be my end what it may, I am obliged, by thy penetration, fair one, to proceed by the sap. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* VII. 317 Exempt forever from the sap of age. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 52 A hock of pickled pork and a pound of sixpenny sugar, conveyed by way of sap to undermine the virtue of one of our Newgate nuns. 1862 ELLICOTT in *Aids to Faith* ix. 396 It is simply an endeavour by slow sap to weaken the authority of some of the writers of the New Testament.

† c. *? transf.*

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 327 Water may rise..either by running channels or by sap or percolation.

2. A covered trench made for the purpose of approaching a besieged place under the fire of the garrison. *Flying sap*: see FLYING *ppl. a.* 4 d.

1642 HEXHAM *Princ. Art Milit.* II. (ed. 2) 38 In the Interim a Sapp is begun, that runneth towards the Bulwark. 1672 J. LACEY tr. *Tacquet's Milit. Archit.* 48 You cut a strait Channel LH, commonly called a Sappe, thorough the out-brestwork, to the very ditch of the Fortification. 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 151 His soldiers..began their approaches by saps. 1687 J. RICHARDS *Jrnl. Siege of Buda* 34 The Duke of Lorrain order'd a large Sap to be made into the Ditch. 1702 *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Attack*, The Works the Besiegers carry on, either Trenches, Galeries, Sappes, or Breaches to reduce a place. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6952/1 There are several sorts of saps; the single, which has only a single parapet; the double, having one on each side; and the flying, made with gabions, &c. 1812 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) IX. 35, 200 men likewise of the covering party will rush from the right of the sap into the salient angle of the covered-way of the ravelin. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 104 To protect this part of their route a flying sap was constructed.

3. *Comb.*: **sap battery**, a battery at the head of a sap; **sap-faggot**, a fascine used in sapping, to fill up the spaces between gabions; **sap-fork** (see quot. 1842); **sap-head**, the foremost end of a sap; **sap-roller**, a large gabion covering the sap-head; **sap-shield** (see quot. 1876).

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 368 The Namur and Valiant took it day and day about to fight a *sap battery. 1834 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* 222 The *sap-faggot has a strong stake in the middle. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Sap fork*, an instrument like a boat hook, used to push on a sap roller in sapping. 1884 *Mil. Engineering* (ed. 3) I. II. 75 According as the gabion has to be pulled towards the trench or pushed away from it, which must be done entirely with the sap-fork. 1878 *Text Bk. Fortif.* § 332 The rate of progress of the *sapheads, therefore, regulates the rate of progress of the siege. 1834 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* 222 The head of the sap is covered by a *sap-roller, viz. a large stuffed gabion. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, **Sap-shield*, a steel plate mounted on wheels for the purpose of giving cover to the sapper in a single sap.

Sap (sæp), *sb.*[4] *School slang.* [prob. f. SAP *v.*[3], though appearing earlier in our quots.] One who studies hard or is absorbed in books.

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 48 He obtained the character of a sullen, cold-blooded fellow, and a sap. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* ii, When I once attempted to read Pope's poems out of school hours, I was laughed at, and called 'a sap'. *a* 1833 W. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) I. 11 The tutors [at Cambridge, *c* 1776] would often say..that 'they were mere saps, but that I did all by talent'. 1862 *Rep. Publ. Schools Comm.* (1864) III. 284 (Eton), You do not consider a boy who is considered what is called a sap, is looked down upon by the rest?—No.

Sap (sæp), *sb.*[5] [Short for SAPSKULL.] A simpleton, a fool.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlviii, They're sporting the door of the Custom-house, and the auld sap at Hazlewood-House has ordered off the guard. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xiv, He mann be a saft sap, wi' a head nae better than a fozy frosted turnip. 1836 MRS. SHERWOOD *H. Milner* III. xi, Do you think that we are such saps that we cannot say No? 1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 164 He crowned his head but with another cap Than Cardinal's—for that he wants no Sap.

Sap (sæp), *v.*[1] [a. F. *saper* (earlier *sapper*) = It. *sappare*, f. *zappa*: see SAP *sb.*[3] Cf. Sp. *zapar*.]

1. *intr.* To dig a sap or covered trench; to approach a besieged place by means of a sap. Also *to sap up, on.*

1598 FLORIO, *Zappare*, to digge, or delue, or grubbe the ground, to sap. 1642 HEXHAM *Princ. Art Milit.* II. (ed. 2) 38 Then one begins to Sapp from H to I. *Ibid.* 45 After you have sapt through the Counterscharfe. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Redivi.* IV. vii. (1854) 259 They sapt up towards the castle. 1882 SIR R. TEMPLE *Men & Events India* XX. 483 Where the Muhammadan besiegers erected batteries, sapped, undermined, stormed.

b. *fig.* To make way in a stealthy or insidious manner. Also *trans.* in *to sap one's way.*

1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 34 In vain may Heroes fight, and Patriots rave; If secret Gold sap on from knave to knave. 1839 LANDOR *Andrea & Giov.* Wks. 1846 II. 540 Lies, while they sap their way and hold their tongues, Are safe enough.

2. *trans.* To dig under the foundations of (a wall, etc.). Also *transf.* of natural agencies, etc.: To undermine; to render insecure by removing the foundations.

1652 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* x. 79 But see the chance, from off the Mountaines rapt A sudden flood, which strong Foundation sapt. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2482/1 We have begun to sappe the Glacis. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* III. 57 Sinking Isles, Sap'd by the Flame,..Fall down with mighty Cracks. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), To *sap*, a Term in War, to dig under the Foundations of a Wall to throw it down and destroy it. To dig under the Glacis, in order to pass the Moat securely. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 397 Sap'd by floods, Their houses fell. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XII. 25 The Weight of Waters saps the yielding Wall. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 18/1 Drains..shou'd..not do any harm to the House, either by sapping or dirtying it. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* xxiv, Huge fragments, sapp'd by the ceaseless flow. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. xiii. II. 108 Galleries were also wrought,..to sap the foundations of the walls. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxi, A crazy building, sapped and undermined by the rats. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* xviii. (1875) 263 The flood still rose,..and threatened to sap the magazine.

b. *fig.* with reference to a metaphorical wall, foundation, etc.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 163 ¶ 5 A Heart in Love has its Foundations sapped. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 111 ¶ 2 To sap the difficulties which it expected to subdue by storm. 1761 CHURCHILL *Night* Poems 1767 I. 80 How damps and vapours..sap the walls of health. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* i. 13 He takes his stand..upon advanced ground which is already sapped. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. viii. 544 There was..not one who did not..sap the foundation of some old opinion.

c. To approach (a fortress) or to pierce (ground) with saps. In some recent Dicts.

3. *fig.* To weaken or destroy insidiously (esp. health, strength, courage, or the like).

Probably often coloured by association with SAP *sb.*[1], as if the primary notion were 'to drain the vital sap from'.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 82 (1774) III. 83 A Drunkard; one that takes an unaccountable pleasure in sapping his constitution. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 393 Till sapped their strength, and every part unsound, Down, down they sink. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 96 But sloth had sapped the prophet's strength. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cvi, Ring out the grief that saps the mind, For those that here we see no more. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. liv. 412 The spirit of inquiry..was sapping the positive beliefs of the day. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 117 His moral energy is sapped by a kind of scepticism.

¶ b. ? To drain *of* something.

1893 KATE D. WIGGIN *Cathedr. Courtship* 68 He sapped me of all my ideas, and gave me none in exchange.

Sap (sæp), *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SAP *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To remove the sap from (wood).

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Poplar*, The Wood is useful for the Engraver, and being saw'd into Boards and sapt dry, continues a long while.

2. To remove the sap-wood from (a log).

1875 [implied in SAPPING *vbl. sb.*[3]].

Sap (sæp), *v.*[3] *School slang.* [Prob. a fig. use of SAP *v.*[1] 1. Cf. SAP *sb.*[4], which is recorded earlier.] *intr.* To pore over books; to be studious.

1830 H. ANGELO *Remin.* II. 371 Preferring a continental visit to sap-ing..three years at college for a fellowship. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. I. xii. 80 They say he is the cleverest boy in the school. But then he saps. *a* 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* (1885) 21 It was unworthy of a man of his position to 'sap'.

‖ Sapa (sē·pă). [L.] **a.** *Antiq.* New wine boiled to a syrup. †**b.** *Pharm.* = ROB *sb.*

1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* v. iii, With *Far* and *Sapa*; Flower and cockted Wine. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (ROXB.) 249/2 Sapa, Boiled wine. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 3 A Sapa is made of it for sore throats. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sapa*, a thickened confection of grapes. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sapa*, Syn. for *Rob.*

Sapadillies, -dillo: see SAPODILLA.

Sapajou (sæ·pădʒū). Also 7 sapaiou, 9 sapago. [a. F. *sapajou*, in 1614 *sapaiou*, given by D'Abbeville as a Cayenne word.] A South American monkey of the genus *Cebus*.

1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 130 The sapaiou is a kind of a little monkey. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 235 Those with muscular holding tails, are called Sapajous. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 153/2 The genus *Cebus*, the typical genus of American apes, is composed of the sapajous, so commonly seen in captivity.

Sapan, sappan (sæ·păn). Also 6–7 sapon, 7 sappon. [a. Malay سَاڧَن *sapan*, of South Indian origin: cf. Tamil *shappangam*, Malayālam *chappaṇṇam*. The proximate source in the 17th c. was prob. Du. *sapan(hout)*; cf. Pg. *sapão*, Fr. *sapan*.] A dye-wood yielding a red dye, obtained from trees belonging to the genus *Cæsalpinia*, indigenous to tropical Asia and the Indian Archipelago, esp. *C. Sappan*. Now only *sapan wood*.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xxii. 36 The wood Sapon, whereof also much is brought from Sian, it is like Brasill to die withall. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 209 Ofring to deliver me money for all our sappon which was com in this junk. 1626 METHOLD in Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 4) 1004 A wood to die withall called Sapan wood, the same we heere call Brasill. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. 197 A sort of wood called Sappan. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2269/2, 210 tool. [*i.e.* 210 quintals] of Siams Sapan Wood. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. App. 7 For which they give in return sugar, ripe cloves, sappan wood, ivory. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 529 The roots of the same tree [*Cæsalpinia Sappan*], under the names of Yellow-wood and Sappan-root, are..employed for dyeing yellow. 1881 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 5/8 Great store of Sapanwood from the Indies is also aboard.

†**Sape,** *sb. Obs.* Anglicized form of SAPA.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1142 In water first this opium relent Of sape until it have similitude. 1642 A. ROSS *Mel Heliconium* (1643) 56 Let me taste of that sweet sape Which dropp'd from this squeezed grape. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 102 Make them into conserves, sapes, and syrups. 1657 *Physical Dict., Sapes*, are medicinated juyces which having been pressed out of fruits and herbs, have been brought to a consistency by standing in the sun.

†**Sape,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 7 *pa. t.* sapped. [Of obscure origin: cf. dial. *sap*, 'to drench, soak' (E.D.D.); also SOP *v.*] *intr.* ? To be steeped (*in* sin, etc.). Hence †**Saped** *ppl. a.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xvii. 14 The men..whom thou hast suffered too sit saping too long in the dregges of their prosperitie [orig. *quos nimis diu in prosperitatis suæ fæcibus residere passus es*]. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.* v. xxxii. 191 Such as..are caryed away with their owne leawdnesse, and as it were saped in their sinnes [Fr. *qui se sont transportez en leurs iniquitez, et y sont comme confits*]. 1587 — *De Mornay* i. 11 Saped in wickednesse [Fr. *confites en meschancetes*]. 1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* ii. 30 Say not, there is no hope for so saped a wretch as thou. 1642 — *Naaman* 175 When she is sapped and soked in Selfe. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.*, Dict., *Saped*,..is any thing that is too much soaked in water.

†**Sape,** *v.*[2] *Burlesque nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *sapĕre.*] *intr.* To be wise.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. 252 If then you sape, as we are cogitating [Fr. *Et si tu es (comme cogitons) sage*].

Sape, obs. form of SAP *sb.*[1], SHAPE, SOAP.

Sapego, variant of SERPIGO.

Sapful (sæ·pfŭl), *a.* [f. SAP *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Abounding in sap or moisture.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 185 Those layers, that are made of sapful and growthsom earths. 1847 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Dead City* Poems (1904) 101/1 Strong and sapful were the root, The top boughs, and all between. 1881 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Life Christ* iv. 65 The roots of the glorious flower are bedded deep in the sapful soil.

Sap-green, *sb.* (and *a.*). [f. SAP *sb.*[1] + GREEN, prob. after Du. *sapgroen.*]

1. A green pigment prepared from the juice of buckthorn berries; also, the colour of this pigment.

1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 294 Sape greene quarter li. iis. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 83 Take Sappe greene, and lay it in sharpe vinegar. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* I. 219 Sap-green is a dirty dark Green, and of little use, except to Shadow in the dark places. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 366/2 The next operation is the sprinkling the leaves of the book; which is done by dipping a brush into vermilion and sap-green. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 520 The colour called Sap-green is prepared by evaporating to dryness the juice of the Buckthorn berries previously mixed with lime. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xxxviii, St. Peter in royal purple and sap-green.

2. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1658 W. SANDERSON *Graphice* 42 Her Knots and choyce Riband sap-green and silver. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xi, Landscapes with sap-green trees and mazareen-blue rivers. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1979 Those specimens I saw myself were of a yellowish sap-green colour.

Sa·p-head. [f. SAP *sb.*[1] (sense 4). Cf. the earlier SAPSKULL.] A fool; a simpleton.

1828 *Craven Gloss., Sap-head*, a blockhead. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* iii. 23 You don't seem to know anything, somehow—perfect sap-head.

So **Sap-headed** *a.*, foolish, stupid.

1665 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* (1666) I. iv. 31 *Culle*, a Sap-headed Fellow. 1821 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 31 Sap-headed fools! They will [etc.]. 1902 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 266/2 Of all the sap-headed milksops I —.

Sapheir, obs. form of SAPPHIRE.

‖ Saphena (săfī·nă). *Anat.* Also *a.* 7 saphen, 7, 9 saphena; β. 5 sophena, 6 sopheyne. [med.L. *saphena, sophona*, ad. Arab. صافن *ṣāfin* saphena; also 'a vein lying deep in the arm' (Lane). Cf. F. *saphène* (1314 in Hatz.-Darm.), Pg., It. *safena.*

The usual statement that the word is from Gr. σαφηνής 'manifest, clear', is baseless. The Gr. word does not mean 'conspicuously visible', but is used only in intellectual senses.]

The distinctive name of two veins in the leg: (1) the *long* or *internal saphena*, which extends from near the ankle-joint along the inner surface of the leg, and ends in the femoral vein; (2) the *short, posterior*, or *external saphena*, which extends from the foot along the calf of the leg, and finally joins the popliteal vein. Also *saphena vein.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lvii. (1495) 271 The veyne whyche hight Saphena is vnder the ancle boon of the fote. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 177 Per ben ij. oþer veynes in þe holow of þe foot withinne, & þat oon is clepid sophena, & þat oþer is clepid vena ventris. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iij b, The sopheynes that are vpon the ancle. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30/1 The second, Saphena, or mother vayne, we open on the insyde of the legge. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Vein, Saphen vein* (*saphena*), the mother Vein; the first branch of the thigh vein. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Saphæna*, the Vein of the Leg, or Crural Vein. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 151 This..has of late years been often done by tying the saphena veins. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 53 Bleeding in the Foot. The internal saphena vein may be opened in front of the internal malleolus, or the external saphena in front of the external malleolus. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 198 The saphena can usually be distinctly felt.

b. *attrib.* in *saphena nerve*: see quot.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1411 The internal saphena vein is accompanied, from the ankle to the knee, by the internal saphena nerve.

Saphenal (săfī·năl), *a.* [f. SAPHENA + -AL.] = SAPHENOUS *a.*

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 517 Of the internal popliteal nerve. External Saphenal branch.

Saphenous (săfī·nəs), *a.* Also *erron.* (quasi-Latin) **saphenus.** [f. SAPHENA + -OUS.] Pertaining to or connected with the saphena. *Saphenous vein*: the saphena. *Saphenous nerve* = 'saphena nerve' (see SAPHENA b.).

1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 626 The oval aperture in the fascia lata, now exposed, is the saphenous opening. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 345 It receives several muscular and articular veins, and the external saphenous vein. 1881 *Trans. Obstetric Soc. Lond.* XXII. 22 The course of the long saphenous nerve.

Sapher(e, -eron(e, -ian, -ic(k(e: see SAPPHIRE, SAFFRON, SAFFIAN, SAPPHIC.

‖ Saphie (sæ·fi). *North Africa.* Also 9 saffi, safie. [Mandingo *safaye.*] A charm.

1799 M. PARK *Trav.* xvi. (ed. 2) 206 He..desired me to write him a saphie. 1817 BOWDICH, etc. *Mission Ashantee* II. iv. (1819) 271 The most surprising superstition of the Ashantees, is their confidence in the fetishes or saphies they purchase so extravagantly from the Moors. 1847 MRS. R. LEE *Afr. Wand.* xvii. (1854) 290 Scraps of the Koran, esteemed as charms, and called safies. 1904 MARY GAUNT *Arm of Leopard* 256 The more or less Arabic charms known as Saphis. 1905 R. A. FREEMAN *Golden Pool* 108, I..hung round my neck a saffi or amulet.

Saphier, Saphik: see SAPPHIRE, SAPPHIC.

Saphion, -ique: see SAFFIAN, SAPPHIC.

Saphir(e, -irine: see SAPPHIRE, -IRINE.

Saphron, obs. form of SAFFRON.

Sapid (sæ·pid), *a.* Also 7 sapide. [ad. L. *sapid-us* savoury, f. *sapĕre* (see SAPIENT *a.*). Cf. F. *sapide*; the direct descendant is *sade* (obs.).]

1. Of food, etc.: Readily perceptible by the organs of taste, having a decided taste or flavour; *esp.* having a pleasant taste, savoury, palatable.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxii. 165 Thus Camels to make the water sapide do raise the mud with their feet. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sapid*, well seasoned, savory, that hath a smack. 1761 ARMSTRONG *Day* 140 In salt itself the sapid savour fails. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 103 It [venison] is certainly more sapid than any butchers' meat, and is even strong. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxi. 325 If the patient attempts to take any sapid food..the pain and burning in the mouth are intolerable.

2. In neutral sense: Having the power of affecting the organs of taste; having taste or flavour.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXVI. vii. 1034 Therefore Nature observes this order in the concoction of sapide bodies, that at the first the acerbe taste should take place, then the austere, and lastly, the acide. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 32 They are genericall Natures, common to all Sapid and Odorate Bodies. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 95 Epsom water..scentless, and hardly sapid. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 10 Those [salts] which are insoluble in water are insipid; such..as are soluble in it, are more or less sapid. 1862 G. WILSON *Relig. Chem.* 5 Neither plants nor animals can exist..in any of the odorous or sapid gases.

3. *fig.* Grateful to the mind or mental taste.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 217, I must confesse there may some few criticismes or graines of browne salt, and small dashes of vineger be found here and there, to make the discourse more sapid, but this tartnesse is farre from any gall or venome. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Great Exemp.* I. Dis. iv. 125 The life of the spirit, is lessened and impaired according as the gusts of the flesh grow high and sapid. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. viii. 373 These are things..more grateful, sapid, and delightful to the Mind, than the best Apparatus or Provisions of a sensible Good. 1690 NORRIS *Refl. Cond. Hum. Life* (1692) 179 Such Books..as are Sapid, Pathetic, and Divinely-relishing. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 356 Pamphlets..sapid, exhilarative. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Dec. 794/2 Quite as important as the possession..of all these faculties, is the temper, spirit, tone, or manner of their use, the something which makes them sapid.

4. *absol.* **a.** *The sapid*, that which is sapid, sapidity. **b.** quasi-*sb.* A sapid substance.

1715 *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* II. v. 299 Sugar..seems to tame and to triumph over all Sapids. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* iv, I speak of the cruet sauces, where the quintessence of the sapid is condensed in a phial.

Sapidity (săpi·dĭti). [ad. L. **sapiditātem*, f. *sapid-us* SAPID: see -ITY.] The quality of being sapid or having taste and flavour.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 158 The body of that element [air] is ingustible, void of all sapidity. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 3 The epicure with whom the single quality of sapidity outweighs every other consideration. 1878 M'KENDRICK *Outl. Physiol.* 224 There must always be a certain amount of sapidity or flavour in the food.

b. *fig.* (Cf. 'relish'.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sapidity*, pleasantness of taste or savor; also pleasantness of talk. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* VI. (1848) 230 [Rembrandt's] tints..have the same truth, high relish, and sapidity, as those of Titian. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 29 June 815/1 It is the clash of personalities which gives the sapidity to the life of a politician.

Sa·pidless, *a. nonce-wd.* [Badly f. SAPID + -LESS.] Flavourless.

1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Grace bef. Meat*, To come home.. expecting some savoury mess, and to find one quite tasteless and sapidless.

†**Sa·pidness.** *Obs.* [f. SAPID + -NESS.] Sapidity (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. P 2 God gave man reason and abilities..to perceive the sapidnesse and rellish of those objects. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* IV. 246 We see that sapidness and volatility are wont to denominate the Chymists Mercury or Spirit.

Sapience (sē·pi€ns). Also 4–6 **sapyence,** 4–5, *Sc.* 6, 8 **sapiens.** [a. OF. *sapience*, ad. L. *sapientia*, f. *sapient-em* SAPIENT: see -ENCE.]

1. Wisdom, understanding. (A learned synonym. Now *rare* in serious use: see sense 2.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1626 þat þou has in þy hert holy coinnyng, Of sapience þi sawle ful sobes to schawe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 42 For what made Lucyfer to lese þe heigh heuene, Or salamon his sapience or sampson his strengthe? 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3854 But whan monhod is meynt with sapience, Who considereth, it may double avayle. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* ii. (1517) A iv, All the scyence and all the sapyence of men shall not excuse them. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 43 Appollo, that the poietis callis the god of sapiens. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 99 It is a point of high Sapience in the Church of Rome to choose [etc.]. 1659 *Queries on Proposalls of Officers of Armie to Parlt.* 4 As that Supreme Master of Politicall Sapience doth assert. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* XV, A king.. Quhase pusiens, and sapiens, Sall richt restore and saiv. 1730 SWIFT *Traulus* I, Yet many a Wretch in Bedlam..still has Gratitude and Sap'ence, To spare the Folks that give him Ha'pence. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* s.v. *Praise*, Silence is sapience. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 71 'Honour all men' is one of the many texts of combined sanctity and sapience with which the New Testament abounds. 1901 CORVO *Ho. Borgia* 20 That letter..written..with the unerring sapience of a saint.

† b. as an attribute of God. Hence applied to the Word or second person of the Trinity. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' Prol.* 20 Of whos vertu, whan he thyn herte lighte, Conceyued was the fadres sapience. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2 God..That al thinge made in sapience. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. vii. 247 The diuyne puissaunce and the sapience of almyghty god. 1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* 55 b, He that is the greate profounde sapience And dyuyne trueth of the father on hye. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 1. 27 b, All learning is knowledge acquired, and all knowledge in God is originall. And therefore we must looke for it by another name, that of wisedome or sapience, as the scriptures call it. 1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* 100 Herein is the Immense Sapience and the Superlative Goodness of God to be admired.

†c. Spiritual wisdom, knowledge of divine things.

[*c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 God the ffulfylle withe intelligence, And withe a spyrut of goostly sapience. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 1654 (Brandl), As scripture calleth this the hiest sapience, God to know, to feare, to loue, and obey.] 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* VI. (1603) 589 Let us now examine Sapience..or that part of wisedome which is conversant in the contemplation of God and divine matters. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. (1634) 21 The eie of the soule, or receptacle of Sapience and divine knowledge.

† d. sometimes contradistinguished from *prudence* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 252 This light of reason (as much as concerneth mens actions) is nothing else but Prudence,.. euen as sapience or wisedome is the guide and gouernesse of speculation. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. v. 22 As, much Experience, is Prudence; so, is much Science, Sapience. For though wee usually have one name of Wisedome for them both; yet the Latines did alwayes distinguish between *Prudentia* and *Sapientia*; ascribing the former to Experience, the later to Science. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. xiv. 156 Wisedom..may denote either sapience, a habit of knowing what is true; or prudence, a disposition of chusing what is good.

† e. Correct taste and judgement. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1018 Eve, now I see thou art exact of taste, And elegant, of Sapience no small part, Since to each meaning savour we apply, And Palate call judicious. 1692 WOOD *Athen. Oxon.* II. 540 (Heneage Finch) A person of so eloquent and fluent speech, and of so great sapience, that he was usually stiled the English Roscius and the English Cicero. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* III. 274 The sapience of Horace, that is, the correct judgment which reigns in all you think and write.

2. Used depreciatingly or ironically: Would-be wisdom.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 515 Loo þer gope he þat is man of so grete sapience and held vs louers leest in reuerence. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 287 This is a piece of sapience not worth the brain of a fruit-trencher. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 794 Staring round with Owl-like Eies, He put his face into a posture Of Sapience, and began to bluster. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 519 Just as the sapience of an author's brain Suggests it safe or dang'rous to be plain. 1893 MORLEY *Sp. at Manchester* 8 Nov., Wisdom is the real article and sapience is the sham article.

†3. The apocryphal book of 'Wisdom'. *Obs.*

In *Piers Plowman* perh. used as a general name for the 'sapiential books' of the Bible.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 47 So seib þe sauter and sapience boþe. 1377 *Ibid.* B. III. 330 Se what Salamon seith in Sapience bokes. 14.. *Wyclif's Bible, Wisd.* ad fin., Here endith the book of Sapiens. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1199/1 Of this arowe speaketh the wise man in the .v. Chapter of Sapience. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Wk.* III. 245 b, Wherein is expressed further in Sapience howe God geueth his elect an vnderstandyng of the motions of the heauens.

Sapient (sē·pi€nt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. OF. *sapient* or ad. L. *sapient-em* wise, sb. wise man, pres. pple. of *sapĕre* to have a taste or savour, to be sensible or wise.]

A. *adj.*

1. Wise. (A learned synonym, in serious use now only *poet.*)

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. viii. in Ashm. (1652) 150 Of thys Pryncyple spekyth Sapyent Guydo. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* ii. (1570) B v b, Thou haste me saued by councell sapient Out of hell mouth. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 5 That maist sapient prince..ihone of loran. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1824) 334 In Scripture he is not counted sapient that before he build a house will not first count the charge of it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 442 Where the Sapient King Held dalliance with his faire Egyptian Spouse. 1809 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, *'Alas! what boots the long laborious quest'*, If sapient Germany must lie deprest Beneath the brutal sword. 1868 LONGF. *Dante's Inferno* iv. 149 Another way my sapient Guide conducts me.

b. now usually *ironical.*

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Economy* I. 3 Nor think some Miser vents his sapient saw. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 531 Now tell me, dignified and sapient Sir. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 337 The œconomy which has been introduced by the virtuous and sapient assembly. 1822 LAMB *Elia, Bks. & Reading*, I think I see them at their work—these sapient troubletombs. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. XVI, Then the group of women at the gate separated with many a sapient comment.

c. Having knowledge *of*, aware *of*. *rare*—1.

1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 306 The herds, as sapient of the coming storm..In troops associate.

† 2. Used in the orig. sense of L. *sapĕre*: Having a taste or savour, sapid. *Obs.*

1599 A. HUME *Hymns* ii. 75 Of euerie substance sapient, the sapor and the taist..the mouth will try in haist.

B. *sb.* 1. [=L. *sapiens.*] A wise man, sage. In later use only *jocularly.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* XVI. 142 Conformand til ane addagia of ane of the seuyn sapientis callit mimus publianus. 1592 CHETTLE *Kind-harts Dr.* (1841) 38 Mirth, in seasonable time taken, is not forbidden by the austerest sapients. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 110 He must be an Antiquary with Nestor: an Historian with Plutarch, and a Sapient with Cato. 1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* i, 'She canna do that', said another sapient of the same profession.

† 2. = SAPIENCE. [? A confusion or mis-writing.]

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 622 þan was he lede furthe be-lyfe to lere at þe scole, As sone as to þat sapient him-self was of elde. *Ibid.* 2526 þare had I sigt of þe segg, his sapient [*Dubl. MS.* sapiens] I herde.

Sapiential (sē·pie·nʃăl), *a.* Also 5 **sapyencyall,** 7 **sapientiall.** [a. F. *sapiential*, or ad. eccl. L. *sapientiāl-is*, f. *sapientia* SAPIENCE.]

1. Belonging to or characterized by wisdom; esp. belonging to the wisdom of God (cf. SAPIENCE 1 b).

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 80 For your sapyencyall wyttes I gyf commendacion. 1656 HOBBES *Quest. Liberty, Necess. & Chance* 212 Some distinctions are Scholastical onely, and some are Scholastical and sapiential also. 1663 BAXTER *Div. Life* 11 Man being made at first the Natural and Sapiential image of God. 1675 — *Cath. Theol.* II. I. 20 Under Gods sapiential Government of the World. *a* 1680 J. CORBET *Free Actions* II. iii. (1683) 16 God..can do with it as he pleaseth, by a sapiential Government.

2. Epithet of the 'wisdom' books of the Bible (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Canticles, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus); also applied occas. to kindred writings outside the canon. [So in eccl.L. and Fr.]

1568 BIBLE (Bishops') Introd. 8 b, The Bible..is of diuers natures, some legall, some historicall, some sapientiall, and some propheticall. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* I. vi. 50 Let him also frequently..read some part of the Scripture, and the Historical and Sapiential Books rather then the other. 1880 W. SANDAY in *Expositor* XI. 358 The Sapiential books in the Apocrypha. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 278 This Sapiential literature of Alexandria,..represented by the books of Ecclesiasticus and Wisdom and in the writings of Philo.

Hence **Sapie·ntially** *adv.*

1846 WORCESTER (cites BAXTER).

Sapientious (sē·pie·nʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *sapienti-a* + -OUS.] Characterized by sapience.

1852 JERDAN *Autobiog.* I. xii. 90 Many a..sapientious declination of his head had the perplexed and bemused editor. 1860 WORCESTER (cites CHAMBERS).

†**Sapientipotent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sapientipotent-em*, f. *sapient-* SAPIENT (or *sapientia* SAPIENCE) + *potentem* powerful.] Mighty in wisdom. Also *absol.* as *sb.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sapientipotent*, mighty in wisdom. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* I. 25 Æacus his Progeny were a stolid Generation, that acted by main strength, not by policy, being belli-potents not sapienti-potents.

Sa·pientize, *v. nonce-wd.* [-IZE.] *trans.* To make sapient or wise.

c 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 219 Truly evangelical way of..sapientizing Calvin's *tolerabiles inepti as* by making them *ineptias usque ad carcerem et verbera intolerantes!*

Sapiently (sē·pi€ntli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a sapient manner, wisely. Now usually ironically = with apparent or would-be wisdom.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 77 Plato wrote full sapiently. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) II. xxiv. 382 From whence he very sapiently concludes, that not the tail but the mouth must be their organ of sound. 1872 W. R. GREG *Enigmas Life* 112 No government and no statesman has ever yet dared thus to supplement the inadequacy of personal patriotism by laws so sapiently despotic. 1882 MRS. J. H. RIDDELL *Pr. Wales' Garden-Party* 189 'Still property is property,' remarked Mrs. Briart, sapiently.

†**Sapin.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 -yn, 7 -ine. [a. OF. (and mod.F.) *sapin*, ad. L. *sapīnus.*] A kind of fir or pine. Usually *sapin tree.*

1323–4 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 47 In xxiv arboribus de sapin empt. pro stagyngg, 2ˢ 8ᵈ ob. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 242, I lefte hym here by this sapyn tre. 1526 *Grete Herball* xv. (1529) B j, Agaryke is an excrescens that groweth nyghe to the rote of a sapyn tre. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. iv, They pul from the said Sapins great abundance of rosin. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxvi. 403 Which they died blacke with the fume of sapine, or firre trees, or rosine.

Sapindaceous (sæpindē·i·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Sapindus*, the typical genus of the order: see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Sapindaceæ.*

1845 G. DON in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 174*/2 Sapindaceous trees.

Sapi-utan (sāpi,ū·tan). Also **-outan, -utang, -utufig.** [Malay *sāpi ūtan* 'wild ox' (*sāpi* ox, *ūtan* wild: cf. ORANG-OUTANG.] A small wild ox of Celebes, *Anoa* (or *Bos*) *depressicornis.*

1868 BICKMORE *Trav. E. Ind. Archip.* 325 There dwells the *sapi-utung* or 'wild ox'. *Ibid.* 334 The wild ox, *sapiutung.* 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. 414 On their way they caught a young Sapi-utan and five pigs.

Sap lath. Also 7 **sapt lath.** [SAP *sb.*1 4.] A lath made of sap-wood.

1350 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 261 [Also 30000] saplathes, [value 2s. per thousand]. 1415 in *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 35 In m.ccc. saplates emptis de Johanne Bateman de Topclyff, 5s. 10d. 1421 *Ibid.* 44 In m.m. saplattes emptis ab eodem, 8s. 1514 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for ij C off sep lath. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xii. (1877) I. 235 Made fast here and there with saplaths. 1630–1 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 192 Three hundred of sapt lathes, 2s. 3d. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Lath*, Heart of oak, sap laths, and deal laths. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 611 Laths are also distinguished into heart and sap laths.

†**Sa·ple.** *Obs. rare*—1. ? Altered form of SAPLING.

1589 T. LODGE *Scillaes Metam.* B 2, Her breast..From whence..her armes doo sweetly spred Like two rare branchie saples in the Spring.

Sapless (sæ·plĕs), *a.* [f. SAP *sb.*1 + -LESS.]

1. Of plants, wood, etc.: Destitute of sap; dry, withered.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 12 Pyth-lesse Armes, like to a withered Vine, That droupes his sappe-lesse Branches to the ground. 1678 H. VAUGHAN *Thalia Rediv., Affliction* (1858) 224 Flowers that in sunshine riot still, Dye, scorched and sapless. 1762 *Poetry in Ann. Reg.* 225 Sapless wood but makes a blaze. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 46 Their summits..till then had never been covered but with sapless thistles and fern. 1818 SHELLEY *Euganean Hills* 43 Like sapless leaflets..Frozen upon December's bough. 1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 161 But if old and 'sapless' they [the tea leaves] will be found rough and 'chaffy' to the touch. *fig.* 1594 J. DICKENSON *Arisbas* (1878) 29 The saplesse frutes of greene youth, and pithlesse blossomes of a simple Authors vnripe wit.

b. Of soil: Dry, without moisture; also barren, unproductive.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 78 A dry, crumbling, sapless and unmingled Earth. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 37 These Troglodites well knowing how little advantage that great Monarch would get by entring their sapless Country, scornfully refused it. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* liv, I live, as it were, on a rock, barren, and herbless, and sapless. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* II. v. 262 His creative might will bring life out of the sapless dust of Sheol.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Of persons: Lacking vital moisture, energy, or vigour. Also with reference to mental qualities: Lacking in character, insipid.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. viii. 214, I am not saplesse old or reumatick. ? *c* 1600 *Distracted Emp.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 168 Theres not enough to cherrish a desyer Left in his saplesse nerves. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* ii. (1656) 663 Such was that Sapless fellow Psal. 14. 1. that may have a disciplinary knowledge..but not an intuitive *per speciem propriam.* 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* vi. 16 An unexperienced sapless Teacher. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XV. 349 Now sapless on the verge of Death he stands. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 706 Hear ye the blast,..Whose spirit shakes the sapless bones Of Slavery? 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 33 Ghosts and sapless shades, and the rest of their Tartarian nomenclature. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Oct. 3/2 In ten years he was friendless, his children sapless and sensitive, his wife lonely.

b. Of age, etc.

1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. v. 4 When saplesse Age, and weake vnable limbes Should bring thy Father to his drooping Chaire. 1618 G. STRODE *Anat. Mortal.* 161 The euill dayes of sickly and saplesse old age. 1842 TENNYSON *Love & Duty* 16 The staring eye glazed o'er with sapless days. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 318 A somewhat sapless womanhood.

c. Of immaterial things, ideas, sayings, etc.: Destitute of inner worth, insipid, trivial, pointless.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iii, Blowe hence these saplesse jestes. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* x. Wks. 1851 III. 310 Pestring their heads with the saplesse dotage of old Paris and Salamanca. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 292 It is to make the Prophecy guilty of a sapless and useless Tautologie. 1732 WATERLAND *Script. Vind.* III. 38 Those heartless, sapless Services, which had no Godliness..in them, were not the Services which God required. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 408 The evangelical principles of the Reformation had begun to decline..into a dry and sapless orthodoxy. 1891 *Academy* 29 Aug. 171/2 Old stories and sapless anecdotes. 1897 W. P. KER *Epic & Rom.* 358 The growth of a kind of dull, parasitic, sapless language over the old stocks.

Hence **Sa·plessness.**

1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. XXVII. § 23 The good in it, the

life of it.., are Protestantism in its heart; the rigidity and saplessness are the Romanism of it. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 26 Now this saplessness shall flush to green.

Sapling (sæ·plin). Forms: 5 sapp(e)lynge, 6 sapplyne, 7 saplyn, 7–9 saplin, 8 sappling, 6– sapling. [f. SAP *sb.*[1] + -LING[1]. Cf. SIPLING.]

1. A young tree; *esp.* a young forest-tree with a trunk a few inches in diameter.

1415 in *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 35 In ij sappelynges emptis de Gilberto Walker pro gauntrees, 3s. 8d. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 43 And scars this sentens prent into hys mynd, Hys douchtir for to clos wythin the rynd And stalwart sapplyne or bark of cork tre. 1543 *Mem. Fountains Abb.* (Surtees) I. 412 Yonge saplings. *Ibid.* 413 Smale saplings. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 71 Behold, mine Arme Is like a blasted Sapling, wither'd vp. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 212 To preserue the timber trees, and saplins likely to become timber trees, Oke, Elme, and Ashe. 1681 DINELEY *Jrnl. Tour Irel.* in *Trans. Kilkenny Archæol. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. 332 The Roof of this Church is admirable, of whole Saplyns. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 310 If the hunter chance to miss his aim, he speedily makes off to a sappling, which the bear..cannot climb. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xiv, The broom's tough roots his ladder made, The hazel saplings lent their aid. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 149 Saplins not proper to be cut as timber. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXXI, The gale, it plies the saplings double.

b. used as a switch.

a 1712 W. KING *Old Cheese* 69 Slouch..saw his wife's vigorous hand Wielding her oaken sapling of command.

2. *transf.* A young or inexperienced person.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 50 Peace tender Sapling, thou art made of teares, And teares will quickly melt thy life away. 1738 LILLO *Marina* I. ii, *Bawd.* You're a sapling to talk so to one of my experience. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 255 The saplings from Carter's Barracks, Sidney, are three times greater nuisances than the 'full growths' in the Penitentiary there. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xi, Right, my sapling; right and well said. 1905 *Academy* 7 Oct. 1031/2 What god or mortal reared up so fair a sapling?

3. A young greyhound (see quots.).

1832 [cf. *sapling stake* below]. 1853 'STONEHENGE' *Greyhound* xiv. 274 The young greyhound is called a sapling till he is a year old, after which he becomes a puppy till two years old. 1892 *Coursing & Falconry* (Badm. Libr.) 56 A sapling is a greyhound whelped on or after January 1 of the same year in which the season of running began.

4. a. *appositively* or as *adj.* That is a sapling.

1700 DRYDEN *Theod. & Hon.* 129 A Saplin Pine he wrench'd from out the Ground. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* I. 121 Mourns she for lordly chamber's hearth That to the sapling ash gives birth. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 280 The branch of a sapling tree.

b. simple *attrib.*, as *sapling pole, stick*, (sense 3) *sapling stake.* Also **sapling-cup, -tankard**, an open cup or tankard formed of wood, with staves hooped like a diminutive barrel.

1851 *Archæol. Jrnl.* VIII. 427 A *Sapling cup—an oaken tankard for drinking new ale. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 437 They [the corn-bins] are made of *sapling poles, three or four inches diameter. 1832 in *Altar Coursing Cal.* (1839) 47 *Sapling Stakes. 1885 *Field* 21 Feb. 228/3 Having conspired to run in a sapling stake..a greyhound which was not a sapling. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiv, He bore no weapon in his hand, excepting a small *sapling stick, with a hooked head. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Sliprails* 59 The wheel was boxed in, mostly with round sapling-sticks.

Hence **Sa·plinghood**, the condition or state of being a sapling.

1868 NETTLESHIP *Browning* vi. 218 Just as one having a rare tree..would not, in its saplinghood, set it..in a forest of full-grown giant trees. 1903 EDNA K. WALLACE in *Critic* XLIII. 315 Then..I grew From sapling-hood to a Tree.

Sapo, var. form of SARPO, toadfish.

Sapodilla (sæpodi·lă). Forms: 7 **sapadilloe**, (*pl.*) **sapadillies**, 7–8 **sapadillo**, 8 **sappadilla**, **-o, sapodylle, sabatille**, 9 **sapotilla, sapadilla, sappodilla, zapotilla** (in Dicts.), 8– **sapodilla.** [a. Sp. *zapotilla* (whence F. *sapotille*), dim. of *zapote* SAPOTA; for the change of *t* to *d* cf. Du. *sapodille*, G. *sappadill.*]

1. A large evergreen tree, *Achras Sapota*, native of tropical America, having a durable wood and an edible fruit. Also called NASEBERRY.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 39 Where there grow great Groves of Sapadillies, which is a sort of Fruit much like a Pear, but more juicy. 1699 L. WAFER *Voy.* 58 The Sambaloe's are.. cover'd with variety of Trees; especially with Mammees, Sapadilloes, and Manchineel, &c. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Sappadilla*, a name used by some for the *cainito*, or *chrysophyllum*, of botanists. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxix. 193 Deal wood makes very good pendulum-rods; the wood called sapadillo is said to be still better. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xi, The glossy foliage of the mangos and sapodillas. 1892 [see NASEBERRY].

2. The fruit of this tree.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 148 The inside pulp of the fruit is milky, and of a soft sweet taste, not unlike a Sappadillo. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 441 The sweetest sappadillas oft he brought. 1782 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 423 They [the people of the Bahamas and adjacent islands] have tamarinds, ..sapodylles, bananas, sowersops [etc.]. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxvi. 242 We had also the fruit called sabatille, which grows on a large tree. 1804 tr. *Piguenard's Zoflora* I. 33 Negroes, who came..with oranges, lemons, pine apples, sapotillas, and all the different fruits of the country to sell. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 323 Among the fruits of the Bahamas the sapodilla is abundant and cheap.

3. *attrib.*, as *sapodilla wood*; **sapodilla-plum** = sense 2; **sapodilla-tree** = sense 1.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 181 The *Sappodilla Plum, the Star Apple [etc.]. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 202 The *Sapadillo-Tree is as big as a large Pear-tree. 1908 R. W. CHAMBERS *Firing Line* XXXVII, Under the sapodilla-trees on the lawn. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., The West Indian *Sapodilla-wood..is a fancy wood used for furniture.

Sapogenin (săpǫ·dʒénin). *Chem.* [f. SAPO(NIN) + -GEN + -IN.] A crystalline compound obtained 'by treating saponin with dilute mineral acids'.

1862 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XV. 53.

Sapon, obs. form of SAPAN.

Saponaceous (sæpŏnē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. mod.L *sāpōnācē-us* (F. *saponacé*), f. L. *sāpōn-em* SOAP *sb.*: see -ACEOUS.]

1. Of the nature of, or resembling, soap; consisting of, or containing, soap; soapy.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 109 A Saponaceous Draught. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* i. (1735) 13 The Gall ..is a saponaceous Substance, being compos'd of an Alkaline Salt, Oil, and Water, all which can be extracted from it. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 553 These..made a kind of Soap, or sulphureous saponaceous Salt, resembling Soap of Tartar. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 70 Rich saponaceous loam, that slowly drinks The blackening show'r. 1770 *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. viii. in *Hawkesworth's Voy.* (1773) III. 634 It was ..saponaceous to the touch, and almost as heavy as white lead. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 105 A kind of clay, of a dirty yellow, and of a saponaceous appearance. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 293 Caustic fixed alkalis convert wax into a saponaceous compound. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. vi. 81 Some portions of which [*sc.* shale] have a saponaceous feel. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 575 A saponaceous tooth powder should be used.

2. *jocularly.* 'Soapy', *lit.* and *fig.*; unctuous in manner; 'slippery', evasive.

1837 SYD. SMITH *Let. to Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 294/1 Among all his pecuniary, saponaceous, oleaginous parishioners. 1860 SALA *Baddington Peerage* I. xi. 192 Then did the uncertain chase after the pig with the saponaceous tail take place. 1864 LD. WESTBURY in *Daily Tel.* 16 July, This so-called synodical judgment was, no doubt, a well-lubricated form of words, but it was so oily, so saponaceous, that no one could grasp it.

Sapona·city. *rare* (*jocular*). [irreg. f. SAPONACEOUS + -ITY.] Soapiness.

1845 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* vii, You little knew what saponacity was till you entered a Turkish bath. 1860 WORCESTER (citing *Dublin Rev.*).

†**Saponariness.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SAPONARY + -NESS.] Saponaceous quality.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 189 Whence proceeds the saponaryness of all fix'd salts.

†**Saponary,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *sāpōnārius*, f. L. *sāpōn-em* (*sāpo*) soap (see -ARY).]

A. *adj.* Saponaceous, soapy.

1661 BOYLE *Cert. Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 199 By digesting a good while a solution of Salt of Tartar with Oyl of Almonds, I could reduce them to a soft Saponary substance. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 247 The Bile is generally allow'd to have much of a saponary nature.

B. *sb.*

1. The plant Soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis.* Cf. SAPONER.

1526 *Grete Herball* cccIxxxiv. (1529) X iij, Saponaria.. is called saponary fullers grass..and crowsoppe.

2. *sb. pl.* Substances convertible into soap (see quot.).

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 831 Alkalines and Enixa, which on this account are called Saponaries.

†**Saponer.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *sāpōnāria.*] The plant Soapwort; = SAPONARY *sb.* 1.

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 156 Saponer or lesse crow-[so]pe: *Saponaria minor.*

Saponifiable (săpǫ·nifəiăb'l), *a.* [f. SAPONIFY *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being saponified or converted into soap.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 411/1 Seroline..is a white slightly opalescent substance,..not saponifiable. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 19 Which causes the saponifiable fats to dissolve out, leaving the non-saponifiable in solution.

Saponification (săpǫ·nifikē·ʃən). [a. F. *saponification*, f. *saponifier* SAPONIFY *v.*: see -FICATION.] The process of saponifying; the decomposition of a fat by the addition of an alkali which combines with its fatty acids to form a soap, the remaining constituent, glycerine, being consequently liberated.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Fat*, Saponification by potash. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1137 The general results of saponification. 1884 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 740/2 The saponification of stearin with sodic hydrate.

b. *Saponification equivalent*, a 'term signifying the number of grammes of any oil saponified by one gramme of an alkali' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1877 in Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* (1887) 49 Saponification equivalent [of palm oil from] Brass 280·2.

c. (See quot. 1877.)

1877 LITTLEJOHN in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 475/1 On the other hand, in cool weather the progress of liquefaction [of a corpse] is arrested, and the soft parts become solidified, owing to their conversion into adipocire, a peculiar kind of animal soap. To this stage..Devergie gives the name of saponification. 1882 TIDY *Legal Med.* I. 115 Partial saponification may be expected..after three months' submersion in water, and after twelve months' burial in earth.

Saponifier (săpǫ·nifəiəɹ). [f. next + -ER[1].]

1. An apparatus for isolating glycerine and the fatty acids by saponification.

1888 *Sci. Amer. Sup.* 2562 (Knight).

2. An alkali used in saponification.

1872 CROOKES *Wagner's Handbk. Chem. Technol.* 242 Natrona refined saponifier.

Saponify (săpǫ·nifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *saponifier*, ad. mod.L. *sāpōnificāre*, f. *sāpōn-* SOAP: see -IFY.]

1. *trans.* To convert (a fat or an oil) into soap by combination with an alkali.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Fat*, Each of the constituents of natural fat were then saponified by the addition of potash. 1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.* 441/1 Ricinoleic Acid..Sherry-coloured syrupy acid.., obtained by saponifying castor oil. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 192/2 They [articles to be gilded] are, therefore, first boiled in caustic alkali in order to saponify and render soluble all traces of grease. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 132 The fat must be emulsified or saponified before it can be absorbed.

2. *intr.* To become converted into soap.

1823 URE *Dict. Chem.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Soap*, Those [oils or fats] which saponify best,..are, 1. Oil of olives..2. Animal oils [etc.]. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 46 The best oils are those which..saponify with the greatest facility with carbonate of soda. 1900 *Lancet* 29 Sept. 950/1 Kelpion ..is a greasy, dark-olive-coloured substance which refuses to saponify with strong soda solution.

Hence **Sapo·nified, Sapo·nifying** *ppl. adjs.*

1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Fat*, The saponified fat of the sheep. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 311 Finely divided and saponified fats. 1880 W. C. ROBERTS *Introd. Metallurgy* 9 The saponifying powers of litharge. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 259 The saponifying ferment—lipase—which Hanriot has discovered in blood-serum is probably one of the agents concerned in disposing of the fat.

Saponin, -ine (sæ·pŏnin, -əin). *Chem.* [a. F. *saponine*, f. L. *sāpōn-* soap: see -IN.] A glucoside obtained from *Saponaria officinalis, Quillaia saponaria*, and many other plants.

1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 127 Saponine..presents the physical properties of a solution of soap. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1230/2 Saponin [obtained] from the *Saponaria officinalis.* 1884 A. DANIELL *Princ. Physics* xi. 247 If a magnetic needle be so adjusted as to have its lower surface in contact with the surface of a solution of saponine, it will remain in any position in defiance of the directive force of the earth's magnetism.

Saponite (sæ·pŏnəit). *Min.* [f. L. *sāpōn-em* soap + -ITE; formed by Svanberg 1841 as a rendering of the Ger. name *seifenstein* (= soap-stone).] A hydrous silicate of aluminium and magnesium, occurring in soft, soapy, amorphous masses, filling veins in serpentine and cavities in trap-rock.

1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* Index. 1862 DANA *Man. Min.* 145. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 22 Saponite occurs in fissures of serpentine rock. 1883 M. F. HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 414/2 Saponite,..Massive; sectile, and very soft...White, orange-yellow, pale green, and reddish brown...Occurs in all the above colours in the later igneous rocks of Scotland, commonly.

Saponule, -ul (sæ·pŏniūl, *-vl*). *Chem.* [f. L. *sāpōn-* soap: see -ULE.] (See quot. 1897.)

1794 G. PEARSON *Table Chem. Nomencl.* Pl. 4 end, Saponules of Turpentine, &c. 1802 T. THOMSON *Chem.* II. 182 The French chemists have proposed to give the combinations which these bodies form with the volatile oils the name of *savonules*, which Dr. Pearson has translated by the term *saponules.* 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Saponule*, term for an imperfect and partial soap formed by incomplete saponification of volatile..oils by means of various bases.

Sapor, sapour (sē·pǫr, -pəɹ). Also 6 **sapowr.** [a. L. *sapor, sapōr-em* taste (whence F. *saveur* SAVOUR), f. *sapĕre* to taste, to be sapid.] A quality such as is perceived by the sense of taste, as sweetness, bitterness, sourness, etc.; a taste, savour; the taste or savour of a substance, esp. of an article of food or drink. Now chiefly in scientific use.

†*Sapor* PONTIC, *Sapor* STYPTIC; particular 'sapors' frequently mentioned by the alchemists as indicative of the nature or condition of substances under examination.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in *Ashm.* (1652) 63 Which I teach you to knowne by signes fowre, By Colour, Odour, Sapor and Liquore. *Ibid.* v. 69 As Sapor of Meates chaungeth your Tastinge. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 23 Lyke as a strand of water or a spring Haldis the sapour of his fontall well. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. Prol. 54 Not jawyn fra tun to tun, In fresche sapour new fro the berrie run. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6158 In thare mouth, ane taist, as I heir tell, Off sweit and Supernaturall Sapowris. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 628 The other Nerue is sprinckled into the flesh of the Tongue..and by that meanes the Tongue is made apprehensiue of *Sapors.* 1638 FEATLY *Transubst.* 76 You tast nothing but bread in the one, and the sapour of wine in the other. 1682 CREECH tr. *Lucretius* IV. 117 Whil'st Colours strike the Eyes, Odours the Smell, Sapours the Tast. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 91 Without being over-power'd by some Herb of a stronger Taste, so as to endanger the native Sapor and Vertue of the rest. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 1 To discover the shape of those little particles of matter which distinguish the various sapors, odors, and colors of bodies. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) III. 314 The exquisite sapor of their French dishes. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 857/1 There remains a large class of pure sapors, of which we take cognizance without the assistance of smell, and which are altogether dissimilar to any tactile impressions: such as the bitter of quinine. 1861 LANKESTER *On Food* 256 We will call these substances which are tasted, *sapours*, in opposition to those which are called *odours.*

fig. *c* 1568 LAUDER *Min. P., Ane Godlie Tractate* 110 Tha want the Sapour of the spreit Of Christ Jesus. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 62 This deservedly rules al offices which flow from its empire, are tinctured with its color and sapor, and ought to be referred to it.

b. In generalized sense: Quality in relation to the sense of taste.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* i. 10 The gullet and conveying parts are [not] appertaining unto sapor. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* VI. 394 Sapour being an Accident or an Affection of matter that relates to our..Organs of Tast. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Saporifick Particles*, are such as by their Action on the Tongue occasion that Sensation which we call Taste or Sapor.

†Sa·poral, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SAPOR + -AL.] Of or pertaining to taste or 'sapor'.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 80 How many sowre things are there which by their saporall rules should be most cold, which notwithstanding are most hot.

Saporific (sæpŏrĭ·fik), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *sapōrificus*, f. *sapōr-em*: see SAPOR and -(I)FIC. Cf. F. *saporifique.*] 'Having the power to produce tastes' (J.); imparting flavour or taste.

1704 [see SAPOR b]. 1721 BAILEY, *Saporifick*, causing Taste. 1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. XXV. 212 He..always insisted upon a saporific crust to stimulate the flavour of the punicious fluid.

Saporine, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. SAPOR + -INE.] Pertaining to the sense of taste.

1813 T. BUSBY tr. *Lucretius* II. IV. *Comm.* p. XXXIV, They more readily receive the impressions, which, by the saporine nerves, are transmitted to the sensorium.

Saporosity (sæpŏrɒ·sĭti). *rare.* [f. mod.L. *sapōrōs-us*: see next and -ITY.] That property of a body by which it imparts the sensation of taste.

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. 115 Unless we may use the words Saporosity and Odorosity for these common properties, which are possessed by our organs of taste and smell, and by the particles of sapid and odorous bodies.

Saporous (sēⁱ·pŏrəs), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *sapōrōsus*, f. *sapōr-em*: see SAPOR and -OUS.] Of or pertaining to taste; having flavour or taste; yielding some kind of taste. †Also, agreeable to the taste, savoury.

a 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 283 We read of Manna that it was saporous to all palates. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Saporous*, are such Bodies as are capable of yielding some kind of Taste when touch'd with our tongue; but those that afford no Taste, are called *Insipid*. 1813 T. BUSBY tr. *Lucretius* II. IV. 748 The sharp and jagged in their progress tear The suffering nerves, and wage saporous war. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 590 We omit no solitary supplement..which can contribute to such cunning combinations as result in saporous felicity.

‖Sapota (săpō·tă). Forms: 6–9 **sapote**, 7 **sapotte**; 7 **supota, supporter, sappota**, 9 **zapota**, 8– **sapota.** [repr. Sp. and Pg. *zapote* (whence F. *sapote*), a. Mexican *zapotl*, *capoil.* The form now in use is from mod. Latin.] **a.** The tree *Achras Sapota* and its fruit; = SAPODILLA 1, 2; (see also quot. 1887). As mod.L., a genus, the type of the *Sapotaceæ*, now referred to *Achras*.

White sapota, the greenish yellow fruit of the Mexican tree *Casimiroa edulis* (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895). **Mammee-sapota,** see MAMMEE 3.

†*c* 1560 TOMSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 454 There are many goodly fruits in that Countrey, whereof we haue none such, as Plantanos, Guyanes, Sapotes, Tunas. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 42 There we had..the Plantin, Sapotte, Chicosapotte, Pine-fruit, and all other fruits that were to be found in Mexico. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 Sapota, *Achras.* 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 75 The sapotes are round, about two inches in circumference. 1812 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., West Indies* (abr., ed. 3) 666 The sapota or sapadilla. 1866 MARY B. CLARKE *Mosses fr. Rolling-Stone* 120 Zapotas, rough and brown. 1887 BRIGHAM *Guatemala* 131 There is no little confusion in the nomenclature of the sapotes or sapodillas. What is usually called sapote in Guatemala does not belong to the genus Sapota, but to an allied genus, Lucuma, and is known in the W. Indies as the mammee-apple..The sapoton or big sapote does not even belong to the Sapota family, but is a Pachira.

b. *attrib.*, as *sapota plum, wood.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 68/2 Achras or Sapota Plum. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 94/1 The material of the beams of the doors was sapote wood. *a* 1881 L. H. MORGAN *Contrib. Amer. Ethnol.* 273 They used sapote wood usually for lintels.

Sapotaceous (sæpŏtēⁱ·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Sapotāce-æ* (f. SAPOTA) + -ACEOUS.] Of or pertaining to, or characteristic of the *Sapotaceæ*, a N. O. of gamopetalous plants typified by the *Achras* (formerly *Sapota*).

1845 G. DON in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 178*/1.

Sapotad (sæ·pŏtæd). [f. SAPOT-A + -AD 1 d.] Lindley's term for: A plant of the N. O. *Sapotaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 590.

Sapote, variant of SAPOTA.

Sapotilla, Sapotte, obs. ff. SAPODILLA, SAPOTA.

Sapour, variant of SAPOR.

Sappadilla, -o, obs. forms of SAPODILLA.

†Sa·ppar(e. *Min. Obs.* [a. F. *sappare* (De Saussure 1789 in *Jrnl. de Physique* XXXIV. 213). De Saussure copies from the label of his specimen (received from the Duke of Gordon) a statement indicating that the name came from the records of the abortive attempt to find gold in Scotland in the reign of James VI. In Atkinson's book of 1619, *Discovery and History of Gold Mynes in Scotland* (ed. Bannatyne Club, pp. 15, 67), 'the sappare, saxere, and salineere stones' are mentioned as minerals in conjunction with which gold may be expected to be found. It is very doubtful whether these terms had any real meaning; the description of 'sappar-stone' on p. 15 would seem to suit quartz; it certainly does not refer to cyanite.]

An obsolete synonym of CYANITE.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 209 Sappare. Cyanite of Werner. 1862 DANA *Min.* 173 Kyanite..is also called *sappar*, a corruption of sapphire.

Sapped (sæpt), *ppl. a.* [f. SAP *v.*¹ + -ED¹.] Undermined.

1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 389 Her sap'd Foundations. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* liii, Here were the rotten beam, the sinking arch, the sapped and mouldering wall.

Sappelynge, obs. form of SAPLING.

Sapper¹ (sæ·pəɹ). [f. SAP *v.*¹ + -ER¹, after F. *sapeur.*]

1. One who saps; *spec.* a soldier employed in working at saps, the building and repairing of fortifications, the execution of field-works, and the like.

The non-commissioned officers and privates of the Engineers were formerly called the *(Royal) Sappers and Miners*, but in 1859 they became the Royal Engineers. (The privates are still unofficially called *sappers.*)

1626 tr. *Boccalini's New-found Politicke* 92 These are ..tooles belonging to Pioners, Sappers, Diggers [etc.]. 1642 HEXHAM *Princ. Art Milit.* II. (ed. 2) 37 He..continues the Sap,..and then follows another Sapper presently, who [etc.]. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6952/1 A brigade of sappers generally consists of eight men, divided equally into two parties; and whilst one of these parties is advancing the sap, the other is furnishing the gabions, fascines, and other necessary implements, who relieve each other alternately. 1821 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) VIII. 601, I would beg to suggest..the expediency of adding to the Engineers' establishment a corps of sappers and miners. 1851 *Ord. & Regul. Roy. Engineers* § 2. 7 Officers of Engineers, are restrained from employing Soldiers of the Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners, as Servants. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* P 762 A Gunner, Sapper or private, as the case may be. 1872 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Apr. 8 For use by the officers and sappers of the Royal Engineers for torpedo operations. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 175 The Lord He created the Engineer, Her Majesty's Royal Engineer, With the rank and pay of a Sapper!

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sapper officer*, etc.; **sapper-pumper,** *nonce-wd.*, used for F. *sapeur-pompier* a member of a (French) fire-brigade.

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Engineers*, On active service, an engineer officer is sometimes a *sapper officer.* 1841 THACKERAY *Sec. Funeral Napoleon* iii, The *Sapper-pumpers, with ditto. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* VI. (1895) 288 All the sapper-pumpers..with their beautiful brass helmets! 1900 *Daily News* 21 May 7/6 A telegraph cart manned by *sapper telegraphists.

Sapper² (sæ·pəɹ). *Mech.* [f. SAP *sb.*¹ + -ER¹.] A tool for cutting away sap-wood (see quots.).

1822 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* V. 147 On this shaft [of a rotary saw machine] are the saw and sappers..The sappers which are crooked pieces of iron, steel edged,..cut the sap off the log. 1891 *Century Dict., Sapper*, a chisel used in some sawing-machines to cut away waste or sap-wood and reduce a log to a cylindrical shape.

Sapper³ (sæ·pəɹ). *Eton slang.* [f. SAP *v.*³ + -ER¹.] One who 'saps' or studies hard.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* (1907) I. 52 Pleasant clever Hawtrey, and careful Okes, and that shrewd sapper, Green..: these form his classic escort to the cloisters.

‖Sapperment (sapəɹme·nt). *int.* [G. *sappermént*, corruption of *sakrament* SACRAMENT.] An oath put in the mouth of a German speaker.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiii, 'That won't pass, Mr. Captain', 'That *must* pass, Mr. Justice—sapperment!' 1823 — *Quentin D.* xxii, Sapperment—what a shy fairy it is! 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* II. (1895) 106 But you are not listening, sapperment!

Sappharine, obs. form of SAPPHIRINE *a.*

Sapphic (sæ·fik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **Saphik,** Saphic(ke, 6–8 **Sap(p)hick,** 7 **Sap(p)hique.** [a. F. *saphique*, †*sapphique* (16th c. in Godefroy), ad. L. *Sapphic-us*, a. Gr. **Σαπφικός.**] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Sappho (**Σαπφώ**), the famous poetess of Lesbos (*c* 600 B. C.); *spec.* epithet of the metres used by her (see B).

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. iv, Metir saphik, and also elygie. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ix. 43 She inuented the verses which after her name are called Saphic. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sapphique Verse.* 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* v. 100 Iambick, and Sapphick Verses. 1871 *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 472 Catullus has two Sapphic Odes. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 97 She'd throw off odes, again, whose flow And fire were more than Sapphic.

B. *sb.* A metre used by Sappho or named after her. Chiefly *pl.*, verses written in the Sapphic stanza.

Greater Sapphic: a logaœdic distich of which the first line is ⏑ – ⏑ – ‖ – ⏑ ⏑ – ⏑ and the second (the Greater Sapphic verse) is ⏑ – ⏑ – ‖ – ⏑ ⏑ – ⏑ –. *Lesser Sapphic*: a logaœdic hendecasyllable with a dactyl in the third place (– ⏑ – ⏑ – ⏑ ⏑ – ⏑ –). The 'Sapphic stanza' consists of three Lesser Sapphics followed by an Adonic (– ⏑ ⏑ – ⏑).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1598) 78 Zelmane..tooke out of his hand the Lute, and..sung these Saphikes. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 81 For tryall of which I haue turned the new Poets sweete song of Eliza into such homely Sapphick as I couide. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 50 Give me leave to salute you first in these Sapphics. 1730 SWIFT *Dan Jackson's Picture*, To give us a Description graphick Of Dan's large Nose, in modern Saphick. 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* II. vii. 49 Lumbering hexameters and dolorous sapphics consequently made their appearance in English literature.

Sapphire (sæ·fəi.əɹ). Forms: 3–6 **saphyr,** 3–7 **saphir,** 4–5 **safir(e, (saphire), safer(e,** 4–6 **saffer(e, safyr(e, sapher,** 4–7 **saphyre,** 4–8 **saphire,** 5 **saffyr, saffre, safewr, (safour, safur),** 5–6 *Sc.* **sapheir,** 6 **saphere, saphier, (safure, saffure, -oure,** *Sc.* **saufir),** 7 **sappheir,** *Sc.* **saiffer,** 8–9 **sapphyr,** 8– **sapphire.** [a. OF. *safir* (12th c. in Littré), mod.F. *saphir* (Pr. *saphir, safir*, Sp. *zafir, zafiro*, Pg. *safira, zafira*, It. *zaffiro*), ad. L. *sapphīr-us*, also *sapp(h)ir* (both fem.), a. Gr. *σάπφειρος*, fem., said to mean lapis lazuli (our sapphire being perh. the *ὑάκινθος*, L. *hyacinthus*); prob. a. some Semitic form, cf. Hebr. סַפִּיר *sappīr*, rendered *σάπφειρος*, *sapphirus* in the LXX and Vulg.

The word, however, does not appear to be ultimately of Semitic origin. As Heb. *sappīr* may represent an earlier **sampīr* (cf. Jewish Aramaic *sampīrinā'*, some scholars have conjectured that the source may be Skr. *çanipriya* (lit. 'dear to the planet Saturn'), the name of some dark gem, perh. sapphire or emerald. The Pers. *saffīr* and mod.Arab. *çafir* may be from Greek.]

1. A precious stone of a beautiful transparent blue. It is a variety of native alumina akin to the ruby.

a 1272 *Luue Ron* 173 in *O. E. Misc.* 98 Hwat spekstu of eny stone..Of iaspe, of saphir, of sardone. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5667 (Bodl. MS.), Safyres Smaragdes & Margarites. 1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Hy weneþ of a gles þet hit by a safir. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 478 Of Rubies, saphires [*v. rr.* safferys, safers], and of peerles white Were alle hise clothes brouded vp and doun. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 159 A poore man proud is nat comendable, Nor a fayr saphir set in a copir ryng. *c* 1450 *Guy Warw.* (C.) 11403 Some were of safewrs and some of saradyn. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 464 With stanis of Beriall deir, Dyamountis and Sapheir. 1554 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 145 Oon gold ringe wt a saffer. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 61 Though the Polipe chaungeth colour euery houre: yet the Saphyre will cracke before it consent to disloyaltie. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 215 The heauen hewd Saphir. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* Div. Poems (1630) 209 With veines, like Saphyres, winding in and out. 1676 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Aug., He reported prodigious depth of ice, blew as a sapphire, and as transparent. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 252 Bright azure rays from lively sapphyrs stream. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* (1874) 13 The sky..was as blue and clear as the heart of a sapphire.

b. *Min.* Used as a general name for all the precious transparent varieties of native crystalline alumina, including the ruby. A colourless variety is called *white* or *water sapphire.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 68 Saphire White. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 215 There are three sorts, one perfect Blue, and very hard...The second is perfect White, and very hard...The third, called Water-Saphires, are of small Esteem, being not so hard as the other, and commonly of a dead Waterish Colour. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The soft water-sapphires of Bohemia and Silesia are of some account, though far inferior to the oriental ones..in the brightness of their blue. 1829 CRAWFURD *Jrnl. Emb. to Crt. of Ava* (1834) II. 201 All the varieties of the sapphire, as well as the spinelle, are found together. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) s.v., The red sapphire, or Oriental ruby. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 385/2 When perfectly devoid of colour, they are called *Water Sapphires.*

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

14.. HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* (1892) 70 Lady, þat clept art 'modir of mercy', Noble saphir. 1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* II. Sonn. ii, Those Eyes, those sparkling Saphires of Delight! 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 605 Now glow'd the Firmament With living Saphirs.

d. The pure bright blue of the sapphire.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. v. 14 He [the Sun] brighteth the Air into a chearful Saphir. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* III. i, Again his waves in milder tints unfold Their long array of sapphire and of gold. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XVIII. vi, It seems that I am happy, that to me A livelier emerald twinkles in the grass, A purer sapphire melts into the sea.

e. *Her.* The tincture blue or azure, in blazoning by the names of precious stones.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 12 Azure..whose preciouse stone is the Saphier. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 90 Hys fielde is of the Saphire, the Sunne propre; or thus. He beareth Azure, a Sunne d'Or. 1777 PORNY *Elem. Her.* (ed. 3) 109 Party per Saltier Sapphire and Pearl.

2. A name for certain humming-birds.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 272/2 [Humming-Birds.] The Sapphires. 1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* V. Pl. 330 *Eucephala Grayi*, Blue-headed Sapphire. *Ibid.* 342 *Hylocharis sapphirinus.* Red-throated Sapphire.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sapphire-blaze, -blue* (adj. and sb.), *colour, crown, hue, jewel, ring, throne*; *sapphire-coloured, -hued, visaged* adjs.; †**sapphire loop** (see LOOP *sb.*⁴ 2); **sapphire stone** = sense 1.

1754 GRAY *Poesy* 99 The living Throne, the *sapphire-blaze, Where angels tremble while they gaze. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 775 The fore part of the neck and breast are of a rich *sapphire blue. 1798 GREVILLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 420, I have some specimens of a sapphire-blue stone. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 390 Another sea, of the deepest and clearest sapphire-blue. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 65 The *Saphire Colour, that Orient Blewe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 152 b, There fall those *Saphir-coloured brookes. *c* 1630 MILTON *Ode Sol. Music* 7 That undisturbed Song of pure content, Ay sung before the saphire-colour'd throne. 1634 — *Comus* 26 And gives them leave to wear their *Saphire crowns. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 8 They had on bawderykys alle of *saffer hewe. 1446 — *Nightingale Poems* ii. 2 Towardes Even the *Saphyre-huwed sky Was westward meynt with many Rowes Rede. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 578 He wore about his necke a *saphire jewel. *c* 1400–1548 *Sapphire loop [see LOOP *sb.*⁴ 2]. 1634–5 in *Anc. Invent.* (Halliw.) 6 One *Saphire ringe. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXIV. 10 As a werk of a saphire stoon. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 6 The lake Blue as a sapphire-stone. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 758 A

*Saphir Throne, inlaid with pure Amber. 1745-6 COLLINS *Ode Poet. Char.* 32 Himself..plac'd her on his Saphire Throne. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & L.* II, The *sapphire-visag'd god.

b. quasi-*adj.* Resembling the sapphire, sapphire-coloured.

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* App. 173 A saphir skye ladde Israel be day-light Toward the lond of promyssyoun. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 37 The cristall air, the sapher firmament. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. P.* XXXV. 55 Hir saphir veins, lyk threids of silk. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowers of Sion* 10 The Sunne..faintly iourneyes vp Heauens saphire Path. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 237 How from that Saphire Fount the crisped Brooks..Ran Nectar. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 128 Loud from a saphire sky his thunder sounds. 1819 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* XXXVI, Like a throbbing star Seen mid the sapphire heaven's deep repose. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VIII. III, Beyond that sapphire promontory, which men name St. Bees, which is not sapphire either, but dull sandstone, when one gets close to it. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Tr.* (1894) 60 In the sapphire West the eve yet lingered.

c. used in denominating some animals (see quots.).

1664 R. HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 40 A Saphir flie so called for his bright shining blew colour. 1729 *Dampier's Voy.* III. 425 The Saphire-beetle has green Wings, with a Gold Gloss. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 775 Sapphire Humming Bird. 1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* III. Pl. 178 *Pterophanes Temminckii.* Temminck's Sapphire-wing.

Sapphired (sæ·fəiərd), *ppl. a. rare*—1. [f. SAPPHIRE + -ED 2.] Painted with sapphire blue.

1820 KEATS *Cap & Bells* V, As in old pictures tender cherubim A child's soul thro' the sapphir'd canvas bear.

Sapphiric (săfi·rik), *a. rare.* [f. SAPPHIRE + -IC.] Resembling or of the nature of a sapphire.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. v. 130 Wine..partaketh very much of the vitriolated nature; which may be gathered..by the saphiric and reddy colour of those that are ripe. 1882 JAS. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 175 Badged garters twinkling with saphiric stones.

Sapphirine (sæ·firəin), *sb. Min.* Also **saphirine.** [f. SAPPHIRE + -INE 5.] a. A silicate of aluminium and magnesium found in pale blue grains. b. A blue variety of spinel. †c. An early name for blue chalcedony (*obs.*).

The term (in Ger. form *saphirin*) was applied in its now usual meaning by Giesecke 1819; it had been used in 1808 by K. W. Nose for haüynite.

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 489. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 218 *Sapphirine.* This mineral was discovered by Sir Charles Giesecke, in Greenland...It has a pale sapphire blue colour. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s. v. *Mineralogy* 533/1 Chalcedonic Quartz...Sapphirine. 1883 M. F. HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 386/2 Spinel..Sapphirine is pale sapphire-blue to greenish or reddish blue.

Sapphirine (sæ·firəin), *a.*[1] Forms: 5 saphyryn, 7 saphyrin, 7–8 saphirine, 8–9 sapharine, 7– sapphirine. [ad. L. *sapphīrinus*, a. Gr. σαπφείρινος, f. σάπφειρος SAPPHIRE.] Consisting of or like sapphire, having the qualities of sapphire, esp. the colour.

Sapphirine gurnard: see GURNARD.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. v. (1859) 76 This Cercle in his bordure was of mesurable brede of coloure, saphyryn, and was redyly lyned by ordre, and set full of sterres. *a* 1631 DONNE *Elegy* [xi.] Poems (1633) 296 She was too Saphirine and cleare to thee; Clay, flint, and jeat now thy fit dwellings be. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5044 The same water..appears of a Saphyrin blew. 1672 BOYLE *Ess. Orig. & Virt. Gems* I. 38 Jewellers reckon among Saphires..another sort of Stones, because of their Saphirine degree of hardness. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 176 The irides sappharine; the head flat. *Ibid.* (1776) III. 245 Sapphirine Gurnard. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 63 The sapphirine pavement of heaven. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* II. 46 No nymph..Or sapphirine spirit of a twilight star. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* IV. v, The sapphirine hue of the zenith in spring.

b. *absol.*

1822 W. TENNANT *Thane of Fife* I. XXXI, He..with his feet..Smote soundingly the pavement's sapphirine. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, Gerard de Lairesse* XI, Thunder from the safe sky's sapphirine.

Sapphirine, *a.*[2] [f. mod.L. *Sapphirina*, subst. use of the fem. of L. *sapphīrin-us*: see prec.] Of or pertaining to, or characteristic of the *Sapphirina*, a genus of copepods of the N.O. *Sapphirinidæ.*

1897 *Jrnl. Mar. Zool.* Dec. 111 Sapphirine copepods.

Sapphirinid (sæfiri·nid). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Sapphirinidæ*, f. *Sapphirina*: see prec.] A member of the N.O. *Sapphirinidæ* of parasitic copepods. So also **Sapphiri·noid** *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Sapphirinidæ.*

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, Sapphirinid. Sapphirinoid. 1897 *Jrnl. Mar. Zool.* Dec. 111 When seen swimming the Sapphirinids present a magnificent play of metallic colours.

Sapphirite (sæ·firoit). *Min.* [f. SAPPHIRE *sb.* + -ITE 1.] = SAPPHIRINE *sb.* a.

1883 M. F. HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 409/1.

Sapphism (sæ·fiz'm). [f. the name of *Sappho* (see SAPPHIC), who was accused of this vice: see -ISM.] Unnatural sexual relations between women.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1901 *Lancet* 1 June 1548/1 As yet in this country the novelist..has not arrived at the treatment in romance of excessive morphiomania, or Sapphism, or vaginismus, all of which diseases will be found in French novels.

So **Sa·pphist,** 'one addicted to sapphism' (*Webster's Suppl.* 1902).

Sappho (sæ·fo). [Applications of the name of the poetess (see SAPPHIC).]

1. *Ornith.* In mod.L. the name of a genus of humming-birds. Hence, a bird of this genus; = COMET *sb.* 3; usually *Sappho comet.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 272/1 [Humming-Birds] 11th Race. The Sapphos. 1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* III. Pl. 174 *Cometes sparganurus.* The Sappho Comet. 1862 [see COMET 3].

2. *Astr.* The name of the eightieth asteroid.

1875 PROCTOR in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 807/2 Sappho [discovered] 1864, May 3.

†**Sa·ppily,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SAPPY *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. By means of sap; through the operation of sap.

1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 774 The Glastenbury Thorne, whose arising time being between Michaelmas and Christmas being sappily prepared by the beginning of the hard Frost [was almost destroyed].

2. Mustily.

1724 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* XIV, The first it smellt sae sappylie, To touch the lave he did not grein.

Sappiness (sæ·pinės). [f. SAPPY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The condition of being full of sap.

1552 HULOET, Sapines or naturall humour or moysture, *uligo.* 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 33 For want of moysture and sappinesse. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 6 They prosper and thriue in burgening, sappines, flowers, fruit. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sappiness*, the having Sap. 1731 *Ibid.* (ed. 5), *Sappinness*, the being sappy. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 282 According to the size or sappiness of the tree. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* XXVII, That green trough of sappiness and humidity, the valley of the River Var.

2. *colloq.* The quality of being sappy or foolish. In recent Dicts.

Sapping (sæ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SAP *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SAP in various senses; an instance of this.

1672 J. LACEY tr. *Tacquet's Milit. Archit.* 51 The sapping of the out-breastwork must be intercepted by a counter and transverse Sappe. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* IV. 341 They were obliged to..make their approach by Sapping. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 480 The general health had borne up under all these chronic sappings, undisturbed. 1863 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) II. 126, I have noticed..the wonderful sapping of the chalk cliffs going on here [Margate]. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 238 A rather petulant objection to her use of analogies, which he called the sapping of language.

attrib. 1904 *Daily News* 16 Dec. 7/1 The sapping trenches will have to be run through frozen ground.

Sapping (sæ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *School slang.* [f. SAP *v.*[3] + -ING 1.] The action of studying hard.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* (1907) I. 91 Have you patronized learning, or sapping commended? 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I, I never was much of a hand at sapping, and..the light work suits me well enough.

Sapping (sæ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. SAP *v.*[2] + -ING 1.] The action of the verb SAP[2] 2. In quot. *attrib.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Sapping-machine*, a circular saw for slabbing balks and sawing bolts for shingle stuff.

Sapping (sæ·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SAP *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That saps or undermines.

1819 BYRON *Venice* I, Thus they creep..through their sapping streets. 1831 E. IRVING *Expos. Rev.* I. 90 The stormy winds and sapping streams of infidelity which are overthrowing the house of those who [etc.]. 1908 SIR I. HAMILTON in *Manch. Courier* 27 Oct. 10/5 The slow and sapping struggle against starvation.

Sappodilla, obs. form of SAPODILLA.

Sappota, obs. form of SAPOTA.

Sappy (sæ·pi), *a.* [f. SAP *sb.*[1] + -Y. Cf. MLG. *sapich*, MHG. *saffec, saffic.*]

1. Of a plant or tree or its parts, of wood: Abounding in sap.

1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 546 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 16/1 *Succulentus*, sæpiz stela. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Sapy, or falle of sap, *cariosus.* *a* 1555 SAMUEL *Let.* in FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) 1705/1 Began they not first with the greene and sappie tree? 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Love* Ep. Ded. *ij, The Vine..stretcheth abroad his sappy braunches. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 165. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. liv. 383 The citron tree is a great deale more sappie and full of iuice for to make nourishment of then the limon tree. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 58 Branches, of which the Wood is..extreamly Pithy, or Sappy. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 75 When the sappy Boughs Attire themselves with Blooms. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* xii, But these [*sc.* exotic plants], tho' fed with careful dirt Are neither green nor sappy. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 425 Sappy masses of parenchyma. *Comb. a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 393 The fat sappy-leaved clover has been agreeable.

2. *fig.* in various applications. a. Full of vitality.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* VI. Qj b, Well agyd now, but sappy strength he kepes of grener yeres. 1879 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* (1884) 114 A rank, sappy race like the English or German.

b. Full of 'goodness' or substance.

1563 L. BLUNDESTON *Pref.* to B. Googe *Eglogs* (Arb.) 30 The sappye Sence of this his passyng Ryme. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* To Rdr. *vj, He that is least acquainted with suche trashe, and pelfe wyll better perceaue suche thinges whych be sauerye and sappye. 1587 GREENE *Card of Fancy* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 90 The sugered eloquence, which so sweetlie flowed from the sappie wit of Gwydonius. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* IV. 43 What thinke you of the lines of Decius? Writes he not a good cordiall sappie stile?

†c. Immature, unseasoned. *Obs.*

a 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 3 When he had passed this weake and sappie age he was committed to Dr. Coxe. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 365 A Creature of that Sappy Sapience (for it selfe) as too green to burn for Religion.

†3. Juicy; succulent. a. Of fruit. Also as epithet of the juice.

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark. Compounds* 33 Make your balles with the sappie iuce of the beries. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 56 The riper fruit..Whose sappy liquor, that with fulnesse sweld, Into her cup she scruzd. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. ix. 519 *Tomates* which is a great sappy and savourie graine. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* (1656) 33 After which succeed round, reddish, sappy Berries. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* vii. § 11 in its first and juvenile Constitution, it is a very Spongy and Sappy body.

b. Of meat, fish, etc.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. *Cosmogr.* vi. 29 In this region ar mony fair ky and oxin,..the talloun of thair wambis is sa sappy, that it fresis nevir. *a* 1758 RAMSAY *To Hamilton (Herrings)* i, Braw sappy fish As ane could wish. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 25 Their flesh will be the sappier.

4. Fat; plump. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2998/4 She [a mare] is spay'd, and has a heavy Eye, somewhat sappy. *a* 1813 A. WILSON *Epit. Auld Janet* Poet. Wks. (1846) 288 A sonsier dame, or sappier wame, Ne'er hotcht alangst the cawsey. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 637 Your frame so sappy, and your face so smug.

5. Full of moisture; moist; wet; sodden; rainy. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Cf. SOPPY *a.*

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xiv, To se the soill..Sappie, and to resaue all seidis able. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) III. ix, At cricket ..on very sloppy ground, so that your hard ball presently becomes, muddy, sappy, and rotten. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow Crime* xxiv, It's cold and sappy, Mrs. Garth.

b. Of meat: Putrescent, tainted. *dial.* (See E.D.D.)

1573 BARET *Alv.* s. v. *Restie*, Sapie or vnsauerie flesh. 1783 LEMON *Etymol. Dict., Sapy*, a moisture contracted on the outward surface of meats, which is the first stage of dissolution.

6. Consisting of or containing sap-wood.

1466 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 93 This tymbir shalbe white oke, not doted, nor storvyn, nor sappy. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Trenel*, These T[r]enels must be well season'd, and not sappy. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 84 Be exceeding careful how you make use of any sort of sappy Timber.

7. Foolish. (Cf. SAP *sb.*[5])

1670 *2nd Pt. Peoples Liberties Asserted* 6 When unlimited Prerogatives have sprung up, like Mushromes out of the sappy Apprehensions..of inferior Officers. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 242 'Where', said she fretfully, 'can he have taken his sappy head?' 1894 G. W. APPLETON *Co-Respondent* I. 150, I am a fat-headed, sappy, bally ass. *punningly.* 1848 LOWELL *Fable for Critics* Poet. Wks. 1890 III. 61 The women he draws from one model don't vary, All sappy as maples and flat as a prairie.

‖ **Sapræmia** (sæprī·miă). [mod. L., f. Gr. σαπρό-s putrid + -αἷμα blood.] 'Septic intoxication, or poisoning by means of septic or putrefactive organisms' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 666/2 When the wound is due to a saprophyte the absorption of the ptomaine has been termed 'Sapræmia'. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* v. (ed. 4) 16 It not very rarely leads to death from putrid intoxication or sapræmia.

Sapræmic (săprī·mik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of or pertaining to sapræmia; affected with sapræmia.

1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* xiv. (ed. 4) 106 Inflammation of the cyst is set up, with fever and sapræmic symptoms. 1902 G. S. WOODHEAD in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 521/2 A distinction must be drawn between sapræmia and septicæmia...So long as no micro-organisms follow the toxins, the condition is purely sapræmic.

Saprogenic (sæprodʒe·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. σαπρό-s putrid + -GEN + -IC.] Causing decay or putrefaction; also, produced by putrefaction.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 599 Saprogenic or putrid infection. 1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar. 439 The results of recent researches, which tend to show that pathogenic bacteria are mere modifications of saprogenic forms. 1900 A. C. JONES tr. *A. Fischer's Struct. Bacteria* 49 Zymogenic, saprogenic and saprophile bacteria.

Sapregenous (sæprɒ·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [f. Gr. σαπρό-s putrid + -GEN + -OUS.] = prec.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 92 *Bact. termo* is the ferment of putrefaction, the saprogenous ferment. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict., Saprogenic* or *Saprogenous*, producing putrefaction or decay. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Saprogenous*, growing on decaying substances.

Saprol (sæ·prɒl). *Chem.* [f. Gr. σαπρό-s putrid + -OL.] (See quot. 1897.)

1892 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 47/3 Laser (..August 18th, 1892) gives an account of an inquiry made by him into the properties of saprol. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Saprol*, name for a crude mixture of creosols with carbohydrates and pyridine, used for rough disinfection.

‖ **Saprolegnia** (sæprɒle·gniă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σαπρό-s putrid + λέγν-ον border.] A genus of fungi (the type of the N.O. *Saprolegniæ* or *Saprolegniaceæ*), which chiefly infests the bodies of fish.

1866 BERKELEY in *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Saprolegniæ*, The same animal has been observed, when immersed, to produce a *Saprolegnia*, and when surrounded merely by air to produce a *Mucor.* 1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar. 438/2, I tried some experiments on the transplantation of the *Saprolegnia* of the living salmon to dead animal bodies. 1885 KLEIN *Micro-Organisms* 146 Saprolegnia: colourless tubular threads, forming gelatinous masses on living and dead animal and vegetable matter in fresh water.

Hence **Saprole·gnious** *a.* (see quot. 1900); **Saprole·gnized** *ppl. a.*, diseased with saprolegnia.

1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar. 439/1 The conditions under which my saprolegnised flies were placed. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Saprolegnious*, allied to the genus *Saprolegnia.*

Saprophagan (sæprɒ·făgăn). *Ent.* [f. mod.L. *saprophag-us* (see next) + -AN.] (See quot.)

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Saprophagans*, the name of

a tribe of Coleopterous insects, comprising those which feed on..substances in a state of decomposition.

Saprophagous (sæprǫ·făgəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *saprophag-us* (f. Gr. *σαπρός* putrid + *-φάγος* eating) + -OUS.] Living on decomposing matter.

1819 MACLEAY *Horæ Entomol.* I. 27 Saprophagous insects or such as feed on putrid or decomposed vegetable matter. 1849 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 7. 361 Species whose larvæ are..either fungivorous or saprophagous.

Saprophile (sæ·prǫfəil), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Gr. *σαπρός* putrid + *-φίλος* loving: see -PHILE.] **a.** A bacterium inhabiting putrid matter. **b.** *adj.* Of bacteria: Found in putrid matter. So **Sapro·philous** *a.*

1882 A. W. BLYTH *Foods* 544 There are, however, certain animalcules..that specially point to sewage contamination. This class have been called 'saprophiles'. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Saprophilous. 1900 A. C. JONES tr. *A. Fischer's Struct. Bacteria* 49 Such bacteria may be termed *saprophile*.

Saprophyte (sæ·prǫfəit). [f. Gr. *σαπρό-s* putrid + *φυτόν* plant: see -PHYTE.] Any vegetable organism that lives on decayed organic matter.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 691/1 There are other degraded allies of green plants, which are content to work up again the imperfectly broken down products of decay. Such plants are termed *Saprophytes*. 1882 S. WALPOLE & HUXLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXII. 332 The common moulds,..which are habitually saprophytes (that is to say, live on decaying organic matter).

Hence **Sapro·phytal** (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900), **Saprophytic** (-fi·tik) *adjs.*, of or pertaining to saprophytes; **Saprophy·tically** *adv.*, after the manner of saprophytes; **Sapro·phytism**, the state of living as a saprophyte.

1882 H. M. WARD in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 2 The appearance of various saprophytic fungi on the old shrivelled spot indicates the completion of the destruction. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 356 Species of purely and strictly saprophytic..mode of life. 1890 A. WHITELEGGE *Hygiene & Public Health* x. 227 Cultivation in non-living media, that is, a form of saprophytism, is [etc.]. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 257 The fungus being merely saprophytic. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 1509 All the known parasitic bacterial species (with the exception of the leprosy bacilli)..can thrive also saprophytically.

Sapsago (sæpsē·gǫ). *U.S.* Also **chapsager.** [Corruptly a. G. *schabziger*, f. *schaben* to grate + *ziger* a kind of cheese.] A kind of hard cheese made in Switzerland, flavoured with melilot.

1846 WORCESTER (cites *Farm. Encycl.*)...Also *chapsager.* 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

Sapskull (sæ·pskʌl). Now *dial.* (see E.D.D.). [f. SAP *sb.*[1] (sense 4) + SKULL.] = SAP-HEAD.

1735 H. CAREY *Honest Yorkshire-man* 9 Welcome to London, dear 'Squire Sapscull. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Sapscull,* a simple fellow. 1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 55 Poor sapskull, thus craftily put to the blush.

‖ **Sapucaia** (sapʊkā·ya). Also 7 **iacapucaya,** 9 **sapucaya.** [Brazilian; according to Von Martius f. *sopia* egg + *acaia* a kind of forest tree; the fruit with its seeds resembling a nest containing eggs. Gandavo 1576 (Pg.) writes *zabucaes* pl.]

1. a. A South American tree of the genus *Lecythis.* **b.** The fruit of the tree, a sapucaia-nut.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 843 Of Fruits, he reckons the Iacapucaya, like a pot..with a couer on it. 1869 R. F. BURTON *Highl. Brazil* I. 120 Hereabouts also are two noble lofty Sapucaias, vestiges of the forest primeval.

2. *attrib.*, as *sapucaia tree*; **sapucaia-brown** *Chem.* (see quot.); **sapucaia-nut,** the edible fruit of *Lecythis Zabucajo* and *L. Ollaria*; **sapucaia-oil, -wine** (see quots.).

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 195 The shell of the fruit contains a tannin..which..in the older fruits is converted into a brown substance (*sapucaia-brown). 1880 tr. *von Wied's Trav. Brazil* I. 126 Some baskets..full of bananas, oranges, *sapucaya-nuts [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Lecythis*, Under the name of Sapucaia nuts, the seeds of *L. Zabucajo* are commonly sold in our fruit shops. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 746/1 **Sapucaia oil*, yielded by *Lecythis ollaria.* 1820 tr. *von Wied's Trav. Brazil* I. 105 The young foliage of the *sapucaya tree. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 195 The juice (*sapucaia-wine) which flows from incisions in old trees.

Sa·p-wood. [SAP *sb.*[1]] = ALBURNUM.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. Add. Notes 96 The placental vessels..are transformed from sap-wood..into inert wood. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 258 Boards..free from..sap-wood. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 353 A deep reddish-brown heartwood and light sap-wood.

Saque, Saquem, obs. ff. SAKÉ, SACHEM.

Sar (sāɪ). [a. F. *sar*, variant of *sargue, sargo*, etc., ad. L. *sargus*: see SARGON, SARGUS.] A fish of the sparoid genus *Sargus.*

1838 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 320/2 The Sars are shore fish, are common on the Southern coasts of France. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 406 Several of them occur in the Mediterranean and the neighbouring parts of the Atlantic, and are popularly called 'Sargo', 'Sar', 'Saragu'.

Sar: see SAVOUR, SERVE, SHEAR, SORE.

Sarabaite (særăbē·əit). *Eccl. Hist.* Also 4 **Serabite,** 6 **Sarrabaite, 6– Sarabite.** [ad. eccl. L. *Sarabaïta* (Cassianus, 4–5th c., who says that the word is Egyptian; but no light has been thrown on it from that language).

Sarabite is the form commonly found in English translations of the Rule of St. Benedict.]

One of a class of monks in the early Church who lived together in small bands without rule or superior. †Also as *adj.*, applied to certain followers of the Franciscan rule (see quot. *c* 1380), prob. the *Fratricelli.*

138. WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 12 ȝif þei pursuen to þe deþ pore freris serabitis, þat kepen fraunseis reule and testament to þe riȝte vndyrstondynge and wille of fraunceis wiþ outen glose of antecristis clerkis. 1516 BP. FOX *Rule of Seynt Benet* i, The .iii. kynde, maner, or secte, is of Sarabites, a secte detestable: whiche lyue not vnder obedience of any superior. 1537 *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* A vij b, These Sarrabaites be sayd..to come of Ananias & Saphira..by lynage & kynred. 1693 D'EMILIANNE *Mon. Ord.* viii. 59 Sarabaites, who were a sort of People following only their own Wills. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., St. Benedict gives a frightful Idea of these Sarabaites in the First Chapter of his Rule. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. IV. II. iii. § 15 Those wandering fanatics, or rather impostors, whom the Egyptians called Sarabaites. 1801 RANKEN *Hist. France* I. 224 The Sarabaites, who associated two or three together, lived sometimes in solitude, but always without rule or order. 1904 GASQUET *Eng. Mon. Life* 8 The Gyrovagi and Sarabites.

Saraband (sæ·răbænd). Also 7–8 **sarabrand,** 8–9 **sarabande.** [ad. F. *sarabande*, ad. Sp. *zarabanda* (= Pg. *sarabando*), prob. of Oriental origin.]

1. A slow and stately Spanish dance in triple time.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* IV. iv, Coach it to Pimlico; daunce the Saraband. 1675 CROWNE *Country Wit* IV. 51, I can dance Corantoes and Jiggs and Sarabands. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 186 He went away to his own Chamber, leaving room in all our Pockets for the Devil to dance a Saraband. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 324 Oh! that I could but dance as well as thou sing'st! I'd give you a Saraband, as old as I am. 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* IV. 388 *note*, Within the memory of persons now living, a Saraband danced by a Moor was constantly a part of the entertainment at a puppet-shew. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* I. v, Nor far some Andalusian saraband Would sound to many a native rondelay.

attrib. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 284 They begin ..with a Saraband-Step, two steps forward and three backwards.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1658 LOVELACE *Posth. Poems* (1659) 10 So you but with a touch from your fair Hand Turn all to Saraband. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 22 'Tis pleasant, in troth, to see a lame Person find fault with a Step in such a Sarabrand. 1860 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (ed. 2) II. 75 In that unswept brain of his..the super-subtile fancies of theosophy, have danced a whirlwind saraband. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. xxxi. (1874) 181 When the loose villager Weaves 'neath the moon his rustic saraband.

2. A piece of music composed for this dance or in its rhythm, in which the second note of the measure is commonly lengthened.

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. ii, How they are tickl'd with a light ayre! the bawdy Saraband! 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 96 As Musitians, that first play a Preludium, next a Lesson, and then a Saraband. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 152 The lady called to the orchestre for a saraband. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) IV. i. 114 Corelli in the saraband of his eleventh concerto. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxviii, He hummed a saraband. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xxv, Elsie rattled out a triple measure of a saraband. 1884 HAWEIS *My Mus. Life* I. 8 Those simple and severe gigues and sarabands.

Sarabatane, obs. form of SARBACANE.

Sarabrase, variant of SABRAS *Obs.*, an infusion.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 740/35 *Hoc sarabracium*, sarabrase.

Saracen (sæ·răsĕn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 *pl.* **Sarracene, Sarocine,** 3 **Sarezin,** 3–4 **Sarrezin,** 3–7 **Sarazin**(e, 4 **-sene, Sarisine, -zene, -ezyne,** 4–6 **Sarasyn**(e, **-in**(e, 4–7 **-cene,** (5 **Saresoun, -ezen, -esyn, -aseyn, Sarracene, -ysyne**), 5–6 **Sarazyn**(e, **Sarrasyn,** 5–7 **-zen**(e, **Sarrasin**(e, (6 **Sarason, -asen, -ezon,** 7 **-icin, -acin**), 3– **Saracen.** *β.* 1 *pl.* **Sarcine,** 3–5 **Sarzin**(e, 4–5 **-zyn,** 4–6 **-syn,** 5 **-sin**(e, **-s**(e)**yne, -cyne, -zene, -soun,** 6 **-son,** 9 **-zan.** [In OE., ad. late L. *Saracēnī* pl.; in ME., a. OF. *Sar*(*r*)*azin, -cin*, mod.F. *Sarrasin* (= It. *Saracino*, Sp. *Saraceno*, Pg. *Sarraceno*), ad. late L. *Saracēnus*, a. late Gr. **Σαρακηνός.**

The ultimate etymology is uncertain. The derivations from Arabic commonly given (of which the most usual is Arab. شَرْقِيّ *sharqī* eastern, oriental, f. شَرْق *sharq* sunrise) are not well founded. In mediæval times the name was often associated with Sarah, the wife of Abraham; St. Jerome (*Ezek.* VIII. XXV) identifies the Saracens with the *Agareni* (Hagarens, descendants of Hagar) 'who are now called Saracens, taking to themselves the name of Sara'.]

A. *sb.* **1.** Among the later Greeks and Romans, a name for the nomadic peoples of the Syro-Arabian desert which harassed the Syrian confines of the Empire; hence, an Arab; by extension, a Mohammedan or Moslem, *esp.* with reference to the Crusades.

a. c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 12 Moneze þeoda..þæt is, Comagena & Fenitia..Iudea, & Palestina, & Sarracene [orig. *absque Saracenis*]. *a* 950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 196 On india saracena [L. *in India Saracenorum*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16 How charles kyng and rauland faght, Wit sarazins wald þai na saght. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 293 Peple þat cleped hem self Saracenys, as þogh þey were i-come of Sarra. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 363 To passe over the grete See To werre and sle the Sarazin. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvii. 99 The lawe of Macomet and of Sarezenis. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 309 Lesse worth am I then any sarysyne, Whiche is in beleue of sory mahound! 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 51 He hath quite dryuen out of Spayne the Moores or Sarasens. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 33 That braue Saladin, Souldan of Egipt, with his notable milicia of Mamelucks (by many called Sarasins). 1602 BRETON *Wonders worth Hearing* (Grosart) 7/2 Standing..with a Sarazins face, his nose too long for his lips, his cheekes like the iawes of a horse [etc.]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 161 The Sarazens are descended of Esau. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 181 From Mecca to the Euphrates, the Arabian tribes were confounded by the Greeks and Latins, under the general appellation of Saracens. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. iv, Here..might be seen the swarthy Saracen, with wares from Spain and Afric. 1905 *19th Cent.* Aug. 268 The African hordes, generically termed Saracens, who were established near Villefranche as late as the early part of the tenth century.

β. ?*a* 900 *Malchus* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 42 Wit urnon..for sarcina herzunge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11072 His [*i.e.* St. John Baptist's] fest it es in somers time, it halus bath Iu and sarzine. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 55 Þei ferden to A Cite faste bi-syde, þat was called sarrazins þer sarsyns sprongen, Erest þorw Abrahames wyf þat wonede þer-inne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 153 þat þere Sarzyns com out of Egipt into Affrica. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* I. 36, I sey, ye solem Sarson, alle blake ys your ble. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sarsyn a man.

†**b.** A Turk's head for tilting at. *Obs.*

1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Rom. & T.* 231 Who passionately run their lances against a Saracin of wood. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 228 He carryed away the ring fifteen times on end, and broke as many lances on the Saracen. 1656 FLECKNOE *Relat.* 10 *Yrs. Trav.* x. 26 A solemn Justing or Running at Ring and Sarazen.

†**2.** A non-Christian, heathen, or pagan; an unbeliever, infidel. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* ix. 35 Sone wolde þe sarezin habben hire to wiue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4522 Eiȝte hundred ssipes in to þis londe he broȝte Vol of saracens [*MS. δ* of Saxons fulle]. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 42 (Cambr. MS.), He fond bi þe stronde,..Schipes fiftene, Wiþ sarazins kene. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2067 Danmark Sarrazins þat were of Angys lins. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 151 Nouȝt þorw preyere of a pope..Was þat sarasene [*sc.* Emperor Trajan] saued. 1433 LYDG. *Edmund & Fremund* II. 381 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 403 Edmond that day was Cristis champioun,..Among sarseynes he pleied the lioun. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 193 That day Gawein slowgh many a sarazin of the saxouns more than eny of his felowes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 289 That they shall loue, as the chylde his parentes, and the pagane or Sarasyn his false goddes. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 50 Thou art made as ane Pagan, Saracen or Enfidele.

†**b.** *fig.* An ignorant and tasteless person, a 'barbarian', 'Goth', 'Vandal'. *Obs.*

1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 331 Methinks I hear them..ask what brute of a Saracen it is that draws his ugly weapon for the destruction of learning.

†**3.** The Saracen people or territory. *Obs.* [So OF. *sarrazin.*] Cf. SARACENÉ below.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6984 þai..lefte þe lagh of hei drightin, And ledd þe law of sarazin. *Ibid.* 22286 Ouer Iubiter and apoline, þat godds war o sarazine. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 185 Here fadyr was prest of sarysyne [Fr. orig. *paenete*].

4. *Comb.*, as *Saracen-like* adj.; **Saracen corn,** buckwheat (see SARRASIN); †**Saracen's all-heal,** †**comfrey,** †**consound,** *Senecio saracenicus*, said to have been used by the Saracens in healing wounds; †**Saracen's birth-wort** = SARAZINE; †**Saracen's corn,** *Sorghum vulgare*; †**Saracen's earth,** ? Lemnian earth; **Saracen's head,** the head of a Saracen, Arab, or Turk used (*a*) as a charge in heraldry, (*b*) as an inn sign, etc.; **Saracen's herb** = SARAZINE; † **Saracen's mint** = SARAZINE; † **Saracen's soap,** a mixture of soap-lye and olive-oil; **Saracen's stone** = SARSEN; †**Saracen's woundwort** = *Saracen's consound.*

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 46 We saw a Field sowed with Maez or *Sarazin Corn. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 653 The fruits of *Fagopyrum esculentum*,..Common Buckwheat or Saracen Corn. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. to Gent. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 122 His Eye-brows are.. somewhat *Saracen-like. 1786 *Saracen's all-heal [see SARACENICAN]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXCVII. 696 The later writers haue ioined vnto them a fift named *Saracens Birthwoort. 1578 *Saracen's comfrey, *Saracen's consound [see CONSOUDE]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 109/2 *Milium Indicum*.., Indian millet: Turkishe wheate, or *Sarracens corne. 1526 *Grete Herball* CCCCXLIV. (1529) Z v, Terra sigillata is otherwyse called *sarazyns erthe or siluered clay. 1510 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 108 Unius mesuagii nuncupati 'le *Sarezon' Hed'. 1726 S. KENT *Banner Display'd* 532 He beareth Gules, a Saracen's Head eras'd at the Neck Argent. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* IV, The coach yard of the Saracen's-Head Inn. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 142/2 Many of these [charges], such as crosses,..Saracens' heads, &c., were assumed during the Crusades. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 116/2 *Aristolochia sarmentitia*..*nonnullis herba Saracenica*..,*Sarracens herb. 1525 *Grete Herball* CCLXXIV. (1529) Pv, It is called mynte romayne, or *sarazyns mynt. 1526 *Ibid.* CCCXCVIII. X vj, *Sarazyns sope is made of a lye called capitellium and oyle olyue syden together tyll it be thycke. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 151 A place so full of a grey pibble stone of great bignes as is not usually seene.., the inhabaitants calling them *Saracens' stones. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. XCVII. 347 Saracenes Consounde is called in Latine *Solidago Saracenica*, or Saracens Comfrey,..English Saracens Consound, and *Saracenes Woundwoort. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 The true Saracen's Wound-wort *Senecio.*

B. *adj.* = SARACENIC. (By Sir C. Wren erroneously applied to Pointed or 'Gothic' architecture.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4247 For men war þar o sarzin lede. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* XLV. 721 Whiche were to holden the better lay, whethir the Cristene lawe, Oþer Sarazine. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 29 Jason dide do sowne trompettis, tabours, and cornes sarasins. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 279 Let vs daunce the haye, shypmens, sarson, and maurys daunce. *Salie-*

mus geranion. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 86 Syria ..was with the first subdued to Saracene servitude. 1713 WREN in *Parentalia* (1750) 297 This we now call the Gothick Manner of Architecture...I think it should with more Reason be called the Saracen Style. 1818 MILMAN *Samor* 207 When mad Orlando met On that frail bridge the giant Sarzan king. 1842 *Catal. Classic Contents Strawberry Hill* 162 A magnificent table of Saracen mosaic. 1862 W. H. JERVIS *Hist. France* V. (1872) 67 The Saracen governor of Saragossa.

† b. *Cookery.* In *browet, sauce Saracen. Obs.*

?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* (1780) 44 Sawse Sarzyne. Take heppes and make hem clene, take Almaundes blaunched. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 19 Bruette Sareson. *Ibid.* 30 Sauke Sarsoun. Take Almoundys, & blaunche hem. *Ibid.* 113 Saug saraser [*so printed*]. Tak Almandes, frye hem in oille.

Hence † **Saracené**, the land of the Saracens.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xlv. 724 A gret Semble Of Alle the Maistres Of Sarrasene.

Saracenian (særăsī·niăn), *a.* [f. late L. *Saracēnus* + -IAN.] Saracenic.

1818 MILLS *Hist. Crusades* (1822) I. i. 17 Some direful effects of Saracenian zeal.

Saracenic (sæ:răse·nik), *a.* [ad. med.L. *Saracēnic-us*, f. late L. *Saracēn-us* SARACEN: see -IC. Cf. F. *sarracénique.*] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Saracens.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 38 The Mammoody and Roopee are good silver..and (after the Saracenic sort who hate Images in Coyne) cover'd with Arabick letters. *Ibid.* 280 The iron yoak of Saracenic bondage. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 9 Those nations..have to acknowledge their obligations to Saracenic or Arabian instructors. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* ix, The Saracenic music of the challengers. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 231 Specimens of Saracenic Armour. 1897 DOWDEN *Fr. Lit.* III. vii. 226 The strife between French chivalry and Saracenic hordes.

b. Applied to Mohammedan architecture in its various forms, or to any features of it.

In the 18th and early 19th c. often erroneously applied (after Wren: see SARACEN *a.*) to 'Gothic' architecture.

1768 RIOU *Grec. Orders Archit.* 10 The heavy Gothic by Sir C. Wren, is distinguished as Anglo-Saxonic, the lighter as Saracenic. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxi, A considerable part of the edifice was less in the strict Gothic than in what has been termed the Saracenic style. 1842 W. F. AINSWORTH *Trav. Asia Minor*, etc. I. 197 Its numerous remains of Mohammedan buildings, chiefly in a rich style of Saracenic architecture. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* Wks. 1898 V. 726 A great, large Saracenic oriel window. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* i. 11 Saracenic doorways.

c. *transf.* Barbaric, heathenish.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvii, Swearing at him in a most Saracenic and ferocious manner.

Saracenical (særäse·nikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = SARACENIC.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) title-p., The Ancient Religions before the Flood, the Heathnish, Jewish, and Saracenicall in all Ages since. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 144 A Saracenicall Sultan of Persia. 1672 *Rosemary & Bayes* 6 It is not manifest unto me by the Sarracenical histories.. that Mahomet had not two companions. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 297 The Saracenical caliphs.

† **Saracenican** (særäse·nikăn), *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] = SARACENIC. **Saracenican groundsel**, *Senecio saracenicus.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 734 *Dib* (otherwise *Dijb*) is an Arabian or Saracenican word. 1786 J. ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* in *Gard. Assist.* 67/1 Saracenican helvetian groundsel, called Saracen's all-heal.

Saracenism (særäsēniz'm). *rare.* [ad. med.L. *Saracēnism-us* race or country of the Saracens, f. *Saracēnus* SARACEN. Cf. OF. *Sarasinesme* country of the Saracens.] The political or religious organization of the Saracens.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 356 Saracenism, Barbarism, and Atheisme. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. vi. VI. 524 The Saxondom of his [*sc.* Arthur] foes recedes, the Paganism, even the Saracenism takes its place. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 445 It was Saracenism that beat back the Cross on the plains of Syria.

† **Sa·racenly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. SARACEN + -LY 2.] Like a Saracen; ? with heathenish violence.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 2 b, Whiles he was thus saracenly sentencing it against mee.

Saracennet, obs. form of SARSENET.

‖ **Saraf** (sarā·f). Also 6 **xaraffe**, **-affo**, 7 **charaff**, **xeraffo**, 9 **sarraf**, **saraff**, **serof**, **-aff**. See also SHROFF. [Pers., etc., a. Arab. صراف *ṣarrāf*, f. صرف *ṣarafa* to exchange, corresp. to Heb. צרף *ṣārāph* to refine, assay (gold or silver), whence *ṣōrēph* refiner, worker in gold. Cf. F. *cherafe* (17th c.), Pg. *xarrafo*, *çarafo* (16th c.).] A banker or money-changer in the East; = SHROFF.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xxxiii. 66/1 There is in euery place of the street exchangers of mony, by them [*sc.* Heathens] called Xaraffos, which are all christian Jewes. *Ibid.* 244 Xaraffes. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* VI. 330 The money-changers, whom they call Xeraffi [in Persia]. 1678 J. P. tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. II. 4 There is no considerable payment made, which is not received by the Cheraff or Banker. 1811 *Niebuhr's Trav. Arab.* liii. in *Pinkerton's Voy.* X. 71 He sent us to receive the money from his Saraf, or banker. 1877 MCCOAN *Egypt as it is* 115 The mâmour..till the recent reform appointing a Controller-General of Receipts, received the taxes from the saraffs. 1883 C. J. WILLS *In Land of Lion & Sun* xvii. 192 The business of the serof is despised as being a usurer on the sly. 1897 *Blackw. Mag.* July 24/2 They [*sc.* Armenians] prospered as our 'Sarrafs'.

‖ **Sarafan** (sæ·răfæn). Also 8–9 **-phan**(e. [Russian сарафанъ.] A long mantle, veil, or sleeveless cloak, forming part of the national dress of Russian peasant women.

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 366 The quality of the saraphan is various according to circumstances. 1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 301 A ribbon, which reaches to the hem of their sarafan. 1855 *English.w. in Russia* 28 The national dress, the sarafane, which was generally of..blue or red cotton, having no bodice. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 27 May 7/1 The Grand Duchesses..wore..the..national veil or scarf, called sarafan.

Saragoy, var. SARIGUE. **Sarai**, var. SERAI. **Sarampura**, obs. var. SALEMPORE. **Sarang**, rare var. SERANG. **Sarape**, var. SERAPE. **Sararre**, obs. f. compar. of SORE.

Sarasen, -son, etc., obs. forms of SARACEN.

Saratoga (særătō·ugă). [prob. f. *Saratoga Springs*, the name of a summer resort in New York State.] In full *Saratoga trunk*: a large kind of trunk much used by ladies.

1893 F. F. MOORE *Forbid Banns* xix, 'Oh, Eric, do help Miriam with that Saratoga,' cried Mrs. Hardy,..pointing to where Miriam was struggling with a large trunk that had just been hoisted from the hold. *Ibid.* xxx, Three Saratoga trunks. 1894 HOWELLS *Trav. from Altruria* 95, I found the porter..with his wrist bound up. He said he had strained it in handling a lady's Saratoga.

Sarau, -aw, variant of SEROW.

Sarawakite (sărā·wăkəit). *Min.* [a. G. *Sarawakit* (Frenzel 1877), f. *Sarawak* (in Borneo): see -ITE.] A compound of antimony found in minute colourless crystals.

1882 G. J. BRUSH *3rd App. Dana's Min.* 106 Sarawakite. ..Found in cavities in the native antimony of Borneo.

Saray, variant of SERAI.

† **Saraza·ntic**, *a. Obs.*—° [app. alteration of *Saracenic* after *Byzantine.*] Saracenic.

1726 BAILEY, *Sarazantick*, like a Sarazen.

Sarazin, variant of SARRASIN.

Sarazin(e, etc., obs. forms of SARACEN.

† **Sa·razine.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *sarazine, sar(r)asine* aristolochia:—pop. L. *sarracīna* for late L. *sarracēna* (sc. *herba*), fem. of *sarracēnus* SARACEN.] Birthwort.

1525 *Grete Herball* cclxxiv. (1529) P v b, Mynte romayne or sarazyne is hote & drye in ye seconde degre. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Sarazine, *Aristolochia Clematitis.*

Sarbacane (sā·ɹbăkēn). *Obs.* exc. *Antiq.* Also 7 **sarabatane**, 8 **sarbacan**, 9 **sabarcane** (?), **sarbacand** (?). [a. F. *sarbacane* (16th c.; earlier *sarbatenne*) 'a long trunke to shoot in' (Cotgr.), also, a speaking-trumpet (Littré), ad. Sp. *cebratana*: see CEBRATANE.]

1. A blow-tube or pipe for shooting with. *Hist.*

1765 H. TIMBERLAKE *Mem.* 45 Children, who..are very expert at killing with a sarbacan. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, These cowardly caitiffs come against us with sarbacanes and poisoned shafts. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* vi. 87 Substituting for the bow..the Sabarcane [*sic*], Sumpitan, or blow-tube, the Malays strike objects at great distances. 1878 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XIII. 258 Thus originated..slings, *sarbacands*, lassos.

† 2. An ear-trumpet. *Obs.*

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxviii. 251 To this art belongeth the making of sarabatanes, or trunkes, to helpe the hearing.

Sarbet, obs. form of SHERBET.

Sarcasm (sā·ɹkæz'm). Also 6–7 in L. form **sarcasmus**. [ad. late L. *sarcasm-us*, a. late Gr. σαρκασμός, f. σαρκάζειν to tear flesh, gnash the teeth, speak bitterly, f. σαρκ-, σάρξ flesh.] A sharp, bitter, or cutting expression or remark; a bitter gibe or taunt. Now usually in generalized sense: Sarcastic language; sarcastic meaning or purpose.

α. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Oct., Glosse, Tom piper, an ironicall Sarcasmus, spoken in derision of these rude wits, whych [etc.]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 324 With this skoffe doth he note them..by a certayne figure called Sarcasmus. 1605 J. DOVE *Confut. Atheism* 38 He called the other Gods so, by a figure called *Ironia*, or *Sarcasmus*. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. iv, Many are of so petulant a spleene, and haue that figure Sarcasmus so often in their mouths,..that [etc.]. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. I. 284 Either a Sarcasmus against the voluptuous; or else, 'tis a milder counsel.

β. 1619 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 10 Muse, shew the rigour of a satyres art, In harsh sarcasmes, dissonant and smart. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 234 No lye, but an irony..a witty way of speaking ..such sarcasms Elijah used. 1725 BLACKWALL *Introd. Class.* (ed. 3) 179 When a dying or dead Person is insulted with Scoffs and ironical Tartness 'tis usually call'd a Sarcasm. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. xxviii, With many a sarcasm varied still On woman's wish, and woman's will! 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* I. ix. 133 He looked upon the remark as a bit of sarcasm. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* II. xxx. 227 Blows are sarcasms turned stupid. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. 127 William's return was accompanied by a confiscation and distribution of laws on so wide a scale that it could be said with indignant sarcasm that he gave away the land of every man.

† **Sarcasma·tical**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SARCASM + -ATICAL.] Sarcastic. Hence † **Sarcasma·tically** *adv.*, sarcastically. So † **Sarca·smatize** *v.*, to speak sarcastically of.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 94 A haughty Jesuit.., publish'd an Anonymous, sarcasmatical Pamphlet. *Ibid.* II. 71 Mr. Wood calls the first a Calvinistical Bishop (whe was then, as it seems, marry'd, says he, very Sarcasmatically). *Ibid.* III. 33 So easy it is from Scorning and Sarcasmatizing a deceas'd Protestant Bishop..to proceed to quarrel with a living Brother Bishop.

† **Sarca·smical**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SARCASM + -ICAL. Cf. med.L. *sarcasmicus.*] Sarcastic. Hence † **Sarca·smically** *adv.*, sarcastically.

1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parallel* 26 The Graecians did allow such taunts and biting sarcasmicall speeches. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 42 It is inhumane sarcasmically to insult over a captive as a Cat over a Mouse.

So † **Sarca·smous** *a.*, sarcastic.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 578 So say the Wicked—and will you Make that Sarcasmous Scandal true? *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 124 (1740) 98 When he gets a sarcasmous Paper against the Crown, well backed with Authority. *Ibid.* iii. § 36. 144 A sarcasmous Reflection on the House of Commons itself.

Sarcast (sā·ɹkæst). [ad. Gr. type **σαρκαστής*, f. σαρκάζειν (see SARCASM).] A sarcastic writer or speaker.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 108 The slave Sancho doth supra-parasite it, turnes mime, Satyr, Sarcast, Hyperaspist. 1859 *Knickerb. Mag.* Nov. 478 Jerrold has been called a cynic and a sarcast. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 19 June 845 Dr. Parker; or, the Sarcast. 1898 *Daily News* 8 June 2/2 'Mr. Disraeli', he [*sc.* Gladstone] said..'was a great sarcast'.

Sarcastic (sɑɹkæ·stik), *a.* Also 7–8 **-ick**. [ad. Gr. type **σαρκαστικός*, f. *σαρκάζειν*: see SARCASM and -IC. Cf. F. *sarcastique.*] Characterized by or involving sarcasm; given to the use of sarcasm; bitterly cutting or caustic.

1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 380 Sarcastick speeches, gibes, taunts. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 177 P 11 Their merriment bluntly sarcastick. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, Mrs. Firkin..flung up her head and said, 'I think Miss *is* very clever,' with the most killing sarcastic air. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 43 Poising evermore the eye-glass In the light sarcastic eye. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxii. 385 He had spoken his thoughts with sarcastic freedom.

Hence **Sarca·sticness.**

1903 *Times* 30 Sept. 10/5 His habitual sarcasticness.

Sarcastical (sɑɹkæ·stikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* § 2 Such a sarcasticall Declaration. 1697 S. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* v. 17 Nothing could be more Sarcastical, than to tell them they were idle, when they sunk under their Burdens. 1756 P. POTT *Treat. Ruptures* vi. Wks. II. 123 He will be inclined to believe the sarcastical distinction between cures, and escapes, not ill-founded. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. I. 185 The active and sarcastical mockery of the ruthless tyrant upon its victims. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. i. 14 'You mean that to be sarcastical', she laughs.

Hence **Sarca·sticalness.**

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 244, I could never give my self a Reason why the Ephesian Matron of Petronius should please so much, unless it were for the Sarcasticalness.

Sarcastically (sɑɹkæ·stikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a sarcastic manner; with sarcasm.

1647 J. TRAPP *Matt.* xiii. 55 As a Christian Schoolmaster fitly answered Libanus, sarcastically demanding: what the Carpenters son was now a doing? 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xii. 39 Or whether pursuing, or in a journey, or asleep somewhere, as Elias sarcastically argues concerning Baal. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* 25 It is not necessary that the right honourable gentleman should sarcastically call that time to our recollection. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xviii, 'I suppose, now', said Miss Ingram, curling her lip sarcastically [etc.]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 49 If, it was sarcastically said, all our notions of right and wrong are to be suddenly altered by a few lines of manuscript found in a corner of the library at Lambeth. 1887 *Courier* 16 June 16/4, 'I am as hungry as a wolf. I work like a horse, but I can't sleep.' 'You had better see a veterinary surgeon,' said the doctor, sarcastically.

Sarce, obs. form of SEARCE *sb.* and *v.*

† **Sa·rcel.** *Obs.* Also 5, 7 **sercell**, 6–7 **sarcell**, 7 **sarcill.** [a. OF. *cercel* (mod. F. *cerceau*):—late L. *circellus*, dim. of *circus* circle (see CIRCUS).] A pinion feather of a hawk's wing. Also *sarcel feather.*

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* a v b, The feders that some calle the pynyon feder of a nother foule: of an hawke it is callyd the Sercell. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 272 Within Sixe or Seven dayes she will caste..hir Sarcels or flagges. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. (1641) 45 The Marlin, Lanar, and the gentle Tercell, Th' Ospray, and Saker, with a nimble sarcell, Follow the Phœnix. 1611 COTGR., *Cercean*,..the Sercell, or Sarcell (feather) of a hawkes wing. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. xi. 237/1 The Sarcell Feathers, are the extream pinion Feathers in the Hawks Wing.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* Ep. Ded. p. ii, Skictowring Faulcons, whose Quills imped with strong Sarcells of the Grace of Greatnes. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres of Sion* 33 My Knowledge sharpen, Sarcells lend my thought. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, xxxvii, Vnfledg'd Witt Imp't from the ragged Sarcill Chaucer drop't.

Sarcelle (sɑɹsē·l). Also 4 **cercelle**, 5 **sorcell** (?), 6 **sarcell.** [a. OF. *cercelle* (13th c.), mod. F. *sarcelle* = Pr. *sercela* (cf. med.L. *cercella*, Higden):—pop. L. **cercedula-*, for class. L. *querquedula.*] A name for the teals and closely allied ducks (*e. g.* the garganey, the long-tailed duck).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 371 In Lagenia is a ponde; þere is Seynt Colman his briddes; þe briddes beep i-cleped cercelles. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 79 Take a Sorcell or a tele, and breke his necke. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* (W. de W.) B j b, Take a sarcell or a teele, and reyse his wynges.

1793 tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* IX. 217 The Sarcelles, which we cannot better paint in general terms than by saying, that they are ducks much smaller than the others. *Ibid.* 240 The White and Black Sarcelle; or, the Nun. *Ibid.* 243 The Brown and White Sarcelle. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* 1818-22 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XIV. 266/2.

Sarcelled (sā·ɹsĕld), *a. Her.* [Anglicized f. *sarcelle*, SARCELLY.]

1. = SARCELLY 2.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* I. v. 49-50 A Cross double parted Voided Flory... It is like the Cross Moline Sawed, or cut into 4. quarters, and disposed at a convenient distance; And therefore may be fitly termed a Cross Moline Sarcelled. 1722 NISBET *Syst. Her.* I. xv. 113 If the Voiding be of another Colour..than the Field, the Cross is then said to be charged with another Cross; for which our English Heraulds have some needless Terms, as *Sarcelled* and *Resarcelled*. 1828-40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Cross pattée sarcelled* at bottom in the form of a A reversed. *Ibid.*, *Cross double voided*, by some called *a cross voided sarcelled*, or *sarcelled resarcelled*, that is double or twice sawed asunder. 1847 *Parker's Gloss. Her.* 101 Cross moline sarcelled, or voided throughout, cross recercelée or recersile, or recercelée voided or disjoined, which has also been called a cross fleury biparted.

2. = SARCELLY 3.

1828-40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Sarcelled*, cut through the middle. Beasts and birds, thus cloven throughout, and the halves..endorsed..is no uncommon bearing in..Germany.

Sarcelly (sā·ɹsĕli), *a. Her.* Forms: 6 **sarsile**, 6-7 (9) **sarcele**, 7 **sarcelie**, 8 **cercilé**, **cercelly**, 9 **sarcel(l)é**, 8- **sarcelly**, **cercelée**. Also *erron.* 9 **sarcell**. [a. AF. *sercelé*, *cerselé* = OF. *cercelé* hooped, ringleted, curled, pa. pple. of *cerceler*, f. *cercel* (see SARCEL).

F. *cercelé* and *recercelé* (see RECERCELÉ(E)) were used synonymously in sense 1 (below). Beside these there was a F. *resarcelé* (see RESARCELÉE, of obscure origin) applied to a cross on which another is placed of a different colour. *Recercelé*, and consequently *cercelé*, *sarcelly*, were confused with *resarcelé* and used for it (sense 2). The cross resarcelée was later sometimes blazoned as a cross voided (*i.e.* having the central part cut out), and recent English heraldic writers have further extended the use of *sarcelly* (and *sarcelled*) by applying them to birds and beasts cut through the middle (sense 3).]

1. Used to designate a variety of the cross moline in which the points are recurved or curled back.

The Book of St. Albans blazons this cross as *retornyt* and *reuersit*, F. *recercilee*, L. *inversa*.

c 1500 *Sc. Poem Heraldry* 141 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.*, etc. 99, xj crois fichye; xij sarsile fere. 1562 LEGH *Armory* 59 The fielde Or, a crosse Sarcele Geules. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 25 b, Gules, on a Crosse Sarcele D'or, fiue mollettes of the firste. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* Gloss., *Cross-Cercelée*. This Cross is like the Cross Moline, but with this difference, that the points are turned round. *Ibid.*, *Sarcelly*, the same as *Cercelly*. 1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry* 79 *Cercelée* or *Recercelée*, curling at the extremities. 1897 W. K. R. BEDFORD *Blazon Episc.* (ed. 2) 217 Gules, a cross sarcelly ermine.

2. Applied to a cross (esp. a cross moline) voided and open at the ends. (Cf. RESARCELÉE.)

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* II. 9 Sarcele Cross [= *infra* 14 Recercile]. 1722 NISBET *Syst. Her.* I. xv. 118 A Cross moline, altogether voided, which some of them call a Cross Cercilé. 1828-40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Cross sarcele*, *sarcell*, or *sarcelle*, is a *cross voided*, or, as it were, sawed apart. 1889 ELVIN *Dict. Her.* p. xiii, Cross voided, also termed sarcelle.

3. Cut through the middle. (Cf. SARCELLED 2.)

1864 BOUTELL *Heraldry* 87 *Sarcellée*.

Sarcen, variant of SARSEN.

Sarcenchyme (saɹsĕŋkəim). [f. Gr. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh, after PARENCHYME.] Sollas's name for a connective tissue in certain sponges (see quot.).

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 419/2 In the higher sponges (*Geodia*, *Stelletta*) it [*sc.* the mesoderm] consists of small polygonal granular cells either closely contiguous or separated by a very small quantity of structureless jelly, and in this form may be termed sarcenchyme. 1898 SEDGWICK *Text-bk. Zool.* I. 79.

Sarcenet(t, obs. forms or variants of SARSENET.

Sarch(e, var. or obs. ff. SEARCE; obs. ff. SEARCH.

Sarcic (sā·ɹsik). [ad. Gr. *σαρκικός*, f. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh.] (See quot.)

1876 tr. *Hergenröther's Cath. Ch. & Chr. State* II. 293 Neither is it true that the clergy were only regarded as men of the spirit, and the laity only as men of the flesh; the Church had long rejected the Gnostic distinction between pneumatics and sarcics.

‖ Sarcina (sāɹsinə). *Bot.* Pl. **-næ** (inī). [L. = bundle, f. *sarcire* to patch, mend.] A genus of schizomycetous fungi or bacteria, forming masses of cells united in fixed numbers, which are found in various animal fluids. Also *attrib.*

1842 GOODSIR in *Edin. Med. & Surg. Jrnl.* 434 These circumstances gave the whole organism the appearance of a wool-pack, or of a soft bundle bound with cord...From these very striking peculiarities of form, I propose for it the generic name of Sarcina. *Ibid.* 435 The Sarcinæ were found grouped as it were in colonies, in certain portions of the ropy fluid. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 486/1 The sarcinæ occurring in urine are about half the size of those occurring in the stomach, and the aggregations of sarcina cells are also smaller. 1884 KLEIN *Micro-org.* 39 A group of four (tetrade or sarcinaform) is thereby produced. *Ibid.* 43 Small sarcinæ occur on boiled potatoes. 1888 *Jrnl. Chem. Ind.* 30 June 449/1 Cultivations of sarcina in sterilised beer-wort.

† Sarcina·rious, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *sarcinārius*, f. *sarcina* bundle, pack.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sarcinarious*, of or belonging to Packs, Fardels, &c., serving to carry burthens or loads.

† Sa·rcinate, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *sarcināt-*, ppl. stem of *sarcināre* to load a beast, f. *sarcina* load, pack.] *trans.* To load (a beast of burden); *fig.* to overload (but cf. FARCINATE).

1623 COCKERAM II, To Lade a beast, *Sarcinate*. 1645 *Martin's Echo* in Prynne *Discov. Blazing-Stars* 23 Extend your panches, cram your bellies, sarcinate your ventricles. [*But* 'MARTIN MAR-PRIEST' *Martin's Eccho* (? 1645) 2 *has* farcinate.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Hence **† Sarcina·tion.**

1658 PHILLIPS, *Sarcination*, a loading with packs or fardells.

† Sa·rcinator. *Obs.* [L. agent-n. of **sarcināre* = *sarcīre* to botch.] A mender, patcher.

1646 MAYNE *Serm. on Unity* &c. 31 There wants only a Sarcinator, or Botcher, to assume to himselfe the Crowne.

Sarcine (sāɹsin). *Chem.* Also **-kin**(e. [ad. G. *sarkin* (Strecker), f. Gr. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh: see -INE.] A base existing in the juice of flesh. Also *attrib.*

1858 *Q. Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* X. 121 A well characterised organic base, which I [i. e. Strecker] will provisionally distinguish by the name *Sarcine*. *Ibid.* 123 Its [*sc.* sarcine] solution in baryta-water, deposits, on addition of a larger quantity of the baryta-solution,..crystals of sarcine-baryta. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 70 Sarkine or hypoxanthine, so widely distributed in the organic world, both animal and vegetable.

Sarcinet, obs. form of SARSENET.

Sarcinoid (sāɹsinoid), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Sarcinoīdēs* (used by Blainville, 1834, in neut. pl. *-oidea*), f. Gr. *σαρκινο-s* fleshy (f. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh): see -OID.] Belonging to the group *Sarcinoidea* of polyps.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 423/1 The Sarcoid (or sarcinoid, or carnose) Polypiaria.

Sarcinous (sāɹsinəs), *a.* [f. SARCINA + -OUS.] Pertaining to or involving sarcinæ.

1874 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 143 Sarcinous vomiting.

Sarcle (sāɹk'l), *sb.* (Only in renderings of the L. word.) [ad. L. *sarculum*, *-us*, instrumental noun f. *sar(r)ire* to weed.] A hoe.

1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. xii, The roots of the corn are laid open and uncovered with the sarcle. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 311/2 A history of this implement [*sc.* the plough], tracing its gradual progress from the ancient *Sarcle* to its most improved form at the present day.

Sarcle (sāɹk'l), *v.* † *Obs.* Also 7 **sarkle**. [a. OF. *sarcler* :—L. *sarculāre*, f. *sarculum* (see prec.).] *trans.* To weed with a hoe. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.*

1543 tr. *Act* 25 *Edw. III*, c. 1 (*Stat. labourers*) And that none pay in the time of sarcling or heymaking but .1.d. the day. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 20 After the ground is sowne, it requireth weeding, sarcling, or raking. *Ibid.* 28 That they must not be sarcled, nor have the earth opened & laid hollow about them. 1611 FLORIO, *Risarchidare*, to sarkle, to harrow or rake ouer againe. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, *Sarceling time*, or *time of Sarceling*, seemeth to bee the time when the Countryman weedeth his corne. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. xii, There are many who are of opinion that they should be sarcled. *Ibid.*, After we have finished our sowing, our next care is of sarcling.

Hence **Sa·rcler**, a weeder.

1707 FLEETWOOD *Chron. Prec.* 158 In 1351..Sarclers (that is Weeders) and Hay-makers, by the Day, *ool.* *oos.* *ot d.* [1885 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 327 On 220 acres in Suffolk, 60 sarclers or weeders were employed on one day at *2d.* a piece.]

Sarcnet, obs. form of SARSENET.

Sarco- (sāɹko, saɹkǫ), combining form of Gr. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh, occurring as prefix in many scientific terms (the more important are given as Main words): **Sarco-acid**, short for SARCOLACTIC *acid*. **‖ Sa·rcobasis** *Bot.*, a very fleshy gynobase; = CARCERULE. **Sa·rcoblast**, (*a*) one of the minute yellow bodies present in rhizopods; (*b*) a germinal particle of protoplasm. **Sa·rcocyte**: see quot. **Sarco·gnomy** *Psych. rare* [after *physiognomy*], the study of the sympathy and correspondence between the body and the brain. **‖ Sa·rcomatrix**, in protozoa (see quot.). **Sa·rcomere** *Anat.* [Gr. *μέρος* part], a sarcous element. **Sa·rcoplasm**, **‖ Sarcopla·sma**, the interfibrillar hyaline substance of muscle. **‖ Sarcoso·ma** [Gr. *σῶμα* body], the 'bark' of corals. **Sa·rcosome**, a granular body lying in the sarcoplasm of muscle. **Sa·rcosperm** *Bot.* = SARCODERM. **‖ Sarcosto·sis** *Path.* [Gr. *-οστωσις* as in *ἐξόστωσις* EXOSTOSIS], ossification of flesh (Craig 1849). **Sa·rcostyle**, **‖ Sarcothe·ca** [Gr. *θήκη* case]: see quots. **Sa·rcotome** *Surg.* [Gr. *-τόμος* that cuts]: see quot.

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 197/1 The *sarco-acid has precisely the same structure as ordinary lactic acid. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Sarcobasis*, the same kind of fruit as the Carcerulus. 1895 J. C. WARREN *Surg. Path.* IX. 235 Some authorities believe that the new growth proceeds from the muscular cells or *sarcoblasts. 1898 SEDGWICK *Textbk. Zool.* I. 57 In many forms [of Gregarines] there are longitudinal fibrillar thickenings of the cuticle, and occasionally a special superficial layer of the ectoplasm immediately beneath the cuticle is distinguished as the *sarcocyte. 1878 J. R. BUCHANAN *Psychophysiol. Sci.* 74 *Sarcognomy. 1882 *Banner of Light* (Boston, U. S.) 19 Aug., The entire symptomatology of diseases must be deficient in regard to mental symptoms,..without the guidance of sarcognomy. 1884 J. R. BUCHANAN (*title*) Therapeutic Sarcognomy, a scientific exposition of the mysterious union of soul and body, and a new system of therapeutic practice without medicine. 1895 *Jrnl. Mar. Zool.* Mar. 73 The extracapsular substance consists of two well defined layers, the inner (*sarcomatrix) which invests closely the capsule, is protoplasmic. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Sarcomere*. 1900 BOURNE *Comp. Anat.* I. 96 The sarcostyle itself is made up of a number of segments, called sarcomeres, separated from one another by fine membranes. *Ibid.*, They [*sc.* sarcostyles] are prismatic in section, and are separated from one another by a more fluid substance known as *sarcoplasm. 1890 C. F. MARSHALL in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* CXI. 67 According to Rollett, the 'muscle-columns' are the essential parts of the fibre, and the '*sarcoplasma' is simply interfibrillar material. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* 363 The *sarcosoma or bark of the coral is next described [by Lacaze-Duthiers]. 1899 tr. *Verworn's Gen. Physiol.* v. 464 The granules, or *sarcosomes, lying in the sarcoplasm between the individual fibrillæ were enormously enlarged in the fatigued..muscle. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 578 The secundine..when it assumes a fleshy character,..has received the name of *sarcosperm or sarcoderm. 1888 ALLMAN in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* XXIII. *Hydroida* p. xix, I shall..adopt here the terminology proposed by Hincks, and use the term **sarcostyle* for the fleshy offset from the cœnosarc, and that of **sarcotheca* for the chitinous receptacle by which this is protected. *Ibid.*, The Sarcothecæ occur in the Plumularinæ under two principal forms. 1874 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* VII. 138 Description of the *Sarcotome, an Instrument for painlessly cutting through the soft Tissues of the Body. By W. Ainslie Hollis.

Sarcocarp (sāɹkokāɹp). *Bot.* [ad. F. *sarcocarpe* (Richard), f. Gr. *σαρκο-*, *σάρξ* flesh + *καρπός* fruit.] The fleshy part of a drupaceous fruit lying between the epicarp and the endocarp, being the part usually eaten.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 2, I propose naming the epidermis of fruit Epicarp, the parenchyma Sarcocarp. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 525 In the Date,.. the pulpy matter is the mesocarp or sarcocarp. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 237 Olea europæa yields oil in its fleshy sarcocarp.

Sarcocele (sāɹkosīl). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *sarcocēlē* (G. Valla, 1501), a. Gr. *σαρκοκήλη*, f. *σαρκο-*, *σάρξ* flesh + *κήλη* tumour.] Hard fleshy enlargement of the testicle.

1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* II. (1768) II. 115 A recent Sarcocele may frequently be suppurated by digestive Medicines. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 22 Sept., The complaint about which you enquire is a sarcocele: I thought it a hydrocele and heeded it but little. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 634 Syphilitic sarcocele, orchitis, or albuginitis, as it is variously termed.

Sarcocol(l (sāɹkokǫl). Now *rare*. [ad. late L. *sarcocolla*: see next.] = next.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 153 Take oile of rosis..mirre, sarcocol [etc.]. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccclxxxviii. (1529) X iv, Sarcocolle is hote and drye in the thyrde degre. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* M ij, A fumigacion made of Sarcocoll upon hote Coles. 1612 tr. *Valentinus' Enchir. Med.* 98 Mastich and sarcocol mixt together. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 198 Sarcocol is a Gum that flows from a little prickly Shrub, whereof the Leaves are like the *Falta Sena*. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 286 Sarcocoll; colour yellow, resembles gum arabic in appearance. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 577 A sub-viscid, sweetish..gum-resin called Sarcocol..is said to be produced by various species [of *Penæa*].

‖ Sarcocolla (saɹkokǫ·lă). [late L., a. Gr. *σαρκόκολλα*, f. *σαρκο-*, *σάρξ* flesh + *κόλλα* glue: so called because of its reputed property of agglutinating wounds.] A sub-viscid gum-resin brought from Arabia and Persia in light yellow or red grains.

Its source is not certainly known: see quots. 1830, 1887.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 278 Sarcacolla, from Persia. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 197 As touching Sarcocolla, some bee of opinion that it is the gum or liquor issuing from a certain thornie plant or bush. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. v. 59 Congealed blood..is a right flesh-glue, exceeding a Sarcocolla. 1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 367 Sprinkle in the same quantity of sarcocolla. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 72 A subviscid, sweetish, somewhat nauseous gum-resin, called Sarcocolla, is produced by Penæa mucronata (and others). 1887 BENTLEY *Mæn. Bot.* 531 The gum known as *Sarcocolla*, which is imported into Bombay from..Beshire, is..considered by Dymock to be derived from a species of *Astragalus*, or from one nearly allied to that genus.

Sarcocollin (saɹkǫ·kǫlin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *sarcocolline* (Pelletier): see prec. and -IN.] A principle contained in sarcocolla.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 72. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 645.

Sarcodal (saɹkōu·dăl), *a.* [f. SARCODE + -AL.] = SARCODIC.

1869 H. J. CARTER in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Sept. 191 Their walls formed of sarcodal rugæ more or less circular.

Sarcode (sāɹkōd), *sb.* and *a. Biol.* [a. F. *sarcode* (Dujardin 1835), f. *σαρκ-*, *σάρξ* flesh: see -ODE.]

A. *sb.* The PROTOPLASM of animals.

1853 *Bot. & Physiol. Mem.* (Ray Soc.) 535 The protoplasm of Botanists and the..sarcode of Zoologists, if not identical, are at all events..analogous formations. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 4 The body of the Protozoon consists chiefly of the elementary substance known as *sarcode* or animal protoplasm. 1883 W. SAVILLE KENT in Adderley *Fish. Bahamas* 35 The *Euplectella*, as sold in the market, being then divested of the buff-coloured gelatinous flesh or sarcode.

B. *adj.* Sarcodic; protoplasmic.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* II. 209 This gelatinous coating is found to consist entirely of an immense number of aggregated sarcode-cells. 1859 J. R. GREENE *Protozoa* 19 Gemmule, embedded in sarcode substance. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* xxxii. 501 The bulk of the embryo is occupied by a number of sarcode globules.

Sarcoderm (sāɹkōdəɹm). *Bot.* Also in L. form **sarcoderma** (-dəɹmă). [ad. mod.L. *sarcodermis*

(De Candolle), f. Gr. σαρκο- SARCO- and δέρμα DERMA.] The fleshy layer in some seeds lying between the internal and external integuments.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* II. 26 The testa..consists..of three portions;..3. of an intervening substance..called sarcoderm by De Candolle. 1861 BENTLEY *Bot.* 337 Some botanists..describe a third integument under the name of sarcoderm; this layer, however, is commonly and more accurately considered as but a portion of the outer integument.

Sarcodic (saɪkɒ·dik), *a. Biol.* [f. SARCODE + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of sarcode; protoplasmic.

1864 *Reader* 2 Apr. 434/1 A spherical sarcodic mass. 1866 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vi. (ed. 4) 216 Sarcodic tissue not furnished with any nerve. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 257 The 'sarcodic expansions', as the pseudopodia have been called.

Sarcoid (sā·ɪkoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. σαρκ-, σάρξ flesh + -OID. Cf. Gr. σαρκώδης.]

A. *adj.* Resembling flesh; flesh-like: applied to sponges, plants, etc.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 423/1 In the Sarcoid..Polypiaria we may imagine the distinct collected axis of Corallium or Pennatula to be ramified and reticulated. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Sarcoides*,..sarcoid. 1864 WEBSTER (citing DANA).

B. *sb.* A sponge particle.

1875 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* v. 70 The 'sponge-flesh'..is found upon a microscopical examination to be composed of an aggregation of rounded amœbiform bodies —the so-called 'sponge-particles' or 'sarcoids'.

Sarcolactic (sāɪkoˌlæ·ktik), *a. Chem.* [f. SARCO- + LACTIC.] *Sarcolactic acid*: an acid, isomeric with lactic acid, obtained from muscular tissue.

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) III. 376 The sarkolactic acid from muscular tissue may be distinguished as the variety α [of lactic acid]. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 221/2 A new product appears in the urine after liver-extirpation. This is sarcolactic acid.

Hence **Sarcolactate**, a salt of sarcolactic acid.

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 197/1 The sarcolactates in general are more readily soluble than ordinary lactates.

‖ Sarcolemma (sāɪkɒ̆le·mă). *Anat.* Also -lema. [mod.L., f. SARCO- + Gr. λέμμα (see LEMMA 2).] The fine transparent tubular sheath investing muscular fibre.

1840 BOWMAN in *Phil. Trans.* CXXX. 474 Of the Sarcolemma, or Tunic of the Primitive Fasciculus. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* 449 The tendinous fibres are continued among the muscular fibres, whilst the sarcolema merely envelopes the said muscular fibres. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* ii. 36 The muscular fibres of the heart..have no sheath or sarcolemma. *attrib.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 276 Proliferation of the sarcolemma nuclei.

Sarcolite (sā·ɪkɒ̆ləit). *Min.* [f. SARCO- + -LITE.] A silicate of aluminium, sodium, and calcium found in flesh-coloured crystals. Also = GMELINITE.

1814 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* App. 56 Sarcolite. Colour flesh red. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 337 Analcime. Cubizite, sarcolite. *Ibid.* 340 Hydrolite. Gmelenite, sarcolite of Vauquelin. 1858 NICOL *Elem. Min.* 130 Sarkolite, from Vesuvius. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* x. 291 Sarcolite [occurs] in ejected blocks with Wollastonite [etc.].

Sarcology (sāɪkɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. SARCO- + -LOGY. Cf. F. *sarcologie*.]

1. That branch of anatomy which treats of the fleshy parts of the body.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Anatomy is divided into Two principal Parts; Osteology and Sarcology. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 470 The Professor shall begin his instructions with Osteology upon the skeleton,..proceed with Sarcology, and conclude with the organs of the senses.

2. The therapeutic method or theory which involves or advocates the internal administration of the extractives of the organs of animals for the purpose of affecting the corresponding organs of the human body.

1893 *Science* (N. Y.) 22 Sept. 162 The science of sarcology and the new way opened up by Brown-Séquard and Dr. Hammond suggest higher possibilities.

Hence **Sarcolo·gic, -ical** *adjs.*, belonging to sarcology; **Sarco·logist**, a professor of sarcology.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sarcological.* 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Sarcologist.* 1882 OGILVIE, *Sarcologic.*

‖ Sarcoma (saɪkō·mă). Pl. **sarcomata.** [mod.L., a. Gr. σάρκωμα (Galen), f. σαρκοῦν to become fleshy, f. σαρξ, σαρκ- flesh.]

1. *Path.* † a. A fleshy excrescence. *Obs.*

1657 *Physical Dict., Sarcoma*, flesh growing in the nostrils like the proud flesh in a sore. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) II. 249 Some call them [*sc.* polypuses] *Sarcoma's*, others *Hypersarcona's*. *Ibid.*, We sometimes meet with Excrescences of various Sizes and Figures..These are usually called Sarcomata of the Uterus. 1752 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Every polypus is a sarcoma; but not *vice versa*. The sarcoma frequently degenerates into a polypus.

b. A tumour composed of embryonic connective tissue.

1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs. Tumours* 19 The first genus may be denominated from its most obvious character (that of having a firm and fleshy feel) Sarcoma or Sarcomatous Tumours. *Ibid.* 26 Adipose Sarcoma. This is a very common species of Sarcomatous Tumours. 1872 PEASLEE *Ovarian Tumors* 19 A cystic sarcoma is merely a development of cysts in a fibroid tumor. 1880 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 350 As a rule Sarcomata rapidly attain a considerable size. 1894 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 350 A poor woman with an extensive sarcoma of the face.

fig. 1850 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 82, I often look upon myself as one sarcoma of selfishness and indolence.

2. *Bot.* Link's term for the fleshy disk surrounding the ovary.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 137. 1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms.*

‖ Sarcomatosis (saɪkōˌămătō·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σαρκωματ-, SARCOMA + -ωσις, -OSIS.] Sarcomatous degeneration.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 726 In generalised sarcomatosis the mucous membrane may contain numerous small secondary growths.

Sarcomatous (saɪkō·mătəs), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -OUS. In mod.L. *sarcomatosus*.] Pertaining or relating to, of the nature of, sarcoma.

1754 SMELLIE *Midwifery* II. 113 Bonetus..gives several instances of sarcomatous and glandular tumours, which were mistaken for the uterus. 1804 [see SARCOMA]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 446 These infantile tumours are almost invariably sarcomatous.

† Sarcome. *Obs.* = SARCOMA 1.

1626 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A *Sarcome*, a bunch of flesh in ones nose.

Sarcophagal (saɪkɒ·făgăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. SARCOPHAG-US + -AL.]

1. Flesh-devouring, flesh-consuming.

1614 T. ADAMS *Phys. Heaven* in *Diuells Banket* vi. 307 This naturall Balme..can (at vtmost)..giue a short and insensible preseruation to it [*sc.* the body], in the sarcophagall graue. 1905 *Daily News* 23 June 6 [A vegetarian] denounces my meat-eating habits as 'cannibal' and 'sarcophagal'.

2. Represented on sarcophagi.

1874 W. H. WITHROW *Catacombs of Rome* (1877) 292 The sarcophagal and other representations of this event.

Sarcophagan (saɪkɒ·făgăn). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Sarcophaga*, n. pl. or fem. sing. of *sarcophagus* (see SARCOPHAGUS) + -AN.] a. An animal of the group *Sarcophaga* (flesh-eating animals). b. A fly of the genus *Sarcophaga*; a flesh-fly. In recent Dicts.

† Sarcophage. *Obs.* [ad. L. SARCOPHAGUS.]

1. = SARCOPHAGUS 1, 2.

1623 COCKERAM, *Sarcophage*, a graue, a sepulchre. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sarcophage*,..a stone called Eat-flesh. 1811 PINKERTON *Travels* I. 229 (Green universal bricia.] The celebrated sarcophage, in the British Museum, is of this stone.

2. A flesh-eater; = SARCOPHAGUS 3.

1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 210 Yon vermined Sarcophage.

So † **Sarco·phagist** in sense 2.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 86 Whilst Men Sarcophagists (Flesh-Eaters) in all this time were yet to seek.

Sarcophagize (saɪkɒ·fădʒəiz), *v.* [f. SARCOPHAG-US + -IZE.] *trans.* To enclose in a sarcophagus.

a 1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sk.* (1879) I. 146 [He] lies sarcophagised in red granite.

Sarcophagous (saɪkɒ·făgəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *sarcophag-us* (see SARCOPHAGUS) + -OUS.]

1. a. 'Flesh-eating, feeding on flesh' (J.). b. Belonging to the group *Sarcophaga* (flesh-eaters) of mammals. In recent Dicts.

2. Resembling a sarcophagus.

1885 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 38 The faded palazzo with their sarcophagous courtyards and precincts.

‖ Sarcophagus (saɪkɒ·făgŏs). Pl. -phagi (fădʒəi). Also 8 -fagus. [L., a. Gr. σαρκοφάγος, orig. adj., f. σαρκο-, σάρξ flesh + -φάγος eating.]

1. A kind of stone reputed among the Greeks to have the property of consuming the flesh of dead bodies deposited in it, and consequently used for coffins. *Obs.* exc. *Antiq.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. xvii. II. 587 Near vnto Assos, a city in Troas, there is found in the quarries a certaine stone called Sarcophagus. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 461 His Entrails are like the Sarcophagus, that devours dead Bodies in a small Space. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 232 Sarcofagus, is a Stone of which the Antients built their Monuments, and took its Name from its Effect.

2. A stone coffin, esp. one embellished with sculptures or bearing inscriptions, etc.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 198 Several Sarcophagi that have inclosed the Ashes of Men or Boys, Maids or Matrons. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 285 A sarcophagus with ribbed work and mouldings. 1838 MURRAY *Handbk. N. Germ.* 103 Their effigies, formed of Italian alabaster, repose upon a sarcophagus. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* (1846) I. 325 The sarcophagus which contained the bones of L. Cornelius Scipio was discovered in 1780. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 63 Suphis I, the builder of the 'Third Pyramid' which contained his sarcophagus.

fig. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* XXXV. 329 This (*venter impiorum insaturabilis*)..consumes..generally twice a day all the flesh therein interred; so true a Sarcophagus is the belly. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* Introd. xiv. 85 The monastic spirit..which now keptit [*sc.* learning]..stiffening in the stony sarcophagus of a bygone age. 1870 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* (1871) 98 The Emperor Moth..emerges from its horny sarcophagus without catching a hair of its velvet wings against it.

3. A flesh-eating person or animal. ? *Obs.*

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 420 No Transformators, no such sauage *Sarcophagi*, as S. Cyrill bends his penne against. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vii. 429 Dr. Browne informs me; 'There are met with in asylums *sarcophagi*, individuals who have desired to eat..human flesh.'

4. A wine-cooler. In recent Dicts.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* 1045 Fig. 1871 is a pedestal sideboard..There is an open sarcophagus-shaped wine cooler beneath..Castors are sunk into the plinth of the sarcophagus.

Hence **Sarco·phagus** *v. trans.*, to deposit or enclose in a sarcophagus.

1862 MISS MULOCK in *Macm. Mag.* V. 464 The handful of mere dust that lies Sarcophagused in stone and lead. 1888 W. H. H. ROGERS *Mem. of West* App. 391 She rests in a wedge-shaped coffin, which is sarcophagused within the tomb in the presbytery.

Sarcophagy (saɪkɒ·fădʒi). *rare.* [ad. Gr. σαρκοφαγία, f. σαρκοφάγος: see prec. and -PHAGY.] The practice of eating flesh.

1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. (1658) 209 There was no Sarcophagie before the flood. 1901 H. G. WELLS in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 112 The movements against vivisection, opium, alcohol, tobacco, sarcophagy, and the male sex.

Sarcopside (saɪkɒ·psid). *Min.* [ad. G. *sarkopsid* (Websky 1868), irreg. f. Gr. σαρκ-, σάρξ flesh + ὄψις sight.] Phosphate of iron and manganese exhibiting a flesh-red colour or fracture.

1877 DANA *Text-bk. Min.* 347 Sarcopside.—Near triplite. Valley of the Mühlbach, Silesia.

‖ Sarcoptes (saɪkɒ·ptīz). *Zool.* [mod.L. (Latreille 1804), irreg. f. Gr. σαρκ-, σάρξ flesh + κόπτειν to cut.] A genus of parasites comprising the itch-mite; a mite of this genus.

1874 *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Jan. 75 The two genera in question differ from the true *Sarcoptes* in not piercing canals in the epidermis of their host. 1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 133 No other species but those of Sarcoptes can be transferred from animals to man. *Ibid.* 135 A sarcoptes (*S. mutans*) which produces a disease among fowls.

Hence **Sarco·ptic** *a.*, caused by itch-mites.

1886 *Order of Council* in *Field* 24 July 160/3 A horse, ass, or mule affected with sarcoptic mange.

Sarcosine (sā·ɪkŏsin). *Chem.* Also **sarkosin**(e, sarcosin. [a. G. *sarkosin* (Liebig 1847), irreg. f. Gr. σαρκ-, -σάρξ flesh + -INE.] A nitrogenous substance, one of the constituents of creatine; methyl glycocoll.

1848 *Chem. Gaz.* VI. 4 Sarcosine. This substance is obtained by boiling a saturated solution of kreatine with crystallized hydrate of baryta. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* III. 323 Lactamide..is isomeric with sarcosine. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 383 Sarcosine can be artificially prepared by acting upon monochloracetic acid with methylamine.

Hence **Sarcosi·nic** *a.* (see quot.).

1877 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* 28 Apr. 872/2 J. Hertz has extracted from a Mexican species of shell-lac, termed 'Soma de Sonora', which exuded from the *Mimosa Coccifera*, a body which he has designated 'sarcosinic acid'.

† Sarco·tic, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *sarcōtic-us*, a. Gr. σαρκωτικός, f. σαρκοῦν (see SARCOMA).]

A. *adj.* Producing flesh; inducing the growth of flesh; = INCARNATIVE *a.*

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 127 Sarcotick remedies. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 81 Ointment of Woodbine is a most excellent Sarcotick Medicine.

B. *sb.* = INCARNATIVE *sb.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* IV. i. 129 The best Sarcotick, confected of *Ceratum*, and a twelfth part of Verdigrease. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* 340 Where there is loss of Substance, there he must assist Nature with his Sarcoticks. 1676 JAS. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* (1685) IV. ix. 216 Use first exceedents and then Sarcoticks.

† Sarco·tical, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* ix. 63 All Sarcoticall medicaments ..ought to be voyd of a sharp and biting quality. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 285 [A boil] is cured by suppurating medicaments; after that by Sarcoticals. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* III. iv. 124 If it [*sc.* a plaster] be sarcotical, herein it helps Nature, that it generates flesh more easily.

Sarcous (sā·ɪkəs), *a.* [f. Gr. σαρκ-, σάρξ flesh + -OUS.] Consisting of flesh or muscular tissue.

Sarcous elements: see quot. 1840.

1840 W. BOWMAN in *Phil. Trans.* CXXX. 493 The primitive fasciculi of voluntary muscle consist of elongated polygonal masses of primitive component particles, or sarcous elements...It is the assemblage of these particles, which may most properly be styled 'Sarcous tissue'. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* vi. 100 Parallelograms of sarcous matter. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 890 The process of fatty degeneration of the cardiac muscle consists..in the gradual replacement of the sarcous elements by fatty granules.

† Sa·rculate, *v. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. ppl. stem of late L. *sarculāre*, f. *sarculum* (see SARCLE).] *trans.* To hoe. So † **Sarcula·tion** *rare*$^{-1}$, hoeing.

1623 COCKERAM, *Sarculate*, to weed. *Sarculation*, a weeding. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* vii. 62 Their Sarculation was used but amongst small Quantities of sown Corn.

Sarcynet, obs. form of SARSENET.

Sard (sārd), *sb.*[1] Also 4 saarde. [In mod. use prob. a. F. *sarde*, ad. L. *sarda*, a synonym of *sardius*: see SARDIUS.

In quot. 1382 ad. L. *sardius*; in quot. 1601 ad. L. *sarda*.]

A variety of CORNELIAN[1], varying in colour from pale golden yellow to reddish orange.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxix. 10 And he putte in it foure ordres of gemmes; in the first veers was saarde, topazi, smaragd. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 618 The Indian Sardes or Cornallines are transpareut. 1809 KIDD *Outl. Min.* I. 227 This variety [of Carnelian] seems to be the sard of the present day. 1815 AIKIN *Man. Min.* (ed. 2) 180 Sarde. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 570 The sard of the English jewellers ..is a stone of the nature of agate. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxix, A fine sard, engraved with a subject from Homer. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 430 The gem is a golden sard.

attrib. 1881 PALGRAVE *Vis. Eng.* 70 Sardstones ruddy as wine.

Sard (sārd), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [ad. It. *Sardo*, L. *Sardus*.] = SARDINIAN *a.* and *sb.*

1822 W. ROBINSON in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* v. (1837) 81 Boats manned by Genoese, French, Sards, and

Neapolitans. 1823 *Ibid.* viii. 142 The Sard costume. 1861 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* ii. xiii. (1875) 464 Little wiry Sard horses.

† **Sard,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 serd. [In OE. only once (Northumb.) in imp. *serð*, app. a. ON. *serða* (str. vb.) = MLG. *serden*, MHG., early mod.G. *serten*. OE. may have had the normal **seordan*.] *trans.* = Jape *v.* 2. Hence † **Sa·rding** *vbl. sb.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp., Matt.* v. 27 Ne serð þu oðres mones wif. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1163 in *Macro Plays* 112 Panne mayst þou bultyn in þi bouȝe, & serdyn gay gerlys. 1530 Palsgr. 697/2, I sarde a quesne, *je fous*. 1535 Lyndesay *Satyre* (ed. Laing) 3028 Freirs, Quhilk will, for purging of their neirs: Sard up the ta raw, and doun the uther. 1598 Florio, *Fottere*, to iape, to sard. *Fottarie*, iapings, sardings. 1659 Howell *Lng. Prov.* 17 Go teach your Grandam to sard; a Nottingham Proverb.

† **Sa·rdachate.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *sardachātēs*; see Sard *sb.*[1] and Achate *sb.*[1]] (See quots.)

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Sardachates*, a kind of Agate, of a Cornelian Colour. 1828–32 Webster, *Sardachate*, the clouded and spotted agate, of a pale flesh color. In some recent Dicts.

† **Sa·rdan,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *Sardonius* (? with supposed correction of form after Gr. Σαρδάνιος).] = Sardoin *a.*

1649 Ogilby *Virg. Eccl.* vii. 43, I bitterer to thee then Sardan grass..shall seeme.

Sardanapalian (sārdănăpē·liăn), *a.* [f. L. *Sardanapālus*, Gr. Σαρδανάπαλος, the name given by Gr. historians to the last king of Nineveh, proverbial as the type of luxurious effeminacy.] Resembling Sardanapalus and his attributes; luxuriously effeminate. So † **Sardanapa·lical** *a.* (in quot. erron. *-panicall*). † **Sardana·palize** *v., trans.* to represent or describe as a Sardanapalus.

1555 Eden *Decades* 101 Tumanama..with all his Sardanapanicall famelye. 1673 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* ii. 179 You muster up all Christian Princes to Neronize and Caligulize them, unless they..will chuse..to be Uilenspiegled and Sardanapalized by you. 1863 R. H. Gronow *Recoll. & Anecd.* 117 He [Eugène Sue] was supposed..to lead a very Sardanapalian life. 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* vi. 267 [He] lived in Sardanapalian luxury.

Sardane, obs. form of Sardine [2].

Sardanique: see Sardonic.

Sardar: see Sirdar.

[**Sardel,** sardius: see *List of Spurious Words*.]

Sardelle (sārde·l). Also 6–7 sardell, 8–9 sardel. [ad. It. *sardella*, dim. of *sarda*:—L. *sarda*, a. Gr. σάρδη sardine. Cf. F. † *sardelle* (16th c.), G. *sardelle*, Du. *sardel*.] A fish, *Clupea* or *Sardinella aurita*, resembling the sardine and prepared like it in certain Mediterranean ports.

1598 Florio, *Sardella*, a little pickled or salt fish like an anchoua, a sprat or a pilcher, called a sardell or sardine. 1657 C. Beck *Univ. Charac.* K vj b, Sardell fish. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* viii. xvii, It is proper that rotten..pilchards should be given them; and sardels consumed with salt, and rotten sardines. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russian Emp.* III. 169 Anchovies and sardelles. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 19 Dec 2/8 Certain fish put up in brine in wooden packages,..and known as 'sardelles'. 1895 Brannt *Anim. & Veg. Fats* (ed. 2) II. 66 Anchovy oil or sardel oil..from *Engraulis enerasicholus* Cuv. the anchovy.

Sardenian, -denyk: see Sardonian, -donyx.

Sardeos, Sardeyn: see Sardius, Sardine [2].

Sardian (sā·rdiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Sardiānus*, a. Gr. Σαρδιανός, Ionic -ηνός, f. Σάρδεις pl., L. *Sardis*, *Sardēs*, the name of the ancient capital of Lydia.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Sardis.

Sardian acorn, nut, a chestnut, *Castanea vesca*. *Sardian stone* = Sard *sb.*[1]

1551 Turner *Herbal* i. (1568) H vj, Castanea..is named in englyshe a chesnut tree...The frute of it is called of som glans sardiana, that is a sardiane acorne. 1714 Eusden *On Addison's Cato* A.'s Wks. 1830 II. 57 Here the Sardian stone is seen, The topaz yellow, and the jasper green. 1830 tr. *Aristoph., Acharnians* 9 Tell me clearly,..lest I dip you in a Sardian dye. 1847 Grote *Greece* ii. xvii. III. 343 His monument..erected near Sardis by the joint efforts of the whole Sardian population.

B. *sb.*

1. An inhabitant of Sardis.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* iii. xiii. (1622) 83 The Sardians brought in matters of latter memory. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 3 You haue condemn'd, and noted Lucius Pella For taking Bribes heere of the Sardians. 1846 P. Fairbairn tr. *Hengstenberg's Comm. Ps.* xliv. 14 People would figuratively call a miserable man a Jew, just as liars were called Cretans, wretched slaves, Sardians.

2. = *Sardian stone* (see A), Sard *sb.*[1]

1741 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The Sardian [*ed.* 1728 *has* Sardoin] is most used for seals, as graving easily, yet taking a fine polish. 1860 C. W. King *Ant. Gems* 398 [tr. Marbodus] The blood-red Sardian to its birthplace owes Its name, to Sardis, whence it first arose.

Sardiane, obs. Sc. form of Sardine [1].

† **Sa·rdic,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 6 **Sardique.** [f. L. *Sard-is* (see Sardian) + -ic.] = Sardian *a.* *Sardic stone* = Sard *sb.*[1]

1585 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* i. 142 The first, is called a Sardique stone, and sheweth in cullor lyke vnto red claie.

Sardine [1] (sā·ɪdəin). Forms: 4 **sardiner,** sardyn, *Sc.* **sardiane,** 6– **sardine.** [ad. late L. *sardinus*, occurring in the Vulgate of Rev. iv. 3 (if the genitive *sardinis* of the usual text be a mistake for **sardini*); but the word may be the genit. of **sardo*, a. Gr. σαρδώ, genit. -δοῦς, some gem), where it renders Gr. σάρδινος, a variant reading for σάρδιος (or σάρδιον) Sardius, which mod. editors adopt.

The Gr. σάρδινος occurs in one other passage (see L. & Sc.): late L. *sardinus* is quoted by Du Cange from the Old Latin version of Prov. xxv. 12. OF. *sardine* 12th c. may perh. represent this word, or it may be a variant of *sardoine* (see Sardoin).]

A precious stone mentioned in Rev. iv. 3. In the non-Biblical examples perh. used for Sardoin.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1469 And safyres, & sardiners [? *read* sardines], & semely topace. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 279 Preciuse stanys, as sardiane, topias fyne, Iaspis. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* iv. 3 Lijk to the siȝt of a stoone iaspis, and to sardyn. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 276 Degrees..of Sardyne [Roxb. xxx. 136 sardone]. 1526 Tindale *Rev.* iv. 3 Lyke vnto a iaspar stone, and a sardyne stone [so 1611; 1881 (*Revised*) a sardius]. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* (1578) 300 The sixt a Sardine. This stone is all of one colour lyke bloud.

Sardine [2] (sāɪdīn). Forms: 5–6 **sardyn,** 5 sardeyn, 6, 8 sardin (6 surdone), 7 sardane, 7 sardino, sirdena (surdiny, *pl.* sirdena's, -dinasses), 7–8 sardina (7 *pl.* -aes), 9 **Sardinia,** 6– **sardine.** [a. F. *sardine*, ad. It. *sardina*:—L. *sardīna* (Columella; cf. late Gr. σαρδήνη and σαρδῖνος), f. *sarda*, = Gr. σάρδη, the sardine or some similar fish. In the 17th and 18th c. the Italian form was often used.

The Latin and Greek word may be related to the name of the island, L. *Sardinia*, Gr. Σαρδώ; cf. Sard *a.*]

1. A small fish of the Herring family, *Clupea pilchardus*, abundant off the shores of Sardinia and Brittany, or a young pilchard of the Cornish coast, when cured, preserved in oil and packed in tins or other cases for sale as a table delicacy.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 24 Sardeynez. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxviii. 195, I was borne in Aragon,..Masyl baken, and sardyns, I do eate and sel. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Sardelle, ou Sardine*,..a kinde of fishe called a Sardine. 1583 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 2154/1 [At Rochelle] there was sent to them euery day in the Riuer (by the hand of the Lord no doubt) a great multitude of fishe (called surdones). 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xii. 14 There flew a fish into our Gallie of the length, colour and bignesse of a great sardin. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 244 The Pike and Sardane [L. *trichias*] breed twice a yere. *a* 1623 Fletcher *Loves Cure* ii. i, A Pilcher, Signior, a Surdiny, an Olive. *a* 1625 — *Loves Pilgr.* i. i, *Inc.* He looks as he would eat partridge, this guest...*Hostesse.* With a Sardina, and Zant oil? 1628 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iii. xxvi. (ed. 3) 143 The Reliques are like the skales of Sardinos pressed into a mass. 1690 Strutton *Relat. Cruelties French* 9 Our Breakfast, viz. a six Denire Loaf, and one Sirdena per Man. *Ibid.* 40 Our Supper here was a piece of Bread and two Sirdinasses. 1740 R. Brookes *Art of Angling* ii. xxxix. 157 There is another Sort of Fish sold instead of Anchovies call'd a Sardin, which is very probably a young Pilchard. 1777 *Ann. Reg.* 179 Figure to yourself these feeding on scanty portions of rotten sardines. 1850 L. Hunt *Autobiog.* II. xvii. 303 The anchovies, or Sardinias, that we eat. 1864 Mathias *Sport in Himalayas* (1865) 33 Unless I shoot something or other, I shall have to fall back on biscuits and sardines. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 253/2 Curing establishments were..set up.., and 'Cornish sardines', or 'pilchards in oil', were prepared..with..success. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 215 Spiced Sardines.. Mustard Sardines..Oil Sardines. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 307/2 Another of the *Clupeidæ* (*C. scombrina*) is the 'oil-sardine' of the eastern coast of the Indian Peninsula.

b. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1876 Goode *Anim. Resources U. S.* (1879) 186 (Smithsonian Coll. XXIII) Canned menhaden, in oil, 'American sardines'. Canned herring, in oil, 'Russian sardines'. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 576 The Gulf Menhaden [*Brevoortia patronus*] has several vernacular names. At Key West it is called 'Sardine'. *Ibid.* 611 A species of Anchovy, *Stolephorus Browni*, is extremely common about Fort Macon, where it is known as the 'Sardine'.

c. *Austral.* (See quot.)

1898 Morris *Austral Eng., Sardine*,..a fresh-water fish, *Chatöessus erebi*, Richards., of the herring tribe.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sardine factory, -fishery*; **sardine-box,** a box in which sardines are packed; also, an ornamental box to hold sardines for the table; **sardine shears** (see quot.); **sardine tongs,** tongs used in serving sardines; **sardine-wise** *adv.*, like sardines in a box.

1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 24 The brass *etiquette* or advertisement-label cut from a *sardine-box. 1892 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) II. 379/2 Ornamental Sardine-box. 1891 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 7 Mar. 155/2 The *sardine factories of Kent. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* xii. 193 It sends several boats to the *Sardine-fishery. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sardine Shears*,..scissors..for cutting open the tin boxes containing sardines. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc. Price List*, *Sardine Tongs. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* II. v. 120 The guests were not packed together *sardine-wise, as they are at most concerts.

Sardinia, obs. form of Sardine [2].

Sardinian (sardi·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Sardinia* (see below) + -an.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to Sardinia, i. e. either **a.** the large island adjacent to Corsica, or **b.** the kingdom of Sardinia (1720–1859), which had its capital at Turin, and included the island of Sardinia as well as Piedmont and adjacent territories.

1748 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 29 Apr., The Sardinian Minister has refused to sign too. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 342 The Sardinian States. The dominions of the King of Sardinia consist of 51 provinces in all. 1851 *Life A. Gentili* 228 At the Sardinian chapel in London, he twice preached..for two consecutive Sundays. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Sardinian Huts*, wooden huts made by many English officers in the Crimea and by the Sardinians for their men.

† **2. a.** Used for Sardonian, Sardonic. **b.** transl. of L. *sardonius*, as the epithet of the plant producing 'sardonic' laughter. *Obs.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* xx. 457 A laughter..most Sardinian, With scorn and wrath mix'd. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* vii. 61 May I become..Rough as a Bur, deform'd like him who chaws Sardinian Herbage to contract his Jaws. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 188 ¶ 4 What the Latins call Sardinian Laughter, a distortion of the face without gladness of heart.

¶ **3.** *Sardinian acorn, nut* = Sardian acorn, nut.

1895 in T. W. Sanders *Encycl. Gard.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

B. *sb.* An inhabitant of the island or of the kingdom of Sardinia.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* iv. xii. (1622) 109 All the contention rested betwixt the Sardinians & Smyrnæans. 1748 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 29 Apr., The Sardinian to have the cessions made to him by the Queen. 1793 Burke *Policy of Allies* Wks. VII. 142 Bands of English, Spaniards, Neapolitans, Sardinians [etc.] 1908 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 4 The Siberians and Sardinians (*sc.* foxes) that are introduced from time to time.

‖ **Sardius** (sā·rdiŭs). Also 4, 6 **sardis,** 6 sardeos, -ios, -ious; also in the anglicized forms 6 sardye, 7 sardie. [L. *sardius* (Vulg.), ad. Gr. σάρδιος, σάρδιον, f. Σάρδεις Sardis: see Sardian.] A precious stone mentioned by ancient writers; see Sard *sb.*[1] (Chiefly in translations of or allusions to the Bible or classical writers.)

1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* xxviii. 13 Eche precious stoon thi keuerynge, sardius, topacius, and iaspis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 132 The Ston which that this sterre alloweth, Is Sardis. 1526 Tindale *Rev.* xxi. 20 The sixt sardeos [1560 (Genev.) Sardious]. 1530 — *Exod.* xxxix. 10 Sardios [1535 Coverdale a Sardis], a Topas and smaragdus. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 19 The Sardye is a kind of Gemme red coloured. 1596 Lodge *Wits Miserie* 76 The stone Sardius hindreth the properties thereof [wrath]. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 640 The sardie is red and somewhat of a fierie colour. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxxix. 10. 1681 Grew *Musæum* iii. i. iv. 290 The Sardius or Cornelian. 1865 J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 219 There were present merchants from Ind with boxes of precious stones, including the diamond and the sardius.

† **Sardoin,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3–5 **sardone,** 3 **sardoine,** 5 -oyne, 7 **sardoin.** [a. OF. *sardoine*, ad. L. *sardonyx* Sardonyx.] = Sardonyx.

a 1272 *Luue Ron* 173 in *O. E. Misc.* 98 Hwat spekstu of eny stone þat beoþ in vertu..Of iaspe of saphir of sardone [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 285 Þe smale stones..beoþ þer funden..Bope saphirs and sardoines. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 275 The principalle ȝates of his Palays ben of precious Ston, that men clepen Sardoyne [*Roxb.* xxx. 136 sardones]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 615 The ground of these Sardoins is found in the Indian stones to resemble wax or horne.

† **Sardoin,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *sardonius* (? influenced in form by prec.).] Epithet of the herb fabled to produce 'sardonic' laughter.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* viii. 48 The Sardoin herb with many branches filling His [Flattery's] shield, was his device: the word, *I please in killing*.

Sardone, var. Sardoin *sb. Obs.*, sardonyx.

† **Sardo·nian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 6 **sardenian.** See also Sardinian *a.* 2. [f. L. *sardoni-us* + -an.

The Latin adj. is ad. Gr. Σαρδόνιος Sardinian, which in late Gr. was substituted for σαρδάνιος (Homer, etc.; of obscure origin), as the descriptive epithet of bitter or scornful laughter; the motive of the substitution was the notion that the word had primary reference to the effects of eating a 'Sardinian plant' (L. *herba Sardonia* or *Sardōa*), which was said to produce facial convulsions resembling horrible laughter, usually followed by death.]

A. *adj.* = Sardonic *a.*

1586 Bright *Melanch.* xvii. 99 The perturbations of melancholie are..sometimes merry in appearance, through a kinde of Sardonian, and false laughter. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 62 Haue you fatted me so long with Sardenian smiles, that..I might perish in your wiles? 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 12 And with Sardonian smyle Laughing on her, his false intent to shade. 1620 Bp. Hall *Hon. Mar. Clergy* iii. vi. 282 It is then but a Sardonian laughter that my Refuter takes vp at our complete Antichrist. 1742 Hume *Ess.* xiv. (1825) 123 This unprovoked piece of rusticity..caused no farther resentment in Philip than to excite a Sardonian smile. 1794 [T. Taylor] *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* III. 149 Homer first, and others after him, call laughter, which conceals some noxious design, Sardonian.

† **B.** *sb.* One who flatters with deadly intent.

App. alluding to the 'Sardinian plant' (see the etymological note above) which was said to kill by exciting laughter. Cf. quot. s. v. Sardoin *a.*

1609 Bp. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 254 His nature is too..noble, to be a Sardonian: Fawning and Crouching hee leaues to such base bone-gnawers as Fa. Parsons.

Sardonic (sardo·nik), *a.* Also 7 **sardonick,** sardanique. [a. F. *sardonique* (16th c.) = Sp. *sardónico*, Pg., It. *sardonico*, as if ad. L. **sardonicus*, an alteration (by substitution of suffix: see -ic) of *sardonius*: see Sardonian.

Hobbes's form *sardanique* is assimilated to Gr. σαρδάνιος: see prec.]

Of laughter, a smile: Bitter, scornful, mocking. Hence of a person, personal attribute, etc.: Characterized by or exhibiting bitterness, scorn or mockery.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 190 He..gives a Sardonick smile to think how blest hee was in this attonement. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* xx. 276 Then smil'd Ulysses a Sardanique smile. 1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 29 ¶ to The Horse-Laugh, or the Sardonic, is made use of with great Success in all kinds of Disputation. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xx, Our cousin received the proposal with a true sardonic grin. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* iv, The knight meanwhile darted a sardonic look..on his nephew. 1830 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 140 His countenance, strangely twisted into Sardonic wrinkles. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* v. 119 The sardonic historian, whose rule it is to exhibit human nature always as an object of mockery. 1866 Howells *Venet. Life* v. 68 The favourite drama of the Burattini appears to be a sardonic farce, in which the chief character..deludes other..puppets into trusting him, and then beats them. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* x. 251 We see a trace of this same expression [the sneer] in what is called a derisive or sardonic smile. 1878 Bayne *Purit. Rev.* ii. 27 He would have found exercise for dramatic sympathy and sardonic humour.

b. *Path.* (See quot. 1897.)

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 374 The nostrils are drawn upward, and the cheeks backward toward the ears; so that the whole countenance assumes the air of a cynic spasm or sardonic grin. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Risus sardonicus*, sardonic grin. The involuntary, convulsive drawing down of the angles of the mouth in *Tetanus. Ibid., Sardonic laugh.* See *Risus sardonicus.*

Sardonical (saːdɒ'nikăl), *a.* [f. Sardonic + -al.] = Sardonic *a.*

1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxxii, He would..begin a very pleasant sardonical discourse upon the fall of man.

Sardonically (saːdɒ'nikăli), *adv.* [-ly 2.] In a sardonic manner.

1842–52 Tennyson *E. Morris* 59 'What should one give to light on such a dream?' I ask'd him half-sardonically. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xii. xi. IV. 247 An enlightened public grinned sardonically, and was not taken in. 1872 Liddon *Elem. Relig.* i. 33 The dreary criticism which makes a solitude in the human spirit and then sardonically calls it peace. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Sept. 10/1 Maximilian Harden is making himself sardonically merry over the most appropriate inscription for the sarcophagus of Bismarck.

[**Sardonican**, *a.*: see *List of Spurious Words.*]

Sardonyx (saːdɒniks). Forms: *a.* sardonyse, (sardony), 4–7 **sardonix**, (6 *Sc.* **sardonice**), 7– **sardonyx**, (7 *pl.* **sardonyches**); *β.* 4 **sardenyk**, 6 **sardonique**, 7 **sardonic(k.** [a. L. *sardonyx* (pl. *sardonyches*), a. Gr. *σαρδόνυξ* (pl. *σαρδόνυχες*), app. f. *σάρδ-ιος* Sardius, Sard *sb.*[1] + *ὄνυξ* Onyx. The *β* forms are ad. the late L. *sardonychus* (late Gr. *σαρδόνυχος*); as this occurs only in apposition with *lapis* stone, it may perh. be an adj.] A variety of onyx or stratified chalcedony having white layers alternating with one or more strata of sard.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1006 Þe sardonyse þe fyfþe ston. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xxviii. 16 It shal not be comparisound.. to the most precious sardenyk ston or safyr. 1382 — *Rev.* xxi. 20 The fyuethe [foundement], sardonix [1388 sardony]. *c* 1520 Nisbet *N. T. in Scots* Rev. xxi. 20 The fyfft, sardonice. 1562 Legh *Armorie* 21 b, The precious stone to this colour [Sanguine] annexed, is the Sardonix. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xi. 123 b, In this place are also found the Sardonique stones. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* I. 144 The Sardonix, consisting as it were of two rich gemmes, the Sardix, and the Onix: it is blacke in the bottome, red in the middest, and white aboue. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 615 The Sardonyx..was taken for the pretious stone which seemed to be a Cornalline vpon white,..and both together transparent ..they verily doe name all..that are not cleare and shew not through them, Blind Sardonyches. 1652 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Aug., Lennier..shew'd me her [Q. Elizabeth's] head, an intaglia in a rare sardonyx, cut by a famous Italian. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 388 A little Vase of the rootes of Emmeraud. An other of Sardonick. A great cup of Agate. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 173 Hillyard..cut the images of Henry VIII. and his children on a sardonyx. 1860 C. W. King *Ant. Gems* 8 The Sardonyx is defined by Pliny as 'candor in sarda', that is to say, a white opaque layer superimposed upon a red transparent stratum of..Sard; and no better description can be given of a perfect gem of this species. 1867 A. Billing *Sci. Gems* 11 Should one of the layers [of onyx] be sard, which is of various shades of orange, brown, or brownish red, it is called sardonyx. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 491 Our highly-valued emeralds and sardonyxes.

b. *attrib.*

a 1691 Boyle in T. Birch *Life* B.'s Wks. 1772 I. p. clix, I give and bequeath to my eldest brother, Richard..a sardonyx seal ring. 1867 A. Billing *Sci. Gems* 68 Variegated brown sardonyx-agates which look somewhat like tortoise-shell. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 432 The large sardonyx cameos of the Augustan age.

Sardye, anglicized form of Sardius.

Sare, obs. form of Sere *a.*, Sore.

‖ **Saree** (săːri). Forms: 8 **saurry**, 9 **sari**, **sar(r)ie**, **sa(h)ree**, **sarhi**. [Hindī *sāṛhī*, *sāṛī*.] A long wrapping garment of cloth or silk, usually of a bright colour, worn by Hindu women; also, the material of which this is composed.

In use one end is passed several times round the waist to form a kind of petticoat and the remaining end passing across the bosom and left shoulder is thrown over the head.

[1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* I. xvi. 28/2 They make whole pieces or webbes of this hearbe [of Bengalen]..These webs are named Sarrijn, and it is much vsed and worne in India.] 1785 in Seton-Karr & Sandeman *Sel. fr. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 90 Her clothes were then taken off, and a red silk covering (a saurry) put upon her. 1800 *Misc. Tracts in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 301/1 From Burhampoor they receive turbans, saries, and other stained goods. 1879 E. Arnold *Lt. Asia* VI. (1881) 147 One arm clasping her crimson sari close To wrap the babe. 1895 Mrs. B. M. Croker *Village Tales* (1896) 128 In spite of their fine silk sarees and gold ornaments. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 241/1 Held in a fold of the *sarhi*, they sport with their mother's ear-rings.

b. 'An embroidered long scarf of gauze or silk.' [Perhaps a misunderstanding of prec. sense.]

1858 in Simmonds *Dict. Trade.* 1882 in Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework.* And in recent Dicts.

Sarell, anglicized form of Serail.

Saresnet, obs. form of Sarsenet.

Saresoun, -syn, obs. forms of Saracen.

Saretree, variant of Sartry *Obs.*

Sarezin, -zon, obs. forms of Saracen.

Sargasso (saːgæːso). Forms: 7 **sargossa, -o, saragossa**, 7–9 **sargaso**, (8 **sargazo**), 6– **sargasso**. [a. Pg. *sargaço*, whence Sp. *sargazo*, F. *sargasse* (mod.L. *Sargassum* as generic name).] = Gulf-weed; also a mass or a species of this.

1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* I. xcv. 176/1 Then wee entred into the sea, called Sergasso, which is all couered with hearbes..The hearbe is like Samper, but yellow of colour. ..The Portingalles call it Sargasso, because it is like the herbes that groweth in their welles in Portingall, called Sargasso. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 19 About the Cape Sargassoes and Trumbaes floate fifty leagues into the Seas. 1687 *New Atlantis* I. 169 The watry Field, Spread with Sargossa. 1688–9 Sloane *Voy. Eng.* 26 Mar. in *Jamaica* (1725) II. 342 We saw much Saragossa a floating here, called by the Seamen Gulf-weed. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (1772) II. 337 The sea was covered with a kind of weed called Sargasso, which pickled, is by many thought equal to Samphire. 1835–6 [see Gulf-weed]. 1855 Maury *Phys. Geog.* ii. § 132 There is in each ocean a Sargasso into which all drift matter..finds its way. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* i, The Sargassos..are a genus of themselves and by themselves.

b. *attrib.*, as *sargasso bed, weed*; **Sargasso Sea** (see quot. 1855).

1830 *Philos. Mag.* VIII. 459 In the North Atlantic Ocean, coming from the south, you fall in about the tropic with the Sargasso weeds. 1855 Maury *Phys. Geogr. Sea* (1859) § 13 Midway the Atlantic, in the triangular space between the Azores, Canaries, and the Cape de Verd Islands, is the Sargasso Sea. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iii, All around floated the sargasso beds, clogging her bows. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 168 The patches of sargasso weed that floated past.

Sarge, variant of Cierge.

1544 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1884) I. 206 Ane sarge of new walx.

Sargeancie, -ge(au)nt: see Sergeancy, -ant.

Sargo (săːrgo). [a. Sp. *sargo* :—L. *sargus*: see Sargus. Cf. Sab.] **a.** (See quot. 1880.) **b.** *U.S.* (See quot. 1884.)

1880 Günther *Fishes* 406 Sargus..comprises twenty species; several of them occur in the Mediterranean and the neighbouring parts of the Atlantic, and are popularly called 'Sargo', 'Sar', 'Saragu'. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 400 On the California coast occur two species of this family [Grunts]; one, known to the fishermen by the name 'Sargo', *Pristipoma Davidsoni*, is found from San Pedro southward to Cerros Island.

† **Sa'rgon, sa'rgot.** *Obs.* [a. F. † *sargon*, † *sargot*, derivatives of L. *sargus.*] = Sargus.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 70 Th' hidden love that..unites so well Sargons and Goats. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 269 The Sargots [F. *les sargots*] haue another trick..: for he that finds himselfe taken fretteth the line in twaine, whereto the hooke hangeth, against a hard rocke. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 339 The Sargon.. is an adulterous fish, daily changing mates.

‖ **Sargus** (săːrgŭs). [L. = Gr. *σάργος.*] A fish of the genus *Sargus*, the type of the family *Sparidæ*, the sea-breams.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 206 Th' adulterous Sargus ..Courting the Shee-Goats on the grassie shore. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 260 There is a prettie comparison of a Harlottes loue to a fisherman which putteth vpon him a goats skin with the hornes, to deceiue the Sargus-fish. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 255 Spari..The Sargus. 1844 Kitto *Phys. Hist. Palestine* viii. 416 Three species of Sargus—namely, the Hoarse Sargus, the Common Sargus, and the Ringed Sargus.

Sari, Sarie: see Saree, Serry *v.*

Sarif, obs. form of Serve.

‖ **Sarigue** (sarīg). Also 7–8 **sarigoy**, 9 (Dict.) **saragoy**, 8 Cerigo, -gon. [Fr. (Buffon), a. Pg. *sarigué*, in 16th c. *çarigué, cerigoé, serigoé* (whence the earlier forms); used erron. for Brazilian *sarigueya*, a derivative of *Sarigué*, which is the name of a tribe of Indians.

Several other forms of the word are quoted by Ray *Syn. Quad.*, 1693, Pennant *Hist. Quad.*, 1781, and Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.*, 1780–5.]

A South American opossum, *Didelphys opossum.*

1683 Tyson in *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 379, I am apt to think 'twas by removing these Scent-bags rather then taking out the Kidneys; that they made the Sarigoy edible. 1828–32 Webster, *Saragoy*, the opossum of the Molucca Isles. 1847 *Ibid., Sarigue.* [And in later Dicts.]

Sariliche, Sarisine, obs. ff. Sorrily, Saracen.

‖ **Sarissa** (sări'să). *Antiq.* Pl. -æ. [Gr. *σάρισσα*, better *σάρισα.*] A long lance used in the Macedonian phalanx.

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VIII. 69 The sarissæ or long spears. 1856 Grote *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 77 The sarissa of this cavalry may have been fourteen feet in length.

Sark (sāːk), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* (and occas. *arch.*). Forms: 1 **sere, serce, syrce**, 2 **syric, suric**, 3 **serc**, 3–6 (9 *Sc. local*) **serk**, (4 **scherk**), 4–5 **serke**, 4–7 **sarke**, 4– **sark**. [OE. *serc*, masc. (also in extended form *serce*, wk. fem.) = ON. *serk-r* (Sw. *särk*, Da. *særk*) :—OTeut. type **sarki-z.* Affinities outside Teut. are doubtful: OSl. *sraka* tunic does not correspond phonetically, but some scholars believe it to be adopted from Teut.

The final *k* instead of *ch* is due to the fact that the word has come down only in the northern dialect. The anomalous form *scherk* (quot. 13..) app. proceeds from a southern scribe to whom the word was unknown.]

1. A garment worn next the skin; a shirt or chemise; occas. a nightshirt; also *transf.* a surplice.

In Sc. still the ordinary word for 'shirt'.

Beowulf 1111 Æt þæm ade wæs eþesyne swat-fah syrce. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 328/12 *Colobium, uel interula*, syric. *a* 1200 *Ibid.* 547/25 *Colobi(um)*..suric. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17243 For-sak þi serc o silk and line. *Ibid.* 21527 Of he kest al to his serk. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3630 Tyl he have maad al playn werk Off thy clothes of gold, into thy scherk. *c* 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 161 Bare in serke & breke Isaac away fled. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 66 She shulde vnsowen hir serke and sette þere an heyre To affaiten hire flesshe. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* ix. 24 (Harl. MS.) If it happe me to dye..for þe in batill.., þat þu sette out my bloody serke on a perch afore. 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 46 In serk and mantill [eftir hir] I went In to this garth. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 69 My Steming Sark & Rokket was laid doun, Fra tyme that I hard tell the King was deid. 1572 *Ibid.* xxxiii. 369 Buft brawlit hois, Coit, Dowblet, sark, and scho. 1578 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 215 Ane hieland syd serk of yallow lyning pasmentit with purpour silk and silver. Foure Inglis sarkes with blak werk. *a* 1634 W. Row *Contin. J. Row's Hist. Kirk* (Maitl. Cl.) 204 Shee, being in hard labour in chyld-birth, posted away her servant ..to St Allarit's Chapell..with her sarke. 1725 Ramsay *Gent. Sheph.* III. ii, Aneath his oxter is the mark, Scarce ever seen since he first wore a sark. 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 153 Had..Their sarks, instead o' creeshie flannen, Been snaw-white seventeen hunder linnen! *Ibid.* 171 Her cutty sark, o' Paisley harn, That while a lassie she had worn. *a* 1802 in Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* III. 152 Jenny shall wear the hood, Jocky the sark of God. 1809 T. Donaldson *Poems* 158 The Clerk, Wha croons his notes like morning lark Before the man i' Holy Sark. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxiv, And Cuddie at the heels o' him, in ane o' Sergeant Bothwell's laced waistcoats..and a ruffled sark, like ony lord o' the land. 1849 Longf. *Building of Ship* 219 Speeding along..Like a ghost in its snow-white sark. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 70 A silken sark wrought wondrously In some far land across the sea.

fig. *c* 1410 26 *Pol. Poems* 40 þey wil. resceyue þe charge ..To wasche synful soules serkis. 14.. Henryson *Garmont Gude Ladeis* iii, Hir sark suld be hir body nixt Of chestetie so quhyt.

Proverbs. ? *a* 1598 D. Ferguson *Prov.* (1785) 26 Near is the kirtle, but nearer is the sark.

b. Phrase. *Sark alane*, with a sark as the only covering of the body.

1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 155 Thai ordane the said Besse..to gang, sark alane, afore the procession. 1786 *Har'st Rig* (1794) 35 Auld *Seonet* comes in sark-a-lane.

† c. *Sark of mail*: a shirt of mail. *Obs.*

1515 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 62 My sark of mayll and a battell axe.

2. *attrib.*, as *sark-neck, -skirt, -tail.*

1786 Burns *Author's Cry* x, There's some *sark-necks I wad draw tight, And tie some hose well. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 302 And þis man..with his *sarke skirte, wypid it [*sc.* the leper's nose] als softlye as he cuthe. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. v, Some did their *sark-tails wring. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 139 He was wrap'd in his Mother's Sark Tail..The Scots..believing that this Usage will make him well-beloved among Women. 1896 Crockett *Grey Man* xv, Some fought like Highlandmen in their sark-tails.

Sark (sāːrk), *v. Sc.* and *north.* [f. Sark *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To furnish with or clothe in a sark.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 330/2 Serked, *camisiatus, interulatus.* 1789 D. Davidson *Th. on Seasons* 15 On's back a coat.. And, underneath well sarket Wi' harn, that day. *a* 1869 C. Spence *Fr. Braes of Carse* 166 They told me..How drink had brought me to sic fash; How I was neither clad nor sarkit.

2. *Building.* (See quot. 1771.)

1464–5 [see Sarking *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1568–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 717 For sarking of the inner howse in the dorture, 7*s.* 9*d.* 1642 in J. Watson *Jedburgh Abbey* (1894) 86 Item for making of the roofe and sarking of it,..300 mks. 1771 Pennant *Tour Scot. in* 1769, 121 The roofs are sarked, *i.e.* covered with inch-and-half deal, sawed into three planks, and then nailed to the joists, on which the slates are pinned.

Sarkful (sāːrkful). *Sc.* [f. Sark *sb.* + -ful.] In phrase *a sarkful of sore bones*, a sore body.

1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 396 I'll give you a Sarkful of sore Bones. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xlv.

Sarking (sāːrkiŋ), *vbl. sb. Sc.* and *north.* [f. Sark *v.* and *sb.* + -ing 1.]

1. *Building.* (See quot. 1894.) Also *attrib.*, as *sarking-board, felt, -nail.*

1464–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 154 Pro M' sarkyngnale, 5*s.* 1597 *Ibid.* 740 For sawinge Sarkyn boordes..for the churche. 1571 *Burgh Rec. Lanark* (1893) 64 The laith to be all sarking like Sanct Nicolus kirk, and to be rignit with hewin stane. 1620 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 157 For xx yeardes of sarkin bordes. 1636 *Ibid.* 189 Item..for..laying the sarking bordes for the leades. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xxvii, I told them of the sarking of the roof, which was as frush as a paddock-stool. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 983 A course of five-eighths inch deal sarking (boarding), 9 inches broad, to be laid along the eaves. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 170 All the gables of the external walls..should..be entirely filled up to the sarking or tiles, as the case may be. 1882 Christy *Joints used by Builders* 76 As a rule, slates are most likely to keep out the weather when laid on close or open jointed sarking or rough boarding..with felt between it and the slates. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 40/1 Line the inside of the structure with rough sarking boards. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Sarkin*, the cleading of wood laid

on the rafters of a house when a strong and tight roof is required. The slates are laid over the sarkin. 1908 *Laxton's Price Bk.* (ed. 91) 151 Roof linings...Asphalte Sarking Felt.

2. A material for the making of 'sarks'. More fully *sarking-cloth, linen.*

a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 287 Order was given to search the countrie for gray hydes, and gray cloath, and sarking cloath. 1804 STAGG *Misc. Poems* (1808) 142 Wi' monny mair see Meggy Houpe, Wi' her bit sarkin' linen. 1810 *R. H. Cromek's Rem. Nithsd. & Gall. Song* 95 My kimmer and I gade to the fair, Wi' twal' pun' Scots in sarking to ware. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* iv, It [the lint] was intended for sarking to ourselves, and sheets and napery.

Sarkinite (sā·rkinəit). *Min.* [Named (Sarkinit) in 1885 by A. Sjögren, f. Gr. *σάρκιν-ος* fleshy, in allusion to its flesh-red colour and greasy lustre + -ITE.] Arsenate of manganese, of flesh-red or rose-red colour.

1887 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LII. I. 346 Sarkinite, a New Manganese Arsenate. 1890 *Ibid.* LXVIII. II. 715 Crystals of Sarkinite.

Sarkless (sā·rklĕs), *a. Sc.* and *north.* [f. SARK *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a sark. Also *transf.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Drink Ecl.* Poems (1845) 51 You hae been blythe to hack Your a' upon a sarkless sodger's back. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss., Sarkless,* shirtless.

Sarlac (sā·rlăk). Also **sarlik, sarlyk.** [Calmuck *sarluk,* cited by Gmelin in *Novi Comm. Acad. Sci. Petrop.* (1760) V. 341.] = YAK.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quad.* I. 23 Sarlyk. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sarlac.* 1852 J. E. GRAY *Catal. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* III. 40 *Poephagus grunniens.* The Yac or Sarlyk. 1864 WEBSTER (citing *Baird*). In recent Dicts.

Sarmatian (sāɹmē··shăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Sarmatia* the land of the *Sarmatæ* (Gr. Σαρμάται, also Σαυρομάται, whence the form SAUROMATIAN).

In mod. Latin *Sarmatia* has been extensively used for Poland: hence occas. in English poetry, e. g.

1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 376 Sarmatia fell, unwept, without a crime.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the region anciently known as Sarmatia, now occupied approximately by the Russians and Poles.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 394 Ptolemey..confineth Sarmatia Europæa with the Sarmatian Ocean. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 430 Sarmatian Weesel, *Viverra Sarmatica.* 1841 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1847) IX. 187 [Vienna was] anciently the frontier station of the Roman empire upon the Sarmatian wilds.

b. *Geol.* = SARMATIC b.

1882 GEIKIE *Text-Bk. Geol.* 867 Sarmatian or Cerithium Stage. *Ibid.,* The Sarmatian stage is characterized by the prodigious number of individuals of a comparatively small number of species of shells.

B. *sb.* One of a nomadic people formerly inhabiting this territory.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 393 Of the Scythians, Sarmatians, and Seres. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 78. 1771 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* I. (1851) I. 22 The wandering tribes, which they called by the general name of Sarmatians or Scythians. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 311/1 Scythians and Sarmatians spoke almost the same language.

Sarmatic (sɑɹmæ·tik), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] = SARMATIAN *a.*; in quot. 1723 = Polish.

Sarmatic polecat, the Mottled Polecat, *Putorius sarmaticus.* (In recent Dicts.: cf. *Sarmatian weasel.*)

1723 MATHER *Vind. Bible* 402 In Poland..when the priest was about to pronounce the words of the Gospel at the altar, the noblemen drew their swords in part out of the scabbards ..: a Sarmatick sacrament.

b. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1874 *Geol. Mag.* July 325 Newer Tertiary beds—the three stages of the Vienna Tertiaries occur, the Marine, the Sarmatic, and the Congeria beds, but they are not always separately mapped.

Sarment (sā·rmĕnt). Now *rare* (*Bot.*). [ad. L. *sarmentum,* chiefly in pl., twigs lopped off, brushwood, f. *sarpĕre* to prune, trim (trees, branches). Cf. F. *sarment* shoot of vine, woody climbing stem.] A twig, †a cutting of a tree.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. XXXVI. (1495) 879 Cerusa..comyth of vapour of stronge vyneygre effusyd and shedde on thynne plates of leed and layed vpon whyte Sarmentes. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 33 He..nygh the roote ingrafteth his sarment. *Ibid.* XII. 356. 1657 *Physical Dict., Sarments,* twigs of trees. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* 176 [For lighting fires] the people of these countries use the sarments or cuttings of the vines. 1837 GRAY *First Less. Bot.* Gloss., *Sarmentaceous,* bearing long and flexible twigs (*sarments*), either spreading or procumbent.

Sarmentaceous (sɑɹmĕntē·shəs), *a.* [f. L. *sarment-um*: see SARMENT and -ACEOUS.] = SARMENTOSE.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 32 [The Cocculus tribe.] Shrubs, with a..sarmentaceous habit. 1832 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 470 This family is composed of sarmentaceous and climbing shrubs.

Sarmentiferous (sā·rmĕntī·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *sarmentifer-us,* f. *sarmentum*: see SARMENT and -FEROUS.] = SARMENTOSE.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

†Sarmenti·tious, *a. Obs.*–° [a. L. *sarmentītius, -tīcius,* f. *sarmentum*: see SARMENT and -ITIOUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sarmentitious,* of or belonging to twigs or branches.

Sarmentose (sɑɹmĕntō·s), *a. Bot.* [ad. L. *sarmentōs-us,* f. *sarmentum*: see SARMENT and -OSE. Cf. OF. *sarmenteux.*] (See quot. 1863.)

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. iv. (1776) 181 Sarmentose; when they [*sc.* stems] are Repent and Subnude. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 341 It's stem..is.. knotty at intervals, and sarmentose, as that of the vine. 1863 BENTHAM *Flora Austral.* I. Introd. 5 Stems are..sarmentose, when the branches of a woody stem are long and weak, although scarcely climbing. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 108 Creeping herbs or sarmentose shrubs.

Sarmentous (sɑɹmē·ntəs), *a.* [ad. L. *sarmentōs-us*: see prec. and -OUS.] = prec.

1721 BAILEY, *Sarmentous,* twiggy or branching. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Stalk,* Creeping, or sarmentous stalk, that which emits roots as it runs along. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 327 The large sarmentous Satyrium with mottled flowers. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 354 It is of sarmentous growth.

Sarmon(d, -one, -oun, etc.: see SERMON.

Sarnes, obs. form of SORENESS.

†Sarole-man. *Obs.* (See quot. Cf. SAROSEL.)

1662 MERRETT *Neri's Art of Glass* 244 These Glasses are put into Iron pans..call'd Fraches, which by degrees are drawn by the Sarole man all along the Leer,..that the Glasses may cool *Gradatim.*

‖Sarong (sărǫ·ŋ). [Malay *sārung,* prob. from some mod. form of Skr. *sāranga* variegated.]

1. (See quot. 1895.)

1834 G. BENNETT *Wand. N. S. W.,* etc. II. 217 He was attired in a dirty sarong around his waist, and a loose baju or jacket. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sk.* 172 The Sárong is the Malay national garment, a sort of skirt, usually in tartan, worn by men and women alike.

2. (See quot.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sarong,..*a woven or printed fabric imported into the Dutch ports of the Eastern archipelago.

‖Saros (sē·ros). [Gr. *σάρος* or *σαρός* (Berossos), a. Assyro-Babylonian *šār(u.*]

1. *Antiq.* The Babylonian name for the number 3600, and hence for a period of 3600 years.

The notion expressed in quot. 1662, that the saros consisted of 3600 *days,* is due to the desire to rationalize the incredible statements of Berossos with regard to the lengths of the reigns of the antediluvian kings of Babylon. Other expedients for the same purpose were adopted by early writers on chronology.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 54 Sarus with them is three thousand sixe hundred yeares. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 4. 80 The learned Monks, Panodorus and Anianus,..make a Saros to contain 120. months of 30. dayes a piece.

2. *Astr.* Adopted by modern astronomers as the name of the cycle of 18 years and 10⅔ days, in which solar and lunar eclipses repeat themselves.

This use is founded on the statement of Suidas (app. due to some mistake) that the length of the saros was 18½ years.

1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* XXXV. 353 The period of 223 lunations, called by the Chaldean Astronomers, the Saros. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 18 (1879) 102 This period of 18 years 10 days is a cycle of the Moon, known to the ancient Chaldeans and Greeks under the name of Saros.

†Sarosel. *Glass-making. Obs.* (See quot.)

1662 MERRETT *Neri's Art of Glass* 244 The mouth thereof [the leer] enters into a room, where the Glasses are taken out and set. This room they call the Sarosel, and the Sarole-men those who draw the Fraches along the Leer.

Sarp, obs. form of SHARP.

†Sarp-cloth. *Obs.* Also 6 **serpe-cloth.** [Shortened f. SARPLIER + CLOTH. Cf. the Sc. forms *sarplaith, sarpleth,* under SARPLIER.] = SARPLIER.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Serpillière, ou serpillère,* a serpe-cloth. 1611 COTGR., *Serpillere,* a Sarplier, or Sarp-cloth, a piece of course Canuas to packe vp things in. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), Sarpliar or Sarp-cloth.

†Sarpe[1]. *Obs.* [a. OF. *sarpe* (mod.F. *serpe*), app. f. L. *sarpĕre* to prune.] A pruning hook.

1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xiii. 20 That ech man schulde scharpe his schar, and picoise, and ax, and sarpe [1382 purgyng hook]. *Ibid., Isa.* vii. 25 And alle hillis that schulen be purgid with a sarpe [1382 wode bil]. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. ij, He ought to haue on his gyrdel a sarpe or crokyd hachet for to cutte of the superfluytees of the vignes.

†Sarpe[2]. *Obs.* Also **sarp, serpe.** [Of obscure origin.] A collar, neck-ring of gold or silver.

1429 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 18/1 Ande at nane vthir weir broudry..bot aray baim..in all vthir honest aray as serpis beltis vches & chenzeis. 1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 110 Item to Robert Greyndoor,..my Serpe of siluer and my cheyne of goold. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Arms* (S. T. S.) 46 He..tuke..a grete wreth of golde, callit a sarp be sum men, and put it about his hals. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 Rich stones, serpes, hauderikes, and oþer iuels. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. xiv. 822 Alle they were arayed in grene veluet with sarpys of gold about their quarters. *c* 1485 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 4 The King ..arraied in a doblet of gren..; a long gonne of purpur velwet, ..with a riche sarpe and garter. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1877) I. 86 Memorandum:—fund in a blac coffre..It. the first, the grete sarpe of gold coutenand xxv schaiffis with the fedder betuix.

Sarpego, Sarpent: see SERPIGO, SERPENT.

Sarplier (sā·rplĭəɹ). Forms: 4–7 **sarpler,** (4 **sarpuler**), 5 **sarpeler**(e, (**sarplar, -pelar, -pliar**), 6– **sarplier**; *Sc.* 5 **sarplare, -air, sarpleth,** 7 **serplaith.** [a. AF. *sarpler* (*Rolls of Parlt.* I. 413, 1321–2), OF. *sarpillere* (mod.F. *serpillière* packing cloth) = Pr. *sarpelheira,* Cat. *sarpallera, xarpallera,* Sp. *arpillera,* Pg. *sarapilheira,*

Littré suggests that the word is a derivative (with suffix *-aria*: see -ER[2] 2) of late L. *xĕrampelinus* (med.L. eorruptly *xeropellinus, serampelinus, serapellinus*) a. Gr. ξηραμπέλινος, of the colour of withered vine-leaves, f. ξηρός dry, withered + ἄμπελος vine. But this derivation has been contested by later philologists. Cf. Fr. dial. (16th c.) *serpol* bride's trousseau. MDu. had *sarpelier, serplier,* pack of wool (also *sarpeel*).]

†1. A large sack of coarse canvas for wool; a sack or bale of wool containing eighty tods; also used as a measure of quantity for wool.

[1353–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 554 Et in 4 sarplers novis pro lanis cariandis.] *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iii. 6 (Camb. MS.) They ben ententyf aboute sarpuleris or sachels vnprofitable for to taken [orig. *circa diripiendas inutiles sarcinulas occupantur*]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4371 Hyre sarplers dud he with hay be fild, & bonde hem to hure sadels gyld. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/1 The which Cokett contenes the hool nombre of sarplers. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 204 Though many a robe hath be shente On hire sarpelere and on hire sak. 1436 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 23/2 Gudis þat aw na custum or þat aw custum eftir þe fraucht of þe serplaith þat is to say it at payis as a serplaith in fraucht. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 415 The..Duke of Burgon Cam befor Caleis with Flemynges nat a fewe, Which yaff the sakkis & sarpleres of the toun To Gaunt & Brugis his fredam for to shewe. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 395 The Kyng..commaunded a new subsydie to be leuyed vpon all ye sarplers of wolle goynge out of Englande. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 51 b, You besturre yourselfe: & packe and stuffe together a whole sarpler full of Tullies owne sentences. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Treat.* 141 In Merchandice na Merchant sall passe over the sea, except he haue thrie Serplaiths of wooll, of his awin proper gudes.

†2. A wrapper of sackcloth (or other coarse material) for packing merchandise. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Segestre,* a sarplier: a thyng to packe vp marchandice in. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 392 It serued as wast Paper for sarplers to wrap and packe vp wares in. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* Prol. (Rtldg.) 18 His Orations did smell like the sarpler, or wrapper of a foul.. oil vessel. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* I. 74 The other [tent] is cover'd with a great Sarpler of Wooll, for their Cattel and Horses. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Ointment,* If..the Fire should catch, you must have a Covering or Sarplier ready, which you have dipt in Water and well wrung. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Sarpelere,* a coarse packcloth made of hemp. *Glouc.*

3. A large sack into which hops are gathered and carried to the kiln. *local.*

1893 C. WHITEHEAD *Hop Cultiv.* 36 When picked, the hops are measured..into 'pokes', 'greenbags', or sacks, holding 10 bushels. *Note.* In Hampshire and Surrey these sacks are called 'sarpliers', and hold fourteen bushels.

Sarplys, obs. pl. of SURPLICE.

Sarpo (sā·rpo). Also 8 sarpoe, 9 sapo. [a. Sp. *sapo,* lit. 'large toad'.] (See quots.)

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Sarpoe,* a name given to the fish called by authors *salpa.* 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 251 A form [of the Toad-fish] found only in the Gulf, *Batrachus pardus*..is known to the fishermen as the 'Sarpo' and the 'Sea-robin'. 1891 *Century Dict., Sapo,* the toad-fish, *Batrachus tau.*

Sarpuler, Sarra, obs. ff. SARPLIER, SAHARA.

‖Sarracenia (særæsī·nia). *Bot.* Also 8 sarracena, -sena. [mod.L.; orig. *Sarracēna* (Tournefort 1700, after Dr. D. Sarrazin of Quebec who sent him the plant).] A genus of insectivorous plants, the type of the N.O. *Sarraceniaceæ,* to which belong many of the plants popularly known as *pitcher-plants.* Hence **Sarracenia·d,** Lindley's name for a plant of this Order (*Veg. Kingd.* 1846, p. 429).

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 66 in *Gard. Assist., Sarracenia,* or side-saddle flower. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xix. (1813) 370 *Sarrasena* is a native of the bogs of North America. *Ibid.* 360 *Sarracena,* or side-saddle flower. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* i. 5 Sarracenia. In this genus some of the leaves are in the form of a pitcher. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 5/1 Great tropical carnivores like the beautiful Sarracenias.

Sarrail: see SERAIL. **Sarralia:** see SERAGLIO.

†Sarraly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4 sarreliche, **sarrely, sarrilich, sarraly.** [f. **sarree* (a. F. *serré* in close order, pa. pple. of *serrer* to shut tightly, lock:—popular L. **serrāre,* L. *serāre,* f. *sera* bolt, lock) + -LY. Cf. SERRY *v.*] In close order or array, closely.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6047 (Kölbing) Cleodalis Stode on fot, & mani of his Aboute him stode sarreliche. *Ibid.* 5279, 7846, 8044. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13536 Doun wyþ þe hil þey toke þe weye Al sarrely in to þe valeye. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2127 (Bodl. MS.), Þise brou3tten fourty bousynde And comen sarrilich byhynde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 222 The kyng..Saw first cumand thair first eschele Arrait sarraly and weill.

‖Sarrasin (sæ·răzin). In quots. **sar(r)azin, sarassin.** [a. F. *sarrasin* (16th c.), for *bl sarrasin* 'Saracen wheat'.] Buckwheat.

[1687 Sarazin corn: see SARACEN 3.] 1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittl.* I. 308 A small quantity of black bread, made of sarazin. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Aug. 3/2 The fields of sainfoin and sarassin. 1888 *19th Cent.* June 836 The Russian peasant will not always sell his wheat and live on sarrazin and rye.

Sarrasin, Sarrature: see SARACEN, SERRATURE.

†Sarray, *adv. Sc. Obs. rare*–[1]. [a. F. *serré*: see SARRALY *adv.*] = SARRALY *adv.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 296 And the formast of his menze Embraist vith that thar scheldis braid And richt sarray togidder raid.

Sarrazin, Sarre, obs. ff. SARACEN, SORE.

Sarreliche, -ly, var. ff. SARRALY *adv. Obs.*

Sarreverence: see SIR-REVERENCE.

Sarrie, Sarrilich: see SERRY *v.*, SARRALY *adv.*

† **Sarri·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sarrītiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sarrīre* to hoe, weed.] The action of hoeing or stirring the soil.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 79 This sarrition was performed in dry burning lands. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xv. (Dublin) 202 They scratch'd it again and again with the same wooden Instruments, this was call'd Sarrition.

Sarrusophone (sărr·sŏfōun). [f. *Sarrus* (see quot. 1884) + Gr. *φωνή* voice, sound.] A brass instrument of the oboe class, played with a double reed. Hence **Sarru·sopho·nist,** a performer on the sarrusophone.

1875 KNIGHT *Diet. Mech., Sarrusophone.* 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 707/1 In 1856..M. Sarrus, thought out the construction of a family of brass instruments...Gautrot of Paris realized the inventor's idea, and, under the name of 'sarrusophones', has created a complete family, from the sopranino in E♭ to the contrabass in B♭. 1906 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 12 M. Leruste, the only sarrusophonist in the Garde Republicaine Band.

Sarry, obs. variant of SAVOURY *a.*

Sarsa (sā·sä). Also **sarza.** [Short for next.] = SARSAPARILLA 1. Also *attrib.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 167 You may take Sarza to open the Liuer. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 182 These [Mangoes] and Sarsa being their usual Diet. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1054 The root of various species of Smilax constitutes the Sarsaparilla or Sarza of the pharmacopœias. 1889 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Sarsa.*

Sarsaparilla (sāɪsăpări·lă). Forms: α. 6–8 **zarza parilla,** (6 parille), 7–8 **sarzaparilla,** 6–7 **sarcaparilla,** 6 **-parillia, -perilla, sarsaparilia,** 7 **-perilla,** 8 **-parill,** 7– **sarsaparilla;** β. 6–7 **salsaperilla,** 6–8 **-parilla,** 6 **-pariglia, -perillia,** 7 **-parillia, salcepereille,** 9 **salsaparilha;** γ. 7 **sassaparilla.** [a. Sp. *zarzaparrilla*, f. *zarza* (? a. Basque *sartzia*) bramble; the latter part is said in A. Matthioli *Comm. in Dioscoridem* (1565) 184 to be **parrilla*, dim. of *parra* vine, the sarsaparilla being a climbing plant, and its berries having some resemblance to grapes. The word appears, with etymologizing corruption after It. *salso* adj. salt, in It. *salsapariglia* (whence the β forms), F. *salsepareille* (whence the γ form).

The above etymology is given in Gerarde's *Herbal* 1597; and (as an original conjecture) in Monlau's *Diccionario etimol. de la lengua castellana* 1856. The statement of many writers, that the word comes from the name of a Dr. Parillo, has not been traced to any authoritative source.]

1. A plant belonging to any of the species of the order *Smilaceæ*, indigenous to tropical America from Mexico to Peru; esp. *Smilax officinalis* the Jamaica sarsaparilla.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* II. 79 Of the Sarcaparillia [Sp. orig. (Monardes) *çarçaparrilla*] of Guaiquill. *Ibid.* 79 b, This Sarcaparilla, dooeth growe at the side of a Riuer, which commeth from the Mountaines of the Peru. *Ibid.* 80 Sarcaperilla. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccii. 710 We haue great plentie of the rootes of this Bind-weed of Peru, which we vsuallie call Zarza, or Sarsa Parilla. 1620 J. MASON *New-found-land* (Bannatyne Cl.) A 4, The common wild herbes of the Countrie are Angelica, Violets,..Sarsaparilla [etc.]. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 150 All along the Banks grow abundance of Mangroves and Sarzaparilla. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Smilax*...Rough Virginian Bindweed, with a smooth Ivy Leaf, commonly call'd Zarzaparilla. 1851–9 HOOKER in *Man. Sci. Enq.* 427 The so-called Jamaica Sarsaparilla grows near the Chiriqui Lagoon in the state of Costa Rica. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 313 Clematis and polished garlands of tough sarsaparilla wed the shrubs with clinging, climbing arms.

b. The dried roots of plants of the various species of *Smilaceæ*; esp. Jamaica sarsaparilla, *Smilax officinalis*; also, a medicinal preparation of the root used as an alterative and tonic. (The early mentions often relate to the supposed efficacy of the drug in the treatment of syphilis.)

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* II. 80 b, For these euilles they haue an other maner of Water, that is, takyng of foure ounces of Sarcaparilla. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phioravv.* I. xxviii. 32 Let hym take Sarsaparilia, or Lignum Vitæ. *Ibid.* III. xlvi. 65 The Salsa pariglia is a Roote that commeth from the Indes, the which is hot and driyng. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. iii. And to such as are cold, the Decoction of Guacum, Salsaperilla [etc.]. 1671 SHADWELL *Humorists* I, Hast thou not rais'd the price of Sarsaperilla, and Guiacum all over the Town. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 49 *Sarsaparilla*, or *Salsaparilla*, is a very long Root, like a small Cord. 1840 PEREIRA *Mat. Med.* II. 661 Jamaica Sarsaparilla, offic. *Ibid.* 662 Brazilian Sarsaparilla: Lisbon, Portugal, or Rio Negro Sarsaparilla...Lima Sarsaparilla. *Ibid.* 663 Honduras Sarsaparilla; Mealy Sarsaparilla; Vera Cruz Sarsaparilla; Mexican Sarsaparilla. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 369 We will..give him mild aperients, light nutritious diet, and sarsaparilla. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 226 Nees and Ebermaier say that it [root of *Smilax aspera* and *S. excelsa*] sometimes comes into the market under the name of Italian Sarsaparilla. 1853 A. R. WALLACE *Amazon & Rio Negro* 140 The trade here is principally in Brazil-nuts, salsaparilha,..farinha, and salt-fish. 1857 BALFOUR *Cycl. India*, etc. 1659/1 A large quantity is shipped at the Brazils and is called Lisbon sarsaparilla. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 422 If, therefore, sarsaparilla have any value whatever in disease, it must be simply as an alterative. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 313/1 Sarsaparilla...*Smilax officinalis*..and *S. Medica*..yield respectively the so-called 'Jamaica' and the Mexican varieties. *Ibid.* 313/2 The varieties of sarsaparilla met with in commerce at present are the following:—Jamaica, Lima, Honduras, Guatemala, Guayaquil, and Mexican...'Jamaica' sarsaparilla..derives its name from the fact that Jamaica was at one time the emporium for sarsaparilla.

2. Applied to plants of other genera, resembling the true sarsaparilla or furnishing a root used as a substitute for it (see quots.).

German sarsaparilla: see GERMAN *a.*² 4.

1840 PEREIRA *Mat. Med.* II. 904 The root of *Hemidesmus indicus*..is used in India under the name of 'country sarsaparilla'...It has been called 'Indian' or 'scented sarsaparilla, nannari'. 1847 W. DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 155 *Aralia*, L. Wild Sarsaparilla. Ginseng. *Ibid.* 156 *Aralia nudicaulis*, L...Sarsaparilla. False Sarsaparilla. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 107/2 *Carex arenaria*..has also a certain reputation on the continent as a diaphoretic and diuretic, and is used as such under the name of German sarsaparilla. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v., New Zealand Sarsaparilla, *Ripogonum parviflorum.* 1883 F. M. BAILEY *Synops. Queensl. Flora* 114 Native Sarsaparilla. The roots of this beautiful purple-flowered twiner (*Hardenbergia monophylla*) are used by bushmen as a substitute for the true sarsaparilla. 1891 *Coo-ĕē* (ed. Mrs. P. Martin) 258 On the hills ..cyclamen, sundew, purple sarsaparilla, and the scarlet pea.

3. *attrib.*

1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* IV. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1882) I. 317 Sirra, you Salsa-Perilla Rascall,..doe you heare, Monsire? 1657 B. W. tr. *Bauderon's Expert. Phys.* 110 Let the drink bee decoction of Sarsa Parilla roote. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1053 Smilaceæ, the Sarsaparilla Family. 1868 M. H. SMITH *Sunsh. & Sh. N. Y.* 61 A famous house..built by a successful sarsaparilla man.

‖ **Sarsar** (sā·rsaɪ). [Arab. سرصر *çarçar* a cold wind.] (See quots.)

1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 207 She..thus penetrated the very entrails of the earth, where breathes the Sansar [*sic*], or icy wind of death. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* I. xxxvi, The Sarsar can pierce through, The Icy Wind of Death.

Sarse: see SAUCE, SEARCE.

Sarsen (sā·rs'n). Also **sarsden, -don, sarcen.** [App. identical with *Sarsen*, var. of SARACEN.] (In full *sarsen-stone, boulder.*) One of the numerous large boulders or blocks of sandstone found scattered on the surface of the chalk downs, esp. in Wiltshire.

[1644: see SARACEN *sb.* 4.] *a* 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 44 They are also (far from the rode) commonly called Sarsdens or Sarsdon stones. 1743 STUKELEY *Abury* 16 The people call these great stones, sarsens; and 'tis a proverb here, *as hard as a sarsen.* 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. I. 174 The stones outside of the work,..as well as the five large trilithons, are all of that species of stone called *Sarsen*, which is found in the neighbourhood. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 217 Yonder lies a great grey sarsen boulder. 1888 J. PRESTWICH *Geol.* II. 342 The isolated blocks called Grey-wethers or Sarsen stones, scattered on the surface of the chalk downs.

Sarsen, obs. form of SARACEN.

Sarsenet, sarcenet (sā·rsnĕt). Forms: 5 **sarsinett, -ynett, sarssinette,** 6 **sarssynet, sarsenett(e,** (**saresnet, sesynet, saircenett, sercenett, sarsnett,** 7 **sarcnet, sarcenett**), 6–9 **sarsnet,** 5– **sarcenet,** 6– **sarsenet.** [a. AF. *sarzinett* (1373 in *Exch. Accts.* 397/16, Publ. Rec. Office: see *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. I. 129), prob. a dim. of *sarzin* SARACEN (see -ET), suggested by OF. *drap sarrasinois*, med.L. *pannus saracenicus*, lit. 'Saracen cloth'.

Godefroy's sole example of the alleged OF. *sarcenet*, taken from Du Cange, is a mistake; it comes from a York Cathedral inventory of 1530, and the word is English. Palsgrave 1530 renders the Eng. *sarcenet* by F. *taffetas.* The only trace of the existence of the word in continental Fr. appears to be the Swiss dial. *sarcenet* 'lustrine de coton' cited by Godefr.]

1. A very fine and soft silk material made both plain and twilled, in various colours, now used chiefly for linings; a dress made of this.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 41 My tepet of blak sarsenet. 1477 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 189/1 It shal be leefull..to use and were in their Colers, Ventes, and Sleves of their Gownes and Hukes, Sateyn, Chamelet, Sarcenet, or Tarteron. 1496–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 30 Item, ij Curtens of Russet sarsynet frengid with sylke. 1542 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 220 Dublet lyned wyth sarcenet. 1581 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 346 Tincells, taffeta, sarcenetes, & single sarcenetes. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Apr., We saw some new-fashon pettycoats of sarcenett. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2302/4 A Scarlet Coat lined with green Sarcenet. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 265 ¶ 9 The palest Feathres look the most agreeable in white Sarsenet. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* xv, I remember, too, Miss Andrews drank tea with us that evening, and wore her puce-coloured sarsenet. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 182 The citizen's daughters making a gallant show in hoops, patches, lace, sarsnet and muslin.

† b. With following adj. (after Fr. use).

1483 *Coronat. Rich. III* in *Antiq. Repert.* II. 250 The other [shert] made of ij yerds di' of sarsynet crymysyn. 1507 *Justes May & June* 28 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 122 Of horse and man fyrst day was theyr araye Sarcenet blue.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Composed of sarsenet.

1521 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 133 My best sayrsnett tippit. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* xxxiii. 18 b, Hange over the eye or eyes a greene sarsenet cloth. 1672 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 295 For making up y^e^ Sarcenet Curtain. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 248 Yonder cloud..Whose sarcenet skirts are edg'd with flamy gold. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, The linendrapers of Hammersmith were astounded at the sudden demand for blue sarsenet ribbon, and long white gloves.

† b. *adj., fig.* Resembling sarsenet in softness. (Said of speech, manners, etc.) *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 56 You sweare like a Comfit-makers Wife:..And giftest such Sarcenet suretie for thy Oathes, As if thou neuer walk'st further then Finsbury. Sweare me, Kate,..A good mouth-filling Oath. 1646 CHAS. I in Carte *Ormonde* (1736) II. App. 14, I have received your sarsenet dispatches by this bearer. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* ii, With many a *fye* and *nay pshaw*, and such sarsenet chidings as tender mothers give to spoiled children.

† **Sa·rsenish,** *a. Obs.* In 4–5 **Sarsaneis, Sarcynesse, Sarsinesshe, -ynneis.** [a. OF. *Sar(r)asinois*, fem. *sar(r)asinesche*, adj. of nationality f. *sarrasin* SARACEN. OE. had *Saracenisc.*] Saracenic; in OE. *sb.*, a Saracen.

In 'bruet of Sarcynesse' (quot. 1381) the word is erron. made into a sb.; cf. *bruetle sareson* (*c* 1430 s.v. SARACEN *a.* b).

a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1188 Largesse hadde on a Robe fresh Of Riche purpur Sarsynysh [*MS.* Sarlynysh, Fr. orig. *sarazinesche*]. 1381 in *Form of Cury* (1780) 110 For to mak a Bruet of Sarcynesse. Tak the lyre of fresch Buf [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9429 He was leyd In that paleis, That was of riche werk Sarsaneis. *c* 1400 *Siege of Troy* 1076 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXII. 38 Diuerse melodye..Of trumpis, tabouris and nakeres, Pypers sarsynneis and symbaleris. [Cf. OF. *cors sarrazinois.*]

† **Sa·rsenry.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. Also 5 **sarsynrye.** [f. *Sarsen*, SARACEN + -RY.] The Saracen people.

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 877 It was neuyr seyn 3et þat þe sarsynrye [*v. r.* sarsenrye] Was left a-lone vn-to a wommanes hande.

Sarshan, variant of SAGENE 1.

1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 41 A sarshan, or fathom, which contains three arshines.

Sarson, -oun, obs. forms of SARACEN.

† **Sart.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *sart*:—med.L. *sartum*, neut. pa. pple. (for *sarrītum*) of *sarrīre* to hoe, weed.] = ASSART *sb.* Also in *Comb.* **sart-silver,** a payment made by tenants for the right of taking brushwood from land.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 463/46 Lazarus hadde þat haluendel: of al Ierusalem, Of wodes and fieldes and of sart: al-mest to bedleem. 1408 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 56 Dicta villata ei debet pro sartsilver spectante Domino Regi annuatim solvendo de praedicta Oxton v s. 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 223/1 Consideryng that oure seide Collage hath noo Woode liyng yerto within xxiiii myle; whereof xx acres they have by wey of a sart..; and other xx acres..by wey of almes. *c* 1518 *Rental Bk. Earl Kildare* in *Jrnl. Kilkenny Archæol. Soc.* Ser. II. (1862) IV. 133 Item ij pullis in Kyltecrenyn in pledge of iiij^xx^ kyene for the Sart of William Naco is doughter sett yerelye for iiij merkis. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sart*, a piece of Woodland turned into Arable. See *Assart.*]

Sartage (sā·rtédʒ). *U. S.* [a. OF. *sartage*, f. *sarter* to clear ground, f. *sart*: see prec.] (See quots.)

1887 *Detroit Free Press* (Lond.) 2 July 6/4 'Sartage' is the practice of setting fire to trees in order to clear the ground. 1891 *Century Dict., Sartage*, the clearing of woodland for agricultural purposes, as by setting fire to the trees.

Sartan, -tayne, -teyn, obs. forms of CERTAIN.

Sarten, Sartente, obs. ff. CERTAIN, CERTAINTY.

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 717 The sarten to sey with-owt lese, A scheff-chambyr be hym ches. 1484 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 152 The man ys goode Inowythe [= enough] were we yn sartente of pes betwyxte Flaunders and us. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 411 A note of sarten thinges.

Sartin, repr. an illiterate pronunc. of CERTAIN *a.*

1762 G. COLMAN *Mus. Lady* I. 4 Indeed it was, sir!—I am sartin it was. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* 86 Look here, that's proof for sartin.

Sartor (sā·rtɒr). *Humorously pedantic.* [a. L. *sartor* patcher, mender, f. *sarcīre* (ppl. stem *sart-*) to botch, patch.] A tailor.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sartor*, a Tailor, a Botcher, a Mender of old Garments. 1843 O. W. HOLMES *Terpsichore* Poet. Wks. (1895) 55/1 And coats whose memory turns the sartor pale. 1870 (*title*) The Sartor, or British Journal of cutting, clothing, and fashion.

Sartorial (sartō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. L. *sartōri-us*, f. *sartor*: see SARTOR and -AL.] Of or belonging to a tailor or his art; characteristic of a tailor.

1823 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 24/2 A little wicked tailor arrives...He is turned over to a settler, who leases this sartorial Borgia his liberty for five shillings per week. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. v, The First Chapter..turns on Paradise and Fig-leaves, and leads us into interminable disquisitions of a mythological, metaphorical, cabalistico-sartorial..cast. 1832 — *Misc.* (1840) IV. 108 His visitor.. we suppose, sat upon folios, or in the sartorial fashion. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* II. xxxvii. 337 The sartorial artist ..had been vainly trying to obtain payment.

Sartorian (sartō·rĭăn), *a. rare.* [f. L. *sartōri-us* (see prec.) + -AN.] = SARTORIAL *a.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 243 Clothing, Sartorian Trades. 1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 5 Apr. 209/1 The reader will excuse this sartorian metaphor.

Sartorite (sā·rtŏrəɪt). *Min.* [Named by J. D. Dana in 1868 after Sartorius von Waltershausen, who first described it: see -ITE.] Sulph-arsenide of lead, found in dark, lead-grey, orthorhombic crystals.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 87.

‖ **Sartorius** (sartō·rĭŭs). [mod.L. *sartōrius* (*musculus*): see SARTORIAL *a.*

So called as being concerned in producing the cross-legged position in which a tailor sits at work.]

A long narrow muscle which crosses the thigh obliquely in front.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sartorius*, a Muscle of the

Leg. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* ix, The Sartorius or tailor's muscle..enables us by its contraction to throw one leg and thigh over the other. 1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1851) 256 The Sartorius (tailor's muscle).

†**Sa·rtry.** *Obs.* In 5 saretree, sartre. [a. OF. *sartrerie*, f. *sartre* :—L. *sartor*: see -ERY.] A tailor's workshop.

1447-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 186 In repar. cujusdam fontis ex opposito le Saretree. 1448-9 *Ibid.*, j crooke pro porta de le Sartre, 12*d*.

†**Sartryn.** *Obs. rare*—°. [a. OF. **sartrin* (recorded as *sartrain*), ad. med.L. *sartrinum* tailor's shop, related to SARTOR.] A tailor's shop.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 318/2 A Sartryn, *sartorium, sutrinum.*

Saru-, graphic var. of *saru-*, obs. form of SERV-.

‖**Sarum** (sē·rŭm). [med.L. *Sarum* (indeclinable), app. evolved from a misunderstanding of the abbreviation *Sarŧ* for *Sarisburia* Salisbury.] The ecclesiastical name of Salisbury, used attrib. in **Sarum Use**, the order of divine service used in the diocese of Salisbury from the 11th century to the Reformation; so *Sarum missal, office, rubric.* Also *absol.*

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 237/1 Thus..Osmundus bishop of Salisbury, deuised that ordinary, which is called the vse of Sarum. *Ibid.* Table, Sarum vse when it was deuised. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 186 Their rubrics are sometimes less definite than those of the Sarum 'Use'. *Ibid.* 357 *note*, This epistle, according to the Sarum rubric, was taken from the 'commune unius Apostoli'. 1882 G. H. FORBES *Missale Drummond.* 7 *margin*, In the Sarum Office this is the Alleluia for Mondays. *Ibid.* 8 *margin*, This Communio does not occur in the Sarum.

Sarus (sē·rŭs). Also sarrus. [Hindi *sāras.*] The Indian crane *Grus antigone.*

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 173/2 The gigantic Indian or Sarrus Crane, *Grus Antigone* of Linnæus. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 65 The handsome *sarus.*

Sarve, obs. form of SERVE.

Sarves, sarvice, -is, obs. forms of SERVICE.

Sarych, Saryf, obs. forms of SEARCH, SERVE.

Sarynes, obs. form of SORRINESS.

Sarza, Sarzan: see SARSA, SARACEN.

‖**Sa, sa** (sā sā), *int. Obs.* See also SESSA. The Fr. exclamation *çà, çà*, redupl. of *çà* (lit. here, hither), 'interjection familière pour exciter, encourager' (Littré). Formerly used by fencers when delivering a thrust. Also *attrib.* as in *sa-sa man* [cf. F. *faire le çà-çà galant homme* (16th c. in Littré)]; and quasi-*sb.* as a nickname for a fencing master.

Cf. Du. *sa sa*, 'come on, cheer up, quickly, an interjection much used to stir up fighting dogs' (Sewel).]

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* v. i, Sa, sa, sa! thumpe, there he lyes. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 224 Sa, sa (my hearts) let's cheerly to the charge. 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* Pt. II. 9 He's none of your Fencers, none of your Sa Sa men. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. ii, And what are you good Monsieur, sa, sa? 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxviii, 'Do you ever take bilboa in hand?—Sa—sa!' Here he made a fencing demonstration with his sheathed rapier.

Sasafras, obs. form of SASSAFRAS.

Sasarara, variant of SISERARY.

Sase, obs. form of SAUCE, SEIZE.

Saser, obs. form of SAUCER.

Sash (sæʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6-7 **shash**, 7 **shass(e, sasche**, 7- **sash**. [Originally *shash*, a. Arab. شاش *shāsh* muslin, turban-'sash' (Dozy).]

†**1.** A band of a fine material worn twisted round the head as a turban by Orientals. *Obs.*

1599. R. FITCH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 255 Great store of cloth is made there of cotton, and Shashes for the Moores. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 63 All of them weare on their heads white Shashes and Turbants, the badge of their religion. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 174 The Greekes and other Christians..weare Shasses, that is, striped linnen (commonly white and blew) wound about the skirts of a little cap. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiv, The silk in Judea, called Shesh in Hebrew, whence haply that fine linen or silk is called shashes, worn at this day about the heads of Eastern people. 1685 G. MERITON *Nomencl. Cleric.* 63 A Shash or Turbant, *Tiara.* 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* II. 287 [They] weare the white Sash round their Turbant as well as the Turks.

†b. Put for: One who wears a 'sash'. *Obs.*

1657 HOWELL in Rumsey *Org. Salutis* b 2 b, As they who have conversed with Shashes and Turbants doe well know.

2. A scarf, often with fringe at each end, worn by men, either over one shoulder or round the waist; spec. *Mil.* (see quot. 1876). Also, a similar article worn round the waist by women and children.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 89 A blew or red shash girt about their loyns. 1684 J. P. tr. *Tavernier's Relat. Seraglio* xi. 58 He..thrusts the Ponyard into his Sasche before his Breast. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2295/4 Officers Sashes and Ribons. 1715 J. STEVENS *Hist. Persia* 25 Girdles, or Sashes ever were, and still are Badges of Honour, and Dignity in Persia. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life, etc.* (1888) I. 233 Dr. Rogers with a large white sash..These sashes, I was informed, were given the last week at a funeral. 1829 *R. Ackermann's Repos. Fashions* 4 The skirt is plaited in full round the waist, and has a border of white *tulle*...Sash to correspond. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. i. 19 A white frock with a black sash—the indication that I had lost my mother. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Sash*, part of the dress of an officer and non-commissioned officer. It is worn across the shoulder by officers and sergeants of the infantry; it is made of crimson silk for the former, and of a mixture of crimson and white cotton for the latter. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 8/2 The bridesmaids..wore dresses of cream soie épinglé and plush..and large tied sashes of satin merveilleux.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sash ribbon*; *sash-capped* adj.; *sashways, -wise* advs.

1827 G. DARLEY *Sylvia* 137 Hurrah! the *sash-capt cymbal swingers! 1861 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Nov. 87/2 The waist is round, and worn with a *sash ribbon. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 427 An old piece of crimson Ribbon ty'd *Sashways about him. 1842 F. E. PAGET *Milford Malvoisin* 28 An embroidered baldric or sword-belt, worn *sash-wise over the right shoulder.

Sash (sæʃ), *sb.*[2] Also **7 shash, shas.** [A corruption of CHASSIS, app. mistaken for a plural.]

1. A frame, usually of wood, rebated and fitted with one or more panes of glass forming a window or part of a window; *esp.* a sliding frame or each of the two sliding frames of a SASH-WINDOW. Also (? now only *U. S.*) applied to a casement.

In early use denoting a glazed frame of wood as distinguished from a leaded window, but now usually applied to a sliding frame in contradistinction to a casement. *French sash*, a French window (see FRENCH A. 3).

1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 82 The primitive Casements modell'd were no doubt By that through which the Pigeon was thrust out, Where now whole Shashes are but one great eye. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. to Gent. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. ii. 108 Why have I not seen you shine out of the Sash this Morning? 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 510 ¶ 1 My eye was..catch'd with..the Face of a very fair Girl..fixed at the Chin to a painted Sash, and made part of the Landskip. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 141 Shops breathe Perfumes, thro' Sashes Ribbons glow. 1716 SWIFT *Progr. Beauty* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 165 She ventures now to lift the sash. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 331 The southern sash admits too strong a light, You rise and drop the curtain—now it's night. 1784 — *Task* IV. 763 The casements lin'd with creeping herbs, The prouder sashes fronted with a range Of orange. 1794 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 14 Lines..rendered confused by reflections from the cross bars of the sash of the window. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2164 French sashes, which open like doors. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 32 Some of the Gothic windows had been divested of their tracery and fitted with sashes. 1876 PAPWORTH in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 494/2 Sashes are either hung upon hinges or hung with lines, pulleys, and weights. Fixed sashes are put into frames...Sashes hung with hinges are usually called casements. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his Own Mechanic* § 824 In most cases the sash..consists of a frame in which one large pane is set, or..the space is divided into two parts by one vertical bar, or into four parts by a vertical bar and a horizontal bar crossing each other at right angles. 1902 R. STURGIS *Dict. Archit.* III. 409 In the United States the term 'sash' is often applied to the movable woodwork of a casement or glazed door. 1908 *Times* 22 Apr. 5/5 A pane of glass was broken just above the meeting of the two sashes.

†b. A window-frame covered with paper or linen. Cf. CHASSIS. *Obs.*

1687 [see SASH-WINDOW]. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 422 The use of a sash, made of transparent or fan paper,..will preserve the sight.

c. A glazed light of a glass-house or garden frame; a sash-light.

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 279 Keep them..under Bell-Glasses and Sashes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Green-house*, The Glass in the Front, whether it be in Sashes or Casements, must be so contrived, that it may..slide..to give Air to the Plants. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 28 They are..safest..in raised beds covered with shutters or sashes in winter.

2. *U. S.* a. *Hydraulic Engin.* A guide or string piece for sheet-piling.

1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 148/1 [Potomac Aqueduct.] Wales, or stringers, twelve by six inches, to guide sheet piling, called in America the lower and upper *sash.*

b. A rectangular frame in which a saw-blade is stretched to prevent its bending or buckling.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 8 Dec. 362 The old 'sash saw' was so thin that it had to be kept strained within a frame or 'sash' to prevent its 'buckling' or bending when crowded into the cut.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sash fastener, lifter, mortise chisel, moulding*; *sash-boring, -morlising, -planing, -tenoning*, vbl. sbs. (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **sash bar**, each of the bars dividing the glass in a sash; also, the shaped material of which such bars are made; **sash bead**, each of the beads or guides which keep the sashes in place; †**sash-casement**, a sash-window; **sash cord**, a cord used for hanging window sashes; **sash-door**, a door fitted with a glazed sash in the upper part; also, a French window; **sash fillister** (see quot.); **sash frame**, (*a*) a frame fixed in the opening of a wall to receive the sash or sashes of a window; also, a sash or sash-light; (*b*) *U. S.* = 2 b above (Knight); **sash gate** (see quot.); **sash light**, a sash or sash-window; **sash line** = *sash cord*; **sash pocket**, 'the space formed in the sash frame in which the weight runs up and down' (*Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, 1887); **sash pulley**, a pulley in a window frame over which the sash cord runs; **sash saw**, (*a*) a small sized tenon saw used in making sashes; (*b*) *U. S.* a frame saw; **sash sluice** (see quot.); **sash strip**, each of the vertical strips which support the glass of a glass-house; **sash tool**, a glaziers' brush (see quot. 1842); also, a small painters' brush suitable for painting sashes; **sash weight**, a weight attached to each of the two cords of a sash to counterbalance it and to facilitate the raising and lowering of it; **sashwork**, the glazing of sashes or sash-windows. Also SASH-WINDOW.

1837 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 24/2 The *sash-bars.. should be of copper. 1851 *Guide-bk. Industr. Exhib.* 10 The length of sash-bar used is 205 miles. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 237 Whenever Troops are directed to clean the windows of their Barrack-Rooms, they are in no instance to be allowed to remove the *sash-beads. 1757 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 500 The *sash-casements jarred. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 18 A long Piece of *Sash-cord. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. viii. 46 My closet, whither I retired..and pulled the *sash-door after me. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 494/2 French casements, or sash doors, as they are called when they open down to the ground. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 237 His improved *sash-fastener. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 112 The *sash fillister is a rebating plane..mostly used in rebating the bars of sashes for the glass. 1693-1700 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 266 *Shas Frames. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 279 The casting of sash frames of copper, each in one piece. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 16 Sash-frames to cover hotbeds or cold-pits. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sash-gate* (Hydraulic Engineering), a stop valve sliding vertically to and from its seat. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 218 Brass *sash-lifters. 1693-1700 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 266 *Shas Lights. 1710 *Tatler* No. 178/4 Advt., The whole House being well wainscotted, and sash'd with 30 Sash Lights. 1767 *Jrnl. Byron's Voy. rd. World* 74 The sash lights [of Scilly light-house] are eleven feet six inches high. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 65 *Sash-line of 4 strands. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 259 One or two.. *sash mortise chisels.. will be necessary. *Ibid.* § 824 Except in fancy work for greenhouses and conservatories, *sash mouldings are now but seldom used. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xix, The *sash pullies, when the lead was gone, were of no kind of use. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 136 The *Sash Saw..is used by sash makers in forming the tenons of sashes. 1877 [see 2 b above]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sash-sluice*, a sluice with vertically sliding valves. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 69 In the matter of rafters and *sash-strips strength should be sought in depth. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 636 A glazing-knife,..a duster, and *sash-tool. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2226 The sash tool is used wet, for taking the oil from the inside after the back putties are cleared off. 1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 93 *Sash Weights, &c. at 18*s. per* C. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xxiii, I wish..instead of the sash weights I had cut off the church spout. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 635 Glazier's work may be classed under three distinct heads, *sash-work, lead-work, and fret-work.

Sash (sæʃ), *v.*[1] [f. SASH *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To dress or adorn with a sash.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. IX. 46 Now they are powdered and perfumed,..and sashed and plumed. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 117 As here you loiter, flowing-gowned And hugely sashed. 1894 MRS. H. WARD *Marcella* ii, The frilled and sashed splendours of her companions.

Sash (sæʃ), *v.*[2] [f. SASH *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To furnish with sash-windows; to construct or glaze as a sash-window.

1770. CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 300 It is sashed up to the top with low windows to sit in. 1750 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 562, I am new sashing the room. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 483 Suburban villas,..Tight boxes, neatly sash'd, and in a blaze With all a July sun's collected rays. 1885 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* I. 227 The chamber windows were sashed.

Sashay: see SASHY.

Sashed (sæʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. SASH *v.*[2] or *sb.*[2] + -ED.] Furnished or constructed with a sash or with sash-windows. *Sashed door, window* = SASH-*door*, SASH-WINDOW.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 203 ¶ 8 A sashed Roof, which lets in the Sun at all Times. 1762 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 6 Nov., A Freehold modern-built sashed house. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* ix, A sashed-door opening from the house. 1862 SHIRLEY *Nugæ Crit.* i. 8 A..room, whose sashed windows open upon a terraced flower-garden.

Sashen, variant of SAGENE[1].

Sashery (sæ·ʃəri). *rare*—[1]. [f. SASH *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] Sashes collectively.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vii. IV. 594, I have seen staff-officers, distinguished only by their sasheries and insignia, who would not [etc.].

Sashine, variant of SAGENE[1].

Sashing (sæ·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SASH *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] = SASHERY.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. vi. IV. 318 Silver helmets, sashings, housings.

Sashless (sæ·ʃlĕs), *a.* [f. SASH *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Without a sash or glazed frame.

1841 LADY F. HASTINGS *Poems* 159 Within those sashless walls. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 41 The other gable was pierced by a sashless window.

†**Sashoo·n.** *Obs.* exc. *U. S.* Also 7 **sashune, shashune, shasoon.** [Corruptly a. F. *chausson.*] A stuffed leather pad formerly worn inside the leg of a boot; also, see quot. 1875.

1687-8 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1849) II. 113 June 29th, paid Henry Sharpe of Cuckfield for a pair of bootes and sashoones, 13*s.* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 13/2 A Sashune or Shashune, is stuffed or quilted Leather, to be bound about the small of the Leg. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 34 His gouty Hocks, with fleshy Sashoons, Like Horses lookt that has the Fashions. 1694 MOTTEUX tr. *Rabelais* IV. ix. 37 One nam'd his [wench], my Slipper, and she him, my Foot. Another my Boot, she my Shasoon. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sashoons*, Leather put under a Boot about the Small of the Leg. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Sashoon*, a soft leathern pad placed inside a shoe to ease the pressure on a tender spot.

Sa·sh-wi·ndow. [f. SASH *sb.*[2]] A window consisting of a SASH or glazed wooden frame; esp. one having a sash or a pair of sashes made to slide up and down, as distinguished from a casement.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2135/8 Any Person may be furnished with Glasses for Sashwindows..at Mr. Dukes Shop. 1687 J. SMITH *Painting in Oil* xx. (ed. 2) 97 The manner of Painting Cloth, or Sarsnet Shash-Windows. 1699 LISTER *Journ. Paris* 191 The House it self was but building; but it is one of the finest in Paris...He shewed us his great Sash Windows; how easily they might be lifted up and down, and stood at any height; which Contrivance he said he had out of England,..There being nothing of this Poise in Windows in France before. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 162 P 6 Having lately observed several..Shops, that stand upon Corinthian Pillars, and whole Rows of Tin Pots showing themselves, in order to their Sale, through a Sash-Window. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xviii, This maiden of Morton. 'Tis an axe, man—an axe which falls of itself like a sash window. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. xxiv. 164 It was the man servant's business to see that the sash-window was closed.

attrib. 1689 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 107 Materialls and worke of 5 sash window frames. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 95 P 5 All the Sash-Window Shop-keepers in London.

Hence **Sash-windowed** *ppl. a.*, furnished with sash-windows; **Sash-windowing** *vbl. sb.* (*nonce-wd.*), the action of furnishing with sash-windows.

1714 J. MACKY *Journ. Eng.* (1724) II. ix. 129 Handsome Houses, Sash-windowed. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 14 By dint of..sash-windowing and fresh-dooring the ..farm-house has become a very genteel-looking residence.

Sashy, sas(s)hay (sæ·ʃi, sæ·ʃe), *v. U. S. vulgar.* [Mispronunciation of CHASSÉ *v.*] *intr.* To 'chassé' *across*; hence, to move to and fro, 'dance' *round* or *around*.

1850 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii, The Doctor looked as if he should like to rigadoon and sashy across as well as the young one he was talkin' about. 1888 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. 49 What were you doing sasshaying around in his room last night? 1891 B. HARTE *First Fam. Tasajara* II. vii, Ye remember how he sashayed round newspaper offices in Frisco until he could write a flapdoodle story himself?

Sasin (sæ·sin). Also **saisin.** [Nepalese.] The common Indian antelope, *Antilope bezoartica* or *cervicapra*.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 72 The Sasin or Common Antelope. 1842 *P. Parley's Ann.* III. 76 The common antelope or sasin is found over the vast continent of India. 1846 GRAY *Catal. Hodgson's Specim. Brit. Mus.* 26 The Black Antelope, or Sasin. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 14/1 This exquisitely graceful and truly interesting antelope [springbok]..in its nature and habits reminded me of the saisin of India.

Sasine (sē·sin). *Sc. Law.* [Sc. var. of SEISIN (q.v. for obsolete forms), after Law Latin *sasina.*] The act of giving possession of feudal property. Also, 'colloquially, the instrument by which the fact of possession of feudal property is proved' (Bell).

Precept of Sasine; see PRECEPT *sb.* 4 b. *Register of Sasines*: the court at Edinburgh in which all sasines must be recorded within sixty days of execution.

1669 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 609/1 Together with the precept of sasine following vpon the said charter and instrument of sasine following vpon the said precept. 1693 *Sc. Acts Will. & Mary* (1822) IX. 271/2 All Infeftments whether of property or annual-rent, or other Reall Rights, wherupon Sasines for hereafter shall be taken. *Ibid.*, According to the date and priority of the Registrations of the Sasines. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) XVI. 661 *Sasine*, or *Seisin.* 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, Will you take sasine and livery? 1828-40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 28 Sasine or legal possession of the land, was immediately to be given by a brief from Chancery. 1869 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 § 3 Sched. B, A disposition .. bearing date as in the precept of sasine herein-after inserted. 1884 *Law Rep.*, 9 *App. Cases* 305 The trustee's infeftment in the heritable estate was recorded in the register of sasines at Glasgow.

Saskatoon (sæskătū·n). Also **saskootoom.** [Contracted a. Cree *misâskwatomin* (Lacombe, *Dict. de la langue des Cris*), f. *misâskwat* the Amelanchier + *min* fruit, berry.] Canadian name of the shrub or small tree *Amelanchier canadensis* (var. *alnifolia*), and its fruit, also called Juneberry, shad-berry, and service-berry.

1875 EARL OF SOUTHESK *Saskatchewan & Rocky Mts.*, Table of Contents vii, Saskootoom Berries. [Not in the text, which gives the Indian name *Meesasskootoom-meena.*] 1894 C. L. JOHNSTONE *Wint. & Summer Excurs. Canada* 47 The wild saskatoon is a very luscious fruit, like a black currant and bilberry combined. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* July 74 The uncleared bush is thick with ash, maple, cherry, and saskatoon.

Sasne, variant of SAISNE *Obs.*, Saxon.

Sasone, obs. form of SEASON.

Sasoun(e, obs. forms of SEASON.

Sassaby (săsē·bi). Also 9 **sas(s)ayby, sassaybe, sassaybi, sassabye, tsessebe, tsessabi.** [a. Sechwana *tsessébe, tsessábi.*] A large antelope (*Alcelaphus lunata*), a native of S. Africa, sometimes called the Bastard Hartebeest.

1820 S. DANIELL *Sk. S. Africa* 18 The Sasayby is an Antelope, heretofore not described, found in the Booshwana country. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* II. 90/2 They consider it as a kindred species with the Hartebeest of the colonists...The Booshwanas call it Sassaby. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 156/1 Presently I came across two sassaybys, one of which I knocked over. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* vii. 135 The tsessebe. *a* 1875 T. BAINES *Gold Regions S. E. Afr.* (1877) 66 Gee shot a Sassaybe, or bastard hartebeest. 1897 H. H. JOHNSTON *Brit. Centr. Afr.* 326 The tsessebe or sassaby of S. Africa. 1907 W. C. SCULLY *By Veldt & Kopje* 201 Opportunity to lay low koodoo, sable and tsessabi.

Sassafras (sæ·săfræs). Also 7 **saxe-, sasafras, sassa-, saxa-, sarsafrax,** 7-8 **sassafrass,** 8-9 **saxafras.** [a. Sp. *sasafras* (whence Pg. *sassafraz, salsafraz*, F., G. and mod.L. *sassafras*.

It is doubtful whether the Sp. word is a transferred application (which, indeed, would be difficult to account for) of a Sp. representation of L. *saxifraga* SAXIFRAGE, or whether it was adopted from some American language; in the latter case the American word seems to have influenced the form of the Sp. name for saxifrage, which according to the native lexicographers has the forms *saxifraga, fragia, fragua, salsifragia, salsifrex, saxafrax.* The Spanish writer Monardes (1571) regards the Sp. name as adopted from Fr., which seems unlikely; he gives the native Indian name as *pauame.*]

1. A small tree, *Sassafras officinale* (N. O. *Laurineæ*), also called Sassafras Laurel and Ague-tree, with green apetalous flowers and dimorphous leaves, native in North America, where it is said to have been discovered by the Spaniards in 1528.

The name is frequently applied (chiefly with defining word) to trees of other genera which have similar medicinal properties; e.g. Australian or Tasmanian s. (*Atherosperma moschata*), see PLUME-NUTMEG; Brazilian s. (*Nectandra Puchury*), see PICHURIM; Cayenne s. (*Laurelia sempervirens*); Oriental s. (*Sassafras Parthenoxylon*); Swamp. s. (*Magnolia glauca*).

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* II. 46 Of the Tree that is brought from the Florida, whiche is called Sassafras. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. CXXXVI. 1341 The roote of Sassafras hath power to comfort the liuer. 1622 CAPT. SMITH *New Eng. Trials* 260 About three hogsheads of Beuer skins and some Saxefras. 1641 R. EVELIN in *Descr. New Albion* (1648) 21 There are Cedars, Cypresse, and Sassafras. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 47 They afford Sandal-wood, Guiacum, and Sasafras, all of which are so well known. 1684 PENN *Let.* in *Academy* 11 Jan. (1896) 36/3 The trees that grow here are the Mulberry,..chesnut, Ash, Sarsafrax. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 54 The sassafras, so much esteemed in Europe. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 12 Sassafrass is here in great Plenty. 1817-18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 5 The Sassafras in flower, or, whatever else it is called. It resembles the Elder flower a good deal. 1856 BRYANT *Ind. Story* x, And there hangs on the sassafras, broken and bent, One tress of the well known hair. 1887 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia*, etc. (1893) 140 An old field all grown up in sassafras.

2. The dried bark of this tree, used medicinally as an alterative; also an infusion of this.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* II. 50 Many of them that had Tertians did take Water of the Sassafras. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. ii, No Indian drug had ere beene famed, Tabacco, Sassafras not named. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 96 Sax-a-fras per 100 Weight, 05 00. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimney-Sweepers*, A composition, the groundwork of which I have understood to be the sweet wood yclept sassafras. 1837 R. ELLIS *Laws & Regul. Customs* III. 405 Sassafras, is the bark of the *Lauris Sassafras.*

b. *Oil of sassafras* = *sassafras oil* (see 3).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Oil*, The oil of sassafras is peculiarly liable to crystallization in certain circumstances. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 479 Oil of Sassafras is obtained from the root of the laurus sassafras.

3. *Comb.*, as *sassafras-bark, -chips, -pith, -root, -tree, -wood*; **sassafras laurel** = sense 1; **sassafras nut** (see PICHURIM); **sassafras oil,** an oil distilled from the root of the common sassafras, from the bark of the Tasmanian sassafras, or from the sassafras nut; **sassafras soap** *U. S.*, a soap scented with sassafras; **sassafras tea,** an infusion of sassafras formerly used in making saloop.

1681 GREW *Musæum* II. I. i. 180 Being well chewed, it hath the self same Tast with that of *Sassafras-Barque. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 543 [Recipe for 'Athenian Hair-wash'.] *Sassafras chips. 1878 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.* s.v., *S. officinale*, or *Sassafras Laurel, grows in North America. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 30 The *Sassafras nuts of the London shops are the fruit of the Laurus Puceri. 1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 74/1 The sassafras tree, the bark of which yields the costly coelilawang, and all its roots the *sassafras oil. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 631 'Sassafras pith is used in America as a demulcent like quince seeds. 1607 in 3*rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 53/2 Our easiest and richest commodity being *sassafras roots, were gathered up by the sailors. 1875 T. W. HIGGINSON *Hist. U. S.* vii. 51 Gosnold went back to England with a cargo of sassafras-root. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. 256 An old woman with two sentimental daughters, who..always smelt of *sassafras-soap. 1783 M. GARTHSHORE in *Med. Commun.* I. 245 She..drank *sassafras tea. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. CXXXVI. 1341 The *Sassafras tree. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without Hands* xiv. (1868) 3 The insect called *Saturnia promethea*, which lives on the Sassafras-tree. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* 16 One dram or two of *Sassafrax-wood. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 13 Sassafras-wood and China-root, of each ½ oz.

Sassafrid, -ide (sæ·săfrid, -frəid). [f. SASSAFR(AS) + -ID(E used irreg.] A substance extracted from the root-bark of sassafras.

1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 87 Sassafride. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 460 A red colouring matter ..called sassafrid.

Sassafy, Sassage: see SALSIFY, SAUSAGE.

Sassanian (sæsē·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Sasanian.** [f. *Sasan* (Pers. *Sāsān*) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the family of Sasan, whose grandson Ardashir I founded the dynasty which ruled the Persian Empire A. D. 211-651. **b.** *sb.* A member of this family, esp. one of the Sassanian kings.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* V. li. 285 The fall of the Sassanian dynasty. 1855 FERGUSSON *Handbk. Archit.* VIII. i. 371 The Sassanians took up the style where it was left by the builders of Al Hadhr. 1866 *Jrnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* XXXV. I. 133 The kingdom of the Sasanians. 1908 *Athenæum* 28 Mar. 380/1 The causes of the decay of the Byzantine and the Sasanian empires.

Sassanid (sæ·sănid), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8-9 **-ide.** [ad. med.L. *Sassanidæ* pl., f. *Sassan, Sasan*: see prec. + -ID.] **a.** *sb.* A descendant of Sasan (see SASSANIAN), esp. a king of the Sassanian dynasty. **b.** *attrib.* and *adj.* = SASSANIAN *a.*

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1782) I. viii. 256 *note*, The dynasty of the Sassanides. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* xviii. § 7 (1881) 379 The Sassanids..adopted a sacred standard of leather emblazoned with gems. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* I. vi. 101 [Zoroastrianism] held the Persian mind till the end of the Sassanid dynasty.

Sassaparilla, obs. form of SARSAPARILLA.

Sassarara: see SISERARY.

† Sassaro·llo. Also **sassorolla,** anglicized **sassorol.** [a. It. *sassaruolo*, now *sassajuolo*, f. *sasso* rock.] The Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Sassarollo.* 1850 OGILVIE, *Sassorol, Sassorolla.*

† Sasse. *Obs.* Also 7 **soss.** [a. Du. *sas*, of obscure origin. The Fr. *sas* of the same meaning is prob. from Du.] = LOCK *sb.*[2] 9.

1642 SIR C. VERMUYDEN *Disc. Drain. Fens* 22 A Sasse to be set to let water into old Welland to preserve Navigation. 1661-2 PEPYS *Diary* 25 Jan. 1665 DODSON *Design Drain. Fens* 7 The Sosses at Stanground,..and others,..are of singular good use, yet I do affirm, there will be a necessity of having a Soss and Sleuce near Ditton. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 57 A navigable Sasse or Sluice at Standground.

Sassenach (sæ·sĕnæχ). Also 8 **Sassenaugh, Sacsanagh,** 8-9 **Sassenagh, Sassanagh,** 9 **Sacsanach.** [repr. Gael. *Sasunnach* adj. English, sb. an Englishman = Irish *Sasanach, Sacsanach*, f. *Sasan-*, repr. the Teut. ethnic name SAXON. (Cf. Gael. *Sasunn*, Irish *Sasana, Sacsain*, England.)] The name given by the Gaelic inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland to their 'Saxon' or English neighbours. (Sometimes attributed to Welsh speakers: the corresponding Welsh form is *Seisnig.*)

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 3 Sept., The Highlanders have no other name for the people of the low country, but Sassenaugh, or Saxons. 1814 SCOTT *Let. to Morritt* 11 Nov. in *Lockhart*, I believe the frolics one can cut in this loose garb are all set down by you Sassenachs to the real agility of the wearer. *a* 1820 DRENNAN in *Spirit of Nation* (1845) 24 Unarm'd must thy sons and thy daughters await The Sassenagh's lust or the Sassenagh's hate. *a* 1845 T. O. DAVIS *Fontenoy* V, Revenge! remember Limerick! dash down the Sacsanach. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. xiii. 410 *note*, A brave and patriotic Sassenach may be said to have wiped out this stain.

attrib. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ball.* 187 All loved their McClan, save a Sassenach brute, Who came to the Highlands to fish and to shoot.

Sasser, obs. form of SAUCER.

Sasshay: see SASHY.

Sassinate, Sassination, *rare*—°, aphetic forms of ASSASSINATE, ASSASSINATION.

1623 COCKERAM, *Sassination*, murder. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sassinate*: see *Assassinate.*

† Sa·ssinous, *a. Obs.* (Only in Lithgow.) [App. f. It. *sasso* :—L. *saxum* rock.] Rocky, stony.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 88 This sassinous and marine passage. *Ibid.* VIII. 350 Coasting the sassinous shoare of Genoaes reuieroe.

Sassoline (sæ·sŏlīn). *Min.* Also **-lin.** [a. G. *sassolin* (Karsten), f. the name of the Lago del *Sasso* in Tuscany + -IN, -INE[5], with euphonic *l.*] Native boracic acid, found as a crystalline deposit in the hot springs of Tuscany.

1807 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 286 *Sassolin* is the native Boracic Acid of Sasso in Tuscany. 1818 PARKES *Chem. Catech.* (ed. 8) 219 *note*, Sassoline. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 387 Sassoline.

So **Sa·ssolite** = prec.

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 594 Sassolite.

Sassorol(la: see SASSAROLLO.

‖ Sassy (sæ·si). Also **sass, saucy.** [W. African; believed to represent the Eng. SAUCY *a.*] Used *attrib.* in *sassy-tree*, the African tree *Erythrophlœum guineense* (*Cynometra Mannii*); also in *sassy-bark, -wood*, the bark of this tree, a decoction of which is used in West Africa as an ordeal poison.

1856 *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* XVI. 233 Several very perfect specimens of the inflorescence of the Sassy bark tree. *Ibid.*, The Sassy tree. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. s.v. *Erythrophlœum*, The Sassy-tree has a powerfully poisonous bark. 1883 *Jrnl. Chem. Ind.* 29 Mar. 137/2 On Erythrophleine, the Principle of the Sassy Bark. 1894 AMANDA SMITH *Autobiog.* xxvii. 219 She was accused of being a witch, and ..the penalty was to drink the sassy wood. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 464 In both the sass-wood and Calabar bean drink the only chance for the accused lies in squaring the witch-doctor.

† Sa·stange, sa·sting. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **saa stange,** 5 **sastange,** 5-6 **saystang(e, sasteing,** 6 *Sc.* **say styng.** [f. *sa*, northern form of SOE, bucket + STANG, STING *sbs.* Cf. Sw. *såstång*, Da. *saastang.*] A pole passed through the two ears of a bucket, to form a handle by which two might carry it.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 21144 (Fairf.) A wikkid iew wip mikil

wrange, smate him wiþ a saa stange [*Gött.* a walker stange]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 33 He bar a sasteing in a boustous poille. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 319/1 A Sastange (*A.* Saystange), *falanga, tinarium.* 1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVI. (Jam. s.v. SAY *sb.*), Ane cumyeone, ane bukat, say & say styng. 1593 HOLLYBAND *Dict. Fr. & Eng., Vne Courge*, a coulestaffe, a saystang [*misprinted* sayslang].

Sastra, Sastri: see SHASTER, SHASTRI.

Sa sterre, sa storre, obs. forms of SEA-STAR.

Satan (sē'·tăn). Also 3–5 saton, 5 satone; 3–7 sathan, 4, 6 sathane, 5 sathon(e. [a. L. *Satān* (Vulg., only in the O. T.) = Gr. Σατάν or Σατᾶν (once in the LXX and once in the N. T.), a. Heb. שָׂטָן *śāṭān* adversary, one who plots against another, f. *śāṭan* to oppose, plot against.

In the Old Testament the Heb. word ordinarily denotes a human adversary, but in some of the later portions (Job, Chron., Zech., Ps. cix) it occurs (chiefly with definite article) as the designation of an angelic being hostile to mankind, who tempts men to evil and accuses them to God. In both applications the ordinary rendering of the LXX is διάβολος slanderer (see DEVIL *sb.*); the more accurate ἐπίβουλος (plotter) occurs once; the one instance in which the Heb. word is retained (1 Kings xi. 14) relates clearly to a human enemy, but may have been misapprehended. In the Gr. N. T. the ordinary form is Σατανᾶς (once only Σατᾶν), which is followed by the Vulgate and hence by Wyclif (see SATANAS); but the English versions from Tindale onwards (including the Rheims N. T.) all substitute the Heb. form *Satan*. Cf. OF. *Sathan, Satan*, Fr., Sp., It., G. *Satan*.

The pronunciation (sæ'·tăn), which is mentioned disapprovingly by Walker (1828), and is ignored in later Dictionaries, is still not uncommon in British liturgical and pulpit use.]

1. The proper name of the supreme evil spirit, the Devil. See DEVIL *sb.* 1 and LUCIFER 2.

Now always with capital S.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1522 (Gr.) Farað nu..on ece fir, þæt wæs Satane..ʒeʒearwad. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 347 (Gr.) Satan maðelode, sorʒiende spræc. ? *a* 1300 *XI Pains of Hell* 17 in *O. E. Misc.* 147 Wiltu ihere me sathan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12023 þou wreche sede o felunny! Werck o dred, sun o sathan [*Fairf.* saton, *Gött.* sathane, *Trin.* sathone]. *Ibid.* 19884 For-sakes þou sathan [*Gött.* sathane, *Trin.* satone]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 61 For þei seruen sathan her soule shal he haue. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 552 in *Macro Plays* 93 Be Satan, þou art a nobyl knawe to techyn men fyrst fro goode! 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 117 (1877) 93 Dyvers bysshopes of Rome, beynge anna-baptystes, heretyques, scismatiques, and chyldren of Sathan. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 10 To saue vs...Fra Sathanis subteltie and slycht. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 57, I charge thee Sathan, hous'd within this man, To yeeld possession to my holie praiers. 1622 GATAKER *Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 54 No marvaile if Sin and Sathan finde free entrance at will. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 32 Satan take The old women and their shadows! (thus the king Roar'd). *fig.* 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* IV. i, Could he [the modern preacher] but find the point again...Will he discover our new real Satan, whom he has to fight; or go on droning through his old nose-spectacles about old extinct Satans?

¶ b. In the etymological sense of 'adversary', with allusion to Matt. xvi. 23, Mark viii. 33.

1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T., Matt.* xvi. 23 To hinder us in God's work and mens Salvation, is to be Satans to us. O how many Satans then are called reverend Fathers, who silence and persecute men for God's work.

† **2.** In wider sense: A devil. *Obs.*

a 1658 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* V. 67 A thousand Sathans take all good luck. *a* 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 103 We in all likelihood are to possess the very places from which the Satans by transgression fell.

b. Applied to a person or animal as a term of abhorrence. Now *rare.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 507 That villanous abhominable mis-leader of Youth, Falstaffe, that old white-bearded Sathan. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 9 How many Sathans and begotten of the diuell did he tearme them? 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. i. 9, I called her a little Satan. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xi, My mistress will say it was my fault, and she will stand by the grey satans [*sc.* ponies] through thick and thin. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 148 Let me go! you fiends! you Satans! let me go!

3. *attrib.*: **Satan monkey**, the black saki, *Pithecia satanas*; **Satan shrimp**, any 'shrimp' of the family *Luciferidæ*. In recent Dicts.

Satan, obs. form of SATIN.

Satanas (sæ·'tănæs). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 1 **satanus**, (3 *gen.* **Sathanesses**), 4 **saternas**, 4–5 **satanase, satenas, satnace**; 5 **sathonas**, 1–6, 9 **sathanas**. [a. L. (Vulg.) *Satanās*, a. Gr. Σατανᾶς, ad. Jewish Aramaic שָׂטָנָא, שָׂטָנָה *śāṭānā*, emphatic form of *śāṭān* (a. Heb.): see SATAN. Cf. F. *satanas* (OF. also *satenas, sathanas, satrenas*. etc., whence some ME. forms), Pr. *Sathanas, Sadanas*, Sp. *Satanas*, Pg. *Satanaz*, Olt. *Satanasse, Satanaso*.]

1. = SATAN 1.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 371 (Gr.) Satanus swearte. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark iii. 23 Hu mæʒ satanas satanan [*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* sathanas sathana] ut adrifan. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 96 Forsakeð ðore satanas, and ilk sinful dede. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 221 in *O. E. Misc.* 79 From sathanases wrenche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11903 He [Herod] es bileft wit satanas [*Trin.* sathonas], And wit þe traitur sir iudas. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM i. 2170 Ac he hyt hadde wel prime For saternases lyste. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3813 Bot Satanase his sawle mowe synke in-to helle! 1482 *Monk of Evesham* xxi. (Arb.) 50 The wekyd angelle of that deuyl Sathanas. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 b, By the operacyon & werkynge of sathanas. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 13 A very offering of sacrifice vnto Satanas, or rather to Belzebub himselfe the Prince of feendes. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, Speak, Jew—have I not ransomed thee from Sathanas?—have I not taught thee thy *credo*, thy *pater*, and thine *Ave Maria*? 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxvi, Satanas must need help those who serve him.

¶ b. With etymological sense: = SATAN 1 b. *Obs.*

15.. *Exam. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 533/1 The Priest that preacheth not the word of God..he is Antichrist and Sathanas.

† **2.** Applied to a fierce animal. (Cf. SATAN 2 b.)

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* v, We schalle that Satnace [*sc.* a boar] see, Giffe that he be thare. *Ibid.* viii, Were he neuyr so hardy, ʒone Satenas to say, To brittun him, and downe bringe, With-oute any helpinge.

Satanic (sătæ·nik), *a.* [f. SATAN + -IC. Cf. eccl. Gr. Σατανικός, F. *satanique* (16th c.), Sp. *satánico*, Pg., It. *satanico*.]

1. Of or pertaining to Satan.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 392 The faint Satanic Host. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 66 Satanic magic, as its name implies, is a science depending on the agency of the Devil and the inferior evil Jinn. 1881 JAS. GRANT *Cameronians* I. ii. 23 Two large yellow rings..drawn by the sword of an evil Montgomerie, who had trafficked in Satanic influence. 1896 WAITE *Devil-Worship in France* 119 The Grand Master seized one of the fakirs and cut his throat upon the altar, chanting the satanic liturgy amidst imprecations, curses [etc.].

2. Characteristic of or befitting Satan; extremely wicked, diabolical, devilish, infernal.

1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* xxix. 142 A criminal ..who with satanic wickedness had murdered his benefactor. 1804 *Ann. Rev.* II. 196/2 The satanic art of destroying the fetus in the womb. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1907) II. 199 Count Bertram..avows with open atrocity, his Satanic hatred of Imogine's Lord. 1878 J. E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 79 With an ingenuity almost satanic.

3. *Satanic school*: Southey's designation for Byron, Shelley, and their imitators; subsequently often applied to other writers similarly accused of defiant impiety and delight in the portraiture of lawless passion.

1821 SOUTHEY *Vis. Judgement* Pref. iii. 21 Men of diseased hearts and depraved imaginations..hating that revealed religion which..they are unable utterly to disbelieve...The school which they have set up may properly be called the Satanic school; for..their productions..are more especially characterized by a Satanic spirit of pride and audacious impiety. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vi, Teufelsdröckh..has only one of three things which he can next do: Establish himself in Bedlam; begin writing Satanic Poetry; or blow-out his brains. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Satanic-school, Cockney-school, and other Literatures.

Satanical (sătæ·nikăl), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6–7 **sathanicall**. [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.]

† **1.** Resembling Satan, devilish. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 109 b, Allured and intised by a deuillishe wytche, and a Sathanicall enchaunteresse. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 34 A Satanicall swarme of shamelesse shauelynges. 1657 FIENNES *Sp. Parl.* 20 Jan. 12 We doubt not, but that the Prince of those Satanical Spirits..will in God's good time split himself also upon this Rock. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 320 The Church of England, whose ruin this Satanical sect of men seek. 1759 LAW *Lett. Import. Subj.* 195 Adam's turning from God to hear the voice and instruction of his own reason and imagination, and the suggestions of a satanical serpent, was [etc.].

2. Of or pertaining to Satan: = SATANIC *a.* 1.

1590 H. HOLLAND *Treat. agst. Witchcraft* (title-p.), The most certen meanes ordained of God, to discouer, expell, and to confound all the Sathanicall inuentions of Witchcraft and sorcerie. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* vii. 11. 84 Seeing these Magicians by their Satanicall craft do so strongly deceiue. 1779 W. ALEXANDER *Hist. Women* (1782) II. 98 Those ideas of sorceries, witchcrafts, and satanical possessions with which the minds of the people were infected. 1887 B. O'REILLY *Life Leo XIII* 354 They felt these satanical festivities to be directed against Christ Himself.

3. Of things, actions, or qualities: = SATANIC *a.* 2.

1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 138 b, All cursed crimes and sleights satanicall. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 2 Such be the Satanicall opinions of this hell-borne age. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iv. 410 Self-Righteousness and Satanical Pride. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xxi. (1833) 411 Iago's character..is insufferably monstrous and satanical. 1907 A. C. BENSON *Altar Fire* 153 A Satanical sort of pride —the pride of correct information.

Hence **Satanically** *adv.*, in a satanic manner; † **Satanicalness**, the quality of being satanic.

1606 *Proceedings agst. Garnet* S 4 b, Hall the Iesuit..in stead of..a sence of the wickednesse of the Treason, fell.. Sathanically to argue for the iustification of the same. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xix. (1713) 216, I was only a going to add something of the Madness of the Heathenish Priests, as the last Note of the Satanicalness of their Religion. 1824 *Examiner* 276/2 Satanically false. 1906 H. B. SWETE *Apocalypse* xvi. 13 *note*, Ψευδοπροφήτης..is used in the N. T. of ..persons Satanically inspired.

Satanisco, obs. form of SATINISCO.

Satanism (sē'·tăniz'm). [f. SATAN + -ISM. Cf. F. *satanisme* (= sense 3 below).]

1. A satanic or diabolical disposition, doctrine, spirit, or contrivance.

1565 HARDING *Confut. Jewel* II. iii. 42 b, Meaning the time when Luther first brinced to Germanie the poisoned cuppe of his heresies, blasphemies, and sathanismes. 1639 VISCT. FALKLAND *Elegy on Donne* Poems (Grosart) 36 So mild was Moses countenance, when he pray'd For them whose Satanisme his power gainsaid. 1855 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud., Cowper* (1879) I. 285 The whole burning soul breaks away into what is well called Satanism—into wildness, and bitterness, and contempt. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *Ess.* 2 That sort of social revolution which may be called Satanism, as it seeks, not to reconstruct, but to destroy. 1900 A. LANG in *Daily News* 27 June 6/2 With such a mixture of..loyalty, mysterious Satanism, and reputation for conquests over her sex..Bothwell must have fascinated the Queen.

2. The characteristics of the 'Satanic school'.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 445 His Lakeism or his Satanism will not save the piece from being damned, if it be stupid. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 524 This scene of Byron's is really sublime, in spite of its Satanism.

3. The worship of Satan, alleged to have been practised in France in the latter part of the 19th century; the principles and rites of the Satanists.

1896 A. LILLIE *Worship Satan in Mod. France* Pref. 18 There are five temples of Satanism in Paris itself...Satanism has the *Bulletin du Diable* and other organs.

Satanist (sē'·tănist). Also 6–7 **sathanist**(e. [f. SATAN + -IST. Cf. F. *Sataniste*.]

1. One who is regarded as an adherent of Satan. Now *rare.*

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* H j b, The Anabaptistes, with infinite other swarmes of Satanistes. 1565 HARDING *Confut. Jewel* II. ix. 81 b, Be ye Zuinglians, Arians,..Anabaptistes, Caluinistes, or Sathanistes? 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* H 4 b, By nature an Athiest, By arte a Machiuelist, In summe a Sathanist, loe here his hire. 1662 HIBBERT *Body of Div.* I. 16 By profession a Christian, by conversation a Satanist. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 570 The aboriginal races of just men distinguished themselves by this very title, Alibenim, theogonists, or God's sons, from the atheistical Sathanists, or evil-seekers.

2. A Euchite. 1874 *Blunt's Dict. Sects*, etc. 518.

3. One of a sect of Satan-worshippers alleged to have existed in France in the latter part of the 19th century.

1896 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Life* xxi. (1901) 323 There are two sects, the Satanists and the Luciferists—and they pray to these names as Gods. 1897 J. MCCABE *Twelve Yrs. in Monast.* v. 98 It is believed on the Continent that apostate priests frequently consecrate for the Satanists and Free-masons.

Satanistic (sē'·tăni·stik), *a. rare.* [f. SATANIST + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the Satanists; adhering to Satanism (sense 3).

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Dec. 1/3 Huysmans declares that there existed a Satanistic Society in America some years ago. *Ibid.* 2/1 The case of a nun which caused such excitement in 1865 is a strange one. This nun, who had been corrupted by a Satanistic priest when fifteen years of age, was placed in a convent.

Satanity (sătæ·nĭti). *rare.* [f. SATAN + -ITY.] Satanic conduct or character.

1864 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* liv. (1889) 202 The author of such Satanity. 1903 *Protestant Observer* Dec. 190/1 This charge of Satanity is illustrated by the following facts.

Satanize (sē'·tănəiz), *v. rare.* [f. SATAN + -IZE.] *trans.* To render like Satan; to make into, or like a devil.

1598 TOFTE *Alba*, etc. (1880) 132 Oh let not Sinne my Soule still Satanise. 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* vi. 71 How fearfully was he [*sc.* Judas] satanized and transformed into a breathing devil. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 592 [Satan] Look'd back upon France; for he sympathized With a nation so thoroughly Satanized.

Hence **Satanized** *ppl. a.*

1610 BARRET *Sacred Warre* in Southey *Roderick* (1814) Notes p. xiv, In all parts Violence had vogue, and on sathanized earth Fraud, Mischief, Murder martialled the camp. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. vi. § 5 Nothing but Satanized affection deeply rooted in the heart could afford such store of malignant nutriment as this hellish slip must be fed with. 1891 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 186 A thirst for blood is the characteristic of the brutalised, or rather satanised man.

Satanology (sē'·tăno·lŏdʒi). [f. SATAN + -(O)LOGY.] That part of knowledge which relates to Satan.

1862 W. K. TWEEDIE *Satan as revealed in Script.* 42 In a Satanology the portion of revelation which has now been considered is the foundation of all our knowledge. 1883 EDERSHEIM *Life Jesus* II. 752 The difference between the Satanology of the Rabbis and of the New Testament is, if possible, even more marked than that in their Angelology.

Satanophany (sē'·tăno·făni). [f. SATAN, after *theophany*: see -PHANY.] The appearing, or visible manifestation, of Satan.

1864 WEBSTER (cites *O. A. Brownson*). 1892 *Nation* 4 Feb. 91/1 As to the ass,..it is believed that he brays because he has a vision of Satan, a Satanophany. 1896 A. J. GORDON *Biog.* 325 No theory can explain this grotesque satanophany, this incredible perversion of early Christianity.

Satanophobia (sē'·tănŏlō·u·biă). [f. Gr. Σατανᾶς SATAN + -φοβία: see -PHOBIA.] Morbid dread of Satan.

1860 READE *Cloister & H.* xcvi, Impregnated as he was with Satanophobia, he might perhaps have doubted still whether this distressed creature, all woman, and nature, was not all art, and fiend. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Satanophobia*, a morbid or insane dread of the devil.

Satanry (sē'·tănri). *rare*—°. [f. SATAN + -RY, after DEVILRY.] 'Satanic conduct or wiles; a course or action appearing as if inspired by Satan' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Satanship (sē'·tănʃip). *rare.* [f. SATAN + -SHIP.] The quality of being a Satan.

1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* IV. 93 One main act of his Satanship is express in accusing us before God. 1884 HELEN MATHERS *Eyre's Acquittal* I. vii. [They] felt their conviction of his Satanship rudely shaken.

Satara (sătā··ră). [Named from *Satara*, a town and district in the Bombay Presidency, India.] A woollen cloth (see quots.).

1878 BARLOW *Hist. & Princ. Weaving* 442 *Sataras*, ribbed cloths highly dressed, lustred and hot pressed. 1888 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 662/1 Of cloths milled and cropped bare there are venetians, sataras, and diagonals. 1904 *Woollen Draper's Terms* in *Tailor & Cutt.* 4 Aug. 480/1 Satara: A peculiar make of broadcloth, rather heavy, and having a horizontal rib to it.

Satchel (sæ·tʃĕl), *sb.* Forms: 4 (cachel), sachil, 4–7 sachel, 5 cechelle, secchell, 5–7 sachell, 6 sechell, setchel(1, 6–7 satchell, (7 setchal), 5– satchel. [a. OF. *sachel*:—L. *saccellus*, dim. of *saccus* SACK *sb.*[1]]

1. A small bag; *esp.* a bag for carrying school-books, with or without a strap to hang over the shoulders.

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 316/233 Ne tit þe purs ne cachel þin mete þer-in to bere. *a*1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXXVIII. 11 My substance..is anence the & with the..not in sachelis [*v.r.* sacles]. *c*1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 177 [*Luke* x. 4] Nyle 3e, he seiþ, bere sachil ne scrippe, ne hosis, ne shoon. *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 191 He tuke a sachell full of sylver. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 64 Cechelle, *saccellus*. *c*1440 *York Myst.* XXVII. 172 Satcheles I will 3e haue. ?*a*1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 123 My secchell to shake oute To sheapardes am I not shamed. 1552 HULOET, Bagges for money, or sachelles. 1557 SEAGER *Sch. Virtue* 109 in *Babees Bk.* 338 This done, thy setchell and thy bokes take, And to the scole haste see thou make. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 b, Refreshing themselues with such victualles as they haue brought with them in their satchel. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* s.v., A sachell, or great bag for money, *fiscus*. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 145 Then, the whining Schoole-boy with his Satchell..creeping..Vnwillingly to schoole. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 21 And fine flour twenty measures at the least In good thick leather satchels let me have. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 336/1 A Setchal or Leather Bag..is the Plow Mans Pantry, in which his Provision is put, and carried on his Shoulder. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* vi. 22 At the other end [of a beam] they hang a leathern bag or satchel of gravel. 1709 SWIFT *Descript. Morn.* 18 And School-Boys lag with Satchels in their Hands. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, The young traveller..had at his back a satchel, which seemed to contain a few necessaries. 1862 BORROW *Wales* (ed. 2) 200 A small leather satchel with a lock and key. 1888 ANNA K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* ii, She took nothing but a little hand satchel.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

*c*1450 *Mankind* 128 in *Macro Plays* 6 Now opyn yowur sachell with Laten wordis, Ande sey me þis in clerycall manere! 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (GROSART) II. 297 Lewes the French king, one of the busiest, ielousest, and craftiest Princes, that euer raigned in that kingdome, might haue borrowed the Foxes Satchell of him. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. i. 234 The chowle or croppe adhering unto the lower side of the bill, and so descending by the throat; a bagge or sachell very observable, and of capacity almost beyond credit.

2. *attrib.*, as *satchel cutter*; †**satchel date**, the fruit of the †**satchel palm**, *Manicaria saccifera*.

1900 *Daily Chron.* 23 Jan. 11/2 *Satchel Cutter wanted. 1659 LOVELL *Herbal* 516 The *Sachell date, *Palma saccifera*. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 48 The codde of the *Sachell palm.

Satchel (sæ·tʃĕl), *v. rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* a. To make a 'bag' of (game). b. To fasten (something) on one, as in a satchel. In quot. *fig.*

1828 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 342, I contrived to satchel 48 partridges (besides 3 brace lost). 1839 LANDOR *Andrea of Hungary* IV. ii. 70 Since thy services may soon Be call'd for, satchel on thee my experience, Then set about thy work.

Satchelled (sæ·tʃĕl'd), *a.* [f. SATCHEL *sb.* + -ED[2].] Having or carrying a satchel.

1749 *Whitehall Evening Post* No. 535 To Country School, the satchel'd Youths are sent. 1835 DOBELL *Sonn., Amer.*, Back, and see Thy satchelled ancestor! Behold, he runs To mine, and, clasped, they tread the equal lea To the same village-school.

Sate (sēit), *v.* Also 7 satt. [App. a pseudo-etymological alteration of SADE *v.*, after L. *sat*, *satis* enough: cf. SATIATE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To fill or satisfy to the full (with food); to indulge or gratify to the full by the satisfaction of any appetite or desire.

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i, A pious..sonne, Who ..bringing..home Dried figs, Dates, Almonds,..sates the want Therewith of those, who, from a tender plant, Bred him a man for armes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 714 Wherefore did Nature powre her bounties forth,..But all to please, and sate the curious taste? *a*1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 84 So that no outward benefits may glut and satt our hearts. 1713 JOHNSON *Guard.* No. 8 P 4 As his resentment was sated. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i, Artaxes' friends..Were swept away by banishment or death, In throngs and sated the devouring grave. 1791 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 303 When your curiosity is sated with the Rhine. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lvi. VII. 199 He had sated his vengeance. 1876 MERIVALE *Rom. Triumvirates* vii. 144 He..sated the populace with largesses.

b. To surfeit or cloy by gratification of appetite or desire; to glut, satiate.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 56 So Lust, though to a radiant Angell link'd, Will sate it selfe in a Celestiall bed, & prey on Garbage. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 522 P 1 They are immediately sated with Possession, and must necessarily fly to new Acquisitions of Beauty. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* III. i, 'Twas time to get another, When her first fool was sated with her beauties. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 161 Sated to nausea, as we have been with the doctrines of Sentimentality. 1833 SIR R. PEEL in *Croker Papers* 29 Sept. (1884) II. 214, I saw some extracts from it in the newspapers, which sated my appetite for such reading. 1876 BLACK *Madcap V.* xv, Violet, who was not sated with the ordinary sights and occupations of London life, was enjoying herself thoroughly.

c. To wear *away* through satiety. *nonce-use.*

1817 BYRON *Lam. Tasso* ii, Successful love may sate itself away, The wretched are the faithful.

¶ d. *intr.* To pall (*on*). *rare*[−1].

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* III. 75 A passion, which ..had no chance of sating on his imagination.

†2. *trans.* To saturate. (Cf. SATIATE *v.* 3.) *Obs.*

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 60 These Waters seemed to me more brisk and sprightly, and better sated with Mineral Juices than any I have tasted in England. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 26 The Banks of the Thame are so well sated with some kind of acid. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. *Oxford* 397 A spring strongly sated with a kind of salt.

Hence **Sa·ting** *ppl. a.*

1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clix, There is more In such a survey than the sating gaze Of wonder pleased.

Sate: see SEAT, SET *v.*, SIT *v.*

Sated (sēi·téd), *ppl. a.* [f. SATE *v.* + -ED[1].] Glutted, satiated; cloyed or surfeited by indulgence of appetite.

1699 POMFRET *Love Triumphant* 262 Who, when the sated Appetite is tir'd, Even loath the Thoughts of what they once admir'd. 1745 COLLINS *Ode to Lady* 48 Till William seek the sad retreat, And bleeding at her sacred feet, Present the sated sword. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcvii, The sated reader turns from it with a kind of literary nausea. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* VIII. 217 Till Kayoshk, the sated seagulls, From their banquet rose with clamour. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* v. 129 To prevent the palling of so much luxury on sated senses.

Hence **Sa·tedness.**

1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rew. & Punishm.* i. 51 Do their sophisms quite convince them? Is all within at ease? Know they no satedness and disgust?

Sateen (sătī·n). [Altered f. SATIN, after *velveteen*.] A cotton or woollen fabric with a glossy surface like that of satin.

1878 BARLOW *Hist. & Princ. Weaving* 442 *Sateens*, light cloths for ladies' dresses. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. x. 206 Loose flowing tea-gowns of old gold sateen.

Satefy, variant of SATIFY *v. Obs.*

Sateless (sēi·tlĕs), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. SATE *v.* + -LESS.] Not to be sated, insatiable. Const. *of.*

1701 CIBBER *Love Makes Man* II. ii, Happy he..that unconfin'd may lave and wanton there in sateless Draughts of ever-springing Beauty. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 512 His sateless thirst of pleasure, gold, and fame. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 519 And Ate, his fell bride, sateless of blood. 1864 NEALE *Seaton. Poems* 71 The thirst Of sateless Moloch.

Satell, obs. form of SETTLE *v.*

‖ **Satelles** (sătē·līz). *Obs.* Pl. **satellites** (sătē·litīz). [L. *satelles*, *satellit-*.] Used by some writers of the 17th and early 18th c. for SATELLITE 2.

1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 246 The other three Satellites in the time of this Eclipse, made by the Satelles, were Westwards of the Body of Jupiter. *a*1708 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* II. (1712) 337, I behold him there surrounded with an innumerable Company of holy Angels, as so many fixed Stars, and of glorified Saints as Planets enlightened by him; all his *Satellites* or Servants waiting upon him. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 65. 2/2 The Moon is the Earth's Satelles. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 42 Or ask of yonder argent fields above, Why Jove's Satellites are less than Jove?

Sate·llitary, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. SATELLITE + -ARY, after *planetary*.] Belonging to satellites.

1867 GLENNIE in *Athenæum* 21 Dec. 855/1 New Laws of Planetary and Satellitary Motions.

Satellite (sæ·tĕləit). Also 6 -yte, 7 -it. [a. F. *satellite* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *satellit-em* (nom. *satelles*) attendant or guard. Cf. SATELLES.]

1. An attendant upon a person of importance, forming part of his retinue and employed to execute his orders. Often with reproachful connotation, implying subserviency or unscrupulousness in the service. (Occas. with allusion to sense 2.)

This sense is not in J., and save for quot. *a*1548 does not appear in our material until near the end of the 18th c. Quot. 1656 follows Cooper's explanation of L. *satelles*, supplemented from Cotgrave's definition of the Fr. word.

*a*1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 52 b, Environed with his satellytes and yomen of the crowne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Satellite*, one retained to guard a mans person; a Yeoman of the Guard; a Serjeant, Catch-pole, one that attacheth. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 147 Our most august visitant.., followed by his naked train of satellites. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xiii. 159 Boswell was..made happy by an introduction to Johnson, of whom he became the obsequious satellite. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxii, Legree encouraged his two black satellites to a kind of coarse familiarity with him. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* x, The satellites of the nursery. 1864 KIRK *Chas. Bold* II. IV. iii. 384 Tyrants, encompassed by their armed satellites.

2. A small or secondary planet which revolves round a larger one. (See also SATELLES.)

[The L. *satellites* was first applied in 1611 by Kepler to the secondary planets revolving round Jupiter, recently discovered by Galileo, who had named them *Sidera Medicæa*.]

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 71 A Satellite of Jupiter. *Ibid.*, The shadow of the Satellit between Jupiter and the Sun. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* viii. (1693) 14 Jupiter and Saturn.. have many Satellites about them. *a*1721 KRILL *Maupertius' Diss.* (1734) 33 The Moon is the Earth's Secondary or Satellite. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 766 We can spare The splendour of your lamps; they but eclipse Our softer satellite. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* viii. (1872) 187 We have no satisfactory evidence that the satellites of Jupiter and Saturn turn always the same face towards their primary.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 June, He, too, like a portentous comet, has risen again above the court horizon... Who are those two satellites that attend his motions? 1800 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 49 A great deal is yet to be done to prevent our becoming a mere satellite to a mighty power. 1827 MACAULAY *Ess., Machiav.* (1897) 43 The governments of the Peninsula ceased to form an independent system. Drawn from their old orbit by the attraction of the larger bodies which now approached them, they became mere satellites of France and Spain. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1845) 377 The archipelago is a little world within itself, or rather a satellite attached to America. 1887 OLIVIA M. STONE (*title*) Tenerife and its six satellites. 1891 FREEMAN *Sk. fr. French Trav.* 126 At Poitiers the interest of the cathedral church is far smaller than that of its satellite the baptistery.

3. The name of a. a moth; b. a humming-bird.

1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 62 The Satellite (*Glæa Satellitia*, Stephens) appears in September. 1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* III. Pl. 142 *Calothorax Calliope*. Mexican Satellite. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 65 One of the largest species is the Satellite (*Scopelosoma satellitia*), which sometimes expands nearly two inches.

4. Geom. *Satellite line, point*: see quot. 1857. Also used simply = *satellite line.*

1857 CAYLEY *Curves of 3rd Order* in *Coll. Papers* II. 383 It is a well-known theorem, that if at the points of intersection of a given line with a given cubic tangents are drawn to the cubic, these tangents again meet the cubic in three points which lie in a line; such line is in the present memoir termed the *satellite line* of the given line, and the point of intersection of the two lines is termed the *satellite point* of the given line; the given line in reference to its satellite line or point is termed the *primary line*. 1873 SALMON *Higher Plane Curves* (ed. 2) v. § 207 A case where the satellite cuts the sides of the asymptotic triangle.

5. *Satellite vein*: a vein that accompanies an artery (mod.L. *venæ satelles*, *vena comes*).

1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 126 On the upper third of the fore-arm, the artery..has always two satellite veins. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 816/2 The satellite vein of the right subclavian artery. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Sa·tellited**, attended *by* a satellite.

1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 92 A dingy tramp, satellited by a frowsy woman and a pariah dog.

Satellitic (sætélĭ·tik), *a.* [f. SATELLITE + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a satellite or lesser planet.

1823 *Monthly Mag.* LV. 8 One..who..has seen the stony masses, the aërolites, fall from satellitic bodies. 1882 STALLO *Concepts Mod. Physics* 277 The stellar, solar, planetary, satellitic, and meteoric systems.

transf. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* II. App. ix. 384 Small satellitic shafts [*sc.* of a clustered column].

Satelli·tious, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. L. *satellitī-um* (see next) + -OUS.] Consisting of, having the character of, satellites.

1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. 208 Their Satellitious Attendance, their Revolutions about the Sun [etc.]. 1817 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 499 A halo of their brilliance may overspread even the satellitious vapours that strive to ornament their course.

‖ **Satelli·tium.** *Astrol. Obs.* [L. = body-guard, retinue, f. *satelles* SATELLES.] ? A retinue or company (of planets).

1669–96 AUBREY *Brief Lives, Hobbes* (1898) I. 328 His horoscope is Taurus, having in it a *satellitium* of 5 of the 7 planets. It is a maxime in astrologie—vide Ptol. Centil.—that a native that hath a *satellitium* in his ascendent becomes more eminent in his life then ordinary.

Saten, Satenas, obs. ff. SATIN, SATANAS.

Sater, obs. form of PSALTER.

Saterday, Sateresday, etc., obs. ff. SATURDAY.

Saterick(e, obs. forms of SATIRIC.

Saterion, obs. variant of SATYRION.

Saternas, obs. form of SATANAS.

†**Saternight.** *Obs.* [OE. *Sæterniht*, f. *Sætern*: see SATURDAY.] The night before Saturday, Friday night.

*c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 216 His lic læg on byrgene þa sæter-niht and sunnan-niht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11650 In a lammasse niȝt, saternist þat was.

Satersday, obs. form of SATURDAY.

Satesfet, -fit: see SATISFY *v.*

Sateyn, obs. form of SATIN.

Sathan, etc.: see SATAN, etc.

Sati: see SUTTEE. **Satia**: see SETTEE (ship).

Satiabi·lity. *rare*[−1]. In 6 sas-. [f. next + -ITY.] Capability of being satiated.

1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 586 Thare is plentie of all plesouris perfyte..; Withouttim hunger, Sasiabilitie.

Satiable (sē·ʃiăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. **satiābil-is*, f. *satiāre* to SATIATE: see -ABLE.]

1. That can be satiated.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 3 Satiable, *satiabilis*. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VII. 217 War, Scarce satiable by fate's last death-draught. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. II. 346 There are some soils which swallow up manure, with, so to speak, no satiable appetite.

†2. ?Satisfactory, plausible. (Cf. SATISFIABLE a.)

1592 GREENE *Philomela* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 156 Though my wife returned a taunting letter to him openly, yet she might send him sweete lines secretlye: her satiable answere, was but a cloak for the rayne.

Hence **Sa·tiableness** *rare*[−0]. †**Sa·tiably** *adv.*, so as to satiate.

1627–8 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxi. Wks. (1677) 205 The daily Laboring Man sells both his strength, his time, and his ease, for that alone which will not satiably content his craving Belly. 1888 OGILVIE, *Satiableness.*

Satiate (sē·ʃiĕt), *pple.* and *ppl. a.* Now *rare.* Forms: 5–6 saciat(t, -ate, sacyat(t, -atte, -ate, (6 saceat, satyett), 6–9 satiate. [ad. L. *satiāt-us*, pa. pple. of *satiāre* to satiate, f. *satis* enough.]

† **a.** *pple.* Equivalent to the later *satiated*, pa. pple. of SATIATE *v. Obs.* **b.** *ppl. a.* Satiated, filled to repletion, glutted, gratified to the full. Const. *with*, † *of*; also † with inf.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 403 þai war saciatt & fulfyllid þer-with as it had bene with meate or drynk. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 304 in *Macro Plays* 12 My soull ys well sacyatt With þe mellyfluose doctryne of þis worshyppfull man. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 55 And whan messyre Iaques had redde the letter, he coude not be sacyat of redyng, he took so grete playsyr therin. 1526 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 338 He..made suche good relacyon of the Kings Highnes and of your Grace that they could not be sacyate to talke with hym. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1221/2 Neuer was he saciate of hearinge his owne prayse. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. B 3, When the Sodomits, and Gomorreans had filled vp the measures of their iniquitie, and saciate themselues in sinne. 1593 DRAYTON *Idea* No. 31 Euery drudge doth dull our satiate eare. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xlvi. 10 The sword shal deuoure, and it shall be satiate, and made drunke with their blood. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* Pref., Their furious desire of revenge must be satiate. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 179 Let us not slip th' occasion, whether scorn Or satiate fury yield it from our Foe. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* I. i. 9 Our Gen'rals now, retir'd to their Estates, Hang their old Trophies o'er the Garden gates, In Life's cool Ev'ning satiate of Applause. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 410 [491] Satiate with power, of fame and wealth possess'd. 1889 G. GISSING *Nether World* I. xii. 262 The gratuity expected from each guest as he rose satiate.

Satiate (sē·ʃiĕt), *v.* Also 6–7 saciat(e, 7 satiat. [f. L. *satiāt-*, ppl. stem. of *satiāre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To fill, satisfy (with food). Hence *gen.*, to gratify to the full (a person or his desires). Const. *with*, rarely † *of*, † *in*. Now *rare* (the prevailing use being in sense 2).

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 954 *Saouler*, to saciate. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 30 To thentent that ..the boylynge heate of her malicious harte mighte be fully saciated with hys innocent bloude. 1571 BUCHANAN *Admonitioun* Vernac. Writ. (1892) 35 To that fyne yat..Thay may saciat yair cruell hartis of blude, yair obstinat will of vengeance. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xxxi. 14, I will satiate the soule of the priests with fatnesse. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 221 Able to satiate the most couetous. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 254 A Lyon, satiated with Food. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* II. x, My starv'd revenge Thy blood alone can satiate! 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. IV. vii. 247 The idea that satiating the servants of the public with wealth is a secret for rendering them honest. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. xi. 268 A terrible enmity which nothing could satiate short of life. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xx. 258 The outcast son tried to satiate his appetite with husks.

absol. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. v. XXV. 162 Hee had so far transgressed the Fannian Law, which allows a chirping cup to satiat, not to surfet. 1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Religion* (1850) I. 242 It is then that, cleared of all suffusion, we shall contemplate that fulness, which can only satiate without satiety.

2. To gratify beyond one's natural desire; to weary or disgust by repletion; to glut, cloy, surfeit.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* 84 The Carpe..quickly satiateth the stomacke. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. i. (1739) 4 The King being rather satiated than satisfied with Victory and Honour, returned home to enjoy what he had. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 248 But if much converse perhaps Thee satiate, to short absence I could yeild. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 167 (1699) 297 Whatever that [sc. novelty] presents, they are presently eager to have a Taste of, and are as soon satiated with it. 1780 BURKE *Econ. Reform* Wks. III. 258 Quite fatigued and satiated with this dull variety. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 187 Here at Venice there are paintings to satisfy, nay satiate connoisseurship herself. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iv. § 19. 109 They only satiate the eye. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xvii. 134 But Newton was satiated with fame.

absol. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 214 Sweeter thy discourse is to my eare Then Fruits of Palm-tree..; they satiate and soon fill. 1836 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1877) I. 33 She longed for ..a love that should never satiate.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*). To become satiated. *rare.*

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 162 The eye of taste would never tire, nor the soul of sensibility satiate.

† **3.** *trans.* To saturate. *Obs.* (Cf. SATE *v.* 2.)

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 175 The colour argued it abounding with Sulphureous or Oily parts, and the weight, that it was highly satiated with the Saline. 1680 BOYLE *Produc. Chem. Princ.* II. 93 A quantity of Calcin'd Corall, sufficient to satiate the Acid Corpuscles. 1704 NEWTON *Optics* (1721) 352 Why does not Salt of Tartar draw more Water out of the Air than in a certain Proportion to its quantity, but for want of an attractive Force after it is satiated with Water? 1791 MACIE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 373 A piece of Tabasheer..was first let satiate itself with distilled water.

Hence **Sa·tiated** *ppl. a.*, **Sa·tiating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Saoulement*, a glutting, filling, saciating, cloying with. 1657 *Divine Lover, Holy Exerc.* 304 Loue is all kind of Prayer by which our soule tends towards God as her only All, and satiatinge end. 1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* 85 Buying of Land is the result of a full and satiated Gain. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 344 Enabling some to squander the bread of provinces in a profusion of satiating pleasures. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 251 Her loveliness..is such a fulness of bloom, so luxuriant, so satiating.

Satiation (sēi·ʃiē·ʃən). [ad. L. **satiātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *satiāre* to SATIATE.] The action of satiating or fact of being satiated.

1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 4 As if Satlatíon were the Usher of diseases. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* III. vi. (1719) 140 What do we get by these Gim-cracks? Satiation of our Lusts. 1811 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* x, From my earliest youth, before it was quenched by complete satiation, curiosity.. was the passion by which all the other emotions of my mind were intellectually organized. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 54 The same satiation never can take place, which too frequently deadens the genial enjoyment of those who have a surfeit of books, and a monotony of leisure. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 244 Clinging to the hope that Alexander, when possessed of the three southern capitals and the best part of the Persian empire, might have reached the point of satiation.

Satiety (sătəi·ĕti). Forms: 6–7 sacietie, -ty, (6 -tee), satietie, 6– satiety. [ad. F. *satiété* (12th c. *sazieted*, 16th c. *sacieté*), ad. L. *satietātem* abundance, satiety, f. *satis* enough.

The pronunciation (sāsəi·ĕti) is mentioned by Walker (1828) as all but universally current in his time, and as accepted by Sheridan and other orthoepists. His protest against it, as contrary to all analogy, was effectual: the condemned pronunciation is now quite obsolete.]

1. The state of being glutted or satiated with food; the feeling of disgust or surfeit caused by excess of food.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 40 b, The dyner moderate, that is to say, lasse than sacietie or fulness of bealy. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 104 Dooth not the impletion and sacietie of meates and drinks prouoke lust? *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (E. E. T. S.) 215 They began to feele some sacietie of theire ordinarie simple sustenance. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xv, His cooks had a hundred different ways of dressing it, to solicit even satiety. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 407 And quaff your wine Delicious, 'till satiety ensue. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xix. 388 It is always a case of famine or satiety.

b. *gen.* The condition of having any appetite or desire gratified to excess; hence, weariness or dislike *of* (an object of desire) caused by gratification or attainment.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 108 b, It offendeth and werieth mens eares with saciety. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 291 Where desire neuer wanted satisfaction, nor satisfaction neuer bred sacietie. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 231 When the Blood is made dull with the Act of Sport, there should be a game to enflame it, and to giue Satiety a fresh appetite. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 5 Of knowledge there is no sacietie, but satisfaction and appetite are perpetually interchangeable. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 101 He never apprehended a greater censure than a sequestration from all public employments, in which it is probable he had abundant satiety. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 216 Thy words with Grace Divine Imbu'd, bring to thir sweetness no satietie. 1669 CLARENDON *Ess.* in *Tracts* (1727) 127 Satiety of all things naturally produces a satiety of life itself. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 412 ¶ 3 That Satiety we are apt to complain of in our usual and ordinary Entertainments. 1820 SHELLEY *To Skylark* 80 Thou lovest—but ne'er knew love's sad satiety. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. iv. 192 The eager curiosity of the natives has been glutted by satiety. 1865 SEELEY *Ecce Homo* iv. (ed. 8) 36 Prosperous villany carried to an honoured grave in the fulness of years and in the satiety of enjoyment.

† **c.** In favourable sense: The condition of being filled or fully gratified; full attainment of an object of desire. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 6 Where there is euer hungar and euer thurst, and blessed sacietie & fulnes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 39 Thus fairely shee attempered her feast, and pleasd them all with meete satiety. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 45 In Gods presence is the saciety of everlasting delight. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 387 ¶ 12 Which..will produce a Satiety of Joy, and an uninterrupted Happiness. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* IX. 208 *note*, There being no Satiety of Knowledge in this life, we may hope for future opportunities when [etc.].

d. *To satiety*: to an amount or degree which satisfies or gluts desire. [= L. *ad satietatem.*]

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 189 They must be suffered to eat of them to saciety. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 59 To full satiety of grief she mourns. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Sel. Wks. I. 215 The Colonies not only gave, but gave to satiety. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* III. iii. 31 They had miracles even to satiety. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* xii. 325 Their earthly nature..is filled to satiety with earth's good things.

2. A sufficiency or abundance. [So in L.] *rare.*

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* II. 68 This, of himselfe all Fulnesse, all Satietie, Is then the sole Incomprehensible Deitie. 1884 LUSHINGTON in Knight *Mem. J. Nichol* (1896) 222 Here is a satiety or (nimiety) for you, about a man, for whom I have a loving admiration.

Sa·tify, *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5 satefy, 6 satyfy, satifie. [a. OF. *satifier, satefier*, var. of *satisfier*: see SATISFY.] *trans.* = SATISFY.

Still locally used in Scotland, in the form *sett'fie.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 1917 Hit is gret reson ye were satefied Off your ful good will don And applied. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. xi. 11 Juno,..Not satyfyit of hir auld fury nor wroik. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* Prol. (S. T. S.) I. 4 Be sum meretis pare Ire war satifyit. *Ibid.* II. 285 For quhen thir pepill maye nocht be gottin to satify his crewelte, he behufit finallie to rage in him selff. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 271 It is worse for a man to break good laws to..satisfy his sensual appetite. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* (S. T. S.) II. 454 To satisfie his askeng.

Satin (sæ·tin), *sb.* (and *a.*) Forms: 4–5 satyne, -ine, 4–6 satyn, sat(t)on, 5 sathan, 5–6 saten, sateyn, 5–7 sattyn, 5–8 satten, 6 satte(i)ne, sat(t)an, satyng, *Sc.* saiting, satteing, salting, 6–8 sattin(e, 6– satin. [a. F. *satin* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; the supposed popular OF. form *sain*, cited by Diez, is an error), app. ad. It. † *setino*, prob. repr. late L. **(pannus) sētinus* silken (cloth), f. *sēta* silk. Cf. Pg. *setim* (?from It.), late med.L. *satinius, satinus* (from Fr.), *setīnus* (1594, from Spain); also Du. *satijn.*

The word cannot be connected etymologically with the app. synonymous Arab. *zaitūnī*, f. *Zaitūn* name of a city in China (the locality of which is disputed). F. Hirth (*Arch. Stud. neu. Spr.* LXVII, 1882, p. 204) suggests that the Arabs may have confused the name of the town with the Cantonese *sze-tün* = Mandarin *ssŭ-tuan*, satin; but the conjecture that the Cantonese form is the source of It. *setino* is extremely improbable.]

I. 1. A silk fabric with a glossy surface on one side, produced by a method of weaving by which the threads of the warp are caught and looped by the weft only at certain intervals. † *Satin of Cypres*: see CYPRESS 3 I b.

?a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1104 The barres were of gold ful fyne, Upon a tissu of satyne. [The word is not in the original Fr.] *c* 1369 — *Dethe Blaunche* 253 Ryght wel cledde In fyne blak satyn de owter mere. *c* 1400 *Brut* 458 And iij. other estates with hem, clothed in oon sute, in rede fyne saten crymsyn furred with Martrons. 1435 in Dugdale *Bar. Eng.* (1675) 246/1 Item, Three Penons of Satten, entertailed with Raggedstaffs, price the peece 2*s.* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Satyne, clothe of sylke, *satinum.* *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 325 With youre bendys and youre bridyls of sathan, the whilke sir sathanas Idyls you for tha ilke This gill knaue. 1506 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 107 A vestement of whyte sateyn and poudrid w^t^ Seynt Nicholas armes. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sattyn of cypres—*ostadine.* *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Trag.* Prol. 21 In Rayment reid..Off vellot and of Saityng Crammosie. 1580 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 36 Ane [cloak] lynt witht salting, ane uther witht taffetie. 1603 in *38th Rep. Deputy Kpr. Records* App. 444 Sattins reverses, sattins of Cipres, Spanish sattins. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xviii. 56 Poore men, though wise, are but like Sattens without a glosse. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 29 Her coat white sattin, quilted. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxi, The middle distance was filled with matrons in velvets and satins, in plumes and gems. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xxii. 9 In gloss of satin and glimmer of pearls. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xi, The draperies and chair and sofa coverings were of amber satin.

transf. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* vii. 2938 Her skin sleek sattin or the cygnettes brest.

b. Applied to certain fabrics resembling satin, but composed wholly or in part of other materials than silk. † *Satin of Bruges* (*Bridges*), *Bruges satin*: see quot. 1728. *Denmark satin*: a smooth worsted material used for ladies' slippers.

1517–1559 [see BRUGES]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Sattins of Bruges have their Warp of Silk, and their Woof of Thread. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts, Denmark satin*, a stout worsted stuff used for ladies' shoes.

† **2.** A kind of pear. *Obs.*

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 109 b, A Summer Satin-pear. *Ibid.* 121 The Green-Satin-Pear, January. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. vii. 33 The Satin is round; its Coat is yellow, and smooth like Satin; 'tis a melting sugar'd Pear, and in good Esteem.

3. The plant Honesty, *Lunaria biennis.* Also *white satin.* Cf. *satin-flower* in 8 b.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CXVII. 378 We cal this herb in English Pennie flower..in Northfolk Sattin, and white Sattin. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 103 Bulbonach, Honesty, Sattin. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXIII. (1794) 320 The brilliant whiteness of these silicles has occasioned this plant [Honesty] to be called White Sattin.

4. *slang.* Gin. Also *white satin.*

1854 *Household Words* VIII. 75 For..gin, we have ten synonyms: max, juniper,..cream of the valley, white satin, old Tom. 1865 *Slang Dict., Satin*, gin; 'a yard of satin,' a glass of gin.

5. A collector's name for a glossy white moth. Also *white satin.*

1766 M. HARRIS *Aurelian* (1778) 9 White Sattin. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 248 Satin moth. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 41 The Satin..appears in July. 1857 STAINTON *Brit. Butterfl. & Moths* I. 134 *Stilpnotia Salicis* (White Satin). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 36 The Satin Moth (*Liparis Salicis*).

II. Attrib. and Comb.

6. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* **a.** Made of satin.

1521 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 6 My blake sattan jackett. 1580 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 36 Item, ane pair of satteing breikis. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* 166 Each sattin sute, Each quaint fashion-monger, whose sole repute Re-sts in his trim gay clothes. 1606 PRICKET in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1847) 101 A satin sute, bedawb'd with silvered lace, Beyond desert doth vildest clownship grace. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 497 When you are in the Publick Worship and Service of God, ..if the weather be too cold, wear a satten cap. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 14 His high-crown'd hat and sattin-doublet. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, You shall have nothing to do now but to be grandmamma on satin cushions.

fig. 1635 QUARLES *Emblems* v. vii. 270 A land, where each embroydred Sattin word Is lin'd with Fraud.

b. Resembling satin in texture or surface.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 60 The satin palms with their honeyed odours are out on the willow. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 42 When sublimed, it [Benzoic Acid] assumes the form of long flat prismatic needles, having a beautiful satin lustre. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 369 The best satin note-paper. 1866 *Reader* 12 May 471 The papers..retain the gloss, the bright 'satin' surface of the albumenized material.

† **c.** Clothed in satin. (In 17th cent. a mark of dandyism). *Obs.*

1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* A iij, The stinking Tobacco-breath of a Sattin-gull. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife, &c.* (1638) 35 Where if his Russet-friend would chance to dine, Whether

his Satten-friend would fill him wine. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* IV. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 187 The pesent with his homespoon lasse As many merry howers may passe As coortiers with there sattin guerles.

7. General combinations: **a.** simple attrib., as *satin-like* adj.; **b.** instrumental, similative, and parasynthetic, as *satin-faced*, *-leaved*, *-lidded*, *-lined*, *-shining*, *-smooth*, *-striped*, *-worked* adjs.

1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* iii, A portly middle-aged gentleman in a *satin-faced frockcoat. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 570 Patches of *satin-leaved begonias. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* 84 The *satin-lidded eyes, with lashes dropped Sweeping the delicate cheeks. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* IV. ii. 68 When mellow, the Skin is slick and *Satin-like. 1891 *Lock to Lock Times* 24 Oct. 12/1 A *satin-lined Inverness cape. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 222 A robe.. In colour like the *satin-shining palm On sallows. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xiv, This *satin-smooth hazel hair. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Satin-striped Canvas*...is a fancy variety of embroidery Canvas. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 30 Nov. 1/1 *Satin worked..muslins.

8. Special combinations. **a.** Used to designate materials resembling, or woven in the same manner as, satin; as **satin cloth**, a woollen cloth woven like satin, chiefly produced at Roubaix in France; **satin-damask** (see quot.); **satin-finish**, a polish for silver produced by means of a metallic brush; **satin foulards** (see quot.); **satin jean** (see quot. 1875); **satin-paper**, a fine writing paper; **satin sheeting**, a composite material of waste silk and cotton; **satin stitch**, a kind of stitch in embroidery and wool-work, imitating the appearance of satin; **satin-straw**, soft flexible straw used for hats; **satin-tails**, streamers of satin attached to ladies' dresses.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Satin Cloth*, a French woollen material of Satin make. 1557-72 A. JENKINSON *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 90 *Satton damaske with diuers other things. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Satin Damask*, a very costly silk material. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 Dec. 8/3 [Ornaments] made in art silver, with what is called a *satin finish. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Satin Foulards* ..are silk stuffs printed in various designs and colours. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Satin-jean*, a twilled cotton goods, having a smooth satiny surface. *c* 1885 *Weldon's Pract. Needlework* IV. 3/1 Executed..on a ground of white satin a quire of extra double-wove *satin paper, and a gross of picked quills. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Satin Sheeting*, one of the 'waste-silk' materials. 1684 HAN. WOOLLEY *Queen-like Closet* Suppl. 57 Work it in *Satten-stitch. 1840 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* ii, The profusion of elaborate satin-stitch bestowed upon its cuffs and collar. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Mar. 6/5 There are many varieties of *satin straws and grades of varying suppleness. 1841 THACKERAY *Chron. Drum*, Lovely Court ladies in powder, And lappets, and long *satin-tails.

b. In names of birds, insects, plants, and minerals having a satin-like lustre or smoothness: **satin beauty**, a moth, *Boarmia abietaria* (Stainton *Brit. Butterflies & Moths*, 1859); **satin-bird** or **satin bower-bird**, *Ptilorhynchus violaceus*; **satin-carpet**, a moth, *Cerotopacha fluctuosa*; also = *satin beauty*; **satin-flower**, (*a*) Honesty, *Lunaria biennis*, † (*b*) French Honeysuckle, *Hedysarum coronarium*; (*c*) the Greater Stitchwort, *Stellaria Holostea*; (*d*) in Australia, the umbelliferous plant *Actinotus helianthi*; †**satin-grakle**, an Australian bird, perh. *Calornis metallica*; **satin gypsum**, a fibrous variety of gypsum, with a pearly lustre; **satin-leaves** (see quot.); **satin moth** (see 5); **satin-pug**, a moth, *Eupithecia sericeata*; **satin-pygmy**, a moth, *Microsetia sericiella*; **satin-spar**, a fibrous variety of carbonate of lime; also = *satin-gypsum*; **satin-sparrow** (see quot.); **satin-stone** = *satin gypsum*; **satin-walnut** *U. S.*, a trade name for the Sweet Gum Tree, *Liquidambar styraciflua*; **satin-white**, artificial sulphate of lime; **satin-wood**, the wood of the Indian tree *Chloroxylon Swietenia* and of several W. Indian trees (see quots.).

1825-6 VIGORS & HORSFIELD in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1827) XV. 264 The natives call it Cowry, the colonists *Satin Bird. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Nat. Austral.* 234 Satin-birds are now seen very frequently in captivity in Sydney. 1848 GOULD *Birds Austral.* IV. pl. 10 *Ptilonorhynchus holosericeus* Kuhl. *Satin Bower-bird. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 82 The *Satin Carpet appears the middle of June. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 64 The Satin Carpet (*Boarmia abietaria*). *Ibid.* 239 The Satin Carpet (*Cymatophora fluctuosa*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxvii. 377 Bolbonac or the *Sattin flower, hath hard and round stalkes. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 339 *Hedysarum clypeatum*. The red Sattin flower. 1854 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1861) I. 245 Greater Stitchwort, Satin-flower, or Adder's Meat. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Nat. Austral.* 358 A profusion of the Sunflower Actinotus, called Satin-flower by the colonists. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* III. 171 *Satin Grakle.. Inhabits New-Holland. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 682 A beautiful fibrous variety, called *satin gypsum, is found in Derbyshire, applicable to ornamental purposes, such as beads, broaches, &c. 1864 GRINDON *Brit. & Garl. Bot.* 152 The old-fashioned 'honesty', or *Lunaria*, the beauty of which lies in the great oval silvery shields that form the partitions of its seed-pods... They are often as large as florins, and in Cheshire are called '*satin-leaves'. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 132 The *Satin Pug. *Ibid.* 205 The *Satin Pygmy.. appears the end of May. 1802 AIKIN in *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* XII. 364 The *satin spar..is a mineral as yet peculiar to the neighbourhood of Alston Moor, in Cumberland. 1804 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 498 Common Fibrous Limestone... The sattin spar found in Derbyshire belongs to this kind. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* vii. 188 The prismatic structure of satin-spar may be said..to resemble that of a shell. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 814 *Satin-sparrow, the name in Tasmania for *Myiagra nitida*, a Flycatcher. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 101 Fibrous or silky Gypsum..has a curious cat's-eye appearance, and is commonly called *Satin stone. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 22 Aug. 7/5 'Sweet gum' is the name most generally used in the United States, and the wood was a drug until its name was changed by a smart trader to '*satin walnut'. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 141/1 The satin ground is laid with *satin white. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* App. 47 With respect to mahogany, *satin and other choice woods. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 90 She herself Erect behind a desk of satin-wood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., *Bahamas Satinwood*, a timber supposed to be the produce of *Maba guineensis*. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* x, Here..was a house of satin-wood and cedar not two years old. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 31 *Xanthoxylum Caribæum*...Satin Wood. Semi-tropical Florida [etc.].

c. In Fr. combinations (some of them anglicized in form) serving as trade names for certain textile fabrics, as **satin de laine** [= 'wool satin': see DELAINE], **satin lisse** [F. *lisse* smooth], **satin sultan**, **satin turk** [F. *turc* = Turkish]: see quots.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Satin-de-laine*, a black cassimere manufactured in Silesia, from wool. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, **Satin Lisse*, a French dress material made of cotton, but having a Satin-like lustre. *Ibid.*, **Satin Sultan*, a textile somewhat resembling Bengaline in the method of its manufacture, but having a satin face. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Satin-Turk*, a trade term for a superior quality of satinette.

Satin (sæ·tin), *v.* [f. SATIN *sb.* Cf. F. *satiner*.] *trans.* To give (to wall-paper) a glossy surface resembling that of satin. Hence **Sa·tining** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 921 Pieces intended to be satined, are grounded with fine Paris plaster. *Ibid.* 922 A final satining,..is communicated by the friction of a finely polished brass roller. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Satining-machine*, a machine for imparting the 'satin' finish to paper.

Satin, obs. form of SATAN.

†**Satina·de.** *Obs. rare*—⁰. In quot. **sattinade.** [a. F. *satinade*, f. *satin*: see -ADE.] = SATINETTE.

1728 [see SATINETTE 1 a].

‖ **Satiné** (satine). [Fr. (*bois*) *satiné* (Aublet *Hist. Pl. Guiane*, 1775).] A kind of satin-wood.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Satine*, a cabinet-wood of French Guiana, the produce of *Ferolia guianensis*. 1875 LASLETT *Timber & Trees* 161 Satiné. This wood is red in colour, hard, heavy [etc.].

Satined (sæ·tind), *ppl. a.* [f. SATIN *sb.* or *v.* + -ED, after F. *satiné*.] Having a satin-like surface.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 154 A brown membranaceous capsula,..containing three sattin'd seeds.

Satine·tta. *nonce-wd.* Pseudo-lt. form of next. (Attributed to 'the Euphuist'.)

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxi, Standing on end with double piled velvets, satins, and satinettas!

Satinette, satinet (sætine·t, sæ·tinèt). Also 8 **sattinet.** [a. F. *satinet*: see SATIN *sb.* and -ET.]

1. a. An imitation of satin woven in silk, or silk and cotton.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3915/4 Stolen.., a Cloth colour Silk Sattinet Gown and Petticoat. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 9/1 Fine Mohairs, Silk Sattinets, Burdets, Persianets [etc.]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Sattinet*, or *Sattinade*, a very slight, thin Sattin, chiefly used by the Ladies for Summer Nightgowns, &c. and ordinarily striped. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxv, You shall have a black satin dress for Sundays—a real satin—not a satinet or any of the shams. 1891 PINERO *The Times* I. 3 Beryl is cotton, you are silk; each material in itself is estimable, but cotton and silk beget satinet.

b. A material woven with a cotton warp and woollen weft, having a satin-like surface.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 227 At Lowell, in Massachusetts, there was in 1818, a small satinet mill, employing about twenty hands. 1860 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert* ii. 42 Old Ruggles looked down on his rusty satinet suit, perfectly conscious he was out of place. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Satinet*, an American cloth of mixed materials, both cheap and durable. 1904 *Woollen Draper's Terms* in *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/1 Satinette: A cheap fabric, composed of cotton and wool.

2. A fancier's name for a kind of pigeon.

1876 *Fulton's Bk. Pigeons* 312 The Satinette. 1881 LYELL *Fancy Pigeons* 232.

†**Satini·sco.** *Obs.* Also 7 **sattinisco, satanisco.** [pseudo-Sp., f. SATIN *sb.*, after words like MORISCO.] An inferior quality of satin.

1615 *Overbury's Char., Fellow of House* (ed. 6) L 3, His meanes..afford him Mock-veluet or Satinisco. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* xxvii. 268 The new deuised names of Stuffes and Colours,..*Callimanco*, *Sattinisco* [etc.]. 1639 GLAPTHORNE *Wit in Constable* I. (1640) B 3, You meere Schollers Know no degree of garment above Serge, Or Satanisco. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norwich* (1662) II. 274 Also [there were stuffs called] Perpetuano..Satinisco, Bombicino, Italiano, &c.

†**Sa·tinist.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. SATIN *sb.* + -IST.] A wearer of satin, a dandy.

1632 SHIRLEY & CHAPMAN *Ball* IV. i, If it be so, Ile call you cosin still, my satinist.

Sati·nity. *nonce-wd.* [f. SATIN *sb.* + -ITY.] Smoothness, like that of satin.

1830 LAMB *Let. to Gilman* (1837) II. 267 Your friend B—— (for I knew him immediately by the smooth satinity of his style) must excuse me for [etc.].

Satinize (sæ·tinəiz), *v.* [f. SATIN *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To impart a satin-like surface to.

1869 TANNER *Pract. Med.* (ed. 6) II. 595 Baths..in repute for softening and whitening ('satinizing') the skin. 1883 J. MILLINGTON *Are we to read Backwards?* 77 The system of 'satinizing' the paper largely prevailing in France.

Satiny (sæ·tini), *a.* [f. SATIN *sb.* + -Y.] Resembling satin in smoothness, gloss, or polish.

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 82 in *Gard. Assist.*, Its moon shape, satiny pellucid seed-pods. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 423 Geometra subsericeata. The satiny Wave [moth]. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 45 They have the appearance of thin satiny paper. 1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) I. iii. 57 Her hair of that rich sattiny [*sic*], nameless brown, like a hazel-nut. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 264 Melissin..crystallizes..in satiny crystals. 1882 *Garden* 11 Feb. 91/1 This variety bears flowers of a satiny crimson-blush colour.

†**Sa·tion.** *Obs.* Also 5 **-oun.** [ad. L. *satiōn-em*, f. ppl. stem *sat-* of *serĕre* to sow.] 'A sowing of seed, a planting' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1661).

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 9 Ek summen seyn the benes satioun In placis coold is best to fructifie. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 297 Some there are, which want sation and occatory operations. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 63 It hath not succeeded by sation in any maner of ground.

Satirdai, -day, obs. forms of SATURDAY.

Satire (sæ·təiəɹ). Also 6–8 **satyre**, 7–8 **satyr**, 8 **satir.** [a. F. *satire* (= Sp. *sátira*, Pg., It. *satira*, G. *satire*), or directly ad. L. *satira*, later form of *satura*, in early use a discursive composition in verse treating of a variety of subjects, in classical use a poem in which prevalent follies or vices are assailed with ridicule or with serious denunciation. The word is a specific application of *satura* medley; this general sense appears in the phrase *per saturam* in the lump, indiscriminately; according to the grammarians this is elliptical for *lanx satura* (lit. 'full dish': *lanx* dish, *satura*, fem. of *satur* full, related to *satis* enough), which is alleged to have been used for a dish containing various kinds of fruit, and for food composed of many different ingredients.

Formerly often confused or associated with SATYR (see esp. sense 4), from the common notion (found already in some ancient grammarians) that L. *satira* was derived from the Gr. σάτυρος satyr, in allusion to the chorus of satyrs which gave its name to the Greek 'satyric' drama. The words *satire* and *satyr* were probably at one time pronounced alike, as the derivatives *satiric* and *satyric* are still; and the common use of *y* and *i* as interchangeable symbols in the 16th and 17th c. still further contributed to the confusion.]

I. 1. A poem, or in modern use sometimes a prose composition, in which prevailing vices or follies are held up to ridicule. Sometimes, less correctly, applied to a composition in verse or prose intended to ridicule a particular person or class of persons, a lampoon.

Also used *Hist.* as the rendering of L. *satura* in its pre-classical sense of a poetic 'medley': see the etymological note above.

1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* (1874) I. 134 Therfore in this satyre suche wyll I repreue. 1566 DRANT (*title*) A Medicinable Morall, that is, the two Bookes of Horace his Satyres, Englyshed. 1595 LODGE (*title*) A Fig for Momus: Containing Pleasant varietie, included in Satyres, Eclogues, and Epistles. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Rythmes* (1623) 309 The Exchequer officers were extortors in the time of King Henry the fourth, otherwise Henry Bell..would neuer haue written a riming long Satyr against them. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 33 Impotent Satyrs write Satyrs against Lust [1682 — *Chr. Mor.* I. § 33 upon Lust]. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 88 ¶ 2 This honest Gentleman, who is so desirous that I should write a Satyr upon Grooms, has a great deal of Reason for his Resentment. 1756 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (1782) I. iv. 254 The *Rape of the Lock*, is the best Satire extant. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 251 They had the merit of introducing satires on manners and domestic life into Asia. 1878 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* 278 A great proportion of the book [Middlemarch] is only not a satire because with the word satire we are accustomed to associate the idea of exaggeration and malicious purpose.

†**b.** *transf.* A satirical utterance; a speech or saying in ridicule of some person or thing. *Obs.*

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxi. 210 Speaking constant satyrs to the disgrace of others. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Epist.* ii. (1696) 467 The Poor Man wants many things, but the Covetous Man wants All. Can any Flesh forbear being delighted with This saying, though a Satyr against his own Vice?

c. *fig.* A thing, fact, or circumstance that has the effect of making some person or thing ridiculous.

1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1698) IV. 11 Religion has no advantage from the Commendations of those whose Lives are a constant Satyr upon it. 1770 *Junius' Lett.* xxxviii. (1788) 207 Their very names are a satire upon all government. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, You..whose rank may be an ancestor's accident, whose prosperity is very likely a satire. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. 15 Seth was an awkward, ungainly person, whose clothes were a continual satire on his professional skill.

2. a. The species of literature constituted by satires; satirical composition.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 46 The said auncient Poets vsed for that purpose [of reproving the people], three kinds of poems reprehensiue, to wit, the

Satyre, the Comedie, and the Tragedie. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* IV. xiii. 404 If any shall think this character partakes of the satyr, I shall beseech him to compare it with the true state. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* Pref. (1673) 2 According to the ancient use and law of Satyre, it should be nearer the Comedy, then the Tragedy, not declaiming against Vice, but jeering at it. 1682 *Lenten Prol.* 36 in *Third Coll. Poems* (1689) 26/1 Baye's crown'd Muse, by Sovereign Right of Satyre, Without desert, can dub a man a Traitor. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 35 Thus..I..have prov'd, I hope, from the best Critiques, that the Roman Satire was not borrow'd from thence [Greece], but of their own Manufacture. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 1 My verse is satire; Dorset, lend your ear, And patronise a muse you cannot fear. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 295, I have seen no specimen of Hindú satire. 1845 H. THOMPSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 391/2 Lucilius is asserted by Horace to have been the founder of the New Satire. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH in *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 199 There are different kinds of satire: the epicurean, which laughs at mankind,..the stoical, which indignantly lashes mankind,..the cynical, which hates and despises mankind.

b. The employment, in speaking or writing, of sarcasm, irony, ridicule, etc. in exposing, denouncing, deriding, or ridiculing vice, folly, indecorum, abuses, or evils of any kind.

c 1675 ?VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Follies Men of Age* 6 Nothing helps more than Satyr to amend Ill manners, or is trulier Virtues Friend. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* ii. 31 His Animadversions have other faults besides Satyr and Abuse. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Caprea* 265 This..is therefore interpreted by many as a hidden Piece of Satyr. 1724 R. WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 359 Those Pharisees, whom our Blessed Saviour, with the utmost satyre, and indignation, call'd painted sepulchres. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii, The Mythological [Writing], and the Satyrical where the Satyr is, to a certain Degree, concealed. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* IV. 75 Disgraceful too, to human nature,—Unworthy even, of his satire. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxi, Rothsay thought he discovered a smile upon his countenance; and to be the subject of this man's satire, gave him no ordinary degree of pain. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 445 And often came Melissa hitting all we saw with shafts Of gentle satire, kin to charity, That harm'd not. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Yng. Musgrave* I. 10 Even now there would be a tone of satire in her voice when she noted the late marriage of one or another of her old adorers.

c. *fig.* Effect in making ridiculous. (Cf. 1 c.)

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, Some few score of years afterwards, when all the parties represented are grown old, what bitter satire there is in those flaunting childish family portraits.

d. *personified.*

1820 SHELLEY *Fragm. Satire on Sat.* 17 If Satire's scourge could wake the slumbering hounds Of Conscience, or erase the deeper wounds, The leprous scars of callous Infamy. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. (1864) V. 380 Satire began to aim its contemptuous sarcasms at the pope and the papal power. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 252 Satire in earlier times had changed her rags for robes. Juvenal had clothed with fire, and Dryden with majesty, that wandering and bastard Muse.

3. Satirical temper, disposition to use 'satire'.

1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iv, The kindness of his temper so softened the satire of mine.

† **II. 4.** A satirical person, satirist. *Obs.*

[Perh. to be regarded as a misuse of SATYR.]

1596 HARINGTON *Ulysses upon Ajax* E 1 b, Harke in thine eare, Misacmos is a Satire, a quipping fellow. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* I. iii. (1633) B 3 b, Pretnee Satyre chuse another walke, and leaue vs to inioy this. *a* 1629 T. GOFFE *Courageous Turk* II. iii. (1632) D 2 b, Poore men may love, and none their wils correct: But all turne Satyres of a Kings affect. 1640 SHIRLEY *Hum. Courtier* I. i. B j b, We may As well condemne our fathers, and declaime 'Gainst them for our begetting, come Orseollo. Desist to be a Satire. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxxii. (1674) 182 It being..forbidden to play the Satyre, gallant men who saw things..committed, which ought publickly to be declaimed against, were forc'd to see, and to say nothing. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 592 Leave dang'rous truths to unsuccessful Satires, And flattery to fulsome Dedicators.

fig. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* c, Rise resty Muse, my loues sweet face survay, If time haue any wrincle grauen there, If any, be a *Satire* to decay, And make times spoiles dispised every where.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 592 Leave dang'rous truths to unsuccessful Satires, And flattery to fulsome Dedicators.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 24 b, The whiche thyng appereth plaine by the Satyre Poete. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1187 Frontless and Satyr-proof he scow'rs the streets. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 2 The Town, alas, is now grown Satyr-proof.

Satire, obs. form of SATYR.

Satire·tte. *nonce-wd.* [f. SATIRE + -ETTE.] A small satire.

1870 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.*, etc. (1886) 150 The characters even have merit...They are happy satirettes.

Satiri: see SATYR.

† **Satiˈrial,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 **satyrial(l.** [f. SATIRE + -IAL.] Satirical.

1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. lxxxi. 104 b, As the Satyrial Poet sayeth. 1580 G. HARVEY *Two Other Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 83 This bolde Satyriall Libell.

Satiric (sătiˈrik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 6 **satyryke, satyricque, satiricke,** 6–8 **satyrick,** 7 (**satericke**), **satyryck, -ique,** 7–8 (9) **satyric,** 8 **satirick.** 8– **satiric.** [ad. F. *satirique,* ad. late L. *satiricus* (*a.* and *sb.*), f. *satira* SATIRE. Cf. Sp. *satírico,* Pg., It. *satirico.* (Formerly often confused with SATYRIC.)] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of satire; consisting of, or containing satire; that writes or composes satires.

[1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 177 Oracius þe poete satiricus and liricus.] 1509 H. WATSON *Ship of Fools* Prol. (1517) A v b, My boke satyryke I gyue vnto you for example. 1582 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 28 The most notable [kinds of poets] bee the Heroick, Lirick,..Satirick, Iambick,.. and certaine others. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 68 For Satyryck inueyghing at any mans pryuate person, it is farre from my thought. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Satericke,* belonging to a scoffing verse. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 215 When so long a fare-well was least thought on, he and his are hewn down, making good that of the Satyric Poet, *Ad generum Cereris* [etc.]. 1732 SWIFT *Let. to Dr. Jenny* 8 June, He hath been often engaged in a kind of flirting war of satiric burlesque verse with certain wags both in town and country. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 112 A fabulous and satyric Writer. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 674 Horace, the Roman lyric and satiric poet. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xix. *Convent* 163 Satiric novels, poets bold and free. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. iii, All this comedy was full of bitter satiric strokes against a certain young lady. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. on Archæol.* II. xxiii. 240 The Latin literature of the thirteenth century..is extremely rich in comic and satiric verse.

† **2.** Addicted to satire, satirical. *Obs.*

1627 DRAYTON *To H. Reynolds* 113 And surely Nashe, though he a Proser were A branch of Lawrell yet deserues to beare, Sharply Satirick was he. 1638 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* I. i, Why so Satyrick, Shepherd? I believe You did not learn these Flashes in the Woods. 1729 SWIFT *To Dr. Delany, on Libels* (end), On me when Dunces are satyrick, I take it for a Panegyrick. 1754 J. SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 106 You are satyrick this Morning. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* vii. 139 The Spirit of Sarcasm being once awakened, it would of course proceed from occasional Strokes of Raillery, to the Recital of ridiculous Actions, for the ..Entertainment of a lively and satyric People.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** A writer of satires; a satirist. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 407 þere were more poetes þan satiriues [orig. *Fuerent autem plures poetæ quam satirici*]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xi. (Arb.) 41 Their inuectiues were called Satyres, and them selues Satyricques. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* 168 Which agreeeth aptly with the saying of the Satyricke. *Ille crucem sceleris prælium ferat, hic diadema.* 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commu.* (1611) 120 Hiperbolus, who,..for his boldnesse and saucy impudency, was the onely Subiect in his time, for all Satyricks & Commedians to worke vpon.

2. *pl.* Satiric writings. *rare.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 9 Together with sundrie Satyrickes [*printed* Satyricals: *corrected in errata*] of Maister Blackwels. *Ibid.* 194 Infamous libelling or Ouidian inuectiues, or Horatian Satyriques. 1825 (*title*) Facetiæ Cantabrigiensis, consisting of Anecdotes, Smart Sayings, Satirics, Retorts, &c.

Satirical (sătiˈrikăl), *a.* Forms: 6 **saturicall,** 6–7 **satyricall,** 6–8 (9) **-ical,** (8 **satyracal**), 8– **satirical.** [f. late L. *satiric-us* (see prec.) + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to satire; of the nature of or containing satire; satiric.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 139 If thow war aquentyd with alle The famous poettes saturicall. 1579 E. K. in Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Gen. Argt. ¶ 3 For eyther they [these xij Æglogues] be Plaintive,..or Recreative,..or Moral, which for the most part be mixed with some Satyricall bitternesse. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 262 b, In steade of a Rhetoricall acclamation, concluding with a Satyricall skoffe he doth advertize hym. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 108 Attella, whence were the old satyricall Comedies, which were full of baudery, and were called Attellane. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 38 Nor was the Satyricall sharpnesse, or naked plainnes of Lucilius, or Catullus, or Flaccus, by any order prohibited. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2) s.v., Satyrical prints, and medals. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 427 Satirical songs were sung against Johann Rode. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* lxvii. IV. 536 It has some of the brightest and bitterest satirical passages in the literature of our time.

2. Disposed to or given to satire; fond of indulging in satire; characterized by satire; sarcastic.

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 51 Isabel..outwardly withstood such in satyrical tearmes as did inueigh against the honestie of Francesco. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 183 The satyricallest confuters. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. iii, A sharpe thornie-tooth'd satyricall rascall [*sc.* Horace]. 1612 BACON *Ess., Discourse* (Arb.) 117 Certainly he that hath a Satyricall vaine, as he maketh others afraid of his wit, so he had need be afraid of others memory. 1657 T. M. (*title*) The Life of a Satyrical Pvppy, Called Nim, who worrieth all those Satyrists he knowes, and barkes at the rest. 1693 SOUTHERN *Maid's Last Prayer* III. i, O law! Mr. Granger, you're so strangely s'terical [sic], I believue you laugh at us all behind our backs. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 516 Sometimes a satyrical temper broke out too much. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Lady Rich* 1 Apr. (1790) 67 Disdainful smiles and satirical whispers ..never fail in our assemblies, when any body appears that is not dressed exactly in the fashion. 1727 SWIFT *Let. to Yng. Lady* Wks. 1751 V. 61 The satyrical part of Mankind will needs believe, that it is not impossible to be very fine [in dress] and very filthy. 1814 R. BLAND *Proverbs* I. Pref. 8 In his humorous and satyrical declamation. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. ii, 'To educate them himself,' answered my mother, with a sort of satirical gravity. 1836 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, First Visit* Wks. (Bohn) II. 7 He [Carlyle] took despairing or satirical views of literature at this moment. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxi, She was not coldly clever and indirectly satirical, but adorably simple and full of feeling.

Satirically (sătiˈrikăli), *adv.* [f. SATIRICAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a satirical manner; by derisive censure, ridicule or sarcasm.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 109 For which cause, Iuuenall..did Satirically nip him, saying [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Pref. to Virg. Past.* ***b, One of the Ancients has observ'd truly, but Satyrically enough, that Mankind is the Measure of every thing. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xvi, Montoni smiled satirically at what Emily had written. 1884 COURTHOPE *Addison* I. 9 The Tory fox-hunter of the *Freeholder,* though somewhat satirically painted, is a fair representative.

Satiricalness (sătiˈrikălnĕs). [f. SATIRICAL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being satirical.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Essex* (1662) I. 334 Some Poets, if debarr'd profaness, wantoness, and Satyricalness, (that they may neither abuse God, themselves, nor their neighbours,) have their tongues cut out in effect. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* xi. 125 Wit is the mother of facetiousness, conceits, jests, raillery, satyricalness. 1683 KENNET tr. *Erasm. on Folly* Pref. Ep. (1709) 8 To reply now to the objection of satyricalness, wits have been always allowed this priviledge. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 591 [He] had a smeddum of satiricalness.

† **Satiˈrien,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 **satyrien.** [a. OF. *satirien*: see SATIRE and -IAN.] Satirical.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* Argt. (1874) I. 17 As olde Poetes Satyriens in dyuers Poesyes conioyned repreued the synnes and ylnes of the peple at that tyme lyuynge.

Satirion(e, obs. forms of SATYRION.

† **Saˈtirism.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SATIRE + -ISM.] Indulgence in satire; satirical temper or utterance.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., I haue nothing to spend on you but passion. A hundred vnfortunate farewels to fantasticall Satirisme. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* L 3 b, Bitter Satirisme. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* V. xxvii. 234 Their tongue-ripe Satyrisme may more easily disturbe the truth of this world then subuert it. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* Introd. 47 He had a quick Wit, but too much inclin'd to Satyrism. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 39 Where others have trod before, with various Sarcasms and Satyrisms.

Satirist (sæˈtĭrist). [f. SATIRE + -IST.]

In the first quot. app. partly representing (with misapprehended sense) Gr. *σατυριστής* player of satyric drama.]

A writer of satires. Also (const. *of*) one who satirizes some person or thing.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 46 They made wise as if..Satyres or Siluanes should appeare and recite those verses of rebuke,..whereupon the Poets inuentours of the deuise were called Satyristes. 1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 36 Young Iuuenall, that byting Satyrist. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trim. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 63 We heare howe you threatned to spoile our stirring Satirist: alas, haue thy writings such efficacie? 1641 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Emb.* Ded. A ij, It is high time for the Satyrist to pen something which may diuert them from their impietie. 1706 POPE *Epil. on Dorset* 7 Blest Satyrist! who touch'd the Mean so true, As show'd, Vice had his hate and pity too. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcix, Her very appearance was sufficient to silence the severest satirist of the sex. 1796 BURKE *Reg. Peace* Wks. VIII. 354 It is for the satyrist to expose the ridiculous. 1837 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 262, I am not setting myself up as the satirist of Bishops. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xiv. 194 A satirist, for instance, has generally some idea of improving mankind by his satire.

Satirize (sæˈtĭrəiz), *v.* Also 7 **satyrise,** 7–8 **satyrize,** 8–9 **satirise.** [ad. F. *satiriser* (= Sp., Pg. *satirizar*), f. *satire*: see SATIRE and -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To write satires; to assail some one or something with satire. Now only as absol. use of **2**; formerly † const. *on, upon.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. v, What? when the man that first did satyrise, Durst pull the skin ouer the eares of vice;..shall I forbeare? 1620 BRATHWAIT *Five Senses* 129 They shew the vnworthinesse of their Nature in Satyrizing vpon the weaker. 1703 DE FOE *Let. to Mr. How* in *Misc.* 337, I find you no more talking to me, till you come to Page 25, where you are pleased to Satyrize upon my Title and Preface. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 34 Shall authors smile on such illustrious days, And satirise with nothing—but their praise? *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. x. Concl. (1740) 692 It is as bad a Fault in History to panegyrise, as to Satyrise without Reason. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxii. (1841) I. 211 Satirizing on the blindness and folly of mankind. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. lxxviii, He being paid to satirise or flatter. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 217 It was easy to satirise and misrepresent.

2. *trans.* To assail with satire; to make the object of, or to expose to, satire or censure; to describe or ridicule in a satirical manner.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* Wks. II. 36, I will Satyrize, Canterize, and Stigmatize all the whole kennell of curres that dare [etc.]. 1676 GLANVILL *Seasonable Reflect.* 153 Those Wits..that Satyrize humane nature. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 4 Pamphlets..prefend to..Satyrize the Frankness of Tories [etc.]. 1727 POPE *Th. Var. Subj.* in Swift's Wks. 1755 II. i. 226 It is as hard to satirize well a man of distinguished vices, as to praise well a man of distinguished virtues. 1782 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* VII. II. 61 Chaucer takes every opportunity of satyrizing the follies of his age. 1803 SIR J. MACKINTOSH *Def. Peltier* Wks. 1846 III. 259 If you should believe that it is ascribed to Jacobinical writers for the sake of satirising a French Jacobinical faction. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* viii, The parasite..had been on the point of satirising his hostess; but, observing the quarter of the wind, with rapidity went in for praise. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iv. 108 Alcæus exercised his poetical talent in satirizing Pittacus.

b. *fig.* To be a 'satire' upon. (Cf. SATIRE 1 c.)

1798 ROSCOE tr. *Tansillo's Nurse* I. *Notes* i. (1800) 7 This detestable custom, which outrages nature, and satirizes humanity, is..more frequent in Italy than in this country.

Hence **Saˈtirized** *ppl. a.*

1793 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* II. 276 Satirists, if they escape the scourges of the law, have reason to dread the cane of the satirised.

Satirizer (sæˈtĭrəizəi). [f. SATIRIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who satirizes.

1867 LEGGE *Confucius* 249 By the *fung* or phœnix, his satirizer or adviser intended Confucius. 1889 *Spectator* 5 Jan. 22 The sprightly satiriser of Lord Eldon and the Tories.

Sa·tirizing, *ppl. a.* [f. SATIRIZE *v.* + -ING 2.] That satirizes.

1716 *Loyal Mourner* 39 My Satyrizing Muse. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 235 Expressions..by which they intend to convey to the reader either instructing, satyrizing, admiring, or other hints and remarks. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. II. 23 But we are getting into a grave and satyrizing vein. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xxiv. 278 The satirising and reforming spirit of the age appeared not unfrequently on the stage.

Satirus, satiry : see SATYR.

Satisdation (sætisdēi·ʃən). *Civil Law.* ? *Obs.* [a. L. *satisdātiōn-em* a giving of bail or security, n. of action f. *satisdare* to give bail, f. *satis* enough + *dare* to give. Cf. OF. *satisdacion, -ccion, -tion*, 13th c. in Godefr.] (See quot. 1656.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Satisdation*, a putting in of Surety or Bail sufficient for performance of Covenants, or for payment of moneys. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 425 There is another Exception stiled an Exception of not giving Satisdation or Security. 1774 HALLIFAX *Rom. Civ. Law* III. iii. 88 Not unlike the Satisdations required from an Actor and *Reus* by the Roman laws.

Satisdiction. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *satis* enough + *dictiōn-em* saying (see DICTION), after *satisfaction.*] Saying enough.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 14 They desire not satisfaction, but satisdiction, whereof themselves must be judges.

Satisfaction (sætisfæ·kʃən). Forms: 4-8 satis-, 4-6 satys-; 4 -facciun, 4-7 -faccion, 4-5 -fac(c)ioun, -faccio(u)n, 5 -faccyo(u)n, -facion, -faccione, (-faccoun), 5-7 -factioun, 6 -faccyon, -factyon; 5- satisfaction. [a. F. *satisfaction* (12th c. *satisfactiun*, 13th c. *satisfacion, -fecion*) = Pr. *satisfactio*, Sp. *satisfaccion*, Pg. *satisfacção*, It. *satisfazione, soddisfazione*, ad. L. *satisfactiōn-em*, n. of action f. *satisfacĕre* to SATISFY.] The action of satisfying; the state or fact of being satisfied.

I. With reference to obligations.

1. The payment in full of a debt, or the fulfilment of an obligation or claim; the atoning *for* (rarely † *of*) an injury, offence, or fault by reparation, compensation, or the endurance of punishment. Also quasi-*concr.*, the pecuniary or other gift or penalty, or the act, by which a debt or obligation is discharged or an offence atoned for. Phrases, *to make* (or † *do*) *satisfaction*; *in satisfaction* (*of*). Now chiefly in *Law.*

[The sense is found earlier in legal AF.: e.g. 1306 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 212/1 Quil ne purroient a nul temps de ce faire suffisauntz amendes ne due satisfaction.]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5017 Angers me full euyll your angard desyre, When ye couet..Satisfacciun to be sent fro my selfe euyn, Syn ye are cause of þis care. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 221 Beholde how the teares from hys eyen go. Hit ys satysfaccion half for hys trespase. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 5 'My successor schalle iugge and do to the satisfaccion.' The wedowe seide, 'What schalle that profite the and if thy successour do satisfaccion for me'. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 In satisfaccoun & recompence of myne Inyquytees. 1480 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 431 That the seid Chamberleyns shuld in recompense & satisfaccion of their seid disobeysaunce..bryng [etc.]. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 24, xl s...in satisfaction of a distres that I toke of hyr. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* II. 287 b, Zacheus.. was most wyllyng..to make satisfaction vnto all them, that he hadde doone iniurie and wrong vnto. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 209 If by direct or by Colaterall hand They finde vs touch'd, we will our Kingdome giue,..and all that we call Ours To you in satisfaction. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 43, I would be glad to make you satisfaction, if I have wronged you. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 86 Fyne, 10,000 marks;..publique satisfaccion of his faulte by submission and acknowledgement thereof. *a* 1652 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 303 Mr. Patrik Creigh..was ordeaned to make satisfaction in the kirk of Edinburgh two severall Sabboth dayes,..for celebrating marriage..without proclamatioun of bannes. 1659 MILTON *Civil Power* 63 Who by subjecting us to his punishment in these things, brings back into religion that law of terror and satisfaction, belonging now only to civil crimes. 1660 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 25 The Excise of Forain Commodityes is to be continued apart untill satisfaction of publick debts and ingagements secured upon the Excise. 1667 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 52 Sir Robert..is indebted to your petitioner in £320 by bond, but..utterly refuseth to give your petitioner satisfaction. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 212 Unless for him Som other able, and as willing, pay The rigid satisfaction, death for death. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 46 He..himself escaped Shipwrack, and received Satisfaction for his Losses out of the publick Treasury. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 313 The Captain..promised to have the fellows punished, and satisfaction to be made. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 215 A devise of an annuity to the wife..has been held not to be in satisfaction of dower. 1845 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 796/1 The party injured may agree to accept a certain sum or other thing as a compensation—an arrangement technically styled *accord and satisfaction.* 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, He had a savage pleasure in making the poor wretches [his creditors] wait, and in shifting from court to court and from term to term the period of satisfaction. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ix. 262 'Distress'—its primary object is to compel the person against whom it is properly employed to make satisfaction.

b. In particularized use: An act of compensation or amends; an amount paid in compensation; a penalty. Now *rare.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 281 He..made hur to hafe a due satisfaccion for hur hurte. 1598 BACON *Sacr. Medit., Exalt. Charitie* Ess. (Arb.) 107 The seconde degree is to pardon our enemies, though they persist and without satisfactions and submissions. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* IV. iii. (Shaks. Soc.) 75 Grissil's two babes are dead, and kill'd by scorn, But that fair issue, that shall now be born, Shall make a satisfaction of all wrongs. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. v, Thinke vpon some satisfaction, or termes to offer him. *c* 1622 FORD, etc. *Witch Edmonton* I. i, I cannot request a fuller satisfaction Then you have freely granted. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* ii. 21 We may well perceave to what easie satisfactions and purgations he had inur'd his secret conscience. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 406 The mere mechanical operation of writing, for which it directed the scribe to receive a satisfaction.

c. Law. *To enter (up) satisfaction*: to place on the record of a court a statement that the payment ordered by it has been duly made. So *entry of satisfaction.*

1782 J. IMPEY *Pract. King's Bench* 378 Entry of Satisfaction. If satisfaction is made of a judgment, a warrant of attorney should be given to the attorney by the plaintiff.. to enter up satisfaction on record. 1828 ARCHBOLD *Forms & Entries* (ed. 2) 276 Whereas I, the said John Nokes, have received satisfaction for the same [damages and costs]: These are therefore to desire and authorize you..to acknowledge and enter satisfaction upon the record of the said judgment.

2. *Eccl.* (The earliest recorded use in Eng.) The performance by a penitent of the penal and meritorious acts enjoined by his confessor as payment of the temporal punishment due to his sin: the last of the constituent parts of the sacrament of penance. Cf. DEEDBOTE. (Phrases as in 1.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28620 For it mai be na penance right Bot man him pain to bete his plight, þat satisfaccion es cald, And þis parti it es thrid-fald, In almus, fastyng, and orisun. *Ibid.* 29121 Generali nu haf i tald þe pointes þat ar for to hald Til ilk sinful þat es bun For to do satisfacciun. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 118 Þai will syn and will noght make satisfaccioun til god. 1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Nele arere þet heued to gode be zorȝe ne grede harou be ssrifte ne arere þe honden be satisfacioun [*gloss c* 1400 dedbote]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 94 Satisfaccioun..as it neuere had yþe to nouȝt bryngeth dedly synne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 955. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxix. 189 Satysfaccyoun is, to fulfylle þi penaunce, enioyned of þe preest, & to pay þi dettys to qwyke & dede & to holy cherche, & to restore, þat þou hast falsely gett, to makyn amendys for þi wrongys & þe harmys, þat þou hast don, & no more to turne aȝen to þi synne. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 99 Thre partes of penaunce, that ys contrycyon, confessyon, and satysfaccion. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xli. (Percy Soc.) 204 With dame Contricion, which gan to bewayle My synnes great with hole repentaunce, And Satisfaccion without any fayle. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* II. 286 Judas..did also make a certain kynde of satisfaction [as well as his confession], when he did cast their money vnto them againe. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 16/2 The Papistes holde, that we must get Paradise by our desartes, and what wanteth we must supplie by our satisfactions. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. v. § 6 Amongst the works of satisfaction, the most respected have been alwayes these three, Prayers, Fasts, and Almes deeds. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th. C.* I. VI. i. 217 He [Melancthon] does not believe that Confession and Satisfaction are necessary. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Penance* (4) The penitential discipline of the early Church witnesses to the belief that satisfaction by penitential works is necessary in itself, and is required as a part of the sacrament of penance.

3. *Theol.* The atonement made by Christ for sin, according to the view that His sufferings and merits are accepted by the Divine justice as an equivalent for the penalty due for the sins of the world. So *doctrine of satisfaction.* Occas. said of Christ himself as the victim by whose sacrifice the satisfaction was made.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 282 And so, siþ Crist is God and man, satisfaccioun for þis synne þat he made þus freli is better þan oþer þat man or angel myȝt make. 1542 BECON *Potation for Lent* E vij, Christ alone is the omnisufficient satysfaccion for all oure synnes vnto God the father. 1549 LATIMER *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 33 By hym selfe and by none other, Chryste made purgacion and satisfaction for the whole worlde. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* I. 276 b, For he alone dyd with the sacrifice of his body and blod make satisfaction vnto the Iustice of god for our sinnes. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 158 Which cooperates and concurres with the aduocation and satisfaction of Iesus. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. vii. Wks. 1851 IV. 78 The prime end of the Gospel is not so much to exact our obedience, as to reveal grace and the satisfaction of our disobedience. 1657 *Treat. Conf. Sin* 314 There is a propitiatory satisfaction, which is Christ Jesus, for our sins and the sins of the whole world. 1696 STILLINGFL. *(title)* A Discourse concerning the Doctrine of Christ's Satisfaction. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. v. § 3 And some writers for the Trinity and Satisfaction of Christ have exposed themselves and the sacred doctrine by their feeble and foolish manner of handling it. 1872 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Lev.* v. Introd., In satisfaction, the mediator renders a perfect obedience to the law, and the penitent sinner who relies on his good offices is justified or accepted and treated as righteous.

4. The opportunity of satisfying one's honour by a duel; the acceptance of a challenge to a duel from the person who deems himself insulted or injured. Chiefly in phrases, *to give, demand satisfaction.*

1602 EARL NORTHUMBLD. in Collins *Peerage* (1779) II. 410 Seeke not by fryvelous shiftes to dyverte this course of satisfaction. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. i. 16, I gaue him satisfaction? would he had bin one of my Ranke. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 190 The English Gentleman, with mature deliberation, disputeth how farre his honour is ingaged, by the injury offered, and judiciously determineth his manner of satisfaction, according to the quality of the offence. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 25 P 5 It is called *Giving a Man Satisfaction*, to urge your Offence against him with your Sword. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 180 He was ready to give him satisfaction. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 24 Apr. (1815) 36 If he thinks himself injured, he knows where to come for satisfaction. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., When an officer or other person goes out to fight with one whom he has offended, or by whom he has been offended, he is said to give or take satisfaction.—Hence to demand satisfaction is tantamount to challenge, &c.—To call to account. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. xxvi. 152 If it prove so, and you will give me your card, I will see that you shall shortly have the satisfaction you require. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 489 The satisfaction consists in giving to the offender a chance of becoming either a murderer or murdered.

† **b.** *To give oneself satisfaction*: to be avenged *on* an offender. *Obs.*

1684 DRYDEN tr. *Maimbourg's Hist. League* 163 Who dar'd not to arrest any of them singly, the two remaining being at liberty, and in condition to give themselves satisfaction on the Aggressours.

II. With reference to desires or feelings.

5. The action of gratifying (an appetite or desire) to the full, or of contenting (a person) by the complete fulfilment of a desire or supply of a want; the fact of having been gratified to the full or of having one's desire fulfilled. Phrases, *to the satisfaction of*; *to give satisfaction.*

The first quot. is a mere literalism from the Vulgate, and the translator prob. attached no definite meaning to the word. One MS. adds the gloss 'or a covenable ansuere'.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* x. 20 The which thing whanne Moyses hadde herde, he resseyuede satysfaccioun [Vulg. *recepit satisfactionem*; Heb. lit. 'and Moses heard, and it was good in his eyes']. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 146 Though nature hath gyuen to man..natural inclynatyon to hys increse; yet, bycause man ys only borne to cyuylyte and polytyke rule, therfore he may not, wythout ordur or respecte, study to the satysfactyon of thys natural affecte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 275 If for this night he intreat you to his bed, giue him promise of satisfaction. 1622 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Prophetess* II. ii, Hate to vow'd enemies findes a full satisfaction in death. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* § 1. 14 When the Blessed Virgin was so ascertained, that she should be a Mother and a Maid,.. then all her hopes and all her desires received such satisfaction, as filled all the corners of her heart. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 1 For the satisfaction of our curiosity as to the true Origine of Nations. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 90 The Desire of Happiness is not absolutely secure of Satisfaction, but only upon Condition. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1788) 265 The profound respect I bear to the gracious Prince who governs this country with no less honour to himself than satisfaction to his subjects. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 168 My guide..did his duty entirely to my satisfaction. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xl. III. 219 The difficulty was settled to the satisfaction of everyone. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 191 This having been effected to the operator's satisfaction, he turns his attention once again..to the glass bulb.

b. Satisfied or contented state of mind; now usually, gratification or pleasure occasioned by some fact, event, or state of things. Const. *at, with,* † *of*; also followed by *that* with clause expressing the cause.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 7 The grettest richesse is satisfacion of the herte. *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Miserable St. Man* 4 His whole felicity is endlesse strife, No peace, no satisfaction, crownes his life. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. iv. (1620) 27 Who..did trauell towards his village, with very great satisfaction of himselfe. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 103, I had not very great satisfaction of the whole Family. 1721 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mr. W. M.* 24 Mar., Nothing touches me with satisfaction but what touches my heart. 1744 *Life & Adv. M. Bishop* 147, I was as happy in my Station, and enjoyed as much Peace and Satisfaction in my own Breast, as possibly the Duke of Marlborough could in his. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. v, Mrs. Miller expressed great satisfaction in these declarations. *Ibid.* ix, Jones expressed the utmost satisfaction at the account. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 151 Sapor..expressed his satisfaction that his brother, Constantius Cæsar, had been taught wisdom by adversity. 1797–8 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xliii, All within Elinor's breast was satisfaction, silent and strong. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. vi. 88 Is it not the way of men to dwell with satisfaction on their good deeds, particularly, when for some reason or other, their conscience smites them? 1848 W. H. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* xxiv. (1879) 480 The satisfaction of the traveller at Nazareth comes from the presence of those natural objects and scenes which alone remain unchanged.

c. A particular instance of satisfaction; an experience, fact, or circumstance that occasions gratification.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 88, I could earnestly have wished the Door had been open that I might have gone in..; but I had not that satisfaction. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxviii. 68 A Freedom,.. not to be Parted with for All the Sensual Satisfactions under the Sun. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 423 P 2 Gloriana has very good Sense, a quick Relish of the Satisfactions of Life. 1726 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 9 P 3 You own it would be a great Satisfaction to you to be placed upon the Throne by our Endeavours. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 112, I cannot express what a Satisfaction it was to me, to come into my old Hutch. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 1 Human curiosity..gives higher satisfactions than what even the senses can afford. 1869 J. D. BALDWIN *Prehist. Nations* ii. (1877) 26 It has undoubtedly furnished many satisfactions to those whose calling did not afford a more profitable occupation. 1883 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 8 The savage thinks only of present satisfactions, and leaves future satisfactions uncared for.

† **d.** *Bad satisfaction*: dissatisfaction, dissatisfying result. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxix. 81 Amongst all these bad satisfactions, nothing distasted..the Nobility more, then the severe Magistracy of the Censors. *Ibid., Polit. Touchstone* 414 Flanders..was therefore begun to be governed by forreiners, with such jealousies, ..which ingendered those ill humors, and gave that bad satisfaction, which was the rise of the civil war that insued.

6. 'Release from suspense, uncertainty, or uneasiness' (J.); information that answers a person's demands or needs; removal of doubt, conviction. Phrase, *to (a person's) satisfaction.*

† *In heavy satisfaction*: in sorrowful acceptance of the truth.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. iii. 5 What think'st thou, man, shall come of our attempts? For, even as from assured oracle, I take thy doom for satisfaction. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 100 But when I..inform'd her fully, I could not answer in that course of Honour As she had made the ouerture, she ceast In heauie satisfaction, and would neuer Receiue the Ring againe. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. ii. 73 *Cæs.* The cause is in my Will, I will not come, That is enough to satisfie the Senate. But for your priuate satisfaction, Because I loue you, I will let you know. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 270 Because these things are somewhat obscure, we referre you for further satisfaction to the Controuersies next ensuing. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. x. § 10. 359 Thus abundantly to the satisfaction of the minds of all good men hath God given the highest rational evidence of the truth of the doctrine which he hath revealed to the world. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 43 Prove it to my satisfaction. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* xi, I made my retreat, and was obliged to wait till the afternoon for further satisfaction. 1862 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1878) II. 404 An offence not proved to the 'satisfaction of the Court' escapes the judgement of the Court.

† **b.** Satisfying proof. *Obs.*

1601 LD. MOUNTJOY *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 123 Hereafter I doubt not but to give you satisfaction that I am not worthy of this wrong. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 26 In naturall Philosophy..it carryeth but slender consideration, for that also proceeding from setled principles, therein is expected a satisfaction from scientificall progressions, and such as beget, a sure and rationall beleefe. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 249, I have had very good Satisfaction, that it was utterly false.

† **c.** Solution (of a difficulty). *Obs.*

a 1547 COVERDALE *Fruitf. Less.* (1593) Mm 2, But this satisfaction concerning drunkennes,..is made with all meeknes, and yet with sinceritie and stedfastnes, not lordly, or braggingly, although he [*sc.* Peter] was highly endewed with the holy Ghost. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. iv. 103 But seeing they [*sc.* commentators] professe their calling to be a satisfaction of difficulties, it is in them an unexcusable lazinesse.

III. 7. *attrib.*, **satisfaction-money**, money paid in satisfaction; **satisfaction piece** *Law*, a formal acknowledgement given by one who has received satisfaction of a mortgage or judgement, to authorize the entry of such satisfaction on the record.

1868 BP. S. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1882) III. x. 280 That the *satisfaction-money for vested rights should be in a common fund. 1782 J. IMPEY *Pract. King's Bench* 378 *Satisfaction piece. 1887 *48th Deputy Kpr. Rep.* 628 The Satisfaction Pieces of the Court of Common Pleas do not differ in any essential feature from those of the Court of Queen's Bench.

Satisfactional (sætisfæ·kʃənăl), *a.* [-AL.] Be.onging to, or of the nature of, a satisfaction.

1874 BUSHNELL *Forgiven. & Law* Introd. 11 Its satisfactional substitute.

† **Satisfa·ctionar, -er.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. =next.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. iv. § 38. 152 As for those thinges that are commonly founde in the bookes of olde wryters concerning satisfaction, they litle moue me... Many of them..haue..spoken to crabbedly and hardely: but I will not graunt that they were so rude and vnskilfull as to haue wrytten those thynges in that sense that the newe Satisfactionars [1562 (ed. 2) satisfactionaries, 1578–1611 -ars, 1634 -ers] do reade them.

† **Satisfactionary.** *Obs. rare*⁻². [ad. mod.L. *satisfactiōnārius* (Calvin): see SATISFACTION and -ARY.] A believer in 'satisfaction' by penance.

1562 [see prec.]. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theorists Panegyr.* (1629) 33 There be a sort of Satisfactionaries, that boast their abilitie to quit them of their Aduersarie, they dare not say for their Talents, yet for their Farthings.

Satisfactionist (sætisfæ·kʃənist). *rare.* [f. SATISFACTION + -IST.] One who holds the doctrine that Christ suffered punishment as satisfaction for the sins of man: see SATISFACTION 3.

1668 PENN *Sandy Foundation* 28 Some..of the same spirit with the Satisfactionists and Imputarians of our time. 1669 OWEN *Declar. & Vind. Doctr. Trinity* 205 Is this your retribution, O injurious Satisfactionists? 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 145 Yet where is there any trace in it of the satisfactionist's redemption?

Satisfa·ctionless, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. SATISFACTION + -LESS.] Without satisfaction.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xii. (1852) 143 Wait for what Is on the wing already, or else have The aimless satisfactionless result As of a lunge into the empty air.

Satisfactive (sætisfæ·ktiv), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [as if ad. L. **satisfactīvus*, f. *satisfact-*, *satisfacĕre* to SATISFY: see -IVE.] **A.** *adj.* † **a.** ? Adequate to the requirements of the case. *Obs.* **b.** In Bentham's use: Consisting in or concerned with 'satisfaction' or reparation.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xi. 334 By a finall and satisfactive discernment of faith, we lay the last and particular effects upon the first and generall cause of all things. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 79 The two remedies which wrong in every shape calls for: namely, the satisfactive and the punitive. 1830 — *Offic. Apt. Maximized* Pref. 25 *note*, Punishment, together with the several other remedies, which the nature of things admits of:—namely, satisfactive, suppressive, and preventive.

† **B.** *sb.* 'An act of satisfaction; compensation; requital; amends' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

† **Satisfactor.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [quasi-Lat. agent-n. f. L. *satisfacĕre* to SATISFY.] One who makes satisfaction (for sin).

1540 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) f vj, Yet call ye them happie that punishe them selues, and take vpon them to be satisfactours in that behalfe.

Satisfactorily (sætisfæ·ktərili), *adv.* [f. SATISFACTORY *a.* + -LY².] In a satisfactory manner.

1587 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 68 He was bothe oulde and partly blind, and..lacked knowledge to do them satisfactorilye. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 157 Bellonius hath beene more satisfactorily experimentall. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 105 We cannot yet, perhaps never shall, interpret it satisfactorily. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 33/1 Dr. Farmer had most satisfactorily proved that Shakspeare was not versed in Greek or Latin. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. 138 He was denied the opportunity..of explaining satisfactorily the facts which tended to criminate him. 1869 H. AINSWORTH *Hilary St. Ives* II. vii, All seemed going on as smoothly and satisfactorily as those interested..could desire.

Satisfactoriness (sætisfæ·ktərinĕs). [f. SATISFACTORY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or character of being satisfactory.

1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* vi. (1700) 40 'Tis a good sign.. when the Incompleatness of our Seraphick Lover's happiness in his Fruitions proceeds not from their want of Satisfactoriness. 1649 PRYNNE *Subst. Sp. Ho. Comm.* title-p., Wherein the Satisfactorinesse of the Kings Answers..is clearly demonstrated. 1671 BAXTER *Holiness Design Chr.* xliii. 12 The satisfactoriness and meritoriousness of the Death or Sacrifice of Christ. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, Where's the satisfactoriness of the money as yet? 1891 *Spectator* 14 Mar., Much of the satisfactoriness of the arrangement will depend upon their perfect trustworthiness.

† **Satisfacto·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻². [f. med.L. *satisfactōri-us* (see SATISFACTORY *a.*) + -OUS.] Making satisfaction. Hence † **Satisfacto·riously** *adv.*, satisfactorily.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 97 Acknowledgyng their sinnes in the feare of God, but yet with a true fayth hopyng for remission of sinnes, knowyng that they are thorough Christ reconciled to God the father. The Monasticall, Heremiticall Satisfactorious, and Pharisaicall faction doth not fully acknowledge this doctrine. *a* 1623 W. PEMBLE *Justif.* (1629) 242 Christ hath deserued for them to make them [*sc.* our workes] satisfactorious. 1662 BOYLE *Style of Script.* Rdr.'s Pref., There is great hope that some Answering this Objection, another that, and a third another, they may at length be all of them Satisfactoriously reply'd to.

Satisfactory (sætisfæ·ktəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *satisfactoire* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *satisfactōri-us*, f. L. *satisfacĕre* to SATISFY. Cf. Sp., Pg. *satisfactorio*, It. *satisfattorio*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Eccl.* and *Theol.* Serving to make satisfaction or atonement for sin. (Cf. SATISFACTION 2, 3.)

1547 *Act* 1 *Edw. VI*, c. 14 § 1 Vain Opinions of Purgatory and Masses satisfactory, to be done for them which be departed. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. xxvii. 41 The satisfactory, expiatory, and propitiatory sacrifice of Christ Jesus. 1656 JEANES *Fuln. Christ* 324 Like pretended satisfactory punishments. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 113 That is to say, as Satisfactory penances, and not by way of correction and emendation of life. 1786 A. GIB *Sacred Contempl.* 271 His meritorious service must be considered as running through all his satisfactory sufferings. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5) s.v. *Redemption*, Christ..atoned by His passion, He merited by His holy actions, yet so that His actions were also satisfactory and His passion meritorious.

2. Serving to satisfy a debt or obligation. *rare.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Satisfactorie*, that dischargeth, or answereth for. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 202 Then each might show, to his admiring friends, In honourable bumps his rich amends, And carry, in contusions of his skull, A satisfactory receipt in full.

† **b.** *To stand satisfactory to*: to consent to fulfil (a request). *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 59 If you will stand satisfactorie to my request.

† **3.** Of an explanation or argument: Serving merely to satisfy the inquirer, or objector; merely plausible. *Obs.* (Only in Bacon.)

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 7 The handling of finall causes..hath..giuen men the occasion, to stay vpon these satisfactorie and specious causes, to the great arrest..of further discouerie. *Ibid.* xxv. § 12 It is true, that knowledges reduced into exact Methodes haue a shew of strength. ..But this is more satisfactorie then substantiall. *Ibid.* II. xiii. § 4.

4. a. Sufficient for the needs of the case, adequate. Of an argument: Convincing. † Of an author: Treating adequately of his subject. **b.** That justifies a feeling of satisfaction; such as one may be content or pleased with.

1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* III. iv. 240 How gladly should we beare him out, and returne him a satisfactory answer. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 206, I will..referre onely him that is scrupulous herein, unto a most learned, and satisfactory Author, Grotius. 1663 COWLEY *Ess. & Verses, Greatness* Wks. 1710 II. 745 [The prince] could find out no Delight so satisfactory, as the keeping of little singing Birds, and hearing of them, and whistling to them. 1691 *Life Father Sarpi* 56 They first moved the Patriarch Priuli to deprive him of his faculty of confessing, thereby to shorten the father of his wonted, but poore, and yet satisfactory allowance. 1683 DR. ROBINSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 135 It [the letter] was not so satisfactory as I wished. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 89, I could not learn of any a satisfactory reason for that last signification. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Pref., Wks. I. 83, I have endeavoured to make this edition something more full and satisfactory than the first. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Chimney-sweepers*, It is the time when..the kennels of our fair metropolis give forth their least satisfactory odours. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 45 But James supposed that the Primate was struck dumb by the irresistible force of reason, and eagerly challenged His Grace to produce..a satisfactory reply. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiv. 361, I also made a few experiments at Rosenlaui,..but the result was not satisfactory. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* Introd., [He] went home with a triumphant light in his eyes after concluding a satisfactory marriage for his son. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 28 A cheaper but less satisfactory method.

† **B.** *sb.* **a.** A place or means of atonement or retribution. **b.** One who makes satisfaction (for the sins of another). *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 307/2 For to punishe a man that hath forsaken sinne of his owne accorde, is not to purge him, but to satisfie the lust of a tyrant. Neyther ought it to be called Purgatory, but a layle of tormenting and a satisfactory. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvii. (1592) 277 Among all people we see there were..Sacrifices to appease Gods wrath, Mysticall washings, and Satisfactories or Notaries that were charged with the sinnes of some whole Realme, Citie, or State.

Satisfiable (sæ·tisfəiăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SATISFY *v.* + -ABLE.] † **a.** In active sense: Satisfactory. *Obs.* **b.** Capable of being satisfied, able to be or that may be satisfied.

1609 T. MORTON *Answ. Higgons* 6, I shall presently returne him..a satisfiable answer. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 296 Having but one belly satisfyable with a little. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* vii. 96 This may satisfie (if this man be satisfiable) that bold challenge of the former page. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* To Rdr. 6 Nor is reason unback'd with better principles mathematically satisfiable in matters of this kind. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 7 (1713) I. 42, I will give you Satisfaction if you be satisfiable. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlvi. 241 Merely expressing anxiety for my welfare, not satisfiable but by letters, which do not promote it.

Sa·tisfice, -fise, *v. Obs.* exc. *north.* (see E.D.D.). [Alteration of SATISFY (influenced by L. *satisfacĕre*).] *trans.* = SATISFY *v.*

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 168 b, That their founders were nourished by suckyng of a wolfe: so haue all that people wolues mindes, neuer satisfised with bloud, euer greedy of dominion and hungryng after riches. 1597 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 417 The other officers will nott be satisficed. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 325 Satisfic'd, that is, satisfied.

Satisfied (sæ·tisfəid), *ppl. a.* [f. SATISFY *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Contented, pleased, gratified.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 78 [He] might rest his satisfied looks on this trophy of his success. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiii, She..felt..elated, perhaps, with a certain degree of satisfied pride while under his momentary protection. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xix, It was impossible to mistake the satisfied expression that flashed over her countenance. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 205 Bright fancies, satisfied memories.

2. Of a debt or obligation: Discharged, paid in full.

1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 659 A satisfied term set up by a mortgagor against a mortgagee. 1845 *Act* 8 & 9 *Vict.* c. 112 § 1 Every satisfied Term of Years.. shall on that Day absolutely cease and determine as to the Land upon the Inheritance or Reversion whereof such Term shall be attendant.

Hence **Sa·tisfiedly** *adv.*; **Sa·tisfiedness.**

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xvii. 15 David dooth woorthely terme this peace or joy of the spirit, by the name of satisfyednesse. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., Buy who list, contemne who list, I leaue euery Reader his free libertie. If the best sort of men I content, I am satis-fiedly successfull. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 189 My satisfiedness in, and adhæsion to the piety and probity of my breeding and belief. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Not Wisely* II. xi. 230 His eyes sought her face and dwelt there satisfiedly.

Satisfier (sæ·tisfəiəi). [f. SATISFY *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or something which satisfies.

1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 140 The conscience of man is..also a satisfier or ioyfull quieter of the minde in all his doings. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 190 Wee beliéue thee to be an absolute satisfier for sinne. 1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 556 By the vertue thereof men are made satisfiers of Diuine Iustice, together with Christ. 1706 BP. W. SHERIDAN *Disc.* III. 97 It was fit that the satisfier should be God and man. 1892 H. RICE in *Home & For. Miss. Rec.* (Scot.) Mar., Christianity..the satisfier of all human aspirations.

Satisfy (sæ·tisfəi), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **satysfy(e**, 5–7 **satisfye**, (6 **satisfey**, *Sc.* **satisffi**, *pa. pple.* **satesfet**, **-fit**), 6–8 **satisfie**, (7 **sattisfy**), 6– **satisfy**. Also SATIFY. [a. OF. *satisfier* (also *satifier*, *satefier*), irregularly (see -FY) ad. L. *satisfacĕre*, orig. two words, *satis* enough, *facĕre* to do. Cf. OF., F. *satisfaire*, Pr. *satisfar*, Sp. *satisfacer*, Pg. *satisfazer*, It. *satis-*, *soddisfare*.]

I. With reference to debt or obligation.

1. *trans.* To pay off or discharge fully; to liquidate (a debt); to fulfil completely (an obligation), comply with (a demand). Now somewhat rare exc. in *Law*.

In the first quot. perh. *intr.* = to pay what is due.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 43 To satisfye it is

but impossible,—It may not be parformed as for me, What eyled me, lord, maryed for to be. 1578 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 128 After all my dettes are satisfied. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. viii. (1636) 33, I shall satisfie my contract with a sixpenny piece so raised. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* xxiii. 384 When they cannot satisfie their Debts. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 36 At this day many Gentlemen..have sold Land since they entered into these Bonds, and the Bonds not satisfied. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 485 Before his [a bankrupt's] debts are satisfied or agreed for. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 783 'Tis finish'd, and yet, finish'd as it seems, Still wants a grace, the loveliest it could show, A mine to satisfy th'enormous cost. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 276 The personal estate was not sufficient to satisfy legacies. 1847–9 HELPS *Friends in C.* (1851) I. 117 Claims which cannot be satisfied, ought not to be satisfied, and which, being unsatisfied, embitter people. 1886 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 196/1 The reserve fixed by the judge was not sufficient to satisfy the first and second mortgage debentures.

† b. *impers.* in passive, *It is satisfied*: full payment has been made (*to* a person *of* or *for* a debt).

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 198 To hold her distresse til þat hyt were satisfiede to þe foreseyde abbas & couent for all þynges. *Ibid.* 411 Yf hit were not I-satisfied fully in ony terme to the said mynchons..of the said rent. *Ibid.* 486, 530.

† c. With the money paid as object. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 199 The one hundred pounds which my brother and I carried in our purses, would not satisfie the five hundred pound we had spent. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Though I ken my father will satisfy every penny of this siller, whatever there's o't, yet I wadna like to borrow it frae one that maybe thinks of something mair than the paying o't back again.

d. To pay (a creditor). Const. *of* (the debt, a sum of money); † formerly occas. with the debt, etc. as second object. Now *rare* exc. in legal use.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 425/1 Ye said Lords..agreed..to make hym to be satisfied and paide of the seid yerly sommes. 1455–6 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 289 Tyll he satysfy the courte of the sayd sowme. 1558 CARD. POLE *Let.* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* ii. (1709) 50, I thought it my duty before I should depart,..to leave all persons satisfied of me. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* III. i, That shee [Earth] is satisfied what he did owe, Both principall and use. 1667 in J. Watson *Jedburgh Abbey* (1894) 89 [The council] ordains James Fall to be satisfied of the sum of £200 for timber bought by him. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxix. 28 The Defendant [a sheep] was cast into Costs and Damages, and forc'd to sell the Wool off his Back to satisfie the Creditor. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) III. vii. 165 It is very true, that Motives, not at all akin to Pride, frequently induce those of high Rank to neglect or even refuse satisfying their Creditors. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 141 A tenant by the curtesy may also redeem a mortgage, and hold the lands till he is satisfied. 1825 T. LEE *Dict. Pract. Civ. Actions* (ed. 2) II. 1224 The said ——..acknowledges himself to be satisfied by the said —— of the damages, costs, and charges aforesaid, ..therefore the said —— is acquitted of the said damages, costs, and charges.

fig. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 8/2 Compelled him within thre daies to satisfie nature, and repaie her the life which he receiued of her.

† e. To remunerate; to pay for services. *Obs.*

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 141 We are ready to depart, as soone as they, by whose meanes you enioy the land, are satisfied for their pay. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 126 We thought our selues now fully satisfied for our long toile and labours. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. v. 128 These Indians did us good service,..and for this their service we satisfied them to their hearts content. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 388 It is not a Compositor's duty; especially where he has no expectation of being satisfied for it.

† 2. To make compensation or reparation for (a wrong, injury); to atone for (an offence). *Obs.*

c 1460 *Wisdom* 1084 in *Macro Plays* 71 Yet of my selff I may not satysfye my trespas. *a* 1585 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 319 b, Thy death shall satisfie thy iniury, & my malice. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 66 Repentance satisfies the deepest offences. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 28 Why should not that dead carrion satisfye The guilt? 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burning Pest.* III. i, Come, by this hand you dye, I must have life and blood to satisfie Your fathers wrongs. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* (1654) 23 He is bound either to prevent the buyers wrong; or if heedlesly done, to satisfy it. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. 343 A complaint of a ship taken was ready to have been satisfied, but Downing hindered it.

b. To make atonement or reparation to (a person, his honour, etc.).

1602 EARL NORTHUMBLD. in Collins *Peerage* (1779) II. 413 Sir Frauncis Verre was willing to satisfye his Lordshipp [in a duel]. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 237 Now it seems he hath satisfied Divine Justice, in case I do satisfie it my self. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 432 God's Holiness, by Sin defy'd, The Lamb unspotted satisfy'd. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 556 In the way of justice He satisfied for men, delivering Himself for their faults to the pain of death, to satisfy the honour of the Divine Majesty, so that sin should not remain unpunished.

3. *intr.* To make satisfaction, full payment, reparation, or atonement. Const. *for*, *to* (a debt or offence). *Obs.* exc. *Theol.* (said of Christ).

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 45 Vndur the condicion that they satisfye & make good to hym thorow whose londys they make her cundyt for the harmys. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) L. ix. 14 b/2 If thou wylt promyse tamende thy conscyence & satysfye for thy synnes we shal praye god for the. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 326/2 Obiectyng that no men mai satisfy for another. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) N iij, Thinckinge be me selfe where in I mighte doo you service agreable for to satisfye to my fautes. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* vii. 47 b, May..an other mans penance satisfy for your sinnes? 1565 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 303 Persons lying in fornication, under promise of mariage, which they differe to solemnize, sould satisfie publicklie in the place of repentance, upon the Lord's Day, before they be maried. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 205 Wanting otherwise to satisfie for his raunsome, and having good leysure to devise for his deliverance. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, III. iii. (1598) F 2, For which ere long, their heades shall satisfie: T'appeaze the wrath of their offended king. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 2 Having beene bound in a great summe of money for one of his friends, whom misfortune had made unable to satisfie. *c* 1660 SOUTH *Serm. John* vii. 17 (1715) I. 219 That he should die and satisfy for the Sins of the World. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 295 So Man..Shall satisfie for Man, be judg'd and die. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* II. x. (1699) 237 If the malice of Sin be so exorbitant, that nothing can satisfie for it, less than God. 1701 J. LAW *Counc. Trade* (1751) 218 If he have not to satisfy for the theft, then to be condemned for any time, not exceeding six years more. 1732 *Wedding Serm.* i. Ded. 2 The Son of the Highest died to satisfy for it [*sc.* sin]. 1860 [see 2 b].

II. With reference to feelings or needs.

4. *trans.* To meet or fulfil the wish or desire or expectation of; to be accepted by (a person, his taste, judgement, etc.) as all that could be reasonably desired; to content.

To satisfy the examiners: in English Universities, the technical phrase indicating that a person has 'passed' an examination, but is not entitled to 'honours'.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 348 And yf this can not satysfye your mynde I shall doo yet more. Playseth it to you for to pardonne my bredern and I shall forswere Fraunce for evermore. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CXC. 193 With whiche fayre speche, the duke..was wele satysfyed & content. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 b, My herte good lorde can not be satisfyed in this worlde. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 It is harde to satisfye all men. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 7 b, Muche parte of the common people were therewith right well satisfied. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 109 These two young Princes to satisfie the king [who had sent for them] tooke their way by sea, towards Thrace. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. 351 He was cheerful and seemed fully satisfied with his death. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 154 The sports of children satisfy the child. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 199 Nature inanimate employs sweet sounds,..To sooth and satisfy the human ear. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, 'It's well I am easily satisfied,' returned the other with a smile. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* viii. § 7 (ed. 3) 219 The Dorian mountains were ill calculated to satisfy men whose ancestors had inherited the fertile plains of the Peloponnesus. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 548 That every exertion would be made to satisfy him. 1861 J. E. T. ROGERS *Educ. Oxf.* 37 Certain persons who, attempting only to satisfy the examiners, do more than satisfy them, are by the practice of the schools, and under the sanction of the statute, distinguished by having an honorary class..assigned to them. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* iii. 68 The theological creed of the Church to which they belong satisfies them perfectly.

b. with obj. a desire, expectation, etc.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 2 My sincere endeuour to satisfie your honest expectation. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 40 Albeit the sayd Baltizar had not throughlie satisfied the expectacion of our Captaine, yet did hee wiselie dissemble his conceipte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 170 Do not satisfie your resolution with hopes that are fallible, to morrow you must die, goe to your knees, and make ready. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 1 Apr., I have it in my power to satisfy your curiosity. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Old Margate Hoy*, The incapacity of actual objects for satisfying our preconceptions of them. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 215 A few names awaken curiosity without satisfying it.

† c. *refl.* To make oneself content (*with* something); to consider it sufficient *to do* something. Also, to bring or persuade oneself *to do* something distasteful. *Obs.*

1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 11 Ioash the king of Israel did not satisfie himselfe, till he had smitten the ground three times. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 2, I..shall satisfie my self for the present to tell you, that..we sailed happily for some few dayes. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 110 Nor could I satisfy myself to eat them, tho' I kill'd several. *Ibid.* II. 397 The two English Men were so encourag'd, that they could not satisfy themselves to stay any longer there..but away they went in Quest of the Savages. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. iv, Mr. Delvile, should he find a daughter-in-law descended..from Egbert,..won't be so well off as if he had satisfied himself with you.

d. In *passive*, To be content (*with*); with *inf.*, to find it sufficient, desire or demand no more than *to do* something (cf. the reflexive use c). Phrase, *to rest satisfied*. Also in stronger sense, to be well pleased (*with*, † *at*).

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 217 The melodye..was so swete..that euery man was satysfyed with the herynge therof. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxii. § 21 God was satisfied with that she did. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 104 Be satisfied; Your Brother dies to morrow; be content. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 643 The King seems to be much more satisfied at it, than any other concerned in it. 1685 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 41 M. de la Haye bid 'em rest satisfi'd. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 170 We were fain to rest satisfied then, with what we saw of that Monastery from the top of the Mount. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. 2 The heroes of Greece..not satisfy'd with making the passage of the seas known. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 394 While he, Not satisfied to prey on all around, ..first torments ere he devours. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vii. ¶ 15 Not satisfied to humbug a silly old gentleman with a tale of love. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xx, She must be satisfied..to know that her husband is under the guidance of a friend. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix, Can you be satisfied with such a way of spending your probation? 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxix, He had the air of a man well satisfied with the world.

5. *absol.* and *intr.* To cause or give satisfaction or contentment.

1600 *Chester Pl.* Proëm 44 If the same be likeinge to the comons all, then our desier is to satisfie—for that is all our game. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 210 This would not satisfy, but they called him to answer publickly. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 243 What would have satisfied from the Duke will not satisfy from Lord Grey. 1836 EMERSON *Nature* iii. Wks. (Bohn) II. 145 But in other hours, Nature satisfies by its loveliness, and without any mixture of corporeal benefit. 1903 *Heart of Heretic* vi. 33 The first and last need of an aspect of religious truth is that it shall *satisfy*.

6. *trans.* To cause to have enough; to supply fully the needs of; to put an end to (an appetite, a want) by fully supplying it.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xvii. 37 Sum wald tak all this warldis breid, And ȝit not satisfeit of thair neid [*Maitl. MS.* not ȝit can be satisfeid]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxii. 66 Yf he were in the gretest famyn.., he sholde be satysfied as well as though he had eten al that he wolde wysshe for. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 180 So should I rob my sweet Sonnes of their fee, No let them satisfie their lust on thee [Lavinia]. 1593 — *Lucr.* 422 As the grim Lion fawneth ore his pray, Sharpe hunger by the conquest satisfied. 16xx BIBLE *Ecclus.* xii. 16 Hee will not be satisfied with blood. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 991 So Death shall be deceav'd his glut, and with us two Be forc'd to satisfie his Rav'nous Maw. 1690 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1694) I. 88 There are some Appetites of Man which are never satisfied. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 209 He takes a great deal of food without being satisfied. 1857 H. H. WILSON tr. *Rig-veda* III. 158 Indra..has inundated the dry lands, and (satisfied) the thirsty travellers.

refl. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xv. 129 b, They cannot satisfie them of the pleasure which is there.

7. To furnish with sufficient proof or information; to assure or set free from doubt or uncertainty; to convince.

1520 NISBET *N. T.*, *Summe Matt.* (S.T.S.) I. 6 The angell satisffijs Josephs mynd. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 8 You haue ryght wel satysfyd me in my dowte. 16xx SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. 92 No farther halting: satisfie me home, What is become of her? 16xx BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 8 If any doubt hereof, he may be satisfied by examples enough. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xlvi. (Arb.) 67 He finds reason in all opinions, truth in none: indeed the least reason perplexes him, and the best will not satisfie him. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 10 Where I cannot satisfy my reason, I love to humour my fancy. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 275 All I can do is, to satisfy you, and to leave you to satisfy those whom you think worthy of being informed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 119 These expressions were far from satisfying the Chancellor. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iii. 104 He..cannot comprehend, the arguments which satisfy men of sober sense that his views are erroneous.

absol. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 7 Methodes are more fit to winne Consent; or beleefe; but lesse fit to point to Action; for they carrie a kinde of Demonstration in Orbe or Circle, one part illuminating another; and therefore satisfie.

refl. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xiv. 162 For to satisfy my selfe vpon this point and question, I demaunded particularly of the said Pilot, how he found the tides in the straight. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 31 Which is the very matter of Fact, as any one that pleases may easily satisfie himself by Experiment. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 332 They seem by no means sollicitous to satisfy themselves on this subject.

b. const. *of*, † *in*.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* V. i. 296, I am sure you are not satisfied Of these euents at full. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 304 That the kings Maiestie..shall in part be satisfied of the diligence which I haue vsed in his seruice. 1614 SIR R. DUDLEY in *Fortesc. Papers* (Camden) 11 This for the present is as much as I can saye to satisfye his Majestye in this point. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 16 This I would willingly be satisfy'd in. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Advert., No one can..be satisfied of the contrary. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. vi, When Sophia was well satisfied of the violent passion which tormented poor Jones, and no less certain that she herself was its object. *Ibid.* XVIII. vi, You need be under no Apprehension, Sir, I shall satisfy Mr. Allworthy very perfectly of that Matter.

refl. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XXXVI. (1668) 461 The Young man..soon satisfied himself in the truth of what he said.

c. with *subordinate clause*. Also parenthetically, *I am* (*he is*, etc.) *satisfied*.

1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 32 Desyres to be satisfyed whether sylke may be so dyed or noe. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 205 Two good deep ditches built about with Free-stone, which satisfy'd us they were the ruins of an impregnable Fortress. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* IV. 125 We are satisfyed the foundation upon which we build is safe. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, Being satisfied what shall be the distance between the center and every angle, with that distance describe a circle. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 324/2 It's a great thing, I'm satisfied, in a street-trade,..to understand the goods you're talking about. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 May 5/2 The success of the French at Sontay..had no doubt satisfied the Chinese that their troops were no match for those of France.

refl. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* Pref. (1690) a 3 b, Having satisfied myself, that the..Affairs of England are in no deplorable Condition. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvi. 370 We have at all events satisfied ourselves that [etc.]. 1892 T. W. ERLE in *Law Times* XCIII. 417/1 Information..to enable anybody to satisfy himself as to how things are done.

8. To answer sufficiently (an objection, a question); to fulfil or comply with (a request); to solve (a doubt, a difficulty).

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 108 If I should throughlie satisfie your request, this daie would not be inough to doe it. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1626) 10 And I shall gladly, and briefly, satisfie your demaund. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 420 Many shrewd objections may be alleadged to the contrary, which we shall endevour to satisfie in order. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v, Thou hast not satisfied my question. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 527 'Tis revelation

satisfies all doubts. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. xviii. 264 Revelation was not given us to satisfy doubts, but to make us better men. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* I. i. § 4 (1875) 16 They are liable to forget that information, however extensive it may become, can never satisfy inquiry.

9. To answer the requirements of (a state of things, a hypothesis, etc.); to accord with (conditions). †Also *rarely* of a person: To fulfil the requirements of.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiv. 208 Where none of these can satisfie the sense of that word in Scripture. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 47, I met an ingenious Account, among some excellent Geometricians of this Probleme, which perhaps may satisfie the difficulty. *a* 1754 SIR J. STRANGE *Reports* (1782) I. 58 Pratt J. This man has fully satisfied the words of the act of Parliament. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. iv. 4 When there are four or five different conditions to satisfy, the range of choice must be so much the wider. 1883 CHRYSTAL in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 244/1 The assumption of uniform magnetization will enable us to satisfy the law of induction. In point of fact, substituting..and transposing, we get three linear equations to determine A_1, B_1, C_1 in terms of α_0, β_0, γ_0.

b. *Algebra.* Of a known quantity: To fulfil the conditions of, to be an admissible solution of (an equation).

c 1826 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 544/1 A value of the unknown quantity, which thus converts the equation into an identity, is said to *satisfy* the equation. 1842 COLENSO *Elem. Algebra* vi. (ed. 3) 53. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 25 Any three numbers which will satisfy this equation.

Satisfying (sæ·tisfəi$_1$iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb SATISFY in various senses.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 107 They oughte of necessitie to answere to this poinct, for the satisfiynge as well of his father as his fellowes. 1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 215 For the satisfying of their lusts. 1795 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 270 The satisfying of their own minds as to the cause of such appearances. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xii, In the great, full world of powers, and knowledges, and possible joys and satisfyings.

Satisfying (sæ·tisfəi$_1$iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SATISFY *v.* + -ING 2.] That satisfies, in the senses of the verb.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 9 He hath giuen me satisfying Reasons. 1725 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 232 It's satisfying to me to find him so warm and earnest for our Redeemer's Proper and Supreme Deity. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* v. Wks. 1851 II. 46 A satisfying answer was given to the regent's demands. 1900 P. C. SIMPSON *Fact of Christ* v. 184 Any true or satisfying view of life must take account of death.

Hence **Sa·tisfyingly** *adv.*, **Sa·tisfyingness.**

1643 TORSHELL *Case Consc.* 13 Satisfyingly. *a* 1709 J. NIMMO *Narr.* (S. H. S. 1889) 30 That word came satisfienglie in ther minde, Isay 41 & 10. 1856 FABER *Creator & Creature* III. i. (1858) 332 There is also a satisfyingness about it [*sc.* the sense of pardon], which seldom accompanies other joys. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Mar. 3/3 An etching from a small Landseer..has been satisfyingly executed by Mr. C. O. Murray.

Satispassion (sætispæ·ʃən). *Theol.* [ad. med.L. **satispassiōnem*, f. phrase *satis patī* to suffer enough (*satis* enough, *patī* to suffer): cf. PASSION.] Atonement by an adequate degree of suffering.

1624 BP. ANDREWES 96 *Serm.* (1629) 77 This, this is the great *With us*:..With us, in all the vertues and merits of His life; With us, in the satisfaction and satis-passion (both) of His death. 1678 J. S. *Unerrable Church* 311 This is don either by Satispassion suffering the pains of Purgatorie for a certain time; or [etc.]. 1890 W. J. B. RICHARDS *Catech. Indulg.* 8 This [reparation for sin] may be made..by satispassion, or sufferings simply endured. 1897 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 5) s.v. *Redemption*, Like His satispassion, so His satisfaction embraces the whole earthly career of the Saviour.

†**Sa·tive,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *satīv-us* that may be sown or planted, f. *sa-*, root of *serĕre* to sow: see -TIVE.] Sown or planted; cultivated, not wild.

1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* P 4 b, Tabacco... Translated out of India in the seed or roote; Natiue or satiue in our own fruitfullest soiles. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 2 These [trees] we shall divide into the greater and more ceduous..and such as are sative and hortensial. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pine*, The wild Pine differs no otherwise from the Sative.

†**Sa·tivous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *satīvus*: see SATIVE *a.* and -OUS.] = SATIVE.

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 72/1 in *Gard. Assist.*, Sativous, or cultivated common garlick.

Satle, Satling, obs. ff. SETTLE, SETTLING.

Satnace, Saton(e, obs. ff. SATANAS, SATAN.

Saton, obs. form of SATIN *sb.*

Saturday, obs. form of SATURDAY.

†**Sato·rious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *satōri-us* (f. *sator*, agent-n. f. *sa-*, *serĕre* to sow) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Satorious*,..belonging to a Sator, or to him that sows, sets, or plants.

Satrap (sē·træp, sæ·træp). Forms: 4-5 **satrape**, 4-5, 8- **satrap**; also in L. form 6-8 **satrapa**, (*pl.* **satrapæ, satrapaes**), 6 *erron.* **satrapas, satrapos.** [ad. L. *satrapa, satrapes*, a. Gr. σατράπης, also ἐξατράπης, **ἐξαυθράπης* (implied in the derivative ἐξαυθραπεύειν to be a satrap), ad. OPers. *xšaθra-pāvan-*, lit. 'protector of the country', f. *xsaθra-* country (= Skr. *kshatra*) + *pā-* to protect. The OPers. word appears in Heb. as אחשדרפנים *pl.*, in Masoretic vocalization *ḫashdarp'nīm.*

Cf. F. *satrape*, Sp. *sátrapa*, It. *satrapo.*]

1. A governor of a province under the ancient Persian monarchy. (In the Book of Daniel anachronistically attributed to the Babylonian empire.)

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 3 Than satrapes weren gedrid. 1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 17 In somme countreys of Persia, a great lord, that they cal Satrapa, occupieth the rowme of bothe lyeutenauntes. 1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Glass* (1598) E 4 b, I am not chiefe, there is more great then I, What greater then Th'assirian Satrapos? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 135 The royall pallace of their great dukes & potentates, named Satrapæ. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims of State* Rem. (1664) 17 To that end serves the Persian practise, in having a Band, or Train of the Satrapa's children, and other Nobles to attend the Court. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* IV. 297 Th' innumerable host Roll back by nations, and admit their lord With all his Satraps. 1815 BYRON *Vis. Belshazzar* i, The King was on his throne, The Satraps throng'd the hall. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xiii. II. 185 The satraps were accountable for the imposts of their several provinces. 1885 BIBLE (R.V.) *Dan.* iii. 3 The satraps, the deputies, and the governors.

2. *transf.* A subordinate ruler; often suggesting an imputation of tyranny or ostentatious splendour. [The sense 'domineering person' appears in med.Latin, and in all the Rom. langs.]

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 7 þat schal not be dispensid wiþ but reserued to a gretter̃e satrap. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* i. 6 But sey me now, Syr Satrapas, what autoryte ye haue In your chalenge, Syr Chystyn, to cale me knaue? 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 63 The byshoppe would beare nothynge at all wyth hym, but played me the Satrapa. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat.* i. 137 For shame leaue running to some Satrapas, Leaue glauering on him in the peopled presse. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* iv. (1876) I. 210 Elizabeth..must have shuddered at the thought of seeing a republican assembly substituted for those faithful satraps her bishops. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, A private secretary to one of our Indian satraps. 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Irish Hist.* 121 Louis XIV..acted on England through his subsidized satraps.

Satrapaire, variant of SATRAPER.

Satrapal (sæ·trăpăl), *a.* [f. SATRAP + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a satrap or satraps.

[*a* 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 316 Satrapal fool.] 1887 B. V. HEAD *Hist. Numorum* 512 Satrapal Coinage in Ionia. *Ibid.* 676 A series of uncertain Satrapal coins.

Satrapate (sæ·trăpe^{i}t). [f. SATRAP + -ATE.] A province governed by a satrap.

1888 *Times* 12 Sept. 5/3 Who have the ambition to see Servia become a Russian satrapate.

†**Sa·traper.** *Obs.* Also 5 **satrapaire, satropar.** [f. SATRAP + -ER.] A satrap.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1913 þe soueraynest of my seniourie my sa[t]roparis [*Dubl. MS.* satrapers] hatten. *Ibid.* 2694 Þour satrapaires [*Dubl. MS.* satrapers]. *Ibid.* 2758 Þus send I to my satraparis [*Dubl. MS.* satrapars].

Satrapess (sē·trăpĕs, sæ·trăpĕs). [f. SATRAP + -ESS.] A female satrap.

1832 C. T[HIRLWALL] in *Philol. Museum* I. 376 Alexander ..left Ada as queen or satrapess of Caria.

Satrapial (sătrē·piăl), *a.* [f. SATRAP + -IAL.] = SATRAPAL.

1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 558 The satrapial system, which had been introduced by the Persians.

Satrapian (sătrē·piăn), *a.* [f. SATRAP + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to a satrap; tyrannical.

1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 270 After many similar satrapian invectives.

Satrapic (sătræ·pik), *a.* [f. SATRAP + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a satrap.

c 1535 J. AP RICE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 356 Also I require more modestie, gravitie, and affabilitie, which wolde purchase hym more reverence than his owne setting foorth and Satrapike countenance. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxii. IX. 363 Near the satrapic residence.

Satrapical (sătræ·pikăl), *a.* [f. SATRAPIC + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a satrap; also *fig.* cruel, tyrannical.

1823 SYD. SMITH *Botany Bay* Wks. 1859 II. 23 These Asiatic and satrapical proceedings. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 140 They then found themselves amidst several villages, wherein were regal or satrapical residences.

†**Sa·trapon.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *satrapone*, augm. of *satrapo* SATRAP.] An important personage.

1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 34 The peeple shew'd it to their Satrapons [orig. It. *Satraponi*] and Councel.

Satrapy (sē·trăpi, sæ·trăpi). [a. F. *satrapie*, ad. L. *satrapia, satrapēa*, a. Gr. σατραπεία, f. σατράπης SATRAP.]

1. A province ruled over by a satrap.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 127 At length they with their Kingdome, and all the rest of the Turkish Satrapies, were..swallowed vpand deuoured. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* iv. (1728) 325 When Cyrus took Babylon, he changed the Kingdom into a Satrapy or Province. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* II. 408 Repair to your respective satrapies Of Babylon and Media. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxiii. IV. 315 Darius distributed the Persian empire into twenty satrapies.

b. *transf.*

a 1641 SIR H. SPELMAN *Anc. Govt. Eng.* Posth. Wks. (1698) 50 The Temporal Government was likewise divided into Satrapies or Dukedoms, which contained in them divers Counties. 1864 *Even. Stand.* 29 Sept., Major General Butler..was ill calculated to rule a Federal satrapy with profit to his government. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 110 They [the Galileans] detested..alike the Roman dominion and the Herodian satrapy which was its outward sign. 1887 GOLDW. SMITH in *Times* 3 Dec. 10/3 The abolition of what is now styled an Austrian satrapy.

2. The dignity of a satrap: in quots. *transf.*

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. i. 4 Yea the Angels themselves ..are distinguisht and quaternioned into their celestiall Princedomes, and Satrapies. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxxi. (1852) 506 Jewels well worth the satrapies of Heaven.

†**3.** The body of satraps. *Obs.*

1693 RYMER *Short View Trag.* 11 Xerxes went also in person, with all the Maison de Roy, Satrapie and Gendarmery.

4. The period of rule of a satrap.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xv. I. 454 A century afterwards, during the satrapy of Pharnabazus.

Satropar, variant of SATRAPER.

‖ **Satsuma** (sæ·tsiźmă). [The name of a province in the island of Kiusiu, Japan.] Used *attrib.* in *Satsuma ware*, a kind of cream-coloured Japanese pottery.

1872 CHAFFERS *Keramic Gallery* I. Pl. 99 Satsuma-Ware Bottle...Satsuma Bowl. 1875 AUDSLEY & BOWES *Keramic Art Japan* II. Pl. xi, Three vases of middle period Satsuma faïence..good representatives of a style of decoration but seldom met with in Satsuma ware.

Satt(e, obs. forms of pa. t. of SIT *v.*

Sattan, Sattee: see SATIN, SETTEE (ship).

Satteine, -eing, -en(e: obs. ff. SATIN.

Satterdaie, -day, obs. ff. SATURDAY.

Satti, Sattie: see SUTTEE, SETTEE (ship).

Sattil, obs. form of SETTLE *v.*

Sattin(e, **satton,** obs. forms of SATIN.

Sattle, Satty(e, obs. ff. SETTLE, SETTEE (ship).

Satur, obs. form of SALTIRE.

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1030 He beres in cheef of azour, Engrelyd with a satur.

Saturable (sæ·tiŭrăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *saturābilis*, f. *saturāre* to SATURATE: see -BLE.] Capable of saturation.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 4/14 Saturable, *saturabilis.* 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. iii. 13 Consequently the Water would be Saturable with the same Quantity of any Salt.

Hence **Saturab·ility.** In some recent Dicts.

Saturant (sæ·tiŭrănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *saturantem*, pr. pple. of *saturāre* to SATURATE.]

A. *adj.* Saturating; impregnating to the full.

1755 in JOHNSON; and in later Dicts.

B. *sb.* = ABSORBENT *sb.* I.

1775 in ASH; and in later Dicts.

Saturate (sæ·tiŭre^{i}t), *a.* [ad. L. *saturātus*, pa. pple. of *saturāre*: see next.]

†**1.** Satisfied, satiated.

? *a* 1550 *Schole-ho. Women* 946 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 142 Salomon saith, three things here be Seldome or neuer saturate. 1557 PAYNELL *Barclay's Jugurth* 79 Whan they were full saturate and ingorged. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Saturate*, filled or glutted.

†**2.** Complete, perfect. *Obs.*

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 112 All will be turned into a more full and saturate Brightness and Glory.

3. Soaked through, saturated with moisture. Chiefly *poet.*

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 494 The lark is gay, That dries his feathers, saturate with dew, Beneath the rosy cloud. 1798 SOUTHEY *Sonn.* xiii. '*I marvel not, O Sun!*' Earth asks thy presence, saturate with showers. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterpr.* 87 A season'd brain..Unsubject to confusion, Tho' soaked and saturate, out and out, Thro' every convolution.

b. *transf.*

1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1518 There she lay,..Waxwhite, seraphic, saturate with the sun O' the morning. 1894 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 285/1 'Calais Pier', a silvery and limpid jewel, saturate with light, by D. Cox.

4. Of colours: Intense, deep. (Cf. SATURATED 5, SAD *a.* 8.)

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 121 It would yield a deep saturate green tincture. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 807 The quickness of cooling makes the Blood of a more saturate colour. 1891 *Century Dict., Saturate*, in *Entom.*, deep; very intense: applied to colors: as, saturate green, umber, black, etc.

†**5.** *Chem.* = SATURATED.

1782 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 70 If a piece of copper be put into a saturate solution of silver, the silver will be precipitated. 1805 R. CHENEVIX *ibid.* XCV. 126 A single drop of a saturate solution of neutralized nitrate or muriate of mercury.

Saturate (sæ·tiŭre^{i}t), *v.* [f. L. *saturāt-*, ppl. stem of *saturāre*, f. *satur* full, satiated, cogn. w. *satis* enough.]

†**1.** *trans.* To satisfy, satiate. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Saturo*, to saturate or fyl with any thing superfluously, moste commonly in eating. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 41/12 To satiate, *saturare.* To saturate, *idem, placare.* 1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* II. i. iv. 153 So to saturate their insatiable hunger. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1864/2 Cruel Persons whose Blood-thirsty minds nothing could Saturate, but the Sacrifice of two Princes at once. 1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 271 These subaltern modes of chicane..could by no means saturate his ambition. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) I. viii. 229 They [*sc.* ants] march in long files..to any place where sugar is kept; and when they are saturated, return in the same order.

2. To impregnate, soak thoroughly, imbue *with.*

1764 HARMER *Observ.* iii. 8 These lands of Ægypt..are.. so saturated with moisture, that [etc.]. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xiv, Thatch that had got saturated with the smoke. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 151 The sleeve of the shirt was saturated with blood.

b. *fig.*

1756 BURKE *Tracts Popery Laws* Wks. IX. 369 To a mind not thoroughly saturated with the tolerating maxims of the Gospel. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltravers* II. ii, He had saturated his intellect with the Pactolus of old. 1882 A. AUSTIN in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 129 Reflective Poetry, which is indeed Poetry because saturated with imagination.

3. *Chem.* To cause (a substance) to combine

with or dissolve the utmost possible quantity of another substance. Const. *with*.

1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 49 Which clearly demonstrates, that the Menstruum is sufficiently saturated. 1782 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 39 A body is said to be saturated with another, when it is so intimately combined with that other as to lose some peculiar characteristic property which it possesses when free from that other. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 143 The mineral Alkali saturates much more acid than an equal quantity of..vegetable Alkali. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 9 This process consists in saturating a portion of the acid liquid with potash or with soda. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 217 The waters covering this plain would be more or less completely saturated with the soluble materials.

4. *Physics.* a. To charge (air or vapour) with the utmost quantity of moisture that it can hold in suspension.

1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 315 T and *t* are the temperatures of two equal portions of air, H and *h* the humidity contained in them when saturated. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 184 Atmospheric regions already saturated with moisture. 1871 — *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 62 Saturated with the vapour of sulphuric aether. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 68 If the air were thoroughly saturated with moisture, evaporation would be utterly impossible.

b. To magnetize (a piece of metal), that the intensity of its magnetization is the greatest which it can retain when not under the inductive action of a strong magnetic field. Also, to charge (a body) with the greatest charge of electricity that it can receive.

1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Magnetism* i. § 42. 11 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) A steel bar, which has as great a degree of magnetic power as it is capable of retaining, is said to be saturated with magnetism. *Ibid., Electric.* ii. § 49. 13 In this state they may be considered as saturated with the electric fluid.

Saturated (sæ·tiŭre·tėd), *ppl. a.* [f. SATURATE *v.* + -ED [1].]

†1. Completely satisfied, filled to repletion. *Obs.*

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. 213 Therefore it is fit that, as well-saturated Guests, we should at length willingly recede from the Table. 1820 C. R. MATURIN *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxviii. 119 Sleep which is as often the refuge of intolerable misery, as that of saturated enjoyment.

2. Penetrated with moisture, soaked through.

1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 217 And saturated earth Awaits the morning beam. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 479 Shaking.. From the full fork, the saturated straw. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xvii, His saturated clothes clinging with a damp embrace about his limbs. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 502, I arrived in the evening in a saturated condition.

3. *Chem.* That has combined with or taken up in solution the largest possible proportion of some other substance.

1788 BLAGDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 299, I took a saturated solution of nitre. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 290 The preparation of the digitalis best adapted to that purpose, appeared to be the saturated tincture, of which [etc.]. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 47 Such a solution would be called a *cold saturated solution* of saltpetre. 1888 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats & Oils* 48 These hydrocarbons cannot absorb any further atoms of hydrogen, and are therefore termed 'saturated hydrocarbons'.

4. *Physics.* Charged to the full extent of its capacity. (See SATURATE *v.* 4 a, b.) *Saturated steam*: see quot. 1881.

1848 tr. *Regnault* in *Chem. Rep. & Mem.* (Cavendish Soc.) 296 Temperature of the Saturated Steam. 1858 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 316 Quantity of vapour in saturated space depends on temperature. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* II. ix. 388 Its rains are therefore heavy, and are accompanied by dense fogs and a saturated atmosphere. 1881 J. HILL in *Metal World* No. 22. 342 Saturated steam (that is, steam charged with such an amount of heat that any reduction thereof would produce condensation, and any increase thereof would produce super heat) is substantially a perfect gas. 1883 W. N. SHAW in *Trans. Cambr. Philos. Soc.* XIV. 39 The saturated air was then sent through all four tubes, and the gain in weight of each tube determined.

5. Of colours: Free from admixture of white. (Cf. SATURATE *a.* 4, SATURATION 4.)

1853 HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sci.* vi. § 41 (1873) 257 The green being by no means a saturated or full green. 1878 [see SATURATION 4]. 1901 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 293/2 In the figures grouped round the table rich and saturated tones predominate.

Saturating (sæ·tiŭre·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the vb. SATURATE. In quots. *attrib.*

1850 DAUBENY *Atom. Theory* vii. (ed. 2) 193 Yet there is no fundamental difference between the two acids, and their saturating power is exactly the same. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 163 The sulphuric acid thus combined with the elements of alcohol, loses half its saturating power.

Saturating (sæ·tiŭre·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SATURATE *v.* + -ING [2].] In senses of the vb.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) I. 182 After a saturating meal, and an enlivening cup, they departed. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 381 The persevering talker, who gives you his society in large saturating doses. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 52. 50 Aluminium combines with a saturating quantity of oxygen to form alumina. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 44 An over supply of rain, and equally saturating mists.

Saturation (sætiŭre··ʃən). [ad. late L. *saturātiōn-em*, n. of action f. L. *saturāre* to SATURATE. Cf. F. *saturation*.] The action of saturating; the condition of being saturated.

†1. Complete satisfaction of appetite; satiation. *Obs.*

1554 COVERDALE *Hope Faithful* xxxi. 212 For tediousnesse and greefe runneth customably wyth saturacion or fulnesse. 1816–30 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extract Const. Code* (1830) 16 For the perpetual saturation of appetites essentially unsaturable. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix, The Shoeblack..would require..for his permanent satisfaction and saturation, simply this allotment, no more, and no less. 1831 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 565 The advocates of Boroughmongers must be crammed to saturation, before there is a morsel of bread for the man who does not sell his votes. 1832 L. HUNT *Transl.* Poet. Wks. 243 When I have eat and drank—yea, ev'n to saturation.

2. The action of thoroughly soaking with fluid; the condition of being thoroughly soaked.

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 358 That the saturation of any vegetable fibre or compost with liquid manure or urine is of great use to the crop. 1882 VINES tr. *Sach's Bot.* 814 In one case the amount of water present in the soil was 10 per cent...of the amount requisite for complete saturation. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 555, I am wet through, but it is not uncomfortable at this temperature,..if you can..forget the risk of fever which saturation entails.

3. The action of charging, or the state of being charged, up to the limit of capacity; *spec.* in *Chem.* the condition of a substance when combined with or holding in solution the largest proportion of another substance that it can take; in *Physics*, the condition of holding as much suspended matter, or of being as highly charged with electricity, magnetism, heat, etc. as possible. (See SATURATE *v.*) *Point of saturation*: the degree of charge at which a substance becomes saturated.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* I. ii. 13 To both these may be applied the termes of Reduplication and Saturation. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 5190 And this injection of calcin'd Tartar must be continued, untill all Fermentation do cease, that is, to the very degree of Saturation. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 20 The instant when such proportions of the two saline substances are mixed together, that the one is incorporated with as much of the other as it can possibly take up, is called the *Point of Saturation*. 1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 34 Since the word gas..is intended to express the chemical combination or rather the saturation of bodies with caloric. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 99 This augmentation varies with the quantity of salt dissolved. In general, it is the greater the nearer the solution approaches to saturation. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 134 It was magnetized to saturation. 1848 tr. *Regnault* in *Chem. Rep. & Mem.* (Cavendish Soc.) 293 The law regulating the densities of aqueous vapour in a state of saturation or non-saturation, at different pressures and different temperatures. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (1862) III. 231 It then produces a base..which requires two atoms of a monobasic acid for its saturation. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiv. 174 An atmosphere charged to saturation with aqueous vapour. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 262/2 Magnets, when freshly magnetised, are sometimes more powerful than they afterwards become. In that case, they gradually fall off in strength, till they reach a point at which their strength remains constant. This is called the *point of saturation*. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* III. II. ii. § 1. 328 This vapour remains invisible until the air containing it is cooled down below its dew-point, or point of saturation.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1820 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 55 Corregio's mind must have been full to saturation, of the honey-dew of Christianity, when he gave birth to this mysterious conception. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr.* viii. (1857) 128 A long series of historic events had served..to fill with it to saturation every recess of the popular mind. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* x. (1860) 265 Abernethy was of opinion that there was a point of saturation in his own mind, and that if he took into it something more than it could hold, it only had the effect of pushing something else out.

4. *Chromatics.* Degree of intensity (of a colour); relative freedom from admixture of white.

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 824/1 Saturation, which depends on the amount of white the colour contains; thus, it is saturated when there is no white, as in the pure colours of the spectrum, and there may be an infinite number of degrees of saturation from the pure colour to white. 1879 ROOD *Mod. Chromatics* iii. 39 Purity and luminosity are the factors on which the intensity or saturation depends.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *saturation experiment, -point, -pressure.*

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 563 By *saturation experiments we can remove the one opsonine after the other. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* v. 52 The *saturation-point of each mind differs from that of every other. 1884 A. DANIELL *Princ. Physics* xiii. 346 Each volatile liquid has its own *saturation pressure for each temperature.

Saturator (sæ·tiŭre·tɔr). Also **saturater**. [f. SATURATE *v.* + -OR. Cf. late L. *saturātor*.] One who or something which saturates: *spec.* a. A device for supplying air saturated with water-vapour to a room or inclosed space.

1883 W. N. SHAW in *Cambr. Phil. Soc. Trans.* XIV. 37 A saturater (A) for supplying saturated air at the temperature of the room. *Ibid.* 39.

b. An apparatus for saturating oxygen with ether for the purposes of the ether-oxygen lime-light.

1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. Suppl. 2 The more recent forms of saturators..give a very good light.

Saturday (sæ·tɔidė, -di). Forms: α. 1 **Sæternes-, Seternes dæg**, 3 **Sæternes dæg**, 5 **Saturnesday**, 7 *Sc.* **Saturnsday**; 1 **Sæterndæg**, 2 **Sætern-daiz**, 5 **Saturneday**, 7–8 *Sc.* **Saturnday**; β. 1 **Sæteres dæg**, 3 **Sateresdai**, 3–4 **Settresday**, 4 **Seters-dai**, 5 **Setrys-day**, 7 **Saters-day**; γ. 1 **Sæter-dæg**, 2 **Sæter-daiz**, **Saterdei**, 3 **Sætterdæi**, *Orm.* **Saterrdagg**, 4 **Satirdai**, **Saturdaie**, **Seterdai**, **Setre-, Setret-, Settir-, Set(t)urday**, **Zeterday, -dey**, 4–5 **Seter-, Setirday**, 4–6 **Saterdaye, Satir-, Setterday**, 4–7 **Saterday**, 5 **Scaturday, Setryday, Set(t)yrday**, 5–6 **Satyrday**, 5–7 **Satterday**, 6 **Satterdaie, Sat(t)orday, Saturdaye**, 6–7 **Saterdaie**, 9 *dial.* **Settherday**, 3– **Saturday**. [OE. *Sætern(es)dæg*, corresp. to OFris. *saterdî, saterdei*, MDu. *saterdach* (Du. *zaterdag*, earlier *zaturdag*), MLG. *sater(s)-dach* (LG. *saterdag*), whence northern HG. dial. *satertag*; a half-translated adoption of L. *Sāturnī diēs* day of (the planet) Saturn; cf. Irish, Gael. *dia Sathuirn*, Welsh *dydd Sadwrn*.]

1. The seventh day of the week.

The advb. use of the names of the days of the week (*Saturday*='on Saturday') is now chiefly *U.S.*, exc. in collocations like 'next Saturday', 'last Saturday'. Formerly *the Saturday* was often used advb. but is now rare or obs. exc. with some defining phrase.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. iii. (Schipper) 125 Æghwilce sæternes dæge. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 Ærest on þæm Sæteres dæge he awehte Ladzarum of deaþe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 54 Sæter-dæg on-lyhte. *Ibid.* 56 On sætern-dæg. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Ic ham þeue reste..from non on saterdei a þa cume monedeis lihting. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4350 Forr Saterr-dazz wass haliz dazz O þatt Judisskenn wise. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 66/451 On a satur-day at night. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 543 For ich am her ech Soneday and fram Saterdayes Eve. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17673 Als i stod saiand mi bede, þe seterdai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 213 Yef god het zuo straytlic[h]e loki þane zeterday ine þe yealde laze þet he made ane man to stene..uor þet he hedde y-gadered a lite wode þane zeterdey. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 14 On a Seterday at euen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 336 Þan yrtacus..þe next setret-day..a congregacion has gert ma. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 28 On Setrysday in þe vygyle of þe Holy Trynyte. 1421 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 30 Euery Saturneday in the yer. *c* 1447 in *Jarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 242 Apon Saturnesday next be for Palmsonday. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2724 So it cam and fill in a scaturday, That Raymounde loste the fair melusine. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 15 That he wil promytte to the that neuer on the Satirday he shall see the. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) 34/2 Noman ther ouer can passe, excepte ye saterdaye. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 36 The satterday after, that was Wytson evyn, [she] came from the tower thorow London. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Treat.* V viij, God commandit yat ve suld Keip halie ye Sabaoth day, quhilk is Setterday. *c* 1610–15 *Lives Women Saints* 93 From Thursday vntill Satersday. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 515 On Saturnsday, Aprile 27, they disbanded their men. 1671 [R. MACWARD] *True Nonconf.* 119 That the Churches meeting recorded to have been on the first day of the week, sayeth not that they antiquated the Saturnday. 1703 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) 99 Against Saturnday next. 1775 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1777) III. 194 Saturday, the mint continued to grow and to ascend, looking vigorous and fresh. 1793 BURKE *Obs. Cond. Minority* Wks. VII. 236 Although the House does not usually sit on Saturday. 1845 T. W. COIT *Puritanism* 495 The Puritan way of eating fish is, to eat it Saturday instead of Friday. 1870 M. D. CONWAY *Earthw. Pilgr.* xxviii. 344 On Saturday the English people are among the most sensible people in the world. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) 561/1 The office of the Blessed Virgin is said on all Saturdays.

2. With specific epithet. **Black Saturday** *Sc.*, (*a*) the 10th Sept. 1547, the date of the Battle of Pinkie; (*b*) the 4th Aug. 1621, the date of the ratification of the articles of Perth. **Egg Saturday**: see EGG *sb.* 7. **Holy Saturday**, the Saturday of Holy Week; Easter eve. **Hospital Saturday**: see HOSPITAL *sb.* 6.

1657 MURE *Ho. Rowallane* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 255 He died in battell at the Black Satterday in the year of our Lord 1547. 1717 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* II. 45 The Day got the Name of black Saturday, upon this Account, as well as on the Occasion of the black Work they had been about. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxi. (1495) 368 Also to Ester perteynyth the euyn therof that for passynge holynesse is callyd Sabbatum Sanctum the holy Saterday. 1730 tr. *Fleury's Eccl. Hist.* IV. Index, Saturday, holy, even Children fasted on that Day. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) 405/2 The Mass celebrated at midnight belonged rather to the morning of Easter Sunday than to Holy Saturday.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Saturday concert, kirtle, morning, night, office, sabbath*, †*wit*; † **Saturday-sabbatharian** = SABBATARIAN *sb.* 3.

For *Saturday('s slop* or *slap* Sc. (in some Dicts. erron. *stop*), see SLOP *sb.*

1889 HUEFFER *Half Cent. Mus. Eng.* 14 The Crystal Palace *Saturday Concerts. 1557 *Will of T. Howgill* (Somerset Ho.), My *saturday kyrtyll. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 On *Satterday-morninge the 11th of December. 1785 BURNS (*title*) The Cotter's *Saturday Night. 1859 SIR J. PAGET in *Mem. & Lett.* (1901) 224 In bringing-up the book 'to Saturday night'. 1686 [HICKES] *Spec. B. Virginis* 13 One of the Lessons for the *Saturday-Office of the B. Virgin. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 192 Mr. Hebden a prisoner in the New-prison, that lay there for holding *Saturday-Sabbath. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 204 Without an express Command (as ye have against the *Saturday-Sabbatharians) in the New Testament. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 145 Phy, long Megg of Westminster would haue bene ashamed to disgrace her Sonday bonet with her *Satterday witt.

b. *Saturday-to-Monday*: a period beginning on Saturday and ending on Monday; often *attrib.* with reference to railway and other excursion tickets.

1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* XVIII. (ed. 3) 182 In one of the delightful Saturday to Monday trips on the Thames. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *D. Grieve* IV. ii, A..warm invitation..to spend an October Saturday-to-Monday at Benet's Park had been accepted.

†Sa·ture. *Obs.* [as if ad. L. **satūra*, f. *sa-, serĕre* to sow (pa. pple. *satus*).] Sowing.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 238 Its seed germinates.. about forty or fifty dayes after its sature.

†Satureie. *Obs.* Forms: 1 saturęie, 3–5 satureie, 5 saturege, satureye. [ad. L. *saturēia.*] = SAVORY.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* (Rolls) III. 24 Saturege. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557/12 *Satureia*, satureie, timbre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 132 His herbe is cleped Satureie, So as these olde bokes seie. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 336 And forto make a wyn to drynke swete, Of saturege or fenel putte in meete.

Saturgresse, obs. f. SETTER-GRASS *dial.*

Saturicall, -riour : see SATIRICAL, SATYRION.

†Satu·rity. *Obs.* [ad. L. *saturitās*, f. *satur* full, satisfied.] Fulness, repletion, satisfaction.

1533 tr. *Erasmus' Commune Crede* 19 In which worlde.. is there..neither perfyghte puryte and clennes, neither full saturyte and satisfyeng of mannes mynde. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 6 Sumtime the saturitie doth more vexe them that be ful, than the hunger dyd trouble them before. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvii. 13 Saturity and security had so besotted them, that they feared nothing, till they felt it. 1752 HODGES *Chr. Plan* (1755) 53 The primary idea of it is saturity and fulness.

Saturn (sæ·tŭn). Forms: 1–6 Saturnus (1 *genit.* Saturnes); 5 Satourn, 5–7 Saturne, 7– Saturn. [ad. L. *Sāturnus*, perh. f. the root *sā-* to Sow.]

1. *Mythol.* An Italic god, in the original native religion the god of agriculture, but in classical times identified with the Greek Cronos, who was deposed from the sovereignty of the gods by his son Zeus (Jupiter).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXV. § 4 Iob Saturnes sunu. *Ibid.* XXXVIII. § 1 Þa sceolde þæs Iobes fæder bion eac god; þæs nama wæs Saturnus. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xii. (1495) 318 Saturnus hath that name of saturando, makynge fulnesse and plente. 1508 DUNBAR *Ballad Ld. B. Stewart* 75 Saturnus doune, withe fyry eyn, did blent. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. vi. 39 By quham the land of Saturn, war and wys, Hes left and changit his auld name oft sys. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XCVIII. 4 When proud pide Aprill..Hath put a spirit of youth in euery thing: That heauie *Saturne* laught and leapt with him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 519 Or who with Saturn old Fled over Adria to th' Hesperian fields. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iv. 33 Then Saturn, from whose throne Time fell.

2. *Astr.* The most remote of the seven planets known to ancient astronomy. In OE. also †*Saturnes steorra.*

Saturn is now known to be attended by eight moons, and to be surrounded by a broad flat ring (or rather two concentric rings in the same plane).

In *Astrology*, on account of its remoteness and slowness of motion, Saturn was supposed to cause coldness, sluggishness, and gloominess of temperament in those born under its influence, and in general to have a baleful effect on human affairs.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXVI. § 3 Siððan to þan cealdan stiorran þe we hatað Saturnes steorra. *Ibid.* XXXIX. § 3 Saturnus se steorra. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xii. (1495) 319 Though Saturnus be kyndly leeddy by clerenesse of Iubiter whan he is coniunct with hym he is made white and bright. *c* 1400 *Treat. Astron.* 6 (MS. Bodl. Add. B. 17), A Saturne is a planete maliuole and wycked. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 197 Satourn disposith to malencolye. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 31 Though Venus gouerne your desires, Saturne is Dominator ouer mine. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* (1645) 107 Saturne that dull and malevolent planet. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvi. § 2 Inform them that Saturn has five moons of the same kind attending him. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 634 The moons of Jove, and Saturn's belted ball. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. of Art* iv, Still as, while Saturn whirls, his stedfast shade Sleeps on his luminous ring. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 811/1 Saturn is the largest planet btt one of the solar system.

3. *Alch.* The technical name for lead.

†*Salt, extract of Saturn*: lead acetate, sugar of lead. †*Spirit of Saturn*: app. impure acetic acid distilled from sugar of lead.

c 1386 [see JUPITER 2 b]. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. vii. in *Ashm.* (1652) 140 For sum men can wyth Saturne it multeply. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 89 To congeale Mercurie with the spirit of Saturne. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 73 Take of the Calx of Saturn, or else Minium. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* I. ii. (1713) 66/1 This Spirit of Saturn, drawn from its Salt, is an inflamable Liquor, and is thus made: ℞ Salt of Saturn, so much as may fill your Glass or Earthen Retort two Thirds full; put it into a Furnace [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Salt of Saturn*, otherwise call'd *Saccharum Saturni*, or Sugar of Lead, is the Body of that Metal, open'd and reduc'd to the form of a Salt, by Distilled Vinegar. 1727–51 [see BALSAM *sb.* 2 b]. 1758 [see JUPITER 2 b]. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 32 It..is said to have this effect, as soon, and completely, as extract of Saturn.

allusively. 1797 W. JOHNSTON tr. *Bechmann's Invent.* I. 398 One may justly doubt whether, at present, Mars, Venus, or Saturn, is most destructive to the human race.

b. *Comb.* †**Saturn cinnabar** (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*), †**Saturn red** (in recent Dicts.), names for red lead; **Saturn's tree** [tr. med.L. *arbor Saturni*], a lead tree (in recent Dicts.).

4. *Her.* The tincture sable, in blazoning by the names of heavenly bodies.

1572 [see JUPITER 2 c, MARS 2 c].

Saturnal (sătŭ·rnăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Sāturnālis*, f. *Sāturn-us* SATURN: see -AL.]

†**A.** *adj.* Pertaining to Saturn or his astrological influence. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Farew. Folly* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 324 Yet remaines there in the minde certain *Scyntillulæ voluptatis*, which confirmed by a saturnall impression, were harder to root out than were they newly sprong vp in youth. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 96 They that are to gather a Saturnall, Martiall, or Joviall Hearb must look towards the East, or South. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 109 He that shall call the..poor bloud returning home in the Veins, Earthly, Saturnal, Gross, shall make no Schisme.. in the.. doctrine of Circulation. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 649 Are not the Saturnal and Martial Strings and Notes as material and useful as the Jovial and Venerial?

B. *sb.*

†**1.** ? One born under the influence of Saturn. *Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. 47 There are starres which haue their most colde and moyst spirites, as the Saturnalls and Lunaries.

2. *pl.* [a. F. *saturnales* fem. pl. (14th c. *saturneles* in Littré).] †**a.** = SATURNALIA 1. **b.** = SATURNALIA 2.

1487 CAXTON *Bk. Gd. Manners* I. xv. (W. de W. *c* 1515) E ij, As enseyg[n]eth Macrobe in his boke of Saturnelles. [1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 68 Of the writis Macrobius ..In his grete volume clepit Saturnail.] 1619 B. JONSON *Masque, Pleas. Reconc. to Virt.* (*init.*), I know it is now such a time as the Saturnalls for all the World. 1647 A. Ross *Mystag. Poet.* xi. (1675) 286 At certain Feasts of Minerva in March, the Maids were wont to be served by their Mistresses, as in the Saturnals the Men-servants by their Masters. 1654 OGILBY *Virg. Georg.* I. (1684) 47 *note*, Macrobius in the first of his Saturnals, *c.* 21. 1705 TATE, etc., tr. *Cowley's Hist. Plants* (1795) 191 But yet these wild Saturnals shall not last. 1864 *Athenæum* 5 Mar. 345/3 To compose that swaggering song, 'They shall not have our Rhine,' for these saturnals.

‖ **Saturnalia** (sætŭrnē·liă), *sb. pl.* [L. *Sāturnālia*, neut. pl. of *Saturnālis* SATURNAL *a.*]

1. *Roman Antiq.* The festival of Saturn, held in the middle of December, observed as a time of general unrestrained merrymaking, extending even to the slaves. (Also, the title of a work by Macrobius.)

Now always with capital S.

1591 L. LLOYD *Tripl. Triumphes* B 3, Imitating the orders and maners in the feast Saturnalia. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 33 Christmas succeeds the Saturnalia. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 176 The first days, which coincided with the old Saturnalia, were [etc.]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 321/2 Saturnalia. This, the great festival of Saturn, was celebrated..after Cæsar's reform of the calendar on the 17th of December. Augustus decreed that the 17th should be sacred to Saturn and the 19th to Ops. Henceforward it appears that the 17th and 18th were devoted to the Saturnalia.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A period of unrestrained licence and revelry. Sometimes construed as *sing.*

In this sense not unfrequently with small initial.

1782 H. WALPOLE *Let. to W. Mason* 8 July, Malignity at least will have its Saturnalia. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xcvii, But France got drunk with blood to vomit crime, And fatal have her Saturnalia been, To Freedom's cause. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 101 From Christmas to New-Year's Day, most of the slaves, except house servants, enjoy a freedom from labor; and Christmas is especially holiday, or Saturnalia, with them. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Yr.* 147 This was the beginning of a perfect saturnalia of tail-cutting and other operations [among the lambs].

Saturnalian (sætŭrnē·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* Pertaining to the Saturnalia; appropriate to Saturnalia.

Saturnalian coin: a medal struck in commemoration of the Saturnalia, and intended to be used in the present-giving common at that season.

1721–2 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 1 P 4 The famous Saturnalian Feasts among the Romans, at which every Scullion and Skipkennel had Liberty to tell his Master his own. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Windham* CORR. (1844) IV. 404, I make use of the saturnalian liberty with which you have indulged your Davus at the close of this December. 1825 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antiq.* II. 895 Saturnalian Coins. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. v, Amid wailings from some, and saturnalian revelries from the most, the venerable Corpse is to be buried. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* XXVII. II. 396 A coin of Gallienus, which has been described as a Saturnalian coin. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. iii. (1864) III. 450 That coarse saturnalian humour which pleases the Italian..ear.

B. *sb.* One who celebrates Saturnalia.

1885 'G. FLEMING' *Andromeda* I. vi. 105 The sight.. brought much confusion upon these innocent saturnalians.

†**Satu·rnally,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SATURNAL *a.* + -LY 2.] Under the influence of Saturn.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 305 So are they more or lesse merily and Giovially, or rudely and Saturnally incorporated.

Saturn(e)day, obs. forms of SATURDAY.

Saturnelles : see SATURNAL *sb.*

†**Satu·rnial,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Sāturni-us* pertaining to SATURN + -AL.] Pertaining to the planet Saturn; born under the influence of Saturn.

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 133 In things Saturnial it is ill. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* XXVI, So far forth as it pronounceth him Saturnial, or Jovial, &c.

†**Satu·rnian,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. eccl. L. *Sāturniān-us*, incorrectly f. *Sāturnīnus* or *Sāturnilus*, the name of the founder of the sect.] An adherent of a sect of Gnostic heretics of the second century.

1598 GOLBURNE tr. *De Voyon's Catal. Doctors* To Rdr. A 8, The Saturnians, Montanists, Origenians, Tertullianists, & Hyeraists. 1607 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* I. (1625) 11 Those men which held..that, Christ..was man in appearance onely, as the Manichies..and the Saturnians.

Saturnian (sătŭ·rniăn), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [f. L. *Sāturni-us* (f. *Sāturn-us* SATURN) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the god Saturn.

Chiefly with reference to the 'golden age' under the reign of Saturn (L. *Saturnia regna*). *Saturnian land* (L. *Saturnia tellus*), Italy.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 58 The Saturnian times of Gold let none henceforth admire. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 28 Here pleas'd behold her mighty wings outspread To hatch a new Saturnian age of Lead. 1820 SHELLEY *Œdipus* I. i. 174 Through the fortunate Saturnian land, Into the darkness of the West. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 51 A new social order was to bring back the Saturnian era to the world. 1862 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. *K. Robt. Sicily* 106 And now returned again To Sicily the old Saturnian reign.

b. *nonce-use.* Resembling Saturn (in conduct).

1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 55 Ere Saturnian earth her child consumes.

2. The distinctive epithet of the metre (*versus Saturnius*) used in early Roman poetry, before the introduction of Greek metres.

Although a considerable number of Saturnian lines have been preserved, the nature of the metre is still disputed, some scholars believing it to be quantitative, and others accentual.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Introd. (1697) 29 The Romans.. had certain Young Men, who at their Festivals Danc'd and Sung after their uncouth manner, to a certain kind of Verse, which they call'd Saturnian. 1783 T. WILSON *Archæol. Dict.*, Saturnian Verses. 1842 MACAULAY *Let.* 22 Aug., in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) II. 119 The Saturnian metre is catalectic dimeter Iambic, followed by three trochees. 1894 LINDSAY *Lat. Lang.* 159 The Saturnian verse recognizes this secondary accent, if we are right in regarding it as accentual and not quantitative verse, with three accents in the first hemistich and two in the second.

3. Of or pertaining to the planet Saturn; †due to the baleful influence of Saturn.

1557 GRIMALDE in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 115 Mauortian moods, Saturnian furies fell. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xliii. App. 176 But, like the Jovian and Saturnian machines, they are only made from particular orders. 1806 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 466 We may infer the existence of a Saturnian atmosphere. 1865 PROCTOR *Saturn & Syst.* 115 The only possible interpretation of the stability of the Saturnian rings.

b. *nonce-use.* Resembling Saturn in slowness.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. IX. 93 The slow-paced Saturnian movements of Spain.

†**4.** = SATURNINE. *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Saturnian* or *Saturnine*, barren, dull, heavy, melancholly; also unlucky or unfortunate. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Saturnine*, or *Saturnian*, a term applied to persons of dark, sullen, melancholic complections.

B. *sb.*

†**1.** One born under the influence of the planet Saturn; a person of saturnine temperament. *Obs.*

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 31 A man being a Saturnian, is much more apte and prompt vnto things of Magicke, then he that is borne vnder an other Planet. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* IV. 150 What cold Saturnian Can hold, and heare such vile detraction?

2. An inhabitant of the planet Saturn.

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 315/2 Some cold Saturnian, when the lifted tube Shows to his wond'ring eye our pensile globe, Pities our thirsty soil, and sultry air. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* VI. 153 The provision of satellites and of the rings.. is altogether inadequate to increase the supply of light received by the Saturnians to any such extent as has been imagined.

3. *pl.* Saturnian verses.

1899 MACKAIL *Life Morris* I. 284 English, like Latin, has changed too deeply in structure to revert to its Saturnians.

4. *nonce-use.* The son of Saturn, Jupiter (tr. Gr. Κρονίων).

1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* XXXVIII, Where the ambrosial nymph with happy will Bore the Saturnian's love-child, Mercury. *Ibid.* III, I appeal to the Saturnian's throne.

Saturnic (sătŭ·rnik), *a.* [f. SATURN + -IC.] Affected with lead-poisoning.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 206 One patient was a total abstainer. Two took 1½ pint of beer (both saturnic). Three took 2 pints of beer (one was gouty and saturnic).

†**Satu·rnical,** *a. Obs.* [f. SATURN + -ICAL.]

1. Belonging to the god Saturn.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 101 A Saturnicall or golden age. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 97 Thus toe Venus turning spake thee Saturnical empresse [*sc.* Juno, daughter of Saturn].

2. Saturnine.

1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iii. (1628) 80 Crodo was also mistaken for Saturnus, not in regard of any saturnicall qualitie. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 134, I think it is the saturnecall humor of the ould king. 1652 PEYTON *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* (1731) 62 Nor lean, nor too Saturnical, nor too Jovial, but in Golden Temper. 1701 WARWICK *Mem. Chas. I* 33 Where this malevolent saturnical man, named Felton,..gave him that mortal wound.

Saturnicentric (sătŭ·mise·ntrik), *a.* [f. SATURN, after *geocentric.*] Calculated with reference to the centre of Saturn.

1790 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 432 In order to reduce the Saturnicentric situation of the satellites to the apparent one. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 253 In advancing as far as 63° of Saturnicentric latitude, we shall [etc.].

Saturnine (sæ·tŭməin), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. **Sāturnīnus*, f. *Sāturnus* SATURN. Cf. F. *saturnin*, Sp., Pg., It. *saturnino.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. a. *Astrol.* Born under or affected by the influence of the planet. **b.** Hence (in later use without allusion to the primary sense), sluggish, cold, and gloomy in temperament.

Saturnine mount, in *Palmistry* = *Mons Saturni*: see MONS.

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* II. 275 This cursid Bern, enuyous

and riht fals, And of complexioun verray saturnyne. 1587 GREENE *2nd Pt. Tritam.* I 4 b, The Saturnine temperature is necessarie to dry vp the superfluities of the sanguine constitution. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 64 Saturnine heauy headed blunderers. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. 62 Gregorius Tolosanus makes seauen kindes of ætheriall..Divels, according to the number of the seauen Planets, Saturnine, Iouial, Martiall, &c. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* v. (Arb.) 30 Go first to the Operations of the Soule, the one is Active and Mercuriall, the other is Speculative and Saturnine: the one Quick and Ayry, the other Slow and Heavy. 1668 DRYDEN *Def. Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 116 My conversation is slow and dull; my humour saturnine and reserved. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* (1721) 172 Toads (Saturnine Animals) are killed by putting of Salt upon them. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 179 ¶ 1, I may cast my Readers unto two general Divisions, the *Mercurial* and the *Saturnine*. *a* 1779 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* IX. Introd., Wks. 1788 III. 593 The Indolent, the Active, the Sanguine, the Flegmatic, and the Saturnine have all their correspondent Theories [of morality]. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xiii, The former..was grave and saturnine in every thing he did. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, Towlinson is saturnine and grim. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 634 One of the most remarkable peculiarities of this man [William III], ordinarily so saturnine and reserved, was that danger acted on him like wine. 1865 LONGF. *Dante's Purgat.* Introd. Sonn., O poet saturnine! 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 113 Chiromancy..finds proof of melancholy in the intersections on the saturnine mount.

2. Pertaining to the planet Saturn. *rare*—¹.

1862 G. WILSON *Relig. Chem.* 59 The Mercurial day being, like our own, twenty-four hours long, the Saturnine only ten.

3. Of or pertaining to lead.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 7 You shall find the water to have contracted no saturnine impression. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., Saturnine tincture, *tinctura saturnina*. 1782 E. FORD in *Med. Commun.* I. 96 A scabby eruption, which..yielded to a saturnine application. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 445 An emollient or saturnine poultice forms..the best application to the ulcer. 1835 G. FIELD *Chromatogr.* 95 Red Lead, Minium, or Saturnine Red. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 120 Acetate of lead and other Saturnine preparations.

b. *Path.* Of disorders: Caused by absorption of lead. Of a patient: Suffering from lead-poisoning.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 105 Spasmodic cholic, or the satumine [*read* saturnine], as it is termed, from the causation thereof, generally follows a debauch of wine, of the pale kinds particularly. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Saturnine breath*, the peculiar odour of the breath in one labouring under Saturnismus. 1885 T. STEVENSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 278/1 Potmen, who drink beer which has rested for some time in pewter vessels, are also the occasional victims of saturnine poisoning. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 982 The increase or diminution of the uric acid was in no way proportional to the severity of the colic, and old saturnine patients tended to pass it in excess.

†**B.** *sb.* A person born under the planet Saturn; a gloomy person.

1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Launderer* 56 A Launderer is a linnen barber, and a meere saturnine; for you shall ever finde her in the sudds. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 151 So much for the Physiognomy of the Saturnines; now for the Jovialists.

Saturnely (sæ·tŭɪnəinli), *adv.* [f. SATURNINE *a.* + -LY ².] In a saturnine manner.

1895 *Daily News* 6 Feb. 5/6 Lord Salisbury was saturninely humorous in his criticism of the Ministerial programme.

Saturninity (sætʊɪni·nĭti). [f. SATURNINE *a.* + -ITY.] The quality of being saturnine.

1903 *Critic* XLIII. 353/2 The two dominating traits of the Englishman's character are a love of battle and a tendency to saturninity.

†**Satu·rnious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Sāturni-us* pertaining to Saturn + -IOUS.] Saturnine, gloomy.

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 229 It shall be by Saturnyous, melancholy and vitious men.

Saturnism (sæ·tŭɪniz'm). Also in mod.L. form. [a. mod.L. *Saturnism-us*, f. L. *Sāturn-us* SATURN: see -ISM.] Lead-poisoning.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Saturnismus*, poisoning by lead; lead-poisoning; saturnine cachexy. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 179 Four had suffered from fits, one from saturnism.

†**Sa·turnist.** *Obs.* [f. SATURN + -IST.] One born under the influence of the planet Saturn; a saturnine person.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 50 b, She pronounceth this man a Saturniste, or Jouialist. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. 175 What icye Saturnist, what Northerne pate, But such grosse lewdnesse would exasperate? 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 507 Grum-sirs hate Jovialists; they the sad, The active Soule a Saturnist.

†**Saturnite.** *Min. Obs.* [f. SATURN + -ITE.] (See quot. 1896.)

1784 KIRWAN *Min.* 361 (Chester) Saturnite. 1795 W. NICHOLSON *Dict. Chem.* II. 801 *Saturnite*. By this name Kirwan distinguishes a substance said by Monnet to be found in the lead mines of Poullaouwen in Brittany, and separated from the lead ore during its torrefaction. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min., Saturnite*, the name given to a furnace product from lead smelting, at first considered a simple mineral.

Saturnize (sæ·tŭɪnəiz), *v.* [f. SATURN + -IZE.]

†**1.** *trans.* To combine or impregnate with lead.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 477/1 *Nitrum Saturnisatum*, Nitre saturnised, or with Lead.

2. *nonce-use.* To castrate.

[In allusion to the mutilation of Saturn by Jupiter.]

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timoth.* Wks. 1853 II. 18/2 My grandfather..likes no horses but what are Saturnized.

†**Sa·turnlike,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SATURN + -LIKE.] Resembling Saturn.

1569 SPENSER *Vis. Bellay* (earlier version) vii. 4 A grisly forehed and Saturnelike face. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 147 But since the Sunne of righteousnesse hath rose from the Saturne-like and dull Earth on our Sunday; wee [etc.].

Saturnsday, obs. form of SATURDAY.

Saturnus: see SATURN. **Satury:** see SATYR.

Satyr (sæ·təɪ). Forms: *a.* (repr. L. *satyrus*, pl. *satyri*) 4 **satirus**; *pl.* 4–6 **satiri, satyri,** (4–5 **satiry, satury, sataryе**). *β.* 5–7 **satyre,** 6 **satyer,** 6–8 **satire,** 6– **satyr.** [ad. L. *satyrus*, a. Gr. *σάτυρος*. Cf. F. *satyre*, Sp. *sátiro*, Pg., It. *satiro*.]

1. *Myth.* One of a class of woodland gods or demons, in form partly human and partly bestial, supposed to be the companions of Bacchus.

In Greek art of the pre-Roman period the satyr was represented with the ears and tail of a horse. Roman sculptors assimilated it in some degree to the faun of their native mythology, giving to it the ears, tail, and legs of a goat, and budding horns.

In the English Bible the word is applied (without precedent either in the LXX or the Vulgate) to the hairy demons or monsters (Heb. שְׂעִירִים *śᵉʿīrīm*) of Semitic superstition, supposed to inhabit deserts.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Tr. & Cr.* IV. 1516 (1544) And þis, on euery god celestial I swere it 3ow,..On euery Nymphe and deyte infernal On satury and fawny more and lesse, þat halue goddes ben of wildernesse. *c* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 169 þere is ofte by ny3te i-seie fire, fauni, and satyri. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 171 The Greks..Sein ek that of the helles hihe The goddes ben in special, Bot of here name in general Thei hoten alle Satiri. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auian* xxii, The wodewose or Satyre ledde the pylgrym in to his pytte. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 111 The woode Satires. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 157 A milkemaide of the countrie, who will haue as good a grace amongst other women, as a Satyre would haue amongst the Nymphes. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. XV. (1886) 122 They have so fraied us with bull beggers, spirits, witches, urchens, elves, hags, fairies, satyrs, pans, fauns, sylens [etc.]. 1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 222 Fawnes, Satyres, Dryades, & Hamadryades. 1595 *Locrine* v. iv. 203 You Driades and lightfoote Satiri. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 140 So excellent a King, that was to this Hiperion to a Satyre. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xiii. 21 Satyres [1885 (*Revised*) satyrs (*margin* or he-goats)] shall daunce there. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xviii, Sure I was born with budding Antlers like a young Satyr. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 64 The head has the god-like ugliness and malignity of a satyr.

b. *fig.* as the type of lustfulness.

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 38 The heathen law-givers of ancient days,..Would drive them forth from the resort of men, And shut up ev'ry satyr in his den. 1877 RUSKIN *Laws Fesole* I. 206 The essential character of Renaissance art,—the pride of Thieves, adorned by the industry of Fools, under the mastership of Satyrs.

¶ **c.** The confusion between the words *satiric* and *satyric* gave rise to the notion that the satyrs who formed the chorus of the Greek satyric drama had to deliver 'satirical' speeches. Hence, in the 16–17th c., the frequent attribution to the satyrs of censoriousness as a characteristic quality. See also SATIRE *sb.* 4.

? 1580 LODGE *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* 36 They presented the liues of Satyers, So that they might wiselye vnder the abuse of that name, discouer the follies of many theyr folish fellow citesens. 1593 GREENE *Mamillia* II. To Rdrs., Let Momus mocke, and Zoilus enuie,..yea, let the sauage Satyre himselfe, whose cynicall censure is more seuere than need, frowne at his pleasure. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 46 A.. lumpe, compounded of..Satyres Splens, Polecatts Lites.

2. A kind of ape (so Gr. *σάτυρος*); in modern use, the orang-utan, *Simia satyrus*. *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. XCVI. (1495) 842 Some ape is callyd Satirus, plesynge in face wyth mery meuynges and playenges. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 558 Other Apes there are store, and as Solinus reporteth, Satyres with feet like Goats, and Sphynges, with breasts like women. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 188 For their Solitariness called Men of the Woods, or more truly Satyrs. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. ii. 304 Satyr is a name given by some authors to the Orang-outang, or man of the woods. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* 196 Gough..unchained a large fierce animal..it proved to be a man satyr...Gough is a dealer in wild beasts. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., s. v., In Zoölogy, the ourang-outang..is sometimes called satyr.

3. Any butterfly of the group *Satyridæ*.

1871 NEWMAN *Brit. Butterflies* 77.

†**4.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1714 A. SMITH *Lives Highwaym.* (ed. 2) II. 136 He left off picking Pockets, and got into a Gang of Satyrs who are Men living wild in the Fields, that keep their Holds and Dwellings in the Country and forsaken Places, stealing Horses, Kine, Sheep, and all other sort of Cattle.

†**5.** *Her.* = SATYRAL. *Obs.* 1889 [see SATYRAL].

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *satyr-dance, -shape, train*; *satyr-footed, -like* adjs.; **satyr-drama** = SATYRIC *drama*; **satyr-pug,** a British geometer moth, *Eupithecia satyrata*.

a 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Rem. Virgil* (1768) 23 Virgil here speaks of a feast just like this; and of the Pan or *Satyr-dance. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 386 (ed. 2) 499 The old *satyr-drama. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 35 Thys leaden-heeled passion is to dull, To keepe pace with this *Satyre-footed gull. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. viii. 187 The figure of a shepherd, *satyr-like and clad in goatskin. 1869 NEWMAN *Moths* 126 The *Satyr Pug. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XXXV. In his coarsest *Satyr-shape. *a* 1717 PARNELL *To Pope* 27 A *Satyr Train Peeps o'er their Heads, and laugh behind the Scene.

Satyr, obs. form of SATIRE.

‖ **Satyra** (sæ·tĭră). [L., a. Gr. *σατύρα*, fem. of *σάτυρος* SATYR.] A female satyr.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 385 (ed. 2) 497 Double herma of a satyr and a satyra.

Satyral (sæ·tĭrăl). *Her.* [a. OF. *satirel, -al*, dim. of *satire* SATYR.] (See quot.)

1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Satyral*, a fictitious beast, said to have the body of a lion, the tail and horns of an antelope, and the face of an old man. 1889 ELVIN *Dict. Her., Satyr* or *satyral*.

Satyrday, Satyre: see SATURDAY, SATIRE.

Satyresque (sætĭre·sk), *a.* Also -esk. [ad. It. *satiresco*, f. *satiro* SATYR: see -ESQUE.] Resembling a satyr; having the characteristics of a satyr.

1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 497 It..represents a Priapus, which is not satyresque. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 329 (ed. 2) 388 The gelasinus in the cheeks also only becomes satyresk beauties.

Satyress (sæ·tĭrĕs). [-ESS.] A female satyr.

1840 H. DRUMMOND *Let. to T. Phillips* 24 Satyresses suckling their little cubs. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Oct. 437/1 The fauness or satyress..grows a little monotonous.

Satyri, Satyrial(l: see SATYR, SATIRIAL *a.*

Satyrian, obs. form of SATYRION.

‖ **Satyriasis** (sætĭrəi·ăsis). *Path.* Also 7 **saturyasis.** [mod. L., a. Gr. *σατυρίᾱσις*, f. *σατυριᾶν* to suffer from satyriasis, f. *σάτυρ-os* SATYR: see -ASIS.]

1. 'Excessively great venereal desire in the male. Also, synonym for *Priapism*' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cclxxx, Being put into Plaisters and applyed to the Reines, it helpeth the Satyriasis or continuall standing of the Yard. 1696 FLOYER *On the Humours* (J.), If the chyle be very plentiful it breeds a satyriasis. 1874 BUCKNILL & TUKE *Man. Psych. Med., Insanity* 452 Satyriasis and Nymphomania, as examples of Monomania, are, therefore, liable to the objection that they are spinal or cerebro-spinal affections.

fig. 1629 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* I. 46 Now..euery eare Hath got the Saturyasis to heare This tragicke sceane. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Notes on Landor* Wks. 1858 IX. 285 Afflicted with the very satyriasis of curiosity.

2. 'Old term applied to a variety of *Elephantiasis græcorum*, or leprosy, on account of its hideous appearance' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

[1684 *Blancard's Phys. Dict., Satyriasis*...'Tis taken sometimes for the Leprosy, because in that Disease the Skin acquires the Roughness of a Satyr.] 1884 A. LAMBERT in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 211 Elephantiasis, Satyriasis, Leontiasis, serve only to render more vividly the real fact of uttermost misery..concealed now under the common name of Leprosy.

Satyric (sătĭ·rik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **satir-, satyrique,** 8 **satir-, satyrick.** [ad. L. *satyric-us*, Gr. *σατυρικ-ός*, f. *σάτυρ-os* SATYR: see -IC.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to satyrs; *esp.* as the epithet of that species of Greek drama in which the chorus was habited to represent satyrs.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 13 That..there are certaine little hilles full of the *Satyrique-Ægipanæ*, and that in the night time they vse great fires, piping and dansing. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 32 In the Olympique Games, where the Poets contended for four Prizes, the Satirique Tragedy was the last of them. 1776 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* III. 196 They had also..the satyric dance, which was common among the Thracians, and the people of Greece. 1783 T. WILSON *Archæol. Dict.* s. v. *Scene*, According to Vitruvius there were three sorts of scenes, *Tragic, Comic*, and *Satyric*. 1819 SHELLEY (*title*) The Cyclops. A Satyric Drama Translated from the Greek of Euripides. 1871 NESBITT *Catal. Slade Coll. Glass* 167 Five columns, surmounted by satyric masks. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxiii. 360 Which satyric dance and sirenic song accomplished [etc.].

†**B.** *sb.* A satyric drama. *Obs.*

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 32 Amongst the Plays of Euripides,.. there is one of these Satyriques. *Ibid.* 33 The Satyrique, says he [Casaubon], is a Dramatique Poem, annex'd to a Tragedy; having a Chorus, which consists of Satyrs.

Satyric, obs. form of SATIRIC.

Satyrical (sătĭ·rikăl), *a.* [f. L. *satyric-us* (see prec.) + -AL.] = SATYRIC *a.*

1590 L. LLOYD *1st Pt. Diall of Daies* Oct. 43 Picus and Faunus two Satyricall Gods. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 296 Those satyrical gesticulations of theirs like Antikes. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 243 The true Thespis's Plays were all Satyrical, (that is, the Plot of them was the story of Bacchus, the Chorus consisted of Satyrs). 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* VII. 144 In this Union of comic Representation and a satyrical Choir, we see the genuine, though imperfect and rude Form of the old Greek Comedy. *a* 1846 MRS. BROWNING *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) II. liv. 98 There are certain objections..such as the difficulty of sustaining the right Satyrical tone.

Satyrical, obs. form of SATIRICAL *a.*

Satyrion (sătĭ·riŏn). Forms: 5 **saturioun,** 6–7 **satirion,** 7 **satyrian, saterion,** 6– **satyrion.** Also 8 in L. form **satyrium.** [a. L. *satyrion, -um*, a. Gr. *σατύριον*, f. *σάτυρ-os* SATYR, in allusion to the reputed aphrodisiac properties of the plant so named.] A name given to various kinds of Orchis.

The name *Satyrium* has been given in botanical Latin to a sub-tropical orchidaceous genus.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 732 in *Anglia* XVIII. 325 Of dragans arn spycis iij..Bothe arn callyd saturioun. 1526 *Grete Herball* cccxci. (1529) X v, Satirion..groweth on hylles & playne feldes. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 70 The great Satyrion may be called in englishe whyte satyrion or great satyrion. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. civ. 172 Red handed Satyrion is a smal lowe and base herbe. 1625 BACON *Ess.*,

Gardens P 1 The Sweet Satyrian, with the White Flower. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1735) 108 'Tis the root Satyrion, a very precious plant. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Orchis*,..Satyrion, or Fool-Stones. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 591 (Jod.) The undivided bulbed satyrium, with lanceolated leaves. 1844 KITTO *Phys. Hist. Palestine* vii. 241 Moon-trefoil; knapweed; satyrion.

attrib. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dial.* xvi. 237 There nothing is to boot Between a Bean and a Satyrion root. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery* 220 To preserve Saterion roots.

Satyrique, obs. form of SATIRIC *a.*

Satyrisk (sæ·tĭrisk). *Antiq. rare.* [ad. Gr. σατυρίσκος, dim. of σάτυρος SATYR.] A little satyr.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 386 (ed. 2) 500 Heron also..mentions Satyrisks with wine-skins.

Sau, obs. pa. t. of SEE *v.*; obs. f. SAW, SOW.

Sauba (sɑ̈·bă, ‖ sau·ba). In quots. saüba. [Tupi *sauba.*] The leaf-cutting ant (*Œcodoma cephalotes*) of tropical South America.

1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* i. (1864) 11 Another far more interesting species was the Saüba...Large mounds of earth, ..forty yards in circumference,..were the work of the Saübas. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without Hands* vii. (1868) 122 The Saüba or Coushie Ant.

Sauce (sɔs), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 sawse, *Sc.* salss, 4–8 sawce, sause, 5 saus, sace, 5–6 *Sc.* sals(e, 6 saulce, sace, 9 *vulgar* sarse, saase, sass, 4– sauce. See also SOUSE. [a. F. *sauce* (in OF. also *sausse*) =Pr., Sp., Pg., It. *salsa*:—popular L. *salsa*, fem. of *salsus* salted: see SALT *a.*[1] The etymological sense is thus identical with that of SALAD.]

1. Any preparation, usually liquid or soft, and often consisting of several ingredients, intended to be eaten as an appetizing accompaniment to some article of food. †Formerly occas. applied to a condiment of any kind.

Often with qualifying word denoting the predominant ingredient, as *bread, egg, mint, parsley sauce.* †Also (15th c.) in many adopted Fr. terms, as *sauce cameline, galantine, gansell*, etc.: see *Two Cookery-bks.* 77 (*c* 1450) and 108–110 (*c* 1430). † *Robert sauce* [tr. F. *sauce Robert*]: a sauce consisting of chopped onions cooked with butter and seasoned.

1350 *Will. Palerne* 1882 þei ete at here ese as þei miȝt þanne, boute salt oþer sauce or any semli drynk. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 823 [Lot's wife] sayde softely to hir self 'þis vn-sauere [*MS.* vn-fauere] hyne Louez no salt in her sauce'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nuns Pr. T.* 14 Of poynaunt sauce [*v.rr.* sawce, sause] hir neded neuer a deel. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 52 For grete lordis þou schalt take wyne With safrounе to þy sawce ful fyne. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 705 Many sawouris salss with sewaris he send. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 421 The swete Meitis, seruit in plaittis clene, With Saipheron sals of ane gude sessoun. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 109 Otmele j.d. Sasis j.d. Clos and mas j.d. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 42 Use it at meales in the maner of a saulce. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxvi. 250 This herbe is also used..in Salades and sawces. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* i. xxvii, While sugar hires the taste the brain to drown, And bribes of sauce corrupt false appetite. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 186 A sharp kind of sowrenesse in sawces is esteemed pleasing and tastfull. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 81 Sawce made of Raisins stamped with Vinegar. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Roast-Meats*, An old wild Boar must be dress'd..with Pepper and Vinegar, or Robert-Sauce. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housewife's Comp.* 246 For Sauce to such a Pudding, they strew a little Sugar over it when out of the oven, and then it becomes so palatable that [etc.]. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 123 To make Sauce for tame Ducks. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 127 Parsley-green, for colouring Sauces. 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* May 427/3 Boiled chicken..covered with white sauce.

b. In proverbial expressions, as *Sweet meat will have sour sauce, What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander*, and the like.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 158 Sweete meate will haue soure sauce, to this reason feate, Ioyne this conuersion soure sauce will haue sweete meate. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 200 Aye me that such soure sauce, false fortune should procure. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* (1614) I. 20 The sweet meats of wickednes will haue the sowre sauce of wretchednes and misery. 1700 COLLIER *2nd Def. Short View* 37 That that's Sawce for a Goose is Sawce for a Gander. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. i, We were holding out for our rights, and that's sauce for any gander. 1900 UPWARD *Eben. Lobb* 295 It seemed to me as though what was sauce for the insured ought to have been sauce for the annuitant. 1905 *Athenæum* 5 Aug. 167/1 What is sauce for the verb is surely sauce for the verbal substantive.

c. *transf.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 249 Ete not, Ich hote þe, til hunger þe take, And sende þe sum of his sauce to sauer þe þe betere. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 540 Thai soucht [nane othir] sals thar-till Bot appetyt. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 13 b, Houngre & thirste is for all thynges the beste sauce in the worlde. 1555–1634 [see HUNGER *sb.* 1 c]. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 13. 13 Flesh once a Day,..without other Sawce than Hunger, is best.

2. *fig.* Something which adds piquancy to a word, idea, thought or action.

a 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvii. 19 Quha maist it servis sall sonast repent: Off quhais subchettis sour is the sals. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 969/2 But this good host of ours ..geueth vs thereto one litle messe of sace to it. 1552 [see SAUCY *a.*[1] 1 *fig.*]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. State* II. xiii. 183 Sleep it self is a recreation; adde not therefore sauce to sauce. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxiv. 74 That which we call Raillery, in This Sense, is the very Sawce of Civil Entertainment. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiii, What is enticing to other men, must, to interest them, have the piquant sauce of extreme danger. 1907 A. C. BENSON *Altar Fire* 26 Fame is only one of the sauces of life.

3. Phrases. **a.** *To serve with the same sauce*: to subject to the same kind of usage (as one has suffered, or as has been inflicted on another). Similarly, *a sop of the same sauce, to taste of the same sauce.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxv. 726 If the flemynges had achyued the prise ouer them, they had bene serued of the same sauce. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 70 They serue them with like sause, requitinge deathe for deathe. 1587 GREENE *Euphues his Censure* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 223 Hee [Cleophanes] thought to giue them a soppe of the same sauce, and to thrust out one wyle with another. 1593 *Tell-troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 7, I wil not liue alone in sorrow, but will make thee taste of the same sauce. 1605 *Trag. End Sir J. Fites* (1860) 24 The other man who was close by him..might wel haue beene served with the same sawce likewise. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* 152 They sent for the French Consul, intending to serve him the same Sause. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxxvi, You deserve the same sauce..for..letting that ruffian torment these helpless ladies.

†**b.** *To have eaten sauce, to have drunk of sauce's cup*: to be abusive. *Obs.*

Cf. sense 6 b, and SAUCE *v.* 4 c, d.

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1404 Ye haue eten sauce, I trowe, at the Taylers Hall. *a* 1529 — *Bouge of Court* 72 To be so perte..she sayde she trowed that I had eten sauce; She asked yf euer I dranke of saucys cuppe.

†**c.** *To pay sauce*, to pay dearly; *to cost* (a person) *sauce*, to cost him dearly. *Obs.*

1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. IV. viii. 168 This penitence costs the criminal Sawce. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 107 All the Court..believ'd 'twould cost his ambition sauce; as indeed it fell out. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 9 We pay Sauce for sophisticated stuff. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) II. 116 The Innkeeper..swore ..that they should pay him Sauce for the Damage.

†**d.** *In no sauce*: under no possible circumstances, by no persuasion or inducement. *Obs.*

[Cf. Fr. 'cela ne vaut rien à quelque sauce qu'on le mette'.]

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 265 b, An haulte courage towarde, and that could in no sauce abyde to bee putte backe. 1550 LATIMER *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 113 b, And yet I remember I had preached vpon thys Epistle once afore Kyng Henry the .viii. but now I could not frame wyth it, nor it liked me not in no sauce. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 10 The lerned therefore amonge the protestants will in no sauce make papistry so late a matter.

4. a. Chiefly *U. S.* Vegetables or fruits, fresh or preserved, taken as part of a meal, or as a relish. Often = SALAD. See also GREEN SAUCE.

In U. S. *long sauce* = beet, carrots, and parsnips; *short sauce* = potatoes, turnips, onions, pumpkins, etc.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* title-p., A Kitchen Garden of all manner of herbes,..and fruites, for meate or sause vsed with vs. 1705 BEVERLY *Hist. Virginia* IV. xvii. (1722) 253 Roots, herbs, vine-fruits, and Sallad-flowers..they dish up..and find them very delicious Sauce to their Meats. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. vii. (1820) 204 Some buxom country heiress, ..deeply skilled in the mystery of making apple sweetmeats, long sauce, and pumpkin pie. 1813 BATCHELOR *Agric. Bedford.* 76 (E. D. D.) The potatoe..is also the principal vegetable used for sauce. 1893 ZINCKE *Wherstead* xxvii. 261 Vegetables are, with us [in East Anglia], 'sauce'.

b. *U. S.* A dish of fruit-pulp stewed with sweetening or flavouring.

In recent Dicts.; the examples cited are *apple-sauce* and *cranberry sauce*, which as used in England belong to sense 1.

1846 MRS. KIRKLAND *West. Clearings* 24 Among custards, cakes, and 'saase' or preserves, of different kinds, figured great dishes of lettuce [etc.].

5. A solution of salt and other ingredients used in some manufacturing processes. Cf. PICKLE *sb.*[1] 3.

So F. *sauce*: see Littré s. v.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 617 (Gold) This pickle or sauce, as it is called, takes up..a notable quantity of gold. *Ibid.* 1255 (Tobacco) Watering each layer [of tobacco]..with a solution of sea salt, of spec. grav. 1·107, called sauce. 1876 J. DUNNING *Tobacco* (Brit. Manuf. Industr.) 16 In other countries liquors or 'sauces' (as they are called) are generally employed.

6. [? Evolved from SAUCY *a.*] †**a.** *Vocatively.* An impudent person, a 'saucebox'. *Obs.* Cp. *Jack-sauce* s.v. JACK *sb.*[1] 35 and SAUCEBOX.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 48 Backe sir sauce, let gentlefolkes haue elbowe roome. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 27 Good words sir sauce, your betters are in place. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* III. (1633) F 2 b, Go to, sirra sauce, is this your question? get ye gon. 1697 CIBBER *Woman's Wit* III. 40 Why what's that to you, Sawce!

b. Sauciness, impertinence. *colloq.* and *dial.*

1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* ii, He's full of his sauce, sir, —you must forgive it. 1872 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 614/1 Dennis had been in his tantrums..; he'd..given sauce to the monitors. 1897 C. MORLEY *Stud. Board Sch.* 217 My husban' wouldn't take none of his sauce.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sauce cook, -deviser, -dish, maker, -plate, -tureen*; **sauce-garden** *U. S.*, a garden in which vegetables are grown for the table; **sauce-man** *U. S.*, one who deals in vegetables; **sauce oyster**, a large oyster used in making sauce.

1908 *Daily Chron.* 5 Aug. 6/2 A *sauce cook, at the Bath Club. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* Prol. 52, I know thee..A *sauce-deviser for thy days of fish. 1837 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii. 103 They vegitate like a lettuce plant in *sarse garden. *a* 1410 in *1st Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 109/1 All the folks of the *salsemakercrafte..did at their own costs and charges together maintain..the pageant. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 22 The succot makers and saucemakers. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xvi. 249 Behind comes a '*sauceman', driving a wagon full of new potatoes, green ears of corn [etc.]. 1891 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 5/4 *Sauce oysters are unusually large and excellent. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales, Mr. W. Tottle* ii, On one side of the table two green *sauce-tureens, with ladles of the same.

Sauce (sɔs), *v.* Forms: 5–6 sause, sawse, 5–7 sawce, 6 saulce, 9 *vulgar* sass, 5– sauce. [f. SAUCE *sb.* Cf. F. *saucer.*]

1. *trans.* To season, dress, or prepare (food) with sauces or condiments. *arch.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Sawcyn, *salmento.* Sawcyn, wythe powder, *idem quod* Powderyn. *c* 1450 *Douce MS.* 55 in *Two Cookery Bks.* 50 Sauce him withe powdre of pepyr and gyngevere & mustarde vynegre & salt and serve him forth. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* vi. 30 Of a goose with garlicke sauste: so late I eete. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cxxvi. (1636) 125 A..powder, to strow upon.. Quinces, or Wardens, or to sauce a hen. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 15 Eche countrey hauing his peculiar meates, and a seueral kinde of dressing, preparing, sauouring, saulcing, rosting, and boyling them. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Prax. Med.* 242 His meate may be sawced with iuyce of Pomegranates. 1667 L. STUCLEY *Gospel-Glass* xxxii. (1670) 305 Nothing has pleased your squeamish stomachs, but meat so sawced. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 81 Garcius and others, assure us, that the Indians..universally sauce their Viands with it [Fœtid Assa]. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 152 Sauce them [the cutlets] with Mustard, Butter, Shallot, Vinegar and Gravy. 1883 *American* VII. 120 However poor the meat it is well sauced.

b. In proverbial phrase. (See quots.)

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 73 Hunger sauceth every meate. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 136 Saith Saint Basil 'Fasting..sauceth best the use of meats'.

†**c.** *transf.* To make bitter. *Obs.*

1614 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* v. i. 10 So to craue water, that it may not be sauced with bitternes.

2. *fig.* **a.** To furnish a pleasing accompaniment to; to make pleasant or agreeable, to reduce the asperity or severity of.

1514 BARCLAY *Eglog* ii. (1570) B j b, Their disputation Is swetely sauced with adulation. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. B 4, Other..do..sauce their sorowes with sweetenesse. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 281 Sawce the same with laughter. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. vii. (1622) 99 These continuall causes of sorrow, were sauced with some small contentment. 1621 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 127 This sad news I shall sauce with a little that is more pleasant. 1661 R. L'ESTRANGE *State-Divinity* Pref. 2 Whoever Sauces not his Earnest with a Tang of Fooling misses his Marque. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xi. 182 A slice of the densest cloud within his reach, sauced with moonshine.

†**b.** To qualify with a mixture of bitterness. *Obs.*

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) D v, Joy sauced is with payne. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* I. v. 25 Caluin..sauceth the swete and true doctrine, with the cancred venim of heresy. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 75 Tyrone writ to the Earle of Ormond, whose Letter he sauced with general complaints against the Earle. 1647 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* xv. 112 It being just, that the sweetnesse of his corporall pleasure should be sauced with more spirituall sadnesse. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* iii. 120 The Contents there found by such as have lived in those parts, are sour'd and sauc'd with many unpleasing things.

c. To 'season', make piquant.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xi. 238 When this countrefeicte prophet had sauced his secte with these wicked opinions: he gaue them his lawe. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, O. T.* 208 He gave them abundance of food..but withall, hee sauced it with judgement. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* v. Notes (1673) 80 He endeavour'd to sauce their dishes with his scurrility. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 3/2 Now it [history] must be sauced and savoured,..lest our sickened appetites refuse to taste the dish.

¶ **3.** An alleged technical term for: To prepare (a capon, a plaice, a tench) for the table. (Cf. quot. 1513.) Now pseudo-*arch.*

c 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij b, A Capoon sawsede. *Ibid.*, A Tenche sawced. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 266 Sauce that capon. Take vp a capon, & lyfte vp the ryght legge and the ryght wynge,..& laye hym in the plater as he sholde flee, & serve your soueravne & knowe well that capons or chekyns ben arayed after one sauce; the chekyn shall be sauced with grene sauce or vergyus. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 78/1 Sauce that Plaice and Tench,..Sauce that Capon. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* II. xxxix, In the old terms of his art, he leached the brawn, reared the goose, sauced the capon [etc.].

4. In various jocular or colloquial uses. †**a.** To make (a person) 'pay sauce' (see SAUCE *sb.* 3 c): to charge extortionate prices to. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. iii. 11 Ile make them pay: Ile sauce them.

†**b.** To belabour, flog. Also *fig. Obs.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. v. (1601) H 3 b, Oh he hath basted me rarely, sumptiously: but I haue it heare will sause him. *a* 1693 AUBREY *Lives, Dr. Triplet* (1898) I. 265 'And doe not sawce me openly.' 'Yes sir, I'll sawce you openly.' *a* 1726 VANBRUGH *Journey to London* I. (1728) 14 But heavy George and fat Tom are after 'em..; they'll sawce their Jackets for 'em, I'll warrant 'em.

c. To rebuke smartly. Now only *dial.*

[Cf. F. '*saucer quelqu'un*, le gronder, le réprimander fortement' (Littré).]

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 69 As fast As she answeres thee with frowning lookes, ile sauce Her with bitter words. 1602 DEKKER *Satiro-mastix* E 3, I wod alwaies haue thee sawce a foole thus. 1882 A. B. TAYLOR *Westmorld. Sk.* 5 (E. D. D.) Sheed tell em a lot a lees to git off being sased for spillin t'cofe an stuff.

d. To speak impertinently to. *vulgar.*

1864 *Doncaster Chron.* 4 Mar., I have never been saucy to Mr. Sykes; I have 'sauced' the men who have been working for him. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, Dont sauce me in the wicious pride of your youth. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* II. 289 If a chap sauces you.., let him sauce on. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 117 They bully the slavey (but then the slavey sauces them, so perhaps it is only tit for tat). 1887 MARY E. WILKINS *Humble Romance* I. 9 An' she might sass you so you'd be ready to back out, too.

Sauce-alone (sɔ̄·sɪˌălōᵘ·n). [app. f. SAUCE *sb.* + ALONE, implying that the plant serves as a sufficient sauce by itself.] The plant *Sisymbrium Alliaria*, a tall hedge-weed formerly used as a flavouring for salads and sauces.

1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Sauce alone an herbe. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 82 Alliaria is called in english Sauce alone or Iacke of the hedges. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 592 Sausalone: It is vsed of some instead of Garlike. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxvii. 650 Sauce alone, or Jack by the hedge...Diuers eate the stamped leaues heerof with salt fish, for a sauce. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 29 Sauce-alone has many Medicinal Properties. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 323 The garlick-smelling [species of Erysimum], called thence Sauce-alone,..has heart-shaped leaves. 1896 J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 93 And white the lady-smocks a-row And sauce-alone in the hedge.

Sauce-boat (sɔ̄·sbōᵘt). [BOAT *sb.* 2 a.] A small vessel with a lip, used for serving sauce.

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 6 You may do Half the Quantity and put it into your Sauce-Boat or Bason. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 1 Sept., For one article of the plate she ordered ten sauceboats. 1841 THACKERAY *Sam. Titmarsh* iv, I had..pretty nearly all the oysters out of the sauce-boat. 1892 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett), *Sauceboats*, small vessels of various shapes and designs in which sauce is served at table. In the illustrations the Sauceboats are served in the dish.

Saucebox (sɔ̄·sɪbɒks). *colloq.* [f. SAUCE *sb.* 5 + BOX *sb.*] A person addicted to making saucy or impertinent remarks.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 6 Why sawceboxes must you be pratling? 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 34 For which, Sir Sawce-box, dost thou see, Since thou'lt make them, I'll unmake thee. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 29 And so I am to be expos'd, am I, said he.., to the whole World, by such a Saucebox as you? 1820 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 121 She's a goosecap, you know, and a romp, and a saucebox. 1875 R. G. WHITE in *Galaxy* XIX. 558 What delight it must have given this she sauce-box to make that answer to her own father.

Sauced (sɔ̄st), *ppl. a.* [f. SAUCE *v.* + -ED[1].] Seasoned, flavoured.

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. (1633) H 4 b, He liues vpon Pickled Grashoppers, and sauc'd Mushrumbs. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 160 Their sauc'd Julaps.

†Saucefleme, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 sawcefleem, 4, 6 sausfleme, 5 sawflom, salce-, salflеme, sawse-, sawceflewm(e, sauseflem(e, 6 sawce-, salsefle(a)gme, sawce-, sauce-, sausfleume, sawsfleam, -flame, 7 sauce-, sausfleame, sauceflegme, 5–6 saucefleme. See also SAUCELINE. [a. OF. *sausefleme*, semi-popular ad. med.L. *salsum flegma* 'salt phlegm'; *salsum*, neut. of L. *salsus* salt, adj., *flegma* PHLEGM.] **A.** *sb.* A swelling of the face accompanied by inflammation, supposed to be due to salt humours.

Also in translated form *salt fleume*: cf. SALT *a.*[1] 1 b.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (1495) r vij, Carbunculus..comeþ of salte flewme.] *a* 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 189 And on is in the mydde for-hevede, For lepre sausfleme mot blede. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4116 His face was deformed and bolnyd And with' rede salfleme suolnyd. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 71 Litle pymples or pushes, suche as of cholere and salsefleagme budden out in the noses and faces of many persones. 1586 LUPTON *Thousand Not. Things* (1675) 14 Scurviness, Sawsflame, or Redness of the face. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxxvi. 765 Cucumber [thus prepared]..doth perfectly cure all manner of sawceflegme and copper faces. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 113 The red pimples or sauce-flegme in the face.

B. *adj.* Afflicted with this disease.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 625 A Somonour was ther with vs in that place That hadde a fyr reed Cherubynnes face ffor sawcefleem he was with eyen narwe. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 257 It [whey] doth purge redde colour, and is good for sausfleme faces. 1547 — *Brev. Health* clxx, A sauce fleume face, which is a rednes about the nose and the chekes, with small pymples. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Phys. Secrets* 166 For a Red gum, or Sausfleame face old or new.

Hence **†Sauceflemed** = SAUCEFLEME *a.* **†Sauceflеming** = SAUCEFLEME *sb.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 116 Wyne..makithe the uisage salce fleumed rede, and full of white whelkes. 1592 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. IX. 229 þe vayn..to opyn for þe..sauce-flemyng in the face. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Piper* 145 This sauce-fleamed porcupine..will bee many times monstrously malapert.

Saucege, -eidge, obs. forms of SAUSAGE.

Sauceless (sɔ̄·sɪlĕs), *a.* [f. SAUCE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no sauce, or sauces; *fig.* lacking piquancy.

1882 MISS C. F. WOOLSON *Anne* IV. 67 Seeking a place [in New York] where his knowledge..would have been prized by exiled Frenchmen in a sauceless land. 1899 *Month* June 621 Even vice would be in many ways sauceless and insipid in the absence of faith.

†Sauceline, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* In 5 **sawcelyne, -lyme, sawslem,** 6 **saucelin, sauslyme.** [Corrupt form of SAUCEFLEME.] = SAUCEFLEME.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* p. 4 in *Archæologia* XXX. 412/2 Good for sawslem skabbe & mannys lymys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Sawcelyne [*Winch. MS.* sawcelyme]. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 96 The fellowe with the fowle sauslyme face. 1542–3 *Act* 34–35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 The stone ..saucelin and morfew, and suche other lyke diseases.

†Sau·celiness. *Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. **saucely* (f. SAUCE *sb.* + -LY[1]) + -NESS.] Sauciness.

1552 HULOET, Wantonnes or saucelines in askynge or crauynge, *procacitas*.

Saucely, obs. form of SAUCILY.

†Sauce malapert. *Obs.* [See under SAUCY *a.* 2.] Impertinence, insolence. Hence **†Sauce malapertly** *adv.*, in a manner insolently abusive.

1529 MORE *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 305/2 He vseth a figure of rethorike that men cal sawce malapert. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xcv. 74 Not blowing hensforth (so sausmalapertlie) My masters and maistres meate.

†Sauce-medley. *Obs.* [app. a. AF. **sauce medlee*, lit. 'mixed sauce'.] A concoction, a mixture compounded by art.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 678/1 The Papists haue made an hotchepoche and a sawse medley of lyes that they haue scraped together from all corners.

Saucepan (sɔ̄·sɪpăn). [f. SAUCE *sb.* + PAN *sb.*[1]]

1. In early use, 'a small skillet with a long handle, in which sauce or small things are boiled' (J.). Now, in wider application, a vessel of metal, with a long handle projecting from the side, and usually with a lid; the utensil most commonly employed for culinary boiling, except for large joints of meat.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2120/8 Two Silver Porringers, one Silver Sawce-pan. 1697 E. LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 468 With these Plates he makes Furnaces, Pots,..Sauce-Pans, &c. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* ii. (1751) 38 If you have a Silver Sauce-pan, and the Butter smells of Smoak, lay the Fault upon the Coals. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 65 He found his gold-headed cane, silver saucepan, baggage, every thing in short in *statu quo*. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, I would recommend examination of the bacon in the saucepan on the fire. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 174 As an oilbath a small cast-iron saucepan answers well.

b. *Phrase.* (Cf. SAUCE *sb.* 6.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Your Sauce-Pan runs over*, you are exceeding bold.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *saucepan-lid*; **saucepan crab,** the crab *Limulus Polyphemus*, the shell of which is used, in tropical America, for a ladle.

1861 E. D. COOK *Paul Foster's Daughter* viii, Do you call that saucepan lid clean?—because I don't. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Nov. 687/2 King crabs..are sometimes called the horseshoe crab..as also saucepan crab.

Saucer (sɔ̄·səɹ). Forms: 4–6 **sawser(e,** 4–8 **sawcer(e,** 5 **sawsesere, sauscyre, sawssor, sowcer,** 5–6 **salser,** *Sc.* **salsar,** 5, 7 **sausser,** 6 **sawsser, sawcerere, sasser, salcer,** *Sc.* **sasar,** 6–7 **saser,** 4– **saucer.** [a. OF. *saussier* masc., *saussiere* fem. (mod.F. only *saucière*) vessel for holding sauce, f. *sauce* SAUCE *sb.* Cf. Sp. *salsera*, Pg. *salseira*, It. *salsiera*, med.L. *salsārium*.]

†1. A receptacle, usually of metal, for holding the condiments at a meal; a dish or deep plate in which salt or sauces were placed upon the table.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1489 Now, styward, I warne the, Bye us vessel gret plenté, Dysschys, cuppys, and sawsers. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 503 Dobler saucer of lynde. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 626/9 Sawsesere, *salsarium*. 1434 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 101, ij sauseres of peautre. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 7/31 Now must ye haue Platers of tyn, Disshes, saussers, Sallyers, trenchours. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 82 Item, tuelf salsaris. 1504 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 97 Item I wyll that myn executors shall geve to xxti maydens..xij pecys of pewtyr, that ys to sey, iiij platers, iiij dysshys, and iiij sawssers. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 272 Item, iij. platters, a dysshe, and a sawecere xijd. 1541 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 176 Ane playt, a dische, a salsar, a chandlar of brace. 1588 ARCHDEACON tr. *True Discourse Army K. Spain* 69 Dishes, Cuppes, Sassers. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 338 The women, going to dance, did weare about their girdles plates of golde as broad as a sawcer. 1674 T. P. etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 31 And send with the serving it up some Saucers of Green-sauce. 1728–42 BAILEY, *Saucer*, a little Dish to hold Sauce.

2. Any small shallow dish or deep plate of circular shape. Now commonly felt as an extended use of sense 3.

Somewhat specialized applications are: † a receptacle for the blood in blood-letting (*obs.*); a small earthenware plate on which cake water-colours are rubbed in water; a shallow vessel placed under a flower-pot, sometimes holding water to be drawn up through a hole in the bottom of the pot.

1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* Prol., Presently the Pronotary strippeth vp Alexanders sleeue and letteth his arme bloud in a saucer. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 254 Blood..caked as it is in a Saser after blood-letting. 1630 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 184 Two litle plates or sawcers for carrying and setting the bread on itt, at the tyme of the Communion. 1665 in *Phil. Trans.* I. 118 The last Blood was received in a Sawcer. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* III. xxxvi, Rubbing Indian ink, or cake colours, in a very smooth saucer. 1822 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* 328 The Flower Pot-Saucer is a flat, circular vessel, with a rim from one to two inches high. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvi, A quantity of orange marmalade spread out in a little cut-glass saucer. 1856 GLENNY *Gard. Every-d. Bk.* 259/1 The pot had feet to keep the drain hole above the water in a common saucer, and the saucers for common pots had a flat rim inside.

trans. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 173 The Armenians..in stead of musicall instruments, have Sawcers of brasse (which they strike against one another) set about with gingles.

b. *Pink saucer*: see PINK *a.*[1] C. c.

1855 PIESSE *Art of Perfumery* 222 Pink Saucers.

3. A small round shallow vessel, usually with concave sides and flat at the bottom, used for supporting a cup (esp. a tea or coffee cup), and catching any liquid that may be spilled from it.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. ix. 49 Down went his cup and saucer. 1776 WILKES in Boswell *Johnson* (1791) II. 86 If a poet had to speak of Queen Caroline drinking tea, he must endeavour to avoid the vulgarity of cups and saucers. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xvi, Don't pour your tea in your saucer—that's vulgar! 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 66 The constrictions deepen until the Strobila becomes not unlike a pile of cups or saucers.

4. In similative phrases. Cf. SAUCER EYE.

This use orig. belonged to sense 1. Cf. AF. 'les oyls granz com deus saucers', *Boeve de Haumtone* 1760 (13th c.).

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. G 8, Her eyes like siluer saucers fayre beset With shining Amber and with shady Iet. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* v. i, We met three or four hugeous ugly Devils, with Eyes like Sawcers. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 3 The eyes of these Dogs as Jetzer thought,..were bigger than Saucers. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Devil* 93 Wks. 1816 II. 23, I thought That thou a pair of horns hadst got, With eyes like saucers staring! 1876 tr. *Andersen's Fairy Tales* 128 There sat the dog with eyes as big as saucers, glaring at him.

5. † **a.** *Phys.* = COTYLEDON 1, ACETABULUM 2 d.

1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. xxviii. (1686) 62 Any of those Glandules that are..called *Cotyledons* or Sawcers. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 2 Slimy humours which loosen the acetabula (or saucers) of the womb.

b. *Bot.* Any part of a plant resembling a saucer, as the involucre of *Euphorbiaceæ*, and the tubercle of lichens in which the seeds are imbedded.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxix. 356 The flowers are yellow and grow out of litle dishes or sawsers. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 370 The rising particle, which is destined to form a concave saucer, becomes hollow and green at the top,..the saucer becomes larger and more and more open. ..At length it becomes a perfect saucer, either sitting, or supported on a short foot. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* vi. 277 In Dendrobium chrysanthum the nectary consists of a shallow saucer.

6. *Mech.* In various uses: see quots.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict., Sawcers*, those round Pieces of Iron fixt on the Sawcer-hooks, on which the Leathern Suckers are put in Chain-Pumps. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor, Saucers*, are round thick Pieces of Iron, on which the Spindle of the Capstons work. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 8 *Saucer*, a bolt with a flat head. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Saucer*,..a socket of iron let into a wooden stock or standard..to receive the spindle or foot on which the capstan rests and turns round.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** = belonging to a saucer, as *saucer-hook* (see sense 6); **b.** = of the shape of a saucer (sense 3), as *saucer-cap, -dome, -eyeball, -head.* **c.** parasynthetic, as *saucer-headed, -shaped* adjs.; also *saucer-like* adj. and adv.

1885 C. LOWE *Bismarck* I. 17 He got himself up in the traditional long-boots, velvet jacket, and *saucer cap. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 8/2 Work has been begun upon the third *saucer-dome. *a* 1732 GAY *Story of Apparition* 19 Wks. 1737 II. 55 Night roaming ghosts, by *saucer eye-balls known. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney) s.v. *Bolt*, Those..have commonly small round heads, somewhat flatted, called *saucer heads. *Ibid.*, **Saucer-headed Bolt.* 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, A muckle great saucer-headed cutlugged stane, that they ca' Charlies Chuckie. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 75 This affectation then of great *Sawcer-like eyes is a fancie against the rule of nature. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* xxxviii, On reaching them the rustic rider's eyes opened saucer-like. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 213/2 At the bottom of the sac is situated a *saucer-shaped body. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 132/1 The same church has a saucer-shaped paten, 1652.

Saucer eye. Usually *pl.* An eye as large and round as a saucer, generally ascribed to spectres and ghosts. Cf. SAUCER 4.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 131 Some have mistaken Blocks and Posts, For Spectres, Apparitions, Ghosts, With Sawcer-eyes, and Horns. 1718 PRIOR *Hans Carvel* 77 The devil.., without saucer-eye or claw Like a grave Barrister at Law, 1808 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *One more Peep at Roy. Acad.* Wks. 1812 V. 371 With mealy face and saucer eyes. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Spectre of Tappington*, Don't suppose you can palm off your saucer eyes on me. 1846 C. BONER tr. *Andersen's Danish Story-bk.* K 6 b, He struck the flint, and the well-known dog with saucer-eyes stood before him.

b. *transf.*

1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail-Coach* Wks. 1862 IV. 326 The huge saucer eyes of the mail, blazing through the gloom.

So **Saucer-eyed** *a.*, having saucer eyes.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, Clouen footed, Blacke, saucer-eyde, his nostrils breathing fire. 1883 T. HARDY in *Longm. Mag.* July 268 A thin saucer-eyed woman of fifty-five.

Saucerful (sɔ̄·səɪful). [f. SAUCER + -FUL.] As much as fills a saucer.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii. 87 With a saucerful in each hand.

Saucerless (sɔ̄·səɹlĕs). [f. SAUCER + -LESS.] Having no saucer.

1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* vii, Cups, saucerless and chipped. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* ii. 22 Three handleless, saucerless blue china cups.

†Sau·cery. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **salserie,** 5–6 **sawcery(e,** 6 **salcerie, salcery, saulcery,** 7 **sausery,** 8 **salsary,** 6–8 **saucery(e.** [a. OF. *saussierie*, med.L. *salsāria*, f. OF. *saussse*, med.L. *salsa* SAUCE *sb.*: see -ERY.]

1. The department of a household entrusted with the preparation of sauces.

c 1440 in *Housh. Ord.* (1790) 38 There is none that dyneth in their offyces, savinge onely the cookes, the scullery, the sawcerye [etc.]. 1502 in *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 2 To the Saulcery xs. 1520 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 40 Item, the skullary and sawcery. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 3 The Grome of the Salcerie..of the same housholde ..shalbe..redye withe vyneger and colde water. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xiv. (1710) 121 Vinegar and cold Water, brought by the Groom of the Saucery.

2. That part of a house in which sauces were prepared; the apartments of the servants engaged in the preparation of sauces.

1468 in *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 223/2 In the squillery and salserie a yeoman a groom and a page. 1649 *Descr. Richmond Crt.* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 412 One other little room called the Saucery. 1650 *Surv. Nonsuch* in *Archæologia* V. 435 One little timber building, ..commonly called the Saucery House, conteyning foure little roomes used by the yeomen of the sauces.

3. *attrib.* salsary-man. (See quot.)

1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. 537 Salsary-man. [An officer of the Queen's Pastry.]

Saucester, -cestour, -cestr, var. ff. SAUCISTER.

Sauch, var. SAUGH; obs. Sc. pa. t. of SEE *v.*

Sauchen, Sauchie, var. ff. SAUGHEN, SAUGHY *a.*

Saucht(e, -ine, var. ff. SAUGHT, SAUGHTEN.

†Sau·ciate, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sauciāt-*, ppl. stem of *sauciāre*, f. *sauci-us* wounded.] *trans.* To wound, hurt. Hence **Sau·ciated** *ppl. a.*; so **Sauciation** [ad. L. *sauciātio*], wounding.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sauciate* (*saucio*), to hurt, to wound, to cut. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 283 Balm ..which distills out of a sauciated Tree. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Sauciation*, a wounding.

†Sau·ciate, *pa. pple. Obs.* [ad. L. *sauciāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sauciāre*: see prec.] Wounded, hurt.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 17 Murdred is Mars, and with woundes sawciate The bondys of peas hath dryuen the tyrant hens.

Saucidge, -ige, obs. forms of SAUSAGE.

Saucily (sɔ̄·sili), *adv.* Also 6 **saucely**, 6–7 **sawcely**, 7 **sawcily.** [f. SAUCY + -LY².] In a saucy manner, in various senses of the adj.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Proterue*, proudely, immoderately, shamefully, saucily, knappishely. 1552 HULOET, Sawcely. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VII. XXXVII. 166, I beare a mind lesse bace than that I can digest your Drudge with me so saucely should chat. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* vi. 19 You began to stirre,..malepartly answering his Grace with scornfull letters, and subscribing them..most saucely. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 63 The Townes..stood so saucily upon their priviledges, as a sharpe rod and strong hand were requisite to amend them. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* II. i. 31 Even from the Temples, Angels soon withdrew; So sawcely th' afflicted there complain'd. 1668 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 443 We have..saucily used and prophaned some of the expressions which by the dictate of God's own spirit they have thought fit to make use of. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 44 P 5 [He] makes him speak sawcily of his Betters. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xi, The more young and unexperienc'd he us'd to teach to talk Saucily. 1768 *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 218 Some printers who saucily mentioned our debates were ordered to attend. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* XV. 276 She then smiled saucily in his face. 1900 CROCKETT *Love Idylls* (1901) 27 Bell's saucily unconscious air of command piqued him.

Sauciness (sɔ̄·sinės). Also 6–7 **sawciness(se, 7 sawcyness, sawsinesse.** [f. SAUCY *a.*¹ + -NESS.] The quality of being saucy, in various senses of the adj. In early use as a term of serious reprobation: Insolent presumption, haughtiness, arrogance. Now with milder sense: Impertinence, rudeness to superiors; often used playfully in mock dispraise (cf. SAUCY *a.*¹ 2 c).

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Protervitas*,..sauciness. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 383 To the intent you may take him in hand, suppresse his sauciness, and make him leaue off his mallapertnesse. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Luke* iii. 36 marg. note, Whereby we learne the intolerable saucines of the Caluinists, and their contempt of holy Scripture, that dare so deale with the very Gospel it self. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 28 Your sawcinesse will iest vpon my loue, And make a Common of my serious howres. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. 547 The magistrates..gaue place to the furious rage and malapart saucinesse of a few. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* vii. 6 All demean'd themselves with much sawciness and irreverence towards God. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 225 P 3 Familiarity in Inferiors is Sauciness. 1713 ADDISON *Trial Count Tariff* 9 Speaking against his Superiours with Sauciness and Contempt. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 84 P 13 Thus we travelled on four days ..without any endeavour but to outvie each other in supercilliousness and neglect; and when any two of us could separate ourselves for a moment, we vented our indignation at the sauciness of the rest. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxi, What might be called sauciness in a girl, may be thought something more of in a young woman. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* v, Her sauciness was always charming because it was without emphasis. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 81 He [Sylla] experienced, however, himself, in a milder form, an explosion of military sauciness.

Saucing (sɔ̄·sin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAUCE *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb SAUCE.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. 5 b, The sawcing of pleasures with some kynd of misfortune. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* V. 83/1 He..being in a chafe for the wrong sawcing of a partridge, arose suddenlie from the table.

‖Sau·cisse. *Obs.* Also 7 **saulcisse.** [a. F. *saucisse* SAUSAGE, applied transf. with allusion to the shape.] = SAUCISSON 3.

1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 144 He causeth Saulcisses to be made (so they call certaine things made of wood, tyed together). 1702 *Milit. Dict.* (1711), *Saucisse*, a long Train of Powder roll'd up in a Pitch-Cloth, and sew'd together in Length, so that it reach from the *Fourneau*, or Chamber of the Mine, to the Place where the Engineer stands to spring the Mine..There are generally two Saucisses to every Mine, that if the one fail, the other may hit. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (*ed.* 2) s. v. *Mine*, The saucisse [1728 (ed. 1) *reads* Saucidge] of the mine is the train; for which there is always a little aperture left. 1795 *Amer. State Papers, For. Relat.* (1832) I. 523 (Stanf.) All arms and implements serving for the purposes of war, by land or sea, such as..carcases, saucisses, &c.

‖Saucisson (*sosisoñ*). [Fr., augmentative of *saucisse* SAUSAGE.]

1. A large thick sausage.

1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 361 The better to preserve its strength, it [*sc.* tobacco] is dried, and tied up in the form of a saucisson. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxiii, French saucissons seasoned with garlic.

2. A kind of firework, consisting of a tube of paper or canvas packed with gunpowder.

1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nature* 86 Saucissons are of two sorts eyther to be placed upon a frame,..and so to be discharged..or else to bee discharged out of the morter-peece. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. XVI. (Roxb.) 91 In this Balloone must be put Rockets serpents, stars, petards, and one or two saucissons to Break the Balloone.

3. *Mil.* [Cf. SAUCISSE, SAUSAGE 3.] a. A large fascine.

1702 *Milit. Dict.* (1711), *Saucissons* or *Saucisses*, Faggots made of the Bodies of Underwood, or of the large Branches of great Trees. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 508 The 11th and 12th were employed in making gabions, saucissons, and fascines. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Saucisson*..This name is also given to an extra large fascine.

b. A long tube of waterproofed canvas or other material packed with gunpowder and used as a fuse for firing a mine.

1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 300 The saucisson was fired, and the explosion, as Bouchard had expected, threw down the entrenchments. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 496/2 The electric spark is now preferred to the saucisson. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Saucisson* (French = sausage).—A long tube of linen, filled with gunpowder..used for exploding fougasses or mines.

†Sau·cister. *Obs.* In 4 **sausither**, 4–5 **salsister**, 5 **sawster, -styre, -sestyr, sawcystre, -cistre, saucestr, -cestour, -cester.** [? Altered adoption of F. *saucisse* SAUSAGE, by assimilation to some word in *-ister*.] A sausage.

1347 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 41 In Salsisters emp. vjd...Salsisters emp. in villa, 3*s.* 3*d.* *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 29 *Mazakata*,..vulgaliter salsicia, i. sausither. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 741/24 *Hec salsucia*, a sawstyre. 1434 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 62 In sawsestyrs empt. 4*s.* 11*d.* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Sawcyster, lynke, *hirna*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/1 A Salsister, *hirna*.

Saucy (sɔ̄·si), *a.*¹ Forms: 6 **sausy, -ie**, *Sc.* **sawsy**, 6–7 **sawsie**, 6–8 **sawcy(e, -ie**, 8 *vulgar* **saasy**, 6– **saucy.** [f. SAUCE *sb.* + -Y¹.]

†1. Flavoured with or pertaining to sauce; resembling sauce; savoury. *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 191 Quhair thow lyis sawsy in saphron, bak and syd. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. XXV. 279 Delicate, and of a sawcie and delicious taste. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. I. 146/1 Nor in all his life time the queasinesse of his stomacke needed any sawcy spurre or switch of sowre Veriuice or acute Vineger.

fig. allusively. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh.* i. (1562) 65 But he that wilbe a christen man, that intendeth to come to heauen, must be a sausye felow: he must be well poudered with the sause of affliction and tribulation.

2. Of persons, their dispositions, actions, or language: Insolent towards superiors; presumptuous. Now chiefly *colloq.* with milder sense, applied to children and servants: Impertinent, rude, 'cheeky'.

In the 16th c. often *saucy* (*and*) *malapert*, whence More's SAUCE MALAPERT. †*Saucy Jack*: an impertinent fellow.

1530 PALSGR. 323/1 Saucy to perte or homlye, *malapert*. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 17–20 What a more shamelesse or sawcie pranke coulde there bee, then to take downe the tyling of an other mannes house, and to toumble in such a lothely syght before such a presence to behold it? 1553 *Respublica* I. iii. 26 Whoo buzzeth in myne eare so? what? ye sawecye Iacke? 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 24 Symon magus was so sawcye as to name him selfe the mightie power of God. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. v, That saucie stubborne generation, the Iewes. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 323, I wil speake to him like a sawcie Lacky, and vnder that habit play the knaue with him. 1602 FULBECKE 1*st Pt. Parall.* Introd. 7 Comparisons wer of al things most saucy and malepert. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 70 My Lady Rich her letter he termed an insolent saucy malapert action. 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. i, My father would preferre the boyes he kept to greater men then he, but did it not till they were too sawcy for himselfe. 1646 H. MARKHAM *Let.* in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 2, I shall not trouble your Ladyship with her scandelous and sawcy language of my Lord or yourselfe. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* IV. i, Sawcy Rascal, to disturb my Meditations. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xii, Base Man! Was it not enough to affront me with your sawcy Passion? *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Jul. C.* I. ii. Wks. 1723 I. 217 Betters! thou sawcy Citizen, be silent. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1773, 29 Sept., A clergyman's widow..having acquired great influence over the father, was saucy to the son. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas.* 1*st* ii. 35 Mark you what spirit sits in St. John's eyes? Methinks it is too saucy for this presence. 1843 SYD. SMITH in *Mem.* (1855) II. 499, I was sorry to be forced to give —— such a beating, but he was very saucy and deserved it. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. xvi. 171 Alençon had a saucy tongue. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Good Men* II. v. 16 He forwarded a copy of his letter to Lord John, who sent him in reply a saucy comment on it.

b. occas. with the notion: Wanton, lascivious.

In Shaks. as a term of serious condemnation; in modern examples only playful.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 45 To remit Their sawcie sweetnes, that do coyne heauens Image In stamps that are forbid. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. vi. 151 If he shall thinke it fit, A sawcy Stranger in his Court, to Mart As in a Romish Stew. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xvi. 3 You that lightly a saucy verse resenting, Misconceit me.

c. Now often used in mock dispraise, as an endearing or admiring epithet implying piquancy or sprightliness.

1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Sept., Here must I begin another letter, on a whole sheet, for fear sawcy little *MD* should be angry. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) IV. xxxiii. 190 Never was a saucier dear Girl, than you, in your Maiden Days. 1838 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. 93, I love to see my tame pigeons feed at the window, and the saucy hen tap the glass, if the casement be shut. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. App. 362 Some saucy puppies on their hind legs. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 155 She has..the sauciest nose. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Publ. Serv.* 17 They were old brother officers in the Saucy Sixth.

d. Applied to a ship or boat: †(*a*) In early use (with figurative context): Presumptuous, rashly-venturing (*obs.*). (*b*) In modern use (cf. 2 d): Smart, stylish.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxx, My sawsie barke (inferior farre to his) On your broad maine doth wilfully appeare. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 42 Where's then the sawcy Boate, Whose weake vntimber'd sides but euen now Co-riual'd Greatnesse? 1652 CRASHAW *Alexias* Wks. (1904) 287 Seas had not bin rebuk't by sawcy oares. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 341 Several East India ships..with such saucy rigging that would have made the Yachters raving in envy. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xix. 173 Slow moving trawlers and saucy little crab boats. 1878 W. C. BENNETT *Sea Songs* 78 Tight and saucy—tight and saucy, Trim's the ship we hail from.

†e. quasi-*adv.* = SAUCILY.

1598 Q. ELIZ. tr. *Plutarch* x. 13 Suche vers as Archi-Lochus againe women Lewdely and ful sawsy made. 1713 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Feb, Methinks I writ a little saucy last night.

†3. Dainty, fastidious, 'spoilt'. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 214 Where cocking Dads make sawsie lads. 1611 COTGR., *Friand*..saucie, lickorous, daintie-mouthed, sweet-toothed. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. 174 Thou hast a sawcy and a luxurious Palate. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Saucy*, dainty as to food.

4. Scornful, disdainful. Now *dial.*

1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 117 In sawcy State the griping Broker sits. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 300 Sin Merlin laid Auld Reikie's causey, And made her o' his wark right saucy. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 91 They gang as saucy by poor folk As I wad by a stinkan brock. 1867 ELLEN JOHNSTON *Poems* 180 Had ye drest like a clark, aye in a clean sark, I vow I wad ne'er been sae saucy.

5. *Comb.*, as *saucy-looking* adj.; **†saucy-box** = SAUCEBOX; **saucy-face**, an impertinent person.

1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, Robb'd, Sir! No, Mr. Saucy-face. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Nov., Well, but I won't answer your letter now, sirrah saucyboxes, no, no; not yet. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 92 Come, saucy-face, give me another glass of wine. 1748 — *Clarissa* IV. xxi. 96 For why? The dear saucy-face knows not how to help herself. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, Becky laughed, gay, and saucy-looking.

†Sau·cy, *a.*² *Obs.* [f. *sauce-* in SAUCEFLEME + -Y.] Affected by SAUCEFLEME.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxxiii. 604 This virgins milke is good to heale..saucie and red faces [orig. *goutte roses & taches rouges du visage*]. 1623 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 2) 20 For a pympled or a red-saucy face.

Saucy: see SASSY.

Saudan(t, variant forms of SOLDAN, sultan.

Saudeor, -der, -diour, obs. forms of SOLDIER.

Sauder, -dre, obs. forms of SOLDER.

Saue, obs. form of SAW *sb.*²

‖Sauerkraut, sourcrout (sau·ɔɪ-, sau·ər-kraut). Also 7 **sowercrawt, sawer-kraut**, 8 **soure crud** (after Du.), 8–9 **sourkrout**, 9 **sour kraut.** [Ger.; *sauer* sour + *kraut* vegetable, cabbage, whence F. *choucroute*. Cf. obs. Du. *zuurkruid*; the mod. Du. word is *zuurkool* (*kool* cabbage).] A popular article of diet in Germany, consisting of cabbage which has undergone an acid fermentation.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. II. iii. 83 They vse to serue in sower crawt or cabbage vpon a voide circle of carved Iron. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xiv. 52 They pickle it [cabbage] up in all high Germany, with salt and barberies, and so keepe it all the yeere, being commonly the first dish you have served in at table, which they call their *sauerkrant* [*sic*]. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iii, Poor Frog [the Dutch]..his children..live upon salt herring, sowre crud, and borecole. 1776 COOK in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 403 Sour Krout..is..highly antiscorbutic. 1825 LAMB *Eliana, Mem. Mr. Liston*, A German empiric, who, in this extremity, prescribed a copious diet of *sauer-kraut*. *a* 1845 HOOD *Knight & Dragon* xiv, Noble Lord of the soil, Of its corn and its oil,..Of our cream and sour-kraut, Of our carp and our trout. 1845 COOLEY *Pract. Receipts* (ed. 2) 704 Saur kraut. *Prep.* Clean white cabbages [etc.]. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xiii. (1876) 261 Feeding on train-oil and sour-crout. 1870 DUBOIS *Artistic Cookery* 67 Pheasant with Sour-krout. 1875 LOWELL *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 269 Mr. Sibbald..seems to find a sort of national savor therein, such as delights..the German in his *sauer-kraut*.

Sauf, variant of SAUGH.

Sauf(e, -fand: see SAFE, SALVE, SAVING.

†Saufey. *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Also 5 **salfay, safye**, 6 **salfer, saufer, sawpheir, saufeir**, 6–7 **saiffer**, 7 **sau(l)ffer, saifare**, 7, 9 **saufey.** [Of obscure origin; prob. connected with SAVE *v.*; the last syllable may possibly represent FEE *sb.* or FEEB.

Cf. the synonymous SAUGHE, SAW-SILVER.] The sum paid for recovering lost property.

Persons convicted of having stolen cattle were adjudged to pay *double and saufey*, i. e. app. double the value, together with a sum representing what would have been due to one who had restored the cattle when it had strayed.

c 1400 *Alphabet of Tales* 434 Bod þe riche man, when he had þe sakett agayn, wolde not pay þe salfay. *Ibid.*, Because he wold nott hafe gyffen þe pure man a hondreth talentis to safye, as he promysid he sulde do. 1551-2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 123 It is..ordanit, that all sik gudis stollin or reft, lauchfullie convict, salbe restorit and redressit with the thre dowbillis and salfer. 1561-2 *Ibid.* I. 201 That he..sall..relief him of ane bill fylit upoun him of thre horsis takin fra the Lord Gray, with the dowble and saufer thairof. 1578-9 *Ibid.* III. 82 And that he that is offendit unto ressave his redres with dowbill and sawfeir according to the buke and lawis [of Marchis] foirsaid. 1605 *Ibid.* VII. 712 In matteris of auld thiftis..*quo jure procedendum?* quhidder by dowble sauffer or be single? *Ibid.* 744 That it maye be lawfull to any man to give saifare for speiring of his goodis or geir stollen, provyding it does not exceade the double of the availle of the goods stollen. 1649 W. G. *Surv. Newcastle* 33 These Highlanders..come down..into the low Countries, and carry away Horses and Cattell so cunningly, that it will be hard for any to get them..except they be acquainted with some Master Thiefe; who for some mony (which they call Saufey mony) may help they to their stoln goods.

Hence † **Saufey** *v.*, *trans.*, to redeem by payment of 'saufey'.

1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 90 That na maner of persoun..furneis money to the saidis rebellis..under cullour of saulffiing thair geir.

Sauff(e, -ffand, -ffing : see SALVE, SAVING.

Sauffer, variant of SAUFEY *Obs.*

Saufftye, saufte, -tie, obs. ff. SAFETY.

Saugeour, obs. form of SOLDIER.

Sauger (sɔ̄·gəɹ). The smaller American pike-perch (see quot. 1882).

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 526 *Stizostedium canadense*...Sauger; Sand-pike; Gray-pike; Horn-fish. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 88/1 She fished on, adding now a bass, then a pike or a sauger to her trophies.

Saugh, sauch (sɔ̄χ). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 4 **salfe**, 7–9 **sauf**, etc.: see E.D.D. [repr. OE. *salh* (Anglian) = WS. *sealh* SALLOW *sb.*] = SALLOW.

1368 *Durham Halm. Rolls* (Surtees) 73 De Waltero Biscopp pro una salfe detent. prec. 18d. 1472 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 163 Plantatioun of treys that is to say eysses, osaris, and sauch. 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* II. 83 Item, to George Cambel, gardiner of Strivelin, to by sauchis and to set thaim, iiij Franch crouns. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 120 Att Martymmasse..wee sette our foreman to cuttinge of white-wilfes, reade-wilfes, and saughs. 1786 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* x, Nae whip nor spur, but just a wattle O' saugh or hazel. *a* 1834 R. SURTEES in G. Taylor *Mem.* (Surtees) 241 They made a bier of the birken boughs, Of the sauf and the espin gray. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1178 Of the woods best adapted for the purpose, I may name the common saugh or willow. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant Killers* 132 Lower about the slacks were alders and saughs or sallows.

† **b.** A rope made of twisted sallow-withes. *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 245 Filling of tauch, rak sauch, cry crauch, thow art our sett. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 56 For this foule deid 3our seid man rak ane sauch.

c. *attrib.*, as *saugh slip, tree, woody* (=withy).

1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 171 [For] screening the dunghill, *saugh slips may be planted,—or better, *saugh stobs, four feet long, may be driven into the ground. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 73 Thair targettis bow thai of the lycht *saugh tre. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 70 Salix is called..in english a wylow tree, a salowe tree or a saugh tree. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxii, Did ye notice if there was an auld saugh tree that's maist blawn down. *a* 1802 in Scott *Minstrelsy* II. 142 O wae betide the frusk *saugh wand! 1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* vi, I hae a wife and twa wee laddies,..But I'll sned besoms—thraw *saugh woodies, Before they want.

Saugh, obs. form of SOUGH, channel.

† **Saughe.** *Sc. Obs.* [If not a misreading, app. identical with the first element in SAUFEY, SAW-SILVER.] = SAUFEY.

1561 in R. Keith *Hist. Aff. Ch. & St. Scotl.* (1734) App. 95 For any Attemptat done since the said 20th Day of September last, Deliverance and Redress shall be made with Double and Saughe.

Saughen, sauchen (sɔ̄·χ'n), *a. Sc.* [f. SAUGH + -EN.] Pertaining to or made of sallow. Also *fig.*, 'soft, weak, wanting in energy' (E.D.D.).

1724 PEDEN in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1838) I. 82 He caused dig a Cave, with a Saughen-bush covering the Mouth of it. 1875 J. VEITCH *Tweed* 172 They brought him slow From the hills on a sauchen bier.

† **Saught,** *sb. Obs.* (since 14th c. only *Sc.* and *north.*). Forms: 1 **seht, seaht**, 3 **sæht(e, saht(e, seaht(e, seht(e, saihte, seihte, (septe), sauht**, 3–5 **saght**, 4 **saɜt(e, sahut, saughte**, 5 **sauɜt**, 8 *north.* **saft**, 6–9 **saught**, 7 **saucht**. [Late OE. *seht, seaht* masc., prob. a. ON. **sæht, *saht* fem. (OIcel. *sætt, sátt*) :—earlier **sahti-z*, f. OTeut. **sah-* perh. identical with L. *sac-* in *sancīre* to hallow, make binding (a treaty, etc.), *sacer* sacred. The forms with *a* and *au* directly represent the ON. word.]

1. An agreement, covenant.

1038–50 in Kemble *Codex Dipl.* (1846) IV. 118 Se seht ðe Godwine eorl worhte betweonan ðam arcebiscep & ðam hirede æt sancte Augustine & Leofwine preoste. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1091, On þisum sehte weard eac Eadgar æpeling wið þone cyng ge sæhtlad.

2. Agreement, freedom from strife, peace. Frequent in the phrase (*to be*) *at saught.*

c 1100 in *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxii. [xxi.] ad fin. (Camb. MS.), Sib wæs syððan seaht & sib [*earlier texts* Dære sibbe wære] mycelre tide æft þon betwyh ða ylcan cyningas & heora rice awunode. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, & sib & sæhte sculde ben betwyx heom & on al Engle land. *c* 1205 LAY. 2139 þa luueden heom þeos leoden mid sibben & mid sahten. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 God lihte to eorðe uorte makien þreouold seihte—bitweonen mon & mon [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 1 in *O. E. Misc.* 90 Hwi ne serue we crist and secheþ his sauht. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3964 Iacob þan sent him of his aght Giftes large, al for þe saght. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1030 They ryden forth all yn saght. 1603 *Philotus* cxliii, The feind wald faine man be your wyfe, Can neuer sit in saucht. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 27 For as her mind began to be at saught. *Ibid.* 29 'Tis true, she had of warlds gear a fraught: But what was that to peace an' saught at hame. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* Gloss., *Saft*, heart's ease, as *to be at saft*, to be easy and contented, also reconciled. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ball.* I. 207 O gin wi' thee, regretted maid! I in the mools at saught were laid.

† **Saught,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 **seht, sæht**, 2–3 **seht, saht**, 3 *Ormin* **sahhte**, 3 **sæht(e, sauchte, swahte**, 3–4 **sauht(e**, 3–5 **saght(e**, 4 **sawht, sawght, saught(e, (sayct)**, 4–5 **sauɜt(e, saɜt**, 5 **sawcht**, 4–6 *Sc.* **saucht**. [Late OE. *seht, sæht*, prob. a. ON. **sáht-r* (OIcel. *sáttr*) :—OTeut. type **sahto-*, a passive pple. f. **sah-* : see SAUGHT *sb.*] In agreement, free from strife, at peace, reconciled.

956 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 172 And sæ bisceop Stigandæ and sæ hiræd on ealdan mynstræ him pæs gætipodon wið scwlcon ȝersumen swylce hi þa sehtte wæron. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 And eour eyþer sunegað bi-foran drihtan and ec leter ȝe beoð sahte. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5731 þe seoffnde seollþess ædiȝleȝc Iss gripþ i manness herrte,..Swa þatt hiss bodiȝ wiþþ hiss gast Sammtale & sahhte wurrþe. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 134 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Alle heo schule wyþ engles pleye some and sauhte in heouene lyhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3540 þou and i er selden saght, Abute our forbirth er we wrath. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 552 And Pees and Riht cussen and be sauɜt and some. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 300 Qwhen the king ves thus vith him saucht. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 371 Of this point ye have me tawht, Toward miself the betre sawht I thenke be, whil that I live. *Ibid.* III. 313 The wyndy Storm began to skarse,..The Schipman..Whan that he sih the wyndes saghte, Towardes Tharse his cours he straghte. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 26 Scho beþoght hur how þat chyldern don no vengeans, but lyghtly ben saɜt, þogh þay ben wrothe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vii. 48 Now lat ws change scheildis, sene we bene saucht. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 179 We trowit from thence thay suld haif sittin saucht, And suld haif tyrit of all thair tyrannie.

† **Saught,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **sehtan, ȝesehtian**, 2–5 **sauɜt(e**, 3 **sæhte, seyte**, 4 **saght**, 3–4 **sauhte, sahut, saɜt**, 4–5 **saucht**, 5 **saughte**. [Late OE. *sehtan, ge-sehtian*, f. *seht* SAUGHT *sb.* Cf. ON. **sæhta* (OIcel. *sætta*).]

1. *trans.* To bring to peace, reconcile.

c 1000 in Thorpe *Ags. Laws* II. 304 Cristenum cyninge ȝebyreð..þæt he..eall cristen folc sibbie & sehte mid rihtre lage. *Ibid.* 312. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1101, Ac þa heafod men heom betwenan foran & þa broðra ȝesehtodan on þa ȝerad. *c* 1250 *Hymn Virg.* 40 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 256 Help me to mi liues ende & make me wið þin sone isauɜt. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11008 Hii broȝte him þer to To makie a porueance..þut lond uor to seyte. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 933 Godes sone, þt fro heuene to eorþe wolde come To sauɜte his sustren. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virg.* 108 Loke þou assay, To sauɜten hem þenne at on assent.

2. *intr.* To become reconciled.

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 3964 (Fairf.) Iacob sende him of his aɜt giftes large wiþ him to saɜt [*Gött.* to sahut; *Cott.* al for þe saght]. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 150 Graunte me my bone Of thing I wil thee aske and we schul saughte sone. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 844 Thai forthocht that thai faucht, Kissit samyn and saucht.

Hence † **Sau·ghting** *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17198 And blith o saghting þou me bedis. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* l. (*Katerine*) 921 Wald þu..ask forgiffnes of þi syne, yheit mycht þu sauchtyng with hym wine. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 573 Wraþþe gedereþ gret hate, Loue norisscheþ sauɜtynge.

Saught, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SEEK.

† **Saughtel,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 **sæhtle**, 2–3 **sahtle**, 3 **sawghtle**, *Ormin* **sahhtlenn**, 4 **saɜttel, sa(u)ghtle, -til, sauhtill, (saxtel)**, 4–5 **saɜtle, sauɜt(e)le, saghtel**, 5 **saɜtill, saghtill, sahtil, saghetylle, sauɜthle, saughtel, -tille**. [In 12th c. *sahtlian, sæhtlian*, f. *sæht, *saht* : see SAUGHT *a.*]

1. *intr.* To come to agreement, become reconciled.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Sithen þer efter sahtleden þe king & Randolf eorl at Stanford. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1470 Now lofe we, now hate, now saghtel, now strife. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3580 (Fairf.) [When a man is old] þen ys ethe to make him wraþ & for tille saxtel sumdel laþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 183 It is no science for sothe forto sotyle [*v.r.* sauɜtele] Inne. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 330, I salle hym surelye ensure, þat saghetylle salle we never. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 865 Sire, latt þi wreth a-wai wende & with þi wyfe saɜtill. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1757, I rede ye sauɜthle with the knyɜt.

b. To become calm or quiet.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 445 As þat lyftande lome [*sc.* the ark] luged aboute,..Hit saɜtled on a softe day synkande to grounde. *Ibid. C.* 232 He [Jonah] was no tytter out-tulde þat tempest ne sessed, þe se saɜtled þer-with, as sone as ho moɜt. *Ibid. C.* 529 For-þy when pouerte me enprecez & paynez in-noȝe, Ful softly with suffraunce saɜttel me bihouez.

2. *trans.* To reconcile (persons). Also *refl.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, þa eodon gode men heom betwenen & sahtloden heom. *Ibid.* an. 1070, þa tweȝen kyngas Willelm & Swæȝn wurðon sæhtlod. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6024 He riseþþ upp & sahhtleþþ himm Wiþþ Godd þurrh rihht dædbote. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28565 Quen man think to traueil lath, to saghtil men þat er wrath. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1139 For when a sawele is saɜtled & sakred to dryɜtyn, He holly haldes hit his. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3917 Thou sal do thi power,..To saghtel the Knyght with the liown And his lady of grete renowne.

Hence † **Sau·ghteling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 964 Tell me..Howgat and wit quatkinthing I sal couer þi saghteling. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3256 For þat saughtlyng [of the brothers] was mykel blisse. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3680 Than asked the king Wha had so sone made saghteling Bitwix tham thai had bene so wrath. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 661 (Douce MS.) Withe outene more lettynge, Diȝte was here saɜtlynge.

† **Sau·ghten,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 2 **sahtnie**, 2–3 **sehtne**, 3 **sahtne, sæhtne, -nie, sehtnie, seihtni, sachtni**, 4 **sauhtne, sahutin, sauɜtne, -tene, (saxtend)**, *Sc.* **sauchtine**, 5 **saughten**. [f. SAUGHT *a.* + -EN 5.]

1. *trans.* To reconcile.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Þet seste is þat þu scalt sahtnien þa þe beoð unisahte mid alle þine mahte. *Ibid.* 83 He isehtnede god & man. *c* 1205 LAY. 8776 Nu þu must me ræden sæhtnien me wið þene kæisere. *Ibid.* 30036 Heo..spileden bitweonen þat heo wolden alle þa kinges sehtnie. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 28 Vorte seihtni [*v.r.* sachtni] me wiþ þe deorewurðe Louerd. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1485 Dere lady, I þe pray, þat..þu succure me, & sauchtine me & þi sowne.

2. *intr.* To become reconciled or at peace.

c 1205 LAY. 8254 Wið þon þe þu hine ȝeue grið & late hine sæhtne þe wið. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 2 Seseþ, seide þe kyng..ȝe schulle sauɜtene [MS. D. *c* 1480 saughten] forsothe and serue me bothe.

Hence † **Sau·ghtening** *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*).

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 3954 (Gött.) Iacob sent þan for-to fonde, Esau wid sahutinyng sonde. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1805 Made was þe sauɜtening And alle forȝeue bi dene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 742, & sic mystreuht I here forsak, & with 3oure god wil sauchtnyng mak. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 3165 Qwhil at þe last þe hail barne Off Brettane knyt þaim in sauchtenynge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xiv. 176 Na frendschip in thy handis, Nane syk trety of sauchnyng nor cunnandis, My son Lawsus band vp with the.

Sauɜter, obs. form of PSALTER.

† **Sau·ghtliness.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 4 **saghtlines**. [f. SAUGHT *sb.* or *a.* + -LY 1 + -NESS.] Reconciliation. Cf. SAUGHTNESS.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29125 If he be funden in þam treu his saghtlines þat sal him neu.

† **Sau·ghtness.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **sehtnyse**, 2 **sahtnys**, 3 **seht-, seih(t)-, saht-, seht-, sæht-, sachtnesse**, 4 **saght-, sawghtnes, sauht-, seiɜtnesse**. [OE. *sehtnys, sahtnys*, f. *seht* SAUGHT *a.*: see -NESS.] The condition of being reconciled.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 198 Ðam dom-bocum þe se Heofonlica Wealdend his folce ȝesette to some, and to sehtnysse. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, Geaf þa þone cyng .xl. marc goldes to sahtnysse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3515 He wass borenn her Sahhtnesse & gripþ to settenn Bitwenenn Drihhtin..& mannkinn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 Cum louerd and biwind us on seihtnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 2809 He sette þis lond he sahtnesse wrohte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 Pax uobis! Seihtnesse beo bitweonen ou. *Ibid.* 426 Þis is o þing..þet is God leouest—seihnesse & some [*v.r.* sachtnesse & somentale]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4014 Sli strengh es o þe holi gast, To saghtnes mak þar wrath es mast. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 474 Euer on þat ilke stryf þat a-mong my sustren is a-wake, Þorw sauhtnesse mowe sum ende take. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 570 Sitte eche man oppon his kne, & biddeth to god..Sende seiɜtnesse bi-twene þo kniɜtes.

Saughy (sɔ̄·χi), *a. Sc.* Also **sauchie.** [f. SAUGH + -Y.] = SAUGHEN.

1818 *Edin. Mag.* Oct. 328/1 Deep down in the sauchie glen o' Trows, Aneth the cashie wud. 1897 'L. KEITH' *Bonnie Lady* v. 47 She might have twisted him like a sauchie bough in her tender fingers.

Sauht, obs. form of SAULT *sb.*1 *Obs.*

Saul, variant of SAL 2, SOUL.

Saulce, -ery : see SAUCE, SAUCERY.

Sauldyer, obs. form of SOLDIER.

† **Saule,** *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *saouler* (mod.F. *soûler*), f. *saoul* (mod.F. *soûl*) full of meat or drink = Pr. *sadol*, It. *satollo* :—L. *satullus*, dim. of *satur* full: see SATURITY.] *trans.* To satisfy, fill with food.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxix. (1869) 41 Thei wer namore sauled ther with than if [etc.].

Saule, obs. form of SAIL, SOUL.

† **Sau·lee.** *Obs.* Also 4 **saule**, 5 **sawle(e.** [a. OF. *saoulee* (mod.F. *soûlée*), f. *saouler* : see SAULE *v.*] Satisfaction of appetite; a satisfying meal or quantity of food.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 11, I wolde..forto haue my fylle of þat frute forsake al other saulee [*Gloss* edulium]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 272 He schal drinke no newe wijn, & he schal ete no greet saule. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xliv. 73 Wherfore it nedys panne..to abstene to mekyll ete and drynke, and fro greet saule. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6178 My voyded herte to fulfylle Wych so longe..hath voyde be, And neuere ne hadde hys ful sawlee. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. v. (1869) 4 Good it were to faste a litel for to haue ful saulee at the sopere.

Saulff(e, -ff, obs. forms of SAFE, SAVE.

Saulffer, Saulftie : see SAUFEY, SAFETIE.

Saulie (sɔ̄·li). *Sc. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also **saullie, sawlie, sal(l)ie, saly, sauley.** [Of obscure origin;

perh. short for some comb. of *saul* SOUL.] A hired mourner at a funeral.

1621 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 626/1 That no duill-weidis be givin to herauldis, Trumpetoris or saullies Except by the Earlis and lordis and thair wyffes And the number of the saullies to be according to þe number of duilweiddis. 1654 in C. Rogers *Soc. Life Scotl.* (1884) I. v. 161 [(Funeral of Earl of Buccleuch.) In front marched forty-six] salies [or hired mourners with hoods and bearing black staves]. 1773 R. FERGUSSON *Poems* (1800) 169 How come mankind, whan lacking woe, In Saulie's face their hearts to show? 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvii, And then the funeral pomp set forth; saulies with their batons, and gumphions of tarnished white crape. 1864 in R. Paul *Mem.* xix. (1872) 304, I see in imagination a tall unbendable fellow..grave as a sauley. 1898 W. DRYSDALE *Old Faces* 47 When hearses came into fashion, people of distinction were conveyed therein, and were preceded by 'saulies'.

Saull(e, obs. forms of SOUL.

Saullie, variant of SAULIE.

Saulm, Saulmon, obs. ff. PSALM, SALMON.

Saulpeter, variant of SALPETER *Obs.*

†Sault, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–6 saut, 4 saght, saugt, 4–5 sauht, sawt, 4–6 saute, sawte, 4–6 salt, 6 sault. [Early ME. *saut*, aphetic form of *assaut* ASSAULT *sb.*, with later insertion of *l* as in that word.] = ASSAULT *sb.*, in various senses.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11870 Wiþ a lance he broȝte a kniȝt atte verste saut þer doune. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 125 þe Gyour of his oste at þat saut [*sc.* on Lincoln] was slayn. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* xii. 4 The deuel..makes his saute in vs, and bost bifor god, to gare vs be dampned if he may ouere com vs in any temptacioun. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2651 þe king bi-seget þe cite selcouþli harde, & mani a sad sauȝt his sone þer-to made. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 356 [At the siege of Berwick] Thai trumpit till ane sawt [*v.r.* salt] in hy. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Epist. Domin.* iv. Sel. Wks. II. 365 þat ȝe may stonde aȝens þe fendis sautis. 1452 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 232 Charlis Nowell with odir hath in this cuntre mad many riot and sautes. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 11 Tho fewe that yet lyue dare not now yssue out more for to make ony saulte or scarmusche ayenst their ennemyes. 1510 *Sel. Cases Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden) 206 Thomas Withiford..and dyuerse moo made a Sawte on Thomas powes and wold haue take hym With stroung hande owte of his schoppe. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnif.* 2329 Remedy pryncypall Agaynst all sautes [*v.r.* fautes] of your goostly foo. 1523 EARL OF SURREY *Let. to Wolsey* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 215, I being at the sault of th' abbay, whiche contynued unto twoo houres within nyght. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxv. 74 Sir captaine our mind is, To giue saute to the copweb. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* iii. (1664) 22 Though with hard saults they him assaild.

†Sault, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4 saut, 5 sawte, 6 saute, 7–8 salt, sault. [a. F. *saut*:—L. *saltus* (*u* stem), f. *salīre* to leap; for the form cf. prec.]

1. A leap, jump; *spec.* of horses (see 1727–52).

a 1350 *John Bapt.* 105 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 125 Scho daunced and tumbild diuers saut Ful faire and wele, with-outen faut. *c* 1400 *Brut* iv. 11 þerfore þe place is called ȝit in-to þis day 'þe sawte of Gogmagog'. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 14 They are many of them naturally giuen to bound, & to performe saults aboue ground. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. vi, [Love] could make More wanton salts from this braue promontory. 1623 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 15 The loftinesse of a horses salts and leapes. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxiii, He rode..a light fleet horse, unto whom he gave a hundred carieres, made him go the high saults, bounding in the aire. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (ROXB.) 183/2 Ground salts, is to take vp his fore leggs from the ground both togather, and bringing his hinder feet in their place. 1728–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Salts*, or *Saults*, in the menage, denote the leaps, or high airs and vaults of an horse...A *step and a salt* is an high air, wherein the horse rising, makes a curvet between two salts, or caprioles...*Two steps and a salt* is a motion composed of two curvets; ending with a capriole.

2. *A sault out*: a sally.

1560 DAUS *Sleidane's Comm.* 323 b, To the ende the Townes men shoulde make no salt out [L. *eruptionem*].

3. *To go to sault* = 'to go assault': see ASSAULT *adv.* and SALT *sb.*[2]

1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 185 And yet you see this great..Duchesse..run after the male, like a female Wolfe or Lionesse (when they goe to sault).

‖Sault (*sō*, commonly *sū*), *sb.*[3] *North Amer.* [Colonial Fr. *sault*, 17th c. spelling of *saut*: see SAULT *sb.*[2]] A waterfall or rapid.

1600 *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 234 The Captaine prepared two boats to goe vp the great River to discouer the passage of the three Saults or falles of the River [Canada]. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 16 Lachine..is at the head of the Sault de Saint-Louis, which is the highest of the saults, falls, or leaps, in this part of the Saint-Lawrence. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Sault*, pronounced *soo*. (Old French.) The rapids of the St. Lawrence and those connecting the Upper Lakes retain the French name; as, the Sault St. Mary, etc.

†Sault, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 saute, sawte, 5 sawlte, 6 saut, sawt, saulte, salt, 6, 9 sault. [ME. *saute*, aphetic form of *assaute* ASSAULT *v.*] *trans.* = ASSAULT *v.* in various senses.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 552 And thenne the kynge sente therle marchal vnto Louers, whiche they sawted. 1448 METHAM *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 55/1474 Offte this serpent gan saute the bugyl blak The qwyche vpon hys helmet stod. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XVI. 384 Yf ye sawte Reynawde, we four that ben here shall helpe hym agaynste you. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxiv. 11 To sawt this castell a fresh, they haue purueyde. 1560 PHAER *Æneid* IX. E e ij b, A towre..whom all the Italians totall strength incessaunt stil did saulte.

absol. *c* 1471 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 278 At Algate thay sawtid in an ill seasoun. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of Armes* I. ix. B iv, To teche hem bettre in all thynges to fighte & to sawte, they were oftymes put in arraye of batailles. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvi. 291 And there they rested them by the space of viii dayes, without sawtyng ne scarmysshing.

Hence **†Sau·lting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 149 Reynawde made ..all ye castell to be closed rounde about wyth double walles,..that it fered no sawtynge of no side of it. 1490 — *Eneydos* lxii. 161 Anoone as Eneas herde turnus speke he.. lefte the sawtyng of the walles and of the toures.

†Sault, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* Forms: 4 saute, 5 sawlte. [a. F. *sauter*:—L. *saltāre*, freq. of *salīre* to leap.] *intr.* To leap, dance.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 233, I can..noyther sailly ne saute ne synge with þe Gyterne. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 152 Thay hym yaue pryuely a lytill toode in a drynke, and by crafte thay makyd hit grow in his bely, and his bely sawlte hit wax grete.

Sault, obs. f. SALT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

†Sau·ltable, *a. Obs.* Also 6 sawt-, sautable, 7 saltable. [f. SAULT *v.*[1] + -ABLE.]

1. = ASSAULTABLE *a.*

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxv, Ere they could anie peece of the walles batter To make it sawtable. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 1357 Certayne..souldiers..mountyng the top of the breache brought report that the place was saultable. *a* 1652 BROME *Covent Gard.* v. iii, The Enemie made saltable six hundred paces there.

2. Capable of being used in assaults.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 246/2 He began to giue sharp assaults [on the city], with all maner of Saultable engins. *Ibid.* 306/2 With ensignes and other munition sautable.

Saulte, obs. form of SALT *sb.*[1]

Saulted, erron. spelling of SALTED *ppl. a.* 4.

a 1879 A. K. JOHNSTON *London Geogr.* (1880) 402 A 'saulted' horse, or one which has been bitten [by the tsetse fly] and has recovered. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 3/1 'Saulted horses'.. are only claimed to be proof against 'horse sickness'.

Saulter, Saulve: see PSALTER, SALVE *sb.*[1]

†Sau·mbu. *Obs.* Forms: 4 sambu, saumber, *Pl.* 5 sambu(e)s, sambutes, saumbues. [a. OE. *sambue*:—med.L. *sambūca*, app. ad. OHG. *sambuoh* saddle-cloth, litter.] A saddle-cloth.

13.. *K. Alis.* 176 (Bodl. MS.) Wiþ sadel of gold sambu of sylk. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2976 (Kölbing) Saumbers, quissers & aketoun. *a* 1400 *Launfal* 950 Her sadell was semyly sett, The sambus wer grene felvet, Ipaynted with ymageryе. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 24 Here sadel sette of þat ilke, Saude withe sambutes of silke. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2360 Vuory sadyll and white stede, Saumbues of the same threde.

†Sau·mbury. *Obs. rare*[−1]. Also **sambury.** [A derivative or corrupt form of prec.] A litter.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. III. 178 And shope þat a shereyue sholde bere mede Softliche in saumbury [*MS. C.C.C. Cambr.* in his Sambury] fram syse to syse.

Saume, Saumon: see PSALM, SALMON.

Saumpel, -ler, etc.: see SAMPLE, SAMPLER.

‖Saumur (*somür*). [The name of a town in the department of Maine-et-Loire in France.] A French white wine resembling champagne.

1888 H. J. NEWMAN in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 606/1 In 1874 sparkling Saumur was introduced into the United Kingdom in its own name. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 25 Sept. 7/6 Tasting the wine, the witness pronounced it to be Saumur.

Saun, obs. f. SANS; obs. pa. pple. of SOW *v.*

Saunape, variant of SANAP *Obs.*

Saunce, obs. form of SANCTUS, SANS.

Sauncing bell. Alteration of *saunce-bell* SANCTUS BELL, after *sacring-bell*.

1600 *England's Helicon* L 2 b, It [*sc.* Love] is perhaps that sauncing bell, That toules all into heauen or hell. [Repeated by Heywood in *Lucrece* 3rd Song, with the form *sansing bell*.]

Sauncte(s bell, obs. forms of SANCTUS BELL.

Sauncti·te, obs. form of SANCTITY.

†Sau·nder. *Obs.* Shortened f. ALEXANDERS.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 43 b, Put therto a litle butter, and a litle salte, and a litle Saunder.

Saunders, etc.: see SANDERS.

Saunders blue (*sɑ̄·ndəɪzˌblū*). [Phonetic corruption of F. *cendres bleues* (*sɑ̃ndr'blø̄*) 'blue ashes'.] A name for ultramarine ashes.

1850 *Weale's Dict. Terms*; and in later Dicts.

Saune, sauns, obs. forms of SANS.

Saunke realle, var. SANG-ROYAL *Obs.*

Saunpil, obs. form of SAMPLE.

Saunt: see CENT[2], SAINT, SANCTUS, SANS.

†Sau·nter, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Of obscure origin: possibly an alteration of *sauntes* or *sauntus* SANCTUS.] ? An incantation.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 3, I went aboute this busynes all figures, coniurynges, saunters, charmes, wytcherafte, and sorseryes sett a syde [tr. Tragus *de Stirpium Hist.*, 1552, I. clxxxvi. 544 *Nullis characteribus, nullis coniurationibus, nullis præculis, nulla denique superstitione usus sum, sed citra huiusmodi Magicas vanitates*, etc.].

Saunter (*sɑ̄·ntəɪ*), *sb.*[2] [f. SAUNTER *v.*]

1. The action or habit of sauntering; 'lounge; idle occupation' (Seager).

1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* I. 231 The tavern! park! assembly! mask! and play! Those dear destroyers of the tedious day! That wheel of fops! that saunter of the town! Call it diversion, and the pill goes down.

2. A sauntering manner of walking; a leisurely, careless gait.

1712 HENLEY *Spect.* No. 518 (*ad fin.*), So likewise the *Belles Lettres* are typified by a Saunter in the Gate;..an Insertion of one Hand in the Fobb [etc.]. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XI. ii, Men who make money rarely saunter; men who save money rarely swagger. But saunter and swagger both united to stamp *prodigal* on the Bond Street Lounger. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* XXVII, The other, turning round, walked slowly, with a sort of saunter, towards Adam.

3. A leisurely, careless, loitering walk or ramble; a stroll.

1828 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 330 A quiet saunter about a cathedral..has the effect upon me of a walk in one of our great American forests. 1881 LADY D. HARDY *Through Cities & Prairie Lands* 105 In one of our saunters through the city we met two..girls.

Saunter (*sɔ̄·ntəɹ*), *v.* Also 5–8 santer, (7 sawnter, *dial.* sonter). [Of obscure origin.

It is doubtful whether the word represented by the quots. under sense 1 is identical with the modern word, the unequivocal history of which begins with the mention by Skinner (quot. *a* 1667 under sense 2); for the supposed 15th c. examples see SAUNTERING *vbl. sb.* 1

The current suggestion that the word is a. AF. *sauntrer* (= *s'auntrer*), to venture oneself, is unlikely (apart from difficulties of meaning) on the ground that the AF. word, of which only one instance has been found (1338 in *Yearbks. Trinity* 12 Edw. III, p. 619) is app. an adoption of ME. *auntre* to ADVENTURE, and possibly a mere nonce-word; the conjecture that it represents a med.L. type **exadventūrāre* is phonologically inadmissible.]

†1. *intr.* ? To muse, be in a reverie. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 4653 But yut he knew noght uerray certainly, But santred and doubted uerryly Wher on was or no of this saide linage. 1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 29 in *N. & Q.* Ser. v. IV. 397 [To Edw. VI] When straungers greate yowre presence hathe none take of yowre nobles youe compenye too keepe: doo not your selfe sitt santeringe alone: as wone that weare in studye most deepe. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) A ij b, I stood sauntring ouer it, like a whelp that had scalded his mouth.

2. **†a.** To wander or travel about aimlessly or unprofitably; to travel as a vagrant. *Obs.* **b.** To walk with a leisurely and careless gait; to stroll.

a 1667 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671), *To Saunter up and down*, à Fr.G. *Sauter*, Sauteller, Saltare, Saltitare, q.d. huc illuc Saltitare seu Discurrere. 1677 MIEGE *Dict. Eng.-Fr.*, To Saunter about, *rouler en vagabond d'un côté & d'autre*. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1343 What hast thou gotten by this Fetch?..By Santring still on some Adventure, And growing to thy Horse a Centaur. 1691 RAY *S. & E. Country Words* 111 To *Santer* about; or go *Santering* up and down. It is derived from *Saincte terre*, *i.e.* The Holy Land, because of old time..many idle persons went from place to place, upon pretence that they..intended to take the Cross upon them, and to go thither. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cxliv. 131 The Cormorant is still Sauntering by the Sea-side, to see if he can find any of his Brass cast up. 1693 S. HARVEY in *Dryden's Juvenal* IX. 1 Tell me, why saunt'ring thus from Place to Place, I meet thee (Nevolus) with a Clouded Face? 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* in *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 337 [List of Yorkshire words] To *Sonter*, to loiter, a *santring* or *sontring* Body, one that squanders the time in going idly about. 1713 *Guardian* No. 171 His customers can santer up and down from corner to corner. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 311 Led by my hand, he saunter'd Europe round, And gather'd ev'ry Vice on Christian ground. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. viii, Mr. Harrel sauntered into the breakfast room. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* ii, The preacher..left the church and sauntered through the streets of Woodstock. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* II. 54 He sauntered about Florence with me. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 3 The people of hill and valley go sauntering about their business as in the days before the flood.

†3. To loiter over one's work, to dawdle. Also in *indirect passive*, and quasi-*trans.* with *away*.

1673, 1693 [implied in SAUNTERING *ppl. a.*]. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 118. 146 Aversion to his Book that makes him saunter away his time of Study. *c* 1731 BOLINGBROKE *Let. to Swift* in *Pope's Wks.* (1741) II. 107 But I know men.. who to preserve their health, saunter away half their time. 1752 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 5 Mar., Business must not be sauntered and trifled with. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. i. I. 11 A man commonly saunters a little in turning his hand from one sort of employment to another.

Saunterer (*sɔ̄·ntərəɹ*). [f. SAUNTER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who saunters; a lounger; †a dawdler, trifler.

1688 PETT *Happy Future St. Eng.* 251 The fantastick Vtopias, Oceanas, and new Atlantis'es that our late Visionaries and idle Santerers to a pretended new Jerusalem troubled England with. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 413 (1750) 46 And quit the Life of an insignificant Saunterer about Town, for that of an useful Country-Gentleman. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1822) I. 149 Alcibiades might have been a saunterer at his book. 1832 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* Introd. P 3 Thither, too, comes the saunterer, anxious to get rid of that wearisome attendant *himself*.

Sauntering (*sɔ̄·ntərinɡ*), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].]

†1. (Sense uncertain; possibly not from the existing verb.) *Obs.*

The interpretation 'loitering, vagrancy' does not well suit the context, and the corresponding sense of the vb. has not been found before the middle of the 17th c. If SAUNTRELL means 'pretended saint', *sauntering* may be a back formation from it, with the sense 'a pretending to holiness'.

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXXV. 70 Thoo sawes schall rewe hym sore For all his saunteryng sone. *Ibid.* 150 Nowe all his gaudis no thyng hym gaynes, His sauntering schall with bale be bought.

2. The action of the vb. SAUNTER; strolling about; † dawdling, trifling.

1678 DRYDEN *Kind Kpr.* v. i, When the Cuckold finds no Company, he will certainly go a santring again. *c* 1685

Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Char. Chas. II* in *Coll. of Poems* 156 A bewitching kind of Pleasure, called Santring, and Talking, without any Constraint, was the true Sultana Queen he delighted in. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 120. 148 When his sauntring at his Book is cured. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 22 Mar. 178/1 His saunterings and his drinking parties with Tom, Dick, and Harry. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 168 Charles came forth from that school with social habits,..fond of sauntering and of frivolous amusements. 1885 Miss Braddon *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 42 Bothwell was fond of late saunterings in the grounds.

attrib. 1796 G. M. Woodward *Eccentric Excurs.* (1807) 20 This is a general sauntering place for men and cattle.

Sauntering (sɔ̄·ntərin), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.]

1. a. Of a person, his habits or dispositions: That saunters; given to strolling about carelessly; †given to dawdling over one's work.

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* (1677) 99 Others are to all purposes slow and sawntring. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 116. 141 This Sauntring Humour I look on as one of the worst Qualities can appear in a Child. *Ibid.*, Upon the first suspicion a Father has, that his Son is of a Sauntring Temper, he must [etc.]. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* Epil., We'd teach the Saunt'ring Squire, who loves to roam, Forgetful of his own dear Spouse and Home. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. xii. 250 Jackey..was the most thoughtless, whistling, sauntering fellow you ever knew. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 307 The idle sauntering habits of an aristocracy.

b. *transf.* Of time: Occupied in leisurely pursuits, not strenuous.

1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* iv. xxxiii, The brawling brook, where-by, Clear as its current, glide the sauntering hours With a calm languor. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1866) 24 In our inattentive, sauntering, wayside hours. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* iii. Poet. Wks. 1875 II. 20 Taskless thro' the round of sauntering day.

†**2.** of a story: Trumpery, foolish. *Obs.*

Perh. a different word; cf. north. dial. *saunter* in *auld wife saunter* (='auld wife's aunter'), an old woman's tale.

1726 Threlkeld *Synopsis Stirp. Hib.* D 5 b, A great Sputter has been made about Fern-Seed, and several sauntring Stories feigned concerning its Collection on St. John's-eve.

Hence **Sau·nteringly** *adv.*

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 249 A gay good-looking young man rode sauntering up the main street. 1881 D. C. Murray *Joseph's Coat* I. vii. 140 You come sauntering to a little rise.

Sauntes bell: see Sanctus bell.

Sauntite, obs. form of Sanctity.

†**Sau·ntrell.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 5 **sawntrelle.** [Of obscure origin and meaning; perh. a var. of Saintrel with the sense 'pretended saint'. Cf. Sauterel.] Used as a term of contempt.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 190 To take Jesus, þat sawntrelle.

†**Sau·ntry,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Saunter *sb.*2 or *v.* + -y.] Characterized by sauntering.

1732 Lord Tyrawly in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 381, I live a sort of a sauntry strolling life.

Saunts, sauntus, obs. forms of Sanctus.

Sauntys bell: see Sanctus bell.

Saun(t)z (fail): see Sans, Sans fail.

‖ **Saupiquet.** *rare*$^{-1}$. [Fr., f. *saupiquer* = Sp. *salpicar*: see Salpicon.] A piquant sauce.

1656–7 Davenant *Entert. Rutland Ho.* Wks. (1673) 357 Your Pottages, Carbonnades, Grillades, Ragouts, Haches, Saupiquets,..and Entre-mets.

Saurel (sɒ·rel). [a. F. *saurel*, 'the Bastard Mackerel' (Cotgr.).] A fish of the genus *Trachurus.*

1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 431 *Trachurus*, Rafinesque. Saurels. *Ibid.* 432 *T. saurus* Raf.—Horse Mackerel; Skip Jack; Saurel.

‖ **Sauria** (sɔ̄·riă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod. L. (Brongniart 1799), f. Gr. *σαύρ-α, σαῦρ-os* lizard. (Oppel used the masc. form *Saurii.*)] An order of Reptiles, originally including the Lizards and Crocodiles; subsequently restricted to the Lizards alone. The term is now little used, being commonly replaced by *Lacertilia.*

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 169 The *Sauria*, or *Lizards*, whose heart has two auricles, and whose body, supported by four or two feet, is covered with scales. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iii. § 5. 261 And equally differ from the vertebræ of the Iguanæ, Monitors, and all existing Sauria. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 420 In the Saurii the so-called 'crural pores' lead into glands, which look like compound tubes, and which secrete cells which harden and fill up the lumen of the glands.

Saurian (sɔ̄·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -an. Cf. F. *saurien.*]

A. *adj.*

1. *Zool.* Belonging to the order *Sauria.*

1807–29 *Edinb. Encycl.* (1830) XI. 23/1 Saurian Reptiles. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iii. § 5. 308 The *Amblyrrhynchi*, the most exclusively vegetable feeders of the saurian order.

2. Pertaining to or characteristic of a saurian.

1826 *Ann. Rep. Yorksh. Philos. Soc.* 14 in Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (1830) I. 129 *note*, Having found a saurian vertebra. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 738 Earth methinks, Will..class these present dogmas with the rest Of the old-world traditions, Eden fruits And Saurian fossils. 1864 Day in *Geol. Mag.* I. 61 They were not mixed up with Saurian remains, or those of any other species of Hybodus.

B. *sb.* (*Zool.*) A reptile of the order *Sauria.* Now chiefly in popular use, applied esp. to crocodiles and to large extinct lizard-like animals such as the ichthyosaurus, plesiosaurus, etc.

1807–29 *Edinb. Encycl.* (1830) XI. 23/2 Flat-tailed Saurians. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 148 The vertebra..of a saurian..has been met with in the mountain limestone of Northumberland. 1832 *Ibid.* II. 103 Of the great saurians, the gavials which inhabit the Ganges differ from the cayman of America, or the crocodile of the Nile. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iii. § 5. 302 Bones and teeth of marine saurians. 1888 J. Inglis *Tent Life in Tigerland* 3 The long ugly serrated back of the man-eating saurian. 1891 F. Thompson *Sister-Songs* (1895) 31 Like the back of a gold-mailèd saurian Heaving its slow length from Nilotic slime.

Sau·rio-co·prolite. *Palæont.* [f. *saurio-* (used as combining form of Saurian) + Coprolite.] The fossilized excrement of a saurian.

1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 353/2 The true ichthyo-coprolites and saurio-coprolites.

‖ **Sauriosis** (sɒriọ̄·sis). *Path.* [mod. medical L., f. Gr. *σαύρ-α, σαῦρ-os* lizard + -osis.

Also, more correctly, *sauri·asis* (Gould *Illustr. Dict. Med.* 1894, *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).]

A form of ichthyosis (also called in mod.L. *Ichthyosis sauroderma*) in which the skin resembles that of a lizard.

1890 in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Saurischian (sɒ̄·riskiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Saurischia* (f. Gr. *σαύρα, σαῦρος* lizard + *ἰσχίον* Ischium) + -an.]

a. *adj.* Relating or pertaining to the *Saurischia*, a sub-order or order of dinosaurian reptiles with the inferior pelvic elements directed downwards.

b. *sb.* A member of the *Saurischia.*

1887 Seeley in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 86 This..is an intelligible modification of the Saurischian type. 1891 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Sauro- (sɒ̄·rɒ), before a vowel **saur-**, combining form of Gr. *σαῦρο-s* lizard, entering into many scientific terms. **Saurodont** (sɒ̄·rɒdɒnt), *Palæont.* [Gr. *ὀδοντ-* tooth] *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Saurodontidæ*, an extinct family of fishes; *sb.*, a fish of this family. **Saurography** [-graphy], 'term for a description of the saurian reptiles' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Saurophagous** (sɒ̄rɒ·făgəs), *a. Ornith.* [see -phagous], eating or feeding on lizards and other reptiles (*Ibid.* and in recent Dicts.). **Saurophidian** (sɒ̄rɒfi·diăn) [see Ophidian] *a.*, of or pertaining to the order *Saurophidia* of reptiles; *sb.*, a reptile of this order (used in quot. 1882 for a hypothetical reptile combining the characteristics of a lizard and a snake). **Saropterygian** (sɒ̄·rɒptĕri·dʒiăn), *Palæont.* [Gr. *πτερύγιον* wing, fin] *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Sauropterygia* (usually called *Plesiosauria*), an order of extinct marine reptiles in Owen's classification (*Palæont.* 1860, 209); *sb.*, a reptile of this order; a plesiosaur.

1896 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 486 The Extinct *Saurodonts. *Ibid.*, All the members of the group are collectively spoken of as the saurodont fishes. 1882 Miss Hopley *Snakes* xv. 263 We might the rather wonder if there were not..many unsuspected species of reptiles, compound ophiosaurians, or *saurophidians in those inaccessible depths. 1861 Owen *Monogr. Fossil Reptilia Kimmeridge Clay* I. 15 The huge dimensions of the present species of short-necked *Sauropterygian. 1865 — *Fossil Reptilia Liassic Format.* III. 17 There is no sufficient ground for encumbering the Sauropterygian group with one or two additional generic names.

Saurognathous (sɒ̄rɒ·gnăþəs), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Saurognathæ* pl., f. Gr. *σαῦρο-s* lizard + *γνάθ-os* jaw: see -ous.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the *Saurognathæ*, W. K. Parker's superfamily of birds, the woodpeckers and their allies, characterized by an arrangement of the bones of the palate similar to that in lizards. So **Sauro·gnathism**, saurognathous formation of the palate.

1874 W. K. Parker in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* Ser. II. *Zool.* (1879) I. 9, I am confident that the term 'saurognathous' for this kind of palate will not be thought inappropriate. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 173 Saurognathism. 1891 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 3 Feb. 122 On the Question of Saurognathism of the Pici. By R. W. Shufeldt.

Sauroid (sɒ̄·roid), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *sauroïde* (Agassiz), ad. Gr. *σαυροειδής* like a lizard, f. *σαῦρο-s* lizard + *-ειδής*: see -oid.]

A. *adj.*

1. Resembling a saurian or lizard; a distinctive epithet of an order of fishes (mod.L. *Sauroidei*).

1836 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* xiv. § 13 (1837) I. 274 M. Agassiz has already ascertained seventeen genera of Sauroid Fishes. 1849–52 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 881/1 It is in this..that the Sphyrænoid fishes..approach the Sauroid type. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 363 An Enaliosaur, —a marine reptile of large size, of sauroid figure. 1875 Croll *Climate & T.* xviii. 304 The corals and huge sauroid reptiles which then inhabited our waters.

2. *Path.* Akin to sauriosis.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 742 In parts the eruption may be called sauroid, said to have come after scarlatina.

B. *sb.*

1. A sauroid fish.

1836 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* xiv. § 13 (1837) I. 282 *note*, The Pycnodonts, as well as the fossil Sauroids, have enamelled scales. 1857 Agassiz *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S.* I. 187 Ganoids; with three orders, Cœlacanths, Acipenseroids, and Sauroids.

2. An animal belonging to the *Sauroidea*, the second of the three primary groups of *Vertebrata* in Huxley's earlier classification; afterwards named by him Sauropsida.

1863 Huxley *Elem. Comp. Anat.* v. (1864) 74 The Vertebrata are capable of being grouped into three provinces: (I.) the Ichthyoids..(II.) the Sauroids..; and (III.) the Mammals. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 750/2. 1886 *Ibid.* XX. 437/2.

Hence **Sauroi·dal** *a.* (*rare*) = Sauroid *a.* 1.

1858 Geikie *Hist. Boulder* v. 63 The massive bone-covered sauroidal fish.

Sauromatian (sɒ̄rɒmē·ʃăn). *Hist.* [f. Gr. Σαυρομάται: see Sarmatian.] = Sarmatian.

1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* F 8 The Hebrew tongue..is turned..into the Language of..Armenians, and Scythians, and Sauromatians.

Sauropod (sɒ̄·rɒpɒd), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *sauropoda*, f. Gr. *σαῦρο-s* lizard + *ποδ-, πούς* foot.]

a. *adj.* = Sauropodous *a.* b. *sb.* A member of the order *Sauropoda* of gigantic herbivorous dinosaurs.

1891 *Century Dict., Sauropod* [adj. and sb.]. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 9/3 'Sauropod' is one of the many terrible names they call the poor thing [*Diplodocus Carnegii*].

Sauropodous (sɒ̄rɒ·pŏdəs), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ous.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with the *Sauropoda* (see prec.).

1887 Lydekker in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 55 This huge bone..is clearly Sauropodous. 1895 — in *Knowledge* Mar. 70/1 Gigantic sauropodous dinosaurs.

‖ **Sauropsida** (sɒ̄rɒ·psidă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *σαύρ-α, σαῦρ-os* lizard + *ὄψις* appearance: see -id.] The second of the three primary groups of *Vertebrata* in Huxley's classification, comprising reptiles and birds, etc. Also in anglicized form **Sauro·psid.** Hence **Sauro·psidan** *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Sauropsida*; *sb.*, a member of the *Sauropsida.* **Sauropsi·dian** *a.* = *Sauropsidan.*

1864 Huxley *Elem. Comp. Anat.* 220 *note*, Mr. Parker agrees with my suggestion..that the basi-temporals of the *Sauropsida* (or Birds and Reptiles) are the homologues of the *lingulæ sphenoidales* of Man. 1864 W. K. Parker in *Geol. Mag.* I. 56 This exaltation of the 'Sauropsidan' or oviparous type by the substitution of feathers for scales, wings for paws, warm blood for cold,..—this sudden glorification of the vertebrate form is one of the great wonders of Nature. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 47 In Sauropsidans the number [of cervical vertebræ] is greater. 1881 Marsh in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Apr. 340 It is apparently a generalized Sauropsid. 1881 P. M. Duncan in *Academy* 23 Apr. 303 The head is less sauropsidian and more chelonian.

Sau·rous, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. Gr. *σαῦρ-os* lizard + -ous.] Resembling a lizard; saurian.

a 1843 J. F. South *Zool.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 308/2 The Saurous or Lizard-like Reptiles are distinguished from the Serpents by the large gaps on the sides of the Skull. *Ibid.* 312/1 In the Saurous Order, the Ribs [etc.].

Saurus (sɒ̄·rŭs). *rare.* [quasi-L., ad. Gr. *σαῦρος* lizard: after *ichthyosaurus*, etc.] A saurian.

1834 T. Hawkins *Mem. Ichthyosauri* 27 'One more trial, my boys, your own reward, if successful—ye-o'—the saurus is safe! 1841 Th. Parker *Pharisees* Wks. 1864 IX. 142 The sauri of gigantic size, the mammoth, and the mastodon, are quite extinct.

Saury (sɒ̄·ri). [app. irreg. ad. mod.L. *saurus*, a. Gr. *σαῦρος* lizard.] A name applied to various fishes (tr. mod.L. *saurus*), esp. the skipper or bill-fish, *Scomberesox saurus*; also *attrib.* as *saury elops, pike, salmon.*

1771 Pennant *Tour Scotl.* 1769, 284 Saury. *Saurus* Rondel. 232. 1776 — *Brit. Zool.* III. 284 Saury Pike. 1804 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 66 Saury salmon. *Salmo Saurus.* ..Shape much elongated: length about twelve inches. *Ibid.* 125 Saury elops. *Elops Saurus. *Ibid.* 126 In general habit the Saury Elops bears some resemblance to a Pike, or rather to a Salmon. 1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Synopsis Fishes N. America* 374 *Scomberesox*, Lacépède. Sauries. *Ibid.* 375 *S. saurus*..Saury; Skipper; Bill-fish.

Saury, Saus, obs. forms of Savory, Sauce.

Sausage (sɒ̄·sėdʒ). Forms: *a.* 5 **sawsyge,** 6 **sawsege, -cedge, sausige, saucege, saussege,** 6–7 **sausedge,** 7 **sausidge, sausege, sauceidge, sawcege, -sidge, -sadge, -sedge, saussage, saucige, sossage,** 7–8 **sawsage, sauceidge,** (7, 9 *vulgar* **sassage,** 9 *vulgar* **sossige**), 6– **sausage;** *β.* 7 **salsage, soulsage, saltsage.** [ME. *sausige*, a. ONF. *saussiche* (Central OF., mod.F. *saucisse*) = Sp., Pg. *salchicha*, It. *salsiccia*:—late L. *salsīcia*, fem. sing. or perh. neut. pl. of **salsīcius* (? prepared by salting), f. *sals-us* salted: see -tious.

For the representation of original -*tj*- in unstressed syllables by -*dʒ*, cf. *cabbage, knowledge*, and the usual pronunciation of *Greenwich, Woolwich, Norwich, spinach.*]

1. In the original use, a quantity of finely chopped pork, beef, or other meat, spiced and flavoured, enclosed in a short length of the intestine of some animal, so as to form a cylindrical roll (usually, one of the 'links' formed by tying the containing intestine at regular intervals); later also, in generalized sense, meat thus prepared. In the 19th c. the application of the word has been greatly extended; in its widest use, it denotes a preparation of comminuted beef, veal, pork, mutton, or a mixture of these, either fresh, salted, pickled, smoked or cured, with salt, spices, flour (sometimes with the addition of fats, blood, sugar, vegetables, etc.), stuffed into a container made from an intestine, stomach, bladder, or other animal tissue.

There are more than 150 kinds of sausage, distinguished by names indicating the ingredients and the method of

manufacture. They are divided into two classes, in the U. S. known as *dry sausage*, which is a cured product, subjected to a process of drying lasting several weeks, and *fresh* or *wet sausage*.

Bologna sausage: see BOLOGNA. *Polonian, polony sausage*: see POLONY[2]. *German sausage*: see GERMAN *a.*[2] 4. *a.* 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/5 *Salsicia* [*printed* salsicix], a sawsyge. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 29 Keping it in a certayne pickle as we do regottes or sausages. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Pudding*, A pudding called a sawsege, *tomaculum*. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xi. 46 Certain sauceges and other good..refreshments. 1586 D. ROWLAND *Lazarillo* C j, The euil eaten sausedge came gushing out after. 1598 *Epulario* C iij, To make good Sausseges of Pork or other flesh. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 70 Sawsages the pound ten sols. 1641 *Conf. J. Browne, Jesuit* A 3, He..brought them of his Holinesses bread, and wine, and other rarities, as Bolognean Sassages, and such dainties. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. v. xxxviii. 174 She must go adorn'd with chaines of Sausages. *c* 1700 W. BISHOP in *Ballard MSS.* XXXI. 122 Your best Oxford Sossages. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sausage*, a roll or ball made commonly of pork or veal, and sometimes of beef, minced very small, with salt and spice; sometimes it is stuffed into the guts of fowls, and sometimes only rolled in flower. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sausage Maker's Ghost* 34 To meet the call from streets, and lanes, and passages, For first-chop 'sassages'. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xl, Her fingers were like so many sausages. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* vii, Poor Traddles in a tight, sky-blue suit that made his arms and legs like German sausages. 1853 SOYER *Pantrypheon* 390 Pheasant sausages, a delicious mixture of the fat of that bird, chopped very small, and mixed with pepper. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 367, I..made a sheep into sausages. 1887 HENLEY *Culture in the Slums* i. 2 'Look sharp', ses she, 'with them there sossiges.'

β. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 183 The fruit [Banana] is long in fashion of a soulsage. 1648 J. RAYMOND *Il Merc. Ital.* 182 In Bolonia..I took a taste of those famous Saltsages, that are compos'd at Bolonia.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* **a.** Applied to a thing having the appearance of a sausage or string of sausages.

1650 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* (1656) 63 Parted as it were into ropes, or sawsidges [Lat. *in funes aut farcimina*], which the anatomists call muscles. 1685 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 599 The iron Sawsages I wear [*i.e.* fetters]. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. with Donkey* (1886) 79 The sack..hung at full length across the saddle, a green sausage six feet long.

b. Applied to certain kinds of indiarubber.

1903 *Times* 14 Feb. 4/6 India Rubber.—Mozambique, good stickless sausage, 3*s.* 2½*d.*..sausage softish, 2*s.* 10*d.*

3. *Mil.* = SAUCISSE, SAUCISSON 3.

1645 *Enchiridion of Fortif.* 34 The figure..Presents the form of a Saucidge, the use whereof is to secure the foundations of Workes in Moorish..grounds. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 102/2 Sauceidges are things made of fagotts and brush wood to fill vp ditches. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., Two of these Saucidges are commonly applied to every Mine, to the end that if one should faile, the other may take effect. 1763 R. ORME *Milit. Trans. Hindostan* I. 276 A serjeant of artillery, carrying a barrel of gunpowder with a long sausage to it, went forward [etc.]. 1845 W. H. MAXWELL *Hints to Soldier* I. 65 A sergeant..leaped upon the covered way with intent to cut the sausage of the enemy's mines.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as in *sausage-factory, -shop*; **b.** objective, as in *sausage-maker, -seller, -stuffer*; also in names of appliances used in making sausages, as *sausage-cutter, -filler, -grinder, -machine, -stuffer*; **c.** similative, as in *sausage-fingered, -shaped* adjs.

1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sausage-cutter*, a machine for cutting sausage-meat. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* xxxi, 'Celebrated *Sassage factory', said Sam. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sausage-filler*, a small machine for stuffing sausage-meat into intestines. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 110/2 Sausage Fillers. 1841 THACKERAY *Men & Coats* Wks. 1900 XIII. 602 The old *sausage-fingered Berlin gloves. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sausage-grinder*, a machine for mincing meat for sausages. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), **Sausage-machine*, a machine for chopping or mincing meat for the purpose of making sausages. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 212/1 Æschines .. the son of Charinus a *sausage-maker. 1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), *Sawsage seller, one that selleth sawsages, *allantopola*. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 454 **Sausage-shaped* (*botuliformis*); long, cylindrical, hollow, curved inwards at each end; as the corolla of some Ericas. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, At the *sausage-shop. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sausage-stuffer*, a device for stuffing cleaned intestines with sausage-meat.

d. Special comb.: **sausage-curl**, a curl resembling a sausage; †**sausage-hose**, ?hose padded so as to resemble sausages; **sausage-meat**, meat minced and spiced to be used in sausages or as a stuffing; also *transf.*; **sausage poison**, a peculiar ptomaine sometimes developed in sausages; so **sausage-poisoning**; **sausage-roll**, a sausage, or a roll of sausage-meat, enveloped in a cover of flour paste, and cooked.

1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 298 Misses in their 'Boucles d'Angoulême' (Anglice, *sausage curls). 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 40 Who, in a gray skirt and a wig of chestnut sausage-curls,..represented the Widow Twankey. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* I. iv, His long *sawsedge-hose. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 49 If required, the *sausage meat may be put into skins. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xvii, No wonder, I thought, that the men who wrote these things, were chopped up into sausage-meat. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 34 In this class appear miasms, contagions, the similar *sausage poison of Würtemburg. 1876 A. W. BLYTH *Dict. Hygiene* 506/1 Four hundred cases of *sausage-poisoning are stated to have occurred in Wurtemburg alone during the last fifty years. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Allantiasis*, sausage poisoning. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xx, Arnold..had nothing but a *sausage-roll for his dinner.

Sauscyre, Sause, obs. ff. SAUCER, SAUCE.

Sausedge, obs. form of SAUSAGE.

Sauseflem(e, variant ff. SAUCEFLEME *Obs.*

Sausenap, rare variant form of SANAP *Obs.*

†**Sau·serling.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **sawsyrlyng.** [? f. SAUCISTER (contracted) + -LING[1].] A sausage.

1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 789/29 *Hec ulla*, a sawsyrlyng. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 254 (Brandl), There be good Poddings at the signe of the Plough, You neuer did eate better Sauserlinges.

Sausfle(a)me, Sausie, obs. ff. SAUSAGE, SAUCY.

Sausither, variant of SAUCISTER *Obs.*

Sauslyme, variant of SAUCELINE *Obs.*

Saussage, -ege, obs. forms of SAUSAGE.

Sausser, obs. form of SAUCER.

Saussurite (sɔ̄·siŭrəit). *Min.* [Named after Prof. H. B. de *Saussure* (1740–99) who first described it: see -ITE[1].] A very compact variety of zoisite. Also *Comb.* **saussurite-gabbro**, a variety of gabbro in which the component feldspar and diallage have been partly altered to saussurite.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 362 Saussurite..from the western isles of Scotland. 1880 F. W. RUDLER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 541/1 H. B. de Saussure..found a greenish mineral, of singular toughness, which he described as jade. ..Its chemical composition, however, is quite unlike that of jade, and Beudant separated it as a distinct mineral under the name of 'saussurite'. 1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 398 The saussurite-gabbros.

Hence **Saussuri·tic** *a.*, resembling, pertaining to, or characterized by the presence of saussurite; **Saussuritiza·tion** (also incorrectly **Saussuriza·tion**), conversion into saussurite, or the process by which saussurite is formed.

1885 BONNEY *Addr. Geol. Soc.* 70 The felspar being changed into a saussuritic mineral. 1889 M'MAHON in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 532 The felspar in all these rocks affords more or less evidence of incipient saussurization. 1893 GEIKIE *Text-Bk. Geol.* (ed. 3) 618 Saussuritization, the alteration of plagioclase into an aggregate of needles, prisms, or grains..imbedded in a glass-like matrix.., by an exchange of silica and alkali for lime, iron and water.

Sausy, obs. form of SAUCY.

†**Saut.** *Obs. rare. Irish.* Also **saulte, sawt(e, sould(e.** [Of obscure origin.] A ransom for murder or manslaughter.

1528 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 403 William Marten..dessired of the Courte and Comens Thomas Marten [his] saut, the which saut was jugid uppon the town by Pers Lynch..in recompenc of the slaght and saut of Thomas Marten. 1533 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 163 Alterages, biengis, saultes, and slauntiaghes. 1534 *Ibid.* 211 Sautes, otherwyse called raunsomes. 1537 *Ibid.* 496 Neyther canes, erykes, sawtes, ne byenges.

Saut, Sautable, var. ff. SALT, SAULT, SAULTABLE.

‖ **Sauté** (sote), *a.* and *sb. Cookery.* [Fr., pa. pple. of *sauter* to leap (see SAULT *v.*[2]), used *trans.* in causative sense.] **A.** *adj.* (Sometimes as pa. pple.) Of meat, vegetables, etc.: Fried in a pan with a little butter over a quick fire, while being tossed from time to time.

1869 GOUFFÉ *Roy. Cookery Bk.* I. vi. 90 Beef kidney can also be *sauté* in the following way.

B. *sb.* A dish cooked in the above manner.

1813 L. E. UDE *Fr. Cook* (1827) 194 Mind, you must never let the *sauté* be too much done. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* lxvii, 'Long life to the Solomon of *sautés*', was my audible exclamation. 1869 GOUFFÉ *Roy. Cookery Bk.* I. vi. 93 For *sautés*, the fire should be brisk. 1870 DUBOIS *Artistic Cookery* 56 A *sauté* of chickens.

attrib. 1813 [see the vb. below]. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* 163 The sauté-pan..is much used by French cooks instead of a frying-pan.

Hence **Sauté** *v.* = SAUTER *v.*; **Sautéing** *vbl. sb.* [1813 L. E. UDE *Fr. Cook* (1827) 192 Cut your scollops.., dip them into some clarified butter, in a *sauté*-pan, *sautez* them over a brisk fire.] 1859 *Eng. Cookery Bk.* 51 Frying or Sauteing, Broiling, Toasting and Braising of Animal Food. 1868 MARY JEWRY *Warne's Model Cookery* 51 To 'Sauté' anything means to dress it quickly, in a small pan, with a very little butter [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The art of sauté-ing well consists in doing it quickly, to keep the gravy..in the meat.

Saute, var. SALT *sb.*[2], SAULT *sbs.* and *vbs. Obs.*

Sauteer, obs. form of PSALTER.

‖ **Sauter** (sote), *v.* [Fr. (inf.): see SAUTÉ *a.*] *trans.* (See quot.)

1869 GOUFFÉ *Roy. Cookery Bk.* I. 5 *To sauter* is to fry with little butter over a brisk fire. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Sauter(e, etc., obs. ff. PSALTER, etc.

†**Sauterell.** *Obs. rare.* Also **sawterell.** Var., possibly erroneous, of SAUNTRELL.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 310 Carpe on knave cautely and caste þe to corde here, And saie me nowe somwhat, þou sauterell with sorowe. *Ibid.* xxxii. 91 Yone sauterell he sais, He schall caste doune oure tempill..And dresse it vppe dewly with-in thre daies. *Ibid.* xxxii. 274 3itt schalte þou noȝt, sawterell, þu sune for-sake it.

‖ **Sauterne** (sotɛ̄rn). [Named from the district *Sauterne* near Bordeaux, where it is made.] A white French wine of the Bordeaux class.

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4817/6 For Sale.., 32 Hogsheads.. of..Sauternes White Wine. 1833 REDDING *Wines* 154 The first [wines] in quality are Carbonieux,..Sauterne, Bommes, Barsac, and Preignac. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding House*, i, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Calton, and Mr. Hicks produced respectively a bottle of sauterne, bucellas, and sherry.

Sautir, sautre, obs. forms of PSALTER.

Sautre, -trie, -triȝe, -try, obs. ff. PSALTERY *sb.*

Sauvage, obs. form of SAVAGE.

Sauve, obs. form of SAFE, SAVE.

‖ **Sauvegarde,** Fr. form of SAFEGUARD II.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 274 Some [monitors], more particularly termed *Sauvegardes*, have the tail more or less compressed. 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 276 The Common Teguexin, or South American Sauvegarde.

Sauvenap, rare variant of SANAP *Obs.*

Sauveo(u)r, -ver, obs. ff. SAVIOUR, SAVER.

‖ **Sauve-qui-peut** (sovkipö). [Fr., subst. use of a phrase = 'Save (himself) who can'.] A general stampede or complete rout.

[1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Sauve qui peut!* Fr. Let those escape that can. This expression is familiar to the French in moments of defeat, and great disorder.] 1815 SCOTT *Let.* in Lockhart *Life* (1837) III. xi. 361 The marshals followed his [Buonaparte's] example; and it was the most complete *sauve qui peut* that can well be imagined. 1855–6 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. (1861) 41 What a fine satirical picture we might have had of that general *sauve qui peut* amongst the Tory party! 1907 ANTHONY HOPE *Tales of Two People* 133 The poor Stock fell two points more: there had been a *sauve qui peut* of the timid holders.

Sauvete, obs. form of SAFETY.

Sauveur, -our, obs. forms of SAVIOUR.

Savable, saveable (sē·văb'l), *a.* Also 5 **sauvable.** [f. SAVE *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. OF. *sauvable, salvable.*] Capable of being saved; orig. chiefly in *Theol.* sense. Cf. SALVABLE *a.*[1]

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 103 Nowe in it be cristis vertue growes the noumbre of the sauuable. 1530 PALSGR. 323/1 Savable, *saluable.* 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Pref. § 39 Those who doe subscribe them are in a saveable condition. 1751 [J. YOUNG] *Affect. Narr. of Wager* 25 Our unfortunate Lot was cast, where our Lives were however saveable. 1832 *Examiner* 51/2 They [*sc.* small rotten boroughs] are not of a saveable size. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1211 Who has shown himself by his works savable?

¶ ? Conducive to salvation.

a 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 374 And we find more admirable and saveable matter in one only Sermon of Jesus, upon the Mount, than in all the morals of the philosophers.

Hence †**Sa·vableness.**

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Concl. 411 Saveablenesse of Protestants.

Savacu: see SABICU.

Savage (sæ·vėdʒ), *a.* and *sb.* Also *a.* 3–6 **sauvage,** (*rare* 4 **saveage,** 5 **sawage, saffage,** 7 **savadg(e**); *β.* 4, 6–9 (now *arch.*) **salvage,** (7 **salvadge**). [a. F. *sauvage* (in OF. also *salvage*) = Pr. *salvatge*, Sp. *salvage*, Pg. *salvagem*, It. *selvaggio* (in the sense wooded, woodland; also in learned forms *salvatico, selvatico* wild), Roumanian *sălbatic*:—L. *silvāticus* (in popular L. also with vowel-assimilation *salvāticus*) woodland, wild, f. *silva* wood, forest: see SILVAN and -AGE, -ATIC.]

A. *adj.*

I. That is in a state of nature, wild.

1. Of animals: Wild, undomesticated, untamed. Often, and in later use exclusively, with the contextual implication of ferocity (cf. sense 9).

a. *a* 1300 *Dial. betw. Body & Soul* 30 (MS. Digby 86) To binden leounes sauuage. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 92 [Presents offered to the emperor] Sauage bestes...Gold & siluer, & riche stones. 1483 CAXTON *Knt. de la Tour* a j, But a lytel I rejoyced me in the sowne and songe of the fowles sauuage. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 58 b, An Asse sauage passante. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 78 Youthful and vnhandled colts..Their sauage eyes turn'd to a modest gaze, By the sweet power of musicke. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xx. (1611) 163 Now of those [Fowles of Prey] which are Predable, whereof some are Sauage, some Domesticall: the Sauage I call those that are not subiect to mans gouernment, but doe naturally shun their societie. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 272 An angry and ferocious disposition, renders the dog, in its savage state, a formidable enemy to all other animals. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xlvi, A story so absurd As that a new-born infant forth could fare Out of his home after a savage herd.

β. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 148 b, Yᵉ partie had the mynde or stomake, not of a manne, but of a veraye brute & salvage beaste. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Herald.* § 7 (1877) 59 We have almaner of bestes salvages that you have, and more plente of them to chase. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 815 Whom late the salvage Bore..Hath rooted up, with purpose to devoure. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 39 Lyons and other Salvage Creatures.

2. Of country, land, scenery: † **a.** Uncultivated, wild. *Obs.* **b.** Hence (by association with branch II), Horribly wild and rugged.

a. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5433 (Kölbing) Þe .xii. Drians of þe Forest sauage, A strong knigt of heiȝe parage. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17134, I fyl a-noon, in my passage Into a wood ful savage. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvii. 18 Northumbrelande..was a sauage and a wylde countrey, full of desartis and mountaignes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. ix. 43 The moste part of the yle is hilly and sauage. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 23 Affecting private life, or more obscure In savage Wilderness. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in* 1772, 22 The prospect on all sides quite savage, high barran hills or dreary wet sands. 1810 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ix. 326 The scenery is quite different from that on the mainland, dark, savage, and horrid. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* I. ii. 11 The view from this place had a savage magnificence. 1907 BP. ROBERTSON in *Trans. Devon Assoc.*

47 Savage and forbidding scenes have laid aside their grandeur.

β. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 27 It is throughout baren & saluage, so that it is not able to nourishe any beastes for lacke of pasture. *α* 1645 WALLER *To my Lord Admiral* 12 Eurydice, for whom his num'rous moan Makes listning trees and salvage mountains groan. 1713 *Guardian* No. 101 ¶ 5 Fountaine-bleau..is situated among Rocks and Woods, that give you a fine Variety of Salvage Prospects. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 96 The old salvage character of the hill has disappeared.

† 3. Of a plant, tree, etc.: Wild, uncultivated.

α. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 244 Letus sauage, that is y-callid scariole. *c* 1580 R. WILLES in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 79 The greater part of the quadrangle [is] set with sauage trees, as Okes, Chestnuts, Cypresse. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 182 As fruits..On savage stocks inserted, learn to bear. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. (Dublin) 178 St. Foin..grows naturally savage without sowing or tillage, upon the Calabrian Hills near Croto. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode to Liberty* iv, The vine, the corn, the olive mild, Grew savage yet, to human use unreconciled.

β. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 202 A place..which yeeldeth balme in great plenty, but saluage, wilde, and without vertue. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 24 Thus the salvage Cherry grows.

4. a. Of movements, noise, demeanour, manners, etc.: Wild, ungoverned; rude, unpolished. *arch.*

c 1420–30 LYDG. *Dance Machabree* in *Bochas* (1554) 221, I haue nought learned here toforn to daunce, no daunce in sooth of footyng so sauage. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 62 But you are more intemperate in your blood, Than Venus, or those pampred animalls, That rage in sauage sensualitie. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 135 The sauage strangenesse he puts on. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 56 A sauage clamor. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 36 The Race Of that wilde Rout that tore the Thracian Bard In Rhodope,..till the savage clamor dround Both Harp and Voice. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 421 Oh to the club, the scene of savage joys, The school of coarse good fellowship and noise. 1784 — *Task* III. 325 Delights which who would leave..For all the savage din of the swift pack, And clamours of the field? 1822 SHELLEY *Tri. Life* 142 The wild dance maddens in the van, and those Who lead it..without repose Mix with each other in tempestuous measure To savage music, wilder as it grows.

† **b.** Of colouring: Crude, harsh, violent. *Obs.*

β. 1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 163 He tam'd the fierceness of his colours, which were too salvage.

5. Of peoples or (now somewhat *rarely*) of individual persons: Uncivilized; existing in the lowest stage of culture.

Now felt as a stronger term than *barbarous*, which tends to be applied to peoples somewhat less remote from civilization.

α. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 222 Like a rude and sauage man of Inde. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 He brought the rude and sauage people to a more ciuill and orderly life. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 27 Taking for their leader the Earle of Desmond and others, as Oneale, and some other of the sauage Irish. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 196 The Britains were for the most part an abject savage people. 1755 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 60 She [the Muse] deigns to hear the savage youth repeat, In loose numbers, wildly sweet, Their feather-cinctur'd chiefs and dusky loves. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 41/1 The highlanders, whom more savage nations called Savage. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXX. III. 170 The barriers, which had so long separated the savage and the civilised nations of the earth. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 168, I will take some savage woman, she shall rear my dusky race. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 73 The south..was, through its neighbourhood and intercourse with Gaul, somewhat less savage than the rest of the island. 1906 A. MACHEN *House of Souls* Note 7 We know..how the enemies of the cruel Star Chamber caused the savage Indian to disappear from the land.

β. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xiii. § 7. 435 In these times Greece was very saluage, the inhabitants being often chaced from place to place, by the captaines of greater Tribes. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 12 The more than Brutality of some salvage and barbarous Nations. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 271 From a Salvage Prince rendred himself a tame Follower of the Patriarch St. Gregory.

b. *Salvage man*: the conventional representation of a savage in heraldry and pageants; a human figure naked or enveloped in foliage. *arch.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Princely Pleas. Kenelworth* (1587) A iv, There met her in the Forest as she came from hunting one clad like a Sauage man, all in Iuie. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 14 Out of the woods, in her Maiestiez return rooughly came thear foorth Hombre Saluagio [*marg.* The sauage man.] with an Oken plant pluct vp by the roots in hiz hande, himself forgrone all in moss and Iuy. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xli, On either side stood as supporters..a salvage man proper, to use the language of heraldry, wreathed and cinctured. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* viii, Beside it stood his squire, quaintly disguised as a salvage or silvan man. 1820 — *Monast.* xvi, The flesh-coloured silken doublet..in which I danced the salvage man at the Gray's-Inn mummery. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 415 The 'Faerie Queen'..in its alternation of the salvage-men from the New World with the satyrs of classic mythology.

c. Pertaining to or characteristic of savages.

α. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. vii. § 3. 102 The first people which after the generall floud inhabited Italie, were the Camesenes,..which people liued altogether a sauage life. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* liii. V. 494 The Grecian princess was torn from the palace of her fathers, and condemned to a savage reign and an hopeless exile on the banks of the Borysthenes. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 161 The civilized man gives up those stimulants of hope and fear which constitute the chief charm of savage life. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. iv. 176 This is the purely savage state; and it is the state in which military glory is most esteemed, and military men most respected. 1899 R. C. TEMPLE *Univ. Gram.* 24 The 'savage' nature of the languages comes out even more clearly if we apply the theory in another way.

β. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. viii. § 5. 140 There is no man so impious, as to beleeue that Noah..could..set vp or deuise any Heathen saluage, or idolatrous adoration. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 925 Like Hercules himself, his Son appears, In Saluage Pomp a Lyon's Hide he wears.

† **d.** Remote from society, solitary. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1085 O might I here In solitude live savage, in some glade Obscur'd. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. vii, I, methinks, am Salvage and forlorn, Thy presence only 'tis can make me blest.

† **6.** Of decoration: Rustic, imitating natural vegetation. *Obs.*

α 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 156 b, The Jawe peces ..were karved with Vinettes and trailes of savage worke.

II. With reference to disposition or temper.

† **7.** Indomitable, intrepid, valiant. *Obs.*

α. 13.. *Coer de L.* 485 An hardy knyght, stout and savage, Hent a schafft with gret rage. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8270 (Kölbing) Þe .v. was Dedinet, Þe sauеage. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4022 But sone sauage men þat seten in þe halle henten hastili in honde what þei haue miȝt,..to wende him [the werwolf] after wiȝtli to quelle. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 813 With v thowsand welle garnest and sawage. *Ibid.* v. 534 A worthy clerk, bath wys and rycht sawage.

† **b.** In bad sense: Reckless, ungovernable. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4759, I praye the, my broder dere, ..That thow be wyse and not sauage; ȝif the not to outrage. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 300 A mane..of wyne þat has vsage Ande habundance, and syne is nocht saffage Th[r]ow mychtines and confort of þe wyne At temporance bydis and sobyr syne.

† **8.** Rude, harsh, ungentle (also *transf.* of the sea, a river). *Obs.* (merged in the stronger sense 9). In the 17th c. a Gallicism.

α. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4089 (Laud MS.) Darrie hete..Remuen his tentes..and setten hem bisides Estrage, A colde water and a sauage.

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 77 Bot vertu set in the corage, Ther mai no world be so salvage, Which mihte it take and don aweie, Til whanne that the bodi deie. *Ibid.* III. 230 For as the wilde wode rage Of wyndes makth the See salvage, And that was calm bringth into wawe. *Ibid.* 332 And if ye wiste what I am, And out of what lignage I cam, Ye wolde noght be so salvage. 1655 F. G. tr. *Scudery's Artemenes* VII. III. 189 Her reputation is high, though her vertue be neither salvage nor austere.

9. Fierce, ferocious, cruel. **a.** of animals.

α. c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3680 Lyouns proude in ther rage, And many beste ful Savage. 1420–2 — *Thebes* III. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 374 b, Grekes wening that were yong of age That this Tygre hadde be sauage And cruely besetting al the place Rounde about. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 5 The wild sauage Sowe of Crommyon, otherwise surnamed Phæa. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* xvii. 19 A roaring voice of most sauage wilde beasts. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* xxvii. (1633) 70 Even the Savagest Beasts are made quiet and docible, with want of food, and rest. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* I. iv, What savage tiger would not pity A damsel so distressed and pretty! 1820 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. xi. 348 For all the kind [of dogs] are savage at night.

β. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 148 Wherein Iob alludeth to ravenous and salvadge beasts. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* vii. 2 Lest, like a salvage Lion, he My helpless Soul devour.

b. of persons, their attributes or actions.

α. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 5 Of a cruell, wicked, and sauage pleasure. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 348 O then his lines would rauish sauage eares, And plant in Tyrants milde humilitie. 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. iv. 265 [*Murderer.*] Relent? no: 'Tis cowardly and womanish. *Cla.* Not to relent, is beastly, sauage, diuellish. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. ii. 95 What shall I say to thee Lord Scroope, thou cruell, Ingratefull, sauage, and inhumane Creature? 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* I. i. 1 Musick has Charms to sooth a savage Breast, To soften Rocks, or bend a knotted Oak. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regic.* I. i, A wretch Of soul more savage breathes not vital air. 1780 BURKE *Sp. at Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 261 The operation of the old law is so savage, and so inconvenient to society, that [etc.]. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* IV. 190 It would be downright savage to leave Lady Miramont now. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) I. i. 32 The magistrates of Edinburgh..encouraged a savage fellow,.. one of the under-masters, in insulting his [Dr. Adam's] person and authority. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. vii, With a countenance..rather brutal than savage. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, He had a savage pleasure in making the poor wretches [his creditors] wait. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. iii. (1862) IV. 457 His queen the savage Parysatis. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxiv. 419 The troops were savage, and killed every man that they overtook.

β. 1637 SALTONSTALL *Eusebius' Constantine* 137 Hee hath changed all mansutude and graciousnesse with salvage fury and cruelty. *α* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* xlii. (1742) III. 198 With what a salvage and murderous disposition they fly at one another's reputation and tear it in pieces.

c. *transf.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 358 Within the direfull grasp Of Savage hunger, or of Savage heat. 1818 SHELLEY *Homer's Hymn to Castor* 9 When wintry tempests o'er the savage sea Are raging. 1821 — *Epipsych.* 332 So that the savage winds hung mute around. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 12 The bellowing of the savage sea.

10. (Chiefly *collog.*) Enraged, furiously angry. Also, rough or unsparing in speech.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 29 Don't let Emmy know that we have split, else she'll be savage with us. 1851 LYTTON *Not so bad* II. i. 32 You're so savage on Softhead, I suspect 'tis from envy. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 45 Almost any sick person..if he can speak without being savage..is exercising self control. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Old Age* Wks. (Bohn) III. 134 Michel Angelo's head is full of masculine and gigantic figures as gods walking, which make him savage until his furious chisel can render them into marble. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 3 Come, Jasper, you need not look so savage. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 110, I think the Doctor was pretty savage with old Briggs.

III. 11. *Comb.*, as † *savage-fierce, -hearted, -looking, -spoken*, † *-wild*.

1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 487 Vicious in act, in temper *savage-fierce. 1819 MRS. GRANT in *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) II. 223 His *savage-hearted prototype. 1795 SEWARD *Anecd.* II. 272 They were the most *savage-looking men that I had ever beheld. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, He..glared at him with savage-looking eyes. 1894 *Outing* (N. Y.) XXIV. 230/1 A *savage-spoken old Scotch woman. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. iii. 37 The time, and my intents are *sauage wilde.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** A wild beast. *Obs.*

1682 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* IV. i, What unfrequented coast am I thrown on, Naked, and helpless, to be made a prey To the next coming Salvage of the field? 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 11 ¶ 12 The suspicion and solicitude of a man that plays with a tame tiger, always under a necessity of watching the moment in which the capricious savage shall begin to growl. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* I. 9 Crommyon was infested by a wild sow named Phæa. ..This savage he [Theseus]..killed. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Hampden* ¶ 14 The man who, in a Spanish bull-fight, goads the torpid savage to fury, by shaking a red rag in the air.

b. A bad-tempered horse. Cf. SAVAGE *v.* 4.

1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* vi, His experience of similar animals led him to house a donkey in the same box with Warrener, with whom the savage soon fraternised, and displayed corresponding improvement in his temper. 1888 W. DAY *Horse* 419 We also have in Paradox a modern savage, like his grey prototype.

2. A person living in the lowest state of development or cultivation; an uncivilized, wild person.

α. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 202 Vouchsafe to shew the sunshine of your face, That we (like sauages) may worship it. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Impreses* 174 His conceit was obscure to mee which painted a savadge of America pointing toward the Sun, with *Tibi accessv, mihi decessv.* 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 292 Some scattering Arabs, sold vs Water...Two of which Sauages our Captayne hyred, to guide vs. 1672 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* I. i 7, I am as free as Nature first made man, 'Ere the base Laws of Servitude began, When wild in woods the noble Savage ran. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* iii. 29 The Iroquois, Hurons, and some less considerable Tribes, are free and independent Savages. 1907 G. TYRRELL *Oil & Wine* 24 To the savage every stranger is therefore an enemy.

β. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 60 Doe you put trickes vpon's with Saluages, and Men of Inde? 1612 CAPT. SMITH, etc. *Map of Virginia* II. i. 3 Wee traded with the Salvages at Dominica. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (1883) 40 Among strangers and salvages.

fig. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. ii. 156 Seeing we are civilized English men, let us not be naked Salvages in our talk.

b. *transf.* A cruel or fierce person. Also, one who is destitute of culture, or who is ignorant or neglectful of the rules of good behaviour.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. iii. 49 *Hect.* Fie sauage, fie. *Troy.* Hector, then 'tis warres. 1672–5 COMBER *Comp. to Temple* (1702) 130 But who would imagine that our Christned Albion should breed such Salvages? 1762 COLMAN *Mus. Lady* II. 20 *Sophy*...Oh—the people here are all downright Goths. *Mask.* Absolute savages—an English catch, a Scotch jigg, and an Irish howl are all their ideas of harmony. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 422 Witness the patient ox, ..Driv'n to the slaughter..while the savage at his heels Laughs at the frantic suff'rer's fury. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iii, However,..the young savages at Burnsley Vicarage had caught a Tartar. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 230 Peace, you young savage of the Northern wild! 1898 HAIG-BROWN in *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Feb. 8/1 Schoolboys..are not such savages as in the old days.

3. a. = *Salvage man* (see A. 5 b). **b.** The 'Jack of the clock' (see JACK *sb.*[1] 6).

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 15 This Sauage, for the more submission, brake hiz tree a sunder. 1708 [HATTON] *New View Lond.* I. 231 The Ornament of this Church [*sc.* St. Dunstans in the West] consists..of the Clock..here being two Figures of Savages or wild Men, well carved in Wood, ..with each a knotty Club in his Hand wherewith they alternately strike the Quarters. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. *Gloss., Savage, Wood-man*, or *Wild-man.* 1803 MALCOLM *Lond. Rediv.* III. 461 Their clock and savages, whose fascinating movements attract twenty pair of eyes every quarter of an hour. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 9 Oct. 4/7 [About 1762] it was customary for the Lord Mayor's procession to be headed by a body of men called 'whifflers'... These, with the assistance of some twenty 'savages' or 'greenmen', as they were termed, who let off..fireworks, effectively cleared the way for the City Fathers and the 'Show'.

Savage (sæ·vėdʒ), *v.* Also 6 **salvage.** [f. SAVAGE *a.*]

† **1.** *intr.* To act the savage; to indulge in cruel or barbarous deeds. *Obs. rare.*

1563 SACKVILLE *Mirr. Mag., Compl. Dk. Buckingham* xlix, My hart agryesd that such a wretche should raygne, Whose bluddy brest so salvaged out of kynde, That Phalaris had never so bluddy a minde. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xix. 384 Though the blindnesse of some ferities have savaged on the dead, and beene so injurious unto wormes, as to disenterre the bodies of the deceased; yet had they therein no designe upon the soule.

2. *trans.* To render savage, barbarous, or fierce.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. (1623) 563 Dispositions not despicable, if they had not been saluaged with a too carelesse rudenesse. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1081 Dependants, friends, relations, Love himself, Savag'd by woe, forget the tender tie, The sweet engagement of the feeling heart. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxii, I was so savaged by my wrongs that I delighted in the recital of this adventure. 1818 SOUTHEY *Epist., Anniv.* 13 Its bloodhounds savaged by a cross of wolf. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 882 They are extremely good-natured and mild-tempered dogs, unless carefully 'savaged' by their masters.

† **3.** To behave savagely to. *Obs.*

1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* III. 146 She used to savage me so..that I shall never go near them any more.

4. Of an animal, *esp.* a horse: To attack with the teeth, bite.

1880 W. Day *Racehorse in Train.* v. 38 In the stalls the bars should be put up between them, so that..they may be hindered kicking and savaging each other. 1891 N. Gould *Double Event* 12 A dangerous horse had thrown Thurton to the ground, and was 'savaging' him. 1894 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Nov. 7/3 Alexander III was daily caricatured as a bear with an Imperial crown, who wished to savage the best of his subjects. 1896 W. C. F. Molyneux *Campaigning in S. Afr. & Egypt* 173 [The horse] galloped about with rolling eyes, savaging every horse or man it could reach.

† Sa·vaged, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Savage *sb.* and *v.* + -ed.] Savage, barbarous, uncivilized; also, rendered savage or cruel.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. vii. § 10. 42 Icones and Patternes of their first and most sauaged times. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* III. App. xxxviii, Madnesse and stupor seize His salvag'd heart.

Savagedom (sæ·vẽdʒdəm). [f. Savage *a.* or *sb.* + -dom.] The condition of being a savage; the realm of savages, savage people collectively.

1845 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* I. 311 We had been already five weeks in Savagedom, among sands, and deserts, ..and..had had enough of it. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 87 The people..goaded to frequent outbursts of ferocious savagedom by hunger. 1908 O. Crawfurd in *19th Cent.* Jan. 63 In the early ages of savagedom this region was eagerly colonised by Rome.

Savageism, variant of Savagism.

Savagely (sæ·vẽdʒli), *adv.* [f. Savage *a.* + -ly 2.] In a savage manner; †recklessly (*obs.*), cruelly, barbarously, fiercely.

a 1400 *Launfal* 130 So savagelych hys good he besette, That he ward yn greet dette, Ryght yn the ferst yere. 1563 Winȝet *Vincentius Lirin.* To Q. Marie, Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 7 Raigeing I say, nocht only aganis our mother the haly, catholik kirk, bot maist sauagelie aganis thame selfis. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. iii. 205 Your Castle is surpriz'd: your Wife and Babes Sauagely slaughter'd. 1749 Smollett tr. *Gil Blas* II. vii. (1782) I. 174 Mergellina being..withal so savagely virtuous that she could not so much as endure the look of a man. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xiv, Captain Crawley looked savagely at the Lieutenant. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xiii. (1900) 223 He was savagely angry against Torpenhow.

Savageness (sæ·vẽdʒnės). Also 7–8 **salv-**. [f. Savage *a.* + -ness.] The state or condition of being savage, uncivilized, barbarous, cruel, fierce.

a. 13.. *Sir Beues* 2363 (MS. S.), I haue herde of [*MS. N.* in] sauagenes, Whenne ȝonge men were in wyldernes, þat þey toke hert and hinde..; þey slowen hem and soden hem in her hide; þus doon men, þat in wood abyde. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. liv. 371 He [the vnruly bull] will become gentle, forgetting his naturall sauedgenes. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. i. 200 She will sing the Sauagenesse out of a Beare. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xxxiv. 261 He kissed my hand with such a savageness, that a redness remains upon it still. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* ii, When the latent savageness of his nature was thoroughly roused.

β. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 353 Leaving them by reason of their salvagenesse. 1701 W. Nichols *Consol. to Parents* 8 A Salvageness and Ferity which the cruelest of Brutes are not subject to.

Savagery (sæ·vẽdʒɪri, sæ·vẽdʒəri). [f. Savage *a.* + -ry, after F. *sauvagerie.*]

1. The quality of being fierce or cruel; savage disposition, conduct, or actions; also with *a* and *pl.* a cruel action or deed.

1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 48 This is the bloodiest shame, The wildest Sauagery, the vildest stroke That euer wall-ey'd wrath..Presented to the teares of soft remorse. 1794 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 182 In savagery of holy zeal. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1841) 207 They err greatly who imagine that this man's courage was ferocity, mere coarse disobedient obstinacy and savagery, as many do. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* II. ii. 210 Hast thou never heard His savagery at Alençon? 1883 Burton & Cameron *Gold Coast* I. iii. 75 We shall seldom see these savageries on the eastern coast of the island.

2. The condition of being wild or uncivilized; the characteristics of savages; the savage state of human society.

1825 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 327 The progress from savagery to civilization is evidently first from the hunting to a pastoral state. 1864 R. F. Burton *Dahome* I. 19 At certain hours the bugle-call from Santa Cecilia intimates that all about me is not savagery. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, There was a curious mixture in the boy, of uncompleted savagery, and uncompleted civilisation. 1879 Lubbock *Orig. Civilis.* i. (1875) 3 A tribe which had sunk from civilisation into barbarism would by no means exhibit the same features, as one which had risen into barbarism from savagery. 1904 Sir R. Rodd *Sir W. Raleigh* ii. 23 Ireland ..remained abandoned to the savagery of the primeval Celt.

3. Wildness, as of nature or scenery, etc.

1872 B. Harte *Mrs. Skagg's Husbands* 1, Except for the rudest purposes of shelter from rain and cold, the cabin possessed but little advantage over the simple savagery of surrounding nature. 1884 Sala *Journ. due South* I. vii. (1887) 97 The appearance of the rock-bound coast is one of unrelieved savagery.

4. *collect.* in occasional uses: †Wild vegetation (*obs.*); savage beasts or savages collectively.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 47 Her fallow Leas, The Darnell, Hemlock, and ranke Fumetary, Doth root vpon; while that the Culter rusts, That should deracinate such Sauagery. 1867 Jean Ingelow *Story of Doom* vi. 10 And had made A fire, to scare away the savagery That roamed in that great forest. 1896 R. S. S. Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xviii. (1897) 464 That the white settlers were not entirely overwhelmed in the first mad, blood-thirsting rush of relentless savagery is a matter for marvel.

Savagess (sæ·vẽdʒės). *rare.* [f. Savage *sb.* + -ess 1. Cf. F. *sauvagesse.*] A female savage.

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* I. vii. 24 The Empresse would needs visit the fair Savagesse. *Ibid.* xxxii. 143 Silvan and the fair Savagess his wife. 1858 Thackeray *Virgin.* xl, The savage and savagess retired together.

† Savagine, *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* Also **-yne.** [a. F. *sauvagin,* f. *sauvage* Savage *a.* Cf. Sp. *salvagina,* Pg. *selvagina, salvagina,* It. *selvaggina, salvaggina* venison, game.] **A.** *adj.* Savage, wild.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 246 Savagyne, voyd of al resoun. 1430–40 — *Bochas* II. xvi. (1494) h ij, Of the forests the bestes sauagyne.

B. *sb.* A savage.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3914 Þai..Sloȝe of þa sauagyns [*printed* -yus] a sowme out of nombre.

† Savagious, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Savage *a.* + -ious.] Savage. Hence † **Savagiously** *adv.*

1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 51 So they sent for Doctor Iulio Genovino a most savagious man. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 296 The people generally are..as sauagiously tame (I protest) as the foure footed Citizens of Lybia.

Savagism (sæ·vẽdʒiz'm). Also **savageism.** [f. Savage *a.* + -ism.] = Savagery 2.

1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* II. 465 Virtues..could alone keep the world from that relapse into savagism to which mankind is ever tending. 1798 A. P. *Tour in Wales* 30 (MS.) We began to omit clambering among..ruins, merely for the assurance of Superstition and Savageism having existed when these terror striking fabrics were erected. 1841 Mary Hennell in C. Bray *Philos. Necess.* II. 616 Fourier..divides the history of humanity into four forms or periods, incoherently social—savagism, patriarchalism, barbarism and civilization. 1877 Sparrow *Serm.* xiii. 175 There are various kinds of life..there is that of youth and age, of ignorance and knowledge, of civilization and savagism, with numerous subdivisions under each.

Savagize (sæ·vẽdʒəiz), *v. rare.* [f. Savage *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To render savage or cruel.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 140 Earnshaw has been allowed to grow up on the farm, a man savageized. 1864 Gilfillan in *Mem.* (1892) 349 It was but natural that a man, who when he was close on middle-age had still his reputation and fortune to make [etc.]..should be soured and half savagised.

‖ Sa·valo. *Obs. rare* —1. [Sp., now written *sábalo*: see Sabalo.] The shad. Only *attrib.*

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 115 Your Savalo-pyes for the holy weeke.

Savan: see Savant.

Savannah (săvæ·nă). Forms: 6 **zavana,** 7 **savanar, savanah,** *pl.* **savanæ,** 7–8 **savana,** 7– **savanna, savannah.** [In 16th c. *zavana,* a. Sp. *zavana, çavana,* given by Oviedo 1535 as a Carib word. The later form *savana* (mod. Sp. *sabana*) is an instance of the usual N. American Sp. substitution of *s* for *z.* Cf. F. *savane,* G. *savanne.*

The Sp. *sabána* savanna is not, as has been supposed, the same as *sábana* sheet. The difference in accent is shown by verse examples to have existed already in the 16th c.; and the words originally began with different consonants.]

1. A treeless plain; *properly,* one of those found in various parts of tropical America.

1555 Eden *Decades* III. iii. (Arb.) 148 Hauynge towarde the southe a playne of twelue leages in breadth and veary frutefull. This playne, they caule *Zauana.* 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxx. 291 The plaines, which they call *Savanas.* 1655 I. S. *Brief Jrnl. Proc. Army W. Indies* 18 Open ground and plaine Fields, or Savanars as they there call them. 1661 Hickeringill *Jamaica* 13 Nor are the Woods a more plentiful Nursery for the Hoggs then the *Savana's* are for the Beeves and wild Cattel. 1672 Sir W. Talbot *Discov. John Lederer* 25 The Woods being full of Fallow, and Savanæ of Red-Deer. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 87 In the Bay of Campeachy are very large Savanahs, which I have seen full of Cattle. 1699 *Ibid.* II. II. 53 The neighbouring Savannahs. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 115 On the Bank of this Brook I found many pleasant Savana's, or Meadows, plain, smooth, and cover'd with Grass. 1753 Washington *Jrnl.* Writ. 1889 I. 17 He told me that the nearest and levellest Way was now impassable, by Reason of many large mirey Savannas. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 11 The more extended plains are commonly called Savanas. 1819 Bowdich, etc. *Mission to Ashantee* II. xiii. 448 The red and yellow ochres brought to me, were dug in the neighbourhood of a savannah three journies south-eastward of Empoôngwa. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* v, Glades..anon opening yet wider into little meadows, or savannahs. 1865 Parkman *Huguenots* IV. (1875) 57 Next came the broad sunlight and the wide savanna. 1900 Doyle *Gt. Boer War* XIV. 235 Between these hills there lie wide stretches of the green or russet savannah.

fig. 1866 *N. & Q.* Ser. III. IX. 273/1 The allusions..so profusely scattered through the vast savannahs of literature. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems* 49 Whether they swept, smoothly fleet, The long savannahs of the blue.

2. (See quots.)

1827 O. W. Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 113 Close to an extensive and beautiful pine savannah. *Ibid.* 114, I had a long walk into the savannah, which is pretty closely covered with detached clumps of pine trees of all ages and sizes. 1865 *Reader* 23 Sept. 236/3 The army has been moving through magnificent pine-woods—the savannahs of the South, as they are termed.

3. *attrib.* a. simple attrib.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 50 Plain even Savanah Land, without any Trees. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 110, The open or Savana Fields. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Sonn.,* '*O Dreary Life*' 7 Savannah-swards Unweary sweep. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 118 'Savanna land', meaning wet land.

b. In the names of birds, plants, etc.: **Savannah bird, blackbird,** the *Crotophaga ani* of the West Indies; † **savannah crane,** ? the Whooping Crane, *Grus americana*; † **savannah finch,** the grasshopper-sparrow of the U.S., *Coturniculus passerinus*; **savannah flower,** 'a West Indian name for various species of *Echites*' (Treas. Bot. 1866); **savannah fox** (see quot.); **savannah sparrow,** a sparrow of the genus *Passerculus,* esp. *P. savanna,* common throughout the greater part of North America; **savannah-wattle,** the West Indian trees *Citharexylum quadrangulare* and *C. cinereum*; † **savannah woodcock,** Latham's name for *Gallinago undulata.*

1694 Ray in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 In referring the *Savanna bird to the Lark-kind. 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 306 The Savanna Bird..is four Inches long [etc.]. 1862 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 569 The food of the *Savannah Blackbird is mostly of an animal nature. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 220 Amongst other game, they brought with them a *savanna crane which they shot in the adjoining meadows. 1783 Latham *Synopsis Birds* III. 270 *Savanna Finch. 1696 Sloane *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 89 *Savanna Flour. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 182 The Savanna Flower. This plant is common in the Savannas about Kingston. 1852 G. W. Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 350 *Echites suberecta* (..Savannah flower). 1879 Wood *Waterton's Wanderings* 412 Fox (*Vulpes cancrivora*).—This animal is generally called *Savannah Fox by the colonists, and Mikang by the natives. 1808–13 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 249 *Fringilla savanna,* Wilson.—*Savannah sparrow. *Ibid.,* The female of the Savannah sparrow is five inches and a half long. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 *Savannah-wattle. 1785 Latham *Synopsis Birds* V. 132 *Savanna Woodcock.

‖ Savant (savaṅ). Also † **sçavant, savan.** [Fr.; subst. use of *savant* adj., orig. pr. pple. (synon. with *sachant,* now the only form in this use) of *savoir* to know :—popular L. **sapēre* = class. L. *sapĕre* to be wise: cf. Sapient.

The misapprehension of the obs. Fr. spelling *savans* of the plural has given rise in Eng. to the incorrect form *savan.*]

A man of learning or science; esp. one professionally engaged in learned or scientific research.

1719 F. Hauksbee *Phys. Mech. Exper.* v. 225 [He] made a Report thereof to the Royal Academy of Sciences of France; and, upon his return home, those Scavans thought it worth their while to re-examine the matter. 1750 Chesterf. *Let. to Son* 24 May, At Paris..you will find a cargo of letters, to very different sorts of people, as *beaux esprits, sçavants, et belles dames.* 1765 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 22 Sept., I dined to-day with a dozen *savans.* 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 232 On one of these occasions, the *savants* in waiting were Quintus Icilius and Thiebault. 1848 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 189, I saw Alfred [Tennyson], and the rest of the sçavans. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* s. v. *Manzoni,* His mother [being] the gifted daughter of the great savan, the Marquis Beccaria. 1874 Sidgwick *Meth. Ethics* III. v. 263 How shall we compare..the service of the *savant* who discovers a new principle with that of the inventor who applies it?

‖ Savante (savãṅt). [Fr., fem. of *savant*: see Savant.] A learned (French) woman.

1766 H. Walpole *Let. to Gray* 25 Jan., Madame de Rochfort is different...Her manner is soft and feminine, and though a *savante,* without any declared pretensions. 1813 Byron in Moore *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1830) I. 457 Annabella..is ..an only child, and a *savante,* who has always had her own way. 1844 Marg. Fuller *Woman in 19th Cent.* (1862) 57 There is on her no hue of the philosopher, the heroine, the *savante,* but she looks great and noble.

Savar, obs. Sc. form of Savour.

‖ Savate (savat). [Fr.; lit. a kind of shoe: see Sabaton.] A method of fighting (commonly employed instead of or in conjunction with boxing) in which the feet are used. Hence ‖ **Savateur** (savatör), one who is skilled in the savate.

1862 Wraxall *Hugo's Miserables* CXXX. II. 79 The Parisian gamin..is clever at the savate, and all creeds are possible to him. 1889 E. B. Michell *Boxing* (Badm. Libr.) 132 While the practice of the *Savate,* in which the feet as well as the hands are used, was growing up in France, an exactly similar style of boxing was being separately developed in the remote countries between India and China. 1898 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 8/5 This mixture of savate with a sort of elementary boxing would appear to be only effective when both parties use it. 1899 *Ibid.* 30 Oct. 6/6 Charlemont, the French savateur.

Savation (sēi·vēi·ʃən). *dial.* (see E.D.D.). [f. Save *v.* + -ation. Cf. *savacion,* obs. f. Salvation.] A saving (of money).

1724 Macky *Journ. thr. Engl.* (ed. 2) II. xii. 181 Which (to use that Country People's Word) was a great Savation of Money to my Lord Duke.

† **Save,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* [ad. L. *salvia* Sage *sb.*1, whence OE. *saluie*; assimilated to Save *v.*] Sage.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1855 Fermacies of herbes, and eek saue They dronken, for they wolde hir limes haue. *? a* 1450 *Pol. Rel. & Love Poems* 287 So þat he drynke save or anteoche.

Save (sēiv), *sb.*2 [f. Save *v.*]

1. An act of saving; a piece of economy. *dial.* and *vulgar.* (See E.D.D.)

1906 *Daily Chron.* 9 Feb. 4/4 The fact is, apart from..the save in gas and firing,..when the year's finished I've calculated I shall make a profit on it.

2. *Football, Hockey,* etc. An act of preventing the opposite side from scoring.

1890 *Field* 1 Nov. 670/1 Coventry [a half-back] came to the rescue with a plucky save. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Mar. 2/1 Gay, in goal, made no mistake and several excellent saves.

Save (sēiv), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 (6 *Sc.*) salve; *Sc.* 5–6 sa(u)lf(f, 6 salfe, salffe. *β.* 3–5 sauve; also (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 3–6 sauf(e, 4–5 sawf(e, sawff, 4–6 sauff. *γ.* 4 *Kent.* sove (sovi, sovy). *δ.* 3–save; also (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4–6 saw(e, 4–5 saf(e, 4–6 saff(e; *Sc.* 5–6 saif(f, (6 saaf). [a. OF. *salver, sauver* (=Pr., Sp., Pg. *salvar*, It. *salvare*):—late L. *salvāre* to save, f. L. *salv-us* SAFE.]

I. To rescue or protect.

1. *trans.* To deliver or rescue from peril or hurt; to make safe, put in safety. Const. *from*, †*out of*.

a. a living being.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Lord saue us for we perisset. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 7226 God..þat..heldest Daniel fram þe lyoun, Saue me fram þis foule dragoun. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 116 To saf his douchtir fra þat wrak. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1099 Thus may thow saif me fra syte. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xc. 284 He that alwayes hath saued me out of all perelles wyll not forsake me at this tyme. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 55 Gif ȝe..salve his servandis ffre the daith so far as ȝe may. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 3 One that I sau'd from drowning. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ix. 9 Save a Thiefe from the Gallows, and he'll Cut your Throat. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 63 Did not you come Eleven of you into the Boat, where are the Ten? Why were not they sav'd and you lost? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, She fell on her knees, and thanked the Power which had saved her husband. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, 'O Mr. Symmes!—save me—do save me—do hide me!' said Eliza.

b. one's life (similarly, one's body, carcass, head, neck, etc.). *To save one's skin*, to escape unhurt. *To save one's bacon*: see BACON 5 a.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9231 So þat to saui is lif þe castel vp hii ȝolde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3811 He lefte his pray, and fleygh to hors, For to save his owne cors. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 271 His fostyr modyr..Did mylk to warme, his liff giff scho mycht saiff. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvii. 230 He besought our lorde god to saue his body fro mysfortune. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The Longer thou livest* 477 (Brandl), Neither mockes nor gaudes shall your skinne saue. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iii. 67 To day, how many would haue giuen their Honours To haue sau'd their Carkasses? 1685 [see NECK *sb.*[1] 3 d]. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 458 A great many lives were saved by the salutary practice of inoculation. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 544 To have done all in his power to save both the head of Stafford and the head of Russell. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlvii, See my neck and save your own.

c. a people, state, city.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 106 His douchtir.. to þe dragone suld be gyffine, to sauff þe ton. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 59 He shold employe alle his entente to saue the comyn wele. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. v. (S. T. S.) I. 34 My citee was sauffit be þi helpe. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 133 If it were so, that our request did tend To saue the Romanes, thereby to destroy The Volces whom you serue. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 197 Could Troy be sav'd by any single hand. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode on Wellington* 200 Yea, let all good things await Him who cares not to be great, But as he saves or serves the state. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. p. xxi, The Bards were saved, but reformed.

d. To rescue (property) from shipwreck, fire, etc.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xli. 95 There was kindled in the same [ship] a great fire, so that nothing was saued, but onely the men. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 156 Go, go, be gone, to saue your Ship from wrack. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 73 The fyre was so vehement that littell or nothing was saved. 1787 PARK *Mar. Insurances* 141 Whereas the circumstance of the lighters being saved, and the ship lost, was accidental. 1878 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Molly Bawn* xxxviii, I saved them [*sc.* diamonds] from the fire.., and have had them re-set.

e. *absol.*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Isa.* lix. 1 The Lords hand is not shortened, that it can not saue. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 80 Your husband he is gone to saue farre off, Whilst others come to make him loose at home. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 201 The same ambition can destroy or save. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 226 Oh, 'tis a godlike privilege to save! 1860 W. WHITING *Hymn*, Eternal Father, strong to save.

2. *Theol.* To deliver (a person, the soul) from sin and its consequences; to admit to eternal bliss. [Gr. σῴζειν, L. (Vulg.) *salvum facere, salvare, salvificare.*]

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1025 Monnes unmihte; þet he neodeles nom upon him seoluen, us for to saluin. 1340 *Ayenb.* 98 Godes zone þet com to þe wordle to zeche an to souy þet þet wes uorlore. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 82 Tech me.. Hou I may saue my soule. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xvi. 16 He that schal bileue, and schal be baptisid, schal be sauyd [*v.r.* saaf]; sothli he that schal bileue not, schal be dampned. [So 1535 COVERDALE, 1611.] — *James* i. 21 In myldenesse receyue ȝe the word insent, that mai saue ȝoure soules. [So in later versions.] *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xviii. 261 If it be seid..'The crosse of Crist saued the world..', the dewe vndirstonding ther of is this: 'Crist bi his crosse..saued the world'. *a* 1500–34 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays, Shearmen* 546 A seyd there schuld a babe be borne,..To sawe mankynd that wasse for-lorne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 b, I am passed my purgatory, and I am saued. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 166 We can not be saued wythout fayeth, and fayth commeth by hearynge of the worde. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. ii. 75 For there is no christian that meanes to be saued by beleeuing rightly, can euer beleeue such impossible passages of grossenesse. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* § 202, I was again much under this Question, Whether the Blood of Christ was sufficient to save my Soul? 1786 BURNS *For G. H. Esq.* 4 But with such as he, where'er he be, May I be sav'd or d——'d. *c* 1830 MOORE *Epitaph on Tuft Hunter* 20 He'd rather be Genteelly damn'd beside a Duke Than sav'd in vulgar company. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv, Luther learned now that a man was saved not by singing masses, but by the infinite grace of God. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 61 There is no expeditious road To pack and label men for God, And save them by the barrel-load.

absol. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiii. 1 þat is, þare is na god þat dampnes or safes. 1858 ARNOT *Laws fr. Heaven* Ser. II. xiii. 101 It is grace accepted that saves.

b. in asseverative phrases, *as I hope to be saved*, †*so God* (or *Christ*) *save me*, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 808 Ye shul paye fourty pound, so god me saue. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 120 So me Crist saif. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 300 As I be saved, ye be ful gentil and noble. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Dec., Remember poor Presto, that wants you sadly, as hope saved. 1711 *Ibid.* 30 June. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, As I hope to be saved, I will never mention a word of it.

c. *transf.* To reclaim from moral laxity, or the like; to be the 'salvation' of.

1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 98 How often you hear it said that marriage has improved a man—that it has saved him!

3. Used in certain formulas of benediction, greeting, etc.; as *God save you!* †Also (in greetings) with omission of the subject.

(*God*) *save the mark*: see MARK *sb.*[1] 18.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7034 (Kölbing) Wele yfounden, child Wawayn, Crist saue þi miȝt & þi mayn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2250 God saue al this faire compaignye. Amen. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 God save you, whiche sayeng we use whan we come firste to ones presence. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 70 Sir Protheus: 'saue you: saw you my Master? 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. iv, *Luke.* Then, as I said ..you were tickl'd when the beggars cry'd, Heaven save your honour. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* III. ii, Save ye, save ye, Gentlemen. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 178, I have seen him some poor ancient thrashing Into something (God save us!) more dry.

b. *esp.* in *God save the king!* and the like.

c 1290 *Beket* 755 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 128 Sire king, he seide, god þe loke, and saui þi dignite! 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 811 Þus dindimus þe dere king enditeþ his sonde, & god byseche þ to saue þe soueraine prinse. 1350–70 in *Eulogium Hist.* (Rolls) III. 87 *Regem* [*Henricum II*] *Theutonica lingua sic affatur*: Godde saue the kyng. [In *Giraldus* (Rolls) VIII. 180 God houlde dhe, cuning.] 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xvi. 16 He sayde vnto Absalom: God saue the kynge. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. M j b, *Aue rex*, or god saue your royall maiestie. 1558 *Procl.* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. i. 389 God save the quene. *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Bosw.-field* (1629) 9 Some with loud shouting, make the valleyes ring, But most with murmur sigh: God saue the King.

†**4.** To spare instead of killing, allow to live, give (one) his life. Often coupled with *slay*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5549 Þis midwimmen..did noght als þe king þam badd, Bot sauued þai þar childer liues. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1917 So that the site was al at his wille, To sauyn hem hym leste or ellis spille. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 256 Wallace commaundede thai suld na wermen saiff. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 52 Whan he sauyth the lyf of them that he may slee. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. 100, I ordand ȝou to slay doune al the romans, and nocht to saif ane of them. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. xvi. 586 To saue or slay the Sparow that he holdeth closed in his hand. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 124 And therefore yet relent, and saue my life. 1642 *Laws of War Army Earl Essex* 20 None shall save a man that hath his offensive Armes in his hands, upon paine of losing his prisoner.

absol. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 663 For curs wol slee, right as assoillyng sauith. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 207 Where him hapneth the victoire, His lust and al his moste gloire Was forto sle and noght to save.

5. To deliver *from* some evil which is likely to befall one; to protect from something which would be unwelcome or untoward; to ensure (one) immunity from some hurt or annoyance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2985 Fra toche of hir i saued þe, þat þou suld not sin in me. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 23 þat on Clothing is from Chele ow to saue. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 293 þonkyng hym þat sauid hym wyth hys blessing from poysynnyng. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1, I save one from daunger, as harnesse doth ones persone, or as medecyne, or preservatyve dothe ones helth, *je contregarde*. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lv. 186 The good harneys saued Huon fro all hurtes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 103 But Zelmanes comming saued Dorus from further chiding. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 226 He saved me from much interruption and many annoying questions. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 118 A sudden effort was necessary to save me from falling. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 162 This route has the advantage, too, of saving one from the crowd.

b. used in invocation or aspiration: esp. with sarcastic emphasis.

1738 POPE *Univ. Prayer* 33 Save me alike from foolish Pride, Or impious Discontent. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 499 But save me from the gaiety of those Whose head-aches nail them to a noon-day bed. 1798 CANNING *New Morality* 210 in *Anti-Jacobin* 9 July, Save, save, oh! save me from the candid friend!

c. To be a protection, defence, or means of deliverance to.

1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* III. 90 And some wil haue also no viser To saue his face, but only a naser. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 71 Couert of treis sawit him full weille. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 489 A goodly glose, by the whiche that place that may defend a thefe, may not saue an innocent. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxvii. 333 But it shall not save you. The very sunshine you live in is a prelude to your dissolution.

6. *refl.* (in senses 1 and 5). Often = to get away, escape (F. *se sauver*).

a 1225 *Anor. R.* 98 O noue wise ne muwe ȝe betere sauuen ou suluen. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 836 Him com strokes so gret plente þat fain he was to weren is hed And saue him self fro þe ded. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 133 Wherfor, gentyll knyght, gos hens fast and saue þyselfe. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 48 Flye Lords, and saue your selues. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 585, I saved my self out of those difficulties by saying to all my friends, that I would not be involved in any such confidence. 1729 W. FUNNELL *Voy.* 144 He and his company got to his boat, and so saved themselves to the ship. 1817 *Ballad of Waterloo* 18 All panic struck, the legions fled, 'Twas *save himself who could.* 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, The only course by which he could save himself from degradation and disgrace.

†**b.** *refl.* and *intr.* To avoid loss. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 139 b, So both parties, rather myndyng to gain or save then to lose, departed for that tyme. *Ibid.* 141 b, Thenglishemen sometyme saved, and sometyme gained, but the moste losse lighted on the Frenchemen. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s. v., A Tradesman is said to save himself that neither gets nor loses.

7. †**a.** To heal, cure, restore to health. *Obs.* **b.** Later only as a specific use of sense 1: To rescue from a sickness which threatens to prove mortal; = to save the life of.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 17 Hou heore schabbede schep schal heore wolle saue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 387 He was hard i-holde with a strong sikenesse, and myȝte nouȝt be i-heled noþer i-saved wiþ no manere medecyne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 32 Bot as a man that wolde him save, Whan he is sek, be medicine. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2558 My-self with a serop sall saue [*Dublin MS.* safe] ȝow belyue. 14.. *Officium Resurrect.* 7 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 3 Why suffred he so forto dy, Sithe he may all sekenes saue? 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 63 Soe our chirurgion was sent for to assist the Duch chirurgion to save the [wounded] man, yf it were possible. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, Her own little boy was saved, actually saved, by calomel, freely administered, when all the physicians in Paris had given the dear child up.

8. To keep, protect or guard (a thing) from damage, loss, or destruction.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 429 And so þe strokes were i-lette, and þe walles i-saved. 1387 *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 35 To cast the watir owte and to save the werc for the watir. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 39 Hys hall was yche day of the ȝere new strawed..forto saue knyghtys clopys þat setton on þe flore. 1553 WILSON *Rhet.* (1585) 117 Fond is his purpose, that being in the Raine, casteth his garment in a bush, and standeth naked himself, for sauing the glosse of his gay coate. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 63 A Ferril of Brass may be put thereon to save the Head from cleaving. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. 90 If the Toes with part of the foot was shot off, cut off the lacerated parts smooth, but with care to save as much of the foot with the heel as you can. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 93 To save the powder from too rude a gale. 1735 — *Donne Sat.* ii. 72 His Office keeps your Parchment fates entire, He starves with cold to save them from the fire. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 97 Over-exposed prints may possibly be saved by further diluting the developer.

†**b.** To guard (property) from loss or from passing into other hands; to keep in safe possession (for oneself or another). *Obs.*

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 81 Also, ye skyueyns of ye gylde yat hauen ye catel in hande, scholene fynden borwes to ye alderman, for to sauen ye catel, and for to bringe it forht at ye general morspeche, wyht-outen ani lettyng. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 272 When þy lord lokeþ to haue a-lounce for hus bestes, And of þe monye þow haddist þer-myd hus meoble to saue. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Tim.* vi. 20 O Timothe save that which is geven the to kepe. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. ii. (S. T. S.) I. 15 The realme of latynis and troianis was sauffit to þis childe Ascanius be prudent tutorie of lavinia his moder.

†**c.** To have (a person) in safe keeping. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 200, I deeme anon this cherl his seruant haue; Thou shalt no lenger in thyn hous hir saue.

†**d.** To make (a place) secure. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 294 þe toun he suld so saue, þat he suld not ascape.

e. *To save one's pocket*: to avoid spending one's money.

1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 9/1 The tenant for life may have indirectly benefited himself or saved his own pocket.

f. *To save one's face*: to avoid being disgraced or humiliated. Similarly, *to save* (another's) *face*.

[Originally used by the English community in China, with reference to the continual devices among the Chinese to avoid incurring or inflicting disgrace. The exact phrase appears not to occur in Chinese, but 'to lose face' (*tiu lien*), and 'for the sake of his face', are common.]

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Apr. 5/1 Unquestionably the process of saving one's face leads to curious results in other countries than China. 1900 *Daily News* 25 June 4/3 The communiqué in the Russian 'Official Messenger' provides the necessary formula by the adoption of which the Chinese Government can save its face.

9. To keep intact or unhurt, preserve, maintain, safeguard (honour, credit, chastity, and the like).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11232 Right sua al plain,..he com and yede, Saufand his moder hir maidenhede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 527 My worschipe to saue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 338 Wyrk ȝhe then apon swylk wyss, That ȝour honour be sawyt ay. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 523 Til that myn harte..Graunted hym loue, vpon this condicioun, That eueremore myn honour and renoun Were saued. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 19 Good is to save With penance and with abstinence Of chastite the continence. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 26 Thus will I saue my credit in the shoote. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 148 Who to save the reputation of the Virgin, confessed that he came to rob the house. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* II. xi. (1848) 230 'Twould be much easier for the mistaken Physitian to save his Credit, than for the unprepar'd Sinner to save his Soul. 1733 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 125 Must then at once (the character to save) The plain

rough Hero turn a crafty Knave? 1851 LYTTON *Not so Bad* II. i. 29 The loan saved my credit, and made my fortune.

b. To safeguard (a right, possession) *to* a person.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 144 Whether the kynge mey gyve such rewarde..off his revenues, savynge to hym selff sufficiant ffor the sustenance off his estate. 1499 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 50/1 A precept of confirmation of the crownarschip of Carrik..Salffand to the kingis hienes service auch and wont. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 41 b, Yf a man let lande to another for terme of lyfe sauynge the reuersyon to him. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 29 § 6 Savinge to all and every person or persons..all such Rightes..wch they..had, might or should have had, of, in or to any the Mannors Lordshippes [etc.]. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* x. § 648. 279 The Lord doth grant the rent unto a stranger saving unto him his seignory. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. v. 23 We find a clause..introduced saving the king's rights.

† **c.** ? To keep, observe (a duty, rule). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 85 Wherof I can noght bothe save My speche and this obedience. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 538 And all þai aw be day & night To saue þis rewle in all þer myght.

† **d.** To preserve the credit of (one's word, oath).

c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xxix. 72 A man stode þer besyde & herd, & wold, hys thankes, saue [*v.r.* Sawe] þe prophetes sawe. 1595 *2nd Pt. Contention* (1843) 125 Ile shew your grace the waie to saue your oath.

10. With adj. complement: To keep or preserve *whole, unhurt*, etc.

† *To save harmless*: see HARMLESS *a.* 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5037 Lauerd..sauue mi childir hale to me. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 223 Ane angell..opynd þe dure and savid þe seale hale at Saynt Remigius sett on itt. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xviii. 27 When the wycked man turneth awaye from his wickednesse..he shal saue his soule alyue. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 225 To saue vnscratch'd your Cities threatned cheekes. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* vii. 4 If they saue vs aliue, we shall liue. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 566 Which, kindled with dry leaves, just saves unquench'd The spark of life. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 894 To Save her dear lord whole from any wound.

† **11.** To store, preserve, keep in sound condition.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), He [the heart] is holow3 to fong blood, and he is þikke to saue it. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 507 After that, it ought to be dried in the Sun, and saued in a brasen box. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* (1723) 33 They [the Fish] are saued three maner of wayes: by fuming, pressing, or pickelling. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 151 There sav'd by spice, like mummies, many a year, Dry Bodies of Divinity appear.

b. *intr.* To remain in good condition, to last without spoiling, to 'keep'. ? *U. S.*

1891 *Century Dict., Save*..To be capable of preservation: said of fish: as, to *save* well.

12. *trans.* † **a.** Astr. *To save the appearances, the phenomena* [tr. Gr. σῴζειν τὰ φαινόμενα (e. g. in Proclus *Hypotyp.* v. § 10); cf. It. *salvar le apparenze*, F. *sauver les apparences*]: said of a hypothesis which satisfactorily explains the observed facts. See also SALVE *v.*2 1. *Obs.*

1625, 1643 [see PHENOMENON 1 c]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 82 When they come to model Heav'n And calculate the Starrs, how they will weild The mightie frame, how build, unbuild, contrive To save appearances.

Hence (? orig. allusively) **b.** *To save appearances*: to contrive to keep up an appearance of propriety, solvency, or the like. (So in Fr. and It.) Cf. APPEARANCE 12 b.

1711, 1761 [see APPEARANCE 12 b]. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxiii. 222 Sparta sent only a handful of men to save appearances. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* viii. 234, I suppose it 'saves society', at least it saves appearances.

13. To prevent the loss of (a game, match, wager, etc.). Also, in Racing slang, to 'hedge' so as to protect (oneself, one's 'book') from loss, or so as to recover (a certain sum) out of one's losses.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 94 The description Of what is in her Chamber, nothing saues The wager you haue laid. 17.. in Lillywhite *Cricket Scores* (1863) I. Pref. 10 If a striker nips a Ball up just before him he may fall before his Wicket, or pop down his Batt before Shee comes to it to Save it. 1837 D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 217 The striker ..must never follow a ball so far that, in case of no runs being obtained, he cannot return to save his wicket. 1862 PYCROFT in *London Soc.* II. 114/1 As to his bowling, it might have saved the game. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xx, And even his lordship began to grudge that he had not just saved his book upon him [a horse] in consonance with the Major's advice. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 58 But in the Eton field..even in the sorest straits, by the feet, and by the feet alone, must the goal be saved.

† **b.** To make (a dangerous voyage) safely. *Obs.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 77 This holds with little intermission till..the first Full Moon in August; when our Europe Ships, if they save their Passage about the Cape, venture to make in here.

14. 'To take or embrace opportunely, so as not to lose' (J.); to be in time for, manage to catch.

1732–3 SWIFT *Reas. Rep. Sacram. Test.* Wks. 1751 IX. 245 The same Persons..were..faithful Subjects to Cromwell, yet being wise enough to foresee a Restoration, they seized the Forts and Castles here [in Ireland]..; just saving the Tide, and putting in a Stock of Merit sufficient to preserve [etc.]. 1802 CANNING in G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) I. 456, I have but a moment to save the post. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vi. 203 That they may save the hour of..appointment. 1849 THACKERAY 12 June in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 409/2 The note must go this instant to save the post. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii. 73 There arises a question whether under such circumstances the train can be saved.

† **b.** *To save one's distance, time*: to manage to arrive at (a given point or time) after being delayed.

1790 R. CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 142 § 3 (1792) V. 184 Whether Nicolas saved his distance..we shall not just now enquire. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. iv, Riding out to dinner, many miles off, on a beast that will not quit his walk, while you know that nothing short of a full gallop will save your time.

II. To reserve, lay aside.

15. To keep for a particular purpose or as likely to prove useful; to set apart, lay by, reserve.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (verse) 1582 þat euer-ilkon wil of hir laue þe third part til hir sopper saue. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 9 Good thou, saue mee a piece of Marchpane. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136, I saved the Skins of all the Creatures that I kill'd. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1796) xiv. 210 Take..a bunch of turnips, pare them, save three or four out, put the rest into the water. 1845 *Visit to Bury St. Edmunds* 90, I have one pair [of shoes]; they were almost worn out when father died, and as mother can't buy any more, I save them for Sundays.

16. *spec.* To collect and keep (seed) in stock for sowing.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xxiii. 47 The Roots [of Clary]..perish after the Seed-time: it is most usuall to save it; for the Seed seldom riseth of its own shedding. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 128 The best way to save the seeds of this plant, is [etc.]. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 92 It is feared the bulk of the people will not be able to save seed for next crop.

b. To dry (corn, hay, peat) by exposure to the air; to harvest, stack. Cf. *win.*

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 120 When it [the corn] was growing and grown, I have observ'd already, how many Things I wanted, to Fence it, Secure it, Mow or Reap it, Cure and Carry it Home, Thrash, Part it from the Chaff, and Save it. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxiii. 361 The farmers pile them up in one of their offices, with an outside facing of bog turf well *saved*. 1824 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 183 The Northumberland people have an idiom of 'saving hay' for 'making hay'. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* i. 8 A turf-stack..when newly 'saved'..looks like a solidified shadow of the little house.

c. To extract (gold) from quartz.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 69 The gold is easily saved, being clean, angular, and not very small; hence the proportion saved by the mill-process is notably greater than in any other locality in California.

d. *To save clean* in *Whaling* (see quot.).

1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., *To save clean*, to save all (the blubber) in cutting in: a whaling-term.

17. To store up or put by (money, goods, etc.) by dint of economy; to reserve instead of spending, consuming, or parting with.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 27 Treuþe..Bad hem Bugge Boldely what hem best lykede, And sepþen sullen hit a-3eyn And saue þe wynnynge. 14.. *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 170 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 49 Þei..þat wyll thryue, and þer gode saue. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 39, I haue fiue hundred Crownes, The thriftie hire I saued vnder your Father. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 84 P 14 A nobleman's butler, who has furnished a shop with the money he has saved. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 50 But Dora stored what little she could save, And sent it them by stealth. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 95 He was able to save money for his son's education.

b. *absol.*

1595 LODGE *Fig for Momus* H 1 b, Counsell, how to spend, and saue. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iii. I. 410 Whatever industry might acquire, if parsimony did not save and store up, the capital would never be the greater. 1859 SMILES *Self-help* ix. 234 Add guinea to guinea; scrape and save; and the pile of gold will gradually rise. 1878 JEVONS *Pol. Econ.* ix. 86 It is idle to say that the better-paid working men cannot save.

c. with *up*. Also *absol.*

1834 [see SAVED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairlegh* iv, A parting gift from my little sister Fanny, who..had saved up her pocket-money during many previous months, in order to provide funds for this munificent present. 1884 BLACKLEY *Thrift & Indep.* 20 To try the system of saving up a little week by week. *Ibid.* 57 If, by an effort, he save up.. £30. *Ibid.* 91, I set myself to save up for my own old age.

18. To avoid spending, giving, or consuming (money, goods, etc.); to keep (a given amount) from being spent or consumed or lost and so retain it in one's possession. Also with indirect obj. (with or without *to*): To enable a person to avoid spending, giving, or losing.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 545/345 *Kī sauuer veut soun doner, Corteis seit de soun manger*';..He may saue moneye and gete þat wol be curteys of his mete. 1539 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Rel. Houses* (1892) 73 Ther will be a great soome of money that shalbe salved to the kinges highnes therbye. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 6 b, And so consequentlie in their whole Armies to saue the pay of a great sort of Captaines..and other Officers. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 48 Thou hast saued me a thousand Markes in Linkes and Torches. *Ibid.* V. i. 99, I..will, to saue the blood on either side, Try fortune with him, in a Single Fight. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 207 The said Ianizare ..will easily save a man more then his wages. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Aug., When we came to look for our coach we found it gone, so we were fain to walk home afoot and saved our money. 1693 in C. R. Wilson *Old Fort William* (1906) I. 12 That old Maxim..That a Penny saved is two Pence gott. 1712 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. I. 197 You have already saved several millions to the publick. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 406 By carrying this plan into execution, the public..would save not less than four millions *per annum*. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 257 With suitable flues, the saving of fuel is much greater when turf and wood are employed than is the case with coal;..3rd being saved in the case of wood, and 4th only in that of coal. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xxxii, Mr. Sowerby then got into another cab..Anyone else would have saved his shilling, as Mrs. Harold Smith's house was only just across Oxford Street.

† **b.** *absol.* Of a commodity: To effect a saving in use, 'to be cheap' (J.).

a 1626 BACON *Compounding of Metals* Baconiana (1679) 94 Brass Ordnance..saveth both in the quantity of the Material, and in the charge and commodity of mounting & carriage.

c. With immaterial obj., e. g. labour, time, distance to be travelled, etc.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* B ij, Therefore saue labour for making any further reply hereunto, least you doe but lose your trauaile herein. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 8 He saues my labor by his owne approach. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. ii. 6 You might haue saued mee my paines, to haue taken it away your selfe. 1612 BACON *Ess., Despatch* (Arb.) 248 To chuse time, is to saue time. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 3 Fair weather beginning with the New Moon, made the Captain repent that he had not passed through the Phare of Messina, which would have saved him fifty miles in his course. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* iv, Edith..baked all the oatmeal cakes, which saved Alice a good deal of time. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 149 We had dispensed with tea, so as to save time.

19. To be careful or economical in the use of; to use or consume sparingly.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide For his shrunke shanke. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 62 For I eat sparingly; and sav'd my Provisions (my Bread especially) as much as possibly I could. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv., Butler* Wks. 1751 XIV. 21 To avoid burning Day-light, and to save your Master's Candles. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, Next she enlarged on the advantage of saving old clothes to be what she called 'beet-masters to the new'. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxix, Everything..including the carpet and curtains—looked at once well worn and well saved.

20. To treat carefully, so as to obviate or reduce fatigue, wear and tear, etc. *To save oneself*, to reduce the amount of one's exertions.

[1756 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 14 Dec., Adieu! I am going to the ball, to save my eyes from reading, and my mind from thinking.] 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* (ed. 3) III. 82 To make use of the theatrical phrase, I never saved myself, but often suffered my feelings to possess me so entirely, as that they deprived me of the power of voice. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xviii, My eyes are getting weak, and I wish to save them as much as possible. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* v. 52 White-Stockings, whom I had ridden down [to the races], to save Brilliant. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Lifted Veil* ii, Supposing that he wished merely to save her nerves. 1907 SYMONS-JEUNE *Art of Punting* 17 Beginners..in order to save themselves and ease the strain on their arms..shove crooked and turn the punt round.

III. To avoid or prevent (something undesirable).

A development from sense 18; sense 21 arises naturally from the sense 'to avoid paying or losing'. Cf. also sense 5.

21. To avoid for one's own part or enable another to avoid (some burden or inconvenience): *occas.* to avoid or obviate the necessity for. *Const.* indirect obj. of the person (oneself or another) who is relieved.

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] tr. *Justin* Epit. Emp. Hh 3 b, By meanes whereof, a little tract of time would saue him a great deal of wrath. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 75 And about midnight [he] departed towards Crates; which saved the geveing a present of 2 damaskt fowling peeces, yf he had staid till morninge. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. xvii. 259 How might'st thou by this *effugium* have sav'd all thy misfortunes? 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* IV. ii. 58 Will you not speak to save a Lady's Blush? 1699 — *Ep. J. Driden* 11 Without their cost you terminate the cause And save the expense of long litigious laws. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95 Take my advice, my dear Bell, and save yourself the trouble. 1790 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 168 My letters lie there for me, as it saves their being sent down to Rosebank. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* II. 135 The hurt done by their splinters would have been saved also. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, The best way's to let the blood barken upon the cut—that saves plasters. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Mar. 5/2 The only use of paper money is in saving the wear and tear of gold. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 77 A tendency to take quick steps, as if running forward to save a fall.

† **b.** *To save* (a woman's) *longing*, to anticipate and so prevent it. Also *transf. Obs.*

1593 *King Leir* I. ii. 133 (Malone Soc.), Madam, to saue your longing, this it is. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 261 Sir, you haue sau'd my longing, and I feed Most hungerly on your sight. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. i. (1631) 48 Looke, Win, doe, looke a Gods name, and saue your longing. 1656 OSBORN *Adv. Son* II. xvi. 54 Our Beldame Eve, to save her longing, sold us all for an Apple. 1665 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* (1874) I. 88 Come hither Sirrah, I know what you would have, I'le save your longing.

c. *Games.* To prevent the opposing side from gaining (a run, goal, etc.). *To save two, three, four runs* (Cricket): to prevent the scoring of a second, third, or fourth run for a hit. Also (in football, hockey, etc.) *absol.* = to save a goal.

1816 LAMBERT in Box *Eng. Game Cricket* (1877) 34 Long Stop.—This man should stand a proper distance behind the wicket, to save a run, if the ball should not be stopped by the striker, or wicket keeper. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Manual* (1851) 49 Long Leg..usually stands to save four runs. 1867 SELKIRK *Guide to Cricket Ground* 35 *Saving the Run.*—Stopping and returning the ball so quickly that the batsmen dare not attempt a run for fear of being run out. 1889 *Field* 5 Jan. 29/3 For the losers, Jackson in goal saved well on several occasions [hockey]. *Ibid.* 12 Jan. 65/2 But his shot was saved by the goal-keeper [football].

d. *Well saved*: an applauding expression used when a rider has avoided a fall; also (in games) when a brilliant 'save' has been made.

1859 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* I. i. 10 As he fell upon his head into the road, and recovered himself without unhorsing me,..'Well saved, my lad, and devilish well ridden too', said the jolly General.

†**22.** To afford protection from. *Obs.*

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* Pref. 46 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 348 The plesant plane-trie will the leavs vnfauld With fairest schaddow to save the sone in symmer.

†**23.** To meet or overcome (a doubt); = SALVE *v.*[2] 2. *Obs. rare.*

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 194 Right well, deere Gossip, ye advized have, (Said then the Foxe) but I this doubt will save.

IV. Idiomatic uses of certain parts of the verb. (For those of the pr. pple. see SAVING *prep.*)

24. The infinitive *to save* has been used to mean:

†**a.** On condition of not injuring. Cf. sense 9.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1260 Ac ich wolde to sauui lif & lume bringe him to ech lawe. [Cf. ante 1242: þat he vor his neueu wolde..Do hey amendement, sauue lume & lif.]

†**b.** Saving, having regard to (one's honour, 'presence'). See SAVING *prep.* 2.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 173 'Schyr', said he,..'To sauff 3our presence, it [is] nocht swa'. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1008 And grant the frekis on fold farar to fall, Baith thair honouris to saif.

†**c.** Except, excepting; = SAVE *prep.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Orig. Cron.* IV. ix. 1170 Al þe cite þan fande þai Withe þar fais nere wptane, To sauff þe Capitalle allane. *Ibid.* IV. xvi. 1600 For nane þar gouernalle þar had, To sauff barnnys of 3outheide.

†**25.** The pa. pple. *saved* was used in absolute construction with a sb., with the sense: Preserving .. safe or intact, without detriment to, making reservation of. Cf. SAFE *a.* 5.

Sometimes placed before the sb.: cf. *except, considered.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 52 And þus he may lefuly, sauid his ordre. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 79 That he wolde submitte hym to his grace, his honoure and crowne of his realme salvede. 1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 390/2 Saved alwey to youre Grace..of the said Fee Ferme xviii li. v s. 1539 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Rel. Houses* (1892) 71 We haue determyned (your lordeshippes pleasure savyd) to differ the same vnto our return. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 335, I haue aunswered your custome, least you should argue me of coynes, no otherwise then I might mine honour saued, and your name vnknowen.

†**V. 26.** In combinations of verb-stem + object, used *attrib.* or *adj.*, as *save-soul, save-stake.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 178 Such A Spirit were of A Save stake, if not promoting Prudence, as they call it. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* III. 129 Martha was gone on a save-soul pilgrimage to a neighbouring village.

Save (sēiv), *quasi-prep.* and *conj.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 **sauf, 5–6 saufe, 5 sawf, sauff, saauf**; 3–5 **saf, 4–5 safe, saaf, 4–6 saff(e, 5 sef**; 5–6 **salf, 6 salfe, saulfe**; 5–6 *Sc.* **saif(f.** *β.* 3–4 **sauve, 4 sawve, 5 sawe, 4–6 salve, 4– save.** [Developed from SAFE *a.* 5, in imitation of the similar development in the use of the equivalent F. *sauf.*

Already in OF. the adj. *sauf*, fem. *sauve*, prefixed to a sb. in the absolute construction (= L. *salvō, salvā*: see SAFE *a.* 5) had often the sense 'being excepted', so that it became (like the analogous *except* ppl. adj. in Eng.) functionally equivalent to a prep., and was eventually treated as such, the masc. form *sauf* being used even before a fem. sb. Cf. Sp. *salvo*, Pr. *sal.*

The *β* forms may partly represent the OF. *sauve* in collocation with a fem. sb., and partly the ME. form of the plural adj. But the later exclusive use of the form *save* is probably due to the identification of the word with the imperative of the vb.: cf. *except*, which appears to have been similarly apprehended as an imperative.

The use of a nominative after *save* (see 1 b) may perhaps be a trace of the originally adjectival character of the word; it is, however, to be noted that the same thing occurs with all the quasi-prepositional words of the same meaning, including even *saving* and *excepting*, which are in origin pr. pples. of transitive verbs.]

1. quasi-*prep.* Except, with the exception of, but. Often strengthened by the addition of *only* (*alone*, †*alonely*, †*anerly*, †*one*); also tautologically *save and except*, Sc. †*bot saiff.*

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+438 Alle to-geder þai whore sauf thomas of ynde allone. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1749 He3est of alle oþer, saf onelych tweyne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 134 Sexte and vi xvi to ded has dycht, Bot saiff vii men at fled out of thair sycht. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. vii. 808 Howe they were alle slayne sauf hym self al only. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) S v, Al thinges haue an ende at last by deth, saufe onely deathe. 1538 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 86 All the lightes of waxe in every church to be taken downe, saffe onely the roode-loft light. 1579 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 430 No kynd of..tymber..salfe onely fuell of wood for fyre.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19485 Disciplis folud þai sa herd þat þai þam draf vte o þair ward, Sauue þe apostels þat þam ledd. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 482 (Addit. MS.) Bedrede I lay flourty 3here fully sawe two. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 210 Saue Meede þe Mayden no mon dorste abyde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age of the Church* (1840) 28 Euery lettre in þe abece may be souned wiþ opyn moup saue .m. lettre one. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* vi. 18 Trew frendes fonde he non, sawe Robert, steuenes son. 1452 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 220/1 The last day save oon of august. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 21 No Chronicler save one, maketh mencion what was the very cause. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 77 The aforesaid boats are..covered all save the ends with black cloth. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, We spent the next evening, save one, in London. 1808 G. ELLIS *Let.* in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) II. iv. 143 The most pleasing poem in our language—save and except one or two of Dryden's fables. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CV. 23 No dance, no motion, save alone What lightens in the lucid east. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 140 All that remained to England in France, save Calais, was lost.

b. followed by the nominative of a pronoun. (App. the normal construction.)

α. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 245 Saf only thei that ben dwellynge with hym. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 25 For ferde that ani other shulde haue the loue of her sauf he hym selff. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 133 Then were they alle slayne, sauf y.

β. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 802 Saue I and a frere, In Engelond ther kan no man it make. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxi[i]. (1494) F vj, There is a lyue left none of the blode Saue I alone of the royall lyne. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 79 b, Wilt thou so teach..that no man shall have knowlege..in Gods worde save thou only? 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 66, I do intreat you, not a man depart, Saue I alone, till Antony haue spoke. *Ibid.* v. v. 69 All the Conspirators saue onely hee, Did that they did, in enuy of great Cæsar. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 814 That mortal dint, Save he who reigns above, none can resist. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. *Isles of Greece* xvi, Where nothing, save the waves and I, May hear our mutual murmurs sweep. 1866 DASENT *Gisli* 5 No one has ever challenged me before this day, save thou.

c. followed by the accusative of the pronoun.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvi. 5 For ther is noon other God, saue thee, Lord. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 507 But all saue thee I fell with Curses. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Hound of Heaven* 180 Whom wilt thou find to love ignoble thee, Save Me, save only Me?

†**d.** = but for. *Obs.*

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 83/1 Spiritual pride.. carieth with it a blindnes almost incurable saue gods gret mercye. 1820 KEATS *Eve of St. Agnes* XXV, She seem'd a splendid angel, newly drest, Save wings, for heaven.

2. *conj.* Introducing a sentence which states an exception; now only in the full form *save that*; = EXCEPT C. 1.

α. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 23 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 God 3af him .. foules bestis an þe frute saf o tre he him forbede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 339 In his tyme þe monkes of Caunterbury..were nou3t onliche to seculer men, sauf þat þey lefte nou3t [li3t]liche her chastite. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 36 Lych to the tothir, saf they be not garnysshed. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. vii, My curage grew, for quhat cause I nocht wait, Saif that I hald me payit of thair estait. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) M j, His face was lyke a man, saufe it hadde but one eye.

β. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 436 Min hert hol i haue now ..saue a fers feintise folwes me oft. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 216 He was despeyred, no thyng dorste he seye, Saue in his songes somwhat wolde he wreye His wo. 1388 WYCLIF *Mark* vi. 5 And he myȝte not do there ony vertu, saue that he helide a fewe sijk men. 1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 265 Salve onlie that the said Thomas shall [etc.]. 1617 MURE *Misc. Poems* xx. 6 My muse, q^ch noght doth challenge worthy fame, Saue from Montgomery sche hir birth doth clayme. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 187 Naked from the waste vpwards, saue that their heads are couered. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 9 Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tow'r The moping owl does to the moon complain. 1842 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* 270 Then all was still, save that a vast gush of fire rose up for a moment. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xiv. 1 Calvus, save that as eyes thou art beloved, I could verily loathe thee for the morning's Gift.

¶ *confused use.*

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. Wks. (1573) 305/2 M. More ..proueth nothing saue sheweth his ignoraunce.

b. = 'But that', 'were it not that'. Cf. 1 d.? *Obs.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Soun.* lxvi. 14 From these would I be gone, Saue that to dye, I leaue my loue alone.

c. Introducing a hypothetical case of exception, = 'unless', 'if..not'; cf. EXCEPT C. 2.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 119 And thus I mai you sothli telle, Save only that I crie and bidde, I am in Tristesce al amidde And fulfild of Desesperance. 1870 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 80 Who wept and said, That save they could be pluck'd asunder, all My quest were but in vain. *Ibid.* 86 Save that he were the swine thou spakest of. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 186 'Tis said there were no thought of hell, Save hell were taught.

†**d.** As an adversative, = 'but on the contrary'.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 77 Saue hit nis not bi þe Bisschop þat þe Boye preche þ. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* II. v. 163 And if..þe herte be hurt, þere lijþ no cure þeron, saue he schal die anoon; for þe herte takiþ no lijf of no lyme of al þe bodi, saue þe herte 3eueþ lyues to euery lyme of þe bodi. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 188 Kynde vs hath grantid two eighen and two eeris, Saue but one tonge.

3. Followed by an adv. or advb. phrase or clause, expressing the manner, time, etc., in regard to which an exception is to be made; = EXCEPT C. 3.

α. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 154/405 Womman, with my swerd, slee wolde I thee heere, Sauf for awe of god. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 12 Be-fill yowe neuer this merveyle sat ones? 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1549) 113 Beyng not instructed in any occupacion or science, saulfe onely in feates perteynyng to warre.

β. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 2270 Al is pes þar ichaue went, Saue in þe lond of Dabilent. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 172 And yit withoute experience Salve only of illusion. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 7 Thy garments all and some Do smell of Mirrhe, and saue of Mirrhe no sent doth from thee come. 1598 H. B. *Rdr. to Chaucer* in *Speght* a v b, Unknowne to vs, saue only by thy bookes. 1611 BIBLE I *Kings* xxii. 31 Fight neither with small nor great, saue only with the king of Israel. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 258 Over the Tent a Cloud Shall rest by Day, a fierie gleame by Night, Save when they journie. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 7 Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight. 1864 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) 165 Save and except in a dead calm she is utterly unseaworthy. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xiv. 397 For fifty years he never left Rome, save only when he went out of the walls to visit the Seven Churches. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 79 There was no longer, therefore, any excuse for its meeting, save on special occasions.

b. Followed by an inf. (with or without *to*).

c 1400 *Beryn* 660 He..had no thing to doon Saff shake a lite his eris, & trus, & be goon. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 17 'What schall þat serues ben'. Þen sayde he: 'þe same, worde for worde, þat ys yn hor natyuyte, saue turne þe natyvyte ynto þe concepcyon'. 1534 TINDALE *John* xiii. 10 He that is wesshed, nedeth not save to wesshe his fete. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, If thou hast aught to do, save to witness the misery thou hast caused.

c. *Save for*: exception being made for, but for.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 303 Of all one paine, saue for a night of groanes Endur'd of her, for whom you bid like sorrow. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 282 Then was this Island (Saue for the Son, that [s]he did littour heere..) not honour'd with A humane shape. 1879 ESCOTT *England* XXV. (1881) 403 The well-conducted soldier, save and except for a more or less constant *ennui*..may pass his days in comparative comfort. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. 283 The Black Sea is, save for one little outlet.., a huge land-locked lake. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* IV. xvi. 262 Saue for the slumbering fire, all was dark within the house.

¶ **4.** Phrases like *save your grace, save your reverence* belong to SAFE *a.* 5. See also GRACE *sb.* 6 d, REVERENCE *sb.* 5; and cf. SAVING.

'Save your displeasure' (quot. *c* 1500) is perh. due to a confusion between this use and sense 1 above.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 687 Sauue your grace, wene ich hit nowt, Hit euere com in his thout. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 139 It semeth, sauf your displeasir, that [etc.].

Save, obs. form of SAFE, SALVE *sb.*[1]

Saveable: see SAVABLE.

†**Sa·veage.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SAVE *v.* + -AGE. Cf. SALVAGE.] The action of saving.

1507 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) 243 The seid ij gromes wer fyne for the sauege of their lyues to draw out their weppyns.

Save-all (sēi·vɔl). [f. SAVE *v.* + ALL.]

1. A means for preventing loss or waste.

a 1655 SIR T. MAYERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* Pref. (1658) 2 This Book is a Save-all; It suffers nothing to be lost. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. III. I. 281 [The poultry] as they are fed with what would otherwise be lost, are a meer save-all. 1870 *Echo* 28 Nov., Wretched shifts and savealls of reserve and recruiting systems are enough to engage their attention, so far as their war administration is concerned.

2. A receptacle for collecting matter which would otherwise be lost and not utilized. Also *attrib.*

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 301 A refrigerator, from which proceeds an additional worm, to receive the spirit [in cooling and condensing], before it goes to the save-all. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 149 The fat of every kind collected in our kitchens, being rendered, or melted down from day to day, and cast into a 'save-all tub', will be found to produce very good soap. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1443 There is, immediately beneath the fountain [for spirits], a saveall, or pierced plate of pewter, through which the drippings from the glasses percolate, and are collected in a shallow basin below. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 71/2 Front Damper acting as a 'Tidy Betty' with Cinder-sifter or Save-all attached.

3. A contrivance to hold a candle-end in a candlestick while burning so that it may burn to the end; a common form is a pan with a projecting pin in the centre on which the candle-end is fixed.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxi. 58 In som this light goes out with an ill-favor'd stench; But others have a save-all to preserve it from making any snuff at all. 1682 HARTMAN *True Preserv. Health* 348 Heat the pin of a save-all, and then thrust it into the bigger end [of a small candle], and so set it upon a candlestick. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 444/2 Death's a dark-lanthorn, life a candle's-end Stuck on a save-all, soon to end in stink. 1895 *Army & Navy Price List* 15 Sept. 1316/2 [Candle] Saveall, White..each 0/4½.

4. A money-box to receive small savings or contributions.. Also *dial.* (see quot. 1841).

1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* (1842) 228 In this manner..enter your rooms..monks with their little savealls in their hands, collecting for hospitals. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Ant.* 555 *Save-all*,..an earthen bottle with slits at the sides, destin'd to receive all the savings of children.

5. A niggardly, stingy, miserly person. Now *dial.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Saveall*,..also a miser. 1820 KEATS in *Life* II. 63 There is old Lord Burleigh, the high-priest of economy, the political save-all.

6. *Naut.* A sail set under another sail or between two other sails. Also *attrib.*

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 83 Vessels with one mast ..have..above the cross-jack, a small sail, called a save-all top-sail. 1846 in YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 1878 D. KEMP *Man. Yacht Sailing* 366 *Save-all*, a water sail; a sail set underneath booms in light weather.

7. A pinafore; overall. *dial.*

1864 MRS. LLOYD *Ladies of Polcarrow* 103 Ever since I was a boy in a save-all. 1888 JESSIE FOTHERGILL *Lasses of Leverhouse* iv. 34 The black alpaca monstrosity which I..denominated a save-all.

8. *attrib.* or *adj.* Parsimonious, stingy.

1812 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 141 The paltry proceedings of those save-all politicians, who boast of their economy in banishing newspapers from the public offices. 1896 R. W. PROCTER *Barber's Shop* xi. (1883) 65 Still pursuing his save-all theory of a pin a day is a groat a year.

Saved (sēivd), *ppl. a.* [f. SAVE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Delivered from damnation. Also *absol.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10867 His folk al saued þan sal he mak. 14.. *Less. of Dirige* 409 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 120 Þe sauyd excusyd, þe dampnyd accusyd, As thay deseruyd echon haue. 1509 H. WATSON *Ship of Fools* Prol. (1517) A ij b, That thorugh theyr labour they may be of the nombre of y^e saued. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 123 If thy desires be firm..to become the saved of Christ, and His servant. 1868 H. LAW *Beacons of Bible* 78 Every saved soul shines for ever a monument of..sanctifying grace.

2. a. Hoarded, laid by; also with *up*. **b.** Economized; not spent or wasted.

1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 194 Benighted wanderers, the forest o'er, Curse the sav'd candle and unop'ning door. 1834 S. BAGSTER *Managem. Bees* Pref. 6 Often..have I spent the saved-up shilling to run into..the old menagerie in Exeter 'Change. 1875 SMILES *Thrift* vi. 93 Saved money, however little, will serve to dry up many a tear.

Saveine, obs. form of SAVIN.

Saveloy (sæ·vĕloi). [Corruption of F. *cervelas* (sɛrvəla): see CERVELAT.]

1. A highly seasoned cooked and dried sausage.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lv, Mr. Solomon Pell..regaling himself..with a cold collation of an Abernethy biscuit and a saveloy. 1887 SMILES *Life & Labour* 333 Soyer, the gastronomist,..would stop at a stall in the Haymarket and luxuriate in eating a penny saveloy.

2. *Saveloy marble* (see quot.).

1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 452 *Cervellata.* Saveloy marble, red ground, white and green, with very fine interlaced white veins.

† Sa·vement. *Obs.* Also sauvement. [a. OF. *sauvement*, f. *sauver* SAVE *v.*: see -MENT. Cf. Pr. *salvamen.*] Safety, salvation.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 3840 Iesu,..Saue him fram cumbermente, & him o3ain bring in sauement. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM 7 *Sacram.* 406 Þorwe creymie anoynt strange he bi-combe His sauuement to winne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 940 Þer so3t no mo to sauement of cities aþel fyue. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* cxi. (1906) 151 Symeon..saide with a high voys, 'Lo! here the clere light, and the sauement of the worlde'. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 236 By the is made the path of sauement.

Saven, obs. form of SAVIN.

Savenap(e, rare var. ff. SANAP *Obs.*

Saveo(u)r(e, obs. forms of SAVIOUR, SAVOUR.

Saver (sē·vəɹ). Also 4 sauver, 4–5 savere, 6 ? sawar. [f. SAVE *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. SAVIOUR.]

1. One who saves, preserves, or rescues from death, evil, or destruction; a saviour or preserver.

In early use said of Christ = SAVIOUR; now only used when *saviour* would seem inappropriate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10541 Of hir sal cum þat man sauuer [*other MSS.* sauere]. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 10 Modir of mercy..Saver of us by thy benevolence. 1538 BALE *Brefe Comedy Baptist* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 99 Your kynge, your sauer and redemer. *Ibid.*, For all men shall se their mercyfull sauer playne. 1608 B. JONSON *Masque at Ld. Haddington's*, Sauer of his King. 1700 C. NESS *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 58 Salvation is the work of the saved, not of the saver. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix, A statue erected to Lord Rodney the saver of the Island as he is always called from having crushed the fleet of Count de Grasse. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 858 For strong thou art and goodly therewithal, And saver of my life. 1891 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 373 He hated his rescuer and saver.

† b. One who keeps or preserves a thing from destruction or waste. *Obs.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 213 And therfor the nedyth to haue a constabil that shal not bene a destruere of thy trees, but a Kepere and a Sauere. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 168 Where all thing is common, what needeth a hutch? where wanteth a sauer, there hauocke is mutch.

c. One who saves (property) from wreck or destruction; a salvor.

1629 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 749 And do further ill entreat the savers and finders thereof [wrecks]. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 329 The propriety of appropriating all wrecked stores to the use of the savers.

† 2. 'One who escapes loss, though without gain' (J.). (Primarily a gaming term.) *To make* (oneself or another person) *a saver*: to insure against or compensate for a loss. *Obs.*

1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 71 *S.* What can I doe withall? I can not mend it. *A.* If I thought one hand would make me a sauer, I would play. *c* 1613 MIDDLETON *No Wit like a Womans* II. iii. (1657) 58 You'd need have a clear way, because y'are a bad pricker. *Mrs. Low.* Yet if my Bowl take bank, I shall go nigh To make my self a saver. 1668 HOWE *Blest. Righteous* xx. 388 Heaven were a poor Heaven, if it would not make us savers. 1676 LEE *Sophon.* IV. i. 45 Your Armies are the Cards which both must play; At least come off a saver if you may. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 344 For laws of arms permit each injured man To make himself a saver where he can. 1691 — *Arthur* II. 18 He puts the gain of Britain in a Scale, Which weighing with the loss of Emmeline, He thinks he's scarce a Saver. *a* 1700 SEDLEY *Poems* Wks. 1722 I. 46 We'll Game and give off Savers too.

3. One who saves, economizes, or hoards up.

1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 56 Some muste bee Sauers, Store is no sore. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 460 A good sauer makes a well doer. 1727 SWIFT *St. Irel.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 167 Hence alone comes the dearness of land, since the savers have no other way to lay out their money. 1755 JOHNSON, *Saver.* ..3. A good husband. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* I. 319 A saver of bits of thread. 18.. COBDEN in Smiles *Self-help* (1859) 218 The accomplishment of all other great works.. has been done by the savers, the thrifty. 1869 *Daily News* 14 Dec., The small farmers are great savers.

4. A means of saving or economizing.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxii. (1679) 111 We find it [sc. the Fir] an extraordinary saver of Oak. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 393/2 The railroad,..when it can be used, is a wonderful saver. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 15/1 The invention is a great labour-saver.

5. *Racing slang.* A hedging bet.

1891 N. GOULD *Doub. Event* xvii. 123 Wells says Perfection will win,..but I've put a saver on Caloola.

Saver(e, Saveray, obs. ff. SAVOUR, SAVORY.

Save-reverence: see SIR-REVERENCE.

Saverey, -ie, obs. forms of SAVORY, SAVOURY.

† Savernapron. *rare.* [? corruption of AF. **save-naperon*, f. *saver* SAVE *v.* + *naperon*: see APRON. Cf. *savenappe* SANAP.] A table-napkin.

1422–3 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 94 Item vij sauernaprons. Item x alie sauernaprons debiles

Saverous, obs. form of SAVOROUS.

Savery(e, obs. forms of SAVORY, SAVOURY.

Savete(e, Saveure: see SAFETY, SAVOUR.

Savey, savvy (sæ·vi), *sb. slang.* Also 8 scavey, 9 (*Sc.* savie), savvey, sabe. [The Sc. *savie* is perh. a. F. *savez* (*-vous*) do you know? The later slang use is f. SAVEY *v.*] Practical sense, intelligence; 'nous', gumption.

1785 [see SAVEY *v.* below]. 1825–82 JAMIESON, *Savie*, knowledge, experience, sagacity, Loth. ? 1885. B. HARTE *Chiquita* 9 Hedn't no savey—hed Briggs. 1884 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 508/2 They don't need much savvey for that. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1892) 47 He could ride the best, but the black boy had twice as much savey. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* 273 You have been romping around for six months after something you hadn't the sabe to hold when you'd got.

Savey, savvy (sæ·vi), *v. slang.* Also 8 scavey, 9 sabe(e, savvey. [Orig. Negro-Eng. and Pigeon-Eng., after Sp. *sabe usted* you know.] *trans.* To know.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Scavey*, sense, knowledge; 'massa me no scavey', master I don't know, (*negroe language*) perhaps from the French scavoir. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 137 Dey hab not savey dat de storekeeper hab be deir broder Joseph. 1833 MRS. CARMICHAEL *West Indies* II. 131 As I went on, I paused and asked them if they 'savey' what I said, (comprehended me). *Ibid.* 135 Misses, you no peak lie, me savey dat well. 1865 NIXON *Peter Perfume* 58 The 'no sabee' dodge to try they'd fain. 1874 B. HARTE *Wan Lee*, I asked if the juggler was the father of the baby. 'No sabe!' said the imperturbable Hop Sing, taking refuge in that Spanish form of non-committalism so common in California. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 51 Now do you savey?

Saveyne, Savico: see SAVIN, SABICU.

Savin, savine (sæ·vin). Forms: *α.* 1 safene, -ine, 1, 5– savine, 4–6 savyne, saveine, 5–6 -eyne, 7 saven; 4, 6– savin; *β.* 6–7, 9 sabine, 8 sabin. [a. OF. *savine* (in mod.F. replaced by the learned form *sabine*, whence the *β* forms above) = Sp., Pg. *sabina*, It. *savina*:—L. (*herba*) *Sabīna*, lit. 'Sabine herb' (*Sabīna* fem. of *Sabīnus* SABINE). Cf. G. *saben-, sevenbaum* (for the many corrupt forms see Grimm), Du. *zevenboom.*]

1. A small bushy evergreen shrub, *Juniperus sabina*, a native of Europe and Western Asia, with spreading branches completely covered with short imbricating leaves, and bearing a small, round, bluish-purple berry.

The name is also applied to certain trees or shrubs resembling *Juniperus sabina*, as the Sea Wormwood, *Artemisia maritima*; the dwarf Juniper, *Juniperus nana*; *Cæsalpinia pulcherrima* (Indian savin); in the U. S. to the Red Cedar, *Juniperus virginiana*, and to *Torreya taxifolia*, one of the stinking-cedars; and in the W. Indies to *Cæsalpinia bijuga*, *Fagara lentiscifolia* and *Xanthoxylum Pterota*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 312 Nim þas wyrte safenan & mersc mealwan. *Ibid.* III. 38 Wyll in buteran þas wyrta..sauinan & curmeallan & feferfugean. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 18 *Ebel, i.* savin. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 130 Ther is an herbe which men calleth Saveine. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 69 Þe sauyne [*MS. Phillipps* saveyne] and sypres, selcouþ to sene. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 61 Sauin, is one of those kindes which..beareth leafe all seasons of the yeare. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 49 But th' aged Nourse ..Had gathered Rew, and Savine. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 240 Agolethros and Sabine are poyson to Goates. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 188 Sabin or Savin will make fine Hedges, and may be brought into any sort of Form by clipping. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 730 Ointment of Savine. Take of fresh leaves of savine, two parts; yellow wax, one part; lard, four parts. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 464 Oil of sabine. It is obtained from the leaves of the *juniperus sabina*. Limpid. Has the odour and flavour of sabine. This plant furnishes a great deal of oil. 1862 MRS. STOWE *Pearl Orr's Isl.* i. 8 Only savins and mullens, with their dark pyramids or white spires of velvet leaves, diversified the sandy wayside. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 183 *Juniperus Virginiana*...Red Cedar. Savin. *Ibid.* 186 *Torreya taxifolia*...Stinking Cedar. Savin.

2. The dried tops of this shrub, used as a drug.

Savin is strongly poisonous; it possesses emmenagogic properties, and hence was a common means of procuring abortion. It is also an anthelmintic, used chiefly in veterinary practice.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 100 Wiþ þon ilcan genim safinan gnid to duste. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 97 Sauin, for the bots. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. lvi. 193 Incessions made of the decoction of laurell berries, & leaues,..motherwort, horehound, saueine, althæa, cammomill [etc.]. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb., Bull* xxix. 58 There is nothing killeth wormes in the bodies of cattell sooner then Sauen chopt small and beaten with sweet Butter. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 775 Help her to make Manslaughter; let her bleed, And never want for Savin at her need. 1736 BAILEY *Housek. Dict.* 521 *Savin*, is of an incisive, penetrative and attenuating quality..; being powdered and mix'd with fresh butter, it is given to the quantity of a dram to persons troubled with the asthma. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 334 They were treated with lapis infernalis, Plenk's liniment, and powdered savine.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *savine-berry, -bush, -cerate, -oil, -tops, -tree*; *savin-leaved* adj.

1681 GREW *Musæum* II. § ii. i. 219 *Savine-Berrys. About as big as those of the common Juniper, and of a blackish blew. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 3 In these Gullies grow *Saven Bushes. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 448 A discharge should be kept up from the blistered surface by means of the *savine cerate. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 126 *Lycopodium alpinum*, mountain or *savin-leaved club-moss. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Savine-oil*, an essential oil obtained by distilling the tops of the savine plant. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* VII. 645 Henbane, Wormwood, Hemlock, *Savine Tops. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* IV. i, There growes a *Sauin-tree next it forsooth. 1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 128 Savine Trees. *Ibid.* 149 Indian Savin Tree. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 737 Savin tree: *Cæsalpinia bijuga* and *Fagara lentiscifolia.*

Saving (sē·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAVE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb SAVE; an instance of this. **a.** The action of rescuing or protecting; † a deliverance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12775 Wijt we þan for quat resun For sauueing of vr dampnacioun, þat he now suilk baptizing mass? *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 6 Safynge of rightwis and dampnynge of wickid. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 123 For the repressynge off rovers, sauynge off owre marchauntes, owre ffishers, and the dwellers vppon owre costes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxix. 53 Syr Henry wolde nat let his wepon go for sauyng of his honour. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 50 This election was myghtely ratifyed by continewall successe of savinges. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* xi. 7 Noah..prepared an Arke to the sauing of his house. 1676 MOLLOY *De Jure Marit.* II. v. (1688) 240 If the Ship perishes only, and the Goods are safe, in that case the Goods ought to pay a proportion of a fifth or tenth penny, according to the easie or difficult winning or saving of the said Goods. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 21 All the foolish destructions, and all the sillier savings.

b. The action of saving or economizing in expenditure (of money, time, labour, etc.); an instance of this, a reduction in expenditure.

1551 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 426 For the..sawing of expenssis to the citizens. 1640 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prud.* 119 No Alchymy to saving. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* ii. Wks. 1751 XII. 259 *Lord Smart.* Come, hang Saving! bring us up a Halfp'orth of Cheese. 1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 5 Fewer arches..will produce great savings in the expence. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* vi. 77 A great saving of time and labour. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. v. § 5 (1876) 45 Saving, in short, enriches, and spending impoverishes. 1864 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 257 The saving of fuel is much greater when turf and wood are employed. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 569 The object of the society being the encouragement of saving.

c. In games: cf. SAVE *v.* 21 c.

1889 *Field* 26 Jan. 123/1 It was only the brilliant saving of Holmes, and the sound defence of the backs generally, that averted two or three scores.

2. *concr.* A sum of money saved; chiefly *pl.* sums of money saved from time to time (by the exercise of economy) and put by or hoarded up.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 656/2 If he could save 500 or 1000*l.* a Year out of his Estate, he would certainly apply that Saving towards discharging his small Debts. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 215 My hard savings and earnings. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. ▶ 62 More than half my savings were laid out on repairs. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 239 She had three or four hundred pounds to bequeath, partly her own savings, and partly a legacy from a distant relative. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xliii. II. 132 The working man who puts his savings into the house he lives in.

b. In the navy: (see quot. 1815).

1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Savings of Provisions*, implies the bread, wine, spirits, beef, pork, butter and cheese, which have been saved by the different persons or messes in any of his Majesty's ships, from the established allowance of those species; and for which the purser pays them, at the expiration of one, two, or three months at furthest, agreeable to the credit prices stated in his instructions. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 8/2 The Committee dwells upon the difficulty of framing an ideal ration so long as canteens and the 'savings' system exist.

3. A salvo, reservation, saving clause. Now only in *Law.*

1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 171/1 All Offices, Fees, Rents and Annuitees..other than Rents services, be in no wise comprised or conteyned in this saving. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 9 The sauinges reseruinges and prouisions ..of the saide former act. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 367 Therein the tenant swore to bear faith to his sovereign lord, in opposition to all men, without any saving or exception. 1875 DIGBY *Real Prop.* viii. (1876) 343 The Statute of Uses contained a saving in favour of wills made before the first day of May, 1536. 1884 SELBORNE in *Law Times Rep.* L. 315/1 The savings from a repealing clause would not apply to any express antecedent provision of the Act inconsistent with them.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: † **saving bank:** see SAVINGS BANK; † **saving-box,** a money-box for savings; † **saving(s institution** = SAVINGS BANK.

1691 *D'Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* 151, I have since understood, that all Tradesmen in Italy do each of them keep a Saving-box, into which they put what Mony they can spare during the whole Year in order to their going in Pilgrimage. 1830 J. T. PRATT *Hist. Savings Banks* p. vij, The imperious necessity of Saving Institutions for the industrious Poor. 1832 *Encycl. Amer.* XI. 216/2 *Savings Institutions*, or, as they are often called *Savings Banks.*

Saving (sē·viŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SAVE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That delivers, rescues or preserves from peril; that protects or guards from anything undesirable.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xii[i.] 5 My hert is ioyfull in thy sauynge health. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxix. 29 There's No Living however without Law: and there's No Help for't in many Cases, if the Saving Equity be Over-rul'd by the Killing Letter of it. 1718 G. SEWELL *Proclam. Cupid* 15 Woman..A Guardian Angel, and a saving Saint. 1804

WORDSW. *Vaudracour & Julia* 194 The silver shower, whose reckless burthen weighs Too heavily upon the lily's head, Oft leaves a saving moisture at its root. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June xvi, And with that lie the wounded man they slew, Hiding the saving truth which well they knew.

b. *Saving piece*: a piece of wood to prevent injury to the machine in the process of cutting.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 160 [Machine for cutting the edges of books, banknotes, &c.]. Upon this latter board is placed the 'material to be cut', with a saving piece between it.

2. *Theol.* That delivers from sin and eternal death by the power of God's grace.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8097 Sceu vs þe sauuand tre, sir king. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 2 That they..might..obteine as well that sauing grace of imputation which taketh away all former giltines. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* 474 But to guide Nations in the way of truth By saving Doctrine. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 309 May I from his own Writings learn His Love, and Saving-Truths discern. 1712 POPE *Messiah* 107 But fix'd his word, his saving pow'r remains. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 11 That notion of a saving faith which is required in a Christian. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 207 Good works may exist without saving principles..; but saving principles..never can exist without good works.

3. *gen.* That delivers from moral or intellectual error; also, of a quality, 'redeeming', exempting from unqualified condemnation or censure. Often as a direct transference from sense 2.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 217 If euer thou beest mine, Kate, as I haue a sauing Faith within me tells me thou shalt. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 40 And drop at last, but in unwilling ears, This saving counsel, 'Keep your piece nine years'. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Dk. Wellington* iv, Foremost captain of his time, Rich in saving common-sense. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* ix. (1875) 373 The obedience demanded by theology and the knowledge demanded by philosophy are alike saving. 1902 ELIZ. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 210, I am not, I believe, without a saving sense of humour.

4. Accustomed to save, hoard up, or economize; avoiding unnecessary expenses; tending to reduce expenses; parsimonious, economical.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 88 b, If you will haue riches to be a help to Gentrie, it shall behooue a man rather to bee sauing, that he may be able to keepe himselfe rich. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Olive* I. i, Indeed that's the savingst way. 1625 BACON *Ess., Expense* (Arb.) 53 A Man had need, if he be Plentifull, in some kinde of Expence, to be as Sauing againe, in some other. As if he be Plentifull in Diet, to be Sauing in Apparell. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. x, Not but that she lov'd Mony, for she was of a saving Temper. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv., Butler* Wks. 1751 XIV. 26 Be saving of your Candles. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 225 A saving way, similar to this, was..from three sets of Punches..to cast six different Bodies of Letter. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, Mrs. Crawley was a saving woman and knew the price of port wine.

†**5.** 'Not turning to loss, though not gainful' (J.); neither winning nor losing. *Obs.*

1614 ? BRETON *I would & would not* lxxiii, When weather-beaten Sailes, with winde, & raine, Scarce make a Sauing-Voyage home againe. 1632 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 478 The greate plentie of corne that remaines uppon their handes, and which they cannot utter at any saveing price. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 94 A likely means, to get a saving-game. 1709 POPE *Let. Wycherley* 20 May *Lett.* (1735) I. 40, I can be content with a bare saving Game, without being thought an eminent Hand. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 97 ¶ 3 Silvio..was resolved to make a saving bargain of it. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 174, I have no great expectations from this plantation, though, I fancy, it will be a saving crop. 1826 SCOTT *Mal. Malagr.* iii, A country, where industry and skill can but play a saving game, at best, against national disadvantages. 1828–32 WEBSTER (with example: 'the ship has made a saving voyage').

6. Making a reservation; furnishing a proviso.

1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 853 With a Saving Clause, that it should not be drawn into Example. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* I, 'Will you prevent me?' asked Sir Mulberry, with a laugh. 'Ye-es, if I can;' returned the other, promptly. 'A very proper saving clause, that last', said Sir Mulberry; 'and one you stand in need of'. 1855 BROWNING *Before* 32 Now, enough of your chicane of prudent pauses, Sage provisos, sub-intents, and saving-clauses.

Saving (sē'·vin), *prep.* and *conj.* [absol. use of the pr. pple. of SAVE *v.* Cf. *excepting*.] **A.** *prep.*

1. Excepting, except; = SAVE *prep.* I.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1980 No man myghte gladen Theseus Sauynge his olde fader Egeus. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 139 His guidis wer all tane fro hym safeyng a mantill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 155 The thre first bukis he hes ourhippit quyte, Salfand ane litle twiching Polidorus, And the tempest sent furth be Eolus. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 4 Sauffing suche as ar attaynted. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* v. 4 Anie thing seem's due work to a carnal minde saving God's service. 1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 115 Saving Joanna Baillie, we had no very interesting people this season. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* viii. (1890) 302 There is no complete collection even of the poems, saving a privately printed one.

†**b.** *All saving but, ne saving but*: excepting only. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3707 A lande, as þe buke tellis, a large & a noble, All sauand bot serpentis & obire sere bestis. *Ibid.* 4037 Sen at we loy nouthire gemmes, ne Iuwels in cofirs, Pelour, pirre, ne perle, ne na proude wedis, Ne sauand bot to sustene with oure awen sary craftis.

†**c.** With pers. pron. in the nominative. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Rev.* ii. 17 And in the stone a newe name wrytten, which no man knoweth, savinge he that receaveth hit. [So 1611.] 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 254 Al their people [were] cast away, sauing they, who escaped by vsing great diligence. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* XXXV. 14 All this worlds glory seemeth vayne to me, And all their showes but shadowes, saving she.

†**d.** = but for; cf. SAVE *prep.* I d. *Obs.*

1540 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 173 And to deliuer thair schip agane, with hir pertinentis, safand awentour of see, to the saidis Thomas and Robert.

2. Without prejudice or offence to. *Saving (one's) reverence*: see REVERENCE *sb.* 5 b.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 522 And finally he dooth al his labour As he best myghte sauynge his honour To haste hem fro the mete in subtil wyse. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 79 Savynge his owne worschippe [*L. salvo honore suo*]. *c* 1400 [see REVERENCE *sb.* 5 b]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7587 Therfore, sothely me semeth, sauyng your wille, Hit is bettur þis bold kyng in the burgh hold. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More's Dial.* Wks. (1573) 253/2 When we say..I beshrew him sauing my charitie, there we take it for patience. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* I. (S. T. S.) I. 9 And zow (saifing zour dew honoris we speik). 1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 382 But sauing his wisedome, he must geue vs leaue to aunswere for our selues. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Answ. Let., Euen so I must write in this discourse, some time indeede as homely (sauing your worship) as you shall lightly see. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 71 Sauing your tale Petruchio, I pray let vs that are poore petitioners speake too? 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* I. 15 Sauing your tale, Sir, we poore Country-men doe not thinke it good to haue our Lands plotted out. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* II. ii, You lookt so grim, and, as I may say it, saving your presence, more like a Giant than a mortal man. 1837 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* I. iii. § 96 His own opinions, saving the authority of the church, he was willing to defend. 1907 ELIZ. ROBINS *Convert* ii. 24 There's nothing I should quite so much hate talking about as politics —saving your presence.

b. *Saving correction* [= F. *sauf correction*]: subject to correction; if I am not mistaken. *rare.*

1830 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) II. 65 It seems to me, saving correction, that this does not concern us.

†**3.** With the reservation of. *Obs.*

1477 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* VIII. 403 *note*, To be haldin..to the said Johne and Agnes..saulfing alanerly to ws and oure successouris the cariage of samekl of the saidis landis as the said Johne and Agnes occupiis [etc.]. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 43 Saifeand alwise the service to the other over-lord, for the lands haldin of him.

†**4.** In default of, for lack of. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1126, I will say for myself, sauyng a bettur, As me thinkes full throly with-outyn threp more.

B. *conj.*

1. = EXCEPT, SAVE *conjs.* **a.** With clause introduced by *that*. Also, † with ellipsis of *that*.

1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* v. 12 And what pleasure more hath he that possesseth them, sauynge that he maye loke vpon them with his eyes? 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. iii. 8 The wilde kinde of Buglosse is like to the small Buglosses..sauing the leaues be rougher, smaller, and narrower. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 269 The flesh..tasteth not much vnlike to the flesh of a dunghill-cocke, sauing that it is more tough. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* I. 40 The Count of Briançon's Affairs seemed to keep the same Situations, saving his Love more and more increased, as his Hopes abated.

b. With advb. phrase. Also (rarely) *saving for* = but for, except as regards.

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 168 Wilzam beand alegyt and fre of al aucht and wunt seruys, savand gyfe in tyme of harueyst we gader our tendis that he supple and help efter as we neyd. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxviii. 397 The duke of Lancastre..thought to haue gone and dyned in the frenchmens lodgynges (sauynge for the fyre and smoke that they had made wolde not suffre him). 1538 CRANMER in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 590 To graunte hensforth none other lycence to any other printer saving to theym, for the printyng of the said Bible. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump.* 1218 Delite in nothyng sauinge in doynge thy duty. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* v. 32 Whosoeuer shall put away his wife, sauing for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suff.* (1662) III. 54 Though the general breadth be but twenty [miles], saving by the Sea-side. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, Saving in the country I seldom go out until after dark. 1877 SWINBURNE *Note C. Brontë* 54 Saving for her 'plentiful lack' of inborn baby-worship.

†**2.** Provided that. *Obs.*

1592–3 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 111 The which Clergie government they would haue to be exempted from the temporall government, saving they speake not agaynst the Prynces government towching the supremacye.

Sa'vingly, *adv.* [f. SAVING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In saving, a sparing, or frugal manner.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1558) 47 To leade our life sauinglie [L. *parce*], chastelie, sagelie, and soberlie. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 167 They begin to quaff at *Ut*, savingly. 1883 R. G. WHITE *Wash. Adams* 7 Having lived savingly in the past on fewer hundreds a year.

2. *Theol.* In a way that ensures salvation. Common in the 17th c.

1629 H. BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 31 If any..come to beleeue otherwise then that Church teacheth them, to wit, sauingly, whence haue they that beleefe? 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iv. 120 The naturall man hath no power to know savingly the things of the Spirit of God. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 260, I seriously pray'd to God, that he would enable me to instruct savingly this poor Savage. 1877 W. BRUCE *Comm. Rev.* 5 Practical love is the last link in the chain which connects man savingly with his Maker.

Savingness (sē'·vinnės). *rare.* [-NESS.]

1. 'Tendency to promote eternal salvation' (J.).

a 1658 DURHAM *Comm. Rev.* II. iii. (1660) 123 One in the search and trial of the sincerity and savingueese of his Grace, is not only [etc.]. *a* 1677 MANTON *Christ's Eternal Exist.* vii. (1685) 193 Now if the fulness of the Godhead dwelt in him who gave this Covenant, we cannot deny either the certainty or the perfection, or the savingness of it.

2. The quality of being saving, sparing, frugal or parsimonious.

1727 BAILEY, vol. II, *Savingness*, Frugality. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* I. 32 The savingness of the race was noticeable in their clothing, which was the same they had brought with them from Bulgaria.

Savings bank. Orig. saving bank, also savings' bank. [f. *savings* pl. (see SAVING *vbl. sb.* 2) + BANK *sb.*3] An institution for encouraging thrift, by receiving small deposits at interest.

In the United Kingdom there are four classes of these institutions: *trustee savings banks*, which are under the control of the National Debt Commissioners (with whom the whole of their funds must be invested), but are locally managed by bodies of trustees, who are prohibited from receiving remuneration for their services; savings banks for the army, navy, and merchant seamen, established respectively by the War Office, the Admiralty, and the Board of Trade; *post office savings banks* (see POST OFFICE); and *voluntary savings banks*, which are private establishments not under government control.

1817 *Act* 57 *Geo. III*, c. 105 Sched. A, The sum above stated is the exclusive Property of the Saving Bank specified in this our Order. 1819 *Ann. Biography* III. 215 In him [*sc.* G. Rose] the..system of saving banks found an active friend and patron. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 150 The Regimental Savings' Bank. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* XXVI. (ed. 3) 242 Investments in Consols have been placed within the reach of the poor through the medium of the Savings Bank. *Ibid.* XLIII. (ed. 3) 382 Communications from the Savings Bank Department.

Saviour (sē'·vyəɹ). Forms: 3–4 sauveur, 3–5 sauveour, 3–5 saveour(e, 4 sauveor, saveor, -iur, -our, safeoure, *Sc.* safare, saweoure, 4, 6 sauvour, savioure, 4–6 savyour(e, 5 savyowur, 5–6 savyor, 6 salveour, -iour, *Sc.* salvior, salweour, 4, 6–8 (9 chiefly *U.S.*) savior, 4– saviour. [a. OF. *sauveour* (mod.F. *sauveur*) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *salvador*, It. *salvatore*:—late L. *salvātōr-em*, agent-n. f. *salvāre* to SAVE.]

1. One who delivers or rescues from peril.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4666 His nam þai chaunged, fra þat our, And cald him 'warld sauueour'. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 674 And petir till hym [Paul] þis can say:.. far wele ay..lledar of heile and saweoure!' 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlvi. 1 A greate sauioure vnto the electe of God. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 120 Saynct Genevefa is the saviour of Paris. 1611 BIBLE *Neh.* ix. 27 Thou gauest them sauiours, who saued them out of the hand of their enemies. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 163 Bold Scipio, saviour of the Roman state; Great in his triumphs, in retirement great. 1774 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) IV. 185 Those who..now dare to persecute the saviour of India. 1871 BROWNING (*title*) Prince Hohenstiel-Schwangau: Saviour of Society. 1887 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* i, To fields that bred them brave, The saviours come not home to-night.

b. *transf.* in nonce-uses.

c 1399 CHAUCER *Purse* 16 (Fairf.) Now purse that ben to me my lyves lyght And saveour as doun in this worlde here. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. 1st Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 297 Likewise shippes and boates..vpon the Seas are Sauiours, for they saue vs from the fury, rage, and tempest of the Sea. 1804 *Something Odd* III. 126 Thus died the means I had looked to as the saviour of myself and children.

2. He who saves mankind from sin and its consequences: as a title of God, and esp. of Christ (in the latter application often *Our Saviour*). Now always with capital S.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15015 Welcum sauuer! lang has þou ben, Al sal thoru þe be bett. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2087 He swore a ful grete othe, By Jesu Cryst our Saviour. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 66 Whi wolde god vr saueour suffre such a worm In such a wrong wyse the wommon to bigyle? *a* 1450 MYRC *Instr. Par. Priests* 12 3ef þow plese thy sauyoure 3ef thow be not grete clerk Loke thow moste on thys werk. 1472 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 16 In the name of our lord Ihesu Criste our Savyour: Amen. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2096 This is the vyrgyne, this is the blessit flour That Ihesu bur that is our salweour. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 354 The yere of our saueour in his humanite viii hundreth complet .v. and seuentie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 159 That Season..Wherein our Sauiours Birth is celebrated. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 3 At the sight of a Crosse or Crucifix I can dispense with my hat, but scarse with the thought or memory of my Saviour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 412 Hail Son of God, Saviour of Men. *a* 1738 SWIFT *Serm. Mutual Subj.* (1744) II Our Saviour tells us that every Man is our Neighbour. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. XXVIII. 121 Who is the king, the lawgiver, the redeemer, and the savior. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VII. 144 Millions shall live and die, Who ne'er shall call upon their Saviour's name. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 783 O God Almighty, blessed Saviour,..Uphold me, Father.

†**b.** *To receive one's Saviour, to give* (a person) *his Saviour*, etc.: common ME. phrases referring to the reception and administration of the Eucharist.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6434 But thou yeve me my Saviour At Ester. *a* 1450 MYRC *Instr. Par. Priests* 1883 And 3ef he aske hys sauyour, Gyf hym hyt wyþ gret honour. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xi. 706 Thenne asked she her saueour and as soone as she had receyued hit the soule departed from the body.

3. Saint Saviour. (See SAINT *a.* 3.) †**a.** Used in oaths. *Obs.* **b.** [= eccl. L. *ecclesia Sancti Salvatoris*], the title of the cathedral church of Rome, usually called St. John Lateran. **c.** The title of the monastic order founded by St. Bridget.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 5318 Þou wroche glotoun losainour, þou schalt þe 3eld, bi seyn Sauour. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2908 (Kölbing) Forth went anon sir Kay & ledde his fader, sir Antour, to þe chirche of seyn sauour. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Order of St. Saviour, is a religious Order founded by St. Bridget. 1873 J. H. BLUNT *Myrr. our Ladye* p. xi, The Monastery of St Saviour and St Bridget of Syon of the Order of St Augustine.

4. *attrib.* (appositive), as in *saviour-ark, -arm, -god, -youth*; also *saviour-like* adj.

1836 GLADSTONE in *Good Words* (1871) 366 Is there..no *saviour ark That..bears the children, loved of God and blest, Unto the land of rest? 18.. SHELLEY *Assassins* ii. Prose Wks. 1888 II. 158 How many holy liars..would his *saviour arm drag from their luxurious couches. 1738 WESLEY *Fs.* XXIV. vi, This is the chosen Royal Race That seek their *Saviour-God to see. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXX. 568 There are two commings of Christ, the one in lowlynes.., Poore, Lowely, and *Sauiourlyke; and the other in maiestie. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* X. XXXV, Laila rush'd between To save the *saviour Youth.

Hence **Sa·viouress,** a female saviour; **Sa·viour-hood, Sa·viourship,** the quality or fact of being a saviour.

c 1553 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1309/2 When men can not be content that she [*sc.* our Lady] was a creature saued, but as it were a sauioresse, not neding saluation. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xix. 143 Polycrita Naxia [expired] being saluted the Sauiouresse of her countrey. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. v. 91 Finding an Egyptian wronging an Israelite he kils him; shewing therein some signes of that Saviour-ship, which God intended him for. 1864 P. BROOKS *Myst. Iniq.*, etc. xviii. (1893) 317 What if there had been for ever a Saviourhood in the Deity. 1893 *Athenæum* 30 Dec. 919/2 The Indian Buddhist Cult of Avalokita and his Consort Tārā the Saviouress. 1900 R. J. CAMPBELL in *Chr. World Pulpit* 31 Jan. 71 The Saviourhood of Christ. 1905 MARZIALS *Browning* 49 Unfolding the mysteries of his saviourship of society.

Saviour, savir, obs. forms of SAVOUR.

†Sa·vite. *Obs.* [f. the name of Professor P. *Savi* + -ITE 1.] = NATROLITE.

1852 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* Ser. II. XIV. 64 *Savite.*

Savite, Saviur, obs. ff. SAFETY, SAVIOUR.

‖ Savoir faire (savwar fɛ̄r). [Fr.; *savoir* (formerly often miswritten *sçavoir*) to know, know how (inf. used subst.) + *faire* to do.] Tact, address; the instinctive knowledge of the right course of action upon any given emergency.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXV, He had great confidence in his own *savoir faire.* 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire,* He..show'd so much of the true *sçavoir faire.* 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Mar. 5/5 Sir Charles Warren has the versatility and *savoir-faire* which will enable him to do good work as Chief Commissioner of the London police.

‖ Savoir vivre (savwar vivr). [Fr.; *savoir* (see prec.) + *vivre* to live.] Ability in the conduct of life, knowledge of the world and of the usages customary in good society.

1755 MASON *Let. to Gray* (1853) 30 Though France is remarkable for its *savoir vivre* and Italy for its *virtù*, yet Germany is the reservoir of solid literature. 1806 J. PINKERTON *Recoll. Paris* II. 98 The use of red wine with oysters shews great want of sçavoir vivre. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xlviii, People with any *savoir vivre* don't make a fuss about such things.

‖ Savonette (sæ·vŏnet). Also 8 **savonet.** [Fr. (now written *savonnette*), dim. of *savon* soap: see -ET.] (See quots.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Savonet,* (*Fr.*) a Wash-Ball or other Sort of Compound, to wash the Face or Hands with. 1866 COOLEY *Toilet* 438 Savonettes; Soap Balls; Wash Balls..are made of any of the mild toilet-soaps, scented at will, generally with the addition of powdered starch or farina, and sometimes, sand.

b. *Savonette-tree* [=F. *arbre à savonnettes*], a W. Indian tree, *Pithecolobium micradenium,* the bark of which is used as a substitute for soap.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787.

Savor: see SAVOUR *sb.* and *v.*

Savorous (sē·vŏrəs), *a.* Also 4–7 **saverous,** 5 **savoruss,** *Sc.* **sawouris,** 5–7 **savourous.** [a. OF. *saverous, savorous* (mod.F. *savoureux*):—late L. *sapōrōsus,* f. *sapōr* SAPOR: see -OUS.]

1. Of good savour, pleasant to the taste.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 705 Many sawouris salss with sewaris he send. 1520 NISBET *N. T., Mark* ix. 49 Salt is gude; gif salt be vnsauorous, in quhat thing sal ye mak it sauorous? 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 170 There are two kindes of fishes breed in this Lake.., the one they call Suches, which is great and savorous. 1891 F. TENNYSON *Daphne,* etc. 274 Garden sweets.. And savorous herbs that lay together crush'd.

†b. *fig.* That is relished or enjoyed; delightful.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 84 Than yonge folk entenden ay For to ben gay and amorous, The tyme is than so savorous. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 366/4 Though she were resplendyssha*unt, wel sauerous and ryght ful of grete myracles. 1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 157 b, To gather that soote and sauorous frute which louers so egerly sue for at maydens handes. 1657 tr. *'Idiota's' Div. Lover, Holy Exerc.,* But if it proue..that some other worke, or Exercise, is, or would be more sauourous or rellishinge to thy Spirit.

†**2.** Full of relish, greedy. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. CXV. 138 b, Many notable lordes..somwhat to content his sauourous appetyte..sende oft tymes to hym grete sommes of money.

Hence **Sa·vorously** *adv.*

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XV. III, The tyme was somtyme that the peple lyvyd w^t out eryng of flesshe; & wer norysshyd saverously of the fruytes of the trees & of herbes.

Savory (sē·vŏri), *sb.* Forms: [1 sæþerie], 4–6 **saverey,** 5 **savereye, saferay, savry,** 5–6 **saveray,** 6–7 **savery(e, saverie, savorie,** 7 **savourie,** 7–9 **savoury,** 7– **savory.** [Ultimately from L. *saturēia*; the form-history is uncertain.

On the one hand the ME. *saverey* might descend (with substitution of v for ð) from OE. *sæðereie,* a early OF. **saðereie* (later *sarrie,* whence the dim. *sarriette* surviving in mod.Fr.) = Pr. *sadreia* (whence 16th c. Fr. dial. *sadriege,* Sp. *ajedrea,* and perh. by metathesis the synon. *sagerida*) :–L. *saturēiam.* On the other hand, Heresbach (*De Re Rustica,* 1570) cites an It. *savoreggia* and F. *savoreie,* and the latter appears in Cotgr. 1611 as *savorée.* The existence of these forms suggests that the ME. *saverey* may be an adoption of an unrecorded OF. form which had the *v* either as a phonetic development in hiatus (cf. F. *pouvoir* for early OF. *pooir*) or through the influence of *saveur* SAVOUR.

Independent adoption of the Latin word appears in OE. *satureġe,* ME. SATUREIE, MHG. *saterje* (G. *saturei*), It. *satureja,* corruptly *santoreggia,* Pg. *saturagem.*]

1. Any plant of the genus *Satureia* (N. O. *Labiatæ*), esp. the annual herb *Satureia hortensis* (Garden, Summer Savory), or the perennial *S. montana* (Mountain or Winter Savory), natives of the south of Europe, cultivated for use as flavouring ingredients in cooking.

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 314 Feldmoran sæd, sæþerian sæd, petorsilian sæd.] *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 37 *Satureia, tymbra idem,* saverey. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 32 Take sawge, persoly, ysope, saveray, Onyons gode. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Take a Capoun ..& sethe hym in Water, percely, Saereye & Salt. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tabula 374 Coriaundir, popy, saury, senuy, oynet. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 319/1 Saferay, s[a]*tureia, herba est.* 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 171 And ete alle maner fishe w^t..vergewes made with good erbis sawge & sauery. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 94 Summer sauerie. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CLXV. 460 Winter Sauorie is a plant resembling Hyssope. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 43 Wild Thyme and Sav'ry set around their Cell. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 79 Savory—sow of the summer and winter kind. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 967 Many Labiates, such as Thyme..Savoury,..&c., are used..to flavour sauces and dishes. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 289 The Winter Savory, *Satureja montana,* a hardy evergreen undershrub.

2. *Dyer's Savory,* the Saw-wort, *Serratula tinctoria.* 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *savory-seed*; *savory-leaved* adj.; **savory oil** (see quot.); **savory thyme,** *Thymus virginicus,* an American herb.

1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 394 *Aster Linarifolius.* *Savory-leaved Star Wort. 1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* II. 577 *Savory oil...both the summer savory, *Satureja hortensis,* L., and the winter savory, *S. montana,* yield by distillation..a volatile oil. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 580 Now *saury seed in faat vndunged londe Doth wel. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 105 Virginian or *Savory Thyme.

Savour, savor (sē·vəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 **savur,** 4 **safour, safer, sauvur, savoyre,** *Sc.* **sawure, -oure, -or, -eoure,** 4–5 **savore,** 4–6 **savoure, saver,** 5 **saveure, saveoure, savowre, savyr,** *Sc.* **sawour,** 5–6 **savir,** 6 **savre, savour, savyour, savar, sawr-,** 7 **saviour,** 8 *Sc.* **sa'r,** 4– **savour, savor.** [a. OF. *savur, savour* (mod.F. *saveur*) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *sabor,* It. *savore*:—L. *sapōrem* taste, savour (see SAPOR), f. *sapĕre* to taste.]

1. Quality in relation to the sense of taste; a specific mode of this quality, as sweetness, bitterness, etc.; a taste. Also in fig. context.

Now *rare,* exc. as denoting a touch or admixture of some taste other than the proper or prevailing taste of a substance, a 'smack'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102 Þes cos, leoue sustren, is a swetnesse & a delit of heorte, so unimete swote & swete, þet euerich worldes sauur is bitter þer azeines. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13404 He dranc and feild gode sauur. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9988 Hit semeþ brede, as be sy3t, And as brede, sauer haþ ry3t. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 686 Ne lef non oþer, crysteman, For safour ne coloure. For þat colour, ne þat sauour Ne beþ naust þer inne cryste. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 995 For his make was myst, þat on þe mount lenged In a stonen statue þat salt sauor habbes. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XV. 187 Þe larke..is loueloker of lydene, And swettur of sauour. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 208 By the tonge we felen the dyuersite of Sauores, Swetnes and bittyrnesse, Saltnesse and egyrnesse, and other Sauceoure. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 420 Servit thai war of mony dyuerss meis, Full sawris sweit. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* I. (1617) 7 Sounds, Sents, Savors, and Feelings. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 533 Cyders differ one from another, especially in colour and sauour or relish. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 342 Meats of noblest sort And savour. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 155 Viands of various kinds allure the taste Of choicest sort and savour; rich repast! 1774 tr. *Chesterf. Let. to Son* (8 June 1741), [The waters] are very heating, and disagreeable to the taste, having the savour of rotten eggs. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 233 Qualities of body; namely,—colour, savour, odour, feel [etc.].

b. The power of affecting the sense of taste, esp. agreeably; sapidity, tastiness.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 65 Ther wyne had nowder colour nor savor. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* III iv b, They ete black brede and metes of lytyll sauoure. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiii, I see auld fruit has little savour—our suffering and our services have been of an ancient date. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 12 The lads felt that when no more tales could be told of the king of Maremma, savour would be gone out of the goatsflesh roasted in the charcoal in the woods.

†c. Flavouring, spice. *Obs.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 187 Lette hungyre yeue the talent, and not Sause ne Sauoure.

2. A smell, perfume, aroma. *poet.* and *arch.*

[So occas. L. *sapor* and the verb *sapĕre* (Pliny). Some traces of this use occur in OF., though it seems to have been rare; in mod.Fr. it is entirely unknown.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1381 And cipres, be þe suete sauur, Bitakens ur suete sauueur. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11567 She brost a smel of grete sauour. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xii. 3 The hous is fillid of the sauour of oygnement. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6027 The boydies that ther ded lay, That hadde be sclayn In fight that day; Ther come of hem a foul sauour. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 142 Þus as þe flesche rostyd, þe sauer þerof went out into þe strete. 1481 CAXTON *Myrrour* II. vi. 75 [The panther] gyueth oute of his mouth so swete a savour and smell, that anon the bestes that fele it seche hym. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 8 Throw the sauar sanatiue of the sueit flouris. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II,* v. v, I was almost stifeled with the sauour. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 88. 349 Plagues oft arise..from noisome savours. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 88 Then Melfoil beat, and Honey-suckles pound, With these alluring Savours strew the Ground. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* XXII, For the sweet savour of the roasted meat Tempted him though immortal. 1871 FARRAR *Days of my Youth* ii. (1876) 20 Like a sweet savour, like a precious heritage, it lingers here.

b. in figurative context.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 He is leoflukest lif for to lokin uppon, and swotest to smeallen; ne his swote sauur, ne his almihte mihte..ne mei neauer littlin ne aliggen. *c* 1502 *Joseph Arim.* (E.E.T.S.) 51 Heyle, tresour of Glastenbury moost imperyall, In sauour smellynge swete as eglantyne.

c. In the translations of the Bible from Tindale (1526) onwards, *savour* occurs very freq. as rendering of Gr. ὀσμή, Heb. ריח *rēaḥ* smell; in the Old Testament *lit.* of the smell of sacrifices and incense regarded as pleasing to God, in the N. T. *fig.* chiefly with reference to spiritual sacrifices.

See, e.g., *Gen.* viii. 21, *Num.* xxviii. 13, *Ezek.* vi. 13, 2 *Cor.* ii. 15, *Eph.* v. 2.

d. Used *fig.* for: Repute, estimation; = ODOUR 4 b. Now only *poet.*

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* v. 21 Ye have made the sauoure of us to stynke before Pharao. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xv. (1640) 64 Since which time the bad sauour of his life came to the Popes nose, who sent a Legate to depose him. 1726 W. PENN in *Life* Wks. (1782) I. 53 These several Things agreed upon, being of good Savour and Report. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth* 377 Then came in hall the messenger of Mark, A name of evil savour in the land, The Cornish king.

3. In various uses, originally *fig.* from sense 1.

†a. Attractive quality, merit, value. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Salt bitocneð wisdom; vor salt 3iueð mete wordnesse & wisdom 3ifð sauur. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2839 (Bodl. MS.) Tofore þe kyng com on harpoure And made a lay of gret sauoure. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 72 Þauh hit on Englisch be dim and derk, Ne nabbe no sauer bi-fore a clerk. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 220 b, She had sothly the bame of good odour and sauoure in conuersacion.

†b. Character, style, sort. *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 258 This admiration Sir, is much o' th' savour Of other your new prankes. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* x. (1702) 153 Let the excellent and unmatchable ointments of Christ Jesus give an excellent savour to your works.

c. Essential virtue or property: with allusion to Matt. v. 13 (and Luke xiv. 34). Also, power to excite relish, interest.

1650 I. WEEKES *Truth's Confl.* i. 11 This is to put a nonsense upon the place, and to destroy the savor that is in it. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 334 Principles which are permitted to lie barren soon lose their savour. 1885 PATTISON *Mem.* 298 All the savour of life is departed.

d. A 'smack', tinge, or admixture.

1795 BURNS *'O ay my wife'* 5 Some sa'r o' comfort still at last, When a' my days are done, man. 1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* ii. 66 Practised by modern musicians when they wish to give an antique savour to any particular passage.

†**4.** Relish or taste for something; delight, satisfaction. *To catch* (*a*) *savour*: to acquire a taste or liking. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 We ne iuindeð swetnesse in none þinge þet we wel doð, ne sauur of heorte. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3047 To mete hadde he no savour To wyn, ne watyr, ne no lyeour. ?*c* 1400 LYDG. *Æsop's Fab.* Prol. 2 Wysdom is more of pris than gold in cofres To theym, that have savour in lettrure. *Ibid.* I. 65 Losengeours..Whiche have savour in slewth and sluggardy. *Ibid.* II. 101 When a iorrour haþe caught sauour ones To be forsworn, custom makeþ hym strong. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 393 Hast þou in me ony gretter sauour þan þat þou haddest first whan þou me sy. *c* 1430–40 *Abbey of Holy Ghost* in Horstm. *Hampole* I. 333 Plente of oyle, þat es for to hafe delyte and sauoyre in god. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* III iv, Good wynes, whereto the good heremyte tooke soo good a sauoure that he had..dranke soo moche, that he was dronke. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* II. iv. 140 When they had caughte a sauour in this holye daye loytering,..thei made a longe holy daye also of the whole seuenth yere.

†**5.** Perception, understanding. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) 79 Of this have I yet no savour, without better declaration. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 1–6 Christ..of whome they had a certayne sauour and vnderstandyng. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dialogue* iii, But as I can see no merit, Leading to this favour: So the way to fit me for it, Is beyond my savour.

Savour, savor (sē·vəɹ), *v.* Forms: 3 **savur(e,** 4 **savir, savyre, safer,** 4–5 **savere,** 4–6 **saver, savoure,** 5 **savre, savyr,** 4– **savor, savour:** *Sc.* 4 **sawer,** 5 **sawour,** 6 **sair-, sawr-,** 8 **sar, sa'r.** [a. OF. *savourer, savorer* (mod.F. *savourer*) = Pr. *saborar,* Sp., Pg. *saborear,* It. †*savorare* (now in learned form *saporare*):—late L. *sapōrāre,* f. *sapōr-* SAVOUR *sb.*]

I. To have a savour.

†**1.** *intr.* Of food or drink: To taste (well or ill); chiefly, to have an agreeable taste. Often with *dative*; hence *trans.* to be agreeable to the taste of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3647, I sal þam dight til his be-houe, A mete als he was wonto loue; It sal him sauur al to will,

Ete he sal þer-of his fill. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 249 Ete not, Ich hote þe til hunger þe take, And sende þe sum of his sauce to sauer þe þe betere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 48 For soothly, there is no thyng that sauoureth so wel to a child as the Milk of his Norice. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 17 þer was noo licoure that savoured his mowthe or that he myȝhte discerne in that hit made his chekes colde. 1530 PALSGR. 698/2 This potage savoureth, whiche we use whan the meate is sodden to the pottes bottome. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 129 In the fourth day, to sprinckle your seedes with water,..for by that meanes (saith he) they will sauour much better. 1634 G. HERBERT tr. *Cornarus' Treat. Temperance* 8 That Proverb, wherewith Gluttons use to defend themselves, to wit, *That which savours, is good and nourisheth.* 1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* 119 Water..that's heated or boil'd in a Copper vessel for a whole day together, savours not at all, or not so much, of the Copper.

† **b.** *fig.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxix. 109 To whom þou sauorist, what shal not sauore him ariȝt? and to whom þou sauorist not, what þinge may turne him to mirþe? [L. *cui tu sapis...Et cui tu non sapis.*] 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 Syth the mater is all spirituall, it shall but lytell sauour or please the taste of them that be carnall.

2. *intr.* To give forth a (specified) scent or odour; to smell *of* something. *arch.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 6368 (Gött.) Þa wandis..euer þai held lijf and flour, Sauirand wid a suete sauur. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1396 As a medue hyt was grene, .. And saueryd swete as spycerye. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 275 þer in saym & in sorȝe þat sauoured as helle, þer was bylded his bour. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 50 For þer nys no brent sence þat sauereth so swete yn mannys nase, as dope a deuote oreson yn Goddys nase. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIV. 34 'Fy', quod the Feynd, 'Thow sairis of blek, Go clenge the clene and cum to me'. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 184 Was dulcet & swete to yᵉ mouth..& sauoured wele to the nose. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 18 As the saffrone bagge..doth euer after sauoure and smel of the swete saffron that it conteyned. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 111 Parthenium ..bringeth forth a white floure, sauouring like an apple, and having a bitter tast. 1870 W. MORRIS *Earthly Parad.* III. IV. 218 The spilt blood savoured horribly.

† **b.** Without qualifying word: To smell offensively, stink. *Obs.*

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* 121 b, Whan he [*sc.* Lazarus] in the same foure dayes had lyen So that hys body beganne to sauoure. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 348 Like the snuffe of a candle, which all men looked upon even now when it shined, and now it so savours, that they tread it under foot.

3. *fig.* † **a.** To be agreeable or pleasing. Const. *to* or *dative. Obs.* **b.** With qualification: To be *well* or *ill* pleasing. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25885 'Man', he sais, 'quin cuth þow fele Hu pine o þis lijf sauure wele'. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 102 But ȝit sauereþ me nat þi siggynge. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 4 That lyke it [the service] goyth dayle as throughe your mouthes so let yt synke & sauoure contynually in youre hartes. *a* 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 94 This advise could not savour to that young Nobleman. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 275 All the sermon of that daie..was of this and such other like stuffe, as not pleasinge or sauoringe unto Christian eares. 1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 78 Nothing savours with me; I take comfort in nothing. 1842 TENNYSON *Vision of Sin* xxiv, What is loathsome to the young Savours well to thee and me.

4. a. *To savour of*: to show traces of the presence or influence of; to have some of the characteristics of; to have the appearance of proceeding from.

1548 CRANMER *Catech.* Ep. Ded., [We] sauer longest of that thynge that we fyrste receaue and taist of. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccles. Hist.* 110 The phrase of that epistle sauoreth very muche of the Greeke tongue. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* To Rdr. A 1, The Idle Humerous world must heare of nothing that..sauors of Antiquity. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iii. 9 The matter of that Epistle savoureth of the purer times of the Church. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *A 2, I have written nothing which savours of Immorality or Profaneness. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* I. 120 Your courtship sars sae rankly O' selfish interest. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. x, Such solicitations from superiors too often savour strongly of commands. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 234 But the institutions savour of superstition in their very principle. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 332 Cromwell, whose actions savoured of the boldest logic, was a confused speaker. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 47 A spectacular act..savours of the magician.

b. *trans.* in the same sense.

1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* ii. 109 For it neyther savoureth the spirite of God, neither yet any modest and good nature, but [etc.]. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses Looking-gl.* III. iii. (1638) 53 Would thou wert worth the killing. *Colax.* A good wish, Savouring as well discretion, as bold valour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1043 Wilful barrenness, That..savours onely Rancor and pride. 1906 *Athenæum* 23 June 758/2 'One ail for thee and me', instead of 'wail'; 'went by her like their flames', instead of 'thin flames'—these savour the printer.

II. To give a savour to.

† **5.** *trans.* To flavour with salt or spice. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 825 þenne ho sauerez with salt her seuez vchone. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 243 Flesche i-savered i-not by what vertu of herbes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 75 Kyddes & lambres, & kalffes isaveryde with agresta. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 494 Yf hit be not sauered worth a flie, Olyues grene ygrounde in hit let stie. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 192 Powderit with prymross, sawrand all with clowiss. 1693 LYDE *Retaking 'Friend's Adventure'* 9 Beef without any Salt to savour it.

† **6.** To impart a taste or flavour to. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9986 Þarfore hys wysdom, hys owne rede, Sauerþ hyt [Christ's flesh] yn wyne and brede.

7. To season, flavour; to give tone or character to.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 44 These old huddles, hauing ouercharged their gorges with fancie, accompt al honest recreation meere folly, and hauing taken a surfet of delight, seeme now to sauour it with despight. 1889 J. JACOBS *Æsop's Fables* I. 196 He..has left out..that pinch of humour that has savoured the fabulist.

8. To impart a savour or scent to.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* ii. 28 On many a petition, savoured with a scent of potheen, did he turn his back.

III. To perceive a savour.

9. *trans.* To taste, to perceive by the sense of taste. In mod. use, to taste with relish, to dwell on the taste of; also *fig.*, to give oneself to the enjoyment or appreciation of.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. CXXIX. (1869) 125 And ȝ shulde neuere be at ese if ȝ sauowrede swete thing. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvi. 373 (Add. MS.) When he sauours the soure barke with oute for bitternesse he leuyth the swete kyrnelle with in. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 17 June 11/1 We savour at our leisure the delicate satire which we were too excited to appreciate duly. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1762 Deal each judge His dole of flattery and feigning,—why, He turns and tries and snuffs and savours it As an old fly the sugar-grain. 1883 'HOLME LEE' *Loving & Serving* I. iii. 42 He moved hither and thither about his silent house,.. savouring his strange pain. 1889 MAX O'RELL *Jacques Bonhomme* 70 Savoring in advance the long list of dainties for the day.

† **b.** To relish, enjoy (flavours). Also *absol. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 17 He wolde seie þat he savered water, for hit kelede his mouþ and his jowes. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16990 For tyl I hadde gone to Scole with Trybulacion, I savoured fful lytil in the soote mylk of grace. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 65 If a man giue them any deintier meate, they can not sauour it, and suche as they sauoure not, they vtterly dispise.

10. To be conscious, or sensible of (an odour). † Also *absol. Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXX. 19 What shal profiten sacrifice to the maumet? and forsothe he shal not eten, ne sauouren [Vulg. *nec odorabit*]. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 191 And þerwyth he felde þe swetyst smell þat euer he saverde. *a* 1542 WYATT *That the Season of Enjoyment* 23 What vaileth the flower To stand still and wither; If no man it savour It serves only for sight. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 39 (1st Qo.) Filths sauor but themselues. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 Sept., You have the moor pretty much to yourself, can savour all its wild perfume, and listen to all its cries.

11. To relish, like, care for. *Obs.* or *arch.*

So *thou savourest* in all versions of Matt. xvi. 23 from Wyclif 1380 to 1611; Vulg. *sapis*, Gr. φρονεῖς, Revised Version 1881 *thou mindest.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 1, I sauyre noghte joye that with Jhesu es noghte mengede. *c* 1390 CHAUCER *Truth* 5 Savour no more than thee bihove shal. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 1 To þese both þe holy apostell saide he was dettour, to paye ech of hem aftir þat he sauoured. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 148 b, Some blynded with sensualite & carnall pleasure, sauouryng nothynge but yᵗ onely that is delectable to yᵉ body. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* (Shaks. Soc.) 77 Those that are earthly minded savor not the things that are of God. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. iv, Sauours himselfe alone, is onely kind And louing to himselfe. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* I. i, Beauteous Penthea wedded to this torture By an insulting brother,..he savours not humanity, Whose sorrow melts not into more than pity, In hearing but her name. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 23 He [Worldly Wiseman] savoureth only the doctrine of this world. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1698) IV. 223 Those false Relishes and depraved Tastes of the Soul which dispose it to Mind and Savour the Earth, and Earthly things. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xviii. 376 To give prominence to such rumours as they know will be savoured at their own Court.

† **12.** To perceive, apprehend; to discover traces of. Also, to experience. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xciii. 8 The vnwis, withouten kunynge, & fulis, withouten puruyaunce of the tother warld, that ere in noumbire of cristen men, vndirstandis and sauyrs this. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (Add. MS.) 110 But wolde god, that wrechid man.., sauered and vndirstode, and ordeyned for his laste Ende! 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 248 Such seldom savour fortune's happiness. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 146 That we, in hartis, may sauour Thy mercy and thy fauour. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvii. (1612) 317 By now, perhaps, thow sauorests [*sic*] some Godhead. 1659 HEYLIN *Certamen Epist.* 8 In your writings I savour a spirit so very distant from my disposition, that I have small hopes that my words will escape your displeasure.

† **b.** *To savour out*: to scent out, get wind of. *Obs.*

1714 RAMSAY *Elegy John Cowper* i, There's none..Could sa'r sculdudry out like John.

† **c.** *intr.* To have a suspicion *of. Obs. rare*—¹.

1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. ii, Sister, I see you saueur of my wiles.

Savour, obs. form of SAVIOUR.

† **Sa·vourable,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [a. OF. *savourable*, f. *savourer* to SAVOUR.] Pleasing to the taste.

1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. vi. 200 Loue..that maketh..bitter thynges swete & sauorable.

Savoured (sē¹·vəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SAVOUR *sb.* + -ED.] Having savour, with defining adv.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 51 Hearbs and fruits..Not.. sweet and well savored, But direfull deadly black. 1609 *Shakes. Tr. & Cr.* Ep. ¶ 2 (1st Qo.), So much and such sauored salt of witte is in his Commedies, that they seeme.. to be borne in that sea that brought forth Venus.

Savourer (sē¹·vəɹəɹ). [f. SAVOUR *v.* + -ER¹.] One who savours (in various senses).

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. ii. § 61. 172 She was..a great Savourer and Favourer of Wickliffe his Opinions. 1898 MONEY-COUTTS *Rev. St. Love* 3 Be all the blight of God's immediate ban on savourers of poison at the feast of Love.

Savourie, obs. form of SAVORY and SAVOURY.

Savourily (sē¹·vərĭli), *adv.* Also **savorily.** [f. SAVOURY *a.* + -LY².]

1. In a savoury manner, with a pleasing smell or taste, appetizingly. Also, † with relish or appetite.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (Bodl. MS.), A serpent..eteþ more sauoryly [*ed.* 1495 sauvurly] þanne þaie dede bifore þe chaungynge of þe skynne. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. II. iii. 81 Apples or peares first dried, then prepared with cinamon and butter very sauourily. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) 49, I can eat Foxes and Kites as savourily as if it were Mutton. 1790 BLAKE in Gilchrist *Life* (1863) I. 86 Here and there I saw one savourily picking the flesh off of his own tail. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Old China*, We would eat our plain food savorily. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 679 Two small pullets were brought in,..smelling most savouryly. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 103 Roasted meat, With basting oil so savourily replete!

† **2.** *fig.* Heartily, pleasurably; appreciatively. Also, in religious use (cf. SAVOURY *a.* 2 b).

1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. iii. (1644) 38 Yet that he commanded the allowance of adulterous and injurious divorses for hardnes of heart,..they can very savourily perswade themselves. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 12 Which being seen, and savourily known, I admired my former ignorances. 1676 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1883) III. 147 A blind man prayed pertinently and savourily.

Savouriness (sē¹·vərinĕs). [f. SAVOURY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being savoury, in various senses of the adj.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. i. (1495) 438 The.. lyghtenesse and sauerynesse therof [*sc.* of reyne water] shewyth the subtylnesse of her substaunce. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 72 These be my priests, the seasning of the earth Which wil not leese their Savrinesse, I trowe. 1599 MINSHEU *Span. Gram.* 82 It is great sauorines to dine or eate, and not to paie any shot. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 53 This was the tenour of the Testimony..which they witnessed with great savouriness and assurance. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 277 All sorts of vegetables have a savouriness and flavour, from rich sauces, that are absolutely wanted to our greens boiled in water. 1801 *Sketch of Paris* I. XXXVIII. 455 The savouriness of their cooking. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I. v, His mental palate..found a savouriness in a quotation from Sophocles or Theocritus that was quite absent from your text in Isaiah or Amos.

Savouring (sē¹·vəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAVOUR *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the vb. SAVOUR, in various senses.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 885 Thy fiue wittes, that been sighte, herynge, smellyng, tastynge or sauourynge, and feelynge. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxii. (1869) 42 Ne that shulde not meeue thee that at the taast, and at the sighte, at the smellinge, and at the sauouringe, bred and wyn it may seeme thee. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 59 Touchinge, and cussinge and saweringe made of fals delite that Eue dede to ete the apille. 1574 tr. *Lyfe* 70 *Archb. Canterb.* C v b, If they had been closed in lead, and well spiced,.. they might haue been kepte from sauoringe yet a while.

† **2.** *concr.* A perfume. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* v. 8 Golden fioles ful of saueringis, whiche ben the preyers of seyntis.

† **3.** Something that gives a faint notion. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. Prol. 44 ȝit with your leif, Virgill ..I wald..Write sum savoring of thi Eneados.

Sa·vouring, *ppl. a.* [f. SAVOUR *v.* + -ING².]

1. Having a (defined) smell or taste.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. i. 2 The highe Almaignes do call it ..sweete smelling, or sauering Southrenwood. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 44 Sueit sairing flouris. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 39 Cynamon water ..helpeth a bad or evil savouring breath.

2. Pleasing, relishing.

1598 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. xciv, He who had no thought so hie to clime (With savouring comfort still allur'd along).

3. Imparting savour or relish.

1886 *Athenæum* 17 Apr. 517/2 The lotos there has its sweets sharpened with a savouring bitterness.

Savouringly (sē¹·vəriŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a relishing manner.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* iv. 9 And mourn savouringly and soakingly, with a deep and down right sorrow. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 311 You would..have done just what I did,—smilingly, gently, savouringly, peel, slice, and eat, three raw turnips.

Savourless (sē¹·vəɹlĕs), *a.* Also 6 **saverles,** *Sc.* **sairles,** 7, 9 **savorless,** 9 *Sc.* **sareless, saurless.** [f. SAVOUR *sb.* + -LESS.] Destitute of savour; tasteless or odourless; of immaterial things, void of interest or efficacy, insipid.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. XX. (1495) 67 The tongue is sauourles that he maye the better take all maner sauour of thynges. 1552 HULOET, Sauourles or wythoute sauoure, *inodorus.* 1627 DONNE *Serm.* xxii. (1640) I. 223 In my grave..I..shall be all insipid, tastlesse, savourlesse dust. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 128. 319 The rose-tree hath a sweet flowre, but a savour-lesse root. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xxxiv. 8 All flesh is savourles to him that hath tasted of the Spirit. 1886 BRUCE *Mirac. Elem. Gosp.* ii. 74 Cast out as savourless salt. 1907 *Outlook* 12 Oct. 451/2 Most of his jests when repeated seem almost savourless.

Hence **Sa·vourlessness.**

1841 H. F. CHORLEY *Music & Manners* III. 179 The intrinsic savourlessness of the Mass which it [the orchestra] was performing, a *fade* composition by Morlacchi.

† **Sa·vourly,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 **saverly.** [f. SAVOUR *sb.* + -LY¹.] = SAVOURY *a.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 226, I hope no tong most endure No sauerly saghe say of þat syȝt. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxiii. 383/2 Manna..was a good & sauorly nourishment. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 669 The burning of flesh of it selfe is not so pleasant and sauourly.

†Sa·vourly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4–6 saverly, 5 saverely, 6 savor-, saverlie, 6–7 savourely, savorly, 5–7 savourly. [f. SAVOUR *sb.* + -LY 2.]

1. With enjoyment; with relish; pleasantly; agreeably; keenly.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1937 Þen acoles he (þe) knyȝt, & kysses hym þryes, As sauerly & sadly as he hem sette coupe. *c* 1440 *Yorkh Myst.* xxix. 80 Wherfore we counsaile you This cuppe sauerly for to kisse. 1495 [see SAVOURILY 1, quot. 1398]. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* H ij, The labouryng man..feedes sauerly on brown bread, thin drynke, and a poore supper. 1637 *Brief Relat. Passages Star Chamber* 25 A Bee came and pitched on the Nosegay, and began to suck the flowers very savourly. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 350 The Cannibals feed on Humane Flesh, and will most savourly gnaw a Shoulder of Man. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, He..snuffs up Incense so savourly, when 'tis offer'd him by a fair Hand.

b. Of weeping: Passionately, bitterly.

1662 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. iv. § 4 Other sometimes bearing the Image of Christ in her arms, weeping savourly. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* ii, Then I fell a-crying as savourly as I did before, when I thought I had lost it.

2. With understanding; with appreciation; wisely; effectively.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. i. 2 For who euere wol understonde þe wordes of crist pleinly and sauerely, he must studie to conforme all his lif to his lyf. 1529 MORE *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 301/1 But than he speaketh so sauorlie hereof, that it well appereth of hys wyse wordes he neyther canneth anye skill therof, nor neuer came in the house. 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. vi. § 1 (1622) 246 Which folly that wise King derided very sauorly. 1663 BUNYAN *Chr. Behav.* Wks. 1692 I. 595/2 For Christians to commune savourly of God's Matters one with another, it is as if they opened to each others Nostrils Boxes of Perfume. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* vi. 119 Which life I conceive S. Paul describes very savourly, when he saith, That the Kingdom of Heaven is.. righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Savoury (sē·vəri), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 savure, *compar.* savurure; *β.* 4–5 savery, savori, 4–6 saverey, 5 saveray, sauvury, 6 savrie, savourye, *Sc.* sau'rie, 6–7 savourie, savorie, 7 saverie, 4–9 savory, 6– savoury; *γ. contracted* 5 sarry. [Early ME. *savure*, app. a. OF. *savouré* sapid, fragrant, pa. pple. of *savourer*: see SAVOUR *v.* In the 14th c. the ending was associated with the native *-y*, so that the adj. was apprehended as f. SAVOUR *sb.* + -Y.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pleasing to the taste; appetizing; agreeable.

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* ix. 48 Forsoth euery man schal be saltid, or maad sauori, with fier. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 365 At Glyndalkan aboute þe oratorie of Seint Keynewyn wilewys bereþ apples as it were appel treen, and beeþ more holsom þan sauory. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xix. 65 Tho þat sitten in þe sonne-syde sonner aren rype, Swettour and sauerlour. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 136 Þai er riȝt sauoury in þe mouth. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cxcii. (1636) 172 Cookery..may make that savoury, which of it selfe is unsavoury. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxvii. 31 And hee also had made sauoury meate, and brought it vnto his father. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 300 All..with keen gust the sav'ry viands share. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 35 The natives of some part of Australia eat a kind of caterpillar..of which they compose a dish to them highly savoury. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* v, Savoury was the smell of fried pilchard and hake; more savoury that of roast porpoise.

b. Gratifying to the sense of smell; fragrant.

Now rare exc. in negative context: cf. *unsavoury*.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 209 b, They..perfume the house with the graines of Juniper, and other savoury thinges [L. *aliisque rebus odoratis*]. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. i, Cruncher's apartments were not in a savoury neighbourhood. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xiii. 11 Perfume savoury.

2. *fig.* **a.** Pleasant; acceptable.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1527 Mi swete lif, se swoteliche he smeched me & smealled þat al me þunched sauure & softe þat he sent me. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 39 Ah schal ifinden him ai swettere & sauurure. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 405 If it be wikke, a wonder thinketh me, Whenne every torment and adversitee That cometh of him, may to me savory thinke. 1545 *King's Primer, Graces* **iv, O Lord Jesu Christ without whom nothing is swete nor sauery,..blesse vs & our supper. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 463 One said there was no Sallets in the lines, to make the matter sauoury. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. (1716) III. 57 The sense of having lived well..is a far more solid and savoury pleasure than the most ample revenue can afford. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlix. 11 The delicious parable, savouriest of all Scripture to rogues. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 100 Something taking in the way of colour, a good, savoury choice of words.

†b. In religious phraseology. (*a*) Full of spiritual 'savour'; spiritually delightful or edifying. (*b*) Having the savour of holiness; of saintly repute or memory. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 89 The maner of outring which is sauory in a sermonyng. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 49 An other [wyse] is to take hede to the letter only, after the lytterall understondynge. And thys ys sometyme sauory, sometyme bareyne, after that the letter ys. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 2354/2 Many such like answers and reasons, mery, but sauery..proceaded from that man. 1626 BP. HALL *Contempl. O. T.* xxi. i. 336 A forced discontinuance, makes deuotion more sauoury, more sweet to religious hearts. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. III. 230 Practised by the savouriest of people called Quakers. 1726 PENN in *Life* Wks. (1782) I. 98 Leaving the Man in a sensible and savoury Frame. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 295 His letters and speeches are, to use his own phraseology, exceeding savoury... He had a text of the Old Testament ready for every occasion.

(*b*) 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 4 Hath made your name sweet and savoury in the Church of God. 1731 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 487 You need not be told what a great loss this Church will be at by this good and worthy gentleman's death, whose name will be for ever savoury in this Church.

3. Used, in contradistinction to *sweet*, as the epithet of articles of food having a stimulating taste or flavour.

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 157 If you would have it baked savoury, season it with Pepper, Salt, Cloves [etc.]. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 283 Pigeons in Savory Jelly. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 278 Omelette, a Savoury one.

B. *sb.* A savoury dish (see A. 3); *spec.* a cooked dish, flavoured with appetizing ingredients, served at the beginning or end of dinner as a stimulant to appetite and digestion.

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 138 Another way for a savory. 1844 TUPPER *Heart* xvii. 168 The board was overloaded with solid sweets and savouries. 1896 ANTHONY HOPE *Phroso* i, 'Why, how early you two have dined!' cried Beatrice. 'You're at the savoury, aren't you? We've only just come.'

Savoury, Savowr(e: see SAVORY, SAVOUR.

Savoy (săvoi·). Also 6 Savoie, Savoye. [a. F. *Savoie*, the name of a region of S. E. France, south of the Lake of Geneva.]

1. In full, *Savoy cabbage* (†*cole*, †*colewort*, †*kail*, *sprouts*). A rough-leaved hardy variety of the common cabbage, much grown for winter use.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. vi. 552 Sauoye Colewurtes. 1597 GERARDE *Herball* II. xxxvi. 247 Sauoie Cole is also numbred among the headed Coleworts or Cabbages. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* lxxxvi, The Savoy Cole and the Cole-flory ..must be sowed in April. 1689 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 353, 1 unce Savoy kaell. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* § 11 The Broccoli from Naples..are very delicate, as are the Savoys. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 132 The Savoy Cabbage, which is one of the best sort and very hardy. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 58 Savoys Forced and Stewed. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 132 To boil Savoy Sprouts. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 57 There is a vulgar idea..that Savoy cabbages are improved by exposure to frost. 1856 GLENNY *Gard. Every-d. Bk.* 17/1 Frosts, that will kill all other greens, will leave Savoy Sprouts.. untouched. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 287/2 The savoys come into use in autumn, and continue until the spring.

2. In full, *Savoy biscuit*. A kind of sponge-biscuit, made of finger-shaped pieces of paste covered with sifted sugar which when baked are joined together in pairs; so also *Savoy drop*, *ring*. Similarly *Savoy cake*, a large sponge cake baked in a mould; also called a *Savoy mould*. **Savoy bag**, a bag with a narrow orifice through which the paste for making the biscuits is laid out.

1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housw.* (ed. 9) Suppl. 10 Slips of bread cut long like Savoy biskets. 1822 *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 4) 494 Savoy Cake, or Sponge Cake in a Mould. 1854 G. READ *Compl. Biscuit & Gingerbr. Baker's Assist.* (ed. 2) 76 Savoy Cakes...Almond Savoy Cakes. *Ibid.* 77 Savoy Biscuits and Drops. 1862 FRANCATELLI *Eng. & Foreign Confectioner* 96 These Savoy biscuits should present a smooth surface, and be of a light fawn colour. 1866 *Massey's Biscuit Bk.* 3 Savoy Drops...Savoy Rings. 1889 R. WELLS *Bread & Biscuit Baker* 47 The Savoy Biscuits must be laid out from a savoy bag on 'cap' paper one half round and one half long. The French Savoys must be laid out oval, and when baked two are to be put together. 1892 *Encycl. Pract. Cookery* (ed. Garrett) I. 138/2 A Biscuit-bag, sometimes called a 'savvy-bag' being used very much to prepare Savoy Biscuits.

†Savoy·an, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* = SAVOYARD.

1601 E. A. *True Disc. Queen's Voy.* title-p., Herevnto is annexed, the first Sauoyan; wherein is set forth the right of the conquest of Sauoy by the French, and the importance of holding it. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 46 They are vsed by the Lotharingians and Sauoyens for meat. 1611 COTGR., *Rave de Savoye*, the Sauoyan Rape, the greatest kind of Turnep. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 94 The Savoyan Agents bringing more Gold in their hands than on their backs.

Savoyard (săvoi·ard), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *savoyard* (fem. *-arde*), f. *Savoie*: see SAVOY and -ARD.]

A. *sb.*

1. A native or inhabitant of Savoy.

Well known in other countries as musicians itinerating with hurdy-gurdy and monkey.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 271 The steward of the houshold is the marquis de Coudray,..a Savoyard. 1770 [see HURDY-GURDY 1]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 517/1 They [*sc.* marmots] are taken by the Savoyards and others principally that they may be exhibited by those itinerants. 1906 W. WALKER *Calvin* vii. 166 The Savoyards pressed Geneva and made travel unsafe on the roads.

2. An inhabitant of the precinct of the Savoy Palace in London, which formerly possessed the right of sanctuary.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Rum-dukes*, the boldest Fellows amongst the Alsatians, Minters, Savoyards, &c. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 775 At length, in 1697, a bill for abolishing the franchises of these places..received the royal assent. The Alsatians and Savoyards were furious.

B. *adj.* Belonging to Savoy.

1820 RANKEN *Hist. France* VII. i. VII. 238 The Savoyard army. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* ii, Why baron, who would have thought to meet you thus in a Savoyard inn?

Savoyre, savre, obs. forms of SAVOUR.

Savrie, Savry, Savte, Savur, obs. ff. SAVOURY, SAVORY, SAFETY, SAVOUR.

Savvey, savvy, variant forms of SAVEY.

Savyour, savyr(e, obs. forms of SAVOUR.

Savyte, obs. form of SAFETY.

Saw (sǭ), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 sagu, saga, 4 sagh, 4–7 sawe, 5 sae, saghe, saȝe, 5– saw. [OE. **sagu* str. fem., in oblique cases *sage* (also *saga* wk. masc.) = OHG. *saga*, MLG., MDu. *sage* (Du. *zaag*), ON. *sg* (Sw. *såg*, Da. *sav*, † *saug*): —OTeut. **sagā* str. fem.; the ablaut-var. **segā* appears in OHG. *sega* (MHG. *sege*, mod.G. *säge*); cogn. w. OE. *seax* (: —**sahso-*) knife, SAX, f. pre-Teut. root **sok-*: **sek-* to cut; cf. L. *secāre* to cut.]

1. A cutting tool consisting of a plate (or, in some forms, a band or a tube) of metal (usually steel), one edge of which is formed into a continuous series of teeth. (Some saws for cutting stone are without teeth.) In the original form of the tool, represented by the HAND-SAW, and in some varieties of more modern invention, e.g. the pit-saw (see PIT *sb.*1 14), the saw is moved backwards and forwards, each movement in one direction deepening the groove or 'kerf' made in the wood or other material to be cut. In other varieties, as the circular saw and the band-saw, a continuous movement in one direction is substituted for the reciprocating movement.

Ordinarily *saw* means the complete instrument including the handle, frame, or the like, necessary to fit it for use; but sometimes the word is applied to the 'saw-plate' or 'saw-blade' alone.

Also with defining words, indicating special varieties of form, structure, mode of operation, or purpose, as in *band saw*, *circular saw*, *compass saw*, *drag saw*, *endless saw*, *frame saw*, *fret saw*, *gate saw*, *hand saw*, *ice saw*, *joint saw*, *keyhole saw*, *lock saw*, *meat saw*, *mill saw*, *panel saw*, *pit saw*, *rabbet saw*, *rip saw*, *sash saw*, *tenon saw*, *web saw*. These terms, so far as they have been thought to require notice in this Dictionary, are treated either under their first element or as main words. A considerable number of kinds of saws used for surgical purposes are distinguished by the names of their inventors, as *Butcher's*, *Ferguson's*, *Gowan's*, *Hey's*, *Liston's saw*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 106/22 *Serrula*, saga, *uel* snide. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263/1 He sceal.. habban..æcse, adsan, saȝe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27376 Away to sagh þam ilk crote, wit þe sagh o penance treu þat þe frut spring efter neu. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 525 File sawe and spindelle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 383 Þis Perdix..took a plate of iren, and fyled it, and made it i-toþed as a rugge boon of a fische, and þanne it was a sawe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4096 A burly best with a bake as bedell as a saȝe. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 75 After that Ysay was kytte with a sae of tree. 1533 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* VI. 155 Ane saw send to the werkmen in Lochaber to cut the tymmer for the artailzerie. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. § i. 360 A Box of Anatomick Instruments; sc. Saws, Steel and Ivory Knives [etc.]. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 145 No sound of hammer or of saw was there. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 16 Saws for cutting metals, are made very narrow,..and stretched by a screw at one end. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 343/2 The principal modern use of the saw is to divide wood.

transf. and *fig.* 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1672 Euen so his sighes, his sorrowes make a saw, To push griefe on, and back the same grief draw. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. viii. 138 Faction, hatred, livor, emulation, which..are, *serræ animæ*, the sawes of the soule. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* iv, You..see aloft the saw of the mountain ridges against the black-blue sky.

†b. In obsolete phrases. *To draw the saw* (*of contention* or *controversy*): to keep up a fruitless dispute. *To be under the saw of contention*: (of a question) to be the subject of profitless dispute. *To hand the saw*: to take turns, change parts, *with* another in some work or function. *To hold* (a person) *at the long saw*: to keep in suspense.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* A 1, The Question of Transubstantiation, which hath already so many times passed by the Fire and under the Saw of Contention. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 305 Yet if he think fit to draw this saw of contention further,..I [etc.]. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 101 Now because ghost cannot hand the saw thus with body. Thence 'tis [etc.]. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2329/3 It would be of little avail to draw the Saw any longer of Answers and Retorts. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* Pref. 12 Neither will I draw the saw of contention with any one in answering any of the Cavils. *a* 1733 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr.* (1742) 79 So, between the one and the other, he was held at the Long Saw above a Month. 1768 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 343 Having neither leisure nor inclination to draw the saw of controversy.

2. *Zool.* A part or organ with teeth like those of a saw. Also Comb. *saw-bearing* adj.

1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 32 A very great Saw, or weapon of a Saw-fish, with the which he torments the Whale. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 4 The double Saw is a hard bony Substance. *Ibid.*, They [*sc.* Ants] have four or five Teeth in a Saw. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 64 The sting or saw of a wasp. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 222 Saw-bearing Hymenoptera (*Securifera*). 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 508/2 Whales are said to be sometimes killed by sawfishes, and the saw has been sometimes driven into the hull of a ship. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 360 The saws of the various species of Tenthredo are as diversified as the habits of the insects to which they belong. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life Canara* 51 A great saw-fish, which measured about twenty-one feet from the end of the saw to the tail.

3. [Properly a distinct word, f. SAW *v.*] **a.** A sawing movement. (In recent Dicts.). **b.** *Whist.* = SEE-SAW.

1746 HOYLE *Whist* (ed. 6) 36 You gain the Advantage of establishing of a Saw. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 60 P 4 (1761) II. 195, A forces B, who, by leading Spades, plays into A's Hand, who returns a Club, and so they get a Saw between them. *c* 1890 *Up to Date Games of Cards* 37 Saw, is when each partner trumps a different suit, and they play those suits to each other for that purpose.

4. Short for SAWFISH. *rare.*

1888 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Travel* vi. (1900) 180 Across the mouth of the bay cruised a pair of saws, some ten or twelve feet long.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *saw-blade, -carriage, machine, -mandrel, -mark*; **b.** objective, as *saw-filer, -filing, -grinder, -maker, -piercer, -setter, -setting*; **c.** similative, as *saw-beaked, -leaved, -like, -shaped, -toothed, -topped* adjs.

1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 95 The *Saw-beaked Alcyons (*Syma*). 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 275 Of the elastic steel, a *saw-blade may be considered an example. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 345/1 Here they are rolled upon skids leading to the *saw-carriage. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 200 Where the saw-edged knife in one of the cylinders perforates the web. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 347 This *saw-filer's vice may be obtained [etc.]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Saw-filing machine*, one for sharpening the teeth of saws. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 635 The *Sawgrinders' Union in Sheffield. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 252 *Saw-leaved Vetch. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Scie*, *Scie de mer*, a kind of Whall which hath a *Saw-like snowt. 1881 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 358/1 Fine, horny, saw-like teeth. 1822 T. GILL *Techn. Repos.* II. 217 An improved *Saw Machine. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 103 The *saw-maker [maketh] saws. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 9 Saw makers first harden their plates in the usual way. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Saw-mandrel*, a holdfast for a saw in a lathe. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 117 Saw mandrils..should be as strong as possible, to stand the speed. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* I. 420 The cross cords become embedded in the *saw-marks by the pressure of the sewing thread. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Saw piercer*, a workman who cuts the teeth of saws. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 342 Any itinerant *saw-setter, who goes his regular round ..with his bench and files. *Ibid.* § 346 Useful contrivance for *saw setting [etc.]. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., s. v. *Securifers*, The females have a *saw-shaped or hatchet-shaped terebra. 1868 *Rep. Munitions of War* 102 The rifling is what is termed in England the Scott or saw-shaped system. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* 1 vi. 36 b, Shee is splayfooted, crookbacked, tunnebellied, *sawtoothed, &c. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 229 *Saw-toothed*: see *serrate*. 1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* II. 495 The saw-toothed Sterrink (*Stenorhynchus serridens*). 1874 EASSIE *Wood & Uses* 165 Figs. 217 and 218 are each of the kind known as the saw-toothed roof,..used in weaving and other sheds.

d. Special combinations: **saw-bar**, either of the two bars which hold the saw in a fretwork machine; † **saw battle**, a disposition of troops in which the battalions form a serrated front; **saw-bearing** *a.* (see sense 2); **saw-belly** *U. S.*, a name for the glut herring (*Clupea æstivalis*), and the alewife (*C. serrata*); **saw-bench**, a circular saw with a bench to support the material and advance it to the saw; † **sawboard**, timber sawn into boards; **saw-buck** *U. S.* [a. Du. *zaagbok*], see BUCK *sb.*[7]; † **saw-carf** = *saw-kerf*; **saw-cut** *sb.*, an incision made with a saw; **saw-cut** *v. Bookbinding*, to make saw-cuts in (the back of a book); **saw-doctor**, 'an instrument having an angular punch for cutting pieces out of the edge of a saw-blade, to increase the depth of the interdental spaces; a saw-gummer' (Knight); **saw-edge**, a serrated edge (in quot. of a ridge of rock); **saw-edged** *a.*, having a serrated edge; **saw-file**, a file specially adapted for sharpening the teeth of saws; **saw-frame**, (*a*) the frame in which a saw-blade is stretched; (*b*) the sash or gate of a mill saw; **saw-gin**, a form of cotton-gin in which the fibres are torn from the seed by revolving toothed discs or circular saws; **saw-ginned** *a.*, prepared by means of the saw-gin; **saw-grass**, (*a*) = *saw-wort*; (*b*) *U.S.*, a sedge of the genus *Cladium*; **saw-gummer** = GUMMER b; **saw-handle**, (*a*) the handle of a saw; (*b*) *slang*, the handle of a 'saw-handled' pistol; **saw-handled** *a.*, having a handle shaped like that of a saw; **saw-horned** *a.*, having serrate antennæ; **saw-horse**, a frame or trestle for supporting wood that is being sawn, a saw-buck; **saw-kerf** *sb.* = KERF *sb.* 2; *v. trans.*, to make a saw-kerf in; hence **saw-kerfing** *vbl. sb.*; **saw-log** (see quot.); † **saw-muscle** = SERRATUS; **saw-pad** (see PAD *sb.* 8); **saw palmetto**, a palmetto, *Serenoa serratula*, with prickly leaf-stalks; **saw-pierced** *a.*, cut out with a frame-saw or piercing-saw; so **saw-piercing**; **saw-plate**, (*a*) the blade of a saw; (*b*) iron in plates of the thickness of the blade of a saw; **saw-sash** *U.S.* (see SASH *sb.*[2] 3 b); **saw-set**, an instrument for setting the teeth of a saw: also *attrib.*; **saw-shark**, an Australian fish of the genus *Pristiophorus*; **saw-sharpener**, (*a*) one who sharpens saws; (*b*) a name for the Great Titmouse, *Parus major* (cf. *saw-whetter*); **saw-spindle**, the shaft of a circular saw; † **saw-stage**, ? = SAW-PIT; **saw-tail**, a bird (*Temnurus truncatus*) inhabiting Cochin China (T. R. Jones *Cassell's Bk. Birds*, 1869–73); **saw-way** = *saw-kerf*; **saw-whet** *U.S.*, a little owl, *Nyctala acadica*; **saw-whetter**, (*a*) = *saw-whet*; (*b*) the marsh titmouse, *Parus palustris*; **saw-work** *Fortif.* (see quot.); **saw-wrack** *Bot.*, the seaweed *Fucus serratus*; **saw-wrest** = *saw-set*. Also SAWBILL, etc.

1875 SEATON *Fret Cutting* 18 An iron eye, screwed in exactly under the lower *saw bar. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 80 The *Saw battell containeth 3 sharpe angles framed of 6 battalions. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 582 Around the Gulf of Maine this species is also known by the names 'Kyack' or Kyauk', '*Saw-belly', and 'Cat-thrasher'. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 793 The flooring boards..were grooved on each edge upon an ordinary *saw bench. 1869 RANKINE *Cycl. Machine & Hand Tools* Pl. Q 16 Improved self-acting saw bench. 1495 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 226, vij[m] fote of *Sawborde price the c—ij[s]. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* vi. (1872) 39 The saddles were peculiar...They consisted of a sort of *saw-buck, with a small mattress on it. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 9 Dec. 1775 The *saw-carf, instead of binding, is always kept gaping. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 706 The chalk line..marks the edges of the intended *saw-cuts with sufficient certainty. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v. *Bookbinding*, Sewing [comes] after *saw-cutting the backs for the cords. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xxi, From the highest *saw-edges, where Moel Meirch cuts the golden sky, down to the very depth of the abyss. 1846 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Tour Venice* 446 A wall of *saw-edged perpendicular rocks. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 689 The files used in sharpening saws are triangular, round, half-round, and mill *saw-files. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 442 Let a transverse groove..be cut in the *saw-frame to receive that pin. 1801 MILLER & WHITNEY in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* (1832) XXI. 222 The machine for separating cotton from its seeds, commonly called the *Saw Gin. 1873 *Beeton's Dict. Comm.* s.v. *Cotton*, Good fair to good *saw-ginned Surat cotton. 1847 WHITTIER *Drovers* 56 Cows ..Disputing feebly with the frogs The crop of *saw-grass meadows! 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Saw-grass*, a kind of coarse grass, bog-rush. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 187 Thrusting their snouts amidst the saw-grass. 1891 VILLIERS-STUART *Equat. Forests* 110 It turned out to be really a vast expanse of water hidden beneath saw-grass, which in some places attains a height of twenty feet. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), **Saw-gummer*, see Gummer. 1837 LEVER *Harry Lorrequer* v, My friend there..is a very neat shot when he has the *saw-handle. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 7/1 The plaintiff..was a saw-handle maker. 1899 LD. ROSEBERY *Peel* 26 But scarcely..is there any memory of so peppery a politician with so constant an inclination to the 'sawhandles'. 1837 LEVER *Harry Lorrequer* v, Didn't I tell ye, that pistol always threw high...Oh, Fin, if you had only given me the *saw-handled one. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 45 Serricorn or *saw-horned beetles. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 9 Dec. 1775 The common *saw-horse makes the cutting of it [*sc.* firewood] a tedious labour-consuming piece of business. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 601/2 A hen..came in and settled herself in a corner behind a saw-horse. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 101/1 Kerf, or *Saw Kerf. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 344/2 Gang-saws are seldom thicker than 14-gauge, and are successfully worked at 18-gauge, making a saw-kerf or waste of but ⅛ inch. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* s. v. *Saw Cuts*, Soufflot in 1779 employed workmen to *saw-kerf the joints of the piers..of S. Geneviève...Wood-bending is often facilitated by *saw-kerfing. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* II. 194 We had made perhaps half the distance when we met a prodigious '*saw-log'—that is, the huge trunk of a tree, drawn by oxen, on its way to the mill. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 795 The second muscle is called *Serratus maior* or the greater *saw-muscle. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 712 The key-hole or fret saw-blade..is held in a *saw-pad. 1861 *Amer. Cycl.* XII. 704/1 The *saw palmetto..occurs on the southern islands of South Carolina, and in sandy soils southward to Florida. 1879 *Navy List* Sept. 490/1 On the star to be mounted a dead gilt laurel wreath and *saw pierced garter with regimental motto. 1892 *Daily News* 10 May 2/4 A saw-pierced picture frame. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 10/7 Art Metal, leaf-beating and *saw-piercing. 1837 LT.-COL. REID in *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 6/1 Long iron needles pass through holes in the strips of *saw-plate, and pin them to the ground. *Ibid.*, To retain the front ones in their places, ties are used made of saw-plate iron. 1865 I. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 16 A continuous dropping of water washes particles of flint sand beneath the saw-plate. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 697 The *saw-set..consists of a narrow blade of steel, with notches of various widths for different saws...In some few cases saw-set pliers are used. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 345 The teeth can be bent to the right or left, as may be requisite, with the saw-set. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fishes N. S. Wales* 98 The *saw-shark must not be confounded with saw-fish. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 33 Great Titmouse (*Parus major*)..*Saw sharpener. 1895 P. H. EMERSON *Birds*, etc. *Norfolk Broadland* 63 They [*sc.* great titmice] are sometimes called 'saw-sharpeners' in the building season, from the well-known and peculiar grating noise made by the cock. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 22 Mar. 8/7 Wood Turner, Fret Cutter and Saw Sharpener. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* XXI. 5 D/1 Circular *saw-spindles are frequently burnt.. their motion being very quick. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 754 The saw spindle..is frequently squared at one end. 1522 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For drawyng out of ij battis to y[e] *sawstage. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 220 If planks are sawed longitudinally, through their thickness, the *saw-way is called a ripping-cut. 1839 AUDUBON *Synopsis Birds Amer.* 24 *Ulula Acadica*,..Acadian Night-Owl...*Saw-whet. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 206 *Nyctale acadica*...Acadian Owl. Saw-whet Owl. 1784 BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 10 The Dr. saw a blue bird, with a white head, which is said to be a *saw-whetter. 1840 GOSSE *Canadian Nat.* 92 The sound..is usually thought to resemble the whetting of a saw, and hence the bird from which it proceeds is called the Saw-whetter. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 33 Marsh Titmouse (*Parus palustris*)..Saw whetter. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Redens*,..or *Redan*, in Fortification, a Kind of Work indented in Form of the Teeth of a Saw... It is also call'd *Saw-work. 1868 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Saw-wrack. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 94 Then with the *Saw wrest..they set the Teeth of the Saw. 1728–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Saw*, This is done by putting an Instrument, called a *Saw-wrist*, between every other two Teeth, and giving it a little Wrench. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 477/1 A *saw-wrest* is used for setting the teeth.

Saw (sɔ̄) *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 sagu (sage), ? saga, 2–5 sage, 3 sæge, sahe, 3–7 sawe, 4 sa, sach(e, sau(e, sauue, sawge, 4–5 sagh(e, 4– saw. *Pl.* 3 sægen, sahen, sawen, 4 sagez, sauez, sawus, 5 *Sc.* sawiss. [OE. *sagu* str. fem. = MLG., MDu. *sage, sage*, OHG. *saga* str. and wk. fem. (MHG., mod.G. *sage*), ON. *saga* wk. fem. (see SAGA):—OTeut. **sagā*, **sagōn-*, f. root of **sagējan* SAY *v.*[1] Cf. Lith. *pa-saka* (:—*sokā*) story.]

† **1.** A saying; discourse; speech. *Obs.*

9.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 221/28 *Dictu i. dicione*, sagu, *uel oratione*. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* ibid. 165/27 *Elogium, uel dictio*, saga. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp., Luke* xi. 45 Lareow teonan þu wyrhest us mid þisse sage. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Đeo apostles hine beden þet he scalde suggen hwet þeo sage bicweðe and he seide *Semen est uerbum dei*. *c* 1205 LAY. 749 Heo wenden þat his sawen [*c* 1275 sawes] soðe weren. *Ibid.* 29658 þa he isaid hauede þa sagenes of ure drihten. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 600 He sweren bi ðe rode..and he ðe leȝen sone, mid here sage and mid here song. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 360 þis is Seinte Poules sawe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 358 Alle ich iseo þine sahen sotliche isette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4167 And þan wil naman mak on sau þat we him suld haue broght on dau. *Ibid.* 24112 Luue wald i spak, might me wit-stode, Mi reut was all apon þat rode, Na sagh [*Edin. MS.* sache] þar moght i sai. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3557 He was wunt to seye wykked sawes. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1112 Alle seide at o sawe 'sire, we ȝou rede'. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 109 Thenne þe sergauntez, at þat sawe, swengen þer-oute. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 84 Quhen þe paianis hard þis sa, þai sad [etc.]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 668 Ful litel woot Arcite of his felawe That was so ny to herknen al his sawe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 383 Hit is comoun sawe þat [þe] contray þat now hatte Scotlond is an out strecching, and is þe norþ partie of þe more Bretayne. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1501 Bot ay boisil dedis and sawes he folowed. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 106, I will nocht that men understand be my sawis na the King of Jerusalem has gude rycht. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 78 Thus we se howe and in what maner pleasaunt sawes are gathered and used, upon the occasion of divers wordes spoken. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXVII. 12 Thair sawis to be suythe sum will suspect. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 100 The counsell and sawe of old men hath in it somewhat..that is pleasing to heare, gracefull, and of venerable regard.

† **2.** A story, tale, recital. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 619 Such wonder nas neuer I-herd in sawe. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 205 þis þat I haf said it is Pers sawe, Als he in romance laid, þer after gan I drawe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 53 Aymo recordis in his saw, þat [etc.]. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 393 (Laud MS.) His moder ne miȝth lete soroȝ, Neiþer at euene ne at morowe, In sawe as it is seide. *c* 1460 *Emare* 319 As y haue herd menstrelles syng yn sawe.

† **3.** A decree, command. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8333 Of his sauues þis was an, þat of his barnage sa bald was nan...in his chamber..A fote to set, bot þai war cald. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 250 What for þe kynges sawe, & skille þei vnderstode, & þorgh þe londes lawe, & descent of blod, þe triours alle þat caste, & put þer saw tille on. 14.. 26 *Pol. Poems* 23 That leueþ troube, and falshed vse, And lyue not after goddis sawe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlviii. 211 A! myghtfull god, here is it sene, Þou will fulfille þi forward right, And all þi sawes þou will maynteyne. 1566 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxix. 97 What great desire and feruent loue, do I beare to thy saw: All the day long my whole deuise, is onely on thy law. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 884 So love is Lord of all the world by right, And rules the creatures by his powrfull saw.

4. A sententious saying; a traditional maxim, a proverb. For (*old*) *said saw* see SAID *ppl. a.*

a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 35 (Trin. Coll. MS.) þis werin þe sawen of kinc Alfred. *Ibid.* 361 Þurch sage mon is wis. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 853 Of salamons sawys ȝe are nat auysed. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 124 'Lewede lorel!' quod he 'luite lokestou on þe Bible, On Salamones sawes seldom þou bi-holdest'. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1599 His sawle is ful of syence, sages to schawe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 653 Fore It is sad in elderys saw: 'ful harde is hungyre in hale maw.' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Sawe, or proverbe, *proverbium, problemia*. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxi. 519 Euer hit is an old sawe gyue a chorle rule and there by he wylle not be suffysed. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sawe a proverbe, *prouerbe*. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* i. (Arb.) 31 And many a saged sawe lies hyd within thine aged brest. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 156 Full of wise sawes, and moderne instances. 1632 E. ROBERTSON in *Lithgow's Trav.* To Author B 4, How ruld with Lawes The South world is: their Rites, Religious sawes. *c* 1705 POPE *Jan. & May* 219 We, Sirs, are fools; and must resign the cause To heath'nish authors, proverbs, and old saws. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 172 Alone from Jargon born to rescue Law, From Precedent, grave Hum, and formal Saw! 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 635 The great question now depending was not to be decided by the saws of pedantic Templars. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 50 It is an ever ready saw that an egg is equivalent to a lb. of meat; whereas it is not at all so. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* v. ii, For I was musing on an ancient saw, *Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re*.

Saw (sɔ̄) *v.*[1] Pa. t. **sawed**; pa. pple. **sawed, sawn.** Forms: 4 sagh, sau, 5 saghe, sage, 5–6 sawe. *Pa. t. a. weak* 3 sahede, 5 sawede, 5– sawed; *β. strong* 5 suwe, sew. *Pa. pple. a. weak* 3 isahet, 4 i-sawed, saede, sawid, 6 saw'de, sawyde, 7– sawed; *β. strong* 5–7 sawen, 5 sowen, 6 sawin, 9 sawn. [f. SAW *sb.*[1]; cf. the equivalent MLG., MDu. *sagen* (Du.

zagen), OHG. *sagôn*, *segôn* (MHG. *sagen*, *segen*, mod.G. *sägen*), ON. *saga* (Sw. *såga*, Da. *save*).

The pa. t. was sometimes conjugated strong in the 15th c. The str. pa. pple., which came into use at the same time, is now perh. equally current with the wk. form in the compound tenses of the vb., and as ppl. adj. is much more common.]

1. *trans.* To cut with a saw. Also with advs., *asunder*, *away*, *off*, *through*; and const. *into*.

a 1225 *Life St. Juliana* 38 Ich makede þen wittie ysaye beon isahet þurh and þurh to deaðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27375 Þe preist bi-gin..Away to sagh þam ilk crote. *c* 1400 *Wycliffite Bible* Prol. to Prophets (1850) III. 225 Manasses ordeynede and demyde Isaye to be sawid with ynne a cedre tree. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 60 His wyffe & his childire three Byfore his eghne þat he myghte see Be in sondre sawenn. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxlviii. (1869) 135 In Iacob and Esau þou hast seyn þe figure; I sawede hem and vnioyned hem. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacionn* (1888) 10 Some with sawes he suwe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 319/2 To saghe a tre, *serrare*. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 248/2 She..was taken of the deuyls and departed and sowen a sondre. 1496 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* I. 281 Item, to othir tua sawaris, at sew with thaim, xvij s. viij d. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Runcino*, to sawe tymber. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 42 Now sawe out thy timber, for boord and for pale. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* To Rdr. *v b, Their legges sawed of, their tongues cutte. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 70 If I were saw'de into Quantities, I should make foure dozen of such bearded Hermites staues, as Master Shallow. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* vii. 9 Hewed stones, sawed with sawes. — *Heb.* xi. 37 They were stoned, they were sawen asunder. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. i. 107 By sawing away of trees. 1664 J. WILSON *A. Commenius* v. i, 'Twere better dye at once, Than be thus saw'd in pieces. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 95 When they direct any of their Underlins to saw such a piece of Stuff.. seldom say Saw that piece of Stuff. 1719 J. CONDUIT in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 917 The Letters probably were either sawed off, or turned inwards. 1795 J. HOLT *Agric. Surv. Lancaster* 48 He takes a hand-saw..and saws the top level. 1847 *Act* 10 & 11 *Vict.* c. 89 § 28 Every Person who..hews, saws, bores, or cuts any Timber or Stone. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 43/1 (*Bookbinding*) The volumes are then adjusted and clamped up..for the operation of sawing the back. Two or three grooves are..sawn straight across the back of the volume, according to the number of bands on which the book is to be sewed. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxii. 368 Trees were cut down and sawn into planks. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 344/1 With a cutting edge of so light a gauge as to waste but little of the valuable timber to be sawed.

fig. 1579 G. HARVEY in *Three Proper Lett.* (1580) 63 The sixte..is also in the same Predicament, vnlesse happly one of the feete be sawed off wyth a payre of Syncopes. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 316 Until between these different Usurpations, that pull several ways, the whole Nation will in the end be sawed in Pieces. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 119 The agony of hatred which was sawing their hearts asunder.

b. To cut as a saw does. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* (1862) 22 Ant let scharpe sweord ant eke smart scher hire bi the schuldren ant sahede hire thurhut. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* (E.E.T.S.) li[i]. 2 Þou dost treccherie as a rasour sharp sauaand. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 31 A tayl of a Stingray, it will saw like an Iron saw.

transf. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, The grating wind sawed rather than blew.

c. To form by cutting with a saw.

1530 PALSGR. 698/2 Have you sawed nothyng but these two plankes to daye. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 87 When you Saw the Bevelling angles upon the square ends of Pieces. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits*, *Character* Wks. (Bohn) II. 59 They saw a hole into the head of the 'winking Virgin' to know why she winks. 1875 SEATON *Fret Cutting* 15 To most people, this method of sawing out a pattern is inconvenient.

transf. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ix. 289 This wonderful fissure has been sawn through the mountain by the waters of the Tamina. 1906 BELLOC *Hills & Sea* 17 All the way down the gorge for miles, sawing its cut in sheer surfaces through the rock, crashes a violent stream.

d. *absol.* To use a saw; to cut with a saw.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 116 M. cleuyth the borde and sawith. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 309 My mastyr made comenaunt wyth ij. sawers of Donwyche: and thei schalle haue euery werke day that thei saw, vj. d. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 83 You must not Saw just upon the struck line,..Saw therefore right down with the Tennant Saw. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cxiii. 106 Then, 'tis Call the Doctor, Pothecary, Surgeon; Purge, Flux, Launce, Burn, Saw. 1852 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 184 Carpenters, into whose head the devil put it to saw the whole day.

e. *intr.* with passive force. To admit of being sawn.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 27/1 Beech..will saw into extreme thin Planks. *Ibid.* 57/1 A white sort of Stone.. which Saws easier than Wood itself.

2. *transf.* With reference to the movement used in sawing. **a.** trans. *To saw the air*: to gesticulate with the hands as if sawing something invisible. Also, *to saw one's hand*.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 5 Do not saw the Ayre too much your hand thus, but vse all gently. 1819 CRABBE *Tales of Hall* XIX. 158 'And what is proud', said Frances, 'but to stand Singing at church, and sawing thus your hand?' 1824 Miss FERRIER *Inher.* lxix, He was puffing, and blowing, and sawing the air with his arms, without ever gaining a single step upon them. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 778/1 With her right hand she ceaselessly saws the air.

b. To work (the bit) from side to side in a horse's mouth. Also with the mouth as obj.

1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairleigh* v, I..got her head up by sawing her mouth with the snaffle, and put her [the mare] fairly at it. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Rural Sports* 536 If a horse obstinately refuses to stir, the bit may be gently 'sawed' from side to side.

c. *intr.* Said of a fiddler.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 615/1 Then saw'd and thrumm'd on ev'ry string!

3. *intr.* (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 68 No Fisherman.. shall..saw or search for Barbel within the Limits of London Bridge.

4. *trans.* To give a serrated outline to. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 242 The coast is perfectly sawed by bays.

†**Saw**, *v.*^{2} *Obs.* (? *nonce-wd.*) [f. SAW *sb.*^{2}] *intr.* To speak in saws.

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 13 He saith, or rather *saweth* thus,..The time will come that youthfull Turnus shall Wish dearly Pallas ne'er has been encountred.

Saw, obs. form of SAVE *v.*, SHOW *v.*, SOW *v.*

Sawar, obs. form of SOWER.

Sawbill (sɔ̄·bil). [f. SAW *sb.*^{1} + BILL *sb.*^{2}] A name applied to various birds with serrated bills. **a.** The merganser (also *sawbill diver* or *duck*). **b.** A humming-bird of the genus *Rhamphodon* (also *sawbill humming-bird*). **c.** *U. S.* A motmot (also *sawbill roller*).

1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* III. 293 This bird [*Mergus merganser*] like the Red-breasted Merganser, is also called Sawbill and Jacksaw. 1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2393 The red-breasted merganser [is] a saw-bill duck. 1856 F. O. MORRIS *Hist. Brit. Birds* V. 284 Goosander...Sawbill. Jack-saw. 1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* I. pl. 1 *Grypus nævius*. Saw-bill. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes without Hands* xiii. (1868) 235 The Sawbill Humming Bird (*Grypus nævius*). 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 83 The Saw-bill Rollers (*Prionites*)..occupy the..forests of South America. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 178 *Momotidæ* (motmots or saw-bills).

So **Saw'-billed** *a.*, having a serrated bill.

1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* VI. 579 Saw-billed Pelican. 1797 — in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* IV. 121 Saw-billed Ducks or Divers.

Sawbones (sɔ̄·bōunz). *slang.* [f. SAW *v.*^{1} + BONE *sb.*] A surgeon.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, 'What, don't you know what a Sawbones is, Sir', enquired Mr. Weller; 'I thought every body know'd as a Sawbones was a Surgeon.' 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 166 The vivisectors and sawboneses. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Doctor Therne* 196, I found her the affianced bride of a parish sawbones.

Hence **Saw'bonesing** *vbl. sb.* (*nonce-wd.*).

1870 Miss BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 196 If I had..had to earn my bread quill-driving..or sawbones-ing.

Sawce, Sawcer, etc.: see SAUCE, SAUCER, etc.

Sawdan, Sawdant, var. ff. SOLDAN, sultan.

Sawd(e, variant forms of SOLD *Obs.*

†**Saw'dee.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *soudée* (corresp. to Pr. *soudada*, *soldada*, med.L. *solidāta*), f. *souder*: see SOLD *v.*] Soldier's pay.

c 1500 *Melusine* 148 'By my fey̆th', said Uryan, 'we are not come hither for to take sawdees ne for no syluer.'

Sawden, var. form of SOLDAN *Obs.*, sultan.

Sawder (sɔ̄·dəɹ), *sb. colloq.* [App. a use of *sawder* SOLDER *sb.*] *Soft sawder*: flattery, blarney.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. x. 78 If she goes to act ugly, I'll give her a dose of 'soft sawder'. 1846 SHAFTESB. in *Life* xiv. (1887) 342 Soft sawder to the mill-owners (unless it is skilfully applied) is a damper to the men. 1854 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 232 He..by dint of good dinners and soft sawder finally draws the country gentry to him. 1886 'SARAH TYTLER' *Buried Diamonds* v, Till he had done listening to the 'soft sawder' of Crabtree the banker's..wife.

Sawder (sɔ̄·dəɹ), *v. colloq.* [f. SAWDER *sb.*] *trans.* To flatter, to 'butter'.

1834 LOVER *Leg. & Stories of Irel.* Ser. II. 297 His vagabone mother sawdhered him up afther a manner. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* II. 287 Now 'ryling up', the agent, then sawdering him down.

Sawder, -dre, obs. forms of SOLDER.

Sawdour, -oyer, obs. forms of SOLDIER.

Sawdust (sɔ̄·dɔst), *sb.* [f. SAW *sb.*^{1} + DUST *sb.*]

1. Wood in the state of small particles, detached from a tree, plank, etc. in the process of sawing.

1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sawedust, *sieure dais*. 1563 *Respublica* I. iv. 344 What is your brain-pan stufte with-all? wull or sawduste? 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 42 Saue sawe dust, and brick dust, and ashes so fine, for alley to walke in, with neighbour of thine. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Elephant in Moon* (long verse) 218 Make Chips of Elms produce the largest Trees, Or sowing Saw-dust furnish Nurseries. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 175 Ants..are driven away by strewing very fine Saw-dust. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 60 Winkler enclosed his specimens in crucibles surrounded with saw-dust. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zero* xi, My doll is stuffed with sawdust.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (Sometimes with reference to the use of sawdust for stuffing dolls or puppets.)

a 1873 MRS. SPOFFORD in *Cassy. Literature* IV. 9/2 The deviled turkey sizzled..away to saw-dust. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 16 I'll knock the saw-dust out of any two men in this hole of a place. 1908 *Nation* 12 Sept. 833/2 The other characters are all sawdust and wires.

2. In wider sense: Dust of any material produced in the process of sawing. *rare.*

1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. 238 That done we cleansed the wound from the Saw-dust. 1835–6 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 650/1 [Ivory] rubbed over with a little of its own sawdust.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sawdust-pad*; *sawdust-like* adj.; with reference to the use of sawdust for strewing the arena of a circus, as *sawdust-artist*, *-ring*; **sawdust-powder**, a substitute for gunpowder, prepared by treating sawdust with acids.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 746/1, I was not flattered at being taken for a *sawdust artist. 1899 RODWAY *Guiana Wilds* 145 The *sawdust-like cassava bread. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 308 Great comfort was derived from the use of the *sawdust-pads. 1883 F. A. ABEL in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 278/2 Preparations allied to gun-cotton, in the production of which wood fibre is used as the starting-point, are manufactured..under the name of Schultze's powder, *sawdust powder, and patent gunpowder. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* xvii. 296 Once only they [the circus procession] circled the *saw-dust ring.

Hence **Saw'dusty** *a.*, abounding in, savouring of, or resembling sawdust; of the nature of sawdust.

1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* iv, I remember Mr. Hubble as a tough high-shouldered stooping old man, of a sawdusty fragrance. 1863 — *Uncomm. Trav.* xxi, A bagatelle-board shadily visible in a sawdusty parlour. 1880 *Confess. Frivolous Girl* 172 In his society I sometimes felt that life was stupid, but never that it was hollow and sawdusty. 1893 J. T. HOSKINS *Mr. P.'s Diary* 356 Dry, tasteless, sawdusty white bread. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 55, I never liked dressing dolls, it brought one into too close contact with their sawdusty insides.

Sawdust (sɔ̄·dɔst), *v.* [f. SAWDUST *sb.*] *trans.* To cover, sprinkle, or strew with sawdust. Hence **Saw'dusted** *ppl. a.*, **Saw'dusting** *vbl. sb.*

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xiii, A..sawdusted tavern. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. ix, The sweeping and sawdusting of the common room. 1882 P. FITZGERALD *Recreat. Lit. Man* I. 249 All is duly sawdusted. 1895 J. DAVIDSON *Earl Lavender* 177 In the midst of the sawdusted floor.

Sawdyer, Sawdyn: see SOLDER, SOLDAN.

Sawdyo(u)r, Sawecere: see SOLDIER, SAUCER.

Sawed (sɔ̄d), *ppl. a.* [f. SAW *v.*^{1} and *sb.*^{1} + -ED.]

1. That has undergone the operation of sawing; = SAWN *ppl. a.* Also in comb. *sawed-off*.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 15 Certayne sawed bordes of the thickenes of halfe a hande breath. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 38/1 The skinn and muscles sinck agayne downwardes, and cover the sawed bone. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 114 The Great Duke of Saxony hath three great Manufactures; one of Iron,..another of Linnen,..the third of Sawed Timbers of all sorts. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* iii. (1813) 37 Espalier trees should rather be trained to sawed materials properly framed together. 1841 ORDERSON *Creoleana* iii. 30 Cedar posts, sawed stones. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 149 A couple of sawed-off antlers. 1899 *Daily News* 13 June 4/4 In 1894 Congress passed an Act taking the duty off sawed boards, shingles [etc.].

2. Serrated.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 506 Vulgar Mice..drinke by licking or lapping, although their teeth be not sawed. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* III. iii. (1760) 236 This tree hath sawed Leaves, and large open Flowers. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 461 Sawed (*serratus*), having sharp straight-edged teeth pointing to the apex. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Saw-toothed* or *Sawed*, serrate.

Comb. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 127 Cutting them with a long, narrow, sawed-edged knife.

Sawen, obs. pa. pple. of SOW *v.*

Sawen(t, obs. forms of SEVEN.

Saweoure, obs. form of SAVIOUR, SAVOUR.

Sawer (sɔ̄·əɹ). Also 6 **saer, sawar.** [f. SAW *v.*^{1} + -ER^{1}.] One who saws. Now *rare*; as a designation of employment superseded by SAWYER.

1379 *Poll-tax West Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* VI. 324 Willelmus Sagher, Sagher vj*d*. 1457 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 365 Rodger Saxton, sawer. 1536 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to the saers vij s. vij d. 1589 [?LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* C b, Martin & his mainteiner are both sawers of timber. 1664 in Holmes *Pontefract Bk. Entries* (1882) 372 Ordinances made for the good governance..of the..cowpers, patenners, turners, sawers. 1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) III. 271, I send you a..letter of Madame Venturi's, with vignette of Venturi sawing...I advise you to read it [another letter] now, with a key: 'The Gorilla' means George Cooke,..the sawer Venturi.

Sawer(e, obs. forms of SAVOUR, SEWER.

Sawerkraut, obs. form of SAUERKRAUT.

Sawete, Sawf, obs. forms of SAFETY, SALVE.

Sawfish (sɔ̄·fiʃ). [SAW *sb.*^{1} Cf. L. *serra* saw-fish (*lit.* 'saw').] A fish of the genus *Pristis*, the snout of which ends in a long flat projection with teeth on each edge. Also applied to fishes of certain allied genera.

1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 17 A Saw-fish, vulgarly called the Sword-fish. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 123 *Monoceros Clusii*, the little Vnicorn, or Saw-fish. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. i. 84 The Saw-Fish. *Pristis*. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. i. *11 Another animal, which is called the saw-fish, carries also an offensive weapon. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 35 There is a species of Saw-fish peculiar to the Australian seas. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 216 The Tentaculated Saw-fish (*Pristiophorus cirratus*).

Saw'-fly. [SAW *sb.*^{1}] An insect of the family *Tenthredinidæ*, distinguished by the saw-like construction of the ovipositor.

The saw-flies are very destructive to vegetation, and several species are designated from the plants attacked by them, as *pine saw-fly*, *rose saw-fly*, *turnip saw-fly*.

1773 T. P. YEATS *Inst. Entom.* 177 The Tenthredo is called, by some English Authors, the Saw-fly, from the formation of its sting, which differs from that of all other insects..in being dentated, like the instrument from which its name is taken. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 249 The saw-fly of the gooseberry-tree. 1840 [see ROSE *sb.* 23 c]. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (1855) II. 74 The turnip saw-fly, *Athalia spinarum*. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 343/1 The Pine Saw-Fly (*Lophyrus pini*) causes great damage to plantations of young Scotch firs.

attrib. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXIII. (1818) II. 331 The saw-fly tribes (*Tenthredinidæ*).

Sawflom, Sawfte: see SAUCEFLEME, SAFETY.

Saw-gate[1]. [f. SAW *sb.*[1] + GATE *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** a. ? The passage of a saw through the wood that is being sawn. b. The channel made by a saw; a saw-kerf. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 493 You must except the Oke and the Box wood, which although they be greene, do stiffely withstand the saw-gate. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 74 By supporting the Saw-gate with wedges, the whole of the superstructure..might have been expeditiously severed from the solid.

2. In fret-sawing, a hole bored to make way for the entrance of the saw.

1873 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 535 Study your [fret-work] pattern and see where to bore the holes, or saw-gates, as they are called. 1875 SEATON *Fret Cutting* 15 Now put the.. saw-gate over the V, with the bow of the saw frame turned to the right.

Saw-gate[2]. [GATE *sb.*[1]] = GATE *sb.*[1] 8 b.

1857 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* XVII. 25 The saw-gate of this machine [for sawing ship-timber] is formed of hollow wrought-iron bars. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Saw-gate*, the rectangular frame in which a mill-saw or gang of mill-saws is stretched.

†**Saw·geat.** *Obs.* [a. AF. **saugeat*, f. *sauge* SAGE *sb.*[1]] (See quot.)

*c*1390 *Forme of Cury* (1780) 72 Sawgeat. Take Pork.. &..take and close litull Balles in foiles of sawge.

†**Sawger.** *Obs. rare*—°. [a. OF. *sauger, -ier*, f. *sauge* SAGE *sb.*[1]] A bed or garden of sage.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Sawger, *salgetum*. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/1 *Salgearium*, a sawger.

Sawier, Sawin, obs. ff. SAWYER, SEVEN.

Sawin, obs. pa. pple. of SOW *v.*

Sawing (sō·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SAW *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb SAW; an instance of this.

*c*1440 *Jacob's Well* xxxvi. 233 þat ȝe be sauyd fro sawyng & brennyng of feendys to ioye & blysse euere-lastynge! 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 82 Paid to Stere for sawyng of iij kervis of the same, iij d. 1515 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* V. 11 Item for the sawing of theme ij s. vj d. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 95 The Excellency of Sawing is, to keep the kerf exactly in the line marked out to be Sawn. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 160 (*Bookbinding*) We thus see that Mr. Hancock dispenses entirely with the operations of stitching, sewing, sawing-in. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 130 After sawing comes planing.

2. *pl.* Sawdust. Now only *Sc.*

1512–13 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 611 Certeyn refuse ston and sawyngs of both Weldon..and Clypsham and molded stones. 1598 FLORIO, *Segatura*,..sawings, sawdust. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xix. 367 It closely resembles wood sawings and on that account is named 'wood-meal'.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sawing action, -machine, stage, table, -windmill*; **sawing-bench** = *saw-bench* (see SAW *sb.*[1] 4 d); **sawing-block** (see quot.); **sawing horse, stool, trestle** = *saw-horse* (see SAW *sb.*[1] 4 d); **sawing-mill, pit** = SAWMILL, SAW-PIT; **sawing-stop**, a contrivance to assist in holding wood on the bench while being sawn.

1898 *Cycling* 64 It has the further advantage of eliminating the friction and '*sawing' action that takes place between the threads of ordinary canvas. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 386/1 Circular *sawing benches. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 714 The back-saws..are often assisted or guided by *sawing-blocks, in which one or more saw-kerfs..serve to guide the blades. *Ibid.* 711 The log is..laid on the common X-form *sawing-horse. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 479/1 Attempts have been made to introduce *sawing-machines with two sets of saws. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6070/7 The Stone-Yard and *Sawing-Mill. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* I. 79 Large builders and contractors, who had planing and sawing-mills of their own. 1560 *Acc. Fratern. Holy Ghost, Basingstoke* (1882) 12 For a pece of tymber lyenge at y* *Sawinge pitt. 1612 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For making of a *saing stagge [= *saw-stage*] viij d. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 709 The board..is rested upon a *sawing stool or trestle. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 37 The *sawing stop.., will be found a very convenient adjunct to the fittings of the work bench. 1873 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 534, I am supposing you to be using a *sawing table (fret-cutting machine), such as I have described. 1611 COTGR., *Chevalet*,..a Nagge, or little horse..also, a *sawing Tressle. 1679 LOCKE in P. King *Life* (1830) I. 248 See..the *sawing-windmill.

Sawing (sō·iŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SAW *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

†**1.** Of teeth: Like the teeth of a saw; serrate.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxviii. (1495) 788 Houndes whelpes ben whelpyd wyth sawyng teeth.

2. Of sounds: Rasping, harsh.

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* v. 41 This reproof and interrogation were put in a hoarse, sawing voice by a man. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 85 A sawing diastolic (subsequently double) murmur was heard along the sternum.

Sawkeye, Sawl: see SOCKEYE, SOUL.

Sawld, obs. Sc. pa. t. of SELL *v.*

Sawlter, obs. form of PSALTER.

Sawmfaill: see SANS FAIL.

Sawmill (sō·mi·l). [f. SAW *sb.*[1] + MILL *sb.* Cf. Du. *zaagmolen*, G. *sägemühle*.] A factory in which wood is sawn into planks or boards by machinery (formerly propelled by water, wind, or animal power, now usually by steam).

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 40 Goodly ryuers vpon the which are bylded manye sawe mylles. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 114 At the descent of the Hills, are infinite of Saw-Mills that go by Water. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 12 There are abundance of saw-mills in all the States. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 441 Saw-mills, constructed for the purpose of sawing either timber or stone, are moved by animals, by water, by wind, or by steam. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 345/1 The modern saw-mill stands upon the banks of a river or pond.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Sawmill dog, Sawmill gate.* 1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* ii, The men and women in the saw-mill kitchen. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 197 He was up in the sawmill shed.

Hence **Saw·miller** [cf. Du. *zaagmolenaar*, G. *sägemüller*], the proprietor or manager of a saw-mill. **Saw·milling**, the business of sawing wood in a sawmill.

1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 501 All..printers, gunsmiths, sawmillers,..shall pay twenty-five cents on every hundred dollar's worth of gross receipts. 1881 *Times* 1 July 4/1 The respondent..is a farmer and saw-miller. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 73 The man who is interested in sawmilling.

Sawmont, obs. Sc. form of SALMON.

Sawmplar, sawmplere, obs. ff. SAMPLER *sb.*[1]

Sawn (sǫn), *ppl. a.* Also 6–8 sawen, 7 sawne. [pa. pple. of SAW *v.*[1]] That has undergone the operation of sawing; = SAWED *ppl. a.*

1536 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 108 Pro j.c. sawen burdes. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. v. 16 One kind [of trees] being more fit for clappboard, others for sawne board. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VI. 110 The Sawn-away slit between two peeces of stuff is called a kerf. 1679 *Ibid.* IX. 171 Single Quarters are Sawen stuff. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 202 As for sawn Pales they are as dear, considering their lasting, as Brick or Stone. 1870 J. POWER *Handy-bk.* 41, 1751. About this date bookbinders began to use sawn-backs, whereby the bands on which the book is sewn were let into the backs of the sheets. 1891 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 5/4 Sawn timber in brief is rapidly gaining the ascendency.

Sawn, obs. pa. pple of SOW *v.*

Sawnap(e, variant forms of SANAP *Obs.*

Sawnce bell: see SANCTUS BELL.

Sawndelynge, obs. form of SANDLING[1].

Sawndres, -dyrs, obs. forms of SANDERS[1].

Sawney (sǫ·ni), *sb.* [In sense 1, repr. a Sc. local variant of SANDY, short for Alexander; the connexion of the other senses is doubtful.]

1. *colloq.* A derisive nickname for a Scotchman.

*a*1704 T. BROWN *Highlander* Wks. 1730 I. 117 And learn from him against a time of need To husband wealth, as *sawny* does his weed. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 4 P 12 Sawney [i. e. a Scotchman just mentioned] turned about in a great passion. 1764 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) III. 125 The list of the company (of the *Macs* and *Sawneys* not in the French service) would divert you. 1785 [see SANDY *sb.*]. 1883 R. CLELAND *Inchbracken* viii. 55 To..amuse his superior mind with Sawney at his devotions.

2. *colloq.* A simpleton, fool. [? Cf. ZANY.]

*a*1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sawny*, a Fool. *He's a meer Sawney*, he is very soft. 1807 [IRELAND] *Mod. Ship of Fools* 226 Quite a sawney. 1882 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* xxiv, A regular sawney—..weak as water.

3. *slang.* Bacon.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Sawney*, bacon. 1856 MAYHEW *Gt. World Lond.* 46 'Sawney-hunters', who purloin cheese or bacon from cheesemongers' doors.

4. *techn.* (See quots.)

1892 *Labour Commission Gloss., Sawney*, term used to denote the accident when all the threads in a mule are broken at the same time by some faulty action of the mule. 1901 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VIII. 170/1 If a minder in a cotton mill have four or five hundred 'ends' or threads broken through the chance intervention of an obstacle when the carriage is on the outward run, or through the sudden breaking of a band, he is said to 'have a sawney'.

Sawney (sǫ·ni), *a.* [app. f. SAWNEY *sb.*]

1. Foolish; foolishly sentimental; ? canting, wheedling.

1805 FOSTER *Ess.* II. vi. 201 A sawney clown on the road. 1843 J. ABBOTT *Journ. Heraut to Khiva* I. 21 A tall, sawney, miserly looking fellow. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. v, She spoke in her sawney voice of factitious enthusiasm. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* vii, The bronze of his face is a little paled by emotion, but there is no sawny sentiment in his tone, none of the lover's whine. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Sliprails* 163 A good-hearted, sawny kind of chap.

2. ? *transf.*

1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. i, Curzon Street, after a long straggling sawney course, ceasing to be a thoroughfare.

Sawney (sǫ·ni), *v.* [f. SAWNEY *sb.* (in sense 2).] *intr.* a. To wheedle, cant. b. To act the sawney, to fool. Hence **Saw·neying** *ppl. a.*

1808 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 63 It looks like a sneaking sawneying Methodist parson. 1871 BESANT & RICE *Ready-money Mort.* viii, What's he coming sawneying over here about, I wonder?

Sawnse bell: see SANCTUS BELL.

Sawor, -our(e, obs. forms of SAVOUR.

Saw-pit. [f. SAW *sb.*[1] + PIT *sb.*] An excavation in the ground, over the mouth of which a framework is erected on which timber is placed to be sawn with a long two-handled saw by two men, the one standing in the pit and the other on a raised platform.

1408 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 62 Rogerus Parker fecit unum sawpytt in alta via. 1486 *Ibid.* III. 256 For drawyng of þe seid tymber fro þe wrightes to þe sawe pitt. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. iv. 53 Let them from forth a saw-pit rush at once. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* I. 1 To those Docks..belongs their wood-yards, with Saw-pits. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 116 Two Sawyers, with their Tools, and a Saw-Pit would have cut six of them..in half a Day. 1811 MOORE *Mr. Orator Puff* iii, He tripped near a sawpit, and tumbled right in. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 476/1 The facility with which sawing whole timber is now done by the aid of the upright saw-frame [etc.], has in large factories and workshops caused the saw-pits to be out of date.

transf. and *fig.* 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* I. 5 In Satans saw-pit school'd he was. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, Every street was a sawpit.

Sawqui: see SOCKEYE. **Sawr-**: see SAVOUR.

†**Sawsykylle.** [a. AF. *solsecle*, ad. L. *solsequium*.] The heliotrope.

*c*1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 644/18 *Hoc solsequium*, sawsykylle.

Sawsyrlyng, variant of SAUSERLING *Obs.*

Sawt(e: see SALT, SAULT, SAUT.

Sawter(e, -tery: see PSALTER, PSALTERY.

Sawterell, Sawtire: see SAUTERELL, SALTIRE.

Saw tooth. [SAW *sb.*[1]]

1. a. A tooth of a saw. b. A tooth (of an animal, also, of a machine) shaped like a saw, or forming one of a serrated series.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 337 The saw teeth run one betweene another,..as we see in serpents, fishes, and dogs. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 113 The saw-teeth of the gin, in tearing the fibres from the seeds, broke several of them. 1880 BALE *Woodworking Machinery* 332 A circular holder..fitted to a circular notch at the root of the saw tooth. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 344/1 Inserted teeth [in circular saws] are of various forms and shapes, from that of the ordinary saw tooth..to a 'chisel point'.

2. *attrib.* = saw-toothed. **Saw-tooth sterrinck,** the Crab-eating Seal, *Lobodon carcinophaga*.

1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 243 The Crab-eating Seal or Saw-tooth Sterrinck of Owen [cf. *saw-toothed* 1866 in SAW *sb.*[1] 5]. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 228 All of which are covered with garnet saw-tooth licker-in wire.

Sawtre(e, -trie, -try, obs. forms of PSALTERY.

Sawtrer, obs. form of PSALTERER *Obs.*

Sawturoure, Sawtyr: see SALTIRE, PSALTER.

Sawure, Sawve: see SAVOUR, SALVE.

Sawwort (sǫ·wɒ̄rt). Also 6 sawewoort, 9 sawort. [f. SAW *sb.*[1] + WORT.] A name given to various species of the genera *Serratula* (esp. *S. tinctoria*) and *Saussurea*, and to *Carduus arvensis*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. ccxxxi. 577 Sawewoort groweth in woods and shadowie places. *c*1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxii, Broad Saw-wort. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 448 *Serratula alpina*...Alpine Saw-wort. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 697 *Carduus arvensis*...Corn Saw-wort. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 287 There are a great many other ingredients proper for dyeing yellow; such as saw-wort. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 424 *Serratula tinctoria*, sawort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Serratula*, The genus is represented in England by *S. tinctoria*, the Common Sawwort.

Sawyer (sǫ·yəɹ). Also 4–5 sawier, 6–7 sawyere, 7 sayeure. [Altered form of SAWER, with assimilation of the ending to the Fr. suffix *-ier*. Cf. *bowyer, clothier, lawyer*.]

1. A workman whose business it is to saw timber, esp. in a saw-pit.

1350 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 254 [Also, that the] sawiers [shall take in the same manner as the masons and carpenters take]. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. 22 Sirdellers, Naylers, Sawiers. 1497 *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 143 Carpenters Sawyers Smythes laborers..& other workemen. 1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 3 Any..joyner hardhewer sawyer tyler pavyer [etc.]. 1616 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to the sayeures for honndred of bourdes. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* II. ii, With see saw sacke a downe, like a Sawyer. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 53 William Waters, ..a sawyer. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 344/2 The log being raised on trestle horses instead of one of the sawyers being sunk in the pit.

2. The name of a New Zealand beetle: see quots.

1789 ANBUREY *Trav.* II. 452 These insects, from the destruction as well as the noise they make, have the appellation of sawyers. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 507 A huge, ugly grasshopper, *Deinacrida megacephala*, called by bushmen the Sawyer. 1890 *Sunday Mag.* July 488/2 The Sawyer is reported to saw the branches completely off the tree,..the Sawyer beetle is the very largest insect known.

3. *U. S.* (See quots.)

1797 F. BAILY *Tour* (1856) 256 These sawyers are large trunks of trees, which are brought down by the force of the current. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxii. (1844) II. 1 We escaped snags and sawyers..and arrived here safe from the Upper Missouri. 1882 *Society* 7 Oct. 8/1 'Snags' and 'sawyers', which mean trees swept away, the end of the 'snag' being fast in the mud of the river, and the 'sawyer' bobbing up and down.

Sax (sæks). Forms: 1 seax, sæx, sex, 3 seax, sax, sæx, sox, 3–4 sex. In sense 2: 7 sects, 9 saixe, sax(e, sex, *s. w. dial.* zax, zex. [OE. *seax, sex, sæx* (also in comb. Northumb. *writsæx* 'writing-knife', i. e. pen) = OFris. *sax*, OS., MLG., OHG., MHG. *sahs* (also in comb. OHG. *mezzisahs, mezzirahs*, MHG. *mezzeres, mezzer*, mod.G. *messer* knife = OE. *mete-seax* 'meat-knife'), ON. *sax* (Sw., Da. *sax* scissors):—OTeut. **sahso*[m], f. root **sah-, sag-* to cut: see SAW *sb.*[1]

In the well-known story related by Geoffrey of Monmouth after 'Nennius', the signal given by Hengist to his Saxons for the treacherous slaughter of their British hosts appears in the form 'Nemet oure saxas'. The OE. form would be *Nimað ёowre seax*, the sb. being uninflected in the plural. The two earliest MSS. of 'Nennius' (11th c.) have respectively *saxas* and *sexa*.]

†**1.** A knife; a short sword or dagger. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1545 Heo..hyre seaxe ȝeteah brad brunecg. *a*800 *Corpus Gloss., Cultter*, saex. *c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* v. 2

Wirc þe nu stænene sex. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Þet me sculde in þe ehtuþe dei þet knaue child embsniþen mid ane ulint sexe. *c* 1205 LAY. 4015 Þe uniselie moder mid sexe hine to-snæde. *Ibid.* 22342 Mid swiðe scærpe sæxen. 1300–1400 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. G. 40 Mid hare sexes hi corue þat bodi pece mele.

2. A chopping-tool used for trimming slates.

1669 COLEPRESS in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1009 If in hewing it does not break before the edge of the Sects (the hewing instrument of the Slatters) you may not much doubt of the firmness of the Slat. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 400 The Saixe is of steel, and not unlike a large knife. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Arch.* § 1800 (*Slates*) It is thought to be a good sign, if, in hewing, it shatters before the edge of the zax. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Sex*, a tool used by slaters... It is a kind of straight chopper, with a bill or point projecting from the back for 'holing' the slates.

Saxatile (sæ·ksătəil, -til), *a.* Also 7 saxatil. [a. F. *saxatile* (16th c.) or ad. L. *saxātilis*, f. *saxum* rock, stone.]

†**1.** Of the nature of stone. *Obs. rare*—1.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 140 Gemmes, stones, and things of a saxatile substance.

2. *Zool.* and *Bot.* Living or growing among rocks.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 205 Saxatil fishes yeeld a dry aliment. *Ibid.* 238 Julis... Is a saxatile Fish. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist., Arrangem.* 48 Saxatile or rock yellow alysson. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 42 Turdi and other saxatile fish of value.

Saxaul (sæ·ksɔl). Also saksa(o)ul. A shrub, *Anabasis* (or *Holoxylon*) *Ammodendron*, growing on the steppes of Asia.

1874 H. SPALDING *Khiva & Turkestan* 43 Scattered clumps of *saksaoul* and dwarf acacias. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Saxaul.* 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 64/2 (*Khiva*) Saksaul (*Holoxylon ammodendron*) is found in quantities, and furnishes excellent fuel.

Sa·xboard. *Boat-building.* [Cf. ON. *sax* (a use of *sax* = SAX) raised prow of a ship.] (See quots. 1891, 1898.)

1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 28 Above all [the straiks] comes the sax-board. 1891 WINN *Boating Man's Vade-m.* 60 *Saxboard* or *gunwalestrake*, the uppermost continuous strake or sideplank in a boat. 1898 ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms* s. v. *Gunwale*, The gunwale strake (in open boats the *saxboard*) is the uppermost strake of a boat. To it the gunwale is fixed.

Sax-cornet: see under SAX-HORN.

Saxe (sæks). [a. F. *Saxe* Saxony (G. *Sachsen*).] Used *attrib.* to designate articles which come from Saxony, as *Saxe china*; **Saxe blue** = SAXON *blue*; **Saxe paper** (also simply **Saxe**), an albuminized paper used in photography.

1864 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 7) 304 Fifty whole sheets of Saxe paper, 18×22. 1866 J. HUGHES *Pract. Photogr.* (ed. 7) 26 Albumenized Paper... There are two principal kinds, known as *Rive* and *Saxe*. 1876 tr. *Tissandier's Hist. Photogr.* Advt. 5 Picked Rives and Saxes. 1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* 128 Good English paper of the consistency of medium Saxe answers every purpose. 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* ii, A pale blue sunshade with a handle of Saxe china. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 4/2 Bows of the new Saxe blue. 1908 *Ibid.* 29 Aug. 13/2 Saxe and turquoise-blue hinder each other.

†**Saxeane,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *saxe-us* (f. *sax-um* stone) + -ANE.] Made of stone.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 488 Ane Closter..Triangill maid, with craftie wark saxeane.

Saxefras, obs. form of SASSAFRAS.

Saxeous (sæ·ksɪəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *saxe-us* of stone (f. *sax-um* stone, rock) + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to stone, stony. †*Saxeous odour*, an exhalation supposed to be the cause of petrifaction.

1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xxix. 362 That the petrifying seed doth consist alone in a saxeous or stony odour or steam [tr. Van Helmont *De Lithiasi* i. Quod semen petrificum consistat in solo odore saxeo]. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 664 Such a saxeous metamorphosis was an old story even in..Ovid's time. *Ibid.* 875 The culprit in the saxeous change lost two-thirds of his original height.

Sax-horn, saxhorn (sæ·kshɔ̄n). [f. the name *Sax*: see below.] The name given to a group of brass musical instruments of the trumpet kind, invented by a Belgian, Charles Joseph Sax (1791–1865), and improved by his son Antoine Joseph, known as Adolphe. Called also **sax-cornet.** Also **sax-tuba,** a brass instrument of this class. (Cf. SAXOPHONE, SAXOTROMBA.)

1852 *Crystal Palace* 285/1 The Sax-horns, which have become so popular..are also another modification of the cornopean. *Ibid.* 285/2 Sax-horns in alto, soprano, tenor, tuba, bass, &c. 1856 MARY C. CLARKE tr. *Berlioz' Mod. Instrum.* 234 M. Sax has also produced the family of sax-horns, of saxotrombas, and of sax-tubas,—brass instruments with a wide mouthpiece; and with a mechanism of three, four, or five cylinders. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sax-cornet, Sax-horn*, musical wind instruments usually made of brass. 1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* xxv. 295 From David's harp to Mr. Distin's sax-horns.

‖ **Saxicava** (sæksi·kāvă). Pl. -æ. [mod.L., fem. of *saxicavus*: see next.] A genus of bivalve boring molluscs; a member of this genus. Also in anglicized form **Sa·xicave** (*rare*).

1826 E. OSLER in *Phil. Trans.* CXVI. III. 362 The Saxicava does not bore like the Pholas, by a rotatory motion. *Ibid.* 364 Where the Saxicavæ are numerous, their holes communicate very freely. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 248 The rugose Saxicave [note *Saxicava rugosa*].

Saxicavous (sæksi·kāvəs), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *saxicav-us* (f. *saxum* rock + *cavāre* to hollow, excavate) + -OUS.] Hollowing out rock or stone: epithet of certain molluscs.

1830 DANA *Geol.* ii. 122 They resemble, in fact, other saxicavous molluscs. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* 456 Saxicavous shells, by piercing stone and leaving open cavities for rain and sea-water to fill, promote its decay.

Saxicole (sæ·ksikōul), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *saxicola*, f. *saxum* rock, stone + *colĕre* to inhabit.] = SAXICOLOUS.

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 562/1 Saxicole lichens, which occur on rocks and stones.

Saxicoline (sæksi·kōləin), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *saxicol-a* SAXICOLE + -INE.] **a.** Living among rocks, growing on rocks (in recent Dicts.). **b.** *spec.* Pertaining to the subfamily *Saxicolinæ* of passerine birds (the stone-chats).

1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* 516 As regards the Saxicoline and Ruticilline forms, attention should be drawn to [etc.].

Saxicolous (sæksi·kŏləs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *saxicol-a* SAXICOLE + -OUS.] Growing on rocks.

1856 W. L. LINDSAY *Brit. Lichens* 104 In northern latitudes, Lichens are usually saxicolous. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 697 Saxicolous Lichens.

Saxi·fical, *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *saxific-us* (f. *saxum* rock, stone : see -FIC) + -AL.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Saxifical*, that turns into a stone, or is made stony.

Saxifragaceous (sæksifrăgē·ɪ·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [-ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Saxifragaceæ*.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 177*/1 Saxifragaceous shrubs. 1892 *Nation* 11 Aug. 114/3 A saxifragaceous tree.

Saxifragal (sæksi·frăgăl), *a.* and *sb. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *saxifraga* SAXIFRAGE + -AL.] Belonging to Lindley's 'alliance' *Saxifragales*, which comprises the *Saxifragaceæ* and four other orders. Hence *sb.*, a member of this alliance.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 566.

Saxi·fragant, *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *saxifrag-us* (see SAXIFRAGE) + -ANT.] That breaks stones.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Saxifragrant* [sic], that breaks stones, or is broken against stones. 1676 COLES, *Saxifragant*, breaking (or broken against) stones.

Saxifrage (sæ·ksifrēdʒ). Also 6 saxfrage, saxefrage, sixfrag(e, 7 saxafrage, -phrage, 8 saxifrige. [a. OF. *saxifrage, saxefrage, sassifrage* (13th c.), ad. L. *saxifraga* (sc. *herba*), in Pliny *saxifragum* (sc. *adiantum*) : see next. Med.L. had also *saxifragia, -fragium* (It. *sassifraga, -fragia*).

The Latin name (=rock-breaking) was probably given because many species are found growing among stones and in the clefts of rocks. Pliny preferred to derive it from the supposed lithontriptic virtue of the plant (*H. N.* XXII. xxi. § 64 *calculos e corpore mire pellit frangitque*), and this view has had great currency; but *saxum* is far from being synonymous with *calculus*.]

1. Any plant of the genus *Saxifraga*, esp. *S. granulata* (White Meadow Saxifrage). The numerous species are mostly dwarf herbs with tufted foliage and panicles of white, yellow or red flowers; many root in the clefts of rocks. Also applied to related plants, as the genus *Chrysosplenium* (Golden Saxifrage), *Pimpinella Saxifraga* (Burnet or Rough S.) and *P. magna* (Great S.), *Silaus pratensis* (Meadow or Pepper S.), the genus *Seseli* (Meadow S.).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Saxifrage, herbe, *Saxifragium, Saxifragia*. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 163 Saxifragia uel saxifraga similis est pimpinello, radice utimur, g°. et a°. saxifrage. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccxxxviii. (1529) Z iij, *De Saxifraga minori*. The lesse saxifrage. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 87 The englishe mens Saxifragia, which they cal Saxifrage, hath leaues lyke smal perseley, & it groweth in middowes. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* N vij, Mingle it wyth Gilloflowres and Sixfrag. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. O iiij, Pimpinell or roughe saxifrage. 1568 *Ibid.* III. 68 The white Saxifrage with the indented leafe is moste commended for the breakinge of the stone. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. cii. 287 Of white Saxifrage or Stonebreake. *Ibid.* 288 Golden Saxifrage. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccciv. 887 Burnet Saxifrage. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 221 So Saxifrage is good, and Harts-tongue for the Stone. 1652 D. BORDER *Physitian* 139 The root of Saxafrage drunk with Wine and Vinegar cureth the Pestilence. 1683 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 132 Whether the Seseli .. be a species distinct from our English Meadow Saxifrage? 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XIX. (1794) 270 Common White Saxifrage flowers early and in great quantities among the grass. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 295 *Peucedanum Silaus*..Meadow Saxifrage, or Sulphurwort. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 486/1 White or Granulated Meadow Saxifrage. 1846 *Ibid.* Suppl. II. 547/1 *Silaus pratensis*, Meadow Pepper Saxifrage. 1858 KINGSLEY *Miscell.* (1859) I. 164 The first stars of the white saxifrage,..which shine upon some green cushion of wet moss.

b. (with *pl.*) Any member of the genus *Saxifraga* or of the N.O. *Saxifragaceæ*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. ci. 286 The smal Saxifrages growe vnder hedges. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XIX. (1794) 269 In the second [order] you have all the Saxifrages, forty-two in number. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 53 The Saxifrages of the division Euaizonia.

†**2.** Applied to caraway-seed. *Obs.*

1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 350 *Carum* grows plentifully in our Pastures; the seed they call Saxifrage, which they gather and send to London.

¶ **3.** Misused for SASSAFRAS.

1670 D. DENTON *Descr. New York* (1845) 4 The greatest part of the Island is very full of Timber, as..Maples, Cedars, Saxifrage, Beach.

4. *attrib.*, as *saxifrage-root, -seed, -water.*

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccvii. (1557) 72 Putte thereto three vnces of Saxfrage rotes. *Ibid.* 72 b, I did take..of Saxfrage sedes..an vnce. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 86/1 Strawberry or Saxifrage Water. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 486/1 The roots of this species [*Saxifraga granulata*], forming as they do little granular masses, were at one time sold in the shops under the name of saxifrage seed.

Saxifragine (sæksi·frădʒēn). [a. F. *saxifragine* (Desorbiaux 1878), f. L. *saxifrag-us*: see next.] A species of gunpowder (see quot. 1889).

The statement in quot. 1881 is app. erroneous.

1881 GREENER *Gun* 320 Mataziette and Saxafragine [*sic*] are merely aliases for dynamite of different consistencies and strength. 1889 CUNDILL *Dict. Explosives* 16 Saxifragine consists of: Nitrate of baryta 77 parts, Charcoal 21 parts, Saltpetre 2 parts.

†**Saxi·fragous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *saxifrag-us* (f. *saxum* rock + *frag-, frangĕre* to break) + -OUS.] That has the property of 'breaking' or dissolving the stone in the bladder. Also *fig.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 84 Saxifragous herbes, and such as are conceived of power to breake the stone. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 98, I have six or seven Instances more,..which will make such a Saxifragous Dose, that no scruple can stand before it.

†**Sa·xify,** *v. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *saxum* rock : see -FY. Cf. L. *saxificus* petrifying.] *trans.* To turn into rock or stone. In quot. **Saxifying** *vbl. sb.*

1659 TORRIANO, *Lapificatione*, a saxifying.

Saxigenous (sæksi·dʒɪnəs), *a.* [f. late L. *saxigen-us*, f. *sax-um* rock + *-gen-us* begotten, sprung (from) : see -OUS. The termination is here erroneously taken to mean 'producing', as in CORALLIGENOUS.] That produces (coral) rocks or reefs.

1842 DARWIN *Coral Reefs* iv. § 1. 64 The saxigenous lithophytes. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 415 Saxigenous polypes or lithophytes.

†**Sa·xish,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* In 3 Sax-, Sæx-, Sexisc, Saxiss, -ess. [OE. *Seaxisc, Sęxisc*, f. *Seaxe* Saxons : see -ISH. Cf. OFris. *sassisk*, Du. *saksisch*, G. *sächsisch*, ON. *saxnesk-r.*] = SAXON *a.* and *sb.*

O. E. Chron. an. 1009, Brihtric..forwręde Wulfnoð cild þone Suðseaxscian [*read* -seaxiscan] to þam cyning. *c* 1205 LAY. 7111 Seoððen comen Sæxisce [*c* 1275 Saxisse] men. *Ibid.* 14143 Ich wulle biliue senden after mine wiue, þat is a Sexisc wimmon. *Ibid.* 14979 Fortimer spæc Bruttisc & Rouuenne Saxisc [*c* 1275 Saxisse]. *Ibid.* 29963 Anglisce & Sexisce seouentene þusend mid machen weoren to-heowen. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* IX. iii. 305, I know well these Saxish men.

Saxon (sæ·ksən), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 3–5 Saxoyn(e, 4–5 Saxoun, Sessoyne, 5–6 Saxson(e, 4– Saxon. [a. F. *Saxon*, ad. L. *Saxon-em* (nom. sing. *Saxo*, pl. *Saxonēs*, Gr. in Ptolemy Σάξονες), a. WGer. **Saxon-* (OE. *Seaxan, Seaxe* pl., OHG. *Sahsûn* pl., G. *Sachse*).

It has been conjectured that the name may have been derived from **sahso*ⁿ Sax *sb.*, as the name of the weapon used by the Saxons; cf. the probable derivation of the German tribe-name *Cherusci* from OTeut. **heru* sword.]

A. *sb.*

1. One of a Germanic people which in the early centuries of the Christian era dwelt in a region near the mouth of the Elbe, and of which one portion, distinguished as *Anglo-Saxons* (see ANGLO-SAXON) conquered and occupied certain parts of South Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries, while the other, the *Old Saxons* (med.L. *Antiqui Saxones*, Beda; OE. *Ealdseaxe*) remained in Germany. Often, like *Anglo-Saxon*, applied indiscriminately to all the Germanic peoples that settled in Britain. Also, an Englishman who is presumed to be descended from this people.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2540 Hit was of grace þat þe saxoyns þus com verst to londe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 184 A Saxon and a worthi knyht. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3530 Sarazenes and Sessoynes. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 99 Saxsones were y-clepud Engestis men. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xii. 173 Oure werres a-gein the saxoyns. *Ibid.* xiii. 193 That day Gawein slowgh many a sarazin of the saxouns. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xvi, (1870) 164, I do maruel greatly how the Saxsons should conquere Englonde. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxv. (1787) II. 522 The sea-coast of Gaul and Britain was exposed to the depredations of the Saxons. *Ibid.* xxxviii. III. 613 Three valiant tribes or nations of Germany; the *Jutes*, the *old Saxons*, and the *Angles*. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 33 The Norman has come popularly to represent in England the aristocratic—and the Saxon the democratic principle. 1862 W. H. JERVIS *Hist. France* v. § 6 (1872) 65 Divided into the three confederacies of Westphalians, Ostphalians, and Angarians, the Saxons occupied at this time the greater part of Northern Germany.

b. In mod. use *spec.* (primarily as the term used by Celtic speakers). An Englishman as distinct from a Welshman or Irishman, a Lowland Scot as distinct from a Highlander. Cf. SASSENACH.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* IV. xxxi, He gave him of his Highland cheer. And bade the Saxon share his plaid. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxx, Scores of [Irish] gentlemen..who would not object to take the Saxon's pay until they finally shook his yoke off.

2. A native or inhabitant of Saxony in its modern German sense, including the kingdom of Saxony, the Prussian province of Saxony, and certain principalities.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 4/1 The Saxons, who long since have done great damage to your coarser sorts of Cloths.

3. *Pyrotechnics.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 480 The saxons are cartridges clayed at each end, charged with the brilliant turning fire, and perforated with one or two holes at the extremity of the same diameter. 1873 W. H. BROWNE *Pyrotechny* viii. 87 Saxons ..[are] used largely in the construction of set pieces; they are sometimes called Chinese flyers.

4. *Ent.* A night-moth, *Hadena rectilinea.*

1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 423.

B. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to the Saxons (see A. 1). Formerly often used (like *Anglo-Saxon*) as the distinctive epithet of the Old English language, and of books written in it, and of the period of English history between the conquest of Britain by the Saxons, Angles, and Jutes, and the Norman Conquest. †*Saxon Angles* = Anglo-Saxons.

Old Saxon: pertaining to the Old Saxons or their language: see A. 1 and B. 2 b.

1568 JEWEL *Let. to Abp. Parker* 18 Jan., Wks. 1848 VIII. 193, I..have found..one book, written in the Saxon tongue. ..It may be Alfricus for all my cunning. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. vi. (Arb.) 90 *Ryme* is a borrowed word from the Greeks by the Latines and French, from them by vs Saxon angles. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Languages* 24 The Saxon letter *Thorne*. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXV. (1787) II. 523 The Saxon pirates. *Ibid.* XXXVIII. III. 610 The obscure hints of the Saxon laws and chronicles. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, The last scion of Saxon royalty. 1824 JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 581 Greek, Hebrew, Saxon, &c., or any of the dead characters. 1840 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) p. xii, An interlinear version into the Saxon language. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 130 In Ireland Scot and Southron were strongly bound together by their common Saxon origin. 1862 W. H. JERVIS *Hist. France* v. §6 (1872) 65 Witikind became the hero of the Saxon resistance.

b. Used to denote the element in the English tongue which is derived from Anglo-Saxon.

†*Saxon-English*, †*English-Saxon* = Anglo-Saxon.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. XXX. (Arb.) 72 This word (song) which is our naturall Saxon English word. *Ibid.* II. xiii. 126 Our vulgar Saxon English standing most vpon wordes monosillable. *Ibid.* 130 Not content with the vsual Normane or Saxon word. ?1595–6 R. CAREW *Excell. Engl. Tongue* in G. G. Smith *Elizab. Crit. Ess.* II. 287 In our natiue Saxon language. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1841) 307 Wheresoever a Saxon dialect is spoken. 1849 F. W. NEWMAN *Soul* 71 Poetry must have Saxon vocables. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 2 Mr. Sawyer's fluency in all Saxon expletives is undeniable.

c. Used (primarily by Celtic speakers: see A. 1 b) for 'English' in contradistinction to Welsh and Irish or Gaelic. Also, in wider sense, applied, like *Anglo-Saxon*, to the people of England and of the other English-speaking communities, chiefly in contradistinction to 'Latin'.

1787 BURNS *'When Guilford good'* vii, The Saxon lads, wi' loud placads, On Chatham's Boy did ca', man. *a* 1845 C. G. DUFFY in *Spirit of Nation* 3 Saxon wiles or Saxon powers Can enslave our land no longer Than your own dissensions wrong her. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Uses of Gt. Men* Wks. (Bohn) I. 282 Every child of the Saxon race is educated to wish to be first. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 49 Then nectar—was that beer, or whisky-toddy? Some say the Gaelic mixture, *I* the Saxon. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 64, I never found a Saxon-Englishman who had this step.

d. *Arch.* Used to designate the special variety of Romanesque architecture used in England in the 'Saxon period'. (Formerly often misapplied to early Norman buildings.)

17.. WARBURTON *Note on Pope's Ep. Ld. Burlington* 29 This, by way of distinction, I would call the Saxon Architecture. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 181 This Saxon style begins to be defined by flat and round arches. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 222/1 Those arcades we see in the early Norman or Saxon buildings or walls. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xiii, With doors and windows forming the heavy round arch which is usually called Saxon.

2. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*). The language of the Saxons: a. = ANGLO-SAXON in its various applications. Often used for Modern English speech of Saxon or Anglo-Saxon origin; English diction derived chiefly from the Saxon stock, as distinct from the Latin and French elements.

†*English Saxon* = Anglo-Saxon.

1388 PURVEY *Prol. Bible* 59 Bede translatide the bible, and expounide myche in Saxon, that was English, either comoun langage of this lond. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 206 For Couste in Saxoun is to sein Constance upon the word Romein. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. v. (Arb.) 90 For this purpose serue the monosillables of our English Saxons [*sic*] excellently well. *Ibid.* III. iv. (Arb.) 157 Neither shall he take the termes of Northern-men,..nor in effect any speach vsed beyond the riuer of Trent, though no man can deny but that theirs is the purer English Saxon at this day. 1624 FLETCHER *Wife for a Month* I, A Letter, But 'tis a womans, Sir, I know by the hand, And the false Orthography, they write old Saxon. 1662 M. W. *Marriage Broaker* 72 He in olde Saxon's call'd a match-maker. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvi, Here is a letter, and, if I mistake not, it is in Saxon. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 312/1 *Maund.* This word being derived from the Saxon, deserves to be in more frequent and general use.

b. *Old Saxon*: the language of the Old Saxons (see A. 1), especially as exemplified in the remains of 9th century poetry, including the *Heliand* and some fragments of paraphrases of the story of Genesis.

1841 R. G. LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* iii. 51 Grammatical Structure of Old Saxon, as compared with Anglo-Saxon. 1908 WRIGHT *O. E. Grammar* 2 Low German..Up to about 1300 it is generally called Old Saxon.

3. Of or belonging to Saxony in its modern German sense. (See A. 2.)

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. i. 271 With Saxon lans-knights and brunt-bearing Switzers. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 3/1 The thriving..Trade of all sorts of Saxon Cloths. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (near beginning), Even Frederic William, with all his rugged Saxon prejudices, thought it necessary that his children should know French. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 363 The indigenous Saxon breed [of sheep] resembled that of the neighbouring states.

b. *Saxon blue* = Saxony blue: see SAXONY. *Saxon green*: cobalt green.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. xciv. 432 The blues and greens, commonly called Saxon, are best dyed in this place. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 428, 2 Saxon-green durants. 1771 WOULFE in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 127 Saxon blues..are made by dissolving indigo in oil of vitriol. 1775 ROMANS *Hist. Florida* App. 19 The color of the water changes..to a beautiful saxon blue. 1804 tr. *Tingry's Painter & Varnisher's Guide* 302 Smalt, or the vitreous oxide of saffer, reduced to coarse powder, is distinguished by the name of coarse Saxon blue, or enamel blue.

Saxondom (sæ·ksəndəm). = ANGLO-SAXONDOM.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 184 East and west to the very Antipodes, there will be a Saxondom covering great spaces of the Globe. 1868 DILKE *Greater Brit.* I. Pref. 8 Sketches of Saxondom may be of interest. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 24 The Anglian kingdom of Northumbria exhibited the first mature example of a Christian nation in Saxondom.

† Saxo·nian, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. med.L. *Saxonia* SAXONY + -AN.] a. *adj.* = SAXON *a.* 3. b. *sb.* A Protestant of Saxony.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. § 14 Saxonians and Bohemians in their Discipline constraine no man to open confession. 1761 SPENCE in *Epithal. Oxon.* Gj, Hail.., Saxonian plains! where deep Visurgis flows.

Saxonic (sæksɒ·nik), *a.* [ad. med.L. *Saxonic-us*, f. L. *Saxon-* SAXON.]

1. Of or belonging to Saxony.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. xi. 23 They of the Anglican, ..Saxonick, Wirtinbergick, Palatin, and Belgick confessions.

2. Belonging to the Anglo-Saxons or their language.

1678 T. JONES *Heart & its Soveraign* 320 Their Saxonick letter, which much agrees with the character, the Irish still use. 1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 1 This Saxonick way of writing is to be found in Chaucer. 1888 EARLE (*title*) A Hand-Book to the Land-Charters, and other Saxonic Documents.

† Saxo·nical, *a. Obs.* = prec.

1577 DEE *Memor. Navig.* 57 King Edgar, that Saxonicall Alexander. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 211 The later Interpreters..so interpret the Statute of the Saxonical Law.

Saxo·nically, *adv. rare.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In the Saxonic manner.

1837 S. R. MAITLAND 6 *Lett. Fox's A. & M.* 6 King Ina, ..[or,] as Fox more Saxonically called him, Ine.

Saxonish (sæ·ksənɪʃ), *a.* [f SAXON + -ISH.] Belonging to the Saxons; resembling what is Saxon.

1549 BALE *Labor. Journ. Leland* Pref. B iij, A man lerned in many sondrye languages, as Greke, Latyne,..Brittyshe, Saxonyshe, Walshe, Englyshe, and Scottyshe. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 126/2 Which terme being expired, the whole dominion of this realme was Saxonish. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* 16 The Welsh and the Gael, have still called us Saxons, and our language Saxonish.

Saxonism (sæ·ksəniz'm). [f. SAXON + -ISM.]

1. An Anglo-Saxon idiom or expression; Anglo-Saxon characteristics in speech.

1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. ii. 49 The language [of Robert of Gloucester]..is full of Saxonisms. 1845 KEMBLE in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 121 How often have we not heard it asserted that particular districts were remarkable for the Saxonism of their speech, because they had retained the archaisms, *kine, shoon, housen*! 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* III. i. 10 *note*, Many other sinewy Saxonisms of this sort.

2. The characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon race; attachment to what is Anglo-Saxon.

1884 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 443 Please to remember in abatement of your pride of Saxonism, that its moral association is not inherited but acquired. *a* 1894 C. H. PEARSON in Stebbing *Mem.* (1900) 92 The extravagant Saxonism of the present school [of historians].

Saxonist (sæ·ksənist). [f. SAXON + -IST.] A Saxon scholar; one learned in Anglo-Saxon.

1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 31 Vnleste a manne be a good saxoniste, frenche, and Italyane linguiste. 1770 *Archæologia* I. Introd. 25 Mr. Elstob the Saxonist. 1812 J. NICHOLS *Lit. Anecd. 18th C.* IV. 123 This ingenious Saxonist. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXI. 80 Mr. Thorpe, so well known as one of the very few accomplished Saxonists of whom we can boast.

Saxonite (sæ·ksənəit). *Geol.* [f. SAXON-Y + -ITE.] A name proposed for a group of peridotite rocks composed of olivine and enstatite.

1884 WADSWORTH *Lithol. Studies* 85 It is, then, proposed here to designate all these rocks by the term *saxonite*, from the country in which the terrestrial form was first so well described by Dathe.

Saxonize (sæ·ksənəiz), *v.* [f. SAXON + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make Saxon or Anglo-Saxon.

1804 MITFORD *Inquiry* 405 The rest, French, Latin, and Greek, is little more than a magazine of words; rarely showing, except as in declension, comparison, or conjugation, they have been Saxonized, any relation to the rest of the speech. 1843 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) III. 92 Saint Romualdo, (or Rumwald, as our ancestors saxonised the name). 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* vi. 55 Other invaders..poured in..till the island was Saxonized.

2. *intr.* To become Saxon (in quot., of Saxony).

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 440/1 Arthur is packed off to Saxonise at Weimar, to sigh at the feet of Goethe's handsome daughter-in-law.

Hence **Sa·xonized** *ppl. a.*, **Sa·xonizing** *vbl. sb.*

1867 SHAIRP *Sketches* (1887) 67 The decisive Saxonising of Scotland that took place under Margaret. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 642 The Saxonized Britons of Wiltshire.

Saxonly (sæ·ksənli), *adv.* [f. SAXON *a.* + -LY 2.] In a Saxon manner; in the Saxon tongue.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 159 þe Flemmynges þat woneþ in þe weste side of Wales haueþ i-left her straunge speche and spekeþ Saxonliche i-now [L. *Saxonice satis proloquuntur*]. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XV. xciii. 374 Of Britons (saxonlie calld Welsh, or Strangers). 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 28 Insurgent after no mad Gallic fashion, but soberly and Saxonly discharging itself. 1870 — *Study Wind., Chaucer* (1871) 195 He found our language lumpish, ..too apt to speak Saxonly in grouty monosyllables.

Saxony (sæ·ksəni), *sb.* [ad. late L. *Saxonia*, the country of the Saxons, f. *Saxon-* SAXON.

In ME. the name of the country appears in the forms *Saxon, Saxoyne, Sexone, Sessoyne* (after OF. *Saxoine, Sessoyne*); the similar use of *Saxon* in Chapman's *Alphonsus* (*a* 1634) may be from the mod.G. *Sachsen*.]

The name of a kingdom of Germany (in Ger. *Sachsen*, in Fr. *Saxe*), used *attrib.* to designate products of the country: *esp.*

1. A fine kind of wool, and cloth made from it. Also *absol.* = *Saxony-cloth.*

Several distinct kinds of fabric are thus designated: *Saxony coating*, Saxony wool made in coating styles; *Saxony flannel*, Saxony wool in flannel weight and finish, usually scarlet; *Saxony cord*, a black ribbed material with cotton warp and Saxony weft, used for cassocks and academic robes.

1844 THACKERAY *Box of Novels* Wks. 1900 XIII. 412 His Saxony-cloth surtout. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 333 Mr. Sponge forthwith proceeded to put his brown boots,..his dress blue saxony, his clean linen,..into his solid leather portmanteau. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 654/2 Specimens of the finest Saxony wools.

2. *Saxony blue*: a solution of indigo in concentrated sulphuric acid, much used as a dye. Also *Saxon blue* (see SAXON *a.* 3 b).

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 616. 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 559/1.

† Sa·xony, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [? f. SAXON + -Y.] = SAXONISH.

1565 J. HALLE *Lanfranc's Cirurgia parua* Ded. ¶j, Whiche was translated out of Frenche into the olde Saxony englishe, about two hundred yeres past.

Saxophone (sæ·ksŏfōun). [f. the name *Sax* (see SAX-HORN) + Gr. -φωνος voiced, sounding.] A brass wind-instrument with a clarinet mouthpiece, invented about 1840 by Adolphe Sax.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 1259/1 Sax, Adolphe & Co., Paris..Saxophone, and complete set of instruments for military bands, invented by the exhibitor. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 708/2 Adolphe Sax, a Belgian established in Paris, who invented the family of saxophones.

Hence **Sa·xophonist,** a saxophone-player.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 1/2 Hitherto we have had neither Zouaves, nor drummers, nor Turkish Saxophonists, nor Danish peasants, introduced into the orchestra.

Sa·xotromba. [Formed as prec. + It. *tromba* trumpet.] (See quot. 1883).

1856 [see SAX-HORN]. 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 232/1 In 1845 he [A. Sax] took out a patent..for a family of cylinder instruments called Saxo-trombas, intermediate between the Saxhorn and the cylinder trumpet.

† Sa·xous, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *saxōs-us*, f. *saxum* rock, stone: see -OUS.] Rocky, stony.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 309 It growes..on stone walls, old edifices, and rubbages, and other saxous and dry places [orig. *aliisque saxosis & aridis locis*].

Saxoyne, Saxsum: see SAXON, SIXSOME.

Saxt(e, -ie, -en, -ine, -ieth, obs. Sc. ff. SIXTH, SIXTY, SIXTEEN, SIXTIETH.

† Sa·xter aithe. *Orkney* and *Shetland.* Refashioning, after Sc. *sax* 'six', of ON. *séttar-eiðr* 'an oath of six', i. e. of six compurgators.

1602 in Goudie *Diary Y. Mill* (1889) 185 Jonat Archbald is dempt to quite hir selff with the saxter aithe for [etc.].

Saxton, Sax-tuba: see SEXTON, SAX-HORN.

‖ Sa·xum. *Obs.* [L.] (See quot.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Saxum*, Stone or Rock-stone. 1776 G. EDWARDS *Elem. Fossilogy* 9 Class II. Stones... Order VI. Stone of a granulated structure, named Saxum. 1776 in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 525 The mass of native iron lay on the very ridge, without being fixed to the rock, which is a grey, stratified *saxum*.

Say (sē1), *sb.*1 Forms: 5–6 saye, 6 seeay, seye, see, sea, 6–7 saie, 6–8 sey, 3– say. [a. F. *saie* fem. = Pr. *saia*, Sp. *saya*, Pg. *saia*, It. *saja* :—L. *saga* pl. of *sagum* military cloak.]

1. A cloth of fine texture resembling serge; in the 16th c. sometimes partly of silk, subsequently entirely of wool.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8013 As is chanberlein him broȝte ar he aros aday Amorewe uor to werie a peire hosen of say. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Say, clothe, *sagum*. 1519 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 354 A kyrtylle of sylke seeay. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 94 Fyne clothys, says and sylkys, bedys, combys, gyrdyllys and knyfys. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 8 His garment nether was of silke nor say But [etc.]. 1659 Y. *Cleaveland Revived* 68 Saw you the Cloak at Church to day, The long worne short Cloak lin'd with Say? 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Say*, or *Saye*,..a very light crossed stuff, all wool; much used abroad for linings, and

by the religious for shirts; and with us, by the quakers, for aprons, for which purpose it is usually dyed green. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Colchester*, It is principally noted for the manufacture of baizes and seys; for the support of which there is a corporation, called the governors of Dutch-baize-hall. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxi. No. 3964 Worsted goods: merinos, says, shalloons, &c.

† b. The thread or yarn from which the material is woven. *Obs.*

1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 85 Yarn ordinary *p.* 100 weight 07 00...Ditto Sayes per 100 weight 03 00.

¶ 2. In erroneous uses. a. Used by Wyclif to render the cognate L. *sagum*, in the Vulgate with the sense of curtain. b. Used to render F. *soie* silk.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 213 Olyuer tok his mantel of say [Fr. *son bliaut de soie*]. 1388 Wyclif *Exod.* xxvi. 7 Also thou schalt make enleuene saies [Vulg. *saga cilicina undecim*] to kouere the hilyng of the tabernacle; the length of o say schal haue thretti cubitis. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 323 This is the making of that fine Say, wherof silk cloth is made [Fr. version: *Et c'est comme se fait la soye*].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *say apron, curtain, doublet, petticoat; say-maker, -making, -mill, -weaver*; also † say man, a maker or seller of say; † say-thicker, a fuller of say.

1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 89 And ye's get a green *sey apron And wastcoat of the London brown. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 352 Paid for mending of the *Say Curtens in þe quere, ij d. 1541 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 144 One *say dublett. 1654 in *Cal. St. Papers, Irel., Adventurers* (1903) 333 Isaac Key..*say-maker [delivered] three pieces of coloured sayes. 1632 *Contin. Foxe's A. & M.* 32/2 Following the trade of *Say-making. 1488–9 in *Finchale Priory Charters*, etc. (Surtees) p. ccclxxxiii, Et solvit Johanni Francis, *sayman, pro lez hallyngs de sago viridi. 1904 *Essex Rev.* July 154 To the south of the Church [of Dedham] stands a picturesque old Bay and *Say mill. 1636 Davenant *Wills* v. i, I have nothing on my Bed at home, But a thin Coverlet, and my wives *Sey Petti-coat. 1641 *Short Relat. Soap-Business* 18 Diers, Wool-Combers, *Saye-Thickers, and the like. 1644 *Canterbury Marriage Licences* (MS.), Peter de Graue..*say-weaver.

† **Say,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–9 say, 5–6 saye, 6 saie, seye, 6–8 sey. [Aphetic form of Assay *sb.* It is often uncertain whether the word intended was *assay* or *say* with indefinite article.]

1. The action of testing the quality, fitness of a person or thing; = Assay *sb.* 1. In later use only *Sc.*, a probation.

a 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4028 (Petyt MS.) [þe note he coupe of alle layes,] & mynstralcie all þe saies [*v.r.* al þer assayes]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8063 There is no hope so vnhappy, þat hastes to noght, Ne so vnsikur at a say, as to set vppon wemen! 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 299, I have alreadie given him to the Duke of Bulloigne.. but if that had not been, it might have been that yee should had a sey of him, but now it cannot be helped. 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 59 The Publick can suffer little by his Admission without a Sey; if he does not work well and cheap he'll find no Business.

2. Trial; trouble; tribulation. = Assay *sb.* 2.

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 78 For than ȝe knew thay wer ȝour fais, Bot now thay cum in freindis clais, Quhilk is ane sairer sey.

3. Experiment. *To set* (something) *in a say*, to make experiment of. = Assay *sb.* 3.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 229 Of suche men that now aday This vice setten in a say.

4. The testing of metals, in order to ascertain their standard of purity. = Assay *sb.* 6.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1262/1 A piece of a blacke stone,..which being brought to certeine goldfiners in London to make a saie thereof, found it to hold gold. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. iv. 215 They cannot transport it [gold] from the Indies, for they can neither custome it, marke it, nor take say, vntill it be molten. 1669 Ld. Sandwich tr. *Barba's Metals* I. (1674) 121 All the Mines ..in that Province have been found out, and first taken say of, by the Spaniards.

5. *Venery.* Trial of grease. = Assay *sb.* 9.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xix. 246 There, having brought the Bore, Atrides with his knife tooke sey. 1686 Blome *Gentl. Recr.* II. 84 Then having sounded the Mot, or Morts, he that is to break him up (that is, to take say,) first, slits the Skin [etc.]. 1817 J. Mayer *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 159 The first that is in cuts his throat, and takes say, which is, opening his belly, to see how fat he [a stag or buck] is.

b. *concr.* The cut in the flesh made in the process of taking say. ? Erroneous use: but cf. sense 9.

1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* viii, You may lay your two fingers into the say there, and not get to the bottom of the fat.

6. A trial of food by taste or smell. = Assay *sb.* 10.

c 1440 in *Household. Ord.* (1790) 471 Take the laumpray, and wassh hym twyse or thries in lewe water,..sethe hym, and he schal be fressbe ynogh at a say. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Degusto*,..to taste: to take a little saye. 1639 Massinger *Unnat. Combat* III. i, He ne're observ'd you..take A say of venison, or stale fowle by your nose.

7. The act of tasting food or drink before presenting it to a person of high rank. = Assay *sb.* 12.

1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1274 A say scho tuk off all thyng at thai brocht. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. clxxxviii. 575 We toke the saye in the presence of the kinge. 1591 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* xxvi. 109 The taster..deliuereth it [*sc.* the cup] vnto him with a say, when hee calleth for it. 1647 Stapylton *Juvenal* 102 Let your wise guardians, e're you drink, take say. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 519 The Kings dishes were brought up cover'd, the say was given, and all things were performed with satisfaction in that point.

b. *fig.*

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* vi. 1–6 Now (as it were) to take a saye & foretaste of the power of y^e^ worlde to come. 1600 Holland *Livy* v. xii. 188 Neither as yet is it for certaine knowne, why he..was counted a meet man to have handsell, or take sey of this new dignitie.

8. An attempt, an endeavour. = Assay *sb.* 13.

1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 45 Thus seeke all sayes hir sore to salue, by good and honest way. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. iii, This fellow, Captaine, Will come, in time, to be a great distiller, And giue a say..at the philosophers stone. 1637 C. Dow *Answ. to H. Burton* 212 To discover and prevent this their purpose before it had undermined the present government of the Church, as no question it would have given a good say to it, if it had without controule proceeded as it began.

9. A trial specimen; a sample. = Assay *sb.* 17.

1530 Tindale *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 279/2 To geue you a say or a taste what truth shall follow, he fayneth a letter sent from no man. 1656 in Irving *Hist. Dumbarton.* (1860) 535 Item, that neither prentis nor ither personne of the said craft be suffered to sett up ane bothe nor work in the said burgh till first he offers his sey to the said deacon and be fund worthy and able to be ane maister of the said craft.

10. Temper of metal. = Assay *sb.* 18.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* vi. xi. 47 A sword of better say.

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 7) *say-taking*; **say-box**, the chest in which coins are deposited at the Mint for future examination at the Trial of the Pyx; **say-master** = Assay-master; **say-piece**, anything chosen as an example of excellence.

1532 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* VI. 103 To ane smyth for the of taking of the lok of the *say box. 1641 in R. W. Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) I. Introd. 30 Item that the say box belong to him when it is broken vp quhich will not be much because that it conteins bot ane quartre of euerie say piece. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. iii. 266 The treasurer, comptroller and *seymaster of the late erected mints. 1680 Boyle *Scept. Chem.* VI. 401 This Gentleman having brought that Earth to the publick Say-Masters [etc.]. 1641 *Say piece [see above]. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Ode to Gowdspink* Poems (1845) 20 Nae mair the rainbow can impart Sic glowin' ferlies o' her art, Whose pencil wrought its freaks at will On thee, the sey-piece o' her skill. 1788 in *Shirreff's Poems* (1790) 341 With something of the comic vis, And, for a say-piece, not amiss. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 508 The Frenche King, and She also, was at the making seasoning and *saye taking of the said pasties. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* IV. x. § 2 (1630) 430 Dinner and supper was served in with all accustomed ceremonies, as sewing, water, grace, carving, say taking, &c.

† **Say,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6, 9 sey, 8 cea, 9 sae. [Northern a. ON. *sá-r* cask (Sw. *så*, Da. *saa*, bucket), corresp. to OE. *saa* 'libitorium' (? read *libatorium*) in the Corpus Gloss. The midland form is Soe.] A bucket for domestic or other use, with two ears through which a pole may be passed as a handle.

1426 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 12/2 Of þe samyn wyse [thair be ordanit] thre or four sayis to þe commoun vse. 1564 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 223, ij sayes & a chayre, xij[d]. 1609 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* (Surtees) 60 Item payed to James Rennet son for a say, iij s. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 464 All tubs, ceas, kirns, kits, stoups, cogs and other cooper work. 1892 G. Stewart *Shetland Fireside Tales* (ed. 2) 247 She..set every tub an' sey 'at she could fin.

Say (sē), *sb.*[4] [f. Say *v.*[1]]

1. What a person says; words as compared with actions; also, a saying, dictum. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxix. 30 30^r^ deid is not lyk 30^r^ say. *a* 1586 *Ibid.* xxxvii. 39 Bot, gif þei see ȝe sussie of þair sais, Blasone þai will, how ever ȝe behaue ȝou. 1644 Featly *Roma Ruens* 1 This hath been the say of all heretick and schismaticks. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 158 The poor woman has so little purity of heart, that it [the talk] is all say from her, and goes no farther than the ear. 1741 W. Wilson *Cont. Def. Reform. Ch. Scotl.* 87 The bare *Say* of Ministers..does not bind the Consciences of Church-members. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 337 No boon is here, But justice, so thy say be proven true. 1885 Lyall *Anc. Arab. Poetry* 21 There rises a lord, to say the say, and do the deeds, of the noble. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* lvii, You hearken to the lover's say, And happy is the lover.

† **2.** A current saying, proverb, saw. *Obs.*

1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 39 Tis an old say, Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. *c* 1648–50 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* IV. (1818) 173 Now to Kirkland..May that say' be verified, 'Far from God, but neare the temple'.

3. *To have a say*: to have a 'voice' *in* a matter; to have the right to be consulted or the power to influence a decision.

1614 Jackson *Creed* III. 239 Shall they therefore haue no saye at all in deciding controuersies? 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s.v., 'I have no say in the business'; no power one way or the other. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 143. 5/1 You have no say in the matter. 1900 Gasquet *Eve of Reform.* iii. 52 Whether rightly or wrongly, those who found the money wished to have a say in its disposal. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* lii, One or two more people that had some say with the Government, was working back and edge for me.

transf. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Mar. 287 Buddha traditions had a good say in it.

b. U. S. *To have the say*: to be in command.

1902 Wister *Virginian* xiii, 'So you're acting foreman', said I. 'Why, somebody has to have the say, I reckon'. 1906 H. Van Dyke *Ideals & Applic.* ii. 39 The men who have 'the say' about these subjects belong to the ruling classes.

4. What one has intended or planned to say: chiefly in phrase *to say (out) one's say.*

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ci. 95 He had no sooner say'd out his Say, but [etc.]. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 473 He would not interrupt me for fear I should not have time to say out all my say. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. i, For then we should have time to say all our say. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. xxii, Well hast thou spoke: say forth thy say. 1816 Malcolm *Let.* in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. 341, I have waited to the last, that I might condense all my *say* into one short sheet. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxv, I have said my say. *a* 1843 Southey *Doctor* CCXXVIII. (1848) 618, I shall say out my say in disregard of both. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxx, I have done my best, and said my say. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xxxii, 'Yes, I know I've done it', said Mrs. Poyser; 'but I've had my say out, and I shall be th' easier for't all my life'. 1884 *Athenæum* 11 Oct. 461/1 [Professor Max Müller] has a knack of saying his say in a manner that renders the mere process of reading a pleasure.

b. *To have one's say*: to avail oneself of an opportunity of expressing one's views.

1858 Ruskin *Notes Royal Acad.* IV. 16, I merely pay tribute of admiration in passing, having had my say about Mr. Dobson's colour before. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* ix, Lobourne had its say on the subject. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 24 Oct. 8/2 After one or two Peers had had their say on that subject, the Address was agreed to.

5. A talk *to* or *with* a person. Now *dial.*

1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* II. I. vi. 206 The need of every perishing Sinner for whom he undertook had a Say to him before the Sinner's existence..; and to this Say he was most graciously attentive. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* I. 83 There's some one wants to have a say with you.

Say (sē), *v.*[1] Forms: see below. [OE. *sęgan*, pa. t. *sæġde*, corresp. to OFris. *sega, sedza* (mod. Fris. *sizze*), OS. *seggian*, pa. t. *sagda* (MLG. *seggen*, MDu. *seggen, sagen*, Du. *zeggen*), OHG. *sagên*, pa. t. *sagita, segita* (MHG., mod.G. *sagen*), ON. *segja*, pa. t. *sagða*; repr. OTeut. **sagēj-an*, **sagjan* :—pre-Teut. **sokēi-*. The root is perh. WIndogermanic **soq*^u^-: **seq*^u^, found in Lith. *sakýti*, OSl. *sočyti* to say, Gr. *ἔνεπε* imper. (:—**en-seq*^u^*e* = OLatin *inseque, insece*), *ἐνισπεῖν* aorist inf., to tell, say, L. *inquam* I say (:—**in-squ-am*).

The normal mod.Eng. phonetic representative of the OE. inf. *sęgan* (or the 1st sing. pres. *sęġe*) would have been **sedge*. As in the case of Buy *v.*, Lie *v.*[1], the mod. form comes from OE. forms which had *ġ* (palatal) instead of *cg*, as imp. *sege, sæge*, and sing. pres. ind. *segest, sægst*, 3rd sing. pres. ind. *sęġeð, sæġð*. The *ġ* represents WGer. *g*, and the *cg* WGer. *gg*; the OTeut. stem **sagj-* having become by phonetic law in W.Ger. **saggj-* before an inflexional suffix beginning with a vowel, and **sagi-* in any other position. In Middle English, alongside the tendency, which ultimately prevailed, to extend the stem *seġ-, sei-, sai-* (:—OE. *seg-*) to all parts of the verb, there existed an opposite tendency to extend the stem *segg-* beyond its etymological limits. Hence most of the parts of the verb (though not the pa. t.) had two widely divergent forms, the distribution of which does not closely correspond to dialectal divisions. In some northern poetry the two forms occasionally occur in juxtaposition as distinct words (e. g. 'Tille I haue seggid and saide all my sawe', *York Myst.* xxxii. 16). In Robert of Brunne the form *segge*, **sedge* (implied in *sedgeyng*) seems to be appropriated to the sense 'recite' (as a minstrel): see Sayer 1, Saying 1.]

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. *Infinitive* **say** (sē). Forms: *a.* 1 secgan, secggan, -ean, sæcgan, sæcg(g)ean, 1–2 secgean, seggan, 2 seggon, secgen, -on, segcean, sæcgen, 2–4 segge(n, siggen, suggen, 2–5 sigge, 3 seuggen, sucgen, suge(n, seg, 3–4 sugge, *Kent.* zigge, zygge, 5 sygge, 6 *dial.* zedge. Also *Dative Infinitive* 1 to secgenne, -anne, 2 to seggan(n)e, 2–4 to seggen(e, *Kent.* to ziggene. *β.* 2 sæȝen, sæin, 2–3 seien, seȝen, 2–5 sei(e, 3 seiȝen, 3–5 sai, 4 seyen, saien, seiȝ(e, (? *erron.* sy), 4–5 seyn(e, sein, 4, 6 *Sc.* sa, 4–6 sayn, sey(e, saie, saye, 4–5, (6–7 *arch.* in rimes) sayne, saine, 4–5, (6, 9 *arch.*) sain, 6 sayen, (*erron.* sene), 8–9 *dial.* zay, 3– say. Also *Dative Infinitive* 4–5 to seyne, 4, 6 to saine, 5 to sane, to seinge, to sein, to seynt, 5–6 to sayne.

a. Beowulf 880 þonne he swulces hwæt secgan wolde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 þenne muȝe we wenen and seggen þus. *c* 1205 Lay. 18377 þe king..bad Gorlois suggen [*c* 1275 segge] his iwille. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 We mowe sigge þet stor signefeih þe herte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 134 þet is to ziggene. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 1033 Now will I cease þis sawe & segge you more Of hym þat hight Alisaunder. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 30 For to seggen as thei seen. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1708 To loke what he wolde sygge. 1553 *Respublica* v. vii. 14 (Brandl) Iche maie zedge to yowe, Is fearde pulling owte my throte.

β. a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1070 (Laud MS.) þa herdon þa munecas of Burh sæȝen þæt [etc.]. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 F 5 Suilc & mare þanne we cunnen sæin. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2494 Vs he ðis bodewurd feiȝen bead. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12813 Quat þan sal we sai to þaim? [*v. rr.* sayne; sai; seyl. *c* 1300 *Haveloh* 2886 þe erl ne wolde nouth ageyn þe kinge be.., Ne of þe spusing seyen nay. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 60 So, forto seiȝ al þe soþe so faire þe cherl glosed, þat [etc.]. *c* 1368 Chaucer *Compl. Pité* 77 (Tanner MS.) Ther is no more to seyn [*v. rr.* seye, seyne]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 276 For ocht þat he cuth sa ore do. *c* 1400 *Brut* lix. 55 The v kyng hade Merchemeriche, þat is to seynt, þe Erldome of Nichol. *c* 1420–30? Lydg. *Complaynt* 99 in *Temple Glas* (E. E. T. S.) 60 And of on thyng, soth for to seyne, I haue gret mater to compleyne. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* cxiii. (1906) 153 Syn the nwe testament, that is to sein, sen God was borne of the holy mayden Marie. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 219 Eneuch thairof, now will I na mair sayne. *Ibid.* I. vi. 138 Venus na mair sufferit him plene nor sa. *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 20, I dare well sayen. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 118 To say bo to a battledore. *a* 1643 Cartwright *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) 62

Ah benedicite I might soothly sayne. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Q. Bersabe* 345 Lord God, alas, what shall I sain?

2. *Indicative Present.* **a.** *1st pers. sing.* **say** (sēi). Forms: *α.* 1 secge, (segce), secgge, sæcge, 2–5 segge, 3 sucge, seuge, sige, 3–4 sugge, 3–5 sigge, 4 suge, sege, sygge. *β.* 3 seie, 3–4 sai, 4 seiȝe, seȝe, 4–5 sey(e, sei, 4–6 saye, 5–6 saie, (*in rime pseudo-arch.* 5 sayne, 6 sane), 8–9 *dial.* zay, 3– say.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 69 Soþ is þæt ic eow secgge, þæt [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16632 To fulle soþ I segge þe. *c* 1205 LAY. 2979 þis ich sucge [*v. r.* segge] þe to seoðe. *Ibid.* 2985 Ich þe Gornoille seuge. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Ine sigge nacht þet hi ne hedden þer before ine him beliaue. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 706 ibid. 138 Hic ne sige nout bi þan, þat moni ne ben gentile man. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 171 (Digby MS.) Adam, nou i sege hit þe, To-day þou salt alesed be. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 390 And þerfore, leue leel man leeue þat ich sygge. *c* 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 203 Riȝth to heuen ne segge ich nouȝth þat he euer come.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28036, I sai [*v. r.* say] noght þis þoqueþer of alle. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 182 For-þi I seiȝe as I seide er be siȝte of þise tixtes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 769 A by-word here I seye, That, 'rotelees, mot grene sone deye'. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 447 (Skeat), I say it for me,..yuel mot I the! *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* ix. (1906) 13 For y saie you alle, who that dothe a dedly synne [etc.]. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 48 Furth he went, as y 3ow sayne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 96 For, quhow grislie and quhow greit I 3ow sane Lurkis Poliphemus. 1530 PALSGR. 696/2, I saye, I tell or speake a thyng.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* **sayest** (sēⁱ·èst), **sayst** (sēist). Forms: *α.* 1 seȝst, saȝast, 2 sæȝst, 2–5 seist, 3 seiist, seiest, *Ormin* seȝȝst, 3–5 seyst, 3–6 seiste, 4 *Kentish* zayst, 4–7 saist, 5 (*erron.* seyth, seith), 3– sayst, 6– sayest. Also (*chiefly north.*) 3–5 sais, says, 4–5 seis, 5 sayes, seyes. *β.* 3 *Ormin* seggesst (*gg* = dȝ), 4 siggest, (seggez), 5 seggest, seggist.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 179 On þone þu leoȝende saȝast þæt þu sie þæt he is. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Þenne þu seist *Dimitte* [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5188. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 11 (Bodl. MS.) Beo hit soð þat tu seiist [*v. r.* seist]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1075 (Jesus MS.) Hwat seystu [*v. r.* seistu] þis for myne schome. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10792 Wat seiste quaþ þis gode erl. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 965 He said, 'adam, now wel sais þou. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 1 Thou seyst. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 227 Alle thynges be to vs bare and open that thow seyes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 17 We may neuer bileve that this be trewe that thow seiste. ?1548 tr. *Viret's Expos. XII Art. Chr. Faith* A iv b, The thynge is euen as thou sayest. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Bond) I. 321 Moreouer thou saist that [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 815 Unjust thou saist Flatly unjust, to bind with laws the free. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrip.* 85 Say'st thou I must be cautious, must be silent. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robert* xix, 'Thou say'st a painful truth', said Count Robert.

β. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1512. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 621 'Fare forthe', quod þe frekez, '& fech as þou seggez'. 1402 *Jack Upland's Rejoinder* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 72 The secte that thou seggist of.

c. *3rd pers. sing.* **says** (sez), *arch.* **saith** (seþ). Forms: *α.* 1 seȝ(e)þ, sæȝ(e)þ, sæiȝð, saȝað, 2 seȝð, sæȝð, 2 seigð, 2–3 sæið, seið, seieð (occas. written seid, seied), 2–5 seith, 3 sehð, sæið(e, *Ormin* seȝ(3)þ, 3–4 seithe, 3–5 seyth, 4 *Kent.* zayþ, zaiþ, (2–3 seit, 3 seiet, 4 seyt), 4–5 seythe, 5–6 sayth, 6 saythe, saieth, 6–7 sayeth, 3– (now *arch.*) saith. Also (with ending orig. *north.*) 3–6 sais, 4 seys, (sas), 4–5 seis, sayse, saise, 4–7 sayes, 5 ? seysse, 5, 7 saies, 6 sayis, 9 *dial.* ses, sez, 4– says. *β.* 3 suggeð, 3–4 seggeþ. Also 4 sigges, 5 segges.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 27 Her saȝaþ Matheus se godspellere þætte [etc.]. *Ibid.* 55 Her seȝþ hu se æþela lareow wæs sprecende. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 239 þan seied ham god..ȝe senegeden an ȝeur ecenesse [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Eft ure lauerd seolf seit. *Maledictus homo* [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10306 He seȝȝþ uss þatt [etc.]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1072 (Jesus MS.) Wel viht þat wel spekþ seyþ in þe songe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8282 Als sais [*v. rr.* sas, saise, seiþ] þe stori. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 1545 He seyt he haþ don þis. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14779 But þat seynt Bede of þem alle seys, Elles schulde non haue knowe what weys. 1340 *Ayenb.* 134 Ase zaiþ zainte paul. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2925 Opon the morn, the stori sayse, The knight toke horses and hernays. *c* 1500 *Melusine* vi. 28 Thystory saith, that [etc.]. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 133 He sayis [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxvii. 661 If it be as he dothe, it is as he saythe. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) B 2, What sayes the mightie Mandrecard? 1600 in *Shaks. Cent. of Praise* 35 He sayeth that [etc.]. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 9 Who saies my teares have overflow'd his ground? 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 73 So Rumour says. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiv, For what saith holy writ.

β. 1205 LAY. 28818 Swa alse þe boc us sugged. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 10500 þe king þe gretep Basan an seggeþ mid sore þat [etc.]. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 209 þenne spekes a vois and on heiȝ sigges, 'king [etc.]'. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 98 Agayne Sir Cesar hym selfe he segges and saies [etc.].

d. *plural* **say** (sēⁱ). Forms: *α.* 1 secg(e)að, seggað, sæcg(e)að, secggaþ, 2–4 siggeþ, seggeþ, 3 sug(g)eð, segeþ, (segget); 1 segge (*we*), 2–4 segge, 4 *Sc.* sigge, 4–5 seggen. *β.* 4 seith, 4 seyth (occas. written seyt), seyithe. Also *north.* 3–6 sais, 4 seis, saise, 5 seise, 6 sayis, 6–7 sayes. *γ.* 3–4 seiȝen, 3–6 sey(e)n, 4 sein, 4–5 seyne, sain, 4–6 sayn(e, seien, 5 saien, 5 (6–7 *arch.*) saine, 5–6 sane, sayen, (9 *dial.* sen); 3–4 sai, seie, 4–5 sey, sei, 4–6 saye, 5–6 saie, (8–9 *dial.* zay), 4– say.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Swylce eac we leornias, men, þæt þa men secgaþ..þæt [etc.]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Of þe folce we sigged þat hit cumþ fastlice fram middenardes. *c* 1205 LAY. 24275 Summe bokes sugged [*v. r.* seggeþ] to iwisse þat [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 27480 For al so segge [*v. r.* sugged] þe writes þat witty men dihte. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 425 'Ȝe seggen soth', quod I.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 343 Als clerkes sais þat are wis He wroght noght first wit partis. *Ibid.* 6697 Til hir husband men aght to giue Mendes þat men sais es right. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 675 Sum seyþ, 'saue þy selfe, 3yf þou kunne'. 1563 WINȝET tr. *Vincentius Lirinensis* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 76 We al says the samyn.

γ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 917 Ebruis seiȝen, wune hem wex [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14689 Gas lokes þe bokes o your lai, And vnderstandes quat þai sai. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 3220 þai leiȝen al bi dene þat sain he dar nouȝt fiȝt Wiþ his fo. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 122 ȝif hit beo soþ þat ȝe seyen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 277 Sum sayn full sure..Hit was þe formast on flete þat on flode past. ?1404 26 *Pol. Poems* 17/72 In sykernes may he go, and recche neuere what men say. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 196 Moreouer hit is not to beleue to folys that Sayne that [etc.]. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1885) 152 To this sane [*v. rr.* sayn, sayen] suche lordes an oþer men. *c* 1485 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 481 Wene ye that I shall do that ye saye for fere of deth? 1504 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 9 And the saide Executours further seyen that [etc.]. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 358 As dyuers auctours sayne. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6032 Than sall one Fyre, as Clerkis sane, Mak all the hyllis and valais plane. 1579 J. STUBBES *Discov. Gaping Gulf* C 5 b, A new match betweene hym and Marguerit daughter of a French Charles, as most men saien. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 11 What saie you of this? 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* B 4 b, But harken to the shepheards what they saine, Both of the Sunshine, and a showre of raine. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. ii, They say, a fooles handsell is lucky.

3. *Indicative past.* **a.** *1st and 3rd pers. sing.* **said** (sed). Forms: 1–2 sæȝde, (1 saȝode), 1–3 sæde, 2 saiȝde, sæide, 2–4 sede, sade, 2–5 seide, 2, 5–7 sed, 3 seaide, sæide, *Ormin* seȝȝde, 3–5 seyde, seid, 3–6 sayde, 3–7 saide, 4 seyede, seȝede, *Kentish* z(e)ayde, *Sc.* sad, 4–5 seyd, 4–7 sayd, 5 seyed, 5–7 saied, 5–7 sayed, 3– said.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (1900) II. 322 þe þis gehyrde eall and hit eft sæde swa swa. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 And þet hali meiden onswerede and seide [etc.]. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 131 (Trin.) Drihte self hit sade. *c* 1205 LAY. 1256 He þoute..hou þe læfdi him sæide. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 235 (Jesus MS.) For Alured king hit seyde [*v. r.* seide] & wrot. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1375 (W.) Yef ony saide no. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 46 Philip Valays..said he suld þaire enmys sla. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 83 He sad, he subuertit nocht. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11259 þen þe traytur Antenor..to þe fre sayde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) viii. 98 A chirche, where the Aungel seyde to oure Lady of hire Dethe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 64 She seid he was welcome. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 168 By vertu of þe holy wordys þat þe prest sayed þer. 1562 WINȝET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 55 He sayd nocht, the thingis haldin of hald. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 50 He..with execration sayed: 'If I haue committed this theft [etc.]'. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* viii. 25 And Pharaoh.. said, Goe yee [etc.]. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 103 She was pincht, and pull'd she sed. 1766 GRAY *Kingsgate* 17 'Ah!' said the sighing peer, 'had Bute been true'.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* **saidest** (se·dèst), **saidst** (sedst). Forms: 1 sæȝdest, sædest, 3 *Ormin* seȝȝdesst, (3–4 said, saide), 4–5 seidest, seydest, 5 seidist, saydes, 6–7 sayd'st, 6– saidst, 9– saidest.

c 1200 ORMIN 8660 Acc ðo swa summ þu seȝȝdesst. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15661 þou said [*v. rr.* saide, seidest] for me if mister war, to ded thole suld þou fight. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 919 So seydestow ful ofte. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 224 þou..siþen seidest to me mi preyere scholde sitte. *c* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 19 Ryght as þou saydes, hit ys fallen! 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxix. 19 Thou..saydest [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 218 What, foure? thou sayd'st but two, euen now. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Felicia Hemans* ii, No need of flowers—albeit 'bring flowers', thou saidest.

c. *plural.* **said** (sed). Forms: 1 sæȝdun, seȝdon, 1–2 sæȝdon, sædon, -an, 2 saiȝden, sæden, sæidon, seidon, 2–3 seden, saden, 2–5 seiden, 3 sæiden, *Ormin* seȝȝdenn, 3, 5 sayden, 3–5 saiden, seyden, 4–5 saidon, 5 saydyn, -on; 3–4 sede, 3, 5 seyde, 3–5 seid(e, saide, 3, 5–6 sayde, 4 *Kentish* zede, 3– said.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. x. (1890) 416 Seȝdon þæt hio hefdon nyt ærende. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 57, & summ monn aras leas gecyðnise sæȝdon [c 975 *Rushw.* sæȝdun; *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* sædon, *v. r.* sæȝdon; *c* 1160 *Hatton* saiȝden] wið him cuoeðendo. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1135, Men..sæden ð[at] micel þing sculde cumen her efter. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 þa seiden þa iudeiscen men a bismer. *c* 1205 LAY. 15600 þa cnihtes biliue comen to þan reue & þus him to sæiden. *c* 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 Ase we zede hyerbeuore. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 43 þai said it suld ful dere be boght. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 113 Diuerse men diuerse thynges seyden. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12643 Yet thies lyghers..Saidon the same kyng..þat [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1713 þe lordus..saydon: Etheldrede oȝte not to be kynge. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 198 Thei maden hem a calf of siluer, and seiden that it was her God. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii–v. 40 Letters there were wryten in gold aboute the swerd that saiden thus. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 274 An accompt of what they said concerning [etc.].

4. *Subjunctive Present* **say.** Forms: *sing.* 1 secg(g)e, sæcge, 3 segge, sugge, sigge, 3, 6 saie, 4 sa, 4–5 sey(e, sele, 5– say. *Plural* 1 secg(g)an, secgen, sæcgeon, sæcgan, sæggon, 2–3 seggen, 3 sey, 4 sa, 5– say.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 179 þa cwæþ Petrus, 'Secge Simon me nu, ȝif [etc.]'. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9272, & lokeþþ wel þatt ȝure nan Ne segge þuss wiþþ worde [etc.]. *c* 1205 LAY. 13888 Ich ileue þe cniht þæt þu me sugge soð riht. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Sigge so monie [*sc.* beoden]..se heo euer wule. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 523 in *O. E. Misc.* 52 þat his disciples..ne ..seggen to þe volke..He is aryse from deþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 103 What as evere that ye seie Riht as ye wole so wol I. *c* 1462 *Wright's Chaste Wife* 440 If he sey to the any þing He schall haue sorowe vn-sowte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. ix. 36 Sytand at eys ilkane say his entent.

5. *Imperative* **say.** Forms: **a.** *sing.* 1 saȝa, seȝe, sæȝe, 2 seȝe, 3 sæiȝe, sæi, saie, seiȝe, *Ormin* seȝȝ, 3–4 sei, sa, 3–5 sey(e, sai, seie, 3–6 saye, 4 *Kentish* zay, (6 *pseudo-arch.* saine), 3– say.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 233 Sæge us þæt hrædlice. *a* 1000 [see B. 6]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9299 Lef maȝȝstre, seȝȝ uss nu þin raþ. *c* 1205 LAY. 2269 Seie [*v. r.* sei] me Locrin, Saie me læde mon. *Ibid.* 30283 Sæiȝe me biliue hu þe beon on siðe. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 585 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 Saye heom þat ich astye to mynes vader riche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11964 Sai [*v. r.* say] þou; i der noght til him speke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Zay þis þet uolȝeþ. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 46 Say me, virgyne, quod Enee. *a* 1600? RALEIGH in *Eng. Helicon* L 3, Yet what is Loue, good Sheepheard saine? 1742 GRAY *Eton* 21 Say, father Thames! for thou hast seen Full many a sprightly race.

b. *plural.* *α.* 1 secg(g)að, seggað, 2 secgeð, 2–3 seggeð, 3 suggeð, siggeð, segget, segge. *β.* 4 seiȝth, 4–5 sayeth, 5 seith, seieþ, sayth(e. Also *north.* 3–5 sais, 4 saise, seys, 5 says. *γ.* 3–4 sai, 4 *Sc.* sa, 4–6 sey, 5 saie, seie, 4, 6– say.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 Secggaþ Siones dohtrun þæt heora cining cymeþ. *c* 1205 LAY. 865 Suggeð [*v. r.* Seggeþ] me to runun ræd þæt eou bunche. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 116 (Jesus MS.) Seggeþ [*v. r.* Segge] me if ye hit wiste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5092 To fotte mi fader sal yee fund, And sais him i am hale and sund. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 146 Saie! beene venew in bone fay, Ne plesew et a parle remoy. 1450 FASTOLF in *Paston Lett.* I. 130 And sey hem on my half that they shall be qwyt. *c* 1728 EARL OF AILESBURY *Mem.* 626, I concluded with an old English term, 'Say, and keep to what you say'.

6. *Present Participle* **saying** (sēⁱ·iŋ). Forms: *α.* 1 secg(g)ende, 2–3 seggende. *β.* 2–4 seinde, 3–4 saiand, 4–6 sayand(e, 5 seiand, sayn; 4 seyyng(e, seiynge, -enge, 4–5 seyinge, 4–6 saiyng, sayng, seying, 5 seiyng, seynd, seing, sainge, sayinge, saynge, saenge, saiynge, seyȝing, 5–6 saieng, seynge, seyenge, 6 say-, saieng(e, saing, 7 *dial.* zaying, 3– saying.

α. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hie þære soþfæstnesse spellodan & tacen secgende wæron, þa þe Drihten sylf getacnode. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 93 þus seggende, *Venite.*

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17672 And als i stod saiand mi bede. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 228 He..cumforted hem ful feyre, seyyng [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 3 Seiynge..þat crist tauȝte not his disciples..þe beste ordre and religioun. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) lxiv. 42 Sayng in þis wise [etc.]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7008 Grace dieu seyng to me. *a* 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* viii. (1906) 11 A uoys come to her saieng [etc.]. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 32 Josue..spak with God seiand swech wordes on to him. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 3, I dremed ane angell came fra Hevin, With plesand stevin sayand [etc.]. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* iv. 4 So I..spake to the angel y^t talked with me, sayenge: O my lorde [etc.]. 1549 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* A iv b, The priest standyng vp and saiyng. Let vs praye. 1664 J. WILSON *A. Comenius* v. vi, What was you saying?

7. *Past Participle* **said** (sed). Forms: *α.* 1 (ȝe-)sæȝd, (ȝe-)sæd, 2 ȝesed, iseȝd, 2–3 isæd, isæid(e, isait, i-, yseit, 3–4 (6 *arch.*) y-sed, i-sed, (4 *Kent.* y-zed), 4 ysade, y-sayd, 2–5 (y-, i-) seid(e, 5–7 sayed, 6 saied, say'd, seede, 3–7 sed, 2– said. *β.* 5 seggid. *γ.* 6–7 (*chiefly in rimes*) saine. *δ.* 5 seden, sadyn, saydyn.

α. 971 [see B. 2 d]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. H. m.* 47 Þeos ilke weord þe ic habbe her iseit. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 þus sit man on his sinne swo ich seid haue. *c* 1205 LAY. 11427 No here ich nenne godne ræd þe þe ȝet beo isæd. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 395 (Jesus MS.) Vor heo ne myhte noht alegge þat þe vle hedde hire iseyd [*v. r.* ised]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2126 As ichabbe ysed [*v. r.* yseit]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11261 Quen þai had sai(d) [*v. rr.* sayd, seid] þat þai wald sai. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 353 Fro seuen dayez ben seyed I sende out bylyue. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 525 (Kölbing) Mi deuise ich haue ysade. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1010 If yow thynketh this is weel ysayd. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 154 The king..hath al herd how sche hath said. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 531 And when þai al þer sawes hafe saide [etc.]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 143 These wordes y-seide the develle evaneschede. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 560 All that they had sayed. 1515 in *Coll. Surrey Archæol. Soc.* (1858) I. 182, I will that there be seede..v masses. 1557 *Primer Sarum, Dirige* Ps. xxvi. I vij, My heart hath saied set vnto thee. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 94 b, The Ambassadours..were sayde naye. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 116 Alas, poore wretch, my Phaon I had very neare ysed. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 99 Christ hes it sed,..That kingdome sall come to greit ruyne. 1637 [see 2 b *passive*]. 1648 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 97 Very much hath beene sayed..to make the Prince jealous [etc.]. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. ii, Nothing can be said hyperbolically of God. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (1875) 49 To take that upon him hee had never Saied.

β. (See B. 2 g.)

γ. 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* 583 Wks. (Grosart) XIII. 354 [You] Shall well repent the words which you haue saine. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* II. 9 O depth, without a depth farre better seene then saine.

δ. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 207 Of the vertu of Iustice afor in this boke Is largely Saydyn. *Ibid.* [see B. 2 e]. *Ibid.* 231 Seden.

B. Signification.

In Eng., as in other Teut. langs., *say* is an approximate synonym of *speak*, from which it differs in having normally as its object a particular word or series of words, or a sentence representing the meaning of a particular series of words. Cf. L. *dicere* and its representatives in Romanic (which, however, have also senses that are now expressed in Eng. by *tell*), and L. *aio, inquam*.

As the word designates not the action of speaking itself, but its relation to the object, its use with reference to written expression does not ordinarily, like the similar use of *speak*, involve any consciousness of metaphor.

1. *trans.* To utter or pronounce (a specified word or words, or an articulate sound). Also, in wider sense, used of an author or a book, with quoted words as object.

For various idiomatic collocations, as *to say nay, to say bo, to say farewell*, etc., see the conjoined words.

For *as who saith, as who should say*, see As and Who.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 58 We ȝe-hyrdon hine secgan ic to-wurpe þis hand-worhte tempel [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Soõliche he walde seggen ȝif he mihte speken, wa is me þet ic efre dude swa muchele sunne. *Ibid.* 41 And eft þe boc seiõ, Ne scule ȝe neure god don unforȝolden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 To þe oõer wurõ iseid þat loõeliche word...*Ite maledicti* [etc.]. *c* 1200 Ormin 149, & Godess enngell seȝȝde himm to..Ne dred te, Zacarisse. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11399 At ilka mattyng þei seide 'chek'. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' Prol.* 11 He sayde, ..'My lady Prioresse [etc.]'. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xviii. 258 In this maner of colourid speche we seien: 'This ymage is Seint Peter [etc.]'. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxvi. 11, I sayde in my haist: All men are lyers. 1611 Bible *Judg.* xii. 6 Then said they vnto him, Say now, Shibboleth: and he said, Sibboleth. *a* 1714 J. Sharp *Serm.* Wks. (1754) IV. xviii. 309 A man that swears and curses to add grace to his discourse, might as well serve his purpose by repeating a word or two out of *propria quæ maribus*, or saying any scrap of pedlars French. 1821 De Quincey *Richter* Wks. 1863 XIII. 121 Not whilst you can say Jack Robinson. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves* (1884) 64 Is it not—(never, Eddy, say 'ain't it') A marvellous sight?

†b. In *passive*, of a word: To be derived. Const. *of*. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 93 Vor of crayme is yzed crist and of crist cristendom. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 57 *Eques ab 'equo'* is seid..And cheualere is saide of cheualrye. 1597 G. Harvey *Trim. Nashe* To Rdr., Lent (you know) is saide of leane, because it macerates & makes leane the bodye.

2. To declare or state in words (a specified fact, thought, opinion, or intention). Said of a speaker, writer; also of a literary composition, a proverb, etc. Const. *to* († in OE. and ME. simple *dative*).

a. with obj. a clause (introduced by *that*, or with ellipsis of *that*).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Se engel hire sæȝde þæt heo sceolde modor beon hire Scyppendes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Monimon seiõ þet þa weren strotige [? *read* stronge] laȝe. *c* 1200 Ormin 255 þiss Goddspell seȝȝþ þatt Sannt Johan Wass [etc.]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 199 They..seyde that it was lyk the Pegasee. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6185 Men saide him þat it was not sothe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 137 Go grete hym well,..say hym I com. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 181 Thair is na law that sayis that Frenchmennis gudis unmarkit shall pertene be escheit to the Lard of Bargany. 1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigrammes* 18 Thou saist thou art as much my frend as any man can be. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 178, I formerly said that I bought a horse at Paduoa. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* cviii, Some say, that it [*sc.* Sundew] is a searing or caustick Herb, and very much biting. 1673 Wycherley *Gent. Dancing-Master* III. i, What I have said I have said. 1829 K. H. Digby *Broadstone of Honour* I. 272 Gibbon says that the French Monarchy was created by the bishops of France. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* II. i, She has heard a whisper say A curse is on her if she stay. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xlix, It's your kindness makes you say I'm useful to you.

fig. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 10 ȝoure consciens sais ȝou þ⁴ ȝe doe wrange. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. i. 11 My powers are Cressent, and my Auguring hope Sayes it will come to'th' full.

b. with obj. a pronoun or quasi-pronominal word or phrase.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 3 Ða andswarude he þu hit sægst. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1083, Hwæt mazon we secgean buton þæt hi scotedon swiõe. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1135, Durste nan man sei to him naht bute god. *c* 1205 Lay. 1164 Brutus hit herde siggen þurh his sæ-monnnen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 60 (Jesus MS.) If ich me holde in myne hegge Ne recche ich neuer hwat þu segge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12293 And he said noiper ill ne god. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 893 Wher have ȝe put hym? Sey me thys. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iv. 28 But what say you to Thursday? 1611 Bible *Luke* xiii. 17 And when hee had said these things, all his aduersaries were ashamed. 1677 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 395 Dr. Bathurst is no great freind to the Masters, and hath said it often that many of them deserve to be put out of the house. 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Jan., What say you to that? 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 542/2 A good deal has been said already in your Magazine in praise of Dr. Berkeley. 1840 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* V. iii. 51 Let us aim at meaning what we say, and saying what we mean. 1868 Helps *Realmah* xv. (1876) 394 Mauleverer only said that to tease you.

Proverbial phrase. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 17 For þough I seye it my-self I haue saued with þis charme Of men & of wommen many score þousandes. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) l. 139 Though I sey it my-self I am a man of myght. *a* 1592 Greene *Geo. a Greene* 397 Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 139 Though I say it that should not say it. 1606 Heywood *2nd Pt. If you know not me* (1609) C 3, Shall a yong man as I am, and though I say it, indifferent proper, goe [etc.]. 1736 Sheridan in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 181, I have written a little pretty birth-day poem against St. Andrew's day...It is a very pretty thing (although I say it that shouldn't say it). 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 3, I think you, Sir, will allow that it was not badly contrived, though I say it, who should not say it.

passive. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Þa þis was iseȝd. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 145 Þe whiche i-seide, þe emperour i-smyten aȝen promoted hym sone into a bisshop. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 129 Besides what the grim Woolf with privy paw Daily devours apace, and nothing sed.

c. *impers.* or with indefinite subject: *It says* = the author or the book referred to says. Now *colloq.*

The use with quoted words as obj. (belonging formally to 1) and the absolute parenthetic use (cf. 3 a, b) are for convenience included here.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 41 Þonne sæȝþ on þissum bocum þæt Drihten sylf cwæde þæt [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Vor hwon heo is ipreoued, hit seiõ, heo schal beon ikruned mid te crune of liue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8818 Þus þai fanded it tre dais, Als it in þe stori sais. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) v. 9 Als yure maistiresse leris yu, als it sais: 'Qui uos audit [etc.]'.

d. quasi-*impers.* in *passive*, with clause (expressed or understood from context) as real subject: *It is (has been, will be) said.* In pres. tense now chiefly = 'it is commonly said', 'people say'.

After *as* the pronoun *it* is now commonly omitted.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 65 Sæȝd is þæt hit sy wyrtruma ealra oþerra synna. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 Flesches lust is fotes wunde, ase was feor iseid þeruppe. 1258 *Procl.* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1816) I. i. 378 Alswo alse hit is biforen iseid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4507 For lang was said, and yeit sua bes, Hert sun for-gettes þat ne ei seis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 15 Bot it is seid and evere schal, Betwen tuo Stoles lyth the fal. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. v. 23 As it is bifore seid in the iiij^e. argument. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* vii. 1–3 Melchisedech..who as it is said had neyther father, nor mother. 1780 *Mirror* No. 75 (1787) III. 6 In the very next paragraph it is said, 'We have the pleasure of informing the Public [etc.]'. 1798 Garthshere in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 140 Lady Cahir off with Sr J. Shelley—Lady Assia (as is said) do. in Ireland. 1804 Wordsw. *Margaret* 20 If things ensued that wanted grace, As hath been said, they were not base. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 148 We hear it said That men go down before your spear at a touch. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 It has been even said that this church was built by the Germans. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* II. xx. 270 There had been found a man, it was said, to bell the cat.

†**e.** [After L. *dicere*, Fr. *dire*.] With complement: To speak of, call (by a specified name or designation): chiefly in *passive*. Also (and in later use exclusively) in *passive* with adj. or descriptive sb., = 'to be said to be', 'to be called'. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Bible* Prol. xiv. 55 Whanne the formere thingis ben set byhynde, it is seid recapitulacoun, either rehersing of thing doon bifore. *Ibid. Matt.* xxvi. 3 The prince of the prestis that was said Caiphas. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 61 The ferste is seid Ypocrisie. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1070 (Dubl. MS.) Sagittarius for soth men seggen it to name. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 192 Forwhi impetigo serpigo & morphea ben seid in salerne diuers names. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 Olde men louyn swylk a kynge, and he ys sayd vertuous, large and attempre. *c* 1420–30 *Wycliffite Bible* Pref. Ep. St. Jerom. i, Itali, the which sumtyme was seid Grete Grece. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 201 Prayer othyrwhyle is sadyn a good worke. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 267 The doughters of Syon have sene her, and they have sayde her blyssed. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. xiv, None ought to say hym self mayster withoute that he haue fyrst studyed. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 302 What wyll ye shall be done with Jesu that is sayd Chryst and Sauyour of the worlde. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 108, I saie you most victorious people, branches of Romulus, subduers of realmes. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. iii. (Arb.) 84 According to the number of the sillables contained in euery verse, the same is sayd a long or short meeter. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph.* (1643) 66 Thus all things are said created in or by Christ. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 69 What shall be said a voyage royall shall be adjudged by the judges. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 277 And why must he needs make mention of the flesh, where as it was enough to say him mortall? 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II, xxv. § 1 The Colour White, [is] the Occasion why he is said whiter than Freestone.

f. †(*a*) With direct object and inf. in lieu of clause. (A Latinism) (*obs.*). †(*b*) With ellipsis of reflexive obj. before the inf.: To allege oneself *to do* or *be* so and so (*obs.*). (*c*) In *passive* with following infinitive, *to be said to do* or *be* so and so.

The mod. passive use (*c*) has two different meanings: the predicate may denote an alleged or reported fact (as in quot. 1615), or a descriptive term used (as in quot. 1838).

(*a*) 1563 Shute *Architecture* F j, Whiche oure Author hath brought to a vniformity, saying the piller to be in height 9. Diameters. 1583 Fulke *Defence* vii. 224 Iacob, Ioab, and Shemei which none but madde men will say to haue descended into a receptacle of soules. 1639 Ld. Digby *Lett. Conc. Relig.* (1651) 53 Papias, whom St. Jerome.. sayes to have been the first Author of it [Millenarianism]. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 42 It were great Malice, to say him to be a Man of no Principles.

(*b*) 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III Diuers of them doe say to be descended of the line of Mahomet.

(*c*) 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. v. 243 As warres in some sort may be saide to be a Rauisher, so [etc.]. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 152 This is said to have hapned..about the time that the Judges began to governe in Israel. 1671 Blagrave *Astrol. Pract. Physick* 165 A planet is said to be peregrine, when he is out of all essential dignities. 1803 Davy in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 252 Catechu is said to be obtained from the wood of a species of the Mimosa. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 980 The trees are then said to bleed. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iii. 72 This patch may be said to be dove-tailed into its highest part. 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 727 The fruit of Rhizophora Mangle is said to be sweet and edible. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* ii. 21 Rocks which thus allow water to filter through them are said to be permeable.

g. With cognate obj. (See Say *sb.*4 4.)

c 1400 [see A 7 *a*.]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 16 Therfore take hede...þat none jangill nor jolle at my ȝate, Tille I haue seggid and saide all my sawe.

†**h.** *To say* (a person) *shame, scandal*, to make disgraceful accusations against. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 352 Preise him, laste him, do him scheome, seie him scheome al him is iliche leof. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 50 (Jesus MS.) Ilome þu dest me grome & seist me boþe teone & schome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8914 'O godd', coth þai, 'said has sco scam.' 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xii, I will say them no scandal.

i. Phrase. *To have something* (*nothing*) *to say to* (or *with*): *fig.* to have (no) dealings with; of things, to have (no) connexion with or bearing upon.

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 267 We had nothing to say to him. 1780 *Mirror* No. 75 (1787) III. 5 Perhaps you have something to say with the gentlemen who make the news. 1844 W. G. Todd *Ch. St. Patrick* 27 All then that Rome had to say to the conversion of Ireland was simply this. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1887) 624 The imitation has nothing to say to the origin of the words. 1887 G. T. Stokes in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* IV. 202 The use of the word Roman here..has nothing to say to the Church of Rome. 1888 — *Irel. & Celtic Ch.* 151 With that controversy the Irish Church had nothing to say. 1904 J. T. Fowler *Durh. Univ.* 21 The Churchmen of the North would have nothing to say to a Puritan and intrusive foundation.

j. *To have* (*something, nothing*, etc.) *to say for oneself*: to be able to adduce (something, nothing) in defence or extenuation of one's conduct. Also (colloq.), *To have nothing to say for oneself*: to be habitually silent from a retiring disposition or lack of vivacity.

1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1891) I. 105 All that I can say for myself is, that I have always feared discovery [etc.]. 1850 J. H. Newman *Difficulties Anglicans* I. vii. (1891) I. 221 Bishop Ken..could not take the oaths, and was dispossessed; but he had nothing special to say for himself.

k. Contrasted with *do*, in certain proverbial locutions.

Mod. colloq. That's easier said than done. No sooner said than done!

3. Absolute uses of senses 1 and 2. **a.** With adv. *so* or *thus* instead of pronominal obj. (cf. 2 b); also in clause introduced by *as*.

You don't say so! a colloquial expression of astonishment at some statement.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 16 His leorning cnihtas.. fundon hit eall swa he sæde. *c* 1200 Ormin 463 þiss gode mann..Wass, alls I seȝȝde nu littlær, ȝehatenn Zacaryas. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8972 Wy seistou so. *c* 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 134 þey þat þe hous haue sey seyn ryȝt so. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 Þanne he openede his mouþ..and ham þus zeayde. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 162 Thus he seythe to his wyfe in sawe as I telle. *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* (1633) H 3 b, Saist thou me so? 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 138 If thou refuse, And wilt encounter with my Wrath, say so. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 63 If he beleeve things only because his Pastor sayes so. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 16. 202 Say you so? 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 262 As we are wont to say, Well done. 1749 Smollett tr. *Gil Blas* (1782) III. 7 So saying, he drew his long rapier. 1814 Southey *Roderick* xxv. 378 Thus saying, they withdrew a little way. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* xvi, 'You do not say so!' cry I, in some astonishment. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 386 Be persuaded by me, and do as I say.

fig. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 54 All the rest are Countesses. 2 [*Gent.*] Their Coronets say so.

b. Used in parenthetic clause indicating the author of a quoted saying. (When the quotation purports to be exact, the order of verb and subj. is often inverted.) Also in parenthetic expressions like 'shall I say?', 'let us say': cf. 10.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 6 'I-her me, dohter', he seiõ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 921 Louerd he sede we beþ men wide idriue aboute. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 49 And he asked of hem of whom spac þe lettre..'Ceesar', þei seiden, 'We seoþ wel vchone'. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's Prol.* 17 'Nay, bi godis soule, that shal be nat,' Seide the Shipman. *a* 1529 Skelton *Colyn Cloute* 1230 It is to drede, men sayes, Lest they be Saduces As they be sayd sayne. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 175 Thou was begotten, some sayes mee, Betwixt the deuil and a dun kow. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 62 Amen, to that faire prayer, say I. *Ibid.* III. ii. 277 Why then you left me..In earnest, shall I say? 1644 Symonds *Diary* (Camden) 48 A castle, belonging say they to a duke. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* lxxiii. 73 Shew me the Company (says the Adage) and I'll tell ye the Man. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Sept., The Duke of Ormond, they say, will be Lieutenant of Ireland. 1798 Wordsw. *We are Seven* 6 She was eight years old, she said. 1882 W. S. Gilbert *Iolanthe* I. Ld. Chancellor's Song, I'll work on a new and original plan, (Said I to myself—said I).

¶ In this use, the 3rd sing. pres. is often substituted *colloq.* for the pa. t. *said*. Hence, in vulgar speech or jocular imitations of it, *says I, says you* = 'said I', 'said you'.

In uneducated use often with repetition: 'Says I to myself, says I'; 'Well, says Mr. Smith, says he'.

1682 Dryden & Lee *Dk. Guise* Epil., Jack Ketch, says I, 's an excellent Physician. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* III. v, Humh (says he) what you are a hatching some Plot (says he) you are so early abroad. 1700 Swift *Mrs. Harris' Petition* 30 Says Cary, says he, .I never heard of such a thing. 1706 De Foe *True Relation* etc. Early Wks. (1889) 443 Mrs. Bargrave asked her whether she would drink some tea. Says Mrs. Veal, 'I do not care if I do'. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 381, I ask you, says he, because I am sure, if any one, you can give me information. 1720 Gordon & Trenchard *Independ. Whig* (1728) 215 Says I to myself, This reverend ill-tongu'd Parson will certainly quarrel. 1784 Bage *Barham Downs* I. 79, I believe, says I, it has

caught your sister's dejection. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* ii, Because, says I to myself, says I, it may save them there unfortunate, innocent people. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* iii, 'I bet you thirteen to ten that Sophy Cutler hooks either you or Mulligatawney before the rains'. 'Done', says I. 1852 Dickens *Bleak House* v, That warn't Chancery practice though, says you. 1887 Henley *Culture in the Slums* i. 1 'O crikey, Bill!' she ses to me, she ses.

†c. To speak or tell *of* something; to speak *for* or *against* a person or thing. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 117 Þonne gehyrdon we ær on þas halgan tide secgan be þære halgan þrowunga ures Drihtenes. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Of þeses fif ceþen..we habbeð 3eu 3esed. *c* 1205 Lay. 13470 Ich wulle suggen eow uorð rihtes of mire muchele sorȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 798 Her egain mai naman sai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Uerst we willeþ zigge of þe zenne of prede. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 36 And þare he made his mone playne þat no man suld say þare ogayne. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 10 For I say [= saw] þe felde ful of folke þat I before of seyde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ix. 37 A kirk whare þe aungell said to þe schephirdes of þe birth of Criste. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1362 Bosyl come, and to him say Of cuthbert purpose and his will. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 162 As he wolde have sayd agenst the duke Naymes, there cam a yonge gentilman [etc.]. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxx. 44 None durst say agaynst his opynion. 1534 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) H j, We haue saied of the hatred that this emperour had to trewandes. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 13 Alswa gif some of them sayes for ane partie, and some for ane other. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) II. 175 My Lady herself can't say against it.

d. with certain advs., esp. *well*, also †*soothly*, *truly* (*true*), *wisely*, etc., the implied object being some particular saying. Somewhat *arch.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 258 'Sa þe suthly?' 'Ȝha, certis, dame'. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 239 'Þou seist wel', quod þat oþer. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 472 Beter myghte no man seyne. 1402 *Repl. Dawe Topias* in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) II. 49 Jak, thou seist ful serpentli. ? *a* 1425 26 *Pol. Poems* 103/1, I wole be mendid ȝif y say mys. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 5 Quod the gode man, 'Ye sey amysse'. *Ibid.* ii. 35 Thou seiste trewe. 1567 Harman *Caveat* xix. 73 And was not this a good acte? nowe, howe saye you? 1590 Marlowe *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Wel said, let there be a fire presently. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 226 Thou shalt haue egresse and regresse (said I well) and thy name shall be Broome. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 736 For sev'n continu'd Months, if Fame say true, The wretched Swain his Sorrows did renew. 1785 *Liberal Amer.* I. 47, I find Sir Edward Hambden is with you, and, if fame say true, a charming fellow he is. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xvi, The Immortal, so called, becomes now, if priests say true, an immortal indeed.

†e. In perf. (pluperf.) tense: *When he has said* = 'when he has finished speaking'. Also, in pa. t. *he said*, used in narrative poetry (after L. *dixit* or the Homeric ἦ ῥα) after the conclusion of a speech. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 4150 þe Dunewale hauede isæd al his folc liuede þene ræd. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8916 When the souerain hade said, þen he sest here. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ccxxxiii. 722 Whan he had sayd, then he was aunswered, howe the pope shulde take counsayle to answere. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 231 When I haue saide, make answer to vs both! 1600 Nashe *Summers Last Will* I j, Loe, I haue said, this is the totall summe. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 869, IX. 664. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 722 She said, and from his Eyes the fleeting Fair Retir'd like subtle Smoke dissolv'd in Air. 1712–14 Pope *Rape Lock* i. 115 He said; when Shock, who thought she slept too long, Leap'd up, and wak'd his mistress with his tongue. 1738 Gray *Tasso* 39 Scarce had he said, before the warriors' eyes When mountain-high the waves disparted rise. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* I. 24 He said. The chiefs with indignation burn'd; And Diomed submitting thus return'd.

f. *To say well, evil of*, †*by*: to speak well or evil of. Now *rare*. †Also in *indirect passive.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 9 (Jesus MS.) And eyþer seyde of oþres custe þat alre wrste þat hi ywuste. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Thou seith of hem evir wele. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. xix. 639 My name is sir Launcelot du lake that hath ben ryght wel said of. *Ibid.* XXI. i. 840 Thus was syr Arthur depraued and euyl sayd of. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Of Contention* I. T j b, Saie well by them, that saie euill by you. 1551–6 R. Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. (Arb.) 15 Them which can say well by nothing. 1713 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 May, Your new Bishop acts very ungratefully. I cannot say so bad of it as he deserved.

g. Contrasted with *do*. (Cf. 2 k.)

1382 Wyclif *Mat.* xxiii. 3 Sothely thei seien, and don nat. [So in the later versions.] *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxv. 103 Shal I be like a man þat saiþ & doþe not?

4. †a. Of words: To mean, signify. Also, *is* (*for*) *to say* = 'signifies'. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *De Vet. Test.* (Gr.) 7/42 *Cantica canticorum*, ðæt seȝþ on Englisc ealra sanga fyrmest. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 6 Nim ȝeme hwet euch worð beo sunderliche to seggen. *c* 1350 *S. Ambrosius* 15 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 8/2 Oþer elles þou maiȝt sei þat Ambros Is seid of ambra and syos: Syos is to seyn 'God' riht, And ambrum good sauour pliht. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prioress' T.* 72 Noght wiste he what this latyn was to seye, ffor he so yong and tendre was of age. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 1 These wordes are writen in holy scrypture & are thus to say in englysshe. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Quest.* K iij, Pigneum in Arabyke is to saye the ars hole. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xvii. 374 A lake..which they call *Exapangue*, which is to say, water of blood.

b. *That is to say* (orig. gerundial inf.): used to introduce a more explicit or intelligible re-statement of what immediately precedes, or a limiting clause necessary to make the statement correct. Sometimes used sarcastically to introduce a statement of the real fact which a quoted statement misrepresents or euphemistically veils. Cf. F. *c'est-à-dire.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Þet is to seggane: Gif þa hefdmen of þissere worlde hefden icnawen crist. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Aduent þat is seggen on englis ure louerd ihesu cristes tocume. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 413 Þis is to seie, i telle þe: 'Þe clene of herte, blessed beih be'. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iv. 1 þat is at say, fra anguys and sarynes þou has broght me in til brede of gastly ioy. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 181 A fissh þat is waterlees, That is to seyn, a Monk out of his Cloystre. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* Prol. 26 Writen in hir owne tonge, that is to sein, in Latin. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 4, I bequethe to the same Thomas, the stoffe longyng therto, that is to seye, my beste fetherbed [etc.]. *a* 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 58 Þe perpendicle þat es to say þe threde whereon þe plumbe henges. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) viii. 15 þat es hele of þa þat ere in sekenes, þat es at say in sinne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliii. 172 (Harl. MS.), Seing, thus, *Quomodo fiet istud?* this is to seye, how shulde this be I-done? 1471 Fortescue *Wks.* (1869) 530 His highnes hath now both titles, that is to saynge his auncient title,..and this new title. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hawking* b ij b, Bot it tempur yowre hawke that is to say ensayme yowre hawke. 1539 *Great Bible* title, The Byble in English; that is to saye, the Content of all the Holy Scripture. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 130 Two Aldermen more..., that is to say, Arnold Thedmare, & Henry Walmode. 1677 Lauderdale in *L. Papers* (1885) III. lvii. 89 They pretend they cannot suppress these disorders, that is to say they will doe nothing towards it. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 25 Three hours after, that's to say, about eleven a Clock. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (1875) 77 Francia Occidentalis, that is to say, Neustria and Aquitaine.

†c. *To say*: = 'namely', 'to wit'. *Obs.*

1547 Hooper *Declar. Christ & Office* v. D iij, Sainct Paule callith Christ..the minister and seruant of the sayncte to say of souche as be here lyuing in this troblyd and persecutyd churche. *Ibid.* vi. E viij, Hym that had the imperie and dominion of deathe to say the deuill.

5. †a. With obj. an infinitive or a subjunctive clause and const. dative: To tell (a person) *to do* something. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þæt hi secggan þæm Godes folce þæt hi Sunnandæȝum & mæssedæȝum Godes cyrican ȝeorne secan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4114 Sey him on ðin stede to gon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6063 Says to mi folk on þiskin wis, þat þai me mak a sacrifice. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxxi. 203 Þanne saye hem þat þei take of suche an hucche for þat is trewly gett, & do þat for me. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxiii. 260 Say vnto hym that he dryuke to you in the name of good peace.

b. In *passive*, of a person: To be ruled, submit to command or advice. Now *dial.*

1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 321 Whom I make my soule executors, equally together, wyllinge and commandinge them that they shalbe sayd and ruled by Ambrose Lancaster and Roger Megson, if [etc.]. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxxix. 10 Satan will not be said with a little. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Sayed*, In spite of all I can do, she wont be sayed. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* xxxix, Father didn't get well all at once. He went back twice..and wouldn't be said by Aileen.

6. With obj. an indirect question: To declare or make known (*who*, *what*, *how*, *whether*, etc.). †In early use const. dat. of person (equivalent to the modern *tell* with direct obj.).

a 1000 *Riddles* xx. 9 Saȝa hwæt ic hatte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 3 Þis godspel [for Palm Sunday] seð [*MS.* sed] hu þe helend nehlechede to-ward ierusalem þare burh to dei mid his apostles. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 We habbeð bigunnen to sege [? = seȝe] ou on englis hwat bitocneð þe crede [etc.]. *c* 1205 Lay. 4613 Ah ȝef ȝe wullen us seuggen ȝet ȝe mawen libben whonene ȝe beð icumene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3853 And siþen he did him for to sai Quat was þe chesiun of his wai. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 222 Bot of Envie, If ther be more in his baillie Towardes love, sai me what. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. iii. 16 Seie to me also where in Holi Scripture is ȝouen the hundrid parti of the teching which [etc.]. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 29 How ferful trowly there is no tong can saye. *a* 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* i. 13 But sey me yet, Syr Satropas, what auctoryte ye haue..to calle me a knaue? 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 40 Say Goddess, what ensu'd. *a* 1771 Gray *Amatory Lines* 7 Ah! say, Fellow-swains, how these symptoms befell me? 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 369/2 It was not then necessary for the court to say authoritatively whether it was right or not. *Mod.* Did he say whether he had been successful? How far these figures can be trusted the writer does not say.

b. From the 18th c. often in expressions like 'it is hard to say', 'I cannot say', where the verb comes contextually to mean: To judge, decide.

1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 1 'Tis hard to say, if greater want of skill Appear in writing or in judging ill. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. iii. 52 No one can say, how considerable this Uneasiness and Satisfaction may be. 1891 'J. S. Winter' *Lumley* x, What the end of it all would have been I really cannot say.

c. *absol.* In the imperative, introducing a direct question. In early use often const. *dative*; = 'tell (me, us)'. Now only *poet.*

The U. S. colloquial *say* seems, when introducing a question as well as when prefixed to a statement of fact, to be a shortening of *I say* (see 12 b).

c 1200 Ormin 10292 Seȝȝ uss, arrt tu profete. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2241 Sei, þu Sathanesses sune,..hwet constu to þeos men þet tu þus leadest? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5005 'Sais me', coth Iacob, 'how es þis, þat o mi childir an i misse?' *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 25 Say now, sir Iohn of France how saltou fare? 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 303 Sey me, ȝonge man, was þy moder ever in Rome? *a* 1490 *Pope Gregory's Trental* 87 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 263 Sey me, modur, wiþ-outen feyne, Whi art þou put to al þis peyne? 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. v, Why say theridamas, wilt thou be a king? 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. iv. 142 Say? How is that? 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 92 Tell me, say, This mighty emperor,..Has he beheld the glittering front of war? 1814 F. S. Key *Star-spangled Banner* 7 O! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free? 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxiv, Say, lad, have you things to do?

†7. To deliver (a speech, a discourse); to relate (a story); to express, give (thanks); to tell, speak (truth, lies); to express (one's opinion). *Obs.*

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxx. § 1 Þa ongon he eft seggan spell & cwæð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 On eallum tidum secggan we him þanc ealra his miltsa. *c* 1205 Lay. 3032 Cordoille iherde þa lasinge þe hire sustren seiden þon kinge. *Ibid.* 4620 We wullet soð sucgen. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 98 (Jesus MS.) Hwar bi men seggeþ a vorbysne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4582 O þis ioseph sai me þi dome, And giue me þar-of god consail. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 593 Seiȝth me al ȝour seknesse & what so sore ȝow greuis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's Prol.* 46 But nathelees certeyn I kan right now no thrifty tale seyn. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 29 Þus crist spekiþ to þe iewis & axeþ hem whi þei bileuen not to hym ȝif he seiþe trewþe. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 343/1 No persone of the seide Counseill, shall conceyve..wrath, aȝeins any other of the seide Counseill, for saiying his advys or entent. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 17 Item I wyll that Maist^r Thomas Harlowe sey the sermon at my interment. 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1214 Master Barbour, quhilk was a worthi clerk, He said the Bruce amang his othir werk. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 526 And whan the kyng simon herde mawgis speke so, he said him grete thanke. 1498 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.), There was a solempne sermon seyde, where the Maire there sette betwixt both presidentes. 1544 Patten *Exped. Scot.* Pref. a v, The whiche I had, or rather (to saie truth and shame the deuel, for out it wool) I stale. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 81 Where they may freely say their mindes. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 334 Mr. Caryl only prayed, the other two preached, and very good sermons they said.

†8. To speak of, mention, enumerate, describe.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 346 Lihte gultes beteð þus anonriht, bi ou suluen and þauh sigged ham ine schrifte. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 70, I am not worþi to seyn moni of his werkes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5551 And oþir sellis he saȝe at sai wald he neuir. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5204 The same yle I said you, Cicill is calt.

9. To recite or repeat (something that has a prescribed form); occas. to recite from memory, in contradistinction to reading. Often in traditional collocations, as *to say grace*, *a lesson*, (*a*) *mass*, *a prayer*, (*one's prayers*).

In ritual use *say* and *sing* are sometimes equivalent; but *say* is the wider term, and seems often to have been applied distinctively to recitation without note.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Ich wille..segge ou þe crede word after word. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 24 A þisse wise ȝe muwen, ȝif ȝe wulleð, siggen ower Paternostres. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28248 My prayers say was me ful lathe. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10429 Ȝyf one [*sc.* a mass] for me were specyale seyde. *c* 1330 *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 93, I see in song, in sedgeyng tale of Erceldoun & of Kendale, Non þam says as þai þam wroght. *a* 1350 *Peter & Paul* 292 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 67 Þan to þe body he made him boun And sayd þore his coniurisoun. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 7 Dauid..made..instrumentis of musik, in whiche þe dekenes schulde seie ympnes and songes. 1415 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 23 That ther be x. M^l. masses Isayde for me of gode prestes. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xviii. (1869) 82 The gospel that j haue herd seyd [Fr. *chanter*] in oure toun. *c* 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 14 An honest Preest sufficiantly lerned in dyvynete to syng & sey dyvyne seruice in the said Chapell. *c* 1530 H. Rhodes *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 81 And whyle that grace is saying, friend, looke that ye make no noyse. 1544 *Exhort. to Prayer* A ix b, That whyche is printed in blacke letters is to be sayde or song of the prieste. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* Induct., Faith, we can say our parts. *c* 1616 S. Ward *Coal from Altar* (1627) 74 Sermons..so deliuered, as if one were acting a part, or saying a lesson by heart. 1641 J. Trappe *Theol. Theol.* viii. 307 They could not say Psalmes ..by heart. 1832 W. Palmer *Orig. Liturg.* I. 244 Collects to be said at matins and evensong. 1858 Longf. *Birds of Passage* I. *Children* ix, Ye are better than all the ballads That ever were sung or said. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Germans..had their own masses said in it [this church] on special days. 1884 J. Gilmour *Mongols* xviii. 212 In the act of disrobing, prayers are said most industriously.

†b. *absol.* with reference to church services.

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass-bk.* (B.) 27 When þe preyst says, or yf he syng, To hym þou gyf gud herkenyng. 1439 in *Ancestor* July (1904) 16, I bequethe to the person for seying and syngynge atte my dirige viij d. 1558 Kennedy in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 151 He can nolder sing nor say. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 106 Within a short space none of them were able either to say, reade, pray, or sing, in all the monastery. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 291 They are as usefully employed as those who neither sing nor say.

10. On the analogy of expressions like 'let us say', 'shall we say?', etc. (referable to senses 1–3), where the verb has contextually the sense of 'suppose', 'assume', the imperative *say* is idiomatically used: a. to introduce a clause, with the sense 'supposing', 'on the assumption *that*'; b. parenthetically, to indicate that a preceding sentence expresses a supposition or a selected instance; c. prefixed to a designation of number, quantity, date, etc. to mark it as an approximate guess or as representing a hypothetical case.

In commercial documents *say* is also used, without any implication of inexactness, to introduce any varied repetition of a numerical or quantitative statement: e. g. 'a shipment of 215 (say two hundred and fifteen) tons of coal'; 'thirteen stones (say 182 pounds)'; 'four editions of 2000 copies each,

or say in all 8000 copies'. Cf. Ger. *sage*, Da. *siger*, Sw. *säger*; the two last are indicative present, either 1st or 3rd pers. sing.; Du. has *zegge* (old form of *zeg*, 1st pers.), and Fr. has *je dis* similarly used.

c 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i. 159 Well, say tis read, what is your further meaning in the matter. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iv. 23 Say I do speake with her (my Lord) what then? 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvi. 1 But say it had been out of his way. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxxvi. (1674) 238 When a Prince, say it be not out of private hatred, but justly doth vex any great Officer. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 66 Pleasure and Pain are indeed to a certain Degree, say to a very high Degree, distributed amongst us without any apparent Regard to the Merit or Demerit of Characters. 1837 *Athenæum* No. 480, 6 A Venus —say of Parian marble in early Greek style. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* lii, Early in the week, or say Wednesday. 1863 KINGSLEY in *Lett.* etc. (1877) II. 147 The wages of my people..average 11*s.* per week...Harvesting, say £5 more. 1875 CAYLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Pure & Appl. Math.* XIII. 321 Radius vectors belonging to the same angle (or say opposite angles). 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 143 But if the period of (say) 100 years subdivides itself. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 450 Equal volumes of, say, thirty and forty-fold diluted normal acid.

11. The inf. to say is used in parenthetic phrases with adv. or obj., as *so to say*, *shortly to say*, *soothly to say*; *sooth* or *truth to say*, *to say* (*the*) *truth*; *shame to say*, etc. (Cf. senses 2, 3, 7.)

† *To say better*: = 'more correctly speaking'.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 Soþ to seggen, ic not ȝif ich auerȝete ani ðing dede ðat [etc.]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3747 Bote to sigge [*v. rr.* segge, seye] ssortliche þer nas ver ne ner Of prowesse ne of corteisie in þe world is per. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 81 Þare dwelled oure king, þe suth to saine, With his menȝe a litell while. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 284 For sothe he was a worthy man with alle, But sooth to seyn, I noot how men hym calle. *Ibid.* 468 Gat tothed was she, soothly for to seye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvi. 176 And schortly to seye ȝou; thei suffren [etc.]. 1437 *Libel of Eng. Policy* in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) II. 182 For here martis bene feble, shame to saye. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. viii, Oftyme for to saye trouthe men lese theyre lyues. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. i. 136/2 in *Holinshed*, And to saie truth, one..of these small liuings is of so little value, that [etc.]. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xv. 130 The auncient towne of the Sun called Heliopolis, or to say better, Solos or Soloe. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. ii. 12 And indeed such a fellow, to say precisely, were not for the Court. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Nov., But, to say the truth, the present Ministry have a difficult task, and want me [etc.]. 1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* I. 311 We had been already five weeks in Savagedom,..and, to say the truth, we had had enough of it. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* XXVI. (ed. 3) 241 Having now, so to say, presented our humble duty to the Lord Mayor..let us retrace our steps. *Ibid.* xli. (ed. 3) 354 The investigation of this question, which, truth to say, was one of importance.

b. *Not to say . . .*: used (*a*) to imply that the speaker is content with a more moderate statement than that which he might have made; (*b*) *colloq.* = 'not what one may call . . .', 'not . . ., properly speaking'.

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat.-Eng. Dict., Nedum*, not to say. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xliv, 'Am not I [growing old], my dear?' 'No, papa, not old—not to say old'. *Mod.* His language was irreverent, not to say blasphemous.

12. I say has various idiomatic uses. **a.** Introducing a word, phrase, or statement repeated from the preceding sentence (usually in order to place it in a new connexion). Now somewhat *rare*.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 680 After him prophetes alle miȝte her non him [Adam] maken on stalle, on stalle, i seie, ðer he er stod. 1540 *Great Bible, Ps.* cxxx. 6 My soule flyeth vnto the Lorde, before the mornyng watche (I saye) before the mornynge watche. 1563 WINȜET tr. *Vincentius Lirin.* To Q. Marie, Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 7 The mony diuerse..sectis, raigeing.. amangis the professouris of Christis name—raigeing I say, nocht only aganis..the haly, catholik Kirk, bot [etc.]. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* iv. 161 For this reason, I say, I thought it a part of my duty. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 94 I took out one of the Bibles..; I say, I took it out, and brought both that and the Tobacco with me to the Table. 1833 KEBLE *Serm.* vi. (1848) 134 The case is, I say, conceivable, of a government..deliberately throwing off the restraint. 1906 BELLOC *Hills & Sea* Introd. 11 They took a rotten old leaky boat (they were poor and could afford no other)—they took, I say, a rotten old leaky boat.

b. *colloq.* quasi-*int.* Used to call attention to what is about to be said. (In the U. S. shortened to *say*.) Also, as a mere exclamation expressive of surprise, delight, dismay, or indignant protest.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burning Pest.* III. v, I say, open the doore, and turne me out those mangy companions. 1857 J. G. HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxvi. 336 Say! What are you laughing at? 1888 *Amer. Humorist* 5 May 7/1 Say, boys, let's climb the mountain. 1890 L. FALCONER *Mlle. Ixe* iii. 80, I say! won't it be glorious?

† **c.** *Book-keeping.* Formerly used to introduce the correction of an error which the book-keeper perceives as soon as he has made it, but does not expunge, in order not to disfigure the page.

1793 NEMNICH *Comptoir-Lex., Engl.* [with example 'Bought of M. N. *I say* Sold M. N.']

13. Combined with advs.

a. Say away *intr.* = *say on. rare.*

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* viii, Say away, therefore, as confidently as if you spoke to your father.

† **b. Say forth** *intr.* = *say on. Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 47 'Sey forth', quod sche, 'and tell me how'. *Ibid.* 310 Thus have I, fader, said mi wille; Say ye now forth, for I am stille. 1808 [see SAY *sb.*4 4].

c. Say on. In the *imperative* = 'say what you wish to say'. Now only *intr.*; in early use also *trans.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1227 'Sei on dame!' and sche bigan To tellen als a fals wimman. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 199 Tharfor sais on ȝour will planly. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 146 'But here my wordes, yf it playse you'. 'saye on hardely', sayd the kynge. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* IV. (1744) 21, I wyll first conclude, and then saye on thy mynde. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* ii. 14 He said moreouer, I haue somewhat to say vnto thee. And she saide, Say on. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 228 Say therefore on. 1851 TENNYSON *Edwin Morris* 57 Yet say on.

d. Say out. *trans.* (*a*) To say openly. † (*b*) To finish saying, say to the end (*obs.*).

c 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 4583, I say yt out, me lyst nat rovne, Thus ye shuld hir name expovne. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ci. 95 He had no sooner say'd out his Say, but [etc.]. 1768, *a* 1843 [see SAY *sb.*4 4]. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* iv. (1904) 125/1, I apologize for saying out in controversy charges against the Church of Rome, which withal I affirm that I fully believed at the time when I made them.

e. Say over. *trans.* To repeat from memory.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 Let the poorer sorte oftymes saye over theyr *Pater noster*, and after receyve the Sacrament. 1625 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 177 Or that a Man in Anger is as Wise as he that hath said ouer the foure and twenty Letters. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* xxxvi. 60 It is lawful to hear an ignorant raw Lad, that saith over a dry Sermon as a Boy saith his Lesson. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 47 Doris made a comic rhyme of it, And said it over to me.

14. *Comb.*: **say-grace**, one who says grace at meals; † **say-nay**, a refusal; **say-nothing** *a.*, silent. See also SAY-SO, SAY-WELL.

1688 C. HOOLE *School-Colloq.* 35 Perhaps you should have a Say-nay (or a Canvas). 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* I. III. ii. 243 The race of formal spintexts and solemn say-graces is nearly extinct. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. v, She with her quiet, say-nothing manner slips through all my careless questionings. 1853 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 98 One of your discreet, see-everything, say-nothing serving-men.

† **Say**, *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 4–6, 8 (9 *Sc.*) **sey**, 4–8 **say**, 4 **saȝe**, 5 **saie**. [Aphetic form of ASSAY *v.*] = ASSAY *v.* in various senses.

1. *trans.* To try, to put to the proof, to test the fitness of; = ASSAY *v.* 1.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1093 Charlis clipede ys leches..þat þai scholde til him go is wounde to enserche & saye. 1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* vii. 24 Alle thingis I saȝede [Vulg. *tentavi*] in wisdam. *a* 1440 *Found. St. Bart's* (E.E.T.S.) 51 He lost the light of boith yen; therfor he graspid abowte..sayvnge his way with his stayff. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 26 And thei ordeined amonges hem how thei shulde saie her wyfes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 243 The blak knicht sayit thame all bot thair was nane that mycht war him. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 7 We sayed the pumps, and found her stanch. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, I at ewe-milking first sey'd my young skill. *a* 1801 GALL *Poems* (1819) 12 Time in vain shall sey his rage To blot it frae the gilded page. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. *Earl Walter* xlvi, Rise up, Lord Darcie, sey thy brand, And fling thy mail away.

2. *trans.*, also *intr.* with *of*. To try by tasting; = ASSAY *v.* 5.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 764 in *Babees Bk.*, When þe sewer comys vnto þe borde, Alle þe mete he sayes at on bare worde. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) v. 34 Grene leikis and all sic, men may say. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 75 Say of it: i. e. tast of it, *Suff.*

3. *trans.* To try (*on*) (clothes); = ASSAY *v.* 7.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, *Phi.* Me thinkes, he lookes like a taylour alreadie. *Pha.* I, that had sayed on one of his customers sutes. 1625 — *Staple of N.* I. ii. *Stage direct.*, He sayes his sute. 1630 — *New Inn* IV. iii, She did but say the suit on.

4. To attempt, to try to do (anything difficult); = ASSAY *v.* 16.

? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 368 in *Dunbar's Poems* 297 On his feit he startis vp full sture, And come agane, and seyit all his cure. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 361, I was affrayed to mount sa hich, For feir to get ane fall: Affrayit to say it, I luikit vp on loft. 16.. *Childe Waters* XXX. in Child *Ballads* II. 87/1 For there is noe place about this house Where I may say a sleepe.

5. *intr.* or with *inf.* **a.** To apply oneself, to set oneself (*to do* something). = ASSAY *v.* 17.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1826 Wyþ trip forsetten, ilk oþer to gyle, In lyft in wrypyng þey sayed vmwhile. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* 708/4906 (E.E.T.S.) Wherfore, þe kyng cast & wolde saie Shape a wei her malis to with-stonde. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 354 Sin Aforn vs thre ye apperen, lo! And without worde say for to make passage, It is noght the dede of gentil corage. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* vii. 6 Of mercy and of judgment sey to sing. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster, Apol. Dial.* Wks. 1616 I. 353 Once, I'le say, To strike the eare of time, in those fresh straines, As shall [etc.]. 1632 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Iron Age* V. K 3 This Diomed? who..sayd to wound faire Venus in the hand. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 30 With trembling hands he 'says to pull at, And tear the throatling noose from gullet. 1790 A. WILSON *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 95, I sey'd ance to cast off my coat.

Say, obs. f. SAW *sb.*1; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SEE *v.*; obs. Sc. f. So, SOW *v.*

Sayable (sē·ăb'l), *a.* [f. SAY *v.*1 + -ABLE.] Capable of being said.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. VIII. § 9 What is suggested in times of play should be rightly sayable without toil. 1891 F. M. WILSON *Primer Browning* 132 Browning has said all that was sayable concerning the celebrated cause. 1902 *Month* Nov. 463 To him, nothing is sayable which has already been said.

Sayall, variant of SEYAL.

Saycrying, Saydly, obs. ff. SACRING, SADLY.

Sayer1 (sē·ər). Forms: 4–5 **segger**; 4 **seiere**, 4–5 **seyere**, 6 **saier**, 6 *Sc.* (9 *arch.*) **sayar**, 5– **sayer**. [f. SAY *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who says.

† **1.** A professional reciter. Cf. DISOUR. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 76, I mad noght for no disours, ne for no seggers, no harpours.

b. A poet, narrator. *arch.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. Prol. 27 The sayar eik suld weil consider this, His mater, and quhamto it entitillit is. 1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 560 This is not a truth of nature; it is therefore not the meaning of Samund the sayer. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 17 Ilk comic scene of ilka age, Gleam'd out of ilka sayar's page.

2. One who says (something specified or implied).

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 158 Lette not the autorie of the Seyere meve the; take no cure of the Seyere what Persone he is. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 55 That by the hering of the same devocion may encrease aswell in the singers and sayers as in the herers. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 430/1 All sayaris and heiraris of messe. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* (ed. 2) 331, I cannot endure long the sayers of good things. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* Dec. *Diary* (1892) I. 208, I never..have been a sayer of the thing that is not. 1838 WILBERFORCE in Ashwell *Life* (1880) I. 119 But merely saying a strong thing would..do them no good; they would only identify the sayer with a party. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 136 Mother of mysteries! Sayer of dark sayings in a thousand tongues!

b. With qualifying word, as *false*, *ill*, *sooth sayer*: One who speaks falsely, ill, truly, etc. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 9 My ryuelis seyn witnesse aȝen me, and the false seiere is rered vp aȝen my face. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 524/33 Bettre is chidyng of a soþ seyere þen deceyuyng of a losyngere. *c* 1400 *title* (of 'Richard the Redeless') Mum, Soth-segger! 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 954/2 Lest men myghte thinke he fayned, he should seke out and bring furth some of those shrewd sayers himself. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) N n iij b, The most vylanie in men, is to bee ylle saiers. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 40 We ar forbiddin be it to bear fals and deceptfull witnes..as verralie is doone be quhisperars, bakbytters, and euil sayers.

† **3.** A director. *Obs. rare*—1.

1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 112/4 (Inv. St. Firmin) And the peple of thyse cytees meued them eche from his place.. wythout sayer or comander [L. *quasi ut unusquisque suum habuisset præceptorem et ducem*].

† **Say·er**2. *Obs.* [Aphetic var. of ASSAYER. Cf. SAY *v.*2] One who assays or tests; an assayer of metals, a foretaster of food, etc.

? 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 166 in Ellis *Metr. Rom.* (1805) III. 146 Thy 'sayer [*v. rr.* assayar, tastour] shall ben an hound, To assay thy meat before thee. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 868 in *Macro Plays* 64 Wyth yow tweyn, wo ys replyede, He may sey he hathe a schrewde seyer. 1579 in R. W. Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) I. Introd. 34 The generall of his cunyehous Mr. Cunyear Wardanis sinkar syer prentaris forgearis and vtheris. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* IV. 2242 The Market Sayer, Corn Prizer, and all the other inferior officers mentioned above, are annually appointed by the alderman's court [at Grantham].

‖ **Sayer**3 (sā·yə·ı). *India.* Also **syre**, **sair**. [Urdū, a. Arab. سائر *sā'ir*, pres. pple. either of *sāra* to go or of *sā'ara* to remain. (For various proposed explanations see Yule.)] A general name for a class of imposts of the nature of transit and excise duties, originally levied by the zemindars within their own estates, and under the East India Company's rule chiefly collected by the government. Also *attrib.*

The sayer duties had been abolished in the three presidencies before the rule of the Company came to an end, and the term is no longer in official use.

1789 in *Cornwallis Corresp.* (1859) I. 557 What are called the Sayer collections. 1790 *Ibid.* II. 492 Our former despatches will have acquainted you that we had taken into the hands of Government the collection of the internal duties usually denominated the Sayer. 1821 KIRKPATRICK *Nepaul* 103 The revenues of a village..consist principally in the rent of houses, and the Sair, or duties charged on salt, tobacco, pepper, beetle-nut [etc.]. 1850 *Directions Rev. Off. N. W. Prov.* 43 There are also other items, called Sayer or Sewaee collections, which are much prized by the proprietors, and which in some cases constitute a valuable property.

Sayette. *rare*—0. [a. F. *sayette*, dim. of *saie* SAY *sb.*1] (See quot.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sayette*, a mixed stuff of silk and cotton, also called sagathy.

Sayeure, obs. form of SAWYER.

Sayfe, obs. Sc. form of SAFE.

† **Say-hand.** *Obs. rare*—1. [? From the phrase *to say* (= try) *one's hand*.] An attempt, experiment.

1712 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 362 Upon the 29th, there was a soldier buried in the High Church-yard with the English service. This is the first say-hand.

Saying (sē·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 Also **a.** 4–5 **segg-**, **sedge**, **sigg-**, **sygg-**, (4 *Kent.* **zigg-**); **-ing(e**, **-yng(e**; *β.* 4–6 **sai-**, **sey-**; **-ing(e**, **-eng(e**, **-yng)e**; 4–6 **sayng(e**, **saing**, **seyng(e**. [f. SAY *v.*1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of SAY *v.*1; utterance, enunciation; recitation. † *Saying-again* = AGAIN SAYING.

Often (contrasted with *doing*) denoting a mere assertion or promise, as opposed to action or performance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28581 On seuen maners ar þai [*sc.* sins] for-giuen,..Of hali water þe strenkling, And thoru þe pater noster saying. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) Pref. 99,

I see in song in sedgeyng tale Of Erceldoun & of Kendale, Non þam says as þai þam wroght, & in þer sayng it semes noght. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 134 Courtoyse langage and well saynge is moche worth and coste lityll. *c*1475 *Partenay* 3242 Geffray answered: 'wele saide here haue ye; Go forth,' said he,'with-out sayng-Again'. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* R ij b, Saying and doyng, are twoo thinges, we say. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 3 Saying of Masse, hearing of confessions, preaching and such like dueties and functions of Priesthod. 1845 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 38 Saying by heart is a tiresome and unsatisfactory kind of teaching-work.

b. In phrase 'There is no saying'=it is impossible to say, there is no certainty attainable. Cf. the more usual 'there is no telling'.

1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xx, They won't come now..but there is no saying.

2. Something that is said; now chiefly, something that has been said by a (more or less distinguished) person, an apophthegm, a dictum.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 734 Þe caytyfe þat lay yn hys bedde, For here seyyng wax sore adredde. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) 255 Certaynly, his noble sayinges can I not amende. 1463 in *Coventry Leet-bk.* 322 And þervppon the kyng, supposyng theyre seying to be trewe, sent his lettrez of priue sygnet to the Officers of this Cite. 1530 PALSGR. 427/2 Take no hede to his sayenges for he is madde. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xlix. 4, I will incline mine eare to a parable; I will open my darke saying vpon the harpe. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 104 My heart hath been a store-house long of things And sayings laid up, portending strange events. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 52. 336 It is a Saying I have always admired in Monsieur Bruyere. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 660 The King read, and remained, according to the saying of Churchill, hard as the marble chimney-pieces of Whitehall. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do* I. viii, Then came sayings of dry humour. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 622 'May God be with thee, sweet, when old and gray, And past desire!' a saying that anger'd her. 1897 GRENFELL & HUNT (*title*), ΑΟΓΙΑ ΙΗΣΟΥ, Sayings of our Lord.

b. Something commonly said; a proverb; *occas.* † a current form of speech.

*c*1450 MYRC *Festial* 86 3e haue a comyn sayng among you and sayn þat Godys grace ys worth a new fayre. 1480 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 27 For ther is proverbe and a seyenge, that a castelle that spekythe, and a womane that wille here, thei wille be gotene bothe. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 God save you, whiche sayeng we use whan we come firste to ones presence. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 2 According to the common saying, Where God hath his Church, the Devill hath his Chappell. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 50 P 8, I can see into a Mill-stone as far as another (as the Saying is). 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) II. xxiv. 250 The name..was amplified into short proverbial sayings.

† **c.** ? = DITTY **2**. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* VIII. 3081* It sit him wel to singe and daunce, And do to love his entendance In songes bothe and in seyinges After the lust of his pleyinges.

† **d.** Repetition of a spell or incantation. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 542 'Why', seyd he, 'wyl hyt nat ryse, And y haue do þe same wyse, And seyd þe wurdys, lesse ne mo, And for my seyyng wyl hyt nat go'? 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 531 With all þe wyle of his werk þe waie gon enchaunte, By segging of sorsery. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 296 So blynd ye are by her sayeng that ye dare not enquere nor knoweth wher she becommeth or gooth.

† **3.** *collect. sing.* General habit of speech; usual manner of speaking; the remarks of a person considered collectively. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 484 Nought so, sir, his seggyng is full sothly soth, It bryngis oure bernes in bale for to bynde. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 1774 (Brandl) But such fooles in their harts do say, That there is no God, neyther Heauen, nor Hell; According to their saying they follow that way.

† **4.** A right to speak; a 'voice' in an assembly. Also, *to have a saying to* = 'to have something to say to'. *Obs.* Cf. SAY *sb.*4 3.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 397/1 That no merchaunt..bere any voice, ne have saying in any Court. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 131 These sixe Aldermen..knowyng that neither the Aldermen, nor the worshipfull of the Citie, should haue any saiyng in the matter, fearing their cause, went into a Canons house of Paules. 1568 C. WATSON *Polyb.* 67 b, Of the contrary part the Carthaginenses ruled on the seas uncontrolled and hoped wel to have a saying by land. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* II. (1633) E 1, For though they doe a while increase and multiply, I'le haue a saying to that Nunnery. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* v. ii. K 3, I must haue a saying to those bottels. (*He drinketh.*)

† **Sa·ying,** *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.* [f. SAY *v.*2 + -ING 1.] The action of SAY *v.*2 in various senses.

1511–12 *Ld. Treas. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 274 Compt maid with William Striveling for expensis maid be him apone the sayng of the led mynd of Ilay.

b. *Comb.*: **saying-knife,** that with which the say of grease of a deer is taken.

a 1858 KINGSLEY *New Forest Ballad* 51 The young man drove his saying knife Deep in the old man's breast. 1865 — *Herew.* xxxix, [He] pulled out a saying-knife, about half as long again as the said priest's hand.

Saylch, sayll, obs. Sc. forms of SEAL.

Saym(e, obs. forms of SEAM *sb.*, lard.

† **Say·ment.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. SAY *v.*2 + -MENT.] A trial, exploit.

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 50 Torrent sayd:..'An other sayment woll I see, Ore I take ordor of knyght'.

Saymne, variant of SAMEN *a. Obs.*, same.

Sayn(e, obs. ff. SAINT, SEINE. See *v.*

Saynd(e, Sayndisman: see SAND, SANDESMAN.

Saynite (sē̆ɪ·nəit). *Min.* [a. G. *Saynit* (F. von Kobell 1853), after *Sayn*, Prussia, its locality: see -ITE.] A synonym of GRÜNAUITE.

1858 J. NICOL *Elem. Min.* 298.

Saynsure: see SAINSE.

Saynts-bell: see SANCTUS BELL.

‖ **Sayon** (sē̆yŏn). *Antiq.* [F., augm. of *saie*: see SAY *sb.*] A kind of sleeveless jacket, worn in the Middle Ages by men of the lower classes.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1849) II. 342 Pietro della Valle describes the Aba as worn by the Persians and Arabs. He says it is a sayon open in front, and without sleeves.

Sayr(e, obs. forms of SORE.

Sayse, saysi, obs. forms of SEIZE.

Saysine, saysing, obs. forms of SEISIN.

Say-so (sē̆ɪ·sōu), *sb.* Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. SAY *v.*1 + So *adv.*] (A person's) mere word or dictum. *Upon my* (*your*) *say-so*, upon one's word. Also, *To have the say-so*: 'to have the say', to be the authority.

1637 HEYLIN *Antid. Lincoln.* i. 49 They are only say-soes, and no proofes at all. 1676 MOXON *Print Letters* 2 Their Say-so stands for no Proof. 1757 FOOTE *Author* II. Wks. 1799 I. 148 Do you love me?..With all my soul...Upon your sayso?..Upon my sayso. 1788 *Ann. Reg., Poetry* 185 On my Sayso, Miss, I'm turn'd thirteen. 1890 D. C. MURRAY *John Vale's Guardian* I. ix. 169 'Well, upon my sayso!' said Isaiah. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 33/2 It is just possible that I took him through from New York without a train, by the mere say-so of my pen. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xvi, He was the cook that had the say-so in New York.

Say·-well, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 **seywel, seiwel.** [f. SAY *v.*1 + WELL *adv.*] Approval expressed in words; verbal commendation. (Orig. as *personification.*)

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 19 Þe Cunstable of þe Castel..haþ fyue feire sones bi his furste wyf: Sire seowel and seywel [etc.]. 15.. *Six Ballads* (Percy Soc. 1844) 6 Say-well is good, but do-well is better. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theorists Panegyr.* (1629) 9 He did not well to them, without their Say-well of him. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 52 'Say weel is good, but deea-weel is better', explained by what the pious matron remarked, 'I cannot talk my religion, but I can live it'.

‖ **Sayyid** (sē̆ɪ·yid). Also **seid, seyd, seyed, seyyad, syed.** [Arab. سيّد *sayyid*, lit. 'lord', 'prince'. Cf. CID.] In Mohammedan countries, the title given to a man who is supposed to trace his descent from Husain, the elder grandson of the Prophet. Also *attrib.*

1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1821 VII. 91 He was a Syed, that is to say, a descendant of Mahomed. 1811 tr. *Niebuhr's Trav. Arab.* in *Pinkerton's Voy.* X. 39 He looked with disdain upon the Turkish Sherriffes, and the Arabian Seids. 1827 LADY H. STANHOPE *Mem.* (1845) I. ii. 56 A young *seyd*, a friend of mine. 1840 FRASER *Koordistan*, etc. I. iv. 99 All individuals of that order of Seyeds, called *Suggerân*,—that is, who can boast of an indisputable descent from the daughter of the prophet in the male line. 1849 *Dry Leaves* 22 A Seyyad by birth, he had killed his brother to obtain some property. 1855 R. F. BURTON *Al-Medinah & Meccah* ii. (1893) 3 In Arabia..the Sayyid is the descendant of Hosayn...In Persia and India, the Sharif is the son of a Sayyid woman and a common Moslem.

Sazhen, variant of SAGENE 1.

Sbirro (sbi·rro). Pl. **sbirri** (sbi·rī); also 7 *anglicized* **sbirres, -is.** [a. It. *sbirro*, whence F. *sbirre*; cf. Sp. *esbirro*.] An Italian police officer.

a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 252 This Governour..hath besides his own guards, a *Barigello* or Captain of the *Sbirri* or Sergeants. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2224/1 The Sbirres or Officers of Justice. 1688 *Lett. conc. Present St. Italy* 119 The Sbiri (a sort of men like our Bailiffs) carried him to another [Judge]. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2890/1 Sbirris or Officers of Justice. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. ii. 28 Had I been silent, not a sbirro but Had kept me in his eye, as meditating..revenge. 1888 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* 183, I rolled through Italy in a diligence, in company with sundry Papal *sbirri* as fellow-passengers.

'Sblood (zblŭd). *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 6 **zbloud, 'sblud,** 7 **s'bloud, slud, slood,** 8 (*affected*) **s'blead.** A euphemistic shortening of *God's blood* (see GOD *sb.* 14), used as an oath or asseveration.

1598 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV* (Qo. 1) I. ii. 82 Zbloud I am as melancholy as a gyb Cat. 1599 — *Hen. V* (Fol. 1) IV. viii. 10 'Sblud. 1604 — *Ham.* (Qo. 2) II. ii. 384 S'bloud. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. i, Slud Aunt, what if my dreame had beene true. *Ibid.* II. i, Slood me thinks a man Should not of meere necessitie be an Asse. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 89 Sblood what is learning? An artificiall cobwebbe to catch flies. 1705 VANBRUGH *Country House* II. iv, A parcel of Fellows swear they'll have our Venison, and s'blead I swear they shall have none on't. 1737 FIELDING *Hist. Reg.* I. i, 'Sblood, Sir, would it be in the Character of a Politician to make him a Conjurer? 1737 R. DRURY *Rival Milliners* II. xii, S'blud and Thunder, Give me the Settlement again. 1848 BOKER *Calaynos* v. ii. Poems (1857) I. 102 'Sblood! but they'd make you caper!

'Sbobs. An unmeaning oath: cf. prec. and *Od's bobs* under OD 1.

1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 170 'Sbobs, as I hope to breath, a smug-faced little Rogue! 1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 32 'Sbobs! I declare, it does not smack amiss.

'Sbo·dikins. A euphemistic shortening of *God's bodikins* (see GOD *sb.* 14 b, OD 1 2, and BODIKIN).

1676 DURFEY *Madam Fickle* I. i. (1677) 2 'Sbodikins, I am told in the Country there's not a true Wit in all the Fraternity but he. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 120 'Sbudikins, you've almost walk'd me off my Legs tho'. 1733 FIELDING *Intrig. Chamberm.* II. ix. 'Sbodikins! I am in a rage. 1733 — *Quixote in Eng.* III. xiv, 'Sbodlikins! I find there's nothing in making love when a man's but once got well into 't. 1790 *Bystander* 183 'Sbodikins', cried Cozin, 'but I do tell ye I be not'. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 115, I flopp'd forth, 'sbuddikins! on my own ten toes.

† **'Sbo·dy.** *Obs. rare*—1. Shortened form of *God's body*, used as an oath.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i, S'body, giue Husbands the head a little more, and they'll be nothing but Head shortly.

† **'Sbores.** *Obs. rare*—1. A euphemistic oath: cf. the preceding words.

1635 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* IV. iii, S'bores I bit my tongue too hard.

† **'Sbud(s.** *Obs.* = 'SBODIKINS.

1676 DURFEY *Madam Fickle* I. i. (1677) 3, I am heartily glad to see you, Good Mr. Harry. 'Sbud he sprouts up finely. 1682 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* II. i, S'buds! a Months pay is Nothing to thee. 1733 FIELDING *Quixote in Eng.* II. v, 'Sbud! I'll beat your lanthorn jaws into your throat, you rascal. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 305 S'bud, we had something better to do.

Sca, obs. Sc. form of SCALL *sb.*

Scab (skæb), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **scabbe,** 4–7 **skab,** 5–6 **skabbe,** 6 **skabe, scappe,** 6–7 **scabb,** 3– **scab.** [a. ON. **skabb-r* (MSw. *skabb-er*, mod. Sw. *skabb*, Da. *skab* from the 13th c.), corresponding to OE. *sceabb* SHAB *sb.*, q.v. for cognate forms. With sense 4 cf. MDu. *schabbe*, applied to women with the senses 'slut' and 'scold'; possibly this word, used by foreign vagrants, may have helped the development of the sense in Eng.; its etymological relation to early mod.Du. *schabbe* (Kilian), Flem. dial. *schab* itch (= OE. *sceabb*) is not clear.

The occurrence of the word in Kentish of the 13th c. is a difficulty, as the Scandinavian form would be unlikely to be adopted in that dialect. Perh. the word may in this passage represent the OE. *sceabb*, with archaizing spelling due to the influence of the L. *scabies*, which it here renders (cf. Lev. xiii. 6, Vulgate). Association with the Latin word of similar sound has influenced the later medical use.]

† **1.** Disease of the skin in which pustules or scales are formed: a general term for skin diseases, but sometimes *spec.* = itch or scabies (also, *dry scab*), ringworm or tinea, syphilis; *wet scab*, eczema.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 Si lepre [signefiþ] þo sennen, þet scab bi-tokned þo litle sennen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11820 Þe scab ouer-gas his bodi all. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 553 Withoute bleyne scabbe or royne. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxii. (Bodl. MS.), Wete scabbe [L. *scabies humida*] with quitter and scales. *Ibid.* lxiii, Drye scabbe..somtyme..comeþ of stronge colerike mater oþer melancolike..and þis yuel hatte Impetigo. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 191 Also scabbe, sum is drie & summe is wet. If it be drie, it schal propirli be clepid icche. And if it be moist, it schal be clepid scabbe. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scabbe, *roigne.* 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 12 It healeth scabbes, and vlcers of the skinne. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. 1. v, It driues away Leaprosie, Scabbes, cleeres the blood. 1658 OSBORN *King James* Wks. (1673) 514 For (spight of his Tarbox) he died of the Scab. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 168, I think thou hast got the scab which they call Spanish. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 114 They commended Unguents of quick-silver against the scab. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) I. 279 The Term *Tinea* at present is applied to a large dry Scab, which Children and Infants are subject to upon the Head. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 286 Th' infectious scab, arising from extremes Of want or surfeit.

† **b.** *fig.* Applied to moral or spiritual disease.

1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 11 This is the great scabbe why they will not let the newe testament go a-brode yn your moder tong. 1567 PAULFREYMAN *Bauldwin's Mor. Philos.* VIII. ii, It is a scabbe of the world to be enuious at vertue. 1651 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 1137 The itch of disputing is the scab of the Church [transl. of the saying *Disputandi prurigo est ecclesiæ scabies*]. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* Wks. 1812 II. 429 O for an ointment to destroy the scab Call'd Envy.

2. A cutaneous disease in animals, esp. sheep, resembling the itch and the mange.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Prol.* 30 Of pokkes, and of scabbe, ..Shal euery sheepe be hool. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* (1534) C 8 This maner of foldyuge shall brede noo mathes nor scabbe. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 98 When they [*i.e.* sheep] are closyd in ranke pasturys and butful [? batful] ground, they are sone touchyd wyth the skabe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 468 That free from Gouts thou mayst preserve thy Care [*viz.* sheep], And clear from Scabs. 1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distempers of Horses* 11 Some indeed have attempted to call the Scab the subtercutaneous Distemper. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 554 Swine that have the scab. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 101 The sheep in the north are quite well—whilst the scab reappears yearly in the south.

b. A disease of cultivated plants, due to vegetable parasites, and causing scab-like roughness.

1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* iv. iii. 27 (E.D.S.). 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 39 The Potatoe is also liable to other disorders; in very dry seasons, excrescences will arise, vulgarly called the Scab. 1881 *Chicago Times* 11 June, The wet weather is likely to produce scab in growing wheat. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 30 Oct. 1/7 The disease of black scab is spreading alarmingly among potatoes.

3. The crust which forms over a wound or sore during cicatrization.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 185 Anoynte al his heed..til al þe scabbis þerof be wel tobroke. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B iij b, They clawe of their owne skabbe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXX. 110 The skinne being deuided and disvnited with scabbes. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. III. xliii, Old fulsome hags with scabs and skurf bedight. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Mar. My sore

shin itched, and I forgot what it was, and rubbed off the scab, and blood came. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 371 An elevated smooth brown scab remained..upon each of the children's arms, after all discharge from the part had ceased. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 316 Not unfrequently, when the scab seems fully formed, suppuration still goes on beneath and around it.

fig. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 107 *Con.* Here man, I am at thy elbow. *Bor.* Mas and my elbow itcht, I thought there would a scabbe follow. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 169. 1799 COLERIDGE *Lett.* 16 Sept. (1895) 306 Mere cutaneous scabs of loyalty which only ape the king's evil. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 72 The great city seemed strangely squalid and mean, a sort of scab that had sprouted at the bosom of ancient and fertile nature.

b. *transf.* in *Iron-founding.* (See quot. 1884.) 1881 C. WYLIE *Iron Founding* 30 To avoid scabs and a bad casting. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Scab*, a protuberance on a casting formed by the washing away of the mold-wall.

4. *slang.* A term of abuse or depreciation applied to persons: **a.** A mean, low, 'scurvy' fellow; a rascal, scoundrel. † *occas.* applied to a woman.

c 1590 R. GREENE *Fr. Bacon* i. (1630) 2 Loue is such a proud scab, that he will neuer meddle with fooles nor children. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* IV. ii, *Pages.* What are yee (scabs?) *Watch.* The Watch: This the Constable. [1599, 1607: see 3 *fig.*] 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 15 A vap'ring Scab, and a great Swearer. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scab*, a sorry Wench, or Scoundril-Fellow. 1702 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* I. 16 The Royal Branch from Pictland did succeed, With Troops of Scots and Scabs from North-by-Tweed. 1725 SWIFT *On Wood the Iron-monger* 9 This vap'ring Scab must needs devise To ape the Thunder of the Skies. 1735 SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* 5 Oct., The devil take all the D's in Christendom, for a pack of saucy scabs. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 18 'There's a scurf!' said one; 'He's a regular scab,' cried another. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 71 You're three beastly scabs!

b. (orig. *U. S.*) A workman who refuses to join an organized movement on behalf of his trade.

1811 *Sel. Cases St. New York* I. 262 The offending member was then termed a *scab* and wherever he was employed no others of the society were allowed to work. 1881 *Standard* 3 Nov. 3/4 Mr. Abbott asked Passfield if he had not told him he heard Hall call Harris a '—— scab'. 1890 *Leeds Merc.* 1 July, Many of them acted as pickets with the object of preventing any strangers—commonly known as 'scabs', or 'blacklegs'..from entering the works.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1881 *Chicago Times* 11 June, It was decided to stop the purchase of what is termed 'scab beer' to-day. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 27 Sept., Their rules prohibit them to work along with scab switchmen.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scab-bringing* adj.; **scab-mite** *U. S.*, the itch-mite, *Acarus scabiei*; † **scab-picker**, ? one who treats sheep for the scab.

1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 394 That na forestar hald vndir him in his steid haggar, flegeour, turnour.., pelar of bark, scab pikar [etc.]. 1611 COTGR., *Escarotique*,..skab-bringing.

Scab (skæb), *v.* [f. SCAB *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To form a scab or scabs upon. *Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 376 Great drouth And fiery thirst, that scabbe my lips and mouth.

2. *intr.* and *pass.* To become encrusted with a scab or scabs. Also with *over.* † *To scab off*: to shed a scab.

1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1864/8 A little Scar upon the Ribs of the fore-side scab'd. 1703 MEAD in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1296 He pointed to a great many little Pustules not yet Scabb'd over. 1725 HUXHAM *ibid.* XXXIII. 394 Those Pustules arose, maturated, and scabb'd off. 1780 HUNTER *ibid.* LXX. 133 The sore being allowed to scab, the slough and scab unite and drop off together. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 392 Thus forming two separate ulcers, which speedily scabbed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 813 A slowly spreading infiltration of the skin, which tends to scab over.

b. *Iron-founding.* To form 'scabs'.

1881 C. WYLIE *Iron Founding* 58 A loam mould run at the top may scab.

3. *slang.* To behave as a 'scab' or 'blackleg'.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 10/2 A surplus army of labour which can be relied upon to 'scab' on their neighbours when these rebel against the capitalists. 1907 U. SINCLAIR in *Daily Chron.* 12 July 3/1 The starving workmen will scab.

Scabard(e, -arge, obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*[1]

†**Scabba·do.** *Obs.* [f. SCAB *sb.* + -ADO. Cf. *scrubbado.*] Venereal disease, syphilis.

1652 *Pleas. Hist. Miller of Mansfield* 8 Or art thou not troubled with the Scabbado. 1680 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* 62 Hot Baths..are found to be ill for the Scabbado. 1681 [see PSORA]. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 290 The new Scabbado.

Scabbard (skæ·bärd), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 3 scaubere, 4 scaberke, 4–5 scau-, 5 scaw-, s(c)kaw-, skau-, skaberk(e, skabrek. *β.* 4–5 scabarge, -erge, 5 skaberge, 7 sca(r)bridge. *γ.* 4–5 scaubert, 5 scawbert, scaubart, 6 scaberth, *Sc.* scau-, scawbart, scaw-, skaw-, schawbert, scalbart, -bert, 6–7 scabbert. *δ. Sc.* 5 skawburn(e. *ε.* 4 skawbard, *Sc.* scalburde, 4–5 scauberd(e, 5–6 scabard(e, 5–7 -erd, 6 skabard, -ord, 7 scabbord, -erd, 8 -oard, 6– scabbard. [a. AF. **escauberc* (recorded only in pl. *escaubers, -erz*, 'vaginas', 'dolones', Joannes de Garlandia, 13th c.), *escauberge* (13th c. in *Registr. Malmesb.*, Rolls Ser., I. 55), latinized *exchauberca* (an. 1204 in *Rot. Chart.* 134/1).

Evidence of the existence of the word in continental OF. has not yet been found, as J. de Garlandia, though resident in France, was an Englishman. The form represents an earlier **scalberc, -berge*, which must be an adoption of a Teut. compound, the last element of which contains the root **berg-* to protect (cf. HAUBERK). No such Teut. compound has, however, been found. As to the origin of the first element two suggestions have been made: (1) that it is OHG. *scala* shell, husk, which does not yield a very satisfactory sense; (2) that **scalberc* is altered by dissimilation from **scarberc*, from OHG. *scâr, scâra*, ordinarily meaning 'scissors', but occas. used as a designation for a sword. The Icel. *skíl-r* scabbard, *skálm* short sword (? a. Gr. σκάλμη), *skálm* 'one part of a cloven thing' (Vigf.), pl. bean-pods, have some resemblance in form and sense, but the possibility of etymological connexion is very doubtful.]

1. The case or sheath which serves to protect the blade of a sword, dagger, or bayonet when not in use.

Usually made of hide or leather, bound with metal; sometimes entirely composed of steel or more precious metals, and embroidered, inlaid, or decorated with precious stones and jewels.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5538 To is scauberc he pulte is hond. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 771 In-to is scaberke he potte his swerd. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2845 The swerd.. was alway stylle cloos In the skawberk. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 118 Whan Arthur was releved, he drowgh his swerde oute of skabrek. *Ibid.* 347 He..yede firste to Calibourne and putte it in the skaberke whan he hadde dried it clene.

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 266 It is not liklyche þat Crist..schulde carie a swerd in a scaberge for to slee a sely lombe. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2790 Then drawing his swerd the scaberge fro, The poynt gayn the dore put he ther-vnto. 1600–1 *Churchw. Acc. E. Budleigh* (Brushfield 1894) 19 Pd. for scabridges & for two swordes & a scabridge for a dager ij^{s} vj^{d}. 1673–4 *Totnes Rec.* in Jewitt & Hope *Corp. Plate* (1895) I. 162 Paid for a new Scarbridge for ye Town sword.

γ. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 628 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 296 The scaubert wes gold pur ant fin. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Scawbert, or chethe (*S.* scawberk, *K. P.* scauberd), *vagina.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 160 The schawbert with broun jasp was picht. *Ibid.* XI. i. 27 Abowt hys gorget..Was hung hys suerd with evor scawbart fyne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 231 Ane scalbert also quille was of purpure fine. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* (Shaks. Soc.) 127 Then..swords might in scabberts sleepe.

δ. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 25 Item a pirne of gold for a skawburne to the sammyn swerd.

ε. c 1325 *Cursor M.* 15791 (Fairf.) Of þe skawbard his squorde he drogh. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 688 The scabarde he ffound, the sword was away. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 110 Jhesu Crist..bad sanct Petir..that he suld put agayne the suerd in the scalburde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 25 b, After them folowed the newe erle of Surrey with the sword of estate in a riche skabard. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 303, I had a passe with him, rapier, scabberd, and all. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 111 The sword with the haft and scabbard of gold. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 93 This My sword, with scabbord all of ivory. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., The Sword*, He return'd his sword into its scabbard. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Unfix*, Unfix bayonet, on which the soldier disengages the bayonet from his piece, and returns it to the scabbard. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* I. xix. 325 The officer..drawing his sword out of the scabbard, struck O'Brien with the flat of the blade. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp., Amer.* 4 Dec. (1876) 97 Every sword leaping from its scabbard. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xiii, The moonlight glittered on the scabbard of his sabre.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Often in context with *sword.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 368 Poul clepiþ þe sixte armure, swerd of þe Holy Goost..And þus þe tunge in mannis mouþe is a scaberke to þis swerd. 1589 NASHE *Almond for Parrat* 10 Whiles the sworde of iustice, slept in his scaberd. 1657 T. M. *Life Nim* 106 [That] if ever he met me, he would make my Heart the Scabbard of his Sword. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* Prol., Whil'st tongue lyes still i' th' scabbard of his lips. 1895 WOLSELEY *Decl. & F. Napoleon* I. 2 He..so overstrained the machinery of his mind and body..that both deteriorated..The sword as well as the scabbard showed unmistakable signs of wear-and-tear.

attrib. 1605 KYD 1*st Pt. Ieronimo* I. iii. 105 What bloud sucking slaue Could choke bright honor in a skabard graue?

c. Used as a type of peace (opposed to *sword*).

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The favourite expression of the late Sir William Erskine—Some rise by the scabbard, and some by the sword! 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 88 He sheathed her blood-stained sword in a scabbard of peace.

d. In proverbial uses.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 63 He that striketh with the swoorde, Shalbe strikyn with the scaberde. 1579 GOSSON *Apol. Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 67 Considereth he now.. that hee which strikes with the sworde, shalbe beaten with the scabbarde? 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* v. i, Since he has strooke with the sword, strike you with the Scabbard: in plaine termes Cuckold him. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* III. vi, There is an old Scots saying..that 'the blade wears the scabbard'. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* I. vii. 331 To throw away the sword and fight with the scabbard.

e. In fig. phrase, *to throw away the scabbard*; to abandon all thought of making peace.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* x. § 169 He who hath drawn his Sword against his Prince, ought to throw away the Scabbard. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 196 The scabbard seemed to be thrown away on both sides. 1900 A. T. MAHAN *War S. Africa* v. (ed. 2) 200 Not the courage that throws away the scabbard, much less that which burns its ships.

†**2.** *transf.* Applied to various kinds of sheath or integument; a cocoon, etc. *Obs.*

[1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 90 It..prepareth way to the Nerues..as that it deduceth them, hid as it were in a scaberth, to it.] 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 103 They fold themselues into a..web. And thus being included in a greenish scabbard..they all die in Winter. 1723 A. VAN LEEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 260 An Animalculum, that was fix'd in a little Scabboard or Sheath. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp., Scabbard*,..is the skin that serves for a sheath or case to a horse's yard.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scabbard-button, clasp, -maker*; **scabbard fish,** *Lepidopus caudatus*, a fish of long, compressed scabbard-like form and silvery-white colour; **scabbard razor-shell,** a razor-shell, *Solen vagina*, shaped like a scabbard.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., **Scabbard-button*, a brass button or hook by which the scabbard is attached to the frog of the belt. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 302 This runic *Scabbard-clasp. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 176 The *Scabbard-fish. *Lepidopus argyreus.* 1884 W. SAVILLE KENT *Fishes Brit. Isl.* (Fish. Exhib. Lit.) 123 The Scabbard-fish is distributed abundantly through the tropical waters of the Atlantic. 1611 COTGR., *Fourrelier*, a *scabberd maker. 1813 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* III. 448 The *scabbard razor-shell.

†**Sca·bbard,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[o]. Also 9 **scalbert.** [f. SCAB *sb.* + -ARD. Cf. Du. *schobberd* beggar, rogue.] A 'scabbed' person.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scabbard, or he þat is scabbyd. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Scalbert*, a low-lifed, scabby-minded individual.

Scabbard (skæ·bärd), *sb.*[3] Also 7 **-erd,** 7–8 **-ord, -oard.** [app. ad. MLG. *schalbort* thin board sawn off a length of timber in squaring it, f. *schale* shell, rind, etc. (see SCALE *sb.*[1]) + *bort* BOARD: = G. *schalbrett.* (Cf. SCALE-BOARD [1], which is recorded later.)] Thin board used in making splints, the scabbards of swords, veneer, etc., and by printers in making register (now called *scale-board*).

1635 *Patent Specif.* (1856) No. 87, p. 1 l. 9 Scabberds made of veneer. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. 123 Of these [splints] some are made of Tin, others of Scabboard [ed. 1676 Scabbard], Pastboard, and of wood..Those of Scabboards are apt to bow. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* viii, Scabbord is that sort of Scale commonly sold by some Ironmongers in Bundles; And of which, the Scabbords for Swords are made: The Compositer cuts it Quadrat high. 1753 FRANKLIN *Let. to J. Bowden* 12 Apr. Wks. 1840 V. 299, I place them in loose rims of scabboard. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 312 The Ribs squeeze closer to the Winter one Scabbord. 1787 *Printer's Gram.* 116 In mixt matter, or Italic, a Scabbard at least is required before and after a thin Brass rule.

b. scabbard-plane = SCALEBOARD-*plane.*

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 504 The scale-board plane, abbreviated into scabbard-plane, for cutting off the wide chips used for making hat and bonnet boxes.

Hence † **Sca·bbarding,** the spacing of lines of type.

1786 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 270 Scabbording of the lines,..scabbording of the prefaces.

Sca·bbard, *v.* [f. SCABBARD *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To put (a sword) into its scabbard; to sheathe. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Pyrrus* (1595) 446 For if any drewe out his sworde, or based his pike, he could neither scabarde the one againe, nor lift vp the other. 1679 CROWNE *Ambitious Statesman* III. 31 The shining Tongue of their chief leading Orator, Ha's neither edge nor point; but finely scabberded In Velvet Words [etc.]. 1812 W. TENNANT *Auster F.* IV. vii, Thus prepar'd To have their persons scabbarded in cloth. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* (1873) 130 You find that you have put yourselves into the hand of your country as a weapon...You have vowed to strike, when she bids you, and to stay scabbarded when she bids you. 1898 *Chr. Herald* (N. Y.) 9 Mar. 200/2 Let the sword be scabbarded.

2. *Mil.* To punish with a scabbard (see quots.).

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Infantry soldiers are sometimes scabbarded under the sanction of the captains of companies, for slight offences committed among themselves. 1901 W. STARKE *Obs. Milit. Punishm.* 40 The common punishments..were scabbarding and cobbing, the former meaning to beat a man with a bayonet scabbard.

Scabbarded (skæ·bärdėd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCABBARD *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ED.] **a.** Having a scabbard (of a specified kind). **b.** Sheathed.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 21 June 3/2 A bright array of military and naval uniforms bristling with rich scabbarded swords and medals. 1888 KIPLING *Story of Gadsbys* L'Envoi, Tenderest voices cry, 'Turn again', Red lips tarnish the scabbarded steel.

Sca·bbardless, *a.* [-LESS.] Lacking a scabbard.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1138/2 Had not a scabardles sword about one of the souldiors..thrust him almost through the foot. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxiii, The scabbardless sword which lay on the floor, and the empty sheath which hung by sir Geoffrey's side. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 3 His grandfather's scabbardless sword.

Scabbed (skæbd, skæ·bėd), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. SCAB *sb.* + -ED [2]. Cf. SHABBED.]

1. Having the scab or a similar skin-disease; covered with scab or scabs; = SCABBY 1.

a. Of human beings. (*Scabbed head*, ringworm of the scalp, *tinea capitis.*)

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 282 Þou scabbed Scotte, þi nek þi hotte, þe deuelle it breke. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 206 W. hath the wriste scabbut. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 186, & þus þou schalt do manie daies til þe skyn be more scabbid þan it was. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* f iv, A wonderful and foule woman ryghte olde that was scabbed. 1484 — *Fables of Alfonce* vii, The porter..sawe his scabbed hede. 1542 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 67 Calling of the said James scabbit lyþer carlle. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. vi, Boyes in Germany are so often scabbed, because they vse exercise presently after meates. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* IV. Wks. 1709 III. 1. 41 Some of them having Scab'd or Pimpled Faces, wear a thousand Patches

to hide them. 1772 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (ed. 2) 679 The most obstinate of all the eruptions incident to children are, the *tinea capitis*, or scabbed head, and chilblains.

b. Of animals.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2505 Þei garte bringe þe mere sone, Skabbed, and ful iuele o bone. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxvii. (1495) 788 The scabbyd hounde is drownyd at the laste wyth a rope..bounde abowte his necke. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. civ. (1869) 114 For riht as a scabbed beste hateth hors comb,..riht so hate j techinge. 1534 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 42 If any sheepe be scabbed, the shepeherde maye perceyue it by the bytynge, rubbyng or scratchynge with his horne. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1403/4 One gray Nag..having scabbed heels and malenders. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 P 3 This great Hero drooped like a scabbed Sheep. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp., Scabbed heels* or *frush*, in the manege, is an eating putrefaction upon a horse's frush.

absol. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* vii, Of euery lame, scabbed, & of alle suche..he tooke a peny.

c. Of plants.

1693 W. BOWLES in *Dryden's Juvenal* v. (1697) 107 To you such scabb'd harsh Fruit is giv'n, as raw Young Souldiers at their Exercisings gnaw. *a* 1735 EARL HADDINGTON *Forest-Trees* (1756) 10 In bad soil, they [*sc.* elms] are nasty, scabbed, and hide-bound things.

d. Proverbially and allusively: see quots.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 262 Leste one skabbed schepe infecte al the flokke. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 938/2 The..putting the scabbed heretikes out of the clene flocke. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 153 A scabde horse is good enough, for a scalde squyre. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 71 O scabbed scald squire (Scythian Gabriell) as thou art. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 5 Baronius brands him, not meerely for a skabd sheepe, but for an heretical skabby beast. 1651 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 1113 A scabbed horse cannot abide the comb. 1798 W. HUTTON *Fam. Hutton* in *Life* (1816) 367 With all these qualifications she was tinctured with a most unaccountable species of paltry pride. Thus one scabbed sheep spoils the flock.

†e. *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1630 DAVENANT *Cruel Brother* v. K 2 b, Hide me swelling Hills! rough, and scabbed Rocks. 1674 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 72 In so rough and scabbed a Latine, that a man must have long nails..to distinguish betwixt the Skin and the Disease, the Faults and the Grammar.

f. *Iron-founding.* Blistered with 'scabs'.

1881 C. WYLIE *Iron Founding* 14 The casting is liable to be faulty, or 'scabbed'.

2. As a term of contempt: 'Scurvy', mean, contemptible. *Obs.*

1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* 64 b, This scabbed and scuruie company of Dauncers. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming of Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 25 Thou mayest well praye for the duall number, thou scabbed, scalde, lame, halting adiectiue. 1786 *Har'st Rig* CXXX, For our sma' wage, oh, wha wad bide— For scabbit aughtpence, woe betide That we should shear?

Hence †**Sca·bbedly** *adv.*, basely, meanly (with allusion to the scab in sheep).

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 187 b, The great wether [*sc.* Wolsey] which is of late fallen..so craftely, so scabedly, ye & so untruly juggeled with the kyng.

†**Sca·bbedness.** *Obs.* [-NESS.] The condition of being 'scabbed' or suffering from 'scab'.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 320/2 A scabbydness, *scabredo, scabritudo.* 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* II. iii. 116 It causeth no great ytch nor heat, as the skabbednes which commeth of salte Phlegme..doth. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* 231 Though the *Psora* or scabbedness may be cured, yet that which is called *Lepra* Physicians acknowledg incurable.

Scabberd, -ert, obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*[1] 3.

Sca·bbiness. [f. SCABBY + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being scabby, *lit.* and *fig.*

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* lix, Fumitorie..helpeth itching and scabbinesse. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 77 Most of them have annexed their own cruelties, infamy, immaturities, scabbinesse, rottennesse. 1771 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) Dict., *Psoriasis*, a Scurvy Scabbiness in the Body. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 614 It was observed, that whenever salt was used, this root was free from the scabbiness with which it is commonly infected.

Scabbing (skæ·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCAB *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The process of forming a scab.

1747 WALL in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 593, I now usually continue it..till, the Scabbing being perfected, I find it Time to cleanse the first Passages. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 507 The usual inflammation, vesication, and scabbing of the punctured part. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 101 The wound healed by scabbing.

2. *Iron-founding.* (See SCAB *sb.* 3 c.)

1883 T. D. WEST *Amer. Foundry Pract.* 246 Scabbing in loam and dry sand moulds.

So **Sca·bbing** *ppl. a.* (orig. the *vbl. sb.* used *attrib.*), characterized by the formation of a scab.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 190 To shew..the progress of the inoculated cow-pock, through its stages of growing into a vesicle, constitutional disorder, scabbing process [etc.]. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 114 The progress of the disease has often been divided into four stages, an incursive, an eruptive, a maturing, and a declining or scabbing. 1872 F. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 483 Associated with a wound, punctured or open,..healing, or scabbing.

Scabble (skæ·b'l), *v.* Also 7 **skable**, 7–9 **scable**. [Later variant of SCAPPLE.]

1. *trans.* To rough-dress (stone).

1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* II. 238 As the chezil is actine, not onely in scabling the stone, but in giuing forme to the Statue. 1624 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. lvi, To Blisse one daie scabling stone for the kitchen range att the stone pitts. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 939 Stones are said to be scappled or scabbled when they are dressed with the pick end of the hammer. 1848 *Acc. Quarrendon Church* 7 The external walls are built with random-jointed squared ashlar, scabbled.

1852 T. WRIGHT *Celt, Roman, & Saxon* v. 154 The facings of the stones in Hadrian's Wall are sometimes roughly tooled, or, as it is technically termed, scabbled with the pick.

2. *Iron-manuf.* = CABBLE *v.*

1849, 1875 [see CABBLE *v.*].

Hence **Sca·bbler**, a workman whose occupation is scabbling; a hammer used in rough-dressing stone; **Sca·bbling** *vbl. sb.*, rough-dressing; *concr.* in *pl.*, chips of stone; *attrib.* in *scabbling-axe, -hammer* = SCABBLER.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Scablines*, chippings of stone. North. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 537 The only preparation the stones undergo, is that of knocking off the sharp angles with the thick end of a tool called a scabling hammer. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 171 The scabblers use heavy pointed picks. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 86 Scabbler. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.* 231 *Scabblings*, the chips or refuse of stone made in scabbling it. *Ibid.*, *Scabble*, to rough dress stone with an axe for the purpose, called a Scabbling-axe. 1893-4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* II. 597 The tool used for the purpose [scabbling] is variously called a 'scaplar' or 'scabbler'.

Scabbo(a)rd, obs. forms of SCABBARD *sb.*[1], [3].

Scabby (skæ·bi), *a.* [f. SCAB *sb.* + -Y.]

1. = SCABBED *a.* 1.

1526 *Grete Herball* ccccIxxiii. (1529) B b j b, It causeth also the skynne that is scabby to be fayre and clene. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 122 Parts of the leaves grow scabby. 1674 J. SCHEFFER *Hist. Lapland* v. 15 They are nasty and scabby, and use not to comb their heads. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) I. 288 There is still a worse kind of *Tinea*, or scabby Head, covering the whole hairy Scalp with an ash-coloured thick Crust. 1759 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 86 Pigeons are sometimes apt to be scabby on the backs and breasts. 1801 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 55 Thus scabby heads, the proverb says, For ever hate a comb. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 637 Ecpyesis porrigo. Scabby scall. 1883 SAYCE *Fresh Light Anc. Mon.* 81 Anything leprous or scabby or lean is forbidden.

Comb. a 1697 AUBREY in *Selden's Table-t.* (Arb.) 4 Selden was a long scabby-pol'd boy. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3041/4 A middle sized man Scaby faced, with blotches.

b. Proverbially and allusively (cf. SCABBED 1 d). Also *scabby sheep*: a corrupt person, a moral leper.

1610 [see SCABBED 1 d]. 1728 EARL OF AILESBURY *Mem.* (1890) 176 At the Guildhall, those worthy Aldermen excluded were looked on as scabby sheep. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 99/1, I was the scabby sheep of the family, and I've been punished for it. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. xviii, One scabby sheep infects the flock.

c. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1888 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms* s.v. *Claggy*, when the roof is..uneven or scabby. 1893-4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., A scabby-roof is when the coal does not part freely from the stone at the top.

d. *Iron-founding.* = SCABBED *a.* 1 e.

1883 T. D. WEST *Amer. Foundry Pract.* 246 Scabby castings in green and sand moulds.

e. *Printing.* Blotchy, through uneven inking.

1882 J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* xiii. 461 Dust..spoils the ink, surrounds the rollers and makes them work 'scabby'.

2. *fig.* Contemptible, mean, vile; stingy, 'shabby'. Now only *vulgar.*

1712 *Odes of Horace* VIII. 12/1 This scabby Lection has passed current in all the Editions. 1861 MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* I. vi. 92 A scabby sixpence?

Scaber (skē·bəɹ), *a.* In 6 scabre. Now *rare.* [a. F. *scabre* or L. *scaber.*] Scabrous.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 459 The shells wherewith they are tected,..are outwardly scabre and impolite. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Scaberd, -erge, etc., obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*[1]

Scaberulous (skăbe·rĭlŭləs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *scaberulus*, dim. of *scaber.*] Somewhat scabrous.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 274 Stem..scaberulous.

Scabia (skē·biă), dial. corruption of SCABIOUS *sb.*

1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 486/2 Purple scabias and pale pansies. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n., Scabious...* Corrupted to *Scabia* in S. Cumb. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 2/3 Still flowers the scabia, still the fuchsias rear Their purple bells above the tangled grass.

Scabid (skæ·bid), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *scabidus*, f. *scabiēs* (see next).] Of the nature of scabies.

1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 637 Scabid, herpetic, and other cutaneous eruptions. 1834 J. HOUGHTON in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 638 The cases in which much inflammation has attended the scabid eruption.

‖**Scabies** (skē·bi,īz). *Path.* [L. *scabiēs*, f. *scabĕre* to scratch, scrape, prob. related ultimately to OE. *sceafan* (see SHAVE *v.*).]

†**1.** A general term for skin-diseases characterized by scabby or scaly eruption. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 248 Scabies is whanne þe ige liddis ben reed & to-swolle, & ful of reed pinplis. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* I. xlviii. 124 Ψώρα, Scabies, Scales or Tumours rising from corrupted blood. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Scabies*, the Itch: 'Tis of two sorts, moist and dry. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) I. 288 In the Pox you..find both Head and Face..spread with dry Scabs, and scabby Ulcers, which is called a Venereal Scabies.

2. A contagious skin-disease, due to a parasite, *Sarcoptes scabiei*; the itch.

1814 T. BATEMAN *Synopsis* (ed. 3) 191 The Scabies, or Itch, is an eruption of pustules,..it is accompanied by constant ..itching. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 636 In whatsoever form scabies manifests itself, it is to be regarded entirely as a local affection. 1875 B. MEADOWS *Clin. Observ.* 23 Mr. R——, a farmer, of good constitution and quiet habits, is supposed to have had Scabies about twelve months ago.

†**Scabilo·nian.** *Obs.* [Cf. SCAVILON.] A contemptuous term for some kind of garment.

1600 T. HILL *Quartron Reas. Cath. Relig.* xvi. 86 Did not all these new-fashioned attyres, come in with your new religion?..your Gallegascones, your Scabilonians..and a thousand such new deuised Luciferian trinckets.

So †**Scabilo·nious** (scabulo-) *a.*

1577 *Art. Enq.* in J. Raine *Vestments*, etc. (1866) 15 Great bumbasted breches, skalinges, or scabulonious clokes or gownes after the laie fashion.

†**Scabine.** *Obs.* Also -in. [ad. med.L. *scabīnus*: see ÉCHEVIN. Cf. OF. *scabin* 'a Iudge' (Cotgr.) and SCHEPEN.] = ÉCHEVIN.

1526 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 305/1 Þe burrow masteris, scabynis and consale of the toun of mydleburgh in Zeland. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 282 Such are the Scabines and the Bailies. Scabines are so called of a German word *Schaffen* (that is to despatch). 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 42 The Government is by a Scout or Praetor, four Burgomasters, nine Scabins, and 36 Counsellors or Senators. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Scabine*..a Judge, Senator, or Alderman.

Scabio·sity. *rare.* [f. SCABIOUS + -ITY.] Scabious condition.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch Old One* IV. v, Out you babliaminy..you cullisance of scabiosity!

Scabious (skē·ĭ·biəs), *sb.* Forms: 5 **scabyouse**, 5–8 **-iose**, 6 **-yous**, **-iouse**, **skabious**, 6–8 **scabius**, 6– scabious. [ad. med.L. *scabiōsa* (sc. *herba*), fem. sing. of *scabiōsus* (see next). Cf. F. *scabieuse.*]

1. Any of the herbaceous plants of the genus *Scabiosa* (N.O. *Dipsaceae*), formerly believed to be efficacious for the cure of certain skin-diseases.

Blue Scabious, *S. succisa.* **Field** or **Meadow Scabious,** *S. arvensis.* **Purple** or **Sweet Scabious,** *S. atropurpurea.* **Small Scabious,** *S. Columbaria.* **Devil's bit Scabious:** see DEVIL'S BIT. **Musk Scabious:** see MUSK *sb.* 4.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 213 Vpon þe enpostym..I leide scabiose grounden wiþ grese. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 993 Broke lempk Scabiose Bilgres wildflax is good for ache. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccvii. (1529) Y ij b, Sethe the iuce of scabyous in oyle. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxiii. 109 The great Scabiouse and *Iacea nigra*, do grow in medowes and pastures. The smaller Scabious groweth in medowes and watery grounds that stande lowe. Sheeps Scabiouse groweth in the fieldes...All the Scabiouses are hoate and dry. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 600 Skabious boyled by it selfe..doth cleanse the breast and lungs. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 175 Certaine droppes..of this being given..against the asthma or tissick, with the water of scabiose. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 58 The Leaves next the Root are whitish and jagged like the small Field Scabiose. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 96 There Scabious blue and purple Knapweed rise. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 687/1 The arvensis, or meadow-scabious. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vi. 108 All the upland pastures are strewn thick with myriads of the purple scabious. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 118/2 The dwarf Scabious is now used for pot culture in winter.

b. *U.S.* Applied to some species of *Erigeron.*

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 200 Erigeron philadelphicum and heterophyllum..are commonly sold under the name of Scabious.

c. *Sheep's, Sheep's bit Scabious*: see SHEEP.

2. (See quot.)

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 6 The Scabious (*Melitæa Artemis*, Leach) appears in the middle of May... Caterpillar..feeds on the devil's bit scabious.

Scabious (skē·ĭ·biəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. F. *scabieux* or its source L. *scabiōsus*, f. *scabiēs*: see SCABIES.] Of the nature of or pertaining to scabies or itch; in early use = SCABBED, SCABBY.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxiv. 62 Hee..durst not dare to tell me that his posteriors are scabious, except he turne over his Lexicon to see what posteriours and scabious is. 1629 T. ADAMS *Soul's Sickn.* Wks. 472 If the humours be ..thicker, they turne to a scabious matter in the skin. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 504 Their illfed flocks and scabious Congregations. 1764 G. PSALMANAZAR *Mem.* 153 The scabious disease, which by that time had spread itself all over my skin. 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 639/1 The insects taken from the scabious vesicles.

Sca·bish. *U.S.* [? Corruption of SCABIOUS *sb.*] The Evening Primrose, *Œnothera biennis.*

1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 159. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 263.

†**Sca·bness.** *Obs.* App. f. SCAB *sb.*[1] + -NESS, if not an error for SCABBINESS.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 222 Anoþer maner baþ for scabnesse & rownesse of body & of skyn.

Scabrate (skē·brĕt), *a.* [ad. late L. *scabrāt-us*, f. *scaber*: see -ATE[2].] = SCABROUS.

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*

Scabre: see SCABER.

†**Scabre·dity.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *scabrēdo* (f. *scaber* SCABROUS) + -ITY.] Roughness, scabbiness.

1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. iii, Many faults in Physiognomie, and ill colour,..inequalities, roughnesse, scabredity, paleuesse, yellownes.

Scabrid (skē·brid), *a.* [ad. late L. *scabrid-us*, f. *scaber* SCABROUS.] Somewhat scabrous.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1027/2 *Scabrid, Scabriusculous*, slightly rough to the touch. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* p. xv Bor ragineæ,..Hispid or scabrid herbs.

Scabridge, obs. form of SCABBARD *sb.*[1]

Scabridity (skăbri·dĭti). [f. SCABRID + -ITY.] Slight roughness.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 474 Equisetum hyemale..distinguished by its size, glaucous colour, scabridity, and stems.

Scabriu·sculous, *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *scabriusculus*, irreg. dim. f. *scaber* SCABROUS.] = SCABRID.

1866 [see SCABRID].

Scabro- (skē·brō), used as combining form of L. *scaber* SCABROUS in the sense of 'roughly', 'rough and . . .', as *scabro-striate*.

1848 DANA *Zooph.* 476 The lateral [calicles]..very finely scabro-striate.

Scabrosely (skē·brōu·sli), *adv.* [f. **scabrose*, ad. late L. *scabrōsus*, f. *scaber* SCABROUS.] In a scabrous manner.

1848 DANA *Zooph.* 275 Lamellæ..scabrosely serrulate.

Scabro·sity. *rare*—[1]. [ad. late L. *scabrōsitās*, f. *scabrōsus* (see prec.).] Roughness.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp., Physical Dict.*

Scabrous (skē·brəs), *a.* [f. L. *scabr-*, *scaber* (related to *scabĕre* to scrape, scratch) + -OUS. Cf. also late L. *scabrōsus*, F. *scabreux*.]

1. Rough with minute points or knobs, as distinguished from unevenness of surface: esp. *Nat. Hist.* and *Phys.*

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 1. iii. 7 All her feet are scabrous, and rough, to take hold at the first touch. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 103 A scabrous bony Ridge. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 183 Scabrous, rugged; when the Disk is covered with Tubercules, little knobs. 1790 BEWICK *Hist. Quadrup.* 145 The surface of the skin was scabrous and knotty, of a close texture, and when dry extremely hard. 1803 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 215 A lens that had a very scabrous polish on one side. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 273 *Scabrous*...Rough to the touch from granules scarcely visible. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 427 The alæ of the nose become swelled and scabrous. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 4 [The Rook has] the forehead and sides of face bare, and covered with a white scabrous skin.

b. In fig. phr. with reference to caustic writing.

1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 275 He wrote with point and rapidity, and his pen had a scabrous edge.

2. Of an author, his composition or style: Harsh, unmusical, unpolished.

Cf. late L. *versus scabri* (Macrobius).

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 31 Thy ragged roundels,..some out of lyne, With scabrous colours. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. II. 119 Virgill was most loving of Antiquity; yet how rarely doth hee insert *aquai*, and *pictai*! Lucretius is scabrous and rough in these. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., A Scabrous style, for an unpleasant kinde of writing. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 70 His [Persius'] verse is scabrous, and hobbling.

3. Full of obstacles, difficult, 'thorny'.

1646 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 349 We stick long sometymes upon scabrous questions. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 72 Whosoever would be saved from falling into error and heterodoxy on this scabrous ground. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* ii. 46 We must pick our scabrous way with the help of a glimmering light. 1904 *Times* 15 June 7/2 When this scabrous moment arrives the Russian defenders may remember Dragomiroff and his advice.

4. Risky, bordering upon the indelicate.

1881 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* iv. 66 Sentiment, cynicism, and satin impropriety and scabrous, are among those verses where pure poetry has a recognized voice. 1882 *World* 1 Nov. 5 His scabrous novels. 1894 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 275/3 Mr. Maude..has chosen to write about divorce and adultery,..and many other potentially scabrous topics.

Hence **Sca·brously** *adv.*, in a scabrous manner, † harshly; **Sca·brousness,** ruggedness, hardness.

1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 10 Albeit that some thingis be obscurly, and some thingis scabruslie spokin. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Scabrousness*, Ruggedness, Roughness. 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 519 What a contemporary of Shakspeare called the scabrousness of our elder literature.

† **Sca·b-shin,** *a. Obs.* [f. SCAB *sb.* + SHIN *sb.*] Contemptuous epithet applied to friars.

1607 *Lingua* IV. i, Thou taugh'st a scab-shin frier the hellish inuention of pouder and gunnes. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 59 These scab-shin Fryers.

† **Sca·bship.** *Obs.* [-SHIP.] Used with possessive as a mock title for a contemptible person.

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* C iiij, If that Martin could thatch vp his Church, this mans scabship should bee an Elder.

Scabulonious: see SCABILONIOUS.

† **Sca·bwort.** *Obs.* [f. SCAB *sb.* + WORT. An old name of this plant was *Scabiosa major.*] The plant Elecampane, *Inula Helenium.*

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 83 *Iacea alba, scabiosa* id. g[e] *scabiose*, a[e] scabwort. 1526 *Grete Herball* clii. (1529) I v b, De Enula campana. Elfe docke, Scabwoort, or horshele. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* lxxix. 148 We in English call it Elecampane generally, yet in some Countries of this Land, it is called Scabwort and Horse-heal.

Scace, obs. form of SCARCE, SCATCH.

Scach, Scacite: see SCATCH, SCARCITY.

† **Scad** [1]. *Obs rare*—[o]. In 5 scadde. A corpse.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scadde [*Winch. MS.* scaddo], *cadauer.*

Scad [2] (skæd). Now *dial.* (Kent, Sussex, Lincs.: see E.D.D.). Also **skad.** [Cf. *scag*, SKEG.] A wild black plum; *esp.* the bullace, *Prunus insititia.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 110 Okes, Mastholmes, Skaddes [orig. *pruno sylvestri*], Pine trees, and Fyrre. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.), *Scads*, black bullace; or a bastard damasin growing in the hedges. 1777 JACOB *Planter's Faverish.* Index p. xxiii, Scad Tree, or Scad Plumb.

Scad [3] (skæd). Also **skad.** [Source unknown; app. originally used in Cornwall.

Cf. Welsh *ysgadan* herrings, Norw. dial. *skad* gwyniad, Sw. *skädde* flounder.]

1. The fish *Caranx trachurus* (*Trachurus saurus*), characterized by having its lateral line armed with bony plates, found abundantly on the British coasts and used for bait; also applied to other fishes of the genus *Caranx* and related genera (cf. *mackerel-scad*); the horse-mackerel.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 30 Of round fish [there are] Brit, Sprat, Barne,..Scad [etc.]. *Ibid.* 35 Some gutted and kept in pickle, as the lesser Whitings, Pollock, Eeles, and Squarie Scads. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* IV. xii. 290 *Cornubiensibus* a Scad. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 225. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. (*Ross*) 190 The common mackerel is numerous as is also the scad or horse mackerel. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 231 The Scads, known in England as the 'Horse-Mackerels', appear to occur in all temperate and tropical waters.

b. *attrib.*, as *scad mackerel, -net.*

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 597 The Scad Mackrel. 1836 *1st Rep. Irish Fisheries* 167 The Skad-net is very similar to the Mackerel-net.

2. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 432 *Decapterus punctatus*...Scad; Round Robin.

Scad [4] (skæd). *Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] A faint appearance of colour or light; a reflexion; a faint gleam.

1640 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 490 Yea it reflects a scad like the cross of Christ. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 53 The wights, dispos'd for e'ening-fun, Flee frae the scad o' daylight. *a* 1800 *Lord Douglas* xii. in Child *Ballads* I. 102/2 It is but the scad of my scarlet cloak Runs down the water wan. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Scades o' Licht*, flares, or flashes of light. 1890 SERVICE *Notandums* iv. 19, I took a veezy through the hoose by the scadd o' the lowe.

Scad [5] (skæd). *local.* [Cf. SHAD-*salmon.*] The fry of the salmon.

1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vic.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names..shed, scad, blue fin, black tip, fingerling,..or by any other local name.

Scad [6] (skæd). *dial.* [Cf. Du. *schadde* grass, turf.] A slab of peat; a tuft of grass.

1880 F. M. PEARD *Mother Molly* iii, I kep un theer, and vather he turned up the scads. 1906 PHILLPOTTS *Portreeve* I. iv, Two and two the scads stood propped in pairs to dry.

Scad, obs. or Sc. form of SCALD.

Scaddle (skæ·d'l), *a.* Now *dial.* Also 5 **skadylle,** 7 **skad(d)le.** [Later var. of SCATHEL.]

1. Wild; timid; shy.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/2 Skadylle; *vbi* wylde. 1635 L. FOXE *North-West Fox* 203 There was fowle, but so skadle, as they would not abide them to come neere them. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 60 *Scaddle*, that will not abide touching: spoken of young Horses that fly out. 1862 [C. C. ROBINSON] *Dial. Leeds* 398 He's a scaddle horse to ride. 1876 *Mid-Yks. Gloss., Scaddle*, timid, usually applied to a horse.

2. Mischievous, troublesome; thievish; *esp.* of animals.

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* 3 He shall knowe what it is for a scaddle pawne, to crosse a Bishop in his owne walke. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 *Skaddle*: scathie, Ravenous, mischievous, Suss. 1736 LEWIS *I. Tenet* (ed. 2) 38 A Skaddle Cat, Boy, &c. 1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Jerry Jarvis's Wig*, Tib,..the honestest, the least 'scaddle' of the feline race. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Scaddle*, wild; mischievous; spoken of a dog that worries sheep; of a cat that poaches [etc.].

Scade, obs. f. SCATHE; obs. pa. t. SHED *v.* **Scadewe,** obs. f. SHADOW. **Scadling,** variant of SCALDING *sb.*[1] **Scadlips;** see SCALD *v.* 1 d. **Scælestious:** see SCELESTIOUS. **Scæn(e, -ical,** obs. ff. SCENE, SCENICAL.

† **Scæ·vity, sce·vity.** *Obs.*—[o] [ad. late L. *scævitās*, f. *scævus* left-sided, awkward, perverse, unlucky.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Scevity*, unluckiness, lefthandedness. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Scævity.*

† **Scaf.** *Obs.* Also 4–6 **skaf(fe, scaff,** 5 **scaphe,** 6 **schaffe,** 7 *erron.* **scarfe.** [a. OF. *scaphe, scauphe, escaf(f)e*, ad. L. *scapha* light boat, skiff, a. Gr. *σκάφη* trough, tub, skiff, etc.]

1. A light boat, skiff. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 274, & in a skaf a-pon pe se sayland. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 463 William..was taken into an oper scaphe. 1483 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 364 All manner of men that occupieth shippes, piccardes, scaffes, and lighteres. 1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 373 To Johnne of Newtoun and thre marinaris with him in the Inglis skaff. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 287 Tha..tuke the se thair in ane litill skaffe. 1576 FOXE *A. & M.* 183/2 Entring vpon a time with his Hauke into a certaine schaffe or cockbote alone. 1600 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs* (1870) II. 81 The brugh of Kinghorne..is..hewele trublit be the skaffis, skeldrykis and zowis of vnfre touns of Leith [etc.]. 1621 *Irish Act* 5 *Edw. IV*, c. 6 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* 38 All other small vessells, as Scarfes or Boats, not hauing Drouer nor Lighter.

2. [tr. L. *fiscella.*] An open basket.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 319 Moyses..was i-doo in a scaf of risshes i-schape as a litel boot.

Scafe, variant of SCAIFE.

Scaff (skæf), *sb. Sc.* Also **scauff.** [f. SCAFF *v.*]

1. Food, provisions. (Cf. RAFF *sb.*[1] 1.)

1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 68 We'll ripe the pouch an' see what scaff is there. 1806 [see RAFF *sb.*[1] 1]. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* III. (1827) 115 Weel you may see that siegin' host Had skaff and skiuk withouten Cost.

2. Scum, refuse (said of persons); riff-raff. (Cf. RAFF *sb.*[1] 2.) Also *scaff and raff, scaff-raff.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXV, We wadna turn back, no for half a dizzen o' yon scaff-raff. 1816 — *Old Mort.* V, Wi' a' the scaff and raff o' the water side. 1899 LUMSDEN *Edin. Poems & Songs* 54 Begone, ye scum and scaff!

Scaff (skæf), *v.*[1] *Sc.* [Of obscure origin; cf. *skaigh*, which is used in Sc. with a similar though less emphatically contemptuous sense.

It has been conjectured that *scaff* may have been an adoption of the Du. and G. *schaffen* (whence MSw. *skaffa*) to provide or procure (food). The word might possibly have been brought over by soldiers who had served in the Continental wars; in military use it would naturally have a colouring that might account for the contemptuous sense of the verb in Sc.]

a. *trans.* To beg or ask for (food, etc.) in a mean or contemptible manner. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (Still in common use.) b. To sponge upon (a person). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 133 He sayis, thow skaffis and beggis mair beir and aitis, Nor ony cripill in Karrik land abowt. 15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (MS.) XV. (Jam.), Nae bygging of mair vittail nor sustenis thaim self, and topping of the samen, scaffyng thair nychtbouris. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 904 Ane scaffing warlot, wanting schame. 16.. *Lindesay's* (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (1814) 512 (Jam.) They scaffed throche all Scotland..for thair particular commoditee.

Hence **Sca·ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1568 *Ye Sonis of Men, be mirry and glaid* 30 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 59 Think that this lyfe is nocht the lent For skafing heir of scruf and skum. *c* 1600 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) 73/163 Skaffing clarks with couetice inspired. *Ibid.* 74/209 Skaffing scribes.

Scaff, *v.*[2] *dial.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. SCOFF *v.*] *intr.* To eat voraciously.

1797 BRYDGES *Burlesque Homer* I. 53 But how the hungry whoresons scaff'd; How eagerly the beer they quaff'd.

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Skaff*...2. To eat greedily, Shetl.

Scaffat, -ating, obs. ff. SCAFFOLD, -OLDING.

† **Sca·ffer.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. SCAFF *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] A parasite, sponger; an extortioner.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 45 Scaffaris, and scamleris in the nuke. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 99 Juglaris, menstralis, bardis and scaffaris [orig. *Mimos, histriones, bardos, parasitos*]. 1598 *Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 167 A multitude of..skafferis of the wymbes of the puir.

† **Sca·fferon.** Obs. variant of CHAFFRON.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 12 One band had the scafferon, the cranet, the bard of the horse all white. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 67 The Bridle, Saddle, Scafferon, [etc.].

† **Scaffery.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **skafrie, skaif(f)ry,** 7 **scafferie.** [f. SCAFF *v.*[1] or SCAFFER: see -ERY.] Extortion; extortionate taking of perquisites.

1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 500/1 The wemen perturbatouris for skafrie of money or otherwyse salbe [etc.]. 1561 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 335 Na skaiffry, sic as sampill and scheit schakin, to be tane thairof. 1606 *Act of Council* in *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 616/2 The with-gait and libertie grantit vnto Suche shamefull scafferie and extortioun. 1634 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. (1904) V. 186 For componing.. with nombers of thame and taking of compositions frome thame..quilk is a foule coosening scafferie. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk Scot.* (Wodrow Soc.) III. 662 Lyke as the poorer sort in the burrowes sould not have escaped the importable scafferie intended.

Scaffle, variant of SCAVEL.

† **Sca·ffling,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[o]. [a. MDu. *sc(h)afteling(h, scaftingh.*] A kind of eel.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1720/52 A grig, *minima.* A scaffling, *media.* 1611 COTGR., *Pimpereau*, a grig, scaffling, spitchcocke, fawson Eele.

Sca·ffling, *vbl. sb. local.* [app. variant of SCABBLING.] *pl.* Chippings of stone.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s. v., In Caukey Ore, the Scaffings are used to be beaten a little with some small Tool. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 301.

Scaffling, obs. form of SCAFFOLDING.

† **Sca·ffmaster.** *Obs.* In 6 skafe-. [ad. Du. *schaf-, schaffmeester*, f. *schaffen* to provide + *meester* MASTER *sb.*[1]] A steward.

1555 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 298 All the said Agents, pilots, maisters, merchantes clerkes, boatswains, stewards, skafemasters, and all other officers..of this present voyage.

Scaffolage: see SCAFFOLDAGE.

Scaffold (skæ·fŏld), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **scaffot,** 5 **skaffaut,** 4, 6, 9 *dial.* **-at.** *β.* 4 **scaffalde,** 4–5 **skaf(f)ald,** 5 **scaffhold, skafold,** 5–6 **scaffolde, scafold(e,** 5–7 **skaffold,** 6 **scaffald, -ould, skefold, s·hapfold,** 4– **scaffold.** *γ.* 5 **schafhold, chaff-, schaffold, shaffolde.** *δ.* 6 **skaffell, -oll.** [a. NFr. forms corresponding to Central OF. *schaffaut, eschaffaut, eschafal, eschaiphal*, earlier *escadafaut* = Pr. *escadafalc*, formed with prefix *es-* (:—L. *ex-* out) on the Com. Rom. word represented by OF. *chafau(l,t* (mod.F. *chafaud*), earlier *caafau-s, cadefaut*, Pr. *cadafalc*, OCat. *cadafal*, Sp. † *cadafalso*, now *cadahalso, cadalso*, Pg. *cadafalso*, It. *catafalco* (whence F. *catafalque* CATAFALQUE):—popular L. **catafalcum*, of uncertain formation: according to some scholars, f. Gr. prefix *κατα-* (see under CATAFALQUE) + *-falicum*, f. *fala, phala* wooden tower or gallery.

For other related forms see CATAFALQUE, and cf. med.Lat. *scadafale* (12th c.), *scadafaltum* (13th c.), *scafaldus, scalfaudus*, etc. (15th c.). The Romanic word has been adopted by continental Teut. langs.: (M)Du. *schavot*, G. *schavott*, Da. *skafot*. With the δ-forms in Eng. cf. SCAFFOLDAGE.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1349 Skaffotes [see B. 1] 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 343 Scaffatis, ledderis, and coueryngis. *a* 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 68 Vpoun twa skaffattis. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Skaffat*, corr. of scaffold.

β. 1354 Skaffald [see B. 1]. 1435 *Contract Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 28 Ladderis, Tymbre, Scaffolds, Gynnes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scafold, stage, *fala*. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 298 Here Pylat syttyth in his skaffald. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. viii. (S.T.S.) II. 176 To be rehersit on scaffaldis for admiratioun and delite. 1536 KYNGSTON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. II. 63 The preparacion of skefolds. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 219/10 A Scaffould, *theatrum, scena*. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 308 Mounting vpon stalls, or litle skaffolds.

γ. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xliv. 484 They were set vpon schafholdes to gyue the Iugement of these two Knyghtes. 1514 *Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.* (MS.), Payd for x naylls for þe chaffoldes. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) IX. 140 Apon Schaffoldis yn the midle of the market place.

δ. 1581 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 197/1 Wpoun the skaffell the tyme of his executioun.

B. Signification.

1. A temporary platform usually supported on poles or (sometimes) trestles, but occasionally suspended, and designed to hold the workmen and materials employed in the erection, repairing, or decoration of a building. Also *pl.*, but now usually *sing.*, an assemblage of such platforms with their supporting poles, = SCAFFOLDING.

pl. 1349 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* Bundle 462 No. 16 lf. 7 In .xxvj. peciis maeremii emptis pro scaffotes ad idem opus. 1646 JENKYN *Ref. Remora* 30 The building's set up, let the scaffolds be pulld down. 1696 BENTLEY *Of Revel. & Messias* 32 They must needs be..abolished, like scaffolds that are removed when the buildings are finished. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. i. 146 Away, away! take all your scaffolds down, For Snug's the word: My dear! we'll live in Town. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 351 The crowds of workmen, the scaffolds and the masses of hewn stone [etc.].

sing. 1354 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 94 In mercede Laur. Wrigth sublevante le skaffald in choro. 1360–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 385 Cum cratis factis pro skafald. 1442 *Eton Coll. Acc.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 387, v. dosyn of hyrdelez for skafold. 1691 *d'Emiliane's Frauds Romish Monks* 182 These Monks, out of Curiosity, whilst the Work-men were gone to get their Dinner, did climb up the Scaffold..to view their Work. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 97 Bricklayers raise a low scaffold to build a brick wall. 1838 *Murray's Hand-Bk. N. Germany* 159 He was suspended by a scaffold, lying on his back, his eyes protected by a pair of glasses from the falling dust. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 497/2 As the building rises, the scaffold is strengthened by diagonal poles, the lower ends of which rest upon the ground, and which are tied to the vertical pieces wherever they intersect them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 423 Every bricklayer who falls from a scaffold.

fig. 1641 DENHAM *Sophy* IV. i, These outward beauties are but the props and scaffolds On which we built our love. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* iii. Wks. 1751 IV. 37 He [*sc.* Sylla] abolished the Office of Tribune, as being only a scaffold to tyranny, whereof he had no further use. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 408 Figure, parable, hypothesis ..serve as scaffolds in raising the building of righteousness in opinion and conduct.

† **b.** A painter's easel. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. x. II. 535 Zeuxis..brought upon the scaffold a table, wherein were clustres of grapes so lively painted, that the very birds of the aire flew flocking thither. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 197 An old woman kept a large boord, alreadie fitted upon the Asse or scaffold, to have something drawne upon it.

c. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1850 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Derbysh. Terms* 43 *Scaffold*, in a mine, a platform made, where some miners work above the heads of others. *Ibid., S. Staffs. Terms* 78 *Scaffold*, planking elevated by stays and ladders, in order to allow the miner to ascend and disengage the coal in the upper part of the seam. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss., Scaffold*, in mining, the platform at the top of a winning.

† **2.** A military engine for assailing a wall. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 601 Syndry scaffatis thai maid vith-all That war weill hyar than the wall. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4176 They [ne] dredde noon assaut Of ginne, gunne, nor skaffaut. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* xxix. 63 They toke poles and made scaffholdes..whiche they sette to the walles. *c* 1520 BARCLAY *Jugurtha* (1557) 78 b, Afterwarde he commaunded scaffoldes to be made about the walles.

† **3.** A raised platform, seat, or stand, used for the purpose of exhibiting persons or actions to the public view, making proclamations, or the like.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Kn't.'s T.* 1675 An heraud on a scaffold made an ho. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 506 The kynge.. causyd an hyghe scafolde to be made..where moch people beynge assemblyd, he shewyd vnto them a longe processe of his wrongefull enprysonement. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxix. 606 The yonge kynge was..in a chayre lypt up on high,..and all yᵉ yong newe knyghtes on lower scaffoldes at his fete. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* ix. 42 Esdras the prest & reder of yᵉ lawe stode vp vpon a scaffolde of wodd. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 155 Rosamond set vpon a scaffold, to take view of all. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Chron.* vi. 13 Solomon had made a brasen scaffold..and had set it in the midst of the Court, and vpon it hee stood. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 146 A scaffold, like those belonging to Queristers, in some of our Cathedrall Churches. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 54 At the other end of the Hall..there is a little Scaffold, on which are several Dervishes, that play on Flutes and Drums.

4. *spec.* A platform or stage on which theatrical performance or exhibition takes place; *esp.* in early use, a temporary stage on which a mystery play was performed. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 198 Somtyme..He pleyeth Herodes on a scaffold hye. 1507 in E. K. Chambers *Mediæval Stage* (1903) II. 392 [A] schapfold [and] pagentts [are mentioned]. 1519–20 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 304 Paid for a quarter for the skaffold ouer þe porch ayenst palmesonday. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Scena*, Orestes oftentymes represented on scaffoldes in playes. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 47 Brought in lyke a mute vpon a scaffold, which departeth dumbe. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) vii. 45 Make scaffalds clare for cumlie comedies. [1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 143 The ecclesiastical plays..were usually performed in churches, or chapels, upon temporary scaffolds erected for that purpose.]

fig. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 564 In the middest of such a..wonderfull scaffold and theatre. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 560 You ought to have so much respect, as not to be a publick Spectacle on an infamous Scaffold.

† **5.** A raised platform or stand for holding the spectators of a tournament, theatrical performance, etc. Also, a gallery in a theatre or church. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. vi. 191 There were scaffoldis and holes that lordes and ladyes myghte beholde and to gyue the pryse. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xxi. (S. T. S.) I. 119 þai war constrenit to mak public setis and scaffaldis in commoun placis quhare playis war devisit. 1597 HALL *Sat.* I. iii, Shame that the Muses should be bought and sold, For euery peasants brasse, on each scaffold. 1638 [see SCAFFOLD *v.* 1]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1610 The other side was op'n, where the throng On banks and scaffolds under Skie might stand. 1727 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 19, I hope to get a good place in the Abbey for Lady Margaret Harley, though till the scaffolds are built I can't yet tell whereabouts it will be. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 891/2 There was a show of gladiators to be exhibited.. and most of the magistrates had caused scaffolds to be erected round the place, in order to let them out for hire.

fig. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxviii. 259 By setting us upon an open and adjacent Scaffold, it gives us a view of the actions..that have sway'd the affairs of the World.

6. An elevated platform on which a criminal is executed. Phr. *to go to the scaffold* (= 'to be executed'), *to bring* or *send to the scaffold*, etc. Hence *the scaffold* is often put for 'execution', 'capital punishment'.

1557 MORE *Rich. III* (1641) 307 He was at Salisbury..on a new scaffold beheaded. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIV. iv. 204 He brought to the skaffold many descended of noble houses. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xl. 196 She vnabashed, mounting now the Skaffold, theare attends The fatall Stroke. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xiv. 59 Paths which naturally conduct a minister to the scaffold. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiv, I knew at Paris a criminal..who suffered the sentence..showing no particular degree of timidity upon the scaffold. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* III. xiii. § 88. 92 We have..weighed the scaffold against the oppression of the Convention, and preferred the scaffold. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 256 The one man whom..William sent to the scaffold on a political charge.

7. A raised framework of wood used for other purposes; among the North American Indians, for the disposal of the dead (cf. SCAFFOLD *v.* 4).

1534 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 32 It is better to laye thy pees and benes without vppon a reke, than other corne, and it is better vppon a scaffolde than vppon the grounde. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 48 There was made here a ships loading of fish the last yeare, where still stands the stages, and drying scaffolds. *a* 1779 COOK *Voy. Pacific* III. ii. II. 35 The carcase of the dog, with what belonged to it, were laid on a whatta, or scaffold, about six feet high. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* (1814) 203 A kind of scaffolds, ten or fifteen feet in height, which I was informed were erected..by the neighboring settlers for the purpose of shooting the deer by moon light...The hunter ascends the scaffold, and remains until the deer approaches. *Ibid.* 261 The scaffolds are supported with four forks, and sufficiently large to receive one or two bodies.

8. *Iron-founding.* 'An obstruction in a blast furnace above the tuyeres caused by an accumulation or shelf of pasty, unreduced materials, adhering to the lining' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881).

1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 48 So that the materials..may [not]..be so retarded as to adhere in a half-liquid state to the brick-work, and cool there, thus forming what are known by the name of scaffolds. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* vii. (ed. 2) 142 When a scaffold is discovered, the blast is eased so as to reduce the support from below due to the pressure of blast. 1892 *Min. Evid. Labour Comm.* Group A. II. 304 The variation of the temperature in the furnace itself would cause what are technically called scaffolds.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *scaffold board*, †*flake* (see FLAKE *sb.*¹ 1), *pole, vantage*; **scaffold bracket** (see quot.); **scaffold hole**, a putlog-hole; (sense 4) †*scaffold pageantry*, †*wheel*; † **scaffold play**, a mystery play; so † **scaffold-player**; (sense 6) *scaffold step.*

1592–3 *Act* 35 *Eliz.* c. 11 § 1 So muche of *Shaffolde Borde in quantitye as the saide Clapborde amounteth unto. 1856 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts & Manuf.* II. 482/2 The scaffold boards are supported by the putlogs. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Scaffold-bracket*, an implement to form a footing for a board to support a person in roofing. 1365–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 127, 20 *scaffalde flakes factis ad dictas fenestras. *c* 1568 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 115 John clerke making *scaffold holes, 4d. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 26 Feb., Perhaps they nestle in the scaffold-holes of some old or new deserted building. 1687 *Resf. on Hind & P.* 24 No more than a Mountebank is to be credited, who after a deal of *Scaffold-Pageantry to draw Audience [etc.]. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 138 As if in *scaffold plaies, he looked to haue napkins cast vp. 1559 in STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. II. IX. 436 The preachers and *scaffold players of this newe religion. 1798 W. HUTTON *Life* 7 If a straggling *scaffold pole could be found. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 298 The scaffold poles round the Guards Memorial. 1843 NEALE *Ball. & Songs for People* 21 So steadfastly the *scaffold-steps That good Archbishop trod. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XII. 167 Guido was last to mount the scaffold-steps..as atrociousest in crime. 1884 — *Ferishtah's Fancies, A Camel-driver*, Reason aims to raise Some make-shift midway *scaffold-vantage, whence It may..peer below. 1584 in *Coventry Corpus Christi Plays* (1902) 91 A iron pynne and a cotter for the *skaffolde whele.

Scaffold (skæ·ʹfōld), *v.* Also 6 **scafold**, 7 **schaffold**, 7 **scaffole**. [f. SCAFFOLD *sb.* Cf. OF. *eschafauder.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To furnish with a platform, stand, or gallery. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 10 b, The Hall was scafolded and rayled on all partes. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 95 The Lower House desyre that the p[ainted] ch[amber] be scaffolde. 1636 PAGITT *Christianogr.* III. 101 The streets were scaffolded [*ed.* 1640 scaffoled] and covered with precious cloth. 1638 BP. MOUNTAGU *Art. Eng. Visit.* A 2 Is your Church scaffolded every where or in part? do those scaffolds so made, annoy any mans seat, or hinder the lights of any windows? 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 13 The Lists now set up, and scaffolded like a stage.

2. To put scaffolding up to (a building). Also *intr.* in indirect passive with *unto*.

a 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 222 The Tower or Steeple [was] Scaffolded to the very top, with an intent to take it down to the very Arches. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 213 They must of necessity be scaffolded unto, or underprop at least. *Ibid.* 230 Can..such stupendious Stones..be.. wrought, raised, scaffolded unto, set and finished in five Moneths? 1676 C. HATTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 134 The middle of Westminster Hall wase all schaffolded. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* lxx, It was scaffolded to the very attics.

b. *transf.* To support with poles.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* 394/2 The apple-trees were scaffolded with great stakes to keep their branches from breaking.

c. *fig.* To prop up.

1691 C. BLOUNT *Dial.* in *Coll. Poems* 24 New Titles may be Scaffolded with Laws.

† **3.** To send to the scaffold; to execute. *Obs.*

1716 *Mem.* in J. H. Burton *Lives of Forbes & Ld. Lovat* V. (1847) 116, I was sent to the castle, I believe, to be scaffolded next day if I had not been delivered.

4. To place (food) on a raised framework of wood, for the purpose of drying it or protecting it from animals; among North American Indians, to expose corpses on a scaffold (see SCAFFOLD *sb.* 7).

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 323 *note*, They..scaffolded their dead kinsman. 1806 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. 155 In the afternoon we scaffolded some meat. 1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* II. xxii. 292 The remains of those whose bodies had been scaffolded.

5. *Iron-founding. intr.* To form a 'scaffold'.

1880 WRIGHT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 296 When a furnace shows a tendency to 'scaffold' (by the fritting together of lumps which form a comparatively solid mass inside the furnace, preventing a charge from descending properly).

Hence **Sca·ffolded** *ppl. a.*

1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* II. xxii. 292 When the Mandans buried the remains of their scaffolded dead, they left the skull uninterred. 1871 E. B. TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xii. 40 The Samoyed's scaffolded coffin.

Scaffoldage (skæ·fōldėdʒ). *rare.* In 6 **scaffolage**. [f. SCAFFOLD *v.* + -AGE. Cf. F. *échafaudage.*] = SCAFFOLDING *vbl. sb.* 1.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 156 To heare the woodden Dialogue and sound 'Twixt his stretcht footing, and the Scaffolage [*mod. edd.* scaffoldage]. 1889 FARRAR *Lives Fathers* II. xvi. 288 Their hair was elaborated into a scaffoldage of curls.

Scaffolder (skæ·fōldəɹ). [f. SCAFFOLD *sb.* and *v.* + -ER¹.]

† **1.** An occupant of the gallery at a theatre. *Obs.*

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iii If he can with termes Italianate ..Faire patch me vp his pure Iambick verse, He rauishes the gazing Scaffolders.

2. One whose business it is to erect scaffolding.

1864 *Law Times Rep.* X. (N. S.) 719/1 The plt. was in their employment as a scaffolder, and in raising the scaffolding he put his foot on a round putlog. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 29 The operations of the scaffolder and builder must not interfere with the traffic of the town more than needful.

Scaffolding (skæ·fōldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 4 **skaf(f)aldyng**, 5 **scafaldynge**, 5–6 *Sc.* **scaffating**, 6 *Sc.* **scaffalding, scauffaulding, skaffeltein, skalfatting**, 6– **scaffolding**. Also β. 6 **skaffollyng**, 7, 9 (*dial.*) **scaffling**. [f. SCAFFOLD *sb.* and *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The temporary framework of platforms and poles constructed to provide accommodation for workmen and their materials during the erection, repairing, or decoration of a building.

1347–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 546 In flakes et Skaffaldyng pro opere ejusdem capelle, 15 *d.* 1498 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 389 To mak scaffating for the masounis and holl barrowis. 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 270 Half ane hundretht rauchteris for skaffeltein. 1512 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 608 Lyme, sand, scaffoldyng..and euery other thyng concernyng the same vawtyng. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. 1851 III. 129 Knowing that their high office was but as the scaffolding of the Church yet unbuilt. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 636 It burnt the wooden props or scaffolding which supported the column. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 214 In London,..the scaffolding for the workmen, in erecting the walls of a building, is external; but in Liverpool,..the scaffolding is wholly within the building. 1859 REEVE in Jephson *Britany* xvi. 268 *note*, The large building..on the right,..is new, the scaffolding not yet taken down. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 87 The old fashioned cradles, swing-boats, ladders, or pole scaffolding.

β. 1531 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 185 Cartes caryng of skaffollyng out of the Kinges storehouse. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 27 Never..suffer them to begin their Scafflings in the morning. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Scaffling*, a scaffold for building.

fig. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. iii, The sight of whips, rackes, gibbets, axes, fires Are scaffoldings, by which my soule climbes vp To an Eternal habitation. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 241 That is but scaffolding to pull down our Church, and to build their own. 1712 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 182 Sickness, contributing..to the shaking down this Scaffolding of the Body. 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 478 New change of terms, and scaffolding of words. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 590 Teach me, by this stupendous scaffolding, Creation's golden steps, to climb to Thee. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* Introd. p. viii, My wish has been to give the results rather than the process by which they were arrived at; to exhibit the building, not the scaffolding. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. xiv. (1872) VIII. 58 That will be an excellent scaffolding for recapture of Silesia next year. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* i. 9 Laws of phonology..forming the scaffolding of the higher and more comprehensive generalisations of the master-science itself.

† **b.** A wooden platform or framework; = SCAFFOLD *sb.* 3, 4, 7. *Obs.*

1537 LYNDESAY *Q. Magdalene* 106 Minor Poems (1871) 557 Rycht costlie scaffalding, Depayntit weill with Gold and asure fyne. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VIII. 159 The lords and ladies were plac'd on scaffoldings behind the king. 1787 *Generous Attachment* III. 64 He ascended a small scaffolding, and from thence..harrangued them. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 27 Small calves dangle from a sort of neat scaffolding.

c. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 980 The upper portion of the coal is first worked, then a scaffolding of coal is left, 2 or 3 feet thick, according to the compactness of the coal.

d. *transf.* A supporting framework.

1886 MIVART in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 451/1 The skull of the Chamæleons has even more the aspect of an osseous scaffolding than has that of ordinary Lizards.

2. The action of the verb SCAFFOLD. **a.** The formation of 'scaffolds' in a blast-furnace; also *concr.* = SCAFFOLD *sb.* 8.

1864 PERCY *Metall., Iron & Steel* 491 The old method of blowing-in furnaces, called the 'scaffolding' system, is now seldom resorted to. 1880 WRIGHT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII 299/1 If the hearth slopes too gently, the fall of the materials downwards as the reduced metal and cinder melt is apt to be retarded, and 'scaffolding' to be produced. 1883 *Science* I. 102 At the Durham furnace, a chill had caused a large scaffolding. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* (ed. 2) 139 Blowing in, blowing out, scaffolding, &c., of the blast furnace.

b. The action of placing on a scaffold.

1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* I. 366 The scaffolding and final sepulture of the bones of the dead, as practised among many of the Red Indian tribes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (cf. SCAFFOLD *sb.* 9), as *scaffolding* † *hole, pole, timber, work.*

1512–13 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 610 Olde scaffoldyng tymbre. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 27 Make small scaffling holes. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Pinus*, The Trees..will make good Putlocks for the Bricklayers, and serve for Scaffolding Poles. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 89 The scaffolding-poles, planks, and ropes, are always provided by the employer.

† **Sca·ffoldize,** *v. Obs.* [f. SCAFFOLD *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into scaffolding.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xviii, Let Dodon's groue be lauish in expence, And scaffoldize her oakes for my defence.

Scaffole, obs. var. SCAFFOLD *v.* **Scaff-raff:** see SCAFF *sb.* **Scaft(e,** var. SHAFT *Obs.*, creature; obs. pa. t. of SHAVE. **Scag,** var. SKEG, wild plum. **Scagger,** var. SKEGGER, young salmon.

‖ **Scaglia** (skā·lyä). *Geol.* [It. = scale, chip of marble: see SCALE *sb.*2] A local name in the Italian Alps for limestone of various colours.

1774 STRANGE in *Phil. Trans.* (1775) LXV. 34 This they call Scaglia, or Scagliola, from its being composed of thin slaty strata, which are of a yellowish colour. *Ibid.* 35 Sometimes an irregular mass of marble is found among the Scaglia. 1829 MURCHISON in *Phil. Mag.* June 406 The upper beds of the scaglia are red and fissile.

Scagliola (skælyō·lä). Also 6 **scaleola,** 8–9 **scagliuola.** [a. It. *scagliuola*, dim. of *scaglia* (see prec.).]

† **1.** = SCAGLIA. *Obs.*

1582 HESTER *Secr. Phisonom.* III. xcvii. 121 This Allum Scaleola or Gesso is vsed much in Italie to make Lyme of. 1774 [see prec.].

2. Plaster-work of Italian origin, designed to imitate kinds of stone.

1747 [see b]. 1787 P. BECKFORD *Lett. fr. Ital.* (1805) I. 298 John Hugford, an Englishman, Friar of this Convent [of Vallombrosa, Tuscany], was the inventor of the Scagliola. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 369 The making and polishing the scagliola, now so much used for columns. 1870 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 170 Bepalaced for evermore in choice saloons resplendent with ormolu and scagliola.

b. *attrib.*

1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 28 July, The commission for the scagliuola tables. 1824 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 270 The basement is painted in rich Scagliola marble. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xvi, A scagliola pillar. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 245 Supported on the sham scagliola Corinthian columns, with the gilt capitals, is a trellised balcony.

Hence **Scaglio·list,** a worker in scagliola.

1827 *Westm. Rev.* VII. 289 There is scarcely..a scagliolist, who is not an Italian.

Scaife (skēf). *local.* Also **scafe, skief, skife, skeef** (see E.D.D.) [? a. Du. *schijf* (= G. *scheibe*), disk, wheel. Cf. SKEITH.]

1. A thin iron wheel, sharp at the edge, used in some ploughs in place of or in front of the coulter. Also *attrib.*

1793 G. MAXWELL *Agric. Huntingdon* 10 Instead of a foot or wheel, to support the beam of the plough, they use what is called a scaife, which is a circular plate of iron, turning constantly round. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Skief-plough*, a plough fitted with a skief. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Scafe*, the little wheel which runs in front of the coulter of a plough. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Skife-nail*, a long nail, having its head formed so as to suit..the holes in the plat of a plough.

2. A revolving wheel used in polishing diamonds.

1887 *Horological Jrnl.* XXIX. 105 The ordinary workman puts his diamond on the scaife or cylinder without taking any particular pains.

Scail(e, var. or obs. ff. SCALE, SKAIL, SQUAIL. **Scailze(e, -zie, scaillie,** obs. ff. SKAILLIE *Sc.*, slate. **Scaily,** obs. f. SCALY. **Scain,** obs. pa. t. of SHINE. **Scaine,** obs. f. SKEIN. **Scaip(e,** obs. Sc. ff. SCAPE. **Scair,** var. SKAIR *Sc.*, share. **Scairce, scairse,** obs. ff. SCARCE. **Scait,** obs. Sc. f. SKATE. **Scaith:** see SCATHE. **Scak,** obs. north. f. SHAKE. **Scal,** obs. f. SCALL, SHALL.

Scalable (skē·lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SCALE *v.*3 + -ABLE.] Capable of being scaled or climbed.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aratus* (1595) 1083 Without the wall the height was not so great, but that it was easily scalable with ladders. 1626 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2), *Scaleable.* 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 632 Homer made..heaven scalable. 1903 QUILLER-COUCH *Adv. Harry Revel* xi, The cliff hereabouts was..scalable in a score of places.

‖ **Scala cæli** (skē·lă sī·ləi). Also 5–6 **scala cely, celi,** 6–9 **cœli,** 6 **scale, skaly celi.** [L. = ladder of heaven.]

1. The name of a church in the Tre Fontane, outside Rome, in which St. Bernard is related to have had a vision of souls for whom he was saying mass ascending by a ladder into heaven, and to which an indulgence is attached; hence, applied to chapels or altars in England and the masses said there to which the same indulgence was attached.

See Rymer *Fœdera* XII. 565, XIII. 102–3, Blomefield *Hist. Norfolk* (1745) II. 552.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 102 Massis at rome, at scala celi. *Ibid.*, þat if a prest seye a masse at scala celi for a soule it schal onoon ben out of purgatorie. *a* 1400 *Stac. Rome* 118 (Vernon MS.), In þat place a Chapel is. Scala celi clepet hit is. *c* 1500 *God spede the plough* 74 Then commeth prestis that goth to rome For to haue silver to sing at *Scala celi*. 1515 in *Coll. Surrey Archæol. Soc.* (1858) I. 182, I will that there be seede..in the chapell of Skaly Celi at Westmynster v masses of the v wounds of our Lord God. 1529 *Churchw. Acc. St. Margarets, Westm.* (Nichols 1797) 8 To the Keeper of Scala Celi in the Abbey. 1534 HYLSEY in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 12 Massys off scale celi. 1536 *Articles devised by King* D iij b. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 17 Legacyes, trentals, with scala cely messys. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 1178/2 That all partakers of the same gylde [of our Lady in S. Botolph's, Boston], ..which..shall say or cause to be sayde Masses for soules departed in paynes of Purgatory, shall..have the full remission due to them which visite the Chappell of Scala Cœli.

2. (With reference to the etymol. sense.) A ladder leading from earth to heaven; a means of attaining heaven or heavenly bliss.

1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 139 *Scala cœli*, is a preachynge matter I tell you, and not a massyng matter. 1563 J. DAVIES in Sylvester *Du Bartas* (1621) 631 Making loose lines (forsooth) their Scala Cœli; A Tauerne for a Temple, to adore, Their only god, their guts. 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 15 The Magnificent Temple,..the seuerall Degrees of Ascent, wherby Men did climb vp to the same, as if it had bin a Scala Cæli.

Scalade (skălā·d), *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7 **skal(l)ade, scallet.** [ad. It. *scalada* (Florio), now *scalata* (= Sp. *escalada*, whence F. *escalade* ESCALADE *sb.*), f. *scalare* to scale, f. *scala* ladder.]

1. = ESCALADE *sb.* 1.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 63 A Wall, Trench, Scalade, Bulwarke. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xlv. 620 The citie was tenable against all skalades. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 349 The Ditch..is mainly pallasaded with wooden stakes, for preuenting of suddain Scallets. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* III. (1677) 138 The Lords had resolved to enter the Town by scalade. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xii. 265 The English army..mounted the walls by scalade. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. x. (1872) I. 195 He tried some small prefatory Siege or scalade of Pesth. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. XXVI. 213 When we had made our famous scalade of the heights.

2. A scaling-ladder. *rare.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 502 Their Armes, a Crosse,..Limbd like a Scallet, trac'd with fleur du Luce. 1824 WIFFEN *Tasso* XVIII. xcv, Nor ceases to exhort Fresh knights to mount the tall scalades he bears.

Hence **Scala·de** *v. trans.*, to attack by escalade.

1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* v. 393 Places, when attacked or attempted to be stormed or scaladed.

† **Scala·do.** *Obs.* Also 6 **skallado, skallader, 6–7 scallado, scallada, scalada.** [a. It. *scalada*: see prec. and -ADO.]

1. = SCALADE *sb.* 1.

1585–6 EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 429 We tooke another of the fortes..by a flat skallader. 1591 UNTON *Corr.* (Roxb.) 254 If it be taken by the enemy by scallado. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 128 They that gave the Scallado were thrown downe headlong. 1629 MAXWELL *Heroidian* App. 90 The whole Army beset the Towne, and made their Scaladaes on euery side. 1688 J. S. *Fortification* 129 The General..threatens several other places with the Scalado at the same instant. 1795 *Hist. Anecd. Her. & Chiv.* 22 Lloyd took the castle of Cardigan..by Scalado. 1847 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* Jan., Assaults, scaladoes, ambuscadoes,..became the Captain's chief delight.

2. = SCALADE *sb.* 2.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XI. xxxiv, Adrastus..boldly gan a strong scalado reare. 1824 WIFFEN *Tasso* XI. xxxix, Some raise scalados, nor to mount decline.

Scalage (skē·lėdʒ). *Lumber-trade.* [f. SCALE *v.*3 (sense 6 b) + -AGE.] The amount which a quantity of timber scales.

1878 *Michigan Rep.* XXXVI. 168 The total scalage of the logs to be delivered.

Scalap, obs. form of SCALLOP.

Scalar (skē·lăr), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *scālār-is*, f. *scāla* ladder, SCALE *sb.*3] **A.** *adj.*

1. Resembling a ladder; *Bot.* = SCALARIFORM.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scalar, Scalary*, leaning one way, ladderwise, not bolt up right. 1880 *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XV. 92 Spire rather high, scalar.

2. *Math.* Of the nature of a scalar (see B).

1853 HAMILTON in *Phil. Mag.* Ser. IV. V. 322 The two values of the vector ρ, which answer to the two values of the scalar coefficient *x*. 1853 — *Elem. Quaternions* II. i. (1866) 175 The Scalar (or Scalar Part) of a Quaternion. *Ibid.* III. iii. 721 The scalar equation of the polar of the latter point. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 9 Scalar quantities do not involve direction.

B. *sb. Math.* In quaternions, a real number.

1853 HAMILTON *Elem. Quaternions* I. ii. (1866) 10 The.. quotient .obtained by the division of two parallel vectors by another, including zero as a limit, may also be called a Scalar; because it can always be found..by the comparison of positions upon one common scale (or axis)...Such Scalars are..simply the Reals..of Algebra. *Ibid.* 11 The combination, 'Scalar plus Vector,' is a Quaternion. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 260 The result of the operation ∇^2 on any scalar is purely a scalar.

Scalarian (skălē·rĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Scālāria*, f. *scāla* ladder, SCALE *sb.*3] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the genus *Scalaria* of gasteropods. **b.** *sb.* A gasteropod of this genus.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 501/2 The Scalarians of Lamarck consist of the genera *Vermetus, Scalaria*, and *Delphinula*.

Scalariform (skălæ·rifōm), *a. Bot.*, etc. [ad. mod. L. *scālāriform-is*, f. L. *scālāris* SCALAR, SCALARY: see -FORM.] Of the form of, or resembling, a ladder; characterized by ladder-like formation, as cells or vessels of plants having the walls thickened so that they form transverse ridges.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xviii. § iii. I. 499 *note*, The presence of spiral, or scalariform vessels. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. 87 The pits extend into horizontal fissures resembling what are called Scalariform vessels. 1850 DANA *Geol.* App. I. 727 Spire scalariform. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 30 When this kind of marking [in a cell-wall] becomes linear, or nearly so, it is termed scalariform.

Sca·larwise, *adv.* [f. SCALAR *a.* + -WISE.] In the form of a ladder.

1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* 129 *Scalarwise*, in which many tessular crystals are arranged like steps of a stair.

† **Sca·lary,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *scālāris*: see SCALAR and -ARY.]

1. Having the form of a ladder or flight of steps.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xiii. 253 He made.. certaine elevated places, and Scalary ascents, that..they might with better ease..mount their horses. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 23 Touching this kind of employment the Republic hath certain degrees, or Scalary ascents and rules of removall. 1656 [see SCALAR *a.* 1].

2. = CLIMACTERIC *a.* 1.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 25 The great Climactericall, Hebdomaticall, Scalary, Decretoriall yeere. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarchy* III. Comm. 167 The Scalary or Climatericall yeare consisteth of Seuen yeares nine times told or nine yeares Seuen times Multiplied.

3. Pertaining to masses of SCALA CŒLI.

1536 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Convocation* i. 48 That satisfactory, that missal, that scalary.

Scalawag, variant of SCALLYWAG.

Scalbart, -bert, -burde, obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*1

Scalc, variant of SHALK *Obs.*

† **Scald,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 6 skald. [Alteration of SCALL *sb.* by association with SCALD *a.* (orig. *scalled*).] = SCALL *sb.*

1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 2 The drye skaldes of it called in Latin *furfur*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 47 Her crafty head was altogether bald, And..Was overgrowne with scurfe and filthy scald. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Upon Blanch*, Blanch swears her Husband's lovely; when a scald Has blear'd his eyes. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2930/4 Lately went from his Master one Martin Middleton...He hath a Scald behind in his Head.

fig. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angels* 104 The fire, the scald, the Itch of lusts.

Scald (skōld), *sb.*2 [f. SCALD *v.*]

1. An injury to the skin and flesh caused by hot fluid or steam.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIX. xiii. II. 351 Say the place be blistered..with any burne or scald. 1749 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (ed. 6) 301, I am satisfied that Spirit of Wine camphorated, is the very best Thing that can be applied to a Burn or Scald in Human Bodies. 1845 W. BOWMAN in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 865/2 A superficial scald of the whole body. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 394 'Scald' of the

air-passages. 1890 BOWLBY *Surg. Path.* (1900) 289 Scalds of the larynx..in children..commonly result from attempts to drink from a kettleful of boiling water.

b. *fig.* (*Sc.*) Disgust, aversion, vexation. See HEART-SCALD, -SCAD.

c. *transf.* Inflammation caused by heat; an inflamed part. Also, applied to diseases which produce a similar effect to that of scalding.

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Skaud, Scad*, a scald, or the mark of it; also, a galled or inflamed part of the body. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 99 If manure is allowed to accumulate therein, it will get into the cleft of the foot and produce scald. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Scald*, a destructive disease of cranberries,..applied also loosely..to any sudden wilting or decay..of leaves and fruit.

2. The action or an act of scalding articles of food, utensils, etc.

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 5 You must give your Endive a scald. 1764 E. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 160 Put in your damsins, let them have one scald. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi, The coffee-pot and the two pans..had their scald, and their little scour. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 7/3 The high scald to which the curd is subjected after breaking.

3. A hot liquor or solution used for scalding.

1684 HAN. WOOLLEY *Queen-like Closet* Suppl. 4 After the first ladder [= lather] let the other be very hot, and cast them into a Scald every time. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 110 Put your Fruit into boiling Water,..keep it in a scald till tender. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 180 Next put it into a scald of soap.

4. A patch of land scorched by the sun. *local.*

1795 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Norf.* I. 14 'Scalds' are as pernicious in Norfolk, as quicksands and springy patches are in cold-soiled countries. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxxi, The country..was all one dingy drab, with abundant scalds on the undrained fallows.

5. Dodder, *Cuscuta europæa*: cf. SCALDWEED. *local.*

1844 *Phytologist* I. 1140 *Cuscuta europæa*..is called 'scald' [in Cambridgeshire]; it may be presumed, on account of the scalded appearance which it gives to bean-crops.

Scald, *sb.*[3]: see SKALD.

Scald, *sb.*[4], northern form of SCOLD.

Scald (skōld), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[5] *Obs.* exc. *arch.* and *dial.* Also 6 **scaulde**, *Sc.* **skawd**, **skaid**, 6–7 **scalde**, 7 **scal'd**, **scauld**, 8 *Sc.* **scaw'd**, 9 *dial.* **scalt**, **scaud**. [Later spelling of SCALLED.]

1. Affected with the 'scall'; scabby.

In the 16th c. often in proverbial or allusive use: cf. SCABBED. (See also SCALD-HEAD.)

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* II. iv. Wks. 185 Than shall al these scalde & scabbed peces scale clene of, & the hole body of christes holy church remaine pure. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxi. 20 Whether he be blynde,..or is gleyd, or is skyrvye or scaulde. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2485 Howbeit I se thy skap skyre skaid [*Bannatyne MS.* skawd], Thou art ane stewat, I stand foird. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. M ij b, He shall appoint him out for such a scald squier as he is. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 33 A scald horse is good inough for a scabde squyer. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 474/2 Some murmure and snarle as soone as their scald backs are rubbed. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Phys. Secrets* 181 Scal'd head the cure. [1808 JAMIESON, *Scaud-man's head*, the sea urchin.]

2. *fig.* 'Scurvy', mean, paltry, contemptible. (Cf. SCABBED *a.* 2.) a. Of persons.

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* I. 753 (Brandl) The scald capper sware..That yt cost hym euen as myche. 1595 PEELE *Old Wives Tale* 425 (Gummere) You whorson, scald Sexton and Churchwarden. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 215. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* I. i, Your gravity once laid My head and heels together in the Dungeon, For cracking a scald Officers crown.

†*Scald miserable*: a burlesque designation app. first used in 1742 in connexion with a procession of ragamuffins intended to ridicule the Freemasons. A print of 1771 representing this brought the expression into temporary currency with the sense 'despicable wretch'.

1742 (*title*) An Epistle from Dick Poney, Esq. Grand-Master of the Right Black-Guard Society of Scald-Miserable Masons. 1771 (*title of plate by Benoist*) A Geometrical View of the Grand Procession of the Scald Miserable Masons, Design'd as they were Drawn up over against Somerset House, in the Strand on the twenty Seventh of April, Ano. 1742. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* III. vi. 563 Our poor scald miserable of a Friar Gerund. 1773 BERRIDGE *Lett.* vii. (1864) 371, I am now, as the world accounts, a scold miserable. [1808 ST. ANGELO *Remin.* I. 407 The print of the Scald Miserables..is by him [*sc.* Benoist]. *Ibid.* 408 The contrivers of the mock procession of scald masons, which actually took place in the year 1742.]

b. Of things.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 260 If it chaunce a scalde cuppe of thyn to bee broken. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Ep. Printer, A scald triuiall lying Pamphlet, called *Greens groats-worth of wit.* 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. i, If [she have] a fat hand, and scald nailes, let her carue the lesse, and act in gloues. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Widow* IV. ii. Wks. (Bullen) V. 207 I'm rid of a sore burden, for my part, master, Of a scald little one. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 255 A scaw'd bit o' a penny note.

3. *Comb.*, as **scald-pate**, = SCALD-HEAD; **scald-pated** *a.* = SCALD-HEADED.

1611 COTGR., *Teigneux*, scuruie, scauld-pated. *Ibid.* s. v. *Teigneux*, No scauld-pate will the combe indure. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxx, Achilles was a scauld-pated maker of hay bundles. 1659 TORRIANO *Eng.-Ital. Dict.*, The scurfe or scauld pate, *tigna, pelarella.*

B. *sb.* a. A scurvy fellow. b. = SCALL.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. iii. 26 Thou skald, thou bald, thou rotten, thou glotton! 1598 FLORIO, *Tegna*, the scurfe or scald that comes to some mens heades.

Scald (skōld), *a.*[2] [pa. pple. of SCALD *v.*] = SCALDED *ppl. a.*[1]

Scald cream: clotted or clouted cream. *Scald milk*: milk from which the cream has been skimmed after scalding.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. II. 720/2 That cream termed scald, or clotted cream. *Ibid.* Those dairies that make scald-cream butter. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. W. Eng.* I. 251 In 'scald cream dairies', no churn is in use. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* viii, If it don't ate so soft as ever was scald cream, never you call me Thomas Burman. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 34 Who in Cornwall ever thinks of drinking anything but 'scald' milk?

Scald (skōld), *v.* Forms: 3–4 **schalde**, 4 **scalde**, **scolde**, 4–5 **skalde**, 4–6 **schald**, 5–6 **skald**, **scalde**, 6 **scaulde**, *Sc.* **scawde**, **skaude**, (7 scal'd, scold), 8–9 *Sc.* **scad**, **scaud**, 5– **scald**. *Pa. t.* 5 **skaldid**, 6 *Sc.* **scaldit**, 4– **scalded**; 6–7 **scalt**. *Pa. pple.* 4 i-**scalded** (-sk-), **skald**, 5 **skladdyt**, 4–6 **skaldyd**, -id, (etc.), 5–7, 9 *dial.* **scalt**, 6 *Sc.* **sc-**, **skaldit**, 9 *dial.* **scald**. [a. ONF. *escalder*, *escauder* = Central OF. *eschalder*, *eschauder* to burn, scald (mod.F. *échauder* to scald, earlier also to scorch), = Pr. *escaudar*, Sp., Pg. *escaldar* to burn, scald, make red-hot, It. *scaldare* to heat, warm :—late L. *excaldāre* to wash in hot water, f. *ex-* (see Ex- *pref.*[1] 2. 2) + *cal(i)dus* hot, warm (see CALID and CHAUD).

The specific use referring to liquid agency, which is the prominent use in Fr. (and hence in Eng.), and is more or less represented in the other Rom. langs., is prob. to be accounted for by the fact that *excaldāre* could as well be referred to the *cal(i)da* sb., hot water, as to the adj. In Eng. this is the earliest sense of the word, which is first recorded in the Ancren Riwle (*a* 1225) both in its simple form (see quot. s. v. SCALDING *ppl. a.*) and in the compound *forsch(e)alde* (see FOR- *pref.*[1] 5).

The word entered at an early date into the Scandinavian languages: early MDa. *skolde*, MSw. *skalda*, *skolda*, *skolla*, Sw. *skålla* to scald.]

I. 'To burn with hot liquor' (J.).

1. *trans.* To affect painfully and injure with very hot liquid or steam.

1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Hare mouþ is ase þe wyste þet ualþ ine hot weter þet..scoldeþ alle þo þet byeþ þer aboute. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1162 The Cook yscalded for al his longe ladel. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scalt, *estuatus*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 351 If one be scalded with hot water, lay.. an egg to the place. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They all drink it sipping, for fear of scalding themselves. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 302 For fear of.. steam scalding the plants. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 605 Let a piece of linen dipt in brandy..be immediately applied to the parts scalded with hot water. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii, Scalding yourself, as I may say, with your own ladle? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 285 Huge stones and boiling water were in readiness to crush and scald the plunderer.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To be scalding hot.

a 1225 [see SCALDING *ppl. a.* 1]. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xx. (1640) 20 Words of reviling scald as it were. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xix. 127 Some excuse there is for bloud enraged, and no wonder if that scaldeth which boyleth. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 80 Water scalds at 150°.

c. *intr.* for *pass.* To become injured by hot liquid or steam.

1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* II. iii, Now scalds his soul in the Tartarian streams. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 448 Those detestable That let the bantling scald at home, and brawl Their rights or wrongs like potherbs in the street.

d. *Comb.*: **scald-chops** (*humorous*), hot tea; **scald-lips** (Sc. *scadlips*), 'broth containing a very small portion of barley, and on this account more apt to burn the mouth' (Jam.).

a 1682 F. SEMPILL *Blythsome Wedding* 65 in *Poems of Sempills* (1849) 69 There will be..a haggize, And scadlips to sup till ye're fow. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xl, It was the signal for tea. 'Hurra for Scaldchops!'

2. *trans.* To produce an injurious effect upon (something) similar to that produced by boiling water. a. Of tears, humours.

a 1225 [see SCALDING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6576 Hate teres of gretyng, þat þe synful sal scalden in þe dounfallyng. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 48, I am bound Vpon a wheele of fire, that mine owne teares Do scal'd, like molten Lead. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3240/4 The left side of his face burnt or scalded by some Humor. 1722 DOUGLAS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 86 When the Urine begins to come the right way, it pains and scalds them much after the same manner. 1873 BRYANT *Living Lost* ii, The tears that scald the cheek.

absol. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i, And if a manly drop or Two fall down, It scalds along my Cheeks. 1835 TRENCH *Justin Martyr* 16 The tear which does not heal, will scald and sear.

b. *fig.* Of words, language.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 258 The quent and curious castis poeticall,..Caxtoun, for dreid thai suld his lippis scawde Durst neuer tuiche. 1847 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* II. x. 170 He..grows glib in uttering falsehoods that should scald his lips.

3. To wash and cleanse with boiling water. a. the carcasses of animals, esp. swine and poultry, in order to remove hair or feathers, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15988 Ne sal he neuer vp-rise eft,..Ar sal þis cok vp-rise was skald yisternight! *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 26 Take capons and schalde and pyke hom then. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 25 Fayre smal Chykenys wyl & clene skladdyd & drawe. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Glabrare sues*, to scaulde hogges and take of their heare. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* II. ii. 71 She's e'ne setting on water to scal'd such Chickens as you are. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 32 Gut and scald your Pig. *Ibid.* viii. 72

b. vessels, implements, clothes. (Also with *out*.)

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiii. 130 Scald the Pot clean. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housewife's Comp.* 308 To heat a good Quantity of Water..for scalding Pails. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 459 Preparing to scald out the frying-pan. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 339 All milk should be..boiled, and the bottle always scalded before use.

c. To take *off* (the hair or feathers of an animal) with hot water.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 259 He gadereth water and heteþ it..þroweþ it vppon hunteres and houndes..and scaldeþ of þe heere of hem. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xlii. (Arb.) 113 The heer behynde was skalded of. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 26 The Marques Bath..is so hot, as it will scald off the haire of a Hogge.

d. To apply a hot lotion or solution to.

1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* xxxi. 260 If the matter flows in great abundance, and of a thin consistence, it must be scalded again. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Scald*, to boil or buck cloth with white soap after bleaching.

4. *Cookery.* a. To heat liquid to a point just short of boiling point. Also *intr.* for *passive.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 320/2 To Scalde browes, *adipare*. 1692 TRYON *Good House-wife* iii. 45 If you take milk and scald it (but it must be done to a point, not too hot). 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Our meikle pot that scads the whey. 1833 MRS. BRAY *Descr. Tamar & Tavy* xl. (1836) III. 290 There was a pan of milk..scalding over the embers of a wood fire. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 192/2 The milk is first 'scalded', the pan containing it being closely watched, in order that the contents may not boil.

b. To subject to the action of hot water; to pour hot liquid over.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 24 Take fayre Bolasse..in Wyne boyle hem þat þey be but skaldyd bywese. 1591 COCKAINE *Treat. Hunting* Cj, Ground Otes put in a tub and scalded with water. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xvi. 147 A Buttered Tort. Take eight or ten large Codlings and scald them. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 33 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, It is customary with most dairy-maids to scald the curd with hot whey.

†5. *trans.* To boil to death. Also *absol. Obs.*

a 1536 in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 161 þer was on skaldyd in Smythfild, for poysenyng of dyueris men of þe Bisshop of Rochesters howse. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 4642 Peter, Andro, Iohne, Iames, and Paull,..To byrne and skald thay neuer pretendit. 1568 CHARTERIS *Pref. to Lyndesay's Wks.* ✠ iij b, To bruyle and scald quha sa euer suld speik aganis thame.

II. To burn.

6. *trans.* Of the sun or fire, etc.: To scorch, burn. Also said of certain soils. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxx. 6 Bi dai noght þe sunne skalde þe sal. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 667 And Nicholas is scalded in the toute. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 4 Fro this burnyshyd brande..I red ye be shunand or els the dwill skald you. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hon. Apoth.* 25 b, Chafynge meates do scaulde the lyver. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. 89 b, Swelting heate that scalt their guts within. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 129 Blest with a sweet and temperate air, not over scalded with the Sun. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* ii, I'm sure sma' pleasure it can gie, Ev'n to a deil, To skelp an' scaud poor dogs like me. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 77 A heavy soil will..scald and starve any kind of grain. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, That will be as bad as scauding your fingers wi' a redhot chanter. 1881 *Scribner's Monthly* XXII. 268 Not a leaf.. burned or scalded during the hot, dry weather.

absol. *c* 1578 G. BEST in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 49 If any man say the Sunne may scalde a good while before and after it come to the Meridian. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 4 Fire, being invested in the body of..metals, scaldeth more furiously than in wood. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 413 The Reverberation of which [high mountain] so furiously heats the place in the dog-days, that it scalds again.

b. *intr.* for *pass.* To be scorched or burnt.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. x. 89 And all the cost belive of flambis scald [L. *iam fervere litora flammis*]. *c* 1520 M. NISBET *N. T. in Scots, Matt.* xiii. 6 Bot quhen the sonn was risen, thai scaldit. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 31 Thou do'st sit Like a rich Armor, worne in heat of day, That scald'st with safetie. 1902 RIDER HAGGARD *Rural Eng.* II. 392 There the land was light and they scalded.

c. *transf.* To become inflamed, sore, or raw.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship, Horses' Dis.* xiv. 7 If you looke on his tongue, you shall see it almost rawe and scalte, with the heate that comes out of his bodie. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Skaude, Skad*, When any part of the body is galled and inflamed, in consequence of heat, it is said to *skad.*

†7. *trans.* Of desire, thoughts, etc.: To 'burn', inflame, irritate. Also *intr.*, to 'burn' or be fired with desire. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 961 Quhene sick thocht can me schald. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 10 The byssy curis of Turnus mariage Skalding hir breist and mynd all in a rage. *Ibid.* XIII. vi. 104 In our [= over] ardent desyre Of the bargan he scaldit hait as fyre. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. vii. 49, I am scalded with my violent motion And spleene of speede, to see your Maiesty. 1629 MASSINGER *Roman Actor* IV. ii, Would not a secret..Scald you to keep it? 1667 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. 65 For which she did so scald and burn That none but he could serve her turn.

III. 8. *Glass-making.* [after It. *scaldare*, F. *échauder.*] *trans.* ? To bring to a certain heat.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 247 The Master workman, who..with his *ponteglo* sticks the Glass and scalds it. 1699 tr. *Blancourt's Art of Glass* iii. 27 With Blowing, Pressing, Scalding, Amplifying, and Cutting he forms it [glass] into what shape he pleases.

†‖ **Scaldabanco.** *Obs.* [a. obs. It. *scaldabanco*, f. *scaldare* to heat + *banco* bench.] A warm disputant or preacher.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 182 The Presbyterians, those Scalda-banco's, or hot Declamers, had wrought a great distast in the Commons at the King.

Sca·ld-be·rry. *dial.* [f. SCALD *sb.*[2] (see quot. 1838).] The bramble, *Rubus fruticosus.*

1726 THRELKELD *Syn. Stirpium Hib.* I. 5. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housewife's Comp.* 246 How to make Scald-berry Pies...Take ripe Scald-berries [etc.]. 1838 LOUDON *Arboretum* II. 743 The fruits..are called..scaldberries, from their supposed quality of giving scald heads to children.

Scald-crow. Also scalte-, scale-, scaul- (see also E.D.D.). [? f. SCALD *a.*[1]] A name in Ireland for the Hooded Crow (*Corvus cornix*). Also *fig.*

1834 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* Ser. II. 281 That one is for that poor scaldcrow there,..little Fairly. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vii. 268 All the other scaul-crows set upon her, and pecked her to death there and then. 1879 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* (1882) I. i. 8 We tear along,..scaring dozens of white-backed scald-crows.

Scalded (skɔ̄·ldĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCALD *v.* + -ED[1].] In various uses of SCALD *v.*

1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 19 Pillows made of..scalded Feathers and dry pulled Feathers together. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Chien*,..The scaulded dog feares euen colde water. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* iii. 158 Scalded palats, who have lost their tasts. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. W. Eng.* I. 250 The cream thus raised is termed 'scalded cream', or 'clouted cream'. 1825 JAMIESON, *Scadded beer*, or *ale*, a drink made of hot beer or ale...*Scadded whey*, a dish..made by boiling whey on a slow fire, by which a great part of it coagulates into a curdy substance. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* I. ii. 4 Treat her eyes To hide these scalded rings.

b. Inflamed or raw as if injured by hot water.

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 76 For a man hat is scalded on his pintill [*v.r.* for a scaldid pintil]. 1818 *Art Pres. Feet* 206 The superabundant excretion produces langour and feebleness..; whilst the matter itself becomes so corrosive as to produce what is called scalded feet. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 283 [In sheep] After the scalded parts have been rubbed off in the manner directed. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* § 3751 Scalded heads.—Sheep are much infested in summer with flies [etc.].

†**Sca·lded,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SCALD *sb.*[2] + -ED.] = SCALD *a.*[1]

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 26 Pretendand the to wryte sic skaldit skrowis. *Ibid.* 37 Skaldit skaitbird. 1641 COWLEY *Guardian* v. vi, Give me the Periwig, boy. What? shall Empress Tabytha's husband go as if his head were scalded? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire on Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 64 For scalded heads most learnedly advise.

Sca·lder, *sb.*[1] [f. SCALD *v.* + -ER[1].] One who scalds poultry, vessels, etc.

1536 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 237 The said..Clerke shall see that the said Poultry shall be dayly put into the Scalder's hands. 1612 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (1905) IV. 488 Paid to a scaller from London, 16 dayes at v. s. the day. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Elder Brother* II. iii. (1637) D 3 b, Ralph [the cook] there with his kitchin boyes and scalders.

†**Sca·lder,** *sb.*[2] [ad. mod.L. *scalder* (Olaus Wormius 1633), f. ON. *skáld* SKALD.] = SKALD.

1765 BLAIR in Macpherson *Ossian* (1785) II. 290 *note*, An extract, which Dr. Hicks has given from the work of one of the Danish Scalders. *Ibid.* 291 This Lodbrog was a king of Denmark,..and at the same time an eminent Scalder or poet. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. Diss. i. e 4 b, In the place of their old scalders a new rank of poets arose, called Gleemen or Harpers.

Scalder (skɔ̄·ldəɹ), *v. north. dial.* [? f. SCALD *v.* + -ER[5].] *trans.* To scald, scorch. Hence **Sca·ldered** *ppl. a.* (see quot. 1796).

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVIII. lxxxv. 332 The hardie Duke.. comforts those that from the scaldred hides, With water stroue th'approaching flames to chace. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Yorks.* (ed. 2) II. 341 *Scaldered*, chafed, blistered, or partially excoriated, whether by friction, heat, or corrosion. ..*Scalderings*, the under-burnt cores of stone lime: the surfaces of which peeling off, in scales or shells. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 51, I..scawder'd my fit. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Scalder'd*, skin-chafed, leprous.

Sca·ld-fish. [app. f. SCALD *a.*[1]: see quot. 1812.] The smooth sole, *Pleuronectes arnoglossus.*

1812 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 325 *Pleuronectes arnoglossus*...The scales are so deciduous that the friction of the trawl alone is sufficient to remove them; when taken out of the net, they are usually..in that bare state which gives some propriety to the name they are known by of Scald-fish. 1836 [see MEGRIM [2]]. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xvi. (ed. 4) 346.

Scald head, sca·ld-head. [SCALD *a.*[1]]

1. A person's head diseased with ringworm or some similar affection.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 49 A scalde head is soone broken. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 53 Meane of stature he was, & euill proportioned: hauing euer a scald head. *a* 1756 ELIZA HEYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 247 An infallible Remedy for a Scald Head. 1826 HOOD *Irish Schoolm.* xix, The Pedagogue, with sudden drub, Smites his scald head, that is already sore. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Scaud-head, Scaut-head*, a head disfigured with patches of scrofula. *transf.* 1808 MRS. KEMBLE *Day after Wedding* 12 I'll make you a toupee. I hate your scald-heads, all dragged up at the roots.

2. A popular term for tinea or other similar scalp affections.

1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 179 For a Scald head. Take a Candle, and let it drop upon it as hot as you can, in so doing it will scale off. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v., There are several sorts of Scald Heads, some resemble the Grains of Figs..; others are small bits of Flesh..and others are like Farinous Tetters. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 791/1 Porrigo is a generic term for an eruption of psydracious pustules, usually termed scald-head. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. xiii. 1077 One of the forms of 'scald head'.

So **Scald-headed** *a.*, having a 'scald head'.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vi, Is Royalty grown a mere wooden Scarecrow; whereon thou, pert scaldheaded crow, mayest alight at pleasure and peck? 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. III. iv. 103 Every humpbacked, one-eyed, scald-headed passenger had to pay a penny for each infirmity.

Scald-hot, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 schalde-, 9 scal-, scaul-. [f. SCALD *v.* + HOT *a.* Cf. Sw. *skållhet*, Da. *skoldhed.*] Scalding hot.

c 1425 *St. Christina* vi. in *Anglia* VIII. 122/25 She poured scalde-hoot watir on þos membrys þat were harmles without-outen. *a* 1500 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 89 Whanne hit is more than schalde-hote, drawe owte 3our fyre clene. 1858 N. HOGG *Poet. Lett.* (ed. 3) 52 Hur voun thare wis zummat scal hot to hur caf. 1867 POOLE & BARNES *Gloss. Wexford, Scaul, Scald*, e. g. 'Scaul hoate', scalding hot.

Scaldic: see SKALDIC.

†**Sca·lding,** *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 **skalding(g), scaldyn,** 6 **schalding,** 6–7 **scadling.** [? f. SCALD *a.* + -ING[1].] **a.** ? The carcass of a 'scald' sheep. **b.** A sheepskin of small value, ? one taken from a 'scald' sheep.

a. 1302–3 *Sacrist Rolls Ely* (1907) II. 17 Pro ij carcos. bouum et iij scaldyngis missis Episcopo. 1338 in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1819) II. 585/1 Vitulina et ij. skaldynges.

b. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 352/1 A nail of Lambeswolle, is at the value of ix *d.* or x *d.*, and a shorlyng feel or scaldyng, at ob. or 1 *d.* the best. 1442 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 397 That na man by woll skynnis derar than x d., schorlinges vi d., scaldynes iii d. 1538 *Ibid.* (MS.) XVI. (Jam.), Small wnwollit skynnis sic as hoyg schorlingis, scadlingis, and fuitfaill. 1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 253/2 Futfells & skaldings.

Sca·lding, *sb.*[2] *Hist.* (In 7–8 often erron. **stalding.**) [Cf. OF. *eskallin, escalin, escarlin* (13–14th c.): see ESCALINE.] A Flemish coin introduced into England and Ireland in the 13th century.

[*c* 1285 in *Cal. Doc. rel. Irel.* (1879) III. 8 The bishop [of Waterford, Stephen de Fulborn]..caused new money to be made. It was called Scalding, Bishop's money, or Stephening, from the name of the bishop.] 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 176 Rosaries, Stepings, and Staldings. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 78 Pollards, Crocards, Staldings. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xi. 178 A considerable circulation of Flemish coins..was effected in England at the close of the thirteenth century. These pieces went by the name of Pollards, Crockards, Scaldings, Brabants, Eagles [etc.].

Sca·lding, *vbl. sb.* [f. SCALD *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The act of burning with hot fluid or steam. Also, † a scalded part.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxix. (1495) 682 The ryndе of the plane helpyth to ease scaldyng and brennynge yf it is layed therto. 1526 *Grete Herball* cxix. (1529) Hjb, Lay it vpon the scaldynge with a feder, and it wyll heale. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxi. 121 The wilde Mulleyne stamped, is good to be layde vpon burnings and scaldings. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 131 There's hell,..there is the sulphurous pit; burning, scalding, stench. 1694 [see SANABLE 2]. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) I. 240 The Burns..which are occasioned by boiling Liquors (which we call Scalding).

b. *transf.* A hot sensation as of scalding.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. xxxviii. 1174 The same is good..against frettings of the bladder, and scalding of the vriue. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 44. 2/2 A Scalding i' th' Urine.

†c. Inflamed or sore condition. (Cf. SCALDED[1] b.)

c 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 76 Pro le scaldynge virge quod vocatur apegalle. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCCXIV. 745 Good medicines..for vlcerations and scaldings in the priuie parts.

d. *Horticulture.* Injury done to plants by the sun's heat after watering.

1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 169/2 The stem leaves..which are subject to scalding, should never be syringed on bright mornings. 1890 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 2/3 There have been heavy dews and fogs, and as these have been followed by hot sun, it has caused what is known as scalding [in hops].

2. The use of boiling or hot liquid in the preparation of the carcasses of animals, etc. for food; the use of hot lotions (in farriery); the partial boiling of milk, etc.; a quantity of liquid thus heated.

1339. *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 65/1 Pro skaldyng porcorum et porcellorum. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6820 Without scaldyng they hem pull. 1487 *Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 3 The Slaughter of Beasts, and Scalding of Swine, had and done in the Butchery. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* XXXI. 260 The manner of scalding is first to clean the abscess well with a piece of sponge dipped in vinegar; then put a sufficient quantity of the mixture into a ladle with a spout, and when it is made scalding hot, pour it into the abscess. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scalding*, a. The last boiling or bucking of cloth with white soap after bleaching. b. The soap itself. 1882a *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v. *Scaudin*, 'I'll hae anither scaudin o' whey the day.'..'That's a big scaudin o' milk ye hae.'

b. *pl.* Scalding hot liquid. *To cry scaldings*: see quot. 1867.

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* XXV, He carried off a large wooden platter, and..returned with it full of boiled pease, crying 'scaldings' all the way. 1839 J. SNOWE *Leg. Rhine* I. 104 This temerarious lad was wont now and then to fling scaldings over him. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scaldings !*, notice to get out of the way; it is used when a man with a load wishes to pass, and would lead those in his way to think that he was carrying hot water. 1878 H. C. ADAMS *Wykehamica* XXIII. 432.

3. *attrib.* (See also SCALDING-HOUSE.)

1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Left Hand* 34 The Pope hath a mighty allowance annually from the Courtizans scalding-tubs. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* XXXI. 259 Some make their scalding mixture milder. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1023 The outside of the dairy or scalding-room. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* IX. 153 In extreme cases [of poll-evil], even the scalding mixture of the farrier may be called into requisition.

Scalding (skɔ̄·ldiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].]

1. That scalds; scalding hot.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Þeo þet beoð wiðinnen heldeð schaldinde water ut, & werieð so þe walles. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xlii. (Arb.) 113 The cook..toke a grete bolle full of scaldyng water, and caste it on his hyppes behynde. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. v, Searing thy hateful flesh with burning irons and drops of scalding lead. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 27 He had caused him to be thrown into a Caldron of scalding oyle. 1755 HALES in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. I. 339 To give the milk a scalding heat. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xiv, He..drinks his tea scalding. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXX. (1856) 260 Some sugared cranberries, with a little butter and scalding water, and you have an impromptu strawberry ice.

† b. Of the sea, etc. [rendering L. *torrens*]: Boiling, seething. Also *subst.* = TORRENT. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20882 Apon þe skaldand see he [*sc.* St. Peter] yede. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxiii. 5 Oure saule over-fore scaldand. *Ibid.* cxxv. 4 Turne, Laverd, our wrecchednesse, Als skaldand in south esse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 59 Schaldand hellis flude, Flagiton.

† c. Of fire, the sun, etc.: Scorching. *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 23 Mony prowd trumpour with him trippit Throw skaldand fyre. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. IX. 210 Least..hee happ to fall into the scalding lyme kill. 1596 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, V. vii. 18 In Summers scalding heate. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. 335 Built, with high houses, narrow streets, to keep out these scaulding beames. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 32 The Banks of Brooks will make a cool retreat For the raw Soldiers from the scalding Heat. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 63 They fallow it when the Sun is pretty high, which they call a scalding fallow. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vi. (1840) 98 A scalding sand, which..drove about in clouds.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Producing an effect or sensation like that of scalding. **a.** Of tears, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 Worpeð ut uppon him schaldinde teares. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. (1621) 13 He, that in Sommer,..Scorched all day in his owne scalding sweat. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 556 Parcht with scalding thurst. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 331 He..From his vile Visage wip'd the scalding Tears. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 469 [Paruria] Ardens. Scalding strangury. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* V. i. § 2. 293 Where is the eye that has forgotten its scalding agonies. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. xix, Greta ..wept scalding tears.

† b. Of desire, etc.: Burning, hot, fervent. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 81 In skaldand word luf god sal þay. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 1674 A blynd fulische desyre..to pass into þar land With eger willis and scaldand. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 34 To breath out scalding sighes smothered within the fornace of his thoughts.

† c. Of utterances: Caustic, stinging. *Obs.*

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 74 Our venomous and scalding words, which burne like coals of Juniper.

Scalding hot, *a.* Also 4 **scladeng.** [f. SCALDING *vbl. sb.* + HOT *a.*] Hot enough to scald.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 259 Þeryn he gadereth water and heteþ it in his rennynge scladeng [*sic*; *Caxton* skaldyng] hoot. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Whan þe Mylke his skaldyng hote, caste þe stuf þer-to. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 233 They [*sc.* springs at Bath] are in maner skalding hot. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 566 Put your first Wort into the Copper again, make it scalding hot. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVI, Keep your ain breath to cool your ain porridge—ye'll find them scalding hot, I promise you. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 302 A scalding-hot steam. *fig.* 1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* III. 14 b, Your scaulding hotte and firebourning charitee. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* Introd. 29 There's more danger of being lukewarm in Reforming than scalding-hot.

Sca·lding-house. [f. SCALDING *vbl. sb.* + HOUSE *sb.*[1]] A room in which utensils or the carcasses of animals are scalded.

1421 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 32 Allso-sone as the skaldyng-house..be full fynyshid and redy þer shyng þer swyne in the same house. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 920/1 In the scalding house, a yeoman and two groomes. 16.. MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* III. ii. (1656) 39 And my three Court Codlings that looke parboyld, As if they came from Cupids scalding house. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 499/2 The Skalding house. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 56 The milk-house, the scalding and pressing house, and the salting-house.

† b. *fig.* Euphemistically for: Hell. *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 205 Even in the skaldinge house, in the vgsomnes of the place. *Ibid.* 208 You are lyke to go [to] ye Scalding house, and ther you shal haue two dishes, wepynge and gnashinge of teeth.

‖ **Scaldino** (skaldī·no). [It., f. *scaldare* to warm.] A small earthen brazier, used in Italy.

1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* iii. 35 The *scaldino* is a small pot of glazed earthenware, having an earthen bale: with this handle passed over the arm, and the pot full of bristling charcoal, [etc.]. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* II. 23 She sat opposite me,..toasting her feet on an earthen *scaldino.*

† **Sca·ldness.** *Obs.* [f. SCALD *a.* + -NESS.] Scabbiness.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* T iij b, The same water heleth the scaldnes of the hede. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 112 Radish..filleth vp with heyre agayne the places that were bared with scaldnes.

† **Sca·ldrag.** *Obs.* [f. SCALD *v.* + RAG *sb.*[1]] One who scalds or boils rags: a nickname for a dyer.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 165 To cal a Justice of the Peace, a Beadle; a Dyer, a Scaldragge.

Scaldricks: see SKELLOCK, wild mustard.

† **Sca·ldry.** *Sc. Obs.* [? f. *scald*, Sc. form of SCOLD *sb.* + -RY.] Abusive speech.

1502–3 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) 97 Personis convict for flyting and scaldrie.

Sca·ldweed. = SCALD *sb.*[2] 5. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

†**Sca·ldy,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*—°. [f. SCALD *a.* + -Y.] Scalled.

1598 FLORIO, *Tegnoso*, scaldie, or scurfie, hauing a sore head.

Scaldy (skɔ̄·ldi), *a.*[2] *local.* [f. SCALD *sb.*[3] + -Y.] Of land: Containing 'scalds' (see SCALD *sb.*[3] 4); easily affected by drought.

1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Year* (1899) 64 A good but rather scaldy piece of land. 1899 — *Rural Eng.* 366 Forty-four coombs of oats..not a bad return from this scaldy soil.

Scale (skēl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 3– scale; also 4–7, 9 skale, 5 skaylle, 9 scaile, skail. β. 3–7 (9 *dial.*) scole, 3, 6–7 scoale, 6–7 skole, 7 scoal, scowle, skoal(e. [a. ON. *skál* str. fem., bowl, *pl.* (weighing) scales (Sw. *skål*, Da. *skaal*: cf. SKOAL) = OHG. *scâla* (MHG. *schâle*, mod.G. *schale*):—OTeut. **skælā*, ablaut-var. of **skalā*, whence OE. *scealu* shell, husk, drinking cup, weighing scale (see SHALE *sb.*[1]), OHG. *scala* shell, husk (MHG., mod.G. *schale*); the quantity of the vowel is doubtful in OS. *skala* cup, and in the ODu. antecedent of MDu. *schale* (Du. *schaal*), though it is probable that in Du. as in Ger. two original forms, *skâla* cup, scales, and *skâla* husk, shell, have become phonetically coincident. For the OE. *scealu* the inflexion appears to attest the short vowel in all the senses. The WGer. **skălа* (:—OTeut. **skælā*, *skalā*) passed into OF. as *eschale, escale* cup (med.L. *scala* 'patera'), also husk (mod.F. *écale*). For the Teut. root **skel-* : *skal-* : *skæl-* to separate, divide, cf. SHALE, SHELL, SKILL. See also SKELE.

Between the first quarter of the 13th c. and the 16th c. the α forms (containing the vowel *a*) represent the northern pronunciation, the β forms being midland and southern. In the 16th c., however, the northern *scale* seems to have found its way into the London dialect, being used by Palsgrave and later by Spenser and Shaks. In the 17th c. *scale* is the prevailing literary form, though *scole* (with other equivalent spellings) occasionally appears down to the middle of the century.]

†**I. 1.** A drinking-bowl or cup. *Obs.*

α. *c* 1205 LAY. 5368 Ælc mon nom an honde ane scale [*c* 1275 scele] of rede golde. *Ibid.* 14965 Heo fulde hir scale of wine. 1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 100/21 Vasa Argentea...pro vj skales argenteis. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 249 Ye hold long the skayll, Now lett me go to. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* (Addit. MS.) 320/2 A Scale of Ale. 1511–12 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 662 Pro 4 dd. Ciphorum et 2 dd. Scalez. 1616 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) II. 118 Geo. Smales [presented] for..selling ale in scales and pottes not sealed. *?a* 1800 *Jolly Hind's Squire* xi. in Child *Ballads* (1884) I. 429 There's ale into the birken scale, Wine in the horn green.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 A dischs ine his one hond, & a scoale [*v.rr.* schale, skale] in his oðer. *c* 1275 LAY. 1180 Ane scole he bar an honde al of rede golde milc was in þe scole. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1145 A bassyn, a bolle, oþer a scole.

II. Apparatus for weighing.

2. The pan, or each of the pans, of a balance. Also *fig.* † *To hold scale with*: to balance, to equal in weight.

α. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 739 Quhene we wald in skale put don his ewil consawit suspicione..& in-to þe tothyre skale his gud dedis ware al hale. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 349 In þe to skale it weyed more þan all þat evur þai cuthe put in þe toder skale. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 320/2 A Scale of a balañ, *lanx*. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 132 Your vowes to her, and me, (put in two scales) Will euen weigh, and both as light as tales. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 331 If the braine of our liues had not one Scale of Reason, to poize another of Sensualitie. 1654 AMBROSE *Ultima* 193 This one sinne of refusing Christ may perhaps hold scale with the united horrours of all the rest whatsoever. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 624 Till when, your weights will in the balance fail A Church unprincipled kicks up the Scale. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 55. 355 [They] made their Court by throwing themselves into the Scale of unlimited Loyalty. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 306 In a contest..where nothing can be put into their scale which is not taken from ours. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 192/1 They [*sc.* the soils] are..placed in opposite scales of a balance, and poised. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 525 While slowly falling as a scale that falls, When weight is added only grain by grain. 1860 L. HARCOURT *Diaries G. Rose* I. 179 He..would, Brennus-like, have thrown his sword into the scale of liberty. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* v. 474 This time 'twas my scale quietly kissed the ground, Mere rank against mere wealth.

β. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 4 Whanne þis smal precyous ston was leyd in a scole, it was so heuy, þat no-thing leyd in þe oþer scole, was it neuere so heuy, myȝte weyin it vp. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 183 The skoles in a payre of balance. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxvi. O 6 Iustice, which being the very soule and life of gouernment is oft time compelled to help the lightest scoale with her finger. 1611 COTGR., *Bassin d'vne balance*, the scowle of a balance. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. iii. 16 Both the scoles being empty shall hang in æquilibrio.

3. *pl.* († In 16th c. rarely construed as *sing.*). A weighing instrument; *esp.* one (often called *a pair of scales*) consisting of a beam which is pivoted at its middle and at either end of which a dish, pan, board, or slab is suspended. Also *fig.*

α. 1480 *Wardrobe Acc. Edw. IV* (Nicolas 1830) 131 Standisshes with weightes and scales iij. 1530 PALSGR. 182 *Vnes belances*, a payre of balans or scales to wey with. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xciv. 56 Wee must not wey our own woorkes in our owne scales. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 101 In that Christall scales, let there be waid, Your Ladies loue against some other Maid. 1693 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* viii. 4 If we consider the Dignity of an Intelligent Being, and put that in the scales against brute inanimate Matter. 1697 FLOYER *Eng. Baths* Pref. c 5 By Sanctorius's Scales he found the Body to weigh less after bathing in cold Water. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 83 Their Scales were false, their Weights were light. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* ii, The goddess who had inclined the scales of battle in favour of Theodosius. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 117 Public scales, at which citizens could weigh their corn food. 1884 LOWELL *Democracy* (1887) 42 In the scales of the destinies brawn will never weigh so much as brain.

β. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* v. 1 Then take the scoales and the waight, and deuyde the hayre a sunder. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxvii. 1 As it were weying in a pair of skoles, whatsoever power is in the world and in hel. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 38 A sin..that seemes small in the common beame of the world, may be very great in the scoales of his Sanctuary. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Scoles*, pl. scales.

b. as an attribute of Justice.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 204 And poyse the Cause in Iustice equall Scales, Whose Beame stands sure. 1604 [see BAKER 1]. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* x, In one hand a paire of euen scoals she [Justice] weares. 1861 A. LEIGHTON *Storied Trad. Sc. Life* Ser. II. 71 We have left the heart-broken Ailsie suspended in the upper scale of justice.

c. *To hold the scales even* or *equally*: to judge impartially. (Cf. 4 b.)

1648 EARL OF WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* 118 [The King of Heaven] in his hands the Skoals doth hold so even, That [etc.]. 1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 108 Equally the scales to hold Betwixt the two extremes of hot and cold.

4. *sing.* = *pl.* (sense 3). Often *fig.*, esp. in *To turn the scale*: said of an excess of weight on one side or the other.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/2 Scole, to wey wythe,..*libra, balanx*. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 330 If the scale doe turne But in the estimation of a hayre. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* I. i. (1647) 149 As even as the thirteenth of September, When day and night lye in a scale together. 1627 SPEED *England* xxiv. § 3 The Victor in Rome..with so equal an hand bare the Scoale of Resistance, that their owne Writers evermore terme it a dangerous Warre. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 137 He is..afraid to come either to the pole or to the scale; either to weigh, or to number authorities with us. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vii. (1840) 119 We had..three pound and a half..according to..weight and scale. 1824 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. x, And if my words in weight shall fail, This ponderous sword shall turn the scale. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 41 When the scale was trembling between life and death. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. v. 62 The odd man whose casting vote would turn the scale as between the seven republican members of the Commission and the seven Democrats. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Oct. 5/3 A cargo of Welsh coal..was put on the scale to-day at fifteen dollars per ton.

b. *Equal, even scale* (poet.): a just balance; also, a condition of equilibrium or indecision.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 13 In equall Scale weighing Delight and Dole. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 245 Long time in eeven scale The Battel hung. 1671 — *P. R.* II. 173 Belial, in much uneven scale thou weigh'st All others by thy self. 1732 J. HAMMOND *Love Elegies* xi. 6 'Tis Gold o'erturns the even Scale of Life. 1781 COWPER *Table T.* 251 Kind Providence..weighs the nations in an even scale.

c. *spec.* in *Racing. Clerk of the Scales*: the official who weighs the jockeys, etc. *To ride* or *go to scale*: (of a jockey) to ride to the weighing-room before or after the race.

a 1837 [APPERLEY] *Turf* (1852) 37 Wright is..a steady.. rider, and comes light to the scale. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 364 In Catch Weights any person can ride without going to scale. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iv, He would have dismounted before riding to scale, and so lost the stakes. 1877 SAYLES *Law of Racing* 52 A horse shall not be qualified to run..unless his name has been notified as a starter to the clerk of the scales. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 201, I..could go to scale about 14 sts. 7 lb.

5. *Astr.* (*pl.* and † *sing.*) The sign of Libra. Chiefly *poet.*

1631 HEYWOOD *London's Jus Hon.* B j b, Sayle By the signe Libra, that Celestiall scale. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 676 By Leo and the Virgin and the Scales. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 505 The Sun, already from the Scales declined. 1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *The Truants* iii, They filled the Scales with sulphur full, They halloed the Dog-Star on at the Bull.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scale balance, baroscope, instrument, maker*; **scale-beam,** (*a*) = BEAM *sb.*[1] 6; (*b*) a weighing instrument of the steelyard kind; **scale-box,** a box to contain a pair of scales; **scale-pan,** either of the dishes or pans of a balance.

1809 J. HUTCHINSON (*title*) The Spirometer, the Stethoscope, and *Scale-Balance. *a* 1692 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 97 Bringing the *Scale-Baroscope to an exact equilibrium. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6172/1 to William White.., *Scalebeam-maker. 1789 C. CLARKE (*title*) A new Complete System of Weights and Measures,..with considerable Improvements on the Scale-Beam. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 782/1 The scale beam was still further relieved by the fifth lever. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 23 June (1879) II. 226 They..fin'd Mr. Tho. Banister..10*s.* Breach of the peace for throwing the pots and *Scale-box at the maid. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 81 Scale Box Maker. *a* 1692 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 98 Taking out my *scale-instrument, it appears to weigh precisely a drachm. 1758 *Rep. Comm. Weights & Meas.* 57 They make use of single Weights made by their present *Scale-maker, Mr. Freeman, and his Father, who was likewise Scale-maker to the Mint. 1894 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 7/1 Mr. Thomas Avery, formerly head of the well-known firm of scale-makers. 1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* xxi. 289 Place a weight in each *scale-pan.

Scale (skēl), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4– scale; also 4–7 skale (4 scaale, 5 scalle, skaylle, 6 skaile, 7 scail, 8 skeal, 9 scal, skail, skeel). [aphetic a. OF. *escale* (12th c.), mod.F. *écale* husk, pod, chip of stone:—OTeut. **skalā* (see SCALE *sb.*[1], SHALE *sb.*). OF. had also *escaille* (13th c.), mod.F. *écaille* scale of fish, shell of oyster, etc. = It. *scaglia* :—Romanic (also med.L.) *scalia*, a. OTeut. **skaljā* (see SHELL *sb.*) from the same root; this is perh. the source of some of the ME. spellings.]

1. One of the small thin membranous or horny outgrowths or modifications of the skin in many fishes and reptiles, and some mammals, usually overlapping, and forming a complete covering for the body. Also applied to the minute structures forming the covering of the wings of butterflies, etc.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 7161 þe smallest scale þat on him [*sc.* a dragon] is No wepen no may atame. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 189 Smale fischis lite With fynnys rede & skalis syluyr bryȝte. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 2478 Upon the dragon he smote so fast, Where euer he hit, the skales brast. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 37, I beheld the pretty fische ..vitht..there skalis lyik the brycht siluyr. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. 313 Those which they call Armadillos are [defended] by the multitude of their scales. 1611 COTGR., *Tablette*,..the scales of a Hawks legs. 1743 H. BAKER *Microsc.* (ed. 2) 172 The Cuticula, Scarf-Skin, or outward Covering, of the Body, is remarkable for its Scales and for its Pores. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 324 Leviathan..Turns to the stroke his adamantine scales. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 389 A vertical flat scale, observable on the footstalk of the genus *Formica*, &c. *Ibid.* 646 The gorgeous wings of these universal favourites [the Lepidoptera]..owe all their beauty..to an infinite number of little plumes or scales. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 186 Batrachians have neither scales nor shell; a naked skin invests their body. 1884 DAY *Commercial Sea Fishes* 9 Scales may take on many characters, as denticles in the sharks, osseous plates in sturgeons.

b. *collect. sing.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 2537 Under the skale al on hyght The dragons hede he smote of ryght. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 184 The leggs..were all of them cover'd with a strong hairy scale or shel. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 304 The anatomies of unknown wingèd things, And fishes which were isles of living scale. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xliv, Its body is covered with scale so hard as to be impenetrable. 1880 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ix. (ed. 5) 306 They all began to change their scales and assume the silvery salmon scale.

†**c.** Used for: Kind or genus *of* fish. *Obs.*

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 72 The Seas (which dyuers skaile Of fish contenis).

†**d.** *transf.* ? Surface, outside. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1005 þe emerade..so grene of scale.

2. One of the small laminæ of epidermis which become detached from the tissue beneath in certain diseases of the skin; † hence, applied with or without qualification to various skin diseases.

(Cf. SCALL, with which it was probably confused in ME.)

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 585/25 *Furfura*, the scales of the hede or berde. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 675/33 *Hec glabra*, a scale. *c* 1450 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. IX. 228 His syght shall neuer fale, And heles of torne-seke, and of scale. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxiv. 34 The ashes of them mixed with vineger helpeth the scales and scurfe of the head. 1609 MARKHAM *Famous Whore* (1868) 30 Of french disease, of Leprous cureless skale. 1685 JAS. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* VI. ix. (ed. 4) 214 The Cuticula [in Scarlet-fever] falling off in Scales or great Fleaks. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosologia* (ed. 3) 319 *Lepidosis.*—Scales. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 27 The spots fall off in branny scales. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 48 Scales are dry, laminated masses of epidermis which have separated from the tissues beneath.

3. A part (e. g. a husk) that may be peeled off or detached in flakes; a comparatively thin plate, lamina, or flake of any kind.

In Surgery, *scale* is used for 'an exfoliated lamina of bone'; in Anatomy for 'a thin scale-like bone'.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 131 An other frute browght from those landes beinge full of scales and with keys much lyke a pine apple. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. viii. 141 The skales of an Onion. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 363 [Hemp stripped] by certaine wooden instruments..that do very easily seuer the stranne from the scale. 1632 SHERWOOD s. v., Little scales of broken bones. 1739 SHARP *Surg.* Introd. 45 Every scale of a carious Bone is flung off by new Flesh generated between it and the sound Bone. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Pirus*, The rigid Scale of the Cone. 1852 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XIV. 277 Iridosmine from the same locality occurs in lead-colored scales. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 707/2 (*Birds*) The main part of the frontal bone, covering the *hemisphere*, is a convex radiating scale. 1901 *Scotsman* 18 Sept. 7/8 The gold..was found in nuggets and scales.

†**b.** A slate. (Cf. SKAILLIE.) *Obs. rare*—°.

c 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 40 *Descailles de tieulles*, With skaylles with tyles.

c. The tartar that collects on the teeth.

1594 [see SCALY *a.* 1]. 1874 SALTER *Dental Pathol. & Surg.* xxiv. 321 It [*sc.* salivary calculus] frequently affects a single tooth..in the form of a fast-growing scale.

d. *Bot.* A flattened, membranous, more or less circular plate of cellular tissue, usually a rudimentary or degenerate leaf, as the covering of leaf-buds of deciduous trees, the bracts of catkins, etc.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 387 *Stipula*, a Scale at the Base of the Footstalk which it supports. 1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 203 Nectaries five: each with an hearted concave scale. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 395 Lime-trees of America; petals provided with a scale, at their basis. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 292 Flowers [of the Grass tribe] consisting of imbricated bracteæ, of which.. the innermost at the base of the ovarium [are called] scales. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* 130 The undeveloped flower-buds

are protected by membranous scales. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 93 The glandular scales of the Hop.

e. A mollusc of the genus *Terebratula* (†*Anomia*). 1784 G. WALKER *Boys' Coll. Shells* 22 *Anomia*, The Scale. *Anomia Squammula*. The scale anomia.

f. The protective covering of insects of the family *Coccidæ*, which remains when they die and protects the eggs and afterwards the young beneath it; hence, = *scale-insect*; also, the diseased condition of plants caused thereby.

1822 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1826) VI. 117 Directions for destroying the Bug and Scale on Pine-apple plants. 1850 *Hooker's Jrnl. Bot.* II. 353 The 'Brown Scale' or Coccus, so injurious to the Coffee-plants in Ceylon. *Ibid.* 356 The number of eggs contained in one of these scales is prodigious. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 117/1 Pines are subject to the attacks of mealy bug and brown and white scale. 1906 MARLATT (*title*) San Jose or Chinese Scale.

4. Taken (after *Acts* ix. 18) as a type of that which causes blindness (physical or moral).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19691 Skales fell fra his [*sc.* Saul's] eien a-wai, And had his sight forth fra þat dai. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* ix. 18 And anon ther felden from his yzen as scalis [Vulg. *tanquam squamæ*; Gr. ὡσεὶ λεπίδες], and he receyuede siȝt. [So in later versions.] 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 17 Hee remoueth the scales from our eyes, the vaile from our hearts. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 971 The skailes of darknesse which our eyes be-night. 1701 STANHOPE *Aug. Medit.* III. xv. 236 Command the Scales of my old Errors to fall off. 1732 W. ELLIS *Pract. Farmer* II. 20, I hope in time the Scales will be taken off the Eyes of the Landlord's Mind. 1896 N. MUNRO *Lost Pibroch*, etc. 83 One may look at a person for years and not see the reality till a scale falls from the eyes.

5. orig. *pl.* but now usually *collect. sing.* The film of oxide which forms on iron or other metal when heated and hammered or rolled.

1526 *Grete Herball* clxx. (1529) K v b, The scales of yren ..is that yᵗ fleeth of the yren whan it is forged. 1611 COTGR., *Escaille d'acier, de bronze, d'erain, de fer*, &c.; the Offalls of Steele, &c.; the skales that fly from them when they are hammered. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 417 The Iron scales of a Smith's forge. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 100 Copper, in the state of scales, is not completely oxidated. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 284 The act of forging produces a strong scale or coating which is spread over the whole of the blade [of the razor]. 1864 PERCY *Metall., Iron & Steel* 21 It is this oxide which is known as iron scale, or hammer slag. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* II. 72 As blow follows blow the red-hot 'scale' driven from the surface of the iron on the anvil by the heavy sledge, flies rattling against the window in a spray of fire.

b. *Salt-making.* An incrustation of dirt or lime on the pan bottoms. **c.** The hard deposit or 'fur' which gathers in boilers and other vessels in which water is habitually heated. (Rarely *pl.*)

1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 269 Some [brown scum] attaches itself to the bottom of the [salt] pans (the scale). 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* [Of steam-boilers]. 1882 *Metal World* No. 18. 280 It is absolutely essential to the successful use of any boiler, except in pure water, that it be accessible for the removal of scale. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 48/1 Boiler 'scales' nearly everywhere are principally composed of sulphate of lime.

6. Thin board. [Cf. MDu. *schale.*] *Obs.* or *dial.*

1683 [see SCABBARD *sb.*³]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 339 Of the thin Lamina or Scale of the Wood..they make Scabbards. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Scales*, the outermost cuts of a piece of timber with the bark on, not thick enough to be called planks. *Devon.*

7. a. Any of the thin pieces of metal composing scale-armour (see 12). Also *collect. sing.* (In poetry used vaguely.) **b.** See quot. 1853.

1809 T. HOPE *Costume Anc.* Plate 18 Dacian warrior.. with a coat of mail, or scales. 1820 SHELLEY *Ode to Naples* 68 Clothed in armour of impenetrable scale! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 39 Sheathing splendours and the golden scale Of harness. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.*, *Scales*, a sort of armour consisting of brass plates, laid like scales one over the other, to defend the glandular parts, and the side-face of a dragoon. These scales are attached to the helmet, and can be buttoned up in front. 1875 J. ANDERSON in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 554/2 Cuirasses of bronze scales.

8. *Cutlery.* **a.** Each of the two plates of bone, horn, ivory, or wood which form the outside of the handle of a knife or razor.

1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 650/1 The handle [*sc.* of a knife], consisting of two side pieces called scales, is rivetted through the tang on each side. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 734/1. 1904 *Army & Navy Stores Circ.* Aug. 71 Toilet Knife. (Best Sheffield make and finish.) Pearl or tortoiseshell scales.

b. Each of the metal sides of the handle of a pocket knife on which such plates are riveted.

1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 650/1. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

9. A plate of metal worn instead of an epaulette by soldiers, sailors, and firemen. [F. *écaille.*]

1846 in E. E. Napier *Exc. Southern Afr.* (1849) I. 287 An old blue frock coat with large scales. 1852-63 BURN *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. 227/1 Shoulder scale or strap. 1894 R. MANSFIELD *Chips* 54 The officers of the line wore blue frock coats with small brass epaulets, called 'scales'. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* IV. vii. 512 In 1846, scales, or epaulettes without bullion, were authorized for captains and commanders...The next year the scales..were abolished.

10. (See quots. 1860, 1880.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss., Cornwall Terms, Scal*, A shale or portion of earth, rock, &c., which separates and falls from the main body. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss., Scal, Scale*, loose ground about a mine. 1884 *Falmouth & Penryn Weekly Times* 19 July 5/2 What is commonly known among miners as a 'jomb' or 'scale' of ground.

11. (See quot. 1885.)

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 242 The several kinds of crude paraffin extracted are classed as 'hard scale' or 'soft scale', according to their fusing points and consequent degrees of hardness [etc.]. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Jan. 7/3 The prices fixed on by the Association for burning oil and scale.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *scale-backed, -bright, -like, -marked* adjs.; *scale-fashion* adv.; (sense 2) *scale-crust*; (sense 2 d) *scale-leaf*; (sense 5) *scale-cleaner, -preventive*; **scale-armour**, armour consisting of small overlapping plates of metal, leather, or horn; **scale-back**, one of the family *Aphroditidæ* of scale-bearing annelids; **scale-bark**, bark which is shed in scale-like pieces, as that of the plane-tree; **scale-beetle**, a tiger-beetle (family *Cicindelidæ*); **scale-blight**, the disease caused by the scale-insect; **scale-blue**, the groundwork of royal blue with a scale-pattern characteristic of some Worcester china; **scale-borer**, 'an implement for removing the scale from boiler-tubes' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **scale-bug** *U.S.* = *scale-insect*; **scale carp**, the common typical carp, *Cyprinus carpio*; **scale-fern** = CETERACH (q.v.), so called from the scales clothing the back of the fronds; **scale-fish**, (*a*) a fish armed with scales; (*b*) see quot. 1857; (*c*) the scabbard-fish (*Cent. Dict.*); **scale-foot**, the scabbard-fish; **scale-hair**, a short flattened hair resembling a scale (cf. *hair-scale*, HAIR *sb.* 9 a); **scale-insect** (see sense 3 f), any of the insects of the genus *Coccus* or family *Coccidæ*, which infest and injure certain plants, having the appearance of scales; **scale-moss**, a plant of the N.O. *Jungermanniaceæ*; †**scale-oyster**, a scallop; **scale-pad**, the part of the tail covered with scales in the *Anomaluridæ* (or scale-tailed squirrels); **scale-pattern**, a pattern having a representation of scales; an imbricated pattern; **scale-quail**, an American quail of the genus *Callipepla*, having scale-like plumage; **scale-roof** = *scaled roof* (see SCALED *ppl. a.*¹ 2 c); **scale-shell**, a name for various molluscs; **scale-shouldered** *a.*, ? wearing a 'scale' (sense 9) on the shoulder; **scale-skin**, a term including several scaly diseases; **scale-stone** *Min.*, (*a*) transl. of G. *schalstein* = tabular spar or wollastonite; (*b*) anglicization of LEPIDOLITE; **scale-tail**, a squirrel of the family *Anomaluridæ*, having scales on the under side of the tail; so **scale-tailed** *a.*; **scale-tang** (see quot.); **scale-wing**, a lepidopter; **scale-winged** *a.*, lepidopterous; **scale-work**, work, ornament, decoration, etc., of an imbricated pattern; **scale-worm** = *scale-back*; **scale-wort**, the plant *Lathræa squamaria*.

1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xvii. § 6 (ed. 3) 526 Both horses and men [of the Sarmatians] were covered with a curious kind of *scale armour formed of the sliced hoofs of animals. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 330 *Scale-backs. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 539 *Scale-Backed Sciæna. 1859 K. CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 20 Scale-backed armadilloes. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 558 [These] throw off the superficial periderm..in the form of *scale-bark. 1855 OGILVIE, Suppl., **Scale-beetles*. 1898 *Daily News* 5 July 6/4 Mr. W. M. Maskell..was considered the chief authority of the day on *scale-blight. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 9/3 A pair of handsome *scale-blue Worcester vases. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* II. 21 Their..*skalebright necks. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 811/2 The orange's worst enemy is a curious insect, the *scale-bug. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 619 The '*Scale Carp'; with regular, concentrically arranged scales, being in fact the original species improved. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 93 Wrought Iron Manufacture:..*Scale Cleaner. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 308 A slight formation of exfoliative *scale-crust. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Escaille*, a plated Corselet made *scale-fashion. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 17 *Asplenum*...It maye be called in englishe Citterach, or *Scaleferne, or Finger-ferne. 1862 D. T. ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 182 The scale-fern is met with, though rarely. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. Table, *Scale fishes have no ears. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 8 This feed will gather the scale Fish together, as Carp, Tench, Roach, Dace and Bream. 1814 *Amer. Newsp.* in Byron *Corsair* III. xxiv *note*, The superior scale and shell fish with which its waters abound. 1857 PERLEY *Hand-Bk. New Brunswick* 24 The pollack, the hake, and the haddock, when dry-cured, are designated by dealers, 'scale-fish'. *Ibid.* 28 The torsk, or cusk, is..dry-cured as a 'scale-fish'. 1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 205 Lepidopus. *Scale-foot...Two pointed scales in place of ventrals. 1898 PACKARD *Text-bk. Entom.* 198 Kellogg has detected these *scale-hairs, as he calls them, in Panorpa. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 572 The young *Scale-insects have the body oval, very flat. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 433 The buds produced on the leaf-stalks develope into long underground stolons furnished with *scale-leaves. 1611 COTGR., *Les Escaillons du palais*, . . the skales, or *skale-like diuisions in the roofe..of the mouth of a horse. 1883 *Science* I. 150/2 The supposed scale-like nature of penguin-feathers. 1892 PATER *Emerald Uthwart* Wks. 1901 VIII. 228 Fritillaries..Snakes' heads, the rude call them, for their shape, *scale-marked too. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 59 These *Scalemosses differ from the Liverworts in the regularly valvate condition of the spore-cases. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 275 *Scaleoisters, moules, welkes, et hanocynes. 1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 17 May 451 Before the spot above the end of the lower *scale-pad is reached the tail is covered with long black hair. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 145/1 Mineral Oils as *Scale-Preventives. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. xliii. 83 The *scale-roof was struck by lightning. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. 16/30 *Auris marina*..*Scale-shell. *Ibid.* 16/31 *Operculum callorum*..Scale-shell. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Scale-shell*, a bivalve mollusk of the family Leptonidæ. 1893 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* iv, Gigantic *scale-shouldered footmen. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 585 Lepidosis. *Scale-skin. 1819 BAKEWELL *Introd. Min.* II. 346 Lepidolite, or *Scale-stone..is composed of scales or minute laminæ. 1841 MAUNDER *Sci. & Lit. Treas., Scale-stone*, or *Schaalstein*. 1888 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* V. 132 The technical characters..of *scale-tails are unmistakably sciurine. *Ibid.* 131 The..*Scale-tailed Squirrels. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal.* II. 14 When the handles [of table knives] consist of sides, nailed upon a flat piece of iron, continued from the blade,..they are called *scale tangs. 1864 *Athenæum* 13 Feb. 228/3 Sixty very common species of *scale-wings. 1857 LARDNER *Anim. Phys.* § 243 Lepidoptera. *Scale-winged. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus* XII. ii. 361 Of the cisterns of gold, there were two; whose sculpture was of *scale-work. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* viii. 69 The ground..sometimes covered with scale work. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 330 *Scale-worms. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 963 *Lathræa squamaria*, *Scale-wort, is parasitical upon the roots of Hazels, Cherry-laureis, and other trees.

Scale (skēl), *sb.*³ Forms: 5–8 **skale**, 6 *Sc.* scaill(e, 5– **scale**. [ad. It. *scala* or its source L. *scāla*:—prehist. **scanslā* (*scand-* + *-tlā*), f. *scandĕre* to climb (see SCAND *v.*). Cf. Pr., Sp., Pg. *escala*, OF. *eschiele* (mod.F. *échelle*).]

I. †1. A ladder; in early use, a scaling-ladder.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 7962 Þay haue..Her wallis maskued, and ageyn oure skalis..made gret ordinaunce. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 566, I sawh..ffolkys, wych dyde entende To helpe her ffrendys to ascende..By scalys throgh the strong closure. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 452 Preparatioun of scailles and ledderis was maid for the assault. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* v. ix, I taught him by a scale of cord to clime. 1611 COTGR., *Eschellette*, a little ladder, or skale. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 33 A Scale or Ladder was made that reached unto the Roof.

† b. In figurative and allusive uses, freq. with reference to Jacob's ladder (*Gen.* xxviii. 12). *Obs.*

14.. LYDG. in *Tundale's Vis.* 123 Sython thou [the B. V. M.] of Jacob art the ryght scale..the laddur of holynes. 1494 *Hylton's Scala Perf.* (W. de W.) Envoy, This boke. ..Scale of perfeccion calde in euery place. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. 24 b, All true and frutefull Natvrall Philosophie, hath A double Scale or Ladder, Ascendent and Descendent. *a* 1626 SIR J. DAVIES *Poems* (1876) II. 211 The Jacob's scales, whereby shee [Faith] clymes the skyes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 354 In th' ascending Scale Of Heav'n the Starrs that usher Evening rose. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 3 The lofty Tube, the scale With which they Heav'n itself assail, Was mounted full against the Moon. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 111 A scale by which the soul ascends From mighty means to more important ends. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 14 They are the scale by which we can best ascend to the true knowledge and love of him.

† 2. A rung or step of a ladder. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scale..of a leddur, *scalare*. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scale of a ladder, *eschellon*. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 453 The steps or scales of wooden ladders. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 69 The Cardinalship being only a scale and step towards Episcopacy. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* i. (1683) 5 Ladders signifie Travels, and the Scales thereof Preferment.

† 3. A flight (of stairs); a staircase. *Obs.*

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 9, I came by a long gallorie to a salying scale or downe going staire. 1658-9 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1888) VI. 16 No mariner..do moor, fesse or tye any ship etc. to the said bridge, the jewells, scales, or any part thereof. 1705 ADDISON *Italy*, *Caprea* 259 Several ancient Scales of Stairs, by which they us'd to ascend 'em [*sc.* mountains].

II. 4. *Mus.* **a.** A definite series of sounds ascending or descending by fixed intervals, *esp.* such a series beginning on a certain note (cf. KEY *sb.*¹ 7 b) selected for the purposes of musical composition. **b.** Any of the graduated series of sounds into which the octave is divided, the sounds varying according to the system of graduation adopted.

For the various scales of ancient and modern music, see CHROMATIC *a.* 5, DIATONIC *a.* 1, 2, ENHARMONIC *a.* 1, 2, HARMONIC *a.* 4, MAJOR *a.* 4 c, MINOR *a.* 6 c, MELODIC *a.*, PYTHAGOREAN *a.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 2 Here is the Scale of Musicke which wee terme the Gam. *Ibid.* 7 *Phi.* Why then was your Scale deuised of xx notes and no more? *Ma.* Because that compasse was the reach of most voyces: so that vnder *Gam vt* the voice seemed as a kinde of humming, and aboue *E la* a kinde of constrained shrieking. 1697 EVELYN *Numismata* viii. 285 Aretine..improved the Scale and set the first Gamut. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, The Scale of Musick among the Greeks, consisted of fifteen Notes, or the Distances of two Octaves. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Ess. Imit. Arts* Poems, etc. 198 In the regular scale each interval assumes a proper character. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 362 The fifth of any Minor key is related to that key, because its scale, in order to be perfect, requires only one change in the octave of that key,—the sharpening of its sixth. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* ii. 24 The musical scale varies in different nations, having in some instances more intervals than ours, in others fewer. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s. v., By starting from any note in the semitonal scale, we can have twelve minor modes. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 80/2 To this scale of four notes, G, A, *b* B, C, were subsequently added a note below and a note above, which made the hexachord.

c. In particularized use (chiefly *pl.*): Any scale taken as a subject of instruction or practice.

1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 267 She taught the very young collegians their 'scales'. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. xiii. 285 She could just scamper through the scales. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. i. 11 We will try a

scale. 1888 *Poor Nellie* II. i. 89, I do wish she would forget to play her scales some morning.

d. The compass or range of a musical instrument.

1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 484 The Violino, bulky in its mechanical construction, and deep in its scale. *Ibid.* 485 The Clarinett..is an instrument of the reed species. Its scale extends from E below the F Cliff note to E in alt.

†**e.** The musical staff. *Obs.*

1598 *Ridlles Heracl. & Democr.* Sol. 21 The scale of musicke is made with lines and spaces. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 83 It is necessary for yong beginners to make a Scale of ten lines. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scale of the Gamut*, or *Musical Scale*, is a kind of Diagram, consisting of certain Lines and Spaces drawn to shew the several Degrees, whereby a Natural or Artificial Voice or Sound may either ascend or descend.

5. A succession or series of steps or degrees; a graduated series, succession, or progression; *esp.* a graduated series of beings extending from the lowest forms of existence to the highest (*scale of being(s, creatures, existence, life, nature*, etc.).

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. 28 b, The speculation..That all things by scale did ascend to vnitie. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 30 How so many learned heads should so farre forget their Metaphysicks, and destroy the Ladder and scale of creatures, as to question the existence of Spirits. 1712 *Spect.* No. 519 ¶ 8 If the Scale of Being rises by such a regular Progress, so high as Man. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 47 Then, in the scale of reas'ning life, 'tis plain, There must be, somewhere, such a rank as Man. *a* 1781 WATSON *Philip III*, VI. (1793) II. 183 A great addition to its power and importance in the scale of nations. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. 214 A scale of degrees from the most perfect opacity..to the most perfect transparency. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. 54 Plants low in the scale of organisation. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. vii, I have made up my mind that I will become respectable in the scale of society. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W., Eternal Life* 211 As we ascend in the scale of Life we rise also in the scale of longevity.

b. A regular series of tones or shades of colour produced by mixing with different proportions of white or black. (Cf. It. *scala di colori.*)

1854 MARTEL tr. *Chevreul's Colours* (facing p. 308), Table of a classification of several varieties of dahlias by scales of colours. 1872 CHURCH *Colour* V. 41 Every colour admits of three scales.

6. *Math.* **a.** A number of terms included between two points in a progression or series.

1695 HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 59 A continued Scale of Proportionals infinite in Number between the two terms of the ratio...If there be supposed between 1 and 10 an infinite Scale of mean Proportionals, whose Number is 100000. 1785 HUTTON *Math. Tables* 22 There may be as many sets or scales of logarithms as we please, since they depend intirely on the arbitrary assumption of the first two arithmeticals. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Scale of a Series*: In algebra, a succession of terms, by the aid of which any term of a recurring series may be found, when a sufficient number of the preceding ones are given.

b. *Arith.* Any of the various conceivable systems of notation which agree in the principle that the value of a figure varies in geometrical progression according to its serial place, but are distinguished according to the number chosen as the 'radix' or constant multiplier.

The 'scales' are usually designated by the adj. derived from the Latin distributive numeral, as *binary, ternary, denary, duodenary scale*, though *decimal* and *duodecimal scale* are sometimes substituted. In quot. 1797 *scale* seems to be loosely used for *radix*.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 290 If eight were the scale, 6 times 3 would be two classes and two units, and the number 18 would be represented by 22. 1861 T. LUND *Wood's Elem. Alg.* § 367 When the radix is 2, the scale is called Binary; when 3, Ternary; when 10, Denary or Decimal. 1871 C. DAVIES *Metric Syst.* I. 18 The scale of tens was adopted. 1875 [see DENARY].

7. A graduated table (of prices, charges, etc.).

1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 360 A scale of their value for every month has been settled according to what they sold for at market. 1865 *Shareholders' Guardian* 8 Nov. 845/1 Reduction in Scale of Charges for Advertisements. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 544/1 The solicitor's own remuneration is in the main based upon a scale of allowances fixed in the year 1807.

8. A metrical scheme. *rare.*

1835 ANTHON *Horatii Poëmata* p. xxiii, The scale of the mixed Iambic Trimeter is..as follows.

III. 9. A set or series of graduations (marked along a straight line or a curve) used for measuring distances, registering the height of a liquid, mercury, etc., or determining amounts or quantities by inspection; a graduated line, arc, etc.; *spec.* the equally divided line on a map, chart, or plan which indicates its scale (sense 11), and is used for finding the distance between two points.

In quot. 1606 *pl.*, graduations.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 12 Next the forseide cercle of the A. b. c., vnder the cros-lyne, is Marked the skale, in Maner of 2 Squyres or elles in Manere of laddres. 1527 R. THORNE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 253 Set the one foot of the compasse in the said transuersall line at the end of the nether scale, the scale of longitude, and the other foot sheweth the degree of longitude that the region is in. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 21 They take the flow o' th' Nyle By certaine scales i' th' Pyramid. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. iv. 65 The Distance of any two places set downe in the Chart, being taken and applyed to the scale, will shew how many miles it containes. 1652 (*title*) Posthuma [S.] Fosteri: the Description of a Ruler, Upon which is inscribed divers Scales and the Vses thereof. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 85 A small double Line divided..which is called the Scale of the Plan, and is always at the Bottom of the Paper. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Decimal Scales*,..to expedite Decimal Arithmetic, by Shewing by Inspection the Decimal Fraction of any Part of Money, Weight, or Measure. 1735 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 681 Fahrenheit begins his Scale from 0. the Point to which the Mercury hath been observed to fall by the greatest Cold in Ysland. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 85 § 3 A scale of feet denoting her draught of water shall be marked on each side of her stem. 1889 WELCH *Text-bk. Naval Archit.* 12 Scale of tons per inch. Scale of mean drafts.

†**b.** *Scale of logarithms, of numbers* (see quots.).

1630 WINGATE *Arith.* II. iv. 291 The Line of Proportion consists of two scales, viz. the scale of Logarithmes, and the Scale of Numbers. *Ibid.*, The Scale of Logarithmes is, a scale of equall parts described vnder the common line, and abutting vpwards vpon the same line. *Ibid.* v. 299 The Scale of Numbers is a scale of Proportionall parts described aboue the common line, and abutting downwards vpon the same line. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Proportional Scales*, sometimes also called Logarithmetical; are only the Artificial Numbers or Logarithms placed on Lines, for the ease and advantage of Multiplying, Dividing, Extracting Roots, &c. by the means of Compasses, or by Sliding-Rules.

c. *Diminishing scale*: see quot. 1842.

1753 F. PRICE *Brit. Carpenter* (ed. 3) 46 Make a diminishing scale, by setting that distance up, from 1 to 1. 1842 GWILT *Archit. Gloss., Diminishing Scale*, a scale of gradation used in finding the different points for drawing the spiral curve of the Ionic volute.

10. An instrument consisting of a strip or blade of wood, ivory, metal, or cardboard having graduated and numbered spaces upon it, used for measuring or laying down distances.

Diagonal, Gunter's, Marquois scale: see the qualifying words. *Plane* (†*plain*) *scale*: see PLANE *a.* 3.

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 125 By the plot which he so maketh, a stranger by scale and compasse may truly find the quantities of the particulars. 1660 J. MOORE *Arith.* I. Introd. 15 Those who use a decimall foot, yard or scale. 1701 [see REDUCING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1758 WATSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 5), *A Scale*, a Rule used by Engineers to draw Fortifications on Paper, and another sort used by Gunners to take the Dimensions of their Guns. 1779 RAMSDEN *Descr. Engine for dividing Strait Lines* 3 Its uses for dividing all sorts of navigation scales, sectors, &c. must be obvious. 1840 BRUFF *Engin. Field-work* (ed. 2) 142 Press the rule gently, and move the slider on the scale. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* Introd. 5 The best scales are made of ivory, and are twelve inches long.

b. *Scale of equal parts* = plane scale (PLANE *a.*3).

1630 [see 9 b]. 1777 WADDINGTON *Epit. Navig., Elem. Geom.* 85 To make a Mercator's Chart by Meridional Parts, to be set off from a Scale of Equal Parts. 1809 TROUGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. I. 109 A finely divided scale of equal parts.

11. The proportion which the representation of an object bears to the object itself; a system of representing or reproducing objects in a smaller or larger size proportionately in every part. *To scale*: with exactly proportional representation of each part of the model.

1662 J. GRAUNT *Bills of Mortality* xi. 61 The Map of London set out in the year 1658 by Richard Newcourt, drawn by a scale of Yards. 1681 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 130 To draw them *in piccolo*, using a small scale. 1682 GREW *Anat. Pl.* 2 As for their Figures, it were much to be wished, That they were all drawn by one Scale; or, at most, by Two; one, for Trees and Shrubs; and another for Herbs. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 97, I made some progress in laying down to a scale, the measures taken upon paper. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 270 The model of the best and cheapest cottage, on a scale of one inch to a foot. 1889 WELCH *Text-bk. Naval Archit.* I. 18 Construct to scale the curve of tons per inch immersion. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 26/2 Single page plans of small districts on a fair scale.

in phr. used attrib. 1887 J. T. WALKER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 709/2 For large scale work in plains. *Ibid.*, The smaller scale hill topography.

†**b.** A unit of dimension in a representation of an object, bearing the same proportion to the unit of dimension in the object itself, as the size of the object shown on the plan bears to the actual size of the object which it represents. *Obs. rare.*

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 130 If you make every half quarter of an Inch to be a Scale for two Inches..: And if you make every half quarter of an Inch to be a Scale for four Inches.

12. Relative or proportionate size or extent; degree, proportion.

1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ep. Ded., With what ease I could haue varied it, nearer his scale (but that I feare to boast my owne faculty) I could here insert. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 6 Castaños told me that he did not think the scale of command sufficient for him who had commanded in Catalonia. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vi. 207 That practice,..both in scale and area, began to diminish. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) II. x. 515 Its scale no doubt far surpassed that of any church then standing in England. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 259 He..adhered to the scale of non-expenditure which he found at Rainbar.

13. *fig.* A standard of measurement, calculation, or estimation.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 835 Definite Axiomes are to be drawn out of Measured Instances: And so Assent to be made to the more Generall Axiomes, by Scale. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 157 The Degrees of Crime are taken on divers Scales. 1692 RAY *Disc.* ii. (1732) 91 Taking my Measures..by the Scale of the Eye. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 292 Ev'n mean Self-love becomes, by force divine, The scale to measure others' wants by thine. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 192/1 A scale according to which the natural fertility of different soils can be classed.

b. Phr. *On* or *upon a* (*large, small, liberal*, etc.) *scale.*

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 703 Were education..Conducted on a manageable scale. 1793 BURKE *Let. to Sir G. Elliot* in *Corr.* (1844) IV. 151 On a far larger scale..than civil wars have generally extended themselves to. 1808 SCOTT *Autobiogr.* in *Lockhart* I. i. 49, I have all my life delighted in travelling, though I have never enjoyed that pleasure upon a large scale. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. ii. I. 35 His ordinary domestic expenditure..was certainly on no stinted scale. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xiii. 739 It must be allowed that in his intellect, everything was on a great scale.

14. a. *Sculpture.* = *scale-stone* (see 16). **b.** *Painting.* 'A figure subdivided by lines like a ladder, which is used to measure proportions between pictures and the things represented' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*).

1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 788/2 A wooden perpendicular rule the height of the work, which is movable from the strip of marble or scale under the model to that under the block of marble which is to be cut.

15. The ratio of the width of an organ-pipe to its length.

1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 78 A pipe of a large 'scale', by which organ builders mean a wide pipe, gives a much louder tone than a narrower one of the same length. 1884 BOSANQUET in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 830/2 The scales ..and voicing of the open diapason vary with fashion.

IV. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 9) *scale-pipette, -reading*; (sense 4) *scale degree, passage, singing*; (sense 11) *scale drawing, plan*; (sense 7) *scale charge*; **scale-micrometer** (see quot.); **scale-paper**, paper having printed upon it divisions in eighths, tenths, &c. of an inch for drawing in proportion (*Dict. Archit. Publ. Soc.* 1881); **scale-stairs** *Sc.*, 'straight flights of steps, as opposed to a stair of spiral form' (Jam.); so **scale-staircase**; **scale-stone, -stool** (see quot. 1859).

1890 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 6/4 Each tenant has been blackmailed of eight guineas for a simple licence, in addition to the *scale charges for the conveyance of the house. 1889 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Degree*, To distinguish between degrees of the staff and degrees of the scale, the terms *staff-degree* and **scale-degree* are sometimes used. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Mech. Philos.* 260 In addition to the *scale-drawings of the whole, it is the practice of the best engineers to execute full-sized drawings of details. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 153 A complete set of scale drawings, in which every detail is set out. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Scale-micrometer*, a graduated scale in the field of a telescope for measuring distances between objects. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 16 Nov. 5/2 Her..facile execution of the *scale passages. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Scale-pipette*, a tubular pipette having a graduated scale on the side. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Aug. 3/1 All the old *scale plans and technical drawings. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 338 The *scale-reading at certain definite times. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/2 Imperfect *scale singing. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* iii. (1754) I. 63 [In Inverness] a round Stair Case, [is called] a Turnpike; and a Square one goes by the Name of a *Skale Stair. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, Access was given to them [*sc.* apartments] by a large *scale staircase, as they were then called. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 142/1 The whole instrument is then removed to the *scale-stone on which the rough block is placed. 1859 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XIX. 868/2 If the model is to be copied in marble or stone, the first step is to procure a block of the required size. Two stones, called *scale-stones, are then prepared, upon one of which the model or plaster cast is placed, and upon the other the rough block of marble. The fronts of these stones have figured marks or 'scales' exactly corresponding. 1893 SYMONDS *Michel Angelo* I. 104 The ingenious process of 'pointing the marble' by means of the 'pointing machine' and 'scale-stones'. 1874 'N. D'ANVERS' *Elem. Hist. Art, Sculpture* (1889) 176 The cast and the marble are placed on two blocks, called *scale-stools, exactly alike.

Scale (skēl), *sb.*4 *dial.* Also 8 skell, 9 skeal(l. [a. ON. *skáli* wk. masc.:—OTeut. type **skēlon-*, f. **skēl-* (:**skal-*, **skel-*) to separate: see SCALE *sb.*1, SHALE *sb.* Cf. SHEAL, SHIELING.] A hut, shed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8592 For þai had husing nan to wale, þai lended in a littel scale. 1787 J. CLARKE *Surv. Lakes* Introd. 30 The booths likewise, constructed for the watchers of cattle in summer,..were Skells or Scales. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Skeall*, a scale; a shed or building on the fell. 1895 *Lakel. & Iecel. Gloss.* s.v., Used of wooden huts put up as a temporary protection for turf, which are called 'peat scales'.

†**Scale**, *sb.*5 *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *scala*, whence OF. *eschiel(l)e, eskiele* (see ESCHELE).] A maniple, squadron, or battalion.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXX. 135 Withouten þe principall oste..and also withouten certayne scales [orig. Fr. *escheles*] þat er ordaynd for forraying. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 166 These bodies..are of many called maniples, or scales.

Scale (skēl), *sb.*6 [f. SCALE *v.*3]

†**1.** = ESCALADE. *Obs.*

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1190/1 Diuerse bands..entring the ditches offered the scale. 1589 IVE *Pract. Fortif.* 3 The fort..will be free from surprise, scale, and myning. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* X. (1821) 121 Surprised by Scale, a Castle in the heart of the Countrie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 652 Others to a Citie strong Lay Siege, encampt; by Batterie, Scale, and Mine, Assaulting.

2. The estimation of an amount of timber standing or in logs; the amount of the estimate.

1877 *Mich. Reports* XXXIV. 376 To conclude the parties in that respect by his scale. *Ibid.* XXXV. 521 The scale bill showed four hundred and ninety three thousand five hundred and seventeen feet of white pine. 1880 *Northwest. Lumberman* 24 Jan., For punky knots the general rule is

to allow the whole scale of the log for defects. *Ibid.*, A buyer should be allowed..one-half the scale of the punky log.

† **Scale,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. OF. *scal(l)e, escal(l)e* (mod.F. *escale*, esp. in phr. *faire escale* to go ashore) or its source It. *scala* = Sp., Pg. *escala* seaport, harbour :—L. *scāla* ladder (see SCALE *sb.*[3]).] **a.** A landing-place; *occas.* a custom-house. *rare.*

1682 WHELER *Journ. to Greece* III. 246 On the other side ..is the Scale, or Custom-house for the Grand Signiors own Subjects. 1683 in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 49 Montanea ..is the Scale or Landing-place for Prusa. 1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 639 At the extremity of the inner bay there is a sort of scale or landing-place.

b. A seaport town; a trading port; a centre of trade or traffic; an emporium.

1613 SIR A. SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 9 The Turke hauing giuen certaine scales to trade in. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 42 The 24. the English Viceconsull att Scanderone came to me with a letter from the Aga there desiring me to be gone, for that I disturbed the Gran Signiors scale there. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 38 A Maritim Town,..her chiefest Arsenal for Gallies, and the Scale by which she conveys her Moneys to Italy. 1682 WHELER *Journ. to Greece* I. 16 It [Spalato] being the chief Scale of Trade for Shipping of Goods from Turky to Venice.

attrib. 1674 EVELYN *Navig. & Comm.* Misc. Writ. (1825) 648 Tripoly, and Alexandretta.., and..Aleppo..to which scale merchants came..from all the oriental countries.

Scale (skēl), *v.*[1] Also 7 skale. [f. SCALE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To weigh in scales, find the weight of.

1691 *Virginia Stat. at Large* (1823) III. 76 That the court..appoint..fitt..persons..to..scale such leather as they shall find sufficiently curryed. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692/1 The cheeses go..to the..weigh-house to be scaled.

b. *Baking.* To weigh out (dough) in proper quantities for making up into loaves. Usually with *off*.

1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 40 The dough is pitched out of the trough on to the lid of the opposite trough, when it is cut into masses and weighed—technically *scaled off*. 1875 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 253/2 It [*sc.* dough] is then 'scaled off', *i.e.*, weighed on scales in pieces of 4lb. 4 oz., if 4 lb loaves are to be made. 1890 *Sci. Amer.* I Mar. 140/3 It [*sc.* the sponge] is..'scaled' into loaves, and baked.

† **2.** *fig.* **a.** To weigh as in scales; hence, to compare, estimate. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 266 By this is your brother saued, your honor vntainted, the poore Mariana aduantaged, and the corrupt Deputy scaled. 1607 — *Cor.* II. iii. 257 Skaling his present bearing with his past.

† **b.** With *up*: To compensate, balance. *Obs.*

1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) I, I put Charge and Care in one Scale, and Resolution in the other, which scaled them both up.

3. To weigh, have a weight of (so much).

1862 H. H. DIXON ('The Druid') *Scott & Sebright* 13 Eleven [stone] was his regular racing weight, and he scaled ten and a half at a pinch. 1867 LOWELL *Study Wind., Gt. Public Char.* (1871) 68, I scale one hundred and eighty pounds, but when I'm mad I weigh two ton. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Maiwa's Rev.* iv, The single tusk of the big bull [elephant] scaled one hundred and sixty pounds.

absol. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *O. V. H.* xxix, At a weight to which Ralph could not scale. 1886 *Times* (weekly ed.) 6 Aug. 13/4 The deer.. are sure to scale heavily when the stalking is in full swing.

b. *Racing.* To be weighed. *To scale in*: to be weighed after the race, to 'weigh in'.

1859 H. H. DIXON ('The Druid') *Silk & Scarlet* 127 No welcome (1) was printed after his name till he scaled-in for Wanton. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *O. V. H.* xviii, The open steeplechase, for which the jockeys had long ago scaled.

Scale (skēl), *v.*[2] Also 6 scaale, 7 skale. [f. SCALE *sb.*[2] Cf. F. *écailler*.]

1. *trans.* To remove the scales from (fish, etc.).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scalyn fysche, *exquamo*. 1530 PALSGR. 699/1 You are a cooke for the nones, wyll you sethe these roches or you have scaled them? 1598 *Epulario* F iv, The fish which you wil rost would not be scaled. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 98 A kind of glew made of Perches skin well scaled. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 117 Scale, and clean your Salmon down the Back. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 163 Three herrings,..after being scaled and gutted.

b. In various technical uses:

(*a*) To remove the scale or film of oxide from the surface of (metal), esp. as a preparatory process for tinning. Also *absol.* (*b*) To clean the bore of (a gun or cannon) by firing off a charge of powder. (*c*) To remove tartar from (the teeth).

1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 71 A red Heat, and sudden cooling it again, will Scale the Copper. 1728 RUTTY *Tin-Plates* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 633 If you scale with Vinegar,..you need only plunge the Leaves once or twice at farthest. 1784 J. KING *Voy. Pacific* V. x. 447 We unmoored, and scaled the guns. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 2 We..discharged our guns at a target, and scaled out our blunderbusses. 1823 BYRON *Island* II. xxi, We have got some guns to bear, And scaled them. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1252 They [*sc.* iron plates] are..once more exposed to ignition in a furnace, whereby they are scaled, that is to say, cast their scales. 1840 DE LOUDE *Dentistry* 97 The principal parts of operative dentistry..consist of scaling the teeth, lancing and scarifying the gums [&c.].

2. To remove as scale; to take *off* or *away* in scales. Also, to separate *into* layers. *To be scaled*: to have the surface removed in scales or flakes.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) I. 96 They be sore woren and scalid with wether. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1187 This aire..forceth out of it a deale of rust, and skaleth as it were much terrestrial substance from it. 1611 COTGR., *Rugine*, the Instrument wherewith a Surgeon scaleth bones. 1611 BIBLE *Tobit* iii. 17 To scale away the whitenesse of Tobits eyes. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Narr. Fire in London* 75 The Stones of the outside so scaled, as if the Fire was greedy to eat out all firmness in them. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. viii. 146 It may be scaled into four plates. 1754 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* (ed. 2) XXXV. 293 Taking care that it does not penetrate too deep, so as to scale off the thin bone. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 6 If the external coat be scaled off. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 161/1 The stones being..scaled by frost.

† **b.** ? To split off scales or flakes from (coin) for the purpose of fraud. *Obs.*

1576 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 1. § 1 Yf any person..deminishe falsefy skale or lighten the proper Moneys or Coignes of this Realme.

3. *intr.* To come *off* (or *away*) in scales, flakes, or thin pieces; to flake or peel *off*. Also, of skin eruptions: To shed scales.

1529 [see SCALD *a.*[1] 1]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 407 Annoint him..vntil the fiered place beginne to scale. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 179 It [*sc.* a scaldhead] will scale off. 1743 POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 8 The pillar is well preserved, except that it has scaled away a very little to the south. 1752 HOLLIS in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 392 It is hoped the Voyage and Climate has not made it scale or fade. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 220 Small angular fragments of limestone, which scale off under the influence of frost and rain. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Lect. Clin. Med.* XXX. 385 Crops of pimples which scale away. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* I. i, It ain't a-going to crack nor fade any; and it ain't a-going to scale.

4. *trans.* Of disease: To cover with scales. *rare.*

1889 TENNYSON *Happy* vii, The leper plague may scale my skin but never taint my heart.

Scale (skēl), *v.*[3] Forms: 5 skayle, 5–7 skale, 6 scaile, skaille, 7 skaile, skall, scall, 5– scale. [f. SCALE *sb.*[3] Cf. OF. *escaller* (15th c.); also It. *scalare*, Sp., Pg. *escalar*.]

I. 1. a. *trans.* To attack with scaling ladders; to take by escalade.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3034 The kynge..Skyftis his skotiferis, and skayles the wallis. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 6420 To skale be wal after pei be-gonne. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 16 To aproche the towne for to scale yt. 1587 GREENE *Euphues his Censure* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 220 Had not the citizens made as violent an intermedley,..the city had bene scaled and sacked. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 24 Great multitudes of the assaylants..attempting to scale the fort. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. ii. 40 He leap'd the trenches, scal'd a Castle-wall. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXVIII. V. 35 The assailants offered large rewards to the first who should scale the walls.

b. To climb, get over (a wall or the like); to ascend (a mountain); to get to or reach the top of.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 31 How often have I scaled the craggie Oke, All to dislodge the Raven of her nest? 1605 *London Prodigal* III. iii. 255 That to him is as impossible As 'twere with me to scale the pyramids. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xvi. 94 To find the Height of an House, ..and the length of the Ladder which will Scale it. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* III. vii. (1705) 130 I'll scale the Window and come in by force. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lvii. 256 She proposed that instant to scale the garden wall. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 50 It has long been the ambition of climbers to scale this peak. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* i. 8 Scaling the mighty barrier of the Alps, they descended upon the fertile vales of Southern Europe.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* or in fig. context.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 172 When Cupide scaled first the fort, Wherin my hart lay wounded sore. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xix, When sickenes seekes his castell health to skale. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Wom. Pleased* I. i, Is your old Mistris growne so coy and cruell, She must be scal'd? 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 245, I shall scale the summit of human nature. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 245 She that out of Lethe scales with man The shining steps of Nature. 1908 *19th Cent.* Oct. 621 He has proved the value of attempting, at least, to scale the loftiest heights.

d. Of waves beating upon a ship or a cliff.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 109 Your brymme blastis awake the wilde wawlis, and scalen sely Peter ship. 1823 BYRON *Island* III. i, When scaling his enormous crag the wave Is hurl'd down headlong.

2. To 'mount' (the skies); to ascend or climb up into (heaven). Often *allusive*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 6 þus men moten nedis scale [*v. r.* stize] heven. 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnets* xiii. 3 Bright Apollo..Quhais glorious glance sit stoutly skaillis the skyis. 1614 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IV. 57 Ile vtter truth in all; When heauens supremest height, the Sunne doth skall. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 6 He piles palaces on bridges, and temples on palaces, and scales Heaven with mountains of edifices. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 221 God never meant that man should scale the heav'ns By strides of human wisdom. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 278 [A swan] rose as he approached, and with strong wings Scaling the upward sky [etc.]. 1877 H. M. FIELD *Lakes of Killarney* 198 This is the highest pass in Europe..and on this day it seemed as if we were scaling heaven itself.

3. *intr.* To climb (*over*), ascend, mount.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. (1557) C j, The Grekes..rered vp ladders against the walles, Under the windowes scaling by their steppes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 265 b, He ..was avaunc ing his ladders to scale. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 440 Her bare breast,..Whose ranks of blue veins, as his hand did scale, Left their round turrets destitute and pale. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 170 He..was honored with a murall crown of gold for skaling over the wall in an assault. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 224 Our men alighted and with their pistolls scalld and gott in. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 171 Having scaled as far as the dining-room. 1843 TENNYSON *Two Voices* lix, That men with knowledge merely play'd, I told thee—hardly nigher made, Tho' scaling slow from grade to grade.

b. Of steps, etc.: To ascend, mount.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 541 The lower stair That scal'd by steps of Gold to Heav'n Gate. 1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 88 Flights of blinding brilliancy of stairs..that.. Scaled to the City of the Saints of God. 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 9 Far up the vault a dazzling pavement,..Scaled to the zenith.

c. Of the voice or a musical instrument: To rise high.

1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1013 Call and I follow, I follow! let me die. High with the last line scaled her voice. 1901 G. L. DICKINSON *Meaning of Good* 227 The rhythm grew more and more rapid, the instruments scaled higher and higher.

II. To measure or regulate by a scale.

4. *trans.* To fix the exact amount of. *U.S.*

1798 *Washington's Rep.* I. 130 Two accounts, in one of which he scales the credits, and in the other fixes them at their nominal amount.

b. With *down*: To reduce in amount according to a fixed scale or standard. ? orig. *U.S.*

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Oct. 6/1 There are several ways..in which boy and girl labour is utilized [in New York] to the disadvantage of adult labour, with the consequence of scaling down the adult's income. 1888 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Oct. 340 At this rate it will require seventeen and one-half years, provided there be no failure of the bills during that period, and that the item be not scaled down.

5. *Lumber-trade.* **a.** To measure (logs), or estimate the amount of (standing timber).

1867 LOWELL *Fitz Adam's Story* 526, I expect I can Scale a fair load of wood with e'er a man. 1873 *Wisconsin Rep.* XXXI, As soon as said logs shall be all rafted they shall be scaled. 1877 *Michigan Rep.* XXXV. 412 The logs were to be scaled by a scaler named.

b. Of timber: To produce or furnish (so much).

1853 LOWELL *Moosehead Jrnl.* Pr. Wks. 1890 I. 32 Their eye, accustomed to reckoning the number of feet a tree will *scale*. 1884 C. S. SARGENT *Rep. For. N. Amer.* 555 Trees which would scale from 1,000 to 3,500 feet of lumber each.

6. a. To estimate the proportions of.

1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* vi. 144 In the absence of any near object by which to scale them. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* June 865/2 The inability of the Australian labouring man to scale things correctly.

b. To provide a standard of proportion for.

1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 29 Pews.. architects say, scale a building; that is, they give the eye a constant standard for judging of its size.

Sca·le-board [1]. [f. SCALE *sb.*[2] + BOARD *sb.*[2] Cf. SCABBARD *sb.*[3]] Thin board used for hat-boxes, silk hats, veneer, etc., and by printers for justifying.

1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 18 § 62 To export such Paper Pasteboard Mildboard or Scaleboard. 1821 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (ed. 2) 202 Scaleboards, from Germany, are packed in Bundles, weighing 50 at each Draught. 1823 CRABBE *Technol. Dict.* s.v. *Printing*, To the furniture belong also scale-boards. 1855 OGILVIE Suppl., *Scale-board*, in *printing*,..commonly pronounced scab'-board. 1874 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* VIII. 3091 In sawing veneers or scale-boards.

attrib. 1846 [see SCABBARD *sb.*[3] b]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scaleboard-plane*, one for planing off wide chips, for fruit, hat, and bonnet boxes and other objects. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 81 Scaleboard Box Maker.

Sca·le-board [2]. [f. SCALE *sb.*[1] + BOARD *sb.*[2]] A board used as one of the pans of a pair of scales.

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict., Beam-Scale*, a simple lever, the arms of which are equal. At the end of each arm a scale board is suspended by chains.

Sca·le-board [3]. [First element uncertain.] (See quot.)

1891 *Min. Evid. Labour Comm.* Group B. (1892) I. 54/2 Copper ore..is brought up on scale-boards or shoots. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Scaleboard*, a kind of large shovel, made of planks, which serves as a shoot and guide, down which goods are slid from ship to quay.

Scale celi, obs. form of SCALA CÆLI.

Scaled (skēld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCALE *sb.*[2] + -ED [2].]

1. Having or furnished with scales, as a fish or a serpent; scaly. Now rare exc. as second element of comb., as *silver-scaled*, and *Her.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3865 Scalid neddirs. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 614 Formyd lyke a dragon, scalyd harde as glas. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* I. 235 The creatures chelled, named *Conchilia*, and also of those that are scaled (called *insecta*). 1589 ELDRED in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 232 Euphrates..hath diuers sorts of fish in it, but all are scaled. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 95 A Cesterne for scal'd Snakes. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 155 The scal'd Crocodile, out-weep Thee can. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 455/1 An Indian scaled Hedghog. 1868 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* vi. 91 Fish are described as being *Scaled* and *Finned* of whatever Tincture they may happen to be.

2. a. Of armour. Cf. *scale-armour*; SCALY *a.* 5.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 160 A brestplate emboussed, of skaled woorke. 1657 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1893) 20 Their Scaled and nailed Corslets. 1825 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antiq.* II. 782 Scaled Armour also occurs. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 368/2 Whether this was the scaled-armour,..or that made of flat-rings..is not quite clear.

b. = IMBRICATED 2, 3.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 392 *Imbricata*, scaled. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 238 *Callipepla* [*squamata*]...Scaled Partridge. Blue Quail. 1884 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 570 *Scardafella inca*...Inca Dove. Scaled Dove. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 533 The tear-bottle of scaled and iridescent glass. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 97 The..date-palms, with their scaled trunks.

c. Covered with tiles in imitation of scales.

1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. xliii. 80 The church boasts the loftiest scaled spire in Sweden. 1896 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* I. 231 The earlier house and its little gables and grey scaled roofs.

Scaled (skēld), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SCALE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] From which scales have fallen or have been removed.

1599 H. C. in *Greenham's Wks.* (1601) Epigr. Rdr., From whose hie top thy scaled eyes may see, A glorious light that

shall enlighten thee. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVI. xiv. II. 265 The spills of broken and skaled bones. 1728 RUTTY *Tin-Plates* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 636 To prevent this,..they might first make an Essay with small Pieces of the scaled Plates. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 503 A touch divine—And the scaled eyeball owns the mystic rod. 1873 J. & C. S. TOMES *Dental Surg.* (ed. 2) 560 In order to secure the smoothness of the scaled surface, they should be polished with pumice-powder on a piece of wood.

Scaled (skēld), *ppl. a.*[3] [f. SCALE *sb.*[3] + -ED 2.] Provided or furnished with a graduated scale.

1900 *Daily News* 24 Aug. 5/1 Equipping the marksmen of every battalion with detachable scaled sights.

Scaled, *ppl. a.*[4] [f. SCALE *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] That has been taken by escalade.

1614 BRATHWAITE *Threnode* in *Poets Willow* 75 See how the Iuy twines Vpon the ruines of a skaled wall.

Sca·le-dish. *north. dial.* [? f. SCALE *sb.*[1]]

1. A shallow dish, esp. used for skimming milk.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 18 Then putte it to the ale and make thereof two great possattes in two scale-dishes. 1787 J. CLARKE *Surv. Lakes* Introd. 30 Every kind of dish likewise which is thin at the margin is a Scale-dish. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Scale-dish*, a thin dish used in the dairy for skimming milk.

2. (See quot.)

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Scale-dish*, an implement made of tin with a short wooden handle for filling a scale with flour, &c.

†**Sca·ledness.** *Obs.* [f. SCALED *ppl. a.*[1]] Scaly condition. (Cf. SCALLEDNESS.)

1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scalydnesse, *escalerie.*

Scaledrake (skēl·ldrēik). Also 6–7 **skaildraik, -drake,** 9 **skale, skel-, skieldrake.** [The first element is of obscure origin: see SHELDRAKE. Cf. dial. *scale-, skell-duck*, and *skeel-, skeeling-goose.*] = SHELDRAKE.

1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 236/2 Ony..skeldraikis herroun butter, or ony sic kynd of foullis. 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. ii. B 4, Who is she that looks like a mouted Scaledrake? 1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., Shieldrake ..Scaledrake. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 153 Common Sheldrake (*Tadorna cornuta*)...Skeldrake or Scale drake (Orkney Isles). *Ibid.* 188 Oyster catcher (*Hæmatopus ostrilegus*)...Skeldrake or Skieldrake (Orkney Isles).

Scaleful (skēl·lful). [f. SCALE *sb.*[1] + -FUL[1].] As much as a scale will hold.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 888 The weight of the number of scalefuls required to fill each pack.

Scaleless (skēl·llés), *a.* Also 7 **skalesse.** [f. SCALE *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Having no scales: chiefly of fish and reptiles.

1611 COTGR., *Amie*, a certaine skalesse fish. *Ibid.*, *Gracieux seigneur*, a skalelesse fish, of a long forme. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 370 Scaleless Chætodon. *Chætodon Alepidotus.* 1882 HUXLEY in *Nature* 9 Mar. 437/1 The scaleless parts of the body..of the fish. 1884 P. ROBINSON *Fishes of Fancy* in *Fish. Exhib. Lit.* III. 37 Egypt, where the scaleless fish were taboo in consequence of their..unwholesomeness.

Scalelet (skēl·llèt). *Bot.* [f. SCALE *sb.*[2] + -LET.] A small scale.

1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 102 Asperugo...Cor[olla] one-petal'd...Throat closed: with Scalelets five.

Scalene (skālī·n), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *scalēnus*: see SCALENUS. Cf. F. *scalène.*]

A. *adj.*

1. *Geom.* a. Of a triangle: Having three unequal sides.

1734 *Builder's Dict.* s. v., A scalene Triangle, scalenum Triangle. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* xv. 377 The Genus, Triangle, being divided into equilateral, equicrural, and scalene. 1801 BOURNON in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 183 The crystal is often seen placed upon one of its scalene triangular sides. 1833 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Tales* ii, With one round and two scalene triangular beds, containing..an unlimited number of marigolds. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* v. 87 The sail itself..formed a scalene triangle.

b. *Scalene cone, cylinder*: one of which the axis is not perpendicular to the base.

1684 WALLIS *Angular Sections* i. 73 The Scalene Cone and Cylinder. 1807 T. YOUNG *Nat. Phil.* II. 21 The subcontrary section of a scalene cone is a circle.

c. *Scalene cell*: see quot.

1875 CAYLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Pure & Appl. Math.* XIII. 321 The scalene cell is..a system of 3 pairs of equal rods *PA, QA*; *PB, QB*; *PC, QC* jointed together at and capable of rotating about the points *P, Q, A, B, C*; the three lengths *PA, PB, PC*..being all of them unequal.

2. *Anat. Scalene muscle* = SCALENUS.

Scalene tubercle, an elevation on the upper edge of the first rib, from which the scalenus anticus muscle originates.

1827 ABERNETHY *Surg. Wks.* I. 133 The outer margin of the scalene muscles.

B. *sb.* 1. A scalene triangle. *rare.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. II. lvii, But if 't consist of points: then a Scalene I'll prove all one with an Isosceles.

2. *Anat.* = SCALENUS. 1891 *Century Dict.*

†**Scale·nity.** *Obs.* [f. SCALENE + -ITY.] The quality of being scalene.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. Dissert. p. li, Do you by this means destroy the equality of its angles to two right ones? Certainly not;—take away its scalenity, yet this general affection remains.

Scalenohedron (skālī·nō,hī·drŏn). *Cryst.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σκαληνός SCALENE + ἕδρα seat, base.] A hemihedral form of the rhombohedral system in which the faces are similar scalene triangles.

1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 199 Hemihedral Forms. 1. Rhombohedron. 2. Scalenohedron. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 48 A figure bounded by eight scalene triangles, which has been termed an octahedral scalenohedron.

So **Scalenohedral** (-hī·drăl) *a.*, pertaining to, or having the form of, a scalenohedron.

1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXIX. 375 Scalenohedral, surrounded by..rhombohedral, depressions.

Scalenoidal (skæ:lɪnoi·dăl), *a. Cryst.* [f. SCALENE + -OIDAL.] Having scalene faces.

1883 HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 354/2 Producing..in the dimetric system 'pyramidal' and 'scalenoidal' forms.

‖ **Scale·non.** *Geom. Obs.* [a. Gr. σκαληνόν (sc. τρίγωνον triangle), neut. of σκαληνός SCALENUS.] = SCALENUM.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. xxix. 5 The angles of an Isosceles or a Scalenon, may diuersly vary. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 9. 301 The general Idea of a Triangle, ..neither Equilateral, Equicrural, nor Scalenon; but all and none of these at once.

Scalenous (skălī·nəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *scalēn-us* + -OUS.] = SCALENE A. 1, 1 b.

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. xiii. (1687) 187/2 A Pyramid consisteth of four triangles,..each whereof is divided..into six scalenous triangles. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, A Cone is called Scalenous when one side of it is longer than the other. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Scalenum*, A Cylinder, whose Axis is inclined, is..said to be Scalenous. 1767 DUCAREL *Anglo-Norman Antiq.* 5 The figure of this camp..approaches nearly to that which mathematicians call a Scalenous Triangle. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 108 A scalenous or oblique cone.

Scalent (skēl·lĕnt), *a.* and *sb. Geol.* [f. SCALE *v.*[3] + -ENT.] Applied by H. D. Rogers to a series which with the Premeridian forms the upper part of the Silurian in the Appalachian chain.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 383 Scalent and Pre-Meridian Limestones of the General Tuscarora Synclinal. *Ibid.* II. II. 754 Scalent Series, or Onondago Salt and Niagara Limestone Groups of New York.

‖ **Scale·num,** *sb. Geom. Obs.* [L. (sc. *triangulum*), neut. of *scalēnus* (see next).] A scalene triangle. Also *predicatively* as *adj.* Cf. SCALENON.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. xxvi. 4 Scalenum is a triangle, whose three sides are all vnequall. 1653 H. MORE *Schol. Antid. Ath.* Philos. Writ. (1712) 144 The rest of the scalenums which make up the Square. 1735 BERKELEY *Def. Free-thinking* § 45. 56 It [a triangle] must be neither oblique nor rectangular, neither equilateral, equicrural, nor scalenum. 1787 *Gentl. Mag.* LVII. II. 1059/2 The true figure of the encampment is rather an isosceles than a scalenum.

‖ **Scalenus** (skălī·nŭs). *Anat.* Pl. **scaleni** (-əi). [mod.L. (sc. *musculus*), a. Gr. σκαληνός uneven, unequal, odd (number), scalene.] One of a set of muscles of triangular form situated in the lower lateral region of the neck. Also *attrib.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scaleni*, are three Muscles of the Thorax, so called from their Figure, having three unequal Sides. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 562/1 The *scaleni*..extending from the transverse processes to the first two ribs. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* ii. 71 In the Guinea Pig...the first rib bears a little spinous tubercle for the attachment of the scalenus muscle.

Scalepp, obs. form of SCALLOP *sb.*

†**Sca·ler**[1]. *Obs.* [f. SCALE *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A manufacturer of scales.

1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. p. xxiii, Cuttellers..Bladesmyth..Shethers..Scalers.

Scaler[2] (skē·lə1). [f. SCALE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].]

1. One who removes scales or scale from fish, boilers, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Escailleur*, a skaler, piller, shaler of. 1728 RUTTY *Tin-Plates* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 635 This..is kept as much a Secret by the Blancher, as the acid eroding Menstruum is by the Scaler. 1892 *Eastern Morn. News* (Hull) 1 June 4/8 Henry Toyne, boiler scaler.

2. An instrument for removing scales or scale.

1881 COLEMAN *Dental Surg. & Pathol.* xvi. 290 A..removal of all salivary deposition from the exposed fangs of the teeth ..can only be effected by very narrow sharp scalers. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Scaler*, a dentist's tool for removing scale or tartar from teeth. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Scaler*, an instrument resembling a currycomb and usually made of tin, used for removing scales from fish.

Scaler[3] (skē·l-lə1). [f. SCALE *v.*[3] + -ER[1].]

1. One who scales a wall or a mountain.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 525 Martyn Godfrey called the scaler. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Escalador*, a scaler, a pilferer, *Scalarum conscensor.* 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVII. xxxi, Brimarte the scaler [orig. *espugnator de le città*]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 99 Upon the Top they have piled spiked Timber to annoy the Scalers. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 315 Jove hates the old scalers of heaven's walls. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 461 Nose-bleeding..which befell the first scalers of Mont-Blanc.

2. *Lumber-trade.* One who scales or measures logs.

1887 *Contemp. Rev.* May 762 Each district is supplied with its Corps of State inspectors, 'scalers', &c. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 710/1 The logs..measured by the quick-witted scaler.

3. One who uses a scale in surveying.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* Dec. 406/1 By allowing two young hands to figure for each scaler, they check one another.

Scalesman (skē·lzmăn). [f. *scales*, pl. of SCALE *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man who uses scales; a weigher.

1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. xiv. 273 Five Roman citizens ..were to be present as witnesses, and a sixth, called the weigher or scalesman. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1883) 34 Railway Officials and Servants..Scalesman. 1889 *Star* 2 Jan. 4/6 Butchers.—Wanted first rate scalesman.

†**Scalet.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *scaletta*, dim. of *scala* ladder. Cf. Sp. *escaleta.*] (See quot. 1876.)

1640 HEXHAM *Princ. Art Milit.* III. 6 Because it may sometimes happen, that..you may be driven to dismount and remount your peece.., you must carry along with you a Fearne, a winch, or a Scalet. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *Scalet*, an ancient name given to a lifting-jack. It was chiefly used in extricating wheels from deep ruts and soft ground.

Scaleton, Scalfe: see SKELETON, SCALP *sb.*[2]

Scalfer, Scal-hot: see SKILFER, SCALD-HOT.

†**Scalier.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *escalier.*] A staircase.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* 120 A private passage, which led them to a Lanterne Scalier. 1653 — *Rabelais* I. liii, In the midst there was a wonderful scalier or winding-staire.

Scaliness (skē·linés). [f. SCALY + -NESS.] The condition or character of being scaly.

1611 COTGR., *Tignon*, a scurfe, or scalinesse of the skin. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Nosologia* (ed. 3) 325 A thickened, hard, rough..texture of the integuments of the body with a tendency to scaliness. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 587 Red dandriff. Scaliness common to the body generally. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 661 Its excessive dryness, roughness, and scaliness.

†**Sca·ling,** *sb. Obs.* [Of obscure origin; ? cf. SCAVILON.] Some kind of garment.

1577 *Eccl. Proc. of Bp. Barnes* (Surtees) 17 Great britches gascogne hose, scalings, nor any other like monstrous and vnsemely apparell.

Scaling (skē·lin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCALE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of weighing in scales; *esp.* in *Baking* and *Racing* (see SCALE *v.*[1] 1 b, 3 b).

1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 42 Engaged in pitching the dough, cutting, scaling off [etc.]. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 June, The large field anticipated [for the Hunt Cup] rendered it necessary that the business of weighing and scaling should be vigorously pushed forward.

Scaling (skē·lin), *vbl. sb.*[2] Also 7 **skalling,** [f. SCALE *v.*[2] or *sb.*[2] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of SCALE *v.*[2]; the removal or peeling off of scales or scale.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Escamadura*, scaling of fish. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. XXV. II. 141 The skalling and pilling of the face. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 30 The crumbling and scaling of Brick and Stone in Frosts that are extreme. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 553 As the spot [of psoriasis] enlarges..it often becomes very slightly raised above the surface, and the scaling is more marked.

b. In technical and manufacturing use.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 335 The plates..keeping each other also from scaleing, or being beaten..away into Cinders or wast. 1728 RUTTY *Tin-Plates* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 633 The scaling will still be more expeditious, if you dissolve a little Sal-armoniack in the Vinegar. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 725 To prevent the copper from scaling. 1881 COLEMAN *Dental Surg. & Pathol.* xvi. 294 In the process of scaling, great care should be exercised to remove all fragmentary portions from between the teeth.

attrib. 1840 DE LOUDE *Dentistry* 98 The dentist..will have a great number of those scaling instruments. 1853–62 BURN *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. 227/1 Scaling oven (for tin), *fourneau à décaper.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech Scaling-bar* (Steam.), a rod for detaching scale in boilers.

c. *concr.* That which scales off; scale, scales.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 4 To these adde the *Caput Mortuum*, of Vitriall, and Scaling of Iron. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 41 The Kealy Soil is such as is plentifully strewed with..a Stone in very small Masses... They have the Name of Keale, Kale, or Scale, for that they seem to have been Scalings of larger Masses. 1811 *Self Instructor* 534 Scalings of iron vitrified. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* I. 143 Thin flakes..of the rock scale off..and these scalings accumulate all along the foot of the escarpment.

2. Arrangement of scales.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 72 To give my Reader the Satisfaction of observing..different Methods of their Scaling [*sc.* of serpents]. 1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 17 May 451 On the upper side of the tail..only a few scattered hairs appear, barely hiding the rather coarse ordinary scales, but as the hair thickens the scaling becomes finer.

Scaling (skē·lin), *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. SCALE *v.*[3]]

1. Climbing, mounting; escalade.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXX. 262 The castynge of stonys, or scalynge of the wallys, or fyllynge of the dyches. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 20 In the scaling and assaults of batteries or walles. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. § 6 He daily walls them with his Providence, against the scaling of the swelling Surges. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Ladder*, The success of an attack by scaling is infallible, if they mount the 4 sides at once. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 533 The scaling of the walls by the Duke of Savoy's troops.

† b. = SCALING-LADDER. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 They clinge thee scalinges too wals.

2. In senses of SCALE *v.*[3] II: Measurement or estimation of quantities; graduation (of charges, etc.); the construction of a scale. Also *attrib.*

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 121 The scaleing hall where their stuffs are all measured. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Scaling*,..the process of adjusting sights to the guns on shipboard was formerly so termed. 1877 *Michigan Rep.* XXXV. 506 The scaling at that mill would appear..to have been very carelessly kept. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 159 Who threatened repudiation of the whole national debt if there should be resistance to such small scaling. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 7/1 The scaling down of the fixed dividend from 7 to 6 per cent.

Scaling (skē·lin), *ppl. a.* [f. SCALE *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That forms or sheds scales.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 229 The gradual appearance of copper-coloured scaling papules. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXXVII. 583 A ring of scaling epidermis.

Sca·ling-la·dder. [SCALING *vbl. sb.*3] A ladder used in the assault of fortified places.

c 1400 *Brut* II. 382/22 Bryggez of lethir, scaling laddres. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 6442 Skalyng ladderis for sautis marcial. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. XXV. H iij, You may in this manner..tell the iuste length of the scaling laders. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 605 Some mount the scaling Ladders, some..by Posts and Pillars hold. 1739 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* III. i. I. 298 He caused rams, mantles, and scaling ladders to be got ready. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Ladder*, Scaling-ladders..are made..sometimes of flat staves, so as to move about their pins, and shut like a parallel ruler. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 97 A number of men..carrying scaling-ladders.

b. A fireman's ladder used for scaling buildings.

1868 E. M. SHAW *Instr. Scaling Ladders* 4 The scaling ladders at present used by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. 1888 MERRYWEATHER *Fire Brigade Handbk.* 106.

c. *Her.* A charge representing a ladder having two grappling-hooks at the top.

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss., *Scaling-ladder*, in bend, between two caltraps.

Scaliwag, variant of SCALLYWAG.

Scall (skɔ̄l), *sb.* (and *a.*). *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 4–6 scalle, skalle, 6–7 scaul(e, skall, 6, 9 skal, 7, 9 scal. β. *Sc.* and *north.* 4 sca, 6 skaw, 5, 7, 9 scaw. [prob. a. ON. *skalle* a (naturally) bald head (Sw. *skalle* skull; cf. *skallig* bald), app. a derivative of OTeut. **skal-* (whence SHALE *sb.*, SHELL *sb.*).] **A.** *sb.* A scaly or scabby disease of the skin, *esp.* of the scalp. *Dry scall*: psoriasis. *Humid* or *moist scall*: eczema.

Honeycomb, milk, milky, ringworm scall: see the qualifying words.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11819 In his heued he has þe scall. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *To Scriv.* 3 Vnder þy long lokkes þowe most haue þe scalle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 138 They wol been in good poynte Withouten scorf or scalle. 1526 *Grete Herball* CXXIII. (1529) H ij b, Agaynst scalles of the heed..bruse grene camomyll. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Howe the Douty Duke of Albany*, etc. 219 Wks. 1843 II. 74 Full of scabbes and scaules. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. (1641) 99 Through their salt phlegms their heads were hid wᵗʰ skalls. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX. ix. II. 52 It mundifieth the skurfe or dandruffe in the head, the running scalls likewise that are bred there. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* XIII. 30 A dry skall, euen a leprosie vpon the head or beard. *Ibid.* XIV. 54 This is the law for all manner plague of leprosie and skall. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 157/1 The Leprosie, white Scall, and all sorts of Ulcers which are not corroding. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 641 The furfuraceous or branny scall..is often mistaken for a pityriasis or lepriasis, particularly where it appears in the scalp. 1833 TODD in *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 671 Ecthyma..papulous scall.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 1067, & þar-to sic a sca had he þat of his body nocht was fre. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* I. 182 The lypir and the faland lil, Wild fyre and scaw. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot., Descr. Alb.* X. C j, This oulie hes ane singulare virtew aganis all maner of cankir and skawis. 1567 E. B. RAMSAY *Scot. Life & Char.* v. (ed. 15) 115, I've had..the scaw [*note*, The itch]. 1870 J. K. HUNTER *Life Studies* XXVI. 190 Brimstone and butter was..the great medium for curin' the scaw.

b. *attrib.*: **scall-bladder**, a vesicle of eczema (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897).

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* = SCALLED. Also Comb., *scall-patched* adj.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 123 To be reuenge on this same scall-scuruy-cogging-companion the Host of the Garter. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 569 Goe to, y'are a scall scabbe. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 3 Shallow scal-patch'd pates.

Scall, obs. form of SCALE *v.*3

‖ Sca·llag. [Gael. *sgalag* = Ir. *sgológ*. Cf. SCOLOG.] A predial bondsman in the Hebrides.

1666 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S. H. S.) 84 The very place named Bearn ni Scallag, that is, the Servants Gap, becaus the men who did the slaughter were servants and scallags. 1793 J. L. BUCHANAN *Trav. W. Hebrides* Introd. 6 The scallag, whether male or female, is a poor being, who, for mere subsistence, becomes a predial slave to another. 1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 549 The state of our negroes is paradise compared with that of the scallag.

† Sca·llard, *sb.* (and *a.*). *Obs.* [f. SCALL + -ARD. Cf. SCABBARD *sb.*2] One who has the 'scall'.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Scallarde (*S.* scallar), *glabrio*. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scallarde, *tigneux*.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* ? Wretched, mean.

c 1580 J. HOOKER *F. Carew* in *Archæologia* XXVIII. 124 The saye syde, wheare as was a scallarde fysher boate provyded for theyme to carry theyme into Englande.

Scallawag, variant of SCALLYWAG.

Scalled (skɔld), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 4 scallede, scallid, scaled, 5 skallyd, skallid, 5–6 scallyd, 6 skalled. [f. SCALL + -ED 2.] = SCALD *a.* *Scalled-head* = SCALD-HEAD.

1340 *Ayenb.* (1866) 224 Þe mezels, þe dyane, þe doumbe, þe ssoruede, þe scallede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 627 With scaled browes blake and piled berd. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14676 And I kan sette (or folk take hed) A Coyffe vp-on a skallyd heed. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prel.* C, As the maner of scalled horses is, the one to clawe the other. 1546 PHAER *Regim. Life, Bk. Childr.* S vij, The heades of chyldren are oftentimes vlcered, & scalled. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 97 A Dumb Youth, with a scalled head. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 637 *Ecpyesis Porrigo galeata.* Scalled head. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. iv. 732 Scalled head and other troublesome skin diseases.

Hence **† Sca·lledness**, scabbiness.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Vnnepe suche skalles oþer schorfe is yheeled but somme for oþer skallednes oþer pillednes leue and beþ isene alwaye þerafter. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scallydnesse, *roigneuseté*.

Scallet (skæ·lĕt). *local.* Also -ot. A bed of freestone in Wiltshire and Somerset.

1825 in Britton *Beauties Wilts.* III. 414 The upper beds [of the Portland series of oolitic rock] are known to the quarry-men by the name of the *Scallot beds.* 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* Oct. 376/2 The scallet, which is the finest in grain, is used for ashlar.

Scallet, obs. variant of SCALADE.

† Sca·lling, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SCALL + -ING 2.] Producing 'scall' or scab.

1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 93 To..infect the whole body with that itch, and scab, or scalling humor.

Scallion (skæ·liən). Forms: 4 scalone, scaloun, 5 scalon, scalyone, 5–6 scalyon, 6 scallyon, 6–7 scalion, 7 skallion, 6– scallion. [a. AF. *scal(o)un* = OF. *eschalo(i)gne*:—pop.L. **escalonia*, for class. L. *Ascalōnia* (sc. *cæpa* onion), f. *Ascalon*, name of a seaport of Palestine. Cf. Sp. *escalona*; also It. *scalogno* (:—*Ascalōnium*, sc. *allium*).] a. The shallot. Now *dial.* b. The Welsh onion or 'chibol'. c. An onion which fails to bulb but forms a long neck and strong blade.

13.. *Coer de L.* 6834 For thy lyff and thy barouns He wyl not geve two skalouns. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 310 Perselye and scalones, Chiboles and chiruylles. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1313 He seyde hy ner worth a scaloun Alle y-fere. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* IV. 635 In oil & Iuce of scalons longe With pepur mixt, ennoynte her pomys. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* XV. 12 b, They muste eat no salades, garlyke, ramsons, onyons, chybolles, or scalyons. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 96 A scalyon differeth from an onyon in that it hath a great deale lesse heade and a longer neck, and thycker. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 2 Not content to ..sustaine his hungry bodie with wythred scallions and greene cheese. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* VII. 139 Scallions and Chibols are much of the nature of Onions. 1699 [see CIBOL]. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 9 Let such as have sprouted be planted for Spring scallions. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 39 To supply..a substitute for scallions, whether the term is interpreted to mean the green tops of onions which do not bulb in the spring and the shoots from old bulbs of the preceding or former years, or the Welsh onion. 1882 *Garden* 30 Dec. 577/1 Scallions find favour with many who object to Onions generally.

attrib. and *Comb.* *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* XIII. F iij b, Put oyle & scalion seed together. 1580 BARET *Alv.*, A Scallion onion, *Ascalonia*. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Love's Cure* II. i, What a scallion fac'd-rascall 'tis!

Scallop, scollop (skɒ·ləp, skæ·ləp), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 5 scalap, -opp, 5, 7 scalop, skalop, 6 scalepp, -oppe, scallopp(e, skallap, -op, 9 scallope, scallap, 6– scallop. β. 7 s(c)kollop, 7–8 scollup, 7–-op. [aphetic a. OF. *escalope*: see ESCALLOP.

While the pronunciation (skɒ·ləp) is still in all uses the more common of the two, the spelling *scollop* appears now to be confined to sense 2, and even in that application is less usual than *scallop*.]

1. A shell-fish of the genus *Pecten*.

a. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scalop, fysche [*Winch. MS.* Scalap]. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scaloppe a fysshe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. li. I. 353 The great Scallops make a certaine noise as they shoot out of the water. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 70 The skalops which they call holy cockels, twelue for a lire. 1626 BACON *Sylvæ* § 747 No Liuing Creatures, that haue Shells very hard; (As Oysters, Cockles, Mussles, Scallops). *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vii. 62 Madras spotted Scallop. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 417 And luscious 'scallops, to allure the tastes Of rigid zealots to delicious fasts. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 454 The Scallop has the power of progressive motion upon land, and likewise of swimming on the surface of the water. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* xxii. 391 In the Scallops (*Pecten*) the edges of the mantle are studded with..pearl-like points.

β. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 117/1 The blushing Prawne, the well-armed Oyster, the Scollop, the Wilke. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. i. 234 Oysters, Cochles, Sckollops, and other testaceous animals. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 125 First boyl your Scollups, then take them out of the shells and wash them. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2160 (a), I took this..Scollop and Sea Horn.

b. A scallop-shell; a vessel resembling one, used in baptism, etc.

a. 1401 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 452 Item j scalap et j navis argent' deaurat'. 1408 *Ibid.* 402 Et in j scalopp argent. pro sale benedicendo. 1639 T. HEYWOOD *Londini Status Pacatus* A 4 b, A person representing the ancient River Nilus, mounted in a Sea-Chariot, and seated upon a silver Scallop. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 357 A lump, taken fresh from the stratum,..exhibits, in perfect shape, innumerable muscle shells, scallops, &c.

β. 1752 POCOCKE *Tour* (1891) 87 The woman also melted tallow in a scollop and dipt the rushes in it.

c. A pilgrim's cockle-shell worn as a sign that he had visited the shrine of St. James at Compostella.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3474 With scrippe, ande with slawyne, and skalopis i-newe, Both pyke and palme, alles pilgram hym scholde. 1501 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 83 The stooll.. coloord and garnyschyd wᵗ scalepps and othyr sygnys of Seynt Jamys. 1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 186 My bedes with scallopps. 1710 PARNELL *Hermit* 25 The pilgrim-staff he bore, And fix'd the scallop in his hat before. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind., Pope* 291 As little typical of the inward man as the scallop of a pilgrim.

2. An object of the shape of a scallop-shell; a part or formation resembling a scallop-shell.

1609 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 5, I will have my *Derege* in my house,..and at Mr. Perot be at the same dener; and at tharbe skallapis of mayne breid. 1629 DEKKER *London's Tempe* (Percy Soc.) 43 Bases and buskins cut..at the top into silver scollups. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xiv. 32 A Mans Liver is not divided into Laps or Scollops. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 374/1 The Scallop, as covers the Winding hole [in a watch].

b. *esp.* One of a series of convex rounded projections forming the scalloped edge of a garment or other object. Also, a scalloped form, a scalloping.

This use prob. has a double origin; a 'scalloped' edge may be compared either to a row of scallop-shells, or to the edge of a scallop-shell.

1612 BEAUMONT *Masque of Inner Temple* D b, The hinder part cut into Scallops, answering the skirts of their doublets. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 16 All of them gather'd up yᵉ upper peticoate in little scallops. 1713 *Guardian* 1 Sept., The Men have contented themselves with the Retrenchment of the Hat, or the various Scallop of the Pocket. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 414 Four scollops on the exterior toe..each finely serrated on their edges. 1839–47 BOWMAN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 508/1 Thus giving a slight scallop, or regular indentation, to the edge. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* iv, The girl sewed on, working scallop after scallop, and flower after flower. 1886 Miss C. F. WOOLSON *East Angels* ix, The beach waved in and out in long scallops.

† c. Lace or edging of a scalloped pattern; a scalloped lace band or collar. *Obs.*

1603 in *38th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. 444 Stamells, stanimes, scallops, tapessary or tapestry. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Dec., My wife and I were talking about buying of a fine scallop..which is to cost her 45*s*.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *scallop-bank, dredge*; (sense 2) *scallop-wise* adv.; quasi-adj. = 'scalloped', as *scallop capital, lace, moulding, tile, top*; *scallop-leaved, -necked, -shaped, -striped, -tailed, -toed, -winged* adjs.; **scallop budding** (see quot.); **scallop crab**, a pea-crab inhabiting scallops; **scallop hook tip** (see quot.); **† scallop-iron** (see quot.); **† scallop slate**, ? shale containing fossil scallops; **† scallop-stone**, ? a fossil pecten.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* iii. 12 *Scallop-banks at twenty fathoms. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 234 The *scallope or French mode of budding, in which a section or scallope of bark and wood containing a bud is taken from one tree, and applied to a part of the stem of another tree, where a similar scallope had been removed. 1862 *Rickman's Archit.* (ed. 6) 138 The *scollop capitals are..frequently used. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 571 The ordinary *scallop dredge holds from one to two bushels. 1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 156 *Platypteryx..lacertula..*Scallap Hook-tip. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 397/1 Sadlers Tools..a Larg *Scallop Iron,..being a kind of Punch to cut Leather Scallop wise. 1706 *Hudibras Rediv.* (Nares), Pinners..Edg'd round with ancient *scollop laces. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 76 *Scollop-leaved Iron Wort. 1848 *Rickman's Archit.* (ed. 5) p. xx, Two varieties of *scallop mouldings. 1783 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* IV. 643 *Scallop-necked Pigeon. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVI. 334 *Scollop-shaped condylomata. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VI. 51 Flat thin *Scallop Slate. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 267 *Pectinitis..*Scollop-stone. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 567 One level, *scallop-striped With bands of beet and turnip and luzern. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 276 *Scollop-tailed Gecko. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 92 A bird of the Coot kind, *scollop-toed. 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* I. Index p. xxvii, Scallop-toed Sandpiper. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Tyle*, *Scallop or Astragal Tyles,..their lower Ends are in Form of..a Semicircle, with a Square on each Side. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 128 ¶ 10 A Pair of Shoes with high *Scollop Tops. 1749 B. WILKES *Eng. Moths & Butterflies* 39 The *Scallop winged Moth laid her Eggs on the 5th of August. 1829 J. F. STEPHENS *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 97 *Cymatophora..Oo..*Scallop-winged Oak M[oth]. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 38 Greane vellvet cutt in leaves *scallopwise. 1688 [see *scallop-iron*].

Sca·llop, sco·llop, *v.* [f. SCALLOP *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To shape or cut (*out*) in the form of a scallop-shell; to ornament or trim with scallops.

1749 SHENSTONE *Irreg. Ode after Sickness* 100 To fence for you my shady grove And scollop ev'ry winding shore. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 155 A vest of silver brocading, scalloped over a petticoat of the same fabric. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 June (1815) 197 This fellow..having no inclination to curry any beast out of the stable, was at great pains to scallop his nails in such a manner that the blood followed at every stroke. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 203 It fits closely, and is scolloped round the neck, arms, and at the bottom. *a* 1810 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* (1812) 21 The face of the rock was, as it were scalloped out, down to the water's edge. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* I. 44 The bow windows and balconies that scallop the narrow side streets. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 101/2 Their edges are elaborately scalloped with a drop of clear water lodged in each rounded notch.

b. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Scallop*, to cut..the sides of a heading without holing them, or using powder.

2. *Cookery.* To bake (oysters, etc.) in a scallop-shell or similar-shaped pan or plate with bread crumbs, cream, butter, and condiments.

1737 [see SCALLOPED 2]. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 287 To scollop Potatoes. Boil your potatoes, then beat them fine [etc.]..put them into scollop shells,.. put them in a Dutch oven [etc.]. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* II. 75 Lobsters, boiled, scalloped, and hot-buttered. 1885 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 555 The shell [of the scallop *Pecten maximus*] is often used for 'scalloping' oysters.

Scalloped, scolloped (skɒ·ləpt, skæ·ləpt), *ppl. a.* Also *a.* 8 scallaped, 9 scallopped, scallopt. β. 8 scollopt, 9 scoloped. [f. SCALLOP *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Having the border, edge, or outline cut into a series of segments of circles resembling a scallop-shell. a. *Nat. Hist.* (Sometimes the specific name of an animal or plant: see quots.)

a. 1682 Grew *Anat. Pl.* III. i. i. 105 A scalloped Parenchymous Ring, or a Ring of many short and slender white Arches. 1778 M. Harris *Aurelian* p. xvii, Inferior Wing scallaped. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot., Scalloped leaf*, this term may be applied to the *folium Repandum*. 1819 J. F. Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. 43 The feathers that cover the sides of the neck are scalloped in the centre. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 111 Scallop'd briony. 1869 [see *hook-tip*, Hook *sb.* 18]. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Scalloped*, crenate.

β. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 414 The toes extremely singular, being edged with scolloped membranes like the coot. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 423 Geometra emarginata. The scolloped Double-line. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 51 The lobation may be either scolloped, or cut out at the joints, as in the coot, or plain.

Comb. [cf. Scallop *sb.* 3]. 1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* Index, Scolloped Winged Broad Bar.

b. Of articles of dress.

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2234/4 A brown colour close-bodied Coat, with scollop'd Pockets. 1716 Gay *Trivia* I. 32 The wooden Heel may raise the Dancer's Bound, And with the scallop'd Top his Step be crown'd. 1863 Longf. *Wayside Inn, Sicilian's T.* 83 The King's Jester, thou Henceforth shalt wear the bells and scalloped cape. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 378/1 Cloth hats and bonnets, with scalloped edges.

c. Of utensils, architectural features, etc.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Mole* 5 O 4/2 Scoop them out at once, with what Mr. Bradley calls a scolloped mole-hill plough. 1840 Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 150 The concave, or scalloped roller, is adapted to the form of ridges. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Liudisf.* 176 The caps of the columns.. are scalloped. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 9/2 Leather edging with scalloped edges or strips of American leather cloth should be attached to the shelves.

2. *Cookery.* (See Scallop *v.* 2.)

1737 *Ochtertyre House Bk. Acc.* (1907) 3 Scollopt oysters. 1791 Huddesford *Salmag.* 93 And shoals of bawling choristers He ate, like scallop'd oysters. 1827 Hone *Everyday Bk.* II. 58 Stewed oysters! I ordered scolloped!

3. Wearing a scallop-shell. *rare.*

1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 324 A pilgrim regularly scalloped.

Scalloper (skɒ·ləpəɹ). [f. Scallop *v.* and *sb.* + -er 1.] a. One who makes scalloped ornament, etc. b. One who gathers scallops.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 70 Lace Finishing... Scolloper. *Ibid.* 89 Glass Scolloper. 1887 Goode, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 577 At Wickford, R. I., there live a few scallopers, and three boats are owned.

Sca·lloping, sco·lloping, *vbl. sb.* [f. Scallop *sb.* or *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Scallop. Also *concr.*, scalloped ornament, edging, marking, or the like.

a 1800 *Peggy Irvine* iv. in Child *Ballads* V. 301/2 Her petticoats was of the silk so fine, set out with the silver and scolloping. 1889 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* 255 Minute examination detects differences in form and scalloping of the wings.

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Scalloping-tool* (*Saddlery*), a tool for giving an ornamental edge to leather straps.

So **Sca·lloping** *ppl. a.*, forming 'scallops'.

18.. Whittier *Prose Wks.* (1889) II. 381 A long scalloping range of hills.

Sca·llop-shell. Cf. Escallop-shell.

1. The shell of the scallop, or, more usually, one valve of it: freq. with reference to its being a pilgrim's badge. (Cf. note s. v. Escallop-shell.)

1530 Palsgr. 265/2 Scalloppe shell, *quocquille de saint Jacques.* 1562 *Inv. St. Margaret's Westm.* in *Malcolm's Londinium* IV. 137 One Cope of crimson velvet with scallop shells of silver. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Pilgrimage* 1 Give me my Scollap-Shell of Quiet, My Staff of Faith to lean upon. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ix. 95 Put your Oysters into Scollop-shells for that purpose. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxviii, By the scallop-shell of Compostella, I will make a martyr of him.

attrib. 1807 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1811) II. 102 The outside of the boxes inlaid with scallop shell-work.

2. Collectors' name for the moth *Triphosa* (*Eucosmia*) *undulata.*

1829 J. F. Stephens *Catal. Brit. Insects* II. 140.

Sca·llum, *v. Basket-making.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* (See quot.)

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 423/1 These [*sc.* the stout osiers that are to form the ribs of the basket] are forced or plaited, 'scallumed', between the rods of the bottom from the edge to the centre, and are turned up, 'upset', in the direction of the sides.

† **Sca·lly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Scall + -y.] = Scalled. Cf. Scaly *a.* 4.

1530 Palsgr. 323/1 Scally or scourfy, *roigneux.* 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 74 Over its [the Alligator's] Eyes there are two hard scally Knobs, as big as a Mans Fist.

Hence † **Sca·lliness.** (Cf. Scaliness.)

1610 Markham *Masterp.* I. xcv. 189 Any drynesse or scallynesse of the skinne.

Scallywag, scallawag (skæ·liwæg, -ăwæg). *slang* or *colloq.* (orig. *U. S.*) Also 9 scal(l)i-, scala-, scallo-, skalle-. [Origin obscure.]

1. A disreputable fellow; a good-for-nothing; a scapegrace, blackguard; in *Trade Union slang*, a man who will not work.

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Scalawag*, a favorite epithet in western New York for a mean fellow; a scape-grace. 1855 Haliburton *Nature* I. 112 You good-for-nothing young scallowag. 1893 Leland *Mem.* II. 178 There are so many scallawags from the East come here, that we are obliged to be a little particular. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Scalliwags*, an opprobrious term, equal to scamp or villain, applied to men who will not work.

2. An impostor or intriguer, esp. in politics; in *U. S. Hist.*, a native white of the southern states who was willing to accept the reconstructionary measures.

1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., The councilmen too often belong to the comprehensive genus 'scallywag'. They have intrigued and speechified, and stumped their ward. 1879 Tourgee *Fool's Err.* (1883) 111/25. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 May 12 Our correspondent tells us that the new system [*i. e.* of Mental Healing] has not yet fallen into the hands of the 'Scalawags'. 1886 *Forum* Apr. 128 Then came the absurd process called Reconstruction, with its swarm of leeches, carpet-baggers and Scalawags.

3. *U. S.* A name for undersized or ill-conditioned cattle. Perhaps the original use of the word.

1854 *New York Tribune* (Cattle Rep.) 24 Oct. (Cent. Dict.), The number of miserable 'scallawags' is so great that.. they tend to drag down all above themselves to their own level. 1868 *Daily News* 18 Sept., Wade Hampton explained the origin of the term..by saying that 'scalawag' was the name applied by drovers to lean and ill-favoured kine.

Scalmuse, Scalop(e, Scalo(u)n, Scalour: see Shawm, Scallop, Scallion, Squalor.

Scalp (skælp), *sb.*1 Also 4–7 skalp, 5–7 scalpe, 6 skalpe; (chiefly *Sc.*) 5, 8 skap, 6 scawpe, skape, 7 scop, 8–9 scaup, scawp, 9 scap. [Northern ME. *scalp*; presumably of Scandinavian origin, though the Eng. senses are not found in any Scandinavian or Teut. language. Cf. ON. *skálp-r* sheath, Da. dial. *skalp* shell, husk, MLG. *schulpe, scholpe*, MDu. *schelpe* (Du. *schelp*) shell; the sense of these words suggests derivation from OTeut. **skal-*, **skel-* (see Scale *sb.*1), but a Teut. *p*- suffix is not known.

The It. *scalpo*, given by Oudin 1540 with the rendering *le test*, and by Florio 1611 with the rendering 'scalp', seems to be of doubtful genuineness. The Eng. word in sense 3 has passed into several European langs.: F. *scalpe*, G., Sw. *skalp*.]

1. The top or crown of the head; the skull, cranium. Now only *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (*scaup, scap*).

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 17 His wiknes in his scalp doune falle. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 153 Of þe scalpe [*v.r.* brayn panne] of þe heued he gers make him a coppe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 353 Then thi skalp shall I clefe. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab., Trial of Fox* 1026 (Charteris MS.) With bludie skap, and cheikis bla and reid. 1508 Dunbar *Test. Kennedy* 52 To hede of kyn, bot I wait nought Quis est ille, than I schrew my scawpe [*Bann. MS.* skape]. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxviii[i]. 21 The God that smyteth his enemies vpon the heades & vpon the hayrie scalpes. [Similarly 1611.] 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Diij b, What is the skull or scawpe of the heade? Answere. It is that parte of the heade that is full of heare, wherin the anymal membres are conteyned. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 69 Take this transformed scalpe, From off the head of this Athenian swaine. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 270 In digging the foundation of this newe woorke..there were founde more then an hundred scalpes of Oxen, or Kine. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 124 [Their] hornes..grow..not to their bones or skalps, but to their skin. 16.. *Robin Hood & Tanner* ix, If I get a knop upon the bare scop thou canst as well shite as shoote. 1650 G. P. *Comenius' Janua Ling.* xxiv. 297 If the skull [*marg.* scalp, brainpain] bee one entire bone. 1724 Ramsay *Vision* iii, To..skonce my skap and shanks frae rain. 1899 J. Lumsden *Edin. Poems & Songs* 198, I wat for't sune his Scotch scap reissils.

fig. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* F 2 Not content to haue the naked scalp of his credit new couered with a false periwig of commendations.

b. The head or skull of a whale exclusive of the lower jaw. In recent Dicts.

2. The integument of the upper part of the head, usually covered with hair and moving freely over the underlying bones.

Formerly often † *hairy scalp*; cf. quot. 1535 in sense 1. Possibly this Bible phrase (a literal rendering of the Heb.) may have caused the development of sense 2.

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Scalpe*, the haire skinne of the head. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 259 Those fained vapours ..stirre up the tempest of the diseases causation, before they can come to the hairy scalp. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Scalp (pericranion)*, the skin compassing and covering all the skull. 1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* v. ix. 374 The Hairy scalp. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Turning-Evil*, Then take a long sharp Knife and a Hammer, and cut the Scaup two Inches square, and turn it up. 1800 *Med. Frnl.* III. 444 Five or six small spiculæ of bone worked themselves through the scalp, (the wound being healed). 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xiv. 352 The naked scalp of a very young infant reddens from passion. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 117 Every one has met persons who possess the power of moving the whole scalp to and fro.

Phrase. 1842 Tennyson *St. Sim. Styl.* 2 From scalp to sole one slough and crust of sin. 1890 Talmage *From Manger to Throne* 78 Christian infidels..who are from scalp to heel surcharged with unbeliefs.

transf. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 47 He that inquireth into the little bottom of the globe-thistle, may finde that gallant bush arise from a scalpe of like disposure.

b. *Her.* The skin of the head of an animal.

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 166/1 The Horns of a Bull fixed upon the curled Skalp..with two Ears, Sable. 1722 Nisbet *Syst. Her.* II. iv. 337 The Attirings of a Stag fixed to the Scalp. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Her.* II, *Dymock..* Crest..the scalp of a hare, the ears erect sa.

3. The scalp with the hair belonging to it cut or torn from a man's head: prized by American Indians as a battle trophy.

1601 Holland *Pliny* VII. ii. I. 154 The former Anthropophagi..whom we have placed about the North pole,..use.. to weare the scalpes, haire and all, in steed of..stomachers before their breasts. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* I. 19 Two or three miles further they came up with some Heads, Scalps, and Hands cut off from the bodies of some of the English. 1748 Washington *Frnl.* 23 Mar., Writ. 1889 I. 3 We were agreeably surprized at ye sight of thirty odd Indians coming from war with only one scalp. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvi. II. 24 The scalps of their enemies formed the costly trappings of their horses. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 42 The dance of the scalp. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. iv. 76 The chief..had his scalps to show and his battles to recount. 1867 Parkman *Jesuits in N. Amer.* xix. (1875) 282 Eleven fresh scalps fluttered in the wind.

b. *fig.* as the symbol of a victory gained.

1870 M. D. Conway *Earthward Pilgr.* xxiii. 276 The savage creed that wears the scalp of Shelley at its belt. 1902 C. N. & A. M. Williamson *Lightning Conductor* 141 If I had been, that girl wouldn't have got back into the house without being proposed to, and having another 'scalp' to count, as they say American beauties do.

4. A wig made to cover a part of the scalp.

1801 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 458 [Patent] for a method of making perukes and scalps. 1843 Thackeray *Ravenswing* i, Mr. Eglantine, the celebrated perruquier..whose..patent ventilating scalps are known throughout Europe.

5. A bare piece of rock or stone standing out of water or surrounding vegetation (thus resembling a hairless skull). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (pronounced and often written *scaup*).

1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 215 (1877) I. 52 Plenty shall cultivate ilk scawp and moor. 1722 *Newcastle Courant* 1 Sept. Advt. (E. D. S. 71) The Ship called the John and Margaret,..now lying upon the Scalp against Mr. Jennison's Key, North Shields. 1865 G. Tate in *Hist. Berw. Nat. Club* (1868) V. 151 On the scalp of the rock where it dips into the hill, four figures are traceable. 1871 *Daily News* 21 Aug., There there is a bare 'scaup' of boulders and scanty turf. 1903 *Expositor* Jan. 11 The grey argillaceous soil is shallow, stony and constantly interrupted by scalps, ledges and knolls of naked limestone.

b. The cap of a mountain. Chiefly *poet.*

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. ix, Ben-an's grey scalp the accents knew. 1816 Byron *Ch. Har.* III. lxii, The Alps,.. whose vast walls Have pinnacled in clouds their snowy scalps. 1848 Clough *Bothie* I. 58 The frosty scalp of the Cairn-Gorm. 1875 J. Grant *One of the* 600 III. xxi. 290 When the snows of Christmas whiten the scalps of Largo and the Lomond Hills.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. (sense 1) **scalp-house** *dial.*, a charnel house.

1890 *Murray's Handbk. Lincolnshire* 113 Below is a groined undercroft, known as the 'scaup (skull-) house'.

b. (sense 2), as *scalp hair, length, muscle, wound.*

1805 Southey *Madoc* II. xvi, On the front it [the spear] met him, and plough'd up The whole scalp-length. 1851 H. Melville *Whale* iii. 24 There was no hair on his head..nothing but a small scalp-knot. 1868 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 99, I believe all anatomists look at the scalp-muscles as a remnant of the *Panniculus carnosus.* 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 237 Forty cases of simple scalp-wounds. 1890 Billings *Med. Dict., Scalp-tumor*, caput succedaneum; cephalhæmatoma.

c. (sense 3), as *scalp-bearer, -dance, -hunter, -mark, -merchant, -trophy*, etc.; **scalp-knife** = *scalping-knife*; **scalp-lock**, a long lock of hair left on the head (the rest being shaved) by North American Indians as a challenge to their enemies; **scalp-money**, money paid as a reward for 'bringing in' scalps of men or animals.

1712 S. Sewall *Diary* 13 June (1879) II. 351 Council would have had subsistence and £100 Scalp-money. 1795 Coleridge *Conciones ad Pop.* 46 In America the recent enormities of their Scalp-Merchants. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* v. 52 Ax, quiver, scalpknife on the girdle hung. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* II. i. 5 His head was shaved to the crown, where a large and gallant scalp-lock seemed fearlessly to challenge the grasp of his enemies. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt*, xvii. 121, I became a scalp-hunter. 1866 Whittier *Snow-Bound* 261 How the Indian hordes came down..And how her own great-uncle bore His cruel scalp-mark to four-score. 1877 G. Gibbs *Tribes of W. Wash.* 222 A figure of a man, with a long queue, or scalp-lock, reaching to his heels. 1878 C. Tuttle *Border Tales* 17 The weird music of the scalp-dance. *Ibid.* 18 One by one the squaws fell in behind the scalp-bearer.

Scalp (skælp), *sb.*2 Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6 skap, scawip, skalp, scalfe, scalph, 7 scap, 7, 9 scaup, 6– scalp. [Perh. a specific use of prec. (cf. sense 5), but the forms with *f*, *ph* point to the possibility of a different origin. Cf. Shelf.] A bank providing a bed for shellfish, *esp.* oysters and mussels; an oyster or mussel bed or colony. (Often *mussel-, oyster-scalp.*)

1521 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 98 Nane of the mussillis ..now begingin to gader one ane now skap at the northt watter, besyd the Cunningar hillis. ?15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), The scawip of mussillis & kokilliss. 1552 Huloet, Muskleskalp. *Ibid.*, Oyster scalph, *ostrifer.* [Cf. Elyot *Dict., Ostrifer*, the place in the sea, whiche is apte to ingender oysters.] 1557 *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) II. p. lxvii, Mussel scalfe. 1587 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) 488 To caus brek the swame of the mvssill scalp in the heavin of Leyth. 1593, 1879, 1896 [see Mussel *sb.* 4]. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* III. (1676) 279 Avis hæc *the Scaup-duck* dicta est, quoniam scalpam [Ray (1678) 365 *Scaup*] i.e. pisces testaceos fractos seu contritos esitat. 1793 *Statist Acc. Scot.* VIII. 461 A *scalp* of a small kind of mussels. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 503 There used to be great battles between the men of Newhaven and the men of Fisherrow, principally about their rights to certain oyster-scalps. 1882 *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/1 Boston Deep, which is admirably suited for mussel culture, returns, now that the 'scalps' are protected, over 5000 *l.* per annum.

† **Scalp,** *v.*1 *Obs.* [ad. L. *scalpĕre.*] *trans.* To cut, carve, engrave; to scrape, scratch.

1552 [implied in SCALPING *vbl. sb.*1]. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* i. 9 With the..stile, we only cut the Vernish, razing, and Scalping as it were, the Superficies of the Plate. *a* 1764 R. LLOYD *Poet. Wks.* (1774) I. 95 Critics..Should..not, unskilful, yet with lordly air, Read Surgeon's lectures while they scalp and tear. 1802 M. MOORE *Lascelles* II. 23 The points of their swords scalped off their noses.

Scalp, *v.*2 Also 7 skulp (?). [f. SCALP *sb.*1 From Eng. are F. *scalper*, G. *skalpiren*, Du. *scalpeeren*, Sw. *skalpera*.]

1. *trans.* To cut off the scalp of (a person): chiefly said of the North American Indians.

1676 N. S. *Narrat. New-Eng.* 14 Laying him for dead, they flead (or skulp'd) his head of skin and hair. 1697 S. SEWALL *Diary* 13 Sept. (1878) I. 459 Indians shot and scalped him about noon. 1754 H. WALPOLE in *World* III. 285 The Chippoways and Orundaks are still very troublesome. Last week they scalped one of our Indians. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits in N. Amer.* xix. (1875) 281 They sought out the bodies, carefully scalped them, and set out in triumph on their return. 1877 G. GIBBS *Tribes of W. Wash.* 192 None of the western tribes within my observation have pursued the practice of scalping the slain.

absol. *c* 1778 *Conquerors* 61 Whose Indians scalp'd and carry'd desolation..to christian nation.

fig. 1849 N. HAWTHORNE *Let. to H. Mann* 8 Aug., I shall do my best to kill and scalp him in the public prints. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* xi. ix. (ed. 2) 298 Dr. Reid and his followers, instead of scalping a doctrine, have merely tomahawked a word.

b. *U. S. political slang.*

1891 *Century Dict., Scalp*,..to destroy the political influence of, or punish for insubordination to party rule.

2. *transf.* a. *U. S.* (See quot. 1895.)

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Scalp*, to level by cutting off, as the tops of cradle-knolls and the knobs of logs laid in corduroy roads; as, to scalp a road.

b. *dial.* To strip off (the turf or upper soil).

1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* IV. 524 Unmerciful destroyers of all the grounds around them, scalping and tearing up every bit of better soil. 1866 EDMONDSTON *Shetland & Orkney Gloss., Scalp*; 'To scalp the land'—to pare off the surface of the soil, S.

3. *Milling.* a. To separate the 'hair' or 'fuzz' from (wheat, etc.) by attrition and screening. b. To separate the different sizes of wheat, etc. from one another by means of sieves or screens.

1883 NEFTEL *Rep. Flour-Milling* (10th Census U. S.) 16 The wheat is scalped in four reels. 1884 [see SCALPING *vbl. sb.* 2, 3].

4. *Stock Exch.*, etc. To buy at very low rates so as to be able to sell at less than official rates.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Oct. 12/1 A professional speculator, who 'scalped' the market on a big scale for a small profit per bushel. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v., To scalp railway-tickets.

Scalp, *v.*3 *rare.* = SCAPPLE *v.*

1725 *J. Webb's Stone-Heng* 88 They were scalped [*ed.* 1665 scapled] at the Quarries. 1883 *Stonemason* Jan., It is then trimmed (or scalped) into shape by men called block-choppers.

Scalped (skælpt), *ppl. a.*1 [f. SCALP *v.*2 + -ED1.] a. Having the scalp torn off. b. Of a mountain: Having a naked summit. Of land: Having the turf stripped off.

1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 275 A long list of ruined Virgins by means of this Act will undoubtedly be as acceptable to its Abettors as a Number of scalped Christians to an Indian Chief. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* xxx, A tall scalped mountain. 1890 *St. Nicholas* May 556/2 Many a good in-field [for base-ball] has no turf on it, and is called a 'scalped' field.

Scalped, *ppl. a.*2 *dial.* In quot. scauped. [f. SCALP *sb.*2 + -ED 2.] Cultivated on a 'scalp'.

1894 *Standard* 10 Feb. 6/7 'Scauped', or cultivated mussels.

Scalpeen (skælpī·n). *Anglo-Irish.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SCALPIN.] (See quot.)

1834 LOVER *Leg. & Stories Irel.* Ser. II. 18 Peter..determined on a cargo of scalpeens. *Ibid.* 55 Scalpeens is pickled mackerel.

Scalpel (skæ·lpĕl), *sb.* [ad. L. *scalpell-um*, *-us*, dim. of *scalper*, *scalprum*. Cf. F. *scalpel* (in 16th c. *scalpelle*), G. *skalpel*.] A small light knife used in surgical and anatomical operations.

1742 SIMSON in *Edin. Med. Ess.* V. 1. 445 The Scalpel is about an Inch in length, and a third in Breadth. 1879 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* II. 5 Shaving the redundant mass off the cartilage with a scalpel. 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 333 If a scalpel be passed over the surface, it removes a little pyo-lymph.

attrib. 1742 SIMSON in *Edin. Med. Ess.* V. 1. 447, I contrived the Scalpel-ring I have sent you the draught of, which may be used safely with the Uterus at any Distance.

b. *fig.*

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxi, Whoever should happen to overhear their character discussed in their own servants'-hall, must prepare to undergo the scalpel of some such anatomist. 1851 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* xi. (1855) 339 It demands, too, for this serious service the most acute intellectual scalpel which the metaphysician can handle.

Hence **Sca·lpel** *v. trans.*, to cut with a scalpel; **Scalpe·llic** *a.*, involving the use of the scalpel.

1748 tr. *Vegetius' Distempers of Horses* 53 Let the whole Circumference of the Soal of the Hoof be scalpelled or cut with a Lancet. 1877 RUSKIN *Wks.* IV. 155 *note*. Ocular and passionate study of nature [as opposed to] telescopic, scalpellic and dispassionate.

Scalpe·lliform, *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *scalpelliformis*: see prec. and -FORM.] 'Having the form of a common penknife-blade, but planted vertically on a branch' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

Scalper1**, scauper** (skæ·lpəɹ, skɔ̄·pəɹ). [Partly a. L. *scalper*, by-form of SCALPRUM, partly f. SCALP *v.*1 + -ER1.]

†**1.** *Surg.* = SCALPRUM 1. *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scalper* or *Scalping Iron* (*scalprum*), a Surgeons Instrument, to scrape or take away corrupt flesh from the bones; a Lance to let blood with.

2. *Engraving.* A kind of graver used for hollowing out the bottom of sunken designs.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 308/1 The Scalper, is a kind of Graver with a flat point; its use is to clear the bottoms of broad Letters or Escochions sunk into the Metal. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. vii. 377 A large square tool, called a scawper. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* IV. 122 With scalpers he tooled or hollowed out all the spaces. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 10 Dec. 298/3 Scaupers are used for cutting out the white parts of the block.

Scalper2 (skæ·lpəɹ). [f. SCALP *v.*2 + -ER1.]

1. One (esp. an American Indian) who removes scalps.

1795 COLERIDGE *Conciones ad Pop.* 45 Did not this employment of merciless Scalpers rouse the indignation of Britons? 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VI. 371 Scalpers and ax-men rush from Eerie's shore. 1884 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 617/2 This treacherous scalper of birds.

fig. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Oct. 536 The scalpers of the yellow press had not time to put on their war-paint.

2. *U. S. slang.* a. One who buys and sells at a profit, but at a price lower than the official one, unused portions of long-distance railway tickets.

1882 *Nation* 5 Oct. 276 (Cent. Dict.) The eternal quarrel between railroads and scalpers. 1892 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 52, I went round to all the railroad ticket agents, called scalpers, in the city, and at last decided to go down as far as Topeka in Kansas, as that was the cheapest journey I could pick out for the distance.

b. *Stock Exch.* One who sells stock at lower than the official rates.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Oct. 12/1 'Old Hutch,' by which title B. P. Hutchinson has been known on the Chicago Board of Trade for years as the champion scalper and speculator. 1891 *Times* 8 Oct. 11/1 Late trading was dull, but steady, on moderate covering by 'scalpers'.

3. A scalping-knife. *rare.*

1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 297 A tussle *à la Choctaw*, with biting, gouging, tomahawk and scalper.

4. A 'scalping' machine: see SCALP *v.*2 3.

1886 W. A. HARRIS *Techn. Dict. Fire Insur.* 251 *Scalpers*, or *Scalping Reels*, the simple hexagon dressing-reels with iron shaft, iron arms, and iron rails clothed with tin or steel-wire cloth. *Ibid.* 252 Wheat is partially crushed by rollers, and afterwards passed through the scalpers and the silk dressing-machines.

Scalph, obs. form of SCALP *sb.*2

†**Sca·lpin.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 scalpyn, 6 scalphyn, 7 scalpion. [Of obscure origin: cf. SCALPEEN.] The whiting.

c 1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 72 Toutz maners grociz pissouns, cestassauoir Samoundes, Congres, Melewels, Lenges, Hakes, Scalpyn et Harrynges venauntz au dite ville de Bristuyt hors del meer. 1548 (30 June) *Admiralty Court Oyer & Terminer* 35 Departyd therewithe [i. e. with a fishing boat] from Poole towards Wynchelsey on Scalpyn fare. 1549 in *Pat. & Close Rolls, Irel.* (1861) I. 196 [For every cwt. of] scalphyn [or other fish 1 *d.*]. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 35 Whitings (in the East parts named Scalpions).

†**Sca·lping,** *sb. Obs.* [? f. SCALP *sb.*1 + -ING1.] (See quot.)

1746 CATESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 126 Mr. Joice, in digging the Foundation of an House..found, at the Depth of 6 Feet, a Part of a Jaw-bone..; then one Foot of Scalping or Sand-bed; then eighteen Inches of Stone.

Sca·lping, *vbl. sb.*1 [f. SCALP *v.*1 + -ING1.] In † scalping iron = SCALPER1 1.

1552 HULOET, Scalping yron for a surgeon, *scalpellum*, *scalprum*. [Also in later Dicts.]

Sca·lping, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SCALP *v.*2 + -ING1.]

1. a. *Surg.* The laying bare of the bone of the skull by cutting and raising the scalp.

1739 SHARP *Surg.* xxvii. 139 For it never happens that we inquire for a Fracture of the Scull by scalping, but that the Scalp itself is contus'd. 1787 *Med. Commun.* II. 153 Which he had experienced before the scalping and trepanning. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

b. The tearing off of the scalp of an enemy.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 43 Scalping is cutting the skin from the eyebrows round the head and peeling it off. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* VI. xxiv. 3 He taunted Burgoyne with the murders and scalpings by the Indians in his employ.

2. In technical and slang uses (see the vb.).

1871 COWIE *Shetland* viii. 158 (E. D. D.) The ruinous process of 'scalping', or removing the turf of the commons for manuring the farms. 1882 *Nation* 5 Oct. 276 (Cent. Dict.) A corporation like the Pennsylvania Railroad must protect itself against loss through scalping. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Scalping* (*Milling*), brushing the hair or fuzz from the ends of wheat grain to prevent its getting into the flour. 1894 *Standard* 3 May 7/1 (Farmer) A scalping of the Stock at the expense of the genuine investor. 1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 25 Apr. 4 Numbers of crofter grazings have been spoiled..by 'scalping', irregular peat cutting,.. and careless heather burning.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scalping act*, *party*; fig. in *scalping measure*; scalping-machine (see quot.); **scalping-tuft,** a scalp-lock.

1750 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield* (1875) 382 Our Men will not venture out after the Enemy on any Scalping Act whatsoever. 1757 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 454 *note*, They have detached their principal force into many scalping parties. 1777 Fox in *Hansard's Parl. Hist.* (1814) XIX. 523 The most violent, scalping, tomahawk measures. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* iii, The well-known and chivalrous scalping-tuft. 1883 NEFTEL *Rep. Flour-milling* (10th Census U. S.) 9 The resultant 'chop' is separated into..flour, middlings, and bran, by means of bolts technically called 'scalping-reels'. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/5 A 'scalping' machine..separates the 'middlings' from the larger pieces of wheat.

Sca·lping, *ppl. a.* [f. SCALP *v.*2 + -ING 2.] That scalps (in various senses).

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 75 A scalping Indian. 1903 *Times* 3 Mar. 9/2 Chicago, March 2. Wheat..Scalping traders were moderate buyers.

Sca·lping-knife. [SCALPING *vbl. sb.*2] A knife such as is used by the North American Indians in scalping their enemies.

1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 40 ¶ 7 A..Mohawk Indian warrior,..with his scalping-knife, tom-ax and all other implements of war! 1825 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Milton* (1843) I. 8 The Mohawk hardly feels the scalping-knife while he shouts his death-song. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits in N. Amer.* xxii. (1875) 328 They had no motive for exchanging the comforts of home..for..the scalping-knives of the Iroquois.

b. *fig.* and allusively.

1764 CHURCHILL *Gotham* I. 5 Whilst her brave rage, not satisfied with life, Rising in blood, adopts the Scalping-Knife. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* Introd. Addr. ¶ 37 Peter Pattison's last labours shall now go down to posterity unscathed by the scalping-knife of alteration.

Scalpless (skæ·lplĕs), *a.* [f. SCALP *sb.*1 + -LESS.] Without a scalp.

1756 J. CLUBBE *Misc. Tracts, Physiognomy* (1770) I. 17 The scalpless musty skull of the famous Helen. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* I. vi. 90 A tall cast of Michael Angelo's well known skinless model—his pristine white defaced by a cap of soot upon the top of his scalpless skull.

Scalpriform (skæ·lprifōɹm), *a.* [f. L. *scalprum* (see next) + -FORM.] Chisel-shaped: applied to the incisors of rodents.

1828 *Lancet* 3 May 130/2 These chisel or scalpriform teeth. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 454 Rhizophaga. Two scalpriform incisors in both jaws. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 6.

‖ **Scalprum** (skæ·lprŏm). Also ? *error.* **scalpra.** [L., f. *scalpĕre* SCALP *v.*1]

1. *Surg.* A rasping instrument; a raspatory.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 235/2 The Scalpra or Scraping Toole; it is to scrape or shave bones with all. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 303 With the knife appropriated to this use and the scalprum, a piece of the scalp is to be removed. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Scalprum*.. Name for a denticular raspatory used in trepanning.

2. *Anat.* The cutting edge of an incisor. Also, a scalpriform incisor.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Scalprum*, in Mammalogy, the cutting edge of the incisor teeth.

† **Sca·lptize,** *v. burlesque nonce-wd.* [f. L. *scalpt-*, *scalpĕre* SCALP *v.*1 + -IZE.] *trans.* To scratch.

1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xx. 60 You have..scalptiz'd your Heads with frequent Applications of your Ungicules.

Sca·lpture. *rare.* [ad. L. *scalptūra*, f. *scalpt-*, *scalpĕre* SCALP *v.*1] Carving, graving.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scalpture*,..a graving in Mettal, a cutting or scratching. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* Introd. § 27 (ed. 2) 10 Scalpture (the art of cutting stones and dies).

Scalpy (skæ·lpi), *a. dial.* [f. SCALP *sb.*1] Having a thin covering of soil suggesting a scalp.

1621 BRATHWAIT *Omphale* in *Nat. Emb.* 222 Where scalpie hils and sandie vales imply, The ploughmans toile's requited slenderly. 1808 JAMIESON, *Scalpy* (pron. *Scaupy*), a term applied to ground, when the soil is thin. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Some's so near th'rock it's scalpy, and, in a way o' speakin', good to nowt.

Scalt: see SCALD *a.*2 and SCALD *v.*

Scalter, scaltre, var. ff. SHALTREE *Obs.*

Scaly (skē·li), *a.* Also 6–7 skaly, 6–7, 9 scalie, 7 scaily, *Sc.* skailly, 7–9 scaley. [f. SCALE *sb.*2 + -Y.]

1. Abounding in, covered with, or consisting of scales; having a surface that peels off in thin plates or layers.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Squammosus*, skaly. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 74 If your teeth be verie scalie, let som expert Barber first take off the scales. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 442 The scalie Sutures of the Temple-bones. 1682 WHELER *Journ. to Greece* I. 14 The surface..is covered with a scaly rock. 1793 *Gentl. Mag.* May 422/1 An altar-tomb, or altar, of scaly stone. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* III. 82 A scaly, sweetish, gummy mass. 1892 E. LAWLESS *Grania* ii. 7 The wind..tearing off fragments of scaly stone from the rocks.

2. Of fishes, serpents, and other animals; freq. in poetry = pertaining to or consisting of fish (*scaly flock*, *herd*, *nation*, *tribe*).

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* O ij b, The more skaly that fishe is, the better hit is. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 57 The silver scaly trouts. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 127 The skailly squadrones of the liquid lakes. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xviii, The scaly Horrour of his foulded tail. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* xv, So hear the scaly herd when Proteus blows. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 139 The patient fisher takes his silent stand,..With looks unmov'd, he hopes the scaly breed. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 108 Season the Scaley Side first. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 450 The body of these fishes is scaly. 1857 J. HAMILTON *Less. from Gt. Biogr.* (1859) 278 His own line quivered with a scaly captive. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* viii. 115 A strip of the scaly hide of a crocodile.

b. In specific names, usu. repr. L. *squamosus*, *squamatus*, or *squameus*: see quots. *Scaly ant-eater*, *scaly lizard*, names for the pangolins.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. iii. 46 The Scaly-Lizard..is a yard and ½ long. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VI. iii. 468 The Pangolin, which has been usually called the scaly lizard. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 74 Scaly Tortoise. *Testudo Squamata.* 1812 *Ibid.* VIII. 463 Scaly Lory. *Psittacus squameus.* 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 186/1 Pangolins, a name in common use to designate the Scaly Ant-eaters. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 227 Genus *Scardafella* Bonaparte. Scaly Dove.

c. *Scaly fish* (slang) : see quot.

1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Scaly Fish*, an honest, rough, blunt sailor.

3. Of plants and their parts : Covered with scales or consisting of scale-like elements.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXXXVIII. 588 Small scaly knops, like to the knops of Corne flower. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 80/2 The Arbor Vitæ, or Tree of Life hath a small scaly leaf. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 242 The main bulbs of lilies, of the scaly tribe, will not keep good so long out of the ground as the solid bulbous kinds. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 470 *Scaly*.., covered with minute scales, fixed by one end; as the young shoots of the Pine tribe. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 46 When the scales are narrow and separate, as in the Lily, the bulb is said to be scaly. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 622 Rhizomes with scaly leaves.

b. Scaly fern or spleenwort, the ceterach. **Scaly water-moss,** *Fontinalis squamosa.*

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 789 Scaly Water-moss. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 224 Common Ceterach, or Scaly Spleenwort.

4. Of skin diseases. *Scaly ringworm,* tinea imbricata. *Scaly tetter,* psoriasis.

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxix. (1908) 228 The skaly Mange, which..taketh off the skinne where it goeth. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 112 Those who make a free use of it,..have a scaly appearance, not unlike the leprosy. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 112 Scaly Tetter. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 194 In the majority of cancerous diseases, the skin has a yellowish or lead-coloured tinge, and is dry and scaly. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* Introd. p. xiii, Tropical scaly ringworm.

b. *transf.* Of trees : Infested with the scale insect.

1894 *Times* 14 May 3/4 This [wash] is strained before being sprayed upon the scaly trees.

5. Of armour. Cf. *scale-armour* s. v. SCALE *sb.*[2] and SCALED. Chiefly *poet.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 146 A scalie Gauntlet now, with ioints of Steele, Must gloue this hand. 1747 GRAY *Cat* 16 Their scaly armour's Tyrian hue. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 120 His cuirassiers..glittering with their scaly armour. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XV. 641 His corslet thick With plates of scaly brass.

6. *Min.* (See quots.)

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 339 Brown Scaly Iron Ore. 1815 AIKIN *Man. Min.* (ed. 2) 200 *Scaly Talc*,..an aggregate of minute scales of a greenish colour. *Ibid.* 202 *Scaly Chlorite*,..composed of glimmering scaly particles. 1816 R. JAMESON *Min.* (ed. 2) III. 243 Red Ironstone. This species is divided into four subspecies, viz. Scaly Red Iron-ore [etc.].

7. *slang.* Poor, shabby, despicable ; *esp.* (of persons) mean, stingy ; occas., in poor health, 'seedy'.

1793 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 19 Poor Anax ! he was quite scaly before his departure, but is now recovering apace. 1821 EGAN *Life in London* II. iii. (Farmer), If you are too scaly to tip for it, I'll shell out, and shame you. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 233 They had proved themselves so very scaley, by forgetting to remember the waiter. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXVIII, A reg'lar scaly old shop, warn't it ? 1875 BESANT & RICE *Harp & Cr.* I. x. 206 If I were an author—they are a scaly lot, and thank Heaven I am not one.

8. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic. **Scaly-bark (hickory),** the hickory or hickory nut.

1634 MILTON *Comus* (Facsimile MS. 1899, 13), The scalie-harnest dragon. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vii. 64 Scaly-like Fruit. 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 246 Scaly-breasted Parrakeet. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 400 Scaly-tailed scarus. 1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 2) 237 Scaly foliated, when the folia cover each other only partially. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 332/1 *Carya alba*, white-shell-bark, shag-bark, scaly-bark hickory (*Juglans squamosa*, Michaux). 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 21 Scaly-stalked Club-rush. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Mar., A pretty young woman rings your bell to ask, 'You all buy some scaly-barks ?'

Scalyon, obs. form of SCALLION.

Scam, obs. form of SHAME ; var. SCAUM *v.*, *Sc.*

Scamandee, variant of SCAMATO *Obs.*

Scamander (skămæ·ndəɹ), *v.* [app. f. the name of the river *Scamander* (Σκάμανδρος Homer), in imitation of MEANDER *v.*

Cf. Yorks. dial. '*skimaundering*, hanging or bovering about' (*Almondbury Glossary*).]

intr. To wander about, take a devious or winding course. Hence **Scama·nder** *sb.*, devious progress.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 3) 220 *Scamander*, to wander about without a settled purpose. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* II. 195 Isola had given up 'scamandering'. 1873 — *Miranda* II. 247 When he got into an unknown town, it was his wont to sinuously scamander through it. 1873 *St. Paul's Mag.* Feb. 133 His two..doggish friends ..made miles of scamander for his every furlong.

† Sca·mato. *Obs.* Forms: 6 **scamato,** 7 **scammatie, scamoty, scamandee.** [app. repr. some mod. Gr. corruption of med. Gr. ἑξάμιτον SAMITE.

Cf. mod. Chios dialect σκαμάγκι and σκαμάνδρα, σκάμανδρον 'spun cotton' (Paspates Χιακὸν Γλωσσάριον, 1888 ; in a quot. there given the latter is associated with δίμιτον : cf. quots. below).]

Some kind of textile fabric.

1570 CAMPION in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. I. 115 For we do vse to buy..of their Scamato and Dimite, that the poore people make in that towne [*sc.* Chio]. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. 1812 The downie or woolly substance..of which the Ilanders doe make a certaine stuffe called Dimitie, and another called Scammatie. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. 4 Scamoty the peece containing seven yardes & ½..vij s. vj d. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 99 In most of these Villages are made the Stuffs, which they call Dimite, and Scamandee.

Sca·mble, *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms : 5 **skamyll,** 9 **skemmel** ; 6 *pl.* **skaymlis, scamles, scamells, scambills, skemlis,** 7 **skemmillis.** [Northern var. of SHAMBLE *sb.* ; prob. due to Scandinavian influence ; cf. ON. *skemill*, Da. *skammel* footstool.]

1. A bench ; now, 'a kind of long form used in a farm-house kitchen' (E. D. D.).

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1352 Thai xxx[ty] dayis hs band thai durst nocht slaik, Quhill he was bundyn on a skamyll off ayk. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of a Crime* x, [He] had placed the benches called skemmels down each side.

† 2. *pl.* (const. as *sing.*). A slaughter-house (also *fig.*) ; a meat or fish market ; a shambles. *Obs.*

1549–50 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 58 To brek fischis apon the skemlis of the foirgate. 1561 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 334 For makking of ane skaymlis of tre at the fysche cors, for laying of the quhyt fysche tharupoune. 1570 BUCHANAN *Admonit.* Wks. (1892) 23 Sum convoyaris of him to ye scamles that slew his guidschir. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXV. 94 We sall avenge it on that clan, 3our freind that to the scambills sauld. 1582–8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 195 They marchit..to Edinburgh, and plantit a gairdhous at the comon scamells. 1607 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 116 The fische skemmillis.

† Sca·mble, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. SCAMBLE *v.*] A scramble, confused struggle.

1609 J. DAVIES *Humours Heau'n on Earth* I. CLXXXIII. (Grosart) 23/1 Here Bugs bestirre them, with a beilowing rore, As at a Scamble we see Boyes to sturre, Who for Soules scamble on a glowing flore ; Biting and scratching, like the Cat and Curre. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. XVI. 320 This pretended Triumvirate is no Supreme Magistracy, but a Political Scuffle or Scamble or transient Shuffle betwixt these three men, Octavius, Antony and Lepidus.

Scamble (skæ·mb'l), *v.* Also 6 **skamble,** 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **skammel, skemmel, -il, skemmle, skemble.** [Of obscure origin ; app. related both to SHAMBLE and SCRAMBLE *vbs.*, which are not recorded until much later.]

† 1. *intr.* To struggle with others for money, fruit, sweetmeats, etc. lying on the ground or thrown to a crowd ; hence, to struggle in an indecorous and rapacious manner in order to obtain something. Const. *for, after. Obs.* (now superseded by SCRAMBLE).

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1545) 22 b, The apes.. skambled and went together by y[e] eares for the nuttes. 1553 *Respublica* I. iii. 176 *Avar*...Therefore catche that catche maye, hardely, & spare not,..the Devyll ys a knave an I catche not a flyce,..I doubte not to skamble and rake as well as one. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. XXVI. (Arb.) 66 Ladies and gentlewomen..with their handes wantonly scambling and catching after the nuttes. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 146 England now is left To tug and scamble, and to part by th' teeth The vn-owed interest of proud swelling State. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIV. XLV. 1199 The king,..laid out fiftie talents among them upon the river side to skamble for. 1609 [see SCAMBLE *sb.*]. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. XV. 178 *margin*, I had no money, I wanted impudence, I could not scamble, temporise, dissemble. 1636 SIR T. WENTWORTH *Let.* in *Carte's Coll.* (1735) 6 Every man had his money at a day, not scambling one before another without so much as giving of thanks. 1668 J. OWEN *Expos. Ps. CXXX.* 68 This may consist with an obstinate resolution to scamble for something upon the account of self endeavours. 1687 WOOD *Life* 5 Sept. (O. H. S.) III. 237 After the king had don his breakfast, they began to scramble [MS. 19 D (3) fol. 90 scamble]. [In Wood's MS. drafts of this portion of the *Life* the word occurs several times, variously written *scramble* and *scamble.*]

† b. To struggle wildly. *Obs.*

1591 LYLY *Sapho & Phao* IV. iii, He [a stockdoue]..scambling to catch hold to harbor in the house hee had made,.. sodainely fell.

2. *trans.* To scatter (money, food) for a crowd to scramble for. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Also Sc. (Roxb.) '*Skemmel, skammel*, to throw things hither and thither in a slovenly and careless way' (Jam.).

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 112 Keepe threshing..to haue to be suer fresh chaffe in the bin. And somewhat to scamble, for hog and for hen. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* LXIX. 1246 C. Marius..had purchased a sixth Consulship by a largesse of money skambled amongst the tribes. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., At weddings it is customary to scamble money after leaving the church.

† 3. To seize in a scuffle ; hence, to take in a rapacious or unscrupulous manner. Const. *away. Obs.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 150 Hee will not be a raiser of new stirrs in Italy ; as divers of them to scamble somewhat for theyr owne haue beene. 1638 FORD *Fancies* I. iii, Perhaps The scambling halfe a duccat now and then To rore and noyse it with the tatling hostesse. 1695 WOOD *Life* 9 Nov. (O. H. S.) III. 495 There were only some gentlemen and ordinary people..in the Area who [after the king's departure] rudely scamb[l]ed away all the banquet.

4. *intr.* To make one's way as best one can ; to stumble along. *lit.* and *fig.* Now only *dial.*

Also Sc. 'to climb or walk over slight or loose obstacles, to climb over rocks or walls' (Jam. s. v. *Skemmel*).

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* To Rdr. (1633), From thence to Henry the Eight, because nothing is extant orderly written, ..I scamble forward with such records as could be sought up. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* 23 b, I haue in my voyage suffred wrack with Vlisses, & wringing-weit scambled with life to the shore. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. II. III. XV. 181 When they contemne Learning, & think themselues sufficiently qualified, if they can write & read, or scamble at a piece of Evidence. 1685 H. MORE *Cursory Refl. Baxter* 8 Having scambled through a multitude of Authors carelesly and superficially, he was [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Scamble*, to rove or wander up and down. 1901 MISS HAYDEN *Trav. round Village* ii. 42 You had best try an' scamble through the water afoor 'tis too late. *Ibid.* XV. 254 How do 'ee manage to scamble along wi'out Kizzy ?

† b. To make shift, find means somehow. *Obs.*

1608 *Merry Devil Edmonton* D 4 b, Be ready but to take her at our hands, Leaue vs to scamble for her getting out.

† c. To make shift for a meal. *Obs. rare*—[1]. (Cf. SCAMBLING *vbl. sb.* b.)

1591 LYLY *Sapho & Phao* III. ii, *Molus.* I am in the deapth of my learning driuen to a muse, how this lent I shall scamble in the court, that was woont to fast so oft in the Vniuersitie. *Criti.* Thy belly is thy God.

† d. quasi-trans. *To scamble out* : to get through (a period of time) in a haphazard way. *Obs.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* xi. (1633) 34 In this division they scambled out a few yeares, untill the malice of Carassus a Britaine forced a quietnesse betweene them.

5. To throw out the limbs in a loose and awkward manner in walking ; to shamble. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1633–1852 [see SCAMBLING *ppl. a.*]. 1825 JAMIESON, *Skemmel, skemble, skammel.*

6. *trans.* To collect in a haphazard or irregular manner ; to 'scrape' *together, up.* Now *dial.*

1577 HARRISON *England* Ep. Ded., It may be..that your Honour will take offence at my rashe and rechlesse behauiour vsed in the composition of this volume, and much more that being scambled vp after this maner, I dare presume [etc.]. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I. i. (1633) B 3, They say we are a scatter'd Nation : I cannot tell, but we haue scambled vp More wealth by farre then those that brag of faith. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 541 Before the enemie should perceive the weaknesse of his power, which was not great, and scambled up upon the suddain. 1638 WOTTON *Let. to Bacon* 6 Nov. in *Reliq. W.* (1672) 471 With this dispatch I will intermingle no other vulgar subject, but hereafter I will entertain you with as jolly things as I can scamble together. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 544/2 Each might, without much difficulty, 'scamble up some sort of husband' from among the corps.

7. To remove piecemeal ; to cut *away.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 426 Finding my Wood cut in patches, and other parts of it scambled and cut before it was at its Growth. 1888 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 186/2 This band..was left untouched when the sculptor scooped or scambled away the substance to give depth of space for the relief of the two figures.

Hence **Sca·mble-shamble** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *intr.*, to lounge or shamble.

1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 332 He went scamble-shambling on, a plague to the end.

Scambler (skæ·mblə(ɹ), *Sc.* Also 6 **scamler, skam(e)lar.** [app. f. SCAMBLE *v.* + -ER[1].

The vb., however, is app. not recorded in Sc. before the 19th c., and derivation from SCAMBLE *sb.*[1], a bench, would not be inconsistent with the sense. Cf. Gael. *sgimilear.*]

A parasite, sponger.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 45 On 3our hienes follows eik ..Scaffaris, and scamleris in a nuke, And hall huntaris of draik and duik. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 37 Skaldit skaitbird, and commoun skamelar. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. iii. (S. T. S.) II. 153 þe maist parte of þe knichtis ..war passand like skamlars throw þe cuntre. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 274 It is well ken'd your Father's Son was never a Scambler. [*Foot-note.* One that goes about among his Friends for Meat.] 1755 JOHNSON *Scambler* (Scottish), a bold intruder upon one's generosity or table.

Scambling (skæ·mblin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the vb. SCAMBLE.

c 1538 R. COWLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 98 Such havok and skameling as they make was never seen, to the utter pilling and beggering of the land. 1584 *Leycesters Commonw.* 106 And how so euer thes two conioyned Earles, do seeme for the tyme to draw together, and to playe bootie : yet..Hastings for ought I see, when he commeth to the scambling, is like to haue no better luck by the Beare, then his auncestor had once by the Boare. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, V. ii. 218. 1659 GAUDEN *Serm.* etc. (1660) 9 Whatever scambling and confusion in Civil and Regular Magistracy mens ambition brought on the state of the Jews, yet [etc.]. 1878 GROSART *H. More's Poems*, Mem. Introd. 10/1 Those noble old folios, matterful and painstaking, and putting to shame the literary scambling of to-day.

b. † The action of making shift for a meal or for meals. *Scambling day* : see quot. (*obs.*). Also, a makeshift or informal meal. Now only *dial.*

c 1512 *Regul. Northumberld. Househ.* (1770) 80 This is the ordre of the Service of Meat and Drynk to be servyd upon the Scamlynge Days in Lent Yerely as to say Mondays and Setterdays thrughe out Lent and what they shall have att the said Scamlyngs. 1563 PILKINGTON, etc. *Burnynge Paules Ch.* I iiij, Some..eat more at that one dynner, than the poore man can get at three scamlinges on a day. 1606 MARSTON *Parasitaster* II. i, Come Sir, a stoole boy, the Court Feasts are to vs Seruitors Court Fasts, such scambling, such shift for to eate and where to eate. 1873 W. P. WILLIAMS & W. A. JONES *Somerset. Gloss., Scamblin*, irregular meal.

Scambling (skæ·mblin), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].]

† 1. Contentious, rapacious. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 94, I know them,..Scambling out-facing, fashion-monging boyes. 1599—*Hen. V*, I. i. 4 The scambling and vnquiet time. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Life Buckingham* (1642) 29 He was no sooner entred into the Town, but a scambling Souldier clapt hold of his bridle. 1691 *New Disc. of Old Intreague* xvi. 28 Whose regular noise..Some dreadful scambling combate did present.

2. Clumsily or carelessly executed ; slipshod, slovenly ; makeshift. Also of a person : Blundering, bungling.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* C j, Who is it, that reading Beuis of Hampton, can forbeare laughing, if he marke what scambling shyft he makes to ende his verses a like. 1599 HARSNET *Discov. Fraud. Darrel* 275 It is not likelie that the Diuell coulde bee dispossessed, by such almost priuate, slender, interrupted, and scambling prayers. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii. § 5 (1712) 61 Or if you will say, that there may some scambling shift be made without them [etc.]. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 721 [Provincialisms.] You've made a scambling dinner, I fear. 1884 ROGERS *Six Cent. Work & Wages* II. 412 The establishment of a rule that members of such unions would denounce and expose dishonest and scambling work.

3. Irregular, rambling, scattered.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 67 The scambling chace eight leags endurd right, Ending almost at the gate of Reans. 1657 OWEN *Review Nat. Schism* ix. 141 To declare the way of his exerting his Authority..is not a matter to be tossed up and down in this scambling chase. 1658 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Sept., To Bedington,..a fine old hall, but a scambling house. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Ganges Penins.* 404 Her Capital City, which is large but scambling. 1702 D. GRANVILLE *Rem.* (Surtees) 241 Letters..to my scatter'd, scambling, and sometimes scabby sheep. 1786 tr. *Sparrman's Voy.* 324 Being ..upon a plain under the shelter of a few scambling thorn-trees. 1891 *Reports Provinc. Dev.* (E.D.D.) There wad'n on'y two or dree scamlin ones [*sc.* pheasants] down thick way.

4. Straddling, shambling.

1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* v. i, Can you imagine, Sir, the name of Duke Could make a crooked leg, a scambling foot, ..fit for a Ladies pleasure, no. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 952 The Gnat..hath six long crooked scambling legs..growing from his prominent breast. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* viii. 33 On horseback, Tom was a.. hard-bitten little fellow.., while on foot he was the most shambling, scambling, crooked-going crab that ever was seen.

Hence **Sca·mblingly** *adv.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Griffe, Griffe graffe*, by hooke or by crooke,..scamblingly, catch that catch may. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Scame, variant of SCAUM; obs. form of SHAME.

†**Sca·mel.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. Meaning uncertain: the statement in quot. 1866 is of doubtful value. Some have proposed to read *staniel*.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 176 And sometimes I'le get thee young Scamels from the Rocke. [1866 H. STEVENSON *Birds of Norfolk* II. 260 At Blakeney Mr. Dowell states that bar-tailed godwits are known to the local gunners by the singular appellation of 'Picks' and 'Scamells'...He believes by 'Scamells' are meant the females and those found singly in autumn.]

Scamely, obs. form of SCAMMONY.

Scamler, Scamles: see SCAMBLER, SCAMBLE *sb.*^{1}

Scammatie, variant of SCAMATO *Obs.*

†**Sca·mmel,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Perh. connected with SCAMBLE *v.*: cf. Sc. *skemmel* 'a tall, thin, ungainly person' (Jam.); also dial. *scrammel* 'a lean, gaunt, ill-favoured person or animal' (E.D.D.).] Lean, scraggy.

1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* II. ix. 39 That [mule] which is begotten of the wilde Asse, cometh nothing behind the other, but only that it is unruly and stubborn, and somewhat scammel, like the Sire [L. *nisi, quod..strigosum patris proferet habitum*].

†**Scammo·nial,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *scammōni-um* + -AL.] = SCAMMONIATE *a.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* v. xiii. 167 Rhabarb or some scamoniall Medicine is often added to Cassia.

†**Scammo·niate,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *scammōniātus* (neut. *-ātum* as used subst.), f. L. *scammōnium* SCAMMONY.] **A.** *adj.* Made with or containing scammony; hence, purgative. Also *fig.*

1620 BP. ANDREWES *Serm., Holy Ghost* xiii. (1629) 740 Neither Scammoniate, tormenting the conscience; nor yet Opiate stupifying it. 1652 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 113 A Scammoniate medicine. 1725 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 389 The hot, scammoniate, aloetic Purgers seem not so proper.

B. *sb.* A medicine containing scammony; a purgative medicine.

1665 M.N. *Med. Medicinæ* 389 Ill-corrected Scammoniates.

Scammonic (skămǫ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *scammōn-ium* SCAMMONY + -IC.] *Scammonic acid* = jalapic acid: see JALAPIN.

1864 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVI. 408.

Scammonin (skæ·mǫnin). *Chem.* [Formed as prec. + -IN.] = JALAPIN. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*

†**Scammonite,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *scammōnītes*, a. Gr. σκαμμωνίτης, f. σκαμμωνία SCAMMONY.] Medicated with scammony.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIV. xvi. I. 421 In like maner also is made the Scammonite wine.

Scammony (skæ·mǫni). Forms: 1 scamonie, (-am, Lat. *accus.*), 3 scamoi(e)ne, 5 scamely, 5–6 scamonie, scammonye, 5–7 scamony, 5 skamonye, 7 -ony, 6–7 scammonie, 6– scammony. [ad. L. *scammōnia, scammōnium* (also *scammōnea*), a. Gr. σκαμμωνία, -όνιον. Cf. OF. *scamonee, escamonie* (mod.F. *scammonée*), PT., Sp., Pg. *escamonea*, It. *scammonea*.]

1. A gum-resin obtained from the tuberous roots of *Convolvulus Scammonia* (see sense 2) used in medicine as a strong purgative; also, the dried tuberous root from which the drug is prepared.

Also with qualifying word indicating the place of export, esp. in *Aleppo, Smyrna scammony*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 272 Nim scamoniam þæt penig geweze & gegnid smæle. *Ibid.*, Wyrtdrenc scamonian geceos þus. *c* 1205 LAY. 17740 Appas..dude þer to atter þa scamoiene [*c* 1275 scamoine] hatte. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 173 That wee shulde have no nede to skamonye, Turbit, euforbe [etc.]. *c* 1475 *Non-Cycle Mystery Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) 73/506, I haue gyven byr a drynke made..wyth scamely. 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccciii. (1529) Cc iij b, Scamony is often contrefayted with mylke of y^e^ herbe of catapucie. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 19 You may make it as strong a Purging Medicine, as Scammony. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 470 Scammony acts upon the system like jalap, but is somewhat more irritating.

fig. 1678 B. R. *Let. Pop. Friends* 4 What Protestant Scammony is strong enough to make a thorough-pac'd Catholick Disgorge Infallibility?

b. (See quot.)

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 956 A spurious kind of Scammony has been prepared from the root of *Convolvulus (Calystegia) sepium*; and several plants belonging to the order Asclepiadaceæ yield a purgative exudation which has been used under the names of Montpellier and Bourbon Scammony.

2. The plant *Convolvulus Scammonia*, native in Syria and Asia Minor, having a fleshy root which furnishes the scammony (sense 1) of commerce.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 61 Scammony..hath a leafe like Iuie. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccv. 716 Of Scammonie, or purging Bindweed. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. 191 This genus contains several remarkable plants; as Scammony..and Jalap.

3. *attrib.*

1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 282 Compound Scammony Powder...Scammony Mixture. *Ibid.* 283 Scammony resin also forms an important ingredient in extractum colocynthidis compositum. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 627 This Scammony as also Scammony Root, and Scammony Resin, are official in the British Pharmacopœia.

Scamoniall: see SCAMMONIAL.

Scamoty, variant of SCAMATO *Obs.*

Scamp (skæmp), *sb.* Also 9 *Sc.* skemp. [f. SCAMP *v.*^{1}]

1. A highway robber. *arch.*

1782 MESSINK *Choice of Harlequin* (Farmer), Ye scamps, ye pads, ye divers. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Scamp*, a highwayman; royal scamp, a highwayman who robs civilly; royal foot scamp, footpads who behave in like manner. 1809 G. ANDREWES *Dict. Slang, Scamp-foot*, a street robber, a foot pad, spicer. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, A rank scamp!

†**b.** Highway robbery. *Obs.*

1786 *Life Miss Davies* 11 He resolved to go upon the scamp. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., The game of highway robbery is called *the scamp...Done for a scamp* signifies convicted of a highway robbery.

2. A good-for-nothing, worthless person, a ne'er-do-well, 'waster'; a rascal. Also *playfully* as a mild term of reproof.

α. 1808 JAMIESON, *Scamp*, a cheat, a swindler; often used as to one who contracts debt, and runs off without paying it, *Loth., Perths.* 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Scamp*, a mean rascal, a fellow devoid of honour and principle. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxix, He was a sad scamp. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlvii, Those are the cleverest scamps I ever had any thing to do with. 1844 LOCKHART *Let.* 13 May in *Life & Lett.* (1897) II. 199 Ben Disraeli, the Jew scamp, has published a very blackguard novel. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. vi. 181 The prodigal who has been with scamps in gambling-houses. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 133 This scamp Voltaire!

β. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 110 Ye're surely some silly skemp of a fallow, to draw out your sword on a puir auld woman. 1824–7 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxii. (1828) 339 Skemps that had not wherewithal to pay lawful debts.

3. *U. S.* (See quots.)

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 538 *Trisotropis falcatus* Poey.—Scamp. 1884 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 413 Another fish..*Myctetoperca falcata*, is called at Pensacola by the name 'Scamp'.

Scamp (skæmp), *v.*^{1} [app. cogn. with SCAMPER *v.*, which occurs earlier. An earlier evidence of the word may exist in the mock-heraldic SCAMPANT (*c* 1585).] *intr.* †**a.** *cant.* (See quot. 1753). **b.** *Sc.* With advs. *about, off.* (See quot. 1867).

1753 *Disc. John Poulter* (ed. 2) 39 I'll scamp on the Panney; [=] I'll go on the Highway. 1867 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Scamp*, to go about in an idle manner; often with the idea of mischief; followed by *aboot* and *through*.

Scamp (skæmp), *v.*^{2} [Prob. of dialectal origin; cf. SKIMP *v.*, used *dial.* in the same sense; the source may possibly be ON. *skemma* to shorten, f. *skamm-r* short: see SCANT *a.*]

1. *trans.* To do (work, a task, etc.) negligently or hurriedly. Also *to scamp off, over.* Cf. SKIMP *v.*

1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 392 (*Printer*) The best work which cannot be 'scamped' over. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 11 From the very earliest times the tendency to 'scamp' work seems to have existed. 1867 G. MUSGRAVE *Nooks in Old France* I. ii. 80 A perilous mode of scamping off their work. 1888 W. P. FRITH *Autobiog.* III. v. 112 A portrait, in which..the man's figure had been what we call 'scamped'.

absol. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* viii. 211 There are tradesmen who adulterate, contractors who 'scamp' [etc.].

2. *U. S. intr.* (in quot. quasi-*trans.*) To be stingy or excessively economical. Cf. SKIMP *v.*

1894 C. MERIWETHER in *Nation* 16 Aug. 116/2 If three or four dollars more are added for rent, the tenant either scamps the life out of himself and family, or crops the land to death.

3. *Comb.*: **scamp-work,** scamped work.

1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xxviii, To use a joiner's phrase, everything abroad is comparatively scamp-work. 1884 E. H. PLUMPTRE in *Expositor* Apr. 275 What we call 'scamp-work' in building was as common..in Ezekiel's time, as it is with us.

Hence **Scamped** *ppl. a.*

1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 198 The house was..misbuilt..a despicable, cockney, scamped edifice. 1885 J. G. WOOD *My Garden Wall* in *Longm. Mag.* VI. 518 This one little bit of 'scamped' brickwork is almost the only part that is worth watching.

†**Sca·mpant.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [quasi-*Her.* after RAMPANT; cf. SCAMP *v.*]

c 1585 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 122 [Burlesque coat of arms] A lyther lad scampant, a roge in his ragges.

‖**Scampavia** (skampavī·a). Also 8 scampavie. [It., f. *scampare* to run off, decamp (see DISCAMP *v.*) + *via* way, away.] A swift sailing vessel used in the Mediterranean.

1723 *Pres. St. Russia* I. 35 Three Russian Scampavies full of Russian Soldiers. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 122 Quick sailing little vessels called scampavias. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scampavia*, a fast rowing war boat of Naples and Sicily.

Scamper (skæ·mpəɹ), *sb.*^{1} [f. SCAMPER *v.*] The action of scampering, in the senses of the vb.; also, an instance of this. Also in the phrases *to be on* or *upon the scamper, to put to the scamper.*

1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* Pref., The first day it [*sc.* this Play] appear'd, 'twas routed.., the fourth it gave a vigorous Attacque, and the fifth put all the Feathers in Town to the scamper. 1766 COLMAN & GARRICK *Clandestine Marr.* v. ii, If we had not watch'd them and call'd up the fammaly, they had been upon the scamper to Scotland by this time. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. xi. P 4 Those who are always on the scamper see a great deal of the country. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 147/3 A fox..led hounds a short but merry scamper over a stiff country. 1888 BURGON 12 *Gd. Men* II. v. 4 He loved..a scamper round the garden.

Scamper (skæ·mpəɹ), *sb.*^{2} [f. SCAMP *v.*^{2} + -ER^{1}.] One who scamps work.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 199 To a notorious 'scamper', he one morning sent three cart-loads of 'mac' at 1*s.* a load, all to be used in the erection of..one..house. 1884 C. GIBBON *By Mead & Stream* II. xxxii. 144 Work was scamped: he detected it, and dismissed the scampers.

Scamper (skæ·mpəɹ), *v.* [Of uncertain origin. In our quots. first recorded in 1687, but very common between that date and 1700. Not improbably the word was originally military slang, either from obs. Du. *schampen* 'to escape or flie, or to be gone' (Hexham 1660), which is a. OF. *escamper* to decamp, or from It. *scampare* to decamp, run away: see DISCAMP *v.* A less likely, though possible, supposition is that it represents a ME. derivative of the OF. word, preserved in some non-literary dialect.]

†**1.** *intr.* To run away, decamp, 'bolt'. *Obs.*

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1720 I. 89 It rejoices me to consider, with what wonderful Alacrity you [*sc.* St. Ursula and her Virgins] scamper'd over the Alps, and without a Farthing of Money in your Pockets. 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 144 Upon beat of drum..[they] have scampered away, and by flight provided for their safety. 1693 DENNIS *Impartial Critick* iii. 18 *Beaum...* But whose are those Verses? If they are thine, I scamper immediately. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 189 We were forc'd to cut our Cables in all haste, and scamper away as well as we could. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew, Scamper*, to run away, or Scowre off, either from Justice, as Thieves, Debtors, Criminals, that are pursued; or from ill fortune, as Soldiers that are repulsed or worsted. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 191 The wagoners took each a horse out of his team and scampered. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. lxxv, The Turks at first pretended to have scamper'd. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* ix, The few of the Pirates who had escaped having scampered into the woods.

2. To run or caper about nimbly; to go or journey hastily from place to place. Also with advs. *about, away, off*, etc.

1691 [see SCAMPERING *vbl. sb.*]. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 517 For which reason, I suppose, they represented so many Serpents scampering about in the printed Picture that was made of him. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* Pref., I have been set up for half-pence, to fret and scamper at the end of my chain [like a dancing bear]. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 3 Barefooted children were scampering up and down these stairs at play. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xlvi. 63 The current scampers through between the two castles. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnie.* iii. 60 A black fox dashed across our way, and, giving us a scared look, scampered into cover. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. i. 3 He is devoured by impatience to be scampering off again.

fig. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. xiii. 285 She could just scamper through the scales.

Hence **Sca·mpered** *ppl. a.*

1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 249 After a scampered-through breakfast. 1906 *Daily News* 21 Mar. 6/5 The usual scampered mid-day meals.

Scamperer (skæ·mpərəɹ). [f. SCAMPER *v.* + -ER^{1}.] One who scampers; †? a street ruffian.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 P 3 A very gay..old Man.. who has been, he tells me, a Scowrer, a Scamperer, a Breaker of Windows [etc.]. 1802 MISS EDGEWORTH *Manœuvring* vi. (1809) 149 This ever idle, ever busy scamperer. 1804 *Hull Advertiser* 4 Feb. 3/3 A gang of scamperers. 1871 TYNDALL *Forms of Water* § 14 P 123 They were no idle scamperers on the mountains that made these wild recesses first known.

Scampering (skæ·mpərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCAMPER *v.* + -ING^{1}.] In the senses of the verb.

1691 MOUNTFORT *Greenwich Park* II. iii. 22 *Sir Tho...* Let's have a Dance...*La. Haz.* I think we had better Dance at Home...*Sir Tho.* Agreed, then we'll first to Supper, and then for a Rubbers at scampring. 1765 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* II. 677 Nobody else can know in what instances I have restrained its [*sc.* a horse's] scamperings. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess., Mme. D'Arblay* P 40 A cry of 'The King' was set up. A general scampering followed. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 25 A terrible noise of scrambling and scratching and scampering in the very room beside her.

Scampering (skæ·mpərin), *ppl. a.* [f. SCAMPER *v.* + -ING 2.] In senses of the verb.

1859 K. CORNWALLIS *Panorama of New World* I. 199 A scampering crowd of agile young runners. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* Prol. 1 In these days of Pacific Railways and scampering Globe Trotters.

Scamphood (skæ·mphud). *nonce-wd.* [f. SCAMP *sb.* + -HOOD.] The quality of being a scamp.

1866 CARLYLE *E. Irving* in *Reminiscences* (1881) I. 205 Hazlitt, ..a fine talent too, but tending towards scamphood.

Scamping (skæ·mpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCAMP *v.*2 + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. SCAMP.

1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 467 He did all thoroughly and honestly. There was no scamping with him. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 150 A scamping in the work,..a flaw in the metal, may mean the destruction of the train.

Scamping (skæ·mpiŋ), *ppl. a.*1 [f. SCAMP *v.*1 or *sb.* + -ING 2.] That behaves as a scamp, good-for-nothing.

1832 W. STEPHENSON *Gateshead Poems* 63 The scamping, filthy loon. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 244 *note*, You are not one of these scamping Dutchmen, but one of the original ..inhabitants of the country.

Scamping (skæ·mpiŋ), *ppl. a.*2 [f. SCAMP *v.*2 + -ING 2.] Of a workman, etc.: That scamps work.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 199 One man..informed me that 'mac' was most in demand among scamping builders.

Scampish (skæ·mpiʃ), *a.* [f. SCAMP *sb.* + -ISH.] Having the character or disposition of a scamp; characteristic of a scamp.

1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* xxiii. Wks. 1854 III. 76 The alcade personally renewed his regrets for the ridiculous scene of the two scampish oculists. 1892 *Nation* 28 Apr. 325/3 His temporary religious fervor is a scampish aberration.

Hence **Sca·mpishly** *adv.*, **Sca·mpishness.**

1858 S. BROOKS *Gord. Knot* ii. (1860) 16 But he did his best for Arundel, alternately dilating upon the scampishness of Robert Spencer and the vulgarity of his wife [etc.]. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* ix, Vargas had been scampishly disposed at his best.

†**Sca·mpsman.** *Obs.* [f. *scamp's*, SCAMP *sb.* 1 b + MAN *sb.*] A highwayman.

1799 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1805) III. 352 Memorandum.—If any thing done by scampsmen on the Fulham road, send the traps to pull up Bounce and Blunderbuss. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, 'The Game of High Toby', Forth to the heath is the Scampsman gone.

Scampy (skæ·mpi), *a.* [f. SCAMP *sb.* + -Y.] = SCAMPISH. In some recent Dicts.

Scan (skæn), *sb.* [f. SCAN *v.*] The action of scanning; close investigation or scrutiny; perception, discernment; a scanning look.

1706 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 266 May bear the scan of our superiors. 1775 WASHINGTON 28 Nov. in Sparks *Writings* (1834) III. 178 (Funk) What will be the end of these manœuvres is beyond my scan. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 215 The princes and lords of thought shoot forth their winged words into regions beyond the scan of the people. 1828 COLERIDGE *Gard. Boccaccio* 33 All spirits..that..lent a lustre to the earnest scan Of manhood, musing what and whence is man. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 480/1 A curious watchfulness pervades every man—a quick scan of every rock and bush on walking abroad.

Scan (skæn), *v.* Also *a.* 4-7 **scanne**, 6-7 **scann**, **skan**(ne. *β.* 5-8 **scand.** [ad. L. *scandĕre*, lit. to climb, in late L. to 'scan' verses. Cf. F. *scander* (perh. the source, but in Fr. dicts. first cited from the 16th c.), Sp. *escandir*, It. *scandere* (also to climb), G. *skandiren*, Du. *skandeeren*.

The Latin word is cogn. w. Sk. *skand* to leap and Gr. σκάνδαλον stumbling-block, SCANDAL; derivatives in Eng. are SCANSION, SCANSORY etc., SCALE *sb.*3; also, from L. compounds, the vbs. *ascend*, *descend*, *transcend*.]

1. *trans.* To analyse (verse) by determining the nature and number of the component feet or the number and prosodic value of the syllables; to indicate the structure or test the correctness of (a verse) by reciting it with metrical emphasis and pauses, or by counting on the fingers the feet as they occur in recitation. Also *occas.* to describe prosodically (a word or sequence of words); to find (a particular kind of foot) in a given portion of a verse.

a. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxxv. (Bodl. MS.), & who kanne scanne [in 1495 *printed* scand] a verse may knowe þt þe myddel sílable stondeþ for a schorte sílable in þe secunde verse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scanne verse (*P.* scannyn versis), *scando*. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* B ij, Those verses..Whiche longe deliberation..hath not..on the fingers scande. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A wife*, etc. (1638) 93 He treads in a rule, and one hand scannes verses, and the other holds his scepter. 1638 H. RAINSFORD in *G. Sandys' Div. Poems* To Author, Thy Lines I weigh not by th'Originall; Nor skan thy Words how evenly they fall. 1706 W. WALSH *Let. to Pope* 9 Sept., P.'s Wks. (1736) V. 51 They scan their verses upon their fingers. 1874 SYMONDS in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 769 But a trochee in the fourth place! (for so he [Johnson] scanned the lines), O Milton and Cowley! shame upon your ears! *Ibid.* 770 Critics like Todd think nothing of scanning an anapæst in the place of one of Johnson's feet. 1900 SKEAT *Chaucer Canon* § 15 It is impossible to scan the Ormulum until one has learnt the grammar.

transf. 1791-2 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk.* 147 There an old man an olden measure scanned On a rude viol.

β. 1495 (see quot. 1398 in *α*). 1642-53 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Pet.* ii. 12 (1693) 366 The word is *My Observers*, or those that scand my wayes every foot of them, that examine them as a Verse,..if there be but a wrong measure in them, they will..mark it. 1729 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* II. 416 The manner of scanding and chanting those Verses.

b. *absol.*

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 292 An eare that could measure a just cadence, and scan without articulating. 1735 POPE *To Arbuthnot* 165 Each Wight, who reads not, but who scans and spells. *a* 1740 J. WARTON *Sappho's Advice* 30 A pen I handled for a fan, And learnt not how to dance but scan.

c. *intr.* (for *pass.*). To admit of being scanned, to be found metrically correct.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iii, Martin..proceeded..to convert these..into Latin that would scan. 1865 F. A. PALEY tr. *Æschylus* 184 *note*, The lines will neither scan nor construe like ordinary verses.

†**2.** *trans.* To criticize; to test or estimate the correctness or value of; to judge *by* a certain rule or standard. Sometimes with allusion to sense 1.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg.* I. (Camden) 95 Constantinus..did banishe Arrius,..bie cause hee went abowte to skanne the Christian relligion with mischevus lies and glosinges [*quod Christiana dogmata nefariis commentis metiri est impie conatus*]. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* CCXVIII. (1636) 252 If a man would exactly scanne the temperature of beere. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 179 The loue of fathers toward their children,..of egles to their young ones, of hens to their chickens, all these haue beene but shadowes to it, but no sufficient measures by which to skanne it [*sc.* God's mercy]. 1618 NAUNTON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 64 For to write I had neither leysure, nor lyst to have my lines scanned by any equivocating preists. 1672 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* II. i, The Rule of Happiness by Reason scan. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 1 Know then thy self, presume not God to scan. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 64 We attempt to scan the divine Justice by our narrow conceptions of it. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 333, I see the lords of human kind pass by. ..True to imagin'd right, above control, While e'en the peasant boasts these rights to scan, And learns to venerate himself as man. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. Ind.* II. v. iv. 428 The feeble discernment which has generally scanned the proceedings of the East India Company.

β. 1585 J. NORDEN *Sinfull Man's Solace* 161 b, If thou, oh sillie booke, doe chaunce To light into the hand Of any such as takes delight Ech others worke to scand.

†**b.** *intr.* To pass judgement *on*, *upon*; to form an opinion *of*. Often in indirect passive. *Obs.*

1582 A. MUNDAY *Eng. Romayne Lyfe* i. 10 But when the Pope had scanned on this hasty business..they were denyed their request. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* v. 26/1 By these wordes he betokeneth, that wee must rest wholely vppon that which God saith, and not stande scanning after our owne fancies. *Ibid.* xiii. 76/1 When men will needes scanne of Gods workes and prouidence according to their owne reason: they shall finde thinges to grudge at. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 42, I leaue for you to scan, Both of the maydens rich attyre, and iewels of the man. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 132, I intend not to proceed any further in this curiositie..nor..to haue it put in execution in our vulgar Poesie, but to be pleasantly scanned vpon. 1602 ROWLANDS *Tis Merrie*, etc. 23 And when they meete, they do discourse and scan About whose choyce hath got the kindest man. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* III. xvii. 132 If this hadde hapened in our times, Lord how it would haue beene scanned vppon.

3. *trans.* To examine, consider, or discuss minutely. † *To scan out*: to discover by examination.

1550 CROWLEY *Inform. & Petit.* 706 Scan the wordes of the Psalmist concernyng this mattier. 1586 *Let. to Earl Leicester* 16 But you Lawyers are so nice in sifting and skanning euery woorde and letter. 1596 BABINGTON *Notes upon Genesis* xi. 82 The time of this tower built, and speech confounded, may be asked...I stand not vpon coniectures to scan it out. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 245 My Lord, I would I might intreat your Honor To scan this thing no farther. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 166 Whoever scanns yᵉ words of yᵉ Adress cannot..putt any other construction upon them then such as we have done. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 161 Careless their merits or their faults to scan, His pity gave ere charity began. 1828 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* II July (1884), It is wonderful with what facility and accuracy he scanned all those facts. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xxi. 402 Man scans with scrupulous care, the character and pedigree of his horses..before he matches them. 1886 BOWEN in *Law Rep.* 31 Chanc. Div. 379 We ought not, I think, to scan the pleadings too narrowly upon a question of the right to discovery.

β. *a* 1635 RANDOLPH *Poems* (1638) 11 The smooth Viper every member [of sleeping Lycoris] scands.

†**b.** With clause as obj. *Obs.*

1558 PHAER *Æneid* III. F iv b, And what those walls shuld be we skanne, & councel greatt we take. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* v. 55 There riseth a like difficultie, in skanning whence it commeth that nature made two eyes, and two eares. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 189 It belongs to some god, to scan and to see which of all these opinions is true.

†**4.** To interpret, assign a meaning to. *Obs.*

1562 HEYWOOD *Prov.* O iij, This woord *enough* twoo waies we may skan. Thone much enough, thother littell enough. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 75 And now Ile doo't, and so he goes to Heauen, And so am I reuenge'd: that would be scann'd, A Villaine killes my Father, and for that I..do this same Villaine send To heauen. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 463 But concerning the limiting of the space of sixe yeares for seruice,..what might bee the reason thereof, thus it is diuersly scanned. 1. Some do thus moralize it [etc.]. 1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* v. i, The Fates..Haue summon'd Saturnes three sonnes to the Tower, To them the three Dominions to assure Of Heauen, of Sea, of Hell. How these are scand, Let none decide but such as vnderstand. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 4 Hence men came to scan the Scriptures by the Letter.

5. To perceive, discern. Now *rare*.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. F j b, Whan sodenly the sound Of feete we heare to tread, and men full thicke my father skand. 1605 *Hist. Capt. Stukeley* C 4, My meaning had you beene but heere euen now, you might haue scand without my vtterance. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstrel* I. i, One part, one little part, we dimly scan Through the dark medium of life's feverish dream. 1792 COWPER *Stanza for* 1792 ii, Man ..not wise enough to scan His best concerns aright, Would gladly stretch life's little span To ages, if he might. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* III. xii, His thoughts I scan not; but I ween, That [etc.]. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 192 A satyr.. draws Nearer and nearer, and I scan him now Beastlier than any phantom of his kind.

6. To look at searchingly, examine with the eyes.

1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 251 His wild..eyes now scanned heaven impatiently. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxi, While Roderick scann'd, For her dear form, his mother's band. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ii, 'Humph', he said, when he had scanned his features, 'I don't know you'. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* x, She..sat scanning him intently from head to foot. 1861 J. H. BENNET *Shores of Medit.* II. xii. (1875) 412 The lost dog will scan the features of those who pass him in the street. 1893 F. C. SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 375, I climbed to the top of the hill in order to scan the country on ahead.

†**7.** To climb. *Obs. rare*−1. [A latinism.]

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 8 Whose silver gates..she entred,..Ne staide till she the highest stage had scand.

Hence **Sca·nned** *ppl. a.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* II. ii. H iiij, As thou in lawfull scanned vearse canste well descryue a thinge. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* IV. 154 When once they can in true skan'd verses frame A braue Encomium of good Vertues name.

Scance (skæns), *sb. Sc.* Also 7-9 **skance.** [f. SCANCE *v.*2] **a.** A glance; a glimpse. **b.** A gleam (of light).

a. 1787 J. SKINNER *Misc. Poetry* (1809) III. 108 O happy hour..That..gae him..Sae braw a skance O Ayrshire's dainty Poet. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 66 Then they stumbled on a field of the laird's..and took a 'skance' of what was going on there.

b. 1819-20 'ANTIQUARY' *St. Patrick* 168 (Jam.), I looket up amang the craigs an saw a red scance o' light beekin' on the taps o' the highest o' them.

Scance (skans), *v.*1 Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6-7, 9 **skance**, 7-8 **scanse.** [app. f. L. *scans-*, ppl. stem of *scandĕre* to climb, to SCAN.]

†**1.** *trans.* To examine critically, to scrutinize; to turn over in one's mind, to reflect on; also (with indirect question as obj.), to debate with oneself, 'wonder'. Cf. SCAN *v.* 2, 3. *Obs.*

1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1357 Give him 3our gude advyce; And panse not, nor skance not, The perril nor the pryce. 1603 *Philotus* ci, Full oft this mater did I skance, Bot with my self befoir. 1638 H. ADAMSON *Muses Threnodie* (1774) 161 How that can be forgote I greatlie scance.

2. *intr.* To reflect, comment, descant. Const. *of*, *on*, *upon*. Cf. SCAN *v.* 2 b.

1606 ROLLOCK *Lect. 2 Thess.* 28 (Jam.) To scanse of these things ouer far it is but vaine curiositie. 1739 A. NICOL *Nature without Art* 69 Oh my Muse, I want Engine To scance upon the Ancient Name. *Ibid.* 80, I ne'er admire the Learned, tho' they Scance On Stile and Numbers. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 151 (Jam.) Now round the ingle in a ring On public news they're scancin'.

†**3.** = SCAN *v.*1 *Obs. rare*−1.

1704 T. WATT *Gram. made easy* (1742) 78 To know how to Scanse the 10 Ode of the first Book [of Horace].

4. *trans.* To climb. (Cf. SCAN *v.* 7.)

1714 R. SMITH *Poems* (1853) 112 His Pious Soul did Jacob's Ladder scanse. 1861 R. W. DIXON *To Shadow* viii, If ever thou didst scance In a wayward wistful dance Up and down..On the wall with giant scrawl.

Scance (skans), *v.*2 Chiefly *Sc.* [Of obscure origin; cf. ASKANCE.]

1. *intr.* To glance, look with disdain.

1611 *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses h j b, The Country Boores dasht with the matter Beganne on him to skance awry. 1883 R. CLELAND *Inchbrachen* xiv. 113 Cockin' her neb at decent folk, an' scancin' at my tuscan bonnet.

2. To make a display or show.

1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 123 (Jam.) In silk an' sattin ilk ane scances, An' gawze beside.

Hence **Sca·ncing** *ppl. a.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 344 Where now cou'd shine The scancin glories o' carmine?

Scance, obs. form of SCONCE (fort).

Scand, rare obs. form of SAND *sb.*2

Scandal (skæ·ndăl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 **scandle**, **schandle**, **schaundle**; *β.* 6-7 **scandale**, **scandall**, 7 **skandall**, 6- **scandal.** [Early ME. *scandle*, *scha(u)ndle*, a. ONF. *escandle*, Central OF. *eschandle*, semi-popular ad. eccl. L. *scandalum* cause of offence or stumbling, ad. Gr. *σκάνδαλον*, recorded only in Hellenistic literature, in the fig. sense 'snare for an enemy, cause of moral stumbling', but certainly an old word meaning 'trap' (cf. the derivative *σκανδάληθρον* spring of a trap), believed to be f. the Indogermanic **skand-* to spring, leap: cf. L. *scandĕre* to climb, to SCAN.

Before the 16th c. the word occurs only in the *Ancren Riwle*, exc. in the forms treated s. v. SLANDER *sb.* (from the OF. variants *escandre*, *esclandre*). In the 16th c. it was re-adopted from the Latin in the form *scandal*, possibly after the Fr. learned form *scandale*, which had been introduced to represent the strict sense of eccl. L. *scandalum*, as distinguished from the senses that had been developed by F. *esclandre*. Cf. Sp. *escándalo*, Pg. *escandalo*, It. *scandalo*, G. *skandal* (which has developed the sense 'uproar'), Du. *schandaal*.]

1. In religious use. **a.** Discredit to religion occasioned by the conduct of a religious person; † conduct, on the part of a religious person, which brings discredit on religion. Also, perplexity of

conscience occasioned by the conduct of one who is looked up to as an example.

a. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Auh hwarse wummon liueð oðer mon bi him one, eremite oðer ancre, of þinges wiðuten hwarof scandle ne kume: nis nout muche strencðe. *Ibid.* 108 Auh er þen þet biddunge arere eni schaundle, er heo ouh for to deien martir in hire meseise. *Ibid.* 380 Ze nowen nout unnen þet eni vuel word kome of ou: uor schandle is heaued sunne.

β. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 135 A punishment of her lightnesse and vanitie, by meanes whereof she hath giuen occasion of scandale and offence. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Priest to Temple* xxiv, So for Scandall: what scandall is, wher given or taken; whether, there being two precepts, one of obeying authority, the other of not giving scandall, that ought not to be preferred, especially since in his obeying there is scandall also. 1740 C. C. GRAVES in *Wesley's Jrnl.* 1741–3 (1749) 68, I am heartily sorry, that I have given offence and scandal, by frequenting the meetings and attending the expositions of the persons commonly call'd Methodists. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VII. 24 Catholics..could not appear in Protestant assemblies without causing scandal to the weaker brethren.

b. Something that hinders reception of the faith or obedience to the Divine law; an occasion of unbelief or moral lapse; a stumbling-block; = OFFENCE 2.

The New Testament phrase †*the scandal of the Cross* (Gr. *τὸ σκάνδαλον τοῦ σταυροῦ*, Vulg. *scandalum crucis*) seems to have been used by some writers with a colouring derived from sense 2.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xiii. 41 They shal gather out of his kingdom al scandals. — *Gal.* v. 11 Then is the scandal [1611 offence; 1880 (*Revised*) stumbling-block] of the crosse euacuated. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* I. i. A 3 b, Since all skandalls are remou'd and cleer'd. 1619 SANDERSON *Serm.* i. (1689) 3 Despising is both a grievous sin in the despiser, and a dangerous scandal to the despised. 1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Religion* (Arb.) 423 Heresies and Schismes, are of all others, the greatest Scandals. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Modest Inq.* III. 28 Are not they that thus Excommunicate, the Schismaticks, by laying a Scandal in their Brothers way. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* I. vii. 214 The Resurrection..has wiped away the Scandal and Ignominy of the Cross. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 107 Then, heavenly calmness, lest thou fall, Where scandals line the way. 1872 A. DE VERE *Leg. St. Patrick* 117 That Crown of Truths, Scandal of fools, and conqueror of the world. 1908 TYRRELL in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 247 As a shock and scandal to the religious imagination of the masses, the thesis of Darwin is insignificant beside that of Galileo.

2. Damage to reputation; rumour or general comment injurious to reputation.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 15, I wonder much That you would put me to this shame and trouble, And not without some scandall to your selfe, With circumstance and oaths, so to denie This Chaine, which now you weare so openly. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 330 Giue scandall to the blood o' th' Prince, my Sonne,..Without ripe mouing to't? 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) A 2, I could..so shroud my selfe from scandall vnder your honourable fauour. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 1 For my Religion, though there bee severall circumstances that might perswade the world I have none at all, as the generall scandall of my profession [etc.]. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 102 A Stranger who had never seen them before, may without scandal, stop and talk to her he likes best. 1694 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* i. 17 Persecuting one another, to the shame and scandal of their common Christianity. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 42 Get drunk like a Gentleman, with no Scandal. 1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 259, I have practised levities for the sake of disrepute—and have written lampoons to be involved in the scandal. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii, The ill consequences or scandal which might arise from such a measure. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 387 To the scandal of our domestic regulations, the guns were all impracticable.

†**b.** A disgraceful imputation. In later use, a baseless imputation, a slander. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 29 You must not put another scandall on him That hee is open to Incontinencie. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 114 Cleansing vs from the filth of so many scandalls and imputations wherewith we haue beene disgraced and diffamed. 1708 SWIFT *Sentim. Ch. Eng. Man* Wks. 1751 IV. 93 To affirm that he [James II] had any cause to apprehend the same treatment with his Father, is an improbable scandal flung upon the nation by a few bigotted French scribblers. 1725 *Pope's Odyss.* II. Notes I. 104 Eustathius..quotes Herodotus, as affirming that she [*sc.* Penelope] had a son, named Pan, by Hermes; but the Bishop declares it is all a scandal. 1814 SCOTT *Swift's Works, Right of Preced. betw. Physicians & Civilians* (1824) VI. 326 *note*, Even Father Chaucer alludes to this scandal upon the medical faculty.

3. A grossly discreditable circumstance, event, or condition of things.

1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 69 Oh, what a Scandall is it to our Crowne, That two such Noble Peeres as ye should iarre? 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 225 A scandall are the alterations which they are forced by the Inquisitors to make in their Authors and Monuments of Antiquitie. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* Ser. II. iii. vi. 142 There were great scandals among Bishops and Priests, as well as heresy. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. iii. 490 Those Fleet marriages which had become one of the strangest scandals of English life. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 37/2 The thousand and one scandals of metropolitan misgovernment.

b. *concr.* A person whose conduct is a gross disgrace to his class, country, position, or the like.

1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* III. iv, What shall I call thee, thou grey-bearded scandal, That kick'st against the sovereignty to which Thou owest allegiance? 1683 WOOD in *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 60 Duncombe, a drunken M.A. of St. Marie Hall, a scandall to his profession. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 387 But say, if that lewd scandal of the sky, To liberty restor'd, perfidious fly. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* II. xiii. 4 Thou bane and scandal of my land. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* V. xxiv, So let it be, with the disgrace And scandal of her lofty race! 1889 *Spectator* 28 Dec., A Prime Minister nowadays is under no temptation to nominate men who will be either drones or scandals.

4. Offence to moral feeling or sense of decency.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 273 The people take great scandall thereat. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 546 P 1 It gives me very great Scandal to observe, where-ever I go, how much Skill, in buying all manner of goods, there is necessary to defend yourself from being cheated. 1821 BYRON *Two Foscari* v. i, Why So rashly? 'Twill give scandal. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii, That old wretch had given himself up entirely to his bad courses, to the great scandal of the county. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 43 The disclosure, indeed, could not be made without great scandal. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 160 The injured husband came raging on board and tried to shoot the captain, which made a great scandal.

5. The utterance of disgraceful imputations; defamatory talk. Now often playfully in milder sense, talk that is concerned with the faults or foibles of others, malicious gossip.

The word differs from the etymologically identical SLANDER in not implying the falsity of the imputations made.

1596 LODGE *Wits Misery* 17 The next Harpie of this breed is Scandale and Detraction. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxi. 31 Those Liberties in Conversation...When they Exceed these Limits, they Degenerate into Scurrility, Scandal, and Reproach. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 32 P 11 Secret History and Scandal have always had their Allurements. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. i, *Sneer.* No scandal about Queen Elizabeth, I hope? 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. vi. 411 Scandal affirmed that neither of them was really of kingly birth. 1886 WELLDON *Serm. Harrow* x. (1887) 148 Even in the worst courts there have been ladies upon whom the breath of scandal has never passed.

6. *Law.* Any injurious report published concerning another which may be the foundation of legal action.

1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., All actions upon scandal, ..although competent in inferior courts, may also be brought before the Court of Session.

b. An irrelevancy or indecency introduced into a pleading to the derogation of the dignity of the court.

1750 *Vesey's Chanc. Cases* (1773) II. 24 The single question is, whether these charges, referred for scandal and impertinence, may be relevant to the merits. 1801 *Ibid.* (1827) VI. 514 It is not to be called scandal, if material, and relevant to the justice of the case. 1835 J. S. SMITH *Chanc. Pract.* (1837) I. 567.

7. *Comb.*, chiefly objective, as *scandal-bearer, -bearing* adj., *-monger, -mongering, -monging* sb. and adj., *-mongery*; **scandal-broth, -potion, -water,** humorous names for tea; **scandal-crimp,** an agent for collecting scandal; **scandal-proof,** †*sb.* see quot.; *adj.*, unable to be touched by scandal.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 427 P 1 The Unwillingness to receive good Tidings is a quality as inseparable from a *Scandal-Bearer, as the Readiness to divulge bad. 1790 BURNS *Let. to Cunningham* 13 Feb., The *scandal-bearing help-mate of a village priest. 1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant* (ed. 2), **Scandal broth*, tea. 1798 WOLCOT (P. Findar) *Tales Hoy* Wks. 1812 IV. 389 Even Rose's News-hunters, his *Scandal-crimps Are changed to wits. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* xxxiii. 173 There is no society in the world without *scandal-mongers and tale-bearers. 1899 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* V. II. 216 A man may be a scandal-monger without being really malignant. 1855 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 579 The infernal *scandal-mongering in the neighbourhood. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xii. 158 The grander vices of calumny and scandal-mongering. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Mar. 2/1 A scandalmongering old lady. 1838 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 186 Are there not dinner-parties, 'æsthetic teas', *scandal-mongeries? 1801 COL. G. HANGER *Life* II. 109 Gossiping, *scandal-monging, and sweethearting. 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Reaper* 57 Get you home for a scandal-monging body! 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 224 Whyles, owre the wee bit cup an' platie, They sip the *scandal potion pretty. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Scandal-proof*, a thorough pac'd Alsatian, or Minter, one harden'd or past shame. 1904 SLADEN *When we were lovers in Japan* II. viii, Their friendship was still recognised as scandal-proof. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 234 The Tabbies [kill their neighbours' reputations] with '*scandal-water'.

Scandal (skæ·ndăl), *v.* Forms: 6–7 **scandall, scandale,** 7– **scandal.** [f. SCANDAL *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To disgrace, bring into ill repute or obloquy. *Obs.*

1592 *Nobody & Someb.* E 2 b, O God, that one borne noble should be so base, His generous blood to scandall all his race. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXII. 586 Scandalling the Court, With men debaucht, in so abhorr'd a sort. 1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* II. iii, Lest the Profession should be scandal'd by it, we hold it better, to trust Providence, by forswearing the Fact. 1684 BUNYAN *Holy Life* 99 If you will not leave off to name the name of Christ, nor yet depart from iniquity, you also scandal the sincere professors of Religion.

2. a. To spread scandal concerning (a person); to defame. Now *arch.* and *dial.* (see E.D.D.).

†**b.** To vituperate, revile. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 76 If you know That I do fawne on then [*sic*], and hugge them hard, And after scandall them ..then hold me dangerous. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 245, [I] intreat you..onely to abstaine from scandalling and mocking our Rites. 1700 DRYDEN *Flower & Leaf* 607 She..gave me Charms and Sigils, for Defence Against ill Tongues that scandal Innocence. 1894 F. S. ELLIS *Reynard the Fox* 79 And Reynard's crimes were finely handled; Well he and Ermelyne were scandalled.

†**3.** To be a cause of stumbling to; to injure by evil example. *Obs.*

1632 STRAFFORD in Browning *Life* (1892) 301 As for his example of life, itt was soe vertuouse, or so viciouse, as I beleeue wee might finde hundreths scandalled sooner, then one betterd by it.

†**4.** To shock the feelings of; to scandalize. *Obs.*

1643 CHAS. I in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 346 To the great danger of scandaling of our well affected Subjects. 1701 STEELE *Chr. Hero* (1711) 60 There are Earthly and Narrow Souls, as deeply Scandal'd at the Prosperity the Professors and Teachers of this Sacred Faith enjoy.

†**Sca·ndalist.** *Obs.* [f. SCANDAL *sb.* + -IST.] One who causes scandal.

a 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 262 That public scandalists should be suspended the Eucharist.

Scandalization (skæ:ndălaizē·ʃən). [f. SCANDALIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of scandalizing; the condition or fact of being scandalized.

1530 *Dial. Gent. & Husb.* in Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 168 Let one lyue neuer so wyckedly In abhominable scandalisacion.. They shall make of him no accusacion. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 14 Feb., The Prince and his wife, to the amusement of some and the scandalisation of others, indulged in a violent bout of fisticuffs in open court. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 90/1 State of scandalization and outraged proprieties.

Scandalize (skæ·ndălaiz), *v.*[1] [a. F. *scandaliser* (OF. *escandalisier*), ad. eccl. L. *scandalizāre*, ad. late Gr. *σκανδαλίζειν*, f. *σκάνδαλον*: see SCANDAL *sb.* and -IZE. Cf. Sp. *escandalizar*, Pg. *escandalisar*, It. *scandalizzare, scandalezzare.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To bruit abroad, make a public scandal of (a discreditable secret). *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* 44 Ye wyll scandalyze & vttre your mysfal that is now happed to you of one man.

2. To be the occasion of stumbling to; to injure spiritually by one's example. Now *rare.*

1538 POLE *Let.* 1 Aug. in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxxiii. 214 But they that scandalize a whole Nation, what shal follow? 1609 DOWNAM *Chr. Libertie* 78 Thou doest scandalize..thy weake brethren.

3. To utter false or malicious reports of (a person's) conduct; to slander, to charge slanderously (†*with*). Now somewhat *rare.* In early use also † to insult, treat with contempt.

1566 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xlviii. 486 He came thither..to embrace the Truth, which he had for a long time scandalized and rejected. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XX. 77 Let Iustice carry his ballance neuer so euen, the gouernment shall be dispised, the lawes scandalised, religion disdained, authority slandered. 1631 HEYWOOD *London's Jus Hon.* Ded. to Sheriffs, The Tribunes of the people..are cal'd Sacro Sancti, whose persons might not be iniured, nor their names any way scandaliz'd. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* IV. 53 We'll read Verses,..tell Lies, scandalize our Friends. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1813) 499 He was scandalized with suicide. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVI, To tell his tale might be interpreted into scandalizing the Order. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* IV, The company being accustomed to scandalise each other in pairs. 1865 *Intell. Observer* No. 42. 412 Scandalise or malign the owl's character.

b. *absol.* and *intr.* To talk scandal.

1745 FRANKLIN *On Scandal* Wks. 1887 II. 27 If to scandalize be really a crime, what do these puppies mean? 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 122 Saving to scrub, to bake, to brew, Nurse, dress, prattle, and scandalize, Nothing is left for the men to do.

4. *trans.* To bring shame or discredit upon; to disgrace. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 91 Nor yet any church scandalized with the wicked liues of their pastors. 1632 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 45. 78 To liue under the Gospell of Christ, and to liue in sinne is..to scandalize the Word of Grace. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 438 The Committee thought it reasonable to..adjourn to the Inner Court of Wards, he being scandalized to stand at that bar where he had been judge of the Court. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 32 There's a Beau..going to sell himself to Barbadoes, to keep himself..from Scandalizing his Relations at Tyburn. 1880 TENNYSON *Columbus* 189 We, who bore the Cross Thither, were excommunicated there, For curbing crimes that scandalised the Cross.

5. To horrify or shock by some supposed violation of morality or propriety.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 42 Others..were more scandalized at so precipitate a Promotion of a person of Such an Education. 1676 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 90 The Spaniards..had by their filthy behaviour scandalized all the chief inhabitants of the Island. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 14 He is much scandaliz'd to find any in his Ship out-witting him. 1779 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) IV. 623 The critic is scandalized at the epithets of scanty and suspicious. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* v, You will scandalise our reverend friend here. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* iii. 79 The prudes of antiquity were scandalized at Solon, for having penned some amorous verses of very questionable character.

Scandalize (skæ·ndălaiz), *v.*[2] *Naut.* [Alteration of SCANTELIZE, assimilated to prec. Cf. SCANTLE *v.* 4.] *trans.* To reduce the area of (a sail) by lowering the peak and tricing up the tack.

1862 'VANDERDECKEN' *Yacht Sailor* 18 Keep your peak standing, or scandalise the mainsail. 1867 *N. & Q.* 28 Sept. 260/2 *Scandalising a Sail.* This phrase is neither very new, nor confined to Thanet. It was in common use among Cornish sailors fully forty years ago.

Hence **Sca·ndalized** *ppl. a.*

1893 CLARK RUSSELL *Ida Noble* 205 We reduced the schooner down to what is termed a scandalised mainsail and a jib.

Scandalized (skæ·ndălaizd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCANDALIZE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].] In senses of the verb; now only, Horrified, shocked.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. II. vii. 130 By their absence

and silence will they preach and inculcate Atheism and Infidelity into their scandalized Clergie. 1861 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxvi. (1864) 82 My eye turned in scandalized alarm towards Mrs. Poyntz. 1890 S. J. DUNCAN *Soc. Departure* 305 Mrs. Fitzomnipo..smoketh cigarettes..under the very noses of the scandalised.

Scandalizer (skæ·ndăləizəɹ). [f. SCANDALIZE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who slanders; a libeller.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 409 A damnable scandalizer of the Church. 1680 J. PHILLIPS *Dr. Oates's Narrat. Vind.* 52 The Scandalizer of the Presbyterians, and the Vindicator of the English Catholicks. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 484 The assembled fathers decreed that the corpse of the scandaliser of women should forthwith be exhumed.

2. One who places a moral stumbling-block in the way of another. ? *Obs.*

1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* I. xi. (1684) 28 Even those little ones of whose scandalizers and neglecters Christ spake so terribly, were none of them without some Sin.

Scandalizing (skæ·ndăləizing), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCANDALIZE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SCANDALIZE in various senses.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies* Ep. to Rev. Divines ¶¶j, [They] haue presumed to thinke that the same was indeed written to the scandalizing of some worthie personages. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* II. ix. 39 They are rather to be thought obstinate in scandalizing, who..take not away the occasion of the scandall. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxiii. 237 It was thought fit that the Scandalizing of such a Person should not be passed over without publick Satisfaction. 1816 W. DUNCAN *Sel. Orat. Cicero* x. 311 Scandalising has nothing in view but contumely.

Scandalizing (skæ·ndăləizing), *ppl. a.* [f. SCANDALIZE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That scandalizes.

1. Causing offence.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xii. § 2 Good things haue no scandalizing nature in them. 1661 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. Ep. Ded., Neither have you in this scandalizing Age laid a stone of offence before others, but admirably vindicated the honour of Religion.

2. Uttering malicious and false reports.

1646 'ALETHEGRAPHUS' *Let. to G. Wither* 1 Being stigmatized, at least with the name of lying and Scandalizing Bard. 1847 *Mischief of the Muses* 45, I bear the jokes Of cruel scandalizing folks. 1876 CLARK RUSSELL *Is he the Man?* II. 226, I would..wash my hands of this unjust scandalizing neighbourhood.

†**Sca·ndalled,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 **scandald.** [f. SCANDAL *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Disgraced, shameful.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 90 Since they did plot The meanes, that duskie Dis, my daughter got, Her, and her blind-Boyes scandald company, I haue forsworne.

2. Slandered, falsely accused.

a 1639 T. CAREW *Fem. Honour* 3 When scandall'd vertue might be bold, Bare foot, upon sharp Cultures spread O'r burning coles to march. 1660 *Plea for Ministers in Sequestr.* 3 What with him was the highest cognizance of (not the scandalous but scandaled) Puritan Ministers, but the brand of Raschals?

†**Sca·ndaller.** *Obs.* [f. SCANDAL *v.* + -ER[1].] One who utters scandal; one who slanders.

c 1620 W. HUDSON in *Intell. Observer* (1867) XI. 107 Libellers, scandalors of the state, and such like. 1684 'PHILO PATER' *Observator Reproved* 5 The first step to it in Petitioning against the Observator, for a Common Scandaler of the Church and Church-men.

Scandalous (skæ·ndăləs), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6 **scandelouse,** 7 **scandolous, scandelous.** [a. F. *scandaleux* = Sp., Pg. *escandaloso,* It. *scandaloso,* med.L. *scandalōsus,* f. eccl. L. *scandalum*: see SCANDAL *sb.* and -OUS.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. Of the nature of, or causing, a 'stumbling-block' or occasion of offence; also, bringing discredit on one's class or position. *Obs.*

1592 *Maldon (Essex) Borough Deeds* Bundle 149 No. 13 Hereby you are growen verie scandalouse and offensive vnto many. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii. 216 Many Laws.. may be found both scandalous and full of greevance to their Posterity that made them. 1670 WALTON *Lives* I. 47 He was enabled..to make such provision for his children that they were not left scandalous, as relating to their or his Profession and Quality.

†b. In the 17th century applied to ministers of religion who were regarded as unfit for their office on the ground of heresy or unbecoming conduct.

1631 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 219 That such were scandalous and fitt to be therfore removed from the ministry. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 56 Who were quickly taught, to call all those against whom such Petitions and Articles were exhibited the Scandalous Clergy; which appellation was frequently applied to men of great Gravity and Learning, and the most Unblemish'd lives. 1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 242 Yesterday was the debate concerning..the punishing of scandalous Clergymen.

2. Of the nature of a scandal; grossly disgraceful. Also (now *rarely*) of a person: Guilty of grossly disgraceful conduct, infamous.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 121 But this most cruell vsage of your Queene..somthing sauors Of Tyrannie, and will ignoble make you, Yea, scandalous to the World. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* XXXV. 588 The scandalous falls of good men are like a bag of poison cast by Satan into the spring whence the whole town is supplied with water. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 I. 28 Domitian, the most scandalous emperor, and most infamous of men. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 91 The most scandalous Election that ever was in Oxford. 1769 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. 348 Scandalous traffic..is introduced into the administration of justice. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 52 Persons not only generally scandalous in their lives, but the identical persons who [etc.]. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXV, I..was this instant setting forth to Kinfauns, to plead my innocence of this scandalous charge. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 96 The worst that can be said of him is that he was indolent, luxurious, and worldly: but such failings..are scandalous in a prelate. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xx. 445 The great extent to which they [bribes] were accepted has long been one of the foulest scandals of a scandalous reign.

3. Of words and writing: Defamatory, libellous. Of persons: Addicted to or loving scandal.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 122 Shall we thus permit A blasting and a scandalous breath to fall, On him so neere vs? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 167 They were not content to returne a resolute answere, but added scandalous words, terming us *meschini.* 1642 (*title*) An Ordinance..for prohibiting the printing..of any Lying Pamphlet scandalous to His Majestie. 1646 H. MARKHAM *Let.* in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 2, I shall not trouble your Ladyship with her scandelous and sawcy language of my Lorde or yourselfe. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* II. ii, He..will willingly dispence with the hearing of one scandalous Story. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. vii, The most scandalous tongues have never dared censure my reputation. 1821–22 SHELLEY *Chas. I,* III. 48 In distraining for ten thousand pounds Upon his books and furniture at Lincoln, Were found these scandalous and seditious letters. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* V. ii, But I am small and scandalous, And love to hear bad tales of Philip.

4. Of a statement, etc.: Not pertinent to the case, irrelevant.

1750 *Vesey's Chanc. Cases* (1773) II. 24 Nothing pertinent to the cause can be said to be scandalous. 1809 *Ibid.* (1827) XV. 477 The introduction of irrelevant and scandalous matter upon affidavits. 1835 J. S. SMITH *Chanc. Pract.* (1837) I. 567.

†5. *Path.* ? Putrid, offensive. *Obs.*

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* VII. vi. 66 These are the Ulcers which render *fistulæ ani* Scandalous. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 183/1 It cures the Scurvy, (even when it is become scandalous).

B. *sb. slang.* A periwig.

a 1700 in B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Scandalously (skæ·ndăləsli), *adv.* [f. SCANDALOUS *a.* + -LY[2].] In a scandalous manner.

1602 in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 252 Some seditious persons ..speak scandalously. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* Treat. III. § 39 Provided that the good lawes..be not herein scandalously violated. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 51 So scandalously debauched a People as that of Venice, is to be met with no where else. 1810 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. viii. 302, I have been scandalously lazy in answering your kind epistle. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 499/2 The number of convictions is so scandalously out of proportion to the number of crimes committed.

Scandalousness. [f. SCANDALOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being scandalous.

1646 P. BULKELEY *Gospel Covt.* v. 383 If we open the mouthes of men against our profession, by the reason of the scandallousness of our lives, we shall have the greater sinne. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 462 They even surpassed the Pittites in the prodigality and scandalousness of their grants [etc.].

‖**Sca·ndalum magna·tum.** *Law.* Pl. **scandala magnatum.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [med.L., 'scandal of magnates': *scandalum* SCANDAL *sb.*, *magnātum* gen. pl. of *magnās* MAGNATE.

The term was suggested by the wording of the statute 2 *Ric. II* stat. 1 c. 5, which provides penalties for the offence; the Anglo-Fr. text of the statute, however, does not contain any literally equivalent expression.]

The utterance or publication of a malicious report against any person holding a position of dignity. (In popular writings, the plural was sometimes misused as a sing.) Also *transf.* in jocular use, something scandalous.

1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* F j b, A Writ of Delay, Longsword. *Scandala Magnatum,* Backesword. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i, 'Tis more punishable in our house Then Scandalum magnatum. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 14 Venturing at last on *Scandalum Magnatum,* Two thousand more; yet still the Jade did rate 'um. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* clvi. 141 A *Scandala Magnatum,* or a Libel upon his Superiors. 1713 ADDISON *Trial Count Tariff* 9 He in the First Place accused his Adversary of *Scandalum magnatum.* 1771 BURKE *Sp. Powers Juries* (1816) I. 83 The statute of *scandalum magnatum* is the oldest that I know. 1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairlegh* IV, *Scandalum magnatum!* not a true bill.

Scandaroon (skændărū·n). Also 7 **skanderoun.** [Presumably from *Scanderoon, Iskanderūn,* the name of a seaport in Syria.]

†1. ? A swindler, fraudulent dealer. *Obs.*

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 342 There are a company of notable Skanderouns which greatly desire to be stiled Merchants, and these are such as runne from house to house, from Market to Market,..with packs and Fardels vpon their backes, filled with counterfeit and adulterate wares..: and these are called Pedlers.

2. A variety of Carrier Pigeon.

Perh. so called from the fact that 'formerly the Pigeon was employed by the English Factory at Scanderoon to carry intelligence of the arrival of their ships in that port to Aleppo' (*Encycl. Metrop.* XVII. 37).

1860 BRENT *Pigeon Bk.* 21 The Scandaroon, or Great Horseman (*Columba tuberculosa*)...This is another breed of the Wattled Pigeons. 1879 L. WRIGHT *Pract. Pigeon Keeper* 80 We should..be very much inclined to try a cross with a white Scandaroon.

Scandent (skæ·ndĕnt), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [ad. L. *scandent-em,* pr. pple. of *scandĕre* to climb: see SCAN *v.*] Climbing; ascending.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 7 Hedera or Ivy, which notwithstanding, except in its scandent nature, agreed not fully with the other. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* IX. 84 A scandent Plant with long opposite Leaves, and a Melon-like Root. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 38 Root perennial, stem scandent, red. 1847 HODGSON in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* XVI. II. 700 The Goats have callosities on the chest and knees...Eminently bold, saucy, and scandent. 1879 M. COLLINS *Pen Sketches* I. 116 Covered by blossoming wistaria and other scandent plants.

†**Sca·nderbeg,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Also 6–7 **scanderbag.** [A use of the Turkish appellation (*Iskander* = Alexander, with the title BEG *sb.*) of George Castriotes, who led a successful revolt of the Albanians against the Turks in the 15th c.]

a. *sb.* The proper name used allusively: One resembling Scanderbeg. **b.** *adj.* Used as an epithet of abuse: Rascally.

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii. (1601) B 4, Horson Scanderbag rogue. *a* 1635 RANDOLPH *Hey for Honesty* III. i. (1651) 21 And I will be the Scanderbeg of the Company, The very Tamberlane of this ragged rout. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, The Scanderbeg-monkey has not behav'd himself unhandsomely.

Hence †**Scanderbegging** *ppl. a.*

1593 G. HARVEY *New Letter* D 3 b, Haue you forgot the Scanderbegging wight?

Scandian (skæ·ndiăn), *a.* [f. L. *Scandia* (app. a synonym of *Scandinavia*) + -AN.] = SCANDINAVIAN; *subst.* an inhabitant of Scandinavia.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* I. i. § 3. 3 The Danish, Scandian, or perhaps the Gothic [dialect], to which belongs the Language used in Denmark, Norway, Swedeland, and Island. 1708 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. iii. (1743) 162 Norway, inhabited by the Progeny of the old Scandians. 1887 SKEAT *Princ. Engl. Etymol.* 454 The only objection to the title 'Scandinavian' is its length, on which account I shall take the liberty to shorten it to 'Scandian'.

†**Sca·ndic,** *a. Obs.* [f. *Scandia* (see prec.) + -IC.] = SCANDINAVIAN.

1708 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. iii. (1743) 162 Their Christian names were generally Scandic. 1808 FINLAY *Sc. Hist. & Rom. Ballads* I. p. xxix, The Scandic scholars, we know, lay claim to an extravagant antiquity for their Edda.

Scandinavian (skæ·ndinē[ɪ]·viăn), *a.* [f. L. *Scandinavia* + -AN.

The name *Scandinavia,* which appears in the existing text of Pliny, is a mistake for *Scadinavia,* a. Teut. **Skadinaujā,* whence by normal phonetic development OE. *Scedenig* (Beowulf 3336) = ON. *Skáney* (adopted in OE. as *Scónég*), the name of the southern extremity of Sweden; the terminal element is **aujā,* OE. *ég, tg,* island.]

Of or pertaining to Scandinavia, a geographical term including the three countries Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Also as *sb.*, one connected ethnographically with one of these three countries.

1784 JERNINGHAM (*title*) The Rise and Progress of the Scandinavian Poetry. 1830 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlii. *note,* The architecture of the ancient Scandinavians. 1864 D. COOK in *Once a Week* 26 Nov. 627/2 The flowing flaxen Scandinavian locks which Mr. Fechter's picturesque *Hamlet* has brought upon the boards.

Hence **Scandina·vianism,** the characteristic ideas of the Scandinavian people.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 11 May, During the first quarter, however, of the present century, there was a national reaction in favour of Scandinavianism. 1907 *Academy* 5 Oct. 962/1 In plastic art there is a certain Scandinavianism visible, which has lasted longest in Iceland.

†**Sca·ndiscope.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *scandĕre* to climb + -SCOPE (used unmeaningly).] A machine for cleaning chimneys, invented by G. Smart.

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 617 Pray order maids the Scandiscope And not the climbing boy.

Scandium (skæ·ndiŏm). *Chem.* [f. *Scandia*: see SCANDIAN and -IUM.] A metal discovered by Nilson in 1879 in the Scandinavian mineral euxenite.

1879 *Academy* 13 Sept. 198 P. T. Cleve has isolated the metal scandium. 1887 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 299/3 Three recognized gaps have been filled by the discovery of the elements gallium, scandium, and germanium. 1905 *Ibid.* 22 July 118/2 Sir Norman Lockyer has also observed in the chromosphere of the sun the spectrum of the rare element scandium, the predicted discovery of which was one of the crowning triumphs of Mendeléeff's Periodic Law.

Scandle, obs. form of SCANDAL.

†**Sca·ndular.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. late L. *scandulāris,* f. *scandula* a roofing shingle.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scandular,* that is of wooden Tiles, or Shingles.

Scane, obs. form of SKEIN.

†**Sca·nic,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *Scania* (latinized form of ON. *Skáney*: see SCANDINAVIAN) + -IC.] = SCANDINAVIAN.

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 192 The Scanick, of old the Gothick.

Scanke, obs. form of SHANK *sb.*

Scanklyone, variant of SCANTILLON.

Scanlot, obs. form of SCANTLET.

Scanmag (skæ·nmæ·g). *slang.* The abbreviated form (*scan. mag.*) of SCANDALUM MAGNATUM, used jocularly as a word in the sense of 'scandal'.

1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. ii, The publisher..threatening himself with the pillory, or absolutely indicting himself for Scan. Mag. 1826 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 124, I can give you a daily abstract of fashionable scan-mag. 1841 W. H. MAXWELL *Scotland* (1855) 17 *Scan-mag* is never heard of. 1859 SALA *Twice round Clock* (1861) 135 The swarms of flies..noisily buzzing their scan-mag in private parlours.

Scannable (skæ·năbl), *a.* [f. SCAN *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be scanned.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 751 Sonnets..which are not even scannable nonsense verses.

Scanner (skæ·nər). [f. SCAN *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who scans or examines critically.

1557 R. RECORDE *Whetstone* b iiij, [*Lines.*] To the curiouse scanner. 1575 *Recorde's Gr. Arts* CC vij, Suche scanners [*sc.* cunning Lawyers] shoulde seeme to cunning, and yet not so cunning as cruell. 1604 BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Levit.* xiii. 110 Beware euer to be a curious scanner of other mens liues, or a rash iudge. 1834 F. MAHONY *Relig. Father Prout* iv. (1836) 170 The keen and scrutinizing philosopher, the scanner of whate'er lies hidden in the folds of the human heart.

2. One who scans verse.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* X. 317 The scanner has to consider neither the articulation of the vowels, nor the position of the consonants. 1906 H. VAN DYKE *Ideals & Applic.* xi. 237 We are spending infinite toil and money to produce spellers and parsers and scanners.

Scanning (skæ·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCAN *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb.

1. *Pros.* = SCANSION 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scannynge, of verse, *scansio.* 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 All quantities necessary to the skanning of any verse. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 6 This Scanning was a liberal Art that we learn'd at Grammar-School. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 258 It will be verse only to the scanning, and neither verse nor prose to the ear. 1886 J. B. MAYOR *Eng. Metre* iv. 54 We come now to the lines which are said to be beyond the reach of analysis by feet. I give what I consider the true scanning of each.

b. *Path.* (Cf. SCANNING *ppl. a.* 2.)

1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Apr. 732/2 A case of locomotor ataxy..with 'scanning' of speech.

2. Close investigation or consideration, critical examination or judgement; discussion, comment, perception, discernment. Cf. SCAN *v.* 2 b. Phrases, †*to have* (a matter) *in scanning,* †*to come, fall to scanning.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 238 Therfore muste prynces and noble men be at the skannyng therof. 1575 *Recorde's Gr. Arts* Cc vj b, If some cunning Lawyers had this matter in scanning, they would determine this Testament to be quite voide. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Spoyle of Antwerp* C vij, But I leaue the skanning of theyr deedes vnto God. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 57 Another question falleth sometimes into scanning, namely [etc.]. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xliii. (1632) 411 It was therefore instantly desired, that the cause might once more come to scanning. 1670 HOBBES *Behemoth* (1840) 167 The private interpretation of the Scripture, exposed to every man's scanning in his mother-tongue. 1699 POMFRET *Marr. Earl of A*—— 76 Ev'ry teeming thought, Is to the scanning of her judgment brought. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 413 They used a sweet fluent kind of Rhetorick..which..serv'd only to put a present good Face upon an Argument, but would not bear Scanning. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 165 The 'Tree Igdrasil' buds and withers by its own laws,—too deep for our scanning.

Scanning (skæ·nin), *ppl. a.* [f. SCAN *v.* + -ING[2].]

1. That scans or examines closely; critical, searching.

1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. iii, When his eyes fell again they glanced round with a scanning coolness. 1881 E. F. POYNTER *Among the Hills* I. 196 She hated to meet her neighbours and feel their scanning glances.

2. *Path.* Epithet applied to a measured manner of speaking or utterance, with more or less regular pauses, characteristic of certain nervous diseases.

1866 FLINT *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (1880) 740 The patient speaks in a slow, monotonous manner, with intervals between syllables, as in scanning. The peculiarity is known as the 'scanning speech'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 58 A peculiar defect of speech described as a scanning utterance. *Ibid.* 382.

Hence **Sca·nningly** *adv.*

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* IV. xxxiv, Jacob looked up into his face scanningly for a moment or two. 1884 E. FAWCETT *Rutherford* IX. 96 He looked down for a moment scanningly at..his delicate filbert-shaped nails.

Scans, obs. form of SCONCE, fort.

Scanse, obs. var. SCANCE *v.*[1]

Scansion (skæ·nʃən). [ad. L. *scansiōn-em,* n. of action f. *scandĕre* to climb, SCAN. Cf. F. *scansion* (G. *scansion*), It. *scansione.*]

†1. The action of climbing up. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 200 Ascension is the scansion or moving from an inferior place to a superior.

2. *Pros.* The action or the art of scanning verse; the division of verse into metrical feet; also, an example of this.

1671 in PHILLIPS. 1779 LOWTH in *Serm. & Rem.* (1834) 387 The author..only intended, that we should give him credit awhile for the truth of his scansion. *a* 1849 POE *Rationale of Verse* Wks. 1864 II. 249 The object of what we call scansion is the distinct marking of the rhythmical flow. 1874 SYMONDS in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 772 In this prosody [of blank verse] scansion by time takes the place of scansion by metrical feet. 1894 SALA *London up to Date* ii. 30 He is an amiable poet..and does not bite, unless the accuracy of his scansion be impeached. 1900 SKEAT *Chaucer Canon* § 37 Chaucer has certain peculiarities of grammar, upon which the scansion of his lines largely depends.

Scansionist (skæ·nʃənist). [f. SCANSION + -IST.] One who is versed in the art of scansion.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 106 The scandalised scansionist stumbles at occasional trochees. 1907 T. S. OMOND *Eng. Metrists* ii. 60 All musical scansionists of prose seem to me apt to read into it a factitious regularity.

†**Sca·nsive,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *scandĕre* (ppl. stem *scans-*) + -IVE.] = SCANDENT *a.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 279 Both [black and white pepper plants] are scansive [L. *scansilis est*].

‖**Scansores** (skænsō·rīz), *pl. Ornith.* [mod.L., pl. of **scansor,* agent-n. of *scandĕre* to climb.] The name given by Illiger (1811) to his first Order of birds, comprising the Climbers (see CLIMBER 3).

1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 268/1 Order III. Scansores. The disposition of the toes..gives the *Scansores* great facility in climbing the branches of trees. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 395.

Scansorial (skænsō·riăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *scansōri-us,* used for climbing (f. *scandĕre* to climb: see SCAN *v.*) + -AL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to climbing; *spec.* of the feet of birds and animals, adapted for climbing.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scansorial,* formed for climbing: Applied to the feet of birds which have two toes before and two behind. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 146/2 In the *Certhiadæ* the foot is not strictly scansorial. *Ibid.* 206/2 Birds which have..three anterior toes and one posterior scansorial one. 1877 COUES *Fur-Bearing Anim.* vii. 215 A tardy terrestrial animal..lacking ..the scansorial ability of the Martens. 1884 — *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 130 The zygodactyle or yoke-toed modification..was formerly made much of, as a scansorial or climbing type of foot.

2. That climbs or is given to climbing; spec. of a bird, belonging to the Order SCANSORES.

Scansorial barbet, a barbet of the family *Capitonidæ* or Barbets proper as distinguished from the Puff-birds.

1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 268/2 The scansorial families are the..Parrots..Woodpeckers, Wry-necks ..Cuckoos..Toucans. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 146 The Scansorial birds. 1841 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 253 Of the Scansorial tribe, the *Picus major* (great spotted woodpecker) is the only species. 1871 C. H. T. & G. F. L. MARSHALL (*title*) A Monograph of the Capitonidæ, or Scansorial Barbets. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 19 The scansorial Ape of the Old World.

B. *sb.* A bird of the Order SCANSORES.

1842 in BRANDE *Dict. Sci.,* etc. In recent Dicts.

Scansorious (skænsō·riəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *scansōri-us* (see prec.) + -OUS.] = prec.

1814 W. E. LEACH *Zool. Misc.* I. 71 Cuckow..The feet are generally considered as scansorious, or formed for climbing (*pedes scansorii*). 1815 J. F. STEPHENS in *Shaw's Zool.* IX. 66 *note,* The Parrot genus (*Psittacus*) affords a good example of true scansorious feet.

Scansory (skæ·nsŏri), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *scansōri-us* of or for climbing, f. *scandĕre* to climb.] Of or pertaining to climbing; given to climbing.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 264 Scammony..is a lacteous, volvulous, scansory, and smooth Plant. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 546 They are eminently the *scansory* or climbing legs in almost all insects.

Scant (skænt), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4–7 **skant,** 5–6 **scante,** 6 **skaunte.** [a. ON. *skamt* (neut. adj. used *absol.*): see SCANT *a.*]

1. Scanty supply; dearth, scarcity.

a 1350 *S. Andrew* 274 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 7 When þai saw it skarsli spring, þan hopid þai to haue skant of corn And of fruyt. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 198 Yit of mete and of drynk haue we veray skant. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 273 The King buskit him sone with scant of Squyary. *c* 1565 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* xxiii, How can I want, or suffer scant, whan he defendth my side. *a* 1599 ROLLOCK *Serm.* xiii. (1616) 255 There is no want nor scant of mercy in Him. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *To A. L.* 54 Like the ant In plenty hoord for time of scant. 1721 RAMSAY *Keitha* 77 Hynds and herds whase cheeks bespake nae scant. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 360 If there is a scant of wood, or rain intervenes to damp it. 1823 GALT *Entail* I. ix. 66 There was neither scant nor want at his burial.

†2. Want, need, requirement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1550 *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy) 82 With meate before the set, Suffise but nature's scant.

†3. *Naut.* The action of SCANT *v.*; the drawing ahead (of wind). *Obs.*

1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 The scant of winde we had on Wednesday.

Scant (skænt), *a.* and *adv.* Now mainly *literary.* Forms: 4–8 **skant,** 5 **skantt,** (**schante,** 6 **skaunte**), 5–6 **scante, skante,** 5– **scant.** [a. ON. *skamt,* neut. of *skammr* short, brief (= OHG. *scamm*). For the retention of the neuter ending cf. THWART and QUART *a.* See also SCANT *sb.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Existing or available in inadequate or barely sufficient amount, quantity, or degree; stinted in measure, not abundant. Said of commodities, esp. provisions; also of immaterial things, actions, qualities, etc.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 501 He wrot so faste til þat he want, For his parchemyn-skin was so scant, To speken þei hedde such space. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 3 Iren waxed skant and dere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. viii. 530 Thei lyueden streitli and in scant mete and drinke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 307 Thocht in my translatioun eloquence skant is. 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 41 b, If vrgent necessitie should expostulate, he wer of scant abilitie, to conscribe and set furthe a newe armie. 1550–3 *Decaye Eng.* in S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 96 The more shepe, the skanter is the whit meate. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. (1640) 39 She had but a scant fame. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 29 Deuotion waxed scant amongst the Christians. 1636 HEYWOOD *Chall. Beauty* III. F 1, They are full of large promises outward, but lin'd with narrow and scant-performance within. 1714 PRIOR *Viceroy* xiv, By which provisions were so scant, That hundreds there did die. *a* 1771 GRAY *Dante* 23 What scant Light That grim and antique Tower admitted. 1818 SCOTT *Heart Midl.* viii, Doctor, my breath is growing as scant as a broken-winded piper's. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xlii, In the country money is rather scant. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 250 The notices of this part of their journey are scant.

b. Preceding a sb. without article or other qualifying word: Very little, less than enough.

1852 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 279 You do scant justice to Dover. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* ii. 90 Scant space that warder left for passers by. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 7 This country is too full; there is scant room for the individual.

†c. Limited in numbers, numerically rare. *Obs.*

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 55 b, Philosophers and Oratours, who are very scant in the world.

†d. *To come scant of*: to fall short of. *Obs.*

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. A 2, True, but yet it comes scant of the Prophesy: Lincolne was, London is, and Yorke shall-be.

2. Of a quantity or amount of anything: Limited, stinted; not full, large, or copious.

1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 260 Than can ȝe be no maner want Gold, thocht ȝour pose wer neuer sa skant. 1598 BARNFIELD *'As it fell vpon a Day'* 35 But if store of Crownes be scant, No man will supply thy want. 1611 BIBLE *Micah* vi. 10 The scant measure that is abominable. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 264 Many others that have a scanter Portion. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 308 In such a scant allowance of Starlight. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* iv, And tho' my portion is but scant, I give it with good will. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 6/1 The attendance..was..so scant as to suggest that many members must have anticipated the holiday. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 19 And of her own scant pittance did she give, That I might eat and live.

b. Barely amounting to, or hardly reaching (a specified number or amount). Chiefly *U.S.*; cf. SCANT *adv.* 1 b.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vi. 70 We have just a scant two day's allowance of meat for the sick. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Scant,* a. 2. (Colloq.) Being just short of the measure specified: often with the indefinite article even with a plural noun; as, a scant half-hour; a scant five yards.

3. Limited in extent; not wide or spacious.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) H vij b, Though the realme of Italy was scant, their hertes were grette. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 255 By reason of the skant and narrow passage many were killed. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* v. 23 And lye in as narrow a room as their images take up in our scanter Craniums. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 219 The petty Tyrant Of scant Domains Geographer ne'er notic'd. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* II. xvi. 407 The curt, red shell-jacket he wore was as though it were a world too scant for the strength of the man.

4. Having a scanty or limited supply; poorly furnished. Const. *of.*

1577–95 *Descr. Isles* in Skene *Celtic Scotl.* III. App. 436 Quhairthrow thai are scant of fire. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 298 He's fat, and scant of breath. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm. to Gen. Assembly Ch. Scot.* 13 You were scant of furniture of this kind your selves. 1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* ix, But to conclude my silly rhyme (I'm scant o' verse, and scant o' time). 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 397 'Tis life whereof our nerves are scant. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. App. II. 311 We were scant of fuel. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. with Donkey* 72 Cold, naked, and ignoble, scant of wood, scant of heather, scant of life.

5. Deficient or lacking in quality; poor, meagre, not full or rich. Chiefly of immaterial things. Const. *in.*

a 1631 DONNE *Ecstasie* 39 Poems (1633) 279 A single violet transplant, The strength, the colour, and the size, (All which before was poore, and scant) Redoubles still, and multiplies. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, True Hymn* iv, Whereas if th' heart be moved, Although the verse be somewhat scant, God doth supplie the want. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 26 Hence it spread Not scant in strength, a mighty beard of flame.

†6. Sparing, parsimonious, not liberal. Also in good sense: Chary, not lavish. Const. *of. Obs.*

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 175 Sithe he his merci mesured so large, Be ye not skant. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scant, *parcus. c* 1550 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture, For the Wayting Seruaunt* 41 Be not to liberall nor to scant, vse measure in eche thing. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 121 For this time, Daughter, Be somewhat scanter of your Maiden presence. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxii. (1640) 727 God in his owne behalfe complaines of the scant and penurious Sacrificer. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *To A. L.* 21 Did the thing for which I sue Only concern myself, not you..Then had you reason to be scant. 1649 [cf. *scant-handedness* in 8]. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* II. i. 2 When Infant Morn..With a scant face peep'd shylie through the East.

7. *Naut.* Of wind: Too much ahead, so that the ship has to sail very close. Cf. SCANT *v.* 2. (Opposed to *large* or *free.*)

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 276 The winde grew scant [orig. *scarso*] to approch to land. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* II. (1704) 255/1 We ply into the Bay with a scant Wind. 1793 RENNELL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 189 Yet the wind, being both scant and light, we could never overcome the tendency of the current. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scant,* a term applied to the wind when it heads a ship off, so that she will barely lay her course when the yards are very sharp up.

8. *Comb.,* as *scant-feathered* adj.; †**scant-brain,** one lacking in wits; †**scant-handedness,** niggardliness; **scant-of-wind** *a.,* causing shortness of breath; **scant o' grace** *Sc.,* a graceless fellow.

1864 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edinb.* (1886) 122 Those *scant-brains who deny ghosts. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer.*

Birds 201 Tarsi long, *scant-feathered. 1649 W. Sclater *Comm. Malachy* (1650) 161 To what cause should we impute the *scant-handedness of men professing of Religion, and the fear of God; that they, notwithstanding, should so niggardly contribute? 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xiv, I never love a man better than when I have put my *scant-of-wind collar about his neck. 1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* iii. xvii, Your tippanizing *scant o' grace, Quoth she, gars me gang duddy. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxviii, I ken'd that Scant-o'-grace weel eneugh frae the very outset.

B. *adv.*

1. Hardly, scarcely; barely. Now *dial.* (see E.D.D.).

?*c* 1450 *Compend. olde Treat.* in Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 175 Other Gospels ben yet in many places of so olde englishe that scant can anye englishe man reade them. 1492 *Paston Lett.* III. 376 Hors flesche is of suche a price here that my purce is schante able to bye one hors. 1562 Cooper *Answ. Priv. Masse* vii. 47 b, I thinke you wyl scant affirme it, although ye be ready to affirme straunge thinges. 1586 W. Webbe *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 29 He would haue a cast at some wanton and skant comely an Argument. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1982/1 His lordship himselfe scant with sixteene horses..returned towards the passage. 1592 Bacon *Wks.* (1862) VIII. 198 It was wont to be a token of scant a good liegeman, when the enemy spoiled the country and left any particular mans houses or fields unwasted. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Surrey* (1662) III. 82 Some who could scant brook the name of Bishop were content to give..him a good Report.

b. qualifying a numeral (which sometimes precedes). Now *arch.* (? *U. S.*)

c 1400 Maundev (1839) xxiii. 252 And whan thei wil fighte, thei wille schokken hem to gidre in a plomp; that ȝif there be 20000 men, men schalle not wenen, that there be scant 10000. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 362 The ij*de*. federbed conteynethe of lengthe iij. Flemyshe stykes, iij. quarters and more, and in brede iij. Flemyshe stykes scant. 1502 *Will of Somer* (Somerset Ho.), A mast of Corall weyng vj*li* skant. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 55 Of ten thousand rowers..scant the fourth part returneth againe. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iv. 128 They have scant any neede to touch their sailes in the whole voiage. *c* 1715 Ramsay *Vision* iv, A man..With baird thre quarters skant. 1808 Scott *Marm.* v. xxxiii, Scant three miles the band had rode. *a* 1849 Hawthorne *Twice-told T., Gt. Carbuncle*, While scant a mile above their heads, was that bleak verge where the hills throw off their shaggy mantle of forest trees. 1867 Howells *Ital. Journeys* ii. 12 At the rate of five miles scant an hour.

† **c.** with superfluous negative. *Obs.*

c 1400 [see b]. 1508 Fisher *Ps.* li. Wks. (1876) 133 He sholde..not leue scante a dogge. 1515–20 *Vox populi* 24 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 269 Thei be not able to feade In theire stable scant a steade. 1552 Latimer *Serm. Bexterly* (1584) 271 Many of vs..are so slouthfull that we will not scant abide one houre to heare the word of God. 1583 L. M. tr. *Bk. Dyeing* (1588) 39 Warme it over the fire, so that you may not skant suffer your hand therein.

† **d.** Used with a following *when* (*but, but that*) to indicate immediate succession of events. *Obs.*

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 58 b, In this worlde a childe shall scant be out of his shell, but [etc.]. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* II. 648 Skant was he vp, quhen at the eird was he. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 95 She had scant thrice repeated these wordes, but that the mayd came oute of the water with the booke. *a* 1718 Parnell *Fairy Tale* 31 But scant he lays him on the floor, When hollow winds remove the door.

† **2.** Scantily. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* v. 18 And fodder for thi beestes therof make First scant [orig. *Sed primo parcius præbenda est nouitas pabuli*]. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 153 A heart couragious never breathed scant.

Scant (skænt), *v.* Also 6–7 **skant.** [f. Scant *a.*]

I. *intr.*

† **1.** To become scant or scarce. *Obs.*

1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 189 Allas! fortune begynneth so to stant [*read* scant?], Or ellis grace, that dede is governaunce. 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 35 In Wallace ost so scantyt the wictaill, Thai mycht nocht bid [na] langar till assaill. 1586 Bright *Melanch.* x. 45 Spirit..is either plentifull, or scanteth, as it hath want, or..nourishment. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxiii. 94 Where..they continued till their maintenance began to scant. 1624 'R. Jones' (T. Lushington) *Resurr. Serm.* (1659) 77 Of these in their order, as the time hath scanted.

† **b.** To be diminished. Const. *of. Obs.*

1607 *Relat. Disc. River* in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) Introd. 42 The Ryver skantes of his breadth .2. mile before we come to the Ilet mentyoned.

2. *Naut.* Of the wind: To become unfavourable, to draw too much ahead. Const. *upon, with.* (Cf. Scant *a.* 7.) ? *Obs.*

c 1553 J. Locke in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 104 About the third watch the winde scanted, so that we bare with the shore. 1628 Digby *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 15 The wind scanted much vpon vs, so that wee had much adoe to double the point. 1769 [see Scanting *vbl. sb.*]. 1823 W. Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 392 The wind declined and scanted during the night, so that we could not fetch our port.

II. *trans.*

3. To furnish (a person, etc.) with an inadequate supply; to stint or limit in respect of provision; to put or keep on short allowance. In *pass.*, to be restricted in the matter of supply, to be straitened (*for*). ? *Obs.* (cf. 3 b).

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. iv. 49 He..scants vs with a single famisht kisse. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 230 They are neither scanted for victuals, nor straitened for lodging. 1613 F. Robartes *Revenue Gosp.* 135 These wil be glad to scant the Minister, that they may haue the more for their owne luxurie. 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 17 [He] bad us not to scant our selves; For he would procure such time as wee desired. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* xiii. xvi. (1733) 347 The Camp was for some short Time scanted for Water. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 243 The Germans bemoaned their Condition, Squadrons were scanted, Officers wanted.

b. with *of*: To put or keep on short allowance of; to keep (one) short of; to abridge or deprive of. In *pass.*, to be in want of, have only a scant supply of, be badly off for. Now *rare.*

1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* xvi. vi. 552 M. Harding is much scanted of good Authorities, when he is thus driuen by Tales, & Fables, to countreuaile the Tradition of the Apostles. 1597 Sir R. Cecil in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 42 A man, whose fortune scants him of meanes to do you service. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 134 They skanted him of victuells. 1670 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 517/3 The other Yacht happening to be scanted of Water near Flaerding. 1861 Trench *Ep. 7 Churches Asia* 125 This promise..is misunderstood, or at any rate is scanted of its full meaning, unless [etc.]. 1877 Patmore *Unknown Eros* (1890) 115 She scants me of my right. 1888 Lowell in *Even. Post* 17 Apr., I..shall not allow myself to be circumscribed and scanted of elbow room.

c. To limit or restrict *in* (a supply, endowment, etc.). ? *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxi. xvii. 402 In the number of ships especially was Cornelius skanted. 1611 W. Sclater *Key* (1629) 129 Howsoeuer the Lord hath scanted thee in the things of this life. 1723 Williams in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 266 Had I not been scanted in Time. 1788 Clara Reeve *Exiles* I. 190, I was so scanted in my allowance, that I dared not make acquaintance where I had not the power to make suitable returns. 1836 Lane *Mod. Egypt.* II. xii. 228 Miserable, or unfortunate, or scanted in my sustenance.

† **d.** with subject a thing. *Obs. rare.*

1628 Gaule *Pract. Theories* (1629) 21 Time would long fayle me, ere the Truth would here scant mee. *Ibid.* 61 What weake notions straighten our harts? What imperfect sounds and syllables scant our mouths? While we labour to apprehend his Nature, Person, and Acts.

4. To make scant or small; to reduce in size, cut down; to diminish the amount of. ? *obsolescent.*

c 1590 E. Wright in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 163 Hereupon aos our allowance of drinke, which was scant ynough before, was yet more scanted, because of the scarcitie thereof in the shippe. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. ii. 21 Scant not my Cups. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 120 The wrong end of the Perspective, which scants their dimensions. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* ii. I. 221 The Generations of men being not considerably scanted for all these four greedy devourers of them. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 92 As the clearing away of the woods scants the streams. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1291. 118 He has not hesitated to expand rather than scant the meaning of the original. 1886 *Field* 13 Feb. 204/2 Having had to scant the printer's bill to the lowest penny.

† **b.** *absol.* Cf. Scanting *ppl. a. Obs.*

1577 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 184 Ill huswiferie wanteth with spending too fast. Good huswiferie scanteth the lenger to last. 1611 Bible 2 *Kings* iv. 5 Borrow not a few. Marg. *Or*, scant not.

5. To stint the supply of; to refrain from giving, to withhold; to be niggardly of. Now *rare.* † *To scant out*: to dole out sparingly.

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 20 This tree..whose fruite to none is scanted, in house or yet in feeld. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 81 What he hath scanted them in haire, hee hath giuen them in wit. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. iv. 47 Doth like a Miser spoyle his Coat, with scanting A little Cloth. *c* 1603 Heywood & Rowley *Fortune by Land & Sea* I. ii. (1655) 8 What age doth scant me In sprightly vigour, Ile make good in wealth. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 281 You haue obedience scanted. 1630 Davenant *Just Italian* v. i. H 3, Th'obedience which I scanted to his life, Vnto his memory I'le strictly pay. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 48 When Constantine became Christian, he so fell in love with the Clergy, that he let them be Judges of all things, but that continued not above three or four Years,..and then..all Jurisdiction belonged to him, and he scanted them out as much as he pleased. 1768 H. Walpole *Myst. Mother* v. i. (1791) 74 Oft as they scant obedience to the church. 1846 Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 392, I cannot undervalue my own treasure and so scant the only tribute of mere gratitude which is in my power to pay.

† **6.** *gen.* To confine within narrow bounds, deprive of free scope; to limit, restrict, hedge in.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. i. 17 If my Father had not scanted me And hedg'd me by his wit to yeelde my selfe [etc.]. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 174 If Christ in Melchisedec, shall be so scanted, as to be tyed vnto onely Spoyles. *a* 1628 Preston *Effect. Faith* v. (1637) 248 Wee scant God according to our mesure; we square Gods mercy according to our owne thoughts. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xlv. (1640) 455 Though there be no..imminent danger ..of inhibiting or scanting the liberty of the Gospel.

7. To treat slightingly or inadequately; to neglect, do less than justice to. Now *rare.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 268 And Heauen defend your good soules, that you thinke I will your serious and great businesse scant When she is with me. 1644 J. Fary *Gods Severity* (1645) 27 How are our devotions scanted and slubbered over? 1851 Neale *Mediæval Hymns* 201 Letter held by, spirit scanted, Saw the Synagogue supplanted.

† **8.** *Naut.* In *passive*, of a ship: To be impeded by the 'scanting' of the wind. Cf. sense 2. *Obs.*

1555 (16 Oct.) *Admiralty Court* Exam. x, The Pellican being a myle..behind thother shipps was scanted with the wind.

Hence **Sca·nting** *vbl. sb*

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* II. 1696 They sayled for certaine dayes with aforewind till it came upon the skanting. 1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. i, Your macerating of your body thus with cares and scantings of your dyet, and rest. 1672 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. *Heroic Plays* a 3 b, And, therefore, in the scanting of his Images, and design, he comply'd not enough with the greatness and Majesty of an Heroick Poem. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Scanting*, the variation of the wind by which it becomes unfavourable to a ship's course, after having been *fair* or *large*. It is distinguished from a foul wind, as in the former a ship is still enabled to sail on her course, although her progress is considerably retarded.

Scanted (skæ·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Scant *v.* + -ed[1].] In senses of the verb: Made scant or small, stinted, diminished, restricted, etc.

1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. A 4, And euery beast the forrest doth send forth, [shall] Bequeath her young ones to our scanted foode. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. ii. 67 While I to this hard house..returne, and force Their scanted curtesie. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 53 Wherein my Lord of Essex so wrought, by despising the number and quality of Rebels, that Norris was sent over with a scanted force. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Two Dreams* 112, I have no wit to shape in written rhymes A scanted tithe of this great joy they had.

† **Sca·ntelize,** *v. Obs.* [f. Scantle *sb.* + -ize. Cf. Scandalize *v.*[2]] *trans.* To shorten, curtail.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. iii. § 22. 18 By which account the great supposed antiquity of Brute, is now lessened by seuen hundred fiftie and two yeares; and the time so scantelized betwixt his and Cesars entrance, that two hundred forty six yeares onely remaine.

† **Sca·nten,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Scant *a.* + -en 5.] *intr.* To wax scant, diminish.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22 The diminishing of our victuals, which began to scanten. 1613 F. Robartes *Revenue Gosp.* 113 [They] will not be found so vnfaithfull, as to neglect their workes for the scantning of their temporarie hyre.

† **Scantillon.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 **schauntillun,** 3–4 **scantliun, -lion, -lyoun,** 3–5 **-lyon, scantilon,** 4 **-iloun,** 4–5 **-ilone, -elon(e, -eloun, -ylloun, -il(l)ioun,** 5 **-ylyon, -ylone, -eilon, -ulon, skantulon, -yll3on, skanklyon(e, scanklyone,** 5–6 **scantlon,** 7 **scantillon.** See also Scantling. [Aphetic f. OF. *escantillon, eschantillon* (mod. F. *échantillon*), of uncertain etymology.

According to Hatz.-Darm., an alteration (influenced by *cantel* Cantle) of **esc(h)andillon,* related to Pr. *escandilh* gauge, It. *scandaglio* sounding-line; commonly regarded as f. L. *scandĕre* to climb, to Scan.]

1. A tool used by masons and carpenters for measuring the thickness of anything; a gauge.

a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 325 Ber wiþ þe squire and schauntillun, Also þu were a gud Mascun. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2231 And do we wel and make a toure, Wit suire and scantilon [*Gött.* scantlon, *Trin.* scanteloun] sa euen, þat may reche heghur þan heuen. *Ibid.* 8775 Þe king did cast wit scantliun [*Gött.* scantlyon, *Fairf.* scantilioun, *Trin.* scanteloun], And did mak al þe timber bun. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7064 Though it were of no vounde stone Wrought with squyre and scantilone. 15..*Debate Carpenter's Tools* 107 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 83 Soft, ser, seyd the skantyll3on.

2. Dimension, measured size; in carpenters' and masons' work chiefly sectional dimension, thickness.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxv. Þen shulde þe lymmer go þeder as þe hert yede in, and take þe scantelon of þe trace, þe whiche he shulde kutte of his roddes ende, and ley it in þe talon of þe trace. 1452 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 282, iij sengulere Principalls..in Scantlyon accordyng to the Principalls. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. clxi. 154 Theyse..iii. storyes..occupy in Frenshe, of leuys of great Scanteleon ouer .lxiiii.

3. ? A stick cut to record a certain measurement.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxv, Ley it in þe talon of þe trace þer as he yede in hardest grounde euen in þe botome þerof, so þat þe scanteloun vnneth touche at neiþer ende þe erth. And þat done, he shulde hewe a bough of grene leues and ley it þer as þe hert yede in and kutte an oþer scantelon þer after to take to þe hunter.

4. A strip or piece serving as a specimen; a sample.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 492 My master bout of Barthelmew Syates a short goune clothe of cremysen velvet...And a short goune clothe of tawny velvet...And the said Barthelmew hathe it to kepe, and my master hathe sealed it at bothe endes, and take a scantylone of eche of them. 1530 Palsgr. 265/2 Scantlon of a clothe, *eschantillon.* 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 403 This booke, wherein their words are gathered, and comprehended together by themselves, as the verie scantillons (as I may so say) and seeds extracted a part from their lives.

Scantily (skæ·ntili), *adv.* [f. Scanty *a.* + -ly 2.] In a scanty manner or measure.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 5 That nourishment which their vegetable food so scantily supplies. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* i, Though more scantily attired than she might have been, she was dressed with perfect neatness. 1897 D. Lyall in *Brit. Wkly.* 7 Jan. 214/5, I knew nothing but my medical work—and that but scantily.

Scantiness (skæ·ntinĕs). [f. Scanty *a.* + -ness.] The quality or fact of being scanty.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 571 Considdering that victualis ar cariit furth of this realme be marchantis and utheris..to the greit incres of derth and skantines. *a* 1695 J. Scott *Chr. Life* III. [iv.] iii. Wks. 1718 I. 673 Such is the Scantiness of Sensual Goods, that we not being able to content our selves with any one of them, are fain [etc.]. 1745 *Life Banffylde-Moore Carew* 71 The..frugal Way of Life to which the Scantiness of their Pay obliges those Military Gentlemen to live. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 198 The too frequent use of such words tends to breed a suspicion, that one labours under a scantiness of ideas. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* i, Miss Tox's dress,..had a certain character of angularity and scantiness. 1888 Burgon *Lives 12 Good Men* II. x. 253 The scantiness of manuscript authority under which the text..labours.

† **Sca·nting,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. Soant *v.* + -ing[2].] Inclined to be sparing or niggardly; chary in giving or bestowing.

1613 *Uncasing of Machiav.* 22 At such a time of care friends are scanting. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harv. Home* iv. 25 Gods hand in pouring forth will not be scanting.

Hence † **Sca·ntingly** *adv.*

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 261 Scantingly, it should seeme, the Lord had distributed to these poore Artisans .. the good things of this life. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wilts* (1662) III. 148 Richard Smart .. but once, and that scentingly [? *read* scantingly] mentioned by Mr. Fox.

Sca·ntity. *rare.* [irreg. f. SCANT *a.* + -ITY, perh. after *quantity.*] Scantiness; scarceness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* ¶ 357, I sey nat that honestitee in clothynge of man or womman is vncouenable, but certes the superfluite or disordinat scantitee [*v.rr.* skantite(e, scantite] of clothynge is repreuable. 1550–3 *Decaye Eng.* in S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 95 Shepe & shepemasters doeth cause skantyte of corne. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* III. iv. 225/2 Such is the scantitie of them here in England, in comparison of the plentie that is to be seene in other countries. 1839 J. H. NEWMAN *Paroch. Serm.* IV. xv. 265 At least there are cases where this wavering of mind does arise from scantiness of prayer; and if so, it is worth a man's considering .. whether this scantity be not perchance the true reason of such infirmities in his own case.

Sca·ntle, *sb.* Also 6 **skantell.** [? f. SCANTLE *v.*]

1. = SCANTLET 1, SCANTLING *sb.* 2 b.

c 1525 *Contract* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 43 All manr of tymber, hewyn and sawyn, of all manner of skantells, yt shall be nedeful and redy to ye worke.

2. A small piece or portion, a scantling.

In 1596 'scantle' of the Qq. is perh. simply an error for 'cantle', the reading of the Ff.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* III. i. 100 (1st Qo.) See how this riuer comes me cranking in, And cuts me from the best of all my land, A huge halfe moon, a monstrous scantle out. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* vii. 194 The future cannot be confined to so short a scantle.

3. *Slate-making.* See quots. (two distinct senses).

1850 OGILVIE, *Scantle,* among slaters, a gauge by which slates are regulated to their proper length. 1855 J. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 15 There are, in addition to these 'size slate' .. a small, irregular sort, called 'scantle', made of pieces too small to make 'size slate'. This last kind is in great request in west Cornwall, and forms a very strong roof. .. All scantle is cut by boys. 1887 *Dict. Arch. Publ. Soc., Scantle,* a gauge for regulating the proper length of slates. 'Scantle slates' are squared slates as opposed to rag slates.

† **Sca·ntle,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **skantle,** 7 **scantel.** [? dimin. of SCANT *v.*: see -LE 3. In sense 3 perh. a back-formation from SCANTLING.]

1. *trans.* To give scant provision to, stint, put on short allowance; = SCANT *v.* 3.

1581 RICH *Farewell* (Shaks. Soc.) 184 There to be fedd with bread and water, (and yet to be scantled with suche short alowance, as it was not able to suffice nature). 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* 220 Besides, you should be sometimes so scantled, for want of subjects, that [etc.].

b. with a thing as subject: To be wanting to, fail to supply. Cf. SCANT *v.* 3 d.

1641 BRATHWAIT *Turtle's Triumph* 15 Time would sooner faile me, then this subject scantle me.

2. To make scant or small; to diminish, cut down, curtail; to limit, restrict.

1596 HARINGTON *Ulysses upon Ajax* B 7 b, Loosing his repose, and scantling his repaste. 1596 LODGE *Wit's Miserie* 14 The chines of Beefe in great houses are scantled to buie chains of gold. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xii. § 7. 275 Vortiporus .. succeeded him in the Kingdome of the Britains, which then was much scantled by the intrusions of the Saxons. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 40 Enlarged mercies must not be cooped up, or scantled.

b. To narrow the meaning or application of.

1644 BP. MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* v. 56, I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance [etc.]: which is not to be scantled by conceiving it onely of the calling of the Gentiles to the communion of his Church. *Ibid.* 65 This is not to be so scantled, as if there were no more influence from Kings upon the Church but by honour and riches.

3. To adjust to a required measure; to make proportionate *to.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 110–111 We are not to expect a like exactnesse and accurate handling in all passages. But it sufficeth to be scantled according to the Subject. 1625 J. ROBINSON *Ess.* iii. (1638) 18 How graciously our wise and good God provides for our slipperie state, in scantling his promise of good things of that kinde to our Spirituall skill, and care of using them. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 62 The Knee being scantled to suit the Stem as far as 'tis join'd to it.

4. To shorten (sail); similarly of a bird, to draw in (its wings). Cf. SCANDALIZE *v.*[2]

a 1592 LODGE & GREENE *Looking-glass* (1598) F 2 b, Then scantled we our sailes with speedie hands. 1630 DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* in *Muses Eliz.* 100 The soaring Kyte there scantled his large wings.

5. To parcel *out.*

1749 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 9 Oct., The Pope's .. territories .. will, most undoubtedly, within a century, be scantled out among the great Powers, who have now a footing in Italy.

6. *intr.* Of wind: To become 'scant'. (But app. here taken to mean 'to become light'.)

1627 DRAYTON *Moon-calf* in *Agincourt,* etc. 173 She could sell windes to any one that would, .. Which euer as the Seafarer vndid They rose or scantled, as his Sayles would driue, To the same Port whereas he would ariue.

Hence † **Sca·ntled** *ppl. a.,* made scant, limited.

1604 DRAYTON *Ovule* 1204 This small Portion of my scantled Store! 1622 — *Poly-olb.* xxiv. 12 [Welland] in her scantled banks, though wandring long inclos'd. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 33 This was their pittance, and scantled allowance in those dayes.

† **Sca·ntlet.** *Obs.* Also 6 **scanlot.** [? f. SCANTLE *sb.* + -ET; or f. SCANTLING by substitution of the suffix -LET for *-ling.*]

1. Prescribed size, scantling.

1502–3 (4 Jan.) *Office of Augment.* Miscell. Bk. xxxvi. No. 146, iiij^c. M^l. of goode lawfull & sufficiant breke [= bricks] & thurgh & suerly to be brent and after the Scanlot of ix ynches & a halfe of lengthe large & in brede & thyknes accordynge to the same lengthe.

2. ? A limit, boundary.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Ystordyn* ['a trigger in bowling; a mark to jump from' (Owen Pugh)], scantlet.

3. A limited quantity, small portion.

a 1642 SUCKLING *Leit. to Sev. Persons of Honor* (1659) 9, I have been something curious to consider the scantlet of ground that angry Monsieur would have had in. [Allusion to Shaks.: see quot. 1596, SCANTLE *sb.* 1.] *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 226 As the World grew by that means fuller, so their Lives were successively reduced to a shorter scantlet, till they came to that ordinary Age .. which now they have.

Scantling (skæ·ntliŋ), *sb.* Also 6–7 **scantlin, skantling,** 7 **scantelinge.** [Etymologizing alteration of SCANTILLON, after -LING [1]. The development of some of the senses appears to have been influenced by association with SCANT *a.*]

† 1. A builder's or carpenter's measuring-rod. Cf. SCANTILLON 1. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xvii. 27 Whiche sqwyre shall sqware me, a scantlin well bent, For a right rewle, to show me innocent.

† b. *fig.* A rule or standard of measurement or estimation.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* x. 156 That nothing in al the Worlde is made of nought, .. is a measuring of the builder and his building by one rule or skantling. 1678 *Lively Oracles* iii. § 19. 269 To mesure immensity and omnipotence by our narrow scantling.

2. Measured or prescribed size, dimensions, or calibre. † a. with reference to material objects generally.

1526 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 215 They shall neither send nor bring into the Court .. any Pike of less scantling than eighteen inches long. 1588 *Acts Privy Council* (1897) XVI. 171 Provyde bullettes of all scantelins to be sent to the Lord Admirall, and two last of poulder. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 148 Dogs of a middle scantling beetwixt the first and the second. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 15 The water .. keeps at one scantling, neither swelling higher nor decreasing. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 390 Having several holes of different Sizes fit for the scantlings of all fingers. 1708–9 PRIOR *The Mice* 100 A coat not of the smallest scantling. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Elm,* Truncheons of the Boughs cut to the Scantling of a Man's Arm.

b. *techn.* with reference to the measurement of timber and stone, and of ships or other vessels.

As applied to timber, the word usually denotes the sectional dimensions (thickness and breadth) of a beam etc., in contradistinction to the length. The scantling of a block of stone is its measurement in all three dimensions. In Shipbuilding, used in *sing.* and *pl.* for the dimensions of the various parts of a vessel, regarded collectively.

1555 *Act 2 & 3 Philip & Mary,* c. 16 § 5 Any Wairye or Boate .. which shall not bee .. according to thold quantitie, scantlyng, thicknes of boorde, goodnes & good proportyon, heretofore had & used. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 605 That is the vsuall scantling for the thicknes of planke boord. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Garner* III. 625 A Buss of thirty-five Last, that is, of seventy Tons, is of a very good and meet size or scantling, wherewith [etc.]. 1673 TEMPLE *Ess. Ireland* Wks. 1731 I. 120 Forbidding any Man to cut down any Oak .. unless it be of a certain Scantling. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 31 Young oaks and chestnuts of the same age and scantling. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 91 The harder the quality of the moorstone, the more exactly .. it could be split to the size or scantling required. 1812 CAPT. CARDEN *Let.* 28 Oct. in *Examiner* (1813) 4 Jan. 6/2 The United States is built with the scantling of a seventy-four gun ship. 1849 P. NICHOLSON *Carp.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 235/1 In regard to squared stones the term [scantling] is applied to the three dimensions of length, breadth, and thickness. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 6/2 The piles are from twelve to twenty-five feet long, and eight by six inches and a half scantling, shod with iron. 1874 POLLEN *Anc. & Mod. Furniture* Introd. 34 Veneers of well mottled wood or of precious wood, small in scantling, were glued on pine, cedar, &c., as a base. 1888 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 4/7 A fine twin screw steamship, built of steel to the same scantlings as if of iron. *a* 1895 LD. C. E. PAGET *Autobiog.* vi. (1896) 196 Our armour-clads were on the scantling of line-of-battle ships, but with the addition of considerable beam or width.

† c. of immaterial things. In the 17th c. often, the measure or degree of (a person's) capacity or ability. *Obs.*

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 94 If it can be so, that our Gentle-man before proposed, the scantling and measure of his liuing considered. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 530 When .. the apples shall be well prepared, and come to a good scantling of ripenes. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 144 The Angels behold what they can behold and see, and Archangels as much as they are capable of, each according vnto his owne measure and scantling. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 74 The Rochellers perceived by the scantling and grandure of this preparation, the natural issue could be no other than their ruine. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cxli. 129 Though 'tis a Hard Matter to find out a Woman, even at the Best, that's of a Just Scantling for her Age, Person, Humour, and Fortune to make a Wife of. 1716 J. SHARPE *12th Serm.* 3 Oct., We then according to our scantlings return glory to Him when we serve those purposes He made us for. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 143 (1740) 307 We may propose the Extremes to shew the Scantling of the Author's false and inveterate Malice. 1756 *Monitor* No. 39 I. 381 There are many others, whose abilities are of the same scantling; that have large salaries too.

† d. *Of one* (or *a*) *scantling*: of the same size; hence, much alike, 'much of a muchness'. (*Of* is sometimes omitted.) *Obs.*

1551 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* in *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) II. 337 My lord marcus' reward was delivered at Paris, worth 500 pound, my lord of Ely's 200, mr. Hobbies 150, the rest al about on scantling. 1633 SHIRLEY *Bird in Cage* I. i, Your Lordships wisedome and mine is much about a scantling then. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* Pref., That there can be No Unity hoped for, .. nor peace maintained, unless all men be of a scantling in their judgments.

† e. *To take a scantling of*: to measure or estimate the size or amount of; hence, to judge of, estimate. So *to have a scantling of. Obs.*

1585 PARSONS *Chr. Exerc.* I. iii. 15 By this now may a carefull Christian take some scantling of his own estate with God. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 655 If you take their scantling and length as they crooke a litle, then are they about three foot long. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 2 *Cor.* vi. 11 We pour forth our selves in this floud of speech, that thereby ye may take a scantling of our over-abundant love to your souls. 1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. § 15 (1689) 74 From hence chiefly .. we are to take our best scantling, whereby to judge what is, and what is not, to be esteemed Popery. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* ix. § 15. 154 We have not so just a scantling of our selves, as to know to a grain what will level the scales, and place us in the right mediocrity.

† 3. Limited measure, space, amount, etc.; a limit.

1597 BACON *Ess., Hon. & Reput.* (ad fin.), Such as exceede not this scantling [L. *qui non ultra hoc potes sunt*] to bee sollace to the Soueraigne and harmelesse to the people. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. lxvi. 414 The butterflies .. are forciblie kept within a narrow scantling, the pot it selfe being not wide, but narrow. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 281 Wo to them that ayme at the cherishing of the people in a kind of formall Religion, and would haue none to exceede their owne Laodicean scantling! 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 2 Because it farre exceeded the scantling of their Poore Vnderstandings, and Vndertakings. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xx. (1653) 331 Which when they are too strictly swathed with Bands, reduce the Breast to so narrow a scantling as is apt to endanger .. the life of Children. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1046 And setting all the Land on fire, To burn t' a Scantling, but no higher. 1691 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 74 But this certainly is to measure Truth by a wrong Standard, and to Circumscribe her by too narrow a Scantling.

† b. *spec.* in *Archery,* applied to the distance from the mark, within which a shot was not regarded as a miss. Also *fig. Obs.*

1577–87 STANYHURST *Descr. Ireland* i. 11/2 If I may craue your patience till time you see me shoot my bolt, I hope you will not denie, but that as neere the pricke as you are, and as verie an hagler as I am, yet the scantling shall be mine. 1584 W. E[LDERTON] '*Yorke, Yorke for my Monie*' in Halliw. *Yorksh. Anthol.* (1851) 4 And then was shooting out of crye, And skantling at a handfull nie. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* xix. 72 b, Not suffering them to eate, til they haue shot neere the marke within a certein scantling. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Lond.* (1662) II. 191 A poor Blew Cap .. played so well thereon [*sc.* a fire-engine], that .. he could hit within the scantling of a Shilling.

4. A portion, allotted quantity, allowance. *arch.*

1659 *Gentlem. Calling* VI. x. 432 Nor is their pride so affronted, as to be forgot in the distribution of their time, a good scantling of it is cut out to its use. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi, The muleteer .. thought not of to-morrow .., provided he got but his scantling of Burgundy. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 171 The practice of burying criminals alive, with a scantling of food by their side.

5. A small or scanty portion or amount, a modicum (of things material or immaterial).

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 412 *Ramentum,* .. a fragment, remnant, scantling, or litle peece of marble, or other thing. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 537 The former hoofes of a horse being scraped, and the same fragmentes or scantlinges thereof being beaten in the duste. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (1901) 24 One now resolved to sleep out that small scantling of time which is left him. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 4 Apr., I am really ashamed to send this scantling of paper by the post, over so many seas and mountains. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* I. p. iv, I cannot find about me the smallest scantling of veneration for your virtues. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* III. iv. 89 But a scantling of apples enriched the trees. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. xi. (1872) III. 190 You shall get back your Lombardy,—all but a scantling which we fling to the Sardinian Majesty. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* i. 26 Some scantling of geological knowledge will be of advantage.

† b. An epitome, abridgement; also, a small remnant. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* To Rdr. (1880), The booke .. being but a pamphlet or skantling. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Auth. O. & N. Test.* I. 425 Velleius Paterculus .. is an Epitomizer, a Scantling of an Historian. 1708 HUDSON in Hearne *Coll.* 3 Aug. (O. H. S.) II. 123 Thetford .. is nothing but ye poor scantling of an ancient spatious town.

† 6. A sample, pattern, specimen. Hence, a sketch, outline, rough draft. *Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* Epist. 379 How Ovids scantlings with the whole true patterne doo agree. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 539 This is but a taste and scantling of those torments and punishments which are prepared and made ready for them in the world to come. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 341 For the successe (Although particular) shall giue a scantling Of good or bad, vnto the Generall. 1663 MARQ. WORCESTER (*title*) A Century of the Names and Scantlings of such Inventions, as at present I can call to mind to have tried and perfected. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. (1670) 82 And all the way long we saw such a continual Suburbs of stately Villas and Villages, that these scantlings made us in love with the whole Piece

lt self, Genua. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 104 To give but a scantling and landskip of some of them. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 108 Had you sent a Scantling of your Wit, You might have blam'd us, if it did not fit. 1704 SWIFT *Tale of Tub* xi. 201 This I have produced, as a Scantling of Jack's great Eloquence. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 113 The slight tests to which Strepsiades is put in the verses following, are of course but a dramatic scantling of those probations to which candidates were often put before admission into the philosophic schools of antiquity.

7. *concr.* in technical use (see 2 b). **a.** A small beam or piece of wood; *spec.* one less than five inches square.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 42 The cutting of their Scantlings. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ¶ 1 The Compositer sends..for..good strong Wast-Paper, and cuts it into so many several Scantlins as the number of each Scantlin of his Boxes in his Case are. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4002/4 A Good quantity of..Oak Timber, fit to be cut for Planks and Scantlings for Shipping,..is to be sold. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 753 He that saw His patrimonial timber cast its leaf, Sells the last scantling, and transfers the price To some shrewd sharper. 1829 P. NICHOLSON *Carp.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 235/1 In the construction of naked flooring and roofing the small timbers which are used are called by the general name of scantlings. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* xxiii. 257 About two hundred yards off..we built a pen of scantlings.

b. *collect. sing.* Timber in the form of scantlings.

1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 520 Boards, scantling, staves, shingles. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* iii. 32 If it is decided to use scantling [for ladder-sides] the two pieces should be tapered from about 3½ in. by 2 in. at the bottom end.

c. A block or slice of stone of a fixed size; also *collect. sing.* stone cut into scantlings.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 38/1 Whether square Stone, or uneven Scantlings. *Ibid.* II. 16/1 The method of cutting Marble into thin scantlings..scarce half an inch thick. *Ibid.* 41/2 The Ancients.., instead of panes of glass, made use of thin transparent scantlings of Alabaster. 1824 *Fowler Corr.* (MS.) 482 Account of stone..sawn into scantling at Quarry. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 622 The blocks [of slate]..are, by the application of wedges, reduced into layers, called scantlings, from four to nine inches in thickness, and of any required length and breadth. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Arch.* § 1799, § 1909.

8. (See quot.) Cf. CANTLING 2.

1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 301 The making and layeing of all manner of beare Joysts Stillings and Scantlyngs for Vinteners, Brewhouses [etc.]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scantling*,..a trestle or horse in a cellar for holding casks on tap.

9. *attrib.*, as *scantling board, piece, prop*; **scantling stick** *Shipbuilding* (see quot. 1874).

1883 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 8/1, 150 Standards of Timber, consisting of deals, battens, *scantling boards. 1584 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 368 For ii *scantling peeces. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxi. (1856) 164 The *scantling props still stuck in the frozen soil. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 55 A stick is provided for each head and sirmark, and upon this stick are marked the mouldings of all the square body frames measured square to the surface at that head or sirmark. These sticks are known as *scantling or moulding sticks.

†Sca·ntling, *a. Obs.* [f. SCANTLING *sb.*]

1. Very small, insignificant in size or extent.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. xliv, Heav'ns Glorie to atchieve, what scantling Span Hath the frail Pilgrimage of Man! Which sets, when risen; ends, when it but now began. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* x. 30 How would some flood with ampler treasures blest, Disdainful view the scantling drops distil! 1788 BURNS *Let. to Clarinda* 6 Mar. (Globe) 402 How little of that scantling portion of time, called the life of man, is sacred to happiness.

2. *techn.* Cut into 'scantlings' or thin slices.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Arch.* II. 46/1 The Window must be..paned with scantling talc.

Sca·ntling, *v.* ? *Obs. rare.* [f. SCANTLING *sb.*] *trans.* To construct (a ship) of a certain scantling.

1780 Capt. W. YOUNG *Let. to Comptroller* 24 July (Ld. Barham Papers), Small 20-gun ships who were only scantlined to carry six pounders, might very well bare twelve-pound carronades.

Sca·ntlins, *adv. Sc.* [f. SCANT *a.* + *-lin(g)s*, -LING 2.] Scarcely, hardly.

a 1774 R. FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 235 When merry Yuleday comes, I trow, You'll scantlins find a hungry mou.

†Scantlo·meter. *Obs.* [f. SCANTL(ING) + -(O)METER.] (See quot.)

1844 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* II. 99 The Scantlometer. The instrument thus named, the invention of Mr. Wylson, determines the scantlings of joists and rafters, the former level, the latter sloped to any pitch not exceeding sixty degrees.

Scantly (skæ·ntli), *adv.* [f. SCANT *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Scarcely, hardly, barely. *arch.*

Exceedingly common from the 15th to the middle of the 17th c.; in the 18th c. it had app. become obsolete; revived in literary use by Scott.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 111 Scantly þe todir day fand þai quhare þe body lay. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1228 Scantly had they the mete corvyn, That in comyth the kyngis messyngere, And grette the lady in thys manere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iii. 15 3it of thilk vertu or gouernaunce scantli is writen in al Holi Writt ten lynes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 460 Ye can scantly heve up your staff. 1520 NISBET *N. T., Luke* ix. 50 And scantlie [*Wycl.* vnnethe; Vulg. *vix*] he gais away al to drawand him. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, s. v. *Cerrus*, The maste rough like a chesten, scantly holsome for swyne. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* x. 153 Wee are hearers of the word, and yet skantly that. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 221, I say it is scantly foure inches long. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* III. xvii, His kirtle..Reach'd scantly to his knee. *a* 1844 CAMPBELL *Napoleon & Brit. Sailor* 65 Our sailor oft could scantly shift To find a dinner, plain and hearty. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 287 We hold a tourney here tomorrow morn, And there is scantly time for half the work.

†**b.** with superfluous negative. *Obs.*

1585 PARSONS *Chr. Exerc.* I. viii. 87 For scantly, there is not a seuere saying of God..which commeth not now to his mind.

†**2.** Sparingly; at little cost. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* ix. 8, I liff als skantlie as I can, & diligentlie I kepe all my merchandise.

3. In scant measure; inadequately; scantily. Also *rarely* †grudgingly.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 223 And where as the angels ar ther with reuerence..worshyppynge our holy sauyour These vnkynde caytyfs wyll scantly hym honour. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1058 For all the proverbs they perusit, 3e thocht them skantly skild. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 6 He hath..spoke scantly of me. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* vii. (1640) 70 Indeed, God can doe nothing scantly, penuriously, singly. 1817 KEATS *Soun.* i, Cynthia is from her silken curtains peeping So scantly, that it seems her bridal night. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Birth* xvi, Tables sprang up all over the lawn; Not furnish'd scantly or shabbily. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 50 On that ground, agreeably to the logic I have so scantly expounded.

b. Curtly. ? *rare.*

1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 133 'How?' asked the Colonel scantly.

Scantness (skæ·ntnés). [f. SCANT *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The condition of being scant or insufficient in quantity.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* ¶ 415 The synful costlewe array of clothynge, and namely in to muche superfluite, or elles in to desordinat scantnesse [*v. r.* skarsenesse]. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1243, I am so drad of monyes scantnesse, That myn hert is al makid of lightnesse. 1574 DEE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 33 Considering your mervailous skantnes of leysor from very waighty matters. 1608 R. DOBSON in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 124 As for the skantness of it, I know it is as full of stuffe as any gowne you haue..worn. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. David II*, 45 There is great raritie, and skantnes within the Realme,..of silver. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 193 The miserable scantness of our capacities. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Arg.* i. 2 Tho the scantness of History..tell us not what words were then used. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. iii. 30 All scantness and scarceness, such as this lack of bread in the wilderness,..belonged not to man as his portion at the first.

†**b.** Penury, lack of comforts or necessaries.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 124 þai liffe with grete wricchedness and scantness. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scantnesse, *parcitas, parcimonia.*

†**c.** = SCARCITY 3. *Obs.*

1543 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 190 The grit dartht and skantnes in the contray.

†**2.** Of the wind (cf. SCANT *a.* 7). *Obs.*

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xix. (1577) 50 b, Tydes, currentes, or the scantnesse of the wynde, which may put the ship vnto the leewardes of his course.

Scanty (skæ·nti), *a.* [f. SCANT *sb.* or *a.* + -Y.]

1. Of a quantity, store, supply, or any collective unity: Meagre, slender, not ample or copious.

1660 HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* II. v. Wks. (1700) 379 Clemens says they were very few, their Assemblys privat, and very scanty things. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. III. i. 323 More plentiful or scanty influx of the Spirit. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und* III. v. § 8 The terms of our law..will hardly find words that answer them in the Spanish or Italian, no scanty languages. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XIX. 259 Me, in no scanty measure, thou excell'st. 1836 LD. ST. HELENS in *Croker Papers* (1884) 2 Nov., [The] King.. used to dispatch his solitary and scanty meal in a very short time. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* III. i, Proud aristocrats began to recollect that a mushroom peerage was supported but by a scanty fortune. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Since her early gladness in this best-loved boy, the harvests of her life had been scanty. 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scotl.* IV. xviii. 465 Congregations were scanty.

2. Deficient in extent, compass, or size.

1701 STANHOPE tr. *Augustine's Medit.* II. ii. 115 They proportion their Regard to Him according to their own Scanty Notions of His goodness toward them. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 128 ¶ 4 You appear to my Imagination more agreeable in a short scanty Petticoat, than the finest woman of Quality in her spreading fardingal. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 264 This scanty road bears us not both together; And we must once divide, to part no more. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 9 Our Minds are narrow and scanty in their Capacities. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* III. iii. I. 129 They sailed from Harfleur in the scantiest craft that ever ventured for a crown. 1874 WHYTE MELVILLE *Uncle John* xiv. II. 95 Scanty trousers..and a forward set of the hat.

3. Existing or present in small or insufficient quantity; not abundant. †Of wind: = SCARCE *a.* 1 b.

1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy.* 196 The wind was scanty all along. 1705–6 PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 107 My paper is scanty and time more so. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 30 If our scanty experience were made the rule and measure of truth. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 304 He drives his flocks to pick the scanty blade. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 409 Breath very short, urine scanty. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 80 Wind scanty, but fair. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 211 Forage and provisions beginning to grow scanty, and the winter approaching. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. (*init.*), Such a description, composed from scanty and dispersed materials, must necessarily be very imperfect. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 173 With regard to Worcestershire our knowledge is in one way still scantier, while in another it is much fuller. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 He pegged away, however, with his scanty dollars until he came into alliance with Jay Gould.

†**4.** Parsimonious. Of soil: Yielding little. *Obs.*

1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 105 She..Ascribed above their due to every one, Unjust and scanty to herself alone. 1794 BURKE *Pref. to Brissot's Addr. Constituents* ¶ 21 He allows a space of time for the duration of these agitations: and least he should be thought rigid and too scanty in his measure, he thinks it may be long. 1796 COLERIDGE *Ode Depart. Yr.* ix, With..daily toil Soliciting for food my scanty soil.

Scap: see SCALP, SCAPE *v.*, SHAPE.

Scape (skēip), *sb.*[1] Also 4 **schap**, 4–6 **skape**. [Aphetic var. of ESCAPE *sb.*[1]]

1. An act of escaping; = ESCAPE *sb.*[1] *arch.* Now chiefly in *hairbreadth scape*, after Shakspere: see HAIRBREADTH. (Often written '*scape.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23730 All sal we rin into his rape, we wat þat þar mai li na scape. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4273 (Bodl. MS.), He haþ ylore his foo..And bymeneþ his skape sore. *a* 1500 *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) B ij, That the sherefs of london bee amerced for a scape of thefes at C. s. only. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* xiii. 48 You shall seldome see a Russe a traueller, except he be with some Ambassadour, or that he make a scape out of his Countrie. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett. to Sir W. Temple* (1888) 51 But *à propos* of Monsr. Smith what a scape has he made of my Lady Barbury. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* v. 29 To hold long subsistence seems but a scape in oblivion. 1739 G. OGLE *Gualtherus & Griselda* 77 How great our Scape, who never yet knew Man! 1897 *Church Quarterly* 11 The romantic scapes..of St. Athanasius gave birth to no literature of song and legend like the wanderings of Prince Charlie.

†**2.** A transgression due to thoughtlessness; also, with different notion, a breaking out from moral restraint, an outrageous sin; often applied to a breach of chastity. Cf. ESCAPE *sb.*[1] 7. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 3 He, wepynge hys dedis and reducyng to mynde the scapis of his yougth and ignoraunces. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 60 b, Maydens that haue made a scape are commonly called to bee nurses. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vii. 136 My Lord, pardon vs, we knew not what you were: But Courtiers may make greater scapes than these. 1592 — *Disput. Hee & Shee Conneycatchers* C 1 b, The old Croane..sayd the childe was hers, and so saued her daughters scape. 1599 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat.* v, Slight scapes are whipt, but damned deeds are praised. *a* 1656 HALES *Golden Rem.* I. (1673) 91 Men are universally more apt from the errours and scapes of good men to draw apologies for their own. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 189 Then lay'st thy scapes on names ador'd, Apollo, Neptune, Jupiter, or Pan. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 560 One miscarriage, one scape in bad company, will not quite undo me.

†**3.** An inadvertent mistake; *esp.* a slip of the tongue or a clerical error, a 'fault escaped'; = ESCAPE *sb* [1] 6. *Obs.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* To Rdr. ¶ 3 b, To consider better the ouersightes, and scapes of his former Booke. 1586 HOOKER *Learned Disc.* § 39 (1612) 68 Let no man..thinke himselfe..alwaies freed from scapes and oversights in his speech. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Counter-snarle* 33 Such scapes oftentimes happen, when the Author himselfe cannot attend the presse. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forf.* 11 Such As poyson all they see, foul all they touch, And on Mechanick Scapes forge Arts detraction. 1705 J. BLAIR in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 153 Involuntary Scapes of Transcription excepted.

†**4.** *To let a scape*: to break wind. (See also ESCAPE *sb.*[1] 4 b.) *Obs.*

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* N iv, I for my parte, through laughter, had almost let goe a skape, as Priapus did. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 104 She would not misse her fistyng curre for any thyng: and why? Forsothe when so she letts a scape, she cries me, fie curre, fie. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* B 2 b, This is the language of dissimulation, with whom a scape passes for currant, vnder the name of coughing. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 584 To let a fart or let a scape.

†**5.** *pl.* ? Grapes that have been left ungathered.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 667 In some Countries they also giue them [*sc.* swine] the scapes or refuse Grapes of Vintage.

6. = SCAPEMENT. Cf. SCAPE *v.*[2] and *scape-wheel.*

1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 312 Exactly like those of a common clock with the dead scape.

7. *Comb.*: †**scape-door**, a door through which to escape, a means of escape; **scape-spring**, a spring that is automatically liberated when its action is required; **scape-wheel**, = *escape-wheel.*

1607 HIERON *Defence* I. 44 To himselfe a *scapedoore to flie out at. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 512 Fig. 518 represents a side view of the *scape-spring which locks the wheel. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 85 Thus the motion begun by the weight is transported to the *scape wheel. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 18/2 The scape-wheel tooth does not overtake the face of the pallet immediately.

Scape (skēip), *sb.*[2] [ad. L. *scāpus*, a. Gr. (Doric) *σκᾶπος* (Hesych.), cogn. w. *σκῆπτρον* SCEPTRE. Cf. F. *scape*, Sp. *escapo*. See also SCAPUS.]

1. *Arch.* The shaft of a column. (With reference to the alleged sense = APOPHYGE, see ESCAPE *sb.*[2])

1663 CHARLETON *Chor. Gigant.* 20 From the third part of their Scape, or lower part, upward. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Scape* or *Scapus*, the shaft of a column; also the little hollow, above or below, which connects the shaft with the base, or with the fillet under the astragal.

†**2.** The tongue of a balance. *Obs.*

[So L. *scapus trutinæ* is explained by Cooper 1565; Lewis & Short render it 'beam'.]

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Justice* ii, The beam and scape Did like some tott'ring engine show.

3. *Bot.* A long flower-stalk rising directly from the root or rhizome; †*gen.*, a stem or stalk.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. xi. I. 392 The scape or stalke

that ariseth from it hath three sides with three corners triangle-wise. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XV. (1794) 166 Ribwort Plantain has..the scape angular and twisted. 1824 J. BARNET in *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1826) VI. 152 The scapes are short, generally half the length of the leaf-stalk. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 384 The scapes of many plants develop at a rapid rate.

attrib. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 32 Draba rupestris.. scape-leaf 1 or 0.

4. *Ornith.* (See quot.)

1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 2 A perfect feather consists of a main stem, or scape (*scapus*..), and a supplementary stem or aftershaft.

5. *Ent.* (See quots.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxiii. III. 366 Scapus (the Scape). The first and in many cases the most conspicuous joint of the *Antennæ*. It includes the *Bulbus*. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 515 The scape, or first joint, by means of the bulb inosculates in the torulus, or is suspended to it. 1898 PACKARD *Text-bk. Entomol.* 57 In the more specialized forms it [the antenna] is divided into the *scape*, the *pedicel*, and a *flagellum* (or *clavola*).

Scape (skēip), *sb.*[3] [Back-formation from LANDSCAPE.] A view of scenery of any kind, whether consisting of land, water, cloud, or anything else. Also as the second element of combs. formed in imitation of *landscape*, as SEA-SCAPE, *cloud-scape*, and various nonce-words.

1773 G. WHITE *Selborne, Let. to Barrington* 9 Dec., Mr. Ray..was so ravished with the prospect from Plumpton-plain, near Lewes, that he mentioned these scapes in his 'Wisdom of God in the Works of the Creation' with the utmost satisfaction. 1776 — *Let. to T. White* 9 Aug., He first of all sketches his scapes with a lead pencil. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* IV. 339 My simile..brings me to remark on the landscape, or rather the prison-scape around me. 1853 WARTER *Paroch. Fragments W. Tarring* 362 During the ten years I have lived hard by the Downs, I have never seen a single dotterel on their scapes, much less a trip of them. 1858 *Daily News* 3 Sept., Some of these cloud-scapes are extremely grand. 1885 [W. H. WHITE] *Mark Rutherford's Deliv.* ii. (1892) 18 Some relief from the contemplation of the landscape or brick-scape. 1907 E. W. COLERIDGE *Christabel* 3 Here was one of those moon-scapes which the poet should depict in verse.

Scape (skēip), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 **scapie**, 4 **scap**, **skape**, 4–5 **skap**, **schap**(e, 4-6 **skape**, 5 **scappe**, **sckap**, **shape**, **skapp**(e, 5–6 *Sc.* **schaip**, 6-7 **scaipe**, 9 *dial.* **sceape**, 4- **scape**. Also 4–6 *str. pa. t.* **scope**, **skope**, 4 **skepe**. [Aphetic var. of ESCAPE *v.* Frequent in prose use till near the end of the 17th c.; subsequently only *arch.* and *poet.*, and often written *'scape.*]

1. = ESCAPE *v.* in its various senses. **a.** *intr.*

*c*1275 LAY. 826 Ne lete ȝe nanne cwicke scapie to felde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5009 For þar vs tok þe hei bailli, To scap [*Gött.* schap, *Trin.* skape] wit gisel war we fain. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10667 For he ne shulde skape by þe weye, He dyd on hym, bondes for to leye. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 240 (Add. MS.) Pilate saide: 'is þis he þat herode pursewed soo?' 'Ȝha', þai saide, 'pardye, and ȝit he skappid hym fro'. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 155 Mony ladde þer forth-lep to laue & to kest, Scopen out þe scabel water, þat fayn scape wolde. *c*1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 141 Yf thou be gylty thou mayst not schape. *c*1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlvii. 181 He was ryght wrooth and sory that she was scaped soo from hym. 1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 159 She shall be syke in the age of .v. yere she shallbe in daungere of dethe: and yf she skape she may leue tyll .xliij. yere. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 18 One tytle of the lawe shall not scape tyll all be fulfilled. [So 1557 (Geneva).] 1540 *Cranmer's Bible*, 1 *Sam.* xiv. 41 Saul and Jonathas were caught, but the people skaped free. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 163 Thay fryit in furie that he schaipit quick. *c*1630 MURE *Ps.* cxxxix. 7 Where from thy spirit shall I scaipe? Where from thy presence flee? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 814 What, have you let the false enchanter scape? 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref., How difficult it will be for any .. to scape from being discover'd. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxi. 70 In the case of a Battle, where the Soldier grows Every day less apprehensive of the Hazzard, by seeing so many People Scape. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* III. 583 Of many thousands few untainted 'scaped; Of those infected fewer 'scap'd alive. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 831 The croaking nuisance lurk'd in ev'ry nook; Nor palaces, nor even chambers, 'scap'd. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* I. 89 Lightning, scaped from its own proper place. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. iv, In hurry of the night, 'Scaped noteless, and without remark, Two strangers sought the Abbot's bark.

β. strong pa. t.

*c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 13541 Thus I skope fro the skathe with skyrme of my hondes. *Ibid.* 13616 Aschatus þen skepe furth with his skire wordis. *c*1450 *Mirk's Festial* 257 So þat nobyng lafte saue þe kyng, þat vnnebe scope, and a ȝeong sonne of his wyfe. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 534 But he scope fro hem in to his lordes place. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) II. 352 They scaled the bridge, which thothers perceyvyng, scope oute at thother ende therof. 1538 *Ibid.* III. 19 Your son Bartholomew scope then hapy, for he was with Aylmer.

b. *trans.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29260 þe man..mai noght þis cursing scape. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7735 (Bodl. MS.), Myne honde ne skapeþ he nenermore. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 1151 Now is she scaped al hire auenture. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 295 No day schulde hym scape þat he nolde rede, write, oþer declare rightwisnesse. *c*1440 *Generydes* 2849, I see noo cause, for we shall do right wele And skape ther handes, doughte ye neuer a dele. *c*1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 223 For trewly I am so woundyrly seke I may nevyr schape this grett seknes. 1547 *Bk. of Marchauntes* b j, Nothynge scapeth them, but at their plasures [*sic*] they occupi it. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 37 b, It is sowed in April or later, in May, to scape the frostes. 1593 *Udall's Key of Holy Tongue* Note by Printer, The Typographical faultes, which perhaps haue scaped us. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 130, I maruelled to heare such a word scape him. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xc, Ah doe not, when my heart hath scapte this sorrow Come in the rereward of a conquerd woe. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 93 (1699) 148 Courage in an ill-bred Man, has the Air, and scapes not the Opinion of Brutality. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 14 Dec., If Patrick had been at home, I should have 'scaped this; for I have taught him to deny me almost as well as Mr. Harley's porter. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 185 While we retrace with mem'ry's pointing wand,.. The dangers we have 'scaped. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 345 Pray for him that he scape the doom of fire. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 75 Ye mounts Where I climb to 'scape my fellow.

2. The verb-stem occurs in objective combinations, as **scape-gallows**, one who has escaped the gallows though deserving it; so † *scape-Tyburn*; † **scape-sermon**, an excuse for not preaching a sermon. Also SCAPEGRACE, SCAPETHRIFT.

1799 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 154 The *scape-gallowses of the large cities. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 520 The Whigs now support all the scape-graces, and sometimes scape-gallowses. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. xiii. 167 Thirdly, I believe that Mr. Curate was not provided, and that's enough at any time, for a *scape Sermon. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 4 *Scape-Tibornes, Dog-leeches, and such like baggage.

Scape (skēip), *v.*[2] *Horology.* [Back-formation from SCAPEMENT.] *intr.* Of an escapement or one of its parts: To perform its function (in a certain manner).

1739 [see ESCAPEMENT 2]. 1761 [see DEAD *a.* 24 b]. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 141 The pallets 'scape' over three teeth of the wheel.

Scape (skēip), *int.* A conventional imitation of the cry of the snipe when flushed. Hence used *subst.* as a nickname for the snipe.

1862 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 380 The..half-frozen sedges in which one kills friend Scape at home. 1870 H. STEVENSON *Birds Norf.* II. 324 Its warning cry of 'scape, scape' on rising attracted my notice. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 2/3 Sceape! Sceape! a sudden gleam of mottled grey Rising from nowhere wings its wizard flight.

Scapegoat (skēi·pgōut). [f. SCAPE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + GOAT.

App. invented by Tindale (1530) to express what he believed to be the literal meaning of Heb. עזאזל *ʿăzāzel*, occurring only in Lev. xvi. 8, 10, 26. (In verse 10 he renders: 'The goote on which the lotte fell to scape'.) The same interpretation is expressed by the Vulgate *caper emissarius* (whence the Fr. *bouc émissaire*), and by Coverdale's (1535) rendering 'the fre goate', but is now regarded as untenable. The word does not appear in the Revised Version of 1884, which has 'Azazel' (as a proper name) in the text, and 'dismissal' in the margin as an alternative rendering.]

1. In the Mosaic ritual of the Day of Atonement (Lev. xvi), that one of two goats that was chosen by lot to be sent alive into the wilderness, the sins of the people having been symbolically laid upon it, while the other was appointed to be sacrificed.

1530 TINDALE *Lev.* xvi. 8 And Aaron cast lottes ouer the .ii. gootes: one lotte for the Lorde, and another for a scapegoote. (So 1537, 1539, 1562 (Geneva), 1568, 1611.) 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* xli, Our Saviour Christs sufferings seem to be here [*sc.* in Lev. xvi] figured..: He was both the sacrificed Goat and the Scape Goat.

2. One who is blamed or punished for the sins of others. (So F. *bouc émissaire.*)

1824 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 204 Country-boys.. are patient, too, and bear their fate as scape-goats, (for all sins whatsoever are laid as matters of course to their door, ..), with amazing resignation. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 416 He has been made the scape-goat for many of the sins both of other individuals and of the whole nation. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* V. lxxxviii. III. 193 The leaders of Tammany undertook to make a scapegoat of Conolly—the least respected and most unpopular of their number.

attrib. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. ii, A scape goat marriage—all the sins of both The houses on mine head. 1895 J. MORLEY in *Daily News* 3 Dec. 3/2, I for one am not going to launch scapegoat Bills. I am not going to say this Bill or that Bill was wrong, and that, therefore, we deservedly lost the elections.

¶ The formation of the word has been imitated in nonce-combinations (chiefly jocular) in which the name of some other animal is substituted for 'goat' (cf. the quots.).

1765 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Earl of Hertford* 12 May, That scape-goose, Lord Halifax. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 86 They have a scape-horse, analogous to the scape-goat of the Jews. 1831 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLIV. 286 To place himself in so prominent a position that he was noted for a scape-rat.

Scapegrace (skēi·pgrēis), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SCAPE *v.* + GRACE *sb.*, the etymological notion being 'one who escapes the grace of God'. Cf. the older *scapethrift* and *want-grace.*] **A.** *sb.* A man or boy of reckless and disorderly habits; an incorrigible scamp. Often used playfully.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. P 3 That scape-grace Leganez had incurred the penalty of the rod. 1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) IV. 294 Most of the Irish of that class are scapegraces—drink, steal, and lie like the devil. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. i, He..was the most charming young scapegrace in the army. 1897 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* I. xv. 168 Mention of her old scapegrace of a father lit her up again.

¶ Applied to a female. *rare.*

a 1847 ELIZA COOK *Rory O'More* iii, Hebe, that teasing young scapegrace.

B. *adj.* That is a scapegrace; characteristic of a scapegrace.

1830 *Forrester* I. 202 A warrant, sir, to bind over your scapegrace friend there to keep the peace. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. 189 After a sort of scape-grace acquaintance with the maddest wag of London. 1856 MASSON *Ess.* iv. 120 The scapegrace young earl.

Sca·pel. *Bot. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *scāpellus* (Lindley 1839), dim. of *scāpus* SCAPE *sb.*[2]] 'The caulicle, or neck formed between the root and cotyledon at the time of germination' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

Scapelar, -eler, obs. forms of SCAPULAR *sb.*

Scapelarie, -y, obs. ff. SCAPULARY.

Scapeless (skēi·plės), *a.*[1] *Bot.* [f. SCAPE *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Destitute of a scape.

1828–32 in WEBSTER.

Scapeless (skēi·plės), *a.*[2] [f. SCAPE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -LESS.] Not to be escaped from; inevitable.

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 164 My fate is fixed and scapeless. 1883 R. BRIDGES *Prometheus* 1227 The scapeless net spread in thy sight around thee.

Scapellar, scapelor, obs. ff. SCAPULAR.

Scapelori, -y, -elry, obs. forms of SCAPULARY.

Scapement (skēi·pmėnt). [Aphetic form of ESCAPEMENT.] = ESCAPEMENT 2.

1755 [see ESCAPEMENT 2]. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 245 A Scapement, for the use of clock-makers. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, They..have no more regularity in them than a watch without a scapement. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 190/2 The mechanism by which these numbers are counted is technically called a scapement.

Scaper, obs. form of SHAPER.

Sca·pethrift. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. SCAPE *v.* + THRIFT.] A spendthrift.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 384 How, pyke-harnes, scapethryft! how, pike-harnes, how! 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 761 Howe be it, of Scape Thryfte your clokes smelleth musty. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 263/1 He gathered a power of wicked scapethrifts..burnt the towne [etc.]. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. i. 3 Scapethrifts, who have but the purse of a private man, yet will spend like a Prince. 1838 *Gentl. Mag.* CVIII. II. 71 A scapethrift laid his hand on his father's plough.

† **Sca·phage.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. f. Gr. *σκάφ-ος* act of digging + -AGE.] (See quot.)

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. vii. 14 Scaphage is the digging, deluing, and preparing of the Soile with Spades or other handie-tooles for the sowing, setting, planting, and propagating of..Plants, Trees, &c. [Hence 1688 in HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/2, misspelt *Scaphinge.*]

Scaphander (skæfæ·ndəɹ). [ad. F. *scaphandre* (so named by La Chapelle, the inventor, 1775), f. Gr. *σκάφη* boat + *ἀνδρ-*, *ἀνήρ* man.] A cork belt used as a support in swimming.

1825 CLIAS *Gymnastics* 165 A third..follows behind..with the scaphander. [In recent Dicts. with erroneous explanation: a water-tight suit for a diver.]

Scaphe, variant of SCAF.

Scaphite (skæ·fait). [ad. mod.L. *scaphītēs* (Parkinson 1804–11), f. Gr. *σκάφη* boat (with reference to the boat-shaped form of the shell): see -ITE.] A cephalopod of the fossil genus *Scaphites.*

1822 CONYBEARE *Outl. Geol.* II. ii. § 9. 162 Turrilite. Scaphite [etc.]. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. i. 20 The Baculites, Hamites, Scaphites.

Scapho- (skæ·fō), comb. form of Gr. *σκάφη* boat, in many scientific terms (of which the most important will be found as Main words). **Scapho-calca·neal** *a.*, pertaining to the scaphoid and calcaneum (in recent Dicts.). **Scapho-cu·boid** *a.*, pertaining to the scaphoid and cuboid bones. **Scapho-cuneiform** *a.*, pertaining to the scaphoid and cuneiform bones. **Scapho·gnathite** [Gr. *γνάθος*], a flat oval plate in the gill chamber of fishes, which by movement promotes a constant flow of water through the gill; hence **Sca·phognathi·tic** *a.*, pertaining to a scaphognathite (*Cent. Dict.* 1891). **Scapholu·nar** *a.* [cf. LUNAR B. 3], the epithet of a small bone in the carpus of some animals; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* **Sca·pho-trape·zium,** a bone in the carpus of the sloth tribe, corresponding to the scaphoid and the trapezium united.

1876 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 8) I. 177 *Scapho-Cuboid Articulation. *Ibid.* 178 *Scapho-Cuneiform Articulation. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 104 The branchia..act mainly as the *scapho-gnathite does. 1854 R. OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 252 The..end of the *scapho-lunar bone. 1870 FLOWER *Osteol. Mammalia* xvi. 279 The first row consists of a scapho-lunar and a cuneiform. 1854 R. OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 246 The *scapho-trapezium is characteristic of the sloth-tribe.

‖ **Scaphocephalus** (skæfōse·fāləs). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *σκάφη* boat + *κεφαλή* head: after *hydrocephalus.*] 'Boat-shaped head'; a condition of the skull (caused by premature ossification of the sagittal suture preventing transverse development), in which the length greatly exceeds the breadth.

1865 THURNAM in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 247 In the Negro ..the more marked features of true scaphocephalus are more rarely seen.

Hence **Scaphocepha·lic, Scaphoce·phalous** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to scaphocephalus; **Scaphoce·phalism, Scaphoce·phaly** = SCAPHOCEPHALUS.

1863 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. I. ix. 236 Professor v. Baer

..proposes the term scaphocephalic to indicate the same boat-like head-form. 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* July 614 Scaphocephalism..occurs from defective parietal bone formation. 1889 *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6), Scaphocephalous. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 240 There are other types [of idiots] of less importance, such as the amaurotic, syphilitic, choreic, scaphocephalic [etc.]. 1901 *Nature* 12 Sept. 490/2 Two..papers..on deformed heads of living subjects; the one in a case of oxycephaly or acrocephaly and the other of scaphocephaly.

Scaphocerite (skăfǫ·sĕrəit). [f. Gr. *σκάφ-η* boat + *κέρ-ας* horn + -ITE.] The third section of the antenna of an arthropod.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 314 Next, a basicerite, to the outer portion of which a flattened plate..here called the scaphocerite, is articulated. 1893 STEBBING *Crustacea* iv. 38 A thin plate, known as the antennal scale.., while those who love long words are privileged to call it the scaphocerite.

Scaphoid (skæ·foid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *scaphoīdes*, a. Gr. *σκαφοειδής*, f. *σκάφ-η* boat: see -OID. Cf. F. *scaphoïde*.] **A.** *adj.* Shaped like a boat. Chiefly *Anat.* and *Zool.* *Scaphoid bone* = B. *Scaphoid fossa*: the fossa of the helix of the ear. *Scaphoid tubercle*: the short process of the malleus.

1741 A. MONRO *Anatomy* (ed. 3) 51 The Ligaments stretching from the Heel-bone to the Scaphoid Bone. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 35 A small, oval, shallow depression, the scaphoid fossa. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 72 The hollow which should exist between the internal malleolus and the scaphoid tubercle was entirely obliterated. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 118 Where the lateral feathers slant upward from the lowermost central pair, like the sides of a boat from its keel, this is the scaphoid..or carinate.. tail. 1901 OSLER *Pract. Med.* (ed. 4) I. 26 Peritonitis may occur..with an abdomen flat or even scaphoid.

B. *sb.* [Short for *scaphoid bone*; in mod.L. *scaphoides*.] The first proximal carpal bone in Mammalia, or the corresponding bone in the foot. See NAVICULAR A. 1.

1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 249 One inch in front of the malleolus you feel the projection of the scaphoid; the joint is one inch beyond it. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 151 A concavity on the radial side to receive a prominence of the scaphoid.

†Scaphoi·dal, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Formed as SCAPHOID + -AL.] Boat-shaped, hollowed out.

1681 WHARTON *Eclipses* Wks. (1683) 102 The Earth is not Cubical, nor Pyramidal, Scaphoidal, or otherwise Hollow, ..but on every side perfectly round.

Scapiform (skē¹·pifɔim), *a.* [f. L. *scāp-us* SCAPE *sb.*² + -FORM.] Having the form of a SCAPE (in various senses).

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 338 Scapiform Iron Ore. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* 229 *Scapiform*, scape-like. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 232 *Scapiform*, ..resembling a scape, a stem wanting leaves.

Scapigerous (skăpi·dʒĕrəs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *scāp-us* SCAPE *sb.*² + -GEROUS.] Bearing a scape; having a stalk devoid of leaves.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 215 Taraxacum, Dandelion. Perennial, scapigerous herbs.

Scapiller, obs. form of SCAPULAR.

†Sca·ping, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SCAPE *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of the verb SCAPE; escaping.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. Pr. iv. (1868) 135 They wene that either the leve or the mowinge to don wikkednesse, or elles the scapinge withoute peyne, be weleful. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. xii. 59 It must be so, for þere is no remedie of scapyng fro tribulacion of euel men & sorowe, but þat þou suffre. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 b, Fewe there be that gothe safely by this waye, but with great difficultye and hard scapynge.

Scaple, Scapler, obs. ff. SCAPPLE, SCAPULAR.

Scaplerie, -erye, -ory, obs. ff. SCAPULARY.

Scapolite (skæ·pŏləit). *Min.* [ad. G. *skapolith* (D'Andrada 1800), f. Gr. *σκᾶπο-ς* rod (see SCAPE *sb.*²) + *λίθος* stone: see -LITE.] One of a group of minerals (including dipyre, ekebergite, marialite, etc.) composed of silicates of aluminium, calcium, and sodium.

1802 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* III. 480 Scapolite. 1879 RUTLEY *Study of Rocks* x. 111.

Scappe: see SCAB *sb.*, SCAPE *v.*, SHAPE, SKEP.

Scappel, obs. form of SCAPPLE *v.*

†Scapperboiling, *a. Obs.* ? Hotheaded.

1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 53 Who would trust such a Scapperboyling young Giddy-braind Coxcomb as I was?

Scappiller, obs. form of SCAPULAR *sb.*

†Sca·pple, *sb. Obs.* Also scaple. Anglicized form of SCAPULA.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 2 Some great bones haue no manifest hollownes, as the..Scapple bones. *Ibid.* 25 b *marg.*, The shoulder blades or scaple bones. *Ibid.*, The vse of yᵉ cartilage in yᵉ vniting of the shoulder to the scaple.

Scapple (skæ·p'l), *v.* Forms: (4 ? scorpil), 5–7 scaple, 8 scappel, 9– scapple. See also SCABBLE *v.*, SCALP *v.*³ [Aphetic a. OF. *escapeler*, *eschapeler* to dress timber.] *trans.* To reduce the faces of (a block of stone; †in 15th c. also of timber) to a plane surface without working them smooth.

1443 *Contract* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 386, xvi fote of Seuerant table scapled with poynts. 1479 W. WAYNFLETE ibid. 410 He..shalle dygge and reyse and scaple the best stone yn the same quarrey. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1538/1 And there was for this purpose alreadie perfectlie hewed of the same stone seuen thousand foot, and six thousand foot more was scapled. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 88 They [many of the upright Stones] were scapled at the Quarries. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 113 The best way to get our stone rough scappelled, nearly to the shape I required. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 320/1 The face stones should be roughly squared on the beds and joints, or what is called in the North 'scappled' to the form of the curve. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 4), *Scapple*,..the term is now used exclusively (or nearly so) in reference to stone, but was formerly applied to timber also, and must have signified the barking of a tree, or, more probably, squaring it with the axe. 1849 E. DOBSON *Masonry & Stonecutting* 89 The block being roughly scappled to its shape. 1904 GRIFFITHS 50 *Years Public Life* xxii. 333 His brother, in a Portland Quarry, scappling a block of stone, presents a family likeness.

Hence **Sca·ppled** *ppl. a.* **Sca·ppling** *vbl. sb.*, the action of the vb. (also *attrib.*); in dialectal use *concr.* in *pl.*, fragments of stone chipped off in scappling.

[1399 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 15 Pro scorpillyng lapidum.] 1473–4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 15 Item in hewinge and scapelynge of j elme viij d. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 107 The stone..had always been shipped off in..what is called rough scappelled blocks; to be sawn and fair wrought to the particular purposes, where wanted. 1890 *Archæol. Jrnl.* XLVII. 162 Of the tools it is clear the scappling hammer and small axe were the chief.

Also **Scapple-dress** *v. trans.*, in the same sense.

1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 30/1 All the front stones of the foundation were laid with a lewis of this kind, as well as the backing of squared stones, which were previously scapple-dressed at the quarry.

‖ **Scapula** (skæ·pizlă). Pl. **scapulæ.** [L. *scapula*, in class. Latin only pl. *scapulæ* the shoulders, shoulder-blades. Cf. SCAPPLE *sb.*]

1. *Anat.* **a.** The shoulder-blade, blade-bone, or omoplate (in man and other animals).

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 26 In the toppe of the shoulder blade, betwene the Processe *Acromion*, and the supreme part of *Scapula*. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* x. xxiii. (1631) 772 Of the muscles of the Shoulder-blade called Omoplata or Scapula. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. viii. 72 The other wound under the Scapula was painful. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 380 When the scapula is meant to form a steady support for the humerus, its antagonist muscles are made to act with an equal force, or to moderate one another with the steadiness required. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 361 All that part of the back of the chest situated below the lower angle of the scapula.

† **b.** *Scapulæ of the nose* = mod.L. *scapulæ nasi*, 'the lateral portions of the nose' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* vii. (1653) 118 The Elegancy of the Scapula of the Nose,..and that beauty which so manifestly appears in the wings of the Nose.

2. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 369 *Scapula* (the Scapula). The second joint of the Brachium, answering to the Trochanter in the legs.

‖ **Scapulalgia** (skæpizlæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* Also anglicized **sca·pulalgy** (Mayne's *Med. Voc.*, 1889). [mod.L., f. SCAPULA + Gr. *-αλγία*, *ἄλγος* pain.]

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Scapulalgia*, arthralgia of the shoulder-joint. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 23 Feb. *Epitome* 29 Hysterical Scapulalgia.

Scapular (skæ·pizlăr), *sb.* Forms: 5 scapelar, scapulare, 6 scap(e)ler, -uler, -iller, -ellar, skappler, 7, 9 scapulaire, 7 -air, 6– scapular. [ad. med.L. *scapulāre* (whence It. *scapulare*), f. *scapula* shoulder; for the formation cf. L. *collāre* COLLAR *sb.* and -AR. For the earlier forms in Eng. (and for F. *scapulaire*, whence some of the forms above), see SCAPULARY *sb.* (In senses 3 and 4 properly a distinct word, subst. use of SCAPULAR *a.*)]

1. *Eccl.* **a.** A short cloak covering the shoulders; prescribed by the Rule of St. Benedict to be worn by monks when engaged in manual labour, and adopted by certain religious orders as a part of their ordinary costume.

In later times often confounded with the cowl.

[*c* 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) 89 Hæbban hy eac mid to wyrcenne scapulare, þæt is ġehwæde cuculan and slyflease.] 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 321/1 Scapulare. 1499 *Pomp. Parv.* (Pynson) O iij, Scapelar. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 324 Hange vp the scapler: the amys cowle and frocke Or other habyte of eche relygyon Vpon a tre clene dede or rottyn stocke. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* VII. iii. 134 The Chanons Clothyng was a white Cote, and a linnen rochet under a blacke Cope, with a Scapuler to couer their hed and shoulders. 1547 *Injunct. Visitors Windsor* ii, in Wordsw. *Tracts of Clem. Maydeston* 234 *note*, Wee require you..that all Prebendaries ..doe surcease from useing or wairing any blacke cope or Scapuler of Cloath above their surplises. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXXII. 129 The Chaem was apparelled in a long Gown of violet Satin,..with a kind of Scapulair about his neck. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 297 We Housed ourselves Cap-a-pee under Felts,..with a Scapular to pull over our Heads and Face. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. ii, The rule that bid thee wear Dim veil and woollen scapulaire. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 808/1 His hands were clasped under his white scapular.

b. An article of devotion composed of two small squares of woollen cloth, fastened together by strings passing over the shoulders, worn as a badge of affiliation to the religious order which presents it.

1870 *Daily News* 5 Sept. 6 The old lady was working a scapular for a second youth who had gone to the front. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 821/2 There are four other scapulars [besides that of the Carmelites] used in the Church: that of the Trinity, of white linen with a red cross, given by the Trinitarians..; the Servite scapular of the Seven Dolours ..; that of the Immaculate Conception..given by the Theatines..; the red scapular of the Passion..given by the Vincentian Fathers.

attrib. 1854 FABER *Growth in Holiness* xv. (1872) 282 World-wide devotions as the rosary, and scapular-prayers.

† **c.** One who wears a scapular. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* iv. 211 in *Skelton's Wks.* II. 441/2 Some be Vitlers, Some be Scapelers, And some Cubiculers.

† **2.** *Surg.* A bandage passing over and around the shoulders to support other bandages, etc. upon the lower parts of the body. *Obs.*

1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 161 Sometimes a bandage applied round the lower part of the belly, and supported with the Scapular is of singular service. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 109 Compresses, which were secured by a Napkin round the Body and the Scapular.

3. *Ornith.* [Elliptical for *scapular feather*: see SCAPULAR *a.* 2.] Any feather which grows from the *pterylæ humerales* or scapular region.

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 440 The back, coverts of the wings, and scapulars, are black. 1884 J. H. GURNEY *Diurnal Birds Prey* 151 In No. 1 the scapulars had become slightly paler.

4. *Ent.* (See quots.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 378 *Scapularia* (the Scapulars). Two pieces, one on each side the *Medipectus*, which succeed the *Peristethium*, and lie between the mid-legs and the *Pteropega*, or wing-socket. *Ibid.* IV. 494 The South American species (*Goliath micans*, &c.) have not this projection of the scapulars.

Scapular (skæ·pizlăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scapulāris*, f. L. *scapula*: see SCAPULA and -AR. Cf. SCAPULARY *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to the scapula.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. ii. (1727) 286 The Viscera of the Belly counterpois'd with the Weight of the scapular Part, and that useful Cushion of Flesh behind. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 438/1 The scapular region is sometimes the seat of furuncular inflammation. 1848 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 5) I. 517 The scapular arteries. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 59 The scapular or humeral arch is suspended from the skull by the post-temporal.

2. *Ornith.* Applied to any feather which grows upon the *pterylæ humerales*.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 264/2 The Craker, or Sea-Pheasant..the scapular feathers are black. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 435 The scapular feathers black and white. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 16 The scapular feathers or scapulars.

3. *Ent.* Pertaining to the scapular in insects; see SCAPULAR *sb.* 4.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 379 *Spiracula Scapularia* (the Scapular Spiracles). Two spiracles observable, one in each scapular, in *Acrida laurifolia*, &c.

4. In names of birds: **scapular crow** = *scapulated raven* (*Corvus scapulatus*); **scapular wagtail** (see quot.).

1823 J. LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VI. 336 Scapular Wagtail. *Yora scapularis.*

Scapulary (skæ·pizlări), *sb.* Forms: 3 scapelori, 4 scapelry, chapolory, 5 scapelerey, scaplerie, -erye, -or(e)y, scapelarie, -ory, (kapelary), skaplorie, 5, 7 scapelary, scapularie, 6 skapellarye, 5– scapulary. [ad. med.L. *scapulārium*, a var. of *scapulāre* SCAPULAR *sb.* (the pl. *scapulāria* being common to the two sing. forms). Cf. F. *scapulaire*, Sp., Pg. *escapulario*. The confusion of the ending with L. *-ārium*, -ORY, appears in the AF. *eschapeloyre* (J. de Garlandia, 12th c.), whence app. the 14th c. form *chapolory*.

The 15th c. form *kapelary*, if not a mere scribal error, may be compared with med.L. *capulāre*, *capulārium*, OF. *capillaire*, which seem to be etymologizing alterations of *scapulārium* (as if derived from *caput* head).]

1. *Eccl.* **a.** = SCAPULAR *sb.* 1.

[*a* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* lv. (E. E. T. S.) 91 Culam on wintre þicce on sumere þinne oððe ealdnesse & scapularian for weorcum.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* (Cleop.) 424 Inwið þe wanes ha muhe werie scapeloris ihwen mantel ham heueged. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 287/130 Al bi-neoþe sat a frere in is scapelori ȝwijt, his hod i-drawe ouer is eiȝen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 672 With þat scho kest þe cule away & scapelry but delay. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 550 Þei schapen her chapolories & strecchep hem brode. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 69 Thou axist me, Jacke, of my grete hood, what that it meneth, my scapelarie and my wide cope, and the knottide girdil. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 341 He doffid his cowle & did on his skaplorie, and so he dyed. *c* 1474 *Inventory* in *Paston Lett.* III. 410 Item, a scapelerey with an hodde. *c* 1485 *Frere & Boy* in *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 56 The bramblys..rent hys [the friar's] kyrtyll and his kapelary, And all hys other wede. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5858 Gyf ȝe tuk the Skapellarye, That ȝe mycht leif more plesandlye. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2282 The Commissary of the Inquisition .put on him the Habit of Penance, which is a Yellow Scapulary with a Red Cross, before and behind. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 87 They [*sc.* Cistercian monks] wore white robes with black scapularies.

b. = SCAPULAR *sb.* 1 b.

1674 BREVINT *Saul & Sam.* xiii. 277 The Badg it [*sc.* this Confraternity] gives which is call'd the Holy Scapulary, is made of two small Pieces of woollen Stuff [etc.]. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* xxii. 228 They [*sc.* indulgences] are also affixed to..Rosaries and Scapularies. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* x. iii. III. 407 They found on his corpse the scapulary worn by devout catholics.

† **2.** *Anat.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* VIII. i. (1631) 533 The double Scapulary, or the veines of the shoulder-blade. 1668 WILKINS

Real Char. II. vi. § 1. 178 The upper Convexity of Breast and Back..Shoulder, Scapulary.

† **3.** *Surg.* = SCAPULAR *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* III. 427, I applied a large compress, and over all the napkin and scapulary. 1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms, Scapulary*, a broad bandage with two flaps passed over the shoulders.

4. = SCAPULAR *sb.* 3.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 223 Those [feathers] which lie over the humerus are called 'scapulariæ', or scapularies. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 261 On the neck, the back, the shoulders, and the scapularies, the black hue is shot with bronze, green, and purple.

Scapulary (skæ·piźlări), *a.* In 6 **scopelary.** [ad. F. *scapulaire* and mod. L. *scapulārius*, f. *scapula* : see SCAPULA and -ARY.]

† **1.** *Scapulary mantle*: a cloak covering the shoulders. *Obs.* [Cf. OF. *cote eschapulaire.*]

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 46 b, The kynge was in a scopelary mantel, and hatt of clothe of syluer.

2. = SCAPULAR *a.* 1.

1785 J. LUCAS in *Med. Commun.* II. 92 The canula was secured in the wound by a bandage, with scapulary straps. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* x. 150 The Heart is situated..between the two halves of the scapulary arch.

Scapulated (skæ·piźlēitĕd), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scapulāt-us* (see SCAPULA and -ATE[2]) + -ED[1].] *Scapulated Raven*: the book-name of *Corvus* (*Pterocorax*) *scapulatus* distinguished by a patch of pure white feathers upon the scapular region.

1869-73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 260 Throughout the whole of the Soudan and the lower parts of Abyssinia the Scapulated Raven is found living in pairs.

Scapulette (skæ·piźlet). *Zool.* Also **scapulet.** [a. G. *scapulette* (Haeckel): see SCAPULA and -ETTE.] (See quots.)

1887 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXIII. 123 The smaller appendages to the oral cylinder are sixteen in number, and are known as the scapulettes or upper leaf-like appendages. 1894 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med.* etc., *Scapulet, Scapulette*, in biology, one of the leaf-like appendages of the manubrium of certain *Cuidaria.*

Scapulimancy (skæ·piźlimæ:nsi). [Hybrid f. L. SCAPULA + -MANCY.] Divination by means of the cracks in a shoulder-blade put into the fire.

1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 112 Divination by a shoulder-blade, technically called scapulimancy or omoplatoscopy.

Hence **Scapulima·ntic** *a.*, pertaining to scapulimancy (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl. 1902).

Scapulo- (skæ·piźlo), used as combining form of L. *scapula*, the shoulder, in many scientific terms. **Scapulo-axi·llary** *a.*, **-bra·chial** *a.*, defining particular dorsal areas. **Scapulo-clavi·cular** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the clavicle ; also *sb.*, the scapulo-clavicular joint. **Scapulo-co·racoid** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the coracoid. **Scapulody·nia** [Gr. ὀδύνη pain], pain in the muscles of the shoulder. **Scapulo-hu·meral** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the humerus. **Scapulo-ra·dial** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the radius. **Scapulo-u·lnar** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the ulnus. **Scapulo-ve·rtebral** *a.*, of or belonging to the scapula and the spine.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 865 *Scapulo-brachial or 3rd dorsal area..."Scapulo-axillary or 5th dorsal area. 1858 H. GRAY *Anat.* 158 *Scapulo-Clavicular Articulation. The Scapulo-Clavicular is an arthrodial joint, formed between the outer extremity of the clavicle, and the upper edge of the acromian process of the scapula. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 210 The *scapulo-coracoid arch..is applied..over the anterior thoracic hæmal arches. 1870 FLOWER in *Jrnl. Anat.* May 242 Superior border, anterior in most animals, with scapulo-coracoid notch. 1865 FLINT *Princ. Med.* 835 Valleix entitles the affection here situated *scapulodynia. 1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 114 The *scapulo-humeral articulation is an enarthrosis. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Scapulo-radial..*Scapulo-ulnar...*Scapulo-vertebral.

‖ **Scapus** (skē·pŭs). Pl. **scapi** (skē·pəi). [L.: see SCAPE *sb.*[2]]

1. *Arch.* = SCAPE *sb.*[2] 1. ? *Obs.*

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B iv b, Vpon the foote of the pillor, directly & vpright set Scapus,..the which Scapus, is the boddy of the pillor. 1598 HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. xxiv. 85 The Scapus or shafte with his base and capitel. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.*, etc. 139 The Rings..begirting the Scapus of a Column near the Apophyges. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. I. (1729) 20 The slender round Scapi of the Pillars of the Abbey-Church in Westminster.

† **2.** *Bot.* = SCAPE *sb.*[3] 3. *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scapus*, the strait Stalk or Shaft of a Plant, standing upright like a Pillar or Column. 1762 EHRET *Ophrys* in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 81 These encompass a triquetrous scapus.

3. *Ornith.* = SCAPE *sb.*[2] 4.

1882 H. GADOW in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 420 Fig. 1..*s*, scapus or shaft. 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Vertebr. Dissect.* 95 It possesses a main stem or *scapus* composed of quite different proximal and distal portions.

† **4.** *Ent.* = SCAPE *sb.*[2] 5. *Obs.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 323 To begin with the first joint, or scapus.

Scar (skā), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4-5 **skerre** (5 **sckerre**), **skarre**, 4-6 **skar**, 4-5, 7 **scarre**, 5 **skyrre**, 7 **scarr**, 7- **scar**, (8-9 *dial.* **skeer**, 9 *Sc.* **skair**). Also SCAUR. [App. a. ON. *sker* neut. (Da. *skjær*, Sw. *skär*) recorded only in the sense of a low reef in the sea, a SKERRY (cf. sense 3). Cf. Gael. *sgeir* a rock in the sea (from ON.), f. OTeut. **sker-* to cut : see SHEAR *v.*]

† **1.** A rock, crag. *Obs.*

13.. *St. Cristofer* 135 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 456 He loked abowte ; þane was he warre Of an ermytage vndir a skerre. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 99 þe mount of Oreb is a partie of þe mounte of Synay,..but hit is harde to come þerto for hige rokkes and skarres [L. *propter scopulos præruptos*]. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xiv. 4 Scarris brokun bifore [Vulg. *scopuli prærupti*]. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4865 Rochis & rogh stanes rokkis vnfaire, Scutis to þe scharpe schew sckerres a hundreth. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 206 For þer was non erþe to make a graue, he layde hit vndyr a honging skyrre. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 415 Ane fair castell standand on the se skar, Is callit now the castell of Dumbar Efter his name.

2. A lofty, steep face of rock upon a mountain-side ; a precipice, cliff.

1673 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 196 She and Jane Makepeace of New Ridly had trailed a horse of the said Geo. downe a great scarr. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Ph——* i, O'er ilka cleugh, ilk scar, and slap. 1776 PENNANT *Tour in Scot.* II. 347 Wensley-dale, a beautiful and fertile vale.. in many parts cloathed with woods, surmounted by long ranges of scars, white rocks, smooth and precipitous in front, and perfectly even at their tops. 1833-4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 703/2 The magnificent ranges of scars which begird the hills of Derbyshire and Westmoreland. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. (Song), O sweet and far from cliff and scar The horns of Elfland faintly blowing ! 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 157 And in the silver dusk you hear, Reverberated from crag and scar, Bold bugles blowing points of war.

3. A low or sunken rock in the sea ; a rocky tract at the bottom of the sea.

a 1712 HALYBURTON *Memoirs* ii. (1824) 74 We were in imminent danger of shipwreck on the scars of England. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Anat. Horsem.* ix. (1809) 106 My horse.. ran straight on for the cliffs above the Scar. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 6 A bank or 'scar' stretches from Kirkhoim Point on the west side. 1882 J. B. BAKER *Hist. Scarborough* 329 The bottom [of the sea] from hence all the way to the edge of the Dogger Bank is a scarr.

4. The rough burnt-out cinder left in a furnace ; = CLINKER *sb.*[1] 3.

1852 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* 62 *Scars*, clinkers. 1893-4 *Northumbld. Gloss.*

5. *attrib.*, as **scar-limestone**, a carboniferous rock occurring in the Pennine Range.

1831 A. SEDGWICK in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1836) Ser. II. IV. 70 Great scar limestone.

Scar (skā), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5-7 **scarre**, 6 **scare**, 6-7 **skar**(re, 7 **scarr**, 4, 6- **scar**. [Prob. aphetic a. OF. *escare* (F. *escarre*, now written *eschare*), = Sp., Pg., It. *escara*, ad. late L. *eschara*, an ESCHAR or scab formed in the healing of a burn or wound, a. Gr. ἐσχάρα lit. 'hearth'. The Eng. sense has prob. been influenced by association with SCAR *sb.*[3]]

1. The trace of a healed wound, sore, or burn ; = CICATRIX 1.

1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxii. 22 If it is blynd, if it is brokun, if it hath a scar [Vulg. *cicatricem*]. (*Gloss in 5 MSS. c* 1420-30 : that is a notable fouleness dwellinge after the helinge of a wounde). 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scarre of a wounde, *cousture..,trasse..,cicatrice.* 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Salisb.* xii, Of cured woundes beset with many a skarre. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 307 That wound neuer groweth to a skarre, which is not plyed with playsters. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v, A scarre nobly got, Or a noble scarre, is a good liu'rie of honor. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Mil.* 63 The Warrior his deere skarres no more resounds, But seems to yeeld Christ hath the greater wounds. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz Surg.* II. x. 87 At the Throat usually happen gross scarrs. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. viii. 73 He presently stript himself of his shirt, and shewed the Doctor, who both see and felt their scars [1676 the Cicatrices] and replied they are well. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 70 A great scar upon his Arm, which he told us was the mark of a wound. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* Air i, I am a son of Mars, who have been in many wars And show my cuts and scars wherever I come. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. iv, His naked arms and legs, seamed o'er, The scars of frantic penance bore. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* viii. 216 If you had ever been wounded, there would be a scar left behind.

transf. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 430 As from the wing no scar the sky retains.

b. *fig.* A fault or blemish remaining as a trace of some former condition or resulting from some particular cause.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* ix. (1590) 404 Let no proofe be brought for it, and neuer so much against it, yet stickes the scarre of suspition still. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 169 There is now no longer meanes to cover this skarre which dishonoureth the face of State. 1710 SACHEVERELL *Sp. Impeachment* 57 The Prosecution wou'd leave a Scar upon his good Name. 1820 SHELLEY *Fragm. Satire* 19 The leprous scars of callous Infamy. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 397 Another scar of this scepticism is the distrust in human virtue.

† **c.** In phrases *to bring to draw, to cure to a scar*, to treat a wound until it cicatrizes ; to induce healing. Also *fig. Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 440/1 Penaunce.. plastereth and patcheth vp, and maketh muche woorke to cure the wound and bring it to a scarre. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxix. 57 The leaues..doth cure and heale olde woundes, that are harde to close or drawe to a Scarre. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 285 Bold Heart and Braue ! that hath already curbed his Passions and cured them to a skarre.

2. *Nat. Hist.* A mark or trace indicating the point of attachment of some structure that has been removed ; *Bot.* and *Conch.* = CICATRIX 2 and 3.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796), *Hilum*...The external mark or scar of the umbilical chord on some seeds, where they adhere to the pericarp. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xviii. § 2 I. 475 Scars of leaves small. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 97 The outside of the stem of a Fern is marked with a number of scars. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xlvi. (1875) 338 The 'foot'..is essentially a muscular organ,..its retractor muscles usually leaving distinct impressions or scars (the 'pedal impressions') in the interior of the shell.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scar-bearer* ; *scar-clad, -seamed* adjs. ; **scar-edge** = HILUM ; **scar-wort**, ? some species of *Lepidium.*

a 1701 SEDLEY *Tyrant of Crete* I. ii, Sure, he was *scar-bearer to some army. 1792 J. WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Ld. Macartney* 59 And lo ! The *scar-clad Veteran adores ! 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 576 Four out of the twenty with the *scar-edge up, after exhausting the nourishment stored in the cotyledons, perished in their attempts to make a successful growth. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. iii, There rose the *scar-seam'd Veteran's spear. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CCCXVI. 588 Of Pepperwort or Dittander...There is a kinde hereof called *Scarrewort, after the Greek name, either because it maketh a marke in the hand of him that shall hold it, or because it taketh away all manner of Scarres.

Scar (skā), *sb.*[3] [Perh. an altered form of SCARTH (a. ON. *skarð*), the loss of the *th* (*ð*) may have taken place in the plural : cf. *clo'es* (klōuz) for *clothes.* Cf. also ON. *skor* SCORE *sb.*]

† **1.** A crack, chink ; a cut, incision. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 20 And ek fulofte a litel Skar Upon a Banke, er men be war, Let in the Strem. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 5427 The tother [bow], hydouse and ryght blak,..Ful of knottys and of skarrys, The tymber is so ful of warrys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scarre, or brekynge, or ryvynge. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 712 (Arund.) Thei myght see light as it gan creepe Thurgh-oute the scarres. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vii. 150 You must take your knife..cut or make an insition, or such a scar as you may put the arming wyer of your hook into it..and..draw out that wyer or arming of your hook at another scar neer to his tail.

2. A fragment, 'shard'. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D. s. v. *Scard*).

1698 THORESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 311, I got also some Scars of broken Urns,..which are of the finest blew Clay I have seen.

Scar (skā), *sb.*[4] See also SCARE *sb.*[3], SCARO. [ad. L. *scarus.*] = SCARUS. Also *scar-fish.*

1748 tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. ii. (ed. 3) 117 Those who gorge and cloy themselves by over-eating, can relish neither Oysters, Scar, no, nor the Lagois itself. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Scar*, a fish of the Labrus kind. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 380 Zanzibar has a large import trade of dry and salt fish, principally shark and scar-fish.

Scar (skār), *a. Sc.* and *north.* (see E.D.D.) Also 5-6 **skar**, 6 **sker**, 8-9 **scaur.** [a. ON. *skiarr* (Norw. *skjerr*), whence *skirra* to SCARE.]

1. Shy, afraid ; scrupulous.

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 126 That daye Neptunus hid hym, lyke one sker. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* i. 211 Quhilkis ar not skar to bar on far fra bawrdis. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 61 The vther sayis : 'thocht ze wes skar, Me think that now ze cum ouir nar'. 1785 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* iii, An' faith ! thou's neither lag nor lame, Nor blate nor scaur.

b. Of a horse : Shy, easily scared, restive. Of sheep : Wild. [So ON. *skiarr.*]

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 357 The cappill..is nought skeich, na git sker, na scippis nought on syd. 1679 FOUNTAINHALL *Decisions* (1759) I. 59 The horse being scar, he twice threw him off, and so he broke his neck. 1714 in Shirreff *Agric. Shetld.* (1814) App. 61 That such as had scar sheep might be appointed to tame them.

† **2.** ? Easily provoked. [Cf. Norw. *skjerresinnad* (Aasen) in the same sense.] *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 301 Ye ar bot to skar, good sir abate.

Scar (skār), *v.* [f. SCAR *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To mark with a scar ; to disfigure by inflicting a wound.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 164 A certayne well learned phisytion of Ciuile, was scarred with lyghtnynge in the nyghte season. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 4 Yet lie not shed her blood, Nor scarre that whiter skin of hers then Snow. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 32 One of the Balls went thro' my Hair, and the other scarr'd the side of my Neck. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. X. 262 In the same design of barbarous ornaments, their faces were generally painted and scarred. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xli, She was scarred with the small-pox. 1852 MITCHELL *Dream Life* 219 The old maples are even now scarred with the rude cuts you gave them. 1884 *Punch* 13 Sept. 122/1 I'm..scarred with brambles from head to foot.

b. *transf.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 100 But if the Soil be barren, only scar The Surface, and but lightly print the Share. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Crowned & Buried* xviii, I would that hostile fleets had scarred Torbay. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* x. (1894) 241 It is scarred and gashed by some of the gullies of the Dolomite mountains. 1908 *Outlook* 10 Oct. 460/2 Durham has been scarred and blackened by modern industrialism.

c. *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 81 Chastitie being once scarred is neuer salued.

2. a. *trans.* with *up.* To heal, cover with a scar. **b.** *intr.* with *over.* To heal ; to become covered with a scar as a sign of healing.

1609 [EP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 266 This Antilogie the Antapologer..would salue by a figure in Gram-

mar called Acyrologie, and would scarre vp the wound by an improprietie of speech. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. cix. 577 Wounds which were just beginning to scar over were reopened by the war of 1812.

Scar, obs. form of Scare *sb.* and *v.*, Shear.

Scarab (skæ·răb). Also 6 scarabb(e, 6–7 scarabe, 7 scarrab, -ubb. [ad. F. *scarabée*, Scarabee (= Pr. *escaravai*, Sp. *escarabajo*, Pg. *escarabeo*, *scaraveo*, also dim. *escaravelho*, It. *scarabeo*, also *scarafaggio*), ad. L. *scarabæus*, Scarabæus. Cf. Gr. *κάραβος*, dim. *καράβιον*, also *κάραβις*, horned beetle, stag-beetle, also sea crayfish.]

1. In early use, a beetle of any kind (chiefly referred to as supposed to be bred in and to feed upon dung). Now *rare* exc. as applied to the scarabæid beetle, *Ateuchus sacer*, reverenced by the ancient Egyptians (cf. sense 2).

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19 The *Scarabe* flies ouer many a sweete flower, and lighites in a cowshard. 1615 Markham *Pleas. Princ.* ii. (1635) 15 A hollow Cane in which he may put them [Maggots, etc.], and Scarrabs. 1681 in *Phil. Collect.* XII. 54 A large Scarabe, I found among Goods brought from the Indies. 1776 G. White *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 3 Apr., This stomach was..stuffed..with ..various insects, such as small scarabs, spiders, and dragon-flies. 1845 Browning *Glove* 34 An Arab As glossy and black as a scarab. 1904 Budge *3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 187 A deceased king is said to have entered the boat of the Sun in the form of the scarab.

attrib. 1582 Lyly *To Author* in *T. Watson's Poems* (Arb.) 29 Not vnlike vnto..the Scarab flies, which enter into the roote and neuer touch the rinde.

† b. *transf.* and *fig.* esp. as a term of abuse for a man. *Obs.*

c 1600 *Distr. Emperor* II. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 195 But be assurd I am no scarabb for a castrells breakfast. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. vii, They are the moths, and scarabees of a state. 1610 — *Alch.* I. i, *Fac.* You might talke softlier, raskall. *Sub.* No, you scarabe, I'll thunder you, in peeces. 1676 Durfey *Madam Fickle* II. i. (1677) 11 Must a Man of honour wait your leisure, you Dog, and miss his necessary diversion, through the negligence of such a Scarab.

2. *Antiq.* A gem (of carnelian, emerald, obsidian, etc.) cut in the form of a beetle (*scarabæus*), having on the flat under-side a design in intaglio.

Scarabs were worn either as signet-rings or attached on a chain hung round the neck. They were common among the Egyptians, Etruscans, and the peoples of Western Asia.

1878 A. S. Murray in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 640/2 But excepting the form there is singularly little in common between the scarabs of Etruria and of Egypt. 1900 Petrie *Dendereh* 7 From a scarab found in this tomb it is probably of the XIIth Dynasty.

Scarabæan (skærăbī·ăn), *a. rare.* Also scarabean. [f. Scarabæ-us + -an.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of, a scarabæus or scarab.

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xiv. § 1. 227 As the Scarabean Flea, or Wag-taile, that skips from place to place. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 404 On the opposite face is the same boat and globe, without the scarabæan symbol. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (1880) 231 Folding up its wings [it] resumes its scarabean appearance.

Scarabæid (skærăbī·id), *a.* and *sb. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *scarabæid-æ* (Leach 1817), f. L. *scarabæus*: see Scarabæus and -id.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Scarabæidæ*, a large family of lamellicorn beetles, including cockchafers, stag-beetles, dung-beetles, etc. **b.** *sb.* A scarabæid beetle. So **Scarabæ·idan,** a beetle of the family *Scarabæidæ*. **Scarabæ·idoid** *a.*, resembling a scarabæid; used by C. V. Riley to denote the third stage in the larval development of hypermetamorphic beetles, as oil-beetles (*Meloidæ*). **Scarabæ·idous** *a.* = Scarabæid *a.*

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Scarabæidans.* 1884 *Science* 1 Feb. 127/2 The ordinary hairs of scarabaeidous beetles. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Scarabæid* [*a.* and *sb.*]. 1898 Packard *Text-bk. Entomol.* 692 This Riley denominates the scarabæidoid stage of the second larva.

Scarabæ·ist. Also scarabe(e)ist. [f. Scarabæus + -ist.] One who studies the *Scarabæidæ*.

See quot. 1872; in allusion to this passage the word is sometimes used derisively for a narrow specialist.

1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* ii, 'I suppose you are an entomologist?'..'Not quite so ambitious as that, sir... I am often spoken of as a Coleopterist,..but I have no right to so comprehensive a name...Call me a Scarabeeist if you will.' 1883 *Athenæum* 24 Mar. 380/1 If only it can convince the 'scarabæist' that there are realms of wonder and of interest beyond the limits of his own domain.

Scarabæoid (skærăbī·oid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Scarabæus + -oid.] **A.** *adj.* **a.** *Ent.* = *Scarabæidoid* (Cent. Dict.). **b.** *Antiq.* Resembling a scarab.

1889 *Athenæum* 11 May 602/3 A collection of early Greek scarabæoid gems.

B. *sb.* **a.** *Ent.* = Scarabæid *sb.* (1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*). **b.** *Antiq.* (See quot. 1887.)

1887 Amelia B. Edwards tr. *Maspero's Egypt. Archæol.* v. 242 Others [*sc.* scarabæi] again but vaguely recall the form of the insect, and are called scarabæoids. 1888 *Athenæum* 16 June 765/1 The collection of Phœnician scarabs and scarabæoids of hard stones is large and curious.

‖ **Scarabæus** (skærăbī·ŭs). Pl. **scarabæi** (-bī·ai). Also 6, 7–9 -beus. [L.: see Scarab.]

1. *Ent.* A beetle of the genus *Scarabæus*, formerly a very large genus corresponding to some extent with the modern family *Scarabæidæ*; now an Old World genus (Linnæus 1767) of lamellicorn beetles typical of the *Scarabæidæ* (see Scarabæid). Sometimes used loosely = Scarabæid *sb.*

[1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 209 Somme thynges goe in to other kyndes by corrupcion, as bees of roten calfes, and vermyn callede scarabei [L. *scarabæi*] of corrupte horses.] 1664 Hubert *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 39 A great Scarabeus of the Amazons. *Ibid.* 41 A little brown Scarabeus of East India. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* IV. iv. 112 To signify the Sun, they sometimes painted a Hawk,..sometimes a Scarabæus with a round Ball in its Claws. 1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* viii. 167 The larva of the large scarabæus (*Orycles nasicornis*), which is found in tan.

2. *Antiq.* = Scarab 2.

1775 *Tassie's Catal. Impress. Gems* 4 Reverse of Scarabeus. 1860 C. W. King *Antique Gems* 123 This manner of mounting the scarabeus was often used by the Egyptians. *Ibid.*, Some early Etruscan scarabei. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 54 Agate scarabæus...Inscribed in Phœnician with the name Yesha-el.

Scarabean, variant of Scarabæan *a.*

Scarabee (skæ·răbī). *arch.* Also (9 scaribee), *pl.* 6–7 scarabies. [a. F. *scarabée*: see Scarab.] = Scarab 1.

1591 Spenser *Vis. Worlds Vanitie* iv, The kingly Bird, that beares Joves thunder-clap, One day did scorne the simple Scarabee. 1599 Drayton *Idea* No. 31 Vnto my pitch no common iudgement flies, I scorne all earthlie dung-bred scarabies. 1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 197 Horses generate Wasps and Scarabees. 1820 Shelley *Œdipus* I. 157 The beast Has a loud trumpet like the scarabee.

attrib. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xx, Little animals of the scaribee tribe, denominated weevils.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* = Scarab 1 b.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 102 Let mee vnrippe my sorrowes, that my brest May void such Scarabees, that vse to sit Vpon each vlcer. 1677 *2nd Packet of Adv. to Men of Shaftesbury* 15 Some few Scarabees of the Law.

Scarabeus, variant of Scarabæus.

Scaraboid (skæ·răboid), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Scarab + -oid. Cf. Gr. *κάραβοειδής*, also *κάραβώδης* like a *κάραβος* (see Scarab).] **A.** *sb.*

1. *Antiq.* = Scarabæoid *sb.* b.

1879 A. S. Murray in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 137/1 Four porcelain scaraboids from Camirus. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 54 Jasper scaraboid..[with] Phœnician inscription. *Ibid.* 190 The Greeks..had no favour for finger-rings with a beetle on the back of them. They preferred the scaraboid, with its plain, smooth back, for gems that were to be worn as swivel rings.

2. A scarabæid. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

B. *adj.* Resembling a scarab or scaraboid.

1888 A. S. Murray *Brit. Mus. Catal. Engr. Gems* Introd. 17 Gems of the true scaraboid form.

Scaramoche, -osh, obs. ff. Skirmish.

Scaramouch (skæ·răməuʧ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 7 scaramuzza, scaramoucha, -ouchi(o, -ouchè, -oche, scaramuccio, -uccie, -uchi(o, -ucha, scarramuccio, 7–8 scaramouchi; *β.* 7 scharamouch, 7– scaramouch. [ad. It. *Scaramuccia* (see sense 1); the name is a use of *scaramuccia* Skirmish *sb.*, in allusion to the character of the personage. The *β* form, which now alone survives, comes through the F. *Scaramouche* (Molière); the *α* forms represent corruptly the Italian original.]

1. (As proper name, with capital S.) A stock character in Italian farce, a cowardly and foolish boaster of his own prowess, who is constantly being cudgelled by Harlequin.

The character was intended in ridicule of the Spanish don, and was dressed in Spanish costume, usually black; the costume was often adopted in masquerades.

The clever impersonation of the part by Tiberio Fiurelli, who brought his company of Italian players to London in 1673, rendered the word very popular in England during the last quarter of the 17th c.

α. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* VI. 380 Such distorted Countenances and Postures, as Scaramuzza himself would be much troubled to imitate. 1673 Wycherley *Gentl. Dancing-Master* III. i. 39, I diddè go to the Italian Academy at Paris thrice a week to learn to play de Fool of Signior Scaramouchè. 1673 Dryden *Epil. to Univ. Oxon.* 15 Stout Scaramoucha with Rush Lance rode in, And ran a Tilt at Centaure Arlequin. 1673 A. Marvel *Rehearsall Transp.* II. 60 There were no less than six Scaramuccios together upon the Stage. 1676 Shadwell *Virtuoso* V. 88 Entry of Scaramonchi [sic] and Clowns. *Ibid.* 89 Enter Sir Formal in Scaramoucha's habit. 1696 V. Alsop *God in Mount* 13 Where are the Jesters, the Buffoons, the Scarramuccioes? Will not these afford a more pleasing entertainment?

β. 1677 E. Ravenscroft (*title*) Scaramouch. *Ibid.*, The Persons Names. Scaramouch, a Philosopher...Harlequin. 1678 Dryden *Kind Kpr.* I. i. (1680) 10 But I speak no Italian, a few broken scraps which I pick'd from Scaramouch and Harlequin at Paris. 1749 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 3 May, A troop of harlequins and scaramouches. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) I. 143 Mrs. Granville a nun, myself a shepherdess, Lord S. a scaramouch [at the Masquerade]. 1855 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xix, Like a posture-master or scaramouch at a circus. 1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* x. 315 She was silent watching the whirling of the pierrots..scaramouches and dominoes.

b. A puppet representing Scaramouch.

1816 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 98 He gave motion to a small wooden scaramouch that danced well in tune. 1819 S. Rogers *Human Life* 492 The booths whitening the village-green, Where Punch and Scaramouch aloft are seen. 1851–61 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* III. 52 This here is the Scaramouch that dances without a head.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* In later use often employed loosely as a term of contempt: A rascal, scamp.

a. 1676 Durfey *Madam Fickle* II. i. (1677) 11 *Tob.* Hoy; Scaramouchi, Rascal, Poltron, Popinjay!..must a Man of honour wait your leisure. *a* 1683 Oldham *Rem.* (1684) 113 Without doubt he was..design'd for the Scaramuchio of Mankind.

β. 1694 Jer. Collier *Miscell., Of Duelling* 32 It makes the Laws cheap and ridiculous, the Solemnities of Justice a piece of Pageantry, the Bench a few Reverend Poppets, or Scharamouches in Scarlet. 1716 in W. W. Wilkins *Polit. Ballads* (1860) II. 175 The scaramouches everywhere With open throats bawl'd out. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. 141 He swore no scaramouch of an Italian robber would dare to meddle with an Englishman. 1865 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* x, Once I was an idle young scaramouch.

3. *attrib.*

1870 Disraeli *Lothair* lvii, The Sicilian with his scaramouch tricks got on very well with the gentle and polished Tuscan. 1906 *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 294/3 Irresponsible Kitty..lived merrily throughout her scaramouch childhood and flirting girlhood.

Hence **Sca·ramouch** *v. intr.*, to act the part of a scaramouch, or to behave like a 'scaramouch'.

1834 Beckford *Italy* I. 119 The rabble were gathered in knots round the strollers and mountebanks, singing and scaramouching in the middle of the square. 1864 Mrs. Lloyd *Ladies of Polcarrow* 134 Didnt he use to scaramouch up over-stairs just the like o' that, when he was a purty little fellow!

Scaramouch, obs. form of Skirmish *sb.*

Scarabe: see Scarebabe.

Scarborough (skā·rbŭrŏ). Also 6 Scar-, Skarboro(w, Scarorough, 7 Scarburg, Scarreborough. The name of a town on the coast of Yorkshire, used *attrib.*

1. Scarborough warning. Very short notice, or no notice at all; a surprise.

The statement of Fuller, that the phrase originated in an allusion to the surprise of Scarborough by Thomas Stafford in April 1557, is disproved by the earlier example below.

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1562) E ij, A daie er I was wedde, I bad you (quoth I) Scarborough warnyng I had (quoth he) wherby, I kept me thens *a* 1561 T. Mountain in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. 189 Your friendship, Mr. Charlys, is but hard and scarce, in giving me this Scarborow Warning [viz. the notice that he was to be hanged 'even this Foornoon']. 1592 Lyly *Sp. to Eliz. at Quarrendon* i. Wks. 1902 I. 455 The Knight wisheth it may be a watch (better than Scarborows warning) to the Noble Gentelmen of your Courte. 1603 Bp. T. Matthew *Let.* 19 Jan. in Cardwell *Confer.* (1840) 166, I received a message..that it was his Majesty's pleasure that I should preach before him upon Sunday next; which Scarborough warning did not only perplex me, but [etc.]. 1697 De la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 125 'Scarburg Warning' is a proverb in many places of the north, signifying any sudden warning given upon any account. 1832 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, The true man for giving Scarborough warning—first knock you down, then bid you stand. 1890 P. H. Emerson *Wild Life on Tidal Water* 8 Tha wind wos werry moderate, but that shifted an' come round strong from the norrawest, an' hove her ashore; 'twos a Scarboro' warnin'.

† b. Hence in *nonce-uses. Obs.*

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* iii. 12 in *Holinshed*, And withall, as far as their scarborrough leasure coulde serue them, they ransacke the Prince his thesaure. 1582 — *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 116 Al they the lyke poste haste dyd make, with scarboro scrabbling [L. *rapiunique ruunique*].

2. Scarborough lily, *Vallota purpurea.*

1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 224/2 A correspondent sends us two blooms of the Scarborough Lily.

† **Scarbot(e.** *Obs.*—° Also scharabot. [Aphetic a. F. *escarbot*, in OF. also *escharbot(e*, f. L. *scarabæus* with Fr. dim. suffix *-ot.* (Cf., however, late OE. *scearn-budda*, Shorn-bud, dung-beetle, which, or some equivalent continental form, may have influenced the Fr. word.)] A beetle.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scarbot [*Winchester MS.* scarbote], flye, *scaao.* 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 609/47 *Scarabo, anc*[e] a scharabot (*et anc*[e] a bytylle).

† **Scarboyle,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. F. *escarbouiller* (10th c. in Littré), OF. *escarbellier.*] *trans.* To smash, to break in pieces.

1502 *Star Chamber Cases* No. 1, They ryvefilled, spoyled, scarboyled and made havokk of her said goods.

Scarbridge, obs. form of Scabbard *sb.*[1]

Scarbroite (skā·rbrŏ|əit). *Min.* [f. *Scarbro'* a form of Scarborough + -ite[1].] A hydrous silicate of alumina, found near Scarborough.

1829 W. V. Vernon in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. II. V. 180 It.. may be distinguished by the appellation of Scarbröite. 1883 M. F. Heddle in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 424/2.

Scarce (skēəs), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: *α.* 3–7 scars, skars(e, 4–8 scarse, (5 scarske), 5–7 skarce, 6 *Sc.* skairs(e, skarss, skers(s, skaris, skairce, 7 *Sc.* schairce, 5– scarce; *β.* 5–6 scace, 6 scas(e, skace, skase, *Sc.* scaysse. [ME. *scars*, a. ONF. *scars*, *escars*, *escas* (Central OF. *eschars*, mod.F. *échars*, now only said of coin, with the sense 'below standard value', and of wind, in sense 1 b below) = Pr. *escars*, *escas*, Sp. *escaso*, Pg. *escaço*, *escasso*, It. *scarso*:—popular L. **scarsus* (med.L. *scarsus* from It. and Fr.), prob. repr. an older **excarpsus*, pa. pple. of **excarpĕre* (= class. L. *excerpĕre* to select out, Excerpt), f. *ex* (see Ex-) + *carpĕre* to pluck. Cf. MDu. *schaers* (Du. *schaars*) from Fr.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Restricted in quantity, size, or amount; scanty. *Obs.*

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6862 His moder he dude ek in warde & scars liflode ire found. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Nou behoueþ to habbe tuo mesures ane litle and ane scarse, þet he useþ touore þe uolke. And anoþre guode and large, þet he useþ þet non ne y-zyþ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 457 Vile clopinge and scars [L. *vilis et rara vestis*] we haveþ in stede of gold and of greet array. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 478 His hous in london is to streyt & scars To doon his craft. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 1. 90 Bot at evin only they first prepaired the table, and that verie scharpe and skairs.

β. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 103 Than was theyr fode scas, theyr lyuynge lyberall Theyr labour comon, they knewe no couetyse.

† b. Of wind: Slight in force or strength; almost calm. *Obs.*

c 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 560 Þe wynde was gret, & nothing skars, þonder dyned shille. 1511 *Guylforde's Pylgr.* (Camden) 11 How be it y^ wynde was so scarce and calme that we coude not come to the towne of Corfona tyll Monday ayenst nyght. 1600 Harluyt *Voy.* III. 401 Wee sayled neere to the coast on the same side, with very scarce winde, and in a manner calme.

† c. Of the water of a river, etc.: Low. *Obs.*

1732 Earl of Oxford in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 150 This year has been very bad for them [the boats], the water is very scarce.

†2. Of persons, their attributes and actions: Stingy, sparing, niggardly, parsimonious, penurious. Also, sparing or chary *of*. *Obs.*

a. *c* 1339 *King of Tars* 92 Sire, the kyng of Tars Of wikked wordes nis not scars. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1244 Bothe he was scars and chinche. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 633 Ye shul vse the richesses,..in swich a manere, that men holde nat yow to scars, ne to sparynge, ne to fool large. *c* 1400 *Cato's Morals* 211 in *Cursor M.* App. IV. 1672 Be scarske of þi louing. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 128 b/1 And gaf to them largely to ete suche as they asked but to herself she was hard in her sekeness & skarce. *c* 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 78 The sone of a mighti kynge hath delyuerd a felaw that he knew not, which hath not ben scars, nor of so pore corage, but that he hath wele to his knowlage delyuerd the sone of the grettist kynge that leuyth. *c* 1510 Barclay *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) G j, Men oft haue repented of wordes superflue, But seldome of scilence doth any man repent, Wherfore scarce of wordes is counted great vertue. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxvii, Superfluous in wordes, or els to scarse. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 54 Wee aduertise you all to be contented to lyue under a scarcer manour for a tyme then ye haue doon in tymes past. 1562 Shute *Canbine on Turkish Aff.* 52 b, They knewe him to be of nature scarse, and not liberal. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* viii. (1628) 244 Whereas many haue written of these Etymologies, yet are all of them very scarse in shewing the reasons of many their interpretations. *a* 1639 T. Carew *To A. L.* 12 And 'twere a sin There to be scarce, where she hath bin So prodigal of her best graces.

β. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 21 To synfull man thou were nevere scace Of 'Ne reminiscaris, Domine!' *a* 1550 *Vox Populi* 740 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 293 By cause thei be so base, Thei wylbe neadye and scase [*Harl. MS.* skarsse].

b. Of a period of time: Characterized by scarcity. ? *Obs.*

c 1290 *All Saints' Day* 41 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 419 Ech man ..made þane day feste, And in a skars tyme of þe 3ere ase we wyten, it was in May. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 31 Powhatan..and some others that are provident, rost their fish and flesh vpon hurdles..and keepe it till scarce times.

3. Of food or other commodities, rarely of immaterial things: Existing or accessible in deficient quantity.

a. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Former Age* 36 Ther as vitaile is eek so skars and thinne That noght but mast or apples is therinne. *c* 1450 *Brut* 448 In þat tyme money was skarse. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. i. 7 Where words are scarse, they are seldome spent in vaine, For they breath truth, that breath their words in paine. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 301 The Padre told Capt. Swan that Provision was now scarce on the Island. 1842 Tennyson *Audley Crt.* 31 Then touch'd upon the game, how scarce it was This season. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 90 Money was scarce. 1896 *Law Times* C. 488/2 Like most other lawyers, Inglis had his probationary period when work was scarce.

β. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 37 For my tyme is lytel here; My dayes be waxen wonder scace. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, iv. 153 All thyng there was scace, by reason of the continuall warres.

4. Existing in limited number; seldom seen or met with; rare. Said chiefly of things that are sought after by collectors, e. g. a book, coin, engraving, a species of plant or animal.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xlviii, [Gems] ben preciouse for þey ben scars and diuerse; for all þat is scars and selden hadde [L. *omne enim rarum*] is clepid gret and preciouse. 1705 Addison *Italy, Bolonia* 434 The scarcest of all is a *Pescennius Niger* on a Medallion well preserv'd. 1710 Hearne *Coll.* (O. H. S.) III. 41 A scarse Book. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xvii, You will not find it a scarce quality here. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 219 Good bakers were as scarce in ancient Rome as in the modern city. 1873 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 27 Dec. 821/2 The woodcock..is much scarcer than it used to be. 1884 *Chr. World* 31 July 583/3 Knowledge is scarce, wisdom is scarcer.

b. in collectors' names of butterflies and moths.

1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* I The scarce Swallow Tail. *Ibid.* 2 The scarce Clouded Yellow. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 48/1 The rarest is one of the fen-country butterflies, known as the 'Scarce Copper'.

† c. said of a disease. *Obs. rare.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* b iij, Pontike melancolye is very scarse.

5. *Scarce of*: poorly or scantily supplied or provided with; deficient in; not having much of, short of. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O ij b, In places drye and scarce of flesshe, as the fyngers and ioyntes. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxx. (1870) 198 These countreys be baryn of wine and corne, and skarse of vitels. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 433 Dislodging from a Region scarce of prey To gorge the flesh of Lambs. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1098 We are very scarce of such citizens. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) III. 253 This route..is very scarce of water. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xiii, We are scarce of provisions.

6. Phr. *To make oneself scarce*: to absent oneself, go away, keep away. *colloq.*

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x. i. P 2 My liberty was granted only on condition of making myself scarce in the two Castiles. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* (1890) I. 169 Rose late in the morning, past eight, to give the cold and toothache time to make themselves scarce, which they have obligingly done. 1860 Thackeray *Lovel* i, When Lovel's wife began to show me that she was tired of my company, I made myself scarce. 1895 Mrs. H. Ward *Bessie Costrell* iv, Just mek yourselves scarce, all the lot o' yer.

7. Qualifying a noun of action, forming a phrase equivalent to the gerund qualified by *scarcely*. *rare.*

1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lxxvii, She..with a half smile of scarce recognition passed by me.

B. *adv.*

† 1. Scantily, sparsely. Cf. Scarcely *adv.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

c 1300 *Beket* 274 (Percy Soc.) 13 And of the beste him silve he at swithe scars and lute. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9 For when hit schall be dere, hit walleth scarce; and when hit schall be gret schep, hit walleþe plentwysly ynogh.

2. Barely, only just; not quite; = Scarcely *adv.* 2. Now only *literary*. Also † *full scarce*.

See the remarks under Scarcely 2, which apply also to the uses of this word. Before advs. in *-ly* the form *scarce* is often adopted instead of *scarcely*, to avoid the iteration of the suffix.

a. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xvi. 71 A litel hows whiche hath in euery side skars a mannes lengthe. 1558 Bp. Watson *Sev. Sacram.* xii. 73 All wee haue done, is but our dutie and skarse that. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 402 Skairis aneuch to sustene this thair realme. 1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigrammes* 4 b, With worldly cares he was so toste, that scarse he tooke his reste. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 112 Retyring from the Siege of Orleance, Hauing full scarce six thousand in his troupe. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 40 The blinde may Judge as well of colours, as may Master Selden of a deceiving argument, who hath saluted Logick scarce along. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 In a hand scars legible. 1671 — *P. R.* III. 85 Till Conquerour Death discover them scarce men, Rowling in brutish vices. 1676 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 54, I scarce think she would marry on [= one] with nothing. *a* 1699 Lady Halkett *Autobiog.* (1875) 44 They were so shaken they could skarce hold there feett. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 188 He scarce ever went to their meetings. 1720 Waterland *Eight Serm.* 119 The other Construction..is scarce Sense. 1862 Tennyson *Idylls of K.* Ded. 6 And indeed He seems to me Scarce other than my own ideal knight. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. of To-day* xx. (ed. 3) 200 A sleepy little town scarce bigger than a village. 1886 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xiv, I ran as I never ran before, scarce minding the direction of my flight, so long as it led me from the murderers.

β. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xiv. 18 With these sayings scase refrayned they the people. 1548 in *Cal. Scott. Pap.* (1898) I. 91 Her ovarlope ys so sanke, scaysse abull to bere her ordynans. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 470 The stowte Souldiour for faintnesse could scase welde his weapon.

† b. with pleonastic negative. Cf. Scarcely 2 b, Scant *adv.* 1 c. *Obs.*

1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Pref. P 8 For the verse I do challenge none, being a thing that euery body that neuer scarce bayted their horse at the Vniuersitie take vpon them to make. 1624 Ld. Kensington in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 177 They will not conceive mee nor scarse receive mee but as a publike instrument for the service of an alliance. 1685 J. Dunton *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 13 Not Heliogabalus himself could scarce boast a more delicious table.

c. with reference to time. Cf. Scarcely 2 c.

a. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. iii. 90 Scars had Juno thir wordis brocht to end, Quhen [etc.]. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. (1557) B iij, Scarse spake I this, when wailing thus he sayd. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* IV. ii. (1848) 173 We had scarce entred those Fields, when our Ears were saluted with [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 850 There he her met, Scarse from the Tree returning. 1799 S. Turner *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* 352 Scarce had they submitted, but the Huns were invading him [Charlemagne].

β. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 90 He had skace ended his exhortacion, but the Englishmen beyng encouraged with his prudent persuasion, sette on their enemies.

d. Qualifying a ppl. adj. used attributively. Commonly hyphenated.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 50 Our scarse-cold Conqueror,..Henrie the fift. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i. 86 His iawes..slyghtly couer'd with a scarce-seene skyn. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Fortune* (Arb.) 376 A number of little and scarce discerned vertues. 1631 Milton *Epit. March. Winch.* 20 He at their invoking came But with a scarce-wel-lighted flame. *c* 1665 Bp. King *Let. to Walton*, The scarce-closed wounds of a newly bleeding State and Church. 1814 Byron *Lara* II. xix, The accents his scarce-moving pale lips spoke. 1868 FitzGerald tr. *Omar* xc, And once again there gather'd a scarce heard Whisper among them. 1899 H. Wright *Depopulation* 102 The pair rose from the scarce-tasted breakfast.

† 3. Seldom, scarcely ever, rarely. *Obs.*

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. Prol. 40 The turtle dwe, the feldifare, the nichtingale, with vthiris natiounis ar frequent bot skairs with us ar fund. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 41 For those that she makes faire, she scarce makes honest. 1663 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 479 Never or scarse was the like seen.

4. Used (after L. *vix*) for: With difficulty. *rare.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 470 Scarse from his mould Behemoth biggest born of Earth upheav'd His vastness. 1819 Shelley *Prometh.* II. v. 17 How thou art changed! I dare not look on thee;..I scarce endure The radiance of thy beauty. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. xv. 49 For a brass demon..Leaped on him, and he scarce departed thence, Leaving the riches o'er the cavern strewn.

† **Scarce,** *v. Obs. rare.* Forms: 4 skarse, 5 scarce, 5, 7 scarse. [f. Scarce *a.* Cf. Scarcen.]

1. *intr.* a. To become less, diminish. b. To become scarce.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 313 The wyndy Storm began to skarse. *a* 1500 *Brut* 400 (MS. Galba), By that tyme her vitailis scarsid sore with-ynne the Cite.

2. *trans.* To make less; to rarefy.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scarsyn, or make lesse, *minoro.* 1598 Florio, *Scarsare*, to scarce, to spare, to pinch, to cut off, to scant. 1603 Platt *Fire of Cole-balles*, When the smoke doth passe and become scarsed through the lome.

† **Scarcehead.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Scarce *a.* + -head.] Stinginess, niggardliness.

Cf. dial. *scarcehead* 'scarcity, want' (Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 1886).

1420–2 Lydg. *Thebes* III. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 369/1 But in his Courte let him first deuise To exile Scarcehed and Couetise. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* I. i. A iiij, A niggerde cloune, At whose scarceheade and couetyce the worlde did outas make.

† **Scarceler.** *Obs.* [ad. some derivative (? Fr. Sp., or It.) of F. *escarcelle* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *escarcela*, It. *scarsella*, pouch carried at the girdle.] A kind of courier: see quot.

14.. *Direct. Travellers* in *Eng. Stud.* VIII. 278 Who-so woll ride faste and with-oute hevy cariage, good were to fynde atte Brigges suche a scarceler as bereth marchaunttes lettres; which will fayne ride with men for fyndyng of hym and his hors, w'oute eny other wages.

Scarcely (skē·əsli), *adv.* Forms: see Scarce *a.*; also *a.* 4 skarschliche, 6 (charsely), *Sc.* scairslie, skarslie, skirslie, skayirslye, 6, 8 *Sc.* skairslie, 7 *Sc.* skaircelie; *β.* 6 skacely. [f. Scarce *a.* + -ly 2.]

† 1. Scantily, in small quantities; inadequately, sparingly, niggardly, parsimoniously. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 1011 (Bodl. MS.), In a castel she was yshett And was assigned lyueresoun Skarslich [*Weber* Skarschliche] & nou3th a foysoun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 34 Auarice is disordene loue zuo disordene him sseweþ..ine spendinge scarsliche. *a* 1400 *Cato* 569 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 603 Preise a mon so scarsliche, Whom þat þou wolt him proue. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXVI. 147 (Harl. MS.), Bryng home thi grehounde,..and fede it so scarsly, tLat hit breke no more loos. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1556) 15 He dranke wine not scarcely, not to muche, but competently. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 718 It was verie scarcely inhabited, of few and small Nations. 1669 Milton *Accid. Grammar* To Rdr., It hath been long a general complaint..that the tenth part of mans life..is taken up in learning, and that very scarcely, the Latin Tongue.

2. Originally used to express a restrictive qualification, = 'barely', 'only just'; hence also, = 'barely, or not quite', 'only just, if at all'. In mod. use the original sense survives only in definite statements of fact. In sentences relating to belief, expectation, or estimation, the word now (as occas. in ME.) serves as a restricted negative (= 'not quite'). Often, however, the qualification really relates, not to the contents of the sentence in which the adv. occurs, but to the degree of the speaker's belief; thus 'You will scarcely maintain this proposition' is equivalent to 'I cannot quite believe that you will maintain', etc. Cf. Scarce *adv.* and Hardly *adv.*

The adv. qualifies verbs, adjs., advs., and advb. phrases, and esp. numerals (sbs., adjs., and advs.), designations of quantity, and indefinite pronouns. In many cases it may most correctly be regarded as qualifying the whole predication, though placed in proximity to the word in the sentence to which the qualification chiefly relates.

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10614 Þe sink pors scarseliche mid ssipes eiztetene. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Tr. & Cr.* II. 43 Eek scarsly been ther in this place three That han in love seyd lyk and doon in al. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* P 927 And if he abide to his laste day scarsly may he shryuen hym or remembre hym of hyse synnes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 17 Knowleche of greet dedes is so nyh loste and forzet, þat skarsliche [1527 charsely, Caxton 1482 scarsely] bare names of places we haueþ now in mynde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxxiii. (1869) 47 Serteyn, quod he, a kyte a litel enfamined shulde skarsliche be ful sauled ther with; For it is litel. 1576 Fleming *Panoplie Epist.* 205 Somewhat there is in them, wherewith I am skarcely pleased. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. x. 294 About this tyme the pest was ryfe in Scotland, cheiflie in Dundei, Abirdine, and in sum vtheris tounes and dorpes, quhilkes a hail zeir skirslie [*sic*] culd be clinsed. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. v. 37 One of my fellowes had the speed of him; Who almost dead for breath, had scarcely more Then would make vp his Message. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 40. 259 In Paris..there are scarcely six Streets wider than the narrow End of St. Martin's-lane. 1781 Sir J. Reynolds *Tour Flanders* Wks. 1797 II. 122 It [the drapery] is scarcely ever cast with any choice or skill. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* P 19 The genius of Petrarch was scarcely of the first order. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 4 Sometimes it [the Caudex] is scarcely or not at all lengthened. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. x. 65 The rain continued with scarcely any pause. *a* 1885 'H. Con-

way' *Living or Dead* viii, He..blamed my partner, who could scarcely believe his ears.

β. 1542 *Lament. & Piteous Treatise* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) IV. 541 That skacely ther remayned ynough [grain] to serue us in our journeye homeward. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* II. vii. (1895) 239 But in that newefonnde parte of the worlde, whiche is scaselye so farre from vs beyonde the lyne equinoctiall, as [etc.].

† b. With pleonastic negative, or in an implied negative context. *Obs.* (Cf. Scarce *adv.* 2 b.)

*c*1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 289 Ne [coude] nat scarcely Macrobeus..I trowe arede my dreames even. *c*1400 *Rom. Rose* 5460 Than shulde they seen who freendis ware For of an hundred, certeynly, Nor of a thousand ful scarsly, Ne shal they fynde unnethis oon, Whan povertee is comen upon. *c* 1570 W. Wager *The longer thou livest* 177 (Brandl), Not one good man is scarsly among ten. 1795 *Fate of Sedley* II. 158 Recollection, however, returned before I had scarcely written a line.

c. With reference to time: Barely, only just. Chiefly with pluperfect tense, before a clause introduced by *when* or *before*.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 231 Augustus beeyng scacely come to mannes state was putte to haue dooynges in the commenweale. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* i, I had scarcely taken orders a year before I began to think seriously of matrimony. 1779 *Mirror* No. 1, He is scarcely seated before every body present begins to form some notion of his character. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvii, In old-fashioned days,..when you were scarcely born. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 10 He had scarcely said the word, when Charmides entered.

† 3. Used (after L. *vix*) for: With difficulty. *Obs.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* i. 19 This you see I scarcely drag along, Who yeaning on the Rocks has left her Young. *Ibid., Georg.* iii. 267. *Ibid., Æneid* vi. 558.

Scarcement (skēə·rsmĕnt). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 *Sc.* skarsment, 9 scarsement. [app. f. Scarce *v.* + -ment.] a. *Building.* A plain flat set-off or rebate in a wall, or in a foundation or bank of earth. Also *transf.* a flat ledge projecting from the face of a rock. b. *Mining.* A ledge left projecting into a mine-shaft.

a. [1398 in *Hist. Dunelm. Script. tres* (Surtees) p. clxxx, Erit eciam planus murus et in fundamento spissitudinis sive latitudinis duarum ulnarum, cum quatuor bonis et securis scarcementis.] 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* iii. xvii, Skarsment, reprise, corbell, and battellingis. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl., Scarcement*, a shelf amongst rocks; a shelf leaning out from the main face of a rock; on scarcements, build sea-fowl. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1073 The foundations to be laid with flat-bedded stones laid in regular courses, and to be taken in by regular scarsements (sets back) as shown in the sections. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. of Farm* I. 170 The outside walls should be founded with stones..so laid, in reference to the line of foundation, as to form a scarcement of 6 inches on each side of the wall above them. 1899 Munro *Preh. Scot.* x. 393 A scarcement or ledge, nearly a foot in width, ran round the entire inner court.

b. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 971 If a strong bed of sandstone occurs, a scarcement of it is left projecting about 3 feet into the shaft. 1881 in Raymond *Mining Gloss.*

Scarcen, *v.* Now *dial.* (see E.D.D.). Also 6–7 scarsen. [f. Scarce *a.* + -en 5. Cf. Scarce *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make meagre or lean.

1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 329 These three things..scarsen and drie vp the flesh, and their contraries, fatten and enlarge the same.

2. *intr.* To become scarce.

1803 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* I. 387/2 If drafts abound on a particular place, they tend to sink in value. If drafts scarcen on a particular place, they tend to rise in value.

Scarceness (skēə·rsnĕs). Now *rare.* Forms: see Scarce *a.*; also *a.* 6 charsnes, *Sc.* scairsenes, 7 *Sc.* scairsenesse; β. 6 skasenes; γ. 5 skarnes, scarnes, 6–7 scarnesse. [f. Scarce *a.* + -ness.

The γ forms are not easy to account for, but they occur so frequently that it is difficult to regard them as due to misprints or scribal errors.]

† 1. Niggardliness, stinginess. Of soil: infertility. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28628 Gain pride þat orisun mai rise, And fast gain flesli couetis, Almus gain scarsnes wit-stand. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 286 And thus be cause of my scarsnesse Ye mai wel understonde and lieve That I schal noght the worse achieve The pourpos which is in my thoght. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* l. (Arb.) 100, Y knowe not onethe any prelate in thys dayes, that vsyd so grete scarsnes to her kynnys folke as sche me semyd dydde to her cosynis. 1509 Barclay *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 97 Theyr scarsnes nowe is tournyd to couetyse. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* i. i, Ægypt is doom'd to be A Roman Province; and our plenteous Harvests Must then redeem the Scarceness of their Soil.

† 2. a. Of diet: Scantiness, meagreness. b. Of persons: Abstemiousness. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 316, & so scarsnesse of heere foode tellith to men þat þei ben hooly. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* (E.E.T.S.) 97 What schuld we speke of his diete, with what scarsnesse of mete & drynk he was fed? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 47 Wede them out by abstinence, chastite, hardnes in weryng, scarsnes in fedyng.

3. Deficient supply, scarcity.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 251 Neuerþeles in Hannibals tyme þey were i-constreyned for to goo out of skarsnesse of knyȝtes. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. Contents (1893) 39 Of skarsenes of louers of the crosse of crist. 1508 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 173 For in so grete charsnes [ed. 1555 skaresnes] of ryghtwyse people, tyme is to shewe mercy vpon it. 1526 *Grete Herball* xci. (1529) Fij, Agaynst cough & scarcenesse of breth caused of cold take [etc.]. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 21 Yet hath it wheate and fleshe; but greate scarcenesse of wood. 1652 *Reg. Commission Gt. Assemb.* 3 Jan. (S. H. S.) III. 176 It shall be a shame for any in this land..becaus of the scairsenesse of men, to make use of such. 1812 G. Chalmers *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 30 Nor, need you fear this scarceness of money.

β. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 47 Ther schal also sprynge therof grete penury and scasenes of al thyngys necessary for mannys lyfe.

γ. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 109 þat is, as þe Glose seiþ, þat I falle not in to forgeyting of euer lasting, for nede, or scarnes of passing þingis. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* iii. 29 And in the house of Ioab there ceasse not one to haue a renninge yssue..and to haue scarnesse of bred.

† b. *absol.* Scarcity of food or provisions. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Godfrey* xciii. 144 And was grete suffrete and scarsenes in thoost. 1530 Palsgr. 266/1 Scarsnesse or hungre, *famine.* 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 By reason whereof a great scarsenes and derthe doeth insue to the kinges subiectes. 1538 Bale *God's Promises* v. (1744) 26 A scarsenesse vii. years, or else iii. monthes exyle. 1555 Eden *Decades* I. iii. (Arb.) 78 They are content with soo lyttle, that in soo large a countrey, they haue rather superfluitie then scarsenes.

† 4. Want, poverty. *Obs.*

a. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxvii. 6 He is the God yᵗ..bryngeth yᵉ presoners out of captiuite in due season, but letteth yᵉ rennagates continue in scarcenesse [So 1611]. 1581 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* II. 162 [He] pitied in his heart the scarsenesse or pouertie of an expert man of warre.

β. 1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 79 They flye diligently all excesse Livynge in poverte and scasnes With smale dryncke and browne breade.

γ. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 26 For wan þei prey for plentey, and pees,..he wil send hem skarnes & noiȝes. *c* 1650 *Earl of Westm.* 178 in *Percy's MS. Ball. & Rom.* (1867) I. 308 For thé haue knowen me in wele and woe, in neede, scarnesse & pouertye.

5. Uncommonness, rarity.

1672 Boyle *Ess. Gents* ii. 113 The Rarity of transparent Gems,..and the great Value, which their Scarceness and mens Folly sets upon them. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 22 The folly of man rateth things by their scarceness. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 66, I have already spoken of the scarceness of Castles in England before the Norman Conquest.

Scarch, obs. form of Scratch.

Scarcht, obs. form of Scrat, hermaphrodite.

Scarcity (skēə·rsĭti). Forms: 4–5 scarsete(e, skarsete, -cete, scharsete, (scarestee), 5 scarcete, -ie, 6 -sety, -cety, *Sc.* skaircetie, 7 skarsety; 4–5 scarste(e, 5 skarste; 4–6 scarsitee, 4–5 -citee, -site, skarsytee, 5 skersytye, scarcyte, -sytie, 5–6 -cite, -scitie, -ssite, 6 skarsyte, -sitie, -citie, scacity, 6–7 scarcitie, 5–7 -sitie, 6– scarcity. [a. ONF. *escarceté*, Central OF. *escharseté*, f. *esc(h)ars*: see Scarce *a.* and -ity.] The quality, condition, or fact of being scarce.

† 1. Frugality, parsimony; niggardliness, stinginess, meanness. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 871 For almus-dede do ȝe non as ȝe demen alle, But skarsete & skaþe vn-skilfully fonden. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 634 For right as men blamen an Auaricious man by cause of his scarsetee and chyngerie, In the same wise [etc.]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. xii, Thow dyest for honger by cause that thy mayster gyueth the no mete by his grete scarcyte. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxii, Althoughe I dispraysed nygarshyp and vicious scarsitee.

2. Insufficiency of supply; smallness of available quantity, number, or amount, in proportion to the need or demand.

13.. *K. Alis.* 54795 (Bodl. MS.), Wexe to bygge in þis Cite, Of whiche hij hadden scarsete. *c* 1450 *Brut* 436 And tho was..grete scarste of corne and of othir vitaill. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 14 § 1 The excessive pryce of Bowe Staves wᶜʰ groweth principally by the Scarcitie of Bowe Staves brought into this Realme. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 26 Of leade and tinne is the most scarsity in forraine dominions, and plenty with vs. 1651 *Reg. Commission Grt. Assemb.* 5 Jan. (S. H. S.) III. 189 The scarsitie of ministers in Cathness and Orkney. 1760 Johnson *Idler* No. 103 P 2 Value is more frequently raised by scarcity than by use. That which lay neglected when it was common, rises in estimation as its quantity becomes less. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* v. 80 Now tell me..whether you think it a good thing or not that there should be a scarcity of wine? 1881 W. Newton *Serm. Boys & Girls* 108 There was one year a great scarcity of rain.

b. *attrib.*: scarcity value, an enhanced value due to scarcity. So *scarcity price, rent*, etc.

1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. iv. § 6 (1876) 283 Things which cannot be increased *ad libitum* in quantity, and which therefore, if the demand goes beyond a certain amount, command a scarcity value. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 8 Oct. 3/3 The taxability of scarcity rents and profits.

¶ c. Comparative fewness, small number (of something not desirable). *rare.*

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 93 The Hollanders..Vant of their scarcity of theeves..but attribute the same scarcity to that defence they..make against Theeves.

3. *absol.* Insufficiency of supply, in a community, of the necessaries of life, dearth. Also an instance of this, a period of scarcity, a dearth.

c 1450 *Brut* ccxxiv. 292 þer folwyd in Engelond good chepe, and wonder grete plente of chaffaree, vitaile and marchaundice, and þere aȝens, honger, scraſte [? *read* scarste], mischif, and nede of money. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 71 After such a famine there followed a Scarsitie in South Wales. 1686 J. Scott *Chr. Life* II. iv. § 2 Wks. 1718 I. 271 All Hands are at work,..to store them [sc. apartments] all with Provision against the ensuing Time of Scarcity. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 220 That unfortunate city gradually experienced the distress of scarcity, and at length the horrid calamities of famine. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 23 It is short allowance alone that can then prevent a scarcity from ending in absolute famine. 1803 Malthus *Popul.* III. v. 399 These general reasonings have been strikingly confirmed during the late scarcities. 1908 *Q. Rev.* July 224 Lesser visitations of scarcity have occurred in various provinces.

† 4. Scantiness (of diet). *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xx. (1495) 207 In scarsetee of ayetes seke men fayllen moost. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, Scarcite in meate, and the bely alway somwhat hungry, is..praysed.

† 5. Deficiency, shortcoming. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 364 In full euydence and open tooknynge þat god takiþ þis ordenance in his chirche as full sufficient, and in no wise fawtye in scarste or excesse þer-of. *c* 1392 Chaucer *Compl. Venus* 80 And ekke to me it is right gret penaunce Sith ryme in englisshe haþe suche skarsytee [*v.rr.* scarstee, scarestee, etc.] To folowen word by word þe curyosytee Of Graunsone floure of hem þat make in ffraunce. 1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* II. 168 Preying þe reder, wher any word myssit, Causyng þe metre to be halte or lame, For to correcte, to saue me fro blame: Late hym nat wayte after coryouste, Syth þat in ryme ynglysch hath skarsete [*v.r.* skersytye]. *c* 1450 — *Secrees* 872 Set in A meene of prudent governaunce, That ther be nouthir skarsete nor excesse, But a ryght Rewle of Attemperaunce.

† 6. The condition of being slenderly or inadequately provided (const. *of*). Also *absol.*, straitened condition with regard to means of living or comfort; penury, hardship. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 465 þerfore it is good to lyve in good rule and in plente, and nouȝt in streitnesse, scarsite, and meschief [*Caxton*, in strayte skarste and meschyef]. 1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 93 Soche poverte is plente, For by it avoydynge scacite All welthynes they have. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. II. 145 This king commandet to bring vpe the 3outh wᵗ al hardnes and skaircetie. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 599 Gunne-powder, whereof they were in great skarcitie. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* II. ii. 234 When he was poore, Imprison'd, and in scarsitie of Friends, I cleer'd him with fiue Talents. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 116 Scarcity and want shall shun you, Ceres' blessing so is on you.

7. In full, *Root of scarcity*: the mangel-wurzel. Also *scarcity plant, root.*

For the origin of the name see Mangel-wurzel.

1787, 1789 [see Root *sb.*¹ 3 b]. 1800 [see Mangel-wurzel β]. 1803 *A. Hunter's Georg. Ess.* III. 109 Another new article which has been very lately introduced, is the Mangel Wurzel, or Scarcity Plant. 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 367 *Beta vulgaris*, the Beet, with its varieties, the Scarcity and Mangel Wurtzel.

Scarcy, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.). [f. Scarce *a.* + -y.] = Scarce.

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 51 Now 'tis so scarcy, that 'tis a common thing to sell it by weight.

† **Scare,** *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [a. ONF. *escar*, var. of *escarn* (Central OF. *eschar(n)*, vbl. sb. f. *escarnir* to deride. Cf. Scorn *sb.* and *v.* The final *e* may be the ending of the dative case.] Scorn, derision, contempt.

c 1205 Lay. 5835 Þanne we heonne i-funde farren ure frenden to scare. *Ibid.* 20746 Iswenched us sære folke to scare. *Ibid.* 29548 He talde heom godes leore and duden him to scare.

Scare (skēəɹ), *sb.*² Also 6–7 scarre, 7 skar(e, 9 *dial.* scar. [f. Scare *v.*]

† 1. Fear, dread. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4731 And þai for skere of þe skrike into þe schaw fledd. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 21 They would sell him no provision for scare of the Governour Velasques. 1616 T. Scot *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) C 4 b, The night is come, the Shepheard soundly sleeps As he had wont, no skar his conscience keeps.

2. An act of scaring or a state of being scared; a sudden fright or alarm; *esp.* a state of general or public alarm occasioned by baseless or exaggerated rumours; *occas.* in generalized use, panic.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III*, 39 They were sodaynely amased and striken with a soden scare. 1600 Holland *Livy* VIII. xxxvii. 308 At Rome there happened a scare by night, which raised euery man so suddainely out of their first sleepe. *c* 1620 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 70 This I said by the way to give her a little scare from marriage. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 25 Nov., God knows this is only a scare to the Parliament, to make them give the more money. 1721 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 280 He was seiz'd upon the Scare of the Popish Plot. 1844 G. W. Kendall *Santa Fé Exped.* I. 97 Nothing can exceed the grandeur of the scene when a large *cavallada*, or drove of horse, takes a 'scare'. 1881 *Standard* 4 Jan., We are evidently to have another Fenian scare. 1887 Fenn *Master Cerem.* xiv, You did give me a scare. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 8/1 The time to buy stocks is when prices are depressed by scare.

† 3. Something that scares or frightens; *spec.* a scarecrow. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 265/2 Scarre to scar crowes. 1607 Markham *Caval.* II. (1617) 12 When you make an old ridden horse lead you the way where there bee manie Scarres and Boggards. 1620 — *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 96 The nearer that these Blinkes or Scarres come to the ground..so much the better it is, lest the fowle finding a way to creep under them, begin not to respect them. 1824 Loudon *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 1483 *Engines of alarm*, or scares, are the bell or gong alarm for man; and the rattle-engine driven by hand, or a small wind-engine for birds. 1828 M'Dowall *Poems* 71 Rather hold him up a bug-bear or scar.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: scare-string, an arrangement of twine on and about seed-plots and fruit-trees to frighten away birds. Also (in recent journalistic use), scare-head, -heading, a heading to a column

of newspaper matter written in extravagant language to produce a 'scare'; **scare-line**, a sensational announcement upon a newspaper poster; similarly in *scare-letter, -novel, -politics, -report*, etc.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 3/1 A Japanese newspaper.. has no such thing as head lines or scare heads. 1889 PASK *Eyes of Thames* 151 The young birds pay little heed to the scare strings, and pull up the seedlings to their heart's content. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came* 104 The sensationalists who manufacture scare heads for the Chicago papers. 1894 *Daily News* 15 Mar. 5/8 The men who manufacture scare headings for the paper saw the chance, and they worked up a great sensation. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 9/3 When we members want to stimulate our jaded senses we go into the street and read the scare-lines on some of the posters.

†**Scare,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* See also SCAR *sb.*[4] [a. F. *scare*, ad. L. *scarus*.] = SCARUS.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scare*, a sort of Fish. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 488 Scare Labrus..Labrus Scarus.

Scare (skēəɪ), *sb.*[4] *Golf.* [orig. Sc. dial., a joint or splice (e. g. of a fishing-rod: see E.D.D.), a. ON. *skpr* (:—**skaru*:—OTeut. **skarō*).] The part of a golf club where the head joins the handle.

1881 FORGAN *Golfer's Handbk.* 35 *Scare*, the narrow part of the club-head by which it is glued to the handle. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 473/1 (Golf) *Scare*, the part of the club where the head and shaft are joined.

Scare (skēəɪ), *a. rare.* [modernized form of SCAR *a.*, after SCARE *v.*] Timid, frightened.

1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Dec. iii, But ere Her tale was done resumed his manner scare, Ran down, and on his way in darkness kept.

Scare (skēəɪ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **scared** (skēəɪd). Forms: α. 3–6 **skerre**, 4 *Sc.* **skkir**; β. 6–7 **scarre**, 5–7 **skar**, 5–8 **scar**, 6–7 **skarre**, 7 *Sc.* **scarr, skarr**, 7–9 *Sc.* **scaur**; *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4 *Sc.* **schard**, 4, 6–9 **scarred**, 5 **scharid**, 5–7 **skard**, 6 **scard**, *Sc.* **skarred, skarrit**, 9 *dial.* **scart**; γ. 4–5 **scere**, 5 **skere**, 6 **skeare**; 9 *dial.* (and *U. S. vulgar*) **skear, skeer**; δ. 4–5 **skayre**, 5–7 **skare**, 6– **scare**; *Pa. pple.* 7 **skaerd**. [ME. *skerre*, a. ON. *skirra* (Icel. only in phr. *skirra vandræðum* to avoid strife, and refl. *skirra-sk* with accus. to shrink from; but cf. Norw. *skjerra*, Sw. dial. *skjarra* to scare), f. *skiarr* (:—**skerro*-) shy, timid, startled: see SCAR *a.*

The ME. *skerre* normally became *skarre*; the form *scar*, now dialectal, is therefore regular. The phonology of the δ type (represented by the mod. standard form), and of the γ type (represented by the dialectal *skeer*) is obscure.]

1. *trans.* To frighten, terrify.

α. *c* 1200 *Ormin* 676 He [*sc.* the devil] wile himm færenn, 3iff he maȝȝ, & skerrenn mare & mare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 595 Þat takine þe feyndis sckiris, & of þar mycht & purpos merrys.

β. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 214 Cum thow agane to skar us with thy strais, We sall gar scale our sculis all the to scorne. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 90 King Richard so scarred the French kinges host, that he tooke the kinges Sumpter horse and parte of his treasure. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 21 There is a word will..Scarre Troy out of it selfe. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* xi. 31 When they should find themselves more skarred than hurt by His Threats. 1721 RAMSAY *Concl.* 6 Daft, giddy thing! to..spang o'er dykes that scar the blate. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. Green Shutters* 279 He never met what scaured him!

γ. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3865 Þan comes þare-out creuesses of manykins hewis, Scorpions þaim to scere & sculid neddirs. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skeryn' a-wey, *abigo*. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* V 4 b, Now gastly sights mens hearts to skeare, In forgyng fire they shope. 1845 JUDD *Margaret* II. v. (1874) 254 Don't be so despit skeered, Mr. Hadlock.

δ. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 28 My selfe, as farre as I could well discerne,..Am sure I scar'd the Dolphin and his Trull. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxix. (1612) 291 At first she feares, but lastly finds the Armor was vn-man'd: When skaerd, and cheerd, with Dorcas she did enter, theare at hand. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xi. (1640) 107 Let not every shew of danger skare you. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 165 Such dreadful Precipices, that scar'd me to look down. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 37, I that am always more scared at the sight of a Sergeant, or Bayliff, than at the Devil and all his Works. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* III. 44 The triple dog that scares the shadowy kind. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxx, A thousand villages in flames Shall scare the slumbers of King James! 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 104 Ye wasn't skeered, nor nothin' was ye tho'? *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 12 Who scared me with that Gorgon face? 1864 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* (1872) 50 Turning to me, 'Doon'e be skeared, Miss Clerer.' 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 505 Such practices..scare the multitude out of their wits.

†b. ? To alarm, put on the alert (a sentry). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 838 In grete flokkez of folk, þay fallen to his ȝates, As a scowte wach scarred, so þe asscry rysed. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2468 Discouers of schottemene, and skyrmys a lyttille; Skayres thaire skottefers, and theire skowtte-waches. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1907 in *Macro Plays* 134 Schapyth now ȝoure scheldys schene, ȝene skallyd skoutis for to skerre up-on ȝone grene grese!

c. To frighten away, drive off. Now chiefly with adv., exc. with reference to keeping off birds from corn, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13404 This Ascatus with skathe skerrit of his rewme Pelleus. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 800 in *Macro Plays* 29 He skaryth ws with a bales; we may no lengere tary. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 125 Keepe cart gap weele, scare hog from wheele. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 4 Being scarr'd from thence by the pangs and gripes of a boyling conscience. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 237 They were soon scared away, when we assured them we were Christians. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xiii, Mony a scheme in vain's been laid To stap or scaur me. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi, Ou, that wad be the lights and the noise that scarr'd us awa. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xii. 114 A chap, with rags on him, not fit to scare birds in a bean-field.

d. Scare out, up. *U. S.* To frighten (game) out of cover. Hence *fig.* to bring to light, to discover.

1853 *Putnam's Mag.* Sept. 304/2 A great man..does not make the noodles and nobodies that he may scare up any where, his chief agents. 1857 *The States* (*Washington*) (Bartlett 1860), A very useful bag in a family, in scaring up eggs for breakfast. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iii, Where can you scare up names like them among your mudsill folks? 1874 LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl Shooting* 142 We probably won't scare out any very large batches of ducks.

†**2.** *intr.* To take fright; to be scared (at). *Obs.*

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 598 Bot of þe dome of þe doupe for dedez of schame He is so skoymus of þat skaþe, he scarrez bylyue. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) iii, I am rad, gif thay me se on far, That at my figure beist and bird will skar. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXX. 6 With him and with his abbeit bayth I skarrit, Lyk to ane man that with a gaist wes marrit. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* vi. 62 Then prayers, almesdeids, and tearis, Vhilks ȝit to skorne ȝee skantly skar, Sall nair availl than jaks and spearis. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 1775 Thou must not skarre vpon thy Soares to looke, To read thy dittay in that sacred Booke. 1682 PEDEN *Lord's Trumpet* 30 Scar not at the cross for it is the way to the crown. 1710 in Calderwood *Dying Testim.* (1806) 157 What ails poor harlot Scotland to scar so much at that noble gift. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1829) I. i. iv. 358 He cried with a loud voice, 'I beseech you..not to scar at sufferings for the interests of Christ.'

δ. 1699 T. BOSTON *Art of Man-fishing* (1900) 52 Every parish will scare at thee as a monster of men. 1731 — *Mem.* (1899) 48 Being everywhere scared at by some.

3. To take a scare (see SCARE *sb.*[2]); to be alarmed by rumours or the like.

1900 *Academy* 8 Sept. 194/1 The big depositors wouldn't scare.

4. *Comb.* with an object-sb., forming sbs. with the sense 'one who or something which scares', as *scare-bear, -beggar, -bullfinch, -christian, -goose, -sinner, sleep.*

1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 216 Logs hung vibrating from the branches of trees, and other *scare-bears. 1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVII. 186 He..is the *scare-beggar of the parish. 1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2568 A stuffed cat..has been found a capital *scare-bullfinch. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 455 Whom he esteemed the most redoubted *Scare-christian that dignified the pulpit in that age. 1887 R. GARNETT *Carlyle* iv. 67 Letters poured in, countermanding subscriptions until the *scaregoose should be removed. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. vii, Do stop that death-looking, long-striding scoundrel of a *scare-sinner, who is posting after me. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) II. 401 The great lantern-fly..from its noise in the evening..is called *Scare-sleep by the Dutch in Guiana.

Scare, obs. form of SHEAR.

†**Sca're-babe.** *Obs.* Also 7 **scarbabe, scarrebabe.** [f. SCARE *v.* + BABE *sb.*] Something to frighten children; a bugbear, bogy.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 279 Therfore take heed of hell, for Purgatorie is but a scarre babe. *a* 1606 *Wily Beguiled* (1623) E 2, Ile..come like some Hob-goblin..And like a Scarbabe make him take his legges. 1621 A. CAVE *Serm.* 16 They become scarre-babes and bugbeares to their innocent neighbours.

attrib. 1594 *Epit. of 'Old Scarlett' in Peterb. Cath.*, A Scarebabe mighty voice with visage grim.

So † **Sca're-bairn.**

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 495 An Hagg or scare-barn, a bug-bear to frighten children.

†**Sca're-bug,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6 **scare-bugge, 7 scarbug, scarbugg(e, skar-bugg.** [f. SCARE *sb.*[2] + BUG *sb.*[1]] = BUGBEAR.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxciv. 1204 All those which nowadayes doe name themselues Bishops and Prelates, are but scarebugs set vp by the diuell. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1603) 345 For sinne is no scar-bugge. 1618 S. WARD *Jethro's Just. Peace* 18 These complements without the substance are but empty gulls and scarbuggs of maiestie. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 536 Haue made his solemne Commands, idle scare-bugs, and haue turned them into shadowes. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* lii. 5 Think not that these things are spoken on *in terrorem*, for a Scarebug, for they shall all be surely fulfilled upon thee.

attrib. 1616 *Manifest. Abp. of Spalato's Motives* 5 Surely (in the scare-bug feares, which from my tender yeeres haue possessed mee) I haue held them detestable.

†**Sca're-bug,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **scarrebugge.** [f. prec.] *trans.* To frighten with idle terrors.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I 1 b, Now thinkest thou that I..can be scare-bugd with the plague? 1596 — *Saffron Walden* 134 She..scarrebugges me with a Comedie, which shee hath scrawld and scribeld vp against mee.

Scarecrow (skēəɪkrōu), *sb.* Forms: 6 **scarre-crowe, skar-crowe**, 6–7 **scarrecrow, scarcrow(e**, 7 **skar-crow**, 7– **scarecrow** (formerly often written with hyphen). [f. SCARE *v.* + CROW *sb.*[1]]

1. A person employed in scaring birds.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 47 b, Plaie as young boyes or scarre crowes do, whiche showte in the open and plaine feldes at all aventures hittie missie. 1908 E. C. PALMER in *Daily Mail* 11 Apr. 6/5 He is not ashamed of being a scarecrow.

2. A device for frightening birds from growing crops, usually a figure of a man dressed in old and ragged clothes.

1592 *Nobody & Somebody* H 4, Let me be hangd vp sunning in the ayre, And made a scar-crow. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royall King* III. ii, Wots thou who's returnd, The unthrift Bonvile, ragged as a scarre-crow. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. iii. (1840) 202 We set the devil up like a scarecrow to frighten children and old women. 1762 LLOYD *Nightingale* Poems 96 Critics, who like the scarecrows stand Upon the poet's common land. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 427 Can you..Frighten the blind with scarecrows? 1887 BESANT *The World went* XX, No scarecrow in the fields ever had such clothes.

b. *fig.* Something (not really formidable) that frightens or is intended to frighten; a 'bogy'.

1589 *Marprel. Theses Martin.* D ij, All the bishops of England are too weake to deale with a scarre-crowe, that hath but the name of reuerend Martin written vppon it. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv, Here, sayd they, is the Terror of the French, The Scar-Crow that affrights our Children so. 1642 HALES *Schism* 1 Heresie and Schisme as they are commonly used, are two Theological scar-crows. 1686 T. BROWN *To Ld. Chancellor* Wks. 1709 III. III. 99 So grisly Comets from the Dung-hills rise, Those upstart Scare-crows of the wond'ring Skies. 1746 WESLEY *Princ. Methodist* 23, I should wonder if the Scarecrow of sinless Perfection was not brought in some way or other. 1812 *Examiner* 12 Oct. 653/2 That idle scarecrow,—the Bribery Act. 1870 THORNBURY *Tour round Eng.* I. iv. 89 What a scarecrow to a blushing curate that stiff old lady..must have been.

3. A person whose appearance causes ridicule; † a lean, gaunt figure (*obs.*); one who resembles a scarecrow in his dress, 'a guy.'

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 7 Thereat the Scarcrow wexed wondrous prowd. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 41. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. iv, A true Souldier..runnes those vertuous hazards, that this Scarre-crow Cannot endure to heare of. 1672 MARVEL *Reh. Transp.* I. 50 You never saw such a Scarcrow as he makes him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 9 ¶ 2 In Opposition to this Society [of Fat-men], there sprung up another composed of Scare-Crows and Skeletons. 1749 BERKELEY *Word to the Wise* Wks. III. 441 People well fed, and well clad, instead of famished, ragged scarecrows. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* viii, In front of the schoolmaster's desk, half a dozen scarecrows out at knees and elbows. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. v. 192 A grim and ugly scarecrow, on whom every buffoon may break his jest. 1881 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* II, I was sorry to see a fine young man throw himself away upon such a scarecrow.

†**4.** An alleged name of the Black Tern, *Hydrochelidon nigra*, and of the Hooded Crow, *Corvus cornix. Obs.*

a 1672 WILLUGHBY & RAY *Ornith.* (1676) 269 Larus niger Gesneri..The Scar-crow. 1802–33 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 258 Hoody, Dun Crow, Scare Crow.

5. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*)

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. vi. 498 Hang him,.. That when the cloud of his inuention breakes, Cannot outcracke the scarr-crow thunderbolt. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* Introd. 4 The greatest burden in the world is superstition; not only of Ceremonies in the Church, but of imaginary and scar-crow sins at home. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., To Royal Soc.* iii, The Orchard's open now, and free; Bacon has broke the Scar-crow Deitie. 1761 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 19 Feb. (1827) III. 40 Many may forget my scarecrow name. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* VI. 68 He was a scarecrow figure—attired much in the fashion of the *strugglers*. 1894 JEAFFRESON *Bk. Recoll.* II. xxv. 223 Wearing a scarecrow hat..in his rural walks.

Hence **Sca'recrowish, Sca'recrowy** *adjs.*

1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 277 All through the 'Liber the figures are admirable, except the larger ones in the home pastoral scenes, and they are rather weak, sketchy and scarecrowy. 1892 MAR. NORTH *Recoll. Happy Life* I. 94, I found his worship in an extra scarcecrowish costume.

Scarecrow (skēəɪkrōu), *v.* Also 6 **scarre-crow.** [f. SCARECROW *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To frighten, as with a scarecrow. *Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 69 That old acquaintance, ..is neither lullabied with thy sweete Papp, nor scarre-crowed with thy sower hatchet. 1675 DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* I. 42 Yea, I will scare-crow thee, I will top and scourge thee.

2. To dot and disfigure as scarecrows do.

1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 471 Yet wilder specimens of the human race..here and there scare-crow the broad, sadly picturesque expanse.

Scared (skēəɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCARE *v.* + -ED[1].] Frightened, startled.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 782 Sad groans and dismal sounds Stun my scar'd ears. 1802 COLERIDGE *Picture* 6 Hurrying along the drifted forest-leaves, The scared snake rustles. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* lxxx. (1836) 96 Let your words be strong, Your cry be loud, till each scared boaster flies. 1907 A. C. BENSON *Altar Fire* 266 The Master has a very scared and dull pupil alas!

Sca're-devil. [f. SCARE *v.* + DEVIL *sb.*]

†**1.** A name for plants of the genus *Hypericum*, formerly supposed to possess the power of curing persons possessed with devils. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 178 Such is the herb Hypericum, called also St. John's-Wort, and Scare-Devil.

2. *dial.* A name for the Swift (*Cypselus apus*), perh. with reference to its dark colour and rapid flight.

1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 462 Skeer devil..Skir devil. A name for the swift. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk., Scare-devil*, the swift.

†**Sca're-fire.** *Obs.* Also 6 **skarifyer, 7 scar-, scarre-, skare-, skar-.** [Prob. a corruption of SCATHEFIRE, as if f. SCARE *sb.*[2]] A sudden conflagration.

1572 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 143 Payd to Thomas Clarke for his payns at the skarifyer at Mr. Burtons. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xxvii. 604 These speeches.. were interrupted and stayed by occasion of a Scare-fire, that began in sundrie places together about the Forum.

1637 POCKLINGTON *Altare Christ.* 132 We reject private Masses..to be a remedy against Pestilence, inundation, tempest, scare-fire, &c. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Bell-man,* From noise of Scare-fires rest ye free, From Murders Benedicitie. 1684 S. G. *Angl. Spec.* 479 Of Manufactures, the greatest is the Engine, for quenching of Scare-fires. *fig.* 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. XXV. 230 The Priests melted mens hearts into Charity with the Scare-fire of Purgatory.

† Sca·re-fly. *Obs.* [f. SCARE *v.* + FLY *sb.*]

1. One who drives away flies: used to render Gr. ἀπόμυιος as an epithet of certain deities. *rare*—[1].

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XXIII. 402 And hereof it came that the Chananites called their Belzebub, and the Greekes their Iupiter, by the name of Scarefly.

2. A device for frightening away flies.

1862 *All Year Round* 13 Sept. 9 An ingenious Florentine gentleman has communicated to the world, a scare-fly.

Scareful (skēə·ɹfŭl), *a.* Now *rare* exc. *dial.* [f. SCARE *sb.* + -FUL.] Terrifying, alarming.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1593) 144 The scarefull erne With hooked talents trussing up a hare. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. verse 13, vii. (1656) 370 The evil day is not such a scareful thing to thee that art a Christian, as thou shouldest start for it. 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* iii, It's skearful to think for how many causes one gets to be your inimy.

Scaremonger (skēə·ɹmɔ:ŋgəɹ). [f. SCARE *sb.* + -MONGER[1].] One who occupies himself in spreading alarming reports; an alarmist. Hence **Sca·remongering** *vbl. sb.*, the action of a scaremonger; the spreading of alarming reports.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 4/1 Neither the scaremongers nor the peacemongers will feel any security whatever that the Cabinet is taking the country into its confidence. 1907 *Standard* 25 Nov. 6/6 To dismiss as 'scaremongering', and the like, criticism founded upon facts of common knowledge.

Scarer (skēə·ɹəɹ). [f. SCARE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or something which scares.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. Introd. 30 Till the Ghost of Lady Davers, drawing open the Curtains, scares the Scarer. 1820 *Examiner* No. 621. 154/1 Like a scarer away of birds from the grapes. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, To a old bird like myself these are scarers. 1879 ESCOTT *England* I. 299 When he commences life as an agricultural labourer, it will probably be, not in the capacity of scarer—bird-scaring is now generally done by inanimate scarecrows.

Scarestee, obs. form of SCARCITY.

Scarey, variant of SCARY *a.*

Scarf (skāɹf), *sb.*[1] Pl. **scarfs, scarves.** Forms: 6-7 **scarfe, scarff**(e, **scarph**(e, **skarf**(e, 7 **skarffe,** 6- **scarf.** [Of obscure history; not recorded before the middle of the 16th c., but prob. a. ONF. *escarpe* = Central OF. *escharpe*, mod.F. *écharpe* sash, sling for a wounded arm, etc. (whence It. *sciarpa, ciarpa*, Sp. *charpa*, G. *schärpe*, MDu. *scharpe*, and mod.Du. *sjerp*), prob. the same word as OF. *escharpe, escarpe, esquerpe, escreppe*, etc., a pilgrim's scrip suspended from the neck; of Teut. origin: cf. ON. *skreppa* SCRIP *sb.*[1]

The more normal form *scarp* is found (almost as early as *scarf*) in the heraldic sense 5 a; possibly, though unrecorded, it may have been the original Eng. form in all senses. It is noteworthy that all the words of the form *scarp* have variants with *f*: for the change of final *p* into *f* after liquids cf. SCALP *sb.*[2] Various Ger. dialects have *scherf\e, scharfe* (whence Russian шарфъ) for the literary Ger. *schärpe*, but this coincidence with Eng. seems to be merely accidental.

The original plural form *scarfs* has never gone out of use; but from the beginning of the 18th c. the form *scarves* (on the analogy of *halves*, etc.) has been common, and in London commercial use it appears to have become universal. No other sb. of other than native origin has this change of *f* into *v* in the plural.]

1. A broad band of silk or other material, worn (chiefly by soldiers or officials) either diagonally across the body from one shoulder to the opposite hip, or round the waist; = SASH *sb.*[1] **2.**

The purpose of the military 'scarf' or 'sash' is now merely decorative or significant of rank or the like. Originally, it served for carrying things, and some references to this use occur in the early quots. below.

1555 [? alluded to in quot. for sense 2]. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 51 His wife Panthea brought him an armure of golde,..and a crimsen skarfe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, The target..hee carryed in a scarfe about his shoulders. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 20 Flourishing entred Iohn Leiden the Botcher into the field, with a scarffe made of lysts like a bow-case. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 198 What fashion will you weare the Garland off?..vnder your arme, like a Lieutenants scarfe? 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 41 A man in compleate coloured armour and scarfe. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 350 The men wear apparel of Deer-skins.., one arm uncovered, and so they wear their garment like a scarf. 1660 TATHAM *Roy. Oak* 2 Eight other Gentlemen carrying Banners in Plush Coats, and Skye coloured Scarffs about their Shoulders. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2445/4 Lost.., an Officers Scarf with four gold Fringes round the Wast, set on Crimson Silk, and a very deep Fringe at each end. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 279 Scarfs, garters, gold, amuse his riper age. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 130 Cromwell, half-length in armour, page tying his scarf. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, Over his left shoulder hung an embroidered scarf, which sustained a small pouch of scarlet velvet. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* XIII. iii, Municipality and Mayor have on their scarfs. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. ii. 126 Forty-eight pages in white, yellow, and red scarves. 1902 AMERY *War S. Africa* II. 189 Their colonel..had led waving his silk scarf to his men.

2. *Eccl.* A band of silk or other material worn round the neck, with the two ends pendent from the shoulders in front, as a part of clerical costume. In the 18th c. *spec.* the scarf worn by a nobleman's chaplain (cf. quot. 1866); hence, a chaplaincy.

1555 LADY VANE *Let. to Philpot* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1829/1, I will supply your request for the Scarfe yee wrote of, that ye may present my handy worke before your Captayne. 1555 PHILPOT *Let. to Lady Vane* 10 Dec. *ibid.* 1837/2 You haue so armed me to the Lordes battell both inwardly and outwardly... You haue appointed me to so good and gracious a General of the field,..that [etc.]...The Scarffe I desire as an outward signe to shew our enemies. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Dec., I dined with Mrs. Vanhomrigh, to desire them to buy me a scarf; and lady Abercorn is to buy me another, to see who does best: mine is all in rags. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 539 P 3, I yesterday heard a young Gentleman, that look'd as if he was just come to the Town, and a Scarf, upon Evil-speaking. 1738 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 35 The Duke of Portland is very sorry not to be able to grant a scarf to our acquaintance—his are all filled up. 1844 *Life C'tess Huntingdon* I. 132 The excellent Lady Huntingdon..invited him to her house.., gave him her scarf, and as her chaplain, he continued long to preach to the poor in her kitchen unmolested. 1866 *Direct. Anglic.* (ed. 3) 359 Scarf worn by Chaplains; it is made of silk of the colour of the nobleman's livery to whom the cleric is chaplain...The Black Scarf is worn over the Gown by Doctors in Divinity, Cathedral Dignitaries and Bishops' Chaplains. 1903 *Church Times* 11 Dec. 748/4 A deacon is entitled, like any other clergyman, to wear the broad black tippet, or scarf, over his surplice.

3. A broad strip of silk, gauze, or other fine material, worn hung loosely over the shoulders or otherwise as an ornamental accessory to the costume.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* Bb j b, When do mothers fray their babes most from duggis, When they put on blacke scrafs [sic], and go like beare buggis. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 220 Needlesse noughts, as crisps and scarphes worne Alla Morisco. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abuses* I. G j b, Then must they haue their silk scarffes cast about their faces, & fluttering in the winde with great tassels at euery end, either of gold, siluer or silk. 1592 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* I. A 7 b, They that shalbe actors in this Massacre Shall..tye white linnen scarfes about their armes. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* XXVII. 33 Why in the Stop-throate fashion doth he go, With Scarfe about his necke? Hat without band? 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 289 Marcellus and Flauius, for pulling Scarffes of Cæsars Images, are put to silence. 1624 *Skelton's E. Rummyng* Prol. 82 Scarfs, feathers, and swords, And thin bodkin-beards. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* I. Wks. 1874 II. 264 Trickt in skarffe and feather. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5173/4 A black Gause Scarf;..a blue Lustring-Scarf with a Gause Body. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xlii. 282 What a pretty show they will make, with their white hoods, white gowns, white petticoats, white scarves! 1766 *Lond. Mag.* July 335 The new thing called a Scarf, with its depending tassels, looks so much like an advertisement that if the place of abode was added, there is no doubt, but that it would draw in custom. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* IV, Two young ladies in scarfs and feathers. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 169 A purple scarf at either end whereof There swung an apple of the purest gold Sway'd round about him. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* Introd., His..cap, with its..long hanging strip of drapery, to serve as a scarf in case of need. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 138 Dressed in a Tyrian scarf with a fringe of broidery gay.

† b. used as a bandage for the eyes, or a veil.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XX. (1617) 349 His [God's] spiritual nature, which we cannot possibly comprehend, but as it were through a glasse, or a scarfe. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* Plays 1873 II. 349 My assurance is that Cupid will take the scarfe from his owne eyes and hoodwinke the old buzzard. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* II. vii. 170 And if anything slip under the rehearsall it is to be a scarff over the face, and to shew, the griefe could not be expressed. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 232 They have but a maske or scarfe over their faces.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 82 And with each end of thy blew bowe do'st crowne My boskie acres, and my vnshrubd downe, Rich scarph to my proud earth. 1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* (1616) F j, Among the lesser Lights as is the Moone, Blushing through Scarfe of Clouds on Latmos Mountaine. 1822 SHELLEY *Triumph* 357 Still before me on the dusky grass, Iris her many-coloured scarf had drawn. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXVII, The moon had risen slowly, breaking through a rent scarf of cloud that barred her solemn, white disc. 1880 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* ii. (1892) 89 The fogs are in possession of the lower levels; they crawl in scarves among the sandhills.

d. *spec.* The scarf of black crape or silk worn over the shoulder by mourners at funerals.

1739 *Will* in Payne *Engl. Cath.* (1889) 53 No scarves, gloves, nor hat-bands. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte Arth.* 194 A dusky barge, Dark as a funeral scarf from stem to stern. 1850 G. J. FRENCH *Tippets* 8 *note*, The modern custom of wearing at funerals both a hatband and a scarf over the shoulder, curiously marks the extravagance which has crept into such ceremonies.

e. A band of warm and soft material worn round the neck in cold weather; = COMFORTER 6.

1844 MRS. GAUGAIN *Knitting*, etc. II. Accomp. 37 Warm Crochet Scarf. Worked in eight-ply Berlin wool.

f. A necktie or cravat that more or less covers the bosom of the shirt.

1865 MORLEY *Mod. Characteristics* 79 Gorgeous scarves which have been long superseded by white ties. 1886 PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* (ed. 3) xli. 355 Most gentlemen are now content with the made-up scarves of all sizes, colours, and materials, which [etc.].

† 4. A sling for an ailing limb. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29/2 He must weare his arme before on his breste in a scarfe. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* V. ii. 23 Oh my deere Orlando, how it greeues me to see thee weare thy heart in a scarfe. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 260 Lesly..carried his foot in a scarf for a wound he had received at Buckstobo. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 165 The arm must be carried in a Scarf. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxi, His wounded arm was supported by a scarf, or sling of crimson silk.

5. *Her.* **a.** = SCARP *sb.*[1]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 30/1 He beareth Argent, a Scarpe Purpure, of some termed a Scarf. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Bend-sinister*, The bend-sinister is subdivided into the *scarf*, or *scarp*, and the *battoon*. 1823–4 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XV. 431 The *Bend sinister* consists of similar lines drawn in an opposite direction from the *sinister chief* to the *dexter base* of the shield. Its diminutive is the *scarf* occupying one half of its breadth.

b. = BANDEROLE 2.

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss., *Scarf*, a small ecclesiastical banner, hanging down from the top of a crosier.

† 6. A scroll or plate bearing an inscription.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* XI. x. § 49 The Vault thus prepared, a scarfe of lead was provided some two foot long,.. therein to make an inscription.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scarf-maker, -veil*; *scarf-like* adj. and adv.; **scarf cloak,** a light narrow cloak or tippet; **scarf-loom,** a loom for weaving figured fabrics of moderate breadth (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **† scarf-man,** a clergyman of rank entitling him to wear a scarf; **† scarf-officer,** an officer who is entitled to wear a scarf; **scarf-pin,** a pin for fastening a scarf, or worn for ornament in a scarf (sense 3 f); **scarf-ring,** a ring for holding a scarf (sense 3 f) in position.

1804 *Jackson's Oxford Jrnl.* 4 Aug. 2/3 *Scarf cloaks of leno or worked muslin over coloured silks, are universally worn. 1611 COTGR., *Escharpeux*, .. *scarfe-like. 1852 *Meanderings of Memory* I. 109 Scarf-like and ethereally slight. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* iv. 67 Suspended from a baudrick, or scarf-like shoulder-belt, this sword reached from the hollow of the back to about the middle of the thigh. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6403/4 Anne Howard, ..*Scarf-maker. 1711 P. H. *Impartial View of 2 late Parlts.* 23 The inferior Priests and Deacons, and all under the Degree of *Scarf Men were made to understand. 1710–11 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 P 2 We may divide the Clergy into Generals, Field-Officers, and Subalterns. Among the first we may reckon Bishops, Deans, and Arch-Deacons. Among the second are Doctors of Divinity, Prebendaries, and all that wear Scarfs...It is found that there has been a great Exceeding of late Years in the Second Division, several Brevets having been granted for the converting of Subalterns into *Scarf-Officers. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. (new ed.) 142 A *scarf-pin which is neither large nor showy. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 4/3 A useful *scarf-veil.

Scarf (skāɹf), *sb.*[2] Also 5 **scarffe,** 6 **skarfe,** 8 **scarfe,** 8–9 **scarph,** 9 **skerf.** [Words of related form and identical meaning (chiefly belonging to the nautical vocabulary) are found in several mod. langs., but recorded much later than in English: F. *écart* (:—**escarf*) a scarf, vbl. noun from *écarver* (:—**escarver*) to scarf; Sp. *escarba*, Pg. *escarva* a scarf; Du. *scherf* a scarf, *verscherven* (whence G. *verscherben*) to scarf; Sw. *skarf*, Norw. *skarv* piece added to lengthen a board or a garment, also the joint or seam by which this is effected; Sw. *skarfva*, Norw. *skarva, skjerva* to lengthen by joining or sewing on an additional piece (Da. has in this sense *skarre*, the relation of which to the Sw. form is obscure).

The relation of these words to each other and to the English sb. and vb. is uncertain. The fact that the Sw. words are not, like those in the other langs., exclusively technical, but have a wider meaning, seems to afford a slight presumption in favour of Scandinavian as the ultimate source. But even assuming this, it remains doubtful whether the Eng. sb. comes from Sw. (or some other Scandinavian dialect) directly or through the medium of OF. **escarf*.

The Sw. *skarf* has commonly been referred to the Teut. root **skerb-, skarb-*, represented by OE. *scearfian* (= OHG. *scarpôn*, G. *scharben*) to cut into shreds, OE. *sceorfan* str. vb., to gnaw, bite, scarify, Du. *scherf* (= OHG. *scirbi*, G. *scherbe*) potsherd; but affinity in meaning seems wanting.]

1. *Carpentry* and *Shipbuilding.* A joint by which two timbers are connected longitudinally into a continuous piece, the ends being halved, notched, or cut away so as to fit into each other with mutual overlapping.

1497 [see *scarf-timber* in 3]. *c* 1580 H. SMITH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 453 Wee haled aground to stoppe a leake, which we found to be in the skarfe afore. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 8 Next your Nauell timbers, and bind them all with sixe foote Skarfe at the least. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 47 The Scarfs of her Keel and Stern. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Apron*, The scarf thereof should be at some distance from that of the stern. 1779 BARNARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 108 Pl. 3, Beams of Fir 12 inches square, put across in halves, with 12 feet scarph. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 280 In each piece of timber to be joined, the parts of the joints that come in contact are called scarfs. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 362/1 The scarf of the poles is shown in Fig. 3. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* viii. 109 The ends of these planks are supported on the frames, adjacent ones being formed into a scarph.

† b. *Shipbuilding.* The overlapping of adjacent timbers in a ship's frame, in order to secure continuity of strength at the joints. Phrase, *To give scarf. Obs.*

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 39 Let the Top-timber be placed..that they may give Scarf to the Port-holes. 1769 [see SCARF *v.*[2] 1 b]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 379/2 These represent the length and scarf of the several

timbers in the midship frame. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 141 The lower..riders..fay alongside the floor riders, and give scarph above them.

2. *Metal-working.* (See quots.)

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning*, etc. I. 220 In smith's work likewise, the joinings are called scarfs...The scarfs required for the shut, are made by first upsetting or thickening the iron...It is next rudely tapered off. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scarf*, the flattened or chamfered edges of iron prepared for welding. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 297/2 The point of the scarf is farthest into the fire.

3. *Comb.*: **scarf-joint** = senses 1 and 2; hence **scarf-jointing**, the process of joining timbers by means of a scarf; †**scarf-timber**, timber in short lengths for scarfing; **scarf-weld** (see quot.).

1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 252 The four stones..were ..to be united to each other by Hook-*Scarf-Joints. 1851–4 *Cycl. Useful Arts* (ed. Tomlinson) I. 329 The common scarf joint is made by merely halving each piece of timber for a certain length, and then bolting or strapping the two pieces together. 1907 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 14 Feb. 349 The method of construction is that known technically as *scarf-jointing. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 312 Certeyn *Scarffe Tymbre price—viij^{li} vj^{d}. 1882 OGILVIE, **Scarf-weld*, a peculiar joint made in welding two pieces of metal, as iron, together.

†**Scarf**, *sb.*^{3} *Mil.* [Alteration of SCARP *sb.*] = SCARP *sb.*^{2}

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Coraxa entre dos muros*, a scarfe between wals, *Musculus*. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 126 These Caualleres..haue also their Scarphe or Alambor [Sp. *alambor* declivity of a ditch]. 1603 *Court Roll* in *Athenæum* 21 Nov. (1885) 668/3 Euerie man shall make vpe sufficiently all the Scarfes betwixt the milne & Restone Inges betwene this & Christmas next. 1645 *Enchir. Fortif.* 6 The Talud, or Scarfe, of the outside of the Rampart. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xlii. 297 Ditches, Ravelins, Scarfes, & Counter-scarfes.

Scarf (skāɪf), *sb.*^{4} *Orkn. and Shetl. dial.* Also 7, 9, **scarfe**, 9 **scarff**; and see SCART. [a. ON. *skarf-r*, Norw., Sw. *skarf*.] A cormorant or a shag.

1668 F. JESSOP in *Philos. Lett. Ray* (1718) 38, I have procured the Skin of a great Bird which he that gave it me call'd a Scarfe. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 107 The sussing of Kitnings, clamring of Scarfes, whimpring of Fullmarts. 1744 PRESTON *Zetland* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 61 (2) Whaps, Toists,..Plovers, Scarfs, &c. 1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 300 The Shag (*pelecanus graculus*), so well known by the name of Scarf, is very frequently seen. *Ibid.*, The Cormorant..our great Scarf, is a species not so numerous as the former. 1868 D. GORRIE *Summers & Winters in Orkneys* v. 153 A lazy scarff here and there raised himself up at length over the surface.

Scarf (skāɪf), *sb.*^{5} *Whaling.* A longitudinal cut made in a whale's body.

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xxv. 181 As the blubber in one strip uniformly peels off along the line called the 'scarf'. 1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals* 63 (Cent.) A scarf is cut along the body and through the blubber, to which one end of a tackle is hooked.

Scarf (skāɪf), *v.*^{1} Also 7 **scarfe**, **skarfe**, 9 **skarf**. [f. SCARF *sb.*^{1}]

1. *trans.* To clothe, cover, or wrap with or as with a scarf or scarves; to invest with a scarf; † to blindfold.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. vi. 46 The sturdy Plough-man doth the soldier see, All scarfed with pide colours to the knee. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii. C 3, Why doth Adonis.. shun this Iuory girdle of my armes? To be thus scarft the dreadfull God of warre Would giue me conquered kingdomes. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 95 Claudius caused that of Augustus to be taken from the Theater of the Gladiators, that it might not ever be present at murther, or be alwayes scarfed. *a* 1640 J. DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 48 Slitely shadowed or scarft with a thin tinsell or Tirean vaile. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. xix, Bare Of foot, of limb, scarfed only round the loins. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Resignation* 5 Warriors..Scarf'd with the cross. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* VI. (1895) 280 Our three friends..duly scarfed and scarfpinned [etc.].

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 47 Come, seeling Night, Skarfe vp the tender Eye of pittifull Day. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres of Sion* 18 Scarff'd in a rosie Cloud, Hee doth ascend the Aire. *c* 1640 ROWLEY, etc. *Witch of Edmonton* II. ii, Blushing Adonis scarft in modesties. 1814 CARY *Dante, Hell* XXXIII. 92 Others skarf'd in rugged folds of ice. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* XXXI. 309 The great sun is still shining, though it be scarfed by earthly vapours. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 112 Who scarfed her with the morning?

2. To wrap (a garment) *about* or *around* a person in the manner of a scarf. Also *transf.* *rare.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. ii. 13 Vp from my cabin My seagowne scarft about me in the darke, Grop'd I to finde out them. 1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. I 3 b, My fingers Il'e intangle in these curles, And scarfe my Iuory arme about thy necke. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* IX. 256 On the earth the chieftain slept, His mantle scarft around him. 1807 — *Espriella's Lett.* II. 252 They..had a large mantle of gray checquered cloth scarft round them.

†**3.** To bind up (wounds) with, or as with a scarf; ? to place (a limb) in a sling. *Obs.*

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 161 Wee scarifie them, we scarfe them not. 1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. late Popish Articles* 25 Let them shift themselues, as they list, and skarfe their soares, according to their fancies. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XLIV. 2 Had it been fit for him to scarfe their bones before they were set.

Scarf (skāɪf), *v.*^{2} Also 7 **scarfe**, **scarff**, **skarf**, 8–9 **scarph**. [f. SCARF *sb.*^{2}]

1. *trans.* To join by a scarf-joint.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 3 Those are skarfed into the ground timbers. 1643 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xlviii. § 530 The Joyner plaineth plankes..he skarfeth and ioyneth them close with culver-tailes. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., Thus they say the Stem of a Ship is *Scarfed* into her Keel; and they imply by it, That the two Peices are shaped away slanting, so as to join with one another close and even. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 42 Timbers, properly scarphed together. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 285/1 Tye-beams..were formed almost wholly of short lengths, averaging not more than 20 feet, lapped and scarfed. 1850 LONGF. *Building Ship* 137 The keel of oak for a noble ship, Scarfed and bolted. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XX. 186/1 The several pieces are scarphed together.

b. (See quot.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Scarf*, But when the ends of the two pieces [of timber] are cut square, and put together, they are said to *butt* to one another; and when another piece is laid upon, and fastened to both, as in the case in all frame timbers, this is called scarfing the timbers; and half the piece which fastens the two timbers together is reckoned the length of the scarf.

2. *Metal-working.* To bevel or flatten (the ends or edges of the pieces of metal to be welded).

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 188 The extremities of each bar are scarfed. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 211 MR. Bertram scarfs the edges of the plates, places them together [etc.]. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 303/1 Scarf it for welding.

3. *intr.* To be joined with a scarf. Const. *to.*

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 35 The inner end of the boom, to which it scarfs with a tongue. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XX. 185/2 The foremost end of the keelson scarphs to the stemson.

Scarf (skāɪf), *v.*^{3} *Whaling.* [f. SCARF *sb.*^{5}] *trans.* To make a 'scarf' or incision in the blubber of (a whale). Also *absol.*

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xxv. 182 The heavers singing, the blubber-room gentlemen coiling, the mates scarfing, the ship straining, and all hands swearing occasionally. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 278/1 The second mate 'scarfs', or cuts the body blubber.

Scarf-bolt, incorrect form of SCARP-BOLT.

Scarfe: see SCAFF.

Scarfed (skāɪft; *poet.* skāːrfĕd), *ppl. a.*^{1} [f. SCARF *v.*^{1} + -ED.] Invested with a scarf; wearing a scarf; also, decorated with or as with scarfs.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 15 The skarfed barke puts from her natiue bay. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. xii. 356 Scarfed tricolor Municipals. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. xiv. 269 Their fire pelted straight into the group of the scarfed Deputies.

Scarfed (skāːɪft), *ppl. a.*^{2} [f. SCARF *v.*^{2} + -ED^{1}.] Joined by means of a scarf. *Scarfed joint* = SCARF *sb.*^{2} 1.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Skarfed*, the Sea Term, when one Peice of Timber is let and fastned into another. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. I. 170/2 Scarfed tie-beams. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. xxv, Tear up the deck, the severed planks bear off, Disjoin the well-scarfed timbers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 652 The joint is what is denominated a half-lap, or scarfed joint.

†**Scarfing**, *vbl. sb.*^{1} *Obs.* [f. SCARF *v.*^{1} + -ING^{1}.] *concr.* A covering network.

1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court*, To euery one of which, was tackt a Scarffing of Siluer; that ran sinuously in workes ouer the whole caparison.

Scarfing (skāːfiŋ), *vbl. sb.*^{2} [f. SCARF *v.*^{2}]

1. The action of joining by means of scarfs.

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 89 So when the stem or any other timber..is too short, it is peeced in this manner, and that they call scarffing. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Assembler*, to unite the several pieces of a ship, as by..scarfing, scoring, tenenting, &c. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 280 Scarfing, is..the art of connecting two pieces of timber together, in such a manner as to appear like one piece. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 247 To Sir Robert Seppings we owe the device known as 'scarphing'.

b. *concr.*

1671 PHILLIPS, *Skarfing*, (in Navigation) is one piece of wood let into another, or so much wood cut away from the one as the other. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 54 *note*, A.. draught..in which..the places and nature of the scarfing or joinings [could be] distinguished. 1847 G. A. SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 79, Fig. 17 is a representation of a scarfing, which is very simple. 1908 CRADOCK *Whispers fr. Fleet* 108 The fore and aft thwarts that strengthen the sailing thwart are called scarping [*sic.*].

†**Scarfing**, *vbl. sb.*^{3} [f. SCARF *sb.*^{3} + -ING^{1}.] = SCARPING.

1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 129 He will..repair with good Scarfing the Walls or Banks belonging to the Levels.

Scarfing (skāːfiŋ), *ppl. a.*^{1} [f. SCARF *v.*^{1} + -ING^{2}.] Enveloping like a scarf.

1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 48 For Earth's bosom pants, and heaves her scarfing sea.

Scarfing, *ppl. a.*^{2} [f. SCARF *v.*^{2} + -ING^{2}.] That scarfs, or serves as a longitudinal tie.

1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* i. 9 The builders afterwards applied a short scarphing keelson-piece. *Ibid.*, The side keelsons..had to be strengthened in a similar manner, except that the scarphing angle-irons had no plate between them.

Scarf-skin. [SCARF *sb.*^{1}, in the sense of light outer covering.] The outer layer of the skin; the epidermis, cuticle.

1625 [see CUTICLE 1]. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xi. 215 The blackness lay in the epidermis, or scarf-skin, which was burnt up like leather. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 660 Not a hair Ruffled upon the scarf-skin. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 382/2 The first operation to which they [sc. hides] are subjected is depilation, which removes, not only the hair, but also the scarf-skin.

b. *transf.*

1669 *Addr. Young Gentry of Eng.* 53 Raise up but the skarfe skin which covers this fine mould. 1796 *New Ann. Reg.* 144 By making four or five small longitudinal incisions with a sharp-pointed knife..on one side only of the head or pod, just through the scarf-skin. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xi. (1857) 175 Let us..strip the vast landscape here of its upper integuments,..beginning first with the vegetable mould—the scarf-skin of the country.

†**Scarfways**, *adv. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SCARF *sb.*^{1} + WAY *sb.* with adverbial *s.*] = next.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxvii, Thus went he out in a faire long-skirted jacket, putting his frock scarfewayes athwart his breast.

Scarf-wise (skāːɪfwəiz), *adv.* [f. SCARF *sb.*^{1} + -WISE.] In the manner of a scarf; passing from the shoulder across the breast and tied beneath the arm. Cf. F. *en écharpe*.

1581 GOLDWEL in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1788) II. 129 A scrowle or band of silver, which came scarfe-wise over the shoulder, and so downe under the arme. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. iii. II. 462 Let them have their chains of gold as large as they list under their arms or crosse over their sides, scarfe-wise. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xl. 160 Great chains of gold scarf-wise about them. 1900 *Daily News* 26 Nov. 7/4 A wide red ribbon with green edges athwart his chest scarfwise.

†**Scarfy**, *a. Obs.* [f. SCARF *sb.*^{1} + -Y.] Resembling a scarf. *Scarfy skin* = SCARF-SKIN.

1611 COTGR., *Escharpeux*, scarfie. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 511 Alasse you frowne, and pull a scarfie Clowd ouer your diuine face to hide your fauour from me. 1744 tr. *Boerhaave's Inst.* III. 295 Over all these is extended the Cuticle or scarfy Skin.

Scarfyre, obs. variant of SCAREFIRE.

Scarification (skæːrifikēɪˈʃən). Also 5 **scarificacioun**, 6 **scaryfycacyon**, **skarificacion**, 7 **scarrification**. [ad. late L. *scarificātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *scarificāre* to SCARIFY. Cf. F. *scarification* (1314 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The action of scarifying; an instance of this.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 86 Latynge of blood, noght by openynge of veynes, but by scarificacioun of fflesch. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* III. viii. (1541) 61 In what member the bloud is gathered, the body being fyrst pourged by scarification, the grefe maye be cured. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. XXVII. I. 545, I cannot omit one manner of cure by way of Scarification. For when the bark is poore and leane [etc.]. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. x. 101 Also cupping with scarification of the Neck and Shoulders. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 47 These Scarifications procured..a Discharge of Serum. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* XXI, While his chin sustained from the razor literal scarification. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 496 In massive swellings of the tongue and throat relief has been given by scarification.

fig. 1881 J. H. INGRAM *Poe's Wks.* I. Mem. 34 He began that system of literary scarification—that crucial dissection of bookmaking mediocrities, which [etc.].

2. *concr.* A slight incision or a number of slight incisions made by scarifying.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* O j b, Ye ought to make certayne scaryfycacyons very depe with the rasour. 1562 BULLEIN *Dial. Sorenes & Chir.* 17 Laie upon the same skarificacion baie Salte. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 363/2 Therby shall the scarifications be kept open. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 350 They..make incisions in their face, then laying gum on a fire, hold over their faces that smoak may colour the scarifications. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 238 Whose ..face was rendered more disagreeable..by deep scarifications of the small-pox.

Scarificator (skæːrifikēɪˈtəɪ). [a. mod.L. *scarificātor* (F. *scarificateur*, Paré 16th c.), f. late L. *scarificāre* to SCARIFY.]

1. *Surg.* An instrument used in scarification, for making several incisions simultaneously.

1611 COTGR., *Scarificateur*, a Scarificator, or Scarifier; an Instrument wherein there are 18 sharpe wheeles, the which let goe at once doe scarifie, and make incision, in as many seuerall places. 1634 H. CROOKE *Expl. Instr. Chirurg.* xxxii. 54 For this purpose Pareus hath an instrument which he calleth the Scarificator. It is a box wherein are fastened many rownd wheeles as it were, sharpe as phlegmes, which [etc.]. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) II. 402 This Eye-brush, or Scarificator. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* X. 115 The useful scarificators devised by C. Mayer.

b. (See quot.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Scarificator*,..an instrument with a blunt edge, used chiefly in the operation of tooth-extraction, for separating the gum from the tooth.

c. A lancet for scarifying the skin.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 434 The scarificator may be contaminated by contact with one person under the influence of syphilis and convey the disease to the next.

†**2.** *Agric.* = SCARIFIER 3. *Obs.*

1776 BOWDEN *Farmer's Director* 12 By cutting the surface of the meadow with an instrument called a scarificator. 1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Orkney* 67 The scarificator being afterwards, at seed time, used to loosen the soil, if necessary.

3. One who scarifies; = SCARIFIER 1.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 84 What tho' the scarificators work upon him [a man mortally ill] day by day?

Scarified (skæːrifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. SCARIFY *v.* + -ED^{1}.] In senses of the vb.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 126 As a cupping-glasse draweth blood out of a Scarified place of the body. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* 67 With a face and skinne as scarified as that body before an Almanack. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 120/1 These [glasses] being placed upon the scarified parts. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Boerland* 185 Some soothing ointment applied to my scarified limbs.

Scarifier (skæ·rifəiəɹ). [f. SCARIFY *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who or something which scarifies. *lit.* and *fig.*

1566 SECURIS *Detection* D ij b, Playster makers, clyster geuers, scarifiers, letters out of bloud, &c. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 79 Cicatrizers, or 'Scarrifyers'. 1855 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 403, I have almost finished No. 3, in which I have relieved my indignant soul with a scarifier. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xvi, There is an air of fashion in everything which Digges writes,..which makes me pretty certain that D. was my scarifier.

2. = SCARIFICATOR 1.

1611 in COTGR.; and in later Dicts.

3. *Agric.* An implement for loosening the soil.

1797 BILLINGSLEY *View Agric. Somerset* 278, His [Rev. J. Cooke's] instruments called the scuffler, and scarifier, are the best contrivances I ever beheld, for the pulverization of the soil. 1880 J. W. HILL *Guide Agric. Implements* 472 Improved four-wheel wrought iron lever Scarifiers.

4. *Road-making.* A machine used for breaking up a road. Cf. SCARIFY *v.* 3 b.

1892 *Daily News* 21 Oct. 5/5 Our new acquaintance 'the scarifier', whose operations when the roadway of the Thames Embankment is remaking attract so much attention. 1901 *Athenæum* 1 June 697/2 Scarifiers..appear to have been first introduced in England in 1884; and these machines form very valuable adjuncts to steam rolling.

Scarify (skæ·rifəi), *v.* Also 6–8 **scarrify.** [a. F. *scarifier* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *scarificāre*, altered form of *scarifāre* to scarify, ad. Gr. σκαριφᾶσθαι, recorded in the senses 'to scratch an outline, sketch lightly, to do anything slightly or slovenly' (L. & Sc.), f. σκάριφ-os pencil, stilus.]

1. *trans.* (chiefly *Surg.*) To make a number of scratches or slight incisions in (a portion of the body, a wound). Hence *gen.* to cover with scratches.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* F iv, Yf it appere pale, ..it must be scarified and made to blede. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 43 You me byd, O Princesse, to scarrify a festered old soare. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. vii. II. 440 Divers..with foure..teeth of this serpent, scarifie the gums of the upper chaw, in case the teeth therein doe ake. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Scarifie*, to launce, or open a sore. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 19 By Insiculping, Scarrifying, and making a kind of Incision into it. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. ix, The captain..had his veins scarified. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xxxix. (1779) II. 28 Fixing her nails in his antagonist's face, she scarified all one side of his nose. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 552 They shaved their hair, and scarified their faces. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* xiii. (1878) 459 The body was scarified in horizontal bands. 1876 *Trans. Clin. Soc.* IX. 169 These places were accordingly scarified under the ether spray. 1908 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 118 The local pain..[should be] relieved by cold applications, poultices, scarifying the skin [etc.].

transf. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xi. 198 If I offend her, she's sure to scarify my throat with black pepper the next day.

b. *fig.* To make sore, wound. Also, in mod. use, to subject to merciless criticism.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 Theese woords theyre valiant courradge dooe scarrifye deeply. 1714 *Spect.* No. 595 ¶ 6 You have Quartered all the foul Language upon me, that could be raked out of..Billingsgate, without knowing ..whether I deserve to be Cupped and Scarified at this rate. 1721 (*title*) Medicina Flagellata, or the Doctor scarify'd. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. ii, There..he..cut up a rising genius..or scarified some unhappy wretch. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 13 Sept. 4/4 Next week he will be heard at Northampton, whither he goes to scarify the Tories.

c. *transf.* (? Associated with SCAR *sb.*) To cover with scars, to scar.

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2271/4 A Chesnut Gelding..., scarrified with the Farcie in both his hind Legs. 1697 *Ibid.* No. 3318/4 A Bay Nag with the near Flank a little Scarrified with some former hurt. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 540 Mount Monadnock..is scarified from top to bottom on its northern and western sides.

¶ **d.** App. misused for: To anoint (a wound).

1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlix. (1612) 226 Which had scarrifide our wounds, if wounded, with the Balme Of her sweete Presence. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 78 Then scarifie the wound with that oyntment, till it be wrought in.

2. To make incisions in the bark of (a tree).

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 601 The turgent trunk let scarifie, That humour effluent out of hit hie. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* III. xvii. 98 Boring the stock, or scarrifying it round about. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Garden.* § 7455 As the trees get old..or infected with canker,..or rottenness, they are scarified. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 326 Every tree..was scarified for turpentine. 1887 LADY BRASSEY *Last Voy.* xiii. (1889) 300 The vineyards [Australia]..were not in their best looks, having only just been scarified, as the process is called. It means cutting off the branches and reducing the vines to small and ugly bushes, destitute of leaves at this season.

3. a. *Agric.* To break up or loosen (ground) with a scarifier. **b.** *Road-making.* (Cf. quot. 1817 and SCARIFIER 4.)

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 21 Instruments..for scarifying and stirring the earth between the rows of drilled crops. *Ibid.* 468 Scarifying the corn, first operation. 1817 in *Repert. Arts*, etc. XXXII. 232 Secondly, a harrow, which is intended to scarify the uneven parts of any road, leaving it even after the operation, previous to the use of the great roller. 1893 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 822 Scarify or cultivate the stubble as soon as possible.

absol. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 196 Skerrify [*sic*] and harrow two or three times over each field.

Hence **Sca·rifying** *vbl. sb.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 53 b, Letting of bloude, scarifieng callid cupping, sweating, &c. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* Pref. § 10 It being too probable that this is Gods last experiment upon us, like the causticks and scarifyings to a lethargic patient. 1783 CULLEN *First Lines Physic* § CCXCV. Wks. 1827 II. 32 To draw blood..by cupping and scarifying. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* II. 74 He contracts to do their ploughing and scarifying at so much per acre.

attrib. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 363/2 Scarifye the skinne of the tumor with scarifyinge instrumentes. 1865 *Morn. Star* 15 Mar., To try whether the scarifying process may not do more to bring South Carolina back to the Union than [etc.].

Sca·rily, *adv.* [f. SCARY *a.* + -LY 2.] Timidly.

1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* ix. 133 The light..was held scarily aloft above the head of an elderly woman.

Scaring (skēə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCARE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. SCARE.

1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 32 No scaring with dog. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 295 Scarring and debarring of the salmound fischeis. 1611 COTGR., *Espouentement*..a frighting, fraying, skaring. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Scares*, It is best to employ boys for the short time scaring is required.

Scaring (skēə·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCARE *v.* + -ING 2.] That scares; terrifying.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 64 As a tender Mother takes her Child and holds it over the pit with scarring words that it may learne to feare, where danger is. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 205 As a child, when scaring sounds molest, Clings close and closer to the mother's breast. 1813 COLERIDGE *Night-Scene* 37 A rude and scaring note, my friend! 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 207 Let not women be frightened by the scaring name.

† Sca·riole. *Obs.* Also 5 skariole, 6 scaryole. [ad. (through med.L.) It. *scariola* (whence F. *escarole, scarole*.] Broad-leaved endive.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 Wylde letus þat feldmen clepyn skarioles. 1422 *Ibid., Priv. Priv.* 244 Letus sauage, that is y-callid scariole. 1526 *Grete Herball* cl. (1529) I v, Endiuia is endyue...It is otherwyse called scaryole. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxvii. 222. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Scariole*, a kind of herb otherwise called broad leaved endive. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Syrup*, Two Leaves of Succory, Dandelion, Endive or Scariole.

Scariose (skēə·riōus), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod. L. *scariōsus*, of obscure origin.] = SCARIOUS.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxvi. (1794) 383 The scales in the Artichoke are scariose or ragged. 1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 21 Glumes scariose. 1881 BAKER in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 279 Stipules large, brown, deltoid, scariose.

† Scariot(h. *Obs.* Aphetic forms of ISCARIOT.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 49 Þei leden wiþ hem a scarioth stolen fro is eldris by þefte to robbe pore men bi beggynge. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* B iij b, Great cause hath now the Scariot to wepe & to bewaile it.

Scarious (skēə·riəs), *a.* [ad. F. *scarieux*, ad. mod.L. *scariōsus* SCARIOSE *a.*]

1. *Bot.* Having a dry and shrivelled appearance.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scarious*, dry and rigid, as if dead. 1819 *Pantologia, Scarious leaf*, in botany. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 261 The scarious perianth by which the Order [*Juncaceæ*] is distinguished from Liliaceæ. 1882 G. ALLEN in *Nature* 17 Aug. 372 The corolla is thin and scarious.

2. *Zool.* Dry, not fleshy.

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* I. 49 In some animals.. the tongue is scarious cartilaginous, or provided with a corneous investment. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 47 When the harder sorts of either scutella or plates are roughened without obvious elevation, the leg is said to be scabrous or scarious.

Scaritid (skæ·ritid), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Scaritēs*: see below.] Pertaining to the *Scaritini*, a tribe of ground-beetles of the family *Carabidæ*, typified by the genus *Scarites*. So **Scari·tidan,** a beetle of this tribe.

1837 KIRBY *Richardson's Fauna Bor.-Amer.* IV. 6 *Oxygnathus* De Jean, and some of the other Scaritidans. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Morio*, The genus pertains to the scaritid section of *Carabidæ*.

† Sca·rkle, *v. Obs. rare* −1. [Cf. DISPARPLE, DISPARKLE *vbs.*] *trans.* To scatter, disperse.

c 1450 *Roll in 3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1872) 280/1 For therby be the Frensshemenne riched, the Englishmenne povered; they mightly recured of men & peple, we distroied; they to gader, we assundred scarkeled.

Scarlad, scarlat, obs. ff. SCARLET *sb.* and *a.*

† Scarla·tical, *a. nonce-wd.* Having the prejudices characteristic of those who wear the 'scarlet' of a doctor of divinity or law.

1672 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 243 Dr. Clerk..lazy and idle, scarlaticall.

Scarlatina (skāɹlătī·nă). *Path.* Also 9 scarlet(t)ina. [a. mod.L. *scarlatina* (Sydenham 1676), a. It. *scarlattina* (used by Lancelotti in 1527), fem. of *scarlattino* adj., dim. of *scarlatto* SCARLET. Cf. F. *scarlatine*, Sp., Pg. *escarlatina*.] = SCARLET FEVER. (Popularly often misapprehended as denoting a milder form of the disease than that designated by the vernacular term.)

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 455 Several children were..seized with the measles and scarlatina. 1813 WILBERFORCE *Let.* in *Life* (1838) IV. 131 One of our children having had the Scarlettina. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 300 Persons suffering from scarlatina. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Victory* III. i. 16 She looks as if she were going to a ball; or going to have the scarlatina.

allusively 1823 MOORE *Fables Holy Alliance* 49 Woe to Kings when Freedom's fever Once turns into a Scarletina!

Scarlatinal (skāɹlătī·năl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Belonging to, or resulting from, scarlatina.

1861 GRAHAM *Pract. Med.* 683 Hence, for want of caution at this time we may have the scarlatinal dropsy. 1878 L. BROWNE *Throat & Dis.* 137 In scarlatinal sore throat the local differences are not so well marked.

Scarlatiniform (skāɹlătī·nifōɹm), *a.* [f. SCARLATIN-A + -(I)FORM.] Resembling the rash or eruption of scarlatina.

1866 FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 1042 A scarlatiniform eruption. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 65 Eruptions of toxic character, erythematous, scarlatiniform [etc.].

Scarlatinine (skāɹlătī·nin). [f. SCARLATIN-A + -INE.] The hypothetical infectious principle of scarlatina.

1864 FARR in *Rep. Reg. Gen.* Suppl. 34 When any zymotic matter such as varioline, scarlatinine or typhine finds its way into a village or street, it is more likely to pass from house to house. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 164 A toxine has been extracted from the urine, of which the chemical composition has been ascertained, and to which the name Scarlatinine has been given.

Scarlatinoid (skāɹlătī·noid), *a.* and *sb.* [-OID.] **a.** *adj.* Having the appearance of scarlatina. **b.** *sb.* One of a group of Erythemas which closely resemble scarlatina.

1886 FAGGE *Princ. Med.* (1888) I. 172 A diffused scarlatinoid eruption. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 464 The first group which they call Puteoloids and Scarlatinoids comprises the erythemas which simulate the erythematous eruptive fevers in all their stages.

Scarlatinous (skāɹlătī·nəs), *a.* [f. SCARLATIN-A + -OUS.] Affected with scarlatina.

1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 141 Scarlatinous tonsils.

Scarlatte, obs. form of SCARLET *sb.* and *a.*

† Scarle. *Obs.* Also 5 skerel(e. [Earlier *skerel*, f. *skerre* SCARE *v.*: see -EL.] A scarecrow.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skerel, *larva* [*c* 1460 Winch., skerele]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 321/2 A scarle or visern, *larua*.

Scarless (skā·ɹlĕs), *a.* [f. SCAR *sb.*1 + -LESS.]

1. Showing no scar; lacking blemish.

1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres of Sion* D 2, Amidst that Masse of Ruines they did make, Safe and all scarreless yet remaines my Minde. 1863 *Possib. Creation* 103 The living canvass..is..as scarless and unsullied, as if it had never been touched by the burning pencils of the sun. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. xii. 226 His pride in appearing woundless and scarless.

2. Leaving no scar.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. lxxxii, Escaping with a few slight scarless sneers.

Scarlet (skā·ɹlĕt), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 3–7 **scarlat, skarlet,** 4 **scarleit, scharlette,** 4–6, 8 **scarlett,** 5 **scarlatte, scarlad, skarlot,** 5–6 **scarlot, skarlat,** 5, 8 **skarlett,** 6 **scarlette, skarlette, skarlote, skerlyt,** 3– **scarlet.** [Aphetic a. OF. *escarlate* sb. fem. (mod.F. *écarlate*) = Pr. *escarlat* masc., *-ata* fem. In Fr. and Pr. recorded from the 12th c.; the other Rom. forms are later: Sp., Pg. *escarlate, -ata*, It. *scarlatto*, med.L. *scarlat(ĕ)um, -a, scarlettum* (1204 in *Excerpta Historica* 393). In Teut. the word appears as ON. *skarlat, skallat*, MHG. *scharlât*, early mod.Flem. *schaerlat*; also, with etymologizing alteration (cf. LAKE *sb.*5), MHG. *scharlach(en*, MLG., Du. *scharlaken* (whence Da. *skarlagen*, Sw. *skarlakan*, Icel. *skarlak, skarlakan*). From It. are prob. mod. Gr. σκαρλάτον, Church Slav. *skrŭlato*, Serbian *skrlet*, Turk. *iskerlet*.

If the OHG. *scarlahhan*, in a gloss explained as 'shorn cloth' (*rasilis*) be identical with this word (the interpretation as well as the form being due to popular etymology), it is the earliest evidence of its existence. It is hardly possible that this OHG. word can be the source of the Rom. forms. The prevailing view is that OF. *escarlate* is an alteration of Pers. سقلات *saqalāt, siqalāt, suqlāt*, a kind of rich cloth, a derivative of which appears as CICLATOUN. (The form سقرلاط *saqirlāt*, given in some Arabic dictionaries, is modern and prob. adopted from some European language.)]

A. *sb.*

1. †a. In early use, some rich cloth, often of a bright red colour, but (according to Fr., MDu., and med.L. sources) also sometimes of other colours, as 'pers', blue, green, brown. *Obs.* **b.** In later use, cloth or clothing of the colour described in 2.

†*Scarlet in grain* (*s. engreyned, grayned s.*, etc.): cloth fast dyed of a scarlet colour (cf. GRAIN *sb.*1 10 and INGRAIN *a.*). It is doubtful whether 'scarlet and grene', frequently occurring in ME. poetry in descriptions of splendid attire, originated in a misunderstanding of this phrase.

c 1250 *Death* 10 in *O. E. Misc.* 168 Ze þat sittet i-schrud wiþ skarlet and wiþ palle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6390 A robe he let him ssape uerst of blod red scarlet þere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4987 Hy clothen hem with grys and ermyne With golde and siluer and skarlet pers fyne. 13.. *Reinbrun* v, Scarlet and grene wel y-wrouȝt. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 25463 (Fairf.) Nauþer aske I skarlet ne grene Ne purtraied stede. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4464 And we han her scarletes & grene, & clopes of tarse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 16 His rode is lyk scarlet in grayn. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3459 And one he henttis a hode of scharlette fulle riche. 14.. *Guy of Warw.* 8996 Hys lymmes were bare and euyll beseyn, That some tyme were clad in scarlet in greyne. *a* 1420 *Wyclif's N. T., Rev.* xviii. 16 Wo! wo! thilke greet citee, that was clothid with bijs and purpur, and reed scarlet. 1480 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 438 The seid Recordor answered & saide that they shuld not be relesed þerof for þe best pece of scarlet in Englond. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* ix. 23 Huon toke hys cloke of skerlat & wrappyd it about hys arme. 1545 *Rates Custom ho.* d vj b, In primus a brode cloth payeth xii. **A**

scarlette xxxiiii. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 52 b, The Mayre of London..appareled in orient grayned Skarlet. 1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 31 Ships bring cloth of Woull, Scarlets, Veluets, Opium and Chickenes. 1649 J. MASTER *Daily Expense-bk.* 4 Aug., For 4 ya & half of right french scarlet at 45*s*. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 96 Sattins, damasks, scarlets, cobweb-lawns [etc.]. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 123 An Ambassador, whose robes are lined with a scarlet dyed in the blood of Judges. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 501 Then the trumpets blew Proclaiming his the prize, who wore the sleeve Of scarlet, and the pearls.

2. A brilliant vivid red colour, inclining to orange.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/2 Scarlet, colowre, *lutus*. 1530 PALSGR. 265/2 Scarlet a reed colour. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Weeping Cherry*, Which rubies, corals, scarlets, all For tincture, wonder at. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. iv. § 11 His Friend demanding what Scarlet was? the blind Man answered, It was like the sound of a Trumpet. *a* 1734 R. NORTH *Life John North* (1742) 237 Scarlet was commonly called the King's Colour. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 29 This moveable structure of shelves,..Where flaming in scarlet and gold My poems enchanted I view. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. iii. § 24. 53 In this chord the scarlet is the most powerful colour. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 68 A riot of scarlet on gold, the red poppy of our native fields tosses heavy tresses with gipsy *abandon*.

b. A pigment or dye of this colour. In recent use also *spec.*, any one of a certain group of coal-tar colouring matters used in scarlet pigments and dyes.

1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* (1678) 333 A ship laden with Persian Carpets, and the ingredients of the rich Scarlet. 1672 W. S. *Polygraphice* 178 For a Scarlet. Take Vermilion, and deepen it with Lake or Indian Red. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxi, He had already a high reputation in the district for his dyes, and he was bent on discovering some method by which he could reduce the expense of crimsons and scarlets. 1862 O'NEILL *Dict. Calico Print. & Dyeing* 61 The best scarlets are still obtained from cochineal alone as colouring matter. 1886 tr. *Benedikt's Chem. Coal-tar Colours* 198 The scarlets have replaced cochineal to a considerable extent in wool-dyeing.

3. Official or ceremonial costume of scarlet, as the uniform of a soldier, the gown or robe of a doctor of divinity or law, a judge, a cardinal, etc.; also, the scarlet coat worn in the hunting field (= PINK *sb.* 6). Hence *occas.* the rank, dignity, or office signified by a scarlet robe.

1496 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. Var. Coll.* (1907) IV. 212 All they of the xxiiij that hath be maire shall ride in scarlett ayenste the Kynge. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 81 For Fortune may as then, make kings as pleaseth her: Since she the riche and noble men, to scarlets can prefer. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, This Summer He will be of the Clothing of his company. And, next spring, call'd to the Scarlet. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 110 The Lord Maior with his confraternity of Aldermen also mounted and in their Scarlets. 1685 RYCAUT *Contn. Lives Popes* 16 After this he made little account of his Scarlet, or degree of Cardinal. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 311 White Kennett..sometimes waited on Dr. Wallis to Church with his skarlett. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 38 The splendid Fortunes and the beauteous Face..Too soon are caught by Scarlet and by Lace. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 147/3 A good man in scarlet is down at the first fence. 1891 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* (1896) 17 What mayor shall rule the hall we built? Whose scarlet sweep the floor?

4. †**a.** One who wears a scarlet uniform or insignia; e. g. a judge. *Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. viii. 18 Open Rebukes are for Magistrates, and Courts of Iustice: for Stelled Chambers, and for Scarlets, in the thronged Hall. *c* 1683 *Restoration* in *Villiers* (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1775) 103 Do the Lords bow, and the regarded Scarlets, Kiss their gam'd goles, and cry we are your servants?

b. *occas.* Persons clothed in scarlet; men in the hunting field (cf. PINK *sb.* 6 b) or on the golf links; also soldiers in red uniform.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 353 The whole field was fairly pounded: I was one among the number, and consider myself a good bit of scarlet too. 1842 G. F. CARNEGIE *Golfiana* in R. Clark *Golf* (1875) 150 He whirls his club to catch the proper swing, And freely bets round all the scarlet ring. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXXV, Gay the files of scarlet follow.

†**5.** ? An aristocratic street ruffian, a Mohock.

1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 437, I expected to have seen her..encouraging the young bloods, bucks and scarlets at a riot in Drury-lane.

6. Short for *scarlet strawberry* (see B. 4 c).

1815 SIR JOS. BANKS in *Trans. Hort. Soc.* I. 55. 1824 J. BARNET *Ibid.* (1826) VI. 155 Princess Charlotte's Strawberry ..is perhaps the richest of all the Scarlets. 1828 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1830) VII. 345 Old Scarlet.

7. A small moth, *Erastria ostrina*.

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 97 The Scarlet (*E. ostrina*, Curtis) appears in June.

B. *adj.* (Originally the sb. used attrib.)

1. Having, or pertaining to, the colour scarlet (see A. 2).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 559 Therfore I made my visitacions...And wered vpon my gaye scarlet gytes. 1436 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 107 Also I wol that Iohn Melbourne haue my scarlet goune furred with martrouns. 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 415 He to come in..his Skarlat cloke furred. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xlvi, Purpour colour, punik and skarlote hewis. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 248 Sixe maides, all in one liuerie of skarlette petticotes. *a* 1633 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* II. vii. (1642) 110 He kept two or three tall fellowes in Skarlet Liveries. 1677 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 386 The chancellour,..and the rest of his retinew, put on scarlet habits. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. T.* 1 Apr., Mine [*sc.* a sofa] is of scarlet cloth, with a gold fringe. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 320 The sycamore, capricious in attire, Now green, now tawny, and ere autumn yet Have chang'd the woods, in scarlet honours bright. 1816 KEATS *To my Brother George* 130 The poppies show their scarlet coats. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 722 She also now had a scarlet eruption.

b. Clothed in scarlet, wearing a scarlet uniform or distinguishing dress.

1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 56 Out Tawney-Coates, out Scarlet Hypocrite. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 280 The invincible warriour Zeale shaking loosely the slack reins drives over the heads of Scarlet Prelats and such as are insolent to maintaine traditions. 1902 *Words of Eye-witness* 3 There is no more universally beloved individual in the world than this same scarlet Atkins.

c. Red with shame or indignation. †Also *transf.* blushing, indignant.

1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* xii. 222 Several times his face had become scarlet, and his eyes had fallen. 1881 W. H. MALLOCK *Rom. 19th Cent.* II. 120 She flushed scarlet. *transf.* 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 99 But ere the Crowne he lookes for, liue in peace, Ten thousand bloody crownes of Mothers Sonnes Shall ill become the flower of Englands face, Change the complexion of her Maid-pale Peace To Scarlet Indignation.

2. *fig.* **a.** Of an offence (after Isa. i. 18), hence *occas.* of an offender: Heinous, deep-dyed.

[1613 SHAKS. *K. Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 255 (To Wolsey) Thou scarlet sinne.] 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 206 Who doth forgive..even foul sins, crimson, scarlet iniquities, upon humiliation. 1656 SIR G. WHARTON *Hemerol., Proanaph.* 30 The Final cause [of earthquakes], is a sign of an Angry God, justly provoked by the Scarlet crimes of a sinful People. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 97 How preach up, as thou dost, Vertue and Moderation, when thy self art Scarlet deep tinged with the highest Crimes?

b. in allusions to the glaring effect of the colour.

1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 16 The deathblow which had been struck at scarlet vice and bloated hypocrisy.

3. General combinations: **a.** parasynthetic, as *scarlet-barred, -blossomed, -breasted, -circled, -coated, -coloured, -crested, -flowered, -haired, -moustached* adjs.; frequent in specific names of animals and plants.

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 227 The *Scarlet Barred Gold (*Lampronia sanguinella*, Stephens). 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 178 The well-known *scarlet-blossomed currant. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* II. 121 *Scarlet-breasted Parrot...Inhabits New-Holland. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 116 His purple crest, and *scarlet-circled eyes. 1693 R. DUKE in *Dryden's Juvenal* iv. (1697) 78 So many Sesterces were swallow'd down, To stuff one *Scarlet-coated Court Buffoon. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1619) II. 317 The citie of Rome..may shew her selfe to bee indeed that *Scarlet-coloured Harlot, described by John in his Reuelation. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Lychnis*, The lesser *scarlet flowered Constantinople lychnis. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 419/1 The *Scarlet-Haired Poppy. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 192 Bill dark; *scarlet-crested, *scarlet-moustached.

b. qualifying the name of a colour, as *scarlet-crimson, -red, -vermilion*.

1882 *Garden* 7 Oct. 312/2 Of older self-flowers..Joseph Green, bright *scarlet-crimson. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 456 Hir hosen weren of fyn *scarlet reed. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 13 A goodly Lady clad in scarlot red. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 510 She saw the Place where Jesus bled, And dy'd the Turff of Scarlet-red. 1882 *Garden* 29 July 104/2 It has flowers..of bright scarlet-red hue. *Ibid.* 25 Mar. 196/2 Many drooping flowers..of a brilliant *scarlet-vermilion hue.

4. Special collocations: **scarlet-day**, †**scarlet-gown day**, an occasion in university or civic life observed by the public wearing of state or official robes of scarlet; †**scarlet-grain**, = ALKERMES 1, cf. KERMES; **scarlet lady, whore, woman**, abusive epithets applied to the Church of Rome in allusion to Rev. xvii. 1–5; **Scarlet Lancers**, nickname for the 16th Lancers, from their distinctive red tunic; **scarlet rash**, a scarlet eruption, symptomatic of certain diseases; **scarlet ward**, a part of a fever hospital reserved for patients suffering from scarlet fever.

1632–33 in *Publ. Colon. Soc. Mass.* VIII. 361 [That the lecturer should preach on all the] *scarlet days, as they name them. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ-Fil.* No. 39 (1726) II. 51 He preached it upon a scarlet day, when the vice-chancellor and all the doctors go to church in red. 1888 *Daily News* 11 June 5/7 In University parlance it was a Scarlet Day. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 23) 663* The *Scarlet-Gown Days in the University of Oxford. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. XXX. 1158 The Oke which beareth the *scarlet graine is a small tree. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. IX. II. 280 The berrie Coccum Gnidium, in colour resembleth the Scarlet graine. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Peter Plymley's Lett.* ii, I will not dispute with you whether the Pope be or be not the *Scarlet Lady of Babylon. 1873 *Punch* 23 Aug. 72/2 Let us be just even to the Scarlet Lady. 1885 'J. S. WINTER' (*title*) Bootles' Baby: a story of the *Scarlet Lancers. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 16 The *angina gangrænosa* (sore throat with *scarlet-rash) usually commences in the winter or the spring. 1888 HONNOR MORTEN *Sk. Hosp. Life* 51 The laconic order, 'To the *Scarlet Ward', is given. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 1 The *Scarlet-whore of Babylon spawn'd it with her menstruous profluviums. 1709 *Tatler* No. 190 ¶ 2 Nor yet did that Epistle at all come unto thee from the Mansion-House of the Scarlet Whore. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* II. iii. 10 *note*, I have seen her somewhere called the *Scarlet Woman. 1867 LOWELL *Gt. Publ. Char.* Wks. 1890 II. 274 The latter old lady [*sc.* the Church of Rome] may be the Scarlet Woman, or the Beast with ten horns, if you will.

b. In names of birds, insects, etc.: **scarlet cantharis**, a beetle, *Cantharis cardinalis*; **scarlet finch**, *Fringilla coccinea* (Shaw); **scarlet grosbeak**, the Cardinal-bird; **scarlet ibis**, *Eudocimus ruber*, a bird congeneric with the typical Ibis, native in tropical America; **scarlet lory**, a name given to several birds of the Parrot-tribe; **scarlet macaw**, *Psittacus macao*, a parrot native in S. America and the West Indies; **scarlet mite**, *Trombidium holosericeum*; **scarlet mussel**, a shell-fish (see quot.); **scarlet snake**, a name applied to two colubriform snakes of tropical America (see quot.); **scarlet sparrow**, *Tanagra rubra*; **scarlet spoonbill**, *Platalea ajaja*; **scarlet tanager**, the RED BIRD, *Pyranga rubra*; **scarlet tiger (moth)**, *Hypercampa dominula*.

1806 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VI. 81 One of the most elegant insects of this genus is the *Scarlet Cantharis. 1783 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* III. 270 *Scarlet Finch...Inhabits Sandwich Islands. 1837 GOULD *Birds of Europe* III. Pl. 206 *Scarlet Grosbeak. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 458 *Scarlet Ibis. 1751 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* IV. 172 The *Scarlet Lory. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 533 *Psittacus grandis*..Scarlet Lory. *Ibid.* 386 The *Scarlet Macaw. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 492 The little *scarlet mite..(*Trombidium holosericeum*). 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5022 The *Scarlet-Mustle, having a purple-vein, which being prickt with a needle yeilds a perfect Purple or Scarlet Juyce that will not be washt out of the Linnen died therewith. 1842 HOLBROOK *N. Amer. Herpet.* III. 127 *Rhinostoma coccinea*...The Scarlet Snake. *Ibid.*, The 'Couleuvre écarlate' (Scarlet Snake) of Bosc is quite another animal, doubtless the *Calamaria elapsoidea*. 1764 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* III. 278 The *Scarlet Sparrow. 1819 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* XI. 642 *Scarlet Spoonbill. 1808–13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 226 *Scarlet Tanager. 1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 42 The *Scarlet Tiger (*Hypercampa Dominula*, Stephens) appears in June.

c. In names of plants and fruits: **scarlet banana**, *Musa coccinea*; **scarlet-bean** = *scarlet runner*; **scarlet cardinal-flower**, **scarlet lobelia**, *Lobelia cardinalis* (see CARDINAL-FLOWER); **scarlet convolvulus**, *Ipomæa coccinea*; **scarlet geranium**, a pelargonium with scarlet blossoms, largely used as a bedding-plant (see GERANIUM 2 and PELARGONIUM); **scarlet maple**, *Acer rubrum*; **scarlet oak**, *Quercus coccinea* (see OAK 1 b); also †the Holm Oak, *Quercus Ilex*; **scarlet painted-cup** (see PAINTED *ppl. a.* 4); **scarlet pea** (see quot.); **scarlet pimpernel**, *Anagallis arvensis* (see PIMPERNEL 3 and 3 b); **scarlet runner (bean)**, *Phaseolus multiflorus* (cf. BEAN 3); **scarlet sage**, *Salvia fulgens*, a native of Mexico (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884, 245); also *S. splendens*, a native of Brazil (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **scarlet seed**, a name of two tropical trees (see quot. 1866); **scarlet strawberry**, any cultivated variety of the Virginian Strawberry, *Fragaria virginiana*, having scarlet 'fruit'; **scarlet thorn**, *Cratægus coccinea*.

1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 29 The *scarlet banana. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Phaseolus*, The *Scarlet Bean. 1852 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 168 Some scarlet beans that were growing in his own piece of garden. 1698 *Scarlet Cardinal-Flower [see CARDINAL-FLOWER]. 1856 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. (1895) 253 Dream of that winding shore Where scarlet cardinals bloom—for me no more. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s.v. *Scarlet*, *Scarlet-Convolvulus. 1760 *Scarlet geranium [see GERANIUM 2]. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* vi. 162 There are few flowers of which the impression on the eye is more definitely of flat colour, than the scarlet geranium. 1874 *Scarlet lobelia [see LOBELIA]. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 79/2 The nursery-men usually call this species the cut-leaved *scarlet maple. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. XXX. 1159 For want of a fit English name, we haue thought good to christen it by the name of *Scarlet Oke, or Scarlet Holme Oke: for Ilex is named of some in English Holme. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 148 The Scarlet-Oak, or Holm. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 323/3 A specimen of the Scarlet Oak. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App. s.v. *Pea*, *Scarlet Pea,..the English name of a genus of plants, called by Linnæus *Glycine*. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 238 *Scarlet Pimpernel. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 3634 The *scarlet runner ranks first for its prolific property and long continuance in fruit. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 368 The *Scarlet-seed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Scarlet-Seed. *Ternstrœmia obovalis*, and *Lætia Thamnia*. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 256 The *scarlet strawberry. 1882 *Garden* 12 Aug. 145/3 The *scarlet Thorn.. is a bold, vigorous-growing American species.

Hence **Scarletness.** *rare.*

1611 FLORIO, *Scarletezza*, rednesse, scarletnesse.

†**Scarlet,** *v. Obs.* [f. SCARLET *sb.*] *trans.* To clothe in scarlet; to colour scarlet. Chiefly *passive*. Hence **Scarleted** *ppl. a.*, in quot. tinged with scarlet.

1553 BALE *Vocacyon* 10 The Idolatour, the tyraunt, and the whoremonger are no mete mynisters for hym, though they be neuer so..fynely forced, pylyoned, and scarletted. 1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 49 The whole earth is almost a purple Island, scarletted and redded with the bloud of Martyrs. 1685 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Religious Stoic* ii. 23 At which we should scarlet our cheeks with blushes. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. ix. (Roxb.) 382/1 Fine scarletted murrey.

†**Scarleteer.** *Obs.* [f. SCARLET *sb.* + -EER.] One clothed in scarlet, as a soldier in uniform, or a doctor in the gown of his degree.

1637 N. WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 142 Then say (faire Lady) truth I doe not jeere, Will you be wedded to a scarleteere? 1677 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 386 The chancellour, with the bedells before him and the scarleteers after him.

Sca·rlet fe·ver. A contagious febrile disease, distinguished by a scarlet efflorescence of the skin and of the mucous membrane of the mouth and pharynx. Also known as SCARLATINA.

1676 JAS. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* VI. ii. (1685) 214 The first and last [*i.e.* Small-Pox and Rossalia] of these were in Warwick at the writing hereof; the last going under the name of Scarlet Fever. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 227 Whenever the Scarlet-fever becomes epidemic among adults, children rarely fail being attacked by it in great numbers. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i, Poor Miss Birch died of the scarlet fever. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 156 Down to the sixteenth or seventeenth century scarlet fever was confounded with measles.

b. An instance or an attack of this disease. *rare.*

1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* I. i, He had rather see his daughter in a scarlet fever than in the arms of a soldier. 1870–2 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. § 1, [He] will be..as well as another who may have happily survived a scarlet fever.

†**Sca·rletite.** *nonce-wd.* [f. SCARLET *sb.* + -ITE.] One who hunts in scarlet (see SCARLET *sb.* 3).

1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 426 The wagons..were..some of them occupied by scarletites from Melton.

Scar·let·y. *nonce-wd.* [f. SCARLET *sb.* + -Y.] Having a tinge of scarlet.

1840 RUSKIN *Diary* 23 Aug. in *Harrison* (1902) 53 Note the intense scarletty purple of the shattered larch stems.

Scarling, Scarlot: see SKIRLING, SCARLET.

Scarmesh, -mige, -moge, -m(o)uch(e, etc., obs. forms of SKIRMISH *sb.* and *v.*

Scarn, Scarnes(se, obs. ff. SCORN, SCARCENESS.

†**Sca·ro.** *Obs.* It. form of SCARUS.

1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 215 Here Scaro's feed. *Ibid.* I. 219, II. 1078, IV. 58, 61.

†**Scaro·tique.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. = ESCHAROTIC.

1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6054 The touch of an hot Iron, the application of Vitriol or other Scarotiques.

Scarp (skārp), *sb.*¹ *Her.* Also **scarpe,** [a. ONF. *escarpe* = Central OF. *escharpe* (mod.F. *écharpe*), lit. sash: see SCARF *sb.*] A diminutive of the bend sinister, one-half its width, crossing the shield diagonally from the sinister chief to the dexter base. (Cf. SCARF *sb.*¹ 5 a.)

1562 LEGH *Armory* (1597) 64 b, Knowe that this [bende sinyster] conteineth as much in breadth as a dexter bende doth. The halfe whereof is called a Scarpe, and no bastard's mark, neither may it be charged with any thing. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. (1611) 52. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss. s.v. *Scarpe*, In blazon, it should be named Scarp, without mentioning the word sinister. The French call it a Bar. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 4) 58.

Scarp (skāɪp), *sb.*² Also 6–7 **scarpe**; and see SCARF *sb.*³ [ad. It. *scarpa*, whence F. *escarpe* ESCARP.]

1. *Fortif.* = ESCARP *sb.* 1.

1589 IVE *Pract. Fortif.* 10 The scarpe that the Curtin will make may bee some 28. foote, or more or lesse. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* IV. 280 On the top they [the walls] are made after the fashion of a scarpe. 1709 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 471 The enemy..lye 2 leagues off behind the scarp. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xiii. 199 The left extended to a scarp surmounted by an abattis.

†b. The total pitch or 'batter' of a bank. *Obs.*

1639 R. NORWOOD *Fortif.* 113 If the ditch be dry it must be the deeper, and have the lesse scarpe. 1669 STAYNRED *Fortif.* 7 The Inward Scarp of the Parapet...The outward Scarp of the Rampire...The Scarp of the Ditch.

2. The steep face of a hill; = ESCARP *sb.* 2.

1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 410 The scarps of the hills face indiscriminately all points of the compass. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 32 Far up, where darkling copses over-grow Scarps of the gray cliff from his river'd base.

Scarp (skāɪp), *v.*¹ [f. SCARP *sb.*²] *trans.* To cut to a steep face, to slope; also *to scarp away, down*; = ESCARP *v.*

1803 WELLINGTON *Let.* in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 584 The rock is scarped on each side. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. I. iv. 157 The top of the bank..was artfully scarped away, to augment the strength of the defences. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* iii, The elevation of the site..was on this side a steep eminence, which had been scarped like a modern glacis, to render the building more secure. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* iii. 66 The result has been..to scarp the coasts of the Shetlands into the most rugged and fantastic cliffs. 1894 WOLSELEY *Marlborough* II. 173 The rock on which this fort stands was scarped towards the city. 1905 R. HAGGARD in *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 244 The rock upon one side of it had often been scarped by the hand of man.

Hence **Scarped** *ppl. a.*, reduced to a steep face, laid bare, cut away, steep.

1823 *Treat. Field Fortif.* 26 When the earth scarped off is used to encrease the height, the original surface should be cut [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. vi, Redoubts are carried, and Passes and Heights of the most scarped description. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lvi, 'So careful of the type?' but no. From scarped cliff and quarried stone She cries 'a thousand types are gone: I care for nothing, all shall go'. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic of Hades* II. 102 Once the waters Broke louder on the scarped reefs.

Scarp (skāɪp), *v.*² *Agric.* [Of obscure origin; possibly the same word as prec.] *intr.* Of land: To be torn up irregularly.

1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 563 The land is not liable to scarp, as after the common roller. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xi, His mighty forehead would scarp and chine like the headland when the plough turns.

Scarp-bolt (skā·ɪpbōult). *Shipbuilding.* Also *errón.* scarf-. [App. a. Da. *skarpbolt* lit. 'sharp bolt'.] (See quot. 1852.)

[1852 J. FINCHAM *Outl. Ship Build.* (ed. 3) 26 The long bolts, through the knee of the head, and the deadwood, are pointed bolts (Swedish, *skarpbultar*; Danish, *skarpbolte*; Dutch, *puntbout*; German, *scharf-bolzen*..).] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Bolt*, Scarp-bolts and keel-bolts, pointed, not clinched, used for false keel or temporary purposes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2051 Scarf-bolt.

Scarph(e, obs. forms of SCARF *sb.* and *v.*

Scarpine (skā·ɪpēn). Also 6 *Sc.* **scarpene.** [ad. It. *scarpino* (dim. of *scarpa* shoe), whence F. *escarpin*, Sp. *escarpino.*]

†1. A light shoe. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

a 1586 in Pinkerton *Anc. Sc. Poems* (1786) 184 Thair dry scarpenis..; Thair mullis glitteran on thair feit. 1611 FLORIO, *Scarpini*, Scarpines, Pumps, or Sockes.

2. *Hist.* An instrument of torture for the feet. (Cf. BOOT *sb.*³ 3.)

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, I was put to the scarpines, whereof I am..somewhat lame of one leg to this day.

Scarping (skā·ɪpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCARP *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] A steep slope; the rocky face of a hill. † Also *pl.* the amount of slope or batter in an escarp.

1639 R. NORWOOD *Fortif.* 105 The scarpings thereof [*sc.* of the Rampire] within and without are [etc.]. 1909 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 478 The scarpings of an overhanging cliff.

Sca·rpment. *rare*⁻¹. [Aphetic for ESCARPMENT, after SCARP *v.*1] = ESCARPMENT 1.

1861 LEWIN *Jerusalem* 223 The foundations of the Temple were..formed by scarping the sides of the rock and carrying up a wall upon the scarpment.

Scarpyn, obs. form of SCORPION.

Scarr(e, obs. forms of SCAR, SCARE.

Scarred (skārd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCAR *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Of a human or animal body or its parts: Bearing scars or traces of wounds or sores.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 35 3aa, and with schath of skelpys yll scarred. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* 176, I have seen the scarred hero of many battles cry like a child when called upon to have a tooth extracted. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 22 Especial attention was directed to the exclusion of cases of scarred kidneys, of which there were many.

2. *transf.* Of inanimate objects: Bearing traces of injury, weathering, or the like. Often of rocks, etc.: Broken as by a convulsion of nature.

1600 MARLOWE *Lucan* I. C j, Headles darts, olde swords With vgly teeth of blacke rust fouly scarr'd. 1816 SHELLEY *Mont Blanc* 71 How hideously Its shapes are heaped around! rude, bare, and high, Ghastly, and scarred, and riven. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxvii, In the sheer precipices..scarred with ruddy rocks and sunless woods.

3. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.*, *Cicatrisatus truncus s. caulis.* A scarred stem. Marked with the remains of leaves that have fallen off. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 468.

Scarre-fire, obs. variant of SCARE-FIRE.

Scarrify(e, obs. forms of SCARIFY.

Scarring (skā·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCAR *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the vb. SCAR in various senses; an example of this; *concr.* an assemblage of scars.

1816 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisited* (ed. 3) 221 The charges of the cavalry had trampled deep scarrings into the ground. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 327 [There was] slight scarring in the right bronchus. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 151 The results in regard to scarring were good.

Scarring (skā·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCAR *v.* + -ING².] That scars, in various senses of the verb; causing a blemish; undergoing cicatrization.

1833 J. H. NEWMAN *'Latest born of Jesse's race'* 28 Strange, that guileless face and form To lavish on the scarring storm! 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 771 In scarring lesions the [hair] follicles are destroyed.

Scarrubb, obs. form of SCARAB.

Scarry (skā·ri), *a.*¹ [f. SCAR *sb.*¹ + -Y.] Precipitous, rocky.

1382 WICLIF *Job* xxxix. 28 In heȝe sett scarri flintis [Vulg. *in præruptis silicibus*] he [*sc.* the eagle] bideth. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. xi. [xv.] 31 b, in *Holinshed*, The Ure..receyueth the Burne, by south west (as it dyd the Wile, from very deepe scarry rockes, before at Askaran). 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 80 A high, steep, scarry, and partially wooded bank. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 32 Many a mountain's scarry flank.

†**Sca·rry,** *a.*² *Obs.* [f. SCAR *sb.*² + -Y.] Of the nature of a scar; also, marked with scars.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. ii, If they might be reduc'd t'a scarry stuffe [F. *à cicatrice*]. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3113/4 The Hair wanting on the Rump, a gall'd scarry back. 1894 *Monthly Packet* Christmas No. 193 Scarry indentations [in buns] made by small dried currants.

†**Sca·rry,** *a.*³ *Obs. rare*⁻¹. ? Thin, meagre.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 239 But thay men wych haue the body more scarry, and the ouertures streyte, shulde vse Sotille diet and in lytill quantite.

Scars(e, Scarsement, obs. ff. SCARCE, -MENT.

Scarsitee, obs. form of SCARCITY.

Scart (skāɪt), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* Forms: 5, 9 **scarth,** 6 **skarth,** 8–9 **skart,** 7– **scart,** 9 **scrath** (? error). [The forms *scarth, scart*, are successive corruptions of SCARF *sb.*] The Cormorant, *Phalocrocorax carbo.* Also applied to the Shag, *P. graculus.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 181 The Scarth a fische fangar, And that a perfyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iii. 49 A standand place quhar skarthis with ther beikis..glaidlie thaim pronge and bekis. 1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife & Kinross* 45 The Fowls which most frequent the Bass are the.. Scarts [etc.]. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* viii, D'ye think ye'll help them wi' skirling that gate like an auld skart before a flaw o' weather? 1852 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXXII. 395 He sits a cormorant on the tree of life...A scarth—not an eagle—not a swan. 1892 BLACK *Three Feathers* 183 The black rocks basked in the sunlight, the big skarts standing on their ledges, not moving a feather.

Scart (skart), *sb.*² *Sc.* [Metathesis of SCRAT *sb.*]

1. A scratch.

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 555 With scartes and scores, athort his frozen front. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xvii, Wi' her nails she rave his face, Made a' his black baird bloody Wi' scarts that day. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xi, Folk never see a scart on their ain backs. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xxvii. 266 It never does to mislippen the scart o' a pin on the thickest skull.

2. A mark made by a pen.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iii, What signified, she said, a wheen bits of paper, wi' black and white scarts upon them, that he ca'd bushes, and trees, and craigs? 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. II. 122 He has nayther comed himsel', nor had the ceevility tae sen' us the scart o' a pen.

Scart (skāɪt), *sb.*³ *rare.* [? var. of SCAT *sb.*] A gust, puff (of wind); a strip (of cloud).

1860 G. H. KINGSLEY in F. Galton *Vac. Tour* 127 Donald, who assures me that some day a scart of wind will snatch the paper out of my hand. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Apr. 568 The gusty wind blew thin wisps and scarts of cloud athwart the sharp hooks of the crescent moon.

Scart (skart), *v. Sc.* Also, 4, 6, 9 **skart.** [Metathesis of SCRAT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To scratch, scrape. Also *absol.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 249 With hyre handis [she] skartyt hir face. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 93 To see him scart his awin skyn grit scunner I think. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 36 With skarting [scho] causit hir face to bleid. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xv, Ye scart the land with a bit thing ye ca' a pleugh. 1893 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 75, I fand the hoose, by scartin' a match an' readin' the plate on the gate.

†2. To gather together carefully. Also *absol.*

1629 MURE *True Crucifixe* 2573 If Loue of Money,.. Moue thee to scrape, to scart, to pinch, to spare. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, And syne the fool-thing is obliged to fast, Or scart anither's leavings at the last.

†3. *trans.* To scribble. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 144 I've skarted some odds and ends wi' the keelivine on brown paper.

Hence **Sca·rted** *ppl. a.*, scribbled over.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxv, And what use has my father for a whin bits o' scarted paper?

Scartch, obs. form of SCRATCH.

Scarth (skārþ), *sb.*¹ Also 4–5 **skarth.** [a. ON. *skarð* neut., notch, cleft, mountain pass (MSw. *skardh* neut., notch, diminution, ruin, *skardher* masc., broken piece) = OE. *sceard* SHARD, SHERD.]

†1. A fragment, sherd. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 15 My vertu..is wex vile as a pot scarth. 13.. *Childh. Jesus* 340 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 331 His pechere he brake..And Jhesu gadirde þe skarthes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 160 The mylk pycher was layde, The skarthis was the tokyn.

fig. 1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* III. xviii. 132 b, Both the wyues..chidden him alto scarthes by one assente.

2. A cliff, a bare rock. *dial.*

1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* iii. 45 To our right was a bold scarth of dark rock thronged with ravens. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Scar, Scarth*, a line of rock bare of vegetation.

†**Scarth,** *sb.*² *Obs.* [Altered form of SCRAT *sb.*] An abortion, monster; a hermaphrodite.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 58 Revin, raggit ruke, and full of rebaldrie, Scarth fra scorpione, scaldit in scurrilitie. 1508 — *Tua Mariit Wemen* 92 Ane skabbit skarth, ane scorpioun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 145 Of the skartht [*c* 1603 scratche (MS. B.), *c* 1598 scarcht (MS. I.)] yat was born of baith the kyndis maile and female.

Scartling (skā·ɪtliŋ). *Sc.* [f. SCART *sb.*¹ + -LING¹.] A young scart or cormorant.

1893 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 444 In several nests were found young scartlings—fluffy, dull-grey, ungainly creatures.

‖**Scarus** (skē·rŏs). Pl. **scari** (skē·rəi). [L. *scarus*, a. Gr. σκάρος.] A fish described by ancient writers; in mod. use, the name of the typical genus of the family *Scaridæ*; a fish of this genus, a PARROT-FISH. Cf. SCAR *sb.*⁴, SCARE *sb.*³, SCARO.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xvii. I. 245 The fish called Scarus ..is said to chew cud. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 6 The salmon also is said to be of this number [ruminants]: and, if we may believe Ovid, the scarus likewise. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 394 Green Scarus [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xii, The sounds of the fish called scari. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 324 Ever since the time of Aristotle it has been maintained that the Scarus ruminates.

Scarved (skāɪvd), *ppl. a.* = SCARFED.

1885 PERRING *Hard Knots* 81 The noted beauty—she who was admired, courted, beautifully scarved and apparelled.

Scary (skē·ri), *a.*¹ Also 6 (9 *vulgar*) **skeary,** 9 **scarey,** *vulgar* **skeery.** [f. SCARE *sb.*² + -Y¹.]

1. Terrifying, frightful.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 109 But toe the, poore Dido, this sight so skearye beholding, What feeling creepeth? 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. v. 68 If any can pretend to know the world, or to have seen scary sights, it is myself! 1854 'MARION HARLAND' *Alone* xiii, A Giant Grim, who frequents places of amusement to corner children, and relate scary stories to them. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making Novelist* 29 Whatever the miners thought about it, it was rather a scarey business for me.

2. Frightened, timorous.

1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. vi. 92 A skeary comrade in the woods is apt to make a short path long. 1842 in *Coquet-Dale Fishing Songs* (1852) 104 The scary trout glides swiftly out. 1887 I. R. *Ranche Life Montana* 137 My mount was a young 'scarey' horse. 1873 CARLETON *Farm Ball.* 8

Women are skeery critters. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* 138, I want to talk. It keeps one from feeling a bit skeary.

Scas(e, obs. forms of SCARCE.

† Scat, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* (*rare* after OE.). Also 3 sat. [OE. *sceat* masc., = OFris. *skет*, OS. *skat* (MLG., Du. *schat*, whence next), OHG. *scaz* (MHG. *schaz*, mod.G. *schatz*), treasure, ON. *skatt-r* tribute (whence SCAT *sb.*[3]; Da. *skat*, Sw. *skatt*), Goth. *skatt-s* piece of money, money :—OTeut. **skatto-z.* Cf. SCEAT.

The *sc* stands for (ʃ); if the word had survived its form would be **shat.*]

Treasure, money; in ME. only in phr. *scat and s(c)rud.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Swa maneȝa ȝersumas on sceat & on scrud & on bokes swa nan man ne mæi oðer tællen. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 367 Ne sal þer ben naðer scat ne srud ne wereldes wele none. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 795 God gaf him ðor siluer and gold, And hird, and orf, and srud and sat. *Ibid.* 3169 Quat-so he boden, srud or sat, Egipte folc hem lenen ðat.

† Scat, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 scatte. [a. Du. *schat* : see prec.] Treasure.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xvi. (Arb.) 35, I haue so grette scatte and good of syluer and of gold that seuen waynes shold not conne carye it away.

Scat (skæt), *sb.*[3] Also 5 skatte, 5–6 skait, 6–9 scatt, skat(t. [a. ON. *skatt-r* : see SCAT *sb.*[1]]

1. a. *gen.* A tax, tribute. Now only *Hist.* with reference to countries under Scandinavian rule.

1502 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 116/1 The rasing of al unlawis, eschetis, proffittis, skattis and dewiteis according to the said regalite. 1506 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XII. 703 That the fredome and privelege of halikirk be observit.. without ony scatt, stent, taxation, or extortion to be maid in tyme cuming. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Prol. 24 Wrangys to redres suld weyr be vndertane, For na conquest, reif, skat nor pensioun. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* XVI. xii, Laying waste the kingdom, Seizing scatt and treasure. 1886 J. CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* ii. 22 He will not be content with setting his men over us and taking scatt.

b. In Orkney and Shetland, the land-tax paid to the Crown by a udal tenant. † Also, in certain parts of Scotland and the north of England, the designation of various local imposts in the 15–17th c.

1577 in D. Balfour *Oppressions in Orkney & Zetld.* (1859) 18 Ane dewtie thai pay to the Kingis Majestie for thair scat and landmales zeirlie. 1598 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 172 Ilk howsholder in Futtie..to pay the skait vsid and wont. 1612 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 481/2 Toillis, anchorages..scattis, land maillis [etc.]. 1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Orkney* 30 Subject only to the tax of scat and tithe. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xviii, We must pay scat and wattle. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot., Udal Right* is that right in land, which though dependent on the Crown as superior, for payment of a tribute called Skat, is completed [etc.]. 1859 in D. Balfour *Oppressions in Orkney & Zetld.* 128 *Skat*, the Tax upon all land occupied by Odal-red, for the support of the Crown, and expense of government.

2. *attrib.*, as *scat-field, scat tax*; † **scat gild,** the payment or tax of 'scat'; † **scat haver, malt,** oats, malt, taken in payment of 'scat'; **scat land,** land subject to 'scat'.

14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 60 For sellyng of the same [heryng] thay schall gyffe to yᵉ *skattegyld iiij d. 1483 in R. Davies *York Records* (1843) 175 In esyng of the tolls, murage, bucher penys & skaitgyld. 1344–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 172 Decem boll avene que vocatur *Scathaver de bondis de Heworth. 1450–51 *Ibid.* 187 Et de vs. rec. pro xij bollez de Scathaver. 1502 in Peterkin *Rentals of Orkney* (1820) 12 Item wᵗ flawis j d terre *scatland antᵗ in butter scat vij d. 1438–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 63 Pro 7 bondis antedictis in precio 7 quar. de *Scatmaltez sic sibi vend. hoc anno. 1868 D. GORRIE *Summers & Winters in Orkneys* v. 158 Ruga who collected the King of Norway's corn, or the *Scatt-tax in Orkney. 1881 *Standard* 26 July 5 [Shetland] The sheep and ponies run on the 'Scatfield', or common; and the 'Scat tax' is not a popular impost.

Scat (skæt), *sb.*[4] *dial.* (See E.D.D.) [Perh. onomatopœic; the identity of the word in the various senses is uncertain. Cf. SQUAT *sb.*]

1. A blow or buffet.

1872 Mrs. LYNN LINTON *Joshua Davidson* 6 It was a laugh..that seemed to mean the same thing as 'scat',—our Cornish word for a blow. 1901 Mrs. E. L. VOYNICH *Jack Raymond* 173 The soft and pitying eyes seemed to shame him 'like a scat in the face'.

2. 'Anything burst or broken open; the sound of a rent; the sharp sound of a bullet' (E.D.D.). Cf. SCAT *v.*[3] and *adv.*

1895 CROCKETT *Bog-Myrtle* 204 A shot rang out, followed immediately by the 'scat' of a bullet against the rock.

3. A brief spell of weather; a short turn of work.

1880 *Cornwall Gloss.* s.v., A scat of fine weather. 1882 F. W. P. JAGO *Anc. Lang. Cornwall* 256 A scat of frost. 1895 E. M. STOOKE *Not Exactly* i. 24 An' cashionally 'e dooes a scat to gardenin'.

4. A sudden or passing shower of rain.

17.. *Prov.* in Brice *Gazetteer* (1759) s. v. *Haldon*, When Haldon hath a Hat, Kenton beware a Skat [Risdon (1714) 47 Squatt]. 1834 G. ROBERTS *Lyme Regis* 252 *Scatt*, a shower. 1897 E. PHILLPOTTS *Lying Prophets* II. vi. 187 Presently a scat of heavy rain on a squall of wind shut out the harbour for a time.

† Scat, *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 5–6 scatte. [In Caxton, a. MDu. *schatten*, f. *schat* SCAT *sb.*[2]; in the Sc. use perh. a. ON. *skatta*, f. *skatt-r* SCAT *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To oppress by exactions.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xlii. (Arb.) 114 Whan they be myghty and doubted thenne ben they extorcionners and scatte and pylle the peple. 1543 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 191 The toune is hauely murmurit be the landmen, that the vittell hyaris of the merkat, scattis thame grytlie in taking of sampills, scheyt-schakkingis, and sic oder ewill vsit custum. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 67 He conselled thame [to] exerceis skarting [*v. r.* scatting] and oppressioun wpoun the realme.

† Scat, *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 6 skatt, 6–7 scatt. [Alteration of SCOT *v.*, due to association with SCAT *sb.*[3]] *intr.* In phrase *to scat and lot* (later *to scat or contribute*) = 'to scot and lot', i. e. to contribute equally to the defraying of some charge or cost.

1560 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 87 Personis..quhilkis ..nother scattis lottis extentis walkis nor wardis nor yit beris na portable charges within this burgh. 1581 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs* (1870) I. 117 The acts of burrowes maid anent the scatting and lotting for pilleit and cassin guids. 1594 *Ibid.* 449 Nather skatt and lott with thame. 1612 *Ibid.* II. 340 That no monye sould scatt or contribute with onye goods castin or pilleyit.

Scat (skæt), *v.*[3] *dial.* [Cf. SCAT *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To break in pieces, shatter.

1837 J. F. PALMER *Dial. Devonsh. Dial.* 79 To *Scat*, to dash any fragile body on the ground. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 306 The van..scat itself to bits against the bridge.

Scat (skæt), *adv. dial.* Also skat, scatt. [Prob. onomatopœic: cf. SCAT *sb.*[4]] *To go scat*: to fall down; to break in pieces; to become bankrupt.

1867 ROCK *Jim an' Nell* xxix. (E. D. S. No. 76), I've trad upon a patch, I'm veared a shall go scat. 1887 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Dead Man's Rock* 7 Finally my father's bank broke —or, as we say in the West 'went scat'. 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xxxiii, Little Ruth wiped up the mess made by the broken eggs. Poor Ruth was sore distressed at their 'going scatt' on the floor.

Scat, *int. colloq.* [? identical with 'ss cat!' (i.e. a hiss followed by the word *cat*) used in driving away cats.] Begone! Hence jocularly used as verb (*intr.*).

1869 Mrs. WHITNEY *We Girls* x. (1874) 218 'Scat!' cried Stephen. And Ruth scatted. 1880 J. C. HARRIS *Uncle Remus* xxii. (1883) 110 W'en ole man Rabbit say 'scoot', dey scooted, en w'en ole Miss Rabbit say 'scat', dey scatted.

Scatald, obs. form of SCATTALD.

Scatch[1] (skætʃ). Forms: 5–6 scache, 6 skache, 7 scatch, 6–8 scatch, 9 *dial.* sketch. [a. ONF. *escache* = Central OF. *eschasse* (mod.F. *échasse*), whence Du. *schaats* SKATE *sb.*[2]]

1. A stilt; usually pl. *scatches. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1545 ELYOT *Dict., Grallatores*, they which dooe goe on styltes or skaches. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 5/44 A Scache, *grallus*. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. i, Others grew in the legs, and to see them, you would have said they had been ..men walking upon stilts or scatches. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 915 Never,..till geese go on scatches. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Scatches*, Stilts to put the Feet in to walk in dirty Places. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Cheap Jack Zita* xii, Sketches?—does that word puzzle you..? They are what some folk call stilts.

2. ? A scaffold-pole. [So F. *échasse.*]

1420 *Searchers Verdicts* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 15 William of Alne..sall fynde the brygges, the scaches, nayles, and all the tymbre that sall ga un to the gutter.

† Scatch[2]. *Obs.* Also 5–6 scache. [ad. It. *scaccia* (ska·tʃa), whence F. *escache.*] An oval bridle-bit. Also *scatch-mouth.*

1565–80 BLUNDEVIL *Art Riding* III. xxiii. 51 Some are called Canon bits, some scatches. 1598 FLORIO, *Scaccia*, the mouth of a bit called a scache. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 56 The next bytt you shall vse after the Cannon, shall bee the plaine Scatch. 1611 COTGR., *Scace*, a Scatch bit. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s. v. *Bit*, The ends of a Scatch-mouth can never fail, by reason of their being over-lapped.

Scate, obs. form of SKATE.

† Sca·tebrous, *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *scatebra* a gushing forth, f. *scatēre* to gush, spring forth: see -OUS.] (See quots.) Hence † **Scatebro·sity.**

1721 BAILEY, *Scatebrosity*, a flowing or bubbling out. *Scatebrous*, bubbling out like Water out of a Spring, abounding. 1755 JOHNSON, *Scatebrous*, abounding with springs.

Scater, obs. form of SCATTER *v.*

Scathe (skēɪð), *sb.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* (see E.D.D.). Forms: 3– scathe, scath, 3–4 skathe, 3–7 skathe, 3–8 skath, (4 skade, 5 scade); *Sc.* and *north.* 4–9 scaith, skaith, 4–7 skaithe, 5 scaythe, 5–6 skaitht, 6 skayth(t, scaithe, skeath. Also 3–5, 7 schath, 3–6 schathe, 4 schatht. [The existing word is a. ON. *skaðe* wk. masc., harm, damage (Sw. *skada* fem., Da. *skade*) = OE. *sc(e)aða* masc., one who injures, malefactor, also (rarely) hurt, injury, OFris. *skatha, skada* injury, OS. *skaðo* masc., malefactor, MDu. *schade* masc. and fem. (Du. *schade* fem.), injury, OHG. *skado* masc. (MHG., mod.G. *schade*) :—OTeut. **skaþon-*, f. root **skaþ-*, whence Goth. *skaþis* harm, *skaþjan* = SCATHE *v.*; the ablaut-var. **skōþ-* is represented in ON. *skoð* neut., that which harms, *skæð-r* harmful. On the other hand, Layamon's *scaðe* in sense 1 almost certainly had (ʃ), and represents the OE. *sceaða* (the mod. form of which would have been **shathe*). The ME. spelling with *sch-* is of doubtful phonetic interpretation: in most of the verse examples the word thus written alliterates with *sk-*, and must therefore be regarded as of Scandinavian etymology; but some of the other instances may possibly (though there is no definite evidence) represent the native word.

The Teut. root **skaþ-* is believed to represent an Indo-germanic **skath-* : *skēth-*; cf. Gr. *ἀ-σκηθής* unscathed.]

† **1.** One who works harm; a malefactor; a wretch, fiend, monster. *Obs.*

Beowulf 274 Sceaða ic nat hwylc, deoȝol dædhata. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 38 Ða wæron a-hangen mid hym tweȝen sceaþan. *c* 1205 LAY. 1923, & þus þe hæȝe scaðe ferde to helle. *Ibid.* 14945 He wende þat hit weore soð þat þeo scaðe sæide. *Ibid.* 25877 For nu anan cumeð þe scaðe þe alle þine leomen wule to-draȝen.

2. Hurt, harm, damage.

Usually sing. and without article; but also occasionally with *a* (etc.) or in pl.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 549 Cwæð, þæt sceaðena mæst eallum heora eaforum æfter siððan wurde on worulde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2314 Ðis sonde hem ouertakeð naðe, And bi-calleð of harme and scaðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6686 þe smiter sal quite his lechyng And þe scath [*Gött.* skade] of his liging. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 4 Hou thai mai yem thaim fra schathe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 57 Who may scape þe sklaundre þe skaþe is sone amended. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 77, I praye þe, lorde, kepe us fro skathe. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 35 With schath of skelpys yll scarred. 1450 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 71 We ar informit..þat þai dreid the evil and skath of oure enemeis of England. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* K iv, For all that it muste be knowen for the great schathe that therof myght come. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 22 It sall redound to his avantage and to our gret skaith and schame. 1606 DRAYTON *Ode written in the Peak* 30 Strong Ale and Noble Cheare, T'asswage breeme Winters scathes. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 2 To the great hurt and skaith of the king's lieges. 17.. RAMSAY *Falling of a Slate* v, Watching sylphs flew round, To guard dear Madie from all skaith. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* ix, I red ye weel, tak care o' skaith, See, there's a gully! 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xvi. 355 Round them [obstacles]..he passed nimbly, without scar or scathe. 1895 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. xxiii. 401 It was cheering..to hear that you had got through winter and diphtheria without scathe.

b. Phr. *To do* (*work*, † *make*) *scathe*, to do harm. *Const.* indirect (dative) object, with or without *to.* † *To wait* (one) *scathe* [= Icel. *veita einhverjum skaða*], to inflict injury upon.

c 1205 LAY. 12026 Mælga wes inne Scise þer he scaðe makede. *Ibid.* 15784 Ne doð heo noht muchel scaðe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 850 An ðere he werken sckaðe and bale. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1352 Dwelling haueth ofte scaþe wrouth. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5987 Or ouþer skaþe he wyl hym weyte. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4051 þat no burn nere so bold ..to wait þe werwolf no maner schaþe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 111 Is nayne in warld, at scaithis ma do mar, Than weile trastyt in borne familiar. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiii. 308 Grete hurte & scathe was there made of bothe partes. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 7 And wherein Rome hath done you any scathe, Let him make treble satisfaction. 1595 *Locrine* v. ii. 33 Nor can I finde in heart to worke his scathe. 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. i. xvi. (1642) 57 His owne side came to the worse, doing more scath to themselves, than to their enemies. 1715 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 114, I cannot tell particularly what skaith they did. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxii. (1850) 316 They were doing great skaith, it was said, to victual and drink. 1865 J. M. NEALE *Hymns on Paradise* 68 If manifold temptations Of the fiend should work thee scathe.

c. The corresponding passive notion is expressed by *to get, have, take scathe.* † Also, *to catch, find, hent, kep, thole*, etc., *scathe.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10648 Sey me þe soþe, and, as y am knyȝt, þou ne shalt haue for me skaþe ne plyȝt. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 65 Withouten gult, god wot gat I þis scaþe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 151 Lest he skaþe hent. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 358 Menand the scath that he had tane. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5103 Hit is skille for his skorne, þat he scathe thole. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xvi, He began to dotur and dote Os he hade keghet scathe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxx. 464 To redresse the harmes and the scathes that he had of them. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 116 How grete harme and skaith.. That childe hes caucht throw lossing of his modir! 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 60 The fyir slaucht vil consume the vyne vitht in ane pipe..& the pipe vil resaue na skayth. 1572, 1721 [see KEP *v.* 2 b]. 1586 WARNER *Alb. England* I. vi. (1589) 20 He tolde what skath the Centaures late..had found. 1642 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xvii, Suche personis as had cum from Irland, and had gottin great skaithe thair. 1730 T. BOSTON *View this & other World* 263 He could not miss to catch skaith, if all the better care were not taken to prevent it. 1839 HARE. CAMPBELL *Only Daughter* iii, The Laird of Kilmore..took no scaith from the..attractions of the Misses Sibellas, and Miss Anabels of the county, and at the age of forty he was still a bachelor.

d. Alliteratively coupled with *scorn.* Chiefly *Sc.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23338 For þair misfair suld þai not murn, Ne ans for þair skathes skurn [*Gött.* schathes schurn]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1874 For to wreke vs of wrathe, & the wegh harme Bothe of skathe & of skorne. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 358 And thus the scorne and the scaith scapit he nothir. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41 One doth the skath, and another hath the scorn. Prov. 1755 JOHNSON, *Scath* in Scotland denotes spoil or damage: as, he bears the scath and the scorn. A proverb. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredh. Gt.* xv. iv. (1865) V. 308 Let us take the scathe and the scorn candidly home to us.

e. *quasi-concr.* A physical hurt or damage.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1116 Conuenyent hit is to knowe, of bathis Whil speche is mad, what malthis hote & colde Are able, ther as chynyng, clift, or skathe is, To make hit hool and watir wel to holde.

f. Something which works harm.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 The Adders death is her own broode, the Fencers scath, his own knowledg. 1795 MACNEILL (*title*) Scotland's Skaith. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 102 The pride I trampled is now my scathe, For it tramples me again.

g. *spec.* 'Injury supposed to proceed from witchcraft' (Jam.).

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVI. 122 This is done with a view to prevent skaith, if it should happen that the person is not cany. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetland Folk-Lore* 111 The person who attempted to cross a fisherman's path when on his way to the boat, intended to do him scathe.

3. Matter for sorrow or regret. In various phrases, as *It is scathe*, it is a pity. *It is (great) scathe of him*, he is a great loss. *To think (no) scathe of, think (it) no scathe*, (not) to regret, think (it) no harm. [Cf. G. *schade.*]

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2298 In fulsum-hed he wurðen glaðe, Iosep ne ðoht ðor-of no scaðe. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2006 But it is of him mikel scabe: I woth þat he bes ded ful rabe. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1542 Sir, in þe sond he liþe, & þat is scabe. 13.. *Gawv. & Gr. Knt.* 674 Bi Kryst, hit is scaþe, þat þou, leude, schal be lost. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 446 But she was som del deef, and þat was scathe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxiii. 678 And that was grete scade that thei sholde die so soone. 15.. *Christ's Kirk Gr.* viii, Grit skayth wes'd to haif skard him. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 11 (E.D.D.) To cheat the rich some think nae skaith. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 57 They deemed it little scathe indeed That her coarse homespun ragged weed Fell off from her round arms.

†4. An injury, damage, or loss for which legal compensation is claimed. In pl. = damages; also, costs or expenses incurred by the claimant. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 136 He may demaund his scathis at the lord, be way of acciount of dett. *a* 1500 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 118, I promyse to make good all costis and scathes that may growe therby for defaute off payment. 1504 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Crt.* (1904) 48 Thomas Leslie..protestit for thar costs skaithts and expenses. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § xv. (1699) 104 The Unlaw to be ten Pound, and mends to the Party, conform to the skaith.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scathe-deed, -work*; objective, as *scathe-causer, scathe-taking* vbl. sb.

c 1205 LAY. 1547 Swa þe rimie wulf þane he wule on scheapen scaðe werc wrchen. *Ibid.* 29578 þa hine isend hafden mid heore scaðe deden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28161 Quen i sagh oþer men mistad, of his fare wald i be gladd, for his ded and his vn-hele, for skath takyng of his catell. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Hen. VI* xiii, If likewise such as say the welken fortune warkes, Take Fortune for our fate, and sterres therof the markes, Then destiny with fate, and Gods wil al be one: But if they meane it otherwise, skath causers skyes be none.

Scathe (skēɪð), *v.* Forms: 2–5 skathe, 4–9 scathe, scath, (4 sckathe); chiefly *Sc.* 5–6 skayth(e, 6 ska, 5–9 scaith, 8–9 skaith. [a. ON. *skaða* impers., it hurts (Sw. *skada*, Da. *skade* to hurt, injure); corresponding to OE. *sc(e)aðian* to injure, rob, OFris. *skathia* to injure, OS. *scaðon* (Essen Gl.) to slander, Du. *schaden* to injure, OHG. *skadôn* (MHG., mod.G. *schaden*) :—OTeut. **skaþōjan*, f. **skaþo-* SCATHE *sb.*

ON. had also another verb from the same root, *skeðja* (pa. t. *skaðde*), corresponding to OE. *sceððan* (orig. strong, pa. t. *sceód*, pa. pple. *(ge)sceaðen*, whence by analogy an inf. form *sceaðan*; commonly weak, pa. t. *sceðede*), Goth. *skaþjan* (pa. t. *skōþ*). There is no evidence, however, that the ON. *skeðja* was adopted in English, or that either of the OE. vbs. (with initial *ſ*) survived into ME.]

1. *trans.* To injure, hurt, damage. Now *arch.* and *Sc.*

c 1200 ORMIN 4468–9 Forr ȝiff þu skaþesst anig mann þu skaþesst firrst te sellfenn. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 759, Y schal scaþye hem nigt & day þat bileueþ on Mahounde. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 26 He þat will noghte sckathe his euencristyn, he sall noghte consente ne na consaile gyffe to do hym ill. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 365 Syrs, I haue a greatt Iornay That must be done this same day, Or els it will me skathe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xii. 90 That wille I not, sayd the knyghte, for hit wylle scathe me gretely and now do yow none auaylle. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 468 Throw the quhilk [false coin].. this commoun weill hes bene greitlie hurt, and oure Soveranis and thair trew subjectis defraudit and skaythit. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 86 This tricke may chance to scath you. 1728 RAMSAY *Last Sp. Miser* xvi, But that ne'er skaith'd or troubled me, Gin I grew rich. 1784 BURNS *Ep. J. Rankine* iv, Think, wicked Sinner, wha ye're skaithing. 1829 H. MILLER *Lett. on Herring Fish.*, I manna skaith the rape. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Nicholas*, Holy Church ..the wolves doth mock who would scathe her flock.

†b. *spec.* To subject to pecuniary loss. (The amount is expressed by a second object or introduced by *of*.) *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 167 He aw to be payit of the baroune of all his soume of lenth that he war scathit of. ?1496 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 69 Ther entred neuer a straunger ship here sithins Midlent, and that hath skathed the Kinges grace c.li. 1600 DARRELL *Detect. Harsnet's Lying Disc.* 202 The poore man..had as liue she had so kindly imbraced another as him, for the louing salutation..scathed him 4. nobles. 1602 *How Man may chuse Good Wife* C 1, Ile crosse thy name quite from my reckoning booke: For these accounts, faith it shall skathe thee somewhat.

†c. *absol.* To do harm. *Obs.*

1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1132 It ma nocht scaith, suppos it do na waill.

2. To injure or destroy by fire, lightning, or similar agency; to blast, scorch, sear. *poet.* and *rhet.*

This, and the derived sense 3, appear to have been developed from the Milton passage (quot. 1667), perh. partly through sound-association with *scorch.*

[1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 613 As when Heavens Fire Hath scath'd the Forrest Oaks,..With singed top their stately growth though bare Stands on the blasted Heath.] 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. x, The monk resumed his mutter'd spell:..The while he scathed the Cross with flame. 1813 — *Rokeby* IV. iii, The pine-tree scathed by lightning-fire. 1814 — *Ld. of Isles* IV. viii, Seek not the giddy crag to climb, To view the turret scathed by time. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii, The fire-baptised soul, long so scathed and thunder-riven, here feels its own Freedom. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxiii. 240 The flames that scathed Thermus. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 213 The whole country had been scathed with fire and drowned in blood.

fig. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* (1843) I. vi. 83 Familiar consent to evil..scathes and deadens the spiritual sense.

3. *fig.* To sear or 'wither' with fierce invective or satire. Cf. SCATHING *ppl. a.*

1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. (1857) 152 At the same time that He scathed with indignant invective the Pharisees. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* Ser. I. I. 77 (*Erasmus & Luther* ii.) His satire flashed about,..scathing especially his old enemies the monks.

Hence **Scathed** *ppl. a.*

1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 71 Many of the oaks are scathed, and ragged. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxix, The hulk of the Grecian Admiral, burnt to the water's edge, and still sending forth a black smoke from its scathed beams and planks. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vi, Its scathed and gigantic crags. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* III. 152 Is that one withered scathed little stick to be our sole protection against the storm?

†**Sca·thefire.** *Obs.* Also 7 scath-, skath-, schath-, 8 *dial.* scale-. See also SCAREFIRE. [f. SCATHE *sb.* + FIRE *sb.* Cf. G. *schadenfeuer*, Da. *skadeild*, Norw. *skadeverme.*] A destructive fire or conflagration.

1632 HEYWOOD *and Pt. Iron Age* v. i. I 4, These horrid sights Lighted by scathe-fires. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 155 Her frequent Schathfires have rendred her not less magnificent, but more famous. *a* 1663 BRAMHALL *Vind. fr. Popery* vi. (1672) 115 In a great Scathfire it is wisdom not only to suffer those Houses to burn down which are past quenching, but [etc.]. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser. I. 60 (E.D.S.) *Scale-fire*, when a house or town is on fire.

Scatheful (skēɪ·ðfûl), *a. arch.* Forms: see SCATHE *sb.* [f. SCATHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. Ormin's *unnskaþefull.*] Hurtful, harmful, injurious.

c 900 tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 209 Swa þonne ȝeweorðeð þæt we becumaþ þonne fram þam ·ídan wordum to þam sceaðfullum. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 249 Gif the hapnys ony thing, That anoyus or scathfull be. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. i. 34 And sum, wondring, the skaithfull gift beheld. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* Bj b, This water..withdryveth the scadefull swellyng in the bely. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. v. (1589) 15 Hercules..with skathfull strokes bestird his Club so well,..that [etc.]. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 59 With which such scathfull grapple did he make With the most noble bottome of our Fleete. 1855 SINGLETON *Virg., Georg.* I. I. 80 That scathful rust should prey upon its stalks.

†**Scathel,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 scathel, -ylle, 5 skethill, skathil(l, -ell, 6 skatell. β. 5 schatell, schathill. See also SCADDLE *a.* [a. ON. **skaþull* = OHG. *scad(h)al, scadel, scatal, -el*, Goth. *skaþuls* :—OTeut. **skaþulo-*, f. **skaþ-* : see SCATHE *sb.*] Injurious, harmful, dangerous. Also *absol.* as *sb.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28773 Almus askes to be wroght o rightwis aght,..for elles vnmedi sal it be, scathel and wrangwise als to þe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 155 Mony ladde þer forth-lep to laue & to Rest, Scopen out þe scaþel water, þat fayn scape wolde. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 32 Scathylle Scottlande by skylle he skyftys as hym lykys. *Ibid.* 1642 That no skathelle in the skroggez skorne vs here-aftyr. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4067 Ascalaphus, a skathil duke & skant mon in wer. *Ibid.* 13442 There were sones vpposyde,..To Askathes full skete, skethill of hor hond. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2992 þat skapid..skatheles fra all his schathill dukis [*Dubl.* scapett.. schatheles..schatell]. 1515 *Scot. Field* 342 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856) II, Those skatell Scotts, that all the skath diden.

Scatheless (skēɪ·ðlés), *a.* Forms: see SCATHE *sb.* [f. SCATHE *sb.* + -LESS. Cf. ON. *skaðlauss.*] Without scathe; unharmed. †Const. *of.*

c 1200 ORMIN 12038 ȝiff þatt he lupe dun All skaþelæs till eorþe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1855 To a-schape schaples fram þat schamful best. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1550 That scathles, fulle sykerly, I myght unto the welle goo. *a* 1400–50 [see SCATHEL]. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 241 To keip him skaithless of the samyn [penalty]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xv, 'I wad ware the best blood in my body to keep her skaithless,' said Jeanie. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxviii. 341 It is a game from which you will come out scatheless, but I have been scalded. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 57/1 The wife and the fortunate individual who shared her indictment escaped scatheless.

Hence **Sca·thelessly** *adv.*

1844 TUPPER *Heart* xi. 121 In the hope..of ruining him, if not of getting scathelessly off themselves. 1858 J. H. BENNET *Nutrition* vi. 209 The soldier who..passes scathlessly through twenty campaigns.

†**Sca·thely,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SCATHE *sb.* + -LY 2.] With damage or injury. Only in allit. phr. *to scape* (or *aschape*) *scathely.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2794 þat we so scaþli ar a-schaped god mowe [we] þonk. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 642 If any scolere in þe scole his skorne at him makis, He skapis him full skathely bot if he skyp better.

Scathing (skēɪ·ðiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. That scathes or blasts (see SCATHE *v.* 2).

1794 COLERIDGE *Monody Death Chatterton* 51 The scathing lightning. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. x, Mark how that lone and blighted bosom sears The scathing thought of execrated years! 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* II. 180 He launches the scathing thunderbolt.

2. Of invective, etc.: Very sharp and damaging; searing, 'withering', cutting.

1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) I. 251 Week after week he launched from the pulpit the most scathing invectives. 1893 *Times* 28 Apr. 9/4 Mr. Goschen's speech was a scathing exposure of the contrast between promise and performance.

Hence **Sca·thingly** *adv.*

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 238 A feeling of his insignificance flashed scathingly on the quivering pride of Robert Anderson. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxii. 407 That Duke of Savoy whom Milton has made scathingly famous.

Scatire, obs. form of SCATTER *v.*

Scatol, variant of SKATOL *Chem.*

Scatologic (skætɔlǫ·dʒik), *a.* [f. SCATOLOG-Y + -IC.] Of or pertaining to scatology (sense 1).

1891 J. G. BOURKE (*title*) Scatalogic [*sic*] Rites of all Nations. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Scatology (skătǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. σκατ-, σκῶρ dung + -(o)LOGY.]

1. That branch of science which deals with diagnosis by means of the fæces. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. That branch of palæontology which treats of fossil excrement or coprolites. In recent Dicts.

3. Filthy literature. *rare.*

1876 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. V. 31 Mr. Swifte's suggestion that *scatology* may be derived from *scateo.* 1887 SAINTSBURY *Elizab. Lit.* x. 370 A large quantity of mere scatology and doggerel.

Scatomancy (skæ·tǫmænsi). [ad. mod.L. *scatomantīa*: see prec. and -MANCY.] Divination or diagnosis based on the examination of the fæces.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* lxxxiii. 145 b, For this cause Scatomancie, Oromancie, Drymimancie, be called the diuinations or Prognostications of Phisitians, gathered by ordures and vrines. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* xxvi, I studied at Montpelier... There learned I Drirrimancy, Scatomancy, Pathology [etc.]. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Scatomanter.** *Obs. rare*—1. [irreg. ad. mod.L. *scatomantis*, f. Gr. σκατ(ο)- dung + μάντις prophet.] One who practises scatomancy.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* lxxxiii. 145 b, [The name *Scatophagos*] afterwards was deriued to all Phisitions, in suche wise, that wee call them Scatophagians and Scatomanters, that is, ordure eaters, and lookers on ordure.

Scatophage (skæ·tǫfēɪdʒ). [ad. mod.L. *scatophag-us*, a. Gr. σκατοφάγος: see SCATOPHAGOUS *a.* Cf. F. *scatophage* adj.] A scatophagous insect or animal; esp. a dung-fly. In recent Dicts.

†**Scatopha·gian.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. mod.L. *scatophag-us* (see next) + -IAN.] One who feeds on dung. 1569 [see SCATOMANTER].

Scatophagous (skătǫ·făgəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scatophag-us*, a. Gr. σκατοφάγος, f. σκατ(ο-), σκῶρ dung: see -PHAGOUS.] Feeding upon dung.

1891 in *Century Dict.* 1896 *Nature* 16 July 247/2 In *Stomoxys*,..the larvæ are normally scatophagous.

Scatoscopy (skătǫ·skŏpi). *rare*—0. [Cf. prec. and -SCOPY.] Inspection of the fæces for the purpose of divination or diagnosis. In recent Dicts.

Scatses, obs. pl. form of SKATE *sb.*[2]

Scattald (skæ·tăld). *Orkney and Shetl.* Also 7 scat(t)ell, 8 scatald, scatteld, scat(t)hold, scattald, -old, scathald, skattald. [ad. local Scandinavian **skatthald* (= ON. *skatt-r* SCAT *sb.*[3] + *hald* HOLD *sb.*] The common ground for pasture or furnishing fuel, etc. of a district. Hence **Sca·ttalder,** one who shares in the scattald. Also *in-scattalder* = 'scattalder'; *out-skattalder*, a resident in the district who has no share in the scattald.

1615 *Acts* etc. *Orkney & Shetl.* (Maitl. Cl. 1840) II. 174 Anent going throuch thair nychtbours scattell...It sall not be lesum to ony persone..to go throuch his nychtbouris scatell or comontie with ane scheip dog Except [etc.]. *a* 1733 *Shetland Acts* 32 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 201 That every scatald have a sufficient pund. *Ibid.* 35 ibid., All horses belonging either to outscattalders or in-scattalders. *Ibid.* 39 ibid., That the Sheriff..ride the marches of the parish..when required thereto by the scattalders. 1809 A. EDMONSTON *Pres. St. Zetland* I. 148 The uncultivated ground, outside of the enclosure [or town], is called the Scatthold, and is used for general pasture, and to furnish turf for firing. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 211 Beyond the turf dikes is the scattald or common.

Scatter (skæ·təɪ), *sb.* [f. SCATTER *v.*]

1. The action or an act of scattering; wide or irregular distribution; dispersion. Now chiefly with reference to shot.

1642 J. W[EALL] *Prepar. Fast* 4 We are exposed aswell to Forraigne and intestine mischiefes. This divide and scatter, if it be not prevented, will be no small curse. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 68 Advt. to Rdr., Let Them [*sc.* the Galenists] not mangle, and discompose my Book with a scatter of Observations, but proceed Methodically to the Censure of each part. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 5/1 Had there been no deflection from the hard skull the shot ..would have been smaller in scatter than it is.

2. A small quantity loosely distributed or interspersed; a scattering, sprinkling. *rare.*

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 158 Its sole displays quartzose sand, with scatters of granite. 1888 *Daily News* 17 May 5/8 The bodice, too, had a scatter of diamonds and pearls.

Scatter (skæ·təɪ), *v.* Forms: 2 scatere, 3–6 scater, skater, 4 schatre, scatir(e, 4–5 scatre, 5 skatre, (schatir), 6 scattre, skattir, sketer, 7 skatter, 6– scatter. [Early ME. (12th c., Mid-

land); of obscure origin; formed with iterative suffix (see -ER⁵).

This and SHATTER *v.* (which appears much later) are commonly regarded as respectively northern and southern representatives of an OE. **sc(e)aterian*, which is referred to a supposed Teut. root **skat-* cogn. w. Gr. σκεδ-αννύναι to scatter. The etymological identity of the two vbs. seems, however, doubtful, although they have some affinity of sense. It is true that in ME. *scatter* occurs only in northern and midland texts, with one exception (quot. 1330, sense 3); and that in this sole southern instance the MS. spells it with *sch*, which should normally stand for (ʃ). But initial (sk) from OE. *sc* in a native word would be no less abnormal in northern and midland than in southern English. The alleged cognates in Du. and LG. are questionable. Two instances are cited of MDu. *schaderen*, with the senses 'to squander (money)', 'to shed (blood)'; but this does not agree in form. The sense 'to scatter' assigned to early mod.Du. *schetteren*, rests on the authority of Kilian, whose citation of the Eng. word renders his testimony suspicious. The Du. and MLG. *schateren* to resound, to laugh uproariously (MLG. once, to be shattered by an explosion) would seem to be onomatopoeic; at least their sense cannot easily be derived from that assigned to the alleged Teut. root. Cf. SCAT *v.*² and SQUATTER *v.*]

1. *trans.* To dissipate, squander (goods or possessions). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, He hadde ȝet his tresor ac he to deld it & scatered sotlice. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 78 For ȝif þes ordres geten nevere so myche good, þei seien þat al is þer ordris, and it were a deedli synne to scatire þes goodis in þe world. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 94 They would..neuer be so mad, gredily to gather together that other men shal merely sone after scatter abrode. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* VI. xvii. (1650) I. 204, I leave the rest of all my goods to my first-born Edward, to be consum'd or scatterd (for I never hoped better). *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VIII. 326 And was it not worth the..seeing his substance scattered, his children struck dead [etc.].

absol. 1879 G. CAMPBELL *White & Black* 243 Mr. J—— says the Germans are the only men who are saving; all the rest scatter.

2. To separate and drive in various directions (a body of men or animals, a collection of things); to disperse, dissipate (a quantity of matter); to dispel (clouds, mists).

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 16 [xviii. 14] And he sent his arwes, and skatered þa. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvi. 31, I shal smyte the sheperde, and the sheep of the floc shulen be scatered. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 19 Duck downe theire fleete with a tempest, Or ships wyde scatter. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 523 Buckingham's Armie is dispers'd and scatter'd. 1595 — *Merch. V.* I. i. 33 Dangerous rocks, Which touching but my gentle Vessels side Would scatter all her spices on the streame. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. x. 453 Lyk a certane sone, new risen to skail and skattir the Cloudis of al tumulte. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xxiii. 49 The Leaves of wild Clary.. put into Pottage..scatter congealed blood. *c* 1788 BURNS *Ep. to R. Graham* 26 Some spumy, fiery, *ignis fatuus* matter, Such as the slightest breath of air might scatter. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 30 A breeze..keen and hostile, scattering the snow. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 117 The terrible name of Odo scattered them in all directions. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Clov. Foot* xxviii, 'What has become of all the photographs?'..'Given to Tom, Dick and Harry —scattered to the four winds. I have not kept one of them.'

absol. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 283 It is the nature of this enemy of mankind [*sc.* the Devil] to scatter, to disioyne and separat.

fig. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 45 So doth God scatter the counsells of his enemies. [Cf. *Vulg.* Ps. xxxiii[i]. 10 *Dominus dissipet consilia gentium.*] 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon* iii. 145 So that Heaven May scatter thy delusions. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. iii. 430 No one did more to scatter the ancient superstitions than did Cicero.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To separate and disperse; to go dispersedly or straggligly. † Also of a hawk: To go to a distance.

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 158 And kepe we vs to-gedre trew That we skater not a-sondre. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iij b, When thay [a Couy of partrichys] be putt upp, and begynne to scatre, ye most haue markeris to marke some of thaym. 15.. *Scot. Field* 513 in *Chetham Misc.* II, When the Skottes..seen our men sketer They..came downwarde. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 126 The Commons like an angry Hiue of Bees That want their Leader, scatter vp and downe. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. (1611) 46 The Fillet is shaped long and narrowe for the more commodious vse of women in..restraining of their haire from scattering about theire browes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 138 Sound diffuseth it selfe in round..; But if the Sound, which would scatter in Open Aire, be made to goe all into a Canale; It must needs giue greater force to the Sound. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 541/2 She [the falcon] must also have two good bells, that she may be found when she scattereth. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 309 Aright, aleft, The affrighted foemen scatter from his spear. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* II. 74 The stems generally decline and scatter from each other, instead of being upright and close together. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xix. When on my foes a sudden terror came, And they fled, scattering. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 230/2 The fugitives scattered for miles, bearing appalling tales of massacre.

c. *refl.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xv. [xiv.] 9 The Philistynes came, and scatered them selues beneth in ye valley of Rephaim. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 128/2 They be enimies to the Churche, and scatter themselues farre from vs. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. ii. 175 *Shr.* He'll let you ha' your liberty— *Alm.* Goe forth, Whither you please, and to what company—. *Mad.* Scatter your selfe amongst vs.

† **d.** *trans.* To separate, drive apart (one or more individuals *from* the main body). *Obs.*

1588 EARL OF LEICESTER in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) II. 35 Two of the greatest carracks that the King of Spain had in his fleet, being scattered from the rest.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Derbysh.* (1662) I. 234 Their ships with the violence of the wind were much shattered, and the Bonaventure, scattered from the other two ships.

† **e.** *fig.* To dissipate, distract (the mind, etc.).

1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 122 A warnynge to take hede that yf the mynde were eny thynge scatered before, then to gather yt ageyne to gyther. 1625 B JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. ii, Look, look, how all their eyes Dance i' their heads (obserue) scatter'd with lust! 1715 tr. *T. à Kempis' Chr. Exerc.* III. xv. 138 If thou art hereby scattered in thy Mind.

3. *trans.* To throw about in disorder in various places.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 553 Ac þo þai come þider eft, Her werk was al vp aleft & yschatred here & þere. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 361 The pot to-breketh..And somme [of the metals] are scatered al the floor aboute. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 142 The fragments of rock scattered about were..polar.

† **b.** To throw down (a thing) negligently; to drop. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

a 1640 *Wizard* (MS.) (Nares), It is directed to you; some love-letter, on my life, that Luce hath scattered.

4. To distribute to various positions; to place here and there at irregular intervals. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 445 Mykel more if newe religious be skaterud in Cristendome. 1549 ALLEN *Par. Leo Jude upon Rev.* 8 These are yᵉ messengers of Anti-christ, scattrid thoroweout the whole worlde. 1712 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. (1755) II. 184 William the Conqueror proceeded much further; bringing over with him vast numbers of that nation, scattering them in every monastery. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. x. 326 Many tributes to his memory are scattered over his friend's other works. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. 130 So long as works of art are scattered through the nation, no universal destruction of them is possible. 1882 P. G. TAIT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 583/1 If stars be scattered through infinite space, with average closeness.

† **b.** *intr.* in pres. pple. used with a vb. of rest (= scattered'). *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 6 From Adam to the floud..when men liued skateryng on the earthe. 1716 CHURCH *Philip's War* (1867) II. 149 He answered, there were several Families, but they liv'd scattering. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 66/2 Laying all the..earth into the furrow again inward, so that none might lie scattering outward.

5. *trans.* To throw or send forth so that the particles are distributed or spread about; to sow or throw (seed, money, etc.) broadcast; to sprinkle, strew; to diffuse (fragrance).

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4682 Molle on þair heueds þai scaterd. 1530 PALSGR. 699/1, I scatter small thynges abrode, as peasyn, or beanes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlvii. 16 He..scatereth yᵉ horefrost like ashes. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 25 As it [*sc.* the Nile] ebbes, the Seedsman Vpon the slime and Ooze scatters his graine. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 54 Some of our men by the King's command scattered some papers, that if any would come in.. they should be pardoned. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 107 The Governor..bestows his Largess..liberally scattering Rupees. 1821 SHELLEY *Ginevra* 126 The matin winds from the expanded flowers Scatter their hoarded incense. 1861 MISS J. M. CAMPBELL in Bere *Garland of Songs* 61 We plough the fields and scatter The good seed on the land.

absol. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 17 Scatter with a free, though frugal, Hand.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Also, † to spread (reports, a prophecy).

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 118 O ioyfull report, and most acceptable rumour, which was scatered abroade. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 54 His plausiue words He scatter'd not in eares, but grafted them To grow there and to beare. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* II. (1671) 251 The Lady Davies.. scatters a Prophesie against him. *a* 1771 GRAY *Birds* 2 The song-thrush there Scatters his loose notes. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* IV. 74 A hand-grenade, that scatters destruction around it.

c. *intr.* for *refl.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 35 When it [Pulse] is rype it must be geathered..for it scattereth very soone. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epise.* (1647) 233 The Bishop should separate the scabbed sheep from the sound, least their infection scatter. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* v. (1840) 93 The small shot..scattered among them. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xlvi, A wood Whose bloom-inwoven leaves now scattering fed The hungry storm.

d. Of a gun, a cartridge: To distribute (the shot). Chiefly *absol.*

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 320 You must also be well acquainted with the Condition of the Gun, whether it be apt to scatter, or carry the Shot round within Compass. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* i, The gun scatters well. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 439 Cartridge loaded to scatter the shot.

e. *Physics.* Of a surface, semi-opaque substance: To throw back (light) brokenly in all directions.

1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* § 45 (1839) 32 The sun..illuminates the atmosphere and clouds, and these again disperse and scatter a portion of its light in all directions. 1882 P. G. TAIT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 583/2 In order that a surface may be illuminated..it must be capable of scattering light.

6. To sprinkle or strew *with* something.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 35 A narrow way, Scattred with bushy thornes and ragged breares. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 649 Now scatter'd lies With Carcasses and Arms th' ensanguind Field Deserted. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* VI. (1840) 106 The ground was scattered with elephant's teeth. 1902 E. PHILLPOTTS *Riveri*, Where the desert spread, all scattered with great stones.

7. *Comb.*: **scatteraway** *rare*, dispersion; **scatter-charge, load**, a charge for a gun, made to distribute the shot when fired; † **scatter-story**, one who 'spreads' a report or story; **scatter-tuft**, the genus *Sporochnus*, one of the algals (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, 1887); † **scatter-wise** *adv.*, in straggling order.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 325 So complete was the *scatteraway, that one of the brethren never stopped till he reached Saint-Gâll. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 439 The *scatter-charge has good penetration at 30 and 40 yards 1901 *Ibid.* (ed. 8) Index, *Scatter loads. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 734 Ælian, and some other such *scatter-stories as himself, do make more reports of..unreasonable creatures, than of reasonable men. 1875 DASENT *Vikings* III. xviii. 278 They sail very *scatter-wise in coming back, if, indeed, these few ships be part of the host.

Scatterable (skæ·tərăbl), *a.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be scattered.

1800 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 523 The rays of heat are..less refrangible than those of light; and..they are also, if I may introduce a convenient term, less scatterable.

Scatteration (skætərē·ɪ·ʃən). *rare.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + -ATION.] The action of scattering.

1776 MRS. A. GRANT *Lett. fr. Mountains* (1806) I. 212 After the dissolution and scatteration of last year's happy trio. 1865 *N. Y. Times* 25 Feb., The scatteration of Cobb's forces. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 750/2 Scatteration of effort is dissipation of energy.

Scatteraway: see SCATTER *v.* 7.

Sca·tter-brain. [f. SCATTER *v.* + BRAIN *sb.* Cf. the earlier SHATTERBRAIN.] One who is incapable of serious connected thought; a thoughtless, giddy person.

1790 COWPER *Let.* 31 July *Wks.* 1836 VI. 324 Though I have seen you but once,..I have found out that you are a scatter-brain. 1898 BARING-GOULD *Old Eng. Home* xii. 284 The generality of these scapegraces are simply scatter-brains.

So **Sca·tter-brained** *a.*, that is a scatter-brain; characteristic of a scatter-brain.

[1747: cf. *scattered-brained*, SCATTERED *ppl. a.* 6.] 1804 CURRIE in *Creevey Papers* (1904) I. i. 30 A scatter-brained fellow. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 122 A cheerful scatter-brained creature.

Scattered (skæ·təɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + -ED¹.] In senses of the verb.

1. Of a flock, tribe, company of persons, troops, etc.: Disunited and dispersed; disorganized; also, spread out in all directions.

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* l. 17 Israel is a scaterid flok. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, II. vi. 93 And hauing France thy Friend, thou shalt not dread The scattred Foe, that hopes to rise againe. 1786 BURNS '*The gloomy night*', The Hunter now has left the moor, The scatt'red coveys meet secure. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 412 From the field of battle he made his way..to the neighbourhood of Louvain, and there began to collect his scattered forces.

b. *fig.* Of feelings, thoughts, etc.: Distracted, discomposed; vagrant. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 26 It doth require..some labour to settle our wild scattered thoughts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 294 Adam..his scatterd spirits returnd, To Michael thus his humble words addressd. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlv, One word from Isaac..recalled her scattered feelings.

2. Widely separated one from another; placed here and there; spread over a wide area; straggling.

1595 *Polimanteia* in Brydges *Brit. Bibl.* I. 281 Mourne for the trulie Hon. Ferdinandos death: whom though scattered teares haue honoured in some few sonnets, yet [etc.]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 112 Having passed long suburbs and scattered houses we came within a Musket shot to the mountaine. 1725 POPE *Iliad* I. *Ess. on Homer* 18 Some other scatter'd Stories of Homer. 1791 BURNS *Lament for Earl Glencairn* iii, Ye scatter'd birds that faintly sing. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxvii, A few aged and scattered yew trees. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 175 Ulceration of the gall-bladder.. may lead to scattered abscesses in the substance of the liver. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 2/1 The Poor-law Conference.. showed a remarkable consensus of opinion in favour of the substitution of the boarding-out and scattered home system for the present barrack schools.

3. Cast or driven about loosely in all directions; thrown broadcast. † Of the hair: Disordered.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 304 His Legions..lay..Thick as.. scattered sedge Afloat, when with fierce Winds Orion arm'd Hath vext the Red-Sea Coast. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 121 Oh Winter, ruler of th' inverted year, Thy scatter'd hair with sleet like ashes fill'd..I love thee! *Ibid.* v. 67 The sparrows peep..Well they eye The scatter'd grain. 1839 J. MAIN *Abercrombie's Ev. Man his own Gard.* 40 Let grass be rolled with a wooden roller, to which all the scattered worm-cast earth will readily adhere.

† **b.** Of a single thing: Cast off; thrown negligently, let drop. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ii. 3 Whom having lost,..And finding in the way the scattred scarfe, The fortune of her life long time did feare. 1600 SHAKS. *A. V. L.* III. v. 104 Loose now and then A scattred smile, and that I'le liue vpon. 1782 COWPER *Table-T.* 674 [He], like a scatter'd seed at random sown, Was left to spring by vigour of his own.

4. *spec.* **a.** *Bot.* Occurring at wide and irregular intervals (see quots.).

[1640: cf. SCATTEREDLY.] 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* I. 225 Cal. none, (except some scattered sheaths). *Ibid.* III. 176 Root-leaves on leaf-stalks, somewhat toothed, beset with scattered hairs. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 492 Scattered (*sparsus*); used in opposition to whorled, or opposite, or ternate, or other such terms. 1872 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ* 54 Filament single, mostly scattered.

b. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 313 Scattered (*Sparsi*). When simple eyes are separate from each other and not arranged in a certain order.

c. *Physics.* Of light: Refracted and dispersed in all directions.

1808 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 280 The [prismatic] bows are formed by scattered light. 1878 ABNEY *Treat. Photogr.* xii. 88 The blurring caused by the reflection of the scattered rays from the plate.

5. Covered with scatterings; strewn or littered with something. *rare.*

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Winter* 56 [He] Fills the tall racks [with hay] and leaves a scatter'd road.

6. *Comb.*: † **scattered-brained** = SCATTER-BRAINED.

1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 14 [Expressions] such as easy fool, scattered-brained madman.

Scatteredly (skæ·təɪdli), *adv.* [f. SCATTERED *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a scattered manner; disorderedly, irregularly; † intermittently.

1611 SPEED *Theatre Gt. Brit.* i. § 3 All other Ilands and Ilets, which doe scatteredly inuiron it. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 283 Sometimes also growing scatteredly on the stalks. 1684 H. MORE *Answ. Remarkes upon More's Expos.* 275 What is more scatteredly and interruptedly done as to time, and place,..is..represented as done at one time, and in one place. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 252 Elytra..minutely and scatteredly punctulate. 1882 R. A. PROCTOR in *Knowledge* No. 41. 176 Meteors of the Perseid system may..be seen..in greater number, but with shorter paths near Perseus; more scatteredly, but with longer paths at a distance from that constellation.

Scatteredness (skæ·təɪdnès). *rare.* [Formed as prec. + -NESS.] Scattered condition.

1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. iv. (1713) 408 The Defectuousness and Scatteredness of the Prophecies.

Scatterer (skæ·tərəɪ). [f. SCATTER *v.* + -ER 1.] One who scatters, in the senses of the verb.

1535 COVERDALE *Nahum* ii. 1 The scaterer shal come vp agaynst the, & laye sege to the castell. 1555 PHILPOT *Apol. for Spitting upon Arrian* A 8 b, Least you might appeare to be scatterers w^t heretiks, rather than gatherers together with Christ. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) F 2, There be few scraping fathers, but their children prooue witty scatterers, or foolish retainers. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns*, '*The Sun of Righteousness appears*' i, Adore the Scatterer of your Fears, Your Rising Sun adore! 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lix. 11 He who is the shield of his people is the scatterer of their enemies.

Scattergood (skæ·təɪgud). [f. SCATTER *v.* + GOOD *sb.* (sense 7).] One who dissipates or squanders goods or possessions; a spendthrift.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 56 A mery iest of a scattergood. 1659 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* 220 If the first heire be not a scatter-good, the third is commonly a lose-all. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* v, That young scattergood, the Laird of Bucklaw. 1884 BLACKMORE *Tommy Upmore* II. 178 You have heard what careless scattergoods all honest sailors are.

Sca·tter-gun. *U. S. colloq.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + GUN *sb.*] A shot-gun.

187 . G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Travel* v. (1900) 142, I take up my scattergun and wander away. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 237 A 'double-pronged scatter gun'.

Scatterheaded, *a. rare*−1. = SCATTER-BRAINED.

1867 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 308 A scatterheaded Paddy like myself.

Scattering (skæ·təriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb SCATTER, in various senses; also, an instance of this.

1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* i. 1 James..to the twelue kynredis, that ben in scateringe abrood, helthe. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 15541 (Trin.) þis ny3t shal ben a scateryng [*v.rr.* sculd, skaile, parting] bitwene 3ou and me. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* xii. 121 There muste nedis folowe..skaterings and dissipacions of nacions. 1588 SIR J. HAWKINS in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) I. 359 By the occasion of the scattering [*MS.* schateringe] of one of the great ships from the fleet. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 1 By reason of the promiscuous scatterings of good and evil in this life. 1866 B. STEWART *Heat* § 189 (1876) 186 As in the case of light.., so also with regard to heat there is a diffuse reflection or scattering about of the rays.

attrib. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* § 45 (1839) 33 Were it not for the reflective and scattering power of the atmosphere, no objects would be visible to us out of direct sunshine... This scattering action of the atmosphere [etc.].

2. *concr.* That which is scattered.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlvi. 2 *Dispersiones israelis congregabit*...þe scatiryngis of israel he sall gadire. 1546 *Supplic. of Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 71 They..must leue the latward fruit, with the scateryng of theyr corne, for the poor to gather. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. (1671) 156 Which alone will be able to bind vp the scatterings of divided affections into strength. 1692 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) II. 455 The former Instances of Temporal Prosperity, which are but (as it were) the promiscuous Scatterings of his Common Providence. 1747 W. GOULD *Ants* 36 A white Substance, not altogether unlike the Scatterings of fine Sugar. 1908 *Betw. Trent & Axeholme* 107 On the grass.. lies a thick scattering of petals.

b. A sparse number or amount; a small proportion (of persons) interspersed.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xxxii. G, He has his sentences for Company, some scatterings of Seneca and Tacitus. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. O. & N. T.* I. 180 The gentile world wherein God had some scatterings of holy ones. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 348/1 There is a scattering of Europeans among the divers.

Scattering (skæ·təriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. In intransitive senses. a. That disperses in all directions; hence vagrant, roving, stray. † Of action: Erratic.

c 1450 *Brut* I. 191 Thus staterand [*read* scaterand] Scottes, holde y for sottes, of wrenches vnwar. [Cf. Skiterende Scottes *v.r. c* 1330 in Langtoft *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 252.] 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 121 The naked seely sowles were slayne for the most parte lyke scateryngе sheepe. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 151 Nor build your selfe a trouble Out of his scattering, and vnsure obseruance. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 36 The scattering Spirits remaining in the Heart may for a time being agitated by heat, cause these faint Pulsations. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* IV. 190 The scatt'ring clouds disclos'd the piercing light. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 122 They sent about twenty scattering troopers.

b. Lying scattered or spread out over a comparatively wide area; occurring sparsely or irregularly; sporadic; of a composite thing, having its parts so spread out; straggling. Now chiefly *U. S.*

Of votes (*U.S.*): Miscellaneous, cast for candidates whose poll is too small to call for separate enumeration.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 439 A small village it is in these daies, inhabited in scattering wise. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiv. 414 Then first he sells..some stragling mannour..as counting the gathering of such scattering rents rather burdensome then profitable. 1677 HUBBARD *Indian Wars* (1865) II. 256 Many of these scattering Plantations in our Borders..were contented to live without..Yoake of Government. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 192 Yet, lab'ring well his little Spot of Ground, Some scatt'ring Potherbs here and there he found. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* xxxii. 325 Now to gather up a few more scattering passages that happened this year. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 164 They being scattering houses, here one, there another. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Scattering*, not united; divided among many; as, scattering votes. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 642 Washington is a mean, scattering village. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiii. 266 When the Etruscans were Latinized, but for the scattering words which they had written down, their speech passed out of all reach of knowledge. 1879 A. JOHNSTON *Hist. Amer. Politics* (1884) 221 The Electoral votes..were found to be, for President, Grant, 286, T. A. Hendricks, of Indiana, 42, and 21 scattering. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 408 Letters appearing in the record less frequently than five per cent of these numbers have been regarded as scattering errors.

c. That scatters or falls here and there.

1761 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 20 June (1827) III. 61 We had only some scattering drops [of rain]. 1794 NELSON 21 Jan. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 364 They only got a few scattering shot at us.

2. That causes dispersion.

1808 HERSCHEL *Col. Rings* in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 280 A scattering glass applied to the incident ray, had no other effect than to diminish the brightness of the [prismatic] bow.

Hence † **Sca·tteringness.** *Obs. rare*−1.

1747 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 102 The scatteringness of the Settlements..must ever render them liable to Depredations.

Scatteringly (skæ·təriŋli), *adv.* [f. SCATTERING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a scattering manner; so as to disperse in all directions; not compactly and in a body; irregularly; intermittently.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 250/1, I thought here good to packe them all in one general heape together, as I finde them in Malmesbery, and in other sondry autors scateryngly recited. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. ci. 163 The Humble Bee Orchis hath..leaues, which growe scatteringly about the stalke. 1652 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. 127 The Houses scatteringly built amongst Hills and Gardens. *c* 1680 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* 126 Some [Gradual Verses] are scatteringly to be found in Homer. 1746 S. SIMPSON *Agreeable Historian* I. 300 This town..consists of one Street, lying scatteringly almost a Mile in Length. 1880 W. G. T. SHEDD *Homiletics* v. 118 Too many sermons are composed scatteringly all along through the week.

Scatterling (skæ·təliŋ). [f. SCATTER *v.* + -LING 1.] A wandering or vagabond person; a vagrant. Also *transf.* Now *arch.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 63 Yet oft annoyd with sondry bordragings Of neighbour Scots, and forrein Scatterlings. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 8. 510/2 But God was no better pleased with these, then with the other scatterlings at Lincolne. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 517 From mossy hillock, and tremulous stalk, We gather'd the lovely scatterlings.

attrib. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* II. iv. 62 The four ..had nothing to do with, and little to say to, any of the scatterling folk about them.

Scattermouch (skæ·təɪmɑʊtʃ). [Alteration of SCARAMOUCH after SCATTER *v.*] (See quot. 1892 and cf. SCARAMOUCH 2.)

1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBORNE *Wrecker* 194 *note*, In sea lingo (Pacific) Dutchman includes all Teutons and folk from the basin of the Baltic; Scattermouch, all Latins and Levantines. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* (ed. 3) 360 Scattermouches and ruffians from the four seas.

Scattery (skæ·təri), *a.* [f. SCATTER *v.* + -Y.] Characterized by scattering; scattered; sparse; straggling.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. 4 And the far ships, lifting their sails of white Like joyful hands, come up with scattery light,..true to the wished-for day. 1847 LD. JEFFREY *Lett.* 20 Apr. in Ld. Cockburn *Life* (1852) II. 413 The village is very small and scattery, and all mixed up with trees. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* xvi. (1880) 96 Not to benefit the world in general, in a large and scattery way—but to right the wrong of my own house.

† **Scatu·riency.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. next: see -ENCY.] The condition of being scaturient.

1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xlv. (1713) 544 Is it so difficult to determine, whether is more expedient,..Fruitfulness or Sterility, or if you had rather, Aridity or Scaturiency?

Scaturient (skătiū·riĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *scatūrient-em*, pr. pple. of *scatūrire*, f. *scatēre* to flow out.] That flows out or gushes forth.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 222 The glandulous substance of the Paps is a little contracted, so that they do not so readily receive the milky humour, that way scaturient. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 214 He wielded..a pen so scaturient and unretentive, that..he himself must have been often astonished..at the extent of his lucubrations. 1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Newspapers* 35 *yrs. ago*, We well remember.. sallying forth..to trace the current of the New River..to its scaturient source. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sketches* (1879) I. 150 The drip and tinkle of its scaturient waters.

† **Scaturi·ginous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *scatūrīgin-ōsus*, f. *scatūrīginēs* pl. gushing waters, f. *scatūrīre*: see SCATURIENT and -OUS.] Full of or abounding in springs. In quots. *fig.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scaturiginous*,..that bursts out, or runs over, out of which water riseth. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 36. 2/1 Our Querist..has exhausted his Scaturiginous Brains, to explore Epithets. 1709 *Ibid.* II. No. 64. 2/2 Thou..from whose Scaturiginous Inventive Faculty, such a Multiplicity of Horisonant Phrases arise.

Scaubard, -art, -erc, etc., obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*1

Scaud, variant form of SCALD *a.*1 and *v.*

Scauff, obs. Sc. form of SCAFF *sb.*

Scaul, obs. f. SCALL *sb.* and Sc. f. SCOLD.

Scaulde, var. f. SCALD *a.*1; obs. f. SCALD *v.*

Scaum (skǫm), *sb. Sc.* and *dial.* Also **scam, scame, skaum.** [Belongs to SCAUM *v.*]

1. A burn or scorch; 'the act of singeing clothes by putting them too near the fire, or by means of a hot iron' (Jam.); also, a mark of burning.

1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 132 (Jam.) But ay whan Satan blaws the coal, I find it's best the scaum to thole. 1874 G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* II. xix. 260 To hide a scaum she had taen for a' her pride.

2. A thin haze or mist; a light, misty vapour.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 421 There is red scaum, white scaum, and many others. By the colour or hue of the scaum do Watherwiseakers guess about coming weather. 1825 JAMIESON, *Scaum o' the sky.* 1877 J. VEITCH *Hist. & Poet. Sc. Border* xii. 426 A wide-spreading web of greyish cloud, the skaum of the sky.

Scaum (skǫm), *v. Sc.* and *dial.* Also **scam(e, skaum.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To burn slightly, scorch, char. Also, 'to bespatter' (Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, ed. 2, 1829).

a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 247 Ane fyrie cros of tymber, quhairof everie point of the cros was scamit and brynt with fyre. 1808 JAMIESON *App.*, *To Scam*, to scorch. 1825 — *To Scaum, Scame*, v. a. to burn slightly; to singe. 1841 W. AITKEN *Poet. Wks.* 53 Some had their claes tied in a clout To keep them frae be'n scaumed. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 26 July 4/2 Then comes a bitter March wind, with snow and sleet, which 'scam' the soft plants, and leave them withered as if they had been touched by fire.

2. 'To envelope in a mist or haze, to shade' (E.D.D.).

1871 P. H. WADDELL *Ps.* lxxx. 10 The heights they were scaumed wi' her shadow.

Scaumpioun, obs. form of CHAMPION.

† **Scaunt,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [Aphetic form for *ascaunt*. See ASKANT *adv.*] Oblique.

1741 *Betterton's Eng. Stage* v. 66 The Contraction of the Lips and the Scaunt Look of the Eyes, expresses the Gesture of a deriding and malicious Person.

Scaup (skǫp). Short for SCAUP-DUCK. Also Comb. *scaup-pochard* (rare) = scaup-duck.

1797 LATHAM in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* IV. 116 The trachea of the Pochard, at first sight, seems to be similar to that of the Scaup. 1824 J. F. STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XII. II. 198 Scaup pochard (*Fuligula Marila*). *Ibid.* 200 The Scaup..inhabits Iceland, and the more northern parts of the continents of Europe and America. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* June 768/2 A small party of scaup..next came into focus.

Scaup, variant form of SCALP *sb.*1 and *sb.*2

Scaup-duck (skǫpˌdʊk). [?f. *scaup* SCALP *sb.*2: see quot. *a* 1672.

The Icel. *skálphéna* (*héna* = hen), occurring once as the nickname of a man, is prob. unconnected.]

A duck of the genus *Fuligula*, esp. *Fuligula marila*, inhabiting the seas of northern Europe, Asia, and America.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY & RAY *Ornith.* III. (1676) 279 Avis hæc *the Scaup-duck* dicta est, quoniam scalpam i.e. pisces testaceos fractos seu contritos esitat. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 565 Scaup Duck. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 661/1 The maula, or scaup-duck, is less than the common duck. 1886 NEWTON *ibid.* (ed. 9) XXI. 378/2 The female Scaup-Duck can be readily distinguished from the Dunbird or female Pochard by her broad white face.

Scauper, variant form of SCALPER 1.

Scaur (skǫr). Chiefly *Sc.* [dial. var. of SCAR *sb.*1] A precipitous bank; a cliff; the ridge of a hill.

1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. xii, Is it the roar of Teviot's tide, That chafes against the scaur's red side? 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* iv. (1857) 45 Its place on the rock has ever since remained as undistinguishable as the scaurs and cliffs around it. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 54 Down the shingly scaur he plunged. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mary. & Merch.* II. i. 6 Hesper shone Like a beacon over the mountain scaurs. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 243 Dwarf pines..grew thinly among loose stone and gravel scaurs. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* IX. 193 Scaur and ravine changed and rolled back to jagged mountains.

Scaur, var. SCAR *a.*; obs. Sc. f. SCARE *v.*

Scaurie (skǫ·ri). *Orkney* and *Shetland.* Also **scorey, scourie, scowry, skoray, scorie, sko(r)rie, skory.** [Scandinavian: cf. Norw. *skaare* (Aasen), ON. *skáre.*] The young of any kind of gull.

1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 303 The Brown and White Gull..which the people here call the scorey, is much more

rarely met with than most others. 1808 P. Neill *Tour Orkney & Shetland* 25 The Brough..is the resort and nursery of hundreds of scauries, or herring-gulls (*larus fuscus*). I believe the Orkney name scaurie is applied to this gull only while it is young and speckled; and it loses its speckled appearance after the first year. 1821 Scott *Pirate* v, For your harvest on the crag, I suppose you mean these scowries, or whatever you call them. 1844 W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scot.* xxxviii. (1855) 300 A skoray, or young kittiwake. 1899 J. Spence *Shetland Folk-Lore* 14 The plee o' the skorie, the birr o' the snipe.

† **Scaut,** *v. Obs.*—° [Origin obscure; connexion with mod. dial. *scaut*, to push with the feet, is unlikely.] *intr.* ? To dart. Hence **Scautand** *ppl. a.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4200 Pire Cocatricesse in creuessis þar kindiles þai brede, Scorpions many score scautand neddirs.

Scavage (skæ·vēdʒ), *sb.* Also 5 scawage, 6 skawage, skavag(e, 7 scavadge. [a. AF. *scawage*, *schawage* (*Rolls of Parlt.* an. 1402), =North-Eastern OF. *escauwage*, f. *escauwer* to inspect, ad. Flemish *scauwen* = OE. *sċéawian* Show *v.*

The OE. synonym was *sċéawung* (see Showing *vbl. sb.*), the ME. form of which was adopted into AF. as *scawenge* (1419 in *Liber Albus* 223). In the 15th c. lawyers were aware of the etymological meaning, and invented the word Shewage as an explanatory synonym.]

1. A toll formerly levied by the mayor, sheriff, or corporation of London and other towns on merchant strangers, on goods offered for sale within their precincts. The toll was prohibited by Act 19 Hen. VII, c. 8. Also *attrib. Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. vii. (1481) h vij b, And by the purse been signefyed them that receyue the costumes, tolles, scawage, peages and duetees of the cytees and townes. *a* 1500 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) p. xiv, The marchaundyses wherof skauage ought to be taken in London, and how meche. 1502 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1903) 90 He was Skavage gatherer in London, both to the maire and Shreves there. *Ibid.* 92 There was skavage askyd by oone James skavage gatherer then of oone Skrevener Freman of Excestre for cloth bi him brought to London by water, and he refusid to pay it. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 338 This yere [1252] the cytezyns [of London] had graunted of y^e^ Kyng, y^t^ no cytezyns shulde paye scauage or tolle for any bestis by them brought, as they before tymes had vsed. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 8 § 4 The tables so to be sette upp in the Cytie of London touchynge Scavage. 1583 *Rates Custom ho.* g iij, *heading*, Scauadge. 1641 W. Hakewill *Libertie of Subject* 123 There are other duties then Customes and Subsidies due upon the landing of wares; for example Wharfage, Cranage, Scavage and such like. 1676 Molloy *De Jure Marit.* II. xiv. (1688) 325 Scavage is an ancient Toll or Custom exacted by Mayors, Sheriffs, &c. of Merchant-Strangers for Wares shewed or offered to sale within their Precincts. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* xi. 332 Of Scavage (i.e. Shewage or Surveying) of certain Goods imported by Foreign Merchants.

† 2. The fulfilment of the duties of a scavager.

1547 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 386 Item payd to the skavynger for hys hole yeres skavag,..ij^s^.

† 3. Refuse, etc. scavenged from the roads. *Obs.*

1706 in J. E. Cox *Ann. St. Helen's Bishopsgate* vii. (1876) 127 Mr. Chewter had leave to sink a place for laying in of dung or scavage.

Sca·vage, *v. rare.* [Back-formation from Scavager.] *trans.* = Scavenge *v.* Also *intr.* for *refl.* (*fig.*). Hence **Sca·vaging** *vbl. sb.*

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 222/1 The scavaging work, moreover, was 'scamped'. *Ibid.* 252/2 The general depreciation of wages in the scavaging trade. *Ibid.* 259 The street-orderly system of scavaging the metropolitan thoroughfares. 1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 56 The brain will scavage and the breast unstuff.

Sca·vager. Also **skavager.** [a. AF. *scawager*, f. *scawage* Scavage *sb.*: see -er 2.

1307 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Lett. Bk. C. City of London* (1901) 151 *note*, Pro curia de scawageriis. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 333 Lez scawageours averont iiii deniers pur chescun tile nusance issint remoez ou debrusez.]

† 1. An officer whose duty it was to take 'scavage', and who was afterwards also charged with the duty of keeping the streets clean. *Obs.*

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 89 Item, paid to the Skauagers for the pament endited, viij d. 1536 *City of Lond. Rep.* ix. 183 b, in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. 171 Item, for by cawse compleynt was made by one of þ^e^ scavagers of y^e^ Wat..e of Faryngdon, for kepyng of the stretes there vnclene. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 845 Searchers for unwholesome Meat. Scavager to gather the Money. Gaoler.

2. Used for Scavenger 2. *rare.*

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 218 The nominal wages of the scavagers. *Ibid.* 221, 252.

Sca·vagery. *rare*—[1]. [f. Scavage *sb.* + -ery.] = Scavengery.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 217/2 In scavagery, the average hours of daily work are twelve. *Ibid.* 259/2 When the sages of the city sewers did not consider any proposed improvement in scavagery worthy their attention.

Scavan(t: see Savant.

Scavel (skæ·vĕl), *dial.* Also 5, 7 scavell, 6–7 skavell, 6 skavel, 7 ? skeval, 9 skafell, skaffel, scaffle. [? f. ON. *skafa* to scrape, Shave *v.*] A small spade (see quot. 1823).

a 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxvii. 178 Now schal I telle 30u, how 3e schal caste out þe hard wose of 3oure synne..wyth a scauel of confessioun. *Ibid.* 179 A scauel, in þe heued beforn, hath a scho of yren, scharp & my3ti, & an heued, hole & narow, & a long stele, an handyll. 1559 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 737 One workeman with a spade or skavell may digg in one howre C. foote. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 38 With skuppat and skauel, that marsh men alow. *c* 1613 Spelman *Relat. Virginea* 47 They digg many holes which before the English brought them scauels and spades they used to make with a crooked peece of woode. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Wds.* 352 *Skaffel*, a small spade or skuppet used in draining... It differs from a spade in not tapering toward the edge, and in having its sides slightly turned up.

b. *attrib.*, as *scavel work*; **scavel-man, scavel spitter** (see quots.).

1581 in C. Welch *Tower Bridge* (1894) 103 [A number of] showtmen, now called *scavelmen. 1584 *Faversham Parish Reg.* (MS.), John Price a scauelman or dicker. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1544/2 A great manie marshmen were assigned to laie the fleech vpon the sides of the wals, and were called scauelmen. 1803 *Naval Chron.* XV. 58 The scavelmen are a description of labourers..who attend to clean and pump the docks, and in general assist the shipwrights. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor*, **Scavel Spitters*, are a small Spade, only shod half way, and are used for digging Clay. 1642 *Burghmote Book B, Canterb.* (MS.), Which persons are appointed for the *Scavell work and are disired to digge Turf and earth for the fortification.

Scavenage (skæ·vĕnēdʒ). [Irreg. f. Scaven(ge) + -age.] The action or work of scavenging.

1878 *Lancet* 12 Jan. 64 The system of scavenage for the borough. 1885 *Scientific American* 9 May, The Jewish priests maintained a system of scavenage, themselves supervised the cleansing of cities and habitations.

Scavenge (skæ·vĕndʒ), *v.* [Back-formation from Scavenger.]

1. *trans.* To clean *out* (dirt, etc.).

a 1644 Quarles *Sheph. Orac.* ii. (1646) 22 Should I but name The Tithe of that base dunghill trash, brought in By your Dominicans, scaveng'd out agin By worse Franciscans.

2. To scrape dirt from (the streets); also, to cleanse (the surface of a river).

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 197/2 In wet weather there is at least twenty times more 'mac' than dung scavenged. 1866 *Act 28 & 30 Vict.* c. 89 § 52 The Conservators shall cause the Surface of the Thames to be effectually scavenged, in order to the Removal therefrom of Substances liable to Putrefaction.

transf. 1858 Kingsley *Misc., Chalk-Stream* I. 182 They are Verticellæ; and every one of those bells, by the ciliary current on its rim, is scavenging the water—till a tadpole comes by and scavenges it.

3. *absol.* or *intr.*

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 528/1 We saw fleeting glimpses of working-women scavenging, hanging out clothes, huckstering. 1894 *Daily News* 26 Apr. 2/4 Mr. Milvain.. objected to the Conservancy being released..of their power to scavenge eastward.

Scavenger (skæ·vĕndʒəɹ), *sb.* Also 6 skavinger, -ynger, scavengere, 6–8 scavinger, 7 skavenger. [Altered form of Scavager, with intrusive *n* as in *passenger*, *messenger*.]

1. = Scavager 1. Now only *Hist.*

1547 [see Scavage *sb.* 2]. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 328 In Sepulchers parish common Counsaile six, Constables foure, Scauengers foure [etc.]. 1638 *Tarlton's Jests* C 1 b, When Tarlton dwelt in Gracious street..he was chosen Scauenger, and often the Ward complained of his slacknesse, in keeping the streets cleane. 1677 Thoroton *Nottinghamsh.* 492 There is an Officer of the Town called the Scavenger, that looks to the Pavement and Streets of the Town, and attends upon the Majors wife. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3053/2 An Act for Exempting Apothecaries from Serving the Offices of Constable, Scavenger, and other Parish and Ward-Offices. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 4 The government of this ward is in one alderman,..seven scavengers, and a beadle. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* I. 172 (Aberystwith), The Scavengers are appointed in the same manner. The persons usually selected for this office are the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, and they employ the paupers in sweeping the streets.

† b. As the title of an official under the East India Company. *Obs.*

1702 *MS. list* in Yule s.v., John Butt, Scavenger and Cornmeeter, Tevenapatam, Merchant. 1760 *Fort William Cons.* in Long *Sel. Rec. Gov.* (1869) 245 (Yule) Mr. Handle, applying to the Board to have his allowance of Scavenger increased..we allow him Rs. 20 per month more than before.

2. A person whose employment is to clean streets, by scraping or sweeping together and removing dirt. † Also, a person employed to keep clean a church.

1530 Palsgr. 266/1 Scavenger that clenseth stretes, *bovevr.* 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* 19/2 And as in the other vnder wardens cometh the order of Scauingers: so neither doth the Popes Monarchy lacke his kaynilrakers. 1598 Br. Hall *Sat.* VI. ii. 99 To see..a cloked Frere Sweating in the channell like a Scauengere. 1642 *Laws of War Army Earl Essex* 21 The rest [shall] serve for Pioners and Scavengers, till a worthy exployt take off that Blot. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 101 The sorry scavengers who live honestly by emptying privies. 1696 *Act 8 & 9 Will. III*, c. 37 § 1 To the end the Dirt and Soyl may be heaped ready for the Scavenger to carry away. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. p. xi, Now would I ask if a good citizen..might not assert that dirty streets are a necessary evil inseparable from the felicity of London, ..without any prejudice either to the blackguard or the scavingers. 1725–6 in J. L. Chester *Westm. Abbey Reg.* (1876) 316 John Chittham, Scavenger to this Church: in the South Cloister. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. xvi. 136 The scavenger, with his broom..was clearing away a heap of mud. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiv, A scavenger's cart happening to stand unattended..Mr. S. found it impossible to resist the temptation of shooting Mr. Silas Wegg into the cart's contents.

b. *transf.* One who or something which removes dirt or putrid matter. Applied to various animals that feed on decaying matter, esp. the scavenger beetle.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 1 Chiefe scauinger of chins. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* I. *Swine* i. 87 The Swine..is the Husbandmans best scauenger,..for his food and liuing is by that which would else rot in the yard. 1648 Winyard *Midsummer-Moon* 4 Thus sinkes and common shoares are the best scavengers. 1719 Baynard *Health* (ed. 2) 6 And Fasting's Nature's Scavenger. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* i. (1879) 10 Numerous spiders, which I suppose prey on these small attendants and scavengers of the waterfowl. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 164 The sturgeons may be called the scavengers of the great rivers which they frequent. 1858 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 48/1 The argala..is extremely useful in removing noxious animals, and devouring all sorts of carrion. It is called the scavenger in Calcutta. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 307 The *Silphidæ* (burying or sexton beetles, scavengers, &c.). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 719 The spider-cells..act as phagocytes or 'scavengers', multiplying upon and removing the degenerate nerve-elements.

c. *fig.* in various uses: One who collects filth; one who does 'dirty work'; a dishonourable person. Also, in favourable sense, one who labours for the removal of public evils.

1562 Pilkington, etc. *Burnynge Paules* A vij, In like maner where thys scauenger sweping the stretes with his bookes..hais spoken the truth, not trulye..I shal passe ouer it with silence. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 9 Are there not diuerse skauingers of draftye poetrye in this oure age, that bast theyre papers with smearie larde [etc.]. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. ii, The gentlemancitizen hath satisfied me, Ile talk to no scauenger. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 265 That Suburbe sinke, as this rude Scavinger calls it,..shall be in my account a more honourable place then his University. 1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph.* (1774) Pref. 30, I am no other than a literary scavenger. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxvii. (1788) 340 *note*, In the senate, their abilities have confined them to those humble, sordid services, in which the scavengers of the ministry are usually employed.

3. A child employed in a spinning-mill to collect loose cotton lying about the floor or machinery. Also, a roller used to collect the loose fibres or fluff; also called *scavenger-roll.*

1833 Lytton *England & Engl.* (ed. 2) I. 201 My children shall never go into a factory, more especially as scavengers and piecers. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 289 The masters paid the spinners the full allowance of wages for these piecers and scavengers, as they are called. 1853 — *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 831 In the mules we notice a peculiar arrangement of 'scavenger' is applied. The object of this apparatus is to clear particles of waste from the top of the carriage, and the operation is effected by means of a roller.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scavenger duck, shovel, work*; *scavenger-like* adj. and adv.; **scavenger-cell** = Phagocyte; **scavenger-roll** (see sense 3); † **scavenger-stuff** (see quot. 1787).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 324 In the lowest layer '*scavenger' cells and nuclei cover the spindle cells. 1884 *Good Words* Nov. 746/2 A band of *scavenger ducks picking up the garbage. 1611 Cotgr., *Voyer*, a Surueyer..of highwayes..who..*Scauinger-like, giues order that they be made cleane. 1890 *Spectator* 28 June, When such scavenger-like work is thus forced upon a man of letters, it is [etc.]. 1611 Cotgr., *Paelle à bourbe*, a *Scauingers shouell;..such a one as durt is vsually remoued, or taken vp, with. 1787 Winter *Syst. Husb.* 332 *Scavenger stuff, is a mixture of coal ashes and street dirt. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 312 There is so little *scavenger work required in fine spinning, on account of the small quantity of waste from the long-stapled cotton.

b. In designations of certain animals (see 2 b): **scavenger-beetle**, a necrophagous beetle, especially one of the family *Scaphidiidæ*; **scavenger-crab**, any crab which feeds on dead animal matter; **scavenger-vulture** (see quot.).

1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 182 *Scavenger-Beetles (*Scaphidiidæ*). 1857 A. White *Pop. Hist. Brit. Crust.* Index, *Scavenger-crab. 1894 *19th Cent.* XXXVI. 436 Scavenger crabs line this coast in myriads. 1885 Hornaday *2 Yrs. in Jungle* vi. 61 No wonder the builder of such a nest is called the *scavenger vulture [*Neophron percnopterus*].

Sca·venger, *v. rare.* [f. Scavenger *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To remove dirt from, chiefly *fig.*; also, to make dirty with scavenging.

a 1644 Quarles *New Distemper* (1645) 3 All the Romish Rubbish and Trumpery was scavengerd out of this [the new Reformed] Church. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) II. x, After having scavengered your hands and gloves in slaving to drag up each [shoe out of the quagmire].

2. *intr.* To work at scavenging.

1843 [implied in Scavengering *vbl. sb.*]. 1894 *Season* X. 71/3 Scavengering with bent spine in the gutter.

Scavengering (skæ·vĕndʒəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Scavenger *v.* + -ing 1.] The action or work of removing filth, etc. from the streets. Also *attrib.*

1841 *Literary Gaz.* 11 Dec. 801/3 M. de Lucy..recommended that steam should be used for melting the snow.., in order to facilitate the process of scavengering. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 472/2 In Cairo these vultures are..prized for their scavengering services. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 72, 510 The..management of a barrow, as applied to scavengering, is a matter of serious moment. 1885 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 5/1 The scavengering alone costs 1,300*l.* a year. *fig.* 1869 *Echo* 26 Aug. 4 It is..a sort of moral scavengering to which the Commissioners are condemned.

Scavenger's daughter. Also **Skevington's, Skeffington's daughter.** [From a jocular perversion of the name *Skevington.* See Daughter 6 c.] An instrument of torture (invented in the reign of Hen. VIII by Leonard Skevington or Skeffington, Lieutenant of the Tower), which (bringing the head to the knees) so compressed

the body as to force the blood from the nose and ears. Also † *Skevington's gyves, irons.*

1564 in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* 686 *marg.*, Thys Engine is called Skeuyngtons Giues, wherein the body standeth double, the head being drawen towardes the feete. 1580 Rishton *Diarium* in Sanders *De Schism. Angl.* (1586) I i 5, 10 [Dec.] Thomas Cotamus & Lucas Kirbeus presbyteri, Scauingeri filiam ad vnam horam & amplius passi, ex quo prior copiosum sanguinem e naribus emisit. 1580–1 in D. Jardine *Use Torture Eng.* (1837) 84 We have made triall of hym by the torture of Skevington's Yrons. 1604 *Jrnls. Ho. Commons* I. 209/1 An Engine devised by Mr. Skevington, some time Lieutenant of the Tower, called Skevington's Daughters, or Little Ease. 1826 W. E. Andrews *Review Fox* II. 369 One of the instruments of torture, called the Scavenger's daughter, employed in the Tower on Catholics. 1897 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LII. 325/1 Leonard [Skeffington]..the inventor of an instrument of torture, known as 'Skevington s irons' or 'Skevington's daughter'.

Scavengery (skæ·vĕndʒəri). [f. Scavenger *sb.* + -y.] The municipal or state arrangements for cleaning and removing dirt, refuse, etc.; the action of collecting and removing dirt from the streets.

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Polit. Touchstone* 449 Since Tuscany did breed a numerous rascallity of turbulent mad-caps..he had yet farther very great need of those Gallies, which were as the scavengery of his State, by which he kept it cleanly. 1663 Rollock in *Marg. Worcester's Exact Def. Water Engine* 6 Whole Cities may be kept clean,..needing no other Scavengery than by means thereof [i. e. of the Water Engine] to void their Dirt, and avoid Noisomness. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 56 The Brutal Scavengery of *Cacarello's Modus.* 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 207/2 By one or other of these modes of scavengery all the public ways of the metropolis are cleansed.

Scavenging (skæ·vĕndʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Scavenge *v.* + -ing 1.] Street-cleaning; removal of filth; also, the cleaning of a river, etc.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 208/1 The private scavenging of the metropolitan mews. 1883 *Summary* 26 July 6/4 He considers..that nothing short of a daily scavenging [of the Regent's Canal] will be satisfactory.

transf. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 618/2 He was accustomed to cut a number of sermons out of the volumes in order to carry on his scavenging in his own garret.

† **Scavilones,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Scabilonian.] 'Long drawers worn under the hose by men in Queen Elizabeth's time' (J. R. Planché *Cycl. Costume* 1876, I. 447).

1577 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 1859/2 Nayler put off hys nether stockes, and so bare foote and bare legged saue hys silke scauilones to the ankles..came in.

Scavinger, obs. form of Scavenger *sb.*

Scaw (skǭ). Also skaw. [Shetland dial., repr. ON. *skage.*] A promontory.

1821 Scott *Pirate* viii, A child might travel with a purse of gold from Sumburgh-head to the Scaw of Unst, and no soul would injure him. 1842 Longf. *Skeleton in Armor* xiv, Yet we were gaining fast, When the wind failed us; And with a sudden flaw Came round the gusty Skaw.

Scaw, var. Sc. f. Scall *sb.*; obs. f. Show *v.*

Scawage, obs. form of Scavage.

Scawbard, -art, -ert, obs. ff. Scabbard *sb.*1

Scawde, Sc. form of Scald *a.* and *v.*

† **Scawe.** *Obs. rare*−1. [Of obscure origin and meaning: cf. s. w. dial. *scovy, scawvy,* 'uneven in colour, blotched, streaky, mottled' (*E. D. D.*), also *squally* in quot. 1552 s.v. Bandy *a.* 2.

The mod. Sc. *scaw,* 'a faded or spoilt mark' (Jam.) is a form of Scall *sb.*, and is prob. unconnected.]

Some kind of defect in cloth.

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 In case that eny such diversite, or rawe, scawe, kokell, or fagge happen to be in any part of the seid clothes.

† **Scawed,** *a. Obs.* [?f. prec. + -ed 2.] Spotted.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. lxxv. (Bodl. MS.), Some Catte is white and some is reed and some is blacke and some is specked and scawed [orig. *maculosum*].

Scawip, obs. Sc. form of Scalp *sb.*2

Scawl, Sc. form of Scold.

Scawp(e, obs. and var. ff. Scalp *sb.*1

Scaymes, variant of Squaimous, squeamish.

Scayne, variant of Skean, obs. form of Skein.

Scayse, obs. Sc. form of Scarce *adv.*

‖ **Scazon** (skē·zǫn). *Prosody.* Pl. **scazons,** also **scazontes** (skăzɒ·ntīz). [L., a. Gr. *σκάζων,* sb. use of pres. pple. of *σκάζειν* to limp, halt.] A modification of the iambic trimeter, in which a spondee or trochee takes the place of the final iambus; = Choliamb. Also *scazon iambic.*

The name was also applied by some ancient metrists to a similar modification of the trochaic tetrameter catalectic, and to various other metres which are variations of some common type of verse produced by a change in the last foot.

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* xi. 124 Archilochus and Hipponax two very bad Poets..invented those doggrel sorts of Verses, Iambics and Scazons. 1806 C. Symmons *Life of Milton* (1810) 138 On the occasion of Salsilli's illness Milton sent to him those scazons, which are rich in poetic imagery, though inaccurate in their metrical construction. 1869 H. Snow *Theocritus, Epigr.* xix. Notes (1873) 221 The..catalectic scazon iambics. *Ibid.* xxi. 221 The metre is scazon iambic. 1889 J. Jacobs *Caxton's Æsop* 21 the Babrian scazon is..influenced by Latin metre.

Hence † **Scazo·ntian** *a.*, **Scazo·ntic** *a.*, consisting of, written in, scazons; *sb.* = Scazon.

1782 Elphinston tr. *Martial* Pref. 3 He [Martial] sometimes..chooses the Iambic stanza..and often the Scazontian. 1845 H. Thompson in *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 412/1 Cneius Matius..wrote Mimiambics, which differed from the Mimes of the two former authors only by being written in scazontics. 1898 R. Ellis in *Class. Rev.* Mar. 121/2 There is a semblance here of a scazontic original.

Sceane, variant of Sene, synod, visitation.

Scear, variant of Sear *sb.* (of a gun).

Scearche, obs. form of Search.

Sceat. Pl. **sceattas.** *Hist.* and *Numism.* Also written 8–9 **skeat** (*pl.* skeats, skeattas), 9 **scaett** (*pl.* scaettas); 9 *erron. forms* **sceatta, skeatta,** *pl.* **sceattæ, skeattæ.** [a. OE. *sceat, scætt* (see Scat *sb.*1). The OE. pronunciation was (ʃat) or (ʃæt).] **a.** *Hist.* A coin or denomination of money mentioned in OE. documents, app. of somewhat different values in the different kingdoms. (In Mercia 250 *sceattas* are mentioned as equivalent to a 'pound'; in Kent the value seems to have been $\frac{1}{20}$ of a 'shilling'). **b.** *Numism.* Adopted by modern writers as the name for a small Old English silver coin, about 15 grains in weight, the examples of which belong to the 7th and 8th c. Also occas. applied to an Old English gold coin of similar size.

[*c* 970 *Merc. Laws* ii. (Lieb. 462), Ðonne bið cynges anfeald wergild six þegna wer be Myrcna laga, þæt is xxx þusend sceatta, & þæt bið ealles cxx punda. *a* 1000 *Laws Æthelb.* xxxiii. (Lieb. 5), Gif feaxfang ʒeworðð, L sceatta to bote. *Ibid.* lxxii. (7), Gif þare mycclan taan nægl of weorþeð, xxx scætta to bote. Et þam oþrun ʒehwilcum x scættas ʒebete.] 1720 J. Johnson *Collect. Eccl. Laws etc. Ch. Eng.* Laws Ethelstan an. 926 No. 2, The King's single Weregild is..thirty Thousand Skeats, in all, 120 Pound. 1817 Ruding *Ann. Coinage* I. 203 Sceattæ are known of the early Kings of Kent. *Ibid.* 217 The Sceatta. 1845 Petrie *Eccl. Archit. Ireland* 224 The skeattas or English pennies. 1853 Humphreys *Coin Collect. Man.* II. 410 Many skeattæ are without inscription at all. 1860 C. R. Smith in *Archæol. Cantiana* III. 39 The earliest Anglo-Saxon silver coins, commonly called sceattas. 1887 C. F. Keary *Catal. Ags. Coins Brit. Mus.* Introd. 22 The immense difference in character between the sceattas and the pennies.

† **Scede.** *Obs. rare*−1. [ad. L. *sceda,* var. spelling of *scheda*: see Schede.] A strip of papyrus.

1628 Burton *Anat. Mel.* Democr. To Rdr. (ed. 3) 50 Like that scede or Scytala Laconica, so much renowned of old in all contracts, which Tully so earnestly commends to Atticus.

Scedula, scedule, scedull, obs. ff. Schedule.

Sceg(g, Scegger : see Skeg, Skegger.

‖ **Scelalgia** (skelæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* Also in anglicized form **scela·lgy.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *σκέλ-os* leg + *-αλγία, ἄλγος* pain.] Neuralgia in the leg.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Scelalgia,* pain of the leg. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Scelalgia,*..scelalgy.

Sceleratе (se·lĕrĕt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–9 **scelerat,** 6 *Sc.* **scelerait.** [ad. L. *scelerātus,* pa. pple. of *scelerāre,* f. *sceler-, scelus* wickedness: see -ate 2. Cf. F. *scélérat* (in Cotgr. 1611; OF. had *sceleré*), It. *scellerato,* Pg. *scelerado.*]

† **A.** *adj.* Atrociously wicked. *Obs.*

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. 675 And fledde is now clerely the scelerat flokke. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 29 b, His myscheuous actes and scelerate doynges. 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* ii. 296 So scelerait, and ingrait for to chois. 1613 Sir A. Sherley *Trav. Persia* 8 The scelerat treason conspired against vs. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* ii. 1845 There was resistance against such a scelerate Prince. 1665 Winstanley *Loyal Martyrol.* 102 Such a Scelerate Villaine. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* i. iii. § 98 (1740) 191 The most scelerate Plot that ever was heard of.

B. *sb.* An atrociously wicked person, a villain, wretch. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

The spelling *scelerat* is after the F. *scélérat;* the word has been occasionally used by Eng. writers with italics and accents as a foreign word.

1715 Cheyne *Philos. Princ. Relig.* ii. 88 Hence it is, that Scelerats, can by no Arts, nor any Amusements how violent soever, stifle the Cries of a wounded Conscience. 1728–31 *Lett. fr. Fog's Jrnl.* (1732) I. 15 That honourable Prison [the Tower of London] is reserv'd for illustrious Scelerates. 1790 Burns *Let. to* (? *G. Hamilton*), Creation-disgracing scelerats such as they, God only can mend, and the devil only can punish. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xxii. 295 He was, and is, a scelerat and a coward.

Hence † **Sce·lerately** *adv.*; † **Sce·lerateness.**

1613 Sir A. Sherley *Trav. Persia* 5 The punishment was nothing proportionable to the scelerat nesse of the fact. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 188 My companion fled, and escaped the scelerat nesse of their hands. *Ibid.* x. 493 The peruerted policy of subtile Serpents, had scelerat ly suggested my concealment.

† **Sce·lerous,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 scelorous. [f. L. *scelerōs-us* full of wickedness, f. *sceler-, scelus*: see Scelerate and -ous.] Wicked, villainous.

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII,* c. 6 § 1 Wilfull burninge of Houses, and other scelerous Dedes and abhominable malifactes. 1567 Harman *Caveat* Epist. (1869) 20 Not one amongst twenty [of these vagabonds] wyll discouer eyther declare there scelorous secretes. 1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Kowη* i. 31 Lest the city..be as Philip styled one in Greece, that fostered all scelerous persons. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 277 Come on then, blinde beetles,.. lett apeere your scelerous acte, your inimitable foperie.

† **Scele·stic,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. In 7 -ique. [f. L. *scelest-us* wicked, villainous (f. *sceles-, scelus*: see Scelerate) + -ic.] Wicked.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. v. 12 The World hath not better men, then some, that suffer vnder that name [of Puritan]: nor withall, more Scelestique Villaines.

† **Scele·stious,** *a. rare*−1. In 7 scælestious. [f. L. *scelest-us* (see prec.) + -ious.] Wicked.

1608 Heywood *Salust* 13 This scælestious match.

Scelet(on, obs. forms of Skelet(on.

Scelidate (se·lidēt), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scelid-* (see next) + -ate.] Having legs.

1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* ii. (1879) 328 It is a true scelidate, or legged fin.

‖ **Scelides** (se·lidīz), *pl.* [mod.L., pl. of **scelid-, scelis,* f. Gr. *σκέλος* leg.

The formation was perh. suggested by Gr. *περισκελίς* leg-band. The Gr. *σκελίς* rib of beef is a later form for *σχελίς.*]

The posterior or pelvic extremities of mammals.

1842 in Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. And in later Dicts.

Scelidosaur (se·lidosɒ̄r). *Palæont.* [ad. mod. L. *scelidosaur-us,* f. *scelid(o)-* (see Scelides) + Gr. *σαύρ-α, σαῦρ-os* lizard (see Sauria).] A dinosaur of the genus *Scelidosaurus,* the typical genus of the family *Scelidosauridæ* of stegosaurian herbivorous dinosaurs. Hence **Sce·lidosau·rian** *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Scelidosauridæ*; *sb.*, a scelidosaurian reptile. **Sce·lidosau·riform** *a.* = next. **Sce·lidosau·roid** *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of the *Scelidosauridæ*; *sb.*, a scelidosauroid reptile.

1861 Owen *Monogr. Fossil Reptilia Liassic Format.* I. 5 It most probably formed part of a very young or fœtal Scelidosaur. 1869 Huxley in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXVI. 44, I think it will be proper to restrict the name *Palæosaurus* to the latter (or Megalosauroid) form of tooth, and to use *Thecodontosaurus* for the former (or Scelidosauroid) type. *Ibid.* 45 On the other hand, the teeth of *Thecodontosaurus* are Scelidosaurian in character. 1885 Lydekker *Rept. & Amphibia Maleri & Denwa Groups* 29 Scelidosauriform teeth. 1891 *Century Dict., Scelidosauroid* [*a.* and *sb.*].

‖ **Scelidotherium** (se·lidoþī·riŭm). *Palæont.* [mod.L. (Owen 1840), f. *scelid(o)-* (see Scelides) + Gr. *θηρίον* wild animal.] A genus of megatherioid edentate mammals. Also anglicized **Sce·lidothe·re,** an animal of this genus.

1840 Owen in *Zool. Beagle* I. 75 The teeth, however, are fewer in the Scelidothere than in any Armadillo. 1847 Ansted *Anc. World* xv. 369 The Scelidotherium..differs rather more from the Megatheroid type than either the Mylodon or Megalonyx..In all important points however.. the Scelidothere and the Megatherium are so closely analogous that they hardly admit of a separate description.

Scellat, obs. Sc. form of Skillet.

Scelleton, Scellum : see Skeleton, Skellum.

Scelp, Sceme, Scemiter : see Skelp, Scheme *sb.*1, Scimitar.

Scemmel, obs. form of Shamble *sb.*1

‖ **Scena** (ʃē·nă). [It., ad. L. *scēna* Scene.]

1. a. A scene in an Italian opera; the words and music of the scene. **b.** A composition consisting largely of recitative of a dramatic and impassioned character, for one or more voices with accompaniment; either forming part of an opera, or composed separately for the concert-room.

1819 T. Hope *Anast.* (1820) III. 323 This gentleman.. wondered he should have inspired me..with the *scenas* of a pastoral. 1825 [see Scene 13]. 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* I. iii, The applause with which they had hailed the overture and the commencing scenas. 1845 *Athenæum* 22 Feb. 204 A beautiful *scena* by Romberg. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxxii, My lady's piano was..covered with scattered sheets of music and exquisitely-bound collections of scenas and fantasias. 1886 Mrs. Craik *King Arthur* vi. 232 She placed the trio before him. It was one of those dashing operatic scenas of the last generation, full of show and difficulty.

2. Used jocularly = Scene II.

1847 J. G. Lockhart in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxv. 103, I hear there was a very hot little *scena* at a late Carlton Club dinner between Stanley and Lord George Bentinck.

‖ **Scenario** (ʃenā·rio). [It., f. *scena* Scena.] A sketch or outline of the plot of a play, giving particulars of the scenes, situations, etc.

1880 Stevenson *Let. to Henley* Feb. *Lett.* (1899) I. iv. 167, I shall make you a full scenario as soon as the *Emigrant* is done. 1883 Grove *Dict. Music* III. 241 *Scenario,* an Italian term, meaning a sketch of the scenes and main points of an opera libretto, drawn up and settled preliminary to filling in the detail. 1884 P. Simpson in *Pall Mall G.* 19 May 1/2 As the next step, I write an elaborate scenario ..minutely setting down, not only the scenes as they follow, the action of the personages engaged, the sense of all they have to say, but even the 'stage business'.

† **Sce·nary,** *sb. Obs.* [ad. It. *scenario*: see Scenario and -ary 1 B. 2.]

1. 'The disposition and consecution of the scenes of a play' (J.); = Scenario.

1695 Dryden *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* Pref. 44 To make a Sketch, or a more perfect Model of a Picture, is in the Language of Poets, to draw up the Scenary of a Play. 1719 Boyer *Eng.-Fr. Dict.*, Scenary (the ordering of the Scenes of a Play) *Arrangement des Scenes d'une Piece de Theatre.* 1736 Pope *Dunc.* III. 328 *note,* The Edition of Shakespear ..took up near two years more, in the drudgery of comparing Impressions, rectifying the Scenary, &c.

2. 'The representation of the place in which an action is performed' (J.).

1729 Pope *Dunc.* II. 262 *note,* The progress of the sound.. and the scenary here of the bordering regions,..are imitated from Virg. Aen. 7 on the sounding the horn of Alecto. 1808 *Ramsay's Gentle Shepherd* I. 109 The plot, characters, and scenary of this exquisite transcript from nature.

3. = SCENERY 3.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 417 ¶ 3 A Poet..must gain a due Relish of the Works of Nature, and be thoroughly conversant in the various Scenary of a Country Life. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. (ed. 4) 415 The fortunate animals too.. partake in some measure of the romantic cast of the Island, and are no small addition to its wonderful scenary. 1808 *Ramsay's Gentle Shepherd* I. p. x, The minute coincidence between its natural scenary, and his descriptions.

† **Sce'nary**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *scēn-*, *scænārius* scenic, f. *scēna*, *scæna* SCENE: see -ARY[1] A.] Scenic, theatrical.

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 18 In the Morning Scenary Diversions were exhibited. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornwall* 298 The scenary part of these performances [Miracle Plays] was much worse than the composition.

Scence, obs. form of CENSE *v.*[1]

Scend, 'scend, var. ff. SEND *sb.*[2] and *v.*[2] (*Naut.*).

Scene (sīn). Also 6 sean, 6–7 seane, scæne, 6, 8 schene, 7 scæn, sceane(e. [a. F. *scène* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *scēna*, *scæna* stage, scene, a. Gr. σκηνή tent or booth, stage, scene.

Dryden (*Virg. Georg.* III. 38) rimes the word with *train.*]

I. With reference to the theatre.

1. *Antiq.* The stage of a Greek or Roman theatre, including the platform on which the actors stood, and the structure which formed the background (usually representing the outside of a house or temple).

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 241 Apaturius Alabandeus made..a scene [=*scenam*, Vitruv.] with a neat hand, wherein he made images instead of columnes... He made moreover an upper-scene [=*episcenium*, Vitruv.], wherein the seelings of the porches, the halfe-house-tops were diversly adorned by the Painter. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* v. 365 The Scene is oblong, jetting out six Paces more forward in the Front, than the Seats of the Spectators. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* Pref. (1827) I. 125 The division for the actors was called in general the scene, or stage.

2. [=F. *scène.*] The stage or theatre taken as standing for either the dramatic art or the histrionic profession. Now only *arch.*

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* 370 For [athletic] games had such an officer belonging to them...But whoever heard of such an officer belonging to the Scene? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (a) 3, I have more than once already maintain'd the Rights of my two Masters [Homer and Virgil] against their Rivals of the Scene, even while I wrote Tragedies my self. 1713 POPE *Prol. to Cato* 41 Our Scene precariously subsists too long On French Translation, and Italian Song. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 475 Giddy with praise, and puff'd with female pride, She quits the tragic scene.

† **3.** The action or representation of a piece upon the stage; a stage-performance; a play or drama in representation. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* IV. iv. 79 To die to day for fashioning our Scene..And in a minute starting vp againe, Reuiue to please too morrowes audience. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, Prol. 4 A Kingdome for a Stage, Princes to Act, And Monarchs to behold the swelling Scene. 1608 *Merry Devil of Edmonton* Prol. 3 Your silence and attention, worthy friends, That your free spirits may with more pleasing sense Relish the life of this our actiue sceane. 1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Late Lancashire Witches* Prol., We are forc'd from our owne Nation To ground the Scene that's now in agitation. 1679 DRYDEN *Troilus & Cr.* Pref. b 3, And now behold King Richard entring upon the Scene. 1697 — *Æneis* Ded. (a) 2 b, The Poet who Flourish'd in the Scene is damn'd in the *Ruelle.* 1814 *Orpheus* I. ii, They crowd the trembling poet's scene.

b. *The scene opens* or *is opened*: a phr. used to express the beginning of the action of a play, or of an act or scene. Cf. F. *ouvrir la scène*, 'commencer la représentation' (Littré).

1673 SETTLE *Empress of Morocco* I. i, Scene opens, Muly Labas appears bound in Chains. *Ibid.* II. i, The Scene opened, is represented the Prospect of a large River. 1693 RYMER *Short View Trag.* i. 14 The Scene opening presents 15 Grandees of Spain.

4. The place in which the action of a play, or part of a play, is supposed to occur. Hence also, the setting of a dialogue, novel, etc. Phr. *To lay the scene* (see LAY *v.*[1] 20 b); *to change, shift the scene.*

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* IV. iii. 18 Well doon, Balthazar, hang up the Title: Our scene is Rhodes. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* Prol. 2 In faire Verona, where we lay our Scene. 1599 — *Hen. V*, II. Prol. 42 Vnto Southampton do we shift our Scene. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i, As soone..As is a vaile put off, a visor chang'd, Or the scene shifted in our theaters. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 43 He has remov'd the Scene in the same Act from Rome to Catiline's Army, and from thence again to Rome. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 357 ¶ 7 Asia, Affrick, and Europe are the several Scenes of his [Virgil's] Fable. 1725 *Pope's Odyss.* III. Notes I. 157 The Scene is now remov'd from Ithaca to Pylos. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 5 The scene is laid in Crete.

5. A subdivision of an act of a play (or of a short play which is not divided into acts), marked by the entrance or departure of one or more actors (and, in romantic or non-classic drama, often by a change of *local*). Hence, the action and dialogue comprised in any one of these subdivisions; a situation *between* certain actors.

In editions of the Roman dramatists, and of the French classic dramatists, the entrance or exit of any actor makes a new numbered 'scene'. In the English drama, on the other hand, the 'scene' is a distinct subdivision of the act, marked by the fall of the curtain or the leaving of the stage empty; even when the *local* and the actors remain the same in two consecutive 'scenes', the stage is not supposed to have been occupied continuously through the interval.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. C iij b, All the versis of this scene be *Senarii.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 147 In volewmes full or flat, There is no chapter, nor no seane, That thou appliest like that. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* IV. i. 187 And all shalbe concluded in one Scene, For there's no pleasure tane in tediousness. 1611 FLORIO, *Scena*...Also any one scene or entrance of a Comedie or Tragedie. 1665 SIR R. HOWARD *Four New Plays* To Rdr. b, The Spanish Plays..being nothing but so many Novels put into Acts and Scenes. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 20 [In the ancient drama] it is to be accounted a new Scene, not [1684 p. 14 not only] every time the Stage is empty, but every person who enters, though to others, makes it so; because he introduces a new business. 1678 — *All for Love* Pref. (end), I prefer the Scene betwixt Antony and Ventidius in the first Act, to any thing which I have written in this kind. 1756 FOOTE *Engl. ret. fr. Paris* Epil., Does not this poisoning scene The sacred right of Tragedy profane. 1783 BLAIR *Lect.* xlv. II. 496 The entrance of a new personage upon the Stage, forms what is called a New Scene. 1865 T. W. ROBERTSON *Society* Act I. Scene I.—Sidney Daryl's Chambers, in Lincoln's Inn.

b. The pl. is sometimes put for 'a play', 'dramatic writing'.

1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, Following the New way, I mean, of writing Scenes in Verse. 1710 GRANVILLE *Epil. for 'Brit. Enchanters'* 27 Our Author wou'd excuse these youthful Scenes, Begotten at his Entrance in his Teens.

c. *fig.*

1577 WHETSTONE *Life & Death of Gaskoigne* B iij b, His Sean is played, you folowe on the act. 1592 GREENE *Philomela* (1615) E 4, Till Fortune..entred into the Theatre of Philomelaes life and beganne to acte a balefull Scene in this manner. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. ii. 38 *Dut.* What meanes this Scene of rude impatience? *Qu.* To make an act of Tragicke violence. 1595 LODGE *Fig for Momus* G 1 b, In that shamefull schene of treasons play. 1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 407 At this place of the Bishop in Halling, I am drawing on the last Scæne of my life. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 72 We are now to present you upon the Asiatique stage, various Scænes compos'd of a miscelany of subjects. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, *To Mistress Amie Potter*, Nature has pre-compos'd us both to Love; Your part's to grant; my Scean must be to move.

d. *Mus.* = SCENA 1 b.

1825 DANNELEY *Encycl. Mus.*, *Scena* or *Scene*, a piece of music composed of a *recitative*, an *andante* or a *largo*, a *larghetto*, and an *agitato* or *allegro*. The *cavatine*, or first air, is often separated by a *couplet de recitatif.* A scene may be for one or more voices.

6. The material apparatus, consisting chiefly of painted hangings, slides, etc., set at the back and sides of the stage, and intended to give the illusion of a real view of the *local* in which the action of a play takes place; the view thus presented to the spectators at any time during the action of a play. Also, any one of the painted hangings, slides, etc. used for this purpose.

On the Elizabethan stage, the curtain or hanging at the back of the stage, concealing the vestry or green-room, stood in lieu of scenery. Painted scenes and elaborate machinery, the representation of buildings or landscape in perspective, etc., were a principal feature of the privately-produced masques of Jas. I and Chas. I and, later, of the operatic play (see OPERA 1).

1540 [see SCENISH]. 1605 B. JONSON *Masque of Blackness*, First, for the Scene, was drawne a *Landtschap*, consisting of small woods,..which falling, an artificiall sea was seene to shoote forth. 1608 — *Masque at Ld. Hadington's Marr.*, The scene to this Masque, was a high, steepe red cliffe, aduancing it selfe into the cloudes. 1618 HOLYDAY *Technogamia* Prol. *marg.*, Here the vpper part of the Scene open'd, when straight appear'd a Heauen [etc.]. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Masques*, And let the Masquers, or any other, that are to come down from the Scene, have some Motions, vpon the Scene it selfe, before their Comming down. 1633 SHIRLEY *Tri. Peace* 7 A Curtaine being sodainly drawne up, the Sceane was discovered representing a large streete with Sumptuous Pallaces. 1656 DAVENANT (*title*), The Siege of Rhodes Made a Representation by the Art of Prospective in Scenes. And the Story sung in Recitative Musick. 1667 FLECKNOE *Damoiselles à la mode*, Of Persons represented, Any Italian Scænes with four Doors serving. *a* 1693 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 244 He has some scaenes to it, which in those dayes were only used at masques. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* IV. (Stage-dir.), The back scene opens. *Ibid.*, Scene shuts on them. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. i. 315 Back fly the scenes, and enter foot and horse. *a* 1814 *Gonzanga* v. v. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 161 All the characters appear lost in astonishment and terror as the scene closes them in. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 9/1 The opening of the doors at the back of the stage caused a draught which blew over a large fan-scene containing a number of incandescent lights.

fig. 1748 HUME *Philos. Ess. Hum. Underst.* vii. (1751) 104 The Scenes of the Universe are continually shifting.

† b. *pl.* ? A succession of realistically-lighted stage-pictures, telling their story without words or action. *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Masques*, The Alterations of Scenes, so it be quietly, and without Noise, are Things of great Beauty, and Pleasure: For they feed and relieue the Eye, before it be full of the same Obiect. Let the Scenes abound with Light, specially Coloured and Varied. 1650 DAVENANT *Pref. to Gondibert* 8 Painted History, when with the cousenage of lights it is represented in Scenes, by which we are much lesse inform'd then by actions on the Stage. 1657 — *Entert. Rutland-Ho.* 17 Would you meet to be delighted with Scænes? which is, to be entertain'd with the deception of motion, and transposition of Lights; where, whilst you think you see a great Battel, you are sure to get nothing by the Victory.

c. *transf.* A curtain or veil; also, a decorative hanging on a wall.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 138 When the greene and crimson scænes [ed. 1677 p. 132 curtains or scenes] of silke were drawne, from this Apollo, wee lookt into a great square court. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Upon some women* 8 Out-side silk, and out-side Lawne; Sceanes to cheat us neatly drawne. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 194 Instead of Tapistry, they have a kinde of Scenes or Shutters, which serve them also for Pictures.

† d. *pl.* Used to describe the appearance of strata or clusters of clouds, piled one above another.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xv. 83 Frosty, mist, fair; clouds in scenes. *Ibid.* II. ii. 162 We often times see Clouds as in several Stories, Lofts or Scenes, one over another.

7. *Behind the scenes*: amidst the actors and stage-machinery, where ordinary spectators are not admitted.

1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 32 Things hapning in the Action of the Play, and suppos'd to be done behind the Scenes. 1672 — *Assignation* Epil. 21 His Nuns are good, which on the Stage are shown, And, sure, behind our Scenes you'll look for none. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1749, She was carried off to be put to death behind the scenes. 1890 *All Year Round* 29 Mar. 302 (art.), Behind the Scenes at the Lane.

b. *fig.*

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 16 Feb., I, who have been behind the scenes, both of pleasure and business. 1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* v, Miss Pratt..had obtained the *entrée* to a number of great houses, and was behind the scenes in many fashionable families. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 158 Another personage of greater importance was behind the scenes in this movement.

II. In various established metaphorical uses.

Sense 8 is developed from 4; senses 9–11 from 5, though in sense 9 there is some mixture of sense 6.

8. The place where an action is carried on and people play their parts as in a drama. Phr. *To enter* or *appear on the scene, to quit the scene. The scene of action*, the place where events are actually happening or business being done.

1594 CONSTABLE *Diana* VIII. iv, Meeting Heroick feete in euery line, That tread high measures on the Scene of Fame. 1608 D. TUVIL *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 125 True vertuous actions, are neuer seene vpon the Scene, but when by the necessitie of Lawes, they are enforced to show themselues. 1648 *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 8 Awakening endlesse war upon our British Scenes. *a* 1658 J. CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 100 The Sand was always the Scene of Quarrelling. 1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 294 The persones in the proclamacion mencioned having made this citty parte of their scene to act their designe upon. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* III. i, But though these are not My Province, I have Scene enough within To exercise my vertue. 1677 MIEGE *Eng.-Fr. Dict.* s. v., There will be the Scene of Action this Campaigne, *ce sera là le Theatre de la Guerre.* 1685 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) I. 388 The viith of the *Romans* (which has been made the unhappy Scene of so much Controversy about these Matters). 1704 *Royal Let.* 25 June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4037/1 To render that..Kingdom a Schene of Blood and Disorder. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Pref., There is [not]..so much as a Mountain or River that has not been the Scene of some extraordinary Action. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 37 The part I acted on this bloody scene. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, Paris, the scene of her former happiness. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, It was clear *she* could not quit the scene of action. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* ix. 181 My arrival on the scene was felt to be so much weight in the scale. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Feb. 4/6 West Somerset was the scene, yesterday, of the first contested county election under the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Act. 1889 *Field* 19 Jan. 67/3 Whereupon Mr. Calvert's solicitor came upon the scene, with a demand for an undertaking not to offend again.

b. The world in which man is an actor; the theatre of this life. Often in phr. (*this*) *scene of things. To quit the scene*, to die.

1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. 25 Which makes.. the whole scene of things evidently to begin from Adam. 1681 S. PARKER *Demonstr. Law of Nature* 112 Who would enter upon this tragical Scene of things onely to appear and so return into dust and silence? 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 61 The known Course of human Things, the Scene we are now passing through. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Ess., Lett.* etc. (1840) I. 225 Life..strips, as it were, the painted curtain from this scene of things. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 261 This universal living scene of things is after all as little a logical world as it is a poetical.

9. A view or picture presented to the eye (or to the mind) of a place, concourse, incident, series of actions or events, assemblage of objects, etc.

1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Yr.* i. 11 This is the greatest Scene of Majesty that shall be in that [*i. e.* the last] day, till the Sentence bee pronounced. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 249 At last all vanished, leaving a scene of..lovely trees. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 637 But now prepare thee for another Scene. 1704 POPE *Summer* 59 See what delights in sylvan scenes appear! 1705 ADDISON *Italy*, *Antiq. near Naples* 216 About Eight Miles Distance from Naples lyes a very noble Scene of Antiquities. 1715 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 360 The smiling Scene wide opens to the Sight. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXX. (1787) III. 171 This scene of peace and plenty was suddenly changed into a desert. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii, The travellers stopped to admire the scene. 1797 SOUTHEY *Lett. Resid. in Spain* xiii. 240 A most curious scene did our dressing-room exhibit. *a* 1828 H. S. VANDYK *The Light Guitar* (Bartlett's *Fam. Quots.*), Oh, leave the gay and festive scenes, The halls of dazzling light. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXII, We of peaceful London City have never beheld..such a scene of hurry and alarm, as that which Brussels presented. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 72 The scene outside was at once wild, grand, and beautiful.

b. *fig.* A vista or prospect of something expected or to come.

1762 T. MORTIMER *Ev. Man his own Broker* (ed. 5) 173 Light Horse [otherwise called 'scrip']..is the Commodity to Jobb with, and opens a most extensive scene of it.

10. An action, episode, complication of events, or situation, in real life.

1679 *Season. Adv. Protest.* 3 The Roman Party was never wanting in any bloudy Scene to destroy Christ's Disciples. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xlii. 44 And 'tis a Pleasant Scene enough, when Thieves fall out among themselves, to see the Cutting of One Diamond with Another. 1766 in *3rd Rep. on E. India Comp.* App. No. 74 *H. of C. Rep. Comm.* III. 400 We think the vast Fortunes acquired in the inland Trade have been obtained by a Scene of the most tyrannic and oppressive Conduct that ever was known in any Age or Country. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. xiii. 224 You were not made for scenes of danger. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, A scene followed, the like of which is often enacted in higher places and by more important personages. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 18 Not at all disconcerted by the scene that had just occurred, the wily Roman undertook to justify himself. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 29 Then he disappears from this scene in his career.

b. An episode, situation, etc., forming a subject of narration or description.

c 1630 MILTON *Passion* 22 These latter [*ed.* 1673 latest] scenes confine my roving vers. 1704 PRIOR *Celia to Damon* 112 Say, Shepherd, say: Are these Reflections true? Or was it but the Woman's Fear, that drew This cruel Scene, unjust to Love and You? 1850 SMEDLEY (*title*) Frank Fairlegh, or Scenes from the Life of a Private Pupil. 1858 GEO. ELIOT (*title*) Scenes of Clerical Life.

11. An exhibition of excited or strong feeling between two or more persons; a stormy encounter or interview. *To make a scene*, to make a disturbance, 'kick up a row'. [Cf. F. *faire une scène (à quelqu'un)*.]

1761 FOOTE *Lyar* III. (1786) 65 My father has got to the bottom of the whole Abington business. *Pap.* The deuce! *Y. Wild.* We parted this moment. Such a scene! 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Aug., She counselled me..to avoid complaints that led to scenes of such violence and impropriety. 1804 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 169 The reconciliation should be accompanied with *éclat*, and..it was intended to make a scene of it. 1831 *Society* I. 252 Aubrey.. had just sense enough to see the folly of making a scene. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VIII. vii, From an anticipatory horror of something like a scene. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, Madame de Belladonna made him a scene about you, and fired off in one of her furies. 1887 *Spectator* 10 Sept. 1202 One of those scenes in the House of Commons which now occur once or twice in the week. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 34 You made a regular scene.

† III. 12. A screen for the reception of images projected from a lens. Also *scene-plate*.

1706 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2237 A Sevenfoot Telescope was fitted up with a Scene to receive the Species of the Sun cast through it. *Ibid.* 2239 Mr. Abr. Sharp cast the Species of the Sun on a Scene-plate, behind his Seven foot Glass.

IV. 13. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 11) ***scene-making***; **scene-dock** [DOCK *sb.*[3]], the place in which scenes are stored in a theatre; † **scene-drawer** = SCENE-SHIFTER; † **scene-keeper**, one who has charge of the scenes in a theatre; † **scene-man** = SCENE-SHIFTER; **scene-painter**, one who paints scenes or scenery for the theatre; **scene-painting**, the art of painting scenes according to the rules of stage-perspective; *fig.* descriptive writing in a bold and vivid style; also *attrib.*; **scene-plate** (see sense 12); **scene-plot**, the list and description of the scenes in a play; **scene-room**, a room where scenes are stored (in quot. *fig.*); † **scene-work**, dramatic representation; stage-scenery. Also SCENE-SHIFTER.

1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* iii. 29 Piled up at the back, in what was called the '*scene dock'. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 99 ¶ 3 Door-Keepers came out clad like Cardinals, and *Scene-Drawers like Heathen Gods. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* 280 *Scene-keeper, Coffer-Maker, Wax-Chandler,..one of each. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxx, Not molesting him with passionate appeals and *scene-making. 1737 FIELDING *Eurydice Hissed* Wks. 1903 III. 409 His levee is compos'd of..box-keepers, *scene-men, fiddlers, and candle-snuffers. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VII. viii. (1782) III. 67, I was obliged to undergo the civilities of the *scene-painter, the music [etc.]. 1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Dec. 619/3 Scene-painters and scene-shifters. 1754 KIRBY *Perspective* II. vi. 76 The Design of *Scene-Painting, is not only to decorate the Theatre, but to make that Part of it which lies beyond the Stage, appear much longer than it really is. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 251, I know my propensity for scene-painting. 1838 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) II. 11 A bold,..scene-painting manner is that which .. succeeds best in periodical writing. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 305 Scene Painting is an extensive and peculiar walk of art, with its own laws and practical and scientific rules. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* (1895) 232 That stage-wardrobe and *scene-room that we call the memory. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 261 Likening those grave controversies to a piece of Stagery, or *Scene-worke where his owne Remonstrant.. must of all right be counted the chiefe Player. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Architecture*, Counterfeit Architecture, which we otherwise call Scene-Work.

Hence † **Scened** *pa. pple.*, displayed or set as in a stage-scene, staged. **Sce·ning** *vbl. sb.*, furnishing with stage-scenery.

1691 SANCROFT in D'Oyly *Life* (1821) II. 17 Our course of employment and action [continues] the very same, only not scened so illustriously; nor set off with so good company and conversation. *a* 1750 A. HILL *Wks.* (1753) I. 105 It were a downright shame, if these good people, who gave the Tragedy all its merit, of fine dressing and sceneing, should be suffered to lose their money.

Scene, obs. form of SEINE.

Sce·neful, *a. rare.*—[1] [-FUL.] Abounding in scenes or scenery.

1746 COLLINS *Ode, Manners* 78 O Nature boon,..The Sports and I this hour agree, To rove thy scene-full world with thee.

Scenery (sī·nĕri). [Alteration of SCENARY, as if f. SCENE + -ERY. The word is not in Johnson, who gives only SCENARY.]

† 1. Dramatic action; a moving exhibition of feeling. *Obs.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 213 When he opened it, never was such a piece of scenery. He trembled like a devil at receiving it: Fumbled at the seal, his fingers in a palsy. 1808 SYD. SMITH *Peter Plymley's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1859 II. 144/2 If there were any great scenery, and heroic feelings, any blaze of ancient virtue, any exalted death, any termination of England that would be ever remembered, ever honoured in that western world, where liberty is now retiring, conquest would be more tolerable, and ruin more sweet.

2. The decoration of a theatre-stage, consisting of painted hangings, slides, etc., representing the scene of the action; theatre-scenes collectively.

1774 *Lond. Mag.* Nov. 578/2 It is said that the scenery only, which has been painted on purpose for the *Maid of the Oaks*, cost 1500*l*. 1789 TWINING *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* I. 72 Sophocles increased the number of actors to three, and added the decoration of painted scenery. 1837 J. F. COOPER *England* (ed. 2) III. 97 The chief merit [of the play] was the scenery. 1890 *All Year Round* 29 Mar. 306 The dangers of flying flats and rolling scenery.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 12 To recommend this system to the people, a perspective view of the Court, gorgeously painted,..was exhibited to the gaping multitude...The whole scenery was exactly disposed to captivate those good souls, whose [etc.]. 1774 J. ADAMS *Diary* 9 Oct., Wks. (1850) II. 395 Went..to the Romish chapel...The scenery and the music are so calculated to take in mankind, that I wonder the Reformation ever succeeded. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales, Mr. W. Tottle* ii, 'Take off the covers, Martha,' said Mrs. Parsons, directing the shifting of the scenery with great anxiety. 1867 F. D. MAURICE *Patriarchs & Lawgivers* vi. (ed. 4) 120 However shifting the scenery of a man's life may have been. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxix, Gwendolen was just then enjoying the scenery of her life.

3. The general appearance of a place and its natural features, regarded from the picturesque point of view; the aggregate of picturesque features in a landscape.

1784 COWPER *Task* V. 741 He looks abroad into the varied field Of nature, and..Calls the delightful scen'ry all his own. His are the mountains, and the vallies his. 1801 CAMPBELL *Hohenlinden* 8 But Linden saw another sight When the drum beat at dead of night, Commanding fires of death to light The darkness of her scenery. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. viii. 265 He was so enraptured with the scenery of the lakes as to take a house in Keswick. 1871 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vi. (1876) 124 A kind of passion for scenery and natural beauty..has..gained an extraordinary power over people's minds. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iii. 194 Anyone with a well-stored memory is affected by historical scenery.

b. with defining word prefixed. Also applied to the varied aspect of clouds and sky.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 124 The magnificence of English park scenery. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 48 The entire cloud and sun scenery was fully presented to us. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) 440/2 One of the most impressive pictures of tree-scenery that man ever beheld.

† c. Picturesqueness. *Obs. rare.*

1786 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xiii. Wks. 1797 I. 287 As such buildings depart from regularity, they now and then acquire something of scenery by this accident.

4. (With *a* and *pl.*) A landscape or view; a picturesque scene; also, the pictorial representation of a landscape. Now *rare*.

1777 J. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 367 The pleasure of contemplating a great variety of rich sceneries, made us some amends for the wretchedness of our diet. 1794 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 83 A very little cleaning would make here a delicious scenery. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 66 Beautiful Indian sceneries from the skilful hand and unsophisticated pallet of this worthy academician. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. iv, At Naples next,..was due admiration of the sceneries and antiquities. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* I. i. 3 The houses of famous men, the sceneries of great events.

Sce·ne-shifter. One who shifts and arranges the scenes during the performance of a play.

1752 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 3 ¶ 9 Half a dozen scene-shifters. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcvii, The scene-shifter's whistle. 1887 'EDNA LYALL' *Knt.-Errant* (1889) 144 Behind the scenes the very scene-shifters and carpenters were eager to congratulate him.

fig. 1903 LD. R. GOWER *Rec. & Remin.* 92 When once the Great Scene-Shifter has made his final call, which none can disobey.

So **Sce·ne-shifting** *vbl. sb.*

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 212 The..mechanical aids of science and scene-shifting. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 330/2 The unwonted silence of the scene-shifting.

Scenic (sī·nik, se·nik), *a.* Also 7 **scenicke, schenick**, 7–8 **scenick**. [a. F. *scénique* (14th c.), ad. L. *scēnic-us*, *scænic-us*, a. Gr. σκηνικός belonging to the stage, theatrical, f. σκηνή SCENE.]

1. Of or belonging to the stage, dramatic, theatrical.

Scenic poet = L. *poeta scenicus*. *Scenic games* = L. *ludi scenici* (dramatic entertainments, as distinguished from athletic sports).

1623 H. HOLLAND in *Shaks. fol.*, Upon the Lines and Life of the Famous Scenicke Poet, Master William Shakespeare. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* Postscr. 3 Any who had perused your former schenick writs, that comedie of your seven Sages. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Scenic Games*, or *Representations*. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* III. 200 The ridicule of scenic exhibition. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 186 Ireland now produces a catalogue of celebrated scenic writers. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. ii. (Rtldg.) 425 She is all that..veteran managers seek when they sign articles, in scenic qualifications. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 201 These scenic edifices are amongst the most interesting..remains that have come down..from antiquity. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Addit. Notes Coins* 18 A scenic mask of Pan.

b. Represented on the stage.

1747 JOHNSON *Prol. Opening Drury Lane* 61 Bid scenick virtue form the rising age, And truth diffuse her radiance from the stage. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 360 (note) The scenic Socrates here folds his arms. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* lix. III. 237 The long-drawn aisles of its scenic cathedral had been darkened so skilfully, as to convey an idea of dim religious grandeur, and vast architectural space.

c. Fitted for the stage.

1857 DE QUINCEY *Bentley* Wks. VI. 176 *note*, The most popular and *scenic* of the Shaksperian dramas.

d. Of or belonging to stage-scenery or stage effect.

1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* lviii. III. 230 It is the great scenic triumph of the play, and a burst of grand music appropriately heralds its exhibition to the audience. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* 9 The Drama had degenerated into a vehicle for the display of scenic splendour or ingenious machinery. 1889 HAIGH *Attic Theatre* iii. § 7. 139 As changes of scene were almost unknown in the Greek drama, the scenic appliances were of the simplest character.

2. *fig.* Resembling, or likened to, stage representation and stage effect; dramatic or theatrical in style.

1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 85 Her charities were wide,..often spontaneous, though perhaps somewhat scenic. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. xiv. 226 He was impelled to be contriving scenic effects and surprises. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gramm. Assent* I. iv. 93 Christianity is a history supernatural, and almost scenic. 1878 R. H. HUTTON *Scott* ii. 19 The lad began his study of the scenic side of history.

3. Of or belonging to natural scenery. In recent use: Abounding in fine scenery, affording landscape views.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, The country round this town being very flat, is bare of scenic interest. 1906 *Scribner's Mag.* July 87/1 The Grand Trunk Pacific..will be a scenic line. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 July 2/2 The Scenic Railway at the Exhibition.

4. With reference to painting or sculpture: Representing a 'scene' or incident in which several persons are concerned.

1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* II. 159 The 'Martyrdom of St. Laurence' by Baccio Bandinelli the sculptor, is arranged as a scenic bas-relief. 1850 — *Leg. Monast. Ord.* 390 The most perfect scenic picture in the world. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* x. 307 There is far less antagonism between what is decorative and what is scenic in painting than is sometimes supposed.

Scenical (sī·nikăl, se·nikăl), *a.* Also 5 **scenicalle**, 6–7 **scenicall**, 7 **scænical**(1, **scenecal**. [f. L. *scēnic-us* SCENIC + -AL.]

1. Of or belonging to the stage; = SCENIC *a.* 1.

Scenical games, plays, † *disports* = L. *ludi scenici* (see SCENIC *a.* 1).

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 101 This..institucion off disportes scenicalle [L. *Ista institutio ludorum scenicorum*]. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 97 Your bishops..hath forbidden and prohibited those kynde of scenicall and enterlude playes. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. iv. (1624) 251 Vse honest and chast sports, scenicall shewes, playes. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* III. i. 57 The scenical school Has been my tutor long in Italy. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. i, Those scenical representations, which Thespis is first reported to have invented. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. on Educ.* iv. Wks. 1860 XIV. 75 Each steps forward as a scenical person, to play a distinct part or character. 1890 *Spectator* 2 Aug., If scenical representation affects us more powerfully than actual suffering, must not the influence of the theatre be, on the whole, harmful to character?

b. with special reference to stage-scenery.

1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1858) III. 9 These scenical effects existed in great perfection in the Masques. 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* viii. (1900) 233 The absence of scenical appeals to the sense of sight.

2. *fig.* a. (Chiefly in bad sense.) Resembling, or likened to, stage-representation and stage-illusion; theatrical in style.

a 1563 BECON *Compar. Lord's Supper & Mass* Wks. III. 97 b, The Massemonger handlyng hys scenicall and stagelyke Supper, calleth vpon the dead very busyly. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* vi. (1634) 42 That same ampullous and scenicall pompe, with empty furniture of phrase, wherewith the Stage, and our petty Poeticke Pamphlets sound so big. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table T.* 15 Aug., In Gibbon..nothing is real, vivid, true: all is scenical, and, as it were, exhibited by candlelight. 1845 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1890) I. 235 If the universe and God set the example of being scenical, what shall hinder religion from becoming histrionic?

† b. Fictitious, pretended; illusory, imaginary: not real or genuine. *Obs.*

(Cf. Florus II. xiv. § 4 *Invictusque a veris regibus, ab illo imaginario et scenico rege superatur.*)

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VI. vii. 245 Therefore this fabulous, scænicall, filthy and ridiculous diuinity [orig. *theologia fabulosa, theatrica, scenica*] hath al reference vnto the ciuill. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. (near end), These scenical and accidental differences between us, cannot make me forget that common and untoucht part of us both. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* II. xli. 60 King Hen. the seventh was much troubled (as he was wont to say) with Idols, Scenecal Royaletts, poor petty, pittifull Persons, who

pretended themselves Princes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 167 ¶ 4, I..who look upon the Distinctions amongst Men to be meerly Scenical.

c. Resembling a stage-scene.

a 1706 EVELYN *True Relig.* (1850) I. vii. § 2. 363 Many things and actions they speak of as having done, which they did no otherwise than in prophetic vision and scenical imagery. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 485 The scenical image of Job and his friends sitting together on the ground seven days and seven nights without a word speaking. 1832 DE QUINCEY *Charlemagne* Wks. V. 354 The second form [of History] is that which may be styled the Scenical.

Scenically (sī'n-, se'nikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a scenic or scenical manner.

1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 2 He must now act a Kings part more Scenically. 1689 J. HOWE in H. Rogers *Life* (1836) 384 The prayers were also read but carelessly, sleepily, or scenically, flauntingly, and with manifest irreverence. 1890 H. ELLIS *Ibsen's Pillars of Soc.*, etc. Pref. 7 They [the Scandinavians] possess..a stage on which great literary works may be performed, and the burning questions of the modern world be scenically resolved.

†**Sce'nish**, *a. Obs.* [f. SCENE + -ISH.] Scenic.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B ij, In this scenyshe apparaylynge [L. *In apparatu scaenico*], i. the settying forth or trymming of our scenes, that is to saye (our places appoynted for our players to come forth of).

Scenist (sī'nist). ? *Obs.* [f. SCENE + -IST.] One who has to do with stage-scenery: a. A scene-shifter; b. a scene-painter.

1803 *Pic Nic* No. 8 (1806) II. 43 The scenists and machinists are their patrons. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 57 The reader must make the same allowances for such deficiency, as are granted to the scenist, or decorator of the drama.

Scenite (sī'nəit). *rare.* [ad. L. *scēnītes*, a. Gr. *σκηνίτης*, f. *σκηνή* tent: see -ITE. Cf. F. *scénite* (adj.).] One who dwells in a tent; a member of a nomad tribe dwelling in tents.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 678 The Arabian Scenites neuer eate hereof. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. i. 10 The Sabæan Arabs, like all other Nomades or Scenites.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1752 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Ambulatory*, The itinerant or scenite life is the life of nature. 1844 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 370 A scenite breeder of cattle.

Scenograph (sī'nŏgraf). *rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. Gr. *σκηνογραφ-ος*, f. *σκηνή* SCENE + *γράφ-ειν* to write, draw, paint.] =next.

1842 WORNUM in *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* s. v. *Painting* § 10 Clisthenes of Eretria is mentioned as architect and scenograph.

Scenographer (sĭnǫ'grăfəɹ). [Formed as prec. + -ER 1.] A scene-painter; one who draws buildings, etc. in perspective.

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 199 Astronomers, Scenographers, Makers of glasses. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 2) 267 Scenographer, or Designer of Prospects. 1880 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 107 (ed. 2) 75 An architect and scenographer called Cleisthenes.

Scenographic (sĭnŏgræ'fik), *a.* Also 8 **scheno-**. [a. F. *scénographique* or ad. Gr. *σκηνογραφικ-ός*, f. *σκηνογράφ-ος* SCENOGRAPH.] Of or belonging to scenography, scene-painting, or drawing in perspective.

1670 MOXON *Pract. Perspective* 2 There be two sorts of Ichnographies named in this Book, viz. the Geometrick Ichnographie, and the Scenographick Ichnographie. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v. *Scenography*, The Scenographick appearance of any Figure, Body, or Building. 1719 B. TAYLOR *Princ. Linear Perspective* 6 The Representation of any Object is no other than its Scenographic Projection on the Plane of the Picture. *c* 1780 BARRY *Lect. Art* v. (1848) 202 The scenographic part of optics examines how the drawings of edifices should be drawn. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. IV. *Comm.* p. xxi, The information of the sense goes no further than to the scenographic existence of the object. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 184 (ed. 2) 167 Scenographic pictures, in which illusion was the highest aim, were also employed at the games.

b. quasi-*sb.* in *pl.* The principles of perspective.

1762 KIRBY *Persp. Archit.* I. i. 2/1 The doctrine of projection may..be considered as consisting of three distinct branches,..viz. Orthographics, stereographics, and scenographics, commonly stiled Perspective.

Hence **Scenogra'phical** *a.* = SCENOGRAPHIC. **Scenogra'phically** *adv.*

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 60 More than one Face may be represented in one Diagram Scenographically. 1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* IV. 207 The oblique lines, upon the one and the other Scenographical Figure.

Scenography (sĭnǫ'grăfi). Also 7 **-graphie, senography**, 8 **scheno-**, 9 **skenography**. [a. F. *scénographie* (16th c. *schenographie* in Littré) or ad. L. *scēnographia*, a. Gr. *σκηνογραφία*, f. *σκηνή*: see SCENE and -GRAPHY.]

†**1.** The representation of a building or other object in perspective; a perspective elevation.

Distinguished from ICHNOGRAPHY and ORTHOGRAPHY.

1645 *Enchir. Fortif.* Table (at end), *Scenographie*, is the modell or draught of any work presented with its shadowes, ..with its dimensions according to the Rules of Prospective. 1659 LEAKE *Waterworks.* 33 The Senography or Perspective. 1705 GREENHILL *Embalming* 203 We shall..here only represent to you the Ichnography and Schenography of the antient Burial-Places of the Egyptians. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 131/1 The idea of the scenography, or view in perspective, taken on the angle.

2. Scene-painting (in ancient Greece).

1738 J. HAMILTON *Stereogr.* I. VII. ii. 370 Scenography is the Art of Painting on several Planes or Scenes at different Distances, and in various Positions with respect to the Eye, in such Manner, that all those different Scenes..may.. represent one intire View. Let *QVSZ* represent the Room intended for a Theatre. 1848 WORNUM *Lect. Paint. Barry*, etc. 201 *note*, Perspective scenery (scenography) was introduced on the Greek stage as early as the time of Æschylus. 1903 tr. *Mantzius Hist. Theat. Art* I. 131 Aristotle states ..that Sophocles introduced skenography.

‖**Scenope'gia.** In 4 **s(c)eno-, synofegia.** Also 8 anglicized **scenopegy.** [L. *scēnopēgia*, a. Gr. *σκηνοπηγία*, f. *σκηνή* SCENE + *πηγνύναι* to fix. Cf. F. *scénopégie*.] The Jewish Feast of Tabernacles.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 103 A feste of Jewes, þat þei clepen Senofegia [*v. r.* synofegia]. 1382 — *John* vii. 2 Scenofegia [1388 Senofegia]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Tent*, The Scenopegy or Feast of Tabernacles.

Scent (sent), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 (9 *rare*) **sent**, 5–6 **sente**, 6 **cent**, 7– **scent.** [ME. *sent*, f. *sent* SCENT *v.*

Orig. a term of hunting. It is possible that there may have been an AF. **sent*, verbal noun from *sentir* to scent.]

1. The faculty or sense of smell. Chiefly, and now exclusively, with reference to animals (esp. dogs) which find their prey or recognize objects by this sense.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 26 In Gyllisland thar was that brachell brede, Sekyr off sent to folow thaim at flede. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 20 Fisches lurking amang the stanes thay [*sc.* dogs] seik out with thair sent. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* II. vii. 110 He had all the Aromaticks and Odoriferous Perfumes to delight his sent in smelling. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 94 The perfect Hound, in Scent and Speed Unrivall'd. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 621 The sight is pleas'd The scent regal'd. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 277 The dog, having the help of scent as well as of sight, is superior to the savage.

b *fig.*

1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. Wks. (Grosart) I. 218 It may be I am of some better sente then you take me for, and finding a Machiauellian tricke in this plot..I was [etc.]. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 237 An eminent Evangelical Divine ..long celebrated for the keenness of his scent in 'legacy hunting'. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. i. 104 The courtiers, with the quick scent of their own interest,..soon turned their attention to the same polite studies. 1857 J. G. HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxvi. 315 All of them had a scent for heresy so subtle and acute that [etc.].

¶ c. In etymological sense: Perception by the senses, feeling. *Obs.* (? *nonce-uses.*)

14.. HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus' Wife* 850 And ther-to eek as sharp punisshement As þat dyuyse ther kowde any wight, Thow sholdest han y-preeued by the sent. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 43 He bids thee to him send for his intent A fit false dreame, that can delude the sleepers sent.

2. The odour of an animal or man as a means of pursuit by a hound; hence a track or trail as indicated by this odour.

Cold scent: see COLD *a.* 12. *Hot scent*: see HOT *a.* 8 a.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 500 [The sleuthhund] hym luffit swa, That fra he mycht anys feill The kyngis sent..he vald change it for na thyng. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i. 7 b, For the fuos of somme hares is of hotter sent thenne some. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 141 The sloith stoppyt.. Rycht wa thai [*sc.* the Englishmen] war that losyt was thair sent. 1576 TURBERV. *Hunting* xiv. 36 When they haue well beaten and founde the tracke or sent of the Harte. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 24 He [*sc.* a hound]..twice to day pick'd out the dullest sent. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 88/2 When one or more of them [*sc.* foxhounds] opens, 'tis a sure sign that he is upon the Scent. 1693 *Humours Town* 8 It would be to as little purpose to seek you, as to follow the Chace upon a wrong Scent. 1726 DEFOE *Hist. Devil* II. ii. (1840) 190 We can follow as hounds do a fox upon a hot scent. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 329 What adds to this entertainment is the strong scent which the fox leaves, that always keeps up a full cry. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 147/2 Once in the open, it was obvious that there was only half a scent. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583/1 *Scent*—The odour given off by the fox...It is *burning* if..strong; *breast-high*, if so good that the hounds do not stoop to it; *moving*, if it is so fresh that it must be recent..; *flighty* or *catchy*, if variable; *holding*, if good enough, but not very strong.

b. *fig.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 134 He is now at a cold sent. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* ii. 30 His tale..hath as plain a sent as a man need to wish, to fynd out a fable by. 1656 HEYLIN *Extran. Vapulans* 15 Follow this Game a little further, now we are on the sents. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 144 The scent of preferment will draw aspiring men after it. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xviii, Trim found he was upon a wrong scent. 1872 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 267 Another false scent by which the Proletariat have long been led astray is that [etc.].

c. *transf.* in the game of *Hare-and-hounds*: Fragments of paper scattered on the ground by the 'hares' to serve as a track for the 'hounds'.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii, It's the turn of our house to find scent for..Hare-and-Hounds.

d. Phrases. *To follow* (or rarely *pursue*) *the scent, to get* (*a* or *the*) *scent of, to have* (*a*) *scent of*, lit. and fig. *To lay, put* (hounds) *on or upon the scent*; hence fig. *to put* (a person) *on* or *off the scent*, also *on a false, wrong scent. To lose, recover the scent*, lit. (of hounds) and fig.; also, *to lose the scent*, (of the game) to baffle the hounds by passing through water. *To carry a* or *the scent*, (of ground) to retain the scent of the game; also (of fox-hounds) to follow the scent. †*Full scent* (advb.): ? of a hound, excited by the perception of the scent (in quot. *transf.*).

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1040 Bot thowmoste seke more southe ..ffor he [*sc.* the giant] wille hafe sent hym selfe sex myle large. 14..HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus' Wife* 272 [There was] An Erl ..Beforn whos howndes was a fox rennynge,..And as þat they ran they hadden a sent Of the lady and thidir be they went. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 350 This is to let my Sec. Ni. know that I am still close following the same sent. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 399 All further Thoughts of a present Peace ended, and left me only to pursue the cold Scent of a Mediation in the common Forms. 1688 in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. (1693) 784 One day there came three or four full sent to tell me they were certain they smelt the Pines. 1711 *Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 5 He immediately called in the Dogs, and put them upon the Scent. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 51 He had got a scent of it. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 446 Oft in the full-descending flood he [the stag] tries To lose the scent. 1781 [see LAY *v.*^{1} 15 h]. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, 'Thou hast lost the scent,' said Varney, 'of thy comrade Tressilian.' 1832 *John Bull* 26 Nov. 379/2 The hounds were for some time at fault. They soon, however, recovered the scent. 1832 'NIMROD' in *Q. Rev.* Mar. 219 The scent being seldom sufficient to enable the hound to carry it up to his [*sc.* the fox's] kennel. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXX, How if she..wished to throw my poor friend off the scent by this false announcement? 1878 'BROOKSBY' *Hunting Countries* I. 8 The surrounding country being strongly fenced, and carrying a good scent, a bad hunter is of little use here. 1882 AINGER *Lamb* VI. 116 Lamb had a love of..putting his readers on a false scent. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. iii. 77 The police..had got scent of the intended affray.

3. In wider sense: Distinctive odour. Now almost exclusively applied to agreeable odours, e. g. those of flowers.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 41 Every man rose fro the table abhorryng & eschewyng the sente and sauour of the dede man. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* IV. iv. (1555) C ij b, And in my mouthe, it had a marueylous cent Of dyuers spyces. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 148 The fragrant sents of flowry banks. 1635 STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 116 It is impossible to handle perfumes, without bearing away part of their sent. 1718 POPE *Iliad* VI. 359 Her rich Wardrobe.. Where treasur'd Odors breath'd a costly Scent. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 226 The Negroe nations..of Guinea.. have an insupportable scent. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 140 There is scarcely a scent odious or agreeable that may not be met with in the insect world. 1862 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. Prol. 195 His garments breathed a spicy scent Of cinnamon and sandal blent.

fig. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 266 One..would haue iudged that his eies would haue run into him & his soule out of him; so vnkindly did either take a sent of danger. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. Wks. (Grosart) I. 212 When I see the theefe, and the sente of Church-robbers is in my nosthrils. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. viii. 252 Perhaps some scent of the coming danger reached him.

4. An odoriferous liquid prepared by distillation from flowers, etc.; a perfume.

1750 *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 74 It has the smell and colour of myrrh, and is used as a scent. 1898 *Cassell's Mag.* June 42 A certain celebrated scent, made from the original recipe.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *scent-ball, -casket, -sachet*; instrumental, as *scent-laden* adj.; objective, as *scent-snuffing* adj.; special comb.: **scent-bag**, (*a*) a pouch, sac, or gland found in some animals, containing a secreted odoriferous substance; (*b*) a bag containing a strong-smelling substance drawn over ground to make an artificial scent for hounds; (*c*) =SACHET 3; **scent-bean**, an aromatic bean carried with the snuff in a snuff-box; **scent-bottle**, a bottle of scent; spec., an ornamental bottle containing scent, smelling-salts, etc. for the toilet-table or pocket; **scent-box**, (*a*) a box for carrying scent; (*b*) *Pugilistic slang*, the nose; **scent-dog** *Sc.*, a pointer; **scent-gland**, a gland which secretes an odoriferous substance; **scent-holder, -jar**, an ornamental vase or jar, usually with perforated top, in which odorous substances are kept to perfume an apartment; **scent-organ** *Ent.* and *Zool.*, an organ that secretes scent, a scent-bag, scent-gland; **scent-scale** *Ent.*, a perfumed scale found on the males of some Lepidoptera; **scent-spray**, an ornamental scent-bottle with apparatus for distributing the scent; †**scent-strong** *a.*, having great scenting powers; **scent-tuft** *Ent.*, a brush-like scent-bearing organ (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **scent-vase** = *scent-jar*; **scent-wood**, a Tasmanian evergreen shrub, *Alyxia buxifolia* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

1682–3 E. TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 38 Two Baggs which I have taken the liberty to call the *Scent-baggs [in a viper]. 1889 C. D. WARNER in *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 726/2 The young men..expended an immense amount of energy ..in riding at fences after the scent-bag. 1892 *Cooley's Cycl. Pract. Receipts* 1487/1 Scent-bags. See Sachets. *Ibid.*, *Scent-balls. 1892 H. AINSLIE *Pilgr. Land of Burns* 85 Their mouths were dry as snuff-boxes, and their tongues rattled therein like unto *scent beans. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. iv, Cut-glass *scent bottles. 17.. in Ashton *Social Life* (1882) I. 158 A Cane with a Silver Head and *Scent Box. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 315 Pat napped him on the scent-box. 1879 PIESSE *Perfumery* (ed. 4) Index, *Scent-casket. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 29 Nosing them for myself like a *Scent-Dog after birds. 1683 E. TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 377 Those scent-bags, or *scent-glands, I have formerly mentioned to be in other Animals. 1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 615 [During the breeding-season] the anal scent-glands are in active function in both groups [*sc.* Lizards and Serpents]. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 22 A *scent-jar, forty-four inches high...The scent is allowed to escape through hexagonal openings in the neck. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXI.

(1818) II. 245 Another insect..furnished with osmateria, or *scent-organs. 1892 B. HINTON *Lord's Return* 206 A silken coverlet, quilted and perfumed like a *scent-sachet. 1898 PACKARD *Text-bk. Entomol.* 198 To these *scent-scales is applied the term *androconia*. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 692 For there his smell with others being mingled, The hot *sent-snuffing hounds are driuen to doubt. 1897 *Daily News* 9 July 6/3 A silver and Venetian glass *scent spray. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 660 The *sent-strong Swallow sweepeth to and fro.

Scent (sent), *v.* Forms: 5–7 (9 *rare*) sent, 6–7 sente, (7 cent), 7– scent. [ME. *sent*, a. F. *sentir* to feel, perceive, spec. to smell; =Pr., Sp., Pg. *sentir*, It. *sentire* :—L. *sentīre* to feel, perceive. The spelling *scent* (for this and the sb.) does not occur in our material until the 17th c. A revival of the etymological spelling *sent* was attempted by A. and J. C. Hare (*Guesses at Truth*, ed. 1838).]

1. *trans.* Of a hound or other animal: To find or track (game, prey, etc.) by the smell; also, *to scent out*. In later use said also, with wider application, of persons and animals: To become aware of the presence or approach of, or to recognize at a distance, by the sense of smell; also (*rarely*), to inhale the smell of, to smell at.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i. 7 b, Whan hares be ygete with the kynde of a conynge..the houndes lust nor sentith hem nought so wele. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 117 By that time he have gone xx or xxx paces, the slot is better, and the hounds shall sent him much better. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 58 *Ghost*. But soft, me thinkes I sent the Mornings Ayre; Briefe let me be. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 179 Let us goe cent the Caspyan ayre. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis' Soliloquy of Soul* x. 177, I myself have even scented from afar the celestial Spices. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 200 The refreshment which is felt on scenting the pungent vapour of carbonate of ammonia. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ix. 307 Our oxen had scented the water at a distance. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 239 A bear and two cubs, that had..been scenting our footmarks of the day before. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* IV. 230 These animals [*sc.* sheep-dogs] scent the traveller from an incredible distance. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 295 Like vultures scenting their prey afar.

b. *fig.* To perceive as if by smell; to find out instinctively; to detect.

1553 *Respublica* 164 Nowe a wheale on suche noses.. That so quicklie canne sente where hidden golde dothe lye. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Double Marriage* I. ii, *Fer.* Is Virolet in [the conspiracy]? *Ron.* The head of all, he onely scented me. 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampant* (1687) 416 Perhaps not senting the Design of the Clowns. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanaticism* ii. 26 The religious classes who..will scent a heresy in every such definition. 1870 A. R. HOPE *Schoolboy Fr.* xiv. 182, I thought he would scent us out. 1897 L. J. TROTTER *John Nicholson* xix. 227 Chamberlain, scenting possible mischief, made a forced march to Amritsar.

†**c.** In etymological sense: To discern, perceive. *Obs. rare.*

1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xix. 115 Soules haue sense of thinges without organicall senses: and when they bee but fancies, yet that which ministreth the object..is sented with the minde only. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) B 4, Hir horns..are the proper organum of the sense of feeling; by which, with the least touch, the Bee sodainely senteth any tangible object.

2. *intr.* Of a hound or other animal: †**a.** To perceive the smell *of* (the quarry). *Obs.* **b.** To hunt by the sense of smell; also, to 'smell about', sniff the air for a scent.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii. 11 And he shall kepe hym..always in be myddell of the water for cause that the houndes shall not sent of hym. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* IV. 151 But Grillus subtile-smelling swinish snout Must sent, and grunt, and needes will finde it out. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 279 So sented the grim Feature, and upturn'd His Nostril wide into the mirky Air. 1730 SWIFT *Answ. Delany's Fable* 8 The hound would scent; the wolf would prowl.

fig. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 20 But at length they began to sent after the Egyptians gods.

3. To exhale an odour, to smell. [So F. *sentir*.] Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 2765 This gardeyn is..ful of may flouris, ..The wich been so redolent, & sentyn so a boute. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xliii. 63 The seede is small and black, and senting like Rosin. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 66 A stone that smells only when it is blown on, and the harder one blowes, the stronger it sents. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 182 The Fruit when Green scents like Turpentine. 1843 tr. *Custine's Empire of Czar* I. 125 This perfumed Cerberus, for he scented of musk at the distance of a league, released us.

fig. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* IV. i, Season now your youth With one braue thing, and it shall keep the odour..and on your Tombe Sent like sweet oyles and Frankincense. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvi. 321 Such is the fresh nature of some Embassages, if not spent presently, they sent ill. 1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Genteel Style in Writing*, They [*sc.* Sir William Temple's essays] scent of Nimeguen, and the Hague. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 584 The very air scents of knavery.

4. *trans.* [From the sb.] To impregnate with an odour; to perfume.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 636 With Smoak of burning Cedar scent thy Walls. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 398 An hundred altars rise, And breathing odours scent the balmy skies. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampsh.* III. 147 To decoy him, the hunters scent the ground with a drug. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, The hundred perfumes of the little flower-garden..scented the air around. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 762 The ointment may be scented with any essential oil.

Scent, obs. form of SAINT.

Scented (se·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCENT *v.* and *sb.*]

†**1.** With prefixed adv.: Endowed with the power of tracking by sense of smell. *Obs.*

1579 E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded., So Marot, Sanazarus, and..other..Poetes, whose foting this Author every where followeth; yet so as few, but they be wel sented, can trace him out. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. 104 There were..Beagles which were very well sented to find out wild beasts.

2. Impregnated with perfume; perfumed.

Scented caper, tea: see CAPER *sb.*[1] 4.

1740 C. PITT *Æneid* IV. 318 Paris..In scented tresses and a mitre gay. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1149 The scented soap being put into the frames, speedily consolidates. 1879 PIESSE *Perfumery* (ed. 4) 316 Scented shells. Venetian Shells..are..steeped into the scent...When dry these shells will serve for perfuming jewel-cases and work-boxes.

3. That has a scent or perfume; exhaling a scent.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 276 One of the subtlest and strongest sented Drugs. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 151 The scentless and the scented rose. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Obermann* xlii, The scented pines of Switzerland. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Scented Fern. *Nephrodium Oreopteris*, Desv.

Scenter (se·ntəɹ). [f. SCENT *v.* + -ER [1].] One who or that which scents, in the senses of the vb. Also *scenter out*.

1611 COTGR., *Flaireur*, a senter, smeller, venter. 1838 HARE *Guesses* Ser. II. (1866) 307 The senters-out [*sic*] of allegories.

Scentful (se·ntfŭl), *a.* [f. SCENT *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Full of or abounding in perfume; fragrant.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XV. 196 The scent-full Camomill. 1732–3 SAVAGE *Volunteer Laureat* II. 34 Ye blossoms,..send your scentful tribute to the skies.

†**2.** Having keen scent or sense of smell. *Obs.*

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 55 For whom (had she not so beene nourished)..The sentfull Osprey by the Rocke had fish'd.

Scenting (se·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCENT *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Flairement*, smelling, senting. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 3 (1864) 166 In scenting, a pointer keeps his nose close to the ground. 1855 PIESSE *Perfumery* 100 The perfumer uses musk principally in the scenting of soap. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 209 An unusually difficult tract of country.., where 'scenting' was slow.

†**b.** Sensation. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 22 Bees have all the five senses, though there do not appear all those outward Organs of senting, which some other Animals have.

Sce·nting, *ppl. a.* [f. SCENT *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. That exhales an odour or perfume.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 22 b, Strong sentyng Leekes of Tarentine. 1595 P. T. G. *Blanchardyn* (1890) 216 All costly odors and sweet senting spices. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 10 The scenting oils may be used as mentioned for rats.

2. Of or pertaining to hunting by scent. Of a hound: That hunts by scent. *Sporting*. Of a day, country: Characterized by the prevalence of a (good, bad, etc.) scent.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 51 The sentyng hounds pursude the hastie Hare of foote. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. iv, When any thing in the least soured him, as a bad scenting day, or a distemper among his hounds. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 543/1 It will be well to select a good scenting covert..for the first morning.

[Scentingly: see SCANTINGLY *a.* (quot. *a* 1661).]

Scentless (se·ntlĕs), *a.* [f. SCENT *sb.* + -LESS.]

†**1.** Without the faculty of smell. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 1473 Their deaf, dull Idols, sent-lesse, sight-lesse, dumb.

2. Without odour or perfume.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Tri. Faith* IV. xv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 18 By Faith three Hebrews..escape the raging Fire: (Their very garments sent-lesse and entire). 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 98 Each ingredient before mixture was scentless. 1813 T. MOORE *Last Rose of Summer* 16 Where thy mates of the garden Lie scentless and dead. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 44 Flowers..scentless.

3. *Hunting.* Of ground: That does not carry scent.

1880 'BROOKSBY' *Hunting Countries* II. 218 Foxes occasionally travel on to these scentless heights from the Vale.

Scep, obs. form of SHEEP, SKEP, SKIP.

Sceppe, Scepper, variants of SKEP, SKEPPER.

Scepsis (ske·psis). [a. Gr. *σκέψις* inquiry, hesitation, doubt, f. *σκέπ-τεσθαι*: see SCEPTIC.] Sceptical attitude in philosophy.

1876 J. MARTINEAU *Ess. & Addr.* (1891) IV. 94 Among their products were the system of Locke, the scepsis of Hume, the critical philosophy of Kant.

Sceptic, skeptic (ske·ptik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *sceptique* adj. and sb., or its source late L. *scepticus* (*Scepticī* sb. pl., the Sceptics), lit. inquiring, reflective, assumed by the disciples of Pyrrho as their distinctive epithet; f. *σκεπ-* in *σκέπτεσθαι* to look out, consider, ablaut-var. of *σκοπ-* in *σκοπεῖν* to look, *σκοπός* watchman, mark to aim at, etc.: see SCOPE *sb.* Cf. Sp. *escéptico*, Pg. *sceptico*, It. *scettico*, G. *skeptiker* sb., *skeptisch* adj.

In Fr. the *sc* is pronounced (s) as in *sceptre*. In Eng. direct recourse to Greek produced the pronunciation with (sk). The spelling with *sk*-, for which cf. SKELETON, occurs in the earliest instance, and has been used occas. by later writers. It is adopted without comment or alternative in Johnson's Dictionary, but did not become general in England; in the U. S. it is the ordinary form.]

A. *adj.* =SCEPTICAL *a.* Now *rare* exc. as the epithet of a school of philosophers (see B. 1).

c 1575 G. BUCHANAN *Let. to Randolph* Vernac. Writ. (S. T. S.) 57, I can not tak you for ane Stoik philosopher..or ane cairless [*margin* skeptik] hart that taks cuccaldris as thyng indifferent. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. i. 174 Fye Gallus, what, a Skeptick Pyrrhomist [*sic*]? 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 221 Calling..humble Ductility after further Reason, and Discovery, Sceptick Inconstancy. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* I. ii. 27 Using a known Sceptick Privilege, and asserting strenuously the Cause I have hitherto oppos'd. 1839 *Morn. Herald* 14 Sept., The sceptic geologists of the British Association. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 3 Free from the sceptic distrustfulness..so common.

B. *sb.*

1. *Philos.* One who, like Pyrrho and his followers in Greek antiquity, doubts the possibility of real knowledge of any kind; one who holds that there are no adequate grounds for certainty as to the truth of any proposition whatever. Also, often applied in a historically less correct sense, to those who deny the competence of reason, or the existence of any justification for certitude, outside the limits of experience.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* i. (1592) 10 There was in deede a kinde of Philosophers called Scepticks..(that is to say Doubters) which did rather suspend their Judgements concerning the Godhead then call it in question. 1608 BP. HALL *Charact.* 151 Hee is a Scepticke, and dare hardly giue credit to his senses. *a* 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 22 The Skeptike, which doubts all, was more contentious then either. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* III. vi, And I have eyes too... If I have no belief in their assurance, I must turn sceptick. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* Ep. Ded., Confidence in uncertainties is the greatest enemy to what is certain; and were I a Sceptick, I'de plead for Dogmatising. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 576, I am apt to think there never yet has really been such a monster in the world as a thorough sceptic. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 138 Howe'er ingenious on his darling theme A sceptic in philosophy may seem [etc.]. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 11 The old-fashioned nomenclature puts him down among sceptics. 1893 J. OWEN (*title*) The Skeptics of the Italian Renaissance.

2. One who doubts the validity of what claims to be knowledge in some particular department of inquiry (e.g. metaphysics, theology, natural science, etc.); *popularly*, one who maintains a doubting attitude with reference to some particular question or statement. Also, one who is habitually inclined rather to doubt than to believe any assertion or apparent fact that comes before him; a person of sceptical temper.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 48 The Philosopher..calleth the head, the chest, and the belly, principall Organs, because the most irresolute Scepticke, cannot but acknowledge their action and diuerse composition. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. iii. (1662) 14 In the meantime I am a Sceptick, and know little in this whole doctrine of Spirits, and spiritual workings, further than Scripture clearly revealeth. 1657 *Treat. Conf. Sin* 342 If we still continue Scepticks in the settlement of Church and Doctrine. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 3 The Dogmatist is in haste to believe something...The Sceptick will not take Pains to search Things to the Bottom, but when he sees Difficulties on both Sides resolves to believe neither of them. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Milton* 102 If every sceptick in Theology may teach his follies, there can be no religion. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii. 154 'Tis the first time that honour has been doubted, And were the last, from any other sceptic. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* XI. i, But one smile of the sceptic or the world-man was seen on the pallid lips of those present. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 2/2 Who says there is no romance in food? Let the sceptic turn to 'Lorna Doone'.

3. *spec.* One who doubts, without absolutely denying, the truth of the Christian religion or important parts of it; often *loosely*, an unbeliever in Christianity, an infidel.

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Pref. § 8 So an Atheist or a Sceptique may not conclude as well. 1674 T. SMITH (*title*) Christian Religion's Appeal from the groundless prejudices of the Sceptick to the Bar of Common Reason. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 154, I wish.. such men would..not give such advantage to deists and sceptics. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 261 There sceptics rest, a still-increasing throng. 1863 R. B. GIRDLESTONE *Anal. Scepticism* 100 In listening to the arguments of a sceptic you are breathing a poisonous atmosphere.

4. Occas. used with reference to the etymological sense: A seeker after truth; an inquirer who has not yet arrived at definite convictions.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Sceptick* (1651) 1 The Sceptick doth neither affirm, neither denie any Position: but doubteth of it, and opposeth his Reasons against that which is affirmed, or denied to justifie his not Consenting. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 96 Which temerity..hath, we see, made some poor souls turn Scepticks and Seekers after true Religion. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. vi. 212 Several critics of antiquity considered Plato as essentially a sceptic—that is, a Searcher or Enquirer, not reaching any assured or proved result. 1870 M. D. CONWAY *Earthw. Pilgr.* xxi. 248 A Sceptic, then, is one who shades his eyes in order to look steadfastly at a thing.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sceptic-Christian, -friend*; *sceptic-like, -ridden* adjs.

1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* I. iii. 38 But..bore with me when I treated all his Thoughts as visionary; and when *Sceptick-like I unravel'd all his Systems. 1711 — *Charac.* III. *Misc. Refl.* II. ii. 72 The best Christian in the World, who..depends only on History and Tradition for his Belief in these Particulars, is at best but a *Sceptick-Christian. *Ibid.* V. ii. 288 To deal the better with his *Sceptick-Friend, he falls

again to personating. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 267 He may..regale his atheist-ridden, or theist-ridden, or *sceptic-ridden..or devil-ridden mind.

Sceptical, skeptical (skeˑptikăl), *a.* [f. SCEPTIC + -AL.] **a.** Of persons: Inclined to or imbued with scepticism (in the various senses of that word); in modern use often, dubious or incredulous. **b.** Of doctrines, opinions, etc.: Characteristic of a sceptic; of the nature of scepticism.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. v. (1640) 176 Desiring rather to be sceptical then definitive in the causes of Gods judgements. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 15 May, My Lord and I walked together..talking together upon..religion, wherein he is, I perceive, wholly sceptical, saying, that indeed the Protestants as to the Church of Rome are wholly fanatiques. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. 42 There is no Sort of Ground for being thus presumptuous, even upon the most sceptical Principles. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1821 VII. 82 There were at that time, it seems, in Calcutta a wicked sceptical set of people, who somehow or other believed, that human agency was concerned in this elective [? *read* electric] flash, which came so very opportunely. 1870 BALDW. BROWN *Eccl. Truth* 231 There is a sense in which every age is..bound to be sceptical. 1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* (1847) II. 465 The Catastrophist's dogmatism is undermined by the Uniformitarian's skeptical hypotheses. 1884 KYLE *Princ. Churchmen* (ed. 2) 435 Many a sceptical saying is nothing more than a borrowed article, picked up and retailed by him who says it, because it seems clever. 1885 PATER *Marius* I. 157 He continued the sceptical argument he had commenced.

Sceptically, skeptically (skeˑptikăli), *adv.* [f. SCEPTICAL + -LY 2.] In a sceptical manner; like a sceptic.

[1633: see SCEPTICLY *adv.*] 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* v. 84 Things being yet so far from being certainly known that I dare but Sceptically treat of them. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) III. *Misc. Refl.* II. ii. 74 He condescended still, on many occasions, to speak sceptically, and with some Hesitation and Reserve, as to the Certainty of these Divine Exhibitions. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* III. iii. III. 203 Even this [the atomic theory] has been sceptically accepted by our cautious school of philosophy. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 908 'Where did they get the banjo?' asked ..Jones, skeptically.

†Sceˑpticalness, skeˑpticalness. *Obs. rare.* [f. SCEPTICAL + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being sceptical.

1633 FULLER *Serm. Assurance* (1647) 4 Continuall wavering, or Scepticalness concerning our Calling and Election.

Scepticism, skepticism (skeˑptisizˈm). [ad. mod.L. *scepticismus*, f. late L. *sceptic-us*: see SCEPTIC and -ISM. Cf. F. *scepticisme*.]

1. *Philos.* The doctrine of the Sceptics; the opinion that real knowledge of any kind is unattainable.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Scepticism*, the Doctrine or opinion of the *Scepticks*. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5081 Here he taketh occasion to examine Pyrrhonisme or Scepticisme, professed by a Sect of men that speak otherwise than they think. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 576 There is an air of positiveness in all scepticism, an unreserved confidence in the strength of those arguments that are alleged to overthrow all the knowledge of mankind. 1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* (1847) II. 655 There is by no means any ground of general skepticism with regard to truth involved in the doctrine of the necessary combination of two elements in all our knowledge. 1908 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 82 Consistent rationalism always in the end collapses into scepticism.

2. Sceptical attitude in relation to some particular branch of science; doubt or incredulity as to the truth of some assertion or supposed fact. Also, disposition to doubt or incredulity in general; mistrustfulness; sceptical temper.

1646 T. EDWARDS *Gangræna* I. 156 First bring in Scepticisme [*sic*] in Doctrine and loosenesse of life, and afterwards all Atheism. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* Ep. Ded., Scepticism is less reprehensible in enquiring years. 1776 GIBBON *Decline & F.* xv. (1782) I. 602 A state of scepticism and suspense may amuse a few inquisitive minds. 1822 *Retrosp. Rev.* V. 103 He was a little tainted with the scepticism of that Irish prelate who qualified his admiration of Gulliver's Travels by hinting, that there were some things in them of which he had his doubts. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xlviii, Endymion had often listened, half with fondness and half with skepticism, to Waldershare dilating..on the character and qualities of Imogene.

3. Doubt or unbelief with regard to the Christian religion. Cf. SCEPTIC B. 3.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 227 The general prevalence of infidelity and scepticism has been, with some degree of justice, attributed to enthusiasm in religion. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trumpet* (1876) 322 Scepticism may be assumed as an excuse for immorality. 1884 RYLE *Princ. Churchmen* (ed. 2) 433 A vague kind of scepticism or agnosticism is one of the commonest spiritual diseases in this generation.

†Scepticˑity. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCEPTIC + -ITY.] The quality of being sceptical.

1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* Ep. Ded. 5 Whether my Scepticity, even in such Notions..be not evidence strong enough.

Scepticize (skeˑptisəiz), *v.* [f. SCEPTIC + -IZE.]

†1. *trans.* With *away*: To remove (a certainty) by casting doubt upon its proofs. *Obs.*

1682 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. Introd. 2 The more subtle [unbelievers] are ready to Scepticize away those grounds.

2. *intr.* To play the sceptic; to take up the position of a philosophical doubter.

1698 H. B. *Free but Modest Cens.* 6 He hath a great mind to Scepticize, and to maintain Paradoxes. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* II. i. 44 You can afford to scepticize where no one else will so much as hesitate. 1840 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 178 You used to scepticize till we both ran away. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 25 Nov. 44/1 Mr. Owen is best described as scepticising *pour encourager les autres*.

†Sceˑptˑicly, *adv. Obs.* = SCEPTICALLY.

1633 JAMES in *Hearne's Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 9, I, who skeptiklye scarce dare..speake.

Sceptire, obs. form of SCEPTRE *sb.*

†Sceˑptism. *Obs. rare.* [Badly formed on SCEPT(IC) + -ISM.] = SCEPTICISM.

1658 J. ROBINSON *Stone to Altar* 96 Without subscribing to a Protagorean Scepticism, That which is true in one place, may be false in another.

Sceptral (seˑptrăl), *a.* [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining to a sceptre; serving as a sceptre.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 447 Zeus grasps the sceptral lightnings of the air. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* XXXVIII, The Carrier..bore with a bent arm and set muscle the sceptral whip of the family. 1884 SWINBURNE *Midsummer Holiday* 12 Sceptral stems bore stars whose reign endures, not flowers that fall.

Sceptre (seˑptəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 ceptre, 4 ceptire, 5 ceptur(e, ceptyr, 5–6 ceptour, 6 cepter; 4 septir, 4–6 septor, septre, septur(e, 4–7 septer, 5 seipter, septere, 5–6 septour(e, 6 septar; 4 sceptir(e, sceptree, 5 sceptoure, 5–6 scepture, 6 sceptar, 6–9 scepter, 4– sceptre. [ME. *ceptre, septre, sceptre*, a. OF. *ceptre, sceptre* (mod.F. *sceptre*) = Sp. *cetro*, Pg. *sceptro*, It. *scettro, scetro*, ad. L. *scēptrum, scæptrum*, a. Gr. *σκῆπτρον* staff, sceptre, f. root of *σκήπτεσθαι* to prop oneself, lean on something.]

1. An ornamental rod or wand (often of gold and jewelled) borne in the hand as a symbol of regal or imperial authority.

In England the royal assent to a bill passed by Parliament is signified by the king's touching it with his sceptre.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7863 Þai sett a ceptre in his hand, þat man clepes kyngs wand. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 511 Sceptire is þe kyngis wand, þat bitakyns his pouste. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 3564 And she that bar the ceptre ful of floures Shal bere a distaf hire costes for to quyte. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 502 Þe king was sett in his sale with septer in hand. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xiii[i]. (1494) D ij b, Swerde, sceptre [1554 scepter, 1558 seipter] crowne and state Imperiall. *c* 1485 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 10 A septre with the dowe, and a rodd of gold for the King, and with a septre of iuere also with a dove and an other rodd of gold also, for the Quene. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 151 Duke Engystus in honour excellent, With septre and crowne fyrst reygned royally. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 124 She appeared to them shakynge a septer in her hande. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 190 His Scepter shewes the force of temporall power, The attribute to awe and Maiestie. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 38 Who's that that beares the Scepter? Marquesse Dorset. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2461/3 This Act being touched with the Scepter, the President..Adjourned the Parliament to the 17th of this instant June. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 353 The figure of a sceptre inclosed within a wreath of crowns and sceptres interwoven. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. vii, I swear by sceptre and by sword, as belted knight and Britain's lord. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 105 So sit I, like the King upon his throne: I hold the sceptre, here, —and lack the crown alone. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 147 The eagle with spread wings upon his ivory sceptre.

b. *Her.* A representation of this.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. i. (1611) 191 The Field is Iupiter, a Scepter Roiall in Pale. 1831 H. THOMPSON *Heraldry* in *Encycl. Metrop.* V. 614/2 It is not usual, but Heraldic and allowable, to marshal behind the Arms of the Sovereign the different Sceptres to which he is entitled. 1909 FOX-DAVIES *Compl. Guide to Heraldry* 298 The other chief emblem of sovereignty—the Sceptre—is occasionally met with, as in the Whitgreave crest of augmentation.

c. In figurative context.

1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 3, ¶ 9 When her examination had convinced her [*sc.* Criticism], that the laws of just writing had been observed, she touched it with the amaranthine end of the sceptre, and consigned it over to immortality. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* V. 176 Though they [*sc.* Tyranny and Falsehood] wield With blood-red hand the sceptre of the world.

¶d. Used to render Gr. *σκῆπτρον* staff.

1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 21 By fayth Iacob when he was a deyinge, blessed both the sonnes of Ioseph, and worshipped on the toppe of his Ceptre.

2. *fig.* Taken as the power or authority symbolized by a sceptre; hence, royal or imperial dignity, sovereignty, supremacy.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlix. 10 The septre fro Juda shal not be takun awey. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 119 Of Septur and soile he sesit his brothir, And hym crownede as kyng in þat kithe riche. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xliv. 6 Thy seate (o God) endureth for euer: the cepter of thy kyngdome is a right cepter. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 303 b, She (in whose mind Vertue gouerned with the scepter of Knowledge). *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 3 Your Majesties self noe less, commanding, at your first entrie to your Roial scepter, to reform the grammar, and to teach Aristotle in his aun tongue. 1781 LOGAN in *Sc. Paraphr.* XVIII. iv, His sceptre shall protect the just. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvi. IV. 504 The Persian conqueror governed his new subjects with an iron sceptre. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii. 269 Could I not shatter the Briarean sceptre Which in this hundred-handed senate rules. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 90 Before the myrtle crown, and the stainless sceptre, of womanhood. 1902 FULLER-MAITLAND *Oxf. Hist. Music* IV. Introd. 4 The student of history watches the sceptre of musical supremacy passing, as it were, from England to the Netherlands.

3. A popular name of the sceptred gold unite first coined in 1604; also, † the name suggested for a silver coin in 1695.

1695 LOWNDES *Rep. Ess. Amend. Silver Coins* 62 One Piece which may be called the Sceptre or the Silver-Unite. 1736 FOLKES *Gold Coins* 6, 2 Ja. I. Sovereigns or Units, vulgarly called Scepters. 1763 SNELLING *Gold Coin* 22 The Unitie or Unite..is also frequently called a scepter, from the scepter in the king's hand, in distinction to those..called Laurels, from the laureated head. 1870 HENFREY *Eng. Coins* I. 56.

†4. A constellation in the southern hemisphere.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Scepter, Sceptrum*, in astronomy, one of the six new constellations of the southern hemisphere, consisting of 17 stars. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 476 There are many other constellations formed by different individuals; but these are not now generally admitted. Such are..the Sceptre of Brandenburgh [etc.]. 1850 in OGILVIE.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sceptre-bearer*, **†-holder**, **†-staff**, **†-wand**; *sceptre-bearing* adj.; **†sceptre broad-piece, -piece**, **†-unite** = sense 3; **sceptre-flower** (see quot. 1866); **†sceptre-rule** (see quot.); **†sceptre-state**, a king.

1598 FLORIO, *Scetrigero*, a ruler, a *scepter-bearer, a sergeant at armes. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 69 The other *scepter-bearing States..obeyd The peoples Rector. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. viii. 88 Restore them; or no reverence shall withstand Of thy crown'd head, or scepter-bearing hand. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3739/4 A striped Silk Spring-Purse with *Sceptre Broad Pieces of Gold and others, Guineas, Pistols, &c. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Sceptre-flower. *Sceptranthus. a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* i. 81 A Scepter..is so proper to a King, as he is called a *Scepter-holder. 1695 LOCKE *Further Consid. Value Money* 86, 1 Crown or *Scepter piece o 6 3. 1736 FOLKES *Gold Coins* (1745) 12 A unit of his [Jas. I] 2ᵈ year, called a scepter piece. 1611 FLORIO, *Scetro*,..a Kingdome or *Scepter-rule. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 124 Till thy hand Fail from the *sceptre-staff. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 83 The other *scepter-states Rose and obayde the Generall. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* xxxii. 464 After the coining of the units—coins of similar value—these pieces were sometimes called *sceptre units. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S. T. S.) 189 The *scepter wand suld nocht be away tane fra the princis of Jowry.

Sceptre (seˑptəɹ), *v.* [f. SCEPTRE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To furnish with a sceptre.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 260 When he was.., crowned with thornes, Septred with a rede in derysyon and scorne. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl. N.T., Christ bef. Pilate* 263 Thy head smitten, thy hand sceptred with a reed. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 156 Jesus.., Crown'd with sharp Thorns, and scepter'd with a Reed. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 223 Most like a mighty king was he, And crowned and sceptered royally.

2. To touch (with a sceptre) as a sign of royal assent or ratification. (Cf. SCEPTRE *sb.* 1, quot. 1689.)

1851 MISS STRICKLAND *Queens of Eng.* I. Introd. 18 William III..arrogated exclusively to himself the privilege of sceptering or rejecting bills.

Hence **Sceˑptring** *vbl. sb.*

1821 *Examiner* 449/1 The real meaning of scepterings and anointings.

Sceptred (seˑptəɹd), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **cepturyt**, 7– **sceptered**. [f. SCEPTRE *v.* + -ED 1.] Bearing a sceptre; invested with regal authority. *Sceptred unite* = SCEPTRE *sb.* 3.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. vi. 25 Thys ancyent kyng dyd set hym dovn amyd The cepturyt men, as first and principall. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 193 But mercy is aboue this sceptred sway, It is enthroned in the hearts of kings. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 98 Som time let Gorgeous Tragedy In Scepter'd Pall com sweeping by. 1667 — *P. L.* II. 43 And next him Moloc, Scepter'd King Stood up. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 20 Perching on the scepter'd hand Of Jove. 1806 LANDOR *Rose Aylmer*, Ah, what avails the sceptred race? 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xli, For sceptred cynics earth were far too wide a den. 1817 RUDING *Ann. Coinage* II. 221 Scotland, where the Scepter'd Unit..still continued to be coined as before. 1894 BOYD CARPENTER *The Son of Man* ii. 36 We see beneath the sceptred symbols of earthly power an unexpected feebleness.

Sceˑptredom. [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -DOM.]

†1. Period of sceptred rule; reign (of a king).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 9 In a faire text hand texting vnto vs how in the Scepterdome of Edward the Confessor, the sands first began to growe into sight at a low water.

2. Sovereign authority.

1878 BOARDMAN *Creative Week* 251 (Cent.) The Sabbath comes down to us..imperial with all the sceptredom of the Creator's example.

Sceˑptreless, *a.* [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -LESS.] **a.** Obeying no sceptre. **b.** Wielding no sceptre.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 194 The man remains Sceptreless, free, uncircumscribed. 1838 TALFOURD *Athen. Captive* I. i, Sceptreless, uncrown'd, Unheeded.

†Sceptriˑferous, *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -IFEROUS.] Bearing a sceptre.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1658 in PHILLIPS.

†Sceˑptrous. *nonce-wd.* [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -OUS.] Of the nature of a sceptre.

1822 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 270 The sceptrous wand of fairy Oberon, the lily.

†Sceˑptry, *a.* [f. SCEPTRE *sb.* + -Y.] Sceptred.

1819 KEATS *Otho* I. i. 107 E'en for his highness Ludolph's sceptry hand, I would not Albert suffer any wrong.

Scepture, Scer, obs. ff. SCEPTRE, SHEAR.

Scere, Scerge, obs. ff. SCARE *v.*, SEARCH *v.*

†Scerne, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Aphetic for DISCERN *v.*, after It. *scernere*.] *trans.* with *obj. clause.* To perceive, discover.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 22 But, as he nigher drew, he easily Might scerne that it was not his sweetest sweet.

Sceselle, obs. form of CHISEL.

Scevity, var. SCÆVITY. **Scew,** obs. f. SKEW.

Sch. This sequence of letters corresponds in present or past English spelling to the various sounds or combinations of sounds ʃ, tʃ, sk, s, stʃ.

In ME. it was one of several modes of expressing the sound (ʃ), represented in OE. by *sc*, and in mod.E. normally by *sh*. With this value it continued to be used in Sc. down to the beginning of the 17th c. In ME. *sch* was sometimes miswritten for *ch*, pronounced (tʃ). In this Dictionary the words occurring in early texts spelt with initial *sch* which are not entered with this spelling will ordinarily be found under *sh* or *ch*.

In modern spelling *sch* has the value (ʃ) only in a few alien words from German (e. g. *schnapps*), in *schist* (of Gr. origin, influenced in pronunciation by German) and its derivatives, and in the abnormal (British) pronunciation of *schedule*. Formerly *sch* was often used for (ʃ), after German and French example, in transliterations of Oriental words, as in *schekinah*, *schah*, *haschisch*; but in these *sh* is now almost universally used instead.

In mod.E. (sk) is the normal pronunciation of *sch* in words of classical derivation, where it represents L. *sch*, Gr. σχ. (The only exceptions are *schist* etc. and *schedule*, mentioned above, and *schism* etc. for which see below.) *Sch* is also pronounced (sk) in Italian words, e. g. *scherzo*. In Du. words the native pronunciation of *sch* is (sχ) initially and (s) finally; but in the few Du. words with initial *sch* that are used in English without change of spelling the English custom is to substitute (sk).

In ME. texts initial *sch* sometimes occurs where the alliteration or the etymology shows that it is to be pronounced (sk). This probably arose from the fact that many Teut. words existed in two dialectal forms, one from OE. with (ʃ), and the other from ON. with (sk), and as both forms were used by the West Midland and Northern alliterative poets, they were often confused by the scribes. The existence of etymological spellings like *schole* for *scole* (SCHOOL *sb.*[1]), which occur sporadically from the 13th c., may have had some effect in suggesting the use of *sch* as a symbol for (sk).

The only words in which *sch* now represents (s) are *schism* and its derivatives, the pronunciation of the ME. form *cisme* (from OF. *cisme*) having survived although the spelling has been altered in accordance with the ultimate etymology. A similar explanation applies to the now obsolete pronunciation of *schedule* as (se·diul).

The pronunciation of *sch* as (stʃ) occurs only medially in words like *escheat*, *eschew*, *discharge*, where the *s* and the *ch* belong to different syllables.

Scha, schach, obs. forms of SHAH.

† Scha·don. *Obs.* Also 8 **skaddon.** [a. Gr. σχάδων (Aristotle).] The larva of a bee.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) I 3, The weather keeping them [*sc.* Bees] in, they can do nothing but breed and hatch their schadons. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 71 That no schadon..can break through into a cell on the other side. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 93 The skaddons or young bees that are in the combs.

Schagh, obs. f. SHAW. **Schako:** see SHAKO. **Schalde,** obs. f. SCALD. **Schallemele, schalme, -muse,** etc.: see SHAWM. **Schamatize:** see SHAMMATIZE *v.* **Schamel,** obs. f. SHAMBLE.

‖ **Schanse** (skans), *sb. S. Afr.* Also **schanze, schantze.** [Du. *schans* (Cape Du. *skans*) = G. *schanze*. Cf. SCONCE.] A heap or breastwork of stones used as a protection against rifle fire.

1880 *Times* 18 Oct. 4/3 Some of these paths are..barred by lines of schanzes, or stone barricades. 1896 *St. James's Gaz.* 10 Jan. 4/1 Wherever there was a decent lot of rocks and schantzes..to hide behind. 1899 G. H. RUSSELL *Under the Sjambok* ii. 25 The ruined kraals and schanses were the abodes of innumerable serpents. 1900 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 5/5 The first line of schanzes, or stone breastworks,..were promptly occupied by the Boer sharpshooters.

Hence **schanze** *v. trans.*, to fortify or protect with a schanse or schanses. *rare.*

1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 888 The English had schanzed the long ridge for a long distance.

Schape, Schapfold, obs. ff. CHAPE *sb.*, SCAPE, SCAFFOLD. **Schapps:** see SHAPS. **Scharabot,** var. SCARBOT. **Schat(e,** obs. ff. SKATE. **Schathill, Schathles:** see SCATHEL, SCATHLESS. **Schauld, schaule,** var. ff. SHALD. **Schaundle, Schauntillun:** see SCANDAL, SCANTILLON. **Schawage, Schawbert, Schawd:** see SCAVAGE, SCABBARD, SHALD. **Schawnter, Schayle, -lle,** obs. ff. CHANTRY, SKAIL. **Scheam,** obs. f. SCHEME. **Schec(h:** see SHEIKH. **Schecina:** see SHEKINAH. **Schecon,** obs. f. CHICKEN. **Schedare, Schedaw,** obs. ff. SHEATHER, SHADOW.

† Schede. *Obs.* Also 7 **skead(e.** Cf. SCEDE. [ad. L. *scheda* (whence med. Gr. σχέδη), also *sceda* or *scida*.] A written paper.

1566 in C. Plummer *Eliaab. Oxford* (O. H. S.) 200 There were divers schedes of verses in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew, set upon the doore. 1609 HEYWOOD *Troia Brit.* VII. Argt., Iasons rich Fleece, and proud Troy once more racst By Hercules, in our next skeades are placst. *Ibid.* XII. iii, And all thy skeads Achilles Fame display.

Schede, obs. form of SHEATH.

† Sche·diasm. *Obs.* Also in Gr. form **schediasma.** [a. Gr. σχεδίασμα, f. σχεδιάζειν: see next.] An extemporized work, a jotting.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Schediasm*, a sudden invention, or a work extempore. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 83 The best Collections of Historical Schediasma's and Memoirs that ever were publish'd. 1787 S. PARR *Let.* Aug., Wks. (1828) VII. 403, I beg of you to print the Schediasm, for it is extremely useful.

† Schedia·stic, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. Gr. *σχεδιαστικός (implied in *-τικῶς adv.*), f. σχεδιάζειν to do a thing off-hand.] Off-hand, superficial.

a 1640 JACKSON *Creed* X. viii. Wks. 1654 IX. 44 Such schediastic surveyors of the book of grace.

Schedulate (ʃe·diulēit), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. mod.L. **schedulāt-us*, f. *schedula*: see next and -ATE[2].] Specified in a schedule; scheduled.

1811 W. SCOTT in *Dodson's Rep.* (1815) I. 39 Mr. Hansen has, by his act in paying the wages schedulate, waved all objection to the informality of the proceedings.

Schedule (ʃe·diul, ʃe·dəl; *U. S.* ske·diul), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **cedule, sedule,** 5–6 **cedull, sedull,** 6–7 **cedul, scedull, scedule, shedule,** 6 **schedul(l, (chedull, seadule,** 7 **shedulle),** 6– **schedule.** Also 7 in Latin form **scedula.** [ME. *cedule, sedule*, a. OF. *cedule* (mod.F. *cédule*), ad. late L. *scedula* (in med. and mod.Latin also written *schedula*), dim. of L. *sceda* (med.L. also *scheda*): see SCEDE, SCHEDE *sbs.* The word has passed from Latin into most of the Rom. and Teut. langs.: Pr. *cedula, cedola*, Sp. *cédula*, Pg. *cedula*, It. *cedola*; MHG. *zedele, zetele* (mod.G. *zettel*), MLG. *sedele*, MDu. *cedule, cedele* (Du. *cedel, ceel*), Sw. *sedel*, Da. *seddel*, Icel. *seðill*.

In the 16th c., both in Fr. and Eng., the spellings *scedule* and *schedule*, imitating the contemporary forms of the Latin word, were used by a few writers. In Fr. this fashion was transient, but in Eng. *schedule* has been the regular spelling from the middle of the 17th c. The original pronunciation (se·diul) continued in use long after the change in spelling; it is given in 1791 by Walker without alternative; in his second ed. (1797) he says that it is 'too firmly fixed by custom to be altered', though on theoretical grounds he would prefer either (ske·diul), favoured by Kenrick, Perry, and Buchanan, or—'if we follow the French'—(ʃe·diul). The latter he does not seem to have known either in actual use or as recommended by any orthoepist. Smart, however, in 1836 gives (ʃe·diul) in the body of his Dictionary without alternative, although in his introduction he says that as the word is of Gr. origin the normal pronunciation would be with (sk). Several later Dicts. recognize (se·diul) as permissible, but it is doubtful whether this was really justified by usage. In England the universal pronunciation at present seems to be with (ʃ); in the U.S., the authority of Webster has secured general currency for (sk).]

† 1. A slip or scroll of parchment or paper containing writing; a ticket, label, placard; a short note. *Obs.*

1397 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 378/2 [He] hathe..confessyd.. alle the matiere and poyntz iwrete in this grete roule annexid to this sedule. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 58 He prayed hym write his confession in a scrow, and at he wold giff it vnto þe bisshopp...And þe preste offerd þis cedull vnto þis bisshopp. *c* 1465 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 14 Scribled in hast with mine owne hand..the 21 of June, which day your dayly Bedewoman..desired that by this rude sedule, she may humblie be recommended to your..mastership. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 216 Compleyn, Sanctis thus, as your sedull tellis; Compleyn to hewyn. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 114/2 He had in hys honde a cedule wherein was wreton the oryson of our lord. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* (1811) 548 The cedule or byll of renouncement, sygnyd with Kynge Rychardes hande. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxii. 408 Writynges and seadules to be set vp on the pales,..sayeng thus [etc.]. *a* 1533 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) M iiij, Cedules to hange aboute the peoples necke, to heale the feuer quartayne. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 36 Als sone as scho the Chedull had out red, Under hir feit incontinent it tred. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XIV. iv. 300 A Schedull or Scroll, containing the names. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 225 About the pigeon's necke they had fastned a little schedule wherein was written [etc.]. 16.. BEAUMONT & FL. *Tri. Love* ii. Four Plays (1647) 33/2 The States advise, that Letters missive be straight dispatcht..And Schedules too divulg'd on every post, to enquire the lost Duke forth. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 8 Fixed a copious Scedule ore his head, Where all his mischiefes are inregistred. 1615 T. BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg.* L 2 b, Lawes written by Mohammed, as they say, in schedules & litle scroles. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr., Relig. Brit.* 56 As Pope Urban sent his Bull to Eve, so he sent her a Schedule, or booke of the office or service for that day. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. vi. 107 Phylacteries..being schedules, or scrouls of parchment..wherein the Decalogue, and..four other sections of the Law were written.

2. † a. Originally (as specific use of sense 1), a separate paper or slip of parchment accompanying or appended to a document, and containing explanatory or supplementary matter; in 16–17th c. sometimes used for a codicil to a will. *Obs.* **b.** Hence (without material reference) an appendix to an Act of Parliament or a legal instrument, containing (often in tabular form) a statement of details that could not conveniently be placed in the body of the document. **c.** In wider sense, any tabular or classified statement, esp. one arranged under headings prescribed by official authority, as, e. g. an insolvent's statement of assets and liabilities, a return of particulars liable to income or other tax, and the like. Also occas. a blank form to be filled up by the insertion of particulars under the several headings.

With reference to the British Income Tax, 'Schedule A,' 'Schedule B,' etc., are the official names for the forms of return applicable severally to the various classes into which sources of taxable income are divided.

c 1420 HEN. V. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 72 We sende yow closed wiyin yis lettre a Cedule contenyng ye names of certein maistres for owr grete shippes. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346/2 Aftre the fourme and effect of the Cedule annexed to this Bille. 1478 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 80 The same cedule is annexid to myn testament. 1516 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 349 The cedule of the yerely rentes. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 This Acte of Brewers and Coupers whereunto this Cedule is annexed. 1560 Q. ELIZ. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 265 We will that you shall from time to time address several Schedules containing the names of all such hable Scholers. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 263, I will giue out diuers scedules of my beautie. It shalbe Inuentoried and euery particle and vtensile labell'd to my will. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Clerk of the extreates*, He also maketh ceduls of such summes extreated, and as are to be discharged. 1625 *Maldon* (Essex) *Documents* (Bundle 201. no. 2), The trained men within the sayd parish (whose names are specified in a Scedula heerevnto annexed). 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. vi, Your father..Left it in writing in a Schedule here, To be annexed to his Will; that you.. should take [etc.]. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 179 Whether there should not be published yearly schedules of our trade. 1788 J. POWELL *Devises* (1827) II. 277 Certain acts on the part of the insolvent are necessary, as the delivery of a petition and schedule, constituting it a voluntary alienation, as distinguished from a bankruptcy. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 612 Of which territories, etc. a detailed list is given in the accompanying schedule. 1824 *Saunders' K. B. Rep.* I. 308 a, *note*, When an inferior court, in obedience to the writ of certiorari, returns an indictment to the K. B. it is annexed to the caption, then called a schedule, and the caption concludes with stating, that 'it is presented in manner and form as appears in and by a certain indictment annexed to this schedule'. 1831 J. MACINTOSH *Sp. Ho. Commons* 4 July, Wks. 1846 III. 538 It does not only itself exhibit the principle of the schedules of this Bill, but [etc.]. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Schedule of poinding*, When a poinding is completed, the messenger or officer who executes it, leaves a schedule for the debtor, of the particulars of the effects taken. 1852 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. iii. (ed. 2) 288 The head of settlements in the stamp-duty schedule. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Babies* iv, The Chancellor of the Exchequer..jumped at the notion; for he saw in it the one and only plan for abolishing Schedule D. 1873 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 4/5 Both schedules show a rapid increase in the number of persons assessed. 1882 A. MACFARLANE *Consanguinity* 13 He took for the basis of his schedule of questions the Roman method of denoting relationships. 1887 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 1 July 21/3 The schedule of the annual [agricultural] show..to be held at Ormskirk on July 20th. has been received.

transf. and *fig.* *c* 1630 DONNE *Serm.* ix. (1640) 95 Then the Accuser will be ready to interline the schedules of thy debts, thy sins, and insert false debts. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Great Exemp.* I. 118 He gave particular schedules of duty to several states of persons. 1653 — *Serm. for Yr.* ii. 27 The Devill shall accuse the Brethren..and shall tell..the long schedule of omissions of duty. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 4 Hedin..desired permission to be inserted in the Schedule of my Triumphs. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 17 Having given this Schedule of undeniable Priviledges they enjoy.

3. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Schedule*, in the State of Rhode Island, the printed 'Acts and Resolves' of the General Assembly.

4. A time-table. Chiefly *U. S.* (but cf. SCHEDULE *v.*). Also *transf.*

1873 HALE *In His Name* vi. 47 Halting was not in John of Lugio's schedule for that afternoon. 1883 C. D. WARNER *Roundabout Journey* 2 We travel fast and we reach places at the time named on the schedule. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 270/1 A steamer to-day leaves her wharf at the moment of time set forth in her schedule. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXVI. 606/2 A regular train schedule was established between Caloocan and Manila.

attrib. 1884 J. G. BOURKE *Snake Dance Moquis* i. 6 There was no probability of trains running on schedule time for several days.

† 5. Used to render Sp. *cédula* and It. *cedola*: **a.** A royal writ or permit; **b.** A bond or promissory note. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guz. d'Alf.* II. 357 The Captaine ..gaue me leaue to goe at libertie vp and downe the Gally, till his Majesties Royall Scedula should be sent for my absolute discharge. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. II. xiv. 125, I have procur'd a Royal Cedule..by which Cedule I have power to arrest his very person. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 278/2 He presented the Pope with..a Cedule of 7000 Ducats, as a Tribute. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 290/1 Heavy penalties contained in the..royal cedules issued on like occasions in times past.

Schedule (ʃe·diul, *U. S.* ske·diul), *v.* [f. prec.] **1.** *trans.* To enter in a schedule or list. In railway use: To enter (a train) in the time-table (cf. SCHEDULE *sb.* 4).

1862 SHIRLEY *Nugæ Crit.* § 7. 303 The mind is not incessantly watched; its most flimsy experiences are not officially scheduled. 1869 *Daily News* 31 Aug., He was told that he would be scheduled as a briber. 1883 *Act* 46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52 § 122 (10) Any creditor of the debtor..shall be entitled to be scheduled as a creditor of the debtor for the amount of his proof. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* ii. 31 To have one's career in a manner cut short by being scheduled with the infirm, is really too bad. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 376/2 The liabilities he had scheduled amounted to nearly £2500. 1897 *Daily*

News 13 Sept. 7/6 Trains which are scheduled to run have to get through some time.

2. To affix as a schedule (*to* an Act of Parliament).

1885 J. PEARSON in *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 385/1 A certain number of these are scheduled to the Act. 1908 *Act 8 Edw. VII*, c. 20 § 3 (4) The letter addressed by senate of the University to the corporation..which is scheduled in an appendix to this Act.

Hence **Sche·duled** *ppl. a.*, **Sche·duling** *vbl. sb.*

1881 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 2/1 Antrim was not in the scheduled district. 1888 *Ibid.* 5 Nov. 5/2 Students..must make up their minds for which particular competition they shall enter, and..must..waste no time by straying from the scheduled path. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Feb. 108/1 The Scheduling of Canadian cattle..may prove..a blessing in disguise.

Schedulize (ʃe·diuləiz), *v. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCHEDULE *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To make schedules.

1832 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 407 We shall either have it in our power to cancel the Whig schedules *in toto*—or be convinced..that, schedulize to the end of the chapter, the national heart is Tory.

Scheele, obs. f. SHOOT, SKATE. **Schefe,** obs. f. SHEAF, SHEAVE. **Scheff**: see CHIEF *a.*

Schefferite (ʃe·fərəit). *Min.* [Named 1862 after H. T. *Scheffer*, a Swedish chemist: see -ITE.] A manganese pyroxene, of yellowish or reddish-brown colour. 1868 in DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 215.

Schei(ɔ)k: see SHEIKH. **Scheild,** obs. f. SHIELD. **Schein,** obs. Sc. f. SHEEN *a.* **Scheind,** obs. f. SHEND *v.* **Scheip,** obs. f. SHEEP, SHIP. **Scheir,** obs. f. SHEER *a.* **Schek, Scheke, Schekinah, Schekkar**: see SHEIKH, SHAKE, SHEKINAH, SHAKER. **Scheker, Schekyn,** obs. ff. CHEQUER *sb.*¹, CHICKEN.

† **Schelchene.** *Obs. rare.* Also 3 -ine. [OE. **scielcen, scylcen*:—OTeut. **skalkinjā*, fem. of **skalko-z* (OE. *scealc*) servant.] A female servant.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (ed. Thorpe) II. 162 Þæt heora mod wurde ontend to ȝalnysse, þurh ðæra scylcena plezan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 12 Al nis bute ase a schelchine to seruien þe leafdi to riwlen ðe heorte. *Ibid.* 390. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 279 in *O. E. Misc.* 45 Þer com o schelchene gon þat wes myd kayphas.

Scheld, Scheldbrede: see SHIELD, -BOARD. **Scheldroun, -dtrome**: see SHELTRON. **Scheldur,** etc.: see SHOULDER. **Schele**: see SHELL, SHEAL. **Schellam, -um**: see SKELLUM.

‖ **Schelling** (ske·liŋ, in Du. sχe·liŋ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 **shylyng, 7 skilling, schilling,** 7, 8 **skelling.** [Du.: see SHILLING. Cf. SCHILLING, SKILLING.] A silver coin formerly current in the Low Countries, of the value of 6 stivers or from 5*d.* to 7½*d.* sterling.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 22 In al I had for my labour but xiiij shylyngis flemesshe. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2829/3 After which time such Skellings are only to pass for five Stivers and a half each. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* VI. (1697) 485 And prize a hundred Zeno's just as much As a clipt Sixpence, or a Schilling Dutch. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 6 The Cash-keeper paid us..three Dutch Skillings every day while we stayed on shoar. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Schelling*, a Coin in Holland and Flanders, containing 12 Groots or 6 Stivers and equal to 6½ of our English Money. 1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) 1252 At the Cape ..it was discovered that a number of counterfeit schellings ..had been circulated. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. Hope* (1786) I. 68 Eighteen China oranges I had bought in Paarl for one skelling Dutch.

Schelling: see SCHILLING.

Schelly: see SKELLY.

‖ **Schelm** (ʃelm). *arch.* Also 6–7 **shelm(e.** [Ger.; for forms repr. the equivalent Du. *schelm* (sχe·ləm), see SKELLUM.] A rascal. (A term of abuse or contempt, attributed to German speakers.)

1584 ? SIDNEY *Disc. Def. Earl Leicester* Misc. Wks. (1829) 272 An evil tongued shelm, as the Germans especially call such people. 1603–5 J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 23 The Landgrave called him Shelm, Pultroon, Traitor [etc.]. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* II. ii. 62 Thou art a schelm. *Ibid.* II. iii. 109 Call you me shelme? 1823 SCOTT *Q. Durward* ii, The rascally schelm shot my bird with an arrow. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 202 Some rascally schelm..stabbed my horse.

Hence † **Sche·lmish** *a.* [G. *schelmisch*], rascally.

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. i. 173, I highly do mistrust this schelmish bowr.

Scheltopusik: see SHELTOPUSIK.

Schema (ski·mă). Pl. **schemata** (ski·mătă). [a. Gr. *σχῆμα*, form, figure: see SCHEME *sb.*¹]

1. *Philos.* In Kant: Any one of certain forms or rules of the 'productive imagination' through which the understanding is able to apply its 'categories' to the manifold of sense-perception in the process of realizing knowledge or experience.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176 To the subsumtion of an object under a category, a schema, 'time', is indispensable, and, apart from all sensation, this schema itself does not subsist. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. x. 408 The schema in itself is nothing but a product of imagination. 1880 ADAMSON *Kant* in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 852 The specific forms of productive imagination are called *schemata.*

2. A diagrammatic representation.

1890 GOULD *New Med. Dict.*, *Schema*, figure or design made by the abstraction of certain exceptions or peculiarities, in order to show the general law or type.

Schematic (skimæ·tik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *schēmaticus*, f. *schēmat-* SCHEMA, SCHEME *sb.*¹ Late Gr. had *σχηματικός* in the sense 'false, pretended', from *σχῆμα* in the sense 'appearance' (see SCHEME *sb.* 8 c). Cf. G. *schematisch.*]

1. Pertaining to a scheme or schema; of the nature of, or resembling, a diagrammatic representation; † corresponding (to something else) according to a scheme.

1701 BEVERLEY *Grand Apocal. Question* 6, I shall, by applying each portion of Time to its proper Schematick Prophecy, Justify this Plan of Time. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* II. ii. 110 He must confine himself to a..schematic mensuration of the changes. 1882 W. P. MEARS (*title*) Schematic Anatomy; or, Diagrams, tables and notes treating of the association and systematic arrangement of structural details of human anatomy. 1890 GOULD *New Med. Dict.*, *Schematic*, pertaining to or of the nature of a schema. *S. eye*, one showing the proportions of a normal or typical eye. 1902 W. JAMES *Var. Relig. Exper.* 209 It seems to me a true account—so far as conceptions so schematic can claim truth at all.

2. Pertaining to logical 'figure'.

1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxii. (1866) I. 446 That a hypothetical reasoning was exposed to the schematic modifications of the categorical.

3. Suggested or modified by a preconceived system.

1894 R. V. FRENCH *Lex Mosaica* 174 What is said of him is made up merely of the schematic devices of the redactor.

4. *Fine Art.* Following a conventional type.

1868 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* III. 45 Their art symbolised these in grand schematic forms. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 2/1 The drawing of the features and of the hands (which is less schematic than is customary with Van Dyck).

† **Schema·tical,** *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec.: see -ICAL.]

1. Pertaining to rhetorical figures.

1679 J. GOODMAN *Penitent Pardoned* I. i. (1713) 6 Touching the ancient use of this schematical and figurative way of expression.

2. Pertaining to or founded on a scheme or methodical arrangement.

1701 BEVERLEY *Grand Apocal. Question* Pref. a 2 b, I may shew; That there is strength in Schematical Arguments from, and according to the Laws of a Mystic Prophecy.

3. ? Statistical. *rare*⁻¹.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 462 The new genealogical, schematical, Imperial and political manual mentions by name the present provincial-commendator thereof.

Schematically (skimæ·tikăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] **a.** By means of a tabular arrangement. **b.** In a definite pattern; according to a symmetrical plan.

1881 *Amer. Naturalist* July 514 Which can be represented schematically. 1892 SYMONDS *Michel Angelo* (1899) I. iv. 170 These [figures] are schematically arranged in three planes.

Schematism (skī·mătiz'm). [ad. mod.L. *schēmatismus*, a. Gr. *σχηματισμ-ός* the assumption of a certain form or appearance, f. *σχηματίζειν*: see SCHEMATIZE *v.* Cf. G. *schematismus.*]

† **1.** The use of a 'scheme' or rhetorical figure.

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 446 By tongues, we may understand *omne prodigiosum*, euen all miracles, the *genus* by the *species*, no vnusuall schematisme.

2. Mode of arrangement of parts or particles; inner structure. Now *rare.*

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* VII. xiv. 336 Not any Bustles or Counter-blasts of various Aspects of the Heavenly bodies, that do and undo according to the diversities and contrarieties of their Schematisms and Configurations. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 8 Some haply might here recommend to us a more accurate Microscopical examen, to interpret their most secret Schematismes, which were an over nicety for these great Plantations. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 109 The pores or interstitia, which may, perhaps, be even in the texture or Schematism of that part of the Wood. 1686 J. GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. 39 Planetary Aspects are no vain Terms of a Bawbling Art, but are Mysterious Schematisms of a secret Force. 1846 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* III. iii. 42 The latent schematism [Bacon's *latens schematismus*] is that invisible structure of bodies on which so many of their properties depend. 1860 DORA GREENWELL *Patience of Hope* 24 The structure, the schematism of our faith.

3. A schematic arrangement; a set form for classification or exposition. Also, the schematic method of presentation, or excessive addiction to this.

1701 BEVERLEY *Grand Apocal. Question* 21, I shall therefore compare Three Schematisms of Prophecy, and one Great Apostolic Scripture to Clear this. 1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 47 Homiletic consists only in a philosophical schematism, how a sermon is logically to be arranged. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 3 There are pages and pages of this sort of thing, chock-full of schematism and mathematical symbols. 1902 DENNEY *Death of Christ* 211 One could not go to the New Testament with a more misleading schematism in his mind. 1905 SANDAY *Crit. Fourth Gospel* 131 Here we have a 'schematism', a stereotyped formula, which shows poverty of invention.

4. *Philos.* 'Schematizing' action (of the intellect). In Kant: The application of the categories, by means of schemata (see SCHEMA 1), to the data of sense-perception.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176/1 (art. *Kant*). 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xxiv. 259 Indispensable to the exigencies and consistent schematism of the theorising intelligence.

Schematist (skī·mătist). [f. Gr. *σχηματ-*, *σχῆμα* SCHEME *sb.* + -IST.]

1. The framer of a 'scheme' or system of doctrine.

1693 CHAUNCY *Ref. to Williams* 13 You are sure I am against all the Confessions of Faith that are orthodox (but indeed you say, which we call orthodox) that we, I suppose, are, you and your Schematists. 1906 *Expositor* Aug. 163 The Christian schematists adjusted to the theogony of the Neoplatonists the Scripture doctrine of God.

† **2.** One who propounds a scheme, a projector.

1710–11 SWIFT *Exam.* No. 31 ¶ 4 He fill'd the Antichambers with a Crew of his Dependants and Creatures, such as Projectors, Schematists, Occasional Converts to a Party. 1711 — *Let. to Abp. King* 26 Aug., The treasurer ..makes little use of those thousand projectors and schematists, who are daily plying him with their visions. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 4 Astrology.. allegorizes the discontented Schematists of all States and Churches; such as Jacobites, Non-Jurors,..&c. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 64 Some of our Schematists might be able to project a Form of Law &c. which, abstractedly considered, may appear as useful as that, which we enjoy. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 294 As much if not more in favour with their chief manager as a schematist than as an actor.

Schematize (skī·mătəiz), *v.* [ad. Gr. *σχηματίζειν*, f. *σχηματ-*, *σχῆμα* SCHEME *sb.*¹ Cf. G. *schematisiren.*]

† **1.** *intr.* To assume new forms or shapes. *Obs.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Pref., I have observ'd thy Nature-scoffing Art Wherewith th'ast Schematiz'd in every part.

2. *trans.* To formulate in regular order; to reduce to a scheme or formula.

1878 E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 84 If the Benjingo ideas were to be schematised you see that they might lead to prodigious consequences. 1886 MAYOR *Eng. Metre* vii. 117 The refrain..(thus schematized ⏑–⏑–⏑–⏑–⏑–⏑–).

3. To give conventional form to.

1908 A. LANG *Orig. Religion* 4 The tendency of representative art to 'schematise' its designs into what seem mere geometrical patterns.

4. *Kantian Philos.* To apply the categories, by means of schemata, to the data of sense-perception.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 176 The notion of substance is said to be schematised, when it is not conceived of absolutely as a self-subsisting thing, but as one which persists in time. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. x. 407 To ask how the categories are schematised, is simply to ask how they are applied to the form of inner sense, that through it they may be applied to the matter of all sense.

Hence **Sche·matized** *ppl. a.*; **Sche·matizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1828 DE QUINCEY in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 900 To say, therefore, that a man is a great thinker..is but another expression for saying that he has a schematizing..understanding. 1893 W. G. COLLINGWOOD *Ruskin* I. 96 The details of schematised Aristotelianism. 1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 603 The charge of schematising may be brought with more justice against M. Loisy himself.

Schematologetically, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *σχῆμα* SCHEME *sb.*¹ 1.] By means of figured language.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 292 Schematologetically adorning the proposed theam with the most especial and chief flowers of the garden of rhetorick.

Sche·matoma:ncy. *rare.* [f. Gr. *σχηματ(ο)-*, *σχῆμα* form + -MANCY.] A form of divination, by which the personal history of a man is inferred from his form and appearance.

1826–7 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVIII. 175 [Modes of divination among the Arabs.] Schematomancy (*kiyáfah*).

Scheme (skīm), *sb.*¹ Forms: 7 **skeme, sceme,** ? **sceame,** 7–8 **scheam,** 6– **scheme.** [a. med.L. *schēma*, a. Gr. *σχῆμα* form, figure, f. root *σχ-*:—pre-Hellenic *zgh-*, zero-grade of Indogermanic **segh-*, whence Gr. ἔχ-ειν to have, hold, be in such or such a condition. Cf. F. *schéma, schème*, It., Pg. *schema*, G. *schema.* The earlier uses in Eng. show direct influence from Gr.; the usual med.L. rendering of *σχῆμα* being *figura*, the Eng. *scheme* was in the 16–17th c. a synonym of FIGURE *sb.* in several technical senses.]

† **1.** *Rhet.* Any of the recognized modes of deviating from the ordinary use and arrangement of words for the sake of effectiveness or beauty of expression: = FIGURE *sb.* 21. *Obs.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 94, I might tary a longe time in declaryng the nature of diuerse Schemes, whiche are woordes or sentencies altered..contrarie to the vulgare custome of our speache. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. viii. 304 By a scheme of speach they are made to be casters on of the perfume. 1684 TILLOTSON *Serm.* (1714) III. xlix. 586 In the Text, by a very elegant Scheme of Speech he does, as it

were, once more set them at liberty; and, as if they had never engaged themselves to God by Covenant before, he leaves them to their free choice.

†2. A diagram showing the relative positions, either real or apparent, of the heavenly bodies.

1638 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (ed. 5) 257 [They] are all so confident, that they have made skemes and tables of their motions. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 107 Amongst his Observations and Schemes of this Comet. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 23 What do you intend by those small Stars round Jupiter and Saturn, in the Scheme? 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 341 They borrowed all the schemes under which the stars are comprehended, from the Egyptians. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* I. 419 The volume is decorated with schemes of spheres and the signs of the Zodiac.

†b. *esp.* in *Astrology*, a diagram representing the position of the planets at the hour of a person's birth, a horoscope; = FIGURE *sb.* 14. *Obs.*

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. iv, My most honor'd ladie, (For so I am now to stile you, hauing found By this my scheme, you are to vnder-goe An honorable fortune, very shortly). 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* title, The first [Book] containing the use of an Ephemeris, the erecting of a Scheam of Heaven. 1708 SWIFT *Predict.* Wks. 1751 IV. 188 Upon reviewing my Schemes, I quickly found the cause of that Error. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) I. 472/2 A Chaldean scheme was found in his bosom as he lay. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv.

†3. In wider sense: A diagram; a figure drawn to illustrate a mathematical proposition, or to elucidate descriptions of natural phenomena, machinery, etc.; a map or plan of a town; an architect's designs for a building; and the like. *Obs.*

1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* vi. § 81 (1886) 100 Like as my writings do sufficiently and largely show, and here only is represented briefly in a figure or scheme. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 9 The shape of the Glass, you will find express'd in the first Figure of the annexed Scheme. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 28 The Author hath..drawn all the Schemes of these 60 microscopical objects with his own hand. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Wire-Working* 134 The Description whereof would be tedious and difficult to understand without a Scheme and therefore I shall omit it. 1682 *Weekly Mem.* 214 In the next place he gives us a scheme of the city of Lepanto. 1695 ALINGHAM *Geom. Epit.* 117 The delineating of any Geometrick Scheme or Figure. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 60 Unless the Schemes be very large, it will be very difficult to take the Dimensions nicely. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scheme*, is the representation of any Geometrical or Astronomical Figure or Problem, by Lines sensibly to the Eye; and these are otherwise called Diagrams. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 89 He used a great variety of mathematical schemes, maps, and other useful devices to embellish his works. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxii, 'This,' said he, 'is a scheme of the citadel, as I call it, which may hold out long enough'.

†b. *fig.*

1646 CRASHAW *Sospetto d'Herode* xlvi, What ever Schemes of Blood, fantastick-frames Of Death Mezentius, or Geryon drew. *a* 1701 SEDLEY *Tyrant of Crete* v. i, Look upon my misfortunes, and you shall find A perfect scheme of all your saddest evils. 1717 DE FOE *Ch. Scot.* (1844) 6, I shall give it [the Particulars] at large in the Scheme I purpose to draw of the State of these Judicatories.

4. An analytical or tabular statement. a. A conspectus, exposition in outline; an epitome exhibiting the structure of a book, passage, argument, etc.; also, an outline draft of a projected literary work.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 68 [Mr. Pym said] that he had only laid that scheme [*sc.* the enumeration of grievances] before them, that they might see how much work they had to satisfy their country. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 16 Having given you a plain scheme of the Law. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. vi. 9 So perfect is the method of the Lord's Prayer, that I had thought to have Anatomized it and set it before thee in a Scheme. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 2, I intend this but for a Scheme of a larger Design. 1878 DALE *Lect. Preach.* iii, 75 You may occasionally find it necessary to make a 'scheme' of an argument in order to grasp it. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 394 The student who reads it [*sc.* the First Epistle of St. John] in the light of some well considered scheme will gain more advantage from it than others, even if details of his scheme be untenable.

b. A table, a methodical list; a prearranged system of classification. †In *University slang*: see quot. 1780.

Perh. *obs.* exc. as reintroduced from German; cf. G. *schema* blank form to be filled up.

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. ii. 132, I shall prefix a short Chronological Scheme of Times. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 218 He desired me to give him a scheme of heads fit to be spoken to, and of the order in which they should be laid. 1780 *Gentl. Mag.* L. 278 He provides what is here called a scheme, which contains a collection of all the questions, which will probably be asked him in each science. 1868 BAIN *Mental & Moral Sci., Ethics* II. 546 In Chapter ix. is given his [Hobbes'] Scheme of Sciences. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 188 The difference or the kinship between any two conceptions *M* and *N* should be exactly indicated by their position in the universal scheme. 1895 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 2/4 In the majority of the programmes the chief orchestral work will be Tschaïkowsky's 'Symphonie Pathétique'.. while the rest of the schemes will be devoted to Wagner.

c. *Pros.* A tabular analysis of the admissible varieties of structure in a particular kind of verse or stanza; the structure of a verse or a stanza as represented by such an analysis.

1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 120 The following scheme of the metre in which this Address is written..is given by the learned editor of Hephæstion.

5. a. A plan, design; a programme of action; the designed scope and method of an undertaking or a literary work, etc. Phrases, *to* †*cast, lay a scheme.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. § 254 To lay the scheme [*MS.* sceme] how the next year should be spent. 1704 ADDISON *Campaign* 64 Our god-like leader, ere the stream he past, The mighty scheme of all his labours cast. 1718 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 59 That first fframed the Scheme and then Laid the Solid ffoundation of this fflourishing Colony. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 5, I also reminded them of the scheme of the voyage. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. x, That is the whole scheme and intention of all marriage-articles. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXXXIX. iii. 3 Thine Eye with tender Care survey'd The Growth of every Part, 'Till the whole Scheme thy Thoughts had laid Was copy'd by thy Art. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 22 The one laid the scheme, and the other took the Town. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Introd. (end), It is the nature of our particular scheme, and the single point of view in which we consider it, which ought to put a stop to our researches. 1775 — *Corr.* (1844) II. 53 This is no time for taking public business in their course and order, and only as a part in the scheme of life, which comes and goes at its proper periods. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvii, It forms no part of our scheme to tell what became of the remainder. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* x. 162 For us they are things of the past, they find no place in our scheme of life. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. II. ii. 179 The scheme of teaching for the higher class of men was essentially good.

b. Hence, A plan of action devised in order to attain some end; a purpose together with a system of measures contrived for its accomplishment; a project, enterprise. Often with unfavourable notion, a self-seeking or an underhand project, a plot (cf. SCHEME *v.*, SCHEMING *ppl. a.*), or a visionary or foolish project. Phrase, *to lay a scheme.*

This is now the most prominent use, and in some degree colours the other senses so far as they survive.

1718 *Free-thinker* No. 90. 249 This was the Scheme which the Heads of the Parliament-Party pursued. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (1858) 333 The scheme hit so exactly with my temper. 1746 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 51 It is no new thing for Arbitrary Princes to contrive and promote Schemes for the subversion of a Government. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 73 P 4 Plans of elegance and schemes of pleasure. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. I. 243 But this deep-laid scheme was in a moment disconcerted. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav.* 23 Some few, indeed, have been rather more enterprising, and have endeavoured to improve their estates by raising indigo, and other schemes. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. ii. I. 384 The idea of the possibility of multiplying paper money to almost any extent, was the real foundation of what is called the Mississippi scheme. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansfield Park* viii, Her opposition to Edmund now, arose more from partiality for her own scheme, because it was her own, than from anything else. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxii, Men come and go, lay schemes, and alter them, in my house, without deigning to consult me! 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* iii. 36 Dan proposed a grand scheme to his father-in-law. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 84 Preamble, The Charity Commissioners..have provisionally approved and certified (among other Schemes for the Application and Management of Charities) a Scheme for the College of God's Gift in Dulwich. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxiii, He never thought of any scheme for removing his enemy. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 353 The end of this vast scheme of spoliation. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life* 306 The great irrigation schemes of the North-West Provinces. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 22/2 At the Congress of Ryswick..Louis placed his own dynastic schemes above the interests of the nation.

c. In generalized sense: 'Scheming', contrivance, design. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 4 A coincidence which shows, by its very obliquity, that scheme was not employed in its formation.

d. An escapade of a humorous character, a 'spree'. Now only *dial.*

1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 All the provisions bespoke by some rakish fellow-commoner in the next room, who had been on a scheme to Newmarket. 1762 FOOTE *Orators* I. (1780) 6 Will and I are here upon a scheme from Oxford. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 26 Woodstock, farewell! and Wallingford adieu! Where many a Scheme reliev'd the lingering Day. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., [Camb.], I never used to have such schemes when I was young.

Comb. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 44 No scheme-enamour'd Youth.

6. †a. A hypothetical construction, a theory. *Obs.* b. A body of related doctrines, a speculative system.

a. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. i. 58 Many Arminians write as if the order of Intention and of Execution were the same, and so begin at the other end, and give us a Scheme just contrary to the first sort. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* V. (1683) 162 And this the later Babylonian Sect Doth hold, and the Chaldean Schemes reject. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 69 P 4 Eboracensis has read all the Schemes which Writers have formed of Government and Order. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 3 Thro' the Influence which our own Schemes or Hypotheses have upon the Mind, we sometimes become so sharp-sighted as to find these Schemes in those Places of Scripture where the holy Writers never thought of them.

b. 1685 TEMPLE *Ess. Learning* Wks. 1731 I. 291 Des-Cartes was the next that would be thought to excel the Ancients, by a new Scheme or Body of Philosophy. 1754 SHERLOCK *Discourses* (1759) I. i. 12 Complete Schemes of Natural Religion drawn from Principles and Axioms of Reason. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* III. viii. 324 His comprehensive scheme of theology.

7. A complex unity in which the component elements co-operate and interact according to a definite plan; a system of correlated things, institutions, arrangements, etc.; also, the manner in which such a system is organized.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vii. 121 (*chapter-heading*), Of the Government of God, considered as a Scheme or Constitution, imperfectly comprehended. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 39 Evil..is a necessary part of the whole scheme.

1791 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 278 He then asked me whether I had seen that scheme of absurdity, the French constitution, and what I thought of it. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* II. 4 There was a Power in this sweet place, An Eve in this Eden; a ruling Grace Which to the flowers, did they waken or dream, Was as God is to the starry scheme. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. i, To this disadvantage (the only one, perhaps, of the scheme of society to which it belongs) may be attributed many of those ill-assorted matches made by ladies of quality. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iii. (1852) 69 In the present scheme of things, man is so closely linked with his fellow man,..that in a thousand instances the moral exchange is both required and made. 1840 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 89 But it must be that a little while longer, and this nation, aye, and all the great scheme of nations, of which it is part, will have passed utterly away, and be no more. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* lxxiii, Ah Love! could thou and I with Fate conspire To grasp this sorry Scheme of Things entire, Would not we shatter it to bits! 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 41 From thine apprehended scheme of things deduce Praise or blame of its contriver. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 121 Pulpit and platform overflowing, Ready the scheme of things to revise.

b. Painting. *Scheme of colour*: the system of selection and arrangement of colours characteristic of a particular painter or school, or adopted in a particular picture. Also *transf.*

1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 745/1 We wish that this artist would abandon the chocolate-like scheme of colour in which he has indulged for the last few years. 1905 P. WHITE *Patient Man* vii. 67 Mrs. Dacre was proud of the 'scheme' of the dining-room, although she admitted it was a little trying to the complexion by daylight.

†8. In certain senses of Gr. σχῆμα. a. = FIGURE *sb.* 10. b. Stateliness, pomp. c. Form, aspect, appearance. *Obs.*

a. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 311 Every picture consisting of many figures must needs have some historicall part in it, seeing it is but a dull and unprofitable thing when many schemes are heaped up together without either sense or learning.

b. 1647 H. MORE *Poems* Pref., So high confidence might become the heat and scheme of Poetry much better than sober Philosophy.

c. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 125 The Nation and race of men were.., under the scheme of..specious plain-dealing, most perfidious. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* vii. 21 It is likely the imposing Priests would pretend either of these to the people (though not in that odious scheme) as persuasions of the presence of the Dæmons themselves in these consecrated Places and Images. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 84 For they had the scheme of truth not the substance. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* IV. § 14 (1756) 99 Be not under any brutal metempsychosis while thou livest, and walkest about erectly under the scheme of man. 1743 N. APPLETON *Serm.* 13 Contending for the same Thing ultimately, but in a different Scheme.

†9. *Ancient Music.* (See quot. 1753. Cf. 4 c.)

1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* 534 The mutual Distances of these *Meses potestate* are expressed in the Scheme by (:) which signifies a Tone, (.) a Semitone or Limma. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp., Scheme*..in the antient music, is used for the varieties arising from the different positions of the tones and semitones in a consonance. 1811 T. BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3).

Scheme (skīm), *sb.*[2] ? *Obs.* Forms: 8 scheam, skeen, 9 skene, 8– scheme. [Of obscure origin.

Some etymologists have conjectured that *scheme-arch* is an adaptation of a hypothetical It. *arco scemo*, 'imperfect arch'; but this seems very unlikely.]

The arc of larger radius in the middle of a three-centre arch or elliptical arch; chiefly *attrib.*, in **scheme-arch**, an arch of this kind (but by various writers defined as an arch of the form of a circular segment less than a semicircle).

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 273 Let the length given be AB,..describe the *Hanse* AG;..then..describe a part of the *Ellipsis* BH, which is called the *Hanse*: The other part to be described from G to H, is called the *Scheam.* 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 2 To describe a Scheme-Arch. 1772 HUTTON *Bridges* 78 A scheme or skeen arch is a segment less than the semicircle. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 251/2 Scheme or Skene, or Imperfect Arch, less than semicircle.

b. quasi-*adj.* Constructed with a 'scheme'.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purch.* 8 Of Circular Arches, there are 3 Kinds; Semicircular, Scheme, or Skeen, and Arches of the 3d. and 4th. Point. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1721) I. 71 The Ceilings are either made semi-circular, or scheme [orig. *a schiffo*], that is, so flat as to have in height only one third of the breadth of the Room.

Scheme (skēm), *v.* [f. SCHEME *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To devise as a scheme; to lay schemes for; to effect by contrivance or intrigue.

1767 LEWIS *Statius' Thebaid* II. 320 For useless lay the now-neglected Chain; Threats fail'd, and Punishments were schem'd in vain. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxiii, Offences which were wilfully and maliciously schemed. 1868 F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 180, I resolved to adopt both plans, and if possible, scheme a mode of escape. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 3 That modern travel..which has schemed out its great scheme of the Euphrates Valley railroad.

b. *intr.* To lay schemes; to use ingenuity, resort to contrivance; to devise plans, esp. underhand or with sinister motive.

1842 BROWNING *Count Gismond* ii, And doubtlessly ere he could draw All points to one, he must have schemed. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* x. (1852) 117 You may scheme for me as much as you please; but I'm not going to give up this one scheme of my own. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. X. 27 It is not true that Friedrich had schemed to send Henri round by Petersburg. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xix, Half-a-dozen plans suggested themselves to his crafty brain as he sat brooding and scheming.

2. *trans.* To reduce to a scheme or formula. Also, to *scheme out*: to plan methodically. *rare.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 19 The King's having the Opinion or Endeavour of..any Body..in Scheming out the rough Draft..of the Treatise..can't be any Argument that the King was not the Author of it. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* xii. (1864) 400 It may scheme out a system or hypothesis. 1865 — *Vicar. Sacr.* I. ii. (1866) 21 Every such attempt to scheme the work of Christ, and put Him in the terms of the understanding.

3. *intr.* To go on the spree. Also *trans.* to play truant from (school). ? *dial.* Cf. SCHEME *sb.*[1] 5 d.

1738 MRS. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1809) I. 32 We all came croaking down to breakfast the next morning, and said we had caught no cold, as one always says when one has been scheming. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 510/1 He would be leathering me for scheming school.

† **Schemed,** *a. Obs.* [f. SCHEME *sb.*[2] + -ED [2].] Constructed with a SCHEME (*sb.*[2]).

1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1721) I. 80 The Arches are schem'd [orig. *sono a schiffo*].

Schemeless (skī·mlės), *a.* [f. SCHEME *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Destitute of plan; lacking a plot.

1877 BROWNING *Agamemnon* 118 Since I'm schemeless [Gr. δυσμηχανῶ] How to raise up again by words—a dead man! 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Dec. 11/1 He began to turn to account an old inherited habit of sending himself to sleep by making up fanciful, schemeless stories.

Schemer (skī·mər). [f. SCHEME *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who devises or enters into schemes.

1724 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* Feb. (1893) I. 477 They call themselves Schemers; and meet ..three times a week, to consult on gallant schemes. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* I. iv. (1822) I. 29, I therefore immediately became a Schemer. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* xxii, I was born a schemer. 1875 LONGF. *Masque Pandora* III, Tempt no more the noble schemer.

2. One who plots, or lays plans in an underhand manner.

1849 MARRYAT *Valerie* vii, Lady M—— is a schemer, always plotting. 1884 *Chr. Commonw.* 14 Feb. 416/2 England has always been too much the prey of fanatics and schemers in matters of this kind.

3. (Cf. SCHEME *v.* 3.) One who plans methods for evading duties; a shirker.

1843 GAVIN *Feigned or Factitious Dis.* 32 The—regiment ..were all schemers and malingerers.

4. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Schemer,* one who has charge of the hold of a North Sea ship.

Schemer, obs. form of SHIMMER.

Schemery (skī·məri). *rare.* [f. SCHEME *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] Scheming practices.

1822 *Examiner* 273/1 The long-expected Ministerial Schemery for the Relief..of the People. 1828 *Ibid.* 184/2 The hollow schemery of Prince Metternich.

Scheming (skī·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCHEME *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. SCHEME; planning, contrivance.

1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* v. 163 Blunting the keenness of his spiritual sense With narrow schemings and unworthy cares. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 246 It needed a deal of scheming ..to make them fit our high room. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ii. 32 Essex..drifted into discontent,..into questionable schemings for the future of a reign that must shortly end.

Scheming (skī·miŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCHEME *v.* + -ING [2].] That schemes; contriving, plotting.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. i, An artful, scheming, almost heartless man. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 514 This class is..recruited ..from voluble, scheming men and zealous charlatans.

Schemist (skī·mist). [f. SCHEME *sb.*[1] + -IST.]

† **1.** A framer of 'schemes' or horoscopes; an astrologer. *Obs.*

1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* I. (1652) B 1 b, Another Schemist Found, that a squint-ey'd boy should prove a notable Pick-purse.

† **2.** One who is concerned with intrigues; a plotter. *Obs.*

1724 BP. DOWNES in Nicolson *Epist. Corr.* 581 The schemists have laid out Armagh for the Archbishop of Dublin. 1825 G. MCCANN *Right Private Judgem.* 266 Manes was an arrogant philosopher and a great schemist.

3. One who forms a scheme; a projector.

1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 42 Her Undertaking is more likely to do Honour to our Country, than that of any other Schemist now in being. 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. 1842 I. 112 Are not these schemists well apprised, that the colonists..import more from Great Britain, ten times more than they send in return to us? 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 246 A number of Schemists have urged from time to time, that..there ought to be an interest-bearing currency.

Schene, obs. form of CHAIN, SCENE.

Schenick, Schep, obs. ff. SCENIC, CHEAP.

‖ **Schepen** (skē·pən, in Du. sχē·pən). Forms: 5–6 **skepyn,** 6 **skepon,** 7 **skepen,** 8 **schepin,** 9 **schepen.** [Du. *schepen* = OS. *scepino,* OFris. *sceppena,* OHG. *sceffin, scaffin, sceffino* (MHG. *schepfe, scheffe,* mod.G. *schöffe*) :—OTeut. types **skapino-z,* **skapinon-.* Cf. ECHEVIN, SCABINE, SKEVEIN.] A Dutch alderman or petty magistrate.

c 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 43 Somme of the skepyns Ryde with [the condemned] There as they be put to death. 1587 FLEMING *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1341/1 The amptman, boroughmaisters, and skepons of Antwerpe came to the said palace of S. Michaell the next thursdaie. 1681 H. NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 77 For Form sake [they] defer something to him as the Approbation of their Skepen and other Magistrates, and some other Matters. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Netherlands* I. 222 The city magistrates consist of two ..burgomasters, and seven schepins or aldermen. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. ii. (1820) 163 This potent body consisted of a schout or bailiff,..five burgermeesters..and five schepens.

Scher, obs. form of SIR.

Scherald, var. SHIRREL *Sc. Obs.*

† **Scherand.** *Sc. Obs.* [Origin unknown: ? a form of the name of the French river *Gironde.*] The designation of a kind of wine.

1536 *Elgin Rec.* (New Spald. Club, 1903) I. 30 The pynt of fine Scherand or Amzerk vyne xd. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 299 The tun of Scherand wyne..and the pynt of Scherand wyne.

Scherat, -att, -et(t: see CHARIOT, SHIRREL.

Schere, obs. f. CHEER, SIR. **Scherk,** obs. f. SARK.

‖ **Scherm** (skerm). *South Africa.* Also **skarm, skerm, schirm.** [Du., = G. *schirm* screen, protection.] A screen or barrier constructed of brushwood or the like, to serve as a protection for troops, as an ambuscade from which to shoot game, or to prevent cattle from straying.

1861 C. J. ANDERSSON *Okavango* xxv. 262 A few bushes having been cut down, and a sort of skarm constructed, we both ensconced ourselves at night-fall therein. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *Solomon's Mines* iv, We went to work to build a scherm. 1905 *Outlook* 29 July 124/1 With a terrific crash a mob of cattle burst from their scherm of thorns.

Scherv-, scherw-, obs. Sc. spelling of SERV-.

‖ **Scherzando** (skertsa·ndo), *adv. Mus.* [It., gerund of *scherzare* to sport, play, f. *scherzo*: see next.] Playfully, sportively; used to indicate that a movement or passage is to be rendered in a lively manner. Also *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*), and *ellipt.* as *sb.*, a 'scherzando' movement. So (*rarely*) **Scherzandi·ssimo** (It. superlative).

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Scherzando,* or *Scherzo,* in a sportive, playful manner. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Scherzando, Scherzandissimo...* (1) Playful, lively, jokingly, merry. (2) A movement of a lively and droll character. 1881 FULLER-MAITLAND in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 245/2 The phrasing of a *scherzando* passage is of paramount importance.

‖ **Scherzo** (ske·rtso). *Mus.* [It., *lit.* sport, jest; of Teut. origin: cf. MHG., mod.G. *scherz* sport.] A movement of a lively character, occupying the second or third place in a symphony or sonata.

1862 E. PAUER in *Programme* 8 Mar., Scherzo, a piece of jocular and cheerful character. 1891 PROUT *Counterpoint* (ed. 2) 69 It is comparatively seldom that a long passage of double counterpoint is to be found in a scherzo.

fig. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 411 Shall we dwell..on the scherzo in the suite, that..comic exposure of the fantastic enigma called the 'Mirror of Justices'?

Schese, var. *chese,* obs. f. CHOOSE *v.*

Scheselle, obs form of CHESIL [1], CHISEL *sb.*[1]

‖ **Sche·sis.** *Obs.* [mod.L., a. Gr. σχέσις relation, state, condition (in medical writers = sense 2 below), root σχ-:—pre-Hellenic **zgh-,* weak grade of **segh-,* whence Gr. ἔχειν to have, hold, etc.: see SCHEME *v.*]

1. The manner in which a thing is related to something else; relation.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 723 The Idea of God or an absolutely Perfect Being including in it..a necessary schesis or relation to existence, it follows..that He doth exist. 1678 NORRIS *Miscell.* (1699) 160 If that mind which has existing in itself from all Eternity, all the simple Essences of things, and consequently, all their possible Scheses or Habitudes, should ever change, there would arise a new Schesis in this Mind that was not before.

2 *Phys.* A temporary habit or state of the body. Cf. SCHETIC *a.*; the explanation in quot. 1706 is erroneous.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict., Schesis* is the Disposition of the Body. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Schesis,* the Habit or Constitution of the body; accordingly as it is fleshy or lean, hard or soft, thick or slender.

Schesse, obs. f. CHESS *sb.*[1] **Schet,** obs. f. SHEET, SHOOT *v.*, SHUT, SKEET *adv.* **Schetare,** obs. f. SHOOTER. **Schete,** obs. f. SHEATH, SHEET, SHOOT, SKEET *adv.* **Schetel,** obs. f. SHUTTLE. **Scheten,** obs. f. SHOOT, SHUT. **Scheter,** obs. f. SHOOTER. **Scheth(e, -are, -ere,** obs. ff. SHEATH, SHEATHER.

† **Sche·tic,** *a. Path. Obs.* [a. mod.L. *scheticus* (in *schetica febris*), ad. Gr. σχετικός (taken in the etymologically admissible sense 'related to a σχέσις SCHESIS 2, or temporary condition of the body'; the classical senses are 'holding firm, holding back, retentive'), f. σχ-, ἔχειν: see SCHESIS.] Of diseases: see quots.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Schetick-Feaver,* a Feaver so call'd because it is chiefly seated in the Blood, and may be easily cur'd; upon which account it is oppos'd to a Hectick Feaver, that is fixed in the Very Habit of the Body, and not to be remov'd without great Difficulty. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp., Schetic diseases,* a term used by the old writers in medicine to express such diseases as were not deeply rooted in the constitution, but might be easily removed.

† **Sche·tical,** *a. Obs.* [See prec. and -ICAL.]

1. *Path.* = SCHETIC *a.*

1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* ii. 14 A feavor that's grown habitual, in opposition to a Schetical or moveable feavor.

2. Relative.

a 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* I. ii. (1731) 158 Moral Good and Evil are Schetical and Relative Things.

Hence † **Sche·tically** *adv.*, in a relative sense.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 188 Images, Statues and Symbols..are only Schetically Worshipped by them, the Honour passing from them to the Prototype.

Schett(e, obs. ff. SHEET, SHUT *v.*

Schetylle, Schever(e, obs. ff. SHUTTLE, SHIVER.

† **Schew,** *v.* Aphetic variant of ESCHEW *v.*

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) I. 346 To hawnt vertue and schew all vyce.

Schew(e, obs. ff. SHE, SHEAF, SHOW *v.*, SKY.

Schewill, var. SHEWEL *Obs.*

Schey, obs. form of SHY *a.*

Scheyff, Sc. aphetic var. of ESCHEW *v.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 264 My lorde, my consaill will I giff; Bot ye do it, fra scaith ye may nocht scheyff.

Scheyl, Schi, obs. ff. SHAIL *v.*, SKY. **Schiatica, Schiaticke,** obs. ff. SCIATICA, SCIATIC.

Schich, obs. form of SHEIKH.

‖ **Schiedam** (skidæ·m). Also **schiedamm sk(i)edam.** A variety of gin, so called from the town in Holland where it is distilled.

1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvii, There was the potent Irish Usquebaugh—right Nantz—genuine Schiedamm. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 291 A dusty-looking stone bottle of the right bamboo-coloured skedam. *Ibid.* II. 35 To take a glass of skiedam. 1833 HOOD To *Adm. Gambier* vi, Consider, too—before all Eau-de-vie, Schiedam or other drinkers, you rebut. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xv, A bottle of peculiarly strong Schiedam. *Comb.* 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 542/1 Schiedam-punch.

Schieferspar (ʃī·fəɹspāɹ). *Min.* [Half-translated ad. Ger. *schieferspath* (1789 C. A. S. Hoffmann in *Bergmännisches Jrnl.* I. 187), f. *schiefer* slate + *spath* spar.] = SLATE-SPAR.

1807 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* III. 672 The Schieffer Spar, or Argentine,..occurs always massive. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.,* etc. I. 114 Calcareous Spar...Schiefer spar.

Schiende, var. SHEND. **Schiff(e,** obs. ff. SKIFF.

Schil, obs. f. CHILL *a.*, SKILL; var. SHILL, shrill.

Schild, obs. form of CHILD.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* (1905) 205 For wondyr sory he was for his wyfys deth, and nedys he most se his schild dye.

‖ **Schill** (ʃil). Also **schiel.** [Ger. *schill.*] A European pike-perch; the ZANDER.

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 89/1 In Europe two species occur, the more celebrated being the 'Zander' of North Germany or 'Schiel' of the Danube (*Lucioperca sandra*). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 14 In the Old World, as in the New, there are two well marked species, the Zander, or Schill, *Stizostedion lucioperca,* and the Berschick, or Sekret, *S. volgensis.*

Schill, Schille, obs. ff. CHILL *a.*, SHELL.

‖ **Schiller** (ʃi·ləɹ). *Min.* [Ger., play of colours, glistening brightness.]

1. In certain terms adapted from Ger., denoting minerals or rocks having a shining surface, as *schiller asbestos, rock, -stone*; also SCHILLER-SPAR.

1804 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 428 Schiller Stone. Schillerstein.—*Werner.* 1862 DANA *Man. Min.* 146 *Picrolite,* Schiller asbestus. A fibrous serpentine, of an olive-green color, constituting seams in serpentine. 1862 Schiller rock [see SCHILLERITE].

2. A peculiar lustre characteristic of certain minerals, as hypersthene. Also *attrib.*

1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 383 The peculiar phenomenon expressed by the term 'Schiller'. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 446 *Schiller-plane,* a plane in a crystal in which occur the enclosures giving rise to the phenomenon of schiller.

Schillerite (ʃi·ləɹəit). *Min.* [f. SCHILLER + -ITE.] An aggregate of anorthite and enstatite, allied to diallage.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* vii. 82 Schillerite or Schiller rock, Diallage rock. A dark green to greenish-black rock made up of Schiller spar.

Schillerization (ʃi·ləɹəizē·ʃən). [f. SCHILLERIZE + -ATION.] A process of change in crystals, giving rise to a 'schiller' appearing when the crystal is turned in various directions.

1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 383 It will be convenient to have a general name for this kind of change, and I propose to employ the term 'Schillerization' to express it. *Ibid.* 385 The phenomena of Schillerization. 1888 HUTTON *Ibid.* XLIV. 746 Some of these crystals show traces of schillerization in one direction.

Schillerize (ʃi·ləɹəiz), *v.* [f. SCHILLER + -IZE.] *trans.* To subject (a crystal) to the change known as schillerization. Hence **Schi·llerized** *ppl. a.*, **Schi·llerizing** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. *attrib.*).

1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 383 Thus I shall call diallage and pseudo-hypersthene 'Schillerized augites', bronzite and the typical hypersthene of Labrador 'Schillerized ferriferous enstatites'. *Ibid.* 384 All Schillerized minerals on analysis yield a small but notable proportion of water. 1886 — in *Mineral. Mag.* Dec. 88 The Schillerizing process. 1890 COLE & GREGORY in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. 310 The augite is not schillerized.

Schiller spar (ʃi·ləɹspāɹ). *Min.* [ad. G. *schillerspath* (1786 Heyer in *Chemische Annalen* I. 335): see SCHILLER and SPAR *sb.*] = BASTITE.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 221 Schiller Spar. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* 79 Shining laminæ of schiller spar or crystallized serpentine. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) 160 Diallage..includes Schiller spar (in part) and Bronzite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 120 Enstatite becomes altered to Schiller-spar or bastite, talc, etc.

‖ **Schilling** (ʃi·liŋ). Also 8 **shilling.** [Ger.: see SHILLING. Cf. SCHELLING, SKILLING.] A

silver coin and money of account formerly in use in North Germany, of the value of $\frac{1}{3}$ mark or 12 pfennigs; latterly slightly over 1*d.* sterling.

In some parts of Germany, where coins of various states circulated freely, the names *schilling* and *groschen* were till about 1870 treated as synonymous.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. lxxxviii. 407 [*Dantzig*], 3 Shillings, or 18 phennigen..1 grosch. *Ibid.* II. I. iii. 17 [*Hamburg*], They keep their accounts in marks and schillings, sixteen schillings to a mark. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 299/2 Warm sea-baths..cost 24 schillings.

Schilteroun, -thrum, etc., var. ff. SHELTRON *Obs.*

‖ **Schi·mmel.** Chiefly *S. African.* [Ger. (ʃi·m'l) and Du. (sχi·m'l, Cape Du. skim'l).] A roan horse.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, 'There's..Kunz..coming down the market with three schimmels. *Ibid.*, Up sprang Francis to the box, away went the schimmels, and Dobbin with his head on his breast. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Swallow* v, You may take my best horse..the thoroughbred schimmel. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 393/2 Saddle the blue schimmel and ride hard after Baas Hartley.

Schin, obs. form of SKIN.

‖ **Schindylesis** (skindilī·sis). *Anat.* [mod.L., a. Gr. σχινδύλησις (Hippocrates cited by Galen).] An articulation formed by the reception of a thin plate of one bone into a fissure or groove in another.

1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 280 Schindylesis is a synarthrosis which results from the reception of the crest or ridge of a bone into the groove of another. 1889 LEIDY *Human Anat.* (ed. 2) 50.

attrib. 1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 42 The schindylesis suture is the reception of one bone into a sheath or fissure of another.

† **Schine.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. (Vulgate) *schīnus*, a. Gr. σχῖνος the mastic-tree. Cf. CHINA^{2}.] *Schine-tree* = MASTIC *sb.* 2.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Susanna* 54 Under a schine tree.

‖ **Schi·nkel.** *Obs. rare.* [Du. *schinkel* knuckle, shinbone, *schink* gammon, ham; cf. G. *schinken* ham.] A ham, gammon.

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. (1654) 33 He and his fellow bowrs..Have brought a schinkel of good raw Bacon.

Schip, -ard, obs. forms of SHEEP, SHEPHERD.

Schiph, obs. form of SKIFF.

Schippe, obs. f. SHAPE *v.*, SHIP, SKIP.

Schipper: see SKIPPER (of a ship).

‖ **Schipperke** (sχi·pərkə, ʃi·pərkĕ). [Du. dial., *lit.* 'little boatman'.] A kind of lapdog.

1887 *Field* 2 July 7/2 The Schipperkes..little black dogs, born without tails, some 10 lb. in weight or so,..are bred by the boatmen in Holland..and..are said to be excellent hands at killing rats. 1895 'F. ANSTEY' *Lyre & Lancet* XI. 111 Ought a schipperke to have meat?

Schir, obs. form of SHEER, SIR.

† **Schirk,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. *schir*, SHIRE *a.* + *-k* as in LURK, TALK *vbs.*] *trans.* To brighten.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4816 Þe schaftis of Þe schire son schirkind Þe cloudis.

Schirme, var. SKIRM *Obs.* **Schirra,** obs. f. SHERIFF. **Schirrhus,** etc.: see SCIRRHUS, etc. **Schirryve,** obs. Sc. form of SHRIVE.

Schism (siz'm), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **scisme,** 5 **cisme, cissime,** 5–6 **sisme, sysme, scysme,** 6 **scissym, sciseme, cysme,** *Sc.* **scisma,** 6–7 **schisme,** 7 **scism, shism,** 7– **schism.** [ME. *scisme, cisme, sisme,* a. OF. *scisme, cisme* (mod.F. *schisme*) = Pr. *scisma*, Sp. *cisma*, Pg. *scisma* (masc. schism, fem. whim), It. *scisma* schism, *cisma* discord, ill-will, ad. eccl. L. *schisma* neut., a. Gr. σχίσμα rent, cleft (in the N. T. applied fig. to division in the church), f. σχιδ-, σχίζειν to split, rend.

In the 16th c. the spelling was altered in Eng. (as also in Fr.) to *schisme* by assimilation to the late L. and Gr. form.]

1. In the versions of the New Testament, used to represent the Gr. σχίσμα in some passages, where the sense is that of a (metaphorical) rent or cleft.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* i. 10, I biseche 30u..that ȝe alle seye the same thing, and that scismes, or dyuysiouns, dissencioun, or discordis, be not among 30w. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 4 Lat na scismes discord or divisioun be amangis yow. 1582 BIBLE (Rheims) 1 *Cor.* xii. 25 That there might be no schisme in the body. [So 1611.]

2. *Eccl.* A breach of the unity of the visible Church; the division, either of the whole Church or of some portion of it, into separate and mutually hostile organizations; the condition of being so divided, or an instance of this. Also *transf.* with reference to other religious communities.

According to the definition given repeatedly in various forms by Augustine and other Fathers, the term has reference to outward separation, not to inward divergence of belief. Hence a 'schism' does not necessarily proceed from heresy; indeed the most prominent application of the word is to separations caused by disputes on matters of discipline, the validity of an election to a bishopric or of a sentence of deprivation, or the like.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 And so to speke upon this branche, Which proud Envie hath mad to springe, Of Scisme. [The reference is to the Papal schism: see b.] *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 29 Þe seedis of scysmis schuld be tan a wey. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (1864) II. 453 Goddes chirche [was] supported, and thestate and oonhede thereof observed; scismes, like elles to have growed thereinne, letted and thoo that were growen letted and ceassed. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 25 The kirk..was all..in obscuritee of scisme and of weris. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xix. 160 Doutles thy abusione, and the sinister ministratione of thy office, is the special cause of the scisma and of diuers sectis that trublis al cristianite, and quhou beit that the rute of thir scismes and sectis be in germane, denmark and ingland. 1558 Q. MARY *Will* in J. M. Stone *Mary I Engl.* (1901) 508 In the tyme of the late Scisme within this Realme. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Serm. Jude* i. § 11 (1614) 18 If they breake the bond of vnitie, whereby the body of the Church is coupled and knit in one,..this is to separate themselues by schisme. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 175 By which words he doth reiect the Scisme of the Donatists. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 231 Faustus..took up this conceit—That both the Christians and Jews..were no other than schisms or subdivided sects of paganism. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* 61 Schism then..is nothing else but a Separation made in the Communion of the Church, upon account of something in Divine Worship, or Ecclesiastical Discipline, that is not any necessary part of it. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 46 The schism between the Greek and Latin churches, which happened in the ninth century. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* vii, In order to compel the Patriarch to submit himself to the Pope, adopt the Latin form of the cross, and put an end to the schism.

b. *spec.* A state of divided spiritual allegiance in Western Christendom (or, at an earlier period, in Christendom generally) caused by a disputed election to the Papacy; esp. *The Great* (*Western*) *Schism* (1378–1417); other 'schisms' arose from the claims of the rivals of Alexander III (1159–1177) and of the antipope Felix V (1432–1448).

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 88 In his tyme was a scisme betwix him [Symmachus] and on Laurens. *c* 1460 *Brut* 507 This yere Þe general Counsel of Basile deposed Pope Eugeny; & Þei chese Felix..; & Þan began Þe Scisme which endured vnto Þe yere of oure Lord Ihesu Crist M^{l} iiij^{c} xlviij. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxxxvi. 273 The sisme, y^{t} after fell amongis the cardynallys, for eleccion of the pope Alexander the .iii.: which sysme, by mean of the first Frederike than emperoure, endured almooste .xx. yeres. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 34 The long scisme and devision sprong & continued in the catholike church. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. vi. (1739) 34 The Popedom was now under a Schism between two Popes, Clement and Urban. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. viii. 167 The schism of the Papacy between Alexander and Victor. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XII. 182/1 The death of Gregory was followed by serious difficulty respecting the choice of his successor, which gave rise to the long-continued dissension in the Church, commonly called *the Great Western Schism.* 1885 MULLINGER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 502/1 The outbreak of the great schism struck no less deeply at those sentiments of veneration and deference which had been wont to gather round the pontiff's chair.

c. The offence of promoting the formation or contributing to the permanence of 'schisms' or divisions in the Church or a portion of it; the state of being culpably separated from the Church. Phrase, *In schism.*

1402 *Repl. Friar Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 41 Now is that seed of cisme sowen in the chirche; the whete fadith with the floure, oure fode is for to feche. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleasure & P.* 359 You layde to theyr charge herecie, Sisme, and Sedicion also. 1557 CARD. POLE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxviii. 254 And for theyr remayninge in Schisme, great Plages of God remayninge styll upon them. 1567 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 324 That doth not comply with the orders of the Church, lately purged or clensed from Sisme and Idolatry. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* xii. (1633) 36 That the onely report of his holynesse and cunning, excited the Scotts (late christened, but abiding in scisme). 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism. 1670 WALTON *Lives* I. 13 There could be no such sin as Schism, if an adherence to some visible Church were not necessary. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* 61 Use, which is the Supream Law in matter of Language, has determined that Heresy relates to Errors in Faith, and Schism to those in Worship or Discipline. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* II. x. (1705) 512 Till our refractoriness degenerates into the grievious Sin of Schism. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iv. 52 The sin of schism..is by no means the object of temporal coercion and punishment. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* Prol. 11 Shielding from the guilt of schism The orthodoxal syllogism. 1842 TENNYSON *Epic* 16, I heard The parson..Now harping on the church-commissioners, Now hawking at Geology and schism. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 113 And then, despite all heresy and schism, theocracy will flourish.

d. A sect or body formed by division within the Church; a body which, either in Christendom generally or in some portion of it, maintains an ecclesiastical organization distinct from that of the Catholic Church; a schismatic sect.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) 290 They doo therfore with a more constante mynde perseuer in theyr fyrst fayth ..than doo manye of vs beinge diuided into scismes and sectes whiche thynge neuer chaunceth amonge them. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. vi. 366 Neither Christ nor our saluation is to bee found without the church, in the sects or schismes of wicked heretikes. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 9 Hence comes it that the earth is rent into so many religions, and those religions torn into so many schismes, and various forms of devotion. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii. 215 That Church that from the name of a distinct place takes its autority to set up a distinct Faith or Government, is a Scism and Faction, not a Church. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke* (1850) II. 143 If a noble lady is moved..she will end by giving her name to a new schism. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* I. iii, And that I cannot sign: for that would make Our island-Church a schism from Christendom.

fig. 1640 HABINGTON *Q. Arragon* IV. i, If your designe Be to convert me; for I know you hold All Ladies in a Schisme, who are young and proud.

† **e.** ? A schismatical opinion. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 55 Not to count him fit to print his mind without a tutor and examiner, lest he should drop a scism, or something of corruption.

3. *gen.* In early use, a state of disunion, dissension, or mutual hostility. Now with more restricted meaning (influenced by sense 2 and the Gr. etymology), a division into mutually opposing parties of a body of persons that have previously acted in concert. Also, in recent use, a severance of unity, a discord, breach (between persons or things).

c 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 411 The goddys remembryd the scisme odyous Among the three goddesses that she [Discord] had wrought At the fest of Peleus. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* II. 454 (MS. Arund.), 'It is ful perillous, he seyde, 'to be a mayde And eke a qveen; ȝe may be ful sone afrayde If ony rysynge or ony sisme [*MS. Rawl.* scisme] be sterde.' 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 36 But whan that cyte [Antioch] wyth scysme was ner nowt Oon Austyn to Tuskayne from thens me [St. Margaret] browt. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxviii. 196 (Add. MS.) Where that was cissime and debate amonge any, he labored for to make accorde, that good accorde sholde be had. 1477 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 420 Eny persone..that haue eny seductous langage, which myght sowe eny sysme betwixt the kynges goode grace and eny his lordez. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* X. § 110 But this Schisme carried all the Reputation and Authority to the Army, and left none to the Parliament. 1783 BURKE *Indian Committee* Wks. II. 216 An open schism instantly divided the Council. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* P 10 The schism which had divided the Whig party was now completely healed. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 460 The eternal and inevitable schism between the Romanticists and the Classicists. 1851 M. HOPKINS *Strength & Beauty* xiv. 261 (Funk) It is a prejudice, as disastrous as it is unfounded, that there can be a schism between the heart and the intellect to the advantage of either. 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Serm. Relig.* iii. (1863) 42 Attraction is the most general law in the material world, and prevents a schism in the universe. 1872 H. T. BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* I. 252 The schism between literature and the government was aided by another schism between literature and religion.

b. *nonce-uses.* A faction, party; a set or class of people.

1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* II. v, He had on an upper Benjamin (For he was of the driving schism). 1820 — *Witch of Atlas* lxxv, In a band The gaolers sent those of the liberal schism Free through the streets of Memphis.

† **4.** *Mus.* = SCHISMA. *Obs. rare.*

1653 LD. BROUNCKER tr. *Des Cartes' Compend. Mus.* 30 A certaine Fraction, which may be the difference betwixt a Tone major and a Tone minor, which we nominate a Schism [orig. *quam schisma nominamus*]. 1694 W. HOLDER *Harmony* 86, *Note*, whenever I mention Diesis without Distinction; I mean Diesis *Minor*, or Enharmonic: and when I so mention Comma; I mean Comma *Majus*, or Schism.

¶ **5.** Used *jocularly* in the etymological sense: A rent or tear (in a garment).

1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxiv, My shirts! see what a deadly schism has happen'd amongst 'em. 1772 R. GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* (1783) II. 140 He..levelled his needle at the schism in his Master's trousers.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *schism-sower, time*; **Schism Act,** the statute 13 Anne c. 7 (1714; repealed in 1719 by 5 Geo. I, c. 4), requiring all teachers to conform to the Established Church; so **Schism Bill; schism-house, -shop,** a contemptuous term for a nonconformist place of worship (occasionally also applied to a proprietary chapel licensed for Church of England services).

1733 *Free-Briton* No. 200 P 6 This was the Act which repealed the *Schism-Act. *Ibid.* P 1 The *Schism-Bill. 1814 W. WILSON *Dissent. Ch. Lond.* IV. 533 The schism bill received the royal assent June 25, 1714. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 607 What the vicar calls '*schism-houses'. 1893 *Church Times* 21 July 757/4 In Romish schism-houses in this country. 1801 COL. G. HANGER in *Life* II. 404 You might travel 60 or 70 miles and not see a church, or even a *schism-shop. 1823 SOUTHEY *Let. to Mrs. Southey* 30 Dec. in *Life* (1850) V. 154, I recollected that in most schism shops the sermon is looked upon as the main thing for which the congregation assemble. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ii. 139 Therfore the aȝenseiers her of ben to be reiated and rebukid as..*scisme sowers and disturblers of the peple. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Mind* Ep. to Rdr. D 1, Al such vntractable and seditious scisme sowers. 1539 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 107 The great studie and stedfastness that he had taken and contynued in all the *scysme and division tyme.

† **Schism,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SCHISM *sb.*] *intr.* To separate schismatically.

1604 H. JACOB *Reasons taken out* 77 He that differeth from the Gospell ioyneth not to the Church, but schismeth from it. 1610 J. ROBINSON *Justif. Separation* Wks. 1851 II. 293 It is necessary that he which thinks it a true church return unto it, from which he hath wickedly schismed. 1645 KIFFEN in R. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) 69 The notorious guilt of schisming from Rome.

‖ **Schisma** (ski·zmă). *Acoustics.* Pl. **schismata.** Also 9 **skhisma.** [late L. *schisma* 'dimidium commatis' (Boëthius, quoting Philolaus), a special use of Gr. σχίσμα division: see SCHISM *sb.*] A term denoting a small interval of musical pitch.

† **a.** In ancient Greek use, the half of a comma. *Obs.* † **b.** By Descartes and some later writers applied to the difference between a major and a minor tone; = COMMA 3 (1). *Obs.* **c.** The difference between a diaschisma and a syntonic comma, represented by the ratio 32.805 : 32.768.

1653 [see SCHISM *sb.* 4]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.* 1875 ELLIS *Helmholtz' Sensat. Tone* III. xiv. 431 *note*. This substitution..amounts to a temperament with perfect Fifths, and major Thirds too flat by a skhisma, or nearly the eleventh of a comma. 1876 C. BROWN *Mus. Common Things* II. 38

Between all enharmonic changes,..the interval of the schisma always occurs, 32,768 : 32,805, the difference being 37. 1876 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms, Schisma* (Gk.), an approximate half of a Pythagorean comma, that is, half of the difference between twelve fifths and seven octaves. 1885 Ellis *Helmholtz' Sensat. Tone* Addit. (ed. 2) 432 Twelve Fifths up and seven Octaves down give the sum of a Comma and a Skhisma, known as the Pythagorean Comma.

†Schi·smacy. *Obs.* In 4 **scismacye, cismacie.** [f. Schismat(e : see -acy.] = Schism *sb.* 2.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 149 In tyme of þis Henry, so moche scismacye [L. *tantum schisma*] was in þe chirche of Rome, þat þre men were chosen popes. *Ibid.*, þis Henry comynge to Rome for to cese þe cismacie [L. *pro schismate sedando*].

†Schi·smarch. *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *schismarcha*, f. *schisma* Schism *sb.* + *-archa*, a. Gr. *-άρχης* ruler. Cf. *heresiarch.*] A founder of a schism.

1657 J. Watts *Dipper Sprinkled* 31 Your own original Authors and Scismarchs.

†Schismat(e. *Obs. rare.* [In 15th c. *scismat(e*, a. OF. *scismat* (Godefr.), app. a back-formation from *scismatique* Schismatic.] = Schismatic *sb.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3702 Ȝe assent to sin or to scismates. *Ibid.* 4508 To bow þaim to scismats. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 123 Yn þes orisons, holy chyrch prayth for all maner folke, for Iewes,..for herytykys, for scismatys.

Schismatic (sizmæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **scismatik**, 5 **scysmatyke, scismattike**, 5–6 **sys-, scismatyk**, 6 **scysmatik, -yk(e, schismatik, sys-, scismatick**, 7 **scismatique**, 6–7 **schismatike, -ique, -icke**, 7 **shismatick**, 7– **schismatic.** [ME. *cysmatyke, scismatik*, etc., a. OF. *cis-, scismatique* (mod.F. *schismatique*, after Gr. ; the altered spelling came in both in Fr. and Eng. near the end of the 16th c.), ad. eccl. L. *schismaticus*, a. eccl. Gr. *σχισματικός*, f. *σχισματ-, σχίσμα* Schism *sb.* Cf. Pr. *sismatic*, Sp. *cismático*, Pg. *schismatico*, It. *scismatico.*

Johnson, Walker, Todd, and Smart (1836–48) have the stress *schi·smatic*, which appears in many early verse examples. The accentuation now current is given by Webster in 1828; cf. quot. 1822 (Byron).]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to schism or schismatics; of the nature of schism; guilty of the offence of schism.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cysmatyke, *cismaticus, cismatica. Ibid.* 456/2 Sysmatyk, *scismaticus.* 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 109 The subjectis of the Emperour suld kepe thair obedience till him alset he war scismattike. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 Preamble, Whiche Scismatyk demeanure of the seid Frensche King ys and hathe ben parlyous and terrible example to all Cristen fayth. 1534 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 8 Yn the whych sermondes he prechyd dyvers sysmatyke and yronyous opinions. 1543 Bale *Yet a Course at Rom. Foxe* 98 b, Hontyngton.. can not amonge all hys heretyques fynde..one scysmatyk Prest. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 7 July, I went over to St. George's to the ceremonie of the schismatic Greekes, who are permitted to have their Church, tho' they are at defiance with Rome. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iii. 59 The Schismatick Mahometans ..employed their utmost malice against that unhappy City. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, It was to be hoped, that, though she was the widow of an enthusiastic corporal of Cromwell's dragoons, her grandson might be neither schismatic nor anti-national. 1822 Byron *Werner* IV. i, Though the schismatic Swede, Gustavus, is Gone home. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 258 The schismatic kingdom of Israel. 1865 — *Truth Eng. Ch.* 65 There may be schismatic acts, which have not the deadliness of the sin of schism. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 312 The..Modern Painters were.. more startled than flattered by my schismatic praise.

B. *sb.* One who promotes or countenances schism or breach of external unity in the Church; one who is guilty of the sin of schism; a member or adherent of a schismatical body.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 115 For cryste cleped vs alle come if we wolde, Sarasenes and scismatikes. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* iv. 28 Alle, þat kepyn holy cherch-godys, or wythholdyn þat arn alyenyd awey be sysmatykes..& nost wyln restoryn þe godys azen [etc.]. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 242 And because that the Spaynardis were scismatikes, the Pope Urban graunted [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 218 b, Malicyous lyuers, as moost specially ben these heretykes and scismatykes. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 2 Whosoever doth cut a sunder the unitye, and disturbe the peace of the Church,..is a Schismatique. 1600 *Sir John Oldcastle* IV. iii. 134 Old Ruffian past-grace, vpstart schismatike. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. I. i. 715 Enthusiasts, Diuinators, Prophets, Sectaries, Scismaticks. 1642 Chas. I *Declar. to County York* 3 June 2 Separatists and Shismaticks. 1650 Hubbert *Pill Formality* 34 Are they not still called Roundheads, Sectaries, Schismaticks, and what not? 1678 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Feb., Dr. Pierce preach'd at White-hall on 2 Thessal. 3. 6 against our late Schismatics. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 230 Support all Schismatics and Sects. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 16 There is none but the Greek Schismaticks that reject the Councill of Florence. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 480 By the Laws of England a Schismatick is one that divides and separates himself from the Establish'd Church of the Realm, not on Fundamentals of Faith, but on some Points of Religion relating to Church Discipline and external Worship. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. iv. 52 Papists and protestant dissenters..were supposed to be equally schismatics in departing from the national church. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 164 Both [the puritans and quakers] were schismatics. Both hated episcopacy and the liturgy. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 73 Fleury was no longer read by the young clergy, being considered a Gallican and a schismatic. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xxiii, The wretched cavils of the Nonconformists, and the noisy futility that belongs to schismatics generally.

loosely. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* 29455 Schort quhill befoir his dais war compleit, The scismatik callit wes Mohomeit, In Arrabie closit his latter dayis.

Comb. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. viii. 422 They saide that Paule..did schismatiquelike sowe in the churches a certeine doctrine peculiar to him selfe.

b. *spec.* In Roman Catholic use, one of those Roman Catholics who in the reign of Elizabeth conformed by occasionally attending the services of the Church of England, in order to avoid the penalties denounced against recusants.

1584 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 726 The schismatics who come to church, and yet in heart are Papists, they do most mischief. 1600 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* I. iv. (1872) 194 And this doth touch chiefly schismatics, whose wives for the most part are all recusants, and many Protestants, besides Catholics. 1877 Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* I. I. 147 His friends and relations were Protestants, but his parents and brothers schismatics.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1652 Brome *Mad Couple* Addr. to Stationer, But 'tis the Custome, and who won't submit, Must be esteem'd a Schismatick in wit. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Sat. upon Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 60 My breeches too..I found grown Schismaticks, and fall'n asunder. 1834 Macaulay *Ess., Pitt* P 19 Pulteney..was the schismatic; they [the Whigs] were the true Catholics, the peculiar people, the despositaries of the orthodox faith of Hampden and Russell.

Schismatical (sizmæ·tikăl), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -al.] = Schismatic *a.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., K. Hen. V*, 34 b, Gregory the xij was one of the Scismatical numbre. 1558–9 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 1 § 19 Any Error, Heresie, Scisme or Scismaticall Opinion. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 589 Peucerus maketh the Egyptian Caliphs to be Schismaticall from their first entrance, which was (as he saith) in Anno 703. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. xxvi. 600 Syracon, Captain of the Turkes, that had beene in Aegypt, goes to the Caliph of Baldach, offering his best meanes for the extirpation of the Schismaticall Caliph. 1637 *Decree Star-Chamb. concern. Printing* § 1 in Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 9 That no person..shall presume to print.. any seditious, scismaticall, or offensive Bookes or Pamphlets. 1642 *Compl. to Ho. Comm.* 15 Schismatical men addicted to Anabaptisme and Brownisme. 1659 Bp. Walton *Consid. Considered* 190 That Manasseh..built a temple on Mount Gerizim,..and there worshipped God, and offered sacrifices, (though in a schismatical way,) is out of doubt. 1680 Baxter *Rep. Stillingfleet's Let.* vi. 16 And therefore your accusation of us thus grounded is Shismatical and unjust. 1686 *Answ. to Printed Paper* 16 Then the Church of Rome is the most Schismatical in the World, that denies Communion with all Churches that are not in all Tridentine points one with her. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 28/1 The Prophets of the Grove, were not indeed Prophets of the Lord, as Elijah was, but they were the only Prophets of the Schismatical Jewish Church at Samaria. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxvii. 123 He put Pisa under an interdict, and all the places which gave shelter to the Schismatical Council. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* x, But what are these schismatical proceedings to our present purpose? 1879 R. T. Smith *Basil the Great* x. 124 The passage above quoted in respect to baptism, concerning the failure of the gifts of the spirit in schismatical bodies after the first generation, shows how strongly Basil held the doctrine of Apostolical Succession. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 204/2 One who has received heretical or schismatical baptism when he might have had the Catholic.

b. *spec.* in Roman Catholic use. (See Schismatic *sb.* b.)

1582 Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 108 This blessed man..had an old schismaticall priest to his uncle.

Schismatically (sizmæ·tikăli), *adv.* [f. Schismatical *a.* + -ly 2.] In a schismatic manner.

1554 Bonner *Art. Visit.* B ij, Item, whether any such, as were ordered scismatically and contrary to the olde order & custome of the catholike churche, or being vnlawfully and scismaticallye married after the late innouation and maner. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. ix. § 2 Aërius, so Schismatically and stifly maintaining it, must even stand where Epiphanius and Augustine have placed him. 1661 *Terms of Accomm.* 9 It was done schismatically. 1683 *Addr. fr. Sudbury in Lond. Gaz.* No. 1847/3 Those People who in their Fanatick Zeal have Schismatically divided from the best constituted Church in the World. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 256 He..preached very schismatically. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 94 With what eyes..did Stigand look on the works of the predecessor whom, in Norman belief, he had unjustly and schismatically driven from his throne.

Schisma·ticalness. *rare.* [f. Schismatical *a.* + -ness,] The quality of being schismatic.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* x. 562 Your mere Schismaticalness and Contumacy against the Church is so. 1637 H. Stubbe *Further Vnstif. War Neth.* 47 Their Bishops were recalled, and a plenary toleration granted unto them; their Madness, or Schismaticalness being left to the immediate punishment of God. 1681 H. More *Expos. Dan.* Pref. 90 We are to..repent us..of our Schismaticalness and Rebelliousness. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* III. lxix. 362 The Schismaticalness of the Congregations.

†Schismaticating, *ppl. a. Obs.*—[1] [f. Schismatic + -ate 3 + -ing 2.] = Schismatizing *ppl. a.*

1712 M. Henry *Nat. Schism* (1886) 5 Some of the schismaticating doctors the Church has known.

Schisma·tico-, combining form of Schismatic.

1689 *Apol. Fail. Walker's Acc.* 25 It being Canonico-Prelatically impossible, tho Schismatico-Presbyterially certain. 1818 G. S. Faber *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 315 Their Schismatico-political mode of worship.

Schi·smatism. *nonce-wd.* [f. Schismat-ic + -ism.] Schismatic principles.

1859 Mrs. Gaskell *Round the Sofa* 223 But, at any rate, he is a Baptist, and has been in trade. What with his schismatism and Mr. Gray's methodism, I am afraid all the primitive character of this place will vanish.

Schismatist (si·zmătist). *rare.* [Formed as next + -ist.] A schismatic.

1754 *Let. fr. Member of Ch. of Scot. to Elder of Seceders* 52 He says not to these schismatists you are not a Member of the Church. 1852 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXI. 750 [He] hopes the best for Schismatists, but can't See aught for them within the covenant. 1895 *Cath. News* 12 Oct. 7/5 It would be one of the greatest triumphs of Leo's sovereignty if he succeeded in winning back the Alexandrian schismatists to the true faith.

Schismatize (si·zmătəiz), *v.* [a. OF. *scismatiser* (Cotgr.), f. Gr. *σχίσματ-, σχίσμα* Schism + -ize.]

1. *intr.* To behave as a schismatic; to favour or advocate schismatic principles; to lead or belong to a schismatic body.

1601 W. Watson *Sparing Discov.* A 3 b, The Secular priests haue only..Schismatiz'd and rebelled against M. Geor. Blackwell and his Jesus Masters. 1611 Cotgr., *Scismatiser*, to Scismatise it, or play the Scismatick. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispatch't* 89 Therefore to schismatize is to divide himself voluntarily from the Church. *Ibid.* 382 Which being too weak a ground in the iudgment of every prudent Conscientious man to hazard his Soul upon, as he must if he begin to Schismatize upon no better Grounds. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* I. ii. 42 From which [Church] I rather chose boldly to separate than poorly to *schismatise* in it. 1689 Hickeringill *Ceremony-Monger* Concl. iv. Wks. 1716 II. 488 Must we Schismatize from Scripture, and from all the Protestants in the World, to follow a Custom they got into the Greek Church? 1705 — *Priest-cr.* I. ibid. III. 13 If [the Church of England] say true, then it is impossible ..to Schismatize from her. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 11 All Foreign Calvinists..disown and condemn our Dissenters for Idiotizing as well as Schismatizing in their Uncivil as well as Unchristian Obstinacy. 1833 J. H. Newman *Arians* I. i. (1876) 6 His intimate friend..Lucian, who schismatized or was excommunicated on his deposition. 1864 — *Apol.* 239 It may be the providential means of uniting the whole Church in one, without fresh schismatizing or use of private Judgment.

b. *transf.* To make a division in a political party.

1793 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 52, I am not sure whether some of the more furious republicans may not schismatize with him.

2. *trans.* **a.** To lead into schism. **b.** To divide into parties. *rare.*

1645 *Liberty of Conscience* 35 We must distinguish the persons who are in the error, whether Heresiarchs and ringleaders, or whether followers only,..whether schismatizing, or schismatized. 1813 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 202 They [these questions] now schismatize every people whose minds and mouths are not shut up by the gag of a despot.

Hence **Schi·smatizing** *ppl. a.*

1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 559 To reunite..a schismatizing Congregation to the Body it broke from. 1712 M. Henry *Nat. Schism* (1886) 9 The great schismatizing principle which has been so much the bane of the Christian Church.

†Schi·smic, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Schism *sb.* + -ic.] Schismatic.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 525 Then to Carmel's top The Schismick Priests were quickly called up. 1614 — *Little Bartas* 1047 Vouchsafe our souls rest, without Schismick strife.

†Schi·smless, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Schism *sb.* + -less.] Without or free from schism.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. vi. 22 The peace and good of the Church is not terminated in the schismelesse estate of one or two kingdomes.

Schist [1] (jist). *Geol.* Also 8 **shist**; and see Schistus. [a. F. *schiste* (in 16th c. *scisth*, in 18th c. occas. *chite*, in accordance with the then usual pronunciation), a. L. *schistos* adj., fissile, readily splitting (*lapis schistos*, a kind of stone mentioned by Pliny), a. Gr. *σχιστός* (*σχ. λίθος*, 'probably talc', L. & Sc.), f. *σχιδ-, σχίζειν* to split : see Schism *sb.*] A crystalline rock whose component minerals are arranged in a more or less parallel manner.

Some continental writers call any fissile rock a 'schist', prefixing the word 'crystalline' to denote the rocks described in the above definition. The parallel structure in schists is independent of original stratification, being due to metamorphic action; indeed, many schists are modified igneous rocks.

1795 Mills in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 41 A thin stratum of vegetable soil lies uppermost; then clay, mingled with fine sand, composed of small particles of quartz, mica, and shist. 1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 309 The schist, and its accompanying clays, contain an abundance of fossils. 1885 Teall (*title of paper*) On the Metamorphosis of Dolomite into Hornblende-Schist. 1886 Bonney *Pres. Addr. Geol. Soc.* 57 Again in the mouth of one geologist a 'schist' will mean any rock that has a rough fissility,..while another restricts the term to the foliated rocks. 1903 A. Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* 246 A rock possessing a crystalline arrangement into separate folia is in English termed a Schist. 1904 Van Hise *Treat. Metamorphism* (U. S. Geol. Survey) 780 Illustrations of the use of the term Schist both as the name of a definite rock and with a structural signification are furnished by the terms mica-schist, chlorite-schist, and hornblende-schist as generally used.

b. *attrib.*

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 36 The evaporation of the Schist Lixivium. *Ibid.* 39 For evaporating the schist liquors. 1878 *Schiller's Technol. Dict.*, Schist-oil. 1903 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. § 1 (ed. 4) 782 The schist district of the Elbe valley hills in Saxony.

Schist [2] (skist). *Acoustics. rare.* In quot. **skhist.** [ad. Gr. *σχιστόν*, neut. of *σχιστός* divided: see Schist 1.] A small interval equal to one-eighth of a schisma. 1875 [see Schistic *a.*].

Schista·ceous, *a. Bot.* [f. SCHIST[1] + -ACEOUS.] Having the colour of schist or slate, blue-grey.

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

†**Schi·stic,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 8 *erron.* **schystic.** [ad. assumed Gr. **σχιστικός*, f. *σχιδ-*, *σχίζειν* to split: see SCHISM *sb.*] Dividing, analytical. (In quot. *humorously pedantic.*)

1742-3 FIELDING *Phil. Trans.* Wks. 1771 VI. 500 We are forced to proceed..by the metabolic or mutative [method], not by the schystic or divisive.

†**Schi·stic,** *a.*[2] *Geol. Obs.* [f. SCHIST[1] + -IC.] Pertaining to, resembling a schist: = SCHISTOID.

1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 259 The rocks in the parish are mostly whinstone, and schistic strata. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 50 Masses of schistic rock.

Schistic (ski·stik), *a.*[3] *Acoustics.* In 9 **skhistic.** [See quot.] Of a system of musical temperament, or tones as tempered on this system: Based on an allowance for the difference of a 'schist'.

1875 ELLIS tr. *Helmholtz' Sensat. Tone* App. XIX. 652 Skhistic, or Helmholtzian [temperament] as it may be called. ..The name Skhistic is derived from skhist..which I use for the small interval that is one-eighth of the Greek skhisma. *Ibid.*, The complete series of skhistic tones. *Ibid.* 764 If skhistic intonation could be easily produced in practice.

Schi·stify, *v. Geol.* [f. SCHIST[1] + -IFY.] *trans.* To develop a schistic structure in, to change into schist. Hence **Schi·stified** *ppl. a.*

1890 COLE & GREGORY in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. 301 Some of this rock is fine-grained, and some schistified with large diallage- and felspar-eyes. *Ibid.* 305 This rock was described..as a schistified serpentine.

Schistoid (ʃi·stoid), *a. Geol.* [f. SCHIST[1] + -OID.] Having the nature of, or resembling, schist.

1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiv. 398 We saw in the mountains of Upper Orinoco,..granites passing into gneiss, and schistoid hornblendes. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Schistoscope (ski·stəskōup). *Chromatics.* [f. Gr. *σχιστό-s* divided, divisible (see SCHIST[1]) + -SCOPE.] An optical instrument producing complementary colours side by side.

1874 *S. Kens. Mus. Catal. Sci. Apparatus* No. 3678 (1877) 935 Rose's Schistoscope, for the physiology of colour. 1879 ROOD *Mod. Chromatics* xi. 161 Perhaps the..best [instrument] is that which was contrived by Brücke..and called by him a schistoscope...This..is merely a combination of a low-power simple microscope with a polariscope.

Schistose (ʃi·stōus), *a.* Also 8–9 **shistose.** [f. SCHIST[1] + -OSE[1].]

1. *Geol.* Laminated; having a formation resembling a schist.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 182 Shistose Clay... 1st variety, Slate Clay, Shale. 1821 *Tales My Landlord, Fair Witch Glas Llyn* II. 353 A conical hill, called Cerrig Tym, composed of a schistose rock. 1838 W. F. AINSWORTH *Res. Assyria*, etc. 337 With a foliated or shistose fracture in one direction. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 255/2 The ores are rich, and are found in pockets in a schistose rock.

† 2. Cleaving after the manner of a schist. *Obs.*

1831 MACCULLOCH *Syst. Geol.* I. 158 A soft claystone, with a schistose tendency on exposure.

†3. Abounding in, characterized by schist. *Obs.*

1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 175 Quartz veins are abundant in many parts of the schistose country.

4. *Bot.* 'Slaty, as to tint' (B. D. Jackson, 1900).

Schisto·sity. *Geol.* [f. SCHISTOSE + -ITY.] The direction or line of cleavage in a rock of crystalline formation.

1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 446 *Schistosity*,..denotes the fissility of the crystalline schists. 1901 J. HORNE in *Nature* 19 Sept. 513/2 Before the planes of schistosity were developed in these Dalradian schists.

Schistous (ʃi·stəs), *a.* [f. SCHIST[1] + -OUS.]

1. *Geol.* = SCHISTOSE *a.* 1.

1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) II. 115 It is scarcely ever observed in thin layers between schistous minerals. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 122 An immense schistous rock. 1875 *Wonders of Phys. World* I. i. 29 The schistous slate separates readily into leaves.

2. Formed of schist.

1829 PEACOCK *Misfort. Elphin* xi. 139 Prince Rhun being safe in schistous bastile, Taliesin commenced his journey. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* I. 812 In the steady, rolling Mayne..is mixed its mass of schistous ore. 1840 ARNOLD *Jrnl.* in Stanley *Life* (1858) II. 351 Bare schistous hills.

3. *Nat. Hist.* = SCHISTOSE *a.* 4.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Schistosus*..sometimes applied the same as *Ardisiaceus*, to indicate a shade of blue, as the *Coluber schistosus*: schistous.

‖ **Schi·stus.** *Obs.* Also 9 **shistus,** 7 in Gr. form **schistos.** [mod.L.; see SCHIST[1].] = SCHIST[1].

[1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. xv. II. 558 Of alume..there is one kind which the Greeks call Schistos, and the nature thereof is to cleave along into certaine filaments or threads like haires. 1623 COCKERAM III, *Schistos*, a stone of Saffron colour, easie to be cleft into thin plates.] 1775 MASSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 306 A kind of rotten schistus or slate. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 12 Micaceous shistus, granite, gneiss, chlorite-shistus, sand-stone, and lime-stone. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xiv. 115 Take a plate of regularly formed mother-of-pearl, with its surfaces nearly parallel, and grind these surfaces upon a hone or upon a plate of glass with the powder of schistus.

†**Schize,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. Gr. *σχίζειν*, after the derivative SCHISM *sb.*] *intr.* To separate from, to commit schism. Cf. SCHISM *v.*

1596 H. CLAPHAM *Briefe Bible* I. 80 As they had schized from the true Church, so now likewise from the true worship to a false.

Schizo- (skəi·zo, skəizɒ·), irreg. representing Gr. *σχίζειν* to split, combining with other words of Greek origin in various scientific terms. **Schi·zocarp** (-kāɹp) *Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], a term applied to dry fruits which break up into two or more one-seeded mericarps without dehiscing. Hence **Schizoca·rpic, Schizoca·rpous** *adjs.*, 'resembling or belonging to a schizocarp' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891). **Schi·zocœle** (-sīl) *Zool.* [Gr. *κοῖλον* a hollow], a perivisceral cavity formed by a splitting of the mesoblast. Hence **Schizocœlic, Schizocœ·lous** *adjs.* **Schizodi·nic** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *ὠδῖνες* birth-pains + -IC], belonging to a group of Mollusca, in which a temporary rupture of the body-wall takes place for the extrusion of the genital products. ‖ **Schi·zodon** *Zool.* [mod.L.; Gr. *ὀδοντ-* tooth], a genus of rodents, distinguished by having a molar with single internal and external folds, which meet in the middle of the tooth. ‖ **Schizoge·nesis** *Biol.* [mod.L. (Haeckel, 1866); Gr. *γένεσις* reproduction], fissiparous generation. **Schizogene·tic** *a. Bot.* [-GENETIC] = *schizogenic*; hence **Schizogene·tically** *adv.* **Schizogenic** (-dʒe·nik) *a. Bot.* [-GEN 2 + -IC], formed by cleavage; applied to cavities formed by the splitting of the common wall of contiguous cells. **Schizogenous** (-ɒ·dʒĭnəs) *a. Bot.* [-GEN 2 + -OUS] = *schizogenic.* **Schizognathism** (-ɒ·gnăþiz'm) *Ornith.* [Gr. *γνάθ-os* jaw + -ISM], a condition in which the bony palate is cleft from the posterior nares to the end of the beak. Hence **Schizo·gnathous** *a.*, having a cleft palate. **Schizogony** (-ɒ·gŏnĭ) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *schizogonia* (Haeckel); Gr. *-γονία*, reproduction] = *schizogenesis.* Hence **Schizogo·nic** *a.*, pertaining to schizogony; spec. *schizogonic cycle*, the second of the two stages in the life-history of a Coccidian. ‖ **Schizomycetes** (-məisĭ·tīz) *sb. pl. Biol.* [see MYCETES], a group of microscopic, rod-like, unicellular organisms, multiplying by fission, variously known as *Bacteria, Microbes*, etc.; *rarely* in sing. **schizomycete.** Hence **Schizomyce·tic, -myce·tous** *adjs.* **Schi·zophyte** (-fəit) *Biol.* [-PHYTE], a microscopic organism multiplying by fission, akin to *Schizomycetes.* **Schi·zopod** (-pɒd) *Zool.*, a member of the ‖ **Schizo·poda** *sb. pl.* [Gr. *ποδ-* foot], a sub-order of crustaceans, named from the apparent splitting of the thoracic limbs produced by the great development of the exopodites; hence **Schizo·podous** *a.* **Schizorhi·nal** *a. Ornith.* [Gr. *ῥίν-, ῥίς* nose], having each nasal bone deeply cleft or forked. **Schizothe·cal** *a. Ornith.* [Gr. *θήκη* a case], having the podotheca divided by scutellation or reticulation.

1870 *Henfrey's Bot.* § 247 In such a case the term **schizocarp* is employed to designate the whole fruit. 1905 BALFOUR tr. *Goebel's Organogr. Plants* II. 160 Andreaea..is an exception, and its sporogonia are *schizocarpous, for no lid is produced. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 51 That form of perivisceral cavity which I have termed a *schizocœle. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 30 The well-known term schizocoele may be retained for them [the coelomic cavities of *Vertebrata*]. 1900 *Lankester's Treat. Zool.* III. 26 Formerly the system was supposed to develop as a cleft in the mesenchyme, and therefore was called the '*schizocoelic system'. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 53/1 In the Lamellibranchiata and Odontophora, there is every reason to believe that the perivisceral cavity is formed by splitting of the mesoblast, or that they are *schizocœlous. 1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 682/1 Cœlomate animals are, according to this nomenclature, either *Schizodinic or Porodinic. 1848 WATERHOUSE *Nat. Hist. Mammalia* II. 265 *Schizodon fuscus.* The Brown *Schizodon. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Schizogenesis*..., fission as a mode of reproduction; generation by fission. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 213 To the first, *schizogenetic, category belong the larger air-spaces in stem, roots, and leaves of many marsh and water-plants. *Ibid.* 209 The reservoirs arise *schizogenetically. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 99 *note*, The first mode of development of intercellular spaces has been termed *schizogenic. 1883 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 870/3 [Mr. J. R. Green concludes] that, at least in some species [of Hypericaceæ], there is also a series of *schizogenous ducts. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 170 *Schizognathism is the kind of 'cleft palate' shown by the columbine and gallinaceous birds. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 229 The palate is *schizognathous. 1887 HUBRECHT in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Mar. 613 *Schizogony having once been established, it must have been further beneficial to the species. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 816/1 The *schizogonic cycle..occurs in human blood, giving rise to malarial fever. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 96 The living organisms to which the advocates of the germ theory attribute the causation of the infectious diseases, are embraced under the name **schizomycetes.* 1898 SALTER tr. *Lafar's Techn. Mycol.* I. title, *Schizomycetic Fermentation. 1902 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl., *Schizomycetous. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) XII. 229 **Schizophyte*, a microscopic organism belonging to Cohn's order schizophoreae, and allied to bacteria..regarded as a variety of bacillus. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *De Bary's Bacteria* 37 This group has received the name of Fission-plants or Schizophytes. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Schizopods. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 348 This may be termed the Schizopod stage. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 422 *note*, The *Schizopoda..have been found to be more nearly allied to the order Stomapoda. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Schizopodus*, applied..to a tribe of the *Crustaceæ*..the feet of which are deeply divided into slender branches: *schizopodous. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 367 The Schizopodous *Podophthalmia*. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 165 In the Columbidæ,..the nasal bones are *schizorhinal. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* Introd. 91 Herein he [Garrod] strove to prove that Birds ought to be divided into two Subclasses—one, called Holorhinal,..and the other, called Schizorhinal. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 125 Such a podotheca is holothecal...The generic opposite is *schizothecal.

‖ **Schi·zzo.** *Obs.* Also **skizzo**; *pl.* **schizzos, scizzi, scizzis.** [It.: see SKETCH *sb.*] A sketch.

1686 AGLIONBY *Painting Illustr.* Explan. Terms s. v., The Schizzos are ordinarily reduced into Cartoons in Fresco Painting, or Copyed and Enlarged in Oyl-Painting. *Ibid.* iii. 117 He seldom Designed a Story in his first Schizos, that he did not do it four or five several ways, to choose at last the best. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 6 (1740) 234 The Crafts-masters of that Plot, from the very first *Scizzi* of the Design, considered [etc.]. 1736 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* I. Ded. 5, I have aim'd at no more than a brief *Skizzo* of it in my Preface. 1793 SIR E. HARINGTON (*title*) A Schizzo on the Genius of Man.

‖ **Schlafrock** (ʃlā·fɹɒk). [G., f. *schlaf-en* to sleep + *rock* coat, gown.] A dressing-gown.

1836 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 248 One nasty little professor in a dirty *schlafrock* took the pipe out of his mouth and kissed me on the lips. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxv, A student, in jack-boots and a dirty *schlafrock*, was lying on the bed smoking a long pipe.

‖ **Schloss** (ʃlɒs). [Ger.] A (German) castle.

[1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 202 A Castle (which the Dutch call *Schlosse*).] 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 62 She had a beautiful little *schloss* on the green Ebensee. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 282 Virginia creeper draped the quaint grey schlosses with crimson cloaks.

Schnapper (ʃnæ·pəɹ). Formerly also **snapper.** [An alteration, after the equivalent G. *schnapper*, of SNAPPER (f. SNAP *v.* + -ER[1]), a name which has been given independently in various parts of the world to many different fishes. The original form is retained in some English books, but is obsolete in Australia and New Zealand.] A valuable sparoid food-fish (*Pagrus unicolor*), abundant upon the coasts of South Australia and New Zealand.

1827 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* I. 68 Snappers, bream, flat-heads, and various other descriptions of fishes, are all too found plentifully about. 1850 CLUTTERBUCK *Port Phillip* iii. 44 Besides the fish above numerated, are the Schnapper, black-fish and eel. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 171 The first fish, a twelve-pound schnapper.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1859 *All Year Round* No. 4. 80 We had been accustomed to..fish..for Schnapper-fish weighing from seven to twenty-five pounds. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 31 Schnapper-fishing.

‖ **Schnapps, schnaps** (ʃnæps). [Ger.] An ardent spirit resembling Hollands gin.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 403 Enjoy your schnaps, give sorrow to the wind. 1823 BYRON *Juan* x. lxxi, Not like slow Germany wherein they muddle Along the road,..and also pause besides, to fuddle, With 'schnapps'. *a* 1848 O. W. HOLMES *On Lend. Punch-bowl* 16 He went to Leyden, where he found conventicles and schnaps. 1885 C. LOWE *Bismarck* II. 488 A General, talking of drinks, had laid down the principle: 'Red wine for children, Champagne for men, *Schnaps* for Generals'.

Schnebelite (ʃnē·bĕləit). [f. the name *Schnebel-in* (see below) + -ITE.] An explosive principally composed of specially treated chlorate of potash, invented by the brothers Schnebelin *c* 1893.

1893 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 6/6 L'Abbé Schnebelin, who was illustrating by a series of experiments the advantages of Schnebelite gunpowder. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 June 6/2 Though the base of the Schnebelite..is chlorate of potash, the..powder seems to be less dangerous to handle than any other.

Schneiderian (ʃnəidī·ɹiăn), *a. Anat.* [f. the name of C. V. *Schneider* of Würtemberg (1610–80), who investigated this structure.] *Schneiderian membrane*, the mucous membrane of the nose.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 115 The inflammation of the Schneiderian membrane, and that of the mucous membrane of the bronchiæ were much more frequently absent than present. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 753 Situated in the Schneiderian mucous membrane is a large number of bipolar cells.

‖ **Schnorrer** (ʃnɒ·ɹəɹ). *Jewish.* [Yiddish var. of G. *schnurrer*, f. *schnurren* (slang) to go begging.] A Jewish beggar.

1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 4 The Schnorrer felt no false shame in his begging. 1899 *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 3/4 The crowd of half-starved immigrants, consisting of street hawkers and schnorrers, who are the plague of the Jewish Board of Guardians.

Scho(e, obs. form of SHE, SHOE, SHOW.

Schoche: see SCOTCH *v.*, SOUCH *v.*

†**Schœnanth.** *Obs.* Also (erron.) **schæ-, scæ-.** [ad. mod.L. *schœnanthus*, a. late Gr. *σχοίνανθος* (also *σχοινάνθη, σχοινάνθιον*), f. *σχοῖν-os* rush + *ἄνθος* flower.] A sweet-scented grass of Asia, *Andropogon Schœnanthus*, formerly used in medicine; camel's-hay.

1702 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1257 This is easily known from the other Schœnanths in having hollow Oat-like husks. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 110 Schœnanth. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Scænanth*, or *Schœnanth*..., the dried stalk of a plant brought to us from Arabia.

†Schœne. *Obs.* Also schene. [ad. L. *schœnus*, a. Gr. σχοῖνος, commonly believed to be a use of σχοῖνος rush, rope, but possibly a foreign word. Cf. F. *schène.*] An ancient measure of distance mentioned by Gr. writers and Pliny (chiefly as in use among the Persians); the length is variously stated at from 30 to 60 stadia (= 3½ to 7 miles).

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 300 Islande..is extended betwene the south and the north almost two hundreth schoenes in longitude. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 274 Measure not wisedome by the Persian Schœne. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 132 Three Schœnes aboue the South angle of the Delta, (each Schœne containing fiue miles at the least, and sometimes seuen and a half). 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 112 In Aegypt they reckon by Schœnes of various Magnitude, some 60, some 40, some 20 Furlongs.

Schœnobatic (skīnobæ·tik), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. Gr. σχοινοβατικ-ός, f. σχοινοβάτης (L. *schœnobatēs*) rope-dancer, f. σχοῖνο-ς rope + βα-, βαίνειν to walk.] Pertaining to rope-walking. So **Schœno·batist**, a rope-walker, rope-dancer.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 21 A troop of young schoenobatists. 1862 *London Rev.* 23 Aug. 160 Scænobatic [*sic*] or acrobatic feats.

Schofeet, obs. form of SOFFIT.

Schoffe, obs. form of SCOFF, SHOVE.

Schoind, variant of SCHYND *Obs.*

Schoir, -ling, Sc. forms of SHORE, SHORLING.

Scholar (skǫ·lăr). Forms: 1 scolere, scoliere, 3–7 scholer, 4–5 scolere, 4–6 scoler, 5 scolare, skolere, scolier, (*Caxton* escolyer), 5–6 scolar, 5–7 scoller, 6 scolear, -eir, scollar, skoller, skolar, 6–7 scholler, -ar, schooler, 7 schoolar, skooller, skollar, (sholar), 6–9 *vulgar* schollard, 9 scholard, 6– scholar. [OE. *scolere, scoliere* (= OHG. *scuolari*, MHG. *schuolære*, early mod. G. *schuler*, now *schüler*), ad. late L. *scholār-is* (f. *schola* SCHOOL), with substitution of the native ending -ER¹. The word is rare in OE., and the ME. *scoler(e* may be wholly or in part a. OF. *escolier, escolier* (mod.F. *écolier*). Cf. Du. *scholier* (? from Fr.), MDu. also *scholare, scholer.*]

1. One who is taught in a school; now *esp.* a boy or girl attending an elementary school. Often qualified by prefixed word, as *Sunday, infant scholar*, DAY-SCHOLAR.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 308 Seo ræding pingð þæne scoliere. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 51 A fraternite was begonne..of 3onge scolers. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 641 If any scolere in þe scole his skorne at him makis. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 211 That boke scolers lerne in hir chyldehede. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 3 He was neuer gud mastur that neuer was scoler. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. i. 18, I am no breeching scholler in the schooles. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 266 Two Schoole maisters and threescore and ten schoolers. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* Special. Life 8 Some unwise friends..perswaded him [my Father] to fasten me upon that School as Master, whereof I was lately a Scholler. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 162 In two or three months there were twenty-eight scholars, notwithstanding the strictness of the discipline. 1843 (*title*) The Sunday Scholar. 1888 J. RUNCIMAN in *Contemp. Rev.* LIV. 39 An accurate inquiry disclosed the fact that 38 per cent. of these poor scholars were breakfastless every morning.

b. One who is receiving, or has received, his instruction or training from a particular master; a pupil (*of* a master). Now *arch.* or *rhetorical.*

c 1000 *Canons of Edgar* 10 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 246/14 Pæt æniz preost ne underfo ðpes scolere. *c* 1305 *St. Edm. Conf.* 247 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 77 His scolers þat ihurde of him gode men were ynou3. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Ine þis clergie heþ dame auarice uele scolers. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 195 Pictagoras hadde þis manere by seuene sciences: non of his scoleres schulde to fore þe seuenþe 3ere axe resoun noþer skile of his lore. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 396 Hys escolyers that lerned of hym. *a* 1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* viii. (Shaks. Soc.) 56 *Wit.* Your most vnworthy schollard Giues to you immortall thainks. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 102 Thy Master dies thy Scholler; to do thus I learnt of thee. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 68 We are become..the backwardest Schollers, of whom God offer'd to haue made us the teachers. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* ii. 57 While young, he was Scholar to Thales. 1745 J. HAMMOND *Love Elegies* xiii, And teach my lovely scholar all I know. 1869 TENNYSON *Coming of Arthur* 153 Merlin's master (so they call him) Bleys, Who taught him magic; but the scholar ran Before the master. 1896 BESANT *Master Craftsman* (1897) 67 It looks like Grinling Gibbons ..or perhaps one of his scholars.

c. *transf.* One who acknowledges another as his master or teacher; a disciple.

1577 VAUTROULLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 10 That they were the ministers of Christ and the Apostles scholers. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. vii. § 3 To professe themselues therein schollers and followers of the auncient. 1606 B. BARNES *Offices* II. 50 Gower and his Scholler Chaucer. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 68 ¶ 4 The Romans confessed themselves the scholars of the Greeks. 1791 BURKE *Let. Memb. Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 37 Your masters, who are his [Rousseau's] scholars. 1842 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* V. viii. 127 They think it a fine thing to..profess themselves the devil's scholars.

d. With qualifying adj.: One who is quick (or the reverse) at learning.

c 1605 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* II. iii. 232 *Prince.* Dost think thy Lady is of thy opinion? *Gent.* She's a bad Scholar else; I have brought her up, And she dares owe me still. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 214 He was the aptest Scholar that ever was. 1733 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 177, I am conscious of only one [good quality], that is, being an apt scholar.

2. One who studies in the 'schools' at a university; a member of a university, esp. a junior or undergraduate member. Now only *Hist.* and in official use.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7999 Þe fourþe sone was a scoler, To lerne more he dyde hys power. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Treat.* 7 A scolere at pares had done many full synnys. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 4 With hym ther was dwellynge a poure scoler, Hadde lerned Art, but al his fantasye Was turned for to lerne Astrologye. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 33/2 Your humble Oratours and Subgiettes, the Chaunceler and Scolers of the Universite in your Toune of Oxonford. 1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 5 All Scollers of the Universityes of Oxford or Cambridge yᵗ goe aboute begginge, not beinge aucthorysed under the Seale of the said Universities. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 139 Such a confusion of degrees, that the scholler knoweth not his dutie to the Bachelor, nor the Bachelor to the Master. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 247 The Burgesses and skolleris [at Aberdeen]. 1613–14 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 94 Gave to ane Hungarian scoller for his supporte..3 lib. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 43 The Schollers here in the night commit many murthers. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1656/2 At the very Entrance whereof, the Scholars were placed; First, the Under-Graduates, then the Batchelors of Arts. 1868 *Local Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 59 Preamble, The Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Oxford.

†b. In the Elizabethan period, often applied to one who had studied at the university, and who, not having entered any of the learned professions or obtained any fixed employment, sought to gain a living by literary work. *Obs.*

1597 *Pilgr. Parnassus* I. 74 (Macray) Let schollers be as thriftie as they maye, They will be poore ere theire last dyinge daye.

3. One who has acquired learning in the 'Schools'; a learned or erudite person; esp. one who is learned in the classical (i. e. Greek and Latin) languages and their literature.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1554 Scoleres skelten þeratte þe skyl forto fynde, Bot þer was neuer on so wyse coube on worde rede. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Govt.* (1549) 80 In the habite of a schooler of philosophie. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 264, I would to God some scholler would coniure her. 1607 *Peele's Jests* (*c* 1620) 11 He goes directly to the Mayor, tels him he was a Scholler and a Gentleman. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 181 As becommed a Gentleman and a Scholer. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Akenside* Wks. 1787 IV. 290 A very conspicuous specimen of Latinity, which entitled him to the same height of place among the scholars as he possessed before among the wits. 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *Christ's Hospital*, Matthew Field belonged to that class of modest divines who affect to mix in equal proportion the gentleman, the scholar, and the Christian. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Religion* Wks. (Bohn) II. 97 Thus the clergy for a thousand years have been the scholars of the nation. 1886 R. C. CHRISTIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 362/2 Joseph Justus Scaliger (1540–1609), the greatest scholar of modern times.

b. with qualifying word indicating the degree of one's attainment.

c 1290 *St. Francis* 154 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 58 Bernard, þat was a guod scholer, formest to him cam. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 82 He is a better scholler then I thought he was. 1629 LENTON *Yng. Gallants Whirligigg* in *Marr. Wit & Wisdom* (Shaks. Soc.) 125 His Childhood next..Required them to put him unto schoole, Where in processe of time he grew to bee A pretty scholler. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. vi. 11 An ignorant mans faith..may be as strong as the faith of the greatest Scholler. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 12 Feb., I pass for a great scholar with him, by relating to him some of the Persian tales. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 224 He..made me.. a much better Scholar in the Scripture Knowledge, than I should ever have been by my own private meer Reading. 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *Christ's Hospital*, Under him were many good and sound scholars bred.

c. In illiterate use, one whom the speaker regards as exceptionally learned. Often merely, one who is able to read and write. Freq. in vulgar or dial. form *scholard, schollard*, etc.

1644 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 79 The Vicar of our Parish..being so good a Churchman, and so great a Schollard, and can speake Latine too. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* II. ii, Nay, faith, sir, I am not so good a schollard to say much. 1678 *Quack's Acad.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 33 The admiring patient shall certainly cry you up for a great schollard, provided always your nonsense be fluent. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. 207 He [*sc.* a lad of thirteen] is a great 'scholar', too, to use the country phrase. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. iii, You know Mark was a schollard, sir, like my poor, poor sister. 1893 PEEL *Spen Valley* 274 When the paper was bought by Law's work-people, they had to seek up John Jowett, or some other scholar to read it aloud to them.

4. A student who receives emoluments, during a fixed period, from the funds of a school, college, or university, towards defraying the cost of his education or studies, and as a reward of merit.

At the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge and in the University of Durham such students wear a distinctive academic dress, and have special seats in hall and chapel.

1512–3 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 § 5 Any particular persone being fellowe or scoler of any of the said Colleges or Halles. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 400 The Warden and Scholers of new College in Oxenford. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* iii. (pref. note), I remember I Translated this Satyr, when I was a Kings-Scholar at Westminster-School, for a Thursday-Nights Exercise. 1831 *Oxf. Univ. Herald* 19 Feb. 3/3 The election for a Vinerian Scholar, in the room of Mr. Giles, will take place on Thursday. *Ibid.* 11 June 3/2 On Monday last, Mr. Spranger, commoner of Exeter Coll. was elected a Scholar of that Society. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. v, A scholar's gown was accordingly produced. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 84 Sched. § 71 The foundation scholars at the lower school [Dulwich] shall be appointed by the governors.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scholar-craft, -part, phrase*; appositive, as *scholar-printer, -saint*; †*scholar-respecting* adj.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xi, And since you like *scholarcraft so well, Mary Avenel, you shall see whether Edward or I have most of it. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. 333 *note*, The full advantage of a just and liberal Education, by uniting the *Scholar-part with that of the real Gentleman and Man of Breeding. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 27 That womans will borne, common, *scholler phrase. 1902 M. R. JAMES in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* I. xvii. 619 The sixteenth century was the age of publication. What had been recovered was given to the world by the great *scholar-printers. 1595 *Polimanteia* in Brydges *Brit. Bibl.* I. 275 A *schollar-respecting honor. 1894 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 340 The serene *scholar-saint, the Benedictine, Jean Mabillon.

b. *Scholar's mate*: see MATE *sb.*¹ b. Also †*scholar's check.*

1656 tr. *Biochimo's Chesse-Play* 17 The Schollers Mate. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. v. 264/1 Scholars Check.

Hence **Scho·lar** *v.* (*nonce-wd.* in pa. pple. and gerund), *intr.* to act the scholar or learner; *trans.* ? to educate as a scholar.

1793 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* (1843) V. 402, I have been scholaring all day, and mastering too; for our lessons are mutual. 1836 MAHONY *Reliques* I. 309 (tr. Gresset) Thus for a time did Vert-Vert dwell Safe in this holy citadelle; Scholared like any well-bred abbé, And loved by many a cloistered Hebé.

Scholarch (skō·laːk). *Hist.* [ad. Gr. σχολ-άρχ-ης (mod.L. *scholarcha*, G. *scholarch*), f. σχολή SCHOOL + -αρχης ruler.] The head or ruler of a school: *spec.* a. The head of an Athenian school of philosophy. b. In certain parts of Germany, Switzerland, and France, an official, or one of a body of officials, formerly charged with the inspection of the schools within a city or district.

1863 DOWDING *Life G. Calixtus* 145 'I will not deny,' he tells the Scholarchs of Nürnberg, 'that' [etc.]. *a* 1871 GROTE *Aristotle* (1872) I. ii. 52 The Scholarchs, successors of Theophrastus at Athens. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 260 Laurence, the scholarch, Casaubon's successor as classical professor. 1884 *Ch. Quarterly* XIX. 227 The first Scholarch after the fall of Constantinople was Matthew the Camariot. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 718/2 Xenocrates.., scholarch or rector of the Academy from 339 to 314 B.C.

Hence **Scho·larchate** [= G. *scholarchat*], the office of a scholarch; the body of scholarchs.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 514 The greatest part of the clergy in the town are referred to the scholarchate and the ecclesiastic office, and those who officiate at the spital to the upper administrator thereof.

Scho·lardom. *rare.* [-DOM.] The realm of scholars or scholarship; scholars collectively.

1882 *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 440 Under the new secretary [of the Philological Society]..scholardom was ruled to admirable effect. 1907 T. C. MIDDLETON *Geog. Knowl. Time Discov. Amer.* 18 *note*, A most damaging blunder in scholardom.

Scho·larhood. *rare.* [-HOOD.] (In quots.) a. The body of scholars, the learned world. b. The condition of being a scholar or learner.

1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 726 The whole scholarhood of England consented to kiss the toe of William Gifford. 1880 J. ROSS *Hist. Corea* x. 306 He is entirely ignorant of their meaning for at least two years of his scholarhood.

†Schola·rian. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? f. L. *scholāri-s* SCHOLAR + -AN; or f. SCHOLAR + -IAN.] ? A scholar.

1647 BOYLE *Let.* 8 May, Wks. 1772 I. p. xli, I am confident ..that those elevated spirits will not prove half so costive and pedantical, as the great scholarians of our colleges.

Scho·larism. Now *rare.* [f. SCHOLAR + -ISM.] The learning of the 'schools'; scholarship. Sometimes used disparagingly.

1588 GREENE *Perimedes* To Gentl. Rdrs. A 3 b, If there be anye in England that set the end of scollarisme in an English blanck verse. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* Chorus (1604) A 2, So soone hee profites in Diuinitie, The fruitfull plot of Scholerisme grac't, That shortly he was grac't with Doctors name. 1611 G. H. *Anti-Coton* 64 [He] hath a purpose to erect a new Colledge in the Vniuersitie, where he will raise the study of good letters, which are falne, sith these men haue soyled them, by reducing them vnto a miserable kinde of Schollerisme. 1878 DORAN *Mem. Gt. Towns* 225 There was an impression that this new-fangled scholarism was a very sad matter indeed.

†Schola·rity. *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *scholāritāt-em*, OF. *sc(h)olarité*, f. *scholār-is* SCHOLAR: see -ITY.] The status of a scholar.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv. Wks. 1616 I. 251 Content, I'le pay your scholaritie. Who offers? 1895 RASHDALL *Univ. Europe Mid. Ages* II. ii. 595 The certificate of 'scholarity' was to be refused if the applicant's Latinity proved unequal to the strain.

Scho·larize, *v. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCHOLAR + -IZE.] *intr.* To study at a university.

1894 J. H. WYLIE *Hist. Eng. Hen. IV*, II. 359 Thomas Gascoigne, a sickly youth then scholarizing at Oriel.

Scho·larless, *a. rare*⁻¹. [-LESS.] Without scholars or pupils.

1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 310 Turner being..lawless alike and scholarless.

Scho·larlike, *a.* and *adv.* [-LIKE.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. Pertaining to scholars or 'the schools'; scholastic. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Dec.* v. iv. 895 We do not meane a childlike and scholerlike examination [orig. *examen..puerile et scholasticum*]. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Scholastique*, scholerlike. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* D 3, They..bad him performe all the Schollerlike ceremonies and disputatiue right appertaining thereto.

2. Resembling or befitting a scholar or learned man; scholarly.

1589 *Marprel. Epitome* B 1 b, What cannot a smooth tongue, and a schollerlike wit bring to passe? 1672 DRYDEN *Def. Epil.* in *Conq. Granada* II. 172 Truewit was a Scholar-like kind of man. 1734 A. A. SYKES *2nd Defence, Dissert. Phlegon* 6, I shall always acknowledge the schollarlike manner in which they have both wrote. 1858 MOTLEY *Let.* 28 May, *Corr.* (1889) I. 227 Stirling..is mild, amiable, bald-headed, scholarlike. 1862 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. ix. 195 He set to work in a more scholarlike spirit.

†**B.** *adv.* Like a scholar or learned man; in a manner befitting a scholar. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* B j b, Euery mans wit, can geue lightly a reason of diuers thinges,..& yet not be able to set the same in order Scholerlike, either to proue, or to confute. 1589 *Marprel. Epitome* B 1 b, Wherein he hath behaued himselfe verye scholerlike. 1627 ABP. ABBOTT *Narr.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 441, I pray you tell his Majesty that I am dealt with neither Manly nor Scholar-like.

So †**Scholar-likely** *adv.*

1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* To Rdrs. Aa 2 b, Thus very rudely, I obtrude vnto thee not a banquet, but a byt rather of each dish Scholler-likely, that is, badly carued. For Schollers are bad Caruers.

Scholarliness (skɒ·lărlinĕs). [f. SCHOLARLY + -NESS.] Scholarly quality or character.

1611 COTGR., *Scholarité*, schollership, schollerlinesse. 1868 Miss YONGE *Cameos* (1877) I. xviii. 132 That mixture of scholarliness and high spirit that was inherent in the Norman and Angevin princes. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 54 The writer's argumentative force and facile scholarliness.

Scholarly (skɒ·lărli), *a.* [f. SCHOLAR + -LY 1.] Not in Johnson or Todd.

Pertaining to, or characterizing, a scholar; befitting, or natural to, a scholar; learned, erudite.

1638 PEACHAM *Valley of Variety* Ep. Ded., They are compact of rarieties, to enable ingenious and schollerly discourse. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xii, And learned Master Mumblazen, too, can say scholarly things of their inferiority. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vii, The scholarly poet's temper [got] more and more venomous. 1908 R. BRIDGES *Sel. Poems R. W. Dixon* (1909) p. xix, A tallish elderly figure, its litheness lost in a slight, scholarly stoop.

Scholarly (skɒ·lărli), *adv. rare.* [f. SCHOLAR + -LY 2.] As befits a scholar.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 2 What saies my Bully Rooke? speake schollerly, and wisely. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 287 The revision is carefully and scholarly done. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 50 We shall harness horses (Death's own pale horses) and scholarly plough the sands.

Scholarship (skɒ·lărʃip). Forms: see SCHOLAR. [-SHIP.]

1. The attainments of a scholar; learning, erudition; esp. proficiency in the Greek and Latin languages and their literature. Also, the collective attainments of scholars; the sphere of polite learning.

1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 16–17 [T. Atchelow] hath more than once or twise manifested his deepe witted schollership in places of credit. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 75 He hath a singular piece of Schollership by himselfe to justify his Exposition. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 280 Ye once were justly fam'd for bringing forth Undoubted scholarship and genuine worth. 1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* Ser. II. (1851) 313 Scholarship has hitherto been a term reserved for the adept in ancient literature. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 18 His memory (the necessary instrument of great scholarship) errorless and effortless.

b. Applied, by unlearned speakers, etc., to educational attainments of a more modest character.

1620 ROWLANDS *Nt. Raven* 8 Then for my schollership a gentleman, Both reade and write, and cast a count I can. 1650 COWLEY *Guardian* I. iii, Hast thou scholarship enough to make a Brewers clerk? 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 26 ¶ 6 My reputation for scholarship..was..considered as a crime. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 30, I did not tell you what the lady said to me on my telling her I was no scholar. 'Never mind that,' said she..'Your no scholarship is no hindrance if you are only faithful.'

†c. 'Literary education' (J.). *Obs. rare.*

1644 MILTON *Educ.* 3 This place should be at once both School and University, not needing a remove to any other house of Schollership, except it be some peculiar Colledge of Law, or Physick.

2. The status or emoluments of a scholar (see SCHOLAR 4) at a school, college, or university.

1535–6 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 The..Felowshippes Scolershippes Dimishippes..within the said Universities. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 10 And also the other vniuersities shall then better suffize to releive poore schollers, where now the youth of nobility and gentlemen, taking vp their schollarshippes and fellowshippes, do disapoincte the poore of their livinges and avaunccementes. 1746 T. WARTON *Progr. Discontent* 23 A Scholarship but half maintains, And College Rules are heavy Chains. 1829 R. GILBERT *Liber Scholast.* 3 Craven Scholarships. *Ibid.* 5 Dean Ireland's Scholarships. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vi, I know I'd sooner win two School-house matches running than get the Balliol scholarship any day. 1884 J. F. MOSS *Handbk. New Code* 78 What are called Elementary School Scholarships. 1861 J. S. WATSON *Life Porson* xx. 239 He was sent, on a scholarship, to Jesus College, Cambridge.

†**Schola·ster.** *Obs.* [a. med.L. *scholaster*, ad. OF. *scolaistre*, *escolastre* (mod.F. *écolâtre*), altered form of *escolaste*, a. L. *scholasticus*: see next.] The holder of a prebend in a cathedral, to which certain teaching duties were attached.

In quot. 1793 app. used loosely for a scholastic divine.

1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 298 The old Translators..have render'd it [*Ecolâtre*] by a very unusual term, viz. the Scholaster Anselm. 1793 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* II. 63 The inexpugnable ignorance and superstition of the ancient heathens, ..and of the popish scholasters and canonists.

Scholastic (skolæ·stik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *scholasticus*, a. Gr. σχολαστικός studious, learned, subst. a learned man, scholar, f. σχολάζειν to devote one's leisure (to learning), orig. to be at leisure, f. σχολή leisure: see SCHOOL *sb.*

Cf. F. *scolastique*, Pr. *escolastic*, Sp. *escolástico*, It. *scolastico*, G. *scholastisch* adj., *scholastiker* sb.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Of persons: Having the characteristics of the scholar or student, as distinguished from the man of affairs. *Obs.*

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 72 Then shall the Nobles possesse all the Dignities and Offices of temporall honour to themselves, sole Lords without the improper mixture of Scholastick, and pusillanimous upstarts, the Parliament shall void her Upper House of the same Annoyances [etc.].

2. Of or pertaining to the teaching or methods of the Schoolmen.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 13 This man [Duns Scotus] meruellouslie amplifiet and helpet the scholastik Theologie. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 2, I deem it to be an old errour of universities not yet well recover'd from the Scholastick grosnesse of barbarous ages, that..they present their..novices at first comming with the most intellective abstractions of Logick and metaphysicks. 1712 S. CLARKE *Script. Doctr.* II. 349 The Scholastick Writers in later Ages, have generally put this matter upon another Foot. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. State Pol. Learn.* xi. Wks. (Globe) 443/2 The absurdities of scholastic philosophy. *Ibid.* 444/1 This slowness of conferring degrees is a remnant of scholastic barbarity. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* Wks. II. 340, I remember an old scholastick aphorism, which says, 'that the man who lives wholly detached from others, must be either an angel or a devil'. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 329/2 Those of the former class [of active mind] sought for satisfaction in the scholastic philosophy...It was for the most part a revival of the philosophy of Aristotle. 1873 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 160 On this particular there is no difference of doctrine, but only of words, between other writers of the scholastic following and the philosopher of Königsberg. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclif* iii. 120 He is answering in a scholastic manner those who had attacked him with the weapons of the schoolmen.

3. Pertaining to schools or school education.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 96 The Bishop of Lincoln ..a man of great wit, and good Scholastick learning. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 241 The queen has sent a letter to the vicechancellor of Cambridge, to have an account what persons in any scholastick preferments have not taken the oaths. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 137 ¶ 11 It is too common for those who have been bred to the scholastick profession..to disregard every other qualification. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1759 I. 190 *note*, Mr. Muller, of Woolwich Academy, the scholastick father of all the great engineers which this country has employed for forty years. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* vii. (ed. 2) 157 Bavaria.. has reached the eighth of its people in the number of its scholastic youth. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 297 Carstairs..united great scholastic attainments with great aptitude for civil business. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, A dainty room, with nothing more directly scholastic in it than a terrestial and a celestial globe.

4. Following the methods of the 'schools'; befitting the school; in bad sense, 'pedantic, needlessly subtle' (J.).

1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* Wks. II. 28 The following lines of Donne..have something in them too scholastick. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 266 It [Sidney's *Arcadia*] is not romantic, but scholastic; not poetry, but casuistry. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 56 The perspicuous good sense and scholastic precision of Whately. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 251 The modifying words especially..look very much like scholastic products.

B. *sb.*

1. A Schoolman or a disciple of the Schoolmen; a representative or adherent of the scholastic philosophy.

1644 MILTON *Divorce* Introd. 5 Doubt not, worthy Senators, to vindicate the sacred honour and judgment of Moses your predecessor, from the shallow commenting of Scholasticks and Canonists. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 97 Aristotle, Gassendus, Des Cartes, with the numerous family of the scholastics, all ran into the same trackless error. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) III. 426 It was not only a knowledge of Aristotle that the scholastics of Europe derived. 1875 LONGF. *Monte Cassino* vi, In its streets The Angelic Doctor as a school-boy played, And dreamed perhaps the dream that he repeats In ponderous folios for scholastics made. 1907 *Academy* 30 Nov. 184/2 In the year 1907..one must hesitate to discuss Antonio Rosmini—the last of the Scholastics.

†2. A scholar, man of learning; *occas.* a mere scholar, as opposed to a man of the world. *Obs.*

1657 *Idiota's Div. Love* Ded. 2 They perswade themselues ..that hee hath taught you more high, and euident truths, ..then all the subtile Scholasticks and subtle politicks put together could haue done. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 244 ¶ 2 The Town Orators..despise all Men as unexperienced Scholasticks who wait for an occasion before they speak. 1748 HUME *Ess. Mor. & Polit.* (ed. 3) 223, I..am in Danger ..of passing for a Pedant and Scholastic.

†3. = SCHOLASTER. *Obs. rare*—1.

1844 CRAIK *Sk. Hist. Lit. Eng.* I. 49 In 1179 it was ordered ..that in every cathedral there should be appointed and maintained a head teacher, or scholastic.

4. *Hist.* (repr. Gr. σχολαστικός). In the Byzantine Empire, an advocate.

1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 558/1 Socrates, the ecclesiastical historian..followed the profession of scholastic or advocate.

5. *R. C. Ch.* A member of the third grade in the organization of the Society of Jesus.

1876 J. MORRIS in J. H. Pollen *Life* (1896) 181 Three different communities under one Rector—the novices, scholastics, and Tertian Fathers. 1881 *Memorials Stonyhurst College* iii. 21 The English Jesuits had another College in Belgium, at Liége. This was for the higher studies of their own scholastics.

6. An artist who adheres to 'scholastic' or academic methods.

1892 *Daily News* 30 Apr. 6/2 Idealists and naturalists, scholastics and impressionists, were necessarily exclusive when each was struggling for the ascendant, and claiming for its school the possession of the truth.

†**Schola·stical,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 5–6 SCO-, 6 SKO-. [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Story Scholastical*: tr. med.L. *Historia Scholastica*, the title of a work by Petrus Comestor.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 367 Also hit is redde in the story scolasticalle, that [etc.].

2. Following the teaching of the Schoolmen; pertaining to Scholasticism. = SCHOLASTIC A. 2.

1551 CRANMER *Answ. to Gardiner* III. 73 So you condemn of madnes not only al y^e^ scholastical doctors..but also your own former saieng. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 155 Which scholasticall subtilities plaine suiteres doe not love. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* ii. (1702) 18 The Scholastical Commentators living in those which are called the dark ages of the Church. 1669 BARROW *Expos. Creed* (1697) 14 *margin*, This scholastical acception is not ancient.

3. Following the methods of the 'schools'; befitting the school, academic; in bad sense, pedantic, unduly formal or subtle.

1531 FRITH *Judgm. Tracy* Wks. (1573) 79 A proper distinction, by the whiche you may escape the scholasticall snares and mases. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 69 Thys vnyuersal and scolastycal consyderatyon of a veray and true commyn wele lytyl schal profyte. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 2 For of what Comodity such vse of arte wilbe in our tounge may partely be seene by the scholasticall rawnesse of some newly Commen from the vniuersities. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* IV. vii. § 2. 298 A matter of such consequence, as was not to bee omitted, in regard of any scholasticall disputation. *a* 1626 BACON *Controv. Ch. Eng.* Resuscit. (1657) 177, I speak not of the vain, Scholasticall, Manner of Preaching. 1679 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Apr., The Bishop of Gloucester preach'd, in a manner very like Bishop Andrews, full of divisions, and scholastical, and that with much quicknesse. 1793 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* II. 37 Terms of art and scholastical expressions.

4. Belonging or attached to a place of learning; academic. = SCHOLASTIC A. 3.

1536 BOORDE *Let.* in *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 59 In the partes þat I am yn, þe kynges grace hath many, 3e, (& in maner) all maner of persons (exceppt some skolastycall men) þat be hys aduersarys. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. v. § 1 The fauour of proposing there in conuenient sort whatsoeuer ye can obiect (which thing my selfe haue knowen them [*sc.* the schools in universities] to graunt of Scholasticall courtesie vnto strangers) neither hath (as I thinke) nor euer will (I presume) be denied you. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xiii. 174 And the rather haue I bin careful to seek out the easiest and plainest way, that I might allure & draw on my schollars in this exercise,..to proceed as in a scholasticall play, with vnderstanding, loue and delight. *a* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 129 A. W...did never afterwards care to hear of New Coll. school to have given him scholastical education but applied all that he had to that of Thame. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 36 No Scholastical Habits as Gowns or Caps worn by the Students [in Leyden].

†**B.** *sb.* = SCHOLASTIC B. 1. *Obs. rare*—1.

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* 259 There is Scotus againste Thomas:..the Nominales against the Reales: the Scholasticalles against the Canonistes.

Scholastically (skolæ·stikălі), *adv.* [f. SCHOLASTICAL + -LY 2.] In a scholastic manner; like a Schoolman; in the manner characteristic of the schools or of schoolmasters.

1559 BERCHER *Nobility Women* (Roxb. Club 1904) 114 Ye muste geve me leave to speake a lyttle Scolastycallye. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. 8 Dealing onely Scholastically, by way of Logicall Arguments. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* Misc. III. i. 141 When our Princes and Senators became Scholars, they spoke scholastically. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 9 Nov. 716/1 Poets and others who have been scholastically brought up. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2221 The old-fashioned, scholastically developed Lutheran orthodoxy.

Scholasticate (skolæ·stikeĭt). *Eccl.* [ad. mod. L. *scholasticātus* (*u* stem), f. *scholastic-us* SCHOLASTIC *a.*: see -ATE 1.] A house of studies for members of the third grade in the Society of Jesus.

1875 J. MORRIS *Troub. Cath. Forefathers* Ser. II. 280 Wherever he went he found the fathers who had been with him in the Novitiate or Scholasticate, now Rectors and Superiors. 1895 *Month* July 101 Let it be placarded in the novitiates and colleges and scholasticates the world over.

†**Schola·sticated,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SCHOLASTIC + -ATE 3 + -ED 1.] Filled with subtleties.

1772 NUGENT tr. *Friar Gerund* II. i. 270 Seeing Friar Toribio so scholasticated with these vain sophistries.

Scholasticism (skolæ·stisiz'm). [f. SCHOLASTIC + -ISM.]

1. The doctrines of the Schoolmen; the predominant theological and philosophical teaching of the period A. D. 1000–1500, based upon the authority of the Christian Fathers and of Aristotle and his commentators.

1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. vi. 313 But the talents of Abelard were not confined to theology, jurisprudence, philosophy, and the thorny paths of scholasticism. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. ii. (1864) III. 389 Erigena..the parent of scholasticism..as a free discursive Speculative Science, before it had been bound up with rigid orthodoxy.

2. Servile adherence to the methods and teaching of the schools; narrow or unenlightened insistence on traditional doctrines and forms of exposition.

1861 HOLLAND *Lessons in Life* x. 146 He found his county tied up in formalism, scholasticism, and tradition, and by strokes as remarkable for boldness as strength he set it free. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* ii. 47 This argument..was quite in the manner of seventeenth century scholasticism. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 127 Contact with the world had.. enabled them so far to raise their heads out of the heavy fog of Jewish scholasticism. 1884 HUNTER tr. *Reuss' Hist. Canon* 341 The unattractive form of the works it produced has in general the stamp of a dull, dry scholasticism.

Scholasticizing (skŏlæ·stisəizin), *ppl. a.* [f. **scholasticize* vb. (f. SCHOLASTIC + -IZE) + -ING 2.] Inclining to or favouring scholastic principles.

1857 BADEN-POWELL in *Oxford Ess.* 174 The lingering remains of the old scholasticizing spirit. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 187 These and other baleful consequences of the scholasticising and centralising tendencies inaugurated by Pope Pius IX.

†**Schola·sticly,** *adv.* = SCHOLASTICALLY.

1597 JAS. VI *Dæmonol.* To Rdr., But onelie, to speak scholasticklie..I reason vpon *genus*, leauing *species* and *differentia* to be comprehended therein.

Schold, obs. form of SCOLD *sb.*

Schold(e, obs. pa. t. of SHALL *v.*, obs. ff. SHOAL.

†**Schole.** *Obs. rare*—1. Anglicized form of SCHOLIUM. (Cf. SCHOLY.)

1565 W. ALLEN *Def. Purgatory* x. 98 Aske theime where these prety scholes were first picked.

Schole, obs. form of SCHOOL, SHOVEL.

†**Scho·lian.** *Obs. rare*—1. [? f. SCHOLI-UM + -AN.] = next.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XIX. xii. Vives 768 Our scholians say that wee must neuer respect words in matter of diuinity or Philosophy.

Scholiast (skō·liæst). [ad. late L. *scholiasta*, a. late Gr. σχολιαστής, f. σχολιάζειν (see SCHOLIAZE *v.*), f. Gr. σχόλι-ον SCHOLIUM. Cf. F. *scoliaste* (16th c. *scholiaste*), It. *scoliaste*.] One who writes explanatory notes upon an author; esp. an ancient commentator upon a classical writer.

In quot. 1820 perh. misused in the sense of 'schoolman' or 'scholastic' (as if = G. *scholast*). The mistake is not uncommon: cf. Funk's *Stand. Dict.* s. v., where the sense is recognized (with a quot. from C. Bucke 1837).

1583 FULKE *Def. Tr. Script.* iv. 137 They [the General Epistles] are not sent to any particular Church or persons, but to all in general, as the Greeke scholiast truly noteth. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 282 Which the Masoreths and Rabbinicall Scholiasts not attending, have often us'd to blurre the margent with *Keri* instead of *Ketiv.* 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 143/2 The scholiast upon Thucydides tells us, Themistocles served the people of Corcyra. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxi, This is no vain question, devised by dreaming scholiasts, on which they may whet their intellectual faculties until the very metal be wasted away. 1837 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* I. iv. § 20 In this academy a Greek press was established, where the scholiasts on Homer were printed. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd., He let it pass, with all the discreetness of an experienced theologian or learned scholiast, preferring to point his whip at some object which could raise no questions. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 5 Least of all will the method of a scholiast be likely to serve him as a clue to the hidden things of Shakespeare.

fig. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 41 With what pride did we hail her [the ship's] return! She was our scholiast upon Robinson Crusoe and the Mutiny of the Bounty.

Scholiastic (skō·liæ·stik), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. SCHOLIAST + -IC.] a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to a scholiast. †b. *sb.* ? A scholiast (*obs.*).

1684 N. S. *Crit. Eng. Edit. Bible* App. 292 There is nothing that Simon has written concerning the public Notaries of the Hebrew Nation, but what these Diminitive Saints and nice Stomack'd Scholiasticks are extreamly offended at. 1891 SAINTSBURY *Polit. Verse* Introd. 15 They require..a rather unusual amount of scholiastic annotation to render them intelligible to generations not their own.

†**Scho·lia·sting.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. **scholiast* vb. (f. SCHOLIAST) + -ING 1.] The action of making a scholium; a commentary, annotation.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 212 The ancient Scholiasting upon him [*sc.* Hesiod], writ thus, that Hesiods Love was ὁ οὐράνιος ἔρως, ὃς καὶ Θεός.

†**Scho·liaze,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. late Gr. σχολιάζειν, f. σχόλι-ον SCHOLIUM.] *intr.* To write scholia, comment.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 64 He..who thinks to Scholiaze upon the Gospel.

†**Scho·lical,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *scholic-us*, Gr. σχολικός (f. Gr. σχολή, L. *schol-a* SCHOOL *sb.*) + -AL.] Pertaining to schools, scholastic.

a 1656 HALES *Golden Rem.* (1688) 351 It is a common scholical error to fill our papers and note-books with observations of great and famous events.

†**Scholio·grapher.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. late Gr. σχολιογράφ-ος, f. σχόλιον SCHOLIUM: see -GRAPHER.] A writer of scholia.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4656/3 Corrected..by the help of ancient MSS. the best Editions, Scholiographers, &c.

‖**Scholion** (skō·liŏn), *sb.*1 Now *rare.* [Gr.: see SCHOLIUM.] = SCHOLIUM 1.

1579 E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ded., Hereunto haue I added a certain Glosse, or scholion, for thexposition of old wordes. 1616 T. BRIGHTMAN (*title*) The Revelation of S. Iohn illustrated with an Analysis and scholions. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 53 An ancient Scholion, recently discovered, names four poets who worked under that prince [Pisistratus]. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 487 *note*, The opinion that the Lady is a Church is mentioned..by an ancient scholion.

†**Scho·list.** *Obs.* [? f. L. *schola* SCHOOL *sb.* + -IST. (But perh. an error for *sciolist.*)] ? One who has nothing but school training, a mere theorist.

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 1 A Gardner... Concerning his skill, hee must not be a Scholist, to make shew of or take in hand that, which he cannot performe. 1671 PANTON *Spec. Juv.* 104 To breed Gentlemen at Schools, and in Learning, is the way to make them meer Scholists and Pedants.

‖**Scholium** (skō·liŏm). Pl. **scholia** (skō·liă); also 8 scholiums, 6–7 *erron.* scholias. [med.L., ad. Gr. σχόλιον SCHOLION, f. σχολή SCHOOL *sb.*1 Cf. F. *scolie* fem. (from the med.L. plural) in sense 1, *scolie* masc. in sense 1 b.]

1. An explanatory note or comment; *spec.* an ancient exegetical note or comment upon a passage in a Greek or Latin author.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 23 And when I shulde make scholias, notis, and glosses in the margent as himself and his master doith. 1660 HEYLIN *Hist. Quinquart.* II. 42 Mr. Fox was fain to make soom Scholia's on it, to reconcile a gloss like that of Orleance, which corrupts the Text. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* cxiii, Almost every word admits a scholium, and a long one too. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 136 Short Scholia are added to almost every chapter, containing various readings, or various translations, selected with much judgment and critical acumen. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix, Judy, however, did not choose to receive the laugh as a scholium explanatory of the remark. 1904 R. C. JEBB *Bacchylides* (Proc. Brit. Acad.) 9 From a scholium on the *Iliad* (24. 496) we know that Bacchylides spoke of Theano as having borne fifty sons to Antenor.

b. In certain mathematical works (e.g. Newton's *Principia*): A note added by the author illustrating or further developing some point treated in the text.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scholium*, is a remark made leisurely, and as it were by the by, on that Proposition, Subject or Discourse before advanced, treated of, or delivered. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 23 Which is evident likewise concerning the Orbits of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, from the Scholium to Prop. 9. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xiv, Some..cast all their..metaphysical and..moral learning into the method of mathematicians, and bring every thing relating to those abstracted or those practical sciences under theorems, problems, postulates, scholiums, corollaries, &c. 1824–5 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 314/2 A scholium is a remark applied to some preceding propositions, in order to point out their relative connection, or general utility and application.

¶ 2. ? A 'copy-book maxim', trite saying.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xix, The old scholium, that 'too much familiarity breeds contempt'.

Scholl, dial. var. SCHOOL *sb.*2

Scholtrum, variant of SHELTRON.

†**Scho·ly,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6–7 scholie; 6 *pl.* schollies. [Anglicized form of SCHOLIUM. Cf. F. *scolie* (in 16th c. *scholie*).] = SCHOLIUM.

1549 BECKE *Bible* (1551) Ded., One..commodious Byble is put furth wyth certayn sundry Prologues, schollies, or briefe Annotations. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* title, Whereunto are annexed certaine Scholies, Annotations, and Inuentions, of the best Mathematiciens, both of time past, and in this our age. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* III. viii. § 2 That Scholie had neede of a verie fauourable Reader and a tractable. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. 100, I have added plaine declarations and examples, manifold additions, scholies, annotations, and inventions which I have gathered.

†**Scho·ly,** *v. Obs.* [f. SCHOLY *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To write scholia upon; to annotate.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* III. viii. § 16 The dutie of their teachers..must needes be somewhat more, then only to read the sentences of scripture, and then paraphrastically to scholie them. 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Scripture* IV. 51 His Epistles are likewise censured and scholied in 2. places.

2. *intr.* To comment.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xxii. § 7 The very chiefest cause of committing the sacred word of God vnto bookes, is surmised to haue bene, least the Preacher should want a text whereupon to scholie. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 7, I have prefaced and scholied sufficiently unto the Text, I come now to seek out [etc.].

Schomache, Schom(e, obs. ff. SUMACH, SHAME.

Schone, obs. pres. pl. of SHALL.

Schoodic (skū·dik). The name of a lake on the borders of Maine and New Brunswick; used *attrib.* in *Schoodic salmon* or *trout*, the name of a variety of salmon (*Salmo salar*, var. *sebago*) which inhabits landlocked lakes.

1883 G. B. GOODE *Rev. Fish. Industr. U. S.* (Fish. Exhib.) 69 Station for collecting eggs of the Schoodic salmon. 1884 — *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 470 The..'Fresh-water Salmon, known..in different parts of Maine as 'Schoodic Trout'.

School (skūl), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 scól (? scolu), 2–7 scole, 3–6 (in Comb.) scol, 3–7 schole, (4 cole), 4–5 skule, 4, 6 scoole, 4–6 skole, *Sc.* scule, 5 skoole, (scwylle), *Sc.* sculle, 5–6 scoll, *Sc.* scoulle, 6 skoll, scolle, *Sc.* scoile, scwle, scuil(l, schuill, schuile, scoill, skuil(l, 6–7 schoole, schoule, (scool), (7 *Sc.* scoull, scooll), 6– *Sc.* schule, 7– school. [OE. *scól* str. fem., a. L. *schola* (in Rom. pronunciation *scōla*) school, a. Gr. σχολή, orig. leisure, hence employment of leisure, study, and (in later use) a school. The L. word has been adopted in nearly all the Rom., Teut., and Celtic langs.: OF. *escole* (mod.F. *école*), Pr., Cat., Pg. *escola*, Sp. *escuela*, It. *scuola*, Roumanian *şcoală*; OHG. *scuola* (MHG. *schuole*, mod.G. *schule*), MDu. *schole* (Du. *school*, mod.Fris. *skoalle*), ON., MSw. *skóle* wk. masc. (Sw. *skola* fem., Da. *skole*); OIrish *scol* (mod. Ir., Gael. *sgoil*), Welsh *ysgol*, Breton *skol*; also Russ. ШКОЛА *shkola*.

An OE. form *scolu* occurs once in the *OE. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 816. It is doubtful whether this is to be read as *scōlu*, with irregular *u* due to some analogy, or as *scŏlu*, which might be an adoption of L. *schŏla* with original short vowel (perhaps from the pronunciation of Britons: cf. Ælfric *Gramm.*, Præfatio). The OE. *scolu* troop (see SHOAL) which is often confused with this word, is certainly unconnected.

The curious 14th c. form *cole* is perh. aphetic from OF. *escole*.]

I. Place or establishment for instruction.

1. An establishment in which boys or girls, or both, receive instruction.

See also BOARDING-, CHARITY-, GRAMMAR-, INFANT-, PUBLIC, SUNDAY-SCHOOL; also *Free school* (FREE *a.* 32 b), *Normal school* (NORMAL A. 3), etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (Skeat) I. 50 Eac þær leornode on þære ylcan scole se æðela Gregorius. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Ancre ne schal nout forwurðen scolmeistre, ne turnen hire ancre bus to childrene scole. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 43 A litel scole of cristen folk ther stood..in which ther were Children an heepe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 475 When he was a child and went vnto þe skule. 1512–13 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* IV. 404 Maister David Vocat, maister of the scule of Edinburgh. 1577 M. LOK in *Frobisher's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 87 My late father..kept me at scholes of grammer in England till I was xiij yeres olde. 1707 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* III. xi. 386 There are in London divers endowed Schools, which in France would be stiled Colleges. 1784 COWPER (*title*) Tirocinium: or, A Review of Schools.

b. Used, without article, to mean: Instruction in, attendance at, a school. Chiefly in set phrases, as *to be at school, to go to school, to put, send,* †*set to school.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 184 Cildru on scole betæcen. *c* 1205 LAY. 9897 He wes isende to Rom to leornien in scole. ?*a* 1300 *Oxf. Student* 19 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 41 Þis child was siþþe ido to scole. 13.. *S. E. Legendary* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 337/17 Crissaunt..to cole [so often in this MS.] gan to go. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 255, I hadde in custom to come to scole late. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. ii. 38 The thyrd syster..was put to scole in a nonnery. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* CXVII. 419 He set me to scole to Parys. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 324 She was a vixen when she went to schoole. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. iv. 75 That men shall sweare I haue discontinued schoole Aboue a twelue moneth. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 ₱ 5 From school I was dismissed to the University. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i. 25 She and I were girls at school together. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* I. xii, Some say that school is the pleasantest time of one's life. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, The stock contrivances of boys for wasting time in school.

c. *fig.* in various phrases. *To go to school* (*to,* †*with*): to submit to be taught (by). † *To hold at school*: to have under one's control, to keep in tutelage. *To put,* †*set to school*: to subject to teaching; often, to presume to correct (one's superior).

?1404–8 *Man know thy self* 9 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 27 Lerne to dye, and go to skole, Siþ þou fro deþ may not fle. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16990 Tyl I hadde gone to Scole with Trybulacion. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 97 Why sonne thinkst thou me such a foole? That my childe shall set his mother to scoole? 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 301 Wee must give these good fellowes leave (after their woonted manner) to set the Holy Ghost to schoole. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 68 Wee'l set thee to schoole to an Ant, to teach thee ther's no labouring i' th' winter. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 15, 30 What reason may not goe to Schoole to the wisedome of Bees, Aunts, and Spiders? 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. vi. (1739) 14 Rome held now the most part of the Churches of Europe at School. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 261 The Calf, by Nature and by Genius made To turn the Glebe, breed to the Rural Trade. Set him betimes to School. 1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xlvi, You must e'en go to School yet, you are no Conjurer, for ought I see. 1883 M. PATTISON *Milton's Sonnets* 46 Milton had put his poetical genius to school to the Italians, Dante, Petrarch, and the rest.

d. *To* †*hold, keep* (*a*) *school*: to be the master or mistress of a school. *To teach* (*a*) *school* (now *dial.* and *U. S.*): to teach in a school.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 114 For whanne I schal myn yhen close, Anon min herte he wole oppose And holde his Scole in such a wise, Til it be day that I arise. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22105, I lernede my konnyng off Sathan, Wych halt hys scole nat hennys ffer. 1487 CAXTON *Bk. Gd. Manners* I. xvii. (W. de W. *c* 1515) E vj b, He became so poore that for to gete his lyuynge he taught the lesson and held scole to smale chyldren of Corynthye. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Ludum aperire*, to beginne to keepe a schoole. 1590 C. OCKLAND in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 74, I teach

schole at Grenewych. 1686 PARR *Life Usher* 75 Forbidding them, under great penalties, to teach Schools. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. *Ess. on Homer* 14 Phemius..taught a School in Smyrna. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 169 The Business of Teaching School..leaves but little Time for Study. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 196 There..The village master taught his little school. 1821 COMBE *Syntax, Wife* III. 47 An Elephant might keep a school. 1828–30 GODWIN in C. K. Paul *Life* (1876) II. 304 [Eugene Aram] keeps school at Netherdale. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 226/1 By keeping school..she strove to provide for her..family. 1891 J. F. KIRK *Suppl. to Allibone's Dict. Eng. Lit.* s.v. *Emerson*, He taught school for three years. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 21 An infant school..kept by the Misses Donaldson.

e. Proverbial phrases. *To tell tales out of school* (or †*the school*), †*forth of school*: said *lit.* of children (now *rare* or *obs.*); hence *fig.*, to betray damaging secrets. Also, †*to tell out of school.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 19 To tell tales out of schoole, that is hir great lust. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 24, I shoulde tel tales out of the Schoole, and bee Ferruled for my faulte, or hyssed at for a blab, yf I layde al the orders open before your eyes. 1629-30 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 65 We have some news at Cambridge, but it is too long to relate; besides, I must not tell tales forth of school. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 10. 70, I am very prone to think that the ground of the great pique in some of the Greek writers against Herodotus, was, that he told too many tales out of School, and had discovered too much of the Infancy of Greece. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 221 Which book, were it extant..would tell tales out of the school. 1690 J. NORRIS *Refl. Cond. Hum. Life* Ep. Ded. (1691) A 6 b, 'Tis well if I do not..make them Angry with me for telling out of School. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* II. vi. 102 A very handsome..supper, at which, to tell tales out of school,..the guests used to behave abominably. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 31 Possessing a slight failing in the shape of 'telling tales out of school' as the saying is.

f. Used, without article, for: A session of school; the set time of attendance at school.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 10 How now Sir Hugh, no Schoole to day? 1797 F. REYNOLDS *The Will* v. (ed. 3) 57 *Alb.* School's up! School's up! 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 5 It still wanted a considerable time to school. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, About ten minutes before school Martin and Arthur arrived in the quadrangle. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 176 In yonder quiet ground against the church Where between schools the children play with flowers. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 42 Keeping me in after school to study.

g. Those who are present in, or are attending, a school; the scholars of a school.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12476 All þe scole on him can wonder. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, The whole school of three hundred boys swept into the big school to answer to their names.

h. Applied (with defining word, as *upper*, *lower school*) to a division of a large school, comprising several forms or classes. Also, in Jesuit schools, a form or class.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 15 The Students of the three under schooles, go up to those of the upper. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, The lower-fourth form..was the largest form in the Lower school. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 84 Sched. § 45 There shall be two schools, viz. an 'Upper School', and a 'Lower School' [at Dulwich]. 1880 *Macm. Mag.* No. 245. 423 The general students, or boys at Stonyhurst, are..divided into seven forms, or, as they are called there, 'schools'.

i. The building in which a school is carried on. At Rugby, a school-house; also, the large classroom of a school-house.

1843 DICKENS *Christm. Carol* ii, The school is not quite deserted...A solitary child..is left there still. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, There was another large unoccupied desk in the corner of the great school. *Ibid.* I. ix, They saw five or six nearly new balls hit on the top of the School. *Ibid.*, After one or two attempts, [they] scaled the schools.

j. **High school.** A designation applied (with some variety of use) to certain classes of schools for secondary education in the British Islands and the United States. Also *attrib.*

The first school known to have been so designated in Great Britain is that established in Edinburgh in 1519. In the year of its foundation this is referred to in the records of the Town Council as 'the principale schule' and 'the principall gramer schule', and it had by municipal enactment the exclusive privilege of teaching the higher branches of school learning within the burgh. In 1531 it is mentioned as 'the hie schule' (see below); this appellation occurs frequently in the 16th c., and from the 17th c. onwards has continued to be the official name of the institution. About the middle of the 19th c. the name of 'High School' was given, in imitation of the example of Edinburgh, to the principal secondary school in many Scottish burghs; these schools having been for the most part either founded or reconstituted about that time. In the United States, the term seems to have come into use about 1824, and is applied to a class of schools to which pupils are admitted when they have completed their course in the elementary school, and which afford preparation for the college, the university, or the technical school. In England, when used without qualification, the designation 'High School' is understood to refer to the schools established and managed by the Girls' Public Day-school Company (founded 1874) and to some other schools similar to these in the method and character of the instruction given. The few schools for boys in England that are known as 'High Schools' are chiefly of recent foundation. While a 'high school' in the American sense of the term gives advanced instruction only, the schools so designated in Britain usually include elementary classes.

1531 *Edinb. Town Council Rec.* 19 Mar., I. 38 a, Maister Adam Melvil maister of the hie Schule oblist him to mak the bairnys perfyte gramarians within thrie 3eires. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, The old Town-Guard of Edinburgh, who..were, in my boyhood, the alternate terror and derision of the petulant brood of the High-school. 1826 *Acc. High School for Girls* (Boston, U. S.) 3 The English High School [for boys] has been in successful operation since 1821; and the satisfactory result of this experiment prepared the way for the establishment of the High School for Girls. 1844 EMERSON *Lect. New Eng. Reform.* Wks. 1884 I. 262 In a hundred high-schools and colleges.

2. The place in which an ancient Greek or Roman philosopher taught his hearers.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 154 He..3ed full of[t]..to þe scule of philosophy. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 He persauand thir tua princis entir in his scule, he changit the mater of that present lecture. 1594 ASHLEY tr. *Loys Le Roy* 67 b, Alexander..gaue to the Philosopher Anaxarchus to set vp his Schoole, a hundred talents. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 439 Or shall I call Antiquity from the old Schools of Greece To testifie the arms of Chastity? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 369 Also the Philosophers themselves had the name of their Sects, some of them from these their Schools. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 40 The most famous school [of jurisprudence] was that of Berytus, on the coast of Phœnicia.

3. *gen.* An institution in which instruction of any kind is given (whether to children or adults). Often with defining word indicating the special subject taught, as *dancing, music, riding school.* In recent use, after French example, employed as the official title of various institutions for superior technical or scientific instruction, e. g. *The School of Mines, The School of Economics*, etc.

Also in the names of certain organizations established by various nations for the systematic prosecution of archæological research, as the British School at Athens and at Rome.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/2 Scole, of pleyynge gamys, or werre, or other lyke..; *gignasium.* *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 48 Then to the Master of the daunsing schoole. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Ludus gladiatorius*, a schoole of fence. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 The Senators of Rome..caused Schooles of Defence to be erected in Capua. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 5 The..Mathematician..shall haue in his Schole a shippe and gallye, made in modell. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Oct., To this school join the music and mathematical schools. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 93 Proposed that care be Taken, about the Learning and Instruction of Youth, to Witt, a scool of Arts and Siences. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Royal Military School or College. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 232 The school of mines [in Paris]. 1835 *Rep. Sel. Committee on Arts & Manuf.* 35 They prayed for assistance towards establishing a school of design. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. viii, Lady Maud ..longed to teach in singing schools. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xxxvi. (ed. 3) 315 At Chatham..is the School of Military Engineering.

b. *fig.*

1579 GOSSON (*title*) The Schoole of Abuse. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 10 Or else a free schoole of skolds shalbe set vp for the nonce. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 54 *Tra.* Faith he is gone vnto the taming schoole. *Bian.* The taming schoole: what is there such a place? 1605 1*st Pt. Jeronimo* I. iii. 23 From drinking schooles.. From dicing houses. 1690 (*title*) The School of Politicks; or the Humours of a Coffee-house. A poem. 1777 SHERIDAN (*title*) The School for Scandal. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 190 The science of astronomy was cultivated at Babylon; but the school of the Arabs was a clear firmament and a naked plain. 1832 THIRLWALL in *Philol. Mus.* I. 495 The ancient rhetoricians were a class of babblers, a school for lies and scandal.

c. Formerly often adopted in the titles of manuals of instruction in particular subjects. Now only *Mus.*, as the title of an instruction-book dealing with a particular instrument.

1696 R. H. (*title*) The School of Recreation: or a guide to the most ingenious exercises of Hunting, Riding, Racing, Fireworks [etc.]. 1733 (*title*) The School of Miniature, erected for the instruction of the ignorant. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 7 The system of fingering laid down in this violin school.

d. *spec.* = *riding-school.* Hence [after F. *école*], the exercises or system of training for horses and riders practised in the schools. *High school* [= F. *haute école*]: the more difficult class of exercises taught in the schools.

1850 WAYTE *Equestrian's Man.* 5 Tuition, in the school alone, can seldom make a good rider. 1881 E. L. ANDERSON *How to Ride*, etc. Introd. 5 It is to be regretted that, in this nation of horsemen, riding as practised in the schools, should have fallen into disuse; for the *manége* is the foundation of horsemanship. 1884 — *Mod. Horsemanship* 143 (*title of chapter*) The High School.

4. *fig.* A place, environment, etc., where one gains instruction or training in virtue, accomplishments, or the like; a person or thing regarded as a source of instruction or training.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (Skeat) I. 38 Her synd eac þa cnihtas..mid ðam ic becom to cristes scole. *c* 1314 *Guy Warw.* 384 (Auchin. MS.) Þou art y-tau3t to a liper scole. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 634 And þere thow wost þat I haue out myswent, Eschewe þou þat, for swych þyng to þe scole is. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 174 As he which of the Scole of helle Is tawht. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 1 b, Whether this family haue bene taught in the schole of the holy ghost, or in the schole of the Anabaptistes. 1583 BODY in J. H. Pollen *Acts of Engl. Martyrs* (1891) 55 From our school of patience, the 16th Sept., 1583 [i. e. from prison]. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. 29 The Ægyptians; which Nation we know was one of the most ancient Schools of the world. 1656–63 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* v. (1672) 64, I was bred in Natures simple School. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 238 Empires, and Monarchs, and thir radiant Courts, Best school of best experience. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Pref., Italy..is the great School of Musick and Painting. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. St. Pol. Learn.* xi. Wks. (Globe) 443/2 They keep the student from the world, which, after a certain time, is the only true school of improvement. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xi, Warp'd by the world in Disappointment's school. 1833 E. EVERETT *Orat.* (1850) I. 395 The men of 1776 were trained in the strictest school of British military discipline and conduct. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1897) 534 A succession of commanders, formed in the school of Clive. 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* xlix. § 4 VIII. 3 The best of all schools—that of great operations and adverse fortune. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, First Visit* Wks. (Bohn) II. 5 He [Coleridge] said..that Sicily was an excellent school of political economy.

5. The body of persons that are or have been taught by a particular master (in philosophy, science, art, etc.); hence, in wider sense, a body or succession of persons who in some department of speculation or practice are disciples of the same master, or who are united by a general similarity of principles and methods.

Sometimes (e. g. in *Roman, Venetian, Tuscan School*; *British, French, Flemish School*; with reference to painting), the term denotes in the first place those whose training was obtained in the same locality; but in the main this local association is understood to imply more or less community of doctrines or style.

1612 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 330 Most of all, that schoole which is most acused of Atheisme, doth demonstrate Religion. That is, the Schoole of Leusippus, and Democritus, and Epicurus. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communic.* i. § 4. 66 If by faith we eat the flesh of Christ; as it is confessed by all the Schooles of Christians; then [etc.]. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 217 A peripatetic Cobler scorn'd to soal A pair of Shoes of any other School. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., School*, in Painting, is a Term used to distinguish the different Manners of Places, and Persons: As, the Roman School, the Venetian School, the Flemish School, &c. 1771 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* iv. Wks. 1797 I. 61 The Roman, the Florentine, the Bolognese schools... These are the three great schools of the world in the epick stile. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 195 William Wycherley, the most licentious and hardhearted writer of a singularly licentious and hardhearted school. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* v. (1904) 173/1 There are various schools of opinion allowed in the Church: and on this point I follow others.

b. *fig.* A set of persons, who agree in certain opinions, points of behaviour or the like. *Of the old school*: old-fashioned.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* Feb. 127/2 He was a whig of the old school. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxxiv, He was a lover of the good old school. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* vi, She did not hesitate to admit him to her boudoir, after the privilege of the French and the old Scottish school. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lxiv. VIII. 295 He was a Roman of the new school, which studied to soften the homely roughness of the old Italian character.

6. *slang.* †a. (See quot. 1812.) *Obs.* b. A company of thieves or beggars working together.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., School*, a party of persons met together for the purpose of gambling. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 244 He scraped acquaintance with a 'school of shallow coves'; that is, men who go about half naked, telling frightful tales about shipwrecks [etc.]. 1856 WYNTER *Cur. of Civ.* xii. (1860) 478 Inferior classes of thieves work in smaller 'schools,' say of a couple of women and a boy. *Ibid.* 481 What is called a 'school' of boys, who pick pockets in concert, under the eye of a master. 1859 *Slang Dict., School*, or *Mob*, two or more 'patterers' working together in the streets.

II. Senses of mediæval academic origin.

7. An organized body of teachers and scholars in one of the higher branches of study cultivated in the Middle Ages; *esp.* one of the various bodies of this kind which jointly constituted a university; a faculty. † In early use the article is commonly omitted after a preposition. Now only *Hist.*

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiii. (1890) 190 Sum leornungmon in scole [L. *scolasticus quidam*]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 93 Siche doutes we shulden sende to þe scole of Oxenforde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 478 No maister, quod he, but seruitour, Thogh I haue had in scole swich honour. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 105 He lefte þe logykk skule, & made hym a monk of Ceustus ordur. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 88 Summe werers of pilioun in scole of dyuynyte han scantli be worthi for to be in the same scole a good scoler. 1617–20 MORYSON *Itin.* (1903) 319 The publike schoole at Strasburg was not reputed an universitie yet gave the degrees of Bachelors and Masters of Artes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 370 That which is now called an University, is..an Incorporation under one Government of many Publique Schools, in one and the same Town or City. In which, the principall Schools were ordained for the three Professions, that is to say, of the Romane Religion, of the Romane Law, and of the Art of Medicine.

b. *collect. plural.* (In later use always *the schools.*) The faculties composing a university; universities in general; the sphere or domain of academic discussion or traditional academic doctrines and methods.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4610 Is þar na lare in 3oure land, labour of scolis, Fesike, ne no philosofy. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 89 Manye, whiche neuere leerned ferther in scolis than her grammer. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 103 He..haittit all that cunnyng wer in scuillis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 111 That sik frehalderis..sulde susteine thair eldest sones at the schuilis, quhill perfytlie tha vndirstude the Canon lawis. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 109 We learne at Schooles what to say in such a controversie, how to dispute rather than how to live. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* III. x. (1678) 62 Which I have sometimes shewed in the Physick Schools, at such times as I there dissected Anatomies. 1638

CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. v. § 63. 279 Boyes in the Schooles know, that *a Posse ad Esse*, the Argument followes not. 1644 DIGBY *Two Treat.* Ded. a iv, I haue not endeauoured to expresse my conceptions eyther in the phrase, or in the language of the schooles. 1649 LOVELACE *Lucasta* 84 And henceforth..Be able to dispute ith' field, And Combate in the Schooles. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. iii. § 9. 192 This whole mystery of Genera and Species, which make such a noise in the Schools. 1701 SWIFT *Contests of Nobles & Comm.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 12 A mixed government partaking of the known forms received in the schools. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* (1775) 52 These are the arguments of states and kingdoms. Leave the rest to the schools; for there only they may be discussed with safety. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 534 Is Christ the abler teacher or the schools?

†c. In various phrases, as *to go to school*, to study at a university; *man of school*, one who is versed in the learning of the schools; *degree of school(s, in schools*, a university degree. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 271 Enuye..heet freres to go to scole, And lerne logyk and lawe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* (1880) 427 Degre takun in scole makiþ goddis word more acceptable. *Ibid.* 428 So prestis wiþ-oute degre of scole may profite more þan don þes maystris. *Ibid.*, & þus men of scole trauelen veynly for to gete newe sutiltees. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11477 Thogh a man wer neuere so wys, And hadde lernyd at Parys, Thys thyrty yer at scole be In that noble vnyuersyte. 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 222/2 After the degrees in Scoles singulerly of the seide Scolers. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 381 Amange clerkis in scule. 1591-5 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 702 A filed toung, furnisht with tearmes of art, No art of schoole, but Courtiers schoolery. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 392 Though it be no Vniuersitie to yeeld degrees of Schoole to the students. 1638 BP. MOUNTAGU *Art Enq. Visit.* A 4, Of what degree in schools is he?

†d. *To hold* or *keep schools*: to engage in academic disputation or discussion. *Obs.*

c 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 329 In fayre langage,.. which ye and mo holde scoles of dayly. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 949/2 We wyl in this matter keepe no longe scholes. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* III. 345 Wherefore doo your Doctours keepe sutche hote Schooles emongst them selues.

†e. *pl.* with sing. construction: An assembly of the 'schools' of a university, a public disputation.

c 1470 GREGORY in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 229 Mayster Halden kept the scholys with in the Fryers and dysputyd a gayne a Gray Fryer..; and at that scholys were many grete docters and clerkys to geve hym audyens.

8. *The School, the Schools*: the Schoolmen, the scholastic philosophers and theologians collectively. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1614 DONNE Βιαθανατος (1644) 127 Many of the Schoole, as Aquinas Fra. Victoria, Sotus, Bannes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 374 A *Nunc-stans* (as the Schools call it). 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 3. 181 The spirit of Prophecy came upon them *per modum impressionis transeuntis*, as the Schools speak. 1683 J. NORRIS *Parting* 3, Poems (1684) 20, I now believe the Schools with ease,..That should the sense no torment seize, Yet Pain of Loss alone would make a Hell.

9. a. *sing.* The building or room set apart for the lectures or exercises of a particular 'school' (in a university). b. *pl.* A building belonging to a university, containing rooms serving in some cases originally for lectures in the several faculties, in later times chiefly for the disputations and exercises for degrees, and for meetings of the academic body or of portions of it. Hence, in modern Oxford use: The building in which most of the university examinations are held.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* (1604) A 3 b, Ile haue them fill the publike schooles with skill [*mod. edd.* silk] Wherewith the students shalbe brauely clad. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* Jan., We went into some of the Scholes [of the Sorbonne], and in that of Divinity we found a grave Doctor in his chaire, with a multitude of auditors, who all write as he dictates. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 120 They caused provisions of corn to be laid in,..assigning the public schools to that purpose. 1697 EVELYN *Acc. Archit.* Misc. Writ. (1825) 366 Or compare the Schools and Library at Oxford with the Theatre there. 1706 T. HEARNE *Collect.* 3 Oct. (O. H. S.) I. 292 Forreigners..frequently go to ye Schools to hear Lectures. 1751 WESLEY *Wks.* 1872 II. 222, I went to the Schools, where the Convocation was met. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxiv, There is no more characteristic spot in Oxford than the quadrangle of the schools. 1873 *Students' Handbk. Univ. Oxf.* 151 A copy of it must be deposited in the Music School.

10. In modern Oxford use. a. *pl.* The periodical examinations for the degree of B.A.

1828 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) I. 180, I am going out of the Schools, and Dornford (I fancy) will supply my place for the ensuing examination. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxiv, The row of victims..'sitting for the schools' as it is called. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 581 A former colleague of mine in the Oxford Schools. 1882 *Society* 18 Nov. 11/2 The schools at Oxford are 'on' once more, and white ties are again the order of the day.

b. Each of the several courses of study, in any of which an 'honours' degree in Arts may be taken: corresponding to the Cambridge 'Tripos'.

At present the 'Schools' are as follows: '*Literæ Humaniores*' (i. e. classics), Mathematical and Physical Science, Natural Science, Jurisprudence, Modern History, Theology, Oriental Languages, English Language and Literature, Modern Languages.

1873 *Students' Handbk. Univ. Oxf.* 110 Those who have obtained Honours in the School of Theology.

†III. 11. The doctrine or teaching of a master; the lore or knowledge of a subject imparted by teaching. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 84 As thou hast preid above That I the Scole schal declare Of Aristotle. *Ibid.* III. 139 Ther mai a man the Scole liere Of Rethoriqes eloquences. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* vii, Quhich to declare my scole is ouer 3ong. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 86 in *Macro Plays* 38 Teche me þe scolys of yowur dyvynyte. 15.. *Piers of Fullham* 3 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 2 A man, that lovyth fyscheng and fowlyng bothe, ofte tyme that game schall hym be lothe, of that crafte all thoghe he can the scole, yn the see, in rever, in ponde, or yn pole. 15.. *Mayd Emlyn* 128 ibid. IV. 87 Thus by her scole Made hym a fole, And called hym dodypate.

†b. A particular method or discipline taught.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 125 Frenssh she spak ful faire and fetisly, After the scole of Stratford atte Bowe. — *Miller's T.* 143 In twenty manere koude he trippe and daunce After the scole of Oxenforde tho. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2403 So yee aftir my scole Wol do, & as I rede 3ew. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1141, I shall the lerne a newe scole, If thoue so hardy to fighte be. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 14 At the wendyng slake The yoke, thyne oxen neckes forto cole: But drawing by the horne is noo goode scole. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 117 It wold syt on a stole, And lerned after my scole For to kepe his cut.

†c. Schooling, discipline. *Obs.*

1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. viii. 328 Certis the freelnes of the wil is to be kutt awei and to be leid aside with greet bateil, greet scole, and greet craft.

IV. Repr. L. *schola*, Gr. σχολή, in late senses.

†12. A hostelry at Rome for the reception of pilgrims. *Obs.*

O. E. Chron. an. 816, Þy ilcan 3eare forborn Ongolcynnes scolu. ? *a* 900 in Thorpe *Diplomat. Anglicum* (1865) 116 Ic [Æthelwulf] on Rome..Englisce scole 3esette. *c* 1450 *Brut* 316 Seynt Peters pens,..þe whiche Kyng Iva [*sic*].. ferst graunted to Rome, for þe scole of Engelond ther to be continued.

†13. A public building, gallery, or the like. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 44 A kirk theked with leed, þat es called þe Scole of Salomon. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 33 Solon fyrste edifyed the schole of Areopagus in Athenes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. v. II. 568 In the same place, and namely in the schoole or gallerie of learned men, there be many more images highly commended.

14. *Hist.* One of the cohorts or companies into which the Imperial guard was divided.

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 388 The avenues of the palace were strictly guarded by the various schools, as they began to be called, of domestic officers. *Ibid.* xvii. II. 57 The whole number consisted of three thousand five hundred men, divided into seven schools, or troops, of five hundred each.

V. 15. [f. SCHOOL *v.*] A cross-country ride.

1892 *Field* 9 Apr. 512/2 Then began a cheery 'school' over some scrubby hills.

VI. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

16. Simple attributive.

a. Pertaining to a school (sense 1) or schools, as *school-age, eleven, -fee, -French, -friendship, -hours* (HOUR 2 b), †*law, -life, -prank, prize*, †*-recess, -teacher, -vacation, warden, -work, -year*, etc. Also SCHOOL-BOARD, -BOOK, -DAY, -MA'AM, -MASTER, -MISTRESS.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 716 So soon as children have passed *school-age, they [etc.]. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, The Captain of the *School eleven..accompanied them. 1511-12 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 242 In haill payment of half ane 3eris burd and *scoile fee. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 25 The school board may, if they think fit,..pay the whole or any part of the school fees payable at any public elementary school by any child [etc.]. 1837 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* xv. (1843) 145 About half of them know the language well, and the rest speak it like *school-French. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 436 *School-friendships are not always found..permanent and sound. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 137 Out of *School-Hours. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii, Surreptitiously nursing it [a doll] in school hours. 1650 J. M. (*title*) *School-Laws, or Qui Mihi in English. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, The care with which he has watched over every step in your *school lives. 1885 WELLDON *Serm. Harrow* i. (1887) 6 In a few days perhaps..you will feel the continuity of your school-life; but for the present it seems to you to have been broken. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Poet's T.* (ed. 2) I. 48 Playing *school-pranks with his companions. 1904 'E. NESBIT' *Phœnix & Carpet* xi. 206 Its conversation..was entertaining and instructive—like *school prizes are said to be. 1795 *Jemima* I. 63 A pressing invitation that she would spend the next *school recess at the Hall. 1847 WEBSTER, **School-teacher*, one who teaches or instructs a school. 1787 HAWKINS *Life Johnson* 471 Whose son in his *school-vacation was come home. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* IV. 2897 The two *School Wardens [at Kingston-upon-Thames] are elected in like manner. Their duty is to visit and superintend the school. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* ii. vi, There could be no reason for stopping the *school work at present. *Ibid.* II. ii, There were thirty-eight weeks in the *school year.

b. Taught in or attending school, as *school-child, -chum, -companion*, †*-fere, -maid, -miss*, etc. Also SCHOOL-BOY, -FELLOW, -GIRL, -MATE.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. (1841) 207 He [Luther] had to beg, as the *school-children in those times did. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 705 The first case of illness was a school-child. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 149 The stupid *school-chum of his private secretary! 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 31 May (1815) 108 The departure of your *school-companions. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 449 One Calistenes, Alisaundre *scolefere under Aristotil. *Ibid.* VII. 397 He..went to Rome at þe laste wiþ oon of his scole feres. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 47 Is she your cosen? *Isa.* Adoptedly, as *school-maids change their names By vaine, though apt affection. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ii, I take her to be an affected *school-miss.

c. Belonging to or connected with the school as a building (cf. 1), as *school-bell, building, -chapel, -door, -roof, -yard*, etc. See also SCHOOLHOUSE.

1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 12 When the *school-bell cut short our strife. 1829 R. GILBERT *Liber Scholast.* 167 The *school buildings are well adapted [etc.]. 1884 *Tablet* 11 Oct. 591/2 The erection of a *school-chapel was immediately begun. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Concl. 62 There is not that sect of Philosophers among the heathen so dissolute..but would shut his *school dores against such greasy sophisters. *c* 1340 *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 140 An Abbot þat..neuer lift vp his heued to see þe *scole-rouf. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol.* v. 99 The warm sympathy with which they kindle each other in *school-yard, or in barn or woodshed.

d. Pertaining to the Schoolmen (cf. sense 8), or to the 'schools' of universities (cf. sense 7 b), scholastic, academic, as in *school-account*, †*-amorist, -argument, author, -clerk*, †*dispicion, -ethics, -exercise*, †*implement, -language, -logic, -manner, matter, -medicine, moralist, morality, name, -opinion, -pedantry, philosopher, philosophy, -phrase, -question, quiddity, -subtilty, -syllogism, term, -theology, trick*, etc.; *school-like* adj. and adv. See also SCHOOL-CRAFT, -DIVINE, -DIVINITY, -DOCTOR, -MAN, -POINT.

1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vii. 408 To lay open the *school-account of this matter, and unravel it through all its abstrusities. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 163 Thus the *Schoole-Amorist [= Ovid]. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XV. (1592) 225 The holy Scripture..vseth no *schoole arguments to make vs beleeue that there is a God. 1551 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* III. 90 Is it not plainly written of all the Papists, both lawyers and *schole authors, that [etc.]. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 3 The greatest *Schole clarkes are not alwayes the wisest men. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) Pref. A 2, Arguments of proofe in shew holden on a whole day by fine wits, in a *schoole despicion. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 100, 145 One may make a great progress in *School-Ethics without ever being the wiser or better Man for it. *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* i. in *Anglia* X. 327/43 Hem þat in *scole-excersyse..sechene þoo þinges þat bene nedefulle to sowle-hele. 1586 HOOKER *Answ. Travers* xvi. (1612) 19 These *schoole implements are acknowledged by graue and wise men not vnprofitable to haue beene inuented. 1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Disc. Impresa's* Wks. (1711) 229 For ladies, who understand not the *school languages. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1841) 289 Eagerly devouring what spiritual thing he [Johnson] could come at; school-languages and other merely grammatical stuff, if there was nothing better! 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 14/2 Such as more distinctlie and *schoolelike discusse this matter. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i. 129 His learning labours not the schoole-like glosse. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 23 Such a methodical and School-like way of defining. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ix. II. (1819) III. 538 Philology..degenerated through the prevalence of *school-logic. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 229 b, He discourseth at large the article of Justifycation after the *scoole maner [orig. *more scholastico*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's Prol.* 8 Ye han heer touched al so moot I thee In *scole matere greet difficultee. 1447 in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O. H. S.) I. 260 All his buks of study, also oder boks longyng to scole mater. 1731 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 260 The Venereal Disease had just then made its appearance, which the common *School-Medicine was not able to cure. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* iv. 149 This the *School-Moralists..have abundantly proved. *Ibid.* iii. 125 The *School Morality. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 41 Who thinke vertue a *schoole name. 1751 WARBURTON *Pope's Ess. Man* II. 81 *note*, For this dangerous *school-opinion gives great support to the Manichean or Zoroastrian error. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. Pref. 16 Which..would perhaps savour a little too much of *school-pedantry. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 96 A *School-Philosopher with his newest set of Distinctions. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 72 It agrees not with the principles of the *School-Philosophy, that will by no means allow the essences of things to be eternal. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. State Pol. Learn.* xi. Wks. (Globe) 443/2 Universities..where the pupils..support every day syllogistical disputations in school philosophy. 1668 HOWE *Blessedn. Righteous* xii. 218 *Servato ordine finis*, as the *School-phrase is. 1586 HOOKER *Answ. Travers* xvi. (1612) 18 If..it were a *schoole question. *a* 1625 E. CHALONER *Six Serm.* (1629) 30 The husbandman..vsed not. those *schoole quiddities to simple labourers. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 67 No Romish sophistrie, or *schoole-subtilty can inuent any probability. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* i. 4 Her *School-Syllogism and her Elixir, [are] the choicest of her [Philosophy's] Products. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 325, I counte nat a panyer ful of herbes Of *scole termes. 1825 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXI. 380 It is (to use a school term) an inseparable accident of Lisbon. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 512 And if one could, it were but a *schoole trick.

17. locative, in sense 'at school', with ppl. adjs., as *school-bred, -made, -taught, -trained*, etc.

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 840 And if it chance..That though *school-bred, the boy be virtuous still. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 870 As in chorea, so in tic, there are cases which appear to be *school-made. 1765 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 41 Let *school-taught pride dissemble all it can, These little things are great to little man. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* x. 214 Boys trained in the mission school and married to *school-trained girls.

18. objective and obj. gen., as *school-drilling, -leaving, manager, -teaching*, etc.

1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 347 The whole system of *school-drilling education. *Ibid.* 349 Such and a thousand similar recreations..should enter into the school-drilling of the day. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 3/6 A.. *school-leaving certificate. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Jan. 4/1 The celibacy of the 'school marm' is a heresy which as yet only exists in the pious dream of *school managers and school boards. 1847 WEBSTER, **School-teaching*, the business of instructing a school.

19. Special combinations: **school air** *Horsemanship*, an 'air' (AIR *sb.* 17) which horses are taught in the school; †**school-butter**, (*a*) cf. quots. 1584–93 (sense obscure); (*b*) *slang*, a flogging; (*c*) *U.S.* 'a teasing call to school children' (Payne *Wordlist East Alabama*); **school-cap** *Geol.* (see quot.); **school-dame**, an old woman who keeps a small school for young children; **school-gait** (see sense 3 d); **school-gallop** (see quot.); **school-going** *sb.*, attendance at school; **school-going** *a.*, that goes, or is suitable to go, to school; †**school-hall**, the room or building in which university disputations were held; †**school-hire**, = *school-wage*; **school-learning**, †(*a*) the learning of 'the schools' (7 b), (*b*) education at school; **school-mamma, -mother**, an elder girl at a girls'-school who acts as a protectress of one or more younger ones; †**school-pace**, = *school-gait*; **school-pence**, a small weekly sum of money paid for tuition in elementary schools; **school-rider**, a school-trained horseman; so **school-riding**; †**school-rod** [cf. G. *schulrute*], a birch-rod or cane; †**school-scholar**, one who has the learning taught at school (sense 1); **school-section** *U. S.*, 'a section of land set apart for public schools' (Bartlett 1860); **school-ship**, a ship used for the instruction and training of boys in practical seamanship; **school-tide** = *school-time* (b); **school-time**, (*a*) the time at which school commences, or during which school continues; (*b*) that period of life which is passed at school; **school-wage** (now *dial.*), the periodical payment made for tuition at school.

1885 DODGE *Patroclus & Penelope* 58 Horses educated in all the *School airs which are applicable to road-riding. 1584 A. MUNDAY *Fidele & Fortunio* 1473 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXXIII. 76 O that I had some of Pediculus [*i. e.* Pedante's] *Schoole-butter to make me a lip salue. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 231 Should the Butterwhore..try all the conclusions of her cherne, she might peraduenture in some sort pay thee home with Schoole-butter: but vndoubtedly she should haue much adooe, to stoppe thy Ouen-mouth with a lidde of Butter. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, School-butter*, a Whipping. 1829 *Trans. Geol. Soc.* Ser. II. II. 42 The bed below this is called the Top Cap...The next bed is called the *School Cap..; it consists of a compact limestone extremely cellular [etc.]. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 101 We could suppose our senses to be the *school-dames that first taught us the alphabet of this learning. 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Serm. Relig.* i. (1863) 10 He must study the anicular lines on the school-dame's slate. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., A **school pace* or *gate* denotes the same with *ecoute*. 1885 DODGE *Patroclus & Penelope* 130 The traverse is a School gait rarely needed on the road. 1884 E. L. ANDERSON *Mod. Horsemanship* 148 The *School Gallop is a pace of four beats, and is procured from the ordinary gallop by demanding a close union, and by sustaining the forehand with the reins [etc.]. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child of Jago* 78 *School-going was a practice best never begun. 1884 *Athenæum* 15 Mar. 347/3 According to these statistics 1 out of 4 boys and 1 out of 89 girls of school-going age are under instruction. 1900 *Daily News* 1 June 6/4, 93,000 school-going children. 1509 *Parlt. Devylles* xl, I wyst hym [Jesus] neuer go to scole, And yet I sawe hym dyspute in the *scole hall. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/2 *Scole hyre, *scolagium*. 1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) II. 182 For schole heir of the childer, for twoe wekes, 1s. 2d. More paid to Mr. Turpen, that was owne for Abraham schole heir, 8s. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1099 Schooling or school-hire, *minerval*. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 10 In the vniuersities men study onely *schole learninges. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. 8 He having finished his school-learning, and was soon to go to the university. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. (1841) 84 Mahomet..had no school-learning, of the thing we call school-learning none at all. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* v. 31 The institution of '*school mammas' may secure a protector for each. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 30, I..provided myself with a *school-mother, a fine tall blooming girl. 1753 *School pace [see *school gait* above]. 1889 *19th Cent.* Oct. 741 The parents are to pay *schoolpence. 1882 E. L. ANDERSON *School-training for Horses* 75 A distinguished *school-rider, who gave me my first practical lessons in this movement. 1897 LD. RIBBLESDALE *The Queen's Hounds* 264 He was probably not so good a school rider as the Prince Imperial. 1881 E. L. ANDERSON *How to Ride*, etc. Introd. 6 *School-riding, in one form or another, is used in all armies, and, indeed, wherever the horse must be under command. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* v. iii, A *Schoole-rod keepes a child in awe. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. 328 At fourteen, he went away [from school] a good *schoole-scholar to Magdalen-hall in Oxford. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Sir D. North* (1744) 2 In the End, he came out a moderate School-scholar. 1849 *Rep. of Com. of Gen. Land Office* (Bartlett 1860), *School-section. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 37 A school section is a section of land..set apart by the Government for the purpose of raising funds for building and maintaining schools. 1867 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 89 We stopped near the *school-ship, which was crowded with boys. 1808 SCOTT *Autobiog.* in Lockhart *Life* (1839) I. 63 My greatest intimate from the days of my *school-tide was Mr. John Irving. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 191 Such Boys..will be at Liberty out of *School-time. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, The introduction of crackers in school-time. 1890 *Lancet* 4 Oct. 708/1 Life here is but the school-time of eternity hereafter. 1542 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 36 To finde John Fell meate and drinke, clothing, boks, and *scolewaige to goo to the scole..to be be xxvi yeares of aige. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xv. iii. IV. 30 He is now about to be taught several things;—and will have to pay his school-wages as he goes.

School (skūl), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5 scoll, 5–7 scole, scul(le, 6 skoole, *Sc.* scuill, 6–7 skul, skole, 6–9 scull, skull, 7 skoule, scoale, schole, 7–9 scool, 8–9 schull, 9 *dial.* schule, scholl, 9– school. [a. Du. *school* troop, multitude, 'school' of whales :—MDu. *schole*, OS. *scola* troop = OE. *scolu* :—OTeut. **skulā* str. fem., perh. orig. 'division', f. **skel-, skal-, skul-* to divide: see SKILL, SHELL.

1. A shoal or large number of fish, porpoises, whales, etc. swimming together whilst feeding or migrating. Also *in a school*, *in* or *by schools*.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14205 Thei falle thikkere than heryng fletes In-myddes the se In here scole. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Sculle, of a fysshe (scul of fysh, *S.*), *examen*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij, A scoll of ffysh. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 70 They [bream] appere in May in mightti Sculles, so that sumtime they breke large Nettes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 317 Thair come in our firth ane scuill of heirinng. *c* 1585 JANES in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 102 We saw to the West of those Isles three or foure whales in a skull. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 108 And this skole of fish continued with our ship for the space of fiue or sixe weekes. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 121 They swymme in great scooles together. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 22 And there they flye or dye, like scaled sculs, Before the belching Whale. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 100 He saw at the mouth of Nilus..a scole of dolphins rushing up the river. 1641 S. SMITH *Herring Buss Trade* 25 According to the conveniency of the Skoles and places of fishing. 1655 WALTON *Angler* x. (1661) 173 Repaire to the River, where you have seen them to swim in skuls or shoales in the Summer time. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 402 Shoales of Fish that..Glide under the green Wave, in Sculles that oft Bank the mid Sea. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Justif. War Netherl.* Apol., etc. 127 The latter should not fish within eighty miles of the Coast, least the Scholes of Herrings should be interrupted. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) I. 380 A great Shoal, or, as they call it, a Scool of Pilchards, came swimming..into the Harbour. 1791 LINCOLN in Belknap *Hist. New-Hampsh.* (1792) III. 456 These fish..take each schull its proper river. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 36 Great skulls o' haddock, cod and ling. 1839 BEALE *Sperm Whale* 20 The groups, herds, or 'schools', which are formed by the sperm whale, are of two kinds. 1863 PENNELL *Angler-naturalist* 285 The smolts assemble in sculls of from forty to seventy together. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 64/1 A 'school' of porpoises gambolling in mid ocean.

2. *transf.* †**a.** A troop, crowd (of persons); a large number, mass (of inanimate things). *Obs.*

b. A flock, company (of animals).

1555 PHAER *Æneid* II. (1558) D ij b, About him ronnes of boyes & girles y*skull [*Lat.* 238–9 *Pueri circum innuptæque puellæ Sacra canunt*]. *Ibid.* IX. (1584) O vj, Go fisgigs, frisk your woods in double pype in skipping skooles [*Lat.* 617 *Ite per alta Dindyma, ubi adsuetis biforem dat tibia cantum*]. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 83/2 A scull of pictured boies did band, about that lothsome sight. *Ibid.* 85/1 The youth in skuls flocke and run togither. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* To Rdr., So greate a scull of amarouse Pamphlets haue so preoccupyed the eyes, and eares of men, that [etc.]. 1592 LYLY *Midas* IV. iii, Ile warrant hee hath by this started a couey of Bucks, or roused a scull of Phesants. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* VI. iii. (1848) 348 When we dip them [oysters] in Vinegar, we may, for sauce to one bit, devour alive a schole of little Animals. 1858 K. H. DIGBY *Children's Bower* II. 13 Sitting on their heels by the margin of a pond to feed what they call the school of ducks that gathers round them. 1861 DU CHAILLU *Equat. Afr.* xiii. 194 A school of hippopotami. 1880 *Times* 24 Nov. 10/3 The Macclesfield tipplers [pigeons], which fly in schools or 'kits' for hours against another school. 1894 R. LEIGHTON *Wreck Golden Fleece* 189 Look at that school of gulls yonder.

3. *attrib.*: **school-bass**, the *Sciæna ocellata*; **school-cod**, a cod inhabiting the open sea, opposed to *shore-cod*; **school-fish** *U. S.*, any fish which usually appears in schools or shoals, also one of a school of fish; *spec.* the menhaden. So **school-schnapper, -shark, -whale.**

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 372 The smaller fish of the species [*Sciæna ocellata*] are called simply 'Bass' or '*School Bass'. *Ibid.* 201 Still another class of fish is known..as 'Deep-water Cod', 'Bank Cod', and '*School Cod'. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 11 The smaller *school-fishes. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish N. S. Wales* 40 The time of the appearance of the '*school schnapper' is the early part of summer. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* viii. (1855) 198 The '*school-shark' is dealt with as above. But if the 'grey-nurse' or old solitary shark be hooked, the cable is cut [etc.]. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 176 A *School Whale, upon being attacked by the boats, rejected from her stomach a bony fish.

School (skūl), *v.*[1] Forms: see SCHOOL *sb.*[1] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schulen*.]

1. *trans.* To put or send to school; to educate at school.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* vii. 24 b in *Holinshed*, Schooled in the vniuersitie of Parise. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 173 Yet hee's gentle, neuer school'd, and yet learned, full of noble deuise. 1846 *Eng. Rev.* VI. 138 The number actually schooled in the State schools was no less than 2,021,421. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trinal* xi. 211 How he was born, cradled, schooled, tailcoated, colleged, and the like. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* i, My father..being a great admirer of learning sent me to be schooled at Tiverton. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* II. 13 Eight children to be washed and dressed and schooled daily.

†**2.** To have as a member of one's school or sect.

c 1570 L. GIBSON in *Collect. B. L. Ball. & Broadsides* (1867) 115 It seemes, by your doynges, that Cressed doth scoole ye,—Penelopeys vertues are cleane out of thought. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 73 This man was first schooled by Valentinus.

3. 'To teach with superiority, to tutor' (J.); † in early use, to 'lecture', admonish, reprimand.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 10 This is the wai that thes fellonli men have taken to school and coole me, silli soul. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* L. v, Mildly the good, God schooleth in this wise. 1592 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O. H. S.) 160 She [Q. Eliz.] schooled Dr. John Rainolds for his obstinate preciseness. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xxii. 91 He hearkened to..his mother when shee schooled him. *c* 1610 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land & Sea* I. i, Nay school us not old man, some of us are too old to learn. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Curate* I. i, *Arsen.* Fy upon thee. This is prophane. *Mil.* Good Doctor, doe not schoole me, For a fault you are not free from. 1624 *Visibility of True Ch.* 91 He schooleth and lessoneth the Pope plainly. *a* 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 272 That's my Landlord's fault, for which I shall school him. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 306 It now remains for you to school your child, And ask why God's anointed he reviled. 1691 — *K. Arthur* III. ii, My former Lord, Grim Osmond, walks the Round: Calls o'er the Names, and Schools the tardy Sprights. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, I school'd him*, I chid him severely. 1710 CONGREVE *Poems, Of Pleasing* Wks. 1720 II. 426 So Macer and Mundungus school the Times, And write in rugged Prose the Rules of softer Rhymes. 1746 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xlv, The doctor..was infinitely surprized to find himself schooled by one of my appearance; and..cried, 'Upon my word! you are in the right, Sir! 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, 'I ken a' that as weel as—I mean to say,' he resumed, checking the irritation he felt at being schooled,—a discipline of the mind, which those most ready to bestow it on others, do themselves most reluctantly submit to receive. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* Introd. 13 Many will prefer to draw their own conclusions from them rather than to be schooled by us.

†**b.** To give a lesson to (a person) by punishment; to chastise. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, III. ii, I say thou art too presumptuous, and the officers shall schoole thee. 1595 *Locrine* III. iii. 25 Then wil we schoole you, ere you and we part hence. [They fight.] 1628 FORD *Lovers Melancholy* v. i, Take hence the wag, and school him for't.

4. To educate, train (a person, his mind, powers, tastes, etc.); to render wise, skilful, or tractable by training or discipline. Often *transf.*, said of God, the experiences of life, surrounding influences, etc.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 385 Now, Salomon, full of wisdome, and schooled with experience, is licensed to giue his sentence of the whole world. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 855 For he was school'd by kinde in all the skill Of close conveyance. 1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 59 Visited of God with sickness, and so scholed, and enlightned by him therein and thereby. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 169 A teacher of the Gentiles, schooled by Heaven, and whose professor and master was Jesus Christ himself. 1762 GOLDSM. *Nash* 174 A mind neither schooled by philosophy, nor encouraged by conscious innocence. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. i, Having schooled his intellect in the Universities of two nations. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. iv, Leila, thou hast been nurtured with tenderness, and schooled with care. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 229 They were too well schooled in the tricks of reservation. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 114 Among these was Xanthippus,..one who had been well schooled in war by the admirable training which the Spartan discipline still gave. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* XCV. III. 337 But the ambition of American statesmen has been schooled to flow in constitutional channels.

b. To discipline, bring under control, correct (oneself, one's mind, feelings, thoughts, etc.).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse*, etc. *To Gentlew. Citizens* (Arb.) 58, I haue seene many of you whiche were wont to sporte your selues at Theaters, when you perceiued the abuse of those places, schoole your selues, and of your owne accorde abhorre Playes. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. ii. 15 My deerest Cooz, I pray you schoole your selfe. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xlii. 6 Though before he had schooled himself out of his distempers. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. xiv, Now must Matilda stray apart, To school her disobedient heart. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* v. v, She had too long and too fondly schooled herself to look upon the outraged wife as the only victim. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxi. 326 After the first half hour I so far schooled myself to this new exercise [riding a dromedary] that [etc.]. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* x, Clara schooled herself into a resolution to bear it with good humour. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* VI. xlviii, No wonder that Deronda now marked some hardening in a look and manner which were schooled daily to the suppression of feeling.

c. With advs. *To school away*: to remove by instruction or discipline (*rare*). *To school down*: to subdue by training.

1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* I. v. (1834) I. 194 It may at least school away those prepossessions of the fancy or of the taste, that would lead us to resist or to dislike such evidence when offered. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (ed. 3) II. ii. 63 Lord Raglan..was so schooled down by long years of flat office labour that it shocked him to see a man bearing no uniform, yet warlike, and armed to the teeth. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lii. 90 At home she had schooled herself down into quiescence.

d. *passive.* To be educated *in* (certain beliefs, sentiments, habits). Also const. *inf.*

1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 529 We..have been so schooled in modern ecclesiastical phraseology that we cease to regard it as singular. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* 10 Their seniors are cramped by the dogmas they were schooled to believe when the world was some decades the younger.

5. To instruct or inform (a person) how to act; to teach (a person) his part.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 227 So schooled the Gate [goat] her wanton sonne, That answerd his mother, all should be done. 1587 HOOKER *Ir. Hist.* 79/1 in *Holinshed*, Wherefore it was blazed in Ireland, that the king [Hen. VII] ..had schooled a boie to take vpon him the earle of Warwikes name. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 9 But sir here

comes your boy, Twere good he were school'd. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* vii. 440 Herodias schooled Salome in the part she was to play. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 271 Schooled by my guide, it was not difficult to realise the scene [etc.].

6. To train or exercise (a horse) in movements.

1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xix, The way you had schooled him [a horse]. 1890 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 2/4 Some well-known horses on the flat are being schooled for hurdle jumping. 1881 E. L. ANDERSON *How to Ride*, etc. 60 Part II, How to School a Horse. The Early Education of the Horse.

b. *intr.* To ride straight across country.

1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 428/2 We schooled back to the Poorhouse Gorse, and a couple of fences of the order intricate had to be jumped, under the penalty of a long round. 1892 *Ibid.* 9 Apr. 512/2 Let me draw a discreet veil over sundry acts of renaging and recusancy on the part of good hunters and good riders, for in every country it will be found that some few celebrities of the hunting field have a rooted antipathy to 'schooling'.

7. *trans.* To rear (a plant) in a nursery.

1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 122 The young osiers.. should be taken from a nursery in which they have been 'schooled' for one year.

School (skūl), *v.*[2] Forms: see SCHOOL *sb.*[2] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To collect or swim together in 'schools' or shoals (of fish). *To school up*: to collect or crowd close together at or near the surface of the water, said of fishes.

1597 BRETON *Wits Trenchmour* (Grosart) 10/1 The Herings seldom scull, but on a thick misty morning. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 45 Fishes of each kind skull togeather. 1725 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 264 Let the Wind blow which Way it will, that Way they [*sc.* dead whales] will scull a Head, tho' right in the Eye of the Wind. 1873–[see SCHOOLING *ppl. a.*[2] and *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 375 Yellow-tails..do not school, but swim singly or in pairs. 1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., Menhaden do not school up until the beginning of the summer. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii. 154 The caplin schooled once more at twilight.

Schoolable (skū·lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -ABLE.]

†**1.** Capable of being schooled or trained *Obs.*

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* iv. (1596) 38 Amongst beasts of one kind, he which is most Schooleable and skilfull is such because he hath his braine better tempered.

2. Of proper age to attend school.

1846 *Eng. Rev.* VI. 138 In 1831 the number of children between the ages of 7 and 14, the approved schoolable period, was 2,043,030. 1869 *Echo* 15 Mar., 250,000 children of 'schoolable' age. 1888 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Educ.* 1886–87, 59 Each tax-payer..would have a far less burden to bear in the work of getting all the 'schoolable' children within the schools.

†**Schoo·lage.** Forms: 6 scolage, 7 scollage, scholage, schoolage. [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -AGE. Cf. med.L. *scolagium*, OF. *escolage.*]

1. *Sc.* The fee paid for tuition at school. Also *schoolage-fee.*

1511–12 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 242 Item the xxviij day of Januar, send with William Alresky to Maister David Wocat for half ane 3eris burd and his scolage fee at his entre this day to the scoile. 1602 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 101 And thrie pundis vjs. viijd. to be payed to ilk ane of thame be the maister of the scole furth of the excres of his scollage mair nor wes first conditionate to him be his contract. 1607 in J. Grant *Burgh. Sch. Scot.* II. xiii. (1876) 467 Bringing with them [to school] their quarter's schoolage. 1662 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 238 And it salbe be lawchfull for the said maister Thomas to take for ilk townes bairn in schooleage, each quarter of the yeare, six shilling eight pennyes Scotts money.

2. Instruction in school; the services of a schoolmaster.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 454 You are well enough served and receive a due Minervall for your schoolage.

Schoolar, obs. form of SCHOLAR.

†**Schoola·tion.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SCHOOL *v.*[1] + -ATION.] Schooling, education at school.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 22 That throogh good scoolation becam az formall in his action az had he been a bride groom indeed.

School board. [BOARD *sb.* 8 b.] In England and Wales from 1870 to 1902, and in Scotland since 1872, a body of persons elected by the ratepayers of a 'school district', and charged by statute with the provision and maintenance of sufficient accommodation in public elementary schools for all the children of the district.

In England school boards were established only in districts in which either a majority of the ratepayers approved, or the existing accommodation in public elementary schools was considered by the Education Department to be insufficient. The Education Act of 1902 abolished school boards in England, and transferred their duties and powers to the County Councils.

In Scotland there is a school board in every school district (which is usually either a burgh or a parish). By the Act of 1872 the control of the burgh and parish schools established by previous Acts, was vested in the school boards, which are also required to establish and maintain such additional schools as may be needed.

1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 10 If..the Education Department are satisfied that all the public school accommodation required..has not been so supplied..the Education Department shall cause a school board to be formed for the district. 1872 *Act* 35 & 36 *Vict.* c. 62 § 8 A school board shall be elected in and for each and every parish and burgh [in Scotland]. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. viii. (ed. 5) 234 A school board is very rarely established in a country parish. 1882 M. ARNOLD *Ir. Ess.*, etc. 131 You often see the School Boards..making the programme of their elementary schools too ambitious.

attrib. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xiv, Alf was not a nice child, being puffed up with many school-board certificates for good conduct.

Schoo·l-book. [Cf. G. *schulbuch.*]

1. A book of instruction used at school.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 103 A patent [was] granted him to print Latin School-books. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, His bundle of school-books hanging by a thong. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 9 In our school-books we say,..They flourish'd then or then.

b. *attrib.*

1751 *Pope's Wks., Epil. Sat.* i. 76 *note*, Full of school-book phrases and Anglicisms. 1821 C. SIMEON *Let.* 27 Nov. in Carus *Life* (1847) 558 The abundance of your own personal labours, and of those engaged in the School-book Society, amazes me.

2. An account-book, register, etc. belonging or relating to a particular school.

1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 72 If the managers or teacher of any school refuse..to allow the inspector to..examine the school books and registers.

Schoolboy (skū·ˌlboi). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + BOY.]

1. A boy attending or belonging to a school.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 403 O! neuer will I trust to speeches pen'd, Nor to the motion of a Schoole-boies tongue. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 145. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, Death, what talke you of his Learning? he vnderstands no more then a schoole-Boy. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 80 Every Schole-boy knows it. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 37 School-boys without tutors, minors without guardians. 1813 SOUTHEY in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. 49, I should go to the task like a schoolboy. 1881 CROWEST *Phases Mus. Eng.* 164 The merest schoolboy, it would be thought, could have detected the absurdity of such a musical passage.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*; also *schoolboy-like* adj.

1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 6 This great pretender to Learning has not wit enough to make an Allegory, but violates the common School-boy Rules of sence. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 523 ¶ 2 A parcel of School-Boy Tales. 1798 SOUTHEY *Autumn* 18, I call to mind The school-boy days. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III. 74, I cannot help laughing at his schoolboy-like joy in his new playthings. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xviii, Or schoolboy Midshipman that..Strains his shrill pipe as good or ill betides. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxx, In his big schoolboy handwriting. 1887 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1380 This curiously schoolboy way of insulting a foreign nation.

Hence **Schoo·lboydom, Schoo·lboyhood,** the state or condition of being a schoolboy; also, schoolboys collectively. **Schoo·lboyism,** action or conduct characteristic of a schoolboy.

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxi, The pedantic schoolboyism of calling a house-keeper a nymph. 1854 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 436 The recollections of schoolboyhood. 1880 R. G. WHITE *Every-Day English* 277 The first great English grammar, the one by which school-boydom has been chiefly oppressed, was written by an American. 1893 *Temple Bar* XCVIII. 139 Schoolboyhood whispers derision.

Schoolboyish (skū·lboiiiʃ), *a.* [f. SCHOOLBOY + -ISH.] Schoolboy-like.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 278 All this being not particularly new, and rather schoolboyish withal. 1888 *Academy* 18 Feb. 112 An eminently schoolboyish story.

Schoolcraft (skū·lkrɑft). *arch.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + CRAFT.] Knowledge taught in the schools.

1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, He has met his parallel in wit and school-craft. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 187 Take care how you play off your schoolcraft another time upon an old soldier. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 271 Had I been less devoted a bigot to this vain school-craft, which we call the Medical Art..I might [etc.]. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xv, Schoolcraft and honesty never went yet together.

Schoold, variant of SHALD, shallow.

Schoolday (skū·ldē). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + DAY.]

1. *pl.* The days or period (of one's life) at which one is at school.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 202 O, is all forgot? All schooledaies friendship, child-hood innocence? 1594 — *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 169 Tetchy and wayward was thy Infancie, Thy School-daies frightfull,..Thy prime of Manhood, daring. 1798 LAMB *Old Familiar Faces* i, In my joyful school-days. 1885 LD. BLACKBURN in *Law Rep.* 10 App. Cases 388 In his schooldays or in his grown up days.

attrib. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VII. ii, When two schoolday friends..meet at the close of their college careers.

2. A day on which there is school.

1852 WALCOT *William of Wykeham* 233 On whole schooldays, morning school lasts from 7 till 8 A.M.; middle school from 9 until noon; evening school begins at 2, and ends at 6. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, It is a whole schoolday. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 101/1 During the holidays, or on a school-day.

Schoo·l-divi·ne. = SCHOOLMAN 1.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* III. ix. § 2 The greatest amongst the Schoole diuines studying how to set downe by exact definition the nature of an humaine lawe..found not which way better to do it then in these words [following]. 1613 SALKELD *Treat. Angels* title-p., Collected out of the holy Scriptures, ancient Fathers, and Schoole-Diuines. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 102 In Quibbles Angel and Archangel join, And God the Father turns a School-divine. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 214 What school-Divines call 'Potentia proxima'.

Schoo·l-divi·nity. The religious principles and doctrines maintained and taught in the Schools, or by the mediæval moralists and divines.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* ix. (1596) 124 The truth of schooldivinity abhorreth many words. 1616 S. PRICE *Ephesus Warning* 48 It is a true axiome in schoole-Diuinity, that..whatsoeuer is spoken of God bodily, must be vnderstood figuratiuely. 1710 ADDISON *Whig-Examiner* No. 4 ¶ 1 The most abstruse and profound tract of school-divinity. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 140 His [Dante's] education was the best then going; much school-divinity, Aristotelean logic, some Latin classics.

School doctor.

†**1.** = SCHOOL-DIVINE.

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 40 b, Marke here how past all shame oure scole doctours are. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* 259 The Schoole Doctours canne in no wise agree: there is Scotus againste Thomas [etc.]. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* viii. Annot. 587 Who so desireth, may search the iudgement of ancient Fathers, and see S. Thomas, and other schole Doctors.

†**2.** The teacher of a school. *Sc. Obs. rare.*

1730 T. BOSTON *My Life* (1908) 7 The school-doctor's son put a pipe-stopple in each of his nostrils.

3. The medical attendant of a school; esp. a medical practitioner who receives a fixed salary for his services in attending the pupils when ill.

Schooldom (skū·ldəm). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -DOM.] The domain or world of school or schools; the persons, things, and conditions concerned in the affairs of schools.

1826 MISS MITFORD *My Godfather* in *Lit. Souvenir* 393 A young girl, just freed from the trammels of schooldom. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* iv, A summons to 'the study' was an event of rare occurrence..in the annals of schooldom. 1902 *Spectator* 26 July 110 The sense of injustice in this particular has permeated the ranks of schooldom.

Schooled (skūld), *ppl. a.* [f. SCHOOL *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Taught, trained, or disciplined.

1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Columbus* xl, This all-schooled forbearance would surpass. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* iv, Forgetting indeed in this one outburst all his schooled reticence. 1882 E. L. ANDERSON *School-training for Horses* 120 It is not necessary to use a sharp spur upon a schooled horse.

Schooler, obs. form of SCHOLAR *sb.*

Schoo·lery. *rare.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] That which is taught in a school, or as in a school.

1591–5 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 702 A filed toung, furnisht with tearmes of art, No art of schoole, but Courtiers schoolery. 1807 [IRELAND] *Mod. Ship of Fools* 266 Rear'd in folly's ideot schoolerie, Every age thus boasts its foolerie. 1894 W. S. GILBERT *His Excellency* I. 12 Oh you may laugh at our dancing-schoolery, It's all very well, it amuses you.

Schoolfellow (skū·lfelou). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + FELLOW *sb.*] One who is or formerly was at the same school at the same time with another.

In early use sometimes applied to one's contemporary at a university.

1440 SIR R. LAIDAMIS *Let.* in *Athenæum* (1864) 10 Sept. 340/2 Ye and Y where scollfelaus sumtyme at Hylmyster. 1551 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* Epist. (1895) 19 The old acquayntaunce, that was betwene you and me in the time of our childhode, being then scolefellowes togethers. 1582 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Convers.* I. (1586) 11 A Gentleman sometime my Schoolefellowe at Pad. who in learning was not inferiour to anie Scholler in the Uniuersitie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 202 (1604 Qo.) My two Schoolefellowes. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 425 Mr. Vernon, who was a schoolfellow of mine. 1690 LOCKE *Educ.* § 70 (1699) 97 The emulation of Schoolfellows often puts Life and Industry into young Lads. 1783 COWPER *Valediction* 35 Thy schoolfellow, and partner of thy plays. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, The Colonel's countenance.. wore as many blushes as the face of a boy of sixteen assumes when he is confronted with his sister's schoolfellows.

Hence **School-fellowship.**

1722 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 628 It seems there are some secret remains of what we call school-fellowship, that have led him to a better opinion of my book than it deserves. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 128 Who was perhaps bound to him by what is often the closer and stronger tie of school-fellowship.

Schoolful (skū·lful). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] As much or as many as a school will hold.

1881 *Academy* 22 Oct. 307 Such a monster may perchance exist,..but surely not a whole schoolful of them. 1900 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 6/7 We enjoyed it like a schoolful of children.

Schoolgirl (skū·lgɘ̄l). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + GIRL.] A girl attending school.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. ii, Fortune, wearied out with the school-girl's tricks she had been playing me. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Boswell's Johnson* ¶ 5 Every school-girl knows the lines: 'Scarce had lamented Forbes paid..'. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xiii, You play a little, I see; like any other English school-girl.

b. *attrib.* passing into adj.

1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 87 A proper school-girl tone. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xiv, Not three in three thousand raw school-girl-governesses would have answered me as you have just done.

Hence **Schoo·lgirlhood,** the state or condition of being a schoolgirl. **Schoo·lgirlism,** the action or conduct of a schoolgirl. **Schoo·lgirly** *a.*, like a schoolgirl, schoolgirlish.

1885 *Spectator* 1010/2 It is all absurdly missish and schoolgirly. 1889 'F. ANSTEY' *Pariah* I. ii, It isn't nearly so school-girly as it used to be, is it? 1893 COLLINGWOOD *Life Ruskin* I. 60 Emancipated from schoolgirlhood. 1901 *Academy* 8 June 495/2 Southport, with its sponge-cakeyness and school-girlism is surely worth study.

Schoolgirlish (skū·lgɘ̄liʃ), *a.* [-ISH.] Resembling or characteristic of a schoolgirl.

1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh up as Fl.* I. i. 9 So schoolgirlish as if you had never seen a man before! 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* III. 8 What a romantic schoolgirlish notion!

Hence **Schoolgirlishness.**

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct. 5/2 That rather objectionable quality..'school-girlishness', sentimentality, or 'gush'.

Schoo·l-house.

1. A building appropriated for the use of a school; also, the dwelling-house provided by the school authorities for the use of the schoolmaster or schoolmistress, usually attached to or adjoining a school.

1429 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 122 Unam domum vocatam 'Scolehous'. 1523-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 321 Paid for makyng clene of a chambre in the Abbottes yn for to be a skole howse for Northfolkes children. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 40 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, Maitland, Melwill, and Matchevellous, Learned never mair knaifrie in a scholehous. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 18 To haue her knight into her schoole-house plaste That of her heauenly learning he might taste. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 156 It is an easie thing for one to be a deepe scholer,..& yet bee as prone to drunkenness [etc.] as hee that neuer saw the inside of a school-house. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 115 In the Diocesse of Raphoe there is a freeschoole..but there is noe publicke schoolhouse built there or elsewhere in that Diocesse. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, But when, seated on the benches of the school-house, they began to con their lessons together, Reuben [etc.]. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 72 If the managers or teacher of any school refuse..to allow the inspector to inspect the schoolhouse or examine any scholar. 1875 MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 45 Here are the school-house, play-ground, and teacher's dwelling.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxii. 147 þe tauerne is welle of glotonye, for it may be clepyd þe develys scolehous & þe deuelys chapel. 1541 (*title*) Here begynneth a lytle boke named the Scole house of women. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 62 Erasmus..saide wiselie that experience is the common scholehouse of foles, and ill men. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 252 He doth first traine them vp in the schoolehouse of His church.

c. *attrib.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 426 Hym happend se þe scolehowse dure oppyn. 1679 *First Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 427 To Sam: Ely..for entertaining the schoole house raisers.. 1. 05. 00. 1841-4 EMERSON *Ess., Love* Wks. (Bohn) I. 73 The rude village boy teases the girls about the school-house door.

2. At some public schools, the name given to the headmaster's house. Also, the boys belonging to the 'school-house'.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, The long line of grey buildings, beginning with the chapel, and ending with the school-house, the residence of the head-master. *Ibid.*, The School-house are being penned in their turn, and now the ball is behind their goal. 1887 *Spectator* 25 June 859/2 When the sixth form, or the School House, played against the rest of the school.

Schooling (skū·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCHOOL *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of teaching, or the state or fact of being taught, in a school; scholastic education.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 90 But certis her withal y wolde that profound and groundli scoling in logik, philsophi, and dyuynyte, and lawe were not left bihinde. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 121 All the world seeth so many small children, that are orphans, lacking schooling for want of helpe. 1588 W. KEMPE *Educ. Children* F 3 b, He shall proceede to the second degree of Schooling, which consisteth in learning the Grammar. 1599 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, III. ii, That halfyear's schooling at Lichfield was better to thee than house and land. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 422 There is a charity-school..for 36 boys,..for schooling only. 1783 WESLEY *Wks.* 1872 XIII. 93, I will give you a year's schooling and board at Kingswood School. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., Whose sons he had at bed, board, and schooling, for twenty pounds per annum a-head. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 138 To give her Sunday-schooling, and a certain amount of weekday schooling in the year. 1844 THACKERAY *Barry Lyndon* i, Six weeks' was all the schooling I got. 1894 MRS. OLIPHANT *Hist. Sk. Q. Anne* vii. 337 The son..after sundry local schoolings went to Charterhouse. 1904 R. C. JEBB *Bacchylides* (Proc. Brit. Acad.) 17 The man of mere lore and schooling.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H iij b, Suerly it shulde not greue me so moche, so it myghte be lefull for me, nowe to folowe thy dyscipline .i. to be one of thy scoolynge. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xx. (1634) 740 The ceremoniall law was the schooling of the Jewes. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* Introd. iv, Then, Lucy, hear thy tutor speak, For Love, too, has his hours of schooling. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. ix. III. 53 The severe schooling of these wars had prepared it for entering on a bolder theatre of action. 1852 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* i. (1876) 158 His mind had had a different schooling. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 12 But perhaps there is no schooling so good for an author as his own youthful indiscretions. 1899 H. LATHAM (*title*), Pastor Pastorum, or the Schooling of the Apostles of our Lord.

c. The maintenance of a child at school, considered as involving expense; hence, cost of school education.

1563 *Haddington Council Rec.* in J. Miller *Rem. Old Haddington* (1883) 183 Ilk bairn [was to pay] ilk term xij of skoilings silver alanerlie. *c* 1610 LADY COMPTON in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) III. 438 Find my Children Apparel and their Schooling. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1099 Schooling or school-hire, *minerval.* 1741 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 34 His parents..being no longer able to continue his schooling. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (ed. 2) I. iv. 25 She could not afford to pay for her little lass's schooling. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvi, She would..pay his half-year's schooling. 1885 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 150/2 The husband refused to pay for the schooling of one of the two youngest daughters.

fig. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* B v, In deede during the raigne of Francis the second they were euen with him, and paid for their scholing, as hereafter more at large wil appeare.

d. The employment or profession of teaching in school; 'schoolmastering'. *rare.*

1837 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 149 They had not much of a school, only five or six boys; I do not think that schooling will ever be their vocation.

attrib. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 621 For such is all the mental food purvey'd By public hacknies in the schooling trade.

e. *slang.* A term of confinement in a reformatory.

1879 HORSLEY *Jottings fr. Jail* i. (1887) 8 'This is young ——, just come home from a schooling' (a term in a reformatory).

† **2.** Disciplinary correction, chastisement; also, admonition, reproof, scolding. *Obs.*

1557 N. T. (Genev.) 2 *Cor.* Argt., Albeit certeyn wicked persones abused his afflictions to condemne therby his autoritie, yet they were necessarie schollings, and sent to hym by God for their bettering. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 116 But Demetrius come, And come Egeus, you shall go with me, I haue some priuate schooling for you both. 1601 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *St. Papers, Dom.* 1598-1601 (1869) 544 The Lord Keeper has had some schooling about it [the vacant Mastership of the Rolls], and is much troubled, but only cares that Hele may miss it. 1703 QUICK *Serious Inquiry* 32 And she would be there in her stead to give him such a Schooling.., as he never had in all his Life. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiii, I confess I thought the schooling as severe as the case merited.

† b. *To have in schooling*: to be engaged in tutoring or admonishing. *Obs.*

1553 *Respublica* v. vi. 1537 Ah, in feith, dame Veritee hath had youe in scooling of late. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 597 Because ther is such warning before vs, now we haue the drunkard in schooling, I will spend the time that is left to shew you the deformity of this sinne.

3. a. The training or exercising of horse and rider in the riding-school. b. The exercising of horses in the hunting field. Also *attrib.*, as *schooling-match.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *School*, or *Schooling*, in the manege, is used to signify the lesson and labour both of the horse and horseman. 1860 TROLLOPE *C. Richmond* iii, In Ireland a schooling match means the amusement of teaching your horses to jump. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xxvii, Ralph had gone..to improve the occasion by testing the schooling of the four-year-old filly..over the timber obstacles. 1890 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 3/7 The schooling of horses over hurdles and fences. 1893 *Star* 24 Dec. 3/6 Alec Taylor has had schooling hurdles put up.

4. *slang.* (See quots.)

1859 *Slang Dict., Schooling*, a low gambling party. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec. 1/1, I saw no 'schooling' or gambling groups.

Schoo·ling, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[2] and *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of swimming together in schools or shoals.

1880 *Rep. Roy. Comm. Fishing N. S. Wales* 12 [The schnapper] has its periods of migration and accumulation in shoals, a movement so well expressed by the term 'schooling' that we shall adopt the phrase for the future. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 374 In November, when schooling begins, the fish are full-roed.

attrib. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 12 The schooling-season is midsummer.

Schoo·ling, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCHOOL *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

1. That schools, instructs or educates; also, † admonishing, reproving.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. v. 73 Let me reckon with you, Harriet, said Miss Grandison (taking my hand with a schooling air). 1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* 333 All the schooling spheres he had passed through. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 65 And the schooling bullet leaped across and showed them whence they came.

2. Attending school.

1890 *Star* 15 Dec. 4/3 We have over 1,000 schooling children.

Schoo·ling, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That swim together in 'schools'.

1873 S. POWEL in *Rep. U. S. Fish Commission* 1871-2, 74 The scup are known to be schooling, wandering fish of the high seas; and come from the Gulf Stream and from the Florida Cape. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 189 Mackerel, mullet, silversides and all our other schooling species contribute also a share to its support.

Schoo·lingly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. SCHOOLING *vbl. sb.*[1] + -LY[2].] So as to afford a lesson.

1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* I. v, The end..came abruptly, and was schoolingly cold and short.

† **Schoo·lish,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Savouring of the 'schools', scholastic.

c 1618 BOLTON *Hypercrit.* iv. § 5 In this fine and meer schoolish Folly..George Buchanan is often taken.

Schoo·l-keeper, schoo·lkeeper.

1. One who 'keeps school'; applied to a schoolmaster or mistress. So **School-keeping.**

1857 H. MORLEY *Gossip* 183 After two years of schoolkeeping. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. iv. 126 God is too strong for City men and school-keepers. 1885 [W. H. WHITE] *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* iv, He was tired of schoolkeeping in England.

2. The caretaker of a school building.

1889 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 3/6 A small room in the schoolkeeper's house. 1898 *Ibid.* 10 Sept. 3/6 Making it requisite for the schoolkeepers to undertake the arduous work of carrying up the water for flushing these closets.

Schoolless (skū·llĕs), *a.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no school, or attending no school.

1614 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 1009 [The Holy Spirit enables] Som (School-lesse, Schollers; Learned, studi-lesse) To understand and speak all Languages. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 151 Our schoolless art..has wandered into strange and lower lands. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 101 The 21,025 schoolless children of Glasgow. 1904 J. WELLS *Life J. H. Wilson* xiv. 119 The Saltmarket..was swarming with school-less arabs.

Schoo·l-ma'am. *U.S.* Also -marm. A schoolmistress.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. viii, She is the best School-ma'am I ever went to. 1886 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 82 The school-ma'am..walking thence to the..shanty where she taught the young ones. 1897 GUNTER *Susan Turnbull* xi. 131 In this cheerful way the Schoolmarm runs on for over an hour, the sky looking very dark for poor Irene.

Schoolman (skū·lmăn). [SCHOOL *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schulmann*, a man belonging to the scholastic profession.]

1. One of the succession of writers, from about the 9th to the 14th century, who treat of logic, metaphysics, and theology as taught in the 'schools' or universities of Italy, France, Germany, and England; a mediæval scholastic.

a 1540 BARNES *Art.* xvii. Wks. (1573) 213/1 Your owne scholemen say, the popes power is so greate, that no man can, nor may discusse it. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 76 Peter Lombard and the other scholemen. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *God's Arrow* v. (1614) 87 Thomas Aquinas, a schoolman of the Papists. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvii. 383 The frivolous Distinctions, barbarous Terms, and obscure Language of the Schoolmen. 1690 LOCKE *2nd Let. Toleration* 38 And the Artisan must sell his Tools, to buy Fathers and School-men, and leave his Family to starve. 1751 HUME *Enq. Princ. Morals* vi. 120 He would stand, like the Schoolman's Ass, irresolute and undetermin'd, betwixt equal Motives. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1907) I. 170 The substantial forms and entelechies of Aristotle and the schoolmen. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. i. 17 This opinion which was propounded by the schoolman Ockham.

2. One who is versed in the traditional learning of the 'schools', *esp.* (cf. sense 1) one who is expert in formal logic or school-divinity. ? *Obs.*

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* 103 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 434 It is no play..for lay men; But only for schole men For they be witty men. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 115 Wonderfully courteous, a ripe Schooleman. 1590 NASHE *Pref. to Greene's Arcadia* (1616) 2 Some deepe-read Schoolemen or Grammarians. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 202 The King had (though hee were no good Schooleman) the Honour to conuert one of them [*sc.* heretics] by Dispute at Canterburie. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Women Pleas'd* IV. i, To absolve this Riddle? Diviners, Dreamers, Schoolemen, deep Magitians, All have I tride, and all give severall meanings. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems, The Will* 30 To Schoolemen I bequeath my doubtfulnesse. 1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 134 In the schools at Rome..it was held by the majority of the school men to be lawfull. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 81 Let subtle schoolmen teach these friends to fight, More studious to divide than to unite.

3. One engaged in scholastic pursuits; a professional teacher or student.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 278 ¶ 1 Of late she has got acquainted with a Schoolman, who values himself for his great Knowledge in the Greek Tongue. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 110 These quotations are made use of..to deter certain schoolmen whom they have been concerned to see employing their hours in censuring, or rather abusing those literary personages. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* Pref. 15 These great matters fell into the hands of monks and schoolmen. 1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 80 The schoolman was greater than the warrior.

4. *slang.* A fellow-member of a 'school' or gang.

1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, 'Jerry Juniper's Chaunt', The knucks in quod did my schoolmen play.

Schoolmaster (skū·lmɑstəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: see SCHOOL *sb.*[1] and MASTER *sb.*[1] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + MASTER *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schulmeister*, Du. *schoolmeester*, Sw. *skolmästare*, Da. *skolemester.*]

1. The master of a school, or one of the masters in a school.

† *Schoolmaster of Grammar*: a teacher of Latin in a school.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 522 þes sondes mon..brohte wið him fifti scolemaistres. 1429 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 118 Mayster John Pynchard, skolemayster of Grammer, shall haue the place that he duelleth Inne for xl s. ye yere, whyles that he duellithe In hit & holdythe gramer skole hym-self ther-Inne. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* xv. 18 Othir scolemaiestres vse the same way now. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xv. (1880) I. 166 If the name of a schole maister were nat so moche had in contempte. 1546 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 198 For the meyntenaunce of a scolemaster of Gramer. *a* 1583 SIR H. GILBERT *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 2 First, there shalbe one Scholemaister, who shall teach Grammar, both greke and latine. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 465 [He and] Robert Maxual baith scuil maisteris. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 254 Master Lilye Schoole-maister of Paules. *Ibid.* 761 Reginold Bainbrig..head schoolemaster of Appleby. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 16. 245 'Twould be a hard Matter, to persuade any one, that the Words which his Father or School-Master..used, signified nothing that really existed in Nature. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 173 Every good scholar is not fitted for a schoolmaster, the art of teaching is quite different from that of knowing the language taught. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 249 The sum commonly paid to a schoolmaster in Peshawer, is about fifteen pence a month. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney) *s.v.*, The heads of the examination of a schoolmaster for the Royal Navy, are as follows.

b. *The schoolmaster is abroad*: a saying of Ld. Brougham (see quot. 1828) which became proverbial, at first in its original meaning as expressing exulting confidence in the results of the spread of popular education, afterwards chiefly in derisive use.

Sometimes jocularly misapplied, as if *abroad* meant 'not at home', 'gone out of the country'.

1828 BROUGHAM in *Times* 30 Jan. 3/3 Let the soldier be abroad, in the present age he could do nothing. There was another person abroad...The schoolmaster was abroad.. and he trusted more to him, armed with his primer, than he did to the soldier in full military array, for upholding and extending the liberties of his country. 1831 PRAED *Why & Wherefore* in *Pol. & Occas. Poems* (1888) 138 The schoolmaster's abroad, you see; And, when the people hear him speak, They all insist on being free, And reading Homer in the Greek; The Bolton weavers seize the pen, The Sussex farmers scorn the plough. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockmaker* Ser. I. xv, Well, they've got a cant phrase here, 'the schoolmaster is abroad', and every feller tells you that fifty times a day. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. x, In those dark days, before the schoolmaster was abroad. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* ii, 'Well, I believe it's quite a new thing,' said Marie Tudor. 'The school-master must be abroad with a vengeance, if he has got as far as that.' [1886 MINCHIN *Growth Freedom Balkan Penin.* 53 The progress of education in Bosnia and Herzegovina since the Austrian occupation has been immense. The schoolmaster has crossed the Save. Since 1878, no less than forty schools have been established under Government auspices.]

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1526 TINDALE *Gal.* iii. 24 The lawe was oure scolemaster vnto the tyme of Christ. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vi. 51 Therefore the heauenly scholemaster knappeth vs on the fingers, tyll we apprehende and learne his wyll more perfitely. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Inhabitants* 10 Our countrimen have twice beene schoolemaisters to France. First when they taught the Gaules the discipline of the Druides; and after [etc.]. 1678 J. BROWNE *Disc. Wounds* 51 Anatomy.. is an excellent Schoolmaster, the which perfectly learneth us to know how the Nerves which are sprinkled about the Face [etc.]. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 506 The sailors of Salamis became the schoolmasters of Hellas, teaching the Hellenes not to fear the barbarians at sea.

†d. Used for the later SCHOOLMISTRESS. *Obs.*

Quot. *c* 1460 perhaps hardly belongs here, as the poet seems to be comparing the lover's timidity in the presence of his lady to a boy's dread of his schoolmaster. The alteration in the Trinity MS. removes the awkwardness of the expression, but destroys the point.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Ancre ne schal nout forwurðen scolmeistre, ne turnen hire ancre hus to childrene scole. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 137 His scole-maister [*MS. Trin.* scolemaystress] had suche auctorite That..Speke coude he nat, but upon her beaute.

†e. Applied to a private tutor. *Obs.*

c 1510 *Robt. Deuyll* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1827) I. 10 My sone me thyncke it necessary and tyme, for me to gete you a wyse scole mayster, to lerne vertues and doctrine. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *A, A studiis*,..a princes schole maister or instructour in learnyng. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 94 And for I know she taketh most delight In Musike, Instruments, and Poetry, Schoolemasters will I keepe within my house, Fit to instruct her youth. *Ibid.* I. ii. 133. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 226 Dr. Dereham..received one Horner to be a schoole-mr. to some youthe in his howse. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 45 A yong Scholar, who was then School-master in his Familie.

2. Used as a name for certain species of fishes. Also *attrib.*

1734 MORTIMER *Nat. Hist. Carolina & Bahamas* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 316 *Perca marina, pinnis branchialibus carens.* The School-master. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 55 The School-master Snapper and Silk Snapper of the fishermen probably belong to this genus.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 103 The schoolmaster-like governement began to slacke and cease. *Ibid.* 104 Schoole-master-like whippings inflicted in former times. 1898 A. D. COLERIDGE *Eton in Forties* 401 Okes was conscious of a difficulty in divesting himself of a schoolmaster manner. 1898 *Academy* 5 Nov. 189/1 Thring was the most original and striking figure in the schoolmaster world of his time.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Schoo·lmasterhood,** the state or condition of a schoolmaster. **Schoo·lmasterism,** the action of a schoolmaster.

1861 E. STEERE in *Mem.* (1888) 400 Dry schoolmasterism is a dreary thing, but dry formal office-saying and Bible-reading is a great deal worse. 1887 *Spectator* 29 Oct. 1452 With no more knowledge of actual schoolmasterhood than such as he had gained in organising the squire's school.

Schoo·lmaster, *sb.*[2] [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[2], after SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1]] The leader of a 'school' of fishes, etc.; esp. a bull whale.

1839 BEALE *Sperm Whale* 178 The old 'schoolmaster had outwitted those in the boats. 1848 *Chamb. Inform. People* I. 692/1 The sailors call a herd [of whales] a 'school', and the old bulls the 'schoolmasters'. 1851 H. NEWLAND *The Erne* 181 Your honour might have landed a schoolmaster [*i. e.* salmon] with it ten minutes afterwards. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* III. ii. 25 Now, as the harem of whales is called by the fisherman a school, so is the lord and master of that school technically known as the schoolmaster.

Schoo·lmaster, *v.* [f. SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To govern, regulate, or command in the manner of a schoolmaster. *rare.*

1891 *Chamb. Encycl.* VII. 611 Opitz, originally a schoolmaster, schoolmastered poetry into lifeless imitation of pseudo-classical models. 1893 G. B. SHAW in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 279 He [Gladstone] so towers above them..that he is able to schoolmaster them into grudging submission.

2. *intr.* To be a schoolmaster. *rare.*

1908 *Daily Chron.* 18 June 4/6 Carlyle and Edward Irving, who schoolmastered together in the same Kirkcaldy Academy for a couple of years.

Schoo·lmastering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1] + -ING [1].] The occupation or profession of a schoolmaster; also, an education in school.

1844 CRAIK *Sk. Hist. Lit. Eng.* II. 221 His son, though born to the throne..received a schoolmastering fit for a bishop.

1845 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. iii. 100 The native bias is so strong, that it is beyond the art of all the schoolmastering in the world to alter it. 1859 SHAIRP in W. A. Knight *Shairp & his Friends* (1888) 200 As to schoolmastering..all the best comes first. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. v. IV. 301 A *Candidatus*, say Licentiate,..Subsists, I should guess, by schoolmastering..in the Villages about. 1894 PARRY *Stud. Gt. Composers, Schubert* 227 Schoolmastering was a characteristic occupation of the family.

Schoo·lmastering, *ppl. a.* [f. SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1] + -ING [2].] Like, or acting as, a schoolmaster.

1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* vii, You don't take me for that lubberly school-mastering parson on board, do you? 1893 *Times* 13 Feb. 5/3 Its artificial schoolmastering tone.

Schoo·lmasterish, *a.* [f. SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Like, or characteristic of, a schoolmaster.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Dec. 1 The duke of Argyll's presence and address are hard, rigid, schoolmasterish. 1883 BLACK *Yolande* II. ix. 157 He claimed a sort of schoolmasterish authority over her. 1896 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Dec. 421/2 At the risk of seeming schoolmasterish.

Hence **Schoo·lmasterishness.**

1789 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 217 Your age and character fit you better for intimacy with him: the schoolmasterishness of mine acting naturally as a repellant.

Schoo·lmasterly, *a.* [-LY [1].] Characteristic of or resembling a schoolmaster.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 15 July 77/1 With a masterly knowledge of his subjects, the member for Lynn never seems to get beyond the schoolmasterly way of treating them. 1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Second Th.* I. xii, Still speaking in that rather harsh and schoolmasterly tone.

Schoo·lmastership. [-SHIP.] The office or work of a schoolmaster; a post as schoolmaster.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 49 He [God] did in dede in fewe wordes sette oute hys [Christ's] schoolemastership vnto vs, when he said, heare him. 1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 105 Not needing that legall schoolemastership. 1892 *Times* 15 Feb. 5/4 Schoolmasterships are likely to be bestowed in future on local candidates. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 July 57/1 He..left his parish schoolmastership at Ruthven.

Schoolmate. [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + MATE *sb.*[2]] A friend or companion at school.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Place & Time of Prayer* I. 141 Shewe you to be like them, whose schole mates you take vppon you to be, that is, the Apostles and Disciples of Christ. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 303 One of her school-mates, who was priding herself over the rest of the scholars. 1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 206 They had been playmates and schoolmates..as long as they could remember.

Schoolmistress (skū·lmistrĕs). Forms: see SCHOOL *sb.*[1] and MISTRESS. A woman who teaches in a school; a mistress in a school. † In early use with wider sense, a female teacher, governess. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1500 *Sir R. Ros's La Belle Dame* 137 (MS. Trin.), [see quot. *c* 1460, SCHOOLMASTER *sb.*[1] 1 d]. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* viii. 4 For she [wisdom] is ye scolemastresse of ye nurtoure of God, & ye choser out of his workes. 1560 BECON *Catech.* VI. Wks. I. 537 b, Al that they [*sc.* nuns] were commaunded to do of their scholemastresses and gouernesses. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XII. xiii. (1604) 176 A schoolemistris of such practises was chosen of purpose, called Locusta of late condemned of empoisoning. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xii. (1640) 59 Phenicia was the schoolmistresse of Grecia, and first taught her her alphabet. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. vii, But Nature, it seems, hath not been so expert a School-mistress. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, She had more of the air of a schoolmistress than Mistress of the Six Jolly-Fellowship-Porters.

†**Schoo·l-point.** *Obs.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + POINT *sb.*] A point taught or debated in the schools.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxiv. 20 It is needful for them to be exercised with sundry scholepoints. 1587 — *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 113 It is also a schoolepoint of Platoes teaching, That in these high matters of the Godhead,..and such other like, we must giue credit..to the sayings of men of most antiquitie, as folke that were..nearer to God than we. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xii[i]. (Arb.) 180 We are to teache Ladies and Gentlewomen to know their schoole points and termes appertaining to the Art. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* v. 12 They stuff their Sermons with.. obscure comparisons, and curious School-points.

attrib. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 131, I neuer saw yet any Commentarie vpon Aristotles Logicke..that euer I lyked, bicause they be rather spent in declaryng scholepoynt rules, than in gathering fit examples for vse and vtterance.

†**Schoo·lric.** *Obs.*—[1] *U. S.* [? f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + *-ric*, after *bishopric.*] ? A school district.

1789 *Hist. Pelham, Mass.* (1898) 227 That Each School Rick Shall Build and Maintain their own School Houses. 1797 *Ibid.* 228 District Lists of the Assesment of every School Rick.

Schoolroom (skū·lrum). [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + ROOM *sb.*]

1. A room in which a school is held. Also, a room in a private house, in which the children of the family receive instruction or prepare their lessons.

1775 ASH, *Schoolroom*, a room in which a school is kept. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. iii, Until there rose From the near schoolroom, voices. 1837 H. PIDGEON *Mem. Shrewsbury* 144 The school rooms are in the rear of the buildings, in which twenty-five boys and as many girls receive their education. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, We have a schoolroom on the second floor, with my bedroom leading into it on one side, and that of the young ladies on the other. 1860 M. ARNOLD *Rep. Elem. Schools* (1889) 86 This..may excuse individual managers for the dirty and unhealthy state of their school-rooms. 1867 W. L. COLLINS *Public Schools* 176 The noble schoolroom [at Westminster], nearly a hundred feet in length.

2. Accommodation for teaching.

1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., The city needs more school-room.

Schoolt, variant of SHALD, shallow.

Schoolward (skū·lwŏ̧ɹd), *adv.* and *a.* [f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1] + -WARD.] **A.** *adv.* Towards school; in the direction of school.

[*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 97 To scoleward and homward whan he wente. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 118 This clerk in his weye to skoleward fell in grete heuynesse.] 1801 WORDSW. *Prioress' T.* 98 Homeward and schoolward whensoe'er he went. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. Introd., Poems 1890 II. 24 The ramble schoolward through dew-sparkling meads. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 47 This mill-pond was dear to every school-ward trudging urchin that had to pass it.

B. *adj.* Directed or going toward school.

1888 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 4/7 By the time a boy reaches the first big station on his schoolward road. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 271 The depression of the schoolward journey.

So **Schoo·lwards** *adv.*

1859 J. C. ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 86 Away they went schoolwards, as hard as they could.

Schooly (skū·lī). *U. S.* [Cf. SCHOOL *sb.*[2]] The menhaden. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Schooner (skū·nəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 8 scooner, skooner, 8– schooner. [Of uncertain origin; recorded early in the 18th c. as *skooner, scooner*; the present spelling, which occurs only a few years later, may be due to form-association with *school*, or with Du. words having initial *sch.* The word has passed from English into most of the European langs.: Du. *schooner, schoener*, G. *schoner, schooner, schuner* (recorded 1786), F. *schooner, schoaner*, Da. *skonnert*, Sw. *skonare, skonert.*

The story commonly told respecting the origin of the word is as follows. When the first schooner was being launched (at Gloucester, Mass., about 1713), a bystander exclaimed 'Oh, how she scoons!' The builder, Capt. Andrew Robinson, replied, 'A scooner let her be!' and the word at once came into use as the name of the new type of vessel. The anecdote, first recorded, on the authority of tradition, in a letter of 1790 (quoted in Babson *Hist. Gloucester*, p. 252), looks like an invention. The etymology which it embodies, however, is not at all improbable, though there seems to be a lack of evidence for the existence of the alleged New England verb *scoon* or *scun*, 'to skim along on the water'. Cf. Sc. (Clydesdale) *scon*, 'to make flat stones skip along the surface of the water', also *intr.* 'to skip in the manner described' (Jam.). The early examples afford strong ground for believing that the word really originated about 1713 in Massachusetts, and probably in the town of Gloucester. The evidence of two or three old prints seems to prove that the type of vessel now called 'schooner' existed in England in the 17th c., but it app. first came into extensive use in New England.]

1. A small sea-going fore-and-aft rigged vessel, originally with only two masts, but now often with three or four masts and carrying one or more topsails.

The rig characteristic of a schooner has been defined as consisting essentially of two gaff sails, the after sail not being smaller than the fore, and a head sail set on a bowsprit.

1716 in *Hist. Rec.* (Boston) XXIX. 231 Y^e^ Skooner Mayflower from North Carolina. 1721 MOSES PRINCE *Let.* in J. J. Babson *Hist. Gloucester* (Mass.) (1860) 252 Went to see Capt. Robinson's lady. This gentleman was the first contriver of schooners, and built the first of the sort about eight years ago. 1724 *Boston (Mass.) News-Letter* 16 Apr., Upon the 4th instant Benjamin Chadwell in the Scooner Good-Will, of Marblehead, was taken by a private sloop. 1725 *Ibid.* 22 Apr., The Schooner Swallow. 1741 in Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* (1743) 126 Witness our Hands, on Board the Speedwell Schooner, in the latitude 50: 40 S. this 8th Day of November, 1741. 1774 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* I. 336 We are in pain for Cap. Dundass and passengers in a scooner sent Express from Gen. Gage, and spoke within Scilly the 16th. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* i, It was the schooner Hesperus, That sailed the wintry sea. 1908 *Toilers of Deep* Sept. 178/2 Both the warship and the fishing schooner were sounding fog-alarms.

2. *U. S.* (See quot. 1904).

1858 [see PRAIRIE SCHOONER]. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* i, The blinding white canvas covers of mountain schooners. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* xii. 174 Goods and passengers are delivered by the railway to be conveyed by 'prairie schooners' over this road. 1904 P. FOUNTAIN *Gt. North-West* xxviii. 342 A prairie schooner is a waggon furnished with all sorts of stores likely to be required in outlying stations and farms.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *schooner-rigged* adj.; **schooner-frigate, -gun-vessel, -yacht,** vessels of various classes resembling a schooner in build or rig.

1799 *Naval Chron.* II. 271 Admiral Knowles constructed..a *schooner frigate, that carried twenty twelve-pounders on the main-deck, and two eighteen-pounders on her forecastle. 1769 [see RIGGED *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1812 *Examiner* 7 Sept. 576/1 A large *schooner-rigged canoe. 1895 *Oracle Encycl.* I. 503/2 *Brigantine*, a small vessel, partly square-rigged and partly schooner-rigged. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Life of Nelson* 136 The..*schooner gun-vessels made their escape. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* XXXV, A *schooner-yacht, whose sheets gleamed like bridal satin.

Schooner (skū·nəɹ), *sb.*[2] [Of obscure origin; perh. a fanciful use of prec.] **a.** *U.S.* 'A tall glass, used for lager-beer and ale, and containing about double the quantity of an ordinary tumbler' (Webster, Suppl. 1879). **b.** Hence, in British use, a customary measure (see quot. 1896) by which beer is sold by retail in various places.

1886 *Boston (Mass.) Jrnl.* 21 July 2/4 Scene: A beer garden. Mr. Schweitzer (referring to the music): 'Dot vos Meyerbeer.' Mr. Hooligan (excitedly, in view of the fact that only one schooner stands on the table between the two gentlemen): 'Ye're a liar, it's *my* beer'. 1895 *N. B. Daily Mail* (Glasgow) 23 Sept. 4 He..had two glasses of whisky and a schooner of beer. 1896 *Ibid.* 7 Mar. 2 Of these [local measures] 'the schooner' containing 14 fluid ounces, or 2 4-5ths imperial gills, occupied perhaps the most prominent place.., being found in everyday use, under various names, in London, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and elsewhere.

c. *Comb.*: **schooner-house**, a place for the sale of schooners of liquor.

1893 E. M. Whittemore *Delia* ix. 59, I was having a big time sporting round schooner houses.

Schoot, obs. f. Schuyt. **Schoppe**, obs. f. Chop *v.*, Shop; obs. pa. t. of Shape *v.*

Schor(e, Schorch, Schorchattis: see Score, Shore, Scorch, Scrochat.

Schorer, obs. f. *chorer* charwoman (see *E.D.D.*).

c 1638 Earl Cork in Dor. Townshend *Life & Lett.* (1904) 303 That all the Women Servants under the Degree of Chambermaids be certainly known by their names to the Steward,..and no Schorers to be admitted in the house.

Schorge, obs. f. Scorch *v.*[1], Scourge *sb.*

Schorl (ʃɔ̄ɪl). *Min.* Forms: 8 schoerl, 8–9 shirl, shorl, schorl. [a. G. *schörl*, quartz and black tourmaline of Haüy. 1855 Leifchild *Cornwall* 72 Schorl may be observed between and approaching the joints of granite in many places, as, for example, near the Logan stone. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* I. 106 These are sandstone, schorls, and clays.

b. *Comb.*, as **schorl-rock** (see quot. 1882); so **schorl-schist**.

1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 132 *Shorl rock. 1838 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* 201 Schorl rock and schorly granite. 1882 Geikie *Text Bk. Geol.* II. ii. § 6. 134 Tourmaline rock or schorl-rock, is a crystalline aggregate of quartz and black tourmaline or schorl. 1885 *Ibid.* II. ii. § 7 (ed. 2) 131 Tourmaline-schist (*Schorl-schist).

Schorlaceous (ʃɔ̄lēɪ·ʃəs), *a. Min.* Also 8 sh-. [f. Schorl + -aceous.] Of the nature of schorl.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 89 A fibrous or striated limestone..which consists of asbestine or shorlaceous particles. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. vi. 157 It is very frequently porphyritic and here and there schorlaceous. 1886 F. H. Butler in *Mineral. Mag.* Dec. 79 The black highly schorlaceous rock.

†**Scho·rlite.** *Min. Obs.* Also 8 shorlite. [ad. G. *schorlit* (Klaproth 1788): see Schorl and -ite[1] 2 b.] = Pycnite.

1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 286 Siliceous genus.. Shorlite...Infusible at 168°, and no way altered by heat. 1821 Jameson *Man. Min.* 189 Schorlite, or Schorlous Topaz. 1836 T. Thomson *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 254 Pycnite, or Schorlous Beryl. Schorlite, *stangenstein*.

Schorlomite (ʃɔ̄·ɹlŏməɪt). *Min.* Also *erron.* schorlamite, schorlemite. [irreg. f. Schorl; named by Shepard 1846 from its resemblance to that mineral.] A vitreous black silicate of titanium, iron and calcium, resembling garnet.

1846 C. U. Shepard in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. II. 252 Fragments of pure schorlomite an inch in diameter..may be detached from this skeleton-crystal. 1858 J. Nicol *Elem. Min.* 275 Sphene, Titanite...Schorlamite, black shining.. from Arkansas, is related. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 426/1 Schorlomite (Ferrotitanite)...Perhaps a titaniferous garnet.

†**Scho·rlous**, *a. Min. Obs.* [f. Schorl + -ous.] Resembling or having the nature of schorl.

1816 Jameson *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 61 This substance.. might then be named schorlous topaz. 1836 [see Schorlite].

†**Scho·rly**, *a. Min. Obs.* [f. Schorl + -ly[1].] Containing schorl; chiefly in *schorly granite*.

1838 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* 201 When felspar and mica are also present, it may be called schorly granite.

Schorn(e, Schorte, obs. ff. Scorn, Shirt.

Schorters(s, Schortschettis: see Scrochat.

‖**Schottische** (ʃɒtī·ʃ, ʃɒ·tiʃ), *sb.* [a. G. (*der*) *schottische* (*tanz*), the Scottish dance.

The quasi-Fr. pronunciation given above is the prevailing one, but has no justification; the form used in Fr. is *scottish*, regarded as Eng. and pronounced (skɒtiʃ); Littré gives also the semi-German spellings *schottish*, *schotisch*, but with the same pronunciation. In German the pronunciation is (ʃɒ·tiʃə).]

A dance of foreign origin resembling the polka, first introduced in England in 1848. Also the music for such a dance.

1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 299 An adept in the *Schottische*. 1862 *Athenæum* 25 Jan. 111/3 The 'Polka tremblante', or Schottisch, is also a Bohemian national dance, and was brought out in Paris by Cellarius in 1844. 1892 E. Scott *Dancing as an Art* 168 The Schottische is very seldom danced now in its original form...The dance consists of two distinct parts...The first part may appear to bear a certain resemblance to the polka; but there is a considerable difference in the nature of the movements.

b. *Highland* or *Balmoral Schottische*: a lively dance resembling the Highland fling. *Military Schottische*: a dance of American origin.

1882 *Society* 21 Oct. 5/2 There were a couple of reels, a Highland Schottische [etc.]. 1894 E. Scott *Dancing* 134 The Military Schottische or Barn Dance was known to and danced by the Americans long before it became generally popular over here. *Ibid.* 137 Scotch music is naturally the music most suitable for the Highland Schottische.

Schottische (ʃɒtī·ʃ), *v.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To dance a schottische.

1872 'Mark Twain' *Innoc. at Home* xiii. in *Roughing It*, etc. (1882) 349, I polked and schottisched with a step peculiar to myself—and the kangaroo.

Schoul, Schourge: see School, Scowl, Scourge.

‖**Schout** (skɑut, in Du. sχout). Also 5–6 scoute, 6 scowte, 7–9 scout. [Du. *schout*, MDu. *schout*, *schoutet*, *schoutheet*, corresponding to OS. *sculthêto* (Essen Gl.), MLG. *schultête*, *schulte* (mod. LG. *schulte*), OE. *sculthéta* (Corpus Gl.), *scyldhéta*, *-hâta*. OFris. *skeldata*, *skelta*, OHG. *scultheizo*, *-heizo* (MHG. *schultheize*, *-heitze*, mod G. *schultheiss*, *schulz*, *schulze*):—OTeut. type **skuldi-*, *skuldohaiton-*, *-tjon-*, f. **skuldi-z*, *skuldā* obligation, duty, + **hait-* to command (see Hight *v.*). Cf. med.L. *sculletus*.] A municipal or administrative officer in the Low Countries and in Dutch colonies.

Originally the *schout* was the lord's bailiff in a subject town or village. In later use the functions and status of the officers so named have varied according to time and place as widely as have those of the English *bailiff*, the term sometimes denoting a municipal dignitary of high rank, and sometimes a mere police officer.

c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 43 Bayllyes, scoutes, Some of the skepyns, Ryde with. *a* 1500 *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 230 We late you weten in beryng witnesse and certifiyng for troueth that ye day of the date of these presentis before oure scoute and vs and appered thesse persones. 1533 J. Coke in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 44, I resorted to the Scowte, borowmaisters, and skepyns of the said towne of Barowe. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 285 Ten Judges of criminall causes (vulgarly called Skout). 1670 Temple *Let. to Sir Y. Trevor* 15 Aug., Wks. 1720 II. 233 They said the Magistrates did not know the Man, nor any of their Officers. But if I could send some body that did to the Town-house, they would send their Scout with him to execute what I desired. 1673 — *Obs. United Prov.* ii. 82 The Scout, who takes care of the Peace, seizes all Criminals, and sees the Sentences of Justice executed, and whose Authority is like that of a Sheriff in a County with us, or a Constable in a Parish. 1809 [see Schepen]. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Schout*, a water-bailiff in many northern European ports, who superintends the police for seamen.

Schout, obs. form of Scout *sb.*[3]

Schow(e, obs. ff. She, Shoe *v.*, Shove.

Schowhe, obs. variant of Chough.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 84/2 Coo, birde, or schowhe, *monedula, nodula*.

Schownd, Schowne: see Schynd, Soon.

Schoy(e, Schoyne, obs. forms of She, Shoe.

Schrad, Schreame, Schreape, Schreen(e, obs. forms of Shred, Scream, Scrape, Screen.

Schreibersite (ʃrəi·bəɪzəit). *Min.* [Named after von *Schreibers*, of Vienna.] A phosphide of iron and nickel occurring in meteoric iron.

1846 C. U. Shepard in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. II. 383 Schreibersite. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* § 318 Besides these substances, a compound of iron, phosphorus and nickel, called schreibersite, is generally found: this compound is unknown in terrestrial chemistry.

Schrepe, obs. form of Scrape.

Schrich-owl, obs. form of Screech-owl.

Schrippe, Schrole, obs. ff. Scrip *sb.*[1], Scroll *sb.*

Schrozatis: see Scrochat *Sc. Obs.*

‖**Schrund** (ʃrund). [Ger.] A crevasse.

1871 E. Whymper *Scrambles amongst Alps* xiv. (1900) 263 A schrund is simply a big crevasse. 1884 — in *Good Words* Feb. 101/1 Schrunds or great crevasses.

Schryche, obs. form of Screech.

Schuce, var. Scuse. **Schuche**, obs. f. Such.

Schucheon, -ion, obs. forms of Scutcheon.

‖**Schuit** (skoit, Du. sχöit). Also 7 scuit, 9 schuyt. [Du. *schuit*, earlier *schuyt*:—MDu. *schûte*, adopted in Eng. as *scute*, *scoute*, etc. (see Scout *sb.*). Cf. Shout *sb.*[1]] A Dutch flat-bottomed river-boat.

1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 28/2 There were seven or eight hundred Seamen sent from Rotterdam, with sixteen or twenty Scuits, and two Men of War. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxvii, He's built like a Dutch schuyt, great breadth of beam, and very square tuck. 1899 *Academy* 18 Nov. 567/1 The Dutch eel schuyt is familiar to Londoners.

Schul, Schulde, obs. ff. Shall, Shield.

†**Schuldere.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. Given as a synonym of Colder *sb.*[1]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 86/2 Coolder, schuldere,..*petrosa*.

Schuldi, variant of Shildy *a.*, guilty.

†**Schule**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ME. *schüle*, repr. OE. **scýlan*, **sciclan* (only in comb. *bescýlan*), f. *sceolh* awry, oblique. Cf. OHG. *scîlihen* (MHG. *schilhen*, mod.G. *schielen*).] *intr.* To look obliquely.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Summe iuglurs beoð þet ne kunnen seruen of non oðer gleo, buten makien cheres, & wrenchen mis hore muð, & schulen mid hore eien. *Ibid.* 212, & 3if þer is out to eadwiten, oðer lodlich, þiderward heo schuleð mid eiðer eien.

Schule, Schull: see School, Shall, Shovel.

†**Schulle.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ME. = MDu., MLG. *schulle*, *scholle* (mod.Du. *schol*), whence mod.G. *scholle*. Cf. Da *skulle*, *skulde*, Norw. *skuldra* (Aasen).] A plaice.

a 1300 *Havelok* 759 Þe Butte, þe schulle, þe þornebake.

Schulle: see Shall, Shell, Shill *a.*, Skull.

Schultze (ʃu·ltsə). [The name of Eduard *Schultze*, the inventor, used attrib.] *Schultze* (also *Schultze's*) *gunpowder*, *powder*: an explosive having nitrolignin as its chief constituent, first made in England in 1863; hence *Schultze cartridge*, one charged with this powder.

1881 Greener *Gun* 321 Schultze powder...Schultze gunpowder..is manufactured from light fibrous woods. 1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 139/2, I have used a large quantity of Schultze cartridges during the past season.

Schulzite (ʃu·ltsəit). *Min.* [Named after its discoverer W. *Schulz*: see -ite.] = Geocronite.

1849 J. Nicol *Man. Min.* 483 Geokronite occurs..at Mérédo in Galicia..with galena (*Schulzite*).

Schunder, -ir, obs. Sc. forms of Sunder.

Schup(e, obs. forms of Shape *v.*, Ship.

†**Schur.** *Obs. rare.* [= MLG. *schûr*, OHG. *scûr*; cf. the derivative OHG. *scûra*, LG. *schüre*, mod.G. *scheuer* barn.] A shed, hovel.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4049 And þar þai schewid him in schurrys [orig. *tugurria*] to schellis & to caues. 1455 in Stevenson *Rental of Houses in Gloucester* 18 Ric. Hanley, cuttelar, tenet..unum curtilagium cum schura.

Schurge, Schurgynge, Schurling: see Scourge, Shrugging, Shorling.

Schut, obs. form of Scout *sb.*[3]

Schute, variant of Chute.

1817 J. Bradbury *Trav.* 317 They pass betwixt two rocks in the Indian schute.

Schute, obs. form of Shit, Shoot.

Schw, obs. form of She, Show.

Schwartzembergite (ʃwā·ɹtsəmbɔ̄ɹgəit). *Min.* [Named by Dana, 1868, after *Schwartzemberg*, its discoverer: see -ite.] Oxy-chloro-iodide of lead, found in small yellow crystals.

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 120. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 385.

Schwassle: see Swatchel.

Schwatzite (ʃwæ·tsəit). *Min.* Also erron. schwartzitə. [Named in 1853, f. *Schwaz*, Tyrol + -ite.] A mercurial variety of tetrahedrite.

1887 Dana *Man. Min. & Petrogr.* 150 *Schwatzite*. 1891 T. E. Thorpe *Applied Chem.* II. 97/1 Mercurial fahl-ore has been named Schwatzite, from Schwatz in Tyrol.

Schweizerite (ʃwəi·tsəɹəit). *Min.* [Named in 1847 after M. E. *Schweizer*, its discoverer: see -ite.] = Antigorite. In some recent Dicts.

Schwendenerism (ʃwe·ndĕnəriz'm). [f. *Schwendener* + -ism.] The theory of S. Schwendener, a German botanist (1829–) that lichens are parasite fungi growing upon algæ (see quot.).

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 556/2 Not being able otherwise to account for the origin of the gonidia, and following up one or two alternatives put forward by De Bary..he [*sc.* Schwendener] promulgated the hypothesis now familiarly known as Schwendenerism.

‖**Schwe·nkfelder.** Also **Schwenckfelder, Schwenkfeldter.** [Ger.] = Schwenkfeldian *sb.*

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2404 The Schwenckfelders do not observe the sacraments. 1884 *American* VIII. 280 There are Germans, also, who are Schwenkfeldters.

Schwenkfeldian (ʃweŋkfe·ldiən), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 **Zuenk-, Swenk-, Suengfeldian, Schuenkfildian.** [f. the name *Schwenkfeld* + -ian.] **a.** *sb.* One of a sect founded by Caspar Schwenkfeld, a Silesian Protestant mystic (1490–1561). **b.** *adj.* Belonging to this sect.

1562 tr. *Jewel's Apol.* 19 b, Certen newe sectes..as Anabaptistes,..Zuenkfeldians. 1564 Harding *Answ. Jewel's Challenge* xv. 154 The Swenkfeldians. 1587 T. Rogers *Eng. Creed* II. 41 Who wil not vse the Sacraments at al, but contemne them, as the Schuenkfildians. 1876 R. Barclay *Inner Life Relig. Soc.* 243 In 1734, forty Schwenkfeldian families travelled to England, and finally emigrated to Pennsylvania. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 463/2 Schwenkfeld left behind him a sect (who were called subsequently by others Schwenkfeldians, but who called themselves 'Confessors of the Glory of Christ').

Hence **Schwenkfeldianism.**

1579 *St. Papers, Foreign* 1579–80, 81 Nestorianism, Eutychianism, Suengfeldianism and the like damnable heresies.

Schwlis, obs. Sc. pl. f. Shovel. **Schwne, Schwt**: see Shun, Shoot. **Schwyne**, obs. Sc. f. *shoon*: see Shoe. **Schye, Schyffe, Schygge**, obs. ff. Sky, Sheave, Shig. **Schyld, -er, Schyl(e, Schylle, Schyn**, obs. ff. Child, Shoulder, Skill, Shell, Chain. **Schynbalde, -band, -bawde**: see Shin-.

†**Schynd, skynd.** *Orkney* and *Shetland. Obs.* Also schoind, schownd. [repr. ON. *skyn* perception, in MSw. examination, inquiry.] See quot. 1859. Also *attrib.*

1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zeild.* (1859) 58 For making of the divisioun of the said airschip, callit ane Scheind. *Ibid.*, The Laird compellit him to pay ane ox pryce, viz.—thre dolouris, for his scheind fee. 1592 *Ibid.* 102 Ane breiff of divisioun, callit in Denmark and Norroway ane Shownd Bill. 1859 D. BALFOUR *Ibid.* Gloss. 128 *Schynd, Schoind, Schownd*, an Inquest of Thingmen to examine, sanction, and confirm all procedure respecting the Succession, Impignoration, or Alienation of Heritage; anciently by a *vivâ voce* doom, but frequently (after the accession of the Scottish Jarls) by a Skynd-bref or 'Schynd Bill'. 1883 J. R. TUDOR *Orkneys & Shetl.* ii. 18 If disputes arose as to the due division of the property, it was settled by a *Schynd*, or inquest held by the Odallers who constituted the local *Thing* or court of the district.

Schyp, obs. f. SHEEP, SHIP. **Schyppune:** see SHIPPEN. **Schyrche,** obs. f. CHURCH. **Schyr(e, Schyrray, Schyrreff,** obs. ff. SHIRE, SHERIFF. **Schytle, -ttyl, Schytte,** obs. ff. SHUTTLE, SHUT. **Schytylle,** var. SHITTLE *a.* **Schytz,** obs. f. SKETCH. **Schyver, -vyr,** obs. ff. SHIVER. **Schyyd:** see SHIDE.

† **Scia.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 scie. Cf. SCIAT. [med.L., app. aphetic for the pl. *ischia* (see ISCHIUM) taken as sing.] The hip.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* II. x. 176 þe place of þe coniuncioun of þese boones is clepid þe scie. *Ibid.* 177 þat oon veyne þerof is clepid sciatica, & þat oþere is clepid renalis, &..oon veyne seruiþ for þe scie, & þat oþer for þe reynes. 1542 R. COPELAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iij b, The great fote lasteth fro the ioynt of the huckle called scia, vnto the ferdest parte of the toes.

‖ **Sciæna** (səi,ī·nă). [L., a. Gr. σκίαινα a fish, perh. the meagre.] † **a.** In the 18th c. a name of the MAIGRE. *Obs.* **b.** In mod. scientific use, the name of the genus to which the meagre (*S. aquila*) belongs; also a fish of this genus.

1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 62 The Sciæna.

Sciænoid (səi,ī·noid), *a.* and *sb. Ichth.* [f. SCIÆN-A + -OID. Cf. F. *sciénoïde.*] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to, characteristic of or resembling a sciænoid or the sciænoids. **b.** *sb.* A fish of the family *Sciænidæ* (of which SCIÆNA is the type).

1840-5 OWEN *Odontogr.* I. 100 Sciænoids [etc.]. 1863 T. GILL in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 28 Catalogue of the North American Sciænoid Fishes. 1880 GÜNTHER *Study of Fishes* 427 To this fish (*Pogonia chromis*) more especially is given the name of 'Drum', from the extraordinary sounds which are produced by it and other allied Sciænoids.

‖ **Sciage** (sī·āj). [Fr., f. *scier* to saw.] A sawing movement of the hand used in massage.

1885 D. MAGUIRE *Massage* (ed. 4) 46 Sciage is a pressure of a come-and-go movement, similar to the action of a saw, and is practised with the hard side of the hand. 1900 in GOULD *Dict. Med.*

[Sciagram, -grammatic, etc. These forms, which the prevailing rules for the treatment of words of Greek etymology would require instead of SKIAGRAM, etc., do not appear to have been in actual use down to the present time (1910). The words are therefore given in this Dictionary with the spelling *Sk-*. The forms SKIAGRAPH, -GRAPHER, etc., which are almost universally adopted for the terms relating to the production of pictures by means of the Röntgen rays, are given in their alphabetical place, though etymologically identical with SCIAGRAPH, etc.]

Sciagraph (səi·ăgrɑf). Forms: 7 sciograph, 7, 9 sciagraph. [Formed (as if on Gr. type *σκιάγραφον) after SCIAGRAPHY.]

† **1.** A representation of the section of a building. *Obs.* So F. *sciagraphie.* (Cf. SCIAGRAPHY 2 b.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sciagraph* (*schigrapha*) a description of the whole frame and contrivance of every room. 1855 in OGILVIE, Suppl.

† **2.** A diagram. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1657 J. B[EALE] *Herefordsh. Orch.* 17, I did..set kernels of the finest sort of apples, with delineating in a sciograph the several kinds in severall places.

3. A picture obtained by means of the Röntgen rays. See SKIAGRAPH.

1898 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 6/7 The visible effect of the X Rays is only..a shadow...It is not enough for the surgeons to have a fine 'sciagraph'. 1901 *Nature* 24 Oct. 625/1 A sciagraph exhibited before a meeting of the Zoological Society.

Sciagrapher (səi,æ·grăfəɹ). *rare.* Also 7 scio-. [f. Gr. σκιᾰγράφ-ος, later σκιογράφος (f. σκιά shadow + -γράφος depicting, etc.) + -ER[1]: see -GRAPHER.] One who practises sciagraphy.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 205 The complete Sciographer can cause the Sun to trace out his way upon the Earth; and by the Shadow of an Axis, to point out to us those Atomes of Time into which our artificial Day is..divided. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 136. 113 Apollodorus of Athens, the sciagrapher, was the first who directed a deeper study to the gradations of light and shade.

Sciagraphic (səi,ăgræ·fik), *a.* Also scio- and see SKIAGRAPHIC. [f. Gr. σκιᾰγράφ-ος (see prec.) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to sciagraphy.

1815 R. BROWN *Princ. Pract. Perspective* 2 Sciographic Perspective is the art of projecting shadows of objects from a luminous body. 1867 BARRY *Life C. Barry* ix. 308 Sciographic and orthographic rules and systems.

Sciagraphical (səi,ăgræ·fikăl), *a.* Also 7–8 scio-. [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to sciagraphy; of the nature of a sciagraph.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* VIII. 698 This Sciographical Art [*sc.* Dialling]. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 76 These Sciographical Pamphlets [*sc.* on Dialling] were writ at the desire of William Tyler. 1892 *Cornhill Mag.* June 633 A shadowy cross, cast by crosslights, on the shaft of the central pillar of the Lady Chapel, which is surely a sciagraphical curiosity.

Hence **Sciagra·phically** *adv.* 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Sciagraphy (səiæ·grăfi). Forms: 6–9 sciography, 7, 9 sciagraphy. See also SKIAGRAPHY. [a. F. *sciagraphie, sciographie*, ad. L. *scia-, sciographia*, a. Gr. σκιᾰ-, σκιογραφία, f. σκιᾰ-, σκιογράφος: see SCIAGRAPHER.]

1. That branch of the science of Perspective which deals with the projection of shadows; also, the delineation of an object in perspective with its gradations of light and shade. Cf. SCENOGRAPHY 1.

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* IV. xxii. 173 Sciographie is..the second part of Perspective; considering the self same reasons of the shaddowes of bodies, which Delineation or drawing doth. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 122 Scenography, or (as some) Sciagraphy, which is the same object elevated upon the same draught and center in all its optical flexures, diminutions and shadows, together with a fore shortning of a third side, so as the whole solid of the edifice becomes visible in perspective. 1788 T. TAYLOR tr. *Proclus* I. 78 [Optics] is divided into that which is properly called optics..; and into universal catoptrics..: as also into that which is called sciography, or the delineation of shadows. 1789 SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* I. i. 2 Let the Architect first make a draught on paper of the intended work: 1. the Ichnography..; 2. Orthography..; 3. Sciagraphy, or Scenography, which exhibits the front and the sides retiring in a perspective view. 1822 GWILT (*title*), Sciography; or Examples of Shadows, and Rules for their Projection. 1868 R. C. PUCKETT *Sciography* Introd., This ..book does not treat upon..Linear Perspective; but is limited to the perspective projection of shadows.

b. = SCENOGRAPHY 2.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 324. 380 This..gave rise to a separate branch of perspective painting, scenography or sciagraphy, in which..more careful and delicate design was sacrificed to the attainment of illusive effects for distant beholders unskilled in art.

¶ **c.** In allusion to the etymology: The depicting of shadows.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. ii. 111 Let those who are delighted with Sciographie paint out (if they please) these shadow-Patriarchs.

† **2.** A sciagraphic delineation or picture. *Obs.*

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 486 Plate, A Sciographie or Modell of that stupendious vessell which is at this day shewed in the Palace..in..Heidelberg. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., On Julia's Picture*, How am I ravisht! when I do but see The Painter's art in thy Sciography?

† **b.** = SCIAGRAPH 1. *Obs.*

The only sense of F. *sciographie* given by Littré; it would appear to have arisen from some misunderstanding of the statements of ancient writers respecting σκιαγραφία.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sciography*,..in Architecture,..is sometimes taken for the Draught of a Building cut in its Length or Breadth, to show the Inside of it; as also the Thickness of the Walls, Vaults, &c. 1755 in JOHNSON, *Sciography*.

† **3.** An outline, draught, rough sketch. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.*

[1624 WOTTON *Elem. Arch.* 65 Let no man that intendeth to build, settle his Fancie vpon a draught of the Worke.. or..vpon a bare Plant thereof, as they call the Schiographia or Ground lines.] 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 146 The first sciography and rude delineation of atheism. 1683 *Weekly Memorials* 22 Hereto is added Dr. Slades Sciagraphy of the Nutrition of Animals. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 32 Nature being nothing else but a Sciagraphy of Divinity. 1721-31 BAILEY, *Sciagraphy*, a profile or platform; the first rude draught of a thing. 1738 RAY *Coll. Travels* (ed. 2) II. 445 And thus much of the Sciography, or of the artificial and architectonical part [of the Pyramids].

† **4.** The art or practice of finding the hour of the day or night by observation of the shadow of the sun, moon or stars upon a dial. *Obs.*

[1635 J. W[ELLS] (*title*) Sciographia, Or the Art of Shadowes.] 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* 40 Table, Consequences from the Light of the Starres. Out of this, and the Motion of the Sunne is made the Science of Sciography. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict., Sciography*..is the Art of Shadows, comprehending Dialling, and part of Astronomy, as far as serves for finding out the hour of the Day or Night, or other Question, by the Shadow of the Sun, Moon, or Stars. 1721 BAILEY, *Sciography*,..the Art of Dialling.

Sciamachy (səi,æ·măki), **skiamachy** (skəi-). Also 7 sciamachie, 7–9 scio-, 8–9 skio-, 9 skiamachy. [ad. Gr. σκιᾰμαχία, f. σκιά shadow + μαχ-, μάχεσθαι to fight.

The Gr. word is explained as having originally meant 'a fighting in the shade', i.e. in the school; cf. L. *umbratilis exercitatio* (Cic.). It was, however, also used in the sense of 'a fighting with shadows'.]

A sham fight for exercise or practice; also, the action of fighting with a shadow. Often *fig.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Sciamachie*, counterfeit fighting. 1637 IRONSIDE *Seven Quest. Sabbath* To Rdr. B iij b, Least thou shouldst perhaps think I affected a Sciomachy or Umbratilous skirmish. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* xv. 187 Their arguing against it is but a Sciamachy. 1748 *Anson. Scurrilous Libel* 12 But enough of this skiomachy. 1833 THIRLWALL in *Philol. Museum* II. 170 A great part of Cotta's argumentation becomes a mere sciomachy. 1862 *Chr. Remembrancer* Apr. 446 As we have no taste for skiomachy, we leave the fuller exposure of this portentous mare's nest to other hands. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* I. viii. 88 It was a piece of skiamachy, difficult to render clear to the defeated.

Sciamancy, obs. form of SCIOMANCY.

Scian (səi·ăn), *a.* [f. *Scio*, mod. It. name of *Chios*, the reputed birthplace of Homer.] Chian.

1820 BYRON *Don Juan* III. lxxxvi. Isles of Greece ii, The Scian and the Teian muse,..Have found the fame your shores refuse.

Scians, obs. form of SCIENCE.

‖ **Sciapodes** (səi,æ·pŏdēz), *pl.* In 6 *erron.* Siopodes. [L., a. Gr. σκιάποδες pl., f. σκιᾰ shadow + ποδ-, πούς foot.] A fabulous people of Libya 'with immense feet which they used as sunshades' (Liddell & Scott). Hence **Scia·podous** *a.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 267 Seeing that the very poreblinde do see it,..yea wherewith the Siopodes are so well acquainted also:..that it is meruelle that any man could be so shameles to deny it to be true. 1798 FERRIAR *Varieties of Man* 200 The people were..sciapodous, having feet so large as to shelter the whole body.

† **Sciat.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. The sciatic vein.

1503 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) h iij, The wayn qwych ys wnder the anthleht of the fowt & yt ys namyt scyat [ed. 1506 sciat].

† **Sciathe·ric,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* In 7 scioterique, 8 scio-, sciatheric. [ad. late Gr. σκιαθηρικός, f. σκιάθηρας (also σκιάθηρον, σκιόθηρος), sun-dial, lit. 'shadow-catcher', f. σκιά shadow + θηρᾶν to catch. Cf. L. *sciothēricon* (Pliny), a sun-dial.] **a.** *adj.* = SCIATHERICAL *a.* **b.** *sb.* in pl. form Sciatherics, the art of dialling.

1677 CARY *Chronology* I. i. § 1. ii. 6 The marking out the Time of the day in such a way as in the Scioteriques, or Art of Dialling,..was rightly imputed to Anaximines. 1721 BAILEY, *Sciotherick*, investigating Shadows. *Sciotherick Telescope*, a Mathematical Instrument for observing the True Time for adjusting Pendulum-Clocks, Watches, &c. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sciatherick*, belonging to a sun-dial.

† **Sciathe·rical,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 7 (sciofericall), scia-, sciotherical, -tericall. [Formed as prec. + -AL.] Concerned with the recording of the shadows cast by the planets, esp. that of the sun as a means of finding the hour of the day.

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. vii, With Sciofericall instrument, By way of Azimuth and Almicantarath I'le seeke some happy point in heauen for you. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xviii. 259 There were also..Scioterically or Sun Dialls. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sciatherical. Ibid.*, *Sciotherical.* 1755 JOHNSON, *Sciatherical*...This should be written *skiatherical.*

Hence † **Sciathe·rically** *adv.*, after the manner of a sun-dial.

a 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 37 Let the Plane bee sciaterically prepared, and it shall bee necessarie for the shadow of the Sun to go back.

Sciatic (səi,æ·tik), *a.*[1] and *sb.* Forms: 6 scyatyke, sc(h)iaticke, syaticke, 7 sciatique, (seatick), 7–8 sciatick, 8– sciatic. [a. F. *sciatique*, ad. med.L. *sciatic-us*, corrupt form of L. *ischiadic-us* (see ISCHIADIC). Cf. Pr. *sciatic*, Sp. *ciático*, Pg., It. *sciatico.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Affecting the hip or the sciatic nerves.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lvii. (1495) 271 It helpith them moche that haue this euyll that hyghte *Sciatica passio.*] 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* xxiii. 9 A gout or a syaticke passion. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 4926 Off Malideis it generis mony mo,..As, in the theis, Siatica Passio.] 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 225 Sciaticke goutes. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvi. IV. 492 His body was tortured with sciatic pains.

2. Of or belonging to the ischium or hip.

Sciatic artery, the larger of the two terminal branches of the internal iliac; it is distributed to the muscles of the back part of the pelvis. *Sciatic nerve*, each of the two divisions of the sacral plexus, esp. the *great sciatic nerve*, which is the largest nerve in the human body; it emerges from the pelvis and passing down the back of the thigh extends to the foot. *Sciatic notch*, each of the two notches on the posterior border of the hip bone. *Sciatic vein*, † (*a*) the sciatic artery (*obs.*); (*b*) ? each of the companion veins of the sciatic artery.

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Chirurg.* II. x. 177 þat oon veyne þerof is clepid sciatica, & þat oþere is clepid renalis.] 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30/1 The third is the Schiaticke vayn, which externallye demonstrateth her selfe above the anckle. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Vein, Sciatique vein*..is a branch of the thigh vein, which descends down the leg to the outward ankle. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 69 The largest Nerve..of the Body..is..known by the Name of *Sciatic* or *Ischiatic* Nerve. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. App. 32 Having laid bare the sciatic nerve of a rabbit. 1828 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 117 The other two notches are situated..between the sciatic tuberosity and the sacrum. They are named the Sciatic notches. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 250/1 The alteration in the condition of the sciatic artery..caused by ligature of the femoral..artery presents..remarkable results..: its branch to the sciatic nerve becomes greatly enlarged. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 213 The sciatic artery, which passes out of the pelvis at the great sciatic notch.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** The ischium or hip. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPELAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L j b, That [*sc.* the joint] of the lytell fote is moste dyffycyll [to set], & that of the kne is more, and the scyatyke is meane. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Coxa*, the hippe or huckle bone..Sometime the sciatike.

† **2.** = SCIATICA. *Obs.*

1656 COWLEY *Davideis* I. Note 32 Baptista Porta..says, that..Sciatique [is to be cured] by a Musical Instrument made of Poplar. 1678 JAS. DK. OF ALBANY in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 232 The fitt of the seatick came so violently on me, that I am forced to make vse of my wifes hand, not beein able to writ myselfe. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* I. vi. 54 Rack'd with Sciatics, martyr'd with the Stone. 1801 RANKEN *Hist. France* I. I. v. 76 Marcellus the empiric..mentions with distinction a remedy for the sciatic, or hip-gout.

3. Short for *sciatic nerve, vein.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* M iij, And there be .viij. [veynes to be let blode] in the fete, two on the knees, two sopheynes, two scyatykes, [etc.]. 1741 MUNRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 70 The two Crurals, with the Sciatic ..are distributed to the inferior Extremities. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 667 If one sciatic is paralysed alone, the patient can still walk.

Sciatic (səi,æ·tik), *a.*[2] *Naut.* ? *Obs.* Also 8 skiatic. [Of obscure origin: cf. TRIATIC *a.*] Only in *sciatic stay* (see quot. 1805).

Not known to the English nautical experts consulted.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 175 *Skiatic-stays* are ropes used for hoisting or lowering burdens in or out of ships. 1805 *Mariner's Dict.* (Washington, U. S.), *Sciatic Stay*, a strong rope fixed from the main to the foremast heads in merchant ships; when loading or unloading it serves to sustain a tackle, which, travelling upon it, may be shifted over the main or fore hatchways. [Hence 1815 in *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), and in some later Dicts.]

Sciatica (səi,æ·tikă). Forms: 5 cyetica, sytyca, seyetyka, ciatica, 5–6 siatica, 6 seattica, schiatica, 6–7 cyatica, 7 sciathica, scyatica, sciattica, 6- sciatica. [a. med.L. *sciatica* (*passio*), fem. of *sciaticus* SCIATIC *a.* Cf. F. *sciatique.*] A disease characterized by pain in the great sciatic nerve and its branches.

In the first quot. misapplied, perh. with jocular intention.

a 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 484 Remembre my brokyne hede..3e, goode ser, & þe sytyca in my erme. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 215 Elisabet Peverel hath leye sek xv or xvj wekys of the seyetyka. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1936 Allasse, I haue the cyatyca full euyll in my hyppe! 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* v. v. 169 Nowe we wyll come to the cure of the goute (called sciatica) of the huckel bones. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 59 How now, which of your hips has the most profound Ciatica? 1607 — *Timon* IV. i. 23 Thou cold Sciatica, Cripple our Senators. 1687 JENNER in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 211 The Bishop ill of his sciatica. 1839 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Gengulphus*, Rheumatics,—sciatica,—tic-doloureux! 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* v. *Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 392 If you have headache, or sciatica, or leprosy,..I beseech you, by all angels, to hold your peace. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 801 Sciatic neuralgia, or sciatica. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. iv. 701 A victim to sciatica, or neuralgic pain in the hip.

fig. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. B 3, They are the verie botts & the glanders to the gentle Readers,.. the Sarpego and the Sciatica of the *y*. Liberall Sciences.

b. An attack of this disease.

1444 *Paston Lett.* I. 50 He hath hadde a cyetica that hath letted hym a gret while to ride. 1606 [see LIME-KILN b]. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* I. (1652) C 4, He..was taken lame with lying in the Fields by a Sciatica. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 83 He curst an old Sciatica that Stop'd him. 1697 SIR J. FLOYER *Enq. Baths* Pref. b 7 Erysipela's, Sciatica's, Fluxes. 1722 *Hearne's Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 384 For a Sciatica. A Catskin tann'd with the Fur on, and layd upon the Part affected. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. iv, He was all that time afflicted with a Sciatica. 1831 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* Introd., Well, enough that I awake without a sciatica.

†c. Sciatica cress, grass (see quot. 1886).

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 20 Of Sciatica cresse or wilde cresse. *Iberis. Ibid.* 20 b, It may be called in Englishe.. sciatica cresses, because the herbe is good for the sciatica. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xiv. 197 Sciatica Cresses hath many slender braunches..with small, long, and narrowe leaues, like those of garden Cresses. The flowers be very small, and yellow of colour. *Ibid.* Table Eng. Names, Sciatica grasse, that is wilde Cresses. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n., Cress, Sciatica.* A name invented by Turner (Herb.) for a cruciferous plant (which Prior identifies with *Iberis amara*, L., but which seems to us a species of Lepidium).

Sciatical (səi,æ·tikăl), *a.* [f. SCIATIC + -AL.]

†1. = SCIATIC *a.* 2. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12/2 The Sciaticalle vayne in the externalle anckle.

2. Pertaining to or of the nature of sciatica. Of a person: Affected with sciatica. Now *rare.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 202 Empasms are used.. to help the Hydroptical, or Sciatical..Patients. *c* 1714 POPE, etc. *Martinus Scriblerus* vi. (1756) 28 Whence is it that I daily deplore my sciatical pains? 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi, Overlooking a sciatical old nun..Margarita, the little novice, was elected as the companion of the journey. 1886 *Times* 13 Apr. 10/1 The [Canadian] Premier continues to improve in health, the sciatical pains are diminishing daily.

Hence **Sciatically** *adv.*, 'with or by means of sciatica' (Webster 1864).

†Scibility. *Obs.* [f. L. *scībilis* knowable (here taken in the active sense = able to know), f. *scīre* to know: see -BLE and -ITY.] Power of knowing.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. II. v. 332 That God doth not know things future by the Infinitie or Immensitie of his own Scibilitie or Scientivitie.

Scien, obs. form of SCION.

Science (səi·ĕns). Forms: 4 sienz, cience, ciens, 4–5 siens, syence, syense, 4–6 scyence, scens(e, 4, 6–7 sience, 5 scians, 5–6 syens, 6 sienc, scyens, 6–7 scyense, 4- science. [a. F. *science* = Pr. *sciensa*, Sp. *ciencia*, Pg. *sciencia*, It. *scienza*, ad. L. *scientia* knowledge, f. *scient-em*, pr. pple. of *scīre* to know.]

1. The state or fact of knowing; knowledge or cognizance *of* something specified or implied; also, with wider reference, knowledge (more or less extensive) as a personal attribute. Now only *Theol.* in the rendering of scholastic terms (see quot. 1728), and occas. *Philos.* in the sense of 'knowledge' as opposed to 'belief' or 'opinion'.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 500 Ald thyngis deport fra 3owre mouth: for God of sciens is lord, and till him ere redyd the thoghtis. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vii. (1868) 59 Þe soule whiche þat hab in it self science of goode werkes [L. *sibi mens bene conscia*]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2697 Therfor ye trewly ber the name Cherubin, ffull of scyence And of dyvyne sapyence. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 361/2 Whereof saynt Paule cryeth hymself, *O altitudo diuitiarum sapientie & scientie dei.* O the heyght and depenes of the ryches of the wysedome and scyence of god. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 103 Plutus himselfe,..Hath not in natures mysterie more science, Then I haue in this Ring. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 680 O Sacred, Wise, and Wisdom-giving Plant, Mother of Science. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. 36 Some of our Opponents resolve Gods certain prescience of sin into the infinitude of his science. 1697 tr. *Burgersaicius' Logic* II. XX. 99 The word science is either taken largely to signifie any cognition or true assent; or, strictly, a firm and infallible one; or, lastly, an assent of propositions made known by the cause and effect. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* II. ii. 852 What makes Gods divine But Power and Science infinite. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 198 For lo! my words no fancy'd woes relate: I speak from science, and the voice is Fate. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Science*, Divines suppose three kinds of Science in God: The first, Science of mere Knowledge..The second, a Science of Vision..The third, an intermediate Science. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 107 P 18 Life is not the object of Science; we see a little, very little; and what is beyond we can only conjecture. 1882 SEELEY *Nat. Relig.* 260 Though we have not science of it [supernaturalism] yet we have probabilities or powerful presentiments.

†b. Contrasted or coupled with *conscience*, emphasizing the distinction to be drawn between theoretical perception of a truth and moral conviction. *Obs.*

1620 T. SCOTT *God & King* (1623) 84 This my Sermon..is perhaps tost by censure and science for a while, but scarce touched by conscience, or drawne into practise. 1637 ABP. LAUD *Sp. Star-Chamber* 14 June 62 The Author is clearely conceived..to have written this Book wholly..against both his science and his conscience. 1654 OWEN *Doctr. Saints' Persev.* xi. 249 A wilfull perverting of it, contrary to his own science & conscience.

2. Knowledge acquired by study; acquaintance with or mastery of any department of learning. Also †*pl.* (a person's) various kinds of knowledge.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1289 Wyth alle þe coyntyse þat he cowþe..De-uised he [salomon] þe vesselment,..Wyth slyȝt of his ciences, his souerayn to loue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 82 And Heredot in his science Of metre, of rime and of cadence The ferste was of which men note. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5524 Epistaphus..a discrete man of dedis, dryuen into age, And a sad mon of sciens in the seuyn artis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXIV. 132 (Harl. MS.) No man myght be likenid to him in no kynne sciens. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 16 Clerkis of hye science, the quhilkis had the grete dignities in haly kirk. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 107 As rose is aboue al floures most fine So is science most digne of worthynesse. 1538 BALE *John Baptist* in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 105 You boast your selues moch, of ryghteousness and scyence. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* II. XXX. (1568) 138 b, The auncient women were more esteamed for their sciences, then for their beauties. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* I. 16 Giue Johne Knox and ze affirmis zour selfis lauchful be ressoun of zour science [etc.]. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* ii. 52 Be love my youth's pursuit, and science crown my Age. 1781 COWPER *Conversation* 14 As alphabets in ivory employ, Hour after hour, the yet unletter'd boy, Sorting and puzzling with a deal of glee Those seeds of science call'd his A B C.

b. Trained skill. Now *esp.* (somewhat jocularly) with reference to pugilism (cf. 3 c); also to horsemanship and other bodily exercises.

1785 MRS. BELLAMY *Apol.* (ed. 3) IV. 156 She could by no means be said to surpass Mrs. Yates, who joined hard-earned science to her other great qualifications. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 33 (1797) II. 111 Mr. Powell, the fire-eater, is a singular genius; and Mendoza has more science than Johnson. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 22 Molineux sparred neatly early in the fight, but he lost his science after he had been a good deal punished. 1889 *Field* 12 Jan. 41/2 It was most disappointing to their huntsman to have the cup thus dashed from his lips when it only required a kill to render complete as fine an exhibition of science as could possibly be seen.

3. A particular branch of knowledge or study; a recognized department of learning.

In the Middle Ages, 'the seven (liberal) sciences' was often used synonymously with 'the seven liberal arts', for the group of studies comprised by the *Trivium* (Grammar, Logic, Rhetoric) and the *Quadrivium* (Arithmetic, Music, Geometry, Astronomy).

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 48, I wil that ye teche him euyn The sutelte of science seuyn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 1122 As yonge clerkes..Seken in euery halke and euery herne Particuler sciences for to lerne. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 7 Therfore he þat wole knowe what siurgie is, he most vndirstonde, þat it is a medicinal science. 1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 158 Thre Sciences that ben Divinite, Fisyk, and Lawe. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* e iv b, Bott in thes borduris ther is a grete differens emong men pretendyng theym experte and wyse in thys sciens. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* II. (1517) A iij, It is they the whiche ben y^e leest experte in scyences, as in lawe. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 61 A philosophier of Athenes excellyng in all the mathematical sciencies. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 5 The good affeccion whyche I haue euer borne to the science of Cosmographie. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 57, I do present you with a man of mine Cunning in Musicke, and the Mathematickes, To instruct her fully in those sciences. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 795 Mexico is now an Vniuersitie, and therein are taught those Sciences which are read in our Vniuersities of Europe. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II, vi. § 3 The right understanding of the principles of a science, is the ground why all things belonging to that science are understood. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 93 To Witt: a scool of Arts and Siences. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 59 And thus you have an honest system of the science called Magic. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* I, I was taught the rudiments of no science, except reading, writing, and arithmetic. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 435 So Leolin went; and..toil'd Mastering the lawless science of our law. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 89 Theology is the crown of all the sciences, and Religion the synthesis of all.

transf. 1752 *Adventurer* No. 9 P 10 Give us..that master of the science the celebrated Hoyle, who has composed an elaborate treatise on every fashionable game. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 66 Underhand and oblique ways would be studied. The science of evasion, already tolerably understood, would then be brought to the greatest perfection. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 20 Unpardonably deficient in the sciences of anecdote and match-making. 1810 SYD. SMITH *Public Schools* Wks. 1859 I. 188 His sister, who has remained at home at the apron-strings of her mother, is very much his superior in the science of manners. 1826 LAMB *Elia* II. *Pop. Fallacies* xvi, But facts and sane inferences are trifles to a true adept in the science of dissatisfaction. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. iv. 128 Scott did not pursue the science of chess after his boyhood.

b. Contradistinguished from *art*: see ART *sb.* 8.

The distinction as commonly apprehended is that a science (=ἐπιστήμη) is concerned with theoretic truth, and an art (=τέχνη) with methods for effecting certain results. Sometimes, however, the term *science* is extended to denote a department of practical work which depends on the knowledge and conscious application of principles; an *art*, on the other hand, being understood to require merely knowledge of traditional rules and skill acquired by habit.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Dyalling* 4 Though we may justly account Dyalling originally a Science, yet..it is now become to many of the Ingenious no more difficult than an Art. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 307 P 5 Without a proper temperament for the particular Art or Science which he studies, his utmost Pains and Application..will be to no purpose. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 11 Previous to the year 1780, mineralogy, though tolerably understood by many as an art, could scarce be deemed a Science. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CXX. (1862) 294 The medical profession.. was an art, in the worst sense of the word, before it became a science, and long after it pretended to be a science was little better than a craft. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 58 The development of the photographic image is both an art and a science.

c. *The noble science* (*of defence*): the art of boxing or that of fencing. Now *jocular.* Also, in mod. slang, *the science.* (Cf. sense 2 b).

c 1588–1839 [see NOBLE A. 9]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlix, Up to that time he had never been aware that he had the least notion of the science [*sc.* fencing].

†d. A craft, trade, or occupation requiring trained skill. *Obs.*

c 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 78 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 114 He gaf hym gold gret plenté, the child hys prentys shuld be, his science for to conne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 67 Whan a virgyn begynneth fyrst to lerne to sewe in the samplar, that scyence to her as than semeth very harde. 1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 That no..persones..shalbe enterpret or expounded hande craftesmen, in, for, or by reason of usyng any of the sayde mysteryes, or scyens, of bakyng, bruyng, surgery or wrytyng. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* III. iv. (1895) 139 Husbandrye is a scyence common to them all ingeneral, both men and women, wherin they be all experte and cunnynge. 1576 *Lichfield Guilds* (E. E. T. S.) 26 The Master, Wardens and Combretheren of the mystery, crafte, and Scyence of the Taylers of the Citie of Lichfelde. 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* (1610) B 1 b, My iolly coze..Became a Shoomaker in Wittenberg, A goody science for a gentleman. 1660 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 156 No person shall henceforth open a shop in this Towne, nor occupy any manufacture or Science, till hee hath compleated 21 years of age.

4. In a more restricted sense: A branch of study which is concerned either with a connected body of demonstrated truths or with observed facts systematically classified and more or less colligated by being brought under general laws, and which includes trustworthy methods for the discovery of new truth within its own domain.

1725 WATTS *Logic* II. ii. § 9 The word science, is usually applied to a whole body of regular or methodical observations or propositions,..concerning any subject of speculation. 1794 HUTTON *Philos. Light*, etc. 117 Philosophy must proceed in generalising those truths which are the object of particular sciences. 1860 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 131 (ed. 5) 281 Classification of the Sciences. Mathematics... Astronomy...Physics [etc.]. 1882 ADAMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 781/2 It may be said that in all sciences there are implied clearly defined notions, general statements or judgments, and methodical proofs.

b. with defining word.

The many conflicting systems proposed in recent times for the classification of the sciences, and the need frequently arising (apart from any formal classification) for a common designation applicable to a group of sciences that are related by similarity of subject or method, have given currency to a large number of expressions in which the word *science* is qualified by an adj. The application of these collocations, so far as it is not obvious, is explained under the adjs. Among the most prominent of the adjs. designating particular

classes of sciences are: *abstract, concrete, biological, descriptive, exact, experimental, historical, mathematical, mechanical, moral, mixed, pure, natural, physical.*

1795 BURKE *Let. to Earl Fitzwilliam* Wks. IX. 1, I am not sure, that the best way of discussing any subject, except those, that concern the abstracted sciences, is not somewhat in the way of dialogue.

5. The kind of knowledge or of intellectual activity of which the various 'sciences' are examples. In early use, with reference to sense 3: What is taught in the schools or may be learned by study. In mod. use chiefly: The sciences (in sense 4) as distinguished from other departments of learning; scientific doctrine or investigation. Often with defining adj. as in 4 b.

In the 17th and 18th c. the notion now usually expressed by *science* was commonly expressed by *philosophy*.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 3 After solempne and wise writeres of arte and of science. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiv. 159 And 3if 3ou lyke to knowe the Vertues of the Dyamand .. I schalle telle 3ou: as thei bezonde the See seyn and afferme of whom alle Science and alle Philosophie comethe from. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiv. 112 He also hade a sone passyngly wyse ande witty,..ande no man myght be likenide to him in no kynne sciens. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 191 The Principles of naturall Science. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 9 Nothing spreads more fast than Science, when rightly and generally cultivated. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 3 Where grateful Science still adores Her Henry's holy Shade. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 127 Speak ye the pure delight, whose favoured steps The lamp of Science through the jealous maze Of Nature guides. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 3 P 2 Nature was never more lavish of its gifts than it had been to her [Hypatia], endued as she was with the most exalted understanding and the happiest turn to science. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 1 Botany is that department of Natural Science which deals with Plants. 1859 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 194 How strange it seems that physical science should ever have been thought adverse to religion! 1864 COBBOLD *Entozoa* 298 This species is new to science.

Comb. a 1628 F. GREVIL *Treat. Hum. Learn.* xxvii, Strong instances to put all Arts to schoole, And proue the sciencemonger but a foole. 1857 READE *Course of True Love* 151 Casenower, the science bitten, had read all the books.

b. In modern use, often treated as synonymous with 'Natural and Physical Science', and thus restricted to those branches of study that relate to the phenomena of the material universe and their laws, sometimes with implied exclusion of pure mathematics. Also *attrib.*, as in *science-class, -master, -teacher, -teaching.*

1867 W. G. WARD in *Dubl. Rev.* Apr. 255 *note*, We shall ..use the word 'science' in the sense which Englishmen so commonly give to it; as expressing physical and experimental science, to the exclusion of theological and metaphysical. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* Introd. 14 An acquaintance with science or with the systematised knowledge of matter and its properties. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Sept. 25 Science-teaching is nothing, unless, it brings the pupil in contact with nature.

†**c.** *Oxford University.* Formerly applied to the portions of ancient and modern philosophy, logic, and cognate subjects, included in the course of study for a degree in the school of Literæ Humaniores. *Obs.*

1831 GLADSTONE *Diary* in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 78 Examined by..Hampden in science. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* III. iv, Our men know their books well, but I should not say that science is their line. 1855 M. PATTISON *Oxf. Studies* in *Oxf. Ess.* 290 A new element of uncertainty came in, in the difference between taste and scholarship on the one hand, and attainment in Aristotle (science, it was called) on the other. 1884 E. A. FREEMAN *Let.* (MS.) 10 Feb., I remember him years ago as a logic and science coach. I don't mean for cutting up cats, but what science meant then, Ethics, Butler, and such like. 1903 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 176/3 He had none of his brother's love for the Greek philosophy, then known as 'science'.

6. Man of science. †**a.** A man who possesses knowledge in any department of learning, or trained skill in any art or craft. *Obs.* **b.** In modern use, a man who has expert knowledge of some branch of science (usually, of physical or natural science), and devotes himself to its investigation.

1552 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 119 Here after is declared the names of all suche officers, men of Scyence, Artyficers, Craftismen, and other mynistres. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* I. 16 Sen the saidis lordis and gentilmen being men of science [etc.]. 1759 JOHNSON *and Let. to Gasetteer* 8 Dec., No man of science will deny that architecture has..degenerated at Rome to the lowest state. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* IV. xix, It was his fancy to invite Men of science, wit, and learning, Who came to lend each other light. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. IV. vii, The man of science himself is fonder of glory, and vain, An eye well-practised in nature, a spirit bounded and poor. 1890 LE GALLIENNE *G. Meredith* 72 The man of science is nothing if not a poet gone wrong.

Scienced (sə͡iˈĕnst), *a.* [f. SCIENCE + -ED 2.]

†**1.** Possessed of science, learned. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnassus* 53 Other Scienced men were served with all the delicacies of Learning. 1743 FRANCIS *Horace, Odes* I. xxxiv. 3, I mock'd at all religious Fear, Deep scienc'd in the mazy Lore Of mad Philosophy. 1746 — *Horace, Ep.* I. xviii. 165 Enquire of every scienc'd Sage. 1836 R. FURNESS *Astrologer* III. Wks. (1858) 161 Beyond the scienced reach of ought refined In Herschell's mighty ken, or Newton's mind.

2. Trained, well versed, in the knowledge of the art of self-defence.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 613 He was a stronger and taller man than Mendoza..full of pluck, and fine scienced.

†**Sci·encer.** *Obs.* [f. SCIENCE + -ER 1.] A professor of a particular science.

1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* I. vii. (1550) B v, Whan it was asked hym what sciencer he was, he [*sc.* Pythagoras] answered, a Philosopher. 1630 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* (1845) 301 The other two, with their protector the mystical sciencer, proceed.

Sciencial, obs. form of SCIENTIAL.

†**Sci·encist.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCIENCE + -IST.] One who works on scientific principles.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 8 This is the money-getting Farmer, whose Agriculture the Sciencist ought to endeavour to excel.

†**Sci·ency.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *scientia*: see SCIENCE and -ENCY.] The condition or fact of knowing; = SCIENCE 1.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. xxvi, His name is Dæmon, not from Sciency, Although he boasteth much in skilfull pride. *Ibid.* II. iii. I. vi, My hackney fails, not I; my pen, not sciencie.

Sciens(e, obs. forms of SCIENCE.

Scient (sə͡iˈĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *scient-em*, pr. pple. of *scīre* to know.] **A.** *adj.* Having science, knowledge, or skill. Now *rare.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 27 The clerk that I of tolde, Which was ful fayne feithful counsel to make, For he was scient, expert, and ful bolde. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 156 Of what people? The most scient and skilfull in the seruice of God. 1626 CORNWALLIS *Disc. Prince Henry* (1641) 7 To this so rare a disposition, which being by a Prince entertained, cannot but make him.. scient of the Offices appertaining to his high estate,..is to be added [etc.]. 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* V. Wks. 1846 II. 498 Together these her scient hand combined and more she added. 1820 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 24 Watching with scient eye the number of aureate particles.

B. *sb.* A man of science, scientist. *rare.*

1889 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 383/1 Philosophers, historians, and scients. 1894 *Ibis* Oct. 555 The contributors to the Tromsö Museum's Annual may be called 'scients' or 'savants', but, please, Mr. Cocks, not 'scientists'.

‖**Scienter** (sə͡iˈe·ntəɹ), *adv. Law.* [L., f. *scient-em*: see SCIENT.] Knowingly. Often as *sb.* in the phr. *to prove* (*a*) *scienter*, etc., to prove that the act complained of was done knowingly; *law of scienter*, the law with regard to the necessity of 'proving a scienter' in order to obtain damages.

1824 STARKIE *Evidence* II. 469 The plaintiff must prove not only the falsity of the representation, but also the *scienter*, the knowledge of the defect on the part of the defendant. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 252/2 The use, therefore, of the name of another manufacturer, whether done scienter or not, is an interference with his business. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Dec. 5/4 In this case the plaintiff stood in a lucky position in regard to the law of scienter. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Nov. 3/2 When the injury is to cattle or sheep, the necessity of proving 'the scienter' was abolished by the Dogs Act, 1865.

Sciential (sə͡iˌe·nʃăl), *a.* Forms: 5 sciencial, 7 scientiall, 7– sciential. [ad. med.L. *scientiālis*, f. L. *scientia*: see SCIENCE.]

1. Of or pertaining to knowledge or science. † *Sciential faith*: faith resting on demonstrative evidence.

c 1456 PECOCK *Bk. of Faith* (1909) 141 The more cleer, sure, and expert evydencis ben had for a sciencial feith, the more is thilk sciencial feith. 1605 B. JONSON *Masque Blackness* Wks. (1616) 898 His light scientiall is, and (past mere nature) Can salue the rude defects of euery creature. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 23 Those Sciential rules which are the implements of instruction. 1667 — *P. L.* IX. 837 The power .whose presence had infus'd Into the plant sciential sap. 1680 I. C. *Vind. Oaths & Swearing* (ed. 2) 3 An oath hath place but in such things as depend upon testimony, and the speakers credit and honesty, and is not to be used in things purely sciential and probable by demonstration. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 19 He ascended to the greatest and most consummate or telestic virtues; employing for this purpose, the felicity of his nature, and a sciential institution. 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *Oxf. Vac.*, The odour of their old moth-scented coverings is fragrant as the first bloom of those sciential apples which grew amid the happy orchard. 1827 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) IV. 423 Their entire consonance with..the Scriptures and with the sciential and the practical reason. 1834 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 186 Modes of conception, sciential conditions, or whatever else you can help me to call them.

2. Endowed with knowledge.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 17 The wiese man knoweth the prouffit of the riche & the riche knoweth not the prouffit of the sciencial wiese man. 1646 GAULE *Cases of Consc.* 28 That is the Magicall, Speculative, Scientiall, or Arted Witch. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 191 Not one hour old, yet of sciential brain To unperplex bliss from its neighbour pain. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. xiv. 265 A sciential rascal.

Hence † **Scie·ntialness.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Love* 39 b, Onely the taking on knowledge which is learned out of the scientialnes of the letter..is blamed by HN.

†**Scie·ntiate.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *scientia* SCIENCE + -ATE 1.] An adept in a science.

1647 tr. *Malvezzi's Pourtract* 100 Such as will learne an Art or a Science, the first object that they set before them, is not immediately that of the Art, or that of the Science, but an Artist, or a Scientiate.

†**Scie·ntic,** *a. Obs.* In 6 scyentyke. [irreg. f. L. *scient-ia* SCIENCE + -IC. (Unless it be a mistake for *scientific*, of which in that case this would be the earliest example in Eng.)] = SCIENTIFIC *a.* Also † **Scie·ntical** *a.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Pref., There be ryght many and sondry sortes, aswell of very good and scyentyke bokes, as of ryght expert men within this Realme in the scyentycall arte of Cyrurgery. *Ibid.*, Your scyentycall beneuolence.

Scientician (səi,ĕnti·ʃən). [f. *scient-* (see SCIENTIST) after *physician*, etc.] = SCIENTIST.

1885 J. S. GRIMES *Geonomy* 49 in *Science* 13 Feb. 142/1 The reason why scienticians have neglected to investigate the laws of the currents thoroughly,..is that [etc.].

Scientific (səi,ĕnti·fik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *scientificus*, f. *scient-em*, pr. pple. of *scīre* to know (or perh., less regularly, f. *scienti-am* knowledge: see SCIENCE) + *-ficus* making, f. *facĕre* to make. Cf. F. *scientifique*, Sp. *cientifico*, Pg., It. *scientifico.*

The ultimate source of the word is to be sought in Aristotelian expressions like that in *Post. Anal.* I. ii. (71 b), where it is said that unless certain essential conditions are fulfilled, a syllogism will not be demonstrative, 'for it will not produce knowledge' (οὐ γὰρ ποιήσει ἐπιστήμην, rendered in the translation attributed to Boethius 'non enim *faciet scientiam*'). In pursuance of the suggestion of this phrase, the translator in the same chapter renders συλλογισμὸν ἐπιστημονικόν by 'syllogismum epistemonicon, *id est facientem scire*', and in I. vi. uses 'scientificæ demonstrationes' for αἱ ἐπιστημονικαὶ ἀποδείξεις. In this application the word survived in Latin text-books of logic down to Aldrich, though some of them have instead *scientiam pariens* or *faciens scire.*

From having been thus employed as a contextual interpretation of ἐπιστημονικός (pertaining to science or knowledge; = med.L. *scientialis*), the L. *scientificus* was afterwards used inappropriately (instead of *scientialis*) in the 13th c. translation of Aristotle's Ethics (VI. i. § 6) to render this Gr. word where it designates the theoretic as opposed to the deliberative faculty of the soul. This use was followed by Aquinas; it is in this application that the It. *scientifico* is used by Dante, and the F. *scientifique* by Oresme (14th c.). Hence the prevailing sense of the adj. in subsequent Latin, in the Rom. langs., and in English, has been 'pertaining to science'; it is merely by a contextual accident that in phrases like 'scientific investigation' the word admits of being interpreted in its etymological meaning. Aquinas also uses *scientificus* for 'expert in science, learned', a sense which still survived in 16th c. Latin. The lateness of the first appearance of the word in English is remarkable.]

A. *adj.*

†**1.** Of a syllogism, a proof: Producing knowledge, demonstrative. Cf. SCIENTIFICAL *a.* 1. *Obs.*

To be distinguished from the mod. use in phrases like 'scientific proof', 'scientific evidence', where the adj. has the sense 3 or 4 below.

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. ix. 198 Aquinas.. maketh the Law of Nature to containe certaine principles, having the same place in practicall reason, which the principles of scientifike demonstrations have in speculative reason. 1667 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 360 No man who first trafficks into a foreign country has any scientific evidence that there is such a country, but by report, which can produce no more than a moral certainty.

2. Of persons, books, institutions, etc.: Occupied in or concerned with science or the sciences. In early use, † concerned with the 'sciences' or 'liberal arts', opposed to *mechanical.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. i. (Arb.) 19 The premises considered, it giueth to the name and profession no smal dignitie and preheminence, aboue all other artificers, Scientificke or Mechanicall. 1815 BANKS in *Fragm. Rem. Sir H. Davy* (1858) 208 By the more brilliant discoveries you have made, the reputation of the Royal Society has been exalted in the opinion of the scientific world. 1822 LAMB *Elia* II. *Detached Th. on Bks. & Reading*, In this catalogue of books which are no books..I reckon Court Calendars,.. Scientific Treatises, Almanacks, Statutes at Large. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* I. (1885) 4 The scientific man often asserts that he cannot find God in Science. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Pref. 7, I may mention that scientific periodicals on the general subject and its branches have since 1870 been almost doubled.

¶**b.** Having scientific knowledge or given to scientific study *of* something. *nonce-use.*

1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clavig.* No. 75 VII. 63 Behold, there is the Universe; and here are we, the British public, in the exact middle of it, and scientific of it in the accuratest manner. 1884 *Ibid.* No. 95 VIII. 257 Most men are not intended to be any wiser than their cocks and bulls—duly scientific of their yard and pasture, peacefully nescient of all beyond.

3. Of or pertaining to science or the sciences; of the nature of science.

1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* iii. 50 Who by a proper exercise of his mind in scientific studies first opens and enlarges its capacity. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 2 Analogy confirmed by experiment becomes Scientific truth. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiv. 485 It is quite possible that forms now generally acknowledged to be merely varieties may hereafter be thought worthy of specific names,..and in this case scientific and common language will come into accordance. 1871 MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 163 The familiar distinction between the poetic and the scientific temper is another way of stating the same difference. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. Pref. 15 To study religions in a scientific spirit is to admit that all religions, if not equally good, spring at least from a common source.

4. Of an art, practice, operation, or method: Based upon or regulated by science, as opposed to mere traditional rules or empirical dexterity. So of a worker or agent: Guided by a knowledge of science, acting according to scientific principles.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Dyalling* 3 Scientifick Dyalists..have found out Rules, to mark out the irregular motion of the Shaddow ... And these Rules of adjusting the motion of

the Shaddow to the motion of the Sun may be called Scientifick Dyalling. 1903 CHAMBERLAIN *Sp. Glasgow* 6 Oct. 42 The one is profitless taxation, the other scientific taxation.

b. Devised on scientific principles.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 320 Had the Romans any thing so scientific as a sun-dial, even during the second Punic war? 1878 BEACONSFIELD in *Times* 11 Nov. 10/4 But our North-Western frontier [of India] is a haphazard and not a scientific frontier.

c. Characterized by 'science' or trained skill.

1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 440 William Searle..was..as a batsman..steady and scientific. 1885 *Field* 17 Jan. 82/3 A strong wind and a spongy ground were against a scientific display [of football].

B. *sb.*

1. A man of science. *colloq.*

1830 LYELL *Let.* in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) II. xxxii. 391 The scientifics having at last a government to which they are not ashamed to turn courtiers. 1853 DE MORGAN in Graves *Sir W. R. Hamilton* (1889) III. 464 This meeting of literaries and arts—not a scientific among them but myself. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxi, Some of the scientifics, as she calls them, are very fond of shooting.

2. *pl.* [See -IC 2, -ICS.] Scientific matters. *nonce-use* or *vulgar.*

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* v, 'Leave off your confounded scientifics, there,' shouted Murphy, from the head of the table, 'and let us have a song.'

Scientifical (səi,ĕnti·fikăl), *a.* Also 6–7 **-all.** [f. late L. *scientific-us* + -AL: see SCIENTIFIC.]

†1. Of a syllogism, proof, evidence: 'Producing knowledge', demonstrative. Also, of a conclusion: Demonstratively proved. *Obs.*

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 30 But in the meanwhile they presume that this point of philosophy is Scientificall: and doth it indeed *Sub scientiam cadere*, as they presuppose? 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 282 Our next labour must be, to set out these scientificall Syllogismes by other properties. 1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* viii. 62 But multitudes..discern not this evidence so clearly, as may make it scientifical to them. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 31 Who ever supposed that scientifical proofs were necessary to make a Christian?

†2. Designed for the furthering of knowledge.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 143 This is the diuinitie and goodlie instruction that commeth..from that scientificall Vniuersitie and Colledge of the right reuerend Masters. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 42 She is alwaies furnished with nurseries of scientificall graffes, which she disperseth up and downe to unfold the sacred Oracles. 1642 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. I. xxii. (1642) 89 This is the Divinity..that commeth..from that scientifical University.

3. Expert in science; occupied in or concerned with science; treating of science. Now *rare.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) III. ix. 18 And in these modern times, the most speculative and scientificallest men, both in Germany and Italy, seem to adhere to it. 1756–82 WARTON *Ess. on Pope* I. § iii. 177 No author ever adorned a scientifical treatise with so many beautiful metaphors. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 61 *note*, Consulting my scientifical friends respecting this fact. 1827 HOOD *Craniology* 36 Those scientifical hotch-potch men. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* I. 169 Works political, philosophical,..scientifical, theological.

4. Of or pertaining to science. *rare.*

1777 PRIESTLEY *On Air* Pref. 16 It is rather to be regretted, however, in such a number of nobility and gentry, so very few should have any taste for scientifical pursuits. 1783 BLAGDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 372 This was the period of scientifical enterprise. 1796 WANSEY *Jrnl.* 268 Sense of security, which scientifical pursuits require. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. viii. (1864) IX. 300 Under a guild,..there had been..more close adherence to rule in the scientifical and technical parts.

Scientifically (səi,ĕnti·fikăli), *adv.* [f. SCIENTIFICAL + -LY 2.] In a scientific manner; according to the laws of science; † by means of 'scientific' or demonstrative reasoning.

1640 J. STOUGHTON *Def. & Distrib. Div.* i. 18 Many things he did know then scientifically, which now he doth so much as opinionatively. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 227 Consider what the Subject of it is, Scientifically comprehended. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 217 The tortoises of the northern states are of several species but have not been scientifically designated. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 69 A party of genera and species which connect families scientifically far apart. 1876 E. R. LANKESTER *Hist. Creat.* I. i. 6 We are now in a position to establish scientifically the groundwork of a non-miraculous history of the developement of the human race. 1885 FITZGERALD in *Law Rep.* 10 App. Cases 227 The law upon this subject has been properly and scientifically put in a later case.

Scientificalness (səi,ĕnti·fikălnĕs). [f. SCIENTIFICAL + -NESS.] The quality of being scientific.

1866 *Reader* 24 Feb. 206/3 Though markedly deficient in scientificalness. 1876 MORLEY *Comte* in *Crit. Misc.* (1886) III. 365 The whole of our knowledge will be impressed with ..the character of positivity or scientificalness.

†**Scientifi·ciall,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Bad form of SCIENTIFICAL, after *artificial.*] = SCIENTIFICAL.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 26 In naturall Philosophy,..is expected a satisfaction from scientificiall progressions, and such as beget a sure and rationall beleefe. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iii. § 21 In other sciences the terms must first be known and then the rules, and conclusions scientificiall.

Scientifico-, used as comb. form of SCIENTIFIC *a.*, in hyphened nonce-formations with adjs., expressing the sense 'scientific and (something else)'.

1882 *Times* 21 Apr. 5/4 Erasmus Darwin,..known..by his scientifico-poetic work 'The Botanic Garden'. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 395 The novelist proceeds with that scientifico-historical conscience. 1887 *Ibid.* May 715 He [Sardou] attempted to dethrone Jules Verne in the realm of the scientifico-geographical spectacular piece.

Scientintically, *adv.* A burlesque nonce-word, formed by a blending of *scientifically* and *tint.*

1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. v, He must have redden'd, pictorically and scientintically speaking, six whole tints and a half..above his natural colour.

†**Scie·ntious,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. **scientiōsus* (implied in *scientiōsē* adv.), f. *scientia* knowledge, SCIENCE: see -OUS. Cf. OF. *sciencieux.*] Full of knowledge, knowing. Hence †**Scientiously** *adv.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 76 There is none amongst all of them that hath scientiously describ'd the properties of simples. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* Suppl. 239 b, Serjeant Glyn..can scientiously satisfy any Man, that ther be such impious confederats with Satan. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινη Def. xxi. 200 Ministers..must be obeyed by more scientious auditors when they speak in his name.

Scientism (səi·ĕntizm). [f. *scient-* (see SCIENTIST) + -ISM.] The habit and mode of expression of a man of science.

1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 274 Its dogmatism on the one hand,..and its 'scientism' on the other, even when most atheistic, are tempered with mutual civility. 1895 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/5 By scientism he meant to express that change which had come over the thought of the world in consequence of the wonderful additions to the common stock of knowledge. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* May 727 What modern Scientism knows as the Supersensuous Consciousness.

†**Scienti·ssimous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *scientissim-us*, superl. of *sciens* knowing + -OUS.] Very learned.

1650 J. JONES *Judges Judged* 88 The Wise, Learned, ..Scientissimous Interpreters of the Laws of England.

Scientist (səi·ĕntist). [f. *scient-* (in L. *scientia* SCIENCE, and in SCIENTIFIC) + -IST.] A man of science.

1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* I. Introd. 113 We need very much a name to describe a cultivator of science in general. I should incline to call him a Scientist. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 273 Leonardo was mentally a seeker after truth—a scientist; Coreggio was an assertor of truth—an artist. 1853 F. HALL in *Leslie's Misc.* II. 169 Atrabilious scientists. 1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 13 They know that the sun is better where it is than under the scalpel or other instruments of the intense scientists.

Scientistic (səi,ĕnti·stik), *a. rare.* [f. SCIENTIST + -IC.] Characteristic of, or having the attributes of, a scientist. (Used depreciatively). Hence **Scienti·stically** *adv.*

1878 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* 105 'The more the worse', is the fearful political fact of the coming time; and it will by and bye be seen that scientistic free-trade is responsible for it. 1883 WRIGHT *Dogm. Scepticism* 12 All that may be scientifically true or scientistically false in connexion with bioplasmic theories. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Aug. 160/1 The most conscientiously scientistic of scientists.

†**Sci·entive,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *scientif*, f. *scient* SCIENT *a.*: see -IVE.] Well-versed, learned.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 536 Then Desperance deliuerit his missiue Vnto thir ten, so sweit and scientiue. 1560 — *Seven Sages* 10 Within ȝeiris fiue He sall be mair cunning and Scientiue Nor I. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 44 He was sa weil instructed,..and in al sciences was sa scientiue and cunning, that in quhat science he was cunningest culd na man tel.

†**Scienti·vity.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCIENTIVE + -ITY.] The power or faculty of knowing.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. II. 331 The Scientivitie of God and his Intellect is never satisfied with any finite or infinite number of existent singulars of any one species or al. *Ibid.* 332 [see SCIBILITY].

Scientize (səi·ĕntəiz), *v. rare.* [f. *scient-* (as in SCIENTIST) + -IZE.] *intr.* To lay down scientific propositions, to theorize.

1890 *Murray's Mag.* May 697 Some few of your philosophers..have scientised over it.

†**Sci·entman.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? f. SCIENT + MAN *sb.*] A man of knowledge.

1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* (1661) 127 Therefore these Elders, must certainly be the better, the most eminent Scientmen, and so Paramount the Angel-Bishops in all these respects.

Scieve, obs. f. SIEVE. **Sci. fa.,** abbrev. f. SCIRE FACIAS. **Scift(e,** obs. ff. SHIFT. **Scil.,** abbrev. f. SCILICET. **Scild,** obs. f. SHIELD. **Scilence,** obs. f. SILENCE. **Scilfise,** obs. f. SHELLFISH.

‖**Scilicet** (səi·liset), *adv.* (*sb.*). [L. *scīlicet* = *scīre licet* 'it is permitted to know'.] To wit; that is to say; namely. Abbreviated *scil.* or *sc.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 335 Looke to fore in þe firste book Capitulo Grecia, scilicet El[l]adia. 1547 HOOPER *Declar. Christ & Off.* xii. L vij b, God sentithe an other mystres to scole man, scilicet aduersitie. 1601 [W. WATSON] *Dial. Sec. Priest & Lay Gentl.* Pref. *iij b, Vntill they heare the case decided: and who they are, *scil.* the secular priests or the Iesuits. 1643 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 120 They..shall stamp the same on the one side with these letters (*scilicet*) C. R. for *Carolus Rex.* 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* xviii. 160 The ultimate end of the universe, *sc.* to know, and love God. 1855 J. S. WATSON tr. *Xenophon's Anab.* I. x. § 3 *note*, [For πρὸς τῶν Ἑλλήνων] Brodæus suggested πρὸς τὸ τῶν Ἑλλήνων, scil. στρατόπεδον.

†b. Used ironically: Forsooth.

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 207 That holy (scilicet) father of R[ome].

c. as *sb.* The word 'scilicet' or its equivalent, introducing a specifying clause.

1650 *Hobart's Rep.* 171 Now I come to the use of a (viz.) or (sc.) or in english (that is to say) and the nature and force of it. 1669 *Croke's Rep. Jas. I* (ed. 2) 429 But it was adjudged, that *postea convertit*, is sufficient, and the *scilicet* is void. 1805 *East's Rep.* V. 253 Where that which comes under a *scilicet* is consistent with what went before.

‖**Scilla** (si·lă). [L. = Gr. σκίλλα.] a. *Bot.* A genus of liliaceous plants; a plant of this genus, a squill. b. *Pharmacy.* The bulb of *Urginea Scilla* (formerly called *Scilla maritima*).

1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* § 6502 Some species of scilla, muscari, iris, allium, oxalis. 1880 *Echo* 4 Oct. 4/1 Hardy bulbs, tulips, crocus, and scillas for example.

Scilling, obs. form of SHILLING.

Scilli·tic, *a. Pharmacy. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *scillītic-us*: see next.] (See quot.)

1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Scillitic*, containing squill.

Scillitin (si·litin). *Chem.* Also **-ine.** [a. F. *scillitine*, f. *scillit-ique* obtained from squills, ad. L. *scillītic-us*, a. Gr. σκιλλῖτικός, f. σκιλλῖτης of the same meaning, f. σκίλλα SCILLA, SQUILL: see -ITE and -IN.] (See quot. 1819.)

1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 288 Scillitin is the bitter principle of the scilla maritima or squill. 1850 *Chem. Gaz.* VIII. 276 The author [Bley] has obtained scillitine in a crystalline state. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 479 Scillitin has been asserted to be the active principle of squill; but the scillitin of different authors is diverse.

Scillonian (silōu·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Scilly* + *-onian* (? after *Devonian*; but cf. *Islonian*, 'a native of the Isle of Axholme', Peacock *Manley & Corringham Gloss.*).] a. *adj.* Pertaining to the Scilly Isles or their inhabitants. b. *sb.* An inhabitant of the Scilly Isles.

1822 WOODLEY *Scilly Isl.* I. v. 108 The majority of the Scillonians..are very exemplary. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Aug. 4/1 The dominant..idea in every Scillonian breast. 1896 BESANT *Armorel* I. iv, 'Now to a Scilly boy—' 'A Scillonian,' the girl corrected him.

Scilocco, Scilwis: see SIROCCO, SKILLWISE.

Scim, Scima, obs. forms of SKIM, CYMA.

Scimble-scamble, obs. f. SKIMBLE-SKAMBLE.

Scimitar (si·mităr). Forms: *α.* 6 **cimitarie, -erie,** 7 **-ary, -ery**; 6 **semeterrie, -iterie, -orie,** 6–7 **-arie, scimitarie.** *β.* 6 **cemiterre, -are, cimyter,** 6–7 **cimiterre, cymiter,** 6–9 **cimiter,** 8 **-etar,** 7 **cymitar, -et(t)er, -etre, cemiter, -ar, -eter,** 7–9 **cimeter.** *γ.* 6 **semitor, symitare,** 6–7 **semitar,** 7 **-iter(e, -yter, symeter,** 8–9 **simitar.** *δ.* 7 **scindifer, skimiter, scemiter,** 7–9 **scimiter, scimeter, scymitar, -etar, -iter, -eter, scimetar,** 6– **scimitar.** [Adopted in the 16th c. in various forms from different Rom. langs. The word appears as F. *cimeterre* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; also ? *sanneterre*, ? *sauveterre*, and 16th c. *cimiterre*), It. *scimitarra* (formerly also *cimitara*), Sp. *cimitarra*, Pg. *cimitarra, semitierra, samitarra.* A Turkish origin would be expected, but no likely etymon has been found in that language; the Persian شمشير *shamshīr*, formerly pronounced *shamsher* (whence Gr. σαμψήρα 'a barbarian sword', Suidas) agrees in sense but is unsatisfactory as to form. The Basque **cimeterra* 'sharp-edged', has been suggested as the source, but this appears unlikely, and recent Basque dicts. do not give the adj.

In Chr. Richerius Thorigneus *De Rebus Turcarum* (1540), *cymitharra* is given as the name by which the Janizaries called their weapon; but this does not prove that the word was Turkish.]

1. A short, curved, single-edged sword, used among Orientals, esp. Turks and Persians.

α. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 6 b, Appareled after Turkey fashion..girded with two swordes, called Cimiteries. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 8 A trenchant Turkish semitorie. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxvii. 403 By one onely blow of a Cimitary or broade Persian Sword. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 79 With the stroke of a Cimitery. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Semitarie*, a crooked Sword or Faulchion.

β. 1579 NORTH tr. *Plutarch, Alexander* (1595) 751 He..ran sodainly to him with a cimiter drawen in his hand. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. v. 3 Vppon her thigh her Cemitare was tide. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 28 The Patrone..drawing a Turkish Cymiter, beginneth to lay about him. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* III. xxxiv. 266 They worshipped their tutelar deity under the symbol of an iron cimeter. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. ii, The curving cimiter. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 467/2 Shemr raised his glittering cimeter.

γ. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 91 He dies vpon my Semitars sharpe point. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii. 100 With this Semitor I..Endured some three or foure howers combat. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 53 An vnexpected Semiter ..cut off his head. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Table, Damascus Symeters. 1690 *Gt. Scanderberg* 78 His Semitar had cleaved so fast to his hand in the heat of the Fight, that it could not be pluck'd off.

δ. 1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Two Comm.* II. 43 The sworde that Scanderbeg strake the beste with was a Scimitar bending lyke vnto a falchion. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. vii. If they haue a good skimiter, [they] had rather haue a blow on their arme, then their weapon hurt. 1669 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* IV. 57 Suppose that with a Syrian Scemiter,..I were minc'd into a Py. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 82 P 10 A Scymitar once wielded by a soldier. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxvii. VI. 441 In the hands of the Turks, the scymetar was the only instrument of conversion. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* iii. 8 Therefore came I..To smite the smiter

with the scimitar. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 64 His scymetar and dagger were of the workmanship of Fez. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* vi. (1875) 310 The Scythians worshipped an iron scimetar as the symbol of the war-god.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1689 COTTON *Winter* XXXV, And Pendant by their brawny Thighs, Hang Cimetars of burnisht Ice. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, To raise up the scimitar of resistance.

2. Short for *scimitar razor-shell* (see 3).

1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 70 The grey scimitars are Solens.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scimitar-horned, -shaped* adjs.; **scimitar-pea**, a variety of pea (named from the shape of the pod); **scimitar-pod**, the woody legume of the tropical climber *Entada scandens*; **scimitar razor-shell**, the *Solen Ensis*; **scimitar-tree**, an evergreen tree of the genus *Harpephyllum*.

1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 145 The noble presence of the *scimitar-horned sable antelope. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 550 The Carolina, blue *scimitar, and blue and green tall and dwarf imperial [peas]. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 576 The blue scimitar pea. 1871 J. SMITH *Domestic Bot.* 432 *Scimitar Pods (*Entada scandens*)...Its large hard-wooded flat pods..resemble a sword or scimitar. 1819 TURTON *Conchol. Dict.* 160 *Solen Ensis*, *Scimitar Razor-shell. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Expl. Terms 386 Acinaciforme, *scymitar-shaped. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 142/2 Knotted, scimitar-shaped horns.

Hence **Sci·mitared** *a.*, (*a*) bearing or armed with a scimitar; (*b*) 'scimitar-shaped, acinaciform' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* II. 280 Turbaned and scimitared servants. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* XXXV, The scimitared Mesrour.

Scin, Scino, obs. forms of SKIN, SKINK.

Scincidoid (si·nsidoid). [f. mod.L. *Scincidæ* pl., f. L. *scinc-us* SKINK: see -ID and -OID.] A lizard of the family *Scincidæ*.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 73/1 Scincidoïds.

Scincle, obs. form of SHINGLE.

Scincoid (si·ŋkoid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *scincoīdēs* (neut. pl. *-oīdea*), f. *scinc-us* SKINK: see -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling a skink; belonging to the group *Scincoidea* or the family *Scincidæ* of skink-like lizards. **b.** *sb.* A skink-like lizard.

1790 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* 242 The Scincoid, or Skinc-formed Lizard. 1791 G. SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* Pl. 179 The Scincoid Lizard is a native of New Holland. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 72/2 Oppel included under his Scincoïds..the Scinks, the genus *Seps*, the Scheltopusiks, the genus *Anguis*, and the Orvets. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* ii. 40 The smooth scales of various Scincoid Lizards.

Scincoidian (siŋkoi·diăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **-ean.** [f. as prec. + -IAN.] = SCINCOID.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 258/2 Scincoidian Lizards, or Lepidosauri. 1841 *Ibid.* XXI. 74/1 There is not a single Scincoidian whose geographical range is confined to Europe. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* lxiv. (1875) 481 The Scincoidean Lizards.

Scind (sind), *v. rare.* [ad. F. *scinder*, or its source L. *scind-ĕre*: see SCISSION.] *trans.* To divide, make a scission in.

1870 BARING-GOULD *Orig. & Dev. Rel. Belief* II. ii. 25 A fatal mistake to scind what is by its nature indivisible.

Scind, variant of SYND *v. dial.*, to rinse.

† Scindapse. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. Gr. *σκινδαψός* a 'thingumbob', a what-d'ye-call-it.]

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon. Ch.* (1642) 211 So might the Sibyls be Scindapses, Counterfaits, *Entia rationis*, no such creatures.

Scinder, obs. f. SUNDER *v.* **Scine,** obs. f. SHINE.

† Sci·niphes. *Obs.* (See CINIPHES.)

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* Ep. Ded. ¶ 5 Whose prouidence reacheth from the Center to the Circumference; from the silliest Scyniph to the highest Seraphin. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* viii. comm., *Scinifes*, smale flying beastes, especially molesting mens eyes.

Scink: see SKINK.

† Scintill, *sb. Obs.* or *arch.* Also 7 syntille, 7, 9 scintil. Anglicized form of SCINTILLA.

1599 in *Archæol. Cantiv.* (Camden) I. 158 This gentleman, in whome..neuer scintill of disloyalty..did once lurke. 1644 BP. MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* xiii. 128 The scintil from the flint-stone. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, 55 Some little scintils of Love. 1860 SANGSTER *Hesperus*, etc. 26 No scintil of their [the stars'] jewelled flame.

† Scintill, *v. Obs.* [ad. F. *scintiller* or L. *scintillāre*, f. *scintilla* (see next).] *intr.* To sparkle.

1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 150 His breast so filled was with ire, That's eyes both sparkled and scintilled.

‖ Scintilla (sinti·lă). [L.] A spark; always *fig.*, a minute particle, an atom.

1692 T. WATSON *Body of Div.* 434 God takes notice of the least scintilla, the least spark of grace in his Children. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* III. ix. § 11 (1740) 655 Such was the Disposition..in most People, upon a Scintilla of Evidence, to conclude the King was a Papist. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* xii. (1874) 229 They are daring words,..but they have a scintilla of truth in them. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* III. xxii. 324 She expressed herself..accurately..but without a scintilla of animation.

Scintillant (si·ntilănt), *a.* Also 8 scintilant. [ad. L. *scintillant-em*, pres. pple. of *scintillāre* to SCINTILLATE. Cf. F. *scintillant*.] Scintillating.

1737 M. GREEN *Spleen* 219 Who can view the pointed rays, That from black eyes scintillant blaze? 1790 R. KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 497 Red scintilant zeolite from Edelfors. 1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scintillant*, emitting sparks of fire when burnt. 1864 G. MUSGRAVE *Ten Days in Fr. Parsonage* II. ii. 53 Cloth of gold,..silk, and other scintillant adornments. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Shipmate Louise* III. xli. 289 By this time the island had melted into the scintillant dusk of the sky.

b. *Her.* Emitting sparks.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. iv. (1611) 95 He beareth seven Firebrands flammant and Scintillant proper. 1868 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* viii. (1893) 130.

c. *fig.*

1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Brit. Synon.* I. 400 Hudibras too, of all books perhaps most dazzling with scintillant brightness. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, viii. I. 249 His scintillant wit. 1880 RUSKIN *Notes on Prout & Hunt* 9 Genius..scintillant enough to be made more vivid by contraction.

Scintillate (si·ntilĕit), *v.* [f. L. *scintillāt-*, ppl. stem of *scintillāre*, f. SCINTILLA. Cf. F. *scintiller* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *intr.* To send forth sparks or little flashes of light; to sparkle, twinkle.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Scintillate*, to sparkle or leape vp. 1789 MASKELYNE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 262 They appear to cast out rays of a determinate figure,..and to scintillate a little, if the air be not very clear. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. II. ix. 226 Now and then the glancing of armour scintillated out from the grey. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Lady Rohesia*, Her eyes..scintillating like flint and steel. 1869 DUNKIN *Midnight Sky* 191 The latter [planets] have been known to scintillate more or less. 1894 MRS. F. ELLIOT *Roman Gossip* xv. 319 Her dark eyes scintillating with fury.

b. *fig.*

1864 *Reader* 23 Apr. 515 A work scintillating throughout with wit and humour. 1899 ELLEN T. FOWLER *Double Thread* vii. 93 My wit is all of the p.m. variety, and never scintillates in the morning.

2. *trans.* To emit as a spark or sparks; to send forth (sparkles of light); to flash forth.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* I. ii. (1820) 46 That this globe was originally a globe of liquid fire, scintillated from the body of the sun, by the percussion of a comet. *a* 1864 N. HAWTHORNE *Mother Rigby's Pipe* ii, The star on Feathertop's breast had scintillated actual flames. 1866 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Oct. 1 A little too much given to scintillate bitter epigram.

3. *pass.* To be ornamented with bright specks.

1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. iii. 87 Painted of a green colour, scintillated or starred with gold.

Scintillating (si·ntilĕitiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That scintillates; sparkling. *lit.* and *fig.*

1775 ASH, *Scintillating*, sending forth sparks, sparkling as the stars. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. (1791) 33 Cold from each point cerulean lustres gleam, Or shoot in air the scintillating stream. 1810 SHELLEY *Zastrozzi* i. Pr. Wks. 1888. I. 6 A scintillating flame darted from the ceiling to the floor. 1883 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.*, etc. (1886) 401 It is a very inferior task to extract statements from a thousand writers, and then to piece them together into a sort of scintillating mosaic.

Scintillation (sintilē·ɪ·ʃən). [ad. L. *scintillātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *scintillāre* to SCINTILLATE. Cf. F. *scintillation* (Cotgr., 1611).]

1. The action of scintillating; emission of sparks or spark-like flashes of light.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Scintillation*, a sparkling. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scintillation*, a sparkling up of fire, or new wine leaping in the glass. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* vi. 96 Coruscation, or scintillation, is a certain sign of Metals that are unripe. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trav. Humboldt* x. 125 The fire-balls seemed to explode, but the largest disappeared without scintillation. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Num* § 19 (1853) 59 The sudden scintillation from Kate's dress played upon by the morning sun. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 686 The red prussiate burns with scintillation when introduced into the flame of a candle.

b. An instance of this; a flash, a spark.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 32 That is the Spirit of God, the fire and scintillation of that noble and mighty Essence, which is the life and radical heat of spirits. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* V. ix. 247 Our Saviour, and the Virgin Mary ..are commonly drawne with scintillations, or radiant Halo's about their head. 1791–2 COWPER tr. *Milton's Ode to his Father* 22 Some scintillations of Promethean fire. 1866 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* iii. (1876) 83 The heat there is competent to raise iron to a temperature at which it throws off brilliant scintillations. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 39 Iron wire held in the flame burns with beautiful scintillations.

c. *spec.* The twinkling or tremulous motion of the light of the fixed stars.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* xiii. 115 About the magnitude of the Stars...About their scintillation or their trepidation. 1789 MASKELYNE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 261 When I look at the brighter fixed stars, at considerable elevations,..they appear to me without scintillation. 1873 HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sci.* vii. § 101. 317 The twinkling of the stars and the changes of colour they exhibit during the different phases of their scintillations.

d. of the flashing of the eyes.

1838 *Y. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* IV. 175/1 While the fire flashed frae his ee in almost palpable scintillations o' fury. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxxvi, An angry scintillation flashes from Dolly's superb black eyes.

2. *fig.* A flash, a brilliant display (of wit, of thought).

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 P 7 A man who..dazzles the attention with sudden scintillations of conceit. 1821 V. KNOX *Grammar Sch.* 77 Displaying..scintillations of great genius. *a* 1864 FERRIER *Grk. Philos.* (1866) I. xii. 349 Every time his pages are turned they throw forth..new scintillations of thought. 1867 LYDIA M. CHILD *Rom. Republ.* xxiii. 282 These small scintillations of wit.

¶ Misused for SCINTILLA.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 5 Had he had the least scintillation of animosity, or majestick indignation. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* I. iii. (1871) 32 If the soul has the least scintillation of a desire to be holy. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 240 He..had not a scintillation of eloquence, and his manner was brusque.

Scintillator (si·ntilē·tə1). [f. SCINTILLATE *v.* + -OR.] A scintillating star.

1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* xxi. 256 Capella is another notable scintillator.

Scintille·scent, *a.* [irreg. f. L. *scintillāre* to SCINTILLATE + -ESCENT.] ? Scintillating feebly.

1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. iii. § 13. 13 One pale, Minute, scintillescent, and tremulous star.

† Sci·ntillize, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *scintillāre* to SCINTILLATE + -IZE.] *intr.* To scintillate.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xx. (1737) 89 The Probity that scintillizes in the Superficies of your Persons.

Scintillometer (sintilo·mĭtə1). [f. L. *scintilla* spark + -(O)METER.] An instrument invented by Montigny for measuring the intensity of the scintillation of the stars.

1877 *Monthly Notices Astron. Soc.* XXXVII. 204 A scintillometer, formed of a circular plate of thick glass, was mounted obliquely in the tube of the telescope.

So **Scinti·lloscope** [see -SCOPE]. (See quot.)

1906 *Nature* 1 Nov. Advts. p. vii/2 Glew's Scintilloscope.. Shows a magnificent display of scintillations, showers of sparks, direct from the mineral Pitchblende, Radium,.. Thorium, or any radio-active substance.

Scinti·llose, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *scintilla* spark + -OSE.] 'Full of sparks' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Scinti·llous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *scintilla* spark + -OUS.] Scintillating.

1826 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) V. 49 The grand march of the line,..coming after the broken and scintillous verses that precede it. 1837 RICHARDSON, *Scintillant,..Scintillous.*

So **† Scinti·llously** *adv.*, so as to produce sparks.

a 1529 SKELTON *Bk.* 3 *Foles* Wks. 1843 I. 203 Wyth theyr eyen beholdinge a trauers, of stomackes chaufed syntillously.

Scintle, variant of SKINTLE *v.*

† Sci·o [1], *Obs.* [Subst. use of L. *scio* I know.] At Oxford University: The formal testimony, by a member of the faculty, to the fitness of a candidate for a degree. Also, a person who gives this testimony.

Before a candidate could proceed to a degree, a certain number of members of his faculty had to 'depone' secretly to the Vice-Chancellor in favour of his fitness with regard to conduct and learning. Nine were required in Arts, three in the other faculties. The Vice-Chancellor put the question to each in Latin, and the answer was given in the word 'Scio', 'Credo', or 'Nescio'.

1664 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 16, I gave a scio for Sr. Boen and Sr. [Henry] Knap of Merton Coll. 1681 *Ibid.* 518 The scio's taken in Adam Brom's chapel. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 278 His Scios were Dr Turner [etc.].

Scio [2] (ʃī·o). [Modern name of the island of Chios (see CHIAN).] In full *Scio turpentine*: turpentine obtained from *Pistacia Terebinthus*.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 129 Scio turpentine is yielded by Pistacia Terebinthus. 1837 R. ELLIS *Laws & Regul. Customs* III. 482 Scio or Cyprus is obtained from the *Pinus Pistacia*.

Sciofericall, variant of SCIATHERICAL *Obs.*

Sciograph, -er, etc., obs. ff. SCIAGRAPH, -ER, etc.

Sciolism (səi·ŏliz'm). [f. next: see -ISM.] The character or qualities of a sciolist; pretentious superficiality of knowledge.

1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* App. 31 That epidemic of a proud ignorance occasioned by a diffused sciolism. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 44 The tendency to shallow and conceited sciolism, engendered by hearing popular lectures on all manner of subjects. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* xvi. 148 The empty sciolism of much that calls itself criticism.

Sciolist (səi·ŏlist). [f. late L. *sciol-us* (see SCIOLOUS *a.*) + -IST.] A superficial pretender to knowledge; a conceited smatterer.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 20 The Generall Sciolists or Poettasters of Britannie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* To Rdr. A 4, Every..homebred Sciolist being at liberty..to coyn and innovate new Words. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* CX. (1819) II. 264 Contemptible sciolists who called themselves theatrical critics. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biogr. Lit.* I. iii. 58 In proportion as a still greater diffusion of literature shall produce an increase of sciolists. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 18 The last resource of an empiric, the last refuge of a sciolist.

Hence **Scioli·stic** *a.*, characteristic of a sciolist.

1831 W. GODWIN *Thoughts Man* 369 Must there not be in this subtle distribution much of what is arbitrary and sciolistic? 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 298 Sciolistic theorizing and dogmatism.

Sciolous (səi·ŏləs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. late L. *sciol-us* smatterer (dim. of L. *scius* knowing, f. *scīre* to know) + -OUS. Cf. It. *sciolo*.] Having a smattering of knowledge, sciolistic.

1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 18 Only sciolous wits float onely in uncertainty. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 87, I could wish, that these sciolous Zelotists had more Judgement joynd with their Zeale. 1836 D. HOFFMAN *Course Legal Study* (1846) 704 The elaborated works of ignorance,..the speculations of the sciolous. 1861 *Temple Bar* IV. 114 Legros was not the superficial, supercilious, sciolous man many of his countrymen are.

‖ Sci·olus. Pl. **scioli.** *Obs.* [L.: see prec.] A smatterer, sciolist.

1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Script.* v. 7 Certaine *Scioli*, or cunning men, which tooke vpon them..to mend the old

Bookes vpon coniecture. 1658 BURTON *Comment. Itin. Antoninus* 34 Camden..advises to exclude these words,.. as a *glossema* foisted in by some *sciolus*.

Sciomachy, variant of SCIAMACHY.

Sciomancy (sə́iˑŏmænsi). Also 7 **-mantie**, 8 **scia-**. [ad. mod.L. *sciomantīa*, f. Gr. σκιο-, σκιά shadow + *μαντεία*: see -MANCY. Cf. F. *sciomance* (Cotgr. 1611).] Divination by communication with the shades of the dead.

1623 COCKERAM, *Sciomancie*, diuination by shadowes. 1647 A. ROSS *Mystag. Poet.* xii. (1675) 307 This..was but Sciomancy, or a sight of shadows only, not Necromancy. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sciomantie*,..the part of Necromancy, practised by shadows. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxv, If you be afraid of the Dead,..I will make use of the Faculty of Sciomancy. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Sciomantia*, The Witch who conjured up the Soul of Samuel.. did it by Sciomancy. 1752 *Ibid.* (ed. 7), Sciamantia, Sciamancy, or Sciomancy. 1852 ROGET *Thesaurus* § 511 Divination.. By ghosts; Psychomancy. By shadows or manes; Sciomancy.

Hence **Sciomantic** *a.*, pertaining to sciomancy.

1859 *Mem. E. Henderson* vi. 378 The actual not sciomantic appearance of Samuel at Endor.

Scion (sə́iˑən). Forms: *α.* 4 **si-**, **syoun**, 5–6 **syon**, **syun**, 6–7 **si-**, **syen**, 6 **sion**, 7 **seyon**. *β.* 5 **eyun**, 6–9 **cion**, 7–8 **ci-**, **cyen**, **cyon**. *γ.* 6 **seyence**, 6–7 **science**, 6–7 **siens**, **sient**, 7 **sience**, **cions**, **cyons**, **-ens**, **sciance**, **cyence**, **scient**. *δ.* 4, 8–9 **scyon**, 5 **scioun**, 7 **sci-**, **scyen**, 5– **scion**. [a. OF. *cion*, *ciun*, *cyon*, *sion*, mod.F. *scion* (Picard *chion*), of obscure origin.

The early forms in OF. are inconsistent with the commonly assumed derivation from *scier* to saw.]

1. † a. *gen.* A shoot or twig; also, a sucker. *Obs.* exc. *fig.* b. *spec.* A slip for grafting, a graft.

a. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 74 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 158 Þe siouns beþ al sedwale. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 166 As a sioun mai not bere fruyt but if it stonde stable in þe vyne. 1388 — *Num.* xiii. 24 Thei..kittiden doun a sioun with his grape, which twei men baren in a barre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Syyn, of a tree. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/2 A Syon or A twige. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. i. 71 The thrid syon of treis [L. *tertia hastilia*]. 1590 GREENE *Neuer too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 97 A crooked sien will proue a straight tree. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 170 Seyons young tender plants Where the quire of woodbirds chants. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 843 The grafting of a sien into the stocke. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* Refl. Agric. 75 Young Siens growing out at the Roots.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 79/1 Cyvn' of a tre, *surculus*, *vitulamen*. 1572 MASCALL *Plaut. & Graff.* (1592) 14 When trees shall be thus proined, they shall bring great Cions from their rootes, which shall be frank & good to replant. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 92 From Roots hard Hazles, and from Cyens rise Tall Ash. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* 441 Cyons grafted upon suckers. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* vii. (1813) 85 Proper stocks being ready, and cions or buds procured. 1802 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* xxii. (1824) 304 The cion preserves its natural purity and intent, though it be fed and nourished by a mere crab.

γ. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* (1525) 46 The scyences growynge aboute the tree of the same. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 76 The yoong sciences plucked from the rootes of the trees will growe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxv. 34 The roote..from the which there doth shoote foorth manie yoong sciences. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. v. 431 The litle sciences of cherry trees growne thick with hairie roots..being remooued [etc.]. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 14 No more than a sient can bring forth fruit which is not set into a stocke. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 453 If you can get a Cions to grow vpon a Stocke of another kinde. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 48 Graft every Cyence into its own kind. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. v. 87/1 Suckers,.. sprouts; some call them Sciences.

δ. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxviii. (Tollem. MS.), *Propago* is a ȝonge spray of a vyne, þat sprungeþ of a scyon. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 89 Lest the scioun crokidly vp crepe. 1619 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* Ded., Not tied to it as scion to a tree. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 104 Emerging scion, or awaken'd seed. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xix. 78 Ne'er shall it clothe its boughs Again, nor push again its scyons forth. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* xii. (1874) 217 The species propagated itself by seed, bud, or scion. 1882 *Garden* 25 Mar. 200/1 In making the scions only the well ripened portions of such shoots are used.

c. *fig.* and in *fig. context*.

1590 LODGE *Rosalynde* (1592) A 4 b, Shewe your selues siens worthie of so florishing a tree. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. i. 1 Some of the vertuous race Rose up..That cropt the branches of the sient base. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 93 You see (sweet Maid) we marry A gentler Sien, to the wildest Stocke. 1658 MILTON *Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 404 To prevent the extirpation of this most antient Scien of the purer Religion. 1684 T. HOCKIN *God's Decrees* 161 To be really in Christ, is to be grafted into him with the Cyon of divine grace. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 45 Upon that body and stock of inheritance we have taken care not to inoculate any cyon alien to the nature of the original plant. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 429 Imitation, a scion of which the Fugue is the parent-tree. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, An humble and secular scion of that old stock of religious constancy.

2. An heir, a descendant.

1824 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 248 To guard the precious scion of a noble house. 1816 BYRON *Dream* ii, Herself the solitary scion left Of a time-honour'd race. 1827 MALTHUS *Popul.* I. 155 Young scions are then pushed from the parent stock, and instructed..to gain happier seats for themselves by their swords. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. 22 No son of a kingly father, no scion of legendary heroes. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. vi. 51 A scion of the imperial Hapsburg line.

Scioptic (sə́iˌɒˑptik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. σκιά shadow + *ὀπτικός* pertaining to vision: see OPTIC *a.* From the dates of our examples, it would appear to be a correction of the less regularly formed SCIOPTRIC.]

= SCIOPTRIC.

1738–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Scioptic* [ed. 1728 *Sciopticke*], a sphere or globe of wood, with [etc.]. 1775 ASH, *Scioptic*, belonging to an instrument used in the camera obscura. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xv. 178 The scioptic ball..may be considered as a kind of artificial eye. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Scioptics*, the science of exhibiting images of external objects, received through a double convex glass into a darkened room. [App. an error: cf. quot. 1706 s.v. SCIOPTRIC B.] 1842 [see SCIOPTRIC *a.*].

Sciopticon (sə́iˌɒˑptikɒ̆n). [Formed as prec. with Gr. neuter ending.] 'A magic lantern adapted for the exhibition of photographed objects' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1876 *S. Kens. Mus. Catal. Sci. Apparatus* No. 964 a (1877) 245 Sciopticon. 1879 *Nature* 16 Oct. 204/2 Advt. 1883 *Eng. Mech.* 6 Apr. 104 Of the oil-lanterns it will be supposed that I prefer the sciopticon. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 401/2 To make an enlargement on a 12 by 10 opal, using a sciopticon burning paraffin.

Scioptric (sə́iˌɒˑptik), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Gr. σκιά shadow, after *catoptric*, *dioptric*. Cf. SCIOPTIC.] **A.** *adj. Scioptric ball*: a ball of wood with a hole made through it in which a lens is placed, used in the camera obscura.

a 1764 J. HARRIS *Treat. Optics* (1775) 269 For holding the lens, there is a little convenient apparatus to be had ready in the shops, called a Scioptric-ball. 1783 *P. Fletcher's Purple Isl.* v. xxxvi. *note*, Herein is described the *Camera Obscura*,..which exhibit the pictures of external objects in their proper colours, by means of a convex glass, or Scioptric Ball, either in a darkened chamber, or portable box. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 270 A scioptric ball and socket being fastened against a hole in the window-shutter in a darkened chamber. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 36/1 Put the object-glass of a 10 or 12 feet telescope into the scioptric ball. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Scioptic Ball* or *Scioptric Ball*.

B. *sb.* = *scioptric ball*: see A.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v. *Obscura Camera*, Such ready fitted are now commonly sold..on Ludgate-hill, and are called Sciopticks. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sciopticks*, a part of Optics. See *Obscura Camera*.] 1721 in BAILEY.

Sciotericall, -ique: see SCIATHERICAL, -THERIC.

Sciotheism. [f. Gr. σκιο-, σκιά shadow + θεός god + -ISM.] A proposed term for the form of religion in which ghosts take the place of gods.

1886 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Apr. 493 This sciotheism, as it might be called. 1886 *Blackw. Mag.* CXL. 794 She has been discoursing..upon sciotheism.

Sciotherical, -therick: see SCIATHERICAL, -IC.

Scious (sə́iəs), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *sci-us* (see SCIOLIST) + -OUS.] Having knowledge.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 428 Brutes may be, and are scious.

Scip, Scipper, Scipple, obs. ff. SHIP, SKIPPER, SIPPLE. **Scir(e,** obs. ff. SHEER *a.*, SHIRE.

‖ **Scire facias** (sə́iəˑri fēiˑʃiĕs). *Law.* [Subst. use of the Law Latin phrase *scīre facias*, 'do (him) to wit', the characteristic words of the writ.] A judicial writ, requiring the sheriff to do the party concerned to wit that he should come before the Court to 'show cause' why execution should not be taken against him, or why letters patent, such as a charter, should not be revoked. Often abbreviated *sci. fa.*

In England now practically superseded by other forms of procedure for most purposes, except the revocation of royal charters.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 111/1 And he..be admitted therto, and have for his action in this case, a scire fac' ayenst hym that offendith ayenst this Ordenaunce. 1456 *Coventry Leetbk.* 295 And thei to haue for the seid forfatores seueral Scire facias vpon this mater ayenst suche as offenden. 1544 tr. *Nat. Brevium* 176 In these cases a man shal haue a scire facias within the yere. 1641 *Argts. Hutton & Croke* title-p., A Scire facias brought by the Kings Majesty, in the Court of Exchequer, against John Hampden Esquire. 1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* I. 5 Put the Case you are indebted to me 20*l.* upon a *Scire facias*. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 48 It's jurisdiction is to hold plea upon a *scire facias* to repeal and cancel the king's letters patent [etc.]. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 73 He may recover the debt out of the goods of the cognizor, by a *scire facias*, or take his body. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxi. 279 The power..to bring a chartered colony, by a scire facias, before the English tribunals.

Scirmige, -yssh, obs. forms of SKIRMISH.

Sciroc(co : see SIROCCO.

† **Scirpean,** *a. Obs.*—[o] [f. L. *scirpe-us* (f. *scirpus* bulrush) + -AN.] 'Of or belonging to bulrushes' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Scirra, Scirreve, obs. ff. SIERRA, SHERIFF.

† **Scirrhe.** *Obs.* Also 7 **schirrh**, **schirr(h)e**, **schyrrhe**, **skirrh**, 8 **schir.** [a. F. *scirre*, *scirrhe* (16th c.; now *squirre*, *squirrhe*), ad. Gr. σκίρρος SCIRRHUS.] = SCIRRHUS.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 486 Phlegmons, Oedems, Schyrrhes, Erysipiles. 1608 *Ibid.*, *Index Hardest Words*, *Schirrhes*, a kinde of hard (yet paine-lesse) swellings in the flesh. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIV. xix. II. 207 Whether the matrice haue a schirre in it and be hard or swolne. *Ibid.* XXX. xiv. II. 397 Hard tumors, schirrhs, and impostumations of the matrice. 1606 — *Sueton.* Annot. 15 These Cancers be certain tumors or swellings,..which be called Scirrhes. 1659 MACALLO *Can. Physick* 66 The latter declares an intemperature, that is, an inflammation, a skirrh or wind to be in those parts [liver and stomach, etc.]. 1761 tr. *Störck's and Ess. Hemlock* 3 Fifteen schirs, the smallest of which was equal to a hen's egg. [In a footnote, the translator says he has chosen this form to avoid 'the disagreeable hissing of the word *schirusses*'.]

Scirrho- (sĭˑrɒ, sk-), used as combining form of SCIRRHUS, in *scirrho-contracted* adj.

1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 385 What is usually called a scirrho-contracted rectum. 1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 578/1 It has been clearly proved..that scirrho-contracted rectum..is of not infrequent occurrence.

Scirrhoid (sĭˑroid, sk-), *a.* [f. SCIRRHUS + -OID.] Resembling scirrhus.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

‖ **Scirrhoma** (sirō̆uˑmă, sk-). *Path.* [mod.L. (in tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* 1684, Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706), f. Gr. σκίρρωμα, σκίρωμα, f. σκίρρος, σκίρος SCIRRHUS: see -OMA.] A schirrous tumour.

1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 657/2 Carcinoma may be divided into two species, the first of which we have called *scirrhoma*, the second *cephaloma*.

† **Scirrhose,** *a. Obs.*—[1] In 8 **schirrose.** [ad. mod.L. *scirrhōsus*: see -OSE.] = SCIRRHOUS.

1725 ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 159 Schirrose Tumours.

Scirrhosity (sirˌsĭti, sk-). Also 6 **schirrositye**, 7 **scirrosity**, 7–8 **schirrosity**, 8 **scyrrhosity**, **schirrhosity.** [ad. mod.L. *scirrhōsitās*, f. late L. *scirrhōs-us* SCIRRHOUS: see -ITY.] A morbid hardness or scirrhous condition of an organ or a part; the quality or state of being scirrhous.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 363/1 First on the schirrositye, be it wher it will, you must applye a little Sheepes-woolle dipped in Oyle of Lillyes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. iii. II. 406 They breed obstructions and schirrhosities in the bellie. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 980 In diseases of..Spleen Liver and Mesentery; and the scirrosity and hardness of those parts. 1730 STUART ibid. XXXVI. 346 In Scyrrhosities of the Liver. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. vii. § 1 (1734) 184 A discoverable..Schirrosity, or Cancer already extant in it [the Stomach]. 1762 R. GUY *Pract. Obs. Cancers* 30 They often produce Schirrhosities which have afterwards proved cancerous. 1776–84 CULLEN *First Lines Physic* § 258 Wks. 1827 II. 12 It is in glandular parts chiefly that scirrhosity is observed. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 387 The existence of transverse filaments [in the gut] is generally preceded by scirrhosity.

Scirrhous (sĭˑrəs, sk-), *a.* Also 6 **schirrhouse**, 7 **skirrous**, **skyrrhus**, 7, 9 **scirrous**, 7–9 **schirrous**, 8 **skirrhous.** [ad. F. *scirr(h)eux* (16th c.; now *squirreux*), ad. mod.L. *scirrhōsus*, f. L. *scirrhus*: see SCIRRHUS and -OUS. Cf. Sp. *escirroso*, Pg. *scirrhoso*, It. *scirroso*.] Proceeding from, of the nature of, or resembling a scirrhus.

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* I. 4 These medicines..make softe bodyes whiche bee scirrhous and harde. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 362/2 For harde knobbes, and Schirrhouse tumefactiones. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 183 The substance of the spleene is more rare and open then that of the Liuer, but yet is oftner afflicted with scirrhous tumors. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 186 The entrails of man.. become far harder and faster, and more Schirrous than they were before. 1674–7 J. MOLINS *Anat. Obs.* (1896) 23 The Liver preternaturally large and Skyrrhus. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 132 The parts will grow schirrous and a cancer ensue. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 33/1, I believe he has a scirrhous liver. 1790 J. C. SMYTH in *Med. Commun.* II. 481 A..tumor of the indolent or skirrhous kind. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obst. Med. & Surg.* 227 Skirrhous glands may be detected by their being more or less firmly attached to the surrounding structures. 1878 BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 119 Scirrhous cancer.

b. *transf.* Indurated; covered with hard excrescences. Also *fig.*

1658 FRANCK *Northern Mem.* (1821) 299 Worms that are taken and drag'd forth out of a hard and skirrous earth. 1781 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Tour Flanders* Wks. 1797 II. 97 A fine portrait of Vesalius the Anatomist, when young, by Tintoret. He has a skirrous bone in his left hand, the other holds a compass. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 512 In attempting to produce an effect upon schirrous hearts and distempered intellects. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* 64 Blow, flute, and stir the stiff-set sprigs, And scirrhous roots and tendons. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ii. (1874) 7 The father disclosed a merry expression of face, shining, scirrhous skin, and a plump, ruby head.

Hence **Scirrhousness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

‖ **Scirrhus** (sĭˑrŏs, sk-). *Path.* Pl. **scirrhi**, also anglicized **scirrhusses.** Also 7 **skyrrhus**, **schirrous**, 7–8 **schirrhus**, 8–9 **schirrus**, *pl.* 7 **scirri**, 8 **schirri.** [mod.L., a. Gr. σκίρρος, properly *σκίρος* a hard coat or covering, a hardened swelling or tumour, related to *σκιρός* hard. Cf. F. *scirre* (16th c.; now *squirre*), Sp. *escirro*, Pg. *scirrho*, *scirro*, It. *scirro*.]

1. A hard, firm, and almost painless swelling or tumour; now *spec.* a hard cancer.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 460 In this place sayth Bauhine ..I found a scirrhus or hard tumor. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1000 For a Schirrous of the womb he useth a Buprestis. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communi.* iii. § 3. 140 The Priest..thrusts his hand into the region of the lower belly, and looks if there be an ulcer, or a scirrhus. 1674–7 J. MOLINS *Anat. Obs.* (1896) 20 The weaknesse of the Liver caused by a Skyrrhus. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Schirri* and *scirri* are hard swellings in the flesh, without pain, but hardly curable. 1684 BOYLE *Porosity. Anim. & Solid Bodies* vi. 55 The outward Medicine resolved

the scirrhus. 1766 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 578/2 A schirrus in the right breast..had considerably encreased, looked livid, oozed a little, and was painful. 1782 HEBERDEN *Comm.* iii. (1806) 13 Dropsy..or scirrhi of some of the viscera. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 46 A scirrhus is a hard cancer in which the fibrous stroma predominates.

b. *fig.*

1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1647) 22 And when that Callum, Schirrus or Incrustation drawn over it by nature.. is once fleyed off, the Conscience becomes so pliant and supple, that the least imaginable touch is painfull unto it.

2. The disease of having a scirrhus (sense 1); an instance or attack of this disease.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 161 Of the congelations of these salts comes goutes stones, scirrhus, hardnesse, and divers kinds of obstructions. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 155 The dysentery, Colick or nephritick Convulsions, schirrhus, &c. 1719 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 121 It somewhat inclines by Urine, and is reckon'd good in Schirri. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 323 And many chronical Distempers, as Jaundice, Dropsy, Schirrus's and Scurvies. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 126 To regard schirrus as one of the usual effects of ordinary inflammation. 1872 PEASLEE *Ovar. Tumors* 20, I also think a single ovary to be more frequently affected by scirrhus than both. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 97 According to Douglas Powell, scirrhus is the most frequent form [of mediastinal cancer].

Sciruy, obs. form of SCURVY.

† **Sci·scitation.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sciscitātiōn-em* inquiry, f. *sciscitārī* to ask, inquire, question, f. *scisc-ĕre* search, seek to know, inceptive of *scīre* to know.] Questioning.

1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* I. *Annunc.* 8 There is not a more noble proofe of our faith, then..without all sciscitation, to goe blindfold whither he will lead us. 1646 TRAPP *John* ix. 7 He believeth and doth as he was bidden, without sciscitation. 1656 — *Heb.* xi. 8 He is to be obeyed without sciscitation, with a blinde obedience. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 132 Abraham..immediately departed without sciscitation or carnal reasonings.

[**Scise** *v.*: see *List of Spurious Words.*]

Sciseme, obs. form of SCHISM.

Scism(a, -e, etc., obs. forms of SCHISM, etc.

Scissel (si·sĕl). Also 7 scizell, 9 sizel, scissil(e. [a. F. *cisaille* 'the clipping of coyne presently after the stampe' (Cotgr. 1611), verbal noun from *cisailler* to clip with shears.] (See quot. 1842.)

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 282 The wast of Copper, which commeth by melting of Bullion, remelting of the Brocage and Scizell, and by working, hammering, often nealing and blaunching of the moneys. 1834–6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 613/2 The remainder of the plate between the holes left by the blank was remelted again, under the denomination of *sisel.* 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Scissel*, the clippings of various metals produced in several mechanical operations concerned in their manufacture. The slips or plates of metal out of which circular blanks have been cut for the purpose of coinage are called *scissel* at the Mint. 1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* VI. 481/2 The scrap left after the blanks are cut out, called *scissel*, is sent back to be remelted. 1868 SEYD *Bullion & Foreign Exch.* 273 The perforated ribbons..called Scissel go back to the Melting Room.

[**Scissile**: see SCISSILE *a.*, quot. 1626.]

Scissile (si·sil), *a.* [ad. L. *scissilis*, f. *scindĕre* to cut or divide. Cf. F. *scissile* (1611 Cotgr.), It. *scissile.*] Capable of being cut or divided; *spec.* in *Min.*, that splits into laminæ, esp. of alum.

1621 WYDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 30 Hard Allome or Allome Scissile is thicke, and cleaueth. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 846 The Differences of..Scissile and Not Scissile [1635 Scissible and Not Scissible]; and many other Passions of Matter are Plebeian Notions. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2040 We found it [a stone] somewhat scissile and reducible by a knife into thin lamina's or plates. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. (1735) 194 Animal Fat..is scissile like a Solid. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Alum*, Scissile or fossile Alum.

Scission (si·ʃən). [a. F. *scission* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) (=It. *scissione*), ad. late L. *scissiōn-em* a cleaving or dividing, f. L. *scindĕre* (ppl. stem *sciss-*) to cut or divide.]

1. The action, or an act of cutting or dividing, as with a sharp instrument.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* v. iii. 357 Nerves may be many ways wounded, viz. by Scission or Puncture. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. Introd. 25 Mix them, and you have an animal which begins to absorb fluid, and..multiplies itself by scissions or germes.

2. *fig.* Division, separation; in early use = SCHISM.

1443 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 33/1 Alsua at ferme & faste obedience be kepit til our haly fadir the pape Eugene ..And at rigorouss processis be maid agaynis þe fauoraris of scissione, & the agaynstandaris of þe said obedience. 1736 HERVEY *Mem. Geo. II*, 252 A scission (which is the term the Poles have to express an election decided by arms and not by voices). 1789 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1853) II. 561 The Princes of the blood..presented and published a memoir, threatening a scission. 1798 *Ibid.* IV. 246 If on a temporary superiority of the one party, the other is to resort to a scission of the Union, no federal government can ever exist. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii. (1872) 97 Things ripen towards downright incompatibility and what is called 'scission'. 1870 BARING-GOULD *In Exitu Israel* I. xiv. 185 The Church was divided into two classes,..and the scission between them was almost as sharp as that between the noble and the roturier. 1887 STEVENSON *Merry Men*, etc. (ed. 2) 123 He feared..some scission in the continuity of man's experience.

Scissiparity (sisipæ·riti). *Biol.* [f. L. *sciss-* ppl. stem of *scindĕre* to cut or divide + *par-ĕre* to produce, bring forth + -ITY. Cf. PARITY 2.] Reproduction by fission, fissiparity, schizogenesis.

1877 BATEMAN *Darwinism* 32 This most simple mode of reproduction by scissiparity or self-division is the same by which cells are reproduced. 1901 *Nature* 12 Sept. 496/2 On scissiparity in the Hydroides, by M. Armand Billard.

So **Scissi·parous** *a.* = FISSIPAROUS.

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

Scissor (si·zəɹ), *v.* Also 7 cizar, 9 scissar. [f. SCISSORS *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To cut with scissors, to cut *up*, *off*, or *into* pieces with scissors. Also, † to prepare or trim (the beard) with scissors.

1612 *Two Noble K.* I. ii. 59 My poore Chinne too, for tis not Cizard iust To such a Favorites glasse. 1840 L. HUNT *Seer* ix. 21/2 The young shoots of it [*sc.* ivy]..point in a most elegant manner over the edge of a glass or decanter, seeming to have been newly scissared forth by some fairy hand. 1885 FENN *Brownsmith's Boy* 24, I scissored off two or three berries in the way he had taught me. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Sept. 1 When the luckless Abdul Aziz was scissored into a bloody grave. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 31 Each folio being scissored into half a dozen pieces.

2. To clip out (extracts) from newspapers or the like. Also *absol.*

1865 *Dubl. Univ. Mag.* I. 146 Lucy surreptitiously scissored these charming songs, and kept them in a little volume. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 133, I had for a long time, at intervals, been at work on a book to be entitled the 'Origin of American Popular Phrases'. I had scissored from newspapers, collected from negro minstrels [etc.].

Scissorer (si·zərəɹ). *U. S.* [f. SCISSOR *v.* + -ER 1.] One who uses scissors; hence, a compiler.

1878 *Cornell Rev.* Feb. 188 Ye scissorers of the college press! 1898 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Sept. 4/1 He certainly does show..considerable ability and discrimination as a scissorer.

Scissoring (si·zəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also scissorsing. [f. SCISSOR *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of cutting with scissors.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 111 He may have written some pretty things, but he is taken now to slum, scissorsing, namby pamby, and is quite spoiled. 1892 MRS. SALA *Famous People* 4 By half-past ten or so his task of scissoring is over.

b. *pl.* Clippings made with scissors.

1890 *Bradford Observer* 6 Jan. 8/3 Is it [the Review of Reviews] not all made up of scissorings from the magazines?

Scissors (si·zəɹz), *sb. pl.* Forms: α. 4–5 sissoures, sisours, 5 sesours, syssoris, sysors, -our(e)s, -owrys, *sing.* -owre, 6 sycers, sysers, syzers, sis(z)ers, 6–8 sissars, siz(z)ers, 7 sizars, sizzors, sissers, sissors, *sing.* sizar. β. 5 cysors, *sing.* cysowre, 5–6 cysars, 6 cysers, -ours, cyzers, cycers, cyssers, cisars, *sing.* cizar, 6–7 ciz(z)ers, 7 cizars, cissours, cis(s)ers, cissars. γ. 6 scissoures, 7 scisers, scizars, scizzers, 7–8 scissers, scizzars, 7–9 scizzors, scissars, 7– *dial.* scithers (see also E.D.D.), 8 scizers, 7– scissors. [ME. *sisours, cysowres*, a. OF. *cisoires* (mod.F. only in the sense 'large shears'; the sense 'scissors' is expressed by the cognate *ciseaux*, pl. of OF. *cisel*, mod.F. *ciseau*: see CHISEL *sb.*) = It. *cesoje* (rare; the usual word is *forbici*), a fem. pl. ad. late L. **cīsōria* (neut.) pl. of *cīsōrium* cutting instrument (Vegetius, 4–5th c.), f. *-cīs-*, *-cīdĕre*, the form assumed in prepositional compounds by *cæs-*, *cædĕre* to fell, strike, beat, slay, cut. The last sense, rare in the simple vb., is prominent in most of the compounds (as *abscīdĕre, concīdĕre, incīdere, excīdĕre*); hence the late L. use of *cīs-* instead of *cæs-* in derivatives related to this sense.

The spelling with *sc*, first found in the 16th c., appears to be due to etymologizing confusion with L. *scissor*, agent-n. f. *scindĕre* to cut, split, rend. (Cf. also *scythe.*) There appears to be no evidence of this confusion at an earlier date, though in Eng. mediæval documents *scissor* (written also *cissor, cisor*) was the usual Latin word for a tailor.]

1. A cutting instrument consisting of a pair of handled blades, so pivoted that the instrument can be opened to a shape resembling that of the letter X, and the handles then brought together again so as to cause the edges of the blades to close on the object to be cut.

The larger instruments of this kind, especially those which are too large to be manipulated with one hand, are called *shears*. Tailors call the large size *shears*, the medium size *trimmers*, and the small size *scissors* or *cuts*. In Sc. dialects all sizes of the article are called *shears*, the word *scissors* not being in use.

a. in *pl.* form with plural construction, either in singular or plural sense. When qualification by a numeral or an indefinite article is required, *pair of scissors* is used.

α. *c*1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 690 (Fairf.) And moo berdys in two oures Withoute Rasour or Sisoures Y-made then greyndes be of sondes. *c*1400 *Beryn* 2916 Getith a peir sisours, sherith my berd a-noon. *Ibid.* 2917 Som went to with sesours. *c*1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 830 in *Babees Bk.*, þe snof of hom dose a-way With close sesours, as I 3ow say; þe sesours ben schort and rownde y-close, With plate of irne vp-on bose. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 12 § 2 No Merchant Stranger..shall bring into this Realm..Tailors Shears, Sysors. 1530 PALSGR. 251/1 Payre of sycers, *ciselets, forces.* *c*1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 A buttrice and pincers, a hammer and naile, an aperne and siszers for head and for taile. 1592 GREENE *Quip Upst. Courtier* D 3 b, Then begins he to take his sissars in his hand and his combe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 45 The haire on his chin..he used almost daily to cut it with his sizers. 1650–63 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman Street* I. vi, He..had neither mony enough to hire a Barber, nor buy Sizars. 1682a SHADWELL *Lanc. Witches* II. 22 Out upon that filthy visage, My maid with her Sizars in two minutes shall Cut me a Better in brown paper. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* IV. 45 And there's thy pretty Pocket-Sissars thou hast honour'd me with. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 57, I found..one Pair of large Sizzers.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 65/1 A Pare of cysors. 1487 *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* (1890) 530 My plaster box..and the cysars therein. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 175 His man with Cizers nickes him like a foole. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 87 A paire of sharpe cyzers. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 304 They..shaue off their haires to the very bones without any cizzers or rasors. 1673 E. BROWNE *Trav. Germ.*, etc. (1677) 161 Cut in pieces with large Cissars. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 391 In the management of her Cisers. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) II. 21 He would bring a paire of cizers in his muffe.

γ. 1568 *Gouernayle's Sp. Inquis.* Pref. *B iij b, This gentleman..toke a paire of scissoures, and pared his maker where he was ouergrowne. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 17 Two pair of good Scissers for to cut hair. 1664 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 8 For grinding my scithers, *2d.* 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 460 They take the fairest bunches, and with a pair of scissers snip off all the faulty grapes. 1785 J. COLLIER *Mus. Trav.* (ed. 4) 104 Clipping my beard with a pair of scissars. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 103 Their beards..are never touched by scissors. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* iv. 172 Any superabundance of material is cut away by the scissors while the glass is red-hot. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Mech. Philos.* 99 Scissors and carpenters' pincers are examples of double levers of the first kind. 1886 H. C. DENT *Yr. Brazil* 409 My men advocated ..cutting them [*sc.* ticks] in two with scissors.

† b. in sing. form, = pair of scissors. *Obs.*

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cysowre, *forpex.* *Ibid.* 456/2 Sysowre, schere, *forpex.* 1611 COTGR., *Ciselet*, a little sizar, or chisell. *Ibid.*, *Forcette*, a cizar, a small paire of sheeres.

¶ c. in *pl.* form construed as *sing.* *rare.*

1843 GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 390, I removed the callous edges with a scissors. 1847 EMILY BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* ix, Now don't you think the lad would be handsomer cropped?..get me a scissors. 1849 MISS WARNER *Wide Wide World* iv, What a lovely scissors! did you choose it, mamma, or did it belong to the box? 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 12/1 Which is easily removed with a scissors.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. *shears*, which is more common in dignified metaphor.)

1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 75 This good Servant.. somewhat courtailed our Commons, and for this reason we gave him the nick-name of being Hortensius his Sissors. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 698 Aid me, to keep pace With destiny; and ere her scissars cut My thread of life, to break this tougher thread Of moral death, that ties me to the world. 1770 tr. *Mme. Du Bocage's Lett.* II. 211 The scissars of time cut their [Alps'] summits into a thousand strange forms. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. XVI. 169 And Jocelin's Boswellean Narrative suddenly shorn through by the scissors of Destiny, ends. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Oct. 464/2 A Life of Gargantua on which he has plied the not unnecessary scissors.

e. *Scissors and paste* († *paste and scissors*): proverbially referred to as the instruments used by the newspaper sub-editor or the mere mechanical compiler. Also *attrib.*

1817 SCOTT *Let.* 16 June in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. 65 The incidents selected should have some reference to amusement as well as information, and may be occasionally abridged in the narration; but, after all, paste and scissors form your principal materials. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & T.* II. 408, I hastily commenced an alteration, and as hastily concluded it, aided with those two effective co-operators, paste and scissors. 1867 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 14 Dec. 785/1 (*title of article*) Scissors and Paste.

2. *Wrestling.* A grip with the wrists crossed like a pair of scissors. Also *attrib.*

1904 SKINNER *Jiu-Jitsu* 117 Hasami Shime, or Scissors Grip. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 10 Feb. 8/1 At the second meeting Crozier quickly fixed his favourite scissors hold. *Ibid.* 8/2 In the second bout Crozier, after a few minutes, again put the scissors on, and this time pinned his man down after using the double nelson.

3. A mechanical contrivance for gripping a block of stone.

1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 198 That two men should handle a stone so heavy, even swinging in the scissors.

4. *slang.* An exclamation of disgust or impatience.

1843 SELBY *Ant. & Cl.* (Farmer), Oh, scissors; insinuate that it takes nine of us to make a man! 1893 MILLIKEN *'Arry Ballads* 33/1 Oh, scissors! jest didn't we give 'em tantivy.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly in form *scissor-*), as *scissor-blade, -case, -maker, -smith*; *scissor-like, -tailed, -winged* adjs.; *scissor('s-fashion, -wise* advs.; **scissor-beak**, **-bill**, a skimmer or shearwater, esp. *Rhynchops nigra*; **scissor bird** = *scissor-tail*; **scissor(s)-grinder**, (*a*) a man who grinds scissors; (*b*) a dial. name for the nightjar, *Caprimulgus europæus*; **scissor-tail**, either of two American birds of the family *Tyrannidæ, Milvulus forficatus* and *M. tyrannus*; **scissor-tooth**, the sectorial or carnassial tooth of a carnivore.

1839 DARWIN *Voy Nat.* vii. (1845) 137, I here saw a very extraordinary bird, called the *Scissor-beak (*Rhynchops nigra*). 1839 BEALE *Sperm Whale* 212 The large grey pelican, the *scissors-bill and diver. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 185 The Scissor-bills (*Rhynchopes*) constitute a group of night birds. *Ibid.*, The Indian Scissor-bill (*Rhynchops orientalis*). *Ibid.* II. 161 The *Scissor Bird of the Brazilians (*Milvulus tyrannus*),..is occasionally met with in the United States. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* 514 After closure of the *scissor-blades. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4234/5 Two *Scisser Cases..., both of Silver. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 68/2, I..worked my long legs *scissors-

fashion through the water. 1869 LOWELL *Under the Willows* 227 Here The *Scissors-grinder, pausing, doffs his hat. 1893 in Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norfolk* 50 The Nightjar [is known as the] 'Scissor grinder'. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 316 It [*sc.* the instrument] consists of a *scissor-like frame. 1886 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 775/2 They [the piked dog-fish] cut the lines with their scissors-like teeth. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4082/4 *Scizer or Knife-maker. 1623-4 *Act* 21 *Jas. I*, c. 31 § 6 The Occupacion of a Cutler, *Scissorsmith, Shearsmith or Sicklesmith. 1813 *Examiner* 10 May 294/2 S. Broadhead and E. Gurney, Sheffield, scissor-smiths. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1845) 138 A bird with a forked tail, terminated by two long feathers (Tyrannus savana) and named by the Spaniards *scissor-tail, is very common near Buenos Ayres. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 169 Swallow-tailed Flycatcher. Scissor-tail. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* III. 816 Scizzors-tail, *Milvulus forficatus*, one of the most beautiful of the *Tyrannidæ*. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 348 *Scissars-tailed Goatsucker... Inhabits Paraguay. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. I. 280 Scissars-tailed humming-bird. *Trochilus Furcifer*... Native of Paraguay. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 151 The *carnassier*, or *scissor-tooth. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 53/1 A short...column of *scissor-winged birds. 1873 C. W. THOMSON *Depths of Sea* v. 214 A pair of scoops..close upon one another *scissorwise on a hinge.

Scissure (si·ʃiŭr). ? *Obs.* Also 6 scissur. [a. F. *scissure* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *scissūra*, f. *scindĕre* (pa. pple. *scissus*) to cut, divide: see SCISSION.]

1. A longitudinal cleft or opening made by cutting or separation of parts; a rent, fissure.

1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 26 Therby also..is a scissure or clyfte in the stone rok, so moche that a man almoste may lye therin. 1616 S. PRICE *Ephesus Warn.* 37 Like an earthquake,..whose rent & scissure is the breaking of the heart. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* iii. 9 A robe that is thus artificially mangled, if the scissures and breaches be reconciled with 'borders of Gold and studdes of Silver',..appeares more glorious, than the former continuity could have made it. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scissure*, a cleft, a cut or rent; the division or parting of a river. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* ii. (1664) 20 As when the Body is torn asunder, the Soul is without any farther act of violence forced out of its place, that it takes its flight home to Heaven, being thus let out at the Scissure, as at the Window. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* 6 As if a Clayie ground should cleave with a wide scissure and swallow down a sudden Torrent. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* (1762) I. viii. 37 And divides it, by making in a manner a scissure. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 169 He thought that the wounds which he had made with his lance would resemble the scissures of teeth.

b. *fig.* A split, division, schism.

[1634 M. WILSON *Charity Maintained* I. v. § 3. 152 Contrary to which, is *Schisme*, from the Greeke word signifying *Scissure*, or *Diuision*.] 1643 HOWELL *Tru Informer* (1661) 22 To proceed in the true discovery of these Domestick scissures. 1644 — *Engl. Tears* 181 Torn and rent into so many scissures and Sects. *c* 1645 — *Lett.* (1655) III. iii. 6 To this Sect [the Presbyterians] may be imputed all the scissures that have happen'd in Christianity. 1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* iv. 67 It would both unpeople their assemblies, and necessarily cause a dangerous scissure in the multitude. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 14 Schisme signifies a criminous scissure, rent, or division in the Church.

2. *Anat.*, etc. A natural cleft or opening in an organ or part.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 263 Scissure is a passioun in a mannes tunge þat is as it were kutting. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 340 In the male [hyæna, under the tail] there is a scissure like the secrets of a female. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* (1647) Notes 138/2 It being a round fruit, and representing the seminall fullnesse of the Earth, by its scissure in the side, full of kernells or seeds. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* II. viii. 71 If you find after the opening of the skin, neither fracture nor scissure. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vii. 177 That Scissure of the Face through which we breath and receive our nourishment. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Liver*, These two Lobes [of the Liver] are separated by a Scissure or Cleft through which the Umbelical Vein enters. 1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 633 Whether the blood occupy the great interlobular scissure, and thus lie upon the corpus callosum.

† b. A segment. *Obs.*

1662 H. STUBBE *Indian Nectar* iii. 20 It is..divided into several scissures, and pieces, as is a cow's kidney.

3. The action of cutting.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 8 Socrates with many mo in wisedome excellent,..Let growe their here without cutting or scissure.

Scissym, obs. form of SCHISM.

† Scitament. *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *scītāmenta* neut. pl., f. *scītus* elegant, dainty, pa. pple of *sciscĕre*: see SCISCITATION.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scitament*, a kind of meat having a very pleasant taste; Also pleasantness, or a fine or witty thing set to adorn ones talk.

Scitamineous (sitămi·nĭəs), *a. Bot.* Also scitaminous. [f. mod.L. *Scitamineæ* (1810 R. Brown *Prodr.* 305, altered form of *Scitamina* neut. pl., the name given to this order by Linnæus 1751, suggested by L. *scītāmenta*: see prec.) + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to the *Scitamineæ*, a former order of monocotyledonous tropical plants, including the present orders *Musaceæ* and *Zingiberaceæ*.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scitamineous*, of a spicy taste and odour. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 130 It is to be had..from yams, potatoes, arrow-roots,..orchideous roots and scitamineous. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 930 Scitaminous, or Reedy Stove Plants. 1851-9 HOOKER in *Man. Sci. Enq.* 426 Nothing is known of the origin of the scitamineous fruit to which the name Large Round China Cardamom has been given. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 175 Palms and scitamineous plants.

Scitation, obs. form of CITATION.

† Scite. *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *scītum* (*plēbis*) a decree or ordinance (of the people), neut. pa. pple. of *sciscĕre* to accept, approve, hence to appoint, decree, ordain.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scite*, an Ordinance, Decree, or Statute.

Scite, obs. form of CITE *v.* and CITY.

Scithers, obs. and dial. form of SCISSORS.

Scitie, obs. Sc. form of CITY.

† Sci·ture. *Obs.*—¹ [f. L. *scīt-*, ppl. stem of *scīre* to know + -URE.] Knowledge.

c 1540 *Privy Seal of Hen. VIII* Miscell. Bk. (A. O.) xxx. 18 Know ye that we of our certen Sciture and mere mocion ..haue given licence [etc.].

Sciurine (səi·iŭrin), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *sciūr-us*, ad. Gr. *σκίουρος* squirrel (f. *σκιά* shadow + *οὐρά* tail) + -INE.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the genus *Sciurus* or subfamily *Sciurinæ* of squirrels. **b.** *sb.* A sciurine rodent; a squirrel.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Sciurines*...The name of a family of Rodents of which the genus *Sciurus* is the type. 1859-62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) I. 212 The Sciurine Petaurist (*Petaurus sciureus*) or Sugar Squirrel. 1877 COUES & ALLEN *N. Amer. Rodentia* 830 It is at once recognizable by..its general Sciurine form. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 416/2 In the Sciurine and Hystricine Rodents the tibia and fibula are distinct.

Sciuroid (səi·iŭ·roid), *a.* [f. L. *sciūr-us* (see prec.) + -OID.]

1. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the *Sciuridæ*, or squirrel-family. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

2. *Bot.* 'Curved and bushy, like a squirrel's tail' (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 1900).

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Sciuromorph (səi|iŭ·rŏmɒrf), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Sciuromorph-a* neut. pl., f. Gr. *σκίουρος* (see SCIURINE) + *μορφή* form.] A rodent of the superfamily *Sciuromorpha*, comprising the *Sciuridæ*, *Anomaluridæ*, etc.

1882 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XX. 423 The sciuromorphs (squirrels and marmots). 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Hence **Sciuromo·rphic, Sciuromo·rphine** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or resembling the *Sciuromorpha*.

1891 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Sciuridæ*, A family of sciuromorphic simplicident rodent mammals. 1894 *Athenæum* 31 Mar. 415/3 Mr. F. G. Parsons read a paper on the myology of the hystricomorphine and sciuromorphine rodents.

Sck-, an occasional ME. spelling for Sc- or Sk-.

Scl-: ME. and Sc. variant of SL-.

Sclaff (sklæf), *v. Golf.* [A use of Sc. *sclaff* 'to strike with the open hand or with anything having a flat surface', 'to walk in a clumsy way without properly lifting the feet, to shuffle along'. Prob. of onomatopœic origin; cf. *sclaff* sb., 'the noise made by a slight blow' or 'in shuffling the feet' (E.D.D.).] **a.** *intr.* (See quot. 1897.) **b.** *trans.* To scrape (the ground) behind the ball in striking; also, to hit (a ball) after having scraped the ground with the club. Hence **Sclaffed** *ppl. a.*, **Scla·ffing** *vbl. sb.*

1893 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 651 That they might toe or heel the ball And sclaff along like me. 1896 W. PARK Jr. *Game of Golf* 269 In baffing a ball the stroke is played with the intention of lofting it high in the air, whereas a sclaffed ball is not necessarily lofted high. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 473/1 (Golf) *Sclaff*, to scrape the surface of the ground with the sole of the club head before striking the ball. *Ibid.* 469/2 Sclaffing is also the result of striking the ground behind the ball. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 May 3/1 An uncertain proportion are shorter, in consequence of sclaffing the ground, than the players had intended.

Sclave, Sclavic, Sclavonian: see SLAV, etc.

‖ Sclera (sklī·ră). [mod.L. f. Gr. *σκληρός* hard.] The sclerotic coat of the eyeball.

1888 J. M. CLARKE in *Jrnl. Morphol.* II. 261 Immature eyes, in which the sclera has attained no excessive growth.

† Scle·ragogist. *Obs.*—¹ [f. next + -IST.] One who practises 'scleragogy', a rigorous ascetic.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon. Ch.* (1642) 403 Ascetæ and Scleragogists they were in most ..rigid manner.

† Scle·ragogy. *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *σκληραγωγία* hardy training, f. *σκληρ-ός* hard, harsh + *ἀγωγ-ή* conducting, guiding.] Severe discipline or training; hard treatment of the body; mortification.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 379 Amongst Christians, that Scleragogie of the ancient Monks and Ascetæ was in feeding vpon those λάχανα. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 149 Godly sorrow or contrition, which the Scleragogy..was most like to create. 1680 *Counterplots* 15 We have heard from St. Jerome of the abstinence and Scleragogy of Montanus.

Scleral (sklī·răl), *a.* [f. SCLERA + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the sclera or sclerotic.

1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 139 The blade is now pushed on a little way in the scleral plane. 1888 J. M. CLARKE in *Jrnl. Morphol.* II. 266 The scleral portion of the visual surface is of the same structure as the test. 1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXIX. 410 In the compound eye of Phacops are continuous patches of scleral integument between the ommatidia.

Scleranth (sklī·rænþ). *Bot.* [Shortened ad mod.L. *Sclēranthĕæ*, f. *Sclēranthus* (see below), f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard + *ἄνθος* flower.] A plant belonging to the N.O. *Scleranthĕæ*, of which the typical genus is *Scleranthus* or Knot-grass.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 513 Those perigynous plants which are stationed with Scleranths in Ficoidals.

Sclere (sklī·ɪ). *Zool.* [ad. Gr. *σκληρον*, neut. of *σκληρός* hard.] A hard siliceous or calcareous body forming an element in the skeleton of a sponge.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 413/1 The walls of *Ascetta* are strengthened by calcareous scleres, more especially designated as spicules.

Sclereid (sklī·rɪ|id). *Bot.* Also **sclerid.** [Irreg. f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard: see -ID.] (See quot.)

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 233/2 *Sclereid*, a sclerotic or stone-cell, a strongly thickened or lignified cell; it is sometimes spelled *Sclerid*.

‖ Sclerema (sklɪə·rī·mă). Also **scleremia.** [mod.L. form of F. *sclérème*. f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard, on the supposed analogy of *œdème* ŒDEMA. The form in *-ĭa* is due to assimilation to other names of diseases.] (See quot. 1858.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Sclerema*, *Scleremia*, term for the hardening of the cellular tissue of new-born infants. 1879 KHORY *Digest Med.* 60 The skin has a peculiar marble-like feel in sclerema and in morphœa. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 675 The genus 'scleremia', in which he included also the œdematous sclerema of infants.

‖ Sclerenchyma (sklɪərɛ·ŋkimă). Also anglicized **sclere·nchym.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard + *ἔγχυμα* an infusion, after *parenchyma*.]

1. *Zool.* The hard substance of the calcareous skeleton of sclerodermic corals.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Cælent.* 161 The 'sclerenchyma' or coral tissue.

2. *Bot.* (See quot. 1900.)

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sac Bot.* 106 The sclerenchyma in the carpel of stone-fruits (the tissue of the stone in Prunus, Cocos, &c.) forms closed massive layers. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 15/2 De Bary includes under the name of sclerenchyma all the hard thickened cells of plants, whether long or short, which have become greatly thickened, and whose cavity is nearly if not quite obliterated. 1883 HUXLEY *Pract. Biol.* 57 The dark-brown bands..consist of cells which are so much elongated as almost to deserve the name of fibres and constitute what is termed sclerenchyma. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Sclerenchyma*, (1) formerly applied to stone-cells, sclereids; (2) afterwards proposed for bast or liber cells, which are immensely thickened, with their protoplasm lost.

attrib. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 16/1 The wall of the sclerenchym fibre often exhibits peculiar split-like pitted markings. 1882 BOWER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXII. 287 Long unbranched sclerenchyma fibres with smooth walls.

Sclerenchymatous (sklɪərɛŋkimătəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *sclērenchymat-*, SCLERENCHYMA + -OUS.] Consisting of, or containing sclerenchyma.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Cælent.* 215 The numerous laminæ of a sclerenchymatous deposit. 1881 BOWER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXI. 20 Scattered irregularly through the cortical tissue..are sclerenchymatous cells.

‖ Scleriasis (sklɪərəi·ăsis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard, after *elephantiasis*.] A hard tumour or induration; a scirrhus.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Scleriasis*, is a Hardness of any part. 1849 in CRAIG. 1869 *Lancet* 18 Dec. 842/2 Dr. Fagge brought to the Society a living specimen of Scleriasis or Scleroderma. 1872 J. L. MILTON *Dis. Skin* 333 Diffused scleroderma (*scleriasis*).

Sclerid, variant of SCLEREID.

Sclerite (sklī·rəit). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard + -ITE.] In the anatomy of invertebrates, each of the definite component portions into which the hard portion of the substance of certain animals is divided.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Cælent.* 161 Five kinds of these spicules, or 'sclerites'. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 410 [In the cockroach.] On the under side of the lingua are two broader sclerites, which also unite and form an arch. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 141 *note*, In the neck there are certain chitinous pieces, or cervical sclerites. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Feb. 184/1 He [M. Laurie] considered the first two ventral sclerites of the abdomen to be appendages and not sternites.

Hence **Scleri·tic** *a.*, pertaining to sclerites; of the nature of a sclerite.

Scleritis (sklī·rəi·tis). [f. SCLERA + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the sclera, sclerotitis.

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 703 Affections..due to parenchymatous scleritis are rarer still.

Sclero- (sklī·rō), occurring in scientific terms.

1. As combining form of Gr. *σκληρός* hard. **Scle·robra·chiate** *a.* [L. *brāchium* arm], the distinctive epithet of those brachiopods in which the arms are supported by a hard plate. **Scle·roda·ctyle** *a. Path.* [Gr. *δάκτυλος* finger], suffering from **Scle·roda·ctyly** [mod.L. *sclerodactylia*], a form of sclerodermia affecting the fingers and toes. **Scle·roske·letal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of the **Scle·ro-ske·leton**, the hardened or ossified fibrous and tendinous tissues which enclose organs.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 163 *Sclerobrachiate-Brachiopods (*Sclerobrachiata*). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 676 The fingers [may become] 'clawed' (*sclerodactyle, acroscleroderma). 1897 *Ibid.* II. 74 Well-advanced cases [of leprosy] have frequently been confounded with..*sclerodactyly [etc.]. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 134 Certain bones developed apart from the systematic endo-

skeleton, in fibrous tissue, are called *scleroskeletal. 1854 OWEN in *Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 163 Those [bones] developed in tendons, ligaments, and aponeuroses, [form] the '*sclero-skeleton'.

2. As combining form of SCLERA (chiefly written with hyphen). **Scle:ro-co·rneal** *a.*, pertaining to the sclerotic coat and the cornea. **Scle:ro-iri·tis**, inflammation of the sclerotic coat and the iris.

1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 3 The plan I now adopt is to make a very small incision in the sclero-corneal junction.

3. Used (after SCLEROTIUM, SCLEROTIC *a.*[2]) to form the names of a number of chemical substances obtained from ergot, e.g. **sclere·rythrin**, a red colouring matter; **scleromu·cin**, a gummy nitrogenous substance.

1876 *Pharm. Jrnl.* 17 June 1001/1 Scleromucin. *Ibid.* 1001/2 Sclererythrin. Scleroiodin. *Ibid.* 1002/1 Scleroxanthin. Sclerokrystallin. 1878 F. H. BUTLER in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 521 [Ergot contains] minute quantities of sclererythrin, scleroiodin, with sclerokrystallin, scleroxanthin, and other substances.

Sclerobase (sklī·rəbēs). *Zool.* Also in mod. L. form **sclero·basis**. [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + βάσις BASE *sb.*, BASIS.] The axis or stem of a compound actinozoan when forming a horny or calcareous skeleton. Hence **Sclerobasic** *a.*, pertaining to or consisting of a sclerobase; also as the epithet of those corals (in mod.L. *Sclerobasica*) which have a sclerobase.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Cælent.* 153 The 'sclerobasic' coral-lum, a true tegumentary excretion, formed by the conversion of successive growths from the outer surface of the ecderon. *Ibid.* 154 Section of a sclerobasis shows it to be, in some cases, solid or nearly so. *Ibid.* 156, Fig. 28 Θ, epitheca; I, sclerobase. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* I. xiii. 99 There may be no corallum, or rarely a 'sclerobasic' one. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 161 It is in these Octocoralla that the form of skeleton which is termed a sclerobase..occurs. 1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms* s. v. *Sclerobasic*, Forming a solid axis invested by the soft parts of the animal—called the sclerobase.

Scleroblast (sklī·rəblæst). [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -BLAST.]

1. *Bot.* A stone-cell or sclereid.

1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 125 Of very common occurrence are, moreover, groups or layers of scleroblasts (especially in the cortex of many woody plants and the juicy flesh of pears). 1884 MASTERS *Henfrey's Bot.* (ed. 4) 462 The term ..scleroblast or stone-cell.

2. *Zool.* The tissue from which sponge-spicules are produced.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 (*Sponge*) The stigmaspire is formed as a superficial spiral thickening in the wall of a spicule cell or scleroblast. 1909 J. W. JENKINSON *Experim. Embryol.* 3 In some Sponges the scleroblasts begin to secrete spicules in the larval period.

Sclerocele (sklī·rəsēl). *Path.* ? *Obs.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + κήλη tumour.] A hard tumour.

1811 RAMSDEN (*title*), On Sclerocele, Hydrocele [etc.].

Scleroclase (sklī·rəklēs). *Min.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + κλάσις fracture.] (See quot. 1896.)

1868 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 5) 88 As the name Scleroclase is inapplicable, and the mineral was first announced by Sartorius v. Waltershausen, the species may be appropriately called Sartorite. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.* 244 *Scleroclase*, a syn. of sartorite. Sometimes used as a syn. of dufrenoysite.

Scleroderm (sklī·rədēm), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sclērodermus*, a. Gr. σκληρόδερμος, f. σκληρός hard + δέρμα skin.] **A.** *sb.*

1. a. A fish of the group *Sclerodermi*, which have the skin covered with hard scales. **b.** A polyp of the division *Sclerodermata*.

1840–5 OWEN *Odontogr.* I. 82 Scleroderms. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Scleroderms*, a name given by Cuvier to his family of Plectognathic fishes, comprehending those which have the skin covered with hard scales. 1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Rept. & Fish Brit. Mus.* 121 Fossil Scleroderms, in an excellent state of preservation, are found in the Eocene Slates of Glaris.

2. 'The hard or stony external skeleton of sclerodermatous zoantharians, or corals in an ordinary sense; corallum; coral' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

B. *adj.* 'Of or pertaining to the *Sclerodermi*; sclerodermous' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

‖ Scleroderma (sklī·rədē·rmă). *Path.* [mod. L., formed as prec.] A chronic hardened condition of the skin, resulting from hypertrophy of connective tissue.

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 763 The affection called scleroderma or sclerema, also sclerodermia and scleremia, may be here noticed. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 69 Hypertrophy of the connective tissue is noted in scleroderma.

Sclerodermatous (sklī·rədē·rmătəs), *a.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + δερματ-, δέρμα skin + -OUS.] Having a hard skin.

1. *Zool.* Belonging to the division *Sclerodermata* of zoantharian polyps. In recent Dicts.

2. *Path.* Pertaining to scleroderma.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 494 Unusual forms of wheals .. may simulate .. gummata or sclerodermatous patches.

‖ Sclerodermia (sklī·rədē·rmiă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. SCLERODERMA: see -IA[1].] = SCLERODERMA.

1866 [see SCLERODERMA]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 675 In scleroderma the most marked character is a peculiar hard stiffening and immobility of the skin.

Sclerodermic (sklī·rədē·rmik), *a.* [f. SCLERODERM + -IC.]

1. *Zool.* **a.** = SCLERODERMATOUS *a.* 1.

1861 J. R. GREENE *Cælent.* 187 Basal gemmation, among sclerodermic Corals, affords very different products. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 365 The sclerodermic corallum differs altogether from the corallum. 1879 STORMONTH *Man. Sci. Terms*, *Sclerodermic*, applied to the corallum deposited within the tissues of certain Actinozoa.

b. Of or pertaining to the order *Sclerodermi* of fishes.

2. *Path.* = SCLERODERMATOUS 2.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 677 Parts at some distance from the sclerodermic integument.

Sclerodermite (sklī·rədē·rmăit). [f. SCLERODERM + -ITE.] One of the hard bodies of which the skeleton of Crustacea is composed; also, one of the hard skeletal parts in certain Actinozoans.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 308 The sides only being strengthened by calcareous plates extending inwards from the dorsal hard skeletal element, or sclerodermite. 1884 SEDGWICK, etc. tr. *Claus' Text-bk. Zool.* I. 231 In all cases definite calcareous bodies, the sclerodermites, form the foundation of the skeleton.

Sclerogen (sklī·rədʒen). *Bot.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -GEN.] The hard lignified matter on the sides of some cells, which gives hardness to wood, fruit-stones, etc.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1839) 4 Turpin has remarked that this thickening of the membranous sides of cells by means of a hard sedimentary matter, called by him *sclerogen*, is what causes the grittiness of the pear. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 11 It is these deposits which give hardness and firmness to the wood of plants and to the stones of fruits, and hence the name of Sclerogen..has been given to them.

Sclerogenic (sklī·rədʒe·nik), *a.* *Phys.* and *Path.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -GEN + -IC.] Tending to produce hardening (of animal tissues).

1892 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 653/1 In this way the creasote treatment of tuberculosis was combined with the 'sclerogenic' method introduced by M. Lannelongue. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 184 It [i.e. alcohol] gives rise to cirrhosis in a secondary manner, either by leading to the production of sclerogenic poisons [etc.].

Sclerogenoid (sklī·rɒ·dʒĭnoid), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Sclērogen-idæ* (f. Gr. σκληρός hard + γένυς cheek) + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the family *Sclerogenidæ* or mail-cheeked fishes. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this family.

1861 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes Eastern N. Amer.* 5 The Cottoids and other Sclerogenoids..are now placed after the Scombroid and before the Blennoid group.

Sclerogenous (sklī·rɒ·dʒĭnəs), *a.*[1] [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -GEN + -OUS.]

1. = SCLEROGENIC.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 456/1 The filling up of their cavities [i.e. those of the cells] with..sclerogenous secretions. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 28 Apparently indifferent cells, which secrete a sclerogenous substance. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 July 6/2 Dr. Lannelongue calls his method the sclerogenous method—that is to say, a method destined to render the flesh and fibres attacked capable of being cicatrized.

2. Consisting of sclerogen.

1856 W. L. LINDSAY *Brit. Lichens* 40 The thick sclerogenous cell-wall of the seed of the..Ivory Palm.

Sclerogenous (sklī·rɒ·dʒĭnəs), *a.*[2] *Zool.* [Formed as SCLEROGENOID + -OUS.] = SCLEROGENOID. In some recent Dicts.

Scleroid (sklī·roid), *a.* [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -OID.] **a.** *Bot.* 'Having a hard texture, as the shells of nuts'. **b.** *Zool.* 'Hard, as a sclere or sclerite; scleritic; sclerous' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1856 in HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms* 166.

‖ Scleroma (sklī·rōmă). *Path.* Also anglicized **sclerome**. [mod.L., a. Gr. σκλήρωμα, f. σκληροῦν to harden, f. σκληρό-ς hard: see -OMA.] = SCLERIASIS 1.

[1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Scleroma*, the same (as *Scleriasis*). 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Scleroma* (*Med.*) or *scleromis*, ..a hard tumour, or induration.] 1857 GOODSIR in *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 122 For the entire framework of an Entomasome..I employ the term Sclerome. *Ibid.* 123 The source and mode of origin of the Sclerome in the Vertebrate Embryo. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Scleroma*, ..a sclerome. 1874 BUCKNILL & TUKE *Man. Psych. Med. Insanity* 530 The term scleroma or scleriasis has indeed very properly been substituted for that of cirrhosis, which refers to the colour of the diseased liver, and is obviously inappropriate to designate an analogous change in the brain or spinal cord. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 889 Hence the name rhinoscleroma is not strictly correct, and some authors, as Paultof, speak of scleroma simply.

Sclerometer (sklī·rɒ·mĭtəi). [f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + -METER. Cf. F. *scléromètre*.] An instrument for measuring the hardness of crystals.

1879 in WEBSTER, Suppl. 1886 JUDD in *Mineral. Mag.* Dec. 85 A means of expressing the cohesive force in different parts of a crystal mass as determined by the sclerometer. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 1. § 9 The hardness of crystals in different directions has been estimated by means of an instrument termed a sclerometer.

‖ Sclerophthalmia (sklī·rɒfθæ·lmiă). ? *Obs.* Also 8 anglicized **scleropthalmy**. [mod.L., ad. late Gr. σκληροφθαλμία, f. Gr. σκληρό-ς hard + ὀφθαλμός eye.] (See quots.)

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Scleroph'thalmia*, a hard Bleariedness of the Eyes accompanied with Pain, a slow Motion of the Eyes, with redness and dryness of 'em.] 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Scleroph'thalmy* [with definition from Blancard]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Sclerophthalmia*, a kind of Ophthalmia wherein the Eye is dry, hard, red, and painful.

Sclerose (sklī·rōus), *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To affect with sclerosis; to harden.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 599 The long-continued deep seated inflammation has sclerosed the bone.

Sclerosed (sklī·rōust), *ppl. a.* [f. SCLEROS-IS + -ED[1].] **a.** *Path.* Affected with sclerosis; rendered abnormally hard.

1878 A. MCL. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 100 Separated from the brain-tissue in the vicinity by a sclerosed mass. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 382 No power can renew sclerosed nerve-cells. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 292, I had removed by superficial excision some sclerosed patches.

b. *Bot.* Hardened; lignified.

1881 SHATTOCK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XIX. 6 In the case which I have described the sclerosed tissue is formed of the indifferent cells of the pith. 1887 GARNSEY tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 499 *Sclerosed*, exhibiting sclerosis.

Sclerosic (sklī·rōu·sik), *a.* *Path.* [f. SCLEROS-IS + -IC.] = SCLEROTIC *a.* 3.

1889 W. B. LEWIS *Mental Dis.* 464 We regard these multiple lesions not as a primary sclerosic change, but [etc.].

Sclerosing (sklī·rōu·sing), *ppl. a.* [f. SCLEROSE *v.* + -ING[2].] Becoming affected with sclerosis.

1894 *Educator* (Philad.) Sept. 118 The most common lesions which appear to have caused loss of hearing are to be classified under the term sclerosing processes of the middle ear. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 425 Perinephritis, either of the sclerosing or suppurative variety.

Sclerosis (sklī·rōu·sis). Also 4–7 **sclirosis**. [med.L. (written *sclirosis* in *Alphita*, 15th c.), a. Gr. σκλήρωσις, f. σκληροῦν to harden, f. σκληρός hard: see -OSIS.]

1. *Path.* + **a.** A hard external tumour. *Obs.* **b.** A morbid hardening of any tissue or structure.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (1495) 274 Of melancolia comyth a postume, and yf the matere is all wythout the postume highte Sclirosis. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 222 Ofte þer comeþ þerof sclirosis or a festre. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* 7 And there is a pannicle compouned in ye eye called sclirosis. *Ibid.*, Table, Sclerosis. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 411 *Sclerosis*. Ragsky has analysed bone in several cases of this affection. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 593 Sclerosis of the tongue is most frequent about the fifth year of syphilis. 1879 KHORY *Digest Med.* 111 This inflammation occurs in the liver or the kidneys where it is known as cirrhosis, when in the brain or cord, it is called sclerosis. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 642 There was diffuse sclerosis [of the spinal cord].

2. *Bot.* (See quot. 1887.)

1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 28 When..a hardening of the wall thus occurs, this process will for the future be indicated by the term *Sclerosis*. 1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 499 *Sclerosis*, induration of a tissue or a cell-wall either by thickening of the membranes or by their lignification.

Sclerotal (sklī·rōu·tăl). *Anat.* [f. SCLEROT-IS + -AL.] Any of the component plates of the bony ring which protects the sclerotic coat of the eyeball in certain birds and reptiles.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 179 An ossified part of the eye-capsule, commonly in two pieces, 'sclerotals'. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 182 It is reinforced by a circlet of bones, the sclerotals.

Sclerotic (sklī·rɒ·tik), *a.*[1] and *sb.* In 7 **sclero-, sclirotyke, -tike.** [a. med. and mod.L. *sclērōticus* (med.L. in fem. form SCLEROTICA), a. late Gr. *σκληρωτικός having the property of hardening, pertaining to sclerosis or hardening, f. σκληροῦν: see SCLEROMA.] **A.** *adj.*

1. *Anat.* In *sclerotic coat, membrane, tunic* = B. 1. Cf. SCLEROTICA.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr., Sclirotike. The fyrst skynne of the eye, which conteyneth vnder hym all the other skinnes, & couereth, in ye hinder parte the glassye, and crystalline humour, is called in Greke Scleros, and barbarouslye sclirotike, that is to saye, harde. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 26 The ciliary processes, or rather the ligaments, observed in the inside of the Sclerotick Tunicles of the Eye,..do serve instead of a Muscle. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat. of Nerves* (ed. 3) 44 After piercing the sclerotick Coat. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s. v. *Eye*, The internal parts of the eye are, the sclerotic membrane, which is the hard outer case of the globe [etc.]. 1882 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 244/1 The irides are of a light orange, and the sclerotic tunics,—equivalent to the 'white of the eye' in most animals,..are in this [the Lämmergeyer] very conspicuous.

b. Of or pertaining to, or connected with the sclerotic coat of the eye.

Sclerotic bone, plate = SCLEROTAL; *sclerotic ring*, the ring formed by the sclerotic bones of the eyeball.

1822–29 [see SCLEROTITIS]. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* III. 150 The Sclerotic Bones..are in this eye fifteen in number. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iii. § 3. 160 The bony sclerotic plates of the organs of vision. 1883–4 *Medical Ann.* 13/1 Less likely to be followed by complications than sclerotic..incisions. 1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Rept. Brit. Mus.* 8 A genus of Crocodiles remarkable for the presence of a sclerotic ring in the eye and the absence of bony scutes.

† **c.** See quot. (? A misapprehension.)

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Sclerotick*, that is troubled with some tumor in the third panicle of the eye, called the cornea membrana, or somewhere thereabouts.

2. Of medicines: Adapted to harden the tissues.
1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Sclerotic* Medicines, such as unite the parts more firmly amongst themselves. 1898 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Sclerotic*, applied to drying medicines.

3. *Path.* Of or pertaining to sclerosis; affected with sclerosis.
1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* 78 Apostemes sclerotyke, of the fyngers and toes. *Ibid.*, Table, Sclirotyke aposteme. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 521 The lesion invariably consists of a nodule or mass of hard sclerotic tissue with a calcified centre. *Ibid.* 864 Alcohol is usually said to..lead to sclerotic changes in the valves of the heart.

4. *Bot.* Hardened, stony in texture.
Sclerotic cells, grit-cells or sclereids; *sclerotic parenchyma*, grit-cells or stone-cells in pears, etc.
1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 330 A sheath composed of sclerotic lignified elements goes all round the bundle. *Ibid.* 419 The outer layer of the cortex of the root is often sclerotic in a high degree.

B. *sb.*

1. The hard outer coat of the posterior part of the eyeball, forming the white of the eye.
1690 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. God* II. (1696) 30 It is the foremost part of this skin which hath the epithet of corneous, and the hinder is properly the sclerotick. 1751 SPRY *Morbid Eye* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 19 Yet the blood-vessels of the conjunctive were no way enlarged, nor in the least redder than that and the sclerotic were before. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* ix. 225 The eyeball is composed..of a.. case consisting of fibrous..tissue the greater part of which is white and opaque, and is called the sclerotic. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. 42 He is a pale sallow man with very white sclerotics.

2. A medicine for hardening the flesh, etc.
1728 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*; and in later Dicts.

Sclerotic (sklĭəro·tik), *a.*[2] [f. SCLEROT-IUM + -IC.] *Sclerotic acid*, one of the two most active constituents of ergot.
1876 *Pharm. Jrnl.* 17 June 1001/1 In ergot there also occurs from 2 to 3 per cent. of a substance similarly soluble in water,..this..we have named Sclerotic Acid.

‖ **Sclerotica** (sklĭəro·tikă). Also 6 slirotiqua. [med.L. *sclērōtica* (written *sclirotica* in Lanfranc *c* 1300), fem. (with ellipse of *tunica* tunic) of **sclērōticus*, a. Gr. **σκληρωτικός*: see SCLEROTIC *a.*
The form in Lanfranc represents the late Gr. pronunciation of *η* as *ĭ*; cf. OF. *sclirotique* (mod. F. *sclérotique*), Sp. *esclirótica.*]
= SCLEROTIC *sb.* 1.
1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* E iij b, In the inwarde party it is called slirotiqua and in the outwarde cornea. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 536 The Sclerotica formed like a Cup. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 196 It is contained in three membranes; the outermost is the *Sclerotica*; the second the *Tunica Choroides*. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* vii. 113 The sclerotica is cartilaginous in Chondropterygians.

Sclerotical (sklĭəro·tikăl), *a.* [f. SCLEROTIC + -AL.] = SCLEROTIC. 1897 in WEBSTER.

Sclerotioid (sklĭəro·tioid), *a.* Also **sclerotoid.** [f. SCLEROTIUM + -OID.] Resembling a sclerotium.
1857 M. J. BERKELEY *Cryptog. Botany* § 405 A large stipitate species with a sclerotoid rooting base. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 102 Ergot, which is the sclerotioid condition of a species of Claviceps. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Sclerotioid, sclerotoid*, like a sclerotium.

† **Sclero·tis.** *Obs.* [mod.L.] = SCLEROTICA.
1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1042 The Optique nerve after its insertion into the Eye is inflected, and extends it self on the Concavity of the Sclerotis about the breadth of 2 or 3 lines.

‖ **Sclerotitis** (sklĭərotəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. prec.: see -ITIS.] Inflammation of the sclerotica.
1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 550 Sclerotic inflammation, or *sclerotitis*, as it is frequently termed. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 68 The affections of the eye in gonorrhœal rheumatism..take the form of conjunctivitis, or sclerotitis, and iritis.

‖ **Sclerotium** (sklĭərō·tiŭm). Pl. **sclerotia.** [mod.L. (Tode 1790), f. Gr. *σκληρός* hard.]
† **1.** A former genus of *Cryptogamia*, comprising small, hard black bodies producing smut in wheat and ergot in rye; now known to be a particular stage of growth of the mycelium of certain fungi.
1819 *Pantologia, Sclerotium*, in botany, a genus of the class cryptogamia, order fungi. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 51/1 The spur, or ergot, is by some considered as a fungus, a species of sclerotium.

2. A tuberous body forming on the mycelium of a fungus, from which it becomes detached when its growth is complete. (See quot. 1879.)
1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 350 Ergot. The sclerotium (compact mycelium or spawn) of Claviceps purpurea, produced within the paleæ of the common rye, Secale cereale. 1879 G. MURRAY in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 828 Sclerotia are tuberous bodies composed of densely interwoven mycelial hyphæ enclosed by a layer of pseudo-parenchyma...They were long regarded as independent forms of fungi, but it has been discovered that they are only resting states in which nourishment is stored up.

3. *Zool.* In *Mycetozoa*, a cyst-like growth enclosing a portion of the plasmodium in its dormant stage.
1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 841/2. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 909 But if the plasmodium is ripe for sporulation, its resting-phase, the sclerotium, has a different character.

Sclerotome (sklĭə·rotōum). *Anat.* Also **sk-.** [f. Gr. *σκληρό-ς* hard + *τομή* section, and *-τόμος* cutter: see -TOME.]
1. A sclerous element intervening between successive myotomes.
1857 GOODSIR in *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 122 To a segment of the sclerome I apply the designation Sclerotome. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 98 A piece of the lateral muscle with one of the myotomes dissected out to shew the sclerotome, or intermuscular septum. 1894 [see MYOTOME 1].

2. A knife used in incising the sclerotic.
1885 *Lancet* 11 July 56/1 The eyeball is then rotated.. and a lance-pointed sclerotome passed through the sclerotic.

Sclerotomy (sklĭərɒ·tŏmi). *Surg.* [f. Gr. *σκληρό-ς* hard (here repr. its derivative SCLEROTIC) + *-τομία* cutting.] Incision into the sclerotic coat of the eye-ball; an operation of this kind.
1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 139 The operation of sclerotomy, as performed in the following cases, is a modification of that proposed by M. Quaglino of Pavia. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 535 A late sufferer from glaucoma, for whom two sclerotomies had been done elsewhere.

Sclerous (sklĭə·rŭs), *a.* [f. Gr. *σκληρ-ός* hard + -OUS.] **a.** *Phys.* Of animal tissues: Hard, bony. **b.** *Path.* Indurated, affected by sclerosis.
1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 48 The sclerous tissue contains a large proportion of inorganic material, to which it owes its hardness. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Tissue, Sclerous.* This name has been used collectively for the cartilaginous, osseous, and fibrous tissues. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 863 The cord changes are due to slowly encroaching sclerous changes. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 486 In so far as the sclerous condition of the skin acts as an impediment.

Scleuthe, Scleve, obs. ff. SLOTH, SLEEVE.

Scley, obs. f. SLY. **Scleyre,** var. SKLEIR *Obs.*

Sclinder, obs. Sc. f. SLENDER. **Sclink,** obs. f. SLINK, a kind of leather. **Sclirosis, Sclondre,** obs. ff. SCLEROSIS, SLANDER.

‖ **Sclope·ta.** *Antiq.* [? Pl. of med.L. *sclopētum* (see next), or perh. an incorrect sing.: cf. Sp. *escopeta.*] = SCLOPETTE.
1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 34 ₱5 His [*sc.* the antiquary 'Don Saltero's'] double-barrelled Pistols, Targets, Coats of Mail, his Sclopeta, and Sword of Toledo.

Sclopette (sklope·t). *Antiq.* [ad. med.L. *sclopetium, sclopētum*, f. *sclopus*: see ESCLOPETTE, ESCOPETTE.] 'A hand-culverin of the end of the fourteenth century' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Scluse, Scnorte, obs. forms of SLUICE, SNORT.

Sco, obs. form of SHE, SHOE.

Scoad (skōud), *v. s. w. dial.* Also 7–8 **scode.** *trans.* To scatter (ashes or other agricultural dressing). Hence **Scoa·ding** *vbl. sb.*
1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 120 The charges of this Beating, Burning, Scoding and Sanding,..amounteth to..twentie shillings for euerie Acre. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Scode*, to scatter. Cornw. 1864 T. QUILLER-COUCH *E. Cornw. Words* in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornw.* Mar., *Scoad*, to scatter, spill. 'To scoad dressing'. *a* 1870 J. COUCH *Hist. Polperro* vi. (1871) 118 The turf is collected into separate 'burrows' or heaps, burnt, and the ashes 'scoaded', or scattered over the field.

Scoal(e, Scoale, obs. ff. SCALE *sb.*[1], SCHOOL *sb.*[2]

Scoar(e, Scoase, Scoat: see SCORE, SCORSE, SCOTE *v.*

† **Scob**[1] (skɒb). *Obs.* Also 5 **scobe,** 5–6 **skobbe,** 7 **scobb.** [Of obscure etymology.] A box, a chest.
1469–70 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 13 Pro ij[bus] clauibus..vnum..pro parua skobbe in Vestibulo. 1481–2 *Ibid.* 368 A lytell key to the scobbe by fore the Rood Awt'. 1507–8 *Ibid.* 261, j skobbe pro ornamentis Altaris predicte imponend'. 1521–2 *Ibid.* 65 A loke to the sextens scobe. 1550–51 *Ibid.* 91 Sold' to Xp̃ofer tucker a skobbe w[ch] we Receyued therfor xxd.

b. *Winchester School* (see quots. 1862 and 1891).
c 1615 in Walcott *William of Wykeham* (1852) 167 Item, for a scobb to hold his books 0 3 6. 1862 H. B. WHEATLEY *Anagrams* 141 At Winchester School the boys are in the habit of calling the huge old boxes that serve them for desks, skobs; skob being box (or rather boks) spelt backwards. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-bk., Scob*, or *Scobb*, an oak box with a double lid, set at the angles of the squares of wooden benches in School. It is used as desk and bookcase. 1893 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 382 Here stood the 'Scobs' or oak boxes which contained all that a boy could call his own.

Scob[2] (skɒb). *Weaving.* (See quots.)
1863 J. WATSON *Art Weaving* 141 When the weft passes over a portion of the warp without being interwoven with it, the defect is that the yarn hangs loose at that part, and it is called a Scob, Float, or Flow. *Ibid.*, Scob or Float Preventer. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* 442 *Scobs* (Scotch term), the warp and weft not properly interwoven.

† **Scobberlotcher.** *Obs.* [Cf. SCOPPERLOIT.] An idler. (So explained in context.)
a 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 26 Dr. Kettle, when he scolded at the idle young boies of his colledge, he used these names,..Rascal-Jacks, Blindcinques, Scobberlotchers.

Scobby (skɒ·bi). A north-country name for the chaffinch, *Fringilla cœlebs.*
1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. 1852 F. O. MORRIS *Hist. Brit. Birds* II. 236.

† **Scobe,** *sb. Obs.* [a. L. *scob-em, scobs.*] Sawdust.
c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 901 Ek populer or fir is profitabull To make & lye among hem scobes abull. *Ibid.* IV. 491 Hem summe in cedur scobe..wel witholde.

† **Scobe,** *v. Obs. trans.* To gag.
1652 *Nicol's Diary* 30 Sept. (MS.) (Jam.), One of them had his mouth scobit. *a* 1657 SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann.* Hist. Wks. 1825 III. 316 [General Monk] in a rage commandit Mr. Jo. Robertsone not to speake one word, wich if he presumed to doe, he wold scobe his mouthe.

Scobiform (skō·bifōrm), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *scob-s* sawdust, filings + -(I)FORM.] Like sawdust or filings in appearance.
1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xxiii. (1765) 129 The seeds are scobiform. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 52 Seeds scobiform, subulate, smooth.

‖ **Scobina** (skɒbəi·nă). *Bot.* [mod.L., use of L. *scobīna* rasp.] 'The zigzag rachis of the spikelets of grasses' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).
1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 153 In the spikelets of Grasses the rachis has an unusual, toothed, flexuose appearance, and has received the name of *scobina* from Dumortier.

Scochen, -eoun, -ynne, etc.: see SCUTCHEON.

Scode, variant of SCOAD *v. dial.*

Scodgy (skɒ·dʒi). *Sc.* Also 8–9 **scogie, scougie, scudgie, skodge, skodgie, skudgy.** [Of obscure origin.] 'A boy or girl who cleans boots, or does the dirty work of the kitchen; a drudge' (E.D.D.). Also *attrib.*
1786 *Har'st Rig* xci, The Scogie lass does rin wil haste And bring the *kale*. 1850 A. MCGILVRAY *Poems* 208 Look after cleaning pans and tins, And all the scudgie matters. 1895 P. H. HUNTER *Jas. Inwick* x. 124 Misca'in me for a turncoat, an' a rinawa, an' scodgy to the laird.

Scoff (skɒf), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **skof**(f, (*pl.* **scoffes**), 4–6 **scof,** 6 *Sc.* **skwff, skuf,** 6–7 **scoffe, skoffe,** 7 (**schoffe**), *Sc.* **skuff,** 6– **scoff.** [ME. *scof, skof*, of obscure origin.
In sense the word agrees with ON. *skop* neut. (the ablaut-variant *skaup* is more common), corresp. to OHG. *scoph, scopf* and prob. cogn. w. OE. *scop* poet: see SCOP. It is possible that there was a cognate and synonymous form **skof* of which the Eng. word may be an adoption; cf. early mod. Da. *skuf, skof*, jest, mockery, *skuffe* to jest, mock, also (as now) to deceive, disappoint, MLG. *schoven*; Richthofen cites a single instance of OFris. *schof*, which he interprets 'mockery'.]

1. a. 'Contemptuous ridicule; expression of scorn; contumelious language' (J.); mockery. Phrase, *to make scoff.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*
13.. *K. Alis.* 667 (Laud MS.) This nis nou3th romaunce of skof [*Lincoln's Inn MS.* scof]. *Ibid.* 5461 Nov it is ypassed, hij ne don þerof Bot gamenen togedres, & ek scoff. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7586 'Drynk hail', he seyþ, & drynkeþ þer-of, Kyssyng hym in bourde & scof. 1340 *Ayenb.* 128 Do away þe scoffes and þe scornes. *a* 1450 MYRC What maner þynge þou art gulty of, Telle me boldely & make no scof. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 1185 'Bereve me, goddesse', quod he, [of] thy might, My skornes all and skoffes, that I have No power forth, to mokken any wight That in thy service dwell. 1538 BALE *Brefe Comedy Tempt. Chr.* D iv, If ye do beleue, that ye are the sonne of God, Beleue thys also, if ye leape downe here in scoff, From thys hygh pynnacle, ye can take no harme therof. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 49 The Bischope was heightly offended, asweill at the skwff and bitter mock, as at the bold libertie of that learned man. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 263 By heauen, all drie beaten with pure scoffe. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 188 Doubtles gif we returne, we sal vndirly a perpetual skuf and shame. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* I. iii. (1622) 6 [Augustus] asked the opinion of the Pontife in a scoffe, whether there might be a lawfull marriage betwixt them. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 1 As in nicknames taken up in scoffe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 205 Being to receive the Sacrament he demaunded in scoffe a great piece of bread. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* (1857) 360 It was a piece of scoff at his political foes.

b. A derisive jest, an expression of mockery.
1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 14 And now he was thurrouly furnisshid with a cumpani of gud lusti cuts and stateli scofs. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 502 The schoffes of Ismalitish papists. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XIII. xvi. (1620) 456 But the Philosophers..thinke they giue vs a witty scoffe for saying that [etc.]. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 313 We..telling him of these spirits, being a Protestant, he made a scoffe at it. *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1885) I. 37 He detested all scoffs at any practice of worship. 1742 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xiv, Some little souls..for want of a due acquaintance with other sciences make a scoff at them all in comparison of their favourite science. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 124 The scoffs and sarcasms of Swift, like the bite of the rattlesnake, distinguish themselves more venomously dangerous, than the wounds of a common serpent. 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XII. iii, Yet none do wreak their scoffs on him. 1827 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 319 Why, this is the very scoff of a late Unitarian writer. 1842 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* VI. xvii. 258 Worldly men have their scoff at our failure of discernment now. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. xi. 130 With the scoffs came tales of the retribution which instantly overtook the scoffers.

† **c.** *transf.* A mere jest. *Obs.*
1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 4 b, Day by day he disgested his meate with leading her the measures [making her 'dance', by flogging]...The ballet of the whipper of late days here in England, was but a scoffe in comparison of him.

2. An object of contempt or scorn; a mark for derision or scoffing.
1640 SIR W. MURE *Counter-Buff* 382 Then with a daring boldnesse, thou reviles That sacred name, and with base skurill stiles..Thou makes of it a sesam, a skuff, a sport. 1660 N. INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 77 Is not he the common scoff of all beholders? 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 31 Jan., Dr. Waterhouse..was mighty passionate against people that make a scoff of religion. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. ii, How has my passion made me Cupid's scoff! 1733 SWIFT *Apol.* 55 And since I 'scap'd being made a Scoff, I think I'm very fairly off. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 743 These are thy glorious works, eternal truth, The scoff of wither'd age and beardless youth. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 215 Ancient history, even where only founded on tradition, so long the scoff of shallow ignorance, pseudo-philo-

sophy, and sordid indolence. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* P 77 The principles of liberty were the scoff of every grinning courtier. 1855 — *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 623 But the rest of his army was the scoff of all Europe.

Scoff (skɒf), *sb.*[2] *S. African.* [Cape Du., repr. Du. *schoft*, quarter of a day, hence each of the four meals of the day.] Food; also a meal. (Cf. SCAFF *sb.*)

1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Boërland* 101 Kafirs..get wages varying from 15s. to £1, besides their food, or 'scoff'..Indian or mealie flour. 1892 LD. R. CHURCHILL *Men, Mines, & Anim.* ix. (1895) 132 They were stranded without any skoff. 1899 FLYNT *Tramping with Tramps* II. iii. (1900) 251 Scoff's always more plenty than money. 1900 S. CHAMBERS *Rhodesians* 63 The bones left over from the Boss's skoff.

Scoff (skɒf), *v.*[1] Also 4 scof, 6–7 scoffe, skoffe. [f. SCOFF *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To speak derisively, mock, jeer. Const. *at*, † *of*, † *over*, † *upon*, † *with*. Chiefly implying unworthy derision, as of something deserving reverence or consideration.

a 1380 *St. Savina* 255 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 97 Hit neodeþ not to þe forte scof. 1530 PALSGR. 706/1, I scoffe, I bourde or jest with one, *je me bourde*. I scoffe with hym, *je me bourde a luy*. *Ibid.*, I scoffe, I jest upon one, *je jonche* and *je larde*. Hast thou naught els to do but scoffe upon me. 1560 JEWEL *Reply to Cole* Wks. (1609) 37 The Councell of Paris was scoft at, and iested out of all parts. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 156/39 To skoffe, *scommari*. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* I. (1586) 163 In this disputation manie other thinges were merily skoft ouer. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 21 Thereat Diana gan to smile, in scorne Of her vaine plaint, and to her scoffing sayd. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 45 *Burg.* [to Joan of Arc] Scoffe on vile Fiend, and shamelesse curtizan. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 2 And yet for as worthy an acte as euer he [David] did.. he was scorned and scoffed at by his owne wife. *a* 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 94 There is a difficulty which may exercise you instead of scoffing of his Lordship in the close of the Chapter. 1655 WALTON *Angler* i. (1661) 4 'Tis an easie thing to scoff at any Art or Recreation; a little wit mixt with ill nature, confidence, and malice, will do it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 629 So they among themselves in pleasant veine Stood scoffing. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 18 P 3 Among the numbers whom you have taught to scoff at the retirement of Drugget, there is one who offers his apology. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 180 And fools who came to scoff, remain'd to pray. 1821 SHELLEY *Song*, '*Rarely, rarely, comest thou*' ii, With the joyous and the free Thou wilt scoff at pain. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 58 And by and by the people..Began to scoff and jeer and babble of him As of a prince whose manhood was all gone. 1886 G. ALLEN *Darwin* xii. 201 Harvey's grand discovery..was scoffed at for nearly a whole generation.

2. *trans.* To scoff at, deride, ridicule irreverently. ? *Obs.* exc. *U. S.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 170 Such grosse questions are to be aunswered with slender reasons, and such idle heads should be scoffed with adle aunsweres. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* (? 1600) B 3, Was it not thou that scoftes [*sic*] the Organon, And said it was a heape of vanities? 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 163. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* I. v. C 2, Scoffist thou me Gismond with continuall taunts? 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* xi. 39, I would not scoffe you, nor with taunts torment ye. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* XXXVI. 24 This same foolish wittiness Alexander wittily scoffed, when he gave [etc.]. 1676 GLANVILL *Seasonable Reflect.* 35 To Scoff Religion is ridiculously proud and immodest. 1733 SWIFT *Apol.* 148 To see th' important Man of Dress Scoffing my College Aukwardness. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* X. 319 He..scoff'd their easy fears. 1891 MARY A. DODGE *Washington Bible Class* ii. 48 (Funk) The men who are increasing the sum of the world's knowledge are studying, not scoffing the Bible. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 210 Oh, how I have scoffed them in my heart.

† b. *To scoff out*: to dismiss or put aside scoffingly. *Obs. rare.*

1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 200 They that be called to aunswere wyll not aunswere directlye, but skoffe the matter out. 1551 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* I. 10 And so scoffe out both these hygh mysteries of Christe.

Scoff (skɒf), *v.*[2] *slang* and *dial.* Also scorf, skoff. [app. orig. a variant of SCAFF *v.*, taken into slang from dialectal use; latterly associated with the South African SCOFF *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To eat voraciously, devour; also *gen.* to eat.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Scorf*, to eat voraciously. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Skoff*, to eat with audible voracity. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang.*, *Scoffing*, eating. To *scoff* a thing is to eat it. 1886 W. H. LONG *Dict. Isle Wight Dial.* 61 They zet down and scoffed every bit o' grub there was on the taable. 1895 A. PATTERSON *Man & Nature in Broads* 122 A bunch of grey lag-geese as wor scoffin' (eating) the young wheat in a field up hinder. 1901 W. S. WALKER *In the Blood* iv, Those birds kill snakes do they?..Rather. ..They goes down themselves and scoffs them.

b. *intr.* To eat or feed; to have one's food *with*. [Cf. Du. *schoften* to take one's meals.]

1899 LOWTH *Dau. of Transvaal* xi. 191, I say, here come those three, still skoffing. 1900 S. CHAMBERS *Rhodesians* 18 I'll 'skoff' with Achille this month.

2. *trans.* To seize, plunder.

1893 KIPLING *Many Invent., Judson & the Empire*, Are we a set of hairy pirates to scoff the storeroom of a painted Levantine bumboat? *Ibid.*, There's enough [gold-leaf] for two first-rates, and I've scoffed the best half of it. 1898 HYNE *Capt. Kettle* xi. 289 Some of those lousy Portuguese have been on board and scoffed all the money. 1903 B. MITFORD *Veldt Vendetta* 122 Why the Kafirs'd have skoffed the whole span long before and started out to rake in more.

† **Sco·ffage.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCOFF *v.*[1] + -AGE.] The action or fact of scoffing.

a 1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 222 These gracelesse young men think the threats but words of sport, counterfeit words which have no truth nor substance in them, but were very mockery and scoffage.

Scoffer (skɒ·fəɹ). Also 6 scoffar. [f. SCOFF *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who scoffs. Const. *at*; also (now *rarely*) *of*. Often *spec.*, one who scoffs at religion or morality.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xlvii. 488 He was a good knyȝt but he was a scoffer and a laper. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. ii. S ij, The order or felowshyp of scoffers, or common gesters. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 33 In yougthe also they be readie scoffers. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 62 Cry the man mercy, loue him, take his offer, Foule is most foule, being foule to be a scoffer. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 16 We might also be charged (by scoffers) with some vnequall dealing towards a great number of good English wordes. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 190 It is also naturall to the French, to be a great scoffer; for men of light and unsteady braines, have commonly sudden and sharpe conceits. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 195 He closed with the Presbyterians, notwithstanding he had before..been a scoffer of them. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) I. 209 They have..become Railers and Scoffers at it [Christianity]. 1790 G. WALKER *Serm.* II. xxx. 327 The impious scoffer of his Maker, of providence, of religion and of a future world. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 484 This dull product of a scoffer's pen. 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Serm. Relig.* iv. (1863) 76 The long line of scoffers from Lucian..down to Voltaire. 1853 HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sci.* ii. § 5 (1873) 52 What would Anaximander or the scoffer of Anaxagoras have said, could he have known what we now know. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 445 To put any other interpretation on his words would be..to give an occasion of triumph to scoffers. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 80 The subject of foolish and brutal jests among the profligate scoffers of his Court.

† 2. A jester, buffoon. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scoffer or jestar, *gaudisseur*. 1540 — *Acolastus* II. i. H iij b, Take me hardely in all the hast to be bounde prentyse to thy felowshyp or craftes men of scoffars. 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* 65 a/2 A scoffer, *histrio*. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Mimicke*, a scoffer, a iester.

† **Sco·ffery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SCOFF *v.*[1] + -ERY, after *mockery*.] a. A mockery, ridiculous proceeding. b. Mockery, jeering, derision.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. vii. 108 b, King Henrye.. thought it a mere scoffery to pursue any fallow Deare with hounds or greyhounds. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 76 Skelton a sharpe Satirist, but with more rayling and scoffery then became a Poet Lawreat. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 507 With..a scowling scoffery of all the principles which those who gathered together the National Assembly had contemplated.

† **Sco·ffic,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 scophick. [f. SCOFF *sb.*[1] + -IC.] Resembling, or of the nature of, a scoff. So also † **Sco·ffical** *a.*

1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 86 You must make me a forger of meer reproachful, and scoffical calumnies. 1654 HAMMOND *Answ. to Animadv.* v. § I. 118, I must in the same Scophick [*sic*; *but in Wks.* 1684 Scoptick] humour, be styled a learned man.

Scoffing (skɒ·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCOFF *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of SCOFF *v.*[1]; † a scoff.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 277 Of scornyng and of scoffyng and of vnskilful berynge. 1529 MORE *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 332/1 He laith agaynst it nothing but skoffing. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scoffynges or tryfles, *fredaynes*. 1723 SWIFT *Epitaph Judge Boat* 2 Pray, Gentle-folks, forbear your Scoffing. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* v. i. 425 Men whose vice is to start at vice's scoffing. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* IV. xv. 188 He bitter jests and filthy scoffing made.

b. *Comb.*: **scoffing-stock** [cf. LAUGHING-STOCK], an object of scoffing.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 13 Hee was a scoffing-stock to y[e] very princes. 1662 BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 96 The other Cardinals do but make him their scoffing-stock to laugh at. 1870 F. JACOX *Recr. Recluse* I. iv. 86 This same scoffing-stock of the school..displayed the energetic originality of genius.

Scoffing (skɒ·fiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOFF *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That scoffs; contemptuous, derisive.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Scurriliter*, in raylynge or scoffyng facion. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H ij b, Dysours or skoffyng fellowes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 184 b, And so in this iollie scoffing brauerie he went ouer vs all, saying [etc.]. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* B 3, Questioning with one that I met why these women were so cholericke, he, like a skoffing fellow, pointed to a bush of nettles. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 534 Niele, a scoffing Poet in those daies,..wrot thus of them. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Discov., Nil gratius* (1640) 91 Indeed..nothing is of more credit, or request now, then a petulant paper, or scoffing verses. 1683 SOAME & DRYDEN tr. *Boileau's Art Poet.* III. 771 A Socrates himself in that loose age, Was made the pastime of a scoffing stage. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 70 The people of the capital had been annoyed by the scoffing way in which foreigners spoke of the principal residence of our sovereigns.

Scoffingly (skɒ·fiŋli), *adv.* [f. SCOFFING *ppl. a.* + -LY[2].] In a scoffing manner.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Ironice*, mockyshly, scoffyngly. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 32 b, To this decree of theyrs aunswereth Philip Melancthon, and after that Luther him selfe, but skoffyngly. 1641 *Pet. Istleworth* 4 He had rather hear an Organ..than singing of Psalmes, which scoffingly he called Hopkins his jigges. 1725 *Pope's Odyss.* III. Notes I. 167 What the Suitors had spoken scoffingly in the preceding book,..appears in this not to be impracticable. 1870 R. C. JEBB *Sophocles' Electra* (ed. 2) 126/1 Clytaemnestra says scoffingly..' now by *thy* favourite goddess'.

† **Scoffion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *scoffion* (Du Bellay, 16th c.), *escoffion* (Molière), a. Sp. *escofion* or It. *scuffione* augmentative of Sp. *escofia*, It. *scuffia*, synonymous and cogn. w. Sp. *cofia*, It. *cuffia*: see COIF *sb.*] A kind of head-dress.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xiv. 249 Lelia a Romane Dame bestowed vppon a scoffion [orig. *tocado*] and a garment embroidered with pearle and emerald 400000. ducats.

† **Sco·fting.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. Du. *schoft* blackguard.] A term of contempt for a person.

1514 BARCLAY *Cit. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 16 This scorfy scoftynge declareth openly Agaynste rurall men, rebuke and injury.

Scog, variant of SCUG *v. Sc.* and *dial.*

† **Sco·ggan.** *Mech. Obs.* Also 8 scoggen. [Of obscure origin; as it was a quasi-personal name, it may have been an application of SCOGGIN.

Commonly alleged to be from a dialect verb *scog*, to idle, loiter; but no such sense of the verb is known to exist. Desaguliers, the sole authority for the 'Humphrey Potter' story, does not say that the boy invented 'Scoggan' to save himself labour; he merely substituted one automatic contrivance for another less efficient. But the truth of the whole story has been questioned: see the art. *Newcomen* in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*]

An automatic contrivance for opening valves in Newcomen's steam engine *c* 1713. (See quot. 1744.)

1719 *Plate repr. Newcomen's engine* (*Dict. Nat. Biog.* art. Newcomen), Scoggen and his mate that do more work than the boy [? = buoy]. 1744 DESAGULIERS *Exper. Philos.* II. 533 They used before to work with a Buoy in the Cylinder.., which Buoy rose when the Steam was strong, and open'd the Injection,..thereby they were capable of only giving six, eight, or ten Strokes in a Minute, 'till a boy, Humphry Potter, who attended the Engine, added (what he call'd Scoggan) a Catch that the beam Q always open'd: and then it would go 15 or 16 Strokes in a Minute.

Scogger (skɒ·gəɹ). *north. dial.* Also skogger, scugger. [Cf. *cogger* COCKER *sb.*[1] 2.] A footless stocking, or a knitted article of similar form, worn either as a gaiter or as a sleeve to protect the arm; also the foot of a stocking worn over the boot to prevent slipping on ice.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 130 Fute-sare I was, for Bille shoon had neane,..Nor hose-legs (wele I wate) but skoggers aud, That hardly hap't poore Billes legs fra caud. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 51 *note*, So the word [snuffers].. may possibly be a misprint for scoggers, as such sleeves are called in some parts of England. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Skogger*, the leg of an old stocking; used by countrymen to keep the snow out of their shoes. 1887 D. DONALDSON *Suppl. to Jamieson*, Scoggers, Scuggers. 1899 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Scogger*.

† **Sco·ggery.** *Obs. rare.* [App. for **scogginry*: see next and -RY.] Buffoonery, scurrility.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 95 Villanie, scoggerie, and popularitie. *Ibid.* 266 You might haue left such scoggerie as Parsons hath set out in Greenecoate, to Tarleton, Nashe, or else to some Puritane Martin Mar-prelate.

† **Sco·ggin.** *Obs.* The name of John *Scoggin* (or Scogan), court fool to Edw. IV, used allusively for: A coarse jester, buffoon.

The allusion is to a fictitious compilation entitled Scoggin's Jests, licensed for printing in 1566; the 17th c. editions attribute the work to Andrew Boorde.

Shakspere (2 Hen. IV, III. ii.) confused the jester with Chaucer's friend Henry Scogan.

1579 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* (1580) 55 Some wordes we haue indeede, as for exanple.. *ayer*, both *pro aere*, and *pro hæredе*, for we say not *Heire*, but plaine *Aire* for him to, (or else Scoggins Aier were a poore iest) whiche are commonly, and maye indifferently be vsed eyther wayes. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* 2 Malice was neuer such a hypocrite, as now; and the world neuer such a Scoggin, as now. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xlii. 258 [Stinking Orach] is of a most lothsome sauour.., vpon which plant if any should chaunce to rest and sleepe, he might very well report ..that he had reposed himselfe amongst the chiefe of Scoggins heires. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 253 Playing the Scoggins with the Scripture; a common thing at this day euen among the Laity. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 26 Hauing discoursed a little with this Scoggin concerning the errand he came for. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* etc. 67 He that hath such a thing, deserves to be a Scoggin, an Vlespiegle, for he knows all the Tricks of knavery.

Comb. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 281 Ridiculous and Scoggin-like speeches.

Hence **Sco·gginism** (also 7 Scoganism), scurrilous jesting. **Sco·gginist,** a scurrilous jester. **Sco·gginly** *a.* (in 7 Scoganly), scurrilous.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 17 The Ciceronian may sleepe, til the Scogginist hath plaid his part. One sure Conny-catcher, woorth twenty Philosophers. *Ibid.* 149 They ..may peruse his guegawes with indifferency: and finde.. no honesty, but pure Scogginisme; no Religion, but precise Marlowisme. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* I. viii. 46 But what doe I trouble my Reader with this idle Scoganisme? Scolds or Iesters are onely fit for this combat. *Ibid.* III. iii. 269 Where is the shame of this Romane Priest, whiles he so manifestly belies our holy, reuerend, worthy Master Foxe, whom this Scoganly Pen dare say playes the Goose in the inconstancie of his Relation of this Nicholas?

† **Scogh.** *Obs. rare.* Also skowe, skuwe, scoe. [a. ON. *skóg-r.*] A wood.

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 15826 (Fairf.) Bab ouer hil & scogh. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 3915 And many scopid into þe scoghe without scath mare. *Ibid.* 5157 Scho gaffe skirmand skrikis at all þe skowis range. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 53 (Irel.) Alle dyrkyns the dere, in the dym scoghes [*v. r.* skuwes], For drede of the dethe droupus the doe. *Ibid.* 129 The bryddus in the boes That of the gost gous Thay scryken in the scoes [*v. r.* skowes].

Scoile, scoill, obs. Sc. forms of SCHOOL *sb.*[1]

Scoinson (skoi·nsən). *Arch.* [Refashioned form of SCUNCHEON, after its source, OF. *escoinçon.*] Used *attrib.* in *scoinson arch* = REAR-ARCH; also in *scoinson shaft.*

1842 WILLIS *Arch. Nomencl. Mid. Ages* 57 The 'pilastres des écoinsons' of Roubo, correspond exactly in position to the mediæval 'scoinson shaft (or rear-shaft) above described. 1849 E. SHARPE *Decor. Window Tracery* v. 28 In Windows which are placed in walls of considerable thickness, or where the Tracery lies near the outer surface,...there frequently occurs an arch which is not to be confounded with the Window-Arch...The object of this Arch, to which Professor Willis was the first to call attention, and which he has named the Scoinson-Arch, appears to have been twofold. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. 166 The scoinson arch is trefoiled. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict., Scoinson arch*...Also *rere* and *rear arch.* The interior edge of a window side.

Scoir, Scoit, Scok: see SCORE, SHOOT, SHAKE.

Scoke (skōuk). *U. S.* [Of obscure origin.] The poke-weed, *Phytolacca decandra.*

1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 145 Gargit or Skoke. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 361 *Phytolacca decandra*, (Common Poke or Scoke. Garget. Pigeon-Berry). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v.

Scol, -age, -ar, etc.: see SCHOOL *sb.*[1], SKOAL, SCHOOLAGE, SCHOLAR, etc. **Scolay:** see SCOLEYE.

Scolcurye, obs. form of SKULKERY.

Scold (skōuld), *sb.* Forms: *α. north.* (now *north. dial.* and *Sc.*) 3–4, 8–9 scald, 4–6 skald, 5 skawde, scawde, skalde, scalde, 9 scauld, scaad. *β.* 3–7 scolde, 4–6 skolde, 5–7 skold, 6 schold, skould, 6–7 scould, 7 scowld, 3– scold. *γ. north.* 6 scolle, skol, scaule, scoule, 8 scaul, scawl. [App. a. ON. *skáld* neut. (see SKALD), originally meaning a poet; the sense-development postulated is strange, but the probability of a sense 'lampooner' as an intermediate stage seems to be indicated by the fact that the derivative *skáldskapr*, lit. 'skaldship', poetry, has in the Icel. law-books the specific sense of libel in verse.]

1. In early use, a person (esp. a woman) of ribald speech; later, a woman (rarely a man) addicted to abusive language.

In the example from Ormin, the sense may be 'minstrel'.

α. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2192 Full wel birrþ ure maȝȝdenn ben Forrshamedd, ȝiff mann brinngeþ Biforenn hire unnþæwfull word & wæling word þurrh scaldess. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22030 [Anticrist] sal be born..of bismer brem and bald And geten of a glotun scald [*Gött.* of glotun and skald] þat þar may be na fuler tuin. *Ibid.* 29342 Womman commun and alsua scald, Alle ar suilk for cursd tald. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 69 He was of his tong a skalde, And for to boste was he ful balde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 596 Lett bren this bawde and bind her fast. A fals skawde hang at the last; so shall thou. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 322/1 A Scawde, *barda, vt supra vbi* scalde. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 322 And knaw, kene skald, I hald of Alathya. 1825 JAMIESON, *Scald*, 1. A scold; applied to a person.

β. *c* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 412 in *O. E. Misc.* 127 Be þu neuere to bold, to chiden agen oni scold. *Ibid.* 705 He is cocker, þef, and horeling, scolde, of wrechedome he is king. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) li, As wel wol a knyȝt chide As eny scold in a toun. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 34 And when scripture þe skolde hadde þus wyt y-sheued, Clergie in-to a caban crepte anon after. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XIX. 279 Ne sholde no scorner ne scolde oute of skyl hym brynge. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 229 A claterer, a ianguler, a flyter, a curser, a swerer, and a skold of hur mowþe. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Venemous Tongues* Wks. 1843 I. 132 A sclaunderous tunge, a tunge of a skolde, Worketh more mischiefe than can be tolde. 1565 *Child-Marriages* 127 She takes her for no schold, nor an vnhonest woman. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. vi. 108/1 Scoldes are ducked vpon cuckingstooles in the water. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 345 Miso interrupted his tale, with rayling at Damætas, with all those exquisite termes, which I was neuer good skold inough to imagine. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 188, I know she is an irkesome brawling scold. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* XXVI. 27 A loude crying woman, and a scolde, shall be sought out to driue away the enemies. 1611 COTGR., *Causeresse*, a scowld, a brabling woman. 1640 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 433 For leading scoldes bridled along the Town at Mr. Bayliffes commaund, 6*d.* 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. XXIII. 218 Fame hath much of the scold in her; the best way to silence her is to be silent. 1713 SHAFTESB. *Judgm. Hercules* iii. Charac. (1723) III. 368 The Painter.. will doubtless beware of representing his Heroine as a mere Scold. 1782 MRS. H. COWLEY *Bold Stroke for Husband* I. ii, Every body supposes my lady an arrant scold. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* XXIII. (1907) II. 206 The Prior was one of the many instances of a youthful sinner metamorphosed into an old scold. 1842 MRS. GORE *Fascination* 15 'If you only manage to drink the wine *I* send to fetch for you,' said the scold of a wife, 'you won't be much the worse for it.' 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 67 Too often he is under the dominion of a forbidding scold, who, in addition to her other bad qualities, is slovenly and unthrifty.

γ. 1569 scolle, 1572 skol [see *scold-cart*, below]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 43/45 A Scaule, *rixosa mulier. Ibid.* 218/15 A Scoule. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. XVI, Ye's thole for this, ye scaul. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* XVIII, His ill-tongu'd, wicked Scawl [*sc.* Job's wife].

b. *Common scold*: a woman who disturbs the peace of the neighbourhood by her constant scolding.

1467 *Crt. Rolls Maldon, Essex* (Bundle 43 no. 1), Eadem Katerina est communis scolde. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 500 Lyke a common skold in a Cage. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. XIII. 169 A common scold, *communis rixatrix*, (for our law-latin confines it to the feminine gender,) is a public nusance to her neighbourhood. 1858 J. P. BISHOP *Comm. Crim. Law* II. § 147 A common scold is one, who, by the practice of frequent scolding, disturbs the repose of the neighborhood.

c. *Comb.*: **scold's bit, bridle** = BRANKS[1] 1; †**scold-cart,** a cart used for the public exposure of common scolds.

1569 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 135 Mendyng of the scolle kart. 1572 *Ibid.* IV. 145 Mendyng the skolcart. 1604 *Ibid.* IV. 265 Wee desire we may haue a scould carte for scoulds, and to carye criples in. 1858, 1869 Scold's bridle [see BRANKS 1]. 1884 *Chr. World* 4 Sept. 661/5 Then came Walton, where the famous scold's bit is preserved in the church.

2. [From the verb.] An act of scolding; a scolding rebuke. ? *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

α. 1773 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* 54 The waefu' scald o' our Mess-John to bide. 1831 R. SHENNAN *Tales, Songs*, etc. 65 (E.D.D.) Whiles they got a skelp or scauld. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* IV. 33 Aw doot Gushetneuk cam' in for a bit scaad yon'er.

β. 1726 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* Apr. (1893) I. 495 Mamma and I were in an actual scold when my poor father expired. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 133 The Lady Abbess had already put him in an ill humour by the scold she gave him for overturning her. 1778 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 31 Oct., To-day Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Desmoulins had a scold. 1807 WILLIAMS *Let. to Parr* 28 Dec. in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 293, I should not have been so long in answering your sharp scold and soothing invitation had I not [etc.]. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Let.* Dec. in *New Lett.* (1903) I. 237, I have not had to transact one scold since this girl came to me. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 91 His scold died out good-naturedly enough in the end, and I saw him laugh as he turned away. 1891 'L. KEITH' *My Bonnie Lady* IX. 93 Now that I have given you your scolds we'll say no more about it.

Scold (skōuld), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 scolde, 5 scoolde, 5–6 skolde, 6 scoulde, skowlde, scowde, skoolde, 6–7 scould, 7 scowlde, (9 *dial.* scoud), 6– scold. *β. north.* and *dial.* 6 scaule, scoule, 9 scall. *γ. Sc.* 8 scald, scauld. [f. SCOLD *sb.*

Notwithstanding the close resemblance in form and meaning with the WGer. str. vb. OFris. *skelda*, OS. *sceldan* (in a gloss), Du., MLG. *schelden*, OHG. *sceltan* (MHG., mod. G. *schelten*), there appears to be no etymological connexion.]

1. *intr.* †**a.** Originally, to behave as a scold; to quarrel noisily, to brawl; to rail *at* or wrangle *with* some one; to use violent or unseemly language in vituperation; said chiefly of women. *Obs.*

b. Now with milder sense (partly as absol. use of sense 3): To use undignified vehemence or persistence in reproof or fault-finding; *colloq.* often merely, to utter continuous reproof.

α. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 81 To scorne and to scolde sclaundere to make. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. XIII. (1495) 197 Noo man hath more woo than he that hath an euyll wyfe, cryenge and janglynge, chydynge and skoldynge. 1526 TINDALE *N. T.* Prol. A ij b, Lest we..fall from meke lernynge into ydle despiciouns, braulinge and scoldynge aboute wordes. 1530 PALSGR. 706/2, I scoulde, as a man or woman dothe that chyde, *je tence*...They scolde togyther lyke two women. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 160 b, Every day almost they would bryng them furth openly and scolde and chyde with them, and make them beleve that they woulde hang them if they were not payed. 1584 in D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 43 Let him goe home and skoolde with his wife. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 177 Mark'd you not how hir sister Began to scold, and raise vp such a storme, That mortal eares might hardly indure the din. 1607 — *Cor.* V. vi. 106 Pardon me Lords, 'tis the first time that euer I was forc'd to scoul'd. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 239 Some runn out to braule and scowlde like women with the next enemyes. 1673 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 265, I told her I came to be merry and not to be scolded at. 1675 ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* III. ii. 193 Therefore go scold with the Apostle: that which will bring him off will bring off the Doctor. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 287 For Gods, we are by Homer told, Can in Celestial Language scold. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* vii, I scolded heartily at him when he came back. 1764 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 21 June, A woman had 'scolded with her neighbour'. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 24 Apr. (1815) 37 He might harp as long as he pleased upon her scolding; but she never scolded, except for his advantage. 1822 A. CUNNINGHAM *Tradit. Tales, Death of Laird of Wariswarm* (1887) 273 All women love to be married, were it only for the sake of having somebody to scold at. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. iii, I have no doubt that Lady Frances will, at first, look grave, and even perhaps scold, but it will wear off. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* iv, I just put my two arms round her, and said, 'Come, Bessie! don't scold.'

β. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 44/2 To Scaule, *rixari. Ibid.* 218/24 To Scoule. 1820 J. JOHNSTONE *Poems* 127 (E. D. D.) I'm sure that ye a' got a part o't, And needna scall oft sae at me.

2. quasi-*trans.* with complementary adj., adv., or phrase expressing the result of scolding. Also †*to scold it out*: to continue wrangling to the end.

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xiii. 48 Stand on thy guard, I cannot scold it out. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 173 *Lady.* An hundred Marks? By this light, Ile ha more...I will haue more, or scold it out of him. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. vii. 18 She had scolded her Husband one day out of doores. 1650 B. *Discollimitium* 10 Meer morall prudence might suffer wise men to stand still.., and such shallow heads as I am, to scould themselves quiet. 1754 WARBURTON *View Bolingbr. Philos.* I. 34 My Master is not a man to be scratched and scolded out of his Kingdom. 1783 COWPER *Let.* 17 June, No man was ever scolded out of his sins. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* V. 42, I scolded back the foolish thoughts, and felt ashamed of myself for entertaining them.

3. *trans.* To address (esp. an inferior or a child) with continuous and more or less angry reproach; to chide.

This construction is prob. of late introduction from northern dialects. Johnson does not mention it in his Dictionary (1755), though Boswell reports him as having used it orally in 1763. The use is still colloquial rather than literary, and its associations are somewhat undignified; but it is quite free from the discreditable implications which the intransitive use (sense 1) has not yet wholly lost.

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. XXIII, Auld nick Should tempt their wifes to scald Them for't. 1763 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) I. 418 You may scold a carpenter who has made you a bad table, though you cannot make a table. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 June (1815) 120 She has left off scolding the servants. 1781 COWPER *On Madan's Answ. Newton* 12 But the strife is the strangest that ever was known, If a man must be scolded for loving his own [wife]. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. v, Well, Walter, I feel, for the first time these ten years, that I have a right to scold you. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxi, She scolds the servants from morning till night. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xix. 398 The headman scolded the fellow for his meanness. 1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentl.* xiii. III. 173 She scolded Anne, ..but so softly that Anne fell asleep in the middle of the little lecture.

Scoldable (skōu·ldăb'l), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SCOLD *v.* + -ABLE.] Fit or suitable to be scolded.

1857 MISS MULOCK *Woman's Th.* iii. (1858) 44 A kissable, scoldable, sugar plum-feedable plaything. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 3/2 The small caddie is a defenceless, a scoldable thing.

Scolde, obs. form of SCALD *v.*

Scolder[1] (skōu·ldəɹ). [f. SCOLD *v.* + -ER[1].] One who scolds. Formerly, †a common scold.

1423 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 59 A Cookestowle..to punysche skolders and chidders as þe law wyll. 1497 *Will* in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. 573/2 Provyded that al Vacabonds, Scowldars, and Brawlers be rewarded after the Mind and Discretion, and good Conscience of mine Executors. *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) G iij, Heare not that scolder and brauling hounde of hell. 1595 KATH. OLIVER *Conf.* in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. (1907) I. 273, I have bene a scoulder and a slaunderouse person, and a source of strife amongst my neighbors. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Justif. War Netherl.* 70 A Scoulder and a Taunter is reckoned..with Thieves and Idolaters. 1794 COLERIDGE *Robespierre* I. 183 The cool ferocious Robespierre turn'd scolder! 1875 M. COLLINS *Sweet & Tw.* I. I. vii. 102 Betty Carr was a finer scolder..than you will easily meet with.

Scolder[2] (skōu·ldəɹ). *Orkneys.* Also 8 sceolder. The oyster-catcher, *Hæmatopus ostralegus.*

a 1795 G. LOW *Fauna Orcad.* (1813) 91 The Sea-Pie..Orc. Sceolder. 1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 306 The Sea Pie..in some places here gets the name of the scolder.

Scolding (skōu·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCOLD *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SCOLD; vituperation, angry reproach, reproof.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vij, A scoldyng of kemsteris. 1547 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 92 We presentt Anes Fylldyng for okypying of comyn skowdyng. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 59 He fell to a fresh scolding, in such mannerlie manner, as might well shewe he had passed thro' the discipline of a Tauerne. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 109 And she knew him as wel as I do, she would thinke scolding would doe little good vpon him. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 239 And then they make Religion the pretence for all their scoldings. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 33 Mrs. Clench, as I am informed, was obliged to turn her and her mother out of doors, they kept such an eternal scolding to-gether. 1877 O. W. HOLMES *How not to Settle it* 12 A page of Hood may do a fellow good After a scolding from Carlyle or Ruskin. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 38, I shall give him a good scolding after dinner.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scolding-match*; †**scolding cart** = *scold-cart* (SCOLD *sb.* 1 c); **scolding-stock** *nonce-wd.*, an object for scolding; †**scolding stool,** a cucking stool.

1474 in *Jrnl. Chester Arch.* etc. *Soc.* (1861) VI. 216 Costes doon in makyng of the scooldyng stoole. 1629 in W. Kelly *Anc. Rec. Leicester* (1855) 78 Paid to Frauncis Pallmer for making two wheeles and one barr for the Scolding-Cart ij[s]. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 65 She played on two instruments..; these were two maids, or rather scolding-stocks. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XV. III. 548 Report indeed spoke of some scolding matches between the Chancellor and his friend.

Scolding (skōu·ldiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOLD *v.* + -ING[2].] That scolds.

?1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* B iij, He..calleth them raylynge gestynge and scoldinge wordes. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 95 b, But Molzus..caste in his wife, and saied, Naught heauier than a skoldyng wife, I deme there can be waied. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 100 Her name is Katherina Minola, Renown'd in Padua for her scolding tongue. 1638–56 COWLEY *Davideis* III., note 37 Juvenal says of a loud scolding woman, that she alone was able to relieve the Moon out of an Eclipse. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 324 Think what lives Some of you daily Live with Scolding Wives. 1844 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 298, I have written Jeannie a very scolding letter.

transf. and *fig.* 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 5, I haue seene Tempests, when the scolding Winds Haue riu'd the knottie Oakes. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 84 The gate Half-parted from a weak and scolding hinge, Stuck.

Hence **Sco·ldingly** *adv.*

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Rixose*, scoldynglie.

†**Sco·ldster.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 skolster. [f. SCOLD *sb.* + -STER.] A scold.

c 1600 in A. H. A. Hamilton *Quarter Sessions* (1878) 85 [By the entry in the Sessions Book, it appears that Agnes Pringe was indicted for a] Skolster.

Scole, obs. f. SCALE *sb.*[1]; SCHOOL; SHOAL; SKULL.

Scolear, obs. form of SCHOLAR.

Scolecid (skolē·sid). [ad. mod.L. *Scolecida* neut. pl., f. Gr. σκώληξ SCOLEX: see -ID.] An animal of the class *Scolecida* of *Annuloida.*

1864 HUXLEY *Elem. Comp. Anat.* 76 The ciliated larvæ of some Scolecids and Echinoderms.

Scoleciform (skǫ·lĕ·sifɔ̄ɪm), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scōlēc-*, SCOLEX + -(I)FORM.] Resembling or having the character of a scolex.

1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., The measles of pork is the scoleciform stage of *Tænia solium*.

Scolecite (skǫ·lĭsəit). Formerly skol-, scolezite. [f. Gr. *σκωληκ-*, *σκώληξ* SCOLEX + -ITE[1].

The name in sense 1 was given because the mineral sometimes curls up when heated. The orig. form *scolezite* is f. Ger. *scolezit* (1813, see Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).]

1. *Min.* Hydrous silicate of aluminium and calcium, found in needle-shaped crystals and fibrous or radiated masses.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 40 Skolezite. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Optics* xviii. 61 (U. K. S.) Scolezite resembles natrolite. 1857 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 167 Scolecite resembles natrolite.

2. *Bot.* The vermiform carpogonium of certain fungi.

1875 COOKE & BERKELEY *Fungi* 173 Tulasne observes that this 'scolecite' or ringed body can be readily isolated in Ascobolus furfuraceus. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 310 The adjacent threads put out small branches, pollinodia, the terminal cells of which attach themselves firmly to the anterior part of the scolecite.

†**Scolecobrotic.** *Obs.*[—1] [f. Gr. *σκωληκ(ο)-*, *σκώληξ* SCOLEX + *βρωτικός* inclined to eat. Cf. *σκωληκόβρωτος* worm-eaten.] A vermifuge.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 369 Ascarides [are killed] by suppositories, clysters, with scolecobroticks, &c.

Scolecoid (skǫ·lĭkoid), *a.* Also *erron.* scolicecoid. [ad. Gr. *σκωληκοειδής*, f. *σκωληκ-*, *σκώληξ* worm, SCOLEX : see -OID.] Resembling a worm or a scolex.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Scolecoïdes*, resembling a worm; vermiform: scolecoid. 1864 [see SCOLEX]. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Scolecology (skǫlĭ·kǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *scōlēcologia*, f. Gr. *σκωληκ(ο)-*, *σκώληξ* worm, SCOLEX + *-λογία* -LOGY.] A treatise on worms.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Scolecophagous (skǫlĭkǫ·făgəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scōlēcophagus*, a. Gr. *σκωληκοφάγος* f. *σκωληκ(ο)-*, *σκώληξ* worm (see SCOLEX) + *-φάγος*: see -PHAGOUS.] 'Worm-eating, as a bird' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Scoleir, -er(e, obs. forms of SCHOLAR.

†**Scoleryng.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. *scolere* SCHOLAR.

The sense seems to require a fem. rather than a dim. formation, but it is not easy to explain *-ing* as a fem. suffix, as *carling* (CARLINE[2]), the only example of the fem. ending *-ing*, is purely northern. But Chaucer or his scribe may have been familiar with the Du. and LG. suffix *-in*.]

? A female scholar.

14.. *Chaucer's Wife's Prol.* 44–45 Diverse scoles maken parfyt clerkes..; Of five husbondes scoleryng am I.

‖**Scolex** (skōu·leks). Pl. **scoleces** (skǫlī·sīz), also *erron.* **scolices** (skōu·lisĭz). [mod.L., a. Gr. *σκώληξ* (*pl. σκώληκες*) worm.] The larva or embryo produced directly from the egg in metagenesis; esp. the larva or head of a tapeworm or other parasitic worm.

1855 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) 135 The Scolex, therefore, in this stage of development is synonymous with 'the head', or, as it might as well be called, the 'root' of the worm. 1864 COBBOLD *Entozoa* 265 These thickened portions, in their turn, become true scolices, or, in some cases, scolicecoid formations. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 233 Van Beneden's discovery of proscolices with scolices in all stages of growth in the intestine of the Lumpfish.

attrib. 1857 tr. *von Siebold's Tape & Cystic Worms* (Syd. Soc.) 87 This worm [*bothriocephalus latus*] is never met with amongst our cattle in a scolex condition. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 349 A small scolex-cyst.

†**Scoleye**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also (*v.rr.*) scolay, scoleie, scholey, schole heye, skole-aye. [? a. AF. **escolier*, f. OF. *escole* SCHOOL.] *intr.* To attend school; to study as a scholar.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 302 But al þat he myghte of his freendes hente, On bookes and his lernynge he it spente, And bisily gan for the soules preye Of hem þat yaf hym wher with to scoleye. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 645 þus skilfull lange he scolaid & þe scole vsed. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. IX. (1494) o vj, Calistenes was in his youth put for to scoleye [*MS. Rawl.* scoleie, 1554 scoleye, 1558 scholey] In the two scoles of prudent Socrates And of plato.

Scolezite, obs. form of SCOLECITE.

Scolicecoid, erron. form of SCOLECOID.

Scolier, obs. form of SCHOLAR.

Scoliographic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *σκολιό-γραπτ-os* marked with oblique lines (f. *σκολιό-s* bent, crooked + *γραπτός* marked as with letters, f. *γράφ-ειν* to write, mark) + -IC.] Obliquely marked.

1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 257 All mackerel are nearly similar in form, hue, and the scoliographic markings of their sides and backs.

Scolion (skǫu·liŏn). *Gr. Antiq.* Also **skolion, scolium,** *erron.* **scholion.** [Gr. *σκόλιον*.] A song sung in turn by the guests at a banquet.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* 1257 Terpander was the inventour of those songs called *Scolia*, which were sung at feasts. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. iv. 7 Which Athenæus, proveth against the Calumiations of Demophilus not to be a sacred hymne or Pæan, but a *Scolion* or Festivall Song. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 467 In the following Scolium, Timocreon gives his opinion of riches. 1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 101 The celebrated scolion, or series of scolia, addressed to Harmodius and Aristogiton. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* x. 296, I mean the *Scolia*, when one guest commenced a sentence in verse, and handed a branch to any other he chose, who was compelled to finish the verse in the cleverest way he could.

‖**Scoliosis** (skǫlĭōu·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *σκολίωσις*, f. *σκολι-όs* bent, curved, crooked: see -OSIS.] Lateral curvature of the spine; distinguished from *lordosis* and *cyphosis*. Hence **Scolio·tic** *a.* [see -OTIC], pertaining to scoliosis.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scoliosis.* 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 949/1 The vertebral column misformed by *scoliosis*. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Scoliotic.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Scoliosis Brace*, a brace for treating lateral curvature of the spine. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 555 The arguments centering round the nature of the scoliosis which is so common.

Scolk, Scolker: see SKULK, SKULKER.

Scoll, obs. form of SCHOOL; variant of SKOAL.

Scollage, Scollar: see SCHOOLAGE, SCHOLAR.

†**Scollardicall,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *scollard* (see SCHOLAR 3 c) + -ICAL.] A supposed illiterate epithet for a man of learning.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 69 These peevish Scollardicall Doctors (that will not let people beleive Lies quietly).

Scolle, obs. f. SCHOOL *sb.*[1], SCOLD, SKULL.

Scoller, Scollerie, obs. ff. SCHOLAR, SCULLERY.

Scollop, *sb.*[1] and *v.* : see SCALLOP.

Scollop (skǫ·ləp), *sb.*[2] *Irish.* Also **scolp.** [a. Irish *sgolb*.] A thatch-peg.

1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Early Lessons* (1829) III. 107 The thatcher..fastens them down with bent twigs which he calls scollops. Here is a scollop: you see it is sharpened at both ends that it may stick in the roof. 1873 O'CURRY *Manners Anc. Irish* III. 32 The house..was thatched with straw, rushes, or sedge, and neatly fastened down with what are now Anglicised 'scollops'. 1888 Laws *Little Eng.* 421 [Pembrokeshire word] *Scolps*, thatch pegs.

Scollup, obs. form of SCALLOP *sb.*

‖**Scoloc** (skǫ·lok). *Hist.* Also **scoloch, scolog.** [OIrish *scolóc*, f. *scol* SCHOOL; cf. mod.Irish *scológ*, *scalóg* farmer, rustic, and SCALLAG (though these may be of different origin).] (See quots.)

Cf. Reg. Dunelm. *De Cuthberti Vita* (Surtees), p. 179: Clerici illi..qui Pictorum lingua Scolloſthes cognominantur.

1852 J. ROBERTSON in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. Pref. App. 56 Three offices or grades of a scholastic kind—the Scolocs, the Master of the Schools, and the Ferleiginn—obtained in the ancient Scottish Church. *Ibid.* 59 The Lord Bishop protested..that the heir of every Scolog ('*cujuslibet Scolgi*', '*cuius Scolagij*') should enter to his heritage by inquest and seisin. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (ed. 2) I. 399 Researches through the records show that among the Culdees there was a grade of churchman—the humblest, apparently—who was called the scholar. In the Pictish language, as we are told, he was called Scoloch. 1888 W. LOCKHART *Ch. Scot.* 13*th c.* 122 There had been..a deadly feud between two Scolocs or Scologs (*clerici scholares*).

Scolopaceous (skǫlǫpē·ʃəs), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *scolopācēus*, f. L. *scolopax* snipe, woodcock, a. Gr. *σκολόπαξ* : see -ACEOUS.] Resembling a snipe; *spec.* used as epithet of a species of courlan, *Aramus scolopaceus*. Also = next.

1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* V. 102 Scolopaceous Heron..inhabits Cayenne. 1819 J. F. STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. II. 540 Scolopaceous courlan (*Aramus Scolopacea*). 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxiii. 454 The plumage of others, especially of some of the scolopaceous tribe, is beautifully mottled. 1841 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 9. 254 Of the Scolopaceous family, there are two..residents.

Scolopacine (skǫ·lopăsin), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod. L. *scolopacinus*, f. L. *scolopac-em*, *scolopax*: see prec. and -INE[1].] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the subfamily *Scolopacinæ* or the family *Scolopacidæ*, typified by the genus *Scolopax*, and including the woodcock, redshank, etc. **b.** *sb.* A scolopacine bird. In recent Dicts.

Scolopender (skǫlǫpe·ndəɹ). Also 6–8 scolopendre. [a. F. *scolopendre*, ad. L. *scolopendra*.]

1. = SCOLOPENDRA 2.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 55 The same [leaves of wild mint] ..are dronken..agaynst scolopendres & stynginges of serpentes. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 138 Serpents, Salpeges, Scolopenders. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXV. 553 Mint..is taken in wardly against Scolopenders. 1610 MARCELLINE *Tri. Jas. I* 5 His Squadrons are prepared, and consiste of Furyes, Scolopenders, Stellions, Phalanges, and Philemons, more mad and enraged then those of Orestes. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1045 The great earth Scolopender. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 35 This creature, in its figure, is like the Land Scolopendre. *Ibid.* 37 Having put these Sea Scolopendres upon my fingers, they thrust a great number of their prickles into the skin, and caused a sharp pain for some hours. 1867 *Morn. Star* 29 Jan., The body and tail of a monster scolopender. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* ii. 62 Can the plugs aid in concealing the burrows from scolopenders,..the bitterest enemies of the worms?

†**2.** = SCOLOPENDRA 1. *Obs.*

1658 PHILLIPS, *Scolopender*,..also a certain fish, which having swallowed a hook vomited up its entrails, and rid of it sucketh them in again.

†**3.** = SCOLOPENDRIUM. *Obs.* [Cf. Gr. *σκολόπενδρα* used by Galen for *σκολοπένδριον*.]

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Scolopender*,..Also a certain Medicinal Herb, vulgarly call'd Harts-Tongue, in Latin *Scolopendria*, such as Sea-green, Nightshade, Water Lentils, &c.

‖**Scolopendra** (skǫlǫpe·ndrā). Also 7 *erron.* scolopendria. [L., a. Gr. *σκολόπενδρα*.]

†**1.** A fabulous sea-fish which 'feeling himselfe taken with a hooke, casteth out his bowels, vntill hee hath vnloosed the hooke, and then swalloweth them vp againe' (Bullokar *Eng. Expos.* 1616).

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 23 Bright Scolopendraes, arm'd with siluer scales. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 278 But, if the Scolopendra have suckt-in The sowr-sweet morsell with the barded Pin, She hath as rare a trick to rid her from it: For, instantly, she all her guts doth vomit; [etc.]. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 342 The Scolopendra is a fish..which refuseth not the bait, but [etc.].

2. A centipede or millipede. Also, a Linnean genus of myriapods, including the largest and most formidable of the centipedes.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 31 There are Scolopendraes Vipers, and Slow-wormes in Creete, yet..they are without venome. 1611 COTGR., *Scolopendre*, the Scolopendria, a reddish, many-legd, and venomous worme. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 142 Upon the same ground hath arisen the same mistake concerning the Scolopendra or hundred footed insect. 1673 E. BROWN *Trav. Germ.*, etc. (1677) 17 An Indian Scolopendria, or Forty-foot. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dying* [*Advancement of*], The amber-coloured scolopendra will give, with lye, a most beautiful and pleasant azure. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxiii. 167 We discovered some scolopendras, or centipedes, no less than eight or ten inches in length. 1829 H. MURRAY *N. Amer.* I. xi. 516 Rattlesnakes and scolopendras crawled about. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* v. ii. 265 The Scolopendra are insects belonging to the order Myriopoda and to the family Chilopoda. They are commonly termed Millipedes.

†**3.** Applied in reproach to a woman. *Obs.*

1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* II. ii, More wine, you varlets! And call your mistress up, you scolopendra. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Siege* v. (1673) 83 Go bring a Barrel hither; why? when you Scolopendra.

Scolopendre, obs. form of SCOLOPENDER.

Scolopendria, obs. erron. f. SCOLOPENDRA; obs. f. SCOLOPENDRIUM.

Scolopendriform (skǫlǫpe·ndrifɔ̄ɪm), *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. *Scolopendra* (see SCOLOPENDRA 2) + -(I)FORM.] Resembling a centipede; *spec.* applied to the larvæ of certain water beetles.

1828 KIRBY & SPENCE *Entomol.* XXX. III. 167 [The larva of Gyrinus] appears to be the most perfectly Scolopendriform of any yet known.

Scolopendrine (skǫlǫpe·ndrin), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Scolopendrinæ*, f. *Scolopendra* (the Linnean genus: see SCOLOPENDRA 2) + -INE.] Resembling or related to the centipedes. **Scolopendrine scale-back,** a polychætous marine annelid of the genus *Polynoë*, as *P. scolopendrina*; a kind of sea-centipede.

1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 230 This Scolopendrine Scale-back [*Polynoe scolopendrina*] is four inches in length.

‖**Scolopendrium** (skǫlǫpe·ndriŏm). Also 7–8 scolopendria. [mod.L., ad. L. *scolopendrion* = Gr. *σκολοπένδριον* a hart's-tongue fern, so called from a fancied resemblance to the scolopendra.] A genus of ferns; a fern of this genus; = HART'S-TONGUE.

1611 COTGR., *Scolopendrie vraye*,..called *Vraye*, to make it differ from Harts-tongue, or stone Harts-tongue, which is also (falsly) tearmed *Scolopendria*. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. iii. 439 Scolopendria, Cuscuta, Ceteratche, Mugwort. 1729 in *Dampier's Voy.* (ed. 3) III. 428 The Flat-ring'd Scolopendria. Is black, with yellow Edges on the Rings. 1882 GEIKIE *Geol. Sketches* 9 Not a vestige of vegetation could we see save..some dwarfed scolopendriums.

Scolopendroid (skǫlǫpe·ndroid), *a.* [f. SCOLOPENDRA + -OID.] Resembling a scolopendra.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 548/1 In the Scolopendroid races, the rings are flattened.

Scolopophore (skǫ·lŏpǫfōəɹ). *Ent.* [f. Gr. *σκολοπ-*, *σκόλοψ* spike + -PHORE.] The sheath enclosing the terminal rod of certain cells in insects.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 503.

Scolping, Scolyon, obs. ff. SCULPIN, SCULLION.

Scolytid (skǫ·litid). [ad. mod.L. *Scolytid-æ*, f. *Scolytus*: see next and -ID.] A member of the family *Scolytidæ* of small wood-boring beetles.

1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 295 The work of particular Scolytids can be recognised by the initiated.

Scolytoid (skǫ·litoid), *a. Ent.* [f. mod.L. (Geoffroy, 1762) *Scolyt-us* + -OID.] **a.** Pertaining or resembling the coleopterous family *Scolytidæ*. **b.** *spec.* A term used by C. V. Riley to denote the sixth and final larval stage of insects which undergo hypermetamorphosis.

1883 C. V. RILEY in *Amer. Naturalist* XVII. 790 We would propose, therefore, the following arrangement. Triungulin = first larval stage..Scolytoid = sixth larval stage. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. (Camb. Nat. Hist.) 272 Scolytoid larva.

Scom, obs. form of SCUM *v.*

‖**Scomber** (skǫ·mbəɹ). Pl. **scombri** (skǫ·mbrəi). [L. *scomber*, ad. Gr. *σκόμβρος* tunny or mackerel.] A mackerel. In mod. use only as the L. name of the genus.

1623 J. WEBSTER in *Cockeram* To Author, Thy leaues shall scape the Scombri, and be read. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 217 Oysters of different sorts, cavalhe or scomber, flat fish. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 193 Here, accordingly, the thunny fishery is exclusively carried on, nor was one of these scombers, he says, ever known to visit the opposite shore of Chalcedon.

Scombre, obs. form of SCUMMER.

Scombroid (skǫ·mbroid), *a.* and *sb.* Also (earlier) scomberoid. [f. Gr. *σκόμβρ-ος* SCOMBER + -OID. Cf. F. *scombéroïde* (Cuvier).] **A.** *adj.* Resembling the mackerel; belonging to the family *Scombridæ*.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 462/1 They much more closely resemble the teeth of certain Scomberoid fishes. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 294 The Scombroid genus, *Gastrochisma*.

B. *sb.* A scombroid fish.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Scomberoids*... The name of the family of fishes of which the genus *Scomber* is the type. 1849–52 OWEN *Teeth* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 874/2 As in *Trichiurus*, and some other Scomberoids. 1877 STREETS *Contrib. Nat. Hist. Hawaiian Isl.* 58 The Carangoids and Scombroids.

Scome, Scomer, obs. ff. SCUM, SCUMMER.

Scomfish (skɔ·mfiʃ), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Also 8 sconfice, 8–9 scumfish; *pa. pple.* 4 sconfyste, 8 scunfest. [Shortened f. DISCOMFISH.] *trans.* †**a.** = SCOMFIT *v. Obs.* **b.** To suffocate, stifle, choke (with heat, smoke, a bad smell). Also, to injure, 'do for'. (See E.D.D. s.v. *Scumfish*.)

a. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 67 And as sconfyste stil he stud.

b. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 30 Her stinking breath Was just enough to sconfice ane to death. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Scumfish'd*, smother'd. N. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, A' thing is sae poisoned wi' snuff, that I am like to be scomfished whiles. 1819 — *Montrose* iv, Without scomfishing them with so much smoke. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xviii, I'll scomfish you if ever you go for to tell.

†**Sco·mfit,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4 scoumfyt, sconfit, scomfite, 4–5 scom-, skomfite, 6 skumfite. [f. SCOMFIT *v.*; cf. DISCOMFIT *sb.*] Defeat, discomfiture.

13.. *K. Alis.* 959 Ac the scoumfyt, and the damage, Feol on heom of Cartage. *c* 1320 *Beues* 890 Iosian lai in a castel & se3 þat sconfit euerich del. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6445 (Kölbing) After þis bataile & scumfite. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 129 How youre Same graunde Syre wyth few Pepill Arthure Macmurgho wyth myche pepill to scomfite sette. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 173 At the skumfite gyven upon ONeyle and ODonell at the laste insurreccion.

†**Sco·mfit,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 scum-, scoom-, scoum-, scounfit(e, -fyt, -phit, -fithe, 4–5 skom-, sconfit(e, -fyt, 4–6 scomfit(e, -fyt(e, 5 -fet(t, scum-, scowmfet(e, skunfit, schomfyt. *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4 scumfyghte, scoum-, skoumfit, -fyt, 4–5 scum-, skomfit(e, -fyt(e, -fet, 5 sckonfet, scoumfyght, (scomfede, -fide), 4–6 scomfyt(e; also regularly scomfited, etc. [Shortened f. DISCOMFIT *v.*] *trans.* To defeat, vanquish, discomfit.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4980 þe folk of Isrel had þoght, and syghte, For þey were twyys scumfyghte. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3777 Yiff he scounfithe us in bekyr. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2269 And when þe devel herd hym þus say, Alle skomfit he vanyst oway. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7799 (Gött.) þai er scumphited wid þair fas. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 147 By þat þei wan þo world and scounfitiden þo fende. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3440 He..scomfede his enmyes & droff hem ou3t. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 39 All þinge he scumfetis, all þinge he ouercomys. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 570 So rebukyd and skomfite as he was. *c* 1470 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 20 Kynge Edward was scomfide and put to flight. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* XII. 214 Whan I had scomfyte this serpent venymous. *Ibid.* 226 How..Haue ye scomfyted ..The..dragon. *a* 1513 *Fabyan's Chron.* VII. 324, & gaue to hym batayll, & scoumfyght hym at lengthe. 1530 PALSGR. 706/1, I scomfyte, or I overcome, *je vayncs*...He hath scomfyt all his ennemyes.

Hence † **Scomfit** *ppl. a.* (in quot. *absol.*), †**Scomfiting** *vbl. sb.*

c 1333 in *Minot's Poems* (ed. Hall) App. i. 26 So þere itte was welle semyng, þatte with multitude is no scomfiting. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lii. 738 For it is A ful gret Merveyl to Me, the Conqwerour to þe scomfyt 3olden to be. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 323/2 A scomfetynge, *superacio, triumphus*.

†**Sco·mfiter.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 5 skomfitoure. [Shortened f. *descomfitour* DISCOMFITER.] A discomfiter, victor.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1644 Loke 3e skyfte it so that vs no skathe lympe, ffor na skomfitoure in skoulkery is skomfite euer.

†**Sco·mfiture.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 scomfitour, 5 scom-, skomfiture, -fyture, -fytour, -fertour, scumfetore. [Shortened f. DISCOMFITURE.] Discomfiture, defeat.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 5235 Wel gret it was þe scomfitour. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1561 Skilfulle skomfyture he skiftez as hym lykez. *c* 1450 *Brut* 439 But God was lord and maistir of that victorie and scomfiture. *c* 1471 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 278 When the comens the skomfertour did understonde, Thay seuyd owte freshly, thay kepud none araye. *a* 1513 *Fabyan's Chron. N.* CXI. 84 He made a newe voyage ageyne theym, & made of theym a nother scomfiture.

†**Scomm.** *Obs.* Also 7 scomme, scom. [ad. L. *scōmma* (Macrobius), a. Gr. *σκῶμμα* (*σκωμματ-*), f. *σκώπ-τειν* to jeer, scoff.] A flout or scoff.

The sense 'a buffoon', by which J. explains a mutilated version of quot. 1692, is recorded in all subsequent Dicts.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. i. § 8 (1622) 189 Whose vaine ostentation is worthily scoffed with scomme of the Orator. 1628 W. SCLATER *Three Serm.* (1629) 6 Enough of this, least I incurre the prouerbiall scomme; *Sus Mineruam*. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccx. 386 The Scomms of Great Men, or Buffoons of Quality, are every jot as Wolvish in Conversation, as they are here in the Fable. 1711 PUCKLE *Club* (1723) 8 Scomms and derision unbridle fear, and make the peasant brave the prince.

Hence †**Scomma·tic** [Gr. *σκωμματικ-ός*], †**Scomma·tical** *adjs.*, characterized by gibe or scoff. †**Scomma·tically** *adv.* †**Sco·mmatism,** scoffing. †**Sco·mmatizing** *ppl. a.*, derisive.

1602 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 88 This imputation scommaticall of faithlesse fidelitie. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Counter-sn. Ishmael Rabshacheh* 8 Those vniust Cauills and scomatizing imputations. 1650 HOBBES *Answ. Davenant* P 3 From hence have proceeded three sorts of Poesy, Heroique, Scommatique, and Pastorall...The Heroique Poem Dramatique is Tragedy. The Scommatique Narrative is Satyre. 1656 — *Six Lessons* vi. 55 Whatsoever is added of contumely, either directly or scommatically, is want of Charity and uncivil. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xviii. 67 As he that has been casting his angle a good part of the day into the river, and brings home no fish, may yet be rightly saluted *Mr. Fisherman* or *Mr. Angler* at his return, though not without some kind of Scommatism at the bottom. *Ibid.*, By way of Scommatical reproach. 1668 E. HOWARD *Usurper* Epist. A 3, The other extream..is that of Farce or Scommatick Plays. 1671 SHADWELL *Miser* I. (1672) 6, I know as well as you that I depend (*Scommatically*) upon a Father.

Scommar, Scomme, obs. ff. SCUMMER, SCUM.

Scommer, scomor, -our, -ur, obs. ff. SCUMMER.

Scon, variant of SCONE.

Sconce (skǫns), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–6 skonse, 5–6 skonce, scons(e, (5 sconsce, 7 skons, 8 *dial.* scoance), 5– sconce. [Aphetic a. OF. *esconse* lantern (also hiding-place), ad. monastic L. *sconsa*, shortened f. *absconsa*, fem. of L. *absconsus*, pa. pple. of *abscondĕre* to hide. Cf. OIcel. *skons*, ?lantern, candlestick (1397 in a church inventory).]

†**1.** A lantern or candlestick with a screen to protect the light from the wind, and a handle to carry it by (as distinguished from a lantern carried suspended from a chain). *Obs.*

c 1392 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 129 Pro reparacione de iij skonses fractis in vestiario, 12*d*. 14.. *S. Etheldred* 351 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 290 And in a sconsce he hadde hurre candelle with hurre lyȝt. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 102, Y bequethe..to..sir Iohn Russhebrok a skonce. 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 11 It wexyth derke, thou nedyst A scons. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij b, Clymbe to her with a sconce or a lanterne that hath bot oon light. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scons to sette a candell in, *lanterne a mayn*. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt* IV. iii, *Wood.* Yonder's a light, Master Constable. *Blu.* Peace, Woodcocke, the sconce approaches. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Nov., The windows of the whole city were set with tapers put into lanterns, or sconces, of several coloured oiled paper. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1787) 10 It begun t' be dark, on I'r beawt Scoance in a strawnge Country. *transf.* and *fig.* 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 445/1 Tindal..hydeth himself in the darkenesse of the deuill, walking with a sconse of a dimme light, to make men wene he would shewe them the way. 1747 HERVEY *Medit.* II. 85 The moon is of signal service..to the Mariner..to explore his way and under the influence of this beaming Sconce, to avoid the fatal rock.

b. A flat candlestick with a handle for carrying.

1834 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* Ser. II. 190 Put a candle in the tin sconce. 1858 MRS. OLIPHANT *Laird of Norlaw* I. v. 55 Taking the candle..she stood with the little flat brass sconce in her hand. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Slang, Sconce* (public schools), a tin candlestick.

2. A bracket-candlestick, usually of brass or iron, to fasten against a wall; esp. an ornamental bracket for holding one or more candles, often fitted with a mirror. Also, a candle-bracket for a piano, etc.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 363 The mynyster of hyghe masse schal..lyght the quyer sconses..as ofte as nede is. 1509–10 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 270 Paid for iij plattes with nosis for þe skonsis iij*d*. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Jan., Seeing how my pewter sconces that I have bought will become my stayres and entry. 1685 DRYDEN tr. *Lucretius* II. 28 If Golden Sconces hang not on the Walls, To light the costly Suppers and the Balls. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 381/2 The forms..of these..Sconces, are numberless; some having them with Faces, others with Birds, Beasts, Fish, Trees and Flowers; some with round or oval imbossed works. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 4 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 310 Mr. Thomas Cherry was buried on Wednesday... The Rooms were very handsomely set out w^th^ black sconces &c. proper for such occasions. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* i. (1751) 22 You may likewise stick the Candle so loose, that it will fall upon the Glass of the Sconce, and break it into Shatters. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sconce*, a pensile candlestick, generally with a looking-glass to reflect the light. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, The dark colour..was relieved by the number of lights in silver sconces, which hung against the walls. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 41 This strange scene was lighted up by candles in high and heavy brass sconces. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. iv, Wax candles, arranged upon the walls on sconces. 1908–9 *Civil Service Supply Assoc. Catal.* 1212 Piano Candle Sconces. *Ibid.* 1241 Adjustable shaving stand..with..Sconces and best mirror.

3. A street-lamp or lantern attached to a wall.

Only in descriptions of Continental life.

1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, A sconce was lighted on the side of the nunnery. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 176 The oil wicks were lighted in the iron sconces of the streets.

4. The tube in an ordinary candlestick in which the candle is inserted. 1850 in OGILVIE.

5. *attrib.*, as *sconce candlestick, light, maker.*

1455 in Anstey *Munim. Acad.* (Rolls) II. 664, j. *scons candelstik of latone. 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 427 *Skonce light. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 *Sconsmaker, *lanternier*. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 381/2, S. the like O. with a Candle burning in the Socket proper, is the Badge of the Sconce-makers.

Sconce (skǫns), *sb.*² *arch.* Also 6–7 sconse, skonce. [Of obscure origin; possibly a slang use of SCONCE *sb.*¹ or of SCONCE *sb.*³ (though in our quots. recorded earlier than the latter).] A jocular term for: The head; esp. the crown or top of the head; hence, 'head', ability, sense, wit. †Also put for the person himself.

1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 105 A curled Sconce he hath, with angrie frowning browe. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 94 b, Bartlet a pleasant sconse, whose mirthe all men did muche delight. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 47 Master B. found Socrates in my Letter, and sent to seeke out your well reputed skonce to expound it. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Contents* C 2 b, The Princock..that can play vpon his warped sconce, as vpon a tabor. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 64 Much learning..hath crackt their skonces. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* 25 How many are there ..who have such a Fee simple in their sconse, as to take a Leas of their own Lands from another? 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 20 Who swears &c., swears more oaths at once Than Cerberus out of his triple Sconce. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 15 Sept., He..running into the house, exposed his back and sconce to the whole family. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. viii. (1849) 370 As he stooped..Peter Stuyvesant dealt him a thwack over the sconce. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 915/2 To put it [the sum] up to twelve dollars..if she..showed any sconce for the business. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life in Tigerland* 197 He had received a crack on the sconce.

Sconce (skǫns), *sb.*³ Forms: *α.* 6–7 skonce, sconse, (7 sconch), 6– sconce. *β.* 6 scance, skance, 7 skants, scans. [a. Du. *schans* (in early mod.Du. also written *schantze, schentze*), with assimilation of form to SCONCE *sb.*¹ and *sb.*²

The word (of which the synonymous early mod. Du. *schranse, schrantze*, seems to be a variant) is found also in late MHG. and mod.G. *schanze* fem.; in the 16th c. it had in Du. the senses 'brushwood', 'bundle of sticks', 'screen of brushwood for soldiers', 'earthwork made with gabions' (cf. Du. *schanskorf* gabion). The ultimate origin is obscure; the late appearance of the word in Teut. would suggest the probability of some Romanic source, but neither form nor sense supports the hypothesis of adoption from OF. *esconse* hiding-place (cf. SCONCE *sb.*¹) which app. does not occur in any military application.]

1. *Fortif.* A small fort or earthwork; esp. one built to defend a ford, pass, castle-gate, etc., or erected as a counter-fort.

α. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* 54 To make Plattes, and set downe the proportion of anye Sconces, Fortes, Bulwarkes, or Townes. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 178/2 in *Holinshed*, Caluerleigh..went vnto that end of the towne where the seneschall scaled the wals, & there he made a sconse, or a little bulworke, and..saued the towne. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 76 They will learne you by rote where Seruices were done; at such and such a place, at such a Breach. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. § 39. 630/1 And raising the rampier to a great thicknes whereon he erected many sconces of earth like vnto Castles. 1639 R. NORWOOD *Fortif.* 134 Of small Forts or Field Skonces, and marking them out Mechanically, and first of a Skonce of foure sides. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 11 Neither is there any of the least Sconces or Blockhouses, on the shore-side of that Countrey [Hampshire]. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Siege* (1673) 67 The Outworks are made perfect, and our River Guarded by a Sconce. 1673 SIR J. MOORE *Mod. Fortif.* 94 Of small Forts or Skonces, which are built for Defence of some Pass, River, or other place. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xiii. 147 The Citizens built Sconces in convenient Places, about half a Mile without the Wall, to protect the Suburbs. 1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 288 They had raised two sconces or breast-works over against two fords passable at low water. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, [He] was shot at the head of his regiment at the taking of a sconce near Maestricht. 1849 [J. GRANT] *Mem. Kirkaldy* xxi. 246 The Earl of Morton and his troops..threw up a battery on the southern part of Calton Hill..This sconce they hoped would command the Canongate.

β. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 141 To carrie victuals or munition..to a distressed Scance. *Ibid.* Gloss. 252 *Skance*, a Dutch word: and is a small fortresse built of turffe and earth, commonly vsed in the low countries. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 115 To the end it might be, as a warlike and defensive fortresse for themselves, so a strong skants, and offensive to the Assyrians. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1017/1 They had beaten the Indians from a certain Scans, on the foresaid Promontory of Land.

†**b.** *fig.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 37 And you vse these blows long, I must get a sconce for my head, and Insconce it to. *c* 1592 BACON *Conf. Pleasure* (1870) 23 It is her goverm^t^ and her gverm^t^ alone that hath (bene y^e^) sconse and forte of all Europe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 337 Honour is but a puffe..Health but a sconce of paper. 1615 T. ADAMS *Blacke Deuill* 55 If he loose the sconce of the understanding, yet give him the citadell of the affections. 1633 — *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 6 All sins break in at the loss of the sconce, or capitol, reason. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xxii, Look to thy mouth: diseases enter there. Thou hast two sconses, if thy stomach call; Carve, or discourse. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 6 To authorise an untruth..is to build a Sconce against the walls of heaven. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 148 This was one of the best bulwarks and sconces of Soveraignty. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 166, I spend too much time to pull down a Sconce of Sand. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* III. 221 Great Ajax, Who of the Argives is the Sconce [ἄρκος Ἀχαιῶν]. 1721 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 198 Flanders was..to be garrisoned, to the end that it might be a sconce between them and France.

c. slang. † *To build a sconce* (see quot. 1730).

1640 NABBES *Bride* III. i, By battering downe with th engine of their purse Some sconch your drunken valour in a taverne Hath built with sack. 1641 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* 23 These have beene Men in their time,..but now their fortunes falling to an ebbe,..they are enforced..to erect a Sconce whereto the Roarers make recourse, as to their

Rendevous. 1649 DK. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* I. i. 7 *Vnd.* Hee shall read warrs to me and fortification. *Tho.* For a needle I could teach you to build a sconce Sir. 1687 [see *sconce-building* in 5]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *To build a large Sconce*, to run deep upon Tick, or Trust. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* III. Wks. 1730 II. 282 A lieutenant and ensign whom once I admitted upon trust, ..built a sconce, and left me in the lurch. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *To build a Sconce*, to run a Score at an Ale-house, Tavern, &c. so as to be afraid to go there, for fear of being dunn'd. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) I. 174 Cribbing from the till, and building sconces, and such-like tricks. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* viii. Wks. (Globe) 307/2 He ran into debt with everybody that would trust him, and none could build a sconce better than he.

2. *transf.* A protective screen or shelter (from fire or the elements).

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* R 3, We ar no more bot as stubble is to the fyre, so ar we in the presence of God, who is a consuming fyre, except we haue a sconce, except wee haue Christ Iesus to gang betuixt vs and him. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* v. I 3 b, I am..a rascal: one that vpon the next anger of your brother, must raise a sconce by the high way, and sel switches. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 454 He would make small Sconces or Tabernacles upon the top of the Hill. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 449/1 Some call it [*sc.* an Umbrella] a Skonce, which Gentlewomen ..beare up..to keep and shadow them from heat. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* II. xiv. 348 The fervent Heat of the Sun made some kind of Sconce or other necessary at the Games.

3. *dial.* **a.** A screen, partition.

1695 KENNETT *Paroch. Antiq.* s.v. *Helowe-wall, Hollen* in the North is a wall..to secure the family from the blasts of wind rushing in when the *heck* or door is open: to which wall on that side next the hearth is annext a sconce or screne of wood or stone. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Wds.* (ed. 2), *Sconce*, ..a short partition near the fire upon which all the bright utensils in a cottage are suspended. 1863 J. C. ATKINSON *Danby Gloss.*, *Sconce*, a screen..lined with some reflecting metal, which is set before the fire when a joint is roasting. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sconce*, a screen or partition.

b. (See quots.) [Perhaps a different word.]

1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Sconce*, a fixed seat by the side of a fire place. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Wds.* (ed. 2), *Sconce*, a seat at one side of the fire-place in the old large open chimney. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of Crime* vi, She cleared the sconce and took down the flitches that hung from the rannel tree to dry. 1886 ALICE REA *Beckside Boggle* 4 A long freestone slab, or sconce, as dale folk call it, firmly fixed into the wall by the fireplace, which must have made a comfortable fireside couch in olden times.

4. (Also *sconce-piece.*) A low water-washed iceberg (see quot. 1856).

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. vii. 72 Just then, a broad sconce-piece or low water-washed berg came driving up...As the sconce moved rapidly close alongside us, McGary managed to plant an anchor on its slope. 1889 R. COLLINSON *Jrnl. H. M. S. Enterprise* 294 We..were..unable to see our way among the sconces, and..I hove-to for daylight.

5. *Comb.*: **sconce-battle**, a particular mode of drawing up troops in the field; † **sconce-building** *a.*, that 'builds a sconce' (see 1 b); † **sconce-korf** [Du. *schans-korf*], a gabion.

1635 W. BARRIFFE *Mil. Discipl.* xcv. (1643) 273 The *Sconce Battell is a Figure most properly fit for a whole Regiment. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 Thou huffing, puffing, *sconce-building ruffian. 1629 tr. *Pelegromius' Shertogenbosh* 41 Our Land-souldiers..did set on fire some *Sconce-kornes [? *read* -korues = -korves].

Sconce (skɒns), *sb.*[4] [f. SCONCE *v.*[2]]

1. At Oxford (? formerly also at Cambridge): † **a.** A fine imposed for a breach of university or college discipline (*obs.*). **b.** A fine of a tankard of ale or the like, imposed by undergraduates on one of their number for some breach of customary rule when dining in hall.

1650 in Rashdall & Rait *New College* (1901) 176 Taking off the sconce [*misprinted* scoure] which, for their absence from prayers, was laid upon them by the said Warden. 1653 in *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1874) 456/1 In the case of neglect thereof they shall be punished by sconce, or imposed exercises, as to the officers of the said Colleges.. shall seeme meete. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 521 Upon the hearing of one of Sir Hen. Savile's mathematic lectures by accident, or rather to save the sconce of a groat, if he had been absent. 1707 in Hearne *Collect.* 23 Dec. (O.H.S.) II. 83 The Dean put y[e] usual Sconce for missing Prayers upon his Name. 1763 COLMAN *Terræ-Filius* No. 1 P 10 If I fine them for their Irregularities, it shall be in a much more moderate Sum than Forty Shillings, or any other Sconce imposed by the Proctors. 1885 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XII. 523/2 When I was at Oriel,..sconces were the fines..inflicted in the 'gate-bill'...Sconces, as fines for offences in hall *contra bonos mores*, were in vogue in other colleges but not with us.

attrib. 1885 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XII. 449/1 The sconce-tankards held about two quarts.

† **2.** In extended application: A mulct, fine (exacted, e. g. from a member of a society, from a servant). *Obs.*

1683 BARNARD *Life Heylin* 112 The exacting of Sconses or perdition mony, which he [as Treasurer of Westminster] divided among them that best deserved it. 1703 *MS. Bk. of Receipts Ashm. Museum* 2 b, Gilacholuim's sconces or Forfeits out of his wages, Beginning Oct. 22, 1703.

† **Sconce,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. SCONCE *sb.*[3] Cf. Du. (*be*)*schansen.*]

1. *trans.* To fortify, entrench; in later use, to shelter, protect. *To sconce away* Sc., to ward off.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. 153/2 They set vppon the towne of Ioor, that was sconsed [orig. *beschanst*] and compassed about with woodden stakes. 1620 BRATHWAIT *Five Senses* 75 Long time, therefore, haue I resolued to sconce my selfe betwixt these two. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* XIV. (1626) 282 A little Bay, by Scylla haunted, lies.. sconst from the Seas and skies Distemper. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 208 A screen to sconce and shelter us from consuming fire. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 65 He's pretty well sconc'd against Bullets. *c* 1715 RAMSAY *Vision* iii, To..skonce my skap and shanks frae rain. 1746 D. GRAHAM *Hist. Rebell.* x. Writ. 1883 I. 178 Confin'd into a stinking stye, And 'bove his head two hydes of kye, To skonce away the sooty rain.

2. [? By etymological association with F. *esconser* (Cotgr.).] To hide, screen from view.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* 122 With so close and secret a minde did he harbour in his heart, that new love,..remotely skonsing it from the knowledge of all men. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Religious Stoic* xiii. (1685) 146 As if a thicket of trees could have sconced him from his all-seeing Maker.

Sconce (skɒns), *v.*[2] [Of obscure origin. As a term of University slang, it may have arisen from some far-fetched reference to SCONCE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], or *sb.*[3] Our first two quots. refer it to SCONCE *sb.*[2]; so app. also quot. 1641 in sense 2.]

1. *trans.* At Oxford (? formerly also at Cambridge): To fine, mulct; often with the penalty as second object. Formerly said of university and college officials, with reference to fines inflicted for breaches of discipline. Now only of undergraduates when dining in hall: To fine (one of their number) a tankard of ale or the like, as a penalty for some breach of good manners or conventional usage.

1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* s.v., Wherevpon comes the terme in Oxeford to sconce one, Lat. *Mulctare pecunia*, i. to set vp so much in the butterie booke vpon his head to pay for his punishment. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* IV. ii, I have had a head in most of the butteries of Cambridge, and it has been sconced to purpose. 1687 *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O.H.S.) 224 The said persons entering the Buttery, and taking out their crosses, M[r]. Charnock thereupon sconced the Butler ten shillings each. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* II The poorest Freshman in the University would be sconced for half so great a blunder. 1688 WOOD *Life* Apr. (O.H.S.) III. 265 The vicechancellor told him the Coll. was to be sconced: Charnock said he had provided a preacher. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 238 D[r] Mill..saying..that no Master of Arts in the Hall should for y[e] future have any Privilege of sconsing or otherwise punishing the Servants in the Hall. 1707 *Ibid.* II. 9 Yesterday the Vice-Chaunc. scons'd all that were without their Hoods at S[t] Marie's. 1728 JOHNSON in J. Hawkins *Life* (1787) 9 [He said to Jordan] Sir you have sconced me two-pence for non-attendance at a lecture not worth a penny. 1821 *Etonian* II. 391 Hall dinner. Was sconced in a quart of ale for quoting Latin. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* III. xi, There was a shout of indignation and he [the punster] was sconced by the unanimous vote of the company.

2. In extended application (cf. SCONCE *sb.* 2).

1641 MILTON *Ch. Discipl.* II. 85 We must of duty still appear before them once a year..to be taxt by the poul, to be scons't our head money..in their Chaunlerly Shop-book of Easter. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 57 P 7 [The toast-master of a drinking society] punishes an offender by sconcing him a bumper. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xi. 107 A theft committed on any one of these three [Rogation] days, was, by Alfred's laws, sconced in a two-fold 'bot' or fine. 1869 GLADSTONE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 18 June, This superstition..by which every officer..who only had the good fortune to tie himself to the tail of some Judge,..had built up around him this sanctity of tenure, by which the public had been sconced generation after generation. 1892 SYMONDS *Life in Swiss Highl.* xvi. 346 He who comes last is sconced three litres of Veltliner for the company. 1901 *Speaker* 27 Apr. 99/1 Why should a small village public-house be sconced five or six times as much as one of the great gin-palaces. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* IV. ii. I. 471 A new minister, who ..did not shrink from sconcing the powerful landed phalanx like other people.

† **b.** *To sconce off*: to take off, rebate. *Obs.*

1768 FOOTE *Devil* II. Wks. 1799 II. 260 The widow..paid my bill..without sconcing off sixpence.

Hence **Sco·ncing** *vbl. sb.* (Also *attrib.*)

1695 KENNETT *Paroch. Antiq.* App. 688 Neither are any polling Officers to draw fees and sconcing money to enrich themselves. 1885 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XII. 448/2 Sconcing was a privilege possessed by the senior scholar or commoner dining in hall of fining any delinquent.

Sconce, *v.*[3] *nonce-wd.* Aphetic form of ENSCONCE *v.*

1841 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, All, save Privy-purse Humez, Who sconced in his room is.

Sconce, dial. form of SCOUNCH.

Sconcer[1] (skɒ·nsəɹ). *north.* [f. SCONCE *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] ? = SCONCE *sb.*[1] 1.

1731 *Inv. G. Bamforth, Sheffield*, A large glass, six sconcers.

Sconcer[2] (skɒ·nsəɹ). [? f. SCONCE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A malingerer.

1843 G. HECTOR *Feigned Dis.* 43 One was pronounced by the surgeon an imposter, the other was admitted. It is probable he had received a hint that one of them was a sconcer.

Sconch, Soncheon, obs. forms of SCONCE *sb.*[3], SCUNCHEON.

Scond(e, obs. forms of SHAND, shame.

Scone (skōun, skɒn). Orig. *Sc.* Also 6–9 **scon, skon,** (8 **sconn**). [Perh. a shortened adoption of MDu. *schoonbrot*, MLG. *schonbrot* 'fine bread'.

The LG. word is explained in the Bremen glossary (1771) as a sort of white loaf with two acute and two obtuse angles, and the similar *schönroggen* ('fine rye') in the Hamburg dialect denoted 'a seed-cake with three rounded corners'. (See Grimm's *Deutsches Wb.* s.v. *Schön.*) From the latter word are MSw. *skanroggä*, MDa. *skonroggen*, Icel. *skonrok* 'a biscuit' (Vigf.).]

1. A large round cake made of wheat or barley-meal baked on a griddle; one of the four quadrant-shaped pieces into which such a cake is often cut, or a cake of this shape separately baked. Also with defining words, denoting varieties of this cake, as *butter, potato, soda, treacle scone*; **brown scone,** one made of whole meal; **drop, dropped scone,** one made of a small portion of batter dropped on the griddle or on a tin and baked; **fried scone,** one in which the ingredients are made into a batter and fried; **sweetie scone** *Sc.* (see quot. 1808).

The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* has an 18th c. quot. for 'three nucket scons' (three-cornered scones). The context of quot. 1513 below shows that a four-cornered cake was meant.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 15 The flour sconnis war sett in, by and by, Wyth wther mesis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 Thai hed na breyd bot ry caikis and fustean skonnis maid of flour. 1744 in *Scottish Jrnl. Topogr.* (1848) I. 334/2, 3 Pyes and Bread and a Currand Scone. 1787 BURNS *Scotch Drink* iv, On thee [*sc.* John Barleycorn] aft Scotland chows her cood, In souple scones, the wale o' food! 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Yule* §4 What the vulgar call a sweetie-skon, or a loaf enriched with raisins, currants, and spiceries. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXVI, Never had there been such..making of carcakes and sweet scones. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* XX, We lay on the bare top of a rock, like scones upon a girdle.

2. (More fully *scone cap.*) 'The old broad bonnet of the Lowlands' (Jam.).

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 322 From the shepherd's shealing ..to the pillared palace..—from the scone cap, to the jewelled bonnet. 1826 G. R. GLEIG *Subaltern* XVII, The Lowland bonnet, or scone.

Sconfice, obs. form of SCOMFISH *v. dial.*

Sconn, obs. f. SCONE. **Sconner,** var. SCUNNER.

Sconscyence, rare obs. form of CONSCIENCE.

Scontion, variant of SCUNCHEON.

† **Sco·ntre,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. ad. It. *scontrare*. Cf. RESCOUNTER *v.*] *intr.* = ENCOUNTER I b.

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 515 It is raported that Barbarossa is going to Alger with 10 or 12 galeis, and that thImperial galeis are departid to scontre with him.

Scoochion, obs. form of SCUTCHEON.

Scool(e, Scoolde, obs. ff. SCHOOL, SCOLD *v.*

Scoomfit(e, -phit, etc., obs. ff. SCOMFIT *v.*

Scoomme, obs. form of SCUM.

Scoop (skūp, *locally* skōup), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 **scope,** *Sc.* and *north.* **skowp,** 5 **scowpe,** 6 **skop(e, scoupe, skoupe,** *Sc.* **skwpe, skupe,** *north.* **skoppe,** 6–7 **scoope,** 7 **skoope, scowp,** 7– **scoop.** [App. of twofold origin (which is reflected in the diversity of pronunciation): (1) a. MLG. *schôpe* fem. (whence prob. MSw. *skôpa*) or MDu. *schôpe, schoepe* (mod. Du. *schoep*) vessel for drawing or bailing out water, bucket of a water-wheel, corn-scoop = MHG. *schuofe* (early mod.G. *schufe*, mod.HG. dial. *schuffe*) :—WGer. **skōpōn-*, f. **skōp-* ablaut-var. of **skap-*, root of **skappjan* to draw water (OS. *sceppian*, LG., Du. *scheppen*, OHG. *scephan*, MHG. *schepfen*, mod.G. *schöpfen*); (2) MDu. *schoppe* fem. (mod.Du. *schop*) = MLG. *schuppe* shovel (whence mod.G. *schüppe*) :—OTeut. type **skuppōn-*, prob. repr. an older **skuβnō-*, f. root **skuβ-* : **skeuβ-* : see SHOVE *v.*

The two words, though etymologically quite distinct, have, owing to their close resemblance in form and sense, been to some extent confused in continental Teut. The senses of both are represented in the Fr. adoption *écope* (*c* 1413 *escope*, mod. dial. *escope, escoupe, écoupe*) vessel or ladle for bailing out water, large shovel, skimming-dish. It is possible that the word may have come into Eng. through Fr.; but the Fr. word is first found nearly a century later than the Eng., and as the term was in nautical use immediate adoption from Du. or LG. is not improbable.]

1. A utensil for bailing out, ladling or skimming liquids; usually in the form of a ladle or a concave shovel with a straight handle. Now chiefly *Naut.* and *dial.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8168 Folk..þat þe water wiþ scopes vp drowe. *c* 1362 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 566 In emendacione unius scope pro aqua evacuanda in quarera, ij d. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* x. 65 A scope is deep & hool to resceyue watyr. 1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* IV. 454 Item, for vj greit skowpis for the greit schip to cast the watter, iij s. 1594 in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 133 Item one mashefatt,..iij sooes and ij scopes. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. li. 546 Be furnished of..scoopes of iron, to draw and emptie out the oiles. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 96 The long crooked scoop with which Dutch Mariners throw up water to wet their sails. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Coal*, Water..is dash'd on with a great Dish or Scoop. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Scoop*, a little hollowed piece of wood, employed to throw water out of a boat. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 417 The scoop best adapted to this purpose [*i. e.* lifting liquid manure] is a small wooden pitcher,..the helve passing through its sides in an oblique direction. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Scoop*, a long spoon-shaped piece of wood to throw water, when washing a ship's sides in the morning. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Scope*, a bowl with a straight wooden handle fixed to it. Used for baling or skimming...In salt making a scope is a wooden bowl used for skimming the scum from brine.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* I. 2 Watyrs of cursyng..muste be cast out of 3oure pytt with a scope of penaunce. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 3 They had neede be large long Spoons

(say you) if I come to feed with such whipsters. Let me alone, for my actiuity, at the dish meat, and a long arme, though my scoope be the shorter. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, Some men kneeled down, and made scoops of their two hands joined, and sipped.

c. The bucket of a water-wheel or of a dredging or draining machine. [So Du. *schoep.*]

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Alcadux*, the scoope in a water wheele. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scoop* (Hydraulic Engineering), the bucket of a dredging-machine. 1888 W. H. WHEELER *Drainage Fens* v. 73 The scoops beat or lift the water from the lower to the upper side.

d. Applied to a mechanical contrivance for drawing water.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Bascule à tirer l'eau* ..a scoupe to drawe water out of a shallow well. 1851–4 *Cycl. Useful Arts* (ed. Tomlinson 1867) I. 516/2 Mr. W. Fairbairn..has contrived a new form of scoop or alternating trough [for drainage purposes].

2. A kind of shovel (varying greatly in size and shape according to its special purpose), used for dipping out or shovelling up and carrying materials of a loose nature; usually an implement of iron, tin, etc. with a short handle and a broad, concave, or curved blade, the part of which next the handle is often covered over to form a receptacle for the material scooped up.

1487 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 63 Shovills..iij dd j, Scopis..j. 1495 *Ibid.* 203 Skoopes for pitche. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 478 His accusations..are thrown together in an heape with full skoupes. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1070 Brewers use to keep their Barly..laid about a foot in depth, and so turned over now and then with Scoops. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 549 The charge of coals is most conveniently introduced [into the gas retort] in a tray of sheet iron, made somewhat like a grocer's scoop. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 284 A couple of wooden scoops, ..to shovel up the corn in heaps, are useful implements in a corn-barn. 1851–4 *Cycl. Useful Arts* (ed. Tomlinson 1867) I. 739/2 [Gas-making.] Each retort is recharged by means of a long curved tray of sheet-iron,..called a scoop. 1906 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 6 Huge canvas scoops were used to shovel the dried hops into..heaps.

† **b.** A gunner's ladle = LADLE *sb.* 2 a. *Obs.*

1525 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* V. 258 Skupis for the artalȝere. 1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1092 The Gunners in charging her, wet not at all the scoop, or spunge.

3. An instrument with a spoon-shaped or gouge-shaped blade, used for cutting out a piece from some soft material, or for removing a core or an embedded substance. **a.** Applied to various small utensils in domestic use: chiefly short for *apple-scoop, cheese-scoop, potato-scoop*, for which see the first element.

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiv. 134 With a small Scoope very carefully take off the Eye [of the Codling] as whole as you can, and scoope out the Core. 1774 MRS. DELANY *Lett.* Ser. II. II. 81, I have not been able to get your silver scoop yet...I could not wait for it, as I thought you might want the fruit. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 612 The eye or root-bud of the potatoe..is usually cut out of it by a scoop..to the thickness of about half a crown.

b. A similar instrument for surgical purposes.

1739 SHARP *Surg.* xviii. 86 It is much safer to..lay hold of it [the Stone] with the Forceps, than endeavour with the Scoop..to force it outwards. 1895 *Arnold & Son's Catal. Surg. Instruments* Index, Acne, aural, gallstone, lithotomy, lupus scoops [etc.].

c. (See quot.)

1862 PIESSE *Perfumery* (ed. 3) 254 Balls are cut by hand, with the aid of a little tool called a 'scoop', made of brass or ivory, being, in fact, a ring-shaped knife.

d. Applied to certain tools used in excavation of soil; hence, the quantity of earth taken up at once by a scoop. †Also in *Gardening*, a hollow trowel.

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. vi. 254 The Displanting Scoop is made use of to take up some Sorts of Plants with the Earth about them. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 503 The scoop..is then employed to cut under the last narrow spit. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 238 Now take a navigator's scoop, that will measure three and a half inches from edge to edge, taking straight across the front or hollow side. With this instrument commence digging another ditch...After the first few scoops have been taken out of the lower ditch..the covering in should commence. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mech.* § 1100 The bottom [of a drain] being made smooth and level by means of the scoop.

†**4.** A kind of basket. Cf. SKEP, and MDu. *schoepe* winnowing-basket (= FAN *sb.*1 1 a). *Obs.*

1546 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 174 A thirde q^r. a scope of Olyves cost vj^d. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 103 To take the same bushell or scopp that wee measured the corne in. 1673 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1883) III. 204 They let him down in a scoop or basket.

5. A variety of coal-box, somewhat resembling a flour-scoop in shape; short for *coal-scoop*.

1850 in OGILVIE; and in later Dicts.

6. Short for *scoop-net*.

1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xiv. (1869) 513 The fish nets.. are of two kinds, the scoop and the seine.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scoop-load, -spade, -tool*; *scoop-like, -shaped* adjs.; **scoop driver** (see quot.); **scoop wheel** [cf. 1 c], a wheel driven by wind or steam for lifting water.

1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.* s. v., The *scoop driver.. guides the scoop into the [gas] retort, turns it over, and then brings it back again for filling. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* III. v. 240 A *Scoup-like Instrument. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 64 A scoop-like net for catching small fish. 1841 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Oct. 233 A *scoop load may be taken at one tenth of a cubic yard. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 302 The buckets..are..*scoop-shaped. *Ibid.* I. 601 Any loose soil..should be..taken out by a *scoop spade. 1800 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVIII. 153 An iron-edged *scoop-tool. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 90/1, I have always used *scoop-wheels, the float-boards of which dip 5 feet below the water's surface.

Scoop (skūp), *sb.*2 [f. SCOOP *v.*]

1. The action or an act of scooping.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 910 Excavated grots..yawning wide From Nature's structure, or the scoop of Time. 1851 W. BOLLAND *Cricket Notes* 13 That runs were obtained more readily..by off hitting than by the old scoop to leg. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 396 He makes wild scoops at the fighting fish.

2. *concr.* A place scooped or hollowed out; also, a natural concavity or hollow resembling this; *rarely*, an artificial basin for water. Also *scoop-out*.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 289 He felt the delicious contrast of hill and valley changing imperceptibly into each other, tasted the beauty of the gentle swell, or concave scoop. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 115 Here a knoll and there a scoop. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Dante at Verona* xxviii, The conduits round the gardens sing And meet in scoops of milk-white stone. 1874 T. HARDY *Far from Mad. Crowd* II. ii. 21 All foot and horse tracks made previous to the storm had been abraded and blurred by the drops, and they were now so many little scoops of water. 1884 *Milit. Engineering* II. 33 Most of the pieces would be fired through countersloping scoops. 1900 *Daily News* 1 June 3/1 Lying in a shallow scoop-out among the hills.

3. In various slang uses. **a.** *On the scoop*, 'on the drink, or a round of dissipation' (Farmer).

1884 *Graphic* 30 Aug. 223/2 A young stockbroker..who, in the absence of his wife, has gone on the scoop with his father-in-law. *a* 1893 MILLIKEN *'Arry Ballads* 47 An English Milord on the scoop carn't be equalled at blueing a quid.

b. *U. S.* (See quots.) Cf. SCOOP *v.*1 5 b.

1886 *Phonetic Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 63/1 In American newspaper offices an item of news is valued largely according to the likelihood of its being an exclusive piece of information, or a 'scoop'. *Ibid.* 63/2 'Has the *Herald* got that water-pipe contract paragraph in its City Hall column?' 'No,' answers the *Tribune* city editor,..'It's a scoop'. 1892 HOWELLS *Mercy* 113 'Any scoops?' asked Pinney, warily—'Anything exclusive?' 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 29 Dec. LV. 487/3 Is there one of us..who would not..conceal one [*sc.* a reporter] of his own in the shrubbery..so as to get 'a scoop' on his contemporaries?

c. *U. S.* 'A sudden breaking down of prices for the purpose of buying stocks at cheaper rates followed by a rise'.

1879 in WEBSTER, Suppl.; and in later Dicts.

d. A lucky stroke of business, a 'haul'.

1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 166 You'll see how I work a big scoop when I get it. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 27 July 1/6 Her engagement..at the Palace is a big 'scoop'.

Scoop (skūp), *v.*1 Also 4–5 **scope**, 4, 6 **scoupe**. [f. SCOOP *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To lade or bail out (water) with or as with a 'scoop'. Also with *out*. Now *rare*.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8164 Do scope þis water, & turn þe borne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 155 Scopen out þe scaþel water. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* i. 2 Vnder þis watyr in ȝoure pytt, whan þis watyr is scopyd out, is deep wose be-nethe. *Ibid.* x. 65 ȝow nedyth..to scopyn out þis corrupte watyr of curs wyth þe scoope of penauns. 1530 PALSGR. 699/2 Let us scoupe out the water out of this ponde. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* I. ii, Tis as easie with a Sive to scoope the Ocean, as To tame Petruchio. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 26 He scoop d the water from the crystal flood. 1773 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* July (1889) I. 226 The waves seemed to redouble their violence, and the boat scooped one fairly over us.

absol. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* x. 66 þe scope of þi penaunce ..muste be deep in sorwe,..& ellys thou scopyst in veyn.

2. To remove or detach (a portion of friable or soft material, or part of a heap of objects) by passing a scoop or concave instrument obliquely through the mass, so as to leave a rounded hollow; to rake in as with a scoop. Chiefly with *away, out, up*. Also, to take *out* (a core, some embedded object) with or as with a scoop.

1622 MABBE tr. *Alemán's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 135 There are some kinde of people so cruell and vnconscionable, that they thinke of nothing but deceit and cozenage, scooping like shouels all to themselues. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. x. § 5 (1712) 72 Her Forefeet are broad, that she may scoup away much Earth at a time. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XIV. 578 Full in his Eye the Weapon chanc'd to fall, And from the Fibres scoop'd the rooted Ball. 1747 [see SCOOP *sb.*1 3]. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. i. iv. 161 It was plainly formed by scooping the earth from the sides. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 164 The Indians..scoop them [*sc.* fish] up with small nets. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journeys* iii. 16 The name of Byron..had been scooped away by the Grand Duke of Tuscany. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Last Confession* 546 She.. fell, and her stiff bodice scooped the sand Into her bosom.

absol. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Sienna*, etc. 393 Whatever part of the Harbour they scoop in, it has an Influence on all the rest; for the Sea immediately works the whole Bottom to a Level.

b. To heap *up*, or collect *together* as by means of a scoop; *fig.* to obtain by effort from various quarters.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 503 The government, instead of laboriously scooping up supplies from numerous petty sources, could now draw whatever it required from an immense reservoir.

c. *U. S.* To take (oysters) with a dredge. Also *intr.* 1891 in *Century Dict.*

3. *trans.* To hollow out with or as with a scoop; to form a concavity or depression in. Also with *out*.

1708 PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 396 The little Race of Birds, that hop from Spray to Spray, scooping the costliest Fruit. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 50 ¶ 3 As soon as this Rock was thus curiously scooped to their Liking. 1726 *Whole Art Gaming* 31 Such as Quatre-Trois..are made new by the Die-maker ..whereas Loaded Dice are easy to Scoop or Load. 1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 60 Consult the Genius of the Place in all; That..scoops in circling theatres the Vale. 1801 MOLLARD *Art of Cookery* 127 Take clean turnips and carrots, and scoop or cut them into shapes. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iii. (1894) 88 The rocks below having been scooped out by the glacier in old days. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* II. 84 The posts are scooped at the top, and heavy poles, resting on the scoops, are laid along them.

b. *intr.* To make a hollow as with a scoop. (In quot. *indirect passive.*)

1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 189 A pitch black rock, scooped into by the stream.

4. To form by scooping or as if by scooping. Also with *out*.

1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 740 These..The mountain-cisterns fill,—those ample stores Of water, scooped among the hollow rocks. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegy* XX. 10 See the wild Sons of Lapland's chill domain, That scoop their Couch beneath the drifted Snows! 1760 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 290 The firm connected bulwark [*sc.* the dikes of Holland]..Spreads its long arms amidst the wat'ry roar, Scoops out an empire, and usurps the shore. *a* 1813 A. WILSON *Foresters* Poet. Wks. 217 Scooped from the woods unnumbered spots were seen, Embrowned with culture. 1816 BYRON *Prisoner of Chillon* vii, He died, and they..scoop'd for him a shallow grave. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* 433 Sometimes we scoop the squirrel's hollow cell. 1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* I. vii. 107 Vaults scooped out by the running water. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. 60 One of us scooped out a horse, more complete than any of these sculptured animals, in ten minutes. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xviii. 484 The path was scooped out to a depth of four feet like a miniature railway cutting.

5. *slang.* **a.** To take or take up in large quantities; to appropriate (something) in advance of or to the exclusion of other competitors. Chiefly *to scoop in* (or *up*).

1882 J. D. MCCABE *New York* 160 (Farmer) He runs seventy 'busses on this line, and scoops in three 'r four hundred a day. 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xi. 118 The Irish are spreading out into the country and scooping in the farms that are not picturesque enough for the summer folks. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Green Shutters* 11 They felt it..a..personal defeat that he..should scoop every chance that was going.

b. *In journalistic use.* (Orig. *U. S.*) To 'cut out' a rival reporter or editor, or his paper, by obtaining and publishing exclusive or earlier news.

1884 *Christian World* 5 June 421/2 He said he was not going to be scooped out by the other fellow. 1886 *Phonetic Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 63/1 The ever-gnawing anxiety of the city editor [in America] is to 'scoop' the opposition papers. 1902 ELIZ. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 38 Miss Jackson across the way has got it, and she's going to print it in to-morrow's paper, and I shall be scooped.

c. *intr.* Of a right whale: To feed by taking in large mouthfuls of brit. *U. S.*

1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U. S.* v. II. 264 Again the whale may be 'scooping' or feeding.

†**Scoop,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* In 7 **scoup, scoope.** [Cf. SWOOP *v.*] *intr.* Of a bird: To swoop *at*. Also *trans.* To take (something) with a swoop.

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* III. G, Like a Iacke-daw that when he lights vpon A dainty morsell, kaas and makes his brags, And then some kite doth scoope it from him straight. 1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xlvi. § 12. 760 Whiles they were measuring out the circuit, an Eagle scouping at the line, flew with it ouer the Sea.

Scooped (skūpt), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOOP *v.*1 + -ED 1.]

1. In various senses of the verb. Also *scooped-out*.

1726 *Whole Art Gaming* 28 The Three first Frauds...1. Loaded and Scooped Dice. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 425 On the point of them [*sc.* the arrows] is fixed..a scooped point of buck-horn. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 612 The scooped sets [of potatoes], though they grew, continued in a perfectly dwarfish state. 1862 S. LUCAS *Secularia* 137 Philip of Spain..comes out after this test little better than a scooped turnip. 1886 *Phonetic Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 63–4 'How did you let the *Tribune* man "get away with you" again yesterday?' inquires the excited city editor... Then away the 'scooped' reporter goes to study the *Tribune* file...But a 'scooped' city editor is a disagreeable man to argue with. 1897 ANNE PAGE *Afternoon Ride* 61 Round scooped-out spaces. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 13/1 Venetian lace bordering the scooped-out front.

2. [f. SCOOP *sb.*1] Of the hands: Hollowed and joined so as to form a scoop. *rare.*

1860 SALA *Badd. Peerage* i, She stooped..and plunged her scooped hands into the kennel.

Scooper (skū·pəɹ). [f. SCOOP *v.*1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who or that which scoops.

1668 [implied in b]. 1755 in JOHNSON. *a* 1861 T. WINTHROP *Canoe & Saddle* iii. (1883) 27 The Indians..sweep down stream with a scoop-net. Salmon..are taken twenty an hour by every scooper. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Scoopers' Pneumonia*, a form of chronic *Pneumoconiosis* occurring among grain-scoopers. 1908 *Speaker* 1 Aug. 633/2 The custom was for the steamboat company to go to a 'boss shoveller' and hire his gang of 'scoopers'.

b. A name for the AVOCET (see quot. 1668).

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 96 *Avosetta*,..the Scooper (because his long narrow beak, arched upward, resembles the long crooked scoop). 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 399. 1856 MORRIS *Nests & Eggs Brit. Birds* III. 25.

2. A tool used for hollowing out portions of the surface worked upon; esp. in *Engraving*.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 437/2 Other lines being of the same width through their whole depth, must have been produced with that species of graver called a scooper. 1839 CHATTO *Wood Engraving* 653 Gravers; tint-tools; gouges or scoopers; and flat tools or chisels. 1872 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* v. 1817 [Engravers' tools] A flat scooper;..a round scooper. 1884 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Feb. 152/2 [Modelling in clay] A scooper and two or three..scrapers will be..required.

Scooper, Scoopet: see SCUPPER, SCUPPET.

Scoopful (skū·pful). Also -full. [f. SCOOP *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] A quantity that fills a scoop.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 94 The Water falling thus hard, every Scoop-full upon the Sand..wash'd a great deal of it away. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXII. 217/1 They throw rapid scoopfuls..over their shoulders.

Scooping (skū·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCOOP *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of the vb., in various senses.

1841 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Oct. 233 For successful scooping [in excavation] the ground usually requires loosening. 1865 C. GEIKIE *Scenery & Geol. Scotl.* iv. 80 The scooping out of hollows in solid rock.

attrib. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ix. 301 The scooping power of a glacier. 1895 *Daily News* 23 Nov. 5/6 Scooping and boring tools.

b. *concr.* A concavity, hollow.

1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. ii. (ed. 2) 27 Two or three such scoopings out of the surface are passed on the south-east coast. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* I. 141 There are..the same caves and scoopings.

Scooping (skū·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That scoops, in the senses of the verb. Of a rock, the sea: That forms hollows or depressions.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 79 The shepherd leaves his unprotected flock, And flies for shelter in some scooping rock. 1828 HOOD *Poems, To Tom Woodgate* xiv, Be mine the swelling, scooping sea, That is both hill and dale! 1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 44 The poor trout were flung out with scooping hands.

b. *Scooping Avocet* = SCOOPER 1 b.

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 425 Scooping Avoset. 1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 101.

Hence **Scoo·pingly** *adv.*, so as to resemble a scoop.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 232 These leaves turn very scoopingly inward on the upper side.

Scoo·p-net. [f. SCOOP *sb.*[1] or *v.*] A small long-handled net; a dip-net.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 90 The Indian scoop-net is shaped like a pocket. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Industr. U.S.* 51 The ordinary scoop or dip net, also called crab-net. *fig.* 1895 CROCKETT *Men Moss-Hags* xxiv, The townsfolk stood about, but not too near..lest they should be called in question for compliance with the deed,..for the King's scoop-net gathered wide.

Scoore, obs. form of SCORE, SCOUR.

Scoorse, Scoory: see SCORSE *v.*[1], SCOURY *a.*[1]

Scoot (skūt), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* Also scout. [f. SCOOT *v.*] (See quots.)

1825 JAMIESON, Suppl., *Scout*, a syringe. 1880 *Jamieson's Dict., Scoot*, 1. A gush or flow of water; also, the pipe or opening from which it flows. Clydes. 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Dugnid* III. iv. 259 Stottin' up the gate like a haw from a callan's gulshock scoot.

Scoot (skūt), *sb.*[2] *dial.* or *slang.* [f. SCOOT *v.*] The action or an act of 'scooting'.

1864 *Morning Star* 2 Feb., House-rent, too, as it elegantly expresses it, is on the 'same scoot upwards'. 1884 F. R. STOCKTON *Lady or Tiger?* 95 Ev'ry dog an' man an' nigger made one skoot fur that tree.

Scoot (skūt), *v.* Also 9 **skute, skewt**, 8–9 **scout.** [In sense 1, which is purely Sc., the word prob. represents a ME. **skūte*, of Scandinavian origin, cogn. w. ON. **skióta* to SHOOT. The identity of the word in senses 2 and 3 is not quite certain.]

1. *Sc.* a. *trans.* 'To eject, jerk, or squirt' (Jamieson, 1880).

1805 J. NICOL *Poems* I. 155 (Jam.) An' gut an' ga' he scoutit. 1897 C. GREY *Misanthrope's Heir* xv, Naebody kent he was there till he scootit the water on Maister Ogilvy.

b. *intr.* (See quot.)

1880 *Jamieson's Dict.* s. v., To *scoot*,..to flow or gush out with force. Clydes.

2. *Sc.* and *U. S.* To slide suddenly, as on slippery ground.

1838 J. C. NEAL *Charcoal Sk.*, 'Pair of Slippers' (Farmer), Notwithstanding his convulsive efforts to clutch the icy bricks he skuted into the gutter. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* III. xii. 79 The enormous casks..scoot across the slippery decks, like so many land slides.

3. *slang* or *colloq.* To go suddenly and swiftly, to dart; to go away hurriedly. Often with advs.

The (? originally nautical) slang word, written *scout* and prob. pronounced (skaut), seems to have become obsolete early in the 19th c. The modern *scoot* was app. imported into general British use from the U.S.

1758 Capt. TYRRELL *Let.* 9 Nov. in *Ann. Reg.* II. (1759) 61 The largest frigate being troublesome, I gave him a few of my lower deck pills and sate [=set] him a scouting like a lusty fellow, and he never returned to the action again. 1780 Capt. YOUNG *Let.* 3 June in *Barham Papers* (MS.), They had rigged out the fore topmast studding-sail booms to scout for it. 1805 J. NICOL *Poems* II. 203 (Jam.) Wi' arm raxt out, awa' she scouted. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 28 Sponge was actually obliged to scout out of the room to conceal his risible muscles. 1847 LOWELL *Biglow Papers* Ser. I. ii, An' th' Cunnles, tu, could..send the insines skootin' to the bar-room with their banners. 1856 *Knickerbocker Mag.* Mar. (Bartlett 1860), When he goes skewtin about, buying goods in business hours. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* ii, Yer had better drop that axe and scoot round getting the stranger some breakfast. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Feb. 244/1 He scoots off like a rabbit in the opposite direction. 1897 OLIVE SCHREINER *Peter Halket* 66 A nigger man met them twenty miles off, and he said they were skooting up for Lo-Magundi's country as fast as they could go. 1904 J. SWEENEY *At Scotl. Yard* xiii. 339 Forster always got wind of the warrant's being drawn out and..conveniently scooted.

Scoot, variant of SCOUT.

Scooter (skū·tər). [f. SCOOT *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who 'scoots' or goes hurriedly.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v., 'To run like scooter,' i. e. very nimbly. 1893 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 367/2 We do not..curse the harmless Saxon... If he is circling the coast of Antrim on mail-cars, we call him a 'Scooter'—nothing worse.

2. *Sc.* and *north.* A syringe, squirt.

1829 in BROCKETT *N. C. Words.* 1882 in JAMIESON.

3. *U. S.* [Perh. a different word: cf. *cooter* dial. form of COULTER.] A simple plough with a single handle used for marking furrows, making drills, breaking up the soil in furrows or between rows of plants.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 414, 100 bushels of cotton seed were turned under with a Brinley plow, followed in the same furrow by a scooter, breaking the soil six or seven inches. 1895 *Rural World* 14 Dec. 867/2 If there is no proper subsoil plough, then run a..scooter in the furrow. 1905 *Times*, Engineering Suppl. 9 Aug. 189/3 As soon as the tobacco plants are firmly set, a 'scooter' is run between the rows, which throws up a flat-bottom furrow.

Scop (skɒp). *Hist.* Also (erroneously) **scóp** or **scôp.** [OE. *scop, sceop* = OHG. *scoph, scof* masc., cogn. w. OHG. *scoph* (?neut.) poetry, fiction ('commentum'), sport, jest, derision ('ludibrium'), ON. *skop* railing, mocking: see SCOFF *sb.*[1]] An Old English poet or minstrel.

Beowulf 496 Scop hwilum sang hador on Heorote. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 1 Omerus se goda sceop. *c* 1205 LAY. 22705 Scopes þer sungen of Arðure þan kingen. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI. i, I have heard scops and harpers sing [etc.]. 1887 MORLEY *Introd. to A. Cunningham's Tradit. Tales* 8 The recitations of the Scóp and gleeman. 1892 BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* I. 12 The Scôp and the gleeman were professional persons.

Scop, obs. f. SCALP *sb.*[1]; obs. pa. t. of SHAPE.

‖ **Scopa** (skō·pă). *Ent.* [L. *scōpa*, in class. use only in pl. *scōpæ* twigs, shoots, a broom or brush.] A bundle or tuft of bristly hairs on the legs of bees, used for collecting pollen; a pollen-brush.

1802 KIRBY *Monogr. Apum Angliæ* I. 109 *Scopa.* This term, which is used by Schrank to denote another part, to which I have given its diminutive [i. e. *scopula*] as a name, I have adopted to signify the thick coat of hairs which externally covers the posterior tibiæ of many of these insects, by means of which they probably brush the pollen from the flowers. 1840 WESTWOOD *Introd. Classif. Insects* II. 260 The other instruments consist of bundles of hairs, whence they have been termed the scopa or scopula by Mr. Kirby, 'la brosse' by the French, and which we may call the pollen brushes.

Scoparin (skō·părin). Also -ine. [f. SCOPARIUM + -IN.] A diuretic principle found in the common broom.

1850 STENHOUSE in *Phil. Trans.* CXLI. 422 This very impure jelly consisted chiefly of a crystalline yellow colouring matter (scoparine). 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 479 Scoparin.

Scoparious (skɒpē·riəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scōpārius*, f. *scōpa*: see SCOPA and -ARIOUS. Cf. late L. *scōpārius* a sweeper.] Broom-shaped, scopiform. In recent Dicts.

‖ **Scoparium** (skɒpē·riŭm), **Scoparius** (skɒpē·riŭs). [Use of mod.L. specific name: see below.] Pharmacopœial names for the tops of the common broom, *Spartium scoparium* or *Cytisus* (*Sarothamnus*) *scoparius.*

1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 411 Diuretics..Digitalis. Squill. Scoparium [etc.]. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 483 Scoparius..is a most efficient hydragogue diuretic.

Scopate (skō·pĕt), *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *scōpāt-us*, f. *scōpa*: see SCOPA, -ATE [2].] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 347 Scopate (*Scopata*). When it [the tibia] is quite covered with a brush of hairs with which it brushes off the gross pollen, and in which it carries it.

† **Scope,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 4 **scoppe.** [Related to SCOPE *v.*[1]] A leap or skip.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5777 Tho hy seighe that folk, I wys, Hy plumten doune, as a doppe, In the water at on scoppe. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 184/1 Scop of an horse, is the distance of his treat vpon the ground from the forefeete to the hinder feete, in his full speed.

Scope (skō·p), *sb.*[2] Also 6 **scoope, skoape**, 6–7 **skope**, *Sc.* **scop.** [ad. It. *scopo* aim, purpose, ad. Gr. *σκοπός* mark for shooting at, aim, f. *σκοπ-* ablaut-variant of *σκεπ-*, *σκέπτεσθαι* to look out.]

† 1. A mark for shooting or aiming at. Chiefly in figurative context, and tending to coincide with sense 2 or 3. *Obs.*

1562 *Aberd. Kirk Sess. Rec.* (Spalding Club) 4 Seing also the haill scripture of God to tend and shote at this scope and mark. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 155 O I..slipper hope Of mortal men, that swincke and sweate for nought, And, shooting wide, doe misse the marked scope. *a* 1602 W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1619) 24 The sinner makes an abberration from the scope or marke that is set before him. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* v. Wks. 1851 V. 223 The Saxon Annalist,..runs on a sudden into such extravagant fansies and metaphors, as bare him quite beside the scope of being understood. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* I. vi. 49 From want of such a scope or marke it comes that most men shoot under, employ their minds in little by-businesses. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 170 This is the primary end of our life, unto which al our actions ought to collime, as arrows to their scope. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 54 He shall be a scope to envy in all future times.

† b. The goal or terminal point of a race, a journey, etc. *Obs. rare.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 301 He better skild, that rules worse horse, will all obseruance bend Right on the scope still of a Race [323 *αἰεὶ τέρμ' ὁρόων*]. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 182 Every step a man takes tends to some scope or other East or West or North or South.

2. Something aimed at or desired; something which one wishes to effect or attain; an end in view; an object, purpose, aim. Now *rare.*

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 229 The seventh Counsell of Carthage and the Milevitane Counsell, which both tend to one end and scope, that there should be no appellations made out of Affricke. 1559 tr. *Geminus' Anat.* 4/1 If there be 300 scopes or endes of the vse of the partes of the bodie. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 645 His Majestie hes thocht it maist convenient to mak manifest the cours and scope of the dangerous and indirect dealing pretendit. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XV. xcvi. (1612) 383 A mortall Man, sinfull as ye, or worser is the Pope, Your Coyne of all his Practises and Pedlaries the scope. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 60 Gaine being the scope of all merchants. 1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* I. (1682) 95 One of the scopes I propos'd to my self in this experiment was to discover [etc.]. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 494 Thy coming hither, though I know thy scope, I bid not or forbid. 1731 SWIFT *On Death of Swift* 499 Alas, poor Dean! his only Scope Was to be held a Misanthrope. 1736 BERKELEY *Disc.* Wks. 1871 III. 422 Plato..even maintains religion.. to be the chief aim and scope of human life. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 171 Truth was the scope, at which they aimed. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gipsy* xvii, O Life unlike to ours! Who fluctuate idly without term or scope. 1869 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* i. (1876) 8 These societies have two distinct scopes and ends.

† b. A person who is an object of desire or pursuit. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 52 He..cursed night, that reft from him so goodly scope. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 10 God, who is the scope, which we desire & shal one day attaine vnto. 1624 SIR J. DAVIES *Ps.* xxxix, Of my desires Thou art the only scope. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 646 Being impatient to see the Princess, who was the only Scope of his hopes and desires.

† c. *To scope*: to the purpose. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 72 'Tis conceyu'd, to scope.

† d. Degree of excellence to be aimed at. *Obs.*

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* Introd. A 4 b, Musick..hath been the study of Millions of Men for many thousand years, yet none ever attained the full scope and perfection thereof.

3. The object which a writer or speaker has in view, that which he wishes to express or enforce; the main purpose, intention, or drift of a writer, a book, etc.; † the subject, theme, argument chosen for treatment. Now *rare*: cf. sense 6 b.

1536 CRANMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 24 The scope and effecte of both my sermons stode in three thyngs. 1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 134 *marg.*, The scope or state of the boke, tendes to dysuade the kinge from hys supremycye. 1552 — *Serm. Septuag. Sunday* (1584) 323 Euery parable hath *certum statum*, a certayne scope,..it is enough for vs when we haue the meaning of the principall scope, and more needeth not. 1581 R. GOADE in *Confer.* II. (1584) I iiij, Out of the whole scope and drift of the place, it is euident to be spoken onely of the Apostles. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 127 The scope of the Euangelist is this: First, that Christ would not hinder his doctrine for mother, or brethren, or any kinsman. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* x. (1627) 157 To consider well the scope and drift of the Author. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 5 This is the scope of all I say: That by this course the good become best, the bad prove worst. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark xii. 8 The design and scope of the parable, is to discover to the Jews..their obstinate impenitency under all the means of grace. 1709–12 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 120 Know well each Ancient's proper character; His fable, subject, scope in ev'ry page. 1776 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc. Roy. Acad.* vii. (1778) 322 It has been the main scope and principal end of this discourse to demonstrate [etc.]. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. I. xii. 227 In its scope and substance the argument of Demosthenes may be compared [etc.].

b. The intention or tendency of a law; the drift or meaning of a proposal.

1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* III. vi. 155 No sooner did the General satisfie himself in the scope of these Overtures from the Prince and the Lord Goring; but [etc.]. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 32 According to those plain Precepts of the Gospel which answer the Spirit and Scope of the Law. 1696 BENTLEY *Serm. Of Rev. & Messias* 14 The scope and tendency of the Law it self is always mine and every man's advantage.

† c. A person who is a subject or theme of discourse. (Cf. 2 b.) *Obs.*

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 134 All which had respect unto the Messias, as the scope of all the prophets, and the complement of their prophecies.

† 4. *Med.* A plan or method of treatment; = INTENTION 10, 10 b. *Obs.*

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* v. xvii. (1596) 312 By this cataplasme you shall very well accomplish the second intention or scope of curing herpes. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* Pref. A iv b, Afterwards also were set downe diuerse scopes and indications requisite for the cure of the disease. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XVIII. xiv. (1678) 422 The

Palliative cure of that Gout..is performed by four scopes. 1690 BLANCARD *Lex. Med.* 234 Endeixis est morborum indicatio, qua demonstratur, quid sit faciendum...A[ngl.] A scope.

5. † **a.** ? Skill in aiming. *Obs. rare.* **b.** The range of a missile weapon; also *fig.* Cf. 8.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 65 He knewe that he was nether free from disdain nor yet deliuered from the scope of malice. 1594 *2nd Rept. Dr. Faustus* in Thoms *E. Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 397 With great scope throwing his launce forwards just upon the Turks face. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* I. i, My infirmity..led me to ettle at butts far beyond the scope of the spring that was thought to be in my bow.

6. The distance to which the mind reaches in its workings or purpose; reach or range of mental activity; extent of view, outlook, or survey.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxix. 7 Desiring this mans art, and that mans skope. 1775 MASON *Mem. Gray* 5 These papers ..will ascertain, not only the scope and turn of their genius, but of their temper. 1807–8 WORDSW. *White Doe* III. 57 With wishes of still bolder scope On you we look, with dearest hope. 1836 *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xvi. 404 He is..a man of very limited scope of mind. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* v. ii. (1877) III. 205 No one doubted his patriotism: the question was of its scope and enlightenment. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. i. 46 In the progress of civilization, the scope of the intellect is widened; its horizon is enlarged. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxix, Her intellect was rather limited in its scope.

b. The sphere or area over which any activity operates or is effective; range of application or of subjects embraced; the reach or tendency of an argument, etc.; the field covered by a branch of knowledge, an inquiry, concept, etc.

1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 305 Like particular theorems in geometry, which..have..their several scopes and ranges of extensive application. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. vi. III. 247 An arrangement of a more deliberate and comprehensive scope was at the same time adopted. 1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* LXXX. iv, And teach how great our treasure, How great salvation's scope. 1857 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. i. 47 He may accuse us of incapacity even to measure the scope of our own arguments. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4 (1882) 304 Art, if it lost much in purity and propriety, gained in scope. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 53 The deliberations of the parliament almost immediately took a much wider scope. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 25/2 This history..is not dissimilar in scope to Bright's well-known History of England.

c. In phrases, as *within, beyond* (one's) *scope.*

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xii. 107 Every thing that falls within the scope of our enquiry. 1789 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 105 Things, indeed, have already happened so much beyond the scope of all speculation. 1808 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) IV. 169 They did not come regularly within the scope of a military dispatch. 1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. xi, [He] soon saw that the questions were within his scope, and that he could answer most of them. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 240 We were above the scope of many of the showery clouds that haunt a hill-country. 1868 M. PATTISON *Acad. Org.* v. 121 An historical enquiry into what Oxford was is beyond the scope of this memoir. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L. 367/2 At the time of the accident, Moore clearly was not acting within the scope of his employment.

† **d.** *To have the right scope of*: ? to take the right view of. *Obs.*

1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 1861/1 Well sayde the king, I well perceiue that you haue the right scope of this matter.

7. Room for exercise, opportunity or liberty to act; free course or play. Often in phrases, *to give scope* (*to* a person or thing); *to have* or *take scope.* Also followed by defining inf., or by *for.*

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 (§ 1) To great a scope of vnreasonable libertie should be giuen to all cankarde and traiterous hartes. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 17 Wherein we might take a large scope if we would fully speake of all thynges that are comprehended vnder honestie. 1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* 139 b, The dames of Myllan haue a more skoape of libertie then the reste of the Ladies in any part in Italie. 1576 E. WATERHOUSE *Let. to Sir H. Sidney* in Collins *Lett. State* (1746) I. 147 Because I wold give free Scope to all Men to utter their Opinions concerning my Behaviour. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 108 Be angry when you will, it shall haue scope. 1602 W. S. *Cromwell* I. iii. 99 Giue not such cruell scope vnto your hart. 1610 J. ROBINSON *Justif. Separat.* 171 With their transcendent jurisdiction in their..Diocesan Churches [they] take their scope without orb, or order. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* (Arb.) 509 So that no man can be secret, except he giue himselfe a little Scope of Dissimulation. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 129 As his person and parts were such as are before mentioned, so he gave them full scope, without restraint. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § viii. (1669) 101 Which is much safer than that they should be allowed Scop, to break out into the Extreams of either Cruelty or Cowardliness. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 43 Here the inferior legislature has scope and opportunity to interpose. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., The Captive,* I gave full scope to my imagination. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 288 On this, he pitched on Bristol, where..there appeared to be full scope for an honourable and successful career. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. i, The more adventurous found a scope for their prowess in European wars. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 72 Perhaps you have too much common sense, Naomi. You will not give your fancies scope.

† **b.** An instance of liberty or licence. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 131 As surfet is the father of much fast, So euery Scope by the immoderate vse Turnes to restraint.

8. (With more reference to *literal* space or motion). Room to move in; space or range for free movement or activity. (Phrases as in prec. sense.)

1555 EDEN *Decades* III. vi. (Arb.) 163 The sea is here very large, so the waters haue their full scoope. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 7 Walking at free skope emong the wanderyng beastes of the fielde. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* III. xxiii. 128 To haue an open passage and free scope to shoote out. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. xii, Then through his hoast, that tooke so large a scope, He road. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xxi. 119 They be very fierce, and in that respect they are not accustomed to haue either so much scope or light as other birdes. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 184 In no place plants may take larger scope to spread their branches..then in this countrie. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. i. § 9. 229 Amraphel who held Babylonia it selfe, seemeth at this time to haue had no great scope or large dominion. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 368 The heat when it hath too much scope or roomth..is easily dissipated and vanisheth. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Hymenæi, Barriers* Wks. I. 930 And to their wiues men giue such narrow scopes, As if they meant to make them walke on ropes. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xlviii, To give the ordnance leave to play and range with the larger, scope [orig. *pour mieux donner lieu à l'artillerie*]. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 403 Publick virtue..requires abundant scope and room, and cannot spread and grow under confinement. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gertrude* II. ii, Yet wanted not the eye far scope to muse, Nor vistas open'd by the wand'ring stream. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 67 He in a closed field gave scope of liberal entry.

9. Extent in space, spaciousness; a (large) space, extent, tract, or area.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 46 So huge a scope at first him seemed best, To be the compasse of his kingdomes seat. 1600 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* 93 They would the rather attend the growing of the tide..that the scope of the sands might be less spacious and serviceable for horsmen. ? 1601 BACON *Let.* in Spedding *Life* (1862) II. 369 The land is good land, and well countenanced by scope of acres, woods and royalties. 1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* II. v. 63 Of adamant That mighty reservoir: its scope secure Might screen a navy. 1904 A. L. SALMON *Pop. Guide to Devonsh.* 59 The moormen may fish and dig turf, and use the infinite scope for pasturing their cattle.

† **10.** A tract (of land); esp. a piece of land belonging to an individual owner. ? *Anglo-Irish. Obs.*

1569 *Irish Act Eliz.* (1621) 313 The whole North of Ireland ..wherein he had a scope of a hundred and twentie miles long, and a hundred and odd miles broade to runne and roome himself. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* iii. 11 in *Holinshed,* The paroche was meared from the Crane castle, to the fishambles, called the cockehil with Preston hys Innes, and the lane thereto adioyning, which scope is now vnited to S. Iohn hys paroche. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland,* etc. 133 The Scopes of Land which were graunted to the first Aduenturers were too Large. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 470, 3. That he had gotten vast sums of money and scopes of land, by fraud. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* i. (1690) 11 Shall not much more time be spared if they [1000 men] lived all upon a Thousand Acres, then if they were forced to live upon ten times as large a Scope of Land. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 164 The Czar's chief physician confirmed to me..that in the year 1664, or 65, extraordinary dry and great scopes of land were set on fire, and miserably wasted by the great heat of the sun.

11. *Naut.* The length of cable at which a ship rides when at anchor. Also *riding-scope.*

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 437 This obliged us to let go our Sheet Anchor, veering out a good scope of Cable. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 265 Having our yaul in tow, and having but a short scope of boat rope for her. 1841 Riding scope [see RIDING *vbl. sb.* 7]. 1868 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 691 At long scope, Rodgers' [anchor] dragged 7 feet 8½ inches. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 53/2 A tow which is being towed with a long scope of hawser by night. 1893 CLARK RUSSELL *Ida Noble* 98 We'll..ride to a short scope.

† **12.** Short for HOROSCOPE. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* IV. v, Casting the Scope of mens Natiuities.

† **Scope,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4, 7 scop, 4 schope. [a. ON. *skopa* (in phr. *skopa skeið* to take a run); cf. MSw., Norw. *skopa* to skip, leap. Cf. SCOUP *v.*]

1. *intr.* To leap, skip. In later use only of horses.

13.. *Cursor M.* 19080 (Gött.) Þe propheci was þan fild sua, þat said þe halt suld scope [*c* 1400 *Edinb.* scop] as ra. *Ibid.* 23569 Mani thinges mai we do, þat forto do war littel fro, Als forto schope and forto rin, Quen it war better for to blin. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 323/2 To Scope, *vbi* to rynne or lepe. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xiv. E iiij b, Yet thitherwarde assuredlye my harte, and mynde is bente. And burnes, and burnes to braste the bondes which doe inclose it so, That it ne can goe scope abrode where it woulde gladly goe. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 140 Wer not thir thingis that maks me leif in hope, At libertie to se this Lyoun scope, One day to Rore and Ramp vpon his fois. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. 2 That your Mares and Colts may not bee throng'd vp,..wanting libertie to scope and runne vp and downe at pleasure. *Ibid.* 5 That a Foale may ..by scoping or galloping vp and downe the hill, come to a purenes of winde, and a nimblenes of bodie. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 5 Grounds..are very profitable for your colts to scope, run, and play in.

2. *trans.* To make (a horse) leap for exercise.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. 29 Then you shall gallop and scope him gently vp and down to keep him warme. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 184/2 Termes used about dressing and feeding of horses...Scop or aire him.

† **Scope,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. SCOPE *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To aim *at* (see quot.). *nonce-use.*

1668 HOWE *Blessedn. Righteous* xv. 267 And the word [σκοπούντων 2 *Cor.* iv. 18] here rendred (*look*)..doth not import..a taking notice, or assenting onely, that there is such things, but a designing or *scoping* at them (which is the very word) with an appropriative eye.

2. *trans.* ? To calculate the scope or range of.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* v. 608 Lincoln..Scoped the whole war and measured well the foes.

Scope, obs. form of SCALP *sb.*[1]

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 16 In the head and scope of the scull are yet diuerse and sundry little Perforations.

Scope, obs. form of SCOOP *sb.* and *v.*

Scope, scopid, obs. pa. t. of SCAPE *v.*[1]

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3915 And many scopid in þe scoghe without scath mare.

-scope, an ending representing mod.L. *-scopium* (f. Gr. σκοπεῖν to look at, examine) in MICROSCOPE and TELESCOPE. Hence used, by addition to Greek stems, to form many words denoting scientific instruments or contrivances for enabling the eye to view or examine or make observations: as *autoscope, baroscope, chronoscope, dynamoscope, gyroscope, helioscope, laryngoscope, ophthalmoscope, periodoscope,* etc. (Cf. F. *-scope,* It. *-scopio,* etc.)

1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* v. 123, I hope you won't lose any patients by my making a little fun of your meters and scopes.

Scopeboard, obs. (perverted) var. of SCUPPER.

† **Sco·peful,** *a. Obs.* In quots. *-full.* [f. SCOPE *sb.*[3] + -FUL.] Having or affording large scope.

1598 FLORIO, *Ampio,* ample, large, scopefull. 1603 — *Montaigne* II. xii. 315 Giving them that were disposed to mock at him, a pleasant and scopefull occasion to doe it. 1611 COTGR., *Ample,*..wide, large, scopefull, spacious. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Posthumi, Sonn.* vii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 322/1 Sith round beleaguer'd by rough Neptune's legions Within the straite-nookes of this narrow Ile; The noblest volumes of our vulgar style Cannot escape unto more scopefull Regions.

† **Sco·pel, sco·pple.** *Farriery. Obs.* [? contraction of SCOPPERIL.] A seton: = SCOPPERIL 3.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) I. 337 Scopels or round Pieces of Leather with Holes in the Middle, lap'd round with Tow, are the most fit and proper in these Cases. *Ibid.* II. 17 They can only bleed a Horse, draw a Sole, put in a Rowel or Scopple, cut for the Lampers.

Scopeless (skōʊ·plĕs), *a.* [f. SCOPE *sb.* + -LESS.] **a.** Having no purpose or aim; objectless (? *Obs.*). **b.** Not affording scope or opportunity.

1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 81 Which scopeless desire of searching into things exempt from humane Inquisition, is that which renders Curiosity Criminal. 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* § 1 And drop from out this universal frame Into that shapeless, scopeless, blank abyss, That utter nothingness, of which I came. 1882 *Society* 7 Oct. 12/2 Mr. E. H. Sothern acted well in the scopeless character of the Squire's son.

Scopelid (skǫ·pĕlid). [ad. mod.L. *Scopelid-æ,* f. SCOPEL-US: see -ID.] A fish of the group *Scopelidæ.*

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 279 Family XLII.—Scopelidæ. (The Scopelids.) 1887 HEILPRIN *Distrib. Animals* 297 Among the better known bony-fishes..are the..scopelids.

Scopelidan (skǫpe·lidăn). [f. mod.L. *Scopelid-æ* (see prec.) + -AN.] = SCOPELID.

1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 149 Scopelidans.

Scopeliform (skǫpe·lifǫrm), *a.* [f. mod.L. SCOPEL-US + -(I)FORM.] = SCOPELOID *a.*

In some recent Dicts.

Scopeloid (skǫ·pĕloid), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [f. SCOPEL-US + -OID.] **A.** *sb.* A fish of the family *Scopelidæ* (see SCOPELID).

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 42 In addition to the rayed dorsal fin, many Malacopterygian fishes (as the Salmonoids, many Siluroids, Scopeloids, etc.) have another of greater or lesser extent. 1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 112 Herrings, Scopeloids, etc., occur abundantly in association with these.

B. *adj.* Like or pertaining to the *Scopelidæ.*

In recent Dicts.

‖ **Scopelus** (skǫ·pĕlŭs). *Zool.* [mod.L.; introduced (along with the Fr. form *scopèle*) in 1817 by Cuvier, who gives the etymon as 'σκόπελος, Greek name of an unknown fish'; the Gr. word, however, app. means only a rock.] The typical genus of the family *Scopelidæ*: see SCOPELID.

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 320 *Scopelus,* have the gape and the gill openings very deep. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 585 Some species never rise to the surface; indeed, Scopeli have been brought up in the dredge from almost any depth to 2500 fathoms.

Scoper, obs. form of SCUPPER.

† **Sco·petine.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *Scopetīni* pl., one of the religious orders following the Augustinian rule (Du Cange).] (See quot.)

1537 *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 27 The Scopetines or S. Saluators order. The yeare after Christes byrth .Mcccixvii. dyd thys order begynne by certayne spirituall fathers of saynt Austins order.

Scopett, obs. form of SCUPPET.

† **Scopi·ferous,** *a. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *scōpifer* (f. L. *scōp-a* SCOPA + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 324 Scopiferous (*Scopifera*). When they [the antennæ] are furnished with one or more dense brushes of hair.

Scopiform (skōʊ·pifǫrm), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. L. *scōp-a* SCOPA + -(I)FORM.] Arranged in bundles; broom-shaped, fascicular.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 278 [Zeolyte] Its texture ..either stelliform or scopiform. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1034 Of the two setiform processes, one is closely ciliate, and the other has a short scopiform extremity.

Hence **Sco·piformly** *adv.,* in a scopiform manner.

1804 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 589 Their cross fracture exhibits a scopiformly diverging aspect.

† Sco·pious, *a. Obs.* [f. Scope *sb.* + -(I)ous.] Wide, spacious.

1599 T. M[iddleton] *Micro-cynicon* vi. C7, Streames yᵗ are bard their course Swel with more rage, & far more greater force, Vntill there full stuft gorge a passage makes Into the wide mawes of more scopious lakes. 1612 Hooker *Serm.* iii. iii. Wks. 1888 III. 623, I should have a large and scopious field to walk in, if I did here endeavour [etc.].

Scopol- (skǫpǫ·l), used *Chem.* and *Pharm.* to form names of certain extractive principles obtained from *Scopolia Japonica* (Japanese belladonna), as **Scopolamine, Scopolenin, Scopoletin.**

The genus *Scopolia* was named after *Scopoli*, an Italian naturalist of the 18th c.

1893 R. H. Harte, etc. *Local Therap.* 399 Scopolenine. An alkaloid present in Japanese belladonna. 1899 Cagney tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 397 In cases of poisoning with deadly nightshade berries..the urine has a peculiar fluorescence.., due to the presence of scopoletin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 837 Dilatation of the pupil..dependent..upon..the application of some drug (atropine,.. scopolamine, etc.).

† Scopo·lian. *Ent. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *Scopolīān-us*, app. f. the name of *Scopoli*, an Italian naturalist of the 18th c.] A collector's name for a small brownish-red moth, *Semasia scopoliana.*

1829 Stephens *System. Cat. Brit. Insects* II. 180 *Semasia Scopoliana*...Scopolian. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 169 The Scopolian.

† Scopo·logy. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. σκοπό-ς aim, end (see Scope *sb.*) + -logy.] A (suggested) name for a science of the 'ends' of human conduct.

1730 Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* Pref. 34 A Scopology, or Study of Ends, would prove one of the most exalted Parts of Philosophy.

Scopperil (skǫ·pəril). Forms: 5 scop(e)relle, 5, 7, 9 scopperell, 6 scopperelle, 7–9 scop(p)eril(l), scop(p)ril, scop(p)erel, scoprel. See also Scopel. [Of obscure origin; a remarkable similarity of form is presented by mod.Icel. *skoppara-kringla* spinning-top, f. *skoppa* to spin like a top; cf. MSw. *skoppa* to jump, run about, MDu., mod.Du. *schoppen* to swing, sea-saw; also Scope *v.*²]

1. A kind of teetotum or small top (spun with the thumb and finger) made by passing a pointed peg through the centre of a disc (often a flat button or button-mould). Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

In some dialects applied to a small disc (as a button-mould) apart from its application.

c 1425 *St. Christina* xxiv. in *Anglia* VIII. 128/35 Alle hir body was..turnyd in to a whirlynge about as a scoprelle or a toppe þat childer playe with. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 324/1 A scoperelle, *giraculum.* 1621 G. Markham *Hunger's Prevent.* 117 Vpon the least touch it will twerle and tourne as round as any Scopperill. 1636 W. Sampson *Vow Breaker* I. i. B2, If once we creepe out o' th shells, we run from our ould loves like Scopperells, weomens minds are planetary.

b. *transf.* Applied to an active, restless child; also to a squirrel. *dial.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

† 2. *Her.* A badge in the form of a disc. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv b, Diaclys be called in armys scopprellys. 1562 Legh *Armory* (1597) 37 The sixt badge are Diacles, commonly called Scopperelles.

3. *dial.* A seton: = Scopel.

1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, A *Scopperil*, a plug put into an issue or seton made in the diseased part of an animal to drain off the humours. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.* 82 Scopperel. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* II. 603 *Scopper, scopperalt, scoperal*, a seton.

Sco·pperloit. *dial.* Also 7 **skoppoloit, -lot.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Scobberlotcher and Scoterlope *v.*] (See quots.)

1691 Ray *S. & E. C. Wds.* 111 A *Scopperloit*, a time of idleness, a play-time. 1787 in Grose *Prov. Gloss.* 1878 S. H. Miller & Skertchly *Fenland* iv. 131 *Skoppoloit*, romping, rude, indelicate play.

Scoppet, obs. form of Scuppet.

Scopple, variant of Scopel *Obs.*

Scops (skǫps). [a. mod.L. *Scōps* (generic name), a. Gr. σκώψ the little horned owl.] A genus of *Strigidæ* containing nearly forty species distinguished by plumicorns upon the head; now usually *scops owl.* Also a member of this genus, a horn-owl.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1781 Latham *Synopsis Birds* I. 129 Scops. E.O. [i.e. belonging to the division 'Eared Owls'.] 1809 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VII. i. 234 The Scops is a native of the warmer parts of Europe, and is of a migratory nature. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 271 The scops or little horned owl. 1887 *Athenæum* 19 Mar. 387/2 The little scops owl.

b. *Comb.* **Scops-eared** *a.*, having plumicorns upon the head, the characteristic feature of *Scops.*

Prob. arising from a misunderstanding of quot. 1781 above.

1825 Selby *Illustr. Brit. Ornith.* I. 56 Scops-eared Owl. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 551 The Scops-eared Owl..is remarkable for its diminutive size.

† Sco·ptic, *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. σκωπτικός, f. σκώπτειν to mock, jeer.] **A.** *adj.* Mocking, satirical.

1670 S. Ward *Serm. agst. Anti-Script.* 57 Julian and Lucian and other Scoptick wits.

B. *sb. pl.* Mocking or satirical writings.

a 1644 Quarles *Sheph. Orac.* i. (1646) 9, I fear'd thy gamesome wit began to paint, In shadow'd Scopticks some that beare the Crook In our blest Island. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Scopticks*, Jests, Jeers, Flouts, Cavils.

† Sco·ptical, *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -al.] = prec. *a.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xvi. Comm. 235 It flies all his Translators and Interpreters; who take it meerely for serious, when it is apparantly scopticall and ridiculous. 1684 H. More *Answer* 59 The Remarker here is very Magisterial and somewhat Scoptical.

† Sco·ptically, *adv. Obs.* [f. Scoptical + -ly².] In a scornful, satirical manner.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. Comm. 35 In this first and next verse, Homer (speaking scoptically) breakes open the fountaine of his ridiculous humor following. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 114 Jove's secret springs: scoptically spoken, as if the astrologers were inspired by Jupiter [etc.]. 1686 H. More *Real Pres.* 55 Not as one scoptically would make us to profess, that this real participation of the Body and Blood of Christ, has no reality any where but in our phancy.

‖ Scopula (skǫ·pi͡ŭlă). *Ent.* [late L. *scōpula*, dim. of *scōpa* a broom.] A small brush-like group of hairs upon the tarsus of bees and spiders.

1802 Kirby *Monogr. Apum Angliæ* I. 110 *Scopulæ.* This is the name by which I denominate the hairs which cover the inside of the plantæ, called by Schrank *scopa*, and by Reamur 'la brosse'. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xix. (1818) II. 127 *note*, Underneath they [the posterior plantæ] are furnished with a *scopula* or brush of stiff hairs set in rows. 1844 Blackwall in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 62 Those remarkable appendages termed *scopulæ* or brushes, with which the tarsi of numerous species of spiders are provided.

Sco·pulate, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scōpulātus*: see prec. and -ate².] (See quot. 1826.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 348 Scopulate...When the first joint [of the tarsus] on the under side is covered with a dense brush of rigid hairs. 1901 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* I. 212 Both tarsi and protarsi scarcely scopulate in the middle.

Scopulipede (skǫ·pi͡ŭlipēd), *a. Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *scōpulipēd-, -pēs*, f. *scōpula* (see Scopula) + *ped-, pēs* foot.] Of certain bees: Having the feet furnished with scopulæ.

1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 367 The Scopulipede Solitary Apidæ, or those furnished, like the Hive Bee and the Humble Bee, with an apparatus for the conveyance of pollen on the hind legs. *Ibid.* 368 Closing our account of the Scopulipede Bees with this brilliant foreigner, we must now proceed [etc.].

† Sco·pulous, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *scopulōsus* craggy, f. *scopul-us* a rock.] Abounding in rocks, rocky. Hence **† Sco·pulousness, † Scopulo·sity** (*rare*⁻⁰).

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 261 How Scopulous, stendirrie, or stanie, was the stedd..quhairon thay than stude. 1658 Franck *Northern Mem.* (1694) 211 Edinburgh..stands on a mighty scopulous Mountain. 1721 Bailey, *Scopulosity*, Abundance of Rocks. 1727 — vol. II, *Scopulousness.*

Scor, Scorar, obs. forms of Score, Scourer.

‖ Sco·rbuch, -buicke. *Obs.* [Du.: see next.] = Scurvy.

1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten* I. iii. 8 With sicknes and diseases, as swellings of the legs, and the scorbuicke. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxv. iii. II. 212 *marg.*, Some thinke this disease to bee the Schorbuck or Scorbute. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* viii. iv. (1614) 748 The Scuruie or Scorbuch much consumed the French in these partes.

† Sco·rbut(e. *Path. Obs.* [a. F. *scorbut*, whence Sp. *escorbuto*, Pg. *escorbut, scorbuto*, It. *scorbuto*, mod.L. *scorbūtus* (whence G. *scorbut*).

The Fr. word is app. ad. MLG. *schorbūk*, early mod.Du. *schorbuyck, scheurbuik* (now *scheurbuik*), whence G. *scharbock*, Da. *skørbug*, MSw. *skörbiug* (Sw. *skörbjugg*), OIcel. (14th c.) *skyrbjúg-r.* If the word be orig. LG. or Du., and not an adoption from some foreign source, the etymological sense must be 'disease that ruptures or lacerates the belly' (MLG., MDu. *schoren*, Du. *scheuren* to break, lacerate, MLG. *bûk*, Du. *buik* belly). Cf. early mod.Du. *scheurmond* (*mond* = mouth) scurvy of the gums, *scheurbeen* (*been* = bone) scorbutic affection of the bones.]

= Scurvy.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. xvii. 201 Water Cresse..is verie good against the scuruie or scorbute. 1611 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 137 His disease proves..to be nothing but the scorbut, or, as we term it, the scurvy. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 5 The Calenture, Scorbute or Scuruie, Feauers [etc.]. 1665 J. Gadbury *London's Deliv.* vii. 24 His frivolous supposition of the Plague its taking beginning from the disease called the Scorbute.

attrib. 1665 E. Maynwaring *Treat. Scurvy* 65 The Scorbute Pills are efficacious against the defects and errors of digestion in the first, second and third Office.

Scorbutic (skǭibiū·tik), *a.* and *sb. Path.* Also 7–8 **scorbutick,** 8 **scurbutick.** [ad. mod.L. *scorbūticus*: see prec. and -ic. Cf. F. *scorbutique.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to scurvy; symptomatic of or proceeding from scurvy; of the nature of scurvy. Of a patient: Affected with scurvy.

Scorbutic gums, a condition of the gums induced by scurvy, characterized by swelling and a tendency to bleed.

1655 Culpeper, etc. *Riverius* I. v. 19 This is very manifest from the Scorbutick Palsey, or that which is joyned with the Scurvy. 1665 E. Maynwaring *Treat. Scurvy* 51 The colour of scorbutick spots declaring this Disease, is to be regarded. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 194 Plenty of Vetches, which recover'd our Scorbutick Men. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 311 Vegetables extremely conducive to the cure of..scorbutic disorders. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 425/1 No attempt..at any chemical examination of the properties of scorbutic blood. 1837 Dickens *Pickwick* xxxii, A renewal of hostilities between the scorbutic youth and the gentleman in the sanguine shirt. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 267 Eight cases of scorbutic gums were already on my black-list. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 128 Rickets is produced as certainly by rhachitic diet, as is scurvy by a scorbutic diet. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 589 Very frequently the first manifestations of a scorbutic taint are excited by extreme cold.

† 2. Of articles of diet, remedies, etc.: Good against scurvy, anti-scorbutic. *Obs.*

1696 Salmon *Fam. Dict.*, Scorbutic-Syrup. *Ibid.*, Scorbutick-Water. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* (1719) 17 A sweetning Scorbutic Ale. *Ibid.* 187 A Scorbutic Foment. 1789 Buchan *Dom. Med.* App. (1790) 705 *Scorbutic Whey.* This whey is made by boiling half a pint of the scorbutic juices in a quart of cow's milk...The scorbutic plants are, bitter oranges, brooklime, garden scurvy-grass, and water-cresses.

B. *sb.*

† 1. The scurvy. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1676 Lady Fanshawe *Mem.* (1830) 118 He was advised to go to Bath for his scorbutic, that still hung on him.

† 2. A remedy for the scurvy, an anti-scorbutic.

a 1774 Harte *Eulogius* 85 Spoon-wort was there, scorbutics to supply.

3. 'One affected with scurvy'.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*

† Scorbu·tical, *a. Obs.* [f. Scorbutic + -al.] Relating to, characterized by scurvy.

1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 181 Also there is a Gangreen Scorbutical which beginneth commonly from an internal cause. 1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* II. iv. 177 A Person ..of a full and scorbuticall Body. 1753 Maitland *Hist. Edin.* (1768) 507 An unctuous substance wherewith it is covered is said to be good for scorbutical disorders.

Hence † **Scorbu·tically** *adv.*

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 393 Persons that are.. Scorbutically inclined. 1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* II. iv. 178 Thus in scorbutically-habited ill Bodies..we frequently see these simple Ulcers afflicted with sharp Humours.

† Scorbu·ticism. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Scorbutic + -ism.] A general tendency to develop scurvy, a scorbutic habit of body.

1665 Needham *Med. Medicinæ* 86 There are but few Cases wherein there is not somwhat of Scorbuticisms mixt.

Sco·rbutized, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. Scorbut-ic + -ize + -ed¹.] Affected with scurvy.

1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 83 Yesterday's walk makes my scorbutized muscles very stiff.

‖ Scorbutus (scǭbiū·təs). *Path.* [mod.L.: see Scorbute.] Scurvy.

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 1121 Scorbutus..is frequently combined with other diseases. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 235 To the cachectic dropsies belong also those of scorbutus and conditions resembling it.

Scorce, obs. variant of Scorse *sb.* and *v.*

† Scorch, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 5 **scorche, skorch, scorce,** 6 **scorch.** [a. OF. *escorche, escorce* (mod.F. *écorce*).] Rind, bark.

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* x. viii, The chylde, of whiche Mirra was grete, grewe, wᵗ payne under the scorche & rynde. 1481 — *Myrrour* II. x. 90 Other trees there growe.. that bere notemygges, And of the rynde and scorce is the canell or synamome. 1579 W. Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 15 Make..Almond milke.., and eate it with Sugar, and powder of the ryndes and scorches of a Pomegranate.

Scorch (skǭtʃ), *sb.*² Also 7 **scortch.** [f. Scorch *v.*¹]

1. A mark or impression produced by scorching; a superficial burn. Also *fig.*

1611 Cotgr., *Maquereaux*, red scorches, or spots on the legs of such as vse to sit neere the fire. 1872 Cuyler *Heart-Thoughts* 38 The ugly scorch upon the commercial integrity of the merchant.

2. Scorching effect (of the sun or fire).

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. x. 330 Not onely their legitimate and timely births, but their abortions are also duskie, before they have felt the scortch and fervor of the Sun. *c* 1790 Cowper *Wks.* (1837) XV. 318 When he calls it a *balm to heal the scar of those corrosive fires* [Milton *P. L.* II. 401], we almost feel the scorch, and the pleasure of the remedy. 1862 Lady Duff-Gordon in F. Galton *Vac. Tourists* (1864) 162 They said the thermometer was at about 130° where I was walking yesterday, but (barring the scorch) I could not have believed it.

b. *fig.*

1626 Bp. H. King *Serm. Deliv.* 9 Which..shelters vs from the scorches of the last Iudgement. 1672 W. Penn *Spir. Truth Vind.* 52 Persecution comes, with the Scorch of which they are wont to singe and wrap up like a Scrole. 1859 I. Taylor *Logic in Theol.* 212 Profligate magnates quailed..whenever this scorch of eternal reason was sent in upon their conscience.

3. [From Scorch *v.*¹ 3.] An act of 'scorching'; a rapid run on a cycle or a motor-car.

1885 *Cyclist* 19 Aug. 1084/1 Another 24 hours scorch! 1890 *Polytechnic Mag.* 13 Mar. 161/1 An impromptu scorch was started by the members trying to keep behind a really fast cabby to obtain shelter from the wind.

4. *attrib.*: **scorch-patch** (see quot.); **scorch pencil,** a tool used in 'poker-work'.

1897 J. Hutchinson in *Archives of Surg.* I. 62 'Scorch-patches' is, I think, the best descriptive epithet to apply to the brown patches which occur in the macular stage of leprosy. 1903 *Daily Mail* 21 Aug. 9/2 The chief instrument used is a 'scorch pencil', so called because with it the required design is burnt upon the prepared wood surface that is to be decorated.

Scorch (skǭtʃ), *v.*¹ Forms: (? 5 **schorge**), 5–6 **skorch, scorche,** (6 **schorch,** 7 **scorge,** *Sc.* **scrotch**), 6–8 **scortch,** 6– **scorch.** [Related to the earlier synonyms Scorken, Scorkle.

The formation is obscure. It has been supposed that the word is identical with Scorch *v.*² to skin, the sense being altered by association with *scorken, scorkle.* Against this is the fact that *scorch*, to skin, occurs only in a few translations from Fr. (where the original has *escorchier*), and is therefore not likely to have had any real currency.]

1. *trans.* To heat to such a degree as to shrivel,

parch, or dry up, or to char or discolour the surface; to burn superficially.

14.. *Chaucer's Boeth.* II. metre vi. (*Addit. MS.*) (1868) 55 Alle þe poeples þat þe violent wynde Nothus scorchiþ [*Camb. MS.* scorklith; *orig. has* torret]. 1430 LYDG. *St. Margaret* 415 This gemme of maydenhede Was brent with brondes..Hir sydes skorched. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 43 Whan the pelagyens sawe this dede man of whom the skyn was scorched the fflessh rosted the senewes shronken [etc.]. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 11 An hande with parte of the arme of seynt John Baptyste, some what scorcherde [*sic*] with the fyre as it was brente. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 14 The bodyes of men begin to waxe blacke and to be scorched. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 They..wer after let downe into the fyre from on hyghe, and there synged and skorched. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* xvi. 8 Power was giuen vnto him to scorch men with fire. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 929 Summer drouth, or singed air Never scorch thy tresses fair. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 616 'Twas Noon; the sultry Dog-star from the Sky Scorch'd Indian Swains, the rivell'd Grass was dry. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 279 He did not awake till the fire came near enough to scorch him. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* i. § 20. 45 He had many times his forehead so scorched as to swell exceedingly. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 15 Fiery suns, that scorch the russet spice Of eastern groves. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VII. 9 His resolute eyes were scorched to blindness soon. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 49 Her skeleton..remained entire in the chair, which was only a little scorched. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 18 Much beaten about by sea-winds and scorched by poisonous suns.

absol. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 138 They quenche the skaldyng fire, which skorched with his heate.

b. *fig.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIX. xiii, Scorcht with Thy wrath is Thy anointed one. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* 27 Feb. (1632) 307 Take Truth without Mercy; as an hot poyson it scaldeth vs, and scortcheth vs in the flames of restlesse Despayre. 1702 PRIOR *Song to his Mistress* 1 Whilst I am scorch'd with hot Desire.

absol. 1851 WHITTIER *Chapel of Hermits* 178 The fame that crowned him scorched and burned.

c. with *away, up.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 74 The appetite of her eye did seeme to scorch me vp like a burning-glasse. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 165 The weather being very dry and hot, the grass and other vegetables were scorched up. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 516 Whose Leaves are not alone foul Winter's Prey, But oft by Summer Suns are scorch'd away.

d. *transf.* To shrivel up as if by heat.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 274 If a mans feete be scorched with cold, the powder of a Hares Wooll is a remedy for it. 1905 RIDER HAGGARD *Gardener's Year* Oct. 333 Even the hardy Sea-Buckthorns..have been sadly scorched by the spray brought up in the recent gales.

e. *intr.* for *refl.*

Quot. *c* 1430 may belong to SCORCH *v.*[2]; the form in any case is irregular, and may be due to misreading.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 42 With a lytil Watere, late hem seþe til þey ben drye, & þat þey schorge. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. iii, And then together we will watch the cakes, Nor let them scorch.

† **2.** *trans.* To burn, consume by fire. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 3412 Ther o soule man escapid noght, But scorched and brend were to Askes small. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 As thogh that Pallas could not bee fullye reuenged, Thee Greek fleete scorching. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* II. i. D 1, Here (wench) take these papers, Scorch 'em me soundly; burne 'em to French-russet.

3. *intr.* To cycle or motor at high speed.

[Cf. F. *brûler le pavé*, lit. 'to burn the pavement', said of a furious driver.]

1891 *Wheeling* 25 Feb. 405 Be wise in time, and do not 'scorch' while you are out of condition. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 852 The father..with his nervous system corroded by drudgery and care is determined to scorch on his bicycle or to climb the Alps with any of them.

† **Scorch,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* (Only in translations from Fr.) In 5 **skorche.** [a. OF. *escorchier* (mod.F. *écorcher*) :—popular L. **excorticāre*, f. *ex-* (see ES-) + *cortic-*, *cortex* bark. Cf. ESCORSE *v.*] *trans.* To strip off (skin or bark), to flay. Also *fig.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xx. (1869) 15 Shere yow youre shepherde may at his neede but to skorche yow is not yiue him leeue. *Ibid.* III. xvi. 143 Whan the poore ben skorched thus and to pulled and that alle here goodes ben thus shaken and drawen out and arased. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 6 Her fader..made cast her in-to the Riuer, and drenche her and her childe, And made to scorch [orig. *escorchier*] the knight quicke.

† **Scorch,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* Also 6 **skorch, schortch,** 6–7 **scortch**(e. [An alteration of SCORE *v.*; perh. after *scratch*. Cf. SCOTCH *v.*] *trans.* To slash with a knife.

c 1550 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* B ij, Afore dyner nor after, with thy knyfe scorche [1577 scortche] not the borde. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 23 Baulls preists..skorched there fleshe to the bones with there knyves. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 13 We have scorch'd the snake, not kill'd it. 1656 COWLEY *Misc., Duel* 20 The Living and the Killing Arrow ..broke the Bones, and scortcht the Marrow. 1823 [see SCORCHED *ppl. a.*[2]].

Scorchanarrow, obs. form of SCORZONERA.

Scorcheatis : see SCROCHAT *Sc. Obs.*

Scorched (skɔ̄ɪtʃt), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCORCH *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Burnt and discoloured by heat, touched by fire.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 278 And falshood, falshood cures, as fire cooles fire Within the scorched veines of one new burn'd. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* XXXVIII. 81 The Smith.. To apt the Mettall; thrusts his scorched Browes Into the flames. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XXI. 14 As the scorch'd Locusts from their Fields retire, While fast behind them runs the Blaze of Fire. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. 1365 My scorched limbs he wound In linen moist and balmy. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 397 'People should be careful with fire', I say sententiously and they all agree with me, the scorched ones enthusiastically.

2. Parched by the sun.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Lucan* I. 208 Like to a Lyon of scortcht desart Affricke. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Descr. Places 43 Thither do the people resort, partly for the watring of their scorched grounds. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb., Kalendar* July, The Earth now would be glad of refreshing showers to moisten the scorched Vegetables. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. iv, Like the roaring Of fire, whose floods the wild deer circumvent In the scorched pastures of the South.

3. *Nat. Hist.* † **a.** Having an appearance as if shrivelled by heat (*obs.*). **b.** Having colouring resembling a scorch.

1682 LISTER *Gœdart of Insects* 33, I could never Observe from these kind of Catterpillars a perfect and compleat Butterfly, but with contracted, and as it were scorched Wings, not to be expanded, or fit for flight. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 162 The Scorched Blunt-wing. *Ibid.* Index 276 Scorched Carpet. Scorched Wing. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* vi. (1858) 84 The scales scorched at the apex. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 37 *Carex ustulata* (Scorched Alpine Sedge).

† **Scorched,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCORCH *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] Slashed, divided.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* i, The members of the League.. like a scorched snake might re-unite.

Scorcher (skɔ̄ɪtʃəɹ). [f. SCORCH *v.*[1] + -ER[2].] One who or something which scorches.

1. *colloq.* A very hot day.

1874 M. C. *Explorers* 25 One regular scorcher we camped before noon. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* xxiii. 259 A heavy mist..gave promise of a hot day, and it turned out a 'scorcher'.

2. *colloq.* One who cycles or motors furiously.

1885 PENNELL *Canterb. Pilgr.* Pref., Nor does it seem to us worth while..to record our time, since we were pilgrims, and not scorchers. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 7 Jan. 8/3 (Farmer), As a result of complaints as to the excessive speed at which motor-cars are driven..the police have been keeping a sharp look-out for scorchers.

3. *slang.* **a.** Something scorching or stinging; a scathing rebuke or attack. **b.** One who causes a 'sensation'.

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Jan. 1/1 We have no doubt that his 'letter, in the strongest Saxon I could command', about the Intelligence Department was, as the schoolboys would say, 'a regular scorcher.' 1899 DOYLE *Duet* (1909) 44 A perfec' pair of scorchers.

† **Scorcheresse.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. OF. *escorcheresse*, fem. agent-n. f. *escorchier* to flay, SCORCH *v.*[2]] A female flayer; in quot. *fig.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xvi. (1869) 143 This hand is a skorcheresse and a baconresse of poure folk.

Scorchet(t)is : see SCROCHAT *Sc. Obs.*

Scorching (skɔ̄ɪtʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCORCH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action or an act of burning superficially, or of parching or shrivelling up by intense heat.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 16 And if..you dout either the coldnes or hotnes of the season, in the scorching or burning of your seedes, then couer your beddes with the chaffe of corne. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* v. 22 Those parts of the world which are under..perpetuall scortchings. 1699 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., June* (ed. 9) 74 The excessive Scorchings of this, and the two following Months..do frequently indanger the untimely falling both of Blossom and Fruit before their maturity. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 641 The scorchings of unextinguishable flames and gnawings of the never dying worm.

† **b.** *pl.* Fragments detached by scorching. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 253 Goates Horne being burned at the end, and the pieces or scorchinges that rise thereof, must be shaken into a new vessel vntill the horne be quite consumed. 1676 T. MACE *Musick's Monum.* 59 Then with your Working-knife, or Chizzel, take off the Scorchings to the clean Wood.

2. The action of riding a cycle or driving a motor-car at a furious pace.

1891 *Wheeling* 4 Mar. 422 We are..in a strong position to denounce the abuse of 'scorching' through inhabited parts of the country. 1898 *Daily News* 22 July 8/2 Do you ever scorch?—I do not know what you call scorching.

Scorching (skɔ̄ɪtʃiŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCORCH *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That scorches, burning, withering.

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 87 The Body dryed by broylyng blase Of preuy schorchyng Flame. 1628 MURE *Doomsday* 206 There, to the drunkard's parched throate, Justice doth scrotching drought allote, In floods of fire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 691 How had the World Inhabited, though sinless, more then now, Avoided pinching cold and scorching heate? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Past.* II. 11 While in the scorching Sun I trace in vain Thy flying footsteps. 1745 *Watts' Hymn*, 'How bright these glorious spirits shine,' Hunger and Thirst are felt no more, Nor Suns with scorching Ray. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. vi, He..from his native land resolved to go, And visit scorching climes beyond the sea. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 299 Under the heat of a scorching sun.

fig. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps, Charity* 43 No more shalt thou..on Gods Altar cast two scorching [1648 scortching] eyes. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* § 294, I have been about to preach upon some smart and scorching portion of the word. 1895 LD. ACTON *Study Hist.* 59 After looking about for a scorching imprecation, he [Titus Oates] began to call them Tories.

b. *transf.* Causing a burning sensation, irritant.

1768 MILLER *Gardener's Dict.* (ed. 8), *Thapsia*...The deadly Carrot, or scorching Fennel.

Hence **Sco·rchingly** *adv.*, **Scor·chingness.**

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 70 b, Hauing naturally cleere beauty, scortchingly blazing, which enkindles any soule that comes neere it. 1775 ASH Suppl., *Scorchingness.*

† **Sco·rching,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SCORCH *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] Cutting, slashing.

1570 in *B. L. Ballads* (1867) 179 The sister dire, fearce Atropos, with schortchyng cuttynge knyfe, Hath shred the threede that longe dyd holde this godly ladies lyfe.

† **Sco·rchvillein.** *Obs.* [a. AF. **escorche-villein*, f. OF. *escorchier* (mod.F. *écorcher*) to flay + *villein*.] A 'flay-villein'; an oppressive lord.

1577–87 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* V. 32/1 in *Holinshed.* [The nickname of Abp. Henry de Loundres; Stanyhurst tells a story to connect it with SCORCH *v.*[1]]

‖ **Scordatura** (skɔ̄ɹdatū·ra). *Mus.* [It. *scordatura*, f. *scordare* to be out of tune, short for *discordare* DISCORD *v.*[1]] A term used for the alteration in the manner of tuning some stringed instruments in order to produce particular effects.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Scordatura* (It.) the mis-tuning of an instrument. When a violinist alters the *accordatura* of his instrument for a special purpose, he is sometimes said to make a *scordatura*. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 245 The violoncello is less amenable to the scordatura than the violin.

‖ **Sco·rdium.** *Bot. Obs.* Also 6 **scordion.** [mod.L. (cf. L. *scordion*, Pliny), a. Gr. *σκόρδιον* a plant that smells like garlic. Cf. G. *skordien*, MDu. *scordioen*.] A name for the Water-Germander, *Teucrium Scordium*, a plant formerly in use in medicine as a sudorific, an antidote for poisons, etc.

[*c* 1050 *Herb. Apuleii* in Cockayne *Sax. Leechd.* I. 174 Wiþ nædran slite ġenim þas wyrte þe man scordean.. nemneð.] 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 71 Scordium groweth in diuerse places of Germany,..& I heare saye that it groweth also besyde Oxforde. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxv. 111 Scordion is hoate and dry in the thirde degree. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cciv. 535 Called in English Scordium, Water Germander & Garlicke Germander. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* III. xv. (1760) 169 Of the Leaves of Scordium one Pound and a Half. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1040/1 Scordium, *Teucrium Scordium*.

Score (skōəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **scoru,** 3–6 **scor,** 4–5 **schore,** 4–6 **skor,** 4–7 **skore,** 5 *Sc.* **scoyr, skowre,** 5, 7 **scoure,** 6 **scoore,** *Sc.* **scower, skoir,** 6–7 **scoare,** *Sc.* **scoir,** 3– **score.** [Late OE. *scoru* str. fem. (sense 16), a. ON. *skor* str. fem., notch, tally, the number of twenty (cf. *skora* wk. fem., notch) :—OTeut. type **skurā*, f. **skur-*, wk. grade of **sker-* to cut : see SHEAR *v.*]

I. A cut, notch, mark.

1. † A crack, crevice (*obs.*); a cut, notch, or scratch; a line drawn with a sharp instrument.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2660 Than shal thou go the dore bifore, If thou maist fynde any score, Or hole, or reft, what ever it were. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/11 A skore, *crenale*. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 555 With scartes and scores, athort his frozen front. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampsh.* III. 113 To procure the sap, an incision is made by two scores, an inch and a half, or two inches deep. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 783/2 To make a score on the future angles of the box in order to make the stuff bend readily.

b. *Naut.* and *Mech.* (*a*) The groove of a block or dead-eye round which the rope passes; (*b*) a notch or groove made in a piece of timber or metal to allow another piece to be neatly fitted into it.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 29 The cross-trees are let into the trestle-trees, with scores. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Score of a Dead-Eye*, is the hole through which the rope passes. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 155 *Tabling*, letting one piece of timber into another by alternate scores or projections. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 16 A score, the width of which is equal to the siding of the post. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 89 This is called the 'strap' and lies in the 'score', or channelled part of the block.

2. A line drawn; a stroke, mark; a line drawn as a boundary.

The sense, though in our examples not found in literal use earlier than the 16th c., seems to be old, as the fig. phrases in b apparently belong to it.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. lxxviii, Prosperitie in eird is bot a dreme, Or like as man war steppand ouir ane scoir. 1603 *Philotus* CXXV, Trowis thow to draw me ouir the scoir, Fals feind with thy alluring. 1681 GIB in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. App. lxxiii. 80 Drawing Scores betwixt the Books of the Bible. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 144/2 Feathers of a Ducks Wing, or such like..to wipe off a superfluous score made in a draught by the Charcoal. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Feb., It was that ugly score [*foot-n.* A crease in the sheet] in the paper that made me mistake. 1783 BURNS *Rantin', Rovin' Robin* v, I see by ilka score and line, This chap will dearly like our kin'. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* i, Draw a score through the tops of your t's. 1836 *Comic Almanack* Sept. (1870) 63 We've chalked a score on every door Of publican or sinner. 1859 DARWIN *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 171, I hope you will mark your copy with scores.

b. Phrases. † *Out of score*, beyond the mark, excessively, unreasonably (frequent in R. Brunne); † *over score*, over the mark, aside.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6872 Þe aumenere was wroth þerfore, þat he asked so oute of skore. *Ibid.* 11225 But leuer ys me my moupe to steke þan y spak oȝt oute of skore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 496 As now war tyme to schift the wers ouer scoir.

† **c.** ? A track, trace of footsteps. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3377 To trauersen hem al ouer þere score, & passe be Romayns wel byfore. *Ibid.* 13694 After hym his folk held wel þe score.

3. *spec.* The 'scratch' or line at which a marks-

man stands when shooting at a target, or on which the competitors stand before beginning a race.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. vi. 70 He suld full sone haue skippit furth befoir And left in dowt quha first coyme to the scoir. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xx. 69 Stand to, thairfoir, fyle not the scoir, But all togidder draw. *c* 1880 in Greener *Gun* (1881) 506 In case of breech-loaders, the party called to the score shall not place his cartridge in the gun until he arrives at the score.

b. Phrases. *To go off (set off, start) at score*, of a horse, to make a sudden dash at full speed; *fig.* of a person, to break out suddenly into impetuous speech or action. So *to go off full score, to keep on at a score.*

c 1800 R. CUMBERLAND *John De Lancaster* (1809) II. 95 John and his steed were in the same humour for a start at score. 1807 [E. GOULBURN] *Epwell Hunt* 117 Resolv'd at all Hazards to follow Bob Canning; To accomplish which End he kept on at a Score. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, Madge no sooner received the catch-word, than she vindicated Ratcliffe's sagacity by setting off at score with the song: 'O sleep ye sound, Sir James, she said'. 1833 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 309 Talking of a paragraph lately which stated that all the Church dignitaries meant to resign.., he went off at score on the sad state we should be reduced to by such a resignation. 1834 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 1016 Start at score and make play we must, if we were now to resume the contest. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Lest the black-eyed should go off at score and turn sarcastic. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 64 His horse, Bles-bok, went off at score, and followed the spoor as accurately as any dog. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Celtic Lit.* 71 After the mediæval touch of the visit to the buttery in the land of the Trinity, he goes off at score: 'I have been instructed in the whole system of the universe [etc.]'. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xxxiv, The slackened rein..encouraged the gray to take a final kick and fling, and then set off at score up the slope. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* iii. 99 The bull picked himself up and went off full score.

c. *Curling.* = HOG-SCORE.

1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* III. 368/2 (*Curling*), At a certain distance from each of the tees, a score—the hog-score—is drawn across the ice. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 713/2 (*Curling*), Every stone to be a hog which does not clear this score.

4. A line that crosses out or cancels something.

a 1756 *Pennecuik's Collect. Sc. Poems* 120 A roll of sins hath got the clergy's score.

† **5.** *pl.* as the name of a game. *Obs.*

1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. to Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Skore*, The word score, is..most used at the long Bowls, which are sometimes call'd the Scores, because they make draughts or impressions in the ground where they are to begin and leave off.

6. *Mus.* A written or printed piece of concerted music, in which all the vocal and instrumental parts are noted on a series of staves one under the other.

Commonly stated to be so called from the practice (not now always followed) of connecting the related staves by 'scores' or lines continuing the bars.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3748/4 The Score of Musick for the Fairy Queen. 1752 AVISON *Mus. Express.* Advt., Music is said to be in Score, when all the Parts are distinctly wrote and set under each other, so as the Eye, at one View, may take in all the various Contrivances of the Composer. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 360 He..sells accent, tone And emphasis in score. 1785 GEO. III in Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1862) III. 247 The King has just received the copies of the three operas M^rs. Delany so obligingly borrow'd for him. He therefore returns the three scores. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 13 This concerto was written with a full score of accompaniments, and even trumpets and drums. 1883 ROCKSTRO in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 427/1 The most important varieties [of scores] are (I.) the Vocal Score; (II.) the Orchestral, or Full Score; (III.) the Supplementary Score, or Partitino; (IV.) the Organ, Harpsichord, or Pianoforte Score; (V.) the Compressed Score; and (VI.) the Short Score. *Ibid.* 434/1 The term *Short Score* is indiscriminately applied to Organ and Pianoforte Scores of works originally written with Orchestral Accompaniments; to Compressed Scores; and to maimed transcriptions, in which the leading Parts only are given *in extenso.*

b. A musical composition with its distribution of parts.

1881 CROWEST *Phases Mus. Eng.* 295 The London Musical Society has set itself the task of familiarising English people with those scores which are either little known, or which have not had a hearing in this country.

7. *Weaving.* = BEER *sb.*[3]

1712 [see BEER *sb.*[3]]. 1726 *Act* 13 *Geo. I*, c. 26 § 13 So as to distinguish the Number of biers or scores of Threads in the breadth of the said Cloth.

8. A cut or slash, as with a whip.

1882 J. T. MORSE Jr. *John Q. Adams* iii. (1885) 230 There was scarce a back in Congress that did not at one time or another feel the score of his cutting lash.

II. Notch cut for record, tally, reckoning.

† **9.** A notch cut in a stick or tally, used to mark numbers in keeping accounts; also the tally itself.

c 1460 *Launfal* 419 All that Launfal had borwyth before Gyfre, be tayle and be score, Yald hyt well and fyne. *c* 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 416 in *Babees Bk.*, Yf þo koke wolde say þat were more, þat is þo cause þat he hase it in skore. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Score on a tayle, *taylles.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Crene* [1545 *Crenæ*],..the scores whiche men vnlerned do make on stickes for their remembrance. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Crena*, a notche in a skore. *Ibid.*, *Tessera*,.. a tayle or score, wheron the number of thynges deliuered is marked. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 38 Whereas before, our Fore-fathers had no other Bookes but the Score and the Tally, thou hast caused printing to be vs'd.

b. *Games.* A mark made for the purpose of recording a point or the like. Cf. CHALK *sb.* 5.

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 102 Lanterloo... Having dealt set up five scores or chalks; and then proceed forwards in your Game. *Ibid.*, Every deal rub off a score, and for every trick you win set up a score by you till the first scores are out, to remember you how many tricks you have won in the several deals in the Game. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. iii. 84 It is called a run, and one notch or score is made upon the tally towards the game. *Ibid.* III. vii. 203 One chalk, or score, is reckoned for every fair pin; and the game of skittles consists in obtaining thirty-one chalks precisely.

10. A record or account (of items of uniform amount to be charged or credited) kept by means of tallies, or (in later use) by means of marks made on a board (with chalk), on a slate, or the like. Now chiefly, the row of chalk marks on a door, or of strokes on a slate, which in rural alehouses serves to record the quantity of liquor consumed on credit by a regular frequenter. Hence occas. *transf.*, a customer's account for goods obtained on credit.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 362 3if þæt þe axkere bryngeþ skore oþer wryt, and aske þe berynge y-hole-cheche... Whos paye y-maked by skore oþer by scryt oþer by sywete, so þt he bere tayle oþer scryt, to preue hit vp-on hure nature. *c* 1421 26 *Pol. Poems* 119 Þe fendes redy my rolle to rede, Þe countretayle to shewe, þe score. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 255 And he anon radly laft all his scores, and cownturs, and his bokes, and suet Cryst forþe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 324/1 A score, *epimeridia.* 1591 R. PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Tablilla*, writing tables, a score. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 80 There shall bee no mony, all shall eate and drinke on my score. 1614 RAVENSCROFT in *Festive Songs* (Percy Soc.) 40 When all is gone we have no more, Then let us set it on the score, Or chalke it up behinde the dore. 1648 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* Matt. xxiii, The stones that on his Tombe doe lye Keep but the score of them that made him dye. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 20 He ought to have preach'd against..rubbing out of Ale-house Scores. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. i. 9 A familiar visitor of the house, who might be supposed to have his regular score at the bar. 1867 LOWELL *Fitz Adam's Story* 388 These paid no money, yet for them he..chalked behind the door With solemn face a visionary score. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* i. 19 Formerly every man had a score at the village shop.

† **b.** *In, upon, on (the) score*: in debt. *To run into scores* or *in score, to run* or *go on* or *upon (the) score*: to incur debts. *Upon the score of*: indebted to. Also *on score, upon the score*: on credit. *Obs.*

1568 FULWELL *Like will to like* E ij, But now my masters you are on the score. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* iii. 11 in *Holinshed*, The citie merchants not vttering their wares, but to such as had not redy chinkes, and therevpon forced to run on y^e score, were very much empouerished. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G j, If any chance to go on the skore, you skore him when he is a sleepe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* Induct. ii. 25 If she say I am not xiiii d on the score for sheere Ale, score me vp for the lyingst knaue in Christendome. 1602 ROWLANDS *'Tis Merrie* 11 There's many deale vpon the score for wine, When they should pay forget the Vint'ners Syne. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 57 He had stolne and pawnd his companions aparell, ..and was gon upon the score in divers howses. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple*, *The Sizeiv*, Those have their hopes: these what they have renounce, And live on score. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* v. 42 He had..begger'd both himself and the Public; and besides had left us upon the score of his needy Enemies, for what it cost them in thir own defence against him. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* I. vii. 66 Seneca reports of a Pythagorean Philosopher at Athens, who having run upon the score for his shoos at a shop there [etc.]. 1658 H. CROMWELL in Thurloe *St. Papers* VI. 820 The country, to whom the army is in score, will be all in a flame. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 75 'Tis become so fashionable a thing to run into Scores, and so unfashionable to pay them [etc.]. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Dec., I perceive he is known there, and do run upon the score for plays. 1685 EVELYN *Mrs. Godolphin* 195 Every Saturday she used to sum up, and never went on score. 1702 YALDEN *Æsop at Crt.* iii. 43 See, injur'd Britain, thy unhappy case,..If fond of the expensive pain, When eighteen millions run on score: Let them clap mufflers on again, And physick thee of eighteen more. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxv, I..drank while I had money left, and ran in score when anybody would trust me.

11. The sum recorded to a customer's debit in a 'score' (sense 10); the amount of an innkeeper's bill or reckoning. Also, † a debt due to a tradesman for goods obtained on credit (*obs.*).

1600 *Ball. Coll. Acc.* (*MS.*), Item, paid to Warde the Baker for 2 skores dewe in Mr. More's yeare, 8li. 18s. 9d. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 253 After he scores, he neuer payes the score. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 133 Chauke me on Vinters, and for aw thy skore, Let great words pay for aw, still run on more. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Country Life* 14 Or how to pay thy hinds and clear all scores. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Apr., Away to the Exchange, and mercers and drapers, up and down to pay all my scores. 1675 KIDDER *Charity Directed* 31 How often do men contend at a Tavern who shall pay the score. 1677 OTWAY *Cheats of Scapin* II. i, Some Scores that are due to the Landlady. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* v. i. 53, I have been in the Country, and have brought wherewith to pay old Scores, and will deal hereafter with ready Mony. 1701 *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 79 Hasten over rents, and all thou canst, for many call upon me for old scores. 1715 PEIOR *Down-Hall* 96 When in the morning Matt ask'd for the score, John kindly had paid it the evening before. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* ix, After having paid our score. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 626 He had run a score at the public house, which he had no mind to discharge. 1766 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 9 If..you think I can afford to quit scores with the little Doctor, I shall be obliged to you if you will do it forthwith. 1807 [IRELAND] *Mod. Ship of Fools* 236 Or, when in school, neglecting book, Or, running scores with pastry cook, That breech should feel the twitch of birch. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 230, I agreed that he should pay the score at our next meeting. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* July 80 The week's score at the public-house is paid up and a fresh one started.

b. *fig.*, esp. in certain phrases. *To clear, pay, quit a score* or *scores*: to requite an obligation; sometimes, to revenge an injury, to 'be even *with*' some one. † *To cut the score, cut scores*: to forgive a debt.

a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 170 God cuts all scores betwixt him and his children. 1634 H. SYDENHAM *Serm.* (1637) 70 That that Justice which is conferr'd on them, consists rather in the participation of Christs merits, who cut the score, than in any perfection of Vertues. 1672 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* v. ii, Yet, forced by need, ere I can clear that score, I like ill debtors, come to borrow more. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. ix. § 90 To the Grandfather, there is due a long Score of Care and Expences laid out upon the Breeding and Education of his Son. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vi. 252 Which she readily accepts, and perhaps does not make so much haste to quit scores, as Pride does. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, Are you sure you do nothing to quit scores with them?

12. [Originally a figurative use of sense 10.] Account, reason, ground, sake, motive. In phrases *on, upon the score (of)*: by reason of, for the sake of, with regard to.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 346, I presume not to expect this for my own sake and meerly upon the score of Christian love. 1651 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Sept., He..embark'd for Scotland with some men he had raised, who..were all..imprison'd on y^e Marq. of Montrose's score. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table Talk* (Arb.) 70 By reason..their great Grandfather did not do it, upon that old Score they think they ought not to do it. 1654 DICKSON *Explic. Ps.* cxxix. 1 (1655) 263 The persecution of former enemies is imputed and put upon the score of present persecutors. 1655 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 3 The House of Peeres was never yet denied by them to be dissolved upon the like scoare. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 244 Divers that first believe the Scripture but upon the Church's score, are afterwards by acquaintedness brought to believe the Scripture upon its own score. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* I. ii, I could not do it on my Honour's score. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 250 Men..began to be over-easie upon that Score. 1751 *Affecting Narr. Wager* 47 The Crew..were however on that Score implacably incensed against the Captain. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 51 All persecution and oppression of weak consciences, on the score of religious persuasions, are highly unjustifiable. 1802 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* I. 231 An eminent solicitor..whom it was fashionable to consult on the score of settlements. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* x. (1876) II. 269 It was necessary to summon a parliament on the usual score of obtaining money. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xviii, Master Heatherstone knows more on that score than any one. 1859 MILL *Liberty* iv. 165 Other countries are not asked to..release any portion of their inhabitants from their own laws on the score of Mormonite opinions. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* iv. 59 You have some right to flatter yourself on that score. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xlvi. II. 198 This state of things..disposes the men on one side to reject a proposal of the other side on the score, not of its demerits, but of the quarter it proceeds from. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 13 Much trouble on this score will be avoided.

† **13.** A list, enumeration; number as counted. Also *by score*: (after a numeral) by tale, precisely so many. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 253 (Ritson), That were sixti yer by score Er then Crist were ybore. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1052 So that hereby wee may iudge what great store the Lorde setteth by Infantes, and learne not to wype them out of the skore of Gods people. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxx. iii, Thou would'st not sett me in their score, Whom death to his cold boosome drawes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 21 My lambes doe every yeare increase their score.

14. *Games.* The record or register of points made by both sides during the progress of a game or match; also the number of points made by a side or individual. *To get the score*: to obtain the highest number of runs (in a cricket-match).

1742 HOYLE *Whist* 8 If a Revoke happens to be made, the adverse Party may take down 3 Points from the Scores, or add 3 Points to his own Score, or take 3 of his Adversary's Tricks; the Revoke takes place of any other Score of the Game. *Ibid.* 68 This Method of Play may be made use of at any Score of the Game, except at 4 and 9. 1778 — *Games* 74 Score of the Game is the Number of Points set up, ten of which make a Game. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 33 The care of the score [at billiards] was solely confided to the charge of the tall gentleman in the stockinet pantaloons. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, The score of the Dingley Dellers was as blank as their faces. 1850 'BAT' *Cricketer's Man.* 98 It was on this occasion..that Mr. Ward obtained the unprecedented score of 278 runs in one innings. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxx, It was true that she liked keeping the score at cricket. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 20 Hogsflesh (by the score) bowled in the second innings of Kent, but he is not inserted among the batsmen on the Hambledon side. *Ibid.* 225 John Small, sen. who got the score in the second innings of Hampshire. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* x, The belief in both naturally grew stronger as the shooting went on, for she promised to achieve one of the best scores. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 578/2 (*Cricket*), The score was kept by notching each individual run on a stick. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. viii. 95 The town in this game made the losing score.

b. Phr. *To make a score off one's own bat*: see BAT *sb.*[2] 3 c.

1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. xii. (1878) 67 Do you know the meaning of making a score off your own bat, Martha?

15. *colloq.* [From the verb.] **a.** *lit.* in games: An act of 'scoring' or gaining a point or points. **b.** *fig.* A successful 'hit' in debate or argument.

1844 MARDON *Billiards* 94 For should he play it slowly and miss the score, he will..leave a certain canon for his

opponent. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 301 This position gives the striker such command over the balls that it is almost impossible not to leave a score. *Ibid.* 386 A miss should be given so as to leave a difficult score for the adversary. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 675/2 (*Billiards*), No score can be reckoned for a foul stroke. 1901 *Scotsman* 15 Mar. 7/4 A loud cheer signified that..this was a distinct score. 1901 S. PAGET *Mem. Sir J. Paget* II. 407 An admirable 'score' that he made at Harewood Place.

III. A group of twenty.

[Presumably from the practice, in counting sheep or large herds of cattle, of counting orally from 1 to 20, and making a 'score' (sense 9) or notch on a stick, before proceeding to count the next twenty.]

16. A group or set of twenty. Primarily a sb., const. *of* (in OE. *gen. pl.*), but owing to ellipsis and loss of inflexions often serving (when preceded by *a*, or in uninflected pl. by a numeral) as a numeral adj. (Cf. *dozen, hundred, thousand*, etc.)

The combinations THREESCORE and FOURSCORE are common as mere archaistic synonyms for sixty and eighty; the similar combinations with other numerals are rarely used exc. when there is intentional division into groups of 20.

[*a* 1100 *Bury St. Edm. Rec.* in Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* 56 Dæt is..v scora [glossed *quinquies uiginti*] scæp..& viii score [*octies uiginti*] æcere ȝesawen.] *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 101/13 Folke..bi manie scor to-gadere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3200 Sex scor and seuen yeir liued sarra. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3099 (Kölbing) Wiþ him he brouȝt þritti score Wiȝt kniȝtes him bifore. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3492 Bot yhit þar er ful many ma Of veniel syns, be many a score. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 118 Heo makeþ men misdo moni score tymes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 52 Sewyne schore of fute & na ma. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2344 The taxe and the trebutte of tene schore wynteres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2638 My fader was a philisofer, & of fele yeres, To the nowmber of nene skowre. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 483 Seuyne score of scheildis thai schew at ane sicht. 15.. *Scot. Field* 231 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, There were killed of the Scottes moe than xij scower. 1583 BP. MIDDLETON *Injunct.* in *2nd Rep. Ritual Comm.* (1868) 426/2 Excepte there bee at the leaste, three for euery score communicantes that bee in the Parishe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* I. ii. 111 Shee may perhaps call him halfe a score knaues, or so. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. ii. 69 How many score of Miles may we well rid Twixt houre, and houre? 1645 *Shetland Witch Trial* in Hibbert *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* (1822) 600 At your returne they continuit with you, and conversit *ut supra*, als far back agane as scoir and threttein. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 286 They chose divers scores men, who [etc.]. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3190/4, 41 stout Cambridgeshire Wethers, worth about 14 l. a Score. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 340 Six score thousand. *a* 1742 SOMERVILLE *Yeom. Kent* 82 Neighbours around, and cousins went By scores, to pay their compliment. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 69 (*In the Street*), I form'd a score different plans. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 273 He taught him to..bend his body into half a score antic postures. 1800 LD. KEITH in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 223 The inhabitants of Genoa Die by Scores of hunger. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* V, Till he had box'd up twelve score pounds at least. 1842 MACAULAY *Lays, Lake Regillus* XXVIII, And still stood all who saw them fall While men might count a score. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXIV, There were a score of generals now round Becky's chair. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* VII, I wished a round score of men.

b. with ellipsis of *years* (referring to age). Now *rare* exc. in THREESCORE and FOURSCORE.

13.. *Sewyn Sag.* (W.) 1019 He thoughte wel, at a score, He sschoIde passi him before. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* VIII. (1905) 101 He died at two-score.

17. A weight of twenty or twenty-one pounds, esp. used in weighing pigs or oxen.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XIII. 631 As a shepe of sevyn skore he weyd in my fyst. 1766 *Museum Rust.* I. 475 To kill several hogs in a season, which shall weigh from eight to ten score. 1825 COBBETT *Rural Rides* 274 The thousands of scores of bacon and thousands of bushels of bread that have been eaten from the long oak table. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 217 At fifteen months old, they weigh about 28 score. 1858 *Ulster Jrnl. Archæol.* VI. 361 The meal came down to three thirteens the score. 1885 W. WESTALL *Old Factory* XIX. 134, I'll send them a score of meal and half a score of flour and some milk.

†**18.** A distance of twenty paces. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 157 For I should se one streame wyth in a score on me. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1142/1 The trees were pulled up by the roots and cast twelve score off. 1588 SIR W. WYNTER in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) II. 10 My fortune was to make choice to charge their starboard wing without shooting of any ordnance until we came within six score of them. 1591 LYLY *Entert. Elvetham* Proeme, Wks. 1902 I. 432 Other such buildings..fourteene score off from the house on a hill side. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 34 As easie, as a Canon will shoot point-blanke twelue score. 1622 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* XXVI. 331 At Markes full fortie score they vs'd to Prick and Roue. 1646 ELDRED *Gunners Glasse* 71 Foure Demi-Culverings to the moule Rod or Pole, distant 53 score. 1672 H. MORE *Brief Reply* Pref. *a* 4 b, Wherein the Authors fancy..leaping over all boundaries of Church-Authority,.. runs on at eleven-score, as if he were upon a warm scent, giving chase to some of his Platonical Idea's [*sic*].

19. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1851.)

1754 T. GARDNER *Dunwich* 216 This Port [Southwold] is of singular note in merchandizing Corn and Coals, where twenty-one is deemed a Score. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 681 The wages of hewers 2s. 8d. for hewing every score or twenty corves of coals. 1812 HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 98 Persons who..wrought 624 scores of coal, equal to 1300 Newcastle chaldrons. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 46 *Score*, a standard number of tubs or corves of coals at each colliery, upon which the hewers' and putters' prices for working are paid. It varies, in different localities, from 20 to 26 tubs.

20. (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1854 *Househ. Words* IX. 88 Strips [of straw plait] are.. sold in scores, or pieces twenty yards long.

IV. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *score-keeping*; **score-board**, (*a*) a blackboard in a public house, on which debts are chalked up; (*b*) in *Cricket*, a large board erected so as to be seen by the onlookers, on which the score of the game is kept; **score-book**, a book for preserving the scores of games; a scoring-book; **score-card**, (*a*) a printed card with a blank form on which spectators may enter the score in a game of cricket or baseball; (*b*) *U. S.*, 'in exhibitions of poultry, a rating card' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); (*c*) see quot. 1909; **score-game** *Golf*, a game in which the player's object is to obtain the highest score possible (opposed to *match game*); so **score-play**; **score-paper** = *score-sheet*; **score-sheet** (see quot. 1895).

1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 90 A species of desk on which was lying a black *score-board and a lump of chalk. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 299/1 The club has its own score-board. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 26 July 7/1 The score-board showed Somerset 147 up for the loss of four wickets. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 191 In Britcher's printed *score-book, Mr. J. Tufton is..put down as bowled merely. 1902 W. J. FORD *Hist. Camb. Univ. C. C.* Pref. 9 The C. U. C. C. has but..two scorebooks. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 4 July 5/7 For without stop-watches, *score-cards, and constant figuring, one had no idea where the contestants were. 1905 *McClure's Mag.* June 125/2 The football score-card privilege is 'sold to a New York expert'. 1909 EASTWOOD *Rep. to L. G. B. on Amer. Methods Milk Supply* 69 Most of the cities which I visited have adopted the score card system of inspection. When examining a place where milk is..sold, the inspector fills up a card containing a printed list of the details on which he is required to report. For each detail a maximum score of a certain number of points is assigned. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 19 Aug. 9/7 The amateurs like match play best because they do better in it than they do at the *score game. *Ibid.* 20 Dec. 3/4 Many witty things he has to say, as, for instance, on *score-keeping. 1847 W. DENISON *Cricketer's Comp.* p. xv, [Such runs] ought in fairness not to be placed on the *score-paper as single byes. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 315 Scorers, or those who copied the score papers into the book, must have been very careless. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 2/1 In *score play..the same argument does not apply. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, **Score-sheet*, a sheet ruled or designed for scoring; specifically, in baseball and cricket, a sheet ruled for recording all the features of the game.

Score (skōəɹ), *v.* Also 5–7 skore, 6 scoore, 6–7 scoure, 7 scoar. [a. ON. *skora* to make an incision, to count by tallies, f. *skor*: see SCORE *sb.* The Eng. development of senses has been largely influenced by the sb., and in some senses the vb. may be regarded as an Eng. formation on this.]

I. To cut, mark with incisions.

1. *trans.* To cut superficially; to make scores or cuts in; to mark with incisions, notches, or abrasions of the skin. Also, † *To score away*, to remove by cutting.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 231 If þou desirist to cure glandulas & scrophulas..kutte þe skyn endelongis þe necke, ..& þane score [Latin *discarnare*] him & drawe him out al hool with þe cloop. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 119 Have a thing therfore Made like a swerde this folk [*sc.* the testicles] away to score. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 55 His feit with stanis war rewin and scorde. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 34 Thow wolde haue scoryd hys habarion. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/27 To score, *crenare, incidere.* 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* IV. v, Scoring a man ore the coxcomb is but a scratch with you. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 124 She with her teeth scored his skull in notches in many places. 1794 J. CLARK *Agric. Heref.* 44 When the trees are unkindly 'hide-bound', they are 'scored' by cutting the bark with the point of a knife. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* V. 615 Here stood stern Putnam, scored with ancient scars. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1850) 380 He..found most of the tall trees..more or less scored by the axe. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* v. (1879) 84 The elephant..deeply scores with its tusks the trunk of the tree. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* x. 75 We see the primitive plough of the forking tree-branch, scarcely scoring the soil. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Iseult* III. 172 A briar in that tangled wilderness Had scor'd her white right hand. 1872 BAKER *Nile Trib.* xi. 186 Young infants are scored with a razor. 1891 *Century Dict., Score*, to make a long shallow cut in (cardboard or very thick paper), so that the card or paper can be bent without breaking, as for book-covers or folded cards. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lxii, Out of a stem that scored the hand I wrung it in a weary land.

b. *spec.* in *Cookery.* To make long parallel cuts upon (meat, etc.).

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 236 A calf lyuer skorde with the veryose. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 87 To Roast a Cod's Head. Wash it very clean and score it with a Knife. 1772 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 95 The skin [of a loin of pork] must then be scored cross-wise. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 168 Some butchers in the north country score the fat of the closing of the hind quarter. 1853 SOYER *Pantropheon* 138 Having previously scored the back of the animal [to be baked].

c. To mark by cuts of a whip. Also *transf.* and *absol.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. vii. 12 Let vs score their backes. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 286 The remaining miserable last cultivator, who grows to the soil, after having his back scored by the farmer, has it again flayed by the whip of the assignee. *c* 1806 SIR R. WILSON *Cape of Good Hope* in *Life* (1862) I. 362 It is not pretended ..that the lash never scores at the caprice of ill temper.

† d. Sc. *To score aboon the breath*: to gash the forehead of (a suspected witch) with a knife or a rusty nail, in order to render her incapable of mischief. *Obs.*

1787 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 93 (Jam.) A witty wife did than advise Rob to gang to Maukin Wise, An' score her over, ance or twice, Aboon the breath. 1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard* Note xi, He seized her forcibly, and cut the shape of the cross on her forehead. This they call *scoring aboon the breath.*

e. *Geol.* To mark with scratches or furrows; said esp. with reference to glacial action.

1862 TYNDALL *Mountaineer.* iii. 19 All around the rocks are carved, and fluted, and polished, and scored. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 161 These stones, pressed by the weight of ice above, scratch and score the rocky bed in the direction of the ice-flow. 1879 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* I. ii. 66 If the water be not sufficiently deep, they ground, and being swayed by waves and tides they [*sc.* icebergs] chafe and score the bottom in a somewhat irregular manner.

† **2.** To fracture, wreck (a ship). *Obs.*

1504 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 188 The schip callit the Litill Martin latlie skorit or brokin in tha partis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iv. 91 Hir foirschip hang, and sum deill scorit throwout [orig. *inlisaque prora pependit*]. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 482 Item, for the mendyng of the said boit, scho beand skorit with greit artailyery passand to the schippis. 1546 [see SCORING *vbl. sb.* 1].

3. To produce (marks, figures, etc.) by cutting. Also (with allusion to sense 10), to record or express by cuts or notches.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 2 And on his brest a bloodie crosse he bore,..Upon his shield the like was also scor'd. 1592 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 65 She will scoure your fault vpon my pate. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. ii, Draw your iust sword, And score your vengeance, on my front, and face. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 81 My pen shall point thee out, And thy lewde actes vpon thy forehead score. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1850) 380 On the bark of the tree was scored the name of Deacon Peabody. 1869 FROUDE *Short Stud.* Ser. II. (1871) 325 If we except the Athenians and Jews, no people so few in number have scored so deep a mark in the world's history as you [Scots] have done. 1889 — *Two Chiefs of Dunboy* XXVII. 415 They shall..score such marks on you as the quarter-master leaves on the slaves that you hire to fight your battles.

4. *Naut.* To make a 'score' or groove in; to fix by means of a 'score'.

1779 BARNARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 108 Pl. 3, E. Pillars in hold about which every half Beam was scored. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 298/1 These brass wheels..are fixed over the centre of each block that is to be scored. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* II. 27 This bulb-iron is scored down between the floors sufficiently deep to lay hold of the Keelson-pieces with a double row of rivets.

5. *U. S.* [? fig. use of 1 c.] To rate, scold severely.

1891 LOUNSBURY *Studies Chaucer* III. vii. 223 Even poor Lipscomb..was soundly scored for his grossness and vulgarity. 1896 *Nation* LXIII. 37/2 He does not hesitate to score the Germans for their obstinate adherence to their own language and manners.

II. 6. To mark with a line or lines.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 555 Thouh syluer be white, yet it makyth blacke lynes and strakes in the body that it is scoryd therwyth or rulyd therwyth. 1530 PALSGR. 706/2 Whan your tymber is well scoored, you can never fayle to sawe it right. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* III. iii. 1326 Then with his nayle score the margent as though there were some notable conceit. 1632 MARMION *Holland's Leaguer* I. v, No name or title but on posts and trenchers, And doors scored with a coal instead of chalk. 1672 *Essex Papers* (1890) 18, I desire his Majᵗʸᵉ would bee pleasd to review yᵉ sevrall clauses wᶜʰ for his greater ease I have scored with a pen in the severall copys here transmitted. 1784 W. KING *Cook's 3rd Voy.* V. vii. III. 151 They have likewise a method of scoring them [*sc.* gourds] with a heated instrument. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 185 Covered with cement, scored (lined) in imitation of stone, and whitewashed. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, Passages had been scored in his favourite books. 1869 PARKMAN *Discov. Gt. West* xiii. (1875) 154 The plains were scored with their pathways. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* II. 20 Fields and meadows, scored with hedges. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 384 A votive tablet covered with Punic characters and scored with rude figures of a triangle and an uplifted hand. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. I. 163 We had found..a copy of the once famous Tract 90..scored over with pencil marks.

b. *absol.* To make marks.

1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 272 Upon Torrefaction it was all become a Yellow Ochre, and would score like it.

† c. To mark *out* (a path, a boundary, etc.).

1608 DAY *Hum. out of Breath* II. i, Giue me money, ile be thy snaile and score out a siluer path to his confusion. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* IV. 20 Acquieting the soules that newe before Their way to heav'n through their owne blood did skore. 1633 G. HERBERT *Priest to Temple* XIII, These Two Rules..excellently score out the way, and fully, and exactly contain..what course is to be taken. 1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* 55 Hast thou..Scor'd out the bounded Suns obliquer wayes? 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Dominium Maris* Advt., The limits thereof, beeing a fluent element, could not bee scored out, or certainly determined. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 84 Never to take up the Stakes till the Track be scored out very plain upon the Ground.

† d. *To score out*: to sketch in outline, adumbrate. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 265 Almost in the same instant the first threds of the spermaticall partes are together and at once skored or shaddowed out with rude lines.

7. To draw a line through (writing, etc.) in order to cancel. Often with *out*.

1687 JOHNSTON in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 154 In the..Paper I found it scored out. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 10 Where the penalty in a bond was left blank, and the said blank scored, the Lords refused to modify any expences. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* III. 42 Scoring the lease from corner to corner, with his newly-

mended pen. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 184 His full Mercy's gracious store With liberal dash thy guilt shall score And blot the sentence. 1879 *Daily Tel.* 29 May, The passage in the will containing the bequest of the annuity to the noble Lord and his Lady was scored out.

† **8.** *trans.* To stripe, braid. *Obs. rare.*

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* D 3 b, A payre of Veluet slops, scored thicke with Lace.

9. *Mus.* a. To write down in score. b. To compose or arrange for orchestral performance.

1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* xvi, Handel would make the gusty organs blow Grandly, and a rich storm in music score us! 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* xxxiv. 326 He pretended to score down an air as the poet played it. 1871 R. BROWNING *Prince Hohenstiel-Schwangau* 1813 Who scores a septett true for strings and wind Mulcted must be. 1884 *American* VIII. 94 Mr. Gilchrist skilfully scored the cantata for full orchestra. 1885 *Manchester Exam.* 9 Jan. 5/6 The Adagio is scored with great beauty, the treatment of the wood instruments and horns being especially effective.

III. To record by scores.

10. To record (debts) by means of notches on a tally; hence to write down as a debt. Also with *up*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 416 And, if so be I faille, I am your wyf; score it vp-on my taille, And I shal paye, as soone as euer I may. *c* 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 407 in *Babees Bk.*, Per-fore on his 3erde skore shalle he Alle messys in halle þat seruet be. 1530 PALSGR. 706/2, I score, I marke upon a tayle or score, *je marque*. Score it, I pray you, for forgettyng. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 29 Score a Pint of Bastard in the Halfe Moone. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* viii. 14 He..scores his dyet on the Vtlers post. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* II. 15 When I brought them a reckoning, they would have had me to have scor'd it vp. 1659 ETHEREDGE *Love in Tub* I. ii, The Chandler refus'd to score a quart of Scurvy-grass. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 184 Let's .keep drinking and scoring brisk Claret. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xii, He answered: 'That signifies nothing: Score it behind the door'. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxxii, Joe provided him with a slate, upon which the old man regularly scored up vast accounts. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peerage* iv, Pleading some ridiculous three-and-ninepence scored against me on the slate. *fig.* 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxx. 760 And certes you also ..may skore up this for none of the least. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxii, Nor need I tallies thy dear love to score. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Gov. Eng.* I. lxiv. (1739) 133 The Subject must be contented rather to score it up against the future, than require present pay. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvi, I won't deal with you now,..I'll score it against ye, and some time I'll have my pay out o' yer old black hide. 1883 TYNDALL in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIV. 39 His [Rumford's] inference from his experiments was scored in favour of those philosophers who held that heat is a form of motion.

† b. *To score* (something) *on* a person or thing: to lay to the charge of, to impute to. *Obs.*

1645 MILTON *Colasterion* 3 Bearing us in hand as if hee knew both Greek and Ebrew, and is not able to spell it; which had hee been, it had bin either writt'n as it ought, or scor'd upon the Printer. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Surrey* (1662) III. 96 This was the true Cause of his Execution, though in our Chronicles all is scored on his complying in a Plot.

† **11.** *intr.* To run up a score; to obtain drink, goods, etc. on credit. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 1 b, Pitch and pay, they will pray all day: score & borrow, they will wish him much sorrow. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* I. 12 It is the commonest thing that can bee for these Captaines to score and to score, but when the scores are to be paid, *Non est inventus*. 16.. CLEVELAND *May Day* xiv. Wks. (1687) 253 Then lose the Flood-gates George, wee'll pay or score. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 83 Being as welcome to score, as with ready Money. 1779 *Mirror* No. 23 P 3 Which title [*sc.* of an honest fellow] he continued to enjoy..while he had credit to score for his reckoning.

b. *trans.* To add (an item) to one's score; to incur (a debt). In quot. *fig.*

1681 DRYDEN *Sp. Fryar* I. i. 3 It seems the holy Stallion durst not score Another Sin before he left the world.

12. *trans.* To enter as a debtor. Also with *up*.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G j, If any chaunce to go on the skore, you skore him when he is a sleepe, and set vp a grote a daye more than he hath. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* L 4 b, He stood noted or scoard for it in their bookes manie a faire day after. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. ix. (1640) 244 By dying for the Crosse [they did] crosse the score of their own sinnes and score up God for their debtour. 1801 HUNTINGTON *God Guardian of Poor* 64 Thus I scored up my blessed Master, who, in his own time, always discharged my debts with honour. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x. P 17 You may earn your board easily enough, by scoring up the customers, and keeping my ledger.

† b. *To score up*: to placard as an offender.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 38 b, I thinke good they [flatterers] were scored up among the intollerable. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 25 If she say I am not xviii. d. on the score for sheere Ale, score me vp for the lyingst knaue in Christendome.

13. To record the number of (anything) by notches or marks; to keep an account of; to count and set down the number of (e. g. sheep). Also with *up*.

a 1400 *Quatrefoil of Love* in *Furnivall Miscell.* 128 Oure werkes are wretyn and scorde, In a role of recorde. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 119 Wherein the age to come may skore him among the auncient Princes. 1609 ROWLANDS *Whole Crew* 7 When I was Maid, with Chalke behind our doore, Some fiue and forty Suitors I did score. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 40, I haue not taken vpon mee to score vp all the accidents and occasions to further old age. 1631 A. WILSON *Swisser* III. ii, Wee will score vp Summs Of our embraces. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Good Friday* iii, Or shall each leaf, Which falls in Autumne, score a grief? 1656 COWLEY *Anacreontics* vi. Poems 34 An hundred Loves at Athens score, At Corinth write an hundred more. 1681 DRYDEN *Sp. Fryar* I. i. 6 We were in hast; and cou'd not stay To score the men we kill'd: But there they lye. 1681 — *Abs. & Achit.* I. 542 Such were the tools; but a whole Hydra more Remains of sprouting heads too long to score.

14. In a game or contest: To set down in the score: often with *complementary obj.* Chiefly in *passive*.

1742 HOYLE *Whist* i. 15 If your Game is scored 1, 2, or 3, you must play the Reverse. 17.. in *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* (1862) I. Pref. 10 Y^e Umpires..in case of hindrance may order a Notch to be Scored. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 22 Leg-before-wicket was also introduced about this time [1775], but at first simply scored down as bowled. *Ibid.* 191 [Aug. 12–15, 1795] In this match 'leg-before-wicket' is found scored for the first time. 1892 *Hurlingham Club Rules* 241 If a bird that has been shot at perches or settles on the top of the fence,..it is to be scored a lost bird.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To record the points in a game or contest, to act as scorer.

1846 W. DENISON *Sk. Players* 11 Mr. Whittaker..accompanied Mr. Mynn, and scored for him. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 244 No one was bowled out on the England side, therefore (owing to the imperfect way of scoring at this period [1798]) it is impossible to say who got the wickets. 1891 W. G. GRACE in *Outdoor Games* 14 The great thing in keeping score, after keeping it correctly, is to score neatly.

15. *trans.* Of a player or competitor: To add (so many points) to one's score. Also said of an incident in the game: To count for (so many points) in a player's score. Phr. *to score a miss*: see MISS *sb.*[1] 7 b.

1742 HOYLE *Whist* 8, A and B are to score 10 Points. 1782 BURNBY in *Kentish Gaz.* 20–3 Nov., Now the Batsman ..Sends the Ball Over all Scores six Notches for the feat. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 81 When a batter.. was scoring more runs than pleased our general, he would put Mann in to give him eight or twelve balls. 1850 'BAT' *Cricketer's Man.* 100 Pilch scored sixty-one. 1856 'CAPT. CRAWLEY' *Billiards* (1859) 33 My first stroke scored three. 1862 'CAVENDISH' *Whist* (1879) 2 To score honours is not sufficient; they must be called at the end of the hand. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. xxii. (1878) 125 On the present occasion a great many sixpenny points [at whist] were scored. 1885 *Manchester Exam.* 13 July 5/5 Two batsmen of the Harrow eleven..scored respectively 100 and 135. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 264/2 (Curling) *Souter*, to score a love game; not to allow the opponents to score. 1898 *Ibid.* II. 262/2 (Ringoal) If the ring hit the goal-post and glance off it through the goal, it shall score a point to the server.

b. *intr.* To make points in a game or contest: said of a player or competitor; also, of a card or an incident in the game.

1844 MARDON *Billiards* 115 But, should the striker not score, it is at the option of the opponent to break them or not. *Ibid.* 116 If either of the balls lodge on a cushion, it is off the table; and should a canon or hazard be made, it does not score. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IX. xi, It might score well in the game. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 440 William Beldham was now fifty-five years of age, and still continued to score largely. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 417 Sometimes it is advisable to combine safety with an attempt to score. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 676/1 The player whose ball is in hand cannot score, unless he play his ball out of baulk before striking the object-ball. 1889 *Field* 12 Jan. 47/3 Spit drew out three lengths, scored thrice, and after a few exchanges with Gradation, picked puss up.

c. To count or be reckoned in a score.

1885 *Field* 19 Dec. 847/1 The hazard scores to the striker.

16. *transf.* and *fig.* (chiefly *colloq.*) a. *trans.* To gain, win (a success, etc.).

1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* XV. 124 She felt that she had scored the first success in the encounter. 1884 *Athenæum* 24 May 658 Occasionally the latter editor scores a point. 1884 *Manchester Exam.* 12 May 5/3 Last year he scored two unequivocal successes. 1885 *Ibid.* 13 Jan. 5/1 Prince Bismarck has at length scored a victory in his impracticable Reichstag. 1908 *Athenæum* 27 June 786/2 Though never exactly profound, Macaulay invariably scores his point.

b. *intr.* To achieve a success; to make a hit. *To score off* (a person): to gain a triumph over, to make a point at the expense of.

1882 'LUCAS MALET' *Mrs. Lorimer* I. xiii, For once she felt she had scored off her adversary. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Nov. 522/1 The hat was cut and smashed, the lord's head was uninjured; so that, happily, the lord may be said to have 'scored'. 1887 DOYLE *Study in Scarlet* (1892) 87, I told you that, whatever happened, Lestrade and Gregson would be sure to score. 1890 SAINTSBURY in *New Rev.* Feb. 143 The Republic scores by its appeal to..the most widely diffused of human weaknesses. 1891 *Spectator* 1 Aug. 148/1 Boys home for the holidays delight in 'scoring off' their most beloved friends and relatives.

IV. 17. *intr.* To 'go off at score' (see SCORE *sb.* 3 b).

1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxviii. 160 They [the hounds] score away full cry on getting upon more propitious ground. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583/1 (Fox-hunting) *Scoring*, Hounds 'score' when the whole pack speak to a strong scent.

Scored (skōəd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCORE *v.* + -ED [1].] In senses of the vb.: Marked with lines, furrows, or grooves.

1535 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 208 To henry my son, a red scoryd cow. 1775 SCHUYLER in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 41, I..beg you to erase the scored part of the letter after perusal. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v., Scored stem, *exaratus caulis*, marked deeply with parallel lines, or rather grooves. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 210 Seeds 2, egg-oblong, convex and scored on one side. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* II. xviii. 45 With ragged bark, and scored timbers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Scored pulley*, a pulley grooved around its perimeter for a round band. 1897 *Bookseller's Catal.* Oct. 10/1, 4 vols in 2, cr. 8vo, full bound scored russia.

† **Scorel, skorrell.** *Obs.* ?Loppings of trees.

1671 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* (Bundle 97. no. 2), To John Wright for one load of skorrell and three load of slag wood to make a groyn. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 128 To take the mantle off the water, lash bits of scorels, about four feet long, to each other [etc.].

Scorel, obs. form of SQUIRREL.

Scoreless (skōəlĕs), *a.* [f. SCORE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Making no 'score' or mark.

1611 J. DAVIES *Rights Living & Dead* (Grosart) 69 Thy patient bearing this thy Scourge (or Crosse) Doth make it scorelesse.

2. In a game: Having no score.

1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 447/1 When both their hands had been disposed of they were still scoreless. 1890 *Times* 20 May 11/1 Three Notts batmen had been got out scoreless.

Scorer (skōəroi). [f. SCORE *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who marks trees for felling.

1394 in *Archæologia* XXIV. 310 Et sic deficiunt ij lodes xij pedes [meremii] unde respondent le scorer et le cailer et alii ministri ibidem. 1880 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 7 Jan. 28 The scorers and liner fell the trees and roughly trim the two opposite sides.

2. Any instrument used for scoring (see quots.).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. vi. 290/2 The Scorer is a round piece of Iron-plate fixed in another long piece,..with this Taylors score, or make a mark on Cloth before they venture to cut it. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 374 The scorer is a well known instrument used by woodmen in marking numbers on timber trees. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2056 *Scorer* (*Joinery*), an instrument employed to cut transversely the face of a board to enable it to be planed without slivering.

3. In a game or contest: One whose duty it is to keep a record of the score.

1773 *Kentish Cricketers* in *Canterbury Jrnl.* 21–8 Sept., And underneath the shady tree The Scorer's fix'd the Runs to see. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 65 The whole eleven, with the umpire and scorer, were conveyed in one caravan. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, The umpires were stationed behind the wickets; the scorers were prepared to notch the runs. 1890 W. CAMP in *Century Mag.* June 206 There is one scorer, who records the order in which contestants finish, as well as their time.

4. One who makes a score.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 July 8/2 The highest scorer in the first stage of the Queen's Prize. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 4/8 Credit must be given to Bell, to whom the scorer was indebted for getting the ball.

Scorey, variant of SCAURIE.

Scorf, Scorfy, obs. ff. SCURF, SCURVY *a.*

Scorge, obs. var. SCOURGE *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], and *v.*

‖ **Scoria** (skōəriă). Pl. **scoriæ** (skōəriĭ) and (rarely) **scorias**. Cf. SCORIUM, SCORY. [L. *scōria* dross, a. Gr. σκωρία, f. σκῶρ dung. Cf. F. *scorie*.]

1. The slag or dross remaining after the smelting out of a metal from its ore. Also *transf.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xliv. (1495) 568 Syndre hyght Scoria and is the fylth of yren that is clensyd therfro in fyre. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. iv. II. 467 The grosse substance cast up from the pot or vessell & swimming aloft..is named Scoria. 1683 DIGBY *Chym. Secrets* 105 See that you do not cast away the *Scoria*. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 146 These floating matters take the name of *Scoriæ*. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. ii. 245 Dark patches, like scoria, floating on the molten surface of the photosphere. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 144 Those alkaloids and extractive matters..must be regarded as veritable scoria, resulting in the processes of physiological combustion of the elements of the organic tissues.

fig. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 41 So redundant is the population of the Inner House found to be,..so large the proportion of the mass that runs into *scoriæ* [etc.]. 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Lang.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 154 'Material objects', said a French philosopher, 'are necessarily kinds of *scoriæ* of the substantial thoughts of the creator'.

2. Rough clinker-like masses formed by the cooling of the surface of molten lava upon exposure to the air, and distended by the expansion of imprisoned gases.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 37 A company of persons..have found further evidences of internal fires; particularly a large quantity of *scoriæ*. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 294 The ejected scoriæ of volcanoes are receptacles in which mineral products previously unknown are constantly discovered. 1896 F. M. CRAWFORD *Corleone* ii. (1898) 16 A barren stretch of burnt lava and scoriæ, which had descended..from some lower crater of the volcano.

attrib. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* xi. 235 The further ascent lies up a long scoria ridge of loose, red, pumiceous rock.

Scoriac (skōəriæk), *a.* [f. prec. + -AC.] =next.

a 1849 POE *Ulalume* 15 These were days when my heart was volcanic As the scoriac rivers that roll. 1878 LANGLEY in Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* 280 Views which regard..the spots as analogous..to scoriac matter.

fig. 1870 FRISWELL *Mod. Men of Lett.* xvi. 275 There is something scoriac about the face, as if the fires of a volcano had nearly burnt themselves out. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* iii. 26 They rush madly to the 'scoriac fire of passion' and consume their very beings with draughts of its liquid fire.

Scoriaceous (skōəriēĭ·ʃəs), *a.* [f. SCORIA + -ACEOUS. Cf. F. *scoriacé*.] Having the nature of scoria.

1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 527 Since it has no one character of scoriaceous matters melted by artificial fire. 1821 H. E. LLOYD tr. *Kotzebue's Voy.* III. 352 Scoriaceous Lava, resembling the dross of a forge. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* II. ii. § 3. 89 Portions..are called scoriaceous, this being the character of the rough clinker-like scoriæ of a recent lava stream.

Scoriated (skōəriēĭtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCORIA + -ATE [3] + -ED [1].] Reduced to scoria, scorified.

1891 *New Rev.* Oct. 325 Hideous tracts of scoriated refuse.

†Scoria·tion. *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic form of EXCORIATION.] = EXCORIATION 3.

1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. li. 73 The oyle of Vitriolł healeth all the Scoriaciones of the mouth.

Scorie, variant of SCAURIE.

Scorification (skō·rifikā·ʃən). [f. SCORIFY; see -FICATION.] The process of reducing to scoria; formation of scoria or slag; *spec.* as a method of refining or assay.

1754 LEWIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 683 The scorification and dissipation, which most of the metals suffer in the fire. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 762 If..the extremity of the hook..is covered with a thin, shining, smooth crust, the scorification is perfect. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v., The operation involves roasting, fusion, and scorification proper, or the formation of a slag.

attrib. 1877 GEE *Silversmith's Handbk.* 18 The scorification process..is..applicable to the assay of all kinds of argentiferous ores.

b. *transf.* (Cf. SCORIA 2.)

1867 W. W. SMYTH *Presid. Addr. Geol. Soc.* 72 We may conclude that the peridotic rocks are the most direct products of a scorification which took place at an enormously remote epoch. *Ibid.* 73 Such is the metallurgical sense in which the scorification of the globe is intended to be understood.

Scorified (skō·rifeid), *ppl. a.* [f. SCORIFY + -ED[1].] Reduced to the form of scoria.

1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 99 The scorified remains of a current of lava. 1878 RAMSAY *Phys. Geol.* 614 The scorified ramparts of the forts in Bohemia.

Scorifier (skō·rifəiəɹ). [f. SCORIFY + -ER[1].] A vessel of fire-clay used in the process of the purification of metals in assaying.

1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 177 These vessels are called Tests, or Scorifiers: they are scarce ever used but in the Docimastic art, that is, in making small Assays of ores. 1881 J. PERCY *Metallurgy, Fuel,* etc. 456 Scorifiers or roasting dishes. 1881 *Metal World* No. 6. 83 The scorifier must be large enough to admit the charge without filling it.

Scoriform (skō·rifɔim), *a.* [f. SCORIA + -FORM.] Having the form of scoria, resembling scoria.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 169 The substance.. melts into a scoriform mass. 1852 G. P. SCROPE *Volcanoes* 23 Instantaneously congealed into a thick scoriform crust. 1871 *Hartwig's Subterr. World* vi. 62 The black chaotic rocks of scoriform lava which form the floor of the crater.

Scorify (skō·rifəi), *v.* [f. SCORIA + -FY.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to scoria or slag.

1754 LEWIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 686 Mixtures of platina with bismuth..were..scorified in assay-crucibles. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 214 The lead which in this operation is scorified, and scorifies along with it the imperfect metals. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 492 The iron is fused under an oxidizing flame, by which about 10 % is scorified.

2. To convert (lava) into scoria.

1852 T. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 115 Wherever these lavas are scorified, and where they have a shining surface,..the development of vegetation is extremely slow.

Scoring (skō·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCORE *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb SCORE in various senses; an instance of this.

1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* XI. 145 Mr Seymour who landed here yesternyght..,scapyng a scoryng, beyng chased furst by that knave cowerd Burley, and put in gret dawnger with the shot of a sacre. 1592 GREENE *Disput. Hee & Shee Conny-c.* F 4, Hearing how that poore woman did finde fault with his scoring, the Gentleman not only put her out of doores without wages, but would haue arrested her. 1698 PLOT *Blackland* in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 183 [Called] by Dr. Merret, *Nigrica Fabrilis,* from its use in Scoring. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Assembler,* to unite the several pieces of..a ship, as by..scarfing, scoring, tenenting, &c. 1885 *Athenæum* 4 Apr. 446/1 The bold drawing and emphatic scoring of the graver. 1893 F. F. MOORE *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 109 Julian did not admire this 'scoring' on Bertha's part.

2. *concr.* Lines or figures scored.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 94/1 Scoreing or Strick lines on the Canvice to sow straight. 1864 *Reader* 13 Feb. 209/3 Sir Charles Nicholson..referred to the scorings of human or animal forms on rocks. 1890 *St. Nicholas* Nov. 66/2 In the sandstone..the deep, broad scorings can be plainly seen.

3. *attrib.*: **scoring board,** a board on which the state of the score at a match or contest is shown; **scoring-book,** a book in which the scores of games are entered; **scoring engine** *Naut.,* a machine for scoring blocks; **scoring iron** (see quot. 1688); **scoring-knife,** a knife for marking turf; **scoring machine** = *scoring engine*; also, a machine for scoring cardboard for making boxes (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **scoring-sheet** = *score-sheet*; **scoring stroke** *Golf,* a stroke in score-play; **scoring-table** *Cricket,* the table at which the scorer or scorers sit.

1894 *Times* 16 July 8/1 The Scottish eight was at least nine points better than the *scoring boards gave them credit for being. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* III. I. i. 490/2 (*Cricket*), *Scoring-books (Lillywhite's). 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* vii, The little card-box and the scoring-book of the players. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 147 The *scoring engine receives two blocks..and forms the groove round their longest diameters for the reception of their ropes or straps. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 397/1 A *Scoaring Iron...With this..they Scoare and run Veines on the Leather. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Green-plot,* After the Lines are thus scored out with a sharp *Scoring-knife. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 298/1 Scoring the blocks..is performed by the *scoring Machine. 1891 W. G. GRACE in *Outdoor Games* 15 *Scoring-sheet. Match played at Bilbery. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, 'How many runs?' Away scamper three boys to the *scoring-table.

Scorious (skō·riəs), *a.* [f. SCORIA + -OUS.] Of the nature of scoria; abounding in scoria.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 59 By the fire they omit..many drossie and scorious parts. 1676 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 808 The other part of the Cone..is of a more scorious Nature. 1816 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* 256 In porous or scorious lavas, the crystals are more friable and opaque, than those in more compact lavas. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 73 These débris form a wall of scorious rock. 1862 MRS. SPEID *Last Yrs. India* 34 Aden—shrubless, flowerless, dusky, grim, and scorious.

†Sco·rium. *Obs.* Erroneously formed sing. to SCORIA, mistaken for a neut. pl.

1681 GREW *Musæum* III. § ii. i. 325 The Scorium of the Freybergick S[ilver] Ore. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Antiq. near Naples* 237 As we see the *Scorium* of Metals always gathers into a solid Piece.

†Sco·rken, *v.* In 3 (Ormin) **scorrenenn.** [? a. ON. *skorpna* to be shrivelled, f. *skorpenn* shrivelled.] In *passive*: To be scorched or parched.

c 1200 ORMIN 1474 Þe rihhte dom iss starrc & harrd & all Þe rihhte wræche, Swa summ itt wære scorrcnedd laf Þatt iss wiþþutenn crummess. *Ibid.* 8626 Forr hatt te land wass driȝȝedd all & scorrcnedd Þurrh Þe druhhþe.

†Sco·rkle, *v. Obs. rare.* [? Altered form of prec.] *trans.* To scorch.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. vi. (Camb. MS.) (1886) 43 And ek nero gouernede alle Þe poeples Þat the vyolent wynd nothus scorklith [*Addit. MS.* scorchiþ; *orig. has* torret], and bakyth the brennyng sandes by hys drye hete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/1 Scorklyd, *ustillatus.* Scorkelyn, *ustulo.* Scorklynge [*v.r.* Scorkelyng], *ustillacio.*

Scorn (skɔ̄ɹn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2–3 **skarn,** 3 **scarn, scharne.** *β.* 2–7 **scorne,** 3–4 **schorn,** 3–7 **skorn,** 4 **schorne,** 4–7 **skorne,** 6 *Sc.* **scrone,** 2– **scorn.** [Early ME. *skarn, scharne,* aphetic a. OF. *escarn, escharn* = Pr. *esquern-s,* Sp. *escarnio,* Pg. *escarnho,* It. *scherno*; a Com. Rom. word of Teut. origin: cf. OHG. *skern,* MHG. *schern,* OS. *scern,* early mod.Du. *scherne* mockery, sport.

The 8 forms, which both in the sb. and in the vb. appear equally early with the *α* forms, are not easy to account for. The remarkable similarity of form and sense with It. *scornare,* lit. to deprive of the horns (:—popular L. **ex-cornāre,* f. L. *cornū* horn), hence to disgrace, slander, deride, *scorno* (vbl. sb.) dishonour, insult, contempt, has given rise to the suggestion that the form of the Eng. words may have been influenced by OF. *escorner* (mod.F. *écorner*) to deprive of horns. But although the Fr. verb occurs (rarely) in the 16th c. with the sense 'to put to confusion', 'to mock', this seems to be a late adoption from Italian; OF. *escorner* has, besides its literal meaning, only the transferred sense to despoil. In the 16th and 17th c. the It. word may perh. have influenced the Eng. literary use.]

1. Mockery, derision, contempt; in mod. use, indignant or passionate contempt.

a. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4402 Þatt tu ne take nohht wiþþ skarn, Wiþþ hæþinng, ne wiþþ idell, Þe name off ure Laferrd Crist. *Ibid.* 4876, & all onn hæþing & o skarn Off me gaþ e33whær spæche. *c* 1205 LAY. 17307 Þa Þe king Gillomar makede mucchel hoker & scarn.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Þo ne mihte no man for stenche cumen him enden..ac mest manne gremede him mid scorne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 Amid Þe muðe me gurde him sume cherre, inoh reðe, ase me to beot his cheoken, & spette him a schorn [*v.r.* o scharne]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 255/8 Gret scorn heo hadden of alle Þulke: Þat icristnede were. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12495 With skorne wenest Þou Þe quyte As a fals ypocryte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 22 Þe vifte out-kestinge of Þe ilke stocke is scorn. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* x. 304 In scole Þere is scorne but if a clerke wil lerne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5557 Hit is heghly to haue, & of hert dryue Soche sklaundur & skorne, bat skathis to mony. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 147 Þen was he for scorne lad to Þe ȝate of Þe cyte of Rome. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 259 The vestymentes [betokeneth] the garmentes in y° whiche our Sauyour was clothed in scorne. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 2132 Quhilk bled with effusioun, With scrone and derisioun, And deit with confusioun, Confirmand our peace. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 133 Shall I, saies she, that haue so oft encountred him with scorne, write to him that I loue him? 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* II. C 3, As when laden gun Spits forth its load, in scorne to be restraind. *a* 1645 WALLER *To A. H.* 12 Till my just disdain Of her neglect above that Passion born, Did pride to pride oppose, and scorn to scorn. 1719 OZELL tr. *Misson's Mem. & Observ.* 25 The Bull, immoveable, looks down upon the Dog with an Eye of Scorn. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 201 Or tell me, if you can, what pow'r maintains A Briton's scorn of arbitrary chains? 1866 SWINBURNE *Select. fr. Byron* Pref. 15 Scorn is brief or silent: anger alone finds vent in violent iteration and clamorous appeal. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 25 His great black eyes blazing in a scorn he strove to assume.

b. Alliteratively coupled with *scathe. Sc.* and *arch.*

a 1300 [see SCATHE *sb.* 2 d]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Iustin*) 767 Iustine & cypriane of Þe caldrone son wes tane als hale & fere, but schath & schorne, as Þai ware of Þare modir borne! *c* 1400 [see SCATHE *sb.* 2 d]. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 211 As skorne cummis commonlie with skaith. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* iv, And at the best I shall be ill enough off, getting both the scaith and the scorn. 1864 [see SCATHE *sb.* 2 d].

c. *personified.*

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 81 Thrucht Skornes noss thai put a prik, This he wes banist and gat a blek. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 51 Disdaine and Scorne ride sparkling in her eyes, Mis-prizing what they looke on. 1613 J. DAVIES *Muses Teares* (Grosart) 5 For Hate, by feare, is held from bold Attempt: But, Scorne doth make it daring. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 73 Ambition this shall tempt to rise, Then whirl the wretch from high, To bitter Scorn a sacrifice. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. vi, The mark for scorn to point his finger at.

2. A manifestation of contempt; a derisive utterance or gesture; a taunt, an insult. *arch.*

c 1275 LAY. 29564 And sub^e ȝ[eiden] hine on mid hire foule scornes. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1316 Þo otuwel sau3 is cheke bon, He ȝaf clarel a skorn a non. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 393 He cam anon, and teryde natt, Wythout any skorn. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laur.* 1382 Also a deuoute Prayer to Moyses hornis, Metrifyde merely, medelyd with scornis. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 83 Do but encaue your selfe, And marke the Fleeres, the Gybes, and notable Scornes That dwell in euery Region of his face. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xi. 12 What Man then that is not stark Mad, will Voluntarily Expose himself to the..Scorns of Great Men! 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxix. 9, I met with scoffs, I met with scorns From youth and babe and hoary hairs.

3. † **a.** Matter for scorn, something contemptible. (Cf. *to think scorn* in 4.) *Obs.* **b.** An object of mockery or contempt.

c 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 81 Scho..trowed no vertu in Þe tre; Hir thoght it was scorne in hir wit Þat oÞer men so honord it. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxi. 6 But as for me, I am a worme and no man: a very scorne of men and the outcast of the people. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 106 Thou.. art confederate with a damned packe, To make a loathsome abiect scorne of me. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 34 Made of my Enemies the scorn and gaze. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxxiii. 195 But in a Dead Calm, a Man loses his Spirits, and lies in a Manner Expos'd, as the Scorn and Spectacle of Ill Fortune. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 57. 29 Let him live to be the Scorn of every Honest Man. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. III. 82 A scandal and a scorn To all who look on thee.

4. Phr. † *To bring,* † *drive to scorn,* to shame, disgrace; † *to do* (a person) *scorn,* to insult; † *to get the scorn* (Sc.), to be treated with contumely; † *to hold,* † *have scorn at, of,* to entertain a feeling of contempt for; *to laugh to scorn,* now *arch.* and *literary* (see LAUGH *v.* 3); † *to make scorn at, to,* to mock, deride; † *to put a scorn on, upon,* to offer indignity to; *to speak scorn of,* to revile, speak opprobriously of; † *to take scorn at,* to despise; † *to take scorn,* to be indignant *that,* to disdain *to* do something; † *to take at* or *in scorn,* to feel as an indignity; *to think scorn of,* to despise; *to think* (*it*) *scorn,* to disdain (const. *that* or *inf.*), now *arch.* and *literary.*

In the 16–17th c. *foul* often appears as an intensive qualification of *scorn* in these phrases. Cf. quot. *c* 1275 in 2.

a 1300 [see DRIVE *v.* 17]. *c* 1320 *Beues* 1357 Beues..lou3 hem alle Þer to scorn. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5391 Scorn hym Þought, & swor his heued Þer truage schold nought so be leued. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 16701 (Fairf.) To hym mekyll scorne they made. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 641 If any scolere in Þe scole his skorne at him makis, He skapis him full skathely bot if he skyp better. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 103 Þise smale men hase als grete scorne at Þe grete men. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 264 And he of suche one gret skorne he Þowte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xvi. 297 Syre Sagramore loked vpon syre Tristram and hadde scorne of his wordes. *Ibid.* X. iii. 417 That strong knyght toke his wordes at scorne and said he said it for mockery. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 38 They wold thynck grete skorne, to take lether for our prynce. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cvʃii]. 24 Yee they thought scorne of y' pleasaunt londe. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 94 Thay wist no^t how to get him pynd, That thame had drevin to skorne. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) V vj, Neyther can I thinke that Aristotle and Plato tooke scorn at the name of a perfect Courtier. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 213 Thus he passed..with Trumpes and Pipes of Reedes blowen before him, to do him the more scorne and despight. 1575 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 49 In Dathan, Core, Abyron: and in the Prophetes of Baal: all whych perished miserably for taking skorne to amend. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 228 Neither took I in scorne that I coupled myself with you in those affaires. 1579 [see HOLD *v.* 12]. 1582 HANMER *Jesuites Banner* A 1 b, Yee take scorne that I tearme him a cripled soldiour. 1593 ABP. BANCROFT *Dangerous Positions* IV. i. 137 They doe take it in scorne to be thought so weake. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heauen* 309 They hold scorn to be taught. 1611 BIBLE *Esther* iii. 6 Hee thought scorne to lay hands on Mordecai alone. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 222 The God of heauen, Who in his great compassions, thought 't no scorne, That the Creator take the creatures forme. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 248 So his Steward..turn'd me out of doores. Which I tooke in that foule scorne..that in a kind of sullen and dogged fashion..I left the house. 1633 [see PUT *v.* 23 b]. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* II. 53 All sat and ate with him, and put licentious scornes on him. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* II. iv, The Lord..Shall..laugh to Scorn their furious Pride. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 7 Messer Corso spoke great scorn of Messer Vieri, calling him 'the Ass of the Gate'. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 227 The worst manager among them thinks scorn of wastefulness in a superior. 1866 [see LAUGH *v.* 3]. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxii. 35 The straightforward and business-like writs which did not think it scorn to speak to Englishmen in the English tongue.

5. *Comb.,* as *scorn-blighted, -pointing, -worthy* adjs.

1819 SHEIL *Evadne* II. ii. 33 Be all who bear Colonna's name *scorn-blighted. 1898 ARCH *Story Life* xi. 253, I made myself as blind as I could to the *scorn-pointing finger pointed it ever so scornfully. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 66 To make great prouision vpon small hope of vtterance were to incurre a *skorne-worthy losse. 1859 W. ANDERSON *Discourses* (1860) 19 It makes a most scorn-worthy exhibition of itself.

Scorn (skɔ̄ɹn), *v.* Forms: *α.* 2–3 **skarne,** 3 **scarne, (scærn).** *β.* 3–5 **schorn,** 3–6 **skorn,** 4 **scornie,** 4–7 **scorne, skorne,** 6 *Sc.* **scowrn,** 7 *vulgar* **squorn,** 3– **scorn.** [Early ME. *scarne, schorne,* aphetic a. OF. *escarnir, escharnir,*

eschernir = Pr. *esquernir, escarnir*, Sp., Pg. *escarnir* (more commonly *escarnecer*), It. *schernire* :—Com. Rom. **skernīre*, of Teut. origin; cf. OHG. *skernôn, skirnôn* (MHG. *schernen*), MDu. and early mod.Du. *schernen* to ridicule, treat with contumely, f. the sb. represented by OHG. *skern*, OS. *scern*: see SCORN *sb.*

With regard to the vowel of the β forms see the remarks under the sb.]

† **1.** *intr.* To speak or behave contemptuously; to use derisive language, jeer. Const. *at, with. Obs.*

α. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7397 Þa beþ hemm 3arrkedd mare inoh & werrse pine inn helle, Þann iff Þe33 haffdenn herrd itt nohht Ne skarnedd tær onnȝæness.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12481 Skorne nat, and seye þou wylt forsake þy synne, and eft a3en hyt take. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 221, 'I nile not scorne', quod scripture 'but scryueyns liȝe'. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 178 Thei scornen, whan thei seen ony strange Folk goynge clothed. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 85 And dey bade me do my wurst, bycause I had so fewe schyppys and so smale, that they scornyd with me. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. xxvii. 29 Thai knelit before him, and scornit, and said, Haile, king of Jewis. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 302 And in like sort Iuuenal an Heathen Poet, scorneth at this folly. *c* 1660 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 297 Scorning at anything that seemed formall. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxiii, She gecked and scorned at my northern speech and habit.

† **2.** *trans.* To treat with ridicule, to show extreme contempt for, to mock, deride. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 248 And hweðer so he deð, hokereð & schorneð, & lauhweð þe olde ape lude to bismare. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ii. 4 Þat wones in heuen scorne þam salle, And lauerd sal snere with-alle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1189 Bot þa þat wille him folow, he ledes And þam scornes and taries in his nedes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 506 It is a shame that the peple shal So scorne thee and laughe at thy folye. 1421 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 27 Allso that no man throw ne cast at noo straunge man, ne skorn hym. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 323 That they hym scornyd wist he noght. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 133 'Quhom scornys thow?' quod Wallace. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 98 The ja him skrippit with a skryke, And skornit him as it was lyk. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 52 b, Replide the Goddesse: what? skornste thou in armour me? 1631 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 208 He that in the two former partes of his life mocked and scorned all both the message and messengers of God.

3. To hold in disdain, to contemn, despise.

α. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 238 in *O. E. Misc.* 117 Bi-foren he þe bimened, bi-hindin he þe scarned.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 417 Nocht-þane, þo þu oure godis skorne, þu tellis ws first quhar þou wes borne. *c* 1500 *Young Childr. Bk.* 57 in *Babees Bk.*, Scorne not þe pore, ne hurte no mane. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* iii. (1604) B 2 b, Learne thou of Faustus manly fortitude, And scorne those ioyes thou neuer shalt possesse. 1600 in T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. xiv. (1633) 87 Hee must be maintained with a convenient attendance, that they may not scorne him. 1669 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. 37 *Franc.* Come, come, you'r a slanderful huswife, and I squorn your hallottry trick. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* II. 43 Nor scorn the pipe: Amyntas, to be taught, With all his kisses would my skill have bought. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourning Bride* III. viii, Heav'n has no Rage, like Love to Hatred turn'd, Nor Hell a Fury, like a Woman scorn'd. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 411 'Tis not in folly, not to scorn a fool. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. viii, Death had he seen.., Knew all his shapes, and scorn'd them all. 1827 WORDSW. *Miscell. Sonn.* II. i. 1 Scorn not the Sonnet. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XIII. 1 To be scorn'd by one that I scorn.

b. *fig.* Of things: † To defy, be secure against (*obs.*); also *poet.* to be immeasurably superior to.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xviii. 130 Such is this Golfe, whose entrance is straitned with two rocks or mountains on each side (which would well become two great Peeces and so scorne a whole fleet). 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 319 Where lawns extend that scorn Arcadian pride.

4. With *inf.* as object. To feel it beneath one, to disdain indignantly *to* do something.

1605 [WAYER?] *Dick Bowyer* C 2, I scorne to humble the least part about me. 1701 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 36 They scorn their Laws or Governours to fear. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Bristol* Wks. III. 373 We were saved the disgrace of their formal reception, only because the congress scorned to receive them. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) II. 104 He scorned for a long while to attach any consequence to this complete alternation of habits. 1885 E. ARNOLD *Secret of Death* 23 Thou Scorned'st to tread the path of wealth, wherein The foolish perish.

† **5.** *Comb.*: **scorn-book**, an unwilling learner; **scorn-gold** *a.*, out-vying gold in colour. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. Ecl. i. (1598) 86 Braue crest to him her scorn-gold haire did yeeld. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. Argt., St. George oth' back-side of the Horn-book, The Dragon kills, to Humour Scorn-book.

Scorned (skɔ̄nd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCORN *v.* + -ED [1].] Despised, contemptible.

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Horace* 151 The bilz ther frute do yeld, a skorned mouse is born. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* II. C 1, The crested Horse.. with head Tost in the ayre his hardned hoofes doth tread The scorned earth with contempt. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Knt. Malta* I. i, The wages of scorn'd Love is baneful hate. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire on Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 64 Be the most scorn'd Jack-pudding in the pack. *a* 1882 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 176/2 The scorned thief who hangs by Thee.

Scorner (skɔ̄·mər). [f. SCORN *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who scorns, derides, mocks or contemns; esp. one who scoffs at religion.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4934 Lyers, robbours, and lechours, Skorners, and also aboutours. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 357 The fesaunt skornere of the cok be nyghte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/1 Scornare, *derisor.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XX. 35 Be nocht in countenance ane skornar, nor by luke. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 640/2 Very present in perrills, very great scorners of death. 1657 *Penit. Conf.* ix. 291 As Apes are inimical imitators of mens actions, so do skorners usually act. 1661 BAXTER *Saints' Rest* III. (ed. 2) 43 The vilest..scorner at Godliness. 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 3 ¶ 1 Whatever one of these Scorners may think, they certainly want Parts to be Devout. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* ii. (1907) I. 24 From others only do we derive our knowledge that Milton, in his latter day, had his scorners and detractors. 1820 SHELLEY *To Skylark* 100 Thou scorner of the ground! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 402 Not a scorner of your sex But venerator.

b. Phr. *Seat (chair, stool) of the scorner*, the position of a mocker (a reminiscence of Ps. i. 1).

1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* C iiij, He roares and he fomes, and sets himselfe downe in the Scorners Chayre. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. viii. 21 Thus I triumphed long in lovers paine, And, sitting carelesse on the scorners stoole, Did laugh at those that did lament and plaine. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. xliv. 377 The frontispiece to the *Rules of holy dying* cannot but excite mirth even in those who do not habitually sit in the seat of the scorner.

¶ **2.** As a proposed term of rhetoric: see quot.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 219 Yee haue another figure much like to the *Sarcasmus*, or bitter taunt ..and is when with proud and insolent words, we doo vpbraid a man, or ride him as we terme it: for which cause the Latines also call it *Insultatio*, I choose to name him the *Reproch full* or *scorner*.

Scornful (skɔ̄·nfŭl), *a.* [f. SCORN *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Full of scorn, contemptuous, derisive.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1840 Thow skornede vs lang ere with thi skornefulle wordez. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXX. 244 And whan he had of hem but a short and a scornefull answere he told it to the kyng. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* V. ii. 137 And dart not scornefull glances from those eies. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 625 To gratifie my scornful Enemies. 1712 STEELE *Spectator* No. 272, I offered..to each of them a Kiss; but, one, more scornful than the rest, turned her Cheek. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liv, The same defiant, scornful woman still.

quasi-*adv.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 536 So saying, his proud step he scornful turn'd.

b. *absol.* (Cf. SCORNER 1 b.)

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* i. 1 O blessed is y^e^ man, y^t^..sytteth not in y^e^ seate of the scornefull. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 73 Did they..sit at the table of the scornful and learn, with Dante, how salt was alien bread?

c. Const. *of.*

1704 PRIOR *Let. to Boileau* 180 The English Muse..Scornful of Earth and Clouds, should reach the Skies. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* x. 22 Honorio built, but dar'd my laws defy; He planted, scornful of my sage commands.

† **2.** Regarded with scorn, contemptible. *Obs.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 187 Scornful, *ridiculus.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol.* (Arb.) 66 But I speake to this purpose, that all the end of the comicall part, bee not vpon such scornefull matters, as stirreth laughter onely. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, Of a scornefull Taylor, he sets up an vpstart scuruy Gentleman. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 520 So thy surviuing husband shall remaine The scornefull marke of euerie open eye. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii. 7 Thou dost not tell him, what a griefe it is To be the scornefull captiue to a Scot. 1618 WITHER *Motto* (1621) C 2, To whom the riches of the minde, doe seeme A scornefull pouerty. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* (ed. 2) 277 And wee haue heard of death, vpon small occasions, and by scornfull instruments; a pinne, a combe, a haire, pulled, hath gangred, and kild.

Scornfully (skɔ̄·nfŭli), *adv.* [f. SCORNFUL *a.* + -LY [2].] In a scornful manner.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 356 Fyrumbras on him glente ys eyȝe scornfullich & low. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* VII. 156 (Horstm.) Oon Theophyl preyid hyr schornfully..That she sum rosys wold hym sendyn hastyly From hyr spousys gardyn. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. 242 And in þe mene tyme ane of þe equis cryit skornefully, It was propir to romanis erare to mak ane vane manassing, þan to gif batall. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 42 Their ragged Curtaines poorely are let loose, And our Ayre shakes them passing scornefully. 1661 COWLEY *Vis. Cromwell* 55 It was bold to violate so openly and so scornfully all Acts and Constitutions of a Nation, and afterwards even of his own making. 1783 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III* (1839) 367 He scornfully declined to solemnize the double marriages. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxiv, 'Bread,' he would say, scornfully, 'is only fit for a child.' 1906 H. VAN DYKE *Ideals* viii. 153 It is the fashion nowadays to speak scornfully of a book religion.

Scornfulness. [f. SCORNFUL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being scornful; contemptuousness; † contemptibleness.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxiv. 7 Where is there soch one as Iob, that drinketh vp scornefulnes like water? 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 66 The scornefulnes of the action, stirreth laughter. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 203 Hee exacted also with great skornefulnesse and extremitie, good money rough and new coyned. 1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 315 Montrose..receaved no answer from him but what relisht of scornfullness. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Scornfulness*, contemptuousness.

Scorning (skɔ̄·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCORN *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb SCORN.

a 1205 LAY. 2791 Nefden heo of heore kinge buten heora scærninge. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 207 Bi his scornunge and bi his spotlunge and bufettunge. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12484 3yt wyl y warne þe of o þyng, Vn shryfte make þou no skornyng. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 635 Afterward speke we of scornynge which is a wikked synne. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 291 in *Babees Bk.*, Speke not lowd be war of mowynge & scornynge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 250 b, And here consyder with thankes, the paynes & illusyons or scornynges that he suffred. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 152 Breaches of charity.. by the wincking and scorning of our eyes. 17.. RAMSAY *Throw the Wood* iii, I'm fash'd wi' their scorning. 1833 TENNYSON *Goose* 42 He took the goose upon his arm, He utter'd words of scorning.

† b. Phr. *To laugh* or *take to scorning. Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 1830 (Göll.) Quen þai forsoke his sarmoning And toke his speche to scorning. *Ibid.* 2028 Cam..was vnkind enogh, To skorning he his fader logh.

Scorning (skɔ̄·nin), *ppl. a.* [f. SCORN *v.* + -ING [2].] That scorns; scornful, contemptuous.

c 1325 *Lei le Freine* 62 A proude dame..Squeymous and eke scorning. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 346 The skornynge Iay. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 324/1 Scornande, *deridens, illudens.* 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 And Paris his scorning iudgement dooth burne in her entrayls.

Hence **Sco·rningly** *adv.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. (Add. MS.) 80 The Porter toke all his wordes in scorne; neverthelesse scornyngly he went to the Emperesse,..and told her all the prive tokens that he had herd.

† **Sco·rning-stock.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCORNING *vbl. sb.* + STOCK *sb.*] An object of scorn.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 301 Clinias, finding himselfe the scorning-stocke of euery companie.

† **Sco·rnless,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCORN *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from insult or contempt.

c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 27 Speke no good of frend ne foo, Let non skorneles fro 30w wende.

† **Sco·rnliche,** *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCORN *sb.* + *-liche*: see -LY [2].] Scornfully.

c 1300 *Beket* 710 (Percy Soc.) 34 The Kyng bihuld him al anhoker, and scornliche somdel lou3.

Scorny (skɔ̄·ni), *a. vulgar.* [f. SCORN *sb.* + -Y [1].] Todd (1818) quoted *Mirr. Mag.* but the earliest ed. reads *scorvy*, SCURVY.

Scornful, contemptuous.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii, And off she sot, looking as scorney as a London lady. 1867 G. MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners O. France* I. 334 The 'scorny' look I gave to these ridiculous lumps.

Scorodite (skɒ·rədəit). *Min.* Also **skorodite.** [ad. G. *skorodit* (1818), f. Gr. σκόροδ-ον garlic: see -ITE [1] (so called from its odour when heated).] Hydrous phosphate of iron, found in pale-green or brown crystals and crusts.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 321 Skorodite. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min. Geol.*, etc. I. 475 Scorodite. 1857 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 249 Scorodite.

† **Scorp,** *v. Sc. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SCRIP *v.*[2]] *intr.* To mock, deride, scoff.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 544 Thir 3oung lordis sum scorpit with greit scorne, Sayand againe [etc.]. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* 93 (Jam.) Thair was presentit to the Quein Regent..a calfe having two heidis, whairat sche scorppit [1586, 1846 scripped, 1644, 1790 skipped], and said, 'It was bot a comoun thing'.

‖ **Scorpæna** (skɒrpī·nă). Also 8 **scorpena.** [L., ad. Gr. σκόρπαινα a kind of fish; app. irreg. fem. f. σκορπίος, SCORPION.

The fish named σκόρπαινα by the ancients was prob. so called from being prickly (cf. the cognate σκορπίς, σκορπίος, which are names of fishes expressly described as having spines). The application of *Scorpæna* as a mod. generic name is due to the resemblance of the word to It. *scorpina* (see SCORPENE).]

In early use, a name applied vaguely (like the vernacular synonyms *scorpion-fish, sea-scorpion*) to various prickly fishes, chiefly of the families *Scorpænidæ* and *Cottidæ*. Now only as the name of a genus (Linnæus 1758) of acanthopterygian fishes, originally of wide extent, but subsequently much restricted; the typical genus of the family *Scorpænidæ*.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scorpæna*, or *Scorpides*, the lesser Scorpion-fish. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 269 The red Scorpæna, with numerous beards. 1772 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 155 In all the coves of this bay we found plenty of cuttle-fish,..scorpenas, or rock-fish [etc.]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 62 The Scorpæna or Father-lasher.

Hence **Scorpæ·nid,** a fish of the family *Scorpænidæ*. **Scorpæ·noid,** *a.* of or pertaining to the *Scorpænidæ*; *sb.* a scorpænoid fish.

1842 J. RICHARDSON in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* IX. 120 *Centropristes scorpenoides* (Cuv. & Val.), Scorpenoid Centropristes. 1862 T. GILL in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 329 Scorpænoids. 1880 GÜNTHER *Stud. Fishes* 413 The habit of living on the bottom has also developed in many Scorpænoids separate pectoral rays, by means of which they move or feel. *Ibid.* 417 To complete the list of Scorpænoid genera, we have to mention *Tæniaonotus* [etc.]. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 249 The latter [name]..is inapplicable to the Scorpænids, because they are entirely unlike the cod.

Scorpene (skɒ·rpēn). Forms: 8 scorpen, 9– scorpene. [Anglicized form of SCORPÆNA; in the U.S. perhaps ad. the cognate Sp. *escorpina*, It. *scorpina*.] = SCORPÆNA; now only *U. S.* as a name for *Scorpæna guttata*.

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 126 Scorpens, mullets, horse-mackrel, and many other sorts. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 263 Scorpene (*Scorpæna guttata*)..known by the names 'Scorpene', 'Scorpion', and 'Sculpin'.

Scorper (skɔ̄·rpər). [A misspelling of *scauper*: see SCALPER [1].] a. *Wood-* and *Metal-work.* 'A gouging-tool for working in a depression, as in hollowing bowls, butter-ladles, etc. Also used in removing wood or metal from depressed portions of carvings or chasings' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). b. A jeweller's instrument for drilling holes and cutting away parts of the metal-work around settings to hold precious stones (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 164 Small gouges, chisels, and scorpers of various forms and sizes [for working ala-

baster]. 1883 MOLLETT *Dict. Art & Archæol., Scorpers*, in wood engraving, tools used for cutting away large spaces after outlining or engraving, so as to leave only the drawing in relief. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 230 Scorper, a kind of graver used for squaring the corners of sinks, easing watch bezels and other purposes.

† **Scorpiac,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [a. late Gr. σκορπιακ-ός pertaining to a scorpion, f. σκορπίος SCORPION: see -AC.] Stinging like a scorpion; in quot. *fig.*

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 82 To wound him first with Arrows of sharp-pointed Words, and then to Sting him with a Scorpiack censure.

Scorpillyng: see under SCAPPLE *v.*

‖ **Scorpio** (skǭ·rpio). *Astr.* [L., see SCORPION.] A zodiacal constellation, the Scorpion. Also, the eighth sign of the zodiac, named from this; situated between Libra and Sagittarius; entered by the sun about 23 October.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 8 The names of the Twelve Signes, as Aries..Scorpio. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. x. (1495) 323 The sygne of Scorpio hath the hous of deth and of drede. *a* 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* v, Scorpio dreading Sagittarius dart. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 82 The two malignant Signs of the Zodiaque, *Sagitary* and *Scorpio*. 1741 *Poor Robin* C 3 b, Next *Scorpio* comes, an ugly Beast. 1899 R. H. ALLEN *Star-n.* 364 In southern latitudes Scorpio is magnificently seen in its entirety.

Scorpioid (skǭ·rpioid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. σκορπιοειδής, f. σκορπίο-s SCORPION: see -OID.]

A. *adj.*

1. *Bot.* (See quot. 1875.)

1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 160 The cyme of Monocotyledons..is *helicoid* or *scorpioid*, according as its peduncles are *homodromal* or *antidromal*. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 159 *note*, The term scorpioid was introduced by H. P. De Candolle..to express a unilateral cyme the undeveloped portion of which is usually rolled up...Bravais amended De Candolle's definition of the scorpioid cyme by pointing out that the flowers are in two rows parallel to the pseud-axis. 1896 G. HENSLOW *Wild Flowers* 156 The flowers are arranged in scorpioid or curled racemes.

2. *Zool.* a. Resembling a scorpion; belonging to the scorpion family. b. Resembling the tail of a scorpion; 'cincinnal; coiled in a flat spiral' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1864 WEBSTER, *Scorpioid*, Scorpion-like.

B. *sb.*

1. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Scorpioid*, an inflorescence which is rolled up towards one side, in the manner of a crosier, unrolling as the flowers expand. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

2. *Zool.* A scorpion or scorpion-like animal.

1887 HEILPRIN *Distrib. Animals* 146 The discovery of a true scorpioid (Palæophoneus) in the Upper Silurian deposits of both Sweden and Scotland.

Scorpioidal (skǭrpioi·dăl), *a. Bot.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = SCORPIOID *a.* 1.

1835 J. S. HENSLOW *Bot.* I. iv. 85 If..one bud only is developed in the dichotomous cyme, and always on the same side of the axis, it assumes a peculiar character, termed 'scorpioidal'. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Scorpioid* or *Scorpioidal*.

‖ **Scorpioides.** *Obs.* Also 7 *erron.* scorpoides. [mod.L. *scorpiōides*, a. Gr. σκορπιοειδές, neut. of σκορπιοειδής: see SCORPIOID.] Scorpion grass.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xlii. 61 Scorpioides or Scorpions grasse..is a small, base or lowe herbe. 1629 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Apr.* (ed. 3) 15 Sow divers Annuals to have Flowers all Summer; as..Scorpoides, Medica, Holyhock [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scorpioides*, a kind of Pulse.

† **Scorpiolocust.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. mod.L. *scorpiolocust-a*, f. L. *scorpi-us* (see SCORPION) + *locusta* LOCUST.] A locust resembling a scorpion (see Rev. ix. 3–10).

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* xxxix. 256 Whome by the iust iudgement of God these Scorpiolocustes [orig. *scorpiolocustæ*] distroie with their poyson.

Scorpion (skǭ·rpiən). Also 3 scorpiun, 4–5 scorpyo(u)n, scorpien, 4–6 scorpioun, scorpione, 5 scorpyone, (scarpyn, 6 scorpiowne, 7 scorpean). [a. OF. *scorpion*, *scorpiun* (also *escorpiun*; mod.F. *scorpion*) = Pr., Sp. *escorpion*, Pg. *escorpião*, It. *scorpione* :—L. *scorpiōnem* (*scorpio*), extended form of *scorpius* (whence It. *scorpio*), a. Gr. σκορπίος.

The word has been adopted into all the Teut. langs.: OHG. *scorpjo*, *scorpo*, MHG., MDu. *schorpe*, MLG. *schorpie*; also, in forms showing later adoption from Fr. or Latin, mod.Ger. *skorpion*, MDu., mod.Du. *schorpioen*, MLG. *schorpion*, Sw., Da. *skorpion*.]

1. An arachnid of any of the genera (*Scorpio*, *Buthus*, *Androctonus*, etc.) forming the group *Scorpionidæ*, having a pair of large nippers and a general resemblance to a miniature lobster; they inhabit tropical and warm temperate countries in both hemispheres. The intense pain caused by the sting of the scorpion (situated at the point of the tail) is proverbial.

a 1225 [see b]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 693 þe scorpion for-bare is stang Fra bestes þar he lai amang. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 153 For of alle venymes foulest is þe scorpioun. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xi. 12 Ethir if he schal axe an ey, whether he schal dresse to him a scorpioun? *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 766/4 *Hic scorpio*, a scarpyn. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 86 But well fore-warning winde Did seeme to say, seeke not a Scorpions Nest, Nor set no footing on this vnkinde Shore. 1623 ROBINSON in *Kay's Corr.* (1848) 137–8 Since my coming to Montpellier I have seen several scorpions creeping on the walls...Animals stung by these scorpions fall generally into tremblings and convulsive motions. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 352 Those poisonous fields with rank luxuriance crowned, Where the dark scorpion gathers death around. 1806 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VI. 485 The common Italian Scorpion usually measures something more than an inch in length from the head to the setting on of the tail. *Ibid.* 486 The *Scorpio Afer* of Linnæus, or great African Scorpion. 1882 E. R. LANKESTER in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XVI. *Zool.* 455 The beautiful citron-coloured Scorpion, *Androctonus funestus*. *Ibid.* 460 A large number of Italian Scorpions belonging to the species *Euscorpius italicus*, *E. carpathicus*, and *E. flavicaudus*. *Ibid.* 462 The *Androctonus occitanus* or yellow Scorpion of Southern France and Spain. 1902 — in *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 538/2 The desert Scorpion, *Buthus australis*.

b. in allusions to various fabled habits or properties of the animal.

The flesh of the scorpion was supposed to be a cure for its own sting (see also 1 e). The alleged fact, related by ancient writers, that a scorpion, when surrounded by a ring of fire, will commit suicide by stinging itself, is discredited by naturalists, though many persons in modern times have claimed to have observed it.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 þe scorpiun is ones cunnes wurm þet haueð neb, ase me seið, sumdel liliche ase wummon, & is neddre bilinden, makeð feir semblaunt, & fikeð mid te heaued, & stingeð mid te teile. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 814 O thou fortune Instable, Lyk to the Scorpion, so deceyuable, That flaterest with thyn heed, whan thou wolt s[t]lynge. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASS. *Cust. Country* V. v, Women..rellish much of Scorpions, For both have stings, and both can hurt, and cure too. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 137 The Scorpion sucks the Poison he convey'd, An antidote to his own Poison made. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* xvi, The Mind, that broods o'er guilty woes, Is like a Scorpion girt by fire. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 70 And we are left, as scorpions ringed with fire. What should we do but strike ourselves to death?

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Ich ne der nemen þeo unkundeliche kundles of þisse deouel scorpiun, attri iteiled. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 167 Traitour quod he, with tonge of Scorpion Thou hast me broght to my confusion. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 57 That scorpioun fell [*i.e.* Death] hes done infek Maister Johne Clerk, and James Affleck. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 44 Some private Scorpion in your heartes.. hath caused you to conspire my death and confusion. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 36 O, full of Scorpions is my Minde, deare Wife. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* II. i, That thought has fixed a scorpion on my heart That stings to death. 1825 T. H. LISTER *Granby* xvii. (1836) 112 'That detrimental class, the Scorpions.' 'What do you mean?' 'Why, younger brothers.'

d. *Her.* A representation of a scorpion as an armorial bearing (see quot. 1780).

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* Gloss. s. v., It is..usually borne erect, or with its head strait upwards,..in which case it is, in blazon, called a *Scorpion*, without any addition..; but when it is borne with the head downwards, it is to be called, in blazon, a *Scorpion reversed*. 1906 VINYCOMB *Fict. & Symb. Creatures in Art* 122 The Scorpion..is generally borne erect.

† e. Oil of scorpions, scorpion's oil: an oily substance formerly prepared from scorpions, used as an antidote against the sting of a scorpion, and for other medicinal purposes. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* L 1, Ere the officers come to extend, Ile bestow an hundred pound on a doale of bread, which Ile cause to be kneaded with scorpions oyle, that will kill more than the plague. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 185 Wherunto he layed Garlicke, Rue, and oile of Scorpions. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 48 The Oyl of Scorpions is not onely Antidotal against their Stings, but is witnessed..to be very useful to bring away the descending Stone of the Kidneys. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 57 Take Oil of Scorpions, and Oil of Bees-wax, of each a like Quantity.

f. Applied to other animals resembling or popularly confounded with the scorpion: (*a*) to arachnids of the closely related groups *Pseudoscorpionidæ* (tailless or false scorpions, including the chelifers or book-scorpions) and *Pedipalpi* (including the genus *Thelyphonus*, known as whip-scorpions); (*b*) in the U.S., to tarantulas, centipedes, various lizards, etc. (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); † (*c*) see WATER-*scorpion*.

1709 [see *scorpion-lizard* in 8 c]. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 679 Book Scorpion, *Chelifer Wideri*.

2. *Astr.* The constellation and (now somewhat rarely) the zodiacal sign SCORPIO.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 948 Til that he sey the Scorpioun, Whiche that in heuen a sygne is yit. *c* 1400 *Treat. Astron.* 4 (MS. Bodl. Add. B. 17), The viij signe is Scorpio, he regneþ in octobre and is y cleped the signe of a Scorpion þt is an Adder. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Letter* Wks. 1884 I. 278 Not much vnlike the progresse of the resplendent Sunne in the Scorpion. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 328 Satan in likeness of an Angel bright Betwixt the Centaure and the Scorpion stearing His Zenith. 1754 HILL *Urania* s. v. *Scorpio*, The Scorpion is not a very large constellation, but, for its extent, it contains a considerable quantity of stars, and some of them very conspicuous. *Ibid.*, They call this..Cor Scorpionis, the Scorpion's Heart. 1785 W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 256 In the body of the Scorpion is an opening. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 382 The bifurcation [of the Galaxy] continues through the Wolf, the Altar, the Scorpion, and Sagittarius. 1870 MRS. LOCKYER *Flammarion's Marv. Heavens* 81 The Scales and Scorpion only formed one sign with the Latins before Augustus: the Scales were then the claws of the Scorpion. 1880 LONGF. *Poet's Cal.*, Oct., Then on the frigid Scorpion I ride.

3. Applied to certain fishes armed with spines: a. Used to render L. *scorpio*, *scorpius*, Gr. σκορπίος, in ancient writers. b. In Australia and America, the local name for certain species of *Scorpænidæ* (cf. SCORPÆNA, SCORPENE, and *scorpion fish*).

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. lxxxvi. in *Babees Bk.*, The Scorpion of the see is so named because whan he is taken in any mannys handes he prickeith him with his stinge of his tayle. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 110 Catterpillers..are also a very good meate to diuers byrdes..& to a certaine Sea-fish called a Scorpion. *Ibid.* 223 The Scorpion of the water or of the Sea, whose discourse or history is to be found among the fishes. 1874 HILL in Tenison-Woods *Fish N. S. Wales* (1882) 49 The scorpion or Fortescue, as these fish are popularly termed by fishermen, have been known for a long time, and bear that name no doubt in memory of the pain they have hitherto inflicted. 1884 [see SCORPENE].

4. † a. A name for Aconite. b. The scorpion plant, *Genista scorpius*.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. iii. II. 271 And for that the root [of Aconite] doth turne and crooke inward in manner of a Scorpions taile, there be that give it the name Scorpion. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 231 The greene Scorpion which is bredde of Basill,..beeing beaten and pounded with the herbe Scorpion, and so made into pills, then dryed and put into a glasse, are very profitable to him that hath the Falling-sicknesse. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, Scorpion, see *Genista scorpius*.

5. In the figurative passage 1 Kings xii. 11 (and 2 Chron. x. 11), where chastisement 'with scorpions' is referred to as a symbol for severe oppression, the word has commonly been supposed to denote a kind of whip made of knotted cords, or armed with plummets of lead or steel spikes, so as to inflict excessive pain. Allusions to the passage are common, esp. (after Milton) in the phrase *a whip* or *lash of scorpions*.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* x. 11 My fader beet 3ou with scourgis, I forsothe schal beten 3ou with scorpioun[s (1388 Y schal bete 3ou with scorpiouns, that is, hard knottid roopis]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 229 If he hem smot with roddis smale, With Scorpions thou schalt hem smyte. *a* 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. I. x. (1642) 26 They..chose rather to bee ..scourged with Scorpions..than yeeld to deny their Maker. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 701 Back to thy punishment, False fugitive, and to thy speed add wings, Least with a whip of Scorpions I pursue Thy lingring. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. xx. 180, I speak my thoughts freely, though I know the editors of newspapers have vengeance in their own hands, and are able to repel their assailants, with a lash of scorpions. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxi. 31 Scourge, with a whip of scorpions, those Whom vice and envy made my foes.

b. Hence used quasi-*Hist.* as the name of a supposed ancient instrument of torture. Also *Antiq.* as the name of a mediæval weapon (see quot. 1870).

1541 ELYOT *Image Gov.* xxxix. 98 His correction mought be no lasse than that he being al naked, shuld by his lybertines be fyrst of all whipped throughoute the citie of Rome with whyppes full of ruelles called Scorpions. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. viii, He..bade the torturing wheel Be brought, and fire, and pincers, and the hook, And scorpions. 1870 BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 425 Scorpion or flail, with four chains without balls,..a Hussite weapon of the fifteenth century [figured].

6. (tr. Gr. σκορπίος, L. *scorpio*, *scorpius*.) An ancient military engine for hurling stones, darts, and other missiles, used chiefly in the defence of the walls of a town.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Mac.* vi. 51 He..ordeynyde..tourmentis for to cast stoons and darts, and scorpiouns for to sende arowis [1388 scorpiens, 1535 COVERDALE scorpions to shute arowes; 1609 *Douay*]. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* III. 112 Here croked coruies, fleeing bridges tal, Their scathfull scorpions that ruynes the wall. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV. 533 They within shot closely against the enemies, some arrowes out of bowes, some quarrels out of scorpions and brakes. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol., Balists, scorpions, and other such warlike engines. 1840 [see ONAGER 2]. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xix. 325 The slings, the crossbows, the scorpions were all at hand and in order.

7. *Military slang.* A nickname for a civil inhabitant of Gibraltar. Also *Rock-scorpion*.

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 342 The houses..are fit only for..'scorpions', as those born on the Rock are called. 1889 H. M. FIELD *Gibraltar* 34 A choice variety of natives of Gibraltar, called 'Rock scorpions'.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib. (often *fig.*), as *scorpion-nest*, *-sting*; *scorpion-like* adj.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's answ. Osorius* 497 So much rayling in such *scorpionlike nipping & bitternesse. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. xv. (1713) 320 Scorpion-like Locusts. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. iv, Dream they of this our preparation, doom'd To view with fire their *scorpion nest consumed? 1797 *The College* 2 Hardly could..Syd'nham's worth her *scorpion-sting assuage.

b. With sense 'stinging like a scorpion' (cf. sense 5), as *scorpion curse*, *lash*, *whip*, etc.

1803 HEBER *Palestine* III. Israel's sons by *scorpion curses driven. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 513 His hand, Armed with a *scorpion lash. 1900 *Pilot* 23 June 526/2 But exactitude in the hands of second-rate scholars is a *scorpion-scourge. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* I. § 31 It [the nation] must discipline its passions, and direct them, or they will discipline it, one day, with *scorpion whips.

c. Special combinations: † **scorpion-bow**, ? = sense 6; **scorpion-broom** = *scorpion plant* (b); **scorpion-bug** *U.S.*, the water-scorpion (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **scorpion fish**, any spiny fish of the genus *Scorpæna* or family *Scorpænidæ*; also, an East Indian cat-fish (*Saccobranchus*); **scorpion-fly**, an insect of the family *Panorpidæ*, the slender abdomen of which is armed with forceps, and curls like the tail of a scorpion; **scorpion iris**, *Iris alata*, a native of Spain and Northern Africa; **scorpion-**

lizard, some kind of North American lizard; **scorpion lobster**, a long-tailed decapod crustacean of the family *Thalassinidæ*; **scorpion oil** = *oil of scorpions*: see sense 1 e (*Cent. Dict.*); **scorpion plant**, (*a*) a Javanese orchid, *Arachnanthe moschifera* (*Renanthera arachnitis*), having creamy-white or lemon-coloured flowers, somewhat resembling a spider; (*b*) a plant of South-western Europe, *Genista scorpius*, also called *scorpion-broom*, or *-thorn*; **scorpion senna**, the *Coronilla Emerus*, a common plant of Southern Europe, with bright-yellow flowers; **scorpion-shell**, a gastropod of the Indian seas and Pacific, of the genus *Pteroceras*, having a development of long tubular spines from the outer lip of the aperture; **scorpion-spider**, a name given to various arachnidans (see quots.), now usually any arachnidan of the order *Pedipalpi*, a whip-scorpion; **scorpion's tail**, any plant of the genus *Scorpiurus*; **scorpion('s-thorn** = *scorpion plant* (b); **scorpion-wort**, (*a*) = SCORPION GRASS; (*b*) *Ornithopus scorpioides*, native of Southern Europe.

1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxviii. 118 Cyprian strikes them through, as with a *Scorpion bow. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 199 *Genista scorpius*, *Scorpion Broom. Scorpion-plant. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 221 *Scorpion-fish... They are not the worst of fishes, especially if taken in the winter, yn stony places, & the pure Sea. 1853 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 247 Red Scorpion fish—*Scorpæna scrofa*. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 36 In some freshwater siluroids they [the eggs] are of a light pea-green, as in the scorpion fish, *Saccobranchus fossilis*. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 48 *Scorpio alatus*, the *Scorpion-Fly. 1869 G. GUYON in *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* 1 Jan. 23 The Scorpion-fly is quite harmless. 1900 *Field* 15 Dec. 936/1 The *Scorpion Iris (*I. alata*).—Bulbs of this lovely blue iris are now flowering in pots in a cool greenhouse. 1709 LAWSON *Voy. Carolina* 131 The *Scorpion-Lizard is no more like a Scorpion, than an Hedge-Hog; but they very commonly call him a Scorpion. He is of the Lizard Kind, but much bigger. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s. v. *Macroura*, The *scorpion lobsters of India, *Thalassina*, which live a part of their lives on land. 1865 *Treas. Bot.*, *Scorpion-plant, *Renanthera arachnitis*; also *Genista scorpius*. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Emerus*, *Scorpion Sena. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 271 Among the ruins grows the scorpion senna. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 141 The *Scorpion-shell, commonly called the Spider-shell. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 341 Genus Pterocera.—The Scorpion Shells, as they are called. 1802 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* I. 112, I had before observed the *Phalangium araneoides*, or *scorpion-spider. 1880 SILVER & Co *S. Africa* (ed. 3) 179 The large and wonderfully swift scorpion-spiders [*Galeodes*] abound in the dry upland districts. 1884 SEDGWICK, etc. tr. *Claus' Text-bk. Zool.* I. 506 *Pedipalpi* (Scorpion-Spiders)... The Scorpion-spiders are allied both to the Spiders and the Scorpions. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 41 Heliotropium mai be called in englishe *Scorpiones tayle. 1835 PARTINGTON *Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* I. 747/1 The *Scorpiurus* (scorpion's tail) of botanists. 1855 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Scorpiurus*, [The seed-pod] has a fancied resemblance to the tail of some reptile—whence its name, Scorpion's-tail. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 *Scorpion's Thorn, *Ulex*. 1578 *Scorpion-wort [see SCORPION GRASS]. 1611 COTGR., *Oreille de lievre*, Scorpion wort, or scorpion grasse. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict., Scorzonera*, or *Scorpion-wort*, a Plant that has Leaves a span long. 1852–6 WRIGHT *Dict., Scorpion-wort*, the plant *Ornithopus scorpioides*.

Scorpion grass. A plant of the genus *Myosotis*; the forget-me-not or mouse-ear. Also with qualifying words, denoting particular species or varieties.

Lyte and some other botanists assign the name to *Scorpiurus sulcatus* ('scorpion's tail'), 'with which various species of *Myosotis* are associated' (Britten & Holland).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xlii. 61 Besides these two kindes of Scorpioides, there is yet twoo other small herbes whiche some do also name Scorpion grasse, or Scorpion worte. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 254 To this end they doe prescribe Bayberries, Scorpion-grasse [etc.]. 1690 RAY *Synopsis Meth. Stirpium* (1724) 229 Mouse-ear Scorpion-grass. *c*1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxix, Water Scorpion-grass, Field Scorpion-grass, Small Scorpion-grass. 1763 MILLER *Gardener's Dict.* (ed. 8) Index, Scorpion-grass, or Caterpillar, see Scorpiurus. 1833 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 1. 29 *Myosotis sylvatica*—Wood Scorpion-grass. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 235 The early scorpion-grass or hill forget-me-not.

Scorpionic (skɔ̄pipɔ·nik), *a. rare.* [f. SCORPION + -IC.] Pertaining to the scorpion.

a 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 331 Which like Apocalyptick Locusts fierce, Their Scorpionick Poison did disperse. 1886 PROCTOR in *Sci. Amer.* 3 July 3/3 Below the Serpent Bearer we find the Scorpion (*Scorpio*), now fully risen, and showing truly scorpionic form.

Scorpionid (skɔ̄pɪpiɔnid), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Scorpionidæ* pl., f. L. *scorpiōn-em* SCORPION: see -ID.] Of or pertaining to the group *Scorpionidæ* of arachnidans, typified by the genus *Scorpio*.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1902 *Nature* 25 Sept. 529/2 The facts do not prove the total independence of the scorpionid and limuloid series. *Ibid.*, The Silurian Scorpions simplify the existing Scorpionid type.

† **Scorpionist.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCORPION + -IST.] One born under the sign Scorpio.

1689 *Wonderful Predict. Nostredamus* 3 When the two Scorpionists [Jas. II and Louis XIV] conjoin'd shall be.

† **Scorpionly,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCORPION + -LY 1.] Scorpion-like.

1573 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (ed. 2) 120 b, Of their Scorpionly tayles, and of the fiue monethes I haue spoken before.

† **Scorse,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SCORSE *v.*¹] Barter, exchange.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 55 Yet liuely vigour rested in his mind, And recompenst him with a better scorse: Weake body well is chang'd for minds redoubled forse.

Scorse (skɔ̄s), *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 scorss, skose, skoase, 6–8 scorce, 6–7, 9 scose, 7 scoarse, scoorse, skorce, 7–8 scourse, 8 scoss, *dial.* scoase (see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Early 16th c. *scose, scorse*, related to the synonymous COSS, CORSE *vbs.*

Prof. Skeat suggests that the vb. is a back-formation from SCORSER, and that this arose from *horse-scorser*, corrupt form of HORSE-CORSER.]

1. *trans.* To barter, exchange.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 159 And for one god scosyth gladly twayne. 1548 FORREST *Pl.as. Poesye* 481 Pryuate Commodye withe Commone wealthe to scorse: as Rentis to come downe from owterage so hye too Price indifferent to helpe manye bye. 1565 JEWEL *Replie Harding's Answ.* viii. § 5. 382 These partes bicause they are ioined in one Mysterie, therfore oftentimes thei scorce names, the one enterchangeably with the other. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 16 But Paridell sore brused with the blow, Could not arise, the counterchaunge to scorse. 1598 T. BASTARD *Chrestoleros* VI. xxii. (1880) 76 He that will loue through water and through fire,..Which will not scorse me for a better friend. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 45 Their fortune will'd that after they should scorse Blowes with the bigboan'd Dane, exchanging force for force. 1618 AINSWORTH *Annot. Lev.* xxvii. 10 *Not alter* or, not scourse it, nor change it. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* v. i. 84, I know the barber will scourse it [a fiddle] away for some old cittern. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Scoss* or *Scourse*, (old word) to change. 1853 W. D. COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Scorse*, or *Scose*, to exchange.

2. *intr.* To make or effect a barter or exchange.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. 139 Pollitians knowe to cheapen, what to offer, when to skoase [*rime* cloase]. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XX. lxxviii. (1634) 159 One was on foote the tother on a horse You thinke perhaps the horsman vantage had No sure, no whit; he would have wished to skorce For why, at last to light he must be glad. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, III. i. (1613) F 1, *K. Ed.*..Wilt thou take my courser for thy mare? *Ho*... If I were so mad to scorce, what boote wouldst thou giue me? 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. iv, Will you scourse with him? you are in Smithfield, you may fit your selfe with a fine easy-going street-nag. 1662 *Rump Songs* I. 209 Did'st thou not scourse, as if enchanted For Articles Sir Thomas granted?

Hence **Scorsing** *vbl. sb.*

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) II. 141 Of folysshe exchanges scorsynges and permutacions. 1611 COTGR., *Compermutant*, changing, scoorsing, bartering, interchanging. *Ibit.*, *Courratage*, brokage; scoursing, horse-scoursing. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 479 Barter (vulgarly called Truck and Scosing) and the Concerns thereof..may be comprised under the 10 following Cases.

† **Scorse,** *v.*² *Obs.* (? *nonce-wd.*) [f. It. *scorsa* a run, f. *scorrere*:—L. *excurrĕre*: see EXCUR.] *trans.* To chase.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 3 Him..From the country back to priuate farmes he scorsed [*rimes* coursed, forsed].

† **Scorser.** *Obs.* [f. SCORSE *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who exchanges or barters. See also HORSE-CORSER.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. x, Virgile leaueth farre behynde hym all hakneymen, and skosers. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* VI. 738 Christe sommetime thruste sutche Buiers, Sellers, Brokers, & Scorsers out of the Temple. 1611 COTGR., *Compermutant*, a changer, scoorser [etc.]. 1617 [see HORSE-CORSER]. 1755 JOHNSON s. v. *Scourse*, A *horse scourser.*

Scorsheatis: see SCROCHAT *Sc. Obs.*

Scort, obs. form of SHORT.

Scortation (skɔrtēi·ʃən). *rare.* [n. of action to L. *scortārī*: see next and -ATION.] Fornication.

1556 KNOX *Baptism* Wks. 1855 IV. 127 The Halie Gaist ..wald have restraynit and exceptit it, as he hath done scortatioun. 1661 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 85 The sanctifying of the unbelieving Husband or Wife cannot be meant of making or continuing the Marriage lawfull, in opposition to Adultery (or scortation). 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 919, I see no reason why the modesty of the Bee and of the Drone, whereby they abandon publick scortation and venery, should debar them of the private use of copulation. 1794 tr. *Swedenborg's Delights Wisd. Conjugial Love* (1811) II. 312 It is a scortation more opposite to conjugial love than the common scortation, which is called simple adultery. 1885 L. OLIPHANT *Sympneumata* 113 Rapacity,..filth, and scortation.

† **Scortator.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [L. *scortātor*, agent-n. f. *scortārī* to associate with harlots, f. *scort-um* a harlot.] (See quot. 1656.)

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanthropy* 26 There be..luxurious scortators, and their infectious harlots. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scortator*, a whoremonger, a hunter of Harlots.

Scortatory (skɔ̄·rtətəri), *a. rare.* [f. prec.: see -ORY.] 'Pertaining to, or consisting in, fornication or lewdness' (Webster, 1864).

1794 (*title*) tr. Swedenborg's Delights of Wisdom concerning Conjugial Love: after which follow the pleasures of Insanity concerning Scortatory Love. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 396 Here are..churches that proscribe intellect; scortatory religions.

Scortch, Scorte, obs. ff. SCORCH, SHORT.

Scortitsche: see SCROCHAT *Sc. Obs.*

† **Scory.** *Obs.* [Anglicized form of SCORIA.] (See quot.)

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 182 The little scories or iron chips which flie off from the Smithes hotte iron while he beateth it.

Scorza (skɔ̄·rzā). *Min.* Also **skorza.** [Ger. (1800: see Chester *Dict. Min.*), said to be Wallachian.] An obsolete name for epidote, when found in the form of dark green sand.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem., Scorza*, a variety of epidote. 1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 293. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, Skorza.

† **Scorzoner.** *Obs. rare.* [Anglicized form of SCORZONERA. Cf. F. *scorsonère* (also spelt *scorzonère*).] = SCORZONERA.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxlii. 599 In English we may call it Scorzoner after the Spanish name, or Vipers grasse. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 343/1 A Dyet of Veal and Chicken Broth, with Scorzoner and Sarsaparilla in it.

Scorzonera (skɔ̄zɔunī·rā). Also *rarely* 7 **scorsonera, skarsinarie, scozonera,** 8 **scorchanarrow, -enarrow.** [a. It. *scorzonera* (whence mod.L. *scorzonēra*) = F. *scorsonère, scorzonère*, Sp. *escorzonera*, Pg. *escorcioneira*; prob. f. It. *scorzone* some kind of venomous snake, Sp. *escorzon* (Cat. *escorçu*), some kind of toad or lizard deemed venomous. Cf. the following:

1580 J. FRAMPTON *Monardes'* 2 *Med. agst. Venom* 133 They call this herbe *Escuerçonera* because it doeth heale.. the bytinges of this beast called *Escorçu* [printed *Estorçu*] in the Catalan tongue, and the same roote is like too the sayde beast.]

A plant of the modern genus (Tournefort, 1700) *Scorzonera*, esp. *S. Hispanica* or black salsify, much cultivated in Europe for its root which is used as a vegetable and somewhat resembles the parsnip. *S. Hispanica* was also formerly called *viper's-grass*. Also the root of this plant.

It was supposed to be good against the bites of vipers and other venomous creatures.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 301 Wee call them in English Vipers grasse, or Scorsonera. 1666 OLDENBURG *Let. to Boyle* 15 Nov. *B.'s Wks.* (1744) V. 363 Colonel Blunt presented the company..with excellent scorzoneras, which he said might be propagated in England as much as parsnips. 1690 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 353, 2 drope of skarsinarie ..ane unce of Turkie persell. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. I. 250 Scorzonera, demulcent in the Small Pox. 1738 *Ochtertyre House Bk.* (S. H. S. 1907) 142 Eggs bufft harrings and scorchanarrow. 1756 J. HILL *Brit. Herbal* 444 Tall, narrow-leaved Scorzonera. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v., *Scorzonera hispanica*..is a native of Spain, but is cultivated in this country; and its root is sold in the markets as Scorzonera. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 425/3 Salsafy and Scorzonera can be strongly recommended for culture. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 122 Scorzonera, French, *Scorzonera picroides* (*Picridium vulgare*). Scorzonera, Garden, *Scorzonera hispanica.*

b. *attrib.*

1666 W. BOGHURST *Loimogr.* (1894) 76 Juniper berryes, *Scorzonera roots. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 91 Sow *scorzonera salsfy, and slip skerrits of the last years growth. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* (1820) II. 155 Mr. Selkirk asked him, what the virtues of that *Scorzonera-water were, which he observed he drank every day after dinner.

Scot (skɒt), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 *pl.* **Scottas,** 3–6 **Scotte,** 4 **Skot, Skotte,** 6 **Skott,** (**Skote**), 7 **Scott,** 5– **Scot.** [OE. **Scot*, pl. *Scottas*, ad. late L. *Scottus*; first in writers of *c* 400. Late Latin had a variant *Scōtus* (cf. med. Gr. Σκῶτος), which became the usual form in med.L. A third form, *Scŏtus*, may perh. be inferred from the ON. *Skotar* pl., though the examples of it in med. Latin verse are prob. mere mistakes.

The source of the late Latin word is obscure. There is no evidence that it represents the native name of any Gaelic-speaking people (the Irish *Scot*, an Irishman, pl. *Scuit*, appears to be a learned word from Latin), nor does it exist in Welsh, though Welshmen in writing Latin have from the earliest times used *Scoti* as the rendering of *Gwyddel* (Gaels). It may possibly be an adoption of a name bestowed at an early period by Britons or Gauls on a Gaelic people (cf. the Gaulish personal names *Scottos, Scottios*); Sir J. Rhŷs has suggested that it may have meant 'tattooed', cogn. w. Welsh *ysgythr* a cutting, carving, or sculpturing; other conjectures have also been offered.

The OHG. *Scotto* (MHG., mod.G. *Schotte*), MDu. *Schotte, Schot* (mod.Du. *Schot*), agree with the Eng. form; adoptions from literary Latin appear in OF. *Escot*, Sp., Pg. *Escoto*, It. *Scoto*.]

1. *Hist.* One of an ancient Gaelic-speaking people, first known to history as inhabitants of Ireland, who in the 6th century A.D. settled in the north-west of Great Britain, and from whom the northern part of the island ultimately received its name.

Down to the reign of Alfred, *Scottas* was the ordinary word for Irishmen (as *Scotland* for Hibernia). In the next reign there were relations between the Anglo-Saxon kingdom and the kingdom of the Scots in North Britain, and from that time onward the name was no longer associated with Ireland except in historical statements.

O. E. Chron. an. 891, Þrie Scottas comon to Ælfrede cyninge, on anum bate butan ælcum gereþrum of Hibernia. *a* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 28 Hibernia Scotta ealond. *c*1205 LAY. 5575 Bruttes & Walsce, Scottes & Densce. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 482 This Constable was no thyng lord of this place..But kepte it strongly many wynres space, Vnder Alla, king of al Northhumbrelond,. Agayn the Scottes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 331 And þat londe [Hibernia] hatte Scotland also, for Scottes woned þere somtyme, or þey come into þe oþer Scotland, þat longede to Bretayne. *c*1400 *Brut* LXXVI (1906) 76 Arthure turnede him azeyne þere þat he was, into þe place at he hade lefte þe Scottes. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 2 These Scots (as them selues do write) were a people of Scythia, that came first into Spaine, then into Irelnnd, and from thence to the North part of Britaine. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 80 The þeir quhen the scottis cam in the Iles of Albion first, quhilkes we cal Hebrides now. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxiii. (1612) 346 Till the Picts, a People stout, Were by th' inuading Irish-Scots long thence debelled out. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 560/1 When the Scots became masters of the

low country. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (ed. 2) I. 286 A chief among the Scots of Ulster,..who lived in the middle of the third century. 1882 RHŶS *Celtic Brit.* v. 154 Now the Scots were Christians, while the Picts ruled over by Brude were still pagans. *Ibid.*, Columba, who was connected with the royal family of the Dalriad Scots, came over from Ireland in the year 563.

† b. *Comb.*, as *Scot-lede, -thede*, the people of the Scots. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 20047 Þer liðen to-somne alle Scotleode. *Ibid.* 20417 Al Scot-þeode he ȝaf his ane þeine.

2. A native of Scotland, a Scotchman, a Scotsman. † *Irish Scot*: a Highlander.

Since the 17th c. till recently chiefly *Hist.* exc. in jocular or rhetorical use. In Scotland there has latterly been a tendency (esp. in newspaper writing) to the more extended use of the word.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 304 At Foukirke in Scotlond, Scottis escapid none. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) ii. 1 Skottes out of Berwik and of Abirdene. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 73 Þe see þat departeþ Englische men and Scottes in þe est half. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 520 The firste Edwarde..wan Scotlonde, magre the Scottes stronge. 1513 [? SKELTON] in Flügel *Neuengl. Lesebuch* (1895) 155 Of the out yles ye rough foted scottes we have well eased you of the bottes. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 102 A litill balet..made at Mr. Shawes tab.e by a Skote. 1536 A. BOORDE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 303 Shortly to conclude, trust yow no Skott, for they wyll yowse flatteryng wordes, and all is fal[s]hode. 1585 PILKINGTON *Expos. Nehemiah* iv. 13. 61 If any shoot ill fauouredly, we saie he Shooteth like a Scott. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. 22 It is..one selfesame Sunne that maketh the Ethyopian blacke, and the Scotte yellowish. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 212 Those same Noble Scottes That are your Prisoners. 1632 PORY in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 125 The same Mackey, a Western or Irish Scot,..was, of all the Scots, most affected by the King of Sweden. 1639 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 78 For who knoethe, when your Ma^tie is neer the borders, what Scots may flocke to you, if I be gone. 1793 BURNS *Bruce's Addr.* i, Scots! wha hae wi' Wallace bled, Scots! wham Bruce has aften led. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 66 In perseverance, in self-command. in forethought, in all the virtues which conduce to success in life, the Scots have never been surpassed. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* VI. xli. 281 Paul Jones, a Scot by birth, in the service of the United States.

Comb. 1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 18 We (Scot-like) knew not the meaning of a Pardon.

3. *dial.* (See quots.)

1787 MARSHALL *Rural Econ., Norf.* 387 *Scots*, Scotch cattle. 1886 *Field* 7 Aug. 217/3 Prime large oxen 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. ditto Scots &c. 4s. 8d. to 5s.

4. *slang.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Scot*, a person of an irritable temper, who is easily put in a passion, which is often done by the company he is with, to create fun, such a one is declared to be a fine *Scot*. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 87 *Scot*, temper or passion; 'oh! what a scot he was in'. 1864 ELIZ. MURRAY *Ella Norman* II. 53, 'I am tired.'—'Yes and in a greater scot than I ever saw you. Why, we can raise you worse than Ma!'

Scot (skɒt), *sb.*[2] Also 3-4 **scoth**, 4 **scott**, 5-6 **scotte**, 6 **skot(t, skotte.** [Ultimately identical with OE. *sc(e)ot, gesc(e)ot* SHOT *sb.*; its formal relation to this is somewhat uncertain.

There can be little doubt that ME. *scot* is in part of Scandinavian origin, a. ON. *skot*; but in some instances it may represent the OF. *escot* (mod.F. *écot*), which is an adoption of the Teut. word; in some uses, again (esp. in ROME-SCOT) the OE. written form may have been preserved traditionally or revived from documents.]

1. A payment, contribution, 'reckoning'; esp. payment for entertainment; a or one's share of such payment; chiefly in the phrase *to pay* (*for*) (*one's*) *scot*: *lit.* and *fig.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6001 Verst hii wolde ete & drinke ..& suþþe þe louerd of þe hous quelle..& suþþe brenne al is hous al uor hor scot ywis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 And þanne me hine [*sc.* the glutton] anhongeþ. Þis is þet scot: þet me ofte payþ. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxiii. (1495) 213 After souper that is freely yeue it is not honest to compell a man to pay his scot. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxii. (1869) 147 Þat is þilke þat biseecheth bred for þe loue of god, and wole in no place pay scotte for no thing þat she dispendeth. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* i iij b, God payeth yt grete scot for he rendred to C. double. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1177/2 If so be..that they haue founde out so easye awaye to heauen, as to take no thought, but make mery,..and then lette Chrystes passion paye for all the scotte. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) I. p. lviii, Ise bay for your skott to London. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* 4 July (1866) 29, I asked him what I owed him;..I gave him half-a-crown, but he gave me 6d. back...So we are clear of all the scots that I know of. 1759 in *Catal. Archives All Souls' Coll.* (1877) 227 The scots have been very high. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 346 No system of clientship suits them; but every man must pay his scot. 1870 A. STEINMETZ *Gaming Table* I. viii. 214 Some silly lad..allows himself to be..wheedled into paying their scot. 1879 PATTISON *Milton* iii. 36 He paid his scot by reciting from memory some of his youthful Latin verses. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Scot*, an ale-house reckoning.

† b. *Comb.*, as *scot-penny*.

1319 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 13 Solvent denar' qui Scot peny vocatur. 1338 *Andover Gild Rolls* ibid. 335 Summa denariorum receptorum de scotpanes, sigepanes et hanspanes in domo inferiori xliij.s. v.d.

† **2.** A customary tax laid on, or a contribution paid by subjects according to their ability; a custom paid to the use of a sheriff or bailiff; a local or municipal tax. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 97 Scot, a gaderynge in work of baylifes. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* ibid., Scot, that is the paymente of a certeyne money to the vtilite of the lorde. 1545 ELYOT *Dict., Cloacarium*, scotte in a towne for clensynge of commune draughtes. 1646 J. BENBRIGGE *Usura Accom.* 15 So they may..at least be eased in their Scots and Taxes.

3. *spec.* A tax levied on the inhabitants of the marshes and levels of Kent and Sussex (see quots.).

1793 A. YOUNG *Agric. Sussex* 22 In Pevensey, and generally in all the levels, is raised a tax by the acre, called Scot, both general and particular. The general scot is applied for the purposes of paying water-bailiffs expenses...The particular scot is applied for the..looking after the streams and sewers. 1896 *Daily News* 1 June 4/6 This 'scot' is a special rate on the agriculturists of the marshes, and in some years has amounted to as much as 8s. in the £.

4. *Scot and lot* (earlier *lot and scot*): a tax levied by a municipal corporation in proportionate shares upon its members for the defraying of municipal expenses. Phrase, *To pay* (a person *off*) *lot and scot* (fig.), to pay out thoroughly, to settle with. Also *shot and lot*: see SHOT *sb.*

1227 in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 211 Si aliquis natiuus alicuius in prefato Burgo manserit,..et fuerit in prefata Gilda et Hansa et loth et Scoth cum eisdem Burgensibus [etc.]. 1320 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 377/2 Quod cum villa de Pevenese..fuerit..in Lote & Scott cum illa villa de Hastinges. 1494 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 189, I shalbe redy at scotte and lotte, and all my duties truly pay and doo. 1537 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 150 Robt. James..shall bere almaner of skotte and lotte. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 6 The said barbours..shal beare and pay lot and scot ..within the sayd citie. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. iv. 115 Twas time to counterfet, or that hotte Termagant Scot, had paid me scot and lot too. 1640 *Jrnl. Ho. Commons* II. 14 The Election was free to every one that paid Scot and Lot. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 5 P 3 The freeholders of Great Britain, as well as those that pay scot and lot. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xii. I. 92 Ye maun just gang your ways, for scot nor lot will I pay you, or the like o' you. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* I. 5 The Juries are selected by the bailiffs from the inhabitants paying scot and lot. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxiv, I'll pay you off scot and lot by and bye. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* I. xvi, She paid scot and she paid lot when she had money to pay. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto* xiii, This notable Club Pacchiarotto Had joined long since, paid scot and lot to, As free and accepted 'Bardotto'.

b. *attrib.*

1718 PRIOR *Protogenes & Apelles* 12 Protogenes, Historians note, Liv'd there, a Burgess Scot and Lot. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. iv. P 8 This is really too flattering, interrupted the scot and lot gentleman. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 29 Apr., By Scot and Lot Voting. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1059 (Seaford, Kent) The Commonalty are the scot and lot inhabitants. 1869 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* I. 67 The scot-and-lot voters. 1898 J. E. C. BODLEY *France* II. III. iii. 157 Scot-and-lot electors.

Scot (skɒt), *sb.*[3] [Cf. Icel. *Skotti*, a nickname for 'a horse whose body and tail are of different colours' (Vigf.), *skott* a (fox's) tail; also SCUT *sb.*]

1. A name of a horse. Now *dial.* (Suffolk): see E.D.D.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 616 This Reue sat vpon a ful good stot, That was al pomely grey, and highte Scot. *Ibid. Friar's T.* 245 Hayt Brok, hayt Scot, what spare ye for the stones?

† **2.** An old name for the hare. *Obs. rare*—[1]. Cf. SCOTART, SCOTEWINE.

a 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The scot, the deubert [etc.].

Scot (skɒt), *v.* See also SHOT *v.* [f. SCOT *sb.*[2]]

† **1.** *intr.* To participate, share (*with* a person).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 348 Ase ȝe schotteð mid him of his pine on eorðe, also ȝe schulen scotten mid him of his blisse ine heouene.

b. *Sc.* in phr. *to scot and lot*: see SCAT *v.*[2]

1531 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 53 Because the saidis vnfremen nowthir scottis lottis, walkis nor wardis within our said fredome. 1583 J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 48 Gif ony wedow buy and sell within burgh with the nichtbouris, sche sall scot and lot with thame in taxatiounis and utheris helpis.

2. *trans.* To lay (a person or property) under contribution of 'scot'; to assess.

c 1750 in *Catal. Archives All Souls' Coll.* (1877) 226 List of owners of land scotted to Lydd Wall. 1774 E. JACOB *Faversham* 28 All which lands and tenements are geldable by the abbot, and scotted and lotted as well as ourselves, for the service of our lord the king. 1864 LOWER in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* XVI. 253 As low lands drained at a public or common charge are still said to be 'scotted'.

Hence **Sco·tted** *ppl. a.*, **Sco·tting** *vbl. sb.*

1545 *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), Thair scotting & lotting, with the furing of his guids furth of Aberdeen to Leyth. 1893 *Doncaster Chron.* 10 Nov. 1/5 That the sum of £500 be allowed from the estate in reduction of the engine rates on the scotted lands.

Sco·tale, sco·t-ale. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 2 **scot(t)hale**, (**scotteshale**), 4 **scotal(l.** [f. SCOT *sb.*[2] + ALE.] An 'ale' or festival at which ale was drunk at the invitation of the lord of the manor or of a forester or other bailiff, for which ale a forced contribution was levied.

[1155-8 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1906) II. 472 Quod omnes sint quieti de burdel..et de scotala..ita quod vicecomes nieus..scotalam non faciat.] 1190 in Stubbs *Sel. Charters* (1895) 266 Quod omnes sint quieti de jeresgieve et de scottes-hale, ita quod si vicecomes noster vel aliquis alius baillivus scotthale faciat. 1217 *Charter of Forest* vii, Nullus forestarius vel bedellus de cetero faciat scotale, vel [etc.]. 1235-52 *Rentalia Glastonbury* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 108 Item, potabit iij scotallas. 1474-5 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 17 Et in clauis emptis pro domo scotale hoc anno, vd. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxi. § 4 (1615) 203/2 A Scottall or Scot-ale is, where any officer of the Forest doth keepe an Alehouse..and by colour of his office doth cause men to come to his house, and there to spend their money, for feare of hauing his displeasure. 1660 SOMNER *Gavelkind* 29 It seems to be the same with what was afterwards called Scot-ale, whereof you may read in Matth. Paris, the Charter of the Forest, Bracton, the Mirroir, and elsewhere. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xiii. (1897) I. 672 Next to this the 'scot-ale' seems to have been the most burdensome local custom. The nature of this exaction is very obscure. It was however levied by the sheriff for his own emolument, probably as a reward for his services in maintaining the peace.

† **Sco·tart.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. SCUT *sb.* + *-art*, -ARD. Cf. SCOT *sb.*[3] 2.] An old name for the hare.

a 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The hare, the scotart, the bigge, the bouchart.

Scotch (skɒtʃ), *sb.*[1] In 5 **skoch**, 8 **skotch**, *dial.* **squotch.** [Cognate with SCOTCH *v.*[1]]

1. An incision, cut, score or gash.

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 102 Kut him in þe bakke in two or þre places, but not þorgh, And drawe him in þe sket [*Douce MS.* skoch] next the hede, as thou doest a rounde pike. 1526 *Grete Herball* cclxxiii. (1529) P iv b, In that countree the people make scotches or clyftes in the barke of this tre. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cicatricosa vitis*, a vine full of scotches and choppes. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. vii. 10 Wee'l beat 'em into Bench-holes, I haue yet Roome for six scotches more. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. ii. (1635) 37 A round bowle..indented here and there with scotches. 1655 WALTON *Angler* xiii. (1661) 194 Then give him [the eel] three or four scotches with a knife. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1895/4 A pretty big chubbed Man,..a Scotch in his Face. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Skotch*, or *Squotch*, a notch, or cut. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 387 *Scotches*, scores, or notches. 1832 L. HUNT *Boileau's Battle of Bks.* 51 All arm them as they can: one gives a scotch With 'Love's Decree'; another, with the 'Watch'.

2. *spec.* A line scored or marked upon the ground, in the game of HOPSCOTCH. Also *Comb.* † **scotch-hoppers, -hob**, names for the game.

1677 *Poor Robin* To Rdr., The time when School-boys should play at Scotch-hoppers. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 76 (1699) 116 Dancing and Scotch-hoppers would be the same thing to them, were the Encouragements and Discouragements equal. *Ibid.* § 129. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Scotch-hob.* 1890 WEDGWOOD in *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. X. 64 Taking care that the tile shall be driven clear over the scotch, or scored line.

† **3.** Phr. *Out of all scotch and notch*, ? beyond all bounds or calculation. Cf. SCOTCH *v.*[1] 1 b. *Obs.*

1589 *Marprel., Hay any Work* A ij b, The pleasure which you haue done vnto me, is out of all scotche and notche. 1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. iii, We gird them and flout them out of all scotch and notch, and they cannot see it. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 9 Thou wilt be as ready as any catchpoule, out of all scotch & notch to torment him.

Scotch (skɒtʃ), *sb.*[2] Also 7 **skatch**, 9 **skotch.** [Belongs to SCOTCH *v.*[2]: of obscure origin; perh. cogn. w. SCOTE *v.*

If the 17th c. form *skatch* be correct, the word may be identical with SCATCH *sb.*, stilt.]

1. A block placed under a wheel, a cask, or the like, to prevent moving or slipping.

1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xlii. § 458 Behind there is a skatch to stay the wagon in some steep descent. 1861 J. B. KEENE *Pract. Ganging* 40 They [*sc.* casks] are to be firmly fixed, by means of scotches placed underneath, in a horizontal position, bung upwards. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 115 Two shod handspikes, and two scotches. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 415 The wheels must be well secured with lashing rope and scotches. 1897 *Daily News* 11 Feb. 8/5 The scotches failed, and the boiler began to back down the hill.

b. *fig.*

1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlv. (1631) 251 It is time so soon as our breathing hath set a scotch upon Time. 1861 RUFFINI *Dr. Antonio* x, The Baronet, who did not like so many scotches put to his plans. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., So we often speak metaphorically of 'putting a *scotch* on a person's wheel', i.e checking him; and to put a *scotch* on a project is to put difficulties in its way.

2. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scotch*, a slotted bar which slips upon a rod or pipe, and forms a bearing for a shoulder or collar thereon, so as to support it while a section above is being attached or detached. Used in boring and tubing wells.

Scotch (skɒtʃ), *a.* and *sb.*[3] Also 7 **Scot'sh.** [Contracted var. of SCOTTISH.

The three forms of the adj., *Scotch, Scottish, Scots*, are still current, with some difference in use, which, however, is somewhat unsettled. Down to the middle of the 16th c. the only form used in southern English was *Scottish*; but in the dialect of Scotland (and in that of the north of England in the 14th and 15th c.) the form was *Scottis* (cf. *Inglis* = English), subsequently contracted to *Scots*. So far as our quotations show, the contraction of *Scottish* into *Scotch* is not recorded before 1570 (in the compound *Scotchman*), though the colloquial pronunciation which it represents may well be much older; instances of *Scotch cap, Scotch jig* occur in 1591-99, but the adj. did not become common in literature until the second half of the 17th c. From that time until recently *Scotch* has been the prevailing form in England, though *Scottish* has always been in use as a more formal synonym. In Scotland, the authors who wrote in dialect (down to Ramsay and Fergusson early in the 18th c.) used *Scots*, while those who anglicized adopted the form *Scottish*. But before the end of the 18th c. *Scotch* had been adopted into the northern vernacular; it is used regularly by Burns, and subsequently by Scott; still later, it appears even in official language in the title of the 'Scotch Education Office'. Within the last half-century there has been in Scotland a growing tendency to discard this form altogether, *Scottish*, or less frequently *Scots*, being substituted. At present, while in England *Scotch* is the ordinary colloquial word, the literary usage prefers *Scottish* in applications relating to

the nation or the country at large or its institutions or characteristics. Thus it is usual to speak of 'Scottish literature', 'Scottish history', 'the Scottish character', 'a Scottish lawyer', 'the Scottish border'. On the other hand, it would sound affected to say 'a Scottish girl', 'a Scottish gardener,' and there is no alternative for expressions like 'Scotch tweeds', 'Scotch whisky'. Although 'the Scottish dialect' is now the usual designation, it is seldom that *Scottish* is used as a sb. instead of *Scotch*. Recent usage favours *Scots* in 'Scots law', and it is now almost universal in historical references to money, as 'a pound Scots'.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons: Of, belonging to, or native to, Scotland.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxiv. (1612) 350 Ferquard did with the fatall Chaire, earst spoke-of, send his Sonne. That thereupon of Scotch-Kings Here the Title first begunne, And all Scotch-Crownings earst as his, on it were Else-where done. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 166 The Scot'sh Revolters in the state I left them, were not like to meliorate nor to goe lesse in animosity. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn., Forcers of Conscience* 12 By shallow Edwards and Scotch what d'ye call. 1701 *Cowel's Interpr., Acre*, an old sort of Duel fought by single Combatants, English and Scotch, between the Frontiers of their Kingdom, with Sword and Lance. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 15 An English Bull-dog, and a Scotch Presbyterian, are of a different Species from all the Bull-dogs and Presbyterians in the World. 1775 *Brit. Chronol.* II. an. 1717, 19 June, Several of the Scotch clergy, being convicted a second time, of not praying for king George by name, were silenced for three years. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* Pref. 7 To which no Scotch lawyer of the present century can refer, without [etc.]. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On some carp at Sans Souci*, That tipsy Scotch gentleman who used to come to the chambers sometimes. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* xxvi. 313 His marriage with Maud, the aunt of the Scotch king. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 201 He had no Scotch blood in him that I know of!

b. *Scotch cuddy, draper,* † *merchant*, etc.: a travelling draper or pedlar: see quots. and SCOTCHMAN[1] 1 a.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Pedler*, one that sells small Wares about the Streets; a Hawker; a Scotch or wand'ring Merchant. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii, [He] spoke of Jarvie as a petulant, conceited Scotch pedlar, with whom there was no dealing. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss.*, *Manadge-man*, an itinerant vendor of goods on credit for household requirements. Sometimes called in Newcastle a 'Scotch draper'. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. Green Shutters* 96 The 'Scotch Cuddy' is so called because he is a beast of burden, and not from the nature of his wits. He is a travelling packman, who infests communities of working men, and disposes of his goods on the credit system, receiving payment in instalments. *Ibid.* 98 Sandy..had been a Scotch Cuddy in the Midlands. 1908 E. PARRY in *Daily Chron.* 9 June 4/7 A Scotch draper is a credit travelling draper, and I believe they originally came from Scotland.

c. In the names of military bodies consisting of Scotchmen.

Scotch Greys: sometimes used for the official form *Scots Greys* (see GREY *sb.* 8).

1756 *Act* 29 *Geo. II*, c. 17 § 5 The Corps in the Service of ..the United Provinces, distinguished by the Name of The Scotch Brigade. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 139 At this moment the Scotch Greys poured in upon the enemy as a flood. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, The corps long maintained in the service of the States of Holland, and called the Scotch Dutch. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl., Scotch Brigade*, a brigade of Scotchmen, gentlemen and others, who served under the elector of Bavaria in the reign of James I, and subsequently under Gustavus Adolphus in the thirty years' war.

d. Characteristic of Scotland or its people.

1815 R. BELL *Conveyance of Land* Introd. 8 The statute acting (agreeably to Scotch ideas) as a charter of confirmation in favour of every subsequent purchaser. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise of Midge* viii, 'What ship is that?' This was answered Scotch fashion—'What felucca is that?' 1900 *St. James's Gaz.* 9 Apr. 3/1 What the sailors call 'Scotch seamanship', which is all stupidity and main strength.

e. *Scotch cousin*: a distant relative (in allusion to the practice in Scotland of tracing kinship to remote degrees).

1864 *Times* 10 Aug. (Hoppe), A Scotch cousinship of ten removes. 1887 MARY CHOLMONDELEY *Danvers Jewels* i, I have no deserving nephew or Scotch cousin.

2. Of things: Of or pertaining to Scotland or its inhabitants (often denoting a particular variety or quality of the thing named, e.g. *Scotch ale, cambric, carpet, paling, rite, whisky*, etc.).

1591, 1595 [see SCOTCH CAP]. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 77 The first suite is hot and hasty like a Scotch jigge (and full as fantastical). 1669 DIGBY *Closet Opened* 114 The excellent Scotch Ale is made thus. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Luggs*, A Scotch Proverb. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 296/2 The Scotch Settlement there [at Darien]. 1785 *Spanish Rivals* 7, I have stuck to my master like a Scotch plaid, in all weathers. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* i, I sing the juice Scotch bear can make us. *Ibid.* ii, O thou, my Muse! guid, auld Scotch Drink! 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) I. i. 58 The Scotch law lectures were those of Mr. David Hume. 1820 *Trials for High Treason Scot.* (1825) I. 93 We are here to deal with Scotch law in a Scottish court. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 5 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, Scotch-Paling, neat light fence, peculiarly adapted for gardens, for securing single trees,..was introduced at Scoreby [Yorkshire], from Lanarkshire, by John Wood, Esq., M.P., a few years ago. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 5 In Scotch law language, however, the term *absolute disposition* is generally used in relation to heritable property. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 263 The three-ply imperial carpet, called the Scotch, is coming very much into vogue. 1855 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Chem. Common Life* xiv. I. 337 While malt liquors give our Scotch and Irish whiskies. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Scotch-cambric*, a cotton fabric made in imitation of French cambric. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* xxviii. 337 The transition of races that was rapidly going on in the Scotch Lowlands. 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 437 The impressions of his [Mendelssohn's] Scotch tour in 1829.

b. As the epithet of various weights and measures, etc. (differing from the English standard), used formerly in Scotland. *Scotch acre*, 6,084 square yards; *Scotch ell*, 37·0958 inches; *Scotch mile*, see MILE *sb.*[1] 1; etc. Cf. SCOTS *a.* 16, SCOTTISH *a.*

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 314 The half-Davoch..consists of ninety-six Scotch acres of arable land..with a competent quantity of mountain or grazing land. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* vii, Its stature seem'd lang Scotch ells twa. 1786 — *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* x, But sax Scotch mile, thou try't their mettle. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 718/1 The Scotch quart contains 210 inches. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* p. vi, Table Weights etc., 1 Scotch pint = 103.4 cubic inches..A Scotch acre commonly = 6084 square yards. N.B. If the difference of inches were narrowly attended to in making the Scotch chain, a Scotch acre would be equal to 6150.7 square yards. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 179 A good crop of hay, upon an English statute acre, will not exceed 240 Scotch stone. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, At the rate of twelve shillings (Scotch) per diem. 1843 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* Suppl. (1857) § 8308 The following table exhibits the cost per Scotch acre of draining in this method.

c. With the names of various animals and birds.

Scotch dipper, duck, teal, local U.S. for the *Charitonetta* or *Bucephala albeola* (in Cent. Dict. 1891 and later Dicts.).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scotch-hobby*, a little sorry, scrubbed, low Horse of that Country. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 61/1 Black Scotch cattle. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 515/2 The chief breeds of coursing greyhounds now in vogue are the Newmarket, the Lancashire, and the Scotch. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 28 [The sedge-warbler is called] Scotch nightingale (Roxburgh; Stirling). 1887 *Field* 18 June 845/3 Some people at Felling-on-Tyne..were taken in by buying skinned cats for 'Scotch hares'.

d. With the names of various insects, esp. butterflies and moths. (See quots.)

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 13 The Scotch Ringlet (*Hipparchia Blandina*, Leach) appears in August. *Ibid.* 19 The Scotch Argus (*Polyommatus Artaxerxes*, Stephens) appears at the end of July. *Ibid.* 135 The Scotch Pug (*Eupithecia cognata*, Stephens)...Scarce. Fifeshire and Mid Lothian. 1869 NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 68 The Scotch Amulet (*Dasydia obfuscata*). 1876 J. GIBSON in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 595/1 Other species are extremely local, as the Scotch Argus (*Lycæna artaxerxes*), confined to a few Scottish hillsides. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Scotch-sawfly*, the genus Lophyrus.

3. As the designation of the variety of northern English which is vernacular in Scotland. Hence of words, expressions, etc., belonging to this, and of works composed in it. Cf. SCOTS *a.* 2, SCOTTISH *a.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 560/1 *marg.*, Causes of the purity of the Scotch dialect of this ancient language. 1801 W. BEATTIE (*title*), Fruits of Time Parings, being a small collection of original poems, Scotch and English. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 239 Many spoke the Scotch dialect so broadly as almost to puzzle *me* to unravel it. 1829 SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd., To secure the adherence of stout, able-bodied, and, as the Scotch phrase then went, *pretty* men. 1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1649/2 Similar to the Scotch pronunciation of the initial H. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 398/2 So in early Scotch books we find *zellow, ze, yat, yem*.

4. Special collocations: **Scotch bait** (see quot.); † **Scotch boot** = BOOT *sb.*[3] 3; † **Scotch bum**, a kind of bustle; **Scotch catch** *Mus.* = *Scotch snap*; **Scotch chocolate, coffee** *slang* (see quots.); **Scotch collops** (see COLLOP[1] 2 c); **Scotch douche** [= F. *douche écossaise*] (see quot.); **Scotch face** *Printing* (see quot.); † **Scotch fall**, an article of dress; **Scotch fiddle** *slang*, the itch (see FIDDLE *sb.* 4 c); **Scotch fines**, a particular quality of rags used in papermaking; **Scotch furnace**, 'a simple form of orehearth used in smelting lead ores' (*Cent. Dict.* 189.); **Scotch hand, hearth** (see quots.); † **Scotch-land**, Scotland; **Scotch marriage** (see MARRIAGE 2); **Scotch mist** (see MIST *sb.*[1] 1 c), also allusively; hence **Scotch-misty** *a.*, characterized by Scotch mist; **Scotch pebble** (see PEBBLE *sb.* 2 c); **Scotch prize** *Naut.*, a capture by mistake; † **Scotch rabbit**, ? a 'Welsh rabbit'; † **Scotch saddle**, a particular variety of saddle (cf. *Scotissh sadell*, SADDLE *sb.* 1 b), also *attrib.* or *adj.*; **Scotch scale** *Mus.* (see quot.); † **Scotch-sleeve**, ? a person wearing sleeves of 'Scotch cloth'; **Scotch snap** *Mus.* (see quot.); **Scotch spur** *Her.*, a bearing representing a prick spur; **Scotch stone** (see quot.); **Scotch terrier** (see TERRIER). See also SCOTCH BONNET, CAP, CLOTH.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Scotch bait*, a halt and a resting on a stick, as practised by pedlars. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 123 They..immediately got a sort of *Scotch-Boot to bend their Hams in. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw.-Hoe* II. ii, That French gowne, Scotch fals, *Scotch bum, and Italian head-tire you sent her. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Scotch chocolate*, brimstone and milk. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, **Scotch coffee*, biscuits toasted and boiled in water. Sea. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Lang.*, *Scotch coffee*, hot water flavoured with burnt biscuit. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Scotch douche*, a douche of hot water, beginning at a temperature of 40° C., increased gradually to 45-50° C., and immediately followed by cold water; more generally, a succession of alternate hot and cold douches. *Ibid.* s.v. *Serif*, in the *Scotch-face it [the serif] is curved like a bracket on the inner side. 1607 *Scotch fall [see *Scotch bum*]. 1675 EARL OF ROCHESTER *Tunbridge Wells* 120 And then more smartly to expound the Riddle Of all this Prattle, gives her a *Scotch Fiddle. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 23 *Scotch Fines. 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Jan. 155/3 Little rolls of butter (made with the two little wooden bats known as *Scotch hands). 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Scotch hearth*, a low forge or furnace of cast-iron, with one tuyere, in which rich galena is treated by a sort of accelerated roasting and reaction process. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 88 In *Scotch-land. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* v, *Landlady*... For certain, *Scotch marriages seldom turn out well. 1647 J. C[LEVELAND] *Char. of Lond.-Diurn.* 7 This is he, that hath put out one of the Kingdoms eyes, by clouding our Mother-University, and (if the *Scotch-mist further prevaile) will extinguish this other. 1662 *Gusman's Ephemeris* A 2 b, Since the first Scotch Mist in England 20 [years]. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 204 By sundry vials powr'd upon it, a Scotch mist is upon it. *a* 1700- [see MIST *sb.*[1] 1 c]. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 210 A windless, Scotch-misty, Saturday night. 1867 SMYTH *Sailors' Wordbk.*, **Scotch prize*, a mistake; worse than no prize, or one liable to hamper the captors with heavy law expenses. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 97 To make a *Scotch-Rabbit. Toast a Piece of Bread.., butter it, cut a Slice of Cheese,..toast it on both Sides, and lay it on the Bread. 1598 FLORIO, *Naso schiacciato*, a flat *Scotch-saddle nose. *c* 1800 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* **Scotch-Scale*, a Scale differing from that of the other nations of Europe by its omission of the *fourth* and *seventh*; a peculiarity from which all the genuine Scottish melodies derive their national and distinguished character. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. iii. 30 Poor Lawn-Sleeves (or *Scotch-Sleeves)..was so assaulted, as..he had probably perished by their violence. 1883 J. M. WOOD in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 437 *Scotch Snap or Catch is the name given to the reverse of the ordinary dotted note which has a short note after it—in the snap the short note comes first and is followed by the long one. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. vii. 304/1 *Scotch Spur. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry* 293 The Scotch or prick-spur has a spike instead of a rowel. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 135/1 Among hones of less importance ..may be noted..Water of Ayr stone, *Scotch stone, or snake stone, used for tools and for polishing marble.

b. In names of plants: **Scotch asphodel** (see ASPHODEL 2 d); **Scotch attorney**, a name given in Jamaica to various species of *Clusia* or woody vines which twine round the trunks of trees and destroy them (cf. SCOTCHMAN 1 d); **Scotch barley**, (*a*) a Scotch variety of barley; (*b*) 'a variety of pot-barley (BARLEY *sb.* 1 b), made by simply grinding off the husk' (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); **Scotch bear, bigg**, bear (*sb.*[2]), and bigg, grown in Scotland; **Scotch broom**, 'an American designation of the common broom, *Cytisus scoparius*' (Cent. Dict. 1891); **Scotch cinquefoile, crocus, curlies** (see quots.); **Scotch elm**, *Ulmus montana*; **Scotch fir** (see FIR 1); **Scotch gale** = GALE *sb.*[1]; **Scotch geranium**, *Geranium Robertianum* (Britten & Holland 1886); **Scotch grass**, the *Panicum molle* of the West Indies (see quots.); **Scotch greys**, a variety of oats; **Scotch heath or heather** (see quot.); **Scotch kale** (see KALE 1 b); **Scotch laburnum** (see LABURNUM); **Scotch lilac** (see quot.); **Scotch lovage** = LOVAGE b; **Scotch mercury** (see MERCURY *sb.* 10 d; **Scotch parsley** = LOVAGE b; **Scotch pine** (see PINE *sb.*[2] 2); also *attrib.*; **Scotch primrose** (see PRIMROSE 2); **Scotch rose** (see quot. 1820); † **Scotch scurvygrass**, the sea-side bindweed, *Convolvulus Soldanella*. See also SCOTCH THISTLE.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 358 Tofieldia palustris..*Scotch Asphodel, Marsh Tofieldia. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 *Scotch attorney: *Clusia*. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The Matapalo (or Scotch Attorney, as it is rudely called here). 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 131 In Lincolnshire they sow a sort of Barley that they call *Scotch Barley. 1825 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* § 4689 Of pot-barley there are two sorts, pearl and Scotch; both are produced by grinding off the husk. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 87 The *Scotch beer or bigg, is the *hordeum vulgare hexasticon*. *Ibid.* 91 An inferior Scotch bigg. 1843 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* VI. 470 Sibbaldia procumbens. Procumbent Sibbaldia. *Scotch Cinquefoil. 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 66/2 The Cloth of Silver or *Scotch Crocus is a large variety of the Italian Crocus biflorus. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Scotch curlies*, a variety of kale, so called from its curled leaves. 1840 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* V. 386 Ulmus montana. Mountain Elm. *Scotch Elm. Wych Elm. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 II. 297 The *Scotch Firr. 1897 BARING-GOULD *Bladys* xxii, The wind sang in a Scotch fir rooted in the red cliff overhead. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 60 Near to the King's Well, in the same barony, is to be found what is called the *Scotch-gale, a species of the myrtle. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 133 *Scotch Grass. This plant is cultivated and thrives very luxuriantly in all the low and marshy lands of Jamaica. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 75/1 The Scotch grass grows with great luxuriance by the sides of the rivers [of Jamaica]. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 578 The blue oat..is suggested in Miller's Dictionary as the sort known to farmers under the title of **Scotch Greys*. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Scotch heath* or *heather*, most properly, *Erica cinerea*..; also (U.S.), the common heather, *Calluna vulgaris*. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, **Scotch laburnum*, see *Cytisus alpinus*. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Syringa*, One of these [varieties] has white Flowers, one blue, and the third has purple Flowers; the latter is commonly known by the Title of *Scotch Lilac, to distinguish it from the other. 1731 *Ibid.*, *Ligusticum*; *Scoticum*...*Scotch Lovage. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 310 *Ligusticum scoticum*, *Scotch parsley, or the *shunis* of this island [Hebrides]. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abies* 3/2 The *Scotch Pine

or Pinaster, will grow on the North or East side. 1840 LOUDON tr. *Kollar's Treat. Insects* 363 The Scotch Pine Bark-Beetle. *Hylesinus (Hylurgus) piniperda*, Fabr. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 184 *Scotch-Primrose. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Rosa* 6, The strip'd *Scotch Rose...The sixth Sort is found wild in Scotland. 1820 J. SABINE in *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1822) IV. 281 The Scotch Rose has been, and still is, sometimes called the Burnet Rose; it is the Rosa spinosissima of the English authors. 1787 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 140 Convolvulus foliis reniformibus pedunculis unifloris..Sea Bindweed. *Scotch Scurvy-Grass.

B. *sb.* (Elliptical uses of the adj.)

1. *The Scotch* (pl.): The inhabitants of Scotland or their immediate descendants in other countries.

1781 J. RIPLEY *Sel. Orig. Lett.* 41 Let the words English and Scotch be entirely obliterated and lost in that more ancient and significant word Britons. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, The Scotch of that period were guilty of similar injustice to the English. 1825 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* § 4718 The fine powder which is produced by husking the corn,..forms the sowens of the Scotch. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* xxviii. 337 Meanwhile, the Scotch were divided by a quarrel as to who should lead the van.

b. *Scotch and English*: the English Border name for prisoner's base; cf. *French and English* (see FRENCH *sb.* 2 b).

1802 W. HUTTON *Hist. Roman Wall* 105 The children of this day, upon the English border keep up the remembrance [of former scenes] by a common play, called *Scotch and English*, or, *The Raid* (inroad). 1825 JAMIESON, *English and Scotch*, a common game among young people. 1869 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Personal Recoll.* (1872) i. 22 In our play-hours [at school in 1790] we amused ourselves..at 'Scotch and English', a game which represented a raid on the debatable land, or Border between Scotland and England, in which each party tried to rob the other of their playthings.

2. The Scotch language: see A. 3.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sawny*, a Fool. *He's a meer sawny*, he is very soft, tho' (in Scotch) it is only for Alexander. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iv, Which is to say, in plain Scotch, the gallows. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* let. iii, I myself have since that time acquired Scotch in perfection, and many a Scotticism withal. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 400/2 The revival of [interest in] Lowland Scotch last century. 1896 ASHBY-STERRY *Tale of Thames* viii, I can read French as well as I can English, but it is impossible for me to comprehend Scotch.

3. Often *elliptically* (the sb. being contextually known), e. g. for *Scotch whisky*; also = a glass of Scotch whisky. Also formerly for *Scotch snuff*.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 100 The finely levigated snuff, known as 'Scotch'. 1886-96 MARSHALL *He Slumbered* ('Pomes,' 118) (Farmer) In the early evening watches he had started well on Scotches. 1893 H. CRACKANTHORPE *Wreckage* 125 Two bitters and a small Scotch. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 124 And over a drop of Scotch and a cigar discuss the leading topics of the day. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *You never can tell* 307 *Waiter*..Scotch and syphon for you, sir?

Scotch (skɒtʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 **scocche, skocche, schoche,** 5–6 **skoche,** 6 **scotche,** 6–7 **skotch,** 6– **scotch.** [Of obscure origin; identity with SCORCH *v.*[3] (first in 16th c.) is hardly possible.]

1. *trans.* To make an incision or incisions in; to cut, score, gash. ? *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3727 With his nayles cracched he his face, And scocched [*Roxb.* skoccheḍ] it with knyues, and to-rente. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Schoche him [the fish] by þe hede in þe backe,..And skoche him in two or iij. peces in þe bak, but not thorgh. 15.. *Scot. Field* 218 *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, Our Englishmen full egerly attilde them to shott; Skochen the cruell Scottes with their kene arrowes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 46 b, If ye will haue the iuice, ye must scotche & pryck the rootes in many places. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* xiiii. 131 When they haue well skotched it [the deer-skin] with their wood-kniues, that the houndes may the more easily teare off the fleshe. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. C 3 b, I..will deliuer him to thee to be scotcht and carbonadoed. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IV. v. I. 74 Thus many creekes doth scotch and cut Peloponnesus. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 17 Wash the Eele cleane...Scotch it all along both the sides. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 129 Scotch with your knife the back of the Carp. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 33 When you have clear'd the Pig of both [skin and hair], scotch him down to the Bones.

absol. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 73 How euer ye scotch, saue pole and crotch.

† b. Phr. *To notch and scotch.* (? A term used in Tennis: cf. SCOTCH *sb.*[1] 3.) *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 198 He scotcht him, and notcht him like a Carbinado. 1797 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* Dec. (1891) IV. 49 They play all day at tennis, and learn with vast skill to notch and scotch and go one.

2. Theobald's generally accepted conjectural reading of *Macb.* III. ii. 13, 'We have scotch'd the snake, not kill'd it' (see SCORCH *v.*[3]), has become a stock quotation, in which the verb *scotch* is taken to mean: To inflict such hurt upon (something regarded as dangerous) that it is rendered harmless for the time.

1798 COOKE in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 393, I fear relaxation and too much clemency; but the snake must be killed not scotched. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. ii. 268 Would that the hour were come! We will not scotch, But kill. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* II. II. viii. 279 The malaria is scotched, not killed, and the intermittent returns at some future period. 1879 MERIVALE *Early Ch. Hist.* ii. 86 It was by Augustine most of all that the Arian heresy was scotched, if not actually killed. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* II. 115 From the time of St. Louis, the feudal power in France was scotched, though far from killed.

b. To crush, stamp upon, stamp out (something dangerous).

1825 *Q. Rev.* XXXII. 277 If we, in our own language, were to scotch the insidious forgetfulness, *we* might, perhaps, be accused of 'coarse and insulting abuse'; and shall therefore only cite the gentle remonstrance of Lord Byron. 1880 A. H. HUTH *Buckle* I. iii. 189 Attempting to scotch the pestiferous germs of heresy. 1908 *Expositor* Dec. 527 Fanaticism which constitutes a danger to mankind should be scotched.

Hence **Scotched** *ppl. a.*, cut, scarred; also in *scotched collops*, an etymologizing perversion of *Scotch collops*; **Sco·tching** *vbl. sb.*

1559 FECKENHAM in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. ix. 26 There was no scotchinge nor cuttinge of the Faces and Legs of the Crucifix and Image of Christ. 1625 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* 98 The Lombard left,..Unto the skotched [*balafrez*] Hunnes the divers furrowd marge Of Ister. 1708 W. KING *Art Cookery* 21 A Cook perhaps has mighty things profest, Then sent up but two Dishes nicely drest, What signifie Scotcht-Collops to a Feast.

Scotch (skɒtʃ), *v.*[2] Also 8 **skatch.** [f. SCOTCH *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To block or wedge (a wheel, log, gate, etc.) so as to keep from moving or slipping. Also with *up* (see quot. 1898). Also *fig.*

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiii. § 4 Hedges and counterhedges..serve for barracadoes, and will stick as birdlime in the wings of the horse, and scotch the wheeling about of the foot. 1645 T. HILL *Olive Branch* (1648) 29 If now jealousies and misunderstandings should creep in, and scotch the wheel. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* I. i. (1669) 2 Then will I first scotch the Wheeles of it, that it may not run. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) To *Skatch a Wheel.* 1713 M. HENRY *Conc. Meekness & Quietn. of Spirit* (1822) 241 Abigail prudently scotched the wheels of his passion. 1844 EMERSON *New Eng. Reformers* Wks. (Bohn) I. 259 Stop, dear nature, these incessant advances of thine; let us scotch these ever-rolling wheels. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 125, 2 has charge of the..skidding, scotches the wheels. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 323 It was..noticed that near most of the gates that would have had to be opened, a stone was lying, as if it had been used to 'scotch' it. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., To *scotch* a ladder is to 'foot' it, and thus prevent its slipping. 1895 LD. WATSON in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 636/2 Hopper..insufficiently scotched the waggon which ran down the incline and killed the deceased. 1898 ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms* s.v., To be *scotched up* is to be supported, as a boat may be when propped or 'scotched up' against a quay by timber shores or legs.

b. *fig.* To render inoperative, cripple the action of; to frustrate (a plan).

1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* I. 33 The name of Spinozism was of course dreaded by them [*sc.* the Deists]; they take care both to avoid the imputation, and to make it undeserved by carefully scotching their logic. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1897 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 163, I scotched the project of retreat for this council, at any rate.

† **2.** *intr.* (Chiefly with negative.) To hesitate, scruple, boggle, or stick *at*; to hesitate *to do* something. Also, to haggle *with* a person *for* something. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 74 For when [men] come to giuing vnto holy and necessarie vses, then they will sticke at a pennie, and scotch at a groat, and euery thing is too much. 1627 J. CARTER *Plain Expos.* 47 He will haue vs value our humilitie, loyaltie, and pliablenesse to the higher powers..at so high a rate, as to scotch at no hardship, to give them, or their assignes, iust content. *Ibid.* 81 God hath giuen the greater,..wherefore out of question, hee will not scotch with vs for the lesse. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Scotch v.* to spare; to refrain...So when we say 'I did not scotch to tell him my mind', we mean 'I did not at all mince the matter'. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss., Scotch*, to hesitate, stick at. 'He scotches at nowt'.

3. *intr.* Of a horse: ? To boggle, shy.

1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 216 Soon after he [*sc.* a racehorse] started he began to scotch, and was on the point of stopping to kick.

Hence **Sco·tching** *vbl. sb.* Also **Sco·tcher** *nonce-wd.*, an implement for scotching or blocking.

1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Parents' Assist.* (1856) 460, 'I call this thing my scotcher,' said Paul, 'because I always scotch the wheels with it.' 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 110 This is called scotching, or chocking.

Scotch, variant of SCUTCH *sb.* and *v.*

Scotch bonnet.

1. (See BONNET *sb.* 1.)

a 1803 J. BEATTIE (*title*), To the Right Honourable Lady Charlotte Gordon, Dressed in a Tartan Scotch Bonnet, with plumes. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvii, Their Scotch bonnets, were ornamented with plumes of jet black feathers. 1876 A'BECKETT *Holiday in Scot. Highlands* 29 The sentry..in spite of wearing a Scotch bonnet, had evidently been born in the sister island.

2. *pl.* a. The fairy-ring mushroom, *Marasmius oreades.* b. The bonnet-pepper, *Capsicum tetragonum.*

1696 RAY *Synopsis Stirp. Brit.* (ed. 2) 13 Fungus lamellatus,..Scotch-bonnets. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Scotch-bonnets*, a name for the champignon; also for a variety of capsicum. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 256 Every one is familiar with the common campignon or Scotch bonnets, which form those sour ringlets in the grassy meadows popularly called fairy rings. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Scotch cap.

1. A man's head-dress made of thick firm woollen cloth, without a brim, and decorated with two tails or streamers.

One form is the GLENGARRY which is elongated, with a depression in the middle. Another is the BALMORAL, which is round and flat, the top projecting all round the head.

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 209 Vpon his head an old Scotch cap he wore. 1595 *Locrine* IV. ii. 20 *Stage-Direction*, Enter Strumbo with a pitchforke and a scotch-cap. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* (1890) 274 Nothing was wanting to him but his Scotch cap.

2. *U.S.* a. The wild black raspberry, *Rubus occidentalis.* 1891 in *Century Dict.*

b. The salmon-berry, *Rubus parviflorus.* 1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

† **Scotch cloth.** *Obs.* A textile fabric resembling lawn, but cheaper; said to have been made of nettle fibre.

1675 GREW *Anat. Plants, Trunks* (1682) 139 Hemp, is nothing else but the Sap-Vessels of the Barque of the Plant so called. And Scotch-Cloath, is only the Housewifery of the same Parts of the Barque of Nettle. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 37 Scotch Cloth..is a sort of white Sleasie Soft-Cloth,..and since Callico hath been dear, is much used for Linnens for Beds and for Window Curtains. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 76 A Physician turn'd a Zealous Expounder of the Bible; or a Sworn Friend of Scotch-Cloth, reconciled to Lawn-Sleeves. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 147/1 A high Altar..at which a brawny Priest officiated in a Habit of Scotch Cloth.

attrib. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* (1721) I. 54 Because this is a Prying Age, and Scholarship and Craft is not now ..confin'd to a Cassock, or Scotch-cloth Sleeves.

Scotcheon, obs. form of SCUTCHEON.

Scotcher, variant of SCUTCHER.

Sco·tchery. *nonce-wd.* [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -ERY.] Scotch characteristics.

1740 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Conway* 23 Apr., His solemn Scotchery is a little formidable.

Scotchify (skɒ·tʃifəi), *v.* [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To render or make Scotch. Hence **Sco·tchified** *ppl. a.*; also **Sco·tchifica·tion.**

1795 *Jemima* II. 94 That man..who sometimes talks scotchified. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 487 The general character of the place [Ostend] was marked by the long windows and Scotchified gable ends of the houses. 1824 J. GILCHRIST *Etym. Interpr.* 272 Even the English are perceived to be Scotchified in their speech after a short residence in the North. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 501 [It] is only a Scotchification of a well-known Spanish proverb. 1850 T. MCCRIE *Mem. Aguew* 211 They begged him not to 'Scotchify' their Sunday. 1891 *Daily News* 19 Jan. 5/6 The 'Scotchification of Essex'—we use the local expression. ..It is all owing to Scotch agriculturists taking a fancy for Essex farms.

Scotchiness (skɒ·tʃinés). [f. SCOTCHY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being Scotchy.

1815 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 411 [Murray's letters have] a certain cast of Scotchiness about them. 1876 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 247 Your mother would have rejoiced in Bogle —his sense, his homeliness,..his Scotchiness.

Scotchion, obs. form of SCUTCHEON.

Scotch-Irish, *a.* Belonging to that part of the population of northern Ireland which is descended from Scotch settlers. Also *absol.* in plural sense. So **Scotch-Irishman.**

1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* IV. iii. 333 But its convenient proximity to the border counties of Pennsylvania and Virginia had been observed by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and other bold and industrious men. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 421/2 The so-called Scotch-Irish are the descendants of the Englishmen and Lowland Scotch who began to move over to Ulster in 1611. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 136/2 Late in the afternoon we got into the Scotch-Irish part of the valley.

† **Sco·tchism.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -ISM.] A Scotch peculiarity. (Cf. SCOTTICISM.)

1737 OZELL *Rabelais* III. 231 *note*, This is not a Scotchism but an Irish-ism.

Scotchman (skɒ·tʃmăn). Also 6 **Scotchеman,** 7 *Sc.* **Scotsshman.** [f. SCOTCH *a.* + MAN.] A man of Scottish nationality.

The usual English name; the prevalent form used now by Scotch people is SCOTSMAN.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 21/3 Scotcheman, *Scotus.* 1597 P. LOWE *Chirurgerie* title, The Whole Course of Chirurgerie. ..Compiled by Peter Lowe Scotchman. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* II. ii, May the Great Fiend, booted & spurr'd With a Sithe at his girdle, as the Scotchman saies, Ride headlong down her throat. 1671 FRASER *Polichron.* (S. H. S.) 491 After the peace he went up to Pole with other Scotsshmen. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scots* or *Scotch-men*, the People of Scotland, a part of Great Britain. 1763 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1791) I. 231 The noblest prospect which a Scotchman ever sees is the high-road that leads him to England! 1773 MACPHERSON *Ossian's Poems* (1806) I. *Dissert.* 37 A Scotchman, tolerably conversant in his own language, understands Irish composition. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., 'Then,' said I, 'you are a native Scotchman..?' 'Not so, answered the monk; 'I am a Scotchman by extraction only.' 1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, I have been trying all my life to like Scotchmen and am obliged to desist from the experiment in despair.

Comb. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 26 Determining.. to be exceedingly prudent and Scotchman-like.

b. (Also *Flying Scotchman.*) A familiar name for the Scotch express (London to Edinburgh) on the Great Northern and on the London & North-Western Railway. Cf. IRISHMAN b (*b*).

1874 R. C. RAPIER *Signals Railw.* 56 On arriving at King's Cross, the Flying Scotchman had not yet departed. [1879 Flying Scotsman: see SCOTSMAN.] 1881 REYNOLDS *Engine-driving Life* 59 The same express-men..were proceeding down a bank..at about 3 a.m. in summer with the 'Scotchman'. 1885 G. DOLBY *Dickens as I knew him* 33 A railway carriage which was being dragged along at the rate of fifty miles an hour by the 'Flying Scotchman'. 1892 *Strand Mag.* Feb. 195 This Scotch Express (significantly named 'The Flying Scotchman') is believed to be the fastest train in the world.

c. A travelling draper or pedlar: see SCOTCH *a.* 1 b. *dial.* (See examples in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 381 Mother, here's the Tallyman, Mother, here's the Scotchman.

d. *Scotchman hugging a Creole,* a West Indian name for various species of *Clusia.*

1835 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xiv, Do you see that Scotchman hugging the Creole? 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 25 May 6/6 One more queer tree is the wild fig, familiarly called 'Scotchman hugging a Creole'.

e. A New Zealand name for a smaller kind of the prickly bushy grass called 'Spaniard' (*Aciphylla colensoi*).

1895 W. S. ROBERTS *Southland in* 1856, 39 (Morris) As we neared the hills speargrass of the smaller kind, known as 'Scotchmen', abounded, and although not so strong and sharp-pointed as the 'Spaniard', would not have made a comfortable seat.

2. *Naut.* A piece of hide, wood, or iron, etc. placed over a rope to prevent its being chafed.

1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man., Scotchman,* a large batten placed over the turnings-in of rigging. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 1/2 On the top of this are placed coarse Kaffir mats made of reeds, which act as a Scotchman (to use a seafaring phrase), to keep the waggon sail, which is of stout canvas, from chafing. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 83 A Scotchman should be made of leather,..to allow the new skin to harden. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 68 How is the lower rigging protected from being cut by the futtock rigging? By lashing iron Scotchmen on the shrouds.

3. *S. African.* A florin. (See quot. 1879.)

1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Boërland* 55 In dealing with the Kafirs, I frequently heard the term 'Scotchman' applied to a two-shilling piece: and upon enquiry was informed that an enterprising gentleman of that nationality having once passed a large number of florins to the Kafirs as half-crown pieces, the latter had ever since christened the florin 'Scotchman'. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* x, Jantjé spat upon the 'Scotchman', as the natives in that part of Africa [Transvaal] call a two-shilling piece.

4. *U. S.* The 'Scotch duck', *Charitonetta* (or *Bucephala*) *albeola.* 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

5. *colloq.* A Scotch fir.

1901 'LUCAS MALET' *Sir R. Calmady* VI. vii, 'What shall we do with it [a piece of land]?' 'Oh, plant,' she said. 'With the ubiquitous Scotchman?' 'It wouldn't carry anything else, except along the boundaries.'

Scotchness (skɒ·tʃnés). [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -NESS.] Scotch quality or character.

1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xxviii, Annie had a certain Scotchness in her which made her draw back from the offer. 1892 STEVENSON *Let. to J. M. Barrie* (1899) II. 247 My own Scotchness tends to intermittency.

Sco·tchwo·man. [f. SCOTCH *a.* + WOMAN; orig. two words.] A woman who is a native of Scotland or of Scotch descent.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, The neat, clean, quiet-looking little Scotchwoman, who now stood before her. 1827—*Chron. Canongate* v, Knowing her honesty,..and, although a Scotchwoman, her cleanliness and excellent temper.

Scotchy, *sb. colloq.* [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -Y.] A nickname for a Scotchman.

1851 *Two Cosmos* II. 62 Will you come it now, Scotchy, and I don't mind if I forgive you if you can lick me?

Scotchy (skɒ·tʃi), *a.* [f. SCOTCH *a.* + -Y.] Having the characteristics of what is Scotch.

1815 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 414 It is impossible that any compositions can be more booksellerish and more Scotchy. 1896 ASHBY-STERRY *Tale of Thames* viii, I don't read them all [*i.e.* Scott's novels]. Some of the very Scotchiest ones I can*not* stand.

Comb. 1874 A. J. C. HARE *Story My Life* (1900) IV. xvii. 258 A great Scotchy-looking house.

† Scote, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [Cf. Du. *schoot* 'sheet' (i. e. rope), whence OF. *escoute* (mod.F. *écoute*).] ? A kind of cable.

1394 *Issue Roll,* Easter 17 Rich. II, 5 Sept. (Devon), [Five cables, weighing 5941 lbs...two] scotes [weighing 348 lbs.].

† Scote, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [? a. MDu. *schote,* a definite quantity of some article.] = BEAT *sb.*[3]

1633–4 *N. Riding Rec.* III. 365 A labourer for stealing 7 scotes of hemp. *Ibid.,* A labourer presented for stealing 7 beates or scotes of hemp.

Scote (skōut), *sb.*[3] *dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Norw. *skota* pole, bar, forked stick; also OF. *escot* (mod.F. *écot*) stump.] (See quot. 1890.)

1839 *Herefordsh. Gloss., Scote,* a dragstaff (Glouc.). 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* 132 *Scote,* an ironshod staff attached to the axle of the hind wheel of a waggon to prevent it running back down hill.

Scote (skōut), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7–8 scoat, 9 scort. [f. SCOTE *sb.*[3] Cf. SCOTCH *v.*[2]] *trans.* To set a drag upon (the wheel of a wagon).

1642 R. HARRIS *Serm.* 45 This is that that scoat's the businesse in publike. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), To *Scout,* to put a Stone or peece of Wood under a Cart to stop it from going forward. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* 132 *Scort* or *Scote.*

Scoteino·graphy. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. σκοτεινό-ς dark + -γραφία: see -GRAPHY.] Illegible writing.

1779 TWINING *Let.* 17 Sept., in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 267, I thought myself a tolerable adept in this art of scoteinography, but I give you the wall.

† Scoteo·graphy. *Obs.* [irreg. f. Gr. σκότεο-ς gen. of σκότος darkness + -γραφία writing: see -GRAPHY.] (See quot.)

1803 J. GOUGH in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* VII. 53 Scoteography or the Art of Writing in the Dark.

Scoter (skōu·tər), [Of obscure origin.] A duck of the genus *Œdemia,* esp. *Œdemia nigra,* a native of the Arctic regions and common in the seas of Northern Europe and America. Also *scoter-duck.*

1674 RAY *Collect., Catal. Birds* 96 The Scoter: *Anas niger.* 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 494 Scoter...This bird is allowed in the Romish church to be eaten in Lent. 1808–13 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 212 Scoter duck. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 1077 The scoter..has occurred twice in winter at some water in Basing parish. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 239 The writers of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance..had very vaguely described the Scoter Duck.

† Sco·terlope, *v. Obs.* [Metathesis of SCOPPERLOIT *v.,* after LOPE *v.*] *intr.* ? To wander aimlessly.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xix. 113 God mindeth to try our obedience, by restreining vs from..scoterloping ouer the fieldes [orig. F. *de courir à travers champs*] to raught at euerie thing that we like off.

Scotewache, obs. variant of SCOUTWATCH.

† Scotewine. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Cf. SCOT *sb.* 3 2, SCOTART.] An alleged name for the hare.

a 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The scotewine, the skikart.

Scot-free, *a.* Also *rarely* 6 scotchfree, 7 scotts-free. See also SHOT-FREE. [f. SCOT *sb.*[2] + FREE *a.* Cf. MDu. *schotvrî* (the mod.Du. *schotvrij* 'shot-proof' is independently formed), OSw. *skutfrî-r.*] Free from payment of 'scot', tavern score, fine, etc.; exempt from injury, punishment, etc.; scatheless. Almost exclusively *predicative*; esp. in the phrase *to go scot free.*

In the mod. use of the expression, 'scot' is probably often interpreted as a mere intensive.

? 12.. *Charter of* 1066 in Kemble *Cod. Diplom.* IV. 191 Scotfre and gauelfre, on schire and on hundrede. 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* (1537) 22 The poore synner shulde go Skot fre without oughte at all. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* XI. 129 What damages their cuntrey and peple had suffred by this warre, and that Your Majestie went not all scott free. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV,* 233 They payed no money, but were set scot free. 1567 MAPLET *Green Forest* 93 Daniell scaped scotchfree by Gods prouidence. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Tiberius & Caius* (1595) 878 Caius..had charged the poore citizens with an annuall rent for the lands ..Liuius..did please them by..letting them haue the lands scotfree. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 231 The first speaker scapes scot-free. 1665–6 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 73 Oxford escaped scot fre of the plague. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 117 She should not, for all the trouble she has cost you, go away scot-free. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condolence* Wks. 1794 III. 237 Scot-free the Poets drank and ate; They paid no taxes to the State! 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xii, Do as much for this fellow and thou shalt pass scot-free. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xiv. 45 The sporting inhabitants thereof preferred the money-griping propensities of a certain Baronet..to the scot-free sport with the frigid civilities of the noble Earl. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xiv. I. 133 The people had not been heavily taxed, and the clergy had passed..scot-free. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xiii, When some notorious offender has got off scot free.

¶ **b.** ? Mis-used for: Without inflicting damage.

1632–66 in Gilbert *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* I. 25 [They] shooted at him with earnest leuell, and not scotts-free for presently he was tumbled to the earth deadly wounded.

‖ **Scotia** (skōu·ʃiă). *Arch.* [L. *scotia* (Vitruvius), a. Gr. σκωτία, f. σκότος darkness (so called from the dark shadow within the cavity); cf. F. *scotie.*] A hollow moulding. = CASEMENT I.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* II The nethermost Trochilus or Scotia. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 125 Our Workmen retain the antient Scotia..but more vulgarly they call it the Casement. 1789 SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 90 Other particles of an order are hollow, the common name to which is scotia. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 152 In England another kind of base is frequent, in which a bead is substituted for the scotia.

† Sco·tian, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. med.L. *Scōtia* Scotland + -AN.] Of or belonging to Scotland.

1803 LEYDEN *Scenes Infancy* I. 232 But long Their fame shall flourish in the Scotian song.

Scotic (skɒ·tik), *a.* Also 8–9 Scottic. [ad. late L. *Scōticus, Scotticus,* f. *Scōt-us, Scott-us*: see SCOT *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** Used as a designation for the Scottish dialect. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. 74 The English speech..hath..divers subdialects..but her chiefest is the Scotic, which took footing beyond Tweed about the last conquest.

2. Pertaining to the ancient Scots.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 183 The uncorrupted native language of the Irish is the Gaedhloc, or Scottic. 1851 D. WILSON *Archæol. & Preh. Ann. Scot.* 470 Cairbre Riada, a celebrated Scottic warrior. *Ibid.* 479 The Scotic line of princes. 1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXI. 253 Our method of colonization has failed with the children of the Scotic race. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1232 Celestius, the companion of Pelagius, is supposed by some to have been of Scotic, i.e., Irish origin. 1902 MACRAIN in Skene *Highlanders Scot.* 400 Donald being likely a Scotic prince.

† Sco·tical, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] Of or belonging to Scotland; Scottish.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* (1550) 16 b, Wherof the occasion shall bee to you declared accordyng to the Scoticall histories.

Scotican (skɒ·tikăn), *a.* [f. late L. *Scōtic-us* (see SCOTIC), after ANGLICAN.] Of or pertaining to the Scots ecclesiastically.

1635 [see ANGLICAN *a.* 1]. 1830 CHAMBERS *Jas. I,* II. ix. 257 Equalizing the Anglican and Scotican Churches. 1844 *Bp. Sage's Wks.* I. Mem. 23 They regarded the Scotican Church..as schismatical.

Scoticè, -icism: see SCOTTICÈ, -ICISM.

Scoti·ety. *humorous nonce-wd.* [f. the name *Scōtus,* in imitation of scholastic terms.] The essential nature of John Duns Scotus.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 97 The very Scotiety of Scotus belongeth to England as his Native Country.

Scotify: see SCOTTIFY.

† Sco·tism[1]. *Obs.*[−°] [f. late L. *Scōt-us* SCOT + -ISM.] = SCOTTICISM.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 146 [Words that end in *isme*] be of three sortes...The second be taken of a countrey or language, as of..Scotte, *Scotisme, Scotismus.*

Scotism[2] (skōu·tiz'm). *Theol.* [ad. med.L. *Scōtismus,* f. *Scōt-us* (see SCOTIST) + -ISM.]

1. The teaching of Scotus or the Scotists.

a 1871 G. S. MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* (1872) I. 454 Scotism is..like Thomism, one of the doctrines in which Scholasticism culminates. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 429/2 Henricus Natalis (*ob.* 1323) and Thomas Bradwardine (*ob.* 1349) were determined opponents of Scotism. 1900 *Month* July 50 This would go to show that Scotism, for which England had been celebrated in the middle ages, had already lost its hold on English Catholic thought.

2. *pl.* (*nonce-use*). Subtleties such as are characteristic of the Scotists.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 28 These ages wherin Canons, and Scotisms, and Lumbard Laws, have dull'd, and almost obliterated the lively Sculpture of ancient reason.

Scotist (skōu·tist), *sb.* and *a. Eccl.* [ad. med.L. *Scōtista,* f. *Scōtus*: see below.] **a.** *sb.* A follower or disciple of John Duns Scotus (known as 'The Subtle Doctor'), a scholastic philosopher and theologian of the 13th c., whose system in many respects was opposed to that of Thomas Aquinas. (See DUNCE.) **b.** *adj.* Belonging to the Scotists.

1530 [see DUNCE, etym. note]. 1562 tr. *Jewel's Apol.* 21 How happeneth it then that the Scotistes and the Thomistes do agree no better about merytes of conueniency, and merites of duety? 1661 tr. *Erasm. Life Colet* in *Colet's Serm.* 75 His Bishop..was a superstitious and stubborn Scotist. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 244 Scotists and Thomists now in peace remain Amidst their kindred cobwebs in Duck-lane. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 826/2 Decrees were passed requiring the Scotist doctrine to be taught in all the Franciscan schools. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 429 This primacy of the undetermined will..was the central contention of Scotists against the Thomist doctrine.

† Scoti·stical, *a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ICAL.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the Scotists.

1600 tr. *Garzoni's Hosp. Incur. Fooles* A 4 b, Betweene them and Folly there is a iust Logicall equipollence..and a Scotisticall Identitie. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 4 The Thomistical and Scotistical Schools and Preaching Orders of Dominicans, Franciscans [etc.].

† Scoti·stical, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SCOT *sb.*[1] + -ISTICAL (see -ISTIC).] ? Favouring what is Scottish.

1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 14 Neither can they imagine whether these Scotisticall Pioneers will be Scots or no Scots.

† Sco·tistry. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCOTIST + -RY.] The habit of thought proper to a Scotist.

1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv., Colet* 105 His own Bishop, of whose Sophisticall Scotistry the Deane made no great account, and the Bishop as little of his Ciceronian Divinity.

† Sco·tize, *v. Obs.* Also 6–7 scottize. [f. SCOT *sb.*[1] + -IZE.] *intr.* To imitate the Scots; to favour Scottish ways. Hence **Sco·tizing** *ppl. a.*

1593 ARP. BANCROFT *Dangerous Positions* 41 *headline,* English Scottizing for Discipline. 1607 SIR J. HARINGTON *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 25 His Majestie had long since understanding of his wryting against the genevising and scotising ministers. 1623 W. LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 13 An Englishman Scottizing once to our King was roundly reproued for it. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* III. xix. 323 A Scotizing zeal. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* IV. (1668) 328 The English had Scotized in all their Practises. *Ibid.* v. 460 Thereby drawing on himself the general hatred not only of the Scots, but Scotizing English.

† Sco·tized, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Imbued with Scottish (ecclesiastical) principles.

1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. § 24 The rigid Scotised, throughpaced Presbyterian on the one side and the giddy Enthusiast on the other. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* Pref. Disc. 220 The High-scotized Flyers..among the Presbyterians.

† Sco·tnail. *north. Obs.* Forms: 4 scot-, 4–5 schot-, 5 shot-. [Cf. Du. *schotspijker* (f. *schot* ? partition + *spijker* nail).] Some kind of nail. Cf. SCOTSEM-NAIL.

1349–50 in *Ep. Hatfield's Surv.* (Surtees) 202 In spykings ferri, lednayllis, schotnaylls et bordnaylls empt. pro aula cooperienda ut supra, 3s. 10d. 1349–50 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 550 Spykyng', et Scotnayls pro fonte infra Abbathiam. 1374 *Ibid.* 211 Et in spikyngs, schetnaill' [? *read* schotnaill'], stanbrod..42s. 5d. 1449–50 *Ibid.* 239, 200[ms] del spikyngez, 200[ms] del shotnaill. 1454 *Ibid.* 149 Item..ij wayneclowtez cum spikyng et shotnayll.

Scoto- (skɒ·tɒ, skōu·tɒ), combining form of late L. *Scōtus* SCOT *sb.*[1], prefixed (with hyphen) to ethnic adjs. (rarely sbs.) either with the sense 'belonging to Scotland', as in *Scoto-Britannic, -Celtic, -English, -Gaelic, -Gallic, -Norwegian, -Scandinavian* adjs., *Scoto-Norman* sb., or with the sense 'partly Scottish and partly . . .', as in *Scoto-Irish* adj.

1650 B. *Discollimitium* 45 The good man is in such a wofull Scoto-Britannick pickle. 1824 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. III. vi. 253 This Scoto-Irish people. 1828–43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 249 The Saxons and the Scoto-Normans. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. 332 The clergy of the primitive Scoto-Celtic Church. 1846 C. INNES *Liber de Calchou* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. 30 The permanent incorporation of

the Scoto-Saxon lowlands with the kingdom of Scotland proper. 1851 D. WILSON *Archæol. & Preh. Ann. Scot.* 490 The subsequent history of the Scoto-Norwegian kingdoms. *Ibid.* 522 Scoto-Scandinavian relics. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* vi. (1870) 245 Scoto-Gallic words were differently situated. 1867 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* I. vii. 261 The Scoto-Irish saints. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* viii. (ed. 4) 138 Their language is Gaelic, whereas that of the rest of the county [Banffs.] is Scoto-English. 1905 *Athenæum* 7 Oct. 466/1 Most purely Scoto-Gaelic words prefix the article.

Scotograph (skōʊ·tǫgrɑf). [f. Gr. σκότο-ς darkness + -γραφος : see -GRAPH.] An instrument for writing in the dark, or without seeing.

1869 NUTTALL *Dict. Sci. Terms, Scotograph*, an instrument with which a blind person may write.

Scotography (skǫtǫ·grăfi). *rare.* [f. Gr. σκότος darkness : see -GRAPHY.] The exhibition of the effect of the Röntgen rays; the production of a picture by means of such rays; = RADIOGRAPHY. Hence **Scotogra·phic** *a.* = RADIOGRAPHIC *a.*

1896 SIR ALFRED WILLS in *Times* 10 Mar. 12/2 [The X rays] have very little in common with light. Would not 'scotography' be a better name for their work than 'photography'? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 1/3 A correspondent who was present on Friday sends us some notes of that remarkable 'skotographic' séance.

‖ **Scotoma** (skoʊtōʊ·mă). *Path.* Pl. **scotomata** (skoʊtōʊ·mătă). [late L. *scotōma*, a. Gr. σκότωμα dizziness, f. σκοτοῦν to darken, make dim-sighted, f. σκότος darkness.]

†**1.** Dizziness accompanied by dimness of sight; = SCOTOMY. *Obs.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr. s. v. *Scotomia*, Some go about, to make a foolysh difference of scotoma, and vertigo. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 534 Hence Linnæus..has even made scotoma, or dizziness with blindness and a tendency to swoon, a distinct genus also.

2. An obscuration of part of the visual field, due to lesion of the retina or of the ophthalmic centres in the brain.

1875 WALTON *Dis. Eye* 645 Without limitation of the visual field or scotomata,..direct vision may be much diminished in the region of the yellow spot. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 219 Central scotoma, or loss of vision in the central part of the field, is common [in diabetes].

†**Scotoma·tical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. med.L. *scotōmatic-us* (f. *scotōma* : see prec.) + -AL.] Suffering from or under the influence of scotoma.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *a* 1691 BAXTER in *Relig. B.* (1696) I. II. 199, I was then under great Weakness and Soporous or Scotomatical Ilness of my Head.

‖ **Scotomia.** *Path.* [med.L., irreg. f. *scotōma*, after names of diseases in *-ia.*] = SCOTOMA 1.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr. s. v., *Scotomia.* They shoulde saye, Scotoma, and it is a disease, when [etc.]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Scotomia*, or *Scotoma*, in medicine, a dizziness or swimming in the head. 1879 KHORY *Digest Med.* 13 There may be flashes of light or muscæ volitantes or scotomia.

†**Scoˈtomy.** *Path. Obs.* [Anglicized form of SCOTOMIA.] = SCOTOMA 1.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 118, & if þat he hadde scotomie, þat is to seie a maner sijknes, whanne þat þer semeþ as flien or oþere smale gnattis fleen tofore his yȝen. *a* 1500 in James *West. MSS. Trin. Coll. Camb.* (1902) III. 494 Scotomye is such a sekenes of the Brayne that maketh a man to seme that he sethe flyes or blake thingis in þe eyre. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxxiv. (1541) 50 In swellyng of the body and legges..mygrimes, and scotomies, which is an imagination of darkenes. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. iv. (1607) C 2, How do's he, with the swimming of his head? *Mos.* O, Sir, tis past the Scotomy; he, now, Hath lost his feeling, and hath left to snort. *a* 1640 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, I ha got the Scotony [*sic*] in my head already, The whimzy: you all turne round, do not you dance gallants? 1710 T. FULLER *Pharmacop.* 222 We employ it [i.e. the Infusion] with happy Success in..Scotomy, &c.

†**Scoˈtoscope.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. σκότο-ς darkness + -SCOPE.] An instrument which enables the user to see in the dark.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Aug., There comes also Mr. Reeve with a microscope and scotoscope..a curious curiosity it is to discover objects in a dark room with. *c* 1670 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 291 The perfection of telescopes, microscopes, scotoscopes, and burning glasses.

†**Scoˈtry.** *Obs. rare* −¹. [f. SCOT *sb.*¹ + -RY.] The Scots collectively.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXL. (1812) 420 *note*, Betuene the see of the West occion, And the hilles of Scotlonde occident, The wilde Scotrie have their propre mancion.

Scots (skǫts), *a.* (*sb.*) Orig. *Sc.* and *northern.* Forms: 4 **Skot(t)is**, 4–6 **Scottis**, 5–7 **Scottes**, 6 **Skottes, Scotes, Scotis**, 6–8 **Scotts**, 7– **Scots.** [Orig. *Scottis*, northern var. of SCOTTISH. (Cf. *Inglis* ENGLISH.)

For the relation in use between this form and the two others, see SCOTCH *a.*]

1. Of or belonging to Scotland or its inhabitants, Scottish, Scotch.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 79 And þarfore many a Skottis brid With dole er dight þat þai most dwell. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 2 The Scottes host. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvii. 40 Fair gem of joy, Mergreit of the I meyne: Gladethe thoue Queyne of Scottis regioun. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 103 This buik I dedicaite, Writing in the language of Scottis natioun. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 80 Scots-coale, Wheat, Barley and all kind of graines in both Kingdomes. 1637 MONRO *Exped.* II. 23 The other Scots Officers of the Regiment. 1797 DR. BURNEY *Let. to Mme. D'Arblay* 28 Sept., A Scots lady. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xvii. (1857) III. 337 The Scots parliament took care to bring on the crisis by the act of security in 1704. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 125 He thought Scots games inferior to southern sports.

b. Qualifying the name of a coin or a money of account (in contradistinction to *sterling*), as *mark Scots, penny Scots, pound Scots, shilling Scots* (see the sbs.). Also in names of weights and measures denoting a particular variation from the English standard, *Scots acre, boll, mile, pint, stone, Troy weight* (see the sbs.). Now *arch.* or *Hist.*

1520 *Charges conc. Dk. Albany* in G. Douglas *Wks.* (1874) I. Introd. 109 Fourty thousand punde of Scottis money. *Ibid.*, Bettir than ten thousand pundis Scottis. 1632 [see MILE *sb.*¹ 2]. 1641 in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scot.* (1876) I. Introd. 30 The king hes vpon the coinage of euerie Scots staine of siluer bulyion 64 li. 1697 in A. I. Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* (1880) 39 Whoever shall desire the great bell to be rung to any burial, must pay for the same ten shillings Scots. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 455 From eleven to twelve pecks, Linlithgow measure, of Dutch or Riga seed, is generally sufficient for one Scots acre. 1775 *Brit. Chronol.* an. 1719 II. 51/2 An act for laying a duty of two pennies *Scots*..upon every pint of ale or beer that shall be vended or sold within the town of Inverness. 1791 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 7 We think na on the lang Scots miles.. That lie between us and our hame. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 718/1 It was enacted by..James VI that it [the pint] should contain 55 Scots Troy ounces of the clear water of Leith. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 72 In one instance, the produce is stated to be..92 Scots bolls per English statute acre. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* xx, What say ye to anither pot? or shall we cry in a blithe Scots pint at once? 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Schools*, The salaries of the schoolmasters were to be fixed at from 300 to 400 merks Scots. *Ibid.* s. v., Sterling money is twelve times the value of the same denomination of Scots money. 1883 *American* VI. 270 A legacy by word of mouth is good to the extent of £100 Scots, or £8 6s. 8d. sterling.

c. With reference to law. Cf. SCOTTISH *a.* 1 e. In this application recent literary usage favours the form *Scots* rather than *Scottish* or *Scotch*, but Scottish legal writers have apparently never followed this rule.

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iv. 57 These inferior feudatories ..held what are called in the Scots law 'rere-fiefs'. 1773 (*title*) An Institute of the Law of Scotland..By John Erskine ..Sometime Professor of Scots Law in the University of Edinburgh. 1820 *Trials for High Treason Scot.* (1825) I. 15 The old Scots law of treason was by no means well defined.

d. In the names of trees and plants. More commonly SCOTCH.

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 20 On yᵉ right side of yᵉ house is a large grove of firrs halfe scotts halfe norroway. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* II, *Scots Scurvy-Grass*, i.e. *Solidanella.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 761/2 The [*pinus*] *rubra*, commonly called the Scots fir, or pine. 1908 *Q. Jrnl. Forestry* Jan. 70 The whole enclosure was planted in the spring of 1905 with oak,..larch, and Scots pine.

†e. *Scots goose* : the barnacle goose. (So Norfolk dial. *Scotch goose* : see *E. D. D.*)

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 98 *Anser Bernicla*, the Barnacle, or Scots-goose.

2. Of language: **a.** The distinguishing epithet of the dialect of English spoken by the inhabitants of the Lowlands of Scotland. Also *absol.* as *sb.*, the Scottish dialect.

1542 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 415/1 It salbe lefull to all oᵘr souirane ladyis lieges to haif þe haly write baiᵗ þe new testament and þe auld in þe vulgar toung In Inglis or scottis of ane gude and trew translatioune. 1563 WINȜET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 74 'By' in Scottis and in Inglis toung is nocht ane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 179 Translating the Æneids of Virgil in scotis; sa rycht..that ilk scotis verse concordet with the latin. 1788 in *Shirrefs' Poems* (1790) p. xxvi, For Scots is neither flat nor lame:..When we had kings and courts at hame, They spake nae ither. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, Kilted loons that dinna ken the name o' a single herb or flower in braid Scots, let abee in the Latin tongue. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* II. v. § 77 It would be a great omission to neglect..the Scots and English ballads. 1861 *Two Cosmos* I. 294 To use a good old-fashioned Scots phrase. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 281 She speaks broad Scots.

b. Used quasi-*Hist.* for: Scottish Gaelic. *rare*−¹. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, An antique language,..being a species of Scots or Gaelic, which few would have comprehended.

3. Characteristic of or peculiar to Scotland or a Scotsman. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1616 W. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 163 That Scots kindness (ever ready to a friend, but oft inconsiderate). 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 17 Captain Barclay..has reduced Crib from upwards of sixteen stone to the above weight, by Scots living.

4. *Mil.* **a.** In names of regiments in the British Army, as *Scots Fusiliers, Scots Greys* (see GREY *sb.* 8), *Scots Guards.* **b.** In names of bodies of mercenaries in foreign service, as *Scots Brigade, Scots Dutch* (see the equivalent forms under SCOTCH).

1637 MONRO *Exped.* II. 25 Which..thereafter was still called the Scots Briggad commanded by Hepburne. 1646 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) VI. I. 597/2 Sʳ. Robert Murray Lieut: colonell to the Scotis Regiment of the guard in France. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vii. *note*, Such disputes between the Scots Guards, and the other constituted authorities of the ordinary military corps, often occurred. 1862 A. K. MURRAY *Scottish Regiments* 70 The Scots Fusilier Guards, with the Grenadiers and Coldstreams, were stationed in the chateau and grounds of Hougomont. 1867 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* III. xxvii. 108 The celebrated Scots Guard was established—it is said to have begun in the few who survived the slaughter at Verneuil. 1883 *Macmillan's Mag.* XLVII. 443 Twenty-five mounted infantry of the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xii. 132 Lieutenant-colonel in a regiment of the Scots-Dutch.

†**Scoˈtsem-nail.** *Obs.* Also 4 **scotsem, scotsum-, scotsom-**, 5 **scotseme-, scotesem-, schotsem-.** [Presumably formed as SCOTNAIL; the middle syllable may be SEAM *sb.*, rivet.]

1336 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1895) App. 17 In C. clavis de scotsem emptis..iij d. 1371 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 7 In 10.m. de Scotsomnail emptis pro celura. 1408 *Durham Acct. Roll* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 518, cccIx schotsemnaylle, c ad viii^{d}; c clavis parvis [etc.]. 1434 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 53 In xij.m de stonebrodes, in v.m Scotesemnailes, 5s. 5d. In vij.m DCCC Scotsemnailes, 9s. 2d.

Scotsman (skǫtsmæn). Forms: 4 **Scottis man**, 5 **Scottys man, Scottes man, Scotesman**, 5–6 **Scottisman, Scottesman**, 6 **Scotisman**, 7 **Scotts man**, 7–8 **Scots-man**, 6– **Scotsman.** [f. SCOTS *a.* + MAN (orig. two words).] = SCOTCHMAN.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 8 Quhen he herd schir Philip say, That Scottis men had set ane day To fecht [etc.]. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. xxi. 401 Þar Scottismen fel gret tynsaille. *c* 1490 *Paston Lett.* III. 366, I conceyve also that the same Thomas is noysed in Norffolk for a Scotesman borne. 1515 *Minute of Council* in G. Douglas *Wks.* (1874) I. Introd. 61 My Lord Gouernour traistit nocht that ony Scotisman in the realme wald sek help at Inglismen in his doingis. 1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* D viij b, But what saynte so euer he bee, he is sure no Scottes mans frend. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* III. xxi. 97 These priestes were called Cedda, Adda, Betti, and Diuna, who was a scottesman borne, the other thre english. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 441 Books and Treatises published by Scotts men. 1780 *Mirror* No. 82 The Earl of Bute, who was both a Scotsman and a favourite. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iv, Are not we, like them, Scotsmen and burghers of Edinburgh? 1879 *G.N.R. Tourist-guide* 1 The splendid express known as the 'Flying Scotsman'. 1902 GAIRDNER *Eng. Ch. 16th Cent.* xiii. 246 The Protector might..have reckoned on the devotion of a little band of Scotsmen in a Scottish stronghold by the sea to assist him.

Hence **Scoˈtsmanship,** the nature or quality of a Scotsman.

1828 *Examiner* 56/2 If there is gallantry in Dudley, conceit in Ellenborough, Scotsmanship in Melville. 1894 R. WALLACE in *Life & Last Leaves* (1903) 485 'Proud' of his Scotsmanship, he might [etc.].

Scoˈtswoman. [SCOTS *a.*] = SCOTCHWOMAN.

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iii, 'The slothful hinds!' exclaimed Mary, thinking and feeling like a Scotswoman of the period. 1822 — *Nigel* viii, The old Scotswoman.

Scott(e, variant forms of SCOT.

Scottall, Scottel(l, obs. ff. SCOTALE, SCUTTLE.

Scottic, variant of SCOTTIC.

‖ **Scotticè, Scoticè** (skǫˈtisĕ), *adv.* [med.L. *Scotticē, Scōticē*, f. late L. *Scottic-us, Scōtic-us* Scottish.] In Scotch.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.*, *note* L, *Lockman*, so called from the small quantity of meal (Scottice, *lock*) which he was entitled to take. 1861 *Two Cosmos* II. 129 An enormous pair of old worn-out shoes (Scottice, bauchles).

Scotticism, Scoticism (skǫˈtisizm). [f. late L. *Scōtic-us* (*Scotticus*) + -ISM. The spelling with *tt* has prevailed owing to the analogy of *Scottish.*]

1. An idiom or mode of expression characteristic of Scots; esp. as used by a writer of English.

1717 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* II. 137 This is a Scoticism in Speech. 1759 W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VIII. Wks. 1851 II. 323 Many of those vicious forms of speech, which are denominated *Scotticisms*, have been introduced by them [lawyers] into the language. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 11 Dec. (1827) III. 470 The book is wrote with great accuracy of language, (allowing for a few Scotticisms). 1815 L. HUNT *Feast of Poets* Notes 62 His style in prose, setting aside it's Scotticisms, is very well where [etc.]. 1892 B. MATTHEWS *Americanisms & Briticisms* 16 The Scotticisms of the North Briton.

2. Scottish sympathies.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. i. 230 His ardour of Scoticism hurries him headlong, from the paths of truth. 1862 LOWELL *Lett.* I. 361 He seems to me a remarkably good critic, where his Scoticism doesn't come in his way.

Scotticize (skǫˈtisəiz), *v.* [f. late L. *Scotticus* (*Scōticus*) Scottish, Scotch (see SCOTTIC) + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To imbue with Scottish ideas or characteristics.

1763 WILKES *N. Briton* No. 34 None but Scots or Jacobites, or such English as are Scotticized, must expect favour or preferment under him. 1859 MASSON *Brit. Novelists* iii. 204 He [Scott] has Scotticized European literature.

2. To give a Scottish form to (a foreign word); to turn (a work) into Scottish dialect.

1874 SMALL *Douglas' Wks.* I. Pref. 165 He accordingly, in his version of Virgil, does not scruple to Scotticise a Latin word. 1901 LAW *N. T. in Scots* (S. T. S.) Introd. 15 A Scotticised transcript of it was added..at the end of the volume.

Scottified (skǫˈtifəid), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **scotified.** [f. next + -ED¹.] Having Scottish characteristics.

1644 NEEDHAM *Case of Commonw.* 67 The ambition of a few scotified English. 1763 WILKES *N. Briton* No. 37 P 4 The chaste and scrupulous integrity of the knot of Tories, Scottish members, and Scottified English. 1814 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) III. 315, I think you will like it [*The Lord of the Isles*]: it is Scottified up to the teeth.

Scottify (skǫˈtifəi), *v.* Also **Scotify.** [f. SCOTT-(ISH) + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To render Scottish.

1869 F. J. FURNIVALL *Forewords Q. Eliz. Acad.* 17 The conclusion then forced on me was, that Adam Loutfut..had copied the poem from an original, and scottified it as he copied. 1881 *Athenæum* 8 Jan. 55/3 The chap-books sold by Scotch pedlars at the annual Lammas Fair of Kirkwall [Orkney] played an important part in Scottifying the ver-

nacular. 1902 G. G. SMITH *Spec. Mid. Scots* p. xxxv, It may be a 'Scotifying' of S[outhern] *those.*

Hence **Scottification**, the process of 'Scottifying'; quasi-*concr.* a rendering into Scottish dialect. 1869 F. J. FURNIVALL *Forewords Q. Eliz. Acad.* 17 Which scottification I hope some day to print opposite Caxton's own text. 1894 A. J. BALFOUR in *Times* 23 July 3/2, I watch with satisfaction the gradual Scottification of England by this great golfing propaganda. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 May 2/2 Scotification is clearly Lord Rosebery's policy.

Scottish (skɒ'tiʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: [1 Scyttisc, Scyttysc, Scittisc], 2 Scottysc, 3 Scottisc, 5 Scottissh, 6 Scottys(s)he, Skottishe, Skottyshe, 6–7 Scottishe, Skottish, 7–9 Scotish, 6– Scottish. [Late OE. (12th c.) *Scottisc*, a new formation on *Scotta* SCOT *sb.* + *-isc*, -ISH[1], replacing the older *Scyttisc* with umlaut. Cf. MDu., Du. *schotsch*, LG. *schottsch*, G. *schottisch* (earlier *schöttisch*), ON. *skotsk-r.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or belonging to Scotland or to the people of Scotland; esp. of persons: of Scotch nationality, birth, or descent. † *Scottish cap* = SCOTCH CAP.

[*c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxi. (1890) 222 Se nyhsta wæs Scyttisces cynnes; þa oðre wæron Englisce.] *c* 1205 LAY. 20355 Patric þe ricche mon þat wes a Scottisc þein scone an his londen. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 197 For thei were but two scottissh myle fro the town. 1507 in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 154 Per was gret plente of Skottishe samon. 1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Lvij, The Skottish gooouernor..caused the erle Bothwel to be let out of prison. 1553 in *Roy. Engin. Jrnl.* 3 Mar. (1910) 174 Euery souldiour to have Jackes covered wth fustian & Skullis with Scotishe cappes. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 259 Then once more to your Scottish Prisoners. Deliuer them vp without their ransome straight. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* E 4, The olde Prouerbe of a Scottish Miste was verified, in wetting mee to the skinne. 1637 MONRO *Exped.* I. 55 Here also our Scottish High-landmen are prayse-worthy. 179. BURKE *Let. to W. Smith* Wks. IX. 407 A zealous Anglican or Scottish Church principle. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* ii, A..broken-down Scottish laird. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xlii. 559 The settlement of the Scottish emigrants at Port Royal.

b. In the names of various trees and plants: cf. SCOTCH 4 b, SCOTS 1 d.

1855 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 279 *Scottish Asphodel. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 297 *Scottish lovage, or Sea Parsley. 1855 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 232 *Scottish Primrose. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxciii. 690 *Soldanella*..in English Sea Withwinde,..of some..*Scottish Scuruie grasse.

† **c.** (See quot.)

1623 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Hemp-seed* 7 Many a Gallant..Hath got the Spanish pip,..or the Scottish fleas, or English Pox, for al's but one disease.

d. *Mil. Scottish Guard* = *Scots Guard. Scottish Rifles* (see quot 1888).

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* v, With these followers, and a corresponding equipage, an Archer of the Scottish Guard was a person of quality and importance. 1888 LAWRENCE-ARCHER *Brit. Army* 240 The King's Own Scottish Borderers. *Ibid.* 246 The Cameronians...This peculiar old corps..now forms the first battalion of the Scottish Rifles.

e. Used with reference to law. Cf. SCOTS *a.* 1 c.

1726 (*title*) Minor Practicks, or, a Treatise of the Scottish Law. Composed by..Sir Thomas Hope..Advocate to His Majesty King Charles I. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 9 June, The consequence of this will in time be, that the Scottish Supreme Court will be in effect situated in London. Then down fall—as national objects of respect and veneration—the Scottish Bench, the Scottish Bar, the Scottish Law herself. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 639/2 *Art and Part*, a term used in Scottish Law to denote the aiding or abetting [etc.].

† **2. Scottish earth** *Min.*, strontian. *Obs.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 13 Scottish, or Stronthian Earth.

† **3.** *transf.* Marked by Scottish characteristics.

1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 739/2 The rude rimelesse runninge of a scottishe ieste. 1610 MARCELLINE *Triumphs Jas. I* To France B 4 b, My life is innocent, my heart Christian, my tongue to Scottish, and he is too good and wise a King, to bee flattered by any. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* I. vii. (1870) 18 The assumption is Scottish, and the conclusion false.

4. Applied to the language (see SCOTS *a.* 2).

1780 *Mirror* No. 83 The Scottish dialect is our ordinary suit; the English is used only on solemn occasions. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, This was the first time I had heard the Scottish accent. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 66/1 Gavin Douglas (died 1522), whose best work is a translation of Virgil's Æneid into Scottish verse.

5. *Comb.*, as *Scottish-hearted*; **Scottish-French**, French spoken by Scots; **Scottish-Irish** = SCOTCH-IRISH.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* v, The well-known sound of the *Scottish-French was as familiar in the taverns near Plessis, as that of the Swiss-French in the modern *guinguettes* of Paris. 1828 — *Hrt. Mid.* xviii, Walking hand in hand with the real noble *Scottish-hearted barons. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* IV. xviii. 443 Presbyterians of *Scottish-Irish descent.

B. *sb.* (absolute uses of the adj.)

1. The Scottish language.

1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* Wks. 1851 II. 368 The letters were very early translated into Scottish. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxv, Nor was there the least tincture of that vulgarity, which we naturally attach to the Lowland Scottish. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 541/2 Bellenden also translated the first five books of Livy into Scottish.

2. *The Scottish* (with pl. sense): the Scots. *rare.*

1632 *Swed. Intelligencer* II. 13 The Scottish have hitherto had the honour and the danger, to be the first men that are put upon such a businesse. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, The large measure which the Scottish allowed of their land. 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* xx, The necessary conditions were speedily agreed on, which put the Scottish in possession of this stronghold.

† **Sco·ttish,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 Scotish. [f. the adj. (Cf. *to English.*)] *trans.* To render in the Scottish tongue.

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdrs. c 4 b, At length I lighted on Virgil Scotished by the Reuerend Gawin Douglas.

† **Sco·ttishman.** *Obs.* [f. SCOTTISH *a.* + MAN.] = SCOTSMAN.

[1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 389 þe Scottyshe men..took a carabum..and wente þerynne.] 1523 SURREY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 215 Bothe with thies contreymen and Scottishmen. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scottyssheman, *Escoyssoys.* 1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* G vij, The Scottishmens pykes wear as long or lenger then their staues. 1632 *Swed. Intelligencer* I. 86 One Scottish-man protested he had kill'd 18 men with his owne hand. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xlii. Contents (1760) II. 41 We are accosted by a priest, who proves to be a Scottishman. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 3 Every Scottishman has a pedigree. 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* xix, It seems almost unnatural for Scottishmen and English to meet and part without a buffet.

Scottishness (skɒ'tiʃnés). [f. SCOTTISH *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being Scottish.

1859 RAMSAY *Remin.* 154 It is the Scottishness that gives the zest.

Scotty (skɒ'ti), *sb. colloq.* [f. SCOT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] A nickname for a Scotchman.

Scotty (skɒ'ti), *a.* [f. SCOT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] **a.** Having the characteristic temperament of a Scot. **b.** [Cf. SCOT *sb.*[1] 4.] Angry, 'cross'.

1892 STEVENSON *Let. to J. M. Barrie* (1899) II. 247 We are both Scots besides, and I suspect both rather Scotty Scots. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 220/2 It made me scotty with every one and every thing.

Scotylle, Scouce: see SCUTTLE, SCOUSE.

Scoug, Scouk: see SCUG, SKULK.

Scoul, Scould, obs. forms of SCOWL, SCOLD.

Scoulding: see SCULDING *Orkney and Shetl.*

Scoule, obs. form of SCOLD, SCULL.

Scoulerite (skū'lərəit). *Min.* [Named after Dr. J. *Scouler.*] An impure variety of mesole; also, a pipe-stone from N. America, having a similar composition.

1840 R. D. THOMSON in *Lond. & Edin. Phil. Mag.* Ser. III. XVII. 408 My son..distinguished it [this mineral] by the name of Scoulerite, in honour of Dr. Scouler. 1843 J. E. PORTLOCK *Geol.* 215 The Scoulerite variety occurs, rarely, at Portrush in small spheres. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 422 Scoulerite, Pipestone.

Scoulion, Scoull(e, obs. ff. SCULLION, SCHOOL.

Scoult, obs. form of SCOUT *sb.*[4]

Scoulyon, Scoum, obs. ff. SCULLION, SCUM.

Scoumar, variant of SCUMMER, pirate.

Scoumfit(e, -phit, etc.: see SCOMFIT.

Scoundrel (skau'ndrĕl), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 skown-, skoundrell, scondrell, 7 skundrell, scoundril, 8 scoundrell. [Of unknown origin.

Derivation from Sc. SCUNNER *sb.* and *v.* is inadmissible on phonological grounds; and although *scoundrel* is now vernacular in Scotland (pronounced skū'nrĕl or skū'ndrĕl), all the early examples of the word are English. The phonetic character of the word suggests a Fr. origin; it might conceivably represent an A.F. derivative of *escondre* to abscond, but the late date of its first occurrence is against this supposition.]

A. *sb.* 'A mean rascal, a low petty villain' (J.). Now usually with stronger sense: An audacious rascal, one destitute of all moral scruple.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. 137 Must I, thought I, giue aime to such a Skrub and such a Saint, That Skowndrell, and this Counterfeit. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 22 You see my quarter staffe, is it not a blesse begger, thinke you? A washing blow of this is as good as a Laundresse,.. and must needs dry beate a skoundrell, if it be artificially managed. 1594 LODGE *Wounds Civ. War* IV. G 3, *Clown.* Haue I master thou scondrell? I haue an Orator to my master. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 36 By this hand they are scoundrels and substractors that say so of him. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* V. i. I 3, Your Mother..a lustie stoute Woman, bore great Children, you were the verie skundrell of am all. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 119 If you take away my life, you shall put an honest man to death for a cowards and a scoundrels sake. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Nov., I often advised the dissolution of that Parliament, although I did not think the scoundrels had so much courage. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 212 If your ancient, but ignoble blood Has crept thro' scoundrels ever since the flood. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 7 Apr. (1791) I. 478 Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* liii. (1862) 121 When a woman is married for the sake of her fortune, the chances are five hundred to one that she marries a villain, or at best a scoundrel. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxi, 'They are great scoundrels,' said Mr. Pickwick. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* IV. i, My father, Who shook the Norman scoundrels off the throne. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xv. 224 He saw these high-born scoundrels coming home loaded with treasure. 1886 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* i, If you keep on drinking rum, the world will soon be quit of a very dirty scoundrel!

b. *attrib.* and *appositive.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, Of a Jourdan Coupe-tête, who has skulked thitherward..and will raise whole scoundrel-regiments. 1850 — *Latter-d. Pamph.* II. 9 [Model Prisons.] The 'sympathy' of visitors..for his interesting scoundrel-subjects..was evidently no joy to this practical mind. Pity, yes:—but pity for the scoundrel-species? 1894 H. NISBET *Bush-Girl's Rom.* 120 This scoundrel-fool Shafton had been the cause of his misfortunes.

B. *adj.* Now *rare.*

1. Of a person: That is a scoundrel; having the characteristics of a scoundrel; scoundrelly. Of a company: Composed of scoundrels.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. i. (1645) 33 We read, not that the scoundrel people, but the choicest, the wisest, the holiest of that nation have frequently us'd these lawes. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew, Scab*, a..Scoundril-Fellow. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Dec., I met that beast Ferris,..and that scoundrel dog is as happy as an emperor. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 53 The Printer is that scoundrel Rascal Curle. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1638 The cruel wretch..has squander'd vile, Upon his scoundrel train what might have cheered A drooping family of modest worth. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 789 We'll vex those scoundrel-boys. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Waud. by Loire* 187 The scoundrel governor..was the Duke of Montpensier.

2. Pertaining to or characteristic of a scoundrel. Of conduct: Mean, unprincipled.

1681 HICKERINGILL *Dial. Philautus & Timoth.* iii. 5 Shouldest thou not in all justice and Conscience, instance something..that deserves..such scoundrel, Billings-gate Ribaldry..? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Declam. in Def. Gaming* Wks. 1709 III. I. 134 What..is there more scoundrel? What more beastly, than a man depriv'd of his Manhood..by an Inundation of Claret? 1729 MANDEVILLE *Bees* II. 101 An Italian No-man of Scoundrel Extraction. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* (1738) I. 227 He [*sc.* the Hottentot dog] makes such a Scoundrel-Figure, that all his good Qualities together, are hardly a Ballance for it. 1738 J. HILDROP *Let. Commandm.* (ed. 4) 17 Stealing we all know is the most pitiful, scoundrel Act of Injustice. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. I, 'A penny saved is a penny got'—Firm to this scoundrel maxim keepeth he. 1757 WARBURTON *Lett. to Hurd* xciii. (1809) 218 He..died..here in England; but of so scoundrel a temper, that he avoided ever coming into my sight. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 84, I am shocked at the mean, scoundrel Behaviour of Mr. P——. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lviii, Her parents..encouraged me, with all sorts of coarse artifices and scoundrel flatteries.

† **3.** Of a thing: Base, degraded in character or type. *Obs. rare.*

1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra's Royal Politician* II. 160 Trade was ruin'd by this troublesome, scoundrel Metal. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxviii. 75 Their Religion is also a Sort of scoundrel Mahometism.

Hence **Scou·ndrel** *v. trans.*, ?to treat as a scoundrel, to vilify. **Scou·ndreldom,** the world of scoundrels, scoundrels collectively; also = SCOUNDRELISM. † **Scou·ndrelish** *a.*, befitting a scoundrel. **Scou·ndrelship,** the behaviour of a scoundrel, scoundrelism. **Scou·ndrelry,** scoundrels collectively.

1701 W. NICOLSON *Let.* 9 May in Evelyn *Diary & Corr.* (1906) 721 This being one of the matters wherein I am scoundreled by the late reply of Dr. Wake. 1705 ROWE *Biter* I. i, I being in somewhat scoundrelish, or, as your Honour calls it, scurvy Terms with him my self. 1837 CARLYLE *Diamond Necklace* xvi, Let the eye of the mind..astound itself with the magnificent extent of Scoundreldom; the deep, I may say unfathomable, significance of Scoundrelism. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VI. 361, I was dirty and grim-looking enough to represent any amount of scoundrelship. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 415 It is astonishing to find how much foreign riff-raff and alien scoundrelry will turn up at a masquerade. 1864 *Reader* 23 Jan. 101/1 With such consummate scoundrelship in the foreground, one may be pretty sure..that there is no lack of incident. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* iii. 68 All greedy villains and adventurers, the scoundreldom of the whole world. 1876 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* lxix. XII. 111 Either as an effect of looseness of life, or from inherent scoundreldom of temperament.

Scoundrelism (skau'ndrĕliz'm). [f. SCOUNDREL *sb.* + -ISM.] The character, conduct, or practices of a scoundrel; also, a piece of scoundrelism, a scoundrelly act or trait.

1611 COTGR., *Villaquerie*, villanie, roguerie, rascalitie, skowndrellisme. 1773 JOHNSON in Boswell *Tour Hebrides* (1785) 111 Why, Sir,..There is generally a scoundrelism about a low man. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. ix, Thus..shall the Bastille be abolished from our Earth; and with it, Feudalism, Despotism; and one hopes, Scoundrelism generally. 1890 G. B. SHAW *Fabian Ess., Socialism* 194 Hungry mobs, nuclei of all the socialism and scoundrelism of the city. 1902 F. E. HULME *Proverb Lore* ii. 62 The epigrams [of John Davies] are, most of them, of a most offensive character...There are two hundred and ninety-two of these scoundrelisms.

Scoundrelly (skau'ndrĕli), *a.* [f. SCOUNDREL *sb.* + -LY[1].] Having the character of a scoundrel; of, belonging to, or characteristic of a scoundrel; characterized by scoundrelism.

1790 BURNS *Let.* 2 Mar., Mankind are by nature benevolent creatures, except in a few scoundrelly instances. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* vi, I have directed the constables to take up that old scoundrelly beggar, Edie Ochiltree, for spreading disaffection. 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 266, I read on till I got to the base and scoundrelly part of the address. 1847 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* Jan. 116/2 Tom Starlight, the poacher,..inveighing against the tyranny of a scoundrelly aristocracy. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. iv. III. 18 Money back? 'I will none of His scoundrelly money'. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 9 Feb. 4/8 A scoundrelly pasha..opened the gates of the city and let the Mahdi in.

† **Scou·ndrelously,** *adv. rare*[−1]. [f. SCOUNDREL + -OUS + -LY[2].] In a scoundrelly manner.

1681 HICKERINGILL *Dial. Philautus & Timoth.* xiii. 28 Thou handlest the matter, so scoundrelously, and so far below the Rules of all Logick and Morality.

Scouner, obs. form of SCUNNER *v.*

Scoup (skaup), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5–6 scoupe, 6 skowp, 8 scowp, 7– scoup. [Of

obscure origin; perh. cognate with the synonymous Scope *v.*[2] *intr.* To bound, caper, skip. Of an animal: To go with leaps and bounds.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 23569 (Trin.) Mony þingis may we do þat better were vndone þen so As for to scoupe [*Cott.* skip, *Fairf.* lepe, *Gött.* schope] & to ryn Whenne bettur tyme were to blyn. 1530 Palsgr. 699/2, I scoupe, as a lyon or a tygre dothe, whan he doth folowe his pray, *je vas par saultlées.* I have sene a leoparde scoupe after a bucke. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 23 The hart, the hynd, the dae, the rae,..War skowping all fra brae to brae, Amang the water broxe. 1721 Ramsay *Elegy on Patie Birnie* vi, The corky cowp That to the Papists' country scowp, To lear' ha, ha's. 17.. — *Addr. of Thanks* iii, Lads..scowp around like tups and bulls. 1739 A. Nicol *Nature without Art* 87 Your Head's sae fu' o canty Tales That scoups o'er many Muirs and Dales. 1756 *Pennecuik's Collect. Sc. Poems* 55 But dawt red-coats and let them scoup Free, for the fou of cutty-stoup. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, 'Wha the deil are ye?' said the fat dame to poor Jeanie,..'scouping about a decent house at sic an hour in the morning?'

b. *Phrase.*

a 1802 *Ld. Thomas & Fair Annie* xv. in Child *Ballads* II. 70/1 The shame [*i.e.* the Devil] scoup in his company. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, Deil scowp wi' Redgauntlet!

Hence **Scou·ping** *vbl. sb.* Also **Scou·per.**

a 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* iv. Wks. 1848 II. 416 Witnes the Lordschip of Abercorne,..and diverse utheris..gyffin in heritage to scouparis, dansaris, and dalliaris with damis. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 757 Land lowper, light skowper, ragged rowper like a raven. 1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil & P.* Ode xi. in Arb. *Garner* V. 457 To see the frisking, and the scouping!

Scoupe, obs. form of Scoop.

Scour (skau·ɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 4 **skour(e, skowr(e, scowr,** 6 **scoure.** [See Scour *v.*[1]]

1. The action of moving rapidly or going in haste; a run or rush. †Adv. phr. *good scour* = with hasty movement, at a good pace (*obs.*).

a 1300 *K. Alis.* 4276 To his ost he farith, good skour. *c* 1796 J. Burness *Thrummy Cap* 31 Sae on they gaed at a gude scow'r. 1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 16 (1822) I. 122 Robin..was a fine eager-looking dog, and seemed to have all his faculties ready for a scour.

†**2.** An onset or attack. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Rel. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 96 Thane schalle er the for erthe suffire scharpe scowrrys [*v.r.* schouris]. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii. 196 (Manly), *Hodge.* Was not wel blest, Gammer, to scape that scoure?

3. The rush of a driving wind.

1808 Jamieson, *Skour* of wind. 1906 G. A. B. Dewar *Faery Year* 65 The thrushes and blackbirds love the driving scour and the wind-rocked tree.

Scour (skau·ɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 8–9 scower. [f. Scour *v.*[2]]

1. An apparatus for washing auriferous soil. Cf. Scour *v.*[2] 11 d.

1619 Atkinson in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) III. 30 In all these places following..natural gold is to be found out, & you shall alwayes find skilfull seekers and discoverers thereof..for to use the Trough or Skower; but not very perfit in the Buddle. 1824 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* III. vi. viii. 733 The places where the gold mines were formerly wrought, at the gold scours, in the valley of the Elwan.

2. The action of a current or flow of water in clearing away mud or other deposit; in *Civil Engineering*, an artificial current or flow produced for this purpose; also, an engineering work constructed for the purpose of producing such a current.

17.. in Lediard *Life Marlborough* (1736) III. 438 The useless Refuse, took a cleansing Scour, Along the rapid Scheld's intrenched Shore. 1729 in Labelye *Result View Level Fens* (1745) 39 Experienced Mechanick-Practice in making Drains, Sluices, Banks, Scours, &c. 1736 Badeslade *New Cut Canal* 5 Capt. Perry was making Sluices..to hold up Water to make a Scour, by the force of which he expected to drive the Sand to Sea and deepen that River. 1745 Labelye *Result View Fens* 33 As to artificial Scours by means of Reservoirs, or relieving Basons or Sluices. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 146 The scour of the ebb-tide co-operates with the rapid flow of the river to sweep away any sediment. 1890 *Engineer* LXVIII. 452 (Cent.) There is a low water depth of only about 4 ft., but this is to be increased by about 20 ft. by dredging and scour. 1909 *Daily News* 15 Dec. 9 A small piece of land at the far end of the reservoir..together with..15 manholes, one air valve, three scours in connection with the pipe line.

3. A place in a river where the bottom is scoured by the stream; a river-shallow with a gravel bottom.

1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* xli. § 6 (1689) 310 In March they shoot into the Scours to spawn. 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 30 Angle..for pearches, in scours. 1833 Bowlker *Art of Angling* 82 The haunts of Roach, during spring, are on the shallows and scowers. 1872 Taunt *Map of Thames* 21/2 Below are fine scours and deeps, affording good fishing.

4. *Sc.* A hearty drink (*of* a beverage); a 'swig'. Cf. Scour *v.*[2] 11 e.

1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 167 If that her tippony chance to be sma' We'll tak a good scour o't, and ca't awa. 1728 — *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 132 We'll take a scour o't to put aff our pain.

5. A kind of diarrhœa in cattle.

1764 *Museum Rust.* I. 450 It actually gives, or inclines them to a scower (and other disorders well known to the shepherds). *Ibid.* II. 9 A remedy for the white scour in sheep. 1802 Willich *Dom. Encycl.* IV. 60/2 The White Scour is an uncommon looseness, occasioned by feeding sheep on putrescent vegetables. 1881 Sheldon *Dairy Farming* 61/2 An effectual preventive of 'scour', a malady from which young calves, when reared away from their mothers, are constantly liable to suffer.

6. The detergent matter used in scouring wool.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 657/1 The wool..was rinsed in a current of clean water to remove the 'scour'.

7. An act of scouring, cleansing, or polishing. *Mod. colloq.* Give the floor a good scour.

8. *Comb.*: **scour-hole,** a hole made in mud or sand by the scour of the tide; **scour-way** (see quot.); †**scour-wort,** a name suggested for *Saponaria officinalis.*

1890 Kipling *City Dreadf. Nt.* 24 She sank there, and the next tide made a *scour-hole on one side of her. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Scourway*, Geol., a drainage-furrow caused by a strong current, as by a glacial river flowing over a gravel plain. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 66 Radicula..if we had it here, it myghte be called in english sopewurt or *skowrwurt.

Scour (skau·ɹ), *v.*[1] Forms: 4 **scur(e, schoure,** 4–7 **skour(e, scoure,** 5–8 **scowr(e,** 6–7 **skowr(e,** 7–8 **scower,** 6– **scour.** [Of obscure origin.

In some of the senses explained below there may have been coalescence of words of identical form but etymologically unconnected; it is difficult in some uses to distinguish between this verb and Scour *v.*[2], by association with which its sense-development has certainly been influenced. The relation to the cognate Scour *sb.*[1] is uncertain; from the early date of the latter, it is perh. more likely to be the source of the verb than a derivative of it, so that the sb. may be ad. ON. *skúr* storm, Shower *sb.*, and the vb. may correspond to Norw. *skura* to rush violently. In the originally military uses, the vb. may perh. be partly a back-formation from Scourer.

The current view, that the verb is a. OF. *escourre* (:—L. *excurrĕre*, f. *ex-* out + *currĕre* to run) seems untenable, as the OF. word would normally have assumed in ME. the form *scurre* instead of *scoure.*]

1. *intr.* To move *about* hastily or energetically; *esp.* to range about in search of something, or in movements against a foe.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 390 Corineus herwiþ harde smot & stured [MS. α scurede, β scured, γ scuryd] him aboute, & made is wey bi eiþer side & percede þe route. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 180 Skour weyll about for scoukaris in the se. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 185 In plesurys new, your hert dooth score and raunge So hye and ferre. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lxii. 176 Lette him carie them [the hounds] home vncoupled, that they may skoure at large and skommer. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* IV. i. 196 He that..fearles scowres in danger's coasts, T'enlarge his countries liberty. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 641 Barbarussa thus scouring alongst the coast of Italie,..strucke such an exceeding terrour into the mindes of the citizens [etc.]. 1615 Heywood *Four Prentises* I. D 3 b, Sirra go you and scoure about the hill. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rev.* iv. 6 Furnished with six wings apiece..to scoure about for the peoples benefit. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccxxiv. 196 There was a Freak took an Ass in the Head, to Scoure abroad upon the Ramble. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Scour about*, to ramble or run raking about. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 323 While these intrepid Bands..out-fly the Storm, And scowring round, make Men and Beasts their Prey. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. II. ii, Furnishers scour in gigs over all districts of France. 1865 A. Smith *Summer in Skye* I. 152 How John Kelly shouted and objurgated, and how his dog scoured about! [driving cattle]. 1879 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 26 June, The City authorities scoured fruitlessly about in quest of a new site for a debtors prison.

b. To move rapidly, go in haste, run. Chiefly with advs., indicating the direction, etc.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3722 Lordynges, he saide, hit is nought to fleon! We buth the ost and the water bytwene...Hit is beter that we to heom schoure [*Bodl.* scoure], So longe so we may dure. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 297 Þai wysmen þan scouryt þam faste. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 104 The swanne put him afore the shippe, the which he made to scoure upon the water in suche wise that they were anon ferre fro Lyleforte. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 20 The lady..from him fled away with all her powre: Who after her as hastily gan scowre. *a* 1600 *Floddan F.* iii. (1664) 23 The Scots anon they scoured in And plyed apace unto their prey. *a* 1630 *Tom Thumb* 410 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 229 She took him up between her jaws, And scowr'd up a tree. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 39 The Galley scowred away a maine course. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* lxxxiii. 81 They..Scoure off themselves and leave Those that Trust them to pay the Reck'ning. 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 139 He scour'd after me as hard as he could. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 566 Away he scowered, and left my Pilot..a compleat Victory. 1810 Southey *Kehama* xxiii. xi, Through the red sky terrific meteors scour. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* viii. 51, I..scoured on my way with more speed than before. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* II. iv, Sterling..took to daily riding in summer; scouring far and wide on a swift strong horse. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* viii. 181 Dogs turn tail and scour off in dismay.

†**c.** (Without adv.) To depart in haste, run away, decamp. (Chiefly *colloq.* or *slang.*) *Obs.*

a 1592 Greene *Alcida* (1617) H 2, Wherevpon the mariners reioyced, hoising vp sailes, and thrusting into the maine, we scowred and returned home to the court. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* Prol., Till all the Ladies and some Gallants scowre. 1688 Shadwell *Sq. Alsatia, Expl. Cant, To Scamper, to rubb, to scowre*, to run away. 1688 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* I. 486 Some of them that lay most obnoxious are scowring; several of which are taken and secured making their escapes. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* IV. iv. (*ed.*) No, no; fire over their Heads only to fright 'em; I'll warrant the Regiment scours when the Collonel's a Prisoner. 1753 Foote *Englishm. in Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 35 How the powder flew about, and the Monsieurs scour'd.

2. *trans.* To pass rapidly over or along (a tract of land or water); *esp.* to traverse in quest of something, or in order to capture or drive away a foe. Cf. Scour *v.*[2] 8.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 363 And his lore shulden prestis lerne, and speciali hey prelatis, sip þei shulden scure [*v.r.* skoure] þe weie to þe oost þat comeþ aftir. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law of Arms* (S. T. S.) 230/11 Gif a Franche knycht..had runnyn before Bordeaulx to scoure the contree and tak prisouneris. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxciii. 196 This Edgar..vsed, in the somer tyme, to scowre the see with certeyne shyppes of warre. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* D viij, By that time such as were sent before to scowre the countrey, came in, and reported. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 464 The king before he would take his voyage, sent the Erle of Huntyngdon to serche and scowre the Seas. *Ibid.* 833 The noble men..without any tariyng, scouryng the wayes as fast as their horses could runne. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* V. 79 Euen so our battails..Dyd scoure the plaines in pursuite of the foe. 1636 *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 73/2 You..may spare part [of your fleet] to scour the Channel to the Land's End westward. 1667 Milton *P. L.* 529 And Scouts each Coast light-armed scoure, Each quarter, to descrie the distant foe. 1776 Johnson *Let. to Boswell* 5 Mar., I know not but we may scour the country together, for I have a mind to see Oxford and Lichfield. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. III. iii. 342 Their piratical countrymen..scoured those coasts, in quest of prey. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. v, Patrols..scour the streets, all that night. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & P.* xi. (ed. 3) 390 The sloping hills..scoured by herds of gazelles. 1885 C. F. Holder *Marvels Anim. Life* 116 He went aloft, scoured the hold, examined the galley.

b. *fig.* To run over in the mind, with the eye, etc.

1883 *Sunday Mag.* July 432/2, I stand here scouring the universe with my imagination. 1909 Max Beerbohm *Yet Again* 69 You scour the list vaguely, and order a pint of 273.

3. *spec.* in 17th–18th century slang (cf. Scourer[1] 2). **a.** *intr.* To roam about at night uproariously, breaking windows, beating the watch, and molesting wayfarers.

1673 Shadwell *Epsom Wells* II. i, You drink Burgundy perpetually and Scower as you call it. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* III. i. Wks. 1778 II. 152, I went home drunk, and scour'd outragiously. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 358 ¶ 1 There is no Inhabitant of any standing in Covent-Garden, but can tell you a hundred good Humours, where People have come off with little Blood-shed, and yet scowered all the witty Hours of the Night. 1717 Prior *Alma* III. 233 From Milksop He starts up Mohack:..So thro' the Street at Midnight scow'rs: Breaks Watch-men's Heads, and Chair-men's Glasses. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 37 As bees for honey range from flow'r to flow'r, From house to house I see Mundungus scow'r!

b. *trans.* To ill-treat or 'maul' (the watch, wayfarers, etc.) while roistering in the streets.

1681 Dryden *Sp. Friar* Prol. 39 Scowring the Watch grows out of fashion wit. 1687 Sedley *Bellamira* IV. i. Wks. 1778 II. 177 *Mer.* The house is beset: What's here, scourers?..*Cun.* We'll scour 'em for a company of uncivil fellows, thus to disturb lovers at their innocent recreations. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 33 Our Watch they scowre, and greet with ill-blows. 1723 *Briton* No. 19 (1724) 83 They got drunk,..scower'd the Watch, abused the Constable.

c. To roister through (the streets).

1691 *Comedy, Win Her & Take Her* I. i. 2 We'le scour ev'ry street And kick all we meet. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 491/2 We scoured the street after our nocturnal revel.

Scour (skau·ɹ), *v.*[2] Forms: 3–4 **schur, skur,** 3–5 **scur(e,** 3–7 **skour(e,** 4–7 **skowre,** 4–8 **scowr(e, scoure,** 5–6 **score,** 5–7 **skore, scoore,** 6 **skower,** 5–9 **scower,** 9 *dial.* **scaur,** 4– **scour.** [Prob. a. MDu. or MLG. *schûren* (mod.Du. *schuren*, mod.LG. *schiiren*), whence mod.G. *scheuern* and MSw., Sw. *skura*, Da. *skure*; Du. has also a vb. *schuieren* to brush, which is prob. a dialectal variant. The Du. and LG. word is prob. a. OF. *escurer* (mod.F. *écurer*) = Pr., Sp. *escurar*, It. *sgurare, scurare* (rare):—popular L. **excūrāre* (med.L. *escūrāre, scūrāre*) to polish, scour, f. *ex-* out + *cūrāre*, in class. Latin to take care of (f. *cura* care), in med.L. also to clean (so F. *curer*).

Direct adoption from OF. *escurer* is not likely, as the word should in that case have become *scure* in mod. Eng. (cf. *cure, pure*). The same objection applies to the hypothesis of adoption from monastic Latin, unless it be supposed that the word had been English for some centuries before the date of the first known examples. Possibly the word was brought in as a technical term by Flemish workmen.]

1. *trans.* To cleanse or polish (metal, earthenware, wood, etc.) by hard rubbing with some detergent substance. Sometimes with compl. adj., as *bright, clean.* Also const. *of, from* (rust, etc.).

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 540 Hir heer was as yelowe of hewe As any basin scoured newe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 223 Sho..wasshid dysshis & skowrid pottys. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XX. 313 Thei..scowred hauberkes and furbisshed swerdes and helmes. 1530 Palsgr. 707/1, I scoure vessel, I make it bright and cleane. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 78, I see you Peerce, my glasse was lately scowrde. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 62 They skowre them so bright that a man may behold his face in them. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 132, I was..in my Masters Kitchen, scowring of the Panns and the Spits. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VI. 1114 By dint of Sword his Crown he shall increase; And scour his Armour from the Rust of Peace. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 4/3 When the Cook Maid's Sick, he'll..scowre down the Stairs. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* III. vii, Grudging a quarter of a pound of Soap and Sand to scowre the Rooms. *c* 1714 Arbuthnot, etc. *Mem. Martinus Scribl.* I. iii, The Truth was, the Maid..had scoured it as clean as her Andirons. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xiv. II. 295 His slaves were scouring the vessels of gold and silver displayed on the sideboard. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* liv, [He] passed by the scared female who was scouring the steps. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 193 The stone largely used for scouring paint is a lava of very porous texture.

b. *fig.* Also with *over, up* (cf. 'polish up'). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25867 Els moght moght na clensing fire þi saul skur to make it schirre. *Ibid.* 28058 Þarfor ilkan i rede forloke þat þai..skir þam sua wit þair in-sight, þair conscience sua clene and bright, þat þai þar-in leue nakin thing þat ani nede haf o scuring. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1219 Þai..þat þame-self ofe syne wil scoure. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xli. (1869) 195 She leueth no thing þat she ne correcteth and skowreth and forbisheth. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 93 Wherfor þys tyme of Lenton ys ordeynt only to scowre and to clanse your concyens of all maner roust and fulþe of synne. 1556 PARKER *Ps.* cxix. 140 Skord cleane full out thy word is seene: fine tride from drosse impure. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xii. § 5 Some few..who..are not so scowred of their former rust, as to forsake their auncient perswasion. 1608 DAY *Law Trickes* I. i, How the daw Scoures ore his rustie phrases! 1611 SPEED *Chron.* IX. xxiv. 871/2 [Q. Eliz. said] I haue been enforced this day to scowre vp my old Latine, that hath laine long in rusting. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 161, I will..scoure up that little Toscane language, which ..shall be remaining vnto me. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. v. (1640) 7 Heraclius..scoured bright an old holy-day with a new solemnitie. 1654 — *Two Serm.* 58 Such who by Art and Education..have scoured over the dimme inscription of the Morall Law, that it appeared plaine vnto them.

c. *absol.* or *intr.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* viii. (1906) 11 Score so long on this plate till ye haue hadde awey all the blacke spottis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 315 Item, she can wash and scoure. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 ¶ 5 The Wench in the Kitchen sings and scours from Morning to Night. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxxii, Listening to all manner o' gossip when they should be down on their knees a-scouring.

d. *trans.* (*hyperbolically*). To thrust (a sword, knife) in a person's body.

1613 HAYWARD *Will. I* 68 Encouraging one another..to scoure their swords in the entrailes of their enemies. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, Have ye a mind I should scour my knife between your ribs, as my mother says?

e. To clean the inside of (a gun) after firing.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* v. i, Let me see your peece neighbor Greene-goose, when was she shot in? *Greene.* And like you maister Captaine, I made a shot euen now, partly to scoure her, and partly for audacity. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 61 Souldiers scowre your peeces. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* I. iii. 9 Even as Musquetieres are scouring their Musquets after much shooting.

†f. *slang.* To wear (fetters); to sit in (the stocks). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mankind* 634 in *Macro Plays* 24 Me semyth ȝe haue scoryde a peyr of fetters. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Pardoner & Frere* 602 Thou shalt not escape me, Tyll thou hast scouryd a pare of stokys. 1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 84 To skower the cramp-rings, to weare boltes or fetters. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scoure,* to wear.

2. *trans.* To remove grease or dirt from (cloth, wool, silk, etc.) by some detergent process.

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 630/1 The said Clothes..clene scowred, full dryed, and redy to the sale. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 34 *Rescourer vne robe,* Skowre agayn a goune. 1496 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 574 To scoure & fresche old bonettes. 1565 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 11 § 2 The same Cappe [shall] be first well scoured and closed upon the Banke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. i. II. 5 There is a kind of Poppies much sought after for blaunching and bleaching of linnen cloths; for being skoured therewith, it is wonderfull how white and pure they will looke. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 362 In some Lakes the Water is so Nitrous, as if Foule Cloaths be put into it, it scoureth them of it selfe. 1683 WILDING in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 257 For scouring my Coate 00 00 06. 1751 *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Dying, Dying of thread* is begun by scouring it in a lye of good ashes. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 107 When the cloth is woven, he sends it..to be 'scoured' and 'fulled'. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 657/1 Stale urine was a favourite medium in which to scour wool.

b. *absol.* Also *fig.*

1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* Med. vi. 41 Teares, mingled with thy Blood can scower so, That Scarlet sinnes shall turne as white as Snow. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 362 Warme Water scoureth better than Cold.

3. To wash vigorously (the hands, face, teeth); to 'scrub'. Now only *jocular.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxx. (1612) 147 Vnto the Trough he hies, And skowres his coly fists and face. 1602 *How to chuse good Wife* III. iii. F 4, He had a pound of sope to scowre his face. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 72 They..gave him th' oyl to scour his skin withal. *a* 1704 *Compleat Servant-Maid* (ed. 7) 65 To wash the Face, to keep it smooth and to scower it clean. 1712 SWIFT *Midas* 71 British Midas' dirty Paws; Which..the Senate strove to scour. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxxvii. 20 And teeth a native lotion hardly scours quite pure.

b. *transf.* To cleanse (the teeth) by chewing some substance. Also, †*to scour one's mouth on,* to abuse, vilify.

1598 FLORIO To Rdr. a viij, Let Aristophanes and his comedians make plaies, and scowre their mouthes on Socrates. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 83 To eat cold beef, and drink strong beer for breakfast, and to scour his teeth after it with a quid of tobacco.

4. To cleanse (a wound, ulcer, the entrails of an animal) by treating with some medicament.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 9 Take, wasshe tho isues of swannes anon, And skoure tho guttus with salt ichon. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* Pref. 4 That they clense and scoure the woundes from al corupcion. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 31 This unguent serveth well to cleanse and scowre ulcers. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1796) xviii. 290 Take your eel and scour it well with salt.

5. To clear out (a channel, ditch, drain, etc.) by removing dirt, weeds, etc. Also with *out,* † *up.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 754 The canel skoured was so clene. 1519 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 31 The grett Inquest..commandes all wattersewers..be dykid and scoried be Withesonday. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 123 Than scoure the olde dyche, and cast it vp newe. 1579 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 403 The..ryvers..shalbe ryde and scowred. 1589 IVE *Pract. Fortif.* 3 It may haue the riuer turned into the ditch to skowre the ditch of any thing that may be cast into it. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 231 A large ditch..lately scowred and cast vp. 1657 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1893) 79 He scowred the Fountains, that the Water might be clear and transparent. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 52 Working hard to scour their moats. 1740 J. LEAFORD *Observ. S. Level Fens* 21 It is proposed..To scour out St. John's Eau, and lay the Earth on the Norfolk side. 1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. (1887) II. 81, I first scoured up my ditches and drains, and took off all the weeds. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. 1906 III. 232 These watercourses again call for a considerable expense to keep them properly scoured and duly levelled. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 433 The hedger now resumes his work of water-tabling and scouring ditches. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vic.* c. 49 § 9 The Admiralty may ..dredge scour and deepen the foreshore and bed of the sea within the said limits.

b. *To scour a hedge* (see quot. 1847).

1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 5 The Hayes, Fenses, Dykes or Hedges..shall from time to tyme be diked, scoured, repaired and kept lowe. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Scour.* (1) To scour a hedge, to deepen the ditch, and to breast up the hedge with the soil taken out. *North.*

6. To clear out or cleanse by flushing with water.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1547/1 So as by the space of foure daies there could be no water reteined within the pent, to scowre the mouth of the hauen. 1619 S. ATKINSON *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 1 Sufficient water ..for..scowring places..with which all sorts of earth are to be washed or scowred. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xix. 339 If his land accosteth the sea, he considereth..what Keys are rusty with sands and shelves, and what are scoured with a free and open tide. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 86/1 The projection of this isle,..forcing the tide-wave southward, causes it to run northward, again, with great force, and scour out the Bay of Weymouth. 1847 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* xix. (ed. 7) 263 During other seasons of the year, the ocean makes reprisals, scouring out the channels.

b. with *away*: To form (a channel) by flushing.

c 1683 *Cowley's Voy.* in *Cook's Voy.* (1790) III. 846 There cannot be so great a lack of water, but must needs scowre a channell away at the ebbe deepe enough for shipping to goe in.

c. To clear or refresh (the throat) with liquor. *Sc.*

1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 4 (E. D. D.) Upo' that hint I scour'd my rusty throat. 1801 W. BEATTIE *Fruits of Time Parings* (1873) 15 (ibid.) Lat's see a drappie o' yer beer, To scour my crap.

7. Of a medicine, or of one who administers it: To purge (an animal, a person, the body, etc.); to evacuate (the stomach or bowels). Also, to cleanse (worms, fish, etc.) by purging.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 542 Thai eyt it with full gud will, That soucht [nane othir] salss thar-till Bot appetyt, that oft men takys; For weill scowryt war thar stomakys. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 35 b, At which tyme they are very good to skowre horses. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. ii. 71 Like to a Curre that Carrion hath deuour'd, And cannot rest, vntill his mawe be scour'd. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 434 Ponds or Stewes..to feed Pikes and Tenches fat, and to scoure them from the strong and muddy fennish taste. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 138 A Lob or Garden worm, which should be wel scowred, that is to say, [kept] seven or eight dayes in Moss before you fish with them. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physic* 87 Clysters in great quantity if you would scowre the guts. 1691 *Braggadocio* III. i. 35, I hate to have a puddle o' your Outlandish Nusanee cloging my Stomach. *Top.* Puh.—a scouring Bottle of Pontack will scour it again, Mun. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 29 Pease, wheat, and barley are apt to scour your Pigeons too much. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 132 Scour them [*sc.* gentles] in sand, in a flannel bag. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 210 [He] immediately proceeded to scour him with the most potent medicines. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. v. ii. § 3. 236/2 All these worms should be scoured, a process which consists in starving them, by placing them in damp moss. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life in Tigerland* 72 This food..has a tendency to scour the animals.

b. *absol.* Of medicine or food: To act as a purge.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xlvi. 261 Pellitorie of the wall..hath force to scoure. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xx. 42 The ordinary great Celandine..scowreth and cleanseth effectually. 1884 *Farm & Home* 25 Oct. 275/2 Potatoes and middlings tend to scour.

c. *refl.* Chiefly of worms and fish: To become clean by purging.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 12 These wormes did first scoure themselves, either in mosse, lome, or bran. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min., Isagoge* d 4 b, Pond-fish..are not so sweet as river fish, except they have been kept in rivers to scoure themselves. *Ibid.* d 6 b, Snailes..are best towards winter having scoured themselves. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iv. (1880) 104 Pike..spawn from early April to the end of May,..and, after a short rest,..scour themselves in the streams or shallows.

d. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To be purged. Of worms, fishes, etc.: To be cleansed by purging. Of cattle: To have diarrhœa.

1592 *Repentance of Robert Greene* D 2, Al his paine was in his belly. And although he continually scowred, yet still his belly sweld. 1616 SURFL. & MARKHAM *Country Farm* IV. xvi. 514 The wormes..will not onely liue long therein, but also scoure and feed. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iii. § 16 (1689) 26 The Dew preserves them [*sc.* baits] and makes them scour and thrive. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 242 If you turn Sheep into Wheat or Rye to feed, let it not be too rank..lest it make them Scowre. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Bait,* A dead Man's Skull beaten to powder for the Worms to scour in. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 147 Those which had the lask, and scowered. 1909 *Daily News* 5 May 4 Young spring grass is about the worst food for calves, causing them to scour very badly.

8. *fig.* To rid, clear (a place, the sea, etc.) *of* or *from* an enemy or other undesirable occupants.

Closely associated with SCOUR *v.*[1] 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 475 He..schurd [*Göttt.* skourd, *Trin.* scoured] þat curt o þam sa clene, þat sithen þar sted was neuer sene. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xlvii. [li.] 97 b, The lord of the narowe see is bounde..to scoure the see of pyrattes. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. lxiv, As..Some fleet-wing'd haggard..th'ayre of all her feath'red flocks doth skower. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* v. i, And like a sort of true-borne Scauingers, scoure me this famous Realme of enemies. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Ann. Q. Eliz.* (Camden) 49 He was appointed to skowre the seas from unlawfull adventurers. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 98 It is the Catwals Business with a Guard of near Two hundred Men, to scower the Streets..of idle Companions. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 28 Feb. (1732) 4 Maintaining the ways in good repair, and scouring them from Arabs, and Robbers. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 180 Church received a Commission..to Scoure the Woods of some of the lurking Enemy. 1786 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III*, VI. (1839) 317 This..contributed not a little to scour the sea from the pirates. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* in Lockhart *Life* (1839) IX. 17 He might have done well there could he have scoured his brains of politics. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v., *To scour the country* means to clear the country of the enemy for miles around.

b. *fig.* (of a devastating plague).

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* (Grosart) 21/2 The Plague (which late our Mother-Citty scour'd And erst the Kingdome made halfe desolate!)

9. *fig.* To beat, scourge. Hence, to punish, treat severely.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 596 He..broghte a yerde to scoure with the child. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1536 Þe nouices, whils þai er ȝing Aw to be scorid for swilk a thing. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Testament* Minor Poems (Percy Soc.) 255 Of the yeerde somtyme I stood in awe, To be scooryd that was al my dreede. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 259 He tuke a wand and skowrid þaim bathe. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 737 ȝa! thys hard balys on þi bottokkys xall byte!..cum vp, ȝe horsons, and skore a-wey þe yche! *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* 977 Ile teach ye to impeach honest men: stand by, Ile scowre you for a goblet. [1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 60 If you grow fowle with me Pistoll, I will scoure you with my Rapier, as I may, in fayre termes.] 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Feb., We shall scoure him for it. 1730 FIELDING *Author's Farce* I. viii, But I will pay the dog, I will scour him.

10. To sweep or rake (a place, position, a body of men, etc.) with gun-shot. Also, to command (a position, etc.) with one's guns.

1563 W. COTHE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 32 Our steple..on the which stoode iii fayre Demi-Colveryns to skowre the topp of the hills. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 320 Cortes unshipped three peeces of ordinance to scoure the Cawsey, which was full of enemies. 1589 IVE *Pract. Fortif.* 11 That the artillerie which shoulde scoure the front of yᵗ one Bulwarke might lye couered in the other Bulwarke. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Double Marriage* II. i, How many saile of wel man'd ships before us,..Have we pursued and scowerd. 1630 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 304 The South part..is well defended with Casemats, the better to scoure the Curtaine. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4082/3 The Ditch is doubly Palisadoed, with very good Flanks within, to scour the Moat when they enter. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Scour the length of a Line,* to rake a Line from end to end with the Shot, so that every Bullet which comes in at one end, sweeps all along to the other. 1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 12 Small parties of light cavalry to scour the flanks. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Firing, Street Firing* is the method of firing adopted to defend or scour a street, lane, or narrow pass of any kind. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xx. 567 He ordered up heavy artillery and scoured the woods with grape.

11. To remove, get rid of. Chiefly with advs., as *away, off, out.* a. To remove (rust, dirt, etc.) by cleansing or hard rubbing. Also *fig.*

c 1410 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxv. (? 1484) k j, He came for our sauacion To scoure aweye the rust of al our blame. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scowryn [*Winch. MS.* scoryn] a-wey ruste, *erugino, erubigino.* 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 137, I will..staine my fauours in a bloody Maske: Which washt away, shall scowre my shame with it. 1631 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 15 The stains will not easily (if at all) be scoured off again. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 31 He would often speak that there was much of good in the order of bishops, if the dross were scoured off. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xi. No. 18 (ed. 3) I. 263 The face or hands..begrimed with that mysterious sort of filth, which, as soon as you have, with great difficulty, scoured it away, returns again and again. 1866 REDGRAVE *Cent. Painters* II. 605 Many a one whose qualifications consist only in the reckless impudence with which he dares to use the spirit or the alkali to scour off dirt and art together, places a half-washed portrait in the window, and dubs himself a restorer.

b. To drive (an enemy, etc.) *out of* the land.

1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 16 How thai suld tak on hand The rychtwys blud to scour out of Scotland. *a* 1600 *Floddan F.* viii. (1664) 73 The gray gooswing did work such greif, And did the Scots so skoure and skaile. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 287 After that Scanderbeg had thus..scoured the Turks out of euery corner of Epirus. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. iii. 56 What Rubarb, Cyme, or what Purgatiue drugge Would scowre these English hence? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. iii. 365 King Saul, who had formerly scoured Witches out of all Israel. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* III. 112 Fullers earth, a precious ware is daily scowred hence, though by law forbidden to be transported.

c. To discharge, evacuate, purge away (a humour, disease, excrement, etc.).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 190 b, It scowreth away the collections of a Plurisy beginning. 1620 FLETCHER *Chances* III. ii, Has given me a dam'd Glister,.. Has almost scour'd my guts out. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 157 It concocteth and scowreth downwards crude and

phlegmaticke humors. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ciii, The same stamped with Honey..consumeth and scoureth away the Ulcers of the Head. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xliii, They sow..but..Wind-flowers,..herbs that may make One break wind to the purpose, these scowre them off carefully. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 84 There are Horses which put off, or scour off their Meat (as we say) very fast.

d. To remove or clear away by flushing with water.

c 1582 T. DIGGES in *Archæologia* XI. 227 Beache..vnder the Sowthern jawe of the haven mowth..by the force of the Master Sluce shall allway be scowred and remooued. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 42 By turning a streame of water on the mickesons, he scowred away that in a weeke, that an hundred could scant haue done in a yeare. 1619 ATKINSON in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S. H. S.) III. 31 Their usual manner is, when they seek for Gold..to frame or make a long seuch or scowring place into which they bring the stream of water, to scowr away the light earth from the heavy sandy earth. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* (1850) II. 152 The tide enters far up each channel, scouring out mud and sand.

†**e.** To drink *off* (a health). *Obs. Sc.* (Cf. SCOUR *sb.*[2] 3.)

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xi, He..scour'd aff healths anew, Clean out that day.

† Scour, *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic f. *discour(e,* DISCOVER.] *trans.* To divulge, reveal, disclose.

1584 MUNDAY *Fidele & Fortunio* 12 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXXIII. 48 Heare you Maister Fortunio..Doo but scoure your minde to mee, and shut vp your greef: Either Ile finde you some ease, or you shalbe hangd for a theef.

† Scou·rage[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 5 scur-, 6 scurr-, scower-, scourage, scouradge. [f. SCOUR *v.*[1] + -AGE.] The act of scouting or skirmishing. Phr. *to make* or *keep scourage.*

1470 HARDYNG *Chron.* Pref. 1 To scarmyse als, and make sykyr scurage. 1520 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 43 It is ordred that Sir Griffythe Ryce, Sir William Bulmer, Sir Richard Tempest, with theyre cumpanyes, shall make scurrage that day for discoueryng the cuntrey for the kings suertie. 1557 LD. WARTON in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. II. 266 Our Men..upon their Retyre followed them with Scowerage towards Tividale. 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 Yf any soldiers of the garrison be appointed to keep scourage. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 108 He is to appoynt which bands of Horse shall go to the watch or scouradge.

Scou·rage[2]. *rare.* In 7 -idge. [f. SCOUR *v.*[2] + -AGE.] Material for scouring; 'refuse water after cleansing or scouring' (Ogilvie, 1882).

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) Pref. 30 The sope, niter and scouridge, that the Iesuites are able eyther to beg, to borrow, to steale, or otherwise come by; are not able to cleanse the vulgar translation.

Scoure, obs. form of SCORE *sb.* and *v.*

Scoured (skau·əd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOUR *v.*[2] + -ED[1].]

1. Polished by rubbing; cleansed by scrubbing with a detergent. Also *fig.*

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 186 Droppe hyt in a clene scoured bacyn. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* i. 7 They glistred, as it had bene fayre scoured metall. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* iv. 17–22 He cannot be sene, but onely with the scoured iyes of the soule. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 141 Set it a-boiling in a clean scoured skillet. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 465, I saw seven white scoured Elephants Teeth. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xviii, Dinah would contract such an immoderate attachment to her scoured tin, as to insist upon it that it shouldn't be used again for any possible purpose.

b. With *out*, of a glass: Cleaned out, emptied. *Sc.*

1805 J. NICOL *Poems* I. 158 (Jam.) An' ilka blade had fill'd his wame, Wi' monie scour'd-out glasses.

2. Of silk, wool, etc.: Treated with a detergent.

166. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 305 The same scowred Silk. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 270 The new-scower'd Manteau. *c* 1830 MRS. SHERWOOD *Houlston Tracts* III. No. 81. 6 She wore a scoured silk trimmed with gimp. 1868 J. TURNER *Woollen Manuf. Assist.* 56 To find weight of greasy wool required to produce a certain weight of scoured wool.

b. quasi-*sb.* = scoured wool.

1894 *Times* 14 Mar. 3/4 The Continent again purchased freely of scoureds. 1897 *Daily News* 19 Mar. 9/5 Good bodied and light dry scoureds maintain previous series' prices.

3. Purged; cleansed by purging.

1653 WALTON *Compl. Angler* xi. (1878) 87 At a well scowred leb-worm he [*sc.* the barbel] will bite as boldly as at any bait. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiii. 106 A small well-scoured red worm will take them when nothing else will.

Scourer[1] (skau·rəɹ). Forms: 5 **skoverour, skowrrour, skouriour,** scorer, -ar, 6 **scurer, skourer,** 6–8 **scowrer,** 8 **scowerer,** 5– **scourer.** See also SCURRIER. [In sense 1 orig. aphetic f. DISCOVERER (OF. *descouvreor*); afterwards confused with the agent-n. f. SCOUR *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

†**1.** One sent out to reconnoitre; a scout or avant-courier; = DISCOVERER 2 and SCURRIER.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3218 Than skyftes þes skouerours, and skippes one hyllis, Discoueres for skulkers that they no skathe lymppene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 103 Send twa skowrrouris to wesy weyll the playne. *Ibid.* IV. 431 Set skouriouris furth the contre to aspye. *c* 1471 *Arriv. K. Edw. IV* (Camden) 28 The Kynge..sent afore hym his forrydars and scorars, on every syde hym. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxx. 224 Thenne he loked on the ryght syde vpon a lytel mountayne & sawe the grete batayll, and sawe the watche and the scourers al about the oost. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1181/2 Out was our scurer sent agayn,..to shew wher aboute y[e] place was. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* H vij, By the spring of the day the scourers that he sent before to discover, returned to him wyth reporte that Darius was comming. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Antecursor*, a fore runner,..a scourer. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 109 To give order that the Scowrers come not out of the fielde till the Trumpet sounde. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 39 The scourers now took the lead, looking vigilantly around them.

2. In the 17th–18th c.: One who made a practice of roistering through the streets at night, beating the watch, breaking windows, etc.

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* v. ii, No Burgundy man or drunken Scourer will reel my way. 1684 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 120 Several lusty fellows..pull'd down some of the raile before Ball: Coll: and broke windowes in S. Giles and Magd. parishes. These they call 'Scourers'. 1691 SHADWELL (*title*) The Scowrers. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 P 3 [He] has been, he tells me, a Scowrer, a Scamperer, a Breaker of Windows. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 325 Who has not heard the Scowrer's Midnight Fame? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 58 In those days of highwaymen and scourers.

3. One who ranges over (land or sea).

1878 B. HARTE *Hoodlum Band* ii, Who but the Pirate Prodigy—the relentless Boy Scourer of Patagonian seas?

Scourer[2] (skau·rəɹ). Also 5 **scourour,** 6 **skourer,** 6–8 **scow(e)rer,** 7 **skowrer.** [f. SCOUR *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who, or a thing which, scours.

1. One who polishes or cleanses by hard rubbing. Used esp. as the designation of certain servants in the Royal Household.

1576 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 39 Ten services to the Porters and Skowrers of all sides. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Revenue* 32 Six Porters, and Scourers, Larges at Easter:—5. 0. 0. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 103 The sword-cutler [maketh] swords, which the scourer furbisheth. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* 317 Three Turnbroaches, each 18*l.* 5*s.* Two Scowrers, each 18*l.* 5*s.* 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 209 So scowerers assist painting, and plaisterers mend statuary. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* ii, A small person..acted as scourer, kitchen-wench, and scullion. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Apr. 12/2 The 'Kitchen Staff' comprised a chief cook.., two assistant cooks, four scourers, three kitchenmaids.

b. *fig.* (with *new*). One who furbishes afresh or renovates.

1554 T. MARTIN *Marr. Priests* ii. B j, Oure menne (beinge but newe scourers of their olde heresie).

2. One who cleans wool, cloth, clothes, etc.

1574 *Life Abp. Parker* B vij b *marg.*, His Father was an honest poore man, a scourer or Calender of worsteddes of Norwich. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2328/4 One Zechariah Pickford,..a Scowrer by Trade,..is lately gone away with a Cantoon grey cloth Bed. 1756 FOOTE *Engl. ret. fr. Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 102 Carry..his coat to a scowrer's. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxi, Bottlecock and Co., Dyers, Callenderers, and Scourers. 1886 *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 68/1 Dyer and Scourer.—Robert Pullar, Perth.

3. One who cleans out drains, etc.

c 1515 Masser scourer [see MASSER[2]]. 1536 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1813) May 427 John Wylkynson of Busshopgate strete in London, scourer of synks. 1540 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 309 Maser scowrer. 1902 C. G. HARPER *Cambridge Road* 206 The main drains are scoured by 'scourers'.

4. An implement or contrivance for scouring or scrubbing.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Scourer*, a form of grain cleaner in which the berry is subjected to a rubbing action to remove all extraneous matters. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 276/2 Hides brought to the currying..are put under a 'scourer', a machine constructed of a number of diminutive wheels, which are made to move powerfully and swiftly over the yet damp hide.

†**5.** A wad or sponge for cleaning out the bore of a gun; a ramrod fitted with such a contrivance.

1467 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* (Bundle 43, No. 14), 1 posnet, 1 scourour, et 1 ladell. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 4 His scowrer must be trimmed on the end with a Lynnen cloth. 1611 COTGR., *Esgueuillon*, a Spunge, or Scourer for a peece of Ordnance. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 249 With ladles, chargers, skowrers, carthridges. 1631 in Rymer *Fœdera* XIX. 315 For a new Musket with Mould, Worm and Scowrer. *ol.* xvs. *vid.* 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4455/4 Fine Triangle Worms.., experienc'd for drawing of Balls out of Pieces, with Scowerers and Washers to them. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4), *Rammer*, or *Scourer*, is a Rod belonging to all Fire-Arms..serving to thrust down the Powder and Ball.

6. A purgative agent, a cathartic.

1719 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 96 Spleenwort..has..been reckon'd..a Scowrer of the Spleen. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 3113. 1002 The process of worm scouring is somewhat mechanical..Sound moss is the best scourer.

Scou·ress. *nonce-wd.* [-ESS.] A female scourer.

1648-60 HEXHAM, *Een Schuerster*, a Scouresse or a Woman scourer.

Scourge (skəːdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 3–5 **schurge,** 3–6 **schourge, scurge,** 3–7 **skurge,** 4 **schorge,** 4–5 **skourge, scowrge,** 4–6 **skorge, scorge,** 6 **scourdge, squorge,** 7 **skurdge, scurdge,** 4– **scourge.** [a. AF. *escorge, escurge*, related (the precise nature of the relationship is obscure) to OF. *escorgiee* (mod.F. *écourgée*) = It. *scuriada, scuriata* (earlier *scoriata*) :—popular L. **excoriāta* scourge, lit. strip of hide, f. late L. *excoriāre* to strip off the hide, f. *ex-* EX-+ *cori-um* hide.

Another view is that the sb. is a verbal noun from *escorgier* to scourge, and that this directly represents late L. *excoriāre* in the sense to skin by flogging (cf. HIDE *v.*). OF. had also a parallel form *corgie* sb., an English adoption of which appears to occur in the following example:

13.. *S. E. Legendary* (MS. Bodl. 779) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 410/107 Wit stauis & wit courgis he let hem bete so faste.]

1. A whip, lash. Now only *rhetorical*, with reference to the torturing of human beings, or to ascetic discipline. Formerly *gen.*, e. g. in † *top and scourge* (see TOP *sb.*).

The use as applied to a whip for a top still survives *dial.*: see E.D.D.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1551, & beaten hire bare flesch & hire freoliche bodi mit cnottede schurgen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25542 Wit knotted skurges hard and lang. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8445 (Kölbing) He laid on wiþ schourge & bad hir go. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 41 And bad his tormentouris son bring Skurgis of senonis felly mad. 1382 WYCLIF *John* ii. 15 And whanne he hadde maad as a scourge of smale coordis, he castide out alle of the temple. [So in most later versions.] *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1924 Laches me þis losengere..þat I may him skelp with a skorge. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 147 Oon knelith doun, requerith of the tothir, Pleyn remissioun of oold cursidnesse, Bete with a scorge, took it with meeknesse. *a* 1500 *St. Margaret* 196 in *Brome Bk.* 113 They bete hyre with scowrgys stronge. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxxviii. 31, I wil vyset their offences with the rodde, and their synnes with scourges. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 153 First I was betin lang, With scurgis scharp and strang. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 3 *Kings* xii. 11 My father bette you, with scourges, but I wil beate you with scorpions. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 47 Escocheons with severall bearings alluding to the passion, of the scourge, whip &c. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VII. 83 Scourges of cords..made the blood flow from every part. *a* 1793 G. WHITE *Poem in Selborne* (1854) 8 The happy schoolboy brings transported forth His long forgotten scourge, and giddy gig. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 177 Mortify Your flesh, like me, with scourges and with thorns. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxv. 11 The scourge's heavy branding.

†**b.** A blow with a whip. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xii. 74 The next Moment he called for Cords, to imitate the frowzy St. Dominic, who gave himself 300,000 Scourges every Week.

2. *fig.* and in figurative context; chiefly, a thing or person that is an instrument of divine chastisement.

The Scourge of God (= L. *flagellum Dei*): a title given by historians to Attila, the leader of the Huns in the 5th century.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxviii. 15 Scourge flowend [Vulg. *flagellum inundans*; 1611 the ouerflowing scourge]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1157 He..suffreth vs as for oure exercise With sharpe scourges of Aduersitee fful ofte to be bete in sondry wise. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 247, I am Athila, Goddes scourge [L. *Ego sum Attila flagellum Dei*]. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* 44 þat sellen soules for temperal getyng, þey maken skourges to here owe betyng. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 32 The faithfull had neede of inuincible constancie and incredible pacience, that they may know them to be gods squorges, and the instrumentes of his wrath. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 316 Mocking our poverty, and telling us Such was God's scourge for disobedient sons.

3. a. A cause of (usually, widespread) calamity. Applied, e. g. to a cruel tyrant, a warrior, a war, a disease that destroys many lives. **b.** One who 'lashes' vice or folly.

Primarily identical with the figurative sense 2; but used without conscious reference to divine chastisement.

c 1535 LD. J. BUTLER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 48 OConnor that evyr hath bene the oonly scourge of the Englishe pale..is his right hand. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 410 b, Marques Albert y[e] scourge of priests. 1596 SPENSER *Sonn., Scanderbeg*, The scourge of Turkes, and plague of infidels, Thy acts, o Scanderbeg, this volume tels. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxvi. 89 Glory and curiositie are the scourges of our soules. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 97 You haue bin a scourge to her enemies. 1726–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1499 Raleigh, the scourge of Spain! 1727 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* IV. 275 Though this terrible Scourge [the plague] had fallen no less heavy on France, Philip was making great Preparations to renew the War. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 60 The great Swift, that severe scourge of the vices and follies of his time. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 301 And I speak it not As loving parliaments, which, as they have been..The scourges of the bleeding Church, I hate. 1879 WALLEY (*title*) The Four Bovine Scourges: pleuro-pneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, cattle plague, tubercle (scrofula). 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 23 He had the same temper as of old made the tyrants of Padova and Verona..the scourges of their generation.

†**4.** [After L. *flagellum.*] An offshoot of a vine or other tree, a sucker. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xvi. 8 The lordis of Ientiles hewen doun his scourges; vnto laser thei ful camen. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 113 The squorges hie & graffes from the folde,.. for fruitful let hem not be tolde. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. liv. 80 Beluedere..hath diuers small shutes or scourges.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scourge-procuring, -proof, -tormented* adjs.; **scourge-crop** [cf. SCOURGE *v.* 3], the result of a method of cultivation which impoverishes land; † **scourge-stick,** a whip used with a child's top (also *transf.*); † **scourge-top,** a whip-top.

1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 192 When a minister's incumbency is apparently drawing to a close, one *scourge crop after another is sometimes taken from a glebe. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 137 Wherefore did our Sauiour thunder forth such a terrible woe against the causers of offence, or discontent, but that it was the most heynous *scourge-procuring transgression of all others? 1808 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) II. 528 The ass's skin is almost *scourge-proof. *c* 1500 *World & Child* (Roxb. Club) A ij b, I can with my *scorge stycke My felowe vpon the heed hytte. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 297 *Flagellum*..: a scowrgesticke. 1662 J. T. *Grim, Collier of Croydon* 18, I am whipt up and down with the scourge-stick of Love. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 130 (1699) 243 But if they had a Top, the Scourge-stick, and Leather-strap should be left to their own making and fitting. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* Prol. 5 *Prol.*..We play

at our best game. *Lala.* What? Blow-point?..*Prol.* No Tomboy, no. Nor *scourge-top, nor Trusse, nor Leape-frog. 1888 *Longman's Mag.* XIII. 516 Scourge-tops, peg-tops and humming-tops were all patronised. 1900 SWINBURNE *Astræa Victrix* 66 We loosed not on these knaves Their *scourge-tormented slaves.

Scourge (skɔ̄ɪdʒ), *v.* Forms: 3, 6 sourge, (3 scruge), 3-4, 6 skurge, 4 schourge, (4-5 schoruge), 4, 6 skourge, skurge, 4-7 scorge, 5 sc(h)owrge, skorge, chorge, shorge, 5-6 skowrge, squo(u)rge, 3- scourge. [a. OF. *escorgier*, either f. *escorge* SCOURGE *sb.* (which however occurs in AF. only), or directly repr. late L. *excoriāre* (see the sb.).]

1. *trans.* To beat with a scourge; to whip severely, flog. Now *rhetorical* (cf. SCOURGE *sb.* 1).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5304 Hii nome him an scourgede him & suþþe naked him bounde To a tre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16398 Iesus..to scruge he taght þem til. *Ibid.* 19356 For þan wit suepes þai þam suang, And scurged sare, þai let þam gang. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xix. 1 Therfore Pilat took thanne Jhesu and scourgide. *c* 1400 in *Hampole's Wks.* I. 203 Then Pilate comandede theyme þat he sulde be betyne & schorugede. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* I. 337 (Horstm.) The tormentours hyr shorgyd so cruelly That lyk as watyr in a ryuer So ran hyr blood owt plenteuously. *Ibid.* III. 283 And anone she chorgyd was so cruelly That uerrey pete it was to behold & se. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 327 With ane hauthorne skurge thy self and dyng. 1530 PALSGR. 732/2, I squourge one with whyppys, *je fouette.* 1625 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 413 Item, to the man that scorgit Issobell Gray xiijs. 4d. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 291 They scourg'd the confessors of the Gospell. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 87 Our people did scourge him severely from head to foot. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* II. i, Let him pass,..he will get scourged if he is too late. 1903 A. SMELLIE *Men of Covenant* (1908) I. ix. 167 It was his habit to scourge and afflict himself.

b. With complementary adv. or phrase: To drive or force by or as by blows of a whip.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 914 Till the wrauth, Which thou incurr'st by flying..scourge that wisdom back to Hell Which taught thee yet no better. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* II. 18 This vital fluid [*sc.* the blood]..scourg'd for ever round and round, Enrag'd with heat and toil, at last forgets Its balmy nature. 1812 LANDOR *Ct. Julian* v. ii, How bitter is the tear that fiery shame Scourges and tortures from the soldier's eye. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. II. 47 If I Shall fail to..send thee forth, Howling,..Scourged from the council with a storm of blows.

c. In figurative context.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 4 Comets importing change of Times and States, Brandish your crystall Tresses in the Skie, And with them scourge the bad reuolting Stars. 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, II. 218 For the waves never menace heaven until Scourged by the wind's invisible tyranny. 1887 *Times* 11 Aug. 13/3 The great masted ironclads throb and shake.. and their great screws scourge the water behind them.

2. *fig.* To punish, chastise, correct (often said of God, with reference to Heb. xii. 6); to 'lash' with satire or invective; to afflict, torment; to devastate (a country) with war or pestilence.

1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* xii. 6 Forsoth he scourgith euery sone that he receyueth. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ix. 74 So that goddes hand, whiche that merciably me hath scorged, herafter in good plite from thence merciably me kepe and defende. 1530 PALSGR. 707/1 God hath scourged the lande of Italye very sore in our tyme. 1540 — *Acolastus* v. iii. Z j b, To seke out Pelargus agayne, which scourgeth or tourmenteth hym selfe with vnreasonable .i. endlesse cares. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 225 This house, and the whole Ile was scourged thrice within the space of twenty yeeres and a little more by the Danes. 1607 DEKKER *Wh. Babylon* H 4, You shall with rods of iron scourge these treasons. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 530 The wars that have scourged Europe since the treaty of Westphalia. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. iii, That is the way one patrician always scourges the insolence of another. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xlviii, God has got me in his power at last, and is going to scourge me for my bad doings.

3. *Sc.* To exhaust the fertility of (land). Said of a crop; also of the agriculturist. Also *absol.*

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 166 Both crops scourge the ground. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 47 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A tenant..was unable to make the necessary outlays on his farm, and forced to scourge as far as he could. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 55 He will find it to be his interest to scourge every thing out of the land. 1888 J. HARRISON *Scot in Ulster* vii. 111 Flax..is a crop which scourges the ground.

4. *Comb.* †**scourgemutton** (lit. a scourger of sheep), one who is irrationally cruel.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 181 b, This cruell scourgemotton [orig. *Orbilius*] wered throughly w^t whippyng poore Luther miserably,..doth now at the length hyde his rod. *Ibid.* 385 This cruell scourgemutton.

Scourged (skɔ̄ɪdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Beaten, flogged.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* 232 Ye shall applye vpon the skourged place this cerote [following]. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2062/1 In this societie of the scourged professors of Christ, was also one Iames Harris. 1693 S. HARVEY *Dryden's Juvenal* IX. (1697) 238 Let the Great Man, whom gaping Crowds attend, Fear a scourg'd Slave. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* II. 242 Now tell the scourg'd Impostor he shall bleed! 1831 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 454 There will always be a difference of opinion on the amount of evil between the oppressor and the oppressed, between the scourger and the scourged. 1853 O. W. HOLMES *Poem Amer. Med. Assoc.* 47 The scourged racer.

trans. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* liv. 5 While the scourged oak and shaken pine Aloft in brighten'd verdure shine.

2. Of land: Exhausted by improper cultivation.

1880 *New Virginians* I. 85 A sign of scourged land and disgraceful farming.

Scourger (skɔ̄ɪ·rdʒəɹ). Also 6 *Sc.* skurgeare, 7 *Sc.* scurger. [f. SCOURGE *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who scourges or flogs; † an official charged with the duty of whipping offenders.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Rabroveur de petits enfans*, a scourger, a rebuker of children by the way. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 23 The mercilesse scourgers whipped and tormented him. 1662 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1872) IV. 203 The tuo litle housses under the Gallowgait Port to be ane duelling hous to the said scurger dureing his service. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 2) II. 321 Every district magistrate has..a scourger, to inflict corporal punishment. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* CXXIX. 3 The scourgers tore the flesh as ploughmen furrow a field.

b. (See quot.)

1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Scourger*, a cab-driver who treats his horse with undue severity.

2. *fig.* One who punishes or oppresses; one who 'lashes' with satire or invective.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xv. (S. T. S.) I. 189 The pepill had na litill Indignacioun, þat þis marcius suld rise sa haistelie to be þare new fleschour and skurgeare. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1242/2 Joseph de Chancie..was tresuror in the second yeere of the scourger of the Scots king Edward the first. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lii, The West must own the Scourger of the World. 1881 W. R. NICOLL *Incarn. Saviour* xxiii. 377 He was the scourger of Pharisees.

† **3.** = FLAGELLANT. *Obs.*

1537 *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 22 Scourgers of the .I. secte. *Ibid.* 37 Scourgers of the .II. secte. 1728 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* VI. 467 The Sect of the Scourgers.

Scourging (skɔ̄ɪ·rdʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCOURGE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. SCOURGE.

1. Infliction of blows with a whip. Also *fig.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxi. 13 Many ere þe scourgynges the swyngyns of synful: bot hopand in lord mercy sall vmgif. *c* 1425 *Processional Nuns Chester* (1899) 31 Ihu thy Crowne satt full soore and thy scowrgynge when thow bett wore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vi. 133 Thou may skurgeyngis and strakis in lugeings rais, And thow of frendis may mak mortale fays. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2060/1 The scourging of Thomas Greene. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 142 (Brandl), I am good at scourging of my Toppe. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* v. (1641) 206 This beating or scourging was commanded, Deut. 25. 2, 3. where the number of stripes was limited, which the Iudge might not exceed. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 390 You remember with what indignation I heard of the scourging of the soldier at Carrick. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 257 In spite of all the scourgings I suffered at that school. 1893 *Athenæum* 30 Sept. 445/3 Those whom we have seen put to death certainly bore no traces of recent scourging.

b. As a part of religious discipline.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 1055 Thanne is discipline eek in knokkynge of thy brest, in scourgynge with yerdes, in knelynges. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23289 (Trin.) And for þei wolde no scourgyng pole for loue of heuen kyng þei shul be beten euer on on. *a* 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 41 Betwene oure squorgyng, ȝeue we thankyngys to God. 1665 J. SPENCER *Disc. Vulg. Proph.* 42 Severe disciplines of the body by excessive fastings and scourgings.

† **2.** *transf.* Correction. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 42 And þus she norisshe þe him in hir manere With no thinge but with skowrginge of hir chere.

3. A picture of the scourging of Our Lord: = FLAGELLATION b.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 350 Here is also the scourging of Christ, and the four seasons by Albani.

4. The action of impoverishing the soil by reckless methods of cultivation.

1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 192 Let the same rule hold in respect to an outgoing incumbent which restricts an outgoing tenant, and let that rule be—no scourging.

Scourging, *ppl. a.* [f. SCOURGE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That chastises with a scourge. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIII. ii, The scourging plagues, which on their neighbours fall, Torment not them. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, There is a thing cald scourging Nemesis. 1600 C. EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* VII. xv. 79 Our English nation caried a scourging hand in France. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. v. 20 Next, lay thy scourging Hand, good L..d Upon that High-Church Scribe, Ned Ward.

2. That impoverishes (ground under cultivation).

a 1799 SIR W. MURRAY in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 167 *note*, Perhaps lint..is not a very scourging crop. 1851 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 3 May 279/2 Exhausting the natural soil with a scourging succession of grain crops.

Scouridge, Scourie: see SCOURAGE, SCAURIE.

Scouring (skau·rɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. SCOUR *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of advancing as a scout, of roving with hostile purpose, of moving swiftly about, of overrunning a country, etc.

c 1471 *Arriv. K. Edw. IV* (Camden) 3 By the scuringe of suche persons as for that cawse were, by his said rebells, sent afore into thos partes for to move them to be agains his highnes, the people were sore endwsed to be contrary to hym. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. ii. 15 The Enemies Drumme is heard, and fearefull scooring Doth choake the ayre with dust. 1611 COTGR., *Escumement*,..a scowring of the seas. 1829 W. IRVING *Cong. Granada* I. xlii. 371 Journeying securely along the pleasant banks of the Xenil, so lately subject to the scourings of the Moors. 1872 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* II. 541 As the motions are superfluous bounds and scourings around.

attrib. 1781 SIMES *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 11 Scouring parties of light cavalry. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 1 June 4/2 It was in the course of these scouring operations that Admiral Rozhdestvensky was captured on board a destroyer.

Scouring *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SCOUR *v.*2 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of polishing or cleaning by hard rubbing.

a 1300 [see SCOUR *v.*2 1 b]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. i. (1495) 552 By frotynge and scourynge of grauel golde, bras and yren is made bryght. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 197/1 Glacynge, or scowrynge [*Winch. MS.* shorynge] of harneys, *pernitiducio, perlucidacio.* 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 80 For scowryng of the Standardis candilstikkis, & the Rode loft. 1547 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 387 Paid to the bedylls wyffe for skoryng of the vessell, iiij d. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 140 Brass and copper and baser metals are kept bright with scowring. *c* 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. iv, Thus..hath Heaven..afflicted me with the scouring of my Shield. 1862 MORRALL *Needle-making* 11 The next process is scouring.

b. *fig.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 147 b, Those doctours.. nether thought or once dreamed..of any soch whisperinge or of pardons, or scouringe of purgatory as they have fayned.

2. The process of cleansing wool, cloth, etc.

1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 251 Payd to the taylor, for makenge, lynynge, and scorynge of my masterys blake gown, iij.s. ix.d. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 630/1 The seid brode sette Clothes, after all the said sufficiant and perfit werkmanship, scowring, full driyng. 1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 26 White Ashes..are verie necessarie..for the ..dyinge and scowringe of wollen Clothe. 166. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 304 Scowring and Washing of Stuffs to be dyed, is to be done with special Materials. 1713 *Guardian* No. 38 (1756) I. 163 It is the last time my black coat will bear scouring. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/2 After the sorting, the first process is scouring, by which the wool is cleansed from the grease.

3. The action of cleaning out a ditch, a gun-bore, etc.; the clearing of a channel by flushing or by a natural flow of water. Also with *out.*

1458–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 411 In le scurryng unius fossati. 1479–80 in *Finchale Priory Charters* (Surtees) p. cccxlvii, Pro le scowryng fossatorum et factura sepium. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 234 Abought skowryng & clensyng of..the Kynges dokke. 1543 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, XVIII. II. 118 For skoryn of a water souer. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 18 § 8 The scowring, clensinge, repayring, and keping of the said Ryver of Lee. 1575 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 159 Payd for skowryng of the guns to Thomas Lockesmeth ijs. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 12 The cutting and scowring of rivers into navigable. 1780 [see HORSE *sb.* 23]. 1859 T. HUGHES (*title*) The Scouring of the White Horse. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 147 There is sufficient scouring out of the mouth [of the river] to keep its channel open. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Oct. 283 This scouring cuts the uplands into hills, but eventually they, too, are worn down.

4. The action of purging the bowels. † Also *concr.*, a purgative medicine.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 234 If these receytes and skowrings yeelde no remedie then must you to the actual cauterie. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. i. 9 Let exercises and mashes of sweet Mault after, be his usual scowrings. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1742/4 All sorts of Drugs for Purging, Scouring, and Sweating of Running-Horses or Hunters.

b. The state or fact of being purged; a looseness or flux of the bowels, diarrhœa; *esp.* as a disease in cattle (= SCOUR *sb.*2 2).

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clix. 1378 Lungwoort..stoppeth the bloudie flix, and other flixes and scourings, either vpwards or downwards. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 92 Hee ate a pound of Cherries, heereupon he fell into a scowring. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sheep*, It generally throws them into scowerings. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 26 Horses full of grass are very subject to scourings. 1884 F. J. LLOYD *Sci. Agric.* 297 Diarrhœa. This is termed when applied to animals, 'scouring'.

† **5.** The action of clearing or ridding of undesirable occupants or the like. *Obs.*

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 92 The skouringe or riddance of the worke-house prisons.

6. The action of beating, drubbing or chastising; also *fig.* Phr. *to scape* or *escape a scouring.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17000 Blyssed be the betynges and skowrynges that compellyn a chylde to declyne from his trespacys and his errours. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 44 With what a manly countenance you giue your brethren this scouring. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. 457 In my former Consulship, I hardly escaped a scouring. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* V. i. (1669) 70 What a scowering have I scapt to night. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* X. (1840) 187 Aylesbury escaped a scouring for that time. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 June (1815) 140 Certain it is, I have not 'scaped a scouring.

7. *concr.* Dirt or refuse removed by scouring.

1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. iv. 475 If any person..hane cast the scouring of any ditch..into the high way. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* iii. 34 The Sulphur-Well in York-shire smells like the scowring of a Gun that is very fowl. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 28 Apr. (1815) 53 It is very far from being clear with me, that the patients in the pump-room don't swallow the scourings of the bathers. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* i, The Thames (not yet polluted by the tide, the scouring of cities, or even the minor defilement of the sandy streams of Surrey).. 1857 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 371 And out of the scourings of that vast mass of chalk was our gravel-pit made.

† b. Dirt or scum naturally collected. *Obs.*

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 229 The frogs, bred in the slimie scowring Of the moist moores.

c. *fig.* (esp. of persons: cf. OFF-SCOURING 2 b).

1721 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 76 The Scum and Scouring of the People.. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xl, The associate of the scourings of the jail and hulks. 1853 H. REEVE in *Life & Corr.* (1898) I. 271 How far will the next 'Quarterly' support this strain? Unhappily Croker's influence still condemns us to several sheets of his scourings.

8. *Tanning.* (See quot.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 307/1 (*Tanning*) After which they [the hides] are removed into another pit called a *scowering*, which consists of water strongly impregnated with vitriolic acid, or with [etc.].

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scouring-work*; also **scouring bit** (see quot.); †**scouring clay** or **earth**, **fuller's earth**; **scouring drops** (see quot. 1867); †**scouring house**, a room where plate, pewter, etc. is scoured; also *fig.*; **scouring machine, mill**, an apparatus for scouring cloth after weaving; **scouring paper**, emery-paper, glass-paper, or the like; **scouring power** (see quot. 1855); † **scouring-rod** = *scouring-stick*; **scouring rush**, *Equisetum hyemale*; **scouring sand**, a kind of sand used for scouring; †**scouring-stick** = SCOURER[2] 5; also *transf.* (jocular); †**scouring-stocks**, a form of scouring-machine; **scouring-stone**, a stone used for cleaning paved floors; †**scouring woman**, a charwoman.

1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss., Derbysh.* 43 **Scouring bit*, a bit attached to the ends of boring rods for the purpose of extracting the rubbish. 1660 MARVELL *Let.* 29 Nov., Wks. (Grosart) II. 26 To-morrow will be carryed up that [bill] against transporting Wooll,..Fullers Earth and all *Scowring clay. 1808 *Times* 19 Jan. 1/3 Bayley's *Scouring Drops, for taking grease out of silk, woollen cloth, &c. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Scouring Drops*, the essential oils of lemon and of bergamotte are sold under this name. 1661 PETTY in T. Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 61 The best Wooburn earth resembleth Castle-soap not obscurely, that and all other *scowring earths consisting..of very fine sand, answering to the salt in soaps [etc.]. 1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 21 Y^e^ chamber over y^e^ *skoringe house. *Ibid.* 22 Y^e^ scooring house. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Tim.* ii. 21 O happy be you that you be now in this scouring house: for shortly you shall be set upon the celestial shelf. 1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 938/1 This form of washer is called a **scouring-machine* in Yorkshire. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 399 They must before they are sent to the dye house, be well scowered in a *scowering mill. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 252 To rub the stove and fire-irons with *scowring-paper. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Scouring-Paper Maker*, a manufacturer of emery and glass papers for brightening metals, &c. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 338/1 He..expresses his complete disapproval of the *scouring power. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl., Scouring-power*, the efficiency of a stream of water employed to carry away shingle, &c., from the mouth of a harbour, river, and the like, by flushing. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 118 Lance-wood..is very hard, tough and heavy, therefore Privateers esteem it very much..to make..*Scowring-Rods for their Guns. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 113 In the *scouring rush (*Equisetum*), the quantity of silex is such, that housekeepers find it an excellent substitute for sand, in scouring wood or metals. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Schuer-zandt*, *scouring-sand, or gravell. 1700 in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1539 Not unlike what we call white scowering Sand. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1228/1 One of the gunners..was shot in the side with a piece of *scowring stick, left in one of the calivers. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* Wks. 1873 I. 229 Wher's the Sering thou carriest about thee? O have I found thee my scowring-sticke. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 3 Straight scowring stickes, headed at the one end with Rammers of horne, suitable to the bore of the Piece. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 72 They..ram down a sizable Bullet with the Scowring-stick, which is all Iron. 1835 URE *Phil. Manuf.* 187 The helves of the fulling-mallets are placed in a position different from those of the *scouring-stocks. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een schuer-steen*, a *Scouring stone. 1894 SPEIGHT *Nidderdale* 380 A small excavation from which in former times scouring-stones for the flagged floors of Ripley Castle were obtained. *c* 1610 MIDDLETON, etc. *Widow* II. i, I ha'..no child of mine own, But two I got once of a *scowring woman. 1620 FLETCHER *Chances* I. vi, To..consume my selfe in candles, And *scowring works, in Nurses Bells and Babies. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 154 [This soup] may be considered as an assistant to Archæus, when he has any scouring work to perform.

Scou·ring, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SCOUR *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That moves about with hostile purpose; *spec.* roistering through the streets.

1692 SHADWELL *Scowrers* v. iii. 51 They tell me you were disturb'd with Roysters, and scowreing Rogues. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spirit* ii, A set of roaring, scouring companions, overcharged with wine. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 314 If hapless you Should chance to wander with the scow'ring crew.

Scou·ring, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SCOUR *v.*[2] + -ING[2].]

1. That cleanses; detergent.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 31 Those scowring effectes, for the which it [*sc.* Fullers' earth] is diuerse wayes had in vse amongst vs. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xxvii. 484 The wood being burned doth yeelde a sharpe smoke, and the ashes a verie scouring lee.

2. Purging, cathartic.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xvi. 199 Lampsana is of nature hot, and somewhat abstersiue or scowring. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 11 Scowring things, as figs. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 93 Barley..is scouring.

fig. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 196 To see how that scowring potion of Reproofe would worke to his humiliation, before he would minister to him any Cordials. 1864 BUNYAN *Holy Life Beauty Chr.* 43 Repentance is the scouring grace, 'tis that which purges.

3. Of slag: Having an erosive action on the hearth of the furnace.

1880 WRIGHT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 296/1 If the slag becomes more or less of a 'scouring' character. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* 110 Heavy burdens and a reduced temperature of the furnace are accompanied by a scouring slag or cinder, flowing as freely as water.

Hence **Scou·ringly** *adv.* (in quot. = cathartically).

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 67 Muste prouoketh one to pysse, by reason y^t^ the erthy partes scouryngly bitethe the bladder.

Scourse, obs. variant of SCORSE *v.*[1]

Scou·ry, *a.*[1] *Sc.* Also 6 skowry, 9 scoory. Shabby, disreputable. Hence **Scou·riness.**

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 15 The tod wes nowder lene nor skowry, He wes ane lusty reid haird lowry. 1792 A. WILSON *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 27, I wha stand here, in this bare scoury coat Was ance a packman. 1814 *Saxon & Gael* III. 58 (Jam.) That little whippy maun be casting up our poortith and your scouriness. *a* 1894 J. SHAW in R. Wallace *Country Schoolmaster* (1899) 352 A 'scoory-looking blade', a broken-down looking tramp.

†**Scou·ry**, *a.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? f. SCOUR *v.*[1] or [2] + -Y.] ? Scouring, bitter, sharp.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* Poems (1845) 39 May Scotia's summers aye look gay and green Her yellow hairsts frae scoury blasts decreed.

Scouse (skaus). Also scouce. [Shortened from LOBSCOUSE.] = LOBSCOUSE.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* v, The cook had just made for us a mess of hot 'scouse'. 1876 C. H. DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* vi. 163 A couple pounds of which we used last night making scouse. 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 13/2 Bear and walrus were boiled up with vegetables and made into scouce or soup.

†**Scout**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 scowte. [a. ON. *skúte* (in Icel. 'cave formed by jutting rocks', Vigf.); cf. *skúta* to jut out, cogn. with *skióta* to SHOOT *v.*] A high overhanging rock.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kni.* 2167 Þe skwez of þe scowtes skayued hym þo3t. 1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 94 Gloss., *Scout*, an high rock. 1869 in *Lonsdale Gloss.*

Scout, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 4 scoute, 5 skowte, scowte, 5, 9 *Sc.* scout, 9 *Sc.* scoot. [? cogn. w. SCOUT *v.*[2]] A term of contempt applied both to men and women.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2285 Roland cryede an he3 'mountioye' wan he be-huld Jay scoute. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2218 The godman..callyd hys wyf foule scout. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 217 Come forthe, thou stotte! com forthe, thou scowte! *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 313 Avaunt, ye skowtys [*addressed to women*], I defye you euery-chone. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I, 'Base scoot!' exclaimed Andrew, ..'what puts such a thought into your head?' 1825 JAMIESON, *Scoot, Scout*, a term of the greatest contumely, applied to a woman; as equivalent to trull, or camp-trull. 1869 R. LEIGHTON *Scotch Words*, etc. 18 The learned, pious, yet unworthy skoot, Neglects his sacred trust to catch a troot!

Scout (skaut), *sb.*[3] Forms: 5 scowte, 5–7 skowt, 5–8 scowt, 5, 9 scut, 6 skut, 6–8 scute, 7 scaut, schut, skeut, 7, 9 skute, 5, 8–9 schout, 9 scoot, 7– scout. [a. MDu. *schûte* (mod.Du. *schuit*: see SCHUIT) = ON. *skúta* (Sw. *skuta*, Da. *skude*). Cf. SHOUT *sb.*] A flat-bottomed boat; 'a Dutch vessel, galliot rigged, used in the river trade of Holland' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

'A boat called *skoute*,' app. Flemish, is mentioned in *Close Roll* 20 *Edw. II* (Latin; 26 Sept. 1326).

1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 239 Item, de qualibet scut descendente in dicta Ripa [*i.e.* Queen-Hythe], cum busca sive blado, capiendus est i denier. 1436 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IV. 679 Pro naulo barce vocate scowte. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 382 Item to ane scowt that baid apone the King, and landit his folk and hed thaim on burd. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* xviii. B b vj, All they that occupye boates, wheries, and scutes, or sayle vpon the sea. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 136 Where skut's forth launched. *a* 1609 ALEX. HUME *Day Estivall* 32 The Salmon out of cruifs and creils Up hailed into skowts. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. iv. 42 We went in a skeut by water..one mile to Dockam. 1700 T. BROWN *Acc. Journ. Exon.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 101 Had I been travilling in a Dutch Scout, or a Gravesend Tilt-Boat, I could not have been treated with less Manners. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 157 Hoys, Bilanders and Schouts,..vessels peculiar to their inland and coasting Navigation. 1827 *Linc. & Lincolnsh. Cabinet* 18 The Witham..covered with..a portable kind of boats called *schouts*. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxii. 261 Ye can get a passage down the Maes in a sailing scoot.

attrib. 1493 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 34 Item to the schout man ilk pip 4 g^s^. *Ibid.* 37 Item for schout hir, toyll, and pynor fe, 12 g^s^.

b. A vessel more or less similar used in warfare. Cf. SCOUT *sb.*[4] 5.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3950/4 A Scout, of an unknown Name, taken by the Chester. 1799 CAPT. WINTHROP in *Naval Chron.* II. 343 Lieutenant Searle..commanded a schoot converted into a gun-boat.

Scout (skaut), *sb.*[4] Forms: 6 scoult, skowlt, scowte, 6–7 scoute, skout, 7 scowt, skowt, 6– scout. [a. OF. *escoute* fem., action of listening, *concr.* listener, scout, vbl. noun from *escouter* to listen = Pr. *escoltar*, Sp. *escuchar*, Pg. *escutar*, It. *ascoltare* :–L. *auscultâre*.

The compound SCOUT-WATCH appears in our quots. much earlier than the simple word.]

1. The action of spying out or watching in order to gain information; chiefly in the phrases *on* or *in* (*the*) *scout*, *to the scout*.

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* H vij, But those y^t^ discovered for the Percians, were but a .M. horsemen, whiche kepynge the scoute a farre of, semed to the Macedons to be a great army. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1980/2 The order of their march was this,..the light horssemen..tended to the skout a mile or two before. 1628 BOLTON *Florus* I. xvii. (1636) 50 None of these tnings hindered the Generall from sending his brother in scowt, to discover the pase. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 199 There are Malabar Barks commonly upon the scout, especially in the evening, skulking behind some Points of Land. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 203, I set my self upon the Scout as often as possible. 1775 P. SCHUYLER in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 29 Capt. Baker..without my leave, went upon a scout and ..was shot. 1788 COWPER *Mrs. Throckmorton's Bulfinch* 34 A beast forth-sallied on the scout, Long-back'd, long-tail'd, with whisker'd snout. 1864 SIR T. SEATON *From Cadet to Colonel* xviii. 373, I thought it advisable to send Hodson on scout to Bilram. 1892 BIERCE *In the Midst of Life* 23 The commander asked him if in his scout he had learned anything of advantage to the expedition.

2. *Mil.* One sent out ahead of the main force in order to reconnoitre the position and movements of the enemy. Hence occas. in wider sense: One sent out to obtain information.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 91 He fownde two scoutes of his ennemyes. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. ii. 10 What tidings send our Scouts? 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 7 Some bodyes of theire horse and many of their scoutes appeared on the hill. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 529 Others from the dawning Hills Lookd round, and Scouts each Coast light-armed scoure, Each quarter, to descrie the distant foe. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 346 While they lay here ..expecting the return of their Scouts, they used what diligence they could in getting provisions. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, Davy Wilson..was the very prince of scouts for searching blind alleys, cellars, and stalls, for rare volumes. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 53 The captain, therefore, continued to maintain the most vigilant precautions; throwing out scouts in the advance, and on every rising ground. 1869 BROWNING *King & Bk.* XII. 724 This foul-mouthed friar shall find His Noah's-dove that brought the olive back, Is turned into the other sooty scout, The raven. 1896 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* iv, Without special training a man cannot have a thorough confidence in himself as a scout.

†b. *fig.* and in fig. context. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 630 The Ears..The bodie's Scouts. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 889 In this sea we may see many Ilands which Nature hath seemed to set,.. as skowts to espie, and as Garrisons to defend their soueraigne, Earth. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Search* v, I sent a sigh to seek thee out,..Wing'd like an arrow: but my scout Returns in vain. 1659 W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharonnida* III. iv. (1820) II. 65 Had not the wise endeavours of her maid..grief's pale scouts betrayed, By sly deceit.

c. *Boy scout*: in the British Empire, a member of an organization (first established in 1908 by Gen. Baden-Powell) consisting of boys who meet periodically to practise exercises and to undergo training in the duties belonging to a scout.

The name of *girl scouts* is sometimes incorrectly applied to the 'Girl Guides', an organization formed in imitation of the Boy Scouts.

[1908 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Scouting for Boys* 3 We had an example of how useful Boy Scouts can be on active service, when a corps of boys was formed in the defence of Mafeking.] 1908 *Scout* 18 Apr. 1 Although the Boy Scouts have only been set going within the last two months, they are rapidly increasing all over the country. 1909 *Daily Mail* 6 Sept., The following message from the King was read at Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell's review of the Boy Scouts at the Crystal Palace on Saturday...'The King is glad to know that the Boy Scouts are holding their first annual parade. Please assure the boys that [etc.]'. 1909 B. W. HENDERSON in *Times* 21 Sept., At Oxford we have seen the number of Boy Scouts rise from 30 to 300 in nine months, and there are no scouts, I believe, outside the organization.

†3. A body of men sent out to gain information. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1198/2 The English scout, being thirtie good harquebutters, were set upon by the enemies. *a* 1619 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. of Malta* IV. ii, *Mount.* What were those past by? *Roc.* Some scout of Souldiers, I think. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 57 He immediately sent away a Scout of 60 Men. 1775 L. BROWN in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 462 Being informed.. that two scouts, of fifty men each, were sent out often.

4. One who keeps watch upon the actions of another; a watchman. †Formerly often in opprobrious sense: A mean spy, a 'sneak': cf. SCOUT *sb.*[2]

1584 A. MUNDAY *Fidele & Fortunio* 465 in *Arch. Stud. new. Spr.* CXXIII. 57 As close as I can, in this place I wil stand, Unseen vnto any, yet vewing of all: A prety scowte to take a knaue in a pit-fall. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1635) 4 These constables should keepe watch about the towne for the apprehension of rogues and vagabonds, and night-walkers, and eves-droppers, scouts, and such like. 1692 MOUNTFORT *Greenwich Park* v. ii. 54, I suppose the Spark was come, for one of her Scouts came and whisper'd her. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xv, For though I be a poor cobler's son I am no scout. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. xi. 87 Lamela performed the office of a scout. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 327/2 The leading oil brokers of Bradford and Oil City employed scouts to watch it [the boring] after the hole had got down nearly to the depth where it was expected the oil-bearing sandstone would be reached.

b. *slang.* Used allusively for 'watch' = pocket timepiece.

1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* II. i. 23 Sirrah. Here's a Scout: What's a Clock? what's a Clock, Sirrah? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scout*, a Watch. 1821 HAGGART *Life* (ed. 2) 28 Sporting an elegant dross-scout, drag, and chats...I succeeded in undubbing the stretch which slung the scout round her waist.

5. A type of war-vessel adapted for the purposes of reconnoitring. Cf. *scout-ship, vessel*; also SCOUT *sb.*[3] b, which may have been confused with this.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4233/1 The Monk and Experiment Men of War,..put ashore near Cape de Gat a French Scout of 40 Guns. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scouts*, small vessels of war for especial service. 1896 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 5/1 Many of our older scouts and commerce-protectors will show a higher rate of speed. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Oct. 6/2 The Admiralty have accepted the tenders of [certain ship-

building firms]..for the construction by each firm of one vessel described as a 'scout'. These scouts are a new departure in the Navy.

6. *Cricket.* = FIELDSMAN a. Also in *Baseball.* ? *Obs.* **b.** A boy who is employed to run after the balls at 'practice'. (Cf. SCOUT *v.*[1] 1 c.)

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 178 He was..nothing of a scout to John Simmons. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, It fell upon the tip of the bat, and bounded far away over the heads of the scouts. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide to Cricketers* 54 Mr. Dark engages..to attend on the Marylebone Club.. six boys as scouts. 1870 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Plutarch* Wks. (Bohn) III. 347 They are like the baseball players, to whom the pitcher, the bat, the catcher, and the scout are equally important.

7. In pigeon-shooting: An outlying marksman set to prevent the escape of wounded birds.

1859 'STONEHENGE' *Shot-gun* I. ii. 9 But if a bird, so hard hit by the shooter that, in the opinion of the referee, it would have fallen within bounds, is shot at by a scout, the shooter may be allowed another bird.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scout boat,* †*canoe, -craft, -law,* †*-path, patrol,* †*-shallop, -ship, vessel*; † **scout-ken** *slang* (see quot.).

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 7/3 Designs and tenders..for ten *scout boats. 1798 COL. BARROW in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 247, I sent out two *scout canoes. 1908 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Scouting for Boys* 24 A scout's badge..is given him when he passes the tests in *scout-craft necessary to make him a scout. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, **Scout-ken*, a watch-house. 1750 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 378 About twelve or fifteen Indians Way-laid the *Scout-Path from Fort Dummer to Colerain. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 5/4 To direct and help those who were forming *scout patrols all over the world. 1704 S. SEWALL *Diary* 1 Apr. (1879) II. 98 Read Brother's Letter about a *Scout-Shallop. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* III. 356 A *scout ship of theirs [the French] taken gives account that [etc.]. 1849 GROTE *Hist. Greece* II. lviii. (1862) V. 166 They awaited the return of the three scout-ships from Egesta. 1869 *Daily News* 13 July, The *scout vessels I have mentioned were necessary enough at first. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 July 4/1 Tenders had been asked for a new 'Scout' vessel.

Scout (skaut), *sb.*[5] Forms: 6 **scowt,** 7 **scoute,** 7–9 **skout,** 9 (*dial.*) **scoot,** 8– **scout.** [Of obscure origin: connexion with COOT *sb.*[1] appears to be impossible.] A local name for various sea-birds native to Great Britain; as the Guillemot (*Alca troile*), the Razor-bill (*Alca torda*), and the Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). *Green scoot*: a local name for the Green Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax Graculus*).

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 26 Ane certane kynd of fowle, in our mother toung named the Skout. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 98 Abundance of fowl breed here, solem-geese, storts, scoutes, and twenty several sorts of fowl. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* III. iii. iv. (1676) 244 *marg.*, Alia avis est quam Scoti circa insulam Bassam, & Northumbrici circa Fernas insulas Skout vocant. 1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife & Kinross* 45 The Fowls which most frequent the Bass are..the Scout, the Scarts [etc.]. 1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 305 The Guillemote..here the skout, remains with us all the winter. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 392 *Phalacrocorax Graculus.* The Green Cormorant. ..Green Scout. 1893–4 *Northumb. Gloss., Scoot,* the guillemot, *Uria troile.* So-called near Spittal.

Scout (skaut), *sb.*[6] [Of unknown origin: identity with SCOUT *sb.*[4] has been conjectured, but evidence is wanting.] At Oxford (also at Yale and Harvard): A (male) college servant.

In the first quot. the word seems to be applied to a woman (unless 'goody' is peculiarly used).

1708 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 117 One shilling to goody Earl a Scout y[t] belongs to Oriel Colledge. 1750 *Student* I. 55 My scout, indeed, is a very learned fellow. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 85 Waked at eight o'clock by the scout, to tell me the bell was going for prayers. *a* 1851 *Yale Lit. Mag.* XI. 282 (Hall *College Words*), We had to send for his factotum or scout, an old black fellow. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* 52 The scout who intrusively asked him every morning what he would have for breakfast.

Scout (skaut), *v.*[1] Also 4–6 **skowt,** 6 **scoute, skoute,** 6–7 **scowt,** 7 **skout.** [f. SCOUT *sb.*[4]]

1. *intr.* To act as a scout, to play the spy; to travel about (in search of information).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 483, & ho skyrmez vnder skwe & skowtez aboute, Tyl hit was nyȝe at þe nazt & noe þen sechez. *a* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Dan Barth.* 108 Such was his hap..To watche and warde at euery time and tyde, Though foes were farre yet skowted he alwaye. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 31 Besides, they must skoute, discouer, with all dueties that belongs vnto an Armie. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 193 Scout mee for him at the corner of the Orchard like a bum-Baylie. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 7 We scouted beyond Cumner, and mett with some of them. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 257 If they are at greater distances, it is inconvenient for the soldiers to scout. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* x, It will be necessary that I scout abroad a little. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 665 Keyes, who had been out scouting among his old comrades, arrived with news more ominous still. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xx. 192 Keeping only one eye above the edge of our..shelter, [he] scouted all round the compass.

transf. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spir.* ii. Misc. (1711) 303 These are the Men who pretend to understand a Book, by scouting thro the Index.

b. To skulk, lie hid (as a spy) in concealment. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (See E. D. D. *s. v.*)

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 23 The little Conie loues to scoute, In Berries that are digged out. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* Introd. 3 Many of these supposed Physitians.. lie skouting in corners of the famous Citie of London.

2. = FIELD *v.* 5. ? Now *dial.*

1828 [implied in SCOUTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2]. 1887 HAVERGAL *Hereford. Gloss.* s. v., In Herefordshire cricket fields, to scout out = to field out. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 14 Aug. 4/7 On many suburban cricket grounds, where the small boys of the neighbourhood gather to field (or scout, as they call it) for the members at the nets.

†**3.** *trans.* With adv., *to scout round*: to surround with a watch. Also in *passive,* to be followed *about* by spies. *Obs.*

1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* v. ii, Take more men, And scout him round. 1671 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 227, I must be a papist: and then, upon that account, I was scouted about.

4. To reconnoitre, to examine with a view to obtaining information.

1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 260 One surveys the Region round, while the t'other scouts the Plain. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 23 The fox is loth to 'gin a long patrole, And scouts the woods, content with meaner prey. 1871 *Daily News* 24 July, Bazaine has been condemned by every military authority in Europe for not scouting the ravine of Gorze. 1900 *Ibid.* 25 May 7/2 Major Karri Davies, with eight men of the Light Horse, were ordered to scout the country.

Scout (skaut), *v.*[2] Forms: 7 **scowt, skowt,** 8– **scout.** [Of Scandinavian origin: cf. ON. *skúta, skúte* sb., a taunt, prob. f. root of *skióta* to SHOOT. Cf. ON. *skútyrði,* also *skotyrði,* abusive language.]

†**1.** *trans.* To mock at, deride. Also *absol. Obs.*

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* Prol., As for some few, we know of purpose here To taxe and scowt. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 130 Flout 'em, and cout 'em: and skowt 'em, and flout 'em. 1691 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 357 He scouted me and told of 'virtue' (for 'vertue') [i.e. that the former was bad spelling]. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* II, When he speaks upon his legs, by the Lord he's prodigious, he scouts them.

2. To reject with scorn (a proposition); to treat as absurd (an idea); to dismiss scornfully the pretensions of (a person, a work, etc.).

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 102 They pass the rhodomontade till they're expos'd and scouted. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 133 Those who laugh at and scout it. 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 6 Apr. (1891) I. 426 The people..who have been fond of blood and family, have all scouted *title* when put in any competition with it. 1819 F. HAMILTON *Nepal* 315 All alliances with the chief,..are scouted by the purer inhabitants of the southern mountains. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. x. (1869) 212 Many great philosophers have not only been scouted while they were living, but forgotten as soon as they were dead. 1849 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxix, His turned-up nose..scouted all things of earth with deep disdain. 1872 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 251 Simple and obvious remedies are scouted or neglected. 1883 MRS. R. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* i. 47 The poem..was scouted at the time and violently attacked. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* II. ii, I am glad that France hath scouted him at last. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. III. v. 247 The King..scouted the idea of his functions being reduced to those of an English monarch.

Scout, Scoutchin: see SCOOT *sb.*[1], SCUTCHEON.

Scouted (skau·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOUT *v.*[2] + -ED [2].] Scorned, flouted.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 38 No public breakfasts cheer these scouted tars.

†**Scou·ter.** *Obs.* Also 7 **skooter, scowter.** [f. SCOUT *v.*[1] + -ER [2].] A scout or spy.

1642 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 434 To Robert Addams..for goeing as a skooter to Coventry to hearken out how nere the soldiers were cominge. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 193 The horse..were persued by a body of the enemyes horse and loose scowters. *c* 1776 in W. Irving *Washington* (1856) II. 606 A famous scouter and wood-hunter. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* xviii, But this is a scouter in his war-paint!

‖ **Scoute·tte, scouttet.** *Obs. rare.* [MDu. *schoutet, schoutheet*: see SCHOUT.] = SCHOUT.

1534 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* VII. 543 Yisterdaye I had the Scouttet and Lordes of this town at dynner with me. *Ibid.* 547 The Quene hath send owt hyr placarts of comandment to all drossarts, scoutettes, ballyys, and othyrs offyssers of the contres abowth.

Scouth (skauþ). *Sc.* Also 8–9 **scowth, skouth.** Opportunity, scope. Also, abundance, plenty.

Also in phrase *Scouth and routh*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (1843) 387 There are Bands which circle & fetter him, that he hath no scouth or liberty to run out. 1728 RAMSAY *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 10 He seeks the dowy glen That he may scowth to a' his mourning len. 1785 BURNS *To Rev. Ÿ. M'Math* x, They talk o' mercy, grace, and truth, For what?—to gie their malice skouth On some puir wight. 1815 FINLAYSON *Rhymes* 38 (E. D. D.) The sturdy tiller o' our plains, Whose work demands nae scowth o' brains.

Scouting (skau·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCOUT *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. SCOUT.

1. Spying, reconnoitring.

1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 22 Some scowting beyond Banbury that evening; little or no hurt on neither side. 1754 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 285 However, if the scouting be faithfully performed, there will not, I apprehend, any considerable body of the enemy get within ye line aforesaid undiscovered. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 30 Often I sat on a little cricket at his feet, and listened to tales of battles, scoutings, and starving.

attrib. 1856 W. IRVING *Washington* III. 852 He had recently signalized himself in scouting-parties.

b. The exercises practised by 'boy scouts'.

1908 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Scouting for Boys* 1 Instruction in scouting should be given as far as possible through practises, games, and competitions.

2. Fielding at cricket. ? *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 38 Both were so completely knocked up, with alternately bowling and scouting, as to be nearly incapable of walking home.

†**Scou·ting,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SCOUT *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] A snubbing reproof, a scolding.

1794 MARIA J. HOLROYD *Lett.* (1896) 301, I gave Louisa a good scouting for indulging her moralizing turn.

Scouting (skau·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOUT *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That scouts; watching, exploring, spying.

1663 *Brief Acc. Turks Late Exped.* 21 There followed into the Town a great Body of Tartars after these scouting Troupers. 1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 31 The owls mope out, the scouting bats Begin their giddy round. 1907 *Standard* 19 Jan. 7/5 Scouting air vessels could follow night and day every movement of the armies.

†**Scou·tinger.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. SCOUTING *vbl. sb.* + -ER [1]; or f. SCOUT *sb.*[4] after *harbinger, messenger,* etc.] ? A military scout, a spy.

1642 *True Copy of Let. from Oxford* 7 A good scoutinger is worth a kingdome, being the very key of the worke, and for want of it, many rare opportunities are lost.

Scoutmaster, scout-master (skau·t-mâstəɹ). [f. SCOUT *sb.*[4] + MASTER *sb.*[1]]

1. A leader or captain of a band of scouts. In recent use, also the officer who has charge of a 'troop' of boy scouts.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 99 The Scout maister oughte diligently to viewe and note rounde aboute the campe. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 16 The General of the horsmen hath to serue him, his Lieftenant, Colonels, Captaines, and Scoutmasters. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xxi. 235 Captaine Crofts the Scout-Master [was killed] with a shot in the backe. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 54 Parson Hudson, an able divine, was his scout-master, and Chillingworth his engineer. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxv, The scoutmaster arrived after a brief delay. 1908 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Scouting for Boys* 25 The badge is worn by scout masters on the left side of the hat or cap.

fig. 1644 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Secr.* d iiij b, Archbishop Laud..takes the words which Heylin (his Scoutmaster) had found passable.

b. *Scoutmaster general*: (Hist.) The chief of the intelligence department of the Parliamentary army.

1644 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1853) I. 321 Scoutmaster general Bedford came to the house with letters from the commissioners in the army, of the particulars of the battle at Newbury. 1647 SPRIGG *Anglia Rediv.* 326 (List of Officers), Major Watson, Scoutmaster Gen. to the Army. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 289 Forasmuch as he [Mr. Prywell] was so naturally inclined to seek their good, and also to undermine their foes, they gave him a Commission of Scoutmaster-general. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 498 No body was more active in procuring these witnesses, than the Bishop of Meath, who had been Scoutmaster General to Oliver Cromwell's army.

¶ **2.** Erroneously used for SCHOUT.

1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 5 The Sheriffs [of the cities of Holland] together with the Scoutmaster [orig. *Sculteto*] deal in the administration of Justice both Civill and Criminall. 1690 *Moral Ess. Pres. Times* vii. 117 There is in every one of these parishes of Holland, one they call a Scout-Master, which is the chief Magistrate of it.

†**Scou·t-watch.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **scowte-, skowtte-,** 4–6 **skowte-,** 4–7 **skoute-,** 5 **scote-,** (*erron.* **skoulk-**), 7 **skowt-,** 5–8 **scout(e-, 4 -wach, 4–5 wacche, 5–6 -wache, watche,** 6–8 **-watch.** [f. SCOUT *sb.*[4] + WATCH *sb.*]

1. A sentinel, spy; one that keeps guard.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 838 In grete flokkez of folk, þay fallen to his ȝatez, As a scowte-wach scarred, so þe asscry rysed. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2468 Skayres thaire skottefers, and theire skowtte-waches. 1442 *Beckington's Jrnl.* (1828) 97 Whan they were approched nigh the same towne there comme upon theym the skoulk wache, and there a showte was made of St. George d'Angleterre. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xiii, But the scoute watche by her hoost cryed lordes att armes for here be your enemyes at your hand. 1562 [? PILKINGTON] *Burn. Paules Ch.* (1563) B v, The word *Episcopus* is Greke, and signifies a Scoutwatche, an ouerloker or Spie. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Kings* xiii. 34 And the servant that was the scoutewatch, lifted up his eies, and looked: and behold much people came by a byway. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scouts* or *Scout-Watches,* Sentinels that keep Guard in the advanced Posts.

2. The action of keeping watch and guard.

1464 *Mann. Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 161 Item, my mastyre payd the same day to ix. men that made scotewache on horse bakke, vj. s. viij. d. 1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Treat. Househ.* (1768) 75 It is best to kepe watches and scoutwatches both by nyght and by daye. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxiv. 2 Being in scoutwatch: a spider spiyng me, In the head spiders name: wild me speedilie, To tell this to you all. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 357 Make skowt-watch, inrodes, gett intelligence.

3. A body of men told off for the purposes of watching and keeping guard.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvi. 17 If theyr Scoutwatche hard any noyse, or mouyng of people drawyng to the cite warde, than incontynent they shulde gyue them knowledge. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xix. § 50. 723 Neither durst he for the Kings Scout-watch demand direction to Tamworth.

Scouty-aulin (skū·ti,ɔ̄·lin). *dial. Sc.* Forms: 8 **scuti-allan,** 8–9 **scouti-aulin,** 9 **scoutiallin, scouty-, scootie-allan, scoute-, scouti-allen, scouty-aulin.** [app. f. **scouty,* **scooty* adj. (f. *scout* = SCOOT *v.* 1) + *aulin, allan,* which is used separately as the name of the bird. Cf. the synonymous *dirty allan.*] The Arctic Gull or Skua (*Stercorarius crepidatus,* or *richardsoni*).

1701 BRAND *Descr. Orkn.* etc. (1703), There is a Fowl there called the Scutiallan, of a black colour, and as big as a Wild Duck. *a* 1795 G. LOW *Fauna Orcad.* (1813) 118 The Arctic Gull..Orc. Scouti-Aulin. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 492 *Lestris Richardsonii.* Richardson's Skua..Scouteallen. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 870 It [*Stercorarius crepidatus*] is..the Shooi of the Shetlands, and the Scouti-

allen of the fishermen of Orkney and on the east coast of Scotland.

Sco·van. *Mining* (Cornw.). [Related to next.] = SCOVE *sb.* *Scovan lode*: see quots.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 90 A Scovan Lode, is formed of a hard compact crystalline Stone, either of a brown or black hue, according to the colour of the Tin with which it is mixed. *Ibid.* 105 If it takes its course through a Scovan Lode, it mostly damages..the Scovan. 1814 W. PHILLIPS in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* II. 118 When tin ore is intimately mingled with quartz and chlorite, the vein is termed a scovan load. 1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss., Cornw.* (ed. 2) 22 *Scovan lode*, a lode having no gossan on its back or near the surface.

Scove. *Mining* (Cornw.). [Prob. from Celtic Cornish.] (See quots.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 90 The Ore is often rich, ponderous, and solid in this Stone; and when it is worth one half for Metal, they call it Scove. 1808 POLWHELE *Cornish-Eng. Vocab.* 56/2 We say of a rich lode *'tis all skowe*; *pure and clean.* 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 420 *Scove* C[ornish], very pure tin that hardly needs dressing.

Sco·vel(l. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [a. early mod.F. *escouvelle* (Cotgr.), dim. of *escouve* (:—L. *scōpa*) broom. (The ordinary Fr. word for the baker's 'malkin' is *écouvillon*, OF. *escouvillon.*)] A baker's malkin.

1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 44 b/1 A scouell, dragge, or malkyn, wherewith the floore of the ouen is made cleane, *peniculus.* 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 84 But first he [*sc.* the baker] rakes the fire from it with a scovel (maukin, cole-rake). 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 317/1 Bakers Terms in their Art. ..A Scovel, a Maukin, an Oven sweep.

Scovillite (skŏ·vilәit). *Min.* [f. the name of the *Scoville* ore-bed, Salisbury, Conn., U.S., its locality: see -ITE.] Hydrous phosphate of cerium, yttrium, and other rare metals; rhabdophanite.

1883 BRUSH & PENFIELD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXV. 463. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 Apr. 479/1 The author [Mr. W. N. Hartley] shows that a new mineral, scovillite, described by Brush and Penfield..is but a variety of rhabdophane. 1892 [see *Rhabdophanite*: s. v. RHABDO-].

Sco·vin. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 scoven. [Altered form of SCOVEL.] = SCOVEL.

1657 C. BECK *Universal Char.* H 7, A malkin or scoven. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss., Scovin*, a cloth, mat, or old fishing-net, attached to a pole and used for cleaning out a baker's oven.

Sco·vy, *a. dial.* Also scovey, scawvy. [Cf. SCAWE, SCAWED *a.*] Streaked, mottled, smeared.

1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 382 (E. D. D.) Scovy wool, wool of several colours, not duely mixt in scribling, but streaky. ..Scovy cloth, when the abb, or the woof is not all of the same colour,..and the cloth appears in streaks or lines. 1864 T. Q. COUCH *Wds. E. Cornw.* in *Jrnl. R. Inst. Cornw.* Mar., *Scovey*, spotted, mottled. 1892 SARAH HEWETT *Peasant Sp. Devon* 120 *Scawvy* = smeary. 'Go an' scrub thickee planche floor again; 'tez za scawvy I'm ashamed tu zee 'n.'

† Scow [1], **skow.** *Sc. Obs.* [Possibly a. Du. *schouw* (see next) in an unrecorded sense; the HG. etymological equivalent, *schalte*, has in Bavarian dialects the sense 'wood for coopers, thin laths' (*Deutsches Wb.* s. v.).] *pl.* Strips of wood for wattle-work, barrel-staves, fixing thatch, etc.

1524-5 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 221 Thai had maid expenssis vpoun the standand graith of the commoun mylnis in stra, scowis, rauchteris, lyme [etc.]. 1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* XVI. (Jam.), Girchtstingis & skowis. 1543 *Ibid.* XVIII. (ibid.), Tymmer skowis Suadene buirdis, guirdstingis and boddummis. 1614 *Shipping Lists of Dundee* in Wedderburne *Compt Buik* (S. H. S.) 246 The said bark laitlie arryved frome Melstrand contenand .. auch thowsand barrellis of Skowie [? *read* Skowis] & ane hundreth pyp stalffis. 1705 *Sc. Acts Anne* (1824) XI. 293/2 Knaple, skows, hoops, dutch nets..shall be free of custome.

Scow [2] (skɑu). *U. S., Scotland, Ireland.* Also skow. [a. Du. *schouw*, MDu. *schouwe*, *schoude* = LG. *schalde*, HG. dial. *schalte* punt-pole, boat propelled by a pole; related to OS. *scaðan* to push (a boat) from the shore. Cf. Gael. *sgoth.*]

1. A large flat-bottomed lighter or punt.

1780 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 254, I have empowered Colonel Carrington to have twelve boats, scows or batteaux, built. 1841 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* I. 221 Three fishers too, whose rude Annan voices I heard busy in their skows in the Gallowbank Pool. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Scow*...On Lake Ontario they are sometimes rigged like a schooner or sloop, with a lee-board or sliding keel, when they make tolerably fast sailers. 1862 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 4 Apr., By 2 o'clock..about 8,500 men were on their way to..Fortress Monroe. They were carried in 12 large river steamers, some of which tugged scows for horses and artillery. 1877 LD. HATHERLEY in *Law Rep., App. Cases* II. 842 The navigation [on the river Leven] appears to be carried on in what are called scows, large barges, I suppose we should call them. 1878 BRET HARTE *Hoodlum Band* 102 A long, low, sloop-rigged scow,..worked her way out of the mill-dam towards the Sound. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Skeow*, a large flat barge, used to receive the mud raised by a dredging machine. 1884 G. ALLEN *Strange Stories* 154 Captain Pierpoint arranged to take down a scow or flat-bottomed boat, laden with grain, from Milwaukee for the Erie Canal. 1909 *Times* 27 Jan. 6/5 For the water he would use skows (flat-bottomed boats) which would also be capable of progressing upon the ice.

2. Applied locally to a coracle.

1825-82 JAMIESON, *Skow*, a small boat made of willows, &c. covered with skins, Moray.

3. *attrib.*, as *scow-crew*; *scow-shaped* adj.

1775 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 60 Father Smith prayed for our scow crew, I doubt not. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 547/1 A clumsy, scow-shaped cattle-boat.

Scow (skɑu), *v.*[1] [f. prec.] a. *intr.* To cross *over* (a river) by means of a scow. b. *trans.* (See quot. 1828-32.)

1749 W. DOUGLASS *Summary* I. 460 The ferry is about 80 rod, and..runs two or three knots, scowed over in about 9 minutes. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Scow*, to transport in a scow.

Scow (skɑu), *v.*[2] *Naut.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* in *To scow an anchor*: on a foul bottom, to bend the cable to the crown and stop it within the ring, so that in weighing the seizing may be broken and the anchor tripped. Hence Scowed *ppl. a.*

1878 D. KEMP *Man. Yacht Sailing* 366 Scowing an Anchor. 1879 W. ROSSITER *Dict. Sci. Terms*, Scowed anchor.

Scow·banker. *slang* (? and *dial.*). Also skow-, skull-. [Of obscure origin. Adm. Smyth (*Sailor's Word-book*, 1867) gives a word *scow-banker* with the explanation 'a manager of a scow'; but this is prob. a mistake.] A loafer (see quots.).

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 233 *Skow-Banker*, a fellow who loiters about the premises of any one willing to support him without the necessity of working for his living; a rogue, a rascal. Common at Melbourne, Australia. 1866 A. MICHIE *Retrospects & Prospects* 9 (Morris) A skull-banker is a species of the genus loafer... He is a haunter of stations, and lives on the squatters,..affecting to seek work and determining not to find it. 1898 E. E. MORRIS *Austral English, Skull-banker*, or *Scowbanker*, a slang name in Australia for a loafer, a tramp.

Hence **Scow·bank** *v. intr.*, to loaf; also *sb.* = SCOWBANKER. **Scow·banking** *ppl. a.*

1868 B. BRIERLEY *Fratchingtons* iii. 40 If skeawbankin' fro aleheause to aleheause isno' drinkin', what is? 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweeth.* I. ii. 44 A sprinkling of black-browed scowbanks from Mediterranean ports. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl., He's a scow-banking sort of fellow! 1901 F. E. TAYLOR *Folk Sp. S. Lanc.* (E. D. D.), He does nowt bu' skeaw-bank abeawt o day.

Scowde, obs. form of SCOLD *v.*

Scowder (skɑu·dәr), *sb. Sc.* Forms: 8 scow-der, scouder, 9 scowdher, scouther. [f. the vb.]

1. Scorching, slight burning.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Election* Poems (1845) 40 Till, in a birn, beneath the crook Theyre sengit wi' a scowder, To death that day. 1793 T. SCOTT *Poems* 358 (E. D. D.) Love has gie'n his heart a scouder. 1816 SCOTT *Black Dwarf* vii, If things be otherwise than weel wi' Grace Armstrong, I'se gie you a scouther, if there be a tar-barrel in the five parishes.

2. *Anglo-Irish.* (See quot.) *lit.* and *fig.*

1830-2 W. CARLETON *Traits Ir. Peas.* (1844) II. 131 'Franky,' they would say, 'is no finished priest in the larnin'; he's but a scowdher'. Now a scowdher is an oaten cake laid upon a pair of tongs placed over the..embers...In a few minutes the side first laid down is scorched: it is then turned, and the other side is also scorched.

Scowder (skɑu·dәr), *v. Sc.* Forms: 6 skolder, skowder, 7 scouther, 8 scouder, 7- scowther, scowder. [Of obscure origin: with the 16th c. form *skolder* cf. the synonymous SCALDER *v.*] a. *trans.* To scorch, burn slightly. b. *intr.* To undergo scorching. Hence Scow·dered *ppl. a.*, scorched; also see quot. 1781. Scow·dering *ppl. a.*, scorching; also (of cold, etc.) withering, blighting.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 122 Fy! skolderit skyn, thow art bot skyre and skrumple. *Ibid.* 171. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 534 His skowdrit skyn wes blak as ony ruke. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk Buriall* (1833) 4 By scowdring their skins in the Sunne. 1672 *Pasquil on Stair Family* in *Bk. Scotish Pasquils* (1868) 183 On shoulder clap made her Mess James embrace, And lick the dreepings of his scouther'd face. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* viii. Poems (1800) 134 For weel she trows,..That kye hae tint their milk wi' evil eie, And corn been scowder'd on the glowin kill. 1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* x, Gude scoudered bannocks. 1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Scowder'd*, over-heated with working. 1799 J. STRUTHERS *Poet. Wks.* (1850) II. 202 Cauld winter wi' his scowdering eye. 1831 MISS FERRIER *Destiny* I. xx, Your cook's not a good hare-dresser...After all, I believe it's only a little scowthered. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 54 We'll..send them [*sc.* witches] hame, To scouther forever in h—'s blue flame! 1875 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) I. 109 The snell an' scowtherin' norther blaw Frae blae Brunteelan'.

Scower, obs. form of SCORE, SCOUR.

Scowl (skaul), *sb.*[1] Also 6 scowle, 7 scoul. [f. SCOWL *v.*] A louring or malevolent look.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 123 The air was dirkit with the fowlis, That come..With skryking, skrymming and with scowlis, To tak him in the tyde. 1625 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 206, I suppose none but a Queene could have cast such a scowl. *a* 1764 R. LLOYD *Genius, Envy & Time* 9 Each letter'd, grave, pedantic dunce Wakes..And, being dull, looks wond'rous wise, With solemn phiz, and critic scowl. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 114 By axe and eagle sat, With all their foreheads drawn in Roman scowls,..The fierce triumvirs. 1860 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 27. 39 Natural signs, as a scream to express terror, a scowl for hatred. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 369/2 He was received with scowls and curses.

b. *transf.* Of clouds, the elements, etc.

1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses, Death Herrys*, A ruddy storme whose scoule Made Heavens radiant face looke foule. 1878 BROWNING *Poet's Croisic* Prol. 2 Sky—what a scowl of cloud.

† Scowl, *sb.*[2] *U. S. Obs.* ? Corrupt f. SCOW.

1778 T. ANBUREY *Trav. America* (1789) II. lix. 278 We crossed the river in scowls, which are flat bottom boats, large enough to contain a waggon and horses. 1796 H. WANSEY *Jrnl.* 56 While our coachee, and all its passengers were passing this fine river in a scowl.

† Scowl, *sb.*[3] *dial. Obs.* Forms: 6 skoole, skole, scowle, scoule, 8 scoil. [Cf. SCOWLES.] Rubbish, debris.

1538-9 in R. N. Worth *Cal. Tavistock Par. Rec.* (1887) 17 Itm for Caryngе awaye of the Skoole there ij[d]. *Ibid.* 18 Itm for Caryngе oute of the Skole of the churche ij[d] ob. 1561-2 *Ibid.* 26 Itm payed for Caryinge of Scowle that laye in the churche yarde ij[s] viij[d]. 1574-5 *Ibid.* 33 Itm paid for caryadge awaie of the scoule, iiij[d]. 1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 380 (E. D. D.) *Scoil*, rubbish; the head of a quarry before the solid rock is reached.

Scowl (skaul), *v.* Forms: 4 skoul, 5 schoul, 5-6 scowle, 6 skoule, 6-8 scoul, 6-7 scoule, 7- scowl. [Prob. of Scandinavian origin; cf. Da. *skule* of the same meaning.]

1. *intr.* To look with louring brows and a malignant or threatening expression; to look angry or sullen. Const. *at*, *on*, *upon.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2225 Devels sal..raumpe on hym, and skoul, and stare. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Book* 16158 Menelaus hadde grete envy Off that quene Pantasaly,.. On hir that tyme ful foule he schouled And seyde: that [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/1 Scowle, wythe eyne, *obo.ulo.* 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xvi. 9 Myne enemy skouleth vpon me with his eyes. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 21 A mistres that scowles. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 35 But with bent lowring browes, as she would threat, She scould, and frownd with froward countenaunce. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 28 Euen so, or with much more contempt, men's eyes Did scowle on Richard. 1702 YALDEN *Æsop at Crt.* viii. 33 Shall I [*sc.* Phoebus] the universe benight..Because you [*sc.* an owl] rail and scoul. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* i, His brow scowled. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, Albany scowled, but was silent. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 71 Whether it were not possible to make a spinner that would not rebel, nor mutter, nor scowl, nor strike for wages? 1882 B. D. W. RAMSAY *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. vi. 119 We met many disbanded soldiers,..but beyond scowling at us they did us no harm.

b. To be exhibited or expressed frowningly or with a scowl. *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i, A sullen gloom Scowls on his brow, and marks him thro' the dusk. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xv. 296 Amazement scowl'd upon his clouded face. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 89 A menace scowled upon the brow.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Of inanimate things (sometimes personified): To assume a gloomy, forbidding, or threatening aspect.

1587 CHURCHYARD *Worthies of Wales* N 4, When..Clowdes waxe cleere, that now doth lowre and skoule. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 56 What squint-ey'd Starre hath scowl'd vpon me? 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* I. 312 The Day returns, the Heav'ns no longer scowl. 1783 COWPER *Task* III. 541 Not so when winter scowls. Assistant art Then acts in nature's office. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 16 Fretting cares scowl far aloof. 1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highways of Derbyshire* 168 The edge..scowls down upon a bleak Staffordshire moorland.

3. *trans.* in *nonce-uses.* To send forth with a scowl; to express with a scowl.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 491 As when..the dusky clouds.. o'respread Heavn's chearful face, the lowring Element Scowls ore the darkn'd lantskip Snow, or showre. 1757 GRAY *Bard* II. iii, Fell Thirst and Famine scowl A baleful smile upon their baffled Guest.

Hence **Scow·ling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Scow·ler.**

1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. i, There is howlynge and scowlyng, all cast in adumpe, With whewling and pewling. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-T.* viii. (1859) 188, I had rather meet three of the scowlers than one of the smilers.

Scowld, e, Scowle: see SCOLD, SCALE *sb.*[1]

† Scowled, *a.* ? Striped.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/1 Scowlyd, *radiatus.*

Scowles, *sb. pl. dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SCOWL *sb.*[3]] (Also *scowl-holes.*) See quots. Hence **Scowle** *v. intr.*, (of mine-workings) to cave in.

1835 *4th Rep. Dean Forest Comm.* 3 The excavations, provincially called Scowles, which exist in many parts of the Forest, have evidently been made for the purpose and in the course of getting out the ore. 1884 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. X. 288 The word applied to the actual quarries is usually scowl-holes, Scowles having become a place-name in several localities. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Scowles*..A very common word here [*i.e.* Forest of Dean] for the sides of workings in coal or iron mines falling in. The miners say 'scowling in'.

Scow·lful, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SCOWL *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of or characterized by scowling.

1881 F. T. PALGRAVE *Vis. England* 278 The musket gripp'd; the brow firm set; a scowlful smile of joy.

Scowling (skau·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCOWL *v.* + -ING [2].] That scowls; having a sullen or malignant expression of countenance.

1552 HULOET, Skowlyng of countenaunce, *superciliosus.* 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 15 b, Then euery skowlyng scholemaster would read with harshie voyce Thy verse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 125 But Miso..came with skowling eyes to deliuer a slauering good morrow to the two Ladies. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 290 The Conversation of gentlemen is very Austere, full of scowling gravity. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 158 Daughters, who surveyed her with scouling, frightened attention. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xviii, Prue had a peculiar scowling expression of countenance. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. viii. 75 A young man..with sickly face and scowling brow.

b. *transf.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xiii. 19 Or on the scharp craggy rochis hie..Wyth hingand hewis and mony a skowland bra. 1583 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 114 What scowling cloudes haue ouercast the skie. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1124 In rueful gaze The cattle stand, and on the scowling heavens Cast a deploring eye. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 2 Wilt thou change the smiling Erin For the scowling Pictish skies?

Hence **Scow·lingly** *adv.*, with a scowling face.
1755 in JOHNSON. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 32 The.. beldame..scowlingly opened the door.

Scowlke, Scowmar: see SCULK, SCUMMER.

Scowmfet(e, Scowner: see SCOMFIT, SCUNNER.

Scowp(e, Scowrge: see SCOOP, SCOURGE.

Scowry, var. SCAURIE; obs. f. SCOURY.

Scowse, var. SCUSE, aphetic f. *excuse* vb.

Scowt(e, Scowth: see SCOUT, SCOUTH.

Scoyer, Scoymes, -ous: see SQUIRE, SQUAIMOUS. **Scoyr**, obs. Sc. form of SCORE.

Scr-. 1. While as a general rule an initial *sc-* or *sk-* in a mod.Eng. word indicates that the word is not of OE. origin (OE. *sc-* being normally represented, in dialects as well as in standard English, by *sh-*), it is doubtful whether the rule applies to the combination *scr-*. The modern representation of OE. *scr-* in dialects varies between (ʃr-), (ʃər-), (ʒr-), and (sr-), and there is some reason for supposing that in some localities it normally becomes (skr-). Several words of undoubted OE. descent (there being no corresponding form in Scandinavian) have in ME. or in mod.E. two parallel forms with (ʃr-) and (skr-) respectively: e.g. *shred, screed*, from OE. *scréade*; *shrew*, dial. *screw*, from OE. *scréawa*; ME. *screpe* and *schreape*, from OE. *screpan* to scrape. The same variation of the initial consonant appears in some other words, which have not been found in OE., but which have Teut. cognates: *scream*, ME. also *schreame*; *scram* and *shram* dial. to benumb, to paralyse (cf. OE. *scrimman* of similar meaning); *shrog* and *scrog* dial., a bush. As the combination (skr-), unlike the Midland (sr-), is consistent with the articulatory habits of standard English, some dialectal forms with this beginning have found their way into the literary language; in one instance (*screed, shred*) an OE. word with *scr-* survives in two parallel forms with differentiation of meaning. In view of these facts, it seems doubtful whether there is sufficient ground for the usual assumption of Scandinavian origin for words like *scrape*, which existed in OE. (*scrapian*) as well as in ON. (*skrapa*).

2. Many Eng. words beginning with *scr-* agree more or less closely in meaning with other words differing from them in form only by the absence of the initial *s*. Examples of such pairs are *crab* (apple), *scrab*; *crag* (neck), *scrag*; *cramble, scramble*; *cranch, scranch*; *cratch, scratch*; *crawl, scrawl* (v.[1]); *creak, screak*; *crimple, scrimple*; *cringe, scringe*; *croak, scroak* (dial.); *crump, scrump*; *crumple, scrumple*; *crunch, scrunch*; *crush, scrush* (dial.). It does not appear that these coincidences are due to any one general cause (see the articles on the several words), but it is probable that the existence of many pairs of synonyms with *scr-* and *cr-* produced a tendency to change *cr-*, in words expressive of sounds or physical movements, into *scr-* so as to render the word echoic or phonetically symbolic; apparent examples are *scrawl* vb.[1], *scranch, scrunch, scringe, scroak*.
For other instances in dialects see Wright *Eng. Dial. Gram.* § 323, where examples are also given of parallel forms with (sk, k) before a vowel or (w).

Scraa, variant of SCRAW.

Scrab (skræb), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 **skrab**. [Prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. dial. *skrabba* of the same meaning, Sw. *scrabba* sea-scorpion.] The crab or wild apple = CRAB *sb.*[2] Also *attrib.*, as *scrab-apple, scrab-tree*.
1467-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 92 Pro ij bus. de Scrabbez emp. pro veriuis inde fiend., xxij*d*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 18 Braid trunschouris dyd thai fyll..Wyth wyld scrabbis and wther frutis large. 1528-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 163 Scrabstre medow. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 47 Malus Sylvestris in Englyshe in the Southe countre, a Crab tre, in y[e] North countre a Scrabtre. 1587 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 157, iiij mells for brusing of skrabbes, 6[d]. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Vnedo, fructus arbutii*, a scrab-aple. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Scrab-apple*.

†**Scrab,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. SCRUB *sb.*] In plural, 'Stumps of heath or roots' (Jam.).
1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 20 A hail half mile she had at least to gang, Thro' birns an' pits an' scrabs, and heather lang.

Scrab (skræb), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **skrab**. [a. Du. *schrabben*: allied to SCRAPE *v.*]
1. *trans.* To scratch, claw. *lit.* and *fig.*
1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxix. (Arb.) 106 Reyner..stode aboue the wynde skrabbing and casting wyth his feet the duste [orig. *boven wijnds staen scrabben in dat stof*]. 1808 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXVI. 111 The police of the metropolis is already curious..enough: without employing new ferrets to scrab the remaining pleasures out of their skulking-holes. 1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words* s.v., A dog scrabs a rabbit from its burrough. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v., The cat near scrabbed his eyes out.
2. To snatch, grab.
1890 P. H. EMERSON *Wild Life on Tidal Water* xxiii. 100 When we see them Tom Taylors [i.e. Stormy Petrels] we scrab the nets in quick as we can.

Hence **Scrabbed** *ppl. a.*, scratched; also in *scrabbed eggs* (see quot.). **Scra·bbing** *vbl. sb.*
a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Scrabbed-eggs*, a lenten dish, composed of eggs boiled hard, chopped and mixed, with a seasoning of butter, salt, and pepper. 1880 S. LAKEMAN *Kaffir-Land* 13 That small garden..was overrun with weeds and scarred with poultry scrabbings. 1890 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 5/1 Small heed was paid in those days to scrabbed face and bleeding hands.

Scrabble (skræ·b'l), *sb.* [f. SCRABBLE *v.*] A scrawling character in writing, hence, a document composed of such characters. Also, a picture composed of or characterized by careless or hastily-executed line-work.
1842 P. F. TYTLER in Burgon *Mem.* xiv. (1859) 311 Peregrine's letters they could read, but the Duchess of Suffolk.. defied them..with her fearful scrabbles. 1862 MISS YONGE *Countess Kate* i, With some peaked scrabbles and round whirls intended for smoke. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scrabble*, a badly written log. 1881 RUSKIN in *19th Cent.* Oct. 517 Yesterday..came to me from the Fine Art Society, a series of twenty black and white scrabbles. 1908 *Athenæum* 11 Apr. 457/2 A composition of some grace, but much of it executed in a scrabble of lines which wants repose.

Scrabble (skræ·b'l), *v.* Also 7 **scrable**. [a. Du. *schrabbelen* (in sense 2; for sense 1 cf. *schrabbelaar* 'bad writer, scrawler', Verdam), frequentative of *schrabben* SCRAB *v.*]
1. *intr.* To make marks at random; to write in rambling or scrawling characters; to scrawl, scribble.
1537 BIBLE (Matthew's) 1 *Sam.* xxi. 13 And he..raued in their handes and scrabled on the dores of the gate. [So 1611.] 1625 [cf. SCRABBLED *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Serm. bef. His Majestie* (1630) 86 We reckon men mad..when they scrabble vpon the walls. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Scrabble*, to write in an uncouth and unsightly manner; to make unmeaning marks, as boys often do with chalk on a wall or gate. *a* 1889 in Baring-Gould & Sheppard *Songs of West* (1905) 67 So with his finger dipp'd in blood, He scrabbled on the stones.
b. *trans.* To write or depict (something) in a scrawling manner; also, to scrawl upon (something).
1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. v. (1879) 386, I do scrabble down things that tease me by running in my head, when I want to clear my brains. 1857 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* ii. 21 One of my first attempts at a work of art was to scrabble his initials with my fingers, in red paint, on the house-door. 1883 *Spectator* 5 May 557 Technically the painting is better..though the white ruff of the collie could be improved by being toned down, and not being scrabbled about so much. 1894 *Cornhill Mag.* June 635 The face of the cliff is..scrabbled all over with marks of men's hands making homes for themselves in the living rock.
2. *intr.* Of an animal: To scratch about hurriedly with the claws or paws; hence, of a person, to scratch or scrape about with the hands or feet.
1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xv. 93 Cast out..fresh straw right ouer against the barne, where the pullen vse to scrabble. 1658 J. HOWE *Blessedn. Righteous* xiii. 240 'Tis a low, Dunghil spirit; fit for nothing but to rake, and scrabble in the dirt. 1863 WOOD in *Intell. Observ.* IV. 22 The mole..then scrabbled about until he came upon the rest of the worm. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 74 Gangs of the prying gull That shriek and scrabble on the river hatches. 1900 ELINOR GLYN *Vis. Elizabeth* (1906) 62 Upon which Victorine looked coy, and began scrabbling with her toes on the parquet.
b *trans.* To make scratching movements with.
1890 W. H. POLLOCK in *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 406 The parrot..scrabbled his beak on the edge of his food-can.
3. *intr.* Of a person: To scramble on hands and feet; to stumble or struggle along; *lit.* and *fig.*; also *occas.* of an animal. Now somewhat *rare*.
1638 *2nd Relat. Accidents Wydecombe* 23 Then presently the rest of the people scrabled forth the Church as well as they could. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* § 198, I did liken myself..unto..a child that was fallen into a mill-pit, who, though it could make some shift to scrabble and sprawl in the water, yet [etc.]. 1678 — *Pilgr. Progr.* I. 167 Little-faith came to himself, and getting up made shift to scrabble on his way. 1738 *Universal Spectator* 11 Nov. 3/3 The Hog had scrabbled up Stairs, shook the Child out of its blankets, [and] kill'd it. 1742 WESLEY *Extr. Jrnl.* 1 Mar. (1749) 32 The boat..was driven down among the rocks: on one of which we made shift to scrabble up. 1774 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 12 One member of the General Court, he said, as they came down stairs after their dissolution at Salem said to him, 'Though we are killed, we died scrabbling, did not we?' 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 115 Scrabbling out of the cavity, without assistance. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., I have hard work to get a living, but I hope I shall manage to scrabble on. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xxxvi, A dozen or so of poor creatures,..too tipsy to battle with the wind,..wallowed upon sacks, and scrabbled under the stanchion-boards, where the gaiety [of the Fair] had been. 1900 F. T. BULLEN *Idylls of Sea* 184 The poor possessors of only a four-oared galley hope to rise to the dignity of a lugger, so that they may quit scrabbling along the shores.
4. *trans.* To scratch or rake (something) *up, off, out*, etc. hurriedly; to obtain by scratching or raking about.
1657 BUNYAN *Vindic. Gospel Truths* (1862) II. 203 How dost thou run about the bush, seeking to scrabble up an answer. 1658 F. OSBORNE *Trad. Mem. K. Jas.* 85 The King..casting himselfe upon the heap scrabled out the quantity of 2 or 3 hundred poundes. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 82 The wool, with part of the skin scrabbled off. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 121 The snow had been scrabbled up by the puffed hands in the death agony. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 95 The trimmers must lie flat and scrabble the coal away as fast as it is pelted down. 1905 E. NESBIT *Amulet* I. in *Strand Mag.* May 587/2 It scrabbled a hasty hole in the sand.
5. *intr.* To struggle or scramble *for* (something).
1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* III. (1709) 32 That Phantome of Honour, which Men in every Age have so contemn'd, they have thrown it amongst the Women to scrabble for. 1861 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 399 A generous juvenile 'scrammles' a handful 'o' peis', which are instantly 'scrabbled' for.

Scrabbled (skræ·b'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SCRABBLE *v.* + -ED[1].] Inscribed with scrawling characters, written in a scrawling style.
1625 JACKSON *Orig. Unbelief* xlvii. 425 [They] frame such compositions of sacred lines, as men in phrenzie..do out of scrabled walls or painted cloaths. 1857 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* vii. 141 The blank spaces were occupied with deplorably scrabbled couplets. 1880 WEBB *Goethe's Faust* II. iv. 101 A scrabbled parchment, signed and sealed.

†**Scra·bblement.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCRABBLE *v.* + -MENT.] Writing of a rambling character like that of a madman.
a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 219 Of the departed Saints Patronage, wee reade not, but in the scrablements of the Iesuites.

Scrabbling (skræ·bliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the vb. SCRABBLE; also, an instance of this.
1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 116 Al they the like poste haste dyd make, with scarboro scrabbling. 1631 BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* xiv. (1635) 74 Such..speeches are but as so many catches and scrabblings of a man over head in water. *a* 1650 P. FLETCHER *Father's Test.* (1670) 20 They were suddenly frighted by some noise (perhaps the scrabling of their cat or dog).

Scrabe (skrēb). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 **skrabe**, 9 **scraib**. [a. Da. *scrabe*, ad. Færöese *skrápur*: cf. next.] The Manx Shearwater, *Puffinus anglorum*.
1676 J. S. tr. *Debes' Descr. Færoe* ii. 144 The other eatable Sea Fowls are found in great quantities.., namely the Skrabe [etc.]. *Ibid.* 145 The Skrabe builds..under the Earth, scraping with its Beak and Claws,..whence it is called Skrabe. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 781 *note*, Scraib and Scraber are also used [for the Shearwater] in Scotland.

Scraber (skrē·bəɹ). *Sc.* [Of obscure origin; in Gaelic *sgrabair*. Cf. prec.] A name for the Black Guillemot, *Uria Grylle*, and the Manx Shearwater, *Puffinus anglorum*.
1698 M. MARTIN *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 30 The Scraber [the black Guillemot, *Uria Grylle*], so called in St. Kilda. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 412. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 441 *Puffinus Anglorum*. The Manx Shearwater. ..Scrabe. Scraber. 1857 F. O. MORRIS *Hist. Brit. Birds* VI. 33 Black Guillemot. Common Scraber.

†**Scrabroun.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. corrupt form (see Diefenbach) of L. *crābrōn-em, crābro* hornet.]
1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxiii. 28 And Y schal sende out bifore scrabrouns [1382 stynggynge flies, Vulg. *crabrones*].

Scrac(c)h, obs. forms of SCRATCH.

Scrae (skrē), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* Also **scray, skrae**. [? Subst. use of SCRAE *a.*]
1. A diminutive or skinny person.
1803 JAMIESON in Scott *Minstrelsy* III. 363 [To a crying child], Lie still, ye skrae. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* VII. ii. III. 119 Yon poor shaughlin-in-kneed bit scray of a thing! 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 136 Lean skraes o' men.
2. 'A shrivelled old shoe' (Jam.).
1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 251 Mickle Sorrow comes to the Screa, e'er the Heat come to the Tea [= toe]. Spoken when one holds his Shoe to the Fire to warm his Foot.

Scrae (skrē), *sb.*[2] *Orkney and Shetland.* [a. ON. *skreið* dried fish.] Dried fish. Also *scrae-fish*.
1806 P. NEILL *Tour Orkney & Shetl.* 78 The gables of the cottages here, were..hung round with hundreds of small coalfish,..strung upon spits, and exposed to dry, without salt. The fishes dried in this manner are called scrae-fish.

Scrae (skrē), *a. Sc.* Also **skrae**. [? a. LG. *schrae, schra, schrade*, etc. (see Grimm s.v. *schrade*) lean, dried up, shrivelled.] Thin, lean. Also *Comb.* **scrae-shanked** *a.*
1822 HOGG *Three Perils of Man* II. vii. 232 The skrae-shankit Laidlaws. 1898 L. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin of the Flow* xviii. 241 This skrae-shankit laddie.

Scrae, var. SCREE *Sc.* and *north.*, debris of rock.

Scrafis(c)h, -fissh, etc.: see SCRAYFISH.

Scrag (skræg), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **skrag, skragge**, 8 **scraig, scragg**. [As the senses are those of the older CRAG *sb.*[2] (and *sb.*[3]), it is probable that this is an alteration of that word, due to some feeling of phonetic expressiveness.
The senses below are placed in the order of their first appearance in our quots.; the order of arrangement in CRAG *sb.*[2] is prob. in accordance with that of development.]
1. A lean person or animal. (In depreciatory use.) Cf. CRAG *sb.*[3] (which occurs only in Udall).
1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 270, I feare..yonder same spare slendre skragges and pale salowe coloured whooresoonnes [orig. *L. graciles illos ac pallidos*]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 We beheld a windbeaten hard shrimp, With lanck wan visadge,..A meigre leane rake..When the skrag had marcked [etc.]. *c* 1600 *Lust's Dom.* IV. v, You see I am but a scrag, my Lord; my legs are not of the biggest. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* L 4 b, Horace was a goodly Corpulent Gentleman, and not so leane a hollow-cheekt Scrag as thou art. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 66 The elder sort of them are rough, hard, thinne and leane scragges,..nothing but skinne and bone. *c* 1815 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) III. 379 May be some bird had whispered Daisy [his charger] that I had been to see the grand reviews at Paris on a little scrag of a Cossack, while my own gallant trooper was left behind. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. v. (1887) 255 We are going to catch every scrag that comes this way from the Pest.

2. The lean and inferior end of a neck of mutton (or veal). Also (earlier) *scrag-end* (also used *transf.*). Cf. *crag-end*, CRAG *sb.*[2] 3.

a 1644 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* v. i, The Devill a bit of meat have I gotten these nine dayes, but once a leane scrag end of a Neck of Mutton. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compl. Housew.* 29 To dress a Neck of Mutton. Take the best End..and cut it into Stakes..: Take the Scrag-End of the Mutton, break it in pieces [etc.]. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 33 A Leg of Mutton..: Or a fine Neck, with the Scraig cut off. *Ibid.* 35 Shalot-Sauce for a Scraig of Mutton boiled. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* v. ii, They sat down..to a scrag of mutton and broth. *a* 1754 — *Fathers* III. i, I may not marry whom I please, but must have crammed down my throat some.. scrag end of a woman of quality. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 61 Cut a scrag-end of a neck of veal in pieces. *Ibid.* 63 Take a scrag of veal [etc.]. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 32 Boil the scragg an hour before you put in the other end [of the neck]. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Christ's Hosp.*, In lieu of..our scanty mutton scrags on Fridays..he had his hot plate of roasted veal. 1837 HOOD *Hymeneal Retrospect.* I. viii, That neck, not a swan could excel it in grace,..Though now a grave 'kerchief you properly place, To conceal the scrag-end of your charms! 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xix, Lady MacScrew..serves up a scrag-of-mutton on silver. 1874 MRS. H. WOOD *Master of Greylands* xxxi, I could only get the scrag end this morning, aunt: the best end was sold.

3. The neck (of a sheep). Cf. CRAG *sb.*[2] 3.

1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* (1862) II. 384 The scrag or neck should be strong and masculine. 1869 *Daily News* 7 Aug., The judges thought the breed much improved, both in their scrags and general symmetry.

4. *slang.* The neck (of a human being).

[1756: ? Implied in SCRAG *v.* 1.] 1829 *Vidocq's Mem.* IV. 265, I advise you to nose on your pals,..that'll be the best way To save your scrag. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xxxvii, I have your little pearl necklace at this moment fastened round my bronze scrag under my cravat. 1857 'DUCANGE ANGLICUS' *Vulgar Tongue* 43 And you must sport..a yellow wipe tied loosily Round your scrag. 1887 HENLEY *Villon's Straight Tip* 27 Until the squeezer nips your scrag.

5. Scrag-whale, a finner-whale of the sub-family *Agaphelinæ*, esp. *Agaphelus gibbosus*, common in the North Atlantic; so also † *scrag-tail whale.*

1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 39 A Scrag-tail Whale. 1725 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 258 The Scrag Whale is near a-kin to the Fin-back, but, instead of a Fin upon his Back, the Ridge of the After-part of his Back is scragged with half a Dozen Knobs or Nuckles. 1835 O. MACY *Hist. Nantucket* I. ii. 28 A whale, of the kind called 'scragg', came into the harbor. 1850 GRAY *Catal. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* I. 18 *Balæna gibbosa.* The Scrag Whale.

Scrag (skræg), *sb.*[2] Now chiefly *dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SHRAG, SCROG, SHROG *sbs.*]

1. A stump of a tree; also, a rough projection (on a pole, trunk, or stump of a tree, rock, etc.).

1567 TURBERV. *Epit.* etc. 99 b, The sielie Beast to scape the Dogs did iumpe vpon a roote. The rotten scrag it burst, from Cliffe to Seas he fell. 1574 R. SCOT *Hop Garden* 30 It is very necessarie that your Poales be streyght without scrags or knobbes. 1855 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.* (1857) IV. 346 His wish was,..Only liberty to cut, of scrags and waste wood, what would suffice for his charring-purposes, in those wild forests. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xviii. 174 It was a rough part, all hanging stone, and heather, and bit scrags of birch wood. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.*, *Scrag*, a crooked, forked branch. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xvi, He took the springy spar of ash..and getting a good purchase against a scrag of flint, brought the convexity of his pole to bear on the topmost jag of boulder.

2. Rough, rocky and barren ground.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. v. II. 359 Friedrich Wilhelm found it scrag and quagmire; and left it what the Tourist sees. *Ibid.* IX. iii. II. 426 Fields grew green again, desolate scrubs and scrags yielding to grass and corn. *Ibid.* XVIII. x. V. 242 Nypern, with its bogs and scrags.

Scrag (skræg), *v. slang.* [f. SCRAG *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To hang (on the gallows).

1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 111 Many an honester man than he..has been scragg'd...Scragg'd, said she, is being hung in chains. 1780 R. TOMLINSON *Slang Pastoral* 10 If he does, he'll to Tyburn..be dragg'd, And what kiddy's so rum as to get himself scragg'd. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* lxxxiii, If he pikes, we shall all be scragged. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer*, So Justice was sure,.. And the Sergeant, in spite of his 'Gammon', got 'scragg'd'.

b. To wring the neck of; also, to garotte.

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 213 Cock-feeders, when they twist the necks of their dungs, call it scragging them. 1883 W. E. NORRIS *No New Thing* xxv, 'Confound the fellow!' he exclaimed; 'I wish to heaven his mother had scragged him when he was a baby!' 1886 W. H. MALLOCK *Old Order Changes* I. 290 That I might send some minion to meet him and have him scragged on the road. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 429/2 (Football), *Scrag*, (R.) to screw an opponent's neck under the arm in order to induce him to drop the ball.

2. *Comb.*: **scrag-boy**, the hangman.

17.. in W. *Ireland* 60 *Years Ago* (1847) 88 De scrag-boy may yet be outwitted.

Hence **Scra·gging** *vbl. sb.*; also *attrib.* in *scragging-post*, the gallows; **Scra·gger**, the hangman.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Scragging-post*, the gallows. 1834 H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* v. i. 383, I wish I was as certain of my reward, as that Turpin will eventually figure at the scragging post. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* x, Never mind George Barnwell,..it's always been my opinion, mind you, that the young 'ooman deserved scragging a precious sight more than he did. 1897 P. WARUNG *Old Regime* 274 We're all a-stuffed in 'ere till the scragger comes along for you fellows.

† **Scragged,** *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **skragged.** [? Alteration of CRAGGED. Cf. SCRAG *sb.*[2]] Rough and irregular in outline; of ground, rugged and barren. Also *fig.* Cf. CRAGGED *a.*[1]

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 177 Beste hylly groumde is nat that: the whiche is hye vpright, and skragged, but that the whiche is ful of wodde, herbes, and grasse. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Concl. 53 The universities..fed with nothing but the scragged and thorny lectures of monkish and miserable sophistry. 1692 BENTLEY *Serm.* viii. § 10 (1724) 331 Is there then any physical deformity in the Fabric of a Human Body; because our Imagination can strip it of its Muscles and Skin, and shew us the scragged and knotty Backbone? 1725 [see SCRAG *sb.*[1] 5].

Scragged (skrægd), *a.*[2] Also 6 **skregged,** 7 **scregged.** [f. SCRAG *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Scraggy.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 1030 Many of vs..after twenty or thirty yeares feeding, are as skregged and leane as we were before. 1607 T. TWINE *Patt. Painefull Advent.* viii. F, Her bodie of comely stature,..not scregged with leanenesse, nor vndecently corpulent. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 100 That Noble Person..scragged, as it seems, of a cold and dry temper..was frequently taken with the Colick. 1702 VANBRUGH *False Friend* I, The Handsome, she's all Divinity..; The scragged lean pale Face, has a shape for Destruction. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 45 That man with the scragged neck.

Scraggled (skræ·g'ld), *ppl. a.* [Formed as next + -ED [1].] Drawn with rough and irregular strokes.

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 507/1 The hazy and lazy impertinence which asked us to accept a blue blot for a man, and a scraggled scratch for a tree.

Scraggling (skræ·g'liŋ), *ppl. a.* [As if f. **scraggle* vb. (f. SCRAG *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]) + -ING [2].]

† **1.** Scraggy, meagre. *Obs. rare* —[1].

1616 T. ADAMS *Sacrif. Thankfulness* 20 The Lords Sacrifice must be fatte and faire; not a leane, scraggling, starued Creature.

2. Straggling, irregular in outline or distribution.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 79 They, by being weak, were forced to plough the ground scragling. 1766 MRS. S. PENNINGTON *Lett.* III. 169 Where scraggling sloes their ebon branches spread. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Scraggling*, irregular, scattered. Applied principally to a village where the houses are situated irregularly...Also applied to vegetation that grows wild and disorderly. 1870 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* I. 471 The remains [of Hastings Castle] being somewhat scanty and scraggling.

Scraggly (skræ·gli), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -Y.] Irregular or ragged in growth or form; scraggy.

1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* vii. 26 He had a long scraggly beard. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 115/1, I watched her struggling up the..hillside, passing in and out of sight among the scraggly pines.

Comb. 1889 MARY E. WILKINS *Far-away Melody* (1890) 28 The walls..had a scraggly-patterned paper on them.

Scraggy (skræ·gi), *a.*[1] [f. SCRAG *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Of persons, animals, or their limbs: Lean, thin, bony. Chiefly in depreciatory use.

1611 COTGR., *Cadavreux*, .. leane, skraggie, fleshlesse. *Ibid.*, *Rachais*, leane, carrion, scraggie. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Diet* (1735) 290 A Body hard, dry, scraggy, hairy, warm.. with firm and rigid Muscles [etc.] are Signs of strong, rigid, and elastic Fibres. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 84 He is a giant of a man for stature;..large-boned and scraggy. 1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, II. 133 Her sister, who was thin and scraggy. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xviii, A bevy of dowagers, stout or scraggy. 1851 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 143, I hope the summer will plump out my poor scraggy arms. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iv. 250 Our party started..in a long procession, mounted on scraggy ponies. 1898 W. WHITE *Jrnls.* 214 There were too many scraggy necks and shoulders.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Meagre, thin, scanty.

1837 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 64 The scraggiest of prophetic discourses. 1881 *Spectator* 24 Dec. 1654 'Receive me, thy poor Christian..' is very poor and scraggy, when compared to the stately simplicity of..'Recevez-moi' [etc.]. 1897 GLADSTONE *Let.* 25 June, in *Daily News* 30 June 7/2, I thank you for the Newark paper, a contrast with the scraggy sheet which strove to live there in my time.

2. Of meat: Lean. *Scraggy end* = scrag-end.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Broth*, The scraggy End of a Neck of Mutton. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. ii. 65 He ate..scraggy chops.

Hence **Scra·ggily** *adv.*[1]; **Scra·gginess**[1].

1865 MISS BRADDON *Sir Jasper* i, That general scragginess which distinguishes the arrangements of a gentleman's servants when they are cast upon their own resources. 1867 CARLYLE *Remin.* II. 148, I recollect being thankful (scraggily thankful) for the day of small things. 1869 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Sept. 12 Where..do all the scraggy, bad-fleshed beasts come from..and what is the cause of their scragginess?

Scraggy (skræ·gi), *a.*[2] [f. SCRAG *sb.*[2] + -Y. In some applications difficult to distinguish from SCRAGGY *a.*[1]] Rough, irregular or broken in outline or contour; esp. of rocks, rugged; of a stem or branch, knotted, full of projections; of trees, ragged, stunted or scanty in growth.

1574 R. SCOT *Hop Garden* (1578) 35 If your Poales be scraggye, so as you cannot stryp the stalkes from them. 1686 B. RANDOLPH *Pres. St. Morea* 6 The Walls are high, and their Foundations on scraggy Rocks. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cider* I. 8 A scraggy Rock, whose Prominence Half overshades the Ocean. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 276 [Black Cobalt ore] Its surface scraggy and botryoidal. 1815 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. lxvi. 365 The walk was immensely long..through the scraggy and hilly streets. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. ix. II. 21 There is game abundant in the scraggy woodlands. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 1 The plateaus produce..bush and scraggy thorn. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 396 To use a broken scraggy touch for the tops of mountains.

Hence **Scra·ggily** *adv.*[2]; **Scra·gginess**[2].

1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* ii, Within a landyard the lane is jumping scraggily, with ribs of solid rock. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/1 With their scraggy edges looking the very climax of scraggyness.

Scraich, scraigh (skrēχ), *v. Sc.* [Echoic: cf. SCRAUGH, SKREIGH *vbs.*, parallel onomatopœias with different vowels.] *intr.* To utter a harsh cry. So **Scraich, scraigh** *sb.*, a harsh cry. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Screigh.*)

1785 BURNS *Ep. to Lapraik* i, While..Paitricks scraichan loud at e'en..Inspire my Muse.

Scraip, obs. Sc. form of SCRAPE *v.*

Scrall, obs. form of SCRAWL, SCROLL.

Scram (skræm), *a. s.w. dial.* Also **skram.** [Cogn. w. SCRAM *v.*] Abnormally small, insignificant-looking, puny. *Scram hand*, a withered hand (Elworthy, *West Som. Gloss.*); hence Comb. *scram-handed* adj.

1825 J. JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 69 *Skram* adj., awkward; stiff, as if benumbed. *Ibid.*, *Skram-handed* adj., having the fingers or joints of the hand in such a state that it can with difficulty be used; an imperfect hand. 1853 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* (1871) Gloss., *Scram*, small, puny. 'What a scram cheeld!' 1872 HARDY *Greenwood Tree* v, There's sure to be some poor little scram reason for't. 1891 — *Tess* xxix, I'd ha' knocked him down wi' the rolling-pin—a scram little feller like he!

Scram (skræm), *v. s.w. dial.* Also 9 **scramb, skram.** [var. of SHRAM *v.*; cf. OE. *scrimman* (once; ? str. vb.) to shrivel, shrink.] *pass.* To be paralysed; to be benumbed (with cold). Also *transf.* of a wheel. Hence **Scra·mmed** *ppl. a.*

[*c* 1400 *Beryn* 2381 A Crepill..with hondis al for-skramyd.] 1697 R. PIERCE *Bath Mem.* I. x. 235 He..being..willing to play; but, not having a ready Use of his Lower Parts, could not, but was Scramm'd, drawn up altogether. 1825 J. JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 69 To *Skram* v. a., to benumb with cold. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Scrambed*, deprived of the use of some limb by a nervous contraction of the muscles. *Somerset.* 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xlii, On a frosty winter night he'll keep me there..till my arms be scrammed for want of motion. 1894 BEATRICE WHITBY *Mary Fenwick's Dau.* III. iii. 63 When the engine stops, her wheels get clogged up, and scrambed [with snow].

Scramasax (skræ·măsæks). *Antiq.* Also **-saxe,** and in L. form **-saxus.** [a. OFrankish **scrâmasahs* (latinized: 'cum cultris validis, quos vulgus *scramasaxos* vocant', Gregory of Tours, 6th c.), f. **scrâmo* of uncertain meaning + *sahs*: see SAX.] A large knife used by the Franks in hunting and in war; identified by antiquaries with a particular type of weapon found in Teutonic burial-mounds.

1862 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 4 Dec. 163 One of these weapons was the scramasaxus, or knife-shaped sword of the Anglo-Saxons, with one edge. *Ibid.*, Index, Scramasax from Little Hampton. 1870 BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 35 The long dagger or cutlass about twenty inches in length, called a scramasaxe.

Scramble (skræ·mb'l), *sb.* [f. SCRAMBLE *v.*]

1. A struggle with others for something or a share of something; hence, an indecorous struggle, a confused or disorderly proceeding.

1674 *Essex Papers* (1892) I. 201 The Truth is, y^e^ Lands of Ireland have bin a meer scramble, & y^e^ least done by way of orderly distribution of them as perhaps hath ever been known. 1687 WOOD *Life* 5 Sept. (O. H. S.) III. 237 His majesty..seeing the people begin to scramble after the victualls..he stood still to see the beginning of the scramble. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. cclxxv. 347 Somebody threw a Handful of Apples among them, that set them presently together by the Ears upon the Scramble. 1745 in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 21 He declined making purchases in land, that by leaving what he had in money, the scramble might be made the easier among those that came after him. 1788 A. FALCONBRIDGE *Acc. Slave Trade* 33 Sometimes the mode of disposal [of slaves] is that of selling them by what is termed a scramble...The negroes were..placed together in a large yard,..the doors of the yard were suddenly thrown open, and in rushed a considerable number of purchasers.. [who] seized such of the negroes as they could..lay hold of. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* iii. (1858) 12 The arrangements of good and ill success in this perplexed scramble of a world. 1839 DK. WELLINGTON *Let.* 12 Nov. in *Croker Papers* (1884), It is probable that Lord Melbourne's Government..will.. give us a better chance of tranquility than a Government formed by a scramble of Tories! 1860 MISS YONGE *Stokesby Secr.* ii. (1880) 191 Lessons were always rather a scramble. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 107 That scramble after undefined and indefinable rights which ends always in despotism. 1907 LD. CURZON *Frontiers* 8 But the scramble for new lands..will become less acute as there is less territory to be absorbed.

2. An act of scrambling or struggling progression; a scrambling journey.

1755 JOHNSON, *Scramble*...2. Act of climbing by the help of the hands. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xli, A scramble of five miles brought us to the eastern end of the valley. 1865 G. MACDONALD *Alex. Forbes* viii, The rats made one frantic scramble and were still. 1873 HALE *In His Name* i, Félicie liked nothing better than a brisk scramble to the top.

Scramble (skræ·mb'l), *v.* [Of obscure origin; first recorded late in the 16th c. Cf. dial. *scramb*, *scrame* 'to pull or take together with the hands' (Hutton *Tour to Caves*, ed. 2, 1781), also SCRAWM, SCAMBLE, and CRAMBLE *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To raise oneself to an erect posture, to get through or into a place or position, by the struggling use of the hands and feet; hence, to make one's way by clambering, crawling, jumping, etc. over difficult ground or through obstructions. Cf. SCAMBLE *v.* 4.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 221 The cowardly

wretch fell down, crying for succour, & (scrambling through the legs of them that were about him) gat to the throne. *Ibid.* III. 320 But Amphialus scrambled vp againe. 1614 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Water-worke* Ded., But if you will not assist me, I will attend the next hightide, & scramble vp into Pauls Church-yard. 1619 FLETCHER *M. Thomas* I. iii, *Dor.*..I know she loves him. *Alice.* Yes, and will not lose him, Unless he leap into the Moon,..And then she'l scramble too. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 132 My Master & my Mistrisse..scrambled (as well as they could) to bed [after a drinking-bout]. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 67 We..then scrambled up a very high and steep hill. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 52 In this alarm our troops scrambled to arms. 1772 PENNANT *Tours in Scot.* (1774) 339 The height was taken by a little boy, who scrambled to the top. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 117 Sometimes they scrambled from rock to rock, up the bed of some mountain stream. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon* 181, I hardly, with slow steps,..and much exceeding pain, Have scrambled past those pits of fire. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 65 There was a ladder! Down I let myself, Hands and feet, scrambling somehow. 1877 OWEN *Desp. Wellington* p. xxvi, Lake's..over-confident attempts to scramble into Bhurtpore without proper appliances.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 180 Girolamo Farnese.. has made a shift, without any Foreign assistance, to scramble into several Honours. 1785 COWPER *Tiroc.* 125 Lisping our syllables, we scramble next, Through moral narrative, or sacred text. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 411 He is a fellow who will scramble through the world with a light heart. 1879 Miss BRADDON *Vixen* i, He had only time to scramble through a hurried toilet. 1900 ELINOR GLYN *Vis. Elizabeth* (1906) 93, I had not even scrambled into my clothes when the clock struck five.

quasi-*refl.* (with *complement*). 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iii, A..boarding-school,..where girls might be sent to be out of the way, and scramble themselves into a little education.

c. *trans.* To collect or gather *up* hastily or in disorder; also, to cause (a crowd) to move in hurried confusion.

1822 M. A. KELTY *Osmond* I. 214 She had scrambled the boy's nine-pins into a bag. 1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride* xi, He hastily scrambled up the papers. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VIII. v, Juliet, scrambling up her hair, darted into the house. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxix. 339 These poor wretches have been scrambling and scraping their passage-money together for months. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 7/1 There is no earthly reason for rushing and scrambling the crowds into tight-fitting places.

2. *intr.* To strive or struggle with others for mastery; to contend with a crowd for a share of food, coin, wealth, etc. Cf. SCAMBLE *v.* 1.

c 1590 A. GORGES *Let. to R. Cecil* in P. F. Tytler *Life Raleigh* (1833) 132 At the first I was ready to break with laughing to see them two scramble and brawl like madmen. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1289 Many of them, in scrambling for the money that was cast abroad,..having their hands and fingers cut off. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 116 Of other care they little reck'ning make, Then how to scramble at the shearers feast, And shove away the worthy bidden guest. 1692 RAY *Creation* II. (ed. 2) 56 Had we wanted this Member [*sc.* the hand] in our Bodies, we must have lived.. without any Artificial..Meats; but must have scrabled with the wild Beasts for Crabs and Nuts. 1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Opened* 33 The Servants of God were not left to scramble for their Livings. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 205 When we are got out [into the world], and left to scramble for ourselves, how many hardships and tricks are put upon us. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 77 Which exposed their sure inheritance to be scrambled for and torn to pieces by every wild litigious spirit. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 549 Princes..were seen scrambling for lucre with footmen and prostitutes. 1862 LADY DUFF-GORDON in F. Galton *Vac. Tourists* (1864) 163 He..amused himself by making the little blackies scramble for halfpence in the pools left in the bed of the river.

b. *trans.* To contend or struggle with others for (a share of something distributed); hence, to seize rapaciously or unscrupulously.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 5 A little basket now before the doore They set forth, to be scrambled by the poore. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 126 His [the king's] revocation..of such things as had been depredated and scrambled away from the Crown in his Father's minority. 1656 OSBORN *Adv. Son* 27 The meanest; who have the impudence to scramble up any thing that suits to their advantage.

c. To scatter (money, etc.) to be scrambled for.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 563/2 And then they scrambles money between us. 1875 *New Q. Rev.* Oct. 202 A fairy princess,..who scrambles the diamonds to the crowd.

3. To cook (eggs) in the manner called 'scrambled'.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1903 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIX. 247 She scrambled eggs and bacon, and ate them.

Scrambled (skræ·mb'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SCRAMBLE *v.* + -ED 1.] In the senses of the verb.

1609 ARMIN *Maid of More-Cl.* G j b, Ha, what scrambled ends heape vp confusedly? 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xviii, The scrambled dinners in the small cabin.

b. *Scrambled eggs*, a dish of eggs broken into the pan and fried with milk, butter, salt, and pepper. Cf. SCRABBED *ppl. a.*

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 9 Feb., 'Here you,' he cried.. 'bring me..some scrambled eggs'. 1897 M. L. HUGHES *Mediterr. Fever* v. 192 In the later stages eggs lightly poached or scrambled may safely be used.

Scra·mblement. *nonce-wd.* [f. SCRAMBLE *v.* + -MENT.] The action or an act of scrambling.

1747 Mrs. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1862) II. 481 After the dinner is over the common people are let in to carry off all that remains..; you may imagine what a notable scramblement it occasions.

Scrambler (skræ·mblər). [f. SCRAMBLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who scrambles. (Cf. SCAMBLER.)

1687 Wood *Life* 5 Sept. (O. H. S.) III. 237 Dr. Derham.. was here noted for a scrambler, being in his scarlet, so notorious that they flung things in his face. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 40 ₱ 1 All the little scramblers after fame fall upon him, publish every blot in his life [etc.]. 1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 251 Nature..proportions the multiplication of the people to their comforts, and thus provides an everlasting supply of scramblers for subsistence. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Sept. 236 A scramble for sovereigns..would be sure to attract plenty of scramblers. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* xiii. (1894) 337 The mountaineer..is not a mere scrambler.

Scrambling (skræ·mblin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. SCRAMBLE; an instance of this.

1598 CHAPMAN *Achilles Shield* Ded., His [Virgil's] skirmishes are but meere scramblings of boyes to Homers. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Discipl.* I. 9 The Bishops, when they see him tottering, will leave him, and fall to scrambling, catch who may, hee a Patriarch-dome, and another what comes next hand. 1792 BARLOW *Constit. of* 1791, 13 Money..creates a perpetual scrambling for power. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cvii, At last, with swimming, wading, scrambling, he Roll'd on the beach, half senseless. 1888 GARNETT *Emerson* ii. 86 An age was impending of selfish scrambling and shameless manœuvring. 1908 M. M. HARPER *Rambles in Galloway* vii. 109 We were amply repaid for all our scramblings and genuflexions by the extent and beauty of the prospect.

b. *attrib.*, as *scrambling-ground*, *-place.*

1878 E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 49 He..protested against making the House of Commons a mere scrambling place for office. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Feb. 1/1 The Soudan flung away to be the scrambling-ground of the piratical adventurers of the world.

Scrambling (skræ·mblin), *ppl. a.* [f. SCRAMBLE *v.* + -ING 2. Cf. SCAMBLING *ppl. a.*]

1. Of persons: That scramble or contend one with another. Also applied to a meal at which the partakers help themselves to what they can get.

1607 BEAUMONT *Woman Hater* III. iv, Farewell my fellow Courtiers all, with whome, I haue of yore made many a scrambling meale In corners, behind Arasses, on staires. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 42 Scatter thy Nuts among the scrambling Boys. 1831 JANE PORTER *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* III. 17 We enjoyed our scrambling meal infinitely more than we did our dinner yesterday. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Moral* II. 52 To be divided..among a scrambling multitude.

2. Irregular or rambling in form or habit. Of a plant: Of straggling or rambling growth.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 86/2 Scrambling Trees are such as grow confusedly wide and spreading, and will not be kept in order. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* xxi, A huge old scrambling bed-room. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 46 Shrubs, having sometimes a scrambling habit. 1851 *Florist* 228 Scrambling Roses, to be pegged down during their season of growth, do not make the kind of effect in beds that one could wish. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 200 Scrambling Rocket.

b. Of a person: Shambling, uncouth.

1765 COWPER *Lett.* 14 Sept., I am upon good terms with.. five families, besides two or three odd scrambling fellows like myself. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* x, What should such an ill-favoured, scrambling urchin do at court?

3. Irregular, unmethodical.

1778 PR. FREDERICK in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 417 There had been a scrambling fight between Admiral Biron and Monsieur Destin. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 196 The ceremony was a business of so scrambling and shabby a nature, that she could as safely swear she was *not*, as that she *was* married. 1795 NELSON 29 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 64 The scrambling distant fire was a farce. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 45 Their too purblind, scrambling controversies. 1878 STUBBS *Mediæval & Mod. Hist.* vii. 137 Peter [of Blois] seems to have led a scrambling sort of literary existence. 1893 G. TREGARTHEN *Austral. Commw.* 244 The scrambling, and inefficient administration of the law.

Hence **Scra·mblingly** *adv.*

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (ed. 3) To Husbandman, Half or one third part of so much land as many of you Till, shall..yeeld you as much corn as all that great quantity scramblingly husbanded.

Scran (skræn), *sb. slang* and *dial.* Also **skran.** [Of obscure origin; the coincidence with mod. Icel. *skran* rubbish, odds and ends (Björn Haldorson, 18th c.) is prob. accidental.]

†**1.** (See quot. 1725.) *Obs.*

1724 in *Bacchus & Venus, Collect. Canting Songs* (1737) N2, E'er for the Scran he had tipt the Cole. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Scran*, a Reckoning at a Boozing-ken.

2. a. A collection of eatables; provisions for a slight repast or picnic; a portion of food carried by a labourer into the field for a meal. *Cold scran*, cold refreshment. **b.** Broken victuals; rarely, scraps of butchers' meat.

1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Skran*, 1. *Fine skran*, a phrase used by young people when they meet with any thing, especially what is edible, which they consider as a valuable acquisition, S. 2. The offals or refuse of human food, thrown to dogs, Loth. 1826–30 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* I. LXXXI. (1843) 14 Se weel she ettles what aw get..That nyen can say we.. want for owther claes or scran. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 418 Most of the lodging-house keepers buy the 'scran' (broken victuals) of the cadgers. 1857 'DUCANGE ANGLICUS' *Vulgar Tongue, Scran*, food. Thieves. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Scran*, pieces of meat, broken victuals. 1887 *Kent Gloss., Scran*, a snack of food; the refreshment that labourers take with them into the fields. *a* 1892 MILLIKEN *'Arry Ballads* 3 But to cart you off suddent to Chawbacon-shire and cold scran..I call it 'ard lines.

3. Phrase. *Bad scran to —!* = 'bad luck to'. Chiefly *Anglo-Irish.*

1841 LEVER *Charles O'Malley* lxxxv, Bad scram [*sic*] to me if I wouldn't marry you out of a face this blessed morning just as soon as I'd look at ye. 1867 KENNEDY *Banks Boro* xxv. 190 But bad scran to the note they'd give me back.

4. (From the verb.) The action of collecting broken victuals.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (1865) s.v. *Scran*, Scranning or 'out on the scran', begging for broken victuals.

5. *Comb.*: **scran bag,** (*a*) a cadger's receptacle for broken victuals; (*b*) a soldier's haversack; (*c*) a receptacle for impounded articles negligently left lying about the deck by sailors; hence **scran-bag** *v.*, to impound (such articles); **scran-pock** *Sc.* (see quot.); **scran wallet** *Sc.* = *scran-bag* (a).

1855 [BURN] *Autobiog. Beggar-boy* 17 Your professional pickpocket looks down with contempt upon a knight of the *scranbag. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 222 *Scran bag*, a soldier's Haversack. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 26 Mar. 493/2 The 'scran-bag' as the sailors term it, is the receptacle for all loose articles of clothing, &c., which are left about the ship by the men. 1903 L. YEXLEY in G. T. Wilson *Log of H.M.S. Phaeton* p. i, The Scran Bag. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 20 We came to the cells, and, lo! the only prisoner was a 'bike', '*scran-bagged' and awaiting ransom by its owner. 1825 JAMIESON Suppl., **Skran-pock.* 1. A beggar's wallet..Loth. 2. A bag meant for receiving the spoil or plunder of the dead who may have fallen in battle, when it is gathered by the women who follow the army. S.O. The term was thus explained, at the time of the trial of the Radicals at Falkirk, A. 1819. 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 192 Regardless o' '*scran-wallat' watchers, Or vile nefarious beggar catchers.

Scran (skræn), *v.* [f. SCRAN *sb.*]

1. *slang.* **a.** *trans.* To provide with 'scran' or food. **b.** *intr.* To collect scran or broken victuals.

c 1742 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 527 Tickets to be had for three Megs a Carcass to scran their Pannum-Boxes. 1859 in 'Ducange Anglicus' *Vulgar Tongue* (1857) 33 *Scranning*, begging. [Peculiar to the Scotch.] 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Scranning*, begging for broken victuals.

2. *Sc. trans.* and *intr.* (See quots.)

1825 JAMIESON, Suppl., To *Skran*, to make a promiscuous collection of things in whatever way, either by fair or by foul means, Edin. 1867 W. GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Skran*, to gain; to gather; to catch; as, 'Fin we're at the Heilan fishan, we're eye skrannin' something'.

Scranch (skrɑ̃nʃ), *sb. dial.* [f. SCRANCH *v.*] A 'scranching' noise or sound.

1881 T. E. BROWN *Fo'c's'le Yarns* 188 It [*sc.* the storm] come With a rip and a roar,..Rip-rip-rip—you know the scranch of it.

Scranch (skrɑ̃nʃ), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also **scraunch.** [App. an onomatopœic formation, related to CRANCH *v.* (which is slightly later in our quots.); cf. *crunch, scrunch* vbs., and SCR- 2. Mod.Du. and LG. have a vb. of similar form and sense: *schransen* to eat heartily, in 16th c. (Kilian) *schrantsen*, 'mandere, dentibus frangere', W. Flem. *schranzen* to crunch, chew noisily.]

1. *trans.* = CRUNCH *v.* 1.

1620 SHELTON *Quixote* II. xiii. 78 Sancho fell to, without inuitation, and champed his bits in the darke, as if he had scraunched knotted cordes. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 983 Locusts..have teeth..with which they easily eat ears of corn, and scranch them with a great noise. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 84 [He] epicurizes upon burning Coals, drinks healths in scalding Brimstone, scraunches the Glasses for his Desart. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Scranch*, to crunch, crack, or break any hard thing between the Teeth. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 72 We see the Swine scranching the Acorns. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ₱ 3, I then took a strange Hankering to Coals; I fell to scranching 'em. 1755 JOHNSON, To *Scranch*, To grind somewhat crackling between the teeth. The Scots retain it. 1785 [R. GRAVES] *Eugenius* I. vi. 35 Flora..scranching her apple. 1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words, Skranch*, the act of chewing or munching any thing that sounds short under the tooth, green apples, raw carrots, hard biscuits, &c. 'How 'a dew skransh em'. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Scranch, scrunch*, to grind with a crackling noise between the teeth.

2. = CRUNCH *v.* 2.

1845 JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii. (1874) 158 A troop of boys and girls..were coming up the hill, goring and scranching the crust [of the snow] with their iron corks. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 261 [It] broke, being scranched in my pocket, when I fell off pony-back.

Hence **Scra·nching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1846 W. SANDYS [Jan Treenoodle] *Spec. Cornish Dial.* 38 (E.D.D.) Apples ripe for scranching. 1854 Miss A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Scraunch*, A bow drawn in, an awkward, unskilful manner across a violin makes a scraunching noise.

Scranky (skræ·ŋki), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Also **sk-.** [Cf. Norw. *skrank* lean, large-boned figure (Ross); ? cogn. w. SHRINK *v.*] Lean, slender, scraggy.

17.. RAMSAY *Addr. Thanks* xiv, Ye lads of little rent, Wha..did lament Your purses being skranky. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 289 The skranky ancle bespeaks skranky neck and bosom. 1835 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xiv, It was a desolate-looking place..lumbered..with several skranky leathern-backed Spanish chairs. 1882 J. WALKER *Sc. Poems* 114 Poor devils, scranky as the kitchen tongs.

Scrannel (skræ·nĕl), *a.* [Cf. Norw. *skran* lean, shrivelled.] Thin, meagre. Now chiefly as a reminiscence of Milton's use, usually with the sense: Harsh, unmelodious.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 124 Their lean and flashy songs Grate on their scrannel Pipes of wretched straw. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xviii. (1713) 145 As lank and scrannel as a Calf that sucks his Dam through an hurdle. 1788 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) II. 92 His voice has a scrannel tone. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* xvii. 209 Voices like those of children in volume, but scrannel and harsh as those of decrepit age. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 20 Time..which he spent in birdsnesting, making whistles out of reeds and scrannel straws [etc.]. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1000 Now from the stone lungs sighed the scrannel voice. 1889 *Antiquary* Nov. 196 It would have..made the scrannel list of honest men show thinner still in history. 1908 DOBSON *De Libris* 192 In this cash-cradled Age, We grate our scrannel Musick.

b. *Comb.*: scrannel-piping, the use of a 'scrannel pipe'.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* III. x, A kind of infinite, unsufferable, Jew's-harping and scrannel-piping.

Scranny (skræ·ni), *a.*[1] Chiefly *dial.* [Cf. SCRANNEL.] Lean, thin. Of diet: Poor, meagre.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 2) 89 Want! thy confinement makes me scranny. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 268 *Rat...* Creeping thro' crevice, and chink, and cranny, With my snaky tail, and my sides so scranny. 1867 E. WAUGH *Owd Blanket* iii. 71 Hard wark..an' poor scranny livin'.

Scranny (skræ·ni), *a.*[2] *dial.* Crazy, wild, 'silly'.

1858 BAILEY *Age* 178 The people must go scranny once a year. 1862 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Bk. Doctors* xxiii. 259 His niece's scranny lover. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., Oh, dear! I'm well nigh scranny. The bairns are fit to drive one scranny.

Scrap (skræp), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–7 scrappe, 8 *Sc.* scrape, 6– scrap. [a. ON. *skrap* scraps, trifles (Sw. *skrap*, Da. *skrab*), f. root of *skrapa* SCRAPE *v.*]

1. *pl.* The remains of a meal; fragments (of food); broken meat. *rare* in *sing.* Also *fig.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 15 ȝif I miȝte gadre somwhat of þe crommes þat falleþ of lordes bordes...And also ȝif I myȝt gadre eny scrappes of þe releef of þe twelf cupes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151, I shall in generall, gather certayne scrappes & crommes that holy doctours hath left behynde them in wrytynge. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xv. 27 For yᵉ whelpes eat of yᵉ scrappes yᵗ fal from yeer Mʳˢ. table. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 40 They haue beene at a great feast of Languages, and stolne the scraps. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* E 3, *The muggill will tip you fat scraps and glorious bits*, the Beadle will well bumbast you. 1612 BACON *Ess., Of Judicature* (Arb.) 456 Those that ingage Courts in quarrels of Iurisdiction,..for their own scrappes and aduantage. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iv. vi. 207 He drinks water, and liue's of wort leaues, pulse, like a hog, or scraps like a dog. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* Ep. to Rdr., He who has raised himself above the alms-basket, and not content to live lazily on scraps of begged opinions, sets his own thoughts on work to find and follow truth. 1718 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 259 'Twas but for scraps he ask'd. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 239 Feeding them only with delusive expectations and stale scraps of enjoyment. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xiii. Wks. 1834 III. 221 Scraping they lived but not a scrap they gave. 1856 MACAULAY *Johnson* Misc. Writ. 1860 II. 274 He appeased the rage of hunger with some scraps of broken meat. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxi, He brought out of the pantry a dish of scraps [for a dog].

2. A remnant; a small detached piece; a piece very small by comparison with the whole; a fragmentary portion. Often with negative context = (not) the least piece. a. Of material things.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 39 Neuer so little scraps or shreds or short ends of lace. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 261 If Mansoul come to be mine, I shall not..consent that there should be the least scrap, shred, or dust of Diabolus left behind. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii, Like the scraps of paper fastened by school-boys at the end of the string that holds their kite. 1761 GRAY *Let. J. Brown* 24 Sept, Then I got a scrap of supper, and..walked home. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, As she passed through the crowd,..a scrap of paper was thrust into her hand. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 27 Not a scrap of meat, or an ounce of biscuit, was left on board. 1878 BLACK *Green Past.* xxix, Without a scrap of jewellery either round her neck or on her hands.

b. Of immaterial things, conversation, literary compositions, etc.

1607 MARSTON *What you will* II. i, A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse, Looke the I speake play scrappes. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 166. 209 Languages are to be learn'd only by reading, and talking, and not by scraps of Authors got by Heart. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* I. v, He is a Fool with a good Memory, and some few Scraps of other Folks Wit. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 96 P 2, I..was forced to get what Scraps of Learning I could by my own Industry. 1728 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 359 My Lord Grange took up the debate,..in a very distinct discourse, which I cannot pretend to resume; it's but scrapes I can give. 1767 WESLEY *Frnl.* 17 July, In my scraps of time..I read over that..poem. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 353 Follow'd then A classic lecture,..With scraps of thundrous Epic lilted out By violet-hooded Doctors. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 613 There is not a scrap of evidence in support of it. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. xxix. 400 He could turn to account every scrap of knowledge..which he happened to possess. 1888 BURGON 12 *Gd. Men* I. i. 22 The following note..is almost the only scrap of his early private correspondence which has reached me.

c. A small picture, cutting, etc. to be put in a SCRAP-BOOK or used for ornamenting a screen, box, or the like.

1880 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. II. 212/1 Having mounted many scraps of many kinds, including photos, I have found nothing so good as a..solution of gum arabic.

3. *pl.* a. The pieces of blubber, fish, etc. remaining after the oil has been extracted. Also *collect. sing.* b. (See quot. 1823.) *dial.*

Cf. the synonymous CRAP *sb.*[1] 3.

1631 E. PELHAM *Gods Power* 22 The Frittars or Graves of the Whale. *marg. note.* These be the Scraps of the Fat of the Whale, which are flung away after the Oyle is gotten out of it. 1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words, Scraps*,..the small pieces of fat pork remaining after the operation of boiling for the purpose of extracting the lard. 1839 T. BEALE *Sperm Whale* 187 The crisp membranous parts after the oil is extracted, and which are called by whalers 'scraps', serving for fuel. 1878 L. MADDOCKS *Menhaden Fish. Maine* 32 The article bears the same name when bought and sold as material for the superphosphate manufacturers, being called *green* or *dry* scrap, according to the moisture contained. 1879 G. B. GOODE *Catal. Anim. Resources U.S.* 187 Oil-factory scraps. Fish-scraps. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* iii. (1900) 18 The fires were fed with 'scrap'.

4. *Founding.* a. *pl.* Remnants of metal produced in cutting up or casting. b. = SCRAP-IRON.

a. 1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 367 In cutting out the rolled plated metal into pieces of the required forms and sizes, there are many shreds, or scraps as they are called, unfit for any purpose but the recovery of the metals by separating them from each other. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.* s.v., When the bottom of a puddling furnace requires renewing, malleable scrap-iron is put in and burned up till the bottom is covered with a coating of silica. This operation is termed 'putting scraps on'.

b. 1846 GREENER *Gun* 136 'Twopenny' or 'Wednesbury skelp'..is made of an inferior scrap. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 109 The pigs are to form the bath in which wrought iron and steel scrap is to be melted.

5. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* Consisting of scraps.

1815 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXV. II. 540/1 The scrap-knowledge of musick is immethodically made up of second-hand quotations. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 14 Nine tons and more of mild scrap steel. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 Jan. 6/6 While two women..were digging for scrap coal into a disused railway embankment.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scrap gatherer*; **scrap-box**, a receptacle for scrap-iron; **scrap-cake**, (*a*) *dial.* (see quot. 1877); (*b*) the solidified residuum of tried-out fat; (*c*) refuse of fish, etc.; **scrap dinner**, a makeshift dinner; **scrap-furnace**, one for melting scrap-iron; **scrap-hopper**, a trough used in trying out blubber; **scrap-monger**, one who deals in (literary) scraps; **scrap-pie**, a pie consisting of scraps or remains of meals; **scrap pudding** (see quot.). Also SCRAP-BOOK, -HEAP, -IRON.

1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 15 If they could return and see their handiwork consigned to the *scrap-box as old iron. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, **Scrap-keeaks*, cakes made of dough mixed with scraps of fat or dripping. 1879 *U.S. Comm. Fish & Fisheries* V. 174 This cheese or scrap-cake is ground to different degrees of fineness. 1776 in *Archives of Maryland* XI. 96 Will it be agreeable to the Governor and yourself to take a *Scrap Dinner with me tomorrow. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 182 Mr. Sidney always came unseasonably...So sure as we had a scrap dinner, so sure came he. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 89 Balling and *scrap furnaces. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 136 Parasites and *scrap-gatherers at free-cost feasts. 1879 G. B. GOODE *Catal. Anim. Resources U.S.* 175 *Scrap-hopper. 1786 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Boswell* 23 Thou, curious *scrapmonger, shalt live in song When Death hath still'd the rattle of thy tongue. 1829 CAROLINE BOWLES (Mrs. Southey) *Chapters on Churchyards* II. i. 23 Just as the 'young gentlemen' had risen from their Saturday's commons of *scrap-pie and stick-jaw. 1876 J. PAYN *Halves* xii, 'Scrap pie' and unattractive cutlets. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, **Scrap pudding*, a pudding made by mixing flour with the small pieces of meat left after the fat of a pig has been melted down to lard.

Scrap (skræp), *sb.*[2] *slang.* Also 8–9 **scrapp.** †1. (See quots. 1725, 1809) *Obs.*

1679–80 C. HATTON in *H. Corr.* (Camden) 217 The factious persons of his gange,..now mightily commiserat him, as if his accusation wase only to carry on yᵉ pretended Presbiterian plot; for in truth they are in great feare Sʳ Robᵗ. Payton shou'd bring them into yᵉ scrappe. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Scrap*, a Design, a purpos'd Villainy, a vile Intention; also a perpetrated Roguery: *He whiddles the whole Scrap*; He discovers all he knows. 1809 G. ANDREWES *Dict. Slang, Scrapp*, a villainous scheme.

2. A struggle, scrimmage, tussle; a boxing-match.

1874 [see SCRAP *v.*[2]]. 1885 G. DOLBY *Dickens* iv. 102 Papers, which he threw carelessly amongst a group of passengers to be scrambled for—producing an effect more resembling a 'scrap' in a game of football than the action of a lot of sober citizens. 1905 *Century Mag.* Aug. 485/1 A suggestion to match the two coxswains..for a 'feather-weight scrap'.

Scrap (skræp), *v.*[1] *dial.* [var. of SCRAB *v.*] *intr.* (See quot. 1895.)

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 324/2 (MS. Addit.), To Scrappe as a hen dose, *ruspare*. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Scrap*, to scratch in the earth; as a dog or other animal having that propensity.

Scrap (skræp), *v.*[2] *slang.* [f. SCRAP *sb.*[2]] a. *intr.* To fight, box. Also, to scrimmage.

1874 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 280 *Scrap*, to fight. Also used as a substantive. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 137 Look..at the football picture opposite; note the two quarter backs scrapping with each other in friendly combat.

b. *trans.* To box with (an opponent).

1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* xvii. 83, I could put up my dooks, so I was backed to scrap a cove bigger nor me.

Scrap (skræp), *v.*[3] [f. SCRAP *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To break up into scrap-iron (machinery or ironwork which has become worn out or superseded); to consign to the scrap-heap. Also *fig.*

1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 Oct. 8/4 The Americans would 'scrap' it [*sc.* a machine] at once if they discovered that something better had got on the market. 1904 G. B. SHAW *Comm. Sense Municipal Trading* 41 Private enterprise..will not start a new system until it is forced to scrap the old one. 1906 *Morning Post* 6 July 6/6 A clause which will have to be 'scrapped'. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 11 July 38/1 The policy of..building fast small cruisers while scrapping numerous vessels of older type.

2. To make scrap or refuse of (menhaden or blubber). 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Scrapable (skrē·păb'l), *a.* [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being scraped.

1840 CAROLINE FOX *Old Friends* (1882) 71 [A picture] which, upon examination, he found scrapable; he scraped and developed a Coreggio.

Scra·p-book. [f. SCRAP *sb.*[1]] A blank book in which pictures, newspaper cuttings, and the like are pasted for preservation. Hence occas. as the title of a printed book of miscellaneous contents.

1825 (*title*) The Scrap Book, or a selection of..anecdotes. 1854 THACKERAY *Leech's Pict.* (1869) 328 Great swollen scrap-books,..full of the comic prints of grandpapa's time. 1881 LANG *Library* 2 An assortment of broadsheet ballads and scrapbooks, bought in boyhood, was the nucleus of Scott's library.

Hence **Scra·p-book** *v.*, to place in a scrap-book.

1881 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp abroad* xlvi, I scrap-booked these reports during several months. 1883 *North Star* 25 Oct 3/2 We trust that our wage-earning readers especially will scrap-book these Letters, for after-study.

Scrape (skrēip), *sb.*[1] [f. SCRAPE *v.*]

I. Means, act, or result of scraping.

1. An instrument for scraping, a scraper. †a. A scraping tool held in the hand (*obs.*). b. *Eastern U. S.* 'A small dredge' (Funk's *Stand. Dict.*).

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 607 Or brasen scrapis out of euery dalke Hem scrape [orig. *uncinis æreis tollendi sunt vermes ex ficu*]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XX. (Roxb.) 247/1 The Fourth is an Iron Scrape..set in a wooden handle, it is for the skullion to scrape and clense the furnice hole.

2. An act of scraping. a. *gen.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 324/2 A Scrape (*MS. Addit.* to Scrappe) as a hen dose; *ruspare*. 1553 ASCHAM *Disc. Germ.* 27 b, And how soone *emig* [read *einig*] may be turned into *ewig*, not with scrape of knife, but with the least dash of a pen, so that it shall neuer be perceiued, a man that will proue, may easely see. 1611 COTGR. *Gratture*, a scratch, a scrape.

b. *Scrape of a pen* (Sc.): a hasty scribble, a small scrap of writing. Cf. SCRIBE *sb.*, SCRIP *sb.*

1690 EARL OF MELFORT in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 198 And in all this time we have not one scrape of a pen to free us from all these pains we suffer. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, It..wad cost but the scrape of the pen to make it out. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IX. viii, Just give me a scrape of a pen to him to transfer the amount to your credit.

c. An awkward bow or salutation in which the foot is drawn backwards on the ground. Often coupled with *bow* or *leg.*

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.*, *Scholler* (Arb.) 41 But his scrape is homely, and his nod worse. 1660 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 366 That they might make long legs and scrapes to them. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ-Filius* No. 39 (1726) II. 50 A formal fellow..going to see an acquaintance of his..made a thousand scrapes and cringes. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* vi, I..made him a abundance of bows and scrapes. 1787 J. P. ANDREWS *Anecd.* (1790) 146 He drew from his purse a guinea, and with a scrape, made an uncouth offer of it. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* i, To every one of these assurances..Andy made a bow and a scrape. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xv, Uncle Reuben made his very best scrape and then walked up to the table.

d. A drawing of the bow over the violin.

1831 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 7 July, He can actually sell the tones of his fiddle at so much a scrape. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* IV. xi, Baroni appeared..with his violin. He gave a scrape or two, and the audience became orderly.

e. *jocular.* A shave.

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Scrape*, low wit for a shave. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* iv, I's jist gang ower to the barber's an' get a scrape.

f. *Fencing.* (See quots.)

1889 POLLOCK, etc. *Fencing* (Badm. Libr.) 52 The scrape.—If slang were allowed, this ought to be called the 'scrooge'; but there is no English word which precisely reproduces the French *froissé*. It is delivered in tierce when the adversary has his point too low, or his arm stretched out. *Ibid.*, Giving his sword a scrape which ought to unnerve his hand for the moment. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 385/1 (Fencing), The *scrape* (this is the nearest English word for the French *froissé*) is made only in the high lines and mostly in the upper line (tierce).

g. A sound of scraping.

1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xiv, The harsh scrape of Natt's clogs was on the gravel.

3. One who 'scrapes' or uses excessive economy, a miser. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *E. D. D.*).

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *A Scrape*, as meer Scrape, a saving industrious Person.

4. a. A place scraped bare on a hillside. *dial.*

1781 BECKFORD *Th. upon Hunting* (1802) 258, I have known them lie in sheep's scrapes, on the sides of hills, and in small bushes. 1848 BARNES *Poems Rural Life* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Scrape*, a sheep-scrape; a bare place, where the turf has been scraped off by sheep's feet on a steep down-side. 1894 PATTERSON *Newfdld. Words* in *Trans. Amer. Folk-Lore Soc.* (E.D.D.), *Scrape*, a rough road down the face of a bank or steep hill, used specially in regard to such as are formed by sliding or hauling logs down.

b. A place where the soil has been scraped up.

1862 *Athenæum* 27 Sept. 391 The deer which..were addicted, at certain seasons, to dig up the land with their fore feet, in holes to the depth of..half a yard, contributed a new word to our language. These were called 'scrapes'. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Apr. 7/4 Rabbit holes and scrapes at once appeared in shoals to the terror of the old golfers.

5. A layer (of butter) scraped thin; chiefly in *bread and scrape* (colloq.).

1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* vii, A double ration of bread ..with the delicious addition of a thin scrape of butter. 1861 *London Rev.* 16 Feb. 170 Cutting the children's bread and scrape! 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* xlvii, Some people have their happiness thinly spread over their whole lives, like bread and scrape!

6. (See quot. 1879.)

1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 343 It [turpentine] is occasionally..scraped off, and barreled by itself. It is, therefore, known in market as 'scrape'. 1879 F. H. BUTLER in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 711/1 The concreted turpentine obtained in the United States by making incisions in the trunk of a species of pine, *Pinus australis*,..is commercially known as 'scrape'. 1884 C. S. SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 517 The yield of the 'scrapes'..is estimated..at from 60 to 70 barrels of 280 pounds [of turpentine] each.

II. 7. An embarrassing or awkward predicament or situation, usually one into which a person is brought by his own imprudence and thoughtlessness.

[Prob. from the notion of being 'scraped' in going through a narrow passage: see SCRAPE *v.* 4 c, and the later sense 9.]

1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 71 P 8 A Youngster in a Scrape, is a Word out of Date. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 89 Cleander told Rivella what a Scrape they were brought into. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) I. 273, I congratulated myself on my Dexterity in getting out of the Scrape. 1755 JOHNSON, *Scrape*, difficulty; perplexity; distress. This is a low word. 1771 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 11, I was generally the leader of the boys and sometimes led them into scrapes. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. xx, And let few opportunities escape Of getting her liege lord into a scrape. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. vii, Every scrape of the government was a step in the ladder to the great boroughmonger. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* v, Here one has only just to take care of oneself, and keep out of scrapes. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xlvi, If you don't take care, young man,..you will find yourself in a scrape with your Madalina. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* iv, If anyone was in a scrape about money.

Scrape (skrēp), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [Of obscure origin; the ON. *skreppa* mousetrap has been compared, but connexion is very doubtful.] A trap for catching birds; =SHRAPE *sb.*

1620 J. WILKINSON *Treat. Statutes* 124 Next you shall enquire if there be in euery parish..a crow net,..and it is not enough to haue one, but it must be vsed, & scrapes made in the winter to that purpose. 1668 WORLIDGE *Dict. Rust.*, A Shrape, or Scrape, a place baited with Chaff or Corn to entice Birds. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 425 Catch'd like Sparrows in a Scrape of Chaff. 1877 E. LEIGH *Cheshire Gloss.* 177 *Scrape*, seeds or corn laid on the snow, in order to get a raking shot at birds.

Scrape (skrēp), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **scraped** (skrēpt). Also 6 *Sc.* **scraip**(e, **skraip** (pr. pple. **screpand**, **screpping**, 7 *rarely* pa. pple. **scrapen**. [ME. *scrape* (also SHRAPE), perh. (see SCR- 1) directly repr. OE. *scrapian* (see quot. under sense 4); perh. a. the corresponding ON. *skrapa* to scrape, erase, in Icel. to clatter (Sw. *skrapa*, Da. *skrabe* to scrape) = MDu., Du. *schrapen*:—OTeut. type **skrapōjan*, f. root **skrap-*, ablaut-var. of **skrep-* in OE. *screpan* (str.; ME. SCREPE wk.) to scrape.

Other cognates are Du., LG. *schrappen* to scrape (whence G. *schrappen*, *schraffen*), MHG. *schreffen* (mod.G. *schröpfen*) to scarify; the Du. *scrabben* SCRAB *v.* is prob. more remotely connected.

The Teut. root **skrep-* : **skrap-* may be a metathetic form of **skerp-* : **skarp-* (see SHARP *a.*); cf. OE. *scearpian* to scarify.]

I. *trans.* To remove (an outer layer or something excrescent or adhering) by drawing across the surface the edge of some instrument held nearly perpendicularly. Chiefly with advs., *off*, *away*, *out*, or const. *from*, *off*, *out of*.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* ii. 8 The whiche with a sherd scrapide [1388 schauyde] awei the qwyture, sittende in the dunghil. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 213 þat men of þat lond ete þe flesche of her owne children, and meny scrapede of þe pouder of an hil and ete it as it were mele. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 608 Or brasen scrapis out of euery dalke Hem scrape. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scrapyn, or schavyn a-wey, *abrado*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 240 b, He scraped y^e^ stynkyng fylth & corrupcyon of her deed body. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xiv. 43 After y^e^ stones are broken out, & the playster scraped of [etc.]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 16 Of this Robert reporteth Reynulph that he scraped from one Beame of his Church in Couentrie fiue hundreth marke, to fill the hande of king William. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 205 He..doth enlarge his Rising, with the blood Of faire King Richard, scrap'd from Pomfret stones, Deriues from heauen, his Quarrell, and his Cause. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 550 With kniues in their hands, to scrape from their legs the bloud-leeches. 1686 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (ed. 3) v. 94 After your Groom has..scrapt off all the Sweat from your Horses. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* i. Wks. 1751 XIV. 23 When you cut Bread for a Toast,..lay it on the Coals;..and, if you find it toasted quite through, scrape off the burnt Side, and serve it up. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 189 But let me scrape the dirt away That hangs upon your face. 1786 CHELSUM *Hist. Engrav. Mezzotinto* 6 These parts are scraped away in a greater or less degree, as the lights are intended to be stronger or weaker. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 191 Covered by a soft pulpy matter, which may be readily scraped away. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 193, I scraped the lichen from it [the tombstone]. 1877 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* (ed. 2) I. 37 Like dry colours scraped off a picture.

†**b.** *spec.* To erase (writing, etc.) with a knife. Chiefly with advs. *out*, *away*, *off*, and const. *out of*. The earliest recorded use; the older SCREPE *v.* occurs in the same sense. Sometimes (as in quot. 1563–83) the sense appears to be: To delete by crossing through with a pen.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7044 And commaunded alle yn rape A-wey þat wrytyng for to skrape. ?1384 CHAUCER *Wordes unto Adam* 6 So ofte a daye I mot thy werk renewe, Hit to correcte and eek to rubbe and scrape, And al is through thy negligence and rape. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xxi. (1869) 83 Which thing if it so were, riht so alle hise ordenaunces shulden be put out of the book, and defaced and scraped. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 190, I will skrape this awaie anon, Their as a virgine is wrytten on, I will wryte, a good woman. 1530 PALSGR. 707/1 Scrape out this lyne, it is falsely written. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 421/1 A..learned priest, that through out al the ghospels scraped out *diabolus* and wrote *Iesus Christus*. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1597/2 Then he tooke his penne & said that he would scrape it out for my pleasure. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1189/1 Bookes..beautified with Images, the heads wherof had bin scraped off. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Trwictise* 152 Screpping out the wordis (*ful of grace*) and putting in..(*ȝrelie beloouit*). *Ibid.* 276 Screpand out thir wordis, *Except* [etc.]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 9 Thou conclud'st like the Sanctimonious Pirat, that went to sea with the ten Commandements, but scrap'd one out of the Table. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 19/2 One end was sharpe to make the letters, the other end broad with an edge, to scrape what was amise, out againe.

transf. and *fig.* *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 448 Faire so his figure is festened in mi ȝout [*read* þout], þat wiþ no coyntise ne craft ne can y it out scrape. 1387 TREVISA tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 431 Haue mynde of Moyses, hym was levere be scraped out of þe book of lyf. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 203 His vnhappy predestinate chaunce coulde not by any policy be put by, nor by any instrument scraped away. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* IX. xii, The poore in sprite Shall not be scrapt, from out of heav'nly score. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 231 Yes, by all meanes: if it be but to scrape the figures out of your husbands braines.

2. To deprive of an outer layer or to free from excrescent or adhering matter by drawing the edge of some instrument over the surface; to abrade, clean, or render smooth, or to obtain scrapings from, by this process.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 Take þe Mawes of Turbut, Haddok, or Codelyng, & pyke hem clene, & skrape hem, & Wasshem clene. 1530 PALSGR. 707/1, I scrape a parchement skynne to make it the better to write on. *Ibid.*, Scrape the knedynge troughe or you put in the meale. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xiv. 41 Then shall he command..the house to be scraped within rounde aboute. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 43 And with a piece of glasse he skrapeth his fingers. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 2 Where's Potpan, that he helpes not to take away? He shift a Trencher? he scrape a Trencher? 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 25 *Onicha*, a kind of spice very cleare, which being scraped giveth an extraordinary sweet savour. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* 19 It may bee his trenchers were not scrap't. 1662 FAITHORNE *Art Graving* 48 After you have graved part of your work, it will be necessary to scrape it with a sharp edge of another Graver. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Joinery* 70 These hard woods are..more properly said to be Scraped than Plained. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Horse-radish*, The Root..is scraped and used with Vinegar for Sauce to roast Beef, Mutton, &c. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1783 (1811) IV. 205 He..scraped the joints of his fingers with a pen-knife, till they were quite red and raw. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The gravel walk and terrace had been scraped quite clean. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxii. 349 Ice at 32° may..be scraped with a knife with even greater facility than some kinds of chalk. 1880 *Standard* 12 Apr. 2/8 He at once seized him and discovered that he had a gold band bracelet,..worth about 5*l*...It had evidently been tested, for it was 'scraped' in more than one place. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Oct. 2/2 An ironclad's..bottom is always foul when she cannot be periodically docked and scraped. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Scraping*, cleaning the spars of a ship and parts of the hull with a small piece of sharp iron, steel, or glass.

b. To remove the dirt from the soles of (one's boots or shoes) by drawing them over a door-scraper.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xliii, I'd scrape my shoes on the scraper of the door.

c. Used jocularly for: To shave.

1773 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 280 Their barber bauld his whittle crooks And scrapes them for the races.

d. To inscribe or portray on stone by scraping away the surface.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 728/2 But if he feele it written there in dede as he saith he doth, then he feleth it scribled and scraped in his hert by the croked clouen clawes of the deuill. 1581 L. ALDERSEY in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 282 The outside of the [holy] sepulchre is very foule, by meanes that euery man scrapes his name and marke vpon it. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliv, The family arms were just new scraped in stone.

e. To produce (a mezzotint engraving) by scraping the prepared copper plate. Also *absol.*

1747 *Sculptura-Hist.-Techn.* 225 Mezzotinto, called Scraping or Burnishing on Copper. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 239 Several prints were made from his works, and several plates he etched and scraped himself. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Feb. 3/1 The painter has scraped a mezzotint from his picture.

†**3.** Of a beast or bird: To remove (soil, etc.) by scratching with the feet or claws; to make (a hole) by scratching. Also *absol.* or *intr.* to scratch in the ground. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Sir Tryam.* 392 (Percy Soc.) Hys gode hownde..scraped on hym bothe ryne and mosse, And fro hym nevyr wolde gone! *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 308 Sho [a wolf] began to skrape & grafe abowte þe rowte with hur naylis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scrapyn, as hennys, *ruspor*. 1530 PALSGR. 707/1 Yonder dogge scrapeth to make a hole to hyde his dyner in. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Scalpturio*, to scrape as a Cocke dothe, or other fowles. ?*a* 1598 *D. Ferguson's Sc. Prov.* No. 327 (1785) 13 He is a proud tod that will not scrape his ain hole.

fig. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 5 Those Arabick traditions which that author scrapes as much for, as Æsops Cock did on the Dunghill. *Ibid.* III. ii. § 4 Scraping and searching into the natures of things.

b. *trans.* with adv. or phrase. † *To scrape out, forth*: to dig out with the nails or claws. Also *fig.*

1530 PALSGR. 707/1 She loved nat her housbonde whyle he lyved, and now she wolde be gladde to scrape hym out of the yerthe with her nayles. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* To Rdr. 12 For ane hen that seikis hyr meyt in the mydding, may scraipe sa lang amang the fylthi, quhil sche scraip furtht sum ald knyfe that hes been tynt. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* IV. (1849) 205 The females [turtles]..lay their eggs in holes [in the sand] which they scoop out with their fin-like feet. The work being accomplished, the sand is again scraped back over the eggs, and the surface made smooth as before.

†**4.** To scratch with the finger-nails or claws; also *intr.* Also, to caress (a dog, etc.) by scratching or clawing. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sign Language* § 67 in *Techmers Zeitschr.* II. (1885), ȝif þu ægera beþurfe, þonne scrapa þu mid þinum fingre up on þinne wynstran þuman. *a* 1400–1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 87 in *Babees Bk.*, Yf þy nown dogge þou scrape or clawe, þat is holden a vyse emong men knawe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scrapyn, a(s) bestys (*MS. S.* schrapen), *scalpo*. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 97 Thou likst ill men, ill men thee laude. So Mules of mules are scrapt and clawd. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 163 The little Dog, seeing his true maister returned home, ranne barking to the doore,..fawning and scraping his Lord and maister also.

†**b.** Phr. *Go scrape!* app. a form of contemptuous dismissal. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Envoyer au grat*, to send a grazing; a Maister to put away his man; (and, perhaps from this phrase came our contemptuous, *Goe scrape*).

†**c.** To scratch, lacerate (with thorns). *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 113 The pryst demyd them devylles both, wyth them he wolde not mett; He sparyd nother hylle, nor holte, busche, gryne, nor grett; Lord! he was fowle scrapyd!

†**d.** To make a scratching noise with the finger-nails on (a door), by way of an unobtrusive signal. In later use *intr.* with const. *at*. *Obs.*

Cf. SCRATCH *v.* 7.

c 1400 *Beryn* 481 ȝit trowid he no gyle, but went[e] nere to, And scrapid the dorr welplich, & wynyd with his mowith. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 24. 173, I hope we shall never.. condescend to Scrape, instead of Knocking, at a Great Man's Door. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* IV. vi, We came to the door of a second chamber, at which Fleuri scraped gently.

5. (*fig.* of sense 3.) 'To gather by great efforts, or penurious or trifling diligence' (J.); to amass, get possession of, collect, or bring together with difficulty. Now only with *together* or *up*.

[1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H ij b, It shuld not greue me..to scrape my lyuyng out of the harde stone walles, with my nayles.] 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol., Whan was there more haftyng and craftyng to scrape money together..than now. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Northumbld.* xvi, Who in my cause al that he could ey skrapte. 1588 *Munday's Banq. Daintie Conceits*, '*The Statelie pine*' v, The wealthy chuffe, that..scrapes and scratches all the mucke he may. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 27 Thereafter all that mucky pelfe he tooke,..The which her sire had scrap't by hooke and crooke. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 178 Busie..in scraping up money for such idle expences. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 2 We do amisse to spend seven or eight yeers meerly in scraping together so much miserable Latin, and Greek. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 142 But to make up this also he does *corradere* scrape together some things extrinsecal to the words of this authoritie. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 278 The greatest, but not best part of men..scrape up Wealth by Hooke, or by Crooke. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* X. i. 24 The Prelaticall party complained, that to swell a number, the non-conformists did not chuse, but scrape Subscribers. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 P 2 By the Age of Five and twenty I had scraped together Four thousand two hundred Pounds Five Shillings, and a few odd Pence. 1805 H. K. WHITE *Let.* Apr. *Life & Rem.* (1850) 330 The poor Tallow-chandler, who..at length scraped money enough to retire. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 683 The fervent dean scraped together all his properties..to endow it [a College]. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. x. 272 The first money he was able to scrape together by strict frugality. 1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mlle. Ixe* iii. 80 They really must scrape some men together to balance all these heavy girls.

b. *To scrape (an) acquaintance*: to get on terms of acquaintance *with* by careful effort and insinuation; rarely with *up*. So † *to scrape kindred.*

'A low phrase. To curry favour, or insinuate into one's familiarity' (J.). Cf. † *to scratch acquaintance*, SCRATCH *v.* 1 e.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Epigr. xxxi, One newlie practiz'd in Astronomie..Would scrape (forsooth) acquaintance of the skie, And by his arte, goe knocke at heauen dore. 1602 *How a Man may Chuse gd. Wife* F 1 b, O this acquaintance was well scrapte of me. 1641 C. BURGES *Serm.* 5 Nov. 58 Although God be gratiously indulgent, yet is he not inconsiderately prodigall of mercies to all that scrape acquaintance with him in their troubles. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 157 Affecting relation to Troy, and scraping kindred thence. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lx. 402 Mrs. Harris scraped acquaintance with Mrs. Thomas. 1825 MRS. SHERWOOD *Yng. Forester* (Houlston Tr.) I. 5 He contrived to scrape acquaintance with certain smugglers. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* lix, Two or three of the immates..with whom Jack had already scraped up an acquaintance. 1880 L. OLIPHANT *Land of Gilead* i. 8 After establishing ourselves..we went out to look about us, and scrape acquaintance with the people. 1904 F. WHISHAW *Lovers at Fault* v. 43 Her two dearest friends had contrived to scrape acquaintance without introduction.

c. *absol.* and *intr.* To hoard up penuriously; to save or economize; to gather together money, etc. with labour and difficulty. Now chiefly *dial.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm., St. Andr. Day* (1562) 120 They intend to gette that money agayne which they haue layed out, and afterwarde to scrape for purchasyng. 1552 — *1st Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 302 b, Euery manne scrapeth for hymselfe. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 109 Zacheus, which before hee had seene Christ, knew nothing but to scrape; but as soone as he had heard Christ, all his minde was set vpon giuing. 1592 *Nobody & Somebody* D 3, Let them grieue That scrape for wealth, I will the poore relieue. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxv, She scraped and scraped at pleasure, till I was almost starved to death. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 74/2 How he got it [so much money], save by scrape—scraping, the Lord alone knows. 1881 *Century Mag.* Nov. 133 You do have a hard time, don't you?..to slave and tug and scrape to get a house over your head.

6. Used disparagingly for: To play (a fiddle); occas. *to scrape catgut*; to play (a tune, etc.) on the fiddle. Cf. F. *râcler*. Chiefly *absol.*

1599 [see CATGUT 1]. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westward*

Hoe I v. i, They are but rozining, sir, and theile scrape themselues into your company presently. *Mono.* Plague a their Cats guts and their scraping. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. of Milan* II. i, You shall scrape, and Ile sing, A scuruie Dittie to a scuruie tune. *a* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 189 Like contry fidlers [to] scrape for our livings. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 37 Save where some Fiddler scrapes a drowsy Tune. 1779 V. KNOX *Ess.* lxxi. (1782) I. 310 It is..necessary to do little else than scrape and pipe. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii, The musicians were still there..scraping and twanging away. 1842 LEVER *J. Hinton* ix, While fiddles, French-horns, and dulcimers, scraped and blew their worst. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, He..was scraping consolation out of its deepest notes.

7. To rub harshly on (a surface) in passing along or over it, so as to cause abrasion or produce a grating noise; to draw (something) roughly over a surface.

1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 152 The chiming Clocks to dinner call; A hundred footsteps scrape the marble Hall. 1857 O. W. HOLMES *Autocrat* iii, Somebody happened to scrape the floor with his chair just then; which accidental sound..broke the charm. 1871 DARWIN *Descent of Man* II. xiii. 61 Turkey-cocks scrape their wings against the ground, and some kinds of grouse thus produce a buzzing sound. 1897 *Encycl. Sport.* I. 473/1 (Golf) *Sclaff*, to scrape the surface of the ground with the sole of the club head before striking the ball.

b. *intr.* To graze *against* or *on*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 344 When the animal therefore is compelled to make a step forward, it scrapes on the back of the nails along the surface. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlvi. (1856) 423 Fangs of broken ice, which scraped against the beach as the tides rose and fell.

† **c.** *transf.* To pass very closely *along*. *Obs.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 750 Then scraping along the island Prochita.., he put into the bay of Puteoli.

d. To draw one's feet noisily over the floor. Hence † *trans.* to insult by doing this in a public assembly (*obs.*). Also *To scrape down*: to silence (a speaker) by making a noise with the feet.

1561 [see SCRAPING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1773 JEBB in Disney *Mem.* J.'s Wks. 1787 I. 57 The young men were offended at him [Wilgress] for his behaviour as proctor, and therefore *scraped* him. When the sermon was over, the vice-chancellor called to the proctors, to take the names of all the gentlemen in one of the galleries. 1785 [see SCRAPING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1832 *Tour through College* 25 (Hall *College Words*), They not unfrequently rose to open outrage or some personal molestation, as..'scraping him'. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 749 Another [orator] was coughed and scraped down.

8. *intr.* To make obeisance, to bow drawing the foot back, 'to make an awkward bow' (J.).

Often *to bow and scrape*, with contemptuous reference to over-ceremonious politeness or reverence.

1645 GIPPS *Serm.* 12 Who will scrape to a keeper for a piece of Venison, who may have free accesse to the master of the game to aske and have? 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 24 Have you not known some in a low condition, to bow and scrape? 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 396 By turns transform'd into all kinds of shapes, Constant to none, Foote laughs, cries, struts, and scrapes. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, He ducked with his head and shoulders, scraped with his more advanced hoof,..and withdrew to his own domains. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xxxv. I. 301 Bowing and scraping and rubbing his hands together.

† **b.** trans. *To scrape a leg*: to make a leg (see LEG *sb.* 4). *Obs.*

1602 [see LEG *sb.* 4]. 1672 H. MORE *Brief Reply* 328 Scraping many legs to him, and desiring him to tell his demands. *Ibid.*, And scraping many Legs, asked a largess of the Knight. 1681 D'URFEY *Progr. Honesty* v. 5 Sure he has some suit to beg, That thus he sneaks and scrapes a Leg.

9. intr. *To scrape along*: to manage or 'get along' with difficulty. *To scrape through*: to get through a trial, an examination, so as just to escape failure.

1884 W. CUDWORTH *Yorksh. Dial. & Character Sk.* 33 (E.D.D.) Boath him an' his father hed scraped along withaht wommanly help. 1905 VACHELL *The Hill* iii. 51 We must mug up our 'cons' well enough to scrape along without 'puns' and extra school. 1907 ELINOR GLYN *Three Weeks* i, He scraped through his 'Smalls' and his 'Mods'.

b. *trans.* (causatively.) *To scrape* (a person) *through*: barely to enable him to get through.

1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 243 A futile effort to scrape Billy through an examination. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 7/2 The..tests of fitness for promotion,..for which officers cram up a little theoretical knowledge, just sufficient to scrape them through.

10. *Comb.* **a.** in contemptuous designations of persons, as † **scrape-all** (see quot.); † **scrape-good**, a miser, also *adj.* miserly; **scrape-gut**, a fiddler; † **scrape-pelf, -penny, -scall**, a miser; † **scrape-shoe**, ? an obsequious person, a toady; **b.** † **scrape-pan**, an instrument for scraping a salt-pan.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Scrape-all*, a Money-Scrivener; also a miserable Wretch, or griping Fellow. 1611 COTGR., *Caqueduc*, a niggard, micher, miser, *scrape-good. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iv, None will there be..a Scrape-good wretch or churlish hard hearted refuser. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. v. 152, I greatly doubt, sir, you were born for nae better than a *gangrel *scrape-gut*. 1746 T. LOWNDES *Brine Salt improved* 10 And then instantly, with the common iron *scrape-pan, stir the Brine very briskly in every part of the pan for about a minute. 1626 W. FENNER *Hid. Manna* (1652) 28 No covetous, nor drunkard, *scrape-pelfe, nor swearer,..partaketh of it with you. 1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* 3 b, Assuring him y^t he is to think wel of his master *scrapepenie y^e vsurer. 1755 [see SCRAPER 1]. 1602 *Withals Dict.* 80/1 Regarding nothing but the gaine, a Scraper, or *scrape-scall. 1607 *Puritan* I. iii. 12 Why, how now, we three? Puritanicall *Scrape-shoes, Flesh a good Fridayes! 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. i, Live scrape-shoo, and be thankfull.

Scrapeage (skrē·pēdʒ). *rare*—¹. [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -AGE.] That which is scraped off.

1851 [see RAKEAGE].

Scraped (skrēpt), *ppl. a.* [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Deprived of the surface, or freed from excrescent or adherent matter, by scraping. Also, reduced to the condition of scrapings.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 20 b, They stoppe it with scraped linte. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 21 Garnish it with..scraped horse-radish. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* i, My companion escaped..with no greater injury than a black eye and a scraped shin. 1897 W. ANDERSON *Lupus* 8 Applying caustic potash to the scraped area. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 543 Scraped raw beef, taken at first in very small quantities, has been well borne.

2. Collected together or amassed. Also *scraped-up*.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* H 4, His huge long scraped stock Of well penn'd playes. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ii, And add a few scraped shillings every week to the money you can hardly count. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 387 By the aid of it..and a carefully scraped-up candle and a box of matches, the fire soon blazes.

3. *Sc.* in *well-scraped, ill-scraped*, said of the tongue of a person as having or lacking refinement and courtesy of speech. Cf. FILED *ppl. a.*

1785 R. FORBES *Poems Buchan Dial.* 24 Thersites, Wha for's ill-scrappit tongue..got on his back Puss wi' the nine tails hung. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, It's ill-scraped tongues like yours, that make mischief atween neighbourhoods and nations. 1820 — *Monast.* xxvi, Martin should keep a weel-scrapit tongue in his head. 1858, 1884 Ill-scraped [see ILL- B.].

† **Scra·pelet.** *Obs.* In 7 **skraplet.** [f. SCRAPE *sb.* + -LET.] A small scraping.

1615 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* Pref. 1 Conyes..do make many skraplets and profers on the ground before they dig earnestly for their neast or litter.

† **Scra·peling.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -LING.] A money-grubber, miser.

1629 GAULE *Distractions* 321 Is it you..old Pouch-penny? Methought, twas some such Scrapeling.

Scraper (skrē·pəɹ). [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -ER¹.]

I. One who scrapes.

1. One who 'scrapes together'; *esp.* one who strives meanly to make and save money, a money-grubber. Now *rare*.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 216 As about this present question he taketh in a maner al out of Augustines boke of repentance, which is foolishly botched of good & bad by som scraper together. 1619 HIERON *Wks.* I. 35 The rakers and scrapers of this world,..as though there were no God in heauen to make prouision for them, lay about them, leauing no vile vngodly oppressing courses vnassayed. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xxvi, Never was scraper brave man. 1755 JOHNSON, *Scraper*, a miser; a man intent on getting money; a scrapepenny. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xlii, Everywhere there are scrapers and scatterers; the scrapers are few, and the scatterers are many.

† **b.** An unscrupulous plunderer. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. ii. 11 Not in the spoile of apparel, robes, and trash, Least he be accounted an vnruly scraper, as too many now a dayes be. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 320 Hugh Tirell his fellow scraper, tooke from the poore Priests at Armagh, a great brasse panne.

2. One who scrapes (something specified or implied). *Mezzotint scraper*: see SCRAPE *v.* 2 e.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Escarvador*, a scraper, *Scalptor*. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 234 *note*, He was both painter and scraper in mezzotinto. 1788 LD. R. SEYMOUR in *Murray's Mag.* I. 484 A Carrot Scraper in St. James' Market, who sleeps in a little Kennel. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 943 After which it [parchment] is transferred to the *scraper*. This workman employs here an edge tool of the same shape as the fleshing-knife, but larger and sharper.

b. A derogatory term for a fiddler.

1611 CHAPMAN *May-day* IV. i, Strike vp, Scrapers. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 157 ¶ 16 Mr. Bickerstaff..summons all his Disciples, whether..Toasts, Smarts,..Musicians or Scrapers, to make their Appearance at the Playhouse. 1835 CARRICK, etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 140 'Year!' responded the astonished scraper of cat-gut. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* I. i, A common scraper on a crowd like a one-legged man with a Jack in the Green.

c. A contemptuous term for a barber.

1792 *New Year's Morning Edin.* 12 (E.D.D.) Gart the puir scraper tyne his feet. 1869 *Public Opinion* 19 June (Farmer), The beard and moustache which the sailors in the Royal Navy will be permitted to wear, thereby doing away with the objection that blue-jackets have to the scraper.

3. A bird that 'scrapes' or scratches in the soil. Used *Ornith.* to render mod.L. *Rasores*, a former order of gallinaceous birds.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXIV. Epil., Yet this inestimable Pearle, wil all Our Dunghil Chanticleres, but obuious call; Each Moderne scraper, this Gem scratching by; His Oate preferring far. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* I. 100 Order 1. Rasores. Scrapers. 1894 *Month* Oct. 163 The old school of ornithologists divided them..into birds of prey, perchers, climbers, scrapers, waders, and swimmers.

II. An instrument for scraping with.

4. A scraping instrument held in the hand. **a.** *gen.* and in various technical applications: see quots.

1552 HULOET, Scraper or rubber, *scalprum*. Scrapynge knyffe, *scalprum*. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bookbinding*, Manner of gilding books on the edges.—The book, being put in the press, between two boards, is scraped with a knife called a scraper. 1849 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Scraper*, a piece of iron used to take out the pulverized matter which remains in a hole when bored previous to blasting. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 209 Over which the skin..is laid with the hair side up; and he then scrapes the surface strongly from above downward, with the scraper. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 14, I hated scraping ham—that was a job I did bar; for in the first place, it isn't easy, and the next, you are more likely to scrape your knuckles with the scraper than the ham. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, Artists' Scrapers. 2½ in. Steel Blade, Ebony Handle. *Ibid.*, Steel pipe bowl scraper.

b. (*a*) *Antiq.* Used to render the L. *strigil* (see STRIGIL). (*b*) 'An instrument with which to clean the tongue by scraping off the fur' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891). (*c*) An instrument for scraping off the sweat from horses.

(*a*) 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiv. (1887) 123 Then with certaine scrapers called Strigiles, they had all their filth scrapte of their bodies. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vii. (1826) II. 165 Is that boy guilty, who by night pawns a stolen scraper for some grapes? 1904 BUDGE *3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 43 Iron strigil, or skin-scraper.

(*b*) 1685 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2040/4 A Gold Scraper for the Tongue. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, Tongue Scrapers (Tortoiseshell and Ivory).

(*c*) 1667 DK. NEWCASTLE *Method of Dressing Horses* 124 But, the Best of all is the Knife-[of-]Heat, which is the Scraper; for, when he is Hot, Scraping of Him gets all the Sweat..out of him. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1895 KIPLING *Maltese Cat* in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 June 2/2 [A polo pony] stiffening up to get all the tickle out of the big vulcanite scraper.

c. An instrument (of various forms) used for scraping off paint, tar, adhesive labels, etc. from wooden surfaces.

A common form in nautical use consists of a triangular plate of metal, with a handle inserted perpendicularly in the middle; another form has a curved blade between two handles.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 80 Cleaned with brushes, or Scrapers if barnicled. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Scraper*, a triangular iron instrument for scraping the deck.

d. *Engraving.* A three-sided tool used to remove burrs left by the graver, etching needle, or dry-point, or to obliterate lines. Also the similar instrument used in 'scraping' mezzotint.

1747 *Sculptura-Hist.-Techn.* 225 Take a Burnisher, or Scraper, and burnish that Part of the Plate. 1883 MOLLETT *Dict. Art & Archæol., Scraper*, an engraver's tool for removing burrs.

e. An implement of varying construction used by uncivilized peoples for removing the hair from skins. Hence, in prehistoric archæology, applied to a particular type of flint implements (otherwise known as *thumb-flints*), from their conjectured use.

1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 72 The so-called 'scrapers'.. are oblong stones, rounded at one end, which is brought to a bevelled edge by a series of small blows. 1872 J. EVANS *Anc. Stone Implements* xiii. 268 One of the simple forms into which flakes are susceptible of being readily converted has, in consequence of its similarity in character to a stone implement in use among the Esquimaux for scraping skins and other purposes, received the name of a 'scraper', or, to use the term first, I believe, employed by the late Mons. E. Lartet, a *grattoir*. 1900 *Archæol. Æliana* XXII. 83 A 'thumbflint' or 'scraper' and also a large rough flint core were found by a tenant of one of the glebe farms.

5. An appliance, usually consisting of a metal blade with a horizontal upper edge, fixed outside the door of a house for persons to scrape off upon it the dirt from the soles of their boots or shoes before entering.

1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* iii. Wks. 1751 XIV. 47 Never clean your Shoes on the Scraper, but in the Entry,..by which..the Scraper will last the longer. 1833 J. BENNETT *Artificer's Lexicon* 366 Scrapers. Garden, hall, and door, from 1*s.* 6*d.* 1871 *Punch* 2 Dec. 235/2 Due observance of the scraper and the door-mat.

6. *Lithography.* (See quot. 1875.)

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 304 Behind the inking-cylinder K, a rubber, or scraper, is placed, to press very lightly against the cylinder, and to prevent the ink accumulating in rings round the cylinder. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scraper*, the board in a lithographic press whose edge is lowered on to the tympan-sheet, to bring the requisite pressure upon the paper.

7. A machine (or scoop) drawn by horses or oxen for excavating ditches, canals, etc., for levelling and making roads, or for raising and removing soil, dirt, weeds, etc. a short distance.

1840 H. S. TANNER *Canals & Rail Roads U.S.* 259 *Scraper*, a machine drawn by horses or oxen, for excavating trenches, for canals, rail-roads, &c. 1884 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 414 Subsequent snows are removed by means of a 'scraper', a kind of scoop upon wheels which is drawn over the ice by horses. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 588/1 A horse scraping machine which delivers the mud at the side is also used, the blades of the scrapers being mounted obliquely.

b. An instrument for scraping dirt, mud, etc. from roads, etc. Also *road-scraper*.

1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 2464 The scraper may be described as a broad hoe, of treble the usual size and strength, used in cleaning roads or court-yards, and sometimes in cleaning grassy surfaces. *Ibid.* § 3133 The Dutch hoe is a good road and lawn scraper. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Scraper*,..a long hoe for cleansing roads of mud. 1909 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 6/1 There were some men out with scrapers, but..until late in the afternoon, pedestrians had to wade through..the..streets ankle deep in slush.

c. *U. S.* A small dredge for taking oysters, etc.

1887 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 571.

III. Slang or jocular uses.

8. *Anglo-Irish.* Phrase: *to take to one's scrapers*: to take to one's heels, decamp.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 47 She took to her 'scrapers', as the Irish phrase it. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxvi, He took to his scrapers.

9. A cocked hat.

Perh. with allusion to the shape: see 4 c.

1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xi. 95 He had a well-worn scraper on his head, peaked before and behind. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Scraper*... Also, metaphorically, a cocked hat, whether shipped fore-and-aft or worn athwart-ships.

IV. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as in *scraper-knife*; **scraper-box**, the frame holding the 'scraper' of a lithographic press; **scraper-mat**, a door-mat of wire or parallel strips of metal serving the purpose of a scraper; **scraper-plane** = *scraping-plane* (see SCRAPING *vbl. sb.* 3).

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 79 The..*scraper-box [in the lithographic press]. 1903 *Daily Mail* 3 Sept. 7/3 The bee-keeping beginner should provide himself with..a *scraper-knife, a comb foundation [etc.]. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 89/1 Metal *Scraper-Mats..suitable for all gravel-walk entrances. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, Adjustable *scraper Planes...For scraping and finishing Veneers [etc.].

Scra·pe-trencher. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. SCRAPE *v.* + TRENCHER.] A servant whose office was to scrape the trenchers after use. (In Oxford colleges the term was in regular use till the 18th c.)

1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 77 Euery slouenly seruingman, and greasie scrape-trencher will exceede the bounds of his calling. 1607 G. WILKINS *Miseries Enf. Marr.* I. A 2, But stay, here is a Scrape-trencher arriued. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 199/1 The Common Servants to each Hall..are..the Porter, Scrape Trencher, Cook, and his under Servants. 1691 *Case of Exeter Coll.* 3 Ferdinand Smith, Scrape-trencher of the Colledge. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* III. Wks. 1799 II. 318 Mr. Scrape-trencher, let's have no more of your jaw! 1862 GRANT *Capt. of Guard* i, A train of cut-throats, swashbucklers, and scrapetrenchers.

attrib. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 496 The King should present himself wholly disarmed, not having even a scrape-trencher blade or whittle-dagger.

Scra·p-heap. [f. SCRAP *sb.*1] A heap of SCRAP IRON; an accumulation of disused and broken-up ironwork for refounding. Hence *fig.* in phrases, as *to cast on* or *consign to the scrap-heap*, to cast aside as worn out or superseded.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 121/1 *note*, All its contemporary rivals [*sc.* locomotive engines] that have escaped the fate of the 'scrap heap' have been re-made. 1851 [see SCRAP IRON]. 1903 G. B. SHAW *Man & Superman* xxxi, This is the true joy of life..; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap.

Hence **Scra·p-heap** *v. trans.*, to consign to the scrap-heap. So **Scra·p-heaping** *vbl. sb.*

1905 *Daily News* 4 Dec. 6 The recent scrap-heaping of war vessels. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 7/3 They cannot very well 'scrap-heap' the boats.

† Scrapia·na, *pl. Obs.* [quasi-L., f. SCRAP *sb.*1 or SCRAPE *v.*: see ANA.] A collection of literary scraps or 'scrapings'.

1792 (*title*) Scrapeana. Fugitive Miscellany. 1811 MRS. JACKSON in *Sir G. Jackson's Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 256, I shall finish the last volume of scrapiana I began here. 1818 (*title*) Scrapiana: or elegant extracts of wit: being a complete collection of humorous pieces in prose and in verse.

Scrapill, obs. form of SCRAPPLE *sb.*1 and *v.*

Scraping (skrē·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb SCRAPE in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scrapynge, or schawynge, *rasura, abrasio.* 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1189/1 The Abbot of saint Albons sent the boke so disfigured with scrapings & blotting out..vnto the king. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* D 3 b, Each one sweares (By Orpheus fiddle-case) they will tickle your eares If they can doo 't with scraping. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. 1851 III. 130 All your learned scraping in antiquity. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xv, They [the poultry] had siccan a skarting and scraping in the yard, that there's nae getting a bean or pea keepit for them. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excursion*, Here the scraping [*i.e.* bowing] was renewed. 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* iv, Only a scraping of shoes on the mat. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 72 The scraping of my pen over the paper. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 430 It is better to treat each focus independently by scraping or by the excision of a wedge.

b. The noise produced by drawing something roughly over a surface. † Also, the action of expressing disapproval of a speaker by shuffling the feet (see SCRAPE *v.* 7 d).

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. K 2 b, Then was there hard a great scraping of fete in the floore. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Scraping*, a mode of expressing dislike to a person or sermon, practised at Oxford by the students, in scraping their feet against the ground during the preachment. *a* 1801 G. WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I. 94 A comical incident..respecting that scraping of the Proctor, Mr. Wilgress, whilst preaching. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 436 There was the scraping of a chair behind the speaker. 1897 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* xvii. (1905) 327 The scraping of men's limbs and the rasping of cloth on the rock.

2. *pl. concr.* That which is scraped off, up, or together. Rarely *sing.*

1511-12 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 321 The scrapenis of certane giltin weschele. 1533 *Respublica* I. i. 97 The fliettance, the scrapinges,..The skimmynges, the gubbins of booties and praies. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Flowers* 33 Catche, snatche, and scratche for scrapings and for crommes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 391 The scraping of the inward parts of his own hooues beaten into powder and mingled with wine. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1063 A fourth sort we have which we call Scrapings, that is a course sort of Salt ..that cleaves to the tops of the sides of the Phats. 1730 SWIFT *Lady's Dressing Room* 40 The Bason takes whatever comes, The Scrapings from her Teeth and Gums. 1790 SPEECHLY *Cult. Vine* 33 The dust and scrapings from roads. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, The Streets, Morning*, An apprentice ..thinking of..the miseries of the milk and water, and thick bread and scrapings. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 704 The microscopic examination of scrapings reveals at once their [*sc.* certain diseases'] characteristic fungi.

fig. 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ref. Untr. Jewel* I. 32 The scrapinges of malice it selfe. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 77, I.. trusted him with all, All my poor scrapings from a dozen years Of dust and deskwork.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scraping-iron, -knife, machine, -plane, -tool*; **scraping-ground**, a place where deer scrape or rub the velvet off their antlers.

1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 89 (Cent.) The lordly bucks begin their nocturnal rambles over their favourite runways and *scraping-grounds. 1717 *Protestant Merc.* 16 Aug. 4 The Tree..scraped on the Bark, as if it had been done with a *Scraping-Iron or Addice. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 16 Feb. 6/6 The pressure of the scraping-iron used by the workman was sufficient to knock a huge hole in the vessel. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxvi. 23 He kutte it with a *scraping knife of the scribe. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 87 A Butcher ..scalds swine all over first with hot water, and scrapes them with a scraping knife. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 166 For removing the hair, the scraping-knife alone must be used. 1886 *Scraping machine [see SCRAPER 7]. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 483 This tool is called a *scraping plane, and is used for scraping the ivory keys of piano-fortes, and works inlaid with ivory, brass, and hard-woods. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Escoplo*, a *scraping toole, a plaine for a carpenter.

Scra·ping, *ppl. a.* [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That scrapes, in various senses of the verb SCRAPE.

1599 *1st Pt. Ret. Parnass.* Prol. 2 That scrapinge legg, that dopping curtisie. 1790 BURNS *Let. to Mrs. Dunlop* 8 Aug., A quality rather rare in compliments of these grinning, bowing, scraping times. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, The blind scraping scoundrel [a fiddler]. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 17 A scraping or chiffing noise is sometimes heard accompanying a note. 1890 H. G. DAKYNS *Xenophon* I. Introd. 121 *note*, Scraping courtiers and nodding satellites.

2. *esp.* Money-grubbing, miserly.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 69 He shall spend mine Honour, with his Shame; As thriftlesse Sonnes, their scraping Fathers Gold. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* 27 The Duke of Lancaster was as scraping as shee. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* III. iii, You are never mentioned but by the names of covetous, scraping, stingy. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* (1862) I. 74 He had always been brought up to be saving and thrifty by the careful scraping old barber, his father.

Hence **Scra·pingly** *adv.*, in a scraping manner.

1680 J. SHARP *Serm. on Eccl.* iii. 10, 26 That live scrapingly and uncharitably,..all their lives long.

Scrap iron. [f. SCRAP *sb.*1] Iron which has already been cast or wrought and broken up or cast aside for re-casting or re-working; broken pieces and small articles of old and disused ironwork. Also *attrib.*

Scrap wrought iron, scrap consisting of pieces of malleable iron, which when re-cast produces a superior iron.

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 214 Mere 'gatherers of scrap-iron'. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 432/2 The bolts to be of the best scrap iron. 1862 *Times* 13 Aug. 4/2 In another..process scrap wrought iron is melted in admixture with pig iron. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.* s.v., In Government yards, where they do not sell old boilers, &c. these are broken up and the pieces are placed in heaps (scrap heaps) and sold as old iron. Men employed at this are said to be on *scrap iron work.*

Scraplet (skræ·plĕt). Forms: 6 **scrappelet**, 9 **scraplet**. [f. SCRAP *sb.*1 + -LET.] A small scrap.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 160 Fet a voyder to haue awey this scrappelettis [*quisquilias*]. 1878 E. W. BENSON *Cathedral* viii. 123 He thinks his little scraplets will do more for him and his people than the 'History of the Jews'.

Scrapling (skræ·pliŋ). [f. SCRAP *sb.*1 + -LING.] A small scrap. (See E.D.D. s.v. *Scrappling*.)

1843 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 220 Don't be angry at this scrapling.

Scrappe, obs. form of SCRAP.

† Scra·pper1, *Obs. rare*—1. [f. SCRAP *sb.*1 + -ER1.] One who collects scrap-iron.

1648 in *Victoria Hist. Sussex* II. 245 Russell the scrapper for pickinge of soe much iron as made three tunne and 17 hundred at 3li per tunne.

Scrapper2 (skræ·pəɹ). *slang.* [f. SCRAP *v.*2 + -ER1.] A pugilist.

1874 in *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 280. 1904 J. A. RIIS *Roosevelt* v. 104 He was a scrapper first, last, and all the time, with but little regard for whom he tackled, so long as he had him.

Scrappet (skræ·pĕt). *rare.* [f. SCRAP *sb.*1 + -ET.] A small quantity or amount, a little scrap.

1901 *Pilot* 19 Jan. 75/2 Scrappets of science such as can be read in penny weekly papers. 1905 F. HARRISON in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Feb. 6/3 Political interest is transferred to scrappets in halfpenny prints.

Scrappily (skræ·pili), *adv.* [f. SCRAPPY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a scrappy manner.

1886 MAX MÜLLER in *Contemp. Rev.* June 779 Carlyle..was still a raw, narrow-minded, scrappily educated Scotchman. 1909 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 244/2 The attempt at final summary is rather a failure, being written scrappily.

Scrappiness (skræ·pinĕs). [f. SCRAPPY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being scrappy.

1867 *Lond. Rev.* 17 Aug. 183 What shall we say of the local newspaper? its essence is scrappiness. 1881 *Athenæum* 25 June 840/3 The great fault of his selection [*sc.* Arnold's *Poetry of Byron*] is its scrappiness.

Scrapping (skræ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 *slang.* [f. SCRAP *v.*4 + -ING 1.] Fighting; boxing. Also *attrib.*

1891 *Pall Mall. Gaz.* 28 May 7/3 Discussing the rival merits of a wrestling match, of a lottery, and of a scrapping match. 1897 HOWELLS *Landl. Lion's Head* 387, I got to scrapping with a man,..and he left his marks on me. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* July 40/1 What do you want me for? Is it for a straight 'scrapping' with Boers?

Scra·pping, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SCRAP *v.*3 + -ING 1.] The action of 'sending to the scrap-heap'.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 23 May 4/4 The scrapping or sale of ships that ought to have been retained. 1907 *Morn. Post* 17 Jan. 2/3 The scrapping of ships.

Scrapple (skræ·pl), *sb.*1 *dial.* Forms: 4 **scrapill**, **scrapyll**, 7 **skrapple**, 7-9 **scrapl**, 9- **scrapple**. [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -EL. Cf. WFlem. *schrepel* in the same sense.] A tool used for scraping or raking up.

1354 in *Finchale Priory Charters* (Surtees) p. xxxvij, j scrapill, j securis. 1397 *Ibid.* p. cxviij, Item j por et j scrapyll. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 46 A skrapple of iron..For Nettles and ground-luy after a showre. 1825 JAMIESON, *Scraple*, I. An instrument used for cleaning the Bake-board, Roxb. 2. One for cleaning a cow-house. 1875 W. DICKINSON *Cumbriana* 51 The girl came out with a small coal-rake, to which the old dame pointed, saying, 'Whè, that's what a scrapple may be!'

Scra·pple, *sb.*2 *U. S.* [dim. of SCRAP *sb.*1] An article of food made from scraps of pork, etc. stewed with meal and pressed into large cakes.

1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 59 The sausage and scrapple of New Jersey. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 181 Milk, eggs, sausage, scrapple, vegetables, and poultry, all fresh from the farm.

Scra·pple, *v. dial.* Also 6 **skraple**, 8 **scraple**. [f. SCRAPPLE *sb.*1] To scrape or use a 'scrapple'.

1504 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 321 For skraplyng of ij. trees. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 138 This pavem', after a little earth was scrapled away from its surface..was very fresh and faire. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Scrapple*, to grub about. *Oxon.* 1881 J. SARGISSON *Joe Scroop's Journ.* 48 (E.D.D.) They scrapplt up t'wet spots gayly weel.

Scrappy (skræ·pi), *a.* [f. SCRAP *sb.*1 + -Y.] Consisting of scraps; made up of odds and ends; disjointed, unconnected.

1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* (1842) 474 If you take any of the volumes of the living poets [in Germany], you are amazed at ..the short and scrappy nature of their effusions. *a* 1849 POE *Marginalia* xliii. Wks. 1864 III. 509 The partial genius is flashy—scrappy. 1858-9 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lvi, It may be that..there is a dreadfully scrappy dinner, the evident remains of a party to which I *didn't* invite you. 1864 BROWNING *Youth & Art* 62 Each life's unfulfilled, you see; It hangs still, patchy and scrappy. 1888 FRITH *Autobiog.* III. vii. 156 This chapter..is intended to be desultory, disjointed, ..scrappy, in fact. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 436 My classical knowledge is scrappy.

Scrapy (skrē·pi), *a.* [f. SCRAPE *v.* + -Y.] Having or producing a harsh grating noise.

1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mile. Ixe* ii. 47, I get tired of hearing her scrapy voice. 1890 *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* 101 A particularly loud and scrapy violin.

Scrapyll, obs. form of SCRAPPLE *sb.*1

† Scrash, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [Onomatopœic var. of CRASH *v.*] = CRASH *v.* 1.

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. iii. 8 Hee seized upon the Knights Shield with his teeth, and pulling it easily from him,..hee scrashed it into a thousand pieces whilst hee trampled it under his feet.

Scrat, *sb.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 **skratt**, **scrat(t)e**, **scrette**, 6 **scrayte**, **skarth(t**, (*erron.* **karthe**), **scarcht**, **scratche**, 6-7 **skrat**, 7-8, 9 (*dial.*) **scrat**, **scart**, **scratch**. See also SCARTH *sb.*2 [Perh. repr. OE. **scratta* (? miswritten *scritta*), app. (in spite of the difference of sense) corresp. to ON. *skratte* wizard, goblin, monster, mod.Icel. *skratti* devil (MSw. *skratte* goblin); cf. OHG. *scrato, skraz* (pl. *skrazzâ, skrezza*) satyr, wood-demon, MHG. *schrat(e, schraz, schrag*, goblin, elf; for many mod.Ger. derivatives see Grimm s.v. *schrat.*]

1. A hermaphrodite.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 161/11 *Hermafroditus*, wæpenwifestre, *uel* scritta [? *read* scratta], *uel* bædel. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 695/2 *Hic et hec armifraudita*, a skratt. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 793/31 *Hec armifodrita*, a scrate. 1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* II. i. 73 Somtyme one of mankynde is both man & woman & suche..in englyssh is called a scrette [1527 scratte]. 1552 HULOET, Scrayte whyche is both male and female. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* I. xxxi. (S.T.S.) I. 145 Ane bairne bornequhilk had baitht the kyndis of maill and famell, callit in our langage karthe [*v.rr.* scarcht, scratche]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. 1036 An Hermaphrodite or Skrat. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXV. iv. (1678) 592 Hermaphrodites, or Scrats. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words*, A *Scrat*; an Hermaphrodite: used of Men, Beasts, and Sheep. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss., Scrat, scart, scratch*; ..a female hermaphrodite sheep.

2. *dial.* (See quot.) Cf. SCRATCH *sb.*2

1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Scrat*, Satan, generally with the prefix—old, 'Aud Scrat'.

Scrat, *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **scratte**. [f. SCRAT *v.*]

1. An act of scratching, a mark resulting from scratching. Also, † a weal made by a whip.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 84 b, The markes or scrattes of the stripes declared as plainly as if he had spoken it..how he had been handled. 1865 ATKINSON *Danby Gloss., Scrat*, a scraping, or scratching together, with pains and toil.

2. A small portion or part of anything.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 172 The golden Asse, in the superabundance of his rich humours, promiseth many other golden mountaines; but hath neuer a scrat of siluer. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Scrat*, a trifle, or minimum of income. ..' He's not woth a scrat'. 1896 LUMSDEN *Poems* 89 Sma'

wheat was saun, an' maist o' that Was droun'd out to a waesome scrat Ere Mayday cam.

3. One who scrapes; a saving, miserly person.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crews* s.v. *Flay*, ... *He'll flay a Flint*, of a meer Scrat or Miser. 1866 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Lizzie Lorton* xvi. II. 77 Bella was an industrious, hard-working little body, generally called a 'lile scrat' by her neighbours.

Scrat, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3–6 scratte, 4–6 skrat, 5 skratt, 6 scratt, 4– scrat. Also 6 Scart *v.* [Early ME. *scratte*, of difficult etymology. The sense coincides with that of MSw. *kratta* to scratch (so also in mod.Sw. dial.; cf. Sw. *kratta* to rake) = OHG. *krazzôn* (G. *kratzen*) :—OTeut. **krattôjan*, believed to be the source of It. *grattare*, Sp., Pg. *gratar*, F. *gratter* to scratch, Grate *v.*[1] Possibly the ME. word may be an alteration (see Scr- 2) of an unrecorded **cratte* either :—OE. **crattian* or adopted from Scandinavian), representing this Teut. verb. Another possibility is that the word may be a. OF. *esgrater*, f. *es-* (see Es-) + *grater, gratter* (see above).]

1. *intr.* To use the nails or claws for attack; to scratch (*at* a person).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 And nis þet child fulitowen þet schrepeð [*MS. T* scratteð] aȝean, & bit upon þe ȝerde? *c* 1500 *Smyth & Dame* 374 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* III. 215 All way fast gan she scrat At hym wyth all her myght. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1314 A perylous thynge, to cast a cat Vpon a naked man, and yf she scrat. 1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 69 They braaid, skrat, an fout, like mad fowk.

2. *trans.* To lacerate, wound, or mark superficially by dragging the nails, claws, or anything pointed or prickly, over the skin or surface.

1340 Hampole *Pr. C.* 7378 Ilk ane scratte other in þe face. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 365 For-þi hyr face scho skratit þare, And of hyre hewid rugit þe hare. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 515 And þan he come home all tobittyn and skrattyd with thornys and breers. 1530 Palsgr. 707/2 The catte hath scratte hym by the face. 1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron.* 197 Hee caused the brestes of the priests to be scrat with combs of yron in his presence. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. II. i. 684 It is an ordinary thing for women in such cases, to scrat the faces, slit the noses of such as they suspect. 1797 Bridges *Hom. Trav.* I. 235 If they won't fight, their steps he traces, And .. scrats their faces.

† b. *fig.* in *passive.* To be superficially marked.

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* A 3 b, A little scratted with som shewe and apparance of learning.

c. with advs.: To pull *out*, scrape *off* with the claws or nails.

c 1500 *Robt. Deuyll* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) I. 9 He scratte out theyr eyen. 1589 Nashe *Martin's Months Mind* Ep. Ded., We shall reach them a rappe, as they will neuer clawe of, except they scratt off the skinne from the verie bones.

3. To rub lightly with the finger-nails, etc., to relieve itching or the like; = Scratch *v.* 2.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 324 Scrattyng his hedde with one fynger. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* xlvii, Sometimes he would skrat his thyghes with his foote. 1598 Hall *Sat.* VI. i, And bite my nayles, and scrat my dullard head.

4. *intr.* Of a bird or animal: To rake in the ground with the claws. Also *transf.* of persons.

1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* xv. 58 While ye were in that diche scrallyng, And scratting in the myre to saue your life. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xii. 156 Seeing a Crow scrat vpon the muck-hill, [he] returned in all hast. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* i, If a man..scrats at his bit o' garden, and makes two potatoes grow i'stead o' one [etc.].

b. *trans.* with advs. To get *out*, *up*, by scratching.

a 1560 Becon *Fl. Godly Prayers* Pref., Wks. II. 176 The Iewes were compelled for very hunger..to scratte out the most filthy and stinking dounge, ..and for very famine to eate it. 1854 Mrs. H. Wood *Trev. Hold* I. ii. 22 The hole was scratted out by the dog. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss.* s.v., Th' ens have been i' th' garden, and scratted up everythink.

5. *intr.* (fig. of 4). To struggle to make a living or to gain money: Scratch *v.* 5.

1579 W. A. *Spec. Rem. Lawless Love* c j (Roxb. Club), He ..scrapes and scrattes as though all were his owne, And hoordes it vp within his bagges to rust. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Wolsey* ii, Ambitious minde, a world of wealth would haue, So scrats and scrapes, for scorfe, and scoruy drosse. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* xiv, We may strive and scrat and fend, but its little we can do arter all.

Hence **Scratting** *vbl. sb.*, and *ppl. a.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 11823 (Fairf.), & wiþ skratting he toke þe skurf he barked ouer as a turfe. 1555 Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 179 Thei cannne finde none ende of their scrattinge, but the more thei haue, the fellier gnaweth their longing. 1593 Churchyard *Challenge* 1 The restles race, that mortall men doe runne, Seemes smooth to sight, yet full of scratting breers. 1602–3 in P. F. Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 312, I hope you will bear with my molesting you too long with my scrattinge hand. 1667 Lacy *Sauny the Scott* II. i. (1698), I take as Muckle Pleasure, Sir, in Scratten and Scrubben, as ye de in Tiplin and Mowing.

Scratch (skræt∫), *sb.*[1] [f. Scratch *v.*]

I. Result of scratching.

1. A slight tearing or incision of the skin produced by a sharp instrument. (Sometimes applied slightingly to a trifling flesh-wound.) Cf. Scrat *sb.*[2]

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 82 Al the Lion could do, was with his paw to teare of the mantle and sleeue of Zelmane, with a little scratch, rather then a wound. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 96 *Ben.* What art thou hurt? *Mer.* I, I, a scratch, a scratch, marry 'tis inough. Where is my Page? go Villaine fetch a Surgeon. 1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* v. i, *Leon.* Are all his wounds well? *Tra.* All, they were but scratches, but the losse of blood made him faint. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. x. 96 But if the bloud ..be recent, it possibly happened from some scratch of your Terebra. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 394 The third had a little scratch in the shoulder. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* iii, Surely a few drops of blood from a scratch, and a few silly words from a foolish wench's lips, are not to part father and son. 1851 Tennyson *Edwin Morris* 63, I would have hid her needle in my heart, To save her little finger from a scratch. 1889 Corbett *Monk* i. 10 The young ensign passed through the four months of..fighting without a scratch.

b. *fig.*

1592 Timme *Ten Eng. Lepers* vii. H 2 b, Rase it over but with a little scratch, and all the matter of love is gone. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 94 Angred pride makes a noise, like Homerican Mars, at every scratch of offences. 1759 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 30 Nov., Our loss is a scratch, one lieutenant and thirty-nine men killed [etc.].

c. slang. *No great scratch*: of no serious importance, of no great value.

1844 *Maj. Jones' Courtship* 136 (Bartlett), There are a good many Joneses in Georgia, and I know some myself that ain't no great scratches. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s.v., 'No great scratch', of little worth.

2. a. *pl.* A disease of horses, in which the pastern appears as if scratched; = *cratches*, Cratch *sb.*[2] 2.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Arestin*, the scratches in a horses pasterns, *Scabies in equorum suffragine.* 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 16 My Mare hath the Scratches on her hinder Heeles. 1754 Bartlet *Gentl. Farriery* xxxvii. (ed. 2) 305 Scratches in the heels have so much affinity with the grease ..that [etc.]. 1881 *Scribner's Monthly* XXII. 644 The history of a galled shoulder or of an obstinate case of scratches. *fig.* 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 26 So hath hee..vncessantly perswaded me to preserue my credit from iadish dying of the scratches.

b. The mange. Cf. Cratch *sb.*[2] 1.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 26 The appearance of mange, or scratch as it is sometimes called, among my hounds.

3. A mark or furrow produced by the grinding contact of two substances; a shallow linear incision.

1662 Faithorne *Art Graving* 48 And if you perceive any scratches in your plate, rub them out with your burnisher. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Smithing* 15 The course File cuts deep and makes deep scratches in the work. 1876 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 818 The scratch made on the glass at the commencement, need scarcely be more than a point. 1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 538 There are deep scratches or groovings in the rocky surface of the country across which the stones were carried. 1907 Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* 25 Any adherent grit will cause scratches.

4. A rough or irregular mark made by a pencil, paint-brush, etc.; hence, a slight sketch, a hasty scrawl.

1646 Evelyn *Diary* Apr., 400 leaves full of scratches of Indians. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxviii, Drawing scratches on the hearth with a stick burnt at the one end. 1752 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 124, I send you a little scratch not worthy to be called a sketch. 1785 Cowper *Let. to Newton* Wks. 1836 V. 153 Every scratch of his pen was accounted a treasure. 1811 Byron *Let. to Dallas* Wks. 432 *note*, A scratch under *last*, to show where the joke lies. *a* 1871 De Morgan *Budget Parad.* (1872) 466 If any one should have the sense to leave out of his Greek the unmeaning scratches which they call accents. 1908 *Outlook* 14 Nov. 655/2 The scratch of a Minister's pen may be worth millions of dollars to some favoured person or some inside syndicate.

5. *Sporting.* A line or mark drawn as an indication of a boundary or starting-point; † in *Cricket*, a 'crease' (*obs.*); in *Pugilism*, the line drawn across the ring, to which boxers are brought for an encounter. Hence in various phrases (often *fig.*), as *to come up to the scratch, to bring to the scratch, to toe the scratch*, etc.

1778 Cotton in Nyren *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* (1833) 67 Ye strikers..Stand firm to your scratch, let your bat be upright. 1821 *John Bull* 7 Jan. 29/3 He started a few seconds before the time and came up in speed to the scratch at the moment appointed. 1830–57 De Quincey *Bentley* Wks. VII. 131 No prudent champion, however game, would have chosen to offer himself to the scratch for a second round. 1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 37 [Pigeon shooting rules.] 21. In Shooting Matches..The shooter is bound in his turn to appear at the scratch within five minutes when called upon. 1894 Sir J. Astley *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 41 Some eight or ten toed the scratch, and I won very easily.

b. The starting-point in a handicap of a competitor who receives no odds; sometimes *colloq.* used *ellipt.* for such a competitor.

1867 *Athlete for* 1866, 9 W. Collett, scratch 1. 1876 *Bicycle Jrnl.* 18 Aug. 7/1 Mr. Tom Sabin, of the Coventry Bicycle Club, has won, during last week, three races from scratch. 1886 *Field* 31 July 182/2 In the [lawn tennis] match between Messrs. G. Butler (owes 15) and E. A. Butler (scratch), the odd set again had to be resorted to.

6. The sound produced by the friction of two more or less rough surfaces.

1787 Mme. D' Arblay *Diary* 8 Nov., At the Royal doors there is always a particular kind of scratch used, instead of tapping. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Arms & Man* I. 8 There is a scratch, and the flame of a match is seen in the middle of the room.

7. *Salt making.* (See quot.) Also *attrib.*

Perhaps so called because *scratched* from the side of the pan. Possibly, however, it is a different word: cf. Scratchings.

1723 Brown in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 354 Whilst the Brine is boyling, there precipitates a hard crusty Matter,..Part of it fixes on the Bottom of the Iron Pan so hard, as to be afterwards dug off; and this the Workmen call Scratch. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Scratch*, in the language of the salt-workers of our country, the name of a calcarious earthy or stony substance, which separates from sea water in boiling it for salt. Scratch pans, in the English salt-works, a name given to certain leaden pans, which [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 627/1 At the four corners of the salt-pan, where the flame does not touch its bottom, are placed four small lead pans called scratch pans.

II. 8. An act of scratching. *rare.*

1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 157, I pass a moderate-sized roller over the field, and then give it a slight scratch with a pair of light harrows. 1844 O. W. Holmes *Verses for After-dinner* 28 No rubbing will kindle your Lucifer match, If the fiz does not follow the primitive scratch. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxvi, Lifting the back of his short hat off his head to make room for a scratch. 1899 *Daily News* 31 Mar. 4/7 The little finger is going to descend on the nearly bald pate and gently tickle it—the scratch of feigned wonderment or perplexity.

b. A skirmish, a trivial fight.

1840 De Quincey *Style* Wks. XI. 218 The philosopher should not have had it all his own way; there should have been a 'scratch' at least between us.

† III. 9. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1618 Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 1 The iron raake or scratch to cull and devide the great stones.

IV. 10. Ellipt. for *scratch periwig* (see 11).

Possibly the etymological notion was 'a periwig that gives opportunity for scratching the head'.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 77 P 1 His long lank greasy hair may be exchanged in Middle-Row for a smart bag or a jemmy scratch. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 26 Quips, and Cranks, and wanton Wiles, That love to live within the one-curled Scratch. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 119 A stout short man, with a flaxen scratch. 1830 O. W. Holmes *Treadmill Song* 30 Don't pull his hair, Because he wears a scratch. 1904 Baroness von Hutten *Pam* 285 Either his hair is beginning to grow, or he is wearing a craftily made scratch.

V. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. attributive uses of sense 5 b, as *scratch-car, -line, -man, -player, -race.*

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 4/2 Two thousand two hundred and thirty-one yards separated the limit car from the *scratch car. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 62/1 (Athletics) **Scratch line*, the mark from which the length of any race is measured. 1877 *Bicycle Jrnl.* 7 Sept. 6/1 The ultimate result was a brilliant and well earned victory by the two *scratch men. 1888 *Athenæum* 16 June 760/3 The tone of brutality towards bad players which *scratch players always adopt. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 473/1 (Golf) *Scratch player*, a good player, who receives neither handicap nor penalty. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, **Scratch-race* (on the Turf), a race where any horse, aged, winner, or loser, can run with any weights. 1888 P. Furnivall *Phys. Training* 6 Next comes the knotty point as to whether the rider intends training for handicaps or scratch races.

b. Special combinations (some of which may perh. be referred to the verb): **scratch-block**, a scribbling block (cf. sense 4); **scratch-card**, an instrument for polishing metals formed by fastening long lengths of steel wire upon a pad of leather or cloth; **scratch-carding**, the use of the *scratch-card*; **scratch-cat**, humorous epithet for a spiteful person; **scratch-coat** (? *U. S.*), a rough coating of plaster scratched before it is quite dry in order that the following coat may adhere properly; hence **scratch-coated** *a.*, treated with such a coating of plaster; **scratch-comma**, a diagonal stroke used by some early printers in place of the comma; **scratch-cradle**, a name for Cats-cradle; **scratch-figure** *Typogr.* = *scratched figure*; **scratch-finish** (see quot.); **scratch-grass**, a dial. name for *Galium Aparine, Cynosurus cristatus*, and, in U.S., *Polygonum sagittatum*; † **scratch-hoeing** (see quot.); **scratch-knot**, a simple form of scratch-brush consisting of a single bunch of wire; **scratch-pan** (see sense 7); **scratch-periwig** = *scratch-wig*; **scratch-rattle** = Scratch-back 2; **scratch-weed**, *Galium Aparine*; **scratch-wig**, a small, short wig; **scratch-work** (see quot.). Also Scratch-brush.

1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 192 His note-books and *scratch block were lying open. 1839 *Scratch card [see Scratch-brush]. 1839 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* 3 The operation of *scratch-carding is..to commence. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 39 She was the most obstinate, humdrum, nasty old *scratch-cat in the County. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Scratch-coat.* 1823 J. F. Cooper *Pioneers* xi, The brown sides of the *scratch-coated walls. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.*, **Scratch comma*, a sign thus / used in old documents and reprints. It is now used as a shilling mark. 1892 Lounsbury *Stud. Chaucer* I. 342 The mark that goes under the name of a scratch-comma. 1822 Nares (*Gloss.* s.v. *Cratch*, A childish game, corruptly called *scratch-cradle. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Voc.*, *Scratch figures. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Scratch-finish*, a finish for decorative objects of metal-work, in which a surface otherwise smooth is diversified by small curved scratches forming irregular scrolls over the whole field. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 475 *Polygonum sagittatum.* *Scratchgrass. 1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Scratch Grass. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* vii. 56 The Shallow Horse-Hoeing..is but an Imitation of the Hand-Hoe,..and may be properly called *Scratch-Hoeing. 1905 Hasluck *Electro-plating*, Fig. 44 *Scratch-knot. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Clinker* 31 May, Our..footman..lost his *scratch periwig. 1870 Bartley I *Square Mile E. London* 50 The abolition of Greenwich and other fairs having much damaged the sale of the *scratch-rattle toy, which was his speciality. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 154 (Goose-grass or Cleavers)..Leaves, stems, and globular fruits are all bristly, and the latter often cling to the clothing,..thus it is called..*Scratchweed. 1868 *Paxton's Bot. Dict.*, *Scratch-weed.* 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 26 Mar., [Garrick] was himself in a most odious *scratch wig. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 7 A good-humoured, easy-going veteran in a scratch wig. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, **Scratch-work*, in Italian, *Sgrafitti*, was a way of Painting in Fresco, by preparing of a black Ground, on which was placed a white Plaster; and this White being taken off with an Iron Bodkin, the Black appears thro' the Holes, and serves for Shadows.

Scratch (skræt∫), *sb.*[2] *colloq.* (now chiefly *dial.*) [Alteration of Scrat *sb.*[1], after Scratch *v.*] A name for the devil, usually *Old Scratch.*

1740 *Christmas Entertainments* iv. (1883) 38 Old Scratch or Nicholas the Antient. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) I. 303 Scratch was the name I had for the evil one. 1762 [see OLD *a.* 9]. 1858 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xx, He'd have pitched me to Old Scratch..if [etc.]. 1873 WILL CARLETON *Farm Ball.* 43 Do you mind my melon-patch—How you gobbled the whole batch,..just to raise the scratch?

Scratch (skrætʃ), *a.* [Orig. the sb. used attrib.]

1. Hastily sketched, roughly drawn.

1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xx. 98 A scratch map he had made on a bit of paper.

2. Gathered together promiscuously, hastily assembled. *Scratch vote, division, majority*: one which, owing to accident or stratagem, does not represent the actual state of opinion in a constituency or deliberative body (cf. *snap, snatch*).

1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ix. 147 Our pack was what is called a 'scratch pack'. Every one contributed a dog or two. 1864 *Times* 17 Mar. (Hoppe), Compared with the Oxford men, those sent up by Cambridge on this occasion were little better than a scratch crew. 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* lxiii, The company was what he irreverently called..a scratch team. 1883 SHERER *At Home & in India* 119 A scratch troop of domestics..secured all the glass doors. 1891 *Newcastle Daily Jrnl.* 9 Oct. 4/6 All he looks forward to is a scratch majority, obtained..by keeping the whole question in the dark. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 266 Scratch brigades..hastily constituted with scratch staffs.

b. *absol.* A scratch crew.

1896 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 7/2 The eights paddled up steadily against the ebb, the scratch stopping short at Barnes with the Dark Blues going on. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 2 Apr. 6/5 It is not so easy to race away from a fresh scratch towards the end of a twelve minutes row.

Scratch (skrætʃ), *v.* Forms: 5 scracch, scartch, 6 scratche, skratch(e, scarche, 6–7 scrach, 5– scratch. [App. produced by a confusion of the synonymous SCRAT, CRATCH *vbs.*

First in Caxton. The form *scartch, scarche*, which occurs once in Caxton and once in Du Wes, may possibly be a mere misprint, although metathesis of *ra* is not uncommon.]

1. *trans.* To wound superficially by dragging the claws or finger-nails over the skin. Also, in wider sense: To wound superficially with anything pointed and hard dragged over the skin or in contact with its moving surface, so as to produce a slight linear tearing or abrasion.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 20 He scracchid hym in the visage. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 491 For she scartched her face and pulled her heres from her hede for grete sorow. 1530 PALSGR. 720/1 Se howe she hath scratched me by the face. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* ibid. 943 To scarche, *esgratigner. Ibid.* 945 To scratche, *esgratigner.* 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Dij b, He hath scratched hymself in any party, as on the arme, and sodaynly is rysen a blyster or pustule. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii, How way-ward is this foolish loue; That (like a testie Babe) will scratch the Nurse, And presently, all humbled kisse the Rod? 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 238 Who to expresse their zeale the better, burne and scratch their armes and breasts, cutting their flesh. 1766 GRAY *Impromptus* 6 Bishop of Chester,..If you scratch him will fester. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. v. 155 A golden buckle scratched her tender hand. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 57 But all too soon my kitten Became a full-sized cat, by which I've more than once been scratch'd and bitten.

b. With adv.: To tear *out* (e.g. the eyes) or to drag *off* (a portion of the skin, a pimple, etc.) with the claws or nails.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 209, I vow, I should haue scratch'd out your vnseeing eyes. 1609 B. JONSON *Masque of Queens* Wks. 1616 I. 952, I scratch'd out the eyes of the Owle before. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 120 Thus when she killed one once and scratcht out the eie of another.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To use the claws or nails as weapons of offence. Also occas. of inanimate things, to produce a scratch or superficial abrasion.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. 1902 III. 406 If a field may be pitcht we are readie: if they scratch wee will bring cattes. *a* 1629 GOFFE *Courag. Turk* III. iii. (1632) E 3, Enter some Truls both sides, they fight and scratch. 1839 HOOD *Rural Felicity* 28 But, mercy on us, how nettles will sting, and how the long brambles do scratch. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 666 It was better to die biting and scratching to the last than to be worried without resistance or revenge. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan., Children, especially when they grow to years of discretion, should not scratch.

†d. *fig.* To skirmish or fight without doing serious injury. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 4, Euerie circumstance I cannot stand to reckon vp, as how wee came to take knowledge of one anothers being there, or what a stomacke I had to haue scratcht with him. 1625 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 193 What is it for his Allies to scratch with the King of Spain, to take a Town to day, and lose it to morrow.

2. *trans.* To rub or scrape lightly (a part of the body) with the finger-nails or claws (e.g. to relieve itching). So *to scratch one's head*, as a gesture indicating perplexity.

1530 PALSGR. 707/2 Come, scratche my backe, I pray the. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 7 Scratch my head, Peasblossome. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 83 In the morning when they turne them [their Hogges] forth, they scratch them with their fingers, as Barbers doe mens heads. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Sept., An antiq of a dog in stone scratching his eare. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 498 P 3 The fellow thereupon surrendered his whip, scratch'd his head, and crept into the coach. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VI. 100 He scratch'd his ear, the infallible resource To which embarrass'd people have recourse. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 1/2 The homely adage, 'Scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.'

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 28 If my haire do but tickle me, I must scratch. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 92 So stupid, that notwithstanding Chints, Fleas, and Muskeeto's, torment them every Minute [they] dare not presume to scratch where it itches. 1810 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* XIII. 71 My dogs itch and scratch with the mange.

3. *trans.* To make slight linear abrasions on (a surface of any kind).

1669 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July, Observing that..some idle persons began to scratch and iniure them [*viz.* marbles]. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. ix. 73 Marble is soft, and can be scratched with a knife. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Glass* xvi. 324 These specimens were sufficiently hard to scratch rock-crystal. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 676 The stones which have produced the furrowing are sometimes scratched themselves.

absol. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 134 The coarse sediment scratching along the bottom, helps to tear it up.

b. *hyperbolically.* To furrow (the soil) very lightly for the purpose of cultivation.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 797 The lab'ring Swain Scratch'd with a Rake, a Furrow for his Grain. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* vii. 62 Sarrition scratched and broke so small a part of the Earth's Surface. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 82/1 The ground, in such cases, requires no further culture than treading in the seed by animals or slightly scratching the surface with bushes. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 422 Its cultivators—if those who just scratch the surface of the earth may be so called.

c. To produce (marks) or portray (an object) by light incisions on a surface.

1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 71 Another huge large stone, three pictures of men in armes scratcht upon the stone. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. viii. 235, I had scratched, as it were, out of the block, some faint resemblance of an image. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 522 When both were children, and in lonely haunts Would scratch a ragged oval on the sand, And each at either dash from either end.

†d. *intr.* In the election of the Lord Mayor: To put a mark against the name of the candidate voted for. *Obs.*

1773 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 142/1 The number of aldermen who scratched for each being equal, it was decided..by the casting voice of the present Lord-Mayor.

e. *trans.* To polish = SCRATCH-BRUSH *v.*

1856 G. GORE in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 76 After being again washed in water, they are 'scratched' at the brush. 1877 G. B. GEE *Silversmith's Handbk.* x. 161 After either of the processes of whitening or plating, the work has to be scratched, unless required to be left a dead white.

4. *intr.* Of a bird or animal: To remove earth, etc., with the claws. Also *trans.* with advs., *to scratch out*, to extricate or disinter with the claws; *to scratch up*, to heap up by scratching.

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 220 They put their bylles in the erthe sometyme so depe that they can nat gete it vp agayne & than they scratche theyr billes out agayn with theyr fete. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 247, I found they [*sc.* jackals] had scratched up the earth almost to his body. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxiv, We..found the doomed chanticleer scratching and scraping peaceably on the dunghill.

5. *fig.* a. To struggle to make money, to 'scrape'. Also *trans.* to scrape up (money). Now *dial.*

1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 43 If he can be a fals extorcyoner Fasynge and bostynge to scratche and to kepe He shall be made a comon costomer. *c* 1550 *Vertuous Scholehous* C 6, Thou doest scratche and rake so long at home. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 66 Is it tyme for you that ye scrape and scratch together, all ye can laye youre handes on? 1900 *Pearson's Mag.* May 475/2 For this they put by ivery ha'penny they could scratch an' save.

b. *intr.* with adv. To get *along, on, through* with difficulty.

1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. iv. 53, I think a body might have a chance to make out to scratch along to live here. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxix, I suppose we shall manage to scratch on pretty much as other people do. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s.v., 'Times is bad, but I just manage somehows to keep scratching along'. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Dec. 152 Charley..contrived to scratch through for the Edinburgh M.D.

†**6.** *trans.* To seize rapaciously, as a bird with its claws; to get possession of by effort or with difficulty. *To scratch acquaintance* = 'to scrape acquaintance' (see SCRAPE *v.* 5 b). *Obs.*

1582 G. MARTIN *Manif. Corrupt. Script.* vi. 96 What a peeuish, malicious, & impudent corruption is this,..to seeke to scratch aduantage of the word Presbyter, & to make it signifie an Elder, not a Priest. *c* 1610 ROWLANDS *Terrible Batt.* 2 The great and good report which my beloued friend ..hath giuen of you, hath made me more then halfe in loue with you, which makes me thinke in some sort (as the rude and rusticke phrase is) to scratch acquaintance of you. 1658–9 LUDLOW in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 145 If we take the people's liberties from them, they will scratch them back again. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 387 Satan, with all his savage sanhedrims, could not yet scratch Christs Apostles out of their mansions.

†b. intr. *To scratch for*, to struggle fiercely to obtain.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 415 Such as will skratch for heaven by force [orig. *violentis illis, qui regnum Dei rapturi sunt*], must undertake no small travayles. 1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* IV. iii, And were I fit to be your wife ..Trust me I would scratch for ye but I would have ye.

7. a. trans. *To scratch out*: to erase (writing) with a penknife. Also (cf. 3 c), to delete by crossing through with a pen.

1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Jan., I have often scratched out passages from papers and pamphlets sent me,..because I thought them too severe. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. IV. 253 [He] did, with his knife, scratch out the letters. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 302 The butler refused to scratch Hough's name out of the buttery book.

b. To erase the name of (a person) from a list; hence † to expel from a club or society (*obs.*); to expunge from a list of candidates or competitors; *Sporting*, to withdraw (a horse or other animal) from the list of entries for a race or other competition.

1685 *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) V. 607 They kick'd me out of Goldsmiths'-Hall..; One cursed Tory scratch'd me! 1825 *Examiner* 762/1 All payments should be made on the quarterly night, or be scratched; if ladies got intoxicated, they would be scratched. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 343 Of course I got 'scratched' from the trade Society. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lxiii, 'Scratch you out of her will, I think you mean?' 'Of course I do. In short..I mean—*to*—Scratch me.' 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s.v., Tomboy was scratched for the Derby at 10 A.M. on Wednesday. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 854/2 If he is not to start, the sooner Lord Alington scratches him the better.

c. *U.S. Politics.* Of a voter: To erase the name of (one or more of the candidates) from the party ticket. Also *absol.*

1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxvi. II. 494 The number of candidates is often so great, and the knowledge which the average citizen has..of them so small, that many who would be glad to 'scratch' or 'paste' have really no data for doing so. 1890 C. L. NORTON *Polit. Americanisms* 100.

d. *intr.* for *refl.* To withdraw from a competition; *jocularly*, to withdraw one's acceptance of an invitation.

In Oxford University, formerly said of an undergraduate who after having entered for an examination, and perhaps having done all or part of the paper work, withdrew his name before undergoing the *viva voce*, with the intention of presenting himself for the examination at a later time.

1866 *Mysteries of Isis* 292 He was ploughed for 'Smalls' as you know; eventually he had 'scratched' at 'Mods', and on a second attempt had been again ploughed. 1878 *Athletic World* 5 Apr. 12/1 Middlesex scratched to Charing Cross [in a cup-tie]. 1897 *Punch* 6 Nov. 210/2 Wonder.. how many people will scratch at the last moment.

†**8.** *intr.* To fish with a line with three or four hooks attached. *Obs.*

1659 T. BARKER *Angling* (ed. 2) 41 Nicholas Harridans.. hath killed many a dish of Barbells that way with scratching.

9. To drag the nails or claws over a surface so as to make a faint grating noise. Also, of a pen, to move over the paper with a slight noise.

1703 *Rules of Civility* 14 At the door of a Prince..it would be rude to knock; we are only to scratch. [Cf. quot. 1787 in SCRATCH *sb.*[1] 6.] 1909 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 4/6 He [a dog] scratched so persistently at the door, that they let him have his way.

¶b. The verb-stem (or the imperative) is sometimes used quasi-adv. to express the sound of scratching.

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxix, The pen went.., scratch, scratch over the paper. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do* I. i, Scratch across his back went one of those ingenious mechanical contrivances familiarly in vogue at fairs.

c. *trans.* To rub gratingly on a rough surface.

1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 98 A match being scratched on a box for ignition. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 163 One may scratch a thought half a dozen times and get nothing at last but a faint sputter.

10. To scribble, write hurriedly or carelessly. Also with advs.

1806 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* June (1894) I. ii. 47, I also scratched down another ballad the morning of the day of meeting. 1883 READE in *Harper's Mag.* June 98/1, I..left her to scratch him a receipt. 1889 LADY WATERFORD in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) III. 461 The usual scene, Jenny singing and me scratching off letters for the second post.

11. *intr.* Of horses: To contract the disease known as 'the scratches' in the hoofs.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) I. 345 They would grease and scratch sooner behind than before.

12. *Comb.* (with object), as *scratch-eye* adj.; **scratch-my-back** = SCRATCH-BACK 2; **scratch-penny**, a money-grubber (cf. *scrape-penny*).

1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 36 It turned to a *scratch-eye scuffle. 1887 *Mayor's Proclam. Oxf.* 19 Aug. (*St. Giles's Fair*), Any person..who may prove to have assaulted any ..person,..by means of a squirt, *scratch-my-back. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 213 Are the military to starve, that a *scratchpenny may thrive?

Scra·tchable, *a. nonce-wd.* [-ABLE.] Capable of being scratched. (Cf. SCRATCH *v.* 3 b.)

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. viii. (1872) VII. 236 [The] country..is now under poor plough-husbandry, arable or scratchable in all parts.

Scra·tch-back. [f. SCRATCH *v.* + BACK *sb.*[1]]

1. An instrument for scratching the back to allay itching, usually in the form of a small hand of ivory or metal fixed to a long handle; a back-scratcher.

1864 *Chambers' Bk. of Days* II. 238/1 [Description]. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* vii. 107 It is almost as easy to get a personal memento of Priam or Nimrod as it is to get..a spinning wheel, a tinder box, or a scratch-back.

2. A toy formed on the principle of a rattle, producing a sound of tearing cloth when rubbed upon a person's back.

1858 LYTTON *What will He do* I. i, But to pay such a price for a scratch-back!—Prodigal! 1865 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* III. xii. 263 Greenwich Fair too has died out—its bonnettings and its scratch-backs.

Scratch-brush (skræ·tʃˌbrʌʃ), *sb.* [f. SCRATCH *sb.* or *v.*] A brush of fine wire used in gilding, electroplating, etc. to polish or clean articles of metal.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 740/1 First, the gilded piece of metal is rubbed with a scratch brush (which is a

brush composed of brass wire) till its surface is made smooth. 1839 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* 3 The [gun] barrel..is to be well rubbed over with a steel scratch card or scratch brush, until the rust is..removed. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 174/2 For delicate objects, scratch-brushes are made of spun glass. 1877 G. B. Gee *Silversmith's Handbk.* x. 162 The beautiful frosted surfaces to be seen upon silver lockets..are all produced by means of the scratch-brush.

b. *attrib.* **scratch-brush lathe,** a lathe with a circular revolving scratch-brush.

1856 G. Gore in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 48 'Scratch brush' lathes..for scouring and preparing the surfaces of metal articles to receive a deposit. 1877 G. B. Gee *Silversmith's Handbk.*, Fig. 40 Scratch-brush Lathe.

Scratch-brush (skræ·tʃˌbrʊʃ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To polish by means of a scratch-brush.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 87 Take it out and scratch-brush it in clean water. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 135 The articles must be..rinsed in water and scoured with sand, or scratch-brushed.

Hence **Scratch-brusher,** a workman who operates a scratch-brush; **Scratch-brushing** *vbl. sb.*, the process in which a scratch-brush is used.

1839 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* 3 The barrel will [then] be sufficiently corroded for the operation of scratch-brushing. 1885 *Brit. Alm. Comp.* 94 (Occupations) Scratch brusher.

Scratched (skrætʃt), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

1. In senses of the verb Scratch. *Scratched figure* (Typogr.): A numeral figure with a slanting line drawn across it, used in printing examples of arithmetical operations involving cancelling.

1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Juliet* 2422 With scratched face, and heare betorne. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 256 Scratched figures..were used here in that Species of Arithmetic which is called Division. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt), *Scratched Figures*..are frequently called canceled figures. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 409, I purchased a small printing frame..and some scratched negatives from a local photographer.

Prov. 1584 Lyly *Alex. & Camp.* IV. iv, Truth is never with out a scracht face. 1625 J. Robinson *Ess.* xxxiii. Wks. 1851 I. 142 Truth goes with a scratched face, less or more.

b. *Sporting.* Withdrawn (from a race, etc.).

1869 'Wat. Bradwood' *The O. V. H.* xix, The peccant owner of the scratched animal.

†**2.** *slang.* Drunk. *Obs.*

1622 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Water Cormorant* B 4 b, For though hee be as drunke as any Rat, He hath but catcht a foxe... Or some say hee's bewitcht, or scratcht or blinde.

Scratcher (skræ·tʃəɹ). [f. Scratch *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who scratches, in various senses of the vb.

1557 Edgeworth *Serm.* Repert., Giuers of their owne shale be riche, scratchers of other mens be euer at beggers state. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., They must look for no better fare from a world of Bears and Scratchers, than [etc.]. 1736 Ainsworth, *Scalptor*, a graver, a cutter in metal, a scratcher, an etcher. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 26 June (1815) 197 His master declared he was the best scratcher in the family. 1852 Jerdan *Autobiog.* I. xxiv. 203 We have a considerable proportion of very superficial scratchers of the soil, both among authors and critics.

b. *Ornith.* Used in *pl.* to render mod.L. *Rasores*, in Illiger's system (1811) an order of birds including the families *Gallinacei*, *Epollicati*, *Columbini*, *Crypturi* and *Inepti*. Cf. Scraper 3.

1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* (ed. Rennie), *Rasores* (Illiger), Scratchers, a family of birds who scratch their food from the earth. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* (1855) 310, 4th Order.—Rasores (or Scratchers, fig. 213).

c. *U.S. Politics.* A voter who 'scratches', i.e. declines to support some of the candidates named on his party ticket. Cf. Paster.

1883 *Atlantic Monthly* LII. 327 To whom a 'scratcher' or a 'bolter' is more hateful than the Beast.

d. In certain trades: A scratch-brusher.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 96 Electro and other Plated Ware Manufacturer..Scratcher. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/3 Chandelier-Trade.—Women Scratchers wanted.

e. *U.S. Cant.* (See quot.)

1894 *N. Amer. Rev.* Apr. 454 A professional forgery gang consists of: First, a capitalist or backer; second, the actual forger, who is known among his associates as the 'scratcher'.

2. An instrument used for scratching. **a.** A tool used in plastering to roughen the surface of the preliminary coating.

1812 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc.* 312 (Plastering) Scratcher, the instrument for scratching the plaster, as its name implies. 1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 121/2 After the coat is laid on, it is scored in diagonal directions with a scratcher.

†**b.** = Scratch-back 2.

1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, The noise of these various instruments,..the shouting, the 'scratchers', and the dancing, is perfectly bewildering.

c. *Comb.* (See quot. 1858.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Scratcher-up*, a bookbinder's tool. 1902 Hasluck *Bookbinding* iv. 52 After lightly pasting the back of each book, a 'scratcher up' is drawn several times..down the back.

†**Scratchets,** *pl.* *Obs. rare.* [f. Scratch *sb.* + -et.] = *scratches*, Scratch *sb.*1 2 a.

1611 Florio, *Crepáccj*, the scratchets, or rats-tailes in a horse; some horsemen say they are little chaps or rifts about the coronet of the horses hoofe. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* I. ii. (1686) 3 Inflammations or breakings out, which we call *Grease in the heels* or *Scratchets*.

Scratchification. *jocular nonce-wd.* [f. Scratch *v.* + -(i)fication.] A spiteful attack.

1840 Miss Edgeworth *Let.* in H. Zimmern *Mem.* (1883) 206 Among the various scratchifications and scarifications in this volume, you may remark that there have been reiterated scratches at Mrs. and Miss Wilmot.

Scratching (skræ·tʃiŋ), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Chiefly pl. Also 5 *pl.* scrachenis. [App. a corrupt form of the word which appears variously as Cratchen, Cracon, Crackling 3, Crawke; cf. also the synonymous Criton (F. *cretons*), Croote (Wyclif).] **a.** The refuse of tallow remaining after refining. **b.** The residue of pork fat left after rendering lard: = Crackling 3 b.

c 1440 *Psalmi Penit.* ci. 3 (1894) 36 My bones beth drie and forsoke, As scrachenis [Vulg. *cremium*] that beth forfryed. 16.. *More's note to Ray's N.C. Words, Greaves* or *Scratchings*, sebi reliquiæ. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xviii, She'd take a big cullender to strain her lard wi', and then wonder as the scratchins run through. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* ii. (1880) 70 Scratching as they term greaves on the Trent. 1883 *Knowledge* 18 Aug. 99/1 'Scratchings'—a delicacy greatly relished by our British ploughboys, but rather too rich in pork fat. 1899 *Fishing Gaz.* 2 Dec. 455/1 Scratchings, or..the refuse of the tallow chandlers' boilings, is anything but a desirable substance to handle.

Scratching (skræ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the vb. Scratch in various senses.

1549 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 24 For what shall I loke for amonge thornes but prickyng and scrachinge? 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 30, I would thou didst itch from head to foot, and I had the scratching of thee. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 37, I heard a scratching about my bed; I am sure it must be rats. 1817–8 Cobbett *Resid. U.S.* (1822) 60 In the broadcast method the after-culture must, of course, be confined to hoeing, or, as Tull calls it, scratching. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xv. 100 We crossed the Grimsel pass, and traced the [glacier] scratchings to the very top of it. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 7 Oct 1/8 There is always more or less scratching of names of the Electors, and a recount would be necessary to settle this point alone. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 490 Pruritic dermatoses in which rubbing and scratching are induced.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scratching tool*; **scratching-board,** a board upon which are posted the names of those who have withdrawn from a competition; **scratching ground, -shed, shelter,** a part of a poultry-run reserved for the dust-bath; **scratching post,** a stake (or the like) against which animals rub themselves to allay itching.

1891 N. Gould *Double Event* 118 Judging from the *scratching-board there would be good fields. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Jan. 1/3 One of the Crick hens..wearied of her legitimate *scratching-grounds, and flew over the low wall that divided the holdings of the neighbours. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 47/1 We little dreamed that one of our nags would use the bow of our birch as a *scratching post. 1902 L. Wright in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 881/2 In several cases it [the colony plan] has been abandoned for the system of houses and *scratching sheds. 1880 A. R. Wallace *Isl. Life* vii. 111 The harder blocks would serve as *scratching and grinding tools.

Scratching (skræ·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That scratches, in various senses of the verb.

1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigr., Trifles* 3 A Crowne of thorne with scratching pricks our Christ did willing weare. 1614 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 34 These kinde of scratching Hawks, that I did never love should come too neere my fingers. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, Like the legs of scratching poultry.

†**Scratchingly,** *adv. Obs. rare*–1. [f. Scratching *ppl. a.* + -ly 2.] In a scratching manner.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 122 b, Like a cat, when scratchingly she wheeles about after a mouse.

Scratchless (skræ·tʃlès), *a.* [f. Scratch *sb.*1 + -less.] Without a scratch.

1887 Browning *Parleyings, Apollo & Fates*, Not scratchless but unscathed, he somehow eluded Each blow fortune dealt him.

Scratchy (skræ·tʃi), *a.* Also 8 **scrachy.** [f. Scratch *sb.*1 + -y.]

†**1.** *Farriery.* Affected with the disease known as 'the scratches'; see Scratch *sb.*1 2. *Obs.*

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4788/4 Lost.., a..Mare.., her Legs very hairy and scrachy. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 294 Being well fed, or want of exercise, will frequently excite swellings, which are by no means connected with a scratchy heel.

2. Of work executed with the pen or brush: Composed of scratches, as opposed to bold, firm lines.

1827 Hood *Progress of Art* ii, Some scratchy strokes.. Suffic'd for my design. 1866 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 332 Such a scratchy, illegible hand. 1892 *Nation* 29 Dec. 502/2 The illustrations are..occasionally scratchy.

3. Of hair: Scanty, straggling.

1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 46 (1822) I. 371 His mane is scratchy and lax.

4. Apt to scratch.

1866 Cockayne *Sax. Leechd.* III. 402 This interlineation ..has been written with a scratchy pen. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. viii. 145 He swept the frescoes over with a scratchy broom.

5. *Sporting.* Of action: Ill-sustained, uneven, 'ragged'.

1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 100 Over a short course, where a fast, scratchy stroke often gets a bad boat home in front. 1894 *Field* 9 June 829/1 Galston's action was of a scratchy character, and Sempronius did not look at his best. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 2 Apr. 6/5 The Dark Blues did several starts, some of which were scratchy and some were good.

Scrath (skrāþ). *Sc.* [Metathesis of *scarth*, Scart *sb.*1] = Scart *sb.*1, Scarf *sb.*4

16..in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 133 The Scrath, the Badoch are two great black fowls. 1880 'Shirley' (J. Skelton) *Crookit Meg* xxi. 228 A large scrath with a look of insatiate gluttony stamped on its ugly face. 1893 *Blackwood's Mag.* Aug. 228 Some æons ago, the scrath and the phoca had the [Orcadian] islands pretty much to themselves.

†**Scrattle,** *v. dial.* [Frequent. f. Scrat *v.*]

1. *intr.* To keep on scratching; *trans.* to scrape *away* by quickly repeated movements.

1739 Shenstone *Let.* Wks. 1777 III. 5, I sat down, and wrote thus far: scrattle, scrattle, goes the pen. 1817 Wilbraham *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Scrattle*, to scratch, as fowls do. 1870 *Daily News* 16 Apr., The authoress..can toil through a long day 'scrattling' the snow away from frozen sheep.

2. (See quot. 1864.)

1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xxx, Nobody..cared for nothing but scrattling up and down alongshore like to prawns in a pule. 1864 — *Roman & Teuton* 175 With west-countrymen, to scrattle still means to scramble or shuffle about.

Hence **Scrattling** *vbl. sb.*, scraping, scratching.

1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, A bouncing and scrattling was heard on the stairs, and a white bull-dog rushed in.

†**Scrattop.** *Obs. rare*–1. [? For *scrat-up*, f. Scrat *v.* + Up *adv.*] (A term of abuse.)

1593 Nashe *Strange Newes* G 3 b, Why thou arrant butter whore, thou cotqueane, & scrattop of scoldes, wilt thou neuer leaue afflicting a dead Carcasse.

Scraugh (skrɔ̄χ), *sb. Sc.* [Belongs to Scraugh *v.*] A loud, hoarse cry.

1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxiv, I blew sic points of war, that the scraugh of a clockin-hen was music to them. *a* 1826 Moir in J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 198 The old woman o'er the way To our cheer a scraugh gave back. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The scraugh of a heron.

Scraugh (skrɔ̄χ), *v. Sc.* Also 9 **scrauch.** [Echoic: cf. Scraigh, Skreigh *vbs.*] *intr.* To utter a loud hoarse cry.

1805 A. Scott *Poems* 15 (Jam.) Thus gaed they on wi' deavin din, A' scraughin, yelpin thro' ither. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, And if ye are deaf, what needs ye sit cockit up there, and keep folk scraughin' t'ye this gate? 1831 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 102 The unhappy somnambulists are scrauching.

Hence **Scrau·ghing** *ppl.a.*, in quot. harsh, guttural.

1849 R. Curzon *Monasteries Levant* IV. vi. 421 My knowledge of his scraughing language did not extend very far. 1897 F. Mackenzie *Sprays N. Pine* xviii. 231, I carena though I never hear your scrauchin' voice again.

†**Scraw,** *sb.*1 *north. Obs.* Also 5 **skraw.** [a. ON. *skrá* a dry skin, a scroll.] A scroll or tag of parchment or leather.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 516 How felowse, se ye not yond skraw? It is writen yonder within a thraw. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 325/2 A Scrawe.., *cedula*. *a* 1641 Spelman *Glossarium* (1664) 459 Pictatium est epistola brevis & modica; vel schedula de membrana excisa; vel illa particula corii, quæ soleæ repeciatæ insuta est...Anglicè A scraw, or a speck, or a clout of a shoo.

Scraw (skrɔ̄), *sb.*2 *dial.* (Anglo-Irish, Sc., Manx.) Also 8 **scra,** 9 **scraa.** [a. Irish and Gael. *sgrath*, pronounced (skrā).]

1. A turf used for covering the roof of a hovel beneath the thatch, or for burning.

1725 Swift *Drapier's Let.* vii. Wks. 1755 V. II. 152 That odious custom..of cutting scraws (as they call them) which is flaying off the green surface of the ground to cover their cabins, or make up their ditches. 1823 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 37 Witness dug down, and on the rim of the ground got a scraw, under which he discovered a body stark naked. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* I. iv. 19 Fixing her hazy eyes on the scraas under the thatch.

†**2.** A thin covering of grass-grown soil formed upon the surface of a bog. *Obs.*

1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 120 This Bog is generally covered over with a Scraw, or Scurff of mossy Grass. 1820 Mar. Edgeworth *Mem. R. L. Edgeworth* II. 316 A slight surface of peat heath or grass, called by the common people a shaking scraw.

3. *Comb.*, as *scraw-spade*; †*scraw-built* adj.

1789 D. Davidson *Seasons, Spring* 42 Down frae the scra-built shed the swallows pop. 1830 Carleton *Traits* (1843) I. 294 A scraw-spade is an instrument resembling the letter T, with an iron plate at the lower end, considerably bent, and well adapted to the purpose for which it is intended [cutting sods].

†**Scraw,** *sb.*3 *Obs.* Also 6 **skralle.** [? a. Du. *schraag* trestle.] A frame upon which textile fabrics are hung to dry.

c 1563 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan, Canterbury* (MS.), Item solde [a] skralle for a Towell. 1791 Hamilton *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. II. II. ii. 161 A kind of broad ladder..called a scraw or scray, on which the fleece is drained. 1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 192 In dyeing wool in the fleece, a kind of broad ladder with very close rounds, called by the Dyers of this country, a 'scraw' or 'scray' is used.

†**Scraw,** *v. Obs. rare*–1. [Echoic: cf. L. *screāre*.] *intr.* To clear the throat, to 'hawk'. Hence †**Scraw·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 38 If it come forth by spitting alone, it proceeds from the gums; if by scrawing from the Throat [etc.].

Scrawl (skrɔ̄l), *sb.*1 Forms: 8 **scrall, skrawl,** skrale, 7– scrawl. [f. Scrawl *v.*2]

1. Something scrawled; a hastily and badly written letter, a careless sketch.

1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* v. vii, There, read. (*Shows Letters.*) That..That's a Scrawl of Quality. 1739 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let to C'tess Pomfret* Jan. (1893) II. 37, I forget you are at Paris, and 'tis not polite to trouble you with such long scrawls as might perhaps be supportable at Monts. 1792 Scott *Let.* in Lockhart (1837) I. vii. 188 Taking the advantage..of my father's leaving this place, who will take charge of this scrawl, I sit down to answer your favour. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1867) 52 A scrawl from his pencil brings an enormous price. 1882

B D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* I. xi. 286 An hour or two had not elapsed before I received a scrawl in Sir Colin's own handwriting.

†**b.** *pl.* Scrawled or illegible characters. *Obs.*

1728 Tickell *Horn-bk.* 34 So from the letters of our native tongue, Put in Greek scrawls, a mystery too is sprung. *a* 1767 Harte *Vis. Death* 264 In sable scrawls I Nero's name perus'd. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. 290 Mark now in what confusion, stoop or stand, The crooked scrawls of many a clownish hand.

2. A careless, illegible style of handwriting.

1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Nov., A bad scrawl is so snug. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary, Let.* Nov. (1889) II. 90 Her hand-writing..was..a miserable scrawl. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, The scrawl of childish hands.

Scrawl (skrɔl), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [Perh. f. Scrawl *v.*[1] But cf. OF. *escrouelle* river-shrimp.] (See quot. 1847.)

1847 Halliwell, *Scrawl*, the young of the dog-crab, or a poor sort of crab itself. *Linc.* 1861 Tennyson *Sailor Boy* 12 And on thy ribs the limpet sticks, And in thy heart the scrawl shall play.

Scrawl, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4, 6–7 scrawle, 5–6 scraule, 6 scrale, skrall(e, skrawl, 6–7 scraul, scrall, 6–8, 9 (*dial.*) scrawl. [App. an altered form of Crawl *v.*, perh. suggested by Sprawl *v.* of cognate meaning.]

†**1.** *intr.* To spread the limbs abroad in a sprawling manner; to gesticulate. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* ccxxx. Sel. Wks. II. 204 And þis spirit cryinge, made him scrawle [*v.rr.* spraule, scraule], or, al to-teerynge him, went oute from him. 1560 Phaer *Æneid* ix. A a 2, As he theredid pendant skralle; He pluckt him back by foarce. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 Hee freams, and skrawling to the skye brayes terribil hoyseth.

2. To move with a scrambling and shuffling motion. = Crawl *v.*[1] **1.**

1530 Tindale *Lev.* xi. 41 All that scrauleth vpon the erth. 1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 108 If gentils be scrauling, call magget the py. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 84. 1155 Not so few as one hundred and twentie of knowne Iesuites and Seminaries scrawled like Frogs, thorow her faire soyle. 1677 Coles *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, To scrall (stir); *motito*. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 127 He scrawling, she tugging, with hawling and lugging, Through Window at last he got in. 1851 *Cumberland Gloss.*, Scrawling. 1892 C. A. Clarke *Tum Fowt Sketches* 40 (E. D. D.) T' poor pig what had just scrawled through t' bottom o' t' cart.

†**3.** *transf.* To teem. = Crawl *v.*[1] **5.** *Obs.*

1530 Tindale *Exod.* viii. 3 And the ryuer shall scrale with frogges. 1643 Lightfoot *Gleam. Ex.* (1648) 14 The waters.. scrawle with frogges.

Scrawl (skrɔl), *v.*[2] Also 7 scraul, scrall. [Perh. a use of Scrawl *v.*[1], the development of sense being suggested by the coincidence of the initial cons.-group with that of *scrabble, scribble, scroll.*]

1. *trans.* To write or draw in a sprawling, untidy manner.

1612 [implied in Scrawling *vbl. sb.*]. 1629 Quarles *Argalus & Parth.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 274 To whom poore Vulcan..Scrall'd many a thank. 1748 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Bute* 26 July (1893) II. 169, I enclose to you a rough draft of it [my garden] drawn (or more properly scrawled) by my own hand. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 156 Who, where'er he came, Scrawl'd upon glass miss Bridget's lovely name. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* xxvii. II. 304 The war correspondent now scrawls his despatches as he sits in his saddle under the fire of the enemy. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* vii. 215 [The] accomplishment of scrawling their names at the bottom of a cheque.

b. To cover (a surface) with scrawling inscriptions or marks. Also with *over.*

1647 Cowley *Mistr., Written in Juice Lemmon* ii, Like Hypocrites, which seem unspotted here; But when they sadly come to dye, And the last Fire their Truth must try, Scrauld ore like thee, and blotted they appear. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 13 July (1815) 237 The windows of all the inns are scrawled with doggrel rhimes. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* I. ix. I. 153 Many people carry papers about with them, scrawled with hieroglyphics. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* I. i. 2 Letters..all to be scrawled over in the margin by the diligent old man. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* 36 The western tempest was scrawled all over with lines of intolerable light.

2. *intr.* To scribble, to write carelessly or awkwardly. Also †*to scrawl it.*

1611 Cotgr., *Griffonner*, to write fast, and ill; to scribble, to scrall it. [1647: *? indirect passive*; see 1 b.] 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 47, I have ordered Dorcas ..to be always scrawling with a pen, lest inky fingers should give suspicion. 1842 Tennyson *Day-dream* 142 The butler drank, the steward scrawl'd. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* 75 Splash and scrawl, Completed lay thy piece, swift penman Paul!

†**Scrawla·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Scrawl *v.*[1] + -ation.] ? Disorderly behaviour.

1774 Toplady *Let.* 11 Jan., Wks. (1853) 853 Perhaps it may conduce to render both your antagonist, and his antecedent scrawlation (forgive a homely Devonshire term), more conspicuous, than they might otherwise have been.

Scrawled (skrɔld), *ppl. a.* [f. Scrawl *v.*[2] + -ed [2].] Scribbled, badly written.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lviii, Many other scrawled memoranda regarding the bygone frequenters of the house.

Scrawler (skrɔ·lər). [f. Scrawl *v.*[2] + -er [1].] One who writes carelessly.

1734 Swift *Let. to Miss Hoadly* 4 June, I will shew the paper to every female scrawler I meet, who will soon spread about the town, that your writing and spelling are ungenteel and unfashionable, more like a parson than a lady. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. ix. 65 The paltry, dirty scrawler [the captain's clerk].

Scrawling (skrɔ·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Scrawl *v.*[2] + -ing [1].] The action of Scrawl *v.*[2]; scribbling, careless untidy writing.

1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* xx. 230 Schollars now will be carefull to keepe their Greeke Testaments faire from blotting or scrauling. 1764 Reid *Inquiry* iv. § 2. 108 Is it not pity that the refinements of a civilized life, instead of supplying the defects of natural language, should root it out, and plant in its stead..the scrawling of insignificant characters? 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VI. viii. (1820) 424 The drop of ink which hangs trembling on his pen, which he may either dash upon the floor, or waste in idle scrawlings. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvii, After much painful scrawling and erasing,..the old woman produced this document.

†**Scraw·ling,** *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Scrawl *v.*[1] + -ing [2].] Crawling.

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 219 The duste brought forth the scralling lise. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fortune* I. in *Five Old Plays* (Roxb. Club) 84 Brought up in blood, and cherisht with scrauling snakes. 1637 G. Daniel *Genius of this Isle* 285 Here Scrauling wretches, too, too bad to tell, Endure a Torment.

Scrawling (skrɔ·liŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Scrawl *v.*[2] + -ing [2].] That scrawls. Of handwriting: Careless, untidy, illegible.

1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* IV. 375 Parsons..could make a shift to write a scrawling hand. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 52. 33 He was continually shaking sand from a pepper-box over scrawling entries in marble-covered copy-books. 1886 G. Allen *Maimie's Sake* xvii, Written..in a loose, scrawling uneducated hand.

Scrawly (skrɔ·li), *a.* [f. Scrawl *v.*[2] or *sb.*[1] + -y.] Badly or untidily written; irregularly designed.

1833 Mrs. Stowe in C. E. Stowe *Life* (1889) 70 The envelope was written in a scrawny, scrawly, gentleman's hand. 1859 G. Wilson *Life E. Forbes* iii. (1861) 76 Its statements are exceedingly brief, some in ink, many in pencil, all of them very scrawly. 1901 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 May 6/1 Three yellowish eggs with their unmistakable black, scrawly marks.

Hence **Scraw·liness.**

1903 F. W. H. Myers *Human Pers.* II. 168 Before one can feel sure that the resemblance is in more than some formal scrawliness.

Scrawm (skrɔm), *v. dial.* [App. a phonetically symbolic formation after words beginning with *scr-*.] *trans.* To scratch.

In dialects also in other senses: To scramble, sprawl; to climb, clamber; to scribble, scrawl: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1880 Tennyson *North. Cobbler* iv, He scrawm'd an' scratted my faäce like a cat. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Scrawm*, to scratch, scrawl; as of a foot-rule packed up carelessly with tools,—'They're scrawming it all over'.

Scrawny (skrɔ·ni), *a. U. S.* [Variant of Scranny.] Lean, scraggy.

1833 [see Scrawly]. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Alphonso* Wks. (Bohn) I. 408 Yon pale, scrawny fisher fools, Gaunt as bitterns in the pools. 1876 C. D. Warner *Winter on Nile* ii. 35 What a lot of scrawny old women. 1883 W. H. Bishop *Old Mexico* xxiii. 333 The..tough, fragrant, but scrawny, eucalyptus is much in use as a shade-tree.

Hence **Scraw·niness,** scragginess.

1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 390, I often found,..in the persons of such of my dear countrywomen as I now occasionally met, a certain meagreness, (Heaven forbid that I should call it scrawniness!)

Scray[1] (skrē·i). In 9 scraye. [History obscure: cf. the synonymous Welsh *ysgräen, ysgräell.*] The common tern, *Sterna hirundo.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 4. 155 Sea-swallow, Scray. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 353 In other places of England they are called Scrays. 1813 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., Tern—Common...Rittock or Rippock, Spurre, Scraye. 1852 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* V. 638.

Scray[2], *dial.* [? Altered form of Spray.] A bush.

c 1650 *Robin Hood & Butcher* 14 in *Percy Folio MS.* I. 20 Robin he marcht in the greene forrest, vnder the greenwood scray. 1869 E. Peacock in *Once a Week* 27 Mar. 230 The thorn scray grows at the horn of the river.

Scray[3]. *dial.* = Scraw *sb.*[3] 1791 [see Scraw *sb.*[3]].

†**Scray·fish.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 scrafisse, -fysse, -fisch, -fish, skrafysch, -fissh, schraf(f)ysch, 5 scra(y)fyschе. [Corruptly ad. OF. *escrevisse* (mod.F. *écrevisse*): see Crayfish.] A crayfish.

1309–10 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 6 De Ix de Scrafisse. 1333–4 *Ibid.* 20 In xxvij Skrafysch, playc' [etc.]. 1355–6 *Ibid.* 555 Et in 30 Skrafisshes empt. pro d'no Priore, 5*s.* 9*d.* 1397 in *Finchale Priory Charters* (Surtees) p. cxviii, Item vj scraffysch. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 324/2 Scrayfysche (*MS. A* Scrafysche); *vbi* stokfysche.

†**Scray·foot.** *dial. Obs.* [? f. Scray [3].] *attrib.* in *scrayfoot pot*, a pot with a tripod support.

1512 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 249 Bras potte called a scrayfote potte.

Scraze (skrēz), *v. dial.* [App. a blending of Scratch and Graze *vbs.*] *trans.* To scratch, graze (see E.D.D.). Hence **Scraze** *sb.*, a scratch or graze.

1703 Evelyn *Mem.* (1857) III. 397 A defluxion which fell into one of my legs, caused by a slight scraze on my shin bone, falling on a stump as I was walking in Brompton Park. 1865 *East Kent Gazette* 7 Jan. 4/3, I found a small scraze of the right shin, which might have been caused by a fall.

†**Scre·able,** *a. Obs.*—[0] [f. L. *screā-re* to hawk, hem: see -able.] See quot. and cf. Excreable.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Screable* (*screabilis*) that may be spitted out. 1721 in Bailey. 1755 in Johnson.

Screade, obs. form of Screed.

Screak (skrīk), *sb.* Now chiefly *dial.* For forms see the vb. [f. Screak *v.*]

1. A shrill cry; a shrill grating sound.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. xii. 14 The 3ing childring, and frayit matrounis eik, Stude all on raw, with mony peteous screik. *Ibid.* IV. viii. 111 And oft with wild skrek the nycht oule, Heich on the ruif, allane, was hard 3oule. 1614 H. A. *Scourge of Venus* (1876) 30 What may these scremes & dolefull scriks portend. *a* 1710 Bp. Bull *Serm.* xx. (1713) III. 801 Others peep forth into the Light, as it were only to see it, and having, by a Skreek or two given Testimony to the Misery of this Life, presently die and vanish. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 87 His Landlady gave a Screek as if she had seen the Devil. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 223 Their note of anger or fear is very harsh, between a chatter and a skreek. 1799 Southey *Eng. Ecl., Dancing Bear* 3, I would rather hear cat-courtship Under my bed-room window in the night, Than this scraped catgut's screak. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 34 And siccan hidyous yells and shrieks!—A' the warld soundit wi' their skrieks! 1894 *Tablet* 8 Sept. 362 The old flagellants..whipped themselves to the screak of the fife and the roll of the drum.

b. *In a screek,* ? crying out with pain.

1681 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1885) IV. 81 Very sick, much pained, had been in a screek most part of the night.

2. A name for some species of Shrike.

1802 Montagu *Ornith.* s. v. *Shrike*, Murdering-bird. Skreek, or Skrike. Night-jar.

3. *Screak of day,* daybreak (*dial.*: see E.D.D.). Cf. Skreigh, Skrike, Creek *sb.*[2], Creking.

1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 51 Ilka morning by the screak o' day, They're set to wark. 1830 Carleton *Traits* (1843) I. 60 That morning we were all up at the skriek of day.

Screak (skrīk), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* Forms: *a.* 5–6 screke, 6 skrek(e, screake, *Sc.* screik, 6–7 screeke, skreeke, 6–8 screek, scriek, 6–9 skreak, skreek, skriek, 7–8 screeck, 6– screak. *β.* 6 skrick(e, *pa. pple.* skrigd, 7 scrick(e, scrik. See also Skrike. [a. ON. *skrækja*, prob. echoic; cf. Screech, Shriek *vbs.* In dialects there are parallel forms with other vowels, symbolizing different varieties of sound, as *scraik, scrawk, scroke.*]

1. *intr.* To utter a shrill harsh cry; to screech or scream. Also with *out.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 37 (*Passion*), Though he sore skricke, A buffitte shall bytte. 1567 Drant *Horace, Ep., A. P.* B iiij, They all would screeke vnto the skye and laughe at hym aloude. 1605 Armin *Foole upon F.* (1880) 14 The cracke made them all screeke out. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. x. 25 Dreadfull spectres and fansies skreaking hideously round about him. *a* 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 588 The Impenitent shall howl, the Unjust skreek out. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 374 She skreem'd, she skreek'd, she baul'd, she yaul'd. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1884) 78 Her Mother..scriekt out. 1787 *Minor* II. x. 98 The situation made the servant screak.

b. of certain animals.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 513 When mice cry and screeketh aboue their ordinary custome, it presageth an alteration and change of the Weather. 1614 H. A. *Scourge of Venus* (1876) 30 To heare the night-crowes scrik, and goblins play. 1863 Kingsley *Water-Bab.* 32 The very magpies and jays followed Tom up, screaking and screaming.

c. Of things such as an ungreased hinge or axle: To make a shrill grating sound. Cf. Creak *v.*

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Stridео, Tibia stridebat cantu*, screaked. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Amos* ii. 13 Behold I wil screak under you, as a wayne screaketh loden with hay [Vulg. *stridebo..stridet*]. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* xvi. (1677) 247 The yoke screeks [xvi. 470 κρίκε δὲ ζυγόν]. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. iv. xvii. 222 They oil'd the Hinges of the Door, least they should screak and make a Noise. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Vitis*, Especially when the Screw is perceiv'd to be rough, or screaks in the Nut when the Trendle is turn'd. 1843 Dickens *Christm. Carol* iv. 130 Stop till I shut the door of the shop. Ah! How it skreeks? 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 2/3 The noise that the slate pencil can make in the hands of a child.. can only be rendered by a word which is onomatopœic if not correct—'screak'.

2. *trans.* To cry *out* or utter with a screak.

1569 W. Hubbard *Ceyx & Alc.* A vij, She screeketh out, why doest thou flie and leaue me alone. 1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* xiv. 19 Whan..old man had skrigd out, 'O worthi me whom nide to spike constrains.

†**Screa·ker.** *Obs.* In 6 skreker. [-er [1].] One who screaks.

1549 Chaloner *Erasm. on Folly* I iij, But and if the skreker (the preacher I woulde have saied) falleth out of his purpose.

Screa·king, *vbl. sb.* [-ing [1].] The action of the verb Screak; utterance or emission of a shrill cry or grating sound.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Stridor*, To heare the screakyng or crashyng of a saw. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 7 So that vnder Gam vt the voice seemed as a kinde of humming, and aboue E la a kinde of constrained skricking. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* III. ix. 149 The noise of Water-streams, or the screekings of Grass-hoppers. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 95 Terrible Shrieks and Skreekings of Women. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iv. 129 These Brutes, whose Language resembled the Screeking of Bats. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xiv, The screaking of a cracked fiddle. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 4/2 A silence broken only by the perpetual 'skreeking' of the katydids in the locust-trees.

Screa·king, *ppl. a.* [-ing [2].] That screaks; that makes a shrill strident sound.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Aridus, Sonus aridus*, a shrill screkyng sounde. 1567 Turberv. *Epit.* etc. 125, I would become a Cat To combat with the creeping Mouse and scratch the screeking Rat. 1615 Rowlands *Melancholie Knt.* 30 Your skreeking Parrot will distract my sence. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 384 Which joynt..moves not without a strong screaking pressure of the parts. 1825 Hazlitt *Spirit of Age* 88 With a harsh screaking voice.

Screaky (skrī·ki), *a. rare.* Also screeky, skrieky. [f. Screak *sb.* or *v.* + -y.] Apt to screak.

1892 *Dial. Notes* (U. S.) v. 231 (Kentucky Words) *Skrieky*,

creaky. 1893 R. BRIDGES *Humours of Court* III. ii. 2473 I'll shut him in the screeky cupboard.

†**Screa·ling.** *Obs. rare*—1. [app. in some way related to Norw. *skræling*, Da. *skrælling* weakling, Olcel. *Skrælingjar* (pl.), the name given to certain American aborigines.] A dwarf, pygmy.

1613 W. H. in R. Anton *Moriomachia*, Their indifferent dealings Did proue them to meane Knights, not Gyants, nor Screalings.

Scream (skrīm), *sb.* In 6 *Sc.* **screym, skreyme,** 7 **schreeme,** 8 **skream.** [f. SCREAM *v.*] A shrill piercing cry, usually expressive of pain, alarm, or other sudden emotion.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 61 And (as they say) lamentings heard i' th' Ayre; Strange Schreemes of Death. 1708 POPE *Ode on St. Cecilia's Day* 57 Dreadful gleams, Dismal screams. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometheus* I. 498 Oh, ye who shake hills with the scream of your mirth. 1842 APPERLEY *Life Sportsman* ii. 33 His scream, or view-halloo, is, indeed, wonderful. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXIX, She dropped them with a scream of terror. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xix. 563 It was a sharp, sudden scream, following a shot.

b. *transf.* Applied to the shrill cry of certain birds and beasts, and to any similar noise.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 76 And sone the other fowlis heich in the sky Turnit agane, with mony screym [*ed.* 1710 skreyme] and cry, To chais and to assail thar aduersair. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 14 The scream of a peacock. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. x, The eagles answer'd with their scream. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* xvi. 138 The engine gave a shrill scream. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. iii, Listening now to the tide.., Now to the scream of a madden'd beach dragg'd down by the wave.

Scream (skrīm), *v.* Forms: 2 **scræme,** 3 **screame,** 4–5 **screme, skreme,** 7 **schreame,** 8 **skreem, skream,** 7– **scream.** [Early ME. *scrǽmen, screamen, schreamen*, perh. :—OE. **scrǽman.* Cf. mod. WFris. *skrieme* to weep (for the sense-development cf. *weep, cry*) :—OFris. **skrêma.* Early ME. *sc* may stand for either (sk) or (ʃ); see the rare parallel form SHREAM. In Shakspere's *schreame, schreeme* (see SCREAM *sb.*) *sch* probably stands for (sk), after the spelling of words of classical derivation.]

1. *intr.* To utter a shrill piercing cry, normally expressive of pain, alarm, mirth, or other sudden emotion. Also, to produce unpleasantly loud and shrill upper notes in singing. Also with *out, away.*

a 1200 *Twelfth Cent. Hom.* 128 Þær is ece eadignesse; þær eald ne graneð, ne child ne scræmeð. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 Þat wif..þat ihereð, hwen ha cumeð in, hire bearn screamen [*MS. Bodl.* schreamen]. *c* 1325 *Pol. Songs* (1839) 158 Heo biginnith to shryke ant scremeth anon. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9998 A dredful dreme that lady dremed, That In hir sclepe sche cried & scremed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 325/2 To screme. 1634 BREERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Others elder..guided these little ones, and sung, screaming, and squeaking, and straining their voices. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Scream* or *Scream out*, to cry out, especially as one that is scar'd or frighted. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 374 She skreem'd, she skreek'd. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 4 These antipatriotic prejudices are the abortions of Folly impregnated by Faction...They are born only to scream and perish. 1782 COWPER *Mutual Forbearance* 27 Yes, truly—one must scream and bawl—I tell you, you can't hear at all! 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXIII, 'Nay, scream away if you like it,' said he, still holding her fast. 1825 DANNELEY *Encycl. Mus.*, To *Scream*, is to sing in so loud a manner that the tones of the voice cannot be appreciated. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 311 She screamed for help.

b. Of certain birds and beasts: To emit their characteristic shrill cry.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 747 *Putois garit.* Fulmarde scremyth. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 910 A wonderfull noyse [the cry of the dragon] Skremyt vp to the skrow with a skryke ffelle. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. ii. 16, I heard the Owle schreame, and the Crickets cry. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 529 So flies a Vulture thro' the clam'rous Train Of Geese, that scream, and scatter round the Plain. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 38 The famish'd Eagle screams, and passes by. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 87 A marmot screamed near me. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 415 Under the cliffs, where the sea-birds scream.

c. Of an inanimate thing: To make a noise like a scream.

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 478 The fiddle screams Plaintive and piteous. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condolence* Wks. 1794 III. 233 Wild screams the trumpet's brazen note so clear. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iv, There it [the sign of an inn] hung, creaking, groaning, and screaming in every blast of wind. 1882 F. W. H. MYERS *Renewal of Youth* 138 Winds that screamed and storms that fled. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 159 The ships screamed and groaned, ..as they ground together.

d. quasi-*trans.* with complementary adv. or phr.

1801 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. x. 334 Bugles indeed we have; but it is only to scream us out of bed at five in the morning. 1862 F. W. ROBINSON *Owen* IV. ix, If he stayed there by her side, she would scream the house down in a minute more.

2. *fig.* To express oneself angrily, excitedly, etc., in speech or writing.

[1775: see 1.] 1880 G. A. SIMCOX in *Macm. Mag.* XLI. 401 The Bishop of Exeter 'screamed' at the idea of having to listen to the same speaker for two months. 1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Oct. 445 'The Times'—..it screamed, it bullied, it worked itself up into a perfect whirlwind of wrath. 1890 *Spectator* 7 June, We receive quite as many communications screaming at us for 'insufferable complaisance' towards Mr. Gladstone.

3. *trans.* To utter with a scream. Also with *out.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 15 ₱ 2 Clapping me on the Back and skreaming a Lullaby. 1823 BYRON *Island* IV. xiii, The sea-birds..screaming high their harsh and hungry dirge. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, Mrs. Macklin..has no sooner opened her little street-door, and screamed out 'Muffins!' with all her might, than [etc.]. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* XXXI, Screaming out the doggerel lines which had long been the watchword of the Jacqueries.

Screamer (skrī·mǝr). [f. SCREAM *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who screams; one who sings in shrill piercing tones.

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Nov., She must have been tortured with the noise of the Grub Street screamers mentioning her husband's murder to her ears. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* XXVI, The screamer aforesaid, who added good features and bright eyes to the powers of her lungs. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* I. 208 An age which lavished its tens of thousands..on Italian screamers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 223/2 The ballad singers—or street screamers, as we calls 'em.

2. An animal that utters a cry like a scream.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. XXXIX, Forth from her shadowy haunt Flies the large-headed screamer of the night. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVII, These tiresome screamers of the morass [the lapwing and curlew]. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Naturalist in La Plata* I. 15 At night when camping out I have heard its [the aguará's] dismal screams, but the screamer was sought in vain.

3. *spec.* a. A name for the birds of the S. American family *Palamedeidæ*; esp. the KAMICHI or Horned Screamer, and *Chauna chavaria*, the Crested Screamer.

The name Crested Screamer is also given to the Seriema or Cariama (*Palamedea cristata* Linn., *Dicholophus cristatus* Illiger) of Brazil.

1773 PENNANT *Genera of Birds* 43 *Palamedea* of Linnæus, *Anhima* and *Cariama* of Brisson...I call it Screamer, from the violent noise it makes. Only two species. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. I. 18 Horned Scr[eamer]. *Palamedea cornuta* Lin. *Ibid.* 20 Crested Scr[eamer]. *Palamedea cristata* Lin. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 91 The Brazilian Cariama, or Crested Screamer (*Dicholophus cristatus*). *Ibid.* 95 The Screamers (*Palamedeæ*) constitute a group of strange birds. *Ibid.* 96 The Aniuma or Horned Screamer (*Palamedea cornuta*) is characterised by a horn upon the brow. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Naturalist in La Plata* I. 20 The spur-winged crested screamer; a noble bird as large as a swan.

b. A local name for the swift.

1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. 1852 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* II. 75.

4. *slang.* a. A person, animal, or thing of exceptional size, attractiveness, etc.; a splendid specimen; e.g. a well-grown or beautiful female; a 'heavy swell'; a large fish; a large sum of money.

1837 A. GREENE *Glance at New York* (Bartlett 1860), The folks are all waiting to see the fast steamer..; Ah, here she is now; sir, ain't she a screamer? 1846 MRS. KIRKLAND *West. Clearings* 44 'But she's a screamer of a girl,' persisted Master George; 'I'd rather have her than all the rest.' 1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairleigh* xiii, Well, you are a screamer, and no mistake,..Be merciful towards the ladies. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* XX, I am in for a 'screamer', and the bill for which I am arrested is only a ruse to prevent my leaving England. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* XXXVI, I..lost one screamer just up the back ditch there. He must have been a four-pounder.

b. A composition of a startling or exaggerated character; e.g. a thrilling or funny story, a 'screaming' farce. Also, a person who tells exaggerated stories.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XVI, A peculiar style of broad-side-essay called 'a screamer'. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* XXIII. 234 'Stranger,' said the man..'you are a screamer!' 1854 *Housek. Words* VIII. 77 Actors speak of such and such a farce being a 'screamer'. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' (*title*) Screamers; a gathering of scraps of humour, delicious bits, and short stories. 1888 in *Echoes fr. Oxf. Mag.* (1890) 111 And I'll write you a regular screamer If you dare to come up in the Long.

Screaming (skrī·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCREAM *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb SCREAM.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10182 The skrew for þe skrykyng & skremyng of folke, Redoundet with dyn drede for to here. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 72 Such roaring and screaming, such swaggering and bouncing. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 443 Nor may we pretend to faint away at the screamings of a country church, because we happen to have a fine ear..for music. 1892 HENLEY *Song of Sword* 9 A noise Of the screaming of eagles.

Screa·ming, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.]

1. That screams; sounding shrilly.

1602 B. JONSON *Poetaster* To Rdr. 100 Like so many screaming grasse-hoppers. 1700 DRYDEN *Theodore & Honoria* 100 And from afar he heard a screaming sound, As of a Dame distress'd, who cry'd for Aid. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 353 The screaming nations, hov'ring in mid air, Loudly resent the stranger's freedom there. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 89 Storms of screaming grape, which..splintered the trees. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXXVI, Far the calling bugles hollo, High the screaming fife replies.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Tending to excite screams of laughter; said esp. of a farce.

1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. x, It was a situation for a screaming farce. 1873 HOPKINS *Making Worst of it* viii, The gorgeous and screaming new and original burlesque drama.

b. Violent or startling in effect; glaring.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXI, '———!' burst out his father with a screaming oath. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 700/2 When we..added these startling spots of colour..the effect was rather screaming.

c. *slang.* First-rate, splendid.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Screaming*, first rate, splendid. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* I. vi. 125 'Well', cried the manager, radiant, 'a screaming success. There's money in it.' 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 314 The Belvoir have, again, had a screaming run, a brilliant day, and a grand finish. 1897 *Badminton Mag.* IV. 386 The Rioters had come out of the wood on a screaming scent.

Hence **Screa·mingly** *adv.*; chiefly in the phr. 'screamingly funny' (cf. prec. 2 a).

1847 KINGLAKE *Eothen* 173 The joyous girls will suddenly, and screamingly, and all at once, explain to each other that [etc.]. 1879 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 368 You would be screamingly amused by one. 1892 *Cornhill Mag.* Apr. 444 They are screamingly funny.

Screamy (skrī·mi), *a. colloq.* [f. SCREAM *sb.* or *v.* + -Y.] Given to screaming; having a screaming voice or sound; *fig.* characterized by exaggerated or undignified expression of anger, complaint, or the like; violent or glaring in colour.

1882 *Spectator* 25 Feb. 265/1 The two thoroughly unworthy and screamy [sonnets] on Carlyle's *Reminiscences*, by Mr. Swinburne. 1885 *Truth* 11 June 927/1 Dining-rooms.. fidgety with glitter, gilt, and screamy colouring. 1891 *Jrnl. of Educ.* 1 Nov. 572/2 We deprecate the 'screamy' temper in which so many of the aggrieved feel and write.

Hence **Screa·miness.**

1884 HAWEIS *Mus. Life* 233 A word about violin strings... Thick strings will mellow the screaminess of a Stainer. 1891 *Spectator* 9 May 666/2 She impairs its effect for English readers by a certain screaminess of tone.

Screane, obs. form of SCREEN *v.*

†**Screa·tion.** *Obs.*—0 [f. L. *screāre* to hawk, hem: see -ATION.] Hawking or spitting.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Screation*, a spitting.

Screbel, screble, obs. forms of SCRIBBLE *v.*1

Screch, obs. form of SCREECH *v.*

†**Screde,** *v. Obs. rare.* [dial. var. of *shrede*, SHRIDE *v.*] *trans.* To clothe, array.

a 1400 *Octovian* (W.) 1676 In armes that owghte the Sarsyns deede The Crysten knyghtes gonne hem screde.

Scree (skrī), *sb.* Also 9 *erron.* **scrae.** [a. ON. *skriða* landslip (Sw., Da. *skred*), cogn. w. *skriða* to slide, glide (= OE. *scrīðan* to go, glide).

The existing form of the sing. is prob. a back-formation from the pl. *screes*, in which the medial ð is dropped as in 'clo'es' for *clothes*.]

A mass of detritus, forming a precipitous, stony slope upon a mountain-side. Also the material composing such a slope.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Skirl*, or *screes*, small stones or pebbles. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. viii, Far on the sloping valley's course,..Shingle and Scrae, and Fell and Force, A dusky light arose. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 137 The cliffs, and screes, and snowpatches looked uglier and steeper. 1905 WEYMAN *Starvecrow Farm* 209 And now the screes of Bow Fell, flecked with snow, were not more cold and hard than her face.

attrib. 1888 DAVISON in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 232 The instability of scree-material being so great, the causes of its motion are consequently numerous.

Screech (skrītʃ), *sb.* Forms: 6 **skreeche,** 7 **scriech, screitch, skreech,** 7–8 **skriech,** 8 **schreetch, skreetch,** 7– **screech.** [f. SCREECH *v.* Cf. SCRITCH *sb.*]

1. A loud shrill cry, usually one expressive of violent and uncontrollable pain or alarm.

1560 *Ovid's Narcissus* A ij b, Ecco..the dobbeler of skreeche [*rime* speche]. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* II. 238 Th' one insulting proud; Th' other in skrieches, and sad cryes, as loud, Deafned the shores. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 11 A great lamentation, accompanied with grones and skreeches. 1628 LD. CARLETON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 259 But to returne to the screeches made att the fatall blow given. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1884) 109 A Woman gave three frightful Skreetches. 1743 APPLETON *Serm.* 93 Draw forth Teares, yea, to cause Schreetches and screamings out. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Hate-song* 3 He sang a song which was more of a screech [*rime-word* ditch] 'Gainst a woman that was a brute. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xix. (1852) 230 Shouting to her at mouth-wide screech. 1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* vii. (1874) 128 Suddenly an unearthly sound broke from one side, a sort of screech.

†*fig.* 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* xii. 35 Oh what a fearful scriech will thy Conscience give.

2. A name for various birds having a harsh discordant cry, e.g. the Barn-owl (*Strix flammea*), the Swift (*Cypselus apus*), the Missel-thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*), etc. Now only *dial.*

1637 G. DANIEL *Genius of this Isle* 346 Where the owle And yelling Screitch, (full of portent and Fate) Late kept. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.*, Swift...Screech. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Goethe's Faust* ii. 67 Are the screech, the lapwing, and the jay, All awake as if 'twere day? 1852 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* II. 75 Swift...Black Martin. Screech.

3. *transf.* A harsh, squeaking sound made by some inanimate object.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iii. 46 He was completely roused by a creak and screech of the latticed window. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 85 We could hear the galloping sweep of a railway train..and its discordant screech.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., with the sense 'screeching, loud and discordant'.

a 1830 COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 179 A wild-looking..man with sandy hair, a screech voice, and staring eyes.

b. In dial. names of birds with reference to their characteristic cry (cf. sense 2), as **screech-bird, -thrush,** the Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*); **screech-**

cock, -drossle, -thrush, the Missel-thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*); screech-devil, -martin, the Swift (*Cypselus apus*); screech-hawk, the Nightjar (*Caprimulgus Europæus*). See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1802 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.*, Swift...Screech Martin. 1839 Macgillivray *Brit. Birds* II. 114 *Turdus viscivorus*. The Missel Thrush...Screech Thrush.

¶ 5. Misused for Screak, Skreigh, break of day.

1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* iii, I am a very early bird: I get up at the screech of dawn.

Screech (skrīʧ), *v.* Forms: 6 skrech, 7 screch, skriech, scrietch, 8 skrietch, screetch, 7– screech. [Echoic modification of Scritch *v.*]

1. *intr.* To utter a sharp, piercing cry, as of pain or alarm; to scream or call out with a shrill voice; also occas. used *transf.* of inanimate things.

1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 26 b, Thou weepest still, thou skrechest shrill, thou halest from head thyne heares. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. iii, Now croakes the toad and night crowes screech aloud. 1704 *Loud. Post* 28–30 June 2/1 The Nurse and 2 Maids who lay in a Room backwards, were heard to Skriech out a considerable time, in a most pitiful manner. 1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condolence* Wks. 1794 III. 232 The fiddles screech with rapture one and all. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xix. (1856) 146 Crowds of Auks and Ivory Gulls, screeching with execrable clamor. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* III. x, I screeched out all the more...when I remembered the quarrel that had took place at dinner. 1888 Henley *Bk. Verses* 152 A draggled fishwife screeches at the gates.

2. *trans.* To utter (a word or sentence) with a loud, shrill, piercing sound.

1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* v. iv. 205 'Rigby', screeched a hoarse voice, 'don't you mind'. 1889 Barrie *Window in Thrums* 149 Next minute she screeches, 'What, what, what?'

3. To cause to utter a shrill, squeaking noise. *rare.*

1862 Lady Duff-Gordon in F. Galton *Vac. Tourists* (1864) 161 When I went into the hall, a Dutchman was screeching a concertina hideously.

Screecher (skrī·tʃəɹ). [f. Screech *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who screeches. *lit.* and *fig.*

1869 J. Burroughs *Wake-Robin* viii. (1895) 210 The fly-catchers...are not properly songsters, but are classed by some writers as screechers. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 25 Jan. 6/2 They are as unpatriotic in their way as screechers about Bulgarian atrocities. 1908 *Academy* 11 July 27/2 These screechers are beginning to learn that hysterics are of little use where argument is concerned.

2. A dial. name for several birds having a harsh screaming cry; e.g. the Swift (*Cypselus apus*), the Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna anglica*), and the Missel-thrush (*Turdus viscivorus*).

1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2290 The common swift is in G[loucestershire] a 'screecher'. 1864 Atkinson *Bird-n.*, Screecher... Gull-billed Tern. *Sterna Anglica.*

Screeching (skrī·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Screech *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Screech; shrill crying, howling.

1616 Breton *Good & Badde, Vnquiet Woman* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12/2 Her voice is the skrieching of an owle. 1673 Hickeringill *Gregory F. Greybeard* 307 This ratcatcher owl..with her howtings and scrietching she spoils the musick. 1753 Miss Collier *Art Torment.* Concl. (1811) 221 How have I seen a whole company made uneasy from the screeching of a cork between some person's fingers! 1777 W. Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* cxxix, They make a most disagreeable screetching. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* vii, 'I prithee, peace', said Craigdallie, who was obviously tired of the tuneless screeching of the worthy deacon. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Smiling Listener* 54 More banging, more screeching of fiddle and drum.

Screeching (skrī·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Screech *v.* + -ing 2.] That screeches. Hence **Scree·chingly** *adv.*

1816 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) V. 141 My old peacock, who chooses to..sit below my bedroom window to keep me awake with his screeching lamentation. 1854 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXI. 217 Old ones cry out screechingly. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 209 The screeching appeals which greeted the discovery of our misdemeanour.

Scree·ch-owl. Also 7 skreech-, 8 scriech-. [f. Screech *v.*; altered form of Scritch-owl.]

1. A name for the Barn Owl (*Aluco flammeus* Fleming, *Strix* Linn.), from its discordant cry, supposed to be of evil omen.

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 21 The time when Screech-owles cry, and Bandogs howle. 1612 Dekker *London Triumphing* B 1 b, Let Bats and Skreech-Owles murmure at bright Day. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 7 P 2 A Screech-Owl at Midnight has alarmed a Family, more than a Band of Robbers. 1773 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 July, From this screaming probably arose the common people's imaginary species of screech-owl, which they superstitiously think attends the windows of dying persons. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. vi, Long-winded, unmelodious as the screech-owl's, sounds that prophetic voice. 1872 Calverley *Fly Leaves* (1884) 5 And the screech-owl scares the peasant As he skirts some churchyard drear.

2. *transf.* Applied to a bearer of evil tidings, or one who presages misfortune.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 16 Let him that will a screech-oule aye be call'd, Goe in to Troy, and say there, Hector's dead. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxx, 'Vile murderous hag!' replied Front-de-Bœuf; 'detestable screech owl!' 1896 Jane Barlow *Mrs. Martin's Comp.*, etc. 50 To be pitied for havin' to put up wid the ould screech-owl's foolish talk.

3. *attrib.*

1796 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Satire* Wks. 1812 III. 409 Of Screech-owl satire Pitt has shorn the wings. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* ii, The harsh and dissonant voice, and the screech-owl notes to which it was exalted when he was exhorted to pronounce more distinctly. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. vi, Then, secondly, his rejected screech-owl Oration.

Screechy (skrī·tʃi), *a.* [f. Screech *sb.* + -y 1.] Of a voice: Given to screech; loud, shrill, and discordant. Also *transf.*

a 1830 Cockburn *Mem.* (1856) 154 His voice..got sputtering and screechy when he became excited. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Apr. 10 She has a moderate mezzo soprano, rather reedy and screechy in its upper notes. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 8 Oct. 8/6 Vilification of the screechiest kind.

Screed (skrīd), *sb.* Forms: 4 screade, 5 scr·ede, 6 *Sc.* skreid, screid, 7 skread, 8–9 skreed, 7– screed. [Variant of Shred *sb.*, repr. OE. *scréade*; cf. Scr- 1.]

I. 1. A fragment cut, torn, or broken from a main piece; in later use, a torn strip of some textile material. Also *collect. sing. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1315 Shoreham 1. 824 Þaȝ eny best devoured hyt,.. Ech screade ȝet al so longe hys godes body, Ase lest þe fourme of brede. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 655/11 *Hoc presegmen*, screde. *a* 1460 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 252 Robes made of scredes. *a* 1510 Douglas *Conscience* 7 Of his habite out cuttit thay ane skreid. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 37 Scho raif hir clais all into screid. 1825 Croker *Fairy Leg.* I. 162 He has been sometimes seen going about with hardly a skreed to cover him. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* (ed. 3) 208 By a screed o' her druggit goown tangled on a blackthorn.

b. A strip of land; a parcel of ground.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* 220 Thou Ahab, thou that by extortion gaines, Some Skreads of Land to better thy demains. 1644 Slingsby *Diary* (1836) 126 Northscales, a town in Wawne [Walney] Iseland wch is a narrow screed of land lying before Fourness. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 337 The sea encroached upon these cliffs, by taking off parallel Screeds. 1843 *Lincolnsh. Topogr. Soc. Papers* 64 The triangular screed of land lying on the north side of the Cross-cliff hill, was the ancient Swine-grun of Lincoln. 1889 Raine *Hist. Hemingborough* 165 There is a long screed or tongue of land called Bishop's Meadows.

c. An edging, a bordering strip; the border or frill of a woman's cap. *dial.*

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Skreed*, a border or shred of cloth. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* xxiii, The screed, or frill of the cap, stood a quarter of a yard broad round the face of the wearer. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, A *Screed*, a border or edge of paper, or other flat surface. 'A cap screed.'

2. *fig.* A long roll or list; a lengthy discourse or harangue; a gossiping letter or piece of writing.

a 1789 in Ross *Helenore* To Author p. vii, I here might gie a skreed of names. 1812 Chalmers *Let.* in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. 293 Mr. Manson threatens a long screed of poetry on the subject. 1816 Scott *Fam. Let.* 28 Dec. (1894) I. 392 The lady would not be kept from Eildon Hills when there was any worthy..to give her a screed of doctrine. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 31 Oct. 7/1 What Montaigne meant by his 'emprunts' was something altogether different from Mr. Tregellas's great screeds of cribbing. 1902 A. Dobson *S. Richardson* v. 117 Richardson's reply is a screed of malevolence.

b. A piece, portion (of a literary work).

1829 Scott *Jrnl.* 12 June, After dinner I..took a screed of my novel.

† c. A (drinking) bout. *Obs.*

1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxv, Naething confuses me unless it be a screed o'drink at an orra time. 1823 Galt *Entail* xxxii, Had he no deet amang hands in one o' his scrieds wi' the Lairds o' Kilpatrick, I'm sure I canna think what would hae come o' me and my first wife. 1828 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 II. 59 A skreed in any room of his house clears my head for a month.

3. *Plastering.* a. An accurately levelled strip of plaster formed upon a wall or ceiling, as a guide in running a cornice or in obtaining a perfectly even surface in plastering; a strip of wood used for the same purpose.

1812 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc.* 308 Floating Skreeds differ from cornice skreeds in this, that the former is a strip of plaster, and the latter wooden rules for running the cornice. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 431/2 Ledges or margins of plaster, called screeds, are formed at the angles. 1855 Reinnel *Masons' etc. Assist.* 61 The work must be correctly plumbed up by means of flat-headed nails, and screeds for the guidance of the floating rule formed with Roman cement.

b. *Comb.*: **screed-coat**, a coat of plaster made level with the screeds (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

c. (See quot.)

1901 *Y. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 92 The concrete [for the floor should be]..thrown on..and its upper surface brought perfectly level by passing a 'screed', or large wooden straight-edge, over it.

II. 4. *Sc.* [From the verb.] A rent, tear. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

a 1728 Ramsay *Tit for Tat* iii, He had lent ane's Guts a Skreed, Wha had gi'en him a broken Head. 1786 Burns *Holy Fair* iv, Ye, for my sake, hae gien the feck O' a' the ten comman's A screed some day.

5. *Sc.* A sound as of the tearing of cloth; hence, 'any loud, shrill sound' (Jam.).

a 1805 Macneill *Poems* (1844) 125 Fearfu' ye sang till some agreed The notes war true; Whan grown mair bauld, ye gae a screed That pleased nae few. 1805 J. Nicol *Poems* II. 12 (Jam.) Their cudgels brandish'd 'boon their heads,— Their horns emittin martial screeds.

Screed (skrīd), *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 screde, 8 skreed, 8– screed. [Orig. a var. of Shred *v.*, repr. OE. *scréadian*; in later use f. Screed *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To shred, tear, rip.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 30 Take Apples, & pare hem, an smal screde hem in mossellys. 17.. *Fair Helen* xiii. in Child *Ballads* II. 212/2 And out he took a little pen-knife, And he screeded the winding-sheet.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxi, Had I been in ony o' your rotten French camlets now, or your drab-de-berries, it would hae screeded like an auld rag wi' sic a weight as mine.

2. *intr.* To produce a sound as of tearing cloth. Hence, of a musical instrument, to make a loud shrill sound.

a 1706 *Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* I. 38 It made me Yelp, and Yeul, and Yell And Skirl and Skreed. 1756 *Pennecuik's Collect. Sc. Poems* 77 He gar'd his pipe, when he did play, Baith skirl and skreed. 1835 Carrick, etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 77, I mind the verra tune that the fiddler played to us, as weel as if I heard the bow screeding o'er the strings the noo.

3. *To screed off, away*: to give audible expression to, to relate or repeat (a matter) readily from memory.

a 1774 R. Fergusson *Poems* (1807) 239 Sing then, how, on the fourth of June, Our bells screed aff a loyal tune. 1839 Ballantine in *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 5 There's nae Carritch question, nor auld Scottish sang, But the loun screeds ye aff in the true lowland twang.

Screeding (skrī·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* *Plastering.* [f. Screed *sb.* + -ing 1.] The forming of the screeds.

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 617 When the screeding is finished, compo is prepared in larger quantities and..the workmen spread it..over the wall in the space left between each pair of screeds.

Screen (skrīn), *sb.*1 Forms: (? 4 scren), 5–6 screne, 5–7 skrene, skreene, 6 scren, skreine, 7 skrein, 6–7 screene, 7 schreen(e, 8 skreyn, 7–9 skreen, 7– screen. Also 6–7 scrine, skrine. [Of difficult etymology. The sense corresponds with that of F. *écran*, OF. *escran* (1318 in Hatz.-Darm.), in glossaries also *escrin*, *escren* (Du Cange s. vv. *Antipirgium*, *Antypira*); Godefr. gives one instance of *escrime* fem. in the same sense. The ME. *skrene*, *skreene*, however, does not admit of being regarded as an adoption of any of these forms; though it may represent some AF. variant or derivative. The form has probably been influenced by confusion with *screne* = Scrine, chest, coffer.

The OF. *escrin*, *escren* (? whence *escran*) is prob. a. OHG. *skirm*, *skerm* (mod.G. *schirm*) of the same meaning; the fem. *escrine* is presumably a derivative of the same word.]

1. A contrivance for warding off the heat of a fire or a draught of air. a. A piece of furniture consisting usually of an upright board or of a frame hung with leather, canvas, cloth, tapestry, or paper, or of two or more such boards or frames hinged together. Cf. Fire-screen.

The meaning of the word in quots. 1393–1403 is uncertain; it is not impossible that they ought to be placed under Scrine, coffer. In quot. 1530 the meaning may be a fireguard.

1393 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 194 Unum skreu [? *read* skren] ferreum. 1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20, j. skrene, iijs. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/24 *Antipera*, a screne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Screne..., *ventifuga*. *c* 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 462 in *Babees Bk.*, And fuel to chymné hym falle to gete, And screnes in clof to y-saue þo hete Fro þo lorde at mete when he is sett. 1530 Palsgr. 271/1 Skrene made of wycars to put bytwene the fyre, *escrain*, *estrane*. 1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 27 Itm, one great foulding skreene of seaven foulds. 1630 Br. Hall *Occas. Medit.* cxii. (1633) 282 This screene, that stands betwixt me and the fire, is like some good friend at the Court, which keepes me from the heate of the unjust displeasure of the great. 1711 *Hermit* 25 Aug. 2/1 Indian Skreens must be purchased to succeed Abraham and Isaac [on tapestry]. 1854 *Househ. Words* VIII. 58/2 Tables, chairs, pole-screens and chevalscreens. 1899 Cowan *Hist. Kiss* 230 There was a draught-screen just at the door.

b. A frame covered with paper or cloth, or a disk or plate of thin wood, cardboard, etc. (often decorated with painting or embroidery) with a handle by which a person may hold it between his face and the fire; a hand-screen. Also applied to a merely ornamental article of similar form and material.

1548 *MS. Harl.* 1409 lf. 61 Two litle Skrenes of silke to hold againste the fier. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 83/1 The first is nominated a screene, it is a thing made round of crisped paper, and set in an handle to hold before a Ladies face, when she sits neere the fire. 1712 Steele *Spectator* No. 336 P 2 [They] plague me..to cheapen Tea or buy a Skreen. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* ii, Is it what you people call law-hand? she asks..toying with her screen.

c. A wooden seat or settle with a high back to keep away draughts.

1826 Wilbraham *Cheshire Gloss.* (ed. 2) 77 *Skreen*, a wooden settee or settle, with a very high back, sufficient to screen those who sit on it from the external air. 1879 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* Suppl. 512.

d. A contrivance in the form of a screen (sense 1 a), for affording an upright surface for the display of objects for exhibition; a flat vertical surface prepared for the reception of images from a magic lantern or the like; a frame for photographs resembling a folding screen.

1859 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 46 The screen on the eastern wall..exhibits the russet and bird's-eye marble, in the base. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 Some of the most delightful panel screens for photographs I ever set eyes on.

e. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal Mining, Screen*,..a cloth brattice or curtain hung across a road in a mine to direct the ventilation.

2. *Arch.* A partition of wood or stone, pierced by one or more doors, dividing a room or building into two parts.

c 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 28 in *Babees Bk.*, And sithen byfore the screne þou stonde In myddys þe halle. 1553 BALE tr. *Bp. Gardiners Serm.* H j b, I am..compelled to take my wyfe Truthe to me, whan she commeth agayne at leynght peeping behynde the scrine. 1589 *Hay any Work for Cooper* 44 When he hadd gotten some fatte meat of O the fellowes table, would go to the skrine, and first wipe his mouth on the on[e] side and then O the other, because he wanted a napkin. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. x. 37 Streight th' other fled away, And ran into the Hall, where he did weene Him selfe to saue: but he there slew him at the skreene. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 118 He always loved good talk, and often would get behind the Skreen to hear it. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. ii. 44 Behind the screen, or 'in the screens' as it was called was..the Lavatory. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xi. (1897) 380 The name [chancellor], derived probably from the *cancelli*, or skreen behind which the secretarial work of the royal household was carried on.

b. *Eccl.* (See CHANCEL-*screen*, ROOD-SCREEN.)

1643 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Dec., They greatly reverence the Crucifix over the skreene of the Quire. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 265 He committed the same error at Winchester, thrusting a screen in the Roman or Grecian taste into the middle of that cathedral. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* i, Two fair screens of beautiful sculptured oak had been destroyed. 1908 F. BOND (*title*) Screens and Galleries in English Churches.

c. A wall thrown out in front of a building and masking the façade.

1842 R. BROWN *Dom. Arch.* 318 *Screen*, a row of columns with their continued entablature, erected along the top of a dwarf-wall, between which and the dwelling-house is a court, generally attached to palaces. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xxxi. (ed. 3) 283 The screen on the Whitehall side [of the Admiralty]. *Ibid.* xxxii. 295 Devonshire House, a large mansion with a screen in front, at the corner of St. James's Street.

d. *Mil.* = *Screen-battery* (sense 7 below).

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 35 Small openings are made in the screens corresponding with the embrasures of the batteries.

3. *transf.* a. Applied to any object, natural or artificial, that affords shelter from heat or wind.

Ramsay's application of the word to a scarf worn by a woman over the head has been echoed by later writers as if it were a dialectal specific sense.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vmbella*, a lyttel shadow, also a skrine to kepe away the light of the sonne. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 A South-window in summer..needs the schreen of a curtain. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 66 My mistris in her tartan screen. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 31 When the sun began to break through the clouds they ordered a pavilion to be raised, as a screen from the intrusion of his beams. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxv, Her tartan screen served all the purposes of a riding-habit, and of an umbrella.

b. Something interposed so as to conceal from view. Also *fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. vi. 1 Now neere enough: Your leauy Skreenes throw downe, And shew like those you are. *a*1674 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 91 All Things are naked and open before his Eyes, and there be no Walls to exclude, or Skreens to hide..nor Distance to over come, but all Things equally neer and fair. *a*1704 T. BROWN *On the Beauties* Wks. 1730 I. 44 Next, over all, must Phryne's skin be drawn ..Through which most lovely and unfaithful screen The various passions of the soul are seen. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 284 The screen, the veil spread before this transaction, is torn open by the very people themselves, who are the tools in it. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, The sun set beyond..the screen of western hills. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 23 He sought, it would be difficult to say whether a comfort or a screen in the observance of religious practices.

c. *Mil.* A small body of men detached to cover the movements of an army.

1892 HOME & PRATT *Précis Mod. Tactics* 81 The dispersion on a wide front which is necessary to obtain what is generally called the cavalry screen necessarily entails weakness. 1894 GALL *Mod. Tactics* (ed. 3) 175 Large bodies of infantry when there is a possibility of contact with the enemy will be covered by what is now called a screen of troops in extended order.

d. A line or belt of trees planted to give protection from the wind.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Mar., A pretty garden,..having at the entrance a skreene at an exceeding height, accurately cutt in topiary worke. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 75 In a part of the skreen, which divides these grounds from the road, we have an opportunity of remarking the disagreeable effect of trees planted alternately. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 246 Screens of oak and sycamore trees. 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 65/1 All..screens of Privet, Beech, Holly, Yew, &c. to be kept thick must be cut annually.

4. *fig.* A means of securing from attack, punishment, or censure. Also, anything which intervenes obstructingly.

1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 107 To haue no Schreene between this part he plaid, And him he plaid it for, he needes will be Absolute Millaine. 1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 514 There be so many Skreenes betweene him, and Envy. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* III. *Misc. Ess.* 213 A worthless rascal who has found out the art of deceiving under the screen of royal authority. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. viii. 651 He would not have scrupled to form for himself a screen out of his own ambiguity. 1877 NORTHCOTE *Rom. Catacombs* I. i. 24 They furnished a real and legal screen for the protection of the Christian Society. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 56 There's no longer screen betwixt soul and soul's joy.

b. (*a*) See quot. 1710; (*b*) a chaperon. ? *nonce-uses.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 171 Advt., All false Buyers at Auctions being employ'd only to hide others, are from this Day forward to be known in Mr. Bickerstaff's Writings by the Word Screens. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, I will bribe old Martha with a cup of tea to sit by me and be my screen.

5. An apparatus used in the sifting of grain, coal, etc. Cf. SCRY *sb.*

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A skuttle or skreine, to rid soile fro the corne. 1667 MERRET in *Phil. Trans.* II. 466 The Skreens are made with two partitions, to separate the dust from the Corn. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 101 A frame..made all of small wire just as I have seen fine Screens to screen Corne in. 1760 MILLES in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 538 The smaller coal is separated from the clay by a skreen, or grated shovel. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. xiv, The corn passes through the skreen G into the hopper H. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 547 There is a portable screen or harp for riddling and depositing the stones. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 61 An improvement has been made ..by the substitution, at several mills, of coarse screens, with apertures one-quarter of an inch in diameter, instead of the one-eighth-inch screens heretofore in use.

b. An arrangement of bars at the end of an overflow pipe, to prevent the escape of fish from a pond.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 57 They had..gone through the screen at the mouth of the pipe.

6. Applied to various portions of optical, electrical, and other instruments, serving to intercept light, heat, electricity, etc.

1819–23 BARLOW *Optics* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 474/2 A skreen of gauze, or gummed muslin posited vertically. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 29/1 What are called electrical screens, i.e. sheets of metal used to defend electrical instruments, &c., from external influences. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 1 (Photogr.) A screen of ground-glass. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict., Screen*, Electric, a large plate or a hollow case or cage of conducting material connected with the earth, and used to protect any body placed within it from electrostatic influences. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 54/1 Screens which become fluorescent under the influence of the Röntgen rays are generally made of platino-cyanides.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *screen-bulkhead, -door,* † *-fan, fence, -plantation, -shape, wall, -work* (also *fig.*); † *screen-faced,* † *-like* adjs.; **screen-battery** *Mil.* (see quot.); **screen-cell**, a part of a gaol where a prisoner may be kept under constant observation; **screen-chamber**, an enclosure containing a screen (sense 5); **screen-cloth**, † (*a*) the material used to cover a screen; (*b*) *Mining*, a mat hung in an airway to promote ventilation; **screen-man**, a worker at the screen (sense 5), *spec.* in the *Coal-trade* = SCREENER; **screen-perch** (see quot.); **screen-tower**, an elevated building containing a series of screens (sense 5).

1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 35 A *screen battery is a parapet of earth running across the front of the batteries and thus forming a screen. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 404/1 The beam abaft, which comes under the *screen bulkhead. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Oct. 5/2 He was confined in a *screen cell. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 432 The screens are provided with latticed hoppers, which allows a current of air to flow freely up through the *screen-chambers. 1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 27 A *skreen cloth..of green kersey. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Apr. 3/1 By the expenditure of a few shillings in hanging a mid wall of screencloth a plentiful supply of air could have been obtained. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 84/1 Its effect is..unavoidably impaired by the interference of two pairs of *screen doors. 1601 MUNDAY *Downf. Robt. Earl Huntingdon* B 4 b, Is it thy part, thou *screenfac't snotty nose, To hinder him that gaue thee all thou hast? 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 367 Are sweating Lanthorns, or *Screen-fans, Made better there than th'are in France? 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 817 Along the side [of the plantation] most exposed to the sea-breeze, erect a *screen fence composed of turf [etc.]. 1611 COTGR., *Araroye*, a round or *skreene-like ornament of feathers, worne by the West-Indian Sauages at their backes. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 48 *Skreenmen. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss., Screeners* or *Screenmen*, men at bank who shovel the coals over the flat of the screens into the wagons and clean them. 1891 HARTING *Bibl. Accipitr.* 229 **Screen-perch*, the form of perch used for hawks when kept in a room. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 420 Soften the rigour of winter, by sheltering the lower farms with *skreen-plantations. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 A smaller frame, *screen shape,..to hold six 'midget' photographs. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 447 All [the ore] was elevated some seventy feet to the top of the *screen-tower. 1900 *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* XV. 303 The *screen-wall between the pillars of the nave. 1648–58 HEXHAM s.v. *Voye*, The Top of some *schreene-worke. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 416 The oldest piece of screen-work that has been noticed is at Compton church, Surrey. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 354 Unhappily, behind the screen-work of these poor saints, a whole Irish insurrection was blazing in madness and fury. 1904 GASQUET *Eng. Monastic Life* ii. 20 In some places, it is true, certain screenwork divisions appear to have been devised.

Screen (skrīn), *sb.*[2] *Cant.* ? *Obs.* [? Connected with SCREEVE *sb.* and *v.*] A bank-note. Chiefly in *queer screen*, a forged bank-note.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Queer screens*, forged Bank-notes. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* xxxi, Bill Fang..was stretched for smashing queer screens. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Screen*, a bank note. *Queer Screen*, a forged bank note.

Screen (skrīn), *v.* Forms: 5 **screane**, 7 **screene, skreene**, 7–9 **skreen**, 7– **screen**. [f. SCREEN *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To shelter or protect with or as with a screen, *from* heat, wind, light, missiles, or the like.

c 1632 *Poem* in *Athenæum* 27 Jan. (1883) 121/2 From whose inward light The Angells with their wings must skreene their sight. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 30 Back'd with a ridge of hills That screen'd the fruits of the earth and seats of men From cold Septentrion blasts. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Eye*, To screen his Eye, he will presently cover it therewith. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 440 He therefore timely warn'd himself supplies Her want of care, screening and keeping warm The plenteous bloom. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 201 The adjoining mountains..skreened the ice near their bases, from the solar rays. 1879 GEIKIE *Geol.* in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 268/2 Being hard, they resist the action of the falling drops and screen the earth below them.

b. To shut off by something interposed. *rare.*

Now only with *off*.

1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 211 The Curtains closely drawn, the Light to skreen. 1861 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1871) 384 You will perhaps try whether the magnetic power is not to be screened off.

2. To hide from view as with a screen; to shelter from observation or recognition.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 196 Clouds..shall skreen the Sun from us. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 6 Jan., When he came out, Mr. Secretary..walked so near him that he quite screened me from him with his great periwig. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 168 Our fav'rite elms, That screen the herdsman's solitary hut. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, A small hedge, which imperfectly screened the alley in which I was walking. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. vii. III. 357 The Coorgs effectually screened themselves behind the bushes. 1893 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 30 Mar. 1500 To send vessels to sea whose lights are screened on different principles.

b. *Mil.* To employ a body of men to cover (an army's movements). Also *absol.* (Cf. SCREEN *sb.*[1] 3 c.)

1881 BELL tr. *C. von Schmidt's Instr. Training Cavalry* 173 In all these different cases the leading thought..must.. be to see without being seen, reconnoitre and screen. 1884 TRENCH *Cavalry in Mod. War* 270 The duties to be performed by the division—*i. e.*..to screen the movements of one's own army, to unmask those of the enemy [etc.]. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 1/3 The duty of reconnoitring the foe and screening the friend.

c. In immaterial senses.

1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. IV. 151 The artifice of his Enemies so skreen'd his merits from his Majesties observation, that he receiv'd very little thanks for his labour. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* i. 6 There are some Infidels among us, that..to avoid the odious name of Atheists, would shelter and skreen themselves under a new one of Deists. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* v. 27 Compelled by its deformity, to screen With flimsy veil of justice and of right, Its unattractive lineaments.

3. To shield or protect from hostility or impending danger; *esp.* to save (an offender) *from* punishment or exposure; to conceal (a person's offence).

c 1485 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 58 If I shold therfore screane myself, & my frynds also, & not put me therfore to hurt. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* cxii. (1633) 283 But how happy am I, if the interposition of my Saviour..may screene mee from the deserved wrath of..God. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 214 (1699) 376 He that Travels with them is to skreen them; get them out when they have run themselves into the Briars [etc.]. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 141/2 Were there any Hopes that he could ever be brought to skreen the most notorious Corruption, I dare say he would meet with the Approbation of this virtuous Society. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 206 All his artifices could not screen him from the justice of his country. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 696 Mr. Hastings had taken presents, and skreened himself by giving them up at last to the Company. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 244 Great exertions were made to screen him from justice, but in vain. 1850 BROWNING *Easter-D.* ix, No misery could screen The holders of the pearl of price From Cæsar's envy. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 4, I more than once helped—or at any rate screened—a man who had taken a drop too much.

† b. *intr.* To interpose oneself as a protection.

1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* v. 11, I..took no care to approach to his assistance, being unwilling to skreen betwixt him and the abuse.

4. *trans.* To sift by passing through a 'screen'.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.*, May 67 Mixing it [sc. earth] with..very mellow Soil, screen'd and prepar'd some time before. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 251 A Skreen..with which one Man will Skreen as much Lime..as two Men can with a Sieve. 1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 79 If it is necessary to screen all the corn at this time, a small screen is fixed under the aperture of the second floor. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 191 Sea-coal ashes, sifted or skreened through a sieve or skreen ½ an inch wide. 1847 *Act* 10 & 11 *Vict.* c. 89 § 28 Every Person who..slacks, sifts or screens any Lime. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 11 July 7/6 Screening water through fine gauze was sometimes substituted for filtration.

† b. *fig. Obs.*

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 249 How ought we to skreen and riddle our soules concerning the steyn of blood-shed.

5. In the Inns of Court: To post upon a screen or notice-board.

1870 *Echo* 10 Jan., An attempt was made by the Benchers to shame them into honesty by 'screening' or posting their names in the dining hall. 1895 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 5/3 The Treasurer of the Inner Temple..has caused to be screened in the vestibule of the Hall an invitation [etc.].

6. *Comb.*: **screen-berth** (see quot.).

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Screen-berth*, pieces of canvas temporarily hung round a berth, for warmth and privacy.

Screened (skrīnd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCREEN *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Protected by a screen, sheltered.

1696 WHISTON *Theory of Earth* IV. iv. 355 In the more retired and skreen'd Plains and Valleys. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* III. xi, A screened-off place was made up for the maids. 1872 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 567 Midnight meetings in a screened alcove Must argue folly in a matron. 1894 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 5/4 Thirteen degrees of frost in the heart of London is a record which is not often obtained from a screened glass.

b. *fig.* Concealed, hidden away.

1844 *Queen's Regul.* 123 The positive absence of Crime is the criterion of a well-established Discipline, not its screened existence.

2. Sifted by means of a screen.

1677 J. W[ORLIDGE] *Art Gard.* I. iii. 32 The Gravel Walkes ..which if made with a fine skreened red Gravel do very much adorn your Garden. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* II. 193 He now does them [*sc.* the drains] with picked and skreened stone. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 341/2 A composition of 'screened' (otherwise almost uselessly small) coal, river mud, and tar. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Screened-coal*, sifted or large coal; that from which the breeze or fine dust has been separated.

3. Posted upon a screen. (See SCREEN *v.* 5.)

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 4/3 Two are described in the screened list, as gentlemen.

Screener (skrī·nəɹ). [f. SCREEN *v.* + -ER 1.] (See quot. 1816.)

1816 J. H. H. HOLMES *Coal Mines Durh. & Northumb.* 247 *Screeners*, men employed to screen the coals, which descend an iron screen into the wagon, and suffer the small coal or culm to pass through. 1892 *Daily News* 21 Mar. 6/2 The screeners..who sift and load the coal at the pit bank.

Screening (skrī·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. SCREEN in various senses.

1. The action of sheltering or concealing with or as with a screen.

1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 246 It was done for the screening of his own guilt. 1893 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 30 Mar. 1500 The new Order in Council in reference to the screening of side lights in passenger vessels.

attrib. 1881 BELL tr. *C. von Schmidt's Instr. Training Cavalry* 231 Four squadrons being placed in 1st line for screening and reconnoitring purposes.

2. A sorting or sifting carried on by means of a 'screen'.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Skreyn*, an Instrument..made of Lath for the Skreening of Earth, Sand, Gravel, &c. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 128 This was then easily separated by proper screening, and the wheat proved so good, that the bakers bought it at the highest market price. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 451 Screening through fine screens is, at best, a very imperfect..operation.

b. *pl.* Material which has passed through the operation of screening.

1730 WRIGLESWORTH *Jrnl. of the 'Lyell'* 23 Sept., This morning put out another Boat Load of our Screenings. 1885 *Law Times' Rep.* LII. 427/2 The footpaths..should be made of good gravel or ballast, or fine stone screenings.

3. The posting of an offender's name upon a screen or public notice-board.

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Mar. 7/1 The Benchers..have imposed the penalty of a reprimand and 'screening'.

Screening (skrī·niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCREEN *v.* + -ING 2.] That screens; that hides or protects.

1817 HUGHSON *Walks through London* 395 The screening colonade of the latter will be taken down. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* I. ii, He felt hidden even from the heavens by the screening trees and hedge.

Scree·ny, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SCREEN *sb.* + -Y.] ?Resembling the kind of decoration usual on screens.

1820–2 PYNE *Wine & Walnuts* (1823) I. xx. 262 Reynolds ..observing that Wilson's pictures were screeny in effect. This was in allusion to the sudden effects of his lights on the shadows.

Screeve (skrīv), *sb. Sc.* and *slang.* Also scrieve, scrive. [f. SCREEVE *v.*2] **a.** A piece of writing; †**b.** *spec.* a banknote, = SCREEN *sb.*2 (*obs.*); **c.** a begging letter (now the usual sense).

1788 W. BRODIE 10 Apr. in Roughead *Trial of Brodie* (1906) 154 Acquaint him I glimed the scrive I had of him. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 88 Fearns asked, what he gave for the one-pound screeves? 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Screeve*, a letter, or written paper. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xxix, Juist gie me a screeve o' a note to that effect.

Screeve (skrīv), *v.*1 Now *dial.* Also 5 scryve, 9 screive. [Aphetic a. OF. *escreve-r* (usually said of wounds):—L. **excrepāre*: see Es- and CREVE.] *intr.* Of a wound: To open and discharge matter. In mod. dial., to ooze, exude moisture.

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 382 His woundis scryved and stille he lay And in his bedde he swownyd thrye. 1882 *Lancs. Gloss., Screeve*, to froth at the mouth as in a fit. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Screeve*, to ooze out, to exude moisture. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., A sack of corn may screive; liquid manure in a pigsty is said to screive out. But the word is specially used of moisture exuding from a corpse.

Hence Scree·ving *vbl. sb.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 121 In scryuyngis of þe brayn panne.

Screeve (skrīv), *v.*2 *slang.* Also scrieve. [Ultimately from L. *scrībĕre* to write; the proximate source is uncertain; possibly It. *scrivere*.

Cf. Sc. (Ayrshire) *scrieve*, 'to read or write quickly or continuously' (Jam.); but connexion of the slang word with this is very doubtful.]

1. *trans.* To write.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 246 Ah! once I could 'screeve a fakement' (write a petition).

2. *intr.* To draw pictures on the pavement with coloured chalks; to be a 'pavement artist'.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 415, I then took to screeving (writing on the stones). 1876 MRS. EWING *Jan of Windmill* xxxi. 302 A street-artist who was 'screeving', or drawing pictures on the pavement in coloured chalks. 1887 HENLEY *Villon's Straight Tip* 1 Suppose you screeve?

Screeve (skrīv), *v.*3 *dial.* [app. a. ON. *skrefa* to stride (Norw. *skreva*, Da. *skrøve*, Sw. *skrefva* to open one's legs wide, straddle.] *pass.* Of horses: To have the legs split apart in running on ice.

18.. WHEELER *Fens* App. 12 (E. D. D.) *Screeve*, a term used to describe an accident which occasionally happened to horses in the fens when running over ice in winter their legs became parted and torn off at the joint. 1895 *Naturalist* 321 The poor horses..got on the ice in winter, and were screeved.

Screever (skrī·vəɹ). *slang.* Also 9 scriever. [f. SCREEVE *v.*2 + -ER 1.]

1. A begging letter writer.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 313 'He writes a good hand', exclaimed one, as the screever wrote the petition.

2. A pavement artist.

1876 MRS. EWING *Jan of the Windmill* xxxv. 336 The horrors of his life as a screever. 1894 MARKS *Pen & Pencil Sk.* II. 100 The pavement-artist, or 'scriever', as he is called in the profession.

Scremus, obs. Sc. form of SKIRMISH.

Screpand, obs. Sc. pr. pple. of SCRAPE *v.*

†**Screpe,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *screpan* str. vb.: see SCRAPE *v.* Cf. SHREPE *v.*] *trans.* To scrape, scratch *out*, erase. In OE. also *intr.* to scratch.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1828 *Scalpio*, scriopu. *Ibid.* 1805 *Scarpinat*, scripiđ. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark ix. 18 And fæmeđ & gristbites miđ toðum & screpes. [Mistranslates *arescit.*] *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Screp þonne of þam fæte þat biþ swiðe god sealf þam men þe hæfđ þicce bræwas. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Vor nis non so lutel þing of heos þet þe deouel nauеđ embreued on his rolle. Auh schrift screapeđ hit of, and makeđ him uorte leosen muchel of his hwule. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 Ha beođ iscrepte ut of liues writ in heuene.

Screpping, obs. Sc. pr. pple. of SCRAPE *v.*

†**Scresent,** var. of or error for CRESCENT *sb.* 3 b.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* d vij b, Powderit with crosslettys molettys Scresentis smale briddis or other difference.

†**Screte,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. Supple, pliant.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Screte, or lethy [*Winch. MS.* Streyte, or lythy], *gracilis, lenius.*

Screutore, obs. form of SCRUTOIRE.

Screvelio, obs. form of SCRIVELLO.

Screw (skrū), *sb.*1 Forms: 5 scrwe, skrew(e, 6–7 skrue, skrew, 6–8 scrue, 7– screw. [Apparently, in spite of the difference of sense, a. OF. *escroue* fem., also *escro* masc. (mod.F. *écrou*) female screw, nut; not found in the other Rom. langs. The Teut. langs. have (though not recorded from their earliest periods) a word meaning 'screw' which may be related in some way to the OF. word: MLG., MDu., *schrûve* (mod.Du. irreg. *schroef*), late MHG. *schrûbe* (mod.G. *schraube*), Sw. *skrufva*, mod.Icel. *skrúfa*, Da. *skrue*. The North-eastern OF. *escruve*, a screw (misread *escrime*: the examples are placed by Godefr. under that word), is prob. from MDu.

The ultimate etymology of the Fr. word, and the nature of its relation, if any, to the Teut. words, remain obscure. Diez's suggestion that it represents the L. *scrobem*, ditch, is phonologically impossible. Baist, followed by Kluge, would refer both the Fr. and the Teut. words to the L. *scrōfa* sow (in med.L. also an engine for undermining walls), comparing the Sp. *puerca* sow, also (=*tuerca*) female screw; but this does not account for the Teut. forms. The supposition that the Fr. word is an adoption from the MLG. *schrûve* presents very great difficulties.]

I. The general name for that kind of mechanical appliance of which the operative portion is a helical groove or ridge (or two or more parallel helical grooves or ridges) cut either on the exterior surface of a cylinder (*male screw*) or on the interior surface of a cylindrical cavity (*female screw*). Hence applied to various other contrivances resembling this.

Ordinarily *screw* without defining word is taken to mean a male screw, which seems indeed to be the proper sense in Eng.; but there are occasional exceptions in speaking of instruments in which the female screw is the moving part of the combination.

A screw is called *right-handed* or *left-handed* according as the rotation necessary to carry the screw away from the operator is towards his right or his left.

1. A male screw (see above) with a correspondingly grooved or ridged socket in which it can revolve or which can revolve upon it; used for the purpose of converting a motion of rotation into a motion of translation bearing a fixed proportion to it.

a. As an apparatus for raising weights or applying pressure or strain.

For a supposed earlier instance see quot. 1393 under SCREEN *sb.* 1; *skreu* being prob. a misreading for *skren*, screen. Whether quot. 1497 belongs to this word is somewhat doubtful; the spelling *skrewe* would not be expected to occur so early if the Fr. etymology is correct.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 396 Item 1 rabitstoke cum 2 scrwes. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 95 Skrewe with her apperell. *Ibid.* 122 Lading gynnes ij. Skrewes j. Wilkyn rammes iij. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkewormes* 35 Then those great coches which themselues did driue With bended scrues, like things that were aliue? Ingenious Germane, how didst thou conuey Thy Springs, thy Scrues, thy rowells, and thy flie? 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* IV. ii, He moues like the faery King, on scrues and wheeles Made by his Doctors recipes. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxv. 352 He puts them into the Standing Press..observing to set in every Pile..an equal number of Books, that each Pile may equally feel the force of the Screw. *a* 1711 KEN *Blandina* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 520 Then on the Rack the Saint they stretch, Her Limbs with Screws and Pulleys retch. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. iii. 59 A curious engine compounded of wheels, screws and pulleys. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 14 The hollow screw, or the counterpart in which a screw operates, when in the form of a small movable piece, is called a nut, and the cavity is termed a female screw. 1861 F. CAMPIN *Hand-turning* v. 105 Double, triple, and quadruple screws, are those which have two, three, or four distinct threads upon them.

b. Considered as one of the mechanical powers; in mechanical theory treated as a modification of the inclined plane.

1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* c iiij b, For, in many thinges, the Skrue worketh the feate, which, els, could not be performed. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. ix. 56 The sixth and last Mechanick faculty, is the Screw, which is described to be a kind of wedge that is multiplyed, or continued by a helicall revolution about a Cylinder. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* iii. 43 The screw..cannot properly be called a simple machine, because it is never used without the application of a lever. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 14 The screw is applied to mechanical purposes chiefly to obtain great pressures in small distances. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 33/2 The efficiency of the screw is largely diminished by friction... This contrasts the screw with the lever, for in the latter the effect of friction is quite imperceptible.

c. Used for regulating or measuring longitudinal movement.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* (1639) 7 Of the Speculum oris with a screw. 1833 ARNOTT *Physics* II. 158 The coal..was moved up like the wick of a lamp, by its screw. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 78/1 This movement may be also effected..by a screw and pinion. 1881 F. CAMPIN *Mech. Engin.* iv. 50 The lathe generally travels the tool rest by a screw called the 'leading screw'. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 244/2 The screws of micrometers are generally made with 50 or 100 threads to the inch.

d. With various qualifying words. *Bench screw*: a joiner's vice. *Double screw*: one with a pair of screws to carry the vice-cheek with a parallel motion. *Endless screw*: see ENDLESS *a.* 4 b. *Perpetual screw* = prec. *Screw of Archimedes, water screw* = ARCHIMEDEAN screw.

1574 EDEN in *Decades* Life 47/1 An engin..wherewith a man with the strength of onely one hande, by helpe of the instrument called Trispaston (which in our tongue some cal an endlesse Scrue), brought a Shyp..from the lande into the sea. 1641 Water screw [see COCHLEA]. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. ix. 60 Another invention, commonly styled a perpetuall screw, which hath the motion of a wheel, and the force of a screw. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 54. 35 How to make a Water-scrue tite, and yet transparent. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 60 The Bench-Screw..to Screw Boards in whiles the edges of them are Plaining or Shooting. *Ibid.* 61 Sometimes a double Screw is fixed to the side of the Bench. 1807 T. YOUNG *Nat. Philos.* I. 328 A single pipe wound spirally round a cylinder which revolves on an axis in an oblique situation, has been denominated the screw of Archimedes. 1821 R. TURNER *Arts & Sci.* 91 *note*, When the screw acts in a wheel, it is called a perpetual screw. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* 187 The lower deck could be pumped by a single man, with the aid of a machine, ..which we..name the screw of Archimedes.

e. *The screws* (rarely *the screw*): an instrument of torture formerly in use, designed to compress the thumbs of a prisoner in order to extort a confession; the 'thumbikins'. Cf. THUMBSCREW.

1663 *Aron-bimn.* 32 The Bedlam, and the chain, the whip and the skrews, all the violences of a severe discipline. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* xvi. (1900) II. 422 Little screws of steel were made use of, that screwed the thumbs...They put his thumbs in the screws; and drew them so hard, that [etc.]. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* 31 Your knotted scourges, Matches, blood-extorting screws. 1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* 177 Crush the thumbs of the Jew With the vice and the screw, Till he tells where he buried his treasure. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 259 Carstairs..hated prelacy with the hatred of a man whose thumbs were deeply marked by the screws of prelatists.

2. *fig.* A means of 'pressure' or coercion.

1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* xiv. 113 When Politicians most agitate desperate designs against all that is settled..in Religion, and Laws, which by such scrues are cunningly, yet forcibly wrested by secret steps..from their known rule and wonted practise. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 50 There being sufficient Props and Engines, nay Screws and Pulleys, if you will, to raise mens Love and Devotion. 1796 G. WALPOLE in B. Edwards *Proc. Maroon Negroes* 19 All this will..prove to your lordship the impropriety of holding forth more harsh conditions..: Should there be any person so dull..as to think that another turn of the screw would be better, ask him this question. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 497 This chief ought..to be pressed upon this point..and all the screws, menaces, &c. might be brought to bear upon him. 1855 *Illustr. Lond. News* 28 July 126/2 His Lordship owned himself unable to resist the mild influences of the 'screw' [*sc.* of a deputation]. 1861 *Times* 22 Aug., The farmer..the tradesman..the passengers who travelled less frequently.., had all felt the screw before it touched the Railways. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Nov. 3/1 If any body wants anything nowadays, he must put on the screw on the powers that be, and the only efficacious screw is that of agitation.

b. Phrases. *To put on, apply, turn the screw* or *screws* and similar phrases: (*a*) to apply moral pressure; (*b*) to force the payment of a debt or loan; also *rarely*, to limit the giving of credit.

1845 JUDD *Margaret* II. vii. (1874) 290 We didn't put on the screws half hard enough. The Insargents ought to have been hung. 1852 *Dow's Serm.* I. 302 (Bartlett 1859) Love strains the heart-strings of the human race, and not unfrequently puts the screws on so hard as to snap them asunder. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s.v., *To put the screws on; to turn the screws*, to press, and figuratively to extort, to enforce payment in money transactions; to force a debtor, by any compulsory means, to pay. 1860 *All Year Round* 26 May 160 When there is work and plenty of it, the operatives turn the screw upon the masters. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* x, These creditors..are sueing him in the Court, thinking now's the time to put the screw on. 1882 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 317 The local authorities kept on the screw for their own private benefit. 1883 SIR H. COTTON in *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 150/2 It cannot be said that he did it, for the purpose of putting the screw on the company, and forcing them to abandon a defence

bond file claimed by them. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xliii. 133 *note*, Occasionally the assessors of a country town take it into their heads to apply the screw.

3. A metal pin or bolt (cylindrical or, more commonly, slightly tapering) with a spiral ridge upon its shank, used in joining articles of wood or metal, fastening fittings to woodwork, etc. (It is turned and driven in by means of a screwdriver or spanner.)

Blake's screw: see quot. 1879. *Wood screw*, a more definite name for the screw commonly used for woodwork.

1622 F. MARKHAM *Five Dec. War* I. ix. 35 See that the breech [of the gun] be strong and close, all the screwes and pinnes about it fast and sure. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. I. ii. 22 And then I look upon the boards, the legs, the hinges, the screws, the glue..as one thing, which I call a table. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 105 A nut headed screw, is a large, thick screw with a strong thread. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 39 A screw-plate is a cheap and handy instrument for making screws. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 109/1 The blanks for wood-screws were formerly forged by the workmen who make nails. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 256/1 The outside planking is temporarily secured to the frames by fastenings, known as 'Blake's screws'...These screws consist of bolts with an eye formed on one end and a wood-screw cut on the other. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* xvi. 131 Brass, and Iron Screws. These are usually employed in clump work.

b. *A screw loose*: fig. something wrong in the condition of things; a dangerous weakness in some arrangement.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 166 The others..had got a screw loose. 1821 *Ibid.* VII. 192 A screw, it seems, has been loose between Neat and the Champion of England. 1848 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* xli, It was evident that there was a screw loose in the programme. 1833 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 21 In fact, a genius with a screw loose, as we used to say. 1844 DICKENS *Martin Chuz.* xiii, I see well enough there's a screw loose in your affairs. 1870 R. BROUGH *Marston Lynch* xii. 110 There may be some little screw loose between him and the..step-daughter. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 314 Who will put his finger upon the loose screw?

c. Helical grooving or ridging.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 34/2 A bolt 12 inches long, and with 2 inches of screw on the end.

4. Each of the component parts of a screw-fastening or screw-joint.

1648 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 217, I give him alsoe my chaine of beads with scrues. 1684 R.H. *School of Recreation* (1696) 165 And lastly his Landen Hook, with a Screw at the end to screw it into the socket of a Pole. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 22/2 The second..a long round Inke-horne, some haue only a screw at each end, one for Inke, the other to put in the pens. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 181 The tube is divided into four parts, which are well joined by screws.

†**b.** *Needle and screw, screw and bodkin*: some kind of fastening for jewellery. *Obs.*

1605 in *Heriot's Mem.* (1822) App. VII. 202 Item, put to v great diamondis, v needles, and v scrues of gold. 1607 *Ibid.* 213 Item, made a screw and a bodkin for a jewell. *c* 1610 *Ibid.* 217 For gold, and making of a needle and a skrew for the King of Denmark's picture.

5. The worm or boring part of a gimlet; also, † the gimlet itself.

1577 HARRISON *England* I. viii. 19/1 in *Holinshed*, Which some doe liken..to a vice, skrew, or wide sleeue, bycause they are very small at the east end, and large at west...They resemble the slope course of the cutting part of a skrew or gimlet. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Confession* x, No scrue, no piercer can Into a piece of timber work and winde, As Gods afflictions into man. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 34 At the lower end [of the auger] is a worm or screw of a conic form, for entering the wood.

6. An instrument terminating in a 'worm' for screwing into something in order to pull it out; esp. a corkscrew; also, the 'worm' itself. Also *fig.*

Screw or kettle=corkscrew (*i.e.* wine) or hot water (*i.e.* grog).

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* Dial. iii. 145 They must be strange Scrues and Wires that shall draw this conclusion from the Text. 1702 Bottle Screw [see BOTTLE *sb.*[1] 5]. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 461, I have stopped the bottle with a good cork; I can draw it out again with a screw. 1819 *Edin. Ann. Reg.* (1823) XII. App. 74 James Smith proved his making a worm or screw to the ramrod of the pistol. 1832 J. BARRINGTON *Sk.* III. iv. 44 He was the hardest-goer either at kettle or screw..of the whole grand-jury. 1835 W. H. MAXWELL *My Life* II. i. 7 Good eating, produced good drinking;..and the commander politely inquired whether I would be for 'screw or kettle'.

b. A gunner's instrument. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

? 1594 BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* 8 His scrues and wormes to serue all for his skowring sticke. 1611 COTGR., *Tirebourre*, a worme, or skrue; the Instrument wherewith a charged Cannon is vnladen. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *A. Demmin's Weapons of War* 499 Swiss cannon rammer..the end of which contains a wadding screw.

7. A screw-propeller (see PROPELLER 3).

Hoisting screw, one adapted to be disconnected and lifted when not required for use.

[1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 408 We..constructed a machine in the form of a screw with short blades, and placed it in the stern of the boat, which we turned with a crank. 1815 R. TREVITHICK in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Marine Propulsion* (1858) 62 A worm or screw..which revolves in a cylinder,..or without a cylinder, at the head, sides, or stern of a vessel.] 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 385/1 The propeller or paddle..will be worked by a communicating shaft, acting upon a screw called the Archimedean screw, in the application or use of which the invention is grounded. 1839 *Ibid.* II. 442/2 The screw [of the *Archimedes*] consisted of one whole turn of a single thread, 7 feet in diameter, and 8 feet pitch. 1861 MURRAY *Shipbuilding* 131/1 The hoisting screw has been adopted generally for war-steamers. 1867 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 302 The passage here was delightful, and we had scarcely motion beyond that of the screw.

8. A ship driven by a screw-propeller.

(Ellipt. for *screw-steamer*.)

[1844 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* III. 82 A diagram of the propeller used on board the 'Liverpool Screw'.] 1867 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 310 These screws are tremendous ships for carrying on, and for rolling. 1876 A'BECKETT *Holiday in Scot. Highlands* 2 The 'Seven Stars' was a long three-masted screw. 1887 *Scribner's Mag.* I. 533/2 Many of the iron screws..are still in..service.

9. Something having a spiral course or form.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cccxlvi, This subtle Gin Thus open'd, & hee following the Scrue, Run in a Labirinth, without a Clew. 1682 *Phil. Collect.* XII. 151 They have a skrue or spiral Valve within them..; this skrue in both the *Intestina* winds about twenty turns. 1833 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* x. 251 The German also exhibited his strength in twisting into a screw a flat piece of iron. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* 136 [Screw-pine.] A tree of this size makes a 'screw', or imperfect spire of leaves in about three years. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* x, There was scarcely the screw of his tail to be seen.

b. = *screw-stone* (see 22).

1729 WOODWARD *Catal. Eng. Fossils* II. 102 A Mass of Stone, with several of these Screws...From the same Mine. *c* 1774 J. WALCOTT *Descr. Petrifactions* 41 Stones. Which represent the interior form of univalve shells; in which they were moulded when soft...From Fig. 48. to Fig. 54. inclusive are called by the quarry-men Screws. 1860 R. DAMON *Geol. Weymouth & Portl.* 76 The common 'screw', *Cerithium Portlandicum*, so characteristic of the roach [-bed], is almost entirely absent.

10. *slang.* a. (See quots.)

1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant* (ed. 2), *Screw*, a false key. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Screw*, a skeleton key...To stand on the screw signifies that a door is not bolted, but merely locked. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, To *screw* a place is to enter it by false keys; this game is called *the screw*. Any robbery effected by such means is termed *a screw*. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 So the next night I borrows a bunch of screws—them's skeleton keys—and an old jemmy.

b. A prison warder, a turnkey.

1821 EGAN *Life in Lond.* ii. (1869) 60 Washing the ivory with a prime screw. *Ibid.* xiv. 379 The officer..was compelled to put him under the screw. 1877 *Five Yrs. Penal Serv.* ii. 77 The slang name for all the officials is 'screws'.

II. Senses derived from SCREW *v.*

11. An act of screwing up; a turn of the screw.

1709 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 84 So I term those that..are followers of Mr. M'Millan, and some that are a screw higher than he. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 385 What is man?..An instrument, whose chords upon the stretch, And strain'd to the last screw that he can bear, Yield only discord in his Maker's ear. 1796 EARL BALCARRES in B. Edwards *Proc. Maroon Negroes* 20, I am perfectly with you, that the pin ought not to receive another screw; but also clear that it ought not to be relaxed.

b. *Billiards.* A stroke by which a twist is given to the cue-ball by striking it below its centre; also, the twist resulting from this stroke, esp. in the phrase *to put on screw*.

1849 H. TURNER *Billiards* (title-page), The Side Stroke—the Screw—and the Double. 1856 PARDON ('Capt. Crawley') *Billiards* (1859) 17 The Screw or Twist..is made by striking your ball very low, with a sort of jerk. 1866 — *Billiard Bk.* iii. 38–9 The High Oblique Screw. The effect of the High Screw is to cause the ball to jump a little, and to twist back on reaching the Object-ball. *Ibid.* ix. 106 The Slow-screw is made with a decided twist, your ball struck low. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 190 Balls thus struck are said to be played with screw.

c. *Cricket.* A twist imparted to the ball in its delivery.

1867 SELKIRK *Guide to Cricket Ground* 35 *Screw*, a twist put upon the ball by the bowler to make it vary in pace and direction after the pitch. 1891 W. G. GRACE in *Outdoor Games* 13 The next ball, very swift, with lots of screw on, is snicked into the slips.

d. *Rowing.* The action of swinging the body from one side to the other during the stroke. (Cf. SCREW *v.* 16 a.)

1875 W. B. WOODGATE *Oars & Sculls* viii. 64 For the fault which causes the screw may be his own, though unconnected with his swing.

12. *slang.* A tonic, a 'pick-me-up'.

1877 *Five Yrs. Penal Serv.* iii. 232 He was in the habit of taking every morning a 'screw' in the shape of a little dose of bitters to correct the effects of the last evening's festivities.

13. The state of being twisted awry; a contortion (of the body or features).

1708 *Hickelty Pickelty* in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* I. 140 The nice Management of his Italian Snuff box, and the affected Screw of his Body, makes up a great Part of his Conversation. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 195 You are all in a screw: every limb is disjointed: you lisp and you smile. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, Running up to him with a kind of screw in her face and carriage, expressive of suppressed emotion.

14. A small portion (of a commodity) wrapped up in a twist or cornet of paper; esp. a penny packet (of tobacco); also, a wrapper of this kind.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggses at Ramsgate*, The poisonous voice of envy distinctly asserted that he..retailed..tobacco by the screw, and butter by the pat. 1839 'J. FUME' *Paper on Tobacco* 114 A penny paper of tobacco is in London termed a screw. 1844 DICKENS *Martin Chuz.* xxxvi, A knife, some butter, a screw of salt. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, A halfpenny-worth of snuff in a cornet or 'screw' of paper. 1893 MISS F. M. PEARD *Swing of Pendulum* i, Followed by children shyly inviting him to buy paper screws, containing each four or five strawberries.

15. One who forces down (prices) by haggling; a stingy, miserly person.

1835 FRITH *Autobiog.* (1888) III. iii. 46 Aunt is just as great a screw as ever. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, They both agreed in calling him an old screw; which means a very stingy, avaricious person. 1893 C. G. LELAND *Mem.* II. 211 He and his wife had the reputation of being fearful screws.

16. *U. S. College slang.* (See quot.)

1851 B. H. HALL *College Words* 265 In some American colleges, an..unnecessarily minute, and annoying examination of a student by an instructor is called a *screw*. The instructor is often designated by the same name. An imperfect recitation is sometimes thus denominated. *Ibid.*, Passing such an examination is often denominated *taking a screw*.

III. Senses of obscure origin.

17. A horse not perfectly sound; also *transf.*, a cow not perfectly healthy.

Perh. originally a race-horse that can be made to obtain a place by 'screwing' on the part of the jockey.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 262 The farrier..pronounced her 'a most complete screw'. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Oct. 219/2 Mr Drinkald [won] the Chester Cup, with an old screw. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xviii, 'Doctor', replied Sir Austin, 'if you had a pure-blood Arab barb would you cross him with a screw?' 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (1865), *Screw*, an unsound, or broken-down horse, that requires both whip and spur to get him along. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 395/1 Defendant bought the cow in question and a smaller one...remarking that they were both screws. 1893 CHESNEY *Lesters* III. II. xxi. 12 Lionel was mounted on an obvious screw, but in good going condition.

18. *slang.* Salary, wages.

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Screw*, salary or wages. 1884 HUNTER & WHYTE *My Ducats* xxviii. (1885) 453, I said it was in payment of my screw—my salary, I mean. 1894 DOYLE *Sherlock Holmes* 58 The screw was a pound a week.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

19. Simple attrib. a. with the meaning 'of or belonging to a screw', as *screw-arbor, -curve, -head, -hole, motion, -worm*.

1777 RAMSDEN *Descr. Engine* 1 A Circle of Brass being fixed on the *Screw Arbor. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Mech. Philos.* 247 The drawing of a *screw-curve. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 436/1 A Key for a *Screw Head. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Passage* iii. 52 The *screw holes in the flaunches. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 63 There is upon every key a *screw-worm and brass wire.

b. with the meaning, 'of or pertaining to a screw-propeller', as *screw-blade, -post, -shafting*.

1844 *Proc. Instit. Civ. Engin.* III. 77 The *screw blades. 1882 OGILVIE, **Screw-post*, the inner stern-post through which the shaft of a screw propeller passes. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Aug. 3/2 A warship..with all her armour in its place, her *screw-shafting and propeller fitted.

c. with the meaning 'fitted with, or driven by means of, a screw-propeller', as *screw boat, ship, steamer, steamship, vessel*, also *screw fleet*, a fleet of screw-vessels.

1848 WOODCROFT *Steam Navig.* 91 The screw boat, the *Francis B. Ogden*. *Ibid.* 101 The first screw steamer, the *Ericsson*. 1850 E. P. HALSTED *Screw-fleet of Navy* Introd. 4 These trials..caused their Lordships to lay the foundation of our present Screw Fleet, by ordering the construction of 'Screw ships'..to the extent of twenty-three vessels. *Ibid.* ii. 12 Screw-frigates. *Ibid.* 14 Screw-corvettes. 1852 J. BOURNE *Screw Propeller* x. 216 H.M.S. 'Amphion', the first screw vessel constructed in this country. 1854 F. MORESBY *Two Admirals* (1909) 158 The ability of the screw fleet to hold the Russian ships in check. 1861 MURRAY *Ship-building* 132/2 Results of Trials made in her Majesty's Screw-ships. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 825/2 Screw steamship propulsion.

d. Used in names of appliances operated by or working upon a screw, as *screw-borer, -brake, candlestick, -clamp, -collar, -elevator, -feed, gill, lever, lifting jack, -pad, -valve, -ventilator*.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Borer*, **Screw-borer*, an instrument..for searching or exploring the nature of any soil. 1871 Z. COLBURN *Locomotive Engin.* XXV. 268/2 A *screw-brake is applied to the engine. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 315 *Screw Candlestick, with double sockets..; by the help of the Screws the sockets are raised or lowered according to pleasure. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 302 These gallies are attached to the four sides of the central axis of the prism by the *screw-clamps. 1854 PERRIRA *Lect. Polar. Light* 301 By means of a *screw-collar he managed to vary the distance between the first and second compound lens. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Screw Elevator*. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 512 In place of the *screw-feed..a new hydraulic feed has been tried with success. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 765 Thus constructed the '*screw gill' continues to be the most esteemed in principle. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* v. § 65. 62 Screw gill boxes. 1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 796/2 s. v. *Weaving*, The rollers..are cylinders, pressed together by a *screw lever. 1851 *Offic. Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 236 Improved *screw lifting jacks. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 257 Pressure is made with a *screw-pad over the extremity of the wounded artery. 1850 FOWNES *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 3) 159 Furnished with a *screw-valve of peculiar construction.

20. Objective and obj. genitive, as *screw-chasing, -cutter, -cutting, -maker, -making, -manufacturer, -slotting*; instrumental, as *screw-driven, -propelled, -torn* adjs.; parasynthetic, as *screw-stoppered, threaded* adjs.

1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Screw Chasing*, the cutting..of screw threads in the lathe by means of chasing tools. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 605 The temporary *screw-cutter possesses the same interval or thread as before. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 2 Feb. 9/7 Wanted..Engineer.—Good general turner and screw cutter. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. 82 *Screw-cutting. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 580 The screw-cutting lathe. 1832 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 209 A Staffordshire *screw-maker. 1747 *Gen. Descr. Trades* 21 *Screw-making is also a Branch by itself. 1841

Penny Cycl. XXI. 109/1 In the infancy of screw-making the thread was formed with a file. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 588 The screw-making machine. 1848 WOODCROFT *Steam Navig.* 101 The *New Jersey* was the first *screw-propelled vessel practically used in America. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Screw Slotting*, the slotting of the grooves in the heads of cheese-headed and button-headed screws. 1891 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 7/4 Two tin gallon cans, *screw-stoppered, full of naphtha. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 29 Never..use screw-stoppered beer or other bottles. 1865 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Nails* (1873) 291 *Screw-threaded bolts. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* vii. 143 The little schooner staggered..in a rush of *screw-torn water, as a liner's stern vanished in the fog.

21. Similative, as in *screw-twist*; *screw-like, -shaped* adjs.; *screw-wise* adv.; also quasi-adj. with the meaning 'spiral', as in *screw gut, gutter, motion, stair, stair-case.*

1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. i. 99 The *Skrew-Gut of the Raja..winds between parallel lines like a Screw or Stair-case. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 738 The water might be conducted more regularly from the apex to the base..by forming round it a *screw gutter. 1705 *Observ. Seed-Vessels Polypodium* in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1872 The *Screw-like parts of the Seed Vessel. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 754/2 Screw-like or helical motion. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinematics* 244 *Screw Motion of a Liquid. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xiii. (1776) 34 The Figure of the Filaments is either ..Spiral, *Skrew-shaped, as in Hirtella [etc.]. 1867 N. MACLEOD *Starling* II. x. 116 He..lived in a very small house, above his shop, which was reached by a *screw stair. 1786 MACKENZIE *Lounger* No. 87 § 6 A *screw stair-case. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Nero* II. III. ii. 1234 Very few Are what they show the world: there's a *screw-twist In every mind. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 46 Fasten to each of the two pieces that are to enter into one another, some Iron, Copper, or Silver wire, turned *Screw-wise.

b. Similative (quasi-*adj.*), as in *screw-shell, snail, -turbo*, applied to various gasteropods with slender spiral shells.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 212 There is a Sort of Water-Snails at the Cape, which the Europeans there call Screw-Snails. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Turbo*, the Screw-Shell...5. The screw-Turbo, with variegated lines and spots. 1819 TURTON *Conchol. Dict.* 62 *Helix Terebra.* Screw Snail-shell. *Ibid.* 95 *Murex Gyrinus.* Screw Rock-shell. *Ibid.* 165 *Strombus.* Screw-shell. *Ibid.* 216 *Turbo Terebra.* Screw Turban. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 339 The family of Turret or Screw shells (*Turritellidæ*).

22. Special combinations: **screw-alley, -area** (see quots.); **screw auger**, an auger with a spiral shank; **screw-barrel** *sb.* (see quot. 1888); **screw-barrel** *a.*, (*a*) of a fire-arm, having a screwed barrel (see SCREWED *ppl. a.* 5 b); also *ellipt.* as *sb.* a fire-arm with a screwed barrel; (*b*) *Mech.* see quot. 1888; **screw battery**, a battery composed of screw-guns (see *screw-gun* a); **screw-bell** (see quot.); **screw-blank**, the piece of metal upon which a thread or worm is to be cut to form a screw; **screw board** (see quot.); **screw-bolt**, a bolt with a thread or worm at the end to be secured by means of a screw-nut; hence **screw-bolt** *v., trans.*, to fasten with a screw-bolt; hence **screw-bolting** *vbl. sb.*, the use of screw-bolts; **screw-box**, † (*a*) = NUT *sb.*[1] 11; (*b*) a tool for cutting the thread on a wooden screw; **screw-cap** (see quot.); **screw-chuck**, a variety of lathe-chuck (see quot.); **screw-coupling** (see quot.); **screw-cut** *a.*, fashioned as a screw, furnished with a screw-thread; **screw-die** = DIE *sb.*[1] 6 a; **screw-dock** *U.S.*, a dock in which the cradle is raised by screws; **screw-dog**, a clamp adjustable by a screw, to hold timber while being sawn; **screw-dollar** *U.S.*, 'a medallion of which the obverse and reverse may be screwed together to form a box' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **screw-drill**, a drill with a spiral shank; **screw engine**, (*a*) a machine for raising water by means of a screw, a water-screw; (*b*) a steam-engine adapted to drive a screw-propeller; **screw-eye**, (*a*) a screw having a loop or eye for its head; (*b*) 'a long screw with a handle, used in theatres by stage carpenters in securing scenes' (*Cent. Dict.*); **screw-eyed** *a.*, having the eyes screwed up; **screw-fish** ? *U.S.*, 'fish packed under a screw press' (*Cent. Dict.*); **screw forging**, a screw-blank of forged iron; **screw-gear**, gear consisting of an endless screw and a toothed wheel; **screw-grip (action)**, see quot. and GRIP *sb.*[1] 5; **screw-gun**, see quot. 1877–81; **screw-hook**, (*a*) see quot. 1688; (*b*) see quot. 1875; (*c*) a small hook, usually of brass, with a screwed shank to screw into woodwork; **screw-jack** = JACK *sb.*[1] 10; **screw-joint**, (*a*) *Mech.*, a joint formed by screwing together the ends of piping, etc.; (*b*) *Anat.*, a joint in which there is a slight lateral sliding of one bone upon the other; **screw-key**, (*a*) = *screw-wrench*; (*b*) a key furnished with a thread or worm; **screw-line** *Bot.* (see quot.); **screw-lock**, one operated by turning a wormed key on a similarly wormed pin; **screw-machine**, (*a*) a machine operated by a screw; (*b*) a machine for making screws (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); (*c*) see quot. 1884; **screw-mandrel**, a screw-cutting mandrel having on its spindle screws of various sizes and pitches; **screw medal** *U. S. = screw-dollar* (Cent. Dict.); **screw micrometer** (see MICROMETER 2); **screw mill**, a mill for driving screw-cutting machinery; **screw-moulding**, (*a*) the moulding of screws in sand for casting; (*b*) the forming of screws in metal collars, caps, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*); † **screw mouth**, an ill-shaped mouth; **screw-nail**, a screw or wood-screw (see sense 3); **screw nut** = NUT *sb.*[1] 11; † **screw pelican** *Dentistry* (see quot.); **screw pile**, a foundation pile with a screw at its lower end adapted for screwing instead of driving; hence **screw-pile, -piled** *adjs.*, built upon screw piles; **screw-plate**, a hardened steel plate for cutting the threads of small screws by means of a series of drilled and tapped holes of various diameters; **Screw Plot** *Hist.*, an imaginary plot to destroy the Queen and the Court on Thanksgiving Day, 1710, by the removal of some of the iron bolts from the timbers of the roof of St. Paul's in order to cause its fall; **screw-press**, a machine in which pressure is applied by means of a screw; **screw propeller** (see PROPELLER 3); **screw-pump**, an ARCHIMEDEAN screw; † **screw range**, ? a cooking range with screw adjustment for the grate; **screw-rasp**, a kind of file (see quot.); **screw rod**, a binding or connecting rod with a screw and nut at one or both ends (*Cent. Dict.*); † **screw-rope**, ? a rope for use with some form of screw-jack; **screw-rudder** (see quot.); **screw shackle (joint)**, a variety of coupling joint; **screw-shaft**, (*a*) a shaft having a screw-thread cut upon it; (*b*) see quot. 1869; **screw spanner** = *screw-wrench*; **screw-spike** (see quot.); **screw stock** = DIE *sb.*[1] 6 a; **screw-stone**, a stone containing the hollow cast of an encrinite (= *pulley-stone*, PULLEY *sb.*[1] 5); **screw-tap**, (*a*) a screw of hardened steel used for cutting an internal or female screw; (*b*) a draw-tap with a screw-down plug; **screw-thread**, the spiral ridge of a screw; also, one complete turn of its thread regarded as a portion of a unit of length of the axis of the screw; **screw tool**, a lathe-tool for cutting screws; **screw-tool cutter** (see quot.); **screw-turn** (*dial.*), **-turner**, a screwdriver; † **screw-ways** *adv.*, in a spiral or twisted direction; **screw-well** (see quot.); **screw-wheel**, the toothed wheel associated with the endless screw in screw-gearing; **screw-wire**, a cable-twisted wire used to fasten the soles of boots to the uppers (*Cent. Dict.*); **screw-wise** *adv.*, after the manner of a screw, spirally; **screw-worm**, (*a*) see quot. *a* 1892; (*b*) the larva of certain American flesh-flies; **screw-worm chuck** = *screw-chuck*; **screw-wrench**, a wrench or spanner adapted to fit over or grasp the heads of screw-bolts, nuts, etc., and turn them. Also SCREW-CUT, -CUTTER, -CUTTING, SCREWDRIVER, SCREW-PIN.

1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 685/2 In screw-steamers,..a tunnel, known as the *screw-alley, has to be kept open for the shaft of the screw from the engine-room to the stern. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, **Screw Area* in a propeller is the area of the circle described by the tips of the blades. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 149 They were at work..with broad axes and *screw augers. 1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 173 A short *Screw-barrel Pistol. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xl. 179 Being ignorant also how to use the screw-barrels, he offered to return them. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Screw Barrel*, a chain barrel having a continuous spiral groove cut around its periphery to receive the links edgeways. 1877–81 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* Suppl. 26/2 The *screw battery did excellent service in the last Afghan war. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Screw-bell*, a recovering tool in deep boring, ending below in a hollow screw-threaded cone. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 147 The *screw-blank being exactly turned in the lathe to the thickness and length required. 1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, **Screw board*, or *Side board*, the vertical board at the side of a carpenter's bench pierced with holes..which admit of pins for holding up the object to be planed [etc.]. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 42 The..fastening of the out-side uprights to the solid, by means of Jag-bolts, or *screw-bolts. 1795 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 376 Two loops..are *screw-bolted to the ends of them. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* xxi. 475 *Screw-bolting has been almost universally adopted in the French iron-clads. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 5 The Nut or *Screw-Box hath also a Square Worm. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 593 The instrument which is commonly employed for making long screws in the soft woods, namely, the *screw box. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Screw-cap*, 1. A cover to protect or conceal the head of a screw. 2. A cover for a fruit-jar. 1895 *Mod. Steam Eng.* 87 The *screw-chuck..shows on its right side a flat circular surface, from the centre of which projects a large, coarse, conical screw for holding firmly any large piece of wooden work. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Screw-coupling*, (*a*) a device for joining the ends of two vertical rods or chains and giving them any desired degree of tension; (*b*) a screw-socket for uniting pipes or rods. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* X. 2 b, Cylindrical pieces of wood or iron, *screw-cut at one end. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 503 On cutting external screws, with *screw dies. 1864 WEBSTER, **Screw-dock*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Gridiron*..The Americans also use for a similar purpose an apparatus called a screw-dock. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. Q 16, 4 The carriages to support the ends of the timber are furnished with adjustable *screw-dogs. 1869 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 126 A *screw-drill..is advantageous for drilling long holes. 1767 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* Suppl. 22 Archimedes's *Screw-Engine for raising water. 1852 J. BOURNE *Screw Propeller* ix. 199 Screw engines are divisible into two great classes—geared screw engines and direct-acting screw engines. 1873 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Nails*, etc. 332 *Screw-eyes, adapted for holding stair rods [etc.]. 1820 *Splendid Follies* I. 158 The demure looking *screw-eyed cat. 1818 E. WOOLLEY in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Nails*, etc. (1873) 19 The *screw forging is formed or shaped from round or cylindrical rod iron. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Screw-gear*. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 4/2 The commutator is driven by screw-gear from the magneto driving shaft. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 498/2 [Guns] The *Screw Grip Action...The barrels..are held down, first by the ordinary Purdey bolt system operated by a vertical shaft..; this shaft carries upon it the 'screw grip'..working in a square-threaded screw cut in..the breech. 1877–81 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* Suppl. 26/1 To be added to the list of M.T. guns is the *screw gun, which takes in two, being fastened together by a screw, hence its name. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 87/1 Two *screw hookes (or Boate hookes with screws). 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Screw-hook* (Surgical), an instrument for withdrawing foreign bodies from the ear or nostrils. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* iv. (Globe) 54 In the Carpenter's Stores I found..a great *Skrew-Jack. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 680 Cast-iron water-pipes with *screw joints. 1882 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Cochlearthrosis*...Screw joint. 1850 OGILVIE, *Screw wrench or key. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 28 The screw-key..is an invention of our own time. 1855 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Locks* (1873) 134 A screw pin (being an exact counterpart of the key, which is a screw-key) is fitted to the lock plate. 1869 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 16 Screw keys.. have screwed ends, for the convenience of having a nut to prevent the key slipping back..while in use. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Screw-lines*, spirals in phyllotaxis. 1685 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2037/4 A black-brown Gelding.., with a *Screw-lock on his near Foot before. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 108/2 The ingenious *screw-machine which was invented by Mr. Hunter..consists of one convex screw which works in the interior of another convex screw. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 115/2 Standard Screw Machine for attaching the soles of boots and shoes with screws instead of rivets. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* xxiii. 189. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 199 Another sort of Mandrel is called the *Screw-Mandrel. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 612 The screw-mandrel or traversing mandrel. 1798 S. SHAW *Staffordsh.* I. 109/1 The brook..turned a corn mill, which was converted into a *screw mill..about 1766. 1707 *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 374 She would not change her flat Nose and her *skrew Mouth for all Gratiosa's Beauty. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* xxxiv. 51 *Screw-nailes, which had holes prepared for their reception. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 199 The wood screw, or, as it is sometimes called .., the screw nail. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 39 The pin by which the spirals of a *screw nut are formed, is called a tap. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 435/1 A *Screw Pelican,..a kinde of pincers to draw out the..grinding teeth withall. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 182/2 The foundation of the building is formed of seven *screw piles. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 6 Dowse was in charge of a *screw-pile Light called the Wurlee Light. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 181/2 The *screw-piled pillars. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 7 The *Screw-plate is a plate of Steel..with several holes in it, each less than other. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 232 Screw a piece of steel of the desired size in an ordinary right-handed screw plate. 1722 A. BOYER *Hist. Q. Anne* 480 Which pretended *Screw-Plot, (as it was afterwards called) many of the Tories..were ready enough to charge upon the Whigs. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 371/1 He beareth Gules, a Stationers, or Book-Binders *Screw-press, Or. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 23 *note*, The device on its title-page of the press-man at work on the screw-press of the day. 1839 *Screw propeller [see PROPELLER 3]. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 42 [The water] that soaked from the Bed of the River..we conveyed into the S.E. Corner for the *Screw-pump. 1798 *Times* 28 June 4/1 The very neat and excellent Household Furniture, Plate, China, a capital *Screw Range, a Copper, and other Effects. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 388/1 A Flote, or *Screw-Rasp..is three Square, smooth on one side, and toothed like a Saw on the other two. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 118 Gynne rope with an hoke of iren..j, *Skrew rope. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Screw-rudder*, an application of the screw to purposes of steering, instead of a rudder. 1882 W. J. CHRISTY *Joints* 102 *Screw Shackle Joint. This..is used by the carpenter with tie-rods. *Ibid.* 126 Coupling Joint. ..Amongst builders it usually takes the form of a hinge, union, screw shackle [etc.]. 1852 J. BOURNE *Screw Propeller* x. 216 The bearings of the *screw shaft are of cast iron. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 787 These gills are supported and traversed by their extremities, taken into the threads of two screw shafts. 1869 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 386 The screw-shafts of a pair of engines properly include the crank-shaft, all the intermediate shafts, and the propeller-shaft. *Ibid.* 120 *Screw spanners..may be made to fit nuts and heads of several different diameters. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Screw-spike*, a round spike having a shallow screw-thread cut on a portion of its stem. It is driven partly home and screwed the remaining distance. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 605 These *screw stocks were found to cut very rapidly. 1729 WOODWARD *Catal. Eng. Fossils* II. 102 This is one of those Bodies that are call'd, tho' improperly, *Screw-Stones. From a Lead-Mine near Worksworth, in the Peak, Derbyshire. 1829 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. Yorksh.* 109 The screw-stones which are casts in the central hollow of crinoidal columns. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 31 The *screw-tap, that makes the Screw in the Nut. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 14 Common taps do not answer, and the best screw taps..must be used. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 353 *Screw Threads, the parts which are left standing between the spiral grooves of the screw. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 271 The rocking motion of the bars is accomplished by what is vulgarly called a drunken screw-thread. 1817 SCHELLEN *Spectrum Anal.* § 25. 88 In order to measure accurately the amount of motion the value of a screw-thread must be ascertained. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 370 *Screw Tools are employed in cutting of screws

of various sizes of threads. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 591 The cutter [*sc.* tap] is then called a hob, or a *screw-tool cutter. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 208 So that a *screw-turner will only operate upon the screws in one direction. 1705 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2140 Which not only separateth the fibres of the Iron..but also changeth their situation from Longways to *Skrew-ways. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Screw-well*, a hollow trunk over the screw of a steamer, for allowing the propeller to be disconnected and lifted. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 428 The *screw-wheel to act in the worm. 1731 MEDLEY tr. *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 126 The horns of the Hottentot hart..run up twisting, *screw-wise, to about half their length. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Feb. 84/2 The screw-pine..with long prickly leaves set screw-wise. *a* 1892 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Travel* v. (1900) 120 Wherever we stopped in the woods we could hear the queer creaking rasp of the big boring grub which they call the *screw-worm. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 704 To the larva of the latter [Sarcophaga Georgina] the term 'screw worm' has been applied. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Screw-wrench*, a turn-screw; a bed-wrench. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 571/2 *Screw-wrench*, a tool used for grasping the flat sides of the heads of large screws.

b. In names of plants, as **screw-bean, -mezquit, -moss** (see quots.); **screw-palm, -pine**, any of the plants belonging to the N.O. *Pandanaceæ* (see quot. 1836); also *attrib.*; **screw-stem**, a plant of the N. American genus *Bartonia* (or *Centaurella*); **screw-tree** (see quot.).

1866 *Trans. Bot.* 930/1 *Prosopis pubescens*,..is the *Screw-bean or *Screw Mezquit of the Americans..and is so called from the screw-like form of its pods. 1869 C. C. PARRY in W. A. Bell *New Tracks N. Amer.* II. 289 In the river bottoms we meet with luxuriant growths of mezquit and 'screw-bean'. 1817 PURTON *Brit. Plants* II. 540 *Tortula*. *Screw-moss. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 309 The common or Wall Screw-moss. 1851 E. FORBES *Leg. World* i. in *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.*, Hats, made of the leaves of *screw-palms. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 503 The Pandaneæ, or *Screw-Pines..abound in the Indian Archipelago...Their aspect is that of gigantic Pine apple plants having arborescent stems. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 687 Pandanaceæ.—The Screw-pine Order. 1873 DRURY *Useful Plants India* 325 *Pandanus odoratissimus*... Fragrant Screw-pine. 1902 A. ALCOCK *Nat. in Indian Seas* 58 Scenery, which consists chiefly of slimy creeks and screw-pine swamps. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 454 *Centaurella autumnalis*...*Screw-stem. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 330 The 'Screw Tree. [*Helicteres Jamaicensis*, Jacq.] This curious shrub is very frequent in the low gravelly hills.

Screw (skrū), *sb.*[2] Also 7, 9 scrow. [Prob. of Fr. origin: cf. F. *escrouelle* (Cotgr.), now *écrouelle*, of the same meaning.] A small crustacean of either of the genera *Gammarus* and *Niphargus*; a river-shrimp.

1684 R. SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. VII. x. 34 Squilla, nostratibus the Scrow. 1808 JAMIESON, *Scrow*, the name given most commonly to the minute cancri observed in pools and springs,..also occasionally applied to some of the aquatic larvae of flies and beetles. 1834 J. WILSON *Let.* 27 June, in J. Hamilton *Mem.* v. (1859) 186 We found their interior crammed full of screws, or fresh-water shrimps. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), *Screws*, the small shrimp-like insect found in fresh-water pools. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 52 *Gammarus fluviatilis*. The Freshwater Screw. 1857—*Brit. Crustacea* 182 *Gammara locusta*, Common Coast Screw. *Ibid.* 187 *Niphargus aquilex*...The Well Screw.

Screw (skrū), *sb.*[3] *Orkney and Shetl.* Also scroo, skroo, skrew (see E.D.D.). [a. Norw. *skrue, skruv*, ON. *skrúf*.] A small stack (of corn, hay or straw).

1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Shetld.* 155 Forty Linlithgow bolls are sometimes preserved in one of these piles, here called beaks or screws. 1897 SIR H. MAXWELL *Mem. Months* 46 The slender ricks, locally called 'screws'..shaped like pepper-custors.

Screw (skrū), *v.* Forms: 7 scrue, (screue), skrue, scrowe, 7–8 skrew, 6– screw. [f. SCREW *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *schroeven*, G. *schrauben*, Icel. *skrúfa*, Sw. *skrufva*, Da. *skrue*.]

I. To attach with a screw or screws.

1. *trans.* To attach with an inserted screw or screws; hence *fig.*, to fix firmly. *To screw down, up*: to close and secure with screws.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. ii. 44 Why should I write this downe, thats riueted, Screw'd to my memorie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xvi. 93 The best way to hold the Quadrant..is to skrew it with a Brass-Pin..to a Staff. 1669 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 559 The outward dores to have..locks to them well scrued on. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. I. ii. 25 If while our backs are turned an unlucky boy screws a piece of deal upon one of the leaves [of a table]. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 43 The coffin being skrewed down before she came. 1792 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Firearms* (1859) I. 33 The trigger has a spring screwed to the frame. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 30 A square piece of wood,..being firmly screwed to the under side of the board. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. vii. 183 Think of being screwed down in a coffin, and put into the cold ground. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shormaking* xxiii. 189 The boot, instead of being nailed or riveted, is by this machine really screwed together. 1888 *Law Rep.* 15 Q.B.D. 359 A metal cap was put over the shaft and screwed to the bearer.

II. To press, strain, or force with or as with a screw.

2. To force, press, or strain, by or as by means of a screw; to compress or hold fast in or as in a vice. *To screw up*: to tighten by turning a screw. † Also, to torture with 'the screws'.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* (1639) 7 This Speculum serveth to screw open the mouth..for conveying nourishment. 1620 *Swetnam Arraigned* IV. ii. I 3, You haue spoke to mutch alreadie, you damn'd Rogue But weele reward..you for't. Skrew his iawes. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 30 Screw the shank..in the Vice. 1680 *Ibid.* xii. 208 And screw your Work a little lightly up; Then..you may without more ado screw up your Work tight. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 25 Cœus, and Gyges..Were..Dungeon'd..and all their limbs Lock'd up like veins of metal, crampt and screw'd. 1902 HASLUCK *Bookbinding* xi. 104 Screw the book into the press.

b. transf. *To screw in, up*: to compress the waist of (a person) by tight-lacing.

1785 HOLCROFT *Tales of Castle* (ed. 2) I. 17 Ridiculous vanity made her bear..to be screwed up till she could scarcely breathe. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iii, The mistress of a school—not of a seminary..where young ladies for enormous pay might be screwed out of health and into vanity. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 107 The eldest girl..was screwed in, and poked out, to look like a woman.

3. To stretch tight by turning a screw; *esp.* to increase the tension or pitch (of a musical string) by winding up the screws or keys. Chiefly with *up*. Often in figurative context.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* III. xcviii, Love, to high Graces key skrues up low Natures Strings. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xii (1674) 15 They break the strings by scruing them up too high. 1679 DRYDEN *Troilus & Cr.* Pref. b 1 b, For what melody can be made on that Instrument all whose strings are screw'd up at first to their utmost stretch, and to the same sound? 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. v, Being a lover of such kind of concord as arises from two such instruments being put in exact tune,—he would instantly have skrew'd up his to the same pitch. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 469 Screw not the chord too sharply lest it snap.

transf. 1831 O. W. HOLMES *My Aunt* 30 They pinched her feet, they singed her hair, They screwed it up with pins.

absol. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. xii. 216 Agatho screwed a Note above Ela when he Decreed,..that the Popes Decrees should be received as if S. Peters mouth had confirmed them.

b. *fig.* With object a person or his attributes.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 60 *Lady.* We faile? But screw your courage to the sticking place, And wee'le not fayle. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IX. 438 [He] occasion gaue For me to vse my wits; which to their height, I striu'd to skrew vp. 1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* II. i, All your arts..screw to th' highest; For my main piece is now a-doing. 1646 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* I. Wks. (Grosart) I. 69/1 Let's skrue our pamper'd hearts a pitch beyond the reach of dull-browd sorrow. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXI. clxx, The Voice, though scrued to appear Divine, seem'd something out of tune to Her. 1672-5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* Pref. (1702) 6 When we need Variety and Novel Expressions to skrew us up into a Devotion. *a* 1677 [see PEG *sb.*[1] 2 a]. 1823 *Examiner* 272/2 The first series of calculations by which the Bourbon government was screwed up to undertake this awful..business. 1840 TENNYSON *Vis. Sin* IV. vii, Let me screw thee up a peg: Let me loose thy tongue with wine. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 269 To screw up their exertions to an unnatural pitch. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* v. 92, I had some difficulty in screwing my courage..to open an abscess. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* x, My love of life screwed to the topmost peg.

refl. 1841-44 EMERSON *Ess.* vii. *Prudence* Wks. (Bohn) I. 100 He..must screw himself up to resolution. 1858 S. BROOKS *Gord. Knot* xlvi. (1860) 348 Whether Earnshaw screwed himself up to assent to the terms that night, or [etc.]. 1868 C. ROSSETTI *Let.* in *Life Anne Gilchrist* (1887) 173, I am not certain that in any case I should have screwed myself up to accept it [*sc.* an invitation], as I am shy amongst strangers.

c. With immaterial object; *esp.* to stretch, strain, force the meaning of (words).

1628 PRYNNE *Censure Mr. Cozens* 32 Those Prayers were published..in the very infancy of Reformation,..therefore our Author may not racke and scrue them to our Aged and noone-tide seasons of the Gospell. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 127 Matters being scrued up to this height. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Poems* (1659) 98 Since then the Heroes of the pen with mee Nere scrue the sense With difference, We all agree, agree. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 69 Let us screw our Enquiry a little further. 1698 CLARK *Scripture Justif.* Ep., I have not first taken up a Notion and then screwed and wrested Scripture to countenance and confirm it. 1807 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 67 The British commissioners appear to have screwed every article [of a treaty] as far as it would bear. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 213 Or, rigidly screwing up right into wrong, did they convert a legal claim into a vexatious extortion? 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 215 This may be done..by jurisprudential construction, screwing up misdemeanours into felonies.

d. *To screw up*: to raise (a payment, rent, etc.) to an exacting or extortionate figure.

1631 W. BRADFORD *Hist. Plymouth Plant.* (1896) 357 He scrued vp his poore old father in laws accounte to aboue 200[li] and brought it on y[e] generall accounte. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 126 He is now only bussy to scrue up his pension by Lord Percy,..and he hath gott an order to be this day paid two pounds. 1696 in *Home Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm., 1902) 270 When wee got 2 secretaries the admission of Writers was scrued up to 800 merks. 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* IV. ii, I screw up their rents till they break and run away. 1725 SWIFT *Drapier's Let.* vii. Wks. 1824 VII. 40 The rents of Ireland,..have been of late so enormously raised and screwed up. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. vii, While some of my tenants appear to pay nominal rents..others are screwed up higher than any man's in the county. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 676 Screw up your rents as your neighbours are doing.

4. To operate or adjust (an instrument) by turning its screw.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cider* II. 100 When the Press, by utmost Vigour screw'd, Has drain'd the pulpous Mass. 1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 140 Whilst the instrument was screwing to its focus. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 158 The surgeon always screws the tourniquet till he suppresses the pulse in the lower part of the limb. 1837 BROWNING *Strafford* I. i, How that man taught Tyranny..To ply the scourge yet screw the gag so close That strangled agony bleeds mute to death. 1902 HASLUCK *Bookbinding* iv. 52 The standing press..is screwed down tightly.

5. To extort by pressure. a. To force or draw out (information, a secret, the truth, etc.) *from* a person by moral pressure; to draw *out* by close questioning; to force the admission of.

In quot. 1715 lit. to force *out* by applying the thumbscrew.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 65 A certaine friend of his,..told him..that euery one might scrue what he would from me, and draw all those secrets from me. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. vii, *Int.* Hee Will screw you out a Secret from a Statist—. *Com.* So easie, as some Cobler wormes a Dog. 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* v. 137 Was any of his Ministers of State so dull-brained,..to suffer these mysterious parts of Government to be scrued out of his mouth or hands? 1699 W. CLAGETT *17 Serm.* 370 The court by multiplying questions may screw out the truth at last. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* xvi. (1900) II. 423 Upon what was screwed out of these two persons,..six or seven gentlemen of quality, were clapt up. 1794 SCOTT *Let.* 5 Sept. in *Lockhart*, He tried them on every side, and screwed out of them the evidence they were so anxious to conceal. 1818 —*Rob Roy* xix, I screwed out of him these particulars.

b. To force or exact (money) *out of* or *from* (an unwilling giver, a miserly or necessitous person); to get (something) *out of* (a person) by pressure.

1693 *Humours Town* 95 What they can in any way screw out of the Necessitous. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem.* 127 Finding not a Penny to be screw'd out of the Prig. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 128 They made a thousand Scruples before they would let us see them [*sc.* Alum mines]; only to skrew a little Mony out of us. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* viii, They held..that their business..was to get as much from every boy as could by possibility be screwed out of him. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 51 Cecil, not being able to screw it out of the Queen, had to pledge his own credit. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 785 The rate of taxation is simply the maximum that can be screwed out of the people.

6. To put compulsion upon, to constrain, oppress.

a. To oppress (a person, esp. a tenant) with exactions; also *to screw down, to screw out of*, to deprive of or dispossess of by extortion.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* ix. (1687) 90 Landlords, who..rack and skrew them beyond the worth of the thing. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 80 The system of laws which..had screwed the Roman Catholics out of their landed property. 1826 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) II. 191 In order to see how the labourers are now screwed down, look at the following facts. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 295 They are so screwed by taxes,..that they never have a farthing in hand. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* li, 'The lord' had been screwed out of a good sum of money by way of separate maintenance. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, He quarrelled with his agents and screwed his tenants by letter.

b. To force (a seller) to lower his price, to 'beat down'.

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 178 The severe customs..that some of the greatest Traders..use unto some of their own Trade, by scruing and pinching them in such things they sell them in their necessity. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xix. 179 They should not stand and haggle and screw the shopkeeper down. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 294/2 They're fairish customers, but they often screw me. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XII. vii, Why I am not sure that it is already bought—that is, paid for...Spend-quick complains that Levy screws him.

c. To examine rigorously. *Obs.* exc. in *U.S.* college slang (see quot. 1851). Also *absol.*

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. iii, And there hee sits like an old worme of the peace.., screwing, Examining, and committing the poore curres. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosc's Compl. Woman* Pref., They examine all the conceits, they weigh all the words, they scrue all the syllables [orig. *F. ils espluchent toutes les syllabes*]. 1851 E. H. HALL *College Words* 265 *Screw*, to press with an excessive and unnecessarily minute examination. 1851 O. W. HOLMES *Song of 'Twenty-nine'* 10 At last the day is ended, The tutor screws no more.

7. To produce, attain, or elicit with an effort. Also with *out, up*, or complementary phrase.

1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. v. 325 All that can possibly be screwed out of these instances of Paternal Authority is no more than this. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 47 One of our Place-mongers..To serve a Premier and betray the Nation At length screwed out a situation. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Iiergamo* 54 Screwing a smile into his dinnerless face. *a* 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Nux Poste.* 33 It's a vastly pleasing prospect, when you're screwing out a laugh, That your very next year's income is diminished by a half. 1859 DARWIN *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 106 If you could screw time to send me ever so brief an answer. 1869 J. GREENWOOD *Seven Curses Lond.* ix. 170 If I entrust my tailor with stuff for a suit, and it afterwards comes to my knowledge that he has 'screwed' an extra waistcoat out of it. 1874 HELPS *Soc. Pressure* ii. 32 Another inventor screws light out of coals. 1898 J. B. WOLLOCOMBE *Morn till Eve* ii. 15 Gillard..saw his opponent in front of him, doing his utmost to screw up a trot.

8. *intr.* To be parsimonious.

1849 THACKERAY *Let.* 10 Apr., I must screw and save in order to pay off the money. 1855 — *Newcomes* xliv. Did you ever hear of me screwing? No, I spend my money like a man.

III. To turn a screw.

9. *trans.* To work (a screw or something fashioned as a screw) by turning.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. Invoc., Rowze thee, my soul,..Skrue up the heightned pegs Of thy Sublime Theorboe foure notes higher. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 23 He resolvd to governe them by subalterne Ministers, who it seems scrud up the pinnes of power too high. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. ix. 59 The chief inconvenience of this instrument is, that in a short space it will be screwed into its full length. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 13 That a pin be screw'd

so firm and hard, that though it has a convenient head to it, yet it can by no means be unscrew'd by the fingers. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 208 Screw your Pike wider or closer, according as the length of your Work requires. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 273/1 The Spanner..is put on the Nut heads and so to screw and unscrew them at pleasure. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 396 A series of posts driven or 'screwed' (with Mitchell's Archimedian screw) into the ground. 1869 C. Knight *Mechanician* 122 The simplest mode..consists in screwing a hard steel screwed plate on to the piece to be made into a screw. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 34/2 Their nuts [may be] kept tight by the simple process of screwing a second nut down home on the top of the first.

10. To insert or fix one thing *in*, *into*, *on*, *to*, or *upon* another or two things *together* by a turning or twisting movement, one or both having the surface or part of it cut into a screw for the purpose.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate*, Enema Fumosum (1639) G 2, Put the pipe prepared into the fundament..with the first short pipe screwed to it. *Ibid.* G 2 b, The stopple to be screwed upon the head thereof. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 79 These trumpets are taken in two at the middle..; when they have a mind to sound, they skrew the two parts together. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 22/1 A pockett Inkhorne with..the penner or top screwed on it. 1774 Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* 28 Screw the Ball firm in the Socket. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 371 Mackay..ordered all his bayonets to be so formed that they might be screwed upon the barrel without stopping it up. 1883 F. Campin *Details of Mach.* xi. 159 The bolt is screwed into some part of the cast-iron framework.

b. *fig.* †(*a*) To implant firmly (a notion) by means of gradual insinuation; to contrive to insert. Also *refl.* to insinuate oneself by degrees (into a person's favour, etc.). *Obs.* (*b*) colloq. *To have one's head screwed on right* or *the right way*, and similar phrases, implying the ability to use one's brains to one's own advantage, or to 'know what one is about'. *To screw one's head on tight*, to make an effort to prevent its being 'turned'.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xliv. (1632) 414 That opinion was skrewed deeper into their fearefull conceit by a cloud appearing. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. 389 Others buy titles,..and by all meanes skrew themselues into ancient families. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 339 Thus by little and little, I went scruing my selfe into his seruice, getting more ground still vpon him. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 160 Howbeit a while after they got breath, and screwed into their good fauour and opinion King Cazell. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* I. ii. 5 Ill customs being not knockt, but insensibly scru'd into our Souls. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* ix. 157 No discourse can be administred, but..they [*sc.* Boasters] will..screw in here and there some intimations of what they did or said. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* II. ii, You would do well to screw yourself into her father's good opinion. 1680 C. Nesse *Church Hist.* 47 He trys his skill by an intrinsick engine, screwing himself into the minds of Israel. 1826 Scott *Prov. Antiq. Scot.* 194 He had screwed himself into the partial confidence of Laird Bour. 1845 Burn *Autobiog. Beggar-boy* (1859) 95 It was true I had a small quantity of brains, but the fact was, my head was not screwed on right to enable me to turn them to my advantage. 1897 M. Creighton *Let.* Life & Lett. (1904) II. vii. 235, I feel it necessary to screw my head on tight and go my own way gently. 1900 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 7/5 Elizabeth has, to use a slang phrase, 'her head very well screwed on'.

c. *intr.* in passive sense. To be adapted for joining or taking apart by means of component screws.

1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiv. 235 A Brass Coller with a Female Screw in it, to screw on the Mandrel. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 18 The Rods were in three Pieces..which screwed together occasionally. 1791 Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 43 He carried with him a gun, which screwed into three parts, and which he could easily conceal in the lining of his coat. 1821 *John Bull* 18 June 215/1 The head [of the vessel] screws off at the middle of the neck. 1881 F. Campin *Mech. Engin.* iv. 53 The face-plate which screws on the mandrils.

d. trans. *To screw out*: to take out (a screw) by turning; to unscrew. *rare.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xviii. (1632) 904 Euill opinions once fastened in mens hearts, hardly can be screwed out againe. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 109/1 An apparatus for screwing the patterns..out of the mould, so as to leave the impression of the thread uninjured.

11. *intr.* To penetrate as a screw; to penetrate with a winding course. In quots. *fig.*, to worm one's way.

1614 C. Brooke *Ghost Rich. III*, xxxix, Proud of this Knowledge I scru'd into the state, And of that Nature got intelligence. 1647 P. Fletcher *Locusts* II. xxviii, By flattery They [*sc.* the Jesuits] worme and scrue into their conscience. 1740 Howell *Dodona's Gr.* 80 They have a way to scrue into the most inmost Closets of Princes. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 447 To scrue and dive into the hearts of men by degrees.

IV. To move in a twisting direction.

12. *trans.* To twist round, esp. to twist with violence so as to alter the shape. *To screw one's neck*: to kill by wringing the neck. *To screw up*: to twist (e.g. a piece of paper) into a spiral form.

a 1711 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 173 The Pillars on which arch'd Heav'ns rely, Were on their scv'ral Bases screw'd awry. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* viii, They all pinched me at once, and in a dreadfully expert way: screwing up such little pieces of my arms that I could hardly forbear crying out. 1859 'Wat. Bradwood' *The O. V. H.* xxiv, Jack screwed his moustache,..in deep deliberation. 1872 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* Dec. 46/1 I'll screw his neck. 1888 F. Hume *Madame Midas* I. ii, I wish you'd screw that bird's neck, Slivers; he's too clever by half.

13. To twist awry, contort (the features, body, mouth); to twist (one's head, oneself) *round* in order to look at something.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. i, Screw your face a t'one side thus, & Protest. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i. 117 The aged Crampe Had screw'd his square foote round, The Gout had knit his fingers into knots. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* III. 55 Sometimes a violent laughter scru'd his face. 1645 Quarles *Solomon's Recant.* ii. *Solil.* ii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 174/2 What pleasure is't, to skrue An Antick face and grimme. 1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* IV. iii, Oh how you'd..scrue your Face into a submissive Smile. *a* 1680 S. Butler *Characters* (1908) 134 He is always giving Aim to State Affairs, and believes by screwing of his Body he can make them shoot which Way he pleases. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* ii, Some grotesque habits of..screwing his visage while reciting his task, made poor Sampson the ridicule of all his school-companions. 1821 W. Irving *Sk.-Bk.* I. 74 (Rip van Winkle) The self-important man..screwed down the corners of his mouth, and shook his head. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, Screwing himself round to catch a glimpse in the glass of the waist buttons. 1881 Fenn *Vicar's People* xlvi, Setting his teeth, and screwing his mahogany-brown face into a state of rigid determination. 1889 F. Cowper *Capt. of the Wight* 304 From where Ralph stood, by screwing his head a little he could just see the top of the masts.

fig. 1647 C. Harvey *School of Heart* Poems (Grosart) 171 An heart..That's..screw'd aside with stubborne wilfulnesse, Is onely fit to be cast forth.

b. *To screw up*: to contract the surrounding parts of (the mouth, eyes).

1743 Fielding *Journey fr. this World* I. ii, But that female spirit screwing up her mouth, answered, she wondered at the curiosity of some people. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xvi, Jo screws up his mouth into a whistle. 1883 F. M. Crawford *Dr. Claudius* ii, Mr. Barker screwed up his eyes and put out his jaw.

†**c.** To produce (a gesture) by contortions. *Obs.*

1635 Quarles *Embl.* I. x. 41 See how their curved bodies wreathe, and skrue Such antick shapes as Proteus never knew. *Ibid.* IV. iii. 193 My antick knees can turne upon the hinges Of Complement, and skrue a thousand Cringes.

14. To propel by a spiral movement; to force or squeeze (one's body) by a tortuous movement *into*, *through*, etc. (a comparatively small space).

1635 Swan *Spec. M.* vi. § 2 (1643) 201 They [springs] do (as it were) scrue themselves up to the convenientest place of breaking out. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. i. 2 A Silk thred [is] twisted and screwed through a small hole..and fastned with a small wooden pin. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 109 If the subtle serpent can but see a hole..he will easily screw in his whole body. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 127 He screw'd himself under the Bed. 1812 Scott *Fam. Lett.* 2 Sept. (1894) I. 257 We are all screwed into the former farmhouse. 1835 [see Screwer]. 1872 Bagehot *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 42 They have screwed themselves into the uncomfortable corners of a complex life. 1868 Pitt-Rivers *Prim. Warfare* II. 125 [The boomerang] is caused to rise by virtue of its rotation, screwing itself up in the air.

15. *intr.* To wind spirally.

1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 55 They [*sc.* the shoots of the honeysuckle] coalesce for mutual support, the one screwing round the other to the right, the other to the left.

16. *Sporting.* **a.** intr. *Rowing.* (See quot. 1898.)

1875 W. B. Woodgate *Oars & Sculls* viii. 68 Possibly..each man [*sc.* of a pair of oarsmen] may screw to match the other instinctively. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 297/2 (Rowing) *Screw*, to swing the body from one side to the other during the stroke, instead of swinging straight backward and forward. If the man swings toward his oar during the stroke he is said to screw 'into the boat'; if away from it 'out of the boat'.

b. trans. *Rugby Football.* To cause (the scrummage or one's opponents in a scrummage) to twist round by pushing in a body to the right or left. Also *absol.* (Said of either set of forwards composing a scrummage.)

1887 Shearman *Athletics & Football* 311 One team..cleverly 'screwing' the scrimmage and taking the ball out. 1889 H. Vassall *Rugby Football* 32 It is no use trying to screw as long as your opponents have command of the ball. You must then..devote your energies to stopping your opponents from screwing you. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 408/2 You must wheel to the side on which you can best screw off your adversaries, and then rush ahead with the ball. 1902 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 4/8 The Englishmen screwed the first scrum in capital style.

c. *Games.* To impart a screw or twist to (the ball); to cause to swerve. Also *absol.*

1839 *Bentley's Miscell.* VI. 348 Cue in hand,..chalking, screwing, and pocketing..after a most extraordinary fashion. 1881 Forgan *Golfer's Handbk.* 35 *Screw*, see *Draw* [i.e. to drive widely to the left hand]. 1887 Shearman *Athletics & Football* 350 The back knows..when he should kick true, or when he should 'screw'.

d. *intr.* (for *refl.*) *Racing.* Of a horse: To force his way *through*. Also *trans.* Of a rider: To force (a horse) *over* (an obstacle); *to screw in*, to force to the front at the finish of a race.

1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 1658. 470 Others [*sc.* horses] however screw through, that is, they actually push themselves through these hedges. 1842 Lever *J. Hinton* viii, I have been trying a new horse in the Park, screwing him over all the fences. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* 48 Alfred Day..screwing in Vivandière half a head in front of Butler.

17. *intr.* Of Polar ice-floes: To ram together.

1901 [see Screwing *vbl. sb.*]. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Sept. 9/2 At the 88th degree the ice screwed badly.

V. In various uses from senses of the sb.

18. *trans.* To break into (a house, etc.) by means of a 'screw' or skeleton key.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* Mem. 1819 II. 204 To screw a place is to enter it by false keys. 1879 *Macm. Mag.* XL. 503/1 We went and screwed (broke into) his place, and got thirty-two quid. 1896 A. Morrison *Child of Jago* xxiv. 236 He was..the King of High Mobsmen...He did no vulgar thievery: he never screwed a chat, nor claimed a peter.

19. To furnish with a helical groove or ridge; †to rifle (a firearm) (*obs.*); to furnish (a screw-blank, pin, cylinder, etc.) with a thread or worm; to cut a screw-thread *upon*.

1635 A. Rotsipen in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Fire-arms* (1859) I. 22 To rifle, cutt out, or screwe barrells as wyde or as clos. or as deepe or as shallowe as shalbe required. 1680 R. H. *Milit. Discipl.* I. ii. 22 Carabins..whose Barrel..is screwed and rifled: that is to say, wrought and crevassed in the inside..in form of a Screw. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 145 The vice-pin intended to be screwed..is placed in the stock. 1869 C. Knight *Mechanician* 346 Screwed plugs..for screwing nuts to stated diameters. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 23 Dec., The breech part,..with the front end screwed for the purpose of uniting with the barrel.

absol. 1870 *Amateur Mech. Workshop* 46 It is of great importance when screwing..that the pin should be passed perpendicularly through the tool.

20. *intr.* To travel on the water by means of a screw-propeller; also *trans.* in *to screw its way*.

1860 W. H. Russell *Diary India* I. vii. 94 We lay-to during the night, and now we are screwing up against the..current. 1862 H. Marryat *Year in Sweden* I. 165 We screwed slowly along till we landed on the little jetty. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Sept. 2/1 The boat rolled and screwed its way northward.

21. *trans.* To make a screw of (a horse), to 'crock'.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 102 Jedwood will see you far enough before he gives you another one in his place, if you screw him doing his work.

VI. 22. The verb-stem in comb. **a.** with advs., as **screw back** (see quot.); **screw-down** *a.*, adapted to be closed by screwing; **b.** with sbs., as **screw cannon** (also **screw-back cannon**) *Billiards*, a cannon made by striking the ball very low down and so causing it to recoil from the object ball; **screw kick, shot, stroke** (in various games: see quots.), one that causes the ball to swerve; **screw-smile** *nonce-wd.*, a forced smile.

Most of these admit of being regarded as combinations of Screw *sb.*[1] II.

1834 W. Cook *Billiards* 12 **Screw Back*, the same rotary motion [as that described under *screw*] causing the ball to run backwards after striking another ball. 1866 Pardon *Billiard Bk.* xi. 125 Another very good stroke is the Wide *Screw Canon...This may be made with a slow twist..from the baulk. 1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 325 A screw-back cannon may here be made by playing a three-quarter ball on the red, without side, No. 2 strength. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 54 Strong round-way *screw-down bib and stop cocks. 1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xi. 124 Their upper ends are fitted with screw-down valves. 1887 Shearman *Athletics & Football* 349 The back may turn the ball with a *screw kick. 1887 *Field* 5 Nov. 714/1 [Assoc. Football] The Harrow captain..putting in a low *screw shot. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 252/2 [Croquet] The chop, *screw, or stop stroke. *Ibid.* 254/1 It resembles the screw shot in billiards. 1879 Meredith *Egoist* xiii, The well-known *screw-smile of duty upholding weariness worn to inanition.

Screwable (skrūˑăbl), *a.* [f. Screw *v.* + -able.] Capable of being screwed.

18.. *Engineer* LXIX. 411 (Cent.) A screwable bracket.

Screwage (skrūˑĕdʒ). *rare*—[1]. [f. Screw *sb.*[1] + -age.] The action or process of screwing.

1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XX. vi. IX. 105 The Butes and Hardwickes working incessantly with such rare power of leverage and screwage in the interior parts.

Screwdriver (skrūˑdrəivəɹ).

1. A tool for turning screws into or out of their places. It is shaped like a chisel, with a blunt end which fits into the nick in the head of the screw.

1812 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc.* 353 Screw Driver, a tool used to turn screws into their places. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* vii, A screwdriver and a crowbar. 1842 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2109 Some [bits]..are provided with a screw-driver for sinking small screws into wood.

Comb. 1893 *Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.* (ed. 21), *Screwdriver teeth*, peculiar teeth seen in young subjects of hereditary syphilis.

2. *punningly.* One who drives a 'screwy' horse.

1835 Apperley *Nimrod's Hunting Tours* 215 (Farmer) Mr. Charles Boultbee, the best screw driver in England.

Hence **Screw-drive** *v.* (nonce-wd.), *trans.*, to drive in as if with a screwdriver.

1894 Clark Russell *Good Ship Mohock* I. 105 He stared at me for some moments fixedly..as though he would screw-drive his gaze through my brain.

Screwed (skrūd), *ppl. a.* [f. Screw *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. Attached or fastened with inserted screws, or by means of component screws.

1770 *Ann. Reg.* 19 The great superiority of the Russians may be attributed..to their charging with screwed bayonets. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* IV. xxxix. 53, I was stopped..by a sign over a large shop advising me to buy some 'screwed boots and shoes'. 1885 J. B. Leno *Boot & Shoem.* xxiii. 189 With a screwed boot..the fastening actually holds for its entire length in the leather. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 831/1 The principal disadvantage in the use of standard screwed soles is the great difficulty met with in removing..an old sole.

†**2.** Strained or forced with or as with a screw. Of wit: Strained to its highest pitch. *Obs. rare.*

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XI. l, And rais'd her self to that transcendent pitch Of Monstrousness, which never any Fiend With Hell's most screwed wit before could reach.

3. Furnished with an adjustable screw.
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 398/1 A single Beak Pellican with a screw,..called a Screw'd tooth Forcer.

4. Twisted round or awry. a. Of the face: Contorted. Of (the surrounding parts of) the eyes: Contracted. Also with *up*.
1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* (1708) Pref., As for the Saints (your thorough-pac'd ones I mean, with screw'd Faces and wry Mouths) I despair of them. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 257 P 1 Notwithstanding..the Pliancy of the Matter in which the Images are wrought..he did not think it possible for it to be twisted and tortured into so many skrew'd Faces and wry Features. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* x, On this hand sits a chosen swatch, Wi' screw'd up, grace-proud faces. 1901 C. HOLLAND *Mousmé* 15 [His] gravely screwed-up eyes.

†b. Winding, spiral. *Obs. rare*—[1].
1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 48 A scrued Ascent, instead of Stairs.

c. Twisted into a spiral form.
1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xix, He held the usual screwed bit of whity-brown paper in his hand, from which he ever and again unscrewed a spare pinch of snuff.

5. Having a helical groove or ridge on its surface. *Screwed plate* = *screw-plate* (see SCREW *sb.*[1] 22). *Screwed work*, the cutting of screws.
1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 71. (1663) 51 A Key perfectly square, with a Scrue turning within it..and no heavier then the triangle-scrued Key. 1716 HALLEY *Lights in Air* in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 421 Certain skrewed or striate Particles, adapted to the Pores they are to enter. 1819 PECKSTON *Gas-Lighting* 299 Service-pipes..are..screwed at one end, and furnished with a screwed socket at the other. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 72 [The wood of the apple-tree] is better adapted..for screwed work. 1859 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 122 Screwed plates are..screw formers for rods, wire, small bolts [etc.]. 1883 F. CAMPIN *Details of Mach.* xix. 224 The strength of a bolt or any description of screwed end must be determined from its diameter. 1907 H. A. BETHELL *Mod. Guns* 9 The screwed breech of the gun is cut away to match.

b. Of a firearm: Furnished with a screwed barrel, i.e. one having a helically grooved bore.
1646 EVELYN *Diary* (1850) I. 240 (Geneva) Excellent screwed guns. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 485 The two persons being apprehended, they were found to have screwed pistols. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1271/4 A Case of screw'd barril Pistols. 1680 R. H. *Milit. Discipl.* I. ii. 23 The King commands at present that in every Troop of his Guards be carried eight rifled or screwed Carabins.

6. Partly intoxicated; 'tight'.
1838 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Witches Frolic*, Alone it stood, while its fellows lay strew'd, Like a four-bottle man in a company screw'd, Not firm on his legs, but by no means subdued. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 381 Intoxicated! not a bit of it! Screwed, nothing more! 1881 F. A. PALEY in *Fraser's Mag.* Feb. 202 We read in Plato of Alcibiades coming to a party somewhat 'screwed'. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xi, I swear I can see all right when I'm—when I'm moderately screwed.

7. *Comb.* screwed-surfaced joint *Anat.* = *screw-joint* b (see SCREW *sb.*[1] 22).
1875 W. TURNER *Hum. Anat.* I. 68 An important modification of the ginglymus is the screwed-surfaced joint.

Screwer (skrūˑəɹ). [f. SCREW *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which screws. Also with *up*.
1654 R. WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 484, I am, saith he, incredibly taken with Musick and Dancing..it seemeth a Screwer up of lower Passions (more than Pins). 1826 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) II. 198 A cruel screwer down of the labourers. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 214 The locks of flax are screwed into the holders by a boy called the screwer. 1842 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 342, I left the carbine in charge of Jones, a very clever 'screwer together'. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 235 The gun is sent to the screwer to have the trigger-plate let in and the breech pin fitted.

Screwiness (skrūˑinės). [f. SCREWY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being screwy.
1872 *Daily News* 26 Aug., [The horses] are certainly on the confines of screwiness. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* I. vi. 96 A screwiness about money.

Screwing (skrūˑiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCREW *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb (in its various senses); also, an instance of this.
1673 *Remarques Humours Town* 54 A scruing up the courage of a friend to those fantastick heights. 1680 BUNYAN *Mr. Badman* (1905) 115 Extortion is a screwing from men more than by the Law of God or men is right. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 18 Every Turn of their Hands, every Screwing of their Bodies. 1812 [see SCREWSMAN]. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 27 The tall gentleman..played billiards with uncommon skill, and possessed all the delicate arts of chalking, and twisting, and screwing. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 1647. 468 For screwing and creeping, however, he beat every horse we ever rode. *Ibid.* § 1658. 479 Screwing..is a method of getting through the thick hedges that cannot be got over. 1848 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 Jan. 36/2 Cheapness, economy, or 'screwing' will be found at the bottom of most railway casualties. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 610/2 But if the vessel is caught in an 'ice screwing', the ramming together of giant floes, it will be crushed like an eggshell. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 July 11/2 Counsel explained that 'screwing' meant committing burglary.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in the sense 'cutting screw threads'), as *screwing apparatus, -engine, -machine, table, tackle, tool, trade*; **screwing die, stock** = *screw die, stock* (see SCREW *sb.*[1] 22).
1850 OGILVIE, *Screwing-machine*, a highly important implement..for forming the screws of bolts and nuts by means of the machinery of the factory. 1861 F. CAMPIN *Hand-Turning* 120 Dies very similar to the above are also used in a machine called a screwing-engine. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. R 1, Sets of screwing dies. *Ibid.*, This form of screwing stock..produces threads approximating in accuracy to those cut by the slide lathe. 1870 *Amateur Mech. Workshop* 47 The above [stock] forms the most usual screwing apparatus of the general mechanic. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Screwing-table*, a kind of screw-stock, used for forming threads of screw-bolts or wooden screws. 1890 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 2/6 Lifting and screwing tackle are in good demand. 1909 *Installation News* III. 58 Screwing tools.

Screwing (skrūˑiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCREW *v.* + -ING[2].] That screws (in the senses of the verb).
1707 in *Sewall's Diary* (1879) II. 39* The Governour, with his Son Paul..are very Screwing and Exacting upon the People. 1737 SWIFT *Let.* 30 Mar., Wks. 1841 II. 789 Your society has raised the rents..to four times the value of what they formerly paid; which is beyond all I have ever heard even among the most screwing landlords of this impoverished kingdom. 1889 *Daily News* 25 May 5/4 Screwing ice, maelstroms, and impassable ice..stopped them.

Screwish (skrūˑiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. SCREW *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Of the nature of a screw.
1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* c iiij b, Archimedes, setting to his Skruish Engine, caused Hiero the king, by him self, at ease, to remoue her [*sc.* a ship]. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 285 How unlucky then that he chanced to have so screwish a set [of horses].

Screw-pin. [SCREW *sb.*[1]] A pin with a screw cut upon it: a. the screw of a vice; also *fig.*; b. an adjusting screw, finger screw; c. the pin which forms the foundation of a screw.
1614 T. FREEMAN *Rub & Gt. Cast* G 2, Since these three [*sc.* Chaucer, Lydgate and Gower] knew to turne perdy The Scru-pin of Phylosophy As well as they [*sc.* the Greeks and Romans]. 1631 in Rymer *Fœdera* XIX. 315 For a whole Worke, consisting of the Pan, the cover of the Pan, the Scutchion and the screw Pynn. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650), *Terrestrial Globe* 265 It [the Quadrant] is..affixed to the Meridian with a little Screw-pin, to bee removed at pleasure. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 29 The Nut is turned about hard upon the Screw-pin. 1765 H. TIMBERLAKE *Mem.* 16, I pulled the trigger, which missing fire, broke off the upper chap and screw-pin. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 175 A screw-pin, by which to regulate the main-springs of locks of every description of fire-arms. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 146 The screw-pin is sometimes infirm, in consequence of its having but partially resisted the torsion. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 115/2 By means of a nut on the screw-pin they are pressed closely together.

Screwsman (skrūˑzmăn). *slang.* [f. SCREW *sb.* + MAN *sb.*: after *cracksman*, etc.]
1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* Mem. 1819 II. 204 *Screwsman*, a thief who goes out a screwing. 1910 *Dundee Advertiser* 8 Jan. 7, I believe you are a 'screwsman'. Where's the jemmy and the 'twirls'?

Screwy (skrūˑi), *a.* [f. SCREW *sb.*[1] and *v.* + -Y[1].]
1. Slightly 'screwed' or tipsy.
1820 T. CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) I. 339, I..drank an extra bottle..: not that I was the least screwy, but [etc.]. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xlvii, Biest if I did'nt nearly drive her into a wegetable cart. I was so uncommon screwy!

2. Of a person: Given to screwing, mean, stingy.
1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 295/1 Mechanics are capital customers..; they're not so screwy. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Agony Point* xliii. (1862) 367 Whereas before we never knew what we could afford..and I used to feel a very unpleasant 'screwy' sensation from one year's end to the other. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* xxx, He was so hard upon 'em, and that screwy, never a drop of milk or a fagot to give 'em. 1887 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* II. xx. 287 To a scrimpy and screwy man..such a position would have done a deal of harm.

3. Of a horse: That is 'a screw'; unsound.
1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xxiii, It's like turning a screwy horse out to grass. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Book of West* I. vii. 106 Two likely-looking hunters, perhaps a little screwy, were brought round.

4. Of a track: That winds about.
1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant Killers* 15 A jaggy, steep, screwy little trackway.

Screwze, obs. form of SCRUZE *v.*

†**Scrib**[1]. *Obs.* [? var. of SCRUB.] ? A miser. (Quot. 1608 is obscure, and the text may be corrupt; with 'bonny scribs' cf. 'bonny scrubs' in SCRUB *sb.*[3])
1600 BRETON *Pasquils Mailcap* 16 If she haue playde the thrifty prowling scribbe, To purchase Grasse to greaze the Bullockes ribbe. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. iii, Why then set forward; and as you scorne..tweluepenny Pandarisme, and such base bribes, guard me from bonny Scribs, and bony Scribes [*ed.* 1640 *adds* and bony rags]. 1634 *Withal's Dict.* 575 *Promus magis quam condus.* He is none of these miserable scribs, but a liberall Gentleman.

†**Scrib**[2]. *nonce-wd.* Abbreviation of SCRIBBLE *sb.*
1795 DR. BURNEY *Let. to Mme. D'Arblay* 7 May, It strikes three o'clock;..and I must send off my scrib.

Scribable (skrəiˑbăbˈl), *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 5 scryvable. [irreg. f. L. *scrībĕre* to write: see -ABLE. The form *scryvable* represents a possible OF. **escrivable*.] Suitable for being written on.
14.. LYDG. *Ballad of deceitful Women* 44 Though al the erth..Were parchemyn smothe, whyte and scribable. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 182 Wyt leber or in good (*v.r.* scribable) pauper. *Ibid.* 14 Scryuable. *a* 1500 *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) 26 Paper scribabil the bale, vi. d'. 1889 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 412 One filled every scribable corner of his foolscap.

Scribacious (skrəibēˑʃəs), *a. rare.* Also incorrectly *-atious*. [f. L. *scrībĕre* to write + -ACIOUS.] Given to, or fond of, writing. Hence **Scriba·ciousness**, fondness for writing.
a 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1680) 165 We have some Letters of Popes (though not many; for Popes were then not very scribacious..). 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Books* Wks. (Bohn) III. 87 Cornelius Agrippa 'On the Vanity of Arts and Sciences' is a specimen of that scribatiousness which grew to be the habit of the gluttonous readers of his time.

Scribal (skrəiˑbˈl), *a.* [f. SCRIBE *sb.* + -AL.]
1. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a scribe or copyist, or his work.
1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 674 Jobares was an easily committed scribal corruption of Jomanes. 1868 R. MORRIS *O. E. Hom.* Pref. 6 The scribal blunders that it contains. 1893 SKEAT in *Athenæum* 17 June 765/1 Scribal errors abound throughout [Chaucerian MSS.].

2. Of or pertaining to the Jewish scribes.
1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1164/2 (*Scribes*) We must look back to what is known of the five pairs..of teachers who represented the scribal succession. 1896 *Expositor* Feb. 109 The saying..is diametrically opposed to the Scribal method of teaching.

†**Scri·bbet.** *Obs.* Also 7 scribet. [? f. SCRIBE *v.* + -ET.] A charcoal for drawing.
1673-4 GREW *Anat. Trunks* etc. (1675) 75 It [sallow] maketh an excellent Coal for Painters Scribets. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallow*, Sallow-Coal is..the best of all for Painters Scribbets to design their Work with.

Scri·bblage. *nonce-wd.* [f. SCRIBBLE *v.* + -AGE.] Scribblings, ephemeral writing.
1805 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XX. 39 The polemic scribblage of theology and politics.

Scribblative (skriˑblătiv), *a. rare.* Also scriblative. [f. SCRIBBLE *v.*[1] + -ATIVE. Cf. *talkative.*] Pertaining to scribbling.
1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 48 All of which are..denied by our professors of the arts babblative and scribblat.ve.
1881 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Feb. 282/2 He did not see anything that hundreds and thousands of professors of the arts gaddative and scriblative have not seen before him.

Scri·bblatory, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SCRIBBLE *v.*[1] + *-atory*: see -ORY.] Tending to cause scribbling.
1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 246 The dilatory, scribblatory..mode of the courts of equity.

Scribble (skriˑbˈl), *sb.* Also 7-8 scrible. [f. SCRIBBLE *v.*[1]]
1. Something hastily or carelessly written, esp. a depreciatory term for a letter (usually one's own); also, a worthless or trivial composition.
1577 SIDNEY *Lett.* Misc. Wks. (1829) 304 But I will leaue [that] till I may my selfe say it unto yow, and so, his speeches at my farewell, wch I am afraide I was in the beginninge of these scribbles to longe in. 1592 UNTON *Corr.* (Roxb.) 397 Your honors pardon I crave for this my shorte and hastie scribbles. 1632 HIDE in *Randolph's Jealous Lovers* To Author, When they that write by guesse, Scatter their scribbles, and invade the presse. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 155 He made a shift to get a lively-hood by his mendicant scribbles. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 131 In the Margin..are some scribbles. 1730 SWIFT in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 33 If a scribble comes out complaining of our hardships here, it is infallibly laid at my door. 1814 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1856) X. 96 As you seem to have found some amusement in some of my scribbles, I beg your acceptance of another morsel. 1865 PRINCESS ALICE *Mem.* 14 Aug. (1884) 107, I have made little scribbles on the way.

2. Hurried or negligent and irregular writing; an example of this. Also, a number of irregular and unmeaning marks made with pen or pencil.
1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 70 P 7, I shall trouble you with no more Scribble. 1788 TWINING in *Select Papers T. Family* (1887) 185, I shall refer you for my thanks to the packet which you will receive, containing no less than five sheets of scribble. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. ii. 19 The hand-writing of Charles..was elegant, and opposite to the slovenly scribble of his father. 1841 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note bks.* (1868) II. 21 Did you ever behold such a vile scribble as I write since I became a farmer? 1881 FITCH *Lect. Teach.* 192 The scribble of men who think good writing a thing for clerks and shopmen. 1896 *Amer. Annals Deaf* Feb. 70 The speed of writing, even at a scribble, hardly exceeds thirty words a minute.

†b. *transf.* A hurried manner of walking. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)
1665 HOWARD *Committee* I. 1, O are you come, Long look't for comes at last. What,—you have a slow set pace, As well as your hasty scribble sometimes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*
1653 [F. PHILIPS] *Considt. Crt. Chancery* 24 Other Mungrel and Scrible dashed hands made out of the Roman and Italian. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* July 230 The conventional 'scribble' foliage has descended to oblivion with the drawing books of our fathers.

Scribble (skriˑbˈl), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 scribyl, 6 scribel, -il, -ul, screble, scrybel, skrible, 6-7 scryble, scrible, 6- scribble. [app. ad. late med. L. *scrībillāre* (cf. rare class. L. *conscrībillāre*), a diminutive formation on L. *scrībĕre* to write. Cf. G. *skribbeln, skribeln*, for which recent writers substitute *schreibeln*, f. *schreiben*; OHG. had *scrībilôn* (? f.), 'scriptitare'.]
1. *trans.* To write hastily or carelessly. a. To write in an irregular, slovenly, or illegible hand through haste or carelessness; also, to produce (marks, a drawing, etc.) or portray (an object) by rapid and irregular strokes like those of hurried writing. b. To write hurriedly or thoughtlessly, so that what is written is faulty in style or worthless in substance.
c 1465 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 14 Scribled in hast with mine owne hand in default of other helpe. 1490 *Paston*

Lett. III. 363 Scribyllyd in the moste haste, at..Aucland. 1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 56 For al y^e^ time..could scant haue suffised vnto y^e^ bare wryting alone, all had it bene but in paper & scribled forth in hast at aduenture. 1537 Layton in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 77 Scribullede this Satterday, an written with the hasty hand of your assurede servant. 1575 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 90 An answer to a..vayne letter..scribblid longe since. 1653 Dorothy Osborne *Lett.* (1903) 15 This (if you can read it, for 'tis strangely scribbled) will be enough to answer yours. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 38 That the innumerable Members of a 'Human Body'..were at first fortuitously scribbled, and by meer accident compacted into this beautifull, and noble, and most wonderfully usefull Frame. 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 31 Jan., So I could not scribble my morning lines to MD. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 184, I scribble Verses? why you know, I left the Muses long ago. 1842 S. Sharpe *Egypt under Romans* iii. 66 Travellers..have at all times been fond of carving or scribbling their names on the spot. 1884 *Publisher & Bookbuyer's Jrnl.* 15 Nov. 19/1 Writers who scribble bosh. 1899 M. Creighton in *Life & Lett.* (1904) II. xii. 403, I must scribble a line to tell you how much I feel for you.

fig. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 728/2 But if he feele it written there in dede as he saith he doth, then he feleth it scribled and scraped in his hert by the croked clouen clawes of the deuill.

b. With various advs., as *away, down, out.* † Also *to scribble up*: to compile hastily.

1583 J. Hawkins in *Archæologia* XXXIII. 193, I have brieflye..scryblyd out a note of the joynnyge of thordynary and extraordynary together, which I send. 1596 H. Clapham *Briefe Bible* II. 234, I haue for your vses, sodainly scribled vp this Breviarie of the Bible. 1619 Hales (*Golden Rem.* II. (1673) 70 His sudden and unexpected departure hath made me scribble up this, more rudely and concisely than I had intended. 1800 Lamb *Lett.* (1849) 113, I could not resist so facile and moderate demand, so scribbled out another, omitting sundry things. 1826 J. W Croker in *C. Papers* (1884) 20 Mar., I was easily induced to take up my pen..and I scribbled away a reply. 1831 Greville *Mem.* 31 July (1875) II. 174, I have scribbled down all I can recollect of a very loose conversation. 1901 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 294/1 The liquid brush-work with which the light leaves of the oak were rapidly and easily scribbled down by the painter.

c. To cover with scribblings. Chiefly with *over.*

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Ep. Ded. A iij b, They chuse moste commonly the very worste [words], and therewith scryble the bokes of theyr latyne auctours. *a* 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Elegies* II. v. 18 Not silent were thine eyes, the board with wine Was scribled, and thy fingers writ a line. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 88 Is not this a lamentable thing..that Parchment being scribled ore, should vndoe a man. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 83 How [they will] gird the Sphear With Centric and Eccentric scribl'd o'er, Cycle and Epicycle, Orb in Orb. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* III. Wks. 1766 III. 154 Having scribbled over both sides [of the medal], they are forced, as it were, to write upon the margin. 1717 Berkeley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 519 Most of these obelisks are scribbled over with hieroglyphics. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. iii, The page found my lord's sheet of paper scribbled over with dogs and horses. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 527 Thou read the book! And every margin scribbled, crost, and cramm'd With comment. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* II. xiii. 26 The walls of every room are scribbled over with the names of visitors.

fig. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxx. 176 The Common-peoples minds..scribbled over with the opinions of their Doctors.

2. *intr.* To write something hastily or carelessly, either as to handwriting or composition; to produce abundance of worthless writing. Also, to make random or irregular lines resembling careless writing.

1534 Cranmer *Let.* cxviii. Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) II. 291, I have..made them to write their shepe mark, or some other mark, as they can..scribble. 1601 Q. Eliz. *Let. to Mountjoy* in *Meryson's Itin.* II. (1617) 151, I end, scribling in hast, Your loving Soveraigne. E. R. 1662 Marvell *Let. to Mayor of Hull* 1 June, If I wanted my right hand yet I would scribble to you with my left, rather than neglect your business. 1721–2 Bolingbroke in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 93 The expression is equivocal; a fault, which our language often betrays those, who scribble hastily, into. 1780 Cowper *Progr.* 318 Ye..teach her..To scribble as you scribbled at fifteen. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* x. vi, Contenting himself with doing nothing but scribble and scribe. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* v, I have scribbled myself but have not yet published. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 33 If a man scribbles for a Newspaper, or writes a magazine article. 1888 Burgon 12 *Good Men* II. v. 36 He utilized a railway journey..to get out his writing materials, and to scribble on a kind of swing-desk.

b. *To scribble on*: to go on or continue scribbling or writing carelessly.

1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Herbs* 141 My hasty hand forthwith doth scribble on apace. 1683 *Agathocles* 6 The harden'd Wretches sinn'd, and scribbled on.

c. quasi-*trans.* with complementary adv. or phrase.

a 1704 T. Brown *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 25 Stay but a while, and you'll find he'll scribble himself out of his little Reputation. 1734 Pope *Let. to Swift* 15 Sept., I have scribled the remainder of this page full. 1837 Lytton *E. Maltrav.* I. xv, At our age we have passion, fancy, sentiment; we can't read them away, nor scribble them away.

† 3. *Comb.* as **scribble-mania** = Scribbleomania; **scribble-paper** = *scribbling paper*; **scribble-wit**, a wit who scribbles (see quot.).

1672 Wycherley *Love in Wood* II. i. 26 *Lyd.* But what is your Chamber-Wit or Scribble-Wit? *Dap.* He..searches all the Records of Wit, to compile a breviate of them for the use of Players [etc.]. 1792 Coleridge *Let. to M. Evans* (1895) 35, I have never had the scribble-mania stronger on me. 1894 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. ii, Having furnished the table with pens, ink, and scribble-paper.

Scribble (skrib'l), *v.*[2] Forms: 7–8 scrible, 7 scruble, 8– scribble. [Prob. from LG.; cf. the synonymous G. *schrubbeln, schrobbeln, schrobeln, schruppeln, schroppeln*, Sw. *skrabbla*; the vb. is a frequentative f. LG., Ger. *schrubben, schrobben*: see Scrub *v.*] *trans.* To card or tease (wool) coarsely, to pass through a 'scribbler'.

1682 [implied in Scribbler[2], Scribbling *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1687 *Rec. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) 142 That noe cloath..be permitted to be woven, scribled or dressed by any of our servants. 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 106 At Gallowshiels are made a few coarse Kerseys,..and was their Woolt better scribled,..they might serve in place of the lowest-pric'd York-shires. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 181 The wool having been scribbled in the ordinary way. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 53 All woollen yarns are carded or, to use another name, 'scribbled'.

Scribbleable (skri·b'lăb'l), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -able.] Capable of being scribbled or written on.

1867 Howells *Ital. Journ.* 83 Every scribbleable inch of its walls.

Scribbled (skri·b'ld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Carelessly or hastily written or composed; also hastily or carelessly written on.

1548 W. Thomas *Ital. Gram.* Epist. (1567), I knowe these fewe scribledde rules to bee muche imperfect. 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 266, I..haue forboren to incert..som propper inferrences for explanacion of such names..and terms, as you haue not been used to read, especially in so scribled a hand. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. vii. 32, I am a scribled forme, drawne with a pen Vpon a Parchment, and against this fire Do I shrinke vp! 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 52 Mr. Sergeaunt Crewe and Mr. Attourney perused the scrybled booke and perfected the same in the places marked by their noates taken therof. 1643 F. Bell in Mrs. Hope *Franciscan Martyrs Eng.* xiv. (ed. 3) 194 By chaunce they found in my pockett a little ragg of scribbled paper in Spanish. 1656 *Disc. Anvil. Beauty* 54 Ill scribled bills; which seem to be as so many charms or spells. 1909 P. C. Simpson *Life of Rainy* II. xxi. 183 It is a scribbled and unfinished draft.

Hence † **Scri·bbledly** *adv. rare.*

1681 H. More *Expos. Dan.* Pref. 7 It being writ..so scribledly as I may so say, and brokenly. 1685 — *Illustr. Dan.* v. 55 The writing being writ more scribledly on purpose.

Scribbled, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Scribble *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Carded, or passed through a 'scribbler'.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 171 The scribbled wool is weighed.

Scri·bbledom. *nonce-wd.* [f. Scribble *sb.* + -dom.] The practice of 'scribbling'.

1887 Miss Betham-Edwards *Next of Kin Wanted* II. xvii. 221 Without any apprenticeship to the sublime art of scribbledom, she could write sweet, unalloyed, rustic English.

Scri·bbleism. *nonce-wd.* [f. Scribble *sb.* + -ism.] Scribbling.

1801 Coleridge *Let. to Southey* (1895) 363 Other perseverants in the noble trade of scribbleism.

Scribblement (skri·b'lmĕnt). [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -ment.] Something scribbled; = Scribble *sb.* I.

a 1608 Dee *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 175, I see lines and scribblements (as before) going athwart the lines. *c* 1662 F. Kerby in *O. Heywood's Diaries* (1883) III. 24 The intents of them who first set down these scribblements. 1784 Cowper *Let. to Unwin* 20 Oct., I am tired of this endless scribblement. Adieu! 1785 — *To same* 22 Oct., The crabbed epigrams and scribblements of the minor poets. 1833 Carlyle in *Froude* (1882) II. 382 In about a week hence..I shall be done with this scribblement. 1887 T. A. Trollope *What I remember* II. xvii. 349 The exhortation addressed to me..was the writer's characteristic mode of exciting me to new scribblements.

Scribbleoma·nia. [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -mania.] The craze or mania for scribbling.

1825 [see -mania]. 1877 M. Pattison in *Fortn. Rev.* XXII. 660 Catherinot is a bye-word, the typical case of scribbleomania,—of the *insanabile scribendi cacoethes.*

Scribbler[1] (skri·blər). [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -er[1].] One who scribbles or writes hastily or carelessly; hence 'a petty author; a writer without worth' (J.).

a 1553 Udall *Roister D.* III. v. (Arb.) 58 Fare thou well scribler,...*Scrivener.* Fare ye well bibbler. 1620 Br. Hall *Apol. Brownists* ii. 5, I neuer yet could see any Scribler so vnlearned, as that he durst not charge his opposite with ignorance. 1682 Dryden *Religio Laici* Pref. 7 The first Presbyterian Scribler. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. Ded., I have known some Scriblers, or Authors, dedicate their Works to great Men who they hardly knew any more of than their illustrious Names. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* Aug. (1892) I. 25 She talked..very highly of a new novel called 'Evelina'; though without a shadow of suspicion as to the scribbler. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* P 46 Venal and licentious scribblers, with just sufficient talent to clothe the thoughts of a pander in the style of a bellman. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* V. 124 The Dunciad was thus a declaration of war against the whole tribe of scribblers.

attrib. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 707/1 Slave parasite and joker, With scribbler-satirist.

Scri·bbler[2]. [f. Scribble *v.*[2] + -er[1].]

1. A person who scribbles wool, or who tends a scribbling-machine.

1682 *Rec. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) 16 To ingage a shear-men, 2 weavers and 2 scriblers. 1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 109 We have but few Scriblers who understand the close mixing of Wooll on the Cards for Medleys. 1774 *Act* 14 *Geo. III*, c. 25 § 1 If any Picker, Scribbler, Spinner or Weaver..shall not return all working Tools..delivered out. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. I. 14 The woolcomber..., the dyer, the scribbler [etc.].

2. A machine for scribbling (wool).

1805 J. Luccock *Nat. Wool* 146 The chief point of attention in the scribbler is to break it [the staple] no further than the hookedness of the pile will admit of. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 191 We now have the wool ready for the scribbler, or first carding machine.

attrib. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 391 The scribbler-engine has three distinct parts or cylinders in one frame.

Scri·bble-scra·bble, *adv., sb.,* and *a. colloq.* [Reduplicated formation on Scribble *v.*]

† **A.** *adv.* In a scribbling manner. *Obs.*

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 A Iewes letter scrible scrabble ouer the Copurtenaunce of a mans countenance, will dash a body wickedly.

† **B.** *adj.* Covered with scribble. *Obs.*

1702 Farquhar *Twin-Rivals* v. iii, Uboo, here ish nothing but scribble scrabble Paper, I tink.

C. *sb.* † 1. A scribbler. Also, ? a harum-scarum person. *Obs.*

1665 Howard *Committee* I. i, By your grave and high demeanor make yourself Appear a hole above Obadiah; lest your Mistriss Should take you for another scribble scrabble as he is. 1707 *Muses Mercury* I. 216 I'll be your Arbitrator, Quo' Scribble Scrabble; so he op'd The Oyster fat, and at a sup, He swallow'd down the Creature.

2. A scribble; hasty or careless writing.

1838 W. Irving *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 123 But enough of this scribble scrabble. 1839 *Ibid.* 145, I am running on into idle 'scribble scrabble' about a matter now passed away.

So **Scri·bble-scrabble** *v., trans.*, to scribble.

1860 W. Collins *Wom. White* (1861) 255 The respectable lawyers who scribble-scrabble your deeds and your wills.

Scribbling (skri·blin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb Scribble *v.*[1]

c 1532 Latimer *Let. to Baynton* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1751/2, I had made an end of this scribling, and was beginning to write it agayne more truely and more distinctly, and to correcte it. 1536 Beerley in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 132 My lowly and myck scrybullyng unto your nobull grace at this tyme. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 595 When they promise to give scribbling o'er. 1820 Byron *Blues* II. 9 What with learning, and teaching, and scribbling, and shining In science and art.

2. Something scribbled; a scrawl or scribble.

1705 Hearne *Collect.* 11 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 124 In this Book are a great many scribblings of William Smith. 1835 W. Irving *Abbotsford* P 2, I..had reason to think, from the interest he had taken in some of my earlier scribblings, that a visit from me would not be deemed an intrusion. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & P.* i. (ed. 3) 58 Their likeness to the scribblings of casual travellers in halting-places. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 47 There are distinct scribblings near the larger end [of the eggs], similar to those of a Yellow Bunting.

3. Short for *scribbling paper.*

1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* 64 Demy Scribling (scribling demy), a writing paper of a printing demy size.

4. *attrib.* as *scribbling-block, -book, diary, paper*; **scribbling itch,** tr. L. *Cacoethes scribendi.*

1908 *Outlook* 26 Sept. 397/1 With pencil and *scribbling-block in his hand. 1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xiii, He had taken the manuscript out of a long-neglected chest, containing..old Oxbridge *scribbling-books, his old surplice, and battered cap and gown. 1883 *Stationers' & Booksellers' Jrnl.* Advt. iii, Small *Scribbling Diary. 1787 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode* Wks. 1812 I. 440 I'm much afraid of that same *scribbling-itch. 1905 A. Dobson *De Libris* 149 But that some scribbling itch attacked Him in and out of season. 1803 *Gradus ad Cantabr.* 118 **Scribbling paper,* an inferior sort used by the mathematicians, and in the lecture room.

Scri·bbling, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Scribble *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of Scribble *v.*[2]; the first process in the operation of carding wool.

1683 *Rec. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) 56 For piking scribling and oyll. 10s. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 165 Scribbling is merely a rude species of carding the oiled wool. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/2 The various stages in the manufacture of woollen cloth, then, are:—..8. Oiling and teasing. 9. Scribbling by first carding-engine.

b. *attrib.* as *scribbling-card, -machine, -mill,* etc.

1682 *Rec. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) 17 One dozen scrubleing cards. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. 80 They have erected a teasing or scribling, and a carding machine. 1796 *Monthly Mag.* May 350/1 The scribbling mill at Holbeck, near Leeds, has been lately consumed by fire. 1805 J. Luccock *Nat. Wool* 179 Kemps are commonly much coarser than the wool in which they are found, and often so intermingled with it as not to be separated even by the motion of the scribbling machine. 1857 *P. O. Directory Yorksh.* 1051 Scribbling Millers. 1876 W. Cudworth *Round abt. Bradford* 373 Extensive premises..containing willeying, moiting, scribbling, and condensing machinery. 1888 J. Paton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 659/1 Fig. 4—Diagram of Scribbling Card.

Scri·bbling, *ppl. a.* [f. Scribble *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

1. Given to scribbling.

1595 *Hist. France* Ep. Ded. A 4, In this scribling age. 1642 Howell *Vocæ* ii, Scribling pamphletors who story stain With loose imperfect passages. 1765 Goldsm. *New Simile* 2 Long had I sought in vain to find A likeness for the scribbling kind.

† 2. Badly or carelessly written. *Obs. rare.*

1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 187 In this Greene with the running Head, and the scribling Hand. 1622 Sir G. Calvert in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 154 An yll favored piece of paper and a scribling hand.

Hence **Scri·bblingly** *adv.*, in a scribbling manner.

1653 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 246 What was disorderly and scribblingly set down on this side was taken out of a lose paper. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives* (1898) I. 10 These minutes which I have hastily and scriblingly here sett downe. 1860 in Worcester.

Scribbly (skri·bli), *a.* [f. SCRIBBLE *sb.* + -Y.] Characterized by scribbling, resembling a scribble. **Scribbly gum**, *Australian*, a variety of gum-tree (see quots.).

1883 F. M. BAILEY *Synopsis Queensland Flora* 174 (Morris) Scribbly or White-Gum...A tree, often large, with a white, smooth, deciduous bark, always marked by an insect in a scribbly manner. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.* s.v. *Gum*, Scribbly Gum *Eucalyptus hæmastoma*, Smith. Scribbly Blue Gum *E. leucoxylon*, F. v. M. (South Australia).

Scribe (skrəib), *sb.*[1] Also 4–6 scrybe. [ad. L. *scrība* writer, amanuensis, secretary, f. *scrībĕre* to write. Cf. F. *scribe* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.). Sp., Pg. *escriba*, It. *scriba*.] A writer; one whose business is writing. In various specific or limited applications.

1. *Jewish Hist.* A member of the class of professional interpreters of the Law after the return from the Captivity; in the Gospels often coupled with the Pharisees as upholders of ceremonial tradition.

Used, after the Vulgate *scriba*, to render Gr. γραμματεύς in the New Testament. The corresponding Heb. word is סֹפֵר *sōphēr*, active pple. of *sāphar* to write, to count, number. In Biblical Heb. the sb. had generally the sense 2 below; it was also used for a man of learning, a scholar, and as the designation of Ezra (Ezra vii, Neh. viii. 9, etc.) it comes near to the post-Biblical use.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 383 And so may sarasenes be saued, scribes and iewes. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vii. 29. [And in all later versions.] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 14 And thus for Pompe and for beyete The Scribe and ek the Pharisee Of Moises upon the See In the chaiere on hyh ben set. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 510/2 These heretikes may properly bee called not onelye mercennaries,..but also verye Scribes and Pharisees...For these be false Scribes, that is to wit wryters, not wryting any true bokes of scripture, but fals gloses and contrary commentes vpon scripture. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 261 What was writ Concerning the Messiah, to our Scribes Known partly. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xix. 365 The Religion..was fully revealed.., not prophets were needed to declare it, but 'scribes' to expound and defend it.

2. *Anc. Hist.* A general designation for any public official (whether of high or low rank) concerned with writing or the keeping of accounts; a secretary, clerk.

The usual rendering of L. *scriba* and Gr. γραμματεύς, and of Heb. *sōphēr*: cf. the note under sense 1.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xviii. 18 Forsothe Eliachym,..prouost of the hous, wente out to hem, and Sobna, scribe [1388 scryueyn], and Joache, the sone of Azaf, chauncelere. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* xxv. 19 The principall Scribe of the hoste [*marg.* Or, scribe of the captaine of the hoste], which mustered the people of the land. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxii. IV. 230 Tisamenus, who..had filled the office of a public scribe. 1849 LAYARD *Nineveh* xiii. II. 76 The secretaries and scribes from the palace left their divans.

†**3.** Used as the official designation of various public functionaries performing secretarial duties.

1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scrybe in a spyrituall court, *scribe.* Scrybe in a temporall court, *greffier.* 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 160 To Thome Cameroune, scribe to the futband v s. 1533 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 93 The noble John Aborow Englysheman patron of the shypp Saynt Mighell...And allso the noble John Andreas allso Englysshman scrybe of the saide shipp consenting [etc.]. 1560 *Maitland Club Misc.* III. 225 Gevin vnder the Seill quhilk we wse..and the subscriptioun manuall of our scribe [of a kirk session]. 1562 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 153 The council continewis Jhonne Young, writer, thair scribe, and ordanis him to serue [etc.]. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. iv. (1588) 431 If any Ordinarie, or his scribe, or register have taken mo, or greater fees..then he ought to take. 1641 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1653) 396 Amongst other Officers of the Court [of Hen. VIII's divorce], Stephen Gardiner..sate as chief scribe. The Court being set, the Judges commanded silence, whilst their Commission was read; which done, the Scribes commanded the Cryer to call the King. *a* 1707 S. PATRICK *Autobiog.* (1839) 13 And soon after made me the college scribe, which brought me in a great deal of money, many leases being to be renewed.

†**4.** One who writes at another's dictation; an amanuensis. *Obs.*

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clix. (1533) 88 b, One of the foresayde two persones so condempned was scrybe to the pope. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 146 That my master being scribe, To himselfe should write the Letter. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in H.* v. i. 323 These two gentlemen..very strongly supposing me to be your worships scribe, entreated me to procure them a warrant. 1838 LYTTON *Calderon* i. 64 This remarkable personage had risen from the situation of a confidential scribe to the Duke of Lerma.

b. *fig.*

a 1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 961 The first vertue is to kepe man is tong, For it is scribe of his discrecion, For what it wol say it writith at longe. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* vii. 152 The senses themselves can tell us nothing except in so far as they are 'scribes of the soul'.

5. A copyist, transcriber of manuscripts; now esp. the writer of a particular MS. copy of a classical or mediæval work.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 43, I tolde his scrybe, euen him that wrote and corrected the testament for him. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 6 The Grecians..had many of their seruants, ready scribes, to copie them [the books] out. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 878 If the Scrivener, whom I hired to write me out a fair Copy thereof, had not disappointed me, I could ere this have lent you a Copy, it may be, as good as the Authors; I believe somewhat more distinct, by such directions as I gave my Scribe. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 481 We ne'er those Scribes with Mercy treat, Who, though advis'd, the same Mistakes repeat. 1850 SIR F. MADDEN *Wycliffite Bible* List of MSS. No. 65 Each scribe has peculiarities of orthography. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 247 *note*, If the nominative had been found by a scribe in his copy, he was not very likely to have altered it. 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* I. 375 No one familiar with the work of the scribe will be disposed to pay too much respect to his authority.

6. A penman, one (more or less) skilled in penmanship. Now somewhat *arch.*

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iv. 4 Write downe thy mind, bewray thy meaning so, And if thy stumpes will let thee play the Scribe. 1705–6 PENN in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 111, I must recommend him to your care, being a scribe and an accomptant. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, I could make out plain court hand a great deal better when written by a good scribe. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* liii, Mr. Bucket..is no great scribe; rather handling the pen like the pocket-staff he carries about with him.

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1696–1715 *Laws Maryland* ii. (1722) 3 One Master, One Usher, and One Writing-Master or Scribe to a School.

7. Used (more or less playfully) for: One who writes or is in the habit of writing; an author; the writer (of a letter, etc.).

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 31 Your shameles rymes,..& Scrybes prophane [orig. *Profanes escriuains*]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 475 ¶ 4, I have been engaged in this Subject by the following Letter, which comes to me from some notable young female Scribe. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 20 July (1891) I. 16 As I am often writing..he commonly calls me the scribe. 1886 TUPPER *Autobiog.* 60 Some frivolous larks in the Waterford days, wherewith I need not say the present scribe had nothing to do. 1892 DU MAURIER *Peter Ibbetson* I. 7, I am but a poor scribe, ill versed in the craft of wielding words and phrases.

b. Applied to a political pamphleteer or journalist; chiefly with contemptuous notion, a party hack. (Coloured by sense 4.)

1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 100 The impudent scribes would make us believe, that England was formerly nothing at all, till they [the Scotch] came to enlighten it. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xiv. 303 Leighton seems to have been the first of our political scribes..who [etc.]. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Feb. 3/1 So conscious are the scribes of the Government of the state of feeling in the country. 1885 *Liverpool Daily Post* 1 June 5/3 The youngest scribe of a Tory organ could manage national affairs much better.

†**8.** A cuttle-fish. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1655 MOUFFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xviii. 151 Cuttles, (called also..scribes for their inky humour).

9. *Comb.*, as **scribe palsy**, 'writers' cramp' (*Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.* 1876); **scribe-work** *nonce-wd.*, work for 'scribes' or clerks.

1829 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 415 There is likely to be but moderate scribe work in the legation.

Scribe (skrəib), *sb.*[2] [f. SCRIBE *v.* Cf. SCRIVE *sb.*[2]]

1. A tool for scribing (see SCRIBE *v.*) in *Carpentry*, *Building*, etc.

1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 212 (Bricklaying) The Scribe is a spike or large nail ground to a sharp point, to mark the bricks on the face and back by the tapering edges of the mould, in order to cut them.

b. *attrib.* **scribe-awl** (see quot.); **scribe-mark**, a mark made with a scribing-iron on a log, etc.; a mark scored on stone as a guide for cutting.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scribe-awl*, an awl used for making lines to be followed in sawing or cutting out work. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 156 The following are the 'scribe marks' indicating the quality of Memel and Dantzic timber. 1883 NASMYTH *Autobiog.* xiv. 256 The delicate scribe marks by which the mason some 1900 years ago lined out his work on the blocks of stone he was about to chip. 1888 BURT *Stand. Timber Meas.* 278 Table of Scribe Marks of Cubic Contents on Log Timber.

2. *dial.* A written mark; a scrap of writing: usually *scribe o' the pen.* (Cf. SCRAPE *sb.*[1] 2 b.)

1805 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball., Ruth* iii, She..Ne'er yence sent the scribe of a pen. 1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Words* (ed. 2), *Scribe of a pen*, a letter. 1903 CROCKETT *Banner of Blue* viii. 88 Jeems Carlyle never wrote a scribe o' print, or hand-write either.

Scribe (skrəib), *v.* [Of obscure history; in sense 1 perh. aphetic for DESCRIBE *v.*; in sense 2 partly ad. L. *scrībĕre* to write, partly f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] Cf. SCRIVE *v.*]

1. In technical uses. **a.** *trans.* Originally, in *Carpentry*, to mark the intended outline of (a piece of timber) with one point of a pair of compasses, moved parallel with the other point which is drawn along the edge of the piece to which the 'scribed' piece is to be fitted. Now in wider sense: To mark or score (wood, metal, bricks) with a pointed instrument (often regulated by a gauge or similar contrivance) in order to indicate the outline to which the piece is to be cut or shaped; to draw (a line, etc.) in this way.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VII. 112 To make these two peeces of Stuff joyn close together all the way, they Scribe it, (as they phrase it,) thus [a long explanation follows]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 101/2 *Scribe*, is the drawing of a line or streak with the Compasses upon a piece of stuff that is straight, thereby to cut it so as it may join to an Irregular piece, whether bowed or cornered. 1821 *Self Instructor* 528 With your ivory point scribe them. 1878 MAYER *Sound* 154 With the separated points of a pair of spring dividers scribe around the edge of the template. 1902 P. MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 18 The edge against which the required line is scribed.

b. Hence, to shape the edge of (a piece of timber, metal, etc.) so that it will fit into the irregular edge of another piece or to an uneven surface. (See quot. 1842.)

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VIII. 140 The Joysts are always scribed to project over..the Roundness or waynniness of the upper side of the Girder. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 177 To Scribe one piece of Board or Stuff to another. *Ibid.*, Thus the skirting boards of a room should be scribed to the floor. 1830 HEDDERWICK *Mar. Archit.* 259 Make a mould for the foot of the stem with its cog or coak, scribing it so that it will fit very completely. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 289 (*Gun-Maker*) Parts of the locks and springs are 'scribed' in to the butt of the gun-stock. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss., *Scribing*, fitting the edge of a board to a surface not accurately plane, as the skirting of a room to a floor. In joinery, it is the fitting one piece to another, so that the fibres of them may be perpendicular to each other, the two edges being cut to an angle to join. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 69, 6 slots are then laid at due distances upon the heads, and the latter are scribed to the size of each slot, to regulate the mortises.

c. To draw (lines) on wood with a pointed tool.

1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 59 A drawing-board..on which the lines are first chalked and then carved, or scribed.

d. To mark (timber, a cask, etc.) with a scribing-iron.

1859 [implied in SCRIBING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Scribe*, to mark packages in bond with the number and weight. 1888 BURT *Stand. Timber Meas.* 75 The Raze Knife, for scribing the numbers and contents on the logs for identification.

e. To delineate with incised marks.

1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Story of Ung* 12 He..Pictured the mountainous mammoth..Out of the love that he bore them, scribing them clearly on bone.

2. a. *intr.* To act as a scribe, to write. **b.** *trans.* To write down. *rare* exc. *dial.*

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* x. vi, Contenting himself with doing nothing but scribble and scribe one day. 1787 J. CLARKE *Lakes* Introd. 26 *To scribe* is still to write. 1801 SOUTHEY in Robberd *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 378 As if the author of 'Joan of Arc' and of 'Thalaba' were made a great man by scribing for the Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 322 A writer..scribing about Jeffery as if it was a living thing. 1882 STEVENSON *Fam. Stud., Pepys* (1888) 299 He desires that..gentleman, ..to recall..the very line his own romantic self was scribing at the moment. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* (ed. 3) 364 Patrick Walker (he that scribes the stories of the sufferers and has had them printed).

Scribed (skrəibd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCRIBE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. *Carpentry, Building*, etc. In sense 1 of the verb.

1882 W. J. CHRISTY *Joints* 61 [Mason's Joints] Scribed Joint.—This occurs where stone cornices and mouldings unite with corresponding ornamentations in cast iron. *Ibid.* 74 [Joiner's Joints.] Scribed Joint is formed by scribing.

2. *Her.* Of an escutcheon: Having its base formed by two undulating curves meeting at the apex.

1892 E. CASTLE *Engl. Book-plates* 128 The square-sided, eared, scribed or angular based escutcheon.

Scribedom (skrəi·bidəm). [f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] + -DOM.] The (Jewish) scribes as a body.

1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1164/2 (*Scribes*) The spirit of Scribedom was growing.

Scribel, obs. form of SCRIBBLE *v.*[1]

†**Scri·belet.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 **scriblet.** [f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] + -LET.] An insignificant scribe or writer.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 10 Your scriblets, forsooth, must countenance the Bible.

Scriber (skrəi·bəɹ). [f. SCRIBE *v.* + -ER[1].] A tool or appliance for scribing.

1834–6 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 296/2 The chisels [of the mortising machine] are provided with small teeth..: these are called scribers. 1869 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 109 A scriber for marking diagrams on tables or plattens, is a piece of steel wire which [etc.]. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 58 With a steel scriber or sharp hard pencil trace each dovetail carefully on the end of the wood. 1908 *Remin. Stonemason* 104 The workman runs round the pattern with a sharp-pointed tool called a scriber. This scriber ploughs a minute furrow in the stone.

attrib. 1869 C. KNIGHT *Mechanician* 111 A scriber-block is an instrument consisting of two principal parts; these are the movable scriber, and the block to which the scriber is attached...Scriber-blocks are principally used to mark straight lines upon engine-work of all classes. 1902 P. MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 19 A little chalk rubbed over the surface of the metal will often enable the scriber lines to be more clearly seen.

Scribeship (skrəi·bʃip). *rare*−[1]. [f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] + -SHIP.] The office or function of a scribe.

1624 BP. MOUNTAGUE *Gagg* To Rdr. 5 The Scribe was some puny-nouice in euery point of Scrib-ship. 1820 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* XIV. 149 Myself his scribe, and all my scribeship then To note how many casks were gaug'd.

Scribing (skrəi·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb SCRIBE.

1720 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Scribing*, when the Joyners would fit a piece of Board, &c. to an Irregular Surface, or any other irregular Piece: they [etc.]. 1876 PAPWORTH in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 494/1 This operation is called scribing, and the result of it is evidently to make the skirting fit down on the floor with the utmost precision. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Story of Ung* 50 Ung, a maker of pictures, fell to his scribing on bone.

2. *concr.* The identifying mark on a cask, etc.; *pl.* incised markings on stone, etc.; also, writings, scribblings.

1849 M'CLINTOCK *Voy. 'Fox' in Arctic Reg.* xiii. 242 The heading [of a cask] has been brought on board, but the

'scribing' upon it is very indistinct. 1895 *Nature* 28 Nov. 83 A number of mysterious rock-scribings. 1895 *Athenæum* 14 Dec. 839/1 Many of them [megalithic remains] are marked with scribings and other ornamentations. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* Ded. 9 But if you like my scribings not—well, pass; at least I was entirely happy when I wrote them.

3. *attrib.* In the names of various instruments or appliances for 'scribing', as *scribing-block, gauge, -iron, point*, etc. (See quots.)

1863 F. CAMPIN *Mech. Engin.* 66 (Cent.) A *scribing-block, which consists of a piece of metal joined to a wooden block at one end, and having at the other a point; it is useful for making centres, and for similar purposes. 1902 P. MARSHALL *Metal Tools* 19 Sometimes..a scriber is used in conjunction with a scribing block or surface gauge. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 269 A *scribing cutter is made to traverse round, and cut the pieces [*sc.* for the heads of casks]. 1895 *Mod. Steam Eng.* 84 *Scribing gauge. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Scribing-iron*, an iron-pointed instrument for marking casks and logs of timber. 1879 *Nature* 30 Oct. 623/1 It is necessary that one and the same *scribing point should describe the sum of the two motions.

Scribism (skrəi·biz'm). [f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] + -ISM.] The teaching and literature of the ancient Jewish scribes (SCRIBE *sb.*[1] 1); the qualities of the scribes.

1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. II. 203 As of all the other your Texts alleged against us, so of this, and the Scribism of the same. 1850 F. W. ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. v. (1857) 72 With our Evangelicalism, Tractarianism, Scribeisms, Pharisaisms, we have ceased to front the living fact. 1892 BRUCE *Apologetics* II. iv. 219 A risk which the subsequent career of scribism shows to have been far from imaginary.

† Scribi·stical, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SCRIBE *sb.*[1] + -ISTICAL.] Characteristic of or relating to the scribes (SCRIBE *sb.*[1] 1).

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 61 Their Pharisaical holinesse and Scribisticall zeale and religion.

Scriblative, variant of SCRIBBLATIVE *a.*

Scrible, etc., obs. forms of SCRIBBLE, etc.

† Scrick-shoe. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. MDu. *schrickschoe*, f. stem of *schricken* to stride + *schoe* SHOE *sb.* Cf. MHG. *schriteschuoch*, mod.G. *schlittschuh*, in the same sense.] A skate.

1659 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 275 Boyes exercise themselves in runing, either upon the Ice, in Scrick-shooes,..or in the open field.

Scriddan (skri·dăn). *Sc.* Also **scridan.** [a. Gael. *sgriodan.*] (See quot. 1820.)

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 249 The farms which are bases to high mountains, as in Kintail, suffer great losses from what is called Scriddan, or 'mountain torrent'...The farm of Auchuirn..was, in 1745, rendered uninhabitable..by an awful Scriddan. 1820 *Glenfergus* I. 203 (Jam.) When the rain falling on the side of a hill, tears the surface, and precipitates a large quantity of stones and gravel into the plain below, we call it a scridan. 1820 *Marmaiden o' Clyde* I. in Whitelaw *Bk. Sc. Ballads* (1857) 93/2 There's no ae burn in braid Clydesdale But wimples at my will, Nor a scriddon broun that but my leave Comes tumbling doun the hill.

† Scride, *v. Sc. Obs.* [? Echoic: cf. SCREID *v.*] *intr.* To make a shrill sound. Hence **Scriding** *vbl. sb.*

c 1690 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 608 What? shall my Viol silent be, or leave her wonted Scriding?

Scrie, Scrieh : see SCRY, SKREIGH.

Scrieve (skrīv), *v. Sc.* Also **screeve, skrieve, screive, scrive.** [app. a. ON. *skrefa* to stride.] *intr.* To move or glide along swiftly. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and Jam.)

1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxiv, She thro' the whins, an' by the cairn, An' owre the hill gaed scrievin. — *Sc. Drink* v, But oil'd by thee, The wheels o' life gae down-hill, scrievin, Wi' rattlin glee. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* I. 54 Scrieving o'er law and dale. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* I. 3 A screed of muirburn screeving across the hills.

Scrift(e, obs. forms of SHRIFT.

Scriggle (skri·g'l), *sb.* Chiefly *dial.* [f. SCRIGGLE *v.*] A wriggle; also, a scrawly piece of writing.

1832 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 697 Unproductive of so much as the scriggle of a single tadpole. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Scriggle*, a quick motion caused by tickling, a wriggle. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 18 Sept. 4/5 The last scriggle I had from him came on Friday night.

Scriggle (skri·g'l), *v.* Chiefly *dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Also **sk-.** [Phonetically symbolic: cf. SCRUGGLE *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle or struggle.

1806 BLOOMFIELD *Wild Flowers, Horkey* 169 They skriggl'd and began to scold, But laughing got the master. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 359 How brisk [the fish] play And swarm, and scriggle everywhere! 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Skriggle*, to wriggle or struggle away.

Hence **Scri·ggler,** a wriggling creature; **scri·ggling** *ppl. a.*, that 'scriggles'; **Scri·ggly** *a.*, wriggly, scrawly.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 335 A skriggler eel. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt.-Gloss.* II. 207 A person who writes a light, scratchy, irregular hand, is said to write a *scriggling* hand. 1888 FENN *Dick o' Fens* 232 The scriggly legs of a beetle. 1895 A. PATTERSON *Man & Nature on Broads* 51 Into it [the eel-set] the scrigglers swim. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 26 Nov. 4/6 L. F. Austin's scriggly manuscript.

† Scright. *Obs.* In 4 **skrythe** (*but rimed with* -nyghte). [f. SCRIKE *v.*] A shout, cry.

13.. *St. Cristofer* 315 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 459 Whene þat it was abowte mydnyghte, Byonde þe water he herde a skrythe, Full lowde one heghte he herde it cry.

Scrift, variant of SCRIFT, writing.

Scrike (skrəik), *sb.* Now only *dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* For forms see the vb. [f. SCRIKE *v.* Cf. SCREAK *sb.*]

1. A shrill cry, a screech; = SCREAK *sb.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 4709 The Crystene men gunne make a scryke: Anon they wunnen ovyr the dyke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 910 A wonderfull noyse Skremyt vp to the skrow with a skryke ffelle. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 491 A grete scryke up he nam. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems, Fenzeit Freir* 97 The ja him skrippit with a skryke. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par., Mark* xv. 37 Jesus..gaue a great skryke, and therwith yelded vp the ghost. 1631 *Celestina* xix. 190 You will haue mee fill my Fathers house with cryes and skrikes. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 107 The savagest scrike ever uttered by a raving giant.

2. *Skrike of day*, the dawn. Cf. SCREAK *sb.* 3.

1746 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 41, I geet up be skrike o Dey. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs.*

Scrike (skrəik), *v.* Now only *dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Forms: 4–6 **scryke, skryke,** 4–7, 8–9 *dial.* **scrike, skrike**; *pa. t.* 4 **skryȝte.** [Prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Norw. *skrika* (str. vb.), Da. *skrige*. See also SHRIEK.] *intr.* To utter a shrill harsh cry; = SCREAK *v.* 1.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7347 Þe devils ay omang on þam salle stryke, And þe synfulle þare-with ay cry and skryke. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 744 *Senge braie*, Ape scrikith. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumbr.* 1609 Loude þay cryede & skryȝte an hye: 'Mahoun wat is þy red?' *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1671 He woke wt̄ þat & scrykede for fere. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 129 (Douce MS.) Þe birdes in þe bowes, þat one þe goost glowes, Þei skryke [*Ireland* scryken] in þe skowes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 232 For all if she stryke, yit fast will she skryke. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 98 Hee is such a sneaking fellowe, that..touch him and he will scrike. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iv. 18 The litle babe did loudly scrike and squall. *a* 1600 *Flodden Field* i. (1664) 8 Their names make..children skrike.

Hence **Scri·king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Scri·ker,** one who scrikes.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7352 Þare salle be swilk rareyng and ruschyng..And skrykyng of synfulle. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10182 The skrew for þe skrykyng & skremyng of folke, Redoundet with dyn drede for to here. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scrykynge, of chyldyr, *vagitus*. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 112 Notwithstanding his pitifull lamentation and skrikings. 1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Aff. Consc.* (1640) 241 They shall never more be heard, though with much violence they throw their scrikings into the Aire. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 401 A scriking noyse, as if it had beene the chirking of Frogs. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 149 Others used to call it the 'Scriker' because of the awful scrikes (shrieks) it uttered.

Scrim (skrim). [Of obscure origin.] A kind of thin canvas used for lining in upholstery, and for other purposes. Also *attrib.*

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 514 A few yard-wides called Scrims. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Scrims*, thin canvas glued on the inside of a panel to keep it from cracking or breaking. 1881 *Carter & Co.'s Pract. Gardener* 75 It is a good plan to have coarse scrim canvas strained over the ventilators. 1881 T. MOORE in *Encyct. Brit.* XII. 220/2 They should have attached to them scrim cloth (a sort of thin canvas), which admits light pretty freely, yet is sufficient to ward off ordinary frosts. 1885 *N. Y. Weekly Sun* 13 May 6/7 White goods, scrim curtains and table damasks have a fairly liberal outlet. 1895 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 2/6 The recent briskness in scrims has shown no sign of falling off.

† Scri·mer. *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 7 **scrimure.** [aphetic var. of ESCRIMER.] A fencer.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 101 (Qo.[2]) The Scrimures of their nation He swore had neither motion, guard nor eye, If you opposd them.

† Scri·mish, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 6 **skrimishe, skrymisshe, scrimishe, scresmys, screamishe.** [f. SCRIMISH *v.* Cf. the later form SCRIMMAGE *sb.*]

1. = SKIRMISH *sb.*

1557 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 144 The xvij day of July was a scresmys at Margyson be-twyn the Englysmen and Frenchemen. 1562 MONTGOMERY in *Archæologia* XLVII. 224 As the auncient and faulmous Romainges..who exercised theire souldiors to the screamishe, to marche in battaile [etc.]. *Ibid.* 226 To be instructed yn martiall fealtes.. whithe the marche, scrimishe, and order of battaile.

2. An alarm, an outcry. *rare.* Cf. SCRIMMAGE 2.

1505 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 391 Every man that answerith not the crye or skrimishe at every of the town gattes..with his feansabull weapon, to paie and forfayte xii.*d.*

† Scri·mish, *v. Obs.* In 6 **skrymysshe, skryssmys.** [variant (after OF. *escremiss-*) of SKIRMISH *v.* (a. OF. *eskermiss-*), q. v. for the full history. Cf. the later form SCRIMMAGE *v.*] *intr.* To skirmish.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 9 b, And some of the oste mounted on good horses, and rode forth to skrymysshe with theym. 1554 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 60 Ther the qweyns men and [Wyatt's] men dyd skryssmys.

Scrimmage (skri·midʒ), **scrummage** (skrv·midʒ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 **scrymmage,** 6 **scrymage,** 7, 9 **skrimmage,** 8 **skrimage,** 8–9 **scrimmage**; *β.* 9 **skrummage, scrummage.** [Altered form of SCRIMISH *sb.*, the ending being associated with -AGE *suffix*. Cf. the parallel *skirmage*, obs. var. of SKIRMISH *sb.*]

† **1.** = SKIRMISH *sb.* Also, a fencing bout. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 359 Ane Inglisman, on the gait, saw he play At the scrymmagis a bukler on his hand. *Ibid.* IX. 458 Then Longaweill, that ay was full sawage, With Wallace past, as ane to that scrymmage. 1549 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 356 To ij Duchemen that were hurt in the scrymage at Dunbar, xs. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xviii. F v, The Oste deuydes their bargies, and the water scrymage then..in foishe guyse is playde by youthely men. 1643 *Parr. Reg. St. Mary's Beverley* 30 June, O'r great scrimage in Beverley & god gave us the victory.

† **2.** An outcry, alarm; = SCRIMISH *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1632 *Acts Durham High Comm. Crt.* (Surtees) 30 Shee heard her mistris..make a great skrimmage or outcry.

3. *colloq.* A noisy contention or tussle; also, a confused struggle between persons, often with exchange of blows; a free-fight, scuffle.

α. 1780 JOHNSON *Lett.* 6 June, Mrs. Vesey protests that I do not love them since that skrimage. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Mohicans* xx, That we shall have what you may call a brisk push of it, is probable; and it may happen, a brush, a skrimmage. 1844 *Catholic Weekly Instr.* 127 The wild exultant cry so frequently heard in an Irish scrimmidge. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Nov. 5/2 There was generally a chance of a scrimmage with the police when these mounted processions took their outing. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 138 Fearful scrimmage heard going on all the time on the deck below.

β. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 356 *Skrummage*, a battle, a fray; probably skirmish. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxvi, In two scrummages only two men were killed out of hundreds. 1833 — *P. Simple* xiii, 'Was there a fight?' 'Not much of a fight—only a bit of a skrummage—three crowner's inquests, no more.' 1905 *Daily Chron.* 15 July 6/3 [The] entrance arrangements, which necessitated a scrummage lasting from five to fifteen minutes to those who were ticket-holders.

b. *dial.* A confused, noisy proceeding. (Cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and SCRIMMAGE *v.* 2.)

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxx, If everybody's caranting about to once, each after his own man, nobody'll find nothing in such a scrimmage as that.

4. *Rugby Football.* Originally, a confused struggle in which the players on either side endeavour to force their opponents and the ball towards the opposite goal; now, an ordered formation in which the two sets of forwards pack themselves together with their heads down and endeavour by pushing to work their opponents off the ball and break away with it or heel it out. Phr. *To carry the scrimmage*, to gain ground in a scrimmage. *To hold the scrimmage*, to prevent one's opponents from gaining ground.

α. 1864 *Field* 10 Dec. 403/2 After several severe scrimmages in the School goal, a run-in was obtained. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* 311 The first and essential requisite to a forward team is that it should be able to 'hold', if not always to 'carry the scrimmage'. 1899 W. CAMP in *Football* (Badm. Libr.) 287 (American Football) Someone upon his side..must place the ball on the ground at that spot for a 'scrimmage', as it is termed.

β. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, Then the two sides close and you can see nothing for minutes but a swaying crowd of boys, at one point violently agitated. That is where the ball is...This is what we call a scrummage, gentlemen. 1867 *Routledge's Handbk. Football* 47 A Scrummage commences—i. e. the holder puts the ball down on the ground, and all who have closed round on their respective sides begin kicking at the ball. 1889 H. VASSALL *Rugby Football* 32 A team must contain enough honest workers to be able to hold the scrummage. 1892 *Outdoor Games* 548 A maul, or tight scrummage. *Ibid.* 549 A loose scrummage may be described as half way between a maul and a dribble.

b. A tussle for the ball among players (in various games).

1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* viii, [Polo] Twice the ball was sent over the line..by long sweeping blows from Isaacs, who ever hovered on the edge of the scrimmage. 1889 *Field* 12 Jan. 61/3 [Hockey] Lucas putting the ball through out of a scrummage in front of goal off the goal-keeper. *Ibid.* 89/1, [Association] A scrimmage in the mouth of the goal appeared likely to result in a further point.

Scri·mmage, scru·mmage, *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *intr.* 'To skirmish, quarrel; to scramble; to argue' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Scrimmage, Scrummage* v., to skirmish, &c.

2. To bustle about.

1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride* vi, You keep here, sir, while I go skrimmiging about the premises. 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 255 Without a scent, hounds scrimmaged hither and thither with the cubs in the low dense gorse. 1887 HARE *Story Life* (1900) VI. 59 She scrimmaged at the fire, and raked out all she possibly could.

3. *Rugby Football.* To put (the ball) in a scrummage as a means of re-starting the game when and where it has been temporarily stopped, as for some breach of the rules; also, to propel or take along in a scrimmage.

1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 165 The ball is scrummaged where the act of off-side was committed. 1887 *Field* 19 Nov. 790/1 The ball had been dead a short way outside, and when scrummaged off was removed out of danger. 1892 *Outdoor Games* 540 If it [*sc.* the ball] is scrummaged over [the goal-line], the chances are ten to one that the defending side avert disaster by means of a touch-down.

Scri·mmager, scru·mmager. [f. SCRIMMAGE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who takes part in a scrimmage.

1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 263 [Hockey] A somewhat heavier stick best suits the scrimmager. 1889 H. VASSALL *Rugby Football* 28 But as every [forward] player..has to go into scrummages whether he likes it or not, he can at least learn not to spoil the play of the genuine scrummagers.

fig. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 534 It is the fashion to decry those

hardy scrimmagers whose battle-pieces occupy so much of the old reviews.

Scri·mmaging, scru·mmaging, *vbl. sb.* [f. SCRIMMAGE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the vb.

1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* 304 It became necessary to choose some for their scrimmaging, and others for their dribbling and following up. 1889 *Field* 26 Jan. 123/1 A lot of fast scrummaging was indulged in.

b. *attrib.*

1887 *Field* 19 Nov. 790/1 The forwards are a capital set in the open, but lack scrummaging power. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* 305 The loose scrimmaging system.

Scri·mmaging, *ppl. a.* [f. SCRIMMAGE *v.* + -ING 2.] That scrimmages; bustling, fussy.

1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xiv. (1893) 75 Mrs. Jawleyford..was a very scrimmaging, rough-and-ready sort of woman. *Ibid.* lii. 293 Their management [pack of hounds] was only of the scrimmaging order.

Scrimp (skrimp), *a.* and *adv.* [This and the related SCRIMP *v.* first appear in the 18th c. The origin is obscure; cognate forms are Sw., Da. *skrumpen* shrivelled, MHG. *schrimpfen* (Mid.Ger. *schrimpen* str. vb.) to contract, *trans.* to wrinkle up (the nose), G. *schrumpfen* to shrivel; also SHRIMP *sb.*, in ME. a diminutive creature. More remotely allied are OE. *scrimman* to be paralysed, SCRAM *a.*] **A.** *adj.* Scant, scanty, meagre.

1718 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 380 They say the young man is none of the greatest abilities, and the people are not so much for him, and his call scrimp; and it's alleged this aversion comes from the Presbytery. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, He gangs about sornan frae Place to Place, As scrimp of Manners as of Sense and Grace. 1733 W. CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 59 Our own soul..is..too scrimp an image to give us either a full or clear representation of him. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 15 The accommodations necessary for preparing the grain for market ought never to be too scrimp. 1854 MISS KEDDIE *Phemie Millar* I. ii. 24 Mrs. Millar in a scrimp dark green woollen dress. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xviii. 386 Edward, though poor and scrimp of means, has always enjoyed a happy home. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 1/3 Their scrimp management of the most lucrative investment in the world.

† **B.** *adv.* Scarcely, barely. *Obs.*

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xl, Not that he's come so far as to need it—for it's but scrimp six miles. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xi. (1863) 189 And I can scrimp deny that same.

Scrimp (skrimp), *v.* Also *Sc.* **skrimp.** [See SCRIMP *a.*]

1. *trans.* To keep on short allowance; esp. with regard to food.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 254 At Hallow-fair, whare browsters rare..dinna scrimp ye o' a skair O' kebbucks frae their pantries. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I trust you winna skrimp yourself for what is needfu' for your health. 1886 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall After* 221 There the Master scrimps his haggard sempstress of her daily bread.

2. To cut short in amount; to be sparing of.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 726/2 Pensions and sinecures were now defensible By wisdom's rules; and who could think of scrimping 'em. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. iii, Do not scrimp your phrase, But stretch it wider.

3. *intr.* To economize, to be niggardly.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. viii. Poems 1890 II. 131 While we are saving and scrimping at the spigot, the government is drawing off at the bung. 1909 *New York Observer* 2 Sept. 313/2 The result of overwork in frequent but fruitless endeavors to scrimp on household expenses.

Hence **Scri·mping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1855 MRS. WHITCHER *Widow Bedott P.* xxvii. (1883) 123 Bethiar Nobles..knows..how every lady in town carries on her kitchenary consarns, how scrimpin' they live, and all that. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 290 This wretched scrimping prevailed through the whole business.

Scrimped (skrimpt), *ppl. a.* Also 8 *Sc.* **scrimpit, -et.** [f. SCRIMP *v.* + -ED 1.] Stinted, contracted, narrow.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, A Mind that's scrimpit never wants some Care. 1786 BURNS *Ep. to J. S.* iii, That auld, capricious carlin, Nature, To mak amends for scrimpet stature, She's turn'd you off a human-creature On her first plan. 1889 *Daily Tel.* 22 Apr. 2 The 4th West Surrey had the new haversack, the cover of which is too scrimped.

Scrimpiness (skri·mpinės). [f. SCRIMPY *a.* + -NESS.] 'Scrimpy' quality, meagreness.

1858 SURTEES *Ask Mamma* li, Monsieur, rising in the gig, showing the scrimpiness of his coat.

† **Scri·mple,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Cf. CRIMPLE *v.*; also SCRUMPLE *v.* and G. *schrumpeln, schrumpfeln.*] *trans.* To shrivel with fierce heat, to scorch. Also, to crumple, crinkle. Hence † **Scri·mpled** *ppl. a.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 396 The Scottis hirdis..Of scrymplit ledder mony closbow maid. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 17 A trane of powder was ..sett a fyre, quhilk gave to the blessed martyre of God a glaise, skrimpled his left hand, and that syd of his face.

Scrimply (skri·mpli), *adv.* [f. SCRIMP *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a niggardly, parsimonious manner.

1724 RAMSAY *Health* 364 Nor scrimply save from what's to merit due. *a* 1728—*Miser & Minos* 6 He..scrimply fed on Crumbs and Water. 1864 J. BROWN *Jeems* 5 Nature..had finished off the rest of Jeems somewhat scrimply, as if she had run out of means.

2. Barely, scarcely.

1786 BURNS *Vision* I. xi, Down flow'd her robe, a tartan sheen, Till half a leg was scrimply seen. 1873 *Contemp. Rev.* XXI. 432 It is a cheap and easy course, but scrimply honest.

Scrimpy (skri·mpi), *a.* [f. SCRIMP *a.* + -Y.] Of meagre dimensions, scanty.

1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Scrimpy.* 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xiii, A..jacket over her scrimpy and short white petticoat. 1883 *Mag. of Art* Aug. 402/1 A hall and staircase less abjectly 'scrimpy' than those usually met with.

Scrimshank (skri·mʃæŋk), *v. Mil. slang.* Also **skr-.** [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To shirk duty. Hence **Scri·mshanking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Scri·mshank** *sb.*, an act of 'scrimshanking'; **Scri·mshanker,** a shirker.

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Slang* Scrimshank *v.*, Scrimshanker. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 135 If Mulvaney stops skrimshanking..I lay your lives will be trouble to you. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 2/2 A skrimshanking Tommy. 1903 *Pilot* 17 Oct. 378/1 We all know that you are due for a long skrim-shank next month.

Scrimshaw (skri·mʃɔ), *sb. Naut.* [Of obscure origin; the surname *Scrimshaw*, if not actually the source, may have influenced the form of the word. Cf. prec.] A general name (also *scrimshaw work*) for the handicrafts practised by sailors by way of pastime during long whaling and other voyages, and for the products of these, as small manufactured articles, carvings on bone, ivory, or shells, and the like. Also **Scri·mshaw** *v.*, *trans.* to decorate or produce as scrimshaw work; *absol.* to employ oneself in scrimshaw work; **Scri·mshander, -shandy** = SCRIMSHAW *sb.*; **Scri·mshoner,** one who practises scrimshaw work.

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* I. 14, I found a number of young seamen..examining..divers specimens of scrimshander. *Ibid.* II. 128 Other like skrimshander articles. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Scrimshaw*, anything made by sailors for themselves in their leisure hours at sea is called Scrimshaw-work. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang., Scrimshandy*, an Americanism signifying the objects in ivory or bone carved by whalemen during their long voyages. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 198 Collection illustrating the games, amusements, literature, art-work of the fishermen; musical instruments, carvings ('scrimshandy'), &c. *Ibid.* 207 Walrus tusks scrim-shawed, and frame made of walrus ivory. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fisheries of U. S.* v. II. 231 Scrimshawing is..the art.. of manufacturing useful and ornamental articles at sea. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* viii. 83 The great jawpans were sawn off, and placed at the disposal of anybody who wanted pieces of bone for 'scrimshaw', or carved work. *Ibid.* xxi. 258 Such pieces as were useful to the 'scrimshoners' for ornamenting their nicknacks. 1906 B. LUBBOCK *Jack Derringer* 171 Specimens of skrimshander, rare shells and Japanese nitchkies in cabinets.

Scrin (skrin). *dial. Mining.* Also 9 **skrin,** scrinn. [Cf. MDu. *schrinde, schrunde* (Kilian) = OHG. *scrunta* (mod.G. *schrunde*) fissure, crack, OHG. *scrintan* (MHG., MDu. *schrinden*) to crack.] (See quot. 1881.)

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict* D 4, In Scrins they are usually made by Choaking in long Stones between the two Sides. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 65 Small (lead) veins, usually called *strings*, or *scrins*, often extend from the rake. 1836 R. FURNESS *Astrologer* I. Wks. (1858) 135 In shaft, and scrinn, broad-rake, flatt, pipe, and vein, His mode of timbering shew'd all others mean. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Scrin*, or *Skrin*, Derb., a small subordinate vein.

Scrinch (skrintʃ), *v. U. S.* [Cf. SCRINGE *v.*] *intr.* To sit closely, to squeeze together.

1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi, Nor have to scrinch all up..for fear she'd touch us.

† **Scrine.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3, 5–6 **scryne,** 6 **scrine, scrynne, skryne,** 6–7 **skrine**; *β.* 5 **screne,** 6 **screene.** [a. OF. *escrin* (mod.F. *écrin* jewel-case):—L. *scrinium* box for books and papers, writing-desk, whence OE. *scrín* SHRINE *sb.* Cf. MDu., Du. *schrijn* (MDu. also *schrein, schreen*, whence possibly the *β* forms above).] A box for the safe-keeping of valuables; *spec.* a chest in which the relics of saints are preserved, a SHRINE.

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 46 Þe quene of seluer and [of] gold an riche scryne wro3te. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 610/35 *Scrinium, vas vel locus ubi libri vel thesauri servantur*, a screne. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 180 He com to þe chyrch and to þe scryne of Saynt Wenefryd. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vii. (Arb.) 73, I haue seene your head with it full many a tyme, Couered as safe as it had bene with a skrine. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 94 Item the vth day of Januarij [1555] was sent Edwardes day and thene was sett up the scrynne at Westmyster. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 69/32 A screene, *scrinium*. 1592 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* vi. 17 b, In the great Church..is erected a stage whereon standeth a scrine that beareth vpon it the Imperiall cappe and robe of very riche stuffe. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schrijne*, a Skrine, or a Coffin.

b. *fig.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 145 b, The mynde or solle of manne is..housed or hidden within the tabernacle or skryne of the bodye.

† **Scri·nerary.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. It. *scrinerario*, erron. form of *scriniario.*] = SCRINIARY.

1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 85 The Chancellor.. had under him twelve Scrineraries, and one Proto-Scrinerary.

Scringe (skrindʒ), *sb.* [Belongs to SCRINGE *v.*2] A kind of seine net. Also *scringe net.*

1852 *Act* 14 & 15 *Vict.* c. 26 § 6 It shall not be lawful for any Person to use for the Purpose of taking Herrings..any Sweep, Circle, Ring Net, or Scringe Net, or any Net prohibited by the said..Acts. 1895 'J. BICKERDYKE' *Sea Fishing* 282 There are broadly speaking, three descriptions of seine nets: (1) the common or deep-water seine, (2) the tuck seine, and (3) the ground seine, foot seine, or scringe.

Scringe, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 (*dial.*) **skreenge, skringe.** [Altered form of CRINGE: see SCR-.]

1. *trans.* To screw up (one's face); to shrug (the back or shoulders) from cold.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 51 This morrall motion gaue the world such a buffet, that she skrindge [? *read* skringed] her face as though she were pincht home. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 355 *Skringe*, screw, shrink; in this sense, sheep clipped in cold weather are said to skringe their backs up.

2. To squeeze violently.

1790 MRS. ANN WHEELER *Westmorld. Dial.* iii. 73 Tom.. fel a top on him an skreengd him terrably. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Skringe.*

3. *intr.* To flinch, cower.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Scringe*,..to cringe; to shrink as it were from fear of chastisement. 1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. i. Poems 1890 II. 230 That makes Eurôpean tyrans scringe in all their gilded pel'ces. 1897 BARTRAM *People of Clopton* vii. 192 Ye needn't scringe, Exeter, tain't so baad as all that.

Scringe (skrindʒ), *v.*2 *dial.* Also **screenge, skreenge.** [Prob. a use of the dialectal *skreenge* 'to scourge, flog' (Jam.).] *intr.* To fish with a scringe net. Also *trans.* Hence **Scri·nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Scri·nger.**

1825 JAMIESON, *Skreengin.* 2. A mode of fishing with small nets during the night, without the aid of torches, on the coast of Argyleshire. This mode of fishing is simply *scourging* the water. 1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 208 Her bate wasn't to be foun', nor yet her like again, an' screenge all Irelan' with a herrin' net. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Mar. 10/1 It is a fashion for yacht owners to say that scringing, if carried on by their crews, is not carried on by their consent. *Ibid.*, On the calm summer nights scringing crews will travel long distances. *Ibid.*, Professional scringers are in no sense sportsmen.

Scri·niary. [ad. late L. *scriniārius*, f. *scrinium*: see SCRINE.] A keeper of the archives.

1866 STUBBS *Lett.* (1904) 104 The Archbishop of Treves was Ludolf, and a Ludolf was scriniary in 978, and may have been the same person.

Scrip (skrip), *sb.*1 *arch.* Forms: 3–7 **scrippe,** 4–5 **scripe, skrippe,** 4–6 **skrip,** 5 **scryp(e, skryppe,** 5–6 **skryp, scryppe,** 3– **scrip.** Prob. a. OF. *escrep(p)e* wallet, purse, bag for alms (later *escerpe, escharpe*, mod. F. *écharpe* scarf). Cf. SHRIP.

ON. had *skreppa* (Sw. *skräppa*, Da. *skreppe*) in the same sense, but it is doubtful whether the word is native or from OF. The OF. word is commonly supposed to be of Teut. origin; cf. the MHG. gloss 'scherbe, *pera*' (Graff.). The commonly cited OE. *scrípp* has no existence; the supposed instance is a scribal or editorial mistake for *scip* (ship).]

A small bag, wallet, or satchel, *esp.* one carried by a pilgrim, a shepherd, or a beggar.

In ME. frequently coupled with BOURDON 2 (= staff); cf. OF. *escrepe et bordon.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1093 Horn tok burdon and scrippe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11425 Þair scrippes..þam failed neuer o drinc ne fode. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VIII. 180 Ich seyh neuere palmere with pyk ne with scrippe [*v.r.* shrippe] Asken after hym. *a* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7405 She had a burdoun al of Thefte And a scrippe of Fainte Distresse. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 262/3 [He] clad hym with thabyte of a pylgryme ..a scryppe on his sholder and a pylgryms staff in his right honde. 1524 in G. Oliver *Historic Coll.* (1841) App. 15 A staffe and scryppe of Seynt James. 1572–3 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 324 A scrippe of mother-of-perle,.. hanging at three little cheines of golde. 1620 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, Every Shepherds Boy Puts on his lusty green, with gaudy hook, And hanging scrip of finest Cordevan. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Captiv'd Bee* 23 He laid his little scrip Of hony 'fore her Ladiship. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* II. viii. 104 Argent a Cheveron between three Palmers scrips Sable. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* vii, A scrip with herbs and fruits supplied. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xlv, He wore, hanging with a long strap round his neck, a kind of scrip or wallet, in which to carry food. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 458 A staff he bore, but nowise was he bent With scrip or wallet.

allusively. 1587 GREENE *Penelopes Web* D 1, Fallen from a Crowne to a Cottage, and from a Scepter almost to a Scrip. *Comb.* 1530 PALSGR. 799 Scryppe wyue, lyke or in maner of a scryppe.

† **Scrip,** *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* [f. SCRIP *v.*2] A scornful grimace.

1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 143 Ane maid a scrip, and tyt at his lang suorde.

Scrip (skrip), *sb.*3 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.). [App. an alteration of SCRAP *sb.* and SCRAPE *sb.*, with weakened vowel expressive of smallness; prob. influenced by association with SCRIPT *sb.*]

1. A small piece or scrap (of paper, usually with writing upon it; rarely, of other things).

1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 92 There is not the least scrip of the bill kept in hand for any second demand, when once the bond is cancelled. 1676 C. HATTON in *Hatton Corr.* (1878) 134, I punish myself y^t I may revenge myself on you for y^e little scripps of paper. 1681 E. MUSGRAVE *State Irel.* § 16 He would not save the least scrip of his goods. 1692 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1696) 25 That cannot be till scrips of Paper can be made current Coin. 1704 J. PITTS *Relig. Mohammetans* v. 33 They'll not suffer a scrip of clean Paper to lie on the Ground. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 243 Of such strange Importance can Love make a Scrip of Paper, and a few black Lines. 1809 W. IRVING *Knicherb.* To Public (1849) 27 And here have I.. collected, collated, and arranged them, scrip and scrap.

2. *Scrip* (*of a pen*): a small scrap of writing. Cf. SCRAPE *sb.*1 2 b, SCRIBE *sb.*2 2.

1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* Pref., It was the Expression

of a very great Person, That not a Scrip of the Doctor's should be lost. 1775 JEFFERSON *Let.* Writ. 1892 I. 489, I never had received the scrip of a pen from any mortal breathing. 1779 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 357 For God's sake never reproach me again with not writing or with writing scrips. 1874 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. I. 66, I sent you a 'scrip' at once, to thank you for the parcel, and now write more fully. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 2/3 When I write to you, I often sigh To see so poor a scrip.

3. *U.S.* Fractional paper currency.

1889 MACOUN *List Canadian Plants*, The price of the list is 50 cents per copy. Scrip preferred to postage stamps.

Scrip (skrip), *sb.*[4] [Short for SUBSCRIPTION.]

1. (Short for †*subscription receipt*.) Originally, a receipt for a portion of a loan subscribed. Now, in strict commercial use, a provisional document entitling the holder to a share or number of shares in a joint-stock undertaking, and exchangeable for a more formal certificate when the necessary payments have been completed; often *collect. sing.* Hence, in loose or popular language, applied to share certificates in general.

1762 T. MORTIMER *Ev. Man own Broker* (ed. 5) Iv. 174 The receipts for the 3 per Cent. Annuities, are called by the Brokers, Scrip. and Light-Horse... In the month of March ..just after the second payment, a person may buy a receipt for 500*l.* Scrip. for 25*l.* 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., Scrip is also a Change Alley phrase for the last loan or subscription. What does scrip go at for the next rescounters? what does scrip sell for delivered at the next day of settling? 1820 G. G. CAREY *Guide Publ. Funds* 10 When the loan is in progress..the separate parts..are called Scrip. 1828-32 WEBSTER s.v., A certificate of stock subscribed to a bank or other company, or of a share of other joint property, is called in America a scrip. 1833 THACKERAY in *National Standard* 18 May, The eighths, halves, and quarters, scrip, options, and shares. 1848 *Rev. Statutes Wisconsin* (1858) 40 No scrip, certificate, or other evidence of state debt. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. 4 You find a dying railway, you say to it, Live, blossom anew with scrip. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 4 Lucky rhymes to him were scrip and share. 1865 *Shareholders' Guard.* 8 Nov. 847/2 'Scrip'..is applied to the stocks given in exchange for a loan, as Reduced Scrip, Consol Scrip, &c. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. ii, The small table before him was covered with scrip. 1901 *Rules Stock Exch.* 141 In case the payment of an instalment on Foreign or other Scrip falls on a Settling-day.

b. *attrib.*

1798 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 33/1 Robert Reaves the stock broker who was..found guilty..of forging scrip-receipts. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rept. Geol. Cornw.* etc. 565 The number of shares has amounted to 10,000 or more in the scrip mines. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, The shares were scrip shares, making the dividend payable to the bearer. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. 3 Mounted on some figure of a Locomotive, garnished with Scrip-rolls proper. 1869 REDFIELD *Law Railways* (ed. 4) I. 7 They have no right to decline accepting such scripholder, as a shareholder. 1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, The directors of the Atlanta and West Point railroad have decided to issue a scrip dividend of 100 per cent. interest. 1882 OGILVIE, *Scrip-company*, a company having shares which pass by delivery, without the formalities of register or transfer. 1901 *Rules Stock Exch.* 129 Every bond or scrip share is to be considered perfect, unless it be much torn or damaged.

2. *Bookselling.* (Short for *subscription price.*) A trade price 25 % below the published price.

So called because this was originally the price at which books were sold by the publisher to the booksellers who 'subscribed' them, i. e. agreed before publication to take a certain number of copies. Now, however, 'scrip' is the most unfavourable trade terms that are given, the ordinary trade rate being known as 'sale price'.

1884 *Bookseller* 6 Nov. 1173/1 To enter the books at scrip. 1897 *Publishers' Circular* 3 July 8/2 Those dealers who refuse to come into the arrangement..should be supplied at no better terms than scrip.

†**Scrip**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 5 **skryp**. [f. SCRIP *sb.*[1]] *refl.* To provide oneself with a scrip.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6513 Whan they hem skryppen euerychon.

†**Scrip**, *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **skrip(e**, 7 **scirp**. [Cf. SCORP *v.*] a. *trans.* To mock, deride. b. *intr.* To scoff, jeer.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 67 Sum skripe me with scorne. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Fenyeit Freir* 97 The ja him skrippit with a skryke. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 119 The Cardinall scripped and said, 'It is but the Island flote'. 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 278 When Lethington had viewed the Apologie, he scripped and said, '*Homines obscuri*'. 1658 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) III. 362 They scirp at all we can doe or say for peace.

†**Scri·ple**, *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **scripil(le**, **scripul**, 5 **scrypull**, 6 **scripple**. [ad. L. *scrūpulum*, var. of *scrūpulus*, *-um* SCRUPLE, esp. in the sense of 'small weight'.] = SCRUPLE *sb.*[1] and [2].

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 201 Pus seien seintis, þat him wantiþ not scripul of privy felowship, þat leeveþ to blame an open synne. 1382 — *Exod.* xxx. 13 A sicle, that is, a nounce, hath twenti half scripilles. *Ibid.* 1 *Sam.* xxv. 32 This shal not be to thee...into scripil of herte [Vulg. *in scrupulum cordis*]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 418 Putte theryn A scripie of foyl, and half a scripie of fyn Saffron. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 18 This holy apostoll preuet so oure fay, þat he lafte no scrypull yn no parte peryn. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 624 Here is a syrapus de Bizansys A lyttell thynge is ynough of thys For euen the weyght of one scrippull Shall make you stronge as a crippull.

†**Scri·ple**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **scrypyll**. [Origin obscure, but cf. SCRUPULOUS.] Scrupulous.

a 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* I. 1281 (Brandl) Yf he vary agayne Of scrypyll ymagynacyon.

Scripless (skri·plės), *a.* [SCRIP *sb.*[1]] Without scrip or wallet. (With allusion to Matt. x. 10.)

1850 J. HAMILTON *Mem. Lady Colquhoun* vi. 234 Then it was that on the adherents of the new and scripless Institution was poured out that spirit of joyful contribution. 1867 R. PALMER *Life P. Howard* 3 As purseless, scripless and shoeless as the seventy-two disciples of Christ.

Scrippage (skri·pėdʒ). [f. SCRIP *sb.*[1] + -AGE.] In Shakspere's phr. *scrip and scrippage*, modelled on *bag and baggage*; rarely used independently.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 171 Come Shepheard, let vs make an honorable retreit, though not with bagge and baggage, yet with scrip and scrippage. 1812 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 20 Sept. (1894) I. viii. 259, I wrote to Morritt that I would make a raid on him with bag and baggage, scrip and scrippage about Monday. 1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IV. 218, I.. found I should be knocked entirely to pieces by the graze and jam of the boxes and scrippage, as the tide of carrier-ponies crushed past me.

†**Scri·pper.** *Cant. Obs.* (See quot.)

1591 GREENE *Not. Discov. Cosenage* (1592) C 2, In high Lawe The theefe is called a High lawier. He that setteth the Watch, a Scripper. 1608 DEKKER *Belman of Lond.* (ed. 2) G 4 b.

Scri·p-scrap. *colloq.* [reduplication of SCRAP *sb.*] Miscellaneous scraps; odds and ends.

[1804 J. COLLINS (*title*) Scripscrapologia.] 1894 *Leisure Hour* Feb. 266 [Heading of a collection of snippets.] Scrip-scrap.

Script[1] (skript). Also 5 **skript**. [In ME. an etymological spelling of SCRITE (so OF. *escript* for *escrit* :—L. *scriptum*); later, ad. L. *script-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *scrībĕre* to write, used subst.]

1. Something written; a piece of writing. Now *rare*. †*Script of mart*: see MART *sb.*[5]

c 1374 [see SCRITE]. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 108) 409 In his hond he fond a skript [*Vernon MS.* skrit; *rime* as tyd]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLII. 1129 He delivered unto them a script to this effect as followeth. 1624 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* I. ii, Do you see this Sonnet, This loving Script? do you know from whence it came too? 1665 J. ELIOT *Commun. Ch.* Pref., A few copies of this small script are printed. 1690 EVELYN *Let.* Aug. in *Pepys' Diary* (1879) VI. 168 This hasty script is to acquaint you that [etc.]. 1722 *Hearne's Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 315 He delivered to me a Parchment Script..the words of which Script here follow. 1781 W. POLLARD *Let. to Dr. Parr* 25 Feb. in *P.'s Wks.* (1828) VIII. 383, I once more repeat, that any script of paper assuring me of your welfare will give me the greatest satisfaction. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VIII. ad fin., Forgive this feeble script, which doth thee wrong, Measuring with little wit thy lofty Love. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 374 The green banner with its script of gold.

fig. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/2 A beardless face, full of the script of years.

2. Handwriting, the characters used in handwriting (as distinguished from print). Also *attrib.*, as in *script hand, letter.*

1860 S. S. HALDEMAN *Analyt. Orthogr.* iii. 25 Script and printing are essentially different. 1865 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 86 The press in each country..reproduced exactly the script-hand of each country. 1885 'S. LUSKA' *As it was written* 184 The writing is German Script. 1887 (*title*) Script Letters for Perforating and Sewing. 1899 HUTTON in *Life of H. Calderwood* (1900) 288 It was written in full on a sheet of ship paper in his own clear script.

b. *Typogr.* (In full *script type.*) A kind of type devised to imitate the appearance of handwriting.

1838 TIMPERLEY *Printers' Man.* 63 Script Type. Script was in former times called Cursive. 1841 W. SAVAGE *Dict. Printing* 752 Since 1820 the English letter founders have produced a variety of beautiful Scripts of different sizes. 1846 *Wood & Sharwood's Spec. Bk. Type*, Great Primer Script, cast on a common Square Body.

c. Used *attrib.* of systems of shorthand which resemble longhand in general appearance and in the movements of the hand that are required.

1888 (*title*) Science Victorious!..Published by the Script Phonography Co. of Scotland. *Ibid.* 7 Shorthand constructed on the Script or one-slope principle. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 16 July 6/6 The shorthand was Mr. Malone's script system.

3. A kind of writing, a system of alphabetical or other written characters.

1883 SAYCE *Fresh Lt. fr. Anc. Monum.* I. 15 The inscriptions of Nineveh turned out to be written in the same language and form of cuneiform script. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 268 Thus both scripts were probably employed concurrently for a considerable period. 1899 *Athenæum* 26 Aug. 277/2 A..knowledge of Japanese, especially of its complicated scripts. 1909 *Expositor* May 437 Recent excavation has carried the history of the use of the Babylonian script in Palestine a little further.

4. *Law.* 'The original or principal instrument, where there are part and counterpart'. Cf. *rescript.*

1856 BOUVIER *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) s.v. *Part*, Covenants were formerly made in a script and rescript, or part and counterpart.

5. In theatrical parlance, short for MANUSCRIPT. (Written '*script.*')

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 May 10/1 Hearing of the success of the play from a friend, Macready wrote asking to see the 'script. of 'Tess' on her hands for quite a while.

†**Script**[2]. *Obs.* [Var. of SCRIP *sb.*[4]] = SCRIP *sb.*[4] 1.

1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 111. 374 The Bank of England give no interest upon their notes, whereas the Bank of the Universe improve what we have lying there to immense advantage, far beyond what could be made in Script by any Jew or clerk in the secretary office let into secrets.

Scription (skri·pʃən). [ad. L. *scriptiōn-em*, f. *scrībĕre* to write. Cf. OF. *escripsion*, *escricion.*]

†1. A writing; a document; an inscription. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 b, To imploye their time in the readinge of my scriptsons [*sic*] and writinges. 1607 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 34 Let the scription of those tables bee. *Non nobis domine* [etc.]. 1693 DRYDEN *Ded. 3rd Misc.*, I care not much if I give this handle to our bad illiterate Poetasters, for the defence of their Scriptions, as they call them.

2. The action of writing. *rare.*

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 279 Recordation, registration, scription.

3. Handwriting; a kind of handwriting. *rare.*

1846 MASKELL *Mon. Rit.* II. p. xxxiv, The vellum is rough, and the scription careless. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. 18 *note*, This Anglo-Saxon MS. is of the early part of the ninth century, and a fac-simile of its scription is given by Hickes. *Ibid.* I. iii. 275 Britain taught Ireland a peculiar style of scription.

†**Scriptita·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. **scriptitātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *scriptitāre*, frequent. of *scrībĕre* to write.] Continual writing.

1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 38 The Brownists, whose contrary scriptitations had divulged all their divisions.

Scriptitious (skripti·ʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *script-*, ppl. stem of *scrībĕre* to write + -ITIOUS.] Committed to writing. Hence **Scripti·tiously** *adv.*

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 55 Scriptitious or scriptitiously delivered depositional testimony.

†**Scriptoir, -our.** *Obs.* [Aphetic a. OF. *escriptoire*, ad. L. *scriptōrium*: see SCRIPTORIUM and cf. SCRUTOIRE.] A pen-case.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 And that is signefied by the scriptoire and the penne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 305, I hynt a scriptour and my pen furth tuike, Syne thus begouth of Virgill the twelt buike.

Scriptor (skri·ptǫr). Also 6 **-our**. [a. L. *scriptor*, agent-n. f. *scrībĕre* to write. Cf. OF. *escriptor*, *scripteur.*] A writer, a scribe.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 306 Tacitus, The Roman scriptour. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. clxxiii, No art was allowed there except that of the scriptor.

†**Scriptore.** *Obs.* Also 8 **-ure**. [? Etymologizing refashioning of *scritoire*, SCRUTOIRE.] A writing-desk, escritoire.

1716 in J. O. Payne *Engl. Cath.* (1889) 84 Several of the goods were very good, and particularly a scriptore. 1724 *Let. to W. Woods* Swift's Wks. (1824) VII. 76 Every monied man, instead of a scriptore, or an iron chest,..must have a warehouse. 1732 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 137 A Scripture [escritoire]. 1752 *Ibid.* 140 Old wainscot Scriptore.

Scriptorial (skriptō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. late L. *scriptōri-us* SCRIPTORY + -AL.] Relating to or used for writing.

1831 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 156, I must not take all your encomiums about my scriptorial genius. 1859 *Macm. Mag.* 31 Graphic or scriptorial materials.

†**Scripto·rian,** *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] = SCRIPTORY *a.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scriptorian*, of, belonging, or serving to writing.

‖**Scriptorium** (skriptō·rĭŭm). Pl. **scriptoria, -iums.** [med.L. f. L. *script-*, *scrībĕre* to write: see -ORIUM.] A writing-room; *spec.* the room in a religious house set apart for the copying of manuscripts.

1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* Expl. Ground Plan, H, the chapter-house, over which were the library and scriptorium. 1828 H. ANGELO *Remin.* (1830) I. 66 The attics or scriptoriums of the poets of the last age. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 1 (1882) 113 Writing-rooms or scriptoria, where the chief works of Latin literature..were copied and illuminated. 1907 *Times, Lit. Suppl.* 18 Jan. 17/1 Drowsy intelligences and numbed fingers in a draughty scriptorium, will easily account for deviations.

Scriptory (skri·ptərĭ), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *scriptōri-us*, f. *script-*, *scrībĕre* to write: see -ORY.]

A. *adj.* 1. Pertaining to or used in writing.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* i. (1683) 82 Reeds, Vallatory, Sagittary, Scriptory, and others. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 21 Let the English reader fancy a Burton writing, not an *Anatomy of Melancholy*, but a foreign romance, through the scriptory organs of a Jeremy Bentham. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Jan. 4/3 There is a tendency nowadays to unify the scriptory characters of all languages.

2. Expressed in writing, written.

1704 SWIFT *Tale of Tub* ii. 67 Of Wills, *duo sunt genera*, Nuncupatory and Scriptory. 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 133 Selwyn..was assured that Aurora had no intercourse, either verbally or scriptory, with any one.

B. *sb.* A writing-room, scriptorium.

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 35 These clerks to have dynners & soupers to theyre scriptory. 1844 PALEY *Church Restorers* 14 It was the favourite scriptory of the writer.

Scriptour: see SCRIPTOR, SCRIPTURE.

†**Scri·ptule.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *scriptulum*, var. spelling of *scrūpulum* = *scrūpulus* SCRUPLE.] The weight called a scruple.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. III. II. 463 A scriptule of gold was taxed and valued at twentie sesterces.

Scriptural (skri·ptiŭrăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scriptūrāl-is*, f. L. *scriptūra* SCRIPTURE.]

1. Based upon, derived from, or depending upon Holy Scripture.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 53 A method..very Scripturall, and Authentick. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. iv. (1736)

333 The Importance of any scriptural Doctrine or Duty. 1832 J. J. BLUNT *Sk. Reform. Eng.* v. 95 An eager appetite for Scriptural knowledge was excited among the people. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 219 Immense engravings of Gothic or scriptural scenes. 1881 STUBBS *Med. & Mod. Hist.* xii. (1886) 288 The translation of the Bible and Scriptural formulæ of prayer.

2. Of or pertaining to writing.

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 28 Cases of scriptural forgery [draw] upon the arts of the engraver, the paper-maker [etc.]. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 73 The day arrived that even barons were incited to scriptural attempts.

Scripturalism (skrĭ·ptiŭrăliz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] Close adherence to or dependence upon the letter of Holy Scripture.

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 33 In every branch..of the Genevan Reformation..a rigorous Scripturalism prevails. 1899 DOWDEN in *Contemp. Rev.* July 24 The spirit of the Reformation..lost some of its more liberal temper in a narrow Scripturalism.

So **Scri·pturalist,** †? one well versed in Holy Scripture; an advocate of scripturalism.

1725 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. iii. 20 King Charles II ridiculing the warm Disputes among some Critical Scripturallists..concerning the visible Church. 1857 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) VI. 84 Those Scripturalists of the present day, who conceive that the measure..aims at the vindication of Bible freedom against the tyranny of the church.

Scripturality (skripti͡ŭræ·lĭti). [f. SCRIPTURAL + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being scriptural or based upon Holy Scripture.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 487 We give them credit for scripturality of creed. 1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 62 If we reject unscripturalities, we must, would we be consistent, reject Scripturalities also. 1904 J. GIBSON *Waldenses* 11 The boldness and scripturality of the preaching.

Scripturalize (skrĭ·ptiŭrăləiz), *v. rare.* [f. SCRIPTURAL + -IZE.] *trans.* To render scriptural.

1858 F. W. FABER *Spir. Confer.* 382 This I must heighten, modify and scripturalize a little.

Scripturally (skrĭ·ptiŭrăli), *adv.* [f. SCRIPTURAL + -LY 2.] In accordance with the Scriptures; by means of Scripture.

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. iii. Wks. 1782 IV. 80, I shall briefly say something of what is *not* faith, before I speak of that which appears to me to be truly and scripturally such. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* i. § 4 (1876) 112 A scripturally-worded creed.

Scripturalness (skrĭ·ptiŭrălnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = SCRIPTURALITY.

1874 MORLEY *Compromise* i. (1888) 35 Firm persuasion of the greater scripturalness of episcopacy. 1881 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan. 42 Not upon the scripturalness or the rationality of her creed, but upon its ecclesiastical authority.

†**Scriptura·rian.** *Obs.* [f. mod.L. *scriptūrārius* (see next) + -AN.] One who makes Holy Scripture the sole authority for religious belief.

A form *scriptuarius* (? after *textuarius*) occurs in mod.L.; the printed reading in quot. 1718 may be due to the author.

1678 *Lively Oracles* vi. § 1. 165 Protestants..being call'd by them [Romanists] in contemt the Evangelical men, and Scripturarians. 1718 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connected* II. v. (1719) 265 From hence they had the name of Karraites, which is as much as to say *Scriptu[r]arians.*

†**Scri·pturary.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *scriptūrārius*, f. *scriptūra* SCRIPTURE: see -ARY.] = prec.

1659 THORNDIKE *Epil. Trag. Ch. Eng.* I. xxvi. 190 But, there is another sort of Jews called Scripturaries,..which admit nothing but the leter of the Scriptures.

Scripture (skri·ptiŭ), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 **scriptur,** **scrypture,** 5 **scryptour, skreptour, skrypt(o)ur,** 5-7 **scriptour,** 6 **scriptuir, scriptor, scryptor, skrypture, skripture, scriture,** 4- **scripture.** [ad. L. *scriptūra* writing, f. *script-, scribĕre* to write: see -URE. Cf. OF. *escriture,* also written *escripture* (mod.F. *écriture*), Sp., Pg. *escritura,* It. *scrittura.*]

1. (Usually with capital initial.) The sacred writings of the Old or New Testament, or (more usually) of both together; Holy Writ; the Bible. Often with *holy* prefixed.

a. *Scripture* (without demonstrative).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 327 For-þi es godd, als sais scripture. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6452 And this ageyns holy scripture. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Prol. 60 (Horstm.) And to thys manyfold of nature Exaunplys accordyth weel scrypture. *c* 1485 *Digby Plays, Mary Magd.* 1522 And on þe sonday, he gan reat take, as skryptur declaryth pleyn. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31 They haue theyr scrypture in ye Greekes speche. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 167 He acknowledgeth the bookes off the Machabees for Scripture. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 99 Marke you this Bassanio, The diuell can cite Scripture for his purpose. 1638 CHILLINGWORTH *Relig. Prot.* I. ii. 54 Scripture is as perfect a rule of Faith as a writing can be. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 53 Every page of scripture will sanctify thy passion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 82 The extreme Puritan..employed, on every occasion, the imagery and style of Scripture. 1853 MANNING *Grounds of Faith* ii. 28 Holy Scripture is Holy Scripture only in the right sense of Holy Scripture. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 264 The revelation of God in nature is presupposed by that in Scripture.

β. *the* (*Holy*) *Scripture.* Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22168 Queþer þat he be crist or nai, þat wil of here þe scriptur sai. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxii. (1906) 105 Ensaumple is of Sarra, whom the scripture hathe in gret Recommendation. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* v. 24 That there is a God; or, That the Scripture is his Word. 1741 JOHNSON *Morin* in *Gentl. Mag.* XI. 377/2 After his Return [from Mass] he read the Holy Scripture, dined at eleven [etc.]. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxviii, I have ..renounced what the Scripture calls the pride of life.

γ. pl. *the* (*Holy*) *Scriptures.* († In early use also without article.)

1382 WYCLIF *John* v. 39 Seke ȝe scripturis. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xv. 4 Accordynge to the scriptures [1382 WYCLIF vp the scripturis, 1388 after scripturis]. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (E. E. T. S.) i. 171 Caus everye stait to þair vocatioun go, Scolastik men þe scriptouris to descrywe, And maiestratis to vse þe sword also. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiii. 206 The Scriptures are not made Laws, by the Universall Church. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* xviii. (1739) 229 The Perfection and Perspicuity of the holy Scriptures. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. Pref. 35, I would teach the knowledge of the scriptures only. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* i, But while many of the converts were turning meekly towards their new creed, some..were limiting the Scriptures by their own devices. 1871 E. F. BURR *Ad Fidem* i. 7 The Scriptures, illuminators of mankind.

b. A particular passage or text of the Bible. Now *rare* (after biblical use).

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 10 Wher ȝe han not rad this scripture [so all later versions], The stoon the which [etc.]. 1565 ALLEN *Defence Purg.* xvii. 283 For which we haue broughte diuerse scriptures, all construed by most learned fathers for that sense. 1607 R. WILKINSON *Serm. Whitehall* 1 This whole chapter is a scripture written for women. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvii, I have marked a scripture..that will be useful to us baith. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s. v. *Scribes,* At the close of this striking Scripture our Lord thus describes these men. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 44 Worse than had he heard his priest Preach an inverted scripture, sons of men Daughters of God.

c. Something as surely true as Holy Scripture; = GOSPEL *sb.* 4.

1573 G. HARVEY *Common-pl. Bk.* (Camden) 10 Marri not so, that I can strait wai take it for scripture what soeuer he hath giun his wurd for.

d. *sing.* or *pl.* Sacred writings or records.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 257 A Councell..decreed..that no Scripture be read in the Church, but Canonicall. 1764 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) IV. 358 His [Homer's] works and those of his successors were the scriptures of the nation. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. v. 225 The system..professes to be founded on the authority of the Védas, and appeals for proofs to texts from those Scriptures. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* (1884) 116 Most men do not know that any nation but the Hebrews have had a scripture.

e. *fig.* and *allusively.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 644 'Tis elder Scripture, writ by God's own hand; Scripture authentic! uncorrupt by man. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 369 Here, Sir, is a canonical book of ministerial scripture; the general epistle to the Americans. 1839-48 BAILEY *Festus* 281 *Festus.* What are ye orbs? The words of God—the Scriptures of the skies? 1908 W. RALEIGH in *S. Lee's Shaks. Tr. & Cr.* Introd. 16 This scripture [Guido's *History of Troy*] was divulged in England, for the benefit of the men of Shakespeare's time, in two principal versions.

2. The action or art of writing; handwriting, penmanship. Also *concr.* written characters. Now *rare.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 255 Somme men have chaungede the names for feirenesse of scripture. 1426-7 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* I. (1827) Introd. 21 Symkyn hathe had the hole scripture rased of a chartre undre the seal of armez of my lord of York. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Recapit. i. in Ashm. (1652) 186 By Fygures, and by Colors, and by Scrypture playne. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezra* iv. 7 The scripture of yᵉ letter was wrytten in the Syrians speach. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xii, The handwriting was of that form of scripture which attracts; refined yet energetic; full of character. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lviii. 295 The wooden blocks of Germany abolished the art of scripture.

3. An inscription or superscription; a motto, legend, or posy. Also, in generalized use, inscribed words. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1546 When hit þe scrypture hade scraped wyth a strof penne. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1369 Sone after this they speke of sondry thinges, As fil to purpos of this aventure, And pleyinge entrechaungeden hir ringes, Of which I can nought tellen no scripture. 1420 HEN. V *Let.* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 907/2 As touching the Scripture of the Seeles, us seemeth that this word Regent may be owte wel ynogh. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxii. 123 (Add. MS.), On the balle was this scripture written, he that shall pleye with me [etc.]. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* x. 234 (Horstm.) In hys hand holdyng a scrypture, Wych wrtyn was wyt lettrys of gold. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 40 My owune seel of silvir, therin a egle with scripture. 1533 J. COKE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 44 With a scripture over her head, saiyng that Love was lighter then a fether. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 98 For my grave a picture of latten..with scriptur about it and the iiij evangelistes. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 90 The xviij. day of the same monyth [July 1554] stode a man on the pyllery..with a paper and a scryptor on hys hed, that was consentynge there-to. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* IV. (1664) 32 A certain scrall, whose scripture said, Jack of Norfolk be not too bold. 1771 *Antig. Sarisb.* 109 Three fair basons,..with a Scripture, Orate pro anima Will. Normanton. 1900 HOPE in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* XV. 296 A scroll with this scripture..*Benedicite fontes Domino.*

4. A written record or composition; *pl.* writings. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

Sometimes with more or less allusion to sense 1; cf. 1d, 1e.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxviii. 9 The scripture of Ezechie, king of Juda. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1186 And over his heed ther shynen two figures Of sterres, that been cleped in scriptures, That oon Puella, that other Rubeus. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2119 (Ashmole) Scamandra þe alire flode þe scriptour it callis. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 5799 So now we knowen be that scripture of these aventures. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 83 What is heere, The Scriptures of the Loyall Leonatus, All turn'd to Heresie? 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 239, I am not so well read in the scriptures of errantry as your worship. 1845 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* I. 15 Through a Scripture alone, that is, through a written record, could any great epoch..transmit itself unimpaired to the after world. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 517, I had made no question of thine eyes or heart, Nor spared to read the scriptures in them writ, Wert thou my son.

† **b.** In generalized use: Written composition.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 89 Thei that writen the scripture Of Grek, Arabe, and of Caldee. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 5 But for to tellyng alle the circumstaunces.. Conveyed be scripture with fulle grete excellense; Alle to declare, I have noone eloquence. 1430-40 — *Bochas* I. xv. (1494) e iij, And as poetis recorde by scripture He callyd was the faire adonydes. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C iiij, There haue bene many famous and renoumed by scripture and lerning. 1595 *Locrine* I. ii. 34, I will dite an aliquant loue-pistle to her, and then she hearing the grand verbositie of my scripture, will loue me presently.

† **c.** *In scripture*: in writing; on record. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 17, I haue put it in scripture and remembraunce. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXIII. xix, The Secretorye shulde put it in scrypture. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xliv. 5 They..brought forth the pleasaunt songes in scripture. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. vii. (1633) 99 It shall never bee chronicled, nor remaine in scripture,.. that Ireland was lost by my negligence. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* xii. 21 It is found in Scripture of the Spartians, and the Jewes that they are bretheren.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attributive, with the sense 'of or pertaining to Holy Scripture', as in *scripture-lesson, light, mine, sword*; 'recorded in Holy Scripture', as in *scripture account, history, miracle, saint, story.*

1718 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 195 The *Scripture Accounts of these things are short. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 305 Mr. Selden..avers that the most impious Customs among the Gentiles had their Original from *Scripture-History. 1812 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, Scenes taken from Scripture history. 1867 W. L. COLLINS *Public Schools* 56 There is a *Scripture or Greek Testament lesson at 4. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) I. 262 By reason of the darkness of their understandings, and the want of *Scripture-light. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 298 That cannot bear the blaze of scripture light. 1781 — *Retirem.* 698 Strong judgment lab'ring in the *scripture mine. 1751 J. BROWN *Ess. on Shaftesbury's Charac.* 284 This seems to be the true light, in which the evidence arising from the *scripture-miracles ought to be placed. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 12 The Prayers of the greatest and most illuminated *Scripture-Saints are rather frequent. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 142 P2 The Tapestry Hangings, with the great and venerable Simplicity of the *Scripture Stories, had [etc.]. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 345/1 The World assails thee with ambition, wield Thy *scripture-sword.

b. attrib., passing into adj., with the senses 'used in or adopted from Holy Scripture', as in *scripture expression, language, name, phrase,* † *speaking, style, word*; 'derived from, prescribed by, or conformable to Holy Scripture, scriptural', as in *scripture church, doctrine, notion, proof, rule, view, warrant.*

1720-1 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 94 One might justly have expected, that their Opposition to the *Scripture Church should have been clearly demonstrated, from the Writings of the New Testament. 1712 S. CLARKE (*title*) The *Scripture Doctrine of the Trinity. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. 2 Collectible from *Scripture-expression. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1773, 3 Apr., A scripture expression may be used, like a highly classical phrase, to produce an instantaneous strong impression. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. iii. (1853) 33 A good and a bad Principle, (called in *Scripture-Language the Flesh and the Spirit). 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 132/4 When thou art converted, thou must take to thee a *Scripture-Name. 1861 MRS. STOWE *Pearl Orr's Isl.* iv. 24 Miss Jones..called her twins Tiglath-Pileser and Shalmaneser—Scriptur' names both, but I never liked 'em. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* 353 For in this particular the *Scripture-notion of priority excludeth an antecedent, but inferreth not a consequent. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* I. 10 The lip-work of every Prelatical Liturgist, clapt together, and quilted out of *Scripture phrase. 1827 [APPERLEY] *Turf* (1852) 125 The Scripture phrase..is now every day being verified, the race not being to the swift. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. vii. § 9 *Scripture-proofe..in strength & value exceedeth all. 1672 *Disc. Conc. Evang. Love* 68 The sentence of Natural Reason, or *Scripture-Rule. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 7 To try this Athanasian Creed by Scripture rules. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1620) II. 369 The last clause, 'Thou wilt not despise', is to be observed also, as being such which, in *Scripture-speaking, betokeneth more then is expressed. 1686 [HICKES] *Spec. B. Virg.* 30 S. Ignatius..mentions her by the name of plain Mary in the *Scripture-stile. 1791 *Fash. World* 216 From a *scripture view of what real religion is. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 24 (*title*) The Scripture View of the Apostolic Commission. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, The bits o' stane idols were broken in pieces by *Scripture warrant. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 948 There are vsed also *Scripture-Words. 1851 PUSEY *Let. Bp. London* (ed. 3) 127/1 That wide-opened Hand, trickling (in Scripture-words) with 'the Blood of God'.

c. Objective and objective-genitive, as in *scripture knowledge, quoter, scorning* (adj.), *searcher*; adverbial, as in *scripture diviner, learned* adj. (hence *-learnedness*), *-read* adj.

1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Exam. Fox's Cal. Prot. Saints* 253 His list of heterogeneous fanatics and *scripture-diviners. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 140 Every new degree of *Scripture-knowledge. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* A ij b, Vnto which..holy annoynting no conceited *Scripturelearned or Doctour of the letter..hath in these days attained. 1607 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* vi. (1625) 28 In whose bookes nothing is more frequent then the teaming of Gods reuerend ministers, and preachers, Scripture-learned. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Right Hand* 49 Leane

your *Scripture-learnednesse, and submit your selfe to the spirit of Loue. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 268 [In women-convict ships] there was not a single *Scripture-quoter, such as we find in men-ships. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arab. Des.* I. 144 Great *scripture-read scholars. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 58 Bold blasphemies and *Scripture-scorning ironies against God. 1844 LD. LEIGH *Walks in Country* 129 The humble *scripture-searcher prays for grace.

d. Special combinations: **Scripture Janus** *nonce-wd.*, one who quotes Holy Scripture 'both ways'; † **Scripture-proof** *a.*, secured by Holy Scripture; **Scripture-reader**, (*a*) a reader of the Scriptures; so *scripture-reading*; (*b*) one who is employed to read the Bible to the uneducated poor in their own houses; **scripture-wort**, letter-lichen.

1715 PITTIS *Life Radcliffe* 53, I cannot be induc'd to love a *Scripture-Janus, such as is the Arch-Bishop of Glascow. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 5 When their doctrines were found not to be *Scripture-proof. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* ii. (1656) 663 Our whole preaching must be Scripture-proof, or it will burn, and none be the better for it. 1625 GODWYN *Moses & Aaron* I. ix. 43 They had their name קראים *Karaim*,..or *Scripture readers, because they adhered to Scripture alone. 1882 OGILVIE, *Scripture-reader*, one employed to read the Bible in private houses among the poor and ignorant. 1849 STOVEL *Canne's Necess.* 55 These *scripture-reading believers in the Lord. 1856 *Scripture-wort [see *letter-lichen*, LETTER *sb.*[1] 8]. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

† **Scri·pture**, *v. Obs.* [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.*] *trans.* To write, place on record.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXLII. XV, At Newerke died, at Worcester sepultured, In chronicles, as is playnly scryptured. *Ibid.* CXLVII. ii, As some menne wrote the right lyne to depryue, Through great falshed made it to bee scriptured.

† **Scri·ptured**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 scryptured. [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -ED 2.]

1. Learned or versed in the Scriptures; well acquainted with Holy Scripture.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 391/2 Me semeth it is.. of such a scriptured manne not very scriptulelye spoken. 1533 — *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1093/1 Whither he bee scryptured or not, he hath a very bare barain wytte when he can wene yᵗ this argument were aught.

2. Warranted by Holy Scripture.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) E 2 b, Although there be nothing more plentifully scriptured nor buriall exemples.

3. Covered with writing.

1856 D. G. ROSSETTI *Burden of Nineveh* XX, Those scriptured flanks it cannot see. 1899 T. S. MOORE *Vinedresser* 35 When I read from the scriptured scroll Those ancient words I prize.

Scripture·less (skri·ptiŭlĕs), *a.* [-LESS.] Not according to or founded upon the Scriptures.

1563 DAVIDSON *Answ. to Kennedy* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* I. 238 He callis thaim factious men, because thay will not subscrive to Scriptureles Councels. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) B 3, Buriall is ordinarilie traduced as a scripturelesse thing. 1885 A. BLACKBURN in *Homiletic Rev.* July 57 There is a godless spiritualism, a Christless Unitarianism, and a Scriptureless 'new theology'.

† **Scri·pturely**, *a. Obs.* [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -LY 1.] Scriptural.

1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. 2 In scripturely fastyng, in ghospellike prayer. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 45 The which scripturely speche S. Paul vseth thus.

† **Scri·pturely**, *adv. Obs.* [-LY 2.] Scripturally.

1532 [see SCRIPTURED *ppl. a.*1].

Scripturian (skriptiū·riăn), *sb.* and *a. rare.* Also 7 -ean. [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -IAN.]

A. *sb.* A biblical scholar; a scripturist.

1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. Days Mirth* G 3 b, *Flo.* Cursed be he that maketh debate twixt man & wife. *Lem.* O rare scripturian! you haue sealed vp my lips. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* (1633) IV. lxxxiii, Great Scriptureans.., That cite Saint Paul at every bench and boord.

B. *adj.* = SCRIPTURARIAN *a.*

1826 *Examiner* 35/2 An Irish Priest..had called him a Bible-reading vagabond, a Scripturian rapscallion, &c. merely because he refused to part with his Bible.

Scripturiency (skriptiū·riĕnsi). [f. SCRIPTURIENT: see -ENCY.] A mania for writing.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 262 Though scripturiency be a fault in feeble pens. 1685 *Reflect. on Baxter* I The Disease of Scripturiency in R. B. taken notice of. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 3. 18 This Bladder of Scripturiency.

Scripturient (skriptiū·riĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *scripturient-*, pres. pple. of late L. *scripturire* to desire to write, f. L. *scripti-*, *scribĕre* to write.]

A. *adj.* Having a desire for writing or authorship.

1643 *Copy of Two Lett.* 5 This I know, that a Scripturient Engine, may finde matter enough for exercise in Gerson, Bucerus..and other moderne Authors, which yet lye unanswered. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 151 He labour'd under the Scripturient Disease. *a* 1711 KEN *Lett.* Wks. (1838) 84 There is a remarkable scripturient person, who keeps correspondence with your adversaries here.

B. *sb.* One who has a passion for writing.

1659 HEYLIN *Examen Hist.* II. Pref., Most of our late Scripturients affecting rather to be doing, then to be punctuall and exact in what they doe.

† **Scri·pturing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -ING 1.] Reading or discussing of the Scriptures.

1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 7 As for these controversies and this Scripturing, I neuer trouble my selfe with it.

Scripturism (skri·ptiŭriz'm). [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -ISM.]

1. Reliance upon the Scriptures alone; devotion to Scripture.

1864 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* v. x. (1903) II. 165 This rude shock to the mere scripturism which has too much prevailed. 1889 T. K. CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* v. (1891) 202 The Song of the Sun was provided with a new conclusion more in harmony with the intense Scripturism of the post-Exile period.

2. A Scripture phrase or expression.

1884 J. W. HALES *Notes & Ess. on Shaks.* 181 There are several 'scripturisms' in Hamlet.

Scripturist (skri·ptiŭrist). [f. SCRIPTURE *sb.* + -IST.]

1. One who is versed in the Scriptures.

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 140 To engage us to grow ready Scripturists. 1713 NELSON *Life Bull* 509 He was also esteemed a very good Grecian and a great Scripturist. 1792 W. NEWCOME *Eng. Biblical Transl.* 6 Wiclif was not only a good divine and scripturist, but well skilled in the civil, canon, and English law. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* ii. 38 The Puritan fathers, those devout Scripturists, delighted to say that they found in Scripture a hundred and eight of His names.

2. One who bases his religious belief or opinions upon Scripture alone.

1624 GODWYN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 47 The Sadduces were termed קראים *Karaim*, Biblers, or Scripturists. 1737 WATERLAND *Rev. Doctr. Eucharist* Introd. 9 It must argue great Conceitedness..for a Man to expect to be heard, or attended to, as a Scripturist, or a Textuary, in opposition to the Christian World.

† **Scri·pulous**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 screpulus, 6 scripulus. By-form of SCRUPULOUS: cf. SCRIPLE *sb.*

1464 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 328 For-somoche as the mater dependyng betwix Joh. Abery & Will. Bedon on that oon partie and Will. Huet on the other..ys screpulus & doubtefull. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 165 Sum scripulus preistis, hefand there consciens subiect to traditions. 1601 YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* I. iii. in Bullen *O.Pl.* IV., Peace, conscience, peace, thou art too scripulous. *Ibid.* IV. vi, It cannot out Unlesse your love will be so scripulous That it will overthrowe your selfe and me.

Scris, variant pl. form of SCRITE.

Scritch (skritʃ), *sb. arch.* Also 6 skrych, 6–7 scrich, skrich, 7 skritch. [See the vb.] A screech, shriek, loud cry.

1513 MORE in *Hall's Chron. Rich. III* (1550) 4 b, With pitefull scriches she repleneshyd the hole mancion. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 560 Monstrous skritches are heard round about this mountaine. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 190 Gave she not her selfe over to scritches and cries. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. xvii, Perhaps it is the owlet's scritch. 1833 TENNYSON '*My life is full*' 20 Sudden scritches of the jay.

† *Comb.* 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 120 Up to the sky staring, with belling skrichcrye she roareth.

Scritch (skritʃ), *v. arch.* Forms: 3, 6–7 scrich, 4 skriche, 6 skritche, 6–7 skrich, 6– scritch. [Onomatopœic: cf. SCRIKE, SHRIEK *vbs.*] *intr.* To utter a loud cry, screech, shriek.

a 1250 *Owl & N.* 223 (Jesus MS.) Þu scrichest & yollest to þine fere, þat hit is gryslich to ihere. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1290 Loude he gan to crie and skriche [*rime* diche]. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 45 She cried out, and all her maides skriched with her. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1598) 441 Then would she imagine..she heard the cries of hellish ghosts, then would she skritch out for succour. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 99 With a shril voice he suddenly scritch'd out. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 181 The pyes chattering about the house, the owles scritching. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* II. 458 Only let..the hungry curlew chance to scritch Or serpent hiss it, rustling through the rift, However loud, however low.

Hence **Scri·tching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* F 1, Like a scritching night-owle. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 314 Then began their sorrowes afresh, with pitious scriching and teares. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 700 Squeaking or skriching Noise. *Ibid.* § 713 Feare causeth Palenesse; ..Starting; and Skritching. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 155 This is a very rude sport, and full of scrieching and hideous noise. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arab. Des.* I. 305 We heard scritching owls sometimes in the still night.

Scri·tch-owl. Now *arch.* Forms: see SCRITCH *sb.* [f. SCRITCH *sb.* + OWL.] = SCREECH-OWL.

1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scrytche houle a byrde. *Ibid.* 271/1 Skrytche heule. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. 383 Whil'st the scritch-owle, scritching loud, Puts the wretch that lies in woe, In remembrance of a shroud. 1609 B. JONSON *Masque of Queens* Wks. 1616 I. 951 The Scrich-owles egges, and the feathers blacke,..I haue been getting. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 24 The Warbling of Cats and Scritch-Owls. 1823 COLERIDGE *Remorse* IV. iii. 6 The scritch-owl only wakes.

transf. and *fig.* 1594 *Contention* II. (1843) 151 Bring forth that fatall scrichowle to our house, That nothing sung to vs but bloud and death. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 187 What is poore, and silly man alone, but a very scrich-owle, and satyre.

attrib. 1790 COLERIDGE *Music*, 'Tis thou who pour'st the scritch-owl note.

Scri·tch-scratch. [Reduplicated formation on SCRATCH.] Continual scratching. Hence **Scritch-scratching** *vbl. sb.*

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 320 One could not work; he never could whilst men were making such a scritch-scratch with their pens. 1882 ETHEL COXON *Basil Plant* I. 67 Do leave that confounded scritch-scratching alone this afternoon.

† **Scrite.** *Obs.* Also 3–4 scrit, 4 scritte, skryt(e, scrit, skrite, *pl.* scris, 4–5 scryt(e, 5 skrit. [Aphetic a. OF. *escrit*: see ESCRIPT.] A writing, written document.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7682 Let it write clene ynou & þat scrit dude iwis In þe tresorie at westmounstre þere it sut is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17634 Þai..raght him for to rede þat scritte. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7002 To Seynt Thon he wrote a skryte. 13.. *Sir Beues* 1240 (A.) Al in solas and in delit þow most him bere þis ilche scrit! *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1944 Swiche cas him was bi falle As we finde in scrite. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8071 We fynde writen in our scrytes Of swylk manere of spyrites. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 224 Þe chartres and þe scris. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2936 (Bodl. MS.) Þat ich habbe by a skryt þou seide Oiþer 3ee shullen ben sore ennoyed. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1130 She..seyde scryt [*v.rr.* scrit, script] ne bille, For loue of god..Ne bryng me noon. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 357 Treweleche a-countes 3elde to godemen of þe town twy3es by þe 3ere, by skore oþer by scryt. *a* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 409 In his hand he heold a skrit. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6520 Þis semys agayn saint bede scrite.

† **Scrithe**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 scrīðan, 3 scriþen, 4 skrith, skrythe, 5 scrith(e, scryth(e; *pa. t.* 1 scrāð, 3 scrað, scroð; *pa. pple.* 1 scriden, scriðen, 3 iscriðen, 5 scrithen, -in, -yn. [A Common Teut. str. vb.: OE. *scrīðan* = OS. *scrīðan*, *scrīdan*, OHG. *scrītan* (MHG. *scrīten*, G. *schreiten*), ON. *skrīða* :—OTeut. **skrīþan*, **skrīdan*.]

1. *intr.* To go, pass; in OE. also, to glide, creep; to wander.

Beowulf 163 Hwyder helrunan hwyrftum scriþað. *c* 1205 LAY. 4109 Þa iherde Stater...mid muchele Scot ferde he scrað to þisse londe. *Ibid.* 10809 Whar beo 3e mine Scottes scriðeð me biside. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 68 Þe schipmen of England sailed ful swith þat none of þe Normandes fro þam might skrith.

2. In immaterial sense.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 942 (Gr.) Dagas forð scridun. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Treat.* (1866) 2 *note* 3, Þer skrythes in to my mynde delyciost swetnes. 1434 MISYN *Mending of Life* xi. 126 In þi swetnes scryth in-to me.

b. To fall or lapse (*into* sin).

1434 MISYN *Mending of Life* i. 107 Truly a man I saw of qwhome þai sayd þat fyftene 3ere his body [he] chastisyd with meruelus scharpnes and afterward skrithyn into synne with his seruandis wife. 1435 — *Fire of Love* II. i. 70 3it many after penans has fallin fro innocence eftsoyns scrythand to ydilnes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 To be Scrythen (Scrythin *A.*), *illabi.*

3. *intr.* and *refl.* To urge, entreat.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1055 He..scroð him wel, And bead hem hom to is ostel To herbergen wið him ðat niȝt. *Ibid.* 1834 Iacob was wo ðat he is for-soc, And scroð him so ðat sum he ðor tok. *Ibid.* 2023 Often 3he ðrette, often 3he scroð, Oc al it was him o-like loð.

Hence † **Scrithing** *ppl. a.*, passing away, wandering, erring.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* I. xxii. 49 Criste truly had no scrithyng þoghtis. *Ibid.* II. ix. 92 As if maners or riches or fayrnes frenschyp be had with yll maners, riches scripinge, fayrnes wastyd.

† **Scri·thel**, *a. Obs.*—° In 5 scrythylle. [repr. OE. **scriðol* (found in *wīdscriðol* far-wandering, roving), f. root *scrīð-* (see prec.).] Fleeting.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 Scrythylle, *labilis.*

Scritoire, scritore, obs. ff. SCRUTOIRE.

† **Scritory.** *Obs.* Anglicization of ESCRITOIRE.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Scritory, a great sort of Cabinet with Drawers, and the conveniency of a Table to write upon, *bureau.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scrutoir*, or *Scritory.*

Scrittoir, Scriture: see SCRUTOIRE, SCRIPTURE.

† **Scrivan.** *Obs.* Anglicized form of next.

In the examples relating to India it may be a. Pg. *escrivão.*

1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 16 There scryuan euer wrytyng our names man by man as we entred in the presens of the sayd Lordes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 460 [He] commanded the Scriuan to draw vp a Warrant. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 Few of their Great Men or Merchants can read, but keep a Scrivan of the Gentues. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Acc. Trade in India* 153 Scrivans at the fort. Scrivans and boatmen at Canton.

attrib. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 450, I was brought forth before these foure Cauailiers,..and the Scriuan-table set, with pen and paper to write my confession.

‖ **Scriva·no.** *Obs.* Also 7 scriuana, skrivano, 8 *pl.* scrivani. [It. = F. *écrivain* (see SCRIVEIN). Cf. prec. and ESCRIVAN.] A professional writer; a notary; one who keeps accounts; a clerk, etc.

1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 403 There must a Bull be desired at the length I suppose, or some scrow of Release from the Popes Scrivanoes. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 2, If there were euer a paltrie Scriuano, betwixt a Lawiers Clark & a Poet, or smattering pert Boy [etc.]. *c* 1605 E. SCOT in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. III. 169 He had me I should shew his Scriuana those Captaines. 1626 SHIRLEY *Brothers* IV. i, You do not know the quirks of a Scrivano, A dash undoes a Family. 1782 *Ann. Reg.* II. 14 The scrivani, or commissaries, who have the department of warrants, arrests, and police, are allowed no pay.

† **Scrive**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* A shriek, a noise.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9511 The shippes on a shene fyre shot þai belyue, That the low vp lightly launchit aboute; And all chrickenede with the scriue þurgh the stym ost.

Scrive (skroiv), *sb.*[2] [f. SCRIVE *v.* 2.] = SCRIBE *sb.*[2]

1839 CHATTO *Wood Engravings* 'To scrive'..signifies, in our own language, to cut numerals or other characters on timber with a tool called a scrive.

Scrive (skroiv), *v.* Also 4 skr-. [Formation somewhat uncertain; perh. aphetic for DESCRIVE.]

† **1. a.** *trans.* To describe. **b.** *intr.* To write. *Obs.*

13.. *Ipotis* 309 (Vernon MS.) in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 345 Glotenye, I wol now skriue, Is among monkunne ful ryue. *c* 1430 *Hymnes Virgin* (1893) 58 How mankinde doop bigynne is wondir for to scryue so. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 91 It semyth nat thy pyllyd pate Agenst a poyet lawreat To take vpon the for to scryue. 1530 PALSGR. 707/2, I scryve a thyng, I discrybe the maner of it, *je descris.*

2. *trans.* = SCRIBE *v.*

1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Skrive*, to mark or scratch wood or metal. 1839 [see SCRIVE *sb.*[2]]. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 143 When the lines of the sections or frames are accurately drawn, they are scratched or 'scrived' in by a sharp-pointed tool.

Scrive, obs. (north.) form of SHRIVE *v.*

Scrive-board (skrəi·vˌbōəɹd). *Shipbuilding.* [f. SCRIVE *v.*] A large drawing-board made of planks, on which the lines of a vessel are scribed.

1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* xx. 429 The name commonly given to these boards by the workmen is the scrive or scriving boards. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 59 When the lines are passed as accurate, moulds or skeleton outlines of them are taken, and thus they get transferred to the 'scrive-boards', from which the shipwrights work.

†Scrivein, -eyn. *Obs.* Also 4 **-ayn, scryvane, -ein, -eyne, screweyny,** 4–5 **scry-, 5 skry-, skreveyn.** [Aphetic a. OF. *escrivain, -ein*, etc. (mod.F. *écrivain*): see ESCRIVAIN.] = SCRIVENER 1.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. [xlv.] 2 My tunge is penne of þe scriuayn swiflich wrytand. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 þise scriueyns þet sseweþ guode lettre ate ginnynge and efterward makeþ wycked. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *To Scriv.* 1 Adam scryveyne if euer it þee byfalle Boece or Troylus for to wryten nuwe. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* 119 Vis gylde schal hawe..to screweynys. *Ibid.*, And if ony of hem for-sake hys office,..eyther screweyny [schal payn] a qwarter of wax. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 Al-so it fallys þat þou chese of wyse men & of Skreueyns, sweche þat hauyn perfeccion of enournede eloquence, & of sotyll record; And right as þe Skryueyn ys enterpretour of þy wyl [etc.]. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* II. xv. (1494) h j b, Of a scryueyn Bochas maketh mencion.

‖ Scrivello (skrivē·lo). Also 8 screvelio, (9 crevelle). Pl. **-oes, -os.** [repr. Pg. *escrevelho*, ? var. of *escaravelho* pin, peg. Cf. F. *escarbeille, -belle, -balle.*] An elephant's tusk weighing less than 20lb.

1735 S. ATKINS *Voy Guinea* 181 The screvelios are small, from 15 to 4 lbs. weight. 1757 *List of Cargoes* in Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* (1790) II. 187, 14 scrivellos. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.*, Crevelles. 1864 R. F. BURTON *Dahome* 41 The horn is a small scrivello with a large oblong hole near the point. 1891 *Times* 24 Oct. 4/5 Billiard ball pieces and cut descriptions few sold. Ball scrivelloes dearer.

Scriven (skri·v'n), *v.* [Back-formation f. SCRIVENER.] *trans.* and *intr.* (with *advs.*) To write as a scrivener does.

a 1685 LD. GUILFORD in North *Life* (1742) 311 Here's a Mortgage scrivened up to ten Skins of Parchment; and the King's Attorney General is content with six lines. 1839 MRS. GORE *Courtier* iii, The attorney's clerks..were scrivening away in Mr. Heneage's justice-room.

Scrivener (skri·v'nəɹ). Forms: 4 **scriveyner,** 4–6 **skrivener,** 5 **skri-, scryvenere, skerevener,** 5–6 **scry-, skryvener,** 6 **skryvynar, scryvenar, -our, skrevener,** 7 **scrivender, scrivenor, scrivner,** 5– **scrivener.** [f. SCRIVEIN + -ER 1.

The form *escrivener* occurs in 1415 (*York Myst.* ed. 1885, Introd. p. xxvi).]

1. A professional penman; a scribe, copyist; a clerk, secretary, amanuensis.

c 1375 in *Trans. Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.* Ser. III. (1901) I. 121 Reinaldus le scriueyner. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 194 But even-lyk as doth a skrivenere That can no more what that he shall wryte, But as his maister besyde doth endyte. 1455 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 10 Item payd to the skerevener for the dyvyce of the ordinaunce and for þe wrytyn in pabir iij[s] iiij[d]. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 13 No person or persones straungers, beyng a comon baker, bruer, surgeon or scryvenour shalbe enterpret or expounded hande craftesmen. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 46 Richard Scelton a tayler and Jhon Asteley a Skrevener. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 18 This fellow came into a Scriueners shop to haue a letter written to his wiues mother. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. i. § 3 (1622) 176 The Scriuener of Nature [said of Aristotle by Suidas]. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 210 Scriveners take more Pains to learn the Slight Of making Knots, than all the Hands they write. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 91 A very little suffices for the stock in trade, upon which the scribes and scriveners of literature, who take upon themselves to direct the public, set up. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 19 Thereupon the scrivener throws the burden of pen-prehension upon other muscles.

transf. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. iii, Thou hast beene Scriuener to much knauery then. 1806 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 339 Sir, let fools say what fools think fit Trust to that upright Scrivener, call'd Time.

attrib. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 256/2 The third to teche to Write, and all suche thyng as belonged to Scrivener Craft.

b. *Scrivener's cramp, palsy*, writer's cramp.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Scrivener's cramp.* 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 543/2 The disease known as Writer's Cramp, or Scrivener's Palsy.

†c. An author. *Obs.*

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 90 All the politicke scriuners that euer handled such a subjecte.

d. 'A writing-master' (Halliwell, 1847).

2. A notary.

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 83 Item, to—masse, Scryvenere, for ouerseyng the olde endentures of the same bowse. 1577 HELLOWES tr. *Guevara's Fam. Epist.* 83 As God made you a Knight, if he had made you a Scriuener, you would haue bene more handsome to colour Cordouan skinnes, then to haue written processe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 59 My Boy shall fetch the Scriuener presentlie. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merchant* 100 The Bills were tendered with a Scriuener according to their agreement. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 3 Some skilful Lawyer, and knowing Scrivener. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scrivener*, one that draws up and engrosses Writings or Deeds, as Bonds, Bills, Leases, Releases, &c. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 85 Notaries, Scriveners, and Clerks of the Court of Justice. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* XXI. (1826) 296 Why what the plague? where is this scoundrel of a scrivener? what if I should die before he comes!

attrib. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Henry & Frances* (1766) IV. 44 Vulgar Phrases, and scrivener Id[i]oms.

3. One who 'received money to place out at interest, and who supplied those who wanted to raise money on security' (Tomlins). Also *money scrivener. Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northward Hoe* II. D 2 b, Here was a scriuener but euen now, to put my father in minde of a bond, that wilbe forfit this night. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Riches* (Arb.) 237 The Scriueners and Broakers doe valew vnsound Men. 1637 *Prynne Docum.* (Camden) 77 To make inquiry into the breach of the statute, that noe scrivener shoull take above 5[s] brokadge in the £. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 8 Let a Gentleman..come to a Money Scrivener, and desire Four thousand pounds to be lent him on all his Land. *a* 1700 DRYDEN tr. *Hor. Epodes* ii. 5 How happy in his low Degree, Who leads a quiet Country Life, Discharg'd of Business, void of Strife, And from the griping Scrivener free? 1704–84 [see MONEY *sb.* 8]. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* III. i. 28 *Sir Ch.* Sir, I am oblig'd to you, you shall have my Note. *Fan.* No, but I won't, I am no Scrivener, Sir; there's a Bill payable at sight. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 207 T. Gibson and Co. being scriveners, and having large sums of money of other peoples' in their hands, had lent Mr. Stiles [etc.].

Hence **Scri·venership** *rare*—[0].

1611 COTGR., *Escrivainerie*, Scriuenership.

Scrivenery (skri·v'nəri). Also 9 (Dicts.) **scrivenry.** [f. SCRIVENER: cf. -ERY, -RY.]

1. The occupation of a scrivener; writing, as of a copyist or clerk.

1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 257 He pursued his scrivenery with industrious taciturnity. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 99/1 The books are beautiful specimens of scrivenery, and from cover to cover may be searched without finding a blot.

attrib. 1887 *Whitaker's Almanack*, Law Offices, etc., Scrivenery Department.

2. A room in which scriveners work.

1897 *Times* 26 Feb. 3/6 Mr. Spedding's Biography..disclosed..that Bacon and his brother Anthony kept a scrivenery financed by Essex. 1898 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 20 Jan. 39 Nineteen lines of beautiful script, possibly written in the scrivenery attached to the court.

Scrivening (skri·v'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCRIVEN *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. Writing, esp. of a mechanical or arduous kind.

1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ennui* xxi. (1893) 237 He..would, after two or three hours' hard scrivening,..permit me to yawn, and stretch, and pity myself, and curse the useless repetitions of lawyers. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 221 When I had done my scrivening, Hanson strolled out.

b. *attrib.*

1828 *Craven Gloss., Scrivenin time*, time appropriated to writing. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* VI. i. (1860) I. 141 Had I that same scrivening art at my service, I should write me a book setting forth what I..observed. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* xi. 79 Two sheets of clean scrivening paper.

2. *Money scrivening*: the business of a money scrivener. *Hist.*

1885 *Weekly Notes* 68/1 They did a considerable business in money scrivening, receiving money from clients both for specific and general investment.

Scri·vening, *ppl. a.* [Formed as prec. + -ING 2.] Following the occupation of a scrivener.

a 1754 FIELDING *Fathers* Prol., Now Slipslop enters..tho' this scriv'ning vagrant Salted my virtue, which was ever flagrant. 1814 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patronage* xxiii. (1893) I. 364 When he was a scrivening nobody in his garret.

†Scri·venliche, *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCRIVEN + -LY 2.] In the manner of a scrivener.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1206 (MS. Harl. 3943) Ne scryvenlich [*v.rr.* scryuenyssh, scriuenisshli(che, etc.] or craftly þow it write.

† Scri·ver. *Obs.* [? f. SCRIVE + -ER 1. Cf. SCREEVER.] = SCRIVENER.

1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2479/4 Huntley Bigg, Scriver, near the New Exchange. *c* 1700 in *Law's Memor.* (1818) 199 *note*, Another that was scriver to a troop, who was sitting in a chamber himself,..the house fell and smoored him.

Scri·ving, *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of SCRIVE *v.*; *attrib.* in **scriving-board** = SCRIVE-BOARD; **scriving-iron** = *scribing-iron.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Scriving-iron*, an instrument used for numbering trees for sale. 1869 [see SCRIVE-BOARD].

Scrob, obs. form of SCRUB *v.*

Scrobe (skrōʊb). [ad. L. *scrob-is* trench.]

†1. A trench. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. vi. 17 Enjoining to dig their scrobes, for the Planting of Trees at the Full Moon.

2. *Ent.* (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict., Scrobe*,..(*a.*) A groove in the side of the rostrum in which the scape or basal joint of the antenna is received, in the weevils or curculios. (*b.*) A groove on the outer side of the mandible, more fully called mandibular scrobe. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

†Scro·bicle. *Obs. rare*—[0]. = SCROBICULE.

1721 BAILEY, *Scrobicle*, a little Ditch.

Scrobicular (skrobi·kiʊlăɹ), *a.* [f. mod.L. *scrobicula* or late L. *scrobiculus* SCROBICULE + -AR.] Pertaining to or surrounded by scrobicules.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 558 In *Palæchinidæ*... The larger tubercles are surrounded by a smooth area—the scrobicula—and this by a ring of smaller scrobicular tubercles which bear correspondingly small spines. 1900 *Lankester's Treat. Zool.* III. 287 Generally surrounded by a circle of granules called the 'scrobicular circle'.

Scrobiculate (skrobi·kiʊlăt), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [Formed as prec. + -ATE 2.] Having many small depressions; furrowed or pitted; *Ent.* foveate.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scrobiculate.* 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 77 Zygospore globose or broadly elliptic, dark olive, scrobiculate, formed in the canal of conjugation.

So **Scrobi·culated** *a.*

1860 R. FOWLER *Med. Voc.* 1881 WATSON in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XV. 269 Rounded, almost scrobiculated varix.

Scrobicule (skrōʊ·bikiʊl). *Biol.* [ad. mod.L. *scrobicula* or late L. *scrobiculus*, dim. of *scrobs* (see SCROBE).] A small pit or depression; *spec.* the smooth area around the tubercles of a sea-urchin.

1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 39 It would appear that at one period of growth these little pits or scrobicules are wanting, but when the plant is in full vigour they are markedly prominent. 1900 *Lankester's Treat. Zool.* III. 287 Around the base of each primary tubercle is a smooth, level surface called the 'scrobicule'.

Scrobiculous (skrobi·kiʊləs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod. L. *scrobiculōs-us*, f. *scrobiculus* or *scrobicula*: see prec. and -OUS.] = SCROBICULATE.

1889 WAGSTAFFE *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6), *Scrobiculous* Bot., applied the same as *Scrobiculate.*

†Scrochat. *Sc. Obs.* Forms (*pl.*): 5 **scro-(s)chatis, scorzat(t)is, schrozatis,** 5–6 **scorchet(t)is,** 6 **schorchattis, scorcheatis, -sheatis, scrottiszarttis, scrotchertis, schoiretts, schorters(s, schortschettis,** 7 **scortitsche.** [Of obscure origin.] A kind of sweetmeat.

1448 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 17 A propyne to our souerane lord..xij half pundis of scorchetis. 1496 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 15 Item 12 li scrozattis, cost 5s. 1552–3 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 276 Item, on the sacrament day gevin to the Bischop of Ross that bure the sacrament, in wyne and scrotiszarttis that extendit to xvj[s] viij[d]. 1581–2 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 54 Item, payt to Alex. Cullen vyff for vyn and schoiretts. 1583–4 *Ibid.* 55 Schorterss. *Ibid.* 56 Schortschettis. 1647–8 *Ibid.* 110, 10 pond scortitsche and confectionis.

Scrod (skrɒd). *U. S.* Also **scrode.** [Possibly a. Du. † *schrood*, MDu. *schrode* piece cut off = OE. *scréade* SHRED *sb.* The variant ESCROD is difficult to explain.

The recent U.S. dictionaries have a verb *Scrod*, 'to shred, to prepare for cooking by tearing in small pieces,' which they assign as the source of this word.]

A young cod weighing less than three pounds, *esp.* one that is split and fried or boiled.

a 1873 MRS. SPOFFORD in *Casquet Lit.* IV. 9/2, I..made the nicest little supper ready—scrod, as brown outside and as white inside as a cocoa-nut is, and cold turkey [etc.]. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIII. 404/2 Eighteen hundred-weight of scrod.

Scroddled (skrɒ·dl'd), *a.* [Of obscure origin; cf. LG. *schrodel* scrap.] (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Scroddled Ware.* (*Ceramics.*) Ceramic ware, made by taking scraps and pieces of differently colored clays, such as are left over in making vases and plaques, and laying them together, joined but not intermixed, so as to produce a marbled or mottled effect.

Scrodgill (skrɒ·dgil), *sb.* ? *U. S.* [Cf. SCROUGER.] = *Pull-devil* (see PULL- 2). Hence **Scro·dgill** *v. trans.*, to take or catch with a 'scrodgill'.

1891 in *Century Dict.*

†Scrof, *a. Obs.* [? f. *scrof*, SCRUFF *sb.*[1]] Rough.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1546 When hit þe scrypture hade scraped with a scrof [*MS.* strof] penne.

Scrofe, obs. form of SCRUFF, SCURF.

†Scro·ffles, *sb. pl. Obs.* Also 5 **scurffyls, skorphillys,** 5–6 **scrofulus, scruphules,** 5–7 **scrophules,** 6 **scrofules.** [a. OF. *scrophules*, ad. L. *scrōfulæ*: see SCROFULA.] Scrofulous swellings.

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 62 Cymeles & scrofelles.] *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 141 It desolwyth skorphillys. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 19 (Addit. MS.) þe þridde entencioun is to remevyn þat þat ys to myche as scurffyls [Ashm. MS. scrofulus] of þe hed & þe nekke. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 243/4 A poure woman that had a sone whyche was gretely tormented with scrophules. 1541 COPLAND tr. *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* S j b, Propre for scrophules and kyrnelles. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* (1597) 144 b, Instill two or three droppes into the eare of the pacient, on that syde where Scroffles be. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVI. 573 A certain Woman had the Scroffles all over her Neck.

Scrofula (skrɒ·fiʊlă). Also 5–9 **scrophula,** 6 **skurfula,** 7–8 **schrophula**; *pl.* 5–7 **scrophule,** 7 **scrofulæ.** [In early use pl. after late L. *scrōfulæ* swelling of the glands, dim. of *scrōfa* breeding sow (supposed to be subject to the disease: cf. the use of Gr. χοιράδες, pl. of χοιράς like a hog's back). Later in sing. form after med. L. *scrofula, scrophula* (also *schrof-, scrufula*).

From L. pl. are: F. *scrofules* (see SCROFFLES), G. *skrofeln*, Sw. *skrofler*; also F. *écrouelles* (:—pop. L. **scrofellas*: see ESCROELES, CREWELS); from L. sing., It. *scrofola*, Sp. *escrófula*; also from pop. L. type OE. *scrofell.* See also SCURFLE.]

A constitutional disease characterized mainly by chronic enlargement and degeneration of the lymphatic glands. Also called **KING'S EVIL** and STRUMA.

a. plural. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 207 Also blood is medlid wiþ greet fleume & malancolie, & engendriþ glandulas & Scrophulas...Also greet fleume is medlid with malancoli, & þerof comeþ glandula & Scrophule. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* D iij, The sam withdryveth Scrofulas

wher so ever they be on the body. *a* 1625 Lodge *Poore Mans Talentt* (1881) 13 For the Scrophulæ or Kinges euill. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2080 Most inhabitants of which are troubled with the Scrofulæ or Kings Evil. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 411/1 An absolute Cure for all kinds of Struma's or Schrophula's whatsoever.

β. sing. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1712, Young Johnson had the misfortune to be much afflicted with the scrophula, or King's-evil. 1843 Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 248 Scrofula has a tendency to attack every tissue in the body. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 597 Thus in the sixties and the seventies it was as common to see persons marked by the scars of scrofula as it still was to see the ravages of small-pox.

Scrofulide (skrɒ·fiŭlid). *Path.* [a. F. *scrofulide* (Hardy), f. *scrofule* Scrofula.] A scrofulous or strumous skin-disease.

1864 W. T. Fox *Classif. Skin Dis.* 20 Scrofulides. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 470 The sudden retrocession of an extensive eruption of phlegmonous scrofulides.

Scrofulism (skrɒ·fiŭliz'm). [f. Scrofula + -ism.] A scrofulous diathesis.

1893 *Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.* (ed. 21). 1894 Gould *Illustr. Dict. Med.*

Scrofulitic (skrɒfiŭli·tik), *a.* [irreg. f. Scrofula + *-itic*, after *rachitic*, etc.] Scrofulous.

1866 *Morn. Star* 13 Nov., The Margate Infirmary is for scrofuletic patients. She was in no way scrofuletic [*sic*]. 1882 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* II. 387 Fifty per cent. of the population..had..scrofulitic and scorbutic ailments.

Scrofulo- (skrɒ·fiŭlo), used as combining form of Scrofula, forming adjs. with the sense 'characterized by scrofula and . . .'.

1878 A. M'L. Hamilton *Nervous Dis.* 59 The children.. were generally scrofulous or scrofulorachitic. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 473 The chronic scrofulo-tuberculous gummata..can hardly be mistaken.

‖ Scrofuloderma (skrɒfiŭlodɔ̄·rmă). Pl. **-dermata** (-dɔ̄·rmătă). Also anglicized **scro·fuloderm.** [mod.L., f. Scrofulo- + Derma.] A skin-lesion considered to be of scrofulous origin. So **Scro·fulode·rmia** [see -ia 1], the condition of being affected with scrofulodermata.

1857 W. J. E. Wilson *Dis. Skin* (ed. 4) 321 Scrofuloderma. 1888 J. N. Hyde *Dis. Skin* (ed. 2) 492 The Small Pustular Scrofuloderm. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 795 Scrofulodermia may appear in the same class of subjects as lupus.

Hence **Scro·fulode·rmic** *a.*

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 801 The second variety of scrofulodermic lesion appears as an ulceration limited to the neighbourhood of the natural apertures.

† Scro·fulose, *a. Obs. rare*—1. In 8 **scroph-.** [ad. mod.L. *scrofulōs-us*, f. Scrofula: see -ose.] = Scrofulous.

1753 R. Russell *Diss. Sea Water* 70 Cancerous, scrophulose, and scorbutic Humours.

‖ Scrofulosis (skrɒfiŭlō·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Scrofula + -osis.] Scrofula without tubercle; 'scrofulous diathesis' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1860 R. Fowler *Med. Voc., Scrophulosis*, the condition of being scrofulous. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 457 Scrofulosis is a disease especially of childhood and youth.

Scrofulous (skrɒ·fiŭlŏs), *a.* Also 7–9 **scrophulous.** [f. Scrofula + -ous. Cf. F. *scrofuleux*.]

1. Caused by, or of the nature of scrofula.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* (1639) 395 A body having *Struma*, or scrupulous [*sic*] tumours. 1732 Arbuthnot *Aliments, Rules of Diet* 386 The English Consumptions, generally speaking, proceed from a Scrophulous Disposition. 1856 Macaulay *Biog.* 78 (*Johnson*), He had inherited from his ancestors a scrofulous taint.

fig. 1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 582 Excess, the scrofulous and itchy plague That seizes first the opulent [etc.].

2. Affected with, or suffering from, scrofula.

1708 Swift *Abol. Chr.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 86 What would become of the race of men in the next age, if we had nothing to trust to beside the scrophulous consumptive productions furnished by our men of wit and pleasure? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 479 Charles once handled a scrofulous Quaker, and made him a healthy man and a sound Churchman in a moment.

3. *transf.* Having the appearance of being affected with scrofula.

1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 79 The punctured leaf assumes a wrinkled, reddish, and scrofulous appearance.

4. *fig.* Of literature, etc.: Morally corrupt.

1842 Browning *Solil. Shan. Cloister* viii, Or, my scrofulous French novel On grey paper with blunt type! 1866 Thornbury *Greatheart* III. 328 Eight or ten numbers of the most scrofulous of the French novels. 1889 *Ch. Times* 28 June 593/2 Holywell-street was re-named 'Booksellers'-row' because of its scrofulous reputation.

Hence **Scrofulously** *adv.*, **Scro·fulousness.**

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Scrofulousness.* 1847–54 Webster, *Scrofulously.* 1894 Gould *Illustr. Dict. Med.*, *Scrofulousness.*

Scrog (skrɒg), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4 **skrogg,** 5 **scroge,** 7 **skrog,** 6– **scrog(g.** [App. related to Scrag *sb.*2; cf. Shrog.]

1. A stunted bush; usually *pl.*, brushwood, underwood.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1641 Discoueres now sekerly skrogges and other, That no skathelle in the skroggez skorne vs hereaftyre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 A Scroge; *vbi* A buske. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. Prol. 37 Full litill it wald delite To write of scroggis, broym, haddir, or rammale. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 32 What an infinite number of bushes, shrubs, and skrogs of hazels, thornes, and other profitable wood. 1779 Ramsay *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* 18 Yet sometimes leave the Riggs and Bog, Your Howms, and Braes and shady Scrog. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 568. I have gathered nuts from the scrogs of Tynron. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xi, In a bit scrog of a wood by east of Silvermills.

b. *Her.* A branch of a tree: a blazon sometimes used by Scottish heralds.

1780 Edmondson *Her.* Gloss., *Scrogs*, the term used by the Scots in blazoning a small branch of a tree. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* II, *Scrogie*, or *Scroggie*, az. a chev. or, betw. two scrogs, or starved branches, in chief, and a man's heart in base, ar. 1868 Cussans *Heraldry* vi. (1893) 104 Amongst Scotch Heralds a Branch is termed a Scrog.

2. a. The blackthorn. b. The crab-apple tree.

1692 Ray *N. C. Words* 61 *Scrogs*; Blackthorn. 1853 [see 3].

3. *attrib.*, as *scrog-apple, -branch, -bush, -tree.*

1853 G. Johnston *Bot. E. Bord.* 79 Pyrus Malus..Crab-apple: Scrogs or *Scrog-apple. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxvi, 'Scrogie Touchwood, if you please,' said the senior; 'the *scrog branch first, for it must become rotten ere it become touchwood.' 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 288 The kingis body is layd on a horse, and twa myles frome the castell castne in a *scrogg buss. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xviii, He got a handsome piece of parchment, blazoned with a white lion for Mowbray, to be borne quarterly, with three stunted or scrog-bushes for Scrogie, and became thenceforth Mr. Scrogie Mowbray. 1887 R. M. Calder in *Minstrelsy of Merse* (1893) 259 The *scrogg tree in the meadow.

Scrog (skrɒg), *v. dial.* [f. Scrog *sb.*] *trans.* To cut with a hook.

1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 282 Beans are either pulled by women or cut with a hook, 'scrogged'. 1893 in Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norfolk* 84 *Scrog*, to cut field beans with a sickle or hook.

Scrogged (skrɒgd), *ppl. a.* [f. Scrog *sb.* + -ed 2.] Stunted, dwarfed.

1814 W. Nicholson *Poet. Wks.* (1897) 149 The auld scrogged hawthorn, where aft we had met. 1878 in Miller & Skertchly *Fenland* iv. 130 *Scrogged*, twisted, stunted.

Scroggy (skrɒ·gi), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north* Also 5 **scrogghy,** (**scourgy**), 6 **skroggy,** 8 **scrogy,** 8–9 **scroggie.** [f. Scrog *sb.* + -y 1.] Abounding in stunted bushes or underwood. Also, of trees: Stunted.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* viii. 19 (Harl. MS.) And þe wey toward þe Cite was stony, þorny, and scroggy. *Ibid.* 20 This stony & scourgy wey. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 131 At the mur syde, in till a scrogghy slaid. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. vi. 84 Quhair now standis the goldin Capitoll, Vnquhyll of wyld buskis rouch skroggy knoll. 1728 Ramsay *Robi., Richy, & Sandy* 11 The clinty craigs and scrogy briers. 1788 Burns *My Hoggie* 8 We heard nought but the roaring linn, Amang the braes sae scroggie. 1843 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. xi. 66 A sprinkling of scroggy birches.

Scrolar (skrōu·lăɪ), *a. Math.* [f. Scroll *sb.* + -ar.] Pertaining to a 'scroll'.

1869 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1893) VI. 334 If there be on a surface a right line which is such that the tangent plane is different at different points of the line, the line is said to be scrolar.

Scroll (skrōul), *sb.* Forms: 5–8 **scrowle,** 6 **scrolle, schrole, skrole, scrall,** 6–7 **scroule,** 6–8 **scrole,** 7 **scroul, scrowll, skroule,** 7–9 **scrowl,** 8 **scrawl,** 6– **scroll.** Also Escroll. [In 15th c. *scrowle*, altered form of the earlier Scrow. Possibly due to assimilation to *rowle*, Roll *sb.* The form would be abnormal as an adoption of OF. *escro(u)ele*, dim. of *escro(u)e* Escrow, Scrow.]

1. A roll of paper or parchment, usually one with writing upon it.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 682/26 *Hec sidula*, a scrowle. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1533) 152 b, He therfore redde the scrowle of resignacyon him selfe, in maner and fourme as followeth. 1526 Tindale *Rev.* vi. 14 And heven vanysshed awaye as a scroll when hitt is rolled togedder. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 18 What's heere? a scrole, & written round about? *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faustus* 562, I, of necessitie, for here's the scrowle, Wherein thou hast giuen thy soule to Lucifer. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 456 Thus bowing his head to look upon a scroul lapt about his finger, he made a pause. 1704 Swift *Tale of Tub* ii. Wks. 1751 I. 58 An old Parchment Scrowl was tagged on according to Art in the Form of a Codicil annexed. 1742 W. Collins *Ode, Manners* 76 Let some retreating Cynic find Those oft-turn'd scrolls I leave behind. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atl.* xix, Other scrolls whose writings did unbind The inmost lore of Love. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 12 He past To turn and ponder those three hundred scrolls Left by the Teacher, whom he held divine. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxvi. 460 A stranger thrust a scroll into his hand, and begged him to read it on the spot.

b. *fig.*

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xv. 34 God was pleased to shew the scrowles of his eternall counsels. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* II. 765 And now, to me The moonlight ..Interpreted those scrolls of mortal mystery. 1891 F. Thompson *Sister-Songs* (1895) 92 Summoned by some presaging scroll of fate.

c. *transf.*

1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Isa.* xxxiv. iii, The wide-stretcht Scrowl of Heaven. 1862 Tyndall *Mountaineer.* iii. 26 As the day sinks, scrolls of pearly clouds draw themselves around the mountain crests. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* 12, I saw a scroll of smoke go mounting.

d. A roll or bundle of any material.

1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxix, Chesney Wold is shut up, carpets are rolled into great scrolls in corners of comfortless rooms. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xvii. 177, I took Sir John Franklin's portrait..and cased it in an India-rubber scroll.

2. A piece of writing, *esp.* a letter.

1534 Starkey *Let. to Cromwell* in *England* (1878) p. lx, Syr, the grete gentylnes of you so manyfestely schowyd toward me,..gyuyth me yet a lytyl more boldnes to trowbul you wyth the redyng of thys scrole. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. viii. 5 Do not exceede The Prescript of this Scroule. 1723 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 101 Forgive me this long scroll, which is not my ordinary, and give my wife's and my humble duty to your lady and family. 1808 Scott *Marmion* v. xxi, And that between them then there went Some scroll of courteous compliment.

b. A list, roll, or schedule (of names). Also *fig.*

1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 78 A scrowle, wherin wer written the names of the parishes wherof he was parson. 1556 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1681) II. II. II. xxviii. 302 To whose hands..any of the said Accompts, Books, Scroles, Instruments, or other Writings..did or is come. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 16 Now good Peter Quince, call forth your Actors by the scrowle. 1621 Br. Hall *Heaven upon Earth* § 7 Neither can it suffice for peace, to haue crossed the old scrole of our sinnes, if we preuent not the future. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 336 Such follow him, as shall be registerd Part good, part bad, of bad the longer scrowle. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 1 Men whom fame has eternised in her long and lasting scroll. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* V. v. (1905) I. 718 He was..to add another to the long scroll of tragedies in the house of Austria.

c. A draft or copy (of a letter). ? *Sc.* ? *Obs.*

1790 [see *scroll-copy* in 6 c]. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxvi. 382 He wrote scrolls of almost every letter he composed. 1889 Stevenson *Master of Ballantrae* 165 The best will be to reproduce a letter of my own..of which (according to an excellent habitude) I have preserved the scroll.

3. A strip or ribbon-shaped slip of paper with a legend inscribed; a graphic or plastic representation of this.

a 1600 *Flodden F.* iv. (1664) 32 A certain scrall, whose scripture said, Jack of Norfolk be not too bold. 1644 Symonds *Diary* (Camden) 17 This motto is in divers severall scrowlls: 'Mercy and Grace'. 1751 Hurd *Poet. Imit.* 148 Painters continuing, for a long time, to put written scrolls in the mouths of their figures; and contriving, by this expedient, to make them tell their business to the spectator.

b. *Her.* The ribbon-like appendage to a coat of arms, on which the motto is inscribed; = Escroll 2. Also, *transf.* the words inscribed upon the scroll.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* VI. vi. (1611) 265 Three or foure words which are set in some Scrole or Compartement, placed usually at the foot of the escocheon. 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I, *Scroll*, part of the outward ornaments of the shield, achievement or escocheon of arms in which the motto is inscribed. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 326 A knightly shield..; the scroll 'I follow fame'.

c. App. used for: A streamer, narrow flag.

1808 Scott *Marmion* IV. xxviii, A thousand streamers flaunted fair..Scroll, pennon, pensil, bandrol there O'er the pavilions flew.

4. An ornament resembling a scroll of paper partly unrolled.

a. A convoluted or spiral ornament; *spec.* the volute of the Ionic and Corinthian capitals. **b.** *Shipbuilding.* A curved piece of timber bolted to the knee of the head. **c.** The curved head of instruments of the violin kind, in which the tuning-pins are set. **d.** *U.S.* A flourish (or sometimes a circle) added to a person's signature to represent a seal, and having the same value.

a. 1611 Cotgr., *Vrilles*, hooke-like edges or ends of leaues (called by some of our workemen Scrolls, and) sticking out in the upper parts of pillers, and of other peeces of Architecture. 1655 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Mar., A most rich achat cup..having a figure of Cleopatra at the scroll. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 88 For scrowles to the said windowes, six shillings a piece. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Scrowles*, or *Volutes.* 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* I. (1786) 285 The capitals are gilt and painted with ugly scrolls and compartments, in the taste of that reign. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 200 The Scroll is the termination of the handrail of a geometrical stair, in the form of a spiral. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 43 Dark slabs carved with the great Cross-sword, And..the galley, with scrolls all round.

b. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 394/2 The upper part [of the upper cheek] may run in a serpentine as high as where the shoulder of the figure is supposed to come, at which place it may be turned off with a scroll. The distance from the scroll to the heel of the figure is called the hair-bracket. 1898 Ansted *Dict. Sea Terms, Scroll* or *scroll-head.*

c. 1836 Dubourg *Violin* i. (1878) 8 The Scroll, that crowning charm of the fiddle's form. 1875 G. Hart *Violin* 288 He calmly set himself to open the parcel containing his dissected 'Strad', when..he failed to find its scroll.

d. 1856 Bouvier *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 500 *Scroll*, a mark which is to supply the place of a seal, made with a pen or other instrument on a writing. In some of the states this has all the efficacy of a seal. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt), Scroll is also used for the flourish made at the end of a signature, representing a seal.

5. Applied variously in technical use to scroll-shaped or spiral parts, figures, etc. (see quots.).

1868 [see *scroll-wheel* in 6 c]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Scroll, (Hydraulic Engineering.)* A spiral or converging adjutage around a turbine or other reaction water-wheel, designed to equalize the rate of flow of water at all parts around the circumference of the wheel, by decreasing the capacity of the chute in its circuit. 1891 *Century Dict., Scroll*, the mantling or lambrequin of a tilting-helmet. (Rare.) *Ibid., Scroll*, in *anat.*, a turbinate bone.

b. *Geom.* A skew ruled surface.

1862 Cayley *Math. Papers* (1892) V. 90 The skew surface of the third order, or 'cubic scroll'..may be considered [etc.].

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., with the sense: Consisting of, having the form of, or decorated with scrolls, scrolled; as *scroll-case, -handle, -keystone, -leg, -moulding, -work*; *scroll-patterned, -shaped* adjs.; *scroll-wise* adv.

1896 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 7/4 A clock by Vulliamy, in *scroll case. 1878 Nesbitt *Catal. Glass Vessels S. Kens. Mus.* 128 Vase..with two *scroll handles. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIII. i. 38/1 To this arch a *scroll key-stone, and to the postern ditto plain key-stones. 1830 *Parker's Ghost*

Archit., Roll-moulding... It is sometimes called the *scroll moulding, from its resemblance to a scroll of paper or parchment with the edge overlapping. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xlv, As if she had to work out her deliverance from bondage by finishing a *scroll-patterned border. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 7/4 A large Louis XV. ormolu cartel clock,.. in a *scroll-shaped case. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* vii. 129 Young leaves..coiled up *scroll-wise at their tips. 1739 Gray *Let. to West* 22 May, Sugar-loaves and minced-pies of yew; *scrawl-work of box, and little squirting jets-d'eau. 1840 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 2/1 The three doors will be of oak, relieved by the quaint and beautiful ramified iron scroll-work so characteristic of this style of architecture.

b. objective; as *scroll-cutter, -cutting, -filer*; instrumental; as *scroll-cut* adj.

1837 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 75/1 Separated by *scroll-cut standards. 1892 *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 8/1 Gun Engraving. Wanted at once good *scroll cutter. 1873 Richards *Operator's Handbk.* 125 For *scroll cutting, slitting, and with narrow blades generally, the matter of teeth has not such importance. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 91 Whitesmith... *Scroll Filer.

c. Special combinations: **scroll-bone** (see quot.); † **scroll chair**, a chair with a carved scroll ornament; **scroll-chuck**, a lathe-chuck with a spiral arrangement for operating the jaws; **scroll-copy** *Sc.*, a rough draft or copy; **scroll-creeper** *Arch.* (see quot.); **scroll-drum** *Mech.*, a drum of tapering form; **scroll-finis**, a scroll containing the word 'finis'; **scroll-gall** *Bot.*, a malformation consisting in the curling over of a leaf caused by an insect; **scroll-gear** (see quot.); **scroll-guard**, (see quot. 1824); **scroll-head** = sense 5 b; **scroll-iron, -lathe** (see quots.); **scroll-saw**, a saw for cutting scrolls; so *scroll-sawing*; **scroll-wheel**, a wheel actuated by scroll-gear.

1891 *Century Dict.*, *Scroll-bone*... The principal *scroll-bones are the ethmoturbinals, maxilloturbinals, and sphenoturbinals. 1614 in *Archæologia* XLII. 354 One highe Chaire with a longe cushin, two *scrowle chaires, two highe stooles. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Scroll-chuck*. 1790 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 172, I send you the *scroll copy of an essay on the origin of the feudal system. 1829 — *Rob Roy* Postscr., These were taken from scroll copies in the possession of his Grace the present Duke. 1825 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antig.* I. 90* Crockets,..by professionalists termed '*scroll creepers'. 1875 Martin *Winding Mach.* 42 It would..be advisable..to give up all idea of using *scroll drums like those used in England and in Germany. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* III. 957 That fair *scroll-finis of a wicked book. 1895 Oliver tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 530 *Scroll-galls are caused by gall-mites, leaflice [etc.]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Scroll-gear*, a gear-wheel of spiral or snail form. 1820 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 194 The keeper..hooked the gun by the *scroll guard and brought it up. 1824 — *Instr. Yng. Sportsmen* (ed. 3) 54 *Scroll-guard*, an extra bow, continued from the guard [which defends the triggers], to steady the hand. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Scroll-head*. 1871 Z. Colburn *Locomotive Engin.* xxxii. 303/1 *Scroll-irons. 1886 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Scroll Irons*, small brackets attached to the underside of railway wagons, to which the ends of the bearing springs are attached. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Scroll Lathe*, one adapted to turn spiral and scroll work, such as balusters, table and piano legs. 1875 *Ibid.*, **Scroll saw*... The band-saw is a scroll-saw, and operates continuously. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 473 On the outside of the door is tacked up a circle cut from thin wood with a scroll saw. 1874 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* VIII. 3093 This class of sawing is usually termed sweep or *scroll sawing for the heavier class of work, and fret sawing for the lighter or ornamental kinds. 1868 J. Turner *Woollen Manuf. Assist.* 18 To find revolutions of rim for 1 of scroll... Divide the product of the driven (1st sh. roller wheel, 1st short wheel, 1st *scroll wheel and scroll) by the product of the drivers.

Scroll (skrōul), *v.* Also 7 scrool. [f. Scroll *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To write down in a scroll (Scroll *sb.* 1, 3). *rare.*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. Ixxxix. 361 And from his mouth was scrodd this Mott: So I do euery day. 1630 Drumm. of Hawth. *Flowres of Sion* 43 But thou in thy great Archieues scrolled hast In parts and whole, what euer yet hath past. 1852 C. W. H[oskins] *Talpa* 8 The motto which might be scrolled up over so many a splendid door-way.

2. † **a.** To draft, make a rough copy of. *Obs.*

b. ? *Sc.* To engross. Also *absol.*

a. 1730 T. Boston *Acc. My Life* (1908) 305, I had brought up the Account of My Life as scrolled in shorthand characters to the day of my beginning it. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, I'll scroll the disposition in nae time.

b. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xlii, He wald scroll for a plack the sheet, or she kenn'd what it was to want.

3. *intr.* for *refl.* To roll or curl up.

1868 M. C. Lea *Photogr.* 428 (Cent.) When gum mucilage is used, the addition of a very little glycerine will make it hold better, and diminish its tendency to separate or scroll.

Hence **Scro·lling** *vbl. sb.*

1731 T. Boston *Acc. My Life* (1908) 332 With some difficulty I carried the scrolling of my letter some length.

Scrollage (skrōu·lėdʒ). [f. Scroll *sb.* + -age.] Decoration in the manner of a scroll.

1847 Winston *Glass* I. 65 Flowing tendril-like scrollages.

Scrolled (skrōuld), *ppl. a.* [f. Scroll *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

1. In the form of, or decorated with, scrolls.

1603 *Inv.* in Cage *Hengrave* (1822) 26 Item, two scrowled cheyers. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* V, Trim doors, with conspicuous scrolled hinges. 1887 Hissey *Holiday on Road* 27 The scrolled plaster-work between the oaken beams.

b. *transf.* Curled.

1863 Sala *Last Crusader* 208 The haughty angelica, the scrolled acanthus. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* I, An envoy with a scrolled mustache.

2. Inscribed with mottoes.

1875 Henley *Bk. Verses* (1888) 69 The silken shrouds with spells are manned, The hull is magically scrolled.

3. *Anat.* (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict.*, *Scrolled*, in *anat.*, turbinated as a bone; scroll-like.

Scrollery (skrōu·lĕri). [f. Scroll *sb.* + -ery.] Scroll-work.

1892 L. F. Day *Nat. Ornament* xi. 194 One is inclined to ask what the little Love..is doing amongst the scrollery. 1901 E. L. Arnold *Lepidus* 196 A fine sweep of tesselated pavement, not quite perfect,..but still wonderful enough in its green and white scrollery, its vines and doves.

Scrolly (skrōu·li), *a.* [f. Scroll *sb.* + -y.] Scrolled, scroll-like.

1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 373 It is difficult to distinguish..the modern Arabic character from the scrolly ornaments. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/2 Who were now buying the scrolly chiffoniers?

Scrone, obs. Sc. form of Scorn *sb.*

Scroo, Scrooby: see Screw *sb.*[3], Scruby.

Scroo(d)ge, var. forms of Scrouge *v.*

Scroof(fe, Scrool, obs. ff. Scruff, Scroll *v.*

Scroop (skrūp), *sb.*[1] [Echoic; cf. Scroop *v.*] A harsh, strident, or scraping noise.

a 1859 *Household Words* XXX. 139 This man could mimic every word and scroop and shout that might be supposed proper to such a scene [the pulling of teeth]. 1868 Miss Braddon *Trail of Serpent* VI. iv, The door opened with a scroop. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 12 Nov. 734/2 There is always a scroop of chairs moving on the stone floor.

Scroop, *sb.*[2] *rare*—[1]. ? Perh. a mistake for Scruff.

1850 E. Bronte *Wuthering Heights* iii, I took my dingy volume by the scroop, and hurled it into the dog-kennel.

Scroop (skrūp), *v.* [Echoic.

Cf. *skruke*, 'the noise made by a chair being drawn along a brick floor' (Cozens-Hardy, *Broad Norfolk*, 1893).]

intr. To make a strident, grating, or scraping sound; to grate, creak, squeak.

1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* s. v., The jack scroops. 1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 194 It is boundless joy to me, to contemplate this infernal system [of paper-money] in its hour of wreck: swag here; crack there: scroop this way: souse that way. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* xxxiv. 401 She heard the shutters of the dairy scroop on their hinges. 1886 J. Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* 110 The iron gate scrooped on its hinges.

Hence **Scroo·ping** *vbl. sb.*

1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* xxxiv. 410 Without any of the scrooping or vibrating that usually accompanies a pull-up. 1884 Miss Braddon *Ishmael* II. 232 Opening the doors as cautiously as a practised burglar, lest the porter or his wife should be awakened by the scrooping of a bolt.

† **Scrophe.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *scropha* in the originals.] App. a measure of land.

The addition 'or diches' is prob. due to a mistaken guess at the meaning.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 279 To Petir of Esserugge, half j. acre of mede in Roweneye,..with iij. scrophis of the seid half acre liyng to them. *Ibid.* 290, ij. yerdes of mede in Farnhull..with iiij. scrophis or diches. *Ibid.* 292, ij. Rodis and iiij. scrophis of mede [L. *scrophas prati*] in Farnehulle.

‖ **Scrophularia** (skrɒfiū̆lēə·riă). *Bot.* Also 7–8 scrof-, 7 schroph-. [mod.L. (sc. *herba*), f. med.L. *scrophula* Scrofula: see -ary.] A genus of monopetalous plants (the fig-worts), typical of the N.O. *Scrophulariaceæ*; a plant of this genus.

[1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B iv, Scrofularia in latyn. The best parte & tyme of his dystyllacyon is the rote wasshed, and the leues stroped fro the stalkes and so togyder dystylled.] 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. viii. 192 Our Chymist told me he had made such *Prima entia* of Scrophularia. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 385 You have besides the scarlet Lichnis,.. Spanish Scrophularia [*printed* Scorphularia], Larkspur.

Hence **Scrophularia·ceous** *a.*, belonging to the N.O. *Scrophulariaceæ*; **Scrophula·riad**, a plant of this order.

1846 Smart Suppl., *Scrophulariaceous*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1216/2 *Bartsia*, unpretending annuals, belonging to Scrophulariads. 1884 *Athenæum* 20 Sept. 375/2 The classification of the labiates, the scrophulariads, the Leguminosæ [etc.].

Scrophularin (skrɒ·fiū̆lărin). *Chem.* [f. Scrophular-ia + -in[1].] A bitter substance obtained from *Scrophularia nodosa* (knotted figwort).

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 209 *Scrophularia nodosa* contains a bitter substance called by Walz *a*-scrophularin... *Sc. aquatica* contains a bitter substance *β*-scrophularin.

Scrophularineous (skrɒfiū̆lări·niəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Scrophularineæ* + -ous.] Of or pertaining to the *Scrophularineæ* (or *Scrophulariaceæ*).

1845 G. Don in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 108* Scrophularineous Plants. 1882 G. Allen in *Cornhill Mag.* Jan. 32 The scrophularineous family, to which the snapdragon belongs.

† **Scrophulary.** *Obs.* Also 5 scropholarie, 6 scrophularye. Anglicized form of Scrofhularia (cf. F. *scrofulaire*).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 269 Oubir take scropholarie þe rynde þerof & grinde it wiþ grese, & make þerof an emplastre. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xxxi. 44 The roote..euerlasting, putting forth yearely new springs, as also doth the rootes of the other two Scrophularies. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* I. s. v. *Cancer*, Tisans composed of Maiden-Hair, Ceterach, great Scrophulary or Knot-grass.

Scrophules: variant of Scroffles *pl.*

† **Scro·ppit,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* 'Mean, scraping, niggardly' (Jam.).

? *a* 1550 *Peder Coffeis* 10 in *Lyndesay's Min. Poems* (1871) 588 Thay are declarit in sevin pairtis; Ane (scroppit cofe) quhen he begynnis, Sornand all and sindry airtis, For to by hennis reid-wod he rynnis.

Scroschatis: see Scrochat *Sc. Obs.*

Scrotal (skrō·tăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scrōtālis*, f. Scrotum.] Of or pertaining to the scrotum.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 331 A. B...had many years been subject to a large scrotal hernia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 808 Sinuous raised infiltration of the scrotal skin.

† **Scro·tcher.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. ? = Croche *sb.*[2]

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Semé, Teste de cerf bien semée*, a Stags head which hath all it spillers, rochers, and scrotchers on both sides.

Scrotchertis: see Scrochat *Sc. Obs.*

Scrotiform (skrō·tifɔrm). *Bot.* and *Biol.* [f. Scrotum + -(i)form.] Pouch-shaped.

1775 J. Jenkinson *Brit. Plants* 256 *Scrotiform*, in the form of the *Scrotum*. 1856 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms, Scrotiform*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Scrotocele (skrō·tosēl). *Path.* [f. *scroto-* combining form of Scrotum + Cele.] A scrotal hernia.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Scrotocele*, a Rupture of the *Scrotum*. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Scroto-femoral (skrō·to,fe·mŏrăl), *a. Path.* [formed as prec. + Femoral.] Pertaining to the parts about the scrotum and the thigh.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 510 The popliteal hollow, the groins, the scroto-femoral flexures.

Scrottiszarttis: see Scrochat *Sc. Obs.*

‖ **Scrotum** (skrō·tŭm). *Anat.* [L. *scrōtum.*] The pouch-like tegument enclosing the testicles.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 21/2 The Scrotum, which we call the bagg wherin the testicles are contayned. 1690 R. Davies *Jrnl.* (Camden) 114 He was shot through the scrotum, and thereby forced to retire. 1772 D. Lysons *Pract. Ess.* 66 His neck, abdomen, scrotum, legs, and all parts of his body were greatly tumified. 1878 Bryant *Pract. Surgery* I. 46 Where much cellular tissue exists, oedema will rapidly show itself, as in the eyelids or scrotum.

Scrouge (skrūdʒ, skrɑudʒ), *sb. colloq.* or *vulgar.* Also scrowge. [f. Scrouge *v.*]

1. A crush, squeeze, or crowd.

1839 C. Clark *J. Noakes* cxxiii, Agin these shows, oh, what a scrowge! 1887 C. Keene *Let.* in *Life* xii. (1892) 383, I went to the Academy 'Swarry' last night—the usual scrouge.

2. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1851 B. H. Hall *College Words*, *Scrouge*, an exaction. A very long lesson, or any hard and unpleasant task, is usually among students denominated a *scrouge*.

Scrouge (skrūdʒ, skrɑudʒ), *v. colloq.* or *vulgar.* Also 8–9 skrowdge, 9 scroodge, scrooge, scroudge, scrowge, skrouge. [App. an onomatopœic alteration of Scruze.]

1. *trans.* To incommode by pressing against (a person); to encroach on (a person's) space in sitting or standing; to crowd.

1755 Johnson s. v. *Scruze*, This word..is still preserved, at least in its corruption, *to scrouge*, in the London jargon. 1756 Toldervy *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 198, I assure you, that I am not used to be skrowdged by any man, not even my husband; therefore, pray sit farther from me. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* III. 131, I hope, Miss, I don't scrouge you? 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxix, Kit had hit a man on the head with a handkerchief of apples for 'scrowdging' his parent with unnecessary violence. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 7/2 A barrister applied at Westminster Police-court to-day for a summons against a solicitor's clerk, alleged to have 'scrooged' applicant when..he tried to obtain a seat at the *Drummond Castle* inquiry the other day.

b. *intr.*

1821 Egan *Life in London* viii. (1870) 194 Who's that that scroudges?—you shan't shove my wife. 1873 *Punch* 14 June 247/1 He, like the rest, scrooged and elbowed and leaned forward to see.

2. *U. S.* (See quot.)

1851 B. H. Hall *College Words*, *Scrouge*,..said of an instructor who imposes difficult tasks on his pupils.

Hence **Scrou·ging** *vbl. sb.*

1843 B. R. Hall *New Purchase* II. 59 (Bartlett 1860) After hard scrouging each way some hundred yards, we came together and held a council. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* IV. xvi. 263 Such pushing and scrooging, you never seen the like.

Scrou·ger. [f. Scrouge *v.* + -er[1].]

1. *U. S.* Anything exceptional in size, capacity, etc.; a 'bouncer'.

1847 Robb *Squatter Life* (Bartlett 1860), The gals among them warn't any of your pigeon critters,..but real scrougers; any of 'em could lick a bar easy. 1852 Haliburton *Traits Amer. Humour* xxi. (1866) 119 A drum, and a regular scrouger at that.

2. A fishing-line fitted with several hooks used for illegal fishing (= Scrodgill).

1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* viii. 157 A man..had been convicted of using a tackle with five or six hooks—a 'scrowger' they call it—on the Shoals.

Scrow (skrōu), *sb.* Also 3–6 scrowe, 5 skraw, ? skrew, 5–7 skrow, 6 schrowe, 6–7 skro. [Aphetic a. AF. *escrowe* (see Escrow).]

† **1.** = Scroll *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 Ȝif þu hauest knif oðer cloð, mete oðer drunch, scrowe oðer quaer, holi monne mroure. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3395 Looke every mannys name thou wryte, Upon a scrowe off parchemyn. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxiii. 5 Filateries, that ben smale scrowis. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxxxi. 313 And whan they had þus swore, þey token her scrowes that þe

othes were comprehendid in, to the Notaries. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 99 Wryte þis charme on a skrowe. 1550–1 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 392 Paid for a scrow to syng on ij d. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 307 Tha offir to the Quene a scrow of requeist conteining sum poyntes of thair schisme, inuentiounis, and deuyses. 1615 *Irish Act Jas. I*, c. 9 (1621) 444 Yet neuerthelesse all estreates of such fines..shall..be orderly charged and deliuered by scrowes into the office of the pype in the court of Exchequer.

† b. *pl.* Writings. *Obs.*

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 26 Dirtin Dumbar, quhome on blawes thow thy boist? Pretendand the to wryte sic skaldit skrowis. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 624 Knowynge that yᵉ sayd Baylly vsed to bere scrowys and prophecye aboute hym, shewyng to his company that he was an enchanter and of ylle disposicion. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 112 Thy scrows obscure are borowed fra some buike. 1646 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 190 The haill actis and scrowis that ar not buikit..in the counsall book.

† 2. The expanse of heaven, the sky. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 910 As þe welkyn shold walt, a wonderfull noyse Skremyt vp to the skrow with a skryke ffelle.

† 3. A note, memorandum. *Obs.*

1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 18 This scrowe is mad only for the informacion of the worthy and worshipfull lordes the arbitrores. *c* 1538 R. COWLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 94 There coulde be founde no maner roll, boke, or scrowe of the Kinges Revenues.

† b. A list, inventory, schedule. *Obs.*

a 1545 in *Archæologia* XXXIV. 38 Two prepositores in euery forme, whiche doth giue in a schrowe the absentes names at any lecture. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 196 Heirefter how lang king Frances lyuet, he labouret to put the scotis in the skrow of his maist faythful seruandes.

† c. *Clerk of the scrow* = *Rotulorum clericus*, Clerk of the Register. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 435 James Makgil quha clark is called of the lytle scrow.

4. *pl.* or *collect. sing.* Strips or clippings of hide or leather used for making glue.

1339–40 *Sacrist Rolls Ely* (1907) II. 99 Item in iiij buss. de strowes [*read* scrowes] empt. pro cole [*i. e.* glue] inde faciend. 1811 *Dues on Goods* in *Thom's Hist. Aberd.* II. 54 Scrows of ox and cow, or other hides, per ton, o. 4. o. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 133/1 So prepared the 'scrows' or glue pieces, as they are termed, may be kept a long time without undergoing change.

Scrow (skrau), *a. dial.* [? cogn. w. SHREW.] (See quots.)

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 *Skrow*: surly, dogged, used most adverbially, as to look skrow [*printed* shrow], i. e. to look sowrly. 1859 HUGHES *Scouring W. Horse* vii. 182 Owld Tovey at this did look main scrow. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss., Scrow*, (1) Cross. (2) Angry, scowling. (3) Dark, threatening, as weather, 'A scrow night'.

Scrow, variant of SCREW *sb.*²

Scrowl (skraul). A thin incrustation, calcareous or silicious, upon the wall of a lode.

1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 99 What they call a Scrowl of the true Lode in the Cross-Gossan. 1884 R. HUNT *Brit. Mining* 912.

† **Scroyle** (skroil). *Obs.* Also 7 scroile. [Of obscure origin.

The conjecture that it is a. OF. *escroele*, scrofulous sore, is not quite satisfactory as to form, and the assumed development of sense, though plausible, has no evidence.]

A scoundrel, wretch.

1595 SHAKS. *K. John* II. i. 373 By heauen! these scroyles of Angiers flout you, kings. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. iii. 35, I cry mercy (my good scroile) was't thou? [Cf. *ante* 20 By thy leaue, my neat scoundrell.] 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Water-cormorant* E 3, Then vpon Sabbath dayes the scroyle beginnes With most vnhallowed hands, to weed vp sinnes. 1794 I. WILLIAMS *Crying Epist.* 20 P—t was presuming when a young beginner: S—d—y's a Scroyle—A—d—n's a luckless winner! 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, 'Hang him, foul scroyle, let him pass,' said the mercer.

Scrub (skrɔb), *sb.*¹ Also 6 schrub. [var. of SHRUB: see SCR- 1.]

I. 1. A low stunted tree. Cf. SHRUB.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. XXV. (Tollem. MS.), In euery scrub [orig. *in omni frutice*], where þe reynebowe schineþ strayte þeron, þe same swetnesse of smel is all þe while, þat þe bowe schineþ þere. 1597 *Regul. Manor of Scawby, Lincs.* (MS.), That none shall take or carrye away any common flurrs, being common rootes or scrubbes. 1868 HUNTLEY *Gloss. Cotswold Dial., Scrub*, shrub.

2. *collect.* Stunted trees or shrubs, brushwood; also, a tract of country overgrown with 'scrub'.

1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 281 At four o'clock in the afternoon, we reached a little scrub, or bushy tract, on which we encamped. 1833 STUART *S. Australia* I. i. 21 We encamped about noon in some scrub. 1873 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 60 There are few trees, but plenty of scrub and bushes. 1885 H. FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia!* 152 Upon one occasion a traveller was riding quickly round the corner of a scrub, when he came suddenly on to a camp of wild Blacks.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1860 C. KINGSLEY *Miscell.* I. 295 The Elizabethan poets dwindled down into a barren scrub of Vaughans and Cowleys, etc. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* vii, He felt his chin, on which the accumulated scrub of a ten day's beard was flourishing.

3. spec. *Mallee scrub* (*Eucalyptus oleosa*) and *Horizontal scrub* (*Anodopetalum biglandulosum*), native trees of Australasia, common in thickets and undergrowth. *Tea-scrub*: see TEA-TREE.

1857 HOWITT *Tallangetta* xii. II. 2 This Mallee scrub.. consists of a dense wood of a dwarf species of gum-tree. 1909 G. SMITH *Nat. Tasmania* 117 The most formidable constituent of this underscrub is the..Horizontal Scrub.

II. 4. a. A breed of cattle distinguished by their small size. † b. A dwarf; a person of mean presence.

a. 1555 *Act* 2–3 *Phil. & Mary* c. 3 § 1 Persons..have layde theyr Landes..to feeding of Sheepe, Oxen, Runtes, Schrubbes, Steeres & Heckfers, and suche other lyke Cattell. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. IV. 449 Oxen, rontes, steeres, scrubs, heifares, or kine. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 297/2 The latter receives most of the 'through Texans', the old cows, and the 'scrubs' and 'culls' from the better lots.

b. 1611 COTGR., *Vn manche d'estrille*, a dwarfe, elfe, dandiprat, low scrub.

5. *transf.* A mean insignificant fellow, a person of little account or poor appearance.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXXI. 137 Must I, thought I, giue aime to such a Skrub and such a Saint, That Skowndrell, and this Counterfeit. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* lxii. 4 Neither is there ever a better of these glavering companions, dissembling scrubs. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. iv, He is an arrant scrub, I assure you. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xlvii. II. 256 Any poor scrubs in our place must be fools not to think the match a very rare and astonishing honour, as far as the position goes.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (sense 2), as *scrub-cattle*, *-horse*, *-land*; (sense 1), as *scrub-tree*; scrub-itch, a skin-disease peculiar to the jungles of New Guinea.

1870 A. L. GORDON *Bush Ballads* 14 'Twas merry 'mid the blackwoods, when we spied the station roofs, To wheel the wild *scrub cattle at the yard. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* xvii, The rider of *scrub-horses. 1909 K. MACKAY *Across Papua* 125 We were now in the region of leeches and *scrub-itch. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 15 Innumerable tracks for equestrians across the stunted *scrub-land. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Lett. to Shenstone* (1775) 163, I ordered a crooked row of *scrub trees to be fallen. 1888 LIGHTHALL *Yng. Seigneur* 153 A hamlet of thirty or forty cabins crowded together among some scrub trees in the midst of a stony moor.

b. In names of birds; as scrub-bird, a bird of the Australian family *Atrichiidæ*; scrub-hen = MOUND-BUILDER 2; scrub-robin, any bird of the genus *Drymodes*, Gould; scrub-tit, -wren, small birds of the order *Sericornis*, Gould (Morris, *Austral Eng.*); scrub-turkey, *Tallegalla lathami* or *Leipoa ocellata*.

1869 J. GOULD *Birds of Australia* Suppl. Pl. 26 *Atrichia rufescens*. Rufescent *Scrub-bird. 1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 33 The monster *Scrub-hen, waddling past, Affrights. 1848 J. GOULD *Birds of Australia* III. Pl. 10 *Drymodes Brunneopygia*, Gould, *Scrub Robin. 1872 C. H. EDEN *Queensland* 124 The *scrub turkey (*Talegalla Lathami*).. much resembles the English hen turkey, though but little larger than a fowl.

c. In names of Australasian and American trees and plants; as scrub-oak, *Villaresia moorei* and *Casuarina cunninghamii*; scrub-pine, -vine (see quots.). Also scrubwood (see quots.).

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 40 Found some *scrub oak. 1884 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 457/1 An envious scrub-oak tore it off. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 103 In sparse low woodland, cedar thickets and old fields grown up to *scrub-pines. 1884 SARGENT *Forests N. Amer.* 199 *Pinus clausus* Vasey... Sand Pine. Scrub Pine. Spruce Pine. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s. v. *Pine*, Scrub Pine, *Frenela endlicheri*. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 52. 242 The *scrub-vine, a species of cassytha. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s. v. *Banera*, A shrub, *Banera rubioides*..the Scrub Vine, or Native Rose. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. s. v. *Commidendron*, *C. rugosum* is called the *Scrub Wood and Gum Shrub. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 284 *Aster glutinosus*... The indigenous plant called 'Scrubwood' is a native of the low, outer zone of the Island.

Scrub (skrɔb), *sb.*² [f. SCRUB *v.*]

1. The action or an act of scrubbing.

1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Beggery* D 1 b, Then (after a scrub or a shrug) you must conceiue he meetes with a Lawyer, and fitting his phrase to his language, hee assaults him thus, and ioynes issue. 1900 *Daily News* 14 Aug. 5/1 Afterwards the Carlton goes over to the Junior Carlton, the senior club requiring a scrub up.

2. A broom or brush with short hard bristles.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Scrub, or old Broom, *un vieux Balais*... She has but a Scrub to sweep the Room withall. 1829 *Yng. Lady's Bk.* 466 The brushes used [for painting on velvet] are called scrubs. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 57 Brushes for slippers, deck and paint scrubs.

3. One who scrubs; a hard-worked servant, a drudge. Perhaps with some reference to *sb.*¹ 5.

[1707 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Stratagem* Dram. Pers., *Scrub*, Servant to Mr. Sullen.] 1709 [E. WARD] *Rambling Fuddle-Caps* 10 [The cook-wench says] Altho' I'm a Scrub that is doom'd to a Kitchin. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 304 He [Pan as described by Lucian] was a kind of *Scrub*, a drudge, fit for *all work*. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 447 A young girl of fifteen—a kitchen scrub he had never seen before.

4. The third grade in the quality of the heads of teasels; cf. KING, MIDDLING, QUEEN.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 2 Another, or third sort, are such of the largest, or those which grew on the middle stem, as are damaged by the mildew, wet, or other accident..These therefore are thrown to a third sort, and denominated scrubs. 1813 [see QUEEN *sb.* 9 a].

5. *attrib.* a. scrub-grass (see quots.); b. *U. S.* (in transf. use of sense 1: cf. SCRATCH *sb.*¹) scrub-crew, -nine (see quot. 1891); scrub-race, -game, an impromptu race or game between competitors who have not trained beforehand.

1892 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Scrub*, **Scrub-grass*, **scrub-crew*, **nine*, etc. In contests or games, a crew, nine, or the like, the members of which have not trained beforehand. 1824 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* 206 Through all these islands, and on the Missouri bottoms, there are great quantities of rushes, commonly called *scrub grass. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Scrub-grass*, a syn. for *Scouring rush* [*Equisetum hyemale*]. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 283 To start in a *scrub-race for honour and renown. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 14 The scrub-race of American politics.

† **Scrub,** *sb.*³ *Obs.* [? f. SCRUB *v.*: cf. SCRUBBADO.] The itch.

1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov., Union Prov.* (ed 2) 7 We English are as much afflicted with the Scurvy, as they are with the Scrub. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 321 The Pox, the Mulligrubs, the Bonny Scrubs.

Scrub (skrɔb), *a.* [attrib. use of SCRUB *sb.*¹]

1. Mean, insignificant, contemptible.

1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Jan., Upon Steele's leaving off, there were two or three scrub Tatlers came out, and one of them holds on still. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 3 Oct., How dismal,..how scrub does this town look. 1813 SCOTT 9 Jan. in *Lockhart* III. i. 36 Charlotte is with me just now at this little scrub habitation.

† **2.** ? = Bob (tail). *Obs.*

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4888/4 A large scrub Tail, dapple grey.

Scrub (skrɔb), *v.*¹ Forms: 3–4 scrobbe, 6–7 skrub, 6– scrub. [Of obscure history: adopted from or corresp. to MLG., MDu. *schrobben*, *schrubben* (whence G. *schrubben*, *schruppen*, Sw. *skrubba*, Da. *skrubbe*), perh. related to SCRAPE; cf. GRUB *v.*

The existence of the variant SHRUB *v.* suggests the possibility that there may have been an OE. **scrobbian* or **scrybban*. In the mod. sense 3 the word may perh. have been re-imported from Du. as a nautical term: cf. *swab.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To curry-comb (a horse). *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 4310 The knave greytheth the hors, and scrobbeth [*Laud MS.* þe knaues graiþen her hors, & shrubben].

† **2.** To scratch, rub (a part of one's body). Also *intr.* for *refl. Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 2 b, He put his hand in his pocket but to scrub his arme a little that itcht. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. vi. E 8, Capro reads, sweares, scrubs, and sweares againe, Now by my soule an admirable straine. 1643 LIGHTFOOT *Glean. Exod.* 17 He is glad to get a potsheard to skrub himselfe. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vives*, With a Clout fastned to a Stick scrub the Place four or five Mornings, until the inflam'd Part becomes soft and ripe.

3. To clean (esp. a floor, wood, etc.) by rubbing with a hard brush and water. Also *fig.*

c 1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 13 If part of our companie had been sent thither upon our first arrival at Rio de la Hacha, doubtles we had done much goode, but now they [the Spaniards] had scrube [*? read* scrubd] it very bare. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 52 We careen'd Capt. Wright's Bark and scrubb'd the Sugar-prize and got 2 Guns out of the Wrecks. 1709 W. KING *Art of Love* VIII. 1104 You'll scrub the rooms, or make the bed. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* Introd., I hastened to the spot, and found the well-meaning traveller scrubbing the floor like a housemaid. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. ii, These poor arms you fold about you now Oft scrub the settle, scour the pans, and knead The homely dough.

b. *transf.* To rub with something bristly.

1844 THACKERAY *Arabella* in *Colburn's New Monthly* II. 170 He has a kind word for both, and scrubs the little girl's fresh cheek with his bristly beard.

4. *techn.* To carry on the process of cleansing coal-gas from impurities by means of a 'scrubber'.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 5/1 The particular arrangement of the interior of the scrubber adopted here, is that patented by Henry Green of Preston, and used in the gasworks there for scrubbing gas.

5. In *Comb.*, as *scrub-broom*, *-girl*, *pail*, *-woman*.

1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* iii. § 2. 223 He brings nothing New, his Rayling faculty, like an old *Skrub-broom, being worn to the Stumps. 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND in Griswold *Prose Writers Amer.* (1847) 464 Fetch the broom, Betsey! and the scrub-broom, Betsey! 1895 *Forum* (N.Y.) Jan. 556 A majority of the mothers work out as washerwomen or *scrubwomen.

† **Scrub,** *v.*² *Obs.* Also skrub. [? f. SCRUB *sb.*¹ (sense 5).] *intr.* To go in mean attire.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm. Wedd. Garmt.* 18 Therfore when we may goe in our maisters attire, shall wee scrubbe like beggars patched in our rags? 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iii. 7 Now scouping in side robes of Royalty, That earst did skrub in lowsie brokery.

† **Scrubba·do.** *Obs.* Also 7 scrubadoe, 7–8 scrubado. [f. SCRUB *sb.*³ + -ADO: cf. SCABBADO.] The itch.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 112 He was still troubled with his guest, the scrubadoe. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 6/4 A new Nostrum for the Scrubbado. 1729 FIELDING *Author's Farce* III. Air xii, Were I laid on Scotland's Coast, And in my Arms embrac'd my dear, Let Scrubado do its most, I would know no Grief or Fear.

† **Scru·bbed,** *a. Obs.* [f. SCRUB *sb.*¹ + -ED².]

1. Stunted, dwarfed.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 163 Now by this hand I gaue it to a youth, A kinde of boy, a little scrubbed boy No higher then thy selfe, the Iudges Clearke. 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 237 They suffer their sheepe and cattell to bruize them [Furze bushes] when they are young, and so they grow to scrubbed and low tufts, seldome to that perfection that they might. 1723 T. TAYLOR in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 87 The first wood..consisting all of oaks, but very scrubbed ones. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xvii, Straggling forests of the kind of low scrubbed trees already mentioned.

2. Squalid, insignificant. *rare*—¹.

1688 BUNYAN *Heavenly Footman* (1724) 72 Consider, there-

fore, that as bad as thou have got thither; thither went scrubbed, beggarly Lazarus, &c.

Scrubber[1] (skrʌ·bəɹ). [f. SCRUB *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who, or something which scrubs.

1839 MRS. KIRKLAND in Griswold *Prose Writers Amer.* (1847) 464 Her floor is scoured every night, after all are in bed but the unlucky scrubber, Betsey, the maid of all work. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.* etc. (1865) 166 Steam at forty lbs. is an excellent scrubber.

2. An instrument for scrubbing. a. A scrubbing-brush. (In mod. Dicts.) b. An apparatus for cleansing coal-gas from impurities.

1853 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* 42 The scrubber or breeze condenser is used for the same purpose. 1876 *Engineering* 16 June 514/2 It was yet an open question which were the better, washers or scrubbers.

Scrubber[2] (skrʌ·bəɹ). [f. SCRUB *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A person or animal that lives in the scrub.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxix, The captain was getting in the 'scrubbers'—cattle which had been left..to run wild in the mountains. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 411 Don't you stick at home all your life, like a mallee scrubber.

Scru·bbery. [f. SCRUB *v.*[1] + -ERY.] Drudgery.

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* I. 31, I escaped the ennui of this endless scrubbery. 1884 MRS. F. MILLER *Ht. Martineau* 108 Brains tell in the mean and dirty scrubbery of life as well as in pleasanter things.

Scrubbing (skrʌ·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of SCRUB *v.*[1], in various senses.

†1. Scratching. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 119 The cattell went grazing on the humane Pasture of my miserable corps; I awaked with their nibbling, fell a scrubbing, and [etc.]. 1667 [see SCRATTING *vbl. sb.*, under SCRAT *v.*]

2. Rubbing with a hard brush and water; *transf.* rubbing with something bristly.

1681 [see SCRUBBING-BRUSH]. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* VI. (1697) 141 To shun the scrubbing of a bearded Kiss. 1749 BERKELEY *Word to Wise* Wks. III. 445 A little washing, scrubbing, and rubbing, bestowed on their persons and houses.

†3. A beating, a drubbing. *Obs.*

1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* II. 485 Three thousand French horse..have given Scheubler a severe scrubbing.

†**Scru·bbing,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SCRUB *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] Squalid, beggarly.

1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yr.* D j, Hungry Coffin-sellers, scrubbing Bearers, and nastie Graue-makers. 1622 MASSINGER *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, Nor do I care From what a lauish hand your money flies, So you giue none away, feed beggers...And to the scrubbing poore.

Scrubbing-brush (skrʌ·biŋbrʌʃ). Also 7 scrubing-brush. [f. SCRUBBING *vbl. sb.*] A brush with hard bristles for scrubbing purposes.

1681 GREW *Museum* II. § i. iv. 204 The outward Skin being taken off, the Fruit looks and feels like a round Scrubing-Brush. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. i. 7 She never would lay aside the Use of Brooms and scrubbing Brushes. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Cheap Jack Zita* xxxiii, A woman over her soapsuds and scrubbing-brush.

†**Scru·bbish,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SCRUB *a.* + -ISH[1].] Like a 'scrub', contemptible.

1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 43 The Dutch, truckling, scrubbish.

Scrubby (skrʌ·bi), *a.*[1] [f. SCRUB *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Stunted, under-developed.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XIII. xxxiv. 98 A short thicke planke stood on a scrubby post That seru'd them for a boord to drinke and eat. 1727 SWIFT *Baucis & Phil.* 177 The other Tree was griev'd, Grew scrubby, dy'd a-top, was stunted. 1794 W. PEARCE *Agric. Berks* 55 Woods...The scrubby stuff is..burnt into charcoal. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* ii. 30 The ground is..covered with scrubby lichens.

2. Covered with scrub or brushwood.

1676 PETTY *Polit. Anat. Irel.*, etc. (1691) 115 About two Millions of Rocky, Boggy, and Scrubby Pasture, commonly call'd Unprofitable. 1835 T. BATMAN in *K. Cornwallis's New World* (1859) I. 373 The country, however, proved too scrubby to enable the dogs to have a fair run.

3. Insignificant, shabby, paltry, of poor appearance.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. xii, To be treated like a little scrubby apprentice? 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 35, I am so sorry to put you off with such a scrubby letter. 1894 MRS. F. ELLIOT *Roman Gossip* i. 22 They were but a very scrubby mixture of the lowest peasants.

Scrubby (skrʌ·bi), *a.*[2] [f. SCRUB *v.*[1] + -Y.] Rough, bristly.

1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xl. 411 'Well, I should like to see her', drawled out Merl, as he smoothed down his scrubby mustachios.

†**Scru·bly,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCRUB *a.* + -LY[2].] Meanly, shabbily.

1732 LD. TYRAWLY in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 383 This room few of my predecessors made use of..; and..such of them as did furnish it, did it very scrubly.

†**Scru·by.** *north. Obs.* Also 6 scrubby, 6, 9 scrubie, 7 scrobie, scrooby. [Perh. a metathetic alteration of SCORBUTE or its source.] Scurvy. Also 16th c. *scruby ill. Comb.* **Scruby-grass,** scurvy-grass.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I vj, The scuerbuch whyche is called in the North cuntre the scruby ell [1568 the scrubby ill, or the crepel ill]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxxii. 325 In English it is called Spoonewort, Scrubie grass, and Scuruie grasse. 1655 LAMONT *Diary* (Maitland Cl.) 87 This year, Mr. Jhone Duncan..died of the Scrobie. 1676 ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* App. (1848) 593 Scruby, gout, and gravel. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 61 *Scrooby-grass.*

†**Scrud,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Of obscure origin: cf. SCRUB *v.*] (See quot.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 To Scrud (Scrvde *A*); *ubi* to rub.

Scrue, obs. form of SCREW *sb.*[1] and *v.*

Scruff (skrʌf), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1, 7–9 scruf, 5 scrofe, 6 scruffe, *Sc.* skrufe, skruif(e, skruiff, scruef, 6–8 scroof, 7 scroofe, scrooffe, 7– scruff. [Metathetic var. of SCURF *sb.*[1]]

†1. A scabby or scaly condition of the skin; = SCURF *sb.*[1] 1. *Obs.*

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 316 Wið scruf, & wið sceb.] 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 626 *Glabra*, scrofe or scalle.

† b. A scab. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4716/4 Stoln.., a black Gelding.., with a large Wart or Scruff over his near Eye.

2. = SCURF *sb.*[1] 2.

1526 *Grete Herball* clx. (1529) K ij b, Agaynst the scruffe of the heed and habundaunce of lyce. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* x. 124 Jumbling them together make them rub off their scruf from one another. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Med.* xxvii. 339 Where there was a copious detachment of scruf.

3. A thin crust or coating. Cf. SCURF *sb.*[1] 4.

1591 BRUCE *Serm.* T 2 b, The outwarde scroofe, suppose it appeareth to be whole, where the inward is festered, auaileth nothing, bot maketh it to vndercoate again. 1695 *Sc. Acts Will. III* (1822) IX. 452/2 Pulling up..Bent Juniper and broom bushes which did loose and break the surface and scrooffe of the saids hills.

4. Applied to what is worthless or contemptible; refuse, litter; †*spec.* base money; also used (like 'dross', 'muck') as a contemptuous term for money.

1559 in Knox *Hist. Ref.* II. Wks. 1846 I. 403 They spair not planelie to brek doun and convert the guid and stark money..into this thair corruptit skruiff and baggage of Hard-heidis and Non Suntis. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) i. 65 Thai brocht þair bastardis, wᵗ þe skrufe thai skraip To blande þair blude wᵗ barrownis be ambitioun. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scruff*, is a kinde of fuel, which poor people..gather up at ebbing water, in the bottom of the Thames about London, and consists of Coal, little sticks of Wood, Cockle-shells, and the like. 1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 103 The..dirty current..carrying away with it the little trifling straw, scruff, and bubbles on its surface.

† b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1673 *Cal. Treas. Bks.* (1909) IV. 404 As to the importation of whale fins, commonly called scruffe, which you conceive ought to pay as whalebone, you are to state a case.

5. *Comb.*: Scruff-stone, ? rubble.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, Old Cop..had jammed the double gates in under the scruff-stone archway.

Scruff (skrʌf), *sb.*[2] Also *dial.* scruft. [Corrupt form of SCUFF *sb.*[2], assimilated to prec.] The nape of the neck.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Scruff*, the nape of the neck. North. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxix, He would have fallen overboard, if I hadn't caught him by the scruff of the neck. 1892 J. K. JEROME in *Idler* June 498 We adopted a more pressing method, and coaxed the dog out by the scruff of his neck.

transf. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxix, 'John Fry, you big villain!' I cried, with John hanging up in the air by the scruff of his neck-cloth.

†**Scruff** (skrʌf), *v.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Also 8 scruiff. [f. SCRUFF *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To touch slightly, graze (see Jam. and E.D.D.); in quots. *fig.* to treat superficially, slur *over*. Hence **Scru·ffer.**

1658 in J. Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 410 Calling him [the minister] a betrayer of sowles, a scruffer of Scriptures. 1707 *Min. Ayr Presbyt.* (MS.), He doth often change his text, and doth not raise many heads and doth not prosecute such as he names, but scruffs them. 1713 *Humble Plead. Good old-way* 92 Many scandalous practises of Presbyterian ministers in some places, tho flagrant and notour, little heeded, and, when complained of, scruiffed over with private accomodations. 1720 E. ERSKINE *Whs.* (1871) I. 91 Many there are who scruff over the duty in a superficial manner.

Scruff (skrʌf), *v.*[2] [f. SCRUFF *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To seize (a person) by the nape of the neck.

1885 H. FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia!* 100, I once had a narrow escape of being 'scruffed' by an alligator.

Scruffy (skrʌ·fi), *a.* [f. SCRUFF *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Scaly, covered with scurf.

1660 HOWELL *Parly of Beasts* 76 The Serpent goes to Fenell when he would..cast off his old scruffy skin to wear a new one. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* xxx, Every man, woman, and child has a brown, scruffy, turf-like face. 1885 *U. S. Cons. Report* No. lviii. 150 (Cent.) The sheep [in South Africa] becomes scruffy and emaciated.

Scruge, obs. form of SCOURGE *v.*

†**Scru·ggle,** *v. Obs.*—[0] [Cf. STRUGGLE, SCRIGGLE *vbs.*] *intr.* To contend, struggle.

1530 PALSGR. 707/2, I scruggell with one to gette from hym, or by cause I wyll nat obey his correction.

Scruish, Scruitore: see SCREWISH, SCRUTOIRE.

Scrum (skrʌm). [Abbreviated form of SCRUMMAGE.] = SCRIMMAGE *sb.* 4.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 22 May 11/2 The Englishmen are particularly weak behind the 'scrum'.

Comb. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 652 The impetigo or scrum-pox of Rugby football players..seems to be traced to chafing by jerseys infested with pyogenetic cocci.

Scrummage, variant of SCRIMMAGE *sb.*

Scrump (skrʌmp). *dial.* [Cf. SCRIMP *a.* and *v.*] Anything withered or dried up.

1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. Flirt* xxiii, You two old scrumps, suppose you sit an hour in the pump-room. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1892) 193 A mouse is baked in the oven to a 'scrump', then pounded to powder.

†**Scru·mple,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [var. form of CRUMPLE; see SCR- 2.] A wrinkle, crease.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 122 Fy! skolderit skyn, thow art bot skyre and skrumple.

Scru·mple, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. the sb.] *trans.* To crush, fold, wrinkle.

c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 188 Ane chartour, sasine, or uther evident, being be chance brint, singit be the fire, scrumpillit, or the seil thairof meltit and brokin. 1894 Moss *Cheadle* 172 Her rough hair was scrumpled into a chenille net.

Hence **Scru·mpled** *ppl. a.*

1902 *Longman's Mag.* Sept. 441 A scrumpled face.

Scrumptious (skrʌ·mpʃəs), *a. colloq.* or *vulgar.* [Prob. identical with the dial. *scrumptious* 'mean, stingy, close-fisted', related to *scrimption* small quantity, f. SCRIMP *v.* The transition to sense 1 below is not impossible; for the development of sense 2 cf. NICE *a.*]

1. Fastidious, hard to please. ? *U. S.* only.

1845 JUDD *Margaret* II. vii. (1874) 291, I don't mean to be scrumptious about it, Judge; but I do want to be a man, if I..haven't so much eddication as the rest.

2. a. *U. S.* Stylish, handsome. b. Used as a vague epithet of enthusiastic praise: First rate, 'glorious'.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxiii, A little tidy scrumptious looking slay. 1865 MEREDITH *R. Fleming* xxxi, Hang me, if ever I see such a scrumptious lot. 1901 F. HUME *Golden Wang-ho* iv, 'I shan't show it [the picture] to anyone till it's done..; then you'll say it is scrumptious'.

Scrunch (skrʌnʃ), *sb.* [f. SCRUNCH *v.*]

1. The noise made by scrunching.

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* 219 Leaning forward in expectation of the *scrunch* I knew must come. 1892 'VERNON LEE' in *Contemp. Rev.* May 670 Its snow was becoming less crisp (before you might have almost heard its scrunch).

2. An act of scrunching.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 297, I brought my heel well down on his little varnished toe and gave it a scrunch.

Scrunch (skrʌnʃ), *v.* [Cf. CRUNCH *v.* and SCR- 2.]

1. *trans.* To bite with a crushing noise, = CRUNCH *v.* 1.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 66 A person may be said to scrunch an apple or a biscuit, if in eating it he made a noise. 1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cxliv. (1848) 366 This horse would eat oysters with great delight, scrunching them shells and all between his teeth.

2. To crush, tread crushingly upon; also, to squeeze into small compass; = CRUNCH *v.* 2.

1861 SALA *Dutch Pictures* viii. 111 An old lady..scrunches the boots of her opposite neighbours. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* xxx. 33 Paper as everyone knows, burns well when scrunched up. 1895 SYMONDS in *Life* I. iii. 71, I scrunched the muddy gravel, beneath the boughs of budding trees.

b. *refl.* To squeeze oneself into compact shape. Cf. SCRINCH, SCRINGE *vbs.*

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* (1845) 265 Now belaying, and now letting go—now scrunching himself down into mere ballast. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 566/1 The first night I slept out..I..scruntched [*sic*] myself into a doorway, and the policeman passed by..without seeing me.

3. *intr.* To produce a sound of being crushed.

1844 W. BARNES *Dorset Poems, Lydlinch Bells* 6 When vrozen grass, as white's a sheet, Did scrunchy sharp below our veet. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 403/1, I could hear the stones scrunch under his feet.

Hence **Scrunched, Scru·nching** *ppl. adjs.*

1835–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Last Cab-driver*, He had compromised with the parents of three scrunched children, and just 'worked out' his fine for knocking down an old lady. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 189 But after some alarming scrunching sounds, and creaks from the canoe, we were shot ignominiously out down river.

Scrunt (skrʌnt). *Sc.* Anything stunted or worn out, esp. the stump of a tree.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 115 And no redres that ȝe will mak thairfoir, Nocht worth ane scrunt of all that to restoir. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* vii. 75 In the midst of the bit scrunts of birks and..thorns.

Scrupilous (e, obs. forms of SCRUPULOUS.

Scruple (skrū·p'l), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 scrupul, 6–8 scrupule; and see SCRIPLE, SCRIPTULE. [ad. L. *scrūpulus*, more freq. *scrūpulum* (also *scrīpulum*, *scrīplum*, *scrīptulum*, *scrīptlum*, whence SCRIPLE, SCRIPTULE), commonly regarded as identical with *scrūpulus* SCRUPLE *sb.*[2], the sense 'small weight or measure' being supposed to be developed from the etymological sense 'small pebble'.

The assumed sense-development presents no difficulty, but the relation between the forms with *ū* and those with *ī* has not been satisfactorily explained, and some scholars dispute the identity of the word.

Cf. F. *scrupule* (15th c.), Sp. *escrúpulo*, Pg. *escrupolo*, It. *scrupolo, scritolo* (:—L. *scrīptulum*), G. *skrupel.*]

A small unit of weight or measurement.

1. A unit of weight = 20 grains, ⅓ drachm, ⅓₂ oz. Apothecaries' weight. Denoted by the character ℈.

[1382–: see SCRIPLE.] 1564–78 BULLEYN *Dial. agst Pest.* (1888) 42 Take Theriaca..ij Scruples..; bole Amoniacke, prepared, half a Scruple. 1590 BARROUGH *Physick* (1596) A viij b, A Scruple is twentie barley cornes. 1632 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. iv, With some few scruples of sassa-fras and Guacum. 1710 P. BLAIR *Misc. Observ.* (1718) 63 It weighed betwixt a Scruple and half a Dram. 1843 T. WATSON *Lect. Physic* I. xxxix. 700 It consists of the iodide of mercury, mixed with lard, in the proportion of two scruples to the ounce.

attrib. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 647 He was ordered scruple doses of salicylate of ammonia.

¶ b. Alleged values of doubtful authority.

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scruple* (*scriptulum*), is of Troy weight seven grains and an half. 1688 HOLME *Armoury*

III. 339/1 A scruple is 14 graines. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Among Goldsmiths, the Scruple is 24 Grains.

2. One-sixtieth of a degree; a minute of arc.

First, second, third scruple, the first, second, third power of one-sixtieth. Cf. MINUTE *sb.*[1], etymological note.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 205 The latitude fiftie degrees, and fortie scruples or minutes. *Ibid.* 474 Two and fiftie degrees and fortie scrupuls from the Aequator. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* 16 Northampton lying within twenty nine scruples of the same degree of longitude with Oxford. 1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 75 A Degree is subdivided into Minutes, or First Scruples, 60'. A First Scruple, into Seconds, 60". Seconds, into Thirds, and so on.

† b. *Astr.* in special collocations (see quots.).

In some mod. Dicts. *scruple* is said to be synonymous with DIGIT 4, but this seems to be an erroneous inference from statements like that in quot. 1728.

1633 H. GELLIBRAND *App. Longitude* in T. James *Voy.* R 2, The middle motion of the ⊙ Center...The Prosthaphæresis of the Center add...The Proportional Scruples.—I. 1658 GADBURY *Docitr. Nativities* II. 229 Then..take out the Scruples of proportion, and reserve them until anon. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Scruples eclipsed are that Part of the Moon's Diameter which enters the Shadow, expressed in the same Measure wherein the apparent Diameter of the Moon is expressed. See *Digit. Ibid.*, *Scruples* of Immersion, or Incidence, are an Arch of the Moon's Orbit, which her Centre describes from the Beginning of the Eclipse, to the Time when its Centre falls into the Shadow....*Scruples* of Emersion, are an Arch of the Moon's Orbit, which her Centre describes in the Time from the first Emersion of the Moon's Limb, to the End of the Eclipse.

† **3.** As a unit of time. a. *Scruple of an hour*: the sixtieth part of an hour, a minute: more fully *first scruple*, the successive smaller fractions of the sexagesimal scale being called *second scruple* (=our 'second'), *third, fourth, fifth*, etc. *scruple*. b. Similarly, the day of 24 hours was divided sexagesimally into *first, second*, etc. *scruples*, the 'first scruple' being=24 minutes. c. In Rabbinical chronology, the 1080th part of an hour, equal to 1-18th of a minute (=late Heb. פַּלְגָּה *hĕleq*; the attribution of this measure to the Arabs is a mistake). *Obs.*

a. 1603 HEYDON *Def. Judic. Astrol.* iv. 143, I haue a plumbe watche..and this, with one motion giueth me so perfectly, both the minute and second scruple of time, that hauing obserued [etc.]. 1631 QUARLES *Samson* Med. xxi. 128 How can it be expected, we have power To hold out Seige, one scruple of an hower. 1640–72 WILKINS *Disc. New Planet* II. (1684) 124 If a Man, leaping up in a Ship, may abide in the Air one second scruple of an hour. *c* 1653 T. WHALLEY in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 603 [A computation expressed in sexagesimals of an hour is referred to as being] in hourly scruples.

b. 1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 77 Astronomically, a Day is divided as an Integer, into first Scruples 60'. A Prime or first Scruple into 60", and so on.

c. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Chaldee Scrupule is 1/1080 Part of an Hour; called, by the Hebrews, Helakim. These Scruples are much used by the Jews, Arabs, and other Eastern People. 1788 MARSDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 419 The lunar month..according to the computation of the Arabian Astronomers, consists of 29 days, 12 hours, and 792 scruples or parts in 1080.

† **4.** A Roman land-measure of ten feet square, being the 24th part of an *uncia* and 288th of a *jugerum*. *Obs.*

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 114 A Scruple of an Arpent is 1/48 of an Arpent or 10 Feet Square every way.

5. One-twelfth of an inch; a line. Also, one-tenth of a geometrical inch. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III, This to me, who never leave one scruple of an inch of my paper unadorned by my literary genius.

6. *fig.* A very small quantity or amount; a very small part or portion.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 77 There is no loue in this worlde so perfecte, as that whiche holdeth no scruple of interest. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 38 Nature neuer lends The smallest scruple of her excellence But [etc.]. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 Look into Italy and Spain, whether those places be one scruple the better. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 111 Each Word and Syllable brought to the Scale, And valu'd to a Scruple in the Sale. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. i, In the choice of a second wife, one scruple of prudence is worth a pound of passion.

Scruple (skrū·p'l), *sb.*[2] Also 6 scrupule, (scrupple, scropple). [ad. F. *scrupule* (14th c.), ad. L. *scrūpulus*, lit. a pebble (recorded only in late L.), fig. a cause of uneasiness, scruple, dim. of *scrūpus* rough or hard pebble, used fig. by Cicero for a cause of uneasiness or anxiety.

Cf. F. *scrupule* (14th c.), Sp. *escrúpulo*, Pg. *escrupulo*, It. *scrupolo*, G. *skrupel*.]

1. A thought or circumstance that troubles the mind or conscience; a doubt, uncertainty or hesitation in regard to right and wrong, duty, propriety, etc.; esp. one which is regarded as over-refined or over-nice, or which causes a man to hesitate where others would be bolder to act. Often, *scruple of conscience*.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 63 b, He wyll..lette the ..symple persone from the performynge of his dutyes.., by the reason of..feares and scruples. *c* 1534 MORE *Wks.* 1435/1 Though men..say it is no consience but a foolish scruple. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 179 The kyng of England ..was in a great scruple of his conscience and not quiet in his mynde. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iv. 40 (and Qo.) Some crauen scruple Of thinking too precisely on th'ennent. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. vi. Rule 1, A Scruple is a great trouble of mind proceeding from a little motive. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xli. 43 Upon the nicest Scruples of Honour. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 389 The assembly did not, however, start any scruple on this head. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 90 The scruples of reason, or piety, were silenced by the strong evidence of visions and miracles. 1854 FABER *Growth in Holiness* xvii. (1872) 317 A scruple is..a vain fear of sin where there is no reasonable ground for suspecting sin. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. ii. 34 They had to deal with enemies who were troubled with few scruples.

b. in generalized sense. (Sometimes=scrupulosity.)

1547–8 *Ordre of Communion* 7 To the satisfaccion of his mynde, and auoydyng of all scruple and doubtfulnes. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. vi. Rule 2 § 1 This is a right course in the matter of scruple; *proceed to action*. 1689 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Feb., The Abp. of Canterbury and some of the rest, on scruple of conscience..enter'd their Protests and hung off. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 90 At first, the experiment was made with caution and scruple. 1848 BARONESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) II. iii. 114 He expresses much concern and scruple about the trouble he occasions. 1872 BLACKMORE *Maid of Sker* vi, Just as I had made up my mind to lift up the latch, and to walk in freely, as I would have done in most other houses, but stood on scruple with Evan Thomas.

c. Phr. *Without scruple.*

1526 TINDALE *Acts* x. 29 Therfore cam I unto you with outen scruple [*orig.* ἀναντιρρήτως]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 157. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 98 The Jewish king, who had broken without scruple the brazen serpent. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 186 Attacked by the civil power, they without scruple repelled force by force.

d. Phr. *To have scruples*; *to have little, no scruple*, etc. Const. *about* (a matter), *in* (doing something).

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 340, I had some little Scruple in my Mind about Religion, which insensibly drew me back. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 709/2 That the Quakers can have no Scruple of Conscience in paying Tythes. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam's Const. Hist.* (1897) 80 A man without truth or humanity may have some strange scruples about a trifle. 1850 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 14 June (1884) I. i. 18 If you have the slightest [objection], pray have no scruple in leaving my curiosity ungratified. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, [They] had little scruple in applying to a witch.

e. *To make scruple* (also *a, no*, etc. *scruple*): to entertain or raise a scruple or doubt; to hesitate, be reluctant, esp. on conscientious grounds. Const. infin.; also with *of* (*at, in*)=to stick at, hesitate to do or allow, etc. ? *Obs.* (Cf. F. *faire scrupule*, with similar constructions.)

1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marf.* B j, They presume to make a shrewde scruple of their obedience. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. lxxxix. 51 Making a scruple that the holy shields called Ancilia were as yet not layed up againe. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* IV. v. (1605) I 4 b, *Lac.* But is that true, it 'tis prohibited To sacrifice vnto him? *Ter.* Some such thing Cæsar makes scruple of, but forbids it not. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 36 Cæsar..made no scruple to professe that hee had rather bee first in a village, then second at Rome. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 57 The superstitious make more scruple of a little sinne then of a great. 1669–70 MARVELL *Corr.* cxxxii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 298 One of those who thinke it the greatest point of wisdome to make the most scruples. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* (1840) 210, I made no scruple at taking these goods. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 14 Small scruple is made by the authorities in opening private letters.

† **2.** A doubt or uncertainty as to a matter of fact or allegation; an intellectual difficulty, perplexity, or objection. *Beyond a scruple*, beyond doubt or cavil. *Obs.*

The phrase 'scruple of suspition' (quot. 1534) perh. contains an etymologizing reference to SCRUPLE *sb.*[1] 6. Cf. 'un seul scrupule de doubte', 16th c. in Littré.

1534 MORE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 49 In eny parte of all which my dealing, whither eny other man may peradventure put eny dowt, or move eny scruple of suspition. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 644 For anuoyding of which scruple and ambiguity: Edmund Erle of Marche..made his tytle and righteous clayme. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 16 In the Table there is no difficultie..yet, to take away all scruple, I will shew you the vse of it. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 2 The only scruple is whether it was used in their sacred accounts or no. *a* 1718 PENN *Innocency with open Face* Wks. 1726 I. 267, I hope my Innocency will appear beyond a Scruple. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 22 Our captain..raised several scruples about the latitude which we should keep in such a voyage. 1741 HARRIS *Three Treat.* III. i. (1765) 140 A Subject, where one's own Interest appeared concerned so nearly would well justify every Scruple, and even the severest Inquiry.

† b. Disbelief or doubt *of*. *To have* or *make scruple of*: to hesitate to believe or admit. Also rarely with *how* and clause. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 149 But how I should bee your Patient, to follow your prescriptions, the wise may make some dram of a scruple, or indeede, a scruple it selfe. 1611 — *Cymb.* V. v. 182 Wherein, I wretch Made scruple of his praise. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 116 When there is no scruple in our hearts of Gods love towards us. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 22 That Letters, and consequently Sculpture, was long before the Flood, we make no scruple of. 1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* lxix. Wks. (Grosart) II. 210 If you find any thing perplext in it, I shall..resolve any scruple that you may have of its exposition. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. (Arb.) 33 If you make the least scruple of the efficacie of these my Rules, do but come to the Play-house, and you shall judge of 'em by the effects.

† c. *Without scruple*: without doubt or question, doubtless. (Used to qualify an assertion.) *Obs.*

1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xi. 189 As is, without scruple, apparant in the date of the synod. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 49 The same house to be sold.. would have yielded without scruple 1000 or 1200 l.

¶ d. A suspicion *of* (something). *rare*—[1].

1597 SIR R. CECIL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 42 Wherein that you may see the poore unfortunate Secretarie will leave no scrupule in you of lack of industry, to yeald you all satisfaction..I have thought good to [etc.].

† e. A quibble, fine distinction. *Obs.*

1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 43 If there is any Thing else Commentators concern themselves about, it is Property of Expression, or rather some Verbal Niceties, and Grammatical Scruples.

3. *Comb.*, as † *scruple-drawer* (applied to a confessor), *-monger*; *scruple-selling* ppl. a.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 19 The late Ordinary of Newgate, Mr. Smith, who was one of the most famous 'Scruple-drawers of his Time. 1675 WALTON *Hooker* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1818) IV. 223 There were also many of these *Scruplemongers that pretended a tenderness of conscience, refusing to take an oath before a lawful magistrate. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 91 b, Printed by one of those Godly Wholesale Dealers in Scandal, those *Scruple-selling Vermin of the Poultry.

Scruple (skrū·p'l), *v.* Also 7 scrupule, scroople. [f. the sb. Cf. OF. (15th c.) *scrupuler* 'examiner scrupuleusement' (Godefroy).]

1. *trans.* To have or make scruples about; to demur to, take exception to, question the propriety or expediency of (something done or to be done); to hesitate or stick at (doing something). ? *Obs.*

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 175 Was euer a Papist knowne to scruple this sinne? Not to extenuate it as veniall? 1692 LOCKE *3rd Let. Toleration* iii. Wks. 1714 II. 347 Perhaps it is because he scruples the Cross in Baptism. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 302 Let no man scruple my honourable mention of this noble enemy. 1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II. cxlv. 18 He scrupled no means to obtain his ends. 1837 HALLAM *Lit. Europe* III. iii. § 86 *note*, It seems reasonable not to scruple the use of a word so convenient.

† **2.** To doubt, question, hesitate to believe (a fact, allegation, etc.); to question the truth, goodness, or genuineness of. *Obs.*

1640 D. CAWDREY *Three Serm.* (1641) 13 The Truth of this Grant may well be scrupled. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. viii. 474 The Doctrine of a Third [Person] ought not to be scrupul'd. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* iv. 75 Though the Father's Deity is not scrupled, or called in question. 1787 R. TYLER *Contrast* III, Though I don't scruple your veracity, I have some reasons for believing you were there. 1846 W. H. MILL *Five Serm.* (1848) 142 The charge of ignorance of the Gospel is often made against those who scruple statements resembling..this.

† b. with obj. a sentence introduced by *that* or *whether*. *Obs.*

1642 *Collect. Rights & Priv. Parlt.* 9 They at the first scrupuled, whether or no they might take up armes for their own defence against that cruell arrest. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 275 It is not to be scrupled that the omnipotent and wise Creator saw and judged all things that he had made to be good. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 7 They were of invincible spirits to undergo all manner of..dangers, whereby it was scrupled by the rest of the World, Whether they were more greedy of Honour or Wealth?

† **3.** *causative.* To excite scruples in (a person), to cause to feel scruples. *Obs.*

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. vi. § 72. 380 But all of them..fear the event of such a tryall [of their religion] that they may be scrupled and staggered and disquieted by it. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe*, etc. III. 72 The dangerous tentations of the Devil, wherewith he and his instruments..do mainly assault the mindes, and scruple the consciences,..of the weaker amongst us. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 255 If he had anything that scrupled him in matter of Law.

4. *intr.* To entertain or raise scruples; to hesitate, demur, † doubt. Chiefly *to scruple at* (also in indirect passive). Now *rare*.

1639 SALTMARSHE *Pract. Policy* 120 When you are to be engaged in imploiment, and your abilities are doubted and questioned, and therefore you are scrupeld at. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 63 Although M. de Nointel scrupl'd at first, yet he consented at length. 1708 *Misc. Curiosa* III. 407 Whilst I was scrupling at this Relation, they brought me Gallasius his Commentary upon Exodus. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 26 The sovereigns..who scrupled at no means for securing themselves on the throne. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) II. viii. 481 His love for the Church was a passion and he scrupled at nothing which could advance its interests.

b. quasi-*refl.* with complement: To allow one's scruples to drive one *out of*.

1786 J. NEWTON in J. Bull *Mem. W. Bull* (1864) 163 Mr. R. of Birmingham has indeed had some sceptical qualms about his situation in the Church, and some thoughts of seceding or dissenting from us...I shall be sorry if he scruples himself out of a sphere of usefulness.

5. *Const.* inf.: To hesitate or be reluctant (*to do* something), esp. on conscientious grounds, or out of regard for what is fit and proper. (The current use.)

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 357 Fathers not scrupling to make their own children victims. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 997 He scrupl'd not to eat Against his better knowledge. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 119 The Muletors scrupuled to let us have Mules to Ride on. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxv. 279 The lords for some time scrupled to pass this clause. 1864 BAYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1875) 104 The Pope did not scruple to preach a crusade against the Emperor himself 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* p. xix, Nor have I scrupled to forsake the ancient quantity in proper names.

Hence **Scru·pled** *ppl. a.*, questioned, made an

object of scruple. **Scru·pling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1641 *Vindic. Smectymnuus* 36 Unable to give solid satisfaction to a scrupling conscience. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 127 Therefore the scrupling at this conditional Petition is causless. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 381 Let all Rulers multiply unnecessary scrupled impositions in their own dominions. 1696 WHISTON *Theory of Earth* II. 151 One of the most scrupled and exceptionable Points of his Narration, that of the Universal Deluge. 1818 scrupling [see RAP *v.*[1] 3 c]. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 173 The bill of comprehension proposed to parliament went no farther than to leave a few scrupled ceremonies at discretion. 1894 *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 708/3 [He] scorned the constraint which prevents a scrupling dullard from describing what he never saw.

Scru·pleless, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SCRUPLE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no scruples, unscrupulous.
1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xliv, Your Grace's swordsmen have had ill-luck of late; and it is hard, since you always choose the best hands, and such scrupleless knaves too.

†**Scru·pleness.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 scrupulenes, 6 scrupulnes. [irreg. f. SCRUPLE *sb.* + -NESS.] Scrupulousness.
1489 CAXTON *Faytes of Armes* IV. i. 230 To take awaye all scrupulenes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xix. 165, I exort 30u..to put al cerimonial scrupulnes furtht of 30ur hartis. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 69 (*heading*) Against fantasticall scruplenes. 1647 HEXHAM I, Scruplenesse of conscience.

Scrupler (skrū·plər). [f. SCRUPLE *v.* + -ER [1].] One who scruples, one who has scruples.
Applied *spec.* to the Scots divines who objected to take the Abjuration Oath in 1712.
1631 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 295 Away then with those nice scruplers. 1650 J. DURY *Just Re-proposals* 20 To satisfie scruplers, all their scruples must be first known. 1712 T. BOSTON *Acc. Life* (1908) 191 There the lawfulness of the Oath of Abjuration was debated *pro* and *con*,..betwixt the scruplers and the clear brethren. 1843 *Wodrow's Corr.* II. 401 Warden..refused to swear the Abjuration Oath, even after the change of its form in 1719, which induced the greater number of scruplers to take it.

Scru·plesome, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SCRUPLE *sb.* + -SOME.] Inclined to be scrupulous.
c 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Let.* in Emily Lawless *Mem.* (1904) 95 It was raining very hard, and Pat in his yellow waistcoat, which you know he is scruplesome about wetting.

†**Scrupose,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *scrūpōsus*, f. *scrūpus* rough or sharp stone: see -OSE.] Rough, jagged.
1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Corallina*, The feathered, scrupose coralline.

†**Scru·pular,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *scrūpulār-is* (*scrip-*), f. *scrūpul-um* SCRUPLE *sb.*[1]] Of or amounting to a scruple in weight.
1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Scrupular*, of or belonging to a scruple, small. 1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 492 The latter coins of this scrupular standard are like the Denarii of the age in which they were struck.

Scrupule, obs. f. SCRUPLE *sbs.* and *v.*

Scrupulist (skrū·piŭlist). [f. L. *scrūpul-us* SCRUPLE *sb.*[2] + -IST.] One who has scruples or raises difficulties.
1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Casuist Uncas'd* 5 The Rebells assaulting of their Sovereign..might have given your Scrupulists as hard thoughts of the Faction that did it. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* Misc. II. iii. (1737) III. 109 These are the Scepticks or Scrupulists, against whom there is such a Clamour rais'd. 1863 *Times* 14 Oct. 8/4 Foolish scrupulists, who in a matter of life and honour would not use their only weapons of defence because carved with objectionable figures.

†**Scru·pulize,** *v. Obs.* [formed as prec. + -IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To scruple at. **b.** *intr.* To make scruples.
1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 244 If in this, why not in other Articles that eyther are or may be so scrupulized..? 1642 FEATLY *Vertumnus* 126, I admire that any man hath so long scrupulized to the losse of himselfe and fortunes. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* I. xii. (1696) 49 Whensoever my duty calls me, 'tis my part to attend, without Scrupulizing upon Forms, or Difficulties.

Scrupulosity (skrūpiŭlo·sĭti). [a. F. *scrupulosité* (14th c. in Littré) or ad. L. *scrūpulōsitāt-em*, f. *scrūpulōs-us* SCRUPULOUS: see -ITY.]
1. The state or quality of being scrupulous (see the adj.).
1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 66 Our lorde for his tender mercy preserue all those that entendeth this holy iourney of perfeccyon from..scrupulosite and pusillanimite of spiryte. 1654 EVELYN *Diary* 12 July, Thence we went to New College, where the Chapel was in its ancient garb, notwithstanding the scrupulositie of the times. 1690 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* XXXV. Wks. I. 558 Avoid a needless Scrupulosity of Conscience, as a thing which keeps our Minds always uneasie. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XXVI, Age looks with anger on the temerity of youth, and youth with contempt on the scrupulosity of age. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 273 It would have been thought strange scrupulosity in him to quit his post, because his advice as to matters not strictly within his own department was not taken by his master. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* 5 When I was a lad I danced a hornpipe with arduous scrupulosity.
b. An instance of this; †a scruple.
a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 123 It was a certeyn scrupulositie that prykked my concyence. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. § 7 Or else..we fall into timorous scrupulosities. 1831 LAMB *Recoll. Royal Academ.* in *Mrs. Leicester's School*, etc. (1886) 309 For the thousand tints—the grains—which in life diversify the nose, the chin, the cheek..he cared nothing at all about them. He left such scrupulosities to opticians and anatomists. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 264 It shows that Peter had already abandoned Rabbinic scrupulosities.
†**2.** *Astr.* [After SCRUPLE *sb.*[1] 3.] Minute determination (of time). *Obs.*
1633 H. GELLIBRAND *App. Longitude* in T. James *Voy.* R 3, The scrupulosity of time is vnknowne, and therefore we cannot argue the) true place from thence.

Scrupulous (skrū·piŭləs), *a.* Also 6 **scrupilous**(e, scrupulouse, scrupulus. Cf. SCRIPULOUS. [ad. F. *scrupuleux* (16th c., *scrupuleusement* 14th c.), or ad. L. *scrūpulōs-us*, f. *scrūpul-us*: see SCRUPLE *sb.*[2] and -OUS.]
1. Troubled with doubts or scruples of conscience; over-nice or meticulous in matters of right and wrong. Also (of things, actions, etc.), characterized by such scruples.
1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 52 Yt is good in suche case to be gouernyd by the consayle of a dyscrete gostly father leste the dome of hys owne conscyence be other to scrupulous or to recheles. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 58/1 Of spiritual men thei toke such as had wit,..& had no scrupilouse consience. 1528 HENRY VIII in R. Hall *Life Fisher* F.'s Wks. (E. E. T. S.) II. 61 Whiche thinge..ingendred such a scrupilous doubt in me, that my mind was incontinently accombred, vexed, and disquyeted. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 61 *Rich.* Why Brother, wherefore stand you on nice points?..*Hast.* Away with scrupulous Wit, now Armes must rule. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi. § 5 Abusing their libertie and freedom to the offence of their weake brethren which were scrupulous. 1667 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Miscell.* III. 64 And yet, though he spent so much time in examining his consciens, he was not the least scrupulous nor long at Confession. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vi. 226 Whatever doubts might be formerly raised by weak and scrupulous minds about the existence of such an original contract. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* iii. 108 The common people superstitious, fanatical, scrupulous, licentious. 1907 A. C. BENSON *Altar Fire* 134 The religion recommended was a religion of scrupulous saints and self-torturing ascetics.
†**b.** Prone to hesitate or doubt; distrustful; cautious or meticulous in acting, deciding, etc. Also (of actions, etc.), characterized by doubt or distrust; (of objections) cavilling. *Obs.*
1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 46 It is truely said, that knowledge hath no enemie but ignoraunce. There are..no small number of Lactantius sort, not scrupulous enemies onely, but also Physicians, of whom [etc.]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 2 b, Thucydides was so desyrous of the verity, and so doubt full and scrupulous in wryting of his story. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 67 The Italians are so curious and scrupulous in many of their cities..that they will admit no stranger within the wals..except he bringeth a bill of health from the last citie he came from. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xxiii. § 4. 574 But in filling vp the blankes of old Histories, we neede not be so scrupulous. *a* 1681 WHARTON *Apotelesma* Wks. (1683) 44 Nor any one [*sc.* art or science] that can truly say, it is free from every scrupulous exception. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* Acc. Observ. 8, I have been the more scrupulous and wary, in regard the Inferences drawn from these Observations are of some importance.
†**c.** with *const.*: Loth or reluctant, through scruples, *to* (do something); doubtful or suspicious *of* (a person or thing); chary *of* or *in* (doing something); anxious or fearful *about*. *Obs.*
1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 125 Hee was no way scrupulous to circumvent, and kill, *insontes sicuti sontes*. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 3. 4 And therefore I am not scrupulous to converse and live with them. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 32 The Father is scrupulous of the Son, the Son of the Sisters, and all three of me, to whose award they referr'd the business three severall times. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* I. 5 The Jews..as they raised noble Monuments and Mausolæums for their own Nation, so they were not scrupulous in erecting some for others. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ix. § 21. 320 The primitive Christians were very scrupulous of calling the Emperours *Dominus*. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. xxi. 161 She often directed herself to me in Italian. I do not talk it well: But..I was not scrupulous to answer in it. 1785 PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Nav.* 33 Those..whom I have consulted on the subject, where I was scrupulous of my knowledge. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. viii. (1871) 284 Don't you stir out of the house; I am scrupulous about what might happen.
d. *absol.* (*The scrupulous* = scrupulous persons.)
1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. ii. 118 'Tis the house of fame, Sir, Where both the curious, and the negligent, The scrupulous, and carelesse;..all doe meet. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 12 There are some Birds..whose Bloud is cold as Fishes, and their Flesh in taste so near akin, that the Scrupulous are allow'd them on Fish-days.
†**2.** Of a thing: Causing or raising scruples; liable to give offence; meriting scruple or cavil, dubious, doubtful. *To make it scrupulous*: to scruple, hesitate (*to do* something). *Obs.*
a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 57 The scrupulous stynges of domesticall sedicion. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Epist.* (1577) 66 If your warre had ben vpon Ierusalem, it were to be holden for iust, but for that it is vpon Marsillius, alway we hold it for scrupulous. 1593 *Tell-trothe's New Yeare's Gift* 3 And it being my hap to enquire first from whence hee came, hee made it not scrupulous to certifie his comming from hell. 1622 BACON *Holy War* Misc. Wks. (1629) 117 As the Cause of a Warre ought to be Iust; So the Iustice of that Cause ought to be Euident; Not Obscure, not Scrupulous. 1685 BUNYAN *Quest. Seventh-day Sabbath* ii. 16 This yet seems to me more scrupulous, because that the punishment due to the breach of the Seventh-day Sabbath was hid from men to the time of Moses.
†**b.** Of the nature of a mere scruple. *Obs.*
1605 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. *v.* 372 Let not any man mervayile of the manyfould downefalles into synne, or think it a thing scrupulous.
3. Careful to follow the dictates of conscience; giving heed to the scruples of conscience so as to avoid doing what is wrong; strict in matters of right and wrong.
A use of sense 1 developed chiefly in contexts with a negative expressed or implied.
1545 ELYOT *Dict.* s. v. *Religiosus*, *In testimonio religiosi*, scrupulouse in bearynge wytnesse. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 210 His more scrupulous brother ceased to appear in the royal chapel. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* iii, Yet, though scrupulous in most things, it did not go against the consciences of these good brothers to purchase smuggled articles.
b. With inf.: Careful (to do something) in obedience to one's conscience.
1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 50 We should be religiously scrupulous and exact to say nothing..but what is true.
4. Of actions, etc.: Rigidly directed by the dictates of conscience; characterized by a strict and minute regard for what is right.
1756 BURKE *Tracts Popery Laws* Wks. IX. 338 This point is carried to so scrupulous a severity, that chamber practice, and even private conveyancing..are prohibited to them under the severest penalties. 1779 *Mirror* No. 37 While he gave to business the most scrupulous attention. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 248 William saw that he must not think of paying to the laws of Scotland that scrupulous respect which he had wisely and righteously paid to the laws of England. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 9 A scrupulous honesty recommended him even to careful housekeepers.
5. Minutely exact or careful (in non-moral matters); strictly attentive even to the smallest details; characterized by punctilious exactness.
1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 77 Examining..every little moment of Art with such infatigable though scrupulous care. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 160 P 4 Where we would make some Amends for our want of Force and Spirit, by a scrupulous Nicety and Exactness in our Compositions. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* (1805) I. 44 Thus all the power of description is destroyed by a scrupulous enumeration. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* ii, Great men are seldom over scrupulous in the arrangement of their attire. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 11 Scrupulous attention to the purity of the matter submitted to analysis is of course of primary importance. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Gr. N. T.* Introd. § 11 A scrupulous jealousy as to their text. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* V, Shelves, on which books..were arranged in scrupulous order. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Jan. 5/4 The various performances were gone through with scrupulous exactitude.
†**6.** Wrought or produced with minute care and exactness. *Obs.*
1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 34 If seelings be an ornament, what are scrupulous carvings?

Scrupulously (skrū·piŭləsli), *adv.* [-LY [2].] In a scrupulous manner; with scruple, doubt, or cautiousness; with conscientious strictness; with minute care or punctilious exactness.
1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 51 Most diligently, and as I mought say, most scrupulously to be obserued. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* ii. 33 'Tis well known how Scrupulously the Pythagoreans..abstained from Flesh. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 291 P 9 Works..which are scrupulously exact and conformable to all the Rules of correct Writing. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* XXVIII, An elderly woman, somewhat rough-looking, but scrupulously clean. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* ii. 56 In all this, by Pope's own showing, Addison seems to have been scrupulously fair.

Scrupulousness (skrū·piŭləsnĕs). [-NESS.] The quality of being scrupulous (see the adj.).
1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 Spirituall..diseases: ..as glotony, lechery, and scrupulousnes. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 872/2 To the end that none should haue anie scrupulousnesse of conscience in so dooing. 1689 W. A. *Herbert's Acc. Exam.* 55 Such was Sir Edward's great scrupulousness, and tenderness, where the Life of Man was concern'd. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 13 If a precise or unnecessary Scrupulousness be avoided. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. Bp. Blomfield* II. x. 208 Nothing could exceed his scrupulousness, about running into debt. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Last Ess. Church* 35 Religion is a matter where scrupulousness has been far too active.

Scruse, variant of SCRUZE, to squeeze.

Scrutable (skrū·tăb'l), *a.* [As if ad. L. **scrūtābilis*, f. *scrūtārī*: see SCRUTATOR. Cf. It. *scrutabile*.] That can be understood by scrutiny. Chiefly in implied contrast with *inscrutable*.
c 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 176 If the thoughts of men were scrutable To man and mongst men. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *Y. Kettlewell* II. xlviii. 153 Magnifying the Providence of God, which is by Mortals Scrutable. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* IV. 320 Cognisant Of the less scrutable majesties. 1878 *Life C. Combe* I. ii. 23 Nobody conceived the cause of these phenomena to be scrutable.

Scrutate (skrutē·t), *v. rare.* [f. L. *scrūtāt-*, ppl. stem of *scrūtārī*: see SCRUTATOR.] *trans.* To search out; to investigate.
1882 BERESFORD-HOPE *Brandreths* II. xxix, Scrutating all a sovereign yearns to learn.

Scrutation (skrutē·ʃən). [ad. L. *scrūtātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *scrūtārī*: see next.] Minute search or examination.
1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Mersex* I. 37 After long scrutation and inquisition, this well was found and performed the cure. 1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 80 For though we be very curious in our scrutation [etc.].

Scrutator (skrutē·tər). [a. L. *scrūtātor*, agent-n. f. *scrūtārī* to examine, scrutinize, app. f. *scrūta* pl., 'old or broken stuff, trash, frippery, trumpery' (L. & Sh.); the etymological sense of the vb. is supposed to be 'to search even to the rags' (*ibid.*).]

1. One who examines or investigates.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., M'sex* I. 10 Master Camden, a singuler scrutator of antiquities. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 452 The very disquisition concerning any one part of the Brain, the Eye, the Nerves, the Blood hath perplexed the most exact Scrutators. 1822 *Q. Rev.* XXVIII. 188 He threw down the gauntlet of defiance to the learned scrutators into the hidden mysteries of hieroglyphical lore. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xliii, She would have declared herself innocent before the scrutator.

2. *spec.* One whose office it is to examine or investigate closely, *esp.* one who acts as an examiner of votes at an election, etc.; a scrutineer.

1618 HALES *Let. fr. Synod of Dort* Golden Rem. II. (1673) 2 The manner of election was by Scrutiny... The Scrutators were two of the Seculars, ..these calculated the voices and pronounced the election. 1734-5 *Act* 8 *Geo. II*, c. 6 § 4 The justices of the peace..shall be scrutators of the ballot. 1908 *Athenæum* 16 May 609/3 Messrs. M. S. Giuseppi and W. A. Littledale were appointed scrutators of the ballot.

b. As the title of a university official. (See quots.) Now only *Hist.*

1580 GRINDAL *Let. to Burleigh* in Strype *Life* (1710) 251 The said Mr. Barrow..alledgeth another [university] Statute, made by Grace,..concerning the Scrutators. 1665 J. BUCK in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* App. B, p. lv, The Scrutators also doe..give over their office by delivery of their keys to the V. Ch. 1793 *Acc. Proc. Camb. agst. W. Frend* 195 The statutes which relate to the duty of scrutators and moderators on passing graces. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 412 *note*, In Oxford..the two Proctors..were necessarily chosen, one from the Northern, the other from the Southern men; also the two Scrutators, anciently distinct (?) from the Proctors. 1835 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 117 The Vicechancellor, Proctors, and Scrutators examine the votes received. 1841 PEACOCK *Stat. Cambridge* 25 The two scrutators were elected by the non-regents of each congregation, to collect the votes, and announce the decisions of their house, in the same manner as was done by the two proctors in the house of regents.

Scrutatory (skrūˈtătəri), *a.* [f. L. *scrūtāt-*, *scrūtārī*: see SCRUTATOR and -ORY.] Searching, examining.

1893 *Temple Bar* XCVIII. 151 Loripont dropped a scrutatory glance.

†**Scrute**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *scrūtārī*: see SCRUTATOR.] *trans.* To scrutinize.

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* 121 My synne and inequite why doste thou scrute so.

Scrutener, -enous, -y: see SCRUTINEER, etc.

Scrutinant (skrūˈtinănt), *a. rare.* [a. F. *scrutinant*, pr. pple. of *scrutiner* to scrutinize, f. *scrutin* SCRUTINY.] Occupied in scrutinizing.

1876 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxii. 378 Live here in my Venetian palace..scrutinant of dome, cloud and cockle-shell.

†**Scruˈtinate**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. F. *scrutin-er* (see prec.) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* = SCRUTINIZE.

a 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 43 The Court..scrutinated all Points of Form.

†**Scruˈtinator**. *Obs.* [quasi-Latin agent-noun f. SCRUTINE *v.*] = SCRUTINEER.

1691 W. B. *Hist. Roman Conclave* v. 15 These Votes.. are set upon a File..by one of the Scrutinators.

†**Scruˈtine**, *v. Obs.* [a. F. *scrutine-r*, f. *scrutin* SCRUTINY.] *intr.* To make an investigation or examination. Hence †**Scruˈtining** *vbl. sb.*

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* H 2 b, They..departed to scrutine of the matter by inquirie amongst themselues. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Kοινή* v. 62 Free admission to the Sacrament..without any scrutining or proof of their real holiness.

Scrutineer (skrūtinīˈəɹ). Forms: *α.* 6 scrutener, 7–8 scrutiner; *β.* 7– scrutineer. [f. SCRUTINY + -ER 2, -EER.] One whose duty it is to scrutinize or examine; esp. one who acts as an examiner of votes at an election, etc.

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* B vij b, That there be..elected.. ij Scruteners to gather in the Legacies. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* I. iv. 182 Else what needs the Canon either the Fathers consent, or the scrutiner to begin with *placet vobis*? 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 209 The scrutineers of the poll relating to the lord mayor have mett severall times. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 102 The balloting began at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and ended at Six, when the scrutineers reported to the Directors. 1821 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* iii. Pr. Wks. (1888) I. 152 He gazed on the mysterious scrutineer who stood before him. 1894 *Proc. Incorp. Assoc. Munic. Engin.* XX. 3 The Scrutineers report the result of the voting as follows.

†**Scruˈtinist**. *Obs. rare.* [f. SCRUTIN-Y + -IST.] ? A curious investigator.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 207 They [certain ploughs] are of no great Advantage to the..Husbandman, onely invented to satisfie the minds of some scrutinists.

Scrutinize (skrūˈtinəiz), *v.* [f. SCRUTIN-Y + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To subject to scrutiny; to examine methodically and with close attention.

1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* Introd. 6 We have with much labour scrutinized the best Authors, &c. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 6 Des Cartes gave a noble example of turning our attention inward and scrutinizing our sensations. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 295 She began..to scrutinize her heart, with an uncommon degree of severity. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 75 Mr. Pentreath scrutinised his son through his spectacles, perhaps to make sure that he was sober. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. II. iv. 215 The closer all such documents are scrutinised the more clear becomes the nature of their origin.

b. *spec.* with reference to votes. (Cf. SCRUTINY 2 c.)

1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 25 Feb., The Westminster election, which is still scrutinising, produced us a parliamentary event this week.

†2. *intr.* To make scrutiny. Const. *into*. *Obs.*

1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 256 The bank is now scrutinizing upon whom the choice of the new directors is fallen. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 17 The latest and best Doctors have so far scrutinised into the prime Cause of our British Malady the Scurvy as to affirm [etc.]. 1743 in *Etoniana* (1865) 69 After prayers and sacrament they began to vote...Thus they continued scrutinising and walking about. 1788 *Trifler* No. 9. 114 They will have a better opportunity of scrutinizing into the minutest circumstances.

Hence **Scruˈtinizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Scruˈtinizingly** *adv.*

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. iv, With the scrutinizing observation of a man on the point of making a bargain. 1820 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 172 Thus it is that to any scrutinizing eye the secret, had there been any, would have been betrayed. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 49 We look rather more scrutinizingly into its expression. 1883 ANNIE S. SWAN *Aldersyde* I. ii. (ed. 2) 34 Her restless black eyes wandered scrutinizingly over the face and figure of her comely young kinswoman.

Scrutinizer (skrūˈtinəizəɹ). [f. SCRUTINIZE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who scrutinizes.

1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 250 Marmol, to whom I refer every curious Scrutinizer, relates this whole story very differently. 1839 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 14 Mar., The eye is a cold and jealous scrutiniser of those that are opposite to us. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 401 The scrutiniser into her course of conduct will allow that she is at once grave, sedate, witty, social, humorous, cheerful.

Scrutinous (skrūˈtinəs), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 6 scrutinus, 7 scrutenous. [ad. F. †*scrutineux* (1512 in Godefr.), f. *scrutin* SCRUTINY: see -OUS.] Closely examining; searching.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 21 How impetrable bee was in mollyfying the adamantinest tiranny of mankinde..those that be scrutinus to pry into, let them [etc.]. 1618 M. BARET *Vineyard Horsem.* I. Ded. to King 9 Although my Artlesse pen hath not made it so delightfull as to reuiue the dead senses of all scrutenous braines, which no Tullies Eloquence as yet could euer perswade. 1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 3 (1748) I. 159 They cannot be too scrutinous into the principles of the persons entrusted with the direction of them. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 695 Dr. Gordon, after a scrutinous examination, has added his testimony to the same fact. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 815/2 Don't let us be too searching and scrutinous.

Scrutinously (skrūˈtinəsli), *adv.* [f. SCRUTINOUS *a.* + -LY 2.] In a scrutinous manner.

1649 MARBURY *Habakkuk* i. 3 (1650) 21 To look into his brethren; I do not say so scrutinously as the Hypocrite in the Gospel, who [etc.]. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 364, I was begging Ventidius to enquire scrutinously who the Parthian was. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 130 Having scrutinously examined all within reach of his view. 1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXV. 216 The more scrutinously the book of Genesis is analysed, the more evident it becomes that [etc.].

Scrutiny (skrūˈtini), *sb.* Also 5 scrutyny, 6 scruteny, -enie, 6–7 scrutinie. [ad. late L. *scrūtinium*, f. *scrūtārī*: see SCRUTATOR. Cf. OF. *scrutinie, scrutine*, mod.F. *scrutin*, Sp., Pg. *escrutinio*, It. *squittino, scrutinio, scrutino*.]

1. a. The formal taking of individual votes, as a method of electing to an office or dignity, or of deciding some question proposed to a deliberative assembly; an instance of this procedure.

Now chiefly in *Canon Law*. In English municipal and university procedure, 'scrutiny' was commonly resorted to only when the result of show of hands or acclamation was not accepted, so that in some examples it is doubtful whether the word partakes more of this sense or of sense 2 c. In Oxford University, the Latin formula *Fiat scrutinium*, 'let a scrutiny be made', is still employed, but the English word is rarely if ever used with reference to present practice.

c 1450 in Anngier *Syon* (1840) 288 The thre formes of eleccion schal be declared..That is to say, the wey of the holy-goste, the wey of scrutyny, and the wey of compromys. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 123 After many scrutinies they elected one Iohn Quicedus. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 46 Whereuppon he and M. Jackson went strait wais up to the table to cal for our voices in 'scrutinie'. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. 360 The people went to a scrutinie and began to giue their voices. 1620 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 9 By a scruteny he was ellected. 1643 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 275 We have at last a new Pope, after many scrutinies. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. II. 285 The Election of the Pope is usually in three manners, the first by Scrutiny, the second by Access, and the third by Adoration. 1705 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 62 The Proctors went to a Scrutiny. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4493/3 Upon a Scrutiny the following Persons were declared to be duly elected Directors. 1897 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 5) 311 *Election*...In canon law, the act of choosing a fit person for a vacant post...The actual choice may be made in one of three ways: by inspiration..., by scrutiny, or by compromise.

†b. A vote in one's favour, a suffrage. *Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 781 Of all gentylwomen he hath the scrutenye, In Fames court reportynge the same.

c. (See quot.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Scrutiny is also used, in the Canon Law, for a Ticket, or little Paper Billet, wherein, at Elections, the Electors write their Notes privately, so as it may not be known for whom they vote.

2. Investigation, critical inquiry; an instance of this. Formerly often (now *rarely*) const. *into*, †*of*.

1604 DRAYTON *Moses* I. 6 At three monthes a scrutinie was held, And serchers then sent euery where about. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Scrutinie*, diligent Search, inquiry. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* 7: III. 190 Let us.. stretch the scrutiny to that Angelicall birth-Caroll of our blessed Lord. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 315, I thought thee worth my nearer view And narrower Scrutiny. 1680 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Oct., An accurate scrutinie of all my actions past. *a* 1702 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 38 Making..an exact scrutiny into this antiquity. 1786 BURKE *Art. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II. 186 To threaten him with scrutinies into his conduct. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 176 The closest scrutiny will detect little that is not deserving of approbation. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. xvi. § 16 Whatever may first lead us to the scrutiny of natural objects, that scrutiny never fails of its reward. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. 35 He is safe from his own scrutiny.

b. *Eccl.* (See quot. 1897.)

1728 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1897 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 5) 832/1 *Scrutiny* (*scrutinium*). An examination of those who were about to receive baptism...The days appointed for the different scrutinies varied in different places...In the Roman Church, under Pope Siricius, there were apparently three scrutinies only; at a later date, seven.

c. An official examination of the votes cast at an election, in order to eliminate any votes that are invalid, and to rectify or confirm the numbers stated in the return. (Cf. 1 a.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Among us, Scrutiny is chiefly used for a strict Perusal, and Examination of the several Votes hastily taken at an Election. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 31 Jan., The Westminster election is still hanging in scrutiny; the Duke of Bedford paid the election, which he owns to have cost seven thousand pounds; and Lord Gower pays the scrutiny, which will be at least as much. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 887 It is frequently necessary to subject the votes of both parties to a scrutiny. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 290/1 It has been found possible to render voting perfectly secret and to provide for a scrutiny.

†d. *Winchester School.* 'An examination of the seven seniors and seven juniors in College, on the subject of their personal comfort, etc.' (R. G. K. Wrench, *Winchester Word-Book*, 1891).

In the original Latin statutes the section relating to this subject is headed 'De Scrutiniis seu Capitulis ter in Anno in Collegio Celebrandis'.

3. In recent use: The action of looking searchingly at something; a searching gaze.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 183 The celebrated Mrs. Berlinton still appeared not to undergo a scrutiny. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xi, He adjusted his hat fiercely, turned round, and came forward, as if to meet and defy scrutiny. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* vi, I observed him throwing a glance of scrutiny over all the passengers. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, One [man] was stooping slightly, and looking downward with the scrutiny of curiosity. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ix, It was natural that John Harmon should have his own secret reasons for a careful scrutiny of her countenance. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 402/1 A brief scrutiny informed him that she was neither in the ball-room nor the supper-room.

†**Scruˈtiny**, *v. Obs.*—° [f. SCRUTINY *sb.*] *trans.* = SCRUTINIZE. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Scruto (skrūˈto). *Theatre.* [Of obscure origin.] A spring trap-door, made of strips of wood or whalebone, flush with the floor of the stage. Also *attrib.*

1853 *Punch* XXIV. 128/2 The working of various mysterious engines of machinery called 'sloats' and 'scruto-pieces'. 1859 *Ibid.* XXXVI. 58/2 Gorgeous transformations, on which..scruto-work, gas-battens, and all the resources of 'sink and fly', have been lavished. 1861 *Ibid.* XL. 14/1 A land of..scruto-work and profiling, And shivering *coryphées*.

Scrutoire (skrʉˈtōəɹ, -twȯɹ). Forms: *α.* 7–8 scritoire, -ore, 7 'scritore, 8 scrittoir. *β.* 7–9 scrutoir(e, -ore, 8 'scrutore, scrutor, screutore, scruitore. [Aphetic ad. F. *escritoire*: see ESCRITOIRE, which appears later in our quots. The change from *i* into *u* in *scrutoire, escrutoire* (18th c.) is unexplained.] = ESCRITOIRE.

α. 1678 *Trial of Coleman* 41 bis, Then I came to his own Study where his 'Scritore was. 1682 OLDHAM *Imit. 3rd Sat. Juv.* Poems & Transl. (1684) 198 One gives a fine Scritore or Cabinet. 1715 NELSON *Addr. Pers. Qual.* p. xi, He searched his Scrittoir for something further to give me. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* Pref. P 14, I had locked up these Papers in my Scritoire. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 372 Bank-stock, or India-bonds..are not idle, even when in his scritoire.

β. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 44 There they sell ..Scrutores or Cabinets of Mother of Pearl. 1698 in *MSS. Ho. Lords* N. S. (1905) III. 345 He had several trunks and a scrutoir in the ship. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 22 Dec., A person who had stolen sixty guineas out of his scrutoire. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Dice* Wks. 1859 XI. 293 There was still preserved in the house a scrutoire fixed in the wall. *a* 1844 F. HOWES *Horace, Sat.* I. i. (end), But hold!—You'll think I've pillaged the scrutoir Of blear Crispinus.

attrib. 1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 210 Cabinet Locks..and Scruitore Locks.

Scruyde, obs. form of SHROUD *v.*

Scruze (skrūz), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 7–8 scruse, (7 screwze). [? Suggested by SCREW and SQUEEZE *vbs.*] *trans.* To squeeze.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 46 Having scruzd out of his carrion corse The lothfull life. *Ibid.* II. xii. 56 Whose sappy liquor, that with fulnesse sweld, Into her cup she scruzd with daintie breach Of her fine fingers. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. vii. (1623) 530 Those huge sums, which he had scruzed out of Stephen. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peace-Maker* Wks. (1625) 542 The oppressing Gentleman, that..scruzes his Tenants to death. 1664 *Court & Kitchin Eliz. Cromwell* 114 Scruze into it the juice of two or three lemons. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 186 The whole Stick of Letters..are screwzed together. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Scruze*, to crowd, to press or thrust hard.

Scrwe, obs. form of SCREW *sb.*[1]

†Scry, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **scry**(e, 5–6 **skry**(e, 6 **scrie, skrie.** [Aphetic form of ASCRY or ESCRY: cf. SCRY *v.* In many places it is impossible to tell whether we should read *ascry*(*e* in one word, or *a scrye* in two: see quotations below.]

1. Crying out, shout, exclamation, clamour.

Quot. *a* 1450 was misunderstood by Skinner (*Etymologicon*, 1671), who interpreted 'scrye of foules' to mean a flock of wild fowl. The error was repeated by Blount 1674, and appears in many dictionaries.

1419 *Ordin. War.* xii. in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) I. 462 For unlawefull scryes..that none escrie the whiche is called mount. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 16 With the which the ladis, and all the wemen, mayd a sorowfull skrye. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 5 The blastes of hornys and the scrye of foulis. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 671 The scry sone rais, the bald Loran was dede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. xi. 33 Thayr was also engravyt all at rycht The sylluer ganer, flyghterand wyth lowd skry. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 41 b, Towardes that parte where the skrye was heard. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* I. 54 Euerie one to help other to arme and diligentlie to resort to the place of seruice, at scrie or larum vpon paine. 1616 *Barbour's Bruce* XIX. 564 The noyis weill soyn raiss and the skry. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 137 Wi' skirl, and skry, and rallion-shout, Stood thick and far the rabble-rout.

2. An attack; a reconnoitre.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 24 Euery nyght the Englisshe oste made good and sure watche, for they doubted makyng of skryes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 249 To make a skrye in the Scottes hoste. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 813/1 On a daie the Frenchmen made a skrie toward the English campe.

Scry (skrəi), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E.D.D.). Also 7 **scrie,** 9 **scree.** [App. related to SCREEN *sb.* 5.] A kind of sieve.

c 1615 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 347 Winnowed corne is..made cleane by the fanne and scrie, for the masters owne vse: so though our enemie sift vs, his scrying is but our trying. *Ibid.* 428 He must be like the scry, keeping the good seed but casting away the dust and vnprofitable darnell. 1892 *Auction. Catal. Kent Farm Sale,* Manure scry.

Scry (skrəi), *sb.*[3] [f. SCRY *v.*[2]] Something 'scried' in a crystal.

1898 A. LANG *Making of Relig.* v. 95 The 'scries' which came right were sometimes those of which the 'agent', or person scried for, was consciously thinking.

†Scry, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [Aphetic form of DESCRY *v.*[2]] *trans.* To describe.

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 1859, I knewe never mane so wys, That couth telle the servise, Ne scrye the metys of prys Was servyd in that sale. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 333 That men myght mewse on many a yere, Or he hyt scryed wyth stevyn. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 69, I needе no scribe to scrie my care, in restlesse rigour spreade.

Scry (skrəi), *v.*[2] Also 6 **skrie.** [Aphetic f. DESCRY *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To descry, see, perceive. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1555 PHAER *Æneid* III. (1558) G iv, Whom Phebus token trees & starres of heauen, hath taught to skrie. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iv, Landmarkes from the sea..well hable to be skried. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 57 Our Generall..was the first that scryed a sayle. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. iii. ¶ 43 (1740) 147 The most that any close Inspection can scry out of, it is that a Party was found that would oppose the Exclusion Bill. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 41 Forth frae the bit they scry'd it first, Agean the demon springs. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Scried,* 'I scried it lang afore I com at it'.

absol. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirror* (Chetham) 8 As I ken'd him farre, as eyes could scry.

2. *intr.* To see images in pieces of crystal, water, etc. which reveal the future or secrets of the past or present; to act as a crystal-gazer.

Revived recently as a technical term: cf. SCRYER.

1528 W. STAPLETON *Confess.* (P. R. O.), His said boye did scrye unto him, which said spirytt I had after myself. And for a tryall..he caused his servaunt to goo hyde a certeyn money in the gardeyn, and I shewed for the same and oone Jakeson scryed unto me, but we could not accomplisshe our purpose. 1894 A. LANG *Cock Lane & Common-sense* 223 Thus the conditions under which the scryer can scry, are, as yet unascertained. 1897 — *Dreams & Ghosts* iii. 61 In using the ball she..succeeded in seeing..persons..familiar to people for whom she 'scried', but totally strange to herself.

Hence **Scry·ing** *vbl. sb.*, crystal-gazing.

a 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* II. (1659) 4, I thereupon appointed with myself to bring the Childe to the place, and to offer him, and present him to the service of Seeing and Skrying from God. 1894 A. LANG *Cock Lane & Common-Sense* 212 The practice of 'scrying', 'peeping', or 'crystal-gazing' has been revived in recent years. 1902 F. PODMORE *Mod. Spiritualism* IV. vi. II. 297 The substances commonly used for scrying—crystal, glass, water,..etc.

Scry, *v.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see E. D. D.). Also 9 **scree.** [f. SCRY *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To sift (corn, etc.). In quot. *fig.* Hence **Scry·ing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1615 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 428 He must scry the Sermons of the Prophets and try the spirits, examining all things, and then holding that which is good. *Ibid.*, Scrying [see SCRY *sb.*[2]].

Scry (skrəi), *v.*[4] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 8 **skry.** [Aphetic form of ASCRY, ESCRY, a. OF. *escrier* to cry out.] *trans.* To proclaim (a sale, etc.).

1720 RUDDIMAN *Gloss.* to *Douglas' Æneis* s.v., To skry a Fair, i. e. to proclaim it. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xi. (1881) 70 If Samie Pikeshule had a roup to scry.

Scryer (skrəi·ər). Also 6 **scrier,** 6, 7, 9 **skryer.** [f. SCRY *v.* + -ER[1].] One who 'scries'; a crystal-gazer.

1549 in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 334 Thomas Malfrey.. and a woman..are scryers of the glasse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 319 The scrier which decerneth the veine of the myne goth before the workemen. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 91 He..willed me to use John my Boy as my Skryer. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 244 Kelley was several times..false to Dee, yet he mostly performed the office of Skryer. 1889 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* XIV. 495 Dee's..scryer or seer, Kelly. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 36 The profession of skryer, crystal-gazer, or speculator.

Scrymppys, obs. pl. of SHRIMP.

†Scu. *Obs.* Also 4 *pl.* **skwez.** [?repr. OE. *scuwa, scúa* shadow; the *sc* for the normal *sh* may be due to the influence of the corresponding ON. *skugge*: see SCUG *sb.*] **a.** A shadow. **b.** A screen.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2167 Þe skwez of þe scowtes skayued hym þogt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Scu, spere in a bowse, *idem quod* screne, *scrineum, ventifuga.*

Scua, obs. form of SKUA.

†Scu·age. *Obs.* [Aphetic form of ESCUAGE.] = ESCUAGE 2, SCUTAGE.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 206 þat þe foresayde Abbesse & couente..be free & quiet of scuage & sute of here myllys. *c* 1460 *Osney Reg.* 48 Be lose and quite fro scuage, tallage, & all oþer seculer exaccions.

†Scubard. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. OF. (*en*) *escobart.*] *In scubardis*: secretly, in private.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26936 Sum men in scubardis til oþer men telles þair folis, and sais amang riot ron 'All men wat wel þat i ha don'.

Scuchen, -in, -(i)on, obs. ff. SCUTCHEON *sb.*[1]

Scud (skʌd), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **scudde, 8 scudd.** [f. SCUD *v.*; in some uses perh. onomatopœic.]

1. The action of scudding; hurried movement.

1609 B. JONSON *Case Altered* IV. iv, O how she skudded, O sweet scud, how she tripped, O delicate trip and goe. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scud,* the Course or motion of the Clouds, in Fleeting. 1853 HERSCHEL *Pop. Lect. Sci.* i. § 54 (1873) 42 The scud of the clouds before the wind. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* xviii. (1892) 241 At times he came flashing through the scud of her thoughts.

b. A certain figure in skating.

1892 *Gentlew. Bk. Sports* I. 145 The hand-in-hand figures, such as the Mercury, the Q scud, the half-double scud [etc.].

2. a. Light clouds driven rapidly before the wind.

1669 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Tempest* I. i, The Scud comes against the Wind, 'twill blow hard. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 128 The black'ning ocean curls; the winds arise; And the dark scud in swift succession flies. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* I. xiii, The darkening scud comes on. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 209 Peaks..along whose flanks the clouds rolled upwards in white humps and scuds.

b. A driving shower (of rain or snow).

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 187 With every change [of wind] we had a scud of Wind and Rain. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 3 After such a scudd of rain cool cloudy weather ensues. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 207, I had but one little scud during the day; just enough for St. Swithin to swear by. 1879 *Gd. Words* Jan. 48 The rain blowing in drizzling scuds.

c. A sudden gust of wind.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. xviii. (1737) 76 Some Gusts, or Scuds of Wind..arose. 1863 'C. BEDE' *Tour in Tartanland* 293, I beheld my wife..borne in a wild scud immediately in front of the three-abreast horses. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 193 A sullen pond, over which the wind drove in scuds.

d. Ocean foam or spray driven by the wind.

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xxi. I. 143 Bailing out the scud thrown over the gunwale by every surge. 1894 N. BROOKS *Tales of Maine Coast* 218 The air was drenched with spume and flying scud.

transf. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 63 She.. was..shielding her face from the scud of ice flung from the mare's heels.

e. *attrib.*

1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 342 Light scud clouds driving across heavy masses show wind and rain. 1897 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 7/1 The boat disappeared in a yeast of scud rain and spindrift.

3. *School slang.* A swift runner.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, You ain't a bad scud, not by no means. *Ibid.* I. vii, Unless you're a first-rate scud.

Scud (skʌd), *sb.*[2]

†1. Dirt, refuse. *Obs.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 95 For now the scudde and scumme passed away, and the dyke was as cleare and fresh att the last as att the first.

2. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 59 Scud or ming coal. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Scud,* iron pyrites embedded in coal seams. *Ibid.*, *Scud* (Leicester), very thin layers of soft matter, such as clay, sooty coal, &c.

Scud (skʌd), *sb.*[3] *dial.* [Belongs to SCUD *v.*[4]] A wisp of twisted straw, used for stopping a drain.

1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. I. 26 We fill up either with haulm.., or ling,..or a scud of straw, or turf. 1847 *Ibid.* VIII. II. 279 The materials..are 'haulm' (stubble), straw, 'scuds' (twisted straw), ling, or bushes.

Scud (skʌd), *v.*[1] Also 6 **scudde, skude, squdde,** 6–7 **scudd,** 6–8 **skud,** 7 **soude.** *Pa. t.* 7 **scud**; *Pa. pple.* 6 **scudde.** [Of obscure etymology.

First recorded in the 16th c., but prob. much older in colloquial use. The initial *sc* shows that the word cannot descend from OE.: if not formed onomatopœically or by phonetic symbolism, it was presumably adopted either from Scandinavian or from LG. or Du. Formally, a possible origin would be MLG., MDu. *schudden* to shake (>—OS. *scuddian*), whence Sw. *skudda*, Da. *skudde*; but the sense seems not sufficiently near. The ON. *skunda*, to hasten, agrees in sense but not in form. It has been usual to refer the word to Da. *skyde* (with long vowel) to shoot (=ON. *skióta*), *skud* shot (=ON. *skot*), but the Da. change of *t* into *d* is a late development, and is not represented in Eng. words of Anglo-Danish origin. It may be noted that several dialects have a synonymous *scut* vb., of which *scud* may be an altered form. As the earliest instance of *scud* refers to the movement of a hare, and this has always been a prominent application of the vb., it seems possible that it may be connected with *scut* sb., the tail of a hare, sometimes applied to the animal itself.]

1. *intr.* To run or move briskly or hurriedly; to dart nimbly from place to place.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 721/2 Tindall hath, as ye haue hearde, scudded in & out lyke an hare yᵗ had .xx. brace of greyhoundes after her. 1553 *Respublica* 1632, I have trodde & scudde tyll my winde is almost paste. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* I. i. B viij, Sumtymes I skude abowt the towne in ciuyll matters drounde. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. H 1, My sinewes tremble, and my panting heart Scuds round about my bosome to goe out. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 25 The Trout within the weeds did scud. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 344 Animals.. bounding over the Hills, and skudding along the Plains. 1812 BYRON *Childe Har.* I. lxx, Some Richmond-hill ascend, some scud to Ware. 1822 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 10 Mar. (1894) I. 223, I never saw him so slim and active, and he scuds into dinner [etc.]. 1830 TENNYSON *'How' & 'Why'* 30 The black owl scuds down the mellow twilight. 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* iv. 30 They scud away as cowards from the fight. 1894 MRS. RITCHIE *Chapters fr. Mem.* ix. 131 He stood looking at us fixedly,..and the train scudded off.

b. In the imperative: Be off! Make haste!

1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt* IV. i. 68 Nay, scud:..begone and mum. 1649 DK. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* III. 51 Scud and bringe wine you varletts. *c* 1854 THACKERAY *Wolves & Lamb* I. Wks. 1869 XXII. 353 There's the outer bell. Scud, you vagabond!

2. To sail or move swiftly on the water. Now chiefly (and in technical nautical use exclusively), to run before a gale with little or no sail.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneid* III. (Arb.) 85 Italye see yoonder: thither with nauye be squdding. *a* 1592 GREENE *Ορharion* (1599) 39 (*Song of Arion*) Seated vpon the crooked Dolphins back, Scudding amidst the purple coloured waues:..Neptune..Threw forth such stormes as [etc.]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. 951 Pausistratus..skudded amaine with his ship to the entrance of the haven. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 She scuds before the Sea very well. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* V. 1086 They scud before the Wind. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Thames* Wks. 1709 III. iii. 60 The next [person] that we met was a jolly Parson, skudding from Lambeth-House in a Skuller. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Scudding,* A ship either scuds with a sail extended on her foremast, or, if the storm is excessive, without any sail, which..is called scudding under *bare poles.* 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vi. 109 Having fairly scudded before the gale, we arrived by the middle of the day at the Sauce posta. 1884 LADY BRASSEY in *Good Words* Mar. 163/1 There was too much wind to scud.

3. Of clouds, foam, etc.: To be driven by the wind.

1699 GARTH *Dispens.* V. 93 The rising Mists skud o're the dewy Lawns. 1793 COLERIDGE *Songs of Pixies* ii, When.. scuds the cloud before the gale. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream of Fair Wom.* 39 Crisp foam-flakes scud along the level sand, Torn from the fringe of spray. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* XXXVIII, They [the hours] passed like drift cloud—like the rack scudding before a storm.

4. *trans.* To pass, travel, or sail quickly over.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 424 Then scud I France, and cross'd the Pyrheneise. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Ruined Abbey* 197 His less'ning flock In snowy groups diffusive scud the vale. 1802 SCOTT *Cadyow Castle* xiii, The startled red-deer scuds the plain.

transf. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. iv. 41 Immense was the range of vision scudding the peaks.

5. *dial.* **a.** To throw (a flat stone) so as to make it skim the surface of a body of water. **b.** To shoot or discharge (a load of herrings) into the hold of a vessel.

See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, and cf. *scudding-pole, -stone* (SCUDDING *vbl. sb.*[1] b).

1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 110 'Scudding the fish', as it is termed, enables them to be easily shaken out of the net, whence they fall on the deck and then through temporary openings into the well or hold.

Scud, *v.*[2] *Sc.* ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SCUDS *sb. pl.*] *trans.* 'To quaff, to drink liberally' (Jamieson, 1808).

a 1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's W.* 3 You wha laughing scud brown Ale, Leave Jinks a wee, and hear a Tale.

Scud (skʌd), *v.*[3] [? f. SCUD *sb.*[2]]

1. *dial.* (See quot.)

1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 *Scud,* to clean or scrape with a 'spittle' [i. e. a small spade].

2. *Tanning.* To remove remaining hairs, dirt, etc., from (skins or hides) with a hand-knife.

1880 *Times* 27 Sept. 12/6 The cost of unhairing, fleshing, and scudding all kinds of skins appears to have been reduced. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 372/2 The.. remaining hairs, and other dirt, can now be very readily scudded out.

Scud (skʌd), *v.*[4] *dial.* [Belongs to SCUD *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To make straw into 'scuds'.

1803 YOUNG *Annals Agric.* XL. 332 (E.D.S.) Straw twisted together (provincially called skudded) is used [in covering drains]. 1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. I. 40 The system of shallow parallel drains filled with wood and straw, or straw only, twisted or 'scudded', is universally adopted.

Scuddaler (skʌ·dələr). *Sheff.* Also **scudler, skudler.** [Of obscure origin: Hibbert's explanation (quot. 1822) is untenable.] The leader of a band of maskers.

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* ii, It augured well of the expedition if

Mordaunt could be prevailed upon to undertake the office of skudler, or leader of the band. 1822 HIBBERT *Shetl. Isles* 560 The whole are under the controul of a director, named a scudler. [*Footnote*, An ancient Shetland name given to the pilot of a Scuda or twelve-oared boat.] 1888 MRS. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda* 211 Who disguise their persons, and under the guidance of a Scuddaler, do pass from house to house entertaining the folks.

Scudder (skʌ·dəɹ). [f. SCUD *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] One who or that which scuds. In recent Dicts.

Scuddick (skʌ·dik). *slang* and *dial.* Also scuddock, scuttick, skiddi(c)k, skuddick, scurrick (see E.D.D.). An extremely small coin or amount. Also, something very small.

1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Scuddick* is used negatively; 'not a scuddick'—not any brads, not a whinn, empty clies. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. Egan), *Scurrick*, a half-penny. *Cant.* 1831 *Election Sp. Newport* (I. W.) 20 Apr. (E.D.D.), I won't pay one scuttick towards the taxes. 1840 E. HOWARD *Jack Ashore* xlvii, So I..offers the chaps their wages in advance —true-blue Jacks—wouldn't take a scuddick—so up anchor and off. 1863 ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* 303 To hear fine Sinclair tune his pipes Is hardly worth a scuddock. 1901 'ZACK' *Tales of Dunstable Weir* 248 Poor little skiddick! Shall I go for the doctor?

Scudding (skʌ·diŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCUD *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of the verb in various senses.

1583 GOLDING *Calv. on Deut.* xxiv. 140 There is scudding from aultar to aultar. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Treou*, a square-sail, used in scudding. *c*1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 81 Scudding will tend to carry the ship beyond its influence.

b. *Comb.*: scudding-pole, 'a pole erected for the purpose of shooting herrings conveniently into the hold' (E.D.D.); scudding-stone, a thin stone that can be made to skim the surface of a body of water.

1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 110 The 'scudding-pole'..is fixed fore and aft between the mitch-board and the mast. 1897 LD. E. W. HAMILTON *Outlaws of Marches* xv. 166 While her great bobble of a lad's aye flinging scuddin'-stanes in Keeldar's Pool.

Scudding (skʌ·diŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *Tanning.* [f. SCUD *v.*[3] + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. SCUD [3]. Also *attrib.*

1882 PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 384/1 This is partly accomplished by going over the hide on the beam with a scudding knife. *Ibid.* 389/2 The general sequence of unhairing..scudding, washing, and treating with the bran drench is the same as in the case of other skins.

Scudding (skʌ·diŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCUD *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That scuds, in senses of the vb.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 126 That shafte whiche one yeare for a man is to lyghte and scuddinge, for the same selfe man the next yeare may chaunce be to heuy and hobblynge. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwreck* III. 35 What regions now the scudding ship surround. 1849 HELPS *Friends in C.* II. iv. (1851) II. 6 Strange images are sought out in the scudding clouds.

†**Scu·ddle,** *v.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* In 6 scudle. [?Back-formation from SCUDLER.] a. *trans.* To wash (dishes). b. *intr.* 'To act as a kitchen-drudge' (Jam. 1828–81).

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 194 The fyre to big, and scudle dischis clene.

Scuddle (skʌ·d'l), *v.*[2] Now *dial.* [Frequentative f. SCUD *v.*[1]] *intr.* To run away hastily, to scuttle. 'A low word' (Johnson, 1755).

1661 R. BURNEY *Κέφαλαιον Ἀῶρον* 77 Lucifer might scuddle away as a scandalous sinner. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *scud*, or *Scuddle away*, to scamper or run away all of a sudden. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* xiii. 45 How the Misses did huddle, and scuddle, and run. 1886 A. D. WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* (1887) 38 They gathered themsel's up an' scuddled awa into the hoose.

Scuddy (skʌ·di), *a.*[1] and *sb. Sc.*

A. *adj.* Naked. Also *scuddy-naked.*

1829 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 II. 267 Some skuddy-naked, some clothed in duds. 1832 *Ibid.* III. 286 Strip a kintra lass..perfectly skuddy, 1906 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 79/1 Scuddy little dolls.

B. *sb.* A naked child. Also, an unfledged bird.

1815 W. FINLAYSON *Simple Sc. Rhymes* 92 (E.D.D.) Wad ye hae them to rin like scuddies Without a rag? 1865 JANET HAMILTON *Poems, Ess. & Sk.* (1870) 67 The mavis nest O' naked scuddies fu'.

†**Scu·ddy,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SCUD *sb.*[2] + -Y.] ? Turbid, full of sediment.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 872/2 It sometimes happens that wines scuddy and stubborn will not fall with one or even two forcings.

Scude, obs. form of SCUD *v.*

†**Scu·dler.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 scudlar, 6 scudlar, skuddiller. [App. a. early OF. **escudeler* (later *escuelier*), f. **escudele* (later *escuelle*, mod.F. *écuelle*) dish. Cf. SQUILLER.] A scullion.

*c*1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 1027 In the kyching scudleris lang tyme had beyne. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 179 He commandit al scudlaris..to be exilit within ane certane day. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Lixa*, a scullion, or scudler; *calo.* 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 196 The skuddilleris and kitchine boyes, and a few suddartis ..invade the Ennimies. 1638 *New Litany* in *Bk. Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 57 From horsruber, scudler, scold and hagge, Tinker, treulerd, slouene and sluit.

Scudler, variant of SCUDDALER.

‖ **Scudo** (skū·do). Pl. **scudi** (skū·di), 8 *erron.* **scudis.** [It. = OF. *escu* (mod.F. *écu*), Sp., Pg. *escudo* shield, hence used as the name of a coin bearing a shield :—L. *scūtum* shield.] A silver coin and money of account formerly current in various Italian states, usually worth about 4 shillings.

In some states a gold scudo of the same value was also used, and occasionally the name was given to gold coins of much higher value.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Nov., I am told the gardener is annualy alowed 2000 scudi for the keeping it. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 121 She found means by her industry to save a sum of 6000 scudis. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, Everybody who had a balance of above five hundred scudi was invited to the balls which this prince of merchants gave.

Scuds, *sb. pl. Sc.* [? f. SCUD *v.*[2]] Ale, beer.

1711 RAMSAY *On Maggy Johnstoun* iv, We guzl'd Scuds. 1806 J. COCK *Simple Strains* (1810) I. 104 I'll strive to smooth your thrawart fate Wi' whisky and gude scuds.

†**Scuet.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Of obscure origin: possibly an error for *scuer* skewer.] ? = SKEWER.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 150 In some Buzzars they haue Camell or Mutton cut in mammocks or small bits put vpon scuets and carbonaded.

Scufe. *Sc.* Also scoof, scuff. [Cf. ON. *skúfa* to shove, push.] (See quot.)

1825–80 JAMIESON, *Scoof, Scufe*, a sort of battledoor made of wood, used for striking the ball at Tennis, in order to save the palm of the hand from the severity of the stroke, Teviotdale. *Ibid.*, *Scufe, Scuff*, a bat used by boys for playing at hand-ball, Roxb.

Scuff (skʌf), *sb.*[1] Also **skuff.** [? f. SCUFF *v.*]

1. *Sc.* A slight glancing blow; a 'brush' with the hand. *To get upon the skuff*, to get to scuffling.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s. v., The scuff is the wind, as it were; the scuff of a cannon ball, blows a man to pieces. 1825 JAMIESON, Suppl., *Scuff.* 1. The act of grazing, or touching lightly. 2. A stroke, apparently a slight one, Banffs. 1839 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxiii. 292 After giving his breeches-knees a skuff with his loof, to dad off the stoure. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 337 We got upon the skuff after you left us. 1899 J. STRANG *Lass of Lennox* xv, 'She was a dacent woman Lucky'... 'She was a' that', says he, gie'in' his een a bit scuff wi' the back o' his haun'.

b. *transf.* A gust or puff of wind or rain.

1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xlviii, It was a dark, gloomy day, with..scuffs of grey showers scudding among the hilltops.

2. The noise made by the 'scuffing' of feet: see SCUFF *v.* 2 b.

1899 B. M. DIX *Hugh Gwyeth* xvi, They rode a long space in silence, save for the soft scuff of the horses now and again as they came upon a stretch of sandy road.

3. A rowdy crowd, rabble; also, one of such a crowd. Cf. SCURF *sb.*[1] 4.

1856 J. BALLANTINE *Poems* 67 On Queen's birth-days, thy squibs and pluffs Slappit in face o' drucken scuffs. 1879 *Blacm. Mag.* XL. 501/1 This got a scuff (crowd) round us.

Scuff (skʌf), *sb.*[2] Forms: α. *dial.* 8–9 skuft, 9 skufft, scuft. β. 9 scuf, scuff. [Of obscure origin: cf. the variant forms SCRUFF *sb.*[2], CUFF *sb.*[4]

It is usually assumed that the form *scuft* is the original, and that the word is ad. ON. *skopt* (poet.) hair = Goth. *skuft*. But there is little affinity of sense with the ON. word. The NFris. *skuft*, 'back of the neck of a horse', sometimes cited as cognate, seems to be = Du. *schoft* shoulder.]

The nape of the neck (only in references to seizing by the 'scuff (of the neck)'.

α. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Skuft* (of the neck), the cuff or back of the neck. 1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss., Skuff*, the back part of the neck. 1878 HARTLEY *Clock Alm.* 31 (E.D.D.) He seized Dawdles by th' scuft o' th' neck.

β. 1823 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 129 The champion caught the scampering coppersmith by the 'scuff of the neck'. *a* 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 91/1 Take them by the scuf, and out with 'em. 1864 M. EYRE *Lady's Walk S. France* xiii. (1865) 159, I caught him [a dog] by the scuff of his neck.

Scuff (skʌf), *v.* Also 6 scuffe, 7, 9 skuff. [Of uncertain and possibly mixed origin; perh. connected with SCRUFF, SCURF *vbs.*; possibly in part of onomatopoeic origin (cf. quot. 1825 in SCUFF *sb.*[1] 2, and the Sc. dial. phrase 'to go scuff', to fly past with a whizzing noise). With sense 4 cf. CUFF *v.*; with sense 3 b cf. SCUFFLE, SHUFFLE *vbs.*]

†1. *trans.* ? To evade, shirk (duty). Cf. SCRUFF *v. Sc. Obs.*

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Eludo*, to scuffe, to shift off.

2. To touch lightly in passing; to strike with a slight glancing blow; to brush against (an object); to wipe off (something) with such a blow or stroke.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Scuff*, to touch, to graze. 1826 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* (ed. 5) 63 [The bird] Now soar'd aloft, now scuff'd the ground. 1832–53 A. CRAWFORD in *Whistle-binkie* III. 84 The sun clam up.. And frae his e'ebrows scuff'd the mornin' dew. 1867 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Scuff*, to wipe very lightly; as, 'Scuff the stew aff o' yir sheen'.

b. To scrape (the ground, boards, etc.) with the feet; to wear off by treading.

1897 BEATTY *Secretar* xlviii, To whilk speech, after I had skuffed the boards with my feet,..I made answer. 1905 TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* II. xvii. 115 A common of worn earth from which a million feet have scuffed whatever living thing has grown upon it.

3. *intr.* To walk (through dew, dust, snow, etc.) so as to brush it aside or throw it up; hence *trans.*, to throw *up* (dust by this manner of walking).

1768 ROSS *Helenore, Rock & wee pickle Tow* xvii, With a pair of rough rullions to scuff thro' the dew. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.* s. v., To 'scuff up' the dust..by dragging a foot along the road. 1900 *Academy* 28 Apr. 363/1 How pleasant it is to scuff along amidst the clattering leaves!

b. To shuffle with the feet.

1847 HALLIWELL, *Scuff*, to shuffle in walking. *West.* 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* 1896 *Warwicksh. Gloss.* 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 41/1, I vainly tried to scuff over the boards with my leather-soled shoes in the same noisy fashion as the men whose hobnailed boots scraped and banged against the wood.

4. *trans.* To buffet (a person).

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 482/1 By these [persons]..this man of medicine is huffed and scuffed about. 1845 *Round Preacher* ii. 40 The gentleman..scuffed and kicked him. 1875 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* (ed. 3) Gloss. (E.D.D.), Scuffs his ear.

Hence Scu·ffing *vbl. sb.*

1883 STALLYBRASS tr. *Grimm's Teut. Myth.* III. 967 A man ..hears at midnight a scuffing of shoes. 1895 *Century Mag.* Aug. 571/1 There was a scuffing of many feet on the beach below.

†**Scuffe.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. (See quot.)

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 169 Other seruingmen there were with the sayd Bassas, with red attire on their heads, much like French hoods,..with scuffes or plates of mettall, like vnto the chape of an ancient arming sword, standing on their foreheads like other Janisaries.

Scuffed (skʌft), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Sc., Anglo-Irish,* and *U. S.* [f. SCUFF *v.* + -ED [1].] Of clothing, etc.: Worn, shabby.

1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 90 And scapularies scuff'd and shent..Lay hither-thither on the bent. 1839 CARLETON *Fardorougha* (ed. 2) 62 Differing very little in his dress from an absolute squireen, save in the fact of his Caroline hat being rather scuffed. 1879 *New York Tribune* 12 Dec. (Cent.), How to restore scuffed gloves.

Scuffle (skʌ·f'l), *sb.*[1] Also 7 skuffle. [f. SCUFFLE *v.*[1]]

1. A scrambling fight; an encounter with much hustling and random exchange of blows; a tussle.

Comb. *scuffle-royal* (nonce-wd.) after *battle-royal.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 7 His Captaines heart, Which in the scuffles of great Fights hath burst The Buckles on his brest. *c*1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. II. xix. 32 Ther was a scuffle lately here 'twixt the Duke of Navers and the Cardinal of Guise, who..meeting the last week..from words they fell to Blows. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch.-div.* (ed. 3) Pref. II. § 7 B 4, I tell you again that a battel or a foot-ball skuffle will not settle the discomposed and divided Churches. 1725 DE FOE *New Voy.* (1840) 354 There had been a scuffle among them in which one of their canoes had been overset. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 17 A scramble, boys, a scramble! Hereupon a scuffle-royal instantly ensued. 1818–19 BYRON *Don Juan* II. xcii, Just like a black eye in a recent scuffle. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 107 The victor in this struggle, a scuffle rather than a battle, again took possession of the Earldom. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* ii, A friendly scuffle between a fox-terrier pup and a fine black cat.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Now *rare.* Formerly often, †a heated controversy.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Discipl.* II. 69 Such poore drifts to make a Nationall Warre of a Surplice Brabble, a Tippet-scuffle. 1662 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. ix. § 2 (1712) 26 All those changes and varieties we see in the World are but the result of an Eternal Scuffle of coordinate Causes. 1664 [see SCAMBLE *sb.*[2]]. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. I. 22 And here the Thomists and Scotists have another skuffle, Whether [etc.]. 1731 T. BOSTON *Mem.* vii. (1899) 111 With the student above referred to I had had some scuffles on the Arminian. points. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 74 They were not afraid..that their resolution to stand or fall together should, by placemen, be interpreted into a scuffle for places.

2. The action of scuffling; confused utterance (of speech); shuffling (of feet).

1899 B. CAPES *Lady of Darkness* 260 His wry jaw and crippled scuffle of speech. 1905 TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* IV. viii. (1906) 290 The scuffle of naked feet upon the stones makes little more sound than the rustle of a snake.

Scuffle (skʌ·f'l), *sb.*[2] [a. Du. *schoffel* weeding-hoe.]

1. = SCUFFLER [2].

1798 J. MIDDLETON *Agric. M'sex.* v. 96 Every farmer of arable land should possess himself of a scuffle...This implement is used in the same manner as a harrow: its feet cut up the weeds, and, altogether, it pulverizes the soil. 1805 R. SOMERVILLE *Agric. Surv. E. Lothian* 69 The Horse-hoe or Scuffle..is used more or less in all drill crops. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. v. § 1. 49 Another very considerable proportion was left in rough fallow, undisturbed by the scuffle.

2. A gardener's thrust-hoe. *local* and *U. S.*

1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.* 558 *Scuffle*, a hoe, chiefly used in gardens for cutting up weeds. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow Papers* Ser. I. iii, Where so much is to do in the beds, he were a sorry gardener who should wage a whole day's war with an iron scuffle on those ill weeds that make the garden-walks of life unsightly. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Scuffle*, a garden implement used for cutting off weeds at the roots,—generally known as a Dutch hoe.

Scuffle (skʌ·f'l), *v.*[1] Also 6 skufle, 7 skuffle. [A frequentative formation on a base perh. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. *skuffa* a push, *skuffa* to push, f. Teut. root **skuf-* (*skuf*): see SHOVE, SHUFFLE *vbs.*

The Eng. SCUFF *v.* (which is later in our quots.) can hardly be directly connected; cf. however sense 5 below with SCUFF *v.* 3 b.]

1. *intr.* To struggle confusedly *together* or *with* another or others; to fight at close quarters in a disorderly manner, with pulling, pushing, and random delivery of blows; to tussle.

1590 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 6 Shall we haue neighbous

children, lie skuſling in the kennel together by the eares like bride well birds? 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. 75 He.. rushed amongst the thickest of the Veientians, and skuffled with many of them together. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XII. 196, I..haue seene in former dayes The best Knights of the world, and scuffled in some frayes. 1622 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* V. i, Weele skuffle [1st ed. 1620 *reads* shuffle] hard before he perish. 1743 N. APPLETON *Serm.* 21 They scuffle, and oftentimes quarrel as Children. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* ix. 64 The field-mice..scuffled amongst the corn. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXXIX, Only groans and people scuffling and rolling round on the garret-floor half the night!

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Now *rare*; in the 17th c. often with the sense: † To contend vigorously or resolutely.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. XV. II. 585 When the great men of the citie, Cæsar and Pompey, were skuffling together by the eares, hee knew well how to fish in a troubled water. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 7 Here I must needs scuffle with two great errors. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) I. 99 [Genoa] is so well fortified on the other side..that they could scuffle notably in their own defence. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Ep.* XXVIII. (1696) 614 Both at Sea and Land we Tug and Scuffle for Dominion and Wealth. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 181 Even when their perverse and litigious nature sets them to equivocate, scuffle, and fight about the terms of their written obligations. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lviii. 249 To scuffle for a few years upon the plains with the wild tribes, ..for the flesh and the skins of the last of the buffaloes.

2. *trans.* To put *on, out, up,* etc. in a scrambling or confused manner.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 63/1 There should be a ..discipline [in the Church], to the end that matters might not be huddeled and scuffled vppe together confusedly, and without order. 1839 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 285, I had to rise and scuffle all my things out into the other half of the building..in a heavy rain. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* XXXI. (1886) 96 Scuffling on his dressing-gown, [he] advanced towards them. 1863 J. G. WOOD in *Intell. Observ.* IV. 22 [The mole] passing the worm underneath his body from his fore to his hind feet in a very peculiar manner, scuffling it, as it were, backwards and forwards.

3. *intr.* To struggle *through, on, along*; hence, to go hurriedly and superficially (*through* or *over* some operation).

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 340 The rude will scuffle through with ease enough, Great schools suit best the sturdy and the rough. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* II. 218 They are usually scuffled over in the morning with the curry-comb. 1844 THACKERAY in *Punch* VII. 83/2 Scuffling through our blessed meals, that we may be early on the road. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 235 You go to school and scuffle on the best way you can.

4. To go in hurried confusion; to move with much effort and fuss; also *trans.* (causatively).

1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* XX. (1843) 204 The bearers, Peons, and people whom I had scuffled half out of their lives to get ready in time. 1840 THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* (1869) 298 The outward rush of heroes,..scuffling at the door, is in the best style of the grotesque. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 412 Drive the populace headlong past it as fast as they can scuffle.

5. To move with a shuffling gait; also, to shuffle (with the feet).

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, The man..scuffling slipshod along the sanded floor. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Brier Bush* 219 Is't true Elspeth scuffled wi' her feet at the laist head [of the sermon] and gar'd him close?

6. *Comb.*: **scuffle-shoe** *nonce-wd.*, a person of 'slipshod' habits.

1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* XXXV, So scathing was Gower's tone of irate professor to shirky scholar—or it might be put, German professor to English scuffle-shoe.

Hence **Scu·ffling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Scu·ffingly** *adv.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 43 This scuffling or bopeepe in the darke they had a while without weame or bracke. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 134, I may passe over with silence the skuffling skirmishes which hapned euery daie. 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* IV. v, Your scurvie scuffling trade. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. *Supernum. No.* 2. 3/2 They had a scuffling for it. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 351 A noise like scuffling of feet. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fruit* I, The wrestling, and scuffling, and striving, and struggling of modern commerce. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 91 My Son, if a maiden deny thee and scufflingly bid thee give o'er. 1894 — *Jungle Bk.* 51 The monkeys..would..fight and cry in scuffling crowds.

Scuffle (skʌ·f'l), *v.*[2] [f. SCUFFLE *sb.*[2] Cf. Du. *schoffelen.*] *trans.* To scarify or stir the surface (of land) with a thrust-hoe or horse-hoe; to hoe (a crop), cut up (weeds), turn in (seed) by means of a scuffle or scuffler.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Walk* 7 Z 3/1 If they [*sc.* walks] are scuffled over with a Dutch hoe in dry weather, and raked smooth, it will destroy the moss and weeds. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. x, The seed is by this implement scuffled in. 1807 T. RUDGE *Agric. Glouc.* (1813) 110 The land is immediately 'scuffled' or torn to pieces with the scuffler. 1863 *Intell. Observ.* IV. 199 A labourer..scuffling turnips.

Hence **Scu·ffling** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1802 W. AMOS *Drill Husb.* 243 Mellow land..requires no other preparation than scuffling, harrowing, &c. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* III. 959 The [mould-board] plough ..is convertible into a scuffling or cleaning plough, or horse-hoe. *Ibid.*, A second mortise is punched in each wing-bar to receive the scuffling coulters.

Scu·ffle-hunter. *Naut. slang.* (See quots.)

1796 COLQUHOUN *Police Metrop.* (ed. 3) 54 The prevailing practice of discharging and delivering the cargoes of ships by a class of aquatic labourers, known by the name of lumpers and scuffle-hunters. *Ibid.* 66 Those (who are distinguished by the nick-name of *Scuffle-hunters*) prowl about the wharfs .., under pretence of asking employment: but their chief object is to pillage and plunder whatever comes in their way. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* XVIII, We've..the Scuffle Hunters, and the River Pirates.

Scuffler[1] (skʌ·flə1). Also 7 **scufler.** [f. SCUFFLE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who scuffles.

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* III. iv. F 2 b, *Fid.* Ile belabour you the next time I meet you. *Cap.* What Scufler, dost thou thinke ile faile my friends? No Hector I scorne it. 1642 *Tom Nash his Ghost* (title-p.), To the three scurvy Fellowes of the upstart Family of the Snufflers, Rufflers and Shufflers; the thrice Treble-troublesome Scufflers in the Church and State.

Scuffler[2] (skʌ·flə1). [f. SCUFFLE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] An agricultural implement for scarifying and stirring the surface of the ground, esp. between the rows of crops; a horse-hoe.

1797 BILLINGSLEY *Agric. Somerset* (ed. 2) 278 I verily think, that his [J. Cooke's] instruments called the scuffler, and scarifier, are the best contrivances I ever beheld, for the pulverization of the soil, and the destruction of weeds. 1891 *Times* 5 Oct. 3/2 The best remedies for the pest..being nitrate of soda..and the use of scufflers, or of horse-hoes.

b. Each of the scuffling coulters of a scuffler.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* III. 959 In returning it to the double mould-board state, it is only necessary to remove the scufflers and the feathered share.

Scuffy (skʌ·fi), *a. Sc.* [f. SCUFF *v.* + -Y.] = SCUFFED *a.* Also *fig.*

1858 M. PORTEOUS *Real 'Souter Johnny'* 32 Some scuffy chiels to mak a boddle On thy sweet muse hae daured to saddle..Brain brats that ye wad scorn to cuddle Or think were thine. 1895 W. C. FRASER *Whaups of Durley* XIII. 189 He wears black claes, awfu' scuffy.

Scuft, dial. variant of SCUFF *sb.*[2]

Scufting (skʌ·ftiŋ). (See quots.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 85/2 Bran or Scufting, the Husk of the Corn. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.* s. v. *Meal*, The various qualities of meal are distinguished into—1. Bran. 2. Shorts. 3. Scuftings, pollards, or shorts-and-sharps.

Scug (skʌg), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 5–7 (9) **scoug,** 6 **skug,** (**skowg, skugg,** 7 **skough, scugg, scugge**), 9 **sco(o)g, skoug,** 6– **scug.** [a. ON. *skugge* wk. masc., shadow (Sw. *skugga* fem., Norw. *skugge*, Da. *skygge*) = OE. *scu(w)a*, OHG. *scuwo* shade, Goth. *skuggwa* mirror:—OTeut. **skuwon-*.]

1. Originally, shadow; the shade or shelter afforded by a rock, bush or the like; hence, a shelter. *To take scug*: to take shelter.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 8 And skuggis dym of a full dern wod schaw. *Ibid.* 74 As Jupiter,..With erdis scug hydis the hevynis all. *Ibid.* VII. Prol. 47 Thik drumly scuggis dirknit so the hevyne. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (1888) I. 30 In the scoug of the craig and castell is a verie quyet hauining place. *Ibid.* II. 321 Hume with sum of his cumpaniounis slipis quyetlie in the skug [orig. *ad umbracula*], and thair he rested and hid him selfe. 1823 GALT *Entail* XXI, Instead o' gallanting awa under the scog and cloud o' night. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Skug*, a sheltered place. 1890 'H. HALIBURTON' *In Scottish Fields* 33 Hastening through the rain to rustic scoogs or the shelter of friendly cottages.

b. *fig.* Cloak, pretence, outward show.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 281 How thai suld be punyst that beris otheris armes wrangwisly, in entencioun to do mys under scoug of thame covertly. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 282 That the said lord micht have sic ane skug of him [*sc.* a counterfeit bishop] to the eies of the peopill that be him he micht obteine the proffeit of the said benefice. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* xix. (1833) F 3, Under skough of the conscience scruple. 1688 A. SHIELDS *Notes & Heads* (1709) 17 (Jam.) Some did boast of their pretended performances, and so make them a scugg to hide their knavery with. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 215 But brawly kent I that a' this was but a scoug to keep some ither thing oot o' sicht.

Scug (skʌg), *sb.*[2] *dial.* A squirrel.

1718 J. FOX *Wanderer* 73 He first chid me, then depriv'd me of my poor skug. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversat.*, etc. I. 123 Scug does not very willingly expose himself in the open day far from his trees.

Scug (skʌg), *sb.*[3] *School slang.* Also **skug.** (See quot. 1881.)

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 82 Come fill the bowl with Bishop up, Clods, Fags, and Skugs, and Muttons. *Note*, Scug or Skug, a lower boy in the school, relating to sluggish. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* XIX, Whereas, to lay by ten thousand a-year out of eighteen, till his best days are gone by, makes what, at Eton, we used to call, a scug of him at once. 1881 *Everyday Life in Public Sch.* 312, *Scug*, Et[on]. Har[row]. Negatively, a boy who is not distinguished in person, in games, or social qualities. Positively, a boy of untidy, dirty, or ill-mannered habits; one whose sense of propriety is not fully developed.

Scug (skʌg), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6, 8–9 **scug,** 6, 9 **scoug,** 9 **sco(o)g, skug.** [f. SCUG *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To shade, shelter, screen, protect.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. ii. 24 Joyfull and blyth thai entir in the flude, That derne about scuggit wyth bewis stude. *Ibid.* VIII. vi. 90. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Song, 'My ain kind Deary, O!'* 7 At thornie dike and birken tree, We'll daff, and ne'er be weary, O! They'll scug ill een fra you and me. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* II. ii. 21 I'll gang..mysel, and muddle about the root o' this affair till I get at it...Naebody in this country-side kens me; I'll be scoggit wi' my ain hamely manner. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Skug*, to hide, to screen. 1898 C. SPENCE *From Braes of Carse* 29 He has hives o' bees..Weel scouged wi' shrubs..Frae ony blast the wind can blaw.

absol. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Sept. 154/1 He hadnae call'd on the Hailie Name That scugs in the evil hour.

2. *refl.* and *intr.* To take cover or shelter, to hide.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 187 Within their sacrify'd abodes Scougin' themsel' frae stanes and clods. 1823 W. JAMESON *Mem. & Lett.* (1845) 94, I went to His holy table and felt like one in the pelting of a storm, scugging under Immanuel.

3. *trans.* To take shelter from (the elements).

1812 W. GLASS *Caledonian Parnassus* (1814) 20 Beneath the ivy-twining bow'r, Where aft I've scoug'd the simmer show'r. 1886 'H. HALIBURTON' *Horace* (1900) 43 Wind and snaw, Are far abune oor fit, But while we scoog them, let them blaw.

Scuggery (skʌ·gəri). *north. dial.* [f. SCUG *sb.*[1] + -ERY.] Concealment, secrecy.

a 1568 *Henryson's Two Mice* xiv. (Bannatyne MS.), In skugry ay, throw rankest girss and corne, And wondir sly, full preuely cwth thay creip. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 In *scuggery*, in secrecy; hid, as from creditors.

† **Scu·ggy,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 **skogy.** [f. SCUG *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Shady, gloomy.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. x. 54 Quham the sydis of a thik wode of tre Closis full derne wyth skogy bewis hie.

Scuil(l, obs. forms of SCHOOL.

Scul, obs. form of SCHOOL, SKULL.

Sculc, Sculcare, obs. ff. SKULK, SKULKER.

Sculch (skʌlʃ). *dial.* and *U. S.* Also **sculsh, scultch, skultch.** [var. of CULCH.] = CULCH 1, 2.

1847 HALLIWELL, *Sculsh, sculch*, rubbish. 1865 W. WHITE *Eastern Engl.* II. 236 Here from time to time the men throw into the river what they call 'skultch', which an outsider would call rubbish...Of such stuff as this a comfortable bed [for oyster spawn] is made. 1891 M. COLE *Cy Ross* 38 They dumped the tunnel full of big rock an' sculch.

Sculck, obs. form of SKULK.

† **Sculd.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Connected with ON. *skilja* to divide.] A parting.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15541 þis ilk night sal be a sculd [*Gött.* a skaile, *Fairf.* parting, *Trin.* a scateryng] betuix you and me.

† **Scu·lding, scou·lding.** *Obs. Orkney* and *Shetl.* [a. Norw. *skulding* accusation.] (See quot.)

1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetld.* (1859) 49 The Laird.. chargit ten houshaldis for scoulding. 1576 *Ibid.* 51 Thair is ane branche of this law of Granderie, callit Sculding, that is to say, ane brute or sclander of thift, pykrie, or sic uther crymes, rasit by the deid of ane single persoun [etc.].

Sculduddery (skʌldʌ·dəri). *Sc.* and *U.S.* Also 8 **sculdudry,** 8–9 **skulduddry,** 9 **skulduddery, skulduggery.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. 'A term, now used in a ludicrous manner, to denote those causes that come under the judgment of an ecclesiastical court, which respect some breach of chastity' (Jam.).

Jamieson's words imply that the word was originally in serious use, but of this there seems to be no evidence.

1713 CENTLIVRE *Wonder* III. iii. Wks. 1760 III. 42 But I'm seer ther's na sike honest People here, or there wou'd na be so muckle Sculdudrie [*note* Fornication]. 1714 RAMSAY *On Y. Cowper* 5 There's none..Could sa'r sculdudry out like John. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1818) I. 190 If any one be brought before a presbytery &c., to be questioned for sculduddery, *i. e.* fornication or adultery. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, [They] can find out naething but a wee bit skulduddery for the benefit o' the Kirk-treasurer.

2. Obscenity.

1821 GALT *Legatees* ix. Let. xxxii. 271 All the sculduddery of the business might have been well spared from the eye of the public. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, Speaking blasphemy and sculduddry.

¶ **3.** *U. S.* (With form **skulduggery.**) ? Malversation of public money.

1890 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. X. 224/1 Some two or three years ago one of the New York papers..announced that a missionary on the Congo intended to return to America and blow up the whole scullduggery; meaning, apparently, to expose the false pretences on which money had been collected for the mission. 1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 7 Nov. 7/4 Unfounded Charges of Skulduggery. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 22 Dec., The United States Courts..are now very busy affixing the penalties for violations of the national banking laws and for general skulduggery in the management of the institutions.

4. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* **a.** Concerned with 'sculduddery' as a punishable offence. **b.** Of literature or conversation: Obscene.

1756 A. PENNECUIK *Coll. Sc. Poems* 136 Sculdudry-fowk may now sing dool, And steep their graith in a cald pool. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Misc. Writ.* (1883) II. 135 They did na like sculdudery wark, but said na meikle against it. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, The rental-book..was lying beside him; and a book of sculduddry sangs was put betwixt the leaves.

Scule, obs. form of SCHOOL.

Sculk, -er, -ing: see SKULK, -ER, -ING.

Scull (skʌl), *sb.*[1] Also 4–5 **skulle,** 7 **soul,** 5 **sculle,** 4–9 **skull.** [Of obscure origin.

Some would identify it with SKULL bowl, goblet, supposing that the name refers to the hollowed form of the blade; but this seems very improbable.]

1. A kind of oar. **a.** An oar used to propel a boat by working it from side to side over the stern of the boat, reversing the blade at each turn. **b.** An oar, shorter and lighter than a 'rowing' oar, so that a pair can be operated at once by one person, who sits midway between the sides of the boat.

1345-6 in Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* (1847) II. 477 [For four large and long oars called] skulles [42*s.* 8*d.*]. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 23, ij sculles..for the bote of the said ship. 1495 *Ibid.* 193 After skullys..]. *a* 1500 *Piers of Fulham* 275 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 22 And for to rowe in

a barge with a skulle Avayleth not but the fiud be at full. 1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Scull to rowe with, *aviron*. 1674 PETTY *Disc. R. Soc.* 56 Suppose a Paralellipipedon-Boat or Vessel, of breadth fit for a pair of Skulls..and of length sufficient for 9 such Skulls or Oars. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxix. 287 We moved on in deep silence, with a single scull astern. 1869 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i. The girl rowed, pulling a pair of sculls very easily. 1875 W. B. WOODGATE *Oars & Sculls* xv. 118 On a sliding seat the sculls, like oars, should be a trifle longer inboard.

†**2.** A boat propelled with a scull or a pair of sculls; a sculling-boat. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Napelette*, a small skiffe, scull, or cocke-boat. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Dec., Thence by water..being carried by him in oares that the other day rowed in a scull faster than my oares to the Towre.

†**3.** One who sculls; a sculler. *Obs. rare.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 89 He loves, but dares not make the motion;..Like..rowing Skull, he's fain to love, Look one way and a nother move. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 5 Where Sculls did once row, Men walk to and fro.

4. *pl.* A sculling race.

1878 *Athletic World* 5 Apr. 8/2 The following races have been fixed..Lowe Senior Sculls, July 22;..Handicap Sculls, Aug. 21.

5. An act of sculling.

1886 TUPPER *Autobiog.* 59 The gallop with Mr. Murrell's harriers, or the quick scull to Iffley. 1897 MRS. RAYNER *Type-writer Girl* xvii. 176 To ask me to fill in a journal with the day's events is like asking a galley-slave to take a scull in a pleasure-boat after his toil is over.

†Scull, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **skul, 7 scul.** [? Shortened from SCULLION.] A scullion. Also Comb. *scull-boy.*

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. G 4 b, Foulers, fishers, sculls, podingwrightes, the trulls of Tuscus streate. 1598 tr. *G. de la Perriere's Mirr. Policie* D d, The Romane law..ordained that honest Romane wiues should be exempt from..playing the skuls in the kitchen. 1643 VICARS *Looking Glass* 35 God most wisely..makes them..to be but as it were, the very drudges and scull-boyes of his Church. 1743 A. BUSH in Howell *St. Trials* (1813) XVII. 1196 He was a little scull that used to go of errands.

Scull (skʌl), *sb.*[3] A name given locally to various species of gulls.

1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., Gull-Arctic. Larus Parasiticus...Provincial. Scull. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 492 *Lestris Richardsonii*. Richardson's Skua... Scull. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 210 Common Skua (*Stercorarius catarrhactes*)...Scull.

Scull (skʌl), *v.* Also 7–9 **skull.** [f. SCULL *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* or *absol.* To proceed by means of a boat propelled with a scull or a pair of sculls; to use a scull or a pair of sculls in propelling a boat. Also *to scull it*, and with complement denoting the position of the sculler.

1624 [implied in SCULLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inquir.* 159 Others have nothing to do but skull away with the Tide when it comes in. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* ii, As we sculled along in the clear creek. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* ii, I had steamed it down the Mississippi, and sculled it up the Orinoco. 1892 FURNIVALL *Hoccleve's Minor P.* Forew. 47 *note*, When he peeld to scull bow down-stream.

b. *transf.* Of a fish: To propel itself. Of the tail: To act as a propeller.

1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* (1858) viii, He has two curious fins to scull with. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 59/1 A long greenish form with fins that wavered slowly, and a tail that sculled with just sufficient power to keep its owner in his hiding-place.

c. *trans.* To make (a particular stroke) in sculling.

1875 W. B. WOODGATE *Oars & Sculls* xv. 116 It is possible to scull a much longer stroke than can be rowed.

2. *trans.* To propel (a boat) by means of a scull or a pair of sculls. Also *refl.* of a fish, etc., to propel itself as by a scull or sculls.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 186 [Serving] for the finns and tail, for the Oars and Ruder of this little creature [*sc.* a water-insect], wherewith it was able..to move himself any whither, and to skull and steer himself as he pleas'd. 1773 *Hist. Brit. Dom. N. Amer.* II. ii. § 12. 217 He [the whale] sculls himself in the water with a large horizontal tail. 1798 S. WILCOCKE in *Naval Chron.* (1799) II. 63 They [*sc.* the boats] are sculled instead of being rowed. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i, Another boat..dropped alongside. 'In luck again, Gaffer?' said a man..who sculled her.

b. *intr.* Of a boat: To admit of being sculled (well, easily, etc.).

1891 *Century Dict.* s.v., The boat sculls well.

3. *trans.* To convey (a person) by water in a sculling-boat or by sculling.

1827 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1903) I. I. ii. 43 Sculled Hallam to Surly after 6. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 246 He went home sculling himself across the lake. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* I. I. ii. 40 The more sinewy Gladstone used to scull him up to the Shallows.

Scull: see SKULL. **Scull(e,** obs. ff. SCHOOL.

Scullen, obs. form of SCULLION.

Sculler (skʌ·lə), *sb.* Also 6 **scullar, skoller, -oer, 7 skullar, 7–8 skuller.** [f. SCULL *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who propels a boat by means of a scull or a pair of sculls; one skilled in the management of a sculling-boat.

1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Scullar, *batellier*. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1081/2 He went ouer unto Westminster bridge with a Sculler, where he entred into a Whirry that went to London. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Nov., I was told the Queen was a-coming; so I got a sculler for sixpence to carry me thither and back again. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxx, Ply for employment like scullers at Hungerford stairs. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sculler*, one that rows a cockboat. 1875 W. B. WOODGATE *Oars & Sculls* xv. 116 If anything, a sculler can reach his hands an inch or two farther forward than the oarsman.

2. A boat propelled by sculling; a sculling-boat; also, rarely † *a pair of scullers.*

Double-sculler, a sculling-boat to seat two scullers.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* xi. (1869) 54 He went to the water syde and toke a Skoller [ed. 1573 skolloer], and was sette ouer the Water into Saincte Georges feldes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 220/2 *Linter*, a wherry or sculler. *a* 1640 W. FENNER *Sacrif. Faithfull* (1648) 211 A man cannot row upon the maine ocean in a paire of Scullers. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 735 Her Soul already was consign'd to Fate, And shiv'ring in the leaky Sculler sate. 1760 *Brit. Chron.* 23 Jan. 79 On Sunday evening a skuller, with twelve people in it, struck on a hawser..and overset. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* liv, Early as it was, there were plenty of scullers going here and there that morning, and plenty of barges. 1902 *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* VII. 366 Our skipper told us our boat drew too much water..and persuaded us to hire a double-sculler.

†**3.** A sculling oar. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1766 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough Deeds* (Bundle 79. no. 14), [Gideon Whetstone, mariner] saw him sink and try'd with his sculler to feel for him but could not reach him.

†**4.** *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **sculler-boat,** a sculling-boat; **sculler-man,** one who plies a sculling-boat for hire. *Obs.*

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 1 May, Going thither..I met a boy in a sculler-boat. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 109 The other captain and the scullerman were saved. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 598 With us it [Nigrescent leprosy] is chiefly found among soldiers, sailors, sculler-men, stage-coachmen [etc.].

†**Scu·ller,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SCULLER *sb.*] = SCULL *v.* 3.

1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Introd., Wks. 1716 II. 4 What they paid for being Sculler'd back again, is not in the Book of Rates..for Charon's Boat is always empty of Passengers back again.

Scullery (skʌ·lərі). Forms: *α.* 4 **squillerye,** 5–6 **squillery,** 6 **-erie, squyllary, squylery, suyllarye;** *β.* 5 **skulery,** 6 **skullary, scullary, -arie, -erie,** 6–7 **skullery,** 7 **-erie,** 5– **scullery.** [a. OF. *escuelerie*, f. *escuelier* SQUILLER.]

1. The department of a household concerned with the care of the plates, dishes, and kitchen utensils. Also the room or rooms in which the work of this department is carried on. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

α. [1330 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 33/1 Johan de la Squillerye.] 1445 in *Turner's Dom. Arch.* (1859) III. I. 78 To make in all hast possible..a new halle with a squillery, saucery, and surveyng place. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 10 b, He had been a turne broche and executed such vile officies in the kynges kytchyn & suyllarye for a space. 1576 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 43, I Sergiant and Clerk of the Squillery.

β. *c* 1440 Scullery [see SAUCERY]. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 179 [Given] to the kinges cookes white x.s. And to the skulery iij.s. iiij.d. 1520 [see SAUCERY]. 1555 LATIMER *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) III. 1911/2 And as for suffrage,..I had leauer haue the suffrage of iacke of the skullery. 1583 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 402 The kitchin, with bylinge-house, scullery, pastry, and larders. 1624 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. vi. 67 Some of their scullerie having dressed these homely cates, presents it to his guests. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 258 Holding it unbeseeming that the businesses of the scullery should be done in our parlour. 1708 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 537 Her Majesty's Household Officers [etc.]. Scullery.

†**b.** *Silver scullery*: the department concerned with the care of the silver utensils. *Obs.*

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2149/4 Whoever shall give notice thereof unto any Officer of the King's Silver Scullery, shall have two Guinea's Reward. 1725 *Ibid.* No. 6364/1 The Officers of the Board of Greencloth, or Silver Scullery.

†**c.** Kitchen refuse. *Obs.*

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* II. xxxiii. 258 Besides the black pots, among which these doves [*sc.* ministers of the Church] must lie, I mean the soot and scullery of vulgar insolency.. and fanatick contempt.

2. In modern use: A small room attached to a kitchen, in which the washing of dishes and other dirty work is done; a back kitchen.

1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. i. (1811) 36 In the wash-house or the scullery, performing the most laborious offices. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 332 Attached to the wards are attendants' rooms, scullery [etc.]. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. x. 229 Everything must have a name, even the slate that roofs your scullery.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scullery board, boy, maid, man, work.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 156 Wasshe all the grecy dysshes.. and set them cleme vpon the *squylery bourde. 1673 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlem. Comp.* 217 [Directions] To *Scullery-Maids in great Houses. 1595 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* VII. 210 The *Scullerye man and his Office.

Sculling (skʌ·lin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCULL *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 223 Being with skulling and bayling the water tired. 1820 SCORESBY *Arctic Reg.* I. 466 As a boat is forced along, with a single oar, by the operation of skulling. 1875 W. B. WOODGATE *Oars & Sculls* xv. 118 Recovery is a matter of greater ease in sculling than in rowing. *Ibid.*, Double sculling is faster than pair-oar rowing.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sculling-boat, outrigger, race*; **sculling boy,** one who sculls a wherry for hire; **sculling-crutch** (see quot.); **sculling eight, four,** a sculling-boat propelled by eight or four pairs of sculls respectively; **sculling float,** a flat-bottomed sculling-boat; **sculling-hole,** a hole for a sculling oar; **sculling motion, stroke,** that resembling the motion or stroke of a sculling oar; **sculling oar,** an oar used in sculling over the stern of a boat.

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. ix. 76/2 It has a deck like the outrigger *skulling-boats used on the Thames. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 125 The *Skulling-boy [? a public house bearing this sign] lying just over the Gate. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 168/2 (Punt shooting) **Sculling-crutch*, the spur on the starboard side of the punt in which the fowler 'sculls' with his oar. 1885 *Sculling eight [see *sculling four*]. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* xxii. 230 They may also be approached..in the *sculling-float. 1885 FURNIVALL in *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XI. 324/1 The first '*sculling four'..was put on the Thames, at my suggestion..in 1883; and..the first '*sculling eight' was brought out..in January, 1885. 1892 — *Hoccleve's Minor P.* Forew. 47 *note*, How different it was yesterday, in our narrow sculling-four! 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* iv. 91 The *sculling-hole..is placed six inches to larboard of centre of stern. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 51 It [the tail of fish] acts very much like the *sculling oar of a boat.

Scullion (skʌ·lyən). Forms: *α.* 6 **squylyon;** *β.* 5 **sculȝon, scwlione,** *Sc.* **skulȝeoun,** 6–7 **scullian, skullion, -an, scullen,** 6 **scolion, (-yon, scoulion, -yon, skolyon, scullyon, schoolyone, scullyan,** 7 **skullen),** 6– **scullion.** [Perh. an alteration of F. *souillon* scullion, due to assimilation to SCULLERY.] A domestic servant of the lowest rank in a household who performed the menial offices of the kitchen; hence, a person of the lowest order, esp. as an abusive epithet. Now only *arch.*

α. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxvii. 118 Squylyons of y^e^ kechyn.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 A Scul3on (Scwlione *A.*), *calcula, lixa.* 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. 17 Me thought the scullians like fendes of their lookes Came forth with whittels. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* (1580) 151 The Jewes..made of the Gabaonites, being theyr confederates, their scullyons, and drudges. 1579 LOUTH in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 50 There Cooke in that hyghe court was dressed lyke a schoolyone. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 65 Away you Scullion, you Rampallian, you Fustillirian. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 616. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 542 Haveloke..having beene first a skullen in the King's Kitchin. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I. i, Ay, it's the way with them all, from the scullion to the privy-councillor. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 151 Among the scullions and the kitchen-knaves.

b. *attrib.*, as *scullion-boy, -clout, -maid, -work.*

1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* Pref. 18 And those Tararagmales, the Decretall Epistles of the Popes *scullen-boyes making. *c* 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 121 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scot.*, With *skul3eoun clowttis and dressing knyvis. *c* 1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1889) VI. 267 Would I had been a *scullian-maid, or a servant of a low degree. 1632 SHERWOOD, A *scullion wench, *Souillonne*. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* 342 Such a one, which is forced to do all manner of *skullion work? 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 8 If it be but skullion-work to brighten vessels.

c. quasi-*adj.* Base, mean.

1658 [cf. *scullion work* above]. 1824 BYRON *Deformed Transf.* I. i. 128 The forester Hunts not the wretched coney, but the boar.., leaving paltry game to petty burghers, who leave once a year Their walls, to fill their household caldrons with Such scullion prey. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol., Courage* Wks. (Bohn) III. 114 We must have a scope as large as Nature's to deal with beast-like men, detect what scullion function is assigned them.

Scullionish (skʌ·lyənіʃ), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SCULLION + -ISH.] Befitting a scullion.

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xix. (1862) 195 The most ludicrous combination of scullionish and poetical ideas it was ever my lot to hear.

Scullionize (skʌ·lyənəiz), *v. rare*—[1]. [f. SCULLION + -IZE.] *intr.* To perform the office of scullion.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 309 He has scullionized at the 'Trois Frères', and played *chef* to a London club-house.

†**Scu·llionly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SCULLION + -LY[1].] Pertaining to or used by a scullion.

In the quot. from Milton (Wks. 1738 I. 304), given by Todd and some later Dicts., the correct reading is 'cullionly'.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* IX. i. 342 This Doue beheldе her selfe as dead and entranced,..among the Scullionly potts, spits and dripping pans, of Indian..Infidels.

†**Scu·llionry.** *Obs.*—[6] [f. SCULLION + -RY.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Marmitonnage*, Scullionrie, or th' Office of a Scullion. *Ibid.*, *Souillonnerie*, scullionerie, drudgerie.

Scullionship (skʌ·lyənʃip). [f. SCULLION + -SHIP.] The business or period of employment as a scullion. Also as a mock title.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 150 If..I had not before indured some stormes of Aduersity, neuer in that faire weather of my Scullion-ship [orig. Sp. *sollastria*], should I haue knowne how to Sayle in my putting forth from the Kitchen. 1707 *Wks. Class D'Anois* (1715) 434 What would your Skullionship have with the King, I pray now?

‖**Scullo·gue.** *Obs.* [Irish *sgológ*: cf. SCALLAG, SCOLOG.] An Irish farm labourer.

1665 R. HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. (1666) 5 The [Irish] Rebels.. met with my Mother, attended by two Scullogues, her menial servants. 1681 T. DINELEY in *Jrnl. Kilkenny Archæol. Soc.* (1858) I. 176 The scullogues, in digging for turfe, find large whole trees of oake, elme and firr. 1690 MACKENZIE *Siege London-Derry* 1/1 For his Army here could not bear it, to see themselves out-rivall'd by a Crew of Scullogues in their Prince's Favour.

†Sculp, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [f. SCULP *v.*[1]]

1. An engraving or wood-cut used as an illustration in a book.

1696 EVELYN *Let. to Place* 17 Aug., I do not say the Holland Sculps are ill perform'd; but [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). *Sculp*, a Cut, Print, or Engraved Picture; as *A Book full of fine Sculps.*

2. A piece of sculpture.

c 1845 J. MORRIS in Pollen *Life & Lett.* (1896) 23 Two sculps in the marble tell the same tale.

Sculp (skʌlp), *sb.*[2] *N. Amer. dial.* [f. SCULP *v.*[2]] The skin of a seal with the blubber attached.

1840 JUKES *Excurs. Newfoundld.* (1842) I. 273 The [seal-] skin in this state is called the 'pelt', and sometimes the 'sculp'. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 23/2 The 'sculp' of the dog hood sometimes weighs six hundredweight.

transf. 1904 W. CHURCHILL *Crossing* vi. 61 You damned Dutchmen..I wish the devils had every one of your fat sculps.

Sculp (skʌlp), *v.*[1] [f. L. *sculp-ĕre* to carve.]

†1. *trans.* To carve or engrave (upon something).

c 1525 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 947 To grave or sculpe, *grauer.* 1638 SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* xix. 26 Oh.. that the tenor of my just complaint Were sculpt with steele on Rocks of Adamant! 1673 BLOUNT *World of Errors* A 2, A pompous Frontispiece, wherein are sculped our two famous Universities. *a* 1695 WOOD *City of Oxford* (O. H. S.) III. 170 Out of whose mouth on a scroule is this sculped: *Sancta Trinitas* [etc.].

†2. To cut *out* with a graving tool. *Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. § 4 [He] digs or Sculps out the Steel between the..Marks..on the Face of the Punch.

3. To sculpture. Now chiefly *colloq.* or *jocular.*

1784 *Sel. Fables* Life Æsop 8 The Athenians..erected a noble statue..sculped by the famous Lysippus. 1887 STEVENSON *Lett.* 21 Nov., St. Gaudens the sculptor sculping me.

b. *intr.* or *absol.*

1889 W. E. NORRIS *Miss Shafto* (1890) 36, I wouldn't for the world deny that you can sculp or sculpt, or whatever the proper word is. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 26 Men who write, and paint, and sculp.

Hence **Scu·lping** *vbl. sb.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. § 4 The Letter-Cutter does not expect to perform this Digging or Sculping at one single Operation.

Sculp (skʌlp), *v.*[2] *N. Amer. dial.* [Cf. SCALP *v.*] *trans.* To skin (a seal).

1840 JUKES *Excurs. Newfoundld.* (1842) I. 274 They skin, or, as they call it, 'sculp' them with a broad clasp-knife, called a sculping-knife. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 175 Drawings exhibiting Sealers..Sculping young Seal.

b. *fig.* To strip (a person) of all his possessions.

1904 W. CHURCHILL *Crossing* vi. 61 We've all been burned out and sculped up river.

Sculpin (skʌ·lpin), *sb.* Also 8 **scolping, sculpion,** 9 **skulpin, sculpen, sculping.** [? Corruption of SCORPENE.]

1. A name for various small worthless fish having a spiny appearance: a. A fish of the genus *Callionymus*, e. g. *C. draco*; b. A fish of the genus *Cottus*, e. g. *C. virginianus*; c. *Hemitripterus hispidus* or *americanus*; d. *Scorpæna guttata* (see SCORPENE); also †*Sculpin fish.*

1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physit.* 7 A Sculpin Fish..called by us in those parts, the Sea Hedge-Hog. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 342 The Sea Porcupine, or a sort of Sculpion. 1767 tr. *Cranz' Greenland* I. 95 The Ulkes, *scorpius marinus*, which we call Toadfish, or in Newfoundland Sculping. 1778 COOK *Voy. Pacific* IV. v. (1784) II. 379 We caught a few sculpins about the ship. *a* 1849 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T., Village Uncle*, The very air was fishy, being perfumed with dead sculpins, hardheads, and dogfish. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* i, Now the Sculpin (*Cottus Virginianus*) is a little water-beast which pretends to consider itself a fish. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 258 'Deep-water Sculpin'...This fish, *Hemitripterus hispidus* or *H. americanus*, attains the length of two feet, and is conspicuous by reason of its russet-orange or brick-red colors [etc.]. 1890 E. GOSSE *Life of P. H. Gosse* 114 The large, richly coloured sculpen (Cottus), so common in the clear water round the wharves of Carbonear.

2. *transf.* A mean, worthless person or animal.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* ii, What are you gaping at, you young sculping? 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxvii, Go along, you old sculpin [a horse], and turn out your toes. 1877 SARAH O. JEWETT *Deephaven* (1893) 105 Ye see the miser'ble sculpin thought I'd never stop to open the goods.

Scu·lpin (skʌ·lpin), *a. U. S.* [f. prec.] Worthless, despicable.

1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 126 Existence on such sculpin terms,..What is it all but dross to me.

Sculpt (skʌlpt), *v. rare* exc. in jocular use. [ad. F. *sculpter*, f. L. *sculpt-*, ppl. stem of *sculpĕre*; but apprehended as a ludicrous back-formation from SCULPTOR.] *trans.* To sculpture; *absol.*, to practise the art of sculpture. Hence **Scu·lpting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1864 *Reader* 5 Mar. 300/1 Galileo..says: As to what sculptors argue, that Nature moulds men but does not paint them, I reply that she makes them not less by painting than sculpture, because she both sculpts and colours. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxi, It isn't enough to go to shops and buy pictures. We must go in for sculpting too. 1883 KATH. S. MACQUOID *Her Sailor Love* v. i. II. 135 A well-known sculptor..had been commissioned by the squire of Trant to sculpt his wife. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Oct. 2/2 Mr. Watts's well-known principle is..that the sculptor should paint and the painter should sculpt. 1886 O. LODGE in *Liverpool Univ. Coll. Mag.* Mar. 138 The statues we sculpt..the less said about them the better. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 105 A sculptor advised a young sculpting friend to lose no time in completing the bust of the deceased husband whenever it was ordered by the inconsolable widow.

†Sculpta·ted, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. F. *sculpt-er* (see prec.) + -ATE[3] + -ED[1].] Sculptured.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 243 The ears very round, plain, and not sculptated.

†Scu·lpter, *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **sculptor.** [As if ad. L. type **sculptrum*, f. *sculpĕre* to engrave.] Some kind of graving tool.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 225 The Tool, which is commonly a Graver, or sometimes a Sculptor, fit to such Moldings as are to be made on the Mettal. *Ibid.*, Afterwards with Sculptors, Round or Flat, or great or small, they work their intended Moldings. 1683 — *Printing* xiii. § 3 He uses the Knife-backt Sculpter. *Ibid.* § 4 With.. proper shaped and Pointed Sculptors and Gravers, [he] digs or Sculps out the Steel.

†Scu·lptile, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **sculptill.** [a. L. *sculptilis*, f. *sculpt-*, ppl. stem of *sculpĕre* to carve, sculpture.]

A. *adj.* Sculptured, graven. Also *fig.*

1621 *Gude & Godlie B.* App. 237 Let be thy sculptill honouris vaine. 1646-58 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. ix. (ed. 4) 300 The commandment against sculptile Images. 1679 RYCAUT *State Grk. Ch.* 322 All carved Images they abhor, and Anathematize the adorers of Sculptile Representations. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 135 Adopting a lighter and more regular character, but still using sculptile or sculpto-fusile types.

B. *sb. pl.* Graven images [=L. *sculptilia*, Vulg.].

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxvii. 64 Pere sculptils þai lout, noght god. 1382 WYCLIF *Micah* i. 7 Alle sculptilis, or grauen ymagis. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* xcvi. 7 Let them al be confounded that adore sculptils.

†Scu·lpto-fu·sile, *a. Obs.* [f. *sculpto-* taken as comb. form of L. *sculptus* engraved + FUSILE *a.* The word in Meerman's Latin is *sculptofusus* (*fusus* pa. pple. of *fundĕre* to cast).] (See quot.)

1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 167 Meerman..was an advocate for sculpto-fusile types, or types of which the body was cast and the letter engraved.

Sculptor (skʌ·lptəɹ). [a. L. *sculptor*, agent-n. f. *sculpĕre* to carve, engrave, sculpture. Cf. F. *sculpteur*, Sp. *escultore*, Pg. *esculptor*, It. *scultore.*]

1. One who practises the art of sculpture; chiefly, an artist who produces works of statuary in marble or bronze.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 59 A Pegasus: an inuention of the Sculptor, to expresse his workemanship. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sculptor*, a graver or carver. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Modena* (1685) 209 Here are many Sculptors both for Ivory and Wood. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGUE *Lett.* II. liii. 78 His sculptors could have made no other figure so proper for that purpose as this statue. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy* II. 231 Jacopo della Quercia, a sculptor whose works are now to be sought in Siena, Lucca, and Bologna. 1893 *Academy* 13 May 413/1 The fronts of the mansion were decorated with statues by skilled sculptors.

†2. An engraver. *Obs.*

1641 EVELYN *Diary* 24 May, He brought over Wenceslaus Hollar, the sculptor. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii. 42 Sculptors in their strongest shadows, after this order doe draw their double Haches.

3. *Astr.* (See quot.)

1852 HIND *Astron. Vocab.* 52 *Sculptor*, an abbreviation for *Apparatus Sculptoris*, one of the southern constellations introduced by Lacaille.

Sculptress (skʌ·lptrès). Also 7 **sculpteress.** [f. SCULPTOR + -ESS.] A female sculptor.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Table & Contents, Propertia de Rossi (a sculpteress) 52. *Ibid.* iv. 52 The glory of the Sex, Propertia de Rossi a Florentine Sculptress. 1825 COLERIDGE *Let. to J. Gillman* (1895) 743 The ci-devant sculptress with all her kaleidoscopic freaks and symmetries! 1889 ALGER *Englishm. in Fr. Rev.* 251 Mrs. Damer, the amateur sculptress.

Sculptural (skʌ·lptiŭrăl), *a.* [f. SCULPTURE *sb.* + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to sculpture.

1819 SHELLEY *Lett.* Prose Wks. (1888) II. 287 The moulding of the face modelled with sculptural exactness. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* v. § 8. 144 Sculptural sketching exactly correspondent to a painter's light execution of a background. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. v. 319 There will naturally be associated with it those relics of sculptural ribaldry,..to be found in the decorations of old ecclesiastical buildings.

b. *transf.*

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 59 The wall of the cavity presents none of that sculptural detail which [etc.].

2. Having the qualities of a piece of sculpture.

1849 PATMORE in *Quaritch's Rough List* Nov. (1899) 123 The poems seem to me to be too sculptural. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. 362 She is faultlessly made, face and form..It is like sculpture...What I said—she is sculptural.

Sculpturally (skʌ·lptiŭrăli), *adv.* [f. SCULPTURAL + -LY[2].]

1. By means of sculpture.

1825 *Examiner* 290/2 The sculpturally translated beauties of Painting. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* v. 222 The quaint beauty and character of many natural objects..is sculpturally expressible in iron only.

2. In accordance with the canons of sculptural art.

1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. 269 Those slender beautiful white arms, that Paris said were sculpturally faultless. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 222/1 All are sculpturally muscled.

Sculpturation (skʌlptiŭrē·ʃən). [f. SCULPTURE *v.* + -ATION.] A marking resembling sculpture.

1866 R. TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iv. 218 Its minute size and its sculpturations serve to distinguish it.

Sculpture (skʌ·lptiŭɹ), *sb.* Also 6 **sculture.** [ad. L. *sculptūra*, f. *sculpĕre* to carve, engrave, sculpture. Cf. F. *sculpture* (15–16th c.; an older synonym was *sculpeüre*, f. *sculper* to 'sculp'), Sp. *escultura*, Pg. *esculptura*, It. *scultura* (whence the 16th c. Eng. form *sculture*).]

1. Originally, the process or art of carving or engraving a hard material so as to produce designs or figures in relief, in intaglio, or in the round. In modern use, that branch of fine art which is concerned with the production of figures in the round or in relief, either by carving, by fashioning some plastic substance, or by making a mould for casting in metal; the practice of this art.

Now chiefly used with reference to work in stone (esp. marble) or bronze (similar work in wood, ivory, etc. being spoken of as *carving*), and to the production of figures of considerable size. Thus to apply the term, e. g. to die-sinking or to stone-carving on a small scale would now be regarded as a transferred use.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 83 Zenzis fond ferst the pourtreture, And Promotheüs the Sculpture. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* A ij, And hauing the sayde trikes and deuises aswell of sculture & painting as also of Architecture. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d ij b, Though I mencion not Sculpture, in my Table of Artes Mathematicall. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* XXXV. 76 The Excellence of Sculpture is the Effect of repeated Experience, which refers itself to the Works of Nature, as to its Archetype. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. 573 Nor in painting's light, or mightier verse, Or sculpture's marble language. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 320 Sculpture is the language of the body, music the language of the soul.

b. †The operation of cutting or engraving (*obs.*); the operation of sculpturing.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge e 8 b, All may have Sculpture by the powder of smiris, except the adamant. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. vi. § 20. 262 The dog.. watches the progress of the sculpture with a grave interest.

c. Kind or quality of sculptured work.

1653 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 4 And I shall hope to set nothing upon his spirit but what may be of a good sculpture.

2. *concr.* a. The product of the sculptor's art; that which is sculptured († or engraved); sculptured figures in general.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 167 And of what Ston his sepulture Thei sholden make, and what sculpture He wolde ordeine therupon. 1638 SIR R. COTTON *Tower Rec.* 23 For money is not meerely to bee esteemed in respect of the sculpture or figure. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 79 Some frail memorial still erected nigh, With uncouth rhimes and shapeless sculpture deck'd. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 763 When sculpture is represented, as it is always supposed to be white marble or stone, the engraving should be light and smooth.

fig. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 28 These ages wherin Canons, and Scotisms, and Lumbard Laws, have dull'd and almost obliterated the lively Sculpture of ancient reason.

b. In particularized sense: A work of sculpture; a sculptured († or engraved) figure or design.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Sculpture*, a caruing, a grauing. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 716 Cornice or Freeze, with bossy Sculptures grav'n. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 66 A pretty church..remarkable for its exquisite marble sculptures. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 54 Like some sweet sculpture draped from head to foot, And push'd by rude hands from its pedestal. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civilis.* ii. (1875) 53 In some places of Western Europe, rock sculptures have been discovered.

fig. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 14 III. i. 207 Righteousness..is a sculpture, the Spirit ingraves on none, but the children of God. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. § 47. 675 The Divine art and wisdom..would..everywhere impress the sculptures and signatures of itself.

†3. A picture or illustration printed from an engraved plate or block; an engraving; engravings collectively. *Obs.*

1654 OGILBY *Wks. Virg.* title-p., Translated, adorn'd with Sculpture and illustrated with Annotations. 1670 — *Africa* title-p., Adorn'd with peculiar Maps, and proper Sculptures. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* Introd. 13 An admirable Draught or Sculpture of this Ship..in four large sheets of Dutch Paper, will shortly be published. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* Wks. 1816 IX. 324 Settle..had published his play with sculptures and a preface of defiance.

4. *Nat. Hist.* Marking of the skin, shell, or surface of any animal or plant resembling that produced by a carving tool.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 397 The sculpture of the integument of insects is often very remarkable. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 277 In a few the claws are visible, and the sculpture, and even some degree of local colouring are preserved. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* v. (1873) 116 But in some of these plants the seeds also differ in shape and sculpture. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 434 In its sculpture *Ammonites Bainii*..somewhat resembles the present species.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sculpture-gallery*; *sculpture-like* adj.

1834 MRS. HEMANS *Scenes & Hymns of Life, Water-lily* 237 Thou sculpture-like and stately River-Queen! 1856 W. HUGHES *Treas. Geog.* 250/2 The glyptothek, or sculpture-gallery [of Munich].

Sculpture (skʌ·lptiŭɹ), *v.* [f. SCULPTURE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To represent in sculpture, to carve (a design or figure) from the solid.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* June, The altar is cover'd with a canopy of ophit, on which is sculptur'd the storie of the Bible. 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Serm. Relig.* ii. (1863) 36 As they who sculptured loveliness in stone two thousand years ago. 1875 MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 33 A square stone, on which dials have been carefully sculptured.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. 3746 That record shall remain..And fame, in human hope which sculptured was, Survive the perished scrolls of unenduring brass. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 154/1 The wax-workers..do not possess the power of sculpturing the cells. 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Serm. Relig.* ii. (1863) 36 All the manly excellence that we slowly meditate and slowly sculpture into life. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vi. 42 The edges..are soon sculptured off by the action of the sun.

2. To decorate with sculpture. Also *passive* (*Nat. Hist.*), to bear marks resembling sculpture.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Jan., The very bell, cover of a book, sprinkler &c. were all of the rock, incomparably sculptur'd with the holy story in deepe Levati. 1737 POPE *Imit. Hor., Ep.* II. ii. 264 Gold, Silver, Iv'ry, Vases sculptur'd high. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 155 The thorax is sculptured with numerous excavated dots.

Sculptured (skʌ·lptiŭrd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCULPTURE *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Produced or represented by sculpture. Also, covered or adorned with sculpture.

c 1710 T. PARNELL *Night-piece on Death* 41 Whose pillars swell with sculptured stones. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* vii. 347 Sculptured Forms of Warriors brave. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 61 The sculptured crosses and round tower.

2. *Nat. Hist.* Having a conformation or markings similar to those produced by sculpture.

Often in specific names, rendering L. *sculptus* or *insculptus*.

1819 TURTON *Conchol. Dict.* 221 *Turbo insculptus*. Sculptured Turban. 1853 T. BELL *Brit. Stalk-eyed Crustacea* 263 Sculptured Shrimp.

Sculpturer. *rare.* [f. SCULPTURE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who sculptures; † a sculptor.

1732 LE BLON in Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* (1753) Pref. 13 The sculpturers, the architects, &c., began to apply it to their several arts.

Comb. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 154/1 The cells are made by the sculpturer-bees, who are smaller than the wax-workers.

Sculpturesque (skʌlptiŭre·sk), *a.* [f. SCULPTURE *sb.* + -ESQUE.] Like sculpture, having the qualities of sculpture.

1835 PARTINGTON *Brit. Cycl. Arts* I. 10/2 A more sculpturesque effect. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xiii, Her face [was] rather emaciated, so that its sculpturesque beauty was the more pronounced.

absol. 1873 PATER *Renaissance* viii. 197 His insight into the typical unity and repose of the sculpturesque. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* v. 83 The sublime of sculpturesque in crag structure is here.

Hence **Sculpture·squely** *adv.*

1883 *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 319/1 On our right..appears Joseph, in red and yellow garments, which are sculpturesquely disposed.

Sculpturing (skʌ·lptiŭriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCULPTURE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of SCULPTURE *v.*; *concr.*, a sculptured marking.

1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* iv. (ed. 2) 108 The sculpturings seem intended evidently for effect. 1879 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* I. ii. 11 Thus land-surfaces everywhere, especially in mountain-regions, are cut away by a process of sculpturing. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 501 The chitinoid cuticle..is more or less marked by hexagonal areæ and by various sculpturings (dots, pits, lines, &c.).

† **Scu·lpturist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SCULPTURE *sb.* + -IST.] A sculptor.

1689 E. HOWARD *Caroloiades* A 2 b, The skillfull Sculpturist, out of some rough Mass of Stone, polisheth and forms his several figures.

† **Scu·lptury.** *Obs. rare*—°. [Alteration of SCULPTURE, after words in *-ury*.] Sculpture.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sculpturie*, a caruing or grauing. 1647 HEXHAM I, Sculptury, *Graveringe ofte snijdinge*.

Sculsh, variant of SOULCH.

‖ **Scult,** *sb. Obs.* [LG. *schulte.*] = SCHOUT.

1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* (1550) 27 [They] sent to hym ..the Scult called Peter Longoll.

† **Scult,** *v. Obs.* ? = SKULK *v.*

1622 PRESTON *Godly Man's Inq.* i. 6 For shame Adam skulted in the groue of Paradise. *a* 1652 BROME *Eng. Moor* v. i. (1659) 74 The man Scults closs i' th' house here.

Scum (skʌm), *sb.* Forms: 3, 5 scume, 4 skume, 4–6 scome, 5–7 scumme, 6 scomme, skomme, scoomme, 6–7 skumme, 7 skom(e, 7–8 skum, scumm, 5– scum. [Identical with MLG. *schûm* masc. (MSw., Sw., Norw., Da. *skum*), MDu. *schuum* masc., neut., *schûme* fem. (Du. *schuim* neut.), OHG. *scûm* masc. (MHG. *schûm*, mod.G. *schaum*) :—OTeut. **skûmo-*, f. Teut. and Indogermanic root **skeu-* to cover. The Teut. word was adopted in Rom. as OF. *escume* (mod.F. *écume*), Pr., Sp., Pg. *escuma*, It. *schiuma*. For the shortening of the vowel (which, as the spelling *scome* shows, had taken place already in the 14th c.), cf. *thumb*, *plum*.

The proximate source is uncertain. The word cannot represent an OE. **scûm*, which would have given an initial *sh*. The locality of the early quots. does not favour adoption from Scandinavian, and the word is not found in ON., the mod. Scandinavian form being prob. from LG. The mod. Eng. form cannot well come from the OF., though that may have been the source of the ME. *scume*, assuming that the *u* represents the sound *ü*. Possibly the form adopted from OF. may have been replaced by one imported from MDu. or MLG. as a term of brewing or some other industry.]

† **1.** Foam, froth; *pl.* bubbles. *Obs.*

In the first quot. the identity and meaning of the word are doubtful.

a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 334 in *O. E. Misc.* 122 For hit seyþ in þe loþ as scumes forteoþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Ase deþ þe tavernyers þet velleþ þe mesure mid scome. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. 39 And the bristlede boor markede with scomes [L. *spumis notavit*] the shuldres of Hercules. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xi. (1495) 871 Also white matere is gendryd of thynnynge and spredynge of ayre as it faryth in skume. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 53 Gnawyng his bytte garnysshed wyth botones of golde, alle charged wyth the scume of the horse. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K k, They haue growen as a hole piece, and sodeynly wasted as a skumme. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 336 Those small white Fish to Venus consecrated, Though without Venus' ayd they be created Of th' Ocean scum. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 29 The following Wave raiseth it again, with much curled and foaming Scum.

fig. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 169 The scum & froth of my letters I father upon my own unbeleeving heart. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xvi. 421 Though malice boyled hot in their hearts, yet no scumme ran over in their mouthes.

2. † **a.** Dross which rises to the surface in the purifying of a metal; refuse, slag. *Obs.*

1526 *Grete Herball* clx. (1529) K iij, One or two vnces of lytargy or scomme of syluer. 1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. ix. 233 There was great store of these poore mettalls, whereof they made no great account, but were reiected..as the skumme of the good mettall. 1811 W. J. HOOKER *Iceland* (1813) II. 201 No. 1 [a specimen of lava] resembles externally the scum of iron.

b. A film or layer of floating matter formed upon the surface of a liquid in a state of fermentation, ebullition, etc.; hence, a film formed upon stagnant, foul water, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/2 Scome, or scum of fletynge, *spuma*. 1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Scumme of a potte, *écume*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 321 Floting aboue the water lyke a scoomme. 1662 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 122 Whereon floweth a thick skum of liquid Bitumen. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 283 Put it [the finest honey] up warm into Pots by it self;..two or three days time work up a Scum of course Wax, Dross, and other stuff. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 63 After it [water] has been in the cask a day or two it begins to purge itself,..and is soon covered over with a green scum. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 70 Spawn, weeds, and filth, a leprous scum, Made the running rivulet thick and dumb. 1852 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 18 The green scum, which floats upon ponds, ditches, &c., and which consists of the cells of a minute Cryptogamic Plant. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 380 When saccharine urine is left in a warm place, a scum soon forms on its surface.

c. *fig.*

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* I. 12 Scum and scurrility making up his whole book. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* IV. xvi. 3 A leaden-witted thief—just huddled Out of the dross and scum of nature. 1875 FARRAR *Silence & Voices* iii. 63 Her literature became a seething scum of cynicism and abomination.

3. *transf.* Applied to persons: The offscourings of humanity; the lowest class of the population of a place or country.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii, These are the cruell pirates of Argeire, That damned traine, the scum of Affrica. 1610 B. RICH *Descr. Irel.* 37 The Kerne of Ireland are next in request, the very drosse and scum of the Countrey. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. vi. 25 Scoundrels! Dogs! the Scum of the Earth! 1768–74 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 56 Many of the scum of our people have been employed in protecting us against foreign enemies. 1889 R. BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* I, Away, ye scum o' Egypt and o' Scotland.

† **b.** In particularized sense: An assemblage or body of 'scum'. *Obs.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 317 A scum of Brittaines, and base Lackey Pezants. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Apol.* 28, I know ..what a Scumme of men you have. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 235 As for the Seueritie vsed vpon those which were taken in Kent, it was but vpon a Scumme of People. 1829–32 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 234 Unleash the sword and fire, that in their thirst They may lick up that scum of schismatics. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxiv, I was lately Charles of Burgundy, called the Bold—now am I twice beaten by a scum of German peasants.

† **c.** Applied to an individual: A worthless wretch. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 168 Froth, and scum thou liest. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* v. H 3 b, Out you base scums, come you to disgrace mee in my wedding shooes? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, Knockdunder answered, 'that the soul of such a scum had been long the tefil's property'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scum-gatherer*; *scum-like* adv.; scum-board, † -pan = SCUMMER *sb.* 1; scum-soap, a lathering soap [? orig. G. *schaumseife*].

1898 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 6/4 Much fat floats on the surface, and is cleared off with *scum-boards. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 649 After that sollicitors were suffered in the middest of them all, to be, as it were, the *skum-gatherers of suits. 1821 BYRON *Yuan* III. c, That trash of such sort not alone evades Contempt, but from the bathos' vast abyss Floats *scumlike uppermost. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schuym-pan*, a Scummer, or a *Scumme-pan. 1852 J. J. SMIDT *Organ* 145 A mixture of fine olive-oil and *scum-soap.

Scum (skʌm), *v.* Forms: 4–5 scume, 4–6 scome, 4, 6–8 skum, 5 scom, 5–6 scomme, skom, 5–7 scumme, skumme, 6 scoum, skume, 7 scumm, 5– scum. [f. the sb. Cf. OHG. *scûmen* (MHG. *schûmen*, mod.G. *schäumen*), MLG., MDu. *schûmen* (mod. Du. *schuimen*), Da. *skumme*, Norw. *skuma*, Sw. *skumma*; also OF. *escumer* (mod.F. *écumer*) and SKIM *v.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To clear (the surface of a liquid) of impurities or floating matter; to SKIM. Also, to remove as scum, to skim *off*. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lx. (1495) 807 The pigmentaries other the leche skumyth awaye the fylthe warely wyth a fether. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 242 Take þe white of an ey & scume it, & loke þat þere falle no filþe þeron. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/1 Scummyn lycurys, *despumo*. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* lvii. (1517) O j b, This foole settynge his pottes to the fire is so lunatyke that he taketh no hede to scumme them. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 36 Some scumd the drosse that from the metall came; Some stird the molten owre with ladles great. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 650 That which swimmeth aboue in the manner of fat, they scum it off with their handes, and put it away in a vessell of Tinne. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 82 The next day after she [*sc.* the milkmaid] skums the cream which swims on the top. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 551 As it is dissolving in Water, I have scummed off from some Lumps of it a dark-purple bituminous Substance. 1817 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (1818) 59 The oftener it is scummed, and the cleaner the top of the water is kept, the cleaner will be the meat.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 19 b, Thou hast skumd ouer the schoole men, and of the froth of their folly, made a dish of diuinitie Brewesse, which the dogges will not eate. 1675 PLUME *Life Hacket* 37 Till the heats which boyl in the blouds of youth were well scum'd off, if not quite boyl'd away. 1796 COLERIDGE *Watchman* ii. 38 We shall select from each speech whatever lines contain a fact or argument not before urged in the debate, scummed and clarified in the following manner.

† **2.** To scour (the sea or land). Cf. F. *écumer la mer*. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Brut* 385 And for to speke moore of the Erle of the Marche, þat þe King hadde sette to scom þe sea and the Coostez of Engelonde for enymys. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xiii. 52 Soo by Merlyns aduys ther were sente fore rydars to skumme the Countreye. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 89 Without certain seat, they liv'd by scumming those Seas and shoars as Pyrats. 1690 I. MATHER *Vind. N. Eng.* 44 in *Andros Tracts* (1869) II. 62 Are not at least Four of the 12, Inhabitants of other Towns? Must they Scumm Water-Town and Cambridge also to pack a Charles-Town Jury?

† **3.** To pass lightly over, 'skim' (a surface). *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 149 Lyke a foull that..Fleis by the watir, scummand the fludis law.

† **b.** *fig.* To study superficially, 'skim'. Also *intr.* (Const. *upon.*) *Obs.*

1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 248 You understand not the state of Limbus Patrum, nor the depth of the Question, but scumme upon the surface, and gibberish you cannot tell for what. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* Pref. 1 There was no need to have scumm'd them [*sc.* those books] thus superficially over.

† **c.** *absol.* ? To skim the air. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. ii. 120 Lyke as quhen that the gredy gled on hycht Scummand vp in the ayr oft turnis his flycht. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 44 Thus whill she vsde to scum the skyes about, At last she chanced to sore out ower the see Calld *Mare Rubrum*.

† **4.** *To scum together*: to collect as scum. *Obs.*

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 431, I had almost forgotten to tell you here, of that adoe which Thomas Fawconbridge..made at London with a handfull of rakehelles which he had scummed together in this our shire.

5. *intr.* † **a.** To rise to the surface as scum. *Obs.*

1482 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxiii. 115 The erthe whiche is in the bottom of thise valeyes [of the sea] scumeth for the hete of the sonne vpward. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xlix. 170 Golde and syluer was no more spared then thoughe it had rayned out of the clowdes, or scomed out of y^e^ see.

† **b.** To foam (at the mouth). *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumbr.* 3888 Wan Agolafre haþ herd hym speke, For angre þat he ne drast him wreke, A skuntede [*read* skumede] als a bore. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 156 Galafre..began to scumme at the mouth.

c. To throw up foul matter as a scum; to become covered with a scum.

1662 [implied in SCUMMING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 342 Stir them twice a day at least, or they will scum over. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 53 Belike you think your lives will dribble out As brooks in summer dry up. Let us see! Try: dike them up: they stagnate—thicken—scum. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 373/2 The mass scums very much.

Scum-: see SCOM-.

Scu·mber, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 skommer, skomber, 7, 9 (*dial.*) skummer. [f. SCUMBER *v.*] The dung of a dog or fox. Hence *dial.*, filth, dirt.

1647 HEXHAM I, Skummer or filth, *Schuym ofte vuyligheyt*. 1655 MENNES & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (1656) 4 For here [Epsom] old Ops her upper face Is..safronis'd with mortall scumber. 1671 PHILLIPS (ed. 3), *Scumber*, (a Term in Hunting) the dung of a Fox. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. vii. 233/2 Terms..proper for the Ordure..of several Beasts... An Hound,..and all sorts of the Dog kind, its called, Skommer, or Skomber. 1825 J. JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 69 *Skummer*, a foulness made with a dirty liquid, or with soft dirt.

Scu·mber, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4–5 scombre, 6 skammer, skom(m)er, 6–8 scummer, 7 scumer, 7–8 scumber, 7–9 (9 *dial.*) skummer. [App. aphetic a. OF. *descombrer* (mod.F. *décombrer*) to relieve of a load. Cf. DISCUMBER *v.*, of equivalent formation.]

1. *intr.* Of a dog or fox: To evacuate the fæces. Also *jocularly* of a person.

c 1400 *Master of Game* xx. (MS. Digby 182), Also y will teche þe childe to leede þe houndes to scombre twyse on þe daye. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 113 Bettir thow ganis to leid ane doig to skomer..than with thy maister pingill. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 176 Lette him carie them home vncoupled, that they may skoure at large and skommer. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Chien*, *Tandis que le chien chie le loup s'en va*: Prov. While the dog scummers the wolfe scuds away. 1656 *Choyce Drollery* 37 Beware of fire when you scumber. *fig.* 1611 J. DAVIES *Commend. Verses to Coryat's Crudities* 49 And for a Monument to After-coommers Their Picture shall continue (though Time scummers Vpon th' Effigie).

2. *trans.* To void (ordure); *fig.* to produce (something foul). Also *dial.* (see quot. 1825).

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* V 2, Where he and his Brother..scummerd out betwixt them an Epistle to the Readers against all Poets and Writers. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. liii, For four or five Days I hardly scumber'd one poor butt of Sir-reverence. 1819 KEATS *Let. to Haydon* 3 Oct., I have not seen the portentous Book which was skummer'd at you just as I left town. 1825 J. JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 69 To *Skummer*, to foul with a dirty liquid, or to daub with soft dirt.

Hence † **Scu·mbering** *vbl. sb.*, the excrement of a dog or fox.

1611 FLORIO, *Schinchimurra*,..a skummering of a dog. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 203 You may know if it is a good scenting day, by the smoke and strong scent of their scummerings.

Scumble (skʌ·mb'l), *sb.* [f. SCUMBLE *v.*] A thin coat (of colour) put on by scumbling; a softened effect produced by scumbling (see SCUMBLE *v.* 1 and 2).

1834 T. H. LISTER *Anne Grey* iii, [The uncertainty as to] whether your drawing is..to be brought suddenly to a sharp edge, or a scumble, by the entrance of a visitor. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 230 After a time the scumble partially sinks into the colour over which it is laid. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 77 It is carefully and thinly painted with thin scumbles of semi-opaque colour. 1880 MUCKLEY *Handbk. Painters* 75 When the tint forming the scumble is nicely calculated, no doubt a more delicate and transparent grey will be the result, than when produced by solid painting. *transf.* 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 528/2 A golden scumble of October haze.

Scumble (skʌ·mb'l), *v.* [? Frequentative f. SCUM *v.*; cf. quot. s. v. SCUMMING *ppl.a.*]

1. *trans.* In *Oil Painting.* To soften or render less brilliant (the colours in a portion of a picture) by overlaying with a thin coat of opaque or semi-opaque colour; to spread or 'drive' (a colour) thinly over a portion of a picture in order to soften hard lines or blend the tints; to produce (an effect) by this process.

1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 280 The artist then painted the lights with pure white..where the light was brightest..; and, where the demi-tints were afterwards to be, scumbling it thinner by degrees. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* I. 234 Over that is scumbled thinly and smooth a warmer tint. 1866 REDGRAVE *Cent. Painters* II. 112 The hills and distant bay are scumbled into a mighty haze. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* x. 212 I'll scumble in a sunset effect. 1882 P. G. HAMERTON *Graphic Arts* xxi. 232 If ground colours are to be scumbled over they ought not to be full of strong and deep brush-marks.

b. *absol.*

1868 TYRWHITT *Handbk. Pict. Art* II. v. 336 *note*, To scumble is to use partly opaque colours and white, in the same way [as in glazing]. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Nov. 11 M. Legros has in no single place permitted himself to scumble or retouch.

2. In *Pencil, Chalk,* or *Monochrome Drawing.* (See quots.)

1815 R. BROWN *Princ. Pract. Perspective* 76 *Scumbling* is giving a kind of rough shadow to trees, grass, gravel-walks, &c. in a drawing when it is nearly finished. It is performed with a brush having some dark colour in it, and nearly dry. 1864 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Scumbling*..is produced by lightly rubbing the blunt point of the chalk over the surface, or spreading the harder lines by the aid of the stump.

3. *transf.* of natural effects.

1905 J. H. MCCARTHY *Dryad* 92 More frequent clouds now scumbled the sky.

Hence **Scu·mbled** *ppl. a.*, **Scu·mbling** *vbl. sb.*

1815 [see SCUMBLE *v.* 2]. 1816 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Char. Painters of Italy* 113 A..description of the effect of glazing or scumbling, such as was practised by Titian. 1849 [see DRIVE *v.* 12]. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 229 Scumbling..is used to modify certain portions of a picture which may require to be rendered cooler, greyer, and less definite. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 198 His light tints, the result of pearly scumblings, make his light pictures as luminous as his water-colour drawings. 1868 TYRWHITT *Handbk. Pict. Art* II. v. 354 This system of covering the canvas with scumbled shade first and painting on the lights seems the best for a beginner. 1877 'OUIDA' *Puck* XXV, Fancying they have got 'atmosphere' in dabs of grey and yellow, and.. 'sunset' in scumbled lakes and ochres.

Scumless (skʌ·mlés), *a.* [f. SCUM *sb.* + -LESS.] Lacking or forming no scum.

1881 TYNDALL *Ess. Floating Matter of Air* 151 In one of them [i. e. the tubes] the infusion was scumless throughout.

Scummed (skʌmd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCUM *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Skimmed, deprived of any matter floating upon the surface.

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Surgery* 40 If þou haue noȝt redy þe forseid tapsimell, be þe same done wiþ scomed hony. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xlii. § 1 (1689) 315 Take scummed milk which hath stood so long that no more cream will rise from it. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 207 You may temper your Lime and Sand with scum'd Milk. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 67 The scummed fat of a pot wherein fresh meat has been boiled.

2. Covered with foulness or scum.

1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 221/2 An old Arab reservoir from whose scummed and stagnant waters the third class passengers push to fill their water bottles.

† **Scu·mmer,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 4 scummar, schumour, scomeoure, skumo(u)r, scomor, 4–6 scommer, skumer, 4–5, 7 scomer, 5 scowmar, scomur(e, scomour, scomowre, scommyr, schomore, scummour, scummowre, scowmure, skumoure, 5–6 skomer, 6 scommar, skomor, skwmmer, 6–7 skommer, skummer, 7 scumur, 8 scumer, 6–9 scummer. [f. SCUM *v.* + -ER[1]; in sense 1 after OF. *escumoir* (mod.F. *écumoire*), in sense 2 after *escumeor* (mod.F. *écumeur*) respectively instrumental noun and agent-noun to *escumer* to skim, f. *escume*: see SCUM *sb.*]

1. A shallow ladle or sieve for removing scum or floating matter from the surface of a liquid.

1326 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 15 In..uno schumour pro coquina, 1*d.* 1399 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 18, j scomor cum j podyngiren. 1487 *Paston Lett.* III. 466 A ladill and a scomer of laton. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. xxxiii. 48 Thereon will come a thinne skime, the whiche ye shall gather together with a Scummer. 1644 NYE *Gunnery* I. (1647) 16 Be you ready, as scum shall rise, to take it away with a scummer. 1727 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Conserve*, You must suffer your Scummer or Spattle to drain. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 360 Another large iron ladle pierced like a scummer.

2. One who scours the sea; a rover, pirate. [So F. *écumeur de la mer.*]

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV. 375 Ane scummar [*MS. E* scowmar] of the se. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. civ. (1495) 526 The men of Norwey..ben stronge skumoures and see theues. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XV. 130 Pirates, Coursaries, and Skummers of the sea.

3. One who gathers scum. Also *fig.*

1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 440 That same youthe's the scummer of all skorne. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. XXX, Pope Boniface VIII. a scummer of pots.

† **Scu·mmer,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SCUMMER *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To make a predatory raid.

1633 *Swed. Intelligencer* IV. 121 Having again thus scummerd over the frontiers of Paderborn, he passes the river Weser.

2. *trans.* To scour, furbish up.

1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inq.* Introd. 33 If some of the old superstitious Ceremonies (when well scraped and wiped) were left for decency,..why were not the rest scummer'd up, that the Worship might be more decent?

Scummer, variant of SCUMMER.

† **Scu·mmerfare.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SCUMMER *sb.* (sense 2) + FARE *sb.*] Piracy.

1358 in S. P. H. Statham *Dover Charters* (1902) 86 Que bona et quanta cepissent per Skomerfare, tempore quo dictus Custos optinuerit ballivam suam. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 321 Out of a barge faste by, Which hidd was ther on Scomerfare, Men sterten out.

Scumming (skʌ·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SCUM *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. a. The action of removing scum from the surface of a liquid. Also *fig.*

1611 COTGR., *Escumement*,..a scumming, or skimming. 1704 SWIFT *Bati. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 220 There is a Brain that will endure but one Scumming:..Wit, without Knowledg, being a sort of Cream. 1832–53 *Whistle-binkie* III 37 There is naething abroad like our hearty aitmeal, Nor guid sheep-head-kail, for nae outlandish woman Has the gumption to ken that they need sic a scummin'.

attrib. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 333 Put the Salt-Petre gently..in it, and turn it about with the scumming Spoon.

† b. The action or process of forming or throwing up a scum. *Obs.*

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 40 Set it over the fire, watch the boyling and scumming thereof; then [etc.].

2. *concr.* in *sing.* and *pl.* The matter removed in the form of scum from the surface of a liquid. † Also, the matter rising to the surface as scum.

1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Scomyng of a pot, *escume de pot.* 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. 368 And where the fire had from the pan the scumming cast..the ground did springlike florish there. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Dispens.* iii. (1734) 133 Most Apothecaries make this Syrup with the brownest Sugar, and reserve the Scummings for Clysters. 1841 *Mangnall's Questions* 415 From the scummings of the sugar when boiling an inferior kind of spirit is made.

Scu·mming, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That scums. (In quot. app. = *scumbling.*)

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 89 This most eminent artist has lately adopted..a sort of scumming, smearing, slubbering way of sketching.

Scummy (skʌ·mi), *a. rare.* [f. SCUM *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Having the nature or appearance of scum.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 297 The skummie froathe is not mixed with the oyle. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Job Triumphant* IV. xli, Hee makes the deep sea like a pot to boyl, A pot of Oyntment (casting scummy Soyl). 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 330 To breathe away as 'twere all scummy slime From off a crystal pool. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 44 This fair earth..'Tis but the particoloured, scummy, dross Of the original element wherefrom The fiery worlds were framed.

fig. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 414 These were the skummy remnant of those rebels. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 140 The strength of his faith dashes down all the scummy bubbles of carnal reasonings.

2. Abounding in scum. Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 83 London, thou art..the Sea that sucks in all the scummy chanels of the Realme. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Scummy*, frothy, dreggy, &c. as a boiling Pot.

Scunage, variant of SKIVINAGE *Obs.*

Scunch (skʌnʃ). *Arch. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 scunche, 9 sconce. [Shortened from SCUNCHEON. Cf. SQUINCH.] = SCUNCHEON.

1611 COTGR., *Escainson*, a Scunche; the backe part of the laumbe of a window. 1809 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Scunch, Sconce, Scunchen*, the stone or brick reveal of a door or window.

Scuncheon (skʌnʃən). *Arch.* Forms: 4 scochon, 5 squynchun, sconchon, scouchon, skonchon(e, skochyn, skownsiom, sconcheon, 8 skimshion, 9 scuncheon, (scontion, scuntion, scunchen). [a. OF. *escoinson*, also written *escochon, escouchon* (mod.F. *écoinson*), app. f. *es-* Ex- + *coin* angle. Cf. the later form SCOINSON.] The bevelled inner edge of the side or jamb of a window, door, etc.

In the earlier quots. the sense is uncertain. Godefr. gives for *escoinson* a sense 'piece of stone or wood projecting inside a building, to support a beam, etc.'

1435 *Contract Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 27 The said Stepill ..shall be chaungid and turnyd in viij panes, and at every Scouchon a boutrasse fynysht with finial. 1450 in *Hist. Dunelm. Script. tres* App. 325 Pro factura..j sol skownsiom. 1473 *Churchw. Acc. St. Mich. Cornhill*, For sconcheons and a felet for the same pewes. 1487–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 651 Et sol. Will. Mayson pro dolacione..36 skonchones ad 3d., 9s.; 17 jawmys ad 4d., 5s. 8d. 1490 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 559/4, 4 skochyns [for library window @] /8. 1789 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 195, I mean to build a house..to be built of what is called solid mud except the corners, door, and window skimshions, Lintols and soles [etc.]. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 929 Soffits, Ingoings, Scuncheon Linings, &c...The scuncheons (the beveled parts, splays, or elbows, of the inside of a window opening, where the shutters are placed) of the two parlour windows are to have framed linings to correspond with the shutters. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* § 60 I. 144 The corners of its [*sc.* the door's] scuncheon should be rounded off. *Ibid.* § 214 I. 200 Scontions of all voids [*i.e.* spaces for doors and windows] are..measured over and above the rubble-work. *Ibid.* § 2847 III. 1007 When the dyke has a scuncheon for its end, a large boulder..should be chosen as the foundation-stone. 1885 *Blacklaws Quarry Price List*, Scuntions, 20 in. by 11 in. by 7 in. each 7d.

† b. *attrib.* in *scuncheon anglers, scuncheon-crest,* of obscure meaning.

1372 *Ely Sacrist Roll* in Willis *Arch. Nomencl.* 38 In 8 scochoncrestes magnis empt'. 8s. pro pet. 12d. 1429–30 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 445 Pro xvij ped' et di de sqwynchuncrest v^s. 1443 *Ibid.* I. 386, xij coynes iiij skouchons-anglers and viij Squale Anglers to the..legement table.

Scunfest, obs. f. pa. pple. of SCOMFISH *v. dial.*

Scunk, obs. form of SKUNK.

Scunner (skʌ·nəɹ), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 7, 9 skunner, 8 skonner, 8–9 sconner, 5–6, 8–scunner. [f. SCUNNER *v.*] A loathing disgust; esp. in the phrase *to take a scunner at* or *against.*

a 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVII. 34 In harte he tuke ȝit sic ane scunner. 1697 W. CLELAND *Poems* 106 (Jam.) We might have miss'd a beastly blunner, Had we not spewed out our skunner Against this Test. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax*, etc. 29 It was enough to gi' a warsh-stamack'd body a scunner. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* ii, I thought she seemed to gie a scunner at the eggs and bacon that Nurse Simson spoke about to her. 1881 R. G. WHITE *Words & Uses* (ed. 3) 252 Cultivated and well-meaning people sometimes take a scunner against some particular word or phrase.

Scunner (skʌ·nəɹ), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: *α.* 4, 7, 9 skunner, 4–5 skoner, 5 scowner, skowner, scouner, 8 sconner, 7 scunder, 7– scunner; *β.* 6 skynner, skinner. [Of obscure origin.

The sense naturally suggests connexion with SHUN *v.*, but there is no variant with *sh-*, and no cognate verb in Scandinavian. The suffix is app. the frequentative -ER[5]. But cf. the earlier synonym SCURN *v.*]

1. *intr.* † a. To shrink back with fear, to flinch. b. To be affected with violent disgust, to feel sick.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 201 (Edin. MS.) Bot thai war skownrand vounder sair Sa fer in Scotland for to fair. *Ibid.* XVII. 651 Bot thai..skunnyrrit [*v. r.* scounryt] tharfor na-kyn thing, Bot went stoutly till assalyng. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. XVI. 1451 Syne faynt of kynde al women was, And mekil skonerande for to se blude. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 47 The rest of the Douglassis skynnrit [*v. r.* skinnerat], thinking the marieage to be wnlesum. 1635 T. JACKSON *Creed* VIII. XXX. 354 The Jew ..perhaps would not so much as have scunnered at the Altar, if our Saviour had beene offered upon it, specially in the Temple. *c* 1643 R. BAILLIE in *Sc. Metr. Psalter* (1864) 36/2 Seducers in this land have drawne on their followers to scunder at and reject our whole psalmes in meeter. *a* 1728 RAMSAY *Fable* XIX. 8 Their sickly stamacks scunner'd at the prey. 1786 BURNS *To James Smith* XXII, And yill an' whisky gie to Cairds, Until they sconner. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 121 It's no features, though they're bad aneuch in general, but the expression that makes me skunner. 1894 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 121 When he preached on the Sabbath he gied the fowk no gospel to ca' gospel, but he did mak them scunner with the Law.

2. *trans.* To disgust, sicken.

1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 216 It was aye 'oor Patie's this', an' 'oor Patie's that', till it wud 'a scunner't a tyke. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. Green Shutters* 282 It always scunnered me, for I aye liked things tidy.

Hence **Scu·nnering** *ppl. a.*, sickening.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 513 When it's fairly on lowe, its thick and steaming scent wad smother the scunnering smell o' an acre o' corses.

Scup (skʌp), *sb.*[1] *U.S.* [a. Du. *schop.*] A swing.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Scup*...A New York word. 1849 MISS WARNER *Wide Wide World* xi, A scup! maybe you don't know it by that name [said Mr. Van Brunt]; some folks call it a swing.

Scup (skʌp), *sb.*[2] *U.S.* [Shortened a. Narragansett *mishcup* 'thick-scaled', f. *mishe* large + *cuppi* scale.] The fish *Pagrus argyrops*; = PAUGIE.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Scup.* 1873 S. POWEL in *Rep. U. S. Fish Commission* 1871–2, 74 The scup are known to be schooling, wandering fish of the high seas, and come from the Gulf Stream and from the Florida Cape.

Scup (skʊp), *v. U.S.* [a. Du. *schoppen*, cf. *schop*, Scup *sb.*1] (See quot.)

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer., To Scup*..to swing. Common in New York.

Scuppaug (skʊ·pǫg). *U.S.* [Shortened a. Narragansett *mishcuppâuog*, pl. of *mishcup*: see Scup *sb.*2] = Scup *sb.*2

1873 T. Gill *Catal. Fishes East N. Amer.* 27 *Stenotomus argyrops* (Linn.) Gill.—Scup; scuppaug; porgy (New York). 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 386 The Scup ..is often known in New England as the 'Scuppaug'.

Scupper (skʊ·pəɹ), *sb. Naut.* Chiefly *pl.* Forms: 5 skopor, skopper, 6 scopper, 7 scuper, scopeboard (*erron.*), 7–8 scoper, skupper, 6– scupper. [Of disputed etymology.

Some regard it as an agent-n. f. Scoop *v.* (sense 1); others as an adoption of an AF. derivative of OF. *escopir* to spit. Cf. G. *speigat* scupper, f. *speien* to spit.]

1. An opening in a ship's side on a level with the deck to allow water to run away.

1485, 1497 [see *scupper-nail -leather*, in 2]. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 34 Voiding scoppers voided out their bloud. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xviii. 418 The whilst those mightie Ships out of their scuppers pour'd Their trayterous cluttred gore. 1669–79 T. B[ateman] *Asia* lf. 48 With girdlines from the said cradle to her ports or Scopeboards. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III iv. 443 We made a great quantity of water through our hawse-holes, ports and scuppers. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* xxxv, Every scupper of her running blood and water. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* III. xiii, The Hispaniola was rolling scuppers under in the ocean swell.

† b. Used for: A pump. ? *nonce-use.*

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* To Rdr. 2 Whereas coniectures are certain detections of things vnknowne..I have alwaies thought that they were to be accounted among the skuppers [orig. *inter antlias*] wherewith Time worketh and draweth Veritie out of Democritus his deepe dungeon.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as scupper-hole, -hose, -leather, -nail, -shoot (see quots.).

c 1590 E. Wright in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 163 Euery *scupper-hole, and other place where it [*sc.* rain] ranne downe. 1702 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (1711), *Skuppers*, or *Skupper-Holes* are the Holes close to all the Decks, through the Ship's sides, through which the Water runs out of the Ship from the Decks. 1903 H. Clifford *Free Lance* x. 82 Her scupper-holes spouting. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., The scuppers of the lower deck of a ship of war are usually furnished with a leathern pipe, called the *scupper-hoase, which hangs downward from the mouth or opening of the scuppers. The intent of this is to prevent the water from entering, when the ship inclines under a weight of sail. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 298 *Skopperlethers & Skoppernayles. 1702 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* II. (1711), *Skupper-Leathers* are the round Leathers nail'd over the Skupper-Holes,..which keep out the Sea-Water from coming in, and yet let any Water run out from the Deck. 1485 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 180 For ij^{c} *skopor nayll vj^{d}. 1702 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* II. (1711), *Skupper-Nails*, are little short Nails, with broad Heads, made on purpose to nail on the Skupper Leathers. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 135 *Scupper nails.* 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Scupper-shoots*, metal or wooden tubes which carry the water from the decks of frigates to the sea-level.

Scupper (skʊ·pəɹ), *v. Mil. slang.* [perh. f. prec. sb., but the connexion of meaning is not clear.] *trans.* To surprise and massacre.

1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Apr. 3/2 The fierce warriors who 'scupper' Tommy Atkins within the lines of Suakin. 1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 31 Mar. 4/1 Being quietly chopped to pieces in their beds, or 'scuppered', as some grim wits have termed it. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas* 98 We preach in advance of the Army, We skirmish ahead of the Church, With never a gunboat to help us When we're scuppered and left in the lurch. 1896 *Daily News* 19 May 8/1 It was pretty much like a 'scuppering' surprise in the Eastern Soudan. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 333 It's a great relief to find that advance squadron hasn't been scuppered.

Scuppernong (skʊ·pəmpǫŋ). *U.S.* The name of a river in North Carolina. Used *attrib.* and *ellipt.* in *Scuppernong* (*grape*), a variety of the Fox-grape (*Vitis vulpina*), indigenous to the basin of the Scuppernong River.

1854 Longf. *Catawba Wine* ii, It is not a song Of the Scuppernong From warm Carolinian valleys. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 215 The Scuppernong grape does best in low lands.

attrib. 1887 *Century Mag.* XXXIV. 335/2 Then she.. begged Mrs. Colonel Ledbeter to give her her recipe for making the scuppernong wine she had heard so much praised.

Scu·ppet, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5–6 scopett, 6 scopytt, skuppat, 8 scoopet, skippet, 9 scuppett, skoppit, 6, 9 scuppet. [App. f. *scope* Scoop *sb.*1 (sense 2) + -ET (possibly an AF. formation on the Eng. sb.).] A spade used for trenching and in making ditches; also, a similar instrument used for turning hops while drying.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 40 Shovilles shodde.. xxiiij. Scopettes..xij. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 17/19 Sharpe cutting spade, for the deuiding of mow, With skuppat and skauel, that marsh men alow. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 194 Help the water out of the ruts with scoops or skippets. 1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 382 In this marsh I limed 120 rods of bank during the summer with unslacked lime, and in the winter it might have been moved with a barn scuppet. 1892 *Auction Catal. Farm Sale* (Kent), Hop scuppet.

Scu·ppet, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 scoppet. [f. prec.] *trans.* To shovel (*out, away*). Also *fig.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 28 Our mitred Archpatriarch.. scuppets not his benificence into their mouthes with such freshwater facility as M. Ascham..would imply. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 77 Vain man, can he possibly hope to scoppet it out so fast as it fills. 1837 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 37, I take a spade, and scuppet away the snow from the footpaths.

Scur, variant of Skirr *v.*; obs. f. Shower.

Scurage, Scurby: see Scourage[1], Scurvy *sb.*

Scurdge, obs. form of Scourge *sb.*

Scu·rdy. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* A kind of rock, whinstone.

1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 71 Basaltine rocks are.. called skurdy in the north of Scotland. 1866 Mitchell *Hist. Montrose* ii. 19 The town was built of trap rock or scurdy..with free stone dressings.

Scure, obs. form of Skewer.

Scurell(e, Scurer, obs. ff. Squirrel, Scourer[1].

Scurf (skɐ̄ɪf), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–5 scorf, 4, 7 skurf, 5–7 scurfe, 6 scorfe, skorfe, skurffe, 6–7 scurff(e, skurfe, 1, 3, 6– scurf. See also Scruff *sb.*[1], Shroff[1]. [Late OE. *scurf* ? masc., a later form, prob. due to Scandinavian influence (cf. OSw. *skorver*, acc. *skorff, skurff*, mod.Sw. *skorv*, Da. *skurv*, mod.Icel. *skurfur* pl.) of OE. *sceorf* (also *scruf*: see Scruff *sb.*[1]), corresp. to MLG., LG. *schorf*, MDu. *schorf(t, schurf(t*, Du. *schurft* fem., OHG. *scorf* (MHG., mod.G. *schorf* masc.):—OTeut. **skurƀo-*, **skurfo-*, prob. from the root represented in OE. *sceorfan* str. vb., to gnaw, *scearfian* to cut into shreds (= OHG. *scarbôn*).]

† 1. A morbid condition of the skin, esp. of the head, characterized by the separation of branny scales, without inflammation. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 316 Wið scruf [*v.r.* scurf] & wið sceb. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11823 Wit þe crache him tok þe scurf, þe fester thrild his bodi thurgh. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. iii. (1495) 223 Ofte thyse scales cleue to the rotes of the heere, vnnethe suche skalles other scorf is heelyd. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4140 All þe bolnyng went away, And þe scurfe with in a day. 1526 Skelton *Magnif.* 1958, I am lowsy and vnlykynge and full of scurffe. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 190/37 Scurfe, itch, *prurigo*. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 681 They which drink or eat sow milk fal into scurffes and Leprosies. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 25 The gall helpeth the leprosy and scurfe.

† b. A similar condition in animals. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 138 And ouer yeer they wol been in good poynte Withouten scorf or scalle in cors or ioynte. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 116 There is a disease amonge horses that is called the scabbe, and it is a skorfe in dyuers places of his body. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 28 The vrine with the owne dung,..taketh away the scurffe of Oxen.

2. The scales or small laminæ of epidermis that are continually being detached from the skin; esp. such scales detached in abnormally large quantity as a consequence of disease, or forming accumulations at the roots of the hair or elsewhere. † Formerly also, a single scale or lamina of this kind.

a 1000 *Bede's Eccl. Hist.* V. ii. (MS. B.), Se..swa micle hreofle & scurf [*v. rr.* scyrf, sceorfe; L. *furfures*] on his heafde hæfde, ðæt him næfre æniȝ feax on ufan ðam heafde acenned beon meahte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Scurf, of scabbys, *squama, squamula*. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 326/1 Of kyrnellys & botches of his face & of scurffys there ranne grete plenty of blood. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Prol. B iij b, By whiche their so doing, they clawe of their owne skabbe, i. their new gathered scurfe, therby makynge their skynne rawe agayne. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 7 The flowers sodden in lée, and the head washed therwith taketh away the skurfe..thereof. 1786 J. Hunter *Treat. Vener. Dis.* VI. ii. (1810) 473 It broke out after in venereal scurfs, upon the skin. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 341 The bather is scrubbed by the men of the bath till every particle of dirt or scurf is cleared off his skin. 1870 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 270 His bones foul with leprous scurf and green corruption of the grave.

b. *transf.* in *Bot.* Minute scales found on the leaves of certain plants.

1839 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 3) 63. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss.

3. Any incrustation upon the surface of a body; rust, † a scab (*obs.*); a saline or sulphurous deposit, mould, or the like. Now *rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Scurfe, of metel, *scorium*. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Crusta*,..the scurfe of a scabbe or wounde [? *read* (with ed. 1548) the scurfe or scabbe of a wounde]. 1581 Stafford *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 59 Then there is no rust nor scurfe that diminisheth the goodnes or wasteth the substaunce of Gold. 1624 Capt. Smith, etc. *Virginia* III. 58 The waters..had left a tinctured spangled skurfe, that made many bare places seeme as guilded. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 135 Growing Trees..that have been long expos'd to the Air and Rain, will be all over cover'd with a greenish scurff. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 672 There stood a Hill not far whose grieslý top Belch'd fire and rowling smoak; the rest entire Shon with a glossie scurfe, undoubted sign That in his womb was hid metallic Ore, The work of Sulphur. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 410 The bottom of the great crater, which was before an indurated scurf of bitumen and sulphur, is now full of large rents or openings. 1842 Tennyson *Vision of Sin* v. 5 By shards and scurf of salt, and scum of dross.

b. *fig.*

? 1533 Latimer *Let. to Morice* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1741/2, I neuer denyed Pilgrimage. And yet I haue sayed that much scurffe must be pared away ere euer it can be wel done, superstition, idolatry, [etc.]. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 30 Job was an holy man, yet such naturall scurffe the Lord saw to lurke in his spirit that he was faine..at last to wring this speech from him. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VI. 1011 Then are they happy, when by length of time The Scurf is worn away, of each committed Crime. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 253 'Tis boyish in Swedenborg to cumber himself with the dead scurf of Hebrew antiquity.

c. *spec.* A deposit of coke on the inner surface of a gas retort.

1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 81/2 Pieces of the hard coke obtained as scurf in gas retorts are sometimes employed.

† 4. A thin layer of turf. *Obs.*

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 59 The first is by cutting of the Scurf of the Ground, making up the Turf so cut in heaps, and when the Sun has dryed these Heaps, they are then set on Fire. *a* 1726 King in *Nat. Hist. Irel.* 106 Now that sword or scurf of the earth, that consists of the roots of grass, being lifted up and made fuzzy by the water in winter ..is dried in the spring.

5. a. The 'scum' of the population. *rare.*

1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 143 Some of the scurf and meaner part run in to them, as they would to see a show. 1870 Longf. *Dante's Inferno* XV. 111 Thou hadst seen there, If thou hadst had a hankering for such scurf [*di tal tigna*], That one, who by the Servant of the Servants From Arno was transferred to Bacchiglione.

b. *slang.* A contemptible person, esp. a miser, skinflint. Also *spec.*, an employer who pays less than the usual rate of wages; a labourer who accepts less than the usual rate; also *attrib.*

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 208 The inferior paying class..are..known among their work-people as 'scurfs'. *Ibid.* 236 Let me now speak of the Scurf labourers. *Ibid.*, A scavager, working for a scurf master, gave me the following account. 1854 *Househ. Words* VIII. 75 A low person is a snob, a sweep, and a scurf. 1889 A. T. Pask *Eyes Thames* 39 The crowd of loafers on the quay. These are the 'scurfs' or 'lufflers' who hang about for any odd jobs.

Scurf (skɐ̄ɪf), *sb.*[2]. Also 5 scurffe, 7 scurfe, 7–8 skurff, 8 scurff; 7 *pl.* scurves. [Possibly identical with Scurf *sb.*[1]

The fuller form *salmon-scurf*, though not found in our quots. before the 19th c., may be the original; for *scurf* in the sense of something inferior of its kind, cf. Scurf *sb.*[1] 5 and Scruff *sb.*[1]]

The Sea-trout, *Salmo eriox* or *S. trutta.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/2 A scurffe, *quidam piscis*. 1557 Turner in *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. (1558) 1296 *Accipi eundem in alijs Britanniæ prouincijs uocari* a Gray trout, *& in alijs* a Skurf. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Improv.* (1746) 283 There are two sorts of them [Bull-trouts], Red Trouts..and Gray Trouts or Skurffs. 1740 R. Brookes *Art of Angling* 26 The Scurf..or Salmon-Peale..differs in shape from a Salmon in not having a forked Tail. 1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory Fish of the Genus Salmon, whether known by the Names herein-after mentioned, that is to say, Salmon..Bull Trout, Whitling, Scurf,..or by any other local Name. 1865 Couch *Brit. Fishes* IV. 200 The Scurf, Bull Trout.

Scurf (skɐ̄ɪf), *v.* [f. Scurf *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *trans.* To cover with a scurf or incrustation. *Obs. rare.*

[1599: Implied in Scurfing *vbl. sb.*] *a* 1658 Lovelace *To E. K.* 36 So..Scurf'd all ore with its unseemly crust. The Diamond, from 'midst the humbler stones, Sparkling, shoots forth the price of Nations. 1699 T. Boston *Art Man-fishing* (1899) 30 Many this way, by having the wound scurfed over, are rather killed than cured.

2. *intr.* To rise *up* in the form of scurf.

1862 Thornbury *Turner* II. 168 The pure gold runs here and there to schist, the dross now and then is scurfing up upon the surface.

3. *trans.* To remove by scraping; to chip off (hard deposits) from the surface of a boiler or retort.

1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 361/2 Scurfing castings, ..1s. od. 1879 J. Paton in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 92 A carbonaceous deposit forms on the sides of the retorts, which requires to be periodically removed by 'scurfing' with chisels.

Scurfed (skɐ̄ɪft), *a.* [f. Scurf *v.* + -ED[1].] Covered with scurf.

1646 *Full Relat. Fountain Halberstadt* 11 A Boy of Egeln, which had a scurfied head.

Scurffyls, variant of Scroffles *pl. Obs.*

Scurfily (skɐ̄·ɪfili), *adv.* [f. Scurfy *a.* + -LY[2].] In a manner resembling scurf; like scurf.

1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 174 *Viburnum Lantana.* Scurfily pubescent.

Scurfiness (skɐ̄·ɪfinés). Also 6 scorffynesse. [f. Scurfy *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being scurfy or covered with scurf.

a 1529 Skelton *Dk. Albany* 140 In lousy lothsumnesse And scabbed scorffynesse. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* ciij, The same stamped with Honey..consumeth and scoureth away..all scurfinesse of the Head and Face. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 20 Some infants early contract a scurfiness on the head.

b. *Bot.* (See quot. 1900.)

1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., Scurfiness. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Scurf..Scurfiness*, the appearance produced by membranous scales.

Scurfing (skɐ̄·ɪfiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Scurf *v.* + -ING[1].]

† 1. The formation of scurf. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 359/1 [A prescription] for all manner of scurfinge of the externalle skinne.

2. An incrustation formed in boilers or retorts.

1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 104/2 Get new carbons, made out of gas-retort 'scurfing', as it is called.

Scurfy (skɐ̄·ɪfi), *a.* [f. Scurf *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Covered with scurf; suffering from cutaneous disease. Also, of the nature of scurf.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/2 Scurfy, *vbi* scabbyde. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2803/4 A bright bay Mare,..with..scurfy Heels before. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc 2, *Lepra*, a dry Scab that makes the Skin scurfy. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 404 By persevering in the use of these remedies,..the white scurfy scales intirely disappeared. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 513 A head which has been scurfy for many years becomes sore and eczematous.

2. *transf.* Covered as with scurf incrusted; resembling scurf.

1731 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 201 Those Diamonds that lay more superficially, and exposed to the Air and Sun were more scurfy, and by Consequence lost more by polishing than the other. 1849 W. H. HARVEY *Sea-Side Bk.* 232 Very similar to the barnacle is the animal of the *Balanus*, whose shells cover, in scurfy patches, the surface of exposed rocks.

b. *spec.* in *Bot.* (See quots.)

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 79 Scurfy (*squarrosus*) applied to a cup in compound flowers, the scales of which are bent outwards at the ends, so as to give the whole a ragged appearance. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 9 Thallus crustaceous, squamose, scurfy, powdery [etc.].

†**3.** Of turf: Forming a thin crust. *Obs. rare*—1.

1710 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 297 A Scurfy Heath Turf will at last grow on the Top of it.

Scurge, obs. form of SCOURGE *sb.* and *v.*

Scuril, Scuring, obs. ff. SCURRIL *a.*, SCOURING.

Scurling, variant of SKIRLING.

†**Scurn,** *sb. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SCURN *v.*] Hesitation, bashfulness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8963 Sco lift hir skirt wit-vten scurn, And bar-fote wode sco þat burn.

†**Scurn,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 skur(r)n, 4 skurne, scurn(e. Cf. SHURN. [Of obscure origin; perh. cognate with ON. *skirra-sk* (see SCARE *v.*). Cf. SCUNNER *v.*] *intr.* To shrink, flinch, take fright.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19446 He sagh him croised þat ilk turn þat he for staning suld not skurn. *Ibid.* 20960 Noght he skurnd wit hir stang, Bot on his hand þer scho was fest, He schok and in þe fir hir kest. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 24 Quen sun and mon sal thusgat turn, Than sal the sinful sar scurn. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 120 And menne besoght me..To turne it bot in light[e] ryme. Þai sayd, if I in strange it turne, To here it, manyon suld skurne.

†**Scurr.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *scurra* buffoon.] A buffoon or jester.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 121 Bardis, scurris,..wt sik sort of persouns, lat skurge. 1823 MACTAGGART *Gallov. Encycl., Scurr*, a low blackguard.

Scurr, variant of SKIRR *v. dial.*

Scurrage, variant of SCOURAGE[1] *Obs.*

Scurrick, variant of SCUDDICK.

†**Scu·rrier.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 5 scurrour, 6 scurrer, skurrer, skyrrer; *β.* 6 scurreour, -iour, -ior, -yer, scurier, 6–7 scurrier. [App. aphetic a. OF. *descouvreor* DISCOVERER; cf. the Sc. forms *discurrour, discuriour* (14–16th c.), and the 14th c. *skouerour* s. v. SCOURER[1]. The coincidence of sense with *currour*, COURIER 2, has probably influenced the form. The It. *scorridore* (agent-n. f. *scorrere* to run out: cf. EXCUR *v.*) has the same meaning, but there is no equivalent OF. **escoureor.*] One sent out to reconnoitre; a scout, avant-courier.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 796 Apon the moss a scurrour sone fand he. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. xxxiii. 99 He sente forthe scurrers to aduyse the dealynge of their ennemyes. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 94 Claudius,..send his scurriouris to spy the nature of the cuntre. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 21 John Fastolf.. had intelligence of his comming, by meane of scurryers. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 119 Then the Dukes skyrrers made profer afore the toune, out of the whiche issued a great compagnie of horsemen and skyrmished with the Dukes horsemen. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* II. i. C 4 b, Our scurriers, Are now return'd.

fig. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 491, I wolde not haue the Deputye, representing the Kinges person, be a comen skurrer for every lyght mater; but, whan he shulde begynne a warre, begynne it upon a juste goode grounde, and [etc.].

Scu·rrifunge, *v.* ? *dial.* Also scurry-. [A word of jocular formation, used in various senses with little or no discoverable connexion.] **a.** ? *trans.* To scrub, scour. **b.** *intr.* (See quot. 1777.) **c.** ? To wriggle about.

1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* (MS.) in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, s.v. Scurrifunge, to lash tightly; coïre. 1789 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 6 June, Half a dozen tooth brushes...Two of the brushes abovesaid must be for inside scurryfunging, viz. they must be hooked. 1894 *Punch* 1 Sept. 102/1 So he scurryfunged around with his stomach on the ground,..And he spied 'a stag of ten'.

Scurrile, scurril (skʌ·ril), *a.* Now somewhat *arch.* Forms: 6–7 scurrill, skurrill, 7 skurrile, scuril, 6– scurrile, scurril. [a. F. *scurrile*, † *scurrille* (14th c.), or ad. L. *scurrilis*, f. *scurra* buffoon.] = SCURRILOUS.

1567 DRANT *Horace, A. P.* B 1, If I, or you the taunting grace can iudge from scurrill gere. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1595) 4 That it containe not base, filthy or scurrile matter. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 148 With him, Patroclus.. Breakes scurrill Iests. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 43 It had bin plainly partiall..to correct him for grave Cicero, and not for scurrill Plautus. 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* II. ii. (1720) 30 With scurrile Taunts and blackest Infamy They load my Name. 1838–43 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xxxvii. 479 Scurril songs, and gestures, and clapping of hands, were the only answer returned to him. 1854 TRENCH *Synon.* xxxiv. 141 Which would attract many..whom scurrile buffoonery would only revolt and repel. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. v. 83 All which full oft she turned to scurril jest.

¶ App. misused for: Rough, rugged, 'unfriendly'.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 262 Wee came to the most scurrile and timorous Discent of the whole passage. *Ibid.* IX. 423 Wee Coasted the scurrile and Rockey face of Norway.

†**Scu·rrilely,** *adv. Obs.* In quots. scurril(l)y. [f. SCURRILE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a scurrile manner.

1647 HEXHAM I, Scurrilly, *Als een rabaut.* *a* 1707 S. WILLARD *Body Div.* (1726) 903/1 [In praying] we may do nothing rashly, nothing scurrily, or unbecomingly.

Scurrility (skʌri·liti). Forms: *a.* 6 scurrilite, -illitie, skurrillity, 6–7 scur(r)ilitie, scurrillity, 7– scurrility; *β.* 6–7 squirilitie, 6 squirrilitie, 7 -ility. [a. F. *scurrilité* (15th c.), or ad. L. *scurrilitās*, f. *scurrilis*: see SCURRILE *a.* and -ITY.] The quality of being scurrilous; buffoon-like jocularity; coarseness or indecency of language, esp. in invective and jesting.

a. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 58 Scarth fra scorpione, scaldit in scurrilitie. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, Scurrilite or spekynge of fylthy wordes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 4 Your reasons at dinner haue beene..pleasant without scurrillity. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 3, I list not to contend with him in scurrilitie and bad language. 1759 SYMMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 414 The hawkers..every day have some new piece of scurrility against him, to bawl about the streets. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 650 He was, as usual, interrupted in his defence by ribaldry and scurrility from the judgment seat. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 346 The Sacrament of the Mass..was attacked with a scurrility and profaneness, which passes belief.

β. a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1908) B j b, I came not yet to be the Kinges foole, Or to fill his eares with seruile squirilitie. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 6 b in *Holinshed*, The heathen misliked in an orature squirilitie. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. i. B 4 b, So long as your mirth bee voyde of all Squirrility.

b. Something scurrilous.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 76 Such among the Greekes were called Pantomimi, with vs Buffons, altogether applying their wits to Scurrillities & other ridiculous matters. 1733 POPE *Dunc.* II. 299 *note*, Concanen.. was author of several dull and dead scurrilities in the British and London Journals. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xi. 244 Who could have imagined that the writers of these scurrilities were scholars.

†**c.** Buffoon-like behaviour. *Obs.*

1614 J. NORDEN *Labyrinth Mans Life* L 4, Heroicke acts, that make men honorable, Are only sweet and most inestimable; The rest are false, found mere scurrilitie, By which some loose, both fame and dignitie. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 24 We may as well say, Cats, Goates and Apes, are by chance given to voracitie, lust, and squirilitie.

Hence † **Scurri·litiship** *nonce-wd.*, ? the state of persons who indulge in scurrility

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* G 2 b, Maister Bird shall.. meeter it mischieuously in maintenance of their scurrilitiship and ruditie.

Scurrilize (skʌ·rilәiz), *v. rare.* [f. SCURRILE *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* † **a.** To attack with scurrility, speak scurrilously of. **b.** To make scurrilous.

1609 [W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 157 What is this vncircumcised Iesuite, that hee should, in so base tearmes, scurrilize so great a King? 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* i. 5 All inducements to degrade or scurrilise the theatre.. ended in [etc.].

Scurrilous (skʌ·rilәs), *a.* Also 6 skurulous, 7 scurulous, scurrillous. [f. SCURRILE *a.* + -OUS.] 'Using such language as only the licence of a buffoon can warrant' (J.); characterized by coarseness or indecency of language, esp. in jesting and invective; coarsely opprobrious or jocular.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Needles Eye* Wks. 1910 II. 419 What shall we thinke of skurulous, deceyptfull, byting, slanderous.. wordes? 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. Ded. § 7 The scurrilous and more then Satyricall immodestie of Martinisme. 1621 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 215 Forewarne him, that he vse no scurrilous words in's tunes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxi. 110 Sometimes a scurrilous Jester, as Hyperbolus. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 23 P 1 They are grown scurrilous upon the Royal family. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1851) I. 56 They might be violent in innovation and scurrilous in controversy. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 2. 359 The old scurrilous ballads were heard again in the streets.

Hence **Scu·rrilously** *adv.*, in a scurrilous manner; † after the manner of a buffoon. Also **Scu·rrilousness.**

1597 BEARD *God's Judgem.* II. xxxvi. (1631) 431 Such as shamed not as soone as they had glutted their..heads with wine, to fall scurrilously a dauncing. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Oct., Heard the Duke discourse, which he did mighty scurrilously, of the French. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Scurrilousness*, scandalous Language, saucy Drollery, Buffoonry. 1789 W. BELSHAM *Ess.* (1799) II. 369 He has been..scurrilously reviled as the genuine successor and counterpart of..Hugh Peters.

Scurrio(u)r, scurrour: see SCURRIER.

Scurry (skʌ·ri), *sb.* [f. SCURRY *v.*]

1. The act of scurrying; a hurried movement, a rush; hurry, haste, bustle. *Hurry and scurry*: cf. HURRY-SCURRY *sb.*

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 356 *Skurry*, haste, impetuosity. 1830 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 437 It was such a treat after the hurry and scurry, and heartless bustle of London. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xix. 218 Belinda would usually come down in a scurry as she heard her mother's bell. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* v. 34 Unsuspecting gulls..took to wing with a tremendous scurry. 1910 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 181 Far away from the scurry and the scramble..of London life.

2. *Sporting.* A short quick run or race on horseback.

1824 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* LVII. 407 They travelled for adventures to the courts Of princes,—where at tournaments and skurries, Fame could be earn'd. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIV. 51 A very fast scurry with Lord Lonsdale the day before I left. 1885 *Field* 17 Jan. 63/3 To wind up, a Flat Scurry, at catch weights, usually gave good sport. *Ibid.* 21 Feb. 219/3 Although only a few fields separate the two coverts,..more than one coat changed colour during the short scurry. 1898 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 4/7 There are still at Doncaster too many of the five furlong scurries.

b. A run (made by an animal).

1865 *Daily Tel.* 4 Mar., She [the hare] steals the help of a scurry up the ditch-bottom. 1874 S. BEAUCHAMP *Grantley* I. xiii. 247 [The dog] has his scurry..night and morning.

3. A fluttering assemblage (e. g. of birds, snow, foam) moving or driven rapidly through the air. † Also, a confused tangle of material.

1839 THACKERAY in *Corsair* 26 Oct. *Stray Papers* (1901) 177 Ladies at work at a frame in the midst of a great skurry and labyrinth of worsted balls, making slipper-tops [etc.]. 1858 B. TAYLOR *Northern Travel* xxvi. 267 The birds circled overhead, or dropped like thick scurries of snow-flakes on the water. 1868 HUNTLEY *Gloss. Cotswold Dial., Skurry*, a flock in confused flight. 1873 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 123 That flight of baby angels caught up and whirled along in the wake of Gabriel like a skurry of autumn birds. 1880 BLACKMORE *May Anerley* I. xviii. 312 A scurry of foam flew like pellets from the rampart.

Scurry (skʌ·ri), *v.* Also **skurry.** [In sense 1, app. a back-formation from SCURRIER. In the current sense perh. taken from HURRY-SCURRY, a reduplication of HURRY *v.*]

†**1.** *intr.* ? To ride out as a 'scurrier'. *Obs.*

1580 NORTH *Plutarch, Annibal* (1595) 1135 Then he commaunded the horsemen of the Numidians to scurrie to the trenches of the Romanes, to intise him to come to battell.

2. To go rapidly, move hurriedly. Often with advbs., as *off, away.*

1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* V. xiii, The wind..opens the clouds; Scatter'd before the gale, They skurry through the sky. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* v, The ladies..skurried out of the apartment. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xvi. 219 They scurry away like rabbits when they see her coming. 1894 MRS. ANNE RITCHIE *Chapters from Mem.* ii. 14 Remembered events come cheerfully scurrying up one after another.

b. *Hurry and scurry*: cf. HURRY-SCURRY *v.*

1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xix. (1858) 145 Charlotte hurried and skurried about the room hither and thither, doing or pretending to do many things. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 140 How petty seems the work on which they are hurrying and skurrying.

3. *trans.* To cause to go hastily or move rapidly.

1850 THACKERAY *Lett.* 26 Feb., Off we set,..skurrying the policemen off the road. 1853 F. W. NEWMAN *Odes of Horace* I. xv, When the traitor-swain with ships of Ida Scurried o'er the wave his hostess Helen. 1892 GARLAND *Little Norsk* iv. 32 The wind..scurried the snow south or east.

Hence **Scu·rrying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 75 A view of flustered and scurrying fishing-boats in a gale of wind. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xix, A hurrying, scurrying crowd of horses. 1878 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. v, The scurrying of a rat, Affrighted me. 1883 ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 93 The scurrying drops came thicker and thicker. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 398/2 There was a sound of skurrying steps.

†**Scurryvaig.** *Sc. Obs.* [? ad. L. *scurra vagus* wandering buffoon.] A vagabond.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 68 Swingeouris and scurrevagis [*v. r.* skuryvagis], swankeis and swanis. 1819 *St. Patrick* III. 305 (Jam.) Ye may hide the vile scurrievaig.

†**Scurve·tical,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [Irreg. f. SCURVY.] Good against the scurvy, scorbutic.

1663 in Myddelton *Chirk Castle Acc.* (1908) 165 Paid for a pint of scurveticall water, 2s. 6d.

†**Scu·rvical,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SCURVY *sb.* + -ICAL.] = SCURVIED.

1728 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 8 Mar. 3 Offensive Breath, often occasioned by..Scurvical Gums.

Scurvied (skʌ·rvid), *a.* [f. SCURVY *sb.* + -ED[2].] Affected with scurvy.

1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. v. 65 The scurvied sick of Rensselaer. *Ibid.* vii. 83 Able to empty a slop-bucket or rub a scurvied leg.

Scurvily (skʌ·rvili), *adv.* Now *arch.* [f. SCURVY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a scurvy manner.

a. Shabbily, meanly; sorrily, unsatisfactorily.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. Wks. 1616 I. 243 His hat was carried skirtily. 1671 CLARENDON *Dialogues* Tracts (1727) 306 We are scurvily used, but that is because we are scurvy fellows, and deserve no better. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 236 Her Fondness for a Spark of hers was scurvily interpreted. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Dec., And, passing an evening scurvily enough, [I] did not come home till eight. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* iv, I will lay no bets about Miss Grey,..I think I should act very scurvily, if I were to make her the subject of any idle debate betwixt you and me. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 111 The young pair quitted Paris to reside At London: which repaid the compliment But scurvily.

† **b.** Sourly, rudely. *Obs.*

1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* IV. i. (1608) E 4 b, Speak pitifully, looke scuruily, and dissemble cunningly. 1647 J. BERKENHEAD *On Happy Collect. Fletcher's Wks.* 90 Such boyst'rous Trifles Thy Muse would not brooke, Save when she'd show how scurvily they looke.

†**Scu·rviness.** *Obs.* [f. SCURVY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being 'scurvy'.

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Psorothalmia*, a scuruinesse of the browes with an ytche. 1596 MASCALL *Govt. Horses* 138 The scratches is a long scuruines right behind the legge. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 83 Leprosies, botches, and scuruinesse of the skinne. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Schorfsheydt, alle Schorfsheyden*, Scurvynesse, Scabbinesse, or Manginesse. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Scurviness*, Badness, Naughtiness, Sorriness.

Scurvy (skʌ·rvi), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 6 skurvie, 6–7 scurvie, 7 skirvye, 7–8 scurvey, 6– scurvy;

β. 6 **scurby, skyrby, scorbie,** 7 **scorby.** [Subst. use of SCURVY *a.* (cf. *scurvy disease* under sense 1 of the adj.); the specific sense was determined by the use of the word to render the like-sounding F. *scorbut*, MLG. *schorbûk*, etc. (see SCORBUTE), and the β forms above proceed from assimilation of the native to the foreign word. See also SCRUBY.]

1. A disease characterized by general debility of the body, extreme tenderness of the gums, foul breath, subcutaneous eruptions and pains in the limbs, induced by exposure and by a too liberal diet of salted foods; SCORBUTUS.

Formerly used more vaguely, including what is now distinguished as PURPURA.

α. *c* 1565 R. BAKER in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 151 Our legs now..swolne euery ioint withall With this disease, which, by your leaue, the Scuruie men doe call.. *c* 1603 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land & Sea* III. i. (1655) 21 They'l find work enough about home to keep us from the scurvey. 1620 J. MASON *New-found-land* in *Mem.* (1887) 149 A great roote grows in fresh water ponds that is good against the skiruye. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 35 About 30 more had the Scurvy. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 17 Our British Malady the Scurvy. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXV. 133 The scurvy had begun to show itself on board. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 586 Scurvy is a general apyretic and non-contagious disorder.

β. 1586 A. H. tr. *Guillemeau's Treat. Eyes* title-p., A worthy treatise of the eyes &c. together with a profitable treatise of the scorbie. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xii. 195 The disease..which we in England call the Scuruie, and Scurby, and vpon the seas the Skyrby. *Ibid.* II. lxxxii. 325 Which excellent plant, Cæsars soldiers..found to preuaile..against that plague and hurtfull disease..called *Scorbutum*; in English the Scuruie, and Skyrbie.

† b. *pl.* Attacks of this disease. *Obs.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. 1904 I. 171 Hee lyes in brine, in Balist, and is lamentable sicke of the scuruies. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 400 Sloath-bred Scurvies. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 257 A temperate Sea-Salt, very useful in Scurvies. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 162 Your scurvies, and gouts.

† **2.** A disease of cattle. Cf. SCURF *sb.*1 2.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xv. 465 If the mangie or the scurvie which they call carache take any beast they were presently commaunded to bury it quicke, lest it should infect others.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *scurvy-rickets, -spot*; † **scurvy-ale,** medicated ale intended as an antidote to scurvy (cf. *scurvy-grass ale*); † **scurvy-weed, -wort** = SCURVY-GRASS.

1618 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* C 2, We had a sort of Ale, called *Scuruy Ale. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 18 In infants I have known *scurvy rickets mistaken for rheumatism. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiv. 163 The *scurvy-spots that mottled our faces. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* I. (ed. 2) 90, I could neuer learne anye name of it, but *Scurby wede, or *Scurby wurt.

Scurvy (skɜ̄·rvi), *a.* Forms: 6 **skurvy, scurvye, skurvie, skyrvye,** 6–7 **scurvie,** 7 **scirvy, skirvie, scurvey,** 6– **scurvy.** [f. SCURF *sb.*1 (with regular change of *f* into *v*) + -Y. Cf. the later SCURFY *a.*; also Sw. *skorfvig*, LG. *schorfig*, Du. *schurftig.*]

† **1.** Covered with scurf; suffering from, or of the nature of, skin disease; scurfy, scabby. *Obs.*

Scurvy disease: *spec.* = SCURVY *sb.*

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) B vj b, Iugglers and pipers, and scuruy wayfarers. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 140 A sorte of foule drabbes All scurvy with scabbes. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxi. 20 Whether he be blynde,..or is gleyd, or is skyrvye or scaulde. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful Newes* II. (1596) 38 Shee was healed of her skuruie disease very well. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Le mal Saint-Mein*, the Scuruie disease. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xl. 60 The bran of Wheate..rubbed vpon them that be scuruie and mangie, easeth the partie very much. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lxxviii. 351 This medicine is well approued to cure..Moully heeles, or any other sciruy scalls whatsoeuer. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 439 Contrary to the scurvy and unsightly flesh of a leper. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. C c 7 *Psoriasis*, a Scurvy Scabbiness in the Body.

b. *transf.* Of vegetable growths: Resembling scurf, scurfy.

1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 319 The situation..should communicate to the vines a moisture which is neither bitter nor salt; for either of these will vitiate the taste of the wine, and give a scurvy rough coat to every plant that grows on such land. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 42 A ring of scurvy and diseased matter.

2. *fig.* Sorry, worthless, contemptible. Said both of persons and things. Cf. SCABBED *a.* 2. Also of treatment, etc.: Shabby, discourteous. Now somewhat *arch.*

1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* 64 b, Looke that thou flee and eschewe this scabbed and scruule company of Dauncers. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Wolsey* ii, Ambitious minde, a world of wealth would haue, So scrats and scrapes, for scorfe, and scoruy drosse. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. v. 1411 Ist not a scuruie iest that a man should iest himselfe to death? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 140 The Moore's abus'd by some most villainous Knaue, Some base notorious Knaue, some scuruy Fellow. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 107 He reporteth..that the scoruy Ile of Manne, is so abundant in Oates, Barley, and Wheate, that it supplieth the defects of Scotland. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 19 Nov., Steele and I sat among some scurvy company over a bowl of punch. 1710–11 *Ibid.* 9 Jan., We only had a scurvy dinner at an alehouse. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxv. 217 The music of a scurvy organ and a few other instruments. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xliv, Take your hand from my cloak, my Lord Duke,..I have a scurvy touch of old puritanical humour about me. I abide not the imposition of hands. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs of Relig.* 113 The bare brae seems clad in mockery, With one thin belt of lean, and scurvy trees. 1902 BRENAN *House of Percy* II. ii. 83 Scant preferment and scurvy friendship..the Earl received.

† b. quasi-*adv.*

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* III. ii, How scurvy prowd he would looke when the treasury was full!

Scurvy-grass. *Bot.* Forms: see SCURVY *sb.*; also SCRUBY-*grass.*

1. A cruciferous plant, *Cochlearia officinalis*, believed to possess anti-scorbutic properties.

α. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxxii. 323 Round leafed Scuruie grasse is a low or base herbe. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* F 2 b, Would any husband suspect that a woman crying, Buy any scurui-grasse, should bring loue letters amongst her herbes to his wife. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. iv. 247 Take..of Scurvygrass half a Bushel. 1767 *Byron's Voy. round World* 47 We carried off a great quantity of cocoa nuts, scurvy-grass, and other vegetables, for the use of the sick. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxi. 269 Peterson brought me quite a handful of scurvy-grass (*C. fenestrata*). 1872 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* vii, The saxifrage and the scurvy-grass give a faint tinge of verdure to the snow-white sterility of the arctic lichens.

β. 1622 R. BANISTER 113 *Dis. Eyes* N 5 b, Scorby-grasse, water-cresses, brooke-lime.

† b. *Spirit of scurvy-grass*: a volatile oil distilled from the plant. *Obs.*

1676 GREW *Anat. Plants, Lect.* ii. (1682) 242 Spirit of Scurvy-grass maketh no Luctation with any Acid. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 184/2 If it be made with Spirit of Scurvy-grass [etc.].

† **2.** *Sea* or *Scottish Scurvy-grass*: the Sea Bindweed, *Convolvulus Soldanella.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxciii. 690 *Soldanella*..in English Sea Withwinde,. of some Sea Folefoote, and Scottish Scuruie grasse. 1676 T. GLOVER *Virginia* in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 629 *Soldanella* or Sea-Scurvygrass.

† **3.** = *Scurvy-grass ale* (see 4). *Obs.*

1664 ETHEREDGE *Love in Tub* I. ii. 5 And but this morning the Chandler refus'd to score a quart of Scurvy-grass. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Britain* I. III. vii. (1743) 188 There are sold in London..many sorts of ales, very different, as Cock, Steponey,..Betony, Scurvy grass, &c.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † **scurvy-grass ale,** ale medicated with scurvy-grass; similarly † *scurvy-grass drink*; † **scurvy-grass medicine,** a medicine containing scurvy-grass as the chief ingredient.

1661 in W. M. Myddelton *Chirk Castle Acc.* (1908) 152 Pd for a qrte of *scurvigrasse ale and plaine ale 8d. 1679 J. LOCKE in Ld. King *Life* 135 There are also several sorts of compounded ales, as cock-ale,. scurvy grass-ale, college-ale, &c. 1658–9 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 273 *Scurvy-grass drink began to be frequently drunk in the mornings as physic-drinke. 1609 T. COCKS *Diary* (1901) 77/5 Paide for longe pepper graynes, cloves, mace, and saffron for my *skurvye-grasse medicine, vj d.

Scurzonera, obs. rare form of SCORZONERA.

† **Scusation.** *Obs.* Also 5 **skeusacion, skew(y)sasyon, skosacion, skwsacion, -cyon.** Aphetic form of EXCUSATION.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* 112 (Halliw.) And to that semble be most nede gon, But he have a resenabul skwsacyon. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 52 When sho cuthe gett no skosacion to helpe hur with, bod at sho trewid vereli[e]to dye, sho shrafe hur vnto be preste [etc.]. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 215 He seydyt [*sic*] but for a skwsacion.

† **Scuse,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6 **skuse,** 7 **schuce.** Aphetic form of EXCUSE *sb.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froissart* I. cccl xiii. 52 So the knight coude make no scuse. *a* 1553 UDALL *Roister D.* v. ii, Better (they say) a badde scuse, than none. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 8 Tis as hard to find a Hare without a Muse, as a woman without a scuse. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. (1654) 35 If all be well with us, that schuce shall serve.

Scuse (skiūz), *v. Obs.* exc. in illiterate use. Also 6 **scowse, skewse, skuse.** Aphetic form of EXCUSE *v.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 186 They that had done it scused them. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 577/2 To skewse hym and keepe hym from beatynge. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 70 He wolde have gevyne moch to a be scowsyd. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Tasso* (1881) 110 He you to Captaine skuse. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 290 Would to heauen, that all the abiect blood, In all your veines, had Hector scusde. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* III. ix. (1849) 114 The gentleman will 'scuse me'. 1887 T. E. BROWN *Doctor* 22 'Scuse me, your honour.

Scut (skʌt), *sb.*1 Also 6–7 **soutte,** 6–8 **skut(t,** (9 *scud*). [Of obscure origin: prob. allied to SCUT *a.* Connexion with ON. *skut-r* stern of a vessel (Norw. *skut* either end of a boat), or with mod. Icel. (*dún-*) *skotti* (fox's) tail, has often been assumed, but appears unlikely.]

1. A short erect tail, esp. that of a hare, rabbit, or deer. (Quot. 1530 may belong to sense 2, which is recorded earlier.)

1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Scutte. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 243 The tayle of an Hare and Conney is called their Skut. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 20 My Doe, with the blacke Scut? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. I. 352 Those that be long shagged and rugged, have very little and short skuts, as Beares. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. x. 329 How the Indian Hare came to have a long tayle, whereas that part in others attains no higher then a scut? 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* Mar. (1789) 79 It's scut [the moose's] seemed to be about an inch long. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 89 The tail of a Fox is called the Brush;..of a Hare or Rabbit (heraldically termed *Coney*), the Scut. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xix, The goat..rushed at him..his little scut cocked like a gun-hammer.

† b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. v. II. 434 If the husband take a frosh and spit her..alength upon a reed, so as it goe in at the skut or nature [*printed* mature] behind and come foorth against at the mouth.

† **2.** A hare. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Scut, hare. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 632 Masid as a marche hare, he ran lyke a scut.

† b. *Hunting.* The hare as the object of the chase. Also *fig. Obs.*

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. ix. (Rtldg.) 296 The minister was ready to burst with laughing, to see me so eager after the scut. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 378 This day being devoted to the scut, we accompanied Mr. Lyster.

Hence **Scutted** *a.* (only in *Comb.*)

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xv. 89 An English Mare..stumbled into one of these traps;..the Indians ..seeing such a long scutted Deere, prannce in their Merritotter [etc.].

† **Scut,** *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* [Perh. a. early mod. Du. *schut, schutte* embankment.] ? An embankment.

1561 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 124 Tellyng of the skutte and other worke about the Bryges.

† **Scut,** *a.* and *sb.*3 *Obs.*—° [Of obscure origin: perh. related in some way to SHORT *a.*, SKIRT *sb.*] **a.** *adj.* Short. **b.** *sb.* A short garment.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Scut, or schort, *curtus, brevis. Ibid.*, Scut, garment, *nepticula.*

† **Scut,** *v. Obs.* [? f. SCUT *a.*] *trans.* To dock, cut short. 1530 PALSGR. 707/2, I scutte, *je docque.*

Scut, variant of SCOUT *sb.*3

Scutable, obs. form of SKEW-TABLE.

Scutage (skiū·tēdʒ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 5 scutagie. [ad. med.L. *scūtāgium*, f. *scūtum* shield, after OF. *escuage*: see ESCUAGE.] A tax levied on knight's fees; chiefly in restricted sense, such a tax paid in lieu of military service.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 123 þe foresaide [canons] schall aquite towarde Richard fitzt Odone and his heyres (þat is to say, ij. s. iiij. d., how that euer þe scutage goo, weþer it be more or lasse). *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 345 A taske callyd the scutage. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 276/1 The king more and more incensed against hym,..called him to a counte of..scutagies, gifts, presents, scapes of prisoners. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. v. 74 We find in our antient histories, that,..when our kings went to war, they levied scutages on their tenants..to defray their expenses, and to hire troops. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xii. 454 The term *scutage*, now first employed, indicates that the assessment of the knights' fees was coming into use. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* I. i, It seem'd to me but just The Church should pay her scutage like the lords.

Scutal (skiū·tăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scūtālis*, f. L. *scūtum* shield: see SCUTUM.]

1. *Zool.* Of the nature of or pertaining to a scutum. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* 218 On each of the scutal valves in this individual I can count about 260 growth-lines.

2. In etymological sense: Of or pertaining to a (heraldic) shield. *Extra-scutal* adj., of a heraldic device, placed outside the shield.

1868 CUSSANS *Her.* ii. 43 A good example of these scutal monstrosities. 1900 PIXLEY *Hist. Baronetage* v. 244 Some Baronets add the badge as an extra-scutal appendage to their arms.

† **Scutarde**1. *Obs. rare.* = SCOTART.

a 1400 *Med. Rec.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 52 Tak a scutarde als hale als he es taken, and bryn him in a newe potte al to powder.

† **Scutarde**2. *Sc. Obs.* [? f. *scute*, SCOUT *v.* + -ARD.] ? One who pours out.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritit Wemen* 92 Ane skabbit skarth, ane scorpioun, ane scutarde behinde.

Scutate (skiū·tēt), *a.* [ad. L. *scūtātus* provided with a shield, f. *scūtum* shield: see SCUTUM.]

1. *Zool.* Covered with scuta or large flat scales. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 274 Scutate (*Scutata*). Covered with large flat scales. 1838 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 265 *Hydrophes.* Head scutate, small.

2. *Bot.* Buckler-shaped.

1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 925 Root scutate. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Scutate*, formed like an ancient round buckler. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* s. v. *Algæ*, Where a root exists it is merely a fibrous or scutate base.

Hence **Scuta·ted** *a.* = SCUTATE *a.* 1.

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 221 Scutated lizard, *Lacerta Scutata. Ibid.* 518 Scutated Snake, *Coluber Scutatus.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 445 Head scutated.

Scutation (skiūtē·ʃən). *Zool.* [f. SCUTATE *a.*: see -ATION.] Arrangement of scuta.

1852 *Zoologist* X. 3402 The integument of the naked part of the foot [presenting] its well-marked scutation. 1881 OWEN in *Nature* XXIII. 402 The horny scutation of lizards.

Scutch (skʌtʃ), *sb.*1 Now chiefly *dial.* [f. SCUTCH *v.*] A stroke with a stick or whip.

1611 COTGR., *Fessée*, a scutch on the breech, a lash on the buttocks. *Ibid.*, *Singlet*, a scutch,..or ierke with a rod, &c.

Scutch (skʌtʃ), *sb.*2 Also 8 **skutch,** 9 **scotch.** [a. OF. *escouche* (15th c.; mod.F. *écouche*).

The remarkable correspondence of the OF. word with the mod. Norw. synonym *skoha* suggests that it may be of Scandinavian origin. By Hatz.-Darm., however, it is regarded as f. **escoucher, escousser* to scutch, thrash, and this is identified with *escousser* to shake:—pop.L. **excussāre* (cf. Excuss *v.*).]

1. = SCUTCHER.

c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 291/2 Common flax; which from the skutch proceeds to the heckle. 1836 L. HERBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 310 Arms to which are attached scotches revolving within a cylindrical casing. 1845 *Encycl. Metropol.* VIII. 702/2 An instrument somewhat resembling a curry-comb, and called a hand-scutch. 1892 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Scutcher*, The fluted rollers *b*, *b'*, which seize it and present it to the scutches or beaters, *a*

2. 'One of the pieces of wood which in a thrashing mill beats out the grain' (Jam.). Cf. SCUTCHER.
1805 R. SOMERVILLE *Agric. E. Lothian* 77 The purpose of separating the grain from the straw might be accomplished ..by skutches acting upon the sheaves by their velocity, and beating out the grain.

Scutch (skʊtʃ), *sb.*[3] *dial.* [Var. of SQUITCH, altered form of QUITCH *sb.*[1]]
1. = QUITCH *sb.*[1] Chiefly in Comb. *scutch-grass* in the same sense.
1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 957 It has turned the Bog into a green sod, with a very fine scutch grass on it. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxx. 307 It is only fit for wet, or bog lands, growing from every joint, like the scutch, or couch grass. 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* II. 105 What he could not lay down properly, he suffered nature to lay down for him with scutch grass, thistles and docks. *a* 1889 'CUTHBERT BEDE' (Webster 1897), The smoke of the burning scutch.
2. a. *dial.* Rubbish (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). b. *Glue-making.* (See quot.)
1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 301/2 The matter left in the pans after boiling is termed 'scutch'.

Scutch (skʊtʃ), *v.*[1] Now chiefly *dial.* Also 8–9 **skutch.** [Of somewhat uncertain etymology.
Commonly assumed to be a transferred use of SCUTCH *v.*[2], which, though later in our quots., must from its etymology have existed at least from the 15th c. This is not impossible (cf. *thrash*), but more probably the present verb is an independent onomatopœic formation: cf. *scotch* vb.]
trans. To strike with a stick or whip, to slash, switch. Also *intr.* to strike *at*.
1611 COTGR., *Singler*,..also, to switch,..scutch, or scourge with a rod. 1643 Z. BOYD *Battle Newburn* (1853) 12 The Scots them scutcht both upon back and shoulder. 1652 BROME *City Wit* I. i. A 6, What Scold hath scutch'd thy skonce? 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Misc. Wks.* (1775) 57 Shou'd they naw be..scutcht with' seme Rod wi'ther Clarks? 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss.*, *Scutch*, to strike with a thin switch, which is often done to snakes by cruel boys. 1867 BRIERLEY *Daisy Nook Sk.* 53 He skutcht at him wi' his whip. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 204 The master should always give his orders in an even, calm voice, devoid of passion, so that the dog cannot tell from his tone whether he is to be scutched or not.

Scutch (skʊtʃ), *v.*[2] Also **skutch.** [a. OF. **escoucher*, *escousser*: see SCUTCH *sb.*[2]]
1. *trans.* To dress (fibrous material, flax, hemp, cotton, silk, wool) by beating.
1733 [see SCUTCHING *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1763 in *Scottish Forfeited Estates Papers* (S. H. S. 1909) 225 A person skilled in raising, breaking, scutching and heckling of lint. 1812 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 23 Jan. (1894) I. 242 A heckle is the many-toothed implement with which hemp is broken and scutched. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* v. 159 When the heads of flax are ready for working, they are 'scutched' out at the ends. 1880 O. CRAWFURD *Portugal, Old & New* 194 Some portion of the flax.. is broken and skutched by hand. 1884 *Spectator* 26 Apr. 548 Wool must be scutched to be worn.
absol. 1808 *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 101 To try whether any improvement can be made in the mode of skutching. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 345 Indeed, each machine not only beats, scutches, but blows.
2. *Tanning.* (See quot.)
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 86/1 Scutching the Bark is, cleansing it from Moss, and the rough crusty outward Bark.
3. To strike the grain from (ears of corn). Cf. SCUTCHER[2] 2.
1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 271 The feeder-in supplies the mill in small quantities with the stick, so as the roughs may have time to be thoroughly scutched by the drum.
4. *Comb.*: **scutch-mill, -rake** (see quot. 1858).
1852 *Act* 15 & 16 *Vict.* c. 34 For the Erection of Buildings suitable to Scutch Mills for Flax in Ireland. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Scutch-mill*, a mill for preparing flax. *Scutch-rake*, a flax dresser's implement.
Hence **Scutched** *ppl. a.*
1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 785 A holder, containing a strick of scutched flax.

† Scutchane·le *v. Obs.* [f. *scutchanele*, obs. f. COCHINEAL.] *trans.* To colour with cochineal.
1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* I r b, To haue scutchaneled and painted his pickerdeuant.

Scutchenel, obs. form of COCHINEAL.

Scutcheon (skʊ·tʃən), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 scochoun, 4–5 scochon, 5 skochonne, 6 scocheon(e, scotchion, -yon, skotcheon, 7 scotcheon; 4–5 skochen, 5–6 scochen, 6 schochen; 5 scoochion, 6 schoocheon, skoochion; 5 scotchyne, 5–6 skochyn; (5 scogion, scogen, skecon, squechon); 5 scouchon, 6 scoucheon, scou(t)chin, skouchin; 5 seuchon, 6 schuchion, scuchen, -in, -ion, skuchin, skuttchin, 6–7 scutchin, -ion, 7 schucheon, scutshion, skutchin, 6– scutcheon. Sometimes written '*scutcheon*. [Aphetic variant of ESCUTCHEON.]
1. = ESCUTCHEON 1. Formerly often † *scutcheon of arms.*
a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 893 With losenges and scochouns. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 99 For as scottis token be skochen of armes of seynt george & here-bi traieden englischemen, so [etc.]. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 4 Tapites of sute,..ypouthered with chapes and scochons, in the corners, of myn Auncestres armes. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 477 Item, j. ball of coper gilt, embrauded rechely with j. skogen hongyng therbi. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilȝear* 684 Greit Squechonis on hicht, Anamalit and weill dicht. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv, Fesy target is whan a scogion or an engislet is made in the myddull of the cootarmure. *Ibid.* e iii b, It shall be shewyt in thys scoochon next folowyng. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 335/2 Setting vp oure skouchin & cote armours on yᵉ wall. 1527 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 47 For xiij skuttchens with armes. 1540 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 112 Which were all rychlie hanged with schuchions and targattes and banners. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Scutulum*, a littell shielde or scouchin. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 342 The scuchen of armes gyuen to Colon by Don Ferdinando. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xxviii. 485 The leaues be smal and tender (triangled like a scuchion). 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 567 My Scutcheon plaine declares that I am Alisander. 1601 LYLY *Love's Metam.* I. i, I will hang my Skutchin on this tree in honour of Ceres. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* B 1 b, They [*sc.* flowers] sticke like the scutchions of madame chastity, on the sable ground. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 318 Betwixt two golden scutchins ouer the dore. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. i. 233 In the Crest and Scucheon of many Noble families. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 218 His Scutcheon was the three burning Thunder-Bolts. ? 1718 POPE *Let. to Dk. Buckhm.* Lett. (1737) 199 A vast arch'd window beautifully darken'd with divers scutcheons of painted glass. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xii, And on the gibbet-tree reversed His foeman's scutcheon tied. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxiv, A shielded scutcheon blush'd with blood of queens and kings.
b. *fig.* = ESCUTCHEON 1 b.
c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* liv. 236 (Harl. MS.) God haviþe iij. scochens, scil. [the] powere, the whiche is the scochon of the fadir; he hathe wisdome, þe which is þe scochon of the sone [etc.]. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iv. 18 Had not Heresie, ..been so great a blot in her Scotcheon. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Œcon. Reform.* Wks. III. 246 Carefully avoiding a sort of blot in their scutcheon, which they think would degrade them for ever. 1838 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* IV. 151 You have blotted..the proudest scutcheon of England. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* IV. v, A scutcheon as stainless as the best.
c. *transf.*
a 1678 MARVELL *Clorinda & D.* 3, I have a grassy Scutcheon spy'd, Where Flora blazons all her Pride.
† d. Used for: A shield. *Obs.*
1600 HOLLAND *Livy* v. 215 Here are the fires of Vesta, here be the scutcheons come downe from heaven.
2. A hatchment. = ESCUTCHEON 2.
1711 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 152 Ane accompt off the Laird of Balnagowns ffuneral charges. .. Wm. Kerr painter in Nairne for Scutchins. 1739 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. West* 21 Apr. *Priv. Corr.* (1820) I. 19 The burial..was a most vile thing...No plumes,..led horses, scutcheons, or open chariots. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 265 The busy heralds hang the sable scene With mournful 'scutcheons. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. iii, A hundred scutcheons deck with gloomy grace The Laras' last and longest dwelling place. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xxviii, It..Rends Honour's scutcheon from thy hearse. 1850 THACKERAY *Kickleburys* (1851) 7 When Sir Thomas Kicklebury died..who does not remember the scutcheon with the coronet..that flamed over No. 36?
† **3.** A badge. *Obs.*
1442 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 200 Sub Condicione quod habeant vnum Trumpet, prout infra fit mencio etc. & les skecons sub securitate inventa habebunt etc. 1530 PALSGR. 267/2 Scochen a badge, *escuisson*. 1594 G. ELLIS in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 25 He is upon a journey, messenger like, with a skuchin on his breast. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Germanie* vi. 270 For a skutchion of their superstition, they carry the pictures of wilde Boares.
4. Anything shaped like an escutcheon. + a. A brooch. *Obs.*
1483 *Cath. Angl.* 326/1 A scuchon, *monile*, & cetera, vbi a bruche.
† b. *Arch.* (See quots.)
1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Tholos*,..a scochen in the middes of a timber vaute where the postes reste. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Thole*, a knot in the midst of a timber vault, where the ends of the posts meet, called a Scutchin.
c. *Horticulture.* A piece of bark cut more or less in the form of a shield, and bearing a bud, for grafting between the wood and the bark of a stock. = ESCUTCHEON 3 d and SHIELD *sb.*
[After F. *en écusson* (16th c. in Littré).]
1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* v. 34 The fourth maner to graffe..is to graffe in the scutchion. *Ibid.* 35 With the pointe of a sharpe knyfe softly raise the sayd shield or scutchion, round about, with the oylet in the middest. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 63 After your scutcheon has put forth its first sap, you may prune it at top. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 162 The Figure of a Scutcheon ought to resemble that of a V, when 'tis taken off from the Stock with its young Shoot. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. ii. (1762) 4 The tree might be grafted by a scutcheon.
† d. The plate of a gun-lock. *Obs.*
1631 in Rymer *Fœdera* XIX. 315 For a whole Worke, consisting of the Pan, the cover of the Pan, the Scutchion, and the screw Pynn. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 82 Placentia..at present..supplies fourteen thousand four hundred [fire-locks], with the scutcheons of their locks.
e. A key-hole plate, a name-plate, etc. = ESCUTCHEON 3 c.
1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Scutchion*,..a small Plate of Iron or Brass to be set before a Lock. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 162 The Keyhole is covered with a double Scutcheon. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Scutcheon*,..an ornament put round a key hole, door handle, knob of a door, or other similar object. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. i. 10 The scutcheons of locks are frequently ornamented. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2078 *Scutcheon*, a name plate on a coffin, pocket-knife, or other object.
f. *Zool.* A large scale or bony plate, a scute.
1846 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. I. 368 The head and anterior part of the body [of this fossil fish] are covered with large osseous plates or scutcheons. *Ibid.* 369 The central lateral scutcheon plates. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* v. § II. 448 The teeth, spines, or fin-rays, tubercles and scutcheons, vertebræ,..are the only parts preserved in a fossil state.
5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *scutcheon fashion*; (sense 4 b) *scutcheon-graft* sb. and vb., *-grafting*; (sense 4 d) *scutcheon lock*; also *scutcheon-like* adj., *scutcheonwise* adv.
1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 353 The Baron is made by giuing him a square Ensigne, or Banner, but the Banneret, by an Ensigne in *Scutchion fashion. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 169 Make use of the Slit or the *Scutcheon-Graft. 1727 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Grafting*, Let them be *Scutcheon-grafted. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 159 In *Scutcheon-grafting we cut the Body of the Stock to Four Inches. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xvii. 454 The *scutcheon like graft. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* v. § 2. 439 [*Blochius longirostris*] has..scutcheon-like scales. 1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 9 There is one adaptation of the principle of this lock, designed as a '*scutcheon lock'. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 10 The most common and best Method of Graffing, is either cleftwise, or *Scutcheonwise.

Scu·tcheon, *sb.*[2] *Arch.* (*Hist.*) Modernized form of ME. *scochon*, *scouchon*, etc.: see SCUNCHEON.
1850 *Parker's Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 417 *Scutcheon*,..an old name for the angles of buildings or parts of buildings, such as window-jambs, &c., but apparently for those only which are more obtuse than right angles.

† **Scu·tcheon,** *v. Obs.* (? *nonce-wd.*) [f. SCUTCHEON *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To trick *out* on a scutcheon.
1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Q 4 b, To approue his Heraldrie [he] scutchend out the honorable Armes of the smoakie Societie.

Scutcheoned (skʊ·tʃənd), *ppl. a.* [f. SCUTCHEON *sb.* + -ED[1].]
1. Furnished or decorated with scutcheons.
1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xv, The scutcheon'd emblems which it bore, Had suffer'd no decay. 1863 WHITTIER *Countess* 148 Far off her lover sleeps as still Within his scutcheoned tomb.
2. *Zool.* Bearing scutcheons or scutes.
1846 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. I. 371 This is so far as we know, not only the first instance of finding scutcheoned fishes in this country, but also [etc.].

Scutcheonless (skʊ·tʃənlĕs), *a.* [f. SCUTCHEON *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no scutcheon.
1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Enchir.* xxx, No honour ..shall I have, But 'Scoch'onless descend into the Grave.

† **Scu·tcheonry.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SCUTCHEON *sb.* + -RY.] Emblazoned figures collectively.
1827 POLLOCK *Course T.* x. (1860) 280 Reading the fiery scutcheonry that blazed On high, upon the great celestial bow.

† **Scu·tcher**[1]. *Obs.* [f. SCUTCH *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A stick, a whip.
1611 COTGR., *Verge*,..a whisker, switch, or scutcher, to ride with. *Ibid.* s.v. *Singlant*.

Scu·tcher[2] (skʊ·tʃəɹ). Also **scotcher, skutcher.** [f. SCUTCH *v.*[2] Cf. OF. **escouchoir*, in 15th c. *escoussour* flail.]
1. An implement or apparatus for scutching.
Variously applied to: A hand tool for scutching flax or hemp, a scutch-blade; one of a number of projections on a revolving drum or axle in a scutching-machine; a machine (of various kinds) for scutching flax, silk, cotton, etc.
1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Hemp* A 3/1 The workman.. strikes it with the sharpened edge of a long, flat, and strait piece of wood, commonly called a swingle hand, or scutcher. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 604/2 A lint-mill with horizontal scutchers upon a perpendicular axle. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 379 A scotcher, revolving rapidly upon its axis, strikes the cotton with its two edges. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 379 It is grasped at the proper moment by the holding apparatus of the second pair of the scutchers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2079 *Scutcher*..a beating-engine, in which floss and refuse silk..is brought to a downy condition.
attrib. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 347, GH and MN are the two scutcher frames.
2. The part of a thrashing machine which strikes off the grain.
1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 507/1 While the scutchers strike off the grain from the straw as it passes through. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 285 The essential parts of the thrashing apparatus, the feeding-rollers and the beater or scutcher. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 110 Mr. Oxley is said to have afterwards tried the plan of stripping the corn from the straw by means of a scutcher.
3. A person employed in scutching.
1847 NICHOLLS in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 457 Having a slit..into which the scutcher slips the flax. 1891 S. WEBB in *Econ. Jrnl.* I. 641 Average Earnings per Week in 1885 of Scutchers.

† **Scu·tchery.** *Obs.* Knavery. (Chiefly in Nashe.)
1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* C, Yet left I not here, but committed a little more scutcherie. 1594 — *Terrors of Ni.* E iij b, Now that he [Senior Sathan] is thoroughly steeled in his scutcherie he playes aboue boord boldly. 1595 (J. DANDO & H. RUNT] *Maroccus Ext.* (Percy Soc.) 15 His private scutcherie wounds not the commonwealth farther than that his whoore shall haue a house rent free.

† **Scu·tchin.** *Obs.* ? Corruption of CUTCH[1], catechu.
1818 *Art Bookbinding* 78 Add half a pint of the spirits of wine, and one pennyworth of yellow scutchin.

Scutchin, -el, obs. ff. SCUTCHEON, COCHINEAL.

Scu·tching, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCUTCH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of SCUTCH *v.*[1]
1611 COTGR., *Singlement*,..a whisking, lashing, lerking, scutching. 1641 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 326 Discourse falling in concerning the Deputie's scutching of a gentleman with a rod. 1641 HINDE *J. Brune* xi. 36 Not to be fierce and furious..in immoderate..scutching and lashing.

Scutching (skʊ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SCUTCH *v.*[2]]
1. The action of SCUTCH *v.*[2]; the process of beating flax stalks to get rid of the straw and prepare the fibre for hackling; the similar operation applied to hemp, cotton, silk, etc.
1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 150 There must be at every Mill, besides the Boys that attend the breaking and scutch-

ing of the Mill, at least, two or three skilful Flax-dressers. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Hemp* A 3/1 After the hemp has been broken, it undergoes a second operation, which is commonly termed swingling or scutching. 1836 L. Hebert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 539 The hand methods of breaking and scotching of flax. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* i. 26 This process called 'scutching', or 'batting' or 'blowing'—is effected in various ways:—The cotton is laid [etc.]. 1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) I. s. v. *Hemp*, The after processes of scutching and heckling [*sc.* hemp and flax] are likewise similar.

concr. 1887 Jamieson Suppl., *Scutchings, Scutchins*, refuse lint or flax that remains after the process of scutching; waste tow.

2. *attrib.*, as *scutching apparatus, arm, barrel, board, machine, mill, season*; † **scutching knife**, a tanner's tool (cf. Scutch *v.*[2] 2); **scutching shaft**, in a cotton mill, the revolving shaft which carries the first beater; **scutching-stock**, the support on which the flax or hemp is placed in a scutching machine; **scutching-sword**, a scutch-blade; **scutching tow**, the refuse of flax after scutching.

1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. App. 48 The wheels and *scutching apparatus. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 346 This last fan is suppressed in many blowing machines, as the *scutching arms supply a sufficient stream of air. *Ibid.*, In the figure we see the feed-cloth, the *scutching barrel, the squirrel suction [etc.]. 1854 Delamer *Flax & Hemp* 66 The *écouche-pied*, or *scutching-board. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 350/2 Instruments belonging to the Tanners Trade; the first is a *scutching Knife. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 95/1 The *scutching machine is used to open the locks of cotton and separate its fibres. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. 457 The growers, after having steeped their flax at home, send it to some *scutching-mill to be dressed. 1852-4 *Tomlinson's Dict. Usef. Arts* (1867) I. 452/2 The *scutching-shaft, makes 2,000 turns per minute. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 604/2 This sloping stroke is got by raising the *scutching-stock some inches higher than the centre of the axle. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2079 Scutching is performed with the *scutching sword *a* held in the right hand. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 789 The yield was 187 lbs. of flax; and of *scutching tow, 12 lbs. 6½ oz. fine.

Scutchion, obs. form of Scutcheon.

Scute (skiūt), *sb.* Also 7 **sceute, skute.** [ad. L. *scūtum* shield, whence OF. *escut, escu* (F. *écu*).]

1. An English name for the French coin called *écu*: see Écu, Escu. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1400 *Three Kings of Cologne* 100 As men clepe in þis contrey gold of biȝende þe see Scutys, Motouns or floryns. 1420 *Treaty of Troyes* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 916 The forsayd Katerine shall take and haue Douer in our Roiaulme of Englond..to the Somme of forty Mill. Scutes be Yere; of the whiche Tweyne algates shall be worth a Noble Englyssh. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 17 Scutes of the kyng [F. *escuts du roy*], Ryallis nobles of englond. *c* 1522 Skelton *Why Nat to Courte* 167 With scutes and crownes of gold I drede we are bought and solde. 1549-50 Edw. VI *Jrnl.* Rem. (Roxb.) 251 The French to pay 200,000 scutes within three days after the delivery of Boullein. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Justine* L 1, The King of England demanded of the Emperor interest for fiue hundred thousand skutes which he had borrowed. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. (1623) 812 Forty thousand sceutes, that is, two to a Noble. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 80 Peter bought a maids kiss for a scute [orig. *scutato emit*].

¶ **b.** Used as a (? jocular) name for an English coin; ? a crown. *Obs.*

1472 Sir J. Paston *Let.* 8 Jan. in *P. Lett.* III. 33, I beseche yow to remember my brother to doo hys deveyr thatt I maye have agayn my stuffe,..how so evyr he doo, thoghe I scholde gyffe xx[ti] Scutes by hys advyse to my Lady Brandon. 1472 — *Let.* 22 Nov. *Ibid.* 64, I thynke verrely to come to gyff him xx scutys.

c. Used vaguely for a coin of small value.

1594 Nashe *Christ's T.* To Rdr. *ij b, Therein I imitate rich men who hauing gathered store of white single money together, conuert a number of those small little scutes into great peeces of gold, such as double Pistols and Portugues. 1596 — *Saffron-Walden* Q 1, The diuell a scute had he to pay the reckoning. 1605 Chapman *All Fools* v. i. H 4 b, And from a paire of Gloues of halfe a crowne To twenty crownes: will to a very scute Smell out the price. 1834 Sir H. Taylor *Artevelde* I. i. iii, Five hundred marks—I'll bate you not a scute.

† **2.** An escutcheon. *Obs.*

1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Flowers* 51 He..bare the selfe same armes that I dyd quarter in my scute.

3. A disk, small piece. Now only *dial.*, a small patch of leather on the sole of a boot or shoe; also, a metal heel- or toe-plate. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

In the first quot. prob. merely *transf.* from sense 1.

1635 T. Heywood *Hierarchie* IX. 574 Round scutes of horne, and pieces of old leather. 1775 Ash, *Scute*,..a small piece of leather set on a shoe.

4. *Zool.* A large scale or bony plate, forming part of the integument of certain animals, as the tortoise, armadillo, echinoderms, various fishes, etc.

1848 Owen in *Times* 14 Nov. 8/6 Without scales, scutes, or other conspicuous modifications of hard and naked cuticle. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* I. 10 The stiff epidermal scutes crossing the under surface of the body. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 278 The 'scales' of Fishes should rather be termed 'scutes'. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 107/2 A scute is a hardening of the outermost portion of the dermis, with an investment from the deepest layer of the epidermis.

Scute, obs. form of Scout *sb.*[3]

Scutel (skiū·tel). [ad. mod.L. *scūtellum.*]

1. *Ent.* = Scutellum 2.

1806 Turton tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Scutel*, the portion on the back of an insect which is situated between the thorax and abdomen. 1862 T. W. Harris *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 23 The wings of beetles are covered and concealed by a pair of horny cases or shells, meeting in a straight line on the top of the back, and usually having a little triangular or semicircular piece, called the scutel, wedged between their bases. 1875 *De Saussure's Synopsis Amer. Wasps* 160 Scutel flat. Post-scutel arcuate on its posterior border.

2. *Bot.* = Scutellum 1.

1819 *Pantologia.* 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

Scutel(l, obs. forms of Scuttle *sb.*[1]

‖ **Scutella** (skiute·lă). Pl. **scutellæ.** [mod.L.; originally a use of L. *scutella* platter, but mistaken for a dim. of L. *scūtum* shield, and hence altered in application.] = Scutellum in various senses.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 224/2 They [*sc.* snakes] have a number of scuta, or hard crusts, on the belly; and scutellæ, or scales, on the tail. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* s. v. *Scutella*, The little shields or cups found on the thalli of the Lichens, are by botanists designated scutellæ. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. (1878) 16 The number of scutellæ on the toes.

Scutellar (skiute·lăr), *a. Ent.* [f. Scutellum + -ar.] Of or pertaining to a scutellum.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 561 Another nervure ..appears to diverge upwards from the scutellar angle to the Intermediate Area.

Scutellarin (skiute·lărin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Scutellaria* (f. *scutella* dish) + -in.] (See quot.)

1883 Martindale *Extra Pharmacop.* 240 Scutellarin... The dried extract of *Scutellaria lateriflora*—mad-dog skull-cap..given as a nervous stimulant.

Scutellate (skiū·telĕit), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *scutellātus*, orig. f. L. *scutella* platter, but apprehended as f. Scutellum: see -ate. Cf. Scutulate.]

1. *Bot.* (See quots.)

1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. 497 The sections of the genus [Lichens] are,..2. Scutellate, or such as have little shields, or roundish receptacles with a rim. 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 79 Calix scutellate as in the whole genus. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Scutellate*..saucer-shaped or platter-shaped. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomyc.* 284 Cup superficial,..sessile, scutellate. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Scutellate*, formed like a dish or saucer, orbicular and nearly flat.

2. *Zool.* a. *Ent.* Of an insect: 'Having a visible scutellum'. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 332.

b. *Ornith.* Of the feet of birds: Covered with scutella.

1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 46 A tarsus so furnished is said to be scutellate, before or behind, or both. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 511 The *podotheca* or covering of the tarsus, which is scutellate behind as well as in front.

c. Of certain structures: Shaped like a platter.

1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 4/2 Amœba enclosed in an urceolate or scutellate shell. 1856-8 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 48 *Arcella*, Ehrenb. Lorica scutellate, globose, or hemispherical.

Scutellated (skiū·telēitĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed[1].] = prec.

1729 Woodward *Catal. For. Fossils* II. 28 It seems to be part of the scutellated Bone of a Sturgeon. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 11 Thrushes with booted tarsi, and thrushes with scutellated tarsi.

Scutellation (skiūtelē·ʃən). *Zool.* [f. Scutellate *a.*: see -ation.] **a.** Scutellate formation (of the feet of birds). **b.** Arrangement of scutes or scales (in lizards, serpents, etc.).

1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 47 The Crus, when bare below, may present scutellation. 1882 Günther in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 733/2 Scutellation similar to that of the skinks. 1887 — *Ibid.* XXII. 195/2 The Venomous Colubrine snakes which combine with the possession of a perfect poison apparatus the scutellation and general appearance of the typical non-poisonous snakes.

Scutelliform (skiute·lifōm), *a.* [f. Scutellum + -form.] Having the form of a scutellum.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 538 In many of the species here quoted the prothorax is producted posteriorly into a long scutelliform horizontal horn. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 212 The cuculli were also observable, but still very small and green, nearly scutelliform. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 554/1 The disciform apothecia..present various shapes..,(*a*) peltate..(*b*) *lecanorine*, or scutelliform.

Scutellum (skiute·lŏm). Pl. **scutella.** [mod. L.; app. in origin a supposed correction of *scutella* (see Scutella), due to the notion that this was a dim. of L. *scūtum* shield; the applications are based on the rendering 'little shield'.

The correct L. dim. of *scūtum* was *scūtulum*, which some mod. scientific writers have adopted as a basis for derivatives, using, e. g., Scutulate instead of *scutellate*.]

1. *Bot.* a. (See quots.)

1760 Lee *Introd. Bot.* III. xxii. (1765) 227 *Scutellum*, a small Buckler, which is a concave orbiculate Fructification, the Margin of which is elevated on every Side. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot., Scutellum*...An orbicular concave fructification (in some Lichens). 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

b. An anterior cotyledon in certain grasses.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* I. II. 191 In wheat there is a second small cotyledon on the outside of the embryo, inserted a little lower down than the scutelliform cotyledon. This last is called scutellum by Gærtner, who considered it of the nature of vitellus. 1880 Bessey *Bot.* 451 The first leaf of the young plant (the cotyledon or scutellum). 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 620 In Grasses, however, the whole of the plumule projects from the seed, the scutellum only remaining behind in it.

c. (See quot.)

1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Scutellum*..the conical cap of the endosperm in Cycadeæ.

2. *Zool.* a. *Ent.* The third of the four sclerites composing any segment of the tergum of an insect; usually, the mesoscutellum.

1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 266 Two stripes near the scutellum. 1896 tr. *Boas' Zool.* 259 A triangular median portion of the mesothorax (scutellum) remains uncovered.

b. *Ornith.* One of the horny plates which cover the feet of certain birds.

1840 Macgillivray *Man. Brit. Ornith.* I. 64 Toes short, feathered, all with two scutella at the end. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 249 *Mimus*...Tarsal scutella always distinct.

Scutibranchiate (skiūtibræ·ŋkiĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Scūtibranchiāta* neut. pl., f. *scūt-um* shield + *branchiæ* gills: see -ate[2].] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to the *Scutibranchiata*, a group of gasteropods comprising the sea-ears and limpets. **b.** *sb.* A member of this group.

1836 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 391/1 With the exception of the Scutibranchiate..orders, the heart is single. 1883 *Science* II. 22/1 It treats of..scutibranchiate limpets.

Also, in the same senses, **Scutibra·nchian** *a.* and *sb.*; **Scutibranch** (skiū·tibræŋk) *a.* and *sb.*

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1 The third class, Gastropods, are divided into the following orders and suborders:—..Scutibranchians.

† **Scu·tifer.** *Obs.* Also 5 **skotifer, skottefer.** [a. med.L. *scūtifer*, f. L. *scūtum* shield + *-fer, ferre* to carry.] A shield-bearer; one who bears his master's shield.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2468 Skayres thaire skottefers, and theire skowtte-waches. *Ibid.* 3034 Skotiferis. *c* 1450 *Brut* 540 Scutifers of þe Kynges house. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 691 Scutiferis and sqwyeris, and bachilleris blyth.

Scutiferous (skiūti·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. med.L. *scūtifer* (see prec.) + -ous. Cf. -ferous.]

1. 'That bears a Buckler or Shield' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

2. *Zool.* = Scutigerous (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Scutiform (skiū·tifōm), *a.* Chiefly *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *scūtiformis*, f. *scūt-um* shield + *forma*: see -form.] Shield-shaped.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Scutiform*, fashioned like a Scutcheon or Shield. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) *Scutiform Gristle*, the first, the broadest and the biggest of the two Gristles of the Larynx, resembling a Buckler. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 330 A single joint of the hand is dilated into a broad scutiform plate. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 382 Two flat plates, composing the thyroid or scutiform cartilage. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 447 The two upper give rise to the first leaf (cotyledon), which, on account of its peculiar form, is known as the 'scutiform leaf'.

So † **Scu·tifo·rmal** *a.*

1694 W. Cowper *Myotomia Ref.* 82 The Thyroidal or Scutiformal Cartilage.

‖ **Scutiger** (skiū·tidʒəi). [Late L. *scūtiger* shield-bearing, f. *scūt-um* shield + *-ger, gerĕre* to carry; in med.L. used subst. for 'esquire'.]

1. *jocular nonce-use.* A squire.

1839 Syd. Smith *Ballot* Wks. 1859 II. 306/2 All set upon the unhappy scutiger; and the squire, unused to be pointed at,..is driven to the brink of suicide.

2. *Zool.* A centipede of the genus *Scutigera*; any member of the family *Scutigeridæ*.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Scutigers, Scutigera*, the name of a genus of unequal-legged Chilopodous Myriapods, which frequent houses..in the South of Europe.

Scutigeral (skiūti·dʒĕrăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Scutiger + -al.] Pertaining to a squire.

1819 Syd. Smith *Game Laws* Wks. 1859 I. 259/2 After many years of scutigeral folly—loaded prisons—nightly battles—poachers tempted—and families ruined, these principles will finally prevail.

Scutigerous (skiūti·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. med. L. *scūtiger* (see Scutiger) + -ous.] Provided with a scute or with scuta (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Scutiped (skiū·tiped). *Ornith.* [f. L. *scūt-um* shield + *ped-em, pēs* foot.] (See quot.)

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Scutipeds*, the name given by Scopoli to one of the divisions of his binary system of ornithology, including those birds which have the anterior part of the legs covered with segments of unequal horny rings terminating on each side in a groove.

Scutle, obs. form of Scuttle *sb.*[1], *sb.*[4], and *v.*[1]

Scutshion, Scutte: see Scutcheon, Scut.

Scuttel(l, obs. forms of Scuttle.

Scutter (skv·tər), *sb.* Chiefly *dial.* [f. Scutter *v.*[2]] An act of 'scuttering'; a hasty, scrambling, noisy rush.

1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 238 Ilka half-hour there was a toutin o' horns lang tin anes, I'm sure, frae the scutter o' broken-winded soun. 1847 E. Brontë *Wuthering Heights* xiii. (1850) 127 The dog's endeavour to avoid him was unsuccessful; as I guessed by a scutter down stairs, and a prolonged piteous yelping.

† **Scu·tter,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. App. a var. of Squitter *v.*, *intr.* to have diarrhœa.

1563 *K. Daryus* (Brandl) 1140 Nay then I wil geue you no bread and butter. Here, take some, it will make thee to scutter.

Scutter (skv·tər), *v.*[2] *colloq.* and *dial.* [? Alteration of Scuttle *v.* with substitution of suffix -er[5].] *intr.* To go hastily with much fuss and bustle, as from excitement or timidity.

1782 in *Mrs. Delany's Corr.* Ser. II. (1862) III. 44 She staid ab[t] 24 hours, then scutter'd away to Badminton. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* xxvii, The men..scuttered

down the stairs. 1892 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 160 A whirling dust-devil would scutter across the plain for a couple of miles. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* IV. 102 She scuttered off towards her dwelling.

Hence **Scuttering** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1848 W. E. FORSTER in T. W. Reid *Life* (1888) I. 232 We heard cannon firing and a mighty scuttering among the guards. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* XXVI. 364 Noises in the fen..mingled with the quacking of the ducks and the scuttering of the drakes. *Ibid.* 367 The scuttering noise made by a duck dabbling its bill in the ooze.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1, 4 scutel, 4–5 scutell, 5 scutelle (scutylle, scwtylle, scotel(l, scotill, -ylle, scotle, schewtell, scuttyl, skuttel, skuttyl), 6 skottell, (scutle) 6–7 scuttell, 6–9 skuttle, 6– scuttle. [OE. *scutel* in sense 1, prob. pronounced with (sk), ad. L. *scutella* dish, platter; the word appears in other Teut. langs.: ON. *skutill*, MDu., Du. *schotel*, MLG. *schôtel*, OHG. *scuzzila* (MHG., G. *schüssel*).

The development of sense 2 is somewhat strange, but there seems no reason to doubt the identity of the word.]

†**1.** A dish, trencher, platter. *Obs.*

c 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 280/22 *Catinus*, scutel. 14.. *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 770/21 Nomina pertinencia coquine... *Hec scutella*, a scotylle. 1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Scutella*,..sax. Scutel, Scuttle, any thing of a flat and broad shape, like a Shield, especially a Plate or Dish, as [*read* a] shallow wooden Bowl or Platter is still call'd a Scuttle.

2. a. A basket for sifting or winnowing corn; hence, a large shovel to cast grain in winnowing, a casting-shovel. Now only *dial.*

1366–7 in *Finchale Priory Charters* (Surtees) p. lxxij, Et in pane equorum, cum ferrura..scutels sive pal', cribris [etc.]. 1411–12 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 139 In j vanga, j shouill, j scotill, j boll empt. *xd. ob.* 1427–8 *Ibid.* 142 In ij scotill empt., 6 d. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 706/7 *Hoc ventilabrum*, a scotylle. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A skuttle or skreine, to rid soile fro the corne. 1681 WORLIDGE *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Shepe*, A *Shepe*, or *Scuttle*; a flat and broad Basket made to winnow corn withal. 1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett) s.v. *Scutella*, In Kent the broader Shovel with which they turn Malt or Corn, is call'd the Skuttle. 1819 W. & H. RAINBIRD *Agric. Suffolk* (1849) 299 (E.D.D.) *Scuttle*, the large casting shovel used in barns for moving threshed corn,..and especially for casting it from side to side of a barn the whole length of a dressing place that the light grains may fall short.

b. A large open basket wide at the mouth and narrow at the bottom, usually of wickerwork, used for carrying corn, earth, vegetables, etc.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398 Item in orreo..1 berlepe novum, 2 scotlys, 4 wedhokys. 1415–16 *Ibid.* 225 Pro 2 scoteles virgeis pro cova. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 184 And he..garte þaim..make skuttels & lepis of wandis evyn vnto evyn. 1541 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 81 Ther be bones of dede persones dygged up w^t^ conyes whiche would fylle a scutle. 1560 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 124 For a skottell to serue ye tyllar, iij d. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 318 In the Larder Howse, buttertubbes scuttles and other stuff. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. iv. II. 467 The earth and stones..they are faine to carie from under their feet in scuttles and baskets, upon their shoulders. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. viii. 158 Alas! and what's a man? A scuttle full of dust. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* ix. 203, I have observed them to lay down scuttles or broad open wicker Basketts upon the ground. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 283, I had the mortification..to see all the tiles and a chimney shoot off from the house, as if shot out of a skuttle. 1814 T. HAYNES *Treat. Strawberry*, etc. (ed. 2) 40 After which, afford a good dressing with..manure..; which will most easily be performed by taking it out of scuttles or wheelbarrows on each side the bed.

c. = COAL-SCUTTLE 1.

1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* vii. 46 Fourteen skuttles of coals. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 774/1 A brass scuttle stood by the fireplace.

d. *Comb.*, as *scuttle-carrier, -maker*; **scuttle-mouth** (see quot.).

1611 COTGR., *Hotteur*, a Basket-carrier, or *Scuttle-carrier. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/1 A *Scutelle (Scutylle *A.*) maker, *scutellarius*. 1610–11 in *N. Riding Rec. Soc.* (1884) I. 208 [They] present..John Welbanck.., brewer, and Geo. Murrey .., scuttle maker..as vagrants and sturdy rogues. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 75/1 The very large shelly oysters.. were introduced from the Sussex coast...The costermongers distinguished them by the name of '*scuttle-mouths'.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5 skottelle, 7 scottel, scutle, 7–8 skuttle, 6– scuttle. [Of obscure origin; identical with F. *écoutille* hatchway, in 16th c. *escoutille*, = Sp. *escotilla*, Pg. *escotilha*; the sense 'scuttle' is expressed by the derivatives F. *écoutillon*, Sp. *escotillon*, Pg. *escotilhão*.

The Eng. word is commonly believed to be adopted from the Fr., and this from the Sp.; but the relation between the three, and the ultimate etymology, remain uncertain. According to a quotation given by Jal, the Fr. word formerly meant the hatch or trap-door covering the hatchway; if this was the original sense, the word might be a derivative of Du. or LG. *schutten* to shut; cf. Eng. *shuttle* (of a dam).]

1. *Naut.* A square or rectangular hole or opening in a ship's deck smaller than a hatchway, furnished with a movable cover or lid, used as a means of communication between deck and deck; also a similar hole in the deck or side of a ship for purposes of lighting, ventilation, etc.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 323 A chayne of yron for the skottelles of the haches. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakluyt) 20 Wee have had in a watch in the night a fish flie into a little scuttle of a cabbin, noe bigger then the hande of a man. 1622 *Recov. of the 'Ex-change' fr. Pirates* D 3, He had ropes, and iron hookes to make fast the scottels, gratings, and cabbines. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.*, A *Scuttle* is a square hole..cut through any Hatch or any part of the Deck to goe downe by..: also for vent for the Ordnance, there are small scuttles with grateings..: Also all the little windowes and holes which are cut-out aloft in the Captaines, or Masters cabbins, are called Scuttles. 1673 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 754/1 Some hurt in his face, received when he was making a Sally out of the Scuttle, to drive the Dutch from the Deck. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 51 Two small skuttles to give light into the great cabbin. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* XV. (1842) 355 A room..lighted by a long scuttle, or skylight, in the deck above. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 223 *Scuttles*.. are openings by which to obtain access to certain compartments when necessary,..scuttles in some cases are covered with *caps* and in others with *flush* covers. In the former they..are termed *cap scuttles*, and in the latter..*flush scuttles*. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 186 The second mate..was hanging over the open scuttle, absorbed in watching the game.

b. A hole cut or bored through any part of a ship, esp. for salving the cargo. Cf. SCUTTLE *v.*[2] 2.

1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 102 Several scuttles or holes in the ship's side were made..to facilitate the discharge of the ..cargo.

c. The lid of a scuttle-hole or hatchway.

1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 784 We hoised out a Boat, and took one of the Scuttles that cover'd one of the Hatches of the Ship. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 474 We..took up..a small Hatch, or Scuttle rather, belonging to some Bark. 1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II, *Ecoutille qui s'embotte*, a hatchway with a scuttle which covers its border. 1908 PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* 118 *Scuttle*,..the term is also given to the framing and the thick piece of glass (Bull's-eye) by which the aperture is closed.

2. An opening in the roof, floor, wall, etc. of a building closed with a shutter or lid; a trap-door; also the shutter of such an opening. Now only *U.S.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 148 For the Hole in the Door, have a small Scuttle to shut down when you go in. 1737 [implied in *scuttle hinge*, see 4 below]. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Scuttle*, a square hole in the roof of a house, with a lid. 1877 WHITTIER *Witch of Wenham* II. xvi, She forced the oaken scuttle back; A whisper reached her ear: 'Slide down the roof to me 'it said. 1902 R. STURGIS *Dict. Archit.* III. 524 Occasionally smaller skylights are in the form of glazed scuttles arranged to be opened for access to the roof.

†**3.** (See quot.) Cf. SHUTTLE.

1705 *Act* 4 & 5 *Anne* c. 8 [21], Owners..of..Mills, upon any..rivers..shall constantly keep open One Scuttle or small Hatch of a Foot Square in the Waste Hatch or Water course..for the Salmon to pass and repass freely.

4. *Comb.*: **scuttle-butt, cask** = *scuttled-butt, cask* (see SCUTTLED *ppl. a.*); **scuttle-hatch**, a lid or covering of a scuttle; **scuttle hinge**, a hinge for a scuttle or trap-door; **scuttle-hole** = sense 1.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxii. 123 Going to the *scuttle-butt for a drink of water. 1803 *Naval Chron.* X. 183 Water from the *scuttle-cask on the quarter-deck. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 7 A *scuttle-hatch is a little hatch doth couer a little square hole we call the Scuttle. 1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 107 *Scuttle Hinges..are sold by the Dozen. 1684 I. MATHER *Rem. Prov.* 5 The *scuttle-hole of the quarter-deck. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 212 Scuttle-holes, to open and shut for the admission of air, are cut along the ship's sides.

†**Scuttle**, *sb.*[3] *Naut. Obs.* Also 6 **skutele.** [Of obscure origin; not easily to be connected with either of the preceding sbs.] A platform at the head of a lower mast; a 'top'.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* I. ii. (1631) 4 Their carefull watchfulnesse..ought to serue them for sails, cables, ankrs, masts, and skuttles, whereby to gouerne and direct the Vessel. 1611 COTGR., *Hune*, the scuttle of the mast of a ship. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxviii. 181 Let down this white wine of Anjou, from the scuttle [orig. *la Hune*] of the mast of the ship. 1671 H. M. *Erasm. Colloq.* 172 On the top of the main mast stood one of the Marriners, in the skuttle [orig. *in galea*]..looking about him, if he could see any land. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 592 This mast..has at its extremity a scuttle like that of the masts of a ship.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *sb.*[4] Forms: 6 scottell, scuttel(l, 8 scutle, **skuttle**, 7– **scuttle**. [Altered form of CUTTLE *sb.*[1]] Also *scuttle fish*.

1530 PALSGR. 268 Scottell a fysshe, *seiche*...Scuttell fysshe, *saiche*. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXVI. § 11. 315 The scuttle fish, when he is in straights of being taken..casteth out a blackenesse that is within him. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 476 P 4 Our Disputants put me in mind of the Skuttle Fish, that when he is unable to extricate himself, blackens all the Water about him, till he becomes invisible. 1876 GOODE *Fish. Bermudas* 10 The 'Scuttle', a large Octopus.

b. *attrib.* **Scuttle-bone, shell** = CUTTLE-BONE, CUTTLE-SHELL. 1530 PALSGR. 268 Scottell bone,..Scuttell bone, *os de saiche*. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 114 We began to see some Scutle-bones floating on the Water. *Ibid.* 130 We saw..abundance of Scuttle-shells swimming on the Sea.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *sb.*[5] Also 8 **skuttle.** [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[1]] The action or an act of scuttling.

1. A short hurried run.

1623 WEBSTER *D'chess Malfi* III. ii, Pluto the god of riches, When he's sent (by Iupiter)..goes limping,..but when he's sent One the diuells arrand, he rides poast, and comes in by scuttles. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 323 P 7 From Twelve to One. Shut my self up in my Chamber, practised Lady Betty Modely's Skuttle. 1755 JOHNSON, *Scuttle*...3. (From *scud.*) A quick pace; a short run; a pace of affected precipitation.

b. *Political slang.* (See SCUTTLE *v.*[1] 2.)

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Dec. 5/1 In other words, scuttle, if adopted as a ministerial policy, may lead to the evacuation of Downing-street, for the evacuation of Egypt is quite impossible for at least a year yet. 1892 C. RHODES in *Daily Tel.* (1901) 12 Oct. 9/7, I was horrified..to read a speech of Mr. Gladstone's evidently foreshadowing a scuttle if he came in.

2. In Manchester: A street faction-fight between bands of young people.

1864 in G. Milner *Odds & Ends* (1875) I. 43 When the boys of one street take offence at boys of another street, they often fall to fighting in a body. This is called a 'scuttle'.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *v.*[1] Also (? 5 **scottle**), 7 **scutle**, 8 **skuttle.** [? Altered form of SCUDDLE *v.*[2]

It is doubtful whether the 15th c. *scottle* belongs to this word, the sense being somewhat obscure.]

1. *intr.* To run with quick, hurried steps. Chiefly with *away, off*.

a 1450 [implied in SCUTTLING *vbl. sb.*[1]]. 1657 THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1893) 21 Then she told him all that had happened; how she scutled up to Dorco; how [etc.]. 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fortune* I. (1683) 4 So away he scuttled with as great joy as if he had found the Philosophers stone. 1739 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. West* 20 July, We scuttle upstairs in great confusion. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Scuttle off*, to run away. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxv, With the first dawn of day, old Janet was scuttling about the house to wake the Baron. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxi. 74 Causing the conceited hares to scuttle away for the.. hills. 1871 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* III. (1901) 278 The bit of ground..which everybody scuttles over by train. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* xiv, In a moment the house was empty. It is not too much to say that the Duchess scuttled.

b. *transf.* in *Political slang.* To withdraw in a precipitate and undignified manner from the occupation or control of a country. Cf. SCUTTLE *sb.*[5] 1 b.

App. first used in 1883 with reference to the suggested abandonment by England of its control in Egypt. Still not uncommon in journalistic use.

1883 LD. R. CHURCHILL *Sp.* 18 Dec. (1889) I. 79 Now—so says Mr. Gladstone at the Guildhall—we, the Liberal Government..are going to scuttle out of this pandemonium as soon as we can. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 July 1/2 Even if we were going to scuttle next year from Egypt.

2. In Manchester: To take part in a 'scuttle' or street-fight. See SCUTTLE *sb.*[5] 2.

1890 *Daily News* 14 Aug. 5/1 Five men, or rather lads, were in the dock [at the Manchester City Sessions] charged with 'scuttling'...The prisoners, arming themselves with belts and clasp knives, made their way through the Manchester streets stunning or stabbing, without provocation, every one who came in their way.

Scuttle (skʊ·t'l), *v.*[2] [f. SCUTTLE *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To cut or bore a hole or holes in the sides or bottom of (a vessel, boat, etc. for the purpose of sinking her).

1642 in R. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 300 He went ..on board and scuttled and set fire to the ships. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 91 Orders had been given to scuttle each ship for sinking,..and they had all a large square plug ready to pull out when the signal..was given. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. xli, He was the mildest manner'd man That ever scuttled ship or cut a throat. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* Ser. IV. 106 The vessel..had been scuttled.

fig. 1888 *Ch. Times* 3 Feb. 89 A few of them once had a fine Protestant appearance, but they have been scuttled by three recent discoveries.

2. To cut a hole in (the deck of a vessel), esp. for the purpose of salving the cargo (see quot. 1867).

1789 A. DUNCAN *Mariner's Chron.* (1805) IV. 37 It was thought necessary to scuttle the deck close aft, which.. would enable them to get up and throw overboard some of the provisions and stores. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* I. 21 The decks are scuttl'd, and we lay Far in the hollow of the sea. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, To *scuttle*, to cut or bore holes through part of a ship when she is stranded or overset,..in order to save any part of her contents.

b. *transf.*

a 1797 C. MACKLIN in *Europ. Mag.* (1802) XLI. 16/1 Sir, I remember the time when the price of admission here [at Sadler's Wells] was but threepence, except a few places scuttled off at the sides of the stage at sixpence.

3. Pugilistic slang. *To scuttle* (a person's) *nob*: to break (his) head.

1834 F. S. MAHONY *Reliques F. Prout* in *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 671/1 I'll..scuttle your nob with my fist. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Dead Drummer*, What!..desart..and then rob! And go scuttling a poor little Drummer-boy's nob.

Scuttled (skʊ·t'ld), *ppl. a. Naut.* [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Having a hole cut in it. *Scuttled butt* (see quot. 1846); so *scuttled cask, puncheon*.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 160 We sent ashore in a scuttled Puncheon some wearing apparel [etc.]. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 86 A centry was placed at the scuttled-cask, and a regular allowance of water was daily served out. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, Filling the 'scuttled butt' with fresh water. 1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict., Scuttled-butt* or (as it is generally abbreviated) *Scuttle-butt*, a cask with a square hole cut in its bilge, kept on deck to hold water for ready use.

Scuttleful (skʊ·t'lful). [f. SCUTTLE *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] As much as will fill a scuttle.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 109 He take a skuttylfull of corn. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xii. 253 You must first put horse dung..a scuttle full to euerie horse. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* v. i, I thought the gift as entirely gratuitous, *mon cher*, as giving a scuttle-ful of coals to Newcastle.

Scuttler[1] (skʊ·tlə). [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. a. *Political slang.* One who advocates a policy of 'scuttle' (see SCUTTLE *sb.*[5] 1 b).

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec., Thus the scuttlers..will be restrained from saying a word about scuttling.

b. *U. S.* A local name for the lizard *Cnemidophorus sexlineatus* (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1886 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVII. 46 Scuttler or streakfield (striped lizard).

2. In Manchester: One who takes part in a 'scuttle' or street-fight. See SCUTTLE *sb.*6 2.

In the first quot. app. used for: A street urchin, 'gamin'. If the word is identical with that current in Manchester, the writer seems to have misapprehended its meaning.

1867 C. G. GORDON *Let.* (*Manchester*) 21 Sept. in *Lett. to Sister* (1888) 23 The poor scuttlers here, male and female, fill me with sorrow. They wear wooden clogs,..and make such a noise. [Also in later letters dated from other places, 1882–3, *ibid.* pp. 253, 271, 300, 302; sometimes glossed 'boy' by the editor.] 1887 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 6/2 A gang of 'scuttlers' who parade the streets [of Manchester] at night and assault passengers with belts and frequently with knives.

Scuttler[2] (skʌ·t'lə(ɹ). [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who scuttles a ship; esp. with the design of 'losing' her and claiming the insurance-money.

1869 *Daily News* 11 Dec., The over-insured..as well as the scuttler, should be..punished severely. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Aug. 5/1 Supposing the scuttlers..had not bungled in the business, the ship would have been among the missing.

Scuttling (skʌ·t'liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of SCUTTLE *v.*[1]

a 1450 *Mankind* in *Macro Plays* 4 *Nought.* 3ys, Mary, I prey yow, for *I* loue not þis rewelynge [*sc.* of dancing]. ..Go to! for I haue hade a praty scottlynge. *Mercy.* Nay, brother, I wyll not daunce. 1873 'CUTHBERT BEDE' *Little Mr. Bouncer* 147 The scuttling of rabbits in and out of their holes. 1884 [see SCUTTLER[1] 1 a]. 1890 [see SCUTTLE *v.*[1] 2]. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* IV. xiv. 256 It was the scuttling of the feet of the towns-people as they ran to meet the procession.

Scuttling (skʌ·t'liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of SCUTTLE *v.*[2]

1622 SIR R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xvii. 40 Great care is to be had also..in Hooping or Scutling of Caske. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 269 The other ships..were prepared for scuttling. 1877 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. xx. 350 It does not at once appear how the Canal could be secured against the furtive scuttling of ships.

Scuttling (skʌ·t'liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCUTTLE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That scuttles; characterized by scuttling.

1895 C. R. B. BARRETT *Surrey* vii. 171 A stray water-hen made a flapping, scuttling progress across the pool. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 541 A couple of skulking scuttling spies. 1904 *Ibid.* Dec. 122 The patter of scuttling sheep could be heard on the soft turf.

Scuttock (skʌ·tək). *local.* [Perh. a dim. of SCOUT *sb.*[5]: see -OCK.] The common guillemot.

1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., Guillemot, Foolish, Uria Troile...Provincial...Skuttock [1831, 545 Scuttock].

Scutty (skʌ·ti). [? f. SCUT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] A name applied locally to the wren (see quots.).

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 35 Wren (*Troglodytes parvulus*)...From its short bob-tail it has the name of.. Scutty (Sussex). 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 355 The wren ..is commonly known [in Ireland] by the name of 'Scutty' ..on account of its short, upright tail.

Scuttyl, obs. form of SCUTTLE *sb.*[1]

Scutulate (skiū·tiŭlĕt), *a.* Also *erron.* **scutilate.** [ad. mod.L. *scūtulāt-us*, f. L. *scūtulum* dim. of *scūtum* shield.] = SCUTELLATE. Also **Scu·tulated** *a.*

1827 R. JAMESON tr. *Cuvier's Theory of Earth* (ed. 5) 310 Two-thirds of the leg, and the whole length of the toes, are scutulate. 1848 HEPBURN in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 276 Tarsus short,..scutilate in front. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marv. Animal Life* 127 [Other species] are the..spotted, scutulated, confluent, and the black-tail rattlesnakes.

Scutule (skiū·tiŭl). [ad. L. *scūtulum* (in sense 1 through It.), f. *scūtum* shield.]

†**1.** ? An escutcheon-shaped marking. *rare*—[1].

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 48 Because the circumduct and compassing coulers, meeting together in the selfe same smoothe and cleane stones, did yeeld a reflection, no part being faultie, eyther of the square checkers or scutuls and Trigons [orig. *scutuli, trigoni, quadrati*].

2. *Zool.* A small scute or dermal plate.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 469/2 Rhinoceros...One-horned; ..scutules of the skin angled at the margin.

‖ **Scutulum** (skiū·tiŭlŏm). *Path.* Pl. **scutula.** [mod.L. use of L. *scūtulum*, dim. of *scūtum* shield.] A shield-shaped crust or disc developed in the skin-disease favus.

1888 J. N. HYDE *Dis. Skin* (ed. 2) 598 The inferior surface of this disk or scutulum rests upon the scalp. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 862 The characteristic lesion [of favus] is a small yellow-coloured disc or scutulum. *Ibid.* 863 In old scabs the scutula are lost.

b. *Zool.* A scutellum. 1902 in *Webster's Suppl.*

‖ **Scutum** (skiū·tŏm). Pl. **scuta** (skiū·tă). [mod.L. use of L. *scūtum* shield, f. Indogermanic root **skū-* (: **skeu-*) to cover, whence SKY *sb.*

The L. *scūtum* denoted specifically the large oblong shield, in contradistinction to the *clipeus* or buckler.

In mod. anatomical Latin the word was formerly used as a name for the knee-cap and for the thyroid cartilage.]

1. *Bot.* 'The broad dilated stigma in some asclepiads' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 122 The circular space in the middle of the top of the orbiculus is the *scutum*.

2. *Ent.* The second segment of each of the three divisions of the tergum in insects.

The scuta respectively of the pronotum, mesonotum, and metanotum are called proscutum, mesoscutum, and metascutum. The term *scutum* alone sometimes = *mesoscutum*.

1830 MACLEAY in *Zool. Jrnl.* V. 169 The *scutum*, whether the collar be apparent or not, is therefore the second piece of the mesothorax. 1833 F. WALKER in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 26 A yellow line extends along the suture [of *Decatoma biguttata*], between the scutum and the parapsides of the mesothorax.

3. *Zool.* A shield-like dermal plate; a scute.

1771 [see SCUTELLA]. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* lxiv. (1875) 482 [The true Lizards and the Monitors] are chiefly separated by the..fact that the abdomen and head are covered with ordinary scales, and not with large 'scuta'. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Scuta*, applied to any shield-like plates; especially to those which are developed in the integument of many reptiles.

Scutylle, obs. form of SCUTTLE *sb.*[1]

Scuwe, scwe: see SKEW.

Scwle, scwylle, rare obs. ff. SCHOOL *sb.*[1]

Scwtylle, Scwyer, obs. ff. SCUTTLE, SQUIRE.

†**Scy·bal.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 squibal. [a. F. *scybale*, ad. med.L. *scybalum.*] = SCYBALUM.

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Surg.* 76 Water alon & salt boiled togidre and 3ette in by a clistrye bringeþ out squiballez. *Ibid.* 78 þis [clistery] bryngeþ out hard squiballez of what euery cause þai be withholden. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii, Sir-reverence, Ordure,..Scybal or Syparathe.

Scybalous (si·bălәs), *a. Path.* [f. med.L. *scybal-um* + -OUS.] Of or pertaining to, or of the nature of, scybala.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 349 These stools, small in quantity, having a scybalous appearance, and constantly mixed with blood. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 735 Scybalous masses may frequently give rise to diarrhœa.

‖ **Scybalum** (si·bălŭm). *Path.* Usually pl. **scybala.** [med.L. *scybalum*, a. Gr. *σκύβαλον.*] One of a collection of round masses of constipated fæces formed in the bowels in certain diseases.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict., Scybala*, are Sheeps, or Goats, &c. Buttons, or Excrement. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 308 One scanty stool without scybala. 1889 MATTHEWS *Dis. Women* xiv. (ed. 4) 98 A Scybalum is a rounded or oval mass of fæces.

Scye (səi). *Tailors' term.* [A use of a Sc. and Ulster dialect word (written also *sey, sci, si, sie, sy* in glossaries) meaning 'the opening of a gown, etc., into which the sleeve is inserted; the part of the dress between the armpit and the chest' (E.D.D.); of obscure etymology.] The opening in a coat into which a sleeve is inserted.

[1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Sey*, The sey of a gown or shift is the opening through which the arm passes.] 1830 DAVEY *Syst. Cutting* 7 Measure the distance from the top of the back to the bottom of the back scye. 1899 WHITEING *No. 5 John-St.* xviii, What's wrong with the Scye? 1909 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 12/1 There is..a very clean fit about the scye, and an excellent shoulder.

Scyelite (səi·ĕlәit). *Min.* [f. the name of Loch *Scye* in Caithness + -LITE.] A combination of mica with hornblende-picrite.

1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 401 The Scyelite (altered Mica-Hornblende-Picrite) of Caithness.

Scyle, Scylful, obs. ff. SKILL, SKILFUL.

Scylence, -ens, obs. forms of SILENCE.

Scylla (si·lă). [L.; a. Gr. Σκύλλα.] A rock upon the Italian side of the Straits of Messina facing CHARYBDIS (q. v. for the proverbial use); also personified as a dangerous sea-monster.

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. lxxii, Scilla is a monster in the see betwene Italye & Sicill, it is great ennemye vnto man. ? *a* 1547 ? SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 241 Seas.. Which we [*read* me] haue tossed sore: From Sicilla [*read* Scilla] to Caribdis cliues. *c* 1580 W. SPELMAN *Dialoge* (1896) 3, I ffell from Silla into Caribdes, from euyll to woors. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 19. *c* 1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 607 Or as y^e^ Iawes of Scyllas barkinge hounds, That aye for greedinesse of booties raue. 1651 *Reg. Comm. Gen. Assembly* (1909) 244 Our former Warnings..hes stiered a steadie course betwixt the Shylla of Malignants and Charibdis of Sectaries. 1703 KELSEY *Serm.* 290 The Scylla's and Charibdis's which have swallowed up many Mortals. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* iii, Alas, the poor father in avoiding Charybdis had run against Scylla.

Scylling, Scyment, obs. ff. SHILLING, CEMENT.

Scymetar, -er, scymitar, -er: see SCIMITAR.

Scymme, obs. form of SKIM.

Scymmer: see SCUMMER *sb.*, SKIMMER *sb.*

Scyn, Scyne, obs. ff. SKIN *sb.*, SHINE *v.*

Scyon, Scyoure: see SCION, SYRE.

‖ **Scypha** (səi·fă). *Bot.* [mod.L. *scypha*, a. Gr. *σκύφη*, var. of *σκύφ-os* drinking cup.] = SCYPHUS.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. 205 *Scypha*, is a cup-like dilatation of the Podetium, bearing shields on its margin. 1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Scypha, Scyphus.* 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Scypha* or *Scyphus.*

Scypher, obs. form of CIPHER *v.*

Scyphi- (səifi), combining form of L. *scyphus* cup (see SCYPHUS), used in scientific terms, chiefly *Bot.* and *Zool.* (Properly, this form should be used only for compounds with Latin words, and SCYPHO- for those with Greek words; but this rule has often been neglected.) **Scyphiferous** (səifi·fĕrəs) *a.* [-FEROUS] *Bot.*, bearing a scyphus; = SCYPHOPHOROUS. **Scy·phiform** (-fĭm) *a.* [-FORM], (*a*) *Bot.*, resembling a scyphus in shape; (*b*) *Zool.*, 'boat-shaped, scaphoid' (*Cent. Dict.*). **Scyphi·phorous** (-fŏrəs) *a. Bot.* = SCYPHOPHOROUS, SCYPHIFEROUS. ‖ **Scyphi·stoma** *Zool.* = SCYPHOSTOMA. Hence **Scyphi·stomoid** *a.*, of or belonging to a scyphistoma (in quot. *absol.*); **Scyphi·stomous** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 57 Podetia from disk of laciniæ,..*scyphiferous. *Ibid.* 2 Apothecia biatorine on *scyphiform or simple podetia. 1879 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 521 *Scyphiphorous. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 122 The **Scyphistoma* assumes the aspect of a pile of saucers, arranged one upon another with their concave surfaces upward. 1902 G. H. FOWLER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 131 The non-sexual *scyphistomoid (corresponding to the hydroid) alternating with the medusoid.

Scypho- (səi·fo, səifǫ·), representing Gr. *σκυφο-*, combining form of *σκύφος* cup (see SCYPHUS), chiefly in scientific terms: cf. SCYPHI-. **Scypho·geny** (-dʒĭni) [-GENY], *Bot.*, production of ascidia. **Scyphomancy** (-mæ:nsi) [-MANCY], divination by means of a cup. ‖ **Scy·phomedu·sa** [mod.L.], *Zool.*, a group of Hydrozoa. Hence **Scyphomedu·san, -medu·soid** *adjs.* (Cent. Dict.). **Scy·phophore** (-fōəɹ) [ad. mod.L. *scyphophor-us*], *Zool.*, a member of the *Scyphophori*, an order of physostomous fishes (*Cent. Dict.*). **Scypho·phorous** (-fŏrəs) *a.* [-PHOROUS], *Bot.* = SCYPHIFEROUS. **Scyphopolyp** (-pǫ·lip) [POLYP], a cup-shaped polyp; also *attrib.* **Scypho·stoma** [Gr. *στόμα* mouth], *Zool.*, a non-sexual hydroid form of the Hydrozoan Acraspeda (also called SCYPHISTOMA).

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Scyphogeny.* 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 293 The existence of a kind of *scyphomancy, or divination with a cup, is supposed to be alluded to. 1881 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 553/1 And now the ancestry took two distinct lines, which have given rise respectively to the two great groups into which the *Hydrozoa* are divisible—**Scyphomedusæ* and the *Hydromedusæ.* 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 64 Nigrescent and albo-guttate at the base, *scyphophorous, scyphi proliferous. 1882 tr. *Haeckel* in *Challenger Rep., Zool.* IV. II. p. xiii, The Acraspedæ [originate] from *Scyphopolyps by terminal gemmation. *Ibid.* p. xiv, Developed from the Scyphopolyp nurse. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 98 The *Scyphostoma seems to be more highly organised than most of the Hydroid-Polyps. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 787 *note*, Haeckel believes that the Tesseroniæ possess a Scyphostoma stage.

Scyphose (səi·fōus), *a. Bot.* [f. SCYPH-US + -OSE.] Having a scyphus or scyphi.

1879 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* (ed. 3) 521 *Scyphose*, bearing thalline cups as in *Cladonia.*

‖ **Scyphulus** (səi·fiŭləs). *Bot.* [mod.L. *scyphulus*, dim. of SCYPHUS.] (See quot. 1856.)

1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms, Scyphulus*, the cup-like appendage from which the seta of Hepaticæ arises. Used also synonymously with Scypha.

‖ **Scyphus** (səi·fŏs). *Bot.* Pl. **scyphi** (səi·fəi). [mod.L. use of L. *scyphus*, ad. Gr. *σκύφος* a large drinking vessel without a foot.] **a.** A name given by Haller to the corona of certain plants when forming a cup or funnel-shaped appendage. **b.** A dilatation of the podetium in lichens bearing shields on its margin. Cf. SCYPHA.

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 23 A scyphus is a fructification in the form of a cup, in some species of Archil. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 121 The most common form of appendage is the *corona*,..forming sometimes an undivided cup, as in Narcissus, when it becomes the *scyphus* of Haller. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Scyphus.* 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 63 Scyphi denticulate at the margins. *Ibid.* 64 Dilated upwards into a scyphus.

Scyrle, obs. form of SHRILL *a.*

Scyrmyssh, obs. form of SKIRMISH *v.*

Scyrrhosity, obs. form of SCIRRHOSITY.

Scyrt, obs. form of SHORT *v.*

Scyrtte, obs. form of SKIRT *sb.*

Scysme, obs. form of SCHISM.

†**Scy·tal(e.** *Obs.* Also 6 **scitale,** 7 **scytal(l, scythale.** [ad. L. *scytalē* (med.L. *scitalus*), a. Gr. *σκυτάλη*, app. a use of *σκυτάλη* staff: see next.

Owing to a misreading of *σκυτάλην* for *μυγάλην* in Columella VI. xvii (ed. Stephanus 1543), the word was frequently supposed to have the sense of shrew-mouse.

In mod. zoological Latin *scytalē* is used as the name of a genus of snakes (the type of the order *Scytalidæ*), and also as the specific name of a coral-snake (*Tortrix scytale*).]

A serpent mentioned by ancient writers, described as resembling a round staff of uniform thickness. Also, a figure of this as a heraldic bearing.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 62 O beareth Argente, on a Pale Vert, a Scitale, proper. This serpente is so called, because he shinethe with suche diuersitie of speckles vpon his backe, that all that looke thereon haue wonder, and likinge to see him. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 232 This Scytall is very full of markes or spots vppon the back so variable and delectable, that it possesseth the beholders with admiration. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. i. 467 The Scythale is admirable in her varied jacket. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 491 No otherwise doth he keep them at a gazing admiration of worldly pomp,..than the serpent Scytale doth with passengers, whom she stays, by amazing them with her beautiful colours, till she have stung them. 1770 J. & W. LANGHORNE *Plutarch, M. Crassus* III. 465 His army resembled the serpents called *Scytalæ.*

‖ **Scytale** (si·tălē). *Antiq.* Also 6 in Latin form **scytala.** [Gr. *σκυτάλη* staff, also *spec.*: see below.] A method of secret writing practised by the Spartans, consisting in writing the message on a strip of parchment wound spirally round a cylindrical or tapering staff, so that it became illegible when the parchment was unrolled, and could be read only by the use of a staff of precisely the right form

and size. Hence, a secret dispatch conveyed by this method.

1580 North *Plutarch, Lysander* (1595) 487 To him selfe they sent immediately that which they call Scytala...The Scytala is in this sort. When the Ephori doe send a Generall, or an Admirall to the warres, they cause two litle round staues to be made [etc.]...These two litle staues they call Scytales. *Ibid.*, This litle scrowle of parchment also is called as the rowle of wodde, Scytala. 1640 G. Watts tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* VI. 268 A Spartan letter sent once in a Scytale or round cypher'd staffe. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* XXXVII. V. 17 A scytalé would at all times be sufficient to procure whatever they wished.

Scyte, obs. f. Site *sb.*[1], Sheet *sb.*

Scyth (siþ). Now *rare*. Forms: 4 Sithe (Schyte, Schite, 5 Scite, Shite, Scytte), 7 Scythe, 9 Scyth. [ad. L. *Scytha*, Gr. Σκύθης.] A Scythian.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 257 Of Egipcians in þe soup, and of Sithes [MS. *a* Schytes; Caxton, Shites] in the norþ. 1480 Caxton *Descr. Scot.* (1520) 1/1 Scottes ben called as it were scyttes for they came out of Scicia. 1557 North *Gueuara's Diall. Pr.* (1619) 707/1 The Greekes the Romaines, ..the Scythes were alwayes temperat in eating and drinking. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 632/2 The old English also which there remayneth have gotten up theyr cryes Scythian-like...And herein also lyeth open an other manifest proof that the Irish be Scythes or Scotts. 1871 P. Smith *Anc. Hist. East* xxiii. § 12 (1881) 473 The *Sacæ* of Greek writers on Persian affairs are simply Asiatic Scyths.

Scythe (səið), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 sigdi, siðe, 3–6 syþe, 4–7 sith, 5 cithe, (sythy), 5–6 cythe, 6 syith, 6–7 syth, sieth, 7 siethe, seith, sight, syeth, 3–9 sythe, 4–9 sithe; *β.* 5 seth, 7 saith; *γ.* 7 scith, scithe, 7– scythe. [OE. *siðe* masc., earlier **sigði* (written *sigdi* in Epinal Gl.) = LG. *seged, seid, sicht,* ON. *sigð-r* (mod.Icel. *sigð* fem., Norw. *sigd, sigde, sidde* masc.) :—OTeut. **segiþjo-z*, f. root **seg-* to cut, whence the synonymous OS. *segisna* (MLG., MDu. *seisene*, Du. *zeisen, zeis*), OHG. *segansa* (MHG. *segense, seinse*, G. *sense*).

The etymologically correct spelling *sithe* was preferred by Johnson, but his authority has not prevailed against the currency of the spelling with *sc*, due to erroneous association with L. *scindere* to cut. Cf. *scissors*.]

1. An agricultural implement for mowing grass or other crops, having a long thin curving blade fastened at an angle with the handle and wielded with both hands with a long sweeping stroke.

a. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 834 *Falcis*: wudubil, siðe, riftras. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 62 *Falces*, uudubil, sigdi, riftr. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 162 Befeoll an siðe of ðam snæde into anum deopan seaðe. 13.. *Coer de L.* 6788 They slowen Sarezynes al soo swythe, As gres fallyth fro the sythe. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* ii. 4 Thei shul bete togidere their swerdes in to shares and ther speres in to sithes. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 396 Item..1 fot ax, 1 cithe, 1 hamer. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 23 Take hede that thy mower mow clene and holde downe the hynder hand of his sith. 1580–3 Greene *Mamillia* I. 12 The grasse looketh better being vncut, then that which withereth with the sieth. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xvi. 48 Thou sawest great-burthen'd Ships through these thy valleys pass, Where now the sharp-edg'd Sithe sheeres vp the spyring grasse. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 66 And the Mower whets his sithe. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* 62 Samples of home-made sithes. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* VI. 120 There, likewise, were sithes, and all the instruments of harvest. 1828–32 Webster, *Sythe.*

β. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 728/40 *Hec falx*, a sykyl, or a seth. 1625 *Althorp MS.* p. lxi, To Gibson one daie waiting on my lo. of Southampton in the parke with the saith yo^r lop bid him call for oo or oo.

γ. 1602 J. Bruen in Hinde *Life* (1641) 147 My son..took up a scith to see how he could mow, and the scith entered in at his stocking. 1716–8 Lady M. W. Montague *Lett.* I. xxxviii. 151 He was..followed by..several reapers..with scythes in their hands, seeming to mow. 1863 Macdonald *D. Elginbrod* I. x. (1871) 47 The day arrived when the sickle must be put into the barley, soon to be followed by the scythe in the oats. 1875 J. Wilson in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 362/1 The common scythe..is very extensively used for reaping grain in all parts of the kingdom.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*, esp. as the attribute of Time or Death.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. Prol. 99 Sithen al the grettest clerkes..with their sharpe sythes of conning al mowen and mad therof grete rekes and noble. 1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 90 They fyght and cose on eche other wonder with the sythe of deuyls dredabyll. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xii, And nothing gainst Times sieth can make defence Saue [etc.]. 1659 Pecke *Parnassi Puerp.* 112 Time devours Things; His Sithe our Legs will hit. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnothea* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 185 See how Death preys on humane Race; Out with his Scythe the Tyrant goes, Great Multitudes at once he mows. 1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* 632 Whet not your scythe, suppressors of our vice! Reforming saints! 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* i. 16 The swarm of human life..has never been perceptibly reduced by the scythe of famine, of pestilence, or of war. 1883 O. W. Holmes *Loving-cup Song* 29 Old Time his rusty scythe may whet.

3. A weapon having a long curving blade resembling a reaping hook. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* with reference to scythed chariots (see Scythed *a.*).

a. a 1300 *Havelok* 2553 Hand-ax, syþe, gisarm, or spere. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3058 For-þi þe chariots in þe chace choppid þaim to deth, þe cartis þat I carpid of with þe kene sithis [*v. r.* sythez]. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 302 But the geaunt stert vp lyghtly, in grete yre, & as geffray passed by, he smote hys hors behynd with hys sythe of fyn stele. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 30 They use axeltrees armed at both ends with hookes and sithes.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** Simple attrib., as *scythe-blade, -handle, -smith, -stick, -sweep, -work*; *scythe-like* adj.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3023 Chariotis..sett apire side full of *Sythe-bladis, Kene keruand as knyfes. 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd. 2nd half, He supplied the want of guns and swords with scythe-blades set straight upon their handles. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 51 It is also good for Rake and *Scythe-handles. *c* 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 464/2 Giving the edge of the fin a *scythe-like shape. 1633 J. Clarke *Two-fold Praxis* 24 In the street next above, bee shoesmiths, *sythesmiths, bladesmiths, cutlers. 1890 Amphlett *Hist. Clent* 119 Philip Cix, also a scythesmith. 1831 Loudon *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 7799 *Scythe-sticks and stones for sharpening scythes, hay-knives. 1856 Allingham *Mowers* 7 A *scythe-sweep, and a scythe-sweep, We mow the grass together. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 713 Their flowry Fleece Affords us *Sithe-work yearly twice or thrice. 1904 Edith Rickert *Reaper* 183 He was stiff with scythe-work.

b. objective, as *scythe-grinder, -maker, whetting*; *scythe-bearing* adj.

1633 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* (1656) 165 The old Lucadian *Syth-bearing Sire..for thee feeles flames of sweet desire. 1619 *Canterb. Marr. Licences* (MS.), Robert Brooke of Goudhurst, *sightgrinder. *Ibid.*, Edward Male of Goudhurst, *sightmaker. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 55 Hay and straw knives are manufactured by the scythe-makers. 1857 FitzGerald *Let. to Cowell* 27 June, One wakes to the tune of the Mower's *Scythe-whetting.

c. similative, as †*scythe-billed, -shaped*, †*-tusked* adjs.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 103 *Falcinellus*..the *Scyth-bill'd Heron. 1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 80 The animal of *Anomia tridentata* has two flat arms somewhat *scythe-shaped. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. i. 79 Most dreaded Amazonian, that hast slain The *scythe-tusk'd boar.

d. instrumental, as *scythe-armed* adj.

1811 Scott *Don Roderick* II. xxv, The scythe-arm'd Giant turn'd his fatal glass. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* xxxiii. IV. 304 Scythe-armed chariots.

5. Special combinations, as † **scythe-bill**, a suggested name (after mod.L. *Falcinellus*) for the Glossy Ibis; **scythe-chariot** *Hist.* = *scythed chariot* (see Scythed *a.*); **scythe-cradle**, a framework of wood fastened to a scythe for carrying the mowings clean into the swath; **scythe-hook, -sickle**, a reaping-hook with a smooth cutting blade as contrasted with one in which the edge is cut into teeth; † **scythe-land** (see quot.); † **scythe-sand** (see quot.); **scythe-snathe, -sned** *dial.*, the curved handle to which the blade of the scythe is attached; **scythe-stone**, a whetstone for scythes; also in *Comb.*

1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 295 The Falcinellus of Gesner and Aldrovand, which we may English, The *Sithe-Bill. 1695 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 215 With these *sithe-chariots they mowed men down. 1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* s.v. *Carecta*, In Kent a *Sithe-cradle, or rack of wood fastened to a sithe for carrying the mow'd barley clean into the swath. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 447/1 Grain was reaped with sickles, though '*scythe-cradles' were not unknown. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1079 The smooth-edged sickle, or *scythe-hook. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Husbandland*, Hvsbandland conteinis commonly 6. aikers of sok & *syith land: That is of sik land as may be tilled with ane pleuch, or may be mawed with ane syith. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 154 An excellent sand to whet their Sithes, whence it has the denomination of *Sithe-Sand. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1055 The *scythe sickle is so called, because of its being provided with a cutting edge. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. i. (1871) 184 His bare head pillowed on a *scythe-snath. 1907 'J. Halsham' *Lonewood Corner* xix. 212 Ne'er he nor his father afore him ever bought a *scythe-sned. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2413/4 Who hath formerly been an Apprentice to a *Scythe-Stone Cutter near Darby. 1879 Rutley *Study of Rocks* xiv. 278 The Rotherham stone is worked for building purposes and for grindstones, and that at Hart Hill for scythe-stones.

Scythe (səið), *v.* [f. Scythe *sb.*]

†**1.** *intr.* To use a scythe. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1573–80 Baret *Alv.* M 541 He that siethe with a bill, or he that vseth a sieth or hooke, a mower, *falcarius*. [After Elyot's (and Cooper's) rendering of *Falcarius*: 'He that fighteth with a bill'.]

2. *trans.* To cut or mow with a scythe.

1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 12 Time had not sithed all that youth begun. 1892 Henley *Song of Sword* 9 Where the tall grain is ripe Thrust in your sickles:..Scything and binding The full sheaves of sovranty.

3. *intr.* To move with a sweeping motion as of one mowing with a scythe. *nonce-use.*

1897 Kipling *Capt. Courageous* V. 111 The foresail scythed back and forth against the blue sky.

Scythed (səiðd), *ppl. a.* [f. Scythe *sb.* and *v.* + -ed.]

1. Furnished with a scythe; esp. *Hist.* (= Gr. δρεπανηφόρος, L. *falcatus*) of war-chariots provided with scythes fastened to a revolving shaft projecting from the axle-trees; attributed by classical writers to the Persians and the Britons.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3821 For with his florantis olifants him followed a thousand, Of sithid chariotis. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 120 Three hundred thousand foot, and not a lesse number of Horse, and of seithed Chariots. 1750 Warton *Verses, Montauban* 19 Galgacus' scythed, iron car. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* VI, Let Destiny drive forth her scythed car through the..trembling mass of humanity.

2. Cut down with a scythe.

1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball.* Ser. I. 209 *Before Parting*, And yet who knows what end the scythed wheat Makes of its foolish poppies' mouths of red?

Scytheless (səi·ðlés), *a.* [f. Scythe *sb.* + -less.] Without a scythe.

1817 Coleridge *Limbo* 5 Scytheless Time with branny hands. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 98, I tell you, Time is scytheless and toothless; it is we who [etc.].

Scytheman (səi·ðmæn). Also 8–9 **scythesman.** [f. Scythe *sb.* + Man *sb.*[1]]

1. One who uses a scythe.

1577 Peacham *Gard. Eloq.* P ij b, Reapers cutting downe Corne in euery fielde, Sithmen labouryng harde. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* III. ii, As sithmen trim the long haird Ruffian fields, So fast they fall. 1797 Coleridge in J. Cottle *Early Recoll.* (1837) I. 215 When the scythes-man o'er his sheaf Caroll'd in the yellow vale. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1050 The scytheman requires a person to follow him and carefully gather the corn he has mown into sheaves in bands. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 297 Three kinds of sand he brought me to see, but not being a scytheman I could not tell the difference.

b. A member of an irregular body of troops, armed with a scythe as a weapon.

1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 23 Another said that he should be glad to know how the Devonshire trainbands, who had fled in confusion before Monmouth's scythemen, would have faced the household troops of Lewis. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* 138 See that your scythesmen line the quickset hedge upon the right.

2. *fig.* Applied to Time and to Death.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* x, 'The old scythe-man has moved so rapidly,' I answered, 'that I could not count his strides.' 1844 W. H. Maxwell *Scotland* xxxix. (1855) 305 Time, that villanous old scytheman. 1909 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 4 The stroke of the dread scythesman.

Scyther (səi·ðəɹ). [f. Scythe *v.* + -er[1].] A mower; *esp.* with allusion to Time. Cf. Scytheman.

1863 Macdonald *D. Elginbrod* I. x. (1871) 47 David..was the best scyther in the whole country side. 1901 Meredith *Reading of Life* 2 And unto the pallid Scyther Either points us.

† **Scythiac,** *a. Obs.* [See -ac.] = Scythian.

1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 280 There is a strong similarity between the Hebrew and the Scythiac languages.

Scythian (si·þiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **Sythian.** [f. L. *Scythia*, a. Gr. Σκυθία (f. Σκύθης Scyth) + -an.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to Scythia, an ancient region extending over a large part of European and Asiatic Russia, or to the nomadic people by whom it was inhabited.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* XV. 312 Hypanis That springeth in the Scythian hilles. 1587–90 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i. 44 Tamburlaine, that sturdie Scythian thiefe. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 630/1 For though it [Nomadism] be an old Scythian use, yet it is very behoofull in that countrey of Ireland. *a* 1625 Beaum. & Fl. *Four Plays in One, Tri. Death* vi, What Scythian snow so white? what crystal chaster? 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 14 The irruptions of northern or Scythian barbarians. 1882 Ruskin *Bible of Amiens* iii. 100 The northern kingdoms are moated from the Scythian desert by the Vistula.

transf. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xviii, All the domestic accommodations of milk, poultry, butter, &c., were out of the question in this Scythian camp.

2. Special collocations: **Scythian antelope** = Saiga; **Scythian disease** [for the reason for the name, cf. Herodotus I. cv], atrophy of the male organs of generation, accompanied by loss of masculine attributes (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898); **Scythian insanity**, the mental perversion occurring in the Scythian disease, manifested in the assumption of female dress and habits (*ibid.*); † **Scythian lamb**, = Barometz; **Scythian stone**, some mineral.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 147 The gall of this beast [*sc.* the Dart] mixed with the Sythian Stone, yealdeth a very good Eye-salue. 1659 R. Lovell *Herbal* 524 Scythian Lamb *Agnus Scyth.* 1781 Pennant *Quadrupeds* I. 86 Scythian Antelope. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* II. 339 The Saiga or Scythian Antelope, is an inhabitant..of all the deserts from the Danube and the Dnieper to the river Irtish.

†**3.** *Philol.* Used as a designation for the Ural-Altaic family of languages. *Obs.*

1885 Whitney *Philol.* in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 779/1 Ural-Altaic (Scythian, Turanian) Family.

B. *sb.*

1. A person belonging to the race by which Scythia was inhabited; = Scyth.

1543 Becon *Invect. agst. Swearing, Cert. Laws* Wks. 1560 I. 223 b, The law among the Scythyans was y^t, if [etc.]. 1590 Marlowe *and Pt. Tamburl.* III. v, Raile not proud Scythian. 1596 *Edward III*, II. i. 72 That it may rayse drops in a Tarters eye, And make a flyntheart Sythian pytifull. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvi. (1787) II. 563 *note*, In speaking of all, or any, of the northern shepherds of Europe, or Asia, I indifferently use the appellations of *Scythians*, or *Tartars*. 1883 Morfill *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 38, I shall not discuss the question here as to whether the Scythians were a Mongolian or Indo-European race.

2. The language of Scythia.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* I. i. § 3. 3 The European Tartar, or Scythian, from which some conceive our Irish to have had its original.

3. Comb. *Scythian-like* adj. and adv.

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 632/2 The old English also which there remayneth have gotten up theyr cryes Scythian-like, as the Geraldins Croum-abowe. *Ibid.* 633/1, I thought this manner of lewd crying and howling not impertinent to be noted as uncivill and Scythian-like.

Scythic (si·þik), *a.* [ad. L. *Scythicus*, a. Gr. Σκυθικός, f. Σκύθ-ης Scyth.] Scythian.

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. 5 But we shall hence, some to the thirsty Moore, To swift Oront of Creet, to Scythicke shore. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 20 The Arimaspi..not seldome from their Scythic holes attempting the conquest of Mammon inclos'd in the Rhyphean hills. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., Turkey in Asia* II. 15 The original population of these regions consisted chiefly of Scythic nations. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* xxiii. § 12 (1881) 473 *note*, The Scythic element in the population of Western Asia.

†**Scy·thical,** *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AL.] Befitting the Scythians, barbarous.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* Pref. A ij b, There is also..a heauenlye water..whiche boothe Democritus and Mercury Trimegistus knewe : callinge it sometimes a deuine water, somtimes a Scythicall liquor. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 20 Such Schythicall..torturing and massacring of Men.

Scything (səi·ðiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SCYTHE *v.* + -ING 2.] That cuts like a scythe.

1822 'B. CORNWALL' *Flood of Thessaly* I. 448 Fierce as the North In March, when scything blasts strip all the bones.

†**Scy·thism.** *Obs.* [ad. late Gr. Σκυθισμός, f. Σκύθης SCYTH : see -ISM.] a. The type of paganism to which the religion of the Scythians belonged. b. (See quot. 1793.)

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Gen.* Contin. Ch. 48 The second mother of al Sectes beginning after the floud..was Scythisme. 1793 HELY tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* Pref. 59 The Scythians are looked upon to be the most ancient people. *Ibid.* 70 Wherefore that interval of time..between the deluge and the Babylonian monarchy..is denominated a scythesm, as Epiphanius affirms. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 86 From their supposed founders..we may call the one Scythism, and the other Ionism.

Scy·thized, *a. rare.* [f. L. *Scyth-a* SCYTH + -IZE + -ED 1.] Assimilated to the Scythians.

1861 W. L. BEVAN *Student's Man. Anc. Geog.* I. iii. § 7 (1864) 35 The inhabitants of this district were partly Scythized Greeks, but mainly Scythians.

Scytho- (səi·θo), combining form of L. *Scytha, Scythēs* SCYTH ; prefixed (with hyphen) to ethnic sbs. or adjs. with the sense 'partly Scythian and partly . . .', as in *Scytho-Aryan, -Greek, -Median.*

1844 W. D. COOLEY *Larcher's Notes on Herod.* IV. cv. II. 57 The Scytho-Greeks. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* xxiii. § 10 (1881) 472 *note*, Which is sometimes expressed by calling them Scytho-Aryans. *Ibid.* § 12. 473 The Persian and Scytho-Median columns [of the Achæmenid inscriptions].

'Sdeath (zdeþ), *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* A euphemistic abbreviation of *God's death* (see GOD *sb.* 14 a) used in oaths and asseverations.

1606 *Sir. G. Goosecappe* I. ii, S'death they put not all their virtues in their smockes..as our Ladies doe. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 221 Sdeath. 1616 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, 'Sdeath, he mads me. 1697 CIBBER *Woman's Wit* III. 31 S'Death, Sir, is that a Question to ask a Dying Man? 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 61 'Sdeath I'll print it. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xl, 'Sdeath ! to think on it is distraction ! 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1279 'Sdeath ! Here's a coil raised.

†**Sdeign,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 6 sdeigne, sdaine. [ad. It. *sdegno*, f. *sdegnare* : see next.] Disdain.

1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* v, Scorn of base things, & sdeigne of foule dishonor. 1596 — *F. Q.* v. v. 51 So she departed, full of griefe and sdaine.

†**Sdeign,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 s'dain, sdaine, sdayn, s'deigne, 7 sdain, sdein. [ad. It. *sdegnare*, aphetic var. of *disdegnare* to DISDAIN. Sometimes used as an English shortening of *disdain.*]

1. *trans.* = DISDAIN *v.* in various senses.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 40 They sdeigned such lasciuious disport. *Ibid.* 55. 1591 — *M. Hubberd* 679 As if he.. sdeign'd the low degree. 1596 — *F. Q.* v. v. 44 Yet durst she not disclose her fancies wound,..for doubt of being sdayned. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* XXV. B 5, Sdaine nott that our harsh plaints should beate your eares. 1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* A a 3, Come welcome Guest : s'deigne not..this shot-free entertainement. 1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Tears Death Mæliades* A 3 b, The Shepheards left their Flocks with downe-cast Eyes, Sdaining to looke vp to the angrie Skies. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 50 Lifted up so high I sdeind subjection.

2. *intr.* = DISDAIN *v.* 3.

1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. ii. H 4 b, Why yongling, s'dainst thou so of Mortimer?

†**Sdei·gnful,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **sdainfull,** 8 **'sdeignfull.** [f. SDEIGN *sb.* + -FUL.] Disdainful.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 33 In sdeignfull wize he drew vnto him neare. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 22 A Sdainfull thought through Hatred doth arise. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VII. xliii. 125 The Prince (whose lookes his sdainfull anger show). *Ibid.* XX. CXXVIII. 389 She shrikes, and twines away her sdeignfull eies. 1748 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistress* xxix. in Dodsley *Poems* I. 259 As he who now with 'sdeignfull fury thrill'd Surveys mine work ; and levels many a sneer.

†**'Sdeynes,** *int. Obs.* Shortened form of *God's deynes, God's dines* : see DINES.

1616 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, 'Sdeynes, I know not what I should say to him, I' the whole world. [1601 *reads* Faith...] *Ibid.* II. ii, 'Sdeynes, and I swallow this, Ile nere draw my sword..againe. [1601 *reads* S'blood and I...]

†**'Sdi·ggers,** *int.* = *God's diggers* (see GOD *sb.* 14).

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 25 S'diggers.

‖ **Sdru·cciola,** *a. Obs. rare.* [It. *sdrucciola* (sc. *rima*), fem. of *sdrucciolo*), lit. 'slippery', whence Sp. *esdrújulo*, used similarly with reference to versification.] Epithet of that kind of rhyme in which the words ending the lines are accented on the antepenultimate ; trisyllabic (rhyme).

English writers on verse have sometimes used *sdrucciole*, or the phrase *versi sdruccioli*, as a foreign technical term, esp. in referring to Italian poetry.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 71 Lastly, euen the very ryme it selfe, the Italian cannot put in the last silable, by the French named the Masculine ryme, but still in the next to the last, which the French call the Female ; or the next before that, which the Italians terme *Sdrucciola.* The example ..of the *Sdrucciola* [is] *Femina, Semina.* 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i. 176 In any Rime Masculine, Feminine, Or Sdruciolla [*printed* Sdruciolla].

†**Se,** *pron.* (*def. art.*) *O.E.* and early *M.E.* : see THE.

Se, obs. form of SAY *sb.*3

Se, obs. form of So *adv.*, SEE *sb.* and *v.*, SHE.

Se-, *prefix*, occurring only in Latin derivatives, represents the L. *sē-*, identical with the OLatin *sē* (also *sēd*) prep. and adv., without, apart. With prepositional force the L. *sē-* occurs in one or two adjs., as *sēcūrus* secure (from **sē cūrā* without care) ; with advb. force (= apart) it is chiefly found in verbs, of which the following (as also their derivatives) have come into English in adapted forms : *sēcēdĕre, sēcernĕre, sēclūdĕre, sēdūcĕre, sēgregāre, sēparāre.* The form *sēd-* occurs in *sēditio* sedition (lit. 'going apart').

The L. *sē, sēd* is believed to be related to the pronoun *sĕ*, oneself. It is disputed whether the *d* of *sēd* is an ablative sign or represents a particle *-de.*

Sea (sī), *sb.* Forms : 1 sǽ, (2 seo), 2–3 sæ, 2–6 se, see, 4 (*Ayenb.*) ze, (seo, sse), 4–5 cee, 4–6 *Sc.* sey, 6 *Sc.* seye, sie, 2– sea. *Pl.* 1 sǽs, sǽas, sǽe, 4 sen, 4–5 sees, 4–6 (chiefly *Sc.*) seis, 6 seaes, sease, (saezes), seeis, *Sc.* seyis, seyes, 6– seas. [Common Teut. : OE. *sǽ* str. masc. and fem. corresponds to OFris. *sē* masc., OS. *sēo, sēu*, dat. *sēwa* masc. (MLG. *sē*, MDu. *see* masc. and fem., Du. *zee* fem.), OHG. *sēo, sē*, dat. *sēwe* masc., sea, lake, pond (MHG. *sē* masc. and fem., sea, lake, mod.G. *see* masc., lake, *see* fem., sea), ON. *sæ-r, sjá-r, sjó-r* masc. (Sw. *sjö*, Da. *sø*), Goth. *saiw-s* masc., sea, also marsh :—OTeut. **saiwi-z.*

The word has no certain affinities, and it is doubtful whether the *w* represents a pre-Teut. *w* or (by Verner's Law) a pre-Teut *g*" (or *kw*). On the assumption of a guttural root, and of the priority of the sense 'marsh' (occurring in Gothic) it has been suggested that the word may be cogn. w. OHG. *gīsig* (*gisic, gesik*), found in glosses as a collective for ponds or marshes (*stagna, paludes*), and with the OHG. *sīgan* to flow down, sink, OE. *sīgan* to descend : see SYE *v.*]

I. The simple word.

1. The continuous body of salt water that covers the greater part of the earth's surface. Often *poet.* with epithet as *broad, deep* (see DEEP *a.* 1), †*large, salt* (see SALT *a.*1 1), †*side, wide, wild*, etc.

Since Early Middle English always with prefixed article, exc. in phrases with preps. (see esp. 1 c and 10–17).

Beowulf 2394 Ofer sæ side. *c* 1205 LAY. 30496 On þare sæ brade. *c* 1275 *Moral Ode* 82 in *O. E. Misc.* 61 He makede fysses in þe sea. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2163 In an yle, amid the wilde see. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1098 Fletynge in the large see. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1982 Blouen to þe brode se. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* 6553 Toward the cee he rode a pase. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 46 This precious stone, set in the siluer sea. 1647 H. MORE *Philos. Devot.* 32 As the thankfull Rivers pay What they borrowed of the Sea. 1779 COWPER *Olney Hymns* III. xv. 3 God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform ; He plants his footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm. 1807 WORDSW. *Sonn. to Liberty* I. xii, Two Voices are there ; one is of the sea, One of the mountains ; each a mighty Voice. 1842 TENNYSON *Farewell* 1 Flow down, cold rivulet, to the sea.

b. For *ocean sea, sea ocean, sea of ocean,* see OCEAN *sb.* 1. Also *the great sea (of ocean).*

c 1290 *St. Michael* 632 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 317 The gret se of occean. *Ibid.* 654 Þe eorþe amidde þe grete se ase a luyte bal is round. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 67 Our all the grit se occeane. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. ix. 14 Neir by the end of the gret occiane see, Thar as the son..gois doun.

c. Often coupled with *land*, to express the idea of the whole surface of the earth ; similarly †*sea and earth, sea and sand.* Also with preps., as *by land and sea, on sea or land*, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 15 Ge befarað se & eorþan þæt ge don anne elþeodine. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 281 At his wille to be, bi se & bi land. 1340 *Ayenb.* 37 Of zuichen þer byeþ uele maneres ine londe and ine ze. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 1 God þat schope both se and sand. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 50 Neither in erthe nor in see. *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's Prol.* 127 Ye seken lond and see for yowre wynnynges. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 254 Was neuer more sorweful segge bi see nor bi sand. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 8 Batailes bothe by lond and see. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 756 Quhat thow hes hard, be landis, or be seis, Off ws Kirkmen. 1805 WORDSW. *Elegy. Stanzas, Peele Castle* 15 The light that never was, on sea or land. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 300 Cimon and Lysander, Pompey and Agrippa, had fought battles by sea as well as by land.

d. *pl.* Different parts or tracts of the ocean. (Often merely *poet.* or *rhetorical*, like *waters.*)

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xciii. 2 He ofer seas [Vulg. *super maria*] zesteadelade hie. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* I. 10 And God gecigde þa drignisse eorðan and þæra wætera zegaderunga he het sees [Vulg. *maria*]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Lyfe the Auditence* 44 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 49 Shipmen..that haue experience In trouble seis. 1550 BP. DAY in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. III. 303 No lesse vnpleasaunt..than it is to the merchaunte to sayle againe in those seeis wherin he hathe suffered shipwrack before. 1600 *Will* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* (1902) XVII. 121 In the name of Gode, the maker of heven and yerth, the sneezes and all that therin ys. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. ii. 62 This my Hand will rather The multitudinous Seas incarnadine. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Nightingale* vii, Magic casements, opening on the foam Of perilous seas. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* iv. 18 To carry thence a master o'er the surly seas.

e. In a more or less pregnant use, with reference to naval operations, the shipping trade, the profession or employment of a sailor, life on shipboard, etc. *To keep the sea* : to prevent the enemy from occupying it, to keep it clear for one's own ships and traffic.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 161 Bernard of Bayoun, þat was kepand þe se [orig. *he la mer gardait*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 276 He wolde the see were kept for any thing Bitwixe Middelburgh and Orewelle. 1414 26 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 108 Whanne ze han made pes wiþynne,..Strengþe ȝoure marche, and kepe þe see. 15.. *'Doun by ane Rever'* 41 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) II. 306 Gif thow beis ane marchand man, And wynnis thy living be the see. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 18 Thys yere the lorde Talbot..was made.. amyralle of the see. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 489 To be Master of the Sea, is an Abridgement of a Monarchy. *Ibid.* 491 The Command of the Seas. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 64 Who did not think that the fleet could have been so soon ready for sea. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 178 Without the assistance of the sea, the best dispositions in Italy are useless. 1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 9 His Friends..put him on board a Man of War, but neither the Sea, nor any settled Employ agreeing with his wandering Inclinations, he soon forsook the King's Service. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. v. I. 447 The antient Egyptians had a superstitious antipathy to the sea. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 302 As soon as he came back from sea he was made Colonel of a regiment of foot. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 304/1 We are afraid that few Englishmen at present claim the sovereignty of the seas for their country.

f. Proverbs, proverbial phrases, and similitudes.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 33 A heart As full of sorrowes, as the Sea of sands. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iv. 103 As hungry as the Sea. 1637–1894 [see DEVIL *sb.* 22 b]. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way to win Wealth* 45 *marg.*, The Sailors Prouerbe : The Sea and the Gallowes refuse none.

g. High sea. (Now usually *pl.*) The deep or open sea ; the main sea or main. *spec.* in *Law* (*sing.* and *pl.*) : (*a*) The main sea ; the sea as far as it is regarded as being within the jurisdiction of the courts of admiralty ; (*b*) The area of the sea not within the territorial jurisdiction of any nation, but the free highway of all nations.

Cf. F. *haute mer*, L. *altum* (*mare*), and the OE. compound *hēahsǽ* quoted below.

[*a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xi. 3 Se is eac wealdend woruldgesceafta heofones & eorðan & heahsæ.] *c* 1300 *Havelok* 719 And sone did he leyn in [a ship] an ore, And drou him to þe heye se. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 61 He sa3e þam in þe hiȝe see sailand to-gedire. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 27 Whan they were well on the waye oute of the lande, in the hye see. *c* 1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 155 They..came in to the hye see and had wynde at wyll. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. iv. 107 The main or high seas are part of the realm of England. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. xvii. 226 They had heard of the frigate Phœbe and the Isaac Todd being on the high seas. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. 580 Piracies and felonies committed on the high seas.

2. A part of the general body of salt water, having certain land-limits or washing a particular coast, and having a proper name, as *the Red, Black, Irish, Adriatic Sea.* †*The great sea* : the Mediterranean. *The Severn Sea* (arch.) : the Bristol Channel. †Formerly sometimes in pl., as *the Red, Irish, Indian Seas* ; cf. NARROW SEAS.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxv. 13 Se todaelde ðone readan sae. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 636 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 317 Ech oþur se among us here, ne beo heo so gret non, Nis bote a lime of þulke se. 1382 WYCLIF *Numb.* xxxiv. 6 The west plage forsothe shal begynne fro the greet see. [So 1611 and 1884 (*Revised*).] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 362 To passe over the grete See To werre and sle the Sarazin. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* viii. 13 To the Turk sey all land did his name dreid. 1533 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* I. (1541) A i, Pharo..quhais son.. wes drownit..wt all his armyin yᵉ reid seis. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* v, The Beare, that in the Iryshe seas had dipt His grisely feete. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 167/1 The Danes..comming into the Seuerne sea. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way to win Wealth* 20 When as they [*sc.* herrings] come into Yermouth Seas yearely about S. Luke, and sometimes before. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 43 The River Indus, which their ingulfes herselfe into the Indian Seas. 1635 SWAN *Spec. Mundi* vi. § 2 (1643) 187 The sea, is a part of the ocean, to which we Cannot come but through some strait. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Sept., We sailed over a sea call'd the Plaet, which is an exceeding dangerous water. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 578/2 Any part of the ocean marked off from the general mass of water may be called a sea. In geography the name is loosely applied : for instance, the Arabian Sea is an open bay, Hudson's Bay is an enclosed sea.

b. *The four seas* : the seas bounding Great Britain on the four sides. Phr. *Within the four seas* = in Great Britain.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 30 þe chef lordes..þat bes of plener age ant bi þinne þe four sen ant out of prisone. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4406 Þe soile ne þe foure sees suffice ȝowe nouthire. 1642, 1886 [see FOUR *a.* 1].

c. *Astr.* The name of 'seas' is still given to those darker portions of the moon's surface which were formerly supposed to be covered with water.

1873 PROCTOR *Moon* 383 Index to the Map of the Moon. Table I. Grey Plains, usually called Seas.

3. A large lake or landlocked sheet of water,

whether salt or fresh. *Obs.* exc. in *inland sea* and in proper names, as the Sea of Galilee, the Dead Sea, the Caspian Sea, the Sea of Aral.

*c*893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 9 Þeah sume men secgen þæt [the Nile] þær wyrcð miceline sæ [*vastissimo lacu exundare*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vi. 1 Æfter þyson for se hælend ofer þa galileiscan sæ, seo is tiberiadis. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 And te swin anonriht urnen & adreinten ham suluen iðer see. *c* 1250 — [see DEAD SEA]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 275 A myle wes betuix the seis. 1590 [see INLAND B. 1]. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 186 This [the Caspian], as other Seas, is a gathering together of perpetual Waters nourished with Springs. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 176/1 The Caspian Sea..is the largest of those salt lakes or closed inland seas which may be considered as 'survivals' of former oceanic areas.

4. The volume of water in the sea considered in regard to the ebb and flow of the tide. † *Full sea*, high tide (also *fig*). † *The sea was in*, it was high water.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 176 Þonne þu wyte þæt sæ si ful. *c* 1205 LAY. 22019 Whænne þa sæ vledeð. *Ibid.* 22025 Þenne þa sæ falleð in. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 35 The See now ebbeth, now it floweth. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 46 In which place of the firmament the mone being, maketh fulle see. 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 419 The sey was in, at thai stoppyt and stud; On loud he cryt and bad thaim tak the flud. *a* 1500 *Brut* (Lamb. MS.) 583 Remembres how ye drowned at full see. 1536 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 58 Goyng from the porte of London at a full see with a full wynde. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 27 A Satyrrical Roman in his time thought all vice, folly, and madness were at a full sea. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 181 But it was now full Sea with Philip his Affairs. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* III. 512 During spring tides these sluices are opened, and at full sea they are shut.

5. With an epithet indicating the roughness or smoothness of the waves, the presence or absence of swell, etc. Hence without qualification = a heavy swell, rough water.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. § 1 Ful oft we fageniað smyltre sæ. *c* 1205 LAY. 12005 Þe sæ wes wunder ane wod and ladliche iwraðed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 282, I wode as doth the wylde Se. 1555 TOWRSON in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 103 We..found the entrance very ill, by reason that the sea goeth so high. 1641 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Sept., We.. sailed again with a contrary and impetuous wind, and a terrible sea. *c* 1743 WOODROOFE in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lix. 275 When there is any sea, the breakers are visible. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 114 We found a large under-rolling Sea. 1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* s.v., A long sea implies an uniform and steady motion of long and extensive waves; on the contrary, a short sea is when they run irregularly, broken, and interrupted, so as frequently to burst over a vessel's side or quarter. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxviii, We were now past Devil's Point, and the sea was very heavy. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* xx, It was pitch-dark, a good deal of sea on. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* xi, Some ship in distress, that cannot live In such an angry sea! 1865 *Daily Tel.* 8 Dec. 5/6 During the passage..they had continued fine weather, and no sea.

b. The direction of the waves or swell.

1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Sea*..is..applied by sailors..to their [waves'] particular progress or direction. Thus they say,..the sea sets to the southward. Hence a ship is said to head the sea, when her course is opposed to the setting or direction of the surges. *Ibid.* II, *Franchir la lame*, to head the sea; to sail against the setting of the sea.

c. A large heavy wave.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Theire ships too larboord doo nod, seas monsterus haunt theym. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 93 Two huge broken Seas, which twice couered the..boat. 1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Sea*..is.. applied by sailors, to a single wave...Thus they say, a heavy sea broke over our quarter, or we shipped a heavy sea. 1861 LADY DUFF-GORDON in F. Galton *Vac. Tourists* (1864) 121 A sea struck us on the weather side. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 26 The heavy fresh-water seas broke with great violence on the weather shore.

6. *Salt* or *bitter sea*: sea-water. *poet.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii. G 3 b, They'l..eat like salt sea in his siddowe ribs. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 622 His finny Flocks about their Shepherd play, And rowling round him, spirt the bitter Sea. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* XXI, The salt sea was frozen on her breast.

7. *fig.* With reference to metaphorical sailing, drowning, waves, etc.; also, a copious or overwhelming quantity or mass (*of* something). See also 4.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 On ðessere michele sea of ðare bitere woreld. 1574 HIGINS *Mirr. Mag.* I. Induct. v, Sithe those on whom, for Fortunes giftes we stare, Oſte sooniste sinke in greatest seas of care. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 59 A whole Sea of examples woulde present themselues. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 59 To take Armes against a Sea of troubles. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 360, I haue ventur'd.. This many Summers in a Sea of Glory, But farre beyond my depth. 1632 MASSINGER *Emp. East* III. ii, The peoples ioy In seas of acclamations flow in, To wait on yours. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 718 In a troubl'd Sea of passion tost. 1692 T. WATSON *Body Divin.* 365 Men will for a drop of Pleasure drink a Sea of Wrath. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* I, The elder traveller..plunged, nothing loath, into a sea of discussion concerning urns, vases [etc.]. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, To waste whole seas of time upon those who pay it back in little inconsiderable drops of grudging applause. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 220 A complex sea of forces and passions trouble men in life and in action.

8. *transf.* **a.** A large level tract (*of* some material substance or aggregate of objects).

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. x, In al this sandy sea, is found no water. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Nov., We could perceive nothing but a sea of thick cloudes. 1654 *Ibid.* 22 July, After dinner,..we passed over the goodly plaine, or rather sea of carpet. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 440 So on this windie Sea of Land, the Fiend Walk'd up and down alone. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 598/2 The billows of an immense sea of sand surrounding the whole army. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 655 All the space as far as Charing Cross was one sea of heads. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXXVII, His uncle's wife, in a criminal dock, hemmed in on every side by a sea of eager faces. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 340 The open country extends in a sea of green vegetation.

b. Hyperbolically, a great quantity of liquid, esp. (in figurative context) of blood. So, allusively, *Red Sea* (see 2), with reference to blood or wine.

1598 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* iii. 323 And all this while the red sea of her blood Ebd with Leander. 1646 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* vii. 83 Oyl-steep'd Anchovis, landed from his brine, Came freely swimming in red seas of wine. 1756 BURKE *Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 77 These wars, which have spilled such seas of blood. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, We will have one of Friar Bacon's pupils..to conjure them [such troublesome thoughts] away..—Or, what say you to laying them in a glorious red sea of claret, my noble guest? 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 239 The ghost of a creed..may be laid, after all, only in a Red Sea of blood.

9. *Antiq.* The great brazen laver in the Jewish Temple. [Literally from Heb.]

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* vii. 23 He made forsothe the 3oten see. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 47 Thilk see of brasse Whilk in the entree of the Temple of Jerusalem sette was. 1899 SAYCE *Early Israel* vi. 251 In the court of the temple was a 'sea' or 'deep', like that which was made by Solomon.

II. Phrases.

10. At sea. a. Out on the sea, on ship-board; (sailing, trafficking, fighting, etc.) on the sea; in employment as a sailor. Also † *at the seas.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13284, At see saint Iohn and Iam he fand. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. v. 4 Wee discouered at the Seas [Fr. *en plaine mer*] two Foystes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 177 Thou knowst that all my fortunes are at sea. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIV. v. II. 491 The beake-heads..which were taken from them in a conflict at sea. 1672 C. MANNERS in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 24 The Duke is at sea allready, to draw by his example others to the fleete. *a* 1687 SIR W. PETTY *Polit. Arith.* iii. (1690) 55 To persuade the World, how considerable the King of France was..at Sea. 1793 (see AT *prep.* 5). 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix, I have not been long at sea, and, of course, cannot know much about these things.

b. *fig.* In a state of mind resembling the condition of a ship which is out of sight of land and has lost her bearings; in a state of uncertainty or perplexity, at a loss. Also *all at sea.*

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxvii. 440 If a court of equity were still at sea, and floated upon the occasional opinion which the judge who happened to preside might entertain of conscience in every particular case. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 486 If there were not the same rules of property in all courts, all things would be as it were at sea; and under the greatest uncertainty. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. ix, Mrs. Tickit..was so plainly at sea on this part of the case..that Clennam was much disposed to regard the appearance as a dream. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 219, I was rather surprised to find that he seemed all at sea, and had no one ready to go with me.

11. Beyond (the) sea or seas. Out of the country, in foreign parts, abroad. Cf. BEYOND B. 1. For *beyond-sea* as adj. see BEYOND D.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 458 Mid þy he þa ʒena wæs beʒeondan sæ wuniende. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1041 (MS. C.) Fram beʒeondan sæ. *c* 1205 LAY. 29149 Sum fleh bi-ʒeonden sæ in to Bruttaine. 1340 *Ayenb.* 165 Ine þe londe be-yende þe ze. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 28 A standyng bed, corven with estrich borde of beyond see makyng. 1536 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 56 All my goods whersoever they may be found as well on this syde the see as beyende the see. 1555 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 227 Sindry schippis cumin furth of Burdeaux, Scherand, and vtheris places beyond sey. 1590 J. SMYTH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 58 When her Majestie called me from beeyond the seas. 1640 MAY *Hist. Parl.* I. ii. 23 The Reformed Churches beyond the Seas. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Oct., He is a very ingenious man, and a great scholar, and has been beyond sea. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* XXXII, The husband, or lover, may have been out of the way —beyond seas, perhaps.

12. By sea. † **a.** Close to the sea, at the seaside. (Now *by the sea*). **b.** By way of the sea, on or over the sea (as a mode of transit or conveyance). **c.** In the region of the sea, at sea. (See also sense 1 c.)

c 1205 LAY. 1485 Heo forð fusden toward sele Brutun þer he bi sæ wonede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 615 Send the Kyng by se Till Balmeburch in his awne cuntre. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1131 Few fled with him, and gat away be see. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 489 We see the great Effects of Battailes by Sea. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 6 One of my Companions being going by Sea to London. *Ibid.* 293, I had been very unfortunate by Sea. [1836 LONGF. (*title*) The Castle by the Sea.] 1891 LD. HOBHOUSE in *Law Times Rep.* LXV. 562/2 From the Melbourne factory they carried butterine by sea to Sydney.

† **13. By long sea.** Short for *by long sea passage*: see LONG *a.*[1] 18. Also *by the long seas.*

1645 EVELYN *Diary* Aug., I made a collection of divers curiosities..which I sent for England by long sea. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 290 Two dispatches are sent to our fleet at Cadiz, one by way of the Groyn, the other by long sea. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. iii. II. 265 To pass into Ireland, either by the long Seas, or by Bristow.

14. On or upon the sea. (In early use *on* or *upon sea*.) **a.** On the sea's surface, afloat, at sea, on shipboard. In OE. also = in the sea. **b.** Of a dwelling, etc.: At the sea's edge, on the sea-coast.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xiii. (1890) 48 We..oððe sticode beoð oððe on sæ adruncene. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 94 For hwi ne fixast þu on sæ. *O. E. Chron.* an. 877, Þa mette hie micel yst on sæ. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13296 Þatt iss to farenn uppo sæ, To fisskenn affterr fisskess. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9795 Colgrim had a broþer on þe se. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 48 Þorow losse on þ* se. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 83 For he him-self is on þe se with siche a somme armed. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 327, I fled in to Spayn to Alaffre vpon the see. 1560 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1897) II. 25 The marrynors ..in eny ship or vessel laboring and travayling upon the seaes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 711 The Bastard.. made sayle with all haste, and roued on the Sea, as before he was accustomed. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. of Art* 97 In a clear-wall'd city on the sea. 1860 W. WHITING *Hymn*, '*Eternal Father, strong to save*' 6 O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

15. Over (the) sea. a. Of motion: Across the sea, to the other side of the sea. **b.** Of position: On the other side of the sea; abroad. Cf. OVER-SEA *a.* and *adv.*, OVER-SEAS *adv.*

O. E. Chron. an. 894 (end) Ond þæt wæs ymb twelf monað þæs þe hie ær hider ofer sæ comon. *c* 1205 LAY. 3502 Ouer sea icomen, hauene sone anomen. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 25 He..ferde ouer the see, & conquerd Normundie. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 392 If I sent ouer see my seruantz to Bruges. 1458 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 300 Ther marchandys, the wyche they takyth ovre the se. 1583–1886 [see OVER-SEAS *adv.*]. 1616–1895 [see OVERSEA *adv.*]. 1845 BROWNING *Time's Revenges* I I've a Friend, over the sea.

16. To sea (also † *to the sea*). Out on the water, on a voyage, or on ship-board. *To go to sea*, to go aboard ship, go on a voyage; to enter upon, or follow, the profession of a sailor; † also with ellipsis of the verb. *To put, put off, put out, to sea*: see PUT *v.*[1] 7, 8, 45 n, 47 j. *To stand out to sea*: see STAND *v.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xiii. (1890) 48 Us drifað þa ellreordan to sæ. *c* 1205 LAY. 19368 To þere sa heo wenden. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 11968 Hii seileden [down the Thames] forte hii to see come. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 474 Til I percase a-pone a day saw men of luby & egipe hast þame to sey, for to schype. 1488 *Paston Lett.* III. 344 All suche capeteyns as wente to the see in Lente..makythe them redy to goo to the see ageyn as schortely as they can. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* CCXVII. 216 Wherefore if any be desirous to vomit, let them rather go to the Sea. 1591–5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 209 Let him to sea. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 41, I waited upon the Lord Clarendon and some other Gentlemen to Sea. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 53 The Ottoman Fleet..putting to sea from Constantinople, Landed in Candy. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 61 He knew I was not allowed an ounce of fresh provisions to sea with me. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 550 On the afternoon of the second of May he stood out to sea before a favourable breeze.

17. To take the sea (also † *to take sea, the seas*, ME. *to nim the sea*). To go on board ship, embark; to start on a sea-voyage, launch forth, put out to sea (said also of the ship). Cf. F. *prendre la mer.*

c 1205 LAY. 1281 Bi Ruscikadan heo nomen þa sæ. *Ibid.* 4966 Þer he þa sæ nom. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4099 And Achilles toke the see With his vitayles and his naue. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 530 Reynawde dyde doo hale vp saylle, & toke the see. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287 The maryners,..beeyng lothe to take y* seaes, Pompeius hymself first of al entreed into the shippe. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 366 For want of skill they could not take the seas, but were tossed with winde and weather, along the Coast. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 68 The 27. of April he tooke sea at Dover. 1867 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 119 The first hymn of Orpheus as Argo takes the sea. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* vii. 83 He..was able to take the sea with a fleet of eighty-four vessels. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 July 3/1 All the ships ..are able to touch 24 knots, but their lines and the way they take the sea is cause of common complaint.

III. Attributive uses and combinations.

18. Simple attributive: **a.** Of or belonging to the sea or a sea, as *sea-arm, -basin, bed,* † *-bore, brim, -brink,* † *-flash, -floor, harbour, -haven, -marge, -pull, -spray, -tide, -wave.*

1637 HEYWOOD *Descr. Royall Ship* (1638) 28 The Great Colosse..who bestrid The spacious Rhodian *Sea-arme. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 203 Between the islands runs a narrow sea-arm. 1884 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* xiv. (1886) 123 Most of the great *sea-basins. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 142/2 So as to stain the whole *sea-bed for 1000 feet or yards in depth. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (Small) 135 That betes thaim wit dede and word Als *se bare betes on schip bord. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 225 With blood the *sea-brimme blusht. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* I. iii, A country full of life and animation even to its sea-brim. *a* 1300 *Horn* 751 (Camb. MS.), Bi þe *se brinke No water þe na drinke. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 84 On the sea-brink, another train they met. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 7 Sometimes the surges or *Sea-flashes doe rebound top-gallant height. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 60 The variety of its rocks, aspects, and *sea-floors. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Zeehaven*, A *Sea-haven, or a *Sea-harbor. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* v. 89 No monstrous pitchy City, and Seahaven of the world! 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 69 Thy *Sea-marge sterrile. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 68 The *sea-pull drew them side by side, gunnel to gunnel laid. 1818 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 47 Withering mentions a thorny shrub..which stands the *sea-spray. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* V. i. I. 90 It.. is only not overflowed by the *sea tides. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1060 The loud *sea-wave. 1880 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXV. 185 The sea-waves..sometimes reach the shore before the wind which produces them.

b. That is an attribute or quality of the sea, as *sea-blink, -calm, -murmur, -music, -roughness, -shine, -smell, -voice.*

1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xxxiii, Far away to the right I saw the *sea-blink along the edges of the sky. 1821 *Sea-calm [see *sea-roughness* below]. 1818 SHELLEY *Eugan. Hills* 347 A dell..Which the wild *sea-murmur fills. 1819— *Prometh.* III. iii. 27 And thou, Ione, shalt chant fragments of *sea-music. 1821 LAMB *Elia, Witches* (end), The billows gradually subsiding, fell from a *sea-roughness to a sea-calm, and thence to a river motion. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xiv, The greenish *sea-shine breaking through the dense foliage. 1880 SWINBURNE *Studies in Song* 179 Streak on streak of glimmering seashine crosses All the land. 1833 TENNYSON *Rosalind* ii, Fresh as the early *seasmell blown Through vineyards from an inland bay. 1859— *Guinevere* 245 And strong man-breasted things stood from the sea, And sent a deep *sea-voice thro' all the land.

c. Consisting of sea, as *sea-frontier, -lane,* †*-limit, -path, pool,* †*-tract, -valley.*

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Aug. 3/1 The *sea-frontier of England. 1878 TENNYSON *Revenge* v, And the little Revenge ran on thro' the long *sea-lane between. 1577 DEE *Memor. Navig.* 59 All, within the *Sea-limits of our Brytish Royallty. 1653 MILTON *Ps.* viii. 22 Fowl of the Heavens, and Fish that through the wet *Sea-paths in shoals do slide. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 2, I heard it often wished also..that all that land were a *Sea poole. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* p. lxxxvii, A Seapool arranged as a grotto. 1600 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 169 So huge a *sea-tract full of hauens. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 81 *Sea-valleys and the deep of skies Furnisheu several supplies.

d. (Phenomena) occurring at sea, as *sea-cloud, dew, -meteor, -storm, -sunset,* †*-tempest.*

1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* xxxvi, That *sea-cloud, in size like human hand. 1888 F. COWPER *Captain of Wight* (1889) 306 The *sea-dew glittered on spar and mast and straining sail. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 39 The above-mentioned floating lights are a kind of *sea-meteors. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 177 And now I pray you Sir,..your reason For raysing this *Sea-Storme? 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 428 Nor that it now sinks Like a *sea-sunset. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 505 A low sea-sunset glorying round her hair. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 1011 And sene þat so þe *see-tempestes Lownyt not, nor yhet toke restes.

e. (*a*) Deposited by or in the sea, as *sea-clay,* †*-gravel, -mud, -ooze, -slob,* †*-slub, -slutch,* †*-turf, -warp*; (*b*) formed by the sea, as †*sea-concretion*; (*c*) proceeding from the sea, as *sea-blast, fog, fret, -gale, haze,* etc.

1798 SOUTHEY *Henry the Hermit* 25 And underneath a rock that shelter'd him From the *sea-blast, he built his hermitage. 1531 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 183 Longe cartes caryng of see turff and *see clay from the floo marke. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 282 Others would persuade us that it [Stone-henge] is a *sea-concretion. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 171 Long belts of land and *sea-fogs, which accompany the melting of all ices. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 3), * *Sea-fret*, a wet mist, or haze proceeding from the sea inland. 1882 W. B. SCOTT *Poet's Harvest Home* 33 But still she stared across the bar Through blinding locks and blind seafret. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* i, A garden..produced such vegetables as..the *sea-gale would permit to grow. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 304 þin herte is lyche þe *see-graueł & sande, þat sokyth in, & drynketh in, all waterys, and 3it be see is neuere full. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 673 Till anon drawn thro' either chasm,..Roll'd a *sea-haze and whelm'd the world in gray. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 125/2 If their holes were stopt up with *Sea-mud, or ashes, it wou'd destroy them. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 68 All manner of *Sea-Owse, Owsie-mud, or Sea-weeds,..are very good for the bettering of Land. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, **Sea-roke*, a fog or mist suddenly approaching from the direction of the sea. 1869 *Zoologist* Ser. II. IV. 1943 A gray sea-roke drifting in across the sand-dunes. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 It was no easy matter to distinguish between salt *seascud and driving rain. 1776 M. MURRAY in *A. Young's Tour Irel.* (1780) I. 279 Part [manured] with *sea-slob and lime mixed. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 30 They vse both Orewood, Sea-sand, and *Sea-slubbe for soylings. 1795 J. HOLT *Agric. Lanc.* 126 *Sea slutch, from the Ribble and Wyre, is in some places adjacent, made use of as a substitute for marle. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 52 A full tide Rose with ground-swell, which, on the foremost rocks Touching, upjetted in spirts of wild *sea-smoke. 1531 *Sea turf [see *sea-clay* above]. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Pesaro* etc. 142 Expos'd to the Winds and Salt *Sea-Vapours. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 450/1 By introducing fascine jetty work, which greatly accelerated the deposit of the *sea warp.

f. Situated in or by the sea, as *sea-cape, -cave,* †*-city, crag, -down, -dune, -flat, -grove, -hall, -home, -marsh, -point, -quag, -scar, -terrace, -wold, -wood.*

a 1876 M. COLLINS *Th. in Garden* (1880) II. 251 *Seacapes divine which the merry winds whiten. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* VI. xxiii, But the *sea-caves rung, and the wild winds sung, The dirge of the lovely Rosabelle. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 61 Come back to the kind sea-caves! 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 29 All the *sea-cities and inland-cities of Barbarie. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Scopulus*,..a *sea-craig. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 30 Between the *sea-downs and the sea. 1885 TENNYSON *Flight* xxiii, We shall light upon..Some lodge within the waste *sea-dunes, and hear the waters roar. 1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 275 The wheat on..the *sea-flats at Havant. 1830 TENNYSON *Merman* ii, Then we would wander away..To the pale-green *sea-groves. *Ibid.*, I would fill the *sea-halls with a voice of power. *a* 1746 HOLDSWORTH *On Virg.* (1768) 400 There could be no fleet lying there, no *sea-marshes, no lines drawn across them to intercept communication. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 357/2 To be built on the *sea-point of the same Island. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* II. ii. 15 The Graden Floe and the other *sea quags that fortified the shore against invaders. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 415 Ane fair castell standand on the *se skar. 1868 LD. LYTTON *Chron. & Char., Siege Constant.*, The solemn obelisks And sombre cypress stripe with blackest shade *Sea terraces. 1884 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* xxiii. (1886) 217 Fig. 40 View of an old sea-terrace or raised beach, with sea-worn caves on its inner margin. 1830 TENNYSON *Mermaid* iii, We would run to and fro, and hide and seek, On the broad *sea-wolds in the crimson shells. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 113 A *sea-wood of alders slipping from the hill's skirts to the water's edge.

g. Occasionally = 'at the sea-side', as *sea-place, -quarters, -sojourn,* †*-watering-place.*

1824 COLERIDGE *Let. to H. F. Cary* (1895) 733 Both Mrs. G. and myself have returned much benefited by our sea-sojourn. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. xiv, 'Where's St. Leonard's?' 'Oh, the sea watering-place, close to Hastings'. *Ibid.* III. iii, The proposition of her removal to some sea-watering place. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 81 East Cliff..would be perfect as sea-quarters if it weren't for the noise. 1877 P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* 25 July (1884) 356 The nicest sea-place I have been as yet.

h. Pertaining to the sea as a sphere of warlike operations, as *sea army, battle, campaign, conquest, dominion, empire,* etc.

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 281 The arriuall of his *sea-armie. 1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Arts* s.v. *Signals*, The movements of a sea-army having a necessary dependence on the wind, they cannot [etc.]. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 12 In the yeere 1156..there was a *Sea-battell fought. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. 1875 IV. 264 This fatal conclusion of all our *Sea-champaynes. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. Argt., Brutus maintaines The siege, and Cæsars first *Sea-conquest gaines. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 58 The *Sea-Dominion of the Lydians. 1696 B. KENNETT *Rom. Antiq.* II. i. iv. (1717) 46 The *Naumachiæ*, or Places for the Shows of *Sea-Engagements. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 ¶ 2 Such an one commanded in such a Sea Engagement. 1910 *Nation* 22 Jan. 671/2 They controlled a *Sea-empire over the Aegean. 1577 DEE *Memor. Navig.* 59 Our *Sea-forces preuayling. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 444 Four *sea regiments of three thousand men a-piece. 1682 C. IRVINE *Hist. Sc. Nomencl.* Ded. *iv, By your careful Conduct, you made Britain triumph over her most powerful *Sea-Rival. 1577 DEE *Memor. Navig.* 21 Appropriat to her peculiar Iurisdiction and *Sea Royallty. *Ibid.* 5 That expert and hardy Crue of some Thousands of *Sea soldiers wold be to this Realme a Treasor incomparable. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. ii. (1710) 53 He can soon Man the same with the best Sea-Soldiers in the whole World. 1615 *Trade's Incr.* 33 This goodly engine of our *sea-state. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Jas. IV*, Wks. (1711) 64 A *sea-victory obtained by Sir Andrew Wood. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 241 This *Sea War cost the Carthaginians five hundred Quinquiremes.

i. Sea-going, as SEA-BOAT, *sea-coble, -ship.* Also in fanciful terms descriptive of various kinds of sea-going vessels, as *sea-car, -castle, -coffin,* †*-kennel, -terrier,* †*wasp.*

1851 C. L. SMITH tr. *Tasso* XVII. liv, Over the self-same paths which the *sea-car Had traced in coming, backward hence it goes. 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 16 How to make a *Sea-castle or Fortification Cannon-proof. 1841 LD. J. MANNERS *England's Trust* 18 On furthest ocean's heaving breast meanwhile Ride the sea-castles of our merchant-isle. 1878 TENNYSON *Revenge* iv, Till the Spaniard came in sight, With his huge sea-castles heaving upon the weather bow. 1505 *Berwick Reg.* in *Var. Collect.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 9 That all the *see cowbells commynge frome the se shall lande upon this syde of the water of Twede. 1565 [see COBLE¹ 2]. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 230 Many coasters were called *Sea-coffins after Mr. Plimsoll..denounced the ship-owner as the rapacious destroyer of his species. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, You shou'd be ty'd up again, in your *Sea-kennel, call'd a Ship. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* x. 22 The kynges *Seeshippe yᵗ sayled vpon the See with yᵉ shippe of Hiram. 1838 LONGF. *Beowulf* 20 He bade him a sea-ship..prepare. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk to Land's End* 275 The Fowey seamen made a remarkable reputation in their day with their little *sea-terriers. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* clii, She seems a *sea-wasp flying on the waves.

j. Pertaining to life at sea; used or worn at sea; as *sea-biscuit, -boot* (hence *sea-booted* adj.), *bread, cap,* †*-cates, coat,* †*compass*, etc. Also, characteristic of life at sea or of seamen, nautical, as *sea-bow, -gibberish, -hornpipe, -language, manners*, etc.

1680–90 TEMPLE *Ess. Health & Long Life* Wks. 1731 I. 283 A Spoonful of Powder of *Sea-bisquet. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* ix, A low rumbling of heavy *sea-boots among the benches. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Courr.* v. 107 With his *sea-booted feet cocked up on the table. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 11 My uncle after two or three *sea-bows expressed himself in this manner. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xi. 261 A hash made of dried salmon and *sea-bread. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 364 Now you haue no *sea-cap on your head. 1688 JANE BARKER *Poet. Recreat.* I. 92 The best of *Sea-Cates we wish for thy Diet. *c* 1578 FROBISHER in *Proc. Rec. Comm.* (1833) 562 At Bristo, wher his carde and his *se-clothes dyd ly to pawne. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2290/4 A black Negro..having a *Sea-Coat lin'd with white Bays. 1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* a iv b, Certaine Landmarkes..well hable to be skried, in what point of the *Seacumpase they appeare. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 81 This Instrument is generally furnished with the Sea Compass. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-pie*,..a favourite *sea-dish in rough weather. 1889 *Century Dict., Furling-line*, a line wound spirally about a sail and its yard in furling. Also called **sea-gasket*. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 929 Strike, strike our sails (the Master cryes) amain,..but hee cryes in vain; For, in his face the blasts so bluster ay, That his *Sea-gibb'rish is straight born away. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. ii. 13 Vp from my Cabin My *sea-gowne scarft about me in the darke. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 91 My Guide carried my Sea-gown, which was my covering in the night. 1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 58 He..furnishes himself with a tattered *Sea-Habit. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2256/4 With a *Sea Hankerchief about his Neck. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* I. i, *John*, You know, on our quitting harbour—, *Sir Geo.* Damn your *sea-jaw, you marvellous dolphin, give the contents of your log-book in plain English. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. vi, The doctor was amazingly shabby, in a torn and darned rough-weather *sea-jacket [etc.]. 1884 SIR F. S. ROBERTS in *19th Cent.* June 1069 *Sea-kits should be issued gratis [to the army] as required. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Offing*, in the *Sea-language, that part of the Sea a good distance from Shore. 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 358/1 A *sea lead is charged at its heavy end with a small iron tube. 1740 JOHNSON *Life Drake* Wks. 1816 XII. 99 Bred from his earliest years to the labour and hardships of a *sea life. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 35 The recurring noonday, the meridian starting-point of sea-life. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, My *sea manners were not congenial to the drawing-room. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 262/4 A *sea Neckcloth about his neck. 1659 TORRIANO, *Avaria*, a *sea-phrase, viz. a..distribution of the losse made, when [etc.]. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxxvii. 248, I suppose it to be some sea-phrase. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* x, Then there came a single call on the *sea-pipe, and that was the signal. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 538 King Agamemnon, on these men, did well-built ships bestow To passe the gulfie purple sea, that did no *sea rites know. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 172 He made an elaborate *sea-scrape with his right foot. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 400 [We] were nearly run into ourselves by a clumsy merchantman, whom we had the relief of being able to abuse in..the most racy *sea-slang. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ix. 91 Some place..where ships might refresh and supply themselves with the necessary *sea-stock for their voyage. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 349 This fruit..is very eligible for sea-stock. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* 415 All manner of Tackle, *Sea-stores, and Ammunition. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* viii, We were ordered to the dock-yard to draw sea-stores. 1603 DEKKER *1st Pt. Honest Wh.* I. ii. *Stage-dir.*, Enter Fustigo in some fantastic *sea-suit. 1710 POPE *Let. to H. C.* (1735) I. 105, I agree with you in your Censure of the Use of *Sea-Terms in Mr. Dryden's Virgil. 1898 ANSTED (*title*), A Dictionary of Sea Terms. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xi. 125 To make *Sea Venison.

k. Applied to pay received or 'due for actual service in a duly-commissioned ship' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

In sea-pay, †*at sea-wages*: (of a sailor) in actual service on the sea; (of a ship) in commission.

1490 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 1 § 2 If the Captain be at Seawages, he [shall] shew the departing..of the said Soldier.. to the Admiral of the Navy. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 29 Aug., My Lord Crewe and his friends take it very ill of me that my Lord Sandwich's sea-fee should be retrenched. 1758 *M. P.'s. Let. on R. N.* 6 When such Ships shall have been eighteen Months in Sea-pay, the Wages of the first twelve Months shall be paid. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 81/2 The fleet then left by Pepys in sea-pay comprised 76 vessels, and the men numbered 12,040.

l. Applied to works of art or literature, narratives, etc., representing the sea or life at sea, as *sea-eclogue, -sonnet, -story, -subject, -tale, -yarn*, etc. So also *sea-painter, -poet.*

1712 (*title*) Nereids: or *Sea-Eclogues. 1909 *Q. Rev.* July 140 Joseph Autran the *sea-poet of Marseilles. 1659 *Lady Alimony* III. iii. F 4, Let us have a *Sea-sonnet before we lanch forth in our Adventure-Frigot. 1855 (*title*) *Sea Stories: tales of discovery, adventure, and escapes. 1885 *Academy* 21 Nov. 338/3 Mr. Russell undoubtedly 'struck oil' with his earlier sea-stories. 1850 MARG. F. OSSOLI *Wom. in 19th Cent.* (1862) 267 Painters of *sea-subjects. 1888 F. M. CRAWFORD *With Immortals* II. 129, I used to ..listen to the *sea-tales of the sailors. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1892) 157 Spinning *sea-yarns all night.

m. Applied to nautical maps and charts, as †*sea-chart, -map, -plat*, etc. Also SEA-BOOK, -CARD I.

c 1635 N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 266 This *Sea-cart is also called a Plot. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. I. 210 The modern sea carts make it [Cyprus] only one hundred and thirty-five [miles] in length. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. iii. 157 By the true *Sea-chart you are arrived at G. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 520/2 By 1601 Mercator's projection was in use for all sea charts. 1632 SHERWOOD, A sea-card, or *Sea-map, *Carte marine, Hydrographie.* 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 405/1 There are two kinds of terrestrial maps—geographic or land maps, and hydrographic or sea maps. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 416 The Drafts or *Sea-plats being first consulted, it was [etc.].

n. By sea; also, pertaining to navigation or maritime or naval affairs; as *sea-business, -carriage,* †*-concernment, -passage, -passenger, -route, -trade, -traffic, -transport,* †*-wandering*, etc. Also SEA-VOYAGING.

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xv. 289 The hurly-burly of such as were unskilfull in *sea-business, was like to bring no lesse danger than the storms violence. 1712 M. HENRY *Daily Commun. with God* (1866) 45 Whatever your employment be, in country-business, city-business, or sea-business,..go about them in the fear of God. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. xx. 315 This wine is of a strong body,..and improves by *sea-carriage. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iii. (1876) 20 The relative values of food, clothing, metals, and sea-carriage remain the same. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* i. (1691) 27 Wherefore he whom this latter Party doth affectionately own to be their Head, cannot probably be wronged in his *Sea-concernments by the other. 1615 *Trade's Incr.* 2 A man may runne a course this way [by fishing] to enrich himselfe..more easily..then any other *sea-course can persuade vs to. 1619 HIERON *Wks.* I. 643 It is an allusion to a sea-course: When he the admirall hangs out a lanterne, and all that come behind steere to that. *a* 1586 *Sea-discipline [see LAND-SERVICE]. 1666 MARVELL *Corr.* lviii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 197 The *sea-news is not good from severall places. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 The description of our *Sea passage. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 281 Because a man has frequently to make sea-passages, he is not gifted with an immunity from sea-sickness. 1592 GREENE *and Pt. Conny-catching* Wks. (Grosart) X. 89 Syrens, who sitting with their watching eies vpon the rockes to allure *Sea-passengers to their extreame preiudice. 1858 TIMES *Curiosities of Sci.* Ser. I. 184 Ocean highways: how *sea-routes have been shortened. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xliii. (ed. 3) 372 In communication with the Continent by the shortest sea route. 1664 EVELYN *Maritime Dictnl.* I. iii. 14 Other things..done—either on or at the sea, con-

cerning *Sea-trade. 1885 J. F. PAYNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 166/2 Two insular outbreaks [of plague]..both thought to be cases of importation by *sea-traffic. 1847 WEBSTER, *Sea-traveling*, traveling by sea voyages. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 50 Like..Vlysses (well knowne vnto them by his prolixious *seawandering).

o. In designations of persons, as living or exercising their functions at sea, as *sea-boy*, *-carpenter*, *-commander*, *-friend*, *-robber*, etc.; † also occas. quasi-*adj.*, that is a sailor, nautical, as *sea-lover*, *-philosopher*, *-reader*.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 27 Canst thou (O partiall Sleepe) giue thy Repose To the wet *Sea-Boy, in an houre so rude. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* cxii. III. 38 A Hull sea-boy went to see his master when his time was out. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Scarfed*, in the *sea carpenter's language, is the same as pierced, or fastened or joined in. 1718 BLACKMORE *Alfred* III. (1723) 87 Rigid *Sea-Chiefs and turbulent of Mind. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. App., To Rdr., My design was to help the *Sea-Chirurgions. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 4 One of the last *Sea-Commanders then living bred under Queen Elizabeth. 1661 J. D[AVIES] *Civil Warres* 326 Coll. Popham one of their *Sea-Generalls. 1666 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Dec., Van Tromp, the Sea Generall. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 85 Hand-Granadoes [are]..made by *Sea-Gunners upon a Mould made with Twine. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 42 To *sea-lads under 18 not more than 22s. 6d. per month. *c*1688 PEPYS *Mem. R. N.* in Moorhouse *Pepys* (1909) 253 For ascertaining the duty of a *sea-lieutenant, and for examining persons pretending to that office. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 341 The same happened to another Sea-Lieutenant Michucow. 1707 *Sporting Mag.* X. 322 A *sea-looby that did not know how to reckon. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* IV. xii, What, has my *sea-lover lost his anchor of hope then? 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Expos. Jonah* viii. 169 These *sea-people in like sort might well thinke of the Lord, and yet not leaue their idolatry. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxii. (1760) I. 248, I was much pleased and edified with the maxims of this *sea-philosopher. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. 4, I do not here pretend to give my 'Sea-Reader a compleat system of the Navigation on the coasts of Chili, Peru, &c. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 48 3one fals *see rewir will leif in sturt. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Pyrata*, a sea-rewar, a pyrate. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 435 When the Erle..had not founde one Pirate or *Sea robber, he [etc.]. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 305 On the mast Hung the sea-robbers' fair shields, lip to lip.

p. In appellations of mythological or other imaginary beings supposed to inhabit the sea, as *sea-cattle*, *-deity*, *-giant*, *-goblin*, *-idol*, etc.

1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* l. (1722) 179 He [Proteus] is said to ride in a Chariot drawn by *Sea-Cattle, a sort of Horses with two Legs, and Tails like Fishes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 677 Neptune with his ruder *Sea-Deities. 1888 F. M. CRAWFORD *With Immortals* (1890) 294 The match between gods and *sea-giants for souls of sailors. 1823 SCOTT *Ess. Romance* (1874) 97 Begot betwixt a monster and a *sea-goblin. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* v. 161 In that cave lives Scylla, the *sea-hag. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 13 This day a solemn Feast the people hold To Dagon thir *Sea-Idol. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinarie* 22 Riding upon a *Sea-mare. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 52 How oft haue I descending Titan seene His burning lockes couch in the *Sea-queenes lap. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 24 The horrible *Sea-satyre, that doth shew His fearefull face in time of greatest storme.

q. That lives in the sea, or is found in the sea, esp. as opposed to a similar thing found or living on land, or in fresh water.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. xxii. II. 128 Others affirme, that Alimon is a sea-wort, of a salt and brackish tast. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xl. (1614) 79/2 Sea-winkles, cockles and other sea-fish. 1767 tr. *Crantz' Greenland* I. 60 Of the Land and Sea Vegetables. 1848 OWEN in *Times* 14 Nov. 9/1 The Sea Saurians of the Secondary periods of geology. 1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 329 My coat..Salt as a sea-sponge. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* s.v. *Sea-serpent*, Mesozoic sea-reptiles (*Ichthyosaurus*, *Plesiosaurus*).

19. Objective, as † *sea-binding*, *-convulsing*, † *drying*, *-framing*, *-loving*, † *-shouldering*, etc., adjs. Also † *sea-wright* sb.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv, O ye *sea-binding cleeves! *Ibid.* II. i. 10 By thickets which aray'd The high *Sea-bounding hill, so neare she went [etc.]. 1861 S. BROOKS *Silver Cord* xvii, The basin in which stood..the *sea-compelling Poseidon. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 474 The *sea-convulsing fight. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 294 Let faint Women shake At their Drad God, at their *Sea-drying Lord. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 78 The flowing Riuer Thamasis is nam'd, Whose *Sea-ensuing Tide can neare be tam'd. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 33 They..Ran in and out the long *sea-framing caves. 1862 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 700 The Dunlin..is the commonest of the *sea-loving Sandpipers. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 23 Spring-headed *Hydraes* and *sea-shouldring Whales. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 26 Bearded Goates, that on the clouded head Of any *sea-suruaying Mountaine fed. *c*1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xcv. ii, The sea is his, and he the *sea-wright was.

20. Simflative, as *sea-colour*; *sea-blue*, *-deep*, *-grey*, *-wide* adjs. Cf. SEA-GREEN.

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xc[ii], Or underneath the barren bush Flits by the *sea-blue bird of March. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 233 Three springs of hote water, of a blewish or *sea colour. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xiv, *Sea-deep, till doomsday morning, Lie lost my heart and soul. 1906 *Academy* 6 Jan. 14/1 Our ancient *sea-grey town. 1756 DYER *Fleece* IV. 220 Those [lakes] a *sea-wide surface spread.

21. Instrumental, as † *sea-partition*; *sea-bathed*, *-bounded*, † *-broke*, † *-circled*, *-deserted*, *-divided*, *-driven*, *encircled*, *-scented*, *-tossed*, † *wrecked* adjs.

1640 SANDYS *Christ's Passion* I. 80 *Sea-bath'd Hesperus, who brings Night on. 1610 NICCOLS *Winter night's Vision. Mirr. Mag.* 573 Our *sea-bounded Britanie. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, clx, As a brave Vessell, *Sea-broke, lyes to Hull. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 20 Their *sea-circled Ilands. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch* iv, The *sea-deserted sand. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* lxxviii, *Sea-Devided France. 1581 W. S. *Compend. or Briefe Exam.* 8 b, Towards what Coastes yee be *Sea dryuen. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 926 Round the *sea-encircled globe. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* 44 b, This *Sea-inuirond Ile. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 431 All now is plain, Plain as the strand *sea-lav'd. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 3 Neyther *sea particion nor distans of place can be anye lawfull excuse to be..silent. 1592 in Sir J. Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 70 *Sea rounded groundes. 1845 BROWNING *Meeting at Nt.* ii, Warm *sea-scented beach. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.* 85 (*Welcome to Sack*), Far more welcome then the happy soile, The *Sea-scourg'd Merchant, after all his toile, Salutes with tears of joy. 1744 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 32 He whom *Sea-sever'd Realms obey. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 827 *Sea-surrounded realms. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 251 She that from whom We all were *sea-swallow'd. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 3 Into as fayre a Baye As euer Merchant wisht might be the rode Wherein to ease his *sea-torne Vessels lode. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. Gower 60 Vpon whose Decke The *seas tost Pericles appeares to speake. 1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking-gl.* (1598) F 2, You returne thus *sea-wrackt as I see.

22. Locative, as *sea-based*, *-bred*, *-built*, † *-lost*, *-packed*, *-potent*, *-setting* adjs.; also *sea-setting* sb. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* 67/1 Like *seabased icebergs. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* Dram. Pers., Ben, Sir Sampson's younger Son, half home-bred, and half *sea-bred. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lvii, The *sea-built forts in dreadful order move. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* II. xi. D 1 b, As a *Sea-lost Rouer, Shee roames, but can no land of peace discouer. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sea-packed*, packed at sea or during a voyage, as fish to be sold on arrival in port. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xxviii. 9 The *Sea-potent King, And Nereids. 1685 DRYDEN *Albion & Alb.* III. i *Sea-racing Dolphins are train'd for our Motion. 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* Index 2 A *Sea-sailing Fort. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* xix. 211 My soul sank within me like a star *Sea-setting. 1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 200 [The] wan sea-setting of the moon. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 15 *Sea-wilder'd crews the mountain-stars admire.

23. Special combinations: † **sea-affairs**, nautical or naval affairs, or things occurring at sea; † **sea-agate**, ? an agate with green wave-like markings; **sea-anchor**, (*a*) (see quot. 1769); (*b*) = *drift anchor* (see DRIFT *sb.* 19 c); † **sea-artist**, a master of the art of navigation; **sea-beggar** *Hist.* [= F. *gueux de mer*], a seaman of the small fleet organized by William of Orange in 1572 to combat the Spaniards; **sea-blacking** *jocular*, the effect of sea-air in darkening the skin; **sea-bloom**, **-blossom**, a flower or blossom of marine vegetation; **sea-bow**, a phenomenon similar to the rainbow, formed by the action of light on sea-spray; † **sea-brace**, a piece of timber used to strengthen a framework against the stress of the waves; **sea-breach**, (*a*) a breaker; (*b*) an irruption of the sea; **sea-break** = prec. (*b*); **sea-brief** (see quot. 1875); **sea-bud**, a bud of marine vegetation, also *attrib.*; **sea-cap** (see quot.); † **sea-carriage**, a gun-carriage for a ship's gun; **sea-change**, a change wrought by the sea; **sea-chest**, a seaman's chest or box for his own clothing, etc.; **sea-clam**, **-clamp**, 'a clam, clamp, or forceps closed by a weight, for use with deep-sea sounding-lines' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **sea-cloth**, a painted cloth spread over the stage and moved so as to represent waves; **sea-cobble**, a pebble rounded by the action of the sea, used for paving and building; † **sea-common** (see quot.); **sea-cook**, a cook on board ship; esp. in *son of a sea-cook* used as a term of abuse; **sea-crust**, the incrustation formed on an iron ship during a sea-voyage; **sea-daddy** [cf. Du. *zeevader*], an old sailor who befriends and instructs a midshipman; † **sea-dingle**, an abyss or deep in the sea; † **sea-distemper** = SEA-SICKNESS; **sea-door**, a means of access (to a country) from the sea; † **sea-drags**, **-dust** (see quots.); **sea-edge**, the brink of the sea; also *spec.* 'the boundary between the icy regions of the "north water" and the unfrozen portions of the Arctic Sea' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); **sea-farm**, 'an area of sea-bottom devoted to the cultivation of molluscs; an oyster-farm' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **sea-fencible**, an old coastguard; **sea-fire**, phosphorescence at sea; **sea-flier**, one of the longipennine natatorial sea-birds, as gulls, etc.; **sea-fort**, a fort on the coast; **sea-gauge**, (*a*) (see quot.); (*b*) 'the depth that a vessel sinks in the water' (Webster 1828–32); **sea-gipsy**, one of a roving tribe of fishermen of Malayan type living all their life on the sea, in the Malay Archipelago; **sea-glass**, † (*a*) isinglass; (*b*) (see quot. 1895); † **sea-grave** = *sea-reeve*; **sea-grocer**, 'a sobriquet for the purser' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **sea-guard**, a guarding or protecting by sea; † **sea-gulf**, a whirlpool; † **sea-head**, ? a sea-wall or bank; **sea-horizon**, the line where sky and sea seem to meet; in *Navigation*, 'the small circle which bounds the portion of the surface visible to a spectator in the open sea' (Harbord *Gloss. Navig.* 1863); **sea-ice** (see quot. 1835), also simply, the ice of the sea, frozen sea-water; **sea-ivory**, ivory from the tusks and horns of marine mammalia; **sea-kindly** *a.*, (of a ship) easy to handle at sea; hence *sea-kindliness*; **sea-lake**, a land-locked portion of the sea, a lagoon; **sea-league**, three nautical miles; **sea-ledger**, ledger tackle (see LEDGER *sb.* 8) used in sea-fishing; **sea-letter** = *sea-brief*; **sea-loch** *Sc.*, an inlet of the sea; **sea-lock**, a lock at the marine extremity of a ship canal; **sea-log**, an official record of a ship's voyage (see also quot. 1867); **sea-lord**, a naval lord (of the Admiralty); † **sea-master**, a sailing-master; **sea-mile**, a geographical or nautical mile (see MILE *sb.*[1] 3); **sea-mine** (see MINE *sb.* 3); **sea-mountain**, (*a*) a high wave; (*b*) a mountain covered or partly covered by the sea; **sea-net**, a net used in sea-fishing; † **sea-office**, an office on board ship; **sea-pass** (see quot.); **sea-peril** = *sea-risk*; **sea-preacher**, ? = SEA-LAWYER; **sea-pup** *jocular*, a 'young sea-dog', a child of a sailor or fisherman; **sea-purple** = PURPLE *sb.* 3, also the dye derived from it; **sea-rainbow** = *sea-bow*; **sea-rake**, a rake used for collecting shell-fish, etc., a clam-rake; † **sea-rat**, a pirate; **sea-rate**, **reach** (see quots.); **sea-reeve**, an officer who took care of the maritime rights of the lord of the manor, and watched the shore and collected wrecks; **sea-risk**, 'liability to losses by perils of the sea' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **sea-run** *a.*, 'having returned to the sea after spawning, as an anadromous fish' (*Cassell's Suppl.* 1902); **sea-runner**, ? = *sea-flier*; **sea-running** *a.*, 'anadromous; entering rivers to spawn and returning to the sea' (*Cassell's Suppl.*); † **sea-ruttier** = RUTTIER; **sea-scurvy**, the form of scurvy incident to life on ship-board; **sea-sergeant** (see quot. 1867); **sea-shoal**, (*a*) a shoal of fish in the sea; (*b*) a shoal or bank in the sea; † **sea-shoe** (in *phrase*: see quot.); **sea-slope**, a slope facing the sea; **sea-sorrow** *arch.*, a catastrophe or cause of trouble at sea; **sea-speed**, the ordinary speed of a vessel when at sea, as distinguished from *full speed*; **sea-stick**, a herring cured at sea; **sea-stroke**, the stroke of a heavy wave; **sea-tan**, tan produced by exposure to sea-air; **sea-tath** (see TATH 3); **sea-time**, (*a*) time spent at sea in service; (*b*) the way of reckoning time at sea; **sea-toss** *colloq.*, 'a toss overboard into the sea' (*Cent. Dict.*); **sea-transom**, 'that which is bolted to the counter-timbers, above the upper, at the height of the port-sills' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **sea-trap**, a trap in the sea for catching fish, etc.; † **sea-trod** *a.*, sea-faring; **sea-turn**, (*a*) a gale or breeze (usually accompanied by mist, etc.) from the sea; (*b*) 'a tack into the offing' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **sea-valve**, 'any one of several valves in the bottom or side of a steamship communicating with the sea below the water-line' (*Cent. Dict.*); † **sea-wake**, the duty of watching the sea; † **sea-warth**, the sea-shore; † **sea-watch**, (*a*) a chronometer; (*b*) (see quot. 1769); **sea-wax** = MALTHA 2; **sea-wit**, a naval jester or wit; also, nautical wit or facetiousness; **sea-woman**, a mermaid; **sea-work**, a work or construction in the sea, also naval work or work on a ship or in service; † **sea-yoke**, a combination of pulleys and ropes for working the helm in stormy weather.

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. vi. (1821) 546 Conversant in *Sea-affaires. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* I. i, Since you've ..retired to live in quiet, on your estate, and had done with all sea affairs. *a*1593 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* I. 138 The wals were of discoloured Iasper stone, Wherein was Proteus carued, and o'rehead, A liuelie vine of greene *sea agget spread. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II, *Ancre du Large*, the *sea-anchor, or that which lies towards the offing. 1877 J. DIXON in *Daily News* 19 Oct. 6/4 She also had a floating bag, or sea anchor, to keep her head to windward. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. i. 138 Such young Sea-faring Men, as are desirous to be *Sea-Artists or Navigators. 1845 M. RUSSELL in *Encycl. Metrop.* XIII. 603/1 Repulsed by the *Sea-beggars, he [the Count de BOSSU] endeavoured to seek a refuge in Dort. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXX, It was surprising to see how much soap and fresh water did for the complexions of many of us; how much of what we supposed to be tan and *sea-blacking we got rid of. 1819 SHELLEY *Ode W. Wind* 29 The *sea-blooms and the oozy woods which wear The sapless foliage of the ocean. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 38 Some *sea-blossom stripped to the sun and burned At naked ebb. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rainbow*, The Marine or *Sea-Bow is a Phænomenon sometimes observ'd in a much agitated Sea. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 131 You may also extend the..Sills..toward the Sea, and thereon fix your five *Sea-braces. *c*1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* V. iii, Let me stand the shock of this mad *sea-breach, Which I'le either turne, or perish with it. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 14 You might as good attempt to stop a Sea-breach by proving the Water gets nothing by overflowing. 1884

Chamb. Jrnl. 3 May 275/1 The whole coast also suffers much from sea-breaches. *a* 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkn.* (1693) 19 How great is the power of the *Sea-break may appear from this, that...there are by the violence of the sea & winds, large stones thrown up..a great way above the rock. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 481 The lettres of marque, or *sey brevis of the Kingis of Denmark, Swaden, or ony uther foreign Prince. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 460 All kind of Ships and Vessels..shall be only obliged to shew unto the Officers acting in the Ports of the said States, ..their Passport commonly called a Sea-Brief. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 224 The Sea-letter, or Sea-brief, ..is the document which entitles the Master to sail under the Flag..of the Nation to which he belongs; and it also specifies the nature and quantity of the cargo [etc.]. 1817 SHELLEY *Pr. Athanase* II. iv. 11 The grass in the warm sun did start and move, And *sea-buds burst under the waves serene. 1830 TENNYSON *Mermaid* ii, My starry sea-bud crown. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sea-cap*, the white drift or breaks of a wave. *White horses* of trades. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xii. 64 *Sea-Carriages are made ..as the Block-maker that makes them hath Rules for. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 400 Nothing of him that doth fade, But doth suffer a *Sea-change Into something rich, & strange. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 86 Like a *Sea Chest, 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* i, His sea-chest following behind him in a hand-barrow. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sea-cloth, Theat.* 1901 *Referee* 4 Aug. 3 (Cass. Suppl.) The quicksand in 'Wrestler Joe' was crudely represented by a black 'sea-cloth'. 1810 *Hull Improv. Act* 36 Paved with such good and substantial *sea-cobbles. 1584 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 5/1 All fishermen may fish in and upon *sea-commons, that is, all such places in rivers, creeks, or bays as are covered by the water at high tide. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 82 A *Sea-Cook has been an able Fellow in the last War. *c* 1825 CHOYCE *Log Jack Tar* (1891) 30 [They] struck the landlord, and called him an out-landish son of a sea-cook in his own house. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & B.* lv, If he got any more cheek from him, or any other..post and rail son of a sea-cook. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coastwise Lights* 21 Go, get you gone up-Channel with the *sea-crust on your plates. 1899 'MARTELLO TOWER' *At School & at Sea* 80 'Mas'r Tower', said my *sea-daddy to me one quiet evening, 'I was wantin' to say a word to you, sir.' *a* 1240 *Sea dingle [see DINGLE *sb.*]. *a* 1641 FINETT *For. Ambass.* (1656) 153 Giving to the Queen some time of refreshing after her *Sea-distempers, before he would see her. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 22 So violently were Bampfylde and his Friend afflicted with the Sea-Distemper. 1861 LOWELL *Pickens-and-Stealin's Rebell.* Wks. 1890 V. 83 The seceding States, every one of which had a *sea-door open to the invasion of an enemy. 1884 JOAQUIN MILLER *Memorie & Rime* (N. Y.) 120 Portland sits at the sea-door [of Oregon]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Sea-Drags*,..any thing that hangs over the Ship in the Sea; as Shirts, Gowns, &c. or the Boat when it is towed. 1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 266/1 The dust or sand of dried lakes or river-beds is sometimes borne away into the upper regions of the atmosphere,..it may descend again to the surface, in the form of 'red-fog', *sea-dust', or 'sirocco-dust'. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 102 The Seven Icebergs are each, on an average, about a mile in length, and perhaps near 200 feet in height at the *sea-edge. 1910 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 231 The drystone dykes that marked them rose from the sea-edge dripping. 1803 SIR J. MOORE in *Tait's Mag.* (1834) I. 333/2 The Volunteers, *Sea-Fencibles, and all, were turned out. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* Note ix, The phenomenon called by sailors *Sea-fire. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Bk. Birds* IV. 175 The *Sea-fliers (*Longipennes*). *Ibid.* 219 The Oar-footed Sea-fliers (*Steganopodes*). 1879 SIR C. NUGENT in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 450/1 Fig., Plan of *Sea Fort, with continuous Iron wall. 1751 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 213 Upon the passage, I made several trials, with the bucket *sea-gage. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers*, That Eastern Ocean, where the *sea-gipsies, who live for ever on the water, enjoy a perpetual summer in wandering from isle to isle. 1848 *Simmonds' Col. Mag.* Jan. 49 The sea-gipsies skimming over the waters in prahus filled with their wives and children. 1747 COOKE in *Hanway's Trav.* (1762) I. IV. lviii. 266 We observed a great quantity of *sea-glass [*note* Commonly called isinglass, of which lanthorns are made]. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 240/1 Our object in visiting the reefs was to look through the sea-glasses, which consist of funnels of wood about a yard long, with a piece of glass at the lower end. 1583 in *N. Riding Rec.* (1894) I. 250 [They] have had *seagroves [*read* seagraves] chosen..from tyme to tyme for the presenntynge of all such wreckes and Regall fishes. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. v. 366 It was Grenville who introduced a more than Spanish *sea-guard of British America. 1902 *Times* 15 Aug. 5/3 The [naval] review of this week may also be regarded as a kind of national stock-taking of the Empire's sea-guard. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlii. 8 By y^e^ name of (depth) he sheweth that y^e^ temptacions, wherwith he was assaulted might bee compared too *seagulfes. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* v. (1594) F 4 b, I hope that that which loue forbids me doe, The Rockes and Sea-gulfes will performe at large, And thou shalt perish in the billowes waies. 1531 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, V. 187 Chawlke for making of a *see hedd be the West Bray gate, which was brokyn by the great rage of the see. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 632 The Sirocco ..drove his flock of thunder-clouds Over the *sea-horizon. 1878 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. x. 306 A luminous sheet which grazes the sea-horizon. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* Explan. Terms p. xv, **Sea ice*, ice within which there is a separation from the land. 1909 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 484 Travelling over the sea-ice. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 78 *Sea Ivories, Horns, Bone, &c. manufactured and rough. 1876 *Whitby Glass.*, **Sea-kindly.* 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 133 But for the build and *sea-kindliness of the *Cachalot*, she could not have come out of that horrible cauldron again. 1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Island* II. (1828) 30 A *sea-lake shone amidst the fossil isle. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 161 The slumbering sea-lake. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 23 They forced the sea a *sea-league back. 1887 *J. BICKERDYKE' *Angling in Salt Water* 24 The *Sea Leger..is a very useful piece of tackle for catching flat fish. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 501 The Ships and Vessels belonging to the Subjects of the other Ally must be furnished with *Sea-Letters, or Passports, expressing the Name, Property and Bulk of the Ship [etc.]. 1848 ARNOULD *Law Marine Insur.* II. iii. (1866) II. 577 In New York..a difference has been held to exist between a passport and a sea-letter, the latter term being confined to a mere certificate of ownership. *c* 1645 in Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 522 Ther is a *sealooch cumeth in betwixt both the countreys of Morrour and Knodeart. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xx. (1907) II. 84 Would any but a poet..have brought all the different marks and circumstances of a sea-loch before the mind, as the actions of a living and acting power? 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 11/1 The difficulties experienced in building the *sea lock at the eastern end of the [Caledonian] canal. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sea-log*, that part of the log-book relating to whatever happens while the ship is at sea. 1817 CANNING in *Parl. Deb.* 322 The Admiralty ought to be constituted partly of lay and partly of *sea lords. 1872 *Daily News* 19 Jan., The First Sea Lord had charge of all ships in commission. 1907 *Who's Who* s. v. *Fisher*, Fisher, Admiral Sir John Arbuthnot,..and Sea Lord of Admiralty, 1902–3. 1582 J. DEE *Priv. Diary* (Camden) 17 The same day cam M^r^ Clement the *seamaster. 1796 HUTTON *Math. & Phil. Dict.* I. 530 *Geographical Mile*, which is the *sea-mile or minute. 1871 PROCTOR *Lt. Sci.* 224 At the rate of three or four hundred sea-miles an hour. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 30 The Ships do not feel these smaller Waves but only the great ones, that are called *Sea-Mountains. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 70 That extensive flat [the sand-banks off Cape Breton] seems to be no other than the broad top of a sea mountain, ..surrounded with a deeper sea. 1851 *Act* 14 & 15 *Vict.* c. 26 § 6 It shall not be lawful for any Person to use for the Purpose of taking Herrings any Drag Net, or *Sea Net mounted for trawling. 1669 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Temp.* III. iii, This [the boatswain's whistle]..is a Badge of my *Sea-Office. 1864 WEBSTER, **Sea-pass*, a document carried by neutral merchant vessels, in time of war, to show their nationality. 1811 E. H. EAST *Cases K. B.* (1812) XIV. 465 The ship..was run foul of by another vessel in a gale of wind, and from that and other *sea perils received so much damage as to be obliged to put into Warberg Roads. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-peril*, synonymous with *sea-risk*. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1883) I. 506 The poor old fellow..seems to have been a mischief-maker,—what they call a *sea-preacher,—promoting discontent and grumbling. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. iii, Associating with fisher-boys and all the shoeless, hatless '*sea-pups' of the sands. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agamem.* 921 *note*, Garments of the precious *sea-purple. *Ibid.* 933 *note*, The shores of Laconia..produced the sea-purple (*Murex trunculus*) little inferior to the Tyrian. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Iris, Iris marina*, the **Sea Rainbow.* This elegant appearance is generally seen after a violent storm. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* x. 176 Dragging a *sea-rake over the ground [*sc.* the sand] behind her. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* v. i, I'll make..you the Neptunes of the Sea, you shall No more be *Sea-rats. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sea-rate*, the going of a chronometer as established on board, instead of that supplied from the shore [etc.]. *Ibid.*, **Sea-reach*, the straight course or reach of a winding river which stretches out to sea-ward. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Sea-reeve. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 273 He charged himself with all the *Sea-risque of such Vessels as carried Corn to Rome in the Winter time. 1884 *G. W. R. Time Tables* July 82 The Company will not be responsible for Sea risks of any kind. 1885 *Science* 22 May 424 The group [of Salvelini] includes fontinalis, known in the *searun condition as immaculatus. 1896 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. & Mid. Amer.* 492 Sea-run specimens are nearly uniform silvery. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 324 Petrels..are oceanic birds..; excepting the *sea-runners, none of them dive. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 10 My Tables are not yet one quarter emptied of my notes out of their Table, which..is, as it were a *Sea Rutter diligently kept amongst them from age to age. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 110 Languishing..for the land and its vegetable productions, (an inclination constantly attending every stage of the *sea-scurvy). 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 423/2 In sea-scurvy..a similar state occurs. 1744 *Gen. Even. Post* No. 1670 On Saturday the 14th Day of July next will be held the Anniversary Meeting of the Society of *Sea-Serjeants. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-sergeants*, a society of gentlemen, belonging to the four maritime counties of South Wales...It was a secret association of early date, revived in 1726, and dissolved about 1765. 1738 [G. SMITH] *Curr. Relat.* II. v. 8 There are a great many *Sea Shoals floating about the Sea, between which the Fishermen in still Weather look out for Whales. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* IV. vii. (1905) I. 346 Like quicksands or sea-shoals. 1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II, *Avoir le pied marin*, to wear *sea-shoes; or to walk firm in a ship like a sailor. 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 136/2 The Plymouth Breakwater..has a *sea-slope of about one in five. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 277 The sea-slope of the mountains. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 170 Sit still, and heare the last of our *sea-sorrow. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 10/2 The *sea-speed aimed at in the contract will be about 16½ knots. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandizes* M 4 b, Herrings, Shotten, vnpacked, or *Sea-sticks y^e^ Last, cont. 18 barrels, iiij l. 1642 S. SMITH *Herring Buss Trade* 7 The sea-sticks are all the Fishing season as they come from the sea..repact on shore. 1823 *Q. Rev.* IX. 291 All the Herrings caught and packed to be bought by Government at 25/ a barrel of sea-sticks. 1896 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. to Eng.* 33 Chances of squall, collision, *sea-stroke, piracy, cold, and thunder. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* x. 176 She was a lithe creature..with the *sea-tan on throat and knee. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Jan., Commanders did never heretofore receive any pay for the rigging time, but only for *Seatime. 1793 RENNELL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 193, I have, throughout, reckoned according to sea time; that is, the day commences at noon. 1899 MAHAN in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 483 The date of this Opinion is misleading to-day, because it uses the now obsolete sea-time. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xiv. 280 He usually visited his *sea-traps once a month. 1624 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymn to Apollo* 684 The Light himselfe..made the *Sea-trod ship [τανυσσώρου νηὸς] arise there Nere The Grapefull Crissa. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* x. 46 All the night it [the breeze] is from the shore which is called a Turnado, or a *Sea-turne. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 23 Sometimes the extreme heat of several days, produces, in the maritime parts, a sea turn, and in the inland parts, a whirlwind. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* I. 97 A dull chilly morning when the sea-turn was beginning to break in a thin, chilly rain. 1801 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 89/1 Quieta de schiris et hundredis..de *sewake, castelwerke, taillagio, cornagio, et de omni thelonio. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. § 3 Be *sæwaroðe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 7 As he walket on þe see-warth, he segh a drownet man cast vp on þe watyr. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* X. I. 141/1 Two time-pieces or *sea-watches. 1769–80 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. s. v. *Bordee, Faire la grande Bordee*, to set a watch of half the ship's crew, when in any dangerous road, usually called the sea-watch. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 455 *Sea wax, or maltha, is a solid substance found on the Baikal lake in Siberia. 1855 in *Ogilvie's Suppl.* 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* III. vi, I swear Mr. Benjamin is the verriest Wag in nature; an absolute *Sea-wit. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 98 He and his Brother Jacks lie pelting each other with Sea-Wit. 1728? ARBUTHNOT *A.'s Misc. Wks.* (1751) II. 164 In this Instance his absolute Sea-Wit seems to come somewhat short of the Mark. 1609 E. GRIMSTON *Hist. Netherl.* 116 A *Sea-woman swimming in the Zuyderzee. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Aug. 2/3 The green weed shone as silken as a sea-woman's hair. 1528 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, IV. II. 2228 The ordinary reparations of the town sluices, *see works [etc.]. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 1079, I Was given too seawoorkes, and in them mee only did apply. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxix, He never saw sea-work to my remembrance. Never saw a shot fired by sea, except ours at Smerwick. 1897 *River & Coast* 29 May 12/2 Mr. Gibson well-known in connection with sea-work, including bridges, screw-pile piers, jetties, &c. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Sea-Yoke.*

b. In the names of marine mammalia, as † **sea-boar**, some kind of large cetacean; **sea-canary**, a sailor's name for the white whale or beluga, *Delphinapterus leucas*, of the dolphin family (see quot.); **sea-goose**, 'a dolphin, so called from the shape of the snout' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **sea-leopard**, a name for various seals of the antarctic and southern seas, esp. of the genus *Ogmorhinus* (formerly *Stenorhynchus*); **sea-monk**, 'the monk-seal' (*Cent. Dict.*); † **sea-monoceros** = SEA-UNICORN 1; **sea-morse**, the morse or walrus, also *attrib.*; **sea-pellock** *dial.*, the porpoise (*E.D.D.*); **sea-pig**, applied to the porpoise, the dolphin, the dugong, etc. (see also PIG *sb.*[1] 4); **sea-seal**, the seal; † **sea-veal** = SEA-CALF.

1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XXV. XXI. 1005 The effigies of a *Sea-Bore. Olaus Magnus writes that this monster was taken at Thyle. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 130 When under water, they [dolphins] emit a peculiar whistling sound,..and on this account the seamen often call them *sea-canaries. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 14 A *Sea-Leopard. 1825 WEDDELL *Voy. S. Pole* 22 Having seen some sea-leopards on shore, I sent the second mate to take them. ..This creature resembles the quadruped of the same name in being spotted. 1892 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Introd. Mammals* 605 One species, *Ogmorhinus leptonyx*, the Sea-Leopard, widely distributed in the Antarctic and southern temperate seas. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 32 Sea Vnicorn or *Sea Mononeros. 1631 J. ROUS *Diary* (Camden) 64 A *Sea-morce as big as an oxe. 1642 *Rates Merchandizes* 48 Sea morse teeth the pound 00. 05. 00. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sea-morse-teeth*, a name for the canines or tusks of the hippopotamus. 1826 *Sea-pig [see PIG *sb.*[1] 4]. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 130 [Dolphins] are sometimes also called 'sea-pigs'. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxii. (1495) 840 The skynne of the *see Sele. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3298 The common sea-seal or elephant is very numerous on our coast [California]. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Eng. Dogs* (1880) 19 The sea Calfe,.. other more largely name a *Sea Vele.

c. In names of birds: **sea-brant**, (*a*) *U. S.*, the white-winged scoter, *Œdemia deglandi*; (*b*) 'the brant- or brent-goose' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **sea-bumblebee** = *sea-dove* (ibid.); **sea-coot**, † (*a*) the cormorant; (*b*) the guillemot (see COOT *sb.*[1] 1); (*c*) a scoter of the genus *Œdemia* (Cent. Dict.); (*d*) the American coot (see COOT *sb.*[1] 2); **sea-coulter**, the puffin, *Fratercula arctica*; **sea-dotterel**, the turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; also a local name for the ring-plover; **sea-dove**, the little auk, *Mergulus alle*; **sea-drake**, a cormorant or sea-crow; also *U. S.*, the male eider-duck; **sea-goose** *U. S.*, a phalarope (see quot.); **sea-kittie**, a dial. name for the kittiwake, also for any sea-gull; **sea-magpie** = SEA-PIE[1]; † **sea-moit** [F. *mouette*], a sea-gull; † **sea-peacock**, the Balearic or Crowned Crane; **sea-piet, -pilot** = SEA-PIE[1]; **sea-plover**, a local name for *Squatarola helvetica*; **sea-quail** *U. S.*, the sea-dotterel or turnstone; **sea-skimmer**, a skimmer, a bird of the genus *Rhynchops*; **sea-tittling**, the rock-pipit; † **sea turtle-dove** = SEA-TURTLE[1]; **sea-whaup** *Sc.*, a species of sea-gull; **sea-widgeon**, (*a*) 'the pintail duck'; (*b*) 'the scaup-duck' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); **sea-woodcock**, (*a*) some West Indian bird; (*b*) applied *dial.* to various birds, e.g. the bar-tailed godwit, *Limosa lapponica*, the oyster-catcher or SEA-PIE, and the little grebe, *Trachybaptes fluviatilis*.

1888 TRUMBULL *Names & Portr. Birds* 99 *Sea Brant. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 137 The flesh of the Bitter and *Sea Coote is good. 1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. III. vii. 22 *Avis Marina* *Sea-Coulter *dicta*. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 231 *Hirundella marinus*...The Turnstone or *Sea-Dotterel. 1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 300 The Turnstone or Sea Dotterel (*charadrius morinellus* Lin. Syst.). 1826 J. F. STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIII. i. 34 *Mergulus melanoleucos*)..*Sea-dove. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw.*

Hol xxvii, Or if I was a say-dove, to fly unto the shoor. 1632 SHERWOOD, *Sea-drake, sea-raven, or sea-cormorant, *diable de mer*. 1861 [see SEA-DUCK 1]. 1861 COUES in *Proc. Philad. Acad.* 229 The [*Phalaropus*] *fulicarius* and *hyperboreus* are both known by the inappropriate, though curious name of '*Sea-geese'. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 206 Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)...*Sea kittie (Norfolk; Suffolk). 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 226 *Sea-magpye. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § iv. iv. 77 The Egg of the *Sea-Moit. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 362 Some have described them [the Balearic cranes] by the name of the *Sea Peacock. 1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 46 *Hæmotopus Bellonii*, the *Sea-Piot. 1880 BLACK *White Wings* xx, There is no screaming sea-pyot to give warning. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sea-pilot*. 1682 A. MUDIE *Pres. St. Scot.* i. 12 'Sea-plover, Pewits, Woodcocks [etc.]. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names & Portr. Birds* 186 *Sea Quail. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 333/1 Brisson placed in his twenty-third order...the Gulls,..Terns, *Sea-skimmer or *Rhyncopsalia*. 1872 LATHAM *Dict.*, **Sea-titling*. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 245 *Columba Groenlandica dicta*. The Greenland-Dove or *Sea-Turtle-Dove. 1822 H. AINSLIE *Pilgr. Land of Burns* 208 The *sea whaups cry As they rise frae the whitening roar. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Gen. Hist.* v. 171 Coots and Red-shankes, *Sea-wigions, Gray-bitterns [etc.]. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 106 There is another kind of Bi-cunes, by some called *Sea-Wood-Cocks from the figure of the Beak. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 329 A *scolopax* or sea woodcock of Rondeletius. 1887 A. C. SMITH *Birds Wilts.* 423 In consequence of their great length of beak, they [*sc.* the bar-tailed godwits] are often called 'Sea Woodcocks'.

d. In the names of fishes, jelly-fishes, molluscs, shells, etc., as sea-acorn (see ACORN 4), also *sea-acorn shell*; sea-anemone (see ANEMONE 2); sea-angel, the angel-fish; sea-arrow, (*a*) a mollusc of the genus *Ommastrephes*; (*b*) a member of the *Sagittidæ*; sea-attorney, 'the ordinary brown and rapacious shark' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); sea-barrel, an ascidian of the class *Tunicata*; sea-barrow, the egg-case of the skate; sea-basket, a basket-fish or gorgon's head; †sea-beard, a sertularian coral (see quot.); †sea-bleb = SEA-BLUBBER 2; †sea-blewling [cf. G. *bläuling* pilchard], some bluish fish; sea-blub = SEA-BLUBBER 2; sea-bread, = *sea-cracker*; sea-bristle, a sertularian polyp, *Plumularia setosa*; sea-bug, †(*a*) a triton shell; (*b*) (see quot. 1884); sea-bun, the heart-urchin; sea-butterfly, a mollusc of the sub-class *Pteropoda*; †sea-button, a sea-urchin (cf. *button-fish* s. v. BUTTON *sb.* 12); sea-cactus, a holothurian of the family *Thyonidæ*; sea-cap, 'a basket-shaped sponge which sometimes attains great size, found in Florida' (*Cent. Dict.*); †sea-capon (see quot.); sea-carnation, a kind of sea-anemone; sea-caterpillar, (*a*) a marine worm of the genus *Polynoë*; (*b*) a chiton shell; sea-catfish, a name for various marine siluroid fishes; sea-centipede, (*a*) a large marine errant annelid; (*b*) an isopod of the family *Idoteidæ*; †sea-chameleon, the BLEAK; sea-chestnut, a sea-urchin; †sea-chough, ? = SEA-CROW; †sea-chub (see quot.); sea-clam = HEN-CLAM; also *Arctic sea-clam*, '*Mya truncata*, the chief food of the walrus' (*Cent. Dict.*); sea-clerk, the calamary; sea-cockroach, a crustacean of the genus *Remipes*; †sea-coralline, a coralline or coral; sea-corn *U. S.*, the string of egg-capsules of the whelk; sea-cracker (see quot.); sea-crawfish, -crayfish, †(*a*) (see CRAYFISH 2); (*b*) a crustacean of the genus *Palinurus* (= CRAYFISH 3 b); sea-cross, a jelly-fish; †sea-cup, a polyp (see quot.); sea-cut, the cuttle-fish or calamary; †sea-cypress, a sertularian polyp; sea-dace, the sea-perch or bass; sea-danger, a jelly-fish; †sea-dart (see quots. and DART *sb.* 5); sea-date, sea date-shell (see quots. and *date-shell* s. v. DATE *sb.*[1] 4); †sea dog-fish, the SEA FOX or SEA-APE; †sea-emperor, a sword-fish; †sea-fig, a polyp (see quot.); sea-finger (see quots.); sea-fir, a sertularian polyp or coral; sea-flea, the sand-flea or sand-hopper; †sea-forty-legs = *sea-centipede*; sea-frog = ANGLER 2; †sea-galliwasp, a Jamaican name for *Elops saurus*; †sea-gar, a crustacean (see quot.); sea-gherkin, one of several small holothurians, akin to the sea-cucumber; sea-ginger (see quot.); †sea-grasshopper, a squill or mantis-shrimp; sea-gudgeon (see GUDGEON *sb.*[1] 1 b); sea-hag, the hag-fish; sea-hair, a sertularian polyp; †sea-hare-fish, the SEA-HARE (*Aplysia*); †sea hog-louse, a sea-slater; sea-honey-comb (see *sea-corn* above); sea-insect, †(*a*) a coral-polyp (or '-insect'); (*b*) a crustacean; sea-jelly, a jelly-fish; †sea-kite, a kind of flying-fish; †sea-lampern = *sea-lamprey* (*a*); sea-lamprey, †(*a*) = REMORA 1; (*b*) a marine lamprey, *Petromyzon marinus*; sea-leech, a marine annelid of the genus *Pontobdella*; sea-lemon, (*a*) a nudibranchiate gastropod of the family *Doridida*; (*b*) *Austral.*, 'a holothurian of the genus *Cuvieria*; sea-orange' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); sea-lily, a crinoid; †sea-liver (see quots.); sea-locust *arch.* [L. *locusta*], a lobster; sea long-worm, a nemertean worm of the family *Lineidæ* and genus *Lineus*; sea mantis, the mantis-shrimp; sea-marigold, a kind of sea-anemone; sea-mat, a polyzoan of the family *Flustridæ* and genus *Flustra*; sea-mat acorn-shell (see quot.); sea-melon, a holothurian of the family *Pentactidæ*; sea-minnow, †(*a*) the anchovy; (*b*) *dial.* (see quot.); †sea-mulberry, a variety of coral (see quot.); †sea-mushroom, a sea-anemone; †sea-nail = *sea-finger* (above); †sea-navel (see quot.); sea-necklace (see *sea-corn* above); sea-needle, the gar-fish, *Belone vulgaris* (cf. NEEDLE-FISH); sea-orange, a large holothurian (*Lophothuria fabricii*) of a globose shape and orange-coloured; sea-orb, a swell, globe, or orb-fish; sea-pad, a star-fish; sea-palm, a crinoid (see quot.); sea-panther, †(*a*) ? a hound-fish or shark; (*b*) 'a South African fish, *Agriopus torvus*, of a brown color with black spots' (*Cent. Dict.*); sea-parson, the stargazer; sea-peach (see quot.); sea-pear, an ascidian or sea-squirt of the genus *Boltenia*; †sea-pelican = *sea-dart*; †sea-pencil, the razor shell or spout-fish; sea-perch (see PERCH *sb.*[1] 2); sea-pert, the OPAH; sea-pill-ball, an isopod crustacean (*Sphæroma*), a globe-slater; sea-pincushion, (*a*) = *sea-barrow*; (*b*) 'a kind of starfish of the genus *Goniaster*' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); †sea-pipe, ? a 'pipe-worm'; sea-poacher, the armed bull-head or pogge; sea-porcupine, the porcupine-fish, *Diodon hystrix*; sea-potato *local U. S.*, an ascidian, as *Boltenia reniformis* or *Ascidia mollis* (Cent. Dict.); †sea-poult, ? a sea-hen; †sea-priest (cf. *sea-parson*); sea-pudding, †(*a*) an *Actinia* or sea-anemone; (*b*) a large sea-cucumber; sea-qualm, a jelly-fish or cuttle-fish; sea-quince = *sea-orange*; †sea-roach, the cunner; sea-roll, 'a holothurian' (*Cent. Dict.*); sea-rose, (*a*) = *sea-corn*; (*b*) 'a sea-anemone, *Urticina nodosa*, found on Newfoundland, etc.' (*Cent. Dict.*); sea-ruff = RUFF *sb.*[1] 1; sea-ruffle = *sea-corn*; sea-sac, any ascidian of the class *Tunicata*; sea-salmon, a pollack, also the spotted weakfish and the white sea-bass (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); sea-scallop, 'the great northern scallop' (ibid.); sea-scurf, a polyzoan of the genus *Lepralia*; †sea-shears, ? = *sea-woodlouse*; †sea-shilling [Du. *zeeschelling*], a sea-urchin; sea-shrub, an alcyonarian polyp of the family *Gorgonidæ*, a sea-fan; sea-silkworm, a bivalve mollusc of the genus *Pinna*; sea-slater, a small isopod crustacean, *Ligia oceanica*; sea-sleeve, a cuttle-fish or calamary; †sea-snapple (see quot.); sea-sow *dial.*, the ballan wrasse; †sea sparrow, ? the plaice; †sea sparrow-hawk, the lizard- or snake-fish, *Synodus fœtens*; sea-squirt, any ascidian or tunicate, also *attrib.*; †sea-starflower, a sea-anemone; sea-stickle, -stickleback, the (marine) fifteen-spined stickleback, *Gasterosteus spinachia* or *Spinachia vulgaris*; †sea-stickling, ? = the *glaucus* of Pliny; †sea-stranger *Sc.*, the adder-pike, *Trachinus vipera*; sea-strawberry, 'a kind of polyp, *Alcyonium rubiforme*' (Cent. Dict.); sea-sucker, a sucker, a fish of the family *Cyclopteridæ*; †sea-sun, a kind of starfish; sea-sunflower, a sea-anemone; sea-surgeon, 'a surgeon-fish' (*Cent. Dict.*); sea-tamarisk, a sertularian polyp; sea-tench, 'the black sea-bream, *Cantharus lineatus*' (Cent. Dict.); sea-thorn (see quot.); †sea-tod *Sc.*, the ballan wrasse, *Labrus maculatus*; †sea-torchthistle, a variety of sea-anemone; sea-umbrella, 'a pennatulaceous polyp of the genus *Umbellularia*' (Cent. Dict.); sea-vampire, 'a devil-fish or manto' (ibid.); sea-washball, a local name for the egg-case of the whelk; sea-weasel, 'an old name of the lamprey' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); sea-weever, the greater weever (*Trachinus draco*); sea-whip = SEA-FAN; sea-wife, a kind of wrassse, *Acantholabrus yarrelli*; sea wood-borer, a wood-shrimp, *Chelura terebrans*; sea-woodlouse, (*a*) a sea-slater; (*b*) a chiton or coat-of-mail shell, so called from resembling the above; sea-wreath, a sertularian polyp.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 33 *Sea Acorns, *Balani*. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 531 The Sea Acorn Shells. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. v. 99 The *Sea-Mushroom*..., some Naturalists have called it the **Sea-Anemone*. 1855, 1881 [see ANEMONE 2]. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Sea-angel*. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 384 There are Sharks (*Squatina*, the Sea-angel), which are somewhat flattened. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 73 The sailors call them '*sea-arrows' or 'flying squids' from their habit of leaping out of the water. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 142 Sea-Arrows (*Sagittidæ*). 1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* II. 150 Sea-sacs, Tunicata, Sea-squirts, *Sea-barrels. 1860 WORCESTER cites *Gentl. Mag.*, 'Sea-barrow. 1865 T. R. JONES *Anim. Creation* 65 The *Sea-baskets (*Gorgonocephalus*). 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 15 Lobster's horn Coralline, or *Sea-beard. 1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lancs.*, etc. I. 133 We have frequently cast upon the sea-shore the *Sea-Blebs, the whole substance of which seems to be nothing but a perfect Gelly. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 135 *Glaucus Bellonii*...Idem forte, quem piscatores nostri *Sea-Blewling vocant. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 89 Those called the Discophora, 'sea-nettles', '*sea-blubs', or jelly-fishes. 1888 *Sea-bread [see *sea-cracker* below]. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 19 *Sea-Bristles. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 209 Sea-bristles (*Plumularia setacea*). 1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 783 The Triton (otherwise called the *Sea Bug). 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 701 These [Chiton] shells have been called by different names,..such as.. 'Sea-bug', and 'Sea-caterpillar'. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 270 *Spatangus* (Heart-urchin or *Sea-bun). [1883 *Science* I. 508/1 The winged...molluska..known to the Neapolitan fishermen as *farfalle di mare*, or *sea-butterflies.] 1909 SHACKLETON *Heart Antarctic* II. 266 A few sea-butterflies (*Pteropods*) of large size and red colour. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 183 *Echinus Minimus*..the *Sea-Button. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 330 *Sea-Cactuses (*Thyonidæ*). 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 75 The Sole...For whitenes [etc.]..far excelleth all other Sea fish, and therefore may well be termed the *Sea Capon. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 30 Soles, or Tonguefish, or Sea Capon, or Sea Partridge. 1767 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 456 The *Actinia dianthus* or *Sea carnation. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.. Pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 401 Herrings [feed] on an insect called the *sea caterpillar. 1869 W. S. DALLAS tr. *F. Müller's Facts for Darwin* 111 The Sea Caterpillars (Polynoë) at first possess only a few body-segments. 1884 [see *sea-bug* above]. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 110 *Arius felis*...*Sea Cat-fish. *Ibid.* 111 *Ælurichthys marinus*...Sea Cat-fish. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Annelida*, To this order [*Dorsibranchiata*] belong the *sea centipedes or *Nereidæ*. *Ibid.* s.v. *Isopoda*, The sea centipedes, *Idotea*. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 187 They are called *Sea Chameleons also. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 24 Sea Bleak or Bley, or Sea Camelion. 1666 *Sea-chestnut [see SEA-EGG 1]. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 24 *Sea Chough. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 151 *Capito*..the *Sea-Chub, or Pollard. 1864 *Sea-clam [see HEN *sb.* 6]. 1623 COCKERAM III, *Calæmarie*, a fish called the *Sea Clarke, hauing as it were a knife and a pen. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 323 The Sea-clerk (*Loligo vulgaris*). 1792 M. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 77 The *oniscus physodes*, or **sea-cockroach*, is about two inches long; it has fourteen feet without nippers. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Corallina*, The small, fir-like, *sea-coralline. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 333 Presenting an appearance well-described by the name '*sea-corn' applied to them by the New England fishermen. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Sea-corn...Also *sea-ear*, *sea-ruffle*, *sea-honeycomb*, *sea-necklace*, etc. 1888 HEILPRIN *Anim. Life Sea-shore* v. 115 The 'sea-bread' or '*sea-crackers', rounded yellowish masses..are also skeletal parts of sponges. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. xi. II. 451 The *sea Craifish Cammarus. 1694 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 113 The sea Crawfish without a Tail, or Sea Spider. 1856 *Engl. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* IV. 174 The *Palinuri* or Sea-Crawfish, as they are popularly called, have the body nearly cylindrical. 1850 Miss PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* v. 326 Our common species [of jelly-fish] are termed Sea-blubbers, Sea-dangers, Falling stars, or *Sea-crosses. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 87 *Alcyonium, seu Cyathus marinus*. *Sea Cup. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xv. I. 244 Good store of *Sea-cuts or Calamaries. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 7 *Sea-Cypress. *a* 1776 — *Zoophytes* (1786) 38 *Sertularia cupressina*. Sea Cypress. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 143 *Apua*..the Spirling, Smy, or *Sea-Dace. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 231 The..Basse, or Sea-Dace, or Sea-Perch. 1850 *Sea-danger [see *sea-cross* above]. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 17 A long narrow fish called the Sea-Pelican for the form of its head, also it is called the *Sea-Dart. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxv. (ed. 2) 23 A kind of sea insect..called..*Sea-date. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Lithodomus*, It [the bivalve *L. lithophagus*]..is generally known by the name of the 'sea date shell'. 1611 COTGR., *Peis espase*, the sea Fox, or *sea Dog-fish. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 25 *Sea Emperour or Sword Fish. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 82 *Alcyonium pulmonis instar lobatum*...*Sea Fig. 1748 *Veg. Renalus of Distemp. Horses* 42 Those small Shell Fishes they call Sea-nails or *Sea-fingers. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xvi. 329 'Dead-men's paps, sea-fingers, etc.' (*Alcyonium digitatum*). 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. clxv. 1574 *Abies marina Belgica*, Clus. Clusius his *Sea Firr. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 4 *Corallina marina Abietis forma*... Sea-Fir. *a* 1776 — *Zoophytes* (1786) 36 *Sertularia abietina*. Sea Fir Coralline. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* vii. (1875) 90 The Sea-firs (*Sertularida*). 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1127 The *Sea-fleas are larger...It shewes a wonderful deal of agility when men strive to catch it. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 259 The *Sea-Forty-Legs. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. v. II. 434 The decoction of *sea-frogs sodden in wine and vinegre. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 251 A sea-frog as prepared by the Neapolitan boatmen for a show. 1713 RAY *Syn. Pisc.* 159 *Saurus maximus non maculatus*; The Sean fish or *Sea Galley Wasp. 1674 — *Catal. Fishes* 105 Shell-Fish. Crustaceous. Long Oyster, *Sea-gar, Red Crab: *Locusta marina*. 1841 E. FORBES *Brit. Starfishes* 229 The animals to which we have applied the name of *Sea-Girkins. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 841 The so-called Finger Coral or *Sea Ginger (*Millepora alcicornis*), the latter common name having reference to the smarting sensation which it imparts to the skin, on handling. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 175 *Squilla*... *Mantis*..the *Sea-Grashopper. 1655 *Sea-gudgeon [see SEA-COB *]. 1864 W. S. SYMONDS *Old Bones* (ed. 2) 122 The Sea Gudgeon, or common goby of the aquavivarium. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 645/1 The skeleton of the Cyclo-tomata (or Marsipobranchii) (lampreys and *sea-hags). 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 8 *Coralius muscosa denticulata procumbens* [etc.]. *Sea-Hair. *a* 1776 — *Zoophytes* (1786) 39 *Sertularia operculata*. Sea-Hair Coralline. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 27 Against the venom of a *sea-Hare-fish. 1702

PETIVER *Gazophyl.* i. Tab. 1 *Asellus marinus, e nigro luteoque striatus.* *Sea-Hog-louse. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 27 A *Sea insect called the Sea Shears. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 73 On which different species of Sea Insects build their calcarious Nests. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* iii. 68 The hopping sea-insects and molluscs. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 333 Squalders, or *sea-jellies. 1683–4 ROBINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 478 The *Urtica Marina* (called Sea Gelly or Blubber). 1864 BROWNING *Death in Desert* 152, I seemed left alone Like a sea-jelly weak on Patmos strand. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxvi. I. 249 The *sea Kite. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 27 Sea Kite or Flying Swallow. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* Pref. Magn. 3 The *sea-Lampron or Remora, that is thought to stay a ship under saile. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Exp.*, *Sealampric*, a fish called by some Remora. *c* 1617 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. ii. 209 A remora? what's that? *Hec.* A little suckstone; Some call it a sea-lamprey, a small fish. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 467 The Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) is widely dispersed in the seas of Europe, North America, and West Africa. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 334 *Hirudines marini*, or *sea-leeches. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 258 The Sea-Leech. The common People call this the Sea, or the Black-pudding. However, I shall call it, the Sea-leech. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 382/2 The sea-leech is distinctly mentioned by Belon, Rondelet, [etc.]. *c* 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 91/2 The argo, or lemon doris,..called about Brighthelmstone the *sea-lemon. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci., Doris*, the Sea Lemons. 1890 DOYLE *Capt.* '*Pole-Star*' 13 Numerous small medusæ and sea-lemons. 1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* II. 166 *Sea Lilies. Crinoida. 1611 COTGR., *Foye marin*, the *sea Liuer; a kind of Breame-like fish, that is but seldome seene. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 27 *Sea Locusts. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* x, The strange crabs and sea-locusts which crawled up and down the face of the masonry. 1813 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (ed. 4) III. 405 The *sea long-worm. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. 58 The Stomapods..are called *Sea Mantises. *a* 1776 J. ELLIS *Zoophytes* (1786) 7 *Actinia Calendula.* *Sea Marigold. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) III. 541 The Sea Marigold. *a* 1776 J. ELLIS *Zoophytes* (1786) 10 *Flustra.* The *Sea Matt. *Ibid.* 11 *Flustra truncata.* Square-top'd Sea Matt. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 449 *Flustra denticulata* (Toothed Sea Mat). 1819 TURTON *Conchol. Dict.* 76 *Lepas Alcyonii.* *Sea-mat Acorn-shell. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 330 *Sea-Melons (*Pentactidæ*). 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 23 Anchova or *Sea Minnow. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Sea-minnow*, the young of the coal-fish, *Merlangus carbonarius.* 1752 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 405 The soft lithophyton, usually call'd the *sea-mulberry. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. v. 98 The *Sea-Mushroom, or Anemone :..a little Animal found frequently on the Coasts of Normandy. 1698 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), **Sea-navel*, a turbinated and small shell-fish like a Navel. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 200 Certaine fishes called the *Sea-needles [Gr. βελόναι]. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 274 This fish [the sea pike] is known by the name of the Sea Needle. 1753 *Sea orange [see ORANGE *sb.*1 4]. *c* 1800 MISS KNIGHT *Autobiog.* II. 256 Sea-oranges and Sea-lemons I have seen. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* III. ii. 91 The Alcyonium Lyncurium of Lamouroux, commonly called the Sea-quince or Sea-Orange. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 291 The *Sea Orb, which is almost round, has a mouth like a frog... Also called the Sea Porcupine. 1558 RONDELET *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. 1106 *Eliota Anglus interpretatur* a Sterre-fysshe. *Ego ab erudito quodam Anglo audiui nominari* a *Seepaddle. 1661 [see PAD *sb.*1 2]. 1773 JOHNSON (ed. 4), *Sea-pad*, the star-fish. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 130 *Sea Palms (*Pentacrinus*) are large animals with ten arms, which may divide repeatedly. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 128 *Pardalus Marinus*...the *sea-Panther. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. i. 91 The Spoted Houndfish or Sea-Panther. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* v. 184 On account of this sanctimonious look it [the fish called stargazer] is also known as the '*sea parson'. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 57 The fishermen call some of the species of the genus *Cynthia* by the rather appropriate name '*sea peach'. *Ibid.*, The...genus...*Boltenia*...embraces the '*sea pears' of the fishermen's terminology. 1664 *Sea-Pelican [see *sea-dart*]. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 82 The *Sea Pencil, or Watering Spout, is the most remarkable shell of this tribe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. xi. II. 452 The *sea Perches. 1857 PERLEY *Hand-bk. N. Brunswick* 25 The cunner, or sea-perch. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fishes N.S. Wales* 33 The Rock Cod [*Serranus*]...These are commonly called 'sea-perches'. 1880–84 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. 119 *Lampris luna*...Opah, King-fish, *sea-pert. 1850 A. WHITE *List Spec. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 75 *Sphæroma serratum.* Serrated *Sea Pill-ball. 1860 WORCESTER (cites *Gentl. Mag.*), *Sea-pincushion, the egg of the skate. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 *Sea Pipes, *Tubuli Marini.* 1808 NEILL in *Mem. Wernerian Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1811) I. 534 *Cottus cataphractus*..*Sea-Poacher. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. ii. 107 The *Sea-Porcupine, *Histrix Piscis.* 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Diodontidæ*, The sea porcupine..., *Diodon hystrix*, is nearly spherical in shape. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 The handsome Rhombusses of the *Sea-poult, or Werrell. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 29 Priest Fish or *Sea Priest. 1750 *Sea pudding [see *sea-leech* above]. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 387 The Sea-Pudding. This insect ..is soft and glutinous, of a cylindric form, short, and furnished with a great number of small flabby *tentaculæ.* 1694 tr. *Martens's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 168 Called *Sea-qualms by the Seamen, as if they were a thick Scum of the sea coagulated together. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) II. 373 The Sea-qualm (a kind of Cuttle fish). 1861 *Sea-quince [see *sea-orange* above]. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 140 *Erythrynus*..the *Sea-Roach. 1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 135 Sea-Roach in ruddy Shoals frequent the Land. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Seaside* v. 282 This mass of eggs is called on the coast bladder-chain,..*sea-rose,..or wash-ball. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 118 The *Actiniaria* (Sea-anemones, Sea-roses). 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 140 The *Sea-Rough. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 27 Sea Ruff and Reeves. 1773 in JOHNSON (ed. 4) [and in later Dicts.]. 1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* II. 150 *Sea-sacs. Tunicata. *Sea-barrels.* 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 230 In the Gulf of Saint Lawrence they [*sc.* Pollock] are known as '*Sea Salmon'. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 279 The *Sea-scurfs. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 27 A Sea insect called the *Sea Shears : It hath many scales like a wood louse, two long hornes, and a forked tayle. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. iii, *Echinus planus*... *Sea-Shilling. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. § v. i. 242 *Sea-Shrubs. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 56 Next in Order to the Corallines, may be ranked the *Frutices corralloides*, or Sea-shrubs. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xiv. (1875) 145 The *Gorgonidæ*, or 'Sea-shrubs'. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 291 Reaumur denominates the pinna the *sea-silk-worm. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 71 *Ligia oceanica.* Great *Sea Slater. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sea-sleeve*, a name of the flosk or squid, *Loligo vulgaris.* 1698 PHILLIPS **Seasnapple*, a kinde of Shell-fish, called in Latin *Cochlea Veneris*, i. *Venus Labrus maculatus*...Ballan Wrasse...*Sea Sow. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 27 Plaice or *Sea Sparrow. 1743 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina*, etc. (1754) II. 2 The *Sea Sparrow-Hawk..is a slender long Fish. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 182 One of those strange looking things, commonly called *sea-squirts (*Ascidiæ*). 1880 [see APPENDICULARIAN]. 1767 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 436 The Actinia aster, or *Sea star flower. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 390 The *Sea Stickle (*Spinachia vulgaris*) is exclusively marine. 1880 GÜNTHER *Stud. Fishes* 506 The *Sea-Stickleback (*Gasterosteus spinachia*) is like-wise a nest builder. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 377 *note*, The male Sea Stickleback (*Spinachia vulgaris*). 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 123 *Glaucus*..the *Sea-Stichling [*sic*]. I take it to be the same our Fishers call the Otter-pike or *Sea-stranger. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 259 The *Sea-Sucker. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 161 One form of sea-sucker (*Lepidogaster*) affixes its eggs to the inside of a dead shell. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 210 There is a sort of shell-fish at the Cape, which the Europeans there call *Sea-suns. 1773 COOK *Voy.* (1790) I. 323 Sea-suns and sea-stars, are small round shell-fish, and receive their denominations from the great variety of prickles, which shoot from them like rays of light. 1767 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 436 The *Actinia helianthus* or *Sea sun-flower. 1755 — *Corallines* 4 *Corallina vesicula: a sparsim et alternatim ramosa* [etc.]...*Sea-Tamarisk. *a* 1776 — *Zoophytes* (1786) 36 *Sertularia tamarisca.* Sea-Tamarisk Coralline. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 127 They beare..a *sea-tenche nayante proper. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Holyhead*, Sea-tenches,..and plenty of other fish. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Pustule of the sea*, a sailor's name of sessile barnacles or acorn-shells. Also called **sea-thorns.* 1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 53 *Turdi alia species*; It is called by our Fishers, the *Sea-Tod or Kingervie. *a* 1776 J. ELLIS *Zoophytes* (1786) 2 *Actinia Cereus.* *Sea Torch-thistle. 1755 — *Corallines* 84 *Alcyonium, seu Vesicaria marina.* ..*Sea Wash-balls. 1902 H. H. LITTLEJOHN in *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 609/1 *Trachinus draco* or *sea-weever. 1775 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 1 Those [Zoophytes].. called..*Gorgonia*; and known in English by the names of sea-fans, sea-feathers, and *sea-whips. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 284 The *Sea Wife. *Labrus vetula* [1841 (ed. 2) I. 339 *Acantholabrus Yarrellii*, Cuv. et Valenc.]. 1850 A. WHITE *List Spec. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 56 *Chelura terebrans.* *Sea Wood-Borer. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci., Chitonidæ*,..*Sea Wood-lice. *Ibid.* s.v. *Isopoda*, The sea wood lice, *Asellidæ.* 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 631 The Great sea-Slater, or Sea-woodlouse. 1860 *Sea-wreath [see SEA-BELL 2]. 1865 T. R. JONES *Anim. Creation* 35 The Sea-wreaths (*Serularidæ*) are known to every sea-side visitor.

e. In names of seaweeds: **sea-apron**, the genus *Laminaria* (Cent. Dict. 1891); **sea-belt**, *Laminaria saccharina* (in Turner perh. *Zostera marina*); **sea-bottle**, the bladder-wrack; also applied to the pod or vesicle of some American fuci; **sea-catgut** = *sea-lace*; **sea-chitterling**, 'common name for the plant otherwise called *Enterophytum*' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858); †**sea-cluster**, **-colander** (see quots.); **sea-furbelow**, the *Laminaria bulbosa*; **sea-girdle**, *Laminaria digitata*; also = *sea-belt*; † **sea grass-wrack**, the seaweed *Zostera*; **sea-hanger**, *Laminaria bulbosa*; **sea-lace**, *Chorda filum*; **sea-lentil**, the gulf-weed; †**sea-lungwort**, the seaweed *Ulva lactuca* or SEA-LETTUCE; **sea-membrane**, **dulse**, *Rhodymenia palmata* (Cassell's Encycl. Dict. 1887); **sea-network** (see NETWORK 3); **sea-ore** (see ORE *sb.*5); **sea-points** = *sea-lace*; †**sea-ragged-staff**, ? the *Ascophyllum nodosum*; **sea-staff** = *sea-girdle*; **sea-tang**, **-tangle** (see TANG *sb.*3, TANGLE *sb.*1); **sea-tape** (see quot.); **sea-thong**, one of several chord-like seaweeds, as *Chorda filum*, *Himanthalia lorea*, etc.; **sea-thread** (see quots.); **sea-turnip**, a seaweed of the genus *Nereocystis*, having a turnip-shaped protuberance of the stem; **sea-wand**, *Laminaria digitata* = TANGLE *sb.*1 2; **sea-whip**, **-whipcord**, **-whiplash** = *sea-thong*; **sea-whistle**, *Ascophyllum nodosum*. See also SEA-OAK, SEAWARE, SEAWEED, SEAWRACK, etc.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 27 Cingulum is named in greeke Zoster,..& is like a gyrdel, wherefore it maye be named in englishe, fysshers gyrdle or sea gyrdel, or *sea belte. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 156/1 *Laminaria saccharina*, or the sugar sea-belt. 1825 JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 66 Many of the species of the sea-wrack, or *fucus*, are called **sea-bottles*, in consequence of the stalks having round or oval vesicles or pods in them. 1859 J. M. JONES *Nat. in Bermuda* 176 That very curious marine plant, commonly designated the 'sea bottle'...These 'sea bottles' are transparent, and shaped like a small balloon. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 322/2 The Chorda filum, or *sea cat-gut, of Orkney. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* II. 968 Gut Laver or *Sea Chitterling. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* II, *Sea-cluster, *Uva marina.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Sea-colander*, the American name in the North-eastern States of *Agarum Turneri.* 1808–30 *Edinb. Encycl.* X. 20/2 *Fucus bulbosus*..sometimes called *sea furbelows. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 257 The dimpled flounce of the sea-furbelow. 1548 *Sea-girdle [see *sea-belt* above]. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* (*c* 1560) X 7, Take of dragons bloud, seagyrdel [etc.]. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* i. (1849) 34 The sea-weed usually called in England the Sea-girdle...(*Laminaria digitata*). 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 497 *Zostera*...*Sea Grass-wrack. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. clxiv. 1569 The diuided one they may call *Sea Hangers. 1666 *Sea-lace [see *sea-point* below]. 1877 BRYANT *Sella* 136 The dulse with crimson leaves, and streaming far, Sea-thong and sea-lace. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. xxii. 1615 *Lenticula marina angustifolia.* Narrow leaued *Sea Lentill. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clix. 1377 *Lichen Marinus.* *Sea Lungwort, or Oister greene. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cvi. 1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 40 *Fucus marinus rotundus*, *Sea points or laces. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. clxiv. 1569 Mr. Thomas Hickes being in our companie did fitly name it *Sea ragged Staffe. *Ibid.* 1570 *Fucus spongiosus nodosus.* Sea ragged Staffe. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Seaweeds* vi. 116 *Laminaria Digitata.* Sea-girdles, Tangle, *Sea-staff, Sea-wand, Cows'-tails. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 720 *Laminaria saccharina* is called **Sea-tape* in China, where it is used for food and other purposes. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. clxiv. 1563 *Quercus marina secunda.* *Sea Thongs. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* i. (1849) 43 The common Sea-thong (*Himanthalia lorea*). 1843 *Zoologist* I. 209 The knotted *sea-thread (*Laomedea geniculata*). 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 39 The long, snaky, undulating stems of the *sea turnip. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 156 *Laminaria digitata*, or *sea-wand. 1858 K. H. DIGBY *Children's Bower* II. 67 These sea-laces or *sea-whips. 1833 HOOKER *Brit. Flora* II. i. 275 *Chordaria flagelliformis*, Ag. (common *Sea-Whipcord). *Ibid.* 276 *Chorda Filum*, Lamour. (common *Sea Whip-lash). 1808–30 *Edinb. Encycl.* X. 19/1 Boys amuse themselves by cutting them [the fronds] transversely near the end, and making whistles of them; hence the name **sea-whistles* sometimes bestowed on the plant [*Fucus nodosus*].

f. In names of plants growing on the sea-shore: **sea-ash**, *Xanthoxylon Clava-Herculis* or *carolinianum*; **sea-aster** = *sea-starwort*; †**sea ay-green** = *sea-houseleek*; **sea-beard**, a marine plant, *Cladophora* (*Conferva*) *rupestris*; **sea-beet**, (*a*) a variety of the common beet, *Beta vulgaris*, often called *Beta maritima*; (*b*) = *sea-lavender* b; **sea-bent**, *Psamma* or *Ammophila arenaria* (see BENT *sb.*1 1); **sea-berry**, †(*a*) some South American plant; (*b*) *Austral.*, applied to the genera *Halo-ragis* and *Rhagodia*; **sea-bindweed**, *Convolvulus Soldanella*; **sea-blite**, *Suæda fruticosa*; **sea-buckthorn**, *Hippophaë rhamnoides*; **sea-bugloss** = *sea-lungwort*; **sea-burdock**, the small burdock or burweed, *Xanthium strumarium*; **sea campion**, *Silene maritima*; **sea-catchfly** = prec.; **sea-chick-weed** = *sea-sandwort*; **sea cock's-foot-grass**, *Spartina stricta*; **sea coco**, **coco-nut** (see Coco 6); **sea-cole**, **-colewort**, (*a*) = SEA-KALE; † (*b*) = *sea-bindweed*; **sea-cushion** = SEA-PINK a; **sea cypress** (see quot.); **sea-daffodil**, the bulbous plant *Pancratium maritimum*, also the allied Peruvian plant *Hymenocallis* (*Ismene*) *calathina*; †**sea-dock**, *Acanthus mollis*; †**sea dog's grass**, a maritime variety of couch-grass; **sea-fennel**, samphire; **sea-gilliflower** = SEA-PINK a; **sea-goosefoot** = *sea-blite*; **sea-gromwell**, the sea-bugloss (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1887); **sea hard-grass**, one of various maritime species of hard-grass; **sea-heath**, a 'heath' of the genus *Frankenia*; **sea hog's-fennel** (see quot.); **sea-houseleek**, the aloe; †**sea-hull** = SEA-HOLLY; **sea-hulver** = SEA-HOLLY (see HULVER), also *attrib.*; †**sea-ivy** ? = prec.; **sea-kemp** *Sc.* = *sea-plantain*; **sea-laurel**, the seaside laurel; **sea-lavender**, †(*a*) ? some species of *Heliotropium*; (*b*) *Statice Limonium* (see LAVENDER *sb.*2 1 b); **sea-lungwort**, the oyster-plant, *Mertensia maritima*; **sea mat-grass**, **matweed**, *Psamma arenaria*; †**sea-mug-wort** = *sea-wormwood*; † **sea-narcissus** = *sea-daffodil*; † **sea-navel**, **-navelwort**, some plant resembling the genus *Cotyledon*; **sea-onion** (see ONION *sb.* 2 c); **sea-orach**, *Atriplex littoralis*; **sea ox-eye**, the seaside ox-eye (see OX-EYE 3 c); **sea-parsley** (see quot.); † **sea-pennywort** = *sea-navelwort*; **sea-plantain**, *Plantago maritima*; **sea-poppy** (see POPPY *sb.* 3); † **sea pot-herb** = *sea-orach*; **sea-purslane** (see PURSLANE 2); **sea-purslane tree** (see quot.); **sea-radish**, a variety of the wild radish, sometimes regarded as a species (*Raphanus maritimus*); **sea-ragwort**, a common cultivated foliage-plant, *Senecio Cineraria* (or *Cineraria maritima*); **sea-reed**, **reed-grass** = *sea-bent*; **sea-rocket** (see ROCKET *sb.*2 3); **sea-rose-mary**, (*a*) = *sea-blite*; (*b*) = *sea-lavender* b (Cent. Dict.); **sea sand-reed** (see quot.); **sea-sand-wort**, a variety of sandwort, *Honkenya* (*Arenaria*) *peploides*, growing in the sand of the coasts of Europe and N. America; † **sea spike-grass**, thrift; **sea-spleenwort**, a fern, *Asplenium marinum*, growing on the rocky coasts of Western

Europe; **sea-spurge**, a maritime spurge, *Euphorbia Paralias*; **sea spurrey, spurrey sandwort** (see quots.); **sea-starwort**, *Aster Tripolium*; **sea-stock** (also *great sea stock*), *Matthiola sinuata*; † **sea stock-gillyflower** = prec.; **sea sulphur-weed, -wort**, *Peucedanum officinale*; **sea-thrift** = SEA-PINK a; † **sea trifoly**, *Astragalus Glaux*; † **sea wartwort**, a variety of spurge, *Euphorbia Peplis*; **sea-wheat, -wheatgrass**, the wheatgrass *Triticum junceum*, growing on the sandy sea-shore; **sea-withwind**, *Convolvulus Soldanella*; † **sea-wormwood**, *Artemisia maritima*.

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 30 *Sea Ash. **1812** CRABBE *Tales* x. I. 196 *note*, The *Sea-aster, the dullest of that numerous and hardy genus. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Bvj, Some haue called it semper viuum marinum, that is *sea aigrene. 1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 317 *Conferva rupestris*... *Sea-beard. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Catal. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. 8 *Sea Beet. 1838 G. DON in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXV. 28/2 *Statice limonium*, the Sea Beet, or Sea Lavender. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Beta*, The Sea Beet, *Beta maritima*, a perennial,..grows wild on the sea coast in various parts of Britain. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* II. 144 Sparta..is a kind of *sea bente or sea rishe. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss., Sea bent*, the sea-side grasses—*Psamma arenaria*, or *Ammophila arundinacea*, growing on the Bent hills at Maryport. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vi. 60 Brasil *Sea-berry... Its leaves very green, juicy, and thick like Purslain. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 123 Sea-berry, of Australia, the genera *Haloragis* and *Rhagodia*. 1597 *Sea-bindweed [see SEA-BELL 1]. 1786 *Gentl. Mag.* LVI. I. 35 *Convolvulus Soldanella*, Sea Bindweed. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 92 *Chenopodium..maritimum*...*Anglis*, *Sea Blite or white Glasswort. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 267 *Suæda* (Sea-Blite). 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Schoberia*, *S. fruticosa*, the Shrubby Sea-blite, abundant on the muddy coast of Norfolk,..locally known by the name of Sea Rosemary. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Rhamnoides*, the *Sea Buckthorn. 1905 RIDER HAGGARD *Gardener's Year* Sept. 323 Four or five years ago I planted some hundreds of Sea-buckthorn upon the face of my cliff. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 123 *Sea Bugloss, *Pulmonaria* (*Mertensia*) *maritima*. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 186/2 *Xanthium..strumarium* (cockle-burr, *sea-burdock). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxi. 382 *Lychnis marina Anglica*. English *Sea Campion. *Ibid.*. The sea rose campion. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 164 *Silene..amœna*...*Anglis*, Sea Campion. 1864 BRADY in *Intell. Observ.* V. 27 The *Sea Catchfly (*Silene maritima*). 1786 *Gentl. Mag.* LVI. I. 35 Arenaria Peploides, *Sea Chickweed, remarkable for the depth and length to which it runs its roots. 1837 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* III. 203 *Spartina stricta*. Twin-spiked Cord-grass. Smooth Sea-grass. *Sea Cock's-foot-grass. 1795 tr. *Thunberg's Trav.* IV. 183 A Borassus or *Sea-Cocoa, brought from the Maldive Islands. 1850 F. MASON *Nat. Product. Burmah* 168 *Sea cocoanut. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 20 Brassica syluestris groweth in Douer cliffes...It may be named in english *sea cole. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. liv. 394 Of Soldanella or Sea Cawle. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Sea cole*, a common name for the *Crambe maritima*, or sea-kale. 1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lancs.*, etc. I. 93 *Sea-colewort. 1725, 1794 [see COLEWORT 2 b]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 240 Scottish Scurvy Grass. Sea Colewort. Sea Bindweed. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 317 *Caryophyllus Marinus*. Thrift, or *Sea Cushion. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 305 *Tamarix Anglica*..is in England commonly called *Sea Cypress. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxxv. 135 The sea Onion of Valentia, or rather the *sea Daffodill, hath many long and fat leaues. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 98 *Narcissus Marinus Africanus, sive Exoticus Lobelii*. The Sea Daffodil of Africa. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Ismene*, The name of Sea Daffodil is given to *I. calathina*. 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 13/1 *Branca ursina, herba est*, an. *scehock [*read* scedock]. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 25 *Branca ursina*..sedokke. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Sedocke [ed. 1636 Sea Docke] is the brank vrsine. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 235 The bloody sea-dock, *Lapathum marinum sanguineum*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xviii. 23 *Gramen Caninum marinum* *Sea Dogs grasse. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Crithmum*:..Smaller Samphire, or *Sea-Fennel. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 318 The greater or Leuant Thrift, or *Sea Gilloflower. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 403 The root of sea-gilliflower, *statice armeria*. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 366 *Chenopodina*...*Sea Goose-foot. 1843 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* VI. 476 *Rottbollia incurvata*..*Sea Hard-grass. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. 10 *Sea heath. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 120 *Frankenia..lævis*.., smooth Sea Heath. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 55 *Peucedanum officinale* ('Sea Hog's-fennel, or Sulphur-weed). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxiv. 410 The same effect *Sea Houseleeke works as well as thees. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 45 The Sea-thistle called *Eryngium marinum*, which some call *Sea-hull, or Huluer. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 36 Eryngium is named in englishe *sea Hulver or sea Holly. *a* 1592 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 288 Resembling the sea huluer leafe. 1588 — *Pandosto* (1607) C 4 b, To see if perchance the sheepe was browzing on the *Sea Iuie. 1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Kemp*, *Sea-kemp, *Plantago maritima*, the sea-plantain. 1820 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* II. 875 *Sea Laurel, *Phyllanthus*. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 II. 282 Heliotropium Gnaphaloides litoreum fruticescens Americanum, *Sea-Lavender Barbadensibus dictum. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 32 Enormous tufts of the common thrift or Sea-lavender. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clix. 1377 *Sea Lungwoort or Oister greene. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Sea mat-grass, *Psamma arenaria*. 1843 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* VI. 408 *Ammophila Arundinacea*. *Sea Mat-weed. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 16 Arthemisia is of three sortes, the fyrst is the herbe that I cal *sea Mugworte. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., May* (1679) 17 Flowers in Prime, or yet lasting,.. Peonies,..*Sea-Narcissus [etc.]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxliv. 426 The *sea Nauell is of a diuereticke qualitie. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* II. s. v. *Pennywort*, *Sea-Pennywort* is the *Sea-Navel*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxliv. 426 *Sea Nauel woort prouoketh vrine. [1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xliii. (1495) 628 Cepe caninum..is founde by the see syde therfore Plato callyth it Sepe marina as it were a *see oyneon.] 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccxiii. (1529) Y iv, A squyll or see onyon. 1548—[see ONION *sb.* 2 c]. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 151 The genus *Atriplex*,(*sea-orache). 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 213 *Borrichia*...*Sea Ox-eye. 1843 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* VI. 472 *Ligusticum scoticum*. Scotch Lovage. Scotch Parsley. *Sea Parsley. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxliv. 425 Of *Sea Pennywoort. *Ibid.* xciv. 343 The *sea Plantaine hath small and narrow leaues. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 77 It may be named in Englishe horned poppy or *see poppy, or yelow poppy. 1706 J. STEVENS *Span. Dict.*, *Salgada*, the Plant call'd *Sea-pot-herb. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 25 Cepaea Plinij groweth by the sea syde, and because it is very lyke Purcellayne, it maye be called in englishe *sea Purcellayne. 1578 [see PURSLANE 2]. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Arrangem. 26 *Atriplex Halimus*, or *sea-purslane tree. 1847 BABINGTON *Brit. Bot.* (ed. 2) 32 *Raphanus maritimus*,..*Sea Radish. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 Buphthalmums, Sea Holly, *Sea Ragwort. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Gard. Dict.*, *Cineraria maritima* (sea Ragwort). 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* Pref. (1871) 160 Mercurius that playit on ane *sey reid. 1717 PARNELL *Homer's Battle Frogs & Mice* II. 77 Tap'ring Sea-Reeds for the polish'd Spear. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* III. (ed. 4) 213 The sea-reed, or *Ammophila arundinacea*, deserves our attention. 1777 *Sea reed-grass [see REED-GRASS 1]. 1866 *Sea rosemary [see *sea-blite* above]. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 548 *Calamagrostis arenaria* (*Sea Sand-Reed). 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* i. 35 The *sea sandwort (*Arenaria peploides*).. is very common. 1882 THOMSON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. III. 449 The Sea Sandwort (*Honkeneja peploides*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xvi. 17 *Sea Spike grasse hath many small leaues. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* i. 88 The *sea spleenwort (*Asplenium marinum*). 1859 J. C. ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 337 A habitat of the sea-spleenwort. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxii. 401 The first kinde of *Sea Spurge riseth foorth of the sands. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 9 *Euphorbia Paralias* (Sea Spurge). 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 169 *Arenaria..marina*... *Sea Spurrey. 1853 MISS PRATT *Wild Fl.* II. 95 Sea Spurrey Sandwort, *Arenaria marina*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxxviii. 334 *Tripolium*,..is called..in English *Sea Starwort. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* III. (ed. 4) 248 The sea-star-wort, or Michaelmas daisy. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 69 The sandy down Where the *sea-stocks bloom. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. 177 The purple flowers of the great sea stock (*Matthiola sinuata*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxv. 374 The *Sea Stocke Gilloflower hath a small wooddie roote very threddie. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* i. 67 The *Sea Sulphur-weed (*Peucedanum officinale*) is a much more rare plant of the salt marsh. 1807 SMITH & SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* XXV. 1767 *Peucedanum officinale*. *Sea Sulphur-wort. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 311 *Sea-Thrift, [is vivacious] by its Tufts. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. v. 112 A flower of the sea-thrift. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E..D. S.) 40 Glaux..may be called in englishe *sea Trifoly. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 82 Blessed thistle and Sea Trifoly. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 60 Peplis ..may be called in english *sea wartwurt. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxii. 407. 1839 MARY HOWITT *Marien's Pilgr.* VIII. xi, Where only the dry *sea-wheat grew. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 173 *Triticum*...*Sea Wheat-grass. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxciii. 690 Soldanella..in English *Sea With-winde. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 8 *Sea wormwod is hote in the seconde degree and dry in the fyrste, frenche wormwod is weaker then Sea wormwod is. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 117 The Tops of Sea Wormwood. 1855 *New Cycl. Bot.* II. 461 *Artemisia maritima*. Sea Wormwood.

Sea (sī), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. SEA *sb.*] *intr.* To go *along* as a part of the sea.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxi, To ride upon the broad-backed billow, Seaing along and plunging on his precipitous path.

Sea, obs. form of SAY *sb.*[1]; SEE *sb.*; So.

Sea-adder. [ADDER[2].]

† 1. A sea-serpent. *Obs.*

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxiii. 132 About these Islands [in the Persian Gulf] they might see sea-adders and serpents so monstrous great, that [etc.].

2. The Pipe-fish.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 160 Acui Aristotelis congener pisciculus, pueris Cornubiensibus *Sea-Adder*.. dictus. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 202 *Syngnathus*...The people of Yorkshire call it the Sea-worm; but it is more generally known in England by its Cornish name of the Sea-adder. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 391 The Sea-adder family (*Syngnathidæ*).

3. The sea-stickleback, *Spinachia vulgaris*.

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 87 The Fifteen-spined Stickleback. Great sea adder, Cornwall.

Sea air. The air above or in the neighbourhood of the sea; air containing saline or gaseous matter derived from sea-water.

1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* vii. 318 Most persons, the first time they go to sea,..are, by the unwonted agitations, ..(assisted perhaps by the sea-air..) cast into that disease.. called the sea-sickness. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 2 Joseph Acosta ascribes it [this sickness] to the Sea-Air. 1795 COLERIDGE *Reft. Place Retirem.* 67 And myrtles fearless of the mild sea-air. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. v, The advice of her physicians to try the effect of sea-air and sea-bathing. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. iii, The English lady..has gone to live at Carnarvon to get the sea air.

Sea-angler. [ANGLER[1].]

1. The Fishing Frog, = ANGLER[1] 2.

1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 22 For this reason some have called this fish the Sea-Angler. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 13 July 6/7 A 'sea-angler' has just been brought into Yarmouth.

2. An angler who fishes in the sea.

1893 *Fishing Gaz.* 11 Feb. 101/1 The British Sea-anglers' Society.

So **Sea-angling** *vbl. sb.*, angling in the sea.

1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 58 River, canal, pond, lake, and sea-angling. 1893 *Fishing Gaz.* 11 Feb. 101/1 At different sea angling resorts.

Sea-animal. [ANIMAL *sb.*]

1. An animal or creature living in the sea.

1745 tr. *Egede's Descr. Greenland* 65 Of the Greenland Sea Animals, and Sea Fowl and Fishes. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Hippocampus*,..a small sea animal caught in the Mediterranean. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. viii, Mr. Bounderby..sighed like a huge sea-animal. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 91 One of the rarest of British sea-animals.

2. *transf.* Applied to a sailor.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 107 Take this plain blunt Sea-Animal,..and you'll find him of more intrinsick Value to the Nation, than the most fluttering Beau in it.

Sea-ape. [APE *sb.*]

1. The sea-fox (*Alopias vulpes*). See APE *sb.* 5.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 5 The Dolphin recouereth by eating a sea-ape. 1769–1861 [see APE *sb.* 5].

† 2. a. ? The manatee. b. The Northern manatee: see MANATEE 2. *Obs.* Also *attrib.*

1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 191 These Mer-men, or, as we may rather call them Sea-apes. 1781 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* II. 544 Sea Ape Manati. Mr. Steller saw on the coast of America another very singular animal which he calls a Sea Ape: it was five feet long: the head like a dog's: [etc.].

3. 'The sea-otter: so called from its gambols' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

a 1891 H. PARTRIDGE (Cent.), When holding a fore-paw over their eyes in order to look about them with more distinctness, they are called sea-apes.

4. The Northern Chimæra (*C. monstrosa*).

1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 145 Arctic Chimæra...Sea Ape.

Sea-apple. [APPLE *sb.*]

† 1. The sea-urchin. *Obs.*

1666 [see SEA-EGG 1]. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 199 The roundish Centronia, with crooked..spines, the Sea apple.

2. The sea-coconut (see COCO 6).

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 Sea-apple: *Manicaria Plukenetii*.

Sea-bank. [BANK *sb.*[1]]

1. † a. The sea-coast or sea-shore; = BANK *sb.*[1] 9.

c 1350 [see BANK *sb.*[1] 9]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5173 To þe see bank þe cors þai bring. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 138, I was the other day talking on the Sea-banke with certaine Venetians. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xvi, My music leads to lofty groves, That wild upon the sea-bank wave.

b. A dune or sand-hill.

1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* 89 The cypress-spires..Ever more growing,..Over the low sea-banks, of the fatal Ilian city. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 31 The next [star], that saw not love, saw me Between the sea-banks and the sea.

c. A sand-bank; = BANK *sb.*[1] 5.

1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 191 This fish [the cod]..is eagerly sought after on those sea-banks which it frequents.

d. *attrib.*

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* I. i. 34 Elegian Muse..Girt my shine browe with Sea-banke Mirtle praise [*read* sprays].

2. An embankment built for protection against the sea, a sea-wall.

1647 HEXHAM I, The Sea-bankes, *De Zee-dijcken*. 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Invent.* § 96 A way to make a Sea-bank so firm..that a stream can have no power over it. 1733 *Act 6 Geo. II*, c. 37 § 5 If any Person..shall unlawfully and maliciously break down..any Sea Bank. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 450/1 A Sea Bank constructed..for the purpose of enclosing a quantity of sea marsh land.

attrib. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 64 The execution of sea-bank work.

So **Sea-banking,** the building of sea-banks.

1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 2 Sea-banking, or sea-walling, has hitherto formed but a small portion of the practice of Engineers.

[**Sea-bar,** 'the sea-swallow or tern' (in mod. Dicts.), comes from a misprinted entry in Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* (1736) which should read '*Sea-bat*, hirundo piscis' (i. e. the flying-fish).]

Sea-bass. *U. S.* [BASS *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *zeebaars*.] A name for various fishes. a. A serranoid fish, *Centropristis furvus* (black sea-bass). b. A sciænoid fish, *Cynoscion nobilis* of California (white sea-bass). c. *Sciæna ocellata*. d. The sturgeon, *Acipenser transmontanus*, of the Pacific coast (*Cent. Dict.*).

1775 A. BURNABY *Trav.* 70 Fish are in the greatest plenty ... particularly..sea-bass. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Forester's Fish & Fishing U.S.* 242 The Striped Sea Bass. Rock Fish, Bar Fish. *Ibid.* 264 The Sea Bass. Black Sea Bass. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 378 *Cynoscion nobile*. This species is everywhere known as the 'Sea Bass' ('Sea-Trout'), sometimes as 'White Sea Bass', to distinguish it from the Black Sea Bass or Jew-fish. *Ibid.* 407 The Sea bass, *Serranus atrarius*. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 215 In the Carolinas, Florida, and the Gulf, we meet with the names 'bass' and its variations, 'spotted-bass', 'red-bass', 'sea-bass'. *Ibid.* 223 The common sea-bass of the north, *Centropristis furvus*.

Sea-bat. [BAT *sb.*[1]]

1. A flying-fish, esp. the flying gurnard, *Dactylopterus volitans*.

1612 FLORIO, *Accola*, a sea Swallow or a Sea Bat. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 99 The French call it *Arondes dumer* [sic], the Swallow of the Sea; others a Sea Bat, or Rere-mouse of the Sea. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) App. 24 Sea Batt. Belgis. An ex Acarnania? 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 255 The Sea-bat or Flying Gurnard.

2. The fish *Malthe vespertilio*.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 457 The Sea-Bat. This

curious fish..by the expansion of its side-fins and its small ventrals, represents a bat in some measure. 1758 EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* 156 The Sea-bat appeared to me..all over of a dark brown or dusky colour. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 173 The Sea Bat, *Malthe vespertilio.*

3. A fish of the genus *Platax*.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 448 There are probably not more than seven species of 'Sea-bats' [*Platax*], if so many, and they all belong to the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific, where they are very common.

Sea'-bath. [BATH *sb.*1] A bath or bathe in the sea. Also a place for sea-bathing.

1785 PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Nav.* 43 Wivenhoe..is at present a very pretty, clean town...There is a good sea-bath. 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 249/1 The cold shower-bath..is found to suit better at this hour than the sea-bath. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 199 In sea-baths sheltered from the prowling shark He cooled his fever.

Sea'-bathe, *v. rare.* [Back-formation from next.] *intr.* (in quot. quasi-*trans.* with complement). To bathe in the sea.

1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xix, The dirty population of Venice..gets itself dragged by a screaming kettle to Lido next morning, to sea-bathe itself into a capacity for more tobacco.

Sea-bathing. Bathing in the sea.

1753 R. RUSSELL *Diss. Sea Water* 142 He entered upon a Course of Sea Water,..joining, as usual, the Sea Bathing towards the End of the Cure. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 June (1815) 207 To Scarborough; where I propose to brace up my fibres by sea-bathing. 1824 LAETITIA M. HAWKINS *Annaline* II. 115, I daresay [she] will not be restored even by sea-bathing. 1875 MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownsh.* 71 There is here excellent sea-bathing.

attrib. 1797 *Margate Guide* 63 The Sea Bathing Infirmary at West-brook. 1803 (*title*) A Guide to all the Watering and Sea-Bathing Places.

Sea beach. [BEACH *sb.*] = BEACH *sb* 3.

1775 ASH, *Seabeach*, the seashore. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ix, He left the palace and strolled down to the sea-beach. 1840 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* 77 At daybreak, on the bleak sea-beach, A fisherman stood aghast. 1877 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* I. i. 5 The place by the sea-beach in Palestine, where Dorcas worked for the poor.

attrib. 1864 BROWNING *Death in Desert* 153 To tell dry sea-beach gazers how I fared When there was mid-sea.

Sea'-bean.

†**1.** A small stone or pebble (see quot. 1607).

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 143 There is a little blacke stone in Nilus about the bignesse of a Beane...Such as these I saw at Lyons in France, which they called Sea-beanes, and they prescribed them to be hanged about a Nurses necke to encrease her milke. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Sea-beans*, small black pebbles. *Devon.*

2. A name given to the seeds of the tropical leguminous plant *Entada scandens*, carried by sea to the British coasts, and often made into trinkets.

1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 70 Phaseolus maritimus rotundifolius, flore purpureo [etc.]..The Sea bean. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

3. A small univalve shell of the family *Trivitidæ*; also the operculum of any shell of the family *Turbinidæ*. Both are often used for charms, trinkets, etc.

1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 335 Dealers..were constantly..bringing all sorts of shells,..sea-beans or bay-beans, and other marine curiosities. 1891 *Century Dict.*

Sea'-bear. [BEAR *sb.*1]

†**1.** The sea-urchin. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Oursin*, the sea Beare. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 2. 128. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx, Sea-Bears.

2. The ursine or fur-seal, *Callorhinus ursinus*, of the North Pacific. Also applied to the various smaller otaries (species of *Arctocephalus*) of the southern seas, as distinguished from the larger hair-seals, called SEA-LIONS. See also BEAR *sb.*1 5.

1771 PENNANT *Synopsis Quadrupeds* 344 Ursine Seal. There are three marine animals, which..seem divided between the N. E. of Asia, and N. W. of America...These are ..the Sea Lion and Sea Bear, and the Manati. 1847 [see BEAR *sb.*1 5]. 1880 H. W. ELLIOTT *Rep. Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 109 The eared-seal, or sea-bear (*Otaria ursina*).

3. A polar bear. *rare.*

1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 30 *Ursus Maritimus*, Polar or Sea Bear. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* xxi. 552 What is called the Sea-bear (*Ursus Maritimus*).

Sea'-beast. A beast living in the sea.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1644 Se bestys serued him at hande. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 200 That Sea-beast Leviathan. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 39 Where the sea-beasts rang'd all round Feed in the ooze of their pasture-ground.

transf. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* I. iv, If he be but as great a Sea-Beast, as she is a Land-Monster, we shall have a most Amphibious Breed.

Sea'-beat, *a.* [BEAT *ppl. a.*] = next.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 34 That, once sea-beate, will to sea againe. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XVI. lxxi, Wandering lonely on the sea-beat strand. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 196 Along the sea-beat shore Satiate we slept. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 24 That gray country, with its rainy, sea-beat archipelago.

Sea'-beaten, *a.* [BEATEN *ppl. a.*]

1. Of a ship, a sailor, etc.: Tossed about or beaten by the waves of the sea. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Juliet* 808 God graunt no daungers rocke..wracke thy sea beaten barke. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* Ded. A ij b, Following herein sea-beaten soldiers, and miserable mariners. 1606 BP. HALL *Heaven upon Earth* Ded., Ships..both extremely Sea-beaten, and at last wracked. 1802 MRS. ROBINSON *Sylphid* III. 142 (Jod.) The sea-beaten sailor.

2. Of a shore, rock, etc.: Lashed by the sea.

1793 COWPER *A Tale* ('*In Scotland's realm*') 19 Sea-beaten rocks and naked shores, Could yield them no retreat. 1868 STEVENSON *Let.* July in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 31/1, I am utterly sick of this gray, grim, sea-beaten hole. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Oct. 632 Quiet bays and sea-beaten cliffs.

Sea'-beaver.

†**1.** = HIPPOCAMPUS 2. *Obs.*

1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 51 The Sea-Beaver is another and larger Insect, peculiar to the sea... Called in the Mediterranean Hippocampus.

2. The sea-otter.

1759 DUMARESQUE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 488 Many of them go thither, to catch sea-beavers. 1764 GRIEVE tr. *Krasheninnikoff's Kamtschatka* 130 The sea beavers [*Lutra marina*] have not the least resemblance to the other beavers.

Sea-beef.

†**1.** Pickled beef used on shipboard. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr.**, A prouerbe..as stale as sea-biefe. 1606 DEKKER *Newes fr. Hell* Wks. (GROSART) II. 112 Though such kind of Theeuerie bee more stale then Sea-beefe.

2. The flesh of a porpoise or whale. Also locally applied to various food-fishes (*jocularly* to herring).

1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 27 Ling, Sea Beef. [Cf. quot. 1661 s.v. BEEF *sb.* 2a.] 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* vi. (1858) 77 The porpoise..is harpooned..and its carcass eaten by the name of 'sea beef'.

Sea-bell.

1. A species of bindweed, *Convolvulus Soldanella*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxiii. 690 Sea Withwinde, Sea Bindweed, Sea bels, Sea Coale, and of some Sea Folefoote, and Scottish Scuruie grasse. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

2 A zoophyte of the genus CAMPANULARIA.

1860 tr. *Hartwig's Sea & Wonders* 278 The delicate feathery forms of the sea-wreaths, sea-feathers, and sea-bells (sertulariæ, plumulariæ, and campanulariæ).

Sea'-bird. A bird frequenting the sea, or the land near the sea. Also *attrib.*

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1704 A Seabirde great and ravenous, *charadrius*. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 259 We..saw infinite multitudes of little Sea-birds. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. xix. 301 All sea-birds are allowed by the church of Rome to be eaten on meagre days, as a kind of fish. 1855 TENNYSON *Captain* 71 The lonely seabird crosses With one waft of the wing. 1898 KEARTON *Wild Life at Home* 100 The Orkney and Shetland Islands are rich in sea-bird life.

Sea'-bladder.

†**1.** The bladder-wrack. Cf. next 1. *Obs.*

1681 GREW *Museum* II. § v. ii. 250 The Roped Sea-Bladder ..is also wrought with fibrous Veins, as the former.

2. The Portuguese man-of-war.

1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* x. 243 The Physaliæ, or Sea-bladders.

Seable, obs. form of SEEABLE.

Sea'-blubber. Also 7-blobber. [BLUBBER *sb.*1]

†**1.** The bladder-wrack. Cf. prec. 1. *Obs.*

1681 GREW *Museum* II. § v. ii. 250 Sea-Blobber. *Vesicaria marina*...'Tis a Cluster of small roundish Bladders..of a light brown colour.

2. A jelly-fish. See BLUBBER *sb.*1 3.

1683–4 ROBINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 478 The *Urtica Marina* (called Sea Gelly or Blubber, tho' it be an Animal). 1769 *Ann. Reg.* I. 189/1 Boat-loads of what the sailors called sea-blubbers. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iii. (1840) 151 These *Medusæ*, or Sea-blubbers, as they are familiarly called, form a considerable portion of the Whale's food.

Seaboard (sī'-bōəid), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: see SEA *sb.* and BOARD *sb.* Also 9 -bord. [f. SEA *sb.* + BOARD *sb.*]

A. *sb.*

†**1.** The plank to cover up the port-hole. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 3001 Why close they the port with the see bord?

†**2.** With prepositions *a, at, on, to seaboard*, on or to the seaward side (of a ship, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 110 Et insula de Ushand jacet in le seebord anglice south et north. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cl. 165 Ye wynde was so streynable on see borde, that they coude nat departe thence. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 297 [He] With mony schip to se burd passit syne. *c* 1566 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 390 There lay two rocks two miles to sea board of vs. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 70 To preserve their course the better at Seaboorde. 1582 LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 Our men discried three Ilands a Seaboard. 1602 MANSEL *True Rep. Service* 1 My selfe being neerest that coast, Captaine Ilones next vnto me, and the Dutch men of warre a Sea-boord, and to the west ward of him. *c* 1625 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Braue Sea-fight* Wks. 1630 III. 40/2 The Enemie making all the sayle he could to Sea-boord of the English. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 281 When a Ship hath another Ship on her other side to Seaward, or (as the phrase is) to Sea-board.

†**3.** *By* (*be*) *seaboard*: by sea. *On seaboard*: at sea, on board ship. *Obs.*

1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* I. 369 Out of Denmark be se burd mony myle, Ane greit armie in Allbione wes send. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 91 Nocht alanerly be gryt multitude of men of veyr, and ane grit nauen of schipis be seey burde, bot [etc.]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 420 Whenas beyng on Seaborde he was in daunger to be drowned. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 32 In all my tyme on Seaboorde..I have knowen nombers that were of another disposition.

4. The line where land and sea meet, the coast-line; the sea-shore or the land near the sea, esp. considered with reference to its extent or configuration.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 78 Certain alarming movements on the sea-board. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i. (1841) 26 On the seabord of this wild land [Iceland] is a rim of grassy country, where cattle can subsist. 1886 H. MILLER *My Schools* xiii. 143/1 The population of extensive Islands and seaboards of the country. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 25 These kingdoms have a large sea-board. 1887 J. BALL *Nat. in S. Amer.* 124 The sea-board is nearly a straight line running from north to south.

Comb. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* xxii. 316 The sea-board-dwelling Tschwis.

B. *adj.* Bordering on or adjoining the sea. *rare.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 47 There shall a Lyon from the sea-bord wood Of Neustria come roring. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sea-bord, Sea-bordering*, bordering on the sea or ocean. 1888 J. SHALLOW *Templars' Trials* 8 The Hospitallers, whose property was largely sea-board, left Cyprus for Rhodes. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 18 Aug. 4/4 The French sea-board hotels.

Hence **Sea'-boarder,** an inhabitant of the sea-board.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. vii. § 3. 38 The Kentish [men] and Seaborders being full of humanity, and little differing from the French ciuility.

Sea'-boat. [BOAT *sb.*]

1. †**a.** A boat for the sea. *Obs.* **b.** A vessel considered in reference to her behaviour at sea.

Beowulf 633 Þa ic on holm wæstah, sæ-bat wæsæt mid minra secga wæðriht. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 199 Our brigantine..an excellent sea-boat. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 241 The Roman Shipwrecks were occasion'd undoubtedly by their Ships being bad Sea-boats, and [etc.]. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Sea-Boat*, a vessel that bears the sea firmly, without labouring heavily. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 92 Any good sea-boat, may make her course good to Fowey.

attrib. 1888 R. EDMONDSTON & SAXBY *Home of Naturalist* 31 He always had unbounded faith in the sea-boat qualities of a Shetland sixaerin.

2. A name for a *Chiton* or coat-of-mail shell.

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 701 These shells have been called by different names,..such as 'Wood-louse', 'Sea-boat',..' Sea-bug', and 'Sea-caterpillar'.

Sea'-book.

†**1.** A sea-log (see SEA *sb.* 23 a). *Obs.*

a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 336/1 The Captain may require a Copy of the Sea Book from the Purser.

2. (See quot. 1883). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 34 All arms, sea-books and instruments..is plunder. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 519/2 When the loxodromic maps came into existence, hand-books with sailing directions were written to accompany them, hence the titles 'sailing directions', 'sea-books',..or cartas da marear.

3. A book representing life at sea, etc. SEA *sb.* 18 l.

1894 CLARK RUSSELL in *My First Book* 30 It is the first sea book I ever wrote.

Sea-border. The land bordering on the sea.

1686 *Charter of Romney-Marsh* title-p., Very useful..for all Lords of Towns, and other Landholders within Romney-Marsh,..and all other Marshes, Fenns, and Sea-Borders. 1880 SWINBURNE *Studies in Song* 180 These alone in all the wild sea-borders Fear no blast of days and nights that die.

†**Sea-borderer.** *Obs. rare.* One who inhabits the land adjacent to the sea.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* I. 3 On Hellespont.. In view and opposit two cities stood, Seaborderers [earliest eds. (1598–1613) Seaborders], disioin'd by Neptunes might: The one Abydos, the other Sestos hight. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 46 Their heauenly hoods..decreede, that for they were either of them seaborderers and drowned in the sea, stil to the sea they must belong. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* III. ix. 442 A barbarous and inhumane people (as generally Sea-borderers are).

Sea'-bordering, *a. rare.* Bordering on the sea.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 533 Amongst sea-bordering Cities,..Tire in former ages was most famous. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XVII. 358 Tow'rds those Sea-bordring shores of ours. 1626 SIR D. DIGGS *Sp.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 302 All the Sea-bordering parts of this Kingdom. 1852 ANSTED *Phys. Geog.* in *Man. Geog. Sci.* I. 259 Those rich sea-bordering clays, whose fertility is such as to induce men to risk disease in swampy climates.

Sea'-born, *a.* Born in or of the sea. **a.** Of persons, etc., chiefly mythological, esp. of Venus.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* III. i. 763 Seaborne Nymphes shall swarme about thy ships. *a* 1645 WALLER *To my Lord Admiral* 55 Like Neptune and his Sea-borne Neece. *a* 1664 KATH. PHILIPS *To Lucasia* Poems (1667) 147 Eyes so sweet as these, No power that is Sea-born can displease. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 160 Learn what I heard the sea-born Seer relate, Whose eye can pierce the dark recess of fate. 1872 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 17 Sea-born Nymphs.

b. Produced by or having its origin in the sea.

1646 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* vii. 83 The Sea-born Sturgeon, and the broad-side Bream. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 121 Sea-born gales their gelid wings expand To winnow fragrance round the smiling land. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xvi, If on a rock..Saint Cuthbert sits, and tolls to frame The sea-born beads that bear his name. 1858 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 402 During all the unknown..geological ages in which these mountains of sea-born rocks have been slowly growing.

c. Of an island, etc. rising from the sea.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 197 Ninety cities crown the sea-born Isle. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* x, That sea-born city [Venice] was in all her glory.

Sea'-borne, *a.* [BORNE *ppl. a.*]

1. Conveyed by sea. (Said usually of articles of commerce.)

1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVIII. 236/1 Very few buildings have ..been erected of sea-borne stone. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 906 The best sea-borne English lime. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* IV. xi. (1877) III. 79 A reduction of duties on sea-borne coal. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 152 To the sea-borne traveller it is the most conspicuous stronghold along the sea-coast. 1910 *Spectator* 11 June 920/1 Germany would never run the risk of invading France by a sea-borne expedition.

2. Of a ship, etc.: Carried or floating on the sea. See also quot. 1867.

1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 44 A dock of sufficient depth for sea-borne vessels. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* ii. 51 The impressions..would have been totally obliterated, if the trees had been sea-borne and shore-rolled, as pretended. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-borne*, arrived from a voyage: said of freighted ships also afloat.

3. *elliptical.* quasi-*sb.* Sea-borne coal. Used *attrib.*

1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Feb. 5/1 The number of men on strike this morning is 7,500, many of the 'seaborne' men having left work since yesterday morning.

Sea-bottom. The bottom or lowest depth of the sea; a tract of ground covered by a sea.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5532 How he mi3t seke doun sounde in-to þe see bothom. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 93 Alpheüs..Vnder seabottoms this passadge ferreted. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 50 The heterogeneous deposit of a former sea-bottom. 1885 CHILD *Ballads* II. 50/1 A mermaid, from the sea-bottom, cries out to him.

Sea'-bound, *a.*[1] [BOUND *ppl. a.*[2]] Bound or confined by the sea.

Cf. *sea-bounded* adj. (SEA *sb.* 21), with which this is often confused.

1636 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Ps.* ii 2 Subject all Nations to thy Throne, And make the Sea bound Earth thine owne. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sea-bound*, *Sea-bounded*, bounded by the sea. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 June 3/2 The sea-bound lands. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 264/2 He lived..in a sea-bound solitude.

Sea'-bound, *a.*[2] [BOUND *ppl. a.*[1]] Bound for or on the way to the sea.

1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 80 The sea-bound river. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v., A sea-bound voyage. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1. Aug. 4/3 To catch their sea-bound train.

Sea'-bream.

1. A name applied to several sparoid fishes, esp. *Pagellus centrodontus.*

1530 PALSGR. 269/1 See breame a fysshe. 1613 R. HARCOURT *Voy. Guiana* 30 Of Sea-fish, there is Sea-breame, Mullet, Sole [etc.]. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xi. 64 Thou saydst she had eyes of Pearles, and such eyes are rather the eies of a Sea-Breame then a faire Dames. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 95 Sea Bream, which are plentifully taken upon the Sea Coasts, their Eyes are accounted rare Meat, whereupon the proverbial comparison, It is worth a Sea Breams Eye. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 253 The reddish Sparus.., The Sea-bream. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 297 Sparidæ (the Sea-bream Family). 1896 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* (ed. Lydekker) V. 347 The black sea-bream (*Cantharus lineatus*) of the British seas.

2. Applied to the coryphænoid genus *Brama.*

1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 53 *Brama Marina nostras*, the Sea-Bream. 1891 *Century Dict.*

Sea'-breeze. [BREEZE *sb.*[2]]

1. A breeze blowing from the sea.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 348 Taking the advantage of the Land breezes by night, and the Sea breezes by day. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 160 A Sea-Breeze came in, and blow'd so hard that we were obliged to weigh. 1769 W. STORK *Descr. East-Florida* (ed. 3) 25 The sea-breezes keep it in constant agitation. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 359 Before a strong sea-breeze. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 28 The chill sea-breeze made him shiver. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 130 Where sea-breeze and sunshine meet.

2. 'Also, a cool sea-drink' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

Hence **Sea-breezed** *a.*, having sea-breezes, or blown on by sea-breezes; **Sea-breeziness,** the condition of being breezy or having sea-breezes. *fig.*

1760 BP. HILDESLEY in W. Hanbury *Charit. Found. Ch.-Langton* (1767) 114 Plants or trees..suitable to this sea-breez'd island [Man] and its sandy gravelly soil. 1837 [see BREEZINESS]. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 25 Sept. 3/4 There is a sea-breeziness about it [the book].

Sea'-bull. [BULL *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** The male of the sea-cow or seal. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3846 Of Seeles & of see-Bules a swyth grete nounbre. *Ibid.* 4008 A cowdrife breste [? *read* beste], Of sembalaunce as a see-bule. *c* 1520 ANDREW *Noble Life* III. xxxviii, Focas is a see bulle, & is very stronge & dangerous. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 216/1 He beareth Argent, a sea Bulls-head couped, Sable.

2. The male of the sea-cow or hippopotamus.

1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 88 A large sea-bull lying asleep close inland behind some reeds.

Seabylle, Sea3, obs. ff. SEEABLE, SICK.

Sea-cabbage.

1. a. = SEA-KALE. **b.** *dial.* (See quot. 1904.)

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Crambe.* Sea-Cabbage. 1855 Miss PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 140 *Brassica oleracea* (Sea Cabbage). 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Sea Cabbage*, the great mullein, *Verbascum thapsus.*

†**2.** The sea-otter's cabbage. *Obs.*

1764 GRIEVE tr. *Krasheninnikoff's Kamtschatka* 132 They have three different ways of catching them: 1st. By nets placed among the sea cabbage [note *Fucus marinus*], whither the beavers retire in the night time.

Sea-cale, variant of SEA-KALE.

Sea'-calf. [CALF[1]] A common name for the seal, esp. the common seal, *Phoca vitulina.* [So med.L. *vitulus marinus*, F. *veau marin*, G. *seekalb.*]

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 13 Pere beeþ ofte i-take dolphyns, and see calues [orig. *vituli marini*], and baleynes. 1558 GESNER *Hist. Anim.* IV. 831 Angli etiam nominant a Sea caulfe: nel Seele. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 26 Some also hang..the skinne of the Sea-Calfe in the middle of the garden..as a prooued defence to it against tempestes. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. i. (1713) 89 The playing of two Sea-Calves before a Storm. 1880 *Standard* 20 May 3 The 'sea calves' of the North Atlantic are solely 'hair seals'.

attrib. *c* 1440 tr. *Palladius on Husb.* I. 961 A seecalf skyn.

b. *allusively.*

1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 67 You grow pert, madam, since you have caught your sea-calf. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* viii, 'Why what a precious old sea-calf I am!' he said.

Sea'-captain. The captain or commander of a ship; usually applied to the captain of a merchant vessel.

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. i. 380 To what scorn'd purpose else should we make choice Of him for a sea captaine? 1708 *Proclam.* 20 May in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4440/1 In case any Sea-Captain, Inferior Commission or Warrant Sea-Officers belonging to any Ship of War..be absent. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. xiii, The widow of a sea captain.

†**Sea'-card.** *Obs.* [CARD *sb.*[2]]

1. A chart of the sea (see CARD *sb.*[2] 3 b and CHART *sb.*[1] 1 b). *Obs.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxxv. L iij, You shall make a sea carde wherin you may by the former rules place Coastes, Harboroughes, Rockes, Sandes [etc.]. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. ii. 148 The whole, according to the sea-cards, being the bay of Contessa.

2. The card of the mariner's compass (see CARD *sb.*[2] 4).

1555 [see CARD *sb.*[2] 4]. 1618 FLETCHER *Chances* I. xi, We are all like sea-Cards, All our endeavours and our motions, ..still point at beauty. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Sept., A little gold frame for one of my sea-cards.

transf. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Adv. Author* I. iii. 53 Thus much for..those Rules of Art, those Philosophical Sea-Cards by which the adventuring Genius's of the times were won't to steer their Courses, and govern their impetuous Muse.

Sea'-cat. [Cf. F. *chat de mer*, 'the smallest kind of dog-fish' (Cotgr.).]

1. A name for various fishes. **a.** The wolf-fish, *Anarrhichas lupus.* **b.** The great weever, *Trachinus draco.* **c.** A shark, *Scyllium catulus.* **d.** *Chimæra monstrosa.* **e.** Any sea-catfish, as *Ælurichthys marinus.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxii. ix. II. 445 The fish named the Sea-cat or Weazill. 1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 51 *Lupus Marinus Shonfeldii & Nostras*; our Fishers call it the Sea-Cat, or Cat-fish. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Buck-Haven* Writ. (1883) II. 220 Spout-fish, sea-cats, sea-dogs. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* v. 108 The Spotted Shark, or Sea Cat (*Scyllium catulus*, Cuvier). 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 628 The Gaff-topsail Catfish..is known [in various places] as the 'Sea Cat'. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 72 *Chimæra monstrosa*,..sea-cat, sea-rat, etc. of fishermen.

†**2.** [Du. *zeekat.*] A squid or cuttlefish. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxii. ii. II. 428 The foresaid writer Trebius Niger reporteth, That the sea-cats or Cuttle fishes ..wil flie out of the sea [etc.].

†**3.** The SEA-HARE. *Obs.*

1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 586 Some call them..sea-cats.

†**4.** The sea-bear or common fur-seal. *Obs.*

1764 GRIEVE tr. *Krasheninnikoff's Kamtschatka* 123 The sea cat is about half the size of the sea lion; in form resembling the seal. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1668 Sea-cats..have long hairs standing out on each side of their mouths like those of a cat.

Seace, obs. form of CEASE, SEISE.

Sea'-cliff. A cliff on the seashore.

In Geology sometimes applied to rocks which are now inland, but were on the shores of ancient seas.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 4 Swa fela welena swa þara sondcorna biþ be þisum sæclifum. *c* 1205 LAY. 18638 He is mid sea cliuen [*c* 1275 see cluues] faste biclused. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 634 Compassed with a triple ditch ..cast in forme of a bowe, the string whereof is the sea-cliffe. 1769 *Atwick Inclosure Act* 5 The said allotments..shall lie contiguous to the sea-cliff. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. vi. (1835) II. 28 An ancient sea-cliff is to be seen, now inland. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 50 Waves wearing away the sea-cliffs.

Sea-coal (sī'kōl). [COAL *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** In Old English: Jet. *Obs.*

In early times jet was chiefly found washed ashore by the sea.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 416/2 *Gagates*, sæcol.

2. a. A name for mineral coal ('coal' in the ordinary modern sense) as distinguished from charcoal. Now only *Hist.*

Commonly explained as meaning 'coal brought by sea'. But *carbo maris* occurs in the *Newminster Cartulary* (Northumberland) *c* 1236 (see quot. in COAL *sb.*[1] 5 a); and in 1306 a Glamorganshire document (*Inquis. Post Mortem*, Ioan. de Clare, 35 Edw. I) speaks of 'unus puteus in quo fodiuntur *carbones maris*'. Unless we suppose that the documents were written by Londoners, or (what is very unlikely) that the London term had been adopted in the coal-producing regions themselves, these early examples appear to point to some different explanation. Possibly in early times the chief source of coal supply may have been the beds exposed by marine denudation on the coasts of Northumberland and South Wales. Cf. quot. *a* 1552. The name of Seacoal lane, London (*Secollane*), occurs 1339 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* 207.

c 1253 [see COAL *sb.*[1] 5 a]. 1282 [see *sencoal-pit* in 3]. 1271 in *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 9 Et in ij schaldres de secole emptis pro eodem, 10*s.* 1429 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 359/2 Under wodde..seecole, and in oþer manere. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VIII. 19 The vaynes of the se-coles by sometyme upon clives of the se, as round about Coket Island. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* I. ii. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1883) II. 112 The wholesome smell of seacole. 1645–52 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* (1860) 101 The inhabitants..want wood for firing (being therefore constrained to make shift with turf, or sea-coal, where they are not too far from the sea). 1663 DUDLEY (*title*) Metallum Martis: or Iron made with Pit-coale, Sea-coale, &c. 1673 SHADWELL *Epsom Wells* I. Wks. 1720 II. 194 You'll never leave that place of sin and sea-coal. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 151 The City of London, and Parts adjacent, as also all the South of England, are supplied with Coals, called therefore Sea-coal, from Newcastle upon Tyne, and from the Coast of Durham and Northumberland. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* x, The rusty grate, seldom gladdened by either sea-coal or fagots.

b. *U.S. rare.* 'Soft coal as distinguished from anthracite' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

3. *attrib.*, as *sea-coal ashes, fire,* †*-meter,* †*pit,* †*prong, soot*; **sea-coal room,** a room with a sea-coal fire.

1699 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* May (ed. 9) 64 Sift a little Lime discreetly with it, or rather *Sea-coal Ashes. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 95 Sitting..by a *sea-cole fire. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xlviii, I like a seacoal fire, when not too dear. 1668 *Act for Preventing Fires*, etc. 6 The *Seacole-meters. 1282 *Dean Forest Survey*, Item una trenchea incipiens apud *Secole puttes. 1629 *Leather* 7 Our Sea-coale Pits being able..to furnish the whole Iland. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 1063 Whatnum his *Sea-coal-Prong threw by, And basely turn'd his back to flie. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 84 We'll sit close and snug in a *Sea-coal Room. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 121 Soot is very good for Corn and Grass, but 'Sea-coal Soot is the best by much.

Sea-coal, obs. f. *sea-cole* (see SEA *sb.* 23 f).

Sea-coast.

1. The land adjacent to the sea; = COAST *sb* 4.

13.. *Coer de L.* 4782 Kyng Richard and Phelyp, with her hoost; Wente foorth be the see-coost. *a* 1451 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 551 The coost of France is no longer by the narow see coost than from Calyce in Pycardy unto Seynt Malous in Bretany. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 6 Those white rocks..Which all along the Southerne sea-coast lay, Threatning vnheedie wrecke. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. vii. § 5. 83 All the Sea-coast..[was] exposed to the waste of an enemie too farre ouer-matching him. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 164 To defend the sea-coasts of his own dominions. 1832 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 336 Prussia..has a considerable range of sea-coast. 1876 A. S. MURRAY *Mythol.* iii. (1877) 38 The Sirens are strictly personifications, not of the sea, but of the dangers of the sea-coast to sailors.

2. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 146 The Sea-coast Townes of France. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 103 So that I fancy'd now I had my Country House, and my Sea-Coast-House. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Lavatera*, *L. arborea*..being a common plant in sea-coast cottage gardens.

Hence †**Sea-coaster,** a wrecker; †**Sea-coasting** *a.*, situated on the sea-coast.

c 1550 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) XVI. 83 [To assist ship-owners against pillage by the] sea-coasters. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVIII. ii. 657 But their opinion that make Aegialia to be a sea-coasting citty is better.

Sea'-cob[1]**.** [COB *sb.*[3]] A sea-gull.

1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Seecobbe a byrde, *mauve de mer.* 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* D 8 b, *De Gavia*..a se cob or see-gell. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 68 Feel the tongue and point of the hook with your fingers..and take you the boldnesse to be caught, and like a Sea-cob swallow the whole bait. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 285 Wherever I find an hungry Sea-cob, I throw him out a Bait. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* I. ix. 176 What have these boys of their own?.. They have nothing, no more than the sea-cobs.

Sea'-cob[2]**.** [COB *sb.*[1]] A fish (see COB *sb.*[1] 3).

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 274 Two Sea-Gudgeons, called Paganelli,..which our western Fishermen call by the Name of Sea-cobs.

Sea'-cock. [COCK *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** A kind of crab. *Obs.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 2. 128 Sea cock. [Margin, *Cancer Heracleoticus.*]

2. A local name applied to various birds, (*a*) in quot. 1684 perh. the foolish or common guillemot, *Uria troile*; (*b*) the grey plover, *Squatarola helvetica*; (*c*) in Caithness 'the puffin, *Fratercula arctica*' (Eng. Dial. Dict.).

1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. III. vii. 22 *Avis Marina* Sea-Cock *dicta.* 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 181 Grey plover..Sea cock (Waterford).

3. A name for species of gurnard (see quots.). [So F. *coq de mer*, G. *seehahn*, Du. *zeehaan.*]

1704 tr. *Nieuhof's Voy. Brasil* Churchill's Collect. II. 348 The Sea-Cock is a Fish of a very odd shape, more like a Sea-Monster than a Fish. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sea-cock*, a species of gurnard (*Trigla cuculus* and *T. hirax*) much sought after by Russian epicures. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 96 The Sapphirine Gurnard..In some European languages the..crowing noises which these fishes produce have gained for them the name of Sea Cocks.

4. *jocularly.* A bold sailor or sea-rover.

1835 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv, Such a gay young sea-cock does not come hither for naught. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 2 They cried to one another how no young sea-cock ever crowed with truer ring.

5. In a marine steam-engine (see quot. 1858).

1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II 451 Sea-cock of a sea steam-engine (a cock placed on the pipe which goes from the boiler into the sea, through the side of the vessel). 1858 R. MURRAY *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 29 It is better in the case of large engines to have two injection cocks fitted between the sea and each condenser,—one, the sea cock, close to the side of the vessel. 1895 *Times* 18 Mar. 7/4 The sea-cock was left open, and late at night the men on board were surprised to find the vessel gradually filling with water.

Sea-conny. Also **seacunny, sea-cunny, seconny, seacony, sea-connie.** [App. a perversion (after SEA *sb.* and perh. CON *v.*[2]) of Pers. سکانی *sukkānī*, f. Arab. سكان *sukkān* rudder. The word appears in 16th c. Pg. as *socões* (pl.), and in English in 1805 as *soucan* (Yule).] A steersman or quartermaster in a ship manned by lascars.

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* III. 21/1 A Frenchman..concerted a plan with a Spaniard and four of the seacunnies, for

murdering the officers and seizing the ship. 1801 in A. Duncan *Marin. Chron.* (1804) II. 355 Leaving Captain Porter, who, with six Manilla seconnies, remained on board the wreck. *Ibid.* 356 This seconny afterwards went back to the wreck. 1801 *Naval Chron.* VI. 427 The Lascars..killed two of the..Seaconnies. 1806 *Ibid.* XV. 471 Had on board as helmsmen (*vulgo* seaconies) natives of Luconia. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xli, The crews are composed of.. a small proportion of Portuguese sea-cunnies. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* III. 172 When they have the Devil for a sea-cunny they will hit their port.

†Sea'-cornet. *Obs.* [CORNET *sb.*1]

1. A kind of shell-fish.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxxviii. I. 259 The sea cornet Buccinum. 1656 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 122 There are also seen in the Caribbies two sorts of those great Shells called Sea-Cornets, which are turned at the end like a Screw.

2. A cornet (musical instrument) used at sea.

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Voy.* lviii, Throughout this Fleet they played on so many barbarous and ill accorded instruments, as Bels, Cymbals, Drums, and Sea-cornets.

Sea'-cow. [Cow *sb.*1]

1. The MANATEE; also applied to other sirenians, as the dugong. Often applied to the now extinct sirenian, *Rhytina stelleri*, called *arctic*, *northern*, or *Steller's sea-cow*.

1613 R. HARCOURT *Voy. Guiana* 30 There is also a Seafish..the Indians call it *Coiumero*, and the Spaniards *Manati*, but we call it the Sea-cow. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 186 This is the Manatee, or Sea-Cow, called by the French Lamentin. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) I. 206 The Mexican Sea-cow (*Manatus latirostris*), a very large species, upwards of fifteen feet in length. 1883 FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 374/1 The *Rhytina* or Northern Sea-Cow was..limited to a single island in the extreme north of the Pacific Ocean.

2. The Morse or Walrus. Also *attrib.* ? *Obs.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 169 *Walrus*..the Mors, or Sea-Cow. 1782 CAPT. COFFIN in *J. Adams' Wks.* (1851) III. 330 The sea-cow fishery was..carried on to great advantage. 1819 *Act* 59 *Geo. III*, c. 52 Tab. A., Sea Cow, Sea Horse, or Sea Morse Teeth, the cwt. 3. 4. 0. 1837 T. BELL *Brit. Quadrup.* 285 Walrus. Morse, Sea-cow, Sea-horse.

†3. [tr. Gr. *βοῦς*.] A kind of ray. *Obs.*

1722 J. JONES *Oppian's Halieut.* 227 Boŭs..the Sea-Cow or Broad-Ray.

4. [S. African Du. *zeekoe*.] The hippopotamus.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 129 There is seen in the large rivers about the Cape a very large animal call'd the Sea-Cow. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* i. 15 Nine or ten crocodiles..gorged with sea-cow, and fast asleep.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.*, as *sea-cow sjambok*, *-whip*, etc.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 93/2 An equally persuasive sea-cow jambok. 1908 RIDER HAGGARD *Ghost Kings* viii. 102 We have sea-cow whips here.

5. A fisherman's name in the west of England for *Holothuria nigra*. 1884 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 563.

Sea'-crab. [CRAB *sb.*1]

1. A marine crab, as distinguished from a river- or land-crab.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. x. II. 449 The ashes of the Sea-crab and Scolopendre both. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 421 The common Sea-Crab or *Sherigo*. This species is very common in all the harbours of Jamaica. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* vi. 142 The Portunus, or real Sea-crab.

†b. In allusions. *Obs.*

1604 *Fr. Hubberd's Tales* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 95 One amongst them..likened me to a sea-crab, because I went all of one side. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* ix. 116 In which there is no more true controversie in point of law, than head in a sea-crab.

†2. a. Applied jocularly to a boatman. *Obs.*

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* vii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 252 No, your Oares are your onely Sea-crabs, boord them, and take heed you neuer go twice together with one paire.

†b. *slang.* A sailor. *Obs.*

1785 in GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*

†3. A CRAB (*sb.*1 7) used at sea. *Obs.*

1689 *Patent Office* No. 262 A new Invencion or Sea-Crabbe for working in the Sea for Fishing and taking vp of Shipps.

Sea'-craft.

1. Maritime skill, skill in navigation. Often written *seacraft*.

1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins*, etc. 221 Alexander.. to shew how little he considered the Sea-craft of the Persians,..employed none of that Country in his Fleet. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 246 Its population were pre-eminent in sea-craft and traffic.

2. *Ship-building.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-craft*, ..a term for the scarphed strakes otherwise called *clamps*.

Sea'-crafty, *a. rare.* Skilled in seafaring matters. (Rendering OE. *lagucræftig* in Beowulf.)

1838 LONGF. *Beowulf's Exped. to Heort* 41 The warrior showed, Sea-crafty man! The landmarks, And first went forth. 1892 BROOKE *Early Eng. Lit.* x. 232 Beowulf and his sea-crafty men.

Sea'-crow. [CROW *sb.*1 Cf. Welsh *morfran*.]

1. A local name for various birds: (*a*) the cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*; (*b*) the pewit-gull, *Larus ridibundus*; (*c*) the chough, *Pyrrhocorax graculus*; (*d*) the razor-billed auk, *Alca torda*; (*e*) the common skua, *Stercorarius catarrhactes*; (*f*) the jackdaw; (*g*) the American coot, *Fulica americana*, and the black skimmer, *Rhynchops nigra*.

1579 T. STEVENS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. ii. 100 But sometimes his other enemy, the sea-crow, catcheth him [a fish] before he falleth. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 95 *Graculus Palmipes*..the Cowt, or Sea-Crow. 1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., *Auk*, Razor-billed. Provincial..Sea-crow. 1897 'ALLEN RAINE' *Welsh Singer* viii. 68 On the ledge of rock the jackdaws, or the 'little sea-crows', as they were called on the coast, had built their untidy nest of twigs.

†2. Used to translate Gr. *κορακῖνος*, a black river-fish. *Obs.*

1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 213 Here Sea-Crows dwell, nam'd from their dusky Hue.

3. A local name for the sapphirine gurnard, *Trigla hirundo*. 1880–4 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. 61.

Sea cucumber. †a. [transl. of L. *cucumis*.] Some shell-fish. *Obs.* b. [= F. *concombre de mer*.] The common name for any holothurian, sometimes restricted to the *Psolidæ*.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. xi. II. 451. 1841 E. FORBES *Brit. Starfishes* 209 The Sea-Cucumbers are the most typical of the Holothuriadæ. *Ibid.* 221 The Glassy Sea-Cucumber is a most beautiful and delicate animal, being almost transparent and of an opaline hue. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 572 The body in the Sea Cucumbers is mostly cylindrical, and covered with a coriaceous skin.

Sead, obs. f. SAD *a.*, SAID *ppl. a.*

Sea-daisy.

†1. Some kind of sea-anemone. *Obs.*

a 1776 J. ELLIS *Zoophytes* (1786) 2 *Actinia Bellis*, Sea Daisie.

2. = SEA-PINK a.

1838 SCROPE *Art Deer-stalk.* 388 The highest hills..are scattered over with the sea daisy and other plants. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* i, There..grew..the beautiful sea daisy.

Sea'-devil.

1. A devil supposed to inhabit the sea.

c 1594 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl.) 14, I thinke wee weare haunted with some divelish witches, or at least with some sea divells. *a* 1721 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 23 The Sea-Devil, Dagon. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* viii. (1900) 132 Sea-devils and sea-angels, and the soul half drowned between them.

2. A name for various ugly fish, as the fishing-frog, various large rays, etc. Cf. DEVIL-FISH.

1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XXV. xxi. 1004 The effigies of a Sea Devill. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 105 There is sometimes taken by the Fishers a Monster which is ranked among the kinds of Sea-Devils,..what got it the name of Sea-Devil is, that above the eyes there are two little black horns..like those of a Ram. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 85 *Rana piscatrix*. The Toad-fish or Frog-fish, or Sea-Divel. 1842 in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* (1846) II. 516 *Cephaloptera vampyrus*, Sea-Devil. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1976 Angel Fish, *Squatina angelus*. This strange fish..is frequently called a 'monk' and still more commonly a 'sea-devil'. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 44 The Ox Ray or Sea-devil, *Dicerobatis giornæ*. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 52 *Manta birostris*..Sea Devil; Devil Fish.

3. *fig.* Any formidable engine of submarine warfare.

1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 230 One of these stealthy and effective sea-devils [torpedoes]. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 14 Oct. 5/2 The two British submarines..go out almost daily for the purpose of familiarising officers and seamen with the mechanism of these 'modern sea-devils'.

Sea'-dike. [Cf. Du. *zeedijk*.]

1. An embankment against the sea, a sea-wall.

14.. *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 797/40 *Hoc fossatum*, a sedyke. 1878 MILLER & SKERTCHLY *Fenland* I. 8 The old seadykes—like those along the coast of East-Holland in Lincolnshire.

2. *attrib.*

1395 in *East Anglian* (1871) IV. 79 [The iiij part of one labour in] Sedyksylver. *Ibid.* 92 [Of xxv labours by custom called] Sediksylver. 1567 DRANT *Hor. Epist.* I. xv. E vj, When I cum to seadyke syde [Lat. *ad mare cum veni*]. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincs.* 272 The Old Sea-dike bank.

Hence **Sea'-diked** *a.*

1851 S. WARREN *Lily & Bee* 22 In busy sea-dyked Holland.

Sea'-dog. [Cf. Du. *zeehond*, G. *seehund*.]

1. The common or harbour seal, *Calocephalus vitulinus*; 'also (in California), one of the eared seals, *Zalophus californianus*' (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* 415/2 Wee found great store of Sea wolues, which wee call Sea dogges. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 132 A large Seal or Sea-Dog. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. ii, The sea-dog..His round black head..Rear'd o'er the foaming spray. 1879 G. B. GOODE *Catal. Anim. Resources U. S.* 5 *Zalophus Gillespiei*. ..The Sea Dog. Pacific Coast.

2. A dog-fish or small shark. ? *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxxv. I. 255 If they [sc. mother-of-pearl shell-fish] be in the deepe, accompanied lightly they are with curst Sea-dogs [orig. *marinis canibus*]. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 401 In which [place] are many fishes called Sea-dogges. They which are weary of this world..cast in themselues here to be deuoured of these fishes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 118 The Sea-dog and the Dolphin are her food. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., Europe* I. 11 The chief fisheries [of the Mediterranean] are those of the tunny, of the sword fish, and of the sea dog, a species of shark.

3. *Her.* (See quot. 1780.)

[1758 J. KENNEDY *Curios. Wilton Ho.* 50 A Figure recumbent, leaning on a Sea-Dog, and representing the River Meander.] 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Sea-dogs*, are drawn in shape like the talbot, but with a tail like that of the beaver; a scalloped fin continued down the back, from the head to the tail; the whole body, legs, and tail, scaled, and the feet webbed. 1871 BURKE *Peerage* s.v. *Stourton*, Supporters.—Two sea-dogs, sa., scaled and finned, erm.

4. A privateer or pirate, esp. of the time of Queen Elizabeth.

1589 PELL *Impr. Sea* Proem B 3, They hunt the Pirat.. and sometimes they find..a Dunkirk Hare, squatted down very closely..and then is there brave gain, when our Seadogs follow after her. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 387 A regard to the safety and liberty of our seamen..forbids us to give such prices for those in captivity as will draw on our vessels peculiarly the pursuit of those sea-dogs. 1877 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* (1889) 1 The galleons of the Spanish Armada were pulled down by the sea-dogs of Drake.

5. A sailor, usually one long used to the sea, chiefly with the epithet *old*.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, The carpenter..was an old sea-dog. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iii, Sniffing the keen salt air like a young sea-dog. 1887 BESANT *World went* xxix, Other Captains..are no whit behind the most old-fashioned sea-dog in courage.

6. A luminous appearance near the horizon, regarded by mariners as a prognostic of bad weather.

1825–80 JAMIESON, *Dog, Sea-dog*, a name given by mariners to a meteor seen, immediately above the horizon [see Dog *sb.* 10]. *Ibid.*, The term, although used as synon. with *Weather-gaw*, properly denotes a luminous appearance of a different kind. For while the weather-gaw seems a detached section of a rainbow, the dog has no variety of colours, but is of a dusky white. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-dogg*, the meteor called also *stubb*.

7. *dial.* A rough wave in the mouth of a river.

1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* I. 1 White sea-dogs coursed and worried one another over Father Mersey's breadth of mud. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Sea-dogs, Sea-horses*, rough waves in the Humber and Trent.

Sea'-dragon. [DRAGON 1.]

1. Various fishes, as the weever; the bullhead; a dragonet (*Callionymus*); a flying sea-horse, *Pegasus draco*; also a kind of pipe-fish (see quot. 1898).

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. A v b, Wormwood..is good against ..the bytinge of a shrewe, and the sea dragon. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. v. II. 434 Since I haue named the sea-dragon [orig. *draco marinus*], this would be noted, That himselfe outwardly applied, is a remedie [etc.]. 1674 T. P., etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 412 Potage of Vives or Sea-dragons. *Ibid.*, Take out your Sea-Dragons, and put them with Ragoust [etc.]. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 272 The Cottus with the second back fin white. The Sea-dragon. 1835 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 165/1 *Pegasus Draco*, Lin.; Sea Dragon. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl., Sea-Dragon*, any Australian fish of any one of the three species of the genus *Phyllopteryx*, family *Syngnathidæ*.

2. A mythical marine monster resembling a dragon.

1749 *Gentl. Mag.* XIX. 506 It [a creature resembling a winged alligator, said to have been lately captured in a mackerel-net] is said..to have been described by naturalists under the name of the Sea-Dragon. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 11 Sept. 2/1 When a junk is fully laden and on the eve of sailing, the crew commend themselves to the sea-dragon in a frightfully noisy religious service.

¶ 3. Misused to render F. *draconcule*, guinea-worm.

1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 211 Those..enemies to man, the tape, the hair worm, and the sea dragon.

4. A popular name for any large marine saurian.

1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 52 Most of the 'Sea-Dragons'..were obtained from the Lias of Street,..Lyme Regis [etc.].

Sea'-duck.

1. Any duck of the sub-family *Fuligulinæ*, as the common scoter, *Œdemia nigra*, and the eider-duck.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Shoveler*..the name of a species of sea-duck. 1861 COUES in *Proc. Philad. Acad.* 239 *Somateria mollissima*...Eider Duck. 'Sea-duck.' *Ibid.* 240 They are..known as 'Sea-ducks', the males being.. distinguished as 'Sea-drakes'. 1867 T. R. JONES *Nat. Hist. Birds* 506 The Tufted Sea-duck (*Fuligula cristata*).

2. A fish, the 'Bombay duck'.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 351 Twelve Tins of Sardines ..and two of Sea-Duck in oil.

Seadule, obs. form of SCHEDULE.

Sea'-eagle.

1. An eagle of the genus *Haliaëtus*, esp. the White-tailed Eagle, *H. albicilla* (see EAGLE *sb.* 6 a). Also a name for the frigate-bird and the skua-gull.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 62 Haliætus, Aquila marina, the Sea-Eagle. 1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 46 *Cataractes*, some call it the Sea-Eagle. 1805 G. BARRY *Orkney Isl.* 313 The Sea Eagle (*falco ossifragus*, Lin. Syst.) is often seen. 1817 SHELLEY *Laon* VII. xv, The sea-eagle looked a fiend, who bore Thy mangled limbs for food! *a* 1843 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXV. 408/2 The Frigate Bird, Man-of-War Bird, Sea Eagle, and Halcyon, by all of which names it [*Tachypetes Aquilus*] is known to sailors, is commonly found between the tropics. 1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 599, *Sea-eagle*, the Erne: also the name sometimes given to the Osprey. 1875–84 LAYARD & SHARPE *Birds S. Africa* 46 *Haliaetus vocifer*. African Sea-Eagle.

2. The eagle-ray (see EAGLE 6 b).

1722 J. JONES *Oppian's Halieut.* 229 'Αετὸς. the Sea-Eagle, a kind of Ray. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* II. lxvii. 188 The Sea-Eagle..has a Head almost like that of a Toad. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 591. 1847 [see EAGLE *sb.* 6 b].

Sea'-ear. [EAR *sb.*1]

1. A univalve mollusc of the genus *Haliotis*; an ormer or ear-shell.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vi. i. 139 [Of Shells] The Sea-Ear. *Auris marina*. It hath its Name from its Figure. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 Univalves..Sea Ears, *Planæ*. These are very flat, resembling a man's ear. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 136 Muscles and sea-ears supply the place of other fish. 1883 N. OKOSHI *Fisheries Japan* (Fish. Exhib. Catal.) 16 The shells of sea-ear are now exported to Europe for the manufacture of buttons and other purposes.

†2. A plant [tr. L. *auris marina*]. *Obs. rare*—1.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 3. 71 Herbs considered according to their leaves..Sea-ear. [marg. *Auris marina*.]

3. = *sea-corn* (see quot. 1891, s. v. SEA *sb.* 23 d).

Sea'-eel. A salt-water eel, a conger.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 447/36 *Murrenula*, sæol. 1585 JAS. VI *Est. Poesie*, Sonn. viii. (Arb.) 26 As whailes so huge, and Sea eylis rare, that be Myle longe, in crawling cruikis of sixtie pace. 1704 tr. *Nieuhof's Voy. Brazil* Churchill's Collect. III. 347 There is another kind of Sea-Eels, or rather

Water-Serpents in the Indies, of about three foot long [etc.]. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* I. 189 A sea eel, 6 feet long..weighing 30lb. was lately taken..at Whitstable. 1886 SHELDON tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* i. 15 On her neck she wore a collection of luminous gems which imitated in their medley the scales of a sea-eel.

Sea'-egg.

1. An ECHINUS or sea-urchin.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 126 There is found..a production of the Sea, called Sea-egges, or Sea-Apples... These Egges should rather be called Sea-Urchins or Sea-Chestnuts. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 278 The round and flat sea-egg. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 84 Sea-eggs (black echini, with long needle-like spines).

2. A kind of medic, *Medicago Echinus*.

1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.*, Sea-egg, *Medicago Echinus*.

Sea-elephant. The elephant seal, *Macrorhinus elephantinus* or *proboscideus*. Formerly applied to the morse or walrus.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. v. I. 236 There were sea-Elephants and Rams, with teeth standing out. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XXV. xxi. 1005 The Sea Elephant is bigger than the land Elephant, as Hector Boëtius writes in his description of Scotland. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 157 Their two large teeth or tusks..are as good as ivory for any kind of turn'd work; and therefore this creature [the walrus] is called by some the Sea-Elephant. 1798 [see ELEPHANT 6]. 1875 KIDDER *Nat. Hist. Kerguelen Isl.* 39 In former years the Kerguelen group of islands was noted as a favorite breeding-place for the sea-elephant (*Macrorhinus leoninus*, L.).

attrib. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 103 A considerable portion of sea-elephant oil is also procured at Macquarie Island. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 201 Sea Elephant oil, crude and bleached.

Sea-face. The face or side (of a cliff, etc.) exposed to the sea.

1889 *Played On* iii. 7 A bluff headland..on its sea-face presenting a sheer cliff of some two hundred feet. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* July 34 The Admiral's care now was to disarm the sea-face of the city fortifications.

attrib. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 2/1 One of the most beautiful sea-face roads in the world.

Sea'-fan. [FAN *sb.*1] An alcyonarian polyp of the sub-order *Gorgoniacea*, esp. *Rhipidogorgia* (*Gorgonia*) *flabellum*.

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. xxiv. 1617 *Frutex marinus reticulatus*. Sea Fan. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 5 The Common Fly: her wings look like a Sea-fan with black thick ribs or fibers dispers'd and branch'd through them. 1755 J. ELLIS *Corallines* 67 *Keratophyton flabelliforme*..Warted Sea-fan. 1902 G. C. BOURNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 456/2 The most familiar example [of the Axifera] is the pink sea-fan, *Gorgonia Cavolinii*.

attrib. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. (1791) 121 Her [the [mermaid's] shell-wrack gardens, and her sea-fan bowers.

Sea'-fardinger. *arch.* [? Alteration of Du. *zeevaarder* SEAFARER, after *passenger*.] A seafarer.

a 1550 SIR R. GRENVILLE in Tregellas *Cornish Worthies* (1884) II. (*title of poem*) Another, of Sea Fardingers, describing Euill Fortune. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Seafardinger*, an archaic expression for a sea-faring man. 1889 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Splendid Spur* xix. 307 'Yo-heave ho!' like the salted seafardingers upstairs. Push, push!

Sea'-fare. [FARE *sb.*1]

1. **a.** Food obtained from the sea. **b.** Fare or food on board ship.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Sol.* xix. 19 Her sea-fare now is land-fare of content;..The fishes are her food, and they are sent Vnto drie land. 1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* vi, The fresh milk, butter, and excellent beef of the country, were real luxuries after our sea-fare.

2. Travel by sea, a sea-voyage. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1601 WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 20 These men..linked and bound themselues together in Companie for the exercise of Merchandise and sea-fare, trading in Cloth, Kersies [etc.]. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 137 These [kinds of Pulse] in cases of Sea-fare and War-fare ought principally to be eschewed & shunned.

Seafarer (sī'fēərəɹ). [f. SEA *sb.* + FARER. Cf. G. *seefahrer*, Du. *zeevaarder*.] A traveller by sea, esp. one whose life is spent in voyaging, a sailor.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xiii. 30 From the eft schip wprais anone the wind, And followit fast the se farrris behind. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 41 Yet for the loue Of this poore Infant, this fresh new sea-farer, I would it [the flaw] would be quiet. 1654 VILVAIN *Enchir. Epigr.* III. lxxi. 73 The 7 famous Sailers or Seafarers, who gav a girdle to the Geographic Globe. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 180 A wand'ring merchant he frequents the main, Some mean sea-farer in pursuit of gain. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. ii. 27 Stephen Gomez, an able Portuguese seafarer.

transf. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* III, *1st Girl*. There goes a swallow to Venice—the stout seafarer! 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 11 The sails of our seafarer were filled with the wind all day.

Seafaring (sī'fēərin), *sb.* [f. SEA *sb.* + FARING *vbl. sb.*] Travelling by sea; the business or calling of a sailor.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Addit. 190 After long and wearie Sea-faring. 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. 108 My Countrey..is Rhegium; my profession, sea-faring. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 486 P 4 She is the Wife of a Sailor, and the kept Mistress of a Man of Quality; she dwells with the latter during the Sea-faring of the former. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyss.* 172 All day long her sails were stretched in her seafaring.

b. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* Of or pertaining to travelling, living or working at sea.

1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 40 The skilfull prowesse and seafaring dexteritie of the English. 1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 22 An Insight into the Seafaring Life. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. ii. (1877) 56 The old seafaring spirit seems to have died out.

Sea'-faring, *a.* [f. SEA *sb.* + FARING *ppl. a.*]

1. Of persons: Travelling on the sea; following the sea as a calling, gaining a livelihood at sea. † Also *absol.* in pl. sense.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Dan þe safarinde men seð þe sasterne, hie wuten sone wuderward hie sullen weie holden. 1405 *York Bidding Prayer* in *Lay-Folks Mass Bk.* 65 3e sal pray..for al land tilland and for al see farand..and for the fruyt that es on erthe. 1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 1 Beyng as beakons and markes of auncient tyme accustomed for Seafaryng men. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 81. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxx, Some Sea-faring People, inhabitants by the Thames-side in Wapping. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 117 To sailors and all seafaring persons. 1819 *Edin. Ann. Reg.* (1823) XII. App. 85 James Lincoln, a seafaring man at Sunderland, knew the prisoner Eden for twenty years. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Run to Earth* I. i. 2 The two men..belonged to the seafaring community.

b. *transf.* Applied to a bird.

1880 SWINBURNE *Studies in Song* 86 Seafaring birds.

† 2. Of a plant: Growing by the sea. *Obs. rare*—1.

1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 69 A marine salt..works it self into the texture of those sea-faring plants.

Sea'-feather. [Cf. G. *seefeder*, *meerfeder*.] A coral or polyp of the family *Pennatulidæ*.

1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Gen. Hist.* V. 171 *marg.*, The Sea feather. [Described in text.] 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. xxiii. 1616 *Myriophyllum marinum*. The Sea Feather. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 288 The Sea Feathers. These seldom grow, on the Shores of this Island, above two Feet and an half high. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 115 Sea-feathers (genus *Fennatula* and others).

Sea'-fern.

1. Any alcyonarian polyp or coral resembling a fern. Also *attrib.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 98/1 English Sea-Fern..with brownish marks on the back, like land Fern. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 86 The sea-fern tribe of branching polypidoms.

2. A fern, the sea-spleenwort.

1855 *New Cycl. Bot.* II. 601 *Asplenium marinum*. Sea Fern.

Sea'-fight. A naval battle, a fight or engagement between ships at sea.

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 292 Behold the issue of the sea fight. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 26. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 489 There be many Examples, where Sea-Fights haue beene Finall to the warre. 1690 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Mar., He concluded there would shortly be no other method of sea-fight. *c* 1700 in Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) III. 59 Mr. William Vandevelde, senior, late painter of sea-fights to their majesties king Charles II. and king James dyed 1693. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* ix. § 5 (ed. 3) 241 The naval engagement between the Corcyrians and Corinthians (B.C. 650) is the first sea-fight recorded in history. 1858 LONGF. *My Lost Youth* v, I remember the sea-fight far away, How it thundered o'er the tide!

Sea'-fish, *sb.* [Cf. ON. *sǽfiskr*.] A fish of the sea as distinguished from a fresh-water fish.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 987 (Gr.) Þonne on fyrhðe swelað sæfiscas sundes getwæfde. *c* 1205 LAY. 22550 Fulle sixti scipen..ifulled..mid gode sæ fisce [*c* 1275 see visce]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 335 Grete plente of samon, of lampreys, of eles, and of oþer see fisch. 1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 143 The King's purveyor of see-fish shall see that such provisions of see-fish..bee good and of the best. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 76 Sea-fish upon the coast of Lanckashire perished in the storm fifty cart-load together. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 537/1 This sea-fish [the oyster] occupies [etc.]. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* ii. (1849) 80 Large pools for the preservation of sea-fishes. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 45 § 5 The Term 'Sea-Fish' does not include Salmon..but save as aforesaid, includes every Description both of Fish and of Shell-Fish which is found in the Seas to which this Act applies.

Sea'-fish, *v. rare.* [Back-formation from SEA-FISHING.] *intr.* To practise sea-fishing.

1894 'J. BICKERDYKE' in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 428/2 Since I first commenced to seafish one of the greatest improvements..is in connection with the rod.

Sea'-fisher.

1. One who fishes in the sea. † Also the fishing-frog or angler. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xlii. I. 261 The fish called the sea Frog, (and of others, the sea Fisher) is as craftie everie whit as the other. 1893 *Fishing Gaz.* 6/3 An Amateur Sea Fisher's Club. 1898 'J. BICKERDYKE' (*title*) Practical letters to young sea fishers.

† 2. An officer of the royal household. *Obs.* Cf. quot. 1526 s. v. SEA-FISH *sb.*

1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) * 21 Th' Office of the Catery. ..William Hampton, Sea-Fyssher. 1526 *Ibid.* 143 Sea-Fisher.

So **Sea-fisherman,** one who fishes in the sea.

1865 J. C. WILCOCKS (*title*) The Sea-Fisherman...comprising the chief methods of Hook and Line Fishing in the British and other Seas.

Sea'-fishery. The business or occupation, etc. of catching fish in the sea (see FISHERY 1). Also *pl. attrib.*, as in *sea fisheries act*.

1865 L. YOUNG *Sea-Fishing* v. 185 History of Sea-fisheries. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 45 § 2 This Act may be cited as The Sea Fisheries Act, 1868.

Sea'-fishing, *vbl. sb.* [FISHING *vbl. sb.*1] Fishing in the sea.

1823 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 135 In sea-fishing..your line ought to be sixty fathoms in length. 1890 F. G. AFLALO (*title*) Sea-Fishing on the English Coast.

Sea'-float, *a. rare*—1. [f. SEA *sb.*? + (A)FLOAT *a.*] ? Afloat on the sea.

1880 G. MACDONALD *Diary Old Soul* Jan. 13 Bolsterous wave-crest never shall o'erwhelm Thy sea-float bark.

Sea'-flood. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* The sea, the tide.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. vii. 90 An sæflod com. *c* 1205 LAY. 2630 He lætte bi sæ flode 3earkien scipen gode. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 146 in *O. E. Misc.* 111 Stronge it his to rosen azen þe se flod. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 521 Þe se-flude vmlappid bothe hym & þe cow & þe calfe, & drownyd þaim. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* V. 91 The yellow sands the sea-flood's hem.

Sea'-flower. A flower growing in or by the sea. Also, an actinia or sea-anemone. Also *attrib.*

1805 FORSYTH *Beaut. Scot.* II. 366 [The sea-anemones'] lively colours..equal anything recited by natural historians of the sea-flowers of other climates. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-Worshippers* (near end), Fair as the sea-flower close to thee growing. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 47 Nereids..With..starry sea-flower crowns. 1830 TENNYSON *Merman* ii, Dressing their hair with the white sea-flower. 1850 DANA *Geol.* i. 10 The waters abound in..the variously coloured actinias or sea-flowers.

Sea'-foam.

1. Foam of the sea.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14409 Moyses..led þaim thoru þe see fame. 14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. C.) 502 Til þay come to þe se fome. *c* 1460 *Emare* 805 When she was fled ouur þe see fome, The nobulle kyng dwelled at home, Wyth fulle heuy chere. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Escumier*, Venus..is fained to haue beene bred of the sea-foame. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. i, The merry seamen laugh'd to see Their gallant ship so lustily Furrow the green sea-foam. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 31 Between the sea-foam and the sea.

b. *attrib.*

1611 COTGR., s. v. *Sel, Escume de sel*, Sea-foame salt.

† 2. = SEA-FROTH 3. *Obs.*

1725 [see SEA-FROTH 3]. 1852 E. A. ANDREWS *Lat.-Eng. Lex.* s. v. *Alcyoneus*, Alcyoneum medicamen..Sea-foam, a good remedy for white specks in the eyes.

3. [tr. Ger. *meerschaum*] = MEERSCHAUM.

1837 DANA *Syst. Min.* 256 Sea Foam; called also Meerschaum, and Magnesite.

Sea'-fowl. [Cf. OE. *Sǽfugol* occurring as a proper name in *O. E. Chron.* an. 560.] A sea-bird.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 811 Þan fetches hee a seafoule faire of his wynges. 1620 J. MASON *New-found-land in Mem.* (1887) 151 The sea fowles are gulles, sea pigeons [etc.]. 1767 tr. *Crantz' Greenland* I. 79 The sea-fowls have all alike webbed feet like a goose. *Ibid.* 82 The second class of sea-fowl. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* I. ix. (1872) 92 Innumerable sea-fowl skim the surf or sweep the sky.

attrib. 1898 KEARTON *Wild Life at Home* 103 The famous Noup of Noss is a perfect sea-fowl paradise.

Sea'-fox. [tr. L. *vulpēs marina* (Pliny).] The Thrasher-shark, *Alopias vulpes*, also called SEA-APE, etc. Also † *sea fox hound*.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 287 The..subtle Sea-Fox. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 128 *Vulpecula Marina*..the Sea Fox Hound. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 54 *Vulpes marina Rondelet*...The Sea Fox or Ape. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 379 The Fox Shark. Sea-fox. Thresher.

Sea-front.

1. That portion or side of a building, etc. which faces the sea.

1879 SIR C. NUGENT in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 450/2 These forts ..are protected with shields or walls of iron upon their sea-fronts. 1881 FREEMAN *Venice* 142 We can trace out the long line of the sea-front of the palace which became a city.

2. The land on the side of a town, etc. facing the sea.

1879 SIR C. NUGENT in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 450/1 Upon the sea fronts the works consist..of isolated forts. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xix. (ed. 3) 188 A short distance from the sea-front.

Sea-frontage. An extent of sea-front.

1897 D. BUTLER *Ch. & Par. Abernethy* I. 17 *note*, The western side has a sea-frontage of 1500 feet long.

Sea'-froth.

† 1. Seaweed. *Obs. rare.* (In quots. tr. L. *alga*.)

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 329 Other, so doluen, kesteth seefroth yn. *Ibid.* 335 Oildregges ek is good, outher seefroth. *Ibid.* 621 Sefroth the ferthe is go To honge vp.

2. The froth or foam of the sea; sea-foam.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 22 Neptun..glyds on the seafroth, with wheales of gould wagon. 1845 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 272 A little white foam, like sea froth. 1895 W. B. YEATS *Poems* (1899) 235 Wool whiter than sea froth. *attrib.* 1643 A. ROSS *Mel Helic.* 86 Fair Venus With her sea-froth countenance.

† 3. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0. Cf. SEA-FOAM 2.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Sea-Froth* or *Foam*; in Latin *Alcyonium*, in all appearance a sort of Spungy Plant found in the Sea..; some..take it to be the Scum of the Sea, which has been hardned by the Sun Beames.

4. Meerschaum (cf. SEA-FOAM 3).

1801 T. THOMSON *Min.* in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) *Suppl.* II. 217/1 Myrsen—Seafroth. 1856 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* IV. 732.

Sea'-gate[1]. [GATE *sb.*2]

† 1. Distance or journey by sea. *Obs. rare*—1.

1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetld.* (1859) 59 Fra the Yle of Brassay to Swounburgh, quhilk is twentie myles of seagait.

2. A long rolling swell; also, the condition in which two vessels are when thrown aboard one another by such a swell.

1583 *Fenton's Voy.* (MS. Cott. Otho E. viii. 185), With the force of the winde and the Seagate our cable br[oke]. 1628 *World Encompassed by Drake* 30 The sea-gate being at that present very great. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 142 Two Ships by lying aboard one another in a Sea-Gate (that is a Billow, or wave). 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sea-Gate*, when two Ships are aboard one another by means of a Wave or Billow: The Sea-men say, They lie aboard one another in a Sea-Gate. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-gate* or *gait*.

† 3. ? An inlet of the sea. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 134 But, since

his sin, the wofull wretch findes none..Beast, mountain, valley, sea-gate shore or haven, But bears his Death's doom openly ingraven.

Sea'-gate[2]. [GATE *sb.*[1]]

1. A gate towards, or giving access to, the sea; or a convenient approach to the sea.

1861 J. M. NEALE *Notes Dalmatia* 115 The sea-gate..is Roman. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 238 Over the sea-gate of the city stands the Lion of St. Mark.

2. A place of access to the sea.

1883 F. G. HEATH in *Century Mag.* Dec. 165/1 Plymouth, the great sea-gate of sunny Devon. 1896 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 6/2 Delagoa Bay, the seagate of Secheleland.

3. One of a pair of supplementary or outer gates opening outwards, placed sometimes at the entrance of an exposed dock or tidal basin, as a safeguard against a heavy sea. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Seage, obs. form of SIEGE *sb.*

Sea'-girt, *a.* Girt or surrounded by the sea. (Sometimes said of a peninsula or of a place that has the sea almost completely surrounding it.)

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1632) 12 Sea-girt Tenedos. 1670 MILTON *Brutus* 9 in *Hist. Brit.*, In th' Ocean wide Beyond the Realm of Gaul, a Land there lies, Sea-girt it lies. 1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 170 The little sea-girt empire of the Knights of Malta. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxviii, The joys and sorrows sailors find, Coop'd in their winged sea-girt citadel. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1050 A green and sea-girt promontory. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & P.* vi. (ed. 3) 262 That sea-girt city [Cæsarea]. 1897 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* i, Round sea-girt rocks.

Sea'-god. A god of the sea, a marine deity.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Deus, Cærulei dij*, Sea gods. 1620 CAMPION *Hymn in Praise of Neptune* 8 Euery Sea-god paies a Iem..To decke great Neptunes Diadem. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* liv. VII. 52 Here he again sacrificed to the sea-god, whose proper realm he had now entered.

So **Sea'-goddess,** a goddess of the sea.

1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* (1722) Index, *Ino*, a Sea-Goddess. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* v. I. 157 The son of a sea-goddess.

Sea'-going, *sb.* Going or travelling by sea.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lxii, Released from sea-going, after that first long voyage with his young bride.

attrib. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 380 Sea-going togs, and other requirements. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* July 401 The first seagoing chronometer..was made by him.

Sea'-going, *a.*

1. Going on the sea, applied to a vessel which makes distant journeys as opposed to a coasting, harbour, or river vessel.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* x, I should be sent out..in some sea-going ship. 1909 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1009 The personnel of the sea-going fleet.

in fig. context. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The shop itself ..seemed almost to become a snug, sea-going, ship-shape concern, wanting only good sea-room.

2. Going to the sea, esp. of a fish, catadromous.

1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. x. 4 Several of the different fry of the sea-going fish. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 16 The sea-going rivers of Germany.

3. Travelling by sea, seafaring.

1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* v. 166 Alcinous the rich sea-going king. 1887 B. V. HEAD *Hist. Numorum* Introd. 37 Subsequently the Greeks..became a sea-going people.

Sea'-grape. [GRAPE *sb.*[1]]

1. The glassworts, *Salicornia herbacea* and *Salsola Kali*.

1578 LYTE tr. *Dodoens* I. lxxviii. 116 *Salicornia*..in English Sea grape. 1839 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* IV. 307 *Salicornia herbacea*...Sea-grass...Sea-grape. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 288 *Salsola Kali* (Prickly Saltwort) ..is in country places often called Sea-grape.

† **2.** The plant *Ephedra distachya*. *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxliii. 958 Sea Grape is not vnlike to Horse taile. 1611 COTGR., *Raisin de mer*, sea Grape. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* II. s.v. *Polygonum*, Ephedra sive Anabasis, Climbing Knot-Grass or Sea-Grape. *Ibid.*, *Polygonum bacciferum*, sive Uva marina major, The great Sea-Grape.

† **3.** A fish mentioned by Pliny. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. x. II. 450 Likewise the fish called the Sea-grape [L. *uva*] putrefied in wine, doe infuse this vertue into the foresaid wine.

4. In W. Indies, the grape-tree or seaside grape, *Coccoloba uvifera*.

1806 T. MOORE *'I stole along the flowery bank'* i, Many a bending sea-grape drank The sprinkle of the feathery oar. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 118 *Coccoloba uvifera*. ..Sea Grape.

5. *pl.* The clustered egg-cases of the cuttle-fish and other cephalopods.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 560/2 The eggs of the Cuttle-fish..resemble in this state a bunch of grapes, as the name 'sea-grapes'..implies. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 233 That singular cluster..commonly called by the fishermen Sea-grapes, is a group of the eggs of the common cuttle-fish.

6. The gulf-weed, which has large bladders in clusters resembling grapes.

1825 LONGF. *Sea Diver* iv, They rested by the coral throne, ..Where the pale sea-grape had o'ergrown The glorious dwellings made for them. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 111 The Sea-grape is an olive-green weed, with..berries about as large as a pea.

Sea'-grass. [Cf. G. *seegras, meergras*.]

1. A grass which grows by the sea. Also one of various grass-like plants: (*a*) = SEA-PINK a; (*b*) one of the glassworts, *Salicornia herbacea*; (*c*) the grass *Spartina stricta*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. l. 509 Sea grasse...Some call it in Englishe our Ladies quishion. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 318 In English, Thrift, Sea grasse, and our Ladies Cushion. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 158 Its banks..are covered, like the other mud-lands of this country, with sea-grass, which gives them the air of meadows when the tide retires. 1837 BAXTER *Brit. Phænog. Bot.* III. 203 *Spartina stricta*. Twin-spiked Cord-grass. Smooth Sea-grass. Sea Cock's-foot-grass. 1839 [see SEA-GRAPE 1].

2. One of various plants and seaweeds growing in the sea: (*a*) a pondweed, *Ruppia maritima*; (*b*) the eel-grass or grass-wrack, *Zostera marina*; (*c*) the gulf-weed; (*d*) the *Enteromorpha compressa*.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Ova*, reeke, sea grasse, ducke weede, *Vlua, alga, lens palustris*. 1605 B. JONSON *Masque of Blackness*, Oceanus..was gyrlonded with *Alga*, or seagrasse. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 63 *Ruppia maritima*...Sea-grass. 1857-8 LONGF. *M. Standish* IV. 12 Welcome, O wind of the East..Blowing o'er fields of dulse, and measureless meadows of sea-grass. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* (Fish. Exhib. Catal.) 48 The food of the Dugong consists of sea-grasses, chiefly a species of *Zostera*.

3. A variety of cirrus cloud.

1887 ABERCROMBY *Weather* 98.

4. *attrib.*

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug., Ligatures of seagrass twine—which cut like razors. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 256/1 Off speeds the bass with an hundred foot pennon of sea-grass line trailing from his bloody jaws.

Sea'-green, *a.* and *sb.* [Cf. F. *vert de mer*.]

A. *adj.* Pale bluish-green.

1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 36 Saddles covered w[th] sea grene clothe. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* xxi, Lawson..Whom sea-green Sirens from the rocks lament. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 388 Sea-green Roller, with..wings varied with blue, sea-green, and black. 1811 *Ibid.* VIII. 152 Sea-green Bee-Eater, with yellow throat. 1823 BYRON *Island* III. ii, Their sea-green isle. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iv, O seagreen Incorruptible, thou shalt see! 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. iv. 354 [Uranus] has a decided sea-green color.

B. *sb.*

1. A sea-green colour.

1598 CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* IV. 73 With a pure Sea greene She did so queintly shadow euery lim. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xx, Between a Sea-green and a skie-colour. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, She..appeared..in draggled sea-green, or slatternly sky-blue.

† **2.** Houseleek. Cf. AY-GREEN, SENGREEN. *Obs.* Perh. orig. a misprint: see the first quot.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xvii. I. 575 The hearb Housleek or Sea-greene [*Errata, read* Sengreene]. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Scolopender*, ..a certain Medicinal Herb,..such as Sea-green [etc.]. 1735 JOHNSON, *Seagreen*, saxifrage. A plant.

3. A collector's name for a moth, the *Hadena thalassina*. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 67.

4. *pl.* (*Sc.*) (See quot.)

1765-8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vi. § 17 Sea-greens.. *i. e.* grounds in some measure gained from the sea, but which still continue to be overflowed in spring-tides.

Seagrim, obs. variant of SEGGRUM.

Sea'-ground.

† **1.** The bottom of the sea (cf. GROUND *sb.* I a).

Beowulf 564 Sægrunde neah. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 517 in *O. E. Misc.* 16 Dis fis wuneð wið ðe se grund. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20952 A dai and of a night to stound He [Paul] was stad atte see ground. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 640 The ankir... To þe se gronde doune slypp. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. 34 The ship..sunke sodainely to the Sea-ground.

2. *pl.* ? Land covered at high tide by the sea.

1826 BARNEWALL & CRESSWELL *K. B. Rep.* IV. 486 The messuage,..sea-grounds, oyster-layings [etc.]. *Ibid.* 491 The words *sea-grounds*, by themselves, would have been sufficient to pass the right of soil in the shore.

Sea'-gull. Also 6 **seegell.** = GULL *sb.*[1]

1542 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 324 For bringing seygwlles and other fowlles, vs. 1544 [see SEA-COB [1]]. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 401 The counterfect philosopher..sheweth himself like unto a sea Gull among a sort of faire swannes. 1659 PELL *Impr. Sea* 236 A *Fezerallo*, is a black-coloured bird, but somewhat less than a Sea-Gull. 1766 GRAY *Kingsgate* 7 Here sea-gulls scream, and cormorants rejoice. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, To watch the flight of a seagull. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., Flocks of white seagulls ..were constantly circling round.

transf. and *fig.* 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 60 That greedy seagull ignorance is apt to deuoure any thing. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 276 Now trust me not, Readers, if I be not already weary of pluming and footing this Seagull, so open he lies to strokes.

‖ **Seah** (sē, ă). *Hebrew Antiq.* [Heb. סְאָה *sᵉ ʾāh*, in the Eng. Bible translated 'measure' (e. g. Gen. xviii. 6, 2 Kings vii. 1), as is also the Græcized form σάτον in the New Testament (e. g. Matt. xiii. 33).] A Hebrew dry measure, equal (according to Rabbinical statements) to six times the cab (CAB *sb.*[1]) and to one-third of the ephah.

1705 ARBUTHNOT *Tab. Grec., etc. Coins* 14, 15. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* IX. iv. § 4 Two seahs of barley should be sold in the market for a shekel, and a seah of fine flour should be sold for a shekel [2 *Kings* vii. 1]. *Ibid.* § 5 A seah is equal to an Italian modius and a half.

Sea-hare. [Cf. G. *see-, meerhase*, Du. *seehaas*, in both senses.]

1. A mollusc, *Aplysia depilans* (and other species), having an oval body with four tentacles.

A rendering of the *lepus marinus* of Pliny, whose account is the source of most of the older English references. The designation is thought to be due to the resemblance of the two skinny lobes of the animal to the ears of a hare. Pliny's notion that the animal is venomous has no foundation.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 251 Good against the empoisonment of the sea-hare. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 983 It hath beene anciently received, that the Sea-Hare hath an Antipathy with the Lungs, (if it commeth neare the Body,) and erodeth them. 1759 tr. *M. Adanson's Voy. Senegal* 208 Several soft fishes, as sea hares, cuttle fish, and polypus. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 65 The cuttle-fish and the sea-hare.

2. The Lump-fish: see LUMP *sb.*[2] *rare.*

1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 390.

Sea'-hawk. [HAWK *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** Some kind of fish. **a.** ? The eagle-ray or sea-eagle. **b.** A flying fish. *Obs. rare.*

a. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 243 The Sea-Hawk is of hard Flesh and slow Digestion, as Galen avoucheth. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 235 Sea Hauke hath a very moist and soft flesh.

b. 1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 714 Sea-Hawks [*orig.* ἱρηξ], the Swallow, and the wanton Sleve Their native Streams for airy Pastime leave.

2. One of various gull-like birds, as one of the skuas, and the frigate-bird.

1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 496 (Skua) The Sea-Hawk follows the frightened bird in all its motions. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 80 The Frigate-bird (*Tachypetes aquila*)..is also known by the name of Sea Hawk, or Man-of-war Bird.

Sea-hedgehog.

1. An echinus or sea-urchin.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 32 The Sea-hedge-hogge,..is enclosed in a round shell,..garded by an vtter skinne full of prickles, as the land Vrchin. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 333 *Echinus Echinometrites* sea hedgehog, whose neat shells are common on the shore.

attrib. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 259 Fragments of coral, sea-hedgehog shells, and their broken off prickles.

2. The globe-fish or other diodont fish; so called from having erectile spines.

c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vi. 60 Sea Porcupine..This thorny Fish, is a sort of Sea Hedge-hog. 1879 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 685/1 *Globe-fish* or *Sea-Hedgehog*.

Sea'-hen.

1. A name for the piper-gurnard, *Trigla lyra*, and the lump-fish, *Cyclopterus lumpus*.

[Cf. G. *seehahn* (='sea-cock'), applied to both fishes.]

1611 COTGR., *Poullarde*, the Sea-hienne; a fish. 1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. II. 24 *Lyra, quibusdam* the Crowner, *aliis ex nostratibus* the Sea-Hen. 1892 H. A. MACPHERSON *Vertebr. Fauna of Lakeland* 480 The fishermen of the English Solway generally apply the title of 'Sea hen' to this species [*Cyclopterus lumpus*].

2. A local name for the common guillemot, *Uria troile*, and the great skua, *Stercorarius catarrhactes*.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* III. III. iv. (1676) 244 *Northumbris & Dunelmensibus*, a Guillemot or Sea-hen. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 318 *Uria Troile*. Foolish Guillemot. ..Sea-hen. 1879 KUMLIEN *Contrib. Nat. Hist. Arctic Amer.* 94 *Buphagus skua*...'Sea-hen' of whalemen.

‖ **Sea'-herr.** *Obs.* [? Du. *zeeheer*, f. *see* SEA + *heer* lord.] One who has dominion over the seas.

1615 *Trade's Incr.* 7 Our neighbours the now *Sea-herrs*, the Nation..whose troubles begot their liberty [the Dutch].

Sea'-hog. [HOG *sb.*[1]; cf. G. *meerschwein*.]

1. A popular name for the porpoise. ? *Now rare.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Marsouin*, a sea hog. 1686 J. DUNTON *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 32 A vast number of Fishes called Sea-hogs, or Porpoises. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 97 A porpus, or sea-hog,..came up the river as far as London-bridge. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 524 The Sea-hog or Porpoise (*Phocæna communis*).

† **2.** = HOG-FISH 3. *Obs.* 1608 [see HOG-FISH 3].

Sea'-holly. The plant ERYNGO.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 36 Eryngium is named in englishe sea Hulver or sea Holly. 1642 *Rates Merchandizes* 48 Sea-holly rootes. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 Buphthalmums, Sea Holly, Sea Ragwort. 1882 *Garden* 15 Apr. 249/1 The ordinary Sea Holly.

Sea'-holm[1]. *rare*—[o]. [HOLM [1].] 'A small uninhabited island' (J.); hence in later Dicts.

Sea'-holm[2]. [HOLM [2].] = SEA-HOLLY.

c 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* (*c* 1560) N v b, The herbe and rote of seaholme sodden and dronke with wyne. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* I. 125 The Seaholme heere, that spreadeth all our shore,..Whose roote th' Eringo is. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* II, *Sea-Holm*, or *Hulver*, in Latin, Aquifolium. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* i. 18 [*Eryngium maritimum*] is known on the several parts of our coast by a variety of names, as the sea hulver, sea holly, and sea holme. *attrib.* 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 19 The Seaholme roote.

Sea'-horse. [Cf. G. *seepferd, seeross*.]

1. The walrus. [Cf. *horse-whale*. HORSE *sb.* 27 b.]

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in WR-WÜLCKER 765/2 [*Nomina piscium marinorum*] *Hoc rosmus*, a sehors. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 16 Daulphins, Seahorse, Selchs with oxin ee, And Merswynis, Pertrikis als of fishes race. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 748 *note*, Some call the Morse a Sea horse. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Of Greenland* Wks. 1835 IV. 375 The stomachs of sea horses or morses. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 148 A ring made of a sea-horse's tooth.

¶ By extension apparently applied to the narwhal.

1674 tr. *Martiniere's Voy.* 115 The Horn of this Sea-horse, was full ten foot long,..wreathed..tapering.

2. A fabulous horse-like marine animal.

As represented in heraldry (and formerly in pageants) it has the fore-parts of a horse and the tail of a fish, like the steeds (*equi bipedes*, Verg. *Georg.* IV. 389) drawing the chariots of Neptune and Proteus as depicted in ancient paintings.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Hollinshed* III. 1340/1 Before the which [*sc.* the mint] there was a huge and monstrous sea-horsse of twentie foot high. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., His Cavalier*, That dares bestride The active sea-horse, and.. Through that huge field of waters ride. *a* 1700 EVELYN

Diary 27 Feb. 1644, In the third is Neptune sounding his trumpet, his charriot drawne by sea-horses. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 238 The fishmongers pageants consisted of..two mairmaids and two Sea-horses. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Sea-Horse*, the upper part is formed like the horse, with webbed feet, and the hinder part ends in a fish's tail. 1874 BLACK *Pr. Thule* 9 The black sea-horse that had been seen in Loch Suainabhal. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 559/1 s.v. *Foseidon*, Sometimes he was represented riding a bull, a horse, or a sea-horse.

3. a. = HIPPOCAMPUS 2.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1723 A sea horse, *hippocampa*. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 69, Fig. 111. The Shell-Fish call'd the Sea-Horse, found upon the Coast of Italy. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. ix. 213 The curious little sea horse (*hippocampus brevirostris*).

b. The acanthopterygian fish *Agriopus torvus* (*Cent. Dict.*). *Flying* or *Winged sea-horse*: a fish of the order or sub-order *Pegasidæ*.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 83 The *Pegasi*, or Flying Sea-Horses. *Ibid.* 94 Winged Sea-Horses (*Pegasidæ*).

†**4.** The hippopotamus. *Obs.*

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 30 The teeth of sea-horses: which creatures are commonly found in the riners of Nilus, Niger, &c. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* I. 1 Sea-Horses floundring in the slimy mud. 1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lanc.* etc. I. 183 A young Hippopotamus or Sea-Horse. 1759 tr. *M. Adanson's Voy. Senegal* 133 The hippoptami [*sic*] or sea horses, are common.

5. A large white-crested wave; cf. *white horse*, HORSE *sb.* 23 b.

1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Sea-dogs, Sea-horses*, rough waves in the Humber and Trent. 1886 A. PEMBER *Slipping away* i, Alice's eyes are fixed on the white sea-horses.

6. *attrib.* (senses 1 and 4), as *sea-horse fat, hide, leather, oil, skin, tooth*.

1764 *Ann. Reg.* II. 12 The whale and the *sea horse fat they also boil with roots. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxix. I. 144 There may a man have plentie of the *Sea-horse hides. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Comm.-pl. Bks.* Wks. 1835 IV. 396 A girdle of *sea-horse leather. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 507 On this adventure, 22 tons of *Sea-horse oil..were obtained. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 964 Rings of *Sea-Horse Teeth. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sea-horse tooth*, a name given to the teeth of the walrus, and of the hippopotamus, which yield ivory.

Sea'-hound. [tr. L. *canis marinus* (Pliny). Cf. G. *seehund*, Du. *zeehond*; also HOUND *sb.* 5, HOUND-FISH 1.]

1. A dog-fish.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5653 (Bodl. MS.), And a maner folk þer is yfounde þat men hem clepeþ Cee hounde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3781 'Marcbellow' [Fr. *marine bête*] ys þe se hound. 1601 CHESTER *Lover's Mart.* (1878) 100 Here swimmes..The Sea-horse, Sea-hound, and the wide-mouth'd Plaice. 1669 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* IV. 133 In this place we saw a great number of Dog-fishes, or Sea-hounds. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol. Ital. & Gr.* I. xix. 247 She [Scylla]..catches the dolphins, sea-bounds, and other large animals of the sea which swim by.

2. Used *allusively*.

1905 MEREDITH *October Twenty-first* in *Outlook* 21 Oct. 533 [Nelson] Her sea-hound and her mortal stroke.

Seaide, obs. 1st and 3rd ind. pa. t. of SAY *v.*[1]

† **Sea'ish**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SEA *sb.* + -ISH.] Of or pertaining to the sea, marine.

1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Seeysshe, belongyng to the see, *marin.* 1579 W. A. *Remedy Agst. Love* F iij, Whose syns dooth more then seaish sands abound. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1612) 13 How the Gods of Sun and Seas, offended, do require Each month a Virgin, to appease a Seaish Monsters ire. 1610 R. TOFTE *Hon. Acad.* 59 But what more wavering did you ever find Then Seaish waves, what more faire or unkind?

Sea'-island, *a.* The designation of a fine variety of cotton grown on the islands off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina, now also acclimatized in other countries. Also *absol.*

1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 436 s.v. *Cotton*, The best of the first [*sc.* long stapled cotton] is the sea-island cotton, or that brought from the shores of Georgia. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 344 Having a breadth varying from 1/800 of an inch in the strongest Smyrna or candle-wick cotton of the Levant, to 1/2500 of an inch in the finest Sea-island. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 438/1 The sea-island plant yields about 125 or 130 pounds of clean ginned cotton per acre.

Seak, obs. form of SICK.

Sea'-kale. Forms: 7 sea-keele, 8-9 -cale, 8- sea-kale. [f. SEA + KALE *sb.*; cf. the southern form *sea-cole*, SEA *sb.* 23 f.]

1. A cruciferous plant, *Crambe maritima*, found wild on the shores of western Europe, and often cultivated for its young shoots.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 16 Our Sea-keele (the ancient *Crambe*) and growing on our Coast [is] very delicate. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. I. 257 Sea-Cole or Cale. 1795 *Times* 30 Apr. 1/4 Sea-Kale, a new Culinary Vegetable. 1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Wedding-day* (end), Every complexion less pale than sea-kale!

2. Sea-kale beet, white beet, so called from its resemblance in colour.

1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 50/1 White or Seakale Beet.

Seake, obs. form of SACK *sb.*[3] (wine), SICK.

Sea'-king.

1. One of the piratical Scandinavian chiefs, who in the ninth and succeeding centuries ravaged the coasts of Europe. [After ON. *sækonungr*: cf. OE. *sæcyning* (Beowulf).]

1819 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* I. v. 253 The two sea-kings.. returned to Denmark. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i. (1841) 52 Hrolf, or Rollo Duke of Normandy, the wild Sea-king. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* IV. 380 The races descended from ancient sea-kings. 1863 TENNYSON *Welcome to Alexandra* 1 Sea-kings daughter from over the sea.

2. Applied to the god of the sea.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Thee sea king Neptun. 1888 J. PAYN *Prince of Blood* XXV. (1892) 201 Like mermen in attendance upon the sea-king.

Seal (sīl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 seolh, 4 ?selȝ; *Sc.* 5 selghe, 5-6 selcht, 5-7 selche, 5-8 selch, 6 saylch, selk, 9 sealgh. β. (1 siol-, se:l-), 3-6 sele, 4-7 seel, 5 sel, ceel, cele, zele, seylle, 5-6 seele, seyle, sealle, 5-7 seale, 6 seall, seayle, seayll, 7 siele, seil, sayle, 7- seal. See also SOILE. [OE. *sĭol-, sĕol-*, declensional form of *seolh* (whence the α forms above, which are mainly Scottish) = OHG. *selah*, MLG. *sêl*, MDu. *seel, sael* (*-hont*), *zele*, ON. *sel-r* (Sw. *sjel, säl*, Da. *sæl*) :—OTeut. *selho-z.*]

1. A member of the family *Phocidæ*, sub-order *Pinnipedia*, of aquatic carnivorous mammals, with limbs developed into flippers and adapted for swimming, and having an elongated body covered with thick fur or bristles and terminated by a short tail; *spec.* the Common Seal, *Phoca vitulina*, an inhabitant of all waters of the temperate and frigid zones. Also applied (chiefly with defining word: see 2) to amphibious mammals of other families closely resembling the Common Seal in appearance.

α. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 34 Ðas onsænde seolh ofer sæs hrygc. 1383 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 434 Coopertus cum pelle de sely [? = selȝ]. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. i. 48 Þe carl was fat as any selche [*v.r.* selghe]. 1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 342 Item to ane man brocht ane quyk selch fra Pittinweme to Faukland to the King, xiiij s. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 60 The selcht, quhilk sum men callis the see volue. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 57 Sey calues or saylches. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 17 Gib's now gane for the Western seas, Whare selchs an' pellucks whamble. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, What the devil mean you by..levelling your gun at folk's heads as you would at a sealgh's?

β. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 18 On þæm sciprapum, þe beoð of hwæles hyde geworht, & of seoles. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 408/37 *Focus*, seol. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 755 He tok þe sele. 1409 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 53 In di. ceel de Tes, 4*s.* 1416 *Ibid.* 54 In 3 quarters unius zele et plays de Tese, 8*s.* 6*d.* *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 823 in *Babees Bk.*, The baly of þe fresche samon, els purpose, or seele. *c* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 119 Seles when they cast theyr Calves they cum to Lond. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* iv. (1872) D iij, Straunge kindes of fysh at second course...As Porpesse, Seale and Salmond good. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 831 An Iland salt and bare, The haunt of Seales and Orcs. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 159 To carry a Line to haul some of the Seal aboard. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. x, Staffa..Where..the shy seal had quiet home.

2. With defining word, e. g. *Eared, Elephant, Fur, Hair, Harp, Hooded, Leonine, Leporine, Monk, Pied, Ribbon, Ringed, Rough, Ursine seal*, etc. (see these words); also **Bottle-nosed Seal**, *Phoca leonina*; **Crab-eating Seal**, *Labodon carcinophaga*; **Floe, Small-ringed Seal** = SPOTTED *seal*; **Great Seal**, *Phoca barbata* (Pennant); **Greenland, Heart Seal** = HARP *seal*; **Marbled Seal**, *Calocephalus discolor*.

1781 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* II. 525 Hooded Seal. *Ibid.*, Harp Seal...Our Fishers call this the Harp or Heart Seal. *Ibid.* 531 Bottle-nose Seal. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 160/2 In the eye of the Greenland Seal..the cornea was thin and yielding. 1842 C. H. SMITH *Introd. Mammalia* 253 *Stenorhincus Leptonyx*, or Small Nailed Seal, from the South Seas. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 124 The Grey Seal (*Halichoerus gryphus*) is met with around the north and west coasts of Scotland. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 581/1 The small ringed seal or 'floe-rat' of the sealers (*Phoca hispida*). *Ibid.* 582/2 The floe or spotted seal.

3. Short for SEALSKIN.

1886 BECK *Draper's Dict., Seal* (fur). This valuable fur is sought annually on the shores of Spitzbergen. 1886 *Leeds Mercury* 29 Dec. 4/4 An active demand for seals and plushes.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attributive, as *seal-blubber, -bone, leather, -oil*; in sense 3, *seal-coat.*

1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 115/2 Such luxuries as *seal-blubber. 1616 *Shetland Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scot.* (1834) 384 The '*selch bone' with which Barbara stirred her milk to divine the product. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 351/1 The desire of a woman for a *seal coat. 1882 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 388/1 *Seal leather is generally finished on the grain side as 'levant' seal with a large coarse grain. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 248, 1/4 of a gallon of good *seal oil, weighs 6010 gr.

b. 'Connected with the catching of a seal', as *seal-club, -lance, -pike, -ship, -shot, -trap.*

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 512 A blow with a '*seal-club'..on the nose, immediately stuns it. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 161 Kotuko looked over the deer-sinew fastenings of his harpoon and his *seal-lance. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 5/5 Both the Walrus and the Panther were among the oldest of the fleet of *seal-ships. 1842 *Seal-shot* [see SEALING *vbl. sb.*[3] b]. 1876 C. H. DAVIS *Polaris Exped.* viii. 219 Hans set some *seal-traps, without success.

c. similative, as *seal-brown, -like* adjs.

1874 CARR *Judith Gwynne* vii, The boy shambled over in a seal-like manner. 1884 *Western Daily Press* 28 Nov. 7/4 Entire costumes are made of this attractive fabric..in colour a lovely seal-brown.

d. objective, as *seal-fisher, -fishery, -hunt, -hunter, -spearing.*

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 513 The *seal-fishers have to pursue them over the ice. 1785 J. KNOX *View Brit. Emp.* I. 351 The greatest *seal fishery is on the coast of Labrador. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 582/2 On the western shore of the White Sea the *seal-hunt is less productive than on the eastern. 1781 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* II. 524 Our Newfoundland *Seal-hunters. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 172 The men used to sing it after *seal-spearing.

5. Special combinations: **seal calf**, the young of the seal; **seal-cloth** (see quot.); †**seal-fish** = SELSE 1; **seal-fur**, the skin of the Hair-seal (*Otaria*) used as a material for garments; **seal-grain**, a preparation of seal leather used in ornamental work; **seal-hole**, a space of clear water among ice floes in which the seal obtains its food; **seal-plush**, a fabric made to imitate seal-skin; **seal-vat**, part of the apparatus used in the production of seal-oil.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 566 þer com a *cele calf and it toke. 1881 WARDLE *Handbk. Wild Silks India* 37 The manufacture, first accomplished in 1880 in England, of the fabric known as '*Seal cloth', which consists of a Tusser silk plush woven into a cotton back. *c* 1420 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 57 In j *Selfysh empt. per Celerarium, 3*s. 4*d.* 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 160 Certain rocks, about which the Seal-fishes meet together. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 121 The pitmen could afford to buy costly *seal-fur coats for their spouses. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 10/2 A new series of white *seal-grain tablet calendars. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 169 The new *seal-holes are not two days' distant. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 3/2 An abomination of former times, a fabric known as '*seal plush'. 1853 S. G. ARCHIBALD in Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 590 The *seal-vat consists of what are termed the crib and pan.

Seal (sīl), *sb.*[2] Forms: 3-5 sel, seel, 3, 5 ceel, 3-6 sele, 3-4, 6 seile, 3, 5-6 seil, 4 sehel, cel, ceale, 4-5 sell, cele, seeal, 4-6 seele, seell, sealle, selle, 4-7 seale, 5 seaul, sill, 5-6 seyl, 5-7 seill, 5, 7 seall, 6 ceill, seyalle, *Sc.* sayll, 3- seal. [a. OF. *seel* (mod.F. *sceau*) = Pr. *selh-s*, Sp. *sello* (also in learned form *sigilo*), Pg. *sello* (also *sigillo*), It. *suggello* (also *sigillo*) :—L. *sigillum* (in classical Latin only in plural), small picture, engraved figure, seal, dim. of *signum*: see SIGN *sb.*

The Latin word was at various periods adopted into several Teut. langs.: Goth. *sigilþ* neut., MHG. *sigel* masc. (mod.G. *siegel* neut.), MLG., MDu. *segel* (LG. *segel*, Du. *zegel* neut.), Sw. *sigill* neut., Da. *segl*, Icel. *sigli* neut. A compound form of the same meaning occurs in OE. *insegel* (see INSEIL *sb.*) = OHG. *insigili*. The OE. *sig(e)l* brooch (cf. OHG. *sigilla* 'lunula'), *sig(e)le* neut., necklace (= ON. *sigli*) are, in spite of the difference of sense, prob. connected with some early Teut. adopted form of L. *sigillum*.]

1. A device (e. g. a heraldic or emblematic design, a letter, word, or sentence) impressed on a piece of wax or other plastic material adhering or attached by cords or parchment slips to a document as evidence of authenticity or attestation; also, the piece of wax, etc. bearing this impressed device.

In modern (legal) practice the seal is often represented by a coloured wafer following the signature of each of the parties.

Leaden seals were used by the Popes, the Eastern Emperors, and certain other high dignitaries.

1258 *Charter of Hen. III* (Bodl. MS.) in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 1880-1, 174* We senden ȝew þis writ open, sened wiþ vre seel. *c* 1290 *Beket* 627 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 124 þe obere bischopus al-so On þis chartre heore seles sette. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pardoner's Prol.* 9 And thanne my bulles shewe I alle and some Our lige lordes seel on my patente. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 79 On this my present testament I haue put my seal. 1497 *Certificate* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 51 In witnes herof, ..we have put our seaulx. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliii. 40 With expeditioun And full conditioun, Thair seillis ar to pendit. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 139 Till thou canst raile the seale from off my bond Thou but offend'st thy Lungs to speake so loud. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Apr., The University is..divided now..into that of four nations,..who have each their respective protectors, severall officers, Treasurers, Consuls, Seales. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bull*, Golden Bull..on the backside of it there are several knots of black and yellow silk; to which hangs a bull, or seal of gold. 1819-22 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 196 Let there be No seal on it, except my kingly word And honour as I am a gentleman. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* V. ii. III. 49 As a proof, he subjoined Friedemann's letter and seal.

b. *fig.* A token or symbol of a covenant; something that authenticates or confirms; a final addition which completes and secures.

In allusion to 1 Cor. ix. 2, some of the Evangelical divines of the 19th c. were accustomed to speak of a preacher or a pastor as having 'many seals to his ministry' (i.e. persons converted through his preaching). The expression was often quoted derisively as an example of sectarian jargon.

c 1230 [see SEAL *v.*[1] 2]. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* ix. 2 For the seale off myne Apostleshippe are ye in the lorde. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 144 O let me kisse This Princesse of pure white, this seale of blisse. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1904 II. 325 To sweare and forsweare, and commit Iulian-like violence on the highest seales of religion. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* III. § 105 Iohn..was the last of the Prophets, & the seale of them all. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1043 There they thir fill of Love and Loves disport Took largely, of thir mutual guilt the Seale, The solace of thir sin. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* V. i, The solemn engagement..puts the seal of duty to an act of love. 1853 CONYBEARE *Church Parties, Ess. Eccl. & Social* (1855) 92 *note*, A preacher is said in this [the Recordite] phraseology to be 'owned' when he makes many converts, and his converts are called his 'seals'. 1863 MACLAREN in *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 277 Let no one undervalue this source of information: it gives the seal to all experimental knowledge.

c. Phrases. (*a*) † *To set to (one's) seal* [*to* is here adv., not prep.]: to affix one's seal; *fig.* to avouch one's conviction *that* (obs.). *To set one's seal*: to

affix one's seal *to* a document; *fig.* to express one's assent *to*. (*b*) *Under* (*one's*) *seal*: in a document attested by one's seal.

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6889 And ilk waand þat þai þere bare He sperd wit-in þer santuare, And wrat þe nam, and sett to sele, Þat man suld oþer nan bitele. *c* 1400 *Brut* IL 560 Which appointement truly to be kept þe kyng and the said Ambassatoures sette-to þaire seales. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 41 And for Thomas wold not sette to hys sele of þe curset lawe..he was dampned as a traytour. 1534 TINDALE *John* iii. 33 He that hath receaved hys testimonye hath set to his seale that God is true. [*So* 1611; *Revised Version* 1881 hath set his seal to this, that God is true.] 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. i. (1713) 58 To this Truth Mr. Hobbs sets his seal with all willingness imaginable, or rather eagerness.

(*b*) 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 215/1 Without the assent and wille of the said [4 persons named] by writing under their seales. 1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 497 Under owre setye selle. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 222 By particular consent [I] proceeded Vnder your hands and Seales.

d. † *Farthing seal*, ? = QUARTER *seal*. *Fisher's* or *Fisherman's seal* (see FISHER 7). † *Secret, secre seal, seal manuel*: see those adjs. † *Seal of* (or *at*) *arms*, the impression of a signet engraved with the heraldic bearing of the owner.

1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 437/2 Null Drap..ne soleit ensealez estre de nul Seal appelle le Ferthyng Seal. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2802 To þe þat salutis I send þe sele of myn armes. 1498 in W. G. D. Fletcher *Shropsh. Grants of Arms* (1909) 12 In wyttnesse wherof I the said King of Armes to these presentes have sette my seall of armes and signed wt my hand. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. 1905 III. 68 A little epitomized *Bradfords Meditations*, no broader volum'd than a Seale at Armes or a blacke melancholy veluet patch. 1623 *St. Papers, Col.* 1622–4, 203 The Company's seal-at-arms is so great, they can make no use thereof, having none but hard wax.

† e. A letter or other document bearing a seal; a promissory note. Also, a promise attested by one's seal. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 66 Þe to spende at rome many ȝeris & daies, to paie for selis or bullis, to plede for benefices. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 606, I am so boundyn with wytnes to be leill, For all Ingland I wald nocht fals my seill. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* v. ii, I have a seale, or two to witnesse, yet..I'll never sue you.

† f. A stamp, usually in lead, fastened to a piece of material as a guarantee of quality or quantity.

1480 in *Cely Papers* (1900) 55 He schawil fynd clossyd in hys lettyr the sayll of ij sarpelers wholl. 1518 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 657 Then to sett vpon hit the Olyvaunt in lede, and of the Bak of the seall the lengh of the Cloth.

† g. A baker's stamped mark on bread. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Old Ystages Winchester* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 355 And þat euerych bakere habbe hys seal y-knowe vpon hys loff.

h. The impression of one's signet placed upon an article as evidence of a claim to possession; *fig.* a mark of ownership.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* x. v, [He] informed her she might put her seal upon whatever she meant hereafter to claim. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 703 Her citizens, imperial spirits, Rule the present from the past, On all this world of men inherits Their seal is set. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, The haughty and indignant passions that now claimed her for their own, and set their seal upon her brow.

i. *transf.* An impressed mark serving as visible evidence of something.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 253 A fat knaue with a foggie face, wherein a cup of old sack hath set a seale. 1593 LODGE *William Longbeard* A 4 b, The good woman..espieng the seales of his shame shadowed in his blushing browes, tooke hold of his gowne sleeue, praieng him to staie a little while. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. i. 6 But my kisses bring againe, bring againe, Seales of loue, but seal'd in vaine, seal'd in vaine. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 45 Thou hast the seales on thy face, which those creatures (called whores) doe give. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 66/2 His [Lycurgus'] tomb was struck with lightning; a seal of divinity which no other man..has had, except Euripides. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* V. § 1. 136 Sea sands are made beautiful by their bearing the seal of the motion of the waters.

j. An impression left by the foot of an animal in soft ground or mud, esp. that of the otter.

1688 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 100 The Mark or Seal of an Otter. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 397 Ah on that yielding Sag-bed, see, once more His Seal I view. 1875 G. C. DAVIES *Rambles Sch. Field-club* XXXVI. 272 One man had been down to the river side, to see if he could discover the 'seal', or track of an otter.

2. A piece of wax or some other plastic or adhesive substance (originally, and still frequently, one bearing the impression of a signet: cf. sense 1), fixed on a folded letter or document, or on a closed door or receptacle of any kind, in such a way that an opening cannot be effected without breaking it.

† *Flying seal*: see FLYING *ppl. a.* 3 c.

a 1272 *Lune Ron* 194 in *O. E. Misc.* 99 Þis rym mayde ich þe sende open and wiþ-vte sel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16907 Þai did þair seles þar-apon, ar þai þaþen went. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6666 (Bodl. MS.), He braak þe seal & þe lettre seie. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* v. 1 And I siȝe in the riȝthalf of the sittinge vpon the troone, a book..seelid with seuen seelis. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 139 What Letter is this same?..He be so bold to breake the seale for once. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Nov., I forgot to leave a gap in the last line but one for the seal, like a puppy. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1064 But Arthur spied the letter in her hand, Stoopt, took, brake seal, and read it. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus, Agamem.* 592 *note* (ed. 2) 370, διαφθείρειν σημαντῆρια is to spoil or tamper with the seals affixed to the doors and store-houses in the absence of the lord.

b. *fig.* That which 'seals a person's lips', an obligation to silence, a vow of secrecy; esp. *the seal of confession* or *the confessional*. Also (often with allusion to the 'seven seals' of Rev. v. and vi.), that which prevents the understanding of Holy Scripture or some other book.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27444 Or for it es als vnder sel O scrift him sceud al to consail. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 301 Put blessed lorde the seale and locke of scylence to my mouth. 1632 MASSINGER *Emp. East* III. ii, What now I must deliuer Vnder the deepest seale of secrecy. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxi. 23 A Thing that's done in Hugger-mugger, under a Seal of Secrecy and Concealment. 1781 COWPER *Conversation* 544 They..wanting him to loose the sacred seal, Found him as prompt as their desire was true To spread the new-born glories in their view. 1832 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* Ser. I. 73 'Twas under the seal of confession', said I, 'that you disclosed the deadly secret, and under that seal my lips must have been for ever closed.' 1897 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* vii. (1905) 126 The secret was out through Constantine's fault, not hers, and the seal was removed from her lips.

c. *Hermes' Seal, Hermetic seal* (see HERMES 3 a, HERMETIC *a.* 2 b).

1569 J. SANDFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 158 b, The foolish misteries..of the seale of Hermes,..& of infinite like trifles.

d. *Seal of relics* [med.L. *sigillum altaris*], a stone cemented above the aperture in which relics are placed at the consecration of an altar. (The use in quot. 1843 is prob. an error.)

1843 *Ecclesiologist* Sept. III. 6 A stone Altar may be provided two ways. Either make it a plain solid mass of masonry, the slab (technically called *seal* or *table*) of black granite or marble.., or [etc.]. 1897 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 5) 238/1 The consecration endures till the altar-stone is broken or the seal of relics broken.

3. An engraved stamp of metal or other hard material used to make an impression upon wax, etc. affixed as a 'seal' (in sense 1 or 2). Cf. SIGNET.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 557 Als prient of seel in wax es thrist, þer in he has his licam fest. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 103 As þe tendre wex makeþ no preynte in þe seel, bot þe seel makeþ a preynt in tendere wex. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 15 A dowbill seel with two prentys. 1518 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 637 The sealles [for marking cloth] to be put in a Cofre with ij keys. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 56 And then, thus haue you the Chancellor furnished with the Seale of Grace, and Seale of Common Iustice. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 160 Neere vnto the mint stande the gold-smiths shops, whose Consul or gouernour keepes the seale and stamps of the coine. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1821) I. 454/1 This seal he always wore and constantly sealed his letters with it. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxiv. 398 In taking these impressions, two dies or matrices ..were employed; these were severally called the Seal and Counter-Seal. 1879 A. S. MURRAY in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 137/2 The favourite shapes [of gems] in Assyria were the cylinder pierced lengthways, and sometimes fitted with a swivel so as to be used as a seal [etc.].

fig. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 604 Gat tothed I was and that bicam me weel, I hadde the prente of seint Venus seel [*Cambr. MS.* seynt peterys sel]. 1670 DRYDEN *Tempest* IV. 53 He has a melting heart, and soft to all the Seals Of kindness; I will undertake for his compassion.

b. As a mark or sign of office. Chiefly *the seals*, as the symbol of the position of Lord Chancellor or of Secretary of State.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* (S.T.S.) 1699 Syne cummis Uer quhen winter is away, The Secretar of Somer with his Seill. 1667 CHAS. II in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 316 As my purpose was also to say something to you concerning my taking the Seals from the Chancellor. 1710 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 571 A patent is passing the seales to create the marques of Kent a duke. 1775 *Brit. Chronol.* I. 3 Apr. 1704, The earl of Nottingham not being satisfied with the Queen's measures, resigned the seals as secretary of state. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 447 Sunderland..was suffered to retain his seals. 1870 STANHOPE *Hist. Eng.* 1701–13, i. 6 The King sent to him the Earl of Jersey, with a peremptory order to return the Seals.

† c. The keeper of the seal of a court. (Cf. 4 b.)

1658 FANSHAW *Pract. Exch. Crt.* 102 The Seale of the Court. Is the Officer that keepeth the Seale of the Court all terme time under every Chanceller.

d. A device or inscription engraved on a seal.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* xlv. 14 A crowne of gold vpon his miter graven with a seale of holines. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. (1637) 244 He used the Helme of a ship for a seale in his ring. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. CXCVIII, The seal a sunflower; '*Elle vous suit partout.*' 1851 TENNYSON *E. Morris* 103 She sent a note, the seal an *Elle vous suit.*

e. *Under the cold seal*: see quot.

1832 *M. Bacon's Abridgm. Law* (ed. 7) IV. 620 *marg. note.* Sometimes new magistrates are added under the cold seal, as it is termed; that is, their names are indorsed on the old commission, and the seal is pro formâ, applied again to the same wax.

f. A trinket, containing either an engraved stone for sealing letters, or a flat stone or piece of coloured glass in imitation of this, formerly often worn as an ornamental appendage to a watch-guard. Hence applied in plural to the bunch of trinkets of this and other shapes worn in this manner.

1837 DICKENS *Pickwick* x, A gold watch-chain, and seals, depended from his fob. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* XXXIV, A large plethoric man, with a bunch of seals in a large bow-windowed light waistcoat..His seals jingle as he walks.

† g. *Burning seal* (Sc.): an iron for branding casks. *Obs.*

1692 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 153 Each royall burrow that makes casks for export they are to keep ane burning sale,..and befor they be loadned the maker of the saids casks is..to call the visitor appoynted by the said toune whoe is to try the samen, and if sufficient to put the publict sale vpon them.

4. Great Seal. The seal (in sense 3) used for the authentication of documents of the highest importance issued in the name of the sovereign or (in a republic) of the highest executive authority; also, the impression of this on wax. Formerly also BROAD SEAL.

When England, Scotland, and Ireland were separate kingdoms, each had its own Great Seal, the custodian of which was normally the Lord High Chancellor; in England the Lord Keeper (of the Great Seal) was formerly sometimes a different person from the Chancellor, but under Q. Elizabeth the offices were united. Since the Union England and Scotland have only one Great Seal, of which the Chancellor has the custody; Ireland on the contrary has its own Great Seal, in the hands of the Irish Lord Chancellor. The Great Seal of the United States is kept by the Secretary of State.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) viii. 82, I hadde Lettres of the Soudan, with his grete Seel; and comounly other Men have but his Signett. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 418/2 Lettres Patentes of proteccion under his grete Seall. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 99 Item, the Kynge hathe sent ffor hys Great Seall. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 347 For your stubborne answer About the giuing backe the Greate Seale to vs, The King shall know it, and (no doubt) shal thanke you. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark xiv. 22 As the King maketh a piece of Wax to become his Great Seal, by which he conveyeth Land, Liberty and Life. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. iii, The Man Mountain shall not depart from our Dominions without our Licence under our great Seal. 1886 J. H. MIDDLETON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 587/2 The great seal of the Commonwealth is a marvel of ugliness.

† b. *ellipt.* The custodian of the Great Seal, the Lord High Chancellor or Lord Keeper. *Obs.*

1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 15 Shall the Greate Seale come to the barr? First sende to him and heare his answere, before he be sent for to come to the barr. 1641 in *Fasti Aberd.* (Spalding Cl.) 153 And his majestie wills and declaires, that thir presentis sall be a sufficient warrand ..to the great seill and to his majestie's heigh chancellar for appending of the said seill, without passing of any uther seills or registeris.

† 5. a. An assembly for the purpose of witnessing the affixing of the Great Seal to documents; a sealing by the Chancellor or the Commissioners having the custody of the Great Seal. b. The place at which documents are sealed by the Chancellor. *Obs.*

[After F. *sceau*, 'l'action de sceller, le temps et le lieu où l'on scelle' (Littré).]

a. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Aug., Here I staid, and saw my Lord Chancellor come into his Great Hall, where wonderful how much company there was to expect him at a Seale. 1686 EVELYN *Diary* 5 May, There being a Seale it was fear'd that we should be requir'd to passe a doquett dispensing with Dr. Obadiah Walker. 1705 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 602 This day the lord keeper held a public seal in the Middle Temple hall.

b. 1672 *Essex Papers* (1890) I. 43 By a Clause there I am forbid to intermedle in y^e^ passing of any Charters to Corporacions, w^ch^ for y^r^ present stops that of Dundalke, for w^ch^ I had granted a Warr^t^, and it now stays at y^r^ Seale til I can receive some directions from y^e^ Lo^P^.

† 6. = BUTTON 2 c. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Bosse*, The first putting out of a deeres head formerly cast; which our wood-men call, if it bee a red deeres, the burle, or seale.

7. *techn.* (transferred use of 2.) a. = *dip-pipe* (DIP *sb.* 11). b. The quantity of water or tar left in the dip-pipe for preventing the escape of gas. c. A small quantity of water left in a trap to prevent the escape of foul air from a sewer or drain.

1853 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* 197 When the whole of the gas-holder was out of the water and hanging in air (with the exception of the water seal). 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Seal* 2. (Gas-works) a water-trap joint, as in gas-works, where the gas is drawn or forced beneath a plate, whose lower edge is beneath the level of the water in the tar-well. 1877 W. RICHARDS *Manuf. Coal Gas* 172 In estimating the capacity of a tank and its corresponding holder, due allowance must be made for the height of the dip or seal. *Ibid.* 210 An argument raised against telescopic gasholders is the liability of the water forming the lute, or seal, to freeze. 1884 WARING in *Century Mag.* Dec. 263/1 The depth of seal is the distance from the surface of the water in the bowl to the top of the intake. 1889 — *Sewerage* 182 This trap lost one inch of its seal in five trials out of ten.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. objective, as † *seal-cutter, -cutting, -engraver, -keeper* (also *fig.*).

1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* IV. i, Brick me into that wall there for a chimney peece, And say I was one oth Cæsars, done by a *seale-cutter. 1847 LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. cciv. *note*, A complete classification should include artists in wood-carving, in *ciselatura* or goldsmiths' work, in medal-casting, gem and *seal-cutting. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Seal engraver's lathe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 *Seale keepers [orig. *sigillifери*], Notaries, and such other lyke. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xv, Why should he not declare himself..seal-keeper of that young woman's conscience?

b. Special combinations: **seal-bag**, the case in which the official seals were formerly kept (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **seal-cup**, in gas-works, the receptacle for tar or water in a seal or dip-pipe; **seal-cylinder** = CYLINDER 4 a; † **seal-day** (*Guernsey*), a date fixed for the meeting of a State Council at which official papers received the seal; **seal-flower**, the plant *Dicentra spectabilis* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **seal-lock**, a lock fitted with a 'seal' (often a small square of glass) which must be broken before the lock can be opened; **seal-**

master, an official whose duty was to affix a seal to textile fabrics as a guarantee of the standard of excellence, etc.; †**seal-office** = sense 5 b, also *allusively*; **seal-pipe**, in gas-works, = *dip-pipe*; **seal-press**, a machine for embossing a device upon paper or other soft material (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); seal-ring, a finger ring bearing a seal (cf. SIGNET *sb.* 1); **seal-stamp** = *seal-press*; **seal-stone**, a precious stone bearing an engraved device; **seal-top** *a.*, (of a spoon) having the handle finished with a seal (also ellipt. as *sb.*); †**seal-wax** = SEALING WAX; †**seal-work**, ornamentation resembling that of a seal; **seal-wort**, (*a*) *Sagina procumbens*; (*b*) = SOLOMON'S SEAL (*Polygonatum*).

1872 W. C. HOLMES & Co. *Manag. Gas Works* 108 Care should be taken to keep the *seal-cups of telescopic gas-holders..free from ice. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Dip-pipe*, The seal-cup is charged with tar. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* xvi. § 10 (1881) 339 fig., *Seal-cylinder on metal axis. 1682 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 93 At the next *seal-day..it may be sealed. 1871 *Patent* No. 1440 *Chronol. Index* 325 *Seal-lock manufacturer. 1905 *Rec. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S. H. S.) Introd. 75 No cloth could be sold unless it was sealed by the official *seal-master. *c* 1624 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* I. i, Here's first my hand, now't goes to the *Seale Office. [*Kisses her.*] 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 182 Until which hour, by the rule of Court, the seal-office ought not to be shut. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Seal-pipe* (Gas), a pipe whose inlet or exit is beneath the surface of the water in a hydraulic main to prevent reflux of gas. 1608 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* II. iii, My grandfather's *seal-ring. 1866 J. AYRE *Treas. Bible Knowl.* (1870) 804/2 According to Jewish writers the Hebrew women used seal rings. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XXVI, The brass *seal-stamp of the merchant's clerk. 1774 HILL *Theophr. Hist. Stones* 42 Hence the Word Seal Stone, σφραγὶς or σφραγίδιον, became with them a common Word for what we call Gem. 1900 E. CLODD *Story of Alphabet* iii. 51 Seal-stones engraved with signs which are..designed to convey information about their owners. 1898 *Daily News* 11 July 10/5 A 16th century *seal-top spoon. 1905 *Circle* May 35/1 An Elizabethan spoon, mark St. Catherine's wheel, £50; a 'seal-top', of the same reign, engraved L.C.F.M., £48. *c* 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. xiv. (1741) 51 He saw his Monkey exceedingly busy in picking the *Seal-wax by little bits from a Letter. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 146 (*The Letter*), La Fleur.. fetch'd sand and seal-wax. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Temple* 63 A thin Subtile, and ductile Codlin's skin; Which o're the board is smoothly spred, With little *Seale-work Damasked. 1837 BAXTER *Brit. Phanog. Bot.* III. 199 *Sagina procumbens*..*Seal-wort. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.*, Seal-wort,..the Solomon's seal.

Seal, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **sele**, 6 **seale**, *Sc.* **seill**. [f. SEAL *v.*[2]] = SALE *sb.*[3] Also *attrib.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Seale, horsys harneys, *arquillus*. 1530 PALSGR. 269/1 Seale horse harnesse. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 179 Scho tuik tua oxin, and hand in on seill. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 135 Cattle are bound to the stake in various ways. One way is with an iron chain, commonly called a binder or seal. *Ibid.* 136 The seal-stake is placed in an inclined position to allow its top to be fastened to the wall.

Seal, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6, 8–9 **sale**, 7 **seale**, 9 *Sc.* **sealh**. [See SALLOW *sb.*]

1. A willow. In Spenser: Willow twigs.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.*, Dec. 81 Who to entrappe the fish in winding sale Was better seene, or hurtful beastes to hont? *Ibid. Gloss.*, *Sale* or *Salow*, a kind of woodde like Wyllow. 1682 *Quarter Sess. Rec.* II July in *N. Riding Rec. Soc.* VII. 57 For cutting and carrying away twenty seales. 1795 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIII. 157 Seals. Black Cherry Trees, Balm of Gilead Trees. 1882 J. LUCAS *Stud. Nilderida'e* 116 In Sykes Moss, most of the buried trees are sealhs, oaks, and birches.

2. A plantation of willow trees.

1794 DONALDSON *Agric. Northampt.* 34 The forest underwood, through the whole sale, or part which is cut, does not in general bring above 4*l.*

Seal, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 (*dial.*) **sale**. [Perh. repr. OE. *sæl*, *sele* house.] (See quot. 1756.)

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 35 The houses in which the salt works are carried on..are also called Seals. 1882 MRS. CHAMBERLAIN *W. Worc. Gloss., Sales*, or *Seals*, salt-works. (Droitwich.)

Seal (*sīl*), *v.*[1] Forms: 3, 5–7 **seale**, 3 **seil**, 3–6 **sele**, 4–6 **seele**, 6 **seel**, (4 **ceel**, 4–5 **cele**), 5 *Sc.* **seyll**, **sell**, 6 *Sc.* **seil**(l, 6 **seall**, 5– **seal**. [a. OF. *seeler*, *seieler* (mod.F. *sceller*), f. *seel*, *seiel*: see SEAL *sb.*[2]]

I. To attest by a seal.

1. *trans.* To place a seal upon (a document) as evidence of genuineness, or as a mark of authoritative ratification or approval.

In legal use often coupled with *sign* or *deliver*; now chiefly in the full phrase 'signed, sealed, and delivered', indicating the complete execution of a deed.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 29 Of him haf þei chartre seled with his seale. *a* 1400 *Old Usages Winchester* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 359 Myd wham men seleþ þe chartres of fleffement of þe town. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 71 Whan thou shalt commaunde eny letires to thy klerke to be made, signe nor seale them not til thou haue ouerseen thaim. 1592 WEST 1*st Pt. Symbol.* § 104 To do, suffer & make seale & deliuer al such assurances..as shal be deuised..by the said R. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 146 Goe with me to a Notarie, seale me there Your single bond. 1653 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Jan., I went to London and there seal'd some of the writings of my purchase of Sayes Court. 1700 J. TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 763 The King's Charter which was formerly Sealed with Wax,..was now Sealed with Gold. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 465 They only desired one general Writing under my Hand for the whole, which I caused to be drawn up and sign'd and seal'd to them. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 138 The deed was sealed and delivered, but no livery of seisin was given. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 427 The Privy Council..ordered the Charter to be sealed.

absol. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 1148 The Bruce and he completyt furth thar bandis; Syn that samyn nycht thai sellyt with thar handis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 337 Thir to confirme, the King ilk ane seilis, and euerie ane than seilit, conforme to the Queines pleisure. 1685 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Dec., Attended by three of the Clearks of the Signet, we met and seal'd. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ix. 9 Wherefore Friendships, Charities, and Kindnesses, should be well Weigh'd and Examin'd,..before we Sign and Seal. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, How does Farmer Rutledge?..I hope you found him able to sign, seal, and deliver? 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 65 To-morrow, Sutherland, we will sign and seal.

b. *fig.* To authenticate or attest solemnly by some act compared to the affixing of a seal.

a 1600 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 68 This commoun weil he luifit sa tenderlie,..His lufe to it he schew maist faithfullie, And with his blude he seillit it up at last. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vii. 29 The duty that I owe vnto your Maiesty, I Seale vpon the lips of this sweet Babe. 1655 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) II. 275 Hee is resolued to credit nothing contrary to yᵉ relation hee hath receiued, which though yᵉ informer should seale with ten thousand sacraments will one day to his shame appeare notoriously false. 1761 GRAY *Williams* 6 The first in blood his infant honour seal'd.

c. To conclude, ratify, render binding (an agreement, etc.) by affixing the seals of the partics to the instrument. Also *fig.*, to ratify or clinch (a bargain) by some ceremonial act.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1567 Thai seyllyt the pes with out langar delay. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 105 Hereof were obligations made and sealed in the later ende of November. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 89 They plighted faith and troth, and Carmela..sealed it with a kisse. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 88 When they sell houses or lands, they bring a tun of beere or vessell of wine into the streete, and seale the bargaine by drinking with their neighbours. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* III. i, Before the rising sun my lord arrives, To seal our vows. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 968 Brides..and bridegrooms..By love or law compell'd their vows to seal. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xiii. II. 154 Peace was concluded, and sealed by a marriage.

d. To grant (a charter, etc.) under one's seal; †*fig.* to give (testimony, a promise, etc.) in an authoritative manner or with solemn pledges of good faith.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Custom of Country* v. i, My hospitable word..Did I not Seale still to thee? 1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 534 And as to the disseisee who sealed the same Deed, this shall enure but by way of confirmation. 1641 HINDE *J. Brnen* xxxi. 97 The University in his youth, and the countrey in his riper age, may, and will seale him a worthy testimony for a Gentleman. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Mar., This day..I did seal my will to her [my wife], whereby I did give her all that I have in the world.

e. To impose (an obligation, a penalty) *on* a person in a binding manner.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* v. ii, Who for the same cause in my presence seald His holy anger on his daughters hearts. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* III. iv, You have seal'd ioy close to my soule. 1870 C. J. VAUGHAN *Earnest Words* 110 A man who can speak thus..seems..to have sealed upon himself that which God never meant him for—a life of hardness and a death of despair!

f. *fig.* Of a thing or act: To attest or ratify as a seal does; to be a 'seal' of.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Pauegerick* 128 No Planke from Hallowed Altar..do's seale A curse to Thee or Thine. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 178 Extream Unction is a Sacrament: therefore, it sealeth spiritual graces. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 246 Then with his sable Brow he gave the Nod, That seals his Word. 1888 LANE *Illust. Notes Eng. Ch. Hist.* II. xxviii. 233 Those whose profession of Christianity had been sealed by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

g. To decide irrevocably (the fate of a person or thing); to complete and place beyond dispute or reversal (a victory, defeat, etc.).

1810 SHELLEY *Marg. Nicholson Fragm.* 9 Fate, envious Fate, has sealed my wayward destiny. 1817 — *Revolt of Islam* IV. XXV, Why pause the victor swords to seal his overthrow? 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* v. 197 A gun was levelled,..to seal the fate of this brave and generous officer. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* III. vii, Tomorrow would seal his triumph. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* v. (1880) 82 The massacre of Saint Bartholomew..sealed the fate of Mary Stuart.

2. To mark by a seal as reserved for a particular destination. Chiefly *fig.*, esp. in certain uses of New Testament origin: To designate, set apart, assign *to* another person or bind *together*, by an inviolable token or pledge.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 4 He hit wat ful wel þe hauede iseilet to him me seolf. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Bodl.) 24/128 Ant tu..þet art iloten to him with meiðhades merke, ne brec þu nawt þet seil þet seiled inc to gederes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 293 Syn ye Cryseyde and me han fully brought In-to your grace and hope our hertes seled, How may ye suffre allas it be repeled? 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* vii. 3 [The angel] cryed..saying: hurt not the erth..tyll I have sealed [*Wycl.* 1382 til we signe, 1388 til we marken] the seruauntes of oure god in their foreheddes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 646, I doe not blame the christening of them, for to be sealed with the marke of the Lambe..I hold it a good and gracious woorke. 1630 SHIRLEY *Grateful Serv.* III. i, Hath some wound, Or other dire mis-fortune, seal'd him for The grave. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* II, Have not all my money, all my love, Been sealed and stamped with signature of heaven? 1865 SHELEY *Ecce Homo* iv. (ed. 8) 32 God, who had sealed that [Abraham's] family for himself.

b. In allusions to Rev. vii. 5–8.

In the original passage the verb is not really construed with *of*, as in the imitative use.

[1535 COVERDALE *Rev.* vii. 5–8 Of the trybe of Iuda were sealed xij. M...Of the trybe of Beniamin were sealed xij. thousande. (Similarly 1611.)] *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lxv. (*title*) An Epistle, answering to one that asked to be Sealed of the Tribe of Ben. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 441 He was a king among us [*sc.* fishermen],—if two long seasons ..may entitle the writer of this modest tribute to account himself sealed of the tribe.

c. Among the Mormons of Utah, to set apart (a woman) by a solemn ceremony *to* a man as one of his 'spiritual wives'.

1857 J. HYDE *Mormonism* 84 (Bartlett 1860) People, according to Mormon technology, are married for time, but sealed for eternity.

3. To impress a seal upon (weights or measures) to indicate that their correctness has been tested by municipal or other lawful authority. Also, to place an official stamp on (merchandise, e.g. pieces of cloth) to certify that it is of standard measure or quality.

1467 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 334 The mesuris to be delyuerid by the comyn seriant to delyuer hem selyd with-owt money-takyng therfor. 1518 *Ibid.* 657 A Sealer to be ordeyned & sworne to stryke the Cloth & seale hit & wrete hit & fynde leed & to haue a peny for his labor. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 6 Those Who are appointed by their charge to know, Whether thy pots be sealed yea or no. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. 4, I wonder they did not ask to see..the cat-o'-nine-tails, sealed with the seal of the visiting justice.

†4. *intr.* (Cf. 1 *absol.*) To set one's seal (*to* a document). Also *spec.* to set one's seal to or execute a promissory note; to become security *for* a person. Also *to seal under*. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxiii. 263 At the request of the kyng of Englande, the frenche kyng..confyrmed and sealed to the gyfte of syr John Chandos, he to possede and to haue the same landes, as his true heritage for euer. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 89 He borrowed a boxe of the eare of the Englishman, and swore he would pay him againe when he was able: I thinke the Frenchman became his suretie, and seald vnder for another. *Ibid.* I. iii. 172 Yes Shylocke, I will seal vnto this bond. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. ii, At the Academie of valour...Where they are taught the ways, Though they refuse to seal for a Duellist, How to decline a challenge. 1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* III. iv. F 1 b, Hee is either trudging now vnto a broaker, Or to invite some new heire to a breakefast, To seale for the commodity.

† b. *fig.* To assent, lend one's support or authority *to* a statement or proposal. *Obs.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 10 It is sufficient ..that if they lauish out any vntruth, that I be pardoned for not sealyng vnto it. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambois* III. i. 34 *Gui.* I seale to that. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinae* 353 And pray you, who is ignorant of this truth? Not an old woman in all the Town but will seal to it. 1683 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 282, 85 were for sealing to the regulation required by his majestie, and 103 against it.

† e. *fig.* ? To make peace. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N 2, I haue not yet seald and shakt hands with him for making two such false Prophets of Saturne & Iupiter.

II. To fasten with or as with a seal.

5. *trans.* To fasten (a folded letter or other document) with melted wax or some other plastic material and impress a seal upon this, so that opening is impossible unless the seal is broken.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 Ase a king þet..sende his sondesmen biforen..mid lettres isealed. [*Cf. below*: ase lettres iopened.] *a* 1400 *Arthur* 272 Þis lettre was celyd fast, Y-take the Messagerez on hast. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXI. 619 He drough oute the letter of kynge Rion that was seled with x seles roiall. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 105 b, They wryte an aunswere to the Emperour..and delivered the same sealed to the intercessours. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 113, I sealed up my packet letters for England. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Nov., I will seal my letter early. *c* 1808 PORTER *Russia & Swed.* (1813) I. ii. 14 [Nelson] desired Colonel Stewart to send some one below for a light, that he might seal his despatch. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* iii, This letter, sealed with his lordship's own crown.

b. Said of the signet itself.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXV, The very seal that sealed it had been robbed from George's dead body as it lay on the field of battle.

c. To stamp the wax fastening (a letter) *with* something substituted for a seal.

1718 *Free-thinker* No. 108. 24 In breaking open the Second Letter, I observed it was sealed with a Thimble.

d. To fasten up (a letter, a parcel) with sealing-wax, a wafer, gum, or the like.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, She sealed her letters carefully, and put them into the post-office with her own hand. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, This letter, sealed with a wafer, was despatched by one of the messengers.

6. To place a seal upon the opening of (a door, a chest, etc.) for security. Also with *up*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17348 Þai..did to sper þe dors fast, Locked bath wit-yte and in And seild wit þair seiles trin. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* I. 8 And notwythstondynge that his sepulcre or graue was seelyd and synied & kept with knightes yet the thyrde day he rose in his humanite. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. ii. 22 The Searchers of the Towne..Seal'd vp the doores, and would not let vs forth. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, Then Mrs. Boffin and me seal up his box..and..I come down here in search of a lawyer to advise. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift in America* 56 When the train is composed mainly of empty cars, the doors are often

open, and never sealed... But when they are full the little end doors are usually bolted, and the side doors sealed with a little leaden button or tag. It is an indictable offence to break these.

b. In figurative phrases, esp. *to seal* (a person's) *lips*, to bind or constrain to silence or secrecy; *to seal* (a person's) *eyes* or *ears*, to render blind or deaf, also to restrain from looking or listening. Also with *up*.

In *to seal the eyes*, this verb is not always distinguishable from the figurative use of SEEL *v.*

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* II. ii. E 4 b, I would seale my eares, Deafe as the sea, to shiprack't marriners. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 214 Sleep did his office soon, and sealed his sight. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. viii, I make it quite a principle to seal up my lips the moment I perceive him. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. xxii, And seal'd is now each lip that could have told. 1864 BROWNING *Y. Lee's Wife* IV. iii, Seal my sense up for your sake? 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 140/1 The two Ruthvens' mouths were thus sealed for ever.

7. To place in a receptacle secured by a seal.

c 1420 *Brut* 355 Þay waged batayle & cast doun her gloues; & þanne þey were take vp and seled, and the day & þe place of batayle assygned at Couyntre. 1530 PALSGR. 708/2, I have sent him all his writynges sealed in a bagge. *a* 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Heelon* (1875) App. 81 Thover plus of money ..shalbe bagged and seallyde with xij^th sealis.

b. Chess. *To seal a move.* Of a player in a match or tournament: To place in a sealed envelope a statement of the move he intends to make when the game is resumed after an adjournment.

1891 *Daily News* 16 Jan. 2/4 [This] move was sealed by Mr. Gunsberg at the adjournment. It is worthy of note that so far Mr. Steinitz has not sealed a move.

8. To close (a vessel, an aperture, etc.) securely by placing a coating of wax, cement, or lead, over the orifice, or, in wider sense, by any kind of fastening that must be broken before access can be obtained. *To seal hermetically*: see the adv.

1661 in T. Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 54 The spirit of wine must be the highest rectified. It will do better in a bolt-head sealed up hermetically. 1683 K. DIGBY *Chymical Secrets* 32 Then Seal it Hermetically. 1853 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* 195 The cylinder..may be described as a cylinder inverted over a cistern of water, both the inlet and outlet pipes having their orifices above the surface of the water, so that the gas is hermetically sealed up within the holder, and can only escape through the outlet-pipe. 1877 W. RICHARDS *Manuf. Coal Gas* 210 No ill effects are experienced—at least, so long as the holder remains sealed.

b. *Surg.* To close up (a wound) with a covering that is not to be removed until healing has taken place.

1862 *Med. Times & Gaz.* 6 Dec. 601/2 July 1.—The ulcer was sealed. 4th.—Unsealed, and found to be diminished in circumference half-an-inch; re-sealed. 1863 *Lancet* 8 Aug. 177/2. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 659 Another method of practice handed down from very ancient times..is to seal up the wound.

9. To fasten *on* or *down* with wax or cement.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 38 When I have thus filled it, I can very easily in the..flame of a Lamp seal and joyn on the head of it. 1739 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Pomfret* 10 Oct. (1893) II. 47 A gnat had saluted one of my eyes so roughly that it was for two days absolutely sealed down. 1769 BANCROFT *Guiana* 219 The glass is then to be filled with rum, and the cork sealed down, to prevent its exhalation.

b. *fig.* To fasten, fix immoveably.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, M'sex* (1662) II. 189 Otherwise the hot Sun arising, sealeth (to use the Husbandmans Phrase) the Mildew upon the Straw. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 82 But, ah, she gave me never a look, For her eyes were sealed to the holy book.

c. *intr.* To apply wax, etc. in fastening.

1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 191 He then immediately seals all round the cork..with good red sealing wax.

10. *Building. trans.* To secure in position in a wall by means of mortar, cement, etc. [So F. *sceller.*]

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 242 Thence we were brought to the Kitchin...The great Cauldrons were all set in a row, and seal'd within the Wall.

11. *transf.* To enclose, shut *up* within impenetrable barriers.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 966 If from this houre Within these hallowd limits thou appeer, Back to th' infernal pit I drag thee chaind, And Seale thee so, as henceforth not to scorne The facil gates of hell too slightly barrd. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lv, Shall men..Who loved, who suffer'd countless ills, Who battled for the True, the Just, Be blown about the desert dust, Or seal'd within the iron hills? 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxi. (1856) 162 In case we should lose our vessels or become sealed up in permanent ice.

†**III. 12.** a. *trans.* To impress (a mark) *upon*. b. *intr.* To make marks like those on a seal. *Obs.*

a. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 5 He hauеð his merke on me iseilet. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 200 The castell 3ee weir well seiled on 3our shoulder.

b. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 20 b, That which is grauen or by any wyse sealed vppon.

Seal (sīl), *v.*[2] *dial.* [Specific use of OE. *sǽlan* to bind with a rope, f. *sǽl* rope (=OS. *sēl*, Du. *zeel*, OHG. *sēil*, mod.G. *seil*, ON. *seil*). Cf. Sw. *sela* to harness.] *trans.* 'To bind or fasten (cattle) in their stalls' (E. D. D.).

1633 in *Y. Webster's Displ. Witchcraft* (1677) 348 His Father bad him go and fetch home two Kine to seal. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 61 Seeing her like for calving before morning, we brought her up and sealed her. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 552 As the wife of E. Fearnley was sealing up the cows [etc.].

Seal (sīl), *v.*[3] [f. SEAL *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To hunt for seals.

1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 66 Now we have four vessels constantly whaling; six sealing. 1891 *Times* 27 Jan. 7/1 The claims of the Victoria sealers for compensation in consequence of their not being permitted to seal in the Behring sea.

Sealable (sī'lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SEAL *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] That can be or requires to be sealed. Also, † suitable for use in sealing.

1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 190/2 That in the Citee of London .., such Clothes sealeable, be sealed with Leede as it hath be accustumed. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sigillative*, sealable.

Sea'-lark. [LARK *sb.*[1] Cf. mod.L. *alauda marina*, F. *alouette de mer*, G. *seelerche, meerlerche.*]

1. A local name for various small birds frequenting the sea-shore, as (*a*) the ringed plover, *Ægialitis hiaticula*; (*b*) various sandpipers, as the dunlin, *Tringa alpina*, and the sanderling, *Calidris arenaria*; (*c*) the turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; (*d*) the sea-titling or rock-pipit, *Anthus obscurus.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 35 Amongst the first sort, we reckon the Dip-chicke..Coots, Sanderlings, Sea-larkes [etc.]. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 230 *Charadrius sive Hiaticula.* The Sea-Lark. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 376 With bills very short—the Lapwing,..the Turnstone, and the Sea-lark. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. birds* 512 Sand-Lark and Sea-Lark are likewise names often given to some of the smaller members of the *Limicolæ*.

† **2.** The smooth blenny, *Pholis lævis. Obs.*

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. iii, A Sea-Lark. is a Fish.. with cartilaginous Wings..by the means of which, I have seen them fly about three Fathom above Water. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art Angling* II. xix. 124 The Sea-Lark or Bulcard.

Sea'-law. A law relating to the duties and rights of persons on the seas. Chiefly in *plural*, applied by writers of the 16th and succeeding centuries to certain mediæval collections of customary laws relating to maritime affairs, esp. the Laws of Wisby, relating to the North Sea and the Baltic, and the Laws of Oléron, relating to the Atlantic.

1613 W. WELWOD (*title*) An Abridgement of all Sea-Lawes. 1664 EXTON *Maritime Dicæologie* I. iii. 13 Dionysius ascribeth the first making of Sea-laws to the Phenicians. 1909 W. ASHBURNER (*title*) The Rhodian Sea-Law.

Sea-lawyer.

1. A shark, the tiger-shark. Also the grey or mangrove snapper.

1811 *Lex Balatron.*, *Sea Lawyer*, a shark. 1876 GOODE *Catal. Fishes Bermudas* 54 *Lutjanus Caxis*...Gray Snapper...Its extreme cunning..has gained it the soubriquet of 'Sea Lawyer'.

2. An argumentative sailor (see quot. 1867).

1848 C. C. CLIFFORD *Aristoph. Frogs* 37 But now they are sea-lawyers every one, And when you bid them pull, they do demur. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-lawyer*, an idle litigious 'long-shorer, more given to question orders than to obey them. One of the pests of the navy as well as of the mercantile marine.

Sealchie, -kie (sī'lxi, sī'lki). *Orkney and Shetland.* Forms: 8 selchie, 8–9 selkie, 9 selky, selchy, sealkie, sealchie, saelkie, silkey. [dim. form of *sealgh* SEAL *sb.*[1]] = SEAL *sb.*[1]

c 1550 MONRO *Descr. Hebrides* (1774) 29 Ane ile callit Ellan Askerin,..guid for fishing and slaughter of selchies. 1744 PRESTON *Zetland* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 61 There are many Otters, which they call Tikes; and Seals, which they call Selkies. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxviii, Our kinswoman has got a pretty seal, too—Here, sealchie, my man. 1888 MRS. SAXBY *Lays of Lunda* 90 Gibbie is no a sealkie, nae mair is Gibbie a cal-loo.

Sealed (sīld), *ppl. a.* [f. SEAL *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Bearing the impression of a signet in wax (or other material), as evidence or guarantee of authenticity.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 407, & sende iseelede writes wið his ahne kinering. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 736 Lo, heere the lettres seled of this thing. *c* 1511 *Rel. Ant. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 32/1 Also certefye yow with our lettres sealed. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 87 A Seal'd Compact, Well ratified by Law, and Heraldrie. 1654 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) II. 263 Wee have had much talke in Paris upon a project of sealed paper, wherein all contracts and legall busines should be written. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 June 2/2 Spanish 'sealed' bonds..were better at the close.

b. Of weights and measures: Stamped with a mark affixed by a duly appointed officer as a guarantee of accuracy.

1522 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 683 Ordained that all bruers & Tylers order them-selffe to sell ther ale with Sealyd Mesures soche as byn ordenyd. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Beame, scales, with the weights, that be sealed and true.

c. *fig.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xi. § 4 (1622) 318 A sealed and infallible truth. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 112 Concluded & sealed Salvation may goe through & be ended. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Inig.* II. II. vi. 373 Those true Members and marked or sealed Souldiers of Christ. *Ibid.*, The 144 thousand sealed Servants of God.

† **d.** *Sealed earth* [med.L. *terra sigillata*, Gr. σφραγίς, σφραγῖτις]: a medicinal earth found in the Island of Lemnos, believed to possess antitoxic properties, sold by apothecaries in cubical blocks bearing a stamp, formerly an impression of the head of Artemis. Also any earth resembling this, in appearance or properties. *Obs.*

1526 *Grete Herball* ccccxliv. (1529) Zv, Sealed erthe is of grete vertue to staunche. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 632 Our Author takes notice of Nine sorts of sealed Earths, which he hath observed to be sold by the Druggists of London, under the Title of *Terra Sigillata.* 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 415 The principal of these are its good clay and sealed earth, as also its silver.

† **e.** *Sealed porter*: a porter having the sealed licence of one of the companies of porters. *Obs.*

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. iii, I know he was a Porter, And a seal'd Porter for he bore the badge On brest I am sure.

f. *Nat. Hist.* In specific names: Bearing a mark resembling a seal.

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 474 Sealed Sparus, *Sparus Sigillatus*..marked on each side by a longitudinal paler stripe and a yellow-red ellipse behind each eye.

g. Sealed book: any of the printed copies of the authentic Book of Common Prayer of 1661 certified under the Great Seal and deposited as a standard in Cathedrals and Collegiate Churches. (To be distinguished from the Annexed Book, which is the MS. copy of the Book of Common Prayer annexed to the official copy of the Act of Uniformity of 1662 preserved in the House of Lords.)

1710 NICHOLLS (*title*) A Comment on the Book of Common Prayer...The text of the whole being compared and amended according to the sealed Books. 1849 STEPHENS (*title*) The Book of Common Prayer...The text taken from the Sealed Book for the Chancery and collated with the Sealed Books for the King's Bench [etc.].

h. Sealed pattern: in British military and naval use, a pattern (e. g. of a weapon or other article of equipment) accepted by the War Office or the Admiralty. In quot. *attrib.* (*nonce-use*).

1902 *Words of Eyewitness* 233 A useful lot, thinks Colonel Jones, but somewhat of an anxiety to his sealed-pattern soldier's mind.

2. Fastened with a seal; closed in such a manner that access (to the contents) is impossible without breaking the fastening. *Sealed orders*: written directions given to the commander of a vessel concerning the destination of a voyage, which are not to be opened until the vessel has left port. *Sealed verdict*: a verdict delivered in a sealed packet in the absence of a judge.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 5100 Þan sendis scho to him sandismen with selid lettris. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 2 And eke y^e seled welle [*Song Sol.* iv. 12]..and Balaam sterre. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 4 That person mentioned by Esay, to whom when a sealed booke was deliuered [etc.]. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 89 He thought that Capt. Speck would be content to let hym carry our sealed letters. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 176 Berthelot found that by exposing the alcohol and the acid in sealed tubes for some hours [etc.]. 1872 LOWELL *Dante* Wks. 1890 IV. 237 Most men make the voyage of life as if they carried sealed orders which they were not to open till they were fairly in mid-ocean. 1894 FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 38 Judge Gedney says that you can bring in a sealed verdict without waiting for him.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context. *A sealed book*: often used predicatively of something involved in obscurity, or beyond a person's capacity to understand.

1818 BYRON *Juan* I. xlviii, This, too, was a seal'd book to little Juan. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 173 Nature with her truth remains to the bad, to the selfish and the pusillanimous, forever a sealed book. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* II. xi. III. 107 It is no longer a sealed language. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 171 O bearer with sealed lips of all the lore Man yearns to know.

c. (See sense 2 c of the vb.)

1856 B. G. FERRIS *Mormons at Home* 114 (Bartlett 1860) The extra wives of the Mormons are called by some of them 'spirituals', by others sealed ones.

Sea legs, *pl. jocular.* [Cf. F. *avoir le pied marin.*] In phrases, *To have* or *get one's sea legs on, to find one's sea legs*, to have or acquire the power of walking steadily on the deck of a ship.

1712 W. ROGERS *Voy. round World* 8 They had..got their Sea-Legs. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii, In addition to all this, I had not got my 'sea legs on'. 1898 BARING-GOULD *Old Eng. Home* xiii. 286, I have been..a seaman for fifteen years, and have never yet found my sea-legs.

Sealer (sī'lər), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 seeler, 4, 6 seler, 5– sealer. [f. SEAL *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. One who affixes a seal to a document.

1382 WYCLIF *2 Esdras* x. 1 Selers forsothe weren Neemias, Athersata [etc.]. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 337/2 The Sealer in the Chauncery. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Chauffecires*, sealers of patentes. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4467/4 Complaint hath been made, that the Sealer to the Great Seal has demanded extraordinary Fees for his Attendance in the Country. 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 182 The sealer of writs is not guilty of a contempt in refusing to seal a writ on St. Luke's day. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 84 § 2 As the Offices..of Chaff Wax and Sealer..become vacant..the Duties of such several Offices shall be performed by the said Purse-bearer.

2. †**a.** One who attaches the official mark or seal to leather or other material as evidence of quality, etc. *Obs.* b. An Inspector of weights and measures.

1467-8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 630/1 That all the seid Clothes ..be sealed by the Kynge Awnager or Sealer. 1511-2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 The Alnager or Seler..shall put to every Wollen cloth..the Kynges Seales of leed. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* E iv b, Whereas your backes of al other shoulde bee best tanned, you bring them so full of horne to the market, that did you not grease the sealers of Leaden hall thoroughly in the fiste, they should neuer be sealed. 1835 *App. Municip. Corpor. Rep.* I. 431 (Barnstaple) The Sealers of Weights and Measures are appointed by the mayor and capital burgesses; they are paid by the fees charged for sealing. *Ibid.* II. 2005 (Axbridge) The office of the Ale Tasters and Leather Sealers has been long obsolete.

1858 *Rev. Statutes Wisconsin* 176 One sealer of weights and measures; and one overseer of highways.

†3. *fig* One who gathers up and closes the efforts or labours of others. *Obs. rare*—1.

1615 T. Bedwell *Moham. Impost.* III. § 106 Iohn was the sealer vp of the sayings of the Prophets.

†4. *slang.* (See quots.)

1688 Shadwell *Sq. Alsatia* I. i. 7 Cheatly who has drawn in so many young Heirs, and undone so many Sealers. *Ibid. Expl. Cant, Sealer*, one that gives Bonds and Judgments for Goods and Money. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Sealer* or *Squeeze Wax*, one ready to give bond and judgment for goods or money.

Sealer (sī·lər), *sb.*2 [f. Seal *v.*3 + -er 1.]

1. A vessel engaged in the sealing trade.

1820 W. Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 508 Many vessels equipped only as sealers, proceed annually into the Greenland Sea. 1904 *Times* 15 Aug. 4/3 The sealer Teresa is at Dutch Harbour..seized for using fire-arms..before..season.

2. One who hunts the seal.

1842 Bonnycastle *Newfoundld.* II. 167 To pay the sealers, or the same men as cod-fishers, regular wages, would at present be impracticable. 1880 H. W. Elliott *Rep. Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 164 The sealers on St. Paul..just as the season opens, invariably prophesy a bad year for seals.

Sealery (sī·lərі). *rare.* [f. Seal *sb.*1 + -ery.] The occupation of hunting the seal.

1895 Kipling *2nd Jungle Bk.* 146 Coming back north.. for the musk-ox hunting and the regular winter sealery.

Sea·less, *a. rare.* [f. Sea *sb.* + -less.] Having no sea, without sea.

1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* xv. (1870) 303 The greatest happiness of the sealess heaven.

Sea-lettuce. The seaweeds *Ulva Lactuca* and *U. latissima.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iv. § 3. 71 Sea-lettice. 1732 [see Laver *sb.*1 2]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Lactuca marina*, sea lettuce, in botany, a name used by some authors for the *lichen marinus*, commonly called oister green. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 218/2 [He] recommends the growth of sea-lettuce (*Ulva latissima*) in tanks, as suitable both for oxygenating the water and for food for the fishes.

Sea-level.

1. The mean level of the surface of the sea, the mean level between high and low tide.

1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 550 The altitude of which is 14984 feet above the sea level. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 444 The height of the barometer at sea-level. 1894 *Nature* 26 July 293/2 The correction of the individual readings of the barometer to the sea-level.

2. A level or flat surface of the sea.

1873 M. Collins *Miranda* I. 168 She sat and worked, and looked across the vast sea-levels.

Sealgh, Sealie: see Seal *sb.*1, Seely.

Sea·-light. [Light *sb.*]

†1. Phosphorescence seen at sea. *Obs. rare.*

1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* I. 5 A sea-light or a luminous appearance in the water, called by the Norwegians, Moor-lild.

2. A beacon, lighthouse, or harbour-light to guide ships at sea.

1691–2 Stillingfl. *Serm.* xxx. Wks. I. 487 It helps them to see their Folly, and like a Sea-light to a sinking Ship in a dark Night, makes those who are aboard, to behold their Misery, without helping them out of it. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 527/2 Sea-lights are commonly divided into two principal classes. 1867 Manning *Eng. & Christendom* 164 They who destroy sea-lights are enemies of the human race.

Sea·-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Sea *sb.* + -like.]

A. *adj.* Resembling the sea.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. Ded., The tempestuous..waues of this sea-like worlde. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 20 *Rapidus Garumna*, that is, the strong sealike and swift Garumna. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VII. 285 Declining southward many a land they lave, And widely swelling roll the sea-like wave. 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* I. xv. 403 The sea-like expanse of the Victoria Lake.

B. *adv.* After the manner of the sea.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 171 Our seuer'd Nauie too Haue knit againe, and Fleete, threatning most Sea-like. 1864 Tennyson *Specimen tr. Iliad* I So Hector said, and sea-like roar'd his host.

Sea·-line. [Line *sb.*2]

1. The coast-line or sea-board.

a 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* iv. (1690) 78 The Sea-line of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the adjacent Islands, is about Three thousand Eight hundred Miles. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* I. i. 21 Oaks along the low sea-line Are greenly feathered with fern and moss.

2. The horizon, the line where sea and sky seem to meet.

1880 W. Watson *Prince's Quest* (1892) 58 When the sealine grew O'erhazed with visible heat. 1888 Stevenson *Across the Plains*, etc. (1892) 193 The sea-line rough as a wood with sails.

fig. *a* 1881 Rossetti *House of Life* x, May know The very sky and sea-line of her soul.

3. A line used at sea; (*a*) a sounding line; (*b*) a long line used in sea-fishing in deep water.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 896 These passages are not cited with so vain a purpose as that of furnishing a sea-line for measuring the 'soundless deeps' of Jeremy Taylor. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 145 One mode is by deep sea-lines, called bulters, on the Cornish coast.

Sealing (sī·lіŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Seal *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of affixing a seal or stamp to a document as a ratification, or to a manufactured article as evidence of genuineness, measure, or quality.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 300 For he had grantid þer to þe Chartre forto sele, & after þat selyng alle suld þei come þe barons & þe kyng, & tak of þam hard dome. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 26 Sum thrifty man..to be at the selyng. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 5 § 2 The said Warden.. shall have..Power and Authority..to make Seales from time to time for the sealing of the same [Worsted-] Stuffs. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 234 Testified by a writing under their hands and seals, attested by two or more witnesses; the attestation extending only to the sealing and delivery of the deed.

†b. *fig. Obs.*

1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 28 b, Vowes, othes, oblygations and sealynges to the Beastes holy seruice. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliii. 121 That God of his free mercy wil give us the ful sealing of his..grace.

2. The action of closing or fastening with a seal.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 786 Bot Ihesus, quhene he rase fra dede,..al vnsterynge þe stekyne of þe presone & þe selynge, owte of þe cawe þan can me ta. 1669 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 438 St. Alban's seemed mightily dissatisfied with this sealing up of the goods. 1884 tr. *Gaboriau's Little Old Man* v, The commissary of police was finishing the sealing-up of the cupboards in the bedroom.

b. *Surg.* The close bandaging of wounds, etc.; also the bandage.

1862 *Med. Times & Gaz.* 6 Dec. 601/2 Treatment of ulcers ..by 'Sealing'. *Ibid.*, It was necessary to remove the sealing. 1863 *Lancet* 1 Aug. 148/1 The Sealing of Ulcers.

†3. = Seal *sb.*2 1 j. *Obs. rare*—1.

1591 Cockaine *Treat. Hunting* D 2 b, Your huntsman early in the morning..must goe to the water; and seeke for the new swaging of an Otter, and in the mud or grauell finde out the sealing of his foote.

4. The action of making an impression upon wax or other soft material by means of a signet.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 176 Little otherwise Gods working or knowing differs from ours, as sealing or printing does from limning and drawing.

b. The impression made by such an act.

1904 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 392 Those monstrous shapes..appear in great variety on gem sealings. 1905 A. J. Evans in *Ann. Brit. Sch. Athens* XI. 12 Among the fragmentary clay sealings..were several of religious import.

5 *Building.* (See quot. and Seal *v.*1 10.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Sealing*, in Architecture, the fixing a Piece of Wood or Iron in a Wall, with Plaister, Mortar, Cement, Lead, or other solid Bindings. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 592.

6. Among the Mormons of Utah: the ceremony of taking a 'spiritual' wife.

1856 B. G. Ferris *Mormons at Home* 114 (Bartlett 1860) These left-hand marriages are called sealings.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †**sealing money**, a fee paid at the signing of a lease; **sealing-thread**, ? a thread or string laid upon, or covered with, wax before making an impression with the signet; **sealing-water**, waterstanding in the trap of a drain which prevents the escape of foul air from a sewer.

1509 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O. H. S.) 350 Sometimes is noted how much beside the fine the tenants gave for *sealing mony. 1591 Florio *2nd Fruites* 89 Giue me some wax, some *sealing thrid, my dust box, & my seale. 1884 Waring in *Century Mag.* Dec. 260/2 The current thus produced is to carry the *sealing-water with it.

Sealing (sī·lіŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Seal *v.*3 + -ing 1.] The hunting of the seal.

1848 Maunder *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 805 *Sealing*, the operation of taking seals and curing their skins. 1870 *Daily News* 18 Apr., Sealing was exceptionally early this season.

attrib. 1842 Jukes *Excurs. Newfoundld.* I. 277 Captain Furneaux..killed two with his sealing-gun loaded with seal shot. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* Advt. 2 W. G. will undertake contracts for quantities of arms..such as..rifles or sealing guns. *Ibid.* 3 Sealing rifles. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 4 Coasting, sealing, or fishing vessels.

Sealing (sī·lіŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Seal *v.*1 + -ing 2.] That seals. Usually *fig.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 2 To make seling prove of the forsaid sothfastnes. 1682 Flavell *Fear* 102 The sealing graces are in you, the sealing spirit is ready..the sealing promises belong to you. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xiv. § 40 It embodies in a few syllables the sealing difference between the Greek and the mediæval.

Sea·ling-wax. [f. Sealing *vbl. sb.*1] In early use, beeswax or a composition containing this, in later use a composition consisting of shellac, rosin, and turpentine, prepared for the purpose of receiving the impression of seals. Also *attrib.*

The modern 'sealing-wax' resembles wax in its fusibility and its plasticity when softened by heat, but its superior hardness when solidified renders it more capable of receiving a sharp and durable impression. It is usually coloured scarlet with vermilion, but black sealing wax is used for mourning, and green, blue, etc. for reasons of ornament.

13.. *Test. Christi* 143 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 647 Þe selyng-wax was deore aboust,..And tempred al wiþ vermiloun Of my rede blod þat ran doun. 1580–1 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 5 Wares wrought with Waxe, as..Staff-Torches, Red Waxe or Sealing Waxe. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 194, I covered the Cork with Sealing-wax. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 204 Black sealing Wax is ..colour'd with Smoak Black. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 28 Mr. Woodward strongly recommends the covering the glass pillars..with sealing-wax varnish. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr.* 191 The top of the cork must also be well coated with sealing wax.

Sea·-lion.

†1. A kind of lobster or crab (see Lion *sb.* 8).

1602 Holland *Pliny* xxxii. xl. II. 452 Sea Lions, which haue cleies or armes in manner of Crabfishes, but in other respects resembling Locusts.

2. A fabulous animal. In *Her.* (see quot. 1780).

1651 Tatham in Heath *Grocer's Comp.* (1869) 478 In the Reare..are placed two Sea Lyons riding on the surface of the water, and on their backs two Trytons playing on retorted Pipes or Hornes antique, agreeable with the Musick of Neptune. 1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Sea-lion.* The upper part is formed like that of a lion, and the lower part like the tail of a fish...Sometimes they are drawn erect, and on their tails; and then they are blazoned as follows: *Sea-lions erect on their tails.*

3. One of several large eared seals: (*a*) the largest otary of the North Pacific, *Otaria* (*Eumetopias*) *stelleri*, Steller's or the Northern sea-lion; (*b*) the Southern or Patagonian sea-lion, *Otaria jubata*; (*c*) the *Zalophus lobatus* of Australian seas, also the distinct species *Z. californianus* of the North Pacific.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 50 The Sea Lion is a large creature about 12 or 14 foot long. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 124 A sailor..employed in skinning a young sea-lion. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 226 White-necked Otary, or Australian Sea-Lion [*Otaria albicollis*]. *Ibid.*, The Patagonian Sea Lion, or Cook's Otary [*Otaria jubata*]. 1880 H. W. Elliott *Rep. Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 84 The northern sea-lion, *Eumetopias Stelleri.*

Hence †**Sea-lioness,** a female sea-lion. *Obs. rare.*

1750 Parsons in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 111 But, if a shewman gives out, that his animal is a sea-lioness, he will easily report any other absurdity. 1771 tr. *Pernety's Voy. Malouine Isl.* (1773) 186 M. Guyot brought..five sea-lionesses.

Sea-lizard.

†1. Some kind of fish. *Obs. rare*—1. [tr. L. *lacertus.*]

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxii. xi. II. 452.

2. A gasteropod of the genus *Glaucus.*

1860 G. Bennett *Gatherings Nat. Austral.* 44 Fig. 3. The Sea Lizard (*Glaucus hexapterygius*).

3. An extinct saurian of the sea.

1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xiii. 379 The extinct gigantic sea-lizards.

Sealless (sī·lles), *a. rare.* [f. Seal *sb.*2 + -less.] Not bearing a seal; not possessing a seal.

1644 Prynne & Walker *Fiennes's Trial* 5 The datelesse, namelesse,..seallesse Proclamation. 1895 Rashdall *Universities* I. 327 *note*, The Faculty of Theology continued sealless.

Sea·-louse. [= L. *pediculus marinus* (Pliny).]

1. A parasitic isopod crustacean of *Cymothoa* and allied genera; a fish-louse.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxxii. viii. II. 442 Those creepers or insects which be called sea-lice. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 328 The gills of these fish we found beset with a kind of sea-louse. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 393 Corephium...The Sea-Louse. This creature..is often found sticking, like the Limpite, to the rocks. 1858 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s. v. *Isopoda*, The genus *Cymothoa*..is called the sea louse by fishermen on the coast.

2. The Molucca crab, *Limulus moluccensis.*

1681 Grew *Museum* I. § vii. iii. 177 The Sharp-Tail'd Sea-Louse. *Pediculus marinus cauda acuta.* 1805 G. Barry *Orkney Isl.* 310 In winter they [*sc.* Stares]..feed on what are called the sea-lice, or *cancer pulex* of Linnæus.

†3. A cowry. *Obs.*

1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 199 *Cypræa Pediculus* Sea Louse.

Sealskin (sī·lskin), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: see Seal *sb.*1; formerly also **seal's skin.** [f. Seal *sb.*1 + Skin *sb.*] **A.** *sb.*

1. The skin of any of the Fur Seals, prepared for use as a garment, for the covering of a box, etc.

1325–6 *Ely Sacrist Rolls* (1907) II. 55 In selisskymys empt. ad easdem [campanas]. 1398 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 107 Et soluti pro iiij sele skynnes pro cooperturis, vij.d. 1511–12 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 201 The dichteyne of ane selk skyne. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 60 Tentis..of selcht skynnis. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1904 II. 316 His breast and his belly with seale skins they grated ouer. 1610 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. 6, 3 hampers for the plate covered with sayle skinnes 1631–2 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 149 For a trunk coverit with selches skyn. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (1903) I. 464 Ilk dozen selch or salt watter otter skins ditto 1s. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. I. 292 The price of raw hides is a good deal lower at present than it was a few years ago; owing probably to the taking off the duty upon seal skins. 1886 Ashby-Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* 45 A dainty young damsel is Pearl, Beclad in the softest of seal skin.

b. Applied to textile fabrics imitating the appearance of sealskin.

1860 S. Jubb *Shoddy-trade* 53 Sealskins—These are a cloth made of mohair and other bright-haired materials. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 442 *Sealskin Cloth.* The yarn used for this kind of cloth is the finest kind of Mohair. *Ibid.* 450 *Silk Sealskin*, is a very beautiful patent textile, composed of Tussar Silk, and made in imitation of Sealskin Fur.

2. A garment made of sealskin.

1873 *Spectator* 8 Feb. 167 Ladies who pride themselves on their 'seal-skins', and who enjoy the comfort of them.

B. *adj.* Made of sealskin.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) L 1, The Indian's seal-skin jacket. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) VII. 187 A pleasant sight it was to see the gallant old gentleman in his seal-skin cap and short green jacket. 1880 H. W. Elliott *Rep. Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 80 Seal-skin sacques.

Hence **Sea·lskinned** *a.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 66 His seale-skind rinéld lippes.

Sea-lungs. [tr. L. *pulmo marinus*, Gr. πλεύμων θαλάσσιος, said to be so called from the alternate contraction and expansion, as if breathing.

Cf. Sp. *pulmon marino*, 'a bright Froth in the Sea that shines (Stevens, 1706).]

An acaleph of the Ctenophora.

1640 Wats *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* IV. iii. 215 Which [light] is likewise seen in the fervent froath of the Sea which they

call the Sea-longs forig. *Pulmonem marinum*]. 1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 234 Sea water violently stirred up with Oars, will give a light, & seem to burn, which kind of burning or light the Spaniards call the Sea-lungs. *c* 1675 Sir T. Browne *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 197 That passage of Pytheas mentioned by Strabo, that all the air beyond Thule is thick, condensed and gellied, looking just like Sea Lungs. [Strabo πλεύμονι θαλασσίῳ ἑοικός.] 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 89 The Sea Lungs. This is a very singular and odd animal; it seems a mere lump, of a whitish semi-pellucid jelly. *a* 1776 J. Ellis *Zoophytes* (1786) 175 *Alcyonium Pulmonaria*. Sea Lungs.

Seam (sīm), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 seam, 4–5 sem, 4–6 seme, (4 seem), 4–6, 8 seyme, (6 seym), 6–7 seame, 5– seam. [Com. Teut.: OE. *séam* masc. = OFris. *sâm*, MDu. *sôm* (Du. *zoom*), OHG. *soum* hem (MHG., mod.G. *saum*), ON. *saum-r* seam (Sw. *söm*, Da. *søm*) :–OTeut. **saumo-z*, f. **sau-* ablaut-variant of *su-* (cf. L. *suĕre* to sew), by-form of Indogermanic **syu-* in OE. *siwian* to Sew, Skr. *syūman* seam.]

I. Suture, junction.

1. The junction made by sewing together the edges of two pieces or widths of cloth, leather, etc.; the ridge or the furrow in the surface which indicates the course of such a junction; sometimes (cf. Seamy *a.*) the protruding edges of the joined pieces on the wrong side of the cloth.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 254 And heoldon his tunecan untoslitene, forðan ðe heo wæs eal buton seame. 1382 Wyclif *John* xix. 23 Forsothe the coote was with out seem, and aboue wouun bi al. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 11174 A man may se to sow a sem In the furthest of the chirche A-boute mydnyght. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 201 Hire crowpe doth the semys shrede, Whan they so streyght lasyd been. 1577 Harrison *England* II. vii. in *Holinshed*, Then must the long seames of our hose be set by a plumb-line. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 169 They weare short cloakes..with one small lace to cover the seames. 1630 Drayton *Muses Elis.* viii. 75 And euery Seame the Nimphs shall sew With th' smallest of the Spinners Clue. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6150/3 A white great Coat,..with two Gussits in the Shoulder-Seam. 1842 [see Fell *v.* 6]. 1843 Hood *Song of Shirt* iii, Seam, and gusset, and band. 1885 J. B. Leno *Boot & Shoemaking* ix. 76 The Oxonian or Oxford Shoe..was formerly closed with a flat seam.

† b. *Surg.* The joining of the edges of a wound by sewing. *Obs.*

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L ij b, Demaunde, Howe many and what maners are there of seames: Answere, Thre, that is a seam incarnatyfe...The other seame sowyng hyght restrayntyfe of blode...The thyrde is called the seame of conseruatyfe..made..to mayntayne the lyppes tyll the wounde be closed. 1541 — *Galyen's Terap.* 2 G ij b, All the great vlceres ought to be conioyned, eyther by seames or by byndyng.

c. An embellished seaming used in joining costly fabrics; an ornamental strip of material inserted in or laid over a seam; also, material for this purpose.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 552 Þei ben y-sewed wiþ whiȝt silk & semes full queynte, Y-stongen wiþ stiches þat stareþ as siluer. 1496–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 33 A ffyne Corporas ..with semys of gold. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 208 b, The semes of the same wer covered with brode wrethes, of goldsmithes worke. 1687 Wood *Life* 3 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 230 The king..with an old French course hat on edged with a little seem of lace. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. vi, A small..'page' to aunt Eleanor..who in that character ..wore red seams down his pantaloons.

d. *fig.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 42 Chidynge and reproche..vnsowen the semes of freendshipe in mannes herte. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. 1902 III. 412 Hee runnes ouer his fooleries with a knaues gallop, ripping vp the souterlie seames of his Epistle. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. i. 156 *Sec. Fishermans*]..I'was wee that made vp this Garment [a coat of armour] through the rough seames of the Waters. 1693 Addison *Ess. Virg. Georgics* Wks. 1721 I. 250 Precepts..should be so finely wrought together in the same piece, that no coarse seam may discover where they join. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 224 One or two of Horace's purple rags, botched together with coarse seams of abuse, will gain prodigious applause.

† e. *transf.* An intervening strip. *Obs.*

1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 44 There is yet a Seam of Land between the French and us [the Dutch].

† 2. *Anat.* The line of junction of two bones forming an immovable joint, esp. in the skull; a suture. *Obs.*

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 379 *Cerebrum*, seam þære heafodpannan. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 108 Þe semis þat ben of þe brayn panne. 1552 Udall tr. *Geminus' Anat.* B vij b, The places where the bones do close together maye be called the seames. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 91 If the offence of the *Pericranium* be in the suture or seam it is more dangerous [etc.]. 1653 [see Lambdoidal *a.* 1]. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* L. xxii. 55 It hath a line..which divides it into a right and left part, and is called a suture or seam.

3. An interstice formed by the abutting edges of planks; a narrow crevice between the edges and ends of the planks or plates of a ship. Chiefly *pl.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 20 Wyrc þe nu anne arc..gebref hit eall, and ȝeclæm ealle þa seamas mid tyrwan. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 294 Payed for..here & Scye..layed in the Semys of the seid Ship. *a* 1628 [see Caulk *v.* 1]. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* cxlvii, With boiling pitch, another near at hand,..the seams instops. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 78 The ship..let in the water at every seam. 1790 Cowper *On Rec. Mother's Picture* 103 Sails rip'd, seams op'ning wide, and compass lost. 1844 Hood *Haunted House* II. xxv, The floor was redolent of mould and must, The fungus in the rotten seams had quicken'd. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 820/1 When the planks are fastened, the seams or the intervals between the edges of the strakes are filled with oakum.

4. A line, groove, furrow or the like formed by the abutting edges of two parts of a thing; an indentation or mark resembling this. a. on a surface of rock, stone, etc.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13976 Þe blod ran þer as water stremes In chynes, in creuesses, & in semes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 555 As þe beryl bornyst byhouez be clene, þat is sounde on vche a syde & no sem habes. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 134 That which at first seemed to be seams or joynings of the Stones, are only veins in the Rock. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xli. 314 Shaggy pines hung top downwards, clinging in their [*sc.* rocks'] seams. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 212 The seams between the layers of bricks..yield no point of vantage to the penknife. 1876 Page *Advnt. Text-bk. Geol.* v. 92 The line that marks this separation between two strata is the seam or line of bedding.

b. on the face or body: † A long incised wound; † the parting (of the hair); a scar (of a healed wound); a deep wrinkle.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5631 In his front he him smot, The blod start out fot hot, He set on him a foule seme. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 24 *Discrimen capillorum*,..the seame of the head or parting of the haire. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 72 [They] looking backward..Saw seams of wounds,..In contemplation of whose ugly scars They cursed the memory of civil wars. 1765 Goldsm. *Double Transf.* 86 In vain she tries her paste and creams, To smooth her skin or hide its seams. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 263 Those irregular marks, or seams, found after other applications, are not to be met with after the turpentine. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* xii. x, The seams Of his rent heart..a creed Had seared with blistering ice. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* i, A deep gash, now healed into an ugly seam. 1875 Buckland *Log-Bk.* 59 No seams are perceptible in the features.

c. *Nat. Hist.* (*a*) *Bot.* (see quot. 1796); (*b*) *Conchol.* (see quot. 1816).

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 94 b, Wallnuttes..are set in the ground..the seame downeward, about the beginning of March. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 79 *Seam*, the line formed by the union of the valves of a seed-vessel. *Ibid.* 226 Berry not unlike a capsule,..coat very thin, opening by various seams. 1816 T. Brown *Elem. Conchol.* 163 *Seam*, the line formed by the union of the valves.

† d. *Farriery* = *False quarter*: see False *a.* 7 a.

1620 Markham *Masterp.* II. lxx. 334 A False Quarter is a rift or open back seame..in..the hoofe. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1712/4 Stolen.., two Gray Geldings, one..with Seams in his Heel. 1759 T. Wallis *Farrier's Dict., Seams*, or Seyms, in horses, are certain clefts in their quarters.

e. *Agric.* A furrow, (seed) drill.

1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 153 The grassfield is ploughed before winter; it is harrowed thereafter, when the grass begins to shoot up in the seams. 1893 *Surrey Gloss.* s.v., You've no call to drill it, you've got a capital seam...I don't care for no seam, so long as I can bury the seed.

f. *dial.* (See quot.)

1870 H. Stevenson *Birds Norf.* II. 311 The rest of the ground, from which the turf is cut, consists of alternate ridges or 'seams' of peat, and wide trenches.

g. *nonce-use.* Applied to a streak of lightning.

1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. v. 41 The seams of lightning which ran through the heavens.

5. *Geol.* A thin layer or stratum separating two strata of greater magnitude.

1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 556/2 Quhensoeuir eny myne or seme of mettaill wes found be ony of the leigis of this realme. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 741 The Seam or Vein of Copper-Ore. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 166, I observ'd a Termination of a Seam, as they call it in the North, or a Stratum of Coal, where it divided into several thin Plates. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 381 The seams are of a darker colour. 1815 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* 179 Numerous beds or seams of coal occur in one coal field. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iii. § 5. 304 The Kentish-rag is seen in nearly horizontal layers, separated by thin seams of loose sand.

6. A joint used in uniting the edges of sheet metal either by folding and pressing them together or by joining them with solder; also, the line produced by this process. *False seam*: see quot. 1881.

1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 634 The method of joining by seams..consists in simply bending the approximate edges of the lead up and over each other, and then dressing them down close to the flat. 1855 Franke *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 451 Seam of a musket barrel (the jagged line produced by welding), *die Schweissnath. Soudure*. 1882 F. Campin *Mech. Engin.* ii. 32 When the casting is quite cool the false seams formed at the junctions of the mould are chipped off. 1882 W. J. Christy *Joints* 203 When the plumber forms pipes of large diameter out of sheet lead the seam is soldered.

7. *Knitting.* [transferred use of 1.] A line of purled stitches (see Purl *v.*[1] 4) down the leg of a stocking, simulating the appearance of a joining. Also short for *seam-stitch*.

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v. *Purle*, The seams of stockings..are purled. 1849 Esther Copley *Compr. Knitting-bk.* 12 In stocking knitting, the 1st method [of reducing the number of stitches] is employed when a narrowing is required just before what is called the 'seam'. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 286/1 *Seam*, a name given to Purl Knitting, but usually indicating the one Purled Stitch down the leg of a stocking that forms the seam.

8. (See quot.)

1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 286 Such also are the rags known technically as 'seams'; being the clippings which fall from woollen rags under the scissors of the sorters.

II. 9. [Cf. ON. *saumar* pl.; also OE. *séamere* tailor.] Sewing, needlework. Also in phr. † *work of seam*. *White seam*, plain needlework. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1400 *Octouian* 1865 Y dwellede yn Jerusalem With kyng and quene, And taught her maydenys werk of sem. 1581 *Nicol Burne's Disput.* 189 b, From threid, seyme, and neidil, To danse at the feidil. 1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* I. iii, It is you that goe about to match your girle with my boy, shee beeing more fit for seames than for marriage. 1738 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 447 The want of an accomplished gentlewoman for teaching white and coloured seam. *c* 1786 Burns *Answ. to Ep. Tailor* ii, Gae mind your seam, ye prick-the-louse! 1818 Miss Ferrier *Marriage* xiv, With ..a large work-bag well stuffed with white-seam, she took her place. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. II. v. 123 Citoyennes who bring their seam with them, or their knitting-needles. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* June 117 He asked her to put down her seam, and come for a walk.

III. 10. Comb.: † seam-biter *Sc.* (jocular), a tailor; seam-blast (see quot.); † seam-bone, each of the bones connected by the lambdoidal suture; seam hammer, joint (see quots.); seam-lace (Webster, 1864) = *seaming lace* (see Seaming *vbl. sb.*); seam-presser, (*a*) (see quot.); (*b*) a tailor's goose for pressing seams (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); † seam-rend [back-formation from *seam-rent* adj.] *v. trans.*, to tear apart at the seams; † seamrent *sb. rare*—[0] (see quot. 1755); seam-rent *a.*, rent or torn apart at the seams, *lit.* and *fig.*; (of a person) having torn garments; seamrept, -ripped *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, ripped or torn apart at the seams; seam-rip (see quot.); seam-roller, (*a*) (see quot.); (*b*) = *seam presser* a. (Ogilvie, 1882); seam rubber, set (see quots.); seam-stitch (see 7 above) = *purl-stitch* (Purl *sb.*[1] 5).

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvii. 10 The tailȝeour, baith with speir and scheild, Convoyit wes vnto the feild, With mony lymmar loun, Off *seme byttaris. 1860 Worcester (citing *Hale*), **Seam-blast*, a blast made by filling with powder the seams or crevices made by a previous drill-blast. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 170 b, Take the hinder *seame bones of dead men (named Sutura lamdoides) those put into calcyning. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Seam-hammer* (Coppersmithing), a creasing hammer for flattening seams and joints. 1882 W. J. Christy *Joints* 202 [Plumbers' Joints.] *Seam Joint is a mode of uniting the edges of sheets of metal by means of a seam. 1843 Ransome *Implem. Agric.* 96 The *seam presser is, in fact, an abstract of a drill-roller, consisting of but two cylinders of cast iron, which, following the plough in the furrows, press and roll down the newly turned up earth. 1647 Ward *Simple Cobler* 76, I have here and there taken a few finish stitches..; but I cannot now well pull them out, unlesse I should *seame-rend all. 1755 Johnson, **Seamrent*, a separation of any thing where it is joined, a breach of the stitches. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 31–7 Workes forbidden [on the Sabbath] as..to botche vp theyr garment beeyng broken or *seamerent. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. vi, I wonder at you..that you can consort your selues with such poore seame-rent fellowes. 1605 Rowlands *Hell's Broke Loose* 39 Our seame-rent Souldiers are exceeding bare. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, All my hopes are seame-rent, and go wetshod. 1866 [R. Hallam] *Wadsley Jack* ix (E.D.D.), One on 'em fell on me. ..I wor compleately seam-rent. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Seam-rent*, said of a shoe when the upper leather begins to part from the sole. 1625 J. Wodroephe *Marroro Fr. Tongue* 128 My shirt is all broken, rent, and *seamerept. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, **Seam Rip*, the ripping or tearing of the seams or joints of a boiler, caused by a too sudden expansion or contraction, &c. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 363 b/2 Which coate of Christian vnitie, albeit of long time it had bene now *seameript before..: yet notwithstanding in some peece it held together in some meane agreement [etc.]. 1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* (1678) 93 His seam-ript Garments. 1887 *S. Ches. Gloss., Sheu-ripped.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Seam-roller*, a burnisher, or rubber, for flattening down the edges of leather where two thicknesses are sewn together. *Ibid.*, **Seam-rubber.* 1885 J. B. Leno *Boot & Shoemaking* xxv. 202 Seam Rubber..for pressing seams in order that they may be made to lie flat. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.*, **Seam Set*, a grooved wooden instrument used by shoemakers, for smoothing the seams of boots and shoes. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 387 The seam-set for closing the seams [of thin metals]. *Ibid.* 393 The lap-joint..is set down flat with a seam-set. 1825 Jamieson, *Pearl*, the *seam-stitch in a knitted stocking.

Seam (sīm), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 séam, *Northumb.* séom, 3 *Ormin* ssem, 3–6 seme, 4–7 seem, 4 sem, 5 ceme, (*w. dial.*) xeme, 6 seym(e, seayme, (sheme), 6–7 seame, 9 *w. dial.* same, seam, 6– seam. [OE. *séam* masc., OHG., MHG. *soum* (G. *saum*), a W.Ger. adoption of med.L. *sauma*, *salma*, *sagma* load (a. Gr. σάγμα packsaddle, f. σαγ-, σάττειν to pack, load), whence It. *salma*, *soma* burden, Pr. *sauma* beast of burden, F. *somme* burden, Sp. *salma*, *jalma* tonnage (of a ship).]

1. A pack-horse load. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In early use also *gen.*, † a load, burden.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 46 Soð he cuoeð & iuh ns wisestum wæ forðon gie semað menn mid seamum [*c* 975 *Rushw.* seomum] ðaðe ȝebeara ne magon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 59, *Honus* seam oððe byrðen. *c* 1200 Ormin 3718, & asse..hafeþþ mikell afell To berenn upp well mikell ssem. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 775 An hors is strengur þan a mon Ac..berþ on rugge grete semes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1368 Dor he leide hise semes [of camels] dun. *Ibid.* 2373 And .x. asses wiþ semes fest. *c* 1330 *Will. Palerne* 2534 Sum seluer for our semes in þe Cite to gete. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Cornwall terms, Seam*, a horse-load.

b. The amount of a horse-load; often identified

with a definite quantity, varying according to the commodity and locality.

The 'seam' of glass is said to be 120 lbs. (in the 14th c. it was 100 lbs.); of grain, 8 bushels; of sand, 6–8 pecks; of apples, 9 pecks.

1318 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 373 Item de vitro j seme et di., prec. 10s. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 43 Þe sem of glas contenez of .xx. ston, ant eueri ston of .v. pond. 1339–40 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 90 In j sem ferri empt...xxiijs. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. iv. 38 For, wot god, þei wolde do more for a dozeine chickenes..or for a seem of otes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/2 Ceme, or quarter of corne, *quarterium*. *Ibid.* 452/1 Seem. 1459 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 100, xxx zeme of bordys, xij^{d} the zeme, and iij zeme of plangys xij^{d} the zeme. 1531–2 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 113 Pro cariago j seayme salmonum, 10d. 1536 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for iij seymis of lyme to ye chymney. 1545 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 23 Item, for a sheme of wood at the makynge of the pascalle ..ij d. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 80 Glass, by the same Ordinance containeth 1 Seam, 24 Stones, 1 Stone 5 Pounds. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 294 (Cornwall.] These useful Sands ..are fetched..on Horse-back; one Horse carrying about 13 or 14 gallons...Each seime (or hors-load) with the carriage comes to about 8d or 9d. 1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 52 A Seam or Horseload of Oats, which in some places is accounted Eight Bushels, in others perhaps more properly, but four. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4108/3 The Cargo..containing 751 Seams of Barilla. 1813 T. Rudge *Agric. Glouc.* 224 From ten to eleven 'seam', of nine pecks each, of juicy fruit, are generally sufficient for a hogshead of 100 gallons wine measure [of cider]. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s. v., A sack of eight bushels is now called a seam, because that quantity forms a horse-load.

c. Phrase. † *Sack and seam*: pack-horse traffic.

1631, 1829 [see Sack *sb.*^{1} 1 e].

2. A cart-load; esp. a definite amount of 3 cwt. (of hay or manure) or 2 cwt. of straw. *w. dial.*

1726 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 5 Aug. 4 Several paved Courts, wherein are made a Thousand Seams of Dung every Year. 1856 J. C. Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1126 *Seam* (Devons.), of dung, 3 cwts. 1880 *Cornwall Gloss., East Cornw., Seam*, or *Zeam*, a load of hay, manure, &c. It means with us no definite quantity, but a cart-load, waggon load, &c. 1888 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Troy Town* xi, I wants you to..go to beach for ore-weed..an' carry so many seams as you can.

Seam (sīm), *sb.*^{3} Forms: 2–3 seime, 3 se:m, 4–5 saym, (5 sayme, 5 sem), 5–6 seme, 6–7 saime, same, 6, 9 *Sc.* seyme, 7 seame, 8–9 *dial.* and *Sc.* saim, 7– seam. [a. OF. *saim* (also *saime* fem.), later *sain*, mod.Fr. only in *saindoux* lard; a Com. Rom. word, = Pr. *sagin-s, saïns*, Catal. *sagin, sagi*, Sp. *sain*, It. *saime*:—popular L. **saginem*, related to classical L. *sagīna* fattening, fatness.]

†**1.** Fat, grease. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Eadwine's Canterb. Ps.* lxii. 6 Swæ swa mid seime & mid fetnesse 3efelled beoð sawul min. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 3e ne schulen eten vleschs ne seim buten ine muchele secnesse. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 275 Þer [*sc.* in the whale's belly] in saym & in sorȝe þat sauoured as helle, þer was bylded his bour. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 46/18 He coryeth his hydes with sayme of heryngs. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xi. 61 And sum polyst scharp speyr heydis of steyll, To mak thaim brycht wyth fat cresche or same. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H iiij b, Mezentereon.. is couered..with glandynous grease, and is commonly called seame. 1595 *Balliol Coll. Acc.* (*MS.*), Item, for sem for the plumpe..and to Owen for mending of it, xviii*d*. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 195 Shall the proud Lord, That bastes his arrogance with his owne seame...Shall he be worshipt. 1613 J. May *Est. Clothing* v. 27 They will not scoure the same cloth cleane, but leaue a bad substance of oyle and seame in it. 1634 T. Johnson tr. *Parey's Wks.* III. vii. 91 And there is another kind of fat, which is called *Sevum*, seame [orig. L. *sepum*],..that is much dryer. 1652 J. C. *Poems* 1 A person of so rare a frame, Her bodie might be lin'd with' same. 1692 Ray *Collect. Words* 131 *Saime*, which we pronounce sometimes Seame. It signifies not only Goose-grease, but in general any kind of Grease or Sewet or Oil, wherewith our Clothiers anoint..their Wool. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VII. 867 Part scour the rusty Sheilds with Seam.

2. Hogs' lard.

1530 Palsgr. 269/1 Seme for to frye with, *sayn de pourceau*. 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 40 Take..halfe an unce of..Hogges grease or seyme. 1606 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 287 For a pound of swine's seame to the belles, iiij d. 1788 W. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 349 *Saim*, hogs-lard. 1894 Latto *Tammas Bodkin* vi, The ancient dames were..discussin' the efficacy o' hartshorn an' swine's seam as a cure for the rheumatics.

Seam, *sb.*^{4} *Sc.* and *north.* Also 5 seme, seyme, 9 (*Orkn. and Shetl.*) same. [Corresponds to ON. *saum-r* nail (Sw. *söm*, Da. *søm*), perh. identical with *saum-r* Seam *sb.*^{1}]

The form represents the OE. *séam* Seam *sb.*^{1}; the sense is prob. due to the influence of the ON. formal equivalent.]

A kind of nail or rivet for fastening the overlapping edges of a clinker-built boat, the end of the nail being clinched on a rove (Rove *sb.*^{2}, Roove *sb.*). Also *seam-nail* (*Northumb. Gloss.*, 1894).

Usually associated with *rove*, its counterpart.

1406 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 606 Item in exp. Ricardi Couhird..pro seme et Rufe, 2s. 1474–5 *Ibid.* 645 Cum seme, rove, clavis ferr. et lign., pice, et bitumine [for repairing a ferry-boat]. *c* 1425 *Noah's Ark* 26 in *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* 20 Bid him go make a ship...All things I him fulfill, Pitch, tar, seam and rowe. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 253 Item, for thre stane and tua pund of seyme and rufe to the cokbate. *Ibid.* 254 Seme and ruyf. 1892 [see Roove *sb.*].

†**Seam,** *v.*^{1} *Obs.* In 1 sýman, 2–5 seme. [OE. (**sīeman*), *séman, syman*:—WGer. **saumjan*, f. **saumo-z* Seam *sb.*^{2}] *trans.* To put a burden on, load, weigh down; also *intr.*, to weigh heavily.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 46 Ȝe semað menn mið seamum ðaðe ȝebeara ne magon. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xliv. 13 (Gr.) And hiȝ..symdon hyra assan and cyrdon eft to þære birig. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 93 Þe asse þe ure helende uppe set ben þo forsinegede..and sinne hem is loð to leten..for hem þincheð þat godes hese heuieliche semeð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1365 Ten kameles semeð [? *read* semed] forð he nam. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* 82 Þo þat me oppone hys swete body þe heuye crouche semde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 A man þat was..takyn wyt enmyes,..and was semot wyth yerns also mony as he myȝt bere.

Seam (sīm), *v.*^{2} [f. Seam *sb.*^{1}]

1. *trans.* To sew the seam or seams of; to fasten or join *on, together, up* with a seam or seams.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 100 There too watrye Iuno, the chaplayne Seams vp thee bedmatch. 1599 Dekker *Shoem. Holiday* I. i, Here take this pair of shoes, cut out by Hodge, Stiched by my fellow Firk, seamed by myself. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 93 All linings are seamed on. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* I. xviii, Some made the gloves; that is, seamed the fingers together and put in the thumbs.

absol. 1905 Mabel Barnes-Grundy *Vacill. Hazel* xix, I was seaming with black cotton.

†**b.** To furnish or ornament with an inserted seam; also, of a material, to serve as a seam for.

1590 Greene *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 11 His coat was greene, With welts of white, seamde betweene. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants* B 2 b, There was not so much Veluet stirring, as would haue..seamde a Lieftenants Buffe-doublet. *a* 1625 Beaum. & Fl. *Four Plays in One, Tri. Time* i, She shew'd me gowns and head-tires, imbroider'd wastcoats, smocks seam'd thorow with cut-works. 1740 Somerville *Hobbinol* I. 218 This Pair of Gloves, by curious Virgin Hands Embroider'd, seam'd with Silk, and fring'd with Gold.

c. *intr.* To sew. *dial.*

1833 Ht. Martineau *Berkeley the Banker* I. v. 104 The widow immediately went on seaming. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Seam*, to sew a seam.

d. *Knitting. trans.* and *intr.* To form a seam-stitch; to make a seam or seam-stitch in (a piece of knitting).

1842 Miss F. Lambert *Hand-bk. Needlewk.* xvii. 303 [Knitting.] To *seam*, to knit a stitch with the cotton before the needle. 1886 Bynner *A. Surriage* xiii. 142 She seamed and narrowed another entire round.

2. *trans.* To mark (a surface) with lines or indentations; to furrow. a. Said of a river, chasm, line of railway, etc. as marking the face of the earth.

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 616/2 And sure it is yet a most beautifull and sweet countrey..seamed throughout with many goodly rivers. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 242 The prisms [of Rock Crystal] are generally seamed perpendicularly to their axis. 1815 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xvi, The grisely gulfs and slaty rifts Which seam its shiver'd head. 1854 O. W. Holmes *New Eden* 2 Scarce could the parting ocean close, Seamed by the Mayflower's cleaving bow, When [etc.]. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) I. i. 1 The little rivers which seamed the ground. 1878 Hooker & Ball *Marocco* viii. 179 The great mountain chain that rose steeply before us, seamed with snow that..lay in hollows..forming long vertical streaks. 1878 M. Maccoll 3 *Yrs. of Eastern Q.* x. (ed. 3) 241 Plains seamed by railways.

b. Said of a scar, wound, etc.; also of care or the passions as marking the face.

1695 Blackmore *Pr. Arth.* V. 147 Scars of Honour seam'd his manly Face. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 335 Seam'd o'er with wounds, which his own sabre gave. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I. viii, It would be much better for them, if their faces had been seamed with the small-pox. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* XXVII, A veteran whose face had been seamed with many a scar. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 258 Seam'd with an ancient swordcut on the cheek. 1864 — *Aylmer's F.* 814 Her.. meagre face Seam'd with the shallow cares of fifty years. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Friend* III. x, His face..seamed with jealousy and anger.

c. *intr.* To become fissured; to crack.

1880 L. Wallace *Ben-Hur* 400 Their lips began to parch and seam.

3. *trans.* To join (sheets of lead or metal) by means of a seam (see Seam *sb.*^{1} 6).

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 194 The Sheets of Lead.. which are seam'd in the Platform. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 211 The Sheets of Lead..should be seamed one to another with Solder. 1795 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 366 Seaming bars, setting tools, and claw-screws,..were made..to confine and stretch the parts as they were seamed together.

4. To furnish with a seam or thin stratum (of ore).

1899 E. J. Chapman *Drama of Two Lives* 6 The rocky core Of those lone mountains, rent and old, Is seam'd and vein'd with glittering ore.

†**Seam,** *v.*^{3} *Obs.* [f. Seam *sb.*^{3}] *trans.* To dress (wool) with grease.

1511–2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Not excedyng in weight after the rate of xij pounde Wolle seymed above oon quarter of a pound for the waste. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* A 4 b, Barrelling vp the droppings of her nose, in steede of oyle to saime wool withall.

Sea'-maid. *poet.* = Mermaid 1. Also, a goddess or nymph of the sea.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. i. 154 And certaine starres shot madly from their Spheares, To heare the Sea maids musicke. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 115 Some report, a Sea-maid spawn'd him. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, They call them Sea-maides or Mermaides, singing sweetelye. 1633 P. Fletcher *Piscatory Ecl.* II. 21 You fisher-boyes and sea-maids dainty crue Farewell. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* IV. 590 But the bright sea-maid's gentle power implor'd, With nectar'd drops the sick'ning sense restor'd. 1789 Cowper *Queen's Vis. London* 70 So, ancient poets say, serene The sea-maid rides the waves. 1818 Milman *Samor* I. 127 Rocks, where basks At summer noon the Sea-maid. 1899 Ld. Lytton *Wanderer* 28 We caught the gleam of sea-maids' hair.

So **Sea-maiden.**

1893 D. O'Donoghue *Brendaniana* 89 The wonderful sea-maiden whom Brendan restored to life. 1898 N. Munro *J. Splendid* vii. 68 Stories..of fairies, wizards, water-horse, and sea-maiden.

Sea'-mall. Also seamel(l. = Seamew.

The form *seamell* is perh. spurious, invented as a conjectural emendation of *scamels* in Shaks. *Temp.* II. ii. 176.

a 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1676) 262 *Larus cinereus minor.* The common Sea-Mall. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 448 The lesser Gull, or Sea-mall...The deep, grey, Sea-mall. 1778 Stevens *Shaks. Temp.* II. ii. 176 Wks. I. 63 *note*, Theobald had very reasonably proposed to read sea-malls, or sea-mells. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds*, *Sea-mall*, *-mel* or *-mew* have been used indifferently for Gulls.

Seaman (sī'mĕn). Pl. **-men.** [f. Sea *sb.* + Man. Cf. Du. *zeeman*, G. *seemann*, ON. *sjómað-r.*]

1. a. *gen.* One whose occupation or business is on the sea; a sailor as opposed to a landsman. Now only *poet.* or *rhetorical.* Also, with qualifying word: One skilled in navigation. **b.** *spec.* A sailor below the rank of officer.

Leading, able, ordinary seaman, the three grades (beginning with the highest) of seamen in the Royal Navy. *Merchant seaman*, a seaman in the merchant service.

Beowulf 329 Garas stodon, sæmanna searo samod sætgædere. *c* 1205 Lay. 1165 Brutus hit herde siggen þurh his sæ-monnen [*c* 1275 see mannen]. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 166 That gode see-menne wold no more deferre, But bete theme home. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 40 Semen he feyt, and gaiff thaim gudlye wage. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 The nauy..is..the maintenaunce of many masters mariners and seamen. 1595 Shaks. *John* III. i. 92 But (on this day) let Sea-men feare no wracke. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 205 Him..The Pilot..Deeming some Island, oft, as Seamen tell,..Moors by his side. 1702 *Proclam.* 1 June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/2 To..Able Seamen, Ordinary Seamen, Two Eighth Parts. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xxv. 248 Our seamen are..esteemed the best sailors in the world. 1852 Tennyson *Ode Dk. Wellington* 83 Mighty Seaman, this is he Was great by land as thou by sea. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 104 § 2 [Merchant Shipping Act.] 'Seaman' shall include every Person (except Masters, Pilots, and Apprentices..) employed or engaged in any Capacity on board any Ship. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., The able seaman is the seafaring man who knows all the duties of common seamanship...His rating is A. B...The ordinary seaman is less qualified. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 291 The personnel of the British navy is composed of two different bodies of men, the seamen and the marines, each of which has its appropriate officers. *Ibid.* 295/1 The crew of a ship of war consists of leading seamen, able seamen, ordinary seamen, engine-room artificers [etc.].

†**b.** *Seamen's beer*: see quot. *Obs.*

1795 Sir J. Dalrymple *Let. to Admiralty* 2 There are four kinds of beer in Britain: Strong Beer, Porter, Table Beer, or what is called Seamen's Beer, and Small Beer.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**seaman card** = Sea-card; **seamancraft**, seamanship; **seaman-gunner** (see quot. 1867).

1636 W. Strode *Floating Isl.* III. iii, No other rarities these many Ages But Powder, Printing, *Seaman Card, and Watches. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases Mor.* I. 21 In the navigation of which no *seamancraft could avail against miserable shipwreck. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Seamen-gunners*, men who have been trained in a gunnery ship, and thereby become qualified to instruct others in that duty.

†**2.** = Merman 1. *Obs.*

1569 Fenton *Secret Wond. Nature* 53 Conradus Gesner writeth that there was seene at Rome in the great riuer, a sea man, or monster of the sea. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 466 Plinie hath reported of..the seaman caught in the streights of Gibraltar. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Siren*, The Philosophical Transactions also contain an account of a sea-man seen in the American seas.

Seamanlike (sī'mănlaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Seaman + -like.] **a.** *adj.* Characteristic of or befitting a (good) seaman. **b.** *adv.* In a seamanlike manner.

1796 T. Twining *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 2 But everything on board was seamanlike and neat. 1821 Scott *Pirate* XXX, Master Triptolemus Yellowley will tell you how seaman-like I piloted him to the little haven. 1881 *Times* 30 June 11/5 In the opinion of the Court the vessel was not navigated by the master with proper and seamanlike care.

Seamanly (sī'mănli), *a.* and *adv.* [f. Seaman + -ly.] = prec.

1798 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 51, I believe, had you been there, you would have rapped out some most seamanly oaths. 1885 Clark Russell *Strange Voy.* III. xiii. 238 But for the seamanly foresight of Nipper in anchoring a line to warp along with we shouldn't have been able to stir the raft from the ship's side. 1905 *Speaker* 11 Nov. 126/1 Their desires, apart from the desire to do their difficult work seamanly, are centred in seal-steaks and bear-soup.

Seamanship (sī'mănʃip). [f. Seaman + -ship.] The art or practice of managing a ship at sea; the skill of a good seaman.

1766 Smollett *Trav.* I. xiv. 241 The first captain..who knows as little of seamanship as I do of Arabic. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 236 They maintained the conflict with their usual courage and with more than their usual seamanship. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 589/1 Seamanship is the art of sailing, manœuvring, and preserving a ship or a boat in all positions and under all reasonable circumstances.

Sea'-mark.

1. The boundary or limit of the flow of the sea. *lit.* and *fig.* † *Full sea mark*, the limit of high tide.

1485 MALORY *Arthur* v. v. 168 And so weltryng and walowynge they rolled doune the hylle tyl they came to the see marke. 1572 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 277/2 This yere the kaiye on southesyde..was builded by the towne vnder full seamarcke. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* clxxiii. (1862) I. 406 As the houses of sand within the sea-mark, which the children of men are building. 1731 T. BOSTON *Mem.* (1899) 72 And here, I think, was the full sea-mark of my perplexing circumstances aforesaid. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 51 A few violent repeated storms should ..raise those sands above full Sea-mark. 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. xvi, On the bare strand Upon the sea-mark a small boat did wait. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* 18 We must look to it to excel as ye And bear our age as far, unlimited By the last sea-mark!

2. A conspicuous object distinguishable at sea which serves to guide or warn sailors in navigation.

1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 13 That the foresayd Mayster Wardens ..of the Trinytie Howse..shall..set up suche and so many Beakons and Signes of the Sea..for Sea Markes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 6 The venturous Mariner..For safeties sake that same his sea-marke made, And namd it Albion. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 119 Upon the top of this Mountaine was a Tower,..upon which a light was hung for a sea-marke. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Stoke*, The steeple is a sea-mark to ships that pass the mouth of the Orwell. 1843 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. 284 Two solitary pillars still remain, and serve as a seamark to guide ships into the great harbour. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. i, If I caught them, they should hang Cliff-gibbeted for sea-marks.

attrib. 1885 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* 88 The sea-mark isle, Heligoland.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1589 *Pasquil's Return* A iij b, I desire not to cast it out as a block..for any to stumble at,..but as a Sea-marke to discouer the quicksands of newe Religions. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 74 Like a great Sea-marke standing euery flaw, And sauing those that eye thee. 1693 O. HEYWOOD *Best Entail* vi. Wks. 1826 IV. 473 Wicked parents are set before you as sea-marks, to avoid, not as landmarks, to guide you. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 43 A Sea-mark of danger to future managers in their theatrical course of government.

Sea'-maw. Now *dial.* Forms: 5 semawe, -mow, 6-maw, 7-sea-maw. [MAW *sb.*3] = SEAMEW.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 641/1 *Hec fuliga*, semawe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/2 Semow, bryd, *aspergo*. *c* 1450 [see MAW *sb.*3]. *a* 1490 [see MOW *sb.*2]. 1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* D 7, De Folica..Anglicè a white semaw with a black cop. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moon* 183 The greedie Sea-maw fishing for the fry. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliv, Like seamaws and clack-geese before a storm.

Sc. Proverb. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 118 Give your own Sea Maws your own Fish Guts. If you have any Superfluities give them to your poor Relations. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xv, Ye ken my gudeman likes to ride the expresses himself —we maun gie our ain fish-guts to our ain sea-maws. 1895 P. H. HUNTER *James Inwick* xix, Na, na, we'll keep oor ain fish guts for oor ain sea maws!

Seame, obs. Sc. form of SEEM *v.*

Seamed (sīmd), *ppl. a.*1 [f. SEAM *v.*2 + -ED 1.] In the senses of the verb.

1656 L. THETFORD *Markham's Perf. Horseman* 122 A rough, grosse seamed Hoof, shewes an age or over-heating. 1864 WHITTIER *Poems, What the Birds said* 25 O'er dusky faces, seamed and old..We saw your star-dropt flag uncoil. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iv. (1894) 101 The seamed and distorted rocks. 1885 MISSES BRIETZCKE & ROOPER *Needlewk. & Knitting* II. 99 Purl knitting is also called seamed knitting.

Sea'-med, *ppl. a.*2 *rare*—0. [?erron. inferred from *enseamed*: see ENSEAM *v.*1 1.] (See quot.)

1864 *Chamb. Encycl.* s.v. *Falconry*, When in good condition, she [a hawk] is enseamed; when out of condition, seamed. Hence in later Dicts.

Seamer (sī·mǝɹ). [f. SEAM *v.*2 + -ER 1. (OE. had *séámere* tailor, f. *séam* SEAM *sb.*1)] **a.** (See quot. 1843.) **b.** A seaming-machine.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 181/1 There are three classes of operatives engaged [in the stocking-trade]: the 'winders' ..; the 'stockingers'; and the 'seamers', who make the stockings out of the pieces thus produced..The 'seamers' are women. 1872 T. COOPER *Life* 141 He had also to pay so much per dozen to the female 'seamer' of the hose. 1884 [see *seaming-machine*, SEAMING *vbl. sb.*].

Seamew (sī·miū). Forms: 5-6 se(e)mewe, 6-7 sea mewe, (7 sea mue), 6- seamew. [f. SEA *sb.* + MEW *sb.*1] The common gull, *Larus canus*.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 202 The semewe with his fetherys whyte. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. xxi, They ben called Alcyones or see mewes. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 184 Seemewes, gulles. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 831 An Iland salt and bare, The haunt of Seales and Orcs, and Seamews clang. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* v. 86 The chough, the seamew, the loquacious crow. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. Song i, The breakers roar, And shrieks the wild sea-mew. 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* (1891) 149 The yacht, sweeping like a seamew over the..billow.

†**Sea'ming,** *sb. Obs.* A variety of apple.

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Aug.* 72 The Seaming Apple.

Seaming (sī·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEAM *v.*2 + -ING 1.] The action of SEAM *v.*2; also *concr.*, a seam or seams.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3205 Hire sons cote inconsutyle with out semyng. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L ij b, Questyons vpon the Anathomy of seamynge or stytchynge. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 47 Let them [i.e. your daughters] learne plaine workes of all kind, so they take heed of too open seaming. 1795 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 365 A kind of seaming, well known to those who make iron funnels for stoves. 1830 *Plain Hints* 55 For those who are called upon to do seaming and felling, these [pieces of calico] will be divided, so as to form two pieces. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Seaming*, the marginal line which surrounds a seine, and to which the meshes are seized.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *seaming bar, machine, mallet, stitch, twine*; **seaming lace,** lace used for insertion in or for covering and ornamenting seams; **seaming plough,** one for drawing seed-drills.

1795 "Seaming bar [see SEAM *v.*2 3]. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. v. 9 That weares such petticoates, and lace to her smocks, Broad "seaming lace (as I see 'hem hang there). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Seaming-lace*, a coach-maker's lace, used to cover seams and edges. 1865 MRS. BURY PALLISER *Hist. Lace* 300 *note*, 'Seaming' lace and spacing lace appear to have been generally used at this period [Jas. I] to unite the breadths of linen, instead of a seam sewed. We find them employed for cupboard cloths,..shirts, &c. throughout the accounts of King James and Prince Charles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, "*Seaming-machine*, a machine for forming the joints at the edges of sheet-metal plates. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl., *Seaming Machine*. The Royer & Lincoln seamer..trims woven goods neatly and evenly; and joins the margin of cloth outside the seam. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 193 So much of the Sheet as lies over the Cavity is set down into it with the "Seaming-mallet. 1842 LANCE *Cottage Farmer* 16 There may be a "seaming plough pass over the land...to draw the drills; the seed may then be cast thinly. 1880 *Plain Hints* 16 The shape of the "seaming-stitch is quite different to hemming. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 92 The seams..are..stitched up..with double "seaming twine.

Seamless (sī·mlès), *a.* Also 5 semlesse, semeles. [f. SEAM *sb.*1 + -LESS.] Without a seam; of a garment, woven without a seam.

The word was used very freely by 17th c. divines in such phrases as *Christ's seamless coat, garment, vest*, etc. with reference to John xix. 23, as typifying unity in the Church.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 329/1 Semlesse (*MS. A.* Semeles), *inconsutilis*. 1624 DONNE *Wks.* (1839) V. 265 Christ..suffered his flesh to be torn, but not his seamless garment. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 The one novelty..in the exhibition is a small case of absolutely seamless boots. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Feb. 8/1 An ingenious system of building extremely light, seamless boats.

Comb. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, York-Sh.* (1662) III. 208 Wearing seamless-woven-coats.

Hence **Sea'mlessly** *adv.*

1906 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Eng. Prosody* I. 367 The whole web is woven seamlessly and without break.

Seamlet (sī·mlèt). [f. SEAM *sb.*1 + -LET.] A small seam or stratum.

1891 J. C. ATKINSON *Moorland Parish* 395 The bed of laminated clay, with intercalated seamlets of very fine sand.

Sea'-monk.

†**1.** The monk-fish. *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO, *Mónaco*..a fish called a Sea-munke. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isl.* I. xvii. 101 There is another kind of Porpoves which..from the resemblance there is between their heads and the frocks of Friers, some call them Monks-heads, and Sea-Monks [orig. F. *Moines de Mer*].

2. 'The monk seal' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Sea-monster. A monster of the sea.

1. A huge fish, cetacean, or the like.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIV. xi, Sea-monsters there, their plaies and pastymes show. 1611 BIBLE *Lam.* iv. 3 Euen the sea-monsters [*marg.* or, sea calues] draw out the breast. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* 103 A sea-monster was cast ashore ..near Leith. It is supposed to be of the shark kind. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* II. 27 This sea-monster [*Rhytina Stelleri*)..had a black skin an inch thick.

2. A fabulous marine animal of terrifying proportions and shape.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 57 When he did redeeme The virgine tribute, paied by howling Troy To the Seamonster. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, Like a seamonster, that were to ravish Andromeda from the rocke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 462 Dagon his Name, Sea Monster, upward Man And downward Fish.

3. *jocular.*

1762 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III. i, He is a perfect Sea-Monster, and always looks and talks as if he was upon Deck.

Sea-moss.

1. A kind of seaweed; = CORALLINE *sb.*1 1.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbs* (E.D.S.) 21 Bryon thalassion named in latin Muscus marinus is of two sortes...The one kynde is called Vsnea marina, & it may be called in englishe sea mosse, it groweth aboute stones and shelles in the sea. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 594 Sea mosse is good to be laid to hot tumors. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xviii. 761 From Shepey, sea-moss some [bring], to cool his boiling blood. *c* 1711 PRTIVER *Gazophyl.* vi. 58 Soft-feathered Cape Coralline...This elegant Sea Moss is not brittle like the Shop Coralline. 1877 BRYANT *Sella* 177 Thou shalt sleep Thy weariness away on downy banks Of sea-moss.

2. = CARRAGEEN. 1892 in *Century Dict.*

3. = *Sea-mat* (SEA *sb.* 23 d).

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 429/1.

Seamost (sī·most), *a. rare.* [f. SEA *sb.* + -MOST.] Situated nearest the sea.

1626 *Sir F. Drake Revived* (1628) 47 He sent the Lyon, to the seamost Island of the Catinaas, to discry the truth of the report. *a* 1851 MOIR *Poet. Wks.* (1852) II. 26 Thy seamost town, Yclept in Saxon Chronicles Eske-mouthe.

Sea'-mouse. [Cf. L. *mūs marinus* (Pliny), some shell-fish.]

1. A marine dorsibranchiate annelid of the family *Aphroditidæ*, esp. *Aphrodite aculeata*.

c 1530 L. ANDREWE *Noble Lyfe* III. lvii. in *Babees Bk.*, Mus marinus, the see mouse, gothe out of the water, &..laith her egges in..the erthe. 1580-3 GREENE *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 98 The Lyon cooleth his stomacke with eating the Seamouse. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 16 A Sea Mouse, so called from the forme of his head and beard; this fish..but for his finnes..is something like a Serpent in colour, and is about a foot long. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 90 The subcylindric variegated Aphrodita. The Sea Mouse. 1844 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 64 The brilliant metallic plumage of the sea-mouse (*Aphrodita*), steeped as in the dyes of the rainbow, excited our admiration. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 706 The Sea-mouse, as the creature is called from its hairy coat. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. vii. 141 The sea-mouse shining like fire.

2. [? For "*sea-mose*; cf. *tilmouse*.] A local name for the dunlin and other small shore-birds.

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 194 Dunlin (*Tringa alpina*)... Sea mouse (Lancashire; Dumfries). *Ibid.* 203 Little Tern (*Sterna minuta*). Sparling (West Lancashire). Where the eggs and young are called 'sea mice'. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Sea-mice*, the small waders; the sanderling,..the stints,..the dotterils.

Seamster, sempster (sī·mstǝɹ, se·mpstǝɹ), *arch.* Forms: *a.* 1 sǽmestre, séamystre, sémestre, 1-2 séamestre, 4 semstere, 4-7 semster, 5-7 semester, 6 seamester, (*Sc.* semestair, -are, semistar, 6-7 *Sc.* semister), 7- seamster; *β.* 6 shempster, 7 seampster, 6- sempster. [OE. *séamestre*, fem. formation corresponding to *séamere* tailor: see SEAMER and -STER.] One who sews; one whose occupation is sewing, esp. the making and mending of garments; a tailor, seamstress.

Originally a designation of a woman, but in OE. already applicable to a man. Now only applied to one of the male sex, *seamstress* being commonly used for a female sewer.

a. c 995 in Kemble *Cod. Diplom.* VI. 131 Ane crencestræn, and ane semestran. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXX. (Z.) 190/6 *Sartum* (of ðam is *sartor* seamystre, *sartrix* heo). *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 372 *Sartrix*, seamestre. 1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* VI. 327 Margareta filia dicte Matilde, *Semstere*. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1585 Sadlers, souters, semsteris fyn. 1479 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 300 Cecily..semster. 1527 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 314 Item, to Jonet Dowglas, semestair of the Kingis lynnyng claithis, XXV li. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 176 Good semsters be sowing of fine pretie knackes. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 372 This woman was commended to him for a very cunning seamster. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 255 A gentleman is a man of himselfe, without the addition of either Taylor, Millener, seamster or haberdasher. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. x. 159 Tom was a good seamster, as all travellers should be. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* X. iii. II. 611 He told me, 'The Duke of Strelitz was an excellent seamster'; fit to be Tailor to Your Majesty in a manner. 1890 S. J. DUNCAN *Soc. Departure* 213 He was squatting on the floor of a room.. with two or three fellow seamsters.

β. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. E iij, A yong wench ther, which was a very connyng shempster. 1599 BRETON *Will of Wit*, etc. (Grosart) 59/1 If hee bee a good taylor, shee is a good sempster. 1659 HEYLIN *Certamen Epist.* 331 They might have put up all their gettings into a Sempsters Thimble, and not filled it neither. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 102 Sempsters, Tire-women. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. v, [Corporal Trim] attending my uncle Toby..as a valet, groom, barber, cook, sempster, and nurse. 1836 N. H. NICOLAS *Walton's Angler* Life 2 *note*, Izaak Walton followed the trade of a sempster or haberdasher.

†b. *attrib.*

1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 362, vj clowtes of fyne semster nedles. 1599 *Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 372 He..bringes out signiour Barbarisme in a case of nightcapps, ..like a blocke in a seamster-shopp.

Hence **Se'mpstering** *vbl. sb. rare*, the occupation of a seamster. Also *attrib.*

1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Compl. Decay of Beggars*, Expiating their fallen condition upon the three-foot eminence of some sempstering shop-board. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xli, She's been picking up a living at seampstering.

Seamstress, sempstress (sī·mstrès, se·mpstrès). Forms: *a.* 7 semstresse(e, seamstresse, 8 seemstress, 9 semstress, 7- seamstress; *β.* (7 sempstresse, sempstriss), 7- sempstress. [f. SEAMSTER, SEMPSTER + -ESS.] A woman who seams or sews; a needlewoman whose occupation is plain sewing as distinguished from dress or mantle-making, decorative embroidery, etc.

a. 1644 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 47 A great masse of money and plate was brought into the Guild-hall, the Semstresse brought in her silver Thimble,..the Cook his Spoons. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Apr., To the Old Exchange, and there, of my pretty seamstress, bought four bands. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 182 ¶ 3 An Irish Fellow, who dresses very fine..and is the Admiration of Seamstresses who are under Age in Town. 1872 *Daily News* 24 July, The wrongs and hardships of the seamstress and the milliner have been set forth in thrilling poetry.

β. a 1613 OVERBURY *Charact., Maquerela* Wks. (1856) 100 Shee can easily turne a sempstresse into a waiting gentlewoman. 1659-60 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Feb., I..went to Mrs Johnson, my Lord's sempstress. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. vi, Two hundred sempstresses were employed to make me shirts, and linen for my bed and table. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 23 My sempstress..has lost the measure. 1871 *Daily News* 6 Nov., Among the prisoners..were two women—a sempstress ..and a servant.

Hence **Sea'mstressing** *nonce-wd.*, the action of working as a seamstress. **Sea'mstress-ship,** the position, work, or skill of a seamstress.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xvi, The little apartment was..ornamented too by such relics of her youthful arts of sempstress-ship as Mrs. Hadoway had retained. *a* 1854 CAROLINE B. SOUTHEY *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 94 And near at hand [sat] The maiden sister friend..At her coarse sempstress-ship. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vii, Dull work in the great warerooms, or now and then all days' seamstressing in families.

†**Sea'mstressy.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. SEAMSTRESS + -SY.] The occupation or work of a seamstress.

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xiii, As an appendage to seamstressy, the thread-paper might be of some consequence to my mother.

†Sea·mstry, se·mpstry. *Obs.* [f. SEAMSTER + -Y.] The occupation or employment of a seamster or seamstress. Also *attrib.* in *seamstry-work*.

α. 1598 FLORIO, *Dietro punto*, a back-stitch in seamstrie worke. *c* 1630 *Trag. Rich. II* (1870) 38 Tis strange to take her from her semsterye. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 97/2 Seamstry work follows next in order to that of a Taylor.

β. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* (1876) 173 She may learne what belongs to her improvement, for Sempstrie. 1695 A. DE LA PRYME *Diary* Mar. (Surtees) 53 The Quakers ..now were fine cloathes, and learns all sorts of sempstry and behavour. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 127 My wife had lately requested her to look out for some sempstry-work among the neighbours.

†Sea·my, *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 6 seymy. [f. SEAM *sb.*[3] + -Y.] Greasy.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 169 Thou gresly gargone glaymy, Thou swety slouen seymy.

Seamy (sī·mi), *a.*[2] [f. SEAM *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Having a seam or suture; characterized by seams. *Seamy side*, lit. the under side of a garment, etc. on which the rough edges of the seams are visible; *fig.* [after Shaks.] the worst, most degraded or the roughest side (of life, character, etc.).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 146 Some such Squire he was That turn'd your wit, the seamy-side without, And made you to suspect me with the Moore. 1837 MRS. CAROLINE NORTON *Lett.* 4 Nov. in Smiles *Publisher & Friends* (1891) II. 415, I begin to think it would be pleasanter to follow a marching regiment than to see the seamy side of this intellectual trade. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Apr. 403/1 He appreciated to a considerable extent, what we may perhaps venture to call the seamy side of human affairs. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* x. ii. 111. 223 The splendid and the sordid, the seamy side and the smooth, of Life at Cirey. 1882 L. STEPHEN *Swift* viii. 185 The righteous hatred of brutality and oppression which is but the seamy side of a generous sympathy. 1899 H. A. DOBSON *Paladin of Philanthropy* vi. 146 The knowledge of the seamy side of letters.

2. Of the nature of or resembling a seam or seams; marked with a seam.

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IV. 75 His crimson seamy scars reveal The sure-aim'd vengeance of the Lusian steel. 1786 BURNS *Addr. to Edinb.* v, Like some bold Vet'ran.. mark'd with many a seamy scar. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* ii, A one-eyed woman, with a scarred and seamy face. 1874 S. LANIER *Corn* 127 To where ..Yon old deserted Georgian hill Bares to the sun his piteous aged crest And seamy breast.

Comb. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1841) 289 The rough seamy-faced, rawboned College Servitor.

Hence **Sea·miness.**

1875 BESANT & RICE *With Harp & Crown* ix, A gleam of light upon his face, which brought out the more forcibly the seaminess with which his passions were furrowing it. 1898 G. WYNDHAM *Poems of Shaks.* Introd. 60 Jonson's..virulence..spared neither the seaminess of an opposite's apparel nor the defects in his personal appearance.

Sean, alternative form of SEINE.

Sean, obs. f. SCENE; variant of SENE *Obs.*, synod.

Seanachie, variant form of SENNACHIE.

‖Séance (se,ans). [Fr. *séance* a sitting, f. OF. *seoir* (:—L. *sedēre*) to sit.]

1. *gen.* A sitting of a deliberative or administrative body (esp. of a learned society), or of a number of persons assembled for discussion, or instruction by a lecturer, or the like.

1803 LAMB *Let. to Manning* Wks. 1876 II. 216 Your séances and conversaziones, which I have a shrewd suspicion must be something dull. 1884 *Kendal Mercury* 3 Oct. 5/3 The British Association..should be a..secret conclave, and every one attending its seances for reporterial purposes deserves to have his ears cropped.

2. *spec.* A meeting for the study of spiritualistic phenomena.

1845 WARBURTON *Cresc. & Cross* I. xv. 153 The hour was so late that no other boys were to be found; and so the seance broke up. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 373 The spirits rapped out their dismissal, and the séance was at an end. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* Ser. IV. (1883) 225 The disciple who has been at a spiritualist's séance. 1902 F. PODMORE *Mod. Spiritualism* I. ii. I. 41 The development of the Poltergeist performance into the phenomena of the séance-room.

3. A 'sitting' for medical treatment.

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 37 The electrical séances should be tri-weekly, each lasting about fifteen minutes, and they should be persevered in for months. 1887 D. MAGUIRE *Art Massage* (1888) 101 After the third massage séance, the patient ceased having these mishaps during several hours.

Seane, variant of SENE *Obs.* synod.

Sea·-nettle. The popular name of certain radiate marine animals of the class *Acalephæ*, having the property of stinging when touched. † Formerly applied also to the sea-anemone.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. x. II. 449 The Sea-nettle (a fish so called). 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 121 Among which he reckons..the sea-star and sea-nettle. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. vi. 197 These belong to what are vulgarly called the jelly-fish or sea-nettles. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. ix. (ed. 2) 239 Acalephæ, or Sea Nettles.

Seangreen, obs. form of SENGREEN *Obs.*

Seannachie, variant form of SENNACHIE.

Seant, obs. form of SEEING *ppl. a.*

Sea·-nymph.

1. *Myth.* A nymph (NYMPH *sb.* 1) supposed to inhabit the sea; a Nereid.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. 353 The Seanymphes wondred under waves the townes and groves to see. 1601 [see NEREIDES]. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 402 Sea-Nimphs hourly ring his knell. 1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* xxxix. (1722) 166 The Sea Nymphs were in great Numbers call'd Nereides. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxviii, Hark! hears he not the sea-nymph speak Her anger in that thrilling shriek! 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 49 O Italy, mother of nations Like her own fair sea-nymph's brood, Who turn and rend their mother.

2. An antarctic petrel, *Procellaria nereis*.

1875 J. H. KIDDER *Nat. Hist. Kerguelen Isl.* I. 31.

Sea·-oak. [tr. mod.L. *quercus marina*.] The seaweed *Fucus vesiculosus*, and other seaweeds of similar appearance; bladder-wrack.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clix. 1378 *Quercus marinus*. Sea Oke, or Wrake. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 598 There lives the Sea-Oak [orig. *le chesne marin*] in a little shell. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cvi, Sea Oke or Wrake. 1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lanc.*, etc. I. 92 In some of the Alga's or Sea-Oaks I have observ'd various Capsulæ impleted with a pellucid Gelly. 1796 [see TANG *sb.*[3]]. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 358 The bibulous marine plants which have been applied to the strumous tumours in the form of epithems, as sea-wrack (*fucus vesiculosus*), seatang (*alga marina*), and sea-oak (*quercus marina*).

b. *attrib.*: sea-oak coralline, sertularia, the polyp *Sertularia pumila*.

1754 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 632 This species I have call'd the sea-oak coralline, from its being most frequently found..adhering to the largest species of the *quercus marinus*. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 482 The Sea Oak Sertularia. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 290 The Sea Oak Coralline is a common example.

Sea-officer. Now somewhat *rare* (very common in 17–18th c.). A naval officer.

1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 456 Out of these [gentlemen] the King intends always to choose his sea officers. 1708 *Proclam.* 20 May in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4440/1 In case any..Warrant Sea-Officers belonging to any Ship of War..be absent. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, Saying which..the gallant sea-officer quitted the Parsonage. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. 129 The first of England's living sea-officers.

Sea-otter. A marine otter of the shores of the North Pacific, *Enhydris marina* or *lutris*.

1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 14 A Sea-Otter. 1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 49 *Lutra Marina*, the Sea-Otter, ..differeth from the Land-Otter, for it is bigger, and the Pile of its Furr is rougher. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1738 Sea-otters are amphibious. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiv, A large leathern pouch,..made of the skin of the sea otter. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 174 Numbers of canoes soon came off, bringing sea-otter skins to sell. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 74/1 The fur of the sea-otter is thick, soft, and woolly.

b. Sea-otter's cabbage, the large seaweed *Nereocystis Lütkeana* of the North Pacific, the fronds of which are a favourite resort of sea-otters.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Sea·-owl.

1. The lump-fish, *Cyclopterus lumpus*.

1601 [see LUMP *sb.*[2] 1]. *a* 1672 [see COCK-PADDLE]. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 270.

2. The puffin.

1842 BONNYCASTLE *Newfoundld.* II. 234 The puffin (*alca arctica*) which may be called the sea-owl, from its extraordinary head and wise look.

†Sea-ox. *Obs.*

1. The hippopotamus. Cf. SEA-COW.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 335 The creatures therein [in the Nile] contained are exceeding strange, as namely sea-horses, sea-oxen, crocodiles [etc.]. *Ibid.* 344 The sea-oxe being couered with an exceeding hard skinne is shaped in all respects like vnto the land-oxe; saue that in bignes it exceedeth not a calfe of sixe moneths olde. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 328 Some Græcians call him sometimes a Sea-horsse, and sometimes a Sea-oxe. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 202 A hundred Elephants, caparison'd with the skins of Sea-oxen. *Ibid.*, This *Besigu* beares a bow and quiver, a short sword, and a coat of Sea-oxe. 1791 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon* (ed. 3) VI. 278.

2. The walrus or morse.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 626 Neere to New-found-land in 47 deg. is great killing of the Morse or Sea-oxe.

Sea-parrot.

1. The puffin.

1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 9 A Sea-Parret or Coppernose of Greenland. 1694–1865 [see PARROT *sb.* 3 a].

2. One of several fishes (see PARROT-FISH).

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isl.* 98 There are also in these Parts certain Fishes scaled like a Carp, but as to colour are as green as a Parrot, whence they are by some called Sea-Parrots. 1706, 1883 [see PARROT *sb.* 3 b].

Sea-pen. [PEN *sb.*[2]] A polyp of the genus *Pennatula* or family *Pennatulidæ*.

1763 J. ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 420 This Animal was well known to the ancients by the name of the Sea-Pen. 1768 SOLANDER *Let. to Y. Ellis* in *Ann. Reg.* (1769) XII. 188/2 We can hardly buy a plate of shrimps [at Rio de Janeiro], without finding a dozen of your *Pennatula rentiformis*, or kidney shaped sea pen, among them. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 102 The sandy beach of the bay is strewn with..sponges, sea-pens [etc.]. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 591 fig., The sea pen (*Pteroides spinosum*). 1883 C. F. HOLDER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 184/2 The sea-pens are remarkable for their phosphorescence.

Sea-pheasant.

1. The turbot.

1633 [see PHEASANT 2 b]. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 26 Halibut or Sea Pheasant. 1737 in W. Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 161 Turbot, far requested for his white And mellow flesh, sea-pheasant often named.

2. The pintail duck, *Dafila acuta*; also the long-tailed duck, *Harelda glacialis*.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 289 *Anas caudacuta*... Sea Pheasant: The Cracker. 1674, 1837 [see PHEASANT 2 b]. 1842 BONNYCASTLE *Newfoundld.* II. 236 The pintail duck ..from its plumage and the shape of its tail is called the sea pheasant. 1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 285 To roast the pintail, or sea pheasant. 1893 in Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norf.* 47 *Sea-Phaysant*..Longtailed Duck.

Sea-pie[1]. [PIE *sb.*[1]] A common name for the oyster-catcher, *Hæmatopus ostralegus*. Also used in *Her.* as an armorial bearing (see quot. 1780).

1552 *Acc. P'cess Elis.* 40 in *Camden Misc.* (1853) II, Paid in rewarde..to Mr. Levetts servauntes for bringing of seapies, x. s. *c* 1557 S. BURROUGH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 279 In this place we found plenty of young foule, as Gulles, Seapies, and others. 1615 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princ.* viii. (1635) 37 The Sea-pie is a great devourer of all sorts of Fish. 1747 MALLET *Anynotor & Yheod.* Wks. 1759 I. 127 The Sea-Py ceas'd At once to warble. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1323 Among the rocks are found black sea pies, with red bills. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Sea-pie*, a water-fowl, of a dark brown colour, with a red head, and the neck and wings white. 1862 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* iv. 140 The sea-pies with their red bills and legs, flew to and fro from shore to shore. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ix. 141 Not even a gull or a sea-pye crossed the..moorland.

transf. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. B 2 b, Now blew-bottle? what flutter you for[,] Sea-pye? *Servingman.* Not to catch fish, sir.

Sea-pie[2]. [PIE *sb.*[2]] A dish of meat and vegetables, etc. boiled together, with a crust of paste, or 'in layers between crusts, the number of which denominate it a two or three decker' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

1751 *Affect. Narr. of Wager* 66 They shot several wild Fowl, some of which they roasted, putting the rest into what we call a Sea Pye. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dan.* vi, Lobscous, sea-pie, and other delicacies of a naval description. 1886 CUNLIFFE *Rochdale Gloss.*, *Sea-pie*, a pie of potatoes and flesh baked in a pan over the fire. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 227 Using it also in the preparation of a sort of seapie they [the natives] make with meat and fish.

transf. 1847 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* Jan. 123 Pictorially, *The Drawing-Room Scrap-Book* is a sea-pie, made up of scraps that have been served at many tables before.

Sea·-piece. [PIECE *sb.* 17 b.] A picture representing a scene at sea.

1656 EVELYN *Diary* 10 July, A piece representing Sir F. Drake's action in the year 1580, an excellent sea-piece. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. § iii. 378 A Sea-Piece, consisting wholly of Inlay'd-work, of several Colours, in Stone. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 489 P 4 Great Painters..very often employ their Pencils upon Sea-Pieces. 1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. lxii. 420 He has painted a moonlight sea piece. 1892 BRIGHTON *Sir P. Wallis* 228 Two seapieces by Musin occupy a considerable space.

Sea-pigeon.

1. A name given (locally) to various birds, as the rock-dove, *Columba livia*, the black guillemot, *Uria Grylle*, the grey kittiwake, *Larus canus*.

1620 J. MASON *New-found-land* in *Mem.* (1887) 151 The sea fowles are gulles, sea pigeons. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 9 A Sea-Pidgeon of Green-land. 1767 tr. *Crans' Greenland* I. 84 The sea-pidgeon..is like the willock in almost every thing, except its being less. 1819 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. 23 Sea pigeon. (*Columba littoralis.*) *Ibid.* 24 It occurs in abundance in New Guinea and Java; by the natives of the latter, it is distinguished by the name of the Sea Pigeon. 1861 COUES in *Proc. Philad. Acad.* 256 They [Black Guillemots] are universally known to the natives and fishermen [of Labrador] as 'Sea-pigeons'. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 285 The Grey Kittiwake (*Larus canus*) is often called the Sea Pigeon. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 168 Rock Dove (*Columba livia*)..Sea pigeon (Ireland).

2. *U. S.* A large green sea-slug.

1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 169 One of the sea-slugs, a great green creature, commonly known on the [Florida] reef as the sea-pigeon.

Sea-pike[1]. [PIKE *sb.*[4]] One of various fishes, as (*a*) a gar-fish, esp. *Belone vulgaris*; (*b*) any fish of the family *Sphyrænidæ*, esp. the genus *Sphyræna*; (*c*) the hake, *Merlucius vulgaris*; (*d*) a fish of the family *Centropomidæ*, of tropical America, esp. *Centropomus undecimalis* (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. ii. II. 427 The sea pike Lupus. 1611 COTGR., *Pets escome*, the sea Pike, or Spit-fish. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 136 *Sphyræna*..*Lucius Marinus*, the Sea-Pike, or Spitt-Fish. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 274 The common sea pike, or sea needle, sometimes grows to the length of three feet, or more. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 204 *Sphyræna*, the Sea Pike, which has been confounded with the *Esox* or True Pike. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Bill-fish*, (*Belone truncata*) a small sea-fish...Also called Sea-pike. 1880–84 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. 301 *Merluccius vulgaris*...The hake,..or sea-pike. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.*, *Sea-Pike*, a fish of New South Wales, *Lanioperca mordax* Günth., of the family *Sphyrænidæ*.

Sea-pike[2]. [PIKE *sb.*[5]] A trident.

1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XV. II. 109 He bore A sea-pike two and twenty cubits long.

Sea-pine.

1. See PINE *sb.*[2] 2.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Pine*, 5. The wild sea-pine. ..6. The Idæan sea-pine. 1845 BROWNING *Englishm. in Italy* 191 The flat sea-pine crouches.

2. A dark-coloured seaweed. ? *Obs.*

1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 470 *Fucus..incurvus*..., black Fucus, or Sea Pine. 1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 310 *Fucus incurvus*...Black Wrack. Sea Pine.

Sea-pink. [PINK *sb.*[4]] a. The plant Thrift, *Armeria maritima*. † b. *Cerastium repens*.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Statice*; Thrift or Sea Pink. 1759, etc. [see PINK *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems*,

Before Breakf. ii, Now the cliff spreads its cheerful adorning Of matted sea-pink under foot. 1897 'ALLEN RAINE' *Welsh Singer* viii. 68 Flinging himself on the sea-pinks.

Sea-plant. [PLANT *sb.*1] A plant growing in the sea or in salt-water, a marine or maritime plant.

1681 GREW *Museum* II. § v. i. 247 These, and other Sea-Plants hereafter describ'd. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* II. 10 A sea-plant which they boil in seal's fat. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* viii. 184 They [sea-hares] inhabit the rocks on the coast, and crawl about on the sea-plants.

Sea-poose, variant of SEA-PURSE (sense 4).

Sea-pork. a. 'The flesh of young whales in the western isles of Scotland' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867). b. *Local U. S.* (see quot.).

1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 58 *Amarœcium*, a genus [of compound ascidians] common on our coasts, forms large colonies... The general color is much like that of boiled salt pork,..and the fishermen..call them sea-pork.

Seaport (sī·pōət). [PORT *sb.*1] A harbour or port on the sea-coast; a town or city on such a harbour. = PORT *sb*1 1 and 2.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 12 It hes thir tounes Kircoubrie, Wigtoune, and the quhyt Case, al the thrie gude seyportes. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 388 We shall pass by the Sea-Ports, having mention'd them in the precedent Chapter. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 266 Wks. 1871 III. 378 The sea-ports of Galway, Limerick, Cork. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 335 Bristol, then the first English seaport. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 3 (1882) 184 The great merchant city..sank..into a petty seaport.

b. *attrib.*, esp. in *seaport town* (cf. PORT-TOWN 2).

1705 *Proclam.* 18 Jan. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4090/1 Until they Arrive at some Sea Port-Town. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii, Portsmouth is a seaport town. 1909 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 391 Apollo meets the Seaman at a seaport tavern.

Sea-pouce, variant of SEA-PURSE (sense 4).

Sea-power.

1. A nation or state having international power or influence on sea. Cf. POWER *sb.*1 6 b.

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxix. V. 67 The conversion of Athens from a land-power into a sea-power. 1890 MAHAN *Infl. Sea-power Hist.* 225 Before that war [of the Spanish succession] England was one of the sea powers; after it she was *the* sea power, without any second. 1906 W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Apr. 365 Tarsus..became a harbour and a sea power.

2. The strength and efficiency of a nation (or of nations generally) for maritime warfare.

The currency of the term in its more abstract use is due to Captain A. T. Mahan's book, *Influence of Sea-power on History* (1890). In a letter of 19 Feb. 1897, printed in E. Marston, *After Work* (1904) 257, Capt. Mahan states that the combination was deliberately adopted by him 'in order to compel attention'.

1883 SIR J. R. SEELEY *Expansion Eng.* 89 Commerce..was swept out of the Mediterranean by the besom of the Turkish sea-power. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 574/1 Themistocles..the founder of the Attic sea-power. 1902 SIR C. BRIDGE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 493/1 In the first and greatest of the contests waged by the nations of the East against Europe—the Persian wars—sea-power was the governing factor.

Seapoy, Seapt, obs. forms of SEPOY, SEPT *sb.*

Sea-purse. Also (in sense 4) sea-pouce, -puss, -poose.

1. A zoophyte of the genus ALCYONIUM. ? *Obs.*

1806 TURTON *Linn. Syst. Nat.* IV. 653 *Alcyonium Bursa* ..Sea Purse.

2. The horny egg-case of a skate, ray, or shark; a mermaid's purse.

1856 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* IV. 530 The young [of Skates] are deposited..in their horny cases... These..are sometimes called sea-purses. 1891 C. L. MORGAN *Anim. Life & Intell.* 220 Each is also protected by a horny case with pointed corners—the so called sea-purse of seaside visitors.

3. A siphonaceous alga, *Codium bursa*, which resembles a sponge.

1853 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* I. 115 *Codium*, the Sea-Purse, is a hollow, sub-globose, dark green plant, composed [etc.].

4. *U. S., Atlantic coast.* A swirl of the undertow or a double undertow formed by two waves meeting at an angle, making a small whirlpool on the surface of the water, dangerous to bathers.

1891 *Century Dict., Sea-purse*, ...2. A swirl of the undertow [etc.]...Also called *sea-pouce* and *sea-puss*. 1896 *Athletic Sports, Surf & Surf bathing* (1898) 247 As the word is ignored by Webster, I shall invent my own spelling and write it 'sea-poose'. This term is loosely used in different parts of the coast.

Seapy, obs. form of SEPOY.

Sea-quake, seaquake. [after EARTHQUAKE.] A convulsion or sudden agitation of the sea from a submarine eruption or earthquake.

1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 333 This σεισμὸς..is usually understood of an earth-quake, but here 'tis a sea-quake. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 53 A violent agitation, or heaving, of the sea...This agitation..may be called, for the sake of perspicuity, a seaquake; and this also is produced by volcanoes. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 273 The phenomenon called a mare moto or seaquake, was heaving the waters of the harbour. 1889 HICKSON *Nat. N. Celebes* iii. 45 This was accompanied by a terrible seaquake.

Sear (sīəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 6 serre, 6-7 seare, 7 saer, 9 sere, scear, sear. [Of obscure history.

Commonly regarded as a. OF *serre* grasp, something that grasps or holds fast, f. *serrer* to grasp, hold fast, press close, repr. late L. *serāre* to bar, bolt, f. L. *sera* bar for a door. The Fr. word, however, has app. not been found with this specific meaning; in the sense 'foot of a bird of prey' (SERE *sb.*) it is still current, and in OF. it also meant a lock or bolt.]

1. A portion of a gun-lock which engages with the notches of the tumbler in order to keep the hammer at full or half cock, and which is released (at full cock) by pressure upon the trigger.

1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 452 Euen as a pistole that is ready charged and bent, will flie off by and by, if a man do but touch the Seare. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. ix. 35 Let the Cocks and Trickers be nimble to goe and come; for as concerning Seares, they are vtterly out of date. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 135/1 The seuerall parts of a Fire lock...The saer or dog. 1802 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XX. 246 Further motion being prevented by a notch in the small sear. 1864 WHEELWRIGHT *Spring Lapl.* 200 It [a gun-lock] seemed to be altogether destitute of a scear, but with a famous mainspring. 1898 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 17 Mar. 109 The cock is caught by the nose of the sear projecting from the lock-plate. 1903 SIR M. G. GERARD *Leaves fr. Diaries* x. 367 The bent of the sear had broken—the piece being at half-cock.

b. *Tickle* or *light of the sear* (fig.): easily made to 'go off', readily yielding to any impulse (cf. quot. 1596 above). So †*to go glib upon the sear.*

?1560 *Dial. Comen Secretarye & Jelowsye* 7 She that is fayre, lusty, and yonge,..Thynke ye her tayle is not lyght of the seare. 1583 H. HOWARD *Defensative* H iv, Discouering the moods and humours of the vulgar sort,.. to be so loose and tickle of the seare, as there wanted nothing but a leader, of great courage and deepe wisedome to begin the game. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Fooles-cap* B 2, An idle Mate, Whose tongue goes all too glibbe vpon the seare. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 337 The Clowne shall make those laugh whose lungs are tickled [*read* tickle] a th' sere.

2. *Comb.*, as sear-nose, the end of the sear which engages with the notches in the tumbler; sear-pin, -pivot, the bolt upon which the sear turns; sear-spring, a spring which keeps the sear in position, also, in some gun-locks a spring which throws the hammer back to half-cock after a discharge (also *attrib.* in *sear-spring cramp, -pin*).

1859 *Musketry Instr.* 16 The arm of the sear is that part on which the trigger acts to raise the *sear-nose out of the full bent of tumbler. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 251 The *sear-pin. 1892 GREENER *Breech-loader* 16 Tumbler and *scear pivots. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 135/1 The *saer spring or feather spring. 1831 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 211 Two sere-springs, four nipples or plugs. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 96 *note*, One *Sear-Spring Cramp, for Arms with back-action Locks. 1892 GREENER *Breech-loader* 15 The bridle and *scear-spring pins.

Sear (sīəɹ), *sb.*2 Also 6 seare. [f. SEAR *v.*] A mark or impression produced by searing. Also *fig.*

1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 122 Her dear wan life is dearer to me keeping The sear upon its whiteness of her fall. 1875 MANNING *Internal Mission Holy Ghost* viii. 216 If you had ever been burnt, there would remain the sear of the burn as long as you live.

Sear (sīəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4-6, 9 sere, 5-8 seer, (6 cear), 6-7 seare, 6- sear. [OE. *séarian* = OHG. (*ar-*)*sôrên*:—OTeut. type **saurôjan*, f. **sauro-*, OE. *séar* dry, SERE *a.*]

1. *intr.* To dry up, to wither away; to become sere. Now *rare.*

?*c* 890 in Cockayne *Shrine* 168/22 Grenu [leaf] weaxað..hy eft onginnað searian. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2736 Ful of trees..whose fressh beaute and grenesse..Nouther Sere, nor wexen olde. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) I. xxviii. 66/2 Whan other herbes sere and drye up. 1530 PALSGR. 709/2 This tree wyll seere within a yere or twayne. 1878 *Scribner's Monthly Mag.* XVI. 332/2 As the autumn seared and browned and grayed at last into winter. 1901 A. AUSTIN *Royal Homecoming* x, What Nature feels when Autumn stacks and seres, Or Yule-gusts blow.

2. *trans.* To cause to wither, to blight.

1422-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1655 Eke 3onge trees to sere, rote and rinde, And afterward make hem, agein kynde, With lusty braunchis blosme and budde newe. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 19 And y^e^ fig tree was seered bi and bi. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 25 b, The same heate dryeth or seereth the stomake. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 30 When summer sears the plains. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 249 His scattered hair Sered by the autumn of strange suffering Sung dirges in the wind. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1459 If no fire of sun or star untimely sear the tender grain. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* III. i, How often have I crushed their [reeds'] crackling stems, Sered by the wind and manacled in ice.

† b. *To sear up*: to subject to a process which causes withering, to dry up from the roots. *Obs.*

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xv. (1494) D iij b, The frutles trees vp seryd to the rote. 1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 97 They cut the branches euery euening, because they are seared vp in the day by the heate of the Sunne.

3. To burn or char (animal tissues) by the application of a hot iron; to cauterize (a wound, the stump of an amputated limb, etc.) in order to destroy virus or prevent the flow of blood.

1530 PALSGR. 709/2, I sere with a hoote yron, as a smyth or cyrurgien dothe. 1545 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 107 If [it ware] a wenche, they [Amazons] streighte ceared y^e^ pappes, that thei might not growe to hindre them in the warres. 1634 CANNE *Necessz. Separ.* (1849) 145 A chirurgeon trieth all gentle means before lancing, searing, or cutting off. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 20 Apr., It is a sad thing for a man ..to bleed to death, because he has not fortitude enough to sear the wound, or even to stitch it up. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 227 Preventing bleeding by searing the vessels with a hot iron. 1865 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. I. ii. 252, I prefer searing at about eight or ten weeks as a..more humane process than drawing...I have never lost a lamb from searing.

b. *fig.* Chiefly after 1 Tim. iv. 2, to render (the conscience) incapable of feeling.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Tim.* iv. 2 Having their conscience seared [1611 seared with a hote iron]. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* v. 1 2, Thy Conscience youth is sear'd. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 190 They are obdurate and seared, that cannot discern and feel the wound which they inflict on themselves, who grieve and offend their Creator. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* I. iii, To give firmness to sensibility..without searing its feelings where they led to virtue. 1816 BYRON *Fare thee well* xv, Sear'd in heart, and lone, and blighted, More than this I scarce can die. 1851 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. xv. (1863) 116 Christianity does not sear the human heart; it softens it. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. viii. 210 A long career of ambition, craft, and despotic rule never utterly seared his conscience. 1879 SPENCER *Data of Ethics* xiv. § 93. 245 The destructive activities carried on against external enemies sear it [sympathy].

c. *To sear up*: to close (a wound, vein, etc.) by actual cautery. Also *fig.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 41 [The Jesuits] haue bespattered with a most dangerous Gangrene, the whole bodie misticall of Christ (which vnlesse it be seared vp with hot irons here in England, wil neuer come at Rome to be soundly cured). 1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. i, The rogue deserues..To be crop'd with his owne Scizzers..And ha' the stumps sear'd vp with his owne searing candle. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 145 The Vein of Rhetorick was seared up. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 644 Then for the worm of conscience,..they have seared up his mouth with a hot iron that he cannot bite. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* III. iv. § 79 The political system of Hobbes, like his moral system,..sears up the heart.

† d. To brand, stigmatize. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 360 And boyes to the pylery gan me plucke,..And some bade sere hym with a marke. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 176 A divulged shame Traduc'd by odious ballads: my maidens name Seard otherwise. 1611 — *Wint. T.* II. i. 73 Calumnie will seare Vertue it selfe. 1638 *Brief Relat.* 21 Now the Executioner being come, to seare him and cut of his eares, Mr. Prynne spake these words to him [etc.]. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* I. i. (ed. 2) 7 Not to suffer the ordinance of his goodnes and favour, through any error to be ser'd and stigmatiz'd upon his servants to their misery and thraldome.

4. In wider sense: To burn, scorch; † to put *out* (one's eyes) by burning. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 26 The scorching flame sore swinged all his face, And through his armour all his bodie seard. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. 1904 II. 136 To the intent that..he might with the bright reflection of his [the sun's] beamy radiation seare out his eyes. *c* 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II, All the Court shall hoot thee through the Court Fling rotten Oranges, make ribald Rimes, And sear thy name with Candles upon walls. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. xiii. 349 Tophet..where children were offered to Moloch, searing them to death with his burning imbracements. 1652 GATAKER *Antinom.* 8 Poor souls for fear of searing their lips, dare not put the cup to their mouths. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* v. 307 A lofty wood Whose leafless summits to the skies aspire, Scorch'd by the sun, or sear'd by heav'nly fire. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. x, For as the flames this symbol sear, His home, the refuge of his fear, A kindred fate shall know.

Sear, variant of SERE *a.*; obs. Sc. f. SORE.

Sea-raven.

1. The cormorant.

[A transl. of L. *corvus marinus*: see etymol. note s.v. CORMORANT.]

1611 COTGR., *Corbeau d'eau*, a Cormorant. *Corbeau de mer*, the same; or, the sea-Rauen. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 102 When the great sea-raven, as Jacobson informs us, comes to take away their young, the puffins boldly oppose him.

2. † a. A fish mentioned by Pliny. *Obs.* b. A large North American fish, *Hemitripterus americanus*, also called deep-water sculpin.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. xi. II. 451 [List of fishes.] The Sea-Raven Corvus. 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 29 Sea Raven. 1896 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 50 *Hemitripterus Americanus*...The Sea-raven...inhabits the cod-banks on the coast of New York, Nova Scotia, and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 302 The Sea-raven is decidedly palatable.

† c. A large African fish. *Obs. rare*—1.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 15/2 *Sea Raven*, or *corvo marino*, of Kongo in Africa,..is about six feet long, and big in proportion.

Searce (sɔus), *sb.* ? *Obs.* Forms: [? 4 sace], 5 saarce, sars, sarsse, sarche, 5-7 sarce, 6 cearse, 6-8 serce, seerse, 7 sarse, serse, 7-8 sierce, 7-9 search, 5-9 searce. [ME. *saarce*, a. (with unexplained insertion of *r*) OF. *saas* (mod.F. *sas*) = Pr. *sedas*, Sp. *cedazo*, It. *staccio* (Neapolitan *setaccio*) :—pop. L. **swētāceus* (*pannus*), lit. (cloth) made of bristles, f. L. *sæta* bristle.] A sieve or strainer. (In the first quot. the word may be AF.)

[1329-30 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 17, 1 sace, 4*d*.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Saarce, instrument. 1459 *Inv. Sir J. Fastolf's Goods* in *Paston Lett.* I. 490 Item,..j. sars of brasse. Item,..j. sarche of tre. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* III. i. 65 Sises and searces of heare. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 10 The couer..Galen likeneth to a searse, as though it were full of holes. 1594 *Good Huswife's Handmaide* 52 When it [the flour] is baken, it will be full of clods, and therefore ye must searse it through a search. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* med. iv. 17 My Mem'ry's like a Searce of Lawne (alas) It Keepes things grosse, and lets the purer passe. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 66 Sift it through a fine Sieve, or a Search. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Prepar. Tin* 122 The fine [tin] is lewd in a fine sierce. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 124 My next Difficulty was to make a Sieve, or Search, to dress my Meal. 1780 MACKENZIE *Mirror* No. 93 ¶ 9 His brain, poor man! was like a gauze searce, it admitted nothing of any magnitude. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 262 Adding the fish-glue dissolved in a great deal of water, and passed through a searce

[*printed* searee]. 1844 N. PATERSON *Manse Garden* 147 Put all the earth through a search or riddle, of which the wires are one inch apart.

fig. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 296 Yet will our selfe overweening sift his divinitie through our searce. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 279 Whereas other Orders of Monks and Fryers were after their first institution sifted (as I may say) thorough many other searches. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. verse 18. I. xvii. 330 His Mediation is the fine searse through which our prayers are boulted.

b. *Comb.*, as † *searce-net* ; † *searce-wise* adv.

1526 *Grete Herball* cccxxxv. (1529) Z iij, Take veray small powdre therof and passe it through a sarcenet. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxiv. I. 323 The long yarne in her web wrought serce-wise.

Searce (sɔ̄is), *v.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 5 saarce, sarge, serge, (sayeres ?), 5–6 sarse, 5–7 searce, 6 searsse, cerse, cerce, serche, 6–7 seirse, serce, seirce, 6–8 sierse, 7–8 sierce, 5–9 searce, 6–9 searse, search (see also E.D.D.). [f. SEARCE *sb.* ; cf. F. *sasser*.] *trans.* To sift through a searce.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 183 Grynde all þese & sarce hem. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 20 Take Appelys an sethe hem, an Serge [*Ashmole MS.* Sarge] hem þorwe a Sefe in-to a potte. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 414 Bete al this smal, and sarce hit smothe at al. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/2 Saarcyn, *colo.* 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ii. 15 Take of the cromes of breade well cerced a pounde. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 84 Strewe vpon it y^ powder..beaten very smal & searched through sylke. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 301 Beate it into pouder and serce it through a fine cloth. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 118 Grate a penny loaf, and seirce it through a Cullender. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 124 Fine thin Canvas, or Stuff, to search the Meal through. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 187 Searse some fine Sugar over them. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 141 Take two Pounds of Flour, a Pound of Sugar finely search'd, mix them together. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 8 Be very careful..that..all these ingredients be well mixed together and searsed through a fine sieve.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1535 NISBET *N. T., Rom.* Prol. (S.T.S.) III. 315 The mare grundly it is searssit, the preciouser thingis ar founde in it. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 147 The dry Earth, having these waters (first) Through the wide sieve of her void entrails sierst. 1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law-Case* II. i. C 4 b, You haue Potecaries..will put foure or fiue coxcombs into a sieue..; theyle searse them through like Ginny Pepper. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Soul* v. § 3. 395 When we haue sifted and searsed the essence of any notion whatsoeuer. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* x, His eye was of that piercing kind which seems designed to search and winnow the frivolous from the edifying part of human discussion.

Hence **Searced** *ppl. a.*, **Searcing** *vbl. sb.*

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1546) Cciv b, Than take pouder of staulsacre serced and myngle all togyther. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, Tut, it is the sorting,..and the searcing, and the decocting, that makes the fumigation, and the suffumigation. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* v. 14 Good and well sersed Tarso. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 337/2 The Searce, or Searcer..is a fine Sieve with a Leather cover..to keep the Dant..that nothing be lost of it in the Searceing. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Introd. 18 The searc'd and dry Farina is spread in the Sun to dry further.

Searcer (sɔ̄·isəi). Also 6 serchar, 6–7 sercer, 7 searser, 8–9 searcher. [f. SEARCE *v.* + -ER 1. With sense 1 cf. OF. *sas(s)oire* sieve (Godefroy) ; with sense 2 cf. F. *sasseur*.]

1. A searce or sieve.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 121 All these beate together and serche them through a serchar. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 b, Siues, Sercers, Boulting tubbes. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 266 Searce it through a fine searcer. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 754 The Author hath often observ'd, that having in the morning put an Egg near these Searsers [indigo-sifters], it hath been found in the evening all blew within. 1688 [see SEARCED *ppl. a.*]. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 446/1 The pulp is..passed through a 'searcher', to remove the tough skin and pips.

2. One who searces or sifts. *rare* — 0.

1611 COTGR., *Sasseur*, a sifter, searcer, boulter of corne, &c. 1755 JOHNSON, *Searcer*, he who searces.

Search (sɔ̄ɹtʃ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 serche, 5 serge, 5–6 searche, 5–7 serch, 6 sertche, serse, 6– search. [a. AF. *serche* (Rolls of Parlt. 1314–5, 1353), OF. *cerche* (mod.F. *cherche*), vbl. sb., f. *cerchier* : see SEARCH *v.* In some uses prob. an Eng. formation on the verb.]

1. The action or an act of searching ; examination or scrutiny for the purpose of finding a person or thing. Const. *after*, *for*, † *of* (the object sought). † Also, investigation of a question ; effort to ascertain something.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 524 The woman..shewid forth her ernd..In sauyng hir seiuen and serche of his wille. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 292 Thurwe alle Galyle a serge to make, Yf Ihesu be enteryd 3our pepyl among. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 142 This serche which we nowe haue made..hath be a digression ffrom the mater in wich we labour. 1530 PALSGR. 269/1 Sertche enquyre, *enqueste*. 1565 ALLEN *Def. Purg.* I. vi. 61 b, Let vs entre into the searche of the meaning of these two textes, withe suche pluinesse and sincerirye that [etc.]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 88/20 A Serse, *scrutinium*. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. Prol. 26 By many a dearne and painefull pearch Of Perycles the carefull search,..Is made with all due diligence. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 43 When after earnest serch none could be founde, whome they iudged worthie of her. 1682-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 127 [Ministers] who by their..diligent Search of Scripture, were..to qualify themselves to teach [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* I. 58 Nor did my search of liberty begin, Till my black hairs were chang'd upon my chin. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 29 Where studious ease consumes the silent hour In shadowy searches and unfruitful care. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. i. 16 Farewel to Verses, for the Search of Truth And moral Decency hath fill'd my Breast. 1829 SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd. 2nd half, Robin Oig absconded, and escaped all search. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvii. 390, I..resolved to devote another year to a search among the chief glaciers. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 352 The whole of our discussion from the very beginning has been a search after knowledge. 1888 J. A. H. MURRAY *N. E. D.* Pref. 16 Those who..have been always ready to undertake searches in connexion with groups of words at which the Editor and his staff were actually working.

quasi-*personified.* 1675 OTWAY *Alcibiades* II. i, Beyond what Search can see or Fancy track.

b. Phrases. *In search of* (= F. *en cherche de*) : In quest of ; in order to find ; also, *predicatively*, occupied in searching for. *To make* (*a*) *search* (see MAKE *v.*[1] 59 a) : to search (*for* some lost, concealed, or desired object).

1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 287 That they make serch withyn har garterys. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 77 To make diligent searche and inquisition what maner of people inhabited the land. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 428 If zealous loue should go in search of vertue, Where should he finde it purer then in Blanch? 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 323 Lead off this ground and let's make further search For my poore sonne. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Nov., I received instructions how to behave in towne, with directions to masters and bookes to take in search of the antiquities, churches, collections, &c. 1716-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xxiii. 70, I might run into Turkey in search of liberty. 1809 HAN. MORE (*title*) Coelebs in Search of a Wife. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 234 Search was made ; and Godfrey's corpse was found in a field near London. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* iii. 71 Some species..ascend bushes in search of aphides. *Mod.* I am at present in search of a house.

† c. Object of search. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)

1806 H. SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* I. 244 Content is the end, the search of all mankind.

† d. In wider sense : Examination (with regard to quality, conduct, etc.). *Obs.*

1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 Euery such stranger, occupieng any mistery or handy craft..shalbe vnder the serche and reformacion of the wardens. 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Clothing* iv. 17 The Law hath effectually prouided for the search in all points, that in euerie place where cloth is made and sold, two, foure, six, or eight shall bee appointed for the search thereof, that it be according to law.

2. *spec.* a. An examination of a ship's cargo, etc. for the purpose of enforcing customs duties.

1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 107 The seyd Chapman is of no reputacion,..and be colour of hise office of supervisor of the searche shal gretly hurte the port. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 62 The saique, which is a sort of Turkish Vessel that takes the Commander aboard, is not expos'd to the search of the Customers. 1700 LAW *Counc. Trade* (1781) 260 By multiplying of oaths, searches, dangers and difficulties. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 82 Such search, so far as passengers' baggage is concerned, need in future only be made by the officers when requested to do so by the police.

b. An examination of a register or of documents in public custody, for the discovery of information which is believed to be contained therein.

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 243 John Salatt hathe made a serge in the regestre..aftre the wylles and testements. 1554 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 54 For the serche of the Regestre at lychefylde vi^s viii^d. 1836 *Act* 6 & 7 *Will. IV*, c. 86 § 37 For every general Search of the said Indexes shall be paid the Sum of Twenty Shillings.

† c. Self-examination of conscience, mental introspection. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 The exercyse..is called a meditacyon, as longe as it is with any inquisicyon, serche, or difficulty of y^e mynde. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S. H. S.) 50, I..then retired myself to my preparatioun and weeklie search, and had a very comfortable allowance in some meditations. *a* 1673 SWINNOCK in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. iv. 4 The most successful searches have been made in the night season.

d. *Right of Search* : the right, recognized by the law of nations, by which a duly commissioned ship of war of a belligerent state is empowered, outside neutral waters, to stop and examine a merchant vessel for contraband ; also *occas.* in wider sense (cf. quot. 1817). *Visit and Search* : see VISIT *sb.*

1817 BROUGHAM in *Parl. Deb.* 9 July 1800 The only means of ultimate success consisted, in his opinion, in the adoption of some arrangement among the greater powers of Europe, which should establish a mutual right of search [of slave vessels]. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* II. 345 The plenipotentiaries before separating came to an agreement on the subject of the right of search, and the rules generally of maritime war.

† 3. Range to which search extends. *Obs.*

1610 B. JONSON *Masques, Pr. Henries Barriers* 89 Beyond the paths and searches of the sunne Let him tempt fate. 1792 S ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 361 That eye so finely wrought, Beyond the search of sense.

4. Searching effect (of cold or wind). Cf. SEARCH *v.* 9.

1609 DEKKER *Raven's Almanack* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 196 By which meanes the spring to some people..prone [*sic*] as fatall and as busie in priuie Searches as the fall of the Leafe. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 591/2 Outside there was the drip of the thatch eaves, the old search and pity of the wind, but they heard not these.

5. *concr.* applied to persons : † a. A searcher, examiner ; *spec.* in a Bridgetin convent, the official title of the sisters (at Sion House four in number) who were under the Prioress entrusted with the supervision of the behaviour of the nuns. *Obs.*

Cf. the similar use of SEARCHER 2 c.

c 1450 in Aungier *Hist. Syon* (1840) 251 In the chaptyr noon schal..speke..but the president, the chaintour, the serches, and they that confesse her owen defautes. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 154 Yet she muste aske forgyuenesse afterwarde and the souerayne and serches that haue cure of the relygyon oughte to se that she be sadly correcte. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IX. 215 The Shee-Inquisitors came first thither to doe their Office..There was not one of the three Searches, but judged this good Office as feasable as reasonable.

† b. A search-party. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 159 That you shall surely find him Lead to the Sagitary the raised Search.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *search-making*, *-party* ; † **search-day**, ? an occasion of an official visitation ; † **search-house**, the building or room in which goods are searched by the custom-house officers ; **search-parade**, a periodical gathering of convicts in a prison for purposes of examination of their clothing for the detection of unlawful possessions ; **search-room**, the room in the Public Record Office provided for members of the public who wish to search documents there preserved ; **search-sheet** (see quot.) ; **search-warrant**, a warrant authorizing the searching of the dwelling of a person suspected of crime.

1547 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 386 Item payd for oure dynner on the *serche day of oure lands, vj^s iij^d. *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 39 All our cariage was had home to the *serch house, where all my Master's apparail and the gentlemens, with the rest of the servaunts were serched to th'uttermost. 1495 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 568 And that he shirrifs wekely make serch..vppon þe peyn to lese Cs. at euery tyme they be founde laches in *serch-makyng. 1903 [NEVILLE] *Penal Serv.* v. 43 The *search parade and the 'rub down' four times a day constitutes a sort of drill. 1884 *Graphic* 23 Aug. 202/1 A *search party was sent back, and presently they espied a pool of blood in the footpath. 1897 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LI. 211 The Record Office, where he ultimately became superintendent of the *search room. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 132/1 The deeds are indexed according to properties—each property having a separate number and folio called a '*search sheet', on which all deeds affecting it are referred to. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, If there was to be a *search-warrant granted, he thought the sniller wad be fund some gate near to St. James's Palace. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 130 The brethren who remained had either eluded his search-warrant, or been rescued from his power.

Search (sɔ̄ɹtʃ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 serch(e, cerche, 5 sorche, 5–6 sarche, searche, 6 sarych, scarche, sertche, seyrch, *Sc.* scearche, seirch(e, 7 cherch, 6– search ; *β.* 5 serge, scerge, seerge, cerge ; *γ.* 5–6 sers, 6 seirs, searse, *Sc.* searce, seirce, serce, serss, cers, cerse, cerss. [a. OF. *cerchier* (mod.F. *chercher*), corresp. to Pr. *cercar*, It. *cercare* to seek, Sp., Pg. *cercar* to surround :— late L. *circāre* to go round, f. L. *circus* circle.]

I. To explore, examine thoroughly.

1. *trans.* To go about (a country or place) in order to find, or to ascertain the presence or absence of, some person or thing ; to explore in quest of some object.

α. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 929 Thou scholdest come without bost, And serche uche cuntray. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxxi. 315, I..have..cerched manye fulle straunge places. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXX. q 3 b, They wente and serched and skymmed the see. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 28 b, When the erle had searched all the coaste of Fraunce, and had founde not one pirate or sea robber. 1611 BIBLE *Num.* xiii. 2 Send thou men, that they may search the lande of Canaan. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 170 The Guardian of the Bees, For Slips of Pines, may search the Mountain Trees. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xlvii. 7 Shall..they, my jolly comrades, Search the streets on a quest of invitation?

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/2 Seergyn, or serchyn, *scrutor, lustro, perlustro.*

γ. *a* 1500 *Droichis Part of Play* 162 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 320 Gar sers baith Louthiane and Fyf And vale to me a mekle wyf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xi. 118 To toune agane I sped with all my mycht..Wilfull all aventuris newlingis to assay, And for to serce Troy, every streit, and way.

2. To look through, examine internally (a building, an apartment, a receptacle of any kind) in quest of some object concealed or lost.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 443 Houses were besiliche y-serched 3if out myȝt be y-founde. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 51 He serchid all the palais of kyng Iichaon, and maad thepiriens to sease his richesses. 1525 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* XX. 6 Tomorow aboute this tyme wil I sende my seruauntes vnto the, y^t they maye serch thyne house. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 167 Helpe to search my house this one time : if I find not what I seeke, shew no colour for my extremity. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 47 They..will search every Coach for you with Torches. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. iv. 31 Even now they search the tower, and find the body. 1843 POE *Purloined Letter*, When G— detailed to us his mode of searching the premises.

3. To examine (a person) by handling, removal of garments, and the like, to ascertain whether any article (usually, something stolen or contraband) is concealed in his clothing.

1426 LYDG. *Dr Guil. Pilgr.* 2770 And also that ye wel provyde To cerche hem wel on euery syde, Thys synful folk, with pakkys large. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 62 The layler serchid her that she shold bere no mete ne drynke to her moder. 1646 EVELYN *Diary* Apr., The officers search'd us thoroughly for prohibited goods. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevo-*

not's Trav. 266 But not before we and our Goods had been searched at the Custome-house. 1843 POR. *Purloined Letter*, He has been twice waylaid and his person rigorously searched under my own inspection. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 82 A power is given to officers of the Board to search persons suspected of concealing prohibited goods about their persons.

† b. In wider sense: (see quot.). *Obs.*

1692 WOOD *Life* 20 Aug. (O.H.S.) III. 399 The maid was search'd and found to be with child.

4. To peruse, look through, examine (writings, records) in order to discover whether certain things are contained there.

α. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Iylius Cesar..lokede and serchede stories and bookes of his ȝeres of doynge and dedes. 1526 TINDALE *N. T.* John v. 39 Searche the scriptures, for in them ye thynke ye have eternal lyfe. 1664 EXTON *Marit. Discavol.* Ded. a iij b, Having some time since in those sad and distracted times, bestowed some labour in searching and perusing..the Records. 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. II. 52, I have been at the trouble to search the Journals in the period between the two last wars.

γ. 1563 WINȜET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* iii. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 20 Than sall he do diligence to inquire and serce the sentences of our forefatheris conferrit amang thame selfis.

5. With immaterial object: To investigate, make oneself thoroughly acquainted with; to examine rigorously (one's own heart, thoughts, etc.); to examine, penetrate the secrets of (another's mind or thoughts). Also with *out*.

The phrase *search and sift*, common in the 16–17th c., perhaps indicates confusion with SEARCE *v.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* § 38 The sciences and the Iuggementz of oure lord god almyghty been ful depe, ther may no man comprehende ne serchen hem sufficiantly. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 339 Þe cite hab [vs] sent to serche ȝour wille, To here þe cause of ȝour comyng, [& what] ȝe coueyte wolde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxxix. 1 O Lorde, thou searchest me out, and knowest me. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* To Rdr. (1872) A iv. b, To searche and syfte out the..deceytes that the lewde sorte of this people..doe vse to gette money with. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 12 Search out thy wit for secret policies, And we will make thee famous through the World. 1663 BP. NICHOLSON *Catechism* 58 For hee will try, sift, search all things, and without flattery or favour proceed according to every mans works. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 690 Receits abound; but searching all thy Store, The best is still at hand, to launch the Sore: And cut the Head. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 34 And we will search,..For hidden thoughts, ..Our unexhausted spirits. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xx. (1848) I. 295 We feel as if we saw the tokens of His presence.. coming and going in an awful way, as if to gaze upon us, and search out our very thoughts.

b. Of an impersonal agency: To test, reveal the nature of.

1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretary* II. (1625) 2 The wit is searched by the outward quality or condition of a man. *a* 1626 BRAUM. & FL. *Custom Country* II. i, Prosperity does search a Gentleman's temper, More than his adverse fortune. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind* 257 For scorn whose arrows search the heart, From many a stranger's eye would dart.

6. To look scrutinizingly at.

1811 SIR A. BOSWELL *Clan-Alpin's Vow* II. 37 Fierce Malcolm watched the passing scene, And searched them through with glances keen. 1861 O. W. HOLMES *Agnes* II. 85 He searched her features through and through. 1857 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXXI, While he drank, his eyes searched her face, and lingered admiringly on her beautiful hand.

† 7. *To search up*: to dig up (the soil). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 1534 Sone he raght vpon rowme, rid vp þe dykis Serchit vp the soile þere þe Citie was.

† 8. To probe (a wound). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3132 To serche þaire saluys & þar saris with surgens noble. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXII. 664 And the wounded lete hem be ledde to townes, and serched theire sores. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 262 Now to the bottome dost thou search my wound. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Valentinian* I. iii, You search the sore too deep. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1633) 150 So..nice in searching wounds the Surgeon is. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To search a Wound, *sonder une Plaie.*

9. Of wind, cold, fire-arms, etc.: To penetrate, reach the weak places of.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 7271 For Achilles, sturdy as a wal, Gan cerche scheltrouns & her rengis brake. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIX. viii, Oile through flesh doth search the hidden bone. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1904 II. 315 They basted him with a mixture of Aqua fortis, [etc.]..which..searcht him to the marrowe. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 36 But now perhaps being searcht to the quicke [etc.]. 1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 723 The ice-wind..Searching the shivering vassal through his rags. 1829 NAPIER *Penins. War* IX. II. II. 394 The guns of the first corps..were enabled..to search the whole of the British line to the left.

† 10. To examine in order to ascertain the character or dispositions of. *Obs. rare.*

1476 *Order of Council* in *York Myst.* Introd. 37, iiij of the most connynge..to serche here, and examen all þe plaiers and plaies and pagentes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 56 These [men of warre] used to send out in lesser boates some bodies of men, to search the Barkes, whether they be friends or not.

II. 11. To look for or seek diligently, to try to find. Now only with *out* exc. (*rarely*) *poet.*

α. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 334 Sir Eymer had no drede, he serchid þam alle oute. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 202 He sente oute letteris on-to euery Iustice To serche the cristene, to hange hem and to drawe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 36 We shall followe the and goo wyth the and serche our auentures in other landes. *Ibid.* 219 Perseus gaf hym [the monster] many woundes, serchyng his herte. And at laste he fonde hit. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 330 And thenne geffray cerched the keyes so longe tyl he fonde them. 1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Iuliet* 164 Yong damsels thether flocke, of bachelers a rowte, Not so much for the banquets sake, as bewties to searche out. 1608 *Acc. Exch., King's Rem.* 533/11 Item for Cherching moles in lyttle parke ij s. vjd. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 11 He hath bin search'd among the dead & liuing; But no trace of him. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, These [Bishops] were searched and sought out through the whole Nation..among such of the Priesthood as were [etc.]. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xciv, Whilst they [the Fates] search out dooms, They sit apart and feed on honeycombs. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-dream* L'Envoi iii, My fancy, ranging thro' and thro', To search a meaning for the song. 1887 *Weekly Times* 25 Feb. 8/1 His primary object is to search out the truth.

β. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* 1803 It is but foly to spende ony labour Swiche preuy thingis for to serge and seeke. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 159 If it schuld be seergyd in the regester it wold take a fortenyght werk.

γ. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXXII. 275, I sch all sers hym myselfe sen þou has hym solde. 1516–17 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 98 To Eicht, messinger, to ryd agane to Coldinghame, Duns, and Laudar, to cers and sek George Howme with souerties undir payne of hornyng. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXVII. 59 It is bot slychtis ȝe haue seirsit, To cloik þe crafte quhairto ȝe ar Inclynd.

† b. To seek to discover. Chiefly with indirect question as object. Also with *out*. *Obs.*

α. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 257 If any besyly and curyously serche what other sustres or brethren speke betwene themselfe. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 25 Fyrst therfor..we wyl serche out, as nere as we can, what ys the veray and true commyn wele. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Zj, Octaedrons side giuen, to searche his superficiall and solide contente. *Ibid.* Cc j b, Octaedrons side giuen, to searche out all his conteyned bodies, sides, diameters and axes. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* Induct., Any State-decipherer,..so solemnly ridiculous, as to search out, who was meant by the Ginger-bread-woman, who by the Hobby-horse-man [etc.]. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 1 To search what many modern Ianua's and Didactics more then ever I shall read, have projected, my inclination leads me not.

β. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 5 To sers and knaw To quhat kin coistis he with the wind was blaw. 1544 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 199 Item, the consell ordanis the maisteris of artilzery to pas with the mayster of kirkwark, and serss quhar ony irn may be gottin pertening the kyrk.

III. Absolute and intransitive uses.

[The difference between the sense of branch I and that of branch II vanishes when the vb. is used *absol.*]

12. To make a search. Const. *after*, *for*, *into*.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13679 Þey serched ouer al vp & doun Til þey seye his gonfanoun. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXIII. 423 Boteuer Grisandol sserched thourgh the forestes, oon hour foreward, another bakke. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* VIII. 8 Enquere of them that haue bene before the, search diligently amonge thy forefathers. 1654 EVELYN *Diary* 9 July, Advising the Students to search after true wisdome. 1702 ADDISON *Medals* i, He never thinks of the beauty of the thought or language, but is for searching into what he calls the Erudition of the Author. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 8 Cadmus searching round the spacious sea. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 101 At the latter end of March..come over a troop of their spies or harbingers, that stay two or three days, as it were to view and search out for their former situations. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* i. 57 Search even as thou wilt, But thou shalt never find what I can hide. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iv, To see so many Judiths..rushing out to search into the root of the matter!

† 13. To devise means (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 268 Now gos Turbeuile, & serchis day bi day, To do þe kyng a gile. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11193 Antenor & Eneas, with þaire avne sons, Serchid by hom-seluyn in sauyng hor lyues. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvi. 229 He saw wel his brother serched all that he coude to fall at debate with hym. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 100 Thair counsell is to seirche and to Inquyre, The Innocent with wrang for till accuse.

Search, variant of SEARCE *sb.* and *v.*

Searchable (sɜ·ɹtʃăb'l), *a.* [f. SEARCH *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being searched.

1558 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* viii. 45 Otherwyse the maner of it is not searcheable. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 76 Fore-knowledge of future things and euents, inquirable by legitimate skill, or otherwise searchable by assured experience. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* III. 647 This and such like specificks are not searchable whilst in their body. 1827–44 WILLIS *Starlight* 8 The faded West looks deep, as if its blue Were searchable.

Hence **Searchableness,** 'the state of being searchable' (Webster, 1847, and in recent Dicts.).

† **Searchant,** *a.* and *vbl. sb. nonce-wd.* [f. SEARCH *v.* + -ANT, after *rampant*, etc.] a. *adj.* As a mock-heraldic term: Searching. b. *vbl. sb.* Used for rime (after Fr. gerunds).

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* Induct., A ciuill Cutpurse searchant. 1683 *Robin Conc.* in *Songs Lond. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 79 A merchant Was so affrighted when I came, That presently he blush'd for shame, His countenance did show the same in searchant.

Searcher (sɜ·ɹtʃəɹ). Forms: α. 4–6 serchere, 4–7 sercher, 5 sercho(w)re, 5–6 serch(e)our, 6 sercheor(e, 5– searcher; β. 5 seergiour; also (with *i* for *j*) seriowre, cer(e)iowre, ceriore; γ. 6 sersour, *Sc.* searcer, seirsear. [a. AF. *cerchour* (Rolls of Parlt.), OF. *cerchere*, *cercheor* (cf. mod.F. *chercheur*), f. *cerchier* SEARCH *v.*; (2) f. SEARCH *v.* + -ER 1. The two formations, coincident in sense and in their modern phonetic development, do not admit of being distinguished.]

1. One who searches, in various senses of the verb; one who explores or investigates, or who endeavours to find something. Const. as the verb. Also *searcher-out*.

α. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* XXX. 17 For cast awei thei clepeden thee Sion; this is she that hadde not ayeen serchere [Vulg. *quæ non habebat requirentem*]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. XXIX. (1495) 790 Sextius was a moost dylygente sercher of medycyn. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 608/7 *Rimatorium*, a serchour. 1553 BALE *Vocac.* 5, I haue bene in parell of the sea.., in parell of curiouse serchers. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Ayde* I. 8 b, The Phisicyon is a viewer and sercher out of Nature. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 283 They dig the ground like greedie metal mongers, and insatiable serchers for siluer. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. I. 332 Cid Hamete, the most punctuall Searcher of the very moats of this true History. 1726 LEONI tr. *Alberti's Archit.* I. 23/2 Pamphilus, an excellent Searcher into Antiquity. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 10. 34 An honest earnest searcher of the Scriptures. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* i. 20 He was not one of the high-minded and proud searchers after knowledge and truth, like Descartes.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Cereiowre (*v.rr.* ceriore, ceriowre), *scrutator*, *perscrutator*. *Ibid.* 453/2 Seriowre, or serchowre.

γ. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 24 Curius seircearis of the hie mysteriis of God.

b. *Searcher of (men's) hearts*: applied to God (chiefly with allusion to Rom. viii. 27, etc.).

1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* i. 6 God is a witnesse of his reynes, a true searcher out of his hert. 1562 EDEN *Let.* 1 Aug. in Arb. *1st Eng. Bks.* Pref. 43/1 The only searcher of mens hartes, the eternall god. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 32. 51 Before God the searcher of hearts. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* x, What may be in your heart when you give him your hand, can only be known to the Searcher of all hearts.

2. One whose office is to search. † a. An official appointed by a guild or company to resist the violation of its customs and laws, and to prevent the production of work below a certain standard of excellence. *Obs.*

1419 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 14 It was accorded and assented be bathe the partys that the sercheours of the masons and of the wryghtes of this cite of York suld ga and see what were right for ayther party. 1516 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 345 The Sercheres of the Fysheres..they suffer corupe fyshe and noght to be sold in the market. 1592 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xv. 274 Inprimis, that ye Serchers and Maisters of the saide arte or science [that of Barber-Surgeons] be chosen euerye yeare. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1655/3 The humble Address of the Master, Wardens, Searchers, Assistants, Freeholders, and Freemen of the Corporation of Cutlers in Hallamshire.

b. An officer of the custom-house appointed to search ships, baggage, or goods for dutiable or contraband articles.

α. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 176/1 Poisours, Sercheours, and all suche other Officers. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 The Oath..taken before the Customer or Searcher of the same Port. 1526 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 306/1 Archibald douglace provest of Edinburgh to be serchor principale at þe port of leith. 1559 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 11 § 7 Any..searcher,..or other officer, parteynyng to the subsidie, custome, or custome house. 1652 EVELYN *Diary* 3 June, I receiv'd a letter from Coll. Morley to y Magistrates and Searchers at Rie, to assist my wife at her landing. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 475 And then some searchers were sent from the Custom House to look for some forbidden goods. 1840 R. ELLIS *Brit. Tariff for 1841*, 276 Landing Surveyor.. Searcher [etc.]. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 267 Goods..may be received back into warehouse..on receipt of a certificate of short shipment from the searcher.

β. 1461 *Paston Lett.* I. 78 The best takyng of schepynge is at Vernemuthe er Kyrley...I schall haf favour he now wyt ther seergiours.

γ. 1598 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 75 Reformation to be put to the sersouris vplitand ane extraordinar dewtie of x s. of ilk chalder of salt passing furth of this realme.

† c. One appointed to observe and report on any offences against discipline or good order in a religious house, a community, body of workmen, etc.

α. *c* 1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* 132/19 And the serchers of the relygyon owe to see warely about þat they be occupyed in lecture therof sonday and other. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Circuitores*, the serchers of watches. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. XV. 465 They had searchers to examine if they did employ themselves in these workes, and to punish the negligent. *c* 1620 BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 41 Searchers appointed.., to go through the town to see who Bann or Swear. 1845 *Coll. Biog. Soc. Jesus* 159 The Searcher, according to his commission, examined him.

γ. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 218 He appoynted that the names of the offenders..sulde, be the searceris, elected, and to that office chosen, (be) writne vpe and secreitlie endyted in the kingis bukes.

† d. As the designation of various municipal or government officials; e. g. a sanitary inspector; an inspector of markets; an examiner of certain articles of manufacture that were not allowed to be sold unless certified by him as of standard quality, etc. *Obs.*

1500 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 505 That thair be serchouris chosin within ilk burch,..to serche and seik the personis brekeris of the saidis actis of parliament. 1514 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 639 þat ne weuer delyuer eny cloth..tyll the serchers haue seen it whedir it be laufully wrought or no. 1518 *Ibid.* 663 [Ordained] that [four men named]..schal be serchers of the Brode-well & the comen broke from the Hillmyll vnto seint Johyns at euery faute they fynde the Offender to pay xij d. 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Clothing* iv. 18 The best search made by the searchers in any place, is but to cast the Clothes into skales to see if they be weight or no. 1738 *Act* 11 *Geo. II*, c. 28 § 3 Which said Searchers shall and may have full Power..to enter into and inspect all such Mills, Shops, Warehouses [etc.] of Makers, Merchants or Dealers in Narrow Cloth. 1835 *Arb. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1675 (Pontefract), 2 Searchers of the Corn-market.

† e. A person appointed to view dead bodies and to make report upon the cause of death. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. ii. 8 The Searchers of the Towne Suspecting that we both were in a house Where the infectious pestilence did raigne. 1607 MIDDLETON *Mich. T.* IV. i, Then will I..make an ende [*i.e.* pretend to die]. ..I haue indented with a couple of searchers, who..shall fray them out a'th Chamber with report of sickenesse, and so la, I start vp, and recouer agen. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 122 Knowe, in my rage I have slaine a man this day, And knowe not where his body to conveigh And hide it from the searchers inquisition. 1625–6 in *Brit. Mag.* (1833) IV. 147 Itm paid for 2 redd wands for the searchers in the sycknes tyme 00 00 04. 1662 J. GRAUNT *Observ. Bills Mortality* 11 When any one dies..the Searchers..(who are antient Matrons, sworn to their Office) repair to the place where the dead Corps lies, and..examine by what Disease or Casualty the Corps died. 1759 *Coll. Bills of Mortality* Pref. 7 Every parish appoints a searcher, whose business it is to examine the corpse, and to report the distemper.

f. An official appointed to search the clothing and person of any one arrested and detained by the police.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, I kept..a Pair of Spectacles in a private Pocket, which..had escaped the Emperor's Searchers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Searcher,..a woman who examines female prisoners at a police station. 1863 *Times* 10 Aug. 9/6 The female searcher at the Kennington-lane police-station. 1890 M. WILLIAMS *Leaves of a Life* II. iv. 38 The searchers next came upon her handkerchief.

g. (See quot.)

1886 *Law Times* LXXXI. 152/1 Official searchers should be appointed whose duty it should be to search the register of charges.

3. An instrument used in making a search.

a. *Surg.* A probe or sound.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12/3 Try the thicknes of the bone with a little privette or searcher. 1831–40 LISTON *Elem. Surg.* II. (ed. 2) 650 After almost every operation for stone..a searcher is useful to ascertain whether or not all [fragments] have been removed.

b. *Farriery.* (See quot.)

1855 FRANKE *Beit's Technol. Dict.* II. 452 Searcher, of farriers (an instrument for examining the horse's hoof). 1873 *Weale's Dict. Terms* (ed. 4).

† **c.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—[1].

1775 FALCK *Day's Diving Vessel* 25 Also a marine searcher (of my own contrivance) being an iron, somewhat like a sounding lead, but with a sharp ragged spike.

† **d.** An instrument for testing the soundness of cannon after discharge; = GUN-SEARCHER. *Obs.*

1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 54 Muzzle the searcher, and ram it home in the gun. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 55 They are..examined with a searcher after each round.

e. In microscopical work: An objective of low power used to obtain a general view of the object.

1870 ROYSTON-PIGOTT in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* X. 393 The Aplanatic Searcher is intended to improve the penetration [etc.]. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* xxxi. 451 An inch objective being used in the first instance as a searcher. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 436 The eye-pieces of extremely low power are called 'searchers'.

† **4.** *gen.* Something that searches or penetrates.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 381/1 A Glass of Infusion of Sassafras in Wine,..is a Searcher which immediately penetrates the whole Body. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 61 But, to sweeten a Barrel, Kilderkin, Firkin, or Pin in the great Brewhouses, they put them over the Copper-hole for a Night together, that the Steam of the boiling Water or Wort may penetrate into the Wood; this Way is such a furious Searcher, that, unless the Cask is new hooped just before, it will be apt to fall in Pieces.

Hence † **Sea·rcheress**, a female searcher; **Sea·rchership**, the office of a searcher.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 117 Of theese dirrye dolours eeke thow Queene Iuno the searchresse [L. *curarum conscia Iuno*]. 1462 *Paston Lett.* III. 97 Wherfor I beseke youre maistirshipp..that it lyke you to desyre the nomynacion of on of the officez, eythyr of the countroller or serchorship of Jernemuth, for a servaunt of yowrez. 1895 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 718/2 The positions they fill are the 'judgeship', the 'searchership', the 'spankership' [etc.].

† **Sea·rchery.** *Sc. Law. Obs.* Also 6 **sercheorie, searcheerie, sercherie.** [f. SEARCHER *sb.* + -Y [3]; see -ERY.] That which is characteristic of the duty or office of a SEARCHER (sense 2). *Letters of searchery*: documents authorizing the prosecution of a search or examination.

1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 481 Certane allegeit lettres of sercheorie and utheris favourabill writtingis. 1634 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1897) 8/2 Officium inquisitionis lie searchearie bonorum inhibitorum ibidem. 1705 *Sc. Acts Anne* (1824) XI. 256/1 The office of searcherie of all prohibited and uncustomed goods comeing to or going from the said Burgh of Ely or port thereof.

Searchful (sɔ̈·ɹtʃfûl), *a.* [f. SEARCH *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of anxious attention; diligent in search.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* iv. 48 The creature foresightfull, searchfull, apt for many matters..whome we call by the name of Man. 1607 BRETON *Murmurer* (Grosart) 10/2 Can the labourer, the foote bee wounded? but the body of the State will feele it, the head be carefull, the eye searchfull, and the hand bee painfull in the cure of it? 1893 D. O'DONOGHUE *Brendaniana* 11 A youth hostful, searchfull, lithe, He was a help to the men of Erin.

Searching (sɔ̈·ɹtʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the verb SEARCH in its various senses.

*c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 9206 Hit semith me vnsertain, all serchyng of wayes Ys stokyn vp full stithly, shuld streche to my hele! 1501 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 88/1 A Letter..of serching and sichtyng of skinnys..with[in] the burgh of Hadingtoun. ? 1639 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 71 The searching in any Ship, Cellar, Warehouse, etc. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 155 It is sought for by mariners when they have no light, and from this searching it took the name of topaz. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf* II. 23 [The] laws applying to the stamping, stretching, and searching of woollen cloth in the West Riding of Yorkshire. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 322 A very difficult question rose in the American civil war with regard to the searching of mail bags.

¶ **b.** Used for: Necessity of searching.

1527 *Prymer* Title, This prymer of Salysbury vse is set out a long without ony serchyng.

c. *Searching of heart*: inward self-scrutiny.

The reading of the Heb. text is uncertain, but the phrase has become proverbial in English.

1611 BIBLE *Judg.* v. 16 For the diuisions of Reuben, there were great searchings of heart. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 4/7 The deserters should not be left solely to the searchings of their own hearts.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *searching-house*; **searching-candle** = CANDLE *sb.* 4 b; † **searching-instrument**, † **-iron**, † **-probe** (in quot. *fig.*), † **-tool** *Surg.*, a probe.

1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. viii. 66 The *searching Candle or Probe. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 17 July 34/1, I accompanied her upon her way, in custody, to the *searching-house [at the custom-house]. I did not see her searched, but [etc.]. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Tienta*, a *searching instrument, *Specillum*. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 6/4 Your finger is the best *searchinge iron. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* I. vi. 22 Is it not enough, that one [Surgeon] with his searching iron shew his judgement and cruelty. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 220/2 The *searching-probe of free advice. 1591 PERCIVALL *Bibl. Hisp.*, *Calador*, a *searching toole, *Specillum*.

Searching (sɔ̈·ɹtʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEARCH *v.* + -ING [2].] That searches, in various senses of the verb.

1. Of observation or examination: Minute, rigorous. Of a look: Penetrating, keenly observant.

c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVII. iii, Where silent Night might seeme all faultes to hide, Then was I, by thy searching insight tride. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 37 The searching Eye of Heauen. 1627 ABP. ABBOT in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 438 King James..had a searching Wit of his own to discover his Servants, whom he put in trust, whether they took any sinister courses, or no. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, He felt quite calm under his searching glance. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. iii. 184 A spirit of inquiry was abroad, so general and so searching that no country could entirely escape from its action. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 295 By a searching inquisition every free-born citizen..had been swept into the ranks. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sci.* vii. (1885) 215 St. Paul's evidence..cannot now be put to the test of searching questions.

b. Of an impersonal agency (e. g. of liquids, wind, rain, etc., or of bodily diseases): That finds out weak points, keen, sharp, 'piercing'. Also *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 311 Bitter searching termes. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 30 That's a maruellous searching Wine. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, These vinegar tart spirits are too pearcing, Too searching in the unglewd joynts of shaken wits. 1634 WOOD *New Engl. Prosp.* I. ii. (1865), The searching sharpnes of that purer Climate,..caused death and sicknesse. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 147 Ere long, the searching beams will open these silken folds, and draw them into a graceful expansion. 1790 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 72 Even the Negroes in the West Indies, know nothing of so searching, so penetrating, so heart-breaking a slavery. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* xii, The rain was so searching, that she could not stay there long. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* i, The searching wind blows in dry and biting. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 85 The residual phlegm dislodged by the searching cough is exceedingly offensive.

2. Engaged in or given to searching.

1626 D'EWES in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 216, I dare say he meant it plainlie, yet searching braines might picke much from it. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* IV. 153 The searching Bee wanders from Flower to Flower. 1841 HELPS *Ess., On Pract. Wisd.* (1842) 4 Many persons are considered speculative merely because they are of a searching nature.

Searchingly (sɔ̈·ɹtʃiŋli), *adv.* [f. SEARCHING *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].] In a searching manner.

1574 J. JONES *Nat. Beg. Growing & Living Th.* 48 Such as with all diligence, care, and coste studiously day and night serchingly Saile through the Occian Seas of Naturall Science. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 38 b, Though I deale more searchingly then common Soule-Surgions accustome. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 245 Mathews looked searchingly about. 1908 E. G. SIHLER *Testim. Animæ* I. 1 His book deals with many incidental questions warmly and searchingly.

Searchingness (sɔ̈·ɹtʃiŋnés). [f. SEARCHING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] Searching quality or nature.

1685 *Reflect. on Baxter* 2, I thought he had studied that Sacred Writing with that Care and Searchingness, that [etc.]. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 400 Passages of great feeling, animation, and searchingness. 1875 GREG *Misc. Ess.* iii. (1882) 71 Two Courts of Justice, after investigations of unequalled searchingness and duration had [etc.].

† **Sea·rchless,** *a. Obs.* [f. SEARCH *sb.* + -LESS.] Inscrutable, impenetrable, resisting investigation.

1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moon* 383 Her searchlesse Iudgement. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* I. 55 Great God, how searchless are thy ways! 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. xlvi, He might man's deep and searchless heart display. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 301 In searchless heaps of stifling dust We have buried the hearts of the wise and just.

Sea·rch-light. [f. SEARCH *sb.* + LIGHT *sb.*]

1. An electric arc-lamp fitted with a reflector and suspended in a frame so that it may throw a beam of light in any desired direction; used in naval defence and for signalling purposes, etc.

1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Oct. 16/1 These Dynamos can be supplied..for arc, search-light, or incandescent lamps. 1884 *Ibid.* 18 Sept. 8/1 An admiral..reported..that no search lights could enable him to prevent a torpedo boat steaming within 400 yards of his flagship. 1901 *L.C.C. Bye-laws* in *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 97/1 No person shall exhibit any searchlight so as to be visible from any street and to cause danger to the traffic therein.

fig. 1892 MRS. CROSSE *Red-letter Days* II. 195 Kinglake in his history reveals, with the searchlight of a detective, the secret chronicles of the 'Brethren of the Elysée'. 1904 S. G. TALLENTYRE *Life Voltaire* II. xl. 234 Each..turned on some miscarriage of civil justice the searchlight of truth.

Sear(e cloth: see CERE-CLOTH.

Seare, obs. form of CERE *v.*, SERE *sb.* and *a.*

Seared (sī·ɘd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEAR *v.* + -ED [1].]

1. Dried up, parched, withered.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Ramale*, a seryd or deed bowghe. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 48 Of fre-he coolor..which he hathe no sered nor withered cooloor in his leafes. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XIII. 687 Part [of the weapon] within his disk remain'd Like a seer'd stake. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* ii, The seared leaves only flew the faster for all this. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 298 We reached the outskirts of the village, surrounded by rich pasture-lands and dense copses of thicket, now seared and bare.

2. Cauterized. Also *fig.*, of the conscience, heart, etc., rendered incapable of feeling.

1684 J. SHARP *Disc. Conscience* 7 If..we..talk of..a Tender Conscience or a Seared Conscience or the like. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 53 Seared is, of course, my heart—but unsubdued Is, and shall be, my appetite for food. 1903 A. SMELLIE *Men of Covenant* vi. 90 Perhaps even this man, seared as his conscience was, felt a tremor of awe.

Seared, obs. form of CERED *ppl. a.*

† **Sea·redness.** *Obs.* [f. SEARED *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being seared.

1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergy* III. ii 261 Hee wonders at my extreme prodigalitie of credit, and seardnesse of conscience, in citing an Epistle so conuicted. 1705 WALL *Inf. Bapt.* II. (1720) 329 That Socinian Doctrin seems to have infected all its Disciples..with such a Degree of Searedness, that [etc.]. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* III. i. 228 Judicial blindness of mind, hardness of heart, searedness of conscience.

Searfe, obs. form of SERVE *v.*

Searge, variant of CIERGE, SERGE.

Seargeant, obs. form of SERGEANT.

Sea·-rim. [OE. *sǽrima*: see RIM *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** The sea-shore. *Obs. rare.*

O. E. Chron. an. 897, Þær mycel yfel ȝedydon, æȝðer ge on Defenum ȝe wel hwær be ðæm sæ riman. *Ibid.* an. 994 (Laud MS.) Be ðam sæ riman on East Seaxum. *c*1205 LAY. 6216 We habbeoð iseht bi þisse sæ rime a lond..þe us were liðe þe we mihten on libben. *Ibid.* 10485 Þa a þan ilke time verden bi sæ rime vtlaȝen to iwiten fulle sixti scipen.

2. The sea horizon.

a 1881 LANIER *Hymns of Marshes, Sunrise* 145 The wave-serrate sea-rim sinks unjarring. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coastwise Lt.* 12 The lover from the sea-rim drawn—his love in English lanes. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 28 Mast-head semaphores..to be read and answered by ships whose hulls are below the sea-rim.

Searing (sī·ɘriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of SEAR *v.*; scorching, cauterizing; *concr.* a result of searing, a seared portion of something. Also *fig.*

1395 *Cartul. Abb. de Whiteby* (Surtees) II. 601 Pro seryng unius equi et cura alterius. 1552 HULOET, Blastynge or Searynge, as of corne. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 14 § 12 Persons that shall so offende..shall have..losse of Eares, slytting and searing of Nose. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 82 As Physicians heel Malign Ulcers by Scarifyings and Searings. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xix. 525 When a Man neglects to pare off the first Searings of His Heart, He gradually goes on to Harden in his Obstinacy. 1858 W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heav.* Ser. II. xli. 329 There must be a rude, hearty blow, for there is a hard searing to be penetrated.

b. *Comb.*: **searing-iron,** an iron used for cauterizing, branding, etc.

1541 [see IRON *sb.*[1] 4 b]. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 2 They..yell oute as if they were burned with a searingyron. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 131 Theyr phrensy would haue no other remedyes, but the searing-Iron, and fyre. 1683 tr. *Eusebius' Hist. Ch.* VIII. xiii. (1709) 170 His Eyes also (altho' he could not then see) were burnt out with Searing-irons. 1896 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 7/6 Mr. G. said his client denied using a searing iron to the mare's tail.

fig. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 36 Such a wonderfull Nature hath the word, that..it is as well a searing Iron, as a two edged sword. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 101 Since the Roman church had received..a deadly wound,..she was constrained to use a searing iron.

Searing (sī·ɘriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEAR *v.* + -ING [2].]

1. That withers or becomes parched.

1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (1901) 49 You compare a Woman's Love..to barren Land,..thirsty and seering. 1849 J. HAMILTON *Life Lady Colquhoun* vii. 282 Instead of the roughening lake and the searing forest, God had showed her 'the pure river, clear as crystal' [etc.].

2. That scorches; burning, scarifying.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 260 Will he touch me with his searing hand, And leave a black memorial on the sand? 1897 ANNE PAGE *Afternoon Ride* 60 The searing sunshine and hot winds of Africa.

fig. *a* 1860 S. MILLER in *Mem.* (1883) 89 Let us also fear lest it turn out a searing ordeal. 1899 CORNFORD *R. L. Stevenson* 163 The captain, with his searing memory of his child.

Searing, Searment: see CERING, CEREMENT.

Sea-robin. [ROBIN [1].]

1. *U. S.* A gurnard or trigloid fish, esp. of the genus *Prionotus*.

1844 LINSLEY *Fishes Connecticut* in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 59 Prionotus strigatus, Cuv., Sea Robin, Grunter. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 255 The Sea-robin or Gurnard family..is represented on our Atlantic coast by several species. The most striking of them all is the Sea-bat or Flying Gurnard, *Dactylopterus volitans*. *Ibid.* 256 The web-fingered Sea-robin, *Prionotus palmipes*.

2. A local name for: a. *U.S.* The red-breasted merganser, *Mergus serrator* (Cent. Dict. 1891). b. The spotted fly-catcher, *Muscicapa grisola* (Cumberld. Gloss. 1899).

Sea'-rod. [ROD *sb.*[1]]

1. A pennatulaceous polyp of the family *Virgularidæ*. Cf. SEA-RUSH 2.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 288 The Incrusted Sea-Rods. 1877 H. A. NICHOLSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 385/2 The 'Sea-pens' and 'Sea-rods' are compound *Alcyonaria*.

2. A fishing-rod used for sea-fishing (ROD *sb.* 5).

1902 'J. BICKERDYKE' in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 487/2 Very excellent sea-rods have..been designed by anglers and tackle makers.

Sea'-room. Space at sea free from obstruction in which a ship can be manœuvred easily. Esp. in phr. *to have sea-room*, also *to give* or *take sea-room*.

Also, (of a naval commander) †*to give* (the enemy) *sea-room*: to take flight.

a 1554 SIR H. WILLOUGHBY in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1589) 269 Then perceiuing it to be a lee shoare, we gat vs into the sea, to the end to haue sea roome. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Philop.* (1595) 399 This ouerthrow made his enemies despise him vtterly, perswading themselues he was fled for altogether, & had giuen them sea rome. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 45 But Sea-roome, and the brine and cloudy billow Kisse the Moone, I care not. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 158 Give him Sea-roome in never so small a vessell. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. (1631) 580 When so little Sea-roome did divide Both fleetes. 1698 CAPT. LANGFORD in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 410 So with the North Wind they may run away to the South, to get themselves Sea-room. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 104 We had sufficient sea-room. 1884 SELBORNE in *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 348 The danger in the gulf is greater, because there is less sea-room there.

fig. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 198 If a word be issued out of the mouth, as out of her haven, and have gotten sea-roome,..away she goes. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VII. xliii. 215 Leave her sea-room, leave her land-room, and let her have time to consider, and she will be a Bride. 1842 H. WARE in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) I. 449 You want more sea-room for so grand an idea.

Sea-rover. [ROVER [2].]

1. A pirate, = ROVER [2] 1. (Now often apprehended as meaning one who 'roves' over the sea: see ROVER [1] 3.)

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lucullus* (1595) 541 Besides what the Pyrates and sea-rouers had hidden. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 10 A certain Iland long before dispeopl'd and left waste by Sea-Roavers. 1786 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 280/1 They shall cause all such pirates and sea-rovers..to be brought to condign punishment. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 50 The Greeks like sea-rovers generally were first induced to build ships for the sake of plunder, rather than of commerce.

2. 'A ship or vessel that is employed in cruizing for plunder' (Webster, 1828–32).

Hence **Sea-roving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* I. (1841) 52 Nor was it altogether nothing, even that wild sea-roving and battling, through so many generations. 1847 WEBSTER, *Sea-roving, a.* wandering on the ocean. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* v. (1856) 134 Those crafty sea-roving Phæaces. 1900 W. WATT *Aberd. & Banff* I. 19 Thorfinn..went sea-roving like all his kindred.

Searse, -er, obs. forms of SEARCE, SEARCER.

Searsucker, variant of SEERSUCKER.

Sea-rush. [RUSH *sb.*[1]]

1. A species of *Juncus* (see RUSH *sb.*[1] 4 a). Also †*sea-rush grass*.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 144 b, Sparta..is a kind of sea bente or sea rishe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxiii. 30 The flowers of this Sea Rush grasse are faire and beautifull. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 160 They make them certaine socks of sea-rushes. 1712–13 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) IV. 69 Our Saviour himself was to be crown'd with a Crown of Thorns made of y^e^ same sea Rushes. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Sea-Rush, Sea-Rush-Grass*, or *Spanish Trefoil*, a Plant whose Seed is very small, and black. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 346 *Juncus acutus*,..Pricking large Sea-rush. Sand Hills on the sea coast of Merionethshire. Ray. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 116 The pungent sea-rush grew in long lines along the shore.

2. = SEA-ROD 1.

1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iv. 262 The *Virgularia*, which the fishermen call Sea-rush. 1858 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 37 Sea-rush (*Virgularia mirabilis*), a spine a foot long, with hundreds of rosy flowerets arranged in half-rings round it from end to end.

Searve, Seas, obs. ff. SERVE, CHASE.

Sea'-salt, *sb.* Common salt obtained by the evaporation of sea-water. See SALT *sb.*[1] 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. vii. II. 416 After which they esteemed most, all the sea salts. 1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* 86 A little sea-salt dissolv'd in a few spoonfulls of fair water. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. xxiv. 358 The atmosphere being ..impregnated with sea-salt. 1836–42 BRANDE *Chem.* 362 Sea-salt, or chloride of sodium. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* iv, There was an old boat-cloak, whitened with sea-salt.

Sea'-salt, *a. rare.* [SALT *a.*[1]] Salt like the sea; impregnated with or containing sea-salt.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 20 That all the teares that thy poore eyes let fall May..Drowne the lamenting foole, in Sea salt teares. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 78 In Sea-salt teares hee long hath liu'd. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* XIV. iv, I was kissing Winnie's sea-salt lips.

Sea-sand. Forms: see SEA *sb.* and SAND *sb.*[2]; also 5 see-sownd.

1. Sand of the sea or of the sea-shore.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 504 A neilond ðat sete one ðe se sond. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xlvii, The messingerus welke bi the see sonde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 206 þen saw he a chylde syttyng on þe see-sownde. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 184 A certaine kind of fruitfull Sea-sand. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Apr.* (1699) 53 Sea-sand mingled with the Mould..contributes to the flourishing of this rare Exotick. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. i, Thou art long, and lank, and brown, As is the ribb'd sea-sand. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* vi. (1849) 275 It is remarkable to see this graceful palm rising from the very sea-sand.

† b. *pl.* Grains of sea-sand. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxvii. 158 [They] do for number equal the stars of heaven, or the sea-sands.

2. *pl.* Tracts of sea-sand: = SAND *sb.*[2] 3 a.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 268 He shal lighte ful lowe on þe se sondes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 572 The Sea-Sands seldome beare Plants. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 160 The way thither is on the Sea-sands. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, The rude steps that wound down the cliff to the smooth sea-sands.

Sea-scape, seascape (sī'skēip). [Formed in imitation of LANDSCAPE; see also SCAPE *sb.*[3]]

1. A picture of the sea, a sea-piece; sea-pieces collectively.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 5 Jan. 2/4 One of the most eminent marine painters has painted sea-skips. 1876 *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 461 It is in these respects that the seascape with figures ..gains. 1893 *Times* 29 Apr. 13/2 For sea-scape we have.. one by a new painter.

2. A picturesque view or prospect of the sea.

1806 *Guide Watering Places* 190 A fine sea-scape from a terrace in the garden. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *Remin.* II. xxix. 313 The view from Europa Point [Gibraltar] is the finest seascape imaginable.

3. *attrib.*

1884 HUNTER & WHYTE *My Ducats* xi, I think you have met Floyd, the seascape painter. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 3/4 Realistic seascape painting.

Hence **Sea'sca-pist,** a painter of sea-scapes.

1884 *Guardian* 28 May 802/2 The Dutch sea-scapist, Mr. Mesdag. 1900 *Daily News* 16 Oct. 6/6 Stanfield and Cooke, ..who painted not quite as the seascapists do now.

Sea-scorpion. †a. = SCORPION 3 a. *Obs.* b. Any fish of the *Scorpænidæ*, a scorpion-fish. c. A sculpin, a cottoid fish, *Cottus scorpius*.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. vii. II. 438 The reddish sea scorpions. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. § v. ii. 106. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 160 The Ulk or Marulk, the Sea-Scorpion, called by the Ichthyologians Scorpius Marinus, because its bite is poisonous. 1758 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* Pl. 284 The Sea Scorpion. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 122 The Sea-scorpion or Sutor (*Acanthocottus scorpius*). 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 390 The Sea Scorpion (*Cottus scorpius*), with a large head, naked skin, spines on the head.

Seasde, obs. pa. t. and Sc. pa. pple. of SEIZE *v.*

Sease, obs. form of CEASE *v.*, SEISE, SEIZE.

Seasen, obs. form of SEASON *v.*

Sea'-serpent.

1. a. Any ophidian inhabiting the sea; esp. any of the venomous snakes of the order *Hydrophidæ*, inhabiting the tropical Indo-Pacific Ocean.

1672 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3093 There are Serpents in Ceylon, which they call Sea-Serpents, 8, 9, or 10 Ells long; (I suppose he speaks of Dutch measure). 1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy. New-Eng.* 23 They told me..of a Sea-Serpent or Snake, that lay quoiled up like a Cable upon a Rock at Cape-Ann. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 49 The Sea or Pelagic Serpents (*Hydrina*) are not very numerous in species.

b. *The (great) sea-serpent*: a sea-monster of serpentine form and great length, frequently reported to have been seen at sea.

For conjectures as to the origin of the belief in the sea-serpent, see *Encycl. Brit.* (1886) XXI. 608–9.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 193 To believe all that has been said of the sea-serpent, or the Kraken, would be credulity. 1820 BIGELOW in *Amer. Trnl. Sci.* II. 147–164. *fig.* 1885 *Western Daily Press* 6 Jan. 3/2 The affair, in short, has turned out to be the liveliest political 'sea serpent' seen for some time.

2. Applied to various fishes. †a. A kind of eel or muræna found in the Mediterranean. †b. = ELLOPS 2. c. The king of the herrings, *Regalecus glesne*.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 169 Many there be which make out their nominations, as the Hedg-hog, Sea-serpents, and others. 1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge a 6 b, The Linge,..tunie,..sea-serpent, conger [etc.]. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* II. lxxix. 202 The Sea-Serpent..is commonly about five Foot long..is taken very frequently in the Mediterranean. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 237 The cylindrick Muræna, with the tail naked and acute. The Sea-serpent...It is frequent in the Mediterranean. 1774 [see ELLOPS 2]. 1851 A. WHITE *Last Brit. Fish Brit. Mus.* 40 Regalecus Glesne. King of the Herrings...Sea Serpent.

3. = SEA-SNAKE 4. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

4. (See quot.)

1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* II, Others navigated the Mediterranean in their sea-serpents, as they termed their piratical vessels.

Hence **Sea-serpentism** *nonce-wd.*

1877 OWEN in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXXIII. 699 The advocate for the sea-serpentism of the extinct Mosasauroids determines the pterygoids to be the palatines.

Sea-service.

1. Service at sea; the condition or function of serving in the navy; naval service, as opposed to land-service. Also, service or employment (of a person, ship, etc.) on the high seas, as distinguished from shore or harbour duty.

1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 811 The first Cohort..was in pay for sea service. 1629 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 429 [He] did..prepare and set out to Sea, a Royal Fleet for Sea-service. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. 25 A defection amongst my Officers (I mean those chiefly design'd for the Sea-Service..). 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 118 The 13-inch mortars used for sea-service in the attack on Sweaborg. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-going*, fit for sea-service abroad. 1909 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1011 The number of officers and men voted for sea service is much greater.

2. A service rendered at sea, or in naval warfare.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* 67 Doe but recount..what honour a Ship hath..for some singular Sea-service.

Sea'-shell. A marine shell, the shell of any salt-water mollusc.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 14 Jan. 18 Understreȝd mid sæscellum & mid scearpum stanum. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 84 Sea-shells of any sort are a very great improver of Land. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. ix. 192 Whose thunders, ever and anon, Commingling with the sea-shell's spiral roar Closed the full harmony. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Mare Rubrum* 28 Like emptied sea-shells on the sand.

attrib. 1901 F. HUME *Golden Wang-ho* i, Complexion of the most delicate sea-shell pink.

b. Material consisting of sea-shells.

1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 251 Mineral manures are silica, lime, alumina, under the modifications of sand, clay,..marl, sea-shell, gypsum.

Sea-shore. The coast of the sea, or the land lying adjacent to the sea; also, in more restricted sense, the ground actually washed by the sea at high tides (usually, covered with sand or shingle).

In *Law* commonly taken to denote the ground between the ordinary high and low water-marks. See Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.*, 1765–8, II. vi. § 17.

1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 12 So many in multitude..as the sonde of the see shore which is innumerable. 1529 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1883) 160/1 Salmonum piscariam super le seyschoire subtus villam de Inverbervy. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 210 It hath a descent euen to the very Sea shore. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* i. 7 Finding themselves too much crouded in their own Country, [they] had extended themselves to the Sea-shore. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* V, He hastens to his bark on the sea-shore. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. I. vii. § 5 The broad wild sea-shore, with its bright breakers, and free winds.

attrib. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things Sea-side* i. 81 The flower of the sea-shore medick. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 78 One of these was sea-shore land.

Seasible, obs. form of SEIZABLE.

Sea'-sick, *a.*

1. Suffering from sea-sickness. Chiefly *predicative*.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1908) B ij b, I am euen yet so Seasicke that I faynt as I go. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 128 The Shepherds Daughter..who began to be much Sea-sick. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* IV. i, Look ye, Captain, I shall be Sea-Sick presently. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xix, Here the ship gave a lurch, and he grew sea-sick. 1836 MISS MAITLAND *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 8 Towards evening, like all other sea-sick people, I grow very brisk. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* vii. 109 [He] would..make his rounds to see that every one was all right and nobody sea-sick.

fig. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Wom. beware Wom.* II. ii, Her tender modesty is sea-sick a little.

† 2. Tired or weary of travelling by sea. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 118 Come vnsauory guide, Thou desperate Pilot, now at once run on The dashing Rocks, thy Sea-sicke wearie Barke.

3. *nonce-use* [after *home-sick*]. Longing for the sea.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. 112 She..pined for the water, and was,..in a new sense of the word, sea-sick.

Sea-sickness. Nausea and vomiting induced by the motion of a ship at sea.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* III. 926 *marg.*, Sea sicknesse whence. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xxvii. 266 When his sea-sicknesse was past, he lodged in the Earles house. 1785 *Libertl Amer.* I. 141 Should I be attacked with the sea-sickness, I shall be unfit for..any thing. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xiii, The best of remedies is a beef-steak Against sea-sickness. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xv, Martin was too far gone in the lassitude of sea-sickness. *fig.* 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 8 This Pride of his, is the only Sea-sickness that he's plagu'd with. *attrib.* 1865 BP. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in A. J. Wilberforce *Life* (1882) III. vi. 159 All was ready for my start to Cannes, down even to the sea-sickness powders.

Sea-side, seaside (sī'səi·d).

1. The margin or brink of the sea: chiefly with prepositions, as *by* or *at the sea-side*, also † *on* or † *upon*, and *to the sea-side*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25661 Bi þere se side þet londe he weste wide. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 25 Pane þe angel can bym say, þat he to þe sey-syd suld fare. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) v. 15 At Tyre euen apon þe see syde men may fynd many rubies. 1532 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 § 2 All the inhabitantes..to bee at the See side with such instrumentes as they have. 1533 CROMWELL *Let.* 6 Dec. in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 368 Your said ferme lieth nygh the see syde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 148 Towards the West it lies open to the most pleasant Valy of Arno, which Valy continueth as far as Pisa and to the sea-side. 1629 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) 71 Promising the 12th following to meete and confer with Captain Bonner upon the shoare neere the sea syde. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 55 Among the rocks by the sea-side you find what is commonly called the sea-egg. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, Jeanie..had walked down to the sea-side.

† b. *plural. Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. I. (Skeat) I. 45 On the see-sydes, in the more Britayne,..the best [*sc.* pearle] ben engendred. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xlix. 315 Rosemarie..groweth in any aire, but best by the sea sides.

† c. Formerly sometimes *the seas side*. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 21049 (Edinb.) Of grauel bi þe seis side. 1530 TINDALE *Deut.* I. 7 Vnto the sees syde in the londe of

Canaan. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 99 Those that dwel by the seas syde.

2. Now chiefly: The sea-coast as resorted to for health or pleasure.

1797 ABERNETHY *Surg. & Physiol. Ess.* III. 112 As he had an opportunity of going to the sea-side, I encouraged him to do so. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. v, Thence to proceed to such town at the sea-side as she might suggest or the physicians recommend 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. (1877) I. i. 53 A family in the middle class of life going to the seaside. 1893 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 109 Exposed for sale in the shops at the sea-side.

3. The side towards or facing the sea.

1867 J. MACGREGOR *Rob Roy on Baltic* xii. 149 After returning from a delightful excursion on the sea side of the town. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 317 On the sea-side of it rose the Mount Rumia.

4. *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.* Belonging to, situated or taking place at the sea-side.

1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 245 As countless as the sea-side sands. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ix. 2 We amuse Ourselves.. with sea-side walks and views. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 86 Ramsgate, one of the most accessible sea-side places. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 373 The Pope, we know, is Neapolitan And relishes a sea-side simile.

b. in names of plants, etc. (often rendering L. *maritimus*), as *sea-side alder, balsam, convolvulus, fiorin, oat*, etc.; †sea-side beech, a species of *Cinchona*; **sea-side grape**, laurel (see the sbs.).

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 162 *Alnus maritima.* *Seaside Alder. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 347 Croton 2.. The small *Sea-side Balsam... Croton 4... The Sea-side Balsam. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.*, Sea-side Balsam, *Croton eleut(h)eria.* 1777 W. WRIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 504 The *Sea-side Beech..rises only to twenty feet. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 21 *Calystegia Soldanella* (*Sea-side Convolvulus). 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 104 The *agrostis maritima* or *sea-side fiorin. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 II. 394 *Sea-side Grape. 1822 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (1824) Index, Uniola, *sea-side oat..H[ardy] peren[nial] N. Amer. of easy culture.

Seasin, obs. form of SEISIN.

Seasing, obs. form of SEISIN, SEIZING.

Seasir, variant of SEISER, *Law. Obs.*

Sea'-slug.

1. = TREPANG.

1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 373 They lay at anchor, fishing for swallo, or sea slug, in seven or eight fathom water. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 'Extra' 24 July 20/2 This so-called 'Bêche de Mer' is a sea-slug, found among the Polynesian islands and in the Pacific seas generally.

2. Any marine gasteropod of the order *Opisthobranchiata* (see quot. 1879).

1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iii. (1849) 133 Its [a whale's] support is derived from creatures of very small bulk..such as shrimps, sea slugs, sea blubbers, and animalcules still smaller. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 130 The Cucumaria is a low radiate animal—the sea-slug is a far higher mollusc. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 550 The molluscs of this order [*Opisthobranchiata*] may be termed sea-slugs, since the shell, when it exists, is usually small and thin, and wholly or partially concealed by the animal.

Seasment, obs. form of SESSMENT.

Sea'-snail.

1. A name for various marine gasteropods.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 122/24 *Chelio, testudo, uel marina gugalia*, sæsnæl, *uel* pinewinclan. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* Ibid. 181/8 *Conche, uel cochlee*, scille, *uel* sæsnæglas. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Chelydros*, a see snayle. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 77 Take the blood of a sea-snaile, and for want thereof a common snaile. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 116 Of all sea snails, that which is most frequently seen swimming upon the surface..is the Nautilus. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 543 *Clio helicina.* Sea-snail. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 41, I caught a *Janthina fragilis*, or Violet Sea Snail. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Sea-weeds* I. 23 Bright yellow Nerits, the commonest sea-snail of our coast.

attrib. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. iv. 121 A Sea-Snail shell. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 221 There is a shell lying about most of our beaches and sandy shores,..called the Sea Snail-shell.

2. A fish of the family *Liparididæ*, esp. the *Liparis vulgaris*, or unctuous sucker.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) Tab. H 6, Liparis nostras. Sea Snail Dunelmensibus. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 105 The sea snail takes its name from the soft and unctuous texture of its body resembling that of the land snail. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 97 The Sea Snail..is often known as the Unctuous Lump-sucker.

Sea-snake.

1. = SEA-SERPENT 1 b.

1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 195 The Sea Ormen, the Sea-Snake, Serpens Marinus Magnus..is a wonderful and terrible Sea-monster. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* VI. xxii, Of that Sea-Snake, tremendous curl'd Whose monstrous circle girds the world. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i. 79 Where the wind is a stranger, And the sea-snake hath life. 1830 TENNYSON *Mermaid* 23 That great sea-snake under the sea.

2. = SEA-SERPENT 1 a.

1827 BUCKINGHAM *Trav. Mesopot.* I. 446 *note*, Dampier met with sea-snakes about four feet long, four fingers broad, flat tail, and spotted with yellow, on the coast of New Holland. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 278 Two Sea-Snakes, caught on the coasts of Australia, are both venomous. One is the *Platurus laticaudatus*, of a bluish colour with black rings,..and the other is the *Pelamis bicolor*. 1887 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 197/2 Of Sea Snakes (*Hydrophidæ*) some fifty species are known.

3. = A chain of salps. Cf. SEA-SERPENT 4.

1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 442 Sailors often call these chains of Salpæ by the name of Sea Snakes.

Sea-snipe.

1. A local name for several of the sandpipers, as the dunlin, and the knot.

1767 tr. *Crantz' Greenland* I. 85 The least bird is a sea-snipe. 1862 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 700 The Dunlin is known under a variety of names, such as the Stint, the Ox-bird, the Sea-snipe, and the Purre. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 195 Knot (*Tringa canutus*)...Sea snipe (Dublin).

2. †a. A kind of gar-fish. *Obs.* b. The trumpet-fish or snipe-fish, *Centriscus scolopax*, so called from its long tubular snout.

1826–7 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVIII. 624/2 There are three varieties of it [*Esox Belone*], one of which, found in North America, is called the Sea Snipe. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 302 The Trumpet-fish. Sea-snipe. ..*Centriscus scolopax*. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 132.

Season (sī'z'n), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 seson(e, -un(e, -oun(e, -owne, -yn(e, ceson(e, -un, -oun(e, 5–6 *Sc.* sessoun, 6 *Sc.* sessone, sesone, -oun; 4 seysyne, 4–5 seyson(e, -oun, 5 seison; 6 *Sc.* saison, sasoun, -one; 4–5 seasun, 5 seasone, (seosynne), 5–6 ceason, 6 *Sc.* seasoun, 4– season. [ME. *seson*, a. OF. *seson, seison* (mod. F. *saison*) = Pr. *sazó-s*, Catal. *sahó*, Sp. *sazon*, Pg. *sazão*, It. dial. *sason*:—L. *satiōn-em* act of sowing (in vulgar Lat. time of sowing, seed-time), n. of action f. *sa-* root of *serĕre* to sow.

Not connected with the synonymous It. *stagione*, which represents L. *statiōn-em* STATION.]

I. A period of the year.

1. Any one of the periods, longer or shorter, into which the year is naturally divided by the earth's changing position in regard to the sun, and which are marked by varying length of day and night, by particular conditions of weather, temperature, etc. More specifically, each of the four equal periods—Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter—into which the year is divided by the passage of the sun from equinox to solstice and from solstice to equinox; also, each of the two periods—the rainy and the dry—into which the year is divided in tropical climates.

Often with defining word prefixed, as *summer, winter, May, Lent season* (see the different words).

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 929 But whan þe daies dimme ben hit doþ hem to mourne, For siht of þe seasun þat semus vnblipe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 29 þe sauor of þe swete seasun & song of þe briddes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 347 After the sondry sesons of the yeer, So chaunged he his mete and his soper. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 72 Off þe ffoure seysouns of þe 3ere. 1548 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 19 Fyrste for their labour of all ceasons of the yere. For there is no tyme of the yere, in whiche the ploughman hath not some speciall worke to do. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 72 In such a season born when scarce a Shed Could be obtain'd to shelter him or me From the bleak air. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 122 The rainy Season, and the dry Season, began now to appear regular to me. 1727 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iv, All the Fruits of the Earth shall come to Maturity at whatever Season we think fit to chuse. 1822 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1826) VI. 115 Directions for forcing Onions to produce bulbs in clusters, at an early season. 1845–7 LONGF. *Evangeline* I. ii. 1 Now had the season returned, when the nights grow colder and longer. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 624 The sunny and rainy seasons came and went Year after year. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xlii, The autumn drifted away through all its seasons.

b. in personification and art-representation.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Oct. 1644, The 4 Seasons in white marble. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xviii, Fresh leaves and flowers deck the dead Seasons' bier.

c. A day or period of the year marked by some special festivity, as Christmas and New Year.

1791 BURNS *Let. to Cunningham* 23 Jan., Many happy returns of the season to you, my dear friend! 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *All Fool's Day*, The compliments of the season to my worthy masters, and a merry first of April to us all!

d. In reckoning time or age: A year, twelvemonth. (Cf. *summer*.)

1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 43 A child of about five years or 'seasons' old. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 82 Will thirty seasons render plain Those lonely lights that still remain, Just breaking over land and main?

2. A period or time of year mentioned with reference to the conditions of weather, etc. that characterize it in a particular year.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 39, I entred in þat erber grene, In augoste in a hyȝ seysoun, Quen corne is coruen wyth crokez kene. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 7 So soft was the sessoun our Sonerane dovne sent.., That all was amyable owr the air and the erd. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiv. 17 Gevynge vs rayne from heven and frutfull ceasons. 1663 EVELYN *Diary* 16 July, A most extraordinary wet and cold season. 1676 LADY CRAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 34 The season continues so seveere I cannot get away my ill cold nor goe out of the house. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 298 The corn act..appeared..to have completely failed..owing to..the unfavourable seasons. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. v. viii, The lily and rose That blow by night, when the season is good. 1871 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 540 *Season* is, in the South, often misused for 'weather'. 'This is a good *season* for planting' does not mean, this is the proper time, but, this is favorable weather for planting tobacco.

3. The time of year assigned to some particular operation of agriculture.

13.. *K. Alis.* 61 (Bodl. MS.), By ham [*sc.* the planets] men han þe seysyne To londe, to watre to corne to wyne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 523 Se-sounez schal þow neuer sese of sede ne of heruest. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 112 (MS. F.) In ceoun of heruest-tyme. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 178 And alse sede in þe season sowe it on þe erthe. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Feb.* (1679) 10 Now is your Season for Circumposition by Tubs or Baskets of Earth. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* v. (1813) 63 The season for committing seeds to the ground should be as early as the nature of the plant to be cultivated will bear.

b. *local.* (See quots.)

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 20 Oct. 1775 *note*, Season..signifies (here, at least) the state of the soil at seed-time. Thus, if at seed-time the soil be clean, in high tilth, and neither too wet nor too dry, the Farmer is said to have got a good season—or a fine season. If it be cloddy, a rough season. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.* 101 *Season*, ground in good condition. 1876 *Surrey Gloss.* s.v., 'To make a good season' is to get the land in good condition for sowing.

4. The time of year when a plant flourishes, when it blooms or bears fruit, etc. (See also 15 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22881 Ilkin frut in his sesun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 306 Appollo, god and gouernour Of euery plaunte, herbe, tree and flour, That yeuest, after thy declinacion, To ech of hem his tyme and his seson. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 49 Also in that Contree..Men fynden longe Apples to selle, in hire cesoun. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* i. 3 Like a tre..yᵗ bringeth forth his frute in due season. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 7, I come to pluck your Berries harsh and crude..Bitter constraint, and sad occasion dear, Compels me to disturb your season due. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xii. 184 Half a pint of green peas, when it is the season for them. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. vi. 85 Grass and leaves may flourish all the year, But corn and fruit one season only own.

5. The time of year when an animal is in heat, pairs, breeds, migrates, is killed for food or hunted, etc. (Also *pairing, breeding, close*, etc. *season.*) † *Of* (*the*) *season* = in season (see 15 b).

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, þere [*sc.* the bucks'] seson dureth fro þe moneth of May into þe mydle of Septembre. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e v, The seson of the fox [is] fro the Natiuyte Tyll the annunciacion of owre lady fre. *c* 1490 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 86, I..desire and pray you to caus a bucke of season to be taken. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxix. 240 The seasons of all Chaces. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 169, I warrant you Bucke, And of the season too. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 85 Euen for our kitchins We kill the fowle of season. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 101 Six Seasons use; but then release the Cow, Unfit for Love, and for the lab'ring Plough. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 78 ₱ 5 The Day was fix'd for the Entertainment, which was in Venison Season. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. Index 14 Not to leap many Mares in a Season. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 123 My neighbours were not as birds of the season; they neither despised nor forsook me because of my poverty. 1842 TENNYSON *Audley Court* 32 Then touch'd upon the game, how scarce it was This season. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1112 Its effect upon the skin may also interfere with the coming of the season upon the ewe. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, Others went after butterflies and birds'-eggs in their seasons.

attrib. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iv, þei [*sc.* Roebucks] renneth wele and longer þan dothe a grete hert in þe hye seson tyme.

6. *fig.* Time of ripeness or maturity. Cf. 15 c.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 289 Bot leit the sueit ay the sour to gud sesone bring. *a* 1639 CAREW *To A. L.* 79 O then be wise, and whilst your season Affords you days for sport, do reason. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* iv. 18 Whose..impatience was such, that they would not staie the ripening and season of Counsels, or fair production of Acts, in the order, gravitie, and deliberateness befitting a Parliament; but [etc.].

†**7.** A term or session of a court, university, or the like. Phr. *to keep* or *hold season. Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 137 Arthour wolde of honour Hold a fest at Eestour..; And sende Messanger To kynges ferre & neer ..To come to þis Dyner...They come þyder in gode aray, And kept þeire Ceson At the Castell Carlyon. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2157 Sir Torent dwellid thare Fourty days in moche care, Season for to hold. 1669 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July, Which the Vice-Chancellor promis'd to do the next season. 1825 WARDROP in *M. Baillie's Wks.* I. Life 9 He there attended the Greek and Latin classes during the first two seasons; in the third season he became a diligent mathematician.

8. A period of time astronomically fixed or recurring. † Also, a period or phase of an eclipse.

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* I. 14 That they maye be vnto tokens, seasons, dayes, and yeares. 1666 ROOK in *Phil. Trans.* I. 389 Those Seasons of the Eclipse, when there is the suddenest Alteration in the Apparences. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 187 He in whose hand all times and seasons roul. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 293 The sacred seasons might not be disturb'd. Therefore the operations of the dawn Stay'd in their birth. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxvi. 4 How in seasons due vanishes orb upon orb.

9. The portion of a year regularly devoted to a particular business, sport, or amusement, or when the greatest activity prevails therein. Often with defining word, as the *fishing, hunting, publishing, racing, theatrical, holiday season.* The period when such pursuits are inactive is called the *dead, dull*, or *off season*: see also SILLY *season.*

1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 100 When I was at Chio, I could not have that Diversion, for then it was not the Season. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 68. 86 Publick Business, and Publick Diversions, have the same Season. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 144 He bound himself to give them two plays every season. 1798 FORRESTER in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 115 We have this day had the best run of the Season. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 248 In the season of 1684, fourteen of their ships were wrecked. 1856 H. H. DIXON ('The Druid') *Post & Paddock* 303 That gentleman bought Hermit and rode him for nine seasons. 1878 *Athletic World* 5 Apr.

7/2 Pickwick Bicycle Club. The season will be commenced by a run to..Edmonton on Saturday. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian* 87 The 'season' in Australia– by which is indicated the dance-giving period—is winter and early spring.

10. The period of the year during which a particular place is most frequented for business, fashion, or amusement; esp. the time (now May to July) when the fashionable world is assembled in London. *Dead season*, the period when 'society' has departed from a place of resort.

1705 J. TAYLOR *Journ. Edinb.* (1903) 68 Most of the Gentry of the North of England and Scotland resort hither [to Scarborough] in the Season of the year, but we hapned to be something of the latest. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 50 P 7 Until the Company was gone, and Season over. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 20 Jan., You cannot figure a duller season: the weather bitter, no party, little money [etc.]. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* x. 6 What Numbers one sees, who, for that very Reason Come to make such a Figure at Bath ev'ry Season! 1789 *Triumphs Fortitude* I. 10 Be happy in all the enjoyments this dead season can afford. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xxi, The season was now over, and everybody of consequence quitted the metropolis. 1870 H. SMART *Race for Wife* ii, She gave up her season in London.

11. *transf.* (from 2). †**a.** A spell of (bad or inclement) weather.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 32 How shall your House-lesse heads..defend you From seasons such as these? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1063 And teach us further by what means to shun Th' inclement Seasons, Rain, Ice, Hail and Snow, Which now the Skie with various Face begins To shew us in this Mountain.

b. *spec.* The 'rains' or spells of wet weather in tropical countries. In the southern U.S., 'a shower of rain or period of damp weather suitable for setting out tobacco and other plants'.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Introd. 15 After Seasons, i.e. three or four or more days rain, all manner of provisions, Maize, Guinea-corn, Pease, Potatos &c. are planted. 1766 STORK *Acc. E. Florida* 63 It often happens in the West-Indies, as it did last year, that when the ground is prepared, and the cane planted, the rains, or seasons as they are called, fail. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* July 478/2 The seasons were only just over, and all tropical nature was fresh.

II. *gen.* A time, period, occasion.

12. A particular time or period during which something happens, or which is defined by some characteristic feature or circumstance. See also NIGHT-SEASON, *mean season* (MEAN *a.*[2] 2).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3509 God was þe werld in þat sesun And mikel it bar o benisun. *Ibid.* 5419 Quils þam lasted þat sesun dere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1442 A Sesyn of sorow þat þere suet after. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 268 Euery persone that..hath there the rewle of the religion atte leste for that ceson. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 234 Duryng the season that the seid ship lay in the Dokke. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 650 During this season the Queene was greatly encouraged with the victory, obteyned late at Wakefielde. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Medit., Disc.* IV. iv. (1848) 69 When we greedily pursue after Honour, and Pleasure, of which this Life is not the proper Season. 1777 BURKE *Let. to Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 215 Calamity is unhappily the usual season of reflection. 1833 MACAULAY *Ess., War Succession. Sp.* P 5 His annual revenue..in the season of his greatest power. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 278 They may have been well pleased to accept a season of peace even at the hands of the stranger.

b. *For a season*: for an indefinite period, for some time, for a while. Similarly, *for a long, short*, etc. *season*. Also adverbially, without *for*.

1465 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 1/17 Than stode y stille a litile Sesone. 1481 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 500 There hath long season depended variance & contrauersie betwixt you. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* iv. 13 He departed from hym for a season. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxv. 267 Than Oberon stode styll a season. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. iv. 21 That it might further the Stomachs Concoction, and make the meats abide therein, a convenient season. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* XIX. 169 Or if it please thee, though impatient, wait, Short season 1851 CARLYLE *J. Sterling* I, This most.. beautiful human soul; who walked with me for a season in this world. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 70 He was constrained for a season to leave the successors of Leofric and Siward in possession of [etc.].

13. (Without the idea of duration.) A time at which, or occasion when, something happens. *At*, †*in this* (or *that*) *season*, at this time; on this occasion; also adverbially without *in*. *At*, †*in, on a season*, at a certain time. *At all seasons*, at all times, always. *At seasons*, on different or recurring occasions, from time to time. Also, *fit, due, proper, just season*: cf. sense 14. Now *rare*.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* 3939 He says soth in this sesowne. 1340–70 *Alisaunder* 330 On a season iwett assembled they bope. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 881 Sone eftir in a seson,.. Come driuand fra Darius..Heraudis on hese hors. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 903 Thus was syr Ywayne sted that sesowne. *a* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 42 We seke for youre socoure þis sesoune. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. xii. 858 So at a seson of the nyght they al wente to theyr beddes. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* D iij, And many seasons of yᵉ daye sore wept in remembraunce of yᵉ same. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 31 Other thynges mo I have in store, That I coude tel therof, but now no more Tyll another season. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* XX. 18 After what maner I have bene wyth you at all seasons. 1611 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 119 He may come to her house,..Court her in all places, and at all seasons. 1628 HOBBES tr. *Thucydides* (1822) 23 These things were done for you in a season when men going to fight against their enemies neglect all respects but of victory. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 122 He knew the proper season to shew the violence of his Revenge. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXV. 187 There are Many Cases, and Many Seasons, wherein Men must either Bend or Break. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 78 P 5 You well know it is of great Consequence to clear Titles, and it is of Importance that it be done in the proper Season. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* ii, When Hamish..absented himself from her cottage at such season, and for such length of time as he chose. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Pike and helm lie provided for thee in due season. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXI. 8 The churl in spirit..Will let his coltish nature break At seasons thro' the gilded pale.

†**b.** Sometimes substituted for *time* in collocations proper to that word: as *afore seasons* = AFORETIME; *in old season*, of old. *Obs.*

1463 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. (1905) 301 He as yit stondeth destitute of cxj li. which he afore seisons hath..receyued yerely at þe fest of Estre. 1530 PALSGR. 143 *Avtemps jadis*, afore-season. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 27, I that in old season..whistled My rural sonnet.

14. The right, proper, due or appointed time; a fit or favourable occasion, an opportunity. (Cf. 15 a.) Const. †*to, for, to* with inf.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29366 Als suith as he mai sesun se, And wend to rome at soilled be. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5251 The kyng of-sent erles and barouns, For to sopere it was seysouns. 1388 WYCLIF *Eccles.* viii. 6 Tyme and cesoun is to euch werk. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 271 So went she fourth hyr seosynne to endure. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. vi. 781 Thenne whan season was, they wente vnto their chambres. 1484 CAXTON *Æsop* VI. vii, Alle thynges which ben done & made in theyr tyme & season ben wel made. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2793 A sensuall prynce..Taryed the season to fynde her solytary. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 29 Telling him..it was no season for him to take upon him imperiously. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 146 When my season comes to sit On David's Throne. 1790 J. BRUCE *Trav. Source of Nile* I. 78, I had sat up a great part of the night waiting a season for observation, but it was very cloudy. 1851 TENNYSON *To the Queen* 30 And statesmen at her council met Who knew the seasons when to take Occasion by the hand.

III. Phrases with prep.

15. In season. a. At the right and proper time, opportunely. Also (? chiefly *U. S.*), at the proper time or in good time *for* or *to do* something. *To be in season*, to be seasonable or opportune.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2542 Þre 3er after was he kyng, In ful sesyne made hys endyng. 1414 *Dead is Working* 79 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 58 To chastyse fooles is ay in seson. 1484 CAXTON *Æsop* VI. vii, Therfore hit appereth wel that the thynges whiche ben made in season ben wel made and done by reason. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* l. 4 That I should know how to speake a worde in season [1535 COVERDALE in due season] to him that is wearie. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* V. v. (1640) 236 After six moneths siege they surrendered the citie to their own honour, and shame of other Christians who sent them no succour in season. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* V. i. 78, *Alt.* Good morrow, cavaliers. *Vas.* 'Twill be an houre yet before that greeting Be in season. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 168 [He] had just cleared one eye, in season, to remark where his enemy entered. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xii, The two young men desired to get back again in good season. 1858 SEARES *Athan.* II. iii. 195 They arrive in season for the meeting. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 312 Mr. March has to be home by a certain day; and we shall just get back in season. 1906 W. WALKER *Calvin* V. 108 News of this intention reached him in season to effect his escape.

b. Of game, etc.: At the time for hunting, catching, etc. *To be in season*: (of a plant or animal) to flourish, be in its finest condition, be in the best state for eating; also, (of an animal) to be in heat. Similarly, *to come in* or *into season*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 407 Than the deir war in sesoun. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 93/1 Oon Hert, to be taken in season..and 11 Bukkes in season. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 1 Any Samons or Trowtes, not being in season. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxix. 240 Conies are al wayes in season, either yong or old: but their skinnes are in best season from Alhallontide vnto Shrouetide. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 220 Salmon..come in season, and goe out with the Buck. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reflt., Disc.* IV. iv. (1848) 68 If the same Fruit were let alone till it were fully Ripe, and in Season. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 135/2 The Hart or Stagg ..is in Season..from Midsummer until Holy-Rood Day. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 148 P 7 To eat every Thing before it comes in Season. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. (1778) 31 Have you any pinks or carnations in bloom? *Crocus.* They are not in season, your honour. 1807 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 6 A very fine trout..he proved..to be very well in season. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 176 He is in high season, as proved by the crimson of his fins. 1865 *Reader* No. 154. 646/3 The fish being in perfect season from October to June. 1903 F. SIMPSON *Bk. Cat* iii. 38 Cats come in season about every three weeks during the spring and summer.

†**c.** *fig.* Flourishing, at one's best. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4981 As longe as Youthe is in sesoun, They dwellen in oon mansioun. 1625 BACON *Ess., Goodness* (Arb.) 205 Such Men, in other mens Calamities, are, as it were, in season.

d. Of a place of resort, etc.: (To be) fashionable, in a state of activity. Cf. sense 10.

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Lady Rich* 10 Oct., The fair of St. Lawrence is now in season. 1868 EARL OF WILTON *Sports Engl.* 68 From the first day of grouse to the last day of pheasants, London is never in season.

e. Of timber: Seasoned.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* I. 2 The masts and yards are chained together in some great water to keepe them from rotting, and in season.

16. Out of season. a. Unseasonably, inopportunely; *predicatively*, unseasonable, inopportune.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 351 And as wel in lente as oute of lente, alle tymes ylyche, suche werkes with hem were neuere oute of seosoun. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par., Mark* I. 29–31 He loueth those that cal vpon him, cal they neuer so importunatly, and out of season. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* IV. iv. 37 Although the rack be somewhat out Of season with my old bones. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 850 So spake the fervent Angel, but his zeale None seconded, as out of season judg'd. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 27. 190 True Wit and Good Sense..can be spoiled only by making use of them Improperly, or out of Season. 1864 'HOLME LEE' *Silver Age* II. 239 Be consoled—you will have your joys, though they come rather out of season. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 267 Howbeit I know thou surely must be mine Or soon or late, yet out of season, thus I woo thee roughly.

b. Not in season; not at the time for hunting, catching, eating, etc. Also *fig.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 18 Off ane vod fuill far owt off seasoun, He wantis nocht bot a rowndit heid. 1683 ROBINSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 132 We..could not meet with the Macreuse [the scoter], it being now out of season.

c. Not in fashion; not in its period of fashion.

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 179 The hard-grain'd Muses of the cube and square Were out of season. 1891 FREEMAN *Sk. Fr. Trav.* 180 He will prefer Clermont out of season to Clermont in the season.

17. *In season and out of season*: at all times, without regard to what is considered opportune.

1526 TINDALE 2 *Tim.* iv. 2 Be fervent, be it in season or out of season [εὐκαίρως ἀκαίρως]. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Trans. Business* (1842) 93 He will be repeating his folly in season, and out of season, until at last it has a hearing.

†**18.** *By season*: at the right time, in time. *Sc.*

1600 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials Scot.* II. 180 This deponar desyrit Maister Alexander to dischone with him, be ressoun his awin cuild nocht be sasone be prepairit.

†**IV. 19.** [f. the vb.] Seasoning, relish, flavour.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 421 With Saipheron sals of ane gude sessoun. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* V. i. 16 Bearing no season, much lesse salt of goodnesse. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 144 The wide sea Hath..salt too little, which may season giue To her foule tainted flesh. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 141 You lacke the season of all Natures, sleepe. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 44 He had a large proportion of gifts and endowments, but too much of the season of envy. 1664 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 122 Those his Friends who formerly made his adversity more tolerable, and do now give the truest season and sweetness to his better fortune.

V. 20. Short for *season-ticket* (see 21).

1896 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 7/4 Asked for his ticket, he replied that he had left his season at home. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 9/1 The company..is about to issue third-class seasons.

VI. 21. *Comb.*, as *season-measured* adj.; **season-ticket**, a ticket which admits the holder to travel on a boat or on a line of railway, to enter an exhibition, etc., an unlimited number of times during a season or specified period, at a reduced rate of payment; hence *season-ticket holder*.

1827 J. H. NEWMAN *Lyra Apost.* xliii. (1836) 48 In childhood, when with eager eyes The 'season-measured year I viewed. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River*, The regular passengers, who have 'season-tickets, go below to breakfast. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 228/2 The proportions of passengers, independent of season-ticket holders, were as follows.

Season (sī'zn), *v.* Forms: 4 seasen, 4–5 ses(o)un, 4–6 seson, 5 seeson, sesyn, cesyn, -un, -on, 6 seasyn, (sayson, seacon), *Sc.* saison, sasoun, cessoune, 4– season. [a. OF. *saisonner* (cf. mod.F. *assaisonner*), f. *saison* SEASON *sb.*

Sense 1 is a development from the primary sense in OF., to ripen, to render (fruit) palatable by the influence of the seasons (cf. sense 4, which in Eng. appears much later).]

1. *trans.* To render (a dish) more palatable by the addition of some savoury ingredient.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 889 Segge3 hym serued semly inoge. Wyth sere sewes & sete, sesounde of þe best. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 110 As salt sesonis all, þe hartiss at one crist will cale. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 9 Seson hit with sugur. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Cesyn (*P.* cesun) or welle aray mete or drynke, *tempero*. 1530 PALSGR. 707/2, I season meate as a coke dothe, *je saysonne la viande*. *c* 1550 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 357 Ane cunyng Cuke, quhilk best can cessone caill. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge c 5 If seasoned with salt, and spices, it [meat] is yet dryer. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 324 All season their food with a great quantity of spices. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 68 Take three or four beef steaks cut thick, and season them with pepper, salt, and onion shred fine. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* XXV. (1875) 366 Maize, pounded and boiled, and seasoned..with morsels of smoked fish.

b. *fig.* To mix, intersperse, or imbue with something that imparts relish; to adapt or accommodate *to* a particular taste.

1520 NISBET *N. T., Col.* iv. 6 Youre word be sesonnit in salt euirmare in grace. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 72 How much salt water throwne away in wast, To season Loue that of it doth not tast. 1596 KEMYS *Relat. 2nd Voy. Guiana* E 2 b, Pardon it..if..my speech, which is altogether vnsauourie, season it selfe with some of the leauen of your own discourse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 609 Till I [sc. Sin] in Man residing through the Race, His thoughts, his lookes, words, actions all infect, And season him thy [sc. Death's] last and sweetest prey. 1675 W. OKELEY *Eben-ezer* Pref. A j, Every Narrator is under a strong Temptation to Season his Discourse to the Gusto of the time. 1699 DRYDEN *To John Driden* 60 You season still with sports your serious hours. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 166 P 6 Writers ..who employ their Parts in propagating Immorality, and seasoning vicious Sentiments with Wit and Humour. 1822 SHELLEY *Faust* II. 10 To..climb those rocks..Is the true sport that seasons such a path.

Ironically. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 121 He had a hundred blowes on the feet to season his pastimes.

†**c.** *To season with the same liquor*: *fig.*, to imbue or endow with the same qualities. *Obs.*

1648 Symmons *Vind. K. Chas.* 36 Truly we do imagine that our subtile and suspected Brethren..would fain season us with the same liquor, which infecteth them.

†d. To qualify by a beneficial admixture; to moderate, alleviate, temper. *Obs.*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 149 To reproue you for this suit of yours, So season'd with your faithful loue to me. 1602 — *Ham.* I. ii. 191 Season your admiration for a while With an attent eare.

†2. *transf.* To imbue with a taste or scent. *Obs.*

1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 270 They do al season the urin with their smel. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1601) 5:8 What licour our vessels bee seasoned with at the first, they will taste of the same euer after.

†b. To imbue (a person, his mind) *with* opinions, ideas, etc.; in later use only in good sense (cf. 1 b).

1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 48 They who had his eare, might easily season him with good or ill opinion of his servants or strangers. 1709 Steele & Addison *Tatler* No. 111 ₱ 3 [Shakspere] seems to have had his Mind thoroughly seasoned with Religion. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1754, 6 Mar., Garrick, who I can attest from my own knowledge had his mind seasoned with pious reverence.

†c. *intr.* To savour *of*. *Obs.*

1618 Fletcher *Chances* I. ix, Lose not your labour and your time together, It seasons of a fool, son, time is pretious.

†3. *trans.* To embalm. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 458, & on be morn when bai wold hafe opynd hym & sesond hym with spycis at he myght hafe beine curid, he rase vpp & was whikk. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. i. 30 She will..water once a day her Chamber round With eye-offending brine: all this to season A brothers dead loue, which she would keep fresh And lasting, in her sad remembrance. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 171 He hath seene true dead bodies brought in the banquet, after they had been seasoned a good while and dried up.

4. To bring to maturity, ripen; to render fit for use by prolonged exposure to atmospheric influences, or by gradual subjection to conditions of the kind to be undergone in actual working; often, to dry and harden (timber) by long keeping.

1545 [see Seasoned 3]. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 99 They browght with them Cinamome and gynger: but not very good, bycause they were not there fully seasoned with the heate of the soone. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 74 The houses very seldome keepe out raine, the timbers being not well seasoned. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 161 They also heat their furnace for a weeks time with charcoal without blowing it, which they call seasoning it. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 71 Casks..which their coopers assisted us to trim, season, and fit up. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-T.* v. 53 Knowledge and timber shouldn't be much used till they are seasoned.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To become seasoned.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 155 They generally Rough-plain their Boards..that they may set them by to season. 1881 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* VII. 511 An artificial method.. which has the effect of ageing the wood in a few hours, as well as if it had been kept seasoning for years.

c. *trans.* To fortify (a person) by habit against conditions that might otherwise be deleterious; to acclimatize.

1601 Mountjoy *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 108 They will come over well cloathed against the Winter and may have time to rest, and to be seasoned, till Christmas. 1760 Goldsm. *Cit. W.* cxix, Many of them died, because they were not used to live in a gaol, but for my part it was nothing to me, for I was seasoned. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxix. In war well season'd, and with labours tann'd. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* lxii, And easy, smiling, seasoned sound, Sate the king when healths went round.

†d. To prepare or fit (a person); also, to discipline, train. *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iii. 84 Am I then reueng'd, To take him in the purging of his Soule When he is fit and season'd for his passage? 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* xxii. 253 How schollars may be seasoned and trained vp in Gods true Religion and in grace. 1644 Milton *Educ.* 4 And withall to season them, and win them early to the love of vertue and true labour. 1658 Cleveland *Rustick Rampant* 16 The Kentishmen, sensoned by this Priest or Prophet of the Idol, are easily tempted by the Essexians.

†e. To bring into a healthy condition. Also, to disinfect. *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* xxiii. i. II. 148 As touching grapes preserved in earthen pots, they refresh and season the mouth which was out of tast. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1756) 281 Those people..did take particular Directions for what they called Seasoning of their Houses and abundance of costly things were consumed..which..not only seasoned those houses.. but filled the air with very grateful smells.

†f. To temper (metal). *Obs. rare.*

1730 Savery *Magnet. Observ.* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 307 Steel cannot be seasoned too hard for Retension. *Ibid.* 328 With this little Bar naked I touched a small Dial-Needle made of Steel..I seasoned it very hard, and cleansed it well.

†5. Of a bird or beast of prey: To 'flesh' (its claws); hence *intr.* to seize *upon*. *Obs.*

It is possible that Palsgrave may have been thinking of *season* = Seisin *v.*

1530 Palsgr. 707/2, I season upon a thynge, as a hauke dothe, *je assaysonne*. She saysonned upon the feasnte at the first flyght. 1540—*Acolastus* II. iii. Lilj b, This pray is worthy for our clawes..i. this is one as mete for vs to season vpon, as it is mete for any lyon..to season his pawes vpon his pray.

†6. To manure (land). *Obs.*

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 10 So that the same [dung] be scattered like seedes on the ground, wherby to season ground the better. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 309 Or as the good gardiner seasons his soyle by sundrie sorts of compost.

†7. To impregnate, to copulate with. *Obs. rare.*

[1511-38: see Seasoning *vbl. sb.* 1 a.] 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 383 When the male hath once seasoned the female he neuer after toucheth her. 1601 Holland *Pliny* VIII. xlv. I. 224 This prince..would not suffer the Buls to come unto the Kine and season them, before they were both foure yeares old.

Seasonable (sī·z'năb'l), *a.* [f. Season *v.* and *sb.* + -able.]

1. Occurring at the right season, opportune.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 578 For-þi ne lakke þou not age at al; Whan youþe is past, is age sesonable. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 349, I have written unto Yelverton, the justice, that he wol, at some sesonable tyme, common with Sir Thomas Tudenham. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* civ. xi, [All creatures] in seasonable tyde Their hungry eyes on thee their feeder throw. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* Ded. (v), Are not these times seasonable..for such a Subject as is here handled? 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. i. 130 Here it will be seasonable to give in a List of Wicliffes Opinions. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 294 His Caution was so seasonable, and his Advice so good, that [etc.]. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 94 This is a very seasonable book.

b. Of weather, etc.: Suitable to the time of year.

1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 416 Heven lokes lesse to fruyt of þo erthe, monnes strength is lesse, here lyve is shortere, þo tyme is lesse sesounable, and charite withdrawen. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.*, etc. (1843) 155 Tho sesonabuldst wedur with-owton leyse That euer mon sawe dryvun tyl a nende. 1520 Nisbet *Epist. O. T.* xxi. (S. T. S.) III. 284 As the flour of rosis in the dais of sesonnabile somer. *a* 1603 Bacon *Maxims Com. Law* Ep. Ded. 6 It is your Majesties reigne that hath beene as a goodly seasonable spring weather to the advancing of all excellent arts of peace. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 261 Though the weather was not favourable for delivering their cargoes, yet it being seasonable, I determined they should keep out. 1819 Keats *Ode to Nightingale* v, Each sweet Wherewith the seasonable month endows The grass, the thicket, and the fruit-tree wild. 1843 Dickens *Christm. Carol* iii. 90 His thread-bare clothes darned up and brushed, to look seasonable.

†c. Enduring but for a season, temporary. *Obs.*

1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 38 Not a seasonable fayeth, which shall laste but a whyle, but a fayeth, whiche is continuynge in God.

†d. 'In season', said of game at the time when proper to be hunted and killed. *Obs. rare*—1.

1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* 32 Doth not the keeper.. shew you his femishing, that thereby you may iudge if he be a seasonable deare?

e. Belonging to one's season or prime.

1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. viii. 20 Thou poppy,..Why hangest thou down ere ripeness be begun, Ere yet be come thy seasonable hour?

†2. Capable of serving as seasoning; tasty, savoury. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 28 Take brede..And drawe þe hit þorowghe a clothe by kynde, With venegur gode and sesonnabulle.

†3. Well seasoned, matured. *Obs. rare.*

1531-2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 2 Coupers..shall make the same vessels..of good and seasonable wodde.

Seasonableness (sī·z'năb'lnés). [f. prec. + -ness.] The quality of being seasonable; aptitude to time or circumstance; fitness of occurrence.

1546 Langley tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* I. iii. 5 The fruict-full rankeness of the soyle and seasonableness of the Aire. 1623 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. xi. (1631) 76 The seasonablenesse, or vnseasonablenesse of the weather. 1740 Warburton *Vind. Pope's Ess. Man* vi. 108 The Seasonableness of this Reproof will appear evident enough to those who know, that [etc.]. 1831 Mackintosh *Hist. Eng.* II. 83 Frion, a discarded secretary of Henry, who, from the seasonableness of his defection, may be suspected at all times to have been more a spy on Perkin than a traitor to Henry. 1878 Seeley *Stein* II. 535 The previous agitation lost at once its suitableness and seasonableness at the same time that all its objects were fully attained.

Seasonably (sī·z'năbli), *adv.* [f. Seasonable *a.* + -ly 2.] In a fitting time; at the right moment; in due season.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) 67 Pardy, shine the sonne neuer so bright, and it bringe forth no hete, ne sesonably the herbes out-bringe of the earthe,..ye wolde wonder and dispreyse that sonne. 1575-85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* ii. 43 The prince will be but a steward hereof, seasonably to lay it out for publike vse. *a* 1671 Ld. Fairfax *Mem.* (1699) 55 When I was almost senseless, my Surgeon came seasonably, and bound up the wound, and stopt the bleeding. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 246 This Sermon was very seasonably deliver'd. 1817 Southey *Wat Tyler* I. i, The sun would shine as cheerly, The rains of heaven as seasonably fall, Though neither of these royal pests existed. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Sept. 5/3 A controversy which has broken out seasonably in the columns of a London contemporary.

†Sea·sonage. *Obs.* [f. Season *v.* + -age.] The action of seasoning; that which serves to season.

a 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VIII. 408 The light; which is that, that gives a seasonage to all other fruitions, that.. gives opportunity to the enjoyment of all the other senses. *Ibid.* IX. 152 Charity is the grand seasonage of every christian duty.

Seasonal (sī·z'năl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Season *sb.* + -al.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to or characteristic of the seasons of the year, or some one of them.

Seasonal dimorphism, a variation in the appearance of different broods of the same insect according to the time of year at which they are produced.

1838 Mudie *Phys. Man* ii. 58 The call of the partridge—the seasonal song of the nightingale. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 291 The daily and seasonal motions of the earth. 1887 Abercromby *Weather* 52 Changes which are due to..the season of the year..we shall call..seasonal variations of the general character. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 238 The individuals of broods appearing at different times of the year often differ from one another in a marked manner. In this case the phrase seasonal dimorphism is employed. 1894 Coit in *Forum* (U. S.) May 285 The regular seasonal lack of work is no dire calamity.

b. *transf.* Pertaining to the seasons or periods of human life.

1843 J. Martineau *Chr. Life* (1867) 3 The seasonal changes of character, of which I now speak. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* II. 46 So shall we hereafter retrace in our successive sorrows the seasonal stages of our growth.

2. Of certain trades: Dependent on the seasons. Of workers, servants: Employed or engaged only during a particular season.

1904 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 6/2 The problem of the casual and seasonal worker. 1909 *Times* 13 Feb. 4/3 Hotel servants were not of the best class; they were seasonal. 1909 *Englishwoman* Apr. 225 Some trades are seasonal: there is a great rush of work to be done at one season and comparatively little at another.

3. Periodical, recurrent at more or less regular intervals.

1880 Jevons *Methods Soc. Ref.* (1883) 313 The seasonal fluctuations of a small paper currency. 1893 Solomon in *Class. Rev.* Feb. 11/1 These regularly recurrent diseases.. are, I believe, called by the doctors 'seasonal'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 557 In some patients the relapses have a certain seasonal periodicity.

B. *sb.* A periodical issued at certain seasons of the year.

1895 (*title*) The Evergreen: a Northern Seasonal. 1897 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Nov. 11/3 Mr. Scott has decided to issue his 'Book Sales' as a seasonal instead of as an annual.

Seasonally (sī·z'năli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] At a certain time of year, at some seasons.

1834 Mudie *Feathered Tribes Brit. Isl.* (1841) I. 22 One species is often found, at least seasonally, upon those grounds. 1887 *Athenæum* 12 Feb. 227/2 The fact of the moth being seasonally dimorphic was likely to introduce disturbing elements into the experiments.

Seasoned (sī·z'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. Season *v.* + -ed 1.]

†1. Seasonable, opportune, suitable. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cesonyd, yn tyme.., *tempestus, tempestivus.* 1634 Heywood *Maidenhead lost* III. F 4, It shall goe hard with mine affaires But Ile find season'd houres to visit them.

2. Flavoured, spiced.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 454/1 Seasonyd, as mete, *temperatus.* 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 148 ₱ 3, I have seen a young Lady swallow all the Instigations of high Soups, seasoned Sauces, and forced Meats.

b. *fig.*

1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 270 The company by this means had but a bad seasoned supper. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 837 Joys season'd high, and tasting strong of guilt. 1864 Kirk *Chas. the Bold* I. iv. 217 Serving as a text for the highly seasoned discourses of the itinerant friars.

3. Fitted for use, matured, brought to a state of perfection. Of timber: Dried and hardened by keeping.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (1904) 84 A stele muste be well seasoned for Castinge, and it must be made as the grayne lieth, & as it groweth or els it wyl neuer flye clene. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Vertue* 14 Onely a sweet and vertuous soul Like seasoned timber, never gives. 1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 163 Season'd Plank or Timber; such as is thoroughly dry, and will not be apt to shrink. 1800 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxii. 346 Two pieces of seasoned box-wood. 1881 C. A. Edwards *Organs* 40 Well seasoned wood is sapless.

b. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. D j b, These be well seasoned reasons, and substantiall asseuerations in deed. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. iii. 64 We charge you, that you haue contriu'd to take From Rome all season'd Office. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. Fleet* I. xii, 1, who am now as seasoned as a port-wine cask.

c. Of persons or animals: Fortified by habit; acclimatized; familiarized with a certain mode of life or occupation; †trained, disciplined.

a 1643 Cartwright *Siedge* I. iv, I would not Venture my self with a stale Virgin, or A season'd Widow for a Kingdom. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2526/4 Pair of Black season'd Stone-horses for a Coach. 1703 Marlborough *Lett. & Disp.* (1845) I. 169 The difficulty..of replacing a seasoned regiment in this country. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 204 New hands..would act with more courage, by having seasoned men amongst them. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* II, The wine had made some impression even on the seasoned brain of mine host. 1869 'Wat. Bradwood' *The O. V. H.* xviii, The welter race, contested mainly by seasoned hunters, had less refusals. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 4 Sept. 865/1 A flying column of 4000 seasoned troops.

†4. Of soil: Manured. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. i. 204 The rough and barren earth is as a substance and nutriment for mettalls; and that which is fertile and better seasoned [Sp. *de mas sason*] a nourishment for plants.

†5. Embalmed. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 35 We should be wary therefore..how we spill that season'd life of man preserv'd and stor'd up in Books. 1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* III. ii. 274 The seasoned and embalm'd bones and heads of Martyrs.

†Sea·sonedness. *Obs.*—1 [f. prec. + -ness.] The state or quality of being (well) seasoned.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 158 The well-seasonedness of the Boards.

Seasoner (sī·z'nəɹ). [f. Season *v.* + -er 1.] One who, or something which seasons.

†1. One who seasons viands. *Obs.*
1598 FLORIO, *Conditore*, a seasoner, a cooke, a temprer, a comfiter. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artach.* A j b, Yet behold The Seasoner heating, or with Bavin-fires Preparing th' oven as the Case requires. 1647 HEXHAM I, A seasoner, *Een sausse ofte confituer bereyder.*

2. Something that serves to season. *rare.*
1693 J. BEAUMONT *Burnet's Th. Earth* I. 63 Salt is..a good Seasoner. 1802 T. THOMSON *Chem.* II. 316 Muriat of Soda ..has been..in common use as a seasoner of food from the earliest ages.
fig. 1620 FORD *Linea Vitæ* (1843) 66 His actions are the seasoners of his speeches, as his profession is of his actions.

Sea-song. A song such as is sung by sailors.
1659 *Lady Alimony* III. iii. F 4, *Stage-dir.*, The Sea-Song [*follows*]. 1823 (*title*), [C.] Dibdin's Original Sea-Songs. 1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer, Thoughts at Sunset* ii, With a sea-song in mine ears Of the bronzen buccaniers. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* i, Then breaking out into that old sea-song that he sang so often afterwards.

Seasoning (sī'zniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]
1. The action of the verb SEASON.
†a. The act or time of impregnation. *Obs.*
1511 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for seesnyng of iij sowys jd. ob. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Admissura*, the acte or tyme whan beastes doth their kinde in generation. Seasoning. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. xxv. I. 471 This time, our rusticall peasants call the Seasoning, when as Nature ..is in the rut and furious rage of love.
b. The imparting of a flavour to a dish.
1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 136 The nobility is very gallant,..spending more then their reuenues in diet and apparell, and the seasoning of their meates. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments, Rules of Diet* 260 Vegetables used in Seasoning, as Thyme, Savory. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 261 To stimulate their cannibal appetites by variety and seasoning.
c. The maturing of wood by drying, etc.; †also, tempering, hardening (of metals).
1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 112 Firre-deales are accounted better for bordeninge with then oake that hath not had time for seasoninge. 1730 SAVERY *Magnet. Observ.* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 330, I imagine it must be owing to some..Difference in seasoning, it being almost impossible to make both Ends equally hard. 1859 BURTON in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 136 The rafters also are favourite places for small articles that require seasoning.
d. The process by which a person becomes hardened or inured to a strange climate, acclimatization.
1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 111 It is a prevailing notion, that to be sick the first summer, is what every settler must expect...In some parts of the territory.. this seasoning is severely paid. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxix. V. 229 This was merely the seasoning which people who passed from one country to another must expect. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Mar. 6/5 Anglo-Saxons who have had no tropical seasoning.
e. Hence, an attack, more or less severe, of ague or some kindred disease suffered by those who take up their abode for the first time in a tropical district.
1670 D. DENTON *Descr. New York* (1845) 18 The Climate hath such an affinity with that of England, that..the name of seasoning..hath never there been known. 1774 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XI. 67 About a fourth part more [of the slaves] die at the different islands, in what is called the seasoning. 1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 176 Its more common name, however, in the present day..is yellow fever; and when the attack upon new comers is slight, *seasoning*.
fig. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxi. 99 His desires and endeavours, for the seasoning of others, both persons and families, with the salt of true religion. 1910 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 223 The best of things are the better for liberal seasonings of laughter.
†f. Training, discipline. *Obs.*
1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. i. 38 It concerns the Parents care, in order to a vertuous and vitious life of the childe, to secure its first seasonings.
2. *concr.* Something added to a dish which gives it a distinctive or appetizing flavour.
1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Assaisonnement*, a seasoning. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 14. 13 Our Palates like the Seasoning and Cookery they are set to. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 47 Rub them well with your seasoning. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxi, Nice seasonin' for sassages, is trousers' buttons, Ma'am. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 175 It is necessary to prepare them [snails] with strong seasonings—as with plenty of ham, anchovies [etc.]. *fig.* 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* iii, His favourite clown..whose jests..served for a sort of seasoning to his evening meal.
3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †seasoning disease, †distemper, †fever = sense 1 e; seasoning room, a store-room where tobacco is kept until matured.
1802 *Engl. Encycl.* IX. 293/1 All *seasoning diseases are of the inflammatory kind. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. in New York* (1860) 25 It does not welcome its Guests and Strangers with the *seasoning distempers of Fevers and Fluxes. 1814 W. BROWN *Pl'ist. Propag. Chr.* (1823) I. 627 He was attacked by the *seasoning fever. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Aug. 2/1, I..followed the tobacco from its arrival in the bale, through the *seasoning room, to the wetting and sorting tubs.

Seasoning (sī'z'niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEASON *v.* + -ING 2.] That seasons, that adds a flavour or relish.
1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 183 No seasonyng lyckour, can season it well. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 615 Sparingly they steep [cheese] With seas'ning Salt, and stor'd, for Winter keep. 1760 WOOLMAN *Jrnl.* vii. Wks. (1775) 125 The Lord..was pleased to favour us with the Seasoning Virtue of Truth.

Sea·sonless, *a.* [f. SEASON *sb.* + -LESS.]
†1. Lacking flavour, tasteless, insipid. *Obs. rare*—1.
1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* Ded. to Earl Southampton, And when the stubborne stroke of my harsh song Shall seasonlesse glide through almightie eares, Vouchsafe to sweet it with thy blessed tong.
2. Having or knowing no change of season.
1816 BYRON *Darkness* 71 The world was void,..Seasonless, herbless,..lifeless. 1895 A. AUSTIN in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 519 Then over the seasonless sea he [the cuckoo] came.

Seasour, obs. form of SEIZURE.

Sea spider.
1. A name for various marine spider-like creatures. a. A spider-crab or maioid.
1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 120 The Sea-Spider is by some conceiv'd to be a kind of Crab. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1694) II. 113 The Sea Crawfish without a Tail, or Sea Spider. 1752 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 465 We observe a great variety in the operations of nature: the crab, the cuttle-fish, and the sea spider. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 559 On account of this great length of limb and small size of body, these crabs [*Leptopodia*] are often called Sea Spiders.
b. A marine arthropod of the group *Pycnogonida*, a pycnogonid.
1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 80 A little black sea-spider, a Nymphon, who has this peculiarity, that possessing no body at all to speak of, he carries his needful stomach in long branches, packed inside his legs. 1909 SHACKLETON *Heart of Antarctic* II. 266 Here we first got the long-legged sea-spiders (*Pycnogonida*).
c. An octopus or other member of the family *Octopodidæ*.
1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.*, *Octopodidæ*, Sea Spiders...The common sea spider, *Octopus*] *tuberculatus*. 1859-62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 311.
†2. A fish, = QUAVIVER, SEA-DRAGON 1. *Obs.*—1
1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 25 Sea Dragon or Sea Spider, Quaviver.

Sea-spout.
†1. A sea-anemone. *Obs. rare.*
1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 212 The Sea-Spout is a very strange production of nature. It looks like a spunge or lump of moss, and sticks to the sea-rocks so fast that no beating of either winds or waves can move it. 1772-84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 323 The Sea-spout..is of a green colour, emits water, and within is like a tough piece of flesh.
2. (See quot.)
1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-spout*, the jetting of sea-water over the adjacent lands, when forced through a perforation in a rocky shore; both its egress and ingress are attended with a rumbling noise, and the spray is often injurious to the surrounding vegetation.

†**Sea-spring.** *Obs.*—1 A spring-tide.
1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. i. § 1. 65 The high Seasprings of the yeare are alwayes neere unto the two Æquinoctialls and Solstices.

Seasse, obs. form of CEASE, SEISE.

Sea-star.
†1. A star which guides mariners at sea. *Obs.*
Chiefly repr. med.L. *stella maris*, a title given to the Virgin Mary, from the erroneous belief that it expressed the etymological meaning of the Heb. name Miriam, Mary.
c 1050 *Pseudo-Matth.* (Assmann) 8 Nu is hyre nama gerelit ..sæsteorra. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2132 Forr hire name tacneþþ uss Sæsteorrne onn Ennglisch spæche, & 3ho beoþ æfre, & wass, & iss Sæsteorrne inn haliʒ bisne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141, 161. 1808 *Vesper Bk.* 112/2 Sea-star by which we sail. And gate of heav'nly rest! 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-Worshippers* (near end), With nought but the sea-star to light up her tomb.
2. A starfish. [Gr. ἀστήρ, L. *stella* (*marina*).]
1569 FENTON *Secret Wond. Nature* 50 b, A kind of fishe called *Stella*, or Sea starre, bycause it hath the figure of a painted starre. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* C 2, The fishes called Sea-starres, that burne one another by excessiue heate. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* v. 72 Why amongst Sea-starres nature chiefly delighteth in five points? 1772-84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 323 Sea-suns and sea-stars, are small round shell-fish, and receive their denominations from the great variety of prickles, which shoot from them like rays of light. 1856 R. KNOX tr. *Edwards' Man. Zool.* § 382 The sea stars, the holothuria.., and the sea-urchins, are types of this class [*Echinodermata*]. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 16 And her feet Were most sweet, Tinged like sea-stars, rosied brown.

Sea-strand. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* = SEA-SHORE.
c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 68/29 Berað..þa stanas to see-strande. *c* 1205 LAY. 9235 At Port-chaestre heo comen alond & stepen up a see strond [*c* 1275 þat see strond]. *c* 1303 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 188 Betere hem were at home in huere londe, Then for te seche Flemmysshe by the see stronde. 14.. *Beues* 515 (MS. C), They arevyd at þe see stronde. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* (1550) 28 He..came to the sea stronde at Douer. 1849 J. A. CARLYLE tr. *Dante's Inf.* XXX. 361 Hecuba..on the sea-strand forlorn. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 31 Between the sea-strand and the sea. 1882 CHILD *Ballads* I. 112/2 They come to a sea-strand or other water.

Sea-stream. [= OS. *sē-strēm.*]
†1. An ocean current: *poet.* the sea. *Obs.*
a 1000 *Andreas* 749 (Gr.) Salte sæstreamas. *c* 1205 LAY. 326 He iwende sorhful ouer sea streames into Griclonde. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 9/34 Þu steorest te sea stream Þ hit fleden ne mot fir þan þu markedest.
2. (See quot.)
1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 228 A stream is an oblong collection of drift or bay-ice, the pieces of which are continuous. It is called a sea-stream, when it is exposed on one side to the ocean, and affords shelter from the sea, to whatever is within it. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Seasur(e, obs. forms of SEIZURE.

Sea-swallow.
1. = FLYING FISH. [After L. *hirundo* (Pliny).]
1598 FLORIO, *Accola*, a sea swallow, or a sea reare-mouse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. xxvi. I. 249 The sea Swallow flieth: and it resembleth in all points the bird so called. 1611 COTGR., *Arondelle de mer*, the flying fish called the sea Bat, or sea Swallow. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 19 A great flying-fish or Sea Swallow. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* II. liii. 171 The Flying-Fish or Sea-Swallow..is very common between the Tropicks. 1844 LINSLEY *Fishes Connecticut* in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 59 Dactylopterus volitans, Cuv., Sea Swallow, Long Island Sound.
2. a. A name for any one of the terns (from their general resemblance to swallows). b. The stormy petrel, *Procellaria pelagica*.
1647 HEXHAM I. App., A Sea-swallow, *Een Zee-zwaluwe.* 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 90 *Hirundo Marina*, the Sea-Swallow. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 269 *Larus Piscator* Aldrov...The lesser Sea-Swallow. 1734 ALBIN *Birds* II. Pl. 88 The greater Sea Swallow. 1831 M. RUSSELL *Anc. & Mod. Egypt.* xi. § 3 (1832) 484 The *Sterna Nilotica*, or Egyptian sea-swallow. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 460 *Thalassidroma pelagica*. The Common Storm-Petrel. ..Sea Swallow. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* vii, The sea swallow shot over him too, with its low mournful cry.
3. The trepang or bêche-de-mer.
[=Du. *zeezwaluw*; but the second element represents the Malay name ﻮﻠﻭ *swālā*.]
1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 380 Sea swallow (called beach de mar by the Portuguese, and trepong by the Malays). 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 310/2 Animals of economic value [in Borneo] are the sea-swallows, whose edible nests are prized as the best in the archipelago.

Sea-swine.
1. A porpoise. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Isidre..spekeþ of þe see swyne þat is comynlich icleped sullus. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 2 The iij. day þe seeswyne and þe cloppys of þe see schull stond on þe see and make roryng noyse so hyddous. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* lxx. (1517) Q vi, Loke that thou be well ware of the yre of the see swyne the whyche wyll folowe thy shyppe. 1671 RAY in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 2279 Most nations calling this fish *Porcus Marinus*, or the Sea-swine. 1884 *Leisure Hour* June 374/2 The porpoise..was found on the table of the queen. The Saxons called it sea-swine.
2. *Sc.* (See quot. 1880-4.)
1803 *Sibbald's Fife & Kinross* 128 *note*, Several of them [Wrasses] are occasionally caught in the Frith of Forth, and are called by our fishers by the general name of Sea Swine. 1880-4 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* I. 255 *Labrus lineatus*... Ballan-wrasse, sea-swine, Moray Firth, owing to its making a squeaking noise like a pig.

Seat (sīt), *sb.* Forms: 2 *Kent.* sate, 2-3 sæte, 3-5 seete, 3-6 sete, sette, 4-5 seet, *Sc.* set, 5-6 *Sc.* seit(e, (5 *Sc.* seytte, 6 *Sc.* saitt, sate), 5-7 seate, *Sc.* sait, 6- seat. [a. ON. *sæti* = OHG. *gasâzi* (MHG. *gesæze*, mod.G. *gesäss*), MDu. *gesaete*, *gesete* (mod.Du. *gezeet*):—OTeut. *(*ga*)*sētjo-m*, f. **sēt*- ablaut-var. of **set-*: see SIT *v.*
The same grade of the root is represented in OE. *sæt* (= ON. *sát*) str. fem., ambush, which occurs only in two obscure passages, and did not survive into ME.]
I. Action or manner of sitting.
†1. *gen.* The action of sitting. Also an assembly at a banquet. *Obs.*
c 1200 ORMIN 11059 He turrnde waterr inntill win..Att an bridaless sæte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28471, I haue halden quen i was sett langsum setes at my mete. *Ibid.* 29085. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxviii. 2 Þou knew mi seete and mi risinge. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 1002 He fonde the boordys covyrde alle, And redy to go to mete; The maydyn..In a kyrtulle there sche stode, And bowne sche was to sete. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* 32 Sain Benet..sais þat vnait sete es il to be saule. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2747 Þis bysone mone full wery of sete he was And ryȝt gret lust he hadde to slepe.
b. *concr.* A setting or 'clutch' (of eggs). ? *dial.*
1892 *Wild & Tame* 33 A merchant in Norfolk had a seat of Duck's eggs hatched off.
2. Manner of sitting (on horseback). (Chiefly with qualifying adj.) Also *predicatively*, one who has a (good, etc.) seat, a (good, etc.) horseman.
1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 115 b, The ridgebone ouer the shoulders being something hie, gines the horseman a better seate. 1667 DK. NEWCASTLE *Meth. Dressing Horses* 205 The Seat is so much..as it is the only thing that makes a Horse go Perfectly. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 186. 237 It conduces to give a Man a firm and graceful Seat on Horseback. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 48 [Virgil] tells us the exact seat of a Roman dragoon. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* viii, Touch the Hospitaller's shield; he has the least sure seat, he is your cheapest bargain. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, The graceful seat of an experienced horseman. 1883 MISS F. M. PEARD *Contradictions* II. 278 Miss Molyneux would never have fallen.. for there wasn't a better seat in the county. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 295 He has a fine seat on a horse.
3. The sitting of a court or the like. Now *Sc.*
1635 *Maldon* (Essex) *Borough deeds* (Bundle 80. no. 2), The freeholders within the burrough summoned to appere att the forrest seate or sitinge at Chelmesford. 1638 *Ibid.* (Bundle 80. no. 3), xs. paid to Mr. Hamound for his charges att the justice seate. 1889 H. JOHNSTON *Chron. Glenbuckie* iii. 35 We had had a long seat in the Boar's Head hearing reports frae the delegates.
†b. A sitting body, court of justice. *Justice seat*: see JUSTICE *sb.* 12. *Obs.*
1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 150 Of the counsell, for that it is the hyghe judicial seate of the churche [*ecclesiæ supremum tribunal*]. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xxv. 486 There were divers seates and iurisdictions, with their Counsellors and Iudges of the Court.
c. *Sc.* (More fully *seat of session.*) The Court of Session, the supreme Civil Court of Scotland; esp. in *Lord's of the seat.*
1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 41 Som sanis the Sait, and sum thame cursis. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 59 To charge him to compere before the lordis of the sait to answer [etc.]. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 5 Becaus of the fere of the pest that is laytlie risyn in the toun of Edinburcht, the seite of Sessioun may nocht surelie remaine

thairin. 1574 *Ibid.* II. 378 For the administratioun of justice upon offendouris,..in the north partis..far distant frome the ordinar sait of justice. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* iv, 'Is he a lord of state, or a lord of seat?'...'A lord of seat—a lord of session.—I fash mysell little wi' lords o' state.'

d. *Sc.* The court of Kirk-session. ? *Obs.*

1558 *Reg. St. Andrews Kirk Session* (1889) I. 313 The quhilk day Andro Alexander is admonischet be the Superintendent and Seat.

†4. 'Stool', evacuation of the bowels. (Cf. Siege *sb.* 3 b.) *Obs.*

1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 367 The Juice of the leaves of Betonica, in Spring, will not Work by Vomit and Seat as well as the Roots.

5. The 'set' or 'sit' (of a garment). ? *Obs.*

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xxi, And only look at my ruff!.. Colonel Delmour has spoil'd the seat of it.

II. Place or thing to sit upon.

6. The place on which a person is sitting, or is accustomed to sit; a place to seat one person at a table, in a public building, conveyance, etc.

c 1205 Lay. 30841 Þat folc haſden alle iȝeten and arisen from heore seten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15282 Quen þis super was all don, Ieſus ras of his sette [*other texts* sete; *rime* lete]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 62 And þei loven first seetis at soperis. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. vii. 424 Kynge Arthur..maade hym knyght of the table round and his seate was where the good Knyghtes sir Marhaus seate was. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 102 Full slyddrie is the sait that thay on sit. 1575 Gascoigne *Posies, Flowers* (1907) 97 Me thought I was a lofi, and yet my seate full sure: Thy heart dyd seeme to me a rock which ever might endure. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* G 2, Sexton, I haue sought thee in euery seate in the Church. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 496 Starting at once from their green Seats, they rise; Fear in their Heart, Amazement in their Eyes. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 14 Sept., She ordered me a seat at her right hand. *a* 1763 W. King *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 244 He went every Sunday to St. James's church, and used to sit in Mr. Salt's seat. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 21 Till the mountain shade Sloped downward to her seat from the upper cliff. 1873 O. W. Holmes *Addr. Opening Fifth Avenue Theatre* 99 See where the hurrying crowd..Streams to the numbered seat each paste-board fits. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* iii. 22 Then she stalked out of the church. Fortunately we were in the free seats, near the door.

transf. and *fig.* 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 49 Thanne cometh..Anoþer proud partriche..And sesith on hir sete [*MS. alteration of* cete] with hir softe plumes, And boueth þe eyren. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 81 When thou wak'st, let loue forbid Sleepe his seate on thy eye-lid. 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 51 If bright ambition from her craggy seat Display the radiant prize. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 432 For Providence..In spite of all the wrigglers into place, Still keeps a seat or two for worth and grace.

b. Hence, the use of, or right to use, a seat (in a church, theatre, conveyance, etc.). Cf. Sitting.

1520 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 9 Rec^d of Thoms Gyles for his wifes sete iiij^d. *c* 1618 Morvson *Itin.* IV. (1903) 149 A Countesse..litle or nothing respected..in the Church, where she could hardly gett a seate. 1815 tr. *Paris Chit-Chat* (1816) III. 176 To-day it is discussed how much should be exacted for seats on the day when Monseigneur comes to confirm. 1844 O. W. Holmes *Lines Berksh. Jubilee* 51 We'll give you at least..a seat on the grass, And the best of old—water—at nothing a glass. 1879 J. Kerr *Ess. Castism & Sectism* 79 She paid a pound out of her scanty wages for a seat in the church.

c. A right to sit as a member, or the position of being a member, of a deliberative or administrative body, *esp.* of Parliament or other legislative assembly; a place (whether occupied or temporarily vacant) in the membership of the House of Commons, Congress, or the like.

Sometimes qualified by the designation of that one of the contending parties to which the holder of the (Parliamentary) seat belongs: e.g. 'The polls for three Liberal and three Conservative seats will be declared to-morrow'.

1774 Burke *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 399 In the year sixty-five..not having the honour of a seat in this house. 1787 J. Jay in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 153 Members who will find it convenient to make their seats subservient to partial and personal purposes. 1798 Tyrwhitt in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 138 All those who purchased Seats are selling as well as they can. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* li, He was generally respected by those of his own profession, as well as by the laity who had seats in the Assembly. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 453 Jeffreys..very soon after the death of Charles, obtained a seat in the cabinet. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/4 A seat on the Committee will compel them to hear..the first principles of economical science. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 309/2 By the English Reform Act of 1867..twenty-six seats were taken from boroughs...Seven other English boroughs were disfranchised by the Scottish Reform Act of 1868, these seats being given to Scotland.

7. Something adapted or used for sitting upon, as a chair, stool, sofa, etc. Also *spec.* a bench to seat one or more persons; a horizontal board or framework in a boat, vehicle, etc.; †a sedan chair.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 14734 (Fairf.) Þaire setis [*Cott.* settes, *Trin.* seges] þer þai in con sete he kest ham doun vnder þaire fete. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1094 Anend the setis [of a bath] sette hit so withoute The fourneys. 1584 *Churchw. Acc. S. Audrew's, Canterb.* (MS.), For a borde to make seates in the belfry & braggett's, vj. 1588 Hickock tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 40 b, The noble men neuer goe on foote, but are caried by men in a seat. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 392 Rais'd of grassie terf Thir Table was, and mossie seats had round. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 162 But in order due Convivial table and commodious seat..were there. 1818 Shelley *Rosalind* 106 They came To a stone seat beside a spring. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 700 A light chariot without a seat. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 848/1 [The Romans'] chairs, couches, and seats were of similar shape to those of the Greeks.

b. in narrower sense: That part (of a chair, saddle, etc.) upon which its occupant sits.

1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. 251 Miss Mirvan and I jumped involuntarily upon the seats of our chairs. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. xi. P 5 Chairs without any seats. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Seat*, the broad part of a saddle on which the rider sits; also, the top piece on a gig saddle. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 850/1 The seats, backs, and ends are stuffed and upholstered with rich materials.

8. Contextually applied to the chair set apart for the holder of some position of authority or dignity, the throne of a king or a bishop, or the like, the throne of God or of an angel. Hence *fig.* the authority or dignity symbolized by sitting in a particular chair or throne. *Regal* or *royal seat* (arch.), †*seat-royal*, a royal throne.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 105 *Iustitia et iudicium preparatio sedis eius*,..Rihtwisnesse and dom, hi makieð godes sate. *c* 1200 Ormin 11959 Þedeofell brohhte Jesu Crist Wiþþutenn o þe temmple Upponn an sæte uppo þe rof,..Forr þær wass greȝþedd sæte o lofft Till þa þatt sholldenn spellenn. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 155 King of Crete He hadde be; bot of his sete He was put doun. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 855 Gamelyn sette him doun in the Iustices seet. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xlii. 141 Thou art not worthy to syit in a sete royall. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xxii. (1903) II. 36 He callit þe consullis to raise ane new contentioun to þare seittis. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 26 This is the Pallace of the fearefull King, And this the Regall Seat: possesse it Yorke. 1617 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 595 The King comes forth in open audience, sitting in his Seat-royall. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* xx. 6 Paraphr. 116 As if by his own right hand from heaven, his holy seat of mansion, he should reach out deliverance to him. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 27 On to the sacred hill They led him high applauded, and present Before the seat supreme. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* v. i, I, for myself, th' Imperial Seat will gain. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vi. 80 A third Can give or take the Honours of the State, The Consul's Fasces, and the Prætor's Seat. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* 634 The king would dress an ape up in his crown And robes, and seat him on his glorious seat.

b. *spec.* The throne *of* a particular kingdom.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. i. 88 Of his true Titles to some certaine Dukedomes, And generally, to the Crowne and Seat of France. *Ibid.* I. i. 269 We neuer valew'd this poore seate of England. 1896 A. Austin *England's Darling* I. i, And in the seat of Mercia Ceowulf rules.

†c. *Apostolic seat* [F. *Siège apostolique*], *Holy seat* [F. *Saint-Siège*], *Peter's seat*: the papal chair, its occupant or his office. (Cf. See *sb.*) *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 b, He that hathe the Seate and fauth of Peter, was ever taken for his successour. 1563 Winȝet tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* viii. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 25 Pape Steuin.., Prælat of the Apostolik Sait [*apostolicæ sedis antistes*]. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 405 The authoritie where with they do it, is not knowen,..the seat apostolicke did neuer giue it them. 1673–4 Clarendon *Relig. & Policy* (1811) I. 202 The reserving of the first-fruits of all vacant benefices to the holy seat.

†d. as the title of an order of angels; = Throne. (Used to render L. *sedes.*) *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. x. (1495) 37 The thyrde Ordre is the ordre of Thrones...Ysidore & therfore Denys calle theym þ^t hyghest setes [*sedes altissimæ*] for they ben hye as it were by auctoryte of god ordened for to deme... Sadde setes [*Sedes compactæ*] for they ben couenable & conuenyently Joyned towchynge the Joynture & conuenyentes of domes of god. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. IX. 717/2 Truely the Apostle sayth, Whether seates, (thrones) whether lordships, whether principalities, whether powers.

9. The sitting part of the body; the posteriors. Also jocularly, *seat of honour* (and nonce-variations).

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 189 A plaister thereof..cureth also all tumours in the priuy parts, and in the seate. 1727 Gay *Fables* xxiii. 80 They stick with pins my bleeding seat. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 84 The snorting beast began to trot, Which gall'd him in his seat. 1785 R. Cumberland *Observer* No. 24 P 12 With one kick, pretty forcibly bestowed upon the seat of dishonour. 1792 Wolcot *Pair of Lyric Eq.* 18 Behold him seiz'd, his seat of honour bare; The bamboo sounds—alas! no voice of Fame. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. (1892) 148 The Turk..gave him two or three lusty kicks on the seat of honour. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* V. i. P 3 My seat of vengeance was firked most unmercifully. 1820 Combe *Syntax, Wife* II. 289 While with his spade the conq'ror plied, Stroke after stroke, the seat of shame, Which blushing Muses never name. 1835 Hood *Dead Robbery* iii, The stiff 'un that he thought to meet Starts sudden up, like Jacky-in-a-box, Upon his seat! 1878 *Athletic World* 10 May 66/2 A well-ventilated [bicycle-] saddle is the best preventative for those blisters which favour the seat of honour.

b. That part (of a garment, esp. of a pair of trousers) which covers the posteriors.

1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* II, I had a pair of trowsers with no seat to them. *a* 1849 Hawthorne *Twice-told T., Village Uncle*, Another [fellow] has planted the tarry seat of his trousers on a heap of salt.

10. The 'form' of a hare. ? *Obs.*

[Cf. Gr. ἡ καθέδρα τοῦ λαγῶ Xen. *Cynег.* iv. § 4]

1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 25 So the wise Hares Oft quit their Seats, lest some more curious Eye Shou'd mark their Haunts. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* I. II. vi. 139 The Form of the Hare, or as it is sometimes called, her seat.

11. *Boot-trade.* An engagement to work at making boots of a specified kind. Const. *of.*

1791 J. Lackington *Mem.* xvii. 114, I could not bear the idea of returning to the leather-branch; I therefore attempted and obtained a seat of Stuff in Bristol. *Ibid.* xviii. 118, I left my seat of work at Bristol, and returned..to Taunton. 1896 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 10/6 Boot trade. Wanted, a Seat of Woman's Work.

III. Residence, abode, situation. [Cf. L. *sedes.*]

12. Applied *spec.* (after L. *sedes*) to: The abiding place or resting place (of departed souls); a position in this place. Now *arch.* or *poet.*

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 52 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Wikede beoþ þe sete [*sc.* Hell] And the wurmes eke þat doþ þe saule teone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25448 Reu me lauerd..and wiss me waies þare þare santes has þair seli sete. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 36 Thanne he preide Unto the Patriarch and seide: Send Lazar doun fro thilke Sete, And do that he his finger wete In water. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 416 Behold! I se hevyn oppyn & a seatt ordand for me. 1561 Daus *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 218 b, The soules passing out of the body before the end and last iudgement go right into the blessed seates. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. v. 112 Mount, mount my soule, thy seate is vp on high. 1707–45 Watts *Hymn*, '*How bright these glorious Spirits*'. How came they to the happy Seats of everlasting Day? 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 129 Gods, who have attain'd Rest in a happy place and quiet seats Above the thunder.

13. (Cf. 8.) A city in which a throne, court, government is established or set up; a capital.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1630 Priam..a pales gert make Within the Cite full Solempne of a sete riall. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 49 Mehemet..resoluing to keep there the seat of his empire. 1595 T. Bedingfield tr. *Machiavelli's Florent. Hist.* I Rome, the antient Emperiall seate. 1698 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. 467/2 Constantinople was taken by Mahomet, and made the chief Seat of the Turkish Empire. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 541 Peking, the Royal Seat of the Chinese Emperor. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xii. II. 85 This [Miletus] was the seat chosen by Neleus himself. 1851 Dixon *W. Penn* I (1872) 4 His seat of government was far away from the coast.

b. (Cf. 8 c.) = See *sb.* Now only *seat of a bishop.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 77 þe chief moderchirche of al Wales, and þe chief sete [*Caxton* see]. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 436 Maister John Barnette, bischop of Worcester, was translate to the seete of Bathe. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* IV. 16 The which was at that tyme mother of his Inheritaunce nor Purchace, but as a thing taken of the Sete of Wiccestre in Farme. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 474 The cheptoure of the seitt of Glasgow. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. iii. 296 In England a city is usually taken to be a place which is or has been the seat of a bishop.

14. The thing (esp. the organ or part of the body) in which a particular power, faculty, function or quality 'resides'; the locality of a disease, sensation, or the like.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 100 The dreie Colre..his propre sete [L. *domus*] Hath in the galle, whiche he duelleth. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. ii. (1495) 102 The heede is pryncypall place and seete of wyttes. 1676 Grew *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* vi. 26 The said Three Ventricles.. are the Seat of Tast. 1753 R. Russell *Diss. Sea Water* 182 The Patient..complained only of those Parts, which were the late Seat of the Disease. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* I. iv. (1782) 47 We formed a judgment concerning the necessary seat of thought. 1842 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* VI. vii. 98 The heart may be considered as the seat of life. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 363 Mercurial ostitis of the head is a very common form of disease: its more usual seats are the frontal and parietal bones. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 196 The air itself between the eye and the distant pines being the seat of the colour 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* II. v. § 57 (1875) 185 The string is the seat of a tension generated by the motion of the ball. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 61 (1879) 63 The Sensorial centres whose seat is in the head. 1892 W. R. Gowers *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* I. 333 The lesions of chronic myelitis resemble those of acute myelitis in seat and distribution.

b. Similarly, of the soul or its parts.

1579 Hake *Newes out of Powles* iv. (1872) D iii b, The stomack ouerchardgde..Doth make the minde and inwarde man vnfit for reasons seate. 1716–17 Bentley *Serm.* xi. 383 [His heart is] the Seat of selfishness. 1751 Jortin *Serm.* I. iii. (1771) 57 A mind tormented with furious passions, the seat of hopes which are disappointed. 1847 R. W. Hamilton *Rewards & Punishm.* viii. (1853) 365 Sin has its seat in the soul. 1850 McCosh *Div. Govt.* III. i. (1874) 309 We regard the will as the seat of all virtue and vice.

15. A place where something takes place, or where some particular condition of things prevails. *Seat of war* [= L. *sedes belli*]: the region in which warfare is going on.

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* xxxv. 4 Alwayis to fle iniquite And sait of syn and schame. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v., *Sedes luxuriæ*. Cic. The seate or habitation of riot and sensualitie. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 140 In this Seat of Peace. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* II. i. § 2. 110 Those parts which were furthest remote from the seat of those grand transactions. 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* i. 44 The other retires into Holland, and makes that the seat of the War. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* I. (1690) 9 A plain open Country.. where the seat of War may be both Winter and Summer. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. vii. 259 Foretelling, at what Time Rome or Babylon or Greece..should be the most conspicuous Seat of..Tyranny and Dissoluteness. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 432 Forage, for which every large body of troops must depend upon the country which is to be the seat of its operations. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xii. 303 And who shall say where guided? to what seats Of starving villany? of thieves and cheats? 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* iii. 87 Many Croats and Slovenes..were..leaving for the seat of war. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xvii. 278 The region which has been the seat of these changes.

b. A city or locality in which (a branch of trade, learning, etc.) is established.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 49 Galata, being the seate of trade of the Geneuoises. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 488 Cambridge..was a seat of learning about the time of King Henry the First. 1768 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* v. xxxvi. 264 So little attention was given to matters of science in Europe, their former seat. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 585 Taunton..was a celebrated seat of the woollen manufacture. 1865 Dickens *Life Mary. Wore.* I. I Blackfriars was..the seat of fashion. 1868

FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 153 It was in those days the chief seat of the Irish slave-trade.

16. A place of habitation or settlement (of a tribe, people, etc.). Also *transf.* (of birds).

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 217 Baith Scot and Pecht.. war baneist all out of tha boundis, And Saxonis sone in thair saittis set doun. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. Comment., We often see with a clap of thunder doves or other fowles driven headlong from their seates. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* IV. vii. § iii. 301 These Gaules were the race of those, that issued out of their Countrie, to seeke new seates in that great expedition. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 146 The seat of the old Irish..was the province of Ulster. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 327 Betwixt the midst [the torrid zone] and these [the frigid zones], the Gods assign'd Two habitable Seats for Humane Kind. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 2 The convenience of feeding their Cattle was even a sufficient motive for removing their seats. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* v. I. 149 Corinth, one of the principal seats of the Minyan race. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. 13 Central Europe was not at that time the seat of civilized nations.

† b. *Seat and soil* [= L. *sedes ac solum* (Livy)]: a region of habitation. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1749 All þe gracious godis..þat sauys sete & soile & sustaynes þe erth. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. iii. § 3. 38 [Certain places are said in Scripture to resemble Paradise:] being compared to a seat and soyle of farre exceeding excellencie. *Ibid.* § 5. 40 Or if the soile and seate had not remained, then would not Moses, who wrote of Paradise about 850 years after the floud, haue described it so particularly.

c. = COUNTRY-SEAT.

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 85 Let Princes haue their Palaces, and great men, their pleasant seates. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 481 Rising-castle..the seat in times past of the Albineys. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 325 Houses, better than farm-houses, but not sumptuous enough to be called seats or capital mansions. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* iii. 56 And guests politely call'd his house a seat. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 98 And here we lit on..lady friends From neighbour seats. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* i, No gentleman's seat is within an easy drive of us.

† **17.** Local or geographical position or situation. *Seat of living*: habitat (of an animal). *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 660 We shall manifest, that either the colour or seate of liuing, cannot agree with the *Strepsiceros*. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. iii. § i. 33 The Lord God planted a garden, Eastward, in Eden...Of this seate and place of Paradise, all ages haue held dispute. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 173 He knew the Seat of Paradise, Could tell in what Degree it lies. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. 36 But the Sea..left these Shells there as marks of its ancient bounds and seat.

18. Position (of ground, a city, habitation) as regards surroundings, climate, etc.; situation, site; hence, the position of a person or living thing with regard to habitation or situation.

1549 RUSSELL in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1882) IV. 435 They found the rebels strongly encamped, as well by the seat of the ground as by the entrenching of the same. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1908) C ij b, But mee thinkes, this is a pleasant Citie, The Seate is good, and yet not stronge. 1574 R. SCOT *Hop Garden* (1578) 9 The Hoppe that lykes not..his seate, his grounde,..or the manner of his setting &c. commeth vp..small in stalke. 1591 FLORIO *and Fruites* 29 You are lodged then in a verie good seate [*In buon sito*]. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vi. 1 This Castle hath a pleasant seat. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 6 Although the seate of the Towne be excessive hot, yet it is happily qualified by a North-East gale. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. Intermeane, In Siluer-streete, the Region of money, a good seat for a Vsurer. 1625 BACON *Ess., Building* (Arb.) 547 Hee that builds a faire House, upon an ill Seat, committeth Himselfe to Prison. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* i. 44 Holland..was strong by its nature and seat among the Waters that encompass and divide it. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* vi. 1 Has Winter caus'd thee, friend, to change thy seat, And seek in Sabine air a warm retreat? *a* 1702 SEDLEY *4th Bk. Virg. Georg.* Wks. 1778 I. 26 First, for your Bees a seat and station chuse Shelter'd from winds.

† **19.** A definite place (on a surface, in a body or organ, in a series). *Obs.*

1574 H. BAKER *Well-spring Sci.* (1617) 2 [In Numeration] a place is called a seat or roome that a figure standeth in. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 2 Of these three sortes ..so meane I to entreate, that the first in the first place, the last in the last roome, and the myddle sort in the middle seate, be handled. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 9 That Seame..rising from the hollowes of the temples, pearseth, through the middle seates of the eyes. 1653 LD. BROUNCKER tr. *Des Cartes' Compend. Mus.* 40 Unlesse all the Tones of these be removed by a Fourth or Fifth, from their proper Seat. 1676 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 521 The Seates or places where the same Bookes are to be putt..shall have the name of the said Sr Thomas Sclater putt upon them. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 39 b, If..Buildings obstruct your Sight from discovering and fixing upon the exact Seat of every Angle. 1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art of Reading* 38 For many Contiguous letters [of the alphabet] as they now lie are performed in such different seats and with such different exertions of the organs.

† b. = LOCUS 2. *Obs.* (*? nonce-use.*)

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 14 Aristotle assigneth ten places, or seates of arguments, in the fourth Chapter of his Categories.

† **20.** A term of the game of Post and Pair. *Obs.*

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* xxii. (ed. 2) 106 You must first stake at Post, then at Pair; after this deal two Cards apiece, then stake at the Seat.

IV. Basis, foundation, support.

† **21.** A place prepared for something to be erected or set up upon it; a building site. *Obs.*

1615 MARKHAM *County Contentm.* I. i. 14 Against the side of this hill would be cut or digged diuers large and broad seats one aboue an other,..which seats would bee..boorded ..on the sides..and also close boorded aloft,..the number of these seats would bee according to the number of your Hounds. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 85 A Church by Strand-bridge, and two Bishops houses, were pulled downe to make a seat for his new building. 1662 GERBIER *Principles* 14 But as for a Seate on Moorish Grounds.., in effect 'tis to Build perpetually.

† b. *transf.* in *Perspective.* (See quot.)

1825 R. BROWN *Princ. Pract. Perspective* 3 *Seat* is the space that an object would occupy on the ground plane.

22. That part of a thing upon which it rests or appears to rest, usually the broadest part; the base.

1661 N. N. *Drayning Fenns* 7 Banks..9 foot high and 60 foot wide at seat or bottom. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vi. i. 139 The first is the Edible Button Fish. These have very great Prickles, with Seats or Bases proportionable. 1828 P. NICHOLSON *Masonry* 37 A horizontal section of a wall, through the base-line, is called the seat of the wall. 1830 HEDDERWICK *Mar. Archit.* 118 *Seat*, the bottom part of a timber; the seat of the floors is that part which rests on the keel. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) v. lix. 175 The eddy which the ship draws after her at her seat or line of flotation. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 452 Seat of wooden bellows (the lower or fixed chest or box), *der Unterkasten, Gtte.*

23. *Mech.* A part or surface upon which the base of something rests.

1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 129 *Seat*, the scarph or part trimmed out for a chock, &c. to lay to. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 414 The beam being received into the seats formed on..the palms [of a plough]. 1858 R. MURRAY *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 71 It more frequently happens that the valve fits its seat so badly as to allow of the escape of steam. 1875 T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 103 Carvers leave a level place called a seat, where this extra thickness is required, and glue on a piece. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Seat*, that part of the bore of a chambered piece of ordnance at which the shell rests when rammed home. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 129 A hole is drilled so much less in size than the jewel as to allow of a firm seat for it. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 583/1 To obtain the requisite convexity by rounding the formation surface or seat of the road.

24. *Mining.* **a.** The floor of a mine. **b.** The stratum (of clay, rock, etc.) upon which coal lies.

1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 43 [Derbyshire terms.] *Seat*, or *Sole*, the floor or bottom of the mine. 1867 SMYTHE *Coal* 25 The floor, thill, or seat.., of the coal is an underclay.

25. *Shoemaking.* A piece of leather pegged or sewn to the boot as a foundation for the heel.

1832 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 30 The nails..spread as they go in so as to nail the heel closely round the seat of the boot. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* vii. 107 If a pegged seat is wanted, it must be arranged for before the boot is lasted, as it is necessary to skive the stiffener much thinner..than is wanted for a sewn seat.

† **26.** Used to render L. *sedes* in technical senses. **a.** Anat. *Seat of the heart*: see quots. 1398. *Seat of the skull*: app. the cheek-bone. **b.** *Surg.* [after Gr. *βέλεος ἕδρη*, Hipp.] See quot. 1634. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (1495) 149 And the herte hath in the brede therof two grystlewe bones, whyche ben callyd the setes therof. *Ibid.* v. lix. 175 In the mydyll of the herte of a beest is a grystyll bone sette in the brede therof and that is callyd the seet and subtylte of the herte. 1552 UDALL tr. *Gemmus' Anat.* B vij b/2 The seate of y^e scull, whych we call the stonny seate [orig. *sedes calvariæ, quam lapidosam dicimus*]. *Ibid.*, Thys seate together wyth hys felowe on the other syde, we call the cheake bones. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* x. i. 337 Hippocrates ..in his Booke. seemes to have made 4. or 5. kinds of fractures of the Scull...The 4. is named Sedes, or a seat. *Ibid.* 338 Seate, when the marke of the weapon remaines imprinted in the wound, that the wound is of no more length, nor bredth than the weapon fell upon.

V. 27. Phrases. **a.** *To hold, keep a* or *one's seat*: to remain seated, to keep from falling; also, to retain one's position as a Member of Parliament. Similarly, *to lose one's seat.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7409 Than Achilles..Al to hurlet the helme of þe high prinse; But hym seluyn was safe, & his seate helde. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 36 Nor neuer Hidra-headed Wilfulnesse Soosoone did loose his Seat. 1602 — *Ham.* I. v. 96 While memory holds a seate In this distracted Globe. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 54 Sit worthy Friends:..Pray you keepe Seat. 1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 66 The Quack being no longer able to keep his Seat [on horseback] falls headlong. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 485 Part [of the riders] reel'd but kept their seats. 1881 GLADSTONE *Sp. at Leeds* 7 Oct. in *Times* 8 Oct. 6/3, I never was called upon ..to exercise an option between Leeds and Mid Lothian. My seat for both was lost by my acceptance of office.

b. † *To make one's seat* (obs.), *to take a seat*: to sit down. *To take one's seat*: to take the sitting-place assigned to one; to assume one's official position, to be formally admitted to Parliament or Congress.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* 179a Of þam þat er not redi þair To say þe grace & take þer sete. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 8291 (Trin.) On a bowȝe be[sc. an angel] made his sete Of þat tre þat was so swete. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, III. iii. 10 On the ground, Where I must take like Seat vnto my fortune. 1789 COWPER *Queen's Vis. London* 2 When long sequester'd from his throne George took his seat again. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 222 The..judge having taken his seat. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. 997 Ere this power can make In human hearts its calm and holy seat. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 238 A writ of summons was issued to him, and he took his seat accordingly. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xxxiv, I took a seat: St. John stood near me. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 203 About two hundred and fifty members took their seats. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 49 [He] took his seat in congress as one of the delegates from Pennsylvania.

c. *To take a* or *the back seat*, orig. *U. S.*, *fig.* to take up the least prominent position, to occupy a subordinate place.

1868 in *Farmer's Slang Dict.* s. v. *Back Seat*, [Andrew Johnson's famous saying in 1868 that in the work of Reconstruction traitors should take back seats.] 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xlvi. 195 A leader came to care for his influence within his State chiefly as a means of gaining strength in the wider national field...The State, therefore, had, to use the transatlantic phrase, 'to take the back seat.'

VI. Combinations.

28. General relations: **a.** simple attrib., as *seat cushion, frame, lug, pillar, rail, row, stitch*; objective, as *seat borer, maker, owner.*

1875 *Guide High Wycombe* 56 [Chair-] *seat-borer. 1860 G. A. SPOTTISWOODE *Vac. Tour* 82 We suddenly saw *seat-cushions, books, and plaids neatly lifted out by the wind. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his Own Mech.* § 781 The front and back of the *seat-frame are connected by short rails. 1875 *Guide High Wycombe* 56 [Chair-] *seat-maker. 1898 *Cycling* 34 The *seat pillar [of a bicycle] should never project more than two inches from the *seat lug. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Seat-rail*,..one of the horizontal members of the frame which forms or supports the seat, as in a chair or sofa. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. iii, The Thirty *seat-rows of that famed Slope are again full. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* ii. 47 One way to sew them [sc. upper and sole] together again is by loop-stitching...The *seat-stitch is another way.

29. Special comb.: seat-arch, an arched recess in a wall having a flat place to serve as a seat; seat-back, a piece of tapestry, leather or other material for covering the back of a seat (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); seat-board, (*a*) (see quot. 1884); (*b*) = *seat-tree*; (*c*) a board suspended from scaffolding to serve as a seat for a workman; seat-bone *Anat.*, the innominate bone or hip-bone; more strictly the ISCHIUM; seat-box (see quot.); seat-breaker, a shoemaker's tool (see quot.); seat-clay = next (*Cent. Dict.*); seat-earth, one of the various names applied to the bed underlying a coal-seam; seat-file, a shoemaker's file for smoothing the 'seat' of a boot; seat-holder, (*a*) one who occupies a particular seat; (*b*) one who rents or owns a seat or sitting (esp. in a church, theatre, etc.); seat-house *dial.*, a dwelling-house, 'the manor on an estate' (Jam.); seat-iron, a shoemaker's tool (see quot.); seat-mate *U. S.*, one who shares the same seat with another; seat-mongering, trading in parliamentary seats; seat-owner, one who owns a 'pocket-borough' or a county seat; seat-piece *Shoemaking* = sense 25 (above); seat-rent, the amount paid for a sitting in a church; seat-seller, one who sells parliamentary seats; hence *seat-selling*; seat-sock, a sock for the heel of a boot or shoe; seat-stone = *seat-earth*; seat-transom *Naut.* (see quot.); seat-tree, the seat of a hand-loom; seat wheel (see quot. 1895); seat-worm, a thread-worm, *Oxyuris vermicularis*, infesting the fundament.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 224 A pair of Stone-peers with *Seat-arches. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 233 *Seat Board..in a long case clock [is] the shelf that supports the movement. 1891 H. JOHNSTON *Kilmallie* I. i. 6 When the laddie's legs had grown almost sufficiently to warrant his elevation to the 'seat-board'. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 68 The crack in the side of the stack was successfully repaired by the men working from seat boards suspended from the platform above. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 48 The *seat-bone under the loins is called the flank-bone. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obst. Med. & Surg.* 4 The os ischium, os sedentarium, or seat-bone. 1801 FELTON *Carriages* (ed. 2) I. 149 The *seat-box, a box made to slide under the seat...It is..convenient to carry linen, &c. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* viii. 130 To make up the seat after the seat has been nicely pared up, damp the leather and use the *seat breaker, rubbing it evenly round the seat. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 236 Each bed of coal is supported by a layer of shale known as under-clay or *seat-earth. 1891 IN W. Andrews *Bygone Northamptonshire* 194 The implements of [the shoemaker's] craft,..the awl, clincher.., hammer, *seat-file. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1284 A large space, which..greatly to the discomfiture of the lower *seat-holders, was nearly occupied by spectators. 1842 CARD. WISEMAN *Ess.* (1853) I. 378 The English seat-holder surrounded by all the luxury of worsted-worked cushions [etc.]. 1483 in *Finchale Priory* (Surtees) 96 And the sayd S^r Georg sall repare..the forsayd messuag^ that is to say on *seyt house of v rowmys or berne of v rowmys. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* XVII. 137 The *Seat Iron. This once popular piece of kit has been partially superseded by the seat wheel; but many of the best workmen still employ it to set the seat..before using the seat wheel. 1885 *New York Times* 26 Dec., The mother, tho' wholly unaware of her *seat-mate's identity, did her utmost to protect him. 1813 *Examiner* 12 Apr. 237/1 My Lord Castlereagh's *seat-mongering. 1828 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 355 On the absolute sway of the great *seat owners over King, Ministers, and People. 1885 J. B. LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* VIII. 55 *Seat pieces for common work may be cut from almost any scraps of leather. 1865 *Ch. Times* 11 Mar. 764 The incumbent raised the *seat-rents to prevent the parishioners taking seats. 1821 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1853) 14 Their blue arms and lips, would have made any heart ache, but that of a *seat-seller or a lounjobber. 1817 — *Pol. Reg.* XXXII. 14, I did not believe that there could be any such thing as *seat-selling. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* viii. 145 Gent's boots or shoes will only want a *seat-sock. 1878 GREEN *Coal* I. 28 *Seat-stones vary very much in their composition, the generality of them are clays. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 129 *Seat transom*,

that transom which is fayed and bolted to the counter-timbers, next above the deck transom, at the height of the port sills. 1790 A. Wilson *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 242 '*Groans fr. Loom*', Go,..live o'er a *seat-tree—on nought! 1885 *Seat wheel* [see *seat iron* above]. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* viii. 130 Run the seat-wheel evenly round [the edge of the seat], so that it leaves..one straight line of regular indentations. 1893 R. H. Harte *Local Therap.* 158 Lime-water is used with advantage as an injection to destroy *Seat-worms.

Seat (sīt), *v.* [f. Seat *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To place on a seat or seats; to cause to sit down.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 31 So now y'are fairely seated. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 298 Their Poets and Historians are great frequenters of these places...These are seated in a high Chair, in the midst. 1669 Evelyn *Diary* 15 July, This ended, we were..seated by the Vice-Chancellor amongst the Doctors on his right hand. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* II. 91 Seat him [*sc.* the patient] so as it may be for your conveniency. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6382/4 The Great Master..seated the Proxy down in the Stall. 1805 T. Lindley *Voy. Brazil* 150 The old man seated me. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* xxiii, He seated me and himself. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* xlv, Dinah raised her gently from her knees, and seated her on the pallet again. *fig.* 1776 Toplady *Hymn*, '*Holy Ghost, dispel our Sadness*', Seat us with Thy saints in glory. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 727 Because of that high pleasure which I had To seat you sole upon my pedestal Of worship.

b. *refl.* To take one's seat, sit down. Const. *at, in, upon*, etc.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 37 Ist fit an Eagle seate him with a Flie? 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 100 To seate him-selfe sure in the Saddle. 1765 J. Brown *Chr. Jrnl.* 204 Yonder fly has seated himself upon the surface of a rough stone. 1779 *Mirror* No. 9 We went at an early hour, and seated ourselves in the middle of the pit. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xx, 'Wha was it?'..said Effie, seating herself upright. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. xiv. Lady Catherine good-naturedly seated herself at the piano-forté. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 245, I saw the landlady..seat herself amply before a row of baskets.

† **c.** *intr.* for *refl.* To sit down; also (of animals) to lie down. Of a hare: To sit in its form.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 4 The folds, where sheepe at night doe seat. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moon* (Percy Soc.) 7 Long had they not seated, but one knocked at the gate. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xiv. (1660) 166 You shall say that a Hare Seateth or Formeth. 1686 Blome *Gentl. Recr.* II. 76 A Hare Seateth or Formeth, a Coney Sitteth. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 146 There, seating,..I will now tell you, my uncle, says he.

d. *trans.* To cause or enable to sit *in* or *on* a throne, chair of state or office, or other seat of authority or dignity. Hence, to establish (a person) in a position of authority or dignity. Formerly without const., † to enthrone (a king).

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 22 Before I see thee seated in that Throne, Which now the House of Lancaster vsurpes, I vow by Heauen, these eyes shall neuer close. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 101 They doubted not to seate a King, at their pleasures. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Justine* II. x. 13 Xerxes being thus mutually seated in the kingdome. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 720 To inshrine Belus or Serapis thir Gods, or seat Thir Kings. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. I. 22 By that means [she] seated her self absolute Mistress of that Court. 1715 Pope *Iliad* I. *Ess. Homer* 2 There is also in Mankind a Spirit of Envy or Opposition which makes them uneasy to see others of the same Species seated far above them in a sort of Perfection. *a* 1763 W. King *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 185 He [Burnet] was a better pastor than any man who is now seated on the bishops' bench. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxiv, I could ill have kept my seat in the high place where Heaven has been pleased to seat me. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 143, I find you here but in the second place, Some say the third..We will seat you highest.

e. To put into a seat in a deliberative assembly.

1797 Burke *Let. Affairs Ireland* Wks. IX. 457 The new representative was at that time seated and installed by force and violence. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 165 He was summoned to parliament..and was seated in the place of the ancient Barons of Berkeley. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* IV. vii, Many of whom he has succeeded in seating in the parliament of his country. 1866 *Pall Mall Gaz.* No. 378. 1341/1 Mr. Kinglake has been seated for Bridgewater.

f. To find seats for; to accommodate with seats or sitting room; to assign seats to. Of a building, room, etc.: To afford sitting accommodation for.

1828–32 Webster, *Seat*,..to place in a church; to assign seats to. In New England..it is customary to seat families for a year or longer time; that is, assign and appropriate seats to their use. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xli. (1871) V. 67 The first object..was to seat the greatest number of the people possible. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Sept. 2/2 Each theatre should be registered and advertised as capable of seating a specified number.

2. *Passive.* To be sitting, to be in a sitting posture.

1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. iv. 7 When he was seated in A Chariot of an inestimable value. 1703 Pate *Hymn*, '*While Shepherds watched*', While Shepherds watched their flocks by night All seated on the ground. 1792 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 139 Seated here On thy distorted root. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxiv, Osborne from his chair regarded Dobbin seated blank and silent opposite to him. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love agst. World* i, Three young men are seated at breakfast.

3. *trans.* To place as a resident in a district or country; to settle or establish (a people, a body of colonists, etc.) in a particular locality. Now *rare.*

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Prose Addit. 161 Seated wee must bee, and here wee would be. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 62 Charles the Great Subdu'd the Saxons, and did seat the French beyond the Riuer Sala. 1612 in Capt. Smith *Map Virginia* II. 96 Mr West hauing seated his men at the Falles, presently returned...The President..followed him to the falles: where he found this company so inconsiderately seated, in a place not only subiect to the riuers invndation, but [etc.]. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* II. xxvi. (1640) 77 The Carmelites..were first seated at Newenden in Kent. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 197 Providence, which so happily had seated me at the Brasils, as a Planter. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* x. (1782) I. 295 In the age of the Antonines, the Goths were still seated in Prussia. 1797 Washington *Let.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 406 If..they could have been first seated as tenants. 1910 Hirth in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 191/1 Whether the Chinese were seated in their later homes from time immemorial,..or whether [etc.].

† **b.** *refl.* To take up a permanent abode, to settle (in a place). *Obs.*

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 112 Whose tenants to injoy the liberties granted to Nopolitans, did forsake their owne..to seate themselves there. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* v. v. (1640) 236 They wonne the Island of Rhodes from the Turks..and there seated themselves. 1755 *Acts Assembly Pennsylv.* (1762) II. 54 Many Persons residing in this Province have seated themselves on certain large Tracts of Land, neither having Property therein, or paying Rent for the same. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 693/1 At length, in 1638, the Dutch seated themselves here [Mauritius].

† **c.** *intr.* for *refl.* To settle down permanently, to establish a residence, to fix or take up abode. *Obs.*

1622 *Relat. Eng. Plant. Plymouth, New Eng.* 4 Some of our people..desired..to travaile by Land into the Countrey,..to see whether it might be fit for vs to seate in or no. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon's Anab.* III. ii. 48 If he perceiued, we prepared our selues to seat here. 1697 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 44 Abundance of People were desirous to seat there. 1709 J. Lawson *New Voy. Carolina* 141 [This] would doubtless be a great prejudice to the Planters that should seat there.

transf. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 3 The knowledge of God seateth not in their hearts. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. 126 Thy root sucks but diseases; worms there seat And claim it for their meat.

d. *passive.* To have one's 'seat' or mansion in a specified place.

1683 Evelyn *Diary* 13 Oct., A..gentleman, seated neere Worcester, and very curious in gardening. *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasphemer's Warning* (init.), In Kent we are told There was seated of old, A handsome young gentleman. 1859 *Symonds' Diary* (Camden) 75 *note*, Although the grandfather of Sir Richard became seated in Cornwall by his marriage with a coheiress of Trethurffe.

4. *trans.* With a thing as object: To place in a 'seat' or situation. (*Rare* exc. *passive* as in 5.) **a.** To set or secure in its proper place; to fix in proper position on a base or support. Now only *Mech.* † Also *intr.* for *refl.* to lie, rest *upon.*

1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. i, In youth it perpetually preserues, in age restores the complexion; seat's your teeth, did they dance like Virginall iacks, firme as a wall. [Cf. 1667 s. v. Seated *ppl. a.* 1.] 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 153 Clap into thy Furnace an iron Kettle, and let the bottom thereof seat upon the iron Barr. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 89/2 Seat the Shooe, fit it to the Foot [of a horse]. 1872 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* V. 1804 The slotted head of the common wood screw is frequently split when much force is required to seat it or to remove it.

b. To locate or establish *in* a specified place.

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 143 He himselfe made choice of the city Neapolis..to seat his regall Palace in. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* xi. (1653) 183 Neither would she have seated the mouth in so eminent, open, and conspicuous a place. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Elegy* i. 30 In thy youthful soul Love's gentle tyrant seats his awful throne.

† **c.** To found (a city). *Obs. rare.*

1612 Heywood *Apol. for Actors* I. 23 Thebes, seated by Cadmus. *a* 1657 W. Bradford *Plymouth Plantation* (1856) 368 Their neigbours of y^e^ Massachusets..had some years after seated a towne (called Hingam) on their lands.

5. In *passive*, to have its seat, be situated.

a. Of a country, town, house, etc.: To be situated in a certain position; to have a certain kind of situation (e. g. as regards salubrity or pleasantness).

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 172 Euery house is not so seated, as it hath errable ground about it. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1144 Some darke deepe desert seated from the way, That knowes not parching heat, nor freezing cold, Will wee find out. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado* 83 A pleasant Vale seated betwixt Some steepy Mount. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 284 The Mannor of Shurland seated Eastward from hence. 1633 Heywood *Eng. Trav.* III. F 3 b, [The house] 'tis well seated, Rough-cast without, but brauely lined within. 1655 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Invent.* § 100 To..furnish Cities with water though never so high seated. 1700 Dryden *Sigism. & Guisc.* 221 The Garden, seated on the level Floor. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 93 Lands seated on Marle are usually very rich. 1857 *Zoologist* XV. 5618 The house was seated in a pretty garden. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 52 Seated on the confines of Europe and Asia, it [Byzantium] links the two shores of the Bosphorus. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 213 London..is seated on clay.

b. Hence of a person with reference to his dwelling. Also *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 8 They are as sicke that surfet with too much, as they that starue with nothing; it is no smal happinesse therefore to be seated in the meane. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 65 When we came vnto Bathy..we were seated a good league distant from his tabernacles. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* II. i. (*init.*), You are most delicately seated here, full of sweet delight and blandishment! an excellent ayre! 1624 Wotton *Elem. Archit.* I. 5 By no meanes to build too nere a great Neighbour, which were in truth to bee as vnfortunately seated on the earth, as Mercurie iv in the Heauens. 1803 Wellington *To Lieut.-Gen. Stuart* in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) II. 73 It appears..that we shall have a war immediately, or a protracted negotiation with Scindiah and the Rajah of Berar, seated upon the Nizam's frontier.

† **c.** Of a material object: To have a certain place (e. g. in the body, in a building). *Obs.*

c 1580 Sidney *Ps.* (1823) xxii. ix, Whose hart..Doth melt away, though it be inmost seated. 1632 G. Herbert *Priest to Temple* xiii. (1830) 35 A poor man's box conveniently seated, to receive the charity of well-minded people. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Eye*, In Birds, and some other Creatures, the Eyes are so seated, as to take in near a whole Sphere.

d. Of a seed or fruit (with transferred notion of sense 2): To be fixed *on* something, or in a particular place.

1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 8 The part of the vein on which the sorus is seated is called the *receptacle.* 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 175 Dwarf males seated upon or about the oogonia.

e. Of an immaterial thing, a quality, feeling, etc.: To have its seat or abode in a certain place.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 55 See what a grace was seated on his Brow. 1622 Fletcher *Sea Voy.* I. iii, The greatest plagues that humane nature suffers, Are seated here, wildnesse, and wants innumerable. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 263 Their Inclinations, which are seated in the Heart. 1748 Melmoth *Fitzosborne Lett.* iii. (1749) II. 61 The latter [*i. e.* generosity] is seated in the mind. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 8 We there see..the same thoughts passing through the mind and seated on the lips.

f. Of a disease: To have its seat *in* a certain part of the body. Also *To be deeply seated*: lit. to be situated far below the surface; hence (often *fig.*) to be firmly established in the system, to be beyond the reach of superficial remedies.

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xiii. § 3 (1622) 140 His plague was seated into his bowells. 1647 N. Ward *Simp. Cobler* 6 Fiery diseases, seated in the spirit, embroile the whole frame of the body. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 330 Spongy chancres..were seated on the inner lamella of the prepuce. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* vii. 212 *note*, The disease had become too deeply seated for recovery. 1893 W. R. Gowers *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) IV. 333 [Miliary tubercles are] seated in the pia mater.

† **6.** *trans.* To 'plant' with inhabitants, people, settle (a country). *Obs.* (App. *N. American.*)

1684 in *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 85 Vpon Lands not Seated before in ye Dukes Time. 1776 C. Carroll *Jrnl. Vis. Canada* in B. Mayer *Mem.* (1845) 78 The country on each side of the St. Lawrence is level, rich, and thickly seated; indeed, so thickly seated, that the houses form almost one continued row. 1784 Washington *Writ.* 1891 X. 366 To see these lands seated by particular societies.

7. To fix a seat on (a chair); to repair (trousers, a chair) by renewing or mending the seat.

1762 Foote *Orators* II. (1780) 46 As I was sitting cross-legged on my shop-board, new seating a cloth pair of breeches. 1828–32 Webster, *Seat*,..to repair by making a seat new; as, to seat a garment. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Apr. 14/1 Then the chair is handed over to the women to be 'seated'.

8. To furnish (a building, a room, etc.) with seats.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, A portion of which was seated with pews, and used as a church. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 69 The nave is now seated with two rows of low-backed benches. 1899 *Eclectic Mag.* Feb. 201 A..carriage which was seated for fifteen.

b. (See quot.) Cf. 1 f.

1828–32 Webster, *Seat*,..to appropriate the pews in, to particular families; as, to seat a church.

Seatage (sī·tėdʒ). [f. Seat *v.* + -age.] Seating accommodation.

1889 *Daily News* 19 July 2/2 More than half the total seatage.

Seated (sī·tėd), *ppl. a.* [f. Seat *sb.* and *v.* + -ed.]

1. Fixed in position. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* I. iii. 136 Whose horrid Image doth vnfixe my Heire, And make my seated Heart knock at my Ribbes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 644 From thir foundations loosning to and fro They pluckt the seated Hills with all thir load, Rocks, Waters, Woods.

† **2.** With adverb: (Well) situated; (well) provided with a 'seat' or mansion. *Obs.*

1622 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 456 Bruxells..being a well seated and well watered towne as ev^r^ I sawe. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* b 5 Your..well seated Pallace with a wood at its back. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* (1906) 278 Mr. Knox was so well seated, and could not be supposed to leave such an estate.

3. Sitting down; in a sitting posture or condition. *The Seated Lady*, the constellation Cassiopeia.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, The seated part of the congregation. 1870 *Murray's Handbk. Essex*, etc. 206 Seated figures of the Apostles serve as pinnacles of the buttresses. 1886 Proctor in *Sci. Amer.* 3 July 3/3 Low down, between north and north-east, we find the Seated Lady (*Cassiopeia*)

4. Of a room, etc.: Provided with seats.

1829 Bentham *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit Justice* 37 The appeal goes..from the four-seated court in Westminster Hall to the House of Lords.

5. Provided with a seat, as a chair, pair of trousers, etc. Only in parasynthetic formations, as *double-, hard-, two-seated*, etc.

1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* II. 163 Several hard-seated wooden chairs. 1898 *Cycling* 21 Cycling knickerbockers should all be double-seated outside. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 8/2 Two-seated vehicles.

6. *U.S.* (See quot.) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1877 W. H. Burroughs *On Taxation* 208 In Pennsylvania, prior to 1844, seated lands, that is, lands occupied by residence, or cultivation, could not be sold for taxes.

Seater (sī·tər). *rare.* [f. Seat *sb.* and *v.* + -er.]

† **1.** *N. American.* ? One who apportions the sittings in a meeting-house. *Obs.*

1713 S. Sewall *Diary* 4 May (1879) II. 981 Mr. Pemberton declares a Necessity of adding to the number of the Seaters.

Ibid. 10 June II. 389 Mr. Pemberton..would not have me resign my Seaters place now.

2. Comb.: *two-seater*, a motor-car having two seats.

1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Nov. 3/6 Two-cylinder, two-seater car.

† Seath. *Obs.* Also 7 seth (9 seeth). [OE. *sēaþ* masc. = OFris. *sāth* (NFris. *soath*, *suaþ*, *suas*, EFris. *sōth*, *sōd*, WFris. *sned*), LG. *sood* draw-well, MHG. *sōt* :—OTeut. **saupo-z.*] A pit, hole, well, or pool.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 1 Wingeard gesette monn & ymb-salde haga & dalf seaþ [L. *lacum*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 841 Heo nomen þæt þær & wel hit biburiede inne deope seaðen. 1656 SMITH & WEBB *Vale-Royal* I. 66 A Seth or pit of that Brine. 1877 E. LEIGH *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Seath* or *Seeth*, an old word, found in some legal documents, for a brine-pit.

Seath, var. SAITHE; obs. f. SEETHE *v.*

Sea'-thief. [Cf. G. *seedieb.*] A pirate, a sea-rover.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 347/26 *Archipiratta*, heah sæðeof. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 173 Sclauonia..hab wylde men and see þeues. *Ibid.* VI. 415 Þe see þeves of Danes. 1576 CURTEYS *Two Serm.* C j b, Th'one be Sea theeues suche as lye in the straights and corners of the Sea, & take other mens goods from them by force. 1627 DRAYTON *Elegies, Lady Aston's Dep.* 50 Or if some proling Rouer shall but dare, To seize the ship.., Let the fell fishes of the Maine appeare, And tell those Sea-thiefes, that [etc.]. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 59 The sea-thieves were taken by surprise.

transf. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 340 Those small white Fish Combine themselves, that their joynt strength doth hold Against the greediest of the Sea-theeves' sallies.

Seathin, obs. form of SHITTIM.

Sea'-thistle.

1. The sea-holly, *Eryngium maritimum.* ? *Obs.*

In quot. *c* 1265 perh. the water-caltrops (CALTROP 3).

c 1265 [see CALTROP 3]. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 45 The Sea-thistle called *Eryngium marinum*, which some call Sea-hull, or Huluer. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 568 *Eryngium*, (Sea-Thistle). 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 365 The coast..produces scurvy-grass, colewort, and sea-thistle.

† 2. The echinus or sea-urchin. *Obs.*—1

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 230 They are so full of prickles, that they cannot be held, therefore some call them the Sea Thistles.

† 3. In full *sea-thistle weed*: ? gulf-weed. *Obs.*

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 14 We..saw Flying-fish, and a great deal of Sea-Thistle Weed floating. 1727 DORRINGTON *Philip Quarll* (1754) 66 We saw some Flying-fish, and a great deal of Sea-thistle swimming.

Seating (sī'tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEAT *sb.* and *v.* + -ING 1.]

† 1. The action of providing with a residence, or of settling in a country; quasi-*concr.* opportunity for settling, footing. Also (*N. American*) colonization, settlement (of a country). *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 666 Also doe I greatly mislike the lord Deputyes seating at Dublin. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 153 Promising also to giue them aid for the seating of them there [in Achaia and Boeotia]. 1611 SPEED *Hist Gt. Brit.* v. vii. § 9 There are reported to haue come into Ireland..& finding no seating there to haue entered into Britaine. 1624 WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* 6 In the seating of our selues..Builders should bee as circumspect as Wooers. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 441 At the first Seating of Maryland there were several Nations of Indians in the Country.

2. The action of providing with seats; the manner in which a building, etc. is seated; *concr.* the seats with which a building, etc. is provided.

1880 *Daily News* 7 Oct. 2/5 The seating of the church is but little altered. 1895 *Ibid.* 11 Dec. 5/3 Additional seating has been provided.

3. Material for upholstering the seats of chairs, etc.

1833 J. BENNETT *Artificer's Lexicon* 366 Seating. Horse-hair for sofas, chairs, &c. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Seating*, horse-hair fabric, American leather, or other materials, made for covering the cushions of chairs, couches, &c. 1909 *Athenæum* 20 Mar. 340/1 Chair-seating..most of this seating is now done with split canes instead of rushes.

4. *Mech.* A fitted support for a part of a structure or machine, usually *pl.* or *collect. sing.*

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 191/1 An arrangement like that of the plunger pump, which permitted both valves to be fixed in seatings. 1868 FAIRLEY *Gloss. Coal-Mining Bristol*, etc. 29 *Seating*, the place in the pumps where the clack is seated. 1889 HASLUCK *Model Eng. Handybk.* (1900) 71 The seatings for the lugs of the cylinder.

5. That part of a structure, etc. which rests on some other part. *Ship-building* (see quot. 1805: and cf. SEAT *sb.* 22).

1805 *Shipwright's Vade-mecum* 129 *Seating*, that part of the floor which fays on the deadwood; and of a transom which fays against the post. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 178/2 The wedges were then struck, and the weight of the ribs thrown upon their seatings and head joints. 1889 in Anglin *Design of Structures* (1891) 488 All girders shall have seatings of the best hair felt, graduated in lengths so as to insure the pressure being on the centre of bearing when the greatest load is on the girder.

6. *attrib.* **a.** (of sense 4), as *seating block, plate.*

1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 178/1 The masonry at each end [of the bridge] was ready to receive the cast-iron seating plates of the wood arch. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 55/1 Boiler Seating Blocks.

b. (in the sense of providing seats or sitting room for), as *seating accommodation, capacity.*

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Sept. 2/2 In no case should the seating capacity [of a theatre] ever be exceeded. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* I, The seating accommodation [of the theatre] embodied every new device for the comfort of its occupants that ingenuity could suggest.

Seatless (sī'tles), *a.* [f. SEAT *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no seat or seats (in any sense of the sb.).

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 229 What a world their seatless nations led! 1826 *The Ass* 1 Apr. 1 A sleeveless coat and seatless breeches. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 30. 78 The third-class carriages..were..seatless and unsheltered cattle-trucks. 1871 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Jan., Three seatless chairs.

Sea'-toad.

1. A name given to several fishes, as **a.** The fishing-frog or angler, *Lophius piscatorius.* **b.** *U. S.* The sculpin. **c.** 'The toadfish, *Batrachus tau*' (Cent. Dict. 1891).

1558 RONDELET *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. 961 Seetode *id est rubetam marinam Anglicè.* *c* 1540 J. SMYTH *Hund. Berkeley* (1885) 319 An haddocke, a Roucote, the sea tad. 1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lanc.*, etc. I. 186 The *Rana Piscatrix* or Sea-Toad found frequently in the River Wire in Lancashire. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 258 On our Atlantic coast are found several species of this family [Cottidæ], generally known by the name 'Sculpin', and also by such titles as..'Sea-toad', and 'Pig-fish'.

† 2. ? Some kind of starfish. *Obs.*—1

1710 SIBBALD *Fife & Kinross* 84 *Stella Marina squamosa*; the Fishers call it the Sea-Toad, for that in colour it resembles a Toad.

3. The great spider-crab (see quot.).

1857 A. WHITE *Brit. Crustacea* 22 The *hyas*... Mr. Gordon says that the fishermen there [*sc.* Moray Firth] call it 'sea-toad', that is sea-toad.

4. ? *nonce-use.* A turtle.

1754 GARRICK *Prol. to J. Brown's 'Barbarossa'*, He eat a great Sea-Toad! It came from Indies—'twas as big as me, He call'd it Belly-patch and Capapee.

Seaton, obs. form of SETON.

Sea-tortoise. A marine tortoise or turtle. Also Comb. *sea-tortoise-shell.*

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cviii. (1495) 850 The see Tortuca etyth all thynge and his mouth is stronger than any other beestes mouth.] 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. XXXVII. I. 339 The sea-Tortoise hath neither tongue nor teeth. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. § i. i. 260 The spaces betwixt which [rows], are cancellated much after the manner of the Sea-Tortoiseshell. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 122 A Sea-Tortoise was brought to the Fort, in length Six Feet. 1750 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* IV. 206 The Sea-Tortoise is commonly call'd by our Sea-Captains Turtle. 1881 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 237 A terrapin is..a small turtle or sea-tortoise.

Sea'-town. Now *rare.* (Common in 17th c.) A town situated on or near the sea, a sea-port town.

1578 J. STOCKWOOD *Serm.* 24 *Aug.* 36 Cesarea was a Sea-town, not far from the Mount Carmel. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 61 A maritime Prouince, full of Sea-townes, and Hauens. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 373 These two islands, with their extensive, and every where vulnerable coast, should be considered as a garrisoned sea-town. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Jan. 2/3 The darkening roofs of the sea-town.

† Sea-tree. *Obs.*

1. A huge polyp [L. *arbor marinæ*].

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. xi. II. 451 [The 'greatest monsters' of the sea are] The Sea-Trees, Whirlepooles [etc.]. 1611 FLORIO, *Albero*, .. a monstrous sea-fish, called the Sea-tree.

2. Some tree-like seaweed.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. XXV. I. 402 The branches and leaves of the sea trees, so long as they were under water looked greene, but when they be taken forth, presently dried with the heat of the Sunne. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 127 Sea-Trees...Certain Trees which are immediately glaz'd with a salt-peter, which renders them extremely white. Some conceive them to be a kind of Coral. 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* I. 152 The ocean here produces various species of large vegetables, which are known by the name of sea-trees. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 634 This pivot..forms something like the knot of the sea-tree. 1823-4 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XV. 208/2 The sea-tree lines many parts of the coast [of St. Bartholomew], has its leaves platted together, and looks as if it was completely glazed.

Sea'-trout.

1. The *Salmo trutta*, = SALMON-TROUT I; also the bull or grey trout, *S. eriox.*

1745 tr. *Egedi's Descr. Greenland* 91 Small Salmon or Sea-Trout of different Kinds and Sizes. 1769-76 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 259. 1875 F. FRANCIS in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 41/1 Next to the salmon ranks in value for sport the sea-trout. Of these there are two kinds: 1st, The salmon-trout (*Salmo trutta*); and 2d, The bull or grey trout (*Salmo eriox*).

2. In U. S. and Australia applied to other fishes.

1859-62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 126 The Sea-trouts of Australian seas belong to the genus *Arripis*. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 267 (*Hexagrammus decagrammus*..)...From San Francisco southward, the names 'Rock Trout' and 'Sea Trout' are common. *Ibid.* 362 With the other members of the genus [the Squeteague] is spoken of under the name 'Sea Trout'. 1892 *Century Dict., Sea trout*, 1. Any catadromous trout or char, as the common brook-trout of the United States, *Salvelinus fontinalis.*

3. *attrib.*

1875 F. FRANCIS in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 41/1 A day's sea-trout fishing. 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing & Shooting in Spain* 28, I was soon trying to lure him with a sea-trout fly.

Sea-trumpet.

† 1. A trumpet-shell or triton-shell. *Obs.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 177 Cancellus is Buccino degens, the bigger Souldier-Crab dwelling in the Sea-Trumpet.

2. A kind of trumpet used at sea.

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 322 The *Concha*, *Tromba Marina*, or Sea-Trumpet.

3. A very large seaweed, *Echlonia buccinalis.*

So called because the hollow upper part of the stem when dried, is used as a trumpet at the Cape of Good Hope.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 943 L[aminaria] buccinalis furnishes the singular vegetable production called the sea-trumpet. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 419 Trumpet, Sea (*Ecklonia buccinalis*) a strong-growing seaweed of the Laminaria section of Algæ.

Seatsman (sī'tsmæn).

† 1. A shoemaker. *Obs. rare.* Cf. SEAT *sb.*

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 241 The Character of a Seat's-man; written by one of the Craft.

2. One who makes the seats of clogs.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 76 Patten, Clog Maker ..Clog Clasper. Clog Seatsman.

Seattica, obs. form of SCIATICA.

† Sea't-town. *Obs.*

1. A town used as the head-quarters of an army.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* III. XXXII. 133 It was chosen ..for the seate-towne of the warre [L. *belli sedes*]. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 237 Robert Bishop of Constance..chose it for the Seat-towne of the whole warre.

2. A capital town, = SEAT *sb.* 13.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. XXVII. I. 138 The auncient royall pallace and seat towne of the Persian K[ing's].

Sea-turtle 1. The black guillemot.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 326 The Greenland-Dove or Sea-Turtle: Columba Groenlandica dicta. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 446 The Colymbus with webbed feet, and three toes to each. The Sea-turtle. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* s. v. *Turtle*, Greenland Turtle and Sea-Turtle are sailors' names for the Black Guillemot.

Sea-turtle 2. A turtle or sea-tortoise.

1764 *Ann. Reg.* 92 Lately taken..on the Devonshire coast ..a sea-turtle, about seven feet long. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* (1861) 357 Two pairs of paddles, very much like those of a sea-turtle.

Seatwell, obs. form of SETWALL.

Seau, Seaul: see SEW, pottage; SEAL *sb.*[2]

Sea-unicorn.

1. The Narwhal.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXIII. 167 The Sea-Unicornes,..are of that strength and bignesse, as able to penetrate the ribs of ships. *a* 1721 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 30 The Angel a Sea-Unicorn espy'd. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXXVII. (1856) 340 That monodontal process which gives them their name of sea-unicorn.

attrib. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sea-unicorn Tooth*, a name for the spiral horn or tusk of the narwhal

2. = SEA-BAT 3.

1830 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXI. 722 Near the openings of the nostrils is a little, hard, horny appendage, terminating in a tubercle, and hence the fish [*Malthe vespertilio*] has sometimes been called the Sea Unicorn.

Sea'-urchin.

1. An animal of the genus *Echinus* (see ECHINUS 1) or the order *Echinoidea.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 382 What stile can worthily declare (O! Galley-Fish,..and Sea-Urchin) your dexterity In Sailor's Art. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vi. i. 139 The round Sea-Urchin or Button-Fish. *Echinus orbicularis. Ibid.*, The Great Oval Sea-Urchin. *Echinometra Aristotelis.* 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* iv. 36 Mr. James Cuninghame found this elegant Sea Urchin on the Coast of China. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 134 In some Sea-urchins the body is almost spherical.

¶ **2.** Humorously applied to a young sailor.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1850) 414 The domineering spirit of this boisterous sea-urchin at length grew quite intolerable.

Seave (sīv). *north.* Forms: 5, 9 seve, 5 seyfe, 5, 9 seive, 8 seave, 8–9 sieve, 6– seave, 9 seeave (see also Eng. Dial. Dict.). [a. ON. *sef* (Sw. *säf*, Da. *siv*).] A rush; also, a rushlight.

14.. *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 712/9 *Hic papirus*, a seue [*printed* sene]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Camden) 47o He began þe seiues graythe, And made a fournays for be bell. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/2 A Seyfe, *iuncus*. 1594 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 152 None..shall mowe or sheare any seaves between Tailbothe and Sleddaile. 1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 72 Then strike a Fire, and leet a Seave I Reed. 1777 *Wallingfen Inclos. Act* 21 Seaves, reeds, whinns, or sods.

b. *attrib.*, as † *seave-busk* (= bush), *-candle, -light*; **seave-cap,** the black-headed bunting.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/2 A *Seyfebuske, iuncetum.* 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* Philos. Lett. (1718) 336 *Seaves*, pill'd Rushes, of which they make *Seav Candles. 1864 ATKINSON *Prov. Names Birds*, *Seave-cap..Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza Schæniclus.*

Seave, Seaven, obs. ff. SIEVE *sb.*, SEVEN.

Seaver, obs. form of SEVER.

Sea-view.

1. A picture representing a scene at sea, a 'sea-scape'.

1781 REYNOLDS *Journ. Flanders & Holl.* Wks. 1797 II. 80 The picture..appears to be a sea-view. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* v. (1818) II. 37 Altering the position of the pictures ..and adding to their number the sea-views of Vernet.

2. A view or prospect of the sea, or at sea.

1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* (1880) 289 A fine sea-view from the hills of Dundonald. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 32 Those 'Lodgings with an ample sea-view', Which were..'To Let'. 1897 'A. HOPE' *Phrose* ii. (1909) 25 About half-way up,..and commanding a splendid sea-view, stood an old grey battlemented house.

Sea-voyage. A voyage by sea.

1609 FIELD *Woman a Weathercock* I. (1612) C 2, Captain, what think'st thou of such a woman in a long Sea Voyage? *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* (1656) 204 Life a Sea-voyage is, Death is the Haven. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iv, Having been long used to sea voyages, those motions, although sometimes very violent, did not much discompose

me. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 224 [He] appeared to have newly arrived from a sea-voyage.

So **Sea-voyager,** one who goes on a sea-voyage; **Sea-voyaging,** going on a sea-voyage.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. Argt. 10 Our Brittish braue Sea-voyagers. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. to Eng.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 12 'There are many advantages', says Saadi, 'in sea-voyaging, but security is not one of them'. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 10/1 Captain Alexander Simpson, who has just completed two million miles of sea-voyaging.

Seavy (sī·vi), *a. north.* [f. SEAVE + -Y.] Containing 'seaves' or rushes, overgrown with rushes; also, composed of rushes.

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 41 Our Land is .. full of strang whickens, Cat whins, and Seavy Furs. 1691 RAY *N.C. Words*, s.v. *Seaves.* Seavy ground, such as is overgrown with Rushes. 1851 *Cumbld. Gloss., Seevy-cap*, a cap made of rushes. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 156 'Seavy flats' are merely the level pastures which .. grow an abundance of seeaves or seves, the common soft rush.

Seaw, var. SEW *v.*, to drain; obs. f. SHOW.

Sea-wall.

1. A wall or embankment to prevent the encroachment of the sea, or to form a breakwater, etc.

In OE. a cliff by the sea.

Beowulf 1924 Hiȝelac .wunade..sæwealle neah. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 6 þe more þe watyr in þe se is styred wyth þe wynde, þe more it flowyth, & brekyth out, ouer þe se-wallys in-to dyuerse placys. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Agger*, ..a water-banke; a sea wall. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 29 The..making of Drains, Sea-walls [etc.]. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. iii. 52 The inroads of the sea..have been checked, wherever necessary, by a sea wall.

b. *N. Amer.* 'An embankment of stones thrown up by the waves on a shore' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1896 *Trans. Roy. Soc. Canada* II. ii. 210 Sea-wall, a gravel or boulder ridge thrown up by the waves.

2. The sea as a wall or barrier of defence. Cf. *sea-walled. rare.*

1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xviii. 327 Many of us have thought that our sea-wall is a specially divine arrangement.

So **Sea-walled** *a.*, surrounded or protected by the sea as a wall of defence; **Sea-waller,** one who builds sea-walls; **Sea-walling,** the building or repairing of sea-walls.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 43 When our Sea-walled Garden, the whole Land, Is full of Weedes. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts*, etc. VIII. 92 A contract was entered into with two companies of sea-wallers,..for the erection of a new wall. 1794 *Ibid.* XII. 115 One of the chief uses to which Chestnut is applied..is sea-walling, or embankments against the sea. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 2 Having been for many years connected much with sea-walling, both in building and repairing.

‖ Seawan(e, seawant (sī·wɑ̄n, -wɒnt). *Amer. Ind.* Also 9 se(e)wan, zeband. [Narragansett *seawohn* scattered, loose (in opposition to the strung beads, called *peag*).] Wampum.

1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 32 Their Money is called Wampam and Sea-want. 1834 *Mem. Hist. Soc. Pennsylv.* III. 131 Their money consists of beads..these they called zeband. 1851 SCHOOLCRAFT *Indian Tribes* I. 85 Four grains of sewan made a penny. 1870 *Putnam's Mag.* VI. 525 Indian Shell Money generally, the true generic name of which was seawan in the Algonquin language.

Seaward (sī·wŭɹd), *adv.* (and quasi-*sb.*) and *a.* See also SEAWARDS. [f. SEA *sb.* + -WARD.]

A. In adverbial phrases and as adverb.

1. Phrases. **a.** *To (the) seaward*: towards the sea; in the direction of the sea; in the direction of the open sea, away from the land. *To the seaward of*: to or at a place nearer the sea (or, at sea, farther from the land) than.

[In the early examples *to* and *ward* form a compound prep. governing the interposed sb. In later use *seaward* seems to be apprehended as an absolute use of the adj.]

a. with article. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 75 Waters to the see-ward ever ben they drawing. *c* 1440 LOVELICH *Seint Graal* II. 86 Thanne Nasciens his weye gan to take, and faste to the Seward gan he schake. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxxix. 11 Where..men go from the east to the see warde. *c* 1582 T. DIGGES in *Archæologia* XI. 225 To the Seawarde this Baye shall allway be defended and garded with a massye banke of beache. 1640 tr. *Verstege's Rem. of Rom.* III. xxxix. 174 [He] wheeled about with his forces to the Seward. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 142 We discovered a ship two leagues off to the Sea-ward. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 177 Mr. Brett..did really discover her..steering off to the seaward. 1852 KINGSLEY *Andromeda* 27 The flame shone far to the seaward.

β. without article. 1540 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 92 The maryners..imediately wente to see ward withowte ancre or cable. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. 508 The River ..to Seaward runnes a pace Through Phrygie. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 216 Three Iles, seene farre to Sea-ward. 1683 CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* 138 The Eagle..Soaring aloft to seaward took her flight. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. ix, The billow..That far to seaward finds his source. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* xvii, The wrack had thickened to seaward, and the coast was but a blurred line.

b. In mod. use, *From (the) seaward*: from the direction in which the sea lies.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 404 It blew a terrible Storm of Wind that Evening from the Seaward. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xx, A point where she [the ship] could not be seen from the seaward. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 128 The defenders were powerfully aided from seaward by the Persian ships with their numerous crews. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 128 On the approach from seaward Cadiz ..presents more the appearance of a Moorish town than a European city.

2. *adv.* Towards the sea or the open sea (away from the land).

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 318 Couched betweene a high cliffe sea-ward and as high an hill land-ward. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 681 The rock rush'd sea-ward. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 128 When sweet airs come seaward From heaths starr'd with broom. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 126 The total quantity of matter..carried seaward is something enormous. 1883 KAY in *Law Rep.* 11 *Q. B. Div.* 500 Helpsford Scar..is further seaward than the place where this accident occurred.

b. *Comb.*

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 395 The seaward-facing crag. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 16 Now seaward-bound for health they gain'd the coast. 1864 — *Enoch Arden* 559 In a seaward-gazing mountain-gorge They built..a hut. 1888 STEVENSON *Across the Plains*, etc. (1892) 193 A strange sight it is to see (of an afternoon) the heights of Pulteney blackened by seaward-looking fishers, as when a city crowds to a review.

B. *adj.*

†**1.** Fresh from the sea. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1450 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 642 in *Babees Bk.* 161 White herynge in a dische, if hit be seaward & freshe.

2. Going out to sea, going to seaward or in seawardly direction.

a 1621 DONNE *To Sir H. W. going Ambass. Venice* 14 After those loving papers which friends send With glad griefe, to your Sea-ward steps, farewel. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 603 Marking the playful tenants of the stream.. stem the sea-ward tide. 1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* (1834) 376 And he Anchises' famous son embark'd Captive Æneas in the seaward ship. 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Reaper* 188 He turned along the seaward road.

3. Directed or looking towards the sea; facing the sea, or the open sea; situated on the side or portion (of a thing) which is nearest the sea.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 1034 The sea-ward prow invites the tardy gales. ?1803 COLERIDGE *Recoll. Love* ii, I lay On seaward Quantock's heathy hills. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 104 Various heaps of broken ice denoted recent shoots of the seaward edge [of the glacier]. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 173 Your cannons moulder on the seaward wall. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 110/2 The seaward sides of the mountain ranges. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 24 § 7 (2) Two hundred yards from the seaward extremities of the work.

b. Of a wind: Blowing from the sea.

1820 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 123 Sheltered from seaward winds. 1905 BEDE CAMM *Voy. of 'Pax'* 10 The large black sails were filled with a seaward breeze.

Seawardly (sī·wŭɹdli), *a.* and *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY.] **A.** *adj.* Habituated to looking seaward.

1849 G. CUPPLES *Green Hand* xi. (1856) 97 The keen gray seawardly eye, under the peak of the naval cap, kept changing and twinkling. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 104 Dry, tough, burnt, seawardly chaps. 1890 — *My Shipm. Louise* I. xiv. 296 His keen seawardly eye took in everything in a breath.

B. *adv.* Towards the sea. *rare.*

1902 *19th Cent.* Feb. 176 We see roof-ridge and telegraph-wire packed with seawardly attentive birds.

Seawards (sī·wŭɹdz), *adv.* [f. SEA *sb.* + -WARDS.] = SEAWARD *adv.* In early use *to (the) seawards.*

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 19 To the se wardes ys the Stopull of Craggs. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xi. 13 Leauing the coast..we bare roome to seawards. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 241 All our Shipps ..stood off to seawards for that night. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 501/2 Near either shore [of the Atlantic] and seawards down to a depth of about two thousand feet, the composition of the sea-bottom varies greatly. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 114 He turned eagerly seawards.

Sea-ware. Also 8 -were, 8-9 -waur(e. [OE. *sǽwār*, f. *sǽ* SEA + *wār* 'alga': see WARE *sb.*²] Seaweed; esp. coarse, large seaweed thrown up on the shore by the sea, and used as manure, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 135/21 *Alga*, sæwaur. *c* 1662 in G. Barry *Orkney Isl.* (1805) 452 Where they and the cows do eat together sea-ware. 1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 112 It is lately much improved by a manure of the sea-weed called the sea-were, which grows on the sea rocks, and is thence torn off by the waves and thrown upon the shore. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 29 [In Kent] sea-waure or sea-wracks, or sea-weeds, are reckoned a very good manure. 1896 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* xviii. 299 Multitudes lived miserably by shell-fish and sea-ware. 1899 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 278 She was taking home a load of sea-ware in a cart.

Sea-washed, *a.* Washed by the sea; exposed to the 'wash' of the sea.

1762-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 769 And those yet breathing on the sea-wash'd ground. 1830 SCOTT *Anchindrane* II. i, Our mighty Earl forsakes his sea-wash'd castle. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 113 The moon-lighted, sea-washed verandah.

Sea-water.

1. The water of the sea, or water taken from the sea.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* (Rolls) II. 28 Celeponian seaw & sæwæter. *c* 1275 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 þe tere þet mon wepð for his ayen sunne is also salt water, and þer fore hit is inemned see water. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 167 Wyth his hond wyth a lytyll schell he toke of þe see-watyr and powret into hat put. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. vii. II. 416 The salt made of sea-water. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 462 Sea water shalt thou drinke. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xlvi. 90 On the Essex and Kentish shores, as far as the brackish Sea-water commeth. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug. (1815) 282 Being drenched with sea-water. 1890 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xix. 6 The salt sea-water passes by. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., A rough blue suit of clothes, all torn and stained by sea-water.

b. *pl.*

1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. iv. (1715) 222 If the Sea-waters could be procur'd, they were preferr'd before all others. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* xv. 308 The iridescence of the sea-waters is most generally produced by living light-bearers.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 86 Tell me precisely of what complexion? *Boy.* Of the sea-water Greene sir. 1596 *Will* in *Longman's Mag.* Apr. (1905) 534 My see-water colored green cloke.

†**2.** A precious stone, the AQUAMARINE I. *Obs.*

[1598: cf. AQUAMARINE I.] 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 235 Round stones called *Cornioli*, of yellow colour and others of white, called the Sea-water of India.

Sea-way, sea way.

1. A way over the sea; the sea as a means of communication; the open sea. Also (*nonce-use*) a channel made for the sea.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* viii. 8 (Thorpe) Fleogende fuzlas, and sæfiscas, þa farað ȝeond þa sæ-wegas. [Vulg. *qui perambulant semitas maris.*] *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xxxiii. 80 From thens thay wentten to lysmore,..robbeden & prayeden, & by the see wey senten many grete prayes to Watyrford. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiv. 323 We passed beyond the protection of the straits into the open seaway. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 11 Jan. 5/4 Xerxes cut a sea-way through Mount Athos. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 432 The graceful craft, leaning to the..south wind, swept forth towards the sea-way. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* App. 641 Sebastian Münster, in his maps..makes a clear seaway to the Moluccas somewhere in the latitude of the Strait of Belle Isle.

2. 'The progress of a ship through the waves' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

1787 BURNS *Addr. to Unco Guid* iv, Wi' wind and tide fair i' your tail, Right on ye scud your sea-way.

3. A rough sea. Usually *in a sea-way* (said of a ship).

1840 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 181/2 The effects of a sea-way upon the Eddystone or Bell Rock. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 62 Weights at the extremities cause a ship to be uneasy in a sea-way. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-way,*..said when a vessel is in an open place where the sea is rolling heavily. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxiii, The coracle..was a very safe boat.., both buoyant and clever in a seaway.

4. *attrib.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sea-way measurer*, a kind of self-registering log invented by Smeaton. [The term is not used in Smeaton's paper, *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. (1754) 532.] 1907 *Daily Chron.* 6 Dec. 6/4 The Nantucket Lightship, warning seaway travellers of a deadly shoal.

Sea-weary, *a. rare.* Weary or fatigued by, with, or of the sea.

a 1000 *Andreas* 862 (Gr.) Us sæwerize slæp ofereode. *c* 1205 LAY. 4619 We beoh sæ-werie men. 1901 TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 101 Sea-weary, yes, but human still, and whole, —A circumnavigator of the soul.

Seaweed (sī·wīd). [f. SEA *sb.* + WEED *sb.*]

1. *collect.* Any marine plants of the class *Algæ* (see ALGA).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 56 b, Wrap it in seaweede. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Alga marina*, reeks or sea weede, *Alga.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 404 Part single or with mate Graze the Sea weed thir pasture. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* iv. 292 Mark by what wretched steps their glory grows, From dirt and sea-weed as proud Venice rose. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 91 A fresh manure of sea-weed being laid on each year that barley is sown. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* xx, Funeral garlands of sea-weed twisted about them by the late tide. 1906 OLIVE MALVERY *Soul Market* xvii. 268 Mattresses of American leather stuffed with sea-weed.

2. A particular marine alga.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* July 1645, Ashes made of a sea-weede brought out of Syria. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 195 He shewed some sea-weeds inclosed in crystal. 1837-42 HAWTHORNE *Twice-t. Tales, Foot-pr. on Sea-shore* 4 A sea-weed, with an immense brown leaf. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 414 Whole classes in the plant world—the sea-weeds for instance—have no roots at all.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *seaweed belt, collector, limpet, poultice*; *seaweed-covered* adj.; **seaweed-fern,** the hart's tongue, *Scolopendrium vulgare.*

1884 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* xiv. (1886) 120 The *sea-weed belt which fringes the land has an average breadth of about a mile. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Seaweeds* ii. 42 A useful hand-book for the *seaweed collector. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Jan. 28 *Seaweed-covered rocks. 1865 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* 1 Aug. 190 The *Seaweed-fern. 1858 H. & A. ADAMS *Recent Mollusca* I. 467 The '*Sea-weed Limpet' is readily distinguished from the Rock Limpet. 1785 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Cataplasma Fuci*, the *sea-weed poultice for scrofula [etc.].

Hence **Sea-weeded** *a.*, covered with seaweed; **Sea-weeding** *vbl. sb.*, the action of collecting seaweed; **Sea-weedy** *a.*, covered with seaweed; characteristic of seaweed.

1832 FR. A. KEMBLE *Let.* in *Rec. Girlhood* (1878) III. 178 Those..sea-weedy shores. 1845 HIRST *Poems* 162 Half hidden in drifted sand, Sea-weeded, mossy, black with age, are bones. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Seaweeds* I. 17 The preparations for a seaweeding. 1866 *Intell. Observ.* No. 53. 335 The sea-weedy smell.

Sea-willow.

†**1.** The sea-buckthorn. *Obs. rare*—1.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 42 Hallimus..may be called in englishe sea wyllowe or prickwylowe because it hath the leaues of a wylowe and prickes lyke a thorne.

b. The papyrus or paper-reed, BIBLUS.

1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* IV. xv. 416 The ancient Greeks..preferred cables of rushes or sea-willow. [*Odyss.* XXI. 391 ἅλιον νέον ἐμφαίλοιον βίβλινον.]

2. A gorgoniaceous polyp.
1755 J. Ellis *Corallines* 68 Sea-willow. *a* 1776 — *Zoophytes* (1786) 89 *Gorgonia anceps.* Sea-Willow Gorgon.

Sea-wind. A wind from the sea; a sea-breeze.
1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. viii. 142 The land windes blow from mid-night to the sunne rising, and the sea windes vntill sunne setting. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. xxxi, Then shall these vaults, so strong and deep, Burst open to the sea-winds' sweep. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arthur* 48 Over them the sea-wind sang Shrill, chill, with flakes of foam. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 128 Fruits such as only the southern sun and sea-wind can mature.

Sea-wing.
1. *poet. nonce-use.* Means of 'flight' by sea.
1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. x. 90 The Noble ruine of her Magicke, Anthony, Claps on his Sea-wing, and (like a doting Mallard) Leauing the Fight in heighth, flyes after her.
2. A wing-shell.
1681 Grew *Musæum* I. § vi. ii. 141 The Sea-Wing. *Pinna.* Each Valve is very like in shape to the Wing of a large Fowl, from whence I name it. 1813 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (ed. 4) III. 459 The sea-wing.

Sea-wolf.
†1. A fabulous amphibious beast of prey. *Obs.*
1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2812 Ac after hom þer ssal arise a worm of germanye & þe se wolf him ssal bringe vp. *a* 1587 Greene *Card of Fancie* (1593) E iv, The Lyon salueth his sicknesse by eating the Sea Woolfe. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 749 The sea-wolfe of the ancient writers..is..a Foure-footed Beast that liueth both on sea and land, satisfying his hunger on the most part vpon fishes.
2. A voracious sea-fish; esp. the bass, *Labrax lupus*, and the wolf-fish, *Anarhichas lupus.*
1399 Gower *Conf.* II. 265 Sche tok therafter the bouele Of the Seewolf. 1632 Sherwood, A base, or sea-wolfe, *bar.* 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* IV. xix, I'll maul thee worse than any Sea-Wolf. 1784 Andrè in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 274 The teeth of the *Anarrichas Lupus*, or Sea-wolf. 1879 E. P. Wright *Anim. Life* 433 The genus Anarrhichas, one native species of which, the Sea Wolf, grows to a length of seven feet (*A. lupus*).
†3. A seal; a sea-elephant or sea-lion. *Obs.*
1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 60 The sycond is the selcht, quhilk sum men callis the see volue. 1598 W. Phillip tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* 170/2 We saw..many Sea-wolues [orig. *zeewolуen*], which they hold for certain signes of the cape *de Bona Speranza.* 1698 T. Froger *Voy.* 67 A great many Sea-wolves lying asleep on their backs, upon the surface of the water. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* xv. 517 The future food Of fierce sea-wolves, (φωκησι), and monsters of the flood. 1771 tr. *Pernety's Voy. Malouine Isl.* (1773) 187 There are several kinds of sea wolves and lions. 1839 R. Hamilton *Amphib. Carnivora* 208 *note*, The Proboscis Seal or Elephant Seal.. is also..the Sea-Wolf of Pernetty.
4. quasi-*arch.* A pirate, sea-robber. Also in recent use, a privateer vessel.
1849–50 Alison *Hist. Europe* VIII. liii. § 22. 418 Their enemies were talking about sea wolves and maritime skill. 1860 Longf. *Wayside Inn* I. *K. Olaf* xix. vii, Sullenly answered Ulf, The old sea-wolf. 1857 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sea-wolves*, a name for privateers. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 5/2 Against fast sea-wolves of the *Alabama* type, we are tolerably secure.

Sea-worm.
1. Any marine annelid.
1681 Grew *Musæum* I. § vii. iii. 178 Not being naturally Tubulous, but made so by a sort of Sea-Wormes. 1769–76 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 62 Porpesses..often descend to the bottom in search of sand eels and sea worms. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 31 May 2/2 Ships which have made long voyages..are subject to the sea worm. 1888 E. Clodd *Story Creation* iv. 30 Traces of marine organisms survive in the trails and borings of sea-worms.
†2. The pipe-fish. *Obs.* 1752 [see Sea-adder 2].
†3. A sea-serpent. *Obs. rare.*
1799 T. Holcroft *Mem.* (1816) III. 227 Finding this leviathan [the Kraken] so familiar to their belief, I next inquired if they had heard or knew any thing of the sea-snake, by some called the sea-worm.

Sea'-worn, *a.* Worn or abraded by the sea; also worn out or wearied by a life on the sea.
1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ii. 218 That on the Sea-worne shore See at the Southerne Iles the Tides at tilt to runne. 1828 Coleridge *Gard. Boccaccio* 35 In the sea-worn caves. 1822 'B. Cornwall' *Sforza* ii, A sea-worn captain who Had sailed all 'round the world brought it for me. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xi, The old sea-worn mountain wall.

Seaworthiness (sī'wɔ̄·rðinės). [-ness.] The condition of being seaworthy.
1813 Eldon in Dow *Appeals Ho. Lords* (1814) I. 347 Want of sea-worthiness was sufficiently proved. 1823 W. Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* p. xvi, Every known principle calculated for producing strength, accommodation, sea-worthiness, and fast sailing..was adopted. 1876 T. Robinson *Job* iv. 28 Storms prove the ship's seaworthiness.

Seaworthy (sī'wɔ̄·rði), *a.* [f. Sea *sb.* + Worthy *a.*] Of a ship: In a fit condition to undergo a voyage, and to encounter stormy weather.
1807 Ellenborough in J. Campbell *Cases Nisi Prius* (1818) I. 2 The hull of the ship in this case was sufficient and sea-worthy. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. iv, My slight, trim, But still sea-worthy, skiff. 1856 Grote *Greece* II. xcv. XII. 376 Four hundred triremes in a seaworthy condition. 1864 Tennyson *Enoch Arden* 657 The vessel scarce sea-worthy. 1902 W. Gow in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 328/2 In a voyage policy it is an implied warranty that at the commencement of the voyage the ship shall be seaworthy for the particular venture insured.

Sea-wrack. Forms: see Wrack.
1. *pl.* Property cast ashore by the sea. *Obs.*
1548 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 61/1 Terras de Terbert, cum manerio, molendino et *lie sey-wrakis* earundem.
2. a. *collect.* Seaweed, esp. any of the large coarse kinds cast up on the shore, as *Fucus*, *Laminaria*, etc. Sometimes applied *spec.* to *Zostera marina.*
1552 Turner *Herbal* I. Kiv, Alga..is commonly called in englyshe see wrak. 1654 in *N. Riding Rec.* V. 161 [Indicted for unjustly taking 10 horse load of sea-wreck]. 1759 Martin *Nat. Hist.* II. *Yorksh.* 298 They gather up the Sea-wreck and lay it in Heaps. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. ii, Wherein the toughest pearl-diver may dive to his utmost depth, and return not only with sea-wreck but with true orients. 1906 Mrs. F. Campbell *Dearlove* 29 A litter of brown sea-wrack.
b. A particular kind of seaweed.
1611 Cotgr., *Spariée*, a sea-wrecke. *Ibid.*, *Varech*, a sea-wracke, or wrecke. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii, The Spongy leaves of some Sea-wracks..are over-wrought with Net-work. 1681 Grew *Musæum* II. § v. ii. 248 The Bearded Sea-Wrack. *Fucus capillaris tinctorius.* 1846 Lindley *Veget. Kingd.* 145 *Zosteraceæ.*—Sea wracks. 1852 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 33 To rank it provisionally among the sea-wracks.
c. *attrib.* Sea-wrack grass, *Zostera marina.*
1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 8 *Zostera.* Sea Wrackgrass. 1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.* 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 691 *Zosteraceæ*, the Sea-wrack Order.

Seax, Seayle, seayll: see Sax, Seal *sb.*[1]

Seaze, obs. form of Seize *v.*, Sess *v.*

Seazement, obs. variant of Sessment.

Seazen, obs. form of Seisin.

Seazir, variant of Seiser.

Seazning, obs. form of Seisining.

†Seba·cean, *a. Anat. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *sēbāce-us* Sebaceous + -an.] (See quot.)
1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sebacean*, made of tallow or sewet.

Sebaceous (sēbē·ʃəs), *a.* Also 9 sebacious. [f. L. *sēbāce-us*, f. *sēb-um* tallow: see -aceous.]
1. Pertaining to, of the nature of, or resembling tallow or fat; oily, greasy.
1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 240 The sebaceous substance generally called Spermaceti. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 52 *Gallinæ* .. Body sebaceous, muscular, delicate. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 85 The sebaceous odour of the skin amongst all these races is overpowering. 1894 A. Morrison *Mean Streets* 176 His face was a sebaceous trickle of long features.
†b. *Sebaceous acid* = Sebacic *acid. Obs.*
c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 593/2 The metal [lead] is precipitated by sebaceous acid from the nitrous, in white needle-like crystals, easily soluble in water.
2. *Phys.* a. Having the nature or characteristics of Sebum; as *sebaceous humour, secretion*, etc.
1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 104 But why this sebaceous humour should be augmented in this case,..I will not undertake to answer at present. 1878 Gamgee tr. *Hermann's Hum. Phys.* 158 The sebaceous secretion is closely allied to ..milk. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 100 A dirty yellowish fluid containing..a large quantity of solid sebaceous material.
b. Connected with the secretion of sebum; as *sebaceous crypt, duct, follicle, gland*, etc.
1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Gland*, Sebaceous glands. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 309 It [axilla] is filled with sebaceous follicles which furnish an excretion, having a strong smell, and more or less coloured. *a* 1843 J. F. South in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 186/2 In many animals there are cavities or sacs of some size, upon the sides of which the sebaceous ducts open. 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* lxxvii. (1875) 615 In all the Deer there is a sebaceous gland, called the 'lachrymal sinus', or 'larmier', which is placed beneath each eye, and secretes a strongly-smelling waxy substance. 1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 134 Another interesting acarus, which is developed in man in the sebaceous crypts of the nostrils.
3. *Path.* Of a cyst, tumour: Formed upon a sebaceous gland.
1872 Bryant *Pract. Surg.* Ix. 652 The external labia may also be the seat of sebaceous tumours. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 124 Sebaceous cyst appears as a ..roundish, more or less prominent tumor having its seat in the skin.
4. *Bot.* (See quots.)
1899 Heinig *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Sebaceous*, containing or secreting oily or fatty matter. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Sebaceous*, like lumps of tallow. [So mod.L. *sebaceus* in Henslow *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, 1856.]

Sebacic (sēbæ·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *sēbāce-us* Sebaceous + -ic.] *Sebacic acid*: an acid obtained by the distillation of oleic acid. (Cf. Sebic.)
1790 Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 286 To obtain the sebacic acid, let some suet be melted [etc.]. 1836 [see Sebic]. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 50/2 His [Kerner's] investigations on the influence of sebacic acid on animal organisms.

Sebacin (sē·bæ·sin). [formed as prec. + -in [1].]
1. *Chem.* A hydrocarbon obtained by the dry distillation of calcium sebate with an excess of calcium carbonate.
1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* 380. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*
2. *Bot.* (See quot.)
1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sebacin*, a fatty substance contained in the fruit of *Myristica sebifera.*

†Seba·cine. *Phys. Obs. rare.* [? formed as prec. + -ine [5].] = Sebum.
a 1843 J. F. South in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 186/2 The sebacine in weakly unhealthy persons is often secreted in large quantities.

Sebacious, variant of Sebaceous.

Sebago (sēbā·gō). The name of a lake in Maine, U. S. A.; used *attrib.* in *Sebago salmon* or *trout*, a variety of non-migratory salmon; see Schoodic.
1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 903/1 The land-locked salmon called..the 'Sebago salmon'..is..distinguishable from the sea-going salmon. 1884 Goode, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 470 The..'Fresh-water' Salmon, known..in different parts of Maine as 'Schoodic Trout', 'Sebago Trout'.

Se-baptism (sē·bæ·ptiz'm). *Eccl. Hist.* [f. L. *sē* oneself + Baptism, after the phrase *sē baptizāre* to baptize oneself.] The action of baptizing oneself.
1646 R. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) 173 Divinity admits not of Se baptisme, and permits not the baptized to be agents. 1881 H. M. Dexter *Story J. Smyth* 34 Those who charged him with Se-baptism.

Se-baptist (sē·bæ·ptist). *Eccl. Hist.* [f. L. *sē* + Baptist: see prec.] One who baptizes himself; a name given to an offshoot of the Brownist sect, in the seventeenth century, from the action of their leader John Smith.
1610 R. Bernard (*title*) Plaine evidences:..directed against..Mr. Smith the Se-baptist. 1732 Neal *Hist. Puritans* (1754) I. 437 Mr. Smith..being at a loss for a proper administrator of the ordinance of baptism..plunged himself, and then performed the ceremony upon others, which gained him the name of a Se-Baptist.
So †**Se-bapti·stic** *a.*, pertaining to Se-baptists.
1610 R. Bernard *Plain Evid.* 20 This hath he lost againe by his se-baptisticke way till he be chosen againe.

Sebastan, obs. variant of Sebesten.

Sebastine (sē·bæ·stin). Also -in. An explosive composed of nitroglycerine, charcoal, and saltpetre.
1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Sebastine*... Patented in Sweden in 1872. 1889 Cundill *Dict. Explosives* 60 Sebastine. 1890 Eissler *Mod. Explosives* 39 Sebastin. 1892 *Daily News* 24 June 5/2 A hundred and twenty cartridges charged with the compound were packed in a handbag, with a packet of 'sebastine' in the middle, and with mining gunpowder to fill all the intervening spaces.

‖ Sebat (sē·bæt), **Shebat** (ʃē·bæt). [Heb. שְׁבָט *shi·bat.*] The eleventh month of the Jewish ecclesiastical year and fifth of the civil year.
1535 Coverdale *Zech.* i. 7 Vpon the xxiiij. daye of the xj. moneth (which is the moneth Sebat [so 1612; 1885 *Revised* Shebat]). 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 678/2 Table VI.—Hebrew Months...Sebat.

Sebate (sē·bēt). *Chem.* Also 8 sebat. [f. L. *sēb-um* tallow + -ate [1]; in F. *sébate.*] A combination of sebacic acid with a base.
1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* (Amer. ed.) I. App. 547 Sebats of the alkaline earths and of alkalies. 1802 Pyr *New Chem. Nomencl.* 33 Sebates. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Sebesten (sēbe·stĕn). *Bot.* Also 7 sebastan, 8 sebest, (sebesta), 9 sebestin, sebestan. [a. Arab. سبستان *sabastān*, a. Persian سپستان *sapistān.* Said to have been originally *seg-pistān*, lit. 'dog's teats'. The word is found in several European langs.: F. *sébeste* Sp. *sebesten*, *sebasta*, Pg. *sebeste*, *-a*, It. *sebesten.*]
The plum-like fruit of a tree of the genus *Cordia* (formerly *Sebestena*); a preparation of this used as a medicine. Also the tree itself. Also *attrib.*
c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 74 Take a potel of water & of barly clensid .iiij.ℨ., juiube, sebesten ana ʒ.ss. [etc.]. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr., Sebesten bene frutes lyke prunes [etc.]. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* (*c* 1560) R v b, Reasons, myrabolans, Sebesten sede. *Ibid.* Y iv, Take of violettes, sebesten, of Borage floures [etc.]. 1602 Holland *Pliny* XVII. x. I. 511 The fruit Sebesten [L. *myxæ*, F. *sebesten*] and the Seruises may be graffed and planted both upon the same kind of stocke. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 294 Pears, Prunellaes, Sebastans. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Syrup for Asthmas*, Having boiled all for half an Hour more, put in the stoned Dates chopt with the Jujubes, Sebests and Raisins of the Sun. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Sebesten*, The Syrians make a kind of glue or birdlime, of the sebestens, called birdlime of Alexandria. 1828 *Lancet* 14 June 326/1 In diseases affecting the mucous membranes..cardamom, licorice, and sebestin (fruits of *cordia myxa*) are used. 1858 Baird *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s. v. *Cordiaceæ*, *Cordia Myxa*..is known as the Sebesten plum, and used formerly to be employed in disorders of the chest and urinary organs. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Sebestans*, or *Sebestens*, the name under which the dried fruits of Cordia Myxa and C. latifolia have long been used as a medicine in India.

Sebic (sē·bik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *sēb-um* tallow + -ic.] = Sebacic.
1836 Brande *Chem.* 1186 *note*, Thenard's sebacic or sebic acid. 1898 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Sebiferous (sēbi·fərəs), *a. Anat.* and *Bot.* [f. Seb-um + -iferous.] (See quots.)
1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Sebiferus*, bearing fat or grease, as the fruits of the *Myristica sebifera* and of the *Croton sebiferum*: sebiferous. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sebiferous*, fat-bearing, sebum-bearing. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Sebiferous*,..bearing vegetable wax or tallow.

Sebific (sēbi·fik), *a.* [f. Seb-um + -ific.] Producing fat or a fatty substance.
1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) IX. 122 There exudes from the tip of the body a frothy mucous matter...This is the sebific fluid..secreted by the sebific or cement gland.

Sebi·lla. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Altered (? quasi-Sp.) form of *F. sébile* (†*sébille*, Cotgr.), wooden bowl.] a. A wooden bowl used in the mechanical assay of ores. b. (See quot. 1875.)
1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 826 These kinds of assays [*sc.* mechanical)..are performed by a hand-washing, in a small trough of an oblong shape, called a *sebilla.* 1873 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Sebilla*, a wooden bowl, to hold the sand and water used in sawing or grinding marble [etc.].

Sebiparous (sēbi·pərəs), *a.* [f. Seb-um + -(i)parous.] Producing sebum.
1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, Sebaceous or Sebiparous Glands. 1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 31 The sebaceous or sebiparous glands are always situated in the corium.

Se·blet. *dial.* Also 9 siblet (see *E. D. D.*). [Metathesis of *sedlib*, Sedlip.] A basket in which

seed is carried in sowing broadcast; see SEEDLIP. *Seblet cake*: see quot. 1855.

1633–4 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. 64 For a seblet to sowe corne 00 01 00. 1852 BEARN in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. I. 101 The drill takes the place of the seblet. 1855 *Leisure Hour* 751 The seblet-cake was a seed-cake with which it was once the custom to regale the workmen when all the wheat for the season had been sown.

Sebolith (se·bŏlĭþ). *Path.* [f. L. *sēb-um* (see SEBUM) + -(O)LITH.] 'A calculus formed in a sebaceous gland' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898).

Seborrhœa (sebŏrrī·ă). *Path.* [f. *sebo-* used as combining form of SEBUM + Gr. *ῥοία* flow, flux.] An excessive discharge from the sebaceous glands forming a greasy or scaly coating upon the skin.

1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 48 Sebaceous crusts, as those of seborrhœa, are light yellow, dirty yellow, or blackish in color. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 759 The name seborrhœa..is not a satisfactory one.

Hence **Seborrhœ·ic** *a.*, of the nature of, or pertaining to, seborrhœa.

1893 CROCKER *Dis. Skin* (ed. 2) 696 Seborrhœic Dermatitis. *Ibid.* 355 The last-named wishes to revert to the old term of seborrhœic wart. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 904 The diplococcus of seborrhœic eczema.

Sebow, variant of SYBO.

‖ **Sebum** (sī·bŏm). *Phys.* [mod.L. use of L. *sēbum* (also *sēvum*) suet, grease.] The fatty secretion which lubricates the hair and the skin.

[1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sevum*, or *Sebum*, Sewet, Tallow. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Glandula*, *Glandulæ Sebaceæ*..separate a greasy Matter, like *Sebum*, or Tallow. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 83 The softer kinds of fat were denominated by the older anatomists *pinguedo*, *lard*; and the more solid, *sebum* or *sevum*, suet, tallow.] 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 33 The sebaceous glands secrete a fatty product known as sebum or sebaceous matter. 1887 AFFLECK in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 121/1 The sebum frequently accumulates in the sebaceous ducts, giving rise to the minute black points..to which the term comedones is applied. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 666 The secretion of sebum is diminished.

Sebundy (sī·bʊ·ndi). Also 8 **sibbandy**, **-endy**, **sybundee**, 8–9 **sebundee**, **sib(b)undy**, 9 **sib(b)undi**, **sib(b)andi**, **seebundee**, **-y**, **shi-**, **sirbandi**, **sibondi**. [Urdū سبندی *sibandī*.] A class of irregular soldiers in the Indian army chiefly employed in police and revenue duties and on local government service; also a member of this class.

1782 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* App. IV. Wks. 1792 II. 536 One considerable charge upon the nabob's country was for extraordinary sibbendies, sepoys, and horsemen, who appeared to us to be an unnecessary incumbrance on the revenue. 1784 *Report* in Carmichael *Vizagapatam* 209 Sibbandy & Pike [= *pāik*] peons for the forts and hilly countries. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 171 In times of war the sebundy of the country are hired and paid. *a* 1821 R. LINDSAY *Anecd. Ind. Life* (1840) 19 *note*, Here I found him in the command of a regiment of Sebundees, or native militia. 1823 SIR J. MALCOLM *Central India* I. 326 In all these services Ameer Khan and his followers were employed as Sebundy, or local militia. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 168 An addition to the armed sebundies of Vizagapatam was necessary to this end, and it was proposed to locate a body of this force..in the very considerable town of Jeypoor.

attrib. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 169 It would be best to authorize the collectors to raise sebundy troops for these services.

Sec, obs. form of SACK *sb.*[1], SICK *a.*

Sec., abbreviation of SECANT, SECOND, SECTION, SECRETARY, etc.

1641 in *Nicholas Pap.* (1886) 8 Mr. Sec. Vane. 1878 *Athletic World* 5 Apr. 3/1 The Mile..was..won..in the fair time of 4 min. 40 3–5th sec. 1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 125 A very fine race..Time, 1 min. 16⅘ secs.

Secability (sekăbi·lĭti). *rare*—[1]. [ad. late L. *secābilitās*, f. *secābilis*: see prec. and -ITY.] Capability of being cut.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* I. iii. 119 It is possible that it [matter] may not be indefinitely divisible; that there may be a limit to the successive division or secability of its parts.

†**Secable**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. late L. *secābilis*, f. L. *secāre* to cut: see -ABLE.] Capable of being cut.

1642 E. WIRLEY *Prisoners Rep.* A 4 b, 'T was a thicke wall built with soft freestone, and therefore the more secable.

‖ **Secale** (sĭkā·lĭ). *Bot.* [L. *secāle* rye.] A genus of grasses, represented by the common rye.

In *Pharmacy*, formerly used for *secale cornutum*, ergot.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* v. (1612) 26 Secale commonly called Rie, a Graine much vsed in Bread. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. (1794) 143 Secale or Rie has two flowers included in the same calyx.

†**Secament.** *Obs.*—[o] [ad. L. *secāmentum* (only pl., carved work), f. *secāre* to cut: see -MENT.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Secament*, that which is cut or shread from a Log or Block, as chips, and such like.

Secancy (se·kănsi). [f. SECANT: see -CY.] The property or fact of being secant.

1857 C. DAVIES & W. G. PECK *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Secant*, If a secant line be revolved about one of the points of secancy until the other point of secancy coincides with it the secant becomes a tangent.

‖ **Se·cans.** *Obs.* Pl. **seca·ntes.** [L. form of next.] = SECANT *sb.*

The mod.L. *secans* in this use was introduced by Thomas Finck *Geom. Rotundi*, Basle 1583, pp. 73, 76.

1599 E. WRIGHT *Err. Navig.* D 1, The Secans of the latitude of each poynt. *Ibid.*, The Secantes answerable to the latitudes of each point or parellel.

Secant (sī·kănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *secant-em*, pres. pple. of *secāre* to cut. Cf. F. *sécant* adj., *sécante* sb., Sp., Pg., It. *secante*.]

A. *adj. Geom.* Of a line or surface in relation to another line or surface; Cutting, intersecting.

1593 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. (1597) 57 b, They call the line Secant the Hipothenuse. 1864 WEBSTER, *Secant plane*, a plane cutting a surface or solid. 1866 PROCTOR *Handbk. Stars* 16 By increasing the true length in the proportion of the whole length of the secant line..to that part of it which lies between the point of projection and the division-point in P. A.

B. *sb.* (Ellipt. for *secant line.*) a. *Trig.* One of the three fundamental trigonometrical functions (cf. TANGENT, SINE): *orig.* The length of a straight line drawn from the centre of a circular arc through one end of the arc, and terminated by the tangent or line touching the arc at the other end; in mod. use, the ratio of this line to the radius, or (equivalently, as a function of an angle), the ratio of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle to that of one side, the given angle (or, if obtuse, its supplement) being that contained between them. Abbrev. *sec.* See SECANS.

1593 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. (1597) 104 The Table of Secants. 1682 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 23 In which scheme if ye draw some lines, Ye may have secants, tangents, signs. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 443 We have..to find..the secant of the spherical hypothenuse. 1811 HUTTON *Course Math.* III. 55 The secant of an arc. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 316. 243 The secant of *A* (written *sec. A*).

b. *Geom.* A line that cuts another; esp. a straight line that cuts a curve in two or more parts.

1684 *Elem. Geom.* 24 From the Center D, draw the Secant DC. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Line AM..is a Secant of the Circle AED. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 304 The Angle formed, Without a Circle, by two Secants, is Measured by Half the Difference of the Intercepted Arcs. 1881 CASEY *Sequel to Euclid* 92 If from any point two tangents be drawn to a circle, the points of contact and the points of intersection of any secant from the same point form a harmonic system of points. 1887 J. H. SMITH *Geometr. Conic Sect.* 18 Hence a secant to the parabola cuts the curve in two points only.

Secar, obs. form of SAKER [2].

1699 ROBERTS *Voy. Levant* 36 Jacomores Castle..fortified with 29 Secar Iron Guns.

‖ **Sécateur** (sekatör). [Fr., as if ad. L. **secātor* (bad form for *sector*), agent-n. f. *secāre* to cut.] A kind of pruning shears with crossed blades. *rare* in *sing.*

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 234/1 For pruning purposes a variety of instruments have been invented, under the names of sécateurs, pruning-shears, pruning-scissors, &c. 1901 *Gardener* 12 Jan. 1052/2 In certain positions it is difficult to sever a shoot with the knife without steadying it with the other hand; the sécateurs steady and cut at the same time. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 7/6 All dead stems should be removed with a sharp knife or secateur.

†**Seca·tion.** *Obs.* [Badly f. L. *secāre* to cut + -ATION.] (See quot. 1656.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Secation*, a cutting, sawing, parting, or dividing. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 21 The best Physician comes seldom, and very hardly, to searing, or secation of a Member from the body.

Secatour, variant of SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

Secau, obs. form of SICCA.

† **Se·ccatored**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. It. *seccatore* a bore.] Bored.

1763 EARL MARCH *Let. to Selwyn* 1 July in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 247 Williams suspects you begin to be a little *seccatored*.

Secchell, obs. form of SATCHEL *sb.*

‖ **Secco** (se·kko), *a.* and *sb.* [It. *secco* :—L. *siccus* dry.] A. *adj.* in *Music.* (See quots.)

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Sec* (FR.), *Secco* (IT.), dry, unadorned, plain, as *recitativo secco*, plain recitative, that is, without band accompaniments. 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 454/2 *Secco Recitative*, accurately *Recitativo Secco*—that is 'dry'...The simplest form of Declamatory Music, unrelieved either by Melody or Rhythm, and accompanied only by a Thoroughbass.

B. *sb.* in *Painting.* Ellipt. for It. *fresco secco*, 'dry fresco', a process of painting on dry plaster with colours mixed with water.

1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. I. 194 *note*, It is painted in secco, over the western side of the great arch. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art*, *Secco* (Ital.), fresco painting 'in secco' is that kind which absorbs the colours into the plaster, and gives them a dry, sunken appearance.

Seccoon, variant of SECONDE *Fencing.*

Seccotine (se·kotīn), *sb.* [App. suggested by It. *secco* dry. Cf. -INE.] The maker's name for a composition serving as a strong adhesive. Hence **Se·ccotine** *v. trans.*, to cement with seccotine.

1894 *Trade Marks Jrnl.* 19 Dec. 1040 Seccotine. 1903 GROSS & COLE *Mod. Microscopy* (ed. 3) 220 Seccotine or some other liquid glue may be used with advantage. 1903 *Daily News* 23 May 8/4 These spots are sometimes made of velvet seccotined to the material that they adorn.

Secocutur, variant of SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

Secce, obs. form of CEASE.

Secede (sĭsī·d), *v.* [ad. L. *sēcēdĕre* to withdraw, f. *sē-* (see SE-) + *cēdĕre* to go.]

1. *intr.* + a. To go away from one's companions, go into retirement (*obs.*). b. *nonce-use.* Of a thing: To retire, withdraw to a distance. (A Latinism.)

1702 MATHER *Magn. Christi* III. Introd. (1852) 240 A strange work of God upon the spirits of men that were no ways acquainted with one another inspiring them, as one man, to secede into a wilderness, they knew not where. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xix. § 31 The great mountains secede into supremacy through rosy depths of burning air.

2. To withdraw formally from an alliance, an association, a federal union, a political or religious organization.

The most prominent applications of the verb are to the action of a minority of a religious body, and to that of a state forming part of a federal union.

1755 JOHNSON, *To secede*, to withdraw from fellowship in any affair. 1777 BURKE *Let. to Rockingham* Wks. IX. 170 He is of opinion, that if you adhere to your resolution of seceding, you ought not to appear on the first day of the meeting. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 226/2 Accordingly the ejected ministers declared in their protest that they were laid under the disagreeable necessity of seceding, not from the principles and constitution of the church of Scotland,..but from the present church-courts. 1825 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 13 Possibly their colonies might secede from the Union. 1846 J. MACFARLANE *Late Secess. Ch. Scot.* 124 It were grievous misconception to suppose that all who seceded did so on the substantial merits of the question at issue. 1845 S. HINDS in *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 764/1 He who is convinced that his Church is essentially in error is bound to secede. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvi, A member of the house from which old Sedley had seceded was very glad to make use of Mr. Clapp's services. 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* viii. 391 The numerous clergy..who have seceded to Rome. 1883 H. B. LEECH in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 267 The law..suggests a distrust of the State which secedes from a confederacy without justifiable excuse.

b. *rarely* in wider sense: To withdraw from taking part (in conversation).

1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xii, The conversation fell to the three younger persons—I may say the two—for I also seceded, and left John master of the field.

Hence **Sece·ded** *ppl. a.*

1894 *Daily News* 25 Apr. 4/7 Even in Birmingham multitudes of seceded Liberals are tired of serving the Tory party.

Seceder (sĭsī·dəɹ). [f. SECEDE *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who secedes.

1755 JOHNSON, *Seceder*, one who discovers his disapprobation of any proceedings by withdrawing himself. 1787 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 425 *note*, I was the only seceder from this society. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 323, I had reason at this time to consider myself the first seceder from the established practice. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. i. I. 101 Athough seceders in some respects from the orthodox religion of the Hindus, the Sikhs retain so many essential articles of the Brahmanical faith that [etc.]. 1851 W. E. SCUDAMORE (*title*) Letters to a Seceder from the Church of England to the Communion of Rome. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 570 He says that the Northern Americans would have been stigmatized as cowards if they had let the seceders go in peace.

2. *spec.* A member of the Secession Church.

1758 A. GELLATLY *Some Observ.* To Rdr. 2 *note*, As they made a Secession from the established Church, they are termed Seceders. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* II. 8 Aug., There is a sect of fanaticks, who have separated themselves from the established kirk, under the name of Seceders. 1835 [T. JACKSON] *Man. Sects & Heresies* 112 *Seceders*, a numerous sect of Presbyterians in Scotland, who have withdrawn from the communion of the Established Church...The Seceders were formerly subdivided into Burghers and Anti-burghers ..; but in 1829 the two bodies were re-joined under the name of the United Secession Church.

b. *attrib.*

1833 J. S. SANDS *Poems* 51 (E. D. D.) He raised a kirk himsel' alane Just on the great Seceder plan. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 16/1 The Seceder meeting-house. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 544 Which I had overheard in my cousin the Seceder minister's house.

Seceding (sĭsī·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SECEDE *v.* + -ING [2].] That secedes; *occas.* + belonging to the Secession Church.

1757 SMOLLETT *Hist. Eng.* (1760) XI. 54 The seceding members had again resumed their seats in the house of commons. 1758 A. GELLATLY *Some Observ.* To Rdr. 2 The seceding (or associate) Ministers thought [etc.]. 1868 G. DUFF *Polit. Surv.* (1868) 121 Reconstruction is readmission of the seceding States to political communion. 1886 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* IX. vii. (1903) III. 322 Will the seceding colleagues come if they are asked?

Secern (sĭsə·ɹn), *v.* Also 7 **secerne**. [ad. L. *sēcernĕre*, f. *sē-* aside (see SE-) + *cernĕre* to separate, distinguish, secrete. In its physiological application (sense 2) the Latin word renders Gr. ἀποκρίνειν.]

1. *trans.* To separate; now only, to separate in thought; to place in a separate category, distinguish, discriminate.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Secerne*, to divide, to lay or separate one from another, to sever, to chuse from among others. *Bac.* 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* iii. 148 A local and bodily secerning our selves from evil men. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 92 (1740) 187 An Herculean Labour which..few or none will undertake, and yet fewer be able throughout to secern the true from the false. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xxvii. (1870) II. 256 Averroes secerns a sense of titillation and a sense of hunger and thirst. 1845 BAILEY *Mystic* 102 Whereby the good from ill they might secern. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Apr. 483 He knows that mimes cannot be utterly secerned from their life of mimicry.

2. *Phys.* To separate from the blood; to SECRETE. Now *rare*.

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* Pref. 18 Humors which ..being secerned and gathering head [etc.]. 1779 C. CRUTWELL *Adv. to Lying-in Women* 6 Milk..being secerned. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 165 An unusual proportion of bile is secerned. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV.

1714/1 The secretion of the gland..is simply secerned from the circulating current for a time.

absol. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 680 Their Flesh doth assimilate more finely, and secerneth more subtilly.

Secerned (sĭsə·ɹnd), *ppl. a.* [f. SECERN *v.* + -ED 1.] Secreted.

1722 QUINCY *Lex. Phys.-Med.* (ed. 2) 17 The secerned Particles for Nourishment and Accretion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Animal Secretion*, Diversities of secerned Fluids. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 262 Proving that most of the secerned materials are not formally existent in the blood.

Secernent (sĭsɔ·ɹmĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sĕcernentem*, pres. pple. of *sĕcernĕre*: see SECERN *v.*]

A. *adj.* That secretes.

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 261 Peculiar ferments, conveyed by the blood to the secernent organ. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 65/2 The activity of the nutritive, secernent, and absorbent processes.

B. *sb. Phys.* a. A secreting organ.

1808 *Ann. Reg.* 115 The secernents of its cutis exude a sweet, saccharine, nutritive gum. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 261 Whence, indeed, the name of Secernents or Secretories, which mean nothing more than separating powers. 1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med., Secernents.*

† b. Something which promotes secretion. *Obs.*—o In Webster 1828, with reference to Darwin; see the following quot.:

[1796 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* II. 694 Those things which increase the irritative motions, which constitute secretion, are termed secernentia.]

Secerning (sĭsɔ̄·ɹnĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SECERN *v.* + -ING 2.] = SECERNENT *a.*

a 1721 KEILL *Anim. Œcon.* (1738) 104 The Secretions are formed in the Blood, before they arrive at their secerning Glands. 1804 T. TROTTER *Ess. Drunkenness* iv. § xx. 134 All secreted fluids partake of the vices of the secerning organ. *a* 1843 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 259/1 Of the Secerning Glands or True Glands.

Secernment (sĭsɔ̄·ɹnmĕnt). [f. SECERN *v.* + -MENT.]

1. *Phys.* The action of secerning or secreting.

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 310 The globules are produced while it lies on the surface of the sore, usually..in about fifteen minutes after its secernment. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xviii. 268 The means..for rejecting from the body the residuum after the secernment..of the finer life-supporting products.

2. Separation.

1894 *Yellow Bk.* I. 72 With the universal use of cosmetics and the consequent secernment of soul and surface.

Secesh (sĭse·ʃ), *sb.* and *a. colloq.* [Shortened from SECESSION.] A. *sb. U. S. Hist.* A secessionist. Also secessionists collectively.

1862 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. of Life* (1891) 36 'There are two wounded Secesh', said my companion. 1879 TOURGÉE *Fool's Errand* vi. 25, I was one of the original 'Secesh',—one of the immortal thirteen that voted for it in this county.

¶ b. *nonce-use.* Secession.

1868 GREEN *Lett.* II. (1901) 209 A Limehouse grocer proclaims his secesh from Newton.

B. *adj.* = SECESSIONIST *a.*

1861 *Ohio Statesman* 6 Nov. in *A. E. Lee's Hist. Columbus* II. 102 The following distinguished secesh prisoners have been sent. 1862 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk.* (1865) 145 He axed what was my principles? 'Secesh!' I ansered. 1871 SIR S. NORTHCOTE in *Life* (1890) II. 38 The whole town [Richmond, Va.] is still 'Secesh' to the heart's core.

Secesher (sĭse·ʃəɹ). *colloq. U. S.* [f. SECESH + -ER 1.] A secessionist.

1861 O. W. HOLMES *Sweet Little Man* 47 While the wind scatters the chaffy secesshers. 1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. i. Poems 1890 II. 239 Knowin' t' much might spile a boy for bein' a Secesher.

† **Sece·ss.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *sĕcessus* (*u* stem), f. *sĕcēdĕre*: see SECEDE *v.*] Withdrawing; retirement. Also a secession, revolt from allegiance.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 789/2 This sickenes tooke him after supper, with the which he vehemently contending, required secesse into a hye chamber. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* 8/1 Silent Secesse, wast Solitude Deep searching thoughts often renew'd. 1663 HEATH *Flagellum* Pref. (1672) 2 For there have been more Revolts, Defections, and Secesses made in Europe, than for many Centuries before. 1675 A. HUYBERTS *Corner-Stone* 18 This contrivance was made.. merely for fear lest these should make a Secess to Mount Aventine, and set up for a popular Rebellion..against the Senate of the Colledge.

Secession (sĭse·ʃən). [ad. L. *sĕcessiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sĕcēdĕre*: see SECEDE *v.* Cf. F. *sécession* (17th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *secesion*, It. *secessione.*]

† 1. The action or an act of going away from one's accustomed neighbourhood, or of retiring from public view; the condition of living remote from one's former home, or retired from public view; retirement. *Obs.*

1604 F. HERING *Med. Defence* B j, Secession and departing the city hath beene a meane to preserue many [from the Plague]. 1645 BP. HALL *Peace-maker* viii. 64 The cels and cloysters of retired Votaries, whose very secession proclaimes their contempt of sinfull seculars. 1648 — *Select Th.* Pref., To make use of my late Secession for the production of divers..Tractates. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 302 The unspotted soul of our Jesus was really and actually separated from his body, that his flesh was bereft of natural life by the secession of that soul. 1689 *Andrew Tracts* II. 152 They [the Puritan founders of New England] resolved on a peaceable secession into a corner of the World. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xv, No desire—or fear—or doubt that troubles the air,..that the imagination may not pass over without offence in that sweet secession. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* II. 31 During this secession he lived under the same roof with an insane patient. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* x. 106 The secession of many eminent men from the island.

† b. Of a material thing: Departure, removal to a distance; separation. *Obs.*

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2 *Peter* v. 19 Natural darkness;.. necessarily following upon the secession or absence of the sun. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 57 The accession of bodyes upon, or secession thereof, from its surface. 1797 CRUIKSHANK in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 213 The secession of the amnion from the chorion.

† c. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Secession of a Parliament*, the Adjournment or breaking-up of it.

2. *Rom. Hist.* Used to render L. *secessio* (*plebis*), the temporary migration of the plebeians to a place outside the city, in order to compel the patricians to grant redress of their grievances.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxiv. (S. T. S.) I. 231 At þat tyme war acceppit be þame may wikkit & soroufull lawis þan evir war acceppit be secessioun of pepill to þe sacrate montane. *a* 1760 W. DUNCAN *Cicero's Sel. Orat.* xiv. (1841) 298 At first, Caesar, you thought it only a secession, not a war. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 63 Nor need we relate..how these same Plebeians,..by..their secessions to the sacred mount first obtained inviolable magistrates of their own.

† b. A desertion, repudiation of allegiance. *Obs.*

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Serm. Paules Crosse* 23 They..who with Shebah,..will make a secession from their prince.

3. The action of seceding or formally withdrawing from an alliance, a federation, a political or religious organization, or the like. Hence, a body of seceders.

War of Secession: the American Civil War (1861–5), which arose out of the attempt of eleven of the Southern States to secede from the United States of North America.

1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 222 The Sesession [*sic*] of the Church, King, and Kingdom of England, from the Papacy. 1670 in Somers *Tracts* I. 12 This Secession of Members did very much facilitate the Entry into, and Continuance of the War. 1697 S. SEWALL *Diary* 30 Sept. (1878) I. 460 That Mr. Cotton should make an orderly secession from the Church. 1777 BURKE *Let. to Rockingham* Wks. IX. 171 If the Secession were to be general, such an attendance, followed by such an act, would have force. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1851) I. 21 After so many deaths, secessions and expulsions. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 764/1 The Church of England..would be naturally perpetuated as it now is, and every secession from it would be as truly a Schism. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 115 The secession of the Protestant Church. 1861 LOWELL *E Pluribus Unum* Pr. Wks. 1890 V. 53 Rebellion smells no sweeter because it is called Secession. 1861 *Times* 23 May, The term 'secession' is objected to,..because 'secession', like 'federation', expresses an absolute equality and correlation of rights which..the Northern States are not prepared to concede. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 355 If the private interest of any town could be better served by severance from the league there was no spirit to prevent a secession. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 469/2 (*Germany*), Several communities as well as individuals declared their secession from the Roman Church. 1885 M. PATTISON *Mem.* 235, I have spoken of the sudden lull which fell upon Oxford..the moment the secessions to Rome were announced. 1888 A. JOHNSTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 772/2 Some assurance of united action must have been obtained, for South Carolina ventured into secession.

b. *spec.* The separation from the Established Church of Scotland, initiated in 1733 by the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine and other ministers; the religious body (more fully *the Secession Church*) which originated from this separation.

1733 E. ERSKINE, etc. *Protest* in A. Thomson *Hist. Secession Ch.* (1848) 72 Therefore we do..protest that we are obliged to make a secession from them [the prevailing party in this Established Church], and that we can have no ministerial communion with them, till [etc.]. 1782 J. BROWN *Addr. Students of Div.* p. xviii, I look upon the Secession as indeed the Cause of God. 1860 J. CAIRNS *Mem. J. Brown* i. 3 That form of Scottish dissent, called the Secession..had taken its rise in 1733.

c. *rarely* in wider sense: Withdrawal (from a share in conversation, etc.).

1843 LYTTON *Last of Barons* I. vi, Perfectly unconscious of the secession of his other listeners.

† 4. (See quots.) *Obs.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* I. xiv. 28 A Medicament is called Cathartick, or purging, because by some way it draws noxious humours out of our bodies, as by vomiting, or secession. 1724 BAILEY (ed. 2), *Secession* (among Physicians), the going off [1742 (ed. 10) of a Disease] by Secretion.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. in sense 3 b, as in *Secession church, movement, principles, synod*; b. with reference to the attempted secession from the United States (1861–5), as in *secession-sympathizer*; **Secession War** = *War of Secession* (see 3).

1803 W. TAYLOR *J. Brown's Lett. on Toleration* Pref. 19 Evils which he saw coming on the Secession Churches. 1835 [T. JACKSON] *Man. Sects & Heresies* 113 In 1829 the two bodies were re-joined under the name of the United Secession Church. 1862 WHITTIER in *Life* (1893) 136 In so doing I seem to take sides with the secession-sympathisers of the North. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 645/2 It is not necessary to describe minutely the gradual extension of the 'Secession movement'. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 132/2 This departure ..from Secession principles. *Ibid.*, Negotiations for union between the Burghers and Antiburghers resulted, in 1820, in the formation of the United Secession Synod. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 6/4 Colonel Henderson..has long since made an exhaustive and minute study of the Secession War.

6. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*) in the senses: a. Belonging to the Secession Church; b. Favouring the cause of secession (from the United States), secessionist. (With capital S.)

1838 A. THOMSON *Hist. Secession Ch.* 171 The name among Secession authors which..is best known in purely literary circles is that of Dr. Jamieson. 1863 BRIGHT *Sp. Amer.* 26 Mar. 127 Not Union planters only, but Secession planters began to bring in the produce.

Secessional (sĭse·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to secession.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Apr. 5/1 If..any whiff of secessional sentiment has blown upon him, he must have been restored to his better purpose.

2. *Sc.* Pertaining to the Secession Church. *Obs.*

1838 *United Secession Mag.* Feb. 103 Secessional Intelligence. 1844 J. MACFARLANE *Mem. J. Campbell* iii. 69 These [interests of Gospel truth] are insured in Secessional testimonies.

Secessionism (sĭse·ʃəniz'm). [f. SECESSION + -ISM.] a. *U. S. Hist.* The principles of those in favour of secession. b. *Scottish Ch. Hist.* The principles and doctrine of the Secession Church.

1898 E. MARTYN *Neal Dow* xxxiv. in *New York Voice* 5 May 6/5 Lincoln..found himself in possession of a bankrupt government, confronted by an arrogant secessionism. 1899 *Q. Rev.* July 177 Carlyle represented the 'dour' secessionism of the Border peasantry. 1904 R. SMALL *Hist. U. P. Congreg.* I. 328 Such were the workings of disrupted Secessionism at Alyth.

Secessionist (sĭse·ʃənist). [f. SECESSION + -IST.] One who favours secession; one who joins in a secession. a. *spec.* in *U. S. Hist.* One in favour of the attempt of the Southern States to withdraw from the Union.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Secessionists*, the party in the South which would dissolve the Union, or go out of it immediately, without the coöperation of other States. Another party, calling themselves 'coöperationists', would only dissolve it when other States had joined them. 1861 LOWELL *E Pluribus Unum* Pr. Wks. 1890 V. 52 The list of grievances put forward by the secessionists is a sham and a pretence. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 14 July 32/2 The secessionists made war, not only on the Union, but on the progress of the age.

b. *gen.*

1881 G. J. HOLYOAKE in *Daily News* 26 Oct. 6/4 The Irish Secessionists. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 1 July 3/5 Their [*i.e.* Austrian painters] work suggests that as Secessionists, they have felt the necessity of doing something as no one has done it before. 1902 *Scotsman* 3 Jan. 6/2 Other 'secessionists' ['blackleg' workmen] managed to reach their homes safely, but only under strong police escort.

c. *attrib.* and *appositive* (quasi-*adj.*).

1861 *Morn. Chron.* 3 Aug., The plough lying abandoned, as it was left by the secessionist owner. 1898 MCCARTHY *Gladstone's Life* 239 Disraeli accepted the support of the secessionist Liberals.

† **Sece·ssive,** *a. Obs.* [as if ad. L. **sĕcessīvus*, f. *sĕcēdĕre*: see SECEDE *v.*] Retired, private.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xl, Like dung-chewers and excrementitious eaters, they are cast into the privies and secessive places, that is the Covents and Abbeys. *Ibid.* III. viii, Conserved and put in store as in a Secessive Repository, and Sacred Warehouse.

Sech(e : see SEEK, SIEGE, SIGH, SITCH, SUCH.

Sechell, Secher, Sechino, Secir, obs. ff. SATCHEL, SEEKER, SEQUIN, SICKER.

Seck, *a.* : see RENT-SECK.

Seck(e, obs. forms of SACK *sb.*1, *sb.*3, SICK *a.*

Secke, obs. pa. t. of SUCK *v.*

Seckel (se·kĕl). Also **Seckle.** [See quot. 1817.] A kind of pear. Also *Seckel pear.*

1817 W. COXE *View Cultiv. Fruit Trees Amer.* 189 Seckle Pear,..So called from Mr. Seckle of Philadelphia, the proprietor of the original tree. 1845 DOWNING *Fruits Amer.* 416 The Seckel pear. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Man.* 211 (Pears) Seckle (New York Red-cheek; Shakespear; Sicker).—Fruit small, obovate. Skin yellowish-brown [etc.].

Secker, obs. form of SICKER *a.*

Secket, dial. variant of SIKET (runnel).

Seckle, var. SECKEL; and of SICKLE *a. Obs.*

Secktur, variant of SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

† **Se·cky,** *a. Obs.* [? Corruption of *seggy*, SEDGY *a.*] ? Sedgy.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 28 They soile their sandy layers (both blacke and red) being seckie, tough and wet, with lime.

† **Se·cle.** *Obs.* Also 7 secle. [ad. (prob. independently by several writers) L. *sĕclum*, *sæculum* age: see SECULAR *a.* For the forms obtained through Fr., see SIECLE.] A century, age.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1079 The Romayns [were wont to reken] by lustres..and by indicions..: a secle is an hundred yere, and sometyme taken for a mannes lyfe. 1644 HAMMOND *Pract. Catech.* I. ii. (1646) 10 'Tis wont to be said that three generations make one secle, or hundred yeares. 1772 [T. NUGENT] tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 352 To the argent season succeeded the secle hight ferruginous. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg., Bucol.* iv. Observ., The augural books of the Tuscans said that there were successive secles or ages assigned to states and empires.

Secler(e, obs. forms of SECULAR.

Secll, variant of SICKLE *v. Obs.*

Seclude (sĭklū·d), *v.* Also 6 secluid. [ad. L. *sēclūdĕre*, f. *sē-* (see SE-) + *claudĕre* to shut. Cf. OF. *seclorre.*

Now almost restricted to sense a, which is close to the primary etymological meaning, though narrower than the use of *secludere* in Latin. Formerly often used loosely as a synonym of *exclude*: see 3, 4, 5 below.]

† 1. *trans.* To shut off, obstruct the access to (a thing). Const. *from. Obs.*

1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* 127 The last two dayes was his drynk secluded fro him, so closed wer his pipes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 87 The sure nutriment of their liuyng was from them secluded.

2. †**a.** To shut up apart, to enclose or confine so as to prevent access or influence from without. Const. *from*. Also, to enclose or confine (a material thing) in a separate place. *Obs.* (merged in 2 b.)

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 32 b/2 To drawe therout all humors which are therin secluded. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 23/1 Take also a Peacock, seclud him in the decreasing of the Moon, on some clean Chamber, and collect the dung..therof. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Aug. 1641, The women were secluded from the men, being seated above in galleries. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 1132 Let eastern tyrants from the light of heaven Seclude their bosom slaves.

b. In wider sense: To remove or guard from public view; to withdraw from opportunities of social intercourse. Often *refl.*, to live in retirement or solitude. Chiefly const. *from*.

1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. ii, We are secluded From all good people. 1686 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. vii. Wks. 1718 I. 416 He is secluded by the infinite sacredness of his own Majesty from all immediate converse and intercourse with us. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, Great Allowances should be given to a King who lives wholly secluded from the rest of the World. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* liv.(1749) II. 68 Virtue..must either..seclude herself in cells and desarts, or [etc.]. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 159 P 1 The studious part of mankind, whose education necessarily secludes them in their earlier years from mingled converse. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 202 It was enviously secluded from the public view. 1782 V. KNOX *Liberal Educ.* iii. 35 He..will suffer worse consequences from it, than if he had not been secluded from boys at a boyish age. *a* 1834 LAMB *Let. to Southey* in *Mrs. Leicester's Sch.*, etc. (1885) 338 It is an error more particularly incident to persons of the correctest principles and habits, to seclude themselves from the rest of mankind, as from another species, and form into knots and clubs. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xiv, Miss Hepzibah, by secluding herself from society, has lost all true relation with it. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, II. ii. I. 158 Shut up in his carriage, he seemed desirous to seclude himself from the gaze of his..subjects. 1910 EMILY J. PUTNAM in *Contemp. Rev.* May 556 Under these conditions, it was apparently not necessary to seclude a wife; at any rate, the Roman matron of all periods enjoyed personal freedom.

c. To shut off or screen *from* some external influence.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xvii. I. 124 The region of the Attaci..secluded from all noisome wind and aire. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 170 Investigations and habits of thought that secluded them from baser attractions.

†**3.** To shut or keep out *from* a place, society, etc.; to deny entrance to. Sometimes with double object, To forbid (a person) to enter (a place, etc.).

1498 in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 57 And quha brekis this Statut..salbe secludit and forboden the tone thai being conuikit thairintill. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* (1908) A ij, Man must nedes be lost, And cleane secluded, from the faythfull chosen sorte, In the heauens aboue. 1558 FORREST *Grysilde the Second* 85 So was goode Grysilde secluded the Courte. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 188 Vtterly to seclude from your presence and face..the habit ..and figure of his countinaunce. 1680 *Spirit of Popery* Pref. 2 The Doctrines,..for which the Jesuits are Secluded both Kingdoms by Capital Laws. 1680 *Papists bloody Oath of Secrecy* 4 Till the days of our Grand-Fathers, when in England the Pope and his Clergy were secluded.

†**b.** To debar *from* a privilege, advantage, dignity, succession, etc.; to prevent *from* doing something. Also const. *inf.* *Obs.*

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* To Chr. Rdr. A iij b, You haue bene of longe continuaunce secluded from the scriptures. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* iii. 7–13 Leste he.. dooe grieuously punyshe them, and seclude them from the rest and quietnes promised. 1556 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (ed. 2) 116 b, *marg.*, Irreligious people secluded [*text has* excluded] from all honours. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* H 7, Upon every fault found, your staffes shall be taken from you, and [you] to be secluded for ever more for serving in those romes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 b, And by that occasion usurped the Dukedome of Millan, secludyng Valentine [orig. *exclusa Valentina*]. 1574 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 333 Wives were alwaies secluded and barred to demande any intrest in their said thirde of the said fermes. 1613 SIR T. SMYTHE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 132 We now know what they endeavour, to seclude us from trading in those parts. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 99 b, The heire cannot take anything..when the ancestor himself is secluded. 1656 G. COLLIER *Answ.* 15 *Quest.* 5, I shall prove they ought to be secluded [from communion]. 1681 *Let. to Person of Honour conc. D. of M.'s Mother* 12 An apprehension of being otherwise Secluded from his Right over that kingdom. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 5 If the buyer..must immediately offer it back, so soon as he knows the vitiosity, else will be secluded both from the *redhibitoria* and *quanti minoris*. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 26 They are more secluded from easy recourse to national judicature.

†**c.** To regard as having no share (in something). Const. *from*. *Obs.*

1581 W. CHARKE in *Conf.* IV. (1584) D d iiij b, The ende why works are secluded from iustification doeth proue for me. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 57 Confessing that if any waies I haue erred vnto you, as I will not vtterly seclude my selfe from any errour, it was but..by ignorance. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. (1677) 71 Almighty God, whom he totally secludes from the concerns of the World.

†**d.** With noun of action as obj.: To prohibit, preclude. *Obs.*

1566 SECURIS *Detection* B iij b, The..sauegard of many a sick man..shall be hyndred and secluded. 1579 RICE *Inuective agst. Vices* C iij, Thou wilt perchaunce saie, that I am to harde to reprehende that thyng, that maie for an honest recreation bee frequented, where as the companie is sober,..secludyng blasphemie, riot, dronkenship, and such like excesse. 1578 *Reg. Priuy Council Scot.* II. 681 That nane of his Hienes liegis..mak ony bargayne, blok, or conditioun..secluding the ressaving of ony of the Kingis lauchfull money in payment. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Nov.* (1679) 29 Enclose your tender Plants..in your Conservatory, secluding all entrance of cold.

†**4.** To exclude from consideration, leave out of account. *Obs.*

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* Prol. A viij b, Imaginynge that two men dispute this matter by naturall reason and phylosophye, secludynge Chryste and all scrypture. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VIII. ii. (1886) 127 Onelie God and man knoweth the heart of man and therefore..the divell must be secluded. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 435, I vtterly seclude al their opinions, which translate this word Arabian wolues, for the Hæbrew notes cannot admit such a version or exposition. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 123, I doe not by this seclude society, and conuersation: for such a solitary, & vnsociable disposition, I hold to be worse then this Gadder. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 159 [This] Secludeth ambiguous, equiuocall, or doubtfull significations. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 82 Alwayes provided, you abstract, and seclude that, which implieth imperfection. 1672 WALLIS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 531 What I said..was only to seclude that consideration from what was then in hand. 1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 69 For such, says he, is God in the rest of his Attributes, if you seclude his Goodness. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. § 2 If we seclude space out of our consideration.

†**b.** The pr. pple. used absol. as quasi-*prep.*: Excepting, apart from. *Obs.*

1624 F. WHITE *Repl. Fisher* 414 Secluding the authoritie of the Roman Church, there is [etc.]. 1637 C. DOW *Answ. to H. Burton* 168 That we come to know the scriptures by the testimony of the church, and that secluding that, wee cannot..bee perswaded that they are the word of God. 1638 in Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 58 We condemn no Episcopall Government, secludeing the personall abuse therof. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* iii. Wks. 1687 I. 27 But, secluding a regard to the Precepts of Religion, there can hardly be [etc.]. 1706 W. JONES *Palm. Math.* 129 If all the Negative Products made of the Roots taken by 2's, 3's, 4's, &c. (Secluding their Signs) are equal to all the Affirmative ones. 1728 tr. *Newton's Treat. Syst. World* 22 A body revolved in our air..would (secluding the resistance of the air) compleat a revolution in 1 h. 24′. 27″.

†**5.** To banish, expel *from* a country; to put out of an office or out of membership of a society. (Cf. EXCLUDE *v.* II.) *Obs.*

1572 WHITGIFT *Answ. Admonition* 40 God..prescribeth no generall rule of secluding them from theyr ministerie, if they falling, afterwarde repent. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7, I choosed..to seclude my selfe from my soyle. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper North* (1742) Pref. 3 He served his Country in diverse Parliaments, and was misled to sit in that of Forty, till he was secluded.

†**b.** To banish, put away (a thought, etc.). *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* XV. 14–19 That all heauines and dissencion secluded, it maye please hym to fulfyll you with all ioye and concorde.

†**c.** To expunge from a record. *Obs.*

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. Ep. Ded., Seclud ynge theyr names from the lambes boke of lyfe.

d. *Textual criticism.* To exclude as spurious [= mod.L. *secludere*].

1893 A. PLATT in *Classical Rev.* Feb. 31/2 And why should this be secluded, when o 225–256 are retained, though the editors agree with Nitzsch in condemning them?

6. To separate, keep apart. †**a.** To separate as a barrier; to intervene so as to shut off (e. g. a portion of an army from the main body). *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 113 The Britwales or Welchmen..were secluded from the English Saxons by a Ditch or Trench which King Offa cast. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 63 They were driuen to a necessitie, either by force to dislodge the enemy from the place and cut him off, or else to be secluded from the rest of the army. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 22 Discending Mount Synais from La Croix Southward, which secludeth Sauoy. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VI. xiii. (1821) 299 Things..that were cast into periods of time secluded one from another by vast intervals. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Loyal Scot* 93 Nothing but clergy could us two seclude, No Scotch was ever like a bishop's feud.

†**b.** To separate in thought, to consider apart *from*. *Obs.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VIII. 42 Take Queen Mary in her self abstracted from her Opinions, and by her self, secluded from her bloody councellours, and her Memory will justly come under Commendation.

c. To select and separate; to set aside for use.

1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 7 No plunder taken in war was used by the captor until the Druids determined what part they should seclude for themselves. 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* II. 333 This transitory literature..requires immense sifting and purgation, like other coarse raw material, in order to reduce the gross to the nett, to seclude, and to express, the metal from the ore.

Secluded (sĭklū·dĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. In senses of the vb., *esp.*: Shut up or withdrawn from view; †(of a privilege) withheld from the multitude; †(of a member of parliament) expelled, excluded.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xl. 338 So the Divell hath his sacrifices,..his secluded and fained holinesse, with a thousand sortes of false prophets. 1649 PRYNNE (*title*) A Vindication of the Imprisoned and Secluded Members of the House of Commons From the Aspersions cast upon them. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 86, I was one of the Secluded Members. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XVI. § 132 He made no scruple to declare, that in justice the secluded members ought to be admitted. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 86 If she were communicating some privilege, or laying open some secluded benefit. 1842 J. PEDDIE *Exp. Jonah* vii. 119 Consider the secluded condition of Eastern monarchs. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvii, His secluded wife ever smiling and cheerful.

2. Of a place or dwelling: Remote or screened from observation or access; withdrawn from society; seldom visited on account of distance or difficulty of approach; sequestered, retired.

1798 WORDSW. *Poems Imag.* xxvi. *Tintern Abb.* 6 Once again Do I behold these steep and lofty cliffs, That on a wild secluded scene impress Thoughts of more deep seclusion. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 254 Is not the secluded scene felt to be most beautiful? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 538 In that secluded province his father had bought a small estate. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* IV. 378 A secluded hollow near the small tarn called Lochcolissor. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 40 Over-hanging a secluded garden.

Hence **Seclu·dedly** *adv.*, **Seclu·dedness.**

1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 455 A bower of the most approved secludedness and beauty. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. v. 164 Both living secludedly, they had scarcely seen each other for many years.

Secluding (sĭklū·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SECLUDE *v.* + -ING 2.] That secludes.

a 1851 MOIR *Lines in Park of Kelburn* i. Poet. Wks. 1852 I. 194 The green secluding hills, that hem it round. 1857 J. HAMILTON *Less. fr. Gt. Biog.* 189 With no barrier round Him except His own secluding sanctity.

Secluse (sĭklū·z), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *sēclūsus*, pa. pple. of *sēclūdĕre* SECLUDE *v.* Cf. OF. *seclus*, Sp. *secluso*.] Secluded; withdrawn from view or from society. †Also *absol.* in plural sense.

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. ii. 4 Whom better fit some cotes of sad secluse. 1603 HARSNET *Decl. Pop. Impost.* iii. 11 Places ..for their situation, beeing remote and secluse from ordinary accesse. 1668 S. PATRICK *Pilgrim* XV. III, I cannot see by what merit the Secluse do assume to themselves the title of Religious more than others. 1675 E. W[ILSON] *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 70 Penetrating by its tenuity of parts the most secret and secluse parts of our Bodies. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Aug. 203/2 His [W. S. Landor's] has always been a secluse, estranged existence. 1861 R. GARNETT in *Macm. Mag.* IV. 248 Who, secluse, a serious priest of Pallas, Daily, nightly, patient accumulatest Lore on lore.

Hence † **Seclu·seness**, secludedness, seclusion.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1860 in WORCESTER (citing MORE).

Seclusion (sĭklū·ʒən. [ad. med.L. *sēclūsiōnem* (Diefenb.), f. L. *sēclūs-*, *sēclūdĕre*: see SECLUDE *v.*]

1. The action of secluding; †exclusion (*obs.*).

1623 COCKERAM I, *Seclusion*, a shutting apart. 1664 OWEN *Vind. Animad. Fiat Lux* xviii. 450 Nor can I gather that.. you suffered..for your..love to Monarchy: Seeing some of you would have been contented with its everlasting Seclusion. *c* 1680 *Let.* in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I. 131, I think it both unreasonable and unjust, for any Subject of England to attempt his Seclusion from the Crown. 1808 in *Encycl. Brit.* (1885) XIX. 748/2 Recognizing the importance of attempting reformation by the seclusion, employment, and religious instruction of prisoners.

attrib. 1895 *Law Times* 13 July 258 An inmate was subjected to the discipline of a 'seclusion cell'.

2. The condition or state of being secluded; an instance of this. *In seclusion*, apart from society.

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 675 Oh, blest seclusion from a jarring world, Which he, thus occupied, enjoys! 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXX, Several days passed with Emily in total seclusion. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & P.* i. (ed. 3) 96 The elevation and seclusion of some of its edifices, perched high among almost inaccessible rocks. 1872 J. G. MURPHY *Comm., Levit.* xii. Introd., The period of seclusion after child-bearing. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 427 Brought up ..in severe seclusion.

3. A place or abode in which one is secluded.

1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iv, La Motte had now passed above a month in this seclusion. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* viii. 196 There was certainly as much piety without as within these seclusions—and much more learning. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* viii, A seclusion, but seldom a solitude; for..all who breathe Roman air, find free admission. 1884 SINNETT *Esoteric Buddhism* ix. 148 They have sometimes been isolated in separate seclusions.

Seclusionist (sĭklū·ʒənist). [f. SECLUSION + -IST.] One who advocates seclusion; applied, e. g. to the supporters of monasticism, and to a Chinese or a Japanese who is adverse to the admission of foreigners to his country.

1839 I. TAYLOR *Ancient Chr.* I. iv. 521 The Jewish seclusionists well understood..that a community of goods was impracticable. 1887 *Fortn. Rev.* May 677 Now [in Japan].. it would probably be difficult to find so much as one genuine seclusionist. 1886 *Atlantic Monthly* Nov. 604 If the progressionists had not seized the reins of government [in Korea], the seclusionists would soon have had everything their own way. *Ibid.*, The head of the seclusionist party.

Seclusive (sĭklū·sĭv), *a.* [As if ad. L. **sēclūsivus*, f. *sēclūs-*, *sēclūdĕre*: see SECLUDE *v.*]

1. Serving or tending to seclude; disposed to seclude oneself, affecting seclusion.

a 1834 COLERIDGE (Worcester 1860). 1834 I. TAYLOR *Sat. Even.* 274 Religion or the devotional part of it is..by its necessary condition seclusive. 1890 F. BARRETT *Between Life & Death* I. ii. 29 Her ways were odd and seclusive. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 38 On the top a palisade and quick hedge for seclusive enclosure. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 2 Feb. 4/6 The Royal Society electing him to their seclusive membership.

2. *Sc. Law.* Exclusive *of*.

1855 *Deed* in *Law Rep.*, 9 App. Cases 504 In liferent for her liferent alimentary use of the annual proceeds thereof allenarly, and seclusive of the jus mariti of [her husband].

Hence **Seclu·sively** *adv.*, **Seclu·siveness.**

1822 *Examiner* 347/2 [The picture] Landscape with fall of water, &c. is poetical seclusiveness. 1883 W. JOLLY *Life J. Duncan* xxxix. 466 The enclosing hills seemed to shut out the cottage more seclusively from the world. 1885 J. M. LUDLOW in *Homil. Rev.* Apr. 282 What we may call their [Jewish Rabbins] seclusiveness of thought.

†**Seclu·sory.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *sēclūsōrium*, *f. sēclūdĕre*: see SECLUDE *v.* and -ORY.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Seclusory*, a place where any thing is shut up a part from other; a Coop.

Secomoure, obs. form of SYCAMORE.

Second (se·kənd), *sb.*[1] *Math.* Forms: 4, 6 seconde, 6– second. [a. F. *seconde*, ad. med.L. *secunda*, fem. of L. *secundus* SECOND *a.*, used ellipt. for *secunda minuta*, lit. 'second minute', i. e. the result of the second operation of sexagesimal division; the result of the first such operation (now called 'minute' simply) being the 'first' or 'prime minute' or 'prime' (see PRIME *sb.*[2] 2).

The med. L. *secunda* is also represented by G. *sekunde*, Du. *secunde* fem. (whence Sw. *sekund* masc., Da. *sekund*). Med.L. had a neut. *secundum* (cf. *minūtum* a minute), whence Sp., Pg. *segundo*, It. *secondo*.]

1. *Geom.* (*Astr.*, *Geog.*, etc.) A sixtieth part of a minute, $\frac{1}{3600}$th part of a degree. See MINUTE *sb.*[1] 2, DEGREE *sb.* 9.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 8 Thise degrees of signes ben euerich of hem considered of 60 Mynutes, & euery Minute of 60 secondes. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Err. Navig.* D 2, Let the meridian (diuided into degrees, minutes, seconds, &c.) roule vpon a streight line. 1713 J. WARD *Young Mathem. Guide* (ed. 2) 350 Every Circle is suppos'd to be divided into 360...Degrees; every Degree is sub-divided into 60 Parts call'd Minutes; and every Minute into 60 Seconds, &c. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* vii. 171 The star Alpha Centauri ..exhibits..an annual parallax of one second.

2. In measurement of time: The sixtieth part of a minute, $\frac{1}{3600}$th of an hour.

1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* g viij, Ye cowrse of ye sone, quhilk sence hes bene obserueit to be accompleseit in 365 dayes 5 houris 10 min: and 16 Secondis. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* III. ix, At Ten a Clock, punctually at Ten. *Sir Samp.* To a Minute, to a Second; thou shalt set thy Watch, and the Bridegroom shall observe it's Motions. 1762 [W. YOUNG] *Treat. Weights & Meas.* 24 The pendulum which vibrates seconds at London, has been commonly esteemed 39.2 English inches. 1883 R. S. BALL in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 668 [In the C. G. S. system] the unit of length is the *centimetre*, the unit of mass is the *gramme*, and the unit of time is the *second*.

b. Used vaguely for an extremely short time, an 'instant'.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iv, A momentum of speed which increased with every second. 1897 *Daily News* 14 June 5/7 There was a second's panic in the crowd. 1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xii, Do you mind if I slip away for just two seconds and take off this frock?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **second-** (**seconds-**) **hand**, a hand or pointer of a timepiece indicating seconds; **second-** (**seconds-**) **mark** *Math.*, the character ″, denoting a second or seconds (either of angle or of time); **second-** (**seconds-**) **pendulum**, a pendulum of a timepiece vibrating seconds; **second pivot** (see quot.); †**second-** (**seconds-**) **watch**, a timepiece indicating seconds.

1759 PRINGLE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 250 Upon looking at a watch, which had a *second-hand,..he stopped me when I had counted 13 seconds. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 41 Your watch..should be furnished with a seconds-hand. 1888 LD. GRIMTHORPE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 398/1 In the chronograph watch there is, in addition to the centre seconds-hand, an independent seconds-hand which, when not in operation, stands at zero. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.*, **Seconds mark.* 1763 MURDOCH in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 31 A *second-pendulum at the equator would be 39·154 inches long. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 221 Determining the length of the seconds' pendulum in different latitudes. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm. Handbk.* 233 [The] *Seconds Pivot..[is] the prolongation of the fourth wheel arbor to which the seconds hand of a watch is fixed. 1754 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 537 A third observed, by a *seconds-watch, the time taken up in running these 357 feet. 1763 SHORT *ibid.* LIII. 329 Each observer had a Second-watch in his hand.

Second (se·kənd), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Forms: 3–7 **secund(e**, 4–5 **secounde**, 4, 6 **seconde**, 4–6 **secound**, 5 **secownde**, **seycond**, 6 *Sc.* **secunnd**, **sycond**, 4– **second.** [a. F. *second* = Pr. *segon*, Sp., Pg. *segundo*, It. *secondo*, ad. L. *secundus* following (hence favourable, prosperous, primarily of a breeze), next, second, f. root of *sequī* to follow.

OE. had no proper ordinal for the number two (like G. *zweite*, Du. *tweede*, F. *deuxième*), the sense being expressed by *ōðer* (see OTHER *a.*); this being ambiguous, the Fr. word found early acceptance.]

A. *adj.*

1. Coming next after the first according to any contextually understood principle of enumeration (e. g. in order of time, position, rank, quality, conventional or arbitrarily adopted sequence): the ordinal corresponding to the cardinal two.

(*a*) with sb. expressed; also *predicatively*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5724 In þe secounde yere þat he verst bissop was. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* l. 9787 The secunde sacrament, y vndyrstonde, Ys grauunted of þe bysshop honde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 139 Euery secounde or bridde day sche faste. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 46 Here brekyst þou þe secunde tyme þe x. comaundementes. 1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 290 The secund day of Maii. 1549 *Compl. Scot., Epist. Q. Grace* 6 Numa pompilius, the sycond kyng of rome. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 183 The first and second cause will not serue my turne. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 151 The Convertine, a ship of the second rank. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 35 Youth, Health, and Ease, and most an amorous Mind, To second Nuptials had her Thoughts inclin'd. 1872 FITZGERALD *Omar* (ed. 3) lv, You know, my Friends, with what a brave Carouse I made a Second Marriage in my house. 1884 LD. BRABOURNE *Lett. Jane Austen* I. v. 87 Jane's picture of a clergyman is generally that of a second son who enters the profession in order to hold a family living.

(*b*) with ellipsis of sb. understood from the context.

a 1300 *X Commandm.* 25 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 Þe secunde [commandment] so is þis, sundai wel þat 3e holde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 23 In Bretayn, beeþ many wondres...Þe firste is at Pectoun...Þe secounde is at Stonhenge by sides Salisbury. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 111 The fyrst writtyng was gross letteris of bras, The secound gold, the thrid was siluir scheyne. 1636 HEYWOOD *Challenge Beauty* IV. Wks. 1874 V. 50 If you Would add a second to this curtesie. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 201, I liked her at first sight, and better at second. 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XVIII. 38 Ah! how they made them bound at the first stripe! None for the second waited, nor the third. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 Nov. 334/1 In the first of which objects, by the way, they have succeeded much better than in the second.

b. *The second*: appended to a personal name to designate the second bearer of the name in a succession of persons (chiefly sovereigns, or persons jocularly likened to sovereigns). Also (now *rarely*) used to designate one resembling the person to whom the name belongs (cf. 4 below).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 262 O Sowdanesse, roote of iniquitee, Virago, thou Semyrame the secounde. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 4 Henrie the secund rang into his steid, The emprice sone. 1558 W. FORREST (*title*) Grisild the Second. [Meaning Kath. of Aragon.] 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* I. 44 In the Reign of King John the Second. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 165 'Dick' Tattersall, or Richard the Second, the grandson of the founder. 1891 SMILES *Publisher & Friends* I. 29 John Murray the Second—the 'Anak of Publishers', according to Lord Byron.

c. *Gram.* In *second person*: see PERSON *sb.* 8. Also in *second declension*, *conjugation*, and in names of tenses, as *second aorist*, *future*, *perfect*, where the reference is to a conventional order of enumeration adopted by grammarians.

By recent grammarians this method of designation has been almost entirely abandoned as regards tenses, and to a great extent as regards declensions and conjugations, descriptive terms being substituted for numerical.

1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 31 Of the seconde conjugation. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1011 The Seconde Future. I shuld knele. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, Thirdly, the second perfect, *j'ay aimé*, I haue loued. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* xiv. (1640) 60 The second Declension formeth the Plurall from the Singular, by putting to *n*. *Ibid.* xviii. 63 The second Conjugation. 1875 T. K. ARNOLD *Henry's First Lat. Bk.* 14 Verbs whose infinitive ends in *ēre*, are of the second conjugation.

d. *absol.* The person or thing that has been mentioned in the second place. So in *Heraldry* (see quot. 1868).

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 114 b, He beareth Argent, a fesse Gules, betwene three Eaglettes Sable, membred and beaked of the second. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* xi. (1893) 158 A tincture must never be mentioned twice in the same Blazon: should it occur again, it must be expressed as of the first (or field), of the second, of the last, &c., as the case may be.

2. Next in rank, quality, importance, or degree of any attribute, *to* (a person or thing regarded as first). Hence, in negative and limiting contexts, Inferior (*to none, only to* ...). [Cf. L. *nulli secundus.*]

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 836 Troylus was neuere vn-to no wight As in his tyme in no degre secounde. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 7 Of very reuerent reputation sir,... Second to none that liues heere in the Citie. 1593–2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 43 Nay Ellnor, then must I chide outright, Presumptuous Dame, ill-nurter'd Elianor, Art thou not second Woman in the Realme? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 409 Regardless of the Bliss wherein hee sat Second to thee, offerd himself to die For mans offence. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 95 Nor second He, that rode sublime Upon the seraph-wings of Extasy, The secrets of th' Abyss to spy. 1822 CANNING *Sp.* 2 Apr. (1828) IV. 306 Among the names he had missed one, now no more, never second in the zeal of his resistance. 1860 TENNENT *Story Guns* (1864) 233 In the search for Improvement failures have a value second only to success. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 49 Miletus was scarcely second to Tyre in luxury and wealth.

b. With following superlative: Having only one superior in the specified attribute. Cf. SECOND-BEST.

1533 *Test. Eber.* (Surtees) VI. 41 My secunde grettest brasporte.

c. In designations of office, denoting the lower of two, or the next to the highest of several persons holding the same office; e. g. *second captain*, *lieutenant* (see quots.), *second lord* (of the Admiralty, etc.), *second master* (in a school), *second mate*, *officer* (in a merchant ship).

The Fr. expression *en second* (quot. 1702) occurs sometimes in Eng. official use in the 18th c.; 'officers en second' are mentioned, e. g. in the *London Gazette* 1716–20. Cf. SECOND *n.*[1]

1702 *Milit. Dict.* (1704), *Second Captain*, or *Lieutenant en Second*, one whose Company has been broke, and he is joyn'd to another, to act and serve under the Captain or Lieutenant of it...There are also Second Captains and Lieutenants of the First Creation, that is, who were never so in the other Companies...Second Lieutenants are much us'd among the Foot in France. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4543/2 The second Lieutenant, and Mr. Lawrence,..were shot through the Body. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 36/1 *Second Lieutenant in the Artillery*, is the same as an ensign in an infantry regiment,..and must assist the first lieutenant in the detail of the company's duty.

d. *Mil. Second in command*: holding a position only subordinate to the chief commander of an army or one of its subdivisions. Often *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*).

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iii, Poor Commandant Gouvion, watching at the Tuileries, second in National command, sees several things hard to interpret. 1882 *Manch. Guard.* 6 Sept. 5 Baker Pasha will be appointed second in command and 'adjoint' of the Turkish Commander-in-Chief.

e. *Mus.* Used to distinguish the next to the highest part in a piece of concerted music. Hence of a voice or instrument: Rendering such a part.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks.*, *Violino Secondo*, the Second Violin. 1746 TANSUR *New Mus. Gram.* 131 If you would set a Second Treble, or Cantus, Medius, or Counter, to any Piece of Musick that was before in Two Parts, to make Three Parts; let it begin from the Bass on some different Cord from the Tenor [etc.]. 1769 Second voice [see CONTRALTO 2]. 1836 HICKSON *Singing Master* I. Pref. 4 The second parts will always be sung with most effect by boys between the ages of twelve and fourteen. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Mikado* I. 15 Assuming the disguise of a Second Trombone, I joined the band in which you found me.

3. Having the degree of quality, fineness, etc. next to the best; of the second grade or class. Now only *Comm.* in certain customary uses.

In some applications there is also the notion of being produced by a second operation, after the best has been already obtained.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 482 And aftir oil secounde Is maad, that on a sadder mylle is grounde. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 184 The fragments of the Coame ..heated and strained againe, doe make a seconde Hony. 1618 in *Archæologia* XLIV. 411 Item for second bread 2 o o. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artach.* D 4, When the second wheate (which is the Red being in meale) is sold for iiiil. the Quarter in the market. 1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 14 My coat ..made of good second cloth. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 124 We used to have a certain description of cloth for livery purposes, called second cloth, made of English wool. 1856 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVII. II. 483 Each cow gives about 1 lb. per week of 'second butter', fetching 2*d.* per lb. less than the best. 1860 NEWLANDS *Carp. & Joiner's Assist.* Gloss., *Second Bricks*, bricks of a quality next to the finest mail stocks or cutters.

4. Other, another; additional to that which has already existed, taken place, been mentioned, etc. Often qualifying a proper name, to designate one who equals or closely resembles the bearer of the name.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVI. (*Nycholas*) 1068 He tuk þe secund coupe in hand, & one þe altare fore offerand It set. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 17 Welcum in were the secund Iulius, The prince of knightheyd, and flour of cheualry. 1558 W. FORREST *Grisild the Second* (Roxb.) 30 A famous kynge [Hen. VII]..Called (in his tyme) the Seconde Salomon. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 62 And therewith her eyes distilled such abundance of teares, as..made her seeme a more than second Niobe. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lix, If there bee nothing new, but that which is, Hath beene before, how are our braines beguild, Which laboring for inuention beare amisse The second burthen of a former child? 1784 *Rolliad* viii. (1795) 49 Vansittart, thou, A second Hastings, if the Fates allow. 1805 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 59 Could any one bear the story of a second city being taken by a wooden horse? 1850 SIR F. MADDEN *Wycliffite Bible* List of MSS. No. 28, The Ms...has been corrected throughout by a second, but nearly contemporary scribe.

b. *Proverb.*

The L. form, *consuetudo est altera* (or *secunda*) *natura*, is found in St. Augustine and Macrobius, and approximately in Cicero (see Lewis & Short s. v. *Natura*); the notion occurs in Aristotle (e. g. *Probl.* IV. XXVI, *Eth. N.* VII. X) and other Greek writers.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 23 For in Phisique this I finde, Usage is the seconde kinde. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 89 That habit being as it were converted into a second nature. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Nineteen Serm.* xii. (1735) 254 Habits which..are become a kind of second Nature to him. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXXII, Those to whom long practice has rendered them [*sc.* frivolous fopperies] a second nature.

c. *Second self*: a friend who agrees absolutely with one's tastes and opinions, or for whose welfare one cares as much as for one's own.

After L. *alter idem*, Gr. ἄλλος αὐτός and ἕταρος αὐτός (Arist. *Eth. N.* IX).

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1594) I. 141 The mightie and inviolable bond of friendship, as of a second-selfe did constraine him to lend his eare to his friend. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (1901) 93, I will offer to your choice two things, wherein please your self, and you shall please me who am your second self. 1778 Miss BURNEY *Evelina* XXVI, As to Miss Mirvan, she is my second self, and neither hopes nor fears but as I do. 1851 LYTTON *Not so bad* I. i. 6 Ha, Softhead! my Pylades—my second self! *transf.* *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxiii. 8 Blacke night..Deaths second selfe that seals vp all in rest.

†5. 'Helpful, lending assistance' (Schmidt). *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 27 Nay rather (good my Lords) be second to me.

6. quasi-*adv.* Secondly, in the second place (*rare*); as the second in succession. Also, † for the second time.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvii. 36 The riȝtis of my fyrst geting biforn he took a wey, and now secounde he hath vnder rauyshide my benysoun. 1536 CRANMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 25 Seconde,..I shewed the people that this thynge ought no thynge to move theym, for it was [etc.]. 1842 WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* (1845) II. vii. 271, I was confounded first, and incensed second. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 55 First, it was not to be too complete; second, even for this incompleteness it was not to be concentrated within a short time. *Mod.* Mr. A. opened the debate. Mr. B. spoke second.

7. Combinations.

a. In syntactical combs. of a permanent nature or with special meaning (many of which are also used *attrib.* or as *adj.*, and are then written with hyphen), as *second cause, childhood, coming, course, cousin, death,* † *deliverance, fiddle, fluxion, intention, inversion, movable, notion, order, power, reading, story, table, thought(s, vote, water, wind, year* (see these words), **second Adam, Man** *Theol.*, titles given to Christ with ref. to 1 Cor. xv. 45, 47; **second advent** *Theol.*, the expected Second Coming of Christ as Judge (see ADVENT 2), hence **second adventist** = PREMILLENARIAN *sb.*; **second birth,** (*a*) *Theol.* = REGENERATION 2; †(*b*) = SECUNDINE 1; †(*c*) the entrance upon a new life after death; **second business** (see quot.); **second chamber,** in a legislature consisting of two chambers, the one which has chiefly the function of revising the measures prepared and passed by the other; also *attrib.*; **second chop** (see CHOP *sb.*[5] 4); **second cut** *a.* (see quot. 1846); **second division** *Civil Service*, the lower grade of government clerks, admitted by a competitive examination of more limited range than that prescribed for the higher division; **second floor,** the floor or story of a building next but one above the ground-floor; also *attrib.*; **second girl** *U. S.*, an under-housemaid; † **second ground** *Paint.*, the middle distance (see MIDDLE *a.* 6); **second growth,** a crop of vegetation replacing one previously destroyed; also *attrib.*; **second guard,** an additional guard on a sword hilt; **second head** *Venery* (see quots. and cf. HEAD *sb.* 6 b); also *allusively*; **second horse** (see quot. 1827); also *attrib.*; † **second infancy,** second childhood (see CHILDHOOD 4); † **second inquest** *Law*, a petty jury; **second line** *Mil.* (see quot. 1876); also *attrib.*; † **second minute** (see MINUTE *sb.*[1] and cf. PRIME *sb.*[2] and etymological note to *sb.*[1] above); **second moment** *Math.* (see quot.); † **second mourning,** a style of dress allowed by etiquette to be worn when strict mourning is discarded; also *attrib.*; † **second nobles,** the lower nobility or gentry; **second person** (of the Trinity) *Theol.*, the Son (see PERSON *sb.* 7); **second price,** a charge lower than the highest for seats in a play-house; **second scent** (*nonce-use*, after SECOND SIGHT: cf. quot.); **second seer,** one who practises SECOND SIGHT; † **second service,** the Communion Service of the Church of England, as following Morning Prayer; † **second stature,** ? medium height. Also SECOND BEST, SECOND-CLASS, SECOND HAND, SECOND-RATE, SECOND SIGHT.

1739 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Hark how all the Welkin rings*' ix, 'Second Adam from above, Reinstate us in thy Love. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 347/2 But all,..who hope And love his *second advent, will receive The same reward. 1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2935 By the *seconde byrthe..we haue regeneracyon. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 39 And then secondlye, [issueth] the foresayd after birth: & therefore it may be iustly called ye second byrth or seconde-yne. 1643 DIGBY *Observ. Relig. Med.* 102 Assoone as Death hath played the Midwife to our second birth, our Soule shall then [etc.]. 1749 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Father, Son and Holy Ghost, In Solemn Power*' i, Plunge Her by a Second Birth Into the Depths of God. 1823 *Ann. Reg.* 214* By the phrase *second business is meant that sort of business in which the lead is given to the counsel who are not yet arrived at the dignity of a silk gown. 1861 MILL *Repr. Govt.* xiii. 231, I set little value on any check which a *Second Chamber can apply to a democracy otherwise unchecked. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* 820 Double cut files..are thus respectively named by the Lancashire..makers:—1. Rough. 2. Middle-cut. 3. Bastard. 4. Second-cut. 5. Smooth. 6. Superfine. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 3/2 The large body of 'Second Division clerks. 1821 COLERIDGE *Let. to Allsop* 20 Oct. *Lett.* etc. (1858) 137 A house to the *second-floor window of which I had been gazing. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* vii, Suddenly the second-floor window went clattering up, and Fitch's pale head was thrust out. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 32 The human wave is beginning to sprinkle the pavement with cooks and *second-girls. 1801 FUSELI *Lect. on Art* i. (1848) 354 The series of figures on the *second or middle ground being described as placed above those on the foreground. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* iv. (1864) 94 Tracts of *second-growth woods. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* xliv. 327 With all her fearlessness as a horse-woman, she did not quite relish the idea of his bursting away through the low-branching second-growth to follow the pack. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* 173 Finally, there is the *second guard (*seconde garde*), between the two extremities of the rings of the *pas-d'ane*. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. xiv. 378 The old stags usually shed their horns first..; those of the *second head, (namely, such as are between five and six years old) shed their horns about the middle..of March. 1805 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxviii, The buck of the second-head, for a buck of the first-head he was not, had hitherto been slapping his boots with his switch whip. 1827 '*NIMROD*' *Chace* (1852) 18 The '*second-horse man'..rides the second horse, which is to carry his master with the hounds after his having had one..chace on the first. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 125 The second-horse men, notwithstanding their numbers, appeared to be all cut from the same pattern. 1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* I. i, Are there not..Churchmen that even the *second infancy Hath silenc'd? 1681 *Addr. Grand Jury Chester* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1657/4 We Your Majesties most Loyal Subjects of the *second Inquest of the same County, at the same Assize, heartily and chearfully say Amen, and joyn with the Grand Jury in this Address. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 738/1 The first line ought to consist of 20 battalions, with..16 battalions in the *second line. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 231 An army, when drawn up for battle, should be formed in three distinct lines; the first line to commence the battle, the second, to support it, and to fill up the gaps; the third..as a reserve. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 May 9/1 The main body of the investing force will be composed of fortress and second-line troops. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xv. 47 The firste man of erthe, ertheli; the *secunde man of heuene, heuenli. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* x. (1852) 233 Joined by supernatural union to that Second Man, the new Adam, Who is God's son by nature. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* II. v. 184 In an hower a man will need at least 360 respirations, betwixt every one of which there shall be 10 *second minutes. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 67 A Temporaneous progressive motion of the parts of the Air at the rate of 276 Paces in a second Minute of time. *a* 1879 W. K. CLIFFORD *Elem. Dynamic* IV. (1887) 15 If the density of an area is proportional to the distance from a line in its plane, being reckoned positive on one side of the line and negative on the other,..the mass-centre of the area..is called the pole of the line in regard to the area; and the moment of it in regard to the line is called the *second moment of the uniform area in regard to the line, or of the line in regard to the uniform area. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2843/4 A dark Grey *Second-Mourning Surtoot-Coat. 1712 TICKELL *Spect.* No. 410 ¶ 1 She was dressed..in an agreeable Second-Mourning. *a* 1814 *Sailors' Ret.* I. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 322 Enter Lady Growl and Lucy Delves, in conversation —Lucy in second mourning. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Empire* (Arb.) 301 Kings haue to deale with..their Nobles; their *Second-Nobles or Gentlemen [etc.]. *c* 1380 ? WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 362 To þe *secunde persone in trinyte..awnswerib þe state of þe clergy. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 837 A lorde Ihesu, the seconde persone in trynyte. 1821 BYRON *Let.* 4 Jan., It is then for the gallery and *second-price boxes. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-Worshippers* III. 45 That keen, *second-scent of death, By which the vulture snuffs his food In the still warm and living breath. 1826 *Examiner* 193/2 After reverting to the past, our *second-seer makes bold to conjecture the future. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 200 While the *second-service was reading at the Communion Table..it was disturbed by a Psalme begun. 1657 SPARROW *Rationale* 239 In the meanwhile that part of the Service which she [*sc.* the Church] uses may perhaps more fitly be called the Second Service then the Communion. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 296 The people..are commonly all of the *second Stature.

b. Chiefly with ppl. adjs. and with quasi-advb. sense, as † *second brewed, described,* † *found, recited.* Also in verbs formed on syntactical combs., as **second-colour** *v.* (*House painting*), *trans.* to cover with a second coat of paint.

1721 N. AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 48. 257 Trap's *second-brew'd balderdash runs thus [etc.]. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 316 When the priming is quite dry..mix white lead, and a very small portion of red with linseed oil, ..and second colour your work. *Ibid.* 317 This coat is technically called by painters second colouring old work. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 436 The sliding movement ..in the *second-described machinery. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. (1636) 109 Subtract the Arch of that Quotient ..and you shall have the *second found number. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 59 § 2 The said *second-recited Act.

B. *sb.*[2]

I. One who or something which is second.

1. Elliptical uses of the adj. passing into quasi-sb. (mostly admitting of plural). **a.** *Second in blood,* † *second of kin* (Sc. Law): one related in the second degree of consanguinity.

1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 26/1 Item, Our Soueranе Lord..declaris, that secundis in degreis of consanguinitie, and affinitie..may lauchfullie marie. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 481 Alexander Rutherfurd, alsua his sister sone, Alexander Chalmer, second and thriddis of kin to him. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 66 By seconds in blood, are meant first cousins.

b. *Gram.* Used ellipt. for *second person* (only before *singular* or *plural*).

1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 33 The seconde plurell endeth ever in EZ. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* IV. xix. (1850) 298 The second singular of the preterite tense.

c. A place in the second class in an examination; one who takes such a place. Also, the competitor who comes next to the winner in a contest.

1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 283 To take even a good Second in Classics, one must [etc.]. 1892 SHEARMAN in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* Mar. 445 This [the silver O. U. A. C. medal], and this alone, the winners and seconds receive for their place in the Oxford Sports. 1907 '*BARBARA BURKE*' *Barbara goes to Oxford* 43 Miss Jones has a first-class and Miss Smith a second.

d. *Second of exchange* (see EXCHANGE *sb.* 5, and cf. FIRST *a.* 7 b).

2. One next to another (considered as the first in a series) in rank, quality, etc. Also, † a second instance, a match *to* something.

1594 DRAYTON *Idea* 839 And see if Time (if he would strive to prove) Can shew a Second to so pure a Love. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 354 That City, being then not only without equal in the country, but without second, had ..exercised almost as great an influence on the politics of England as [etc.].

b. = *Second in command.* (See A. 2 d.)

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 144 And 'tis great pitty that the Noble Moore Should hazard such a place, as his owne Second With one of an ingraft Infirmitie. 1800 LD. KEITH in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 257 From my late second [Lord Nelson] I derived no advantage.

† **c.** *Printing.* A pressman's assistant. *Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 319 The one [Pressman] they distinguish by the name of First, the other his Second, these call one another Companions: The First is he that has wrought longest at that Press.

† **3.** *pl.* = SECUNDINE. *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 163 The seed of it [gelovers] ..dryveth doune floures, secondes, and the byrthe. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ii. 5 The Root..is good for Women in Child-bed, to purge their Seconds and Termes.

4. *Mus.* **a.** A term for the interval represented by $\frac{8}{2}$; a tone two diatonic degrees above or below any given tone; the interval between any tone and a tone two diatonic degrees distant from it; the harmonic combination of two such tones.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 71 All such as doe not make concord as a second, a fourth, a seuenth. *a* 1620 CAMPION *Counterpoint* Wks. (1909) 199 If the Base descends or falls, a second, third, or fourth. 1730 *Treat. Harmony* 15 The Second or Ninth of the key. 1788 CAVALLO in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 238 The second minor. 1873 W. A. BARRETT *Chorister's Guide* 94 The whole of the successive notes or intervals making a scale are seconds, the tones being called major and the semitones minor seconds.

b. The next to the highest part in a piece of concerted music. Hence, a voice suitable to such a part.

a 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 159 So that we see how injudiciously the performers on glasses manage, who play firsts, seconds, and sometimes a base altogether upon an instrument, whose only excellence depends, not on its strength, but its simplicity of tone. 1840 J. T. G. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* iii. [I] passed two or three pleasant hours standing over a pianoforte and a very fine girl, to whom I was well contented to sing second. 1905 J. HEYWOOD *Music in Churches* 14 Some ladies persist in singing in thirds below the melody...This, I believe, is..called 'putting in a second'.

5. *pl. Comm.* A quality (of bricks, flour, etc.) second and inferior to the best. Also *fig.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXXV, And take thou my oblacion, poore but free, Which is not mixt with seconds, knows no art. 1700 *Acts Assembly Pennsylv.* (1762) I. 11 If any Person..offer to Sale any Trash or Seconds, rotten or frost bitten Tobacco, or such [etc.]. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 225 The finest kind of marls [bricks] called firsts... The next best called seconds. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 30 A weakness which is occasioned by the millers' grinding their corn too much, particularly white samples, nearly the whole whereof is brought to market as seconds and thirds. 1858 SKYRING *Builders' Prices* 93 For seconds glass, up to 1 foot 7, deduct 1*d.* 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Apr. 2/6 Cork Butter.—Firsts, 86s; seconds, 80s; thirds, 78s.

† **6.** One-half. (On the analogy of *third, fourth,* etc.) *Obs. rare.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. vii. (1636) 20 The Numerator is alwayes set above, and the Denominator beneath, having a little line drawne betwixt them thus ½ which signifieth one second or one halfe. 1660 J. MOORE *Arith.* 5 As if the unite be conceived to be divided into two parts, the parts are called seconds or halves.

7. In systems of fractional numeration (or of weights or measures) having a constant modulus: The subdivision next but one below the unit, and next below the 'prime'; the lower subdivisions being usually called 'thirds', 'fourths', etc.

Cf. SECOND *sb.*[1], which is a special case of the sense here defined, but is treated separately because it was taken from med.L. or Rom.; the uses below may be most conveniently regarded as applications of the Eng. ordinal numeral suggested by SECOND *sb.*[1]

† **a.** *Scottish Troy Weight.* The 576th part ($1 \div 24^2$) of a grain. *Obs.* 1604 [see PRIME *sb.*[2]].

† **b.** (*a*) *Arith.* The quantity ·01 or $\frac{1}{100}$. (*b*) *Surveying.* The 100th part of a perch, = 1·98 inches.

1619 LYTE *Art of Tens* 14 Euerie vnite of a prime being diuided into ten parts, are called seconds. 1658 PHILLIPS, A *Second* in surveying, is the tenth part of a prime, and contains one inch, and 49 of 50 parts of an inch. 1766 HUTTON *School Master's Guide* 55 The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, &c. places of decimals, counting from the left-hand towards the right, are denominated the places of primes, seconds, thirds, and fourths, &c. respectively. 1794 CUNN *Doctr. Fractions* 62 Primes, or Tenth Parts. Seconds, or Hundredth Parts. Thirds, or Thousandth Parts.

c. *Duodecimals.* The twelfth part of a 'prime' or inch.

Formerly (if quot. 1703 be correct), the 144th part of an inch, the 12th being called a 'prime'.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 123 Inches by (12th) Parts, produce Seconds, or 12th Parts of the 12th Part of an Inch. 1714 CUNN *Doctr. Fractions* 119 To multiply any Integers, Primes, Seconds, &c. by a Multiple of 12 Integers; first Multiply by 12 [etc.]. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 868 Feet and inches are marked with their initial letters, but twelfths or seconds by a double accent, thus 2″.

II. 8. One who or something which renders aid or support to another. † **a.** *gen.*

1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 23 When those that giue the first charge begin to retire or wax colde, the

great Officers command their seconds to the assaults. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 105 Ile be thy Second. 1626 MIDDLETON *Women beware Women* II. ii. 295 We wish no better seconds in society Than your discourses, madam. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 355 But the gold was my best second, ..[and] was my continuall vade Mecum. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iii. 7 Glasses are but the seconds, which succeed on the Cupboard, when Plate the principall is otherwise disposed of. 1711-12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Mar., People will not understand: I am a very good second, but I care not to begin a recommendation, unless it be for an intimate friend. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lii. 382 She is very happy in Mrs. Jervis, who is an excellent second to her admirable lady.

b. *spec.* One who acts as representative of a principal in a duel, carrying the challenge, arranging locality and loading weapons. Similarly in a pugilistic contest.

1613 WEBSTER *Devil's Law-Case* II. i, *Erc.* Shall's haue no Seconds? *Con.* None, for feare of preuention. *Erc.* The length of our weapons? *Con.* Weele fit them by the way. 1632 *Star Chamb. Cases* (1886) 113 Indeed his second J. S. was acquitted, for that it appeared he knew not of the combatt before he came there. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Dec., Colonel Hamilton, who was second to the Duke of Hamilton, is tried to-day. 1814 SCOTT *Chivalry* (1874) 25 It was usual to have more seconds even to the number of five or six. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiv, 'There was no need for more seconds than one,' said the Colonel, 'and the Captain or Lord Warwick might easily withdraw.' 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 139/2 (Boxing) *Seconds*, men, generally professional boxers, appointed to attend on the contestants in the intervals between the rounds.

†**c.** Assistance, aid, support. Also pl. in the same sense. *Obs. rare.*

1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii, This second (from his Mother) will well vrge Our late dissigne, and spur on Cæsars rage. *a* 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 12, I gave them no second till I might perceive those within had spent their ready powder in their furnitures. *Ibid.* 18 An officer with two hundred souldiers..came to their seconds. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* I. xix. 82 This blow so affrighted the enemy, that they had certainly retired to their trenches, if the Cariffe of Africca..had not..come into their second.

Second (sĕ·kənd), *v.*[1] [a. F. *second-er* (OF. *segonder*), †to come after (*obs.*), to favour (=Pr. *segondar*, Sp., Pg. *segundar*, It. *secondare*), ad. L. *secundāre* to direct favourably, favour, further, f. *secund-us* following, favourable: see SECOND *a.* In some uses partly an independent Eng. formation on the adj.]

1. *trans.* To support, back up, assist, encourage (a person, his actions, aims, etc.).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 246 Shall I (said she) second his boldnesse so farre, as to reade his presumptuous letters? 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 29 Where is Metellus Cimber, let him go, And presently preferre his suite to Cæsar. *Bru.* He is addrest: presse neere, and second him. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 148 He seconds that which he ought to withstand. 1729 SWIFT *To Young Clergym.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 9 If in company you offer something for a jest, and no-body seconds you in your own laughter. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. v, His family had imbibed all his views, and seconded them. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 201 So eagerly did he press forward the work, and so well was he seconded by the multitude of labourers at his command. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 486 His efforts were seconded by a somewhat subservient parliament.

†**b.** To act as a second or assistant to (a leader).

1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 15 So jelous be all tyrants and vsurpers, of their state, and so lothe they are to be seconded by any other then of their owne creation. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 16 What other Officers ought to second their great Officers.

†**c.** To follow, attend, accompany. In *pass.*, to be accompanied (*with*). *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VII. XXV. 847 The horsemen appointed to waite vpon the companie, must alwaies second and keepe by the sides of the dogs. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv. Wks. 1616 I. 308 See, here's Horace, and old Trebatius, the great lawier, in his companie; let's auoid him now: He is too well seconded. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 381 The Bashaw went.., seconded with twelue followers.

d. To sing second to (a singer, song).

1586 BRYSKETT *Past. Aeglogue* 13 in Spenser *Astrophel*, With sobs and sighes I second will thy song. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* I. 175 Lancaster would second Marion's soprano with his baritone.

2. *esp.* To support, back up (a combatant, a body of troops) in attack or defence. Also, to act as second to (a pugilist).

1588 WILLOUGHBY in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) II. 32 Those that are taken here cry out upon the Duke of Parma, that they are betrayed by him, because they were not seconded according to their expectation. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 22 He deuides his troupes to second one the other, according to the widenes of the breach. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. vi. 57 Let him feele your Sword, Which we will second. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 306 Hector..rusht with clamor on the king, right soundly seconded With troupes of Troians. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 258 A party of Arcall horse charged the persuers, and were seconded by part of Prince Maurice's life-guard. 1799 HY. LEE *Canterb. T., Trav. T.* (ed. 2) I. 22 A young cavalier..seconded him with so much spirit, that one of the villains was presently stretched upon the spot. 1821 *John Bull* 5 Mar. 89/3 The Black was seconded by Richmond and Paddington Jones. *c* 1890 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 470 Being seconded by his slaves, who all promised to be faithful, he attacked the negro. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Aug. 3/1 Griffiths..is said to have seconded Henry, and to have interfered to prevent the fight being stopped.

†**b.** To reinforce with additional numbers.

a 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 5 In the mean time the enemie seconded their troops of shot with to the number of four or five hundred.

†**c.** To take the place of, succeed (a combatant who is *hors de combat*). *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ix. 35 But now is Cade driuen back, his men dispierc'd, And now is Yorke in Armes, to second him. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 45, 46 And though wee here fall downe, Wee haue Supplyes, to second our Attempt: If they mis-carry, theirs shall second them. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 17. 542 Being ouer-pressed on either side, they had a safe retrait vnto their foot; and one troupe seconding another by course, returned to charge.

†**d.** *absol.* and *intr.* To render aid; to side *with*. *Obs. rare.*

a 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 11 A signall of drums, at which the first four troops should go to the assault; and another signall to the other four troops to second, if need required. 1654 FULLER *Comm. Ruth* 45 The mother, because her sonne is flesh of her flesh,..pleades it is right, that he should side and second with her.

3. To support (a speaker, a proposition) in a debate or conference by speaking in the same sense; *spec.* to rise to support (a mover or motion) as a necessary preliminary to further discussion or to the adoption of the motion.

1597 BACON *Ess., Ceremonies* (Arb.) 28 It is a good precept generally in seconding another: yet to adde somewhat of ones owne. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 75 This method was ..diverted by other propositions, which being seconded took much time without pointing to any conclusion. 1685 EVELYN *Diary* 22 May, Mr. Seymour made a bold speech against many Elections..but no one seconded him. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* XXVII. 26 The Motion was Seconded and Debated. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. v, Mrs. Charlton ..instantly seconded the proposal. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 23 The noble lords who moved and seconded the address. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. XXXIV. 331 Cheirisophus seconded this proposal, and they immediately proceeded to the election. *absol.* 1802 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 496 Lord Lowther had been applied to to move the address...Lord Nelson was to second.

†**b.** To support, back (a statement, opinion, a person *in* his opinion); to confirm, corroborate (a report). *Obs.*

1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 113 In which opinion, I am the more willing to dwell, bicause..I finde myselfe verie learnedly seconded by master Camden. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, I heard, last night, a most strange thing reported By some of my Lords followers, and I long To heare, how't will be seconded! 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. vi. 62 The Slaues report is seconded. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 97 Whose affirmation..I intend to second with particular instances. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 278 Plato himself relates it as a Paradox; and no body that came after him, would second him in't. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) III. xxxiii. 293 The Countess..ran on in my Praise.. and Lady Davers seconded her.

4. To further, assist the effect of, reinforce (a thing, activity, etc.). (With subject either a person or thing.)

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 317 Nowe seconding their terrible blowes with cunning labouring the horses. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 127 Her froward husband..replyed with sharpe words seconded with such heavy blowes. 1665 TEMPLE *Lett.* Wks. 1731 II. 4 The Vigour of his Body does not second that of his Mind. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xiii, Seconding every fall of rain with a due proportion of sunshine. 1858 STANLEY *Arnold* I. v. 203 Deeds must second words when needful.

†**5.** (With little or nothing of the idea of furthering or assisting.) To follow up or accompany *with* (or *by*) some second thing. In *pass.*, to be followed, succeeded, or accompanied. *Obs.*

1609 TUWILL *Vade-mecum* (1629) 139 The Wise Physition doth neuer minister a Potion..but hee seconds it with something that is more pleasing and Delicious to the taste. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 54 This Proclamation was seconded by another, to the same purpose. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 220 After the overflowing of sin upon the whole earth, God in his justice seconds it with a deluge of waters. 1759–74 TOPLADY *Hymn*, '*I saw and lo!*', So sung the Saints. Th' Angelic train Second the anthem with a loud Amen.

†**b.** To add a second to; to follow or succeed as a second. *Obs.*

1655 EARL NORWICH in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 304, I would haue agayne seconded my last to him after the receipt of his in answer to my former, but yt I feard [etc.]. 1781 BENTHAM *Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 110 To-day, at dinner, I had the favour of yours of the 29th, as to my not seconding my last letter sooner.

†**c.** To repeat (an action, esp. a blow). *Obs.*

1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* V. vi. 204 Natures powre is such that a woman hauing once conceiued cannot second any conception vntil she bee deliuered of the first. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 192 He struck off two of the Fryers fingers, and had undoubtedly seconded another blow..had not the Indians interposed themselves. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* X. 335 Hee..saw his guilefull act By Eve, though all unweeting, seconded Upon her Husband. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 110 Then Mr. Great-heart seconded his blow, and smit the head of the Giant from his shoulders. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. de Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 32 Before he could second his Shot, I gave him..a Stroke with my Broad Sword. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* XXXIII, The Count was in the act of again seconding his blow.

†**6.** To match with a second instance. *Obs.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 276 Our soueraigne Queene Elizabeth..is knowne to be in her owne high towring princely wisedome of as high a pitch..i in reach not to be seconded of any of these [kings and princes]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. XXV. I. 168 He left such a president behind him, as I forbid all men to match or second it. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 256 Next Sobert them succeeds Scarce seconded againe for sanctimonious deeds. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 369 [Fez] may rather second Grand Caire, than subioyne it selfe to Constantinople.

†**7.** To come second to (in quality). *Obs. rare*—[1].

1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. lxxxiii. (1618) 825 The white [dogs] are best...The browne doth second them [orig. *les secondent*].

Hence **Se·conding** *vbl. sb.*

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* III. iii. 23 Nay we shall lay on hands of too much strength To need your secondings. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. v, Which indeed, with such seconding as he had, one may reckon heroic.

Second (sĭ·kənd), *v.*[2] *Mil.* [f. F. *second* in the phrase *en second*: see SECOND *a.* 2 c.] *trans.* To remove (an officer) temporarily from his regiment or corps, for employment on the staff, or in some other extra-regimental appointment.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., *Capitaine en Second.., Lieutenant en Second..* are officers whose companies have been reduced, but who do duty in others, and are destined to fill up the first vacancies. We have borrowed the expression and say, *To be seconded.* When an officer is *seconded*, he remains upon full pay, his rank goes on, and he may purchase the next vacant step, without being obliged to memorial in a manner that a half-pay officer must. 1833 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 308 How to cut down an army of 300,000 men to one of 100,000, with the least subsequent expense of half-pay, is a problem that ought to be solved..; and the solution would be found in the obsolete practice of *second*-ing (or as the proper pronunciation in a mess-room is, *segoond*-ing). 1869 *Times* 15 Apr. 9/3 As this officer was placed on the seconded list of the Royal Artillery..he will have to wait for a vacancy to occur. 1875 COLLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 576/1 Officers holding certain appointments are 'seconded'—that is, their place in the regiment is filled up, and they become supernumerary, their names being shown in italics in the *Army List*; but they still belong to the regiment, and rise in it in due course. 1897 *Q. Rev.* July 242 The officers in question had been..'seconded' for service in the forces of the Chartered Company.

†**Secondar,** *a. Sc. Obs.* In 5–6 secundar(e, [ad. L. *secundārius* SECONDARY *a.*: see -AR[2]. Cf. SECONDARLY *adv.*] Of second quality; of the second rank with respect to size; =SECONDARY *a.*

1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 26 Item iij quarteris of secundare vellus to the lynyng of the sammyn sleiffis. 1482 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 169 Of ilk grete schip xiiis iiiid. The secundare xs. The mydlest vis. viiid. 1529 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 6 [Thai] sall sell thar best corne..for vjd the pek, and the secundar for vd the pek. 1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 499 Sax pound of secundar threid in divers sortis.

Secondarily (sĕ·kəndărĭli), *adv.* [f. SECONDARY *a.* + -LY[2].]

†**1.** In the second order in time or temporal sequence; for the (or a) second time; also, as the (or a) second action, event, etc. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 512 Raymonde swere agayn secundarilie, That neuer no day forsworne wolde he be. 1477 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 187 Snaylwell, by my grauntefadres will ones, and by my fadris will sceconderely [*sic*], is entaylyd to the issyw of my fadres body. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V. lxxxviii. 65 [Vortimerus] gaue vnto theym a great Batayll vpon the Ryuer of Darwent...And secundaryly he faught with theym vpon y^e Foorde called Epifoorde. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* M ij b, Dystylle them secondarely in a newe glasse in balneo marie. 1578 LYTE tr. *Dodoens* II. lxxxv. 263 The Rosemary floureth twise a yeare, once in the spring time of the yeare, and secondarily in August. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* lxvii. Comm., Other Apostles of divers tribes sent first to the Jewes, secondarily to the Gentiles.

†**2.** Secondly; in the second order or place (in an argument, discourse, or the like). (Very common in the 16th c.) *Obs.*

1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) Lj, Secundaryly I fynde the saide ceremonies on euery syde sundry & vnlike among theym selues. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 128 And secondaryly, if such lycence..were suffered it should be the occasions of many frays, of much robory and bribery. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* V. i. 221 They haue committed false report,..secondarily they are slanders,.. thirdly, they haue verified vniust things, and to conclude they are lying knaues. 1604 N. BOWND *Storeh. Comfort* iii. 26 Secondarily, if wee should neglect to pray for them. 1647 HEXHAM I, Secondarily or secondly, *Ten tweeden.*

3. As a secondary consequence, indirectly; through an intermediate agency or train of events.

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 196 Whereupon secondarily and accidentally will follow their falling away from their Ecclesiasticall office and function. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. i. 21 She sees more clear Then we that see but secondarily. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 732 Our Knowledge here is not After Singular Bodies, and Secundarily or Derivatively From them; but in order of Nature, Before them, and Proleptical to them. 1690 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* XXVII. Wks. I. 441 Those who had the Apostolical Office committed to them, (whether Primarily by Christ himself, or Secondarily by the Apostles, as Timothy and Titus and others) had great need of this Apostolical Spirit. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 3. 371 An Action that is not automatic primarily or secondarily. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 11 It would be more exact to consider him as nervous because he has been gouty. He is only secondarily nervous. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 459 The large medullary rays have originated secondarily from the primary ones.

4. (The chief modern sense.) With reference to other than temporal order: In the second place, second in order of importance, not first of all; subordinately.

1525 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 163 Wherfore thou must fyrst loue god principypally, and thy neyghbour secondarely. 1621

DONNE *Serm.* xv. (1640) 151 Thereupon doe the Fathers.. take that place of Ezekiel..to be primarily intended of the last resurrection, and but secundarily of the Jews restitution. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 51 The godly seed of the woman shall secondarily partake of this triumph. 1813 LEACH *Parl. Deb.* 15 Feb. in *Examiner* 22 Feb. 116/2 An office which was primarily judicial and secondarily political. 1899 J. F. HURST in *Amer. Jrnl. Theol.* Oct. 680 The first Prayer Book [of 1549] was based primarily, on the old Latin service-books, and secondarily on Archbishop Hermann's Consultation.

Secondariness (se·kǭndărinės). [f. SECONDARY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being secondary or subordinate.

1678 NORRIS *Misc., Let. Love & Mus.* (1687) 448 That then which is peculiar and discriminative must be taken from the Primaryness and Secondaryness of the Perception. 1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Fort. Repub.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 397 The secondariness and aping of foreign and English life. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 70 Full of a girl's sweet sense of secondariness to the object of her love.

†**Secondarly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. SECONDAR *a.* + -LY 2.] = SECONDARILY.

1543 GRAFTON *Contin. Hardyng* 127 Neuerthelesse, this is not like to be true by diuers reasons. Fyrst, that [etc.].. Secondarely that [etc.]. 1560 *Maitland Club Misc.* III. 223 The greatnes of his offens first to God and to his Kirk Secundarlie towardes me dois merite no less. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. 654 Render thou agen Thy twice given life, by bearing first, and secondarly when I caught this firebrand from the flame. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* III. 33 God visibly and secundarly interferes in doing justice to the innocent.

Secondary (se·kəndări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4–5 secondarye, secoundarie, secundari, -arye, 4–7 secundarie, 4–8 secundary, 5–7 secondari(e. [ad. L. *secundāri-us* of the second class or quality, f. *secund-us*: see SECOND *a.* and -ARY 1. Cf. F. *secondaire* (1372 in Hatz.-Darm.), Pr. *secundari*, Sp., Pg. *secundario*, It. *secondario.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Belonging to the second class in respect of dignity or importance; entitled to consideration only in the second place. Also, and usually, in less precise sense: Not in the first class; not chief or principal; of minor importance, subordinate.

1386 *Almanak of Year* 1 Ther es difference bitwyx þe principal howce and þe secundary howce. ?*a* 1396 [? W. HYLTON] *Angels' Song* in Horstm. *R. Rolle* I. 178 For þe souereyn & þe essencial Ioye es in [þe] lufe of god.., and [þe] secundarie es in communynge & behaldynge of aungels. *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* iv. in *Anglia* X. 354/27 Siche opere exercises..schulbe..demyd as secundarye and lesse worth. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151 Theyr outwarde labour is not theyr principall entent, but it is onely the secondary entent of theyr charite. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 492/2 Therfore these causes be but diuined and gessed at, and seme but very secundary. 1632 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 478 Your request in that particular was accompanied with some secundarie respectes not then made knowne unto us. 1735 J. PRICE *Stone Br. Thames* 15 Things..purely Ornimental, are no more than of secondary Consideration. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1171 Those secondary goods that smile on earth, He, loving in proportion, loves in peace. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 6 Secondary powers are those of Turkey, Spain, Holland. 1801 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* (ed. 2) IV. 233 And is there no secondary motive for that wish, Isabel? 1838 GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* I. iv. I. 78 When the word contains two or more syllables there *may* be a second accent; this, of course, must be subordinate to the first, and is commonly called the *secondary accent.* 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxxvi, Something that made the threat..only a secondary alarm. 1899 HEINIG *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Secondary*, subordinate. *Secondary axes*, those proceeding from the main axis. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* ii. 12 Besides, the religious difficulty was only a secondary, a very secondary matter.

†b. Second best; of the second grade of quality. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 82 My Russet Candelstykes, and 1 paire Candelstekes secundaries next þoo. 1508 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* 330 My secondarie gowne. 1564 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 225 His best dublatt xij^{li}..a secondari dublatt viij^{s} a nother payre of hose viij^{s}..one old dublatt iiij^{s}. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Cur. Horses Dis.* clxxxviii. 77 Take of..Mirrh secondarie two pound [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. viii. II. 477 They put secundarie Vermillion in an earthen pot.

†c. Of a lower kind; entitled in a lower degree to the appellation. *Obs.*

†*Secondary wife* (app. only in Wyclif): a concubine.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXV. 6 To the sonys forsothe of the secondarye wyues [Vulg. *concubinarum*] he ȝaue ȝiftis. *Ibid. Gen.* XXII. 24, *Judges* VIII. 31, *Song Sol.* VI. 7. 1782 J. BROWN *Compend. View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. i. 24 Servants in families ought to be considered as secondary children, and have due instruction [etc.]. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 382 From the age of Augustus to the tenth century, the use of this secondary marriage [*i. e.* concubinage] prevailed both in the West and East.

†d. Of an official: Second in rank or status. Of a judge: Not chief or principal; = PUISNE *a.* 1 b.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 337 The secundary preste schal sense the fyrste, and the principal senser of the lay brethern schal sense the seyd secundary preste thre castys. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 196/2 Gilbert Maltoft, secondary Baron of oure Eschequier. 1599 in T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. i (1633) 7 If the said Iustice, or assistant, and secondary Iustice, shall depart [etc.]. 1607 in *Verney Papers* (1853) 96 With him as secondarie men in charge, was one maister Philip Giffard. 1630 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* (1845) 431 Sir John Whiddon..was also secondary Justice of the King's Bench.

e. Of persons: Second-rate. *rare.*

1827 HARE *Guesses* II. (1873) 349 Secondary men, men of talents, may be mixt up like an apothecary's prescription. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Emp. China & Tsing-Ti* Wks. 1853 II. 148/1 He will never have a minister who is not taken from the ranks; never a man of genius, never an honest man; but secondary and plausible. 1836— *Pericles & Aspasia, Asp. to Anaxag.* ibid. 426/2 No writer of florid prose ever was more than a secondary poet.

f. Subsidiary, auxiliary; that is used only in the second resort, or that serves to assist something else.

1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 22 Every Arch..is double, the first..built with great Blocks of Portland Stone,..over which there is another Arch..bonded in with the under semicircular Arch...By means of these secondary Arches.. every Arch of Westminster Bridge is able to stand by itself. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) II. 232 Parrots..never climb nor creep without fastening by the bill; with this they begin, and they use their feet only as secondary instruments of motion. 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 31 Our secondary guide and myself, thinking that we could manage the water slipped into our canoe. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2), *Supplices* 916 *note*, A secondary chorus of attendants was actually present. 1874 LAWSON *Dis. Eye* 135 To be cut through with a small secondary knife. 1902 SIR G. S. CLARKE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 124/1 Secondary bases, or coaling stations,..are sources of maritime strength in proportion [etc.].

g. Used to designate punishments other than capital.

1831 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 185 *note*, The difficulty of secondary punishments is much increased by observing that there is not a form of punishment which is not liable to some objections.

†2. Having or entitled to the second place in an enumeration. *Obs. rare.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 [Enumerates three kinds of hæmorrhoids. Of which] þe secundary [i. e. the second hardest to cure] is rixis. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 273 He pullede owte his eien for iij causes. The firste cause was for [etc.]...The cause secondary was for he myȝhte not beholde women withowte concupiscence. The thrydde cause was [etc.].

†b. quasi-*adv.* In the second place (in an enumeration, argument, etc.); secondly. *Obs.*

Perh. suggested by med.L. *secundārīē* adv., similarly used.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 300/2 First to Goddes pleasure, secundarie for your owne suerte..and for the third to the universall wele..of this lond. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 928 Secondary, *secondement.* 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. § 14. 195 We myght bryng thys ij thyngys to effecte—that ys to say, to haue the cyuyle law of the Romaynys to be the commyn law here of Englond with vs; and, secondary that [etc.].

3. Belonging to the second order in a series related by successive derivation, causation, or dependence; derived from, based on, or dependent on something else which is primary; not original, derivative.

Secondary cause: a proximate or instrumental cause, a cause produced by a primary or first cause. (Also used in sense 1.)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. i. (1495) 76 Heete Colde Drye and Moyste ben callyd the fyrste qualitees...They ben also callyd the pryncipal qualytees, for of theym come all the secundarye effectes. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* 15 Wrought by the principal cause, and yet by the office and ministery of some secondary cause appointed..for the same vse. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 59 We giue unto God the cheefest stroke..all other creatures being but the instrumentall, or secundarie causes. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. lxi. 86 So many mother languages,..besides secondary tongues and dialects, which exceed the number of their mothers. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 268 In this secondary and symbolicall sense it may be also understood. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 26 The secondary origination of Mankind, or the production of the Individuals by generation. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 62/1 Neither do I remember that I have seen much of it [*sc.* generosity] in any Moral Treatise, being perhaps but superficially handled, under the Notion of a secondary and derivative Virtue. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. xii. 146 All secondary causes necessarily lead us to a primary one. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlix. V. 94 Of these pictures, the far greater part, the transcripts of a human pencil, could only pretend to a secondary likeness. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 76 Convinced of the undeviating uniformity of secondary causes,..he determines the probability of accounts transmitted to him of former occurrences. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 449/2 The literature upon Cerinthus is summed up in the following primary and secondary authorities.

b. Having only a derived authority; acting under the direction of another, subordinate. Cf. 1 d.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 854 That we were formd then saist thou? and the work Of secondarie hands, by task transferd From Father to his Son? 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 256 It is doubtful whether the people, with their strong personal feeling towards their Gospodar, will be satisfied with applying to a secondary agency.

c. *Philos.* (*a*) Applied to those qualities or affections of bodies that were supposed to be derived from the four 'primary' qualities recognized by Aristotle, hot, cold, wet, dry. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* (*b*) Applied to those properties or qualities of matter (such as colour, smell, taste, etc.) which are by Locke and others distinguished from 'primary' qualities as not existing (like the latter) in the bodies themselves independently of perception, but depending upon the action of the primary qualities on the percipient. Cf. PRIMARY *a.* 6 b.

(*a*) 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. *Doctr. Aristotle* II. xiii. (1687) 380/1 Besides these principal affections there are others secondary, chiefly competent to homogeneous bodies, some passive, some active.

(*b*) 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* 43 There are simpler and more Primitive affections of Matter, from which these Secondary Qualities, if I may so call them, do depend. 1700 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. viii. § 10 (ed. 4) 61 Such Qualities, which, in truth are nothing in the Objects themselves, but Powers to produce various Sensations in us by their primary Qualities, i.e. by the Bulk Figure, Texture, and Motion of their insensible parts, as Colours, Sounds, Tasts, &c. These I call secondary Qualities. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* 146 Among the secondary qualities [of matter] are classed heat and cold, colour and sound, taste and odour.

d. Astr. † *Secondary movable*: any of the 'movables' except the primum mobile (*obs.*). *Secondary planet*: a satellite which revolves round a primary planet (PLANET *sb.*1 2). *Secondary system*: a subordinate system (composed of a primary planet and its satellites) within the solar system.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 4 The Secondary Planets of Saturn and Jupiter. 1690 Secondary movable [see MOVABLE *sb.* 1]. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* iii. 39 Ten others, called secondary planets, or satellites, which regard their primaries as the centers of their motions. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 237 The secondary systems of which that [viz. the Solar] system itself is composed. 1868 — *Elem. Astron.* § 16 (1879) 88 The Moon..is one of the satellites, or secondary bodies.

e. *Secondary circle*: Geom. and Astr., a great circle passing through the poles of another great circle perpendicular to its plane; see also *sb.* 3. *Secondary caustic* Math. (see quot. 1857).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Secondary Circles. 1857 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1889) II. 339 The secondary caustic or orthogonal trajectory of the refracted rays, i. e. a curve having the caustic for its evolute.

f. *Secondary bow* or *rainbow*: a rainbow formed by rays twice internally reflected by the rain-drops; usually, an outer and fainter bow parallel with the primary bow.

1793 STURGES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 1 In this shower two primary rainbows appeared,..with a secondary bow to each. 1859 PARKINSON *Optics* (1866) 236 The Secondary Rainbow. The space above the primary rainbow..seems darker than the rest; beyond this space appears a broader but fainter rainbow the colours of which are in reverse order to those in the primary. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* 200 The secondary bow, presenting the prismatic colours in the reverse order to that just described.

g. *Cryst.* Of crystalline forms: Derivative, not primitive.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 174 The manner in which secondary crystals may increase in magnitude, and still preserve their form. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 69 The edge *c d*, of the secondary plane, being parallel to the diagonal *a b*, of the primary form. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 122 The secondary forms are supposed to arise from decrements of particles taking place on different edges and angles of the primitive forms.

h. *Electr.* Of a current: Induced. Hence of apparatus, etc.: Pertaining to an induced current. Also *secondary battery*, a storage battery as distinguished from one in which a current is produced.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxxi. 423, I applied the secondary electric current to the parts affected. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sci.* I. 253/2 The secondary wire, is that in which a current is induced by its proximity to the primary one. 1902 J. A. FLEMING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 74/1 In connection with the generator, it is almost the invariable custom to put down a secondary battery, to enable the supply to be given after the engine has stopped.

i. *Chem.* Applied to certain types of organic compounds which are formed from others by certain definite processes of replacement. See also ALCOHOL, AMIDE, AMINE, etc.

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 421 The formation of a secondary monamide. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 562/2 The isomeric alcohols of the present series can thus be conveniently classified...1 Primary alcohols...2 Secondary alcohols...3 Tertiary alcohols.

j. *Meteorology.* Said of a subsidiary depression taking place on the border of a primary cyclone. Cf. B. 10.

1876 R. H. SCOTT *Weather Charts* 76 It is not often, however, that we find the secondary depressions so clearly marked as in fig. 15.

4. a. Belonging to the second order in a series of subdivisions or ramifications. Chiefly *Biol.*

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 780 Fructifications near the rib of the 2dary wings. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 193 When the floral axis is thus branched, it is better to speak of the main axis as the primary axis..., its divisions as the secondary axes..., and their divisions as the tertiary axes. 1883 HUXLEY *Pract. Biol.* xii. 157 Each of the hairs..is..seen to be covered over its whole surface with innumerable very fine secondary hairs; these are shortest near the base of the primary hair.

b. Belonging to the second stage in a process of compounding or combination; consisting of two primary elements. *Secondary colours*: see COLOUR *sb.* 2.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 467 By the term Secondary Compound is meant a combination of salifiable bases or primary compounds with each other. *Ibid.*, The secondary compounds..may be arranged under the five following classes. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* vii. 69 Any mixtures or combinations of any of them [*sc.* primary colours] are called secondary colours. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 178/1 The primary or simple, and the secondary or mixed colours.

5. With reference to temporal sequence: Pertaining to a second period or condition of things;

adventitious, not primitive. Chiefly in certain modern scientific and technical uses: see below.

† **a.** *gen.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Rec. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 188 The Altytude of thy Bodys hyde..In every of thy Materyalls dystroyyng the fyrst qualyte: And secundary qualytes more gloryose repare in them anon.

b. *Geol.* In early use, applied (with some notion of sense 3) to partially crystalline rocks, often containing the remains of life on the earth. Now, Belonging to the second division of stratified rocks; of or pertaining to the strata between the Palæozoic or Primary, and the Tertiary; = MESOZOIC.

1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 192 Rocks are generally divided by geologists into two grand divisions, distinguished by the names of primary and secondary...The secondary rocks, or strata, consist only partly of crystalline matter; contain fragments of other rocks or strata; often abound in the remains of vegetables and marine animals; and sometimes contain the remains of land animals. 1818 W. PHILLIPS *Outl. Min. & Geol.* (ed. 3) 86 Rocks which include organic remains, must have been formed after the shells they contain; and therefore not being considered primitive, they are by some termed secondary rocks; whence the term used by geologists of primary and secondary formations. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 324 By 'secondary', we mean those stratified rocks older than the tertiary, which contain distinct organic remains. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. i. 759 The Mesozoic or Secondary series.

c. *Biol.* Belonging to or directly derived from the second stage of development or growth.

1847 HENFREY *Bot.* § 659 The walls of almost all cells soon exhibit a departure from the original simple condition, arising from the formation of new lamellæ,..all over, or over particular parts of the inside of the primary membrane. These are distinguished as secondary layers. 1860 GOSSE *Hist. Brit. Sea-Anemones* Introd. 19, I have found a small round aperture in each primary and secondary septum. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 408 These new cells are developed on the one hand into tracheides, which compose the secondary wood, and on the other into parenchyma and fibrous tissue, composing the secondary cortex.

d. *Surg.*, etc. Performed or occurring after a definite time or occurrence. *Secondary amputation*: amputation performed after suppuration has set in. *Secondary hæmorrhage*: hæmorrhage occurring several days after a wound or operation.

1837 R. LISTON *Pract. Surg.* 325 Secondary hæmorrhage will sometimes follow when reaction has been established. 1850 OGILVIE, *Secondary amputation.* 1889 MACCORMAC *Surg. Operat.* II. 140 Secondary or consecutive operations are those performed after the acute inflammatory symptoms have subsided and suppuration has been fully established. 1892 MOULLIN *Surg.* 1371 Amputation..may be primary (within twenty-four hours); intermediary (before suppuration); or secondary (after suppuration).

e. *Path.* Characteristic of or pertaining to the second stage or period of a disease, esp. of syphilis.

1722 QUINCY *Lex. Phys.-Med.* (ed. 2), *Secundary Fever*, is that which arises after a Crisis, or the Discharge of some morbid Matter, as after the Declension of the Small-Pox, or Measles. 1786 J. HUNTER *Venereal Dis.* (1810) 431 To ascertain whether her secondary ulcers were infectious. 1799 BEDDOES in *Med. Jrnl.* I. 101 The symptoms were what are called secondary, and the disease in its most rooted and obstinate state. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 677 True epilepsy may occur in the so-called 'secondary' stage of syphilis.

f. *Secondary education* or *instruction*: that between the primary or elementary education and the higher or university education. *Secondary school*, one in which such education is given.

1862 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* Introd. 39 The public secondary schools of France. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. ii. 128 Schools in which elementary and secondary instruction were formerly given. 1882 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.* 130 Schools giving secondary education, as it is called—that fuller and higher instruction which comes after elementary instruction. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 663/2 The school which seeks to retain its pupil to the age of sixteen or seventeen, and to prepare him to enter a skilled trade or one of the minor professions, is a secondary or intermediate school.

6. Connected with what is second in local position. *Secondary feather, quill*: a feather growing from the second joint of a bird's wing. *Secondary wing*: one of the hind wings of an insect.

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 437 The tips of the secondary feathers white. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Expl. Techn. Terms, Secondary quill-feathers. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 39 The secondary wings are sometimes smaller than the primary. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 367/1 The greater wing-coverts and secondary quills are greenish-black.

B. *sb.* [elliptical use of adj. Mostly in *pl.*]

1. *gen.* One who acts in subordination to another; a delegate or deputy; also a thing which comes second or subordinate in importance. Now *rare*.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 80, I am too high-borne to be proportied To be a secondary at controll. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* I. i. 47 Old Escalus Though first in question, is thy secondary. Take thy Commission. 1635 BRATHWAIT *Arcad. Prine.* II. 56 Causing Epimonos, her Secondary, to advance himselfe before her, shee willed him to returne the manner of his recovery. 1772 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 346 From being secondaries in the quarrel at length becoming principals. 1841 EMERSON *Meth. Nature* (1844) 20 A certain admirable wisdom, preferable to all other advantages, and whereof all others are only secondaries and indemnities. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 202 They are not principals, ..but only secondaries to the Editor, in the commission of this error.

b. A cathedral dignitary of second rank.

1436 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 105 To euery secundary & clerc of the chirch iiij^{d}. 1616 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 8 John Greene a secondary of the churche of Exon. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 242 In the following stanza, where he [Barclay] wishes to take on board the eight secondaries, or minor canons, of his college. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 707 Secondaries is a general name for the inferior members of cathedrals, as vicars choral, &c.

c. An officer of the corporation of the City of London. † Also, an official in certain government offices and law courts: see quot. 1607.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 467/2 Secundarie in the Office of oure prive Seall. *a* 1600 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) 178 The Secondary of the Court for rettorne of 2 wrytts 4^{s}. 1603 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 538 The Shiriffes of London, in the yeare 1471, were appointed..to haue..6 Clarkes, to wit, a Secondary, a Clarke of the Papers, and 4 other Clarkes. 1607 COWEL *Interpr., Secundarie* (secundarius) is the name of an Officer next vnto the chiefe Officer: as the Secundarie of the fine Office: the Secundarie of the Counter,..Secundarie of the office of the priuie seale, *anno* 1. *Ed.* 4. *cap.* 1. Secundaries of the Pipe two: Secundarie to the Remembrancers two, which be Officers in the Exchequer. *Camden.* pag. 113. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 45 Which is not to be allowed of upon Record in the Pipe, by the first Secondary there, untill [etc.]. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1738/4 [He] appointed the Common-Serjeant, the Town-Clerk, the two Secondaries, and the four Attorneys of the Mayors Court,..to take the Poll. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 345 Mr. Aston, secondary to the master of the Kings bench office,..is dead. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 47 The secondary, whose office is to return writs, mark warrants, impannel juries for the courts both above and below, and also for the sessions. 1828 ARCHBOLD *Forms & Entries* (ed. 2) Pref. 6 For the Rules of the Common Pleas, I am indebted to Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Hewlett, Secondaries of that court. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Secondaries' Court*, a small-debt court in the city of London. 1892 *Standard* 6 Feb. 3/6 Mr. Roderick, the Secondary [of the City of London],..kept watch over the proceedings throughout the poll.

2. Short for *secondary planet* (see A. 3 d).

a 1721 [see PRIMARY *sb.* 2]. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 494/1 The action of the primary planets upon their secondaries. 1852 HIND *Astron. Vocab.* 46 The moon is a secondary to the earth.

3. Short for *secondary circle*: see A. 3 e.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 220 These Hour Circles are the same in Position, with the Circles of Declination;..because they are Secondaries to the Equator. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* 434 Secondary circles of the sphere, are those circles which pass through the poles of some great circle: thus the meridian and hour circles are secondaries to the equinoctial, &c. 1889 J. CASEY *Spherical Trig.* i. 4 A great circle passing through the poles of another circle (great or small) is called a secondary to that circle.

4. Short for *secondary colour*: see A. 4 b.

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s. v. *Secondary Colours*, The same result ensues when two secondaries are mixed in equal strength; thus Olive results from the union of green and violet.

5. *Path.* in *pl.* Secondary symptoms (of syphilis).

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 393 Some of these patients..have been pronounced to labour under secondaries. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 361 After the first and second [infection] definite secondaries followed.

6. *Geol.* The secondary series of rocks, or any of the secondary formations. In recent Dicts.

7. a. *Ornith.* Short for *secondary feather*

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 420 All the other wing feathers, except the secondaries, are dusky. 1815 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. i. 5 Coverts and secondaries green. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 36 The Secondaries..are those remiges that are seated on the forearm.

b. *Ent.* Short for *secondary wing.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 336 Secondary (*Secundariæ*), the posterior wings are so denominated if the superior wings, when at rest, are not placed upon them.

† **8.** *Philos.* Short for *secondary quality. Obs.*

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. *Doctr. Plato* iv. (1687) 182/1 Intellection likewise must be two-fold, one of Primaries, the other of Secondaries.

9. *Electr.* Short for *secondary coil* or *wire.*

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 335/2 The secondary is wound ..in vertical layers insulated by discs of sheet ebonite. 1891 *Nature* 25 June 187/2 The discharge tube in these experiments is made to form the secondary of what is essentially an induction coil.

10. *Meteorology.* Short for *secondary depression.*

1887 ABERCROMBY *Weather* 312 A secondary which would develop thunder in summer in Great Britain would only produce heavy rain in winter.

Second best, second-best, *a.*

1. Next in quality to the first.

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 114 To Watkyn Asshwell my secunde best furre and gowne. 1616 SHAKS. *Will* in Knight *Life* (1843) 534 Item, I give unto my wife my second best bed, with the furniture. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. iii. 95, I gather from Mr. Irving that these lines were considered as the second best set of those produced on the occasion. 1871 *Punch* 19 Aug. 67/1 Inviting your second best acquaintances to your second dance or dinner.

2. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) Something inferior to the best. † *To have the second best*: to get the worst of it (cf. 3).

1708 SIR W. ROBINSON in *3rd Rep. Deps. Kpr. Irel.* 37 Some people [are] of opinion that my lord is like to have but y^{e} second best. 1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 17 Jan. 65/2 Most people must be contented with second bests in this world.

3. quasi-*adv.* In phrase *to come off second best*, to be defeated in a contest (see COME *v.* 61 f).

1777 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 319, I am glad to hear of fighting, even though we come off second-best.

1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. iv. 49 That lady was.., coming off second-best in the encounter.

Second-class, *a.*

1. Of or belonging to the class (in any sense of the word) next to the first. Also *absol.* a place in the second class (in an examination).

1837–8 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 324/1 A Birmingham first class coach weighs 3 tons 17 cwt. 2 qrs...I have not weighed our second class open carriages. 1839 *Bradshaw's Rly. Time Tables* 10th Mo. 25th, Birm'ham to L'pool, Gentlemen riding in their own Carriages charged Second Class Fares. *Ibid.*, L'pool to Manch., On Sundays—Second Class Train, 7 Morning. 1846 [see FIRST-CLASS B. 1]. 1861 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 23 Mar. 177/2, I ride in second-class carriages, because the fare is cheaper than that of the first-class. 1899 *Statesm. Year-bk.* 1123 The Sudan has been divided into.. three second-class districts.

b. *Second-class matter* (U. S.): postal matter consisting of periodicals sent from the office of publication.

1883 *Sci. American* 6 Jan. (title) Entered at the Post Office of New York, N. Y. as Second Class Matter.

2. quasi-*adv.* By a second-class conveyance.

1906 UPWARD *Eben. Lobb* 206 Seymour says he came second-class,..and he had absolutely no luggage.

‖ **Seconde** (sɛgōnd). *Fencing.* Forms: 7 secunde, 8 second, 9 seconde. See also SEGOON. [Fr.: fem. of *second* SECOND *a.*]

† **1.** The half of a sword nearest the point. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 159/2 The Secunde, is from the midle of the weapon to the point, which being the weakest part is only used to thrust or cut.

2. The second of the eight parries recognized in sword-play.

1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Meth. Fencing* 56 When a Man presents his Sword..the Sword-Hand may have as many different Positions, as there are Degrees in a Circle,..but ..the Masters of Old, were satisfied to reduce them to Four .., called, Prime, Seconde, Tierce, and Quarte...Seconde, or the Second Position..is performed by holding the Sword, with the Thumb quite downward [etc.]. 1710 S. PALMER *Moral Ess.* 203 [A study] of more satisfaction and use.. than Tierce and Cart, Primé and Secònd, Dancing and Dress. 1807 ROLAND *Fencing* 53 You will acquire a more firm parade, as well as a much easier mode of delivering your riposte in seconde. 1889 POLLOCK, etc. *Fencing* 44 Eight [simple parries] are recognised; two for each line. They are called:—Prime, Seconde, Tierce [etc.]. *Ibid.* 47 To parry seconde, bring foil to seconde position.

Seconder (se·kəndəɹ). Also 9 *Sc.* (in sense 2) **secondar.** [f. SECOND *a.* and *v.* + -ER 1.]

I. [from the adj.]

1. One who comes second, or in the second rank. Now only *local*, a second hand on a farm.

In quot. 1898 used to represent Anglo-Latin *secundarius*, SECONDARY *sb.* 1 b.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 35 To retire..and charge againe, giuing place to his next fellow, or seconder. 1883 *Goole* (Yorksh.) *Weekly Times* 31 Aug. 5/2 (Advt.) Wanted, a Farm Servant, as seconder. 1898 A. F. LEACH *Beverley Act Bk.* I. Introd. 72 The Seconders (*secundarii*), clerks of the second form at Exeter [Cathedral]. *Ibid.*, In June, 1529, all the Seconders complained that [etc.].

2. A student of the second grade in social rank at St. Andrews University. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1684 A. SKEINE *Let.* in *Scot. Antiq.* (1897) XI. 20 If he be a seconder his expence will be as folous. 1807 GRIERSON *St. Andrews* 160 Seconders and Terners are the only distinctions now in use. 1827 FERRIE in *Evid. Comm. Univ. Scot.* (1837) III. (St. Andrews) 35 The Primars are the sons of Noblemen; the Seconders are what they call Gentlemen Commoners in England. 1907 LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. xvi. 406 All the winners are armigerous, so probably they were Secondars, as a rule.

II. [from the vb.]

3. a. One who supports (what is proposed by another); one who furthers the designs of another.

1623 CHAWORTH in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 477 The Parlement cumd, and in y^{e} first weeke y^{e} proposition being a breach wth Spaine,..&c. and the Prince y^{e} seconder of all Buckingham could propound. 1827 LYTTON *Falkland* i. 66, I find in myself a powerful seconder to my uncle's wishes. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* viii. 175 Perez is said to have found a seconder in Luis de Santangel.

b. *spec.* One who seconds a motion.

1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 52 He Interrupted him and the Seconder of that Motion. 1780 BURKE *On Durat. Parlt.* Sp. (1816) II. 173, I do not tell the respectable mover and seconder..that [etc.]. 1828 BROUGHAM in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XVIII. 49 His hon. and learned friend, the seconder, as well as the hon. mover of the Address. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 139 In the House of Lords, a question may be proposed without a seconder. 1890 A. G. BELL in *Proc. 12th Conv. Instructors of Deaf* 330, I would like to add my mite to the seconder of this resolution.

c. One who seconds a nomination or candidature introduced by a proposer.

1864 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 219 Will you write your name in the candidates' book as his seconder?

Second hand, second-hand. [Cf. HAND *sb.* 10 c., F. *de seconde main*, and FIRST HAND.]

A. *phrase.* (*Second hand.*)

† **1.** In subst. use: The second in a series of persons through whose hands something passes; an intermediary, middleman. *Obs.*

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 492 His absence.. made him but from second hands, and confusedly learn it. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 49 He doth not mediate with him by a second-hand, or at a distance, but in his own Person. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. Pref. 14 Those Reports came..to him by Second or Third Hands.

2. In advb. phrases. **a.** *At second hand* († also *at the* or *a second hand, on the second hand*): (to buy, receive, learn, etc.) from another than the maker, or original vendor (of goods), or the primary source (of information, etc.). In the 18th c. also (? after Fr.) *to hear from second hand.*

In the first quot. *as* may be a mistake for *at*; but perh. *second hand* may mean 'second purchaser'.

1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 401 Also the sise ys that no maner of man nor woman schall not stalle nor Regrate no markett.. wher thorough the markett shuld be the Wers and the pore Comons gretely hurte to by as the ij ·e honde. 1588 NASHE *Anat. Absurditie* Wks. 1904 I. 20 Whose thredde-bare knowledge beeing bought at the second hand, is spotted.. and defaced through translaters rigorous rude dealing. 1589 *Hay any Work* 44 The substance of the tale is true. I told you that I had it at the second hand. 1613 *Bodl. Day-bk.* (MS.) lf. 18 A note of such Books as were bought at London of Jhon Edwards at second hand. 1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 62 So that I may say the eye receives the forme of the object at a second hand, as it were from the medium. 1654 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) II. 2 You have done wisely to decline the correspondence of Sir Marm. Langdale at a second hand, thro' the consul's conveyance. 1665 *Surv. Affaires Netherlands* 132 Cathay, where they are forced to take their Rye, Hemp,..and Musk, on the second hand of the Chinois. 1680 DODWELL *On Sanchoniathon* (1691) 12 He quoted him by memory, and at the Second hand. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. v, For, to say the truth, there is no kind of flattery so irresistible as this at second-hand. 1753 WASHINGTON *Jrnl.* Writ. 1889 I. 481, I have heard from second-hand, that they intend to make no allowance for the fish we left there. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iii, 'Well, we don't want one of your father's sermons at second-hand,' replied the midshipman.

† b. *At the second hand*: by a secondary operation. *Obs.*

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 23 The meat & drinck which we dayly do eate, by dygestion, fyrst of y^e^ stomack, the fyne iuyce, therof is seperatyd from y^e^ drosse & grosser part, & then after at y^e^ second hand, the foresaid iuyce.. attract..in to the lyuer.., there transmutid in to blud.

† c. *By second hand*: through an intermediary, through another person as agent. *Obs.*

1721 SWIFT *South Sea* 70 When Stock is high, they come between, Making by second-hand their Offers.

† d. *Of second hand* = SECOND-HAND *a.* 1. [a Gallicism].

1708 SHAFTESB. *Let. Enthusiasm* vi. 67 There is a sort of Enthusiasm of second hand.

B. *adj.* (*Second-hand.*) [The phrase used attrib.] Obtained at second hand.

1. Not original or obtained from the original source; plagiarized or borrowed; imitative, derivative.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 143 If a man cloath his discourse in a Language that is not second hand English, or but one degree above..Caterwauling, why he is affected. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 46 The Waiting-Woman, who, if she hath been bred to read Romances, may have some small subaltern or second-hand Politeness. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, Are you not called..a mock Mæcenas to second-hand authors? 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 397 You hold up, to chastise them, the second-hand authority of a king, who is only the instrument of destroying, without any power of protecting either the people or his own person. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. x. 163 Even of this second-hand knowledge there was very little. 1904 FARRER *Gardens of Asia* 13 Second-hand impressions are as worthless as second-hand morality.

2. Not new, having been previously used or worn by another, as *second-hand clothes, books*, etc.

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing-Master* v. 94, I will have no little, dirty, second-hand Charriot new forbish'd, but a large, sociable, well painted Coach. 1698 CROWNE *Caligula* I. 4 Second-hand cloaths he may as proudly wear. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 18 July (1815) 251 The traitor..dazzled her with his second-hand finery. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 46 § 82 All persons so dealing in second-hand articles without being first duly licensed. 1862 (*title*) The Library Circular of New and Second-Hand Books. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 74 But a second-hand son-in-law of 22 is superior to many brand-new ones.

¶ b. Said jocularly of food, with various notions.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii, The Cupboard wherein second-hand-meat is kept [the bowels]. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlvii. (1893) 250 The cook sent him a most moderate dinner, smoked soup, second-hand fish, scraggy cutlets, and sour pudding. 1862 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* IV. 408/2 Miss Betsey would..enjoy whatever poultry or meat had not been touched; but anything that had been cut, anything 'second-hand', that dainty and haughty young lady would instruct her sister Kitty to give to the poor beggars. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Sept. 12/1 What is technically called a 'second-hand joint', that is one that has had all its choice parts sliced off.

3. *Second-hand bookseller, clothier*, etc.: one dealing in second-hand goods. So *second-hand bookselling, shop*, etc.

1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 148 They call it their Library; for my part, I should have thought it to have been the warehouse of some second hand Bookseller. 1862 *Literary Circular* July 138 Advt., Messrs. Tinsley Brothers,.. Wholesale, Retail, and Second-hand Booksellers. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xxxix. (ed. 3) 330 The head of the second-hand bookselling trade of London.

fig. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 Jan. 3/3 The modern second-hand dealers in popular criticism.

4. quasi-*adv.* = at second hand.

1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1855) 181 Maxims learned second-hand by rote and not by heart. 1910 S. COOK in *Expositor* Aug. 115 Babylonian culture could continue to reach Canaan secondhand.

Hence **Secondha·ndness**; also (*rare*) **Second-ha·ndiness**, appearance of being second-hand.

a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 120 The staleness of their method and the second-handiness of their costume. 1886 FARRAR *Hist. Interpr.* 225 Four serious drawbacks of overhaste, second-handness, vehement prejudice and incessant vacillation.

Second-ha·nded, *a.* Now chiefly *dial.* = SECOND-HAND *a.*

1682 in *Flemings in Oxford* (O.H.S.) II. let. ccxlvii, For a second handed gown, 14*s.* 6*d.* 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 51. 3/1 We..you implore, To send no more, A Second-handed Query. 1784 COWPER *Let. to Unwin* Wks. 1836 V. 87 My descriptions are all from nature: not one of them second-handed. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 73 He sets about purchasing a houseful of trash—second-handed chairs [etc.].

Secondine, obs. form of SECUNDINE.

Secondly (se·kəndli), *adv.* [f. SECOND *a.* + -LY[2].]

† 1. For a second time. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiii. 58 He shal wasshe secoundlich [Vulg. *secundo*] tho thinges that ben pure. 1608 in *Rep. MSS. in var. Coll.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1901) I. 287 But these malicious persons, not satisfied, waylaid your petitioner, and there and then secondly assaulted and wounded your petitioner. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 201 She was secondly married to James Levingston Earl of Newburgh.

2. In the second place; as the second in serial order. Chiefly in the enumeration of heads or topics in a discourse.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1741 Secundelich þer yet deuyneth noon Vp-on yow two. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 106 Furst, to begynne, thys Eolus hath [etc.]..Secundly, ..Ofte of myn entent hath he made me mys. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 352 Syne in a feild of siluer secoundlie he beris Ane Egill ardent of air. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xvi. 19 Secondly, whom shulde I serue? *a* 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus* (1636) 52 Man, consider first the nature of the thing that thou intendest, and secondly thine owne nature. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxiv. 185 We are Taught here Principally, Two Things; First,..And yet 2ly. How Prone we are to Indulge our Own Errors [etc.]. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 12, 1st, For absenting from Church. 2dly, For not abiding there till..Sermon be ended. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 36 Secondly, if the mud pierced through had been thrown down by the river in ancient channels, it would have been stratified.

† 3. In the second place in order of importance, secondarily. Also (*nonce-use*), in an inferior manner. *Obs. rare.*

1526 *Grete Herball* cli. (1529) I v b, Epithimium..hath vertue pryncypally to purge melancolyke humours, and secondely flewme. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 407/1 Tyndall handeleth his thyrde sygnificacion very secondly, and fareth as one that woulde fayne walke in the darke.

4. quasi-*sb.* The word *secondly* used in making subdivisions of a subject.

1759 [see FIRSTLY 3]. 1874 'MAX ADELER' *Out of Hurly-Burly* vii. 87 The clergyman paused just as he was entering upon consideration of 'secondly'. 1898 J. A. ADAMS in *Advance* (Chicago) 28 Apr. 578/1 Jesus was not given to firstlies and secondlies.

Secondment[1] (se·kəndmĕnt). *rare.* [f. SECOND *v.* + -MENT.] The action of seconding.

1837 W. E. FORSTER in T. W. Reid *Life* (1888) I. 93 Sir Robert Harvey proposed the Marquis of Douro...John Robberds, Nurse; with Dr. Evans's most violent secondment.

Seco·ndment[2]. The action of SECOND *v.*[2]

1897 *Q. Rev.* July 242 The practice of secondment seems to us as objectionable as the word is ungrammatical.

Second-rate, *a.* and *sb.* [See RATE *sb.*[1] 9, 9 b.]

A. *adj.* Of the second 'rate' (said of ships). Hence, Of the second class in point of quality or excellence; usually in vaguer (depreciative) sense. Not first-rate, of only moderate quality.

1669 SIR G. DOWNING in *St. Papers Dom.* 1668–9 (1894), 286 A second-rate ship. 1748 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett. to C'tess. Bute* 10 May (1893) II. 164 Any of the second-rate theatres in London. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, The Laird himself was one of those second-rate sort of persons, that are to be found frequently in rural situations. 1875 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* i. 20 The severe exclusion of all second-rate, superfluous, or even attractively varied examples.

B. *sb.*

1. *Naut.* A war-vessel of the second rate (see RATE *sb.*[1] 9).

1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1442/4 There are now two Second-rates upon the Stocks. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxvii. (1760) I. 211 This he had procured by his interest at the Navy-Office; as also another [warrant] for himself, by virtue of which he was removed into a second rate.

2. *transf.* A person or thing of inferior class.

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 95 We still think that she [a lady novelist] ranks, with a degree of respect, as a 'second-rate'. 1804 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* I. 518 With reference to these poets, I place Dryden at the head of the second-rates. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Oct. 2/3 We look upon him [Sardou] as a second-rate who might have been almost first-rate had he been sincere.

Hence **Second-ratedness, Second-rateness,** the quality of being second-rate; **Second-rater,** one who or something which is second-rate.

1826 HOOD *Backing the Favourite* 33 The second-raters seemed then a safer bit. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* II. 26 She forgot the old feeling of failure and of second-rateness, she found herself of consequence. 1891 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 463 Some have to be contented with the second-ratedness of a swirly hole, as against the profundity of Lake Superior.

Second sight.

1. A supposed power by which occurrences in the future or things at a distance are perceived as though they were actually present.

1616 *Maitland Club Misc.* II. 189 Be the secund sicht grantit to her..She saw Robert Stewart..and certane utheris with towis about thair craigis. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Sept. 1685, There was something said of the second sight happening to some persons, especially Scotch. 1763 *Pastoral Cordial* 11 Their Faith and firm Belief In Second Sight, and Mother Shipton. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, These are Highland visions, Captain Campbell, as unsatisfactory and vain as those of the second sight. 1875 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 204/1 Persons possessing the Celtic *taishitaraugh*, or gift of second-sight.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 29 But the High-Church Doctors were not then Blessed with the second sight, as they have been of late. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* viii. 178 When the second-sight of the mind is opened, now one colour or form or gesture, and now another, has a pungency [etc.].

2. The image or vision produced by the faculty of 'second sight'.

1763 'THEOPHILUS INSULANUS' *Second Sight* 35 From many cogent proofs, I am induced to think, that the Second Sight is not seen by the organ of the eye. *Ibid.* Index 187 Grant, Mr. James, his relation of a young man that saw the Second Sight.

3. *Natural Magic.* (See quot. 1883.)

1883 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 923 Clairvoyance, or Second Sight, when applied to conjurers' tricks and private entertainments, is the art of telling the name and description of articles by a person whose eyes are blindfolded. 1902 G. FAUR in *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 427/2 In recent years the mystery known as 'Second Sight' has been vastly improved.

4. *attrib.*

1700 DR. HICKES *Let.* in *Pepys' Mem.* (1870) 696, I asked this question, to know whether..these Second Sight folks were Seers or Visionists.

Hence **Second-sighted** *a.*, having the gift of second sight; † **Second-sightedness,** the quality of possessing second sight; **Second-sighter,** one who practises the power of second sight.

a 1694 in *Aubrey's Misc.* (1696) 154 These Events, which Second-sighted Men discover, or fore-tell. 1708 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. I. ii. (1743) 322 This quality of second-sightedness is not rare. 1820 SHELLEY *Maria Gisb.* 137 She replies, Veiling in awe her second-sighted eyes. 1875 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 204/2 The *inyanga*, or second-sighted man. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* xx. 460 You cannot see your own bush-soul, unless you are an Ebumtup, a sort of second-sighter.

Secound(e, obs. forms of SECOND.

† **Secourgeon, -ion.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *secourgeon* (in Estienne, orig. of this passage), var. of *escourgeon* (Cotgr. *scourgeon*, Walloon *socoran*).] = AMELCORN, an inferior variety of wheat.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* v. xx. 710 You may make meale likewise of other corne then of wheate, as of barley, rie, meslin, secourgeon. *Ibid.* 714 Breade made of Secourgion. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 56/2 Secourgion is a lean, wrinkled and starved Corn, something like unto Barley.

† **Secourse,** *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **secours.** [a. F. *secours* (OF. *secorse, -ce, socorse* in Godef.) SUCCOUR *sb.*] Succour, aid, help, assistance.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 54 b/2 Notwithstandinge all the secourse we coulde doe them, yet they dyed suddaynlye. 1610 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (*Hist. MSS. Comm.*) I. 89 To make use of such number of his subjects..for the secours of the Princes of Germany. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 471 Our mercifull King..gaue secourse to thousands of your ship-wracked people for many moneths.

‖ **Secousse** (səku·s). *Massage.* [a. F. *secousse* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), vbl. sb. of † *secourre* (now *secouer*) to agitate, f. L. *succuss-, succutĕre*, f. *sub* under, below + *quatĕre* to shake.] (See quot.)

1887 D. MAGUIRE *Art Massage* iii. (ed. 4) 52 Secousses. These are agitated movements quickly executed and with sudden jerks.

Secoutour, variant of SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

† **Secre,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 4–5 **secree.** [a. OF. *secré*, var. of *secret*: see SECRET *a.* and *sb.*]

A. *adj.* = SECRET *a.* in various senses.

1. Not allowed to be revealed, hidden, occult.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 90 But I wol nat auowe that I seye And therfore keepe it secre I yow preye. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 84 And þay gyf hym þe prys of alle science, secre and heuenly. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 1675 This god is also messagere..For to report in special The secre thingis of the hevene. 1430–40 — *Bochas* VIII. xxiv. (1554) 192/2 A ful precious stone,.. Powder of which will discure anone, If it be drunke (though it be secree) Of maydenhed the broken chastitee.

2. *Secre seal.* **a.** A private seal of attestation affixed to a document; also *fig.* **b.** A seal fixed upon a closed letter or document.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 141 Heo may as muche do In a Mooneþ ones, As 3oure secre seal [1377 B. III. 145, 1393 C. IV. 183 secret seel] In Seuen soore dayes. *Ibid.* VIII. 25 Bote vndur his secre seal [1377 B. VII. 23 secret seel; 1393 C. X. 27 secre seel] Treuþe sende a lettre. 1393 *Ibid.* C. X. 138 The whiche arn lunatik lollares..For vnder godes secre seel here synnes ben ykeuered.

3. Of a person: Reserved or reticent in conduct or conversation; close, discreet.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1328 And he was wis, hardy, secre, and ryche. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2001 Sche kepte hir cloos and wonderly secree, þat by hir chere no man myȝt see What þat sche ment.

b. Characterized by reserve or secrecy. Phrase, *in secre wyse.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 744 In his counseyl tellinge That toucheth love that oughte be secree; For of him-self it wolde y-nough out-springe. *c* 1386 — *Doctor's T.* 143 This Iuge vn-to this cherl his tale hath toold In secree wise. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (1864) II. 307 Sende me worde, yn the most secre wyse.

4. Intimate, privy. *rare*—

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xi, Sine nixt hir raid..Twelf damisellis..Quhilks semit of her counsell maist secre.

5. Of a place: Remote, retired, secluded. Also *rarely* of time, spent in seclusion.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 31 Thilke thinges that I hadde lerned of thee among my secree restingwhyles [L. *inter secreta otia*]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4056, I am callyd Dame Penaunce. The cheff wardeyn..Off thylke yle most secre; The wych..Ys yhyd with-Inne a man. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* i. 652 In hir chalmer quhilk ay was most secre.

6. quasi-*adv.* Secretly; without witnesses.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 381 To noon oother creature ..Of this matere he dorste no word seyn. Vnder his brest he baar it moore secree Than euere dide Pamphilus for Galathee. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 541 So it be doon secre that no man se.

B. *sb.*

1. Something that is kept hidden or secret. **a.** Something hidden from human understanding or knowledge; a divine or natural mystery.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 894 For this science, and this konnyng, quod he, Is of the secree of the secretes pardee. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 4879 Ful of mystery and secres And many vnkouth prevites. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxviii. (1869) 46 And þere weren shewed þee alle þe secrees of Nature. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xvii. 57 He is a fool that don wele as I have do, To knowen the Secrees of his Saviour.

b. A private or secret matter; = SECRET *sb.* 3.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 31 But to hise wyues toolde he his secree. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5260 For tweyn in nombre is bet than three In every counsel and secree. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* (Edin. MS.) IV. 577 And couth rycht weill secreis conceil.

2. A prayer in the Mass recited by the priest in a low voice; = SECRET *sb.* 2.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 12044 As he stod at is masse.. Biuore þe weued in is bedes, at þe secre riȝt, Com sir gui de mountfort..& villiche him slou. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxix. (*Cosme & Damyane*) 1 Of haly messe in þe secre syndry sanctis set we se. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlvii. 541 Þen he biginnes his secre; Adoun þenne knele 3e.

3. Secrecy. *In secree*, in private, secretly.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 62 He seith in open, fy! to Sinne, And in secre ther is no vice Of which that he nis a Norrice. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 403 Wallace with hyr in secre maid him glaid.

Secrecy (sī·krĕsi). Forms: *α.* 5 secretee, 6 secretie, -ye; *β.* 6–7 secrecie (6 secricie), secresie, 6–9 secresy, 6– secrecy. [In 15–16th c. *secretee, -tie*, app. f. SECRE *a.* or SECRET *a.* + -TY or -Y. Cf. med.L. *secretia* a royal treasury. Late in the 16th c. altered to *secrecie*, app. after words like *prīmacy*.]

1. The quality of being secret or of not revealing secrets; the action, practice, or habit of keeping things secret.

α. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcvii, Stude at the dure faircalling hir vschere, That coude his office doon In connyng wise, And secretee, hir thrifty chamberere.

β. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 112 Constant you are, But yet a woman: and for secrecie, No Lady closer. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 116 If you conceale this I must thinke that..you begin to suspect my secrecy. 1616 BACON *Adv. to Villiers* Wks. 1872 VI. 41 And that the servants attending the clerks of the council be also bound to secrecy. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 50 By reason of his singular secrecy in keeping his purposes unknowne. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 167 For who could expect secrecy in such a slave of Cleopatra. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxiv. 150, I have Intreated Mrs. Selwyn to observe the strictest secrecy. 1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. viii. 232 An intelligent friend on whose style of expression, prudence, and secrecy his Grace could put perfect reliance. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 532 He arranged his plan with characteristic prudence, firmness, and secrecy. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. (1877) 88 We appear to know a great deal of one another, and yet, if we reflect, what a vast system of secrecy the moral world is.

2. The condition or fact of being secret or concealed. *In secrecy*: secretly.

α. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* xc, Your polytyke secretes gard with trusty loyaltye So shall they lurk in most assured secretye. 1581 HANMER *Jesuites Banner* D 3, His sacrificing Priestes bearing confession were woonte to reueale vnto him, all that in secretie was deliuered vnto them.

β. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* IV. iv. Wks. 1910 II. 65, & because in all thinges Secresie is a great furderaunce, it shalbe best that we draw our selves apart vnto one of your houses. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. i, A friend of mine told me in secrecie, That hees repeald and sent for backe againe. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 403 The Lady Anne, Whom the King hath in secrecie long married, This day was view'd in open, as his Queene. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xix. 96 Nor is there any place,..wherein an Assemblie can receive Counsell with secrecie. 1736 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. 1842 I. 14 On his return to court, he was obliged to enter Rome with all the secresy of a criminal. 1819 MACINTOSH *Parl. Suffrage* Wks. 1846 III. 227 The first objection to this proposal is, that the Ballot would not produce secrecy. 1882 FENN *Vicar's People* xlvi, [He] removed his tobacco quid, and stuffed the dirty-brown, wet morsel into the secrecy of his trousers pocket.

†b. Retirement, seclusion. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 37 The males giue great honor to the females great with young, during the time of their secrecie. 1608 — *Serpents* 15 There is a question, whether when they be in this secrecie or drouzines, they awake not to eate. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 427 Thou in thy secresie although alone, Best with thy self accompanied, seek'st not Social communication.

3. quasi-*concr.* Something which is or has been kept secret; a secret; the secret nature or condition of something. Often *collect. sing.* or *plural*, secret matters, mysteries. *Obs.* or *arch.*

α. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 38 The which book..Whylom compyled by Arystotilees, Which in sapience of Secretees hath the name. 1517 TUNSTALL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 134 Besids al other maters contenyd in our Lettres..oon is in them untowchyd by cause I wold not make my clerke privey to the secretie theroff.

β. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 17 To answere stranger ciuilie, but shew him not thy secresie. 1594 *Willobie's Avisa* xliv. (Grosart) 40 H. W...pyneth a while in secret griefe, at length..bewrayeth the secresy of his disease vnto his familiar friend W. S. 1598 YONG *Diana* 308 A famous Shepherd..to whose skill and knowledge, it seemed, nature it selfe with all her secrecies was subject. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 305 So shall my anticipation preuent your discouery of your secricie to the King and Queene. *a* 1617 P. BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) Contents, The doctrine of our salvation is a hidden secrecy. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. iii, I'me not inquisitiue of secrecies without an inuitation. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 44 Leaving secrecies to conscience. 1660 *Charac. Italy* 85 In the Secresies and Operations of Medecine none could excel Fracastorius [etc.]. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 20 He solemnly swears his Host to keep counsel in a secrecy of such high consequence. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 50, I in their delicate fellowship was one —Drew the bolt of Nature's secrecies.

†b. The secret parts (of a person). *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1675 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 59 A shirt out of his Cloakbag presently plucked he, And put it on the woman to cover her secresie.

†4. The condition of being entrusted with a person's secrets; intimate acquaintance, confidence.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 165 Euen he who was of his secretie[1619 secrecy] and companion at meate. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 18 But, Madame, marke a while, and you shall see, Your Father shake him off from secrecie. 1591–5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 698 By creeping close into his secrecie. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* Life A 2, He..betook himself to a Monastery of regular Cannons, where for some years he had the secresie of Guilelmus Hermannus of Buda, a very studious and diligent youth.

†**Secrely**, *adv. Obs.* Also 4–5 secreely, sekerly, sekyrly. [f. SECRE *a.* + -LY 2.] Secretly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 707 This Markys writen hath.. A leitre..And secreely [*v.rr.* secrely, secretely, secretly] he to Bologne it sente. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5782 The grete Tresour wych verrayly Ys shet with-Inne secrely, Pore folkys for to fede. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 359 Whanne ye maye fynd good leyser and spase, That sekerly ye may speke with the kyng. *Ibid.* 3786 And in like wise cast your harnes vppon, Secrely, that no man yow Aspye.

†**Se·crement.** *Obs. rare*—1. [As if ad. L. **sēcrēmentum*, f. *sēcrē-*, *secernĕre* to secrete. Cf. *excrement.*] Secretion.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 29 Cuckow-Spitt.—That it is the sole exudation and Secrement of Plants, I cannot believe.

†**Secreness.** *Obs.* Also 4 secreenesse, secrenes(se. [f. SECRE *a.* + -NESS.] Secretness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 675 O Messager, fulfild of dronkenesse..thou biwreyest alle secreenesse [*v.rr.* secre-, sekere-, siker-, sekurnesse]. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 295, & mirrour eke was she Of secrenes, of trouth, of faythfulnes. 1450 *Impeachm. Dk. Suffolk* in *Paston Lett.* I. 103 Beyng of your grete Privey Councell, and..knowyng the secrenesse [*Rolls of Parli.* V. 178 secretenesse] thereof.

†**Secrest**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. Sp. *secrestar* = med.L. *secrestāre*, metathetic form of *sequestrāre.*] *trans.* To sequestrate (goods).

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 259 Hee did Iudge the Captaines to perpetuall prison..and did secrest all their goods [orig. *y secrestado todos sus bienes*].

Secrestan, obs. form of SACRISTAN.

Secret (sī·krĕt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4 secrette, 5–6 secrete, (5 sekret), 6 secreet, secrett, (seycrette, seacreate), *Sc.* secreit, secreit, 6–7 secreate, 7 seacret, (secrit). [a. F. *secret* adj. and sb. (OF. also *secré*: see SECRE *a.* and *sb.*), ad. L. *sēcrētus* adj. (neut. *sēcrētum* used subst., a secret), orig. pa. pple. of *sēcernĕre* to separate, divide off: see SECERN *v.* Cf. Pr. *secret*, Sp. *secreto*, Pg. *secreto, segredo*, It. *secreto, segredo* (all used as adj. and sb.).]

A. *adj.*

1. Kept from knowledge or observation; hidden, concealed. **a.** Predicatively (esp. in *to keep secret*): Kept from public knowledge, or from the knowledge of persons specified; not allowed to be known, or only by selected persons.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 62 Lete youre conceill coretie it [sc. this treatise]..ffor ȝit it is secrete. 1474 [see a]. 1482 in *E. E. Gilds* 317 Ye shal not dyscouer þ^e^ counsell of þ^y^ bretheryn̄hod or of þ^e^ crafte, þ^t^ ye have knowlych of, þ^t^ shold be sekret w^t^yn ouer-selfe. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 3 Parys kept his love secret. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 72, I kept nothing secret from your Ambassadours. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 47 The Renegados..kept his death secret. 1799 SICKELMORE *Agnes & Leonora* II. 164 It was as much to their interest as my own to keep the affair secret. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxvii, The task in which he was engaged was to be kept most strictly secret. 1879 'EDNA LYALL' *Won by Waiting* xxx, Bertha's flight must be kept secret.

b. Of a place: Removed from the resort of men; retired, remote, lonely, secluded, solitary; hence, affording privacy or seclusion. Also *rarely* of time. Chiefly *arch.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 1 In secreit place this hyndir nycht, I hard [etc.]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 32 To..plant goodnesse euēn in the secretest cabinet of our soules. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 91 Put them in secret holds. 1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* I. 12 Softly she [i.e. Pharaoh's daughter] walkes downe to the secret flood,..In the coole streames to check the pampred blood. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 6 Sing, Heav'nly Muse, that on the secret top Of Oreb, or of Sinai, didst inspire That shepherd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 662 Let not Sleep my closing Eyes invade In open Plains, or in the secret Shade. 1773 COWPER *Shrubbery* 19 They seek, like me, the secret shade. 1820 SHELLEY *Skylark* 44 Soothing her love-laden Soul in secret hour. 1830 TENNYSON *Poet* 10 With echoing feet he threaded The secretest walks of fame. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & Ital. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 31 Powers took us into a room apart—apparently the secretest room he had—and showed us some tools..of his own..invention. 1900 G. C. BRODRICK *Mem. & Impr.* 203 To exchange opinions..no longer through whispers in the secret chambers, but through open talk in drawing-rooms and even ball-rooms.

†c. Of a person, etc.: Secluded from observation. Chiefly *predicative. Obs.*

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xlvii. 90 Being compelled for want of apparel to keep ourselves secret one whole day. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) B 1, Franion being secret in his chamber, began to meditate with himselfe in these termes. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 48 In this Citty will I stay, And liue alone as secret as I may. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 206 When they are secret and alone by themselues, they will practise leaping, dancing, and other strange feats. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 522 So all ere day-spring, under conscious Night Secret they finish'd.

d. Of actions, negotiations, agreements, etc.: Done or entered into with the intention of being concealed; clandestine. † Also *rarely* of movements: Stealthy.

1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 13 b, He caused hym by secrete iourneys in the nyght to be conueyed to Middelham Castell in Yorkeshire. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* lxxxix, So can god reape vp secrete mischiefs wrought, To the confusyon of the workers thought. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxiv. 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked. 1635 W. AUSTIN *Medit.* 103 Secret therefore, must Abstinence be. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 428 Shall I make conscience of smaller, secreter offences, and shall I not much more abhor the grosser. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Oct. 1670, The Treasurer, who put into my hands those secret pieces and transactions concerning the Dutch war. 1705 SHAFTESB. *Let. to Le Clerc* 8–13 Feb. in *N. & Q.* Ser. I. (1851) III. 98/1 [Lord Shaftesbury] entrusted him [Locke] with his secretest negotiations. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 138 ¶ 1 Secret Kindnesses done to Mankind are as beautiful as secret Injuries are detestable. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 89, I heard secret treadings and mutterings. 1799 PAGET in *P. Papers* (1896) I. 152, I am led to think that there are Secret Articles in the Treaty of Campo Formio that are Monstrous. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 320, I wasted The sum in secret riot. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xv, Rebecca..owned there was a secret attachment. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* I. vi. vii. 366 All the highest abstract arguments were against secret voting.

e. Of doctrines, ceremonies, language, signs, methods of procedure, remedies, and the like: Kept from the knowledge of the uninitiated.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 What so euer secrete doctryne of perfeccyon you take or lerne of this poore treatyse. 1809 G. ROLAND *Art Fencing* (1823) 142, I am frequently asked..Whether there are not certain secret thrusts, which Professors reserve for themselves. *Ibid.* 143 Others..have pretended to sell them secret passes, applicable on all occasions. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* ii, They..were initiated into their order by secret and mystic solemnities.

f. Of feelings, passions, thoughts: Not openly avowed or expressed; concealed, disguised; also, in stronger sense, known only to the subject, inward, inmost. Hence said of the heart, soul, etc.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 40 Go follow thame, quha will inconstance leir; Secreit invy [etc.]. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* I. 47–9 Jesus yet declaring..how he knew the thoughts of men, were they neuer so secret. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1065 Nor shall he smile at thee in secret thought. 1602 — *Twel. N.* I. iv. 14, I haue vnclasp'd To thee the booke euen of my secret soule. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xvii. 3 Paraphr. 85 The searcher of the secretest thoughts. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 135, I had a secret joy at the news. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 67 Or Jealousy with rankling tooth, That inly gnaws the secret heart. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 341 My secret groans must be unheard by thee. 1828 SCOTT *Talism.* vii, Holding them in his secret soul little better than the Saracens. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* I. i. § 5 (1875) 19 That the theological party regard Science with so much secret alarm. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, You will all of you execrate Lady Tippins in your secret hearts.

†g. Abstruse, recondite; beyond ordinary apprehension or beyond unaided human intelligence. Of a person or thing: Pertaining to or dealing with mystical or occult matters. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* I. 6 Thou..hast shewed me secrete wysedome. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxix. 72 b, The Pilots (being not as yet acquainted with the secret signification of a spowte)..thought the same to bee a signe of faire weather. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. i. 48 How now you secret, black, & midnight Hags! What is't you do? 1620 — *Temp.* I. ii. 77, I..to my State grew

stranger, being transported And rapt in secret studies. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. iv. (1687) 66/2 Pericles..could easily reduce the exercise of his mind from secret abstrusive things to publick popular causes. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxx. 361 Menante..is very diligent in prying into the very secretest passages of Pernassus. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 3 They took it for granted that those seers dealt in all secret matters. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 325 Such, too, are those more secret operations of bodies, whether magnetic or electric.

h. Of a committee, conclave, etc.: Conducted with secrecy; that keeps its deliberations unknown to the public.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 795 The great Seraphic Lords and Cherubim In close recess and secret conclave sat. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 66 He early suggested to the King the expediency of appointing a secret committee of Roman Catholics.

i. Hidden from sight; not discernible or visible; unseen. Chiefly *poet.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Clifford* 5 Nought so secrete but at length is spied. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 6 b, So by the subtile secret baite the selie beast is taen. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 174 Those that care and keepe your Royall Person From Treasons secret Knife. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 145 Ye Boys, who pluck the Flow'rs, ..Beware the secret Snake that shoots a Sting. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 433 With secret course, which no loud storms annoy, Glides the smooth current of domestic joy. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 369 Some [rills]..down the sloping hills, Winding a secret or an open course. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. xix. 4395 The men..Drew forth their secret steel, and stabbed each ardent youth.

j. *Secret parts*, † *members*: the external organs of sex.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers o' Epigr.* 23 The Stockdoues secrete parts make lumpishe, dull, and dedde: Shunne hym to eate. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 239 *Guil.* Faith, her priuates, we. *Ham.* In the secret parts of Fortune? 1644 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VIII. 101 They causit thair officers..search our bodies and secreitt memberis for witchmarkis. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 12 A Nest of a Bird made like the secret parts of a man.

k. Of a door, chamber drawer, passage, or mechanical contrivance: Designed to escape observation or detection. *Secret ink*: 'invisible' or 'sympathetic' ink.

Hence *secret springer*, one who makes secret springs.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 10 The English..Went through a secret Grate of Iron Barres, In yonder Tower, to ouer-peere the Citie. 1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 110 Secret Pad-Locks. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* liv, Pointing out to her a secret drawer. 1807 CRABBE *Birth of Flattery* 35 But by a secret spring the wall would move. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, Put away in what they call the secret drawers of the desk. 1852 — *Esmond* III. xii, As characters written with secret ink come out with the application of fire. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 667 Secret passages were made from dwelling to dwelling. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Secret-springer*, one who puts in watch-springs. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xlvi, A young 'secret springer', to use the mysterious terms of the trade [*sc.* watch-making].

† l. Of a sound: Little audible. *Obs. rare.*

1670 W. CLARKE *Nitre* 28 Being fired in the open air, it [gunpowder] maketh but a flash, and a more secret noise.

m. Of an agent: That works in secret. Of a person: That is secretly (what is expressed by the sb.).

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 150 A secret and villanous contriuer against mee his naturall brother. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 7 [O that] our first Parents had bin warnd The coming of thir secret foe. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* II. 560 There saw I how the secret Fellon wrought. 1700 — *Sigism. & Guisc.* 46 Resolv'd..to be..A seeming Widow, and a secret Bride. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, Others, who were my secret Enemies, could not forbear some Expressions, which by a side-wind reflected on me.

n. quasi-*adv.* Apart; secretly, in secret. Also *Comb.* with adjs., as *secret-breathed, -stimulating, -tripping.*

1539 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Relig. Houses* (1892) 81 He went to hys chambre, were he callyd me secrett un to hym. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 15 Be secret false: what need she be acquainted? *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 28 Secreit to meit. 1724 EUSDEN *Ovid's Amours* II. v. 12 The secret-tripping Dame. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 1 [Ulysses] Consulting secret with the blue-ey'd Maid. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 410 Nor is thy Life, O Virtue! less in Debt To Praise, thy secret-stimulating Friend. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) III. 156 The secret-breathed prayer. 1820 KEATS *Isabel* xliii, She had devised How she might secret to the forest hie.

† o. *In secret wise*, secretly. (Cf. SECRE *a.* 3 b.)

1563 *Homilies* II. xvii. *Rogation Wk.* I. 232 Only I woulde wyshe your affection inflamed in secrete wyse within your selfe. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 198 The Scottes..in secret wise came downe into the marches of Yorkshire.

2. Of a person: † Reserved or reticent in conduct or conversation (*obs.*); not given to indiscreet talking or the revelation of secrets; silent as to any matter, uncommunicative, close.

c 1440 *Generydes* 720, I haue founde yow..At all tymes full secrete and full trew. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. ii. (1883) 27 That she be secrete and telle not suche thynges as ought to be holden secrete. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xli. 8 Be secreit, trew, incressing of 3our name. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 106 Ormond was secret and drifty. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 60, I am to breake with thee of some affaires..wherein thou must be secret. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 212, I can be secret as a dumbe man. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 96 The Nuncio [commanded] them both to be secret of what had past. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* (Arb.) 508 But if a Man be thought Secret, it inuiteth Discouerie;..as in Confession, the Reuealing is not for worldly vse, but for the Ease of a Mans Heart, so Secret Men come to the Knowledge of Many Things, in that kinde. 1732 FIELDING *Miser* v. xiii, Were I not secret, lud have mercy upon many a virtuous woman's reputation in this town. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxviii, 'My master bid me be secret', said the squire. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. i. 101 Sully was as secret as the grave. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 242 It was in the hands of so few persons, who were all absolutely secret and trustworthy.

absol. 1785 C. WILKINS tr. *Bhagavad-vita* x. 64 Amongst the secret I am silent.

b. *fig.* of silence, night, etc.

1556 *J. de Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* A 8, The secrete silence of the darcke night. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 203 Bring thee Cords..Which..Must be my conuoy in the secret night. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 25 The noonday sun.. Mocking the spoil of the secret night.

† 3. That is entrusted with a person's private or secret affairs; that is a confidant; intimate *with.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. ii. 574 He was receyued worshipfully with suche peple to his semyng as were aboute Quene Queneuer secrete. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 34 b, The fair Myrro and one woman which was secrete with her, departed from thens. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 126 To ane secret man quhilk brocht writtingis to the Kingis grace. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxix. 90 He was secret with y^e duke. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 223 He was more secret with Quene Isabell the kings mother, then was to Gods pleasure or the kings honour. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 201 During the time of his sickenesse there came ..both of his secretest seruants and neerest physitians to see him. 1648 [see PRIVATE *a.* 10].

4. In various specific collocations.

a. Secret Council *Sc.*, the Scottish Privy Council: see COUNCIL *sb.* 7.

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 26 My Lord Governour and Lordis of Secrete Counsel. *c* 1580 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. (*Compl. upon Fortoun*) 205 Sacreit counsell can not be content To suffer lordshippis in equalitie. 1678 FOUNTAINHALL *Hist. Notices* (Bannatyne Club) I. 186 The Secret Councell would have given him ane reprivall.

b. Secret seal = *secre seal*: see SECRE *a.* 2. Also = PRIVY SEAL.

1377–93 [see SECRE *a.* 2]. 1378 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 44/1 Pur Brief, ou lettre de Grant ou Prive Seal, ou del Secret Seal, ou autre mandement. 1445 in *Charters Glasgow* (1906) II. 440 Because I had na sele of myne awn, I have procurit with instance the secrete sele of the burgh of Lithqw to be toput.

c. Secret service. Services rendered to a government, the nature of which cannot be disclosed to the public, but which are paid for from a fund set apart for the purpose. Also *attrib.*, as *secret service fund, money*; *secret-service agent, man*, one employed on secret service by government. Also *transf.*

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 531/2 The prodigious Increase of secret Service Money in the late Reign. 1808 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 256 He would give a sum of 6,000*l.* or 7,000*l.*, out of foreign secret-service. 1809 CANNING *Ibid.* I. 264 The S. S. fund is..for secret services—services that cannot be explained or avowed. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* III. 140 We shall all be blown up in a body—sinecures, rotten boroughs, secret-service men [etc.]. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 189 A large expenditure appeared every year, under the head of secret-service money. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 May 7/3 Secret-service agent Brown took the accused man in charge [at San Francisco]. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 2 Nov. 10/2 One of the chief racing bodies ..has a force of secret-service men to gather information that could never reach the Turf authorities if they sought it as Turf authorities.

d. Secret society, an organization formed to promote some cause by secret methods, its members being sworn to observe secrecy.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxvi, It was countersigned in red ink, with the badges of the Secret Society, a coil of ropes and a drawn dagger...The extent and omnipresence of these Secret Associations. 1874 C. W. HECKETHORN *Secret Societies* 4 Secret societies may be classed under the following heads: 1. Religious...2. Military...3. Judiciary...4. Scientific...5. Civil...6. Political. 1888 A. JOHNSTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 784 A widespread secret society, the 'Ku-Klux-Klan'.

5. *attrib.*, as *secret-natured, -tongued.*

1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 75 When secret-tongued night puts on her mistie sable-coloured vayle. 1728 [FIELDING] *Masquerade* 16 'Tis this, which sets the Chymist on, To search that secret-natur'd Stone.

B. *sb.*

1. Something kept secret.

1. Something unknown or unrevealed or that is known only by initiation or revelation; a mystery; chiefly *pl.*, the hidden affairs or workings (of God Nature, Science, etc.).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 54 Was nevere yet so wys a clerk, Which mihte knowe..the secret which god hath set Ayein a man mai noght be let. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 84 Glorious Philosophers..to whom ys geuyn þe knowynge of secretez of sciencez, þat were hyd to alle men. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 10 That is ane office of ane angel, to revele the secretis of God. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 In the whiche there be innumerable secretes of nature. 1630 DAVENANT *Just Italian* v. i, Jealous Nature hath lock'd her secrets in a Cabinet. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 569 For how shall I..unfold The secrets of another world, perhaps Not lawful to reveal? 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 35 Nature has kept us at a great distance from all her secrets. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xlvii, Many devout ministers and professors in times past had enjoyed downright revelation, like the blessed Peden and Lundie.. wha entered into the secrets. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxi. 18 When Science reaches forth her arms To feel from world to world, and charms Her secret from the latest moon? 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's Nest* § 79 Think of the vain research ..of those who have tried to penetrate the secrets of life, or of its support.

2. In Liturgical use: A prayer or prayers said by the celebrant in a low voice after the Offertory and before the Preface. See SECRETA [1].

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 33 Sche wolde selden come at cherche, and þan unneþ sche wolde abyde þe secretes of þe messe. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 122 And aftur þe fyrste orysoun þer ys an-oþur of gret Renoun þat to þe sowle ys wonþur swete, Menne calle hit þe secrete. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 357/2 Pope Gelasius..appointed that the Priestes should say the Secretes, the Cannon, and the Prefaces with their armes stretched abroad. 1844 *Catholic Weekly Instr.* 86 The prayers called *secrets*, (so called because they are silently offered,) follow, and are a second collect.

3. Some fact, affair, design, action, etc., the knowledge of which is kept to oneself or shared only with those whom it concerns or to whom it has been confided; something that cannot be divulged without violation of a command or breach of confidence. Frequently with an adj. prefixed, esp. as an intensive, as *a dead, entire, profound secret.*

1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* lix. 35 þat no man be so prive with him, forto se þe lettris of thi secretz. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. iii, The shepherd..sayd paye me of that I haue kepte the secrete. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 154 b, Certen Senatours had disclosed their secretes. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 16 There is also one Secretarie..who..knowes all the secret onlie that passeth betwixt the King & the Captain general. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 2 Sir Thurio, giue vs leaue (I pray) a while, We haue some secrets to confer about. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 152 Quhome he..in al his secreitis admitted. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. i. 93 O let me liue, And all the secrets of our campe Ile shew, Their force, their purposes. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 June 1683, Who was now again admitted to the councils and cabinet seacrets. 1701 G. STANHOPE *Augustine's Medit.* II. iv. (1720) 123 The Gift is evident, and is the Giver a secret? 1743 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 20 Nov. (1893) II. 121 Reasons..for keeping it an entire secret. 1805 [see DEAD *a.* 31, PROFOUND *a.* 3 b]. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* v, The monk, in alluding to the secrets of the confessional, had gone a step beyond what the rules of his order..permitted. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. ii. 42 It is an old saying, that wherever there is a secret there must be something wrong. 1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. xi, His writing for the prize poem had been a secret. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. v. 59 He kept his marriage a secret. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 450/2 This device has never been patented, but is a secret. 1890 JEAN MIDDLEMASS *Two False Moves* I. xv. 224 Much that she had heard that day must be kept a dead secret. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxvii. 363 If you were to keep this letter a secret from him.

b. In the Biblical phrase, *the secrets of the* (*one's*) *heart.*

Not in Wyclif, who has 'hid thinges' (Vulg. *abscondita*).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xliv. 21 Shulde not God fynde it out? for he knoweth the very secretes of the hert. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* i. 47–9 Nathanaell..who was perswaded, that the secretes of the hearte was open to god onely. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 306 Thy bosome shall partake The secrets of my Heart. 1635 W. AUSTIN *Medit.* 103 The Secrets of his heart none knowes; but he, that made it.

c. *An open secret*: something which is ostensibly a secret, but which requires little effort or penetration to discover.

1879 F. POLLOCK in W. K. Clifford *Lect.* Introd. I. 1 It is an open secret to the few who know it, but a mystery..to the many, that Science and Poetry are own sisters. 1882 L. STEPHEN *Swift* iv. 74 The mask [of anonymity] was..a sufficient protection against legal prosecution, but in reality covering an open secret.

4. A method or process (of an art, etc.) hidden from all except the initiated.

1486 *Oath of Barber-Surgeons* in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xv. 273 And the secretes and counsell of the same arte, ye shall trewlie kepe and Layne. 1555 EDEN *Decades* Contents, Of certeyne secreates touchynge the arte of saylynge. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) To Rdr., Declaring of diuers waies of planting and Graffyng, ..with shewing of diuers commodities and secrets heerein. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Dec. 1650, An imposter that had like to have impos'd upon us a pretended secret of multiplying gold. 1742 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 97 The balance of power is a secret in politics. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 528 What secret did the Asiatics possess to raise cities so vast and so populous? 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, Our nation..can cure wounds,..and in our own family, in particular, are secrets which have been handed down since the days of Solomon.

† b. Hence, an infallible prescription, a specific.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 24 a, This is a very rare secrete against suche a disease. 1669 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 559/2 It is a Secret against a Gonorrhœa. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. vii. 247 The idea that satiating the servants of the public with wealth is a secret for rendering them honest.

c. (Const. *of.*) That which accounts for something surprising or extraordinary; the essential thing to be observed in order to secure some end.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* II. 121 Few People know the Secret of this. 1846 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 146 The only secret of success is to feel and confess yourself nothing, that God may make you everything. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 58 So strangely were good and evil intermixed in the character of these celebrated brethren; and the intermixture was the secret of their gigantic power.

† 5. A place of concealment; a secret place; a hiding-place, place of retreat. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 268/2 Secrete a prevy place, *reguoy*. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 774 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv, Vpon ane dyke doun was he sett Into a secreit out of sicht. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 24 Into their cloysters now he broken had..And searched all their cels and secrets neare. 1635 W. AUSTIN *Medit.* 103 God himselfe is an invisible Spirit..he hides himselfe in Clowdes, and dwelleth in Secrets.

†**6.** *pl.* = *Secret parts* (see A. 1 j). Also *sing.*

1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxv. 11 Yf..the wyfe put forth hir hande, and take him by the secretes. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* I. 986 Than..thay..maid thame Breikis of leuis grene, That thair secreitis suld nocht be sene. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 34 They..run..starke naked (sauing they haue a cloth before their secrets). 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 73 Their secret hangeth forth more then at other times. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 237 Those..had the secrets of nature..filled with gun-powder, and so blown into ashes. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Bb8, The upper Part of a Woman's Secret.

7. *Antiq.* 'A coat of mail concealed under one's usual dress' (Jam.).

1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 105 With daggis, pistolettis, Jakis, and secreitis of plait. 1600 *Gowrie Conspiracy* D 2 b, The Earle bade him putte on his secret and plaite sleeues, for he had an hey-land man to take. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Treat.* 151 [They] quha sall resort, or repaire within his Majesteis palace,..armed with Iakis, Secreitis, or corsleits, vnder their coats, doublets, or vtherwaies, sallbe apprehended. 1643 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) VI. 43/2 That þej provyde jackes or secreites lances and steill bonnettes and swordes. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv, A short doublet of buff, under which was in some places visible that light shirt of mail which was called a *secret*, because worn instead of more ostensible armour, to protect against private assassination. 1825 — *Talisman* xxviii. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* iv. 1853 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 149, I think it were as well if you wore a secret beneath your ordinary dress.

8. Phrases. **a.** (Properly the adj. used *absol.*) *In secret* [= L. *in secreto*, F. *en secret*]: in private, not openly or in public; secretly. †*At one's secret*: to oneself, privately. †*Of secret*: of a secret character.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. ii. (1883) 28 And thus euery wyf tolde hit to other in secrete. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* h vij, And..the kyng..sayd att his secrete that he myght not be wrothe with his wyf. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* vi. 4 Thy father which seith in secret. [So later versions.] 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 382 Drunkards..kepe nothing in secrete, but..blab abroad in the hearing of all men, whatsoeuer. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 236 One word in secret. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 143 He..passed alongest, but not in such secret but that hee was discouered. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 206, I return'd With tokens thus and thus..: nay some markes Of secret on her person. 1616 CHAPMAN *Musæus* 260 Loose acts done In surest secret: in the open Sunne And euery Market place, will burne thine eares. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 722 My soul shall sigh in secret. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. ii, Some heid she was his wife in secret.

b. (Chiefly in senses 3–4.) *To be in* (rarely †*on*) *the secret*, to be one of the participants in a secret; †*to be of secrets with*, to share the confidence or secrets of (a person); *to let* (a person) *into the secret*, to confide (to him) the secret (*of* an affair, trade); hence *slang* (see quots. *a* 1700 [2], 1801); *to make a secret of* (something), to make (it) a matter of concealment, to keep (it) to oneself.

1535 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 228 We have in warde,.. Dam Jenet Ewstace, which was thErle of Kildares aunt, and most of secrets with him. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) 28 Even those who were on the secret, and saw him in these shapes, could perceive nothing by which he might be discovered. 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* II. i, It's a good trade..: let a lad be but diligent, and do what he's bid, he shall be let into the secret, and share part of the profits. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 July 1674, In a short time let him so into the secret of affaires, that [etc.]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Secret, let into the Secret*, when one is drawn in at Horse-racing, Cock-fighting, Bowling, and other Sports or Games, and *Bit*. 1703 (see LET *v.*[1] 11 a (d)]. 1724 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 79 Before I was let into the Secret, as 'tis called, which is indeed nothing but the knavish Part of the Sport [of Horseracing]. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* I. 29 You may make a Secret of it, but we can spell, and put together. 1801 NELSON *Let.* in *Sotheby's Catal.* 15 June 1897, 17 As I am not in the secret, and feel I have a right to speak out. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 453 James, who had from the first been in the secret of his brother's foreign politics. 1885 MAY PRARD *Near Neighbours* II. i. 18 Nor had he made the least secret of his intention to use all means to hold her.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (objective) *secret-keeper, -monger*; **secret-graph** (*nonce-wd.*), a code for communicating secrets.

1799 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* III. 329 Instruct ladies to form a perfect *secret-graph by the arrangement of Patches. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (ed. 3) II. 273 Thou has the Air of a *Secret-keeper of that sort. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 56 Earth, the secret keeper of birth and of death. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 257, A selfish *secret-monger. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 38 Itinerant empyrics and secret-mongers.

†**II. 10.** A private counsellor, secret adviser. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* lxviii. (1533) 25 b/2 When he [*sc.* Constantyne] awoke he called this vysyon to mynde, and tolde vnto his secretes, by whose counsayll he commaunded the sygne of the crosse to be..set in his baners.

†**Se·cret,** *v. Obs.* [f. SECRET *sb.*

In the inflected forms it is not easy to distinguish between *secret* and SECRETE *v.*]

trans. To keep secret, conceal, hide.

1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 25 Your loues, I thinke, can pardon these faltes, and secret them from the vewe of others. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 21 A large chart..which I shall most humbly pray your Lo. to secret, and not to suffer it to passe your own hands. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 398 Things that hee [God] hath pleased to secret vnto himselfe. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* (Arb.) 506 If a Man..can discerne, what Things are to be laid open, and what to be secretted. 1693 W. FREKE *Sel. Ess.* xxvi. 155 The seueral Methods of Secreting our Sense in writing. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. i. § xvi. (1740) 23 Can any Thing but a Monster in common Sense argue ..that the Earl intended to secret the Sense of his Words.

Hence **Se·creting** *vbl. sb.*

1616 BACON *Adv. to Villiers* Wks. 1872 VI. 41 There is great care to be used for the councillors themselves to be well chosen, so there is of the clerks of the council, for the secreting of their consultations.

‖ **Secreta**[1] (sĭkrī·tă). Pl. **secretæ.** *Eccl.* [eccl.L. *sēcrēta* (sc. *ōrātio*), fem. of L. *sēcrētus* SECRET *a.*] = SECRET *sb.* 2.

1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 95 The Prayers called the Secreta, which correspond to the Collects of the Day, and are different every Day. 1859 NEALE *Liturgies S. Mark*, etc. p. xxvi *note*, While the *secreta* is being said. 1899 *Lutheran* (Philad.) 6 Apr. 325 The prolonged *secretae* of the priests.

‖ **Secre·ta**[2], *pl.* [Lat.; neut. pl. of pa. pple. of *sēcernĕre*: see SECERN, SECRETE.] Secreted matters; the products of secretion. Cf. EXCRETA.

1877 CHAMBERS in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 209/2 The actual amount of those elements in the dried solids of the secreta.

Secretage (sī·krĕtĕdʒ). [a. F. *secrétage*, f. *secréter*, SECRETE *v.*[3] and -AGE.] A process of preparing furs for felting: see quot. 1835. Also *attrib.*

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. II. i. 131 The furs of hares..cannot be employed alone for felting, without having undergone a previous operation which is called secretage. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 129 The furs of the hare, the rabbit, and the castor, being naturally straight, cannot be employed alone for felting, till they have acquired a curling texture at their points, by the application of nitrate of mercury,—an artifice called secretage. 1839 — *Dict. Arts* 811 The nitrate of mercury is employed for the secretage of rabbit and hare-skins. 1866 COOLEY *Toilet* 481 Secretage Liquid, Permanent Curling Fluid. 1880 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 518/2.

†**Secretaire**[1]. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 secretare, 6 secreatore, secretore. [a. F. *secrétaire.* Cf. SECRETAR.] = SECRETARY.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 31 Fulfild of Slowthes essamplaire Ther is yit on, his Secretaire, And he is cleped Negligence. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 25 Maister Aleyn Chareter..secretaire to Charlys le bien amée [*sic*]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 210 Thenne sayd the secretare, 'Sire, your commaundemente shall be doon.' 1530 PALSGR. 35 The letters missyves of suche as be secreatores in the sayd countreis. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 46 Gardner secretore un to the byshoppe of Wynchester.

‖ **Secretaire**[2] (sɔkrĕtē·r). [F. *secrétaire*: see SECRETARY 5.] A piece of furniture, usually cabinet-shaped, in which private papers can be kept, with a shelf for writing on, and drawers and pigeon-holes; a bureau.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlix, A cracked brown cann, with a piece of leather tied over the top. Its contents seemed to be written papers, thrust in disorder into this uncommon *secrétaire*. 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 321/2 Description of an improved method of constructing large Secretaires and Writing-tables. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *House by Works* II. 119 Kate turned to her little secretaire and touched the spring of a secret place.

Se·cretar. *Sc.* Also 6 secretare, 6–7 secreter. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Sc. variant of SECRETARY: see -AR[2].]

1. = SECRETARY 2.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 126 He..Bad send for his secretar, and his sele sone. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 122 Alsua deliverit to him be the secretar in Falkland lettrez to the bischopis. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 547 The Lordis Regentis..ordanis the Secretare..to pas and direct seybrevis in dew and competent forme..to Sir Williame Murray..and Sir William Kirkcaldy. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 448 Quhom we cal the Queines secretar. 1643–4 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 107 Quhen the Erll of Kingorne, minister and secreter, wer maid burgessis, 1 lib. 13s. 4d.

2. = SECRETARY 1.

1619 A. SIMSON in *Select Biog.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 79 He was a faithfull secretar...He said if he thought he should reveall any secret he would wish his tongue cutted out.

Secretarial (sekrĭtē·riăl), *a.* [ad. L. type **sēcrētāriāl-is*, f. med.L. *sēcrētārius* SECRETARY: see -AL.] Of or pertaining to a secretary or secretaries.

1801 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 362 Mr. Rose promised..to place it with his own secretarial hands..on..the table of Mr. Pitt. 1851 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 244, I would like to have a talk with you about the secretarial duties. 1897 FLOR. MARRYAT *Blood of Vampire* xi, Mr. Milliken would be much occupied with secretarial work.

b. Of type: = SECRETARY *sb.*[1] 4.

1864 PANIZZI in *Fine Arts Q. Rev.* II. 183 M. Francesco da Bologna..has devised a new form of letter, called cursive or secretarial.

†**Secreta·rian,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. med.L. *sēcrētāri-us* SECRETARY + -AN.] = prec.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 5 (1740) 33 We may observe in his Book in most Years, a Catalogue of Preferments, with Dates and Remarks, which latter, by the Secretarian Touches, shew out of what Shop he had them. *Ibid.* I. iii. § 37. 144 These false Glosses built upon certain Secretarian Expressions in Coleman's Letters. 1802 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 175, I do not receive livery and seisin of the secretarian pen till we reach London.

Secretariat(e (sekrĭtē·riăt, -ĕt). [a. F. *secrétariat*, ad. med.L. *sēcrētāriāt-us* the office of a secretary, f. *sēcrētārius* SECRETARY: see -ATE[1].] The office or official position of secretary; the body or department of secretaries; the place where a secretary transacts business, preserves records, etc.

a. 1811 WELLINGTON *Let. to C. Stuart* 12 Jan. in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VII. 97, I conduct the operations of the Portuguese army as Marshal General, without any reference to the Secretariat. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 116 A series of letters to the Secretariat at Bombay. 1861 MONEY *Java* I. 238 The Secretariat.—The Governor-General is further assisted by a Secretary-General, who has under him three secretaries of Government, and a large staff of clerks. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Nov. 8/2 The vacancy in the secretariat of the British and Foreign Bible Society. 1908 LD. ROBERTS in Lee-Warner *Mem. Sir H. W. Norman* 310 After the mutiny his career took him to the Military Secretariat.

β. 1858 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) II. 345 Before the beginning of the present century Montaigne's Secretariate to the Queen had become an accredited event. 1910 *Guardian* 22 Apr. 568/3 Claudius..is regarded as the puppet of dissolute wives and insolent freedmen, not the shrewd organiser of a new Imperial Exchequer and secretariate.

Secretary (se·krĭtări), *sb.*[1] (and *a.*). Forms: 4–7 secretarie, 5– -airye, (SOCIETRARY), 5–6 secretarye, -ory, -orie, (6 *Sc.* secrittary), 5– secretary. [ad. med.L. *sēcrētārius* a secretary, notary, scribe, etc., a title applied to various confidential officers (properly an *adj.*), f. *sēcrēt-um* SECRET *sb.*: see -ARY[1] B. 1. (The equivalent late Latin title was *ā sēcrētīis.*) Cf. F. *secrétaire* (whence SECRETAIRE, SECRETAR), Pr. *secretari*, Sp., Pg. *secretario*, It. *secretario, segretario.*] **A.** *sb.*

†**1.** One who is entrusted with private or secret matters; a confidant; one privy *to* a secret. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 387 þanne his secretarie [L. *secretarius*] tolde hym what he hadde i-seie and i-doo. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* cvi, At þe leste he he to þe trewe secretary, no þinge addand, no letiland, in þinges þat þou sendys hym. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xl. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 88 Takyng wyth hym hys þre specyall secretaryes þat is to say petyre and james and john. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Secretary, manne of privyte (*v. r.* of priui counsel), *secretarius.* *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliii. 171 (Harl. MS.), There come to him [the Emperor] a Secretarie, þat was nye of his counseill. 1451 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* xxiii. 97 For to þat pryuyte he desyred no moo secretaries but God and seyntis. 1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 190 She..that was the secretarie of hir infortunate marriage. 1590 LODGE *Rosalynde* (1592) N 2 b, Reueale it she durst not, as daring in such matters to make none her secretarie. 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xii. 75 Raphe tells all, you shall haue a good secretarie of him. 1665 R. BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 114 This Wife of Bath was too full of Chinks to be a good Secretary. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvi, My good woman,..a faithful secretary to her sex's foibles.

†**b.** *fig.* of things personified. *Obs.*

1587 GREENE *Euph. Cens.* (1634) D 1, For they knew if ever (as time is a bad Secretary) their adulterous practises should come to the eares of Polumestor, a worse mishap then death should be allotted for their ingratefull mischiefe [etc.]. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. ii. 12 The night, sad secretary to my mones. 1615 DANIEL *Hymen's Tri.* IV. i. Wks. 1718 I. 131 Yonder spreading Beech Which often hath the Secretary been To my sad Thoughts. 1648 CHAS. I *Let.* 31 July *Wks.* (1662) I. 350 Lest it may be imagined that desire of Liberty should now be the only Secretary to My thoughts.

†**c.** Applied to those entrusted with the secrets or commands of God, or of a god. *Obs.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 209 The mercifull God..commaunded his secretarie Abraham to build him an house in Mecca. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. i. 1 Their Priests, whom they [the Britons] accounted the onely Secretaries that God had on earth. 1657 HEYLIN *Eccl. Vind.* II. iii. § 14. 164 There was no order and command of Moses, or of any other of Gods Secretaries. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 210 Thoth, the secretary of Osiris.

transf. 1644 MILTON *Reas. Ch. Govt.* II. Pref. 41 But were it the meanest under-service, if God by his Secretary conscience injoyn it, it were sad for me if I should draw back.

d. *Secretary of Nature*: one acquainted with the secrets of Nature.

This doubtless originally belonged to sense 2, being suggested by the title γραμματεὺς τῆς φύσεως, applied (in Suidas) to Aristotle; but in the following examples the word is taken in its etymological sense.

1580 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* B iij b, The soundest Philosophers in deede, and very deepest Secretaries of Nature, holde..an other assertion. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 80, I cannot but maruel that among al these secretaries of nature, there haue neuer byn found any which haue enterprised to search out the essence and perfect nature of loue. 1635 H. VALENTINE *Foure Sea-Sermons* 24 It is reported of Aristotle that great Secretary of Nature, that [etc.]. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 19 Solinus, and other Secretaries of nature. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 29 Solomons wisdom..made him natures secretary.

2. One whose office it is to write for another; esp. one who is employed to conduct correspondence, to keep records, and (usually) to transact various other business, for another person or for a society, corporation, or public body.

In early use applied almost solely to the officer who conducted the correspondence of a king; app. often employed with some mixture of the etymological sense 1.

Private secretary: a secretary employed by a minister of state or other high official for the personal correspondence connected with his official position; also applied to a secretary in the employ of a particular person (as distinguished from the secretary to a society, etc.).

Secretary of embassy or *legation*: an official of an embassy or diplomatic mission ranking next to the ambassador or envoy, and empowered to some extent to supply his place in his absence.

14.. *Sir Beues* (ed. Kölbing) 58/2 (MS. C) Kyng Armyne.. cawsyd hys secretory a lettyr to make. 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund* III. 163 Burchardus..That of seyn Fremund whilom was secretarye. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 317/2 For the Office of oure Secretarie of Fraunce. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 167 My mastyre paid to the Kynges secretory, for makenge of a lettre fro the Kynge into Wales, for my lord, vj. s. viij. d. *a* 1500 *Assembly of Ladies* 553 Tak these billës to the secretary. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxxxvi. (1811) 186 The Kynge was aboute to delyuer this letter to his scribe or secretory. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* Pref. 1 Whiche boke was fyrst written in the Greke tonge by his secretarie named Eucolpius. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 338 *marg.*, He meaneth the Byshop of Yorke, to whom this Burbanco was secretarie. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 116 Cardinall, Prethee call Gardiner to me, my new Secretary. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Secretary*, one that is employ'd in Writing Letters, Dispatches, &c. for a Prince, Nobleman, or particular Society: Also one that attends upon an Ambassadour, Envoy, or Resident for that purpose. The *King's Secretaries*, certain Officers that Sign the Dispatches of the Seal; also the Clerks of the King's Chamber and Closet. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 424 The secretary of legation to that city. 1819 *Hermit in London* II. 186 We have quill-drivers termed secretaries to such and such a firm. 1821 (*title*) The Secretary's Assistant; exhibiting the various and most correct modes of Superscription, Commencement and Conclusion of Letters to Persons of every degree of Rank. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xvi, Nicholas wanted to know whether there was any such post as secretary to a gentleman to be had. 1845 *Philol. Soc. Trans.* I. 6 The Rules drawn up for the regulation of the Secretary were then read by the Secretary. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, The Secretary of the Treasury's antechamber. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 64 One letter her secretary could not answer for her.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. viii. § 9. 49 b, The Apostles wer y^e^ certaine & authentike secretaries [L. *amanuenses*] of the Holy ghost. 1591 NASHE *Pref. to Sidney's Astrophel*, Fayre sister of Phœbus, and eloquent secretary to the Muses, most rare Countesse of Pembroke. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. ii. 364 Charles knew well that Necessity, her Secretary, endited her speech for her. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* VI. i. (1848) 341 Those orders of hers, in which she employ'd not Rhetorick for her Secretary, could not be so much as listen'd to, much less obey'd.

†**c.** One who writes (on a particular occasion) for another. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 9 Words to court her you shall not want, for my selfe will be your Secretary.

†**d.** One skilled in letter-writing. *Obs.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Chron. Irel.* 160/2 in *Holinshed*, The gouernor, who was a verie good secretarie, and could pen a letter verie excellentlie well, did draw a letter.

†**e.** In the titles of books on the art of letter-writing. *Obs.*

1586 A. DAY (*title*) The English Secretorie. Wherein is contayned a perfect method for the inditing of all manner of Epistles and familiar letters, etc. 1715 (*title*) A new Academy of complements; or the Lover's Secretary..in divers examples of writing and inditing letters.

3. In the official designations of certain ministers presiding over executive departments of state.

The occurrence of the title '(Principal) Secretary of State (†Estate)' under Queen Elizabeth may be taken as indicating the beginning of the development by which the king's secretary (in sense 2) became a minister invested with governing functions. Throughout the 17th c. there were two officials jointly holding the office of Secretary of State, and in the 18th c. the number varied between two and three; till near the close of this period the two (or two of the three) were distinguished as 'Principal Secretary of State for the Southern Province' and 'Principal Secretary of State for the Northern Province', with reference to the division between them of the control of foreign relations (see quot. 1755); but with regard to internal administration no division of functions was formally recognized. At the end of the 18th c. there were three Secretaries of State, and shortly afterwards the division of functions between them was recognized in their official designation, as 'Secretary of State for Home Affairs', 'for Foreign Affairs', and 'for the Colonies'. In 1854 a Secretary of State for War was added, and 1858 a Secretary of State for India. The Secretaries of State are often more briefly called the Home Secretary, the Foreign Secretary, the Colonial Secretary, the Secretary for War, the Secretary for India. The Chief Secretary for Ireland (officially styled the Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, and informally the Irish Secretary), and the Secretary for Scotland (first appointed in 1885) are not secretaries of state, but have similar functions, and are (now) members of the cabinet. The Secretary at War (down to 1855, when the office was united with that of the Secretary of State for War) was the parliamentary representative of the army, and had some degree of control over its finance.

In the U. S., the Secretary of State corresponds approximately to the British Foreign Secretary. Other cabinet ministers, heads of executive departments, are the Secretary of the Treasury, of War, of the Navy, of the Interior, of Agriculture. Each state of the Union has also its Secretary of State (or a corresponding officer with some other title).

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 175 (transl. of Italian letter) Our Secretarie of estate. 1601 in Rymer *Foedera* (1715) XVI. 421 Sir Robert Cecill Knighte our Principall Secretarie. 1603 *Ibid.* 497 The Right Honorable Sir Robert Cecyll Knight Principall Secretary to her Majestie. 1620 *Ibid.* XVII. 212 Sir Robert Naunton Knight one of our principall Secretaries of State. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 20, I now come to the next, which was Secretary William Cecil. 1641 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 141 The two Secretaries of State (who were not in those days officers of that magnitude they have been since, being only to make Dispatches upon the conclusion of Councils, not to govern, or preside in those Councils) were S^r^ John Coke.. and S^r^ Dudley Carleton. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 175 Mr. Clerk, secretary at war. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Jan., I will speak to George Granville, Secretary at War, to make him a captain. 1755 *Chamberlayne's St. Gt. Britain* (ed. 38) I. 85 Secretaries of State. ..The Correspondence with all Parts of Great Britain is, without Distinction, managed by either of the Secretaries... But as for the Foreign Affairs, all the Nations..are by them divided into Two Provinces, the Northern, and Southern; of which the Northern is usually under the Junior Secretary, and contains Scandinavia, &c. The Southern under the Senior, and contains Flanders, France, &c. At present (Anno 1752) the Case is just the Reverse. 1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 368 Lord Hillsborough, secretary of state for the colonies. 1863 *Act* 26 & 27 *Vict.* c. 12 § 1 From and after the passing of this Act the Office of Secretary at War shall be..abolished. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (ed. 3) II. 72 *note*, According to the practice which was in force up to the summer of 1854, the Secretary of State for the Colonies was also the 'Secretary of War'... In peace-time (thanks to the labours of the 'Horse Guards', the office of the Secretary *at* War, the Ordnance, and several other offices) the duties of the Colonial Secretary, in his character as Secretary of War, were very slight.

b. *Mr. Secretary*: used before the name of a secretary of state, or as a title instead of his name. Now only *official* and *Hist.*

1576 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 42 Mr. Secretary. Mr. Threasurer. Mr. Comptroller. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 1 [*Scene*, A Councell Table...Cromwell at lower end, as Secretary.] *Chan.* Speake to the businesse, M. Secretary; Why are we met in Councell? 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Aug., On Saturday I go to Windsor with Mr. Secretary. 1760 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1861) VI. 243 A letter from Mr. Secretary Pitt. 1911 *Times* 23 Feb. 15/5 The Speaker asked who were prepared to bring in the Bill. *Mr. Asquith.* —The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Secretary Churchill, Mr. Secretary Haldane, Mr. Pease, the Attorney-General, and myself.

4. Short for *secretary hand*, *type*: see B.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 42 The character itself was a rude old Gothic mixed with Secretary. 1778 MORES *Dissert.* 4 And first Mr Caxton—his letter originally was of the sort called Secretary. 1784 ASTLE *Orig. Writ.* v. 146 In the sixteenth century, the English lawyers engrossed their conveyances and legal instruments in characters called Secretary, which are still in use.

5. A writing-desk, a secretaire.

After F. *secrétaire*, prob. a transferred use; cf. however SECRETARY *sb.*[2]

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 2096 Writing-Tables, or Secretaries. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* I. 2 An old secretary, in which my father had kept his private papers. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 227 My first thought was for this money, so I hurried to get the key of the secretary in which it was.

6. The secretary-bird (see 7).

1781 tr. *Sonnerat's Voy. Spice-Isl.* 19 The Secretary, with a crest down back of the neck. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 144/1 When the tree fell, out from its nest rolled a young secretary.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*secretary-craft*, †*desk*, *-interpreter*, *-office*; **secretary-** (†**secretaries**) **bird**, a raptorial bird of South Africa, *Serpentarius secretarius*; said to be so called from a tuft of feathers at the back of the head which have a fanciful resemblance to pens stuck behind the ear; also called *secretary-falcon*, *-vulture*; **secretary-general** (see quots.).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 236/2 *Secretaries bird, ..classed by Latham under the genus Vultur. 1824 *Goldsmith's Nat. Hist.* III. Index, Secretary-bird devours serpents. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 611 The Secretary Bird (*Serpentarius secretarius*,..) has a widely-opening bill, very crooked and very powerful. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* (1662) II. 75 None alive did better ken the *Secretary Craft, to get Counsels out of others, and keep them in himself. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Eight fashionable *secretary desks. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) II. 185 An engagement between the *Secretary Falcon and a serpent. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3713/3 The Sieur de Capistron, *Secretary-General of the French Galleys. 1861 [see SECRETARIAT]. 1904 SLADEN *Lovers in Japan* II. xii, The *Secretary-Interpreter at the Legation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xl, We will..place the boy in our *Secretary-office. 1781 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* I. i. 20 *Secretary Vulture.

B. *adj.* As the distinctive epithet of a style of handwriting used chiefly in legal documents from the 15th to the 17th c. Hence applied to a kind of black-letter type imitating this.

1571 DE BEAU CHESNE & BAILDON (*title*) A booke containing divers sortes of hands, as well the English as French Secretarie, with the Italian, Roman, Chancelry & court hands. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1370/2 One written in the secretarie hand..and the other in the Roman hand. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 41 The Secretarie small a, hath six partes before it bee made uppe. 1649 DR. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i, Papers defild with court hand and long dashes or secretary lines, that straddle, more then Frenchmen. 1705 WANLEY *MSS.* in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2000 Like as many Antient People, who do yet continue to write the Roman and Secretary Hands, which were more fashionable 50 or 60 years ago, than now. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 86 The French is printed in a secretary character. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 127 Don't you see, by the setness of some of these letters, and a little secretary cut here and there,..that it is the hand of a person bred in the law way? 1845 BLACK *Catal. Ashm. MSS.* 104 The other MS. contained in this volume was written in the time of Q. Elizabeth, in the secretary-hand. 1877 F. C. PRICE *Facsimiles Caxton, Memoir*, When Caxton started in England his whole stock of type consisted of two founts, a church or text type and a secretary type.

†**Secretary**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* Also **secretorie**. [ad. late L. *sēcrētārium*, f. *sēcrētum*: see -ARY[1] B. 2.] A secret chamber or repository. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 323 Saynt Martyn..went in-to his secretorie & doffid his cote. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Secretary, or place in privy councelle (*v. r.* place of privyte or counceel), *secretarium*. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xliii. 114 Þou owist to fle into be secretary of þin herte, bisechinge inwardly þe helpe of god.

Secretaryship (se·krĭtărĭʃip). [f. SECRETARY *sb.*[1] + -SHIP.]

†**1.** The duties of a secretary. Also (cf. SECRETARY *sb.*[1] 2 d), skill or practice in letter-writing.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 44 He may be able to do servyce in the faict of secretarishype. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 8 A fine-witted man,..with a nimble dexterity of liuely conceite, and exquisite secretaryship. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* Ded. ¶ 2 Wise parly and communication giues the vent and easie flow, and secretariship the sale. *Ibid.* 83 As though they alone were Italian *Magnificoes* and great Turkes for secretariship.

2. The office of secretary.

1550 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* 6 Sept. *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) 292 Mr. Wotton gave his secretaryship, and Mr. Cicil toke it. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. III. 321 He has confirm'd..Monsignour Piccolomini in his Secretaryship of the Memorials. 1711 SWIFT *Let. to Stella* 19 Apr., Little Harrison the Tatler goes to-morrow to the secretaryship I got him at the Hague. 1796 LD. GRENVILLE in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 109 This appointment will vacate the secretaryship of Embassy at Madrid. 1809 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 402 The Secretaryship-at-War was offered to him. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 150/2 Mr. Burton had expressed a wish to retire from the secretaryship [of a hunt]. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 27/2 In 1858, ..a Secretaryship of State for India was established.

†**Secrete**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sēcrēt-us*, pa. pple. of *sēcernĕre*: see next.] Separated.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 307 Numenius and others of the Platonists speak..supposing Two other Divine Hypostases..which were perfectly Secrete from Matter. *Ibid.* 582 This so containeth all things, as not being yet secrete and distinct.

Secrete (sĭkrī·t), *v.*[1] *Phys.* [f. L. *sēcrēt-*, ppl. stem of *sēcernĕre* to separate: see SECERN. Suggested by SECRETION, from which it might be regarded as derived by back-formation. Cf. F. *sécréter* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *secretar.*]

1. *trans.* To produce by means of secretion.

1707 [see SECRETED *ppl. a.*[1]]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Animal Secretion* is the Act whereby the divers Juices of the Body are secreted or separated from the common Mass of Blood, by means of the Glands. 1800 E. DARWIN *Phytol.* vi. 72 They [*sc.* glands] secrete, that is, separate or produce, some fluid from the blood; as bile, saliva, urine, milk. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 6 That part of their integument which contains the viscera and secretes the shell, is termed the mantle. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Fl.* I. 22 The flowers of the Cowslip..secrete plenty of nectar.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1863 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) II. 172 If you won't believe my great new doctrine..that souls secrete their bodies, as snails do shells, you will remain in outer darkness. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy*, etc. 29 Old gold has a civilizing virtue which new gold must grow old to be capable of secreting.

2. *intr.* To perform the act of secretion.

1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* v. 132 Making the cells secrete just as a nerve when stimulated makes a muscle contract. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 100 Those delicate, ..umbrella-like scales..secrete on their upper surface.

Secrete (sĭkrī·t), *v.*[2] [Alteration of SECRET *v.*, after L. *sēcrētus* SECRET *a.*]

1. *trans.* To place in concealment, to hide out of sight, to keep secret.

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* IV. iv. II. 109 The common Opinion that the Egyptians invented Hieroglyphics to secrete their profound Wisdom. 1768 LADY M. COKE *Jrnl.* 11 July (1889) II. 310 Jane was secreted while the Princess was with me. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* III. ii, How had Sibyll dared to secrete from him this hoard. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 74 [It] may be secreted for untold ages in subterranean reservoirs.

b. *refl.*

1764 HARMER *Observ.* XVIII. ii. 79 It appears too that her tent was a much safer place than any other in that encampment in which to secrete himself. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Cinnamon & Pearls* I. 5 No shady creek into which a skiff might glide and secrete itself. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 160 A certain French lady..having fallen in love with the said captain, had secreted herself on board the vessel.

2. To remove secretly, to appropriate (the possessions of another) in a secret manner.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. xiii, The secreting of the 500 l. was a matter of very little hazard; whereas the detaining the sixteen guineas was liable to..discovery. 1783 BURKE *Rep. Aff. India* Wks. II. 265 Not the least hint, that he was delivering back to the Company money of their own, which he had secreted from them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 58 There the bankrupt was taught how he might, without sin, secrete his goods from his creditors.

Secrete, *v.*[3] *Hat-manuf.* [a. F. *secréter*, f. *secret* SECRET *sb.* (in the sense of 'secret process').] *trans.* To subject to the process of SECRETAGE.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 947 After the hairs are properly *secreted*, they are..shorn off by a machine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Secreting*, a process by which the hairs of hare and rabbit skins are rendered fit for felting.

Secrete, obs. form of SECRET *sb.* and *a.*

Secreted (sĭkrī·tĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SECRETE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Produced by means of secretion.

1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 57 The Mass of Blood is chiefly Chyle, chang'd and mix'd with these secreted

Humours. 1800 E. DARWIN *Phytol.* vi. 80 Every other secreted fluid in the animal body is in part absorbed again into the system. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 413 Diuretics are also administered for the purpose of producing a large flow from the kidneys, so as to enable the secreted urine to hold in solution substances which would otherwise crystallise.

Secreted (sĭkrī·tĕd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SECRETE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Concealed, hidden.

1756 AMORY *J. Buncle* (1770) I. 259 Yet it is the small secreted spring that directs, draws, checks, and gives movement to every weight and wheel. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XI. 141 Not in Utopia,—subterranean fields,—Or some secreted island, Heaven knows where!

Secretee, obs. form of SECRECY.

‖ Se·cretement, *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [OF. *secretement*, f. *secret* SECRET *a.*] Secretly.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cc. ii, Then the kyng, him fast to Langley sent There in the Freers to be buryed secretement.

† Secre·ter. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SECRETE *v.*[2] + -ER [1].] One who conceals or hides away.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 184 The gentleman having detected the secreters of the dog..obliged them to give to this charity the money they had received.

† Se·cretine. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *secretin.*] A sacristan.

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 264 In which Church there was one which attended vpon these holy Martyrs..the Secretine.

Secreting (sĭkrī·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SECRETE *v.*[1] + -ING 2.] That secretes.

1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 81 High inflammation would only throw out coagulable lymph even on a secreting surface. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* s. v. *Carpellum.* The midrib extended and expanded to a due length and thickness forms the style, and its 'denuded, secreting, and humid apex', forms the stigma. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 179 On the Secreting and Excreting Organs, with the exception of the skin, the effect of opium is to lessen their activity. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 740 The cysts arise from hypertrophy of the secreting part of the sweat-glands.

Secretion (sĭkrī·ʃən). [a. F. *sécrétion*, ad. L. *sēcrētiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sēcernĕre* to separate, secrete: see SECERN *v.* Cf. Sp. *secrecion*, Pg. *secreção*, It. *secrezione.*]

1. *Phys.* In an animal or vegetable body, the action of a gland or some analogous organ in extracting certain matters from the blood or sap and elaborating from them a particular substance, either to fulfil some function within the body or to undergo excretion as waste.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xiii. 137 It cannot bee called their urine; not onely because they want those parts of secretion; but because it is emitted aversly or backward, by both sexes. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Secretion*, is the separation of one Fluid from another in the Body of an Animal or Vegetable, by the means of Glands or something analogous to them. 1727 P. BLAIR *Misc. Observ.* (1718) 12 Its being converted into Chyle and under-going the several Secretions throughout the Body. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* II. xii. (ed. 3) 372 Of Digestion, Respiration, and Secretion. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 18 This process of secretion varies in character.

attrib. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 128 Intercellular spaces and secretion reservoirs. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 34 Naunyn..concludes then, that the cholesterin of the bile is neither a product of general metabolism nor a specific secretion product of the liver.

2. *concr.* That which is produced by the action of a secreting organ.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments, Rules of Diet* 271 The Blood may be cleansed..perhaps better by Urine than any other Secretion. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 433 The solids and fluids, thus produced, are sometimes elaborated by complicated organs called glands, and are then termed secretions. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 222 A passage through which the peculiar secretions may, when elaborated, arrive at the stations where they are finally to be deposited. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vii. 177 The milky secretion from a small frog or toad. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 568 When pollination takes place it [the Stigma] is covered with a viscid secretion.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* iii. 12 Poetry is a natural or morbid Secretion from the Brain. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise of Chimney-Sweepers*, So may thy culinary fires, eased of the o'ercharged secretions from thy worse-placed hospitalities, curl up a lighter volume to the welkin. 1873 SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* VI. 139 There have come down to us, from a long extinct race of men, those actual secretions of their daily life, which furnish colouring matter for a picture of them.

† 3. In etymological sense: **a.** Separation. **b.** *Philos.* (= Gr. *ἀνάφυσις.*) Giving off of particles.

1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Open.* 58 The Extrusion of the Poor Refugies was only an Act of Secretion By Him who has his Fan in his hand, who..dispersed them abroad, not for their Ruine but their Safety. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 5. 8 Generation and Corruption may be sufficiently explained by Concretion and Secretion, or Local Motion, without Substantial Forms and Qualities.

4. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iv. (1885) 96 In a true concretion, the material at the centre has been deposited first, and has increased by additions from without.. Where, on the other hand, cavities..have been filled up by the deposition of materials on their walls, and gradual growth inward, the result is known as a secretion.

Hence **Secre·tional, Secre·tionary** *adjs.*, pertaining to secretion.

1877 BENNETT *Thomé's Bot.* 224 But diseases are also caused through the influence of the soil, depending on an abnormal transformation of those substances out of which the tissue of the plant is constructed. These constitute what are called *secretional diseases.* 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 447 *Secretionary*, a term used to express a growth from without inwards, in contradistinction to *concretionary.*

Secretious (sĭkrī·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *sēcrētiōn-em* SECRETION + -IOUS. Cf. *captious.*] Characterized by, or having the nature of secretion.

1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 151 When the Pulse runs too high..all the Evacuations of the secretious Humours are very violent. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Path.* 111 Generally possessing a secretious calcareous covering.

† Se·cretist. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SECRET *a.* or *sb.* + -IST. Cf. F. *secrétiste* (18th c. in Littré).] One who has special skill in any matter or special or private information.

1661 BOYLE *Cert. Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 35 Those Secretists that will not part with one Secret but in Exchange for another.

† Secreti·tious, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *sĕcrēt-* (see SECRETE *v.*) + -ITIOUS [2].] Produced by secretion.

1696 FLOYER *Humours* Pref., They frequently have a Similitude or contrariety to the Secretitious Humours in taste and Quality.

Secretive (sĭkrī·tiv), *a.* Also 5 secretife. [In 15th c. f. SECRET *a.* + -IVE. In mod. use, a back-formation from SECRETIVENESS; but apprehended as f. SECRETE *v.* + -IVE.]

† 1. = SECRET *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. (Used for rime.)

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVIII. ii, In chambre priuey and secretife [*rime-word* wife].

2. Of persons, their feelings, habits, etc.: Addicted or inclined to secrecy; reticent; not frank or open.

1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* ix, These things, contrary to her custom, and even nature—for she was not secretive—were most sedulously kept out of sight for a time. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 99/2 She was a shy, secretive maid. 1908 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 30 So secretive is this tribe that my patient inquiries have not even elicited their true name.

b. *transf.* of things. Also of looks, etc.: Indicating secretiveness.

1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 311 O'er his dark face there flitted A secretive smile. 1866 THORNBURY *Greatheart* I. 320 There was something secretive and sad about the sites of the graves. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 40 The evening lamps look yellower by contrast with the snow, and give the windows that hearty look of which our secretive fires have almost robbed them. 1892 'MERRIMAN' *Slave of Lamp* vii, The Citizen Morot raised his secretive eyes.

3. Serving to conceal. *rare.*

1830 I. TAYLOR *Unitar.* 82 The pews.., secretive in their intention.

Secretiveness (sĭkrī·tivnĕs). [Formed after F. *secrétivité* (Phrenology; Gall, 1808), f. *secret* SECRET; see -IVE and -NESS. Now apprehended as f. SECRETIVE *a.*] The quality of being secretive; disposition to secrecy.

Originally used in Phrenology as the name of a 'propensity' having a special 'bump' allotted to it.

1815 SPURZHEIM *Physiogn. Syst.* (ed. 2) 329 Organ of the propensity to conceal, or Secretiveness. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* vii. 265 He had no secretiveness in his nature, and could do nothing by halves. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 161 There is a strange sense of secretiveness about all these West African forests.

Secretly (sĭ·krĕtli), *adv.* [f. SECRET + -LY 2.]

1. In a secret manner, in secret, not openly.

c 1386 [see SECRELY]. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* i. 769 (Horstm.) For lernyd he hadde ful secretlye Of a prest.. whan he shuld dye. 1537 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 43 The King was maried secreetly at Chelsey, in Middlesex, to one Jane Seymor. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. iii. 7 Giue him this Letter, doe it secretly. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 June 1690, The Duke of Savoy..did seacretly concert measures with, and afterwards declar'd for them. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iv, I still found them secretly attached to all their former finery. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. i. 119 He was secretly negotiating with the Pretender.

† b. With a hidden meaning. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 119 Poetis of olde fables han contryved,..By whiche theyr witte was secretely approved. 1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* III. ii. (ed. 2) 115 This did the Poets secretly expresse, when they preferred Pallas to be the Gouernesse of Learning.

† c. Indirectly. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 227 Antidotes for the Malignity, yet such as secretly respect the disease.

† 2. In concealment or retirement. *Obs. rare.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* XXX. 20 Thou hydest them priuely by thine owne presence from the proude men, thou kepest them secretly in thy tabernacle, from the strife of tongues. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 205 Your daughter heere the Princesse (left for dead) Let her awhile be secretly kept in.

3. In an inaudible voice.

1608 TORSELL *Serpents* 161 The dragon..falleth asleepe, the Indians in the meane-season watching, & muttering secretly words of Incantation. 1841 A. R. C. DALLAS *Past. Superintend.* 203 Repeating the Lord's Prayer after the Bishop; and afterwards joining secretly in the prayers which follow.

† Se·cretness. *Obs.* [f. SECRET *a.* + -NESS.] The state or condition of being secret.

1. Secrecy, privacy; reticence. *In secretness*: secretly.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) 13 A thing enclosed under secretnesse of priuyte. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 354 Kepe secretnesse as a secretarye. *Ibid.* 621 Whan any tellethe you any tale,..than kepe it in secretnesse treuleche. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G j, He.. ought to entre into his owne secretnes, and to thynke profoundely. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 342 Now again muttering something in great secreatness. 1654 COKAINE *Dianea* 246 Being grown impatient of my timerous secretnesse..I asked her Advice: If it were better to discover ones flames to a Mistris by Letters, word of mouth, or by the Intercession of others.

2. That which is secret.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 13 And begane a litill while to hyde the secretnesse of his soule. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XCV. 310 Whan ye were prisoner in Babylone I dyscoueryd the secretnes of my mynde to hym, and shewed hym of yᵉ loue betwen you and me. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. T., Serm. Easterday* 13 Then ought we..not to search rashly of that deepe secretnes aboue the measure of our vnderstanding.

Secretorie, -y, obs. forms of SECRETARY.

Secretory (sĭ·krĕtəri), *a.* and *sb. Phys.* [f. L. *sēcrēt-* (see SECRETE *v.*) + -ORY. Cf. F. *sécrétoire.*]

A. *adj.* Having the function of secreting; pertaining to or concerned with the process of secretion.

1692 RAY *Creation* II. 64 The Glands..give the Blood time to stop and separate through the Pores of the capillary Vessels into the Secretory ones. 1793 BEDDOES *Calculus* 39 Of all the secretory organs, the kidneys and the mammæ are most certainly and quickly affected by the passions and by food. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* v. 102 The many secretory glands which separate certain substances from the blood at recurrent periods. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 421 The fibrous strands which surround a secretory passage in the leaves of Pinus and the roots of Philodendron.

B. *sb.* A secreting vessel or duct.

1768 FOOTE *Devil* III. Wks. 1799 II. 276 These are thrown by the digestive powers into the secretory. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 409 Mercury is an universal stimulant and increases the action of all the secretories at one and the same time.

‖ Secre·tum. *Antiq.* Pl. **secreta.** [L. *sēcrētum*, neut. of *sēcrētus* SECRET *a.*; in med.L. ellipt. for *sigillum secretum* secret seal.] (See quot. 1886.)

1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxiv. 399 The same individual also occasionally possessed and sealed with more than one Secretum. *Ibid.* 400 The Seals and Secreta of certain noble families. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 586/2 The aperture [over which a seal was placed] allowed a second matrix to be applied at the back. This was usually a smaller private seal called a *secretum.* 1909 FOX-DAVIES *Compl. Guide Her.* 408 The *secretum* of Isabelle de Flandres (c. 1308) has her shield placed between three lions.

Sect (sekt), *sb.*[1] Also 4–6 secte, 5 sekte, 6 sekt, seacte, *pl.* sextes, *Sc. pl.* sekkis. [a. F. *secte* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or directly ad. L. *secta* following (used as cognate object in *sectam sequi*, to follow a particular course of conduct, to follow a person's guidance or example), hence a party or faction, a philosophical sect or school, a class or profession (in med. L. also the distinctive costume of a class or order of men), f. *sequ-* root of *sequī* to follow: for the formation cf. *sectārī* to pursue). The L. word was adopted also in other Rom. langs.: Sp., Pg. *secta*, It. *setta.*

It has been maintained that L. *secta* is the fem. pple. of *secāre* to cut, an ellipsis for *via secta*, from the phrase *viam secāre* (after Gr. *τέμνειν ὁδόν*) to make (lit. 'to cut') one's way. Formally this would be quite possible; but *secta* does not occur in the physical sense of 'way', nor does it appear that *via secta* was ever in use; and some of the uses of *secta* are more satisfactorily accounted for by derivation from *sequī* than from *secāre.*]

† 1. A class or kind (of persons). *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1432 (Fairf.) Alderfirste, loo, ther I sighe,..Hym of Secte saturnyne, The Ebrayke Iosephus. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVI. 13 How þis couetise ouer-cam alle kynne sectes, As wel lerede as lewede. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5745 Eke in the same secte are set Alle tho that prechen for to get Worshipes, honour, and richesse. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. i. (1494) i viij b, The sect of pouert hath a protection From all statutes to go at lyberte. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) B vj b, Flatterers and hostlers, and other of this sect Are busy in thy chamber. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I j, Of whose secte .i. suite or sorte of profession we.. set forth abrode into the market stede many clientes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 932 The which act and priuilege did nourishe and encrease aboundauntly the sect and swarme of theeues and murderers. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.*, Democr. to Rdr. (ed. 3) 15 [Of Physicians] I know many of their Sect [edd. 1, 2, of them] which haue taken Orders, in hope of a Benefice.

† b. A religious order. *Obs.*

Properly a use of sense 1; but Wyclif affects to take it in sense 4, as if the orders (esp. the mendicant orders) were new religions, competing with the 'sect' of Christ.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 446 Þes foure sectis newe brouȝt in, as emperour clerkis, munkis & chanouns & þes foure ordris freris, disturblen moost þis ſistinge chirche & putten it fro þe cours of crist. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 293 Þoȝ men soȝt al sectes [*v.r.* þe sektis] of sistren & of breþeren. 1402 *Jack Upland* 106 Why stele ye mens children for to make hem of youre secte? *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 116 Þat he suld be of haly secte. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 104 Our hailie fader ye paip and his bischopis giffis ane part of ye spulze quhilk thay reiff fra ye pwir to thir forsaid sekkis. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 36 Wicked sectes haue bin brought into the worlde vnder the names of Austin, Bernard, Francis, Dominik and others. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. li. (1612) 231 Ignatius then conceited had his sect, And crau'd Confirmance of the pope. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 142 As I think that there are only two houses of La Trappe existing, it may not be improper to mention, that this sect was first founded about a century ago, with the sanction of Pope Innocent the Eleventh. 1824

CARY *Dante, Parad.* III. 108, I..Made promise of the way her sect enjoins.

† c. The (human) race. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4859 Ne were ther generacioun Our sectis strene for to save. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* III. 42 The Articulation of the head with the Vertebres..diuine nature y^e mother of humane sect, hath shewed therin more care.

d. Sex. Now only in illiterate use.

A special use of sense 1; possibly suggested by the similarity in sound with SEX. In mod.Eng. it may have originated afresh as an artificial pronunciation of *sek* (a singular evolved from the apparent plural *sex*) on the part of speakers of dialects that have final (k) for (kt).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 1171 For the wyues loue of Bathe Whos lyf and al hire secte god mayntene In heigh maistrie. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 139 She me hath had so greet in worship, that I nil for nothing in open declare, that in any thing ayenst her secte may so wene. *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* v. Wks. (Grosart) XIII. 400 Although it be a shame For knights to combat with the female sect. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* II. vi, 'Tis the easiest Art and cunning for our sect to counterfeit sicke. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 6 Their controversie was to be determined by Tyresias, (one that had beene of both sects). 1738 [G. SMITH] *Cur. Relat.* II. v. 77 These Robbers without Regard to Sect or Decency, stript all the Company stark naked. 1776 PRATT *Pupil Pleas.* (1777) I. 173 The most artfullest of his sect. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xv, 'Ye have skeel of our sect, sir,' replied the dame. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 204 [Street-photographer *log.*] A lady don't mind taking her bonnet off..before one of her own sect.

† 2. Distinctive costume (of a class or order). Also *transf.* the 'garb' or guise (of humanity). *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 237 Many tyme god hath ben mette amonge nedy peple, þere neuere segge hym seigh in secte of þe riche. *Ibid.* XIV. 258 He bereth þe signe of pouerte, And in þat secte owre saueoure saued al mankynde. 1393 *Ibid.* C. VIII. 130 And sithe in oure secte as hit semed, þow deydest, On a fryday, in forme of man feledest oure sorwe.

† 3. Body of followers or adherents. *Obs.*

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 204/2 The said John Newport and other of his secte..so thretening the Kingis pepil of the Ile [etc.]. 1512 W. KNIGHT in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 195 Sr William Sands and a few of his secte were in the contrarie opynyon of me. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxx. 216 The prouost and his sect exhorted hym therto. 1590–91 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 562 The..crafty practizes of M^r James Gerdoun, fader bruthir to the Erll of Huntlie, and utheris of his sect. 1621 *Gude & Godlie B.* App. I. 234 Cum heir my Elect, and my awin sweit Sect, 3our hyre sall not be in weir. [1647 N. BACON *Disc. Gov. Eng.* I. lxvii. (1739) 169 *Et inde producit sectam suam*; that is, he brings his sect or suit, or such as do follow or affirm his complaint.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 147 [Abdiel speaks.] My Sect thou seest, now learn too late How few somtimes may know, when thousands err.

4. A religious following; adherence to a particular religious teacher or faith.

† a. Applied to any of the main religions of the world, as Christianity, Judaism, or Mohammedanism; the principles, or the adherents collectively, of any one of these faiths. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 9 (Corpus) As of þe secte of which þat he was born he kepte his lay to which þat he was sworn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 129 Whan þat false prophete Machometys..wroot and brou3t yn þe false lawe and secte of Saracins. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 182 And thus in thilke time tho Began the Secte upon this Erthe, Which of believes was the ferthe. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 85 Of what secte or contre so euer they be, hethen or crysten, sarasen or Iewe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 73 b/1 Kynge Salamon louyd ouermoche..straunge wymen of other sectes. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* III. xv. (*fin.*), Wolde to God that thou were of our holy secte and crysten beleve. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 Ye Soldan or chefe ruler hereof is of Mahumets secte, as are ye Turkes. *a* 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden N.S. 36) 74 Preaching the woord of Godd and sincere secte of Christe. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* III. i. 38 How did the Christians vse our Knights? *Bru.* As if that we and they had been one sect. 1600 R. CARE tr. *Mahumetan Hist.* 19 Abagan..tooke vpon him the superstition of the sect of Mahumet. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xx. 73 Whilest these wicked Miscreants [*sc.* Mohammedans] fortifie themselves in their devilish Sect, let us trust in our Lord. 1716 PRIDEAUX *O. & N. Test. Connected* (1718) I. I. III. 139 At this time [an. 522] all the idolatry of the world was divided between two sects, that is, the worshippers of images, who were called the Sabians, and the worshippers of fire, who were called the Magians.

b. † (*a*) A system of belief or observance distinctive of one of the parties or schools into which the adherents of a religion are divided; sometimes *spec.* a system differing from what is deemed the orthodox tradition; a heresy. *Obs.* (*b*) A body of persons who unite in holding certain views differing from those of others who are accounted to be of the same religion; a party or school among the professors of a religion; sometimes applied *spec.* to parties that are regarded as heretical, or at least as deviating from the general tradition.

The Clapham Sect: a name applied derisively early in the 19th c. to a coterie of persons of Evangelical opinions and conspicuous philanthropic activity, some of whom lived at Clapham; among the chief members were Wilberforce, Zachary Macaulay, and Henry Thornton.

13.. *S. Ambrose* 276 (*MS. Vernon*) in Horstm. *Alteng. Leg.* (1878) 12 Wiþ heretykes of þe secte of Arrian. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvi. 5 For vp [*v. r.* that bi] the moost certeyn secte of oure religioun, I lyuede a Farisee. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 This new Secte of Lollardie. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 497 Aftir the daies of the Apostlis roosen also manye vntrewe sectis of Cristen men, as the sect of Valentynyanys. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xi. 19 For there must be sectes amonge you. 1530 CROMWELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 187 They wyll not discent from the Lutheran sekt. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 The damnable opinions of the secte of the anabaptistes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 81 They that love sectes are in dede worthy of punyshement. 1577 VAUTROLLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 221 The Jewes assured them selues that the Church..should shortly be ouerthrowne: the which by an odious name they called a Sect. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* IV. liv, And in her Sects, Religion lay confounded. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 81 Doe not I know you [Cromwell] for a Fauourer Of this new Sect? 1625 BACON *Ess., Viciss. Things* P 5 When the Religion formerly receiued, is rent by Discords;..you may doubt the Springing vp of a New Sect. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 69 The Millenaries, a sect of learned, and criticall Christians, who expect in the last thousand years of the Church, the cream of all militant perfection. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* vi. (1728) 349 He reformed the religion of the Persians, which before was divided into many sects. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 170 The church was distracted by the Nestorian and Monophysite sects. 1844 J. STEPHEN in *Edinb. Rev.* LXXX. 251 The Clapham Sect. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xliii, The Grape that can with Logic absolute The Two-and-Seventy jarring Sects confute. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* Ser. III. 288 The Clapham Sect, amongst whom he [Macaulay] had been brought up.

c. In modern use, commonly applied to a separately organized religious body, having its distinctive name and its own places of worship; a 'denomination'. Also, in a narrower sense, one of the bodies separated from the Church. *The sects*: applied by Anglicans to the various bodies of Dissenters, by Roman Catholics to all forms of Protestantism.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 3/1 They (of all the other sects before specified) were suffered onlie to continue vnabolished. 1651 H. MORE *Mastix his Lett.* in *Enthus. Tri.* etc. (1656) 306 That Sect which are called Quakers. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 58 In Amsterdam..almost all Sects, that are known among Christians, have their publick Meeting-places. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* v. 24 The common practice (at least among the Sects) of declaring against Reason as an Enemy to Religion. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. i. (1869) II. 377 Almost every different congregation might have made a little sect by itself, or have entertained peculiar tenets of its own. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, But with all the more severe prejudices and principles of his sect, Bide-the-bent possessed a sound judgment. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* P 19 We might say that the massacre of St. Bartholomew was intended to extirpate, not a religious sect, but a political party. 1836 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1845) II. 23 Almost all who profess to value Christianity seem when they are brought to the test to care only for their own sect. 1836 H. ROGERS *Y. Howe* iii. (1863) 46 It might be said of the latter years of the Commonwealth, that there were almost as many sects as worshippers. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 436 The church is not a building for the service of any sect. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 4 To each alike of the countless orthodox sects his name is the symbol for the prevailing of the gates of hell.

d. *abstr.* (Cf. PARTY *sb.* 6 b.)

1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) II. 104 The spirit of sect, or an attachment not to abstract principles, but to a definite and organised ecclesiastical institution, is a spirit essentially similar to patriotism.

5. The system or body of adherents of a particular school of philosophy.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 359 He [Aristotle] brou3te up þe secte þat is i-cleped Peripatetica. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Brutus* (1595) 1070 Cassius being in opinion an Epicurian,..spake..thus. In our sect, Brutus, we haue an opinion, that [etc.]. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Arrow agst. Atheists* (1637) 18 Three of the most learned that ever professed the Platonicke sect. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 279 The Sect Epicurean. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* i. Argt., Our Poet was a Stoick Philosopher; and..all his Moral Sentences..are drawn from the Dogma's of that Sect. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) 399 The Chaldæan Philosophers were divided into Sects, but the Distinction arose from the Nature of their Studies. 1798 FERRIAR *Eng. Historians* 244 Some of the ancient philosophical sects, received their denominations from their places of instruction. 1868 FARRAR *Seekers after God, Seneca* Introd. 5 The purest and most exalted philosophic sect of antiquity was 'the sect of the Stoics'.

6. *transf.* (from senses 4 and 5). A school of opinion in politics, science, or the like; also, more or less jestingly, applied to a group of persons who attach importance to some peculiar crotchet about matters of social custom or the like.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 18 *Lear*...And wee'l weare out In a wall'd prison, packs and sects of great ones, That ebbe and flow by th' Moone. 1609 B. JONSON *Epicœne* Prol., But in this age, a sect of Writers are, That, onely, for particular likings care, And will taste nothing that is populare. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. 18 The Atheists upon this occasion are divided into Sects. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 479 P 5 Socrates, who is by all Accounts the undoubted Head of the Sect of the Hen-peck'd, own'd..that [etc.]. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. ii. (1869) II. 420 That sect of men of letters in France who call themselves the economists. 1788 *Trifler* No. 9. 113 The first sect on which I shall recommend you to try your skill..are Old Maids. 1792 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 450 A sect has shown itself among us, who declare they espoused our constitution..as a step to an English constitution. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 149, I never was attached to that great sect, Whose doctrine is, that each one should select Out of the crowd a mistress or a friend, And all the rest.. commend To cold oblivion. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 367 The Whigs gave him a public dinner on the 21st of February, at which about 300 attended—the largest convocation of the sect that had yet taken place. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 275 The doctrine made a sect among astronomers. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xvii. 197 This I am sure will seem strange to the various sects of pathologists and theorists. 1899 W. S. LILLY *21st Princ. Politics* 135 Socialism is rather a sect than a party.

† b. With pseudo-etymological reference: A 'section' of mankind. *Obs.*

1708–9 SWIFT *Let. to Abp. King* 6 Jan., But the world is divided into two sects, those that hope the best, and those that fear the worst. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Poet* 254 There were two sects—the Bad, the Good.

† c. *transf.* Way of thinking, turn of mind. *Obs.*

1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* I. (1592) 2 b, Yet he could haue a quiet conscience, til he might see her of the same sect, and as deadly to hate it [court life], as he did loth it.

† 7. = SEPT (Irish). *Obs. rare.*

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) II. 328 There are another sect of the Borkes, and divers of the Irisshery, towardes Slygoo. 1540 *Ibid.* III. 235 Thos sectes of people called the Cavenaghes.

† 8. Law. *Sect of court* (med. L. *secta curiæ*): 'Suit and Service done by Tenants at the Court of their Lord' (J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* 1710, II).

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 245 To the erle of Comberland for secte of courte for the lande in Skipton. 1546 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 13 Sir William Malyory knight for lande in Nunwike and secte of Courte xiij d. John Norton for Fre Ferme and secte of Courte xiij d. 1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 89 With power to..continew court or courtis of Justiciarie..; sectis to mak be callit; absentis to amerchiat. 1578 *Ibid.* III. 13.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sect-ascendancy*, † *-follower*, *-founder*, *-leader*, † *-maker*, † *-master* (= sect-founder); *sect-forming*, *-ridden* adjs.

1903 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 570 To the pre-Reformation policy of race-ascendency was added, under Elizabeth, that of *sect-ascendency. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 102 b, To gratifie his owne *secte followers. 1891 *Ch. Times* 28 Aug. 824/1 The *sect-forming, dislocating career of the subsequent centuries. 1861 J. EDKINS in Mrs. Edkins *Chinese Scenes* (1863) 273 He receives revelations, becomes a *sect-founder. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 389 *Sect-Leaders their own Visions may impose. 1896 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 91 The actual methods adopted by the Hindu sect-leaders. 1530 TINDALE *Prol.* 1 *Cor.*, Ther came immediatly false Apostles & *sectemakers, drue euery man disciples after hym. 1656 TRAPP *Expos. Acts* xv. 36 Seducers and sect-makers. 1565 ALLEN *Def. Purg.* 14 They doo not folowe these *Secte masters, as scholares moued by any probability of theire teachers persuation. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* I. (1716) 73 As if the Holy Isaac were An Heretick or Sect-Master. 1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 444 This *sect-ridden country.

Sect, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [? ad. L. *sectum*, neut. pa. pple. of *secāre* to cut. Cf. SET *sb.*] ? A cutting from a plant; in quots. *fig.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 336 Our carnall Stings, or vnbitted Lusts: whereof I take this, that you call Loue, to be a Sect, or Seyen. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1686 The son lies close about thine heart,..Eats thee and drinks thee.., thyself, a sect of thee.

† **Sect,** *v.*[1] *nonce-word.* [f. SECT *sb.*[1]] a. *trans.* To treat as a sect. b. *To sect it*: to behave as a sect.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 13 Would you that Prelacy and Priesthood should perk up again, and under pretense of Religion,..be-heretick, and sect you, and then dissect you by persecutions? *Ibid.* 81 The Priests of all sorts sect it, so do all religious persons faction and party it.

† **Sect,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. L. *sect-*, ppl. stem of *secāre* to cut.] *trans.* To cut or divide (into equal parts).

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 245 Its leaves are sected into slender parts. 1697 G. K. *Disc. Geom. Problems* 10 He who understands..to sect any angle into 3. 5. 6. as is above shewed, will by the like Method and Praxis be able to sect any angle into 7. 8. 9. 10. &c. equal parts. *Ibid.*, How a Semicircle may be sected into any number of equal parts.

† **Sectare,** obs. Sc. form of SECTARY.

1563 WINJET *Bk. Quest.* I. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 70 *marg.*, Because nane sectare can ansuer heir without manifest confusioun of his errour.

Sectarial (sektē·riăl), *a.* [f. SECTARY (or its source med. L. *sectārius*) + -AL.] Pertaining to or distinctive of sect. Chiefly used with reference to Indian religions.

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 137 The doctrine in question was by no means peculiar to the Stoics: it was held also by the philosophers of the other schools. As their sectarial differences however are of no importance in the present inquiry [etc.]. 1832 COLEMAN *Myth. Hindus* 163 Sectarial marks. These symbols are made of ashes, cow-dung [etc.]. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. viii. I. 545 Numerous sectarial divisions amongst the Hindus. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 208 They [the Jains] worship chiefly twenty-four sectarial saints or Jins.

Sectarian (sektē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SECTARY + -AN.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to a sectary or sectaries; 'belonging to a schismatical sect' (Phillips, ed. Kersey, 1706). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

App. first used in the Commonwealth period by the Presbyterians with reference to the Independents; subsequently by Anglicans with reference to Nonconformists.

1649 in *Milton's Wks.* (1738) I. 346 The Sectarian Party in England. 1650 *Rec. Comm. Gen. Assembly* (S. H. S.) III. 92 That Sectarian armie now infesting this Kingdome. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* Apol. 545 Which is..to arm the Sectarian Rabbles, that phansy themselves such Inspiradoes, against the orderly-Reformed Churches. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 739 But that unfaithful Test unfound will pass The dross of atheists and sectarian brass. 1822 A. CUNNINGHAM *Traditt. Tales, Placing Scot. Minister* (1887) 89 To all this answered Micah Meen, a sectarian mason. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 244 Drawling out the words of Scripture with deep sectarian drone. 1834

SOUTHEY *Doctor* cix. (1862) 265 When a hawker came he had no pestiferous tracts, either seditious or sectarian, for sale.

2. Pertaining to a sect or sects; confined to a particular sect; bigotedly attached to a particular sect. In recent use, often a pejorative synonym of *denominational*, esp. with reference to education.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 237 They..have been taught to look on religious opinions as the only cause of enthusiastick zeal, and sectarian propagation. 1836 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1845) II. 23 All our education must be Christian, and not be sectarian. 1837 *Ibid.* 91 A Christian, and yet not sectarian University. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 149 Dante does not come before us as a large catholic mind; rather as a narrow, and even sectarian mind. 1841 E. MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 1 A natural and invariable tendency..to fall into distinct bodies and become sectarian, both in spirit and in aim. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. 419 The burgh and parish Schools of Scotland were never Sectarian. 1877 CANDLISH in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 338/2 There are some doctrines in every system that are merely sectarian, adopted by one particular branch of the church, but not recognized by others as correct expressions of Christian faith and life. 1884 LIDDON in J. O. Johnston *Life & Lett.* (1904) 331, I am not at all frightened by the word 'sectarian'. Christianity *is* sectarian as against the non-Christian world. 1903 *Brit. Weekly* 11 June 219/3 He was reluctantly compelled, for conscience sake, to refuse that part of the education rate which would go to the support of sectarian schools. *Ibid.* 219/4 An audience who loudly cheered every declaration of determined resistance to the sectarian rate.

B. *sb.*

1. Originally, an adherent of the 'sectarian party' (i. e. the Independents as designated by the Presbyterians); subsequently, a member of a schismatic sect, a schismatic. Now chiefly *Hist.*

1654 R. WILLIAMS in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. X. 2 Youre Father and all the people of God in England, formerly called the *Puritanus Anglicanus*, of late Roundheads, now the Sectarians (as more or lesse cut of from the Parishes) they are now in the sadle and at the helme. 1685 BUNYAN *Pharisee & Publ.* 7 The Pharisee was a Sectarian, one that deviated..in his Worshipping from the way of God;..for such an one I count a Sectarian. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 79 Charles willingly permitted this, because he dreaded the political opinions of these Sectarians. 1816 — *Lay of Laureate* liii, The stern Sectarian in unnatural league Joins her to war against their hated foe. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 197 The *Ecclesia* has been an eclipse to the intellect of both Churchmen and Sectarians. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. (1868) I. 25 The Queen of England hated Anabaptists, Calvinists, and other Sectarians.

2. An adherent of a specified sect; a sectary of a particular teacher. Now *rare*.

1819 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1820) 273 Shortly after it was agreed, that the family of the plaintiff should become his sectarians, and they accordingly joined the Baptist society and became a part of his congregation. 1828 J. F. COOPER *Notions of Amer.* II. 328 The whole number of the sectarians [*i. e.* Shakers] is, however, far from great. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 416 A general feeling of alarm and suspicion broke out against the sage [Pythagoras] and his sectarians. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxv. (1877) 522 The constancy of these sectarians inflamed, no doubt, the anger of rulers who were accustomed to more pliant submission.

3. A bigoted adherent of a sect; one whose views or sympathies are sectarian.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* IV. 22 Shakspeare is no sectarian: to all he deals with equity and mercy. 1855 *Punch* 27 Jan. 34/2 Sectarians who believe that no good deed can be done, except by a votary of M'Howl and O'Muggins. 1867 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Progr. Cult.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 226 The narrow sectarian cannot read astronomy with impunity.

Sectarianism (sektē·riănizm). [f. prec. + -ISM.] The sectarian spirit; adherence or excessive attachment to a particular sect or party, esp. in religion; in recent use often, adherence or excessive attachment to, or undue favouring of, a particular 'denomination'.

1828 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 89 [In Shakspeare] there is no sectarianism, either of politics or religion. 1833 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 73 We shall find in that art [Music], so peculiarly the expression of passion, two perfectly distinct stiles; one of which may be called the poetry, the other the oratory of music. This difference, being seized, would put an end to much musical sectarianism. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* i, For art and poetry were tabooed both by my rank and my mother's sectarianism. 1870 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 573 There is nothing in the poems before us to denote sectarianism in Art or to provoke antagonism from any class of true critics in poetry. 1889 *Spectator* 27 Apr., The book is Roman Catholic, but there is no bigotry or narrow sectarianism about it.

Sectarianize (sektē·riănaiz), *v.* [Formed as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To act in a sectarian manner.

1842 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 451 We dissenters ..having no prelatical authorities over us, may sectarianize and fight as much as we please. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIII. 185 They sectarianize, in short, just as naturally as Churches.

2. *trans.* To render sectarian, to reduce to the level of a sect; to imbue with sectarian feelings or principles.

1846–9 S. R. MAITLAND *Ess.*, etc. 279 [tr. Luther:] Human nature when it is sectarianized. 1860 G. P. MARSH *Lect. Eng. Lang.* 643 To revise under present circumstances, is to sectarianise, to divide the one catholic, English Bible... into a dozen different revelations. 1866 *Ch. Times* 24 Mar., Those who strive to sectarianize the Church. 1883 *Trans. Educ.* XVIII. 83 Sectarianizing the schools.

Hence **Secta·rianizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1908 *Athenæum* 30 May 666/1 The 'sectarianizing' of the Church, and of any and every form of Christianity. 1909 *Even. Post* (N. Y.) 7 Aug. 6 To strive to catholicise his own communion, that it might become a reconciling power, instead of a sectarianising system of human device.

Sectarianly (sektē·riănli), *adv. rare.* [f. SECTARIAN *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sectarian manner.

1853 E. G. HOLLAND *Mem. J. Badger* xix. (1854) 384 Let it not be thought that we speak sectarianly.

Sectarism (se·ktăriz'm). Now *rare.* [f. SECTAR-Y + -ISM.]

1. The principles, spirit, or practice characteristic of sectaries; sectarianism.

1643 SIR J. SPELMAN *Case of Affairs* 30 Especially now when Schisme and Sectarisme do with such authoritie invade us. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. i. xxix. 240 These Checks were given to Sectarism and Popery. 1822 MRS. E. NATHAN *Langreath* III. 195 The charitably religious sentiments of Mrs. Dalton, untainted by the narrow trammels of sectarism. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* iv. 125 Sectarism contradicts the first rudiment of Christian combination.

2. A variety of 'sectarism'; a sectarian body.

1821 JEFFERSON *Autob.* Writ. (1892) I. 52 In process of time however, other sectarisms were introduced, chiefly of the Presbyterian family.

†**Se·ctarist.** *Obs.* [f. SECTAR-Y + -IST.] = SECTARY *sb.* I.

1618 MIDDLETON *Peacemaker* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 330 Sectarists and schismatics shall break the peace of God. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 612 One Hamed, a modern sectarist, and an enemy to the ancient doctrine of the califs. 1802 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 401 Any sectarists or dissenting congregation. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* viii. 308 The blasphemous arrogance of sectarists.

Sectary (se·ktări), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 sectorie, 6–7 sectarie. Cf. SECTUARY. [ad. F. *sectaire*, or its source med.L *sectārius* (Diefenbach), f. *secta* SECT *sb.*1 Cf. Sp., Pg. *sectario*, It. *settario*.]

A. *sb.*

1. A member of a sect; one who is zealous in the cause of a sect.

1558 MORWYNG tr. *Joseph Ben Gorion's Hist. Jews* (1561) 23 One Dogrus..whom they slewe, & muche people besides of the auncientes of that sect, so that the Sectaries were in great distresse. 1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* I. v. vi. 144 Thomists, and Jesuites, to be the selfe same sectaries. 1771 *Lett. Junius* lix. (1788) 314 The fundamental principles of Christianity may still be preserved, though every zealous sectary adheres to his own exclusive doctrine. 1780 COWPER *Nightingale & Glowworm* 27 Hence jarring sectaries may learn Their real interest to discern. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Infl. Time & Place in Legisl.* Wks. 1843 I. 173 The sectary of every religion..is exposed to the dread of invisible agents. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 147 It is not as religious sectaries they [school inspectors] have to discharge their duties, but as civil servants. 1869 A. HARWOOD tr. *E. de Pressensé's Early Yrs. Chr.* III. ii. 378 John..exhibited sometimes the narrow spirit of the sectary. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 199 Many a bitter sectary, thirsting for the discomfiture of his opponents, was tripped up by it.

2. An adherent of a schismatical or heretical sect. In the 17–18th c. commonly applied to the English Protestant Dissenters. Now chiefly *Hist.*

1556 J. CLEMENT in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxi. 214 All other Heretikes and Sectaries. 1569 BP. PARKHURST *Injunct.* A iv b, Whether you know of any sectaries that vse to make any priuate conuenticles in priuate mens houses. 1590 J. GREENWOOD *Collect. Art.* B j b, They pronounce vs newe sectories. 1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* III. (end), Now I am discontented, Ile turne Sectarie, that is fashion. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* vii. Annot. 171 Zuinglius, Caluin, Beza, and other Sectaries. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 70 *Gard.* My Lord, my Lord, you are a Sectary. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sectary*, one that follows private opinions in Religion, a Ring-leader of a Sect, a seditious, factious person. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 213 Their giving liberty..to all Religions, as well Jews and Roman Catholicks, as Sectaries, gives security to all their Inhabitants. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 2 Sectaries have no ostensible enjoyments...The arts that civilize society are not calculated for men who mean to rise on the ruins of established order. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Cowley* 3 The omission of his name in the register of St. Dunstan's parish, gives reason to suspect that his Father was a sectary. 1808 SYD. SMITH *Methodism* Wks. 1859 I. 88/1 Mr. Ingram..has talked a great deal about dissenters,..we shall endeavour..to present him [the reader] with a near view of those sectaries, who are at present at work upon the destruction of the orthodox churches. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xiv. 264 Now, as a sectary, he had all his life As he supposed, been with the Church at strife. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Jas. I & Cazaubon* Wks. 1846 I. 30 Sectary! Those who dissent from the domineering party have always been thus stigmatized. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. (1868) I. 27 Many sectaries experienced much inhuman treatment. 1864 J. PAYN *Sir Massingberd* i, They had been poachers, or radicals, or sectaries (as Dissenters were then called). 1876 J. GRANT *One of the Six Hundred* ix. 76 The English sectaries warned the General Assembly to begone from Edinburgh. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 757/2 A large boarding-house for sectaries, called a College, has sprung up somewhere behind Holywell.

3. A follower or disciple *of* a particular leader, teacher, party, or school. Now *rare* (with mixture of sense 1). †Also, a votary *of* a particular study, pursuit, etc.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 7 It were enough to entitle those Browne sectaries of the Blacke Prince, with the name of traytors. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 833 He would scoffe at learning, and eke scorne The Sectaries thereof, as people base And simple men. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 144 Times alter: and as Fortune hath more sectaries, then Vertue; so Pleasure hath more adherents, then Profit. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. ii. 164 (Qos.) How long haue you beene a sectary Astronomicall? 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 109 Aristotle..sending Calisthenes, a sectarie [*marg.* or disciple] and kinsman of his, unto K. Alexander, gaue him [etc.]. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 108 Mr. Hobbs or any of his Sectaries. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 146 Which Mahomet so strongly infused into his Sectaries. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 79/1 Not votaries of Brahma, but sectaries of Buddha. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 269 The Sectaries of an obsolete covenant.

†**4.** A sect. *Obs. rare.*

1643 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 299 One of the fruits of this blessed Parlement, and of these two Sectaries is, that they have made more Jewes and Atheists then I think there is in all Europe besides. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp* Summary § 11 The two grand Sectaries in Physick, and their clashing described. 1764 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* iv. (1765) 431 What they called a sectary sprang up in the Massachusets colony.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to a sect; sectarian.

1590 H. BARROW in *Conferences* III. 51 The Apostle.. speaketh of..sectorie Teachers & people following them. 1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 48 A few poor Sectary Caluinists hated & contemned by all other sectes of the same breed. 1638 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 3 A kind of Sectary passion. 1649 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* II. 4 They..sent them by their Agitators and sectary Priests into all Counties. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) II. 427 Sectary-metaphysicians..will, we fear be disappointed in our chapters on Memory—Imagination and Judgment. They will not find us the partizans of any system.

Sectator (sektē·tər). Now *rare.* Also 6–7 sectatour. [a. L. *sectātor*, agent-n. f. *sectārī*, freq. of *sequī* to follow: see SECT *sb.*1 Cf. F. *sectateur*.]

1. A follower, disciple; one who follows a particular school, teacher, or leader; a partisan, sectary.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 D ij b, The sectatours of Thessalus, that is to wyt they that obserue his preceptes. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* xxiii. (1569) I. 43 b, It was tolde to the Philosopher Phauorinus, that the wyfe of one of his Sectators and Scholers, was [etc.]. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 [He] doth forbid al his sectators Mahometistes to drinke wine. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. iii. § 1. 33 Those writers which gaue themselues to follow and imitate others, were in all things so obseruant sectatours of those Masters,..as [etc.]. 1624 [ABBOTT] *Visibility of True Ch.* 60 And therefore..as sectators of Wiclife, they were condemned in the Councell of Constance. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxviii. 344 The latter sectatours, or rather pretenders of Aristotle. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* I. vi. 22 Such markes as clearly shewed him..to have been a Sectator of these great Masters of Antiquity. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 53 Not to be remedied by any Panacea of their Esculapian Sectators. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Leg.* (1846) III. 250 The origin and progress of the folly and the various views of its Sectators in supporting it, are here accounted for and explained. 1804 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* IV. 286 The sectators of each of them..increased this sentiment [of personal enmity]..by their virulent and exaggerated reports. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 175 Orpheus, Pythagoras, and their sectators,..unceasingly recommended in their discourses to abstain from eggs. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 264 They themselves are fanatic sectators of the old Koran reading.

2. *Law.* One who is bound to 'suit of court'. Now only *Hist.* (Perh. merely Law Latin.)

1860 INNES *Scot. in Mid. Ages* vii. 207 In the court, so composed of all the vassals of a baron—the suitors or sectators of a barony—were discussed the affairs of the barony.

Hence † **Secta·torship.** *rare*−1.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 213 If a joint and unanimous course were taken to have their noblemen free from baseness, their churchmen from avarice.., their meaner sort from implicit sectatorship.

Sectile (se·ktil, -əil), *a.* [a. F. *sectile*, ad. L. *sectil-em*, f. *sect-*, ppl. stem of *secāre* to cut.] Capable of or suited for being cut. †**a.** *Sectile leek* [= L. *sectile porrum* Juv.], a dwarf or stunted variety of *Allium Porrum*. *Obs. rare*−1.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 349 The Sectile or Cropt Leeks are such as are cut off for the Kitchen.

b. *Min.* (See quot. 1805.)

1805 WEAVER tr. *Werner's External Charac. Fossils* 196 *Sectile* are those fossils whose integrant particles are coherent, but not perfectly immoveable one among another. Sectile is a medium between brittle and malleable. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1141 Bituminous shale is a species of soft, sectile slate-clay. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 157 Distinguished by its inferior hardness, being sectile, while iron pyrites cannot be cut with a knife.

c. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1899 HEINIG *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Sectile*, divided into small pieces.

Hence **Secti·lity**, sectile quality.

1841 TRIMMER *Pract. Geol. & Min.* 97 A knife is also indispensable for trying the hardness and sectility of minerals.

†**Se·cting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SECT *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. Cutting.

1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 271 For secting of ane bordour and lynyng of ane goun of blak wellus, xvj *s.*

2. Dissension, division.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 28 If there be any banding, secting, or passionating amongst them, he is to appease.. the same.

Section (se·k[ən), *sb.* Also 6 sections, sectioun. [a. F. *section*, or directly ad. L. *sectiōn-em*, f. *sect-*, ppl. stem of *secāre* to cut. Cf. Sp. *seccion*, Pg. *secção*, It. *sezione*.]

1. The action, or an act, of cutting or dividing. Now *rare* exc. with reference to surgery or anatomical operations.

1539 tr. *Gentinus' Anat.* 4/1 Neyther in man only, is seene the perfecte arte of nature, but in the Anatomie or Section

of any other beast, shall you fynde the like wysdome and industrie of the worke master. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 226 That clause..The sonne to be of one substance with the father, was..allowed..neither to be by diuision of substance neither by section or parting asunder. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* LV. Brev. 1241 The young prince pined away with the paine of the stone in the bladder, and whiles they would seeme to cut him for it they killed him out of hand in the very section. 1615, 1661 [see CÆSAREAN 2]. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* Ded., The..section of acts and scenes. [Cf. *ante*, the division of acts and scenes.] 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 140 Lines and superficies may be exposed by section, namely, a line may be made by cutting an exposed superficies. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 21 He will by a hasty and imprudent Saw, or Razor cut of a part, and make a section, and endanger life. *a* 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 58 Their course of mowing seems somewhat different from ours. For they cut not down clear at once, but used an after section, which they called *Sicilitium*. 1836 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 657/1 Animals have been bled to death by the section of the larger bloodvessels. 1870 M. FOSTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* X. 125 The cake with the imbedded object..in a few minutes is ready for section. *Ibid*, The sections may then be made either with a microtome or with a hand razor. 1883 BRUNTON in *Nature* 15 Mar. 467 Setchenow explains the increased rapidity of reflex action after section of the cord below the medulla oblongata.

†b. Division into parties. *Obs.*

1639 HEYWOOD *Lond. Peaceable Estate* Wks. 1874 V. 371 The Tranquillity of Kingdomes free from Section, tumult, and faction.

†c. = CÆSURA. *Obs.*

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 60 Remember also to mak a Sectioun in the middes of euery lyne, quhether the lyne be lang or short. 1695 [? WHEELER] *Roy. Gram., Prosodia* 17 This Section of a word just before the last Syllable is call'd Cæsura.

†d. The point of cutting or division. *Obs.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxviii. H iv b, Multiply the portions that are betweene any two sections or places in the distance of your two stations. *Ibid.* I. xxxv. L ij, Cut this last drawen line, and at y^e^ section make a marke. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Err. Navig.* D 1, We may make a table which shall shew the sections and points of latitude in the meridians of the nautical planisphere: by which sections, the parallels are to be drawne.

2. A part separated or divided off from the remainder; one of the portions into which a thing is cut or divided. **a.** *gen.*

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 122 It is necessary that the water should begin to fall at BC, with the least possible velocity; and that the height of the water FB should be no more than is necessary to fill the section B. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. vii. 106 The theologian is entitled to claim astronomy, geology, botany, agriculture, and chemistry, as sections of theology. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 178 We have to content ourselves with breaking up the whole series of values into sections and acting as if the conditions were the same throughout each section.

b. A subdivision of a written or printed work, a statute, or the like. Often represented by the symbol § (preceding a numeral figure); also abbreviated *sect.* (rarely *sec.*).

Although in some few books *section* has been adopted as the designation of a division superior to the 'chapter' (cf. G. *abschnitt*), the common practice from the 17th c. onward has been to apply the word to the lowest order of numbered divisions. In most recent books the 'section' (or, at least, the division denoted by the symbol §) either consists of a single paragraph, or, if it extends to several paragraphs, has no head-line separated from the text. In modern Acts of Parliament the 'section' (for which the abbreviations *sect.* and § are both in official use) is a subdivision of the 'chapter' (i. e. Act) containing a specific provision or enactment. In some works (e. g. Bell's *Comment. Laws of Scotland*), the 'Section' (abbreviated 'Sect.' in the table of contents) is the division next below the 'Chapter', and is itself subdivided into numbered portions marked with the symbol §.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 14 Such Dogges as serue for fowling, I thinke conuenient and requisite to place in this seconde Section of this treatise. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* I. i. § 1. 8 b, Whereof more hereafter in this Section. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. 9, § 2. Of the Office of a Master-Printer. *Ibid.* 10 (headed) Sect. II. 1714 CUNN *Doctr. Fractions* 43 The Directions laid down in Sect. 3 of Chap. II. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. i. I. 1 Book I. Sect. I. 1769 BEATTIE in Dyce *Mem.* (Aldine ed.) p. xxvi, It will be regularly distributed into chapters and sections. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 192 Mr. R. has divided his answer into several parts or sections. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 187 In the printed editions (it is true) we see each statute divided into sections, and each section numbered. But this is the work of the printer only or his editor. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 25 § 2 Ordinances framed by the Commissioners under Sections Twenty-eight and Twenty-nine of the same Act. 1870 *Act* 30 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 34 Provided that this section [of the Act] shall not apply to [etc.]. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xviii. (1896) III. 250 The preceding sections of this chapter.

c. *Nat. Hist.* Used variously by different writers for a subdivision of a classificatory group, e. g. of a class, order, family, or genus. In *Botany* now chiefly = *sub-genus*; but some writers (as Bentley) use it for a division of a sub-genus.

1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iii. 148 According to Tournefort's Method, *Malva* becomes the Section of a Class. *Althæa, Alcea*, &c. are several Genera of this Section. 1819 MACLEAY *Horæ Entomol.* I. 55 Latreille has..proposed to make but one genus of them, ascribing to the modern genera the name of sections. 1877 BENNETT *Thomé's Bot.* 238 It is usual to arrange the orders which make up a class into *Series*, the genera which make up a family into *Tribes*, and the species which make up a genus into *Sections*. 1884 *Athenæum* 3 Jan. 20/3 The author..remarked that amongst the æluroids the section of Viverrina formed a very distinct group. 1899 HEINIG *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Section*, a part separated by division; a group of correlated species arranged under genera or subgenera.

d. A separable portion of any collection or aggregate of persons, e. g. of the population of a country; a group, distinguished by a special variety of opinion, forming part of a political or religious party; one of several groups into which the membership of a learned society is divided according to the various branches of study in which the members are severally interested.

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xx. (ed. 3) 194 This section consisted of seven or eight persons of considerable acquaintance with mathematics. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xvi. 205 The question..whether of the two sections held the abstract right. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 1. 267 The Church had at this time..sunk into a mere section of the landed aristocracy. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 5/5 To one section of the House Mr. Power's speech gave great delight.

e. (*a*) *French Hist.* One of the electoral districts into which France was divided under the Directory. (*b*) *U. S.* An area of one square mile into which the undeveloped lands are divided. (*c*) Chiefly *U. S.* A district or portion of a town or country exhibiting uniform characteristics or considered as divided from the rest on account of such characteristics.

1816 PICKERING *Vocab. U. S.* 170 *Section*. Since the French Revolution this word has been much used here instead of *part, quarter*, &c. EX. 'In this section of the United States.' It is not thus used in England. 1832 WEBSTER. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. 1. iv, The Sixty Districts shall become Forty-eight Sections. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk to Land's End* 171 In estimating the production of a dairy, the farmers of this section do not make much account of the breed, size or color of the cows. 1879 TOURGÉE *Fool's Errand* iv. 20 The war is over...For a few months there may be disorders in some sections; but they will be very rare. 1907 *Standard* 19 Jan. 7/2 The northern section of Kingston is deserted.

f. *Bookbinding.* (See quot. 1859.)

1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* 81 *Section*, any number of sheets of paper folded together are termed a Section. 1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bkbinding* 5 The book should be divided into lots or sections of about half-an-inch thick, that will be about 15 to 20 sheets, according to the thickness of paper.

g. *Mil.* A fourth part of a company.

1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) III. i. 138 The Coldstream broke into open column of sections. 1889 *Infantry Drill* 61 The company..will then be told off into two half-companies and four sections.

h. *Prosody.* Used by Guest for: A member of a verse, esp. a hemistich of an OE. or ME. alliterative line. 1838 GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* I. vii. I. 149.

i. *Mus.* (See quot. 1866.)

1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* ii. 83 A section consists generally of two phrases; and a simple period consists of two sections.

j. *U. S.* A portion of a sleeping-car containing two berths.

1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* I. iv. (1878) 38 Each window [in the U.S. railroad cars] allows for two beds, one at the top of the other, unless the traveller has taken a 'section', i. e., the whole space of one window. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 245 Making up his bed in the stateroom which is unoccupied, and more roomy than a section.

k. *U. S. Railways.* 'The smallest administrative subdivision of a railroad. It is usually a mile or two in length and is designated by a number.' (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.; see also quot. 1890.)

1890 E. P. ALEXANDER in *Railways of Amer.* 156 Each of the supervisors of road has his assigned territory divided into 'sections', from five to eight miles in length. At a suitable place on each section are erected houses for a resident section-master and from six to twelve hands. *Ibid.*, At least twice a day track-walkers from the section-gangs pass over the entire line of road. *Ibid.*, The work of the sectionmen is all done under regular system.

l. One of the component parts of something which is built up of a number of similar portions so as to admit of enlargement when necessary, or which is constructed to be taken to pieces for facility of transport.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Section*,..a detachable portion of a machine or instrument when made up of a number of parts: *e.g.* one of the triangular knives; a row of which is attached to the cutter-bar of a harvesting-machine. *Ibid., Sectional Steam-boiler*, one built up of portions secured together in such a way that the size may be increased by addition of sections. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 355 There is always a steamer in sections in every story of a good expedition.

m. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. 635 A number of groups or stages similarly related constitute a series, section (Abtheilung) or formation, and a number of series, sections, or formations may be united into a system.

3. *Math.* †**a.** A segment of a circle. *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. Def. xix. 4 A section or portion of a circle, is a figure which is contayned vnder a right lyne, and a parte of the circumference, greater or lesse then the semicircle. 1654 H. PHILLIPPES *Purch. Pattern* (ed. 2) 265 The half-Circle and quarter-Circle may be measured also by this rule, but other Sections are very hard and troublesome, and scarce to be found out, without knowing the content of the whole Circle or Semicircle. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 91 If..a perfect semicircle should not be convenient..we must then make use of a lesser section.

†**b.** Intersection. *Obs.*

1667 PENNETT *City & C. Build.* 159 From the section of these Arches to the point given, a right Line drawn cuts the Line given perpendicularly. 1830 *J. de Vega's Jrnl. Tour* xiii. (1847) 102 A curiously-built cross, situated in the section of the four principal streets.

c. The curve of intersection of two superficies.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., The common Section of two Planes is always a right Line, being the Line supposed to be drawn on one Plane by the Section of the other, or by its Entrance into it. *a* 1845 LEVY in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 165 If through a given point..on this surface, we conceive a normal plane, the intersection of this plane with the surface will be a certain curve, which we shall call a normal section. 1887 J. H. SMITH *Geometr. Conic Sect.* 43 For *ab* is the common section of the plane of projection with a plane perpendicular to it and passing through *AB*.

d. The cutting of a solid by a plane; the plane figure resulting from such a cutting; the area of this. (Cf. CONIC *section*.) Hence, of a material object, the figure which would be produced by cutting through it in a certain plane.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I., *Section* in Mathematick, signifies the cutting of..a Solid by a Plane. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 156 The Passage in the Brick-Work.., whose Section must be 36 Inches, whether it be square or oblong. 1824 TREDGOLD *Strength Cast Iron*, etc. 59 Of the strongest Form of Section for revolving Shafts. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xvii. 151 Every plane passing through the axis is called a principal section of the crystal. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 115 A tube, or channel, whose section is greater at one part than another. *a* 1878 Sir G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 248 Thus, if the normal section of the rib be square, the section of the mouldings is made to fit that figure. 1885 J. CASEY *Analyt. Geom.* 281 Sections of a cone made by parallel planes are similar. 1898 H. R. MILL in *Jrnl. Sch. of Geog.* (U.S.) II. 293 Great screes, which give to the valleys a rounded or U-shaped section.

e. The action of dividing a line into parts. *Golden section*, also *medial, median section*: the division of a line in extreme and mean ratio.

1820 LESLIE *Elem. Geom. & Pl. Trig.* (ed. 4) 63 It will be convenient..to designate..this remarkable division of a line..by the term Medial Section. 1898 CHRYSTAL *Introd. Algebra* xxii. 329 To find a point P in the line AB such that $AP^2 = AB.PB$ (Problem of 'Golden Section').

4. A drawing representing an object (e. g. a building, a piece of machinery, a portion of the earth's crust) as it would appear if cut through in a plane at right angles to the line of sight.

In strict use, the term denotes a delineation confined to what is in actual contact with the imaginary cutting plane. Sometimes, as in quot. 1793, it is loosely used for what is more properly called a *sectional elevation*.

1669 STAYNRED *Fortif.* 7 They are represented in the Profile, or Section. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 121 Three perpendicular length-way sections..and..a transverse section of the Hull. 1725 HALFPENNY *Art Sound Building* Pl. 19 The Chamber Plan, and Section. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 32 The Plate..shews part of the outside and part of the inside, so as to be at once, both an elevation and a section. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xx. (1852) 473 It is a real section (on the scale of ·517 of an inch to a mile) through Bolabola in the Pacific. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 422/1 The section or profile is made on a plane perpendicular to the lines of intersection of the planes or slopes, and therefore represents the traces of these planes on the sectional plane.

b. advb. phr. *In section.*

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvii. 321 The portion of the glacier which is shown in section. 1904 R. C. JEBB *Bacchylides* (Proc. Brit. Acad.) 6 The painter's plan was to show both the sea-depths and the upper world in section.

c. *Geol.* A surface exposed by a cutting or by some natural agency, showing the succession of strata.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. II. 1027 *Section*, an actual or ideal exposure of any part of the earth's crust, showing the strata edgewise, as if they were laid open by a cut. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 162 The wall of the Mattmark See is a fine glacier section. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 23 Natural sections are frequently exposed in river-beds, sea-cliffs and inland valleys.

5. A thin slice of a vegetable or animal structure, or of an inorganic body, cut off for microscopic examination.

1870 STIRLING in *Jrnl. Anat.* May 234, I can slice such an embryo into from seventy to eighty sections in the long direction. 1874 *Amer. Naturalist* Apr. 252 Mr. Charles Stewart obtains sections of fresh leaves by [etc.]. 1902 G. H. FOWLER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 739/1 The tissue..is cut into sections either by the Rutherford, Cathcart, or some similar section-cutter.

6. *Printing.* The sign §, originally used to introduce the number of a 'section' (sense 2 b); subsequently used also as a mark of reference to notes in the margin or at the foot of a page. Also called *section-mark*.

The primary use of the sign seems to have become rare in the 18th c., and to have been revived in the latter part of the 19th c. under German influence. German printers give to this mark the name of *paragraph*.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Character*, Characters in Grammar, Rhetoric, Poetry &c...§ Section, or Division. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 259 The Sign which implies the word Section, is a Sort..seldom employed, because in Work which is divided into Chapters, Articles, Paragraphs, Sections, or any other Parts, they are commonly put in lines by themselves, either in Large Capitals, Small Capitals, or Italic...But the Sign of Section is sometimes used in (Latin) Notes, and particularly such as are collected from foreign books. 1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr., Section* (§), a mark of reference. It stands fourth in order, and immediately after the double dagger. Sometimes it is used to mark the division of a chapter into parts or sections, whence its name. 1894 *Amer. Dict. Printing, Section-mark*.

7. *Comb.* **a.** objective; as (sense 5) *section-cutter, -cutting, -smoother*; (sense 2 g) *section-commander, -leader*; (sense 2 k) *section-gang, -man, master*.

1889 *Infantry Drill* 306 During an extension *section commanders will see that the men take their proper intervals. 1870 STIRLING in *Jrnl. Anat.* May 230 The *section cutter which I am about to describe. 1874 *Amer. Naturalist* Jan. 59 A new section cutter which is principally adapted for preparing sections of soft vegetable tissues and organs. 1878 S. MARSH (*title*) *Section-cutting. 1890 *Section-gang [see 2 k]. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 28 Dec. 3/2 Controlled individual firing, under the direction of group and *section leaders, is the only effective method. 1890 *Section-men, *section-master [see 2 k]. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 597 Dr. P. F. Mall recommends a *section-smoother constructed on the following principle.

b. Special comb.: **section-beam** (see quot.); **section-house** (see quot. 1856); **section-line**, †(*a*) the boundary of a section; (*b*) a line drawn to indicate the manner of making a section; **section-liner** (see quot.); **section-mark** (see sense 6); **section-plane**, a surface exposed by section; **section-point**, a mark used to indicate the end of a section of a verse.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Section-beam* (Warping, etc.), a roller which receives the yarn from the spools, either for the dressing-machine or for the loom. 1856 A. WYNTER *Curios. Civilis.* 465 The *section-house, an establishment generally attached to the chief station of each division, in which the unmarried policemen are lodged. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 July 5/1 This daring disobedience was loudly cheered by the men who crowded the section-house windows as spectators. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 148 The *section-lines being made to run either east and west, or north and south, according as the general course of the river best suits. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 100/2 To trace the section-line on this development—that is, to draw the line in which the material is to be cut so as to form both the parts of the cylinder—erect perpendiculars [etc.]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Section-liner*, a device for ruling parallel lines. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 109 The *section-plane, as made by the saw, passed just sinistrad of the meson. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 55 note, I have ..used an asterisk to indicate the cæsura in the middle of the line, after the manner of the old Saxon *section-point.

Section (se·kʃən), *v.* [f. SECTION *sb.*]

1. *trans.* **a.** To divide into sections.

1819 KEATS *Cap & Bells* xi, With special strictures on the horrid crime, (Section'd and subsection'd with learning sage,) Of faeries stooping on their wings sublime To kiss a mortal's lips. 1856 LADY LYTTON in Devey *Life* (1887) 413 The rest was geographically sectioned out for the rest of Europe.

b. To cut through so as to present a section.

1891 G. NEILSON in *Athenæum* 30 May 707/3 The mound, wherever sectioned, invariably shows a steady succession of horizontal layers.

2. *intr.* To admit of being cut into sections.

1903 E. H. SELLARDS in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* July 89 The spores..are brown in color, somewhat flexible, and section readily on the microtome.

Hence **Se·ctioning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 595 For the purpose of sectioning, the eggs are transferred from the water used in washing to 50% alcohol. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 May 1110 A happy stroke of the sectioning knife, passing through the entire length of the proboscis of a filariated mosquito.

Sectional (se·kʃənăl), *a.* [f. SECTION *sb.* + -AL. Cf. F. *sectionnel.*]

1. Pertaining to a section or division of a larger part. **a.** Pertaining to a section or sections of a country, society, or population; sometimes (of interests, etc.) with implied opposition to *general.*

1816 *Monthly Mag.* XLII. 230 In the sectional or parish assemblies during the revolution a cobbler ascended the tribune. 1856 W. IRVING *Washington* II. 559 The sectional jealousies prevalent among them [*sc.* the troops from the different provinces] were more and more a subject of uneasiness to Washington. 1865 W. C. FOWLER (*title*) The Sectional Controversy; or passages in the political history of the United States, including the courses of the war between the sections. 1881 *Nature* 4 Aug. 323 The sectional meetings are being held in the rooms of the various scientific societies in the Burlington House region. 1886 CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN *Sp.* 13 May in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. CCCV. 948 Those who anticipate the further embitterment of sectional and sectarian strife [in Ireland]. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 23 Feb. 6/6 The design includes only the Cross of St. George, the sectional emblem of England.

b. *Prosody.* Pertaining to a section or member of a verse.

1838 GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* I. vi. I. 125 Sectional Rhime is that which exists between syllables contained in the same section. *Ibid.* I. vii. 154 Perhaps we may infer, that the sectional pause was originally a stop.

c. Of the nature of a section, incomplete.

1839-48 BAILEY *Festus* xix. 204 Our life is incomplete and sectional.

2. Of or pertaining to a section (sense 4), relating to the view of the structure of a body in section.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 181 Part of the furnace is shown in a sectional view. 1868 HUMBER *Strains in Girders* 67 For sectional area of material, substitute an equivalent strain. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 79 Chief or principal planes or sections, having the same sectional outline.

b. Geol. *Sectional line*: the line on the earth's surface through which a section is supposed to be made.

1831 A. SEDGWICK in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1836) Ser. II. IV. 87 From Dent the sectional line ranges over the top of Risell to the Garsdale river. 1890 T. BAKER *Mensuration* 121 To draw a sectional line of several points in the earth's surface, the levels of which have been taken.

3. Composed or made up of several sections or parts fitting into one another.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Sectional Steam-boiler.*

Sectionalism (se·kʃənăliz'm). [f. SECTIONAL *a.* + -ISM.] Confinement of interest to a narrow sphere, narrowness of outlook, undue accentuation of minor local, political, or social distinctions.

1858 *Newark Jrnl.* July (Bartlett 1860), The patriotism and intellect of Massachusetts was represented in a striking contrast with the littleness and sectionalism which now rules the old Bay States. 1872 *Daily News* 23 July, The coalition just cemented at Baltimore seems to mark a new era in American politics, and sectionalism disappears for the first time in the history of the country. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Mar. 5/3 The scandal of obsolete sectionalism in the attitude of the Liberal party towards the Irish question is brushed away.

Sectionalist (se·kʃənălist). [f. SECTIONAL *a.* + IST.] One who advocates sectional aims or interests.

1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 86 There were abolition fanatics there, it was true—sectionalists, traitors, brothers of Southern secessionists.

Sectionalize (se·kʃənăləiz), *v.* [f. SECTIONAL *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To divide into sections.

1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 87 Is man really so unlike as a whole, so necessarily subdivided and sectionalised? 1907 *Daily Chron.* 9 Apr. 3/6 In my district [*sc.* in the Upper Congo] there is no such thing as 'unoccupied land'...It is impossible to find a..stream which is not sectionalised for the use of specific communities. 1908 *Install. News* II. 73/2 The catalogue is, as far as practicable, sectionalised not only to facilitate reference, but often because customers are more interested in one particular section than another.

2. To render sectional.

1890-1 A. M. FAIRBAIRN *Cathol. Rom. & Angl.* (1899) 317 The resolute antagonist of those Catholic schemes that so laboured to sectionalize the church he loved.

Sectionally (se·kʃənăli), *adv.* [f. SECTIONAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sectional manner; from a sectional point of view.

1869 *Daily News* 8 Mar., Sectionally the Cabinet is wisely chosen...New England has one, New York one, and Maryland one. 1878 J. S. MORGAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 316 Less than one-third of the country is united almost solidly and sectionally to oppose the restoration of silver money to its former estate. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xiii, Sectionally social means anything but social.

Sectionary (se·kʃənări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SECTION *sb.* + -ARY.] †**A.** *adj. Obs. rare.*

1. Of or pertaining to the sections of a book.

a 1734 NORTH *Life John North* (1744) 259 He gives a short Account of each of the Pieces..and of his adding a sectionary Index to the whole.

2. Of or pertaining to a section (of a party, country, etc.).

1816 PICKERING *Vocab. U. S.* 171 *Sectionary*,..I have never met with this uncommon word except in the following instance: 'This veneration arises not from a little and selfish spirit of sectionary attachment.' 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 288 The absence of these is partly compensated by the exclusion of the sectionary leaders.

B. *sb.* A member of a section (of a party, etc.) opposed to the remainder; a partisan.

1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 948 To men who..call them trimmers or waverers, deserters or sectionaries, we have only to say, There is a battle to be fought [etc.]. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 257 M. Martin ascended a sort of tribune to address the sectionaries.

Sectionist (se·kʃənist). [f. SECTION *sb.* + -IST.] A member of a section, a partisan.

1893 *Scotsman* 28 June 6 Peculiarly intolerant, therefore, of any interruption on the part of other sectionists anxious to ventilate their special discovery or view.

Sectionize (se·kʃənəiz), *v.* [f. SECTION *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* **a.** To divide into sections or parts. **b.** To delineate in section. **c.** To cut sections or thin slices from.

a. 1828 *Laws of Texas* Nov. (Bartlett 1860), So much of the vacant lands of the republic shall be surveyed and sectionized, as will be sufficient to satisfy all claims.

b. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* vi. 123 Group after group of strata was examined, sectionised, and mapped.

c. 1896 *Naturalist* Jan. 29 John Butterworth..was one of the first to apply successfully the method of sectionising fossil plants to the study of fossil botany.

Se·ctioplano·graphy. *Civil Engin.* [f. SECTION *sb.* + PLANE *sb.* + -GRAPHY. Cf PLANOGRAPHY.] = PLANOGRAPHY.

1837 F. W. SIMMS (*title*) Sectio-Planography. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVII. 268 A better mode than Sectioplanography for delineating the Drainage and Agricultural Improvements of a Country. 1887 in CASSELL; and in later Dicts.

Sectism (se·ktiz'm). [f. SECT *sb.*[1] + -ISM.] Devotion to a sect; sectarian spirit.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1879 J. KER *Ess. Castism & Sectism* 83 An obvious cause of sectism lies in the fact that religious organisations..have a tendency to become corrupt. 1893 J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* II. 313 Heaven is..humanity delivered from sectism, and come into the liberty and unity of the Spirit.

†**Se·ctist.** *Obs.* [f. SECT *sb.*[1] + -IST.] One who follows a particular sect, a sectary.

1612 HEYWOOD *Apol. Actors* I. 15 Mooved by the sundry exclamations of many seditious sectists in this age. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 65 Then should wee have no Sectists or Separatists divided from the unity of Faith to disturbe us. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* iii. 91 St. Austins saying..wil wel suit such Sectists.

Sectiuncle, sectiuncule. *rare.* [ad. L. type **sectiuncula*, dim. of *sectiōn-em* SECTION *sb.*]

1. A small section.

1838 GLADSTONE *Let.* in G. W. E. Russell *Life* (1891) 55, I have divided it all through into *sectiuncules*, occupying generally from half a page to a whole one.

2. A small, insignificant religious body.

1851 J. MARTINEAU *Misc.* (1852) 384 The crowd streaming from the conventicle of some new sect or sectiuncle.

†**Se·ctive,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *sectīv-us*, f. *secāre* to cut.] Capable of division or cutting.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* XI. iii, If you would make the leek sective [orig. *sectīvum*], or fit for being often cut, the antients directed it to be left very thick sown.

Sector (se·ktəɹ), *sb.* [a. late L. *sector* (Boethius), a special use of L. *sector* (agent-n. f. *secāre* to cut), to translate Gr. τομεύς, lit. 'cutter', but used by Archimedes and later geometers in the senses 1 a and 1 b. Cf. F. *secteur*, Sp. *sector*, It. *settore.*]

I. 1. *Geom.* **a.** A plane figure contained by two radii and the arc of a circle, ellipse, or other central curve intercepted by them.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* III. Def. ix. 83 A Sector of a circle. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* III. Def. ix, A sector of a circle is when an angle is set at the center of that circle. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Hist. Astron.* xvi. 85/1 (U.K.S.) The sector described by its radius vector in a given time round the earth is not changed. 1880 WILLIAMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 50/2 The area of the elliptic sector APCP.

b. *Sector of a sphere*: a solid generated by the revolution of a plane sector about one of its radii.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 371 The centre of equiponderation of the sector of a sphere. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sector of a Sphere*, is a Conical Solid, whose Vertex or Top ends in the Center of the Sphere, and its Base, or Bottom, is a Segment of the same Sphere. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 217 The sector of a sphere consists of a cone and a spherical segment.

2. A body or figure having the shape of a sector. **a.** *gen.* Any piece of mechanism so shaped.

1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 122 At the under side of this Trap-Door, on each side have a small portion of a Circle, or a Sector, whose Center is at that part of the Trap-Door where the Hinge is. 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 145 The double impulse was communicated to the working-beam by the intervention of a sector placed on the end of the pump-rod, working into a sector placed on the end of the working-beam. 1904 *Brit. & Col. Printer* 10 Mar. 14/2 A toothed sector having a pin and slot connection with it gives the required shift to the slide.

b. *Optics.* A division of a disk of paper or other material used in certain demonstrations.

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* vii. 70 The same result will be obtained, if we take a circle of paper and divide it into sectors of the same size as the coloured spaces. 1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1876) 311 A disk with differently-coloured sectors is caused to rotate rapidly.

c. *Astr.* (See quot. 1863.)

1840 DICK *Sider. Heavens* 447 It appears..that one of these luminous fans or sectors was observed by Sir J. Herschel. 1863 HIND *Introd. Astron.* (ed. 3) 205 *Sector, Luminous*, in the head of a comet, is an emanation from the nucleus brighter than the rest of the coma in the form of a fan or sector.

d. *Electr.* A small piece of ebonite forming part of a Bertsch machine.

1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* 40 This little piece of ebonite (technically known as the 'sector') and its stand must be attached to the base board...Opposite this sector, but on the other side of the glass plate, is a 'comb'.

e. *Path.* A portion of the field of vision cut off in certain diseases of the optic nerve.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 842 There was enormous swelling of the left optic nerve, coupled with loss of a large sector of the temporal portion of the field [of vision].

f. *Ent.* (See quot. 1861.)

1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 343 *Sectors*, longitudinal nerves which strike the principal nerves at an angle, and usually reach the apex or hind margin of the wing.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sector-like, -shaped* adjs.; **sector machine** (see quot. 1888); **sector-piece**, a sector-shaped portion of any object.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 378 Occasionally, instead of complete blindness of one-half of the visual field, *sector, or quadrant-like defects are found in the upper or lower half. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.*, **Sector machine*, a cylindrical printing machine. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 122 Fix a couple of Springs under the Frame, each of which must bear against the Limbs of the *Sector-Pieces. 1902 ORDE-BROWNE *Armour* in *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 670/2 Before adoption a sector piece was subjected to three blows from projectiles fired from an Elswick 100-ton breech-loading gun. *Ibid.*, The joints shown in this figure indicate that the turret roof is built up of fifteen *sector-shaped pieces.

II. 4. A mathematical instrument, invented by Thomas Hood (see quot. 1598) and improved by Edmund Gunter, used for the mechanical solution of various problems.

In its present form it consists of two flat rules stiffly hinged together, inscribed with various kinds of scales. In Hood's form, a graduated arc was an essential part of the instrument, and from some of the inventor's remarks it would appear that the name was given with reference to the form of the apparatus (see sense 1), not, as might be supposed, to its function in performing proportional division of lines.

1598 HOOD *Making & Use of Sector* 1 A Sector is a mathematicall instrument consisting of 2. feete, one moue-

able, an other fixed, making an angle, and of a circumferentall Limbe. 1624 GUNTER (*title*), The Description and use of the Sector, the Crosse-staffe, and other Instruments. 1673 E. BROWNE *Trav. Germ.*, etc. (1677) 18 By applying an Instrument joynted like a Carpenters Rule, or a Sector, the Skin is held fast. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* 7 G 1/1 If a little error be committed in making up the sector, the most of it goes off again in the substraction of the triangle. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 387 In the sector I am going to describe, Mr. Ramsden has obviated the inconveniences attendant on the use of former sectors. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 233 The sector is really a proportional measuring guage, suited for nearly all requirements of the watch and clock maker.

attrib. 1664 WAKELY *Mariners-Compass rectified* (1694) 273 All Sector-Lines or Scales, meet at the center of the Head (where the Joint is) at the left-hand, and from thence are figured towards the right, each being twice repeated; that is, one on each Leg or Side of the Sector answering one another. *Ibid.* 274 The Use of the Sector-Lines for Projection.

5. An astronomical instrument consisting of a telescope turning about the centre of a graduated arc. See DIP-*sector*, ZENITH-*sector*.

1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 129 By my Sector it is but 14*i*. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 511 A sector of six feet radius, whose divided arc was somewhat more than 51 degrees. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 765/2 Bradley's sector as originally made was not reversible, and therefore only fit for measuring differences or variations. 1877 CHAMBERS *Astron.* 920 *Astronomical Sector*, an instrument for finding the distance between two objects whose distance is too great to be measured by means of a micrometer in a fixed telescope.

Sector (se·ktəɹ), *v.* [f. SECTOR *sb.*] *trans.* To divide into sectors; to provide with sectors.

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 292 Circularly rounded pinions may be used as drivers if they are sectored large. 1902 W. D. JONES in *Times* 1 Dec. 15/2 It would appear that..the Belle Isle light..is not correctly sectored.

Sector, variant of SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

Sectoral (se·ktŏrăl), *a.* [f. SECTOR *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining to a sector. (See SECTOR *sb.* 4.)

1778 HUTTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 768 In this manner were computed all the differences which were necessary to be found, and placed in their proper squares formed by the meeting of the horizontal and vertical lines, or rings and sectoral spaces, in the following set of..tables. 1828 MOORE *Pract. Navig.* 19 The sectoral lines are like so many similar triangles, namely, that their corresponding sides are proportional.

Sectorial (sektō·ɹriăl), *a.*[1] [f. SECTOR *sb.* + -IAL.] Of or pertaining to a sector. **a.** Pertaining to the instrument called a sector (SECTOR *sb.* 4, 5).

1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 387 The principles on which he has founded the several improvements, consist in the means of uniting the sectorial tube to its axis. 1808 TROUGHTON *ibid.* XCIX. 130 The sectorial arc must also be adjusted to its proper radius. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 180/1 The others [scales] are merely laid down for convenience on such blank spaces as are left by the converging or sectorial scales.

b. Pertaining to a sector of a circle or a sphere (see SECTOR *sb.* 1 a, 1 b).

1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Philos.* § 781 I. 621 These circles..are either (1.) all in parallel planes..and cut the spherical surface into zones, in which case the harmonic is called zonal; or (2.) they..cut the surface into equal sectors, in which case the harmonic is called sectorial; or (3.) some [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The sectorial harmonics of order *i* [etc.]. 1880 WILLIAMSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 50/2 If the sectorial area APCP, be represented by S, the preceding result gives [etc.].

Sectorial (sektŏ·ɹriăl), *a.*[2] [f. mod.L. *sectōrius* (f. L. *sector* cutter: see SECTOR *sb.*) + -AL.] Having the function of cutting; the distinctive epithet of the premolar teeth.

1840–5 OWEN *Odontogr.* I. 475 In most Carnivora one molar tooth on each side of both jaws has its crown modified,..for reacting upon the opposite tooth, like the blades of scissors,..whence Cuvier has applied to this tooth the name of '*Dent carnassière*', which I have rendered '*dens sectorius*', sectorial, or scissor-tooth. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 22 We perceive in the Lion large pointed canine teeth,..and a series of sectorial teeth behind them. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 28 The third premolar is yet larger..and from its trenchant shape is called the upper sectorial tooth.

Sectorie, obs. form of SECTARY.

Sectour(e, var. ff. SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

Sectroid (se·ktroid). [? f. SECTOR + -OID.] The curved surface of two adjacent groins in a vault.

1860 NEWLANDS *Carp. & Joiner's Assist.* 77 To find the covering of the smaller sectroid BPLOD. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

† Se·ctuary. *Obs.* [Altered form of SECTARY, after words like *textuary*.] = SECTARY.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 17 *marg.*, Such Sermons I meane as our sectuaries preach in ditches. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 17 God was displeased with the Meccans for the rigorous persecuting of him and his Sectuaries. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Hist. New Eng.* xlii. 99 The pitifull and erronious Doctrines broached by the Sectuaries.

Sectur(e, var. ff. SECUTOR *Obs.*, executor.

† Se·cture. *Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. type **sectūra*, f. L. *sect-*, *secāre* to cut: see -URE.] A section, cutting, incision.

a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Comedies & Poems* (1651) 210 Thus would his Horse and all his vectures, Reduc'd to figures and to sectures, Produce new Diagrams and Lectures. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., *Insects*, are all little animals whose bodies are divided by several cuts as 'twere and sectures.

† Secubate, *v. Obs.*–[o] [a. L. *sēcūbāt-*, ppl. stem of *sēcubāre*, f. *sē-* (SE- *prefix*) + *cubāre* to lie down.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Secubate*, to lie alone [*printed* aboue] by ones selfe.

Secular (se·kiŭlăɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3–6 seculer, 4–5 seculere (4 seculeer, secler, 4–5 seclere, 5 secluer), 5– secular. [In branch I, a. OF. *seculer* (mod.F. *séculier*), ad. L. *sæculāris*, f. *sæcul-um* generation, age, in Christian Latin 'the world', esp. as opposed to the church: see SECLE, SIECLE. In branch II, directly ad. L. *sæculāris*, whence mod.F. *séculaire* (which has influenced some of the uses in Eng.). Cf. Sp. *seglar*, *secular*, Pg. *secular*, It. *secolare*.]

A. *adj.*

I. Of or pertaining to the world.

1. *Eccl.* Of members of the clergy: Living 'in the world' and not in monastic seclusion, as distinguished from 'regular' and 'religious'. *Secular canon*: see CANON *sb.*[2] *Secular abbot*: a person not a monk, who had the title and part of the revenues, but not the functions of an abbot.

In early use frequently placed after the sb., as *canon secular*, *priest secular*.

c 1290 *St. Edmund* 393 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 442 At salesburi he was i-maket Canoun seculer. 1297–1868 [see CANON[2] 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27244 In scrift..enentes clergis seculers to þe preist at frain it feres o symony. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 73 And þus boþ clerkes seculers and þese newe religiouse forsaken þes two weies. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxii. 1054, I þat am in Religioun, I naue no pouwer to 3iue no mete, Ne drinke..þerfore me were beter seculer. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 23 Why be ye evill apaid that secular priestes should preach the gospell? 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 426 A seculer man, deane or incombent there. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 138, I made use of some Fryers, who all ways have their litle wrangles w[th] y[e] secular Clergy. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 86 Cardinal Rochefaucault being the Secular or Commendatory Abbot thereof. 1782 BURKE *Penal Laws agst. Ir. Cath.* Wks. VI. 235 The secular clergy..are universally fallen into such contempt, that [etc.]. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. viii. § 84 Before the middle of the eighth century..the secular were synodically divided from the monastic clerks. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Feb. 5/5 A few secular priests have been invited to co-operate with the resident clergy.

b. Of or pertaining to secular clergy.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 4/2 Reducing regular Monasteries, to a secular state. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 96 It differs little from the secular Habit. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 414 At the commencement of the fourteenth century..the number of the secular colleges [was], at the highest, only three. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 312 The minster of Saint Werburh, then a secular, but soon to become a monastic, house.

2. Belonging to the world and its affairs as distinguished from the church and religion; civil, lay, temporal. Chiefly used as a negative term, with the meaning non-ecclesiastical, non-religious, or non-sacred.

Secular arm (= med.L. *brachium seculare*, F. *le bras séculier*): the civil power as 'invoked' by the church to punish offenders.

c 1290 *Beket* 926 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 133 And also 3e bez alȝare In seculer court to demen me: And þat nolde nouȝt wel fare. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 God..nele þet me maki uorewerdes ne noyses ne nyedes seculeres þerinne [i.e. His house]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 384 Þai occupien not siche lordeschipis in propir, as seculer lordis done, but in comoun, like as the apostles. *Ibid.* 385 As prisonynge & hangynge..the whiche sum-tyme bylongyd oonly to the seculer arme of þe chirche. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 97 þat no man schulde accuse þe ministres of holy chirche to fore a seculer iuge. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 289 Simplicius the pope ..ordeynede that noo clerke scholde receyve investiture.. of the honde of a seculer lay man [*Trevisa* of a lewed man, L. *de manu laici*]. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 93 Kirk men suld pay tailles, tributis and impositiouns to seclere kingis or princis. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 34 The tongue is the Iudge..; the rest of our faculties and powers, are but the secular executioners of his sentence. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xv. § 14 And divers Councils likewise there are, which have forbidden the Clergy to bear any Secular Office. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 517 Then shall they seek..Places and titles, and with these to joine Secular power, though feigning still to act By spiritual. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* v. 165, I intend not here to speak of Religion at all as a Divine, but as a mere Secular man. 1737 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 292 Truth never fears the encounter; she scorns the aid of the secular arm. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 366 The elected bishop could neither be consecrated, nor receive any secular profits. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. ii. (1863) 20 We stigmatize first one department of life and then another as secular; and so religion becomes a pale, unreal thing. 1873 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* III. III. vi. 333 Bishops now were great secular magistrates, and..were involved in secular occupations. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* IV. i, A secular kingdom is but as the body Lacking a soul.

† b. *transf.* Of or belonging to the 'common' or 'unlearned' people. *Obs.*

1589 NASHE *Greene's Arcadia* To Gentl. Students A 3 b, Oft haue I obserued..a secular wit that hath lined all dayes of his life by, what doe you lacke? to be more iudiciall..then our quadrant crepundlos. 1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* v. i, Hang him poore snip, a secular shop-wit!

c. Of literature, history, art (esp. music), hence of writers or artists: Not concerned with or devoted to the service of religion; not sacred; profane. Also of buildings, etc., Not dedicated to religious uses.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 297 Not medlynge ther speche with seculer fables and fryuoles. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 262/2 One..neither in holi scripture nor in seculare litterature vnlerned. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Secular-Music*...Whatever is composed for the theatre or chamber. An expression used in opposition to that of Sacred-Music. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 120 The plays mentioned in the preceding pages, and especially the miracles and mysteries, differed greatly from the secular plays..acted by strolling companies. 1814 CHALMERS *Evid. Chr. Revelation* (1849) I. II. iii. 193 Points in which the historians of the New Testament can be brought into comparison with the secular historians of the age. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* III. 85 The education of youth was entrusted not to them [the priests], but to the professors of secular arts—rhetoric and gymnastics. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 593 He says that, the bells of the horses, things simply secular, should bear the same inscription as the plate on the high priest's forehead. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* iii. (1869) 97 A secular building was fitted up as a temporary house of prayer. 1874 REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 79 The supernatural conditions attributed in secular legend to the births of Buddha, Pythagoras and Plato. 1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* 63 The excellence of her work in secular silks.

d. Of education, instruction: Relating to non-religious subjects. (In recent use often implying the exclusion of religious teaching from education, or from the education provided at the public expense.) Of a school: That gives secular education.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 32 b, The argumentes of seculer doctryne be argumentes of reason. 1867 in G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* (1868) 50 This may be hoped for in the increase of liberal sound and secular education in the Ottoman dominions. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xiii. 377 The Holy See has always laid down..that secular and religious instruction shall never be parted in Education. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. xiii. 424 These persons maintain that the public Schools should be purely secular.

3. Of or belonging to the present or visible world as distinguished from the eternal or spiritual world; temporal, worldly.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvi. § 5 Religion and the feare of God as well induceth secular prosperitie as euerlasting blisse in the world to come. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 251 The Sun and Moon have either a Spiritual signification or a Secular. 1875 GLADSTONE in McCabe *Life Holyoake* II. 163, I do not believe that secular motives are adequate either to propel or to restrain the children of our race. 1883 T. H. GREEN *Proleg. Ethics* Introd. 1 Nor does it [moral philosophy] by any means confine itself to what are commonly counted secular or 'positive' considerations.

b. Caring for the present world only; unspiritual. *rare.*

c 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* vii. in *Anglia* X. 388/9 If they were of so harde herte and seculere affeccyone þat [etc.]. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ii. (1857) 20 Esau..is called in Scripture a profane, that is, not a distinctly vicious, but a secular or worldly person.

absol. 1883 A. EDERSHEIM *Life Jesus* II. 275 To the secular nothing is spiritual; and to the spiritual nothing is secular.

¶ 4. Used for: Pertaining to or accepting the doctrine of secularism; secularistic.

Secular societies: the designation given to associations formed in various English towns from 1852 onwards to promote the spread of secularist opinions.

1856 R. OWEN in McCabe *Life Holyoake* (1908) I. 292 Your Secular Societies will do well to merge into this movement. 1870 G. J. HOLYOAKE *Princ. Secularism* 47 We believe there is sufficient soundness in Secular principles to make way in the world. 1884 T. COOPER *Men of the Time* (ed. 12) 582/1 Mr. Holyoake is editor of the *Present*, a secular and co-operative review.

II. Of or belonging to an age or long period.

5. Occurring or celebrated once in an age, century, or very long period. *Secular games, plays, shows* [L. *ludi sæculares*]: in ancient Rome, games continuing three days and three nights celebrated once in an 'age' or period of 120 years. *Secular poem* [L. *carmen sæculare*], a hymn composed to be sung at the secular games.

1599 PONT *Right Reckoning of Years* 34 Supposing that they celebrate their secular solemnities at the precise end and periode of every hundreth yeare. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xlii. I. 221 The secular solemnities, exhibited by Claudius Cæsar, in the Circensian games. 1606 — *Sueton.* 52 He restored againe..the Sæcular playes. 1696 B. KENNETT *Antiq. Rome* II. v. vii. 292 The famous Secular Poem of Horace was compos'd for this last Day, in the Secular Games held by Augustus. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* iii. 62 To..divert the People..during the Secular Shews. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 3 Apr. (O.H.S.) I. 215 A Letter sent to our University from the University of Francfort..inviting them to celebrate the secular day of the Foundation of their University, w[ch] will happen in this month, it being now just two Hundred years since that University was Founded. 1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 46 ¶ 1 When Augustus celebrated the secular year, which was kept but once in a century. 1790 GIBBON *Misc. Wks.* (1814) III. 418 Had a fortnight more been given to the philosopher, he might have celebrated his secular festival [*sc.* his hundredth birthday]. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxviii. (1865) VIII. 332 One man asserted that the secular fire would descend at the moment when..he should be seen transformed into a stork. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 509 M. Julius Philippus..celebrated the secular games in commemoration of the thousandth year from the founding of the city. 1884 *Q. Rev.* July 1 Changes in..the City..have been going on at a rate..unknown to any former generation, except those distant generations which have witnessed the rare and secular phenomena of siege, fire, and plague.

6. Living or lasting for an age or ages. Now chiefly with reminiscence of the scientific sense 7. Also (of trees, etc., after F. *séculaire*), centuries old.

1629 DONNE *Serm.* cxxxi. Wks. 1839 V. 435 If I had a secular glass, a glass that would run an age.., it would not be enough to tell the godly man what his treasure..is. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1707 And though her body die, her fame survives, A secular bird ages of lives. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* 311 Slowsure Britain's secular might. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xli, I shall be thy mate no more, Tho' following with an upward mind The wonders that have come to thee, Thro' all the secular to-be. 1868–9 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* v. (1871) 103 The improvement of man is secular—not the work of an hour or of a day. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 253 We envy the secular leisures of Methusaleh. 1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* I. 36 A fern field surrounded by a forest of secular trees. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. with Donkey* 186 Mankind outlives saecular animosities, as a single man awakens from the passions of a day. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. VI. CXV. 653 The centripetal forces are permanent and secular forces, working from age to age.

7. In scientific use, of processes of change: Having a period of enormous length; continuing through long ages. **a.** *Astr.* Chiefly of changes in the orbits or the periods of revolution of the planets, as in *secular acceleration, inequality, equation, variation.* The terms *secular acceleration, secular variation* were formerly also used (with reference to the sense 'century' of L. *sæculum*) for the amount of change per 100 years; similarly †*secular precession* (see quot. 1812).

1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 537 M. De La Place..found the secular equation of the moon to be due to the action of the sun on the moon. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* ix. 63 The secular precession, that is, the accumulated precessions of 100 years. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) II. 275 In the orbit of Mars, the eccentricity is diminishing. The secular variation of the greatest equation of the centre is—37″. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* iii. (1849) 16 Secular inequalities. 1862 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1890) III. 522 On the Secular Acceleration of the Moon's Mean Motion.

b. *Geol., Physical Geogr., Meteorol.*, etc.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* Gloss., *Secular Refrigeration*, the periodical cooling and consolidation of the globe, from a supposed original state of fluidity from heat. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 308 A secular elevation of the coast-line. 1861 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* xiii. (1871) 399 The earth's magnetic constituents are gradually changing their distribution. This change is very slow; it is technically called the secular change. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* xvi. (1870) 320 Those grand secular tides which have punctually recurred every ten thousand years. 1872 — *True Vine* v. 176 The earth has its secular seasons as well as its annual. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* ii. 53 The contraction of the globe due to secular cooling. 1887 ABERCROMBY *Weather* 312 Annual and Secular Variations.

B. *sb.*

1. a. One of the secular clergy, as distinguished from a 'regular' or monk.

c 1290 *Beket* 2205 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 169 Ase heo strepten of his clopes, al a-boue heo founde Clerkene clopes..and.. Monekene Abite with-Inne..So þat he was Monek with-Inne, and seculer with-oute. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 243, & þer was acho inne four & fifty 3ere, Norised with Wynne, nunne and seculere. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6930 He belpid seculers to putt oute Fra þe kirke, and monkes denoute sette þare. 1544 BALE *Chron. Sir J. Oldcastle* 27 b, The seculars and fryers coude not therin agre. *Ibid.* 39 Both..seculars and relygyouse with dyuerse other expert menne. *a* 1698 T. WHITE *Monitions & Advices* II. (1720) 49 Monks, who despised the settled Clergy, and called them Seculars, giving themselves the glorious Title of Religious. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. (1875) 67 Endeavours to bring the seculars into a monastic life.

b. A Jesuit lay brother.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 10 The others were like the Seculars among the Jesuites, And..did (as the Seculars do) perform the Civill part of those Religious Services.

c. (See quot.)

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Seculars*, those unordained officiates of any cathedral, or chapel, whose functions are confined to the vocal department of the choir.

2. One who is engaged in the affairs of the world as distinct from the church; a layman.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 77 Now bi new lawis, clerkis propriun to hemsilf temporal þingis as seclereis. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. i. in *Anglia* VIII. 135/30 Hir fader and modir, as maner is of seculers, wolde haue rayed hir wiþ delycate garmentis. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 215/3 The monkes that goon out of theyr..selles yf they conuerse longe with seculiers they muste nedes lese theyr holynesse. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* II. (1517) A iij b, In many places be some counsellers & gouernours of courtes, as well seculers as ecclesyastykes. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 119 *marg.*, The seculars of the Realme in Scotland ar gouerned be the burgesse lawis. 1628 HALES *Lett. fr. Synod Dort* 6 The clergy thought that if it pleased the Seculars it might be done. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4726/1 All the Inhabitants.. as well Seculars as Ecclesiasticks. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Miguel & his Mother* Wks. 1853 I. 560/1 Seculars do not know half the wickedness of the world...until their pastors lead them by the hand and show it them.

†3. A centennial anniversary, centenary. *rare.*

1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 20 June (O.H.S.) I. 263 King of Prussia's Letter to yᵉ Queen about yᵉ University's Celebration of yᵉ Secular of Francfurt. 1708 *Ibid.* 27 June I. 267. 1709 *Ibid.* 27 Aug. II. 241, 242.

Secularism (se·kiʉlăriz'm). [f. SECULAR *a.* + -ISM.]

1. The doctrine that morality should be based solely on regard to the well-being of mankind in the present life, to the exclusion of all considerations drawn from belief in God or in a future state.

a. As the name of a definitely professed system of belief, promulgated by G. J. Holyoake (1817–1906).

b. In wider sense, as denoting a mode of thought more or less implicitly held and acted upon.

1851 G. J. HOLYOAKE in *Reasoner* 10 Dec., I will lay before the meeting the present position of Secularism in the provinces. 1854 — (*title*) Secularism the practical Philosophy of the People. *Ibid.* 5 The term Secularism has been chosen ..as expressing a certain positive and ethical element, which the terms 'Infidel', 'Sceptic', 'Atheist' do not express. 1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 161 *note*, The earlier Judaism is quite anomalous in its mixture of morality and secularism. 1869 M. PATTISON *Serm.* (1885) 172 Influential leaders of opinion warn us against..materialism, secularism, unbelief. 1884 J. PARKER *Larger Ministry* 28 Secularism cannot be more industrious than Christianity calls upon its followers to be.

2. The view that education, or the education provided at the public cost, should be purely secular.

1872 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 517 The Nonconformists who advocate pure Secularism in national education have in effect come down from their religious position altogether.

Secularist (se·kiʉlărist), *sb.* (and *a.*). [f. SECULAR + -IST.]

1. One of the secular clergy; a secular. *nonce-use.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 62 Of the Modern Fanaticism of Seditious Priests of all the Religions in Europe, viz...Of Secularists and Regularists [etc.].

2. An adherent of secularism.

1851 *Reasoner* 3 Dec., We use the word Secularist as best indicating that province of human duty which belongs to this life. 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 219 India.. whether governed by Christian men or by secularists, shall feel that it must amend its usages. 1876 GLADSTONE *Relig. Thought* v. in *Contemp. Rev.* June 22 The Secularist..does not of necessity assert anything but the positive and exclusive claims of the purposes, the enjoyments, and the needs, presented to us in the world of sight and experience.

3. An advocate of exclusively secular education.

1872 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 522 The attempt of the 'Secularists' to deprive the poor of religious teaching in the schools.

4. *attrib.* and *appos.* (quasi-*adj.*).

1890 *Times* 31 Jan. 9/3 This characteristic sample of secularist intolerance. 1904 DOR. P. HUGHES *Life H. P. Hughes* xii. 295 Mr. Jacob Holyoake, the well-known Secularist leader.

Secularistic (se·kiʉlări·stik), *a.* [f. SECULARIST + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by secularism.

1862 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 93 People, whose cheap theological literature is..limited to Orthodox tracts and Secularistic periodicals. 1881 *Spectator* No. 2766. 851 Women will imbibe education the more..kindly, that it will have no ostentatiously secularistic aspect. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 465 The secularistic policy of Gambetta and Jules Ferry.

Secularity (sekiʉlæ·riti). Forms: 4 seculerte, 6–7 secularitie, 6– secularity. [a. F. *séculairité* (1332 in Hatz.-Darm.; there may have been an AF. **seculerté*, whence Wyclif's form), or directly ad. med.L. *sæcularitās*, f. L. *sæcularis* SECULAR *a.*: see -ITY.]

I. †1. Secular jurisdiction or power. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 385 How þai [*sc.* clerks] bissyen hem to be kyngis in her owne, & reioycen hem fulle myche in þat cyuylite or seculerte. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 458 That kirkmen suld nocht be No way subjectit to secularitie.

2. The condition or quality of being secular. **a.** Occupation with secular affairs (on the part of clergymen); secular spirit or behaviour. Also occas. in wider application: Worldliness, absence of religious principle or feeling.

1395 [PURVEY] *Remonstrance* (1851) 147 Seculerte among prelatis and curatis so that oon take to himsilf alle the profitis of a chirche. 1636 *Unbishop. Timothy & Titus* 30 Your Lordly Pompe,..luxury, secularity, suppression of preaching. 1690 E. GEE *Jesuit's Mem.* 123 The Bishop's own Person..[should be far] from..the prophanity and secularity of others, as Hawking, Hunting,..and the like. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat.* II. (1847) 231 This secularity of the clergy in complying with the..vanities..of the age. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* II. 53 Sloth, pride, and secularity, have crept upon those [clergy] to whom mankind should look up for patterns of purity and heavenly-mindedness. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. iv. 80 Jocelin, we see, is not without secularity: Our *Dominus Abbas* was intent enough on the divine offices; but then his Account-Books—? 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 497 The tendency to secularity which beset all the Teutonic Churches from the beginning. 1882 SEELEY *Nat. Relig.* 235 There is a Lower Life, of which the animating principle is secularity, or—in the popular sense of the word —materialism.

†b. Lay character (of persons claiming to be in holy orders). *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1616 CHAMPNEY *Voc. Bpa.* 152 For the more cleare proofe of the meere secularitie, and pure nullitie of the pretended clergy of England, as well as of other falsly reformed churches: I will here examine the ordination of them.

c. Secular or non-sacred character; absence of connexion with religion.

1879 *Sat. Mus. Rev.* 6 Sept. 304 At times..the music is really elevating, when suddenly we are back again into secularity. 1920 *Spectator* 25 June 1075/1 To insist..on the secularity of the State can only help to degrade it.

3. A secular matter. Chiefly *pl.* Secular affairs; worldly possessions or pursuits.

1511 COLET *Serm. Convocation* B j, If you haue any secular besynes, ordeyne them to be iuges that be mooste in content in yᵉ churche..of this secularitie. 1640 BP. HALL *Epist.* III. viii. 267 How much are we beholden to these kinde friends, who are so desirous to ease us of these unproper secularities? 1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* 144 As to the ordination of elders, or priests, how do men seek the office for mere..advancement in the secularities of life! 1840 J. J. GURNEY in *Mem.* (1854) II. 228 My secularities afford me many large opportunities of helping others. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* x, The morning he [the Curate] spent at the school, or in parish secularities. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 401 To throw a golden halo round the secularity of the hour. 1878 R. BRAITHWAITE *Life W. Pennefather* xi. 248 It was a rule with him..that no secularity should be permitted to intrude on the Lord's day.

†4. The civil authority or body. *Obs.*

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 380 The chiefe Officer of the Secularitie is the Palatine of Hungaria. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* 1. 11, I intend speedily to write unto the secularity of that ancient city [*i. e.* Babylon], and dedicate my method of Physick to it.

II. 5. The character of having long periods

1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. vi. (1876) 147 Geology has initiated us into the secularity of nature, and taught us to..exchange our Mosaic and Ptolemaic schemes for her large style.

Secularization (se·kiʉlărəizē·ʃən). [f. SECULARIZE *v.* + -ATION. Cf. F. *sécularisation* (16–17 c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The conversion of an ecclesiastical or religious institution or its property to secular possession and use; the conversion of an ecclesiastical state or sovereignty to a lay one; an instance of this.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Secularization*, the Act of Secularizing. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 273 A Bill for restoring to it all that it had lost by Impropriations and other Secularizations. 1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* II. xiv. 343 Till its [*sc.* the abbey of Fulda's] late secularization, its superior was a prince of the empire. 1864 *Realm* 20 Apr. 4 He..wished to accompany the restoration of the Pope by a number of reasonable reforms,..namely,..the secularisation of the administration [etc.]. 1875 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. xv. 204 The secularisation of the property of the Religious Orders has been..a more or less rude..operation. 1888 BURGON 12 *Gd. Men* I. iv. 428 He resented the secularization of revenues set apart for a..sacred purpose.

b. *transf.*

1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Some Old Actors*, But we find him [*sc.* a chorister], after the probation of a twelvemonth or so, reverting to a secular condition, and become one of us... The first fruits of his secularization was an engagement upon the boards of Old Drury.

2. The giving of a secular or non-sacred character or direction to (art, studies, etc.); the placing (of morals) on a secular basis; the restricting (of education) to secular subjects.

1863 E. A. BOND in *Fine Arts Quarterly* I. 87 With this secularization of the art, painting rapidly threw off the conventionalism of the cloister. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) I. 57 It..thus prepared the way for that general secularisation of the European intellect. 1875 T. HILL *True Order Stud.* 143 Persons who demand the entire secularization of the schools. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* Pref. 4 Now that moral injunctions are losing the authority given by their supposed sacred origin, the secularization of morals is becoming imperative.

3. The alteration of the status of an ecclesiastic from regular to secular.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2146 Secularization means..the legal absolution from ecclesiastical vows.

Secularize (se·kiʉlărəiz), *v.* [ad. F. *sécula-riser*, f. L. *sæcŭlār-is* SECULAR: see -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make secular; to convert from ecclesiastical to civil possession or use; esp. to place (church property) at the disposal of the secular or civil power.

1611 COTGR., *Seculariser*, to secularize; to make secular, lay, temporall. 1657 *Treat. Conf. Sin* 344 To surprize the possessions of the Church, and to Secularize her patrimony. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5345/3 They insist that this Provostship does not come under the Number of Ecclesiastical Benefices, having been Secularized. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. 251 *note*, He was a Monk..[and] he [only] took the liberty to discover his true Name after he had seculariz'd himself, and was become, as it were, a Layman. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 274 Secularizing..the Revenues appropriated to the Church. 1791 MACKINTOSH *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 46 The Treaty of Westphalia secularised many of the most opulent benefices of Germany. 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. iii. 233 In their opinion, it was impious to secularise ecclesiastical property, and turn it aside to profane purposes.

transf. 1784 PITT *Let.* 7 Mar. in *Grenville Papers* (1852) I. 207 To secularise, if I may use the expression, the Solicitor-General, and make him Chancellor of the Exchequer.

b. To laicize; to deprive of clerical character or remove from clerical control.

1846 *English Rev.* Sept. VI. 150 You will have deprived them of their occupation by secularizing the profession of a teacher. 1885 *Observer* 20 Dec. (Cassell), The work of secularizing the hospitals has been accomplished.

2. To make (a monk or monastic order) secular.

1683 [see SECULARIZED *ppl.a.*]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Secularize*, to make Secular; as To *Secularize a Monk.* 1773 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 9/1 The Bishop of Liege having met with some opposition in his attempts to secularize a convent of monks. 1845 J. H. NEWMAN *Ess. Developm.* 316 The successive Catholics of Seleucia had abolished Monachism and were secularizing the clergy.

3. To dissociate or separate from religious or spiritual concerns, to convert to material and temporal purposes; to turn (a person, his mind, etc.) from a religious or spiritual state to worldliness.

1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat.* II. (1847) 231 So many ministers of late are more than ever secularized in their conversation. 1735 JOHNSON, *Secularize*...2. To make worldly. 1831 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLIV. 353 A worldly-minded husband might have secularised and deadened her heart. 1866

LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* iv. (1875) 190 The Jews secularized the Messianic promises. 1869 M. PATTISON *Serm.* (1885) 173 We hear much of a crisis of the faith, of the perilous errors which are abroad in society, of the aggressions of science, of the attempts to secularise education. 1876 *Times* 8 Nov. 9/3 The policy of those Governments has become secularized. 1877 J. C. COX *Ch. Derbysh.* II. 400 This chapel..had long been secularised, and..used as a malt-house.

4. *intr.* To adopt secular costume or habits.

1864 T. HUGHES in *Reader* 5 Nov. 567/2 Henrietta Caracciolo..secularized in everything except the black veil.

Hence **Se·cularized** *ppl. a.*, **Se·cularizing** *vbl. sb.* (in quots. *attrib.*). Also **Se·cularizer.**

1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iii. 16 The History of Calvinism, by Monsieur Maimbourg, a Secularised Jesuit. 1803 H. REPTON *Observ. Th. & Pract. Landsc. Gard.* xii. (1840) 274 It is..impossible to live in..the secularized abbey..preserving all the apartments to their original uses. 1825 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. vi. 89, I feel the secularizing effect of worldly company. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* v. (1848) I. 74 We find men..holding out against the secularizing action of worldly things. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* v. xxxi. (1878) 525 Perhaps there is not a more thoroughly secularised population in Europe than the inhabitants of this 'holy city'. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* II. 308 The secularized part of the nave. 1887 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 88 He was..not in the least a secularizer, but..a sanctifier.

Secularly (se·kiŭlăli), *adv.* [f. SECULAR *a.* + -LY².] In a secular manner.

1. As a secular or lay person; in accordance with secular procedure; non-ecclesiastically.

*c*1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 384 For in sum place..þe clergi occupieþ þe seculer lordeschip seculerli. 1395 [PURVEY] *Remonstrance* (1851) 152 Not oon shal appropre secularli to himsilf alle the profitis of the chirche. *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 342 A monke þat was..syttand prowdelie vppon a fayr palfray, and rydyng passand secularelie. 1511 COLET *Serm. Conforming* B iv b, Pristes nat lyuynge pristly but secularly. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. (1860) 239 As I held ecclesiastically by the one party, and secularly by the other, I found my position..a rather anomalous one. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 141 One was..secularly dressed, but with an indelible clerical stamp. 1900 *Nation* 19 Mar. 975/1 Offences with which the Reformers dealt ecclesiastically are now dealt with secularly.

2. In a worldly manner; in a manner characterized by the absence of religion.

1840 G. S. FABER *Regeneration* 180 The youth had received Baptism dissemblingly, secularly, impenitently, unworthily. 1893 E. L. WAKEMAN in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 3 Aug., Possessing no secularly educative or diverting features. *Comb.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Feb. 6/6 A secularly-conducted State school.

†**Se·cularness.** *Obs.* [f. SECULAR *a.* + -NESS.] Secularity, worldliness.

1530 *Proper Dyaloge* in *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 143 The landes of lordes and dukes to possesse Thei [the clergy] abasshe not a whit the seculernes Chalengynge tytles of worldly honour. 1730 in BAILEY (fol.). 1755 in JOHNSON.

†**Se·culary,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *séculaire* SECULAR: see -ARY.] Secular.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* II. (1520) 13/1 So great a charge of seculary thynges, and so pure..a contemplacyon of spyrytuall thynges.

Seculeer, -er(e, -ier, obs. ff. SECULAR.

Secund (sī·kənd), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. L. *secund-us* following: see SECOND *a.*] Arranged on or directed towards one side only; esp. *Bot.* of the flowers, leaves, or other organs of a plant.

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 21 *Secund*, all the flowers inclining to one side of the stem. *a* 1815 ROXBURGH *Flora Ind.* (1820) I. 299 Spikelets alternate, sessile, secund. 1882-4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 142 Branches and branchlets sparse,..often secund.

†**Secu·ndan,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *secundānus*, f. *secund-us* SECOND *a.*: see -AN.] **A.** *adj. Path.* Of a fever: Recurring every second day.

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 114 þe fyuere secundan.

B. *sb.* in *plural. Math.* (See quot. 1704.)

a 1703 WALLIS in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) II. 17 And because the first Member doth represent a Series of Equals; the second of Secundans; the third, of Quartans, &c. Therefore the first Member is to be multiplied by S; the second, by ½ S; the third by ⅓ S [etc.]. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Secundans*, in Mathematicks, is an infinite series of Numbers, beginning from Nothing, and proceeding as the squares of Numbers in Arithmetical Proportion. 1795 in HUTTON *Math. Dict.*

Secundari, -ye, obs. ff. SECONDARY.

†**Secundate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *secundāt-*, ppl. stem of *secundāre* to direct favourably, f. *secund-us* favourable.] Hence †**Secunda·tion.** (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Secundate*, to make lucky or prosperous, to make better or amend a thing. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Secundation*, a secunding, forwarding, or making prosperous. 1854 WEBSTER, *Secundation*, prosperity. (*Not used.*)

†**Secundeian,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. f. *Secund-us*: see next.] *Secundeian godhead*: ? the evil deity of the dualistic system of Secundus.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 99 May it be deemed..that any higher power, or Secundeian godhead, .. presently menaceth any such heinous mischeefes,..as are strongly imagined?

Secundian (sīkə·ndiăn). [f. *Secund-us* (see below) + -(I)AN.] A follower of Secundus, a Gnostic heresiarch of the second century.

1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* II. II. v. § 17 The Secundians, whose chief, Secundus, one of the principal followers of Valentine, maintained the doctrine of two eternal principles, *viz.* light and darkness, from whence arose the good and the evil that are observable in the universe.

Secu·ndiflo·rous, *a. Bot.* [f. L. *secund-us* SECOND *a.* + *flōr-*, *flōs* flower + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1899 HEINIG *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Secundiflorous*, with all the flowers of an inflorescence secund.

Secundine (se·kəndin). Also 4–6 **secondyne,** (4 -dying), 6–7, 9 **secondine.** [ad. late L. *secundinæ* pl. (for which class. Latin had *secundæ*), f. *secundus* following: see SECOND *a.* and -INE.]

1. *Obstetrics.* The placenta and other adjuncts of a fœtus extruded from the womb after the expulsion of the fœtus in parturition; the afterbirth. Frequently *pl.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xlix. (Tollemache MS.), It is seyde þat it [Dittany]..bryngeþ oute secundine, þe bagge þat þe childe is inne in þe moder. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 88 She taketh the lytell skynne that remayneth of the secondyne within the forhed of the lytell foole. *Ibid.* 89 The secondying. 1526 *Grete Herball* xxviii. (1529) B v b, Other saye that it [amber] is ye secondyne that she [a whale] casteth whan she hath spawned. *c*1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* (1560) Q j, [It] causeth the delyuerance of the child and of the secondynes, and after burden. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. lxxxvii. 171 She cannot auoyd her secundine, which is the skinne wherein the foale is wrapped. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* I. 240 All the Secundines ought to be extracted at once. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obst. Med.* 68 And, with the membranes and the cord, the secundines.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* 95 Not..till we have once more cast our secundine, that is, this slough of flesh, and are delivered into the last world. 1652 FRENCH *Yorkshire Spa* vi. 55 Every *Sulphur Embrionatum*..is but an impurity of its *Embrio*, and as it were..the secundine thereof. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes*, *Muse* iii, Through the firm shell.. [thou] do'st spie, Years to come a forming lie, Close in their sacred Secondine asleep, Till hatcht by the Suns vital heat.

†**2.** *Ent.* The inner coat of a cocoon. *rare*⁻¹.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 64 Lest..moisture..cause both strings and secundine to rotte.

3. *Bot.* The second of two coats or integuments of an ovule, originally the inner one, later applied to the outer covering: see PRIMINE.

So mod.L. *secundina* (Malpighi 1671, from whom quot. 1683 is a translation).

1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. vii. (1682) 47 The Fourth or Innermost Cover we may call the Secondine. The sight, thro which, by cutting off the Coats of an Infant Bean, at the Cone.., may be obtain'd. 1683 A. SNAPE *Anat. Horse* App. I. i. 10 The first day after it [a grain of wheat] is sown, it grows a little turgid, and the secundine or husk gapes a little. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 155 The outermost but one of the sacs is called the secondine; it immediately reposes upon the primine. 1875–85 [see PRIMINE b].

Secundly (sī·kəndli), *adv. Bot.* [f. SECUND *a.* + -LY².] In a secund manner.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 305 Spikelets, which are alternately distichously or secundly arranged.

Secu·ndogeniture. [f. L. *secundō*, advb. form of *secundus* SECOND *a.*, after *primogeniture.*] The right of succession or inheritance belonging to a second son; the possession so inherited.

1855 M. BRIDGES *Pop. Mod. Hist.* 412 Tuscany became an archduchy for Francis, the husband of Maria Theresa, and a secundo-geniture in their family afterwards. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxv. 387 The kingdom of Naples.. was constituted a secundogeniture of Spain. 1882 *Standard* 28 Sept. 5/5 The restoration of an independent Poland, even if it were to be placed under Austrian secundogeniture, will ..on no account be consented to by Germany. 1910 *Nation* 22 Jan. 672/2 If the same hypnotism could be transferred to the second or the third son, secundogeniture or tertigeniture would rest on a firmer basis than does primogeniture to-day.

‖**Secundum** (sī·kə·ndŏm). [L., according to; orig. neut. accus. of *secundus* SECOND *a.*] Used in various med. Latin phrases, sometimes occurring in Eng. contexts. *Secundum artem* (= Gr. *κατὰ τὴν τέχνην*): 'according to art', in accordance with the rules of the art (chiefly of medicine; often jocularly *transf.*). *Secundum magis et minus* (= Gr. *κατὰ τὸ μᾶλλον καὶ ἧττον*): 'according to more and less'; in a quantitative manner or respect; in various degrees. *Secundum naturam* [Cicero; = Gr. *κατὰ φύσιν*]: according to nature, naturally. *Secundum quid* [= Gr. *κατά τι*]: 'according to something', in some particular respect only (opposed to *simpliciter*, Gr. *ἁπλῶς*).

1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* III. iv, *Rut.* That is my course with all my Patients. *Pal.* Very methodicall, *Secundum Artem.* 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Companion* 68 A Cods-head,..drest *secundum artem.* 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, He undertook the task [sc. of calculating a nativity] *secundum artem.* 1886 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* III. iv. 376/2 The kennel-man of the dog will see to everything being done, *secundum artem.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 14 Alexander, Gordonius..[and others] confound them, as differing *secundum magis & minus.* [*Note*, More or lesse, some madder then some.] 1837 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Bacon* (1897) 409 He might have gone on to instances *secundum magis et minus.*

1563 T. GALE *Inst. Chirurg.* 16 Theis .vj. thinges which are *secundum naturam*, spring of .vij. natural thinges entring the composition of mans body. 1754 *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 76 (1756) II. 153 The modern Hero grafts his Happiness on the Passions..and in that Sense may be said to live *secundum naturam.*

1629 S. NORRIS *Antidote* II. VI. (1622) 232 Our aduersaries make answere..that heauen is called a Crowne, a reward *secundum quid*, and in a respect [;] simply and absolutely it is only a gift, because it is given according to grace. 1693 *Logic or Art of Thinking* (ed. 2) 332 Human form..being a Perfection only *secundum quid*, or in some respect and not simply, it does not follow that it ought to be the shape of God.

‖**Secundus** (sī·kə·ndŭs), *a.* [L. *secundus* SECOND *a.*] Appended to a personal name: The second of the name. In some schools used to designate the second in age or seniority of two boys having the same surname.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iii, 'What a knowing set out', squeaked Johnson *secundus.* 'Mammy-sick' growled Barlow *primus.* 1827 FLEMING *Brit. Zool.* Pref. 11 The University of Edinburgh possessed, in Dr Monro *secundus*, a comparative anatomist..anxious to inspire [etc.]. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xi. 277 Having our party of servants complete, six Tokrooris..with Mahomet,..Mahomet *secundus* (a groom), and Barraké. 1887 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 350/2 Two excellent volumes...The former contains some sensible advice..by Robert Chambers *secundus.*

Secur, obs. form of SICKER *a.*

Securable (sĭkiŭə·răb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being secured.

a 1846 *Q. Rev.* (Worcester). 1855 in OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1876 *Tinsley's Mag.* XVIII. 474 Popularity..is always securable by the 'No Popery' cry.

Securance (sĭkiŭə·răns). *rare.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -ANCE.] The action or means of securing; assurance, security.

c 1642 *Contra-Replicant's Compl.* 8 Such securance is not incompatible with Monarchy. *Ibid.* 22 If the Parliament will undertake to secure the King,..what must that securance be? 1652 BP. HALL *Myst. Godliness* x. (1847) 31 For the securance of thy Resurrection..thou hadst spent forty days upon earth. 1870 MULFORD *Nation* vi. 83 It is only with care and steadiness and tenacity of purpose that those guaranties are forged which are the securance of freedom. 1908 *Protestant Observer* Dec. 182/2 Some provision for the securance of..Catholic representation on the Senate at the end of the first five years.

Secure (sĭkiŭə·r), *sb.* [f. SECURE *v.*] The position in which a rifle or musket is held when it is 'secured': see SECURE *v.* 2 h.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Secure arms !*, To bring your firelock to the secure, 1st, throw your right hand briskly up [etc.]. *Ibid.*, In order to shoulder from the secure, you must [etc.]. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 20 Bringing the firelock down to the Secure.

Secure (sĭkiŭə·r), *a.* and *adv.* [ad. L. *sēcūrus*, f. *sē-* without (see SE-) + *cūra* care (whence CURE *sb.*). In the late L. sense 'safe, free from danger', the word passed into the Rom. langs.: F. *sûr* (OF. *seür*, whence SURE *a.*), Pr. *segur-s*, Sp., Pg. *seguro*, It. *sicuro*; it was also early adopted in WGer., and hence appears in Eng. as SICKER *a.*]

A. *adj.*

I. Feeling no care or apprehension.

1. Without care, careless; free from care, apprehension or anxiety, or alarm; over-confident. Now *arch.* **a.** In predicative use.

In early instances often contrasted with *safe.*

? 1533 LATIMER *Let. to Morice* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1742/2 But we be secure and vncarefull, as though false Prophets could not meddle with vs. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 143 And if after these pastimes hee shall seeme secure, nothing regardinge his bookes, I woulde not haue him scourged with stripes, but threatened with wordes. 1587 T. HUGHES *Misf. Arthur* I. iv, Mischiefe is sometimes safe: but n'er secure. 1641 QUARLES *Enchir.* IV. lxiii. (1654) T 1, When the Devil brings thee Oyle, bring thou Vinegar. The way to be safe, is never to bee secure. 1667 D. FOULIS *Let.* in *Slingsby's Diary* (1836) 374 God deliuer us out of these troubles & make us more vigilent & lesse secure for y^e future. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Oct. 1674, He told me 10,000 men would easily conquer all the Spanish Indies, they were so secure. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvii. 543, I had been now amongst the thoughtless crowd,..absolutely ignorant and secure. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) V. 99 Because he is blind, he is also secure. 1806 A. MURRAY *Let.* in *Constable & Correspondents* (1873) I. 253 We may expect that he [Bonaparte] will attack us as much as lies in his power. With respect to the issue of that we have not much to fear, and yet we have no cause to be too secure. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year, St. Philip & St. James* 25 Youth's lightning flash of joy secure Pass'd seldom o'er His spright. 1841 J. H. NEWMAN *Serm.* vi. 87 Those who have long had God's favour without cloud or storm, grow secure. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 10 They were secure where they ought to have been wary, timorous where they might well have been secure.

b. With various constructions: Free from apprehension *of* (now only *poet.*), †*concerning*; †careless, without anxiety *for.* †Also with indirect question.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 144 But seeing the father carelesse what they learne, he is also secure what he teacheth. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 838 The Lord therefore biddeth them to be secure for that matter. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. ii. § 7. 414 The Illyrian Queene was secure of the Romans, as if they would not dare to stirre against her. 1619 HIERON *Wks.* I. 5 There is no man so secure for his way to mill or to market, as hee is for his way to life eternall. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Seditions* (Arb.) 401 Neither let any Prince, or State, be secure concerning Discontentments. 1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 937 The reason why they are so bold and fearlesse, as being secure of any danger. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 427 Ev'n when the Farmer, now Secure of Fear, Sends in the Swains to spoil the finish'd Year:..Oft have I seen a sudden Storm arise. 1700 — *Cinyras & Myrrha* 277 Secure of Shame because secure of Sight: Ev'n bashful Sins are impudent by Night. 1833 TENNYSON *To Y. S.* 76 Lie still, dry dust, secure of change.

c. In attributive use. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* 38 b, Alonely lead with carelesse shew of peace, Whereas secure regard doth sinne increase. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 43 Open the doore, secure foole-hardy King. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. i. 241. *Ibid.* II. ii. 315. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 Our common people, whose extream and secure ignorance, loads them with such a burthen of impietie. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. T.* I. 116 In the church militant there must neither be an idle soldier nor a secure labourer. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Nineteen Serm.* xii. (1735) 249 This is a Reflection which..should strike Terror and Amazement into the securest Sinner. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v, Do you think I could ever catch at the confident addresses of a secure admirer? *Mar.* (kneeling) Does this look like security?

absol. 1659 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* 79 When the secure and foolish shall be barr'd and excluded the doors of bliss.

d. Said of times, places, actions: In which one is free from fear or anxiety.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 61 Vpon my secure hower thy Vncle stole With iuyce of cursed Hebenon in a Viol. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 72 Oh, 'tis the spight of hell, the Fiends Arch-mock, To lip a wanton in a secure Cowch; And to suppose her chast. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxxvii, The bright hearth and the warmth and the voice of home,—the secure uprising and lying down.

2. Free from doubt or distrust; feeling sure or certain. Const. *of*; also with *clause*. ? *Obs.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 77 Though he be suspitious of my faire hiew, yet is he secure of my firme honestie. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 130 And, pretty childe, sleepe doubtlesse, and secure, That Hubert for the wealth of all the world, Will not offend thee. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* v. ii, Give wing to your desires, and let 'em fly, Secure they cannot mount a pitch too high. 1670-1 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 372 He is secure that nothing will be done by his Majesty. 1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* v. 70 How can I be secure you will not fall to your old courses agen? 1713 JOHNSON *Guardian* No. 4 P 6, I am secure that no man will so readily take them into Protection. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 49 He was secure that his animosity would neither be forgotten nor diminished by the interposition of any time or events.

† b. Confident in expectation; feeling certain *of* something in the future. Also with *infinitive*.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. vi. § 3 Caesar taking the Omen..enters Italy, secure of success from so manifest tokens of the favour of the Gods. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1175 But confidence then bore thee on, secure Either to meet no danger, or to finde Matter of glorious trial. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 27 The Grand Vizier, secure of taking Candy..alter'd all Soliman's Titles. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 498 He..search'd each passing sheep, and felt it o'er, Secure to seize us ere we reach'd the door. 1732 — *Ess. Man* I. 286 Secure to be as blest, as thou canst bear.

II. Having or affording ground for confidence; safe; (objectively) certain.

3. Rightly free from apprehension; protected from or not exposed to danger; safe.

The first quot. is a doubtful example of this sense; the original Gr. ἀμερίμνους is literally 'without care or anxiety' (= sense 1 a above); but the virtual meaning is 'without cause for anxiety, safe'.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xxviii. 14 And if the President shal heare of this, we wil persuade him, and make you secure [Vulg. *et securos vos faciemus*]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 66 Had all your Quarters been as safely kept,..We had not beene thus shamefully surpriz'd. *Bast.* Mine was secure. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxv. (1612) 352 Yeat oft it haps, by how much more high Dignities preferre, So much the more, though lesse secure, men liue irreguler. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. i. 95 Who has a booke of all that Monarches doe, Hee's more secure to keepe it shut, then showne. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. 15 The divell..would perswade him he might be secure if hee cast himselfe from the pinacle. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Writ. Juice of Lemon* ii, Alas, thou think'st thy self secure, Because thy form is Innocent and Pure. 1731 SWIFT *Let.* 10 Sept. in *Pope's Wks.* 1757 IX. 141 Thus I knew myself on the secure side, and it was a mere piece of good manners to insert that clause, of which you have taken the advantage. *a* 1854 LANDOR *Last Fruit of Old Tree* 474 Safe art thou, Louis!..for a time; But tremble..never yet was crime, Beyond one little space, secure. 1889 *Spectator* 21 Dec., England is rich because she has for so many years been secure.

b. Const. *against, from,* † *of.*

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 152 Repose you heere in rest, Secure from worldly chaunces and mishaps. *Ibid.* II. i. 3 Now climbeth Tamora Olympus toppe, Safe out of Fortunes shot, and sits aloft, Secure of Thunders cracke or lightning flash. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 379 The Men to subterranean Caves retire; Secure from Cold, and crowd the chearful Fire. *Ibid., Æneid* VII. 956 Messapus next,..Secure of Steel, and fated from the Fire, In Pomp appears. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 360, I stand secure from Censure and from Shame. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 510 No skill in swordmanship, however just, Can be secure against a madman's thrust. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 168 Secure from those tempestuous winds, by which the adjoining lake is frequently troubled. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xl, From the contagion of the world's slow stain, He is secure. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxv, The outlaws, secure in their knowledge of the paths..made an orderly retreat. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 128 Thou art secure from every thing that is not predestined.

c. Of actions or conditions: Involving no danger; safe.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 9 The most ancient Lawgivers, got the experience, by which they had rule in their Cities, not by secure study at home, but by adventurous travels abroad. 1643 J. M. *Sov. Salve* 9 Such a seeming-secure and supine sleep might have proved a mortall lethargy. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ix. 92 This..would render all that southern navigation infinitely securer than at present. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. i. 26 He demands at what hour 'twere secure To visit you again? 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 134 Inaction is secure only when arrayed by the side of activity.

d. Of an argument, means, agent, etc.: Not liable to fail, trustworthy, safe.

a 1729 J. ROGERS *Seventeen Serm.* v. (1736) 100 But tho' God will accept of a sincere tho' imperfect Obedience, yet this can be no secure Argument to us to remit our Applications. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xix, Which made him suspect that the countess had again employed her mute attendant as the most secure minister of her pleasure on this occasion.

e. Of a material thing, a support or fastening: Not liable to be displaced or to yield under strain; firmly fixed, safe.

1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 95 Armed externally with four circlets of sharp recurved hooks, which, when plunged into the coats of the intestine, serve as secure anchors by which the creature retains itself in a position favourable to the absorption of food. *Mod.* The bridge does not look secure. Do you think the bolt is secure?

4. Of a place, also of means of protection or guardianship: Affording safety.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 473 A sure and secure station or place of aboad. 1632 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Iron Age* v. i, Hee stands vpon a strict and secure guard. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 327 In a place Less warranted then this, or less secure I cannot be, that I should fear to change it. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 30 The Isle hath two good Havens, one in the East, the other in the West, the others are not secure. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 June 1665, His dog sought out absolutely the very securest place in all the vessell [during the fight]. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. i. 5 The roads would be more secure about the time when the great caravan was passing. ? 1788 COWPER *On Mischiev. Bull* 14, I could pity thee exil'd From this secure retreat. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 357 It being a common opinion, that a feoffment was the most secure conveyance by which a tenant to the *præcipe* could be made.

5. Predicatively: In safe custody; safely in one's possession or power.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 49 In Iron Walls they deem'd me not secure. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ii, At least till your son has the young lady's fortune secure. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVI. 272 He also kept Secure a goblet exquisitely wrought.

6. Free from risk as to the continued or future possession *of* something; having a safe prospect *of* some acquisition or desirable event. † Also with infinitive: Ensured against failure *to do* something. Cf. 2 b.

1664 TILLOTSON *Serm.* i. Wks. (1714) 22 Consider man without the protection and conduct of a superior Being, and he is secure of nothing that he enjoys in this world, and uncertain of every thing that he hopes for. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 626 For this, she had distill'd, with early Care, The Juice of Simples, friendly to Despair, A Magazine of Death; and thus prepar'd, Secure to die, the fatal Message heard. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 10 No Body is here secure of Life. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 69 Ennius..Forgets his Promise, now secure of Fame, And heeds no more his Pythagoric Dream. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* Introd. 17 Oh happy case, when the soul.. boldly ventures into eternity, secure of eternal life. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 288 As some fair female unadorned and plain, Secure to please while youth confirms her reign. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlii. IV. 548 The zeal of Cyril exposed him to the penalties of the Julian law; but in a feeble government, and a superstitious age, he was secure of impunity, and even of praise. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vi, When they seemed most secure of victory. 1863 H. BROUGHTON *Let.* in Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 355 For, if they succeed in obtaining her attention, they are secure of her humanity and her justice.

7. Of a possession, acquisition, desirable event, etc.: That may be counted on with certainty; sure to continue or to be attained.

1713 SWIFT *Last Yrs. Q. Anne* Wks. 1902 X. 31 Representing their opinion that no peace could be secure for Britain, while [etc.]. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 438 Listen then what a punishment I have For this fell monster, how secure a flight From your hard servitude. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxi, 'If the worst comes to the worst', Becky thought, 'my retreat is secure; and I have a right-hand seat in the barouche'. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xviii. 132 We knew that our progress afterwards was secure. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 2 (1882) 461 At the Queen's accession, the success of the Reformation seemed almost everywhere secure.

B. quasi-*adv.* and *adv.* (Chiefly *poet.*)

c 1592 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. vi. 2893 Your grace may sit secure, if none but wee Doe wot of your abode. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 50 All which secure, and sweetly he enioyes. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 245 We may doe it [the robbery] as secure as sleepe. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* xviii. 7 They dwelt carelesse, after the manner of the Zidonians, quiet and secure. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* II. ii, Sleep you Secure on either ear. 1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 11 The Structure may still stand..by vertue of..such Foundations which still stand secure. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 15 Against the stream the waves secure he trod. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 970 Beneath the shadow of whose vine He sits secure. 1818 SHELLEY *Hymn Venus* 34 Nor mortal men, nor gods Who live secure in their unseen abodes.

Secure (sĭkiū·ɹ), *v.* [f. SECURE *a.* Cf. med.L. *sēcūrāre, sācūriāre*, Sp., Pg. *segurar*, It. *sicurare*.]

† 1. *trans.* To make free from care or apprehension; also, to make careless or over-confident. *Obs. rare.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 10, I do not so secure me in the Error, But the maine Article I do approue In fearefull sense. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 22 Full oft 'tis seene, Our meanes secure vs, and our meere defects Proue our Commodities. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 82 [tr. Let. Mary Queen of Scots] To obtain of her, that she will let me go out of her country, whither I came, secured by her promises.

† b. To free from doubt, to satisfy, convince. Also, to make (one) feel secure *of* or *against* some contingency. *Obs.*

1602 CECIL *Let. to Mountjoy* 7 Aug. in *Moryson's Itin.* (1617) II. 235, I cannot be secured but that he wil stil feede that fier with fewel. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Commun. & War with Angels* 118 Which should incourage us to fight and secure us of the issue. 1666-7 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Feb., Mr. Holliard [a surgeon] dined with us...I love his company, and he secures me against ever having the stone again. 1668 OWEN *Nat. Indwelling-Sin* viii. 115 Until the soul.. begins to secure it self of pardon in course.

2. To make secure or safe.

a. To make (a person, his life, etc.; rarely a thing) secure from danger or harm; to guard, protect.

Obs. exc. with reference to a specific danger mentioned or implied: see c.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* X. lviii. (1612) 248 And whilst the Writ in reading was [Mary Q. of Scots] no more regarded it, Then if it had secured or concerned her no whit. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 116 *Mar.* Lord Hamlet. *Hor.* Heauen secure him. *Mar.* So be it. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* Ep. Ded. *Wks.* (Arb.) I. 276 The beauteous Lady Tragabigzanda, when I was a slaue to the Turkes, did all she could to secure me. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. iv. (1640) 48 Their profession was to fight against Infidels, and to secure Pilgrimes coming to the Sepulchre. *c* 1645 T. TULLY *Siege Carlisle* (1840) 34 Wilson..shot Cholmley in the brest, but his arms secured him. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 210 His lofty Pines, With friendly Shade, secur'd his tender Vines. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Sept. 1641, A pass..securing me through Brabant and Flanders. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) Advt., The Bill..for securing Property in Printed Books. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Meth. Fencing* i. 11 For 'tis a general Rule in Fencing.. never to present one's Sword, without perfectly Covering, or Securing, as we call it, one side of the Body. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* xix, Any English men-of-war that might be on the coast to secure us to the capes. 1729 TINDAL tr. *Rapin's Hist.* XVII. VIII. 439 They..only helped to secure Elizabeth's Affairs, who thereby was sheltered from the Quarter whence she had most to fear. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 12 May, I really question if at this time my life would not be in danger, if distance did not secure it. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiv. I. 410 Maximian..gave him [Severus] the most solemn assurances that he had secured his life by the resignation of the purple.

† b. *refl.* To obtain safety. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 76 Now is it manhood..To secure vs By what we can, which can no more but flye. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. iv. (1715) 15 Compelled to..secure himself by a dishonourable Flight. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 320 Each endeavouring to secure himself by getting away. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* ii. 51 We had no way of securing ourselves but by flight. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. (1765) 186 His men had secured themselves in a swamp. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 313 High wages.. did not engage them to secure themselves with a sufficient stock of provisions. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 30/2 He accordingly began to secure himself with Shujah al Dowlah, into whose service he entered. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xvii. § 5 (ed. 3) 515 Though Didius.. was able to secure himself in Rome, he could not [etc.].

c. To render safe, protect or shelter *from*, guard *against* some particular danger. Also *refl.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 618 Care and utmost shifts How to secure the Lady from surprisal, Brought to my mind a certain Shepherd Lad. 1646 J. MAXWELL *Burd. Issachar* 34, I never accounted them as Apostles, men secur'd from error. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 164 The Battlement being.. Man-high, to secure Men from the shot of their enemies. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* ii. 71 For when he came against the Bagaudæ, Carausius was employ'd to secure the Seas against the Franks and the Saxons. 1692 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* 150 That way of Coinage less secures you from having a great part of your Money melted down. 1699 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 293 Whereby Mr. Benson may secure many old words from being buried in the grave of everlasting oblivion. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. vii. § 19 [We should] consult the dictionary, which may give us certain information, and thus secure us from mistake. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 386 A very safe road, secured from all winds. 1754 J. BROWN *Barbarossa* v. (1755) 66 Is the Watch doubled? Are the Gates secur'd Against Surprize? 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* III. vi. Wks. I. 224 The hedge-hog, so well secured against all assaults by his prickly hide. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 119 Neatly secur'd from being soil'd or torn. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiv, Amy hastily endeavoured to recall what she were best to say, which might secure herself from the imminent dangers that surrounded her, without endangering her husband. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 30 No possessions seemed to him to have any value which were not secured against enemies.

d. *absol.* To obtain security, take effective precautions *against*.

1658 *Whole Duty of Man* vii. § 19. 65 It being much more easie to abstain from all, than to secure against the one, when the other is allowed. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvi, The extreme strength of the country..made the establishment of this little fort seem rather an acknowledgment of the danger, than an effectual means of securing against it. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* xx, This guard the burghers will willingly maintain, to secure against the escape of the murderer of their townsman.

† e. To take effectual precautions against, to prevent (a danger). Also, to prevent or preclude (a person) *from* doing something dangerous. *Obs.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IV. iv, Which stretching round about his circling arms, Warrants these parts from all exteriour harms; Repelling angry force, securing all alar'ms. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccliii. 174 Man only is the Creature, that to his Shame, no Benefits can Oblige, no nor Secure, even from seeking the Ruine of his Benefactor. 1697 in Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 33 Such fort can be no security for his Majestys Customs, nor for finding and securing false and illegal trade. 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 83 They Wall round the Wells to y^e^ mines to Secure

their Mold'ring in upon them. *Ibid.* 140 They Carry much of their Carriages on sledges to secure their pitching in the streetes. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* viii, I deprecate no hardship..so I may secure you from acting with a degree of rashness, of which you will all your life repent. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. ix, I have secured him from visiting Binford.

†f. To render (an action) safe; to free from attendant dangers. Also, to render (a place) safe for transit. *Obs.*

1617 SIR O. ST. JOHN in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 194 The King's ship and pinnace that are appointed for the securing of those seas. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. v. (1640) 236 Two hundred and fourteen years..they [*sc.* the Hospitallers] mainteined this Island, and secured the seas for the passage of Pilgrimes to Jerusalem. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 222 And to him call'd Raphael..that deign'd To travel with Tobias, and secur'd His marriage with the seaventimes-wedded Maid.

g. *Mil.* To render secure from attack or molestation by the enemy; to take defensive means for the safe execution of (a movement, e. g. a retreat, the crossing of a river); to guard efficiently (a pass, a defile).

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 66 His Lordship..sent Captaine Edward Blany with 500 foot and 50 horse, to secure their passage through the pace of the Moyrye. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 242 The out workes, which secured the suburbs. *a* 1671 LD. FAIRFAX *Mem.* (1699) 21 It made us think of securing our retreat, with the prisoners we had got. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 337 The Passes are easily secured (an Handful of men being able to withstand an Host). 1701 STEELE *Funeral* v. i, Then..you, and your Party, fall in to secure my Rear; while I march off with the Body. 1760 *Cautions & Adv. to Officers of Army* 108 It may be the Means of saving an Army, or securing some Out-post of the utmost Importance. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iv, To take post in the defile..and thus secure it for the passage of the rest of the army. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 261 Making dispositions which, in the worst event, would have secured his retreat. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xii. 210 The main point in the fortification was to secure the river.

h. Mil. *To secure arms*: 'to hold a rifle or musket with the muzzle down, and lock well up under the arm, the object being to guard the weapon from the wet' (Ogilvie 1882).

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v., *Secure arms!* a word of command which is given to troops who are under arms in wet weather. 1892 *Rifle Exerc. (L.-M.)* 14 *Secure Arms.*

†i. To fence off. *Obs. rare.*

1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 86 Its vaine to trye ye securing it [*sc.* a hole] round from any falling in. *Ibid.* 90 Water..does often flow ye grounds after Raines, so the Road is secured wth a banck and a breast wall of a good Length.

j. To put in safety, 'get in' (a crop).

1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 11 Sept. 9/1 Shocks of oats, cut, though not yet secured.

3. To make secure or certain.

†a. To make (a person) secure *of* a present or future possession, *of* an ally or supporter, etc. Also const. *to* with infinitive. *Obs.*

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXI. xvii. 858 Assigning..a false blisse, vnto the Saints in heauen, where they.. could neuer be secured to remaine. 1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VIII. (1676) 728 And indeed he was secure of France and Germany. For besides his treaty with Lorain which did abundantly secure him of France, he received at the same time a resolution from the Emperour. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. vi. 218 Since no man can secure himself of the next years plentiful harvest. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* v. i, Secur'd of what we hold most dear, (Each other's Love) we'll go——I know not where. 1745 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 5 Had I..been secured of Fund for supplying those Nations with Arms.

†b. *refl.* To get possession *of*, make sure *of*.

1675 *Machiavelli's Prince* x. Wks. 71 By..securing himself nimbly of such as appear..turbulent. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4158/1, 3 or 4000 of the Inhabitants had taken up Arms, ..and had secured themselves of Denia, a good Seaport Town. *Ibid.* No. 4162/1 Those who have declared for his ..Majesty having secured themselves of Denia. 1725 BROOME *Notes to Pope's Odyss.* VIII. 239 Ulysses..finds a way..to secure himself of a powerful advocate, by [etc.].

†c. To certify, assure (a person) *of* some fact. Also in asseverative phrase, *I'll secure you. Obs.*

1659 HAMMOND *Ps.* lxxiii. 4 This doth not secure us of the importance of the word in this place. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* II. iv, He spares not the Innocents in Bibs and Aprons (Ile secure you) he has made (at best) some gross mistake concerning Christina. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* I. i. 32 For ought reason can secure us of, one of the conditions of that association may be, that the body and soul shall not survive each other. 1689 HICKERINGILL *Ceremony-Monger* vi. 34 But Mum—not a Penny, I'll secure you, to make one Sound, and one Mouth. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* Diss. ii. § 3 The events and consequences of things afterwards always corresponded, and secured them of the truth of such divine revelations.

d. To establish (a person) securely *in* some position, privilege, etc.

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 Dec., Steele I have kept in his place. Congreve I have got to be used kindly, and secured. Rowe I have recommended, and got a promise of a place. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* v. i, The Soul, secur'd in her Existence, smile's At the drawn Dagger, and defie's its Point. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 3 (1882) 125 The towns were secured in the enjoyment of their municipal privileges.

e. To make (something) secure, certain, or reliable. Now only with reference to a prospective possession or result of action: 'To place beyond hazard' (J.), to ensure.

1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* IV. 126 In the Roman army was one Artabanes a Persarmenian, revolted lately to the Roman army, having secured his faith by the killing of a hundred and twenty Persian Souldiers. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* vi. 18 For he who sings thy Praise, secures his own. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvi. 58 Whose Bail secures, whose Oath decides a Cause. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* ii. (1852) 39 Yet merely to know that life immortal may be obtained, is not to secure our personal enjoyment of it. 1883 P. H. HUNTER *Story of Daniel* 151 Their manner of building secured a certain air of solidity and grandeur.

f. To make the tenure of (a property, office, privilege, etc.) secure *to* a person.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iv. Wks. 1874 I. 82 Our whole present interest is secured to our hands, without any solicitude of ours. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Introd., The shareholder might contrive to secure to his heirs a handsome slice of his own death-bed and funeral expenses. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 150 Her right to the succession..would have been readily secured to her by act of parliament.

g. To make (a creditor) certain of receiving payment, by means of a mortgage, bond, pledge, or the like.

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 15 The Party lending the Moneys is safe, well and surely secured. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 Some of the large German houses in London ..advanced large sums, taking care..to secure themselves by mortgages of parts of the public revenue.

h. To make the payment of (a debt, pension, etc.) certain by a mortgage or charge *upon* certain property.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 208, 2,000*l.* part of the money secured upon Gidea Hall. *Ibid.* IV. 392 Then such daughter should have 3,000*l.*,..to be secured upon some part of the estate. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 36 He assigns 1000 marks yearly as pinmoney to his son's wife, secured upon the Swiss possessions of his house.

i. With double obj.: To ensure (a person's) obtaining (something). *rare.* (In quot. *passive.*)

1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xii, You shall be secured an opportunity of being fully heard.

4. To seize and confine; to keep or hold in custody; to imprison. Now somewhat *rare.*

1645 CHAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 314 You should beginne with securinge the person of William Legge. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 3 Some of which Persons.. did intend to get me secured for setting out the strength of the Dutch. 1683 WOOD *Life* 6 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 72 The pro-vice-chancellor would then have secured him [Mr. Parkinson],..till security for his appearance at the assizes should be produced. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 June 1689, Newes of a Plot discover'd, on which divers were sent to the Tower and secured. 1705 [T. WALKER] *Wit of a Woman* III. 32 Secure that Rogue in the Stocks till we have search'd further. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Secure*,..to apprehend or lay hold of one, to clap him into Prison. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 211 He proposed that about twenty of the chief gentlemen of those Counties might be secured: And he undertook for the peace of the countrey if they were clap'd up. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Old Wom. T.* (ed. 2) I. 392 'Let him be secured', said St. Aubert. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ii, Wilson and Robertson, ..each secured betwixt two soldiers of the city guard. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Secure*,..to inclose or confine effectually; to guard effectually from escape; sometimes, to seize and confine; as, to secure a prisoner. The sherif pursued the thief with a warrant, and secured him.

5. To make fast or firm.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 97 And so much may suffice for the securing of doores and windowes. 1687 M. SCRIVENER *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 437 Chains for the securing the books. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 305, I sent Friday with the Captain's Mate to the Boat, with Orders to secure her, and bring away the Oars and Sail. 1753 BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* XXV. 231 A proper compress of cloth, and a linnen rowler is absolutely necessary both for this purpose, and to secure on the dressings, wherever they can conveniently be applied. 1823 *Mechanic's Mag.* I. 105 On the securing of carriage wheels. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, A girdle..secured by a large buckle of gold. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xix, She caught up her hair, twisted it hastily into a knot, and secured it with her comb. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 80/2 These work in nuts secured to the doors. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* 189 A wide-leafed hat, in which a costly diamond secured a plume of white feathers.

b. *Surg.* To close (a vein or artery) by ligature or otherwise, in order to prevent loss of blood.

1662 WISEMAN *Treat. Wounds* I. 35 Having thus secured the Vessels for the present. 1753 BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* XXVI. 234 Should the wound bleed much from an artery divided, the first step should be to secure that by passing a crooked needle underneath, and tying it up with a waxed thread. 1880 C. HEATH *Man. Minor Surg.* (ed. 6) 34 In the case of an amputation, the main arteries will be secured before the cord is loosened.

6. To get hold or possession of (something desirable) as the result of effort or contrivance.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 19 We took Care to secure some Powder, Ball, and a little Bread. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxii, Having thus secured my good opinion, he began [etc.]. 1814 SCOTT *Antiq.* i, The first comer hastens to secure the best birth in the coach for himself. 1824 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. i. 246 [The profession] of arms..secures the almost undivided admiration of a rising and uncivilized people. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. II. vii. 219 His cordial manners..secured the sympathy of all with whom he came in contact. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* Pref. 5 The splendid series of 180 photographs which they secured.

b. *Rugby Football.* To get or obtain (a try).

1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 135/2 The last-mentioned secured a try between the posts.

Secured (sĭkiūə·rd), *ppl. a.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -ED [1].] In senses of the verb: Assured; firmly fastened; rendered safe. Now chiefly of a debt: For which the creditor holds security. Also of a creditor.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xx. § 5 They haue also excellentlye handled it..in the distinction between vertue with reluctation, and vertue secured. 1875 *Act* 38 & 39 *Vict.* c. 77 § 10 The respective rights of secured and unsecured creditors. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 6/3 The companies have no scale by which they regulate their charges, but advance to one man at 4 per cent. and to another at 5 per cent. for a secured loan.

†**Secu·reful**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SECURE *a.* + -FUL.] Protecting.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 209, I know..euery sway, of my securefull targe.

Securely (sĭkiūə·rli), *adv.* [f. SECURE *a.* + -LY [2].] In a secure manner (in various senses).

†1. In a manner free from care or apprehension; carelessly; confidently; without care or misgiving.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 3 Whose youth was spent In dangerous warres, whilst you securely slept. 1593 — *Rich. II*, II. i. 266 We see the winde sit sore vpon our sailes, And yet we strike not, but securely perish. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 60 A Priest by vertue of his calling readily and securely admitted lepers to come to him. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 67 When I dwelt securely at home. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm.* 42 Whether any of the Reasonings..are inconsistent with each other, I securely leave to the Judgment of the Reader. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 297 We have nothing but thoughtlessness and insensibility of danger to make us enjoy prosperity securely. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. iv. 25 Trusting securely to the power of his own eloquence.

2. Without danger; in security; safely.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 118 Being vnder shade securely sconst, Which place he had elected for the nonst. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 67 This animal [the Reindeer] goes as securely as if it were upon the Ground. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 396 How deep they must be planted woud'st thou know? In shallow Furrows Vines securely grow. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 May 1652, Two cut-throates started out, and..haled me into a deepe thickett some quarter of a mile from the highway, where they might securely rob me. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 19 Mar. (1732) 43 Princes can never sleep securely but by day. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 808 Tenants of life's middle state, Securely plac'd between the small and great. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxi, It was in that way Dorothea came to be sobbing as soon as she was securely alone.

3. Without risk of error; certainly.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 12, I may securely therefore conclude that there are [etc.]. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. 297 As I am securely informed. *Ibid.* lxxxiv. 409 The metaphor..I do not yet securely understand.

4. Firmly.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 293 They had tied the dogs securely, as they thought: but Toodla and four others had broken loose. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 14 Those wrought stones..are now securely clamped to the south wall.

Securement (sĭkiūə·rmĕnt). *rare.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -MENT.] The action or an act of securing.

†a. Making safe *from* or *against. Obs.* b. Ensuring or making sure.

1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 108 [Willoughby has also been furnished with money, and left to take his choice of means] for his best securmentt. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. ii. 7 Cain..grew afraid thereof, and obtained a securement from it [death]. 1658 — *Let. to Dugdale* 10 Nov., The laborious Aggers, Banks, and Works of Securement against Floods and Inundations. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 475/2 Liberty, however, is so highly prized that society condemns the securement in all cases of perpetual protection by means of perpetual imprisonment.

Secureness (sĭkiūə·rnés). *rare.* [f. SECURE *a.* + -NESS.] = SECURITY 1, 3.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* VII. xxxvi. 52 To restitution turne your doing wrongs, Your fond securenesse, turne to godly feares. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* IV. xii. (1636) 326 Therefore (O strange securenesse!) as hee sate upon the Tribunall,.. they at un-awares assailed him on all hands. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 5 No man perfectly knows his own heart: you think all well; this may be not assurance, but secureness. 1668 TEMPLE *On Approach of Shore of Harwich* 32 Thy sweet Inclosures..Shew thy secureness from thy Neighbours Harms. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* I. (near end), Down-lay Your sweet secureness for congenial fears.

Securer (sĭkiūə·rəɹ). *rare.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -ER [1].] One who or that which secures, in various senses of the verb.

1636 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) II. 18 The Army..was rather to be reinforced..as..the chief Securer..of the..Plantations. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Satire upon Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 59 Of kings distressed thou art a fine securer. 1820 *Examiner* No. 616. 66/1 He rose early, which is a great securer of health.

Securi- (sĭkiūə·ri, se·kiŭri·), combining form of L. *secūris* ax, f. *secāre* to cut. Used in various scientific terms. **Securiccornate** [L. *corn-u* horn + -ATE] *Ent.*, 'having the antennæ in form of a hatchet' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Securifer** [L. *secūrifer* adj., *-fer, ferre* to bear] *Ent.*, one of the *Securifera* or phyllophagous hymenoptera. **Securi·ferous** *a.* [-FEROUS], ax-bearing; *spec.* of or pertaining to the *Securifera*. **Securi·gerous** *a.* [-GEROUS] *Bot.* (see quot.). **Securipalp** [L. *palp-us* PALP] *Ent.*, a beetle of the division *Securipalpi*. **Securipa·lpous** *a.* [-OUS] *Ent.*, of or pertaining to the division *Securipalpi*. See also SECURIFORM *a.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Securiferous*, that beareth an Axe

or Hatchet. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Securifers*, Securiferi, the name of a tribe of *Terebrantia*, or boring Hymenopterous insects. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Securiferous. *Ibid.*, *Securigerus*,..applied to the *Monibretea securigera*, from the form of the appendages that garnish the corol: securigerous. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Securipalpi*, Securipalpi, the name of a family of Coleopterous insects, comprehending those in which the maxillary palps terminate in a joint which is elongated and hatchet-shaped. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Securipalpous.

Securiform (sĭkiū·rifɔ̄m), *a.* [f. SECURI- + -FORM.] Ax-shaped, having the form of an ax or hatchet. a. *Bot.* applied to leaves, etc. b. *Ent.* applied to a palpus or joint, etc.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xviii. (1765) 212 *Securiform*, Hatchet-shaped. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ix. (1818) I. 299 *note*, Mordellæ will open the anthers with the securiform joints of their palpi to get at the pollen. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 165 Labial palpi securiform. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 703/2 *Conchifera*...The foot..is securiform when its free edge is arched like the cutting face of an axe, as in *Petunculus*. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 869 A small hand, slightly oblong, somewhat securiform.

Securing, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SECURE *v.* + -ING 2.] That secures, in various senses of the verb.

1643 J. M. *Sov. Salve* 35 The only sure and securing way to follow. 1798 *Times* 28 June 1/1 Drawing papers, pallets, gold and silver paper, copal and securing varnish.

†**Secu·ritan.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SECURIT-Y + -AN, ? after *Puritan*.] One who is characterized by 'security' or culpable freedom from apprehension.

1623 BP. HALL *Serm. Re-edif. Chapell of Earle of Exeter* Wks. (1625) 529 The sensual Securitan pleases himselfe in the conceit of his owne peace. 1627 R. BERNARD *Isle of Man* 21 One Mr. Out-side, in the inside a carnall Securitan, [is] a fellow that will come to his Church [etc.].

Securite (se·kiŭrəit). Also -it. [f. SECURE *a.* + -ITE 4, after the Ger. name *sicherit* (*sicher* sure, safe).] A modern high explosive consisting of a mixture of meta-di-nitro-benzole with nitrate of ammonium (Cundill *Dict. Explosives*, 1889, p. 82); used chiefly in blasting operations.

1888 *Times* 2 Mar. 13/6 Securite consists of nitrated hydrocarbons in admixture with certain oxidizing agents. It is the invention of Herr Schœneweg, who has now rendered it flameless when exploded, by the addition of an organic salt in certain proportions. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 958 The symptoms following the use of sicareit (securite or sicherite) resemble those which are caused by roburite.

Security (sĭkiŭ·riti). Forms: 5 **securytye, securite**(e, 6–7 **securitye, securitie**, 6– **security.** [ad. L. *sēcūritās*, f. *sēcūr-us*: see SECURE *a.* and -ITY. Cf. F. *sécurité* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *seguridad*, Pg. *seguridade*.]

I. The condition of being secure.

1. The condition of being protected from or not exposed to danger; safety.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 77 Also hit [Paradise] hathe securite, to the whiche seyenge the altitude of the place berrethe testimonye [Lat. *Habet et securitatem cui attestatur loci altitudo*]. 1492 RYMAN *Poems* lxxx. 3 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 249 Thyne eye of grace vpon vs cast, Of helth and of securitee. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 Therefor No worldly corner can theyme securitye warrant. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 13 This Earle providing for his securitie, about this time imprisoned the above mentioned sonnes of Shane ONeale. 1745 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 26 Some Provision should be made for the Security of our Frontier Settlements at least. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 229 The emperor and his court enjoyed..the security of the marshes and fortifications of Ravenna. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 The Esterlings..lay in security behind their walls, while the Flemish and other foreign residents fell helpless victims to the rage of the populace. 1903 A. SMELLIE *Men of Covenant* xxxii. (ed. 2) 352 His security lay, of course, in his lord's deafness.

2. Freedom from doubt; confidence, assurance. Now chiefly, well-founded confidence, certainty.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 31 b/2 We may safelye, and with all securitye, vse them. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 42 Hee begets a security of himselfe, and a carelesse eye unto the last remunerations. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II. clxxxvi. 193 Negligence would imply either an indifference about pleasing, or else an insolent security of pleasing. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. i, Rest no security upon yourself,..since you have no knowledge of the many tricks and inventions by which you may be plundered. 1790 — *Diary* July, He came..with an honest, straightforward security of the welcome he really found. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 154 The..foreman..appealed, with assumed security, to the entry in the books. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xv, She told Mr. Hall they might count on her with security. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 122 [The articles] are distinguished by a certain security of judgement, remarkable at any time, remarkable especially in one so young.

3. Freedom from care, anxiety or apprehension; a feeling of safety or freedom from or absence of danger. *arch.* Formerly often *spec.* (now only *contextually*) culpable absence of anxiety, carelessness.

1555 J. BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 266 Our vayne glory, our viciousness, avarice, ydleness, security. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xii. 189 They..were drowned in sinnefull securitie. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. v. 32 Security Is Mortals cheefest Enemie. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Redin.* II. i. (1854) 70 As if he intended to surprise the town, thinking to find them in security. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* I. viii. (1692) 39 His Security (the Effect of his Luxury) was his Ruin. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 69/2 The archers may privately annoy the enemy, as he moves about the Field in security. 1774 BURKE *Let. to Mary. Rockingh.* Corr. 1844 I. 496 The supineness, neglect, and blind security of my friend, in that, and every thing that concerns him. 1780 JOHNSON *Let. to Thrale* 30 May, Do not remit your care; for in your condition it is certain that security will produce danger. 1810 MRS. BRUNTON *Self-control* xxv, Lady Pelham smiled at Laura's security, which she did not consider as an infallible sign of safety. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xix, The security and carelessness of the sentinels, who had suffered such preparations to be made without observation or alarm given. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 17 July 51 Every Government knew exactly when there was reason for alarm, and when there was excuse for security. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 63 It is an imaginary immortality which encloses him in sevenfold security, even while he stands upon its very last edge.

4. The quality of being securely fixed or attached, stability, fixity.

1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 169 Who can mistake the meaning..of the security of the union of the clavicle to the large scapula?

II. A means of being secure.

5. Something which secures or makes safe; a protection, guard, defence.

a. Const. *against, from*, †*for*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 286 b, For your securitie for any treacherie (hauing no hostage woorthie to counteruaile you) take my woorde, which I esteeme aboue all respectes. 1664 TILLOTSON *Serm.* i. Wks. (1714) 23 If the providence of God be taken away, what security have we against those innumerable dangers to which human nature is continually expos'd? 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 21 Universal Practice..does at this day make Lead the common security of Iron-work against Rust. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. Wks. 1874 I. 96 Mankind..stand in need of virtuous habits, for a security against this danger. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., A navy constitutes the security of Great Britain from invasion. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* i. 21 A good fire..was always a perfect security against the attacks of wild beasts. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 94 And I have no security against thy killing me by a thing that I may smell, or by some other means.

b. Without const.

1641 BAKER *Chron., Hen. I* (1653) 64 Anjou was neighbouring upon Normandy, a great security to it, if a friend; and as great a danger, if an enemy. 1658 JER. TAYLOR *Let.* in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 5 Nothing is so great a security to love as never to remember any unkindnesse. 1743 TINDAL tr. *Rapin's Hist.* xvii. II. 62/2 She at last formed two Parties in the Court and Kingdom, which proved her security, as she was necessary to Both. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ii, Concealment was his only security. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. vi. 230 He endeavoured to obtain the security of at least a written promise for these terms which had been offered to gain his consent. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 2 (1882) 464 The only security for truth was to draw a hard and fast line between truth and falsehood. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. ii. v. 226 Piety, which is a security for good faith, is none against credulity.

†**6.** A means of securing or fixing in position.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 227 The utility of trenails as a security till the mortar was become hard.

7. Ground for regarding something as secure, safe, or certain; an assurance, guarantee.

1623 COCKERAM II, Securitie giuen one for safe comming. *Safe conduite.* 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 19 To contemne Fame is but a security of doing ill. 1711 SWIFT *Conduct of Allies* Wks. 1901 V. 71 We could have no security for our trade, while that kingdom [Spain] was subject to a prince of the Bourbon family. 1715 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 138 What Security have We, that, abusing and despising the same Mercies, we shall not smart under the same Judgments? 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) IV. xv. 301 We can have no access to Him, no security of His favor, unless we endeavour to conform to His precepts. 1805 WORDSW. *Poems Sent.* xx. *Ode Duty* 20 When love is an unerring light, And joy its own security. 1856 MACAULAY *Biog., Goldsm.* (1860) 71 Both what was good and what was bad in Goldsmith's character was, to his associates, a perfect security that he would never commit such villany. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. x. 282 What therefore, the poor especially require when they buy their tea and sugar is, the security that they obtain an unadulterated article.

b. *Act of Security*: an Act passed by the Scottish Parliament in 1704, excluding Queen Anne's successor from the throne of Scotland unless conditions of government were enacted which should secure the independence of the kingdom.

1710–11 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 30 Wks. 1902 IX. 192 That unnatural league was afterwards cultivated by another incident; I mean the Act of Security.

8. Property deposited or made over, or bonds, recognizances, or the like entered into, by or on behalf of a person in order to secure his fulfilment of an obligation, and forfeitable in the event of non-fulfilment; a pledge, caution. Phrases, *to enter* (*in* or *into*), *find, give* (*in*), *go*, †*put in, take security.*

a. As securing a person's 'good behaviour', his appearance in court at a specified time, or his performance of some undertaking.

1450 *Rolls of Parll.* V. 181/2 Where securitee of peas was axed bifore you in your said Court. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xvii. 9 And when they had taken securitie of Iason, and of the other, they let them goe. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 96 Putt in good securitye to synde out Watson by Monday come sen-night...To remayne in prison untell he putt in securitye here. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 6, I move that he enter security. The person complaining, is a person of as great worth as any person can be. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Mar., Being this day summoned..to give in security for his good behaviour. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. iii. 7 You must find sufficient Security to us, our Heirs and Assigns, that you will not employ Lewis Baboon. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1735 IV. 118 Knox..was obliged..to enter into Security for so doing. 1790 J. BRUCE *Source of Nile* I. iii. 46 We obliged him to give his son Mahomet in security for his behaviour towards us. 1797 *Month. Mag.* III. 550/1 Where special bail is required, the sheriff may take security of the defendant, by bond,..for his appearance. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., Violent and dangerous men are obliged to give security for their good behavior, or for keeping the peace. 1883 *Act* 46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52 § 21 (2) The person so appointed shall give security in manner prescribed to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade.

b. As securing the payment of a debt.

1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 539 To subscrive and returne the forme of security. 1592 *Nobody & Someb.* C 2, Without good securitie they will lend Nobody mony. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* IV. i, *Tent.*..Wel sir, your security? *Amb.* Why sir two Diamonds here. *c* 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire Spy-Knaves* 15 Bonds, Bils, and words, I'le trust none of you three. Bring good securitie to deale with me. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* Pref., Those who can give good Security, may have Money under the Statute-Interest. 1711–12 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Mar., The French have offered..to give us Dunkirk, and the Dutch Namur, for security, till the peace is made. 1724 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 205 Money..to be laid out..upon land or upon reall or personal security, and the interest or yearly produce thereof is to be applyed [etc.]. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 480 The petitioners..must be bound in a security of 200 *l*, to make the party amends in case they do not prove him a bankrupt. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 90 The mortgagee holds the estate merely as a pledge or security for the repayment of his money. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* viii. 85 It was frequently necessary to borrow money,..on the security of what was to come in during the next week. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* ix. 107 The reason why this personage [the employer] exists in modern trade and manufacture arises from the facts that he has security on which to borrow [etc.]. 1874 MARKBY *Elem. Law* (ed. 2) § 496, I shall also use the word security to express any transaction between the debtor and creditor by which the performance of such a service [*sc.* one capable of being represented in money] is secured.

c. *transf.*

1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* II. 69 We..stagger and be disheartened, if we have not double securitie from God. *a* 1744 SWIFT *Serm. Testimony Consc.* Wks. 1898 IV. 127 It is impossible for a man who openly declares against religion, to give any reasonable security that he will not be false and cruel. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i, But what security dost thou offer that thou wilt observe the truce? 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 283 The word of a Gracchus..was his bond; and a bond which was a first-rate security.

9. One who pledges himself (or is pledged) for another, a surety.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 38 He said sir, you should procure him better Assurance, then Bardolfe: he wold not take his Bond and yours, he lik'd not the Security. 1627 SIR T. HOPE *Let.* in *Scottish Hist. Soc. Misc.* (1893) I. 93 And for the nott of the Irische landis, it salbe sent with the securities quhen thay go to Irland. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 43 He would engage his word and be security for the performance of what the Chancellor had declar'd. 1690 WOOD *Life* 31 Jan. (O.H.S.) III. 324 They were bailed on great security given by each on their owne parts, and on the parts of their security. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Nov., When one [of the two people bound] dies, you fall upon the other, and make him add another security. 1721 J. PERRY *Stopping Dagenham Breach* 93 One of my Securitys..promised to take care of the finishing the work in my Absence. 1786 BURKE *Art. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. 1842 II. 143 Croftes offered the said Richard Johnson as one of his securities for the performance of the said contract. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxvii, B wants a loan...B proposes self and two securities. B is accepted. Two securities give a bond. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 213/2 So, with their security and some others, I started in pursuit, and next morning came up with the fugitives.

transf. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 135 There was..a motion made that the citty should undertake the businesse of insuring houses from fire, and that the chamber of London should be the security.

10. A document held by a creditor as guarantee of his right to payment. Hence, any particular kind of stock, shares, or other form of investment guaranteed by such documents. Chiefly *plural*.

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 7–8 Their keeping up publick registers of all lands and houses, sold or mortgaged, whereby..the securities of lands and houses [are] rendered indeed, such as we commonly call them, real securities. 1692 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 132 But how Securities will be mended by lowering of Interest, is, I confess, beyond my Comprehension. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii. 33 When I wanted Money, half a dozen of these Fellows were always waiting in my Antichamber with their Securities ready drawn. 1746 LD. HARDWICKE in Atkyns *Chanc. Rep.* (1782) III. 444 Neither South-Sea stock nor Bank stock are considered as a good security. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 380 Continental Securities have been falling in Boston since my last return from New York. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. § 3 (1876) 39 He buys from the state what are called government securities; that is obligations on the government to pay a certain annual income. 1872 ROGERS *Capital & Lab.* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 14/2 The labour of a stockbroker consists in purchasing securities on behalf of his customers, he receiving a fee in the form of a percentage on the purchase or sale of the security. 1879 *Daily News* 26 May, Liquid Securities, or in other words, those easily convertible into cash when necessity arises.

III. 11. *attrib.* as (senses 8, 10) *security-bond, -writ*; also **security-bolt**, a device for securing a motor-tyre to the rim; **security-door**, an outer door of a corridor in a prison; **security-grinder**, *jocular*, ? an assiduous deviser of securities.

1903 *Motoring Ann.* 304 Fig. 2 shows the "security bolt in the act of pinching the inner tube. 1715 in J. Perry *Stop-*

ping Dagenham Breach (1721) 131 That the *Security Bonds shall be deliver'd up to be cancell'd, when the Conditions are perform'd. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Publ. Service* xvii. 232 The locks everywhere, to cells, passages, and in external or '*security' doors [were] of the newest and most approved pattern. 1827 CANNING *Sp.* 6 Mar. (1828) VI. 155 Since the year 1813, I certainly have not meddled in the workmanship of securities;..I assure my right honourable friend.. that I am perfectly ready to vote for securities; but I am not to be set down as a *security-grinder. 1908 *Carnegie Trust Rep.* 61 The *Security Writs have been exhibited to me.

†Se·cutor, se·ctour. *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 seketur, 4 sekatur, 4–5 seke-, seka-, secutour, 5 sekka-, seca-, secoutour, seccutur, secutur, -or, seketowr(e, sekiture; 4–6 sectour, 5 sektour, secktur, 5–6 sectur, 6 sekture, sector. [Aphetic form of EXECUTOR.] = EXECUTOR.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28322 Ic seketur made of testament, ne folud noght wit gode entent þe testament for to fulfill, bot gafe i it gain dedis will. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 390 At þe nende of þritti niȝt, To his seketour com þe ded kniȝt, & seyd in þis maner: 'Mi soule [etc.]'. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Sprr.* LVII. 259 While he lyuede faste preyed he þat þou his sekatur mihte be. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 128 þe which aren prestes inparfit and prechoures after syluer, Sectoures and sudenes, somnoures and her lemmannes. 1387 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 2, I ordeine Watkyn my sone, secutour. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 102 in *Macro Plays* 80 He sendith afftyr his sekkatours, ful fekyl to fynde. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxxi. 166 Trust neuer freyndys frele Nawthere of childe then wife; ffor sectures ar not lele. *c* 1485 *Early Eng. Misc.* (Warton Club) 41 3efe thi almus with thi hand, trust to no secatour. 1493 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 32 Som that I rest awand to John Twedy or hys wyff and sekituris is 33li. 5s. 5g^d. 1505 *Presentments of Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 31 Dyssyryng hym to be hys sektur, and also me to be hys sekture to. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 117 Thou ought nat yet to kepe it nere the more. But to his sectours or heyres it restore. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 30 Sair I suspect, God accuse His sectouris, and him self refuse, That sa vnfaithfullie deceist.

Hence **†Se·cutorship** *rare* = EXECUTORSHIP.

1553 *Respublica* III. vi. 864 This same I got by sectourshipp of my Mother. *Ibid.* 856 This bag have I kepte of other sectourships whole, whiche the Madde knaves woulde had scettred by penie dole.

Sed: see SAD *a.*, SAY *v.*[1], SEED.

†Se·dal, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *sēdāl-is*, f. *sēd-ēs* seat, fundament: see -AL.] Of or belonging to the fundament.

1681 *Willis's Rem. Med. Wks.*, Vocab., *Sedal veins*, the veins in the fundament. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 197 While they draw [blood] from the sedal Arterie [orig. *ex arteriis sedalibus*].

Sedan (sɪdæn). Also 7 **cedan,** (*? erron.*) **sedam.** [Of obscure etymology.

The conjecture (? first in Johnson, 1773) connecting the word with the name of Sedan, a town of NE. France, has nothing to support it, and seems unlikely. In 1634 the exclusive right of supplying 'covered chairs' was granted to Sir Sanders Duncombe; the word *sedan* does not occur in the grant, but the index to the patents of the year has 'covered chairs (called sedans)'. The statement of Evelyn, that Duncombe brought the sedan from Naples may be correct, as the thing had long been in use in Italy (cf. It. *seggietta* in Florio, 1598). It is therefore natural to suppose that the word might be from some South Italian derivative of It. *sede* (L. *sēdēs*) seat, *sedere* to sit; but there seems to be no trustworthy evidence of the existence in It. dialects of any form from which the Eng. word could be derived.]

1. A closed vehicle to seat one person, borne on two poles by two bearers, one in front and one behind. In fashionable use during the 17th, 18th, and early 19th cent.

1635 BROME *Sparagus Garden* I. iii. (1640) B 4 b, What, have you some new project a foot now, to out-goe that of the Hand-barrowes? what call you 'em the Sedams [*sic*]? *Ibid.* IV. x. I 4 b, Shee's now gone forth in one o' the new Hand-litters: what call yee it, a Sedan. *Brit.* O Sedana. 1641 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 531 Payd the men that carried my Lord George in the sedan, *ijli.* xvj*s.* 1660 *Trial Regic.* 191 His Majesty was immediately hurried away from the Bar into a Common Cedan. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 89/2 The Empress..by reason of her weakness,..travells in her Sedan. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, The streetes [of Naples] are full of gallants on horseback, in coaches and sedans, from hence brought first into England by Sir Sanders Duncomb. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3867/1 The Doge was carried in a very rich Sedan. 1737 DUCHESS OF PORTLAND in Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 610 Lady Dunkeron's sedan is yellow velvet, imbroidered and imbossed with silver. 1802 *Anna Seward's Lett.* (1811) VI. 9 Dr. Jones seconded my proposal that he should be brought here in a sedan. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxv, Mr. Muzzle opened one half of the carriage gate to admit the sedan.

b. *transf.* A litter, palanquin, or the like.

1646 WINTHROP *Hist. New Eng.* (1853) II. 323 He..presented the governour with a sedan, which (as he said) was sent by the viceroy of Mexico to his sister. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 52 Some times, he is carried by several men in a Palanquin, or kind of Sedan. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XVIII. vi. § 6 As Tiberius lay once at his ease upon his sedan, and was carried about. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 61 Elevated high above his vassals came the Inca Atahuallpa, borne on a sedan or open litter. 1878 J. PAYN *By Proxy* I. iii. 25 All the neighbourhood, the rich [Chinese] in sedans, the poor on foot, were on their way to do honour to his shrine.

2. *local U.S.* 'A hand-barrow with a deep basket-like bottom made of barrel-hoops, used to carry fish' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

3. *Comb.*, as *sedan-bearer, -maker, -man.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxv, Mr. Grummer, commanding the *sedan-bearers to halt, advanced. 1641 EARL CORK in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) V. 173 Paid Thomas wright, the *sedan maker, dwelling in white ffriers, for my new sedan. 1638 BROME *Antipodes* IV. viii. (1640) I 1, Enter *Sedan-man. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* VI. 110 These Syrians were..kept by the ladies of Rome..for their chair-bearers or sedan-men.

Hence **†Seda·n'd** *pa. pple.*, placed or carried in a sedan. **†Seda·nful** [-FUL], the occupants of a sedan. **Sedanier** [-IER], a sedan-bearer.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* I. 6 Sedan-fulls for these hundred farthings throng. 1688 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* III. 139 The Body is by This Time Cas'd, Hous'd, Sedann'd, Box'd up, or call it what you will. 1690 EVELYN *Mundus Muliebris* 8 When to the Play 'tis time to go In Pompous Coach, or else Sedan'd With Equipage along the Strand. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xliii, By the way, Richie, there will be Sedaniers—porters to pay to-day.

Sedan chair. Now *Hist.* = SEDAN 1, 1 b.

1750 *Will* in Payne *Engl. Catholics* (1889) 6 My sedan chair. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 25 The ladies however use a sedan chair,..which is carried by two negroes on a pole connected with the top of the chair. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 379 To allow the patient to be carried home in a sedan chair. 1840 MALCOLM *Trav.* 52/1 The worst that would probably happen to a proper man making the trial, would be to be placed in a sedan chair, and transmitted to Macao. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 14 Sedan Chairs..were the usual modes of conveyance..to parties, balls [etc.].

b. *transf.* (see quot.).

1869 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* I. 72 Another way of carrying a patient is upon what is known among school-boys as a 'sedan-chair', each bearer grasping his own fore-arm and that of his fellow about its middle..and the patient grasping the bearers' necks.

†Se·dant, *a. Her. Obs. rare*[-o]. [? quasi-Fr. spelling of SEDENT *a.*] = SEJANT.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 144/1 Seiant, or Sedant.

†Sedany. The name of a country-dance.

1651 J. P. *Dancing-master* (1652) 24 Dargason, or Sedany. 1707 *J. Shirley's Tri. Wit* (ed. 5) 206 The Sedany. A pleasant Dance for as many as will in this order, OOO))).

Sedate (sɪdē·t), *a.* [ad. L. *sēdāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sēdāre* to settle, allay, make calm or quiet, f. root *sēd-* as in L. *sēdēre*: see SIT *v.*]

1. Calm, quiet, composed; cool, sober, collected; undisturbed by passion or excitement.

a. of a person, his disposition, temper, deportment, actions.

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 86. 100, I think the Chastisement should be a little more Sedate, and a little more Severe. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. P 5 Virgil was of a quiet, sedate Temper. 1704 SWIFT *Tale of Tub* vi. 131 Millions of Stitches, that required the nicest Hand and sedatest Constitution to extricate. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 17. 113 A Man of Publick Spirit and Sedate Courage. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* II. 50 (*Le Pâtissier*) He was..of a sedate look, something approaching to gravity. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN tr. *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 65 They acted with such sedate vigour and cautious determination. 1876 FLOR. MARRYAT *Her Father's Name* xxiv, 'A yellow light!' cried Valera, suddenly...'I never heard of such a thing before', he added a moment after, in a sedater tone. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 146/2 A serious, sedate, and easy-mannered gentleman.

†b. of the intellect, and intellectual operations.

1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 22 When fear hath..disabled the mind for a cool and sedate judgment and valuation of things. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* x. 56 Requiring ..a free, sedate, and intent minde. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3757/2 The late wise and sedate Resolutions of your Parliament. 1702 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. 4 We shall leave them to their own sedate and composed Reflections.

c. *transf.* of literary composition.

1749 HURD *Horace's Ars Poet.* Introd. 14 Such abrupt and violent transitions, as might better agree to the impassioned elegy, than to the sedate didactic epistle.

d. of animals.

1791 COWPER *Retired Cat* 1 A poet's cat, sedate and grave. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, That sedate and clerical bird, the rook.

†2. Of physical objects: Quiet; motionless, or smooth and steady in motion. *Obs.*

1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 57 The Water became sedate, and quiet as at First. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 301 If she at any time used any Motion, the Pain would encrease; commonly finding most ease when her Body was sedate. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* iv. (1728) 304 The river which was before straight, she made crooked with great windings, that it might be more sedate and less apt to overflow. *c* 1728 EARL OF AILESBURY *Mem.* (1890) 124 His pulse ..was sedate enough.

†Seda·te, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *sēdāt-*, ppl. stem of *sēdāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To make calm or quiet; to assuage, allay. Hence **†Seda·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1646 J. OWEN *Vision Unchang. Free Mercy*, etc. 56 These following lines were intended meerly to sedate and bury such contests. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 204 This was not to procure or excite prophesie, but to sedate passions and affections. 1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 53 Did matter contend with matter, what confusion would it produce? whilst the mind and soul of man sedate the hostility, and bring it to due obedience.

Sedately (sɪdē·tlɪ), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a sedate manner; without passion or excitement.

1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* xviii. 33 Pilate therefore retires himself into the palace, that he might more sedately set himself to sift the business. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 5 As also those grounds and arguments that are commonly brought..punctually, sedately, and faithfully answered. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. *init.* (Globe) 318, I..began to argue with my self sedately. 1824 BYRON *Lara* I. xxi, And Lara gazed on these, sedately glad. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i, John looked sedately and solemnly at his questioner. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lv. 8, I hail'd each lady promenader, Each, I found, did face me quite sedately.

Sedateness (sɪdē·tnĕs). [-NESS.] The quality or fact of being sedate (see the adj.).

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 148/2 With inimitable serenity, and sedateneesse of mind. 1655 CROMWELL *Sp.* 22 Jan. P 17 (Carlyle) There was a very great peace and sedateness throughout these Nations. 1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 176 He behaved himself all the while with great sedatenesse, as became a person under his circumstances. 1730 WATERLAND *Suppl. to Nat. Sacram.* 1 To preserve the Coolness and Sedateness proper to religious or learned Enquiries. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 49 May and myself walking with the sedateness and decorum befitting our sex and age. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 5 The sedateness of his deportment and the apparent regularity of his life delighted austere moralists. 1910 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 330 It was an age of sedateness and comparative repose.

Sedation (sɪdē·ʃən). [a. F. *sédation* or ad. L. *sēdātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sēdāre*: see SEDATE *a.*]

1. The action of allaying, assuaging, making calm or quiet. **a.** *Med.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. IV. i. 65 It causeth the humours to breath out wyth gentyll resolution, and sedation of payne. 1670 MAYNWARING *Pharm. Phys. Repos.* 53 The Anodyne Pills..are used in all Cases requiring sedation and allay. 1874 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* 58 In tonic doses quinia produces no perceptible sedation of the circulation. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 875 A sedation of certain parts may throw other functions into an eminence which may be positive or may be relative.

†b. *gen. Obs.*

1616 *Rich Cabinet* 57 H. 7. who was ledde after the sedation both of forren and domestick encombrances..to the house of a great Maiestie and Honourable wealth. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 70 For the sedation of inquiet..mindes. 1674 T. TURNOR *Bankers & Creditors* (1675) 41 The King for the sedation of these ..Apprehensions is advised..to issue forth his Declaration.

†2. The state of being settled. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1627–61 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxv. 374 The unevenness of the Earth is clearly Providence. For since it is not any fix'd sedation, but a floating mild variety, that pleaseth; The Hills and Valleys in it, have all their special use.

Sedative (se·dătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 **sed-, cedatyve.** [a. F. *sédatif* adj. and sb., or ad. med.L. *sēdātīv-us*, f. L. *sēdāre*: see prec. and -IVE.]

A. *adj. Med.* That has the property of allaying, assuaging, or soothing.

Sedative salt, old name (*sal sedativum*, Homberg 1702) for boracic acid.

c 1425 *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 93 Oile roset complete is resolutiue, confortatyue, and conueniently cedatyue of akyng. *Ibid.* 94 It is a conuenient resolutyue, and of akyng sedatyue. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) s.v., Sedative Medicines..are such as have power or vertue to allay and asswage pain. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 36 Mr. Homberg called it *Sedative Salt*, on account of its medical effects. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 614 Disputes.. concerning the stimulant and sedative effects of cold. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 492 Morphia..appears to be the principal sedative constituent of opium.

b. *transf.* and *gen.*

1795 BURKE *Reg. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 27 Against alarm on their politick and military empire these are the writer's sedative remedies. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 251 It illustrates the sedative effect of a protracted succession of hazards. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Illusions* Wks. (Bohn) II. 445 Is not our faith in the impenetrability of matter more sedative than narcotics?

B. *sb. Med.* A sedative medicine.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 99/1 Vinegar..generally acts as a sedative. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxxviii, The sedative had been administered. In fact, they had given me a strong opiate. I was to be held quiet for one night. 1874 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 148 There are certain drugs which are used by practitioners to decrease the activity of the circulation; and it is these which are here considered under the heading of Cardiac Sedatives. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 604 Sedatives such as bromides and valerian..must be administered.

b. *transf.* and *gen.*

1785 PALEY *Mor. & Polit. Philos.* III. II. vii. I. 298 Reflections..which may be called the sedatives of anger. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xv, The lazy influence of a late and lonely breakfast, with the additional sedative of a newspaper. 1864 MRS. RIDDELL *Geo. Geith* xxix, 'Beryl's singing always sends me to sleep'. 'So that I am of some use in the world, if only as a sedative', replied Beryl.

Sedche, variant of SIEGE.

†Sede. *Obs.* [ad. L. *sēdēs* seat.]

1. = SEAT *sb.* 8. *Sede celestial*, the throne of God.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5320 Of his com þe king was fain, And of his sede [*other texts* sete] him ras again. *a* 1500–34 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* I. 345 The sede seylesteall.

2. = SEAT *sb.* 13.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 183 And at þe laste [þey] cam in to Italia, and..made þe cheefe sede at Taruntum.

3. = SEAT *sb.* 7.

1552 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 140 Item I do geue for implements to remayne vnto the scholle the hangyns in my chamber, one table, one ioyned forme, one sede.

Sede, obs. form of SEED *sb.* and *v.*

Sede·cimarti·culate, *a. Ent.* [f. L. *sēdecim* + *articul-us* joint + -ATE 2.] Having sixteen joints.

1856–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 342 Antennæ porrect, cylindrical, sedecimarticulate.

†Sede·cuple. *Obs.*[-1] [f. L. *sēdec-im* sixteen, after DECUPLE.] A quantity sixteen times another.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 349 If any Root be Multiplied by 4 the Product shall be the Root of the Sedecuple.

‖ **Se defendendo** (sī dĭfende·ndo). *Law.* [Law Latin: *sē* himself, *dēfendendō* abl. gerund of *dēfendĕre* to defend.] 'In self-defence': a plea which if established is held to remove legal guilt from a homicide.

1548 STAUNFORD *Kinges Prerog.* xvi. (1567) 45 b, In a case where one killed another *se defendendo* or by misaduenture, this offence is felony. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. v. 49 *Mad.* They barke, *se defendendo*. *Shv.* Or for custome, As commonly curres doe, one for another. 1710 *Tatler* No. 256 ᴘ 3 That in consideration..that his taking the wall was only *Se defendendo*, the prosecutor should let him escape with life. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Though the party justify its being done Se-Defendendo, yet he is driven to procure his Pardon of Course from the Lord Chancellor. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 126 The law of England..pardons even homicide if committed *se defendendo*.

subst. use. 1682 DRYDEN *Duke of Guise* Epil. 12 *Se defendendo* never was a Sin.

† **Sedeful,** *a. Obs.* Also 1–2 **sideful.** [OE. *sidęful*, f. *sidu* masc. = OS. *sidu* (Du. *zede* fem.), OHG. *situ* (G. *sitte* fem.), Goth. *sidu-s*:—O Teut. **sedu-s* custom, morality (f. root **swedh-*) : cf. Gr. ἔθος custom.] Virtuous, moral, chaste.

c 1000 Ælfric in Assmann *Angs. Hom.* iii. 327 Þa heahfæderas haliȝe wæron..sidefulle on ðeawum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2175 Ȝho wass..Shammfasst, & daffte, & sedefull.

Sedelinges, obs. form of SIDELINGS *adv.*

Sedement, obs. form of SEDIMENT.

Sedeness, variant of SEEDNESS. *Obs.*

Sedent (sī·dĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *sedent-em*, pres. pple. of *sedēre* to sit.] Sitting.

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 57 A Fragment of a sedent Figure of a Woman. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5286/4 A Griffin Sedent upon a broken Spear. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* II. xi. 4 The pretty sedent bronze figure. 1889 BRYDALL *Art in Scot.* x. 189 The sedent statue of the very beautiful and handsome Princess Pauline Borghese.

Sedentarily (se·dĕntărili), *adv.* [f. SEDENTARY *a.* + -LY ².] In a sedentary manner.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 169 So sedentarily addicted to the composition of verse.

Sedentariness (se·dĕntărinĕs). [f. SEDENTARY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being sedentary.

1671 L. ADDISON *W. Barbary* 113 Those that live in great Towns..are enclined to paleness, which may be imputed to their sedentariness, or want of motion. *c* 1740 COLE in *Etoniana* iv. 76 The sedentariness of a scholar. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 66 Ratifying and trebling the ruinous effects of this sedentariness. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* i. 46 With the beginning of agriculture and sedentariness this relation is reversed.

Sedentary (se·dĕntări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *sédentaire*, ad. L. *sedentārius*, f. *sedent-em*, pr. pple. of *sedēre* to sit: see SEDENT and -ARY. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *sedentario*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of habits, occupations, etc.: Requiring continuance in a sitting posture.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxiv. (1632) 66 To divert them from all militarie exercises, and ammuse them to idle, secure, and sedentarie occupations. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiii. 184 If thy life be sedentary, exercise thy body. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 190. 242 Reading and Writing and all other sedentary Studies. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1778) II. VI. 223 The habits of a sedentary and pacific profession. 1817 JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 331 The first sedentary morning I have had for weeks. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, A short man..whose bent shoulders told of some sedentary occupation.

b. Of a quality.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiii. (1818) I. 428 The sedentary cunning of the lynx.

2. Of persons: Accustomed or addicted to sitting still; engaged in sedentary pursuits; not in the habit of taking physical exercise.

1668 WISEMAN *Treat. Wounds* I. 40 A Sedentary young Gentleman of an ill habit of Body. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 192. 244 Since..sedentary or studious Men should have some Exercise, that at the same time might divert their Minds, and employ their Bodies. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 115 ᴘ 4 The Spleen, which is so frequent in Men of studious and sedentary Tempers. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 207 But sedentary weavers of long tales Give me the fidgets, and my patience fails. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 322 A Gentleman of Kensington, of middle age, plethoric, and sedentary, but active in his mind. 1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* vii, Sedentary victims of unhealthy toil. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 263 Fancy a sedentary usher,..suddenly called upon to unlearn all his scholar-like habits. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xvi, A few sedentary characters..remained at table full a quarter of an hour.

absol. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. I. 261 The Blood of labouring people is more dense than that of the sedentary. 1823 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 433 Thus, the aged, the sedentary, and the dissipated, are known to be more liable to ulcers of the lower extremities, than the young, active, and sober.

† **b.** Slothful, inactive. *Obs.*

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 17 Our Physitians, being like vnto the lazie sedentarie Physitians of Alexandria,..are ashamed to aske of the patient the..symptomes. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 571 Till length of years And sedentary numness craze my limbs To a contemptible old age obscure. 1707 FLOYER *Pulse-Watch* 160 They are Slothful without Cares or Study, Sedentairy [*sic*], Idle.

† **c.** Not engaged in active business. *Obs.*

1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. III. iv. 396 The Egyptians; whose Sages were not sedentary scholastic Sophists, like the Grecian; but employed and busied in the public Affairs of Religion and Government. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccxviii. IV. 116 Abercrombie is to be the Sedentary, and not the acting Commander.

3. Remaining in one place of abode; not migratory. Of a tribunal, an assembly, a judge or other official: Established in one place; not moving from place to place in the course of official duty; opposed to *ambulatory*. Now *rare* (in recent use perh. a Gallicism).

1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* Q 2 b, That [Court of Parliament] of Paris..at first was ambulatory: but since Philip le bel, it hath beene sedentary in this Citie. *a* 1628 DODERIDGE *Eng. Lawyer* (1631) 33 As well the Iudges itinerate.., as those that were sedentarie in the King's High Courts of Iustice. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 11 To bee a Sedentary Traveller only, penn'd up between Wals, and to stand poring all day upon a Map,..is like him, who thought to come to bee a good Fencer, by looking on Agrippa's book-postures only. 1794 HERON *Inform. War* 176 The Convention declares itself sedentary in the capital, and permanent, till the conclusion of a peace. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) I. 184 The sedentary labourer is more exposed to the vicissitudes of fortune than he who leads a wandering life. 1857 *Colton's Atlas, Russia in Asia*, The Tchuktchi.. consist of two tribes, one sedentary and the other nomadic. 1892 *Daily News* 16 Mar. 6/1 Does England..in promising to effect the removal of 'sedentary establishments' undertake to forbid her subjects raising any construction, such for example as the lobster factories. 1899 *Ibid.* 13 Nov. 7/7 The remedy consists in adding to the sedentary forces as if we were a State like Switzerland.

† **b.** Of a material thing: Continuing in one place, motionless. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 32 And on thir Orbs impose Such restless revolution day by day Repeated, while the sedentarie Earth,..attaines Her end without least motion. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* ii. 32 The absurdity of supposing the earth a sedentary and immoveable body.

c. *Zool.* Inhabiting the same region through life; not migratory. Also of mollusca, etc.: Confined to one spot, not locomotory. Of spiders: see B.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 11 The sedentary tribes settle in the place they intend to occupy during the remainder of their lives. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 274 Sedentary Spiders (*Sedentariæ*). *Ibid.* 316 Sedentary-Annelids (*Tubicolæ*). 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 241 Most of them [Gasteropods] being free and locomotive, though some are sedentary. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist on Thames* 153 No one has satisfactorily answered the question why there are sedentary species and migratory species so closely allied in habits and food.

† **4.** Deliberate. *Obs. rare.*

1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* II. x. 75 Lord, pardon my cursory, and preserve me from sedentary sinnes. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 74 He..proceeded to take away their Lives; not in the hot and Military way..but in the cooler blood and sedentary execution of an High Court of Justice.

B. *sb.* [absolute use of A. 3 c.] *Zool.* One of a group of spiders (*Sedentariæ*) which take their prey by means of a web in or near which they remain watching.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiii. (1818) I. 425 Walckenaer, ..terming those already mentioned which spin webs and nets, Sedentaries. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Sedentaries.*

Seder, obs. form of CEDAR, SEEDER.

Sederunt (sĭdī·ĕrŭnt). *Sc.* [a. L. *sēdērunt* 'there were sitting' (*sc.* the following persons), 3rd pers. pl. pf. ind. of *sedēre* to sit, used subst.]

‖ **1.** In minutes of deliberative bodies, used (in its Latin sense) to introduce the list of persons present at a meeting. *Obs.*

The word occurs at least as early as the 15th c. in minutes that are written in Latin, or in which the names or titles of the persons are latinized.

1673 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 339 Sederunt, the earle Marischall, the lord bishop, Mr. Alexander Ross [and others].

2. A sitting of a deliberative or judicial body; now chiefly of an ecclesiastical assembly. *Book of sederunt*: a minute-book.

1628 CHAS. I in *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 39 If you find the said warrant extant in your buikis of sederunt. 1652 *Sess. Rec. of Cantisbay* 29 Mar. in *Stat. Acc. Scot.* XV. 25 No session holden, by reasone the Inglishe being quartered in the bounds, the congregation was few in number, and ther was not a sederunt of elders. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5262/1 His Majesty was Pleased to Order that One of the said Instruments be Transmitted to the Court of Session, to be Recorded in the Books of *Sederunt*. 1800 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* (1860) 108 After many very late sederunts of the Synod, and at last a hearing of the General Assembly, the affair was dismissed. 1856 ARTON *Clerical Econ.* 78 The late hours, the long sederunts, and the heats and the colds.

† **b.** The time or occasion of such a sitting or meeting. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 236 After the Debate, the Judges..delayed the Determination thereof till next Sederunt.

c. *Act of Sederunt*: see quot. 1875.

1672 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Pleadings* Pref. A 2 At the first institution of our Senat, It was appointed by an Act of Sederunt, That [etc.]. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 123 Act of Sederunt, in *Scotch Law*, an ordinance for regulating the forms of procedure before the Court of Session, passed by the judges in virtue of a power conferred by an Act of the Scotch Parliament, 1540, c. 93.

d. *transf.* A sitting for discussion or talk. Also, more loosely, a sitting (of a person) at some occupation, over the bottle, or the like.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 21 [She] dusted away..sundry farrows of snuff which had gradually accumulated in her lap in the course of a long morning's sederunt. 1829 *Health & Longev.* 143 He was not a drunkard, but at times he took a very long sederunt at his bottle. 1866 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* V. xiii. (1903) II. 211 Morning sederunt with Lord Russell and Brand on reform and other matters. 1867 MACFARLANE *Mem. T. Archer* vi. 135 Information he had accumulated by his sederunts in the Museum Library.

† **3.** ? A person's record of attendance at a sitting.

1632 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 45 Quatsomever Lord shall admit any informer or solliciter within his house..shall loss and forfatt his sederunt of that day, to accress to the remanent Lords, observers of this statute.

4. The list of persons present at a 'sederunt' or sitting. ¶ Also *pl.* the persons named on such a list.

1701 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 221 The Lords..Do therefore ordain the Lords present at their sitting down in the morning, after the ringing of the Session-bell, to be marked in the sederunt. 1822 GALT *Provost* xliii, Mr. Peevie, one of the very sickerest of all the former sederunts, came to me next morning. 1866 *Leeds Mercury* 4 Apr., He then constituted the meeting by calling over the roll, answered to his own name, and faithfully took down the sederunt. 1910 *U. F. Ch. Miss. Record* Jan. 22/2 The council met with a sederunt of four.

5. *attrib.*: sederunt book, a volume containing the record of a sederunt, a minute-book; † sederunt-day, a day appointed for a sederunt.

1619 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XII. 8 The Lordis of Sessioun and Exchekker, whose names ar insert in the *Sederunt bookis of Sessioun and Exchekquer. 1770 D. HERD *Let.* in *Herd's Songs* (1904) 45 A copy of the Cape [club] sederunt book. 1810 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. 170 Walked to Pittenweem, and got the sederunt-book on Dr. Reid's affairs. 1677 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 137 Unless the petition be given in within the space of two *sederunt days, after pronounceing of the decreet. 1753 *Scots Mag.* July 365/1 The first sederunt-day of November. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 480 A sentence of the inner-house, either not reclaimed against within six sederunt-days after its date,..or adhered to upon a reclaiming bill [etc.].

‖ **Se·des.** *Obs. rare.* Pl. sedes. [L. *sēdēs* seat.]

1. = SEAT *sb.* 26 b.

1634 [see SEAT *sb.* 26 b]. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* v. ix. 376 Next to these are Wounds made by any sharp Weapon, which, according to the force, cutteth into the Bone many ways, which Cuts are called *Sedes*, and are reckoned amongst the Fractures.

2. = SEAT *sb.* 22.

1662 RAY *Three Itin.* III. 182 A few fibres or stringy roots at the bases or *sedes* of it.

Sede vacante (sī·dī vākæ·ntē). [L., 'the seat being vacant'; *sēde* abl. sing. of *sēdēs* seat.]

‖ **1.** *Eccl.* In the Latin sense, as advb. phrase: During the vacancy of an episcopal see.

1535 CRANMER in Strype *Memor.* App. xiv. (1694) 20 My Predecessor visited the Dioces of Winchester after the d cease of my L. Cardinal, as he did al other Diocesses *Sede Vacante*. 1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 7 Preamble, Under Collectors of the Tenths and Subsidies of the Cleargye appointed by..Deanes and Chapters (*Sede vacante*). *a* 1900 J. W. LEGG *Ecclesiol. Ess.* 77 We have abundance of documents in Wilkins drawn up *sede vacante*.

¶ **b.** *allusively.*

1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* II. C 1 b, But yet I must not let fall my suite with mistrisse Purge, least (*Cede vacanti*) my friend Gudgin ioyne issue.

2. Used as *sb.*: The vacancy of a see or seat.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxvii. (Arb.) 69 In time of *Sede vacante*, when merry conceited men listed to gibe & iest at the dead Pope. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 249 The Ceremony of a *Sede Vacante*. 1783 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 2 Mar., It is not quite new in this country..to see a *sede vacante*: here, I call it an Inter-ministerium.

allusively. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 72 ᴘ 4 It is a Maxim in this Club That the Steward never dies; for..no Man is to quit the great Elbow-chair..'till his Successor is in a Readiness to fill it; insomuch that there has not been a *Sede vacante* in the Memory of Man.

Sedewale, variant of SETWALL.

Sedge (sedʒ), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **sæcg, secg** (sech, seic, secgg, segc, segg), 3–5 **segge** (?*gg* = dʒ), 5 **sege, cegge,** (7 **sage**), 5– **sedge**; *β.* 6–7 **segge** (?*gg* = g), 9 *dial.* **seag,** 5–7, 9 *dial.* **seg** (g. [OE. *sęcg* masc., once neut. (cf. LG. *segge* fem., *Br. Wbuch.*) :—OTeut. type **sagjo-z*, f. root **sag-* (:—Indogermanic **sāk-*: **sĕk-* in L. *secāre* to cut): cf. SAW *sb.*² For the etymological notion cf. quot. 1398 in 1 a below, and the L. *gladiolus*, which the OE. word renders in glosses; also the rare OE. *secg* fem. (:—**sagjā*) a sword.

From the same root is OHG. *sahor, sahir, sahar* 'scirpus, juncus, carex' (MHG., mod.G. dial. *saher* sedge, reeds, young shoots of corn). According to some scholars the OCeltic **sesbā* sedge (Irish *seisg*, Welsh *hesg*, Breton *hesq*) is for **seksbā* from the root **sek-*.

The phonology of the *β* forms is somewhat obscure. In most of the words which have parallel forms with final (dʒ) and (g), the latter may be accounted for by Scandinavian influence, and are confined to dialects in which that influence is powerful. The present word, however, is not known in Scandinavian, and its dialectal range extends to the S. W. Counties. Possibly it may be an euphonic variant originating in compounds where the second element began with a spirant. The form *segge*, common from the 13th to the 17th c., is of doubtful phonetic interpretation; probably down to the 15th c. it commonly stands for (sedʒ), and in later instances most frequently for (seg).]

1. A name for various coarse grassy, rush-like or flag-like plants growing in wet places; also (in different localities) variously applied *spec.*, e.g. to the cyperaceous genera *Carex* and *Cladium*, to

the Sweet Flag (*Acorus*) and the Wild Iris (*Iris Pseudacorus*).

In early instances it is often impossible to determine what particular plant is intended; the Latin words which are glossed by 'sedge' were prob. seldom used with any very precise notion of their meaning.

a. As the name of a kind of plant; also *collect. sing.*, plants of this kind growing together in a mass.

a. *c*725 *Corpus Gloss.* 977 *Gladiolum*, saecg [*Erfurt* secg; *Epinal* segg]. *Ibid.* 371 *Carix*, secg [*Erfurt* sech; *Leiden* seic]. *c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 135 *Carex, uel sabium, uel lisca*, secg. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 18 Þe niȝtingale..sat up one vaire boȝe,..in ore waste þicke hegge, imeind mid spire & grene segge. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. XXXV. (Tollemache MS.), Segge is an herbe most harde and scharpe: þe stalke þerof is þre cornered, and kutteþ and kerueth þe honde þat it holdeþ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 Segge, star of the fenne, *carix*. Segge, of fenne, or wyld gladon..*accorus*. *Ibid.* 64/2 Cegge, or wylde gladone, *accorus*. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. 1814 The Meads, the Orchards, and the Primrose lanes, Instead of Sedge and Reed, beare Sugar Canes. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XX. 139 Some againe..Of Cat-tayles made them Crownes, which from the Sedge doth grow, Which neatly wouen were. 1650 TATHAM *Roy. Oak* 6 Four Virgins cloathed in white loose garments, and their Brows circled with Sage, representing the Nymphs that frequent Rivers. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 15 (1689) 46 Flags (or, as some call them, Sedges). 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. vii, And the coming wind did roar more loud, And the sails did sigh like sedge. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 137 Close to the canes and swaying segge Of every dim lake's hidden edge.

β. 1538 TURNER *Libellus*, s. v. *Acorum*, Varie nominant Northumbrienses a seg..a flag, a yelowe flourdelyce. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. H v, Carex is the latin name of an herbe whiche we cal in english segge or shergresse...This herbe that I do take to be carex, groweth in fennes and in water sides. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) III. 85 Ther be Men alyve that saw almost al the Town of Pole kyverid with Segge and Risshis 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 34 The bushes and segge in the riuer shall not shrowd them. 1819 H. BUSK *Banquet* I. 414 Lentini's bee would now disdain to crop The scatter'd seg upon Paderno's top. 1899 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumberld. Gloss.* s. v. *Mekkins*, Seag, Yellow iris or Corn Flag, *Iris pseudacorus*.

b. *collect. plural.*

a. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 18 Seuene kiyn..gaderiden grene seggis in the pasture of the marreis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 525 A stondyng..couered wel with shingil, tile or broom—Or segges ar as gode to my dome. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 Than the scheiphyrdis vyuis cuttit raschis and seggis. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 53 Adonis painted by a running brooke, And Citherea all in sedges hid. 1612 *Two Noble K.* IV. i, As I late was angling In the great Lake.., From the far shore, thicke set with reedes and Sedges,..I heard a voyce. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 42 No more thy glossy brook reflects the day, But, chok'd with sedges, works its weedy way. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* XX, The..statue of a river deity,..its front crowned with water-lilies and sedges, and its ample hand half-resting upon an empty urn. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* XXI, A man cutting sedges in a punt in the lode alongside ..leapt on shore.

β. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii. 15 And on the strond vpon the Riuer side..I woaue a Coffyn for his corse of Seggs, That with the winde dyd waue like bannerets. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* C 4 b, How first I found thee, being but a child: Hid in the segges fast by a Riuer side. 1631 WIDDOWRS *Nat. Philos.* 49 Acorus is a plant growing with leaves like Iris, but smaller, or like segges. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 805 You lay lurking behind the seggs. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* II. 1078 *Iris pseudacorus*. Segs, i. e. Sedge. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 194 Bundles of Seggs tied together used to be employed by children learning to swim. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotsw. Vill.* 359 Among the sword-flags and the green rushes and 'segs'.

c. An individual plant or stalk of sedge. *rare.*

a 1450 *Ratis Raving* 1984 To mak..of a seg a swerd of were. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 29 Giuing a gentle kisse to euery sedge He ouer-taketh in his pilgrimage. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* IV. *Usef. Proj.* 128 Having frequently seen children at play with seggs in their mouths, by blowing them, in order to make a noise. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* ii. 22 A few sedges here and there..betoken that once there was a stream.

d. *Bot.* Formerly, a plant of the genus *Carex*; now usually in wider sense (after Lindley), a plant of the N. O. *Cyperaceæ*.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 433 Carex or Sedge, is a most numerous genus of the same order, and the same natural tribe. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 117 Order XXX. Cyperaceæ. Sedges. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 79 The sedges are essentially the clothing of..uncultivable soils, coarse in their structure, frequently triangular in stem ..and with their heads of seed not extricated from their leaves.

e. With defining words. †**Red sedge**, ? some cyperaceous plant. **Sea sedge**, the Sweet Flag, *Acorus Calamus* (Syd. Soc. Lex. 1898); also *Carex arenaria*. **Sweet, yellow sedge**, the Wild Iris, *Iris Pseudacorus*. **Stinking sedge**, the Gladdon, *Iris fœtidissima*. Also in book-names of various cyperaceous plants: see quot. 1859. Also BROOM-*sedge*.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 102 Wiþ bancoþe þæt is oman nim nigontyne snæda eolonan & nyxon ontran & endlefan reades secges. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 288 Shevys de reede segge. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 254 Freckles, seethe the root of stinking segs in Cowes milke, and vse it. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 90 Sea Seg. In loose moveable sand on the sea shore. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 69 A bed of tall yellow sedges. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 27 Order. *Cyperaceæ*..White sedge. *Ibid.* 29 Great Panicled Sedge. *Ibid.* 30 Great Sedge..Greater Prickly Sedge..Grey Sedge.. Sea Sedge. *Ibid.* 32 Hoary Sedge..Black Sedge..Common Sedge. *Ibid.* 38 Great Pendulous Sedge. *Ibid.* 42 Great Common Sedge..Lesser Common Sedge. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xix, They brought in bundles of sweet sedge.

†**2.** A leaf shaped like that of a sedge. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 73 b, His vse is, to keepe a good while in his mouth the stalke or sedge of Barley.

†**3.** *Her.* A 'spear reed' or flag borne as a charge. Also one of the leaves with which this was figured. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 57/2 He beareth Argent, a Spear Reed, Vert...These are termed also Sedges, Flaggs or Water-flaggs...A[rgent] on a Mount in Base 3 Reed Spears (sans leaves or sedges).

4. Short for *sedge-fly*: see 5. Chiefly *silver sedge*.

1889 HALFORD *Dry-Fly Fishing* 209 A small sedge dressed on a No. O hook, either the silver sedge or an orange sedge with hare's ear body. 1902 S. BUXTON *Fishing & Shooting* 93 To these [flies] I would personally add..the wickham, the silver sedge [etc.]. *Ibid.* 94 On some rivers, an alder, a sedge, or a caperer,..is not too large.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as *sedge-bed*, †*-bush*, †*-collar*, *-family*, †*-plot*; *sedge-like* adj. **b.** instrumental, as *sedge-crowned*, *-grown* adjs.

1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* viii, We hurried on over the water-furrows, and through the *sedge-beds to the further shore. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. H v, Thou lurkedest behynde the *segge bushes. 1647 HEXHAM I, A Sedge-bush, or any place where sedge doth grow, *Een bies-bosch*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 *Sedge collers for ploughhorse, for lightnes of neck. 1749 COLLINS *Ode on Thomson* viii, But thou, lorn stream, whose sullen tide No *sedge-crown'd sisters now attend. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 42 Instead of the winged angel we have the sedge-crowned river God. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 358 Order...*Cyperaceæ*. (*Sedge Family.) 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. i, The whilom chase of Marylebone and the once *sedge-grown waters of Pimlico. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vii, You push on into a bed of strong *sedge-like Sclerias, with cutting edges to their leaves. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 211 This of a *Sedgeplot and of a few fishermen's cotages..grew to be a mercate town exceeding rich.

6. Special comb., as **sedge-bird** = *sedge-warbler*; †**sedge-boat**, ? a flat-bottomed boat for use in shallow or weed-grown rivers; **sedge-fly**, a caddis, or may-fly; also, an imitation of this used in fly-fishing (cf. sense 4); **sedge-grass** = sense 1 (in U.S. variously used *spec.*); †**sedge-hill**, ? an elevation, in the midst of marshy ground, covered with sedge; **sedge reedling** = *sedge-warbler*; †**sedge reek**, ? a stack of cut sedge; **sedge-root**, (*a*) the tuber of various kinds of sedge (*Cyperus esculentus*, *C. bulbosus*, etc.) used in some countries as an article of food; (*b*) = SEDGING; †**sedge-rug**, ? a coarse material woven of sedge and resembling matting; **sedge-warbler**, a small bird, *Acrocephalus schœnobœnus*, of the family *Sylviidæ*, common in marshy districts; **sedge-willow**, ? the osier; †**sedge-worm**, some kind of worm used for bait; **sedge-wren** = *sedge-warbler*; also, a small bird native to Australasia.

1738 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 56 *Sedge Bird. 1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 71/2 The sedge-bird commenced its continuous chattering. 1336–7 *Rotuli Scotiæ* I. 480 Ad octo batellos vocatos keles & *seggebotes in partibus de Lenn & Cantebrigg. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. 189 The *Sedge Fly..is a capital fly for all the southern and mid-county rivers..throughout the summer. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* 362 *Carex vulpinoidea*...Sedge. *Sedge-grass. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prelude P 30 The cattle waded along their edges after the rich sedge-grass. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/1 A *Segg hylle, *caretum*. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 390 *Calamoherpe phragmitis*. The *Sedge Reedling. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 *Segge reeke, *caretum*. 1648 B. PLANTAGENET *Descr. New Albion* 25 Sweet *seg roots. 1850 F. MASON *Nat. Product. Burmah* 142 Sedge root. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. xiii. 182 (Libr. Usef. Knowl.), [The oat] is only partially subject to a disease called 'sedge-root, or tulip-root'. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* A 4 b, Dame Niggardize, his wife, in a *sedge rugge kirtle. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 672 Index, Warblers, *sedge. 1837 GOULD *Birds Europe* III. Pl. 106 Great Sedge Warbler. *Ibid.* Pl. 112 Rufous Sedge Warbler. 1908 *The Month* Apr. 355 The purple red of the *sedge-willow blossoms. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* ii. (1841) 11 The *segg-worm. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s. v. *Warbler, Sedge*, *Sedge-wren. 1845 *Voy. Port Philip* 53 The cheerful sedge wren and the bald-head friar.

7. quasi-*adj.* (from *attrib.*) Of sedge. *nonce-use.*

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 104 Next Camus, reverend Sire, went footing slow, His Mantle hairy, and his Bonnet sedge, Inwrought with figures dim.

†**Sedge**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [ad. It. *seggia* seat, in both senses.] **a.** A hall of assembly. **b.** A sedan chair.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 258 Most of these [nobles] do live most part of the yeare in the Citie; where they haue five Sedges for the fiue assemblies of Capua, Nido, Montana, Spente and Lespente. *Ibid.* 259 The Sedges not unlike to horse-litters but carried by men.

Sedge (sedʒ), *v. dial.* [f. SEDGE *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To be affected with SEDGING.

1820 *Farmer's Mag.* XXI. 32 An experienced old farmer.. replied.., 'although I know little about oats seging, I remember well [etc.]' 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., Our oats are segging.

Sedge, var. SAY *v.*[1], SEGGE (man), and SIEGE.

Sedged (sedʒd), *a.* [f. SEDGE *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].]

†**1.** Woven with sedge. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 129 You Nimphs cald Nayades of y[e] windring brooks, With your sedg'd crownes.

†**2.** *Her.* Of a 'spear reed' or flag: Having 'sedges' (see SEDGE *sb.*[1] 3). *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 57/2 A[rgent] 2 Spear Reeds; single sedged and couped in Salter proper...O[r] on a hill in Base V[ert] 3 Spear Reeds, double sedged or leafed.

3. *Agric.* Of oats: Affected with SEDGING.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 950, I have cured a piece of land of its constant tendency to grow sedged oats, simply by draining.

4. Bordered with sedge.

1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* xi, And what sedged brooks are Thames's tributaries.

Sedgeyng, obs. form of SAYING *vbl. sb.*

Sedging (se·dʒiŋ). *Agric.* Also seg(g)ing. [f. SEDGE *v.* + -ING [1].] A disease incident to oats, characterized by a thickening of the stem near the ground, said to be caused by a grub.

1820 *Farmer's Mag.* XXI. 32 On a Disease in Oats called Seging...This disease..is known by its soon changing the natural colour of the braird into that of a dark luxuriant green. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 950 Another complaint of the oat-plant is segging or sedging, so named, in consequence of..the leaves becoming broad, and the roots thickened like those of the sedge. 1890 MISS ORMEROD *Man. Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 99 Tulip-root or Segging, caused by Stem Eelworm.

Sedgley (se·dʒli). In 7 **Seagly, Sedgly, Sedgely.** The name of a town in S. Staffordshire: † *attrib.* (see quot.).

a 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* v. ii, A seagly curse light on him, which is, Pedro; The feind ride through him booted, and spurd, with a Sythe at's back. 1646 SUCKLING *Goblins* I. Wks. (1694) 253 Now the Sedgly curse upon thee. 1655 MENNES & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (1656) 25 But he that hath her I doe wish no worse Then a true Sedgely curse.

Sedgy (se·dʒi), *a.* Also *a.* 4, 6 **seggy**, 6 **siedgie**; *β.* 9 (dial.) **seggy.** [f. SEDGE *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Covered or bordered with sedge or sedges.

[*c* 1318 in Wallace James *Deeds East Lothian* (1899) 10 Duas acras ad Seggy-wellis heved.] 1566 *Act* 8 *Elis.* c. 8 § 1 The Maryshes and Seggie Fenne Groundes w[th]in the sayd Isle [of Ely]. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 98 On the gentle Seuernes siedgie banke. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CCXXXII, Deep in his Ooze he sought his sedgy Bed. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 100 Charwell, thy sedgy Banks, and glist'ring Streams All laugh and sing at mild Approach of Morn. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. XXXI, The bittern..Booming from the sedgy shallow. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 521 The sedgy end Of yonder well-known bight.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1659 C. NOBLE *Moderate Answ. to Immod. Queries* To Rdr. 1 Can these rushy and sedgy expressions that are set down in this Paper grow any where, but from marish, myrie grounds and principles? 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 103 Those terrible folios of the scholastic divines,..their majestic stream of central print overflowing into rivulets of marginal notes sedgy with citations.

2. Having the nature or properties of sedge.

1625 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* (ed. 2) 747 On the bankes of this riuer [Nilus] also grew those sedgie weedes called Papyri. 1662 BARGRAVE *Alex. VII* (1867) 124 It was covered, he said, with long sedgy grass growing about it, under the dripp of an higher rock. 1808–13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 185 Its flesh, though esteemed by many, tastes somewhat sedgy, or fishy. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 284 The herbaceous sedgy habit of the latter [the Bulrush tribe]. 1878 BULLER *New Zealand* I. Introd. 17 A small spider, which is confined to a sedgy grass on the sea-coast.

†**3.** Made of or thatched with sedge. *Obs.*

1624 *Tragedy of Nero* IV. i. (1633) F 3, [Thou] dost rather choose, The smoaky reedes and sedgy cottages, Then the proud roofes..of Kings. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Angler* 22 'Tis not the bittern, by the wave Seeking her sedgy nest.

Sedigitated, -itism: see SEXDIGITATED, etc.

‖ **Sedile** (sĭdəi·lĭ). *Arch.* Pl. **sedilia** (sĭdi·lĭă). [L. *sedile* neut., f. root of *sedēre* to sit.] *pl.* A series of seats, usually three in number, either movable or recessed in the wall and crowned with canopies, pinnacles, and other enrichments, usually placed on the south side of the choir near the altar for use by the clergy. Rarely *sing.* one of the sedilia, or a single seat used for this purpose.

1793 *Archæologia* (1794) XI. 335, I shall beg leave to turn the enquiry to..the *sedilia*, so frequently found in our chancels and chauntries. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 119 The south wall of the sacrarium contains five sedilia. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 187 These sedilia were sometimes called, even in smaller churches, the 'presbytery'. 1863 SIR G. SCOTT in *Archæol. Cant.* V. 5 The change..of the chancel into Early Pointed by adding vaulting, inserting lancet windows ..and a beautiful Early English sedile. 1866 *Direct. Anglic.* (ed. 3) 360 *Sedilia*, seats for the officiating clergy on the south side of the altar—usually three for Priest, Deacon and Subdeacon. 1891 *Ch. Times* 27 Nov. 1157/2 The lowest sedile within the sanctuary.

attrib. 1904 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 473/2 There are sedilia niches in the churches of Witton [etc.].

‖ **Sedimen.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *sedimen* settlings, sediment, f. *sedēre* to sit, settle.] = SEDIMENT.

1655 in *Hartlib's Ref. Commw. Bees* 21 In Rain-water kept in wooden Troughs..there would in time gather a sedimen of muddy matter to the bottome. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 196 Which precipitates a light sedimen.

Sediment (se·dimĕnt), *sb.* Also 6 **sedyment** (7 **sedement**). [a. F. *sédiment* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *sediment-um* a settling, sinking down, f. *sedēre* to sit, settle.]

1. Matter composed of particles which fall by gravitation to the bottom of a liquid.

1547 RECORDE *Judic. Urine* 16 b, Al thinges in the water, that be of another matter and substaunce particulerly, then is the urine, as the sedyment or grounde. 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. ix. 212 The Spirits in the Ventricles of the Brain..will..come to a more course consistency, and settle into some such like moist Sediment as is found at the bottome of the Ventricles. 1676 GREW *Anat. Plants, Salts of Plants* i. (1682) 262 After this white Sedement began to fall to the bottom; there was also gathered on the top, a kind of soft Scum. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 235 A prodigious Quantity of clear Water must be exhal'd, to get an Ounce of dry Sediments, either saline or earthly. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (ed. 2) 133 But as to his taking Water out of a River, presently after a Flood..;..while such Water is making its Sediments..the Spirit of it dies. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 302 He poured it out carefully, without disturbing such of the iron sediment as still remained. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 189 All the sediments I have met with were amorphous.

2. *spec.* (in *Geol.* etc.). Earthy or detrital matter deposited by aqueous agency.

1684–5 BOYLE *Hist. Mineral Waters* 108 And whether the mud, or Sediment it [*sc.* Mineral Water] leaves, where it passes or stagnates,..have the same..Medicinal vertues. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 119 Our present upper Earth is factitious, and the Sediment of the Flood. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 44 These beds are..placed over each other, like matters transported by the waters, and deposited in the form of sediment. 1823 BUCKLAND *Reliq. Diluv.* 40 Had they been washed in by a succession of floods we should have had a succession of beds of sediment and stalactite. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvi. 372 The snow gradually wasted, but it left its sediment behind. 1865 GEIKIE *Scenery & Geol. Scot.* v. 92 Ordinary marine sediment..sand, gravel, silt, and mud. 1881 A. C. RAMSAY in *Nature* 1 Sept. 420/1 Cosmological geology..must go back to times far anterior to the date of the deposition, as common sediments, of the very oldest-known metamorphic strata.

3. *fig.*

1637 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 64 Those dregs of Uncharitableness that (as the sediments of depraved nature) lurk in the hearts of the most charitable men. 1691–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 44 When the sediment of his troubled spirit was fallen. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. iv, The ruby glass that shakes within his hand Leaves a sad sediment of Time's worst sand. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. iv, The last sediment of the human stew that had been boiling there all day, was straining off. 1903 J. C. SMITH in R. Campbell *Life* 124 The late Bailie Colston, a man best known by the criminal sediment of Edinburgh.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sediment-laden* adj.; sediment-collector, a contrivance for preventing the deposition of sediment in a boiler.

1858 R. MURRAY *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 234 *Sediment collectors*, or *scale pans*. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks & Talks Geol. Field* 51 Down its slopes descend the sediment-laden drainage-waters.

Sediment (sĕ·dĭmĕnt), *v. rare.* [f. SEDIMENT *sb.*] *trans.* To deposit as sediment. Hence **Se·dimented** *ppl. a.*; **Sedimenting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms* s.v. *Sediment*, Rocks.. as shale, clay, sandstone, &c., are termed sedimentary; that is, sedimented from mechanical suspension in water. 1901 *Lancet* 1 June 1533/1 Care will..have to be taken not to overlook the sedimented bacteria which may be lying at the bottom of the tube. 1901 DURHAM in *Jrnl. Exper. Med.* 15 Jan. 365 In an afternoon several hundred sedimenting preparations can be put up.

Sedimental (sedimĕ·ntăl), *a. rare.* [f. SEDIMENT *sb.* + -AL.] Of the nature of sediment. Of rocks: sedimentary.

1614 T. ADAMS *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 253 This drossie, feculent, and sedimentall Earth. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 222 The Mug may have some sedimental Grout. 1883 *Science* I. 101 A peculiarity of the underlying bed of sedimental rock is its varying thickness.

Sedimentarily (sedimĕntărĭli), *adv. rare.* [f. SEDIMENTARY + -LY 2.] In the form of a sedimentary deposit.

1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IV. 184 He sees..loose volcanic materials sedimentarily spread over this bed of trap.

Sedimentary (sedimĕ·ntări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SEDIMENT *sb.* + -ARY. Cf. F. *sédimentaire.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of sediment.

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 217 The crisis..shows itself in the urine by the secretion becoming turbid and sedimentary. 1854 BAKEWELL *Geol.* 33 The sedimentary depositions having taken place after the crust of the earth had been lifted up above the level of the sea. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (LOW) xiv. 609 Mud and all the light sedimentary matter of river waters. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xviii. 351 The sedimentary origin of chalk.

2. *Geol.* Of rocks, etc.: Formed by the deposition of sediment.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1833) I. I. v. 137 Those who endeavoured to explain the formation of sedimentary strata by causes now in diurnal action. 1839 G. ROBERTS *Dict. Geol.* s.v. *Tertiary Strata*, A series of sedimentary rocks. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* x. 212 The sedimentary rocks of one age are partly formed from the destruction of the sedimentary rocks of former ages.

B. *sb.* A sedimentary formation or deposit.

1878 *Smithsonian Rep.* 70 The older sedimentaries have been entirely removed from the mountain border. 1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 418 The zone of contact between the crystalline rocks and the sedimentaries.

Sedimentation (sedimĕntē·ʃən). [f. SEDIMENT *sb.* + -ATION.] Deposition of sediment; *spec.* in *Geol.* (see SEDIMENT *sb.* 2); also see quot. 1898.

1874 H. A. NICHOLSON in *Trans. Victoria Inst.* IX. 215 There is no proof of any considerable pauses in the process of sedimentation during the same period. 1881 GEIKIE in *Nature* 17 Feb. 358/1 That still comparatively narrow belt of sea to which sedimentation has always been mainly confined. 1896 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Dec. 243, I am inclined ..to ascribe the greatest potency to the effects of erosion, transportation, and sedimentation on the earth's surface. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Sedimentation*, production of quick deposition of a sediment, whether in sewage, or urine, &c., by means of some centrifugal apparatus. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Dec. 3/1 River water is usually purified by sedimentation and filtration.

Sedimentator (sedimentē·tər). [f. SEDIMENTAT-ION + -OR.] An instrument for expediting urinary sedimentation in diagnosis.

1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 256 The process [of collection of urinary sediment] may be rendered more certain and expeditious by the use of Stenbeck's sedimentator.

Sedimentous (sedimĕntəs), *a.* [f. SEDIMENT *sb.* + -OUS.] Full of or abounding in sediment.

1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 28 The large tropical streams are much more sedimentous.

Sedinge, obs. form of SEETHING *a.*

†**Sedi·tiary.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEDITI-ON + -ARY.] A seditious person, a seditionary.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxvi. 248 It was onely a few Seditiaries, that hee had commanded to be slaine. 1646 *Mercurius Belgicus* Pref., Seditiaryes and Schismaticks.

Sedition (sĭdi·ʃən). Forms: 4 sedici(o)un, seduciouu, *Sc.* sedicione, seduccione, 5 cedicioun, 5–6 sedicion, 6 sedycyon, sedytyon, *Sc.* sediciounn, sedetione, 6– sedition. [a. OF. *sedition* (mod.F. *sédition*), ad. L. *sēditiōn-em*, f. *sēd-* (see SE-) + *itiōn-em* a going, n. of action f. *īre* to go. Cf. Sp. *sedicion*, Pg. *sedição*, It. *sedizione.*

The ME. spelling *seduciouu*, *seduccione* are due to pseudo-etymological association with L. *sēdūcĕre* SEDUCE *v.*]

†**1.** Violent party strife; an instance of this, esp. a factious contest attended with rioting and disorder. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 163 Þe folk of rowme.. Raisit in hym sedicione, and wald have brokyn his palace done. *Ibid.* v. (*Johannes*) 291 Al þa þat mad sacrifice til mawmentis..In þe puple (raisit) seduccione a-gane sancte Iohne. *a* 1380 *S. Ambrose* 113 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 10 Þei neore not alle in on red, þer ros a gret sediciun Tofore þat ilke elecciun. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 7 Barabas, that was boundan with sleeris of men, and that hadde don manslauȝtre in seduciou, that is, debaat in cytee. *Ibid., Acts* xxiv. 5 We han foundun this man..stiringe sedicioun, or dissencioun, to alle Jewis..and auctour of seduciou of the secte of Nazarens. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 56 Foure angels singnefien foure general synnes,..cedicouns, superstitions, the glotouns, and the proude. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Agnes* 490 And wyth her wurdys a sedycyoun lo Among þe peple dede grow. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 77 b, And some ther were couetous desiring their singuler prouffit accorded unto this sedicion. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 150/2 As though these men were Apostles now specially sent by god to preache heresyes and sow sedicion among christen men. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 356 For this cuntrey passith all that ever I sawe, for ministration of sedition and discorde. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 78 Thair vas gryt sedition and discentione amang al the gryt personagis of grece. 1602 SEGAR *Honor, Mil. & Civ.* IV. i. iii, When the Romanes were diuided, one faction labouring to oppresse another..such enimitie was called Sedition. 1628 HOBBES *Thucydides* (1822) 87 But there would be thoughts of sedition in one towards another in the city.

2. a. A concerted movement to overthrow an established government; a revolt, rebellion, mutiny. Now *rare.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 150 Messenie..was giuen to reuolting & seditions. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 398 The matter of seditions is of two kindes, Much povertye and much discontent. 1689 LOCKE *Toleration* 50 Seditions are very frequently raised, upon pretence of Religion. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sedition*, a tumult; an insurrection; a popular commotion; an uproar. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 83 With the dawn of day the city burst into a general sedition. 1842 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* II. 65 The tribe had turned into a turbulent democracy..; a sedition had broken out about the property left by Kuttaul. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 327 By reason of inequality, cities are filled with seditions. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 620/1 In the Acts of Congress [of the United States] the word 'sedition' appears to occur only in the army and navy articles. A soldier joining any sedition or who, being present at any sedition, does not use his utmost endeavour to suppress the same is punishable with death.

b. Conduct or language inciting to rebellion against the constituted authority in a state.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., Sedition is distinguished from leasing-making, in this respect, that the object of leasing-making is to disparage or prejudice the private character of the Sovereign, whereas sedition is directed against the order and tranquility of the State. 1877 *Act* 40 & 41 *Vict.* c. 21 § 40 [A] prisoner..on conviction for sedition or seditious libel shall be treated as a misdemeanant of the first division. 1883 STEPHEN *Hist. Crim. Law* II. xxiv. 298 As for sedition it self I do not think that any such offence is known to English law. 1887 CHAMBERLAIN *Sp.* 11 Oct. *Sp. Irish Question* (1890) 40 Loyalty in the House of Commons—Irish loyalty—is represented only by seventeen votes, and sedition, on the contrary, enjoys a majority of eighty-six votes.

attrib. 1536 OLDE *Antichrist* 92 Murtherous sedicion sowers, and open churche robbers. 1802 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 103 As to the sedition law, we refer you to the debates in Congress. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 2 Dec. 6/3 Native sedition-mongers. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 620/1 In 1798 an Act of Congress called the Sedition Act was passed, which expired by effluxion of time in 1801. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 9/3 A correspondent at Madras telegraphs to-day that a joint public meeting of Hindoos and Mohammedans was held there..to protest against the sedition law amendments. 1908 *Ibid.* 28 July 9/1 The trial of some sedition-monger in India.

†**3.** Of inanimate things: Tumult, uproar. [After L. *seditio*; in quot. 1640 with allusion to sense 2.]

1640 HABINGTON *Castara* III. 220 When the distracted Ocean Swells to Sedition, and obeyes no Law. 1671 R. BOHUN *Wind* 12 But what Seditions, Eddies and Undulations must this cause in the whole body of Air.

Seditionary (sĭdi·ʃənări), *sb.* and *a.* [f. prec. + -ARY.] A. *sb.* = SEDITIONIST. Now *rare.*

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 216 The factious Schismatike, and the contentious Seditionary. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T., Christ bef. Pilate* 262 Barabbas, a theefe, a murderer, a seditionary. 1640 — *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 39 Durst the rebellious seditionary lift up his hand against the Lords Anointed..if the fool had not said in his heart, There is no God? 1641 *Ibid.* 71 A Seditionary in a State, or a Schismatick in the Church is like a sulphureous fiery Vapour in the bowels of the Earth. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* No. 192. 6/2 Disposed to shelter seditionaries.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characterized by sedition; seditious.

1898 J. Y. SIMPSON *Side-Lights on Siberia* xi. 346 Seditionary propagandism amongst the soldiers rouses the authorities almost more than anything else. 1909 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 10/1 The Benchers..meet to consider the conduct of one of their Indian members,..in taking an active part in the seditionary movement in his native country.

Seditioner (sĭdi·ʃənəɹ). *rare.* [f. SEDITION + -ER 1.] = SEDITIONIST.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 71 When Lucifer with his adherents were expelled heauen, they were disseuered into nine..horrible horrors, as followeth. The first false messengers..The seuenth, sedicioners. 1838 *Times* 8 Nov. 4/1 The Lord High Seditioner [*i. e.* Lord Durham, Lord High Commissioner] has choked the community with indignation.

Seditionist (sĭdi·ʃənist). [f. SEDITION + -IST.] One who practises sedition or incites others to sedition; a promoter of disloyalty and factious strife against a government or state.

1786 MRS. SARAH TRIMMER *Œcon. Charity* (1801) I. 151 The endeavours of infidels and seditionists to corrupt the public mind. 1798 COLERIDGE *Let. to G. Coleridge* Lett. (1895) 243, I therefore consent to be deemed a Democrat and a Seditionist. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 129 Nor..is there any such increase of anarchists and seditionists as other folks are apt to dread. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Aug. 7/3 The Maharajahs..dissociating themselves from what is described as the campaign of rancour..pursued by the seditionists.

Seditious (sĭdi·ʃəs), *a.* Forms: 5 sedi-, sedycious, seducious, sedicious (ceducious), 6 sedycyous(e, sedicioose, -tiouse, seditius (sedicius, *Sc.* sedetiose), 5– seditious. [ad. OF. *seditieux, -euse* (mod.F. *séd-*), ad. L. *sēditiōsus*, f. *sēditiōnem*: see SEDITION and -OUS.]

1. Of a person or body of persons: Given to or guilty of sedition; in early use, 'factious with tumult, turbulent' (J.); now chiefly, engaged in promoting disaffection or inciting to revolt against constituted authority.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Agnes* 508 Þe prefectys vyker, The sedycyous peple assentyng-to, Dede makyn anoon a ryht greth feer. *Ibid.* 564. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 66 O ryght dere eneas, sedycious & ryght cruel, how haste thou had the herte so vntrue, to thynke so grete a treson [etc.]. 1496 *Patent Roll*, 12 *Hen. VII*, Pt. 2 By instigation of dyvers cedicious and ill-disposed persons. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* I. (1533) 8 b/2 To which sedycyous persons Margan gyuynge credence,..made warre vpon his sayde brother. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* iv. 12 That seditious [Gr. ἀπόστατιν] & wicked cite. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 12. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* L 1 b, Thirdly, he is verie seditious and mutinous in conuersation, picking quarrells with euerie man that will not magnifie and applaud him. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. i, England was wont to harbour malcontents, Blood thirsty and seditious Catelynes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 242 Seditious Ianizaries. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 152 Thou returnst From flight, seditious Angel, to receave Thy merited reward. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* I. I. xxiii. 171 So one said,..when one asked him, how he liked Latimer's Sermon before King Edward; Even as I liked him always. A seditious Fellow. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. Wks. 1851 I. 22 Reducing to obedience their seditious chieftain. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 82 Seditious hunks! to whine for want of grains. 1908 J. O. DYKES *Chr. Minister* xi. 209 An illegal or possibly seditious club. 1909 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 498 The Coreans are wrathful and seditious in consequence..and little risings are anticipated.

Comb. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogr.* 197 A turbulent, seditious-spirited person.

b. *absol.* Seditious persons.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* Contents xlv, The punyshment of the sedicious. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 65 The seditious in Northfolke were somewhat dangerous. 1796 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* Wks. II. 359 Nothing,..but the sending a very strong military, backed by a very strong naval force, would reduce the seditious to obedience.

2. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of sedition; tending to incite to or provoke sedition.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 281/1 For the removyng and overthrawyng of the cedicious and fraudelent blaspheme and defame untruly..leyed upon us. 1464 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 330 The seid Will. Huet..had then right vnfyttyng, inordinate & ceducious langage sownyng to the derogacion of the kynges lawes & of his peace. 1491 *Act* 7 *Hen. VII*, c. 15 Certeyn persones of evyll riotous and sedicious disposicions. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 737, I sowe sedycyous sedes of Dyscorde and debates. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 932/1 A defence..against yᵉ malicious slaunder and ..false some sayes in that sedicious boke. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 55 b, He had made sedicious sermons. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Britannia* I. 725 In making complaintes

of the misgovernment of the state, spreading seditious rumours, scattering libels abroad [etc.]. 1689 LOCKE *Toleration* 51 But there is one thing only which gathers People into Seditious Commotions, and that is Oppression. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 608 But if she has deform'd this earthly life With murderous rapine, and seditious strife. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* I. I. xxvii. 192 The Northern Clergy backward. Some of them taken up for seditious Preaching. 1796 *Act* 36 *Geo. III*, c. 8 (*title*), An Act for the more effectually preventing Seditious Meetings and Assemblies. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. x. 257 To Charles.. the menacing language and the tumultuous acts of the great leaders, appeared seditious. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 309 The disturbed state of the people arose.. from seditious writings and discourses. 1883 STEPHEN *Hist. Crim. Law* xxiv. 298 The second class of offences against internal public tranquility consists of offences not accompanied by or leading to open violence. They may be classified under the general head of seditious offences, and more particularly as seditious words, seditious libels, and seditious conspiracies. All these offences presuppose dissatisfaction with the existing government.

Seditiously (sɪdi·ʃəsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a seditious manner; so as to cause sedition.

1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 265/1 The..Traitour John Cade.. gaderyng to him youre people in grete nombre by..sediciously made commotion, rebellion and insurrection. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 187/1 Sedyciously the sayde Bysshop hadde by his Letters..wrongfully accused hym that he shuld areyse the kynges people. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1185, I did nothyng sediciously, falsly, or arrogantly, in worde or facte. 1570 T. NORTON *Nowel's Catech.* II. 47 They..that seditiously stirre vp discorde in the Chirch of God. 1593 BP. BANCROFT *Dang. Posit.* IV. xv. 183 To beware of such sectaries as..do thus seditiously endeauour to disturbe the land. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 106 In warre,..whosoeuer ..behaueth himselfe seditiously against his Commander, behaueth himselfe seditiously against his owne safetie. 1689 LOCKE *Toleration* 53 If any thing pass in a Religious Meeting seditiously, and contrary to the publick Peace, it is to be punished in the same manner. 1785 BURKE *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 248 They had no lawful government, seditiously to overturn.

†**Sedi·tiousness.** *Obs.* [f. SEDITIOUS + -NESS.] Seditious character or condition.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cv. 646 He was not minded to let his blessing appeare so soone because of yᵉ peoples seditiousnesse. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Seduce (sɪdiū·s), *v.* Forms: 5 seduise, 6 seduse, *Sc.* sedouse, 6– seduce. [ad. L. *sēdūcĕre* to lead aside or away, etc., f. *sē-* (SE- *prefix*) + *dūcĕre* to lead. In the earliest examples the proximate source was the F. *séduire* (inflected *séduis-*) : see SEDUCE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To persuade (a vassal, servant, soldier, etc.) to desert his allegiance or service.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 78 Zethephius seduised the pepel ayenst him by tyraunye al euydent. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* IX. 78 He seducit diuerse grit personagis to rebel contrar athenes. 1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 216 Na persone seducit him fra the obedience of the Quene and magistratis..nor yit seducit him fra his faith. 1601 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 152 A great Armie..selected out of all the rebels in Ireland, and from all others that he can seduce to his partie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 307 Suttle he needs must be, who could seduce Angels. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* X. § 151 Those persons of condition, who..had been seduced to do them service throughout the kingdom. 1718 *Act* 5 *Geo. I*, c. 27 (*title*), An Act to prevent the Inconveniences arising from seducing Artificers in the Manufactures of Great Britain into foreign Parts. 1745 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 31 Of their being otherwise seduced by, or compelled to join with the Enemy. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 72 Lord Oxford seduced him over to his side. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* VIII. (1862) 104 To seduce the representatives from their duty to their constituents. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* XXII. 379 He tried to seduce Cæsar's garrison, and was put to death for his treachery.

2. In wider sense: To lead (a person) astray in conduct or belief; to draw away *from* the right or intended course of action *to* or *into* a wrong one; to tempt, entice, or beguile *to do* something wrong, foolish, or unintended.

a. of persons or their action.

1519–20 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 3 He was nocht compellit, sedoussit nor coacit thar to. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 27 Lest the reader myght be seduced with you beleuing there is no lyfe of soulis departed. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 454 No persuasion will seduce him to thinke, that his Churche may straye..from the right course. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 11 Duessa..Who with her forged beautie did seduce The hearts of some that fairest her did weene. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 465 But afterwards seduced by his wife, he had in the selfe same Church, ..one Altar for Christ's Religion, and another for sacrifices vnto Devils. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xix. 96 To be seduced by Orators, as a Monarch by Flatterers. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. iii. 38 They would leave so grave a discipline and suffer themselves to be seduced into a worse. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Nov., Leigh..gives a terrible account of Sterne; he reckons he is seduced by some wench. 1775 BURKE *Let. Mrq. Rockingham* Corr. 1844 II. 41 We have been seduced, by various false representations..into a war. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* XXX, He seduced my simplicity to let him into the castle. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 92 He is seduced into a life of pleasure.

b. of things, conditions, circumstances.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21, & neyther declyneth on the ryght hande, seduced by ony prosperite or worldly delyte: ne on yᵉ lefte hande. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 76 b, Three, whome povertie, hatred, and hope of better fortune, had seduced. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 155 For me, the Gold of France did not seduce. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* IV. xvii. 209 My natural Curiosity seduc'd me to spend some time in Ranging about the places near the River-side. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* iv. 82 Being seduced by the similitudes taken partly from artificial and manual operations. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 34 ¶ 14 Anthea having wondered what could seduce her to stay so long was eager to set out. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Diss. ii. 85, I am imperceptibly seduced into later periods, or rather am deviating from my subject. 1789 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 124 Could any circumstances seduce me to overlook the disproportion between its duties and my talents. 1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Genteel Style in Writing*, On one occasion his wit, which was mostly subordinate to nature and tenderness, has seduced him into a string of felicitous antitheses. 1856 GRINDON *Life* xii. (1875) 151 The embarrassment which often seduces one to an insincere denial.

†**c.** *intr.* To practise seduction, use seductive measures. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 172 The Deuill.. apperit to the.., and than seducit with the, and assurit the, thow suld newir want.

3. *trans.* To induce (a woman) to surrender her chastity. Now said only of the man with whom the act of unchastity is committed (not, e.g., of a pander). Cf. DEBAUCH *v.* 2 b.

Now the prevailing sense. In early use often apprehended as a specific application of sense 1; in Eng. law the plaintiff in an action for seducing a virgin is the parent or master who is supposed to have been deprived of her services.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 18 The wysest scho may sone Sedusit be and schent. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 22 Many a maide hath beene seduced by them. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xi. I. 355 One of the soldiers had seduced the wife of his host. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, She was seduced under promise of marriage. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 151 His friend had taken advantage of his absence to seduce his wife.

4. To decoy (*from* or *to* a place), to lead astray (*into*). *Obs.* exc. with notion of sense 2.

a 1668 DAVENANT *Siege* III. i, That employment which seduced me hither. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 142 In prosecuting Wm Havyland and Abraham Bailey, for seducing, forceing, and transporting his son to Virginia. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1711) 310 That Philosopher, who while his Thoughts and Eyes were fix'd upon the Constellations, found himself seduc'd by his lower Parts into a Ditch. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 45 The peculiar Art which Bampfylde had of stealing, or rather seducing, Dogs. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 78 Mrs. Leggatt had been seduced by her husband, under pretence of taking an airing to Kingston, to the prisoner's house. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxvi. 259 The rascal, after seducing us a mile and a half out of our way, escaped our guns. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 229 Interminable staircases which seduce us upwards to no successful result.

†**5.** To win by charm or attractiveness. *Obs. rare.* [? a Gallicism; cf. SEDUCING *ppl. a.*]

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. CXXXV. 363 That engaging manner, and those graces, which seduce and pre-possess people in your favour at first sight. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* XIV, One reason why she seduces casual attention is that she never courts it.

Seduced (sɪdiū·st), *ppl. a.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -ED.] In the senses of the verb.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* III. xix. 71 They themselues are poore seduced soules. 1610 B. RICH *Descr. Irel.* 87 The papistes of Ireland are (as in other places) of two kinds, the seducers, and the Seduced. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 9 Take heed of a seduced conscience. 1662 *Irish Act* 14 & 15 *Chas. II*, c. 2 Preamble, To widen the breach between his said Majestie and his seduced subjects in England. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 47 (*Remise Door*), Thou [Fancy] art a seduced, and a seducing slut. 1785 BURKE *Sp. Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. (1842) I. 329 These seduced creditors..may be just objects of compassion. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* App. VI. (ed. 3) 586 It is more difficult for us, with our feelings, to understand the seduced and returning Helen.

†**Sedu·cedly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SEDUCED *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] Through seduction or enticement to error.

1642 *Coll. Rights & Priv. Parl.* 6 Such who willfully, or seducedly rejected,..those Lawes. 1642 T. CASE *God's Rising* (1644) 9 When they..sin Ignorantly, seducedly, then, Father forgive them; they know not what they do.

Seducee (sɪdiūsī·). *rare.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -EE.] One who is seduced.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxix. 327 He and his Seducees sinn'd against our Queene and lawes. 1813 *Examiner* 1 Feb. 75/1 The seducer and the seducee seemed worthy of each other. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 710 You yourself, my fair Mrs. McWhirter, were the seducee, and the ensign the seducer.

Seducement (sɪdiū·smĕnt). *Obs.* or *rare.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -MENT.]

1. The action of seducing.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 32 Persuasion to mischiefe and seducement from the good. 1602 FULBECKE *Pandects* 72 Some Merchants may sowe bad seede, euen the seede of seducement of the Princes lieges. 1642 J. M. *Argt. conc. Militia* 13 Upon the advice and seducement of evill Counsellors. 1646 J. TEMPLE *Irish Rebellion* 54 A multitude..by the wicked seducement of the first Conspirators had been drawn on to dispoile their English neighbours. 1709 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* IV. 268 In all Seducement the Tempter plays our own Artillery upon us. 1751 HURD *Hor. Ep. ad August.* 19 What contributed to this prostitution of the comic muse, was the seducement of that corruptress of all virtue, the love of money. 1785 T. POTTER *Moralist* II. 2, I will stoutly withstand the seducement of Epicurean companions.

2. Something which seduces or serves as a means of seduction; an insidious temptation.

1644 MILTON *Educ.* 4 Ere any flattering seducement, or vain principle seise them wandering. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* 418 To do this amidst all the seducements of wealth. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 220 The sweet seducements of a place so pleasing. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. III. iv. 534 The seducements of luxury and ease.

3. The fact or condition of being seduced.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 4 Those particular seducements or indispositions of the minde for policie and gouernement, which learning is pretended to insinuate. *Ibid.* II. xiii. § 3. 1642 J. WINTHROP *Hist. New-Eng.* (1826) II. 62 He made a very full and free acknowledgment of his errour and seducement. 1658 T. WALL *Charact. Enemies Ch.* 45 They are roaring Bulls: with what strained throats do they stund the giddy multitude into wonder and seducement? 1690 tr. *Five Lett. Inspiration* 191 the Apostle foretels their Seducement should not long continue.

Seducer (sɪdiū·səɹ). Also 6 *Sc.* seducear. [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or something which seduces.

1. One who tempts or persuades (another) to desert his allegiance or service. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 23 He received a finall reward mete..for suche a rebell and sedicious seducer. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 160 By statute 23 Geo. II. c. 13. the seducers incur..a forfeiture of 500*l.* for each artificer contracted with to be sent abroad. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Hist. Vermont* 236 The spirit of defection, notwithstanding all the arts..of the seducers, was by no means general.

2. One who or that which entices (a person) into error or wrong-doing.

1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 110 Ye blynde guydes and seducers of the people. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 352 These seducers, which were about the king, thought they might haue good occasion to put the Duke of Gloucester..to death. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Tim.* iii. 13 Euill men and seducers [Gr. γόητες, *Revised Vers.* impostors]. 1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* IV. ii. 33 He, whose firm faith no reason could remove, Will melt before that soft seducer, love. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix, [He] was perverted by Rawdon.., made helplessly tipsy by this abominable seducer and perverter of youth. 1870 THORNBURY *Tour rd. Eng.* I. vii. 153 The mob..proclaimed him..a seducer of the King.

3. †**a.** One who tempts (a female child) to leave her parents for marriage or otherwise. *Obs.*

A contextual use of sense 1. Cf. SEDUCTION 3 a.

1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 210 As these stolen marriages, under the age of sixteen, were usually upon mercenary views, this act [4 & 5 Ph. & Mar. c. 8], besides punishing the seducer, wisely removed the temptation.

b. One who seduces a woman. (See SEDUCE *v.* 3.)

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 146 Grant it me, O King,.. otherwise a seducer flourishes, and a poore Maid is vndone. 1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II. i, There was no wisdom in't, to bid an Artist, An old seducer to a femal banquet. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. III. iii. 253 *note*, The law has provided no punishment [for seduction]..beyond a pecuniary satisfaction..[obtained] by the father's bringing his action against the seducer, for the loss of his daughter's service, during her pregnancy and nurturing. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, To all questions concerning the name or rank of her seducer,..Effie remained mute. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* iv. 117 Nay, the peerless beauty Helen excites mere vulgar passion in her seducer.

Seducible (sɪdiū·sĭb'l), **seduceable** (sɪdiū·săb'l), *a.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + IBLE and -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being seduced or led astray.

a. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 371 Dis-wont thy selfe with this seducible sense. 1646 HAMMOND *Tracts* 59 This easie prostitute seducible sinner. 1782 J. BROWN *Compend. View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* III. i. (1796) 198 It consisted in his being seducible to evil, though he was inclined only to good. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* X. ii. (1872) III. 231 Friedrich proves little seducible; shows himself laudably indifferent.

β. 1613–18 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 133 It was a thing vnworthy..to permit a King, who was so lightly seduceable..that he should extort so many pretences. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xix. 385 The vicious examples of Ages past, poison the curiosity of these present, affording a hint of sinne unto seduceable spirits.

2. Capable of being won over or attracted.

1815 L. HUNT *Notes Feast Poets* 53 The flowing versification of Fairfax has even drawn some writers into a love of him, who in other respects were not very seducible by the higher species of poetry.

Seducing (sɪdiū·sĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb.

1562 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 8 They flye the seducyng of Antichrist, and abyde in the fayth of Christ. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxii. 122 This is a..Conspiracy unlawfull, as being a fraudulent seducing of the Assembly. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* I. I. xxvii. 192 They made him [the Pope] a kind of God; to the seducing of the Subject, and bringing the People into Error.

Seducing (sɪdiū·sĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -ING 2.] That seduces.

1. Tempting to evil.

1575 H. N[ICLAS] *First Exhort.* xvi. § 14 Therfore cannot the man..occupie or use any maner of Freedoms that are falser, wickeder, absurder, seducinger, arroganter nor horribler against God..then this, &c. 1608 *Convers. Noble Lady of Fraunce* Ded., To those misled Ladies..of England, whome Seducing Seminaries..haue too much preuailed withall. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Tim.* iv. 1 Giuing heed to seducing spirits [Gr. πνεύμασι πλάνοις]. 1638 E. NORICE *New Gospel* 1 Such a seducing Impostor and cunning Deceiver. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 257 They may..be mov'd with detestation of their seducing malice. 1701 G. STANHOPE *Augustine's Medit.* II. iv. 122 Impudently prostituting thyself to the lust of seducing strangers. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* XXVII, Regarding the imperfect recollection he had..as the mere suggestion of a deluded imagination, if not actually presented by some seducing spirit.

b. (See quot.)

1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* XI. § 20 When the act which a motive prompts a man to engage in is of a mischievous nature it may for distinction's sake be termed a seducing or corrupting motive.

2. Alluring, attractive, 'bewitching'. Cf. F. *séduisant*. Now *rare*.

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II. 239 Take great care that the first impressions you give of yourself may be not only favourable, but pleasing, engaging, nay—seducing. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 9, I shall leave to a future opportunity the consideration of this seducing but erroneous principle. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, Well, it is very seducing to be pitied, after all.

Seducingly (sĭdiū·siŋli), *adv.* [f. SEDUCING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a seducing or seductive manner; enticingly, seductively.

1592 CONSTABLE *Diana* VIII. ii F 4 b, Lesse by some hope seducingly deluded, such thoughts aspyre to fortunate euent. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. li. 232 Seducingly insisting on performance of their vow. 1866 J. A. SYMONDS *Life* (1895) I. 350 In no other place [than Monaco] could this riotous daughter of hell have set her throne so seducingly.

Seducioun, -cious: see SEDITION, SEDITIOUS.

†**Sedu·cive,** *a. Obs.* [f. SEDUCE *v.* + -IVE.]

1. ? Caused by misleading influences.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. 386 King Richard the second ..by his seduciue misgouernment (for his borne-Nature, noble, and debonaire, was too much abused by yong Councell and Parasites) become disgracious with his Princes and People.

2. That leads to error.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 28 Analogy, too often seducive in similar matters, leads us to conclude the same of other vulcanic mountains in general.

†**Sedu·ct,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sēduct-*, ppl. stem of *sēdūcĕre.*] *trans.* To seduce.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 97 The false & euyl man eneas, that tratorusly hath mocked me, & fraudulently seducted.

Hence †**Sedu·cted** *ppl. a.*

1773 J. ROSS *Fratricide* v. 449 (MS.), Seducted Eve with her first guilty smile Returning.

Seduction (sĭdv·kʃən). Also 6 seduccion, -yon. [a. F. *séduction*, ad. L. *sēductiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sēdūcĕre* to SEDUCE. Cf. Sp. *seduccion*, Pg. *seducção*, It. *seduzione.*]

1. The action or an act of seducing (a person) to err in conduct or belief; allurement (*to* some course of action).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 272 b, Some fooles..by the seduccyon or illusyon of the ennemy be not ashamed to affirme..that [etc.]. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 89 Wherfore by their seduccion They haue bene the destruccion Of all true christen liberte. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 370 Which Actis bee yit rejectid in the Comon House by the seducyon of certain rynge leaders or belwedders. *Ibid.* 371 And all the styckyng [of the act] is in the Comon House, by seducyon of certain prescrybyd. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 171 P 1 Nothing would more powerfully preserve youth from irregularity or guard inexperience from seduction. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* ix. I. 239 Every art of seduction was used with dignity, to conciliate those nations. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. IX. 117 There is no invention of seduction..that has not been increased; brothels, gaming-houses, every thing. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix, To whom she announced the dreadful intelligence of Captain Rawdon's seduction by Miss Sharp. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 326 Having tried tortures in vain, he determined to try seduction. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. iv. 72 An ambitious man will govern himself..and withstand the seductions of his senses.

†b. The condition of being led astray.

1533 FRITH *Wks.* (1572) 3/1 To Rdr., Knowledge your ignoraunce and seduction, and returne gladly into the right way. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 112 This ignorant multitude that hath no insight into the Law of God lies open to miserable seduction, and error, and is therein accursed. 1653 HAMMOND *Annot. N. T.* Jude v. 11 (1659) 831/2 For this was the πλάνη τοῦ Βαλαάμ, the seduction into which Balaam brought the Israelites.

2. The persuading (of a subject, soldier, etc.) to desert his allegiance or service.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 July 1685, Monmouth..acknowledged his seduction by Ferguson the Scot.

3. †a. The action of tempting (a female child) to leave her parents for marriage or otherwise. (Cf. SEDUCER 3 a.) *Obs.*

1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. Index, Seduction of women-children.

b. The action of inducing (a woman) to surrender her chastity. (See SEDUCE *v.* 3.)

1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. iii. iii. 250 Seduction is seldom accomplished without fraud; and the fraud is by so much more criminal than other frauds, as injury effected by it is greater. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 282 O pale-eyed form, The victim of seduction. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1040 *note*, If the injury of seduction is accompanied with an illegal entry of the house of the parent. 1831 MACKINTOSH *Hist. Eng.* II. 57 Promises of marriage may have been employed as means of seduction. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 621 The action for seduction of an unmarried woman in England stands in a somewhat anomalous position. The theory of English law is that the woman herself has suffered no wrong; the wrong has been suffered by the parent or person *in loco parentis*, who must sue for the damage arising from the loss of service caused by the seduction of the woman.

4. Something which seduces; a cause of error; an allurement.

1534 T. WATSON *Two Serm. bef. Queen* B vij b, The true sense, which is only knowen bi the tradition and consent of the catholike churche: so that the one without the other is not a direction, but a seduction, to a symple man. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 235 The Scotchmen, having but small seduction to return to their beds, became quite inclined to talk. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. iii. 167 In this abode of pleasure, surrounded by all the seductions most dazzling to youth. 1844 LEVER *T. Burke* vi, Amid every temptation and every seduction.

5. Seductiveness, alluring quality. *rare*—1.

1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 1 The Prince.. gained the affection of all classes by the seduction of his manner.

Seductionist (sĭdv·kʃənist). [f. SEDUCTION + -IST.] One who practises seduction; one who practises or upholds corruption in public affairs.

1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 143 Bribe-offering, bribe-giving, seducer or seductionist, corruptor or corruptionist. 1818 — *Parl. Reform Catech.* 61 The seductionist, by whose hand..the instrument of seduction most extensively and conspicuously employed, is that mostly known by the name of bribery, or corruption. 1884 *B'ham Wkly. Post* 15 Nov. 4/6 Cleveland [was depicted] as an 'aristocratic seductionist'.

Seductious (sĭdv·kʃəs), *a. rare*—1. [f. SEDUCTI-ON + -OUS.] Seductive, alluring.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 180/1 Dr. Garth..found conviviality more seductious than duty exacting.

Seductive (sĭdv·ktiv), *a.* [f. L. type *seductīvus*, f. *sēduct-*, ppl. stem of *sēdūcĕre*: see SEDUCE and -IVE.]

†1. Tending to seduce or lead astray; that leads to error. *Obs.*

1782 J. BROWN *Compend. View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* IV. i. (1796) 249 If Christ be not the Most High God, the language of scripture is most obscure, seductive, impious, and absurd.

2. Alluring, enticing, winning.

176. LANGHORNE *Fables of Flora* i. *Sun-flower & Ivy* x, Go, splendid sycophant! no more Display thy soft seductive arts! 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 19 One of the most seductive arguments of infidelity.., asserting the lawfulness of deceit for a good purpose. 1856 W. A. BUTLER *Serm.* Ser. II. xxiv. 348 Every seductive companion who would blind your eyes to this awful fact, is but the active minister of Satan. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 745 The seductive charms of poetry. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. iii. 114 The seductive pleasures of opium-eating. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* II. vii. 430 His manners in private life were eminently seductive and insinuating. 1908 *Outlook* 26 Sept. 305/2 It owes something of its beauty to the seductive setting of an autumn morning.

Seductively (sĭdv·ktivli), *adv.* [f. SEDUCTIVE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a seductive manner, enticingly.

1843 MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 7 Self and the flesh seductively whisper [etc.]. 1850 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 123 To have her kitchen seductively clean for the stranger. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lxxix, She..questioned and cross-questioned him severely and seductively by turns. 1893 SALTUS *Madame Sapphire* 79 Mrs. Carol nodded and smiled seductively.

Seductiveness (sĭdv·ktivnĕs). [f. SEDUCTIVE *a.* + -NESS.] Seductive quality.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* 122 The profusion and seductiveness of the *Magazines des Gourmands*. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Praise Chimney-Sw.*, I am by theory obdurate to the seductiveness of what are called a fine set of teeth. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 152 The same doubt extends to the other supposed victims of Cæsar's seductiveness. 1894 W. B. CARPENTER *Son of Man* i. 28 The world with its seductiveness..may play the part of Herodias in our lot.

†**Sedu·ctor.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 seductour. [a. OF. *seducteur*, ad. L. *sēductor*, agent-noun f. *sēdūcĕre*: see SEDUCE and -OR.] One who seduces, a misleader, seducer.

In the 15–16th c. frequently in the set phrase *seductor and deceiver of the people.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 60 The whiche seductor of ladies [*sc.* the false Eneas], kepeth himself in maner as a woman,..wyth his longe heres that he maketh to be enoynted & kemed. *Ibid.* 61. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xix. 22 One namyd Phylemon, whyche was moche amyable & debonayr to the peple, & callyd hymself seductour & deseyvour of the peple. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God & New* (1534) D ij, Anon he gat certeyn of the Iuwes, whiche did repyne & speake agaynst the doctryne of ye Apostels accusing them to be seductours & deceyuers. 1541 BECON *News out of Heaven* F vij, For they shall reporte him to be..a seductour and deceyuer of the people. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 111 Yat we diligentlie flie from vthers [*sc.* than those lawfully ordained] as fra our enimies and contagious seductors. 1632 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* II. ii, Since the assurance from one of my place, qualitie, and rancke, is not sufficient with you to suppresse this bold seductor.

Seductress (sĭdv·ktrĕs). [fem. of SEDUCTOR.] A female seducer.

1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* III. 19 He is accompanied by an army of constables to apprehend the seductress of his nephew. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. x, They were seductresses for inducing him to drink wine.

†**Sedue,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [a. OF. *seduire*: see SEDUCE *v.*] *trans.* = SEDUCE *v.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 716 O lux vera, gravnt vs power lucense, that with be spryte of errour I nat seduet be!

Sedule, obs. form of SCHEDULE.

Sedulity (sĭdiū·lĭti). [ad. L. *sēdulitās*, n. of quality f. *sēdul-us* SEDULOUS: see -ITY. Cf. F. *sédulité* (Cotgr.), It. *sedulità.*] The quality of being sedulous; painstaking attention to duty, diligent application, industry.

1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* xxxiii. O j b, He deserued this thyng not so much for familiarte & acquayntance sake as for sedulite & careful diligence. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 175 Their familiaritie is to be sought after with sedulitie and earnestnesse. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* xiv. § 26 He..tells the offices and sedulity of the clergy. 1659 EVELYN *Chrysostom* Ded. in *Misc. Writ.* (1805) 107, I stood amazed at his sedulity and memory. 1740 J. JOHNSON *Eccl. Laws*, tr. *Const. Othobon* § 32 The unquenchable thirst of Ambition chuses neither Mary's better part, nor the sedulity of Martha in ministring. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guildford* 252 Some of our barbarous Writers call this awaking of the King's Genius to a Sedulity in his Affairs a growing cruel. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, It became him to prepare, by sedulity and docility in youth, for the lofty duties [etc.]. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 44 Even German sedulity has until the present time shrunk from this task.

†b. *pl.* Assiduities, attentions. *Obs.*

1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. St.* 31 That your sedulities in the Reception of our Agent were so cordial and so egregious, we both gladly understand [etc.]. 1696 *Monthly Merc.* VII. 79 On the one side there are never any tender Refusals..no Submissions, nor Sedulities to please on the other. 1707 tr. *C'tess D'Aulnoy's Wks.* (1715) 10 He thought me unworthy of his Sedulities.

Sedull, obs. form of SCHEDULE.

Sedulous (se·diŭləs), *a.* Also 6 sedulious. [f. L. *sēdulus* careful + -OUS.

The L. word appears to have been evolved from the adv. *sēdulō* sincerely, honestly (hence diligently, assiduously), repr. OLatin *sē dolō* without guile (see SE- *prefix*).]

1. Of persons or agents: Diligent, active, constant in application to the matter in hand; assiduous, persistent.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 24 b, I would gyue thee leaue to hate me, so thy hate woulde make thee industrious & sedulous to harken out & enquire whence I am. 1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, There is a chare-woman..a poore silly foole, But an impertinent, and sedulous one, As euer was. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 27 Since first this Subject for Heroic Song Pleas'd me long choosing, and beginning late Not sedulous by nature to indite Warrs. *c* 1709 PRIOR *1st Hymn Callim.* 56 The sedulous Bee Distill'd her Honey on Thy purple Lips. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 311 They sedulous obey'd. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXIV. III. 329 He was sedulous in paying court to the people. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* iii. (1875) 21 The..Algonquins..of whose language he had been so sedulous a student. 1887 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* iv. 59, I have thus played the sedulous ape to Hazlitt, to Lamb, to Wordsworth [etc.].

2. Of actions: Constant, persistent.

1540 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 281 Thankes for..your sedulious paynes and labours taken aboute the survey off Cayneham. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxi. (1640) 612 Admit that preparation..by an assiduous and a sedulous hearing. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 48 That dying Husband-man, who by telling his Sons of a hidden Mass of Wealth he had buried in a nameless place of his Vineyard, occasioned their so sedulous Delving all the Ground, and turning up the Earth about the Roots of the Vines, that they found indeed a Treasure. *a* 1778 C. DARWIN *Experiments* (1780) 105 A gentleman of temperate life and sedulous application to business. 1833–48 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1852) I. 22 He paid sedulous attention to the interests of his borough. 1859 SMILES *Self Help* iv. (1860) 71 Sedulous attention and painstaking industry always mark the true worker. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Gr. N. T.* Introd. § 10 By sedulous cultivation,..a high standard of immunity from even clerical errors has at times been attained.

Sedulously (se·diŭləsli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] Diligently, attentively.

1593 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* (1594) E 2, Surely you would haue sayd they had bin brought vp in bogs academie to learne to eate acornes, if you had seene how sedulously they fell to them. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 190 The place..is..sedulously looked vnto. 1693 OWEN *Holy Spirit* 251 Either not sedulously and duely to Exercise their Ministerial Gifts. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 35 Where find so discreet a counsellor, so improving an example, and a guardian so sedulously attentive to the interests of herself and her children? 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* XXXI. (1791) II. 189 You sedulously avoid my conversation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* x, His education..had been too sedulously improved by subsequent study to give way to any imaginary terrors. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. (1862) 17 A great brick church which he sedulously frequented. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 280/1 Any kind of arrangement with creditors is sedulously hedged around.

Sedulousness (se·diŭləsnĕs). [-NESS.] Care, diligent attention.

1622 FENNER in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 183 But have respect to God himselfe by all sedulousnesse in the charge. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 99 By their sedulousness and their Erudition they discover'd Difficulties in the Bible that our Querists could never have dream'd of. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xiv, Sir Christopher for half a century has supported in the Senate with equal sedulousness and silence, the constitution and the corn laws. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1320/1 Conflicting claims and aims, mustering their forces with swift but sure subtlety and sedulousness for a final decisive combat.

‖**Sedum** (sī·dŭm). Also 5 cedum. [L. *sedum* houseleek.] †a. A name for certain crassulaceous plants, houseleek, stonecrop, orpine, etc. *Obs.* b. *Bot.* A genus of plants (N.O. *Crassulaceæ*), the British species of which are known as stonecrop.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* X. 47 Let mynge Iuce of cedum smal ygrounde With water. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 72 Sedum..the fyrste kynde..is called in englishe Housleke or syngrene...The seconde kynde is called..thryft or stoncroppe...The thyrd kinde is called..Mouse tayle or litle stoncroppe. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., May* (1679) 16 Syringa's, Sedums, Tulips. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 389 You must never water Aloes or Sedums during the whole Winter. 1760 LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 Sedum, Pyramidal. *Saxifraga.* 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* i. 48 Several of the Sedums..were formerly used as medicine. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 213/2 The beautiful yellow mossy Sedum. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* III. 181 He threw himself down upon some bed of sedums, where quite a couch was formed of the tiny rosettes.

Sedyl, obs. form of SCHEDULE.

Sedyr, obs. form of CEDAR, CIDER.

See (sī), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–4 ce, 3–5 cee, see, 3–6 se, 4–5 sey, 6–7 sea, 4– see. [a. OF. *sé, sed*, a variant (influenced by the Latin) of *sié, sied*:—popular L. **sēdem*, altered form (after *sedēre* to sit) of classical L. *sēdem* (*sēdēs*) a seat.]

1. A seat, place of sitting.

† **a.** *gen.* (Only in early poetical use.) *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1023 For if þer sit a man yond on a see Than by necessite byhoueth it. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 120 And smale harpers with her glees Saten vnder hym in sees. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 86 (MS. I.), þe schene briddes in þe schawe þei schappyn in schrowde, On fikes and firres þei fangen her sees, In faye. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1820 To whom hir fader bad to take hir see Be-syde Iason. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* l. 339 Thilke same se That I inne sat be presomptweste It is that same sege.. Where as God to his disciples made his Sene.

† **b.** A seat of dignity or authority; esp. a royal seat, throne. Hence the rank or position symbolized by a throne. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 779 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 129 Þe king sat an hei in is see and a-coupede him wel faste. *c* 1306 *Song Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 215 Tho he wes set in see Lutel god couthe he kyne-riche to 3eme. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4220 And þar sal he [*sc.* Antichrist]..in myddes þe temple make his se. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 271 But al on hye, above a dees, Sit in a see imperiall,..Y saugh, perpetually y-stalled,..A femynyne creature. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 629 Whan þe schene sonne..had made in þe crabbis hede His mansioun, and his see ryal. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. ii. 171 A man ydone and hable to the see Imperyall. *a* 1522 *World & Child* 22 Lo! here I sette semely in se! I commaunde you all obedyent be. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 2 Ioue laught on Venus from his soueraigne see.

† **c.** *transf.* and *fig.* (One's) place of abode; esp. the dwelling-place of a monarch, a god, or the like. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 2482 (Göttt.) Vnder þe fote of mount mambre þar he ches to sett his se. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 122 Fortune shewithe ay, by chaungyng hir see, How this world is a thurghefare ful of woo. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 132 in *Macro Plays* 40 First, bapteme..reformyt þe sowll,..Ande makyt yt..Crystis own specyall, Hys restynge place, hys plesant see. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 19 The fragrant flouris blomand in thair seis, Ouirspred the leuis of natures tapestries. 1513 — *Æneis* I. i. 28 Hir native land for it postponit sche Callit Samo; in Cartage set hir se. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 30 Nor that [Temple], which that wise King of Iurie framed..to be th' Almighties see.

2. Ecclesiastical uses.

a. The seat, chair, or throne of a bishop in his church; = CATHEDRA 1. Now only *arch.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4967 Þere sein birin bissop was þe uerste þat was ywis Vor þe se was þere of bissop þo þat at lincolne nou is. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6665 þe whilk suld haue a bischope se. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxxxiii. 723 He..entred into the Consystory, and so came to the pope whyle he sate styll in his see. 1724 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* I. i. 95 The Cathedral of this City [of Norwich]..is not antient, the Bishop's See having been first at Thetford; from whence it was not translated hither till the Twelfth Century. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. ii. 76 The archiepiscopal see should never after be fixed in the minster of Litchfield. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 255 No church that does not really hold the 'cathedra' or see, from which a bishop takes his title, can be a cathedral. 1884 E. A. FREEMAN in *Times* 16 Jan. 8/2 The see of the Bishop of Somerset, his seat—in old English phrase his bishopstool or bishopsettle—was moved more than once between the 11th century and the 13th.

b. The office or position indicated by sitting in a particular episcopal chair; the position of being bishop of a particular diocese.

c 1450 *Bidding Prayer* iii. in *Lay Folks Mass-bk.* 68 Also we sall pray specially for our holy fader þe archbyschop of þis See. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 144 Why thou..dost..force perforce Keepe Stephen Langton chosen Archbishop Of Canterbury from that holy Sea. 1678 WALTON *Life of Sanderson* 3 Thomas Rotherham, sometime Archbishop of that Sea. 1680 GODOLPHIN *Repert. Canon.* (ed. 2) 14 The Diocess belonging to the See of York contains [etc.]. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* II. iii. (1739) 477 The Office of a Bishop..contains peculiarly the Power of Consecrating Bishops to succeed them in vacant Sees. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. ii. 66, I know the Pope Will ne'er absolve me from my priestly vow But by absolving me from the revenue Of many a wealthy see. 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 111 § 5 The bishop shall retain all the temporalities of his see, except the patronage. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 371 The vacant sees were filled for the most part with learned and able men.

c. *spec.* Chiefly with defining word, *The Apostolic, Holy, Papal, Roman See, the See of Rome* (rarely † *the See*): the office or position of Pope; the Papacy; the authority or jurisdiction belonging to the Pope; occas. the Pope in his official capacity.

The designation *Apostolic See* (in its Latin form, *Sedes Apostolica*) was in patristic use applied more widely to any of the bishoprics founded by apostles; in med. Latin it occurs also (see Du Cange) in the general sense of 'cathedral'.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14046 For he [seint Gregore] was ablest, next pope to be After hym þat held þo þe se. 1529 MORE *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 296/2 Nowe if he say..y^t king John made England and Ireland tributary to the pope and the sea apostolike [etc.]. 1559 ABP. HEATH in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vi. 7 When by the Vertue of this Acte of Supremacye, we must forsake and flee from the Sea of Rome. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 232, I am a brother Of gracious Order, late come from the See, In speciall businesse from his Holinesse. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 52 Others..Leave vs, and flie vnto the Sea of Rome. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 278 The Sea Apostolick was..contented to see the Mauritanian Kings driven out of Spain. 1765 STONOR in E. H. Burton *Life Challoner* (1909) II. 83 They were told that the Society ought to be particularly careful at this juncture not to disgust the Holy See, by being refractory to its orders. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. Wks. 1813 V. 354 The publishing it by their own authority was highly disrespectful to the Roman see. 1777 WATSON *Philip II*, v. (1812) I. 180 Commanding the Catholics every where to have recourse, in all dubious cases, to the Apostolic See. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 454 A dispute has arisen between the Papal See and the King of Naples. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Von Ranke* P 25 Pius the Fifth..upheld the authority of his see. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. ii. 78 The protection of the Holy See. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 93 The bishop speaks of himself as 'N., by the grace of God and of the Apostolic See, Bishop of N.'.

† **d.** The building in which a bishop's throne is placed, a CATHEDRAL. *Obs. rare.*

1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 17 The chief moder chirch of alle Wales and the chief see [*Trevisa* chief sete]. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. viii. § 3 The Church where the Bishop is set with his Colledge of Presbyters about him, we call a Sea. 1665 G. HAVERS tr. *P. della Valle's Trav. E. Ind.* 78 And lastly, the See or Cathedral, which nevertheless is neither the fairest, nor the greatest Church of that City... The See of Goa at the time of my being there was not finish'd.

† **e.** A city in which the authority symbolized by the throne (of a bishop, etc.) is considered to reside. Cf. SIEGE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 1 The Townes of Thetforde [etc.] shalbe taken and accepted for Sees of Byshops Suffragans to be made in this Realme. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 331 Between the monuments..are the arms of the Cities subject to the Great Duke..all Episcopal Seas. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 65 Capernaum, that See as it were of that great Bishop of Souls Jesus Christ. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 89 Aquapendente is an episcopal see.

† **f.** The territory under the jurisdiction of a bishop, a diocese. *Obs.*

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 4 No suche Suffragans..shall..have..any jurisdiccion or Episcopal power..within their said Sees nor within any Dioces or place of this Realme ..but only suche..as [etc.]. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 64 Archbishop Theodore then ruling the Sea of Canterburie.

fig. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. 14 The whole Isle, parted in three regiments, By three Metropolies is joyntly sway'd;..The lowest hath the worst, but largest See.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attributive, as † *see-church, -land* (in Ireland), *-property, -town*; **see-house,** † **-place,** the official residence of the occupant of a see.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiii. 359 The pope and his *see chirche in Rome. 1558 W. FORREST *Grisild the Second* (Roxb.) 59 After whiche great extreme purgation To Yorke (his See Church) dymytted he was. 1845 J. H. NEWMAN *Ess. Developm.* (1878) 158 The *see-house at Antioch. 1888 *Ch. Times* 24 Aug. 725/1 The see-house at Bishop Auckland. 1732 SWIFT *Proposal to pay off Debt of Nation* Misc. (1735) V. 350 The Purchasers of the vacant *See Lands, are to come immediately into Possession of the See he hath left. 1835 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 326 Bishoprics whose see-lands are..in other dioceses. 1553 *Respublica* III. v. 805 We lefte the best of them a thredebare bisshop:..The beste had but his *see place, that he might kepe home. 1847 REEVES *Eccl. Antig. Down, etc.* 171 *note*, The half townland of Dundesert is still *see property. 1861 A. J. B. HOPE *Eng. Cathedral* 105 It is, I trust, in the process of..being constituted the *see-town of the bishopric. 1895 RASHDALL *Universities* II. 359 A city which was neither a capital nor a see-town.

See (sī), *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. SEE *v.*] In nonce-uses: **a.** *To have a see*, to have a look (*at*); **b.** with cognate obj., *I have seen my see*, I have seen what I wished to see.

1868 'HOLME LEE' *Basil Godfrey's Caprice* xxxiii, Let me have a see at the playbill. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 128 May I depart in peace, I have seen my see.

See (sī), *v.* Forms and Inflexions: see below. [A Common Teut. str. vb.: OE. *séon* (*seah, sáwon* and *sægon, ge-sewen*) = O Fris. *sia*, OS. *sehan*, MDu. *sien* (Du. *zien*), MLG. *sên* (LG. *seen*), OHG. *sehan* (MHG., mod.G. *sehen*), ON. *sjá* (Sw. and Da. *se*), *sía* (Fær. *siggja*), *sjá* (Icel. *sjá*, Norw. *sjaa*), Goth. *saihwan* (*sahw, sêhwum, saihwans*):—OTeut. **sehw-*:—pre-Teut. **seqʷ-*.

Three distinct Indogermanic roots of the form **seqʷ-* are commonly recognized; some scholars (as Brugmann) refer the Teut. verb to the root of which an ablaut-variant appears in SAY *v.*[1]; others (as Kluge) to the root of L. *sequī* to follow; and others (as Fick) to that of L. *secāre* to cut; but each of these views involves a hypothetical sense-development which it is not easy to accept with confidence.]

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. *Infinitive* **see** (sī). Forms: 1 séon, síun, séo, sío, sie, 2–5 seo, (2–3 so), 3–4 *north.* seis, 3–6 se, (5 scee), 6 *Sc.* sie, 3– see.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* v. 3 (Th.) Ic stande on ær-mergen beforan ðe sæt ȝebede, and seo þe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7623 Forr her I seo full witerrliȝ þin Hælennd crist onn eorþe. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 34 Me is þe wrs þat ich þe so [*Jesus MS.* iseo]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16327, I wat and seis [*Gött. MS.* seis] þai wel noght fine, be-tuixand þai þe sla. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 177 'Now I see' [1393 *Ibid.* C. xxiii. 178 seo], seyde lyf 'þat [etc.]'. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 334 (Cott.) Ys thys my sone þat I here scee? 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 41 Y shall neuer haue pleasir in my lyf tyll y se hym refrayned of his tyrannye. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 8 All that I sie.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* **seest** (sīˈëst). Forms: α. 1 seohst, syhst, sihst, sixst, siist, síst, 3 sihst, sichst. seh[s]te, 3–4 seost, sext, syst, suost, sikst, 3, 5 sixst, 3–5 sest, sist, sixt, 4 suxst, sixte, syxt, (sys), *Kent.* zixt, zyxt, zist, 4–5 suxt, 5 sexst, sestt, seist, 5–6 seyst, 4– seest. β. (*north.*) 1 siis, 3–4 sais, 3–5 se(e)s, 3–6 seis, 4 seise, seyse, 4–5 sese, seys, 5 seese, seȝis, 6 seyis.

α. [*c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. § 4 Ȝesihst þu nu þæt (etc.).] *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Wanne þu sest gost cumen [etc.]. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 242 (Jesus MS.) Bi daye þu art stare-blynd, þat þu ne syst [*Cott. MS.* sichst] bouh of lynd. *c* 1250 *Ten Abuses* 1 (Cott.) in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Hwan þu sixst on leode King þat is willful [etc.]. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 212 He þat þou seest yn þe prestes fest. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 158 As þow suxt [*v.rr.* sixt, seist, seest, sext] þe sonne som tyme for cloudes May nat shyne. *a* 1400 *How to live perfectly* 1062 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 249 Hem þat þou seost in Meseyse. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst., Mary Magd.* 1542 Þis chrisetyn þat here sestt þou. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 103 Alas my Dorus (said she) thou seest how long [etc.]. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 507 Seest thou yon harlot, wooing all she meets.

β. [*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 14 Ne forðon ðu ȝesiis on onsione monnes.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14055 * Sais [*Gött.* ses, *Fairf.* sese] þou', he said, 'now þis womman?' *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2933 No say nouȝt what þou ses. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 301 Now seis thow I mak na gabbing. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5022 For þi modire nor ȝit Messedon þou seȝis þaim na mare. *a* 1400 in *Relig. Pieces Prose & Verse* 24 The toþer es in Haly Writte whare þou sese what þou doo and what þou sall lefe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XX. 41 Thow seyis mony thingis variand. 1570 *Ane Tragedie* 26 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* X, We ar cum heir to the..To cause the write that thing thou seis this nycht.

c. *3rd pers. sing.* **sees** (sīz), *arch.* **seeth** (sīëþ). Forms: α. 1 sieh̆ð, sioh̆ð, seoh̆ð, syh̆ð, sih̆ð, síð, 2 sicð, 2–3 siþ, secð, seð, siht, 2–3, 5 sieþ, 2–4 sihþ, 3 syhþ, (sup, soþ, seo3 error for seoþ), 3–4 sucþ, 4 si3th, sikth, sykþ, syþ, seyþ, syht, *Kent.* zi3þ, zy3þ, zyþ, zycþ, zykþ, zikþ, zy3t, zi3t, 4–5 seth, 5 sueþ, 5–6 sethe, seyth, seith, 4– (now *arch.*) seeth. β. (with ending orig. *north.*) 1 siis, sís, 3–6 seis, 4 seise, seos, 4–5 ses(e, seys, 5 sesse, seȝis, -es, 6–7 *Sc.* sies, 3– sees.

[*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 4 Fæder ðin seðe ȝesiið in dezelnisse; *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ȝesyhþ; *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* sihð.] 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1124 (Laud MS.) *ad fin.*, Oc ure Laford God ælmihtiȝ þa eall dizelnesse seð & wat, he seoð þæt man læt þæt ærme folc mid ealle un rihte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Þe mon þe heleð his sunne aðisse liue ne siht he nefre almihtin drihten. *Ibid.* 157 Þe rihtwise Mon þet..sicð þe muchele blisse þet he is to ileðed. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 246 Riȝt so hit farþ bi þan un-gode þat nogt ne sup [*Jesus MS.* i-syhþ] to none gode. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxix. 86 Marie wepeth sore, ant siht al this wo. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM 7 *Deadly Sins* 203 He sykþ gode theawes. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 595 Who so seeth me firste. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 62 Holy chyrche..seyth hom all sore seke yn þe sekenes of synne. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xvii[i.] 47 Y^e God which seyth that I be auenged. *Ibid.* xxxvi[i.] 13 He seith y^t his daye is comminge. 1560 *Ovid's Narcissus* C iij b, Ther he seethe the image of his grace. *a* 1629 GOFFE *Courag. Turk* v. iv. (1632) H 3 b, Their God seeth their slaughter.

β. [*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iii. 32 Pætte ȝesiis & ȝehereð.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 862 He wend to hide him amang þa tres, Fra his sight þat al sees [*Gött.* seis, *Fairf.* seise, *Trin.* sees]. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 258 He sess Jhesu crist in a sad Roode. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2532 Quen he sesse [*Dubl. MS.* seys] vs sike a sowme sare will be drede. *Ibid.* 5583 Þe berne blischis on his blonke & seȝes his breth faile. *c* 1614 MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 120 What all doth boad she sies.

d. *plural* **see** (sī). Forms: α. 1 séoð, séað, síoð, 2–4 seop, (3 soþ, seo3 error for seoþ), 3–5 seþ, 4 sup, seith, (soez ? error for seoþ), *Kent.* zyeþ (also written zye3), zeþ, 5 seeþ, sethe. β. 1 séo, 3–4 seo, 3–6 se, 6 *Sc.* sie, 3– see. γ. *north.* 1 séas, 3–4 sees, sais, 3–6 seis, 4 seyse, sese. δ. 3–6 sen, 4 seon, 4–5 seen, 5 se(e)ne, se(e)yne.

α. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1286 (Gr.) Hy..seoð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 13 Forðon zeseȝend..ne seað. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 884 (Jesus MS.) Hi ne seoþ [*Cott. MS.* soþ]

her nowiht bute serewe. [*c* 1290 *Beket* 921 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 133 ȝe i-seo3 wel echon þat al þe world grat on me one.] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2436 In þe firmament beþ Planetes yliche clere sterren seuene as ȝe seþ [*v.rr.* iseoþ, seen, sene]. *a* 1325 soez [see B. 9]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. I. 41 This and þat sueth þi soule and seith it in þin herte. 1393 — *P. Pl.* C. v. 154 We seth [*v.rr.* seon, see, seeyne, se] wel syre reson,.. That [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 21 As ȝe here and sethe.

β. [971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 ȝeseo we þæt oft swiþe manezum men færlice ȝelimpeþ þæt he hine wið þas world ȝedæleþ.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5335 God men i am, als yee now her se, An old man. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 244 Oþer sonedays at euesonge seo we wel fewe!

γ. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 17 Ða ilco ze seas. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11776 All þat þe sees [*Fairf.* sees, *Gött.* se, *Trin.* seeþ] sal þe not sla. *Ibid.* 21074 þat erth..men sais [*Gött.* seis] vprisand fra þe grund. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 89 Quhen my ennemies seis my fall.

δ. *c* 1200 Ormin 18965 Forr swa þe33 mare herenn & sen Off Cristess rihhtwisnesse. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 210 ȝe seon wel þe soþe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 42 þen we sene þat þou wyll not do þe kyngys byddyng. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* xi. 11 Than shalle the kyng be worshipid and dred whan men seyne that he dredith god. *c* 1600 Day *Bednal Gr.* IV. iii. (1659) I 1 b, *Old Stro.* And speak the truth Boy as thou art my Son. *Y. Stro.* And I do not I'll give you leave to call me Cut, sen ye?

3. *Indicative past.* α. *1st and 3rd pers. sing.* saw (sǭ). Forms: α. 1, 3 sæh, 1–3 seah, 3 *Ormin* sahh, 3–4 saȝ, sah, sau, (saght), 3–5 sagh, saȝe, sauȝ, 4 saghe, saȝhe, sav, sach, (*Sc.* schaw), 4–5 saugh, sauh, sawh, sawȝ, 4–6 sawe, sauhe, sawhe, sawgh, sauch, (saȝ), save, 5–6 saue, sauȝe, (5 saughe), *Sc.* sa, 6 sae, *Sc.* saa, 3– saw; 1–4 seh, 3 sehȝ, seȝh, sæih, sayh, seeh, 3–4 seih, seȝ, 3–5 sai, sei, saiȝ, seiȝ, seyh, seȝhe, 3–5, (7) say, 3–6 saye, sey, 4 saiȝe, seiȝe, saih, sayw, seey, seeȝ, seich, *Kent.* zeȝ, 4–5 seigh(e, seygh, seyȝe, seye, sayȝ, saie, seie, seih, se(e)gh, 4–6 se, 5 seyhe, seȝhe, sech, (seyght), 3– (now *vulgar*) see; 3–4 sih, 4 si, syh, syȝ, 4–5 syȝ, sygh, siȝ(e, sigh(e, syȝe, sihe, sy, sie, 5 syg(he, syhe, 5–6 sye; 4 sugh, sough, sow, sue. β. *weak forms* (*dial.* and *vulgar*) 8–9 see'd, 9 seed, zeed, etc. (see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xi. 33 Se hælend uutedlice þætte saeh hia hremende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 Ure helende..segh þos tweie brodren in þe se on here shipe. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 561 in *O. E. Misc.* 53 þo seyh heo þer twey engles. *c* 1290 *Beket* 167 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 111 Heo saiȝ gilbertus wille þat it was no guod. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1251 O niht saw she þer-inne a liht. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 76 When scho on rode sugh hyr son hang. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 738 Rouland was so nyȝ, þat alle foure kinges he syȝ. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 14, I sauh a Tour on a Toft. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 250 Paynis..þat he schaw in hell. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* ix. 23 When Jhesus..seeȝ mynstrelis. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 316 Vnderr a Cyne..I her se. *c* 1425 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 22 When I sy no bettyr but I must go. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 119 He ȝode nygh and sech how an horrybull neddyr..had vmbeclypped a lyon. *c* 1450 *Digby Myst., Mary Magd.* 2051 þe whych I never save þis xxx wynter and more. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 1225 The lady sauch.. The knychtis worschip which that he haith vroght. 1534 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 36 He was rapte into heven, where he see the Trinite settyng in a pall. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 115 Who ever sae, who ever harde, who ever redd the like to this? 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 320 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, But his commissione na man saa. 1672 Wiseman *Wounds* I. viii. 73 The Doctor..both see and felt their scars. 1696 De La Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 102 He say an ape, and playing with it, it bit his hand. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, But I never, for coolness, see such a man as you. 1874 Whyte Melville *Uncle John* xiv. II. 91 He see one of 'em..go by the house this morning.

β. *a* 1800 Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1814) 111 The common people of London..will say, for instance,—'I see'd him yesterday'; and 'he was see'd again to-day'. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xl, I never seed a woman hanged in a' my life. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* 51 An' I seed her first a-smokin' of a whackin' white cheroot.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* sawest (sǭ,ĕst), sawst (sǭst). Forms: α. 1 sǽwe, 3–4 sagh, 3–5 seȝe, 4 sau, sei(h, sihe, siȝe, 4–5 sey(e, seiȝe, sawe, sawȝ, saugh, se, siȝ, *Kent.* seȝe, 5 sawhe, say, seghe, see, sye, sogh, 5–6 saw. β. 4–5 seiȝest, -ist, siȝest, seist, 5 sauȝ(e)st, saiest, 5–6 seest, 6 sawyste, -iste, seyst, 7– saw'st, sawst, 5–sawest.

α. [971 *Blickl. Hom.* 113 þær þu ær ȝesawe godweb mid golde ȝefæzod.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9848 Bot he war fertiful to call if þou it sagh. 1325 Shoreham *Hours of Cross* 63 þou seȝe hyne hyder and þyder ycached, Fram pylate to herode. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 276 Sei þou euer þensperour? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 367 Thou sihe nevere thilke place. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 337 þou sey nou,..Vnder what kynde of tre Semeli susan þou se [*v.rr.* see] Do þat derne dede. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 12 In hir þou siȝ a semeli sete. 1563 Sackville *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxxvi, And nowe behold the thing that thou erewhile, Saw only in thought.

β. 1388 Wyclif *Dan.* ii. 34 Thou siȝest [*v.rr.* sauȝest] thus. — *Rev.* i. 20 Which thou seiȝest [1382 sihe, *v.rr.* saiest] in my riȝt hond. *Ibid.* xvii. 8 The beeste which thou seist [1382 sihe, *v.rr.* saiest, siȝest; 1534 Tindal, 1539 Cranmer seest] was, and is not. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. xii. 113 Sawest thow not..a knyghte rydynge and ledynge aweye a lady. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E. E. T. S.) 104 Sawyste thou not myn oxen? *c* 1537 *Therytes* 501 Seyst thou any man come thys waye? 1592 Shake. *Ven. & Ad.* 644 Sawest thou not signes of feare lurke in mine eye? 1602 Breton *Mother's Blessing* C 2 b, Winke at the world as though thou saw'st it not. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 603 Those Tents thou sawst so pleasant, were the Tents Of wickedness.

c. *plural.* saw (sǭ). Forms: α. 1 sáwun, -an, -en, sáȝon, 1–2 sáwon, 3 sowen, soȝen, saȝen, 3–5 sawen, 5 sauȝen; 1 sézun, -on, 1–2 sézon, 3 *Ormin.* sæȝhenn, (sæȝhe we), 3–4 sæ(h)ȝen, 2 seaȝon, 2–4 seȝen, 2–5 seien, 3–4 seiȝen, seh(ȝ)en, seoȝen, 3–5 seiȝen, seghen, seyen, 4 seyȝen, seighen, *Kent.* zeȝen, 4–5 saien, say(e)n, seyne, 4–6 seen, 5 seyn, sene, seon, 6 seene; 3–5 siȝen, 4 sihen, syhen, 4–5 sien, sy(ȝ)en, 5 syghen. β. 3 sæȝe, 3–4 sagh, sau, (scau), 3–5 saȝe, 3–6 saue, 4 saghe, sach, 4–5 sawgh, sowe, 4–6 sawe, 5 sawȝ, saugh, sauhe, saȝ, so, 4– saw; 3 seh(ȝ)e, sæȝe, 3–4 seghe, sei(ȝ)e, 3, 5 seȝe, 3–5 say, sei, sey(e, 4 sehe, seih, seygh, saie, seo, *Kent.* zeȝe, 4–5 se(i)gh, seiȝ, 5 saye, seyȝe, seyghe, 5–6 se, 5–7, 9 (*vulgar*) see; 3–4 siȝe, 4 syhe, 4–5 sie, sye, siȝ, syȝ(e, sygh(e, sigh(e, 5–6 sy. γ. 8–9 *dial.* and *vulgar* see'd (see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

The modern vulgarism (*we, you, they*) *seen* is not connected with the α forms above, but is due to substitution of the form of the pa. pple. for that of the pa. t.; so in the sing., *I, he seen.*

α. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 536 þonan hy God nyhst up stiȝende eaȝum seȝun. *a* 900 — *Elene* 1104 (Gr.) þær hie to sæȝon. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1106 (Laud MS.) Forþam þe we hit sylfe ne sawon. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 280 For þi þæt ȝe ne sehen ham neauer biginnen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3522 Dis for-fristed folc..Soȝen ðat figer. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 957 Alle him loueden þat him sowen. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 256 Whan we siben þi sonde wiþ þi sel prented, We kenden þi couaitise. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 110 Right so men goostly in this mayden free Syen of feith the magnanymytee. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxviii. 282 Whan that thei seen the Develes visibly and bodyly alle aboute hem. 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* 1383 Whom ȝe in flesch now full late sayn. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 20 þen seon þe byschoppys of mawmetry þat all þe pepul laft hor lawe. 15.. *Scot. Field* 513 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, When the Skottes and the Ketterickes seen our men sketer, They had greate joy of their joyning.

β. *c* 1205 Lay. 11970 Þu vmbe stunde ne sæȝe [*c* 1275 seh3e] heo noht of londe. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 30 Ac fore þe miracle þet hi seghe was here beliaue þe more i-strengþed. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10268 Nu nan [children] we sagh [*Trin.* say, *Laud* sie] þe neuer haue. *Ibid.* 18451 þir war þe prineteis we scau [*Gött.* sau, *Trin.* sawe, *Laud* saw], Ikarius and mi felau. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4670 Men..wel hit sowe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 200 So sayd al þat hym syȝe. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21691 (Fairf.) Quen þai sagh [*Edin.* sach] als tai did oft moises lift his hende on loft. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 436 For-þi abasit þai var & rad, quhene þai þame-selfine sav sa sted. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 132 Nou were þis domus men derf drawen in derne, Whiles þei seo [*v.rr.* saw, syghe] þat ladi was laft al hire one. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xl, Thay so a schene vndur schild. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 875 All men þat sow and stode by. *c* 1460 *Emare* 869 Alle hym loued þat hym sy. *c* 1550 Bale *K. Johan* (Camden) 81, I am as gentle a worme as ever ye see. 1877 Jefferies *Gamekeeper at H.* i. (1890) 19 The governor were the haughtiest man as ever you see.

γ. 1752 Foote *Taste* II. (1781) 29 The same [gentleman] that we see'd at the Painting Man's.

4. *Subjunctive Present* see. Forms: *sing.* 1 sio, séo, sé, see, 3 sio, seȝe, 3–4 seo, 3–5 se, 4 *Kent.* zi, 5 seye, 3– see. *Plural.* 1 seon, sen, 3 seon, (so), 3–4 seo, 4–5 se, 3– see.

[*c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* x, Forðæm mænezum men is leofre þæt he ær self swelte ær he ȝesio his wif & his bearn sweltende.] *c* 1200 Ormin 3842 Þohh þatt he grissliȝ deofell seo, Niss he rihht nohht forrfæredd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1987 Godmen i wil þat zee it see. *a* 1340 Hampole *Comm. Canticles* i. 5 in *Psalter* (1884) 504 Depnes of hell sall hill thaim that thai se namare of thaire vanyte. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1846 Sire, if we se with a suth surely me thinke [etc.]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5704 Thogh thow seye in me Errour.

5. *Subjunctive Past* saw. Forms: α. *sing.* 1 sáwe, 3 sæȝhe, sæȝe, (soȝe, sowe), 3–4 saghe, 3–5 sawe, 4 sau, 4–5 saugh, 5 sauh, 6– saw; 2 seiȝe, 2–4 seie, seȝe, 3 seh(ȝ)e, 3–5 seye, 4 seigh, *Kent.* zeȝe, 5 see; 3 siȝe, 4 syhe, sihe.

[*c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* x, Ȝif þu hine ȝesawe on hwelcum eorfodum.] *c* 1200 Ormin 17425, & þurrh þatt he sæȝhe þæronn He sholde takenn bote. *c* 1250 *Bestiary* 502 Dat tu wuldes seien get, gef ðu is [the whale] soge wan it fiet, ðat it were a neilond. *c* 1330 *Hall Meid.* (Titus) l. 233 Hwa þat seihe þenne hu þe engles beoð isweamed. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1323, I woth, so wel so ich it sowe, To þe shole comen heye and lowe. 13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 985 Rymenild lokede wide by þe see syde ȝef heo seȝe [*a* 1300 *Camb. MS.*, If heo ost of horn isize] horn come. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 64 And cast upward his yhe, As though he Cristes face syhe.

b. *plural.* 1 sáwon, -an, 4 *Kent.* seȝen, 5 seen; 3–5 seie, 4–5 seiȝe, 5 seigh, sey, se, 6– saw.

[*c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Ȝif ge nu ȝesawan (etc.).] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5023, & vpe þe west 3ate of londone sette hit wel beye..þat men wel wide yseie [*v.rr.* seiȝe, sey, se]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 204 Hy presten out hare eȝen of þe herte þe hi ne zezen þing þet ham mizte wyþdraȝe uram hire contemplacion. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 450 For þe comune ..counten ful litel þe conseille of conscience..But if þei seiȝe [*v.rr.* seigh, seie, seen] as by syȝte somwhat to wynnynge. 1530 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 1057 Les skaith it war, with lycence of the Pape, That ilke Prelate one Wyfe had of his awin, Nor se thar bastardis ouirthort the cuntre blawin.

6. *Imperative* see. Forms: α. *sing.* 1 sioh, seoh, seh, sih, 3 sih, siȝ, 3–4 seh, saȝ, 3–6 se, 4 seo, *Kent.* siȝ, 5 say, sey, 5– see.

α 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 59 Sioh nu sylfa þe ȝeond þas sidan ȝeweorc [etc.]. *c* 1320 *Marinus* 55 in Böddeker *Altengl. Dicht.* (1878) 258 Nou wend & seh wher hit be. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. I. 39 For þe Fend and þi Flesch folewen to-gedere, And schendeþ þi soule seo hit in þin herte. *Ibid.* x. 145 So seiþ þe sauter seo hit whon þe likeþ. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 65 Sone paye þe with þy qwene & se of her berthe. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 44 Se sone thow mak my commissar amendis.

b. *plural.* α. 1 séoð, síað, 3 seoþ, 4–5 se(e)þ, 5 sethe, seith, seiȝeth.

[971 *Blickl. Hom.* 241 Behealdað eow and ȝeseoð hine.] *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1715 Now seþ how sone i haue spedde! 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxviii. 6 Come ȝe, and seeth [1388 se, ȝe] the place. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 494 in *Macro Plays* 92 Syth & sethe wel to my sawe! *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. 4 (Harl. MS.) Seith nowe, goode men.

β. 3 seo, 3–6 se, 6 *Sc.* sie, 3– see.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 17288+151 (Cott.) He is risen & not here, be-hald þe stede & see! 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 142 For Christis word se ze stand for it.

γ. *North.* 3–4 sees, 3–5 seis, 4 sese.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17797 Gas, seis [*Trin.* seeþ, *Laud* se] nu,..And yee sal find þair tumbs tome. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3878 Seis ensampill at myselfe & seke ȝe na ferre.

δ. 5 sene.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 410 Hewe hit with an axe and sene if hit be not in thegge.

7. *Present Participle* seeing (sī·iŋ). Forms: 1 síonde, séonde, séende, seȝende, 1–2 séonde, 3–4 seant, 3–6 seand, 4 seende, seyinge, siynge, *Kent.* zyinde, 4–5 seande, 4–6 seyng(e, seeynge, 5 seenge, s(e)yyng, seond, seinge, seeyng, 6 seing, seying, seeinge, 6– seeing.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 13 Ȝeseȝende *vel* seende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3950 Bot þou sal be cald sisrar þat es man seand godd of hel. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xvi. 4 And she [Agar] seynge hir silf that she had conseyued, dispiside hir ladi. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 220 Noght seende This meschief. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 23 Seyng his sorowful maner. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 461, I leuir haue euer Ane foule in hand, or tway, Nor seand ten fleand About me all the day. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 1. 100 Seing him self in sandie furdes.

8. *Past Participle* seen (sīn). Forms: α. 1 (ȝe)sewen, 2 sæwon, sawen, sæȝon, se(o)ȝon, 2–3 sewen, 2–4 seȝen, 3 (i-) sæȝen, sehen, (soȝen), *Ormin* seȝhenn, 3–5 sen, seien, 3–7(8) sene, 4 sewyn, sine, 4–5 seyen, seiȝen, sain, sayn, 4–6 seyn(e, sein, 4–7 seene, 5 saine, sayne, (shene, senene), 5–7 seine, 6 seane, senne, 4– seen. β. 3 seghe, se(i)hȝe, 3–5 sey(e, sei(ȝ)e, 4 seȝe, *Kent.* soȝe, zoȝe, 4–5 seyȝ(e, say, se, 5 see, sye, saye, saie. γ. 8–9 *vulgar* see'd.

α. [*c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Ac se steorra þe we hatað æfensteorra, þon he bið west ȝesewen, þon tacnnað he æfen.] 11.. *O. E. Chron.* an. 789 (Laud MS.) Heofenlic leoht wæs ȝelome seozen ðær þer he [Alfwold] of slazen wæs. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1127 (Laud MS.) *ad fin.*, Þis wæs.. seȝon on þe selue derfald in þa tune on Burch. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2785 Ic haue min folkes pine soȝen, ðat he nu longe hauen droȝen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 466 We and our elders old, Þus þan haue we sain. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1792 þei drow hem to a dern den for drede to be seiȝen. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 18 To be leile witnes, ewyne of It he had sewyn in hewyn. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 74 Whan they han this blisful mayden sayn [*v.rr.* seyn, sain, seine]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2950 ȝet it ledis vnto laithnes and vnlefe werkes, And shotis into shame as shene has ben ofte. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4136 No blodus drope was senene þo þere. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 21 Neuer was seyen so wyse a man. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 29 Thay ar aluterlie seyne with the eyne of faith. 16.. Mure *Sonn. to Margareit* iii. 3 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 49 Oght yat my puir eyes hath ewer seine. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Eagle & Robin* 49 Be nae mair sene At court.

β. [*c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 þo men..hedde i-seghe þo miracle.] *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiv. 96 Thestri wæs seie byfore day. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 218 For I haue seiȝe it my-selfe. *a* 1375 *How to hear Mass* 107 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 496 Not Blynt þat day schalt þou not be þat þou þi sauiour hast se. 1389–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. xii. (Skeat) I. 13 The sonne yeveth light that thinges may be seye. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 26 He hadde neuer seye them be-fore. *a* 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 70 It was the joieust and plesaunt sighte that ever the saide citesyn Lisander had see beforne. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* xxxvi. (Arb.) 81 It is seldynne sey yat any man of hem were very penitent. 15.. *Adam Bel* 410 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 156, I had wende yester daye..Thou sholde me never have se.

γ. *a* 1800 [see A. 3 β]. 1857 A. Mayhew *Paved with Gold* II. v, Why, it's months since I've seed a sixpence.

B. Signification and Uses.

I. The simple verb.

In most of the senses OE. and early ME. used the compound *ȝesēon*, I-SEE, more frequently than the simple verb. Hence the paucity of early examples here.

1. *trans.* To perceive (light, colour, external objects and their movements) with the eyes, or by the sense of which the eye is the specific organ.

Beowulf 1365 Þær mæȝ mon..niðwundor seon, Fyron flode. *a* 1000 *Riddles* lxxxvii. 1 (Gr.) Ic seah wundorlice wiht. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1122 (Laud MS.), Þæt fir hi seazon in ðe dæi rime and læste swa lange þæt hit wæs liht ofer eall. *c* 1200 Ormin 6571, & son se Zacarize sahh þatt enngless brihhte leome, He warrþ forrfæredd. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (MS. T.) 415 For he that loues noght his brothir,..how sold he loue god almighten that he seis noght. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xx. (1906) 29 Atte her dethe was saine a grete clerete & light. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 465 b, The fourth daye of Marche began to shine a blasing starre, & is sene by the space of twelve dayes. 1590 Shake. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 27 What thou seest when thou dost wake, Doe it for thy true Loue take. 1604 Drayton *Moyses* II. § 2 Darknes is now so palpable and much, That as 'tis seene, as easily is felt. 1624 Tomkis *Albumazar* I. iii, With this [glass] He read a leafe of that small Iliade..as plainly Twelue long

miles off, as you see Pauls from Highgate. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 39 In the interim..the other Comet could be seen with the naked eye. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* I. 376 Sideling towards the window..[she] had heard and seen all that had passed. 1842 Tennyson *Walking to Mail* 7 Whose house is that I see? 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlviii, 'I was in the kitchen making a pudding'. 'I know you were, I saw you through the area railings'. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 141 We have seen the third edition. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/2 If he had looked he must have seen the light of the approaching train.

Proverb. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 230 Hyt ys old Englysch sawe: A mayde schuld be seen, but not herd.

transf. 1818 Keats *Endym.* I. 540 This river does not see the naked sky. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 307 The place only sees the sun for a few hours in winter.

† b. Pleonastically, *to see with* (or *at*) *eye(s, with, in sight. Obs.*

For *to see with one's own eyes*, etc., see Eye *sb.*

a 1000 *Riddles* lxxxiv. 31 (Gr.) Þæs þe [hio]..ælda bearn eaȝum sawe. *c* 1200 Ormin 5716 To sen Drihhtin wiþþ eline. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1273 Þat shalt þu with þin eyne sen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1705, & quen þay seghe hym with syȝt, þay sued hym fast. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 384 And if we take hede þus bi þis rule we schal se at yȝe how þe clergie saiþ here oþer-wyse þan it is. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 11 But goddis forbode but men schulde leue Wel more thyng than men han seyn with eye. 1418 *Mau Beware* 71 in *26 Pol. Poems* 63 For þat ȝe hid, god seeþ in syȝt. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* II. Prol. (1494) fiij b, The rounde droppis of the smoth rayne which that..fall from aloft On stonys harde at the iye as it is seyne Perceth their hardnesse with their fallinge ofte. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 51 A roial gret feste, A more worshipful neuer sayn with eye.

c. predicated of the eye.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1733 Nan eorðlich ehe ne mei hit seon, ich segge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4508 Hert sun for-gettes þat ne ei seis. *c* 1421 *Lessons of Dirige* 318 in *26 Pol. Poems* 117 Noon eyȝe hadde sene me after son. 1620 Sir T. Wroth *Destr. Troy*, etc. *Epigr.* 16 *marg.*, That which the eye sees not the heart neuer rues. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 102 ¶ 4 An expanse of waters..covered with so thick a mist that the most perspicacious eye could see but a little way.

d. To behold (visual objects) in imagination, or in a dream or vision. So *to see a vision*, † *to see a dream.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 Þe holi prophete abacuc..seh suterliche fele of þe wundren þe ure helende dide siðen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4533 Aiþer of hus a drem we sau And he us bad til him it scau. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xl. 8 A sweuen we han seen [1388 We seiȝen a dreem], and ther is not that wol vndo it vs. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 99 Here take heed þat Daniil seigh ten sightes. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 27 The holy Patryarke Jacob se a vysyon in a place callyd Bethel. 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* v. F v b, A newe Hierusalem the sayd Johan also se. 1800 Wordsw. *Reverie of Poor Susan* 5 She sees A mountain ascending, a vision of trees. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxii, He saw himself, in his mind's eye, put meekly into a hackney coach 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. (1877) I. viii. 201, I see, with my mind's eye, a statue of Dunsford raised in Tollerporcorum.

e. With sb. or pron. and inf. as compound obj.

When *see* is used in the passive the infinitive is normally preceded by *to*; when in the active, the *to* is omitted. In early use, however, exceptions are not uncommon.

In mod. English this construction differs from the use of the pres. pple. as complement (see 1 g) in implying a reference to the ability of the subject to give testimony as to the fact or the manner of the action predicated; compare, e. g. 'I have seen him walk' with 'I have seen him walking'. In early examples the inf. is often found where we should now use the complementary pple.

a 1000 *Riddles* lii. 1 (Gr.) Ic seah wrætlice wuhte feower samed siþian. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1127 (Laud MS.) *ad fin.*, Þa sæzon & herdon fela men feole huntes hunten. *c* 1200 Ormin 10676 He sahh þære Godess Gast, Inn aness cullfress like, Off heoffne cumenn upponn Crist & upponn himm bilefenn. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus) l. 193 He seð [*MS. Bodl.* sið] þe folhen hire treoden, meiden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 16 Cristene men oȝen ben so faȝen So fueles arn quan he it sen daȝen. 13.. *Sevyn Sages* (W.) 1258 And do als tou sest me do. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 70 Þat fire ful many folk gan fere, When þai se brandes o ferrum flye. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 211 Vndyr a tre be-syde a welle I say Cupide oure lord hise arwis forge & file. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxvii. 25 And sittynge for to eet breed, thei seen Ysmaelitis weiegoers to comen fro Galaad. 1382 — *Mark* ix. 37 Maistir, we syȝen [1388 sayn] sum oon for to caste out fendis in thi name. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 34 Whan Iasius sawe hys broder come all in armes, all his blood began to chaunge. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Table Y ij b, Phocion was never seen laugh ne wepe. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* xxx. 80 But here he shall marke one secrete: that he go not aboute to herbor an Harte an houre at least after he see him go to layre. 1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 28 That thou wilt not be seen to talke with any others wife. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 179, I saw her corrall lips to moue. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 159 But some of them reported that he was seen flie, and was escaped. 1731 Medley *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 101 When you see him [the elephant] march, you are amazed at the Ground he rids. 1779 *Mirror* No. 27 As he looked at it, I saw the tears start from his eyes. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* VI. xxiii, O'er Roslin all that dreary night A wondrous blaze was seen to gleam. 1862 Thackeray *Philip* iii, I could see the diamond twinkle on his pretty hand. 1894 'Max O'Rell' *John Bull & Co.* 2, I have seen French people laugh side-splittingly.

† f. With ellipsis of indefinite obj. (*some one*) before the infinitive. *Obs. rare.* (A Gallicism.)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5071 Whan bordes were born adoun & burnes hade waschen, Men miȝt haue seie to menstrales moche god ȝif. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxix. 110 What so euer goode sporte & pleysure that blanchardyn sawe ther make for his sake.

g. With obj. and compl. (adj., pple., or phrase).

a 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1270 Hy..grim hellefyr, ȝearo to wite ondweard seoð. *c* 1200 Ormin 3829 Forr Godess enngell rofreþþ mann, ȝiff þatt he seoþ himm færedd. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 495 in *O. E. Misc.* 51 Þo heo comen to ihesu crist and seyen hine ded. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 269 þenne he sauh Ihesu crist I-strauȝt vppon þe Roode. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 122 Where as she many a shipe and barge seigh Seillynge hir cours where as hem liste go. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) iv. 24 Though thou see me hidouse and horrible to loken onne. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. xii. 113 Sawest thow not saide Peilinore a knyghte rydynge and ledynge aweye a lady. 1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* 64 b, Sone after none thys mother..Sawe from the body [of her son], the soule departynge. 1621 G. Sandy. *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 39 Saw'st thou no cattel through these fields conuay'd? 1709 Pope *Let. to Cromwell* 7 May, In which time all the verses you see added, have been written. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiv, They..had just seen the little party..crossing the summit of a gentle hill. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* III. vi, They are acquiring self-respect...They wouldn't be seen in the street now in rags, or the worse for drink. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* II. i. 52, I say what I saw done.

h. To distinguish by sight *from.*

c 1450 *Brut* 591 Kyng Herry..leete cere hym [K. Richard] ..in a fayre cheste, closyd alle in lynnyn clothe, saaf his visage, whiche was lefte opyn, þat men myht see & know his persone from alle othir men. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* II. iv, I can't see one sort from another; we must have candles.

i. In various phrases (some of which occur chiefly in figurative use), *to see the colour of* (a person's money), *to see double, to see the light, to see one's way*: see the associated words.

2. *absol.* and *intr.* To perceive objects by sight. Formerly often, to have the faculty of sight, not to be blind (now commonly expressed by *can see*).

Can see often means to have sufficient light or power of vision to see as clearly as is necessary for some contextually implied purpose. Sometimes an inf. of purpose follows, as 'I can see to read, but not to paint'.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3108 He adden liȝt and sowen wel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6706 Qua smites vte his thains eie, And mas him vn-mighti for-to seie,..He sal [etc.]. 1382 Wyclif *John* ix. 11, I weute, and waischide, and syȝ [1388 say; *the O.E. versions have* ȝeseah]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 191 Tiberius Cesar sigh more clereliche in derkenesse þan in liȝt. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3306 To sen, myn Eyen ben to blynde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 54 And when he layde his hondys on his hed, anon he segh. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 268 b, The first had his eyes cut out so, as he could not see to bid the neare following death welcome. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 124 But her eies, How could he see to doe them? 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. I. 5 The beimes of the Sone, al Scotland throuch, the hail nycht ar sein, the space of twa monethis..in sik brichtnes that esilie thay may sie to reid and wryte. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 466 Lions, Beares, Tygres, and their whelpes are not able to see, stand or goe, for many monthes. 1712 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to W. Montagu* 9 or 11 Dec., I write and read till I can't see, and then I walk. 1743 Pococke *Descr. East* I. II. ii. 80 We could not see before us any further than in a very thick fog. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* VII. iv, When he repaired to her bed he was generally so drunk that he could not see. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 153 He was, at first, couched only in one of his eyes; and, when he saw for the first time, he was so far from judging of distances, that [etc.]. 1820 Keats *St. Agnes* xxxix, There are no ears to hear, or eyes to see. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xix, Why, man, it was but a switch across the mazzard —blow your nose, dry your eyes, and you will see all the better for it. 1861 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xxv, It was a bad day to see; a bad day to hear; above all, a bad day to ride.

Prov. 1546 Heywood *Prov.* I. x. Wks. (1562) C iij, She thought..she had seene far in a milstone.

b. With ellipsis of an obj. implied by the context.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* John xx. 29 Þu ȝe-lyfdest for-þan þu me ȝe-seaze. Þa sænden eadiȝe þe ne seazen [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ȝe-sawon] & ȝe-lyfdon. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 The water that it wetes yn, Y-wis hit wortheth al to wyn, That seȝen seyden so. 1382 Wyclif *Ezek.* viii. 10 And I gon in, seeȝ; and loo! 1832 Tennyson *Sisters* 163 The sweet dwelling of her eyes Upon me when she thought I did not see. 1888 Kipling *Soldiers Three, In Matter of a Private*, People who have seen say that one of the quaintest spectacles of human frailty is an outburst of hysterics in a girls' school.

3. (*fig.*) *trans.* To perceive mentally (an immaterial object, a quality, etc.); to apprehend by thought (a truth, the answer to a question), to recognize the force of (a demonstration). Often with reference to metaphorical light or eyes.

As the sense of sight affords far more complete and definite information respecting external objects than any other of the senses, mental perceptions are in many (perh. in all) languages referred to in visual terms, and often with little or no consciousness of metaphor.

c 1200 Ormin 13500 Whamm þu þurrh Drihhtin sest nuȝȝu Wiþþ innsihht off þin herrte. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 477 Ah sone se ich seh þe leome of þe soðe lare þæt leaded to eche lif, ich leafde al þæt oðer. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 950 Heo..so for-leost al hire liht, þat heo ni sih [*Jesus MS.* syhþ] soð ne riht. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 657 If þu coupest knowe and se þe uertu of humilite [etc.]. *a* 1400 Chaucer *Mercilles Beaute* 10 For with my deeth the trouthe shal be sene. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2739 Now haue I told (ye sen yt wel,) Touchyng thys sword euerydel. *c* 1537 *Thersytes* 59 Your mynde now I se. *c* 1553 Earl of Bath *Let.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 141 And except the bishop wold wincke at the same, and wold not see it, there is no law can assure it before he were priest. 1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* II. iii, We gird them and flout them out of all scotch and notch, and they cannot see it. 1609 Carleton in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 95 He may well be deceived, for I see no better benefice for him at his return than to serve as a clerk. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 148 From seeing the Extraordinary wisdome..of his Actions. 1721 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* (1893) I. 457 The first of those ladies is on the brink of Scotland for life. She does not care; to say truth, I see no very lively reasons why she should. 1768 Whately in *Grenville Papers* (1853) IV. 294 Lord Temple says that he sees no objection to your coming up. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* ix. III. 164 She saw nothing before her but distress and misery. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd., I did not immediately see the purpose of his lordship's question. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 63 Nor did he ever see his error till [etc.]. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 May 5/4 As soon as the question was put it was easy to see the course which the Government would take. 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* ix, Then why didn't you tell Geoffrey you didn't see the good of sending so many?

b. With obj. a clause or an indirect question.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lvii. 9 (Gr.) Soðfæst blissað, þonne he sið onȝan hu þa arleasan ealle forweorðað. *c* 1200 Ormin Introd. 47 Nu mihht tu sen þatt tatt wass rihht þatt mannkinn for till helle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1165 'Lauerd,' he said, 'now see i well Mi sin me has seit in vnsell.' *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 795 That whan sche say hire tyme myghte be At nygh sche stal a wey ful pryuyly. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIII. xix. 639 Now I see and vnderstande that myn old synne hyndereth me and shameth me. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lvii. 191, I can not se but we are lyke to dye. 1552 R. Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 102 Wherby I can not see what good they haue doone, but that men may more sickerlye be euell. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 33, I see mens Iudgements are A parcell of their Fortunes. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) II. xviii. 30 Therefore I do not see how she could support a war long to any purpose if Castile were quiet. 1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 22 ¶ 2, I only answered, that I did not see how the badness of the weather could be the King's fault. 1778 *Geraldine* I. 30 You see how rusticated I am, by writing on such uninteresting subjects. 1813 *Sketches of Character* (ed. 2) I. 123, I dont see what there is for me to say. 1856 J. H. Newman *Serm. Var. Occ.* i. (1881) 8 And thus you see, my brethren, how that particular temptation comes about. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 219, I see that you are speaking your mind. 1895 E. B. Rowlands in *Law Times* XCIX. 464/2 It is at the first look hard to see why the Court of Appeal should ever have been troubled with Wegg-Prosser *v.* Evans.

c. With obj. and infinitive or † compl.

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 82 Vnwerily it byrnys þo þingis to fulfil þat it seys & knawes plesynge to god. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. vii. 34 That what he siȝe to be trewe bifore in doom of resoun and lawe of kinde he toold out to hise herers. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 101 b, But seeyng hymselfe in these braakes, hee called hys brother [etc.]. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 July 1673, Besides he saw the Dutch warr ..very unprosperous. 1700 Dryden *Sigism. & Guisc.* 276 The Youth, who saw His forfeit Life abandon'd to the Law. 1743 J. Morris *Serm.* vii. 190 But surely every one must see this to be highly absurd.

d. In literary use, expressions like 'we have seen' 'we shall see', 'the reader has now seen', etc., are common with reference to what has been or is to be narrated or proved in the book.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* ii. 128 But whate myschefe folwyth of chynchry and folargesse, ye schal sene hit aftyr in this boke. 1560 Whitehorn *Machiavel's Arte of Warre* v. 72 You shall see..howe moche trouble and disease an armie and a capitaine is auoided of. 1820 Keats *Lamia* I. 201 Why this fair creature chose so faerily By the wayside to linger, we shall see. 1846 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* § 843 We shall presently see reason to believe, that a very large proportion of the movements of many of the lower animals are of this reflex character. 1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* i. § 38 We saw before the reason why Hermes is said to be the son of Maia. 1893 Kipling *Many Invent., Lost Legion*, What..the English did will be seen later on [in the story].

† e. Phrase, *All things seen*: all things being duly considered. *Obs.*

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 186 Wherfore, alle thingis seen, this present vo. reule, or supposicion is trewe.

f. *absol.* Often with virtual ellipsis of obj.-clause, esp. in parenthetic use, or preceded by *as* or *so*. Also as figurative application of sense 2.

I see: often used *colloq.* in assenting to an explanation or argument. *You see*: sometimes appended parenthetically to a statement of a fact known to the hearer which explains or excuses something that provokes surprise or blame.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2137 O þis thre com all, as þou sais, Has bene in werld and yeit beis. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 251 Bot thei weren blinde, And sihen noght so fer as he. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst., Mary Magd.* 507 Lady, þis man is for ȝow, as I se can. 1570 T. Wilson tr. *Demosth. Oyat.* vii. 98 And as farre as I can see, the daunger that we are in, is farre different from other folkes. 1657 Cromwell *Sp.* 21 Apr. in Carlyle *Lett. & Sp.* (1845) II. 582 Because, you see, the present Government has 1,900,000 l.; and [etc.]. 1706 Farquhar *Recruiting Officer* I. i, Look'ee Serjeant, no Coaxing, no Wheedling, d'ye see. 1741–2 Challoner *Missionary Priests* (1803) II. 19 All the sanguinary laws enacted by queen Elizabeth were from time to time put in execution by this king,..as we shall see anon. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1754) III. xviii. 246 Surely..a man of common penetration may see to the bottom of a woman's heart. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 578 A man who..if he saw to the bottom of his own mind, would acknowledge [etc.]. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. xcvii, Whether it was she did not see, or would not, Or, like all very clever people, could not. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* v, 'I see,' answered his uncle—'I comprehend. Cunning rogues—very cunning!' 1855 Browning *Bp. Blougram* 3 We ought to have our Abbey back, you see. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. (1877) I. viii. 216 The man who sees too widely is nearly sure to be indecisive, or to appear so. 1873 F. Hall *Mod. Eng.* 344 He replies, as we have seen, that he had anticipatively considered and rejected every view that I present. 1892 *Macmillan's Mag.* July 229 A few corns of wheat must always drop off, you see, before one can get the harvest.

g. *trans.* To have a particular mental view of; to perceive, apprehend, or appreciate in a particular manner. Also *absol.* esp. in *to see with* = to agree in opinion with another person.

For *to see eye to eye*, see Eye *sb.* 5.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 173 Alas, incomparable Philoclea, thou euer seest me, but dost neuer see

me as I am. 1786 BURNS *To a Louse* viii, O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us To see oursels as others see us! *Mod.* I now see the matter in a new light. I wish you could see with me on this question.

4. *trans.* With mixed literal and figurative sense: To perceive by visual tokens. With obj. a sb. (denoting a fact, quality, state of things), more frequently a clause or an indirect question. Also with obj. and predicative complement (now usually introduced by *to be*).

c 1200 ORMIN 2930 He sahh þatt 3ho wiþþ childe wass, & nisste he nohht whæroffe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 15 Moni Cros on his cloke..And þe vernicle bi-fore for men schulde him knowe, And seo be his signes whom he souht hedde. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 23 Sche was sad and invariable: so ferforth that as sche profited better and better, so was there none that euere syhe or herde hir wrooth. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24272 Thou mayst se by my lokkes hore And by ryvels of my visage How that I am called 'Age'. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 439 This man instructe in astronomy, see in the firmament þat his realme scholde be destroyede. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. (1885) 120 'Syres', answered Reynawde, 'ye enquere over moche; see ye not what folke we ben'. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. xii. 73 Actius Appollo, seand in the skye Off this melle the doutsum victorie. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 34 Perceiuest thou not how impatient I am? Seest thou not that I can not containe my selfe? 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I, Don't you see I am tired to death? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvi, She was never seen angry but twice or thrice in her life.

b. The construction with sb. or pron. as obj. is sometimes combined with that with an obj.-clause. Now only *poet.*

Common in the Bible as literal rendering of a Heb. idiom, but app. also developed independently in Eng.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xii. 14 Egipciens sawen the woman that she was ful fayre. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 26 Se 3e þe 3onder pore woman how þat she is pyned Withe twynlenges two. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 427 þe knyghtis of Rome saw Vaspasyan, at he was a nobyl man and a redy to cowncell. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iv. 15 Here is a prety matter, to see this gere how it goes. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthure* 123, I see thee what thou art.

c. To learn by reading.

Often idiomatically in present tense, *I see* = I have just read (esp. in a newspaper) *that* something has happened.

1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 6 In the gospel thou sist. 1612 SKELTON *Don Quixote* IV. v. (1620) 338 What then can you say to me of the good Don Cirongilio of Thracia, who was so animous and valiant as may be seene in his booke? 1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 150, I could never see in any Author, what a Fundamental Law signifieth. 1765 H. WALPOLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 11 *A propos*, I see by the papers, that the Bishop of London is suppressing mass-houses. 1847 THACKERAY *Lett.* (1887) 8 Did you see her death in the paper? 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* 13 One thing in particular I have never seen fairly put as accounting for the complete royalization of nearly the whole people.

5. To direct the sight (literal or metaphorical) intentionally to; to look at, contemplate, examine, inspect, or scrutinize; to visit (a place); to attend (a play, etc.) as a spectator. (Cf. *to see on*, 21.)

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2085 Þæt alle weren isihen hider for to seon þis feorlich. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1021 For it ne was non horse-knaue,..þat he ne kam þider, þe leyk to se. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 163 Soþnesse sauh hem wel and seide bote luyte, Bote prikede on his palfrey and passede hem alle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 532, I hadde the bettre leyser for to pleye And for to se and eek for to be seye Of lusty folk. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 281 Whan they had seen and beholde the monstre ynowh they departed thens. *c* 1590 *Faire Em* II. i. 97 Two gentlemen..Oft times resort to see and to be seene Walking the streete fast by thy fathers dore. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* F 3, Gameing,..drinking, or seeing a play. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. vi. 27 Let him not goe to see the towne, except it be vpon his earnest affaires. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 37 Let's to the Sea-side (hoa) As well to see the Vessell that's come in, As to throw-out our eyes for braue Othello. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 113 Their answer was, I am to goe see a farme, I haue bought oxen. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 221 One of the statues was serjeant-at-law, the other a soldjer. See the fashion of the serjeant's habit. 1693 RYMER *Short View Trag.* I. 6 Some go to see, others to hear a Play. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 704 Whose Mind, unmov'd, the Bribes of Courts can see, Their glitt'ring Baits, and Purple Slavery. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., [We] set out..to the Tower, and saw all the sights. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 148 By their faces,..they durst see an enemy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* II, My father took me to see a show at Brookgreen Fair. 1876 *Athletic World* 17 May 79/1 The finish was one worth going miles to see. 1881 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 236 We have trotted about, been into Canada, and seen the sights.

b. With sb. or pron. as obj. and complementary pple. or inf. Cf. 1 g.

1903 F. M. CRAWFORD *Uncanny Tales* (1911) 146 (*Man Overboard!*) So I wrote to Jack that I would come down and see him married.

† c. *absol.* To look. *Obs.* (Cf. 17–25.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2169 It semet wel þat ze spies ben, And in-to ðis lond cumen to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 4417 Gropes & sees oueralle, and knaw þat it be. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 781 Toward the credyl as he saythe, The good grew-hond lay and sygze. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xiii, He..sawe and serched al aboute here and there.

d. *trans.* To look at, read (a book, document, etc.). *Seen and allowed, seen and approved*, etc.: a formula used in certifying the official inspection of a document.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26593 þe quilk [circumstances] grathli þe sal be kend, If þou þis bok will se till end. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* II. 70 Thanne..lyer..preide cyuile to se and symonye to rede it. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 711 And what þat he this pitous lettre say ful ofte he seyde Allas and weylaway. 1426 LYDG. *On Eng. Title to Crown of France* Prol. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 133 Tho that shalle hit sene or rede. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (1905) 206 After sche had say the charters. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 152 For I haue seen bokes of accompte of householde..& I doubte not, but [etc.]. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Spoyle of Antw.* title-p., Novem. 1576. Seene and allowed. Printed at London by Richard Jones. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Ded., Least anie man should challenge these my papers as goods vncustomd..to the seale of your excellent censure loe here I present them to bee seene and allowed. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 89 We charge and command 2ou, thir present letters being sene, ze cause lawfully summone *A.* to compeir before vs. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 258 [At end of an account.] Seene and allowed by mee, Ric. Shuttleworthe. 1662 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 85 The defender's advocat shall return the proces, and shall write on the back the day of the return, (*seen and returned*), and sett his name thereto. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 215 No man would advance money upon an estate without seeing the title deeds.

e. The imperative *see* is used in books to a passage in the same or some other work in which information will be found. Cf. mod.L. *vide*, F. *voyez, voir*, G. *siehe*.

1608 PLAT *Garden of Eden* (ed. Bellingham 1653) 50 See more of this in Numb. 30. *Ibid.* 88 See before, Numb. 67. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Period, in Chronology, signifies a Revolution of a certain Number of Years; as the *Metonick Period*, the *Julian Period*, and the *Calippick Period*; which see in their proper places. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 21 See *St. Dionysius, L. de Eccles.* 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Rim*, or *Brim*, a name given to the circular edge of any of the *tops*. See that article. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, See twenty-third of Queen Elizabeth, and third James First, chapter twenty-fifth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 339 *note*, The population of Derby was 4000 in 1712. See Wolley's MS. History, quoted in Lyson's Magna Britannia. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Persians* 741 *note*, ὅστις, *quippe qui*. See on Prom. 38. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 812 For pregnant instance let us contemplate The luck of Leonardus,—see at large Of Sicily's Decisions sixty-first.

f. The imperative is often employed exclamatorily, either with obj. a sb. or a clause introduced by *what* or *how*, or *absol.* as quasi-*int.* = Behold!

In OE. accompanied by the dative *þe*, a use which, though unrecorded in ME. or mod. Eng. literature, survives in dialects: see *sithee* in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* The corresponding plural *see you!* also occurs in dialects, but is apt to be confused with the interrogative *see you?* do you see?

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxii. 18 Sehðe [*ecce*] eȝan dryhtnes ofer ða ondredendan hine ȝehyhtende soðlice in mildheortnisse his. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 25 Sihþe ic sæcge eow [*ecce prædixi vobis*]. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* l[i.] 6 Se! for ich am conceiued in wickednesses. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* lxxix. 61 Se! yonder gois a fayr yong man! *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 (Harl. MS.) Seith nowe, goode men; þis emperour I call owre lord ihesu Criste. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliv. 28 Se quhat wirschep wemen suld haif than. 1522 *World & Child* 79 Lo my toppe I dryue in same, Se it torneth rounde. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 684 (Brandl), Se, se, woulde you iudge him a foole So sadly as he readeth on his booke! 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. xiv. 88 See how these Trees begin to button. *c* 1690 LD. HALIFAX *Epist. to Earl Dorset* 89 See, see! Upon the Banks of Boyne he stands. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 327 See the sole bliss Heav'n could on all bestow! 1739 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Hail the Day*' v, See! He lifts his Hands above! See! He shews the Prints of Love! *a* 1744 POPE (J.), See what it is to have a poet in your house. 1755 JOHNSON, *See*, interjection. Lo; look; observe; behold. 1807 WORDSW. *Mother's Return* xii, But see, the evening star comes forth! 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, See there!—that was the gait my auld Joe used to cross the country. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xii, 'See you, sir!' said he, 'I have changed my garb from that of a farrier to a serving-man.' 1872 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lv. 12 See! what bowery roses; here he hides him.

6. With indirect question as obj.: To ascertain by inspection, inquiry, experiment, or consideration.

In modern use, a promise 'to see what one can do', or 'to see if one can do (so and so)' commonly implies a promise to use one's best endeavours to secure the desired result.

1373 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 126 A quhill in Carrik lendit he, To se quha frend or fa vald be. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 210 Hon mychael and poule þay went in fere To se what payns in hel were þer. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 410 As tymber, hewe hit with an axe and sene If hit be not in thegge. 1561 *Maitland Club Misc.* III. 277 The superintendent beand in ye sayd kyrk..seand gyf ye kyrk wes repared conform to ye act of his visitacion. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. v. 51 Breake it, foole, with thy hand, and see and thou canst fynde it. 1580 ALLEN *Martyrd. Campion* (1908) 87 This Havard..went furth into the citie with another in his company to see if he could meet with M. Cottam. 1623 TAPP *Pathm. Knowl.* 8 And when you haue all added them, see what remaines besides the nynes, and drawing a short line [etc.]. 1676 T. MACE *Musick's Monum.* 59 [In making a lute] First bring your Back and Belly together, and see if they will fit. 1743 POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. II. iii. 105 The people had come rudely to the boat when I was absent, and had said that they would see whether this stranger would dare come out another day. 1766 EARL MARCH in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 62, I am just going to ride out to see if air and exercise will get me a stomach. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iv, Follow yonder fellow, and see where he takes earth. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. J. Dounce*, 'Can you open me half-a-dozen more [oysters], my dear?' inquired Mr. John Dounce. 'I'll see what I can do for you, Sir', replied the young lady in blue. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm. Ser.* IV. iv. (1876) 46 He will look at the fact in every way to see if he cannot get it into a position where it shall be seen no longer. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & B.* ii, Cut away, old chap, and see who it is.

b. *absol.* or with ellipsis of indirect question.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14310 'And quar haf yee his bode laid?' 'Sir', said mari, 'cum forth and se'. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 773 As for this gentleman my sonne, I mind he shal be where I am till I see further. 1581 EARL MORTON in *Cal. Scott. Papers* VI. 14, I was purposed to have banished my self againe and turned my backe upon Scotland while I had sene further. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xx, Ah, something terrible has happened! I must run and see! 1861 *Two Cosmos* I. 283 'But what ails you to tell him I am here now?'..She shut the door, looked inquiringly at him, and left him standing, with 'I'll see'.

c. To make sure by inspection (before taking action) *that* certain conditions exist. Cf. sense 8.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 78 He þat giffis it [the benefice] suld se þat he þatt he gaff it to war able for to take it. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 57 Se that they be soft on the fore-croppe, and upon the hucbone. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, He looked sharply around to see that there was nothing in sight which might give the lie to his words.

7. † a. To keep in view; to watch over; chiefly in favourable sense, to protect, take care of, tend.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1663 Laban bi-tazte him, siðen to sen, His hirdenesse ðat ic wel ben. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16488 'Ha we noght þar-of to do', coth þai, 'þou sal þi-self it se'. *c* 1307 *Song Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 216 Sire Edward of Carnarvan, Jhesu him save ant see! *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 85 Quod Pandarus ma dame god yow see. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4824 And to Seyn Iohan I leve also, That he may han perseueraunce To sen me in my gret suffraunce. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 77 Luke þat þi semes be suttilly seyn. *Ibid.* xvii. 33 Sirs! god yowe saffe ande see. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 127 Mahowne the saue and se, sir syryne! *a* 1535 *Frere & Boy* 64 in Ritson *Anc. Pop. Poetry* 37 Sone, he sayde, god the se. 1563 *Child-Marriages* 132 This deponent..went home againe to se his busines. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 230 If he be an inferior, he may be his owne Bayly, and see the managing and manuring of his owne reuenewes, and not to leaue it to the discretion and diligence of lither swaines.

b. With adv. or phrase: To escort (a person) *home, to the door*, etc. *To see* (a person) *off*: to be present at (his) starting for a journey. Also, *to see* (a book) *through the press.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 137 Go see him out at Gates,..Giue him deseru'd vexation. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xix, *Læt.* Oh! Won't you follow, and see him out of Doors, my Dear? *Fond.* I'll shut this door, to secure him from coming back. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* I For your singular Favour, in seeing me Aboard-ship. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* I. II. v. 104 When he had seen her safe into her chair, he went home. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. ii, But, hark ye, Ferdinand, did you leave your key with them? *Don Ferd.* Yes; the maid who saw me out, took it from the door. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* II. iv. (1820) 119 Escorted by a multitude of relatives and friends, who all went down, as the common phrase expresses it, 'to see them off'. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* xlii, 'Where have you been to, Lady Florence?' he said. '"To see my brother off", she answered. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 50 Do not trouble to bring back the boat; I'll see Miss Ina home. 1886 MISS L. TOULMIN SMITH *Bk. Brome* Pref. 1, I willingly undertook, at her request, to see it through the press. 1888 FLOR. WARDEN *Witch of Hills* II. xviii. 104 We saw the ladies into the brougham. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD in *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 125, I opened the door to see out some friends.

8. To ensure by supervision or vigilance that something shall be done or not done. a. with clause as obj. Often with reference to action on the part of the subject: To take care, see to it (cf. 25 c) *that* one does so and so. (In this use rarely † with dative of pron. used *refl.*)

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 452, & se he holde foreward. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 41 And se hem religious, þat þei feyn not falsly pouert..And see þei þat þei oblesche no man to the maner of pouert, but þat God haþ callid þer to. *c* 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* xxxiv. 187 See that thou can lyne Of Lytill mette and Drynke. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xvii. 253 Se 3e that in 3oure vndirnymyng 3e bere 3ou discreetli. 1468 [see MAN *sb.*1 4 f]. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. viii. (1893) 202 Se, therfore,..that no strong fantasies of any mater trouble the. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 67 See ye haue Voyders ready for to anoyd the Morsels that they doe leaue on their Trenchours. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 52 And sie the burgessis spair not for expence, Bot speid thame heir, with Temporalitie. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 1 b, It is the propre office of a Byshop to see that the people be rightly instructed. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. i. 77 Now, Hodge, see thou take heede And do as I thee byd. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyropædia* 197 See then quoth he, you order the matter so, and provide against that time. 1639 W. C. *Italian Convert* XXX. 222 Shee was never from about him, and saw that hee wanted nothing which the world could yeeld for the recovery of his health. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T., Mark* iv. 23 Let him that hath ears and understanding see that he hear God's word regardfully. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 214 Only when your worthy Parents have perused them, see that I have every Line of them again. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxi. 341 Mrs. Lavender would see that she was properly looked after. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 May 4/7 It behoves us to see that we are not outstripped by our rivals abroad. 1886 PEARSON in *Law Rep.* 32 Chanc. Div. 48 The landlord..is interested in seeing that the liquidators discharge their duty properly.

b. with obj. a sb. or pronoun, and pa. pple. or adj. (rarely infinitive) as complement.

1558 Q. MARY *Will* in J. M. Stone *Mary I* (1901) 525 That they to the vttermost of ther powers and wyttes, shall see this my present Testament & last will perform'd and executed. 1583 SIR C. HATTON in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 268 W^ch I thought good to advertise you of, that in the meane whyle you myght see every thinge well ordered. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretary* I. (1625) 66 And if my opinion may at all prevaile with you should quickly call him home from hence, and see him more better to be provided for.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. vi. 47 Go see this Rumorer whipt. 1672 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 517, I think seeing an Ambassador's debts paid when he comes away belongs to your province. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* IX. 29 O Tity'rus, tend my Herd, and see them fed. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Major of a Regiment*..is to convey all Orders to the Regiment..to see it march in good order [etc.]. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* XXXVIII, I will see her avenged on every one of them! 1899 in *Law Times* XCII. 92/2 We undertake to see you paid the said sum of £526.

c. Coupled by *and* with another verb: To be careful to (do something). *colloq.*

a 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 69 David ..told me he'd see and get me another every jot as pretty. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 257 If you get your letters ready early in the day, I will see and get them franked.

9. To view or regard as, to judge, deem. With complementary adj., *good, fit, proper*, or the like, the object being an infinitive phrase (less frequently a clause), which is sometimes suppressed by ellipsis or represented by *it*.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 b, Þat..suuche enquestene..be after Þat te Iustises soez best to doinde to Þe wille of Þe reaume. *Ibid.* 31 b, To ben .. ipubliste, in schirene, in Citees..ant in opere sollempne studes, Þare Þe seost best forte spede. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 393 (Royal MS.) Þo froytes of Þo erthe make plenteuus, als Þou sees best. 1558 *Will* in *Berks, Bucks, & Oxon N. & Q.* (1905) II. 48 Wt suche armes in money as myne executours shall thinke and see requysite in charitie to be gyven to the poore. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 150 The father by his authoritie ought to distribute his fauoures as he seeth good, to one more, to another lesse. 1663 Butler *Hudibras* I. iii. 275 Others may doe as they see good. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, To abide the dispensation that the Lord sees meet to send us. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxxiv, The Duke for once saw it necessary to alter his purpose of instant battle. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. i, The only thing one sees advisable is to bring up soldiers. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* i. § 24 Supposing the master of a manufactory saw it right..to place his own son in the position of an ordinary workman.

†b. Passive, *to be seen*: (*a*) to seem, appear [= L. *videri*]; (*b*) *ellipt.* to seem good, approve itself. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xix. 14 And he was seen to hem as pleiynge to speke. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xiii. 55 With discrecion do he hit noght ouer latly ne ouer hastly, Þat he be noght sen hastyf ne slowe. 1466 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne) 356 To mak a myine within my said grunde..giff it be sene spedfull till ws. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 Rychswa the myl to be fychit gif it be sein to ws profitabile fra the place it standis up til ane place of mair eysmentis and profitis. *Ibid.* 182 Anens the pairtyn of the town it is seyn to the Abbot and the Conuent for al pairtis that the town stand vnpairtyt as it standis and allegis tham of that condicion. 1484 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 603 To prolong and continew takkis of tham for the space of fyve yeris or within as salbe sene speidfull to thaim. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xvii. 1–8 These thynges wer seene to the Apostles as to men newely waked from sl. pe. 1549 *Bk. Comm. Prayer, Visit. Sick* Prayer, Consider his contricion, accept his teares, aswage his payne as shalbe seen to thee moste expediente for hym. 1574 M. Stokes in G. Peacock *Observ. Stat. Cambr.* (1841) App. A. p. xxxvi, When the Father hathe arguyde att hys Plesure the Bachelars of Arte shall replye, as many as shall be seene to the Father.

10. To know by observation (ocular and other), to witness; to meet with in the course of one's experience; to have personal knowledge of, to be a contemporary of and present at the scene of (an event); to be living at (a certain period of time). Phrases, *To see life, the world*: see the sbs.

Sometimes with mixture of sense 11, as in *to have seen better days*, to have been formerly better off than now; *to have seen one's day, one's best days*, to be no longer in one's prime.

Beowulf 2014 Ne seah ic..meduoream maran! *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 And teh folc to him to heren his wise word, and to sende his wunderliche liflode. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1611 Vol vewe kinges me sucþ Þat it wolde do. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVI. 179 In-till all the weir of Irland So hard ane fechting wes nocht seyne. 1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* I. 1133 He schal Þe tyme se Þat he par-avnter schal mow þanked be. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 213, I haue longe desyryd to se y^e^ day that I nowe do se. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iv. 2, I may well cursse and ban This daie, that euer I saw it. *c* 1590 *Sir T. More* IV. v. 86 But we.. Hauing seene better dayes, now know the lack Of glorie that once rearde eche high-fed back. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 380 O had they in that darkesome prison died, Then had they seene the period of their ill. 1679 Dryden *Limberham* Prol. 1 True Wit has seen its best days long ago. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 35 One who had never seen the world. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, He declaim'd against the vanities of the world before he had seene any. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Feb., I never saw such a continuance of rainy weather. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* XXXIX, They had seen nothing, for they had lived from early youth in that narrow spot. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 372, I, being elevated with liquor, could not pass by a night-house, always being fond of seeing life, as the term is. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* XXXVII, The wisest men whom the world has seen. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, I never saw his equal for pluck and daring. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par., Lovers of Gudrun* 40 Kiartan now had seen His eighteenth spring. 1876 Flor. Marryat *Her Father's Name* XXV, The truth is, the old housekeeper had seen her day, and was thankful for the prospect of any help in her duties. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. viii. 21 And this I say Who have seen much that mighty love can do.

b. With clause, obj. and inf., or obj. and complement: To observe, find. Also (chiefly in the future tense), to find, come to know in the course of events.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 3 For now upon this tyde Men se the world on every syde In sondry wyse so diversed, That [etc.]. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 3227 in *Macro Plays* 173 Þer schal we sone se what Þat his Iugement schal be. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* iv. 45, I see that makaris amang the laif Playis heir ther pegeant, syne gois to graif. ?1533 Heywood *Pard. & Frere* 611 Thou shall se What I shall do by and by. 1536 Cranmer in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 27, I had dayly prayed unto God that I might se the power of Rome destroyed, and that I thanked God that I had now sene it in this Realme. 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* (1563) 6 b, We see heate in other thynges to bee seperated from the subiecte. Whereupon we Iudge that the heate is an other thyng then the very substaunce of Fire. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 2 He gaue foorth, that hee had not seene any profit to come by any Synode. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 397 Have we not seen, round Britain's peopled shore, Her useful sons exchanged for useless ore? 1821 Scott *Pirate* xxvi, We shall soon see how the old spell-mutterer will receive us. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v. III. 6 At length he came to a resolution..to 'wait and see 'what would turn up for the best. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* III. 244 There is nothing upon earth More miserable than she that has a son And sees him err. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 244 The astonished church authorities saw bill after bill hurried up before the Lords.

absol. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 102 As men seis, naturaly ilke wilde beste and tame defend the self. 1823 Coleridge *Table-t.* 28 Apr., 'The Spaniards are absolutely conquered; it is absurd to talk of their chance of resisting'.—'Very well, my lord', I said, 'we shall see'. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxi, You will see some day. Now, I will tell you but one word.

c. In *passive*. Formerly often impersonal, *It is seen*, it is observed, experience shows *that*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 15 But ofte is sen that mochel slowthe, Whan men ben drunken of the cuppe, Doth mochel harm. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* ii. 32 (MS. Digby 182) The other hertes..renne vponn hym and sle hym. And Þat is see and sothe. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. August.* iii. 6 And as often is sene Þei make sumtyme debate betwyx wif and husband. 1545 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 86 Whiche..was never vsid nor senne in his tyme to be one. 1576 Gascoigne *Compl. Philom.* ad fin., The sonnes of such rash sinning sires, Are seldome sene to runne a ruly race. 1580 Frampton *Dial. Yron & Steele* 168 For it is seene that a cuppe of colde water beeing dronke, that commeth foorth of a well..hurteth. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* I. 13 There grew such emulation among Farmers, that one would outbid another, (which in the beginning was little seene). 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 38 So is it seldome or never seene that the workes of one man should fit our humour in all things.

d. Willingness (or unwillingness) *to see* an event is often predicated as equivalent to willingness (or unwillingness) that the event should occur. Hence the vb. sometimes assumes the sense: To allow (something to happen).

So in colloquial expressions of emphatic refusal: *I'll see him hanged* (*damned, further*, etc.) *first*.

c 1400 *Cato's Morals* 92 in *Cursor M.* 1670 Qua-sim-euer Þou be Þat wille Þi-self safe se..loke..Þou kepe Þi corage fra ille tecchis rife. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 146 Be thou nought wroth, For to seen thee have harm it were me right loth. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxvii, But I nolde, for no lordeshippe, se Þi life lorne. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 228 Reynawde is my cosin, & I oughte not to see his dethe nor his dommage. 1554 in Warden *Burgh Laws Dundee*, etc. (1872) 333 Ze salbe ane obedient and trew servand to zour maister. And sall nether heir nor sie his skaith. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 301 Vpon sonday is the wedding day. *Kate.* Ile see thee hang'd on sonday first. 1631 Heywood *and Pt. Fair Maid West* I. B 2 b, Ile see you damn'd as deep as the black father of your generation the devill first. 1709 Felton *Diss. Classics* (1718) 50, I am ambitious, my Lord, to see You Master of a fine Pen. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* IV. s.v. *Amata*, She hanged herself that she might not see Æneas her son in law. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 459 To Ansaldo Grimaldo, who with regret sees himself alone. 1779 *Mirror* No. 44 P 1 The old man hoped..to join their hands, and see them happy before he died. 1797 [see First *adv.* 26]. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xvi, It is with no small confidence that I desire to see us set forth in quest of my beloved Countess. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 598 He would see Bristol burned down, he said,..rather than that it should be occupied by traitors. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xviii, You ought to be willing to see me do anything honest, that will secure my dependent brother and sister from want.

e. *transf.* Of things, places, etc.: To be contemporary with and in the neighbourhood of, to be the scene of (an event); to be in existence during (a period of time). Also of a period of time: To be marked by (an event).

1739 C. Wesley *Hymn*, Hail the Day that sees Him rise, Ravish'd from our wishful Eyes. 1839 Digby *Mores Cath.* IX. i. (1847) III. 13/1 These are the funeral and Tartarean years of which St. Augustin speaks, like that when Rome saw five consuls. 1849–50 Alison *Hist. Europe* VIII. I § 62. 187 Eighteen rivers have seen their navigation improved. 1895 Workman *Alger. Mem.* 77 A bright cold morning saw us in the saddle at 6.15. 1907 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* IV. 408 In 1906 Cambridge saw three or four of her most learned men compete for the Greek chair.

11. To experience in one's own person; to undergo, enjoy, or suffer. Now *rare*. (For *to have seen service*, see Service *sb.*)

The use is app. native, but coincides with a Biblical Hebraism: see, e.g. Luke ii. 26 (in all Eng. versions).

Beowulf 1180 Þonne ðu forð scyle metodsceaft seon! *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1612 Dær sceolan beofas..ond mansworan morþorlean seon. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6236 We fiteþ & beþ ouercome & no maistrie we ne seþ. *a* 1320 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiv. 96 Crist leve us alle with that wymman that joie al forte sene. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 650 Heo ferde in to bure To sen auenture. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 61 He schavede nevere his heed, noþer his berde, ..he wolde have no worschepe, er he seigh wreche of Hanybal. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xviii. 141 They ansuerd hym that they cam from kynge Arthurs courte for to see auentures. *c* 1530 G. Cromwell in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 339 His Lorchyp..mad us good schere; and lett us see schuch game and plesure as I never saye in my lyfe. 1611 Bible *Tobit* iv. 4 Remember, my sonne, that shee saw many dangers for thee. 1738 Wesley *Psalms* XCIII. ii, How sure establish'd is thy Throne; Which shall no Change or Period see. 1799 Wordsw. *Fountain* 42 They see A happy youth, and their old age Is beautiful and free. 1894 Sir J. Astley *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 7, He [a horse] was a very clever hunter and I saw a lot of sport on him.

12. To be in the company of, to meet and converse with (a person). *To go* or *come to* (or *and*) *see*: to visit, call upon. *To see much* or *little of* (a person): to be often or seldom in his society.

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 1356 'Childre', he sede, 'hu habbe 3e fare? Þat ihc 3ou se3 hit is ful 3are.' *c* 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 232 Y go and come to 3ow a3en, Forsoþe eftsones y wyl 3ow sen. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XI. iii. 575 Thenne she said my lord sir launcelot I biseche yow see me as soone as ye may. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 111 He made muche suite to come into Englande, to see and speake with the kyng. 1609 Carleton in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 95 You will hear of Sir Thomas Smith by your servant, who went the last night to see him. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 280 There came along with them the President's Lady, whom he had not seen in seven years before. 1670 Lady Mary Wortley in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21, I have been twice to see my lady Northampton but could not find her at hom. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 18 Sept., When you see Joe, tell him [etc.]. 1762 G. Colman *Musical Lady* I. 6 Come! I have been in search of you this hour—and thought I should have been obliged to go back again without seeing you. 1800 Geo. IV in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 181 In short, the more I see of her and the more I probe her Heart the more perfect I see her. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xl, Mrs. Bute and Lady Southdown never could meet without battles, and gradually ceased seeing each other. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 531 He saw little of any Whigs. 1872 Dasent *Three to One* III. 241 Have either of you seen anything of Mr. Fortescue in town? 1882 Mozley *Remin.* (ed. 2) I. 57, I was seeing very little of Blanco White.

b. To obtain an interview with, call upon, or meet in order to consult or confer with, give directions to or receive directions from. In U. S. *colloq.* 'To interview or consult in order to influence, esp. improperly, as in order to bribe' (Webster 1911).

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. x, She therefore went..to enquire among the servants if Mrs. Hill was yet come? Yes, they answered, and had seen their master, and was gone. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliv, She promised to see her man of business immediately. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 11, I want him to come and see a physician about the illness of which he spoke to me. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* xv. I. 213 The class of professional 'lobbyists', men, and women too, who make it their business to 'see' members and procure..the passing of bills..which involve gain to their promoters. *Ibid.* c. III. 411 The president of a great railroad..must have adroit agents at the State capitals..ready to 'see' leading legislators [etc.]. 1892 'J. S. Winter' *Lumley* xiii, I have to see a lady in Queen's Gate about a sitting. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xii. 140 Kindly send a waiter to find my servant. I must see him directly.

c. To receive as a visitor; to admit to an interview. Phrases, *to see company*; †*to see masks* = to hold a masquerade.

c 1500 *Melusine* xxxvii. (1894) 298 For he knew wel that Raymondyn his brother wold neuer loue hym nor see hym. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Nov., I..went..to see Mr. Harley, who could not see me for much company; but sent me his excuse, and desired I would dine with him on Friday. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 429 P 8 Lady Lydia cannot see Company. 1744 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Montagu* (1893) II. 125 The vice-legate has a court of priests, and sees little other company. 1762 Colman *Jealous Wife* I. (1775) 13 Assert your Right boldly, Man!..see what Company you like; go out when you please; return when you please. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* II. 29 *Serjeant.* How often have I told you, that I will see none of these sort of folks but at chambers? 1779 *Mirror* No. 25 She replied, that Mrs. Dimmity, my Lady ——'s gentlewoman, told her all the maids at —— had tea, and saw company of an afternoon. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. vii, When Mr. Harrel saw masks in Portman-square, my curiosity to behold a lady so adored, and so cruel, led me thither. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester* (1806) I. 2 My master is just going to dinner, and can't see anybody now. 1804 Bp. Pretyman in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) II. 94 Mr. Pitt saw Lord Harrowby..for an hour and a half. 1883 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 5/3 Lord Derby will not be able to see the Transvaal delegates..during the present week. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 751/1 It was easy [for prisoners] to get drink and tobacco, and see friends from outside.

euphemistically. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVI. ii, He felt the same compunction with a bawd, when some poor innocent..falls into fits at the first proposal of what is called seeing company.

†d. absol. *To see* (*together*): to meet one another, have an interview. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 200 After this day, the kyng and she neuer saw together. 1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. ii, Wees see at the sport. 1621 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. i. 124 When shall we see againe? 1623 — *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 2 How haue ye done Since last we saw in France?

13. *Gaming.* To meet (a bet), or meet the bet of (another player), by staking an equal sum. Now chiefly in *Poker* (see also quot. 1885). †b. In *Brag*: see quot. 1804.

1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dial.* iii. 26 *M.* Giue me fower cards, Ile see as much as he sets. *L.* See heere my rest, lot euery

one be in. *M.* I am come to passe again... *O.* I set my rest. *M.* Ile see it. 1804 *New Pocket Hoyle, Brag*, Or if either party lay down a stake, saying *Let me see you*, or *I'll see it*, in which case both the hands are to be shown, and the strongest wins. 1885 H. JONES in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 283/1 [Poker.] The next in rotation to say must either (1) go out of the game; or (2) see the raise, i e., put up an equal amount; or (3) go better, i.e., increase the raise. *Ibid.*, The last to stake, who makes his raise equal to that of each of the others, *sees* them, i.e. the player to the left has to show his hand... The next..then similarly shows his hand..; and so on all round; the holder of the best hand takes the pool.

transf. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Feb. 183/2 A rather discreditable attempt to 'see' other Pretenders and 'go one better' in patriotism. 1890 *Spectator* 20 Sept., He 'saw' the enemy's veteran, in fact, and went 599 better.

14. *Mil.* To command or dominate (a position). Said of a fortification, artillery, etc. [So F. *voir.*]

1829 NAPIER *Penins. War* v. ii. (Rtldg.) I. 234 The guns.. saw it [a convent] in reverse. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 43 In proportion as the height of the parapet is increased the danger of being seen by enfilade, slant, or reverse fire, diminishes. *Ibid.* 142 An interior intrenchment should therefore be formed; it will generally be the church and cemetery, or the strongest house in the village, if..placed so as to see the principal streets.

15. Let see. **a.** *To let* (a person) *see*: to show, bring to the sight or knowledge of. With sb. or clause as obj. Formerly often with ellipsis of personal obj. † *to let see.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 501 Houndes on hyde he dištes, Alle he lete hem se. *Ibid.* 554 Who better can, lat se. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 18, & Ethelbert in the felde his fader lete he se, How Dardan for his lance doun to the erth went, & smote his hede of, his fader to present. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 9 'Latese þi lettres' quod I 'we mişte þe lawe knowe'. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2865 Lete se now, what ȝe say? 14.. W. PARIS *Cristine* 152 (Horstm.) Sire, make theme hole! late se, cane ye? *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 58 How many foolde Hast þou brouȝt richesse? now late se. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 357 'Now let se', quod Merlin, 'what ye will do, for now is ther oon lesse'. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst., Mary Magd.* 1738 Lett se whatt I xall have, Or elles I woll nat wend. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xviii. 23, I will geue ye two thousande horses, let se yf thou be able to man them. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* Prol. I. 10 To lat sie quhan danger is, thay kendle bleises in tour heidis. 1601 Q. ELIZ. *Let. to Mountjoy* 12 Jan. in *Moryson's Itin.* (1617) II. 197 Wee could not forbeare to let you see, how sensible we are of this your merit. 1725 P. WALKER *Life Peden* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 79 The Lord has letten me see the Frenches marching..thorow..the Land. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II. (1781) 25 Gentlemen, here is a Jewel. *All.* Ay, ay, let's see.

† **b.** The imperative *let see* was sometimes used with indirect question (= 'let us see *if*'); also *absol.* prefixed to a request (= 'come', 'go to'); also to a question asked in soliloquy. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 442 'Uncle', he said, 'I will no langar bide; Thir Southland hors latt se gif I can ride'. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xi. 49 Quhat sall I do, lat se; quhar sall I now? [L. *nam quid ago*]. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxvii. [cxxiii.] 359 That is trouthe, quod the duke, let se, name a wyfe for him. *Ibid.* clxvii. [clxiii.] 464 Well, syrs, quod the bretons, lette se laye forthe the money.

c. *Let me see, let us see*: indicating that the speaker is trying to recall something to memory, or finds it necessary to reflect before answering a question.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 595 Abyde—lette me se—take better hede—Cockes harte! it is Cloked Colusyon! 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Merry Play Johan* (1909) A ij, But abyde a whyle, yet let me se Where the dyuell hath our gyssypry begon. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 168 It is now two a Clock: but let me see, by ten Wee shall haue each a hundred English men. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 42 Let me see, hath any bodie in Yarmouth heard of Leander and Hero? 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. vi, A Prayer-Book? Ay, this is the Devil's *Pater-noster*. Hold let me see; The Innocent Adultery. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 101 Let me see, then, can I give you the brief History of this Comedy? 1762 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 282 Where do we open?..Let us see—one o'clock—it is a fine day: the Mall will be crouded.

16. Special uses of the gerundial infinitive. **a.** Formerly often appended, with the sense 'in visible aspect', to various predicates, esp. adjs. descriptive of appearance, as *fair, foul, terrible*, etc. Three varieties of this use have been current: † (*a*) (*Fair*, etc.) *on to see.* (The only form recorded from OE. times: cf. 21). (*b*) (*Fair*, etc.) *to see.* (The surviving use, now only *poet.*; common from the 14th c.) † (*c*) (*Fair*, etc.) *to see to* (rarely *unto*). (Occurs from the 16th to the 18th c.)

(*a*) *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. iii, Ða syndon swyþe fæzere.. on to seonne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire handclooes, and hire bord cloões [ben] makede wite, and lustliche on to siene. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2659 So faiȝer he was on to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7446 Gret he [Goliath] was wit-all, and hei, And semed sathan on to sei. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1177 That swete wyght That is so semely on to see. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. xiv. (1494) d viij b, Vpon the mounteyne callyd auentyne..There is a wode..Right freshe of sight and goodly on to se. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvii. 36 Moir semely na is the supheir one to seyne.

(*b*) *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv. 71 Jhesu, al þat is fayr to se..me Graunte for the love of the. 1340 *Ayenb.* 150 Þe þridde him makeþ brigte to syenne and sol of wytte. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1700 A geant ys maked briggeward þat symeþ þe fend to see. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 39 With many a Baron & Knigtis ful boold, That roialle were and semly to sene. 1437 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 179 And wee to martis of Braban charged bene Wyth Englysshe clothe, fulle gode and feyre to seyne. *c* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 157 It was a noble sight to sene. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 88 The Lyone..most fair to sene. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* ii, The soyle that earst so seemely was to seen. 1607 R. CAREW tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 236 More gay to seene Then some Atturney's clarke, or George a Greene. 1833 TENNYSON *Sisters* i, O the Earl was fair to see!

(*c*) 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 296 A cypres tree goodly to see to, but in deede unfruitefull. 1552 *Elyot's Dict., Anagyris*, an herbe or shrub verie pleasant to see to. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 268 In one place lay disinherited heades, dispossessed of their naturall seignories: in an other, whole bodies to see to, but that their harts wont to be bound all ouer so close, were nowe with deadly violence opened. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xviii. I. 320 There is a kind of rusticall and wild Bee: and such are more rough and hideous to see to. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 86 Now was the State everie where in a most wofull and pitious plight to see unto. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 620 A certain Shepherd Lad Of small regard to see to, yet well skill'd In every vertuous plant. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 144 The ceremonies being indeed very goodly to see to. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XVIII. ix. § 4 He was a little man to see to.

b. As predicate (= the more usual 'to be seen'). † (*a*) Visible, evident. *Obs. rare.* (*b*) Remaining to be seen.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 271 For it is to se that the provour has begunnyn his clame ferr ynouche quhen [etc.]. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 39 Once woodden Challices there were, Then golden priests were euery where: Now golden chalices there be, And woodden priestes eache where to see. 1818 SHELLEY *Lett.* Pr. Wks. (1888) II. 231 But Rome and Naples—even Florence, are yet to see. 1846 BROWNING *Soul's Trag.* I Shame Fall presently on who deserves it most! Which is to see.

II. Phraseological combinations.

* *intransitive uses with prepositions.*

17. See about—. To attend to; to take steps with reference to; also, to take into consideration, see what can be done with regard to. *I'll see about it*: often used *colloq.* to evade giving an immediate decision.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., See about*, to attend to; to consider. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 48, J— and I then went to the railway station to see about our luggage. 1869 'WAT BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* XXXIV, Yes —I don't know—perhaps I'll go with you. We'll see about it.

18. See after—. To ascertain the condition of; to attend to the wants or safety of; also, to take means to obtain.

1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 28, I feared that..another accident had befallen him..., so I went to see after him. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* liv. (1783) II. 142, I shan't be able to answer it to my conscience if I don't see after it. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* II. iii, Pretty dove,.. be of good heart! sha'n't be meddled with; come to see after you. 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills* etc. II. 46 Here Tom, Tom, see after the luggage.

19. See for—. **a.** To look for, try to find. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also † *see out for* (obs.).

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 558 And mony saikles ȝit sall suffer deid, Without richt sone ȝe se for sum remeid. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 32 My Lieutenant went up the River in the Boat nine or ten miles to see for People that way. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 203, I..went to the West End..of the Island, almost every Day, to see for Canoes, but none appear'd. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* I. (1783) II. 120 Adding, that, against my next excursion she would see out amongst her young friends for a more suitable companion. 1778 Miss BURNEY *Evelina* lxxvi, [She] begged me to see for some books she had left in the parlour. 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 84 Montgomery..went down himself to see for a coach. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* I. viii. 55, I was just coming to see for you. 1812 J. GROOM in *Examiner* 31 Aug. 552/1 He searched the..lodging-houses..., to see for suspicious persons. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, Little Bob Suckling, who..would walk a mile in the rain to see for her carriage in the line at Gaunt House.

† **b.** To provide for, act for the benefit of. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 19 He began to cast in his mynde, by what meanes he myght bothe see for the good name, & also the lyfe of his wyfe.

20. See into—. To perceive (by physical or mental sight) what is below the surface of.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 42 Well hath your Highnesse seene into this Duke. 1615 SIR J. THROCKMORTON in *Court & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 382 Then we shall undoubtedly be able to see into the bottom of this and their other wicked practices. 1798 WORDSW. *Poems Imag.* XXVI. *Tintern Abb.* 49 While with an eye made quiet by the power Of harmony, ..We see into the life of things. 1824 Miss L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* I. 205 He could see no farther into the affair than before. 1863 KINGSLEY in *Lett.* etc. (1877) II. 279 We must send up one of our F. G. S.'s to see into the matter.

† **21. See on, upon—.** To look on, look at. (Cf. sense 5.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2863 Seah on unleofe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2664 So was hem lef on him to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12343 Bot fra þe leons on him sau Wel bal can þair lauerd knau. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 That syht upon that semly, to blis he is broht. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 389 Hit greueþ euere mannes chȝe, Inwardliche on hire [the sun] to se For hire grete clerte. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3597 Ye not wolde upon him see. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. viii. 62 At the first blenk astonyst half wolx he, And musyng hovirris styll on hir to se.

22. See over—. (See also sense 2 and OVER *prep.*). † To look over, peruse (a book) (*obs.*); to have a comprehensive view of. Now chiefly, to go over and inspect (a building).

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* 1 To my hande came a lytyl booke.. whiche bookes I sawe ouer and redde therin. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. Prol. 5 The clerk reiosis his buikis our to seyne. 1765 J. INGERSOLL *Lett. relat. Stamp-Act* (1766) 34 There must be some one Eye to see over, and some one Hand to guide and direct, the Whole of it's Defence and Protection. 1830 MOORE in *Mem.* (1854) VI. 108 Took Miss Macdonald to see over new Athenæum.

23. See round—. To have views beyond, to perceive the limitations of. *rare.*

1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 83 Milton, though he had come to see round Presbyterianism, had not, in 1644, shaken off all dogmatic profession.

24. See through—. **a.** *lit.* To see objects on the other side of (an aperture, or something transparent). Hence *fig.* to penetrate (a disguise, fallacious appearance), to detect (an imposture), to perceive the real character or aims of (a person).

1400 *Love God* 95 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 4 God seeth thurgh euery bore. *Ibid.* 103 God seeth thurgh eche mysse. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 187 b, His graces sight was so quicke and penetrable, that he saw him, ye and saw through him, both within and without. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, He is a mere peece of glasse, I see through him, by this time. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 160 There was not to be seene on her riche garments,..so thinne as that you might see throughe. 1623 COCKERAM II, To be Seene thorow. *Translucent, Transparent.* 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* II. ii. (1713) 198 Alexander the great..had the luck or the sagacity to see through and despise the empty pageantry and shew. 1719 H. BARHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 1036 When held against the Light, they [the silkworms] might be seen through as you may an Egg. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 93 The Board seeing thro' all this, enforced the Directions I had given. 1784 BURNS *Ep. to J. Rankine* ii, And then their failings, flaws, an' wants, Are a' seen thro'. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 394 He saw through their insufficiency. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Nov. 5/3 The object of the Commission was seen through at a glance.

† **b.** To have a clear notion of. *Obs.*

1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Pref., Wks. 1874 II. 7 Any one may.. know whether he understands and sees through what he is about.

c. *colloq.* To 'get through' (a meal).

1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 440, I need hardly say I had a bilious headache all the following day, as I was ravenously hungry, and saw through most of it [a meal of many dishes].

25. See to (or † unto)—. † **a.** To be solicitous about. *Obs.*

1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 51 Also afterward, men seende to þe deuoc.oun don in holy chirche,..askynd [*read* askyd] þe fraternite..to mayntene..þe forseyd ymage.

b. To attend to, do what is needful for; to provide for the wants of; to charge oneself with (a duty, a business).

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 754* (Dubl. MS.) Þan says he to hys seruand to see to þis capyll. 1406 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 13 Yef outgh come to Thomas Roos, than y pray Iohan Wodcok to se to my son, that he be nat lost. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. vi. 781 That they were layde within draughtes by her chamber vpon beddes and pylowes that she her self myght see to them that they wanted no thynge. 1529 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 8 Alas M^r. Secretary, ye with other my lordys shewyd me that I shuld otherwyse be furnyshyd, and seyn unto. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* XL. 4, I will se to the, and prouyde for the. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 283 If the matter were well and in season seene vnto, there was no doubte [etc.]. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 29 The Chiefe Vsher..seeth to all places of the Court, that all Doores, Chests, Records and things be in safety from fire, water, or other spoile. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Mr. Ledbury* vii, I leave everything to you, and thank you into the bargain for seeing to it. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 41 If a patient has to see, not only to his own but also to his nurse's punctuality. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 73 What is there to arrange with her? O yes! About her shootings—I will see to that.

c. To take special care about (a matter.) Chiefly, *to see to it*, to make sure *that* (something is done).

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 103 Also they ought to see well to that they be of one Acorde in good. 1481 — *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 27 Here is the theef the wulf, see wel to that he escape vs not. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 89 See to it that your train is of vassals whom you serve and feed, not merely of slaves who serve and feed *you*. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 43 What a student should specially see to..is not to carry the breath of books with him wherever he goes. 1891 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* (1896) 69 Lay me aboard the bastard's ship, And see to it lest your grapnels slip!

† **d.** To respect, look up to. *Obs. rare.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 222/2 The ministers of the word must marke why this office is given them,..it is not becauae a few should be sene vnto, and that they should speake, and others hold their peace.

† **e.** In physical sense: To look towards. *Obs.*

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiii. 80 The eye maketh (seeing now to the lower, and then again to the upper end of the Cross) greater motion in looking up and down.

** *transitive uses with adverbs.*

26. See away. To spend (money) in seeing. *nonce-use.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, Prol. 12 Those that come to see Onely a show or two..may see away their shilling Richly in two short houres.

27. To see out. † **a.** ? To let (a person) have his say, to see how far he will go.

1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 22 P 2 He [a fellow-traveller] affirmed roundly, that there had not been one good law passed since King William's accession to the throne, except the Act for preserving the game. I had a mind to see him out, and therefore did not care for contradicting him.

b. To survive.

1825 SCOTT *Diary* 7 Dec. in *Lockhart* VI. 151 My dear wife

..ts, I fear, frail in health—though I trust and pray she may see me out.

c. In a drinking contest, to outlast.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlviii, I have heard him say that he could see the Dundee people out any day, and walk home afterwards without staggering. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* vii, Pass the bottle !..we intend to see you all out.

d. To go through with to the end.

1794 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 453, I conceived my honor concerned in seeing the thing out. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xx. 333 The engagement had been entered into that he was to see his term out. 1880 F. W. ROBINSON *Grandm. Money* II. viii, [I] wish he'd stop another week [at Hastings] and see the five and twenty pounds out. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* v. 73 He evidently meant to see this thing out.

28. See through. To continue to watch or take part in (a matter) until the end (cf. 27 d); to take care that (a person) comes successfully through his difficulties.

1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills* etc. II. 60 O'Flaherty.. told him that he would see the bonfire through and the captain to bed, and take the consequences. *Ibid.* 68 We will see him through if he were to burn the college down.

III. 29. *Comb.* **See-everything**, one who sees everything. 1853 [see SAY *v.*[1] B. 14].

See, obs. form of SEA *sb* 1

Seeable (sī·ăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SEE *v.* + -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* Capable of being seen, visible. Also *fig.*

?*a* 1400 in *Hampole's Whs.* (1895) I. 165 Forwy, a saule þat is 3it ruyde & fleshle, knaws not 3itt bot bodele ynges [= þynges], & no yng comes 3itt to he mynde bot seabull ynges. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 162 Marie Magdalen..vsid the oynement as a seable and a smelleable rememoratijf signe. 1548 GESTE *Agst. Pr. Masse* B v b, These therfore be named sacramentes, for that in them one thyng is seable, and another vnderstande. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 49 That which cannot be seene, if it be seeable, is no where at all, nor in being. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) I. 13 In that case, we should have no idea of objects as seeable, as hearable, as touchable, or tasteable. 1874 TYNDALL *Presid. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 81 This, as a purely mechanical process, is seeable by the mind. 1896 DK. ARGYLL *Philos. Belief* 43 We cannot even think of it as seen or seeable.

†**B.** *sb.* (absolute use of the *adj.*) A thing capable of being seen. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1812 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 271 We shall make a march of it, seeing all the seeables on the way.

†**Seeableness**, visibility; †**See·ably** *adv.*, visibly. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1548 GESTE *Agst. Pr. Masse* H iv b, Manye dyd worshyp ..Christ as beyng seably conuersant emonge them. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 123 These qualities which we perceive, seeableness or colour, handleableness or shape, taste, smell, &c.

Seeal, Seeay, obs. forms of SEAL *sb.*[2], SAY *sb.*[1]

See-bright (sī·brəit), *sb.* [f. SEE *v.* + BRIGHT *a.* A rendering of *clear-eye*, a perversion of *clary.*]
= CLARY.

1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.* 201 See-bright, from its supposed effect on the eyes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Seebright, *Salvia Sclarea.*

Seecatch (sī·kæʧ). Pl. **seecatchie.** [? Aleutian Indian; the pl. is Russian in form.] The male of the Alaska fur-seal, *Callorhinus ursinus.*

1881 H. W. ELLIOTT *Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 42 The 'seecatchie' which have held the harems from the beginning to the end of the season, leave [etc.]. *Ibid.* 175 Gloss., *Seecatch*, pl. seecatchie (Russian), male fur-seal and sea-lion, full grown. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 71 (Three Sealers) What time the scarred see catchie lead their sleek seraglios.

Seece, Seeche, obs. forms of CEASE, SEEK.

Seech, dial. variant of SITCH (swamp).

Seed (sīd), *sb.* Forms: 1 sǽd, Anglian séd, 2–5 sed, (2–3 sad(e), 2–6 sede, 3, 6 side, 4 seod, *Kent.* zed, *Sc.* seiyde, 4–6 *Sc.* s.id(e, 4–7 seede, 5 seyde, ceed, ced, 6 siede, sead(e, 4 –seed. [OE. *sǽd* neut. = OFris. *sêd*, OS. *sâd* neut. (MLG. *sât*), MDu. *saet* neut. (Du. *zaad*), OHG., MHG. *sât* fem. (mod.G. *saat*), Goth. *-sêþ-s* (in *manasêþs* fem., mankind), ON. *sáð* neut., whence *sáðir* in the same sense (Sw. *säd* fem., Da. *sæd*) :–OTeut. **sǽði-*, *sæðo-*, f. root **sǽ-* to Sow.]

1. a. That which is or may be sown (often as cognate obj. to Sow *v.*); the ovules of a plant or plants (chiefly, when in the form of 'grains' or small roundish bodies) esp. as collected for the purpose of being sown. Also, in *Agriculture* and *Horticulture*, applied by extension to other parts of plants (e.g. tubers, bulbs) when preserved for the purpose of propagating a new crop. In *plural*, kinds of seed. Phr. *to run to seed* (see RUN *v.* 69 e); also † *to grow to seed* (obs.), *to be in seed.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxv. 6 Gongende eodon & weopun sendende sed [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark iv. 3 Ut eode se sædere his seed to sawenne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15905 Swa þatt itt mughe takenn wel Wiþþ sed to berenn wasstme. *c* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 93 in *O. E. Misc.* 108 And þe cheorl þeo in fayþ his sedes to sowen, his medes to mowen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5230 His suns all and þair flitting..In weynis war þai don to lede, þat ioseph wit ful of side. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vi. 34, I haue..Bope I-sowed his seed and suwed his beestes. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 328 But foul that lyuyth be sed sat on the grene. 1520 NISBET *N. T.* I. 10 Christ..schewe the parrabile of the seide. 1526 *Grete Herball* xlvii. (1529) C v b, Auena is an herbe, the sede of it is called otes. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 136 Oh fie, fie, 'tis an vnweeded Garden That growes to Seed. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* i. 29 Every herb bearing seed. 1675 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* 244 When it [the onion] is in seed, 'tis very subject to be overthrown by the wind. 1729 *Fog's Wkly. Jrnl.* 30 Aug. 2/2 To hinder the forestalling of Markets, by the Farmers selling Wheat..at home, or by buying Wheat for Seed. 1760 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 15 All seed degenerates, if long sown upon any land. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 4856 The only small seeds the farmer has to sow on a large scale, are the clovers, grasses, the different varieties of turnip, and probably the mangold wurzel and carrot. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 32 Those [potatoes] grown upon the warp land are generally disposed of for seed to the market gardeners and others. 1856 GLENNY *Gard. Everyday-bk.* 174/1 Cut down the old plants that have rambled and are past their prime, unless you are saving seed.

b. An individual grain of seed. In *Bot.*, technically restricted to the fertilized ovule of a phanerogam. Popularly applied also to the 'spore' of a cryptogam, and to certain 'fruits' (in the scientific sense of the word) which have the appearance of seeds, e.g. that of the strawberry.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark iv. 31 Hit is ealra sæda læst þe on eorðan synt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22875 Þat mighti godd þat all waldes, qua can sai me hu of a side He dos an hundret for to brede? 1340 *Ayenb.* 113 Þet zed o mostard is wel small. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 64/2 Ceede of corne, as kyrnel, *granum.* *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 31 Under the Cirkill solar thir sauoruss seidis War nurist be dame Natur. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 46 A beggerly account of emptie boxes, Greene earthen pots, Bladders, and mustie seedes. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 38 Little, thin, black Seeds, each one having a spiral head. 1797 WORDSW. *Poems Old Age* i. *Old Cumb. Beggar* 86 Like the dry remnant of a garden flower Whose seeds are shed. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 568 Seeds are to be collected when they are ripe, and before they drop from the plant. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* I. i. (1876) 11 Each seed possessing a life originating in the life of the plant, but capable of an independent survival.

c. *pl.* (*a*) Land sown with corn. (*b*) Clover and 'artificial' grasses raised from seed.

1794 R. LOWE *Agric. Notts* 9 Artificial grasses, (generally called here, simply seeds). 1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 118/1 Some seeds came in the line, and, with the ground in the state it was in just after frost, of course it was incumbent on all to..avoid crossing them as much as possible. 1910 *Daily News* 4 July 6/4 Yet it is those who have had 'seeds' to cut that have come off best this haysel.

d. *collect. sing.* and *pl.* Various kinds of grain suitable as the food of a cage-bird.

1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 175 When the bird quits the cage, We set the cage outside, With seed and with water, And the door wide.

e. *pl.* Particles of bran. Now *dial.* Cf. SID.

1598 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 179/2 Þe haill subiectis susteinis greit lose and skayth in paying alss deir for dust and seidis as gif þe samyn wes guid meill. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writings* (1883) II. 36 Your groat meal, and gray meal, sand dust and seeds. 1799 H. MITCHELL *Scotticisms* 73 'I have got a seed in my throat', is a phrase very common among the Scots. They mistake a piece of the husk for the seed. 1814 *Abstract, Proof, Mill of Inveramsay* 2 (Jam. s. v. *Dust*) Some of the dust and sheeling seeds..is left at the mill. 1815 *Pennecuik's Wks.* 87 These shells thus separated, and having the finer particles of the meal adhering to them, called mill seeds, are preserved for sowins...The seeds from the different makings of meal are preserved till the potatoes are exhausted.

2. *fig.* (often with reference to a metaphorical 'sowing', 'soil', or the like). The germ or latent beginning of some growth or development. Also, with allusion to the Parable of the Sower, applied to religious or other teaching, viewed with regard to its degree of fruitfulness.

sing. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxii. 37 Þeah bið sum corn sædes zehealden symle on þære saule soðfæstnesse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Þe sed þat he sew were soðe wordes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21226 In all þe stedes quar he yede, O goulds word he sceued þe sede. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1617 For venus sone daun Cupido Hath sowne there of loue the seed. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 137 The seid of luf was sawin in my face, And ay grew grene throw your supply and grace. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. i. 1 Yet then likewise the wicked seede of vice Began to spring. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 37 Beside..the seed of error within our selves..there is an invisible Agent. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* vi. § 18 The advantages which we experience from the seed of the gospel sown in good ground. 1840 JOLLY *Sunday Serv.* 309 The blood of the martyrs, in Tertullian's expression, proved the seed of the Church.

pl. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 58. 1608 — *Per.* IV. vi. 93. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 38 We have the seeds of Virtue in us, as well as of Vice. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Twelve Serm.* viii. (1730) 238 Some Seeds of Grace are yet alive in him. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 168 P 8 The seeds of knowledge may be planted in solitude, but must be cultivated in publick. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, The seeds of exaggeration will be busy there.

3. = SEMEN. Now *rare.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 319/700 A swyþe foul þing is þat sed of ȝwan Man is i-spreind. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 445 He was geten aftir, als es knawen, Of vile ȝede of man with syn sawen. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 103 She..also conceyued of his seed a sone that was named Abas. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* ix. (1888) 78 The which seede of generation commeth from al the partes of the body, both of the man and the woman. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 293 When the male [Viper] hath filled her with all his seed-genitall. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvii. 48 Others have attributed to the Kidneys the preparation of Seed, because hot Kidneys cause a propensity to fleshly lust. 1713 CHESELDEN *Anat.* IV. i. (1726) 290 The office of the Testes, is to separate the seed from the blood. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 472/1 This fluid, so indispensably necessary as the medium of sexual generation, is the seed or semen.

4. Offspring, progeny. Now *rare* exc. in Biblical phraseology.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxvi. 28 Ða unrehtwisan soðlice beoð wicnade & sed arleasra forweorðeð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 22, & onfengon ða ilca ȝelic ða seofona & ne forleorton vel ne læfdon sed vel team. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Vre drihten cleopede monnes streon sed. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1613 And ðis lond ic sal giuen ðin sed. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 23 Þe sede of iacob is þe folke of cristen men. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 182 Sithe þou canst and wilt Ben to þe seed of Adam merciable. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lxxv. 61 His seed shal bycome faderles in straunge lond for euermore. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 80 *marg.*, The seid and successione of Simon Brechus stil inherited Irland. 1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* I. 398 Iustice is seed to Ioue. 1644 *Directory for Publ. Worship* 11 The rest of the Royal Seed. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 724 Till, vain of Mortal's empty Praise, he strove To match the Seed of Cloud-compelling Jove. 1739 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Hark how all the Welkin rings*' vii, Rise, the Woman's Conqu'ring Seed, Bruise in Us the Serpent's Head. 1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 5 Not only we, the latest seed of Time,.. have loved the people well. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* 397 Certain of the seed-royal and of the nobles were carried to Babylon.

5. a. *sing.* and *pl.* The ova of the lobster (cf. BERRY *sb.*[1] 3) and of the silkworm moth. b. Oyster-spat (cf. *seed oyster* in 8 below).

a. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 313 In the Spring..the Persians begin to hatch their Silk-worms. To do this, they carry the Seed in a little bag under the arm-pit. 1778 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* 41 Take all the red seeds and the meat of a lobster. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 334 The eggs in this state are called by the silk cultivators seed.

b. 1721 *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 251 From the Spat or Seed of which, it is most probable,..all the Bottom at length,.. became covered with Oysters. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* v. II. 524 The cultivation of oysters transplanted when young (termed 'seed') from the natural reefs where they were spawned to inshore [etc.].

6. *Glass-making.* A minute bubble arising in glass during fusion.

1856 H. CHANCE in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 226/2 A piece whose beginning was miraculous,—no seed, no blisters; it prospered under the hands of the gatherer and blower, and left the glass-house a perfect cylinder.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib. (*a*) (sense 1) *seed-crop, -farm, -garden, -growth* (in quot. *fig.*), *-gutter, -market,* †*-month, -oil* (also *attrib.*), *-season, -shop*, etc.; also SEED-FIELD, -FURROW, -PLOT, -TIME; (*b*) (sense 1 b) *seed-branch, -capsule,* †*-case, -cone, -cover, -down,* †*-embryo, -glume, -head, -pod, -spike, -stalk, -stem,* †*-umbel*, etc.; also SEED-CROWN 2; (*c*) in the sense of grain, etc. preserved for raising new crops, as *seed-barley, -grain, -maize, -oats, -potatoes, -wheat*; also SEED-CORN; (*d*) in names of agricultural implements or their component parts used in the sowing of land with seed, as *seed-barrel, -basket, -drill, -funnel, -harrow,* †*-plough* (also *fig.*), *-slide, -tube, -vent*; also SEED-BOX.

1540 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 95 One strike of *sede barlie. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 790 The true seed-box..is in form of a small barrel, and is hence called the *seed-barrel. 1831 *Seed-basket [see SEED-CARRIER 2]. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. vii. (1682) 47 In this Inner Coat in a Bean the Lignous Body or *Seed-Branch is distributed. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 451 The seed-branches of field grasses. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 21 Ever and anon the *seed-capsule of some forest-tree bursts with a report like that of a musket. 1677 GREW *Anat. Plants, Anat. Fruits* v. (1682) 186 The *Seed-Case, whether it be called a Cod, Pod, or by any other name. 1724 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* II. 68 The Top of the flowering Foot-stalk, supports the Ovarium or Seed-case. 1842 LONGF. *Hiaw.* xviii. 44 So they gathered cones together, Gathered *seed-cones of the pine tree. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 80 *Seed-cover (calyculus) the real cover of the seed. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 204 When the orange-colored capsules open, and show the scarlet seed-covers. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 7484 In cases where a partial failure has taken place in the *seed crop. 1829 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 87 The less essential parts of a seed are, the pellicle, the tunic, the *seed-down [etc.]. 1883 *Good Words* Dec. 790/1 Thus, as seed-down is to dandelion and thistle..so is this adhesive pulp to the Mistletoe. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Seed-drill*, a machine for sowing seed in rows. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. vii. (1682) 49 The Sap being thus prepared in the Inner Coat, as a Liquor now apt to be the Substratum of the future *Seed-Embrio; by fresh supplies, is thence discharg'd. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 7361 *Seed-gardens, or *seed-farms, require a dry soil. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 596 The bearing or platform of the *seed-funnels. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 228 It may be known by its..*seed-glumes resembling a cock's-foot. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 447 The steeping of *seed-grain may be useful in other respects. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i, This seems to me the primary seed-grain of the Norse Religion. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 23 They were furnished with..implements of husbandry, seed-grain, livestock. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxvi, Yet in the dark *seed-growths of Consciousness a new wish was forming itself. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 2714 Two cast-iron wheels, for the purpose of impressing two small *seed gutters or drills on the furrow slices turned over by the common plough. *Ibid.* § 2704 Gray's *seed-harrow for wet weather promises to be useful..in a tenacious retentive soil. 1823 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XLI. 103 Eight bunches of straw, having the *seed-heads on. 1901 COUNTESS *Naturalist Thames* 91 Goldfinches flying from seed-head to seed-head. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 233, I distributed *seed-maize among the Indians here, which they planted accordingly. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 7515 The *seed-market is held twice a-week..in a large roofed space in Mark-lane. 1898 *Daily*

News 9 June 7/5 To-day's seed market..was most thinly attended. 1647 HEXHAM I. *Seed-moneth, *Zaey-maent.* 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 360 This [Febr.] is a principal Seed Month, for such as they commonly call Lenten Grain. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 272 The same premium..to be given for ascertaining the proper quantity of *seed oats dibbled on a lay, or on old pasture ground. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Seed-oil*, an indefinite name for several kinds of oil, which enter into commerce. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 726/2 There are now fifty-nine seed-oil mills in the South. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh.* i. (1584) 186 Vppon the Sabboth day Gods *seede plough goeth. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 76 At York: a newly invented seed plough..on two wheels. 1718 R. BRADLEY *Genll. & Gard. Kal.* 35 Pulling up the whole Plants, and setting them upright in a Green-house till the *Seed-Pods are dry. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 2741 A machine for reaping the heads or seed-pods of clover. 1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. ix. (ed. 3) 619 Which [feastings] they vse to doe in all their feasts, marriages, childe-births, and their haruest and *seed-seasons. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 461 In very wet seed seasons too, it must, perhaps, give way in many cases to the broadcast method. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* iii. 33 A Red-Headed Monkey lost from a *Seed-Shop in the Strand. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 600/2 In sending a parcel from a seed-shop to a neighbouring garden. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Seed-planter*, The rod-shaft, which communicates by rods with the *seed-slides of the separate hoppers, which discharge into the seed-tubes of the shares. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 228 It may be known by its coarse appearance, both of the leaf and *seed-spike. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 19 They will shoot in summer in single tall *seed-stalks. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 355 In summer, it chiefly subsists on the tops and *seed-stems of thistles. 1875 *Seed-tube* [see *seed-slide* above]. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 201 Dill—if now advanced in *seed-umbels, may be pulled up for use. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 538 A register screw..by which the sower could at once fix upon the extent of opening in the *seed-vents. 1592 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 78 Foure mettes of *side whette which was soune at Eclestone, xij^s iiij^d. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 271 The proper quantity of seed-wheat to be used per acre.

b. Objective and objective genitive, as *seed-bearer, -crusher, -grower,* † *-saver, -seller, -serving, -sowing*; *seed-bearing* adj.; also SEED-CARRIER.

1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Med. Housewife* 19 John had cut certain heads of asparagus that were intended for *seed-bearers. 1766 *Complete Farmer* Z 2/2 s.v. *Hemp*, This other species,..which is commonly termed male hemp, should be called *seed-bearing hemp, or female hemp. 1877 HEATH *Fern World* 25 These beautiful plants, however, though flowerless, are seed-bearing. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Seed-crusher*, one who expresses oil from seeds; a machine with rollers. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) § 7390 *Seed growers are as frequently farmers as gardeners. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 513 *Seminarius*,..a *seedesauer: a woman that gathereth and preserueth the seedes of herbs. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 212 We *seede sellers must sell seedes one with an other.

c. Similative, as *seed-coral, -egg*; also *seed-like* adj.; SEED-PEARL.

1879 SIMMONDS *Commerc. Products of Sea* 441 The Chinese..used to prepare strings of small rosts of *seed-coral beads for embroidery. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 235 Under favourable circumstances, one ounce of *seed-eggs will produce eighty pounds of cocoons, and even more. 1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 351 These *seedlike Bodies may be the *Ovaria* of some Insects. 1887 PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomyc.* 110 A number of small, hard, seed-like bodies.

8. Special combinations: **seed-bag** (see quot.); **seed-bird**, (*a*) the Pied Wagtail, *Motacilla lugubris* or *alba*; (*b*) any sea-fowl, esp. the Common Gull, *Larus canus*; † **seed-bone** *Anat.* = SESAMOID *sb.*; † **seed-bringer** *Anat.* (see quot.); **seed-bud** *Bot.* (see quot. 1796); **seed-coat** *Bot.* = TESTA; † **seed-cob**, † **-cod**, † **-cot** = SEED-LIP; **seed-cotton**, cotton in its native state, with the seed not separated; † **seed-earth** [EARTH *sb.*^{2}], the side of a seed-furrow; **seed-eater, -feeder**, any granivorous bird, *spec.* the Grass-quit, *Phonipara bicolor*; **seed-finch, -fish** (see quots.); † **seed-fowl**, a granivorous bird; † **seed-horse**, a stallion; † **seed-land**, ground capable of raising crops (in quot. *fig.* and *attrib.*); **seed-leaf, -lobe** = COTYLEDON 3 (but see quot. 1793 for *seed-lobe*); † **seed-nest** *Bot.* = OVARY 2; † **seed-ore**, ore found in the form of grains; **seed oyster, oyster-spat**; † **seed-pair**, a pair, male and female, regarded as primogenitors; **seed-pan**, a pan of red earthenware used for the raising of plants from seed; **seed-plant**, (*a*) a plant grown from a seed, a seedling; (*b*) a plant grown for its seed; **seed-pot**, a pot in which a plant is raised from seed; † **seed-seam**, a seed-furrow (cf. SEAM *sb.*^{1} 4c); **seed-snipe**, a bird of the S. American genus *Thinocorys*; † **seed-spark**, the germ of a fire (in quots. *fig.*); **seed-thought**, thought comparable to seed, fruitful or suggestive thought; **seed-tick**, a mite of the family *Ixodidæ*, esp. the young of *Ixodes bovis*; † **seed-trough** *Anat.*, ? the *vas deferens*; † **seed-vein**, ? the spermatic cord; **seed-vessel** = PERICARP (also *fig.*); † **seed-water**, a decoction of coriander and caraway seeds mixed with sack and sugar; **seed-weed**, a weed that propagates itself by seeding, as distinguished from one that spreads by its roots. See also SEED-CAKE, SEED-LAC, etc.

a 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol., etc.* (1865) 32 To prevent communication between any particular portion of the well and the pumping tube, a bag of linseed, called a '*seed bag', is sent down to the required place. This bag, encircling the tube, soon swells..., and forms a water-tight joint. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 237 Moreover it [the white Wagtail] follows the Plough..: As..our Husbandmen have told me of their own observation; who therefore call it the *Seed-bird, as Mr. Johnson informed me. 1791 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Statist. Acc. Scot.* I. 67 Sea fowls appear here in great numbers in the spring, about seed-time; they follow the plough and are thence called seed-birds. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Wks.* VI. XXVII. 220 The *Ossa Sesamoidea*, or *seed bones: these are 19 in number. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* L. ix. (1552) 13 b, The *seede bringers, called in Latyn *Vasa semen adferentia*, be two vaines & two artyres. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem. Veget.* I. 2 Hippuris...*Seed-bud oblong; superior. 1796 — *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 61 *Germen*, or *Seed-bud*, the lower part of a Pistil. It is the rudiment of the seed-vessel, or of the embryo fruit. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 43 A little gnat, *Cynips Ficus Caricæ*, which lays its egg in the seed-bud of the Wild Fig. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 80 *Seed-coat (*arillus*) the proper coat of a seed which falls off spontaneously. 1766 *Complete Farmer* K 3/2 s.v. *Cob*, A *seed-cob, or seed-lip. 1235–52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 113 Unum *sedcod plenum frumenti. 1407 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) II. 213 Et pro uno Seedcod empto, iij^d. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 58 Some will dress..this Chalk..with Rags chop'd small..and then sown out of a *Seed Cot all over the Ground. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 113 One hundred and six pounds of wool from the first kind of *seed-cotton. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 10 Ley-grounds cannot he laid too flat, or *seed earths too much on an edge. 1879 G. N. LAWRENCE in *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* I. 355 *Phonipara bicolor* (Linn.):..*Mangeur des herbes'. *Seed-eater. 1884 J. BURROUGHS in *Century Mag.* Dec. 220/1 Even the slate-coloured snow-bird, a seed-eater, comes and nibbles. 1853 *Zoologist* II. 4025 The *seed-feeders are far more likely to escape observation. 1888 P. L. SCLATER *Argentine Ornith.* I. 69 *Sycalis lutea*...(Yellow *Seed-finch). *Ibid.* 71 *Orospina pratensis*...(Meadow Seed-finch.) 1892 *Century Dict.*, **Seed-fish*, a fish containing seed, roe, or spawn; a ripe fish. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* (MS. Seld.) 328 Bothe watere foule and *sede foule on the grene That so fele were þat wonder was to sene. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 238 All Se fowle and Seid fowle was nocht for to seike. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 485 The gentlemen..have taken much pains to raise a good breed of horses...They will give 1000l. sterling for a good *seed horse. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* I. i. 124 But his unsweating thrift is policy, And learning-hating policy is ignorant To fit his *seed-land soil. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., *Seed Leaves, are the first Leaves that Spring up like ears on each side, at the first cleaving or sprouting of any Seed. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 71 The cotyledons of the contained embryo swell, burst the seed coat, and, becoming green, emerge as the fleshy seed leaves. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Cotyledon*, In English we commonly call this part the *Cotyledon* or **seed-lobe*, when we speak of it as a portion of the seed, in a quiescent state—and the *seed-leaf*, when the seed is in a growing state. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 80 Seed-lobes (cotyledone) the perishable parts of a seed, designed to afford nourishment to the young plant when it first begins to expand. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* iii. 76 The embryo of the seed is provided with two seed-lobes. 1728 BRADLEY *Dict. Bot.* Introd. 15 In these [lilies] the *Seed-nests are at the Bottom of the Pistillum. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 683 In the cavities between [large rocks of iron ore] lie an ochre and *seed ore. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 209/2 Under proper restriction ..mature oysters, and seed oysters as well, may be taken from any region. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1210 Noah..sav'd a *seed-pair of all living things. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Tulipa*, There should be provided a Parcel of shallow *Seed-Pans or Boxes. 1882 *Garden* 7 Jan. 10/3 When sufficiently large the plants should be p icked into seed-pans. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 251 It is necessary to remove *Seed-plants often as well as Forest-trees, because by that means they get good Roots. 1878 J. INGLIS *Sport Nepaul Frontier* xvi. 187 The planters advance about four rupees a beegah to the ryot, who cuts his [indigo] seed-plant, and brings it into the factory threshing ground. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 71 Turn the young plants carefully out of the *seed-pot, breaking the fibres as little as possible. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 94, I will endeavour to bury the Surface for Pease; leaving the *Seed-Seams as open and deep as possible. 1889 P. L. SCLATER *Argentine Ornith.* II. 176 *Thinocoridæ*, or *Seed-snipes. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 92. 618 These were..the *seede-sparkes of those factious fires which afterward brake forth. 1658 SEARS *Athan.* xviii. 158 The seed-spark of our resurrection-body will not appear till Gabriel blows after it with his trumpet and kindles it up somewhere. 1863 *N. & Q.* Ser. III. III. 379 Aird's volume is full as a pomegranate of *seed-thought. 1895 *Educ. Rev.* Sept. 107 Hegel..coming early to an appreciation of the seed-thought of Plato. 1705 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* IV. xix. (1722) 267 *Seed-Tick and Red-Worms are small Insects, that annoy the People by Day, as Muskeetoes and Chinches do by Night. 1893 E. B. CUSTER *Tenting* 88 Two pests of that region, the seed-tick and the chigger. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 107 Moreouer in copulation or coition they draw them back, that the *seed trough becomming shorter, the seed may more easily and readily be supplyed. *Ibid.* 201 The hollow veine where the right *seede-veine arose. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 5. 96 Herbs considered according to their *Seed-vessel. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 127 A simple fruit consists, then, of the Seed-vessel (technically called the Pericarp), or the walls of the ovary matured, and the seeds contained in it. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 22 The code is the seed-vessel of all the virtues. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* x. 220 *Seed Water. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 270 When the design of plowing is to..destroy *seed-weeds [etc.] 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 415 Where seed-weeds are to be eradicated, the surface should constantly be..made as fine and smooth as the nature of the land will admit.

Seed (sēd), *v.* **Forms**: see the *sb.* [f. SEED *sb.* Cf. OFris. *sêdia*, WFris. *siedzje*.]

I. *intr.*

1. To produce seed; to run to seed. Also *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 306 Youre chere floureth but hit will not sede. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3725 3oure saule sa full of sapient sedis & floures. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 20 Drake is lyke vnto rye, till it begynne to sede. 1600 BODENHAM *Belvedere* 227 First doe we bud, then blow; next seed, last fall. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* v. (Arb.) 36 This flower when it first came into the Citie, had a prettie scent, ..hath bene let to run so high, that it is now seeded. 1617 MARKHAM *Country Housew. Gard.* viii. (1623) 12 Hollyhocke riseth high, seedeth and dyeth. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 190 It flowers and seeds with us in May, June, &c. 1821 SOUTHEY *Ode King's Vis. Irel.* ix, Labours of love remain; To weed out noxious customs rooted deep In a rank soil, and long left seeding there. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 345 The tea plants are now three or four feet high, and seeding freely.

b. To develop *into* something undesirable.

1898 B. GREGORY *Side Lights* 205 The egotism..had not seeded into the fanatical distension of your genuine demagogue. 1909 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Apr. 487/1 In Persia it [Parliamentary government] soon blossomed out into civil war, and now is seeding into anarchy.

† 2. To beget children. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XI. 251 And god sente to seth.., That for no kyne catel ne no kyne byheste Sufiren hus seed seeden with caymes seed hus broþer.

† 3. To be born *of*. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 393 The voys of my moder me nyhith ful ny I am dyssend on to here of whom I dede sede.

† 4. To gather seed. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 112 Slack neuer thy weeding.., And specially where ye doo trust for to seede.

II. *trans.*

† 5. To stock with inhabitants. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1627 (Gött.) Here bigines at noe þelede þe toþer world for to sede.

6. To sow (land) with seed.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 71 The spaces that in heruest sowe or sede Me wol, may best ha now their pastynynge. 1482 *Paston Lett.* III. 293 Weche absenting of the tenauntes is to them a greet hurt and los, for lak of sedyng ther londes with ther wynter corn. 1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* N 4 b, He giues them also Wheat to seed their land. 1612 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. X. 32 They will Marle, Till, and Seede it for halfe the increase. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 120 A third part less than usual will sufficiently seed the Ground. *a* 1814 *Apostate* II. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 220 You taught us arts—divided us in bands, These for the chace, and those to seed the soil. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 254/1 The field was plowed, seeded and rolled.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Epigr. xxviii, Manure the ground (of my heart), then come Thyself and seed it, And let Thy servants water it and weed it. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 6 And the Keeper understood that no Peace was to be had from an Adversary seeded with such Qualities. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. 10/2 We know that a cow suffering from tuberculosis may yield milk seeded with the germs of consumption.

c. const. *to.*

1887 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLI. 813 The estate..had been seeded largely to grass and clover, the very acme of high farming in the South. 1908 *Standard* 29 Apr. 2/5 Reliable authorities place the area to be seeded to wheat in Western Canada this year at six million acres.

d. *To seed down*: to sow grass or clover seeds amongst (a crop of oats, wheat, etc.). Cf. *sow down* s.v. SOW *v.* Also *fig.*

1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 505 It is the practice of one farmer..to seed down without a crop: his custom is to fallow. 1864 *Ibid.* XXV. II. 527, I seed down the oat-crop for clover. 1873 WILL CARLETON *Farm Ball.* 30 And I'll plough her grave with hate, and seed it down to scorn!

7. To sow (a particular kind of seed) upon land. † Also with cogn. obj., *to seed seed* (a Hebraism).

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Gen.* i. 12 The budde of the herbe, that sedeth sede according to his kinde. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. i. § 7. 11 The Earth..brought forth the budde of the hearbe that seedeth seede. 1894 *Times* 14 Aug. 15/2 In the course of another week or two, English farmers..will be seeding 'trifolium' upon the wheat stubble.

b. *transf.*

1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 8, I wish..he had also looked into other grosse sinnes, which are seeded in the hearts of sundrie persons. 1844 S. WILBERFORCE *Hist. Prot. Episc. Ch. Amer.* (1846) 408 Division has grown up in all its rankness, and seeded freely on every side a new crop of errors.

c. *refl.* of a plant: To sow itself.

1909 *Eng. Rev.* Feb. 403 There is no further need of planting, for they [the pines] seed themselves.

† 8. *pass.* To run to seed, to mature. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 603 How will thy shame be seeded in thine age When thus thy vices bud before thy spring?

† 9. To sprinkle or cover a surface lightly with; so, to decorate the material of a garment with powdering of small ornament. *Obs.*

1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* L 4, The Constable..as the Grand Escuyer,..hath the Sword in the scabberd *D'Azure, semé de fleurs de Lys d'or*: Azure seeded with flowers de Lyce. 1603 B. JONSON *King's Entertainm.* Wks. 1616 I. 844 Theosophia, or diuine Wisedome, all in white, a blue mantle seeded with starres. 1633 SHIRLEY *Tri. Peace* 4 In the next Chariot of equall glory, were placed on the lowest staires foure in skie-coloured Taffata Robes seeded with starres. 1678 JORDAN *Triumphs of Loud.* 4 Vigilancy, in a Silver Robe, a French green Mantle, seeded with waking Eyes.

10. To remove the seeds from (fruit), to 'stone'.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 8/5 Seed a pound of raisins, cut them in quarters, and mix them with six ounces of shredded citron. 1908 *Ibid.* 5 Mar. 8/3 The currants should be cleaned, raisins seeded, and citron shredded.

† **Seedage.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEED *v.* + -AGE.]

1. A sowing.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 27 The shaked corne seruing..for the second seedage. *Ibid.* I. xi. 35 Wheat craues a fat Clay (and dry to make it hard and compact) and durty Seedage.

2. Production of seed.

1891 L. H. BAILEY *Nursery-bk.* (1896) 1 Chapter I. Seedage. *Ibid.*, Moisture is the most important factor in seedage.

Seed-bed.

1. A bed for sowing seeds; also, the seedlings growing there.

1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 25 In seeds that are long in coming up, the seed bed is not to be digged up the first winter. 1723 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 38 Like a Fir-tree, when in the Seed Bed, but much less. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 265 They should never be allowed to remain more than two years in the seed-bed, for in that case they will be completely spoiled. 1852 C. W. H[OSKINS] *Talpa* 178 He will cut up the soil into a seed-bed of the pattern required.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. VIII. 312 The Church hath been set into action to prepare the seed-bed of the truth over the earth. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 July 2/1 There must have been seed-beds of disease to have produced leprosy in houses and in people.

†2. *Bot.* = PLACENTA 2. *Obs. rare*—1.

1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* ii. 54 As the Seeds ripen, and separate from the proper Placentæ or Seed-beds.

Seed-box.

1. The receptacle for the seed in a grain-drill or seed-sowing-machine.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 315 Of these [parts of the Drill] the Seed-Box is the chief; it measures (or rather numbers) out the Seed which it receives from the Hopper. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 2679 The seed-box being elevated or depressed accordingly, so as to render the distribution of the seed regular. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 320/1 [In the machine for broadcast sowing] motion is communicated to a spindle which revolves in the seed-box, and expels the seed by means of cogs or brushes.

2. *U.S.* A plant of the genus *Ludwigia*, so called from its cubical pod.

1821 BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 49 *Ludwigia macrocarpa.* Large-capsuled Seed-box, or Ludwigia. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 33 *Ludwigia alternifolia.* (Seed-box.)

Seed-cake. A cake flavoured with caraway seeds and more or less sweetened. Cf. CAKE *sb.* 1 c.

The 'seed-cakes' formerly eaten at the rustic festival celebrating the end of sowing-time may have been of this kind, though the custom prob. had an allusive reference to SEED *sb.* Warton's statement (quoted in the 1878 ed. of Tusser) that the name was applied to the festival itself, seems doubtful; cf., however, quot. 1726.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 181 Wife, some time this weeke, if the wether hold cleere, an end of wheat sowing we make for this yeere. Remember you therefore though I doo it not: the seede Cake, the Pasties, and Furmentie pot. 1710 P. LAMB *Royal Cookery* 84 To make a Seed-Cake. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 8 It was a..customary thing..for every Man in the Parish..to give to the Church a certain Measure of Wheat..on St. Martin's Day; and this in our ancient Books is called Church-Seed, from whence came the Rise of our Seed-Cakes. 1755 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 154 Sugar biscake..plumbcake..seedcake. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley the Banker* II. viii. 143 Mrs. Pye's seed-cake and currant-wine. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xlii, I cut and handed the sweet seed-cake.

Seed-carrier.

1. One who carries seed. †a. *fig.* One who disseminates the tenets of another. *Obs. rare*—1.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 101 The seed-cariers of these contentions are either close Iesuits, and so will not be knowne, or at least..Iesuited faultors of their pollicies.

b. In sowing corn, etc.: An assistant who replenishes the seed-baskets of the sowers.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 506 If the sacks of seed are conveniently placed, one active seed-carrier will serve two sowers.

†2. = SEED-LIP. *Obs.*

1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 2526 The seed-carrier or seed-basket is sometimes made of thin veneers of wood, bent into an irregular oval, with a hollow to fit the seedsman's side.

3. Applied to various animals with reference to the part which they play in the dispersion of seeds.

1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* xii. 238 The dispersal of seeds—Birds as seed-carriers. 1906 *Athenæum* 12 May 581 Bats and insects may be active seed-carriers.

Seed-corn. Grain (or *occas.* a grain of corn) for sowing in order to produce a new crop.

1592–3 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 79 Roberte Aspeden for to bestowe vpone side corne and other charges ..x^{li}. 1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xi. 70 Stay not for showres; The soile, if overflowne, Will drown thy seed-corn, and return thee none. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 119 Even after I had got the first Handful of Seed-Corn. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 283 All seed-corn should be sifted.

fig. 1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 598 Some of these seed-corns of superstition, it is expected, must strike root. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* ix. 199 We know that *l'homme de lettres* is a little wary, and not fond of giving away his seed-corn.

Seed-crown.

†1. *nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Amboise* I. i. 122 What will he send? Some crowns? It is to sow them Upon my spirit, and make them spring a crown Worth millions of the seed-crowns he will send.

2. *Bot.* = CORONA 7 a.

1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 457 In every case the partial calyx is distinguished from the chaffy seed-crown observable in several genera of the other Orders,..either by being inferior, or by the presence of a seed-crown, or feathery down, besides.

Seede, obs. pa. pple. of SAY *v.*[1]

1515 in *Coll. Surrey Archæol. Soc.* (1858) I. 182.

Seeded (sī·dėd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEED *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Sown with seed.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Rome* 407 Like as the seeded field green grasse first showes. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 7/2 All recently seeded areas have responded promptly and vigorously to an abundance of moisture on a warm soil.

2. Furnished with a seed or seeds; run to seed, matured.

1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Shepherdess* IV. i, In some hollow tree or bed Of seeded Nettles. 1763 J. MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 222 It requires some experience to know at what degree of ripeness it is best to cut the seeded sainfoin. 1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 108 The seeded summerflowers. 1875 BLACKMORE *Alice Lorraine* XXX, The gossamer floats idly over the sere and seeded grass.

fig. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* X iij, London, thou art the seeded Garden of sinne. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 316 The seeded Pride That hath to this maturity blowne vp In ranke Achilles, must or now be cropt.

3. *Her.* Of flowers: Having seeds of a specified tincture.

1611 [see BARBED *ppl. a.*[1] 3]. 1777 PORNY *Elem. Her.* Dict., *Seeded a.* This is said of Roses and other Flowers, to express the tincture of their seed. 1868 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* (1893) 104 *Seeded*, applied chiefly to roses, in blazoning the Seeds in the centre.

4. ? Covered with dots.

1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 231/1 It [her best dress] was a purple, seeded silk, adorned with lapels that hung in wrinkles across her flat chest.

Seeder (sī·dəɹ). Also 1 sǽdere, sédere, 4 seder. [OE. *sǽdere*, f. *sǽd* SEED *sb.*: see -ER[1].]

†1. One who sows seed; a sower. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iv. 3 Herað heono eode ðe sawende *rel* sedere to sawenne. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) II. 88 Sum sædere ferde to sawenne his sæd. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xviii. (Tollemache MS.), [October] is payntid in þe liknesse of a seder [1495 sower] þat soweþ his corne. *a* 1500 *Sayings of Philosophers* (Tollemache MS.), [Socrates] seide to his dissiples: I am the Seeder [*Caxton* tilman], and the vertues of the soule bene seedis.

2. A mechanical contrivance for sowing seed.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Seeder*,..a seed-sower for gardens. 1883 *Sci. Amer.* 3 Mar. 139/4 Seeder and cultivator. 1899 *Daily News* 13 July 4/6 The modern seeder leaves to the sower no heavier work than the guidance of his team from the waggon seat.

Seed-field. [f. SEED *sb.* Cf. G. *saatfeld*, *samenfeld.*] A place wherein seed is sown. Also *fig.*

1615 W. BEDWELL tr. *Moham. Impost.* II. § 70 The wiues of men are as it were the seedfields of the men. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ii, For a speculative man, 'whose seedfield', in the sublime words of the Poet, 'is Time', no conquest is important but that of new ideas. 1832 — *Remin.* (1881) I. 46 Our country was all altered; browsing knowes were become seed-fields. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, A folk, poor and savage;..often without cattle or seed-field.

Seedful (sī·dfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. SEED *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of seed, productive. Also *fig.*

1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 626 She [Phœnix] sits all gladly-sad expecting Some flame..To burn her sacred bones to seedfull cinders. 1859 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 346/2 Love moves the subtle fountain-rills To fertilize uplifted hills, And seedful valleys fertilize.

Seed-furrow. Also seed-fur.

1. A furrow for the reception of seed.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 And yf he wyll haue his plough to go a narowe forowe, as a sede-forowe shulde be, than he setteth his fote-teame in the nycke nexte to the ploughe-beame. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 76 A..seed plough..which makes three seed-furrows at once, at any distance from each other. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* II. 503 Land should only receive one furrow, the seed-furrow, for spring-wheat.

2. The process of producing a seed-furrow. Phrases, *to get, give the seed-furrow.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xi. 43 Their seuerall orders and seasons for fallowing, twifallowing, trifallowing and seed-furre. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Select Trans. Impr. Agric. Scot.* 83 In the Spring give a Steering-fur, as it is called; then the Seed-fur; then sow Barley or Bear with Grass-seeds. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 271 A much less quantity is taken off when land gets the seed-furrow, the chief design of which is to enlarge the pasture. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 217 It is neither practicable nor prudent to give the seed-furrow to much of that land in winter. *a* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 7 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, If the land requires another ploughing before the seed-furrow.

3. *attrib.*

1764 J. RANDALL in *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIV. 515/1, I find you have done me the honour of taking notice of my Seed-furrow plough.

Hence **Seed-furrow** *v. trans.*, to 'give the seed-furrow' to (land). **Seed-furrowing** *vbl. sb.*

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 217 Another ploughing must be given, previous to the application of manure, after which it ought to be seed furrowed, by the end of August. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 501 They are always formed on ridges, never on the flat, and only used in seed-furrowing.

Seedge, obs. form of SIEGE.

Seedily (sī·dĭli), *adv.* [f. SEEDY *a.* + -LY 2.] In shabby, impecunious fashion.

1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conse.* II. vi, One tall man, seedily attired. 1909 MAX BEERBOHM *Yet Again* 22 He was an excellent actor...But, like many others of his kind, [he] drifted seedily away into the provinces.

Seediness (sī·dinės). [f. SEEDY *a.* + -NESS.] The attribute of being seedy.

1. Untidiness, squalid shabbiness.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xliii, A casual visitor might suppose this place to be a Temple dedicated to the Genius of Seediness. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xl. 218 The seediness of the blue cloth was relieved by a velvet collar. 1889 TROLLOPE *What I remember* III. xiii. 200 An appearance of seediness in poor fallen Venice is by no means an inexplicable characteristic.

2. Slight indisposition, general want of 'tone' in the physical system.

1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 74 What is called 'seediness', after a debauch, is a plain proof that nature has been outraged, and will have her penalty. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* I. 323 Slight fits of seediness from time to time.

3. *nonce-use.* (See quot.)

1893 G. D. LESLIE *Lett. Marco* xii. 71, I take great interest..in the seediness of my garden; seeds and seed-cases are perhaps the most wonderful of any of the parts of plant life.

Seeding (sī·dĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEED *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The production of seed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 386 Alkin things grouand sere þat in þam self baire seding bere. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (1495) 591 A tree hath vertue in itself of sedynge: and maye therby brynge forth a nother lyke itself in kynde. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 161 If that the stems or stalkes after they be well come, be then broken off or cut away, they wil continue the longer greene and without seeding. 1675 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* 178 Tread down the Stem, till the Cabbage inclines to one side; this will much impede its seeding. 1760 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 69 Before they are near seeding.

†b. *concr.*

1650 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Repentance* 34 The trees, their leafs; the flowres, their seeding;..I summon'd to decide this strife.

2. The sowing of seed; the sowing (of land) with seed. Also *fig.*

1542 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 81 And the rent, sowyng, arying, foldyng, and sedynge of an acre of rey wyll cost the tenant therof fyve shillings and above. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* CXXV. 5 Comm., His seruants shal make their seeding..with teares..and reape a plentiful haruest..in the next life. 1623 W. LAWSON *New Orchard* iv. 8 The labour and seeding of your Corne-fields. *a* 1629 T. ADAMS *Serm. Man's Seed-time* Wks. 648 You see the wickeds Seeding and Haruest...The godly haue also their Seeding and their Haruest. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Epigr. XXVII, Mine heart's a field; Thy crosse a plow; be pleas'd Dear Spouse, to till it, till the mould be rais'd Fit for the seeding of Thy Word. 1810 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1853) V. 509, I talk of ploughs and harrows, of seeding and harvesting, with my neighbors. 1842 LANCE *Cottage Farmer* 15 Horses often..execute the drilling, hoeing, seeding, haymaking, &c. in a wasteful and expensive manner, compared to manual labour properly directed. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 320/1 Openings [in the seed-box] which can be graduated to suit the required rate of seeding. 1892 *Times* 'weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 89/3, 800 acres were ready for seeding.

†b. *concr.* The seed sown. *Obs. rare.*

1814 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* III. 241 Twice the seasons were against us, and the seeding and the earing might go into the same sack.

3. The separation of flax-seed from the straw. = RIPPLING *vbl. sb.*[1]

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 789 The time occupied..in the processes, from the seeding of the flax to the commencement of the scutching.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *seeding-season, -stage*; **seeding-house**, an apartment in a rettery, in which the flax-seed is separated from the straw; †**seeding-time** = SEED-TIME; also *fig.*; †**seeding-top**, the seed-vessels borne upon a stalk.

1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 6) II. 328 The *seeding-house requires to be of large size. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* II, He was taking them home to his sister Faith, who prized the lingering blossoms of the *seeding season. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 June 5/1 No plants, after entering the *seeding stage.. are good for green fodder. 1623 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 184 Harvest and *seeding tyme. 1790 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 42 We are yet but in the seeding time of national prosperity, and it will be well not to mortgage the crop before it is gathered. 1676 BEAL in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 586 The Lilly of the Valley (which propagates it self by the weight of its *seeding tops, descending into the earth) is much esteem'd on the Elbe.

Seeding (sī·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEED *v.* + -ING[2].] That seeds; running to seed.

1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., K. Acrisius* 211 Though the birds see them, and the seeding grass Harsh and unloving over them may pass, When carelessly through rough and smooth they run. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada the Lily* v. 34 Their plumes bent in the breeze; like a plain of seeding grass they bent.

Seed-lac (sī·d,lăk). [f. SEED *sb.* + LAC[1].] See LAC[1] 1. Also *attrib.*

1703 *Art's Improv.* 1. 37 And lastly, bestow Eight or Ten Washes of your best Seed-Lack-Varnish. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 91 To make Seed-lac Varnish. Take spirits of wine, one quart;..add thereto eight ounces of seed-lac. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 182/1 The resin crushed to small fragments and washed free from colouring matter constitutes 'seed lac'.

Seedless (sī·dlės), *a.* [f. SEED *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of seed or seeds.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. 479 In stead of sweet fruits which she selfly yeelds Seed-less, and Art-less, over all thy fields, With thorns and burs shall bristle up her brest. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 22 Lower joint slender, seedless. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* iv. 267 Seedless oranges and seedless grapes are often met with. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Sept. 2/1 They might give loans to seedless tenants for seed to anticipate another season of want next year.

Hence **See'dlessness.**

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 3/1 The permanency of the seedlessness of the Spencer apple is beyond dispute.

Seedlet (sī'dlĕt). [-LET.] A small seed.

1863 JEAN INGELOW *Poems* 50 The goldfinch on a thistle-head Stood scattering seedlets while she fed. 1899 G. ALLEN *Story of Plants* ii. 25 A little grain of pollen produced by the male plant unites with a little ovule or seedlet produced by the female.

Seedling (sī'dlĭŋ), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SEED *sb.* + -LING 1.] **A.** *sb.*

1. A young plant developed from a seed, esp. one raised from seed as distinct from a slip, cutting, etc.

1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 9 Divers persons affirm, that they have seen the small Plants, or Seedlings at a distance all round the Mother-plant. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Nov.* 79 Prepare also Mattresses, Boxes, Cases, Pots, &c. for shelter to your tender Plants and Seedlings newly sown. 1672 GREW *Anat. Plants, Anat. Roots* I. i. (1682) 59 The Roots of most Seedlings grow Downward and Upward, or shoot out in length at both Ends, at the same time. 1723 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 7 The Seedlings (as they are called, viz.) such as have naturally sprung forth from their Seeds, accidentally dispers'd. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 61 Through all the stages thou hast push'd Of treeship—first a seedling hid in grass; Then twig; then sapling. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 22 This amount of change may have suddenly arisen in a seedling. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 508 The terminal bud of the stem of the seedling grows more rapidly ..than the lateral shoots which arise subsequently.

fig. 1760 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 22 June, The prophetic eye of taste..when it plants a seedling, already sits under the shadow of it. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* II. I. 27 It was thought indispensable to execute as traitors those Roman seedlings—seminary priests and their disciples—who [etc.].

†**2.** The young of an animal hatched from an egg resembling a seed in appearance. *Obs.*

1705 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* IV. xix. (1722) 268 They [*sc.* Ticks] produce a kind of Egg, which lies about a Fortnight before the Seedlings are hatch'd. 1754 BRANDER in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 808 In the spring..a thousand small fish appear in the water to one grown to maturity, or seedlings on the shores of shell-fish, to one at full growth.

3. A small seed. In quots. *fig.*

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. i. P 3 Whether any seedlings of ambition were scattered among the fallows of your philosophy. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* vi, Not a kiss—not so much as the shadow, hint, or merest seedling of a kiss.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *seedling-bed, -stock*; **seedling leaf** = *seed-leaf*, a cotyledon.

1757 J. HILL *Eden* 167 And let him..take off the Mats.. from..his *Seedling Beds. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 179 If they are transplanted directly from the seedling-bed. 1771 G. WHITE *Selborne, Let. to Pennant* 30 Mar., The insect that infests turnips..(destroying often whole fields in their *seedling leaves). 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., Aug.* (1699) 102 Inoculate..at the commencement of this Month, upon *seedling Stocks of four Years growth.

B. *adj.* [From the appositive uses of the sb.]

1. Developed or raised from seed.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., A Seedling Orange-Tree. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 384 Remove Seedling Digitalis, and plant the Slips of Lychnis. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 215 Seedling biennials and perennials, raised from seed this year. 1808 J. WALKER *Hist. Hebrides & Highl. Scot.* II. 229 The seedling firs are to be had in great quantities in the natural woods in the north. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 229 A seedling lemon or orange of a year old being procured as a stock. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* 83 Some five pippins from the seedling tree.

fig. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xx, O that some seedling gem Worthy such noble stem, Honour'd and bless'd in their shadow might grow.

2. Of the nature of a small seed; existing in a rudimentary state. In quots. *fig.*

1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. x. 332 He saw that I..had some seedling brains which would come up in time. 1891 LECKY *Poems* 105 Some Scattered seedling thoughts that flew Farther than their authors knew.

3. Of oysters: Hatched from 'seed'.

1866 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxii. (ed. 2) 509 *note*, Luxuriant branches, to which the seedling oyster may become attached.

Seed-lip (sī'dlip). Forms: 1–2 *sǽdlēap*, 2 *sed leap*, 3 *sedelip, sedlep*, 4 *sedelep, seedleep*, 5 *sedlepe, seedlep(e, -leppe, seed(e-leep(e*, 6 *seede-leape*, (7 *seed-lappe, -lop, sydlop*), 7–8 *seed-leap*, (8 *dial.* *sidlup*), 7– *seed-lip*. Also SERLET. [OE. *sǽdlēap*; see SEED *sb.* and LEAP *sb.*2] A basket in which seed is carried in the process of sowing by hand.

c 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 264/13 Man sceal habban.. windlas, systras, syfa, sedleap, hriddel, hersyfe [etc.]. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1124, Swa þæt be tweonen Cristes messe & Candel messe man sceide þæt acer sed hwæte þæt is twegen sed hæpas to six scillingas. 1235–52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 57 Unum sedelip plenum de frumento. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 861 *Herce et semyloun.* Harewe and sedelep. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 64/2 Ceed lepe or hopyr, *satorium*. *c* 1503 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* CXXVI. 376 Who goeth from home: all heavily—With his seede-leape: his land to try. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Platus Mans Plough* 81 God hath..sent forth..his holy Prophets with this soueraigne Seed in the spirituall seed-lappe. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* iv, 36 To euery bushell of that seede you shall adde a bushell of Bay salt and mixe them very well together in your Hopper or Sydlop. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* xi. § 4. 275 A Seed-lop, or Seed-lip, the Hopper, or Vessel wherein they carry their Seed at the time of Sowing. 1766 *Complete Farmer* 5 D 2/1 s.v. *Lucern*, The labourer, if he makes use of a peat-ash spoon and seed-lip, may sprinkle the rows of an acre in four or five hours. 1800 HUBBES *Fav. Village* 163 From the seedlip [he] scatters wide around The fruitful grain. 1884 JEFFERIES *Life of Fields* 150 A seed-lip, which is a vessel like a basket used in sowing corn.

†**See'dly**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SEED *sb.* + -LY 1.] Existing in the state of seed.

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 271 When a Cod hath shot his Masculine Seed, there doth still remain in his Soft Rows, a great deal of Seeding Matter, where out more Seedly Animals are produced, then were shot out of it the Year before.

†**See'dman.** *Obs.* [f. SEED *sb.* or *v.* + MAN *sb.*1]

1. = SEEDSMAN 1.

In 16–17th c. often *fig.* with etym. allusion to SEMINARY.

1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 5 These Seminaries, or Seedmen, and Jesuits,..have..laboured..to perswade the people. *c* 1615 *God & the King* (1663) 6 Wherewith these seed-men of sedition were no way suppressed. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. ii. 161 Just as two Seed-men in a Field, that sow more ground at convenient distance, than if they walked together in the same Furrow.

2. = SEEDSMAN 2.

1652 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxvi. (1653) 179 Much that is sold in the Seed-mens shops in London. 1670 MEAGER *Eng. Gard.* 191 In the first place you are to endeavour to be furnished with such sorts of Seed as are of best account ..either at the hand of Friend, Gardener, or Seed-man. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* Pref. 2 At the Seed-Mens Shops.

†**See'dness.** *Obs.* [f. SEED *v.* + -NESS.]

1. The action of sowing, the state of being sown. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 256 Trymenstre sednes [*v.r.* seedis; orig. *satio*] eke is to respite To placis colde, of wyntir snowis white. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Phil.* i. 3–11 So perseuer styll vnto the daye of Christes commynge, that you maye than appeare..aboundauntlye ful of good workes, wherof in this world you make as it wer a seedenesse, and shal reape y^e frute therof at y^e day. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. v. II. 18 The manner is to plant them..at both times of Seednes, to wit, the Spring and the Fall. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 42 As blossoming Time That from the seednes, the bare fallow brings To teeming foyson. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXII. viii. 200 The vast wildernesse (which never felt the plough, nor know [*sic*] what seednesse [orig. *sementem*] is, but lye desert, and subject to many frosts). 1662 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 85 Barley much abused in Drunknes, and now Barley seedness hindred, God is Righteous. 1710 M. HENRY *Comm. Isa.* xvii. (1848) II. 531 Look upon it at the time of seedness and it shall be like a garden.

b. *concr.* The thing sown, seed. In quot. *fig.*

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 19 As the corne must fyrst be sowen and dye in the yerthe before yt receyve a new bodye, ..so must we be the lords sedenes before the happie harvest.

2. Seed-time.

1668 R. STEBBE *Husbandm. Calling* iii. (1672) 26 From seedness to harvest, he is bound to a constant dependance on God, and from harvest to seedness again. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) V. 83 At Wheat seedness in 1785, having purchased a Machine, I drilled eighty acres with Wheat.

† **Seedow**, var. SIDDOW *a.*, tender, mellow.

Holland seems to have supposed the word to mean 'fit to serve as seed'.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. vii. II. 23 But they [the seeds] must be all throughly dried before they be seedow and fruitfull. [Fr. *pour rendre les graines bonnes à semer, il les fault toutes secher.*]

Seed-pearl (sī'dpɔ̄ːl). [f. SEED *sb.*] A minute pearl having the appearance of a seed, usually drilled and fastened to some material to be worn as an ornament. **a.** *collect. sing.*

1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods York*, etc. (Surtees) 168 Garnished with..an edge of smale seede pearle sett round abowte the same. 1573–4 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 380 Item, a fayre gyrdle of pomaunder and seede perle garnets and pomaunders. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 108 Some seed Pearle they got. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 Bracelets of braided Hair, Pomander, and Seed-Pearl. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* IV (1881) 105 A golden net, With tassels of seed-pearl and silken strings.

b. *pl.*

1598 FLORIO, *Perlette*, little, small, seede pearles. 1619 tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. Times* II. 976 2 Some [pearls] are found to be so little, that they can not bee drilled by any meanes; and therefore they call them Seede-pearles. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 132 Take oriental seed-pearls; reduce them into a fine powder. 1877 STREETER *Prec. Stones* 235 According to their size they [Pearls] receive certain names;..small, Piece Pearls; smaller, Seed Pearls; smallest, Dust Pearls.

Seed-plot (sī'dplɔt). [f. SEED *sb.* + PLOT *sb.*] A piece of ground in which seed is or may be sown, a seed-bed. Now only *transf.* and *fig.*

1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Pref., Should they not.. rather altogether haue geuen ouer and forsaken the Gospell which they sawe to be the sedeplott [orig. Fr. *semence*] of so many contentions. 1587 FLEMING *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1311/2 This gentleman had..a regard for the seed-plots of learning, to haue them watered with the springs of his bountie. 1604 R. C. *Table Alph., Seminarie*, a seede plot for young trees or grafts, a nurserie. 1642 MILTON *Animadv.* xiii. 52 The honest Gardener that..had wrought painfully about his bankes and seed-plots. 1702 *Pres. St. Jacobitism* 13 The contrary Practise..was nothing else but a Seed-plot of Destruction. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, A *Seminary* is a Seed-Plot, which is adapted or set apart for the sowing of Seeds. 1739 BP. HURD *Moral Dialogues* iii. 114 A nursery of brave men, a very seed-plot of warriors and heroes. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) II. 279 It has been the seed-plot of poetry and romance. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* July 77 The dim nebulous seed-plots of worlds that strew the sidereal heavens.

Seedsman (sī'dzmăn). [f. genitive of SEED *sb.* + MAN *sb.*1 Cf. SEEDMAN.]

1. A sower of seed.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xiii. I. 571 Moreover, they would have the seeds-man to be naked when he soweth them. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 24. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 115 A plain and ordinary man, a Plough-man and Seedsman. 1764 J. RANDALL in *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIV. 515/1 The seedsman can easily lift it [*sc.* the seed plough] up by the handles, even when the hopper is quite full. 1787 BURNS *Song*, '*Again rejoicing Nature sees*' iii, The merry Plough-boy cheers his team, Wi' joy the tentie Seedsman stalks. 1854 MARY HOWITT *Pict. Calendar* 107 A..train of ploughmen and seedsmen preparing the ground for fresh harvests. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie*, etc. 24 The seedsman had scattered the handfu's abroad.

fig. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* K 2, The second kind of Diuels..called..the authors of massacres, & seedsmen of mischiefe. 1726 PENN *Tracts* Wks. I. 537 It is granted by all that I know of, that the Seeds-Man is Christ. 1833 TENNYSON *Poems* 123 The seedsman, memory, Sowed my deepfurrowed thought with many a name [etc.].

2. A dealer in seed.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 33 *note*, The Wife of..Bury, a Seeds-man, living at the Frying-pan in Newgate Market. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 162 From this Place also the Seedsmen in London are furnished with the greatest Quantity of their Seeds. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 443 The ground would be sufficiently filled with roots, not to be purchased in the seedsman's shop. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 148 Eliminate the stimulus given by manufacturers of implements, of artificial manures, and by the numerous competing seedsmen, and our agricultural shows would simply be a series of cattle fairs.

†**See'dster.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEED *v.* + -STER.] A sower; *fig.* a disseminator, an originator.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 606 Mars (the Seedster of debate). 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XV. xciii. 375 Yet, though against the Welsh-kings will, our royall Surname now..It Seedster from that kingly Streene deriues.

Seed-time (sī'dˌtaim). Also 7 seeds-time. [f. SEED *sb.* + TIME *sb.*] The season of sowing seed.

1400 *Langland's P. Pl.* A. Prol. 21 (Univ. Coll. MS.) In sed tyme and in Sowynge. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 253/20 Bytwyx heruest and syde-tyme. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 59 In beir seid tynie 3our burrow rudis ly fauch Cause of this murther laitly maid amang 3ow. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* viii. 22 While the earth remaineth, seed-time and haruest..shall not cease. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* 17, I saw in seed-time an Husbandman at Plow. 1767 A. FERGUSON *Ess. Hist. Civ. Soc.* II. ii. (1793) 137 After they have shared the toils of the seed-time, they enjoy the fruits of the harvest in common. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 484 Harrowing, an operation which is executed by an implement that will be particularly described when it comes to be spoken of in seed-time.

fig. 1614 R. HARRIS *Samuel's Funerall* (1618) 8 Now is the seeds-time, sowe apace, as yet you haue all aduantages from grace and nature. 1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* 60 Youth is the seed time of good habits. 1860 GUTHRIE (*title*) Seed-Time and Harvest of Ragged Schools.

Seedy (sī'di), *a.* [f. SEED *sb.* + -Y 1.]

1. Abounding in seed, full of seed.

1574 J. JONES *Nat. Beginning* 25 The second alteration is partly good, partly euell.., good because it endeth in a seedy qualitie, euel because it is made of some parte corrupted. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. XX, That rich land, where ouer Nilus trailes Of his wett robe the slymy seedy train. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 402 Forthwith they reacht the Tent..A shaggie roofe of seedy reeds, mowne from the meades. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 298 They..run up with a great Stalk, and large, high, seedy, white, yellow Head. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 97 Thistles shake their seedy heads.

b. Used to designate the male hop-plant.

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 546 Difference of opinion exists among experienced planters as to the utility of the seedy or male plant.

2. Shabby, ill-looking.

App. in allusion to the appearance of a flowering plant that has run to seed.

1739 *Joe Miller's Jests* No. 158 A seedy (poor) half-pay Captain. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* III, He is a little seedy, as we say among us that practise the law. Not well in clothes. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* Introd. Addr. P 8 The outward man of the stranger was, in a most remarkable degree, what mine host of the Sir William Wallace, in his phraseology, calls seedy. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXX, 'Devilish cold', he added pettishly, 'standing at that door, wasting one's time with such seedy vagabonds.' 1845 *Punch* VIII. 78 A very seedy coat will ruin the effect of a new hat. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, It's a bore to have been caught in so seedy an affair. 1868 *Less. Midd. Age* 123 A very seedy little railway station, on the outskirts of a large and horribly ugly town. 1892 'F. ANSTEY' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 30 Seated on a Bench beside a Seedy Stranger.

b. Unwell, poorly, 'not up to the mark'.

1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 55 This morning I was very dull and seedy. 1866 *Mysteries of Isis* 35, I shall go to bed, for I feel very seedy after this knocking about. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 1 We were all feeling seedy, and we were getting nervous about it. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 169 A man who is a bit seedy.

†**3.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Seedy*, The French suppose that these brandies obtain the flavour which they express by this name from the weeds which grow among the vines, from whence the wine, of which this brandy was made, was pressed.

4. *Glass-making.* Containing 'seed' or minute bubbles (see SEED *sb.* 6).

1836 H. CHANCE in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 225/1 Perhaps the glass has been badly melted, and is seedy, full (that is) of little vesicles, to which the rotary motion has given a circular shape. 1883 — in H. J. Powell, etc. *Glass-making* 121 The glass is..seedy, for the seed has not the power to collect itself into bubbles and reach the surface of the pot.

5. Of wool: Not cleared from adhering seeds.

1895 *Daily News* 23 Nov. 9/4 Since the opening of the sales, seedy, and burry, and crossbred wools have declined ½d. per lb.

6. *Comb.*, as *seedy-looking* adj.; **seedy-toe**, a diseased condition of a horse's foot (see quot. 1849).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, A precious seedy-looking customer. 1849 PERCIVALL *Hippopathol.* IV. 492 Seedy Toe ..is a disease of foot consisting in a mouldering away, as though through decay, of the toe of the hoof. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 519/1 'Seedy-toe', another disease of the [horse's] foot, is sometimes accompanied by lameness.

See-er, seeër (sĭ·ɔɹ). *rare.* [f. SEE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who sees or beholds. (Used to avoid the customary suggestions of SEER.)

1882 R. L. STEVENSON in *Longman's Mag.* I. 79 He was a great daydreamer, a seeër of fit and beautiful and humorous visions. 1904 FINDLAY in *Expositor* Oct. 314 That implies..a likeness of character, a moral congruity and conformity between the see-er and the Seen.

Seegar, obs. form of CIGAR.

Seege. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **sedge, sege, seydge, 9** *dial.* **seech, sych.** [Of obscure origin: perh. identical with the OE. *sęcg* sea (only in the early glossaries, rendering *salum* and *mare*, and as the second element in *gársęcg* ocean).] The rush of the waves upon the shore; surf.

a 1609 SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 120 The seege of the sea [was] such, that no shipping could lie there unbroken. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xii. 26 All these Ilands are perilous to land in, for the seege caused by the Ocean sea. *Ibid.* xiv. 33 My Boates could not discover any landing place,..for that the sedge was exceedingly great and dangerous. *Ibid.* xli. 97 Certaine of my people standing to defend the Boates with their Oares, for that there went a bad sege, were forced to lay downe their Musketts. 1625 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* (ed. 2) 71 Your Hemp-weede, or any other weede which groweth neere the seydge of the Sea. 1823 BOND *E. & W. Looe* 148 The waves, as they come into the river, occasion the water to rush up the street with great violence... This run of the water is locally called The Seech—they say, the Seech is coming, or the Seech is going back. 1880 COUCH *E. Cornw. Gloss., Sych*, the edge or foaming border of a wave as it runs up a harbour or on the land.

Seege, obs. f. SEGGE; var. SEGGE, man.

Seegh, seeh, obs. pa. t. sing. of SEE.

See-ho. Also 6 **se-howe, 7 seehoo.** [? f. SEE *v.* + Ho *int.*; but cf. SA-HA, SOHO.] A cry used in coursing, on first view of the hare.

a 1500 *Mourn. Hare* 20 in Hartshorne *Anc. Metr. Tales* (1829) 166 The furste man that me may see Anon he cryes, 'se howe, se howe'. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Soho, Seehoo*, said aloud at the starting a hare. 1841 HEWLETT *Par. Clerk* I. 128 'Seeho!' called out the squire, as if he'd found a hare sitting. 1882 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xiii, At this moment there came a 'See Ho!' from Charles; in the next a noble hare had burst from a tangled mass of brambles at his feet.

Seeine, variant of SENE, synod.

Seeing (sĭ·ĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see the vb. [f. SEE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action (*rarely* an act) of the vb. SEE.

Often in phrase *worth seeing* (formerly † *worth the seeing, worthy seeing*).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 88 Swa thai vroucht than That, but seying of ony man, Outane Sym of Spaldyne allane. *c* 1450 *Merlin Festial* 171 The secund cause þat þe sacrament is vset in þe auter is, forto make man by ofte seynge to haue þe sadur mynde of Cristis passion in his hert. 1538–9 in *Lit. Rem. Edw. VI* (ROXB.) p. cclxiv, A cuppe gevon by my Lorde of Wynchester at his first seeyng of the Prince grace. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLII. i, Ah, when comes my blessed being. Of thy face to have a seeing. 1629 CARLIELL *Deserv. Favourite* 534 Madame, will it please you walke into the gallery, There are some pictures will be worth your seeing. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 140 Seeing is believing. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Aug. 1654, But most remarkable and worthy seeing is St. Peter's Cathedrall. 1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 468 There is another church of the same name..which is also very well worth seeing. 1807 WORDSW. *Ode Intimat. Immortality* 156 Those shadowy recollections, Which, be they what they may,..Are yet a master-light of all our seeing. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* iv. § 108 But your architectural designing leads you into no pleasant journeys,—into no seeing of lovely things.

b. *pl.*

1832 J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* Introd. Ep. (1860) 13 A particular account of all my doings, or rather my seeings and thinkings. 1870 *Athenæum* 2 July 8 Enough would have remained, despite many errors, many seeings of things which cannot be seen, to leave the book..interesting.

2. The faculty of seeing, sight, vision.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathon*) 82 As to defe men þe heryngе, & to blynd men þe seynge. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 7 Thi v. wyttis thou most know,..Thi heryng, thi seyng, as I the schewe [etc.]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8235 My helm hath rafft me my syyng And take a-way ek myn heryng. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Elem. Nat. Phil.* xi. (1754) 41 The organ of seeing is the eye. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* 520 Seeing and hearing by philosophers are called senses. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* ii, He might not in house, field, or garden stir, But her full shape would all his seeing fill. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 229 The range of seeing is different in different persons. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* IV. iv, Hunger gives a new seeing to the eyes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *seeing power*; **seeing-glass** (now *dial.*), a mirror; † **seeing-shop** *nonce-wd.*, one's faculty of sight; † **seeing-stone,** a crystal used for scrying; also *fig.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* xii. (1611) 336 Now we see as thorow a *seeing glasse in a riddle: but then we shall see face to face. 1662 HIBBERT *Body of Div.* I. 184 Men of repute are as seeing-glasses by which most men dresse themselves. 1732 *Inventory of G. Bamforth, Sheffield*, A stand, a large seeing glass. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Seeing-glass*, the old-fashioned term for a mirror, formerly a surface of polished metal. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 74 And 3it what othere i3en or *seing power hath God 3ouen to mankinde forto therwith se, than which at sumtyme wolen faile and erre? 1577–82 BRETON *Flourish Fancy*, etc. (Grosart) 25/2 With that I winckte for feare, And shut the windowes of my 'seeing shoppe. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. 205 A globe of crystal was employed by the Druids in their divinations as a *seeing-stone. *Ibid.*, They must look into that true seeing-stone, the teaching of Christ's Church.

Seeing (sĭ·ĭŋ), *ppl. a.* Forms: see the vb. [f. SEE *v.* + -ING 2.] That sees, in various senses of the vb.; having the faculty of sight; † discerning, possessing insight (*obs.*); † gifted as a seer.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14804 Quen seand men him herd and sagh, Of him þam stod selcut gret agh. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* XXX. 10 That seyn to men seende [1388 profetis], Wileth not see. 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1386 'Thei that see', he seyth, 'shul be ful blynde'...The seeynge men be-tokene 3ow, I-wis. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* B 1 b, So David had his seeing Gad to be his watchman. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* V. iii. § 10 (192) Strange that a Foraigner should be more seeing herein, then any of our Native Authors and Records that I ever could behold. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 5 This seeing light, this enlightening eye, is reflection. 1887 *Athenæum* 17 Dec. 818/3 The tendency is..for more and more seeing people to be imported into institutions, until at last they receive more wages than the blind people.

Seeing (sĭ·ĭŋ), quasi-*conj.* [orig. the pres. pple. of SEE *v.*; the use in concord with the subject was developed into the conjunctional use as in *considering, excepting, providing, supposing*, etc. Cf. SEEN *prep.* and *conj.*

The first quot. is a doubtful or transitional example, as the pple. admits of being construed as in concord with the subject, in the sense 'recognizing, perceiving'. The development of the conjunctional use may have been aided by the similarity of sound with SEN, SIN *conj.*]

Seeing that, hence ellipt. *seeing*: Considering the fact that; inasmuch as; since, because.

1503 *Paston Lett.* III. 401, I wol..exhorte you to take it as..paciently as ye can, seeyng that we al be mortal and borne to dey. 1526 TINDALE *John* ii. 18 What token shewest thou vnto vs, seynge that thou dost these thinges? [So most later versions.] 1537 CRANMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 77 As towching the house of the Charterhouse I pray..that it may be turned into a better use (seing it is in the face of the world). 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 36 Of all the Wonders that I yet haue heard, It seemes to me most strange that men should feare, Seeing that death..Will come, when it will come. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 The Top-mast being aloft the Ship..maketh better way.., seeing we have Sea-Room. 1711 PUCKLE *Club* (1817) 35 Seeing Great Britain affords so many lawyers,..he is doubly a fool that..applies himself to a scab. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 578 It must be of importance to accustom young people to it [*sc.* vegetable diet], seeing it's influence is..so happy on beauty of person and tranquillity of soul. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 94 Deep harm to disobey, Seeing obedience is the bond of rule. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Which isn't to be wondered at, seeing that he has just finished six weeks of examination work.

† **Seek,** *sb. Obs.* [f. SEEK *v.*] A series of notes upon a horn calling out hounds to begin a chase. Usually *to blow a seek* (BLOW *v.*1 14 c). Also *fig.*

c 1500 *Coucher-bk. Tutbury* in Blount *Anc. Tenures* (1679) 170 At the said Crosse in the Towne the formast keper shall blow a Seeke. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 139 Lo now he blowes his horne, euen at the kennell dore, Alas, alas, he blowes a seeke, alas yet blowes he more. *Ibid.* ad fin., The measures of blowing set downe in the notes...The Seeke, with twoo windes. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 35 There are ..that loose themselues often, and their Desires in their Deuotions: and may very well goe blow the seeke for them. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 292 The foremost keeper blew a seek, to which all the others replied.

Seek (sīk), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **sought** (sɔt). Forms: **a.** *Inf. a.* 1 sécan, sécan, séocan, 2–5 **sieche, 2–6 seche, 4** *Kent.* **zeche, 3 sæche, 3–5 siche, sheche, suche, 5 sech, seeche, 6** (9 *dial.*) **seech.** *β.* 2–7 **seke,** (2–3 *imper.* **siec**), 3–5 *north.* **sek, 4–6 sieke, sike, syke,** (chiefly *Sc.*) **seyk, 4–7 seeke, 4–8** *Sc.* **seik, 5 ceke,** *Sc.* **seike, 6 seyke, seick, seake, 5– seek. b.** *3rd sing. Pres. Indic.* **a.** 1 sǽceð, -as, 1–2 **séceð,** 2 **sechð,** 3 **scheche**ð, 2–5 **secheth, 4–5 -ith, -yth, -es.** *β.* 1–2 **séceð,** 2–3 **secþ, sekþ,** 4 *Kent.* **zekþ,** 3–6 **seketh, -es, -is,** 4–5 **-ith, -ez,** 6 *Sc.* **seik(k)is,** 6–7 **seekes,** 6– **seeketh, seeks. c.** *Pa. t.* 1 **sohte,** *pl.* **sohtun, -on, -an,** 2–4 **sohte,** (3 **so3te, so3te, soch,** *Orm.* **sohhte**), 3–4 **sohut(e, soghut, soht,** *north.* **sochte,** (**sogtht**), 3–5 **souhte, sou3te, so3te, soght(e,** 3–6 **sowte,** 4 **sa3te,** (**southe, southte, souch**), *Kent.* **zo3te,** 4–5 **soughte, sowhte, sou3t, so3t, sowght, sout(e, sowt, saght,** *pl.* **sou3tten,** *Sc.* **sowoht, schocht,** 4–6 *Sc.* **socht, soucht,** 5 **sow3te, sou3hte,** 6 *Sc.* **souchte,** 6–7 *Sc.* **soght,** 7 **saught,** 4– **sought.** Also 5 **sekyd,** 7 **seekt. d.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **3esoht,** 3 **i-soht, i-so3t, i-souht,** (**y-sopt**), *Orm.* **sohht,** 3–4 **soht,** 3–5 **so3t, sou3t,** 3–6 **soght,** 4 **sohut, sowght,** 4–5 **souht, sout, sowt, so3te, sou3te,** (5 **south, sowth, soyght**), 4–6 **sow3t(e,** *Sc.* **socht, soucht,** (4 **soohte,** 5 **soacht**), 6 **sowghte,** 6–7 **saught,** 5– **sought.** Also 8 **seeked.** [A Com. Teut. weak verb: OE. *sécan*, pa. t. *sóhte*, corresp. to OFris. *sêka, sêza*, pa. t. *sôchta*, OS. *sôkian*, pa. t. *sôhta* (MLG. *sôken*), MDu., mod.Du. *zoeken*, OHG. *suohhan, suohhen*, pa. t. *suohta* (MHG. *sûchen*, mod.G. *suchen*), ON. *sókja*, pa. t. *sótte* (Sw. *söka*, Da. *søge*), Goth. *sôkjan*, pa. t. *sôkida*, f. OTeut. **sāk-**:—pre-Teut. **sāg-**: cf. L. *sāgīre* to perceive by scent, Gr. ἡγεῖσθαι to lead.

The normal modern form of OE. *sécan* would be *seech*, which survives *dial.* in Lancashire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire (cf. *beseech*); the form with *k* is prob. due to the ME. *sęcþ*, 3 pers. sing. pres. ind., which shows the regular phonetic development of OE. palatal *c* before a spirant; but it is not clear why the *k* form should have been generalized in *seek* and not in *teach*, unless indeed the tendency was supported in the former instance by the influence of the ON. form.]

I. Transitive uses.

1. To go in search or quest of; to try to find, look for (either a particular object—person, thing, or place—whose whereabouts are unknown, or an indefinite object suitable for a particular purpose).

In most parts of England the vb. in this sense is no longer colloquially current, being superseded by *look for*.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. § 3 Hwæðer ge nu secan gold on treowum? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 48 þin fæder & ic sarigende þe sohton. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Þe unclene gast..secheð reste hwer he mei wunian. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7308 Herode king let sekenn Crist. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 A wummon þet haueð forloren hire nekle, oðer a sutare his el, he secheð hine anonrilt. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 380 [The hare] secheþ paþes to þe groue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22901 An hungre leon mete he son, Vp and dun his prai sekand. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 30 Corsed was the tyme..þat men..in þe Ryuerys fyrst gemmys sowhte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 118 He yede abowte in the gardin, and soute the clewe, & fonde it. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 48 He dede seche her a man of holy lyff. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 41 And ther was Merlyn longe tyme, till that the sones of Constance lete seche hym in many contrees. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 110 He..so wente and cam sechyng the tour of darayn, whiche he fonde in an euenyng. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* To Rdr. 12 Ane hen that seikis hyr meyt in the mydding. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* G 2, Sexton, I haue sought thee in euery seate in the Church. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. vi. 37, I will go seeke Some Ditch, wherein to dye. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. iii. (1636) 167 The Cimbrians, Theutons, and Tigurins,..sought new habitations. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Vision* XX, Nor scour about to seik a wench. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 155 (*Paris*), I called La Fleur to go seek me a barber directly. 1780 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 366 Other persons should be sought who can do the necessary business with more skill. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVII, I am seeking a place called Fairyknowe. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* XXVI, Ye may be seeking a father to another wean for onything I ken. 1818 — *Rob Roy* XVII, 'I only sought the Orlando.' 'It lies there,' said Miss Vernon, pointing to the table. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 57 Come, my friends, 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world. 1852 R. FORTUNE *Tea Countries of China* 86 Travellers who seek Sunglo tea may now search in vain. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Seaweeds* iv. 89 Wade into the sea, and seek them in the shadow of a rock under water. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lv. 3 You I sought on Campus. 1888–91 BLANFORD *Mammalia India* 121 The Mungooses are terrestrial animals, seeking their prey on the ground.

b. with adv., esp. *out, up,* † *forth.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 390/297 Men leten heom sechen wel widen out and bringue þere into place. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 22 Þe body son þei fonde, þe hade was in doute. Up & doune in þe felde þei souht it aboute. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 602 His men..Myssit thar lord quhen thai com thar...Than can thai consale sammyn ta, That thai to sek hym vp wald ga. 1530 PALSGR. 708/2 Throw your glove where you wyl and my dogge shal seke it out. 1536 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to a man to helpe me to syke vp Byngis mare ij d. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* viii. 137 Let vs seeke vp Christ and prouide for him. He sought vs and found vs, when we [etc.]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 157 Yet haue I ventured to come seeke you out. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* II. B 8 b, Those Serpents which you run from, I seeke forth. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxix, Lucy arose, and opening a little ivory-cabinet, sought out the ribbon the lad wanted. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, The Deputies have mostly got thither, and sought out lodgings. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 104 Every one of us should seek out the best teacher whom he can find. 1889 R. A. KING *Passion's Slave* III. xxix. 62 With this hope, she sought up Herbert in his smoking den.

† c. In *imper.* as a direction to a reader: Look or search for (in a book, table, etc.). Also used = refer to, look up, see, *vide. Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 55 And so seiþ þe psauter, sech hit In *Memento*. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Err. Navig.* E e 4 b, Seeke the signe and degree of the Sunne in the vpper Margine of the Table. 1611 COTGR., *Loincrau.* Seeke *Loinseau.* 1694 J. SELDEN *Trades-man's Help* 142 Seek the Month among the rank of Months. 1730 MALCOLM *New Syst. Arith.* 342 If the given Number is even, seek in the Table the odd Number next lesser. 1828 *Moore's Pract. Navig.* 22 Seek under the column o..the next less logarithm.

d. Sporting. *To seek dead*: chiefly in the imperative, as an order given to a dog to search for and retrieve killed game.

1850 HUTCHINSON *Dog Breaking* (ed. 2) 162 If you wish to establish for ever a confirmed perseverance in 'seeking dead', you must sacrifice *hours*..rather than give up any of the first wounded birds. *Ibid.* 163 The pertinacity with which some dogs will 'seek dead' is really surprising.

2. To try to discover or find out (something unknown). Also with *out, up.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxvii. (1890) 78 Wiþ untrymnesse lacedom secan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16325 All all swa summ þu findenn mahht, 3iff batt tu willt itt sekenn, þe tale off sexe & fowwerrtiȝ þurh Adam all bitaenedd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1542 For-þi lete god þam lijf sua lang þat þai moght seke and vnderfang þe kynd o thinges þat þan were dem. *c* 1327 *Poem Evil Times Edw. II* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 332 Bringe hire to the consторie ther treuthe sholde be souht. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. ii. (1868) 8 He was wont to

seche þe causes whennes þe sounyng wyndes moeuen. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxiv. 47 Not to me alone I trauailede, but to alle sechende out the treuthe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & *T.* 310 The Philosophres stoon Elixer clept, we sechen faste echoon. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 30 þat nounbur þat þou secheste. ? *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* ii. 4 And þouȝ þat he telle not her names here, we haue sout hem oute of oþir of his bokis. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst., Mary Magd.* 307 Yf þe trewth be sowth. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 257/1 If yᵉ signification were once lost, we must of necessitie either seeke vp the signification or put some signification of Gods word therto. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xi. 105 We are forced to seeke out other reasons, whence this great diversitie should proceede in the burning Zone. 1610 HOPTON *Baculum Geod.* VI. xl. 217 To seeke the distance of any place from you. 1714 CUNN *Doctr. Fractions* 16 Multiply all the Numbers continually, and the Product is the Number sought. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 128, I believe that its cause must be sought in the state and variations of the atmosphere. 1828 *Moore's Pract. Navig.* 167 The height of the elevated pole or latitude sought.

3. With object-clause introduced by a conjunction or by an interrog. pron. or adv.: To try to find or discover (*if, how, whether, what,* etc.). ? *Obs.*

a 1000 *Juliana* 571 Sohte synnum fah hu he sarlicast þurh þa wyrrestan witu meahte feorh-cwale findan. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 339/527 Gredinde heo orn and longue souȝte a-boute bi þe se-side, ȝif þe se him hadde up i-cast. 1340 *Ayenb.* 80 þe yealde filozofes þet zuo byzylyche despuȝede and zoȝten huet wes þe heȝeste guod ine þise lyue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. 14 Þare-fore I..set me rycht besyly to seke quhat man he was & of quhat land. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiii. 36 He shal na more seche, wher the heer be chaungid in to ȝalow colour. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 85 Ayein hir will yit mot I bowe, To seche if that I myhte have grace. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 136 He rode aboute this forest, & sowte wher this harpe myght be founde. 1574 H. BAKER *Well-spring Sci.* (1617) 29 First, I must seek how many times the diuisor is contayned in the higher number. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 91 Now let vs on, my Lords, and ioyne our Powers, And seeke how we may preiudice the Foe. 1613 TAPP *Pathw. Knowledge* 311 Which product beeing 1587, I seeke how often it may be had in 3201. 1738 in Boswell *Johnson* (1816) I. 92 What mean the servile imitating crew..Ne'er seek.

b. with *how* (etc.) followed by infinitive. ? *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Mark* xi. 18 The scribes and hye prestes.. sought howe to destroye him [16ɪɪ how they might destroy him]. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. iv. 2 Wise men ne'r sit and waile their losse, But chearely seeke how to redresse their harmes. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vintillard* 120 As a hote furious horse,..seekes how to cast his rider. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 75 Satan..then sought Where to lie hid. 1671 — *Samson* 795, I..sought by all means therefore How to endear, and hold thee to me firmest.

4. To go to, visit, resort to (a place). *arch.*

† In early use also: to take to (the sea); to fall on (the ground); to fall into (the water). (Cf. 14.) *To seek a saint* or *hallow*: to visit his shrine.

Beowulf 1450 Se þe meregrundas mengan scolde, secan sundgebland. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Þæt hi Sunnandæȝum & messedæȝum Godes cyrican ȝeornde secan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7574 Forrþrihht se time comn þerto þatt ure laffdiȝ Marȝe, Affterr Judisskenn laghess boc, þe minnstre shollde sekenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Oðre pilegrimes goð mid swinke norte sechen one holie monnes bones. *c* 1275 LAY. 7938 Þar Cesares folk þane grunde sohte [*c* 1205 folden isohten]. *Ibid.* 23490. *Ibid.* 14739 Þar þe Saxesse men þare see sohte [*c* 1205 þæ se isohten]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13252 Þe sinagogs all soght he Ouer all þe land of galilee. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 249 A wylde walterande whal..was war of þat wyȝe þat þe water soȝte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 17 To Caunturbury they wende The booly blisful martir for to seke. — *Wife's Prol.* 657 Who so..suffreth his wyf to go seken halwes. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 632 As he soust his logging. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 [In autumn] the byrdys shechyn hote regions. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* (Arb.) 95 You haue desire Your sisters court to seech. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* vii. 14 Your lowing Heifers, of their own accord, At wat'ring time will seek the neighb'ring Ford. 1798 WORDSW. *Goody Blake & Harry Gill* 64 And, now and then, it must be said,..She left her fire, or left her bed, To seek the hedge of Harry Gill. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 429 At last a solemn grace Concluded, and we sought the gardens. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* XXXIV. 4 Come from Larius, ..seek Verona.

† **b.** Naut. *To seek up*: to make for (a place). *Obs.*

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 12 Goo south southwest, and seke up Tenet, and seke up vj. fadome on the brakis.

† **5.** To come or go to (a person) in order to see or visit him; to approach or resort to (for help, or the like). *Obs.*

Beowulf 2380 Hyne wreccmecgas ofer sæ sohtan, suna Ohteres. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 17 He hæfde þæȝyt, ða he þone cyninge sohte, tamra deora unbebohtra syx hund. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16782 He nass nohht derrf inoh All opennlig to sekenn þe Laferd Crist biforr þe folc. *a* 1250 *Owl & N.* 1759 To seche hine is lihtlich þing, he nauȝ bute one woning. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 465 Aþelbrus he sohte [*Harl.* sohte, *Laud* sowte] & ȝaf him þat he broȝte. 1302 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 149 We schulle..seche þe for neode. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. 97 Þane sante andro sone scho schocht. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 113 Where is now youre dwelling, Another day if þat I shulde yow seche? 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* x. 165 (Horstm.) And where myht I fynd þat man? quod he; If þat I wyst, I wold hym seche. 1522 *World & Child* 371 (Manly) *Foyle.* But, syr, in London is my chefe dwellynge. *Manh.* In London? Where, yf a man the sought? 1530 PALSGR. 708/1 We wyll seke you there as we go, *nous demanderons alres vous en chemyn.* 1538 LONDON in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 218 He ys moch sowȝt for the agow.

b. *spec.* To approach, draw near to (God), in prayer, etc. [A Hebraism.] Said also of God's visiting the soul. *arch.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 87 Sec nu þinne þeow, Drihten. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* xiii. 3 Drihten..hawað hwæðer he ȝeseo ænigne þæra, þe hine sece. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiii. 3 Þat he see if any is vndirstandand or sekand god. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B.C.* 114 To enquere Wherfore and whi þe holi gost þee souhte. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxii[i]. 1 O God..early wil I seke the. 1611 BIBLE *Ezra* iv. 2, *Ps.* xxiv. 6, cxix. 2, *Zeph.* ii. 3, etc. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 191 They agreed therefore..that they would have a solemn fast-day, in which they would *seek God* (which was the new phrase they brought from Scotland with their Covenant), and desire his assistance.

† **6.** To pursue with hostile intention (a person; also, in Biblical phrase, his soul or life); to go to attack, advance against (an army, country); to persecute, harass, afflict. Also *to seek out, to seek to death. Obs.*

Beowulf 801 Sawle secan. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxix. 3 Fiond mine ða ðe soecað sawle mine. *O. E. Chron.* an. 894, Oht hi mon eac mid oþrum fioccum sohte. *c* 1205 LAY. 31724 Oswi iherden suggen þat Penda hine sohte..& fusde toȝeines Pendan. *c* 1275—6940 þat neuere onleode ne sohte his riche [*c* 1205 þis lond ne iseoðten], ac þis lond was in paise. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11361 Þe king hom sende word aȝen..þat he wolde hom seche out as is pur fon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13307 To man þai wroght neuer vn-pes, Þof man þam soght wit gret males. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* vii. 65 Inglis men with site þam soght. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 102 Thai with so felloun will thaim socht, That thai slew thame euirilkane. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2020, I sall þe seke [Dubl. MS. seche] with a sowme of seggis enarmed. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 441 Lordis, he said, thus is King Eduuard set, In contrar rycht to sek ws in our land. 1561 UNDERHILL in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 169 Methynkes you do moore then the parte off a ientyllemane thus to seke hym. 1583 GRINDAL in Strype *Life* (1710) 281 Tending to the Defence of so notable and sincere a Church, dangerously sought and distressed by many mighty Enemies. 1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 34 Elias being sought to death by Achab and Iesabell. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 161–2 Of vs must Pompey presently be sought, Or else be seekes out vs.

† **b.** Of sin, disease, etc.: To attack. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11833 On ilk side him soght þe sarre. *Ibid.* 27543 Sines..þat clerkes clepes veniale, þe quilk sua hali man es noght þat he ne vmquil wit þaim es soght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 118 Mi sorwe is everemore unteid, And secheth overal my veines. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 870 Lord, suche syttes me haue sought! *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1531 Seknes hyr had so socht in to that sted, Decest scho was.

7. To try to obtain (something advantageous); to try to bring about or effect (an action, condition, opportunity, or the like). Also with *out.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John v. 44 Þe..ne seceaþ þæt wuldor þe is fram gode syluum. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 215 in *Lamb. Hom.* 173 Þa þe godes milce seched [*other texts* sechð, secð, sekþ], he iwis mei ha ifinden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 390 Ich chulle..aredden þe of ham þet schecheð þine deað. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7239 Hir time sco soght, bad þam be nere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. 315 Þe prefet..socht ithandly occasione To bring hym to confusione. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 531 A sure knyghte, þat ayres into vnkoth lond auntres to seche. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 43 Ye..muste seke remedye and retorne to Epire. 1572 *Memorial* in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1899) I. 22 To seik refuge againe in England. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 209 Seeking out new occasions still to crosse the Parliaments desires of a faire Accomodation. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. *Sir T. Morgan* 87 At which he tooke pett, and seek't his fortune (as a soldier). *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Jan. 1682, How earnestly the late E. of Danby..sought his friendship. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* I. 19 Mary sought relief from the tiresome uniformity. 1821 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* x, Those adventures which it is the business of errant-knights to be industrious in seeking out. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 19 The king sought the ruin of Praetextatus. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 147/3 [The fox] once more sought refuge in a drain. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* I. 2 She sought consolation in district visiting.

† **b.** Phr. *To seek one's best*, to seek one's advantage. Cf. OF. *querre son mieilz.* (Later, *to seek one's best avail.*) *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 940 Oþer half ȝer we abbeþ now iwend wiþ oute reste In þe grete se of occean vorto seche oure beste. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 770 'Cutberd', he sede, 'ihc hote, Icomen vt of þe bote, Wel feor fram biweste To seche mine beste'. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2456 For þai wit þaim moght haf na rest, þai most þan scail and seke þair best. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. A iij b, Menne tyued Brutyshlye in open feldes, hauing neither house to shroude them in,.. nor yet anye regarde to seeke their best anayle.

† **c.** *refl.* To aim at one's own advantage. (Cf. *self-seeking.*) *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xiv. 16 Many priuely sekiþ hemself [L. *se ipsos quaerunt*] in þinges þat þey done. 1645 CALAMY *Indictm. England* 19 These men seeke themselves and not the publique...These seeke their owne belly.

† **d.** To invent, contrive. Also with *out, up.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 38 Kueade lordes..þet þe-ulaȝeþ þe poure men..be tayles...oþer be oþre wones þet hy zecheþ oþer beþenche þ hou hi moze habbe of hiren. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1623 The chekker..., The draghtes, the dyse, and oþer dregh gamnes [*printed* gaumes]. Soche soteltie þai soght to solas hom with. 1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 46 By moste honeste meanys of lawes ordynances sought owte wondresliye by witt polytike. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* D d 2 b, When I haue sought vp my day-charmes and night-spelles.

† **e.** To pursue, try to practise (virtue). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 74 Ac hit ne is naȝt ynoȝ to leta þe kueades, ..bote yef me zeche þe uirtues.

f. To plan, or try to work (evil) *on* or *to* (a person).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3130 Oc among ȝu, dredeð ȝu noȝt, to ȝu ne sal non iuel ben soȝt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 688 Þe hund ne harmed noght þe hare, ne nane soght on oþer sare. *Ibid.* 26629 Þe scam þai on þair laverd soght, ful tor it war to tell!

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 120 As he which of his lif ne rowhte, His deth upon himself he sowhte.

8. To ask for, demand, request (*from* a person); to inquire, try to learn by asking. Const. *from,* † *at,* † *of,* in OE. † *to.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 137 Hwæt secestu minne naman? *a* 1000 *Juliana* 170 Gif þu..þe to swa mildum mundbyrd secest. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16212 Þeȝȝ sohhtenn..Att Jesu Crist summ takenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 3571 Wenne þu wult more suluer sæche hit at me suluen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3138 þat child þat was sa mani yere, Ar it was send, soght wit praiyer. 1340 *Ayenb.* 184 'Vayre zone', zayþ he, 'zech euremo red of wyse men'...Alsuo tekþ þe writinge þet me ssel zeche red are yealden, and naȝt mid þe yonge. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 56 God schal seke þe synful mannus bloode..of þe prelatis hondis. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 10, I come to seche youre counseill. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 54 Foly it was..Succour to sek of thar alde mortale fa. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xi. 16 And other tempted hym sekynge of hym a signe from heven. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible* To Rdr., In the Psalmes we lerne how to resorte onely vnto God in all oure troubles, to seke helpe at him. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* D 4 b, You best were rather ..to beseech for life then to seech loue. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 203, I will seeke satisfaction of you. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xx, Before I sought a word of confidence from him. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* x. 113 Nothing would have induced her ever again to seek help or counsel from a priest.

† **b.** With *up*: To try to recover (a debt). *Obs.*

1581 RICH *Farew.* D ij, To seeke vp suche small sommes as were due vnto hym. 1607 R. JOHNSON *Pleas. Conceites Old Hobson* (Percy Soc.) 8 Maister Hobson comming into Kent, to seeke up some desperate debts.

† **c.** With *in*: (*a*) To invite (a person); (*b*) to call in (rent). *Sc. Obs.*

1675 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 339 Upon the occasion of the regents ther soliciting for and seeking in of scollars throw the countrey. *Ibid.* 340 None of the regents of the saids colledgis shall..seek in or solicite..for any schollers to enter this present year. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii. 130 With glooman brow the laird seeks in his rent.

d. In *passive*, of a person: To be 'sought for' (see 16); to be courted, to be 'in request' as a companion. Of a woman: To be wooed or asked in marriage.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 342 His daughter, sought by many Prowest Knights. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 208 She beheld him sought and courted. 1835 MACAULAY *Ess., Mackintosh* P 34 Charles was not imposed on his countrymen, but sought by them.

e. Of things: † To demand, call for (*obs.*); to invite. *rare.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxii. (1674) 110 Injuries written by loquacious Poets, did not touch to the quick,..Truths did only nettle and seek revenge. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 929/1 The fashion..of printing verse attractively and in a shape that seeks the hand.

† **9.** To entreat, beseech (a person) *to do* something; also *of* (the thing asked for). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19590 For drightin has þou soght wit wogh þe to for-giue. *Ibid.* 19786 Til-ward þat like he turnd his face, And kneland soght godd of his grace. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 49 Wrong was a-Fert þo and Wisdam souhte To Make his pees with pons. 1385 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 410/2 The forsayde personaris..souch hym nother with grace lufe na with lauch, to delay his dome. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 163 Him þai supplyed & soȝt & him ensence castis. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 149 Be thai vnpayit, thy pursevandis ar socht To pund pure communis corne, and cattell keir. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* III. 171 Plautian [the traitor]..fell on his knees, and sought them not to misdeeme him.

10. To search, explore (a place) in order to find something. (Sometimes coupled with *search.*)

With this and 10 b, c, d, cf. THROUGH-SEEK *v.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Hwoso haueð ȝeorne isouht alle þe hurnen of his heorte & ne con of-sechen more ut. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7379 Samuel went secand þe land Til he þe hus o iesse faand. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 62 Thai fand nocht, The quhethir the chambre hale thai socht. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxi. 226 Thei wenten and soughten the Wodes, ȝif ony of hem had ben hid in the thikke of the Wodes. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 225 Lukafere, kinge of Baldas, The countrey hade serchid and sought, Ten thousande maidyns faire of face Vnto the Sowdan hath he broghte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Cekyn, or serchyn, *scrutor.* 1530 PALSGR. 708/1, I have sought all the cofers I have for your writynge. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 32 The kyng contynually sent foorth his light horses to seke the countrey, and to se yf any apparaunce were. *a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 214 [He] bad them searche and seik his schipis at thair awin plesour. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iv. 16 Seeking all the woods both farre and nye For herbes to dresse their wounds. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* V, They sought brake, rock, and thicket, in vain.

† **b.** To search, examine, consult (a book, register, etc.). Cf. 1 e. *Obs.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* viii. 233 Looke vp thy Bookes of prophesie...Seeke each leafe, I thee pray. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xlii. 23 b, Robert of Cicyle..a great astronomyer ..had often tymes sought his bokes on thestate of the kynges of England and of france: & he founde by his astrology [etc.]. 1654 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 123 For seiking of ye register, to get ye auld gift of ye ward o 12 o.

† **c.** To probe (a wound); cf. SEARCH *v.* 8. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26641 Alsua þe sin quen it es wroght, Bot it be son wit salsing soght, it reches wide and rotes ai. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3132 (Dubl. MS.) He gart seke þair sarys & þaim salue. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Book* 9437 To him come fysiciens,..And soughte his woundes on eche halue, And leyde ther-to plastres & salue. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1730 Lechis sone his woundis sought.

† **d.** With immaterial object: To examine, investigate, scrutinize; to try, test. Also with *out, through. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26671, I haue mi hert soght ilk a delle. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 231 Kyngis & lordis schulden.. wip most diligence sike þe cause þat þei knowe not [cf. *Job* xxix. 16]. 1408-9 *26 Pol. Poems* viii. 6 Wheþer hast þou serued pyne or blisse, Seche þy werkis and assaye. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 31 Faith is socht and prouine in aduersite as the gold is prouine in the fyr. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvi[i]. 6, I commoned with myne owne herte, and sought out my sprete. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5201 Wer thare fals lawis weill soucht out. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 160, I would Reuenges..wold seek vs through And put vs to our answer.

11. Const. *inf.*: To make it one's aim, to try or attempt *to* (do something). †Also with *for to*; rarely with plain inf. (without *to*).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 30 Hig hine sohton to nimanne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 130 Uor to huden him urom Saul þet him hatede & souhte uorte slenne. 1297 R. GLOUC. 1325 Mid þe emperour & me pes he secþ drawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3768 He soght his broþer for to sla. *Ibid.* 4076 þai soght him ai to greue wit wrang. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxv. 95 Seke euer þe lower place & to be under all. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 129 The King of Phrygia..sought by force to destroy the infant. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 148 Since I saught By Prayer th' offended Deitie to appease. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, He sought to drown his sorrow for the defeat in floods of beer.

b. said of a thing.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 80 But this is trifling, And all the more it seekes to hide it selfe, The bigger bnlke it shewes. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxix. 3 Not tho' a gift should seek, some robe most filmy, to move her. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 93/1 The compass having free movement, is always seeking to point to the magnetic north.

c. In indirect passive const., in which the object of the inf. becomes the subject of the main verb, followed by the passive inf.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 368 Whan he was sowȝte to be made a kynge, & so to take in hym worldly lordeschip. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 106/2 Persons who have any interest in land which are sought to be registered can lodge a caution with the registering officer.

†**d.** With a clause expressing desire or purpose, introduced by *that*. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 59 Siec ðat tu haue þais aȝeanes gode. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xiv. 12 To edificacioun of the chirche seke that ȝe be plenteuous [*and similarly in later versions*]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 b, Seke euer yᵗ ye may se his blessed..face.

II. Intransitive uses.

12. *absol.* To make search.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 8 Heo..secð ȝeornlice oð heo hine fint. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 975 Heo ne sohte nawiht, ah seide ananriht aȝein. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1533 Dor quiles esau soȝte and ran. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19499 Fra hus to hus secand he ran. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1085 þou y southe heþen in-to ynde, So fayr, so strong, ne mithe y finde. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 1, I sowhte in the bakhalf of myn astrelabie, and fond the sercle of the daies. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 770 in *Macro Plays* 28 Yf ȝe wyll haue hym, goo, & syke, syke, syke! 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 13 To seik fra Sterling to Stranawer, A mirrear Daunce mycht na man see. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 774 If examples be sufficient to attaine priuilege for my childe, I nede not farre to seeke. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 9 Which in its furniture dyd so exceede As hardiy shal ye find yf that ye seech. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1247 'Seek, till we find'. And when they sought and found [etc.].

indirect passive. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xxxiii, The pocket-book was again..sought through.

b. In *imper.* as a call to a dog to search for game, etc. Also *seek out!* (See quots.)

1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* 805 *Back!* returns the dog to your heels. *Seek out!* sends him off again in quest of game. . . . *Go seek!* should be impressed on the dog's memory as an order to look for something supposed to be actually lost, or a bird you think is wounded. 1848 HUTCHINSON *Dog Breaking* 21 Then say 'seek' and, without your accompanying him he will search for what you have previously hidden.

†**c.** Cricket. *To seek out*: to field. *Obs.*

1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* 135 The whole party, who are seeking out..change their positions.

d. Phrase, *To have far to seek* (*for*). Cf. 19.

1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xix. § 9 Where then is the line to be drawn? We shall not have far to seek for it. 1828 CARLYLE *Burns* Misc. 1840 I. 340 The poet, we imagine, can never have far to seek for a subject.

13. To go, resort, pay a visit (*to, unto,* †*till* a person, *to, into* a place). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Do..bigan þat fole sechen to his wunienge. *c* 1205 LAY. 28782 And he gon sechien to his twam susteren. *c* 1250 *Owl & N.* 538 Hi boþ hoȝful & uel arme, an sechep ȝome to þe warme. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13457 Fra full ferr can þai till him seke. *Ibid.* 28432 þe nedy sekand to my hus I haue wit-draun wit almus. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 392 In-to Surre he soute. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 282 Quha sperd, scho said to Sanct Margret thai socht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 184 Litill lammys Full tayt & tryg socht bletand to thar dammys. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) F 1 b, Sith we haue..found the rich and wealthie Indian clime, Sought to, by greedie mindes, for hurtfull Gold. 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* i. 129 To seek into strange places for sustenance. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* xxxiii. (1633) 83 Give me that Bird which will..seeke to my window in the hardest frost. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 99 The tempest continuing..we were constrained to seeke into a creeke..for safety of our liues. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 376 Wisdoms self Oft seeks to sweet retired Solitude. 1836 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. VI. VII. 252 If he is always to be thus sought unto methinks he is as far from his longed-for seclusion as ever. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. VI. 86 And in those days Sir Mano to him sought, And held with him much converse. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 190 But a-winter he sleeps in the feast-hall whereto the thrall-folk seek.

b. To apply, have recourse *to* or *unto* (a person, *for* something); to pay court, make request or petition *to*. Often in indirect passive. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 78 To whom ȝ seeche for my medicyne. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 200, I can not seke to no man, nor will not but only to yow. *a* 1555 HOOPER in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 152 Prayer..is the meanes whereby god wil be saught vnto for his gifts. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) 2 *Chron.* xvi. 12 *marg.*, It is in vaine to seke to yᵉ Phisitians, except first we seke to God to purge our sinnes. 1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* 10 My friends now disdain thee, the day shall come that they shall seeke to thee. *a* 1616 BEAUM & FL. *Custom of Country* v. i, I may shine out againe And as I have been, be admired and sought to. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. liv. 316 No..Souldier, could receive a greater affront, than being sought unto, to do an unworthy action. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 53 And you know you have been sought to by some of the first Families in the Nation, for your Alliance. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 224 The dead cannot seek unto God. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, If the wicked will turn from their transgressions, and seek to the Physician of souls. 1853 LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered*, etc. (1872) 349 The Bereans ..sought to the Referee; they searched the Old Scriptures. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 32 Who then sought to thee? who gat help?

†**c.** To resort *to*, *unto*, *till* (a remedy, means of help, an action). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26678 Sekand til an sakful dede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5519 Of alle bales was he brouȝt..& so schal euerich seg þat sechep to þe gode. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Verse) 988 The fift degre es to be swift Eftir our sin to seke to schrift. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. i. 289 Cunning men, Wisards, & white-witches,..that if they bee sought vnto, will helpe almost all infirmities of body & mind. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* I. x. (1692) 54 'Twas his Reproof..that they should seek to the stratagems of Heathen Nations. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVII, Seek to prayer and penance, and mayest thou find acceptance!

†**d.** To make a hostile approach *to*, *till* (a person). *Obs.* (Cf. senses 6 and 17 a.)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 625 The kyng met thame that till hym socht. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5903 He soght to on Symagon, a sad man of armys,..He bere to þe bold with a big sworde.

†**14.** To go, move, proceed (in a specified direction). Widely used in ME.; e.g. *to seek up*, to rise (from a sitting posture); *to seek asunder*, to part; *to seek to the earth* or *ground*, to fall; *to seek out of life*, to die. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 504 Hi ða syððan ȝewunelice þider sohton. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1810 þe luþer maximian westward hider soȝte. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12734 Wyþ þat strok to þe erþe he sought. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5455 þei..soute sepe on-sunder, þough it hem sore greued. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 655 þat þou miȝt seo him þi-self ar þow henne seche. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2962 With þat he sleȝly vp soȝt & his sete leuys. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6644 He seyt to þe soile & soght out of lyue. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2952 They brake sege and homward sought. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 201 War nocht for schayme he had socht to the ground. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 3428 And he goith one, and frome the feld he socht.

†**b.** said of a thing. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3106 þe smel was suette þat soght till heuen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 563 Quen þe swemande soȝe soȝt to his hert. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 744 Ryght so sey I be fire or sovne Or smoke or other thynges lyght Alwey they seke vpwarde on hight. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1091 Er the sun vp soght with his softe beames. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1619 The giaunt hym ayen smate, Thorough his sheld and his plate, Into the flesh it sought. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 200 The paynfull wo socht till his hart full sone. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 43 Another Fig tree called Ægiptiaca, being throwen into the water, it straight waye discendeth and seeketh to the bottom.

†**c.** Sometimes conjugated with *be*, in the perfect and pluperfect tenses. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3707 In-to cades ðe folc was sogt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4320 For sua þou mai þe driue to ded..Quen þou art soght fra þi succur. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 502 Swiche sorwe icham in soust. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3003 Or he was soȝt to þe side. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. I. 23 Eneas..Is till Evander socht.

15. Seek after —. To go in quest of, look for; to try to find, reach, or obtain; † to pursue in order to hurt. Now chiefly in passive: To be desired or in demand; to be courted, to have one's presence desired.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Sech after þing þe ðe beð biheue. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6273, & all forwerrp þu towarrd himm Tosekenn affterr wrecche. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 1/6 Eleyne, þat was is moder, to Ierusalem he sende to sechen after he holie rode. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1868) 47 þan is it no nede þat þou seke after þe superfluite of fortune. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 178, I seke after a segge þat I seigh ones. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. ix. 48 Bifore eer he eny suche cause fyndeth, and eer he aftir eny suche cause sechith. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 53 Yef they..sekyd after the mercye of god and alsoo after the helpe of his holy seyntys. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xiii. (xiv.) 2 To se yf there were eny, that wolde vnderstonde & seke after God. *Ibid.* lxix. [lxx.] 2 Let them be shamed & confounded that seke after my soule [*and so* 1611]. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 405 You see (my good Wenches) how men of Merit are sought after. 1625 W. BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* III. § 97 We..do not seeke after those bookes. 1698 BAKER tr. *Balnac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 44, I will never believe that ill fortune any more than good will seeke after me as far as this. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 22 P 5 They have been always seek'd after by the Ladies. 1850 SCORESBY *Chearer's Whalam. Adv.* VI. (1859) 77 The first four, only, of this catalogue are much sought after for their oil. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. VI. VIII. 262, I was aware that he had been greatly sought after as a preacher.

16. Seek for —. To look for, try to find or obtain, etc. (An equivalent for the transitive senses 1, 2, 7.)

c 1250 *Owl & N.* 1508 Ich not hu mai eni freo-man for hire sechen after þan. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 208 And yit therfore With al his wit he hath don sieke. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 133 For more pasture I will nat stryue Nor seche for my foode no more. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* I. 37 All men seke for the. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* III. 247 b, If we be colde, we seke for cloth. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 18 They went therefore seeking heere and there for money. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 161 Our disappointment and their security were neither to be sought for in their valour nor our misconduct. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXV. 182 The group..broke up, seeking in all directions for a means of passage. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 362 The true life should neither seek for pleasures, nor..entirely avoid pains.

†**b.** Naut. *To seek up for*: to 'bear up for', sail towards. *Obs. rare.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 44 The tempest increasing.., we were constrained to seeke vp for the Port.

†**17.** Seek on, upon —. [Cf. ONSEEK *v.*] **a.** To approach with hostile intention; to advance against, set on, attack, assail. Also in indirect passive. Similarly, *to seek again*(*s* (= against). (Cf. sense 6.) *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 8433 Herigal him soðte on mid hehær strengðe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 22 Leccherie anan riht greideð hire wið þet to weorrin o þi meiðhad, & secheð erst upon hire, nebbe to nebbe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4411 Ioseph soght [*Gött.* sohut] on me in bour. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 196 And somtyme be we suffred for to seke Vp-on a man, and doon his soule vnreste. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 190 And he with pouer goth to seke Ayein the Scottes forto fonde the werre which he tok on honde. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1735 For þou has samed ..a selly nounbre..to seke vs agaynes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 84 My lord the Sowdon vpon me soght In grete wrathe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 304 Vndyr my scylle I sall be bound to the For Inglismen, that thai sall do him nocht, Nor to no Scottis, less it be on thaim socht. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 125 He is..ful lothe to fyghte with ony man but yf he be sore sought on. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 3321 One thar fois ful fersly thai soght. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xlv. 150 Better it were for vs to seke batayle then to be sought on. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 341 Alcibiades.. so came home highly welcomed, although thei had by necessitee been forced to seeke vpon hym.

b. To approach, apply to (a person) in order to obtain something.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13726 Quen þai þis wais on iesu soght, Well he wist all quat þai thoght. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. i. 840 Than Syr Mordred sought on quene Gueneuer by letters & sondes..for to haue hir to come oute of the toure of london. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxlviii. 556 When Johan Lyon sawe himselfe sought on by them whom he desyred to haue their good wylles and loue, he was greatly reioysed. 1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 5 They..seke only uppon hym for theyr ouun commodytye. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 12 b, Seyng that we seke upon straungers [L. *quando peregrinos euocamus*].

†**18.** To make inquiry or request. Const. *of* (the thing inquired for). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 80 Bot of here entre whan thei soghte, The gates weren al to smale. *Ibid.* III. 373 This have I for thin ese cast, That thou nomore of love sieche.

III. Uses of the gerundial infinitive *to seek.*

19. Predicated of a thing or person that needs to be sought or looked for; = not to be found or not yet found, not at hand, absent, missing, lacking. *Far to seek*, far out of reach, a long way off.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 321 The Philosophres stoon..I warne yow wel, it is to seken enere. *c* 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 294 Who may not playe one daye in a weke May thincke his thrift farre to seke. 1562 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 13 When his Maister nedeth him, he is to seeke. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 21 With some vpon Sundaies, their tables doe reeke, and halfe the weeke after, their dinners to seeke. 1612 ROWLANDS *Knave of Harts* B 4 b, With trauellers monie may be to seeke. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 327 Lest they should grow idle, and have their strength to seek when the war should break out. 1775 *Tender Father* I. 205 Amelia..was still to seek, and, perhaps, in reality, totally lost to him. 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* III. v. § 6. 262 This supposes that we have found the rational method of determining value: which, however, is still to seek. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* xi, The end she knew; the means were to seek.

b. With negative: Not needing to be sought or looked for, not hard to find, not absent or wanting. Also *not far*, †*not long*, *to seek.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 784 Oure conseil was nat longe for to seche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 160 My sorwe is thanne noght to seche. *Ibid.* 236 Whan Deianyre hath herd this speche, Ther was no sorwe forto seche. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 238 All Se fowle and Seid fowle was nocht for to seike. *Ta* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 26 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 26 The four ordouris wer nocht for to seik, Thay wer all in this toun dwelling. 1860 GEM. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxxxiv. 102 The extreme answer, for which examples are not to seek. 1876 W. H. POLLOCK in *Contemp. Rev.* June 57 The reason is not far to seek.

20. Of a person, his faculties, etc.: **a.** At a loss or at fault; unable to act, understand, etc.; puzzled to know or decide. *Const.* indirect question introduced by *how*, *what*, etc.; also *to* (do). *Obs.* or *arch.*

Also *much, far, all to seek*; †*now to seek*, utterly at a loss.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 62 Thi wittes ben riht feer to seche. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxiv. 514 With him ther hath been many a sundry leeche..but al to seeche Hire art was. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 234 And hardily, they were nothing to seke How they on hem shuld the harneys set. 1523

Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 893 Zeuxes, that enpicturid fare Elene the quene, You to deuyse his crafte were to seke. *a* 1529 — *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 37 To turney or to tante with me ye ar to fare to seke. 1581 Rich *Farew.* B b j, Thus Emelya was now [*read* new] to seeke. 1583 Golding *Calvin's Deut.* lxxii. 445/1 Insomuch that..they wote not where they bee, but are newe to seeke in their imaginations. 1597 Hollyband *Fr. Littleton* Ep. Ded. (1625) 5 Saying, that the learner is newe to seeke, when he cometh to a booke without such marks. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxix. (1612) 325 Yea far he is to seeke of what his proper Nature is. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 847 The Gouernour..who alwaies brought vp in ciuile affaires, was to seeke how to defend a siege. 1667 Duchess of Newcastle *Life Duke of N.* (1886) iii. 192 Whereas now he should be to seek to do the like, his estate being so much ruined by the late Civil Wars. 1698 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* (1699) 27 Whence this great Liberty of Sculpture arises, I am much to seek. 1709 Shaftesb. *Moralists* ii. i. 47 But what real Good is, I am still to seek. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* I. 48 Charles passed the night in..forming projects, abandoning them [etc.]. In the morning he was as much to seek as ever. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xx, For the details of our itinerary, I am all to seek.

b. Wanting or deficient *in*, † *of*; without skill or learning *in*. With *for*: Badly off or at a loss for, unable to find. *arch.*

c 1522 Skelton *Why nat to Courte* 314 Sergyantes of the coyfe eke, He sayth they are to seke In pletynge of theyr case At the Commune Place. 1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* Prol. D j, So be there agayne many mo full vndiscreate, vnreasonable, chorlishe, and farre to seke in such thinges. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 89 Greece is..neuer void of some Synon, neuer to seeke of some deceitful shifter. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* ii. ii, I that haue dealt so long in the fire, will not be to seek in smoak, now. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 544 For if you reduce Vsury, to one Low Rate, ..the Merchant wil be to seeke for Money. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, Dan.* iii. 16 O King Nebuchadnezzar, wee are not to seeke of a ready answer to this charge of thine. 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 199 He being to seek for a version that would please the Doctor, it was a long time before he could hit it. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* v. 118 Does he not also leaue us wholly to seek in the Art of Political Wagering? 1771 Foote *Maid of Bath* iii. Wks. 1799 II. 238, I promise you she sha'n't be to seek for the means. 1803 Porson in *Museum Crit.* (1814) I. 332 The Germans in Greek Are sadly to seek. 1835 H. J. Rose in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 107 Our good clergy are sadly to seek in the great points, viz. Church authority, &c. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* i. ix, The Cause, which is at present sadly to seek in the matter of young ladies.

† **c.** Astray from the truth, mistaken. *Not to seek*: not ignorant, well aware (*that*). *Obs.*

1569 Sir N. Throckmorton *Let.* in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* App. No. 32 You are not to seek that some will use cautions, some neutrality, some delays. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 347 Yet are they very much to seeke in that they doe so much exclaime against taking up of veyns. 1657 Heylin *Ecclesia Vind.* Gen. Pref. c 1 b, Which if it be not a restraining of the Gift of Prayer, I am much to seek.

IV. 21. *Comb.* **a.** of the verb + object, as † **seek-sorrow, -trouble**, one who seeks sorrow, etc. **b. Seek-no-farther** (or **-further**), a kind of apple.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* i. (1598) 88 A field they go, where manie lookers be, And thou seek-sorow Klaius them among. 1611 Florio, *Cattabrigu*, a make-bate, a busie-bodie, a pick-thanke, a seeke-trouble. 1670 Meager *Eng. Gard.* 86 [Apples.] Seek no farther. 1845 Downing *Fruits Amer.* 93 Autumn Apples... Rambo. Seek-no-further, of New Jersey. 1850 Miss Warner *Wide Wide World* xxii, 'Seek-no-further!' said Ellen;—'what a funny name. It ought to be a mighty good apple'. 1875 Hogg *Fruit Man.* (ed. 4) 134 This is the true old *Seek-no-further*.

Seek, obs. f. Sick; var. Sikh.

See·kable, *a. rare*—°. [f. Seek *v.* + -able.] † Capable of investigation. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/2 Sekabylle, *scrutabilis*.

Seeke: see Sick *a.* and *v.*[1]

Seeker (sī·kəɹ). Forms: 4 **secher, sekere**, 5 **seker**, 6 **seaker**, *Sc.* **seiker**, 6– **seeker**. [f. Seek *v.* + -er [1].]

1. One who seeks, in various senses of the verb; a searcher, an explorer, one who endeavours to find something hidden or lost. Const. as the vb.

Often used as the second element in objective combinations, such as Office-seeker, Pleasure-seeker.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1196 (Kölbing) On a day, as ich 3ou telle, þo ich þre sechers snelle þat were ysent fram þe king. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* Prol. 117 Knowing of trouth in causes of thinges was more hardyer in the first sechers..and lighter in us that han folowed after. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/1 A Seker, *scrutator*. 1567 Palfreyman *Baldwin's Mor. Philos.* viii. vii. (1600) 129 Neither slaunder nor flatter, nor bee no seeker out of other mens matters. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 136 He trett meklie the seikeris of wylde beistes. *a* 1686 Clarkson *Serm.* (1696) 150 He rewards all seekers. 1818 Byron *Yuan* i. cxliv, 'Tis odd, not one of all these seekers thought..Of looking in the bed as well as under. *a* 1850 Calhoun *Wks.* (1874) IV. 302 As soon as the government becomes the mere creature of seekers of office, your free institutions are nearly at an end. 1868 Farrar (*title*) Seekers after God. 1881 Lady D. Hardy *Through Cities & Prairie Lands* 131, I fancy they are searching for the bride...But nobody attempts to put the clue in the hands of the seekers.

b. *Eccl. Hist.* (With capital S.) As the designation assumed by a class of sectaries in the 16–17th c.: see quot. 1645.

1617 J. Morton in R. Barclay *Inner Life Relig. Soc. Commw.* (1876) 412 Oh, ye Seekers, I would ye sought aright, and not beyond the Scriptures, calling it carnal. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 141 Many..go under the name of Expecters and Seekers & doe deny that there is any true Church, or any true Minister, or any Ordinances: some of them assume the Church to be in the wildernesse, and they are seeking it there: others say it is in the smoke of the Temple, & that they are groping for it there. 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 1, I saw a Vision yesternight Enough to sate a Seekers sight: I wisht my self a Shaker there, And her quick pulse my trembling sphear. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 10 Many separate societies, and amongst the rest also, such as were called Seekers. 1795 Seward *Anecd.* (ed. 2) I. 318 Sir Henry Vane, so sagacious and resolute as to daunt and intimidate even Cromwell himself, yet so visionary and so feeble-minded as to be a Seeker and Millennist. 1836 H. Rogers *J. Howe* iii. (1863) 47 From the Papists, who clung to every particle of ancient error, to the Seekers, who wandered about [etc.].

† **c.** *Seeker-out*: a fielder at Cricket. *Obs.*

1744 J. Love *Cricket* (1770) 18 The Seekers-out change Place. 1748 in *Waghorn's Cricket Scores* (1899) 41 Smith.. being allowed a seeker-out.

2. An instrument used in seeking or searching. **a.** A kind of slender probe or tracer used in dissections. Cf. Searcher 3 a.

1658 A. Fox *Wurts' Surg.* I. vi. 22 The small iron [surgical] instruments, which by reason of seeking, are called the seekers or searchers. 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Technol.* 72 The tracer is apparently similar to the 'seeker' of the English anatomists...This instrument was introduced into the laboratory of Cornell University [etc.]. 1888 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (ed. 2) 281 Insert a seeker into it [the pedal gland of the common snail]—it can be readily introduced for a distance of more than an inch.

b. Part of an astronomical telescope; cf. Searcher 3 e, Finder 3 b.

1892 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 473/2 Prof. Lamp at Kiel found it easily visible to the naked eye.., with a tail which in the seeker appeared about 2° in length.

Hence (sense 1 b) **See·kerism**, † **See·kerness**.

1657 J. Watts *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 1. 58 Is it to shew your unsettled and scrupulous seeker-nesse? 1884 *Ch. Quarterly Rev.* XIX. 57 It [Independency] was continually losing its younger adherents by the ceaseless drift to Anabaptism, to Seekerism, to Quakerism [etc.].

Seekh, variant of Sikh.

Seeking (sī·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* For forms see the vb. [f. Seek *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the vb. Seek in its various senses.

(*It is*) *of my own seeking*: said of a misfortune that has been brought about by one's own fault. Also negatively, (*It is not* (colloq. *it is none*) *of my seeking*: said of an honour or success, or of a quarrel or the like, which the speaker disclaims having sought.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5930 Þan asswyþe pers þey sogh̃t, But al here sekyng was for no3t. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. lii. 500 Fyrste to the vncoupelynge, to the sekynge, to the rechate,..and many other blastes and termes. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2503 And gawan, which was in the seeking 3hit Of the gud knycht, of hyme haith got no wit. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xi. 7 Wilt thou fynde out God with thy sekynge? *a* 1643 Cartwright *Siedge* ii. iii, You hear the Tyrant's wonderfully taken With us: It was none of our seeking; Fortune Hath thrown the Dignity into our Lap. 1608 [Bethel] *World's Mistake in O. Cromwell* 13 Instead of answering his seekings, the Marchants remonstrated to him, the great prejudice that a Warr with Spain would be to England. 1671 Milton *P. R.* iii. 151 Of glory as thou wilt, said he, so deem, Worth or not worth the seeking, let it pass. 1718 Motteux *Quix.* (1733) II. 23 Why that's well quoth Sancho: a happy Seeking and a happy Finding. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. ii. *Sutherl.* I. 98 The misfortune is entirely of my own seeking. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 288 They had been involved in hostilities which were not of their own seeking.

† **b.** The object of seeking. *Obs. rare.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxvi. 13 And fra now .i. sall seke þi face lastandly til my ded and þat .i. fynd my sekynge. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 437 Pane socht þay hyme dais thre..til hyme-self one þe thryd day askyt þare sekyne. 2607 Shaks. *Cor.* i. i. 192 What's their seeking? *Men.* For Corne at their owne rates, wherof they say The Citie is well stor'd.

Seeking (sī·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Seek *v.* + -ing [2].] That seeks, in various senses of the vb.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/2 Sekynge, *querens, scrutans*. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* iii. (Sommer) 249 Pamela only casting a seeking looke, whether she could see Dorus. 1656 *Stobbes' Confer. Christ & Mary* To Rdr. 4 Christ, (who is never far absent from a seeking soul). 1715 E. Erskine *Wks.* (1871) I. 51 Wind is of a very seeking penetrating nature. 1859 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* v. (1877) I. 122 Inspirations addressed to the seeking intellect of the philosopher.

Seekle, Seekly: see Sickle, Sickly *adjs.*

† **Seel**, *sb. Naut. Obs.* Also 7 **seele**. [f. Seel *v.*] A sudden heeling over of a vessel in a storm.

1625 Glanville *Voy. Cadiz* 117 Our shipp did rolle more, and fetch deeper and more dangerous Seeles then in the greatest storme. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-manns Dict.* s. v., The Lee-seele, is when she rowles to Leeward; there is no danger in this seele, though [etc.]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 265/2 Seale, or seeling, is a sudden turning aside of a ship, forced by the motion of the Sea and fearful Winds. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Seeling*, When a ship thus tumbles to leeward, they call it *lee-seel*.

† **Seel**, *v.*[1] *Naut. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* Of a ship: To make a sudden lurch to one side. Hence † **See·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1618 Raleigh *Royal Navy* 24 When a Ship seels or roules in foule weather. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* xi. 487 They plie their tasks; some seeling yards bestry'd And take in sailes. 1644 Manwayring *Sea-manns Dict.* s. v. *Seele*, So that seeling is but a suddaine heeling, forced by the motion, and feare of the sea or wind. 1692 *Smith's Seaman's Gram.* i. xvi. 82 *The Ship seels*, that is, when on a sudden she lies down on her side, and tumbles from one side to the other. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Seeling*, If she rowls or seels to windward, there is fear of her coming over too short or suddenly.

Seel (sīl), *v.*[2] Forms: 5 **sele**, 6 **cele**, 6–7 **siel**, 6–9 **seal**, 7 **ceel, seele, seile**, 6– **seel**. [Later form of Sile *v.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To close the eyes of (a hawk or other bird) by stitching up the eyelids with a thread tied behind the head; chiefly used as part of the taming process in falconry. Also, to stitch *up* (the eyes of a bird).

a 1500 in Harting *Perf. Bk. Sparhawkes* (1886) Introd. 12 Take the outsyd of her ye and put thorgh ye nedell and the threde [etc.]...And then thou maist sey she is a seled. 1530 Palsgr. 479/1, I cele a hauke or a pigyon whan I sowe up their eyes for caryage or otherwyse. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* ii. i, He, tame Crow,..would haue kept Both eyes, and beake seal'd vp, for sixe *sesterces*. 1641 R. Brooke *Eng. Episc.* 5 Your Faulkners seele a Pigeons eye (when they would haue her soare high) to prevent a Vertigo. 1647 Hexham I. (Birds), To seile a Hawke. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Falconry*, Care ought to be taken, not to seel her too hard. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* v, You cannot..reclaim a hawk..or direct his diet when he is sealed. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry in Valley Indus* vi. 68 A bird of the same colour with eyes seeled and wings shortened. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 373/1 (Falconry) *Seel*, to sew up the upper eyelids of a hawk, and tie the threads behind the head. An obsolete practice now superseded by the hood.

fig. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* iv. i. 41 Al conscience is sealed at Athens.

2. *transf.* To close (a person's eyes). Also *fig.* to make blind, to prevent from seeing, hoodwink.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 766 Thy light is darkned, and thine eyes are siel'd. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iii. iii. 210 Shee that so young could giue out such a Seeming To seele her Fathers eyes vp. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* iii. xiii. 112 But when we in our viciousnesse grow hard..the wise Gods seele our eyes In our owne filth. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 18 It is bad to haue the eyes seeled, but worse to have the ears sealed up. 1814 Southey *Roderick* xvi. 240 A life-long night Seel'd his broad eye.

Hence **Seeled** (sīld) *ppl. a.*; **See·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 65 b, Now she brought them to see a seeled Doue, who the blinder she was, the higher shee straue. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* iii. ii. 46 Come, seeling Night, Skarfe vp the tender Eye of pittiful Day. 1625 Quarles *Sions Sonets* xv. iii, These seiled eyes that slept So soundly fast, awak'd, much faster wept. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 186 Lovers like ceel'd Pidgeons flying the Higher for having been Blinded. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Hawking*, Then cast out a sealed duck. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry in Valley Indus* iv. 48 The seeling threads are cut short. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 123 Their talk was all of training, terms of art, Diet and seeling.

† **Seel**, *v.*[3] *Obs.*—° [ad. F. *ciller*, f. *cil* eyelash, orig. also eyebrow.] (See quot.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Seeling*, A Horse is said to *Seel*, when upon his Eye-brows, there grows about the Breadth of a Farthing of white Hairs, mixed with those of his natural Colour; which is a Mark of Old Age.

Seel: see Ceil *v.*, Seal *sb.* and *v.*, Sele, Sell *v.*

Seeld(e, var. ff. Seld; obs. pa. t. of Sell *v.*

Seelden, seeldome, obs. forms of Seldom.

† **Seele.** *Obs.* Also 5 **cele, seill.** [? a. F. *ciel* sky, canopy.] A canopy.

1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 5 In this wise the King shall ride opyn heded vndre a seele of cloth of gold baudekyn. *Ibid.* 7 A seile of bawdkyne of gould lyned with bawdkyne.

Seele, obs. f. Ceil *v.*, Seal *sb.* and *v.*; var. Sele.

Seeled, obs. form of Ceiled, canopied.

1643 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc.) 99, 1 Seeled Bed with furniture.

† **Seelihead.** *Obs.* In 5 **selyhede.** [f. Seely *a.* + -head.] Happiness.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 582/31 *Felicitas*, selyhede.

† **See·lily**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **séliliçe**, 3 **seliliche, seliliz**, 4 **selily**, 5 **selyly**. [ONorthumb. *séliliçe* (= WS. *gesæliliçe*); see Seely *a.* and -ly [2].] Happily.

[*c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xi. § 1 Manixe habbaþ ʒenoʒ gesæliliçe ʒewifod.] *a* 1000 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 79 Seliliçe, *feliciter*. *c* 1200 Ormin 17318 Þurrh whatt himm comm swa seliliz To findenn Godess are. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boethius* II. pr. iv. 64 (Addit. MS.) Som man is wel and selily maried but he hab no children. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (Dubl. MS.) xviii. 42 Yn hys lyf of thys world, chaunged wel selyly for þe lyf that euer shal lest without end.

† **See·liness.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **selines, sellines**, 4–5 **selynes(se**, 4, 7 **selinesse**, 7 **seelinesse**. [f. Seely *a.* + -ness. OE. had *gesæliġnes*.]

1. Happiness, blessedness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10816 All cristen men þat was and es, Has thorut hir pair selines. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 813 So worldly selinesse,..Y-medled is with many a bitternesse! 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. x. 79 For thou wenest thilke joye to be selinesse or els ese. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Agnus* 135 Swetter þe loue, feyrere þe face, And of selynes mych gretere þe grace. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* xxx. iv, In mykill ioye and worldly selynesse.

2. Simplicity; silliness. *rare.*

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 45 As old Eli overrules Samuels seelinesse. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 164 Any simple Reader may easily discry the selinesse of your Arguments.

Seeling, obs. f. Ceiling. **Seeling**, *vbl. sbs.* and *ppl. adjs.*: see Seel *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]

Seely (sī·li), *a. Obs.* (exc. *dial.*). Forms: 3 **seoly**, 3–6 **seli(e**, 3–7 **sely**, 4 **sele** (**selly, selli**), 4–5 **oely, (selly)**, 5 **oele, 6 sealie, -y**,

seally(e, seilie, -ye, selle, sellie, sel(l)ye, sielie, -y, zelie, 6–7 seeley, seelye, 6–7, 9 seelie, 5– seely. See also I-SELI, and the later SILLY *a.* [Com. WGer.: OE. **sǽlig* (implied in the synonymous *gesǽlig* I-SELI *a.*, and in the adv. *sǽliglīce* SEELILY) = OFris. *sêlich* (mod.NFris. *salig*, WFris. *sillich*), OS. *sâlig*, MDu. *sâlech* (Du. *zalig*), OHG. *sâlig* (MHG. *sælic*, mod.G. *selig*) :—OTeut. type **sæligo-* f. **sǣli-z* luck, happiness (Goth. *sêls*, OE. *sǽl*: see SELE). In ordinary mod. English the word is represented by SILLY, a form which arose in the 15th c. from a shortening of the vowel, the pronunciation of which had changed from (*ē*) to something approaching (*ĭ*).]

1. (Cf. SELE *sb.* 2). ? Observant of due season, punctual.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Þe ðriddе [werke of brihtnesse] is þat man be waker and liht and snel and seli and erliche rise and ȝernliche sech chireche.

2. Happy, blissful; fortunate, lucky, well-omened, auspicious.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 31 Almiȝtin louerd,..ðu giue me seli timinge To thaunen ðis werdes biginninge. *Ibid.* 2546 And egipte folc adden niȝ, for ebris adden seli siȝ. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 143 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Nere he mayde ful seoly þat myhte wunye myd such a knyhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3362 Til his behoue haue i þe soght, In seli time. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 503 For sely is that deeth,..That, ofte y-cleped, cometh and endeth peyne. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. x. 108 Than, say I, thou art blisful and fortunat sely, if thou knowe thy goodes that thou hast yet beleved. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 302 The by-tide a cely chaunce, thi lyfe was savede this daye. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* 185 In gude tyme and sely to begynne Thair prentissehed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Sely, or happy, *felix, fortunatus.* 1468 *Medulla* in *Cath. Angl.* 56 *Felicio*, to make sely. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 56/1 Cele, *vbi* happy.

3. Spiritually blessed, enjoying the blessing of God. Said of persons, their condition or experiences.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1421 Þurh seli martirdom. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 108, & tu seli ancre, þet ert his seli spuse, leorne hit ȝeorne of him þet [etc.]. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* 205 Bisech for me þine seli sune Milce and merci and ore. *c* 1340 *Abbey of Holy Ghost* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 326 A Jhesu, blyssede [es] þat abbaye and cely es þat religione. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 74 In pathmos als þe angel brycht Schawyt hyme ful sely sycht. *c* 1400 *Primer* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1846) II. 11 Resp: Cely [orig. *felix*] art thou, hooli virgyne marie, and worthiest al maner preisyng.

4. Pious, holy, good.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1453 Tac read, seli meiden, to þe seoluen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1986 Ðor was in helle a sundri stede, wor ðe seli folc reste dede;..Til ihesu crist fro ðeden he nam. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Þureh his [John the Baptist's] sely sermun serewe him wes by-þouht. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 426 in *Macro Plays* 16 Lady, helpe! sely darlynge, vene, vene!

absol. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Þis is nu inouh of þisse witte iseid et tisse cherre, to warnie þeo selie.

Proverb. *c* 1290 *Beket* 216 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 112 Seli child is sone i-lered. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 60 For sely [*v.r.* cely] child wold alday soone lere. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* III. 3265 For sely barnis are eith to leire.

5. Innocent, harmless. Often as an expression of compassion for persons or animals suffering undeservedly.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 453/138 'Alas', he seide, 'þis seli best: þat no-þing ne doth a-mis!' 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6453 To þe king of hongri þis seli children twie He sende uor to norisi þat he wardede hom wel beye. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 499 Withdrow þe knif, þat was lewe Of þe seli children blod. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 584 Gret was..the repentance Of hem that hadden wronge suspeciοun Vpon this sely Innocent Custance. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 336 Acab and quene Iesabell, Quhilk sely nabot..For his wyne yarde wyth outyn pitee sleue. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 578 And thus the loselles stryues, And lewdely sayes by Christ Agaynst the sely preest. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vi. M v, Sely innocent Daniell was caste into the lyons. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. vi. (1895) 200 To see a seely innocent hare murdered of a dogge. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 114 And murther the poore and seely people, which God wot, meant no harme. [1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* iii. 135 A racy sense of what such seely shepherds may have gathered from an angel's song.]

6. Deserving of pity or sympathy; pitiable, miserable, 'poor'; helpless, defenceless. Cf. SILLY *a.* I, I b.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 781 Þis word dude muche wo to þis seli olde king. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13972 A seli sin-ful sco was an, And first als a comun womman. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 683 To helpen sely Troilus of his wo. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* 44 Quhy lest god mak ȝou so, my derrest hert, To do a sely prisoner thus smert. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 201 Sely Scotland, that of helpe has gret neide. 1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Sely or fearfull, *paoureux.* Sely wretched, *meschant.* *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 86 At the threshold her sely fote did trippe. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. ix. (1895) 301 But thies seilie poore wretches be presently tormented with barreyne and vnfrutefull labour. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 113 Grasse, thistle and mustard seede,..Are very ill neighbours to seely poor hop. 1590 C^TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 1466 The seelie man [Fr. *le miserable*]..Me battaile gaue. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 112 The seely Gentlewomen, without regard of sexe or shame, were stripped from their apparrell to their verie smockes. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* x. 30 Attend Laisa, seelie poore [Vulg. *paupercula*] Anathoth. [1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 148 The famous castle of Malepartus which beheld the base murder of Lampe, the hare, and many a seely soul beside.]

b. Often of the soul, as in danger of divine judgement.

1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 584 Þe develen come blaste To lede to helle þis seli [*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* sori] gost. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 576 Þu most..þenke þat god it þe sende, þi seli soule to amende. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 502 My sely saull salbe saif, quhen sa bot [*? read* Sabaot] all iugis. 1529 MORE *Supplic. Soulys* Wks. 321/2 The paynes that selye soules feele when they be departed thence.

7. Insignificant, trifling; mean, poor; feeble.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2528 Of an holi prechors word hii nolde noȝt so ofte þenche As of þe murye word..of the seli wenche. *a* 1300 *Expos. Cross* 458 (Ashm.) in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 54 Vp an seli asse he rod. *a* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxix. 293 And for to apparaylle with oure bodyes wee usen a sely litylle clout, for to wrappen in our careynes. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 22, I se his slouthe and sely labour, which is no labour. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 193 Egbertus..in moste ample wise hadde enlarged the seelie litteil kingdom. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Gluttony* 107 Holophernes..hadde his head strycken from his shoulders by that sely woman Iudith. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. i. C j, And not one sely bitte we got since yesterday. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 75 b, Lerned Luther..how far doth he both twayn Surmount, who with his seely pen to yeld doth both constraine. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 56 Whilst the mountains doe trauell, a seely mouse will be brought forth. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1812 He with the Romians was esteemed so As seelie ieering idiots are with Kings, For sportiue words, and vttring foolish things. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xv. 358 There is a Nation, where the enclosures of Gardens and Fields they intend to keep several, are made with a seely twine of cotton. 1613–26 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 40 Hauing layne Her in a Boate like the Cannowes of Inde, Some seely trough of wood, or some trees rinde. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 67 Commonly the Lord effects those things which are of greatest consequence, by poore and seely meanes. [1839 KINGSLEY *Poems, In Illum. Missal* 7 My love, my song, my skill, my high intent, Have I within this seely book y-pent.]

b. Frail, worn-out, crazy.

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial. Sorenes & Chir.* 24 b, We see the like effecte in olde selie bodies whiche..bee continually eaten up of ulcers. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T., To R. Baynes* 32 The Pilot..Beset with stormes,..knowes not howe to saue His sielie barke, but lets the rudder goe. [1847 KINGSLEY *Poems, Red King* 67 By Mary's grace a seely boat On Christchurch bar did lie afloat.]

8. Foolish, simple, silly.

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 1246 Nor of theyr noddy polles, Nor of theyr sely soules. 1573 & 80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 107 With such seelie huswiues no penie is found. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 265 In pride wee speake it, or at least inwardlie thinke it, wee are not as those seely Idiotes are. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Wise Sp.* 224 The fellow seemed but a seely soule, and sate still, and sayde nothing. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 127 Holding those that deale more honestly..to be..poore seely fooles, that want wit.

† **Seem,** *sb. Obs.* [f. SEEM *v.*²] Seeming, semblance, appearance.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/2 Semynge, or semys, *apparencia.* 1549 *Prayer Bk. Troubles* (Camden) 147 The innocent that have been seduced under the colour and seame of good. 1596 GRIFFIN *Fidessa* (1876) 58 The fairest good in seeme, but fowlest ill.

† **Seem,** *a. Obs.* In 4–5 seme. [a. ON. *sǿm-r*: see SEEM *v.*²] Seemly, proper, fitting.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1085 Let þe ladiez be fette, to lyke hem þe better þer was seme solace by hem-self stille. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1810 Ande clannes is his comfort, and coyntyse he louyes, & þose þat seme arn & swete schyn se his face. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28015 (Cott. Galba) ȝe ladys.. þat stodis hals and hare to hew,..for to mak ȝow seme [*earlier MS.* semle] and quaint.

b. quasi-*adv.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 190 þat gracios gay with-outen galle, So smoþe, so smal, so seme slyȝt.

† **Seem,** *v.*¹ *Obs. rare.* In 3 seme. [OE. *sēman* (:—prehist. **sōmjan*), f. *sām* agreement. (More commonly *gesēman*: see I-SEME *v.*)] *trans.* **a.** To settle (a dispute), reconcile (contending parties). **b.** To ratify, confirm (an agreement).

a 1000 *Canons Edgar* viii. in Thorpe *Ags. Laws* II. 246 Nan sacu þe betweox preostan si ne beo ȝescoten to worldmanna some, ac seman & slibian heora aȝene ȝeferan. *c* 1205 LAY. 4259 Heo makeden ane sætnesse and mid aȝe [*read* aþe] heo semde. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 187 (Jesus MS.) Þo quaþ þe vle, Hwo schal vs seme?

Seem (sīm), *v.*² Forms: 3–5 sem, 3–6 seme, 4 syme, sieme, 4–7 seeme, 5 ceme, 5–7 (9 *dial.*) seime, 6 seym(me, semme, 6–7 seame, 6, 8 *Sc.* seim, 5– seem; *Pa. t.* 3–4, 6 semde, 5 sempt(e, 6 semt. [ME. *sēme*, a. ON. *sǿma* (mod.Icel. *sǽma* to honour, conform to, MSw. *sōma* to befit, beseem, Da. *sømme* refl. to beseem), f. *sǿm-r* (:—prehistoric **sōmi-*) fitting, seemly; cf. the cognate ON. *sóma* (pa. t. subj. *sómde*) to beseem, befit.

From the same grade of the root are OE. *sām* reconciliation (whence *sēman* SEEM *v.*¹); the ablaut-variant **sæm-* appears in SAME *a.*, SAMEN *adv.*, together.]

† **I. 1.** To be suitable to, befit, beseem. Often with adv., *well, best, fair*, etc. **a.** quasi-*trans.* with obj. originally dative. (*a*) *impersonal* and quasi-*impers.* with the real subject expressed by a clause or infinitive phrase.

a 1200 ORMIN Ded. 66, & te bitæche ioc off þiss boc, Heh wilkenn alls itt semeþþ, Al to þurrhsekenn illc an ferrs. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 271 For he þurh þe þat wisdom art al þis world wrahte and dihteð hit and dealeð as hit best semeð. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2916 Hire semes curteys forto be, For she is fayr so flour on tre. 1350–1400 *Sir Beues* (E) 1746 He took hys scheeld & hys spere As it semyd á good rydere. *c* 1400 *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xx. 58 It semes a kynge to haue discrescioun. *a* 1425 *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 6 It semeth any discrete man y-cladde with clerkis clothing for to occupie gentil mennez bordez. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 129 As hyt syttythe and semyþe so worthy a prynce and a pryncesse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. iii. 37 Gif he pretendis in batale with a brand To end the weyr,..heir semyt hym vnder scheyld With wapynnis to recontre me in feyld. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv 89 It semyth nat thy pyllyd pate Agenst a poyet lawreat To take vpon the for to scryue. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* A viii, But ill it seem'd me them to blame, though I Censur'd myselfe like mine owne enemy.

(*b*) with person or thing as subject.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3311 Bot ai þe quils he ne fan To be-hald þat leue maidan, How all hir dedes can hir seme. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11914 Nys non on lyue, cayser ne kynge, þat semeþ so wel his beryng. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 564 þenne he seiȝ a whit knihit comynge him a-ȝeines..A red cros on his scheld seemed him feire. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7355 Him semyd wele his abyte. 1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* Ep. A iij, Who..delighted in such clothing as seemed y^e place where he soiourned. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 35 A good old woman..who did farre surpas The rest in honest mirth, that seem'd her well. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 16 Bid them seeke, Actions that seeme them better.

b. const. *to, for, with.*

c 1205 LAY. 10207 Preostes heo þer setten ase þer to mihte semen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9111 He wald nien raf it al to dust, Quar-thoru it semes wel wit þis þat he wan merci of his mis. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xiv. 56 Þerfore a kynge sholde vse clepynge and ornementz dere, fayre, and straunge, for it semes to a kynges prorogatyue to passe oþer, so þat his dignite þerby be maad fairer. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. xx. (S.T.S.) II. 215, I wald nane of ȝow believit þat I am cumin as Ignorant or mysknawing sic thingis as semys to my estate.

c. *absol.*

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 115 He seiȝ þe peple þorw peine passen in-to helle..and þe fader þouȝte þat hit seemede nouȝt. *c* 1400 *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* cv. 106 And right as þe Skryueyn ys enterpretour of þy wyl..So it nedys..þat he besye hym to þy profyt and to by worschipe as it semys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/1 Cemyn or becemyn, *decet.* *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) E vj, It seemeth not in streete as palfray to prannce. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 37 Thane he is veralie God for that seemis noth that ony suld be placit at the richt hand of God the fader bot giff he war God. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 158 Nought seemeth sike strife. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. *To the King* § 2 For it seemeth much in a King, if..he can take hold of any superficiall Ornaments and shewes of learning.

† **2.** *refl.* and *intr.* To vouchsafe, deign. [So MSw. *sōma* (refl.).] *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11042 Blisced be þou ai, marie!..þat þou ne [*? read* þe] seme wald me to se. *Ibid.* 12445 'Na', sco said, 'þat es na nede, For he þat sent him vs a-mang To be born, he wald him seme, Fra wick men ai wel him yeme.' *Ibid.* 17622 Wald þou me leif freind te seme For to cum wit us to mele. *Ibid.* 23913, I prai leuedi if þou wald seme, To tak þis littel werc to quem.

II. To have a semblance or appearance.

Normally with indirect object of the person to whom the appearance is presented; where no object is expressed one may ordinarily be supplied. In the present tense, 'seems' is often equivalent to 'seems to me', which expresses belief in the truth of the appearance predicated. Where the object expressed or implied is not in the first person, or where the verb is in the past tense, there is usually, on the other hand, the notion of *mere* appearance as opposed to fact.

* *As personal verb.*

3. With sb., adj., or phrase as complement: To appear to be, to be apparently (what is expressed by the complement).

Very often, esp. when the complement is a sb. or a phrase, it is introduced by the infinitive *to be*: see examples in 4 a.

a. without object expressed.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 9 His grisliche teeð semden of swart irn, ant his twa ehnen steappre þene steorren. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 112 So ful of anguise was þet ilke ned swot..þet hit þuhte [*v.r.* semde] read blod. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1322 For welthes, þat men has here at wille, Semes tokenyng of endeles pyn. † *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1011 As the mone lyght, Ageyn whom all the sterres semen But smale candels. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 62 He..doth to seme of gret decerte Thing which is litel worth withinne. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 1000 And with-jinne tho x mounthes he was so bold that thyke tyme he semede two ȝeres old. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 Makyng bodyes of ayre to compasse a man & make hym seme a hors or another beest. 1570 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat.* iii. 63 That thing which I shall say, though it seeme against the opinion of all men: yet it shal be true for all that. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 672 What seem'd his head The likeness of a Kingly Crown had on. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 27 June, A silly rogue, but one that would seem a gentleman. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Apr. 1646, Trees on which Bacchus seems riding as it were in triumph every autumn. 1742 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 22 Mar. (1893) II. 104 Mr. Gibson says..that he seems another man. 1807 CRABBE *Birth of Flattery* 33–4 What seem'd the door, each entering guest withstood, What seem'd a window was but painted wood. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, Mr. Justice Stareleigh..seemed all face and waistcoat. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 200 Easy and unstudied as his writing seems, it was [etc.].

b. const. *to*; formerly also † with simple dative.

a 1513 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 13 This semes to me ane guidlie companie. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. 368 But, of all sights, none seemes him yet more strange Then the..Exchange. 1872 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxxxiii. a This to the fond weak fool seemeth a mighty delight.

c. Followed by † *as, as if, as though.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2863 Par..es noght now bot a stinkand see, þat semes als a lake of hell. *Ibid.* 9018 Þe thrid [colour] Als ros þat es als in springing, And semes als a brennand

thing. 1584 R. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 3 b, The Lady seyng the fond and vndiscrete treacherye of her husband made little adoe, and seemed as though shee had seene nothing. 1673 DRYDEN *Love in Nunnery* III. ii, Stay, there's a Dance beginning, and she seems as if she wou'd make one. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 320 It is probable that the Roofs of these Lodges were under the great Windows... I dare not however affirm it, for the Medals seem as if they came up even to the very Top of all. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xviii. 223 Having yielded to his persuasions and arguments, Sonia seemed as though she were only anxious to forget past troubles.

4. With infinitive: To appear *to be* or *to do* something. **a.** with *to be*. (Cf. 3.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5698 A yongman þat semed to be an egypician. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xvii. 18 And othere seiden, He semeth to be a tellere of newe fendis. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 230/18 This fayth hade our lady passyng all oþer; for þeras hit was semyng forto be ynpossybull þat scho schuld conceyue wythout cowpule of man [etc.]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 4 Luther..hath preached also some thinges that seme to be hereticall. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 165 Exile..seemeth not in its own nature, without other circumstances, to be a Punishment. 1756 FRANCES BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 29. 172 Young women are not the angels they seem to be. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 223 Fair creature! Thou dost seem to be Some wandering spirit of the sea. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii, Of all Sedley's opponents ..the most determined and obstinate seemed to be John Osborne. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 247 Many..think that you should follow virtue in order that you may seem to be good.

b. with other verbs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5749 Als did þe tre þat semed to bren, And þan was þar na fir wit-in. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 21 And al oþer lawis þat semen to sey, þat man how to curse for crime of vowtre, þeft, and swilk oþer. *a* 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 267 Of Venus stocke she semde to spring, the rote of beauties grace. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 4 Of Gouernment, the properties to vnfold, Would seeme in me t'affect speech & discourse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 54 The Parian Marble, there, shall seem to move, In breathing Statues. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 472 ₱ 3 The following Letter seems to be written by a Man of Learning. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 714 The Christian..dares not feign a zeal, Or seem to boast a fire, he does not feel. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 417 These facts are in perfect accordance with another fact which seems to deserve consideration. 1895 ESHER in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 701/2 The statute..does not seem upon a true construction of it to support the assertions for which it was cited.

¶ With omission of *to*. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 747 Eek som-tyme it is craft to seme flee Fro thing which in effect men hunte faste. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xvi. 2 Ane huge clamour that tyde did rys on hycht, That semyt smyte the goldin starnis brycht.

c. Occas. *would seem*: cf. the impersonal use 7 f.

1754 WARBURTON *View Bolingbr. Philos.* II. 94 He has refused no arms, we see, to combat the Revelations God hath *actually given*. He would seem to relax a little of his severity, as to those which God may *possibly give*.

d. In modern use, the combination of *seems* with an infinitive is often equivalent to the finite verb qualified by 'probably', 'if the evidence may be trusted.'

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 484/2 Sicily seems to contain no iron. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 8. 102 Henry's policy seems, for good or evil, to have been throughout his own.

e. To appear to oneself; to imagine oneself, or think one perceives oneself, *to* (do something).

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 22 These Images doe follow us so close, that wee seeme to travell, to saile, to bestirre our selves mightily in a hot fight. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 265, I seem through consecrated walks to rove. 1799 WORDSW. *Poems on Affect.* ix. 7 Still I seem To love thee more and more. 1820 SHELLEY *Marg. Nich., Melody* 40, I seem again to share thy smile, I seem to hang upon thy tone. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 10 On such occasions Plato seems to see young men and maidens meeting together.

¶ **f.** *confused construction.* Instead of the infinitive, a clause was in the 14–16 c. sometimes used, as if the verb were impersonal. (Cf. 7.) *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 168 And tournys sa mony tyme his stede, That semys off wa be had na dred. 1565 STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 77 b, Well furnished with all such bookes as Caluin had writen or any other which semed might serue their purpose. 1624 GORGES *Lucan* V. 206 She..Durst not ..seeme she did his teares discerne.

5. To appear to exist or to be present. Chiefly in the inversion *there seems* (followed by the subject); otherwise *poet.* or *rhetorical*. Also, in the same sense, *there seems to be.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 25 Now yif so be þat the semith to long a tarienge..thanne whaite whan the sonne is in any other degree of the zodiak. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2775 They make semen (as to a mannys sight) Abominabill wormys. *Ibid.* 446 So wele they make seme soth, when þey falssest ly. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 64 He shall make to seme before you a grete rynnynge riuer. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Poet. Wks.* (1903) 61 Men's Hands than Angels' Wings Are truer wealth..For those but seem. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. II. xiv. 232 So far as the inheritance can be evidently traced back, there seems no need of calling in this presumptive proof. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxx, 'I regret', said Achilles, 'that there should have seemed any cause for such precautions'. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 409/1 Some fifteen years ago..there seemed a general consensus of opinion that inventors were a nuisance.

†**6.** Of a real existence: To be manifested, come to view, be seen; = APPEAR *v.* 1, 9. *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6022 Bot many other þar [at the day of doom] sal seme, þat sal nouther be demed ne deme. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boethius* III. met. xi. (Sk.) 18 And thanne alle the derknesse of his misknowinge shal seme more evidently to sighte of his understondinge thanne the sonne ne semeth to sighte with-oute-forth. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* iii. 20 For loue made I þis worlde alone, Therfore my loue shalle in it seme. 1575 J. SMITH *Myst. Dev., Jeremy's Epist. to Jews*, My Angel shall be with you.., And I myselfe will surely seeme for all your soules to care.

** *Impersonal uses.*

7. *It seems.* (In all uses, admitting a construction with *to* or †simple dative.) **a.** with the real subject expressed by a clause: = It appears, it is apparently true (*that*); it is seen (*that*).

It seems not († *nay*) = 'it seems that it is not so'. *It seems so, so it seems* = 'it seems that it is so'.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 5 Lauerd..salue me mine wunden þat hit ne sem nowðer ne suteli omi samblant þat ich derf drehe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2169 It semet wel ðat ze spies ben, And in-to ðis lond cumen to sen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10441 Ne wat þou noght, it semes nai, Quat a fest it es to dai? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ₱ 355 And al be it so þat it seme that thou art in siker place, yet shaltow alwey do thy diligence in kepynge of thy persone. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 184 And righte as it semethe to us, that thei ben undre us, righte so it semethe hem, that wee ben undre hem. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 480 Yf it semeth you that I have doon amys, soo take ye amendes vpon me. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* I vij, It semeth me, that it might be dispensed with in certayne cases. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 198 It seemes to mee, That yet we sleepe, we dreame. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 52 It seemes you thought not our walks pleasant enough for you. 1687 LADY R. RUSSELL *Let.* 5 Oct., It seems I must remit seeing you, as you once kindly intended. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 541/1 It seems also that capt. Callis..fell in with and engaged this Spanish ship. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady Clara Vere de V.* 53 Howe'er it be, it seems to me, 'Tis only noble to be good. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* ix. 86 It seems to me..that looking into holes is a monotonous occupation.

b. with complementary predicate or infinitive, the real subject being expressed by a clause or infinitive phrase. (Also with ellipsis of the subject clause.)

1439 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 128 Like as in that partye after their conscience and good discrecions it shall seme hem necessarie for to be done and executed for the most ease of his entent. 1512 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 4 As it shall seym to my said feoffees mooste expediente. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 6 b, He besought them humbly yᵗ since it seemed them best to deale so roughly wᵗ him they would graunt him liberty in his richest aray, to sing a song. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxix. 169 No man dare to obey the Soveraign Power farther than it shall seem good in his own eyes.

c. followed by *as if, as though.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2097 It semeþ by his lat As he hir neuer had sene Wiþ sizt. *Ibid.* 2131 Wende forþ in þi way, It semes astow were wode, To wede. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 132 It seemed as though the Turks had come to their end and were dying out. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vii. 63 It seemed to Jim as though the hour would never arrive at which the steamer was timed to get under way.

d. Parenthetically. Now often with somewhat of the sense 'So I am informed', or 'As it appears from rumour or report'.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 117 Her suster, as it semed, cam softly walkynge. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Agatha* 369 For in hys conscyence ful confuse ys he And, as yt semyth, at hys wyttys ende. 1525 SAMPSON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 263 His moderacion off gesture, cowntenance, and os it semyd also of inwarde intente and mynde. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. i, Then you were a seruitor at both, it seemes. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 285 They were provided, it seems, only for the Ambassador Brugman, and his Ladies. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 305 ₱ 8 Six Professors, who it seems, are to be Speculative Statesmen. 1829 MACAULAY *Mill on Govt.* in *Edin. Rev.* MAR. 175 There is still, however, it seems, a hope for mankind. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 167 Who lived before the close, as it seems, of the sixteenth century B. C.

†**e.** = 'it seems good'. *Obs. rare.*

1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall. Pr.* 157 This case was so horrible, that it seemed to many not to speake it.

f. *It should seem, it would seem*: used to express somewhat more of hesitation or uncertainty than is expressed by *it seems.*

The older form, *it should seem*, is perh. slightly *arch.*, and is now chiefly used to express a guarded (or sometimes an ironical) acceptance of statements made by others. *It would seem* does not appear in our quots. before the 19th c. (but cf. the cognate use 4 c).

1525 BP. CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 310 As for the maters off France, it shold seim that his Holynes rekonythe not greatly howe yone determyn them. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 31 For it should seeme that the Game of Tali heere mentioned was Pleistoboleuda [*sic*]. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. ii. II. I. (1869) II. 438 It should not, however, seem very difficult to distinguish those two parts of the rent from one another. 1826 WORDSW. *Pr. Wks.* (1876) II. 11 It should seem that the ancients thought in this manner. 1846 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* (1838) I. 154 But, with regard to writings, as it would seem, the case is different. 1849 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 129 All official papers were brought there: and among the rest it would seem these Cologne ones. 1875 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* Pref. to The accident of personal intimacy, it should seem, deprives you of all right to express admiration of what you might allowably have found admirable in a stranger. 1902 GAIRDNER *Hist. Eng. Ch.* 16th C. iv. (1909) 54 From all this it would seem that he could not have been much under fifty when he was compelled to abjure.

†**g.** ? Perfect tense with *is*; ? or passive. *Obs.*

1442 BP. BEKYNTON *Offic. Corr.* (Rolls) II. 191 Sir, hit is semed right expedient unto suche as loveth the wele of the king [etc.]. *Ibid.* 219 As soon as hit shall be seemed unto you and hym to be doon.

8. The *it* of the impersonal verb is sometimes omitted. **a.** with the dative preceding the verb, *thee seemeth, us seemed*, etc. See also MESEEMS and cf. METHINKS. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ₱ 123 Right so the synful man that loueth his synne, hym semeth, that it is to him moost sweete of any thyng. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. v. 60 That other shalle answere as hyr semeth good. 1512 R. COPLAND *Helyas* in Thoms *Pr. Rom.* (1828) III. 116 And than her semed that the two fyrst had [etc.]. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. (1596) 278 Eue fixed her eies on the tree forbidden, and her seemed that it was sweet in tast. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Hill of Venus* 656 Still awhile himseemed That of that fair close, those white limbs he dreamed. 1871 D. G. ROSSETTI *Blessed Damozel* iii, Herseemed she scarce had been a day One of God's choristers.

¶ **b.** The prefixed dative sometimes was used (? by confusion) with reference to the subject of the appearance, so that the impersonal *him, her seems* became = *he, she seems* (senses 3–4). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3284 Þe formast was vnlaghter milde, Hir semed na wight to be wilde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 147 Thame semyt men forsuth, I hicht, That had fayndit thair fayis in ficht. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxiii. (1859) 37 Hyr semed wel a lady of ful huge estate, as duchesse, or pryncesse. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 280 The lady byheld Ipomydon, Hym semyd wele a gentil man. *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 51 Hym seemes wearye on his waye.

†**c.** with dative following. *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2112 Thanne semed me ther was a parlement At Atthenes vpon certein poyntz and caas. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3196 Semes 3ow noȝt it suffice my sorowe with-out, þat as a bitand brand me brettens with-in.

†**d.** *What, how seemeth you?* = what do you think? *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 28 Lete eche man by hymself telle me what hym semeth in this mater. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 85 What seemeth you of the wysedom of my fader. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* lxxx. (1814) 377 How semeth you by the knightes of this countre?

e. After *as* or *than.*

1570 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat.* vi. 69 As seemeth to me. *c* 1600 T. PONT *Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitland Club) 22 The forsaid Richard being, as vald seime, touched vith compunctione. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xviii. 4 So he made it againe another vessell as seemed good to the potter to make it. *Mod.* If he did so, as seems likely enough, he was excusable. He spoke more strongly than seemed justifiable.

†**f.** *poet.* in occasional uses. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11764 Yn tyfed wurdys þat slyked are, Semeþ by synnes þat þey noȝt were. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 216 But neither sword nor dagger he did beare, Seemes that no foes reuengement he did feare. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* III. 84 And yet now seemes that he doth meane, From cares of warres his thoughts to weane.

g. *colloq.* or *vulgar*, esp. in *seems to me.*

1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* viii, Seems to me women get like dogs—they get their lessons pretty well fixed in their minds after a time.

†**III. 9.** *trans.* To think, deem, imagine. With obj.-clause, obj. and inf. or complement; also *absol. To seem good* = to think good (see GOOD *a.* 4 b). *Obs.*

The early examples in which the subject is a sb. might be referred to 8 a, from which this sense arose by conversion of the prefixed indirect object into the subject; but unequivocal instances with nom. pron. occur often in the 15th c.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 193 It was a ffairye, as al the peple semed. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 79 The residue of all my godes..I be-quethe to be distributed..like as myn executours seme best. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8054 She semed Darel lusted wel. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst., Mor. Wisd.* 610 These thynges be now so conuersaunt, we seme it no shame. 1492? MYLL *Spect. Luf* in *Bannatyne Misc.* (1836) II. 128 Ane askit him quhat he semyt of a woman? 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 57 Euer whan the bysshop loked on her he semed her so fayre yᵗ he was gretely tempted on her. 1512 R. COPLAND *Helyas* in Thoms *Pr. Rom.* (1828) III. 24 If you seme it good, I shal make her to waste and sle the childe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Kk 7 b, Fynally, seyng that Rome was Rome, he was demanded how he semed therby. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* I. ii. § 3. 17 *Possunt, quia posse videntur.* They can, because they seeme they can.

b. To think fit.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 258 The unresonable grudgers schalle abstayne them from that kende of mete [etc.] that they grudge a3enste, after that the presidente semethe it for to be doon. 1472 PASTON *Lett.* III. 17, I wolle spende xxˡ or as ye seme to have the sertayn off every thyng her in. 1620 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, And Beneath your threshold, bury me a load-stone To draw in gallants, that weare spurres: the rest, They'll seeme to follow.

Seem, obs. form of SEAM *sb.*²

†**Seemable,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 semeable, 6 semabill. [f. SEEM *v.*² + -ABLE. Cf. SEMBLABLE.] Like, similar.

1502 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 52 As þei wold we did to thaym or thayrez in a cause semeable. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 394 Rycht so, by about speche oft in tymes, And seuthable [*MS. C.* semabill] wordis we compile our rymes.

Hence †**Seemably** *adv.*, in like manner.

1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 398 For your goodnes herein to be shewed vnto hym..ye shalbe well assured to fynd me as redy semably to requyte you.

Seemble, obs. form of SEEMLY *a.*

Seemer (*sī*·*mə*). [f. SEEM *v.*² + -ER ¹.] One who seems, or makes a pretence or show.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iii. 54 Lord Angelo..scarce confesses That his blood flowes: or that his appetite Is more to bread than stone: hence shall we see If power change purpose, what our Seemers be. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* x. 22 If he be no more then a seemer, he will fall at length into hell-mouth. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 207 When

the guardians of the laws and of the government are only seemers and not real guardians.

Seeming (sī·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* For Forms see the verb. [f. SEEM *v.*2 + -ING 1.] The action of SEEM *v.*2 in various senses.

1. The action or fact of appearing to be (to the mind or to bodily sense), appearance.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. xiv. (Tollemache MS.), By his [lightning's] sodeyne semynge he smyteþ here syȝte þat lokeþ þeron, and makeþ hem drede. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 102 The cursid Sathanas with a shepes symplenes in semyng come and hurteled with hym. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/1 Cemynge, or a cemys (*P.* or cemys), *apparencia*. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conversation* II. (1586) 72 The more we consider the sayde sentence of Socrates, the more wayes we finde out to auoide this vaine seeming. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 108 My Lord, my Lord,..You signe your Place and Calling, in full seeming, With Meekenesse and Humilitie. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 7. 10 Sensible Qualities..are called after τῶν ἐν ἡμῖν Φαντασμάτων, certain Phansies, seemings, or Appearances in us. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* x. (ed. 2) 330 The events which are the most threatening in their seeming, speak to us of hope.

b. † *By seeming*, † *to seeming*, *in seeming*, *in all seeming*, to all appearance.

*c*1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 944 Wyth-outen hole or canel boon As be semynge had she noon. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vii. 699 Thenne they lefte vp a clothe whiche was aboue the ground & there fond a ryche purse by semynge. *c*1532 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XXIII. 68 On euery toure a clocher of fyne golde be semynge. 1612 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 168 [His wife] would have accompanied him to the King's Bench, taking his cause, to seeming, very heartily. *a*1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* III. XXXIX. (1640) 20 All this was done in seeming, only to bring them to thorough repentance for their sin. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 83 Ere his country to Crete freight corpses, a life in seeming.

† **c.** *To (my) seeming*, as it seems or appears to (me), as (I) think, in (my) opinion or judgement. Also *in my seeming*. *Obs.*

*c*1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 196 Tel me, what is thy cause for to synge Sith þat thy throte is kut to my semynge. *c*1440 *Generydes* 4986 Right Inly fayre she was to his semyng. *c*1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* lv. (1814) 202 Incontynente the ymage tourned towarde him, and, to his seming, it blusshed as red as sendall. 1604 HIERON *Preachers Plea* Pref. *Wks.* I. 476 A very good way (in my seeming) to help the vnderstanding of common men. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 176 This night our horsemen set to watch, to their seeming did see Lampes burne at the points of their staves or speares in the middest of these lightning flashes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 738 He ended..and in her ears the sound Yet rung of his perswasive words, impregn'd With Reason, to her seeming, and with Truth.

2. The form in which a person or thing seems or appears; look, aspect.

*c*1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 47 For oon sect þat er namyd ypatetiks affermes þat he steigh to þe emperien heuene yn þe semynge of fir. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xi, We must kepe our self fro all them whiche vnder fayre semynge haue a fals herte. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* II. iv, I present her to your judgment, whether her outward seeming may deserve such scorn. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* i, Your behaviour is above your seeming. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. xii, He slept in calmest seeming, for his breath Was hush'd so deep—Ah! happy if in death! 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 305 Words which show the tenderness that lay beneath the stern outer seeming of the man.

3. External appearance considered as deceptive, or as distinguished from reality; an illusion, a semblance.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* 229 And since myselfe (now pride of youth is past) Do loue to be, and let al seeming passe, Since I desire, to see my selfe in deed [etc]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 41 That we were all, as some would seeme to bee From our faults, as faults from seeming, free. 1816 BYRON *Sketch* 59 A plain blunt show of briefly-spoken seeming, To hide her bloodless heart's soul-harden'd scheming. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 35 Even so Its lovely gleamings Seemings show Of things not seemings.

Seeming (sī·miŋ), *ppl. a.* For Forms see the verb. [f. SEEM *v.*2 + -ING 2.] That seems, in various senses of the verb.

† **1.** Suitable, beseeming, fitting; according. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 51 Bataille bituene vs wille not be semand. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 386 For sarasenes han somewhat semynge to owre bileue. For þei loue and bileue in o persone almi3ty. *c*1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 274 Insens to þi seruis is semand. ? 1548 tr. *Vivet's Expos. XII Art. Chr. Faith* B viij b, The name of father..is semynge vnto hym [God] for dyuers causes and reasons. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* 1176 The Buzzard..Invites the feather'd Nimrods of his Race, To hide the thinness of their Flock from Sight, And all together make a seeming, goodly Flight.

† **2.** Probable, likely. *Obs.*

*c*1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6517 Sa Eata, it is semand, Was þan bischop of haly eland. 1655 EARL ORRERY *Parthenissa* Pref. A 2, And where I have found any contradictions..I have gone according to the seeming'st Truth.

3. Apparent to the senses or to the mind, as distinct from what *is*.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5290 Þis taken, als I trowe, sal noght be þe sam cros, ne þe sam tre,..Bot a taken of þat cros semande. *a*1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1252 Sa stithe a steuyn in þe stoure of stedis & ellis, As it was semand to sla3t as all þe soyle trymbled. *a*1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 215 Oft craft can cause the man to make a semyng show Of hart with dolour all distreined, where griefe did neuer grow. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. Philos. Writ. (1712) 12 The seeming Ashes may be no Ashes. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 46 A seeming Widow, and a secret Bride. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XIX, Miss Wilmot's reception [of him] was mixed with seeming neglect, and yet I could perceive she acted a studied part. 1857 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* V. 194 That his seeming argument was no argument, but merely a sort of verbal play. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 263 He asserts the seeming paradox that [etc.] 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. iv. 74 We came upon him riding loftily, Clad in his knightly arms without disguise, No seeming pilgrim now.

b. In comb. with SBS.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal. Sat.* ii. 144 Diomedes Iades were not so bestiall As this same seeming-saint, vile Canniball. 1654 W. STREAT (*title*) The dividing of the Hooff: or, Seeming-Contradictions throughout sacred Scriptures. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. iii. 163 Those astronomic wonders of poise and counterpoise, of planetary law and cometary seeming-exception, in his metres.

4. Used adverbially with other adjectives to form hyphened compounds with the sense of 'having a (specified) appearance'.

In some of these formations the writers may have intended *seeming* as pres. pple. with the second adj. as predicate, though such a use would be grammatically abnormal.

[*c*1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xii. 55 And if he oonly shew hym semand religious, and yn his werkys be an euyl doere..he shal be refusyd of god and of þe folk despysed.] 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 27 With chaunge of cheare the seeming simple maid Let fall her eyen. *a*1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 401 As commonly all seeming-religious Hypocrites bee, they are charged to have beene devourers of Orphans goods. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1113 What knots are ty'd! How soon are they dissolv'd, And set the seeming marry'd planets free! 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxxiii, Little knew she that seeming marble heart,..Was not unskilful in the spoiler's art. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. x, Whilst I had watched the motions of the crew With seeming-careless glance. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlviii, But blame not thou the winds that make The seeming-wanton ripple break. 1899 MACKAIL *W. Morris* II. 205 He was continually seeking refuge from it in dreams of some settled and seeming-changeless order.

Seemingly (sī·miŋli), *adv.* Also 5 **semeinly, 6 semyngly.** [f. SEEMING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Fittingly, becomingly. Now somewhat *rare*.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 329/1 Semeinly, *decenter, conuenienter, eleganter, & cetera*. *c*1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 112 (1810) 117 The tenant..is to come seemingly apparelled. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3804/2 The Temporal Lords, did their Homage, and seemingly kissed Her Majesty's Left Cheek. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 93/1 Try and bear yourselves more seemingly.

2. To external appearance, apparently. (Distinguished from but not necessarily opposed to *really*.)

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 33 To this her Mothers plot She seemingly obedient likewise hath Made promise to the Doctor. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 196 One of these seemingly deuout *Abdals*. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xl. 70 Now the City-Dame was so well bred, as seemingly to take All in Good Part. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vii. Wks. 1874 I. 132 Things seemingly the most insignificant imaginable. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Angelina* ii, A young lady seemingly not more than sixteen years of age. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. vii. 109 A combination of circumstances seemingly more favourable to the enterprise..could scarcely be looked for. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 28/1 The Director..managed to get the better of the Lord Chief Justice..and is seemingly desirous that the facts of the victory should be fully known.

† **b.** ? *nonce-use.* ? So as to seem real. *Obs.*

1602 *Kyd's Sp. Trag.* III. xii. A. 123 Canst paint a dolefull crie? *Paint.* Seemingly, sir.

3. So far as it appears from the evidence; so far as one can judge by circumstances.

1725 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* (1841) I. 62 Well, it must be done, however difficult, however seemingly fruitless, and to no purpose. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iii. § 6. 293 Where they are opposite, or seemingly so, we may suppose them to..restrain one another. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. ix. 307 Through French influence the rapture with Scotland had been seemingly healed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 434 The seemingly true belief that God is our guardian. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 279/1 The prisoners..were cheered on leaving, but seemingly only by their own *claque*.

b. In combinations (usually hyphened) with adjectives in the sense of 'apparently —'.

1725 *Pope's Odyss.* V. Notes II. 49 This seemingly-trifling circumstance is an instance. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) III. xviii. 158 What excellence shines out in full lustre, on this unaffected and seemingly little occasion. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* viii, More than once some..question of his had..opened up ugly depths of doubt, even on the most seemingly-palpable certainties.

c. *parenthetically.* As it seems.

1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* V. 285 Not that there is any Thing Material wherein they vary or disagree, tho' seemingly they may teach us inconsistent Lessons. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xi, The contending parties, seemingly, were partizans of Douglas, known by the cognizance of the Bloody Heart, and citizens of the town of Perth. 1863 MRS. WHITNEY *Faith Gartney's Girlh.* xxix, Some women..have done this, and, seemingly, done well.

Seemingness (sī·miŋnés). [f. SEEMING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality or fact of seeming to be something; unreal pretence; plausibility.

1640 G. ABBOTT *Job Paraphr.* vi. 21, I put my confidence in you, because of your former seemingnesse. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* vi. § 7. 45 Were it not for the authority of Aristotle and of his learned followers, that presseth vs on the one side, and for the seemingnesse of those reasons we haue already mentioned, which persuadeth vs on the other side. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vi. 16 There is a great deal of seemingnesse, and much counterfeit grace abroad. 1830 LAMB *Let. to Rev. J. Gillman* 8 Mar., In the silken seemingness of his nature there is that which offends me.

2. Semblance, seeming existence or presence.

1656 *Disc. Auxil. Beauty* 91 Under the seemingnesse or appearance of evill. 1702 SHERBURNE *Seneca's Trag.* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, I must confess, there is not a little Seemingness of Incongruity between [etc.]. 1851 MEREDITH *Poems, Sleeping City* 14 The seemingness of Death, not dead.

Seemlaunte, variant of SEMBLANT *Obs.*

See·mless, *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 6–7 **se(e)meless**, (7 **seeme-les**). [f. SEEM *v.*2 (assumed to be the source of SEEMLY *a.*) + -LESS.] Unseemly; shameful; unfitting.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ii. 25 Thence he her drew By the faire lockes, and fowly did array..That Artegall him selfe her seemelesse plight did rew. 1609 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* III. vii, And here I vow, Neuer to dreame of seemeles amorous toyes. 1625 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XX. 397 The Prince ..did his Father place..in a Seate Seemelesse, and abiect. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 116 Maimed with seemless wound [L. *inhonesto vulnere*].

Seemlihead (sī·mlihed). *arch.* (written *-hed* after Spenser). [f. SEEMLY *a.* + -HEAD.] The condition of being seemly; seemliness.

? *a*1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 777 Ful fetis damiselles two, Right yonge, and fulle of semlihede. *Ibid.* 1130 A yong man ful of semelihede. *c*1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 157 Lowliheed, and trewe companye, Seemliheed, largesse, and curtesye. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 14 She..by his persons secret seemlyhed Well weend that he had beene some man of place. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 950 And then his tongue with sober seemlihed Gave utterance.

† **See·mlihood.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 **semely hode.** [f. SEEMLY *a.* + -HOOD.] = SEEMLIHEAD.

*c*1440 *Partonope* 6274 A gentyllmaun whens euer ye come Be youre semely hode a man may deme.

† **See·mlily**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4 **semlyly, semblely, 5 semely, semelily, 6 semelely, 7 seemlily.** [f. SEEMLY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a seemly manner; so as to present a seemly appearance; pleasingly, handsomely, nobly, elegantly.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 622 He braydez hit by þe bauderyk, aboute þe hals kestes, Pat bisemed þe segge semlyly fayre. *c*1400 *Sc. Troians War* (Horstm.) I. 96 Thane to þe messenger ine hye He turnyt ande saide hyme semblely (etc.). *c*1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 24 (Thornton MS.) Hir sadille..Semelelysewede with sylke. 1567 DRANT *Horace Ep.* I. xviii. Fv, Who can then the more semelily Thy manlike armoure weelde? 1615 W. BEDWELL *Mohamm. Impost.* I. § 6 He is also that word or soule which created the heauens vaultwise most seemlily.

Seemliness (sī·mlinés). **Forms: see the adj.** [f. SEEMLY *a.* + -NESS.]

† **1.** Pleasing appearance; elegance or handsomeness of form (of the body or its parts); gracefulness, attractiveness (of things, actions, etc.). *Obs.*

*c*1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1041 If that god..Wolde han a loue for beute & goodnesse And womanhod & trouthe & semelynesse, Whom schulde he louyn but this lady swete? *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/2 Semelynesse, yn syghte, *decencia*. Semelynesse, or comelynesse of schappe, *elegancia*. *c*1460 J. METHAM *Wks.* 155 He that ys born that day schuld be dysposyd..gretly to be louyd off women for semlynes off persone and beute off face. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 149 Therfore to drawe easely and vniformely,..vntil you come to the rige or shouldringe of ye head, is best both for profit and semelinesse. 1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery* G ivb, In boddy seemelynesse doth shew,..All partes of her doth prayse deserue. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 108 Yet for the sightly grace and seemelynesse of building, there is none comparable vnto it. *c*1595 R. CAREW *Excell. Eng. Tongue* in *Camden's Rem.* 43 When substantialnesse combineth with delightfulnesse,..seemelinesse with portlinesse, and currantnesse with stayednesse, how can the language..sound other then most full of sweetnes? 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. ix, Strip thou their [*sc.* vices'] meretricious seemlinesse, ..That we may loath their inward uglinesse.

2. Propriety, becomingness, fitness; decorum in behaviour or demeanour.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 13–15 Obseruing & marking a meruaylouse semelynes and honesty apperyng in his iyes, in all his countenaunce, & in his maner of going. *c*1550 N. SMYTH tr. *Herodian* VI. 66 But thadministracion of all affayres..appertained to the women: who endeuored to reduce all thinges to their pristinate seemelynes and modesty. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. vii. 188/1 Which thinck..they may vtterly abolish good lawes, and liue against all lawe and seemelinesse [*contra fas & decorum*]. 1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* III. xii, The second beast..Comes on the stage, and with great seemelinesse Acts his first scenes. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 95 The dispensation relating only to the affinity between the parties, and not to the publick honesty or seemliness of the marriage. 1803 WORDSW. *Mem. Tour Scot., To Highl. Girl* 36 And seemliness complete, that sways Thy courtesies, about thee plays. *a*1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* xxi. (1816) II. 289 The natural seemliness of one action and unseemliness of another. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 24 But thou art ever equal to thy fate, Robed in all seemliness, lady complete. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* iii. 86 He had in view chiefly the rational decoration and seemliness of worship.

† **b.** Something becoming *to*. *Obs. rare*—1.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 412/2 Of face..manlike, .. in age bald, but so as it was rather a seemelinesse to those his ancient yeares than any disfiguring to his visage.

† **See·mlity.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 **semelyte.** [f. SEEMLY *a.* + -TY.] Seemliness.

*c*1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 116 He þat is rewler of al right..kepe 30u in 3oure semelyte And all honoure.

Seemly (sī·mli), *a.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 **semliche,** (3 **somlich, semlyche, sem(e)like**), 3–4 **sem(e)li,** (3 **semele, 3, 5 semle, 4 seemeli**), 4 **semelich(e, seem(e)lich, 4–5 semlich, 5 semelych, 4–6 semly, 5–6 semelie,** (5 **cemely, semly, seyme-**

ly), 4–7 semely, (5–6 -ye), 5–7 seemely, (6 seemlie), 4– seemly. β. 4–6 sembly, (4 sembbly, sembli, semblych, 6 seemble). *Compar.* 4 semel.ere, semloker, 5 semelyar, 6 seemelyer, 6– seemlier. *Superl.* 4 semelieste, 4–5 sem(e)lokest, semlyest(e, (se.elest, semylyeste), 5 sem(e liest, sem(e)list, seymliast, 5–6 semelyest, 7 see.nelyest, 6– see.nliest. [a. ON. *sémilig-r* (MSw. *sömelek-er*, Da. *sømmelig*), f. *sém-r* becoming: see SEEM *v.*[2] and -LY[1].]

1. Of a person, his figure, etc.: Of a pleasing or goodly appearance, fair, well-formed, handsome, 'proper'. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In early use chiefly applied to a person of high rank or lineage. Frequently used alliteratively, as *seemly to see, seemly in* or *to sight*.

a. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 449 Ah þischene nebscheft & tisemliche schape schaweð wel þæt tu art freo monne foster. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1007 Siðen,..sa3 abraham figures ðre, Sondes semlike kumen fro gode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18830 Of heght he [Christ] was meteli man,..And wonder semli was wit-al. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 125 Þer nas countesse ne quene So semelich on to sene, Þat miȝte be her pere. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 816 His [Lot's] two dere doȝterez..wer semly & swete, & swyþe wel arayed. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 15 Therto he was the semelieste man That is or was sith þat the world bigan. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 39 A Baron & Kniȝtis ful boold, That roialle were and semly to sene. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 263 That peple is stronge and of semely stature. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 237/1 He sawe an auncient man of noble stature wyth a long berd wyth a semely vysage. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 2/2 He was of feture and shappe semely, and bewteous. 1540 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 269 She is nothing so Fayre as she hathe bene reportyd, howbeit she is well and semelye. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* iii. (1888) 25 The Heire.. maketh the forme..of the head to seeme more seemelyer or beautyfuller. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. iv. 4 And them beside two seemely damzells stood. 1900 E. PHILLPOTTS in *Pall Mall Mag.* Apr. 436 He was a man of seemly outward parts.

β. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 834 Þanne was Olyuer þat semblyly knyȝt al-one among is fon. *Ibid.* 5884 Hure vysage was fair & tretys, Hure body..semblych of stature. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 16 Rabecca..a ful sembly damysel, and moost fayr mayden. *Ibid.* 1 *Sam.* xvi. 12 Forsothe he was rodi.. and sembli in face. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1920 In schuldrys braid was he, Rycht sembly, strang, and lusty for to se. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. xv. 37 A sembly springald, a fayr ȝowng galland, Rycht schaply maid.

† b. *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) A 'seemly' person. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13371 Þat gadring þar was ful gret And mani semli sett in sete. *a* 1310 [see SAD *a.* 1]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 732 But certes þat semly sat so in his hert..þat.. a-wai wold it neuer. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvii. 6 And to þat semely schall ȝe saye Off heuene I haue hir chosen quene. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 639 Is noon of vs but wold be blithe Suche a semely for to see.

2. Of things: Pleasant (*esp.* to the sight); handsome in appearance; of fine or stately proportion.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 25 Ase beryl so bryht, Ase saphyr in selver semly on syht. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 12 Þis semly somers day. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 115 Þere sai he semliche tres wiþ þe sonne woxe. 1380 CHAUCER *To Rosemounde* 11 Your seemly voys that ye so smal out-twyne. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* Prol. (Skeat) I. 11 This book, that nothing hath of the greet flode of wit ne of semelich colours, is dolven with rude wordes and boystous. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 81 There be trees of so semely stature that vnnethe the altitude of theym may be atteynede by the schote of an arowe. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* ii, The soyle that earst so seemely was to seen. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 Their gownes..white or of other seemlie colour. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 12 You must therefore plant in such a soile, where you may prouide a conuenient, strong, and seemely fence. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Chester* (1662) I. 292 He erected a seemly waterwork built Steeplewise..by his own ingenious industry. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. IV. 294 This seemly fabric which he had built up, of arms, of arts, of elegance,..began to crumble. 1870 ROCK *Textile Fabrics* Introd. 86 From such a prohibition we are not to draw as a conclusion that fustian was at the time a mean material; quite the contrary, it was a seemly textile. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Sept. 4/6 He..like a skilful architect, builds them into a fair and seemly edifice.

β. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 66 Þer is a cloister fair and liȝt Brod and lang, of sembli siȝt. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1008 A sembly place so fand thai..Quhilk Ramswaith hecht.

3. Of conduct, speech, appearance: Conformable to propriety or good taste; becoming, decorous.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ant forþui hit is riht & somlich [*w. r.* semlich] þæt ancren þes two morhȝiuen habben bluoren oðre. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41, I conseile,..my freris.. þat þei ben..homly & meke, spekynge of al þingis as it is semely. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2062 Hit were sittyng for sothe, & semly for wemen, þaire houses to haunt & holde hom with in. 1543 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vii. 124 A fayer decent semely shewe of vtwarde deuocion. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 139/1 That our liues be honest and semely, not dissolute and lawlesse. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet. Unmask'd* 70 Such like formes of speaking are used for modesties sake; for it were not so seemly to say..that he is a fool. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 484 May we..enjoy Our humid Products, and with seemly Draughts Enkindle Mirth. 1785 COWPER *Task* I. 729 It is not seemly, nor of good report, That she is slack in discipline. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* III. 398 And over all A healthy sound simplicity should reign, A seemly plainness, name it what you will, Republican or pious. 1817 COLERIDGE *Blessed are ye that sow* 72 To be..industrious, useful, and of seemly bearing, are qualities presupposed in the gospel code. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv. Take a little time..to make your eyes seemly [after weeping]. 1872 BLACKIE *Four Phases Mor.* I. 153 It were not seemly in me to follow their example. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 346 Let the Priest set down the Chalice in front of him in a seemly way.

absol. *a* 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* xxi. (1816) II. 287 A system of morality in which the formal nature of the moral good should be traced to the original idea of the seemly and the fair.

β. 1554 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1733) III. xvi. 139 For it was not meet nor seemble, that the Bishop being occupied with other weightier Affairs..should debase himself to such petit Functions.

†**4.** Suitable to the person or the occasion; appropriate. Const. *to, for. Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 568, I sayle now in þe see as schip boute mast,..or ani semlyche sayle. *Ibid.* 1882 þei ete.. boute salt oþer sauce or any semli drynk. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 302 He commaunded the Citezens of London to prepare themselues and their Citie, and to make the same seemely and meete to receyue..the French king. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 15 The very lowest margent of paper shall doe no more but beare it, so be it the place be seemely for the same. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 623 Artaxerxes said, that it was a great deale more seemlier for the majestie of a king to giue, than to take. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxii. 6 For all that beauty that doth couer thee, Is but the seemely rayment of my heart, Which in thy brest doth liue. 1602 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. vi, And are these seemely companie for thee, Degenerate monster? 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xix. 10 Delight is not seemely for a foole. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 146 The heeles [of shoes] shod with thin Iron, and end with small nailes in seemely order.

†**5.** [Influenced by SEEM *v.*[2]] **a.** Likely. **b.** Apparent, seeming. *Obs.*

a. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxi. 140, I dare noȝt say þat þai ware all verray bodys:..for it es noȝt semely þat so grete a multitude of folk schuld verrayly hafe bene deed so resch withouten..corrupcioun. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9781 If aungel had take monnes kynde þenne were he leþyere þen he was ere..And semeliere for to doun falle. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (1534) II. xiii. 98 b, He sholde not haue made that oth..for it was semely, that moche dysease myght come therof, yf it were kepte.

b. *c* 1440 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* viii. (Gibbs MS.), [Christ giving us example that] we schulden not go fro þe ground of trew mekenesse by coloure of any semelych profyte or gode [L. *apparentis boni*] 1800 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* II. 370 And still the wily man With seemly kindness, to the eager Boy Directs his winning tale.

Seemly (sī·mli), *adv.* Forms: 3 semelike, semele, semili, 4 sem(e)liche, semeli, (semeely), 4–5 sem(y)ly, 4–6 semely, 5 cemely, (6 semelie, -ye, 7 seemlie), 6– seemly. [a. ON. *sémiliga* (Icel. *sæmiliga*, MSw. *sömelika*), f. *sém-r*: see prec. and -LY[2].]

1. In a pleasing manner; so as to present a fair, handsome, or stately appearance. Now *arch.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1504 Ðe firme sune at offrende sel Was wune ben scrid semelike and wel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8322 It sal be precius and prude, þe were he [Solomon] sal sua semele scrude. *Ibid.* 9880 A castell bath god and gett, Strenthed well and semili sett. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1432 Þemperour ful semly seide to hem þanne [etc.]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1442 Þe iueles..Bi þe syde of þe sale were semely arayed. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 123 Ful weel she soong the seruice dyuyne, Entuned in hir nose ful semeely. *Ibid.* 151 Ful semyly hir wympul pynched was. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 A spouse semly dighte of ryche ornements. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vii. 619 Gyrdels which were semely wroughte with golden thredys. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 257 Those blessed lockes of heare and beerd, whiche in lyfe moost semely did become that graacyous heed and face. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* D d vj, Whiche beyng meme of goodly personages, rydde in wagons semely appareyled. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 299 A man before him stood, Not rustic as before, but seemlier clad. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 379 Look on this child, how young of years, how sweet;..her eyes How seemly smiling.

2. Fittingly, appropriately; decently, becomingly.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 387 Þat mannes soule, þat lyþ yn helle, May nat semely to blys be broȝt, But þey with hys blode be fyrst oute bogt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 87 Þe bisshop of Durham, þat schulde more skilfulliche and semeliche occupie hym self in Goddis service þan in þe kynges service. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Þan meve þe cercle semyly aboute þt hath þe moonþes and signes writen in hym. 1552 *Godly Prayers* in *Psalter* (1560) N ij, That..we maye..decently and semely walke (as in the day time) beyng pure and cleane from the workes of darkenes. 1593 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 218 My bodye I commytt to the earth, to be semelye buried at the discretion of my frendes. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 94 For we haue ..their domestical, and familiar affaires, better, and seemlier ordered. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. x. Wks. 1851 IV. 88 Nor is it seemly or piously attributed to the justice of God,..that [etc.]. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 91 These swarthy arms among the covert stores Are seemlier hid. 1875 MORRIS *Æn.* XII. 210 E'en as this sceptre..A tree once, but the craftsman's hand hath wrapped it seemly now With brass about.

†**3.** In a moderate degree, 'fairly'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 J. METHAM *Wks.* 90 And yff this lyne be semely longe and pase noght the hylle off the schewyng ffynger, yt sygnyfyith hardynes. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xlvii. (1682) 79 Henry the first..recontinued the liberty of publick Consultations, and yet maintained his Dignity and Honour seemly well.

4. Apparently, seemingly. *dial.*

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 77 The shrieking bat, Who, seemly pleas'd to mock our treacherous view, Would even swoop and touch us as he flew. 1901 ELEANOR G. HAYDEN *Trav. round Village* I. 16 We yeard a girt hollerin' as comed simly from under our fit.

Seen (sīn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SEE *v.*]

1. In senses of the verb. Now *rare* exc. in antithesis with *unseen* (cf. SEENE *a.*).

1434 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. xii. 129 Als we in dyrknes standand seys noþinge, so in contemplacione þat vnsemly lightis þe saule, noo seyn light we see. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* II. ii. 9 Ne bring I to my lorde reported tales Without the ground of seen and searched trouth. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* vii. (Arb.) 66 It is best that ze inuent zour awin subiect, zour self, and not to compose of sene subiectis. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 127 By a more felt then seene maner of proceeding. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XX. 291 Philætius tooke note in his repaire, Of seene Vlysses. 1636 HEYWOOD *Chall. Beauty* II. C 3, And should I not in unseene Vertue strive To equall that seene beautie you so prayse. *Ibid.* IV. F 4, Let not thy seene griefe please him. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. i, Sanctioned..if not by a seen Deity, then by an unseen one. 1858 T. GUTHRIE *Christ & Inher. Saints* (1860) 162 They cannot stand *seen* death.

b. *absol.* That which is seen or visible as contrasted with that which is unseen or invisible.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. (1859) p. xxxiv [Burlesque of Carlyle], He shall paint the Seen, since the Unseen will not sit to him. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 61 Man! swinging-wicket set Between The Unseen and Seen.

†**c.** Provided, furnished. (Cf. *Beseen* s. v. BESEE *v.* 9.) *Obs. rare.*

c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 204 A-noon thei lighten and yede vp in-to the halle that was right feire and welle seyn.

2. *To be* (*well, ill,* etc.) *seen*: to be (well, ill, etc.) versed *in* some art or science.

Very common in the 16th and 17th centuries. Now *arch.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* Pref. 16 b, A man must fyrst be well sene in Aristoteles yer he can vnderstonde the scripture saye they. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 49 In sondrye sciences he is sene. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* (1900) 369 To be meanly seene in the play at Chestes, and not overcounninge. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* II. xxix. (1633) 177 A man seene in the Lawes of the Realme. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 311 They are slenderly seene in naturall Phylosophie. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 134 A schoole-master Well seene in Musicke. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *St. Church* (1653) 174 A man well spoken, properly seen in Languages. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 286 Men of mature yeares, and seene in the warres. 1759 BP. HURD *Moral Dialogues* iv. 165 *note*, This was frank. But Sir James Melvil was too well seen in courts to have used this language, if he had not understood it would be welcome. 1786 BURNS *Ep. to J. Smith* viii, There's ither Poets, much your betters, Far seen in Greek, deep men o' letters. 1886 A. LANG in *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 443 The bibliophile..was extremely well seen in the naughty little novels of the eighteenth century.

† b. rarely with other prepositions. *Obs.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 124 b, There were some, who thought themselues very well seene about these field bankes. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 81 This new Writer is the onely man, that is both deeply seen into the Center of Nature, and as willing also to publish these spiritual mysteries.

† c. Hence without *const. Obs.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1254/1 Better seene antiquaries than my selfe.

† **Seen,** quasi-*prep.* and quasi-*conj. Obs.* [pa. pple. of SEE *v.*, in absolute construction with following sb. Cf. F. *vu.*] **a.** quasi-*prep.* Seeing, considering. **b.** quasi-*conj.* (More fully *seen that.*) Seeing, considering, since, inasmuch as.

a. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 175 For his [Arthur's] myght and prowesse is most to be doubted seen the noble kynges and grete multytude of knyghtes of the round table. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. i. 1 To put it forth without other thyng seen the lytylhed of my persone. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Earl Salisb.* ii, But seen the date so doubtful and so short,..I can not chuse but prayse the princely minde That preaseth for it.

b. 1484 CAXTON *Curiall* 8 Seen that it is [not] a thyng more free in a man than to lyue naturelly. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xix. (1891) 107 Seen & considered that the Cite is strong. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* ix. 26, I am sory therof, but seen it is done, yf [etc.]. 1577–86 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 309/1 Therefore seene you thinke it not gude to inuade, my councell is that we campe still on the bordures.

Seende, obs. form of SEND *v.*

Seene, var. SENE *a.*, SENE *sb.*[2], synod *Obs.*

Seene, Seenie, obs. ff. SENNA, SENVIE, mustard.

Seenil, -le, variant forms of SENDLE *adv.*

Se'ennight, variant of SENNIGHT.

Seens, obs. form of SINCE *adv.*

1553 *Respublica* II. ii. 532 And behold where he is returned againe seens.

Seeny, obs. variant of SENVIE, mustard.

Seep (sīp), *sb. dial.* Also **seip.** [Related to SEEP *v.* (Perh. repr. OE. *sipe*: see SIPE, SIP *sbs.*)]

1. Moisture that drips or oozes out.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Sipage,..Seip,* leakage. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 414 In Ireland..every peasant..bottoms his dung-stead with stuff drawn from the bogs, that he may thus preserve the seep or gooding, as he terms it, of his stable-manure. 1871 P. H. WADDELL *Psalms* Pref. 1 Thar's the saft seep o' the cluds an' the dour chirt o' the cranreuch.

2. A small spring; *U. S.*, a place where petroleum oozes out slowly (Wehster, 1911).

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 424 *Seeps,* sypes or sykes, trivial springs.

3. A sip of liquor.

1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws* xvii. 187 I've mair than a mind to rin doun..and see if I canna light on a stoium o' bread and a seip o' milk maybe. 1901 R. BUCHANAN *Poems* 257 (E.D.D.) Anither bit seep, wi' her han' below the glass in case o' ony scaling.

Seep (sīp), *v. dial.* and *U. S.* Also **seap, seip.** [Perh. repr. OE. *sipian*: see SIPE *v.*] *intr.* To ooze, drip, trickle: = SIPE *v.*

1790 A. WILSON *Ep. to Brother Pedlar* Poet. Wks. 173 Rain seeps through the thack. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, That canna hinder the bluid seiping through. 1888 CABLE *Dr. Sevier* XV, Water seeps up through the side-walks.

Seep, obs. form of SHEEP.

Seepage (sī·pĕdʒ). *Sc.* and *U. S.* Also **seip-age, sepage.** [f. SEEP *v.* + -AGE. Cf. SIPAGE.]

Percolation or oozing of water or fluid; leakage; also that which oozes.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Sipage, Seipage,*..leakage. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 324 To allow for evaporation and seepage. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Divid.* (1893) 190 There is no seepage at this season, and we are way above the water level. *fig.* 1883 CABLE *Old Creole Days* (Edinb. ed.) 104 The Anglo-American flood..had thus far been felt only as slippery seepage which made the Creole tremble for his footing. *attrib.* 1883 *Century Mag.* July 421/2 Rills of seepage water wet the road.

Seepy (sī·pi), *a. U. S.* [f. SEEP *v.* + -Y.] (See quot.)

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Seepy*, seepy land is land under cultivation that is not well drained.

Seer[1] (sīəɹ, in sense 1 also sī·əɹ). Forms: 4 seere, 5 scere, 5–6 sear, 6 seear, 7 seare, 4– seer. [f. SEE *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. G. *seher.*]

1. *gen.* One who sees. *rare.* † *Seldom seer*, one who sees seldom. Cf. SEE-ER.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 59 A certeyne childe that hadde lost hys sight..receyued hit ageyne. And he, seygne with othir seers the mercy of God..gretly he magnyfied and prechid. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 102 panne alle pe scerys weryn astonyed. 1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Iuliet* 1070 And seemely grace that wonted so to glad the seers sight. 1656 JER. TAYLOR *Let. to Evelyn* 16 Apr., Strangers & seldome seers feel the beauty of them more than you who dwell with them. 1701 G. STANHOPE *Augustine's Medit.* I. xiii. (1720) 25 God, the searcher and seer of Hearts. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. 22 His Eyes are the Seers or his Feet the Movers. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Productions Mod. Art*, Or what associating league to the imagination can there be between the seers and the seers not, of a presential miracle? 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 376 Seer of the vision of peace, that yet couldst not see the things which belong unto thy peace.

b. Comb. *Seer-off*: cf. SEE *v.* 7 b. (*nonce-use.*)

1909 MAX BEERBOHM *Yet Again* 25 Giving the date of their departure, and a description by which the seer-off can identify them on the platform.

2. One to whom divine revelations are made in visions. In mod. use occas. *transf.*, applied to a person gifted with profound spiritual insight.

Originally rendering L. *videns* (Vulg.), Gr. βλέπων (LXX), Heb. רֹאֶה, said in 1 Sam. ix. to have been an earlier synonym of *prophet*.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* ix. 9 Cometh, and goo we to the seer. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 216 b, And therfore (sayth scripture) they that now be called prophetes, in olde tyme were called seers. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 553 How soon hath thy prediction, seer blest, Measur'd this transient world. 1718 POPE *Iliad* I. 93 That sacred Seer whose comprehensive View The past, the present, and the future knew. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. iv. 111 The king..sought the aid of the seer Melampus. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 321 The admiration..for Maurice as a thinker and seer.

attrib. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Sounds* iii. 6 The seer-saint of Patmos. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. vi. (1872) 137 Here actually is a real seer-glance..of an eye that is human.

3. A magician; one who has the power of second sight. Also a crystal-gazer, a scryer.

1661 'MONTELION' *Don Juan Lamberto* II. xi. N 4 b, Now as soon as Pacolet the Dwarf espyed him [the Necromancer]; Quoth he unto the Seer [etc.]. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 244 Dee..appointed his Friend Kelley to be his Seer or Skryer or Speculator, that is to take notice what the spirits did. 1763 'THEOPHILUS INSULANUS' *Second Sight* 78 A number of Seers whose predictions have exactly tallied with circumstances of time and place. 1889 *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* XIV. 502 The seer in this case was a girl,..whose visions were perceived by means of a glass of water.

† 4. An overseer; an inspector. *Obs.*

1498 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 28/1 Settar and sear of skinnys within the said burgh. 1604 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 111 James Short and Duncane Patersoun to be seares of the wark.

Hence **See·rhood.**

1884 M. BOOLE in *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Sept. 344 Certain individuals have had a special tendency to inspirations of sudden perception of new truth...It is variously called Intuition, Genius, or Seerhood.

Seer[2] (sīəɹ). *Anglo-Ind.* Forms: 7 ceer, sear, seere, sera, serre, (9 *erron.* sîr), 8– seer. *Pl.* seer, seers. [Hindi *ser.*] A denomination of weight varying in different parts of India from over 3 lb. to 8 ounces. In districts under British rule it is officially equal to a kilogramme, or 2·2 lb. avoirdupois. Also used as a measure of capacity; the official regulation (see quot. 1871) makes it equal to a litre, or 1·76 pint.

1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 47, 52½ tole make a seere of 30 pices. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 85 There is but one kind of weight all over the Kingdome of Guzuratta, which they call Maon,..which weighs fourty Ceers, and makes thirty pounds and a half. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 209, 1 Cattee is 2⅓ Sear. 1787 W. CHAMBERS tr. *Short Acc. Marratta St.* 30 Rice.., is sold for ten or twelve Seer for a Rupee. 1826 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VIII. 217 His master had not one Fanam, To purchase half a seer of gram. 1845 STOCQUELER *Brit. India* (1854) 209 A *seer* (a full quart) of the best [rose-water] may be obtained for eight *annas*. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 33 He refused the cash, and bartered his milk to us for a sir of rice. 1871 *Indian Weights, etc. Act* in *Unrepealed Gen. Acts* (1876) II. 1426 The units..shall be—for weights, the said ser [previously prescribed to be equal to the French Kilogramme des Archives]; for measures of capacity, a measure containing one such ser of water at its maximum density, weighed in a vacuum. 1902 *Man* II. 60 Bringing with him one and a quarter seer of rice.

Seer(e, variant forms of SERE *sb.*, SERE *a.*

See·ress. [f. SEER[1] + -ESS.] A female seer.

1845 MRS. CROWE *Kerner's Seeress of Prevorst* 330 Last days and death of the Seeress. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. vi, Fenella Stanley seems in her later life to have set up as a positive seeress.

Seer-fish: see SEIR-FISH.

Seerge, obs. form of SEARCH *v.*, SERGE.

Seering, variant of CERING *vbl. sb.*

1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 158 For seering Candell vi lb.

Seerou, variant of SEROU.

‖ **Seerpaw** (sīəɹpō). *Indian.* Also 7 serapah, serpow, 7–8 serpaw. [Urdū *sarapā*, a. Pers. سراپا *sarāpā*, head to foot, cap-a-pie, f. سر *sar, sir* head + پا *pā* foot.] 'A complete suit, presented as a *khilat* or dress of honour by the sovereign or his representative' (Y.).

1671 tr. *Bernier's Partic. Events Gt. Mogul* II. 4 That which they call Ser-Apah, that is, an habit from head to foot. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 87 Sir George Oxendine..had a Collat or Serpaw, a Robe of Honour from Head to Foot, offered him from the Great Mogul. 1725 in J. T. Wheeler *Early Rec. Brit. India* (1878) 171 We were met by Padre Stephanus, bringing two seerpaws. 1763 ORME *Milit. Trans.* I. 163 Serpaws..are garments which are presented sometimes by superiors in token of protection, and sometimes by inferiors in token of homage.

Seership (sīəɹʃip). [f. SEER[1] + -SHIP.]

1. *Your seership*: a mock title of address to a 'seer'.

1784 *New Spectator* ix. 6 Which [certain phrases], therefore, we request your Seership to explain in such a manner as that we may give an account thereof.

2. The office or function of a seer.

1835 MISS SEDGWICK *Linwoods* I. i. 17 Isabella was nettled at Herbert's open contempt of Ellie's seership. 1881 J. G. HOLLAND in *Scribner's Monthly* XXII. 142 Would these men in any way distinguish seership and prophecy from imagination. 1884 P. B. RANDOLPH (*title*) Seership! The Magnetic Mirror. A practical guide to those who aspire to clairvoyance, etc.

Seersucker (sīəɹsʊkəɹ). Also 8 sirsakas, 9 searsucker. [East Indian corruption of Pers. شیر و شکر *shīr o shakkar* lit. 'milk and sugar', transf. 'a striped linen garment' (Vullers *Lex. Pers.-Lat.*).] A thin linen, or sometimes cotton, fabric, striped and with a crimped or puckered surface, of Indian manufacture. Also (and now chiefly) applied to imitations made in the U. S.

1757 *Guyon's New Hist. E. Indies* II. 145, 600 pieces sirsakas. 1757 in *Dalrymple's Oriental Repertory* (1793) I. 203, I have with me..as a present for the King of Ava..2 Pieces of Seersuckers. 1856 *Daily Tel.* 29 Jan. 5/3, I have made acquaintance with the Spanish soldier..in Havana, where in summer he is sensibly clad in a suit of seersucker. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* vi. (1882) 145 The clerk, in a seersucker coat. 1901 ESTHER SINGLETON *Furniture of Our Forefathers* II. 631 The materials used for upholstering in the seventeenth century were camak,..searsucker [etc.].

Sees, obs. form of CEASE *v.*

See-saw (sī· sɔ̄), *int., sb., and a.* [A reduplicating formation symbolic of alternating movement; the particular form may be suggested by SAW *v.*, to which the oldest example refers. Cf. SITISOT.]

A. *int.* Used as part of a rhythmical jingle, apparently sung by sawyers, or by children imitating sawyers at their work. Hence in nursery songs serving as accompaniment to alternating movements in games.

1640 BROME *Antipodes* II. ii, Let me not see you act now, In your Scholasticke way, you brought to towne wi' yee, With see saw sacke a downe, like a Sawyer. *c* 1685 *MS. Douce* 357 If. 124 See saw, sack a day; Monmouth is a pretie Boy. 17.. in *Ritson's Gammer Gurton's Garl.* (1783) 48 See Saw, sacaradown, Which is the way to London town? *Ibid.* 51 See saw, Margery Daw Sold her old bed to lay on straw. 18.. in Halliwell *Nursery Rhymes* (1842) 88 See saw, Margery Daw, Jackey shall have a new master.

B. *sb.*

1. The motion of going up one moment and down the next, or of swaying backwards and forwards. *To play* (*at*) *see-saw*: a sport or child's amusement in which children sit one or more at each end of a board or piece of timber balanced so that the ends move alternately up and down.

A wholly different game, a form of CAT'S CRADLE, is known in some parts of England as *see-saw*, with reference to the backward and forward movements of the hands.

1704 SWIFT *Mechan. Operat. Spirit* Misc. 297 Then, as they sit, they are in a perpetual Motion of See-saw. 1712 — *Let. to Mrs. Hill* July, One who knows your constitution very well, advises you by all means against sitting in the dusk at your window, or on the ground, leaning on your hand, or at see-saw in your chair. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Jan., I thought by his see-saw he was going to interrupt the speech. *a* 1806 H. K. WHITE *Lett.* (1837) 338 The delicious see-saw of a post-chaise. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 77 Play at see-saw on the pasture-gate. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* liv. III. 237 The butt-ends of the three old streets were dipped as if playing see-saw in the surf.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1714 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 25 The common Amble or Canterbury is not, I am persuaded, more tiresom to a good Rider, than this See-saw of Essay-Writers is to an able Reader. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 99 To see.. what can be done by the amorous See-saw; now humble; now proud; now expecting, or demanding [etc.]. *Ibid.* IV. 280. 1837 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* V. xiii, He had persisted obstinately against a run on the red; then floundered and got entangled in a see-saw, which alone cost him a thousand. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxiv. (1860) II. 18 The ancients called the circular definition also by the name of Diallelon...In probation there is a similar vice which bears the same names. We may, I think, call them by the homely English appellation of the See-saw. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* i. *Fate* (1860) 39 If a man has a seesaw in his voice, it will run into his sentences. *a* 1870 W. STUBBS *Lect. Europ. Hist.* I. i. (1904) 8 Charles's wars with France are a regular see-saw.

c. *Whist.* = CROSS-RUFF 2.

1746 HOYLE *Whist* (ed. 6) 36 See-Saw, is when each Partner trumps a Suit, and they play those Suits to one another to trump. 1876 A. CAMPBELL-WALKER *Correct Card* (1880) *Gloss., See-saw.*—Partners trumping each a suit, and leading to each other for that purpose.

2. A plank arranged for playing see-saw.

1824 CARLYLE *Wilhelm Meister, Trav.* xviii[i], A large swing-wheel..other see-saws [etc.]. 1844 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Béarn & Pyr.* I. x. 177 Swings and see-saws for the exercise of youthful bathers after their dips. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 771/1 The long cemented play-ground below, with a see-saw for the children.

fig. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. 140, I began by siding with Mrs. Grundy and the world and at the next turn of the seesaw have lighted down on Ethel's side.

3. *nonce-use.* ? One whose life is passed in monotonous repetition of the same incident.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) III. xviii. 159 Let me alone Harriet: Now a quarrel; now a reconciliation; I warrant I shall be happier than any of the yawning see-saws in the kingdom. Everlasting summers would be a grievance.

C. *adj.* Moving up and down, or backwards and forwards, in the manner of a see-saw. Also *fig.*

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 323 His wit all see-saw, between *that* and *this*, Now high, now low, now master up, now miss. 1760 LLOYD *Actor* 148 When desperate heroines grieve with tedious moan, And whine their sorrows in a see-saw tone. 1772 MASON *Her. Epist. to Sir W. Chambers* 22 Let D**d H**e, from the remotest North, In see-saw sceptic scruples hint his worth. 1796 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* II. 389 Some elderly people acquire a see-saw motion of their bodies from one side to the other, as they sit, like the oscillation of a pendulum. 1812 BYRON *Waltz* To Publisher, Turning round to a d—d see-saw up-and-down sort of tune. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 375, I lived on for years in a sort of uneasy, see-saw condition, without any middle ground between the two extremes, on which I could at once reason and believe. 1878 S. WALPOLE *Hist. Eng.* II. 434 They did not tolerate a see-saw Government.

See-saw, *v.* [f. SEE-SAW *sb.*]

1. *intr.* a. *lit.* To move up and down, or backwards and forwards; to undergo a see-saw motion; also to play see-saw.

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. vii, So they went see-sawing up and down, from one End of the Room to the other. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 23 Aug., 'Why, ay, true', cried the doctor [Johnson], see-sawing very solemnly. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. xxiii. 161 A decrepid nun was see-sawing backwards and forwards. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 469 It see-sawed with him a good deal, but he jumped for it safely. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* I. vi, She was seesawing on the elder bough. 1898 FRASER in *Daily News* 15 June 5/2 Our way lay east, over a road see-sawing continuously between altitudes of 5,000 and 8,000 feet.

b. *fig.*

1826 JAS. MILL in *Westm. Rev.* VI. 259 To see-saw between these two horrible conditions, with one half of our population always in misery, is a grand item in the present state of the nation. 1835 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 7 Sept. (1894) II. 195 He..then has to see-saw between Peel and the Ultras. 1856 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (ed. 2) Wks. V. 135 Dialogues that loitered painfully, or see-sawed unprofitably. 1894 G. PARKER *Trail of Sword* XX. (1897) 260 It is curious how their fortunes had see-sawed one against the other for twelve years.

2. *trans.* To cause to move in a see-saw motion.

1801 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IX. 377 He sits cocking his chin, and see-sawing his right arm. 1813 COLERIDGE *Remorse* II. i, A poor idiot boy..See-saws his voice in inarticulate noises. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. ix, He ponders, he see-saws himself to and fro. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* III. xiii, Dr. Cameron see-sawed the matter in his most delicate way. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* iv, Bobby, stop see-sawing that chair, it makes me feel deadly sick.

Hence **See-saw·ing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1793 *Laity's Directory* 20 The shameful act of see-sawing in their chairs. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 246 To mount a plank over a beam, and commence seesawing. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. ii, A certain lolling, see-sawing method of balancing his body upon his chair. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* ii. 50 Two Croats..imparted a see-sawing motion to it. 1906 BARONESS VON HUTTEN *What became of Pam* II. viii. 166 He seemed..so above all mental see-sawing.

Seese, obs. form of CEASE; variant of SEISE *v.*

Seesan, -in, obs. forms of SEISIN.

Seesoo, Seesu, variant forms of SISSOO.

Seet, obs. pa. t. of SET and SIT.

Seete, obs. pa. pple. of SET *v.*; var. SETE, suitable

Seet(e, obs. forms of SEAT *sb.*

Seeth, variant of SAITHE, SEATH, SETHE *Obs.*

Seethe, *sb.* [f. SEETHE *v.*] Seething, ebullition (of waves); intense commotion or heat. Also *fig.*

1826 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 330 A rush of wandering winds, a seethe of waves, is heard. 1856 JOBELL *Eng. in Time of War* 66 Nigher comes the seeth of fields on fire. 1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 200 The seethe of the wave on the rock. 1902 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 45 He choked at his own spirit's seethe.

Seethe (sīð), *v.* Pa. t. seethed, † sod. Pa. pple. seethed, † sodden. Forms: a. *Inf.* 1 sēo-

þan, 3–4 seoþe(n, 3–5 seþe(n, 3–6 sethe, 4–6 seth, (5 cethyn, sith, sede, syede), 6 seith(e, seeith, syeth, seath, 6, 9 seathe, 5–9 seeth, 4– seethe. Also *3rd sing. Pres. Ind.* 1 sýþ. 4 seþ. b. *Pa. t. sing.* 1 séaþ, 3 seð, 3–5 seþ, seth, 4–5 seeth, sethe; *pl.* 1 sudon, 3 sude,n, 3–4 sodun, 3–6 sode(n, 4–5 sothe(n; *sing.* and *pl.* 6–7 sod, sodd(e; *weak form* 4–5 sethed(e, -ide, -it, seethede, 7– seethed. c. *Pa. pple.* 1 soden, 3–4 i-sode, i-zode, 4–5 sode, sodun, -yn, y-soden, sooden, 4–7 soden, 5 soddyn, 6 sodene, sodne, sod(d)in, soddyne, 7 sudden, 4– sodden (see SODDEN); 5–7 sodde, 7 sodd, 5–9 sod; 3 siþen, 3–5 soþen, (4 soiþen), 4–5 soþin, -yn, -un, y-sothe(n, y-soothe, soothen, 5 soþe; *weak form* 8–9 seethed. [A Common Teut. strong verb (wanting in Gothic): OE. *séoðan* (pa. t. *séað*, pl. *sudon*, pa. pple. *soden*) corresponds to OFris. *siatha* (WFris. *siede*), OS. **sioðan* (in pa. pple. *gesodenemo* 'recocto'), MLG. *sêden* (LG. *seden*), Du. *sieden*, OHG. *siodan* (MHG., mod G. *sieden*), ON. *sióða* (Sw. *sjuda*, Da. *syde*). The root, OTeut. **seuþ-* (:**sauþ-* :**suð-*) occurs in Goth. *sauþs* sacrifice (? originally 'boiled flesh'), with which ON. *sauð-r* sheep is probably identical. From the weak grade **suð-* appears to have been developed the parallel root **sweþ-* (:**swaþ-* :**suð-*) in OHG. *swedan* to smoulder, MHG. *swaden* smoky vapour (mod.G. *schwadem* fire-damp), ? OE. *swaþul* smoky vapour. Brugmann refers the root to an Indogermanic type **kþeut-*, found in Lith. *szuntù* (pret. *szuntaũ*) 'I smoulder, stew'.

The original pa. t. (ME. *seeth*) was superseded by the form *sod* taken from the pa. pple. The verb is now conjugated weak, *sod* being obsolete, and *sodden* having ceased to be associated with this verb.]

1. *trans.* To boil; to make or keep boiling hot; to subject to the action of boiling liquid; *esp.* to cook (food) by boiling or stewing; also, to make an infusion or decoction of (a substance) by boiling or stewing. *Obs.* or *arch.*

OE. had certain figurative uses not found later: To try as by fire; to afflict with cares.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 276 Gif mon syþ garleac on henne broþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 20978 þat orf þat heo nomen al heo slozen,..and suden and bradden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1487 Iacob An time him seð a mete ðat man callen lentil þete. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8447 So muche honger hii adde þer,.. Þat hii sode þe saracens & þat fless ete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6081 It sal noght siþen be bot bred, þis lamb þat þai of sal be fedd. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXV. 29 Iacob..hadde sothun [1388 Jacob sethide, 1611, 1884 sod] potage. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 171 Wortes or othere herbes..The whiche she shredde and seeth for hir lyuynge. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVII. ix. (1495) 608 The floure of Anetum sod wyth wyne dooth away heed ache. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 247 þe Emperour smote oute fire of a stone, and seþe his mete, as welle as he myȝt. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. ix. 196 And so that veneson was rosted baken and soden. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1874) II. 6 Progne..whiche sode hir oune childre after she had hym slayne. 1540 MOULTON *Mirr. Health* f iv, Take hemlocks and seth them tyll they be softe as pappe. 1579 T. STEVENS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. II. 101 We saw crabs swimming on the water that were red as though they had bene sodden. 1607 *Relat. Disc. River* in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) Introd. 42 Wee sodd our kettle by y^e^ water syde. *Ibid.* 43 He..gave vs a Deare roasted; which according to their Custome they seethed againe. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xii. (1655) 61 From the root of this tree cometh a juyce like unto a syrup, which being sod will become Sugar. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vi. § 4 (1712) 56 The Lye in which it is sodden or infus'd is good to wash the Head. 1713 *Guardian* No. 139 Androcles, having sodden the flesh of it by the sun. *a* 1779 COOK *Voy. Pacific* IV. iii. (1784) II. 321 This operation they repeat till they think the contents are sufficiently stewed or seethed. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XXVIII, Others were cut into joints and seathed in cauldrons made of the animal's own skins. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. ii. 19 Cold meat, seethed, Italian fashion, in nauseous oil. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 634 A poor man whose loyalty was suspected..was compelled to ransom his own life by seething the remains of his friends in pitch.

absol. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *Prol.* 383 He coude roste, and sethe, and broille, and frye. 1577–82 BRETON *Flourish Fancy*, etc. (Grosart) 15/2 And what kinde cookes she hath, and how they make their fyre To roast, to seeth, to broile, to bake, and what you will desire.

†**b.** With adv., *to seethe out, away* (also *fig.*). Also, to separate *from* (a part) by boiling.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* I. 25, I shal sethen out [Vulg. *excoquam*] to the pure thi dros. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 383 Than the ij. deuyls..Caste hem into a Cawderon and helde hem there, till the fleshe was sothyn fro the bone. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 272 In continually sething out and burning vp the vices of our lust. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1567) 22 Then was..a great fat oxe sod out in Furmenty. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Excoquo*, to seathe away, to fyne.

†**c.** To prepare or produce by boiling. *Obs.*

? *a* 1300 *Chester Pl.* VII. 73 To seeth salve for our sheepe. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIII. iv. [xv.] (1622) 283 A poison was sod [L. *decoquitur virus*] strong & violent.

†**d.** To digest (food). Hence perh. the use in OE. for: To brood over (care, anxiety): cf. Gr. κήδεα πέσσειν. *Obs.*

Beowulf 190 Swa ða mælceare maga Healfdenes singala seað. *Ibid.* 1903 Ic ðæs modceare sorhwylmum seað. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xiv. (1495) 59 The fode is sodde and defyed by werkynge of kynde. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* XI. 71 Wherfore þe stomak. losyth his strengthe to fully sethe þe mete. 1628 [see SEETHING *vbl. sb.* 3].

2. *intr.* (for passive). To be boiled; to be subjected to boiling or stewing; to become boiling hot. Said of a liquid, or a substance boiled in a liquid; also of the pot or other receptacle. Also *to seethe over.*

13.. *Sir Beues* 3455 He let felle a led Ful of pich and of bremston, And hot led let falle þer on; Whan hit alþer swiþer seþ, þemperur þar in a deþ. *Ibid.* 3460 Hire lord seþen in þe pich ȝhe sai. *a* 1400 *Vis. St. Paul* 133 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 255 þer he sauh..Blake Maydens in Blac cloþing, And þei sodun euerichon In wellyng pich and Brumston. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* I. 6 Let hem sethe to-gederys a whyle. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* viii. 30 Make the ynche to seethe...*Fais bouillir lencre.* 1541–72 *Schole-house of Women* 628 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 129 [He] Bad her take the pot, that sod ouer the fire. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 165 When it hath sod a while, and is thorowly melted, take it off the fire. 1646 CRASHAW *Sospetto d'Herode* 37 And while the black soules boile in their own gore, To hold them down, and looke that none seeth o're. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 367 The water begins to seeth. 1827 LAMB *Remin. Sir J. Dunstan* in *Hone's Every-d. Bk.* II. II. 843 The scent of horse-flesh seething into dog's meat.

3. *trans.* To reduce to a condition resembling that of food which by boiling or stewing has lost its flavour or crispness; to soak or steep in a liquid; to dissipate the vitality or freshness of (the brain, blood, spirits, etc.) by excessive heat or by intoxicating liquor. Chiefly in passive; for special developments of the pa. pple. see SOD and SODDEN.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 45 This piteous spectacle of her loue [*sc.* Leander drowned], sodden to haddocks meate. 1615 HEYWOOD *Four Prentises* K 1, Such as shrinke not to haue their blouds sod with the dog-daies heat. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. VI. 380 They drown their wits, seeth their brains in ale [etc.]. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 47 By heate, whence the Spirits are dissipated and the braine as it were sod. 1813 COLERIDGE *Remorse* II. ii. 188 His weak eyes seeth'd in most unmeaning tears. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* XVII. § 9 (ed. 3) 557 They [the Huns] lived on raw flesh, or at best only sodden by being placed under their saddles and pressed against the backs of their steeds during a sharp gallop. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Rime Duchess May* v, And the castle, seethed in blood, fourteen days and nights had stood. *a* 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* XXII, There was a man ..still alive; though seethed in drink, and looking like death.

4. *intr.* (transf. from 2). Of a liquid, vapour, etc.: To rise, surge or foam up, as if boiling; to form bubbles or foam. Said also of a receptacle thus filled with foam or vapour; also of a flatulent stomach, of the heart or blood. Also with *up*.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXX. 27 My bowels seeth with in me & take no rest. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* VI. 7 Sidingburne,..so caullid by reason of many springges that in the Chalke Hilles about it doth seeth and boyle oute. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* II. i, She puykes, her stomacke seethes. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* III. vii. 19 My belly seeths like a Porridge-pot. 1679 DRYDEN *Œdipus* IV. i, A thousand frantick Spirits Seething, like rising Bubbles, on the Brim. 1797 COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 17 And from this chasm, with ceaseless turmoil seething,..A mighty fountain momently was forced. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. § 18. 126 Vapour..came seething at times up the sides of the mountain. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* XVI. 133 The white surf which broke over their bows and seethed along the decks.

5. *fig.* To be in a state of inward agitation, turmoil, or 'ferment'. Said of a person in trouble, fever, etc.; of plans, elements of discontent or change; also of a region filled *with* excitement, disaffection, etc.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. i. 43, I will make a complemental assault vpon him, for my businesse seethes. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* XV, For them alone did seethe A thousand men in troubles wide and dark. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* V. VIII, 'All the north is seething', said Gerard. 'We must contrive to agitate the metropolis', said Maclast. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 1141 She lay and seethed in fever many weeks. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 4. 194 The city had all through the interval been seething with discontent. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 506 The elements of that war had been seething in English society. 1894 MRS. DYAN *All in Man's Keeping* XXV. (1899) 348 His brain had no respite either. Plans seethed there incessantly.

Seethe, variant of SAITHE.

†**Seethed,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* Cf. SODDEN *ppl. a.* [f. SEETHE *v.* + -ED[1].] Boiled.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 407 They..boil them well, as they do every kind of seethed food.

Seethence, variant of SITHENCE *Obs.*

†**See·ther.** *Obs.* [f. SEETHE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who is employed in boiling.

1377 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 46 Stipendia..It., Pro Sether, 3*s.* 4*d.* 1389 *Ibid.* 49 In ij^bus^ garnalmentis pro fyssman et Le Sether, 12*s.* 6*d.*

2. A utensil for boiling. *nonce-use.*

1700 DRYDEN *Baucis & Philemon* 57 She sets the Kettle on, (Like burnish'd Gold the little Seether shone).

Seething (sī·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEETHE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of SEETHE *v.*

1. The state of being boiling hot.

c 1300 *St. Margarete* 31 He let hete water oð seoþinge & þo hit boillede faste, He let nyme þis holi maide & þer amidde hire caste.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Ebullition, intense inward agitation. Also with *up*.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* O 2, This Vaine-glory..is (as I may all it) the froth and seathing vp of Ambition. 1852 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* IV. *Convent Cellar*, But within, what a spirit of deep unrest! What a seething and simmering in his breast! 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* XXIII. 388 Nothing was visible but a wild boiling and seething of clouds and waves.

†**2.** The action or an act of keeping a liquid boiling hot, of cooking in boiling water, or of submitting anything to the action of boiling liquid.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 439 Biggynge and sellynge cesede, and so dede rostynge and seþinge [MS. ɣ seoþynge] and greyþinge of mete. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* VI. XXI. (1495) 210 Salte is made by grete sethynge of water. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. XI. 91 The seething together of plummes..and other lyke fruits. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 327 The better to secure the seething of the Pot. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Potage*, When this Mixture has been season'd, let it have five or six Seethings in a Stew-pan.

†**b.** *concr.* Something boiled or in process of boiling. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXV. 30 ȝif to me of this brown sething [Vulg. *Da mihi de coctione hac rufa*]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* lxviii. 85 Sethe hem softly to þe half, and after lat þe sethinge be steryd and strenyd.

†**c.** *Comb.*, as *seething-house, -pot. Obs.*

1459–60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89 In coquina sunt, viz. in le *sethynghowse, ij magne olle in furnis. *c* 1500 LACY *Wyl Bucke's Test.* a iij b, Then caste all togeter in a faire *sething-pott with water. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. ix. 18 So we cover it as we do our seething-pots with a potlid, to keep in the fumes.

†**3.** Digestion. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. XL (Bodl. MS.), þe galle by heete þereof helpeþ þe seeþing of mete and drinke. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. v. (ed. 3) 20 Elixation is the seething [edd. 1, 2 boyling] of meat in the stomacke.

Seething (sī·ðiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEETHE *v.* + -ING[2].]

1. Originally, of liquids, a cauldron, etc.: Boiling. In mod. use, a somewhat rhetorical expression for: Intensely heated (said of solids, the atmosphere, etc., as well as of liquids).

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* 60 A caudron he let fulle Wiþ seþing oile vol Inouȝ. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* XLII. (Arb.) 114 [They] were aferd of that syedyng water. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* I. 13, I do se a seethinge pot. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 413 There is a Spring of seething Water, which falls into a Pool. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* P 36 The hooks and the seething pitch of Barbariccia and Draghignazzo. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* V. iii, But did he try the ordeals of God?..did his hand grasp the seething iron?

b. quasi-*adv.*, esp. in phrase *seething hot.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. XXXVII. 155 Yf..the watre might be sedinge hote. *a* 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 138 That 'tis so seething hott in Spaine, they sweare They never heard of a raw oyster there. 1870 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. VI. 197 The whole surface of which [the sea] was seething white.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Of waves, etc.: Ebullient, tumultuous. Also, pervaded by intense and ceaseless inner agitation: often with reference (*lit.* and *fig.*) to the condition characteristic of corruption or putrefaction.

1588 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. i. 3818 Whose scalding drops wil pierce thy seething braines. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 4 Louers and mad men haue such seething braines [etc.]. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 433 The seething spirit of controversy. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 73 [He] plunged into the seething gulf of insurrection which was raging in Eastern Turkestan. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 156 Seething sand [L. *Syrtis*]. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* I. 37 One white sea Of churning, seething foam. 1875 S. HADEN *Earth to Earth* 66 To avoid the seething suburban cemeteries and to bury their dead at Woking. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 238 Amid this seething corruption.

Hence **See·thingly** *adv.*

1887 *Temple Bar* Oct. 199 He explained to his seethingly angry friend.

Seeve, Seew, Seex: see SIEVE, SEW, SEX.

Seey, obs. pa. t. sing. of SEE *v.*

Seeyne, obs. pres. ind. pl. of SEE; var. SENE.

Sef, obs. form of SAVE quasi-*prep.*

Sef, sefen, seff(e(n, sefne, obs. ff. SEVEN.

Sefende, seffnde, sefnthe, sefth, obs. ff. SEVENTH.

Sefenneghte, -nahht, sefniht, obs. ff. SENNIGHT.

Sefte, obs. form of SIFT *v.*

Sefton (se·ftən). [From the title of the Earl of *Sefton.*]

1. *Cookery.* (In two applications: see quots.)

[App. invented by L. E. Ude, cook to the Earl of Sefton.]

1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 352 A Sefton, or Veal Custard. *Ibid.* 363 Ramekins à l'Ude, or Sefton Fancies.

2. (In full *Sefton landau.*) A kind of landau.

1885 *Coach Builders' Art Jrnl.* Aug. Suppl. 93 Our drawing represents Messrs. Hooper & Co.'s 'Sefton Landau' for one horse. 1889 DUKE OF BEAUFORT *Driving* 385 Those with curved lines are known as 'Sefton' landaus, from the present Earl of Sefton, who had the first one built for his own use. 1898 *Times* 12 Jan. 9/5 The Prince of Wales.. drove in the Queen's 'Sefton' and four to the Windsor Station.

Seg (seg), *sb.*[1] *dial.* Also 7 **sag(ge, 8 saig.** [Of obscure origin.] An animal which has been castrated when fully grown.

1600 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 131 In Blakburne, for one fat sagge for the howse use, liij^s^ x^d^. 1641 *Waterhouse (Manx) Rec.* (1894) 7 No Steers or Sags of three yeares old shalbe herded with the Dry Cattle. 1642, 1820 Bull-seg [see BULL *sb.*[2] 11]. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 *Seg*, or *Bullseg*; a castrate bull. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 46 The saig, poor dowy beast! nae pleasure kens Aboon a gowan

tap. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm.* II. 729 An aged bull that is castrated is called a segg. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725 *Seg.* (Suff., Yorks., Norf.), any animal castrated when full grown.

Hence **Seg** *v. dial. trans.* (See quots.)

1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Segged*, castrated, but only applied when the operation is performed on full-grown animals. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss., Seg*, to castrate a full-grown animal.

Seg (seg), *sb.*[2] *dial.* (See Eng. Dial. Dict.) [a. ON. *sigg* neut., hard skin (Norw. *sigg*, Ross).] A callosity, esp. on the hand.

1865 B. Brierley *Irkdale* I. vii. 130 They startn o'feighten ..an' never gi'en o'er till they'n segs ole o'er 'em. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 378 Callosities (called planker's 'segs') on the thenar and hypothenar eminences.

Seg, obs. or dial. form of Sedge.

‖ **Segador.** *Obs.*—[Sp., agent-n. f. *segar* to reap.] 'A reaper, a Mower, a Harvest-man' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Segamore, obs. form of Sagamore.

Segan, variant of Sagan *Jewish Antiq.*

Segar: see Cigar.

†**Segara.** *Obs.* [quasi-Sp. form of *segar*, Cigar (Sp. *cigarro*).] A cigar.

1785 R. Cumberland *Observer* No. 88 P 1 Taking the segara from his mouth. *Ibid.* P 4 In his pockets he had..a small bundle of segaras.

Segathy, variant of Sagathy.

Sege, obs. form of Sedge, Segge, Siege.

Segement, obs. form of Segment.

Segeneration (sĭdʒenĕrē·ʃən). *rare*—[1]. [f. L. *sē* Se- + Generation.] (See quot.)

1888 Gulick in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl. (Zool.)* XX. 200 Many species are now divided into two or more intergenerants, between which there is little or no intercrossing. This state of freedom from crossing I call segeneration.

Segerstane, -ston, e, etc., obs forms of Sexton.

Segg, obs. or dial. form of Sedge.

Seggar: see Saggar.

†**Se·ggard.** *dial. Obs.* = Safeguard *sb.* 8.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 34 Th'art olways a vustled up in an old Jump, or a Whittle, or an old Seggard. 1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed. 2) Suppl., *Seggard*, safeguard. A kind of riding surtout so called. West.

†**Segge**[1]. *poet. Obs.* Forms: 1 seeg, 3 sæg, 3–4 (6) seg, 3–6 segge, 4–6 sege, 4 segg, (seegge, 5 sæege, seghe, seige), 6 sedge. [OE. *sęcg* = OS. *segg*, ON. *segg-r* :—OTeut. **sagjo-z.*] A man. (In the 16th c. only *contemptuous.*)

Beowulf 208 (Gr.) Secg wisade, lagucræftiġ mon, landgemyrcu. *Ibid.* 633 Þa ic on holm gestah, sæbat gesæt mid minra secga ġedriht. *c* 1205 Lay. 7991 Heo ledden in heore scipen..moni forhfulne sæg sare iwunded. *Ibid.* 5109 Þer weore segge songe [*c* 1275 gleomenne songe]. *Ibid.* 20854 Þene siġed him to segges vnder beorȝen. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 165 Of þe seggus þat he sai bi-ȝonde þe side stronde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 333 'I am a surgien', seide þe segge 'and salues can make'. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1574 I had leuer see hym synke one the salte strandez, Than the seegge ware seke, that es so sore woundede. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 53 Robert Boid, quhilk wald no langar bide Vndir thrillage of segis of Ingland. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 713 Thair was seruit in that saill Seigis semelie. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 13 For and I flyt sum sege for schame sould sink. 15.. *Scot. Field* 113 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, Then sumoned he his sedges, in sondry places. 1557 Grimald *Death Zoroas* 98 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 122 Wherwith a hole route came of souldiours stern, And all in peeces hewed the silly seg. 1567 Drant *Horace, A. P.* B vij, Through this and such the sillie segge lay plasde in puddle still. *Ibid., Ep.* I. ii. C iij, Duke Nestor, sillie carkinge segge.

†**Segge**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? a. OF. *seiche* (:—L. *sēpia*).] ? A cuttle-fish.

c 1300 [see Lax *sb.*[1]]

Segge, obs. form of Say *v.*[1], Sedge, Siege.

Segged (segd), *a. dial.* [f. *seg*, dial. var. of Sedge.] Seated with sedge or rushes; rush-bottomed. Also Comb. *segged-seated* adj.

1872 Mrs. H. Wood *Within the Maze* xii, The plain segged-seated chairs stood pretty thick. 1873 — *Master of Greylands* xvi, A small apartment looking to the kitchen-garden, with an old carpet on its floor, painted segged chairs, and a square piano against the wall.

†**Se·gger.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *segge* Say *v.* + -er[1].] One given to 'talking', a boaster, braggart.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 201 Ȝone segger [*sc.* Christ] þat callis hym-selffe a sire.

Segger, Seggerson, obs. ff. Sayer[1], Sexton.

†**Se·gging.** *Obs. rare.* Used in echoes of the Du. proverb *zeggen is goedkoop*, 'saying is cheap.'

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* K iij, The Ducheman saieth, that seggyng is good cope. 1613 F. Roberts *Revenue Gosp.* 104 Alasse, alasse, segging is no good coping.

†**Seggon.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Of obscure origin; connexion with Segge seems unlikely.] A term of depreciation or pity (meaning uncertain).

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 174 Poore seggons halfe starued worke faintly and dull.

Seggrum (se·grŭm), *dial.* Also 8 seagrim. The Common Ragwort, *Senecio jacobæa.*

1633 Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* II. xxviii. 281 The first is called in Latine, *Herba S. Iacobi*..: in English, S. James his Wort...In Holdernesse in Yorke-shire they call it Seggrum. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 450 Ragwort..Seggrum, or Seagrim. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 350 Seggrums; *senecio jacobæa*; ragwort.

Seggy, obs. or dial. form of Sedgy.

Segh(e, obs. forms of See *v.*, Siege, Sigh *v.*

Segholate, variant of Segolate.

Segment (se·gmĕnt), *sb.* Also 6 seagment, 7 segement. [ad. L. *segment-um*, f. *sec-* (euphonically *seg-* before *m*), *secāre* to cut: see -ment.]

1. A piece cut or broken off; a fragment. *rare.*

1586 Ferne *Blas. Gentrie* II. 98 Antichrist..deuiseth by councels and synods hat all signes, images, seagments or reliques of holy men..should be adored. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* II. v, This s sum haldes to be a segment of his, and therfoer now almost al wrytes his for it, as if it wer a corruption. 1704 Ray *Creation* I. (ed. 4) 58 The Segments and Cuttings of some Plants. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. i, He also quarrelled with him the oftenest and testified the least forbearance at the publican's segments of psalmody. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. xi, The truest segment of Chaos seen in these latter Ages!

2. *Geom.* A plane figure contained by a right line and a portion of the circumference of a circle. In full *segment of a circle.* Also, see quot. 1728.

In quot. 1626 loosely used for *arc.*

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* III. Def. v. 81 b, A section or segment of a circle, is a figure comprehended vnder a right line and a portion of the circumference of a circle. 1626 Donne *Serm.* lxvii. (1640) 677 The earth it selfe being round, euery step we make upon it, must necessarily bee a segment, an arch of a circle. 1738 Chambers *Cycl.* (ed. 2), *Segment* is sometimes also extended to the parts of ellipses, and other curvilinear figures. 1806 Hutton *Course Math.* (ed. 5) I. 42 To find the Area of any Elliptic Segment. Find the area of a corresponding circular segment.

b. *Segment of a sphere*: a solid figure bounded by a portion of the surface of a sphere and an intersecting plane.

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* XII. Prop. xvi. 376 Of segmentes, some are greater then the halfe sphere, some are lesse. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Segment of a Sphere*, is a part of it cut off by a Plane;..therefore the Base of such a Segment must always be a Circle, and its Superficies a part of the Surface of the Sphere.

c. A segmental portion of anything having a circular or spherical form.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. iv. 346 Even vnto.. such as live under the pole, for halfe a yeare some segments [of a rainbow] may appeare at any time and under any quarter. 1700 Dryden *Ceyx & Alcyone* 265 Indu'd with Robes of various Hew she flies, And flying draws an Arch (a segment of the Skies). 1837 Brewster *Magnet.* 326 A frame..contains the segment of a glass cylinder.

d. *Her.* A bearing representing a portion of a circular object.

1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I, *Segment*, one side only of a coronet, &c.

3. *Geom.* The finite part of a line between two points; a division of a line.

1617 Speidell *Geom. Extract.* 24 Let BA be the greater segement giuen, and the whole line is required. 1885 Leudesdorf *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 53 Let us examine the relation which exists between the lengths of two corresponding segments *AB*, *A'B'* [of two straight lines].

b. *Acoustics.* Each of the portions into which the length of a vibrating string, wire, etc. is divided by the nodes.

1863 Atkinson *Ganot's Physics* 160 The part vibrating between two nodal points is called a ventral segment. 1870 Everett *Deschanel's Nat. Philos.* 832 The division into segments is often distinctly visible when the string of the sonometer is strongly bowed. 1879 [see Node *sb.* 6 a].

4. Each of the parts into which a thing is or may be divided; a division, section.

1762 Bp. Lowth *Introd. Eng. Gram.* 157 A sentence or Member is again subdivided into Commas, or Segments. 1847 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. 236 By the second segment of the intellectual world understand me to mean all [etc.]. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. ii. 22 Being unable to divide the orange into its segments, he ventures upon a great liquid bite. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. x. 307, I must ..cease talk of pictorial and rhythmic efforts..and go back to give account of another segment of my learning.

5. *Bot.* Each of the portions into which a leaf or other plant-organ is divided by long clefts or incisions.

1713 P. Blair *Misc. Observ.* (1718) 104 Flowers..divided into five Segments. 1723 — *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 18 The Bottom Leaves generally consist of five Pair of Segments. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 80 *Segment* (lacinium), the small parts of a leaf, cup, or petal, included between the incisions. 1877 Hulme *Wild Flowers* I. Summary 6 Borage...Calyx of five segments, very deeply cleft. 1880 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 4. 98 When a leaf is divided or parted and these primary lobes again lobed or cleft, the lobes of first order are called Segments (sometimes divisions or partitions), and the parts of these, Lobes.

6. *Biol.* and *Embryol.* a. Each of the longitudinal divisions composing the body in some animals, esp. in the Articulata; a somite, metamere.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 297 Segment (*Segmentum*). The great inosculating joints of the body. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 127 Articulata. The third great division of the Animal Kingdom consists of animals which have their body or members composed of segments or articulated rings. 1872 H. A. Nicholson *Palæont.* xiv. 143 The body [in Arthropods] is composed of a series of segments or 'somites', arranged along a longitudinal axis.

b. A cell formed by segmentation.

1862 Darwin *Orchids* v. 207 The three proper ovule-bearing cords or segments. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 139 The other daughter-cell..appears..like a piece cut off from the back or side of the apical cell,..and is hence called the Segment.

7. *Anat.* Each complete series of bones forming a vertebra of the spinal column; also, each of the three annular divisions of the cranium proper.

1844 Owen *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* iii. 42, I define a vertebra, as one of those segments of the endo-skeleton which constitute the axis of the body [etc.]. 1880 Günther *Fishes* iv. 64 There is no trace of vertebral segments or ribs.

b. A division of the spinal cord and nerves.

1855 H. Spencer *Psychol.* (1872) I. I. ii. 16 We find the nervous system formed of a series of centres, each sending fibres to the different organs of its own segment. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 623 Zoster on the face tends to follow the distribution of the three main peripheral branches of the ganglion rather than to be distributed over the supply of 'root areas' or segments'.

8. = *Segment* (or Segmental) *arch* (see 9 b).

1836 Parker *Gloss. Arch.* (1850) s. v. *Arch*, The only forms used by the ancients were the semicircle, the segment, and ellipse, all of which continued prevalent till the pointed arch appeared. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 146 The pointed arch had obtained universal predominance, though without involving the rejection of the semicircular or the plain segment.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a simple attrib, as (sense 6) *segment-boundary*, (sense 5) *segment-leaf*; segment-shell (see quot. 1862).

1893 J. Tuckey *Amphioxus* 179 Thereby is introduced the later characteristic curvature of the *segment boundaries [of the mesoblastic somite]. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, **Segment-leaves*, are Leaves of Plants divided or cut into many Shreds. 1862 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (ed. 9) 192 The *Segment Shell consists of thin cast iron cylinders, enclosing a series of segments of the same metal, cast separately, and built upon an iron disc.

b. In many combinations with the meaning Segmental (sense 1), esp. in the names of mechanical appliances, parts of machinery, etc., indicating the shape of the essential or working part, as *segment-arch*, *-rack*, *-roof*, *vault* (see quots); *segment-gear*, *-saw*, *-valve*, *-wheel*, *-window* (see Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875 and Suppl. 1884).

1887 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, **Segment arch.* 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 296 The .. stretching-roller has its axle mounted in the *segment-racks. 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 225/2 From these springs a *segment roof. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 123 Erect a competent Number of Pillars..and thereon turn *segment Vaults and Arches.

Segment (se·gmĕnt), *v.* [f. Segment *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To subject to the process of segmentation or division and multiplication of cells; to produce (new cells) by this process.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 79/2 The whole yolk is segmented in mammalia. 1877 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 50 The new cells which are successively segmented off from the terminal cell.

2. *intr.* Of a cell or ovum: To divide or split up and give origin to one or more new cells by the process of Segmentation.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* Introd. 24 In some *Rotifera*, *Crustacea*, and *Insecta* one polar body only is formed, and the ovum then proceeds to segment.

3. *trans.* To divide into segments.

1872 Humphry *Myology* 5 The caudal muscles therefore consist of a 'dorsal' and 'ventral' muscle on each side, ..transversely segmented by the membranous septa and the vertebral processes running into it. 1878 A. H. Green, etc., *Coal* iv. 121 The axis, prefiguring what in most vertebrates becomes segmented and ossified into the centra...retains [etc.].

Segmental (segme·ntăl), *a.* [f. Segment *sb.* + -al.]

1. Having the form of a segment (or, loosely, of an arc) of a circle.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 151 Giving its point a segmental sweep from Penlee Point..to the Mew-stone. 1856 *Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports.* II. I. viii. § 5. 346/1 This segmental form is better than the straight bit. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. N 1, A segmental bevel wheel.

b. *Arch.* Of an arch, a pediment, window-head, etc. Hence *segmental-arched*, *-headed* adjs.

1816 Rickman *Archit.* in J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 131 A segmental arch has its centre lower than the spring. 1849 Freeman *Archit.* 350 The segmental arch..is both more horizontal and less elegant than the four-centred. 1851 — *Window Tracery* 253 Of Segmental-Headed Windows. *Ibid.* 254 By a segmental head I of course understand one in which the centre (or centres) is very much below the line of the constructive impost. *Ibid.* 255 Segmental windows filled with Reticulated tracery. 1867 A. Barry *Life Sir C. Barry* iii. 84 Angular and segmental pediments. 1867 *Church News* 31 July 327/2 A small chamber with a segmental arched vault.

2. Of, pertaining to, or composed of segments or divisions. In various applications (*Anat.*, *Biol.*, *Acoustics*, etc.).

1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 172 Giving the first indication of the segmental character of the skeleton. 1856 T. Williams in *Phil. Trans.* (1859) CXLVIII. 93 Under the appellation of the 'segmental organ', accordingly, it is proposed to describe that viscus upon the basis of which..are always ingrafted the true generative structures [in Annelids]. 1870 Everett *Deschanel's Nat. Philos.* 1067 *Index*, Segmental vibration, 832. 1879 F. M. Balfour in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XIX. 8 The first part of the urino-genital system to develop is the segmental duct (Vornieregang of Fürbringer), which is formed by a groove-like invagination of the peritoneal epithelium. 1888 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* § 169 The proximal (segmental) duct. 1888 [see Segmentally]. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Segmental organ*, an organ consisting of a primitive epithelium-lined tubule opening at one end on the body-surface, and at the other into the cœlom or body-cavity. It is the type of the primitive kidneys.

b. *Path.* Characterized by segmentation or division into segments.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 189 Segmental degeneration of the nerves.

Segmentally (segmĕ·ntăli), *adv.* [f. SEGMENTAL *a.* + -LY ².] In a segmental manner.

1888 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* iii. 244 These [excretory] organs, being thus segmentally arranged, are termed segmental organs or nephridia. 1900 MIALL & HAMMOND *Harlequin Fly* ii. 84 Tracheal gills..may be ventral,..caudal, ..segmental (i. e. segmentally repeated).

Segmentary (segmĕ·ntări), *a.* [f. SEGMENT *sb.* + -ARY. Cf. F. *segmentaire.*]

1. Of the nature of or resembling a segment or an arc of a circle; segmental.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 314 Clouds, assuming a segmentary or arch-like form. *Ibid.* 321 Attracting attention by..its well-defined segmentary character.

2. Pertaining to segments or divisions; composed of segments.

1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Segmentary*, made up of segments. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 99 Such a segmentary anæsthesia could not be produced by lesion of either the cord nerve-roots, or nerve-trunks.

Segmentate (segmĕntēt), *a.* [f. SEGMENT *sb.* + -ATE ².] (L. had *segmentātus* ornamented with strips of cloth.)] Formed of segments, segmented.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 292/2 The abdomen [of an Araneid] is covered with a continuous integument neither annulate nor segmentate.

Segmentation (segmĕntē·ʃən). [f. SEGMENT *v.* + -ATION.]

†1. 'A cutting into small pieces, an embroidering' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). *Obs.*—°

2. The process of division into segments, chiefly in various biological applications; *spec.* in *Embryology*, the process by which, in the Metazoa, the germinal cell or protoplasmic mass is converted by division into a multitude of cells, which become metamorphosed into the tissues of the body.

1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 487 The first change.. in the Mammalian ovum, is the 'segmentation' of the yolk; the entire mass of which..resolves itself..into..segments. 1880 A. GRAY *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 4. 98 Lobation or Segmentation. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 293 The leaves undergo a segmentation similar to that of the stem. 1884 A. SEDGWICK in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* XXIV. 43 On the Origin of Metameric Segmentation [etc.]. 1910 *Spectator* 30 July 173/1 This segmentation of the tribe into clans would lead us to the discussion of exogamy.

b. *attrib.*, as **segmentation cavity** = BLASTOCELE; **segmentation sphere**, see quot. 1898.

1888 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* i. 166 The cleavage cavity (segmentation cavity); small and central. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Segmentation sphere*, one of the cells of a fertilized ovum that has undergone segmentation. 1909 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 447 Each segmentation sphere contained all the characters necessary to produce the entire organism.

Segmented (segmĕntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEGMENT *v.* + -ED ¹.]

1. a. *Anat.*, *Zool.*, etc. Consisting of segments or similar parts arranged in a longitudinal series.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci.*, *Org. Nat.* I. 176 In the cod-fish..it forms no part of the segmented neuro-skeleton. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 124 The segmented Vermes.

b. *Bot.* Of a leaf: Divided into segments or lobes.

1883 G. ALLEN in *Nature* 15 Mar. 466 The divided but more broadly segmented leaves of those tall open-field species, cow-parsnip..and Alexanders.

2. *Embryol.* Of an ovum, a cell: Divided or split up by segmentation into cells.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 682/2 [Biology.] In the segmented body, the segments may or may not give rise to symmetrically or asymmetrically disposed processes. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 106 The segmented ovum: composed of a large number of small cells.

Segne, obs. form of SAINE.

Segnior, -orie, -y: see SEIGNIOR, SEIGNIORY.

Segnitude. *rare*—°. [ad. med.L. *segnitūdo*, f. L. *segnis*: see next and -TUDE.] = SEGNITY.

1818 in TODD; hence in later Dicts.

†**Segnity.** *Obs.*—° [ad. L. *segnitāt-em*, f. *segnis* slow, sluggish: see -ITY.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM II, Slothfulnes..*Segnity*. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Segnity*, negligence, slowness, slothfulness; also barrenness.

[**Segnotic**, erron. form of SYGNOTIC *a.* and *sb.*]

Segnoury, -nurie, -nyorye: see SEIGNIORY.

Sego (sī·go). *U.S.* [Said to be Ute Indian.] A showy-flowered plant, *Calochortus Nuttallii*, of the western United States, with an edible bulb.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* 709/2.

Segolate, segholate (se·gōlēt), *a.* and *sb. Heb. Gram.* [a. mod.L. *seg(h)olātus*, f. Heb. סְגוֹל *segōl*, the name of the vowel-point ֶ and of the sound (e, ɛ) which it represents.

The name *segōl* means lit. 'bunch of grapes', alluding to the shape of the character.]

a. *adj.* Originally, of a disyllable noun: Having the vowel *segōl* in both syllables. Now commonly in extended sense, as the distinctive epithet of the class of disyllabic nouns having an unaccented short vowel (normally *segōl*) in the last syllable.

b. *sb.* A segolate noun.

1831 M. STUART *Gram. Hebr.* § 100. 46 All Segholate forms, i. e. those which have a furtive vowel in their final syllable. *Ibid.* § 119. 56 *Aleph penult*, in words that would regularly be Segholates. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 25 One of the old forms of segolate nouns in Hebrew. 1884 CHEYNE *Isaiah* I. 291 The word is a so-called 'Segolate' in form.

Segoon (sĭgū·n). *Fencing. Obs.* or *arch.* Also 8 seo(c)oon, sagoone. [a. F. *seconde*, pronounced (sə*g*ōⁿd).] = SECONDE 2.

1721 D'URFEY *Two Queens Brentf.* II. i, Straight, in Seccoon, grim Death shall be his Lot. 1730 H. B[LACKWELL] *Compl. Fencing Master* 9 Which seven [thrusts] are these following: Carte, Tierce, Sagoone [etc.]. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* v. ii, Sir Peter is dangerously wounded—By a thrust in segoon quite through his left side. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 530 A thrust in segoon.

Segra (sī·grĭă.) [Perh. a native W. Indian name.] = SEQUA.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 Segra-seed: *Feuillea cordifolia*. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Segreant (se·grĭănt), *a. Her.* Forms: 6-7 sergreant, 8 *Dicts.* sergreiant, 7- segreant. [Originally *sergreant*, of obscure etymology; probably corrupt; *s'érigeant* ('erecting itself') has been conjectured.] An epithet applied to a griffin (in quot. *a* 1695, perh. erroneously, to a falcon).

The real meaning of the term seems to be unknown. In some examples it is combined with *passant*; if this be not an error, the explanation in modern books, 'Rampant with wings expanded', cannot be correct.

?*a* 1550 in Baring-Gould & Twigge *West. Armory* (1898) 5 *Bligh*: Azur a griffon sergreant a.g. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 106 A Griffin sergreant Or.—Wherefore saye you Sergreante? —For that he is halfe byrd, half beast. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxvi. 181 Hee beareth Argent, a Griffon Passant, his wings displaied Sable...Leigh in his Blazon of this Beast, addeth this word Sergreant, in regard of his two-fold forme. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 95 (1810) 91 A Griffin, segreant, or. 1682 GIBBON *Introd. Lat. Blasoniam* 60 Segreant..is the proper term for a Griffon displaying his Wings, *Segreant ses aisles*, as ready to fly. *a* 1695 WOOD *Oxford* (O.H.S.) III. 146 Armes are 'parted per chevron azure and argent, in chief two falcons sergreant or'. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 415 On a wreath, a gryphon passant, segreant, sable.

Segregable (se·grĭgăb'l), *a. rare*—¹. [f. L. *sēgregā-re* SEGREGATE *v.*: see -ABLE.] That may be segregated.

1907 *Contemp. Rev.* June 908 Where the parent types differ in more than one pair of segregable characters we have new combinations of the parental characters.

†**Se·gregant,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. L. *sēgregant-em*, pres. pple. of *segregāre* to SEGREGATE.] Separated, divided.

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 5 Tolerations of divers Religions, or of one Religion in segregant shapes.

Segregate (se·grĭgēt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sēgregātus*, pa. pple. of *sēgregāre*: see SEGREGATE *v.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Separated, set apart, isolated. Now *rare.*

In early use often †as pa. pple.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9399 The Body..Whan yt ys fro the segregat, Dysseueryd & separat. *c* 1480 *St. Ursula* (Roxb.) A j, So were the nobles from Brytayne segregate. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 428/1 Those holye consecrate companyes, the tone segregate from paynims by the sacrament of baptysme, the tother segregate fro the laye peple by the sacrament of order. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1004/2 He was *segregatus a peccatoribus*—clean segregate from all kind of uncleanness. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. II. 279 Two or three Cardinals, segregate from the other Factions. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 2 Cor. vi. 17-18 A holy people segregate to the Lord. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 32 It is true they have been celebrating their defeat..in a more morose and segregate manner than is here suggested.

2. *spec.* (*Zool.*, *Bot.*, etc.). Separated (wholly or partially) from the parent or from one another; not aggregated.

1793 T. MARTYN *Lang. Bot.*, *Segregata Polygamia*, Segregate Polygamy...When several florets comprehended within a common calyx are furnished also with their proper perianths. 1846 DANA *Zoöph.* iv. (1848) 82 *Segregate*, when the buds are separate from the parent, except at base, each forming a distinct shoot or branch. 1882-4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 29 Either single, segregate, or associated in families.

B. *sb.*

1. *Math.* One of a smallest select aggregate of products of irreducible covariants which suffices to provide by linear combination all covariants of every degree and order.

1878 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* X. 339 The effect of this was to enable me to establish for any given degree in the coefficients and order in the variables..a selected system of powers and products of the covariants, say a system of 'segregates'. *Ibid.* 345 The terms in the expansion of the R. G. F. [*i. e.* Real Generating Function] may be called 'segregates', and the terms not in the expansion 'congregates'.

2. *Bot.* (See quot. 1900.)

1871 BRITTEN in *Trans. Newbury Field Club* I. 36 In this first enumeration aggregate species only..are entered; the segregates being noticed in the second..list. 1900 H. J. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* s.v., A Segregate is a species separated from a super-species.

Hence **Se·gregateness.**

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. i. 34.

Segregate (se·grĭgēt), *v.* Also 6-7 **segregat.** [f. L. *sēgregāt-*, ppl. stem of *sēgregāre* to separate from the flock, hence to set apart, isolate, divide, f. *sē-* (see SE-) + *greg-*, *grex* flock.]

1. *trans.* To separate (a person, a body or class of persons) from the general body, or from some particular class; to set apart, isolate, seclude.

In early use often with allusion to the Vulgate renderings of Heb. vii. 26, *segregatus a peccatoribus*, and of Jude 19, *qui segregant semetipsos.*

1542 BECON *News out of Heaven* G j, Your Bysshop shalbe godly, innocent, fautles, segregated from synners. 1552 LATIMER *4th Serm. Lord's Pr.* (1584) 145 b, This is the cause wherefore he will haue hys flocke segregated from the wicked. 1552 — *Serm. 5th Sund. Epiph.* ibid. 322 So the Anabaptistes in our time..segregated themselues from the companye of other men. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Jude* 19 These are they which segregate them selves, sensual, having not the Spirit. 1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Def.* 54 The Apostles.. were commanded by the holy ghost to segregat Paul and Barnabas. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 891 Nature absolutely Dissociates and Segregates men from one another, by reason of the Inconsistency of those Appetites of theirs. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. ii, He rambled about some time before he could even find his way to those happy mansions, where fortune segregates from the vulgar, those magnanimous heroes. 1799 COLERIDGE in Mrs. H. Sandford *T. Poole & Fr.* (1888) I. 299 But dear Wordsworth appears to me to have hurtfully segregated and isolated his being. 1852 LD. COCKBURN *Jeffrey* I. 200 Certain peculiarities, or habits, which segregated him from the whole human race. 1884 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 178 Mr. Newitt has..segregated himself from Mr. Saffery in the trust. 1904 DOR. P. HUGHES *Life H. P. Hughes* xxii. (1907) 632 That innate instinct which ever aimed at uniting, not segregating groups of Christians.

2. To separate or isolate (one thing from others or one portion from the remainder); to place in a group apart from the rest; *esp. Chem.*, *Geol.*, etc. (of natural agencies) to separate out and collect (certain particular constituents of a compound or mixture). In scientific classification: To remove (certain species) etc. from a group and place them apart.

1579 FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 662 Christe vouchsafed to segregate it from other wood, to make it the instrument of his passion. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. xxxiv, The prototype is conspicuous in the image, it is not segregated from it. 1691 TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Phil.* 73 Like a Refiner's fire which segregates Metals. 1744 BP. BERKELEY *Siris* § 190 The pure fire is to be discerned by it's effects alone; such as..the segregating heterogeneous bodies, and congregating those that are homogeneous. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Sir T. Lawrence* I. 167 Had these superb paintings been segregated in a national gallery. 1842 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 6) 100 The energy of the rays having been used up in decomposing the carbonic acid. The carbon thus segregated by the sun's rays is ready to give out heat and light, whenever it may be recombined with oxygen. 1872 W. S. SYMONDS *Rec. Rocks* x. 360 The limestone must have been segregated in deeper and tranquil waters. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* vii. 134 By an Act of Congress, the Yosemite Valley had been segregated from the public domain. 1911 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 290 In a true reference to the people the issue would be segregated.

b. *Mining.* (*U. S.*) See quot.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Segregate*, Pac. To separate the undivided joint owership of a mining claim into smaller individual 'segregated' claims.

3. *intr.* for *refl.* To separate from a main body or mass and collect in one place.

1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* vii. (1864) 169 The Mauhés are considered..to be a branch of the great Mundurucú nation; having segregated from them at a remote period. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* xi. 261 Whether clusters of them will eventually segregate from their neighbours..it is as yet ..impossible to judge. 1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 401 Most of the provinces had segregated into independent principalities.

Hence **Se·gregated** *ppl. a.*; **Se·gregating** *vbl. sb.*

a 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1629) 221 My Word is as fire; It is a segregating thing, that differenceth, and puts a separation betweene the scum, and the liquor. 1652 *News fr. Low-Countr.* 1 Those four segregated forms. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. x, To the segregating genius of their great Lawgiver, Sidonia ascribes the fact that they had not been long ago absorbed among those mixed races. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 127 By the segregating power of electric action. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 513 We may collect masses of true granite,..compact felspars, and many other segregated varieties. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 518 That the extensions, bought by Raymond..were..on segregated ground far to the south.

Segregation (se·grĭgē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *sēgregātiōn-em*, n. of action f. L. *sēgregāre*: see prec.]

1. The action of segregating. a. The separation or isolation of a portion of a community or a body of persons from the rest.

1615 N. BYFIELD *Coloss.* i. 18 (1628) 122 The Church..is Holy by segregation from the sinnefull world. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix*, CXXX. (1725) 600 Mat. 25. 32, 33...There is a congregation and then a segregation. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 384 There would be that segregation from the community into particular societies. 1849 A. BAYSON *Med. Statist.* in *Man. Sci. Eng.* 455 The utter impossibility of complete segregation [of fever patients], even in the most roomy vessel. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. VII. iii. 138 The social segregation is carried to such an extreme, that members of the several classes..refuse to associate together. 1861 BENNS. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* vi. 215 The provision which the early Eastern Church made, with true Oriental feeling, for the segregation of women into galleries. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 631 Manson has also declared segregation to be the first law of hygiene for the Europeans in the tropics.

b. Dispersion, break up (of a collective unity).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 20 What shall we heare of this [as a storm]? A Segregation of the Turkish Fleet.

c. The separation of a portion or portions of a collective or complex unity from the rest; the

isolation of particular constituents of a compound or mixture.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Maie* Wks. (1653) 273 Segregation is the solution of that which was whole and perfect into parts divided, which flow not together as colliquables dissolved. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXVII. viii. (1678) 668 Vinegar is made by the corruption of Wine, and the segregation of the fiery and airy parts. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. x. § 1 (1740) 658 Now I have but one Matter more to work up,..which is a Segregation of Libel from History, which this Author has blended together. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 190 These observations..tend to authorize the segregation of a very fine set of oracles from those of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xxi. (1837) I. 551 A fourth hypothesis considers veins to have been slowly filled by Segregation, or infiltration... Segregation of this kind may have taken place from electro-chemical agency, continued during long periods of time. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 43 Ontogenetic facts point to the primitive segregation of the nervous system from the ectoderm. 1885 LD. COLERIDGE in *Law Times* LXXXI. 65/2 The general costs of the action, which remain after the segregation of these separate costs.

Comb. (*Geol.*). 1875 J. W. DAWSON *Dawn of Life* ii. 28 Many of the veins are not true fissures but..segregation veins. 1878 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 447 *Segregation vein*, a vein which has been produced by the segregation of the component mineral matter of a rock along fissures.

†d. *spec.* Separation from a church or ecclesiastical organization: chiefly in reproachful sense, schism. *Obs.*

1555 PHILPOT in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 219 If we behold through yᵉ iniquity of tyme, segregations to be made wyth counterfayt religion. 1662 H. HIBBERT *Body Divin.* II. 36 Let the seperatist..through his sullen segregation..be a thief to himself. 1683 CORBET *Nonconf. Plea* 26 There is a great difference between inimical segregation, like sedition in a Commonwealth; and a going severally upon weighty reasons.

2. The condition of being segregated.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* IV. ii. 407 To which [companionship] the opposite..is being in a state of Segregation from others. 1728 BP. T. WILSON in Keble *Life* xi. (1863) 386 Sooner than unite with her [the church of Rome]..I should rather choose to live in a state of segregation. 1841 L. HUNT *Seer* (1864) 81 To show the selectness and segregation of their accomplishments.

3. *concr.* Something segregated; in early use, †a schismatic body.

1563 WINJET *Bk. Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 98 Ȝe dissent fra the..haly Kirk vniuersall, and als fra the segregatioun of all heretikis afoir Ȝow. 1605 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 372 The schismatick uniting himselfe unto their congregations, or rather, as this Sainct sayeth, unto their segregations. 1859 MURCHISON *Siluria* xix. (ed. 3) 493 Veinstones or original segregations of gold. 1869 F. GALTON *Heredit. Genius* 376 We must..consider each human or other personality..as a segregation of what already existed. 1877 RAYMOND *Mines* 146 Number of feet in claim is 600, being a segregation of the north end of the Ophir Mine.

Segregational (se:grĭge·ĭ·ʃənăl), *a.* [-AL.] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by segregation.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 812 Clays..from which the oxide of iron has been abstracted; partly by a segregational process, drawing together the iron into ferruginous nodules of hydrous sesquioxide.

Segregative (se·grĭge·ĭtiv), *a.* [ad. med.L. *sēgregātīvus*, f. L. *sēgregāre*: see SEGREGATE *v.*]

1. Having the power or effect of separating. †**a.** *Gram.* and *Logic.* A general designation for adversative (or †discretive) and disjunctive conjunctions. Hence of a proposition, Consisting of members joined by a segregative conjunction.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* II. vii. 95 b, The segregative axiome is that whose conjunction is segregative, and therefore is fittest to dispose disagreeable arguments which must be severed. The segregative is either disjunctive or discretive. 1626 A. WOTTON *Art Logick* II. vii. 142 That word is a conjunction Segregatiue, which severeth or divideth the parts of speech each from other.

b. Having the property of separating the elements or constituent parts of matter.

1674 T. FLATMAN *Belly God* 95 The Vintner..With segregative things as Pigeons eggs Strait purifies, and takes away the dregs. 1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 502 Iron-stone nodules ..are..probably the result of a segregative power.

2. Of persons: Given to separation or disunion. Of an individual: Unsociable.

1685 H. MORE *Refl. Baxter* 24, I leave him..to consider what a pleasant thing it is to Flesh and Blood to be a Segregative Rabboni. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 158 The influences of barbarism, beyond narrow limits, are prevailingly segregative, a wild race..breaks up into mutually jealous and hostile divisions. 1888 MRS. H. SANDFORD *T. Poole & Fr.* I. 157 Coleridge was as social as Wordsworth was segregative in his tendencies.

†**Se·gstar.** *Sc. Obs.* [Prob. repr. med.L. *sacristārius*, through some OF. form.] = SEXTON.

1532 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 143 And the segstar and his seruand to answer for the keiping of the kirk zard to the maisteris of kirk vark.

‖**Seguidilla** (segĭdi·lyа). Also 8 **sequedilla**, 8–9 **seguedilla**; 9 (after Fr.) **segua-**, **seguidille**. [a. Sp. *seguidilla* (whence F. *séguidille*, *séguedille*), f. *seguida* following, sequence, f. *seguir* (:—L. *sequī*) to follow.] A Spanish dance in ¾ or ⅜ time; also the music for such a dance.

1763 *Court & City Mag.* Apr. 191/2 (Stanf.) He joined the others and danced a Sequedillas. 1775 R. TWISS *Trav. Portugal & Sp.* 167 A seguedilla is only a part of a tonadilla [*sic*]. 1782 *Ann. Reg.* II. 11 A monotonous drawling seguidilla that serves the nurses as a lullaby to put their children to rest. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* II. xxxiv, And rung from village-green the merry seguidille. *a* 1852 MOORE *Oh! remember the time* 5 When I taught you to warble the gay seguadille, And to dance to the light castanet. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxiii. I. 222 Percy sings a Spanish seguidella, or a German lied [etc.].

Segundo (sĭgv·ndo). [f. the name of Juan *Segundo*, the author of a book on bridle bits.

The British Museum has a copy in Spanish dated 1855, and one in French dated 1829. An English translation, 'from the original Spanish MS. which was dedicated to George IV. in 1832', was printed in Latchford's book cited below.]

A kind of bridle bit. Also *attrib.*

1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xvii, An animal that may have the pace of a race-horse, but requires a segundo bridle, and a hundred-acre field to turn him in. 1871 B. LATCHFORD *The Loriner* List of Engravings, *Segundo Bit*, No. 41. Buxton Segundo, No. 81.

Segur, obs. form of SAGGAR.

1752 *Gentl. Mag.* XXII. 348 Great kiln for segurs.

Seh(e, Sehel, obs. ff. SEE *v.*, SEAL *sb.*²

†**Se·helich,** *a. Obs. rare.* [?f. stem of SEE *v.* + *-lich*, -LY¹. Cf. the synonymous OE. *gesewenlic*, f. the pa. pple.] That may be seen, visible.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 249, & hereð & hersumeð seheliche schafte. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 11 Glistinde gimstan of all seheliche þing ant untsehelich baðe.

Sehen, -ene, obs. ff. SEE *v*, SENE *a.*

Sei, obs. f. SAY *v.*¹, SEE *v.*; var. SEY *sb.*²

Seiannte, Seiant(e, obs. forms of SEJANT.

Seicentist (sēitʃe·ntist). [ad. It. *seicentista* pl., f. *seicento*: see next.] An Italian artist or man of letters of the seventeenth century.

1905 *Athenæum* 25 Mar. 376/3 The rest of the Italian School is of minor importance, though one or two of the Seicentists are here..well represented.

‖**Seicento** (sēitʃe·nto). [It.: short for *mil seicento* one thousand six hundred.] The seventeenth century considered as a period of Italian art.

1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* IV. 29 Beautiful specimens of Italian cabinets of the cinquecento and seicento.

Hence **Seice·ntoist** (*rare*) = SEICENTIST.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 146 The architect..has thought proper to have recourse to the 'seicentoists'.

Seich, obs. pa. t. of SEE *v.*

Seiche (sēʃ). *Physiogr.* [a. Swiss Fr. *seiche*, perh. a graphic adoption of G. *seiche*, sinking (of water).

Not connected, as is usually stated, with F. *seiche*, *sèche*, 'a portion of the sea-bottom left uncovered at low tide'.]

(See quots.)

1839 G. ROBERTS *Dict. Geol.*, *Seiches* (Swiss term); an occasional undulation of the water of lakes, like a tide wave, sometimes to the height of five feet, supposed to be caused by the unequal pressure of the atmosphere. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. i. 24 M. Vaucher thinks that the tides in the lake of Geneva, known by the name of the seiches, arise from the same cause. 1898 G. H. DARWIN *Tides* ii. 37 Although, then, it is possible to indicate causes competent to produce seiches, yet we cannot as yet point out the particular cause for any individual seiche.

Hence **Seicho·meter** [-METER] an instrument for measuring seiches.

1903 *Nature* 23 Apr. 599/2 Sir John Murray..exhibited a seichometer with which he hoped in the coming season to get a more definite and precise record of these oscillations.

Seicle, obs. Sc. form of SIECLE.

Seid(e: see SAYYID, SAID *ppl. a.*, SEED.

Seidg(e, obs. forms of SIEGE.

Seidlitz (se·dlits). Also 8 **seydlitz**, 9 **sedlitz**. The name of a village in Bohemia, where there is a spring impregnated with magnesium sulphate and carbonic acid. Used *attrib.* in †**Seidlitz salt**, magnesium sulphate; †**Seidlitz water**, an artificial aperient water of the same composition as the water of the Seidlitz spring. Hence in **Seidlitz powder** (arbitrarily named, merely on account of its aperient property), a dose consisting of two powders, one of tartaric acid and the other of a mixture of potassium tartrate and sodium bicarbonate, which are to be dissolved separately, and the solutions mixed and drunk during effervescence.

1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 439 The Seydlitz, Seydschutz, or Epsom salts are got by evaporation from the water of fountains in the places from whence they borrow their names. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 491 The Sedlitz water is another sort of artificial mineral water introduced by Mr. Paul in this country...This water consists of vitriolated magnesia,..and is so powerfully impregnated with carbonic acid, as to render the bitterness of the salt scarcely discoverable. 1815 *Specif. Savory's Patent* No. 3954, The combination of a neutral salt or powder which possesses all the properties of the medicinal spring at Seidlitz, in Germany, under the name of the Seidlitz Powders. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, Another clerk..was mixing a Seidlitz powder, under cover of the lid of his desk. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. 112 The simple effect of mixing a seidlitz powder was a source of amusement.

Seie(n, obs. ff. SAY *v.*¹, SEE *v.*

Seif, Seige: see SIEF *Obs.*, SIEGE.

Seigh(e, etc.: see SAY *v.*¹, SEE *v.*, SIGH *v.*

Seigne, variant of SENYE *Obs.*

Seignette (sŋe·t). Also 8 **Saignette**. The name of a French chemist of the seventeenth century used attrib. in *Seignette salt*, (earlier † *Seignette's salt*, F. *sel de Seignette*), a name for potassium and sodium tartrate, Rochelle salt.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Seignette's salt*, a name given in France to a kind of sal polycrestus [etc.]. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 126 This salt is another sort of soluble Tartar. It is called Saignette's Salt, from the inventor's name. 1863 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 9) 566 Tartrate of potassa and soda; Rochelle or seignette salt.

‖**Seigneur** (sēŋyör). Also 8 *erron.* **seignieur.** [Fr. :—L. *seniōr-em*: see SENIOR, and cf. SEIGNIOR and SIGNOR.] **a.** In *French History*, a feudal lord; a noble taking his designation from the name of his estate. **b.** In Canada, the holder of a SEIGNEURY; one of the landed gentry.

1592 *Surv. France* To Rdr., William of Saluste Seigneur of Bartas. 1775 JEFFERSON *Let.* Writ. 1892 I. 489 This St. Luc is a great Seigneur amongst the Canadians and almost absolute with the Indians. 1776 C. CARROLL *Jrnl.* (1845) 79 These are the rich men in Canada: the seignieurs are in general poor. 1876 LOWELL *Ode 4th July* II. i, The lands no serf or seigneur ever trod. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* IV. vii. 155 They whom distress and poverty constrain Against the seigneurs and their heavy dues To meet in conjuration, and complain. 1888 LIGHTHALL *Young Seigneur* 2 'Oh, the seigneurs have not yet altogether disappeared', said the Montrealer to the Ontarian. 1907 F. W. RAFFETY *Burke's Wks.* IV. Pref. 10 Every newspaper recalled the murder of a seigneur; but on the other side the sufferers were too ignoble to be known.

Comb. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 139 To sit free and take tribute seigneur-like.

Seigneurage: see SEIGNORAGE.

Seigneuress (sēŋ·niŭrĕs). [a. F. *seigneuresse*, fem. of SEIGNEUR.] A woman who exercises feudal authority; also, the wife of a seigneur.

1849 [MRS. WILDE] tr. *Meinhold's Sidonia Sorc.* II. 130 Your feudal lady and seigneuress, Sidonia Bork. 1888 LIGHTHALL *Young Seigneur* 118 How is Monsieur the Seigneur? And how is Madame the Seigneuresse?

Seigneurial (sēŋniŭ·rĭăl), *a.* Also *erron.* 7 **signeural**, 8–9 **seigneural.** [a. F. *seigneurial*, f. *seigneur*, influenced by *seigneurie* (Hatz.-Darm.). Cf. SEIGNORAL.] Pertaining to a seigneur (in France or Canada). Also sometimes used in wider sense = SEIGNORIAL.

1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* IV. ii. 174 So did the Vidames disclaim their relation to the Bishop, and became Signieural or honorary also. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* i. 7 Seigneurial Jurisdiction over the Inhabitants. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. vi. Wks. 1812 V. 650 From them [the clergy] were often taken the bailiffs of the seigneurial courts. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 259, I was sorry to see, at the village, a *carcan*, or seigneural standard, erected, to which a chain and heavy iron collar are fastened, as a mark of the lordly arrogance of the nobility, and the slavery of the people. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. vi. 156 In the seigneural chapel of the church of Mery-sur-Oise. 1865 *Q. Rev.* July 17 There was a something repugnant to the just pride of the Highland gentleman in the very idea of parting with his seigneurial rights, even for a season. 1887 *Spectator* 5 Nov. 1514/2 Canada could never have made much real progress under the seigneurial system.

Seigneury (sē·niŭri), ‖**seigneurie** (sēŋörī). *Hist.* Also 9 **seignurie**, **-ury.** [ad. F. *seigneurie*, later form of *seignorie* (see SEIGNORY), assimilated to *seigneur*.

1. a. *Fr. Hist.* A territory under the government of a seigneur. **b.** In Canada, a landed estate held (until 1854) by feudal tenure.

1683 *Apol. Prot. France* ii. 22 They have turn'd out of all Jurisdictions and Seignuries (which are almost infinite in France) all Protestants who had been admitted Officers in those Jurisdictions. 1763 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 269 Here is a large and good house..in the midst of a most extensive seigneurie. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 453 The chatelleine or seigneurie of Lille alone makes annually between 30,000 and 40,000 barrels. 1871 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) II. viii. 100 The seigneurie of Garre, which lay near his own castle of Blein. 1903 *Times* 12 Dec. 8/6 His father, from whom he inherited the seigneurie, was the most prominent French leader of the rising of 1837.

2. In Canada, the mansion of a seigneur.

1895 G. PARKER *When Valmond came to* vi. (1896) 115 The old sergeant went to the Seigneury, knocked, and was admitted to a room where were seated the young Seigneur, Medallion, and the avocat. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 415/2 As he passed one of the cottages within half a mile of the seigneurie, the sound of a piano made him stop short.

Seignior (sē·niŏr). Forms: 4 **segnour, seynour, seignoure**, 4–5 **seignour, seynowre, seyngnour, seynȝowre, seynyour, -owr, senioure, sene-, senei-, senȝe-, senyeour**, 5, 7 **seniour**, 6 **senȝ-, seneȝe-, seinȝeour, senȝe-, senyor, senȝeoure, senior**, 7 **seignor, seigniour**, 7–9 **seignior.** [a. AF. *segnour*, OF. *seignor, -eur* (mod F. *seigneur*, a Com. Rom. word = Pr. *senhor*, Sp. *señor*, Pg. *senhor*, It. *signore* :—L. *seniōrem*, acc. of *senior* elder (see SENIOR). Cf. SEIGNEUR, SEÑOR, SIGNOR, SIR, SIRE, all ultimately of the same etymology.]

1. In early use, synonymous with LORD; a person high in rank or authority, a ruler, a feudal superior; the lord of a manor. Now *rare*, and chiefly as a more vernacular substitute for SEIGNEUR in speaking of a French feudal noble.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1455 (Laud MS.), Þe keyes hij token in his honde Of her Cites of her honoure And maden hym her liege seignoure. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 269 Now beep

þese seintes, as men seyen, and souereynes [*v.r.* seynours] in heuene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13056 Then the Seniour [*i.e.* Menelaus] full sone, with seasonable windes, Cairet fro Crete with his clene nauy. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5758 Thare sall our Senȝeouris of the cessioun Off all thare faltis mak cleir confessioun. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 39 A hundred thousand men of Warre..were sent by the Seniours of Mexico and Tezcuco to encounter Cortez. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Seignior* or *Signior*,..Lord, Master. In a Law Sense, the Lord of the Fee, or of the Manour. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 9 Late in the evening, I reached Les Cédres, and was carried to the house of M. Leduc, its seignior. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. vii. 218 In the year 1245, was buried..a pious seignior, de Romilly, who dwelt at Romilly-sur-Seine. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. lii. 113 They denied the authority of the French nobility as magistrates, and resisted their claim of a right as seigniors to command their military services.

b. As a title of address. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3607 (Kölbing) Merlin com þe king to & to hem seyd: Bieu segnours [*MS.* sengours], ȝe ben yswore to king Arthours. *c* 1440 *York. Myst.* xxx. 73 [To Pilate] My seniour, will ye see now þe sonne in youre sight. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 8 Seniours, seke to my sawes, ffor bryssyng of youre bonys. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 67 Worsshipful seniours we must theym call Requyrynge that we shulde to theym obeye. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, 'Surely not, good seignior', answered the burgher.

† **2.** Used to represent It. SIGNOR or F. SEIGNEUR in designations of Italians or Frenchmen. *Obs.*

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 187 Seinȝeour Dauid the Italian secriter. 1588 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 410 For chalmer maill and bedding to Seuyeour Du Barras, Francheman. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 15. 101 Seignior Camillo and Seignior Alessandro..entered.

Seignior, obs. form of SENIOR.

Seigniorage, seignorage (sē·nyŏrēdʒ). Also 6 s(e)ignowrage, 8 seignourage, 5, 9 seigneurage. [n. OF. *seignorage, seigneurage* (mod.F. has *seigneuriage*), f. *seigneur*: see SEIGNEUR, SEIGNIOR, and -AGE. Cf. It. *signoraggio.*]

† **1.** Lordship, dominion. *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 353 Opinions of hereditary right..must either be allowed to establish their superstitions (the monarchy or seigniorage of certain families),..or must be coerced in the exercise of their claims. 1820 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (ed. 2) 47 Her [Europe's] throne has been an armed seignorage.

2. A duty levied on the coining of money for the purpose of covering the expenses of minting, and as a source of revenue to the crown, claimed by the sovereign by virtue of his prerogative.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 109/1 Wherof our Soverein Lord to have and take for his Seigneurage vii d in nombre. 1543 tr. *Act 9 Hen. V* Stat. II. c. 2 Payeng y^e^ seignowrage & cunage of golde after the rate of .v.s. for the pounde of the tower. *Ibid.*, With the signowrage and coynage as afore is sayde. 1658 PHILLIPS. 1695 LOCKE *Further Consid. Money* 84 This at least they were not mistaken in, that they brought Work to the Mint, and a Part of the Money coined to the Crown for Seigniorage. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 352 Delivering out, without deduction for seignorage, duty, workmanship, or even waste, the full value of all bullion brought in to be coined. 1805 EARL LIVERPOOL *Treat. Coins* 102 Augmentation of revenue was expected from the additional profits, which would in such case arise, from the right of Seigneurage. 1880 DEL MAR *Hist. Prec. Metals* 125 The royalties, seignorages, convoy-duties, and other impositions..which the Portuguese monarchs levied upon the gold product of Brazil. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Apr. 4/5 The proposal often made of deducting a seigniorage from the intrinsic value of the coinage. 1891 *Daily News* 6 Nov. 3/5 Any profit which the State gets from note circulation, seigneurage, and the like.

3. A duty claimed by the over-lord upon the output of certain minerals, a royalty.

a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XXV. V. 265 With that domain they had as little to do as with the seignorage levied on tin in the Duchy of Cornwall.

¶ **4.** Alleged to signify: 'Profit' (Webster 1847–54); 'The money paid on a copyright by a publisher to an author' (Webster 1864, marked '*Eng.*'). Cf. LORDSHIP *sb.* 6, ROYALTY 6 c.

† **5.** *attrib.* **seigniorage fine,** a royalty paid to the over-lord in return for the concession of a privilege. *Obs.*

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 318/1 Perhaps a seigniorage fine to government for permission to sink a new well.

† **Sei·gnioresse.** *Law. Obs.* Also 7 seignioresse, seignoresse, signioresse. [n. OF. *seignoresse*, var. of *seigneuresse.*] = SEIGNEURESS.

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 386 If the eldest sister should take homage of the yonger, she should be as a segnioresse to them all. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* vi. § 459. 200 If a woman be seignoresse and a man be tenant. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1653) 313 If a Woman Signioresse take her Tenant to Husband.

† **Seigniority, seignority.** *Obs.* [n. OF. *seignourité*, f. SEIGNEUR: see -ITY.] Lordship, governance.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxxiv. 291 They..founde a great nombre of Ladyes and damosels, who had the sygniorite of that isle. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 20 Your covetous longing after riches, your ambitious hunting after segnioritie, have occasioned this warre. 1598 SPENSER *Brief Note Irel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 540 Then was he..to loose that seignoritie w^th^ he claimed of that land.

Sei·gniorship. *rare.* [f. SEIGNIOR + -SHIP.] The rank or condition of a seignior. In quot. used as a form of address.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xiv, Your seigniorship.

Seigniory, seignory (sē·nyŏri), *sb.* Forms: 3–4 senurre, 4–5 senurie, senery, 5 senowrye; 4 *Sc.* senȝhory, senȝeroy, senȝhowry, 4–5 senyoury (*Sc.* senȝoury, senȝory), seniourie, 5–7 seniory, seniorie, (5 seniore), senȝowry, 6 senȝsory, -ie, 6–7 senyeory; 3 seynorye, 4 seynu(r)rye, 4 seynore, seinuri, 5 seynourye; 4 seinȝnery, 4–5 sengnurie, syngnory; 4 segnoury, 6 segnorie, segniory, 6–7 segniorie, 6 segȝyorye; 3–6 seygnery, seignori(ȝ)e, seiȝnory, 4–5 seignurie, 4–6 seignorye, seygno(u)rye, seignourie, -y(e, seygnourie, 4–7 sȝignorie, (7seigniore, siegniory, seignieurie), 4– seignory, 6– seigniory. [a. OF. *seignorie* (mod.F. refashioned *seigneurie*), f. *seigneur*: see SEIGNIOR. Cf. Sp. *señoría*, Pg. *senhoria*, It. *signoria.* See also SEIGNEURY, SIGNORY.]

† **1.** Lordship, domination, sovereignty. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 115/320 Ȝif he hadde of is owene flesche al-ovt þe seignorie. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3858 He wolde wende Vor to winne seygnorie aboute in oþer ende. 13.. *K. Alis.* 597 (Laud MS.) He shal habbe seignorye Of þis rounde myddell erd. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 298 Covaitisa of senȝhory. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3159 Thei made lettres..To eche a lond and prouynce That Gregeys hadde in seygnorye. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 209/11 Mony has jurisdiccioun and seignoury be way of dede, and nocht be way of lawe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 66 Whan thou haste moste seigniourye and lordshyps than shalt thou [etc.]. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 467 That many yeres did hold such seignorie. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 1 The Turke..by the discord of christen princes hath amplified greatly his seigniory and dominion. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2. 66 If hee would..do homage to him, he should re-accept his semiory. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* cclxi, The more Politicke Molls, (who in fatter Soyles, have Seigneiories). 1684 *Contempt. St. Man* I. ii. 20 What were..the Seignory of the World, but Vanity of Vanities?

b. quasi-*arch.* *Your seignorie* = 'your lordship': attributed to a foreign speaker.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxix, 'It may be your seignorie is right', answered the guide. *Ibid.* xxx.

2. *spec.* Feudal lordship or dominion; the authority, rights, and privileges of a feudal lord.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 524/1 Articles of Liberteez to Seignorie apperteynyng. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Rec.* (1891) 171 With suche segnyorye and preferment of the said under tenauntes as the personne so atteyncted had before the said atteyndour. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 3 Alwaies saving to the King and to other Lords their Seigniories and Franchises. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* xiv. 473 Reserving to the chiefs certain rights of seigniory over the respective domains. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxii. (1872) 188 James thought..the rights of seigniory too large.

b. A particular feudal lordship; in *English Law* chiefly, the relation of the lord to the tenants of a manor.

Seigniory appendant, seigniory in gross: see quot. 1886. By some writers *seigniory* has been used as equivalent to 'seigniory in gross'.

1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 283 Their ancestors had been possessed of a court and seniory in the town of Paston. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 204/2 Any Tenaunt boldyng..by Knyghts service, by reason of any Seignorie or Lordshipp. 1553 *Act* 1 *Mary* Stat. II. c. 5 Any person..having a Seignorie by reason of any Castells,..[etc.]..of him..holden by Knightes service. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 113/1 in *Holinshed*, Matthew did..seeke to vsurpe the name of a segniorie of the Oneiles, and the dominions apperteining to that segniorie and surname. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 111 Were you not restor'd To all the Duke of Norfolkes Seignories, Your Noble, and right well-remembred Fathers? 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 43 He may haue thereby a kind of seigniory, a Lordship or gouernement in grosse ouer his Tenants by contract or couenant, but no Mannor. *c* 1600 BACON *Elem. Com. Law* ii. (1630) 7 If tenant in ancient demesne be disseised by the Lord, whereby the seigniory is suspended,..Francke fee is no plea. 1652 tr. *Fitzherbert's New Nat. Brev.* 6 If a man hold of a Lord, as of Seigniory in gross, which is not any Manor, for which Seigniory he cannot keep any Court. 1730 M. WRIGHT *Tenures* 30 Neither could the Lord alien or transfer his Seigniory or Superiority to another, without the Consent of his Feudatary. 1844 J. WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1879) 322 By the grant of an estate in fee simple, he necessarily parted with the feudal possession..The grantee, however, became his tenant. ..This simply having a free tenant in fee simple was called a seignory. 1875 DIGBY *Real Prop.* I. § 3 (1876) 30 *note*, If the lord retained no lands in his own hands, but all the lands within the manor were held by free tenants, he was said to have a seignory, or a seignory in gross. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 623/2 They [seignories] are regarded as incorporeal hereditaments, and are either appendant or in gross. A seignory appendant passes with the grant of the manor; a seignory in gross—that is a seignory which has been severed from the demesne lands of the manor to which it was originally appendant—must be specially conveyed by deed of grant.

3. The territory under the dominion of a lord; *esp.* a feudal domain. Sometimes used for SEIGNEURY with reference to France or Canada.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 49 Whan Knoute had receyued bope þe seignories, He parted þe lond in foure parties. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. i. 6 To recoure londes, seignoryes or thar thynges. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 Prouided alwayes, that euery lorde marcher haue the forfaytes..within their seygnories, liberties, and *[sic]* frauncheses royall. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* V. xxix. I. 107 A third Seignorie or Shire there is that goeth to Apamia. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 71 The Venetians; by whom it was holden as a part of their seignorie almost an hundred yeares. 1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issach.* 7 Crime..committed, within the Seignory of this pettie Principality. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 3 The codes of the Germans..were superseded by these local customs: each seignory and province had its own. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 144 The Lord of the Manor..could search for stolen goods within the extent of his seignory.

fig. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* Ep. Ded., I will poure out prayers vnto the Lord of heauen & earth to sende you.. after this life neuer ceassing, and endlesse ioyes in the heauenlie Seignorie. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 268 In one place lay disinherited heades, dispossessed of their naturall seignories.

4. A body of 'seigniors' or lords. Often with reference to Italy, = SIGNORIA. SIGNORY 4.

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 88 Ye myght be blamed, seen that your seygnorye ne your lordes be not here now present. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 12 The Duke..with all the Senyorye went in ther Archa triumphali. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 84 Ouer all which, the seignorie neuertheless had a generall care. 1872 LOWELL *Dante* Wks. 1890 IV. 134 The new decree by which the seigniory of Florence recalled a portion of the exiles.

Seigniour, obs. form of SENIOR.

† **Sei·gnorable,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 5 senȝeorabill. [a. OF. *seignorable*, f. *seigneur*: see SEIGNEUR and -ABLE.] Pertaining to or characteristic of a lord, lordly.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 717 Thair was seruit in that saill Seigis semelie, Mony Senȝeorabill Syre on ilk syde seir.

Seignoral (sē·nyŏrăl), *a. Hist.* Also 7–9 seignioral. [f. SEIGN(IOR + -AL.] = SEIGNORIAL; cf. SEIGNEURIAL.

1627 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 508 And yet it was by him thus said..That the Kings of England always have had a Monarchy Royal and not a Monarchy Seignoral. 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampant* 149 A Tyrannie after the Turkish mode, a Monarchy seignioral. 1790 BURKE *Fr Rev.* (ed. 2) 219 The bishopricks and cures, under kingly and seignoral patronage,..are sometimes acquired by unworthy methods. 1809 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* 733/2 All seignioral courts of justice are abolished in Spain. 1886 *Pall Mall Gas.* 5 June 4/1 The history of Chantilly as a seignoral residence goes back to a very early period.

Seignorial (sē·nyō·riăl), *a.* Also seigniorial. [f. *seignor*, SEIGNIOR + -IAL. Cf. F. *seigneurial.*] Pertaining to a seignior or seigniors.

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 209 Several other small emoluments of himself and his successors,..were in that age rather seigniorial than royal. 1823 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* I. 721 Provincial custom-houses were abolished, and all seignorial courts of justice. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* vi. 158 This liberal and almost splendid existence, with its seignorial amusements of hunting and hawking.

† **Sei·gnorize,** *v. Obs.* [f. *seignor*, SEIGNIOR + -IZE (in early use after F. † *signoriss-, signorir*). See also SIGNORIZE *v.*] *intr.* To hold sway, act as lord. Const. *in, over.*

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 26 Those Statesmen, who made accompt to Seignorize in all Assemblies. 1799 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 283 A woman may be..a Mrs. Arlberry in the art of Seignorizing over men.

† **Sei·gnorous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. OF. *seignoureux*: see SEIGNEUR and -OUS.] Lordly, noble. Hence † **Sei·gnorously** *a.*, in the same sense.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 121 b, And in fauour of youre seignoureuse gentilnesse..I shal renewe you as sayd is. 1481 — *Godfrey* clxxxvii. 274 In to thynner part of the temple were fledde moche grete peple of the toun by cause it was the moost seynorously and rial place of the toun.

Seignory, *sb.*: see SEIGNIORY.

† **Sei·gnory,** *v. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *seignorier, seigneurier*, f. *seigneur*: see SEIGNIOR.]

1. *intr.* To exercise mastery.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. g 2 b, Hit is sayd in prouerbe that a man ought to seignorie ouer the riches, and not to serue hit. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 306/1 Thordre of domynacion whiche seygnoryeth aboue other that ben lower.

2. *trans.* To govern.

c 1475 *Partenay* 5090 Terry seignoried A full large contre.

Seih, **seihȝe,** obs. ff. SEE *v.*

Seihtle, variant of SAUGHTEL *v. Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 3 Ga arst and seihtle wiþ ðine broðer.

Seik: see SAUK *sb.*[1], SICK *a.*, SIKH.

Seil, obs. f. CEIL *v.*, SAIL *sb.*[1]; *Sc.* var. of SILE *v.*[2]

Seilde(n, -in(e, -yn, obs. ff. SELD and SELDOM.

Seile, obs. f. CEIL *v.*, SAIL *v.*[1], SEEL *v.*[2]

† **Sei·ler.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *seil* var. CEIL *v.* + -ER[1].] One who 'ceils' (CEIL *v.* 2); a house-painter or plasterer.

1672 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 303 The Company of Joyners and Seilers London. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 148/2 Seiler or House Painter.

Seill(en, obs. forms of SAIL *v.*[1]

Seill: see SEELE, canopy, SELE, happiness.

Seille, seily, obs. forms of SAIL *sb.*[1], *v.*[1]

Seilye, variant of SEELY *a. Obs.*

Seim(e, Seiment, obs. ff. SEEM *v.*[2], CEMENT.

† **Sein,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 seyn. [a. OF. *seigner*:—L. *signāre* to SIGN.] *trans.* To sign, seal.

1258 *Procl. Hen. III* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1868–9, 21 We senden ȝew his writ open iseined wiþ ure seel. 1549 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admir.* (1897) II. 70, I have written and seynidde this presentt with myne owne proper handde. 1638 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 3 We command you expresslie..to publis the proclamatioun fourthwith drawen up with your oune hand, which we have seined. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 136 He seined his fiat to the conformation of the said requeste.

Sein, obs. f. SAINT, SAY *v.*[1] **Seind**, obs. f. SEND *v.* **Seindell, -dill, -dl(e**, variant ff. SENDLE *adv.*

Seine (sēin), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 segne, 3–8 seyne, 4–7 sayne, 5 seyn, 7–8 sayn, sain(e, sein, 7– seine. β. 7 seene, 7– sean. [OE. *segne* wk. fem. = OS., OHG. *segina* :—WGer. **sagina*. a. L. *sagēna* (whence F. *seine*), a. Gr. σαγήνη.] A fishing net designed to hang vertically in the water, the ends being drawn together to inclose the fish. (See quot. 1874 in β.)

Also with defining word denoting the kind of seine, as *cod, herring, pilchard, shad, drift-, drag-, tuck-seine*, etc.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xxi. 11 Næs ðiu segni tosliten [Vulg. *non est scissum rete*]. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 584 Hi ongunnon sælafe segnum dælan. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 700 Þe fis þat brac þi seyne. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4270 Set we na saynes in þe see, ne sese we na fischis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/1 A Seyn, *sagena*. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 30 The Sayne is a net, of about fortie fathome in length, with which they encompasse a part of the Sea, and drawe the same on land by two ropes, fastned at his ends, together with such fish, as lighteth within his precinct. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 35 He hath of his own a Saine to catch fish withall. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 55 They have almost every where the best conveniences for hauling the seyne. 1797 POLWHELE *Hist. Devon* I. 120 Herrings.. are taken in seines—three tons have been caught at a hawl. 1883 MALONEY *W. Afr. Fisheries* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 28 A manatee had been caught in a drift-seine near Ajedé.

β. 1607 COWEL *Interpr., Seane fish*,..seemeth to be that fish which is taken with a very great and long net called a seane. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 193 These two holy Epistles are as some seene, or large drag-net. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 11 We had very good Fishing with a Sean. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 156 Seans may be divided into three classes, namely, the sean proper..the 'tuck-sean', and the 'ground or foot-sean'. All these nets have the same general character... The back or upper edge of the net is buoyed up by corks..; and the foot is weighted with lead to keep it down, so that the net may hang perpendicularly in the water. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 75 Barnabas had a share in a pilchard sean.

b. *To blow up the seine*: of a fish, 'to press against the lead-line in the endeavour to escape' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891). *To shoot a seine* (or *seine-net*): to throw it out into position.

1698 *Act* 10 *Will. III*, c. 14 § 12 No Person..shall..shoot his..Sayn or Sayns within or upon the Sayn or Sayns of any other Person. 1893 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 71 § 14 Any person who shall shoot or work any seine or draft net for salmon in a river across the whole width.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *seine fishery, fishing, -hauling, line, trawl, trawler, trawling, twine*; seine-boat, a boat adapted for carrying and throwing out a seine; †**seine-fish**, a fish caught in a seine, *spec.* in Jamaica, the Saury Elops; **seine-gang**, 'a body of men engaged in seining, together with their boats and other gear' (*Cent. Dict.*); **seine-man**, one of a seine-gang; **seine-needle**, a needle with which the meshes of a seine are netted; **seine-net** = sense 1; **seine-roller** (see quot.); **seine-shooting**, the casting of the nets in seine-fishing; **seine-tender** (see quot.).

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 27 b, They haue..*Sayn-boats for taking of Pilcherd. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 159 The other rope and the whole of the net are put into the stern of the sean-boat. 1603–4 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 23 § 1 Herringes, Pilchardes and *Seane Fishe. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 284 *Saurus maximus*...The Sein-Fish, or Sea-Gally-Wasp. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 188 St. Ives is especially famous for the extent of its *sean-fishery. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 125/2 The difference between drift and *seine fishing. 1883 JONCAS *Fish. Canada* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 23 Seine-fishing for herrings is chiefly carried on by fishermen of Nova Scotia. 1909 MORRSBY *Two Admirals* 111 Oh, the shooting, the *seine-hauling, the picnics of those enchanted coasts [of Chili]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 65 *Sean-lines, for fixing the sean-nets, have 18 threads, 6 in a strand. 1879 G. B. GOODE *Catal. Anim. Resources U.S.* 97 Seine lines. 1879 HOLDSWORTH in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 254/2 The *seanmen receive certain wages in money and a share of the fish. 1879 G. B. GOODE *Catal. Anim. Resources U.S.* 131 *Seine-needle. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokesh.* (1891) 117 Taken..in a *sayne nette, drawne after euerye tide. 1898 S. EVANS *Holy Graal* 41 A fetch that will bring them all safe home with a seine-net full of fish. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* v. I. 249 A *seine-roller.. is a wooden roller..which revolves on pivots in its ends... The use of this roller is to lessen the friction between the rail of the vessel and the seine, as the latter is being hauled on deck. 1864 MRS. LLOYD *Ladies of Polecarrow* 29 The first successful *seine-shooting for several long needy years. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 351 There are two large seine-boats, in each of which there is one captain, two *seine-tenders, and eight or ten oarsmen. *Ibid.*, The seine-tenders throwing off, until the seine is all cast between them. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 323 The drift-men may therefore frequently have a chance of success when *sean-trawlers have none. *Ibid.* 323 An Act was passed to put an end to *sean-trawling for herrings on the coast of Scotland. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 158 *Seine twine.

†**Seine**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [OE. *segn*, ad. L. *signum* SIGN *sb.*] A banner.

Beowulf 2958 Þa wæs eaht boden Sweona leodum, segn Higelace. *c* 1275 LAY. 9282 Nam he his seine and his sceald bidte.

†**Seine**, *a. Obs. rare*[–1]. [ME. *seine* (disyllable), perh. a. OF. *sené* wise, assimilated to the rime-word *meyne* MEINY.] ? Grave, sober.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11447 Faire þey come..Wyþ softe pas & fulle seine [Wace, *Petit pas, ordenement*] Gret þei Arthur & his meyne.

Seine (sēin), *v.* Also sean. [f. SEINE *sb.*[1]] **a.** *intr.* To fish or catch fish with a seine. **b.** *trans.* To catch with a seine, also to use a seine in.

1836 [implied in *Seining, vbl. sb.*] 1863 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 432/1 Were you in the habit of seining for herrings every season? 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* v. I. 260 The fact of mackerel being seined at night could not long be kept a secret. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 May 1/2 To send a fleet..to 'seine' the bay for herring for bait.

Hence **Seined** *ppl. a.*; **Sei·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1836 *1st Rep. Ir. Fisheries* 152 Seaning seldom commences before June or July. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 189 The seaning ground is on the western side of the bay. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 10 Row-boats filled with small seined fish may be found at the quay. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* v. I. 267 A seining schooner. 1900 *Field* 18 Aug. 297/3, I was anxious to follow up my seining operations.

Seine : see SEE *v.*, SENE *a. Obs.*, SYNE.

Seiner (sē·nəɹ). Also seaner. [f. SEINE *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] A fisherman who uses a seine, or one employed to haul in a seine. Also a seine-boat.

α. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 32 The Sayners complayne.. that these drouers worke much preiudice to the Commonwealth of fishermen and reape thereby small gaine to themselues. 1776 *Act* 16 *Geo. III*, c. 36 § 25 The Hewer of such Seyne or Master Seyner thereof. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 173 The labours of the seiners..are rewarded by a catch of mackerel. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 571 A gentle ripple indicates their position..and is of great assistance to the seiners in setting their nets. 1906 J. B. CONNOLLY *Out of Gloucester* 8 She's a seiner out of Gloucester.

β. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 189 Then is the seaner's opportunity. 1879 — in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 254/1 Besides these there is a small boat..from which the master seaner directs all the proceedings.

Seinle, variant of SENDLE *adv.*, seldom.

Seint(e : see SAINT, SEYNT *Obs.* (girdle).

Seintefie, -ifie, obs. ff. SANCTIFY *v.*

Seintewarie, -tuarie, etc. : see SANCTUARY.

Seinye, -zie, var. ff. SENE *sb.*[2], SENYE *Obs.*

Seip, -age, -ing, var. ff. SEEP, SEEPAGE, SEEPING.

Seipter, obs. form of SCEPTRE *sb.*

Seir, obs. f. SERE *a.*; obs. Sc. f. SORE *a.*

Seirce, seirch(e, obs. Sc. forms of SEARCH *v.*

Seire, obs. form of SERE *a.*

Seir-fish, seer-fish (sī·ɹfiʃ). [The first element is a corruption of the Pg. name *serra* lit. 'saw'.] An East Indian scombroid fish, *Cybium guttatum*.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxx. 379 In November and December they have great Plenty of Seer-fish, which is as savory as any Salmon or Trout in Europe. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 53 The robal, the seir-fish, the grey mullet, and some others, are very good. 1883 DAY *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 12 Drift-nets..are used for taking these two descriptions of fish, as well as for the seir fish (*Cybium*).

Seirs, obs. form of SEARCH *v.*

Seis, obs. form of CEASE *v.*, SYCE.

Seisant, erron. form of SEJANT.

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 168. (Also in edd. 1634, 1661.)

†**Seise**, *sb. Obs.* [f. *seise*, SEIZE *v.*] = SEISIN.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 241 Who..hath taken seise and possession for man in the kingdome of his Father.

Seise, *v. Law.* The usual spelling of SEIZE *v.* in the sense: To put in possession, invest with the fee simple *of*. (See SEIZE *v.* 1, 2.)

†**Sei·ser**. *Law. Obs.* Also 6 seasor, -er, 7 seisor. [a. AF. *seiser* (inf.) = F. *saisir* to SEIZE.] = SEIZURE.

1550 *Rutland MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1905) IV. 354 Ryding from Anwyke to Raylye (sic) to make a seasor. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 12. § 3 The Shire or Place where the Seaser was made. *c* 1560 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. VIII 21 Temporalities of Bishoppes seisid; and of the seiser of the Goodes of the Clergie. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 11, A. erects a Shop vpon the Kings Freehold, the King grants the land to B. in fee; A. before entry or seisor of the shop by the Kings Patentee, continueth his possession and dieth seised.

Seisin (sī·zin), *sb.* Forms: 3–4 sesin, 4–5 sesyn(e, sesine, 3–7 sesyng(e, 4–7 seising, 5 sesun, seson, sesen, sesynn, 6 *Sc.* sessing, 7 sezin; 4–5 cesoun, 5 cesons; 4 sayseyne, sayzine, 5 saisine, 6 saysing, saising, 7 *Sc.* saseing; 5 seasyng, 6 seasyne, 5–7 season, 6 seasen, 6–7 seasin, 6 ceassing, 7 seasing, seasin; 3–5 seysyn(e, 3–8 seisine, 3–5 seisyn(e, 5–6 seising, 6 seissin, seizine, 6–7 seizon, seison, 7 seizen, seisen, seysin, 3– seisin. Also *Sc.* SASINE. [a. F. *saisine* (from 13th c.) = Pr. *sazina* (whence It. *sagina*), f. F. *saisir*, Pr. *sasir* : see SEIZE *v.*]

1. In early use, Possession: chiefly in phrases, *to have, take seisin* (*in, of*). Now only in *Law*, Possession as of freehold.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6431 King knout of edmondes londes anon seisine nom. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3360 He drogh hir ner and still spak 'Yon es mi lauerd ysaac,..Of him now sal þou ha sesin'. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6012 Yn alle here landes he toke sesyne, And was þan a ryche lordyng. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7621 Of prest was þer no benisoun,..In sesyn þe kyng had hare þat nyght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 144 And þervore zayþ oure Lhord þet þe kingdom of hevene is hare, nazt wyþoute more be beheste, ac be saysyne zykere. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 496 He had him in his sesing. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XXI. 222 Theise 3 Bretheren had Cesoun in alle the Lond. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1812 Wolde honest deth come, and me ouerterue, And of my graue me put in seisyne. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 767 in *Macro Plays* 100 In all þis worlde.. here I ʒyfe þee with myn honde, syr, an opyn sesun. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 82 Reymond went ouere yn-to Walys to take seysyne yn hys fadyr landys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Cesone in londe, or oþyr go(o)d takynge, *seisina*. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxvii. [clxiii.] 463 To entre and take season of the castell. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 50 The Legate (hauing after fiue dayes seysin redeliuered the Crowne, but not yet released the Censures, till conditions were performed). 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 31 Here this word (seised) extendeth it selfe as well to a seison in law, or a ciuill seison, as to a seison in deed, which is a naturall seison... For a woman shall be endowed of a seison in Law. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxii. (1739) 123 The Heir of a Free-man shall by descent be in such seisin as his Ancestor had at the time of his death, doing service, and paying relief; and shall have his Chattels. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. v. 66 Immediately upon the death of a vasal the superior was intitled to enter and take seisin or possession of the land. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 371 The law vested the seisin in law in the daughters upon the death of the father. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lvi, The Grange had only devolved to him by will, at the end of a long entail,..and..he had gone abroad, without taking seisin. 1875 DIGBY *Real Prop.* i. (1876) 50 *note*, The proper meaning of the word 'seisin' is possession as of freehold; i. e. the possession which a freeholder has.

b. The phrases *to give, take seisin* are sometimes used with special reference to the symbolical acts called *livery of seisin* (see LIVERY *sb.* Sc.). Hence, in popular language, *seisin* has been occas. applied loosely to the object (e. g. a turf, a key, a staff) handed over in 'livery of seisin' as a token of possession.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 14 The stewarde..shall delyuer to hym yᵗ shall haue the lande the same yerde or another in the name of season. *c* 1600 BACON *Use Com. Law* (1630) 52 And in Seisin thereof, hee deliuereth to him a Turfe, twig, or Ring of the doore. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 136 A soldier..plucked some thatch, which, as if giving him seizine of the kingdom, he presented to his general [William]. 1863 KEBLE *Bp. Wilson* v. 168 Giving a kind of seizin by the delivery of a straw.

fig. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. D 2 *Gal.* Thy lips, and loue, are mine. *Mell.* You nere tooke seizin on them yet. 1609 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* iv. (1629) 30 He sends the Spirit of his Sonne, to give us seisin of this our Adoption. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 243 The story that he [William the Conqueror]..stumbled on the shore and converted it into an omen of good luck, by professing to take seisin of the new territory. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxi. 462 His horse fell with him, and forced him to take seisin of the soil in the roughest fashion.

c. *Primer* (also *premier*, †*first*) *seisin*: see PRIMER *a.* 3 b. Now only *Hist.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 362/1 And the seid Edward..used to have and had..the furst seisine of all Londes..of every Tenaunt that held of them in chief. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 210 Wardships, Liueries, Primier Seisines, and Alienations. 1875 CURTIS *Hist. Eng.* 396 All wardships, forfeitures for marriage.., premier seisins..for alienation.

2. *Scots Law.* The act of giving possession of feudal property by the delivery of symbols; infeftment. Also, the instrument by which the possession of feudal property is proved.

14.. *Chalmerlan Ayr* § 4 (Sc. Acts I), Item at þai gif seising heratabill or of lang tym of ony baronagis [etc.]. 1498 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 30/2 Quhil the lauchfull are or aeris thairof optene lachfull state and sesing of the sammyn. 1499 *Ibid.* 60/2 Confirmand a letter of sessing mad and gevin thairuppon to the said Wilzame. 1521 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 13 Sir James Akman, chepplane,..produsit..ane attentic chartour and seissin of twa markis of obit silver to be upliftit..to the feft chaplanis yeirly. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 375/1 The persoun ..havand privait stait & saising of þe saidis landis. 1592 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetld.* (1859) 101 But charter or seasing. 1604–5 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 78 Ane skyn of parchement to wreit the sesing of the said chartour of mortificatioun. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 2 Item, for ane precept of saising, conforme to the chartour, to the Chancellar for the fie of the seale, ane mark. 1693 STAIR *Institt. Law Scot.* II. iii. § 26 (ed. 2) 199 These Charters..never become a real Right till they be compleated by Seasin, which imports the taking of Possession. *Ibid.* § 29. 201 Albeit the most ordinar Warrant of Seasins be the Superiors Precept ingrossed or related to in the Seasin. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3228/2 Act anent the Registration of Seasings. 1733 J. INNES *Idea Juris Scotici* 77 And the Selsin itself is nothing else but an Instrument (of a settled Style)..setting forth that upon such a Day..the Disponee was seized and invested in the Feu in Virtue of his Disposition. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 266 Apprisings were, by the former practice, preferable, according to the dates of the seisins following upon them, where the debtor himself was infeft.

b. *Comb.*: †**seisin-ox**, an ox formerly due as a perquisite to the sheriff when he gave infeftment to crown lands.

1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 40/1 That na saising ox ..be gevin or takin for na maner of saising tobe takin. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* III. viii. § 79 (1773) 585 The sheriff who thus gives seisin, was by our old customs intitled to a seisin-ox as his fee.

†**Sei·sin**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 5 seysne, cesun, cesun, seysonne, sesyn, seson, seisyne, 6 seasn, seasne, seison. [f. SEISIN *sb.*; cf. med.L. *sesinare*; there may have been an A.F. **sesisiner*; cf. OF. *seisineor* (agent-n.) and *seisinement* (n. of action).]

1. *trans.* To give seisin of (property).

13.. *Guy Warw.* (Caius) 8590, I will season into thyn hande Evyn halfen deale of my lande.

2. To invest with the seisin of property; to put in possession; = SEIZE *v.*[1]

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 135 þei preied..þat [they] wold.. commaund to seysonne hem in hit. *Ibid.* 661 Bernarde of Seynt Walerye yaf the forsaid towne..and graunted hit to kyng henry and seisyned hym iby a silken cloth, wherof was a chesible I-made) with the lordship and the right of the Avowery of the same Abbey.

3. To confiscate (property); to apprehend (a prisoner); = SEIZE *v.* 5.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 57 Yf he wolle denay hit the kyngis officer hym as a theyf may holde and sesyne And for to be condempnyd betake hym to the Iugys. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 155 He nother his heires shold never..sesyn the lond of the same for the defaute of the same Robert. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* vi. 32 All bis goodes shalbe seasoned to y^e kynge.

4. To seize, take hold of; to take *root.*

1568 SKEYNE *Pest* (Bannatyne Cl.) 15 Quhan all apperis to succede weill than the tirane [the Plague] sessinis rute and slayis sonest.

5. *intr.* To seize *upon.*

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* IV. (Camden No. 36) 178 Cerdicius bie littell and litell seasoned on the weaste partes of the Ile. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 188/2 The kings officers came..to seizon upon his goods in the kings behalfe. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Wolsey* xlv, One Wealsh, a Knight, came downe in good aray, And seasned sure,..On Wolsey wolfe, that spoiled many a lambe. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1548/1 Such, as vpon whom the infection was seizoned.

Hence † **Sei·sining** *vbl. sb.*, chiefly = SEISIN *sb.* Also † **Sei·siner** *Sc.*, lawful possessor (of lands).

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lv. 214, I schal..Corowne hym kyng be My levenge, & Of Alle My londis to 3even him sesenynge. 1498 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 35/1 The letter made to him be his said fader makand him sessonar and assignay to al his landis of Makristonn. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxiv. 266 Thus the kyng of England had the possession and sesenynge of the duchie of Aquitayne. 1547 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 88 Such as have landes by will or testament, shall paye for their sesianynge vis. 1623 COCKERAM II, A Seazning of goods to the kings vse. *Confiscation.*

Seism (sai·zm). *rare.* [f. Gr. σεισμ-ός: see SEISMIC *a.* Cf. F. *sisme.*] An earthquake.

1883 MILNE *Earthquakes* i. (1886) 9 To be consistent with a Greek basis for seismological terminology, some writers have thrown aside the familiar expression 'earthquake', and substituted the awkward word 'seism'. 1904 C. E. DUTTON *Earthquakes* xiv. 238 The average intensity of the quakes or 'seisms' as De Montessus terms them.

Seismal (sai·zmăl), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. σεισμ-ός: see SEISMIC *a.* + -AL.] Seismic.

1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Seismic (sai·zmik), *a.* [f. Gr. σεισμ-ός earthquake (f. σείε-ιν to shake) + -IC.

The normal form would be **sismic*: cf. F. *sismique.*]

Pertaining to, relating to, characteristic of, connected with, or produced by an earthquake, earth-quakes, or earth-vibration.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 7 The period of the year at which seismic action appears to be greatest. *Ibid.* 18 Whether, as a seismic region, Northern Africa have a centre disturbance of its own [etc.]. 1877 RUDLER in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 611/1 The depth of the seismic focus is easily determined. For since the waves radiate from this focus, any two wave-paths when produced backwards will meet at the seismic centre. 1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 267 Regions subject to earthquakes, or seismic areas.

So **Sei·smical** *a.*, in the same sense; **Sei·smically** *adv.*, with regard to earthquakes.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 67 A third..volcanic region, of which I am not aware that anything is known seismically. 1869 *Spectator* 6 Nov. 1291 Considerable atmospheric and seismical disturbance. 1904 C. E. DUTTON *Earthquakes* xiv. 245 *note*, This locality is certainly a seismically sensitive one to-day. 1905 *Athenæum* 29 July 137/3 The cartography, geological, magnetical, seismical, &c., of Italy.

Seismicity (səizmi·sĭti). [f. SEISMIC *a.* + -ITY. In Fr. *sismicité* (De Montessus de Ballore).] The frequency per unit area of earthquakes of a particular country; the number representing this.

1902 MILNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 603/1 If we pick out the well-marked earthquake districts of the world, and give to each of them a seismicity or earthquake frequency per unit area of one-third of that of Japan, the conclusion arrived at is [etc.]. 1904 C. E. DUTTON *Earthquakes* xiv. 243 This statement, greatly facilitates the way toward a numerical measure of seismicity.

Seismism (sai·zmiz'm). [f. Gr. σεισμ-ός (see SEISMIC *a.*) + -ISM.] The phenomena of earthquake movements collectively.

1902 in *Webster's Suppl.* 1902 in *Century Dict. Suppl.*

Sei·smo-, combining form f. Gr. σεισμό-ς (see SEISMIC *a.*). Seismo-chro·nograph (see quot.).

1876 *Catal. Sci. Apparatus S. Kensington* 424 Seismochronograph, apparatus for determining the exact time of an earthquake.

Seismogram (sai·zmogrem). [f. SEISMO- + -GRAM.] The record of a seismograph.

1892 in *Century Dict.* 1897 *Nature* 16 Dec. 156/1 Seismograms have already been received from Toronto.

Seismograph (sai·zmograf). Also **sismo-**. [f. SEISMO- + -GRAPH. Cf. It. *sismografo* (Palmieri), F. *sismographe.*] An instrument for recording automatically the phenomena of earthquakes.

1858 C. V. WALKER tr. *De la Rive's Electricity* III. 508 An apparatus..which he [Palmieri] has designated, under the name of Electro-magnetic Seismograph. 1862 *Times* 6 Jan. 10/2 How long the eruption might continue Palmieri had no means of calculating; it was going on as violently as ever, and his sismograph was always registering. 1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 262 Instruments by which the motion of the ground during an earthquake is recorded on an accurate scale of time..are called seismographs, or recording seismometers.

transf. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* III. xi. 176 His soul..like a delicate spiritual seismograph, responded at once to the least tremble of a neighbouring soul.

attrib. 1904 BROWNELL *Hrt. Japan* XXVI. 88/2 Thousands of seismograph records.

Hence **Seismo·grapher**, a seismologist (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **Seismogra·phic, Seismogra·phical** *adjs.*, connected with, furnished by, or relating to a seismograph; of or pertaining to seismography; **Seismo·graphy**, the descriptive science of earthquakes; also, the use of the seismograph in recording disturbances of the crust of the earth.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. Pl. II Seismographic Map of the World. 1865 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms* (ed. 2), *Seismography.* 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 310 Mr. Oldham distinguishes three types of pulsation in the seismographic records of distant shocks.

Seismolo·gic, *a.* = next.

1904 C. E. DUTTON *Earthquakes* xiv. 239 Seismologic observations.

Seismological (səizmŏlǫ·dgikăl), *a.* [f. SEISMOLOGY + -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to seismology.

1850 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 89 Seismological books. 1880 (*title*) Transactions of the Seismological Society of Japan. Vol. I. 1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 263 A seismological observatory.

Hence **Seismolo·gically** *adv.* 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Seismo·logist. [f. SEISMOLOGY + -IST.] An investigator or student of seismology.

1868 R. A. PROCTOR in *Chamb. Jrnl.* 7 Nov. 710/1 The most eminent seismologists. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 604/1 The ordinary apparatus employed by seismologists.

Seismologue (sai·zmolǫg). *rare*[−1]. [f. SEISMO- + -LOGUE.] A catalogue of earthquake observations; a detailed account of earthquake phenomena.

Wrongly explained in some Dicts. as 'a seismologist'.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 1 The labour of collecting and calculating further and future *Seismologues* will be in a great degree thrown away, unless [etc.].

Seismology (səizmǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. SEISMO- + -LOGY. Cf. late Gr. σεισμολόγιον a treatise on earthquakes.] The science and study of earthquakes, and their causes and effects and attendant phenomena.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 1 The few physicists who are engaged in Seismology. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* iii. 9 The branches of physical geology known as Vulcanicity and Seismology.

Seismometer (səizmǫ·mĭtəɹ). [f. SEISMO- + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the intensity, direction, and duration of earthquakes.

All practical seismometers now record their observations automatically, hence the name is used almost interchangeably with *seismograph* (q. v.).

1841 J. D. FORBES in *Edin. Phil. Trans.* XV. I. 220 The self-registering part of the apparatus, which Mr. David Milne has termed a Seismometer. 1886 J. A. EWING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 626/2 *Seismometer.* This name was originally given to instruments designed to measure the movement of the ground during earthquakes. *Ibid.* 627/1 The term 'seismometer' may conveniently be extended (and will here be understood) to cover all instruments which are designed to measure movements of the ground.

Seismometric (səizmome·trik), *a.* [f. SEISMOMETRY + -IC.] Of or pertaining to seismometry, or to a seismometer.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 72 Twelve years ago ..the construction of seismometric instruments seemed a comparatively easy matter. 1879 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* I. iii. 125 If *c* and *b* be the position of two seismometric observatories.

So **Seismome·trical** *a.* [See -ICAL.]

1885 *Athenæum* 7 Mar. 315/3 The occurrence of long-continued earthquake disturbances in Tasmania..suggested to Mr. Ellery the propriety of instituting at the observatory some sort of seismometrical apparatus.

Seismome·trograph. [f. SEISMOMETER (comb. form *-metro-*) + -GRAPH.] A seismograph.

1894 *Nature* 9 Aug. 362/1 The new continuous-record seismometrograph of the Collegio Romano.

Seismometry (seizmǫ·mĭtri). [f. SEISMO- + -METRY.] The scientific study, determination and recording of earthquake phenomena, esp. by means of the seismometer; the scientific study, theory, and application of the seismometer.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 72, I therefore proceed to some observations upon instrumental seismometry, and the construction of seismometers. 1902 MILNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 602/2 The seismometry developed in Japan revolutionized the seismometry of the world.

Seismoscope (sai·zmoskǫp). [f. SEISMO- + -SCOPE.] A simple form of seismometer; a contrivance for detecting or indicating the occurrence of an earthquake shock, sometimes also indicating (without measuring) the intensity or direction of the earthquake wave.

1851 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 278 This instrument I have named the Seismoscope. 1887 G. H. DARWIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 263 An instrument which tells only that there has been a shock, without giving a record of the nature of the movement, is called a seismoscope.

Hence **Seismosco·pic** *a.*

1882 MILNE in *Nature* 26 Oct. 627/2 The records of most of the older forms of seismographs and seismometers,..can only be regarded as seismoscopic.

Seismotherapy (səizmǫþe răpi). *Path.* [f. Gr. σεισμό-ς a shaking (see SEISMIC) + THERAPY.] (See quot.)

1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2). *Seismotherapy*, the treatment of disease by mechanic vibration.

Seismotic (səizmǫ·tik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. σεισμ-ός (see SEISMIC *a.*) + -OTIC.] Seismic.

1889 KINGSFORD *Canada* III. 207 *note*, The assumption that Canada is beyond seismotic influences is not borne out by fact.

Seison, Seisor: see SEISIN, SEISER.

Seiss, Seisure: see CEASE, SEIZURE.

Seistar, variant of SISTRE *Obs.*, sistrum.

c 1590 J. BURELL *Queen's Entry* in Sibbald *Chron. S. P.* (1802) III. 468 Trumpets and timbrels maid gret beir, With instruments melodious: The seistar and the sumphion [etc.].

Seisure, Seisz: see SEIZURE, CEASE.

Seit, obs. 3rd sing. ind. pres. of SAY *v.*[1]

Seit, obs. f. SET, SIT *v.* **Seite,** obs. f. SEAT *sb.*

Seith, variant of SAITHE.

1711 *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 515 There has been a trade of barrelled codd, ling, and seith fish.

Seith, obs. form of SCYTHE.

Seity (sī·ĭti). *rare.* [ad. med.L. *sēitās*, f. L. *sē* oneself: see -ITY.] That which constitutes the self, selfhood.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 174 ¶ 1 Scotus, to distinguish the Race of Mankind, gives every Individual of that Species what he calls a Seity, something peculiar to himself. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* IV. 347 For, these were Parts, of Dennis, Born, to Die! But, there's a Nobler Se-ity, behind; His Reason dies not. 1761 G. COLMAN *Crit. Refl. Dram. Writers in Massinger's Wks.* (1779) I. p. xxiv, Our Old Writers thought no Personage whatever, unworthy a Place in the Drama, to which they could annex what may be called a *Seity*; that is, to which they could allot Manners and Employments peculiar to itself. 1906 W. T. SEEGER in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 83 [In Hindu theology] Seity is the power of infinite self-manifestation, man's being the same essentially as God's.

Seive, Seiyde, obs. ff. SIEVE, SEED *sb.*

Seizable (sī·zăb'l), *a.* Forms: 5 **seisible, seasible, seisable,** 6 **seisibill, seizeabil,** 7– **seizable.** [f. SEIZE *v.* + -ABLE; an AF. *seisable* occurs A. D. 1361.] Capable of being seized (in various senses of the verb). Chiefly of property, that may lawfully be seized.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 479/2 Not forfeited nor forfeitable ..nor seisible into any of their handes. 1483 *Ibid.* VI. 248/1 That all Castelles..be not forfeited..to the Kyng..nor be seisede into his handys by this present Acte. 1574 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XX. 467 To sell..and put away his landis, heretagis [etc.]..sua that sche sall get nathing seizeabil thairfore. 1652 *Obs. Orig. Govt.* 19 It was alienable by the Parent, and seizable by an usurper as other goods are. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 129 Private property..was transferable and seizable on private suit. 1815 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. lxv. 335 Carts, waggons, and every..seizable vehicle were unremittingly in motion. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. II. ii. § 28 *note*, It is the characteristic of truth to be in some way tangible, seizable, distinguishable, and clear. 1870 *Daily News* 25 July 4 The principles laid down in the Declaration of the Congress of Paris of 1856..are as follows:—..3d. Merchandise of neutrals, except contraband of war, sailing under an enemy's flag is not seizable. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 229/1 The personal liability of the official receivers for mistakes as to property seizable as assets of the estate.

Seize (sīz), *v.* Forms: 3–8 **saise,** 3–4 **sayse,** 3–9 **seise,** 3–5 **seyse,** 4 *Sc.* **seyss,** 4–5 **sese, sess,** 5–8 **sease,** 6 *Sc.* **sase, seysse,** 6–7 **seaze,** (7 **seaz**), 6–8 **sieze,** 7 **siese,** (8 *Naut.* **size**); 5 **cess,** 6–7 **cesse, ceaze,** (7 **ceize, ceese**); 6– **seize.** [a. OF. *saisir, seisir* (mod.F. *saisir*) to put in possession, to take possession of, to take hold of = Pr. *sasir* (whence It. *sagire*):—Frankish Latin (8th c.) *sacīre* in the phrase *ad propriam* (or *ad proprietatem*) *sacire*, to take into one's own possession, to appropriate. As the word *sacire* is replaced by *ponere* in another example of the formula, its source is commonly believed to be the Teut. **satjan* to place: see SET *v.*]

I. To put in possession.

1. *Law.* (In technical use written **seise.**) *trans.* To put (a person) in legal possession *of* a feudal holding; to invest or endow *with* property; to establish *in* a holding or an office or dignity.

c 1290 *Beket* 1695 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 155 þe king..wende in-to engelonde, For to saisi sir henri is sone mid al is kinedom. *Ibid.* 1708 þe fader seruede þe sone at þe mete a-dai, And with reaume saisede him. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8991 To..sayси per wiþ willam Roberdes sone courtehese. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2518 Her ich sayse þe In al þe lond, in al þe fe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7951 (Laud MS.), Darries heir I make þee And seise þee wiþ al his fee. *c* 1400 *Destr. of Troy* 119 Of Septur and soile he sesit his brothir. *c* 1400 *York Manual*, etc. (Surtees) 291* *note*, Wiþ my body y the worschipe, and wiþ my worldliche catel iche þe sese. 14.. *Beryn* 1549 Beryn first was sesid in the Shippis fyve. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1502 Ipomydon sesyd hym in his lande And yafe hym the profyte for his sake. 1475 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 693 For as moche as Pirrus my right dere nevewe is the nexte eyer I cease hym now therin. 1480 — *Chron. Eng.* clxvi.

k 4 b, The lordes of Scotland..come to kyng Edward of englond & seised hym in all the land of Scotland as hir chief lord. *c* 1500 *Melusine* lix. 358 Wilt thou denye my trybute that of ryght I ought to haue vpon the pommel of this toure of the which I was seasyd & enpocessid by thy fader? 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1554 In my fauour I haue you feffyd and seasyd. 1559 *Fabyan's Chron.* (1811) 711 Al whiche tyme doctour Ponet was ceased in that bisshoprike. 1836 *Penny Cycl* V. 226/2 Borthwick had acquired various lands..but having seised his son James in several of them, he [etc.].

b. Passive. *To be seised of* or *in*: to be the legal possessor of. Phrases, *To be seised in fee, to be seised of* (a manor, etc.) *in his demesne as of fee*: to be the holder of the fee-simple.

Seised is sometimes used *simply* =seised of the property in question.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 417, & sesed in alle hys herytage Hys lef is. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 362 þe tenemens of weche he deyd y-seysed. 1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 318/2 Every persone..beeyng seysed of Londes.., in his demesne as of freehold. 1473–5 *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 61 Richard Saunder was thenne therof seised in his demene as of fee symple. 1502 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 115/1 Lanndis quhilk his grantschir..deit last vestit and sesit in. 1558 *Mortgage in Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. v. 183 That he the said Thomas Dunkyn, the daye of the makyng herof, is lawfully seased in his demeane as of fee. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 89 Who by a Seal'd Compact,..Did forfeite..all those his Lands Which he stood seiz'd on. 1603 T. M. *True Narr. Entert. Jas. I* B 2 b, The saide Bishop being thus seized of all the authoritie to the Kings Maiesties vse. 1607 DAVIES *1st Let. to Earl of Salisbury* (1787) 225 It was found that Sir John O'Reile was seized of the country in fee, and died seized. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 77 It appears that he died seiz'd of Lands in Slacksted in Hampshire. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law. Scot.* III. viii. § 83 (1773) 587 This holds though the lands had been adjudged from the ancestor during his life,..if the ancestor died seised, and in the possession of the lands. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 103 If a devisor, being seised of both Blackacre and Whiteacre, devise Blackacre to A. in fee. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 105 The person last seized (or feudally possessed). *a* 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 827/1 The Statute of Uses..which provides, that where one is seised of lands, &c. to the use of another, he who has the use shall become seised of the lands. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Roughing It* xxii, We were landowners now, duly seised and possessed.

† **c.** Without const.: To endow, dower. *Obs.*

c 1430 *How Wise Man taught Son* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 51 For ritchesse take hir neuere þe more þou3 sche wolde þee bobe feffe & ceese.

2. *transf.* in Passive, *To be seized* (*seised*) *of* or † *with*: to be in possession of. Now only *arch.* and with conscious allusion to the legal use. Formerly often influenced by sense 5, 6, or 7, † to have seized, to hold as the result of seizing.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 81 b, And thus..thou mayst retourne with glorie in to thy countre and be seased with the noble fleese of gold. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxi. 94 Whan Huon sawe that he was sessyd of his horne of Iuorey he was ioyfull. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 8 As when a Gryfon, seized of his pray, A Dragon fiers encountreth in his flight. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiv. (1596) 257 Temperat men are seized of the wisdom and knowledge requisit to the calling of a king 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* (1614) Pref. PP 1 b, Those (as they vsually stile them) of the Religion..are seased of aboue 70 Townes. 1628 HOBBES *Thucydides* (1629) 58 The Outlawes of Bœotia being seazed of Orchomenus and Chæronea,..the Athenians made Warre vpon those places. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXX. 122 If any that sell Goose Eggs do chance to be taken siesed with Hens eggs..they are presently punished with thirty lashes. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 159 Seventy six years his Lungs were seis'd of Breath. 1710 HEARNE *Leland's Itin.* I. Pref. 13 By this means Sir John became seiz'd of far the largest parcel of this great man's writings. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. vii, So Pluto, seiz'd of Proserpine, convey'd To hell's tremendous gloom th' affrighted maid. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 6 Being seized of his Mother's Crown, while she was an exile and a prisoner. 1885 GLADSTONE *Sp.* in *Standard* 14 Apr., I have no doubt that in due time Parliament will be seised of that correspondence. 1896 A. J. BALFOUR *Sp.* in *Daily News* 18 Mar. 3/3 So far as I am seised of the case..it appears to me that [etc.].

† **b.** *refl.* To take possession *of*, to seize *on*; = senses 6, 7, 9. [So F. *se saisir de.*]

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* C 4 b, The French king was not ashamed to excite John the brother of England to seize himselfe of the crowne. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 81 b, The Lion..was ready to seaze him selfe on the pray. *Ibid.* III. 295 b, Death began to seaze him selfe of his harte.

† **3.** To settle, establish in a place; to place, seat, fix. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5637 Twyse sex Semylacris sesid he þar-vndire. 14.. *Siege of Jerusalem* (E.E.T.S.) 1/2 Sir Sesar hym sulf seysed in rome. *c* 1430 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 165 For þee y suffride greet repreef, In hiz heuene þi soule to ceese Y was an-hangid as a þef. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. ii. 106, I sall 3ou seis and induce now, but weir, In far largear rewardis mychtely. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 118 The lordis..Hes seisit him syne in his sepulture. *Ibid.* II. 247 Tha buir his bodie to Ecolumkill.. Syne sesit him thair into sepultiur. 1535 LYNDSAY *Satyre* 8 The Father and founder of faith and felicitie..Gif 3ow all that I sie seasit in this place [etc.]. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (1843) 118 He makes his Son to come down, to sease himself in the womb of the Virgin. 1594 ALEX. HUME *Epist. to Rdr.* 19 The filthie vice and corruption that naturallie is seased in the harts of all men. 1600 in T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. xvii. (1633) 104 Considering the Gentleman was ceased in my Countrie, and had my word. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Ibid.* II. x. 190 The Soveraigne with his white rod in his hand, going to billet, and cease them in severall houses.

† **b.** Of a beast of prey: To fasten (its claws) upon. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 19 When that disdainfull beast.. him suddaine doth surprize, And seizing cruell clawes on trembling brest Vnder his Lordly foot him proudly hath supprest. *Ibid.* I. viii. 15 The cruell beast Who on his necke his bloudie clawes did seize. 1596 *Ibid.* V. iv. 40 As when a Beare hath seiz'd her cruell clawes Vppon the carkasse of some beast too weake.

† **4.** To give possession of, grant. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5220 þe maistir out of Messedone 3ow maynly enjoynes, If 3e 3oure cite will haue to sese him his brid. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1199 He made hym steward of hys londe, And sesyd agayne into hys honde That he had rafte hym froo. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 82 30 All betwene tyne and teese, To durham mynster þai þaim seese.

II. To take possession.

5. Of a feudal superior or a sovereign (or one acting on his behalf): To take possession of, confiscate (the property of a vassal or subject). Also, to annex (a country) to one's own dominions. Phrases, *to seize into one's hands*, † *to one's behoof.*

c 1290 *Beket* 705 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 þe king sende is men sone to saisi al is lond And al-so al is bischopriche ase is traitores, In-to is hond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10125 þe king of france orn vpe þe king lon, & is londes bizonde se seisede anon, Aquitayne & normandie. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2513 þanne he was ded..Sket was seysed al þat his was In þe kinges hand il del, Lond and lith, and oþer catel. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2703 For first he slow þe kyng Pyncer, & sevsed þe lond til his byhoue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 287 þe kyng made seyse into his hond al þe temporalte of clerkes. 1447–8 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 96 The said Citie..was seised into the saide King Edward's hondes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 677 Roger Mortimer..seised also this Chirck, into his possession. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Seize*, to forfaite to the prince. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6174/3 A Grey..Horse..was ..seized into the Hands of the Lord of the Manor..as Felons Goods. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 231 Three of his principal castles were, for his contempt of the court, to be seized into the King's hands. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* viii. 161 It was held an Act of Sacrilege to seize their Estates, even for the public Service. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xix, The Duke of Burgundy's attempt to seize that fief into his own hands. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 34 The estates of the fallen King..were no doubt at once seized into the King's hands.

b. To take possession of (goods) in pursuance of a judicial order.

1482 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1903) 9 One Robert Bonyfaunt as one of the clerkes..in the Superuysershipp of your Custumes..shold sease and arreste..to your vse at Topsam..a hundreth peces of crescloth. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 207 Every Iustice of the Peace may ..seaze all the goods of any outlandish persons (calling themselves Egyptians) that shall come into this Realme. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 186 James Newlin was put into y^e^ Ground last night, for fear they should seize his Body. 1733 *Gentl. Mag.* May 266/2 The Watchmen ..seized 1100 Weight of uncustom'd Tea. *c* 1733 J. P. DU PLESSIS in *Pepys' Diary* (1879) VI. 259 Being quite moneyless, and in danger of having my goods seized for rent. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. viii, The house was seized before ever I could get nigh it. 1878 *22nd Rep. Customs Comm.* 58 The tobacco seized on these several occasions weighed 2,601 lbs. 1885 BRETT in *Law Rep.* 14 Q B D. 878 Goods.. which the sheriff could rightfully seize under the writ.

c. To arrest, apprehend (a person). Cf. 6 b.

1471 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) 131 That ye sease the persones of thaim alle as ferforthly as ye may sette hand vpon thaim. 1910 *Daily Mail* 8 Feb. 7/5 The rare occurrence of 'seizing' a jury..was witnessed at Manchester Assizes yesterday.

6. To take possession of by force; to capture (a city); to take as plunder.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 47 Knoute & Edrik þei seised [Langtoft *ont pris*] ' orgh tresone Bokyngham & Bedford, þe toun of Huntyngtone. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 108 The king in hy gert sess the pray Off all the land. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 248 The flees of gold he shulde seve. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1452 Gase forth to gaza ane othre grete cite, And he settes on a sawte and seses it beliue. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 25 The riche haue now in thise dayes seased somoche that the poure abide naked. 1607 HEYWOOD *Woman kild with Kindnes* Wks. 1874 II. 146 There, take her to thee, if thou hast the heart To ceize her as a rape or lustfull prey. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 149 There they would have seized our Mules to carry Provisions for the king to Ispahan. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xii. (1875) 184 Posen and Galicia were seized by Prussia and Austria, A.D. 1772. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. vii. 93 Robbers, who seized church goods without remorse.

b. To take prisoner, to catch.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4119 His segais sesid of þam [*sc.* the bearded women] sum & to him-selfe brogt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1513 He was enformyt..how his towne was takon..his suster sesyd and soght into syde londis. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* IV. xxix, Nor can his troubled sences be appeas'd Till as a Traitor he Prince Ioue hath ceas'd. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* To Rdr. 92, I heard the Prince bid Boanerges go Up to the Castle, and there sieze his foe. 1777 WATSON *Philip II*, III. I. 72 The inhabitants..seized his person, and confined him in the castle. 1827 *Hist. Mod. Europe* II. lii. 14 By putting to death all the Turks whom they had seised before the battle.

7. To take hold of with the hands, claws, teeth, etc.; in mod. use, to take hold of suddenly or eagerly, to clutch.

13.. *Coer de L.* 78 Her men aborde gunne to stande, And sesyd that other. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 822 Sere seggez hym sesed by sadel, quel he lyȝt. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1236 He sesed a spere, & dressed him to ; e duk presteli to iuste. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 240 And lyke a fissher as men alday may se Bateth hys angle-hoke with summe plesaunce Til mony a fissch ys wode to that he be Sesed therwith. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 260 This knight..hath him be the bridel sesed. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXII. 649 He stombeled on his cloube, and it sesed. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ii. 15 Delos..Quham.. Apollo..Sesit and band betuix vther ilis twa. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* v. iv. 33 Had I beene ceazed by a hungry Lion, I would haue [etc.]. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* IV. lxxxvi, The Crones his bounty praise, And in their hands two costly Iewels cease. 1717 POPE *Iliad* XII. 260 Allow'd to seize, but not possess the Prize. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Old Wom. T.* (1799) I. 373 Lothaire abruptly seized him by the arm. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 477, I seized the books and read them as fast as I could. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* 36 If you touch an ant with a needle or a bristle, she is almost sure to seize it in her jaws.

b. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1673 TEMPLE *Observ. Un. Prov.* iii. 122 The Sea..yielding up what it had seized, and seizing what it had yielded up. 1818 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* 261 The barytes seizes the acid.

† **c.** *To seize up*: ? to haul up (a sail). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3241 þai shot into shippe..sesit vp þere sailes, set hom to wyndes. *Ibid.* 4619 All the company.. knyt vp hor ancres, Sesit vp hor sailes in a sad hast.

d. *To seize hold of*: to take hold of suddenly and roughly: cf. TAKE *v.* 69, HOLD *sb.*[1] 2.

1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 84, I was seized hold of by a hideous old negress.

8. In various figurative uses. **a.** With impersonal subject, e.g. death, disease, calamity: To oppress or attack suddenly. Also of a fear, a belief, etc.: To take sudden possession of (a person, his mind). In passive often const. *with* (less frequently *by*).

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 481 Til that deth me sese, I wele ben heris. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 246 in *Macro Plays* 84 þou synne my sowle sese, I ȝeue not a myth. *c* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnets* XXXV. 7 Suppose my silly saull with sin be seasde. 1644 MILTON *Areopag.* (Arb.) 42 A fantasm bred by the feaver which had then seiz'd him. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxxxix. 48 We are borne miserable, and pass through a succession of miseries here, and are shortly seised with death. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 205 A welcome Heaviness that seiz'd his Eyes. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 3 Seized and rapt with this sublime idea. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 1 Ruin seize thee, ruthless King! 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Old Wom. T.* (1799) I. 372 [He] was seized with dizziness. 1830 R. KNOX *Beclard's Anat.* 67 Putrefaction always..seizes it at the end of a short period. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 7 A nation, indifferent to the creeds, is seized with a sudden passion for ecclesiastical art. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VII. II. 171 The young prince..was seized by the small pox. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* LXXXIV. 10 Sudden a solemn fright seized us.

b. Of an object of perception, a fact, etc., hence of a speaker, writer, or artist: To arrest, hold (the attention), to impress irresistibly (the mind, etc.).

1772 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* v. (1876) 374 Carlo Maratti.. rarely seizes the imagination by exhibiting the higher excellencies. 1865, 1886 [see SEIZING *ppl. a.* 2].

c. To avail oneself eagerly or dexterously of, take advantage of (an opportunity). Also, to take (a resolution) decisively.

1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* II. 487 Thy selfe, if well in yeares; thy wife take home, Not much past thirtie;. But being yong thy selfe; Nuptialls that season. The times best season in their acts are these [that follow]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xv. 317 Where her resolutions once seis'd, she would never let go her hold. 1809 ROLAND *Fencing* 86 At the instant, therefore, I perceive him turn his wrist, I seize the moment he expects to strike my blade. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 433 Whether the opportunity should be seized or lost it did not belong to him to decide. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, The latter seized the occasion to propound this question.

d. To grasp with the mind or perceptive faculties; to apprehend.

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 8 Its peculiar character or tone cannot be seized by any descriptive phrase. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. v. 290 The reader must firmly seize and keep before his eyes the essential difference between deduction..and induction. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* viii. (1875) 321 A beauty which a foreigner cannot perfectly seize. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1019 Sit on the little mound here, whence you seize The whole of the gay front sunsatisfied. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* ii. 69 It is the infinite which the intellect can seize but not embrace.

9. *intr.* with various constructions. **a.** *To seize on* or *upon* = to seize (in senses 6–8). Also, in the same sense, † *to seize of* (obs. *rare*).

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 49 Thanne cometh þer a conqiour..And sesith on hir sete with hir softe plumes. 1546 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 148 The sayde Leonard Sumpter..toke and seased uppon the same as lawfull wayff and thynge forsaken. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 64 The English: a nation apt to ceaze of euery nouelti'e. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. 835 With these forces Pausistratus encamped in the territorie of Stratonicea, and there hee seized of a commodious place. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) 2 Y^t^ at any Time 40 desperat fellows may either ceese on it or blow it up. 1672 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* xi. Wks. 1710 I. 151 We find the best of men in Scripture seized on with a very unusual consternation at any extraordinary divine appearance. 1768 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 276, I make a point of seizing upon every leisure moment to thank you for your constant attention. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 217 The liquid carbonates contained in the bottles, which are decomposed in proportion as the sulphurous acid expels the carbonic acid to seize on the bases. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXXIV, A morbid melancholy seized upon the Irishman. 1899 E. CALLOW *Old Lond. Taw.* II. 302 The Gardens were demolished and the jerry builder seized upon the ground.

† **b.** Of a stroke, a weapon: To penetrate deeply *in*. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 38 The mortall sting his angry needle shot Quite through his shield, and in his shoulder

seasd. *Ibid.* II. viii. 38 But th'other on his hacqueton did lyte, The which diuiding..It seizd in his right side, and there the dint did stay. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VII. xli. 125 The wicked steele seaz'd deepe in his right side.

c. To grasp or clutch *at. rare.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, Then he..gave him a note. William seized at it rather eagerly.

III. Technical senses.

10. *trans.* (*Naut.*). †a. To reach, arrive at (= MAKE *v.* 65 b). Also with *in. Obs.*

1588 FENNER in *Defent Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) II. 41 Thereby the enemy was able neither to seize England, Ireland, Scotland, Flanders, and hardly the out isles of Scotland. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xii. 17 Since now safe ye seised haue the shore, And well arriued are. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 75, I seeing that the great sattia could not worke to seaze the shore, I bore up to her. 1635 L. FOXE *N.-W. Fox* 127 The wind would not permit him to seize in that N. shore.

b. To fasten (two ropes or parts of a rope) together, or to attach (a rope) to something else, by binding with marline, yarn, or the like. *To seize up*: to fasten (a man) by the wrists to the shrouds, in preparation for a flogging.

[A use of F. *saisir*; the proximate source may be Du. *seizen*; the word was adopted in other Teut. langs.: G. *seisen*, Sw. *sejsa*, Da. *seise*. The use 7 c seems unconnected.]

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.*, To *Sease* or *Seasing*, is to make fast..any roapes together with some small roape-yarne, marling or any line. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 486 By the time the new breachings were all seized, I was got almost alongside the *Trident*. 1778 [see GAMMET]. 1817 J. MARTIN *Tonga Isl.* I. 4 They were seized up and received a dozen lashes each. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, Sam ..was seized up, as it is called, that is, placed against the shrouds, with his wrists made fast to them, his jacket off, and his back exposed. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 227 Boat-hooks fitted with a stout lanyard, ending in an eye, secured to the hook, and seized two-thirds down the staff. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 47/1 Next, seize the luff of the sail to the mast hoops with marline.

11. *intr.* (*Mech.*) See quot. 1878.

1878 A. RIGG *Steam Engine* 128 The surfaces of motion blocks and side bars are found to wear exceedingly well when..efficient lubrication exists; but in the event of failure in this respect the metallic surfaces become dry, and their friction engenders so much heat that there is a liability of a kind of union taking place between the two surfaces, technically called 'seizing'. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 10/3 We were given..paraffin for lubricating oil. Through this one of the bearings of our crank-axle 'seized'.

Seize, variant of SESS *v.*, *Obs.*

Seized (sīzd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEIZE *v.* + -ED[1].] In senses of the verb.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. v, The seized cannon are yoked with seized cart-horses.

†Sei·zement. *Obs.* [f. SEIZE *v.* + -MENT.] An act of seizing, a seizure.

1581 *Apol. Will. of Orange* H 2, They..pursued me with ..seasementes of goodes.

Seizement, variant of SESSMENT *Obs.*

Seizer (sī·zəɹ). Also 5 sesour, 6 seysere, -our. [f. SEIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which seizes; *spec.* †a. a canine tooth (*obs.*); b. a person authorized to seize persons or certain goods, = SEIZOR; c. a sporting dog trained to seize the animal hunted.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xv, A good alaunt shuld renne also faste, as a grehounde, and any that he may comme to, he shulde holde wele with his sesoures and not leue it. 1532–3 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 One halfe of the price of the saide horse..shalbe to the vse of the seysour and arrestour of the same. 1693 *Dryden's Juvenal* IV. (1697) 80 The Boatman than shall a wise Present make, And give the Fish before the Seizers take. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* IV. 1162 Full at his [the Serpent's] Throat the nimble Seizer flies. 1809 SIMOND *Jrnl. Ct. Brit.* (1813) I. 2, I overheard the head seizer asking the Captain whether he preferred having his wine or his spirits seized. 1854 BAKER *Rifle & Hound in Ceylon* viii. 200 The pack..comprising..a few couple of immense seizers, a cross between bloodhound and greyhound.

Seizing (sī·zĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEIZE *v.* + -ING[1].] 1. The action of the verb SEIZE. Also Comb. *seizing-up* (see SEIZE *v.* 10 b).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2463 Iff tylmen toke tent what shuld tynt worth, Of sede þat is sawen, be sesyng of bridles, Shuld neuer corne for care be caste vppon erthe. *c* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3490 þai [sc. the Macedonians] said, it miȝt be sufficient þe sesyng of Persy...' Quat sulde we fonde any ferre?' 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* Expl. Words, *Ceasing*, is when a Hawke taketh any thing into her foot, and gripeth or holdeth it fast. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 434/1 The seizing of any Place in Lorrain by France, was always looked on as a Declaration of War. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv, They had never heard before of a regular seizing-up and flogging.

2. *concr.* (*Naut.*) †a. A rope for attaching a boat to a ship (*obs.*). b. A small cord for 'seizing' two ropes together, or a rope to something else. c. Cordage or yarn used for 'seizing'; also *seizing-stuff*.

F. *saisine* (see SEISIN) has this sense, but it is not clear what is the relation between the Eng. and the Fr. word.

1336 in Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* (1847) II. 472 [For 15 stone of hempen cordage to make] peyntours [and] seysynges [15 *s.*]. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* B 3, Each net must haue a rope five or six Fathom long and an inch through,..called a Seazing, to fasten the net vnto the Warroape. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Grunn.* v. 25 There is also a rope by which the Boat doth ride by the ships side, w^ch we cal a Seasen. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. xi, The Tyde being very strong, they are constrayned to goe ashore, and hale their Boats, by the seasing, or roades [see RODE *sb.*²]. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 141 The Seizings may be 1/6 of the Rope they seize. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiii, In a few minutes they had prepared a great many seizings to tie the men with. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, Marline and seizing-stuffs. 1877 HOLDSWORTH *Sea Fisheries* 57 The warp..to which each net is made fast by two small ropes called 'seizings'. 1903 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Mar. 2/2 A length of fine steel wire seizing.

Seizing (sī·zĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEIZE *v.* + -ING[2].] 1. That seizes, takes possession, or lays hold on something.

1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1027 (Romney Marsh) The Seizing Officer of wrecks, fines and forfeitures,..is remunerated by his charges for business done. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* viii. 144 The rest of the pack, with the seizing hounds and their owner, had apparently gone off upon some other scent.

2. That seizes the attention; arresting, powerfully impressive. [After F. *saisissant*.]

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Mar. 8/2 One [woman] being exceedingly lovely, and the other of a very seizing ugliness. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* 100 There was something abnormal..in the very essence of the creature that now faced me—something seizing, surprising and revolting.

†**Sei·zling.** *Obs.*—° [Corruptly a. G. *setzling* in the same sense.] (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 325/2 A Carpe, first a Seizling, then a Sproll or Sprall, then a Carbe or Karbe.

†**Sei·zor.** *Law. Obs.* Also 6 seisor. [f. SEIZE *v.* + -OR.] A person authorized to seize persons or goods.

1555 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 449 All that he shall soo bye to be solde shalbe forfaict, halfe to the seisor or accuser. 1626 *Proclam.* 29 Sept., All the Tobacco which, uppon any Seizure shall become forfeyted, shall be brought to our Custom House..where the seizor thereof shall deliver the same to our use. 1702 *Guide for Constables* 27 Any person may make such seizures..and..the seizors shall ..cause the said cattle..to be killed; and the hides and tallow shall be to the seizor.

Seizure (sī·ʒiūɹ). Forms: 5 seasur, seissure, 5–6 seasour, 6 seasor, ceazure, seysure, 6–7 seasure, 7 ceasure, 6–9 seisure, 6– seizure. [f. SEIZE *v.* + -URE.]

1. The action or an act of seizing, or the fact of being seized; confiscation or forcible taking possession (of land or goods); a sudden and forcible taking hold.

1482 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (1903) 9 The xxvj^th day of Auguste..your sayde seruaunt shuld come to Topsam ..and founde the same seasur as ys in forme afor rehersid and ratified the same seasur. 1492 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 456/1 The Banishment of Scotts out of England by a certeyne day, under loss and seisure of theyr Goodes. 1545 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 172 Onles some iuste cause of forfeiture and seasour of and in the same demesne landes..shall growe to the said defendauntes. 1592 *No-body & Some-body* F 3 b, Lets..make ceazure of the Crowne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. i. 10 Thy Lands and all things that thou dost call thine, Worth seizure, do we seize into our hands. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* § 99 These suggestions..make such a seizure upon my Spirit. 1701 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 516 His Majestie's Attornie-Generall..moved..for a seisure of the premises. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 143 The seizure of the estates of the church. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiii, His grasp..is like the seizure of a vice! 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. iv. III. 131 The burning of villages and the seizure of the inhabitants as slaves. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. xxiv, We called in at your office as we came by, and found a seizure was also put in there. 1878 *22nd Rep. Customs Comm.* 56 A seizure of 108 lbs. of uncustomed tobacco was effected.

†b. Grasp, hold; a fastening. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 241 And shall these hands..Vnyoke this seysure? 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 132 With spels and charmes I break the Vipers iaw, Cleaue solid rocks, okes from their seasures draw.

c. A sudden attack of illness, esp. a fit of apoplexy or epilepsy. Also, a sudden visitation (of calamity).

1779 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 14 June, The seizure was, I think, not apoplectical. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 203 If a person is incommoded by nausea or vomiting, on his seizure with this fever. *a* 1881 D. G. ROSSETTI *House of Life* vi, What..seizure of malign vicissitude Can rob this body of honour. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 347 The character of the seizures in general paralysis also varies.

†2. Possession, SEISIN. *Obs.*

1592 LODGE *Euph. Shadow* (1882) 16 When chillie age had seasure of this earth. 1612 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 303 As he [Satan] hath giuen Rome seizure of the keyes of heauen, so [etc.]. 1612 — *Ministers Portion* 44 Such consecration giues him seizure of them in fee. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* iv. 36 It hath thereby..a seisure and delivery of those heavenly Ioyes, which it had here onely in assurance of hope. 1641 BRATHWAIT *Penit. Pilgr.* xix. 201 So dangerous is the custome of slone, when it has taken seazure, or possession of the soule. 1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 202 On whom these inferiour contentments have taken seasure.

3. *Mech.* The action of SEIZE *v.* 11.

1903 COOPER-KEY *Rep. Explos. Lowmoor* 7 Partial 'seizure' took place at times between the ram and the U-leather.

Sejant (sī·dʒănt), *a. Her.* Forms: 6 seand, seiaunte, seiante, 7 seijant, 7–9 seiant, 7– sejant. [Properly *seiant*, a. OF. **seiant* var. of *seant* (mod.F. *séant*), pres. pple. of *seoir* to sit;—L. *sedēre*.] In a sitting posture; *esp.* of a quadruped: Sitting with the fore-legs upright.

c 1500 *Sc. Poem on Her.* 129 in *O. Edin. Acad.* 98 First, a lionne statant,..the v. seand. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 79 b, A Lion seiaunte, Sable. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 396 A falcon Seiant vpon a gloue. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 17 Creast, a dog sejant. *c* 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 459/1 Two Squirrels sejant adossée Gules. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. § 7 (ed. 3) 365 A lion sejant affronté gu.

Sejoin (sĭdʒoin), *v. rare.* Also 6 seajoyn, 6–7 sejoyn(e. [f. SE- + JOIN *v.*, after L. *sējungĕre*: see SEJUNCT.] *trans.* To separate, disjoin.

1568 tr. *P. Mart. Vermil. Comm. Rom.* viii. 207 b, Wherfore in godly men feare is neuer seioyned from faith. 1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* 22 Though perhaps my tearmes by distance be Seaioyned from thee. 1657 HOWELL *Venice* 184* Which Councells though they be sejoynd in Colleges and Offices, yet when the quality of the affair requires, they all consociat. *a* 1754 W. HAMILTON *Poems, To Gentl. going to travel* 173 Thou wanderest into foreign realms, from this Far, far sejoined. 1844 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* App. II. 333 That it may appear whether they are to be conjoined or sejoined.

†**Sejoi·nt,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SE- + JOINT *a.*, after L. *sējunctus*, pa. pple of *sējungĕre*: see SEJUNCT.] Separated, disjoined.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 370 Deuyde hem that pith be fro pith seioynt [gl. *seiuncta*].

‖**Séjour** (*se*ʒūr). [Fr., f. *séjourner* to SOJOURN. Cf. SOJOUR.]

1. The act of staying or sojourning in a place (for a longer or shorter period).

1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* I. ix. 63 We now had a Sejour, or Day's Rest. 1759 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 30 Mar., In the meantime, make the best of your *séjour* where you are. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spectre Tap*., Mrs. Simpkinson preferred a short *séjour* in the still-room.

2. A place of sojourn or residence.

1769 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 375 You will have a better opinion of the *séjour* of Nice. 1770 H. ST. JOHN ibid. III. 6 Then comes the melancholy passage to Mahon; then the charming *séjour* of Minorca. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxv, Edinburgh..in autumn is the most melancholy *sejour* that ever poor mortals were condemned to.

Sejourne, obs. form of SOJOURN *v.*

Sejugate (sē·dʒŭgēt), *v. rare.* [f. L. *sējugāt-*, ppl. stem of *sējugāre*, f. *sē-* SE- + *jugāre* to yoke, join.] *trans.* To separate, disjoin.

1623 in COCKERAM. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 534 His infallible eye,..The darkness from the light shall sejugate.

Sejugous (*se*dʒū·gəs), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *sējug-us* (f. *sex* six + *jug-um* yoke or pair of cattle) + -OUS. L. had *sējugis* adj. and sb. (a chariot) drawn by six horses.] (See quot.)

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Sejugum folium*, a sejugous leaf; or a pinnate leaf having six pairs of leaflets.

†**Seju·nct,** *a. Obs. rare*—[2]. [ad. L. *sējunctus*, pa. pple. of *sējungĕre* to separate, f. *sē-* SE- + *jungĕre* to join.] Separated, separate.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 351 The seiunct Territories of the English, Welch, and Scots. 1648 N. ESTWICK *Treat. Holy Ghost* 90 Hereby is noted a peculiar manner of the original of one Person from another.., as the Son from the Father, which is sejunct from the Father.

Sejunction (sĭdʒʌ·ŋkʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. *sējunctiōn-em*, f. *sējungĕre*: see prec.] Separation.

In quot. *c* 1530 as a term of rhetoric, after Cicero.

c 1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 74 This diuision is deuyded into seiunction and distribucion. Seiunction is whan we shewe wherin our aduersaries and we agre, and what it is, wherupon we stryue. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* I. i. 4 Amongst the Mathematicians the Lines are considered under divers species, as Right or Straight..; as also is considerable ..their Application and Sejunction, their Conjunction and Separation. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 26 Difference restraineth not the Genus, but by a kind of opposition and sejunction of the Species. 1831 I. TAYLOR *J. Edwards' Freedom of Will* Introd. Ess. 86 The sounds *good*, *nice*, *pleasant*, ..&c. so fix themselves in the memory in connexion with qualities, as to admit of sejunction from their concretes. 1867 *Transmut. Species* xiv. 262 An efficient rule for dissociation and sejunction.

†**Seju·nctively,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[2]. [f. **sejunctive* adj. (as if ad. L. **sējunctīv-us*, f. *sējunct-us* SEJUNCT) + -LY[2].] Separately.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. (1612) 322 As holesome Plants and poysonous, light, darkenesse, Heat, and Cold, That Contraries of Creatures, seiunctiuely, should holde. 1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 28 Neither vitriol nor Galls are sejunctively black.

†**Seju·nctly,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SEJUNCT *a.* + -LY[2].] Separately.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* III. xv. (1612) 68 Fower Dukes at once, in ciuil broyles, seiunctly after raine [= reign].

†**Seju·ngate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? Misprinted for SEJUGATE; or badly f. L. *sējungĕre* SEJUNGE *v.* + -ATE.] = SEJUGATE *v.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 7 b, These bones are seiungated on eche side, in their endes and borders. *Ibid.* I. 9 b, The eight bone of the head is..seiungated from the Cuneale bone..by the vij. Suture.

†**Seju·nge,** *v. Obs. rare*—[2]. [ad. L. *sējungĕre*: see SEJUNCT *a.*] *trans.* To separate, disjoin.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23/1 Then must the seiunged and separated partes, ioyn and heale together agayn. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhauer's Bk. Physicke* 321/1 By which occasione these little bones soe will separate and seiunge themselves from the other fleshe and Bones.

†**Seju·ngible,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 sejungeable. [ad. L. type **sējungibilis*, f. *sējungĕre* to separate: see SEJUNGE *v.* and -IBLE, -ABLE.] That may be separated or sejoined.

1699 PEARSON *Creed* I. 105 The spawn and egge are sejungeable [*so all edd.* 1659–92] from the fish and fowl, and yet still retain the prolifick power of generation.

Sek, obs. f. SACK *sb.*[1]; obs. pa. t. of SUCK.

Sek, Seke, obs. forms of SEEK, SICK.

Seken, Seker, obs. forms of SICKEN, SICKER.

Sekil, Sekir(e, obs. ff. SIECLE, SICKER.

Sekk, obs. form of SACK *sb.*[3]

†Sekke, *v. nonce-wd.* [Back-formation from *sekketur* SECUTOR, with allusion to *sekke* SACK *sb.*[1]]

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6235 Þe whyles þe executours sekke [*gloss,* fyl þe bag] Of þe soule þey ne rekke.

Sekke, Sekklath, obs. ff. SACK, SACKCLOTH.

Sekur, Sekyl, sekkul: see SICKER, SICKLE *a.*

Sel, obs. form of CELL *sb.*[1]

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. 329 Þe thryd day he come agane..to þe sel, quhare frere pelagius can duel. 1546 BALE *Lng. Votaries* I. (1560) 38 b, The sel of an holy Nun.

Sel, obs. f. SEAL, SELL *v.*; variant of SELE *Obs.*

Selachian (sĭlē·kiăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* Also selacian, selacean. [f. mod.L. *Selachē* (a. Gr. σελάχη, pl. of σέλαχος, shark) or its derivative *Selachii* + -IAN. Cf. F. *sélacien* (Cuvier).] a. *adj.* Of or belonging to the genus *Selache* (Cuvier) of sharks, or to the group *Selachii*, the sharks and their allies. b. *sb.* A shark or allied fish.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxi. 391 The Selacians. 1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U.S.* I. 82 *note*, I would, therefore, propose the name of Selachians for a distinct class embracing the Sharks, Skates, and Chimæras. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xi. (1873) 308 The selaceans or sharks. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 38 A few Selachian fishes.

Selad, obs. form of SALAD.

Seladony, -dyne, var. ff. CELIDONY[1] *Obs.*

Seladyne (also **seledyne**), ? var. CELIDONY[2] *Obs.* Cf. SALADINE *sb.*[2]

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 22 (Douce MS.) With saffres and seladynes [*Ireland MS.* seledynis] set by þe sides.

‖ Selaginella (sĭlædʒĭne·lă). *Bot.* [mod.L., dim. of SELAGO.] A genus of cryptogams; also (with *pl.*) a plant of this genus.

1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 350 A carpet of lovely green *Selaginella*. 1891 L. H. BAILEY *Nursery-bk.* (1896) 24 Ferns, lycopodiums and selaginellas are often grown from spores.

‖ Selago (sĭlē·gō). *Bot.* [L. *selāgo.*] †a. The club-moss *Lycopodium Selago* (*obs.*). b. A Linnæan genus of S. African herbs or undershrubs.

[1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiv. xi. II. 193 Much like unto this hearbe Savine, is that which they call Selago.] *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Witch* III. iii. (1778) 70 Heer's Pannax too... And Selago, Hedge hisop too.

‖ Selah (sē·lă). Also 6–7 sela. [Heb. סֶלָה *selāh*.] A Hebrew word, occurring frequently at the end of a verse in the Psalter and thrice in Hab. iii, by the LXX rendered διάψαλμα; supposed to be a musical or liturgical direction of some kind, perhaps indicating pause or rest. Hence in various allusive uses (see quots.).

1530 tr. *Bucer's Psalms* iii. A 5, This worde *Selah* signifyeth y^e^ sentence before to be pond'red with a depe affecte, longe to be rested upon and the voyce there to be exalted. 1623 S. WARD *Peace-off.* (1624) 50 Record, not all and euery fauour, which is impossible, but the most memorable and thankworthy; putting a special Selah of thankes vpon them. 1826 MRS. BROWNING *Exr. Mind* II. 629 Then comes the Selah! and the voice is hush'd. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* iv, But you need not think I am going to tell you every time his popgun goes off, making a Selah of him whenever I want to change the subject.

Selam(e, Selander: see SALAAM, SALLENDER.

Selandine, -yne, obs. forms of CELANDINE.

Selar, variant of CELURE *Obs.*, canopy.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vi. 698 The selar of the bedde.

Selar(e, obs. forms of CELLAR.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 670/14 *Hoc selarium*, selare.

Selblack, variant of SELFBLACK *Obs.*

Selch(e, selcht, obs. forms of SEAL *sb.*[1]

Selcitud, obs. form of CELSITUDE.

†Se·lcouth, *a., adv.,* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 seld-, (selt-), selcūð, 2–3 sel-, seolcuð, 3 sel-, seolkuð, *Orm.* sellcuþ, (selkeð, sulcuð, -kuð, ssel-, salcuð), 3–5 selcuþ, -cuth, -kuth, -couþ, -kouþ, 4–5 selcuþe, -coupe, -cowþ(e, -kowþ, -coþ(e, (4 selcut, -cutt, -cuht, silkouth, 5 selcowgh, -kow, -cought, -ghouth, seelcowth), 3–6, 9 **selcouth.** [f. OE. *seld-an* SELDOM + *cūð* known: see COUTH *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Unfamiliar, unusual, rare; strange, marvellous, wonderful.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 7 He wæs oflyst ðæs seldcuðan sones. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19217 Forr þatt wass wiss sellcuþ meclesȝc, & sellcuþ ædmodnesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 3894 From heouene her com a sulcuð flod. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 33 Þis was þe selcouthest cas, þat haf herd neuen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Selkow, or seeldam seyne [*v.rr.* selcowthe, seelcowth], *rarus*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* viii. 103 Yonder I se a selcowth syght. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 14 She..wondred much at his so selcouth case. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. xii, Deep import from that selcouth sign Did many a mountain Seer divine.

2. Various, different, not of one kind.

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 *Varias vestes*, se·cuþe reaf. *a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Seofe leies uwil[c]an of ·seolcuðre heowe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23 Sanges sere of selcuth [*Gött.* diuers] rime, Inglis, frankys and latine. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 490 Þer-inne..we sen selcouþe kindus Of þe fletinge fihs [L. *ibi varia genera piscium contemplamur*]. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xii. 28 Aftyr many selcouth & dyuers redes [orig. *post multa variaque consilia*].

B. *adv.* Wonderfully.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1060 Þis abel was a hird for fee, Selcuth hali man was he. *Ibid.* 24093 Mi sun þat was sa selcut suete.

C. *sb.* Something wonderful; a marvel.

c 1200 ORMIN 16156, & tatt wass wunnderrliȝ sellcuþ, & wunnderrliȝ forrtakenn. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 556 In ðe se senden selcuðes manie. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2579 Se wich a selcouþ þis semliche best worcheþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 355 Many selcouthes I seygh. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* ix. (*Fox, Wolf & Cadger*) xvii, Sic ane selcouth saw I not this seuin ȝeir.

b. In phrases, as *what selcouth, no selcouth,* what wonder, no wonder. *Me* (*him,* etc.) *thinks selcouth, I have selcouth* = I wonder.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Gif hiin þuncheð wunder & selkuð of swuch onswere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1238 Adam had pastd nine hundret yere, Nai selcut þof he wex vn-fere. *Ibid.* 13902 Selcut me thinc [*Trin.* Selcouþe I haue] yee hatte me sua. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 358 And how amonge þe grene grasse grewe so many hewes, And somme soure and some swete, selcouthe me þouȝte.

Hence **† Se·lcouthness** *Obs.*—[0]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Selcowtnesse [*Winch. MS.* Selcowthnesses, Seelcowthnesses], *varitas*.

†Se·lcouth, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SELCOUTH *a.*] *trans.* To make wonderful; to show as marvellous.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* IV. 4 And wites þat lauerd his haligh selkouþede [*v.r.* selcuþed] he [Vulg. *mirificavit*]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* XV. 2 He selcouthid alle mi willes [Vulg. *mirificavit omnes voluntates meas*].

†Se·lcouthly, *adv. Obs.* [f. SELCOUTH *a.* + -LY[2].] Strangely, wonderfully.

c 1200 ORMIN 2586 Forr nære ȝho nohht Drihhtin Godd Swa sellcuplike cweine, ȝiff [e^c^]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7333 So waxynge folk..Ne so gendryng, ne so pleyntyue..In no londe scholde men fynde, Ne selcouploker so to gendre. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 680 Selcouthly in seir he was set suttelly.

†Seld, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 seld, 2 selt, 3 seld, 5 selde, 6 *Hist.* silde. [OE. *seld* neut., metathetic form of *setl* SETTLE *sb.*

(A distinct word from OE. *seld, sæld* mansion, hall.)]

1. A seat, throne.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* x. 5 In heofene seld his. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Ða apostoli siddan..isetten iacob þet wes ihaten rihtwis on cristes selt [*Ælfric* setle]. *c* 1205 LAY. 25988 And þa six swin he gon æten alle ær he arise of selde.

2. A shop. (In L. records *selda* or *silda*; also in AF. form *seude*.) Also, a stand for spectators.

[1407 *Maldon* (Essex) liber A, lf. 14 b, Pro parcella terre de communi super quam finis unius seude in le draperie est edificatus.] *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 96 And ij. seldis in the market of Wycombe. *Ibid.* 508 One selde, with a solar ouer the same selde I-bilde. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 206 After which time the king caused this silde or shede to bee made, and strongly to bee builded of stone, for himself, the Queene, and other estates to stand in, and there to behold the iustings. *Ibid.* 207 The men of Bredstreete ward contended with the men of Cordwayner street ward for a selde or shede.

† Seld, *adv.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 3–7 selde, 4–7 seld; 3 sealde, 3–6 sielde, 4 sylde, 4–5 seyld(e, 4–6 seild(e, silde, seelde, 4–7 seeld, 5 selde, 6 sield, sealde, 6–7 sild. [Early ME. *selde,* formed as positive to *seldor, seldost,* in OE. used as compar. and superl. of *seldan* SELDOM.]

A. *adv.* = SELDOM *adv.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXXVIII. (Z.) 240 *Raro* seldan, *rarius* seldor, *rarissime* ealra seldost. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 He hauedē..gon..seldere þene he sholde to his chirche. *c* 1205 LAY. 17940 For selde [*c* 1275 sealde] he aswint þe to him seolue þencheð. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 474/424 ȝwane he is wroth, he doth wreche, ake þat fallez ful sielde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 371 The peple hym heelde A prudent man, and that is seyn ful seelde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 131 Egypt is silde bereyne. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 175 b/2 He wente ofte barefote and selde ware ony gyrdle. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 225/2 It is pytye that we see suche lyghte so sielde. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 158 Report that sild to honour is a friend. 1592 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* IX. xxiv, A weapon strange, before this seen but seeld. 1652 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* iv. 26 Though such a fall hath heard of been but seeld.

b. *predicatively.* (Cf. SELDOM *adv.* d.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 78 For sielde it is that love alloweth The gentil man withoute god. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiii. (1885) 141 Wherfore it is right selde þat Frenchmen be hanged ffor robbery.

B. *adj.* = SELDOM *a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. XXXVI. (1495) k j, Yf the herte be to dreye & colde he makyth..slow; brethe and selde [L. *respiratio tarda est & rara*]. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1172/1 Let vs..make those kyndes of recreacion as shorte and as silde as we can. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 530 Therefore hath nature bestowed..on vs a seld and vncertaine abilitie. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* IV. H 2 b, Honest women are so sild and rare.

C. *Comb.,* as *seld-heard-of, -known, -shaven, -shown* adjs.; **seld-speech,** taciturnity; **seldtime, -when** (also *-whens*), **-where, -while** *advs.,* rarely. Also **SELDSEEN** *a.*

1597 *Cert. Prayers* in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (Parker Soc.) 671 Thy rare-seen, vnused, and *seeld-heard-of* goodnes. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. 256 Strange and *seld-knowne* opinions. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 14 Aug., Please to blot out 'gentle-hearted', and substitute..'*seld-shaven,* odd-eyed, stuttering, or any other epithet. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 229 *Seld-showne* Flamins Doe presse among the popular Throngs. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 76 Nouhware ine holi write, ne ivinde we þet heo spec bute uor siðen; auh for þe *seldspeche hire wordes weren heuie. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 90, I me reioyssed of my liberte, That *seelde [*v.r* selden] tyme is founde in mariage. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliii. 313 Ðonne cymð sio blis *seldhwanne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Swuch ouh wummone lore to beon—luuelich & liðe, and seldhwonne sturne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 333 Men of that lond haueþ no feuere, but onliche þe feuere agu, and þat wel silde whanne. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 157 Thow shalte Preyse and commende scarsly and seldewannes. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 40 Meete shall they seelde when, or haply neuer. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 234 Chastete, which *sielde wher Comth nou adaies into place. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 389 þey..eteþ wel *seelde while.

Seld, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of SELL *v.*

†Seldall. *Obs. rare.*

1560 in *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* (1902) 86 A selldall for God xij d. *a* 1585 *Ibid.* 82 A seldall for God xij d.

Selde, obs. pa. t. of SELL *v.*

Seldom (se·ldəm), *adv.* and *a.* Forms: α. 1 seldan, -on, -un, 3–6 selden, (3 *Orm.* seldenn), 4–5 -ene, -on(e, -yn(e, -ine, 4–6 -in, 5 -ing, -an, -eldane; 4–5 sild-, sylden, 5 -un, -yn, 4–6 -on; 4–5 sielden, seelden, -yn, seilden, -yn, 4–6 -in, 5 seyldyn. Also SENDLE. β. 1, 3, 5 seldum, 4–7 -ome, 5 seldom, seldoum, 6 selldome, 4–seldom; 5–7 sildom(e, 6 syldome, sildam; 4–7 seeldome, 5 -am, -em, ceeldam, 6 seeldom, sealdome, 6–7 **sieldome.** [OE. *seldan* (altered to *seldum* by the analogy of advb. datives plural like *hwilum*: see WHILOM) corresponds to OFris. *sielden,* MLG., MDu. *selden* (mod.Du. *selden*), OHG. *seltan* (MHG., mod.G. *selten*), ON. *sialdan* (Da. *sjelden,* Sw. *sällan*), f. OTeut. **seldo-* (prob. an adj.) represented in Goth *sildaleik-s* wonderful (whence *sildaleikjan* to be astonished). The ulterior affinities are unknown.]

A. *adv.* On few occasions, in few cases or instances, not often; rarely, infrequently.

α. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* ix. 57 Seldun mon ȝeleornað on miclum rice eaðmodnesse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8468 Forrþi þatt Arrchelaw þe king þær munnde cumenn seldenn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII ii. (1495) 441 Also in wynter selden or neuer pytte water fresyth. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 114 Thai eyten no flesshe but yf it be right seldon a litle larde. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 142 For seildin had thai sene sic folkis befoir. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 85 Pryncys and lordys syldon loke to the gud ordur and welth of theyr subiectys.

β. *a* 1000 [see b]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 241 Ðe mire..resteð hire seldum. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 756 For seldom a man þat has þat held, Hele has, and him-self may weld. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65/1 Ceeldam (*P.* celdom), *raro*. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 77 Seeldem fallith the contrarie. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* A 4 b, That face [is] most faire, which seldommest comes into the open ayre. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 47 Or oftner, or seldomer, as occasion required. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 348 Listners seldome hear good of themselves. 1748 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 2 Feb. (1893) II. 159 Complainers are seldom pitied, and boasters yet seldomer believed. 1867 MILL *Subj. Women* (1869) 142 Women, it is said, seldomer fall under the penal law..than men.

Proverb. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. iv. Wks. (1562) A iv b, Seldome comth the better. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* II. iii. 4. 1650 H. PARKER *True Portr. Kings Eng.* 32 Yet (as we say) Seldom comes a better; when one is cut off, another like the Hidra's head springs up in his place.

b. With *ever* added pleonastically. (Cf. EVER 7 c, RARELY 2 b.) ? *Obs.*

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 269 Seldum æfre his leoma licgeað, 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* iv. 17 They seek to immortalize themselves upon their possessions; but the third heire seldome ever owns them. 1813, 1828 [see EVER 7 c].

†c. *Seldom or ever*: by confusion of 'seldom if ever' and 'seldom or never'. (Cf. EVER 7 b, RARELY 2 c.)

1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 14 P 2 The Players seldom or ever throw out the Voice with any Vehemence. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 100 It is what they seldom or ever do.

d. *It is seldom that...* (Cf. RARELY 2 d.) Also †*it is seldom when...* (Cf. *seldom-when* in C.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 30 Ful selden is that welthe Can sofire his oghne astat in helthe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lviii. (1869) 98 Seelden it was þat I sih hire. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV,* IV. iv. 70 'Tis seldome, when the Bee doth leaue her Comb In the dead Carrion. 1812 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 599 It is seldom that want of leisure can be fairly stated as an excuse for not writing. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 229 It was seldom indeed that a white freeman..was employed in severe bodily labour.

B. *adj.* Rare, infrequent. *Obs.* exc. occas. with agent-n. or noun of action.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/2 Seldome [*MS.* seldone], *infrequens, rarus, rariter*. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 71 b, Chastite is an exceadinge selden gyfte. 1585 Q. ELIZ. in *Holinshed's Chron.* (1587) III. 1306/2 Yet amongst my manie volumes, I hope Gods booke hath not beene my sildomest lectures. 1587 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 445 Yf at seldom tymes he should chaunce to play at lawfull games. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lii, Blunting the fine point of seldom pleasure. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 2 (1727) 59 A suppressed and seldom anger. 1698 *Whole Duty Man* v. § 14. 45 We should think it wisdom to be as frequent as we are ordinarily seldom in it. 1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 302 His 'nor did not', used as an affirmative at seldom times by Milton, is frequent here. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Books & Reading,* Seldom-readers are slow readers. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xix, They..watched, with grieved hearts and seldom speech. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Nov. 1/2 On evenings reserved..to the seldom speakers.

C. *Comb.*, as *seldom-comfortless, -seen* (cf. SELDSEEN), *-trodden* adjs.; seldom-time(s, -when, -while *advs.*, rarely.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 229 His *seldom-comfortlesse flatterers. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Selkow, or *seeldam seyne, *rarus*. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 22 So woorthie and so seldome-seene guests. 1386 *Selden time [see *seld-time*, SELD C.]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2289 Ful seldyn tymespeke he walde. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* 106 It *seldome times chaunceth but that one of the parties are deceived. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 4 Þeah hi *seldum hwonne beswemde weorðen. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 237 He duelte evere in chambre stille,.. That selden whanne in other stede If that he wolde wenden oute. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 89 Sildome when The steeled Gaoler is the friend of men. 1876 LANIER *Poems, Ps. West* 107 Solemn wings that wave but *seldomwhile.

† **Se·ldomly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SELDOM *a.* + -LY 2.] Rarely.

1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 143 So that it be vsed rarely, seldomly. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* Introd. 8 The aire is for the most part pure, seldomely corrupted with noysome vapours.

Seldomness (se·ldəmnės). [f. SELDOM *a.* + -NESS.] Infrequency, rareness.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Liv b, The sildomenesse of suche as are seen to attain to that point. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. i. (1716) 44 The strength of delight is in its seldomness or rarity. 1792 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 172 Suffer the length of my letters to attone for their seldomness. 1861 LD. PALMERSTON *Sp.* in *Times* 9 Jan. 6/4 In proportion to the seldomness of those occasions..is the gratification which they afford.

† **Se·ldseen,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 seldsíene, -sýnde, 3 seldcene, seltsene, -scene, 6 seld-, seildsene, sseldseene, 6–7 seldseen(e. [OE. *seldsíene* = MDu. *seltsiene*, OHG. *seltsâni* (MHG. *seltsæne*, mod.G. with change of suffix *seltsam*), ON. *sialdsénn* (Sw. has *sällsam* after Ger.):—OTeut. **seldosewnjo-, -sēwnjo-*: see SELDOM and SENE *a.*] Seldom to be seen or met with; rare. (By 16th c. writers sometimes analysed as *seld seen.*)

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. (1883) 76 Cirus ȝeahsade.. þæt þæm folce seldsiene & uncuðe wæron wines dryncas. *c* 959 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1845) III. 450 Ælc seldsynde fisc ðe weorðlic byð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Our speche schal beon seldcene. *c* 1230 *Halt Meid.* 37 Hit is selt sene on eorðe. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* I. viii. Civ b, Thales.. was asked what was the most difficill and seldest seen thing? He aunswered: an olde Tyrant. A selde sene thing in dede. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I. 63 Seildsene costly stones. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* D 5 b, The most precious-seld-seen Vnicorne.

Sele (sīl), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 sǽl (*dat. pl.* sælum, sálum), seel, 3 sæl, seale, sil, 3–5 sel, 4 sell, 4–5 ȝele, seele, 4–8 seel, 4, 9 seyle, 5 ceele, ceyl(l)e, 5–6 seill, seyll(e, 5, 9 sale, 7 ceile, 7–9 seal, seil, 3– sele. [OE. *sǽl* masc. and fem.:—OTeut. type **sǣli-z*, app. a subst. use of the adj. found in Goth. *sēl-s* good (whence *sélei* goodness), ON. *sæll* happy (whence *sæla* wk. fem., *sæld* str. fem., happiness); in WGer. outside Eng. preserved only in derivatives, OS. *sâlig*, OHG. *sâlîg* (see SELLY *a.*), MHG. *sælîche* fortunately, OS. *sâlda*, OHG. *sâlida* happiness (see SELTH). An ablaut-variant **sōl-* occurs in OE. *sél* adv.: see etymological note to SELE *a.*]

1. Happiness, prosperity, good fortune. *On sele, a sele* (OE. *on sǽlum, on sálum*): happy.

Beowulf 607 Þa wæs on salum sinces bryttа. *Ibid.* 1170 Þu on sælum wes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Þu ware a sele gief ich was wrōð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14304 All middellærdess sellþe & sæl. *c* 1205 LAY. 10040 Brutties heo gretten.. beden heom beon on sele [*c* 1275 seale]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 183 Ihesu min heorte Mi sel mi saule hele. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2905 Þar neuer man sank þat was o sele. *Ibid.* 3962 He is vm-sett all wit sell. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kt.* 2409 Sele yow bytyde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1117 Lord, sa haf I sele, in galouay we haf don rycht wele. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* IV. 72 How rewfully he hinges here, That set you first in ceile! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. i. 46 So haif I seill. 1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 47 Seil comes not while sorrow be gone. 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Sk. Ain Folk* 82 Seil upo' them, they're a winsome pair.

2. Favourable or proper time, opportune moment; occasion, opportunity; season, time of day. Cf. BARLEY-*sele*, HAYSEL.

With OE. *sǽl and mǽl* (Beowulf) cf. quot. *a* 1825, *To give the sele of the day*: 'to pass the time of day,' to give a friendly greeting in passing.

Beowulf 1008 Þa wæs sæl and mæl, þæt to healle gang Healfdenes sunu. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 122 Þas wyrte man mæg niman on ælcne sæl. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 185 Þos fǽawe word seide ure drihten..at sume sele, þo þe he wuneðe licamliche on eorðe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1095 Loth and his dojtres twe Ledden ðis angules ut in sel. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5779 Now whom Myȝt y fynde, fys yche sele, To whom y myȝt seile Pers wele. 1375 *Creation* 770 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 133 Þo wente he azen in þat sel And tolde Michel his cas. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* 682 þat alle þese þingys at euery tyme & seele schuld be redressed. *a* 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl 1898) 354 He hath mett wyth the goode man mercy in a schroude sell. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. verse 18. 1. xxx. § 1. 383 At what ceile of the day or night soever it be. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 It is a fair *seel* for you to come at, i.e. a fair season or time; spoken ironically to them that come late...What Seel of day? What time of day. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 387 *Seel*, or *Seal*, time or season; as, 'hay-seel', hay-time; 'barley-seel', barley seed-time; 'wheat-seel', wheat seed-time; 'bark-seel', the barking season. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v. *Seal*, Of an idle and dissipated fellow, we say that he 'keeps bad seals';.. of a sober, regular, and industrious man..that he 'keeps good seals and meals'. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* I. xxi. 249 As I passed.., I gave the man the sele of the day.

b. A period of time.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 953 He mihte bet speken a sele. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7005 ȝyf Constant had lyued ani sel He schuld haue mended þe lond ful wel. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 80 Þer duelled þei non seel. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Mary Magd.* 1026 In ful short seel.

† **Sele,** *a. Obs.* Forms: *Compar.* 1 sélra, séllra, sélla, 2–3 selre, 3 selere; *Superl.* 1 sélest, 3 selest; *Positive* 3 sæl, sel, seal, *accus.* seolne. [The OE. *sélra, sélla*, better, *sélest* best, represent OTeut. types **sōlizon-*, **sōlisto-* (cf. OE. *sél*, older *sǽl* adv. better:—**sōliz*), f. **sōl-*, ablaut-variant of **sǽl-*: see SELE *sb.* The positive *sele* in early ME. is a back-formation from the other degrees; whether there is mixture of an adoption of ON. *sæll* happy is uncertain.] Good.

Beowulf 2890 Deað bið sella eorla ȝehwylcum þonne edwitlif! *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 31 Sellra [L. *meliores*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ibid., Þe synt selran. *Ibid.* Luke x. 42 Maria ȝeces þæne selestan dæl. *c* 1205 LAY. 3955 He ferde awi ouer sæ þat him þuhte selest. *Ibid.* 17679 Þæt vther his broðer hæfde him þider i-send seolne læche. *Ibid.* 21166 Ne isæh næuere na man selere cniht nenne. *Ibid.* 24954 Þus andswærede Walwain þe sele. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 67 In al þat euer sel is. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7430 For ben yee sele, ben ye wrothe, Ynde and Perce buth myn bothe.

Sele, obs. form of CEIL *v.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1519 Sylours of sendale to sele ouire þe gatis.

Sele: see SEAL *sbs.*, SEEL *v.*2, SEELY *a.*, SELL *v.*

Select (sĭle·kt), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6 selecte. [ad. L. *sélect-us* select, chosen, pple. of *sēligĕre* to choose out, select, f. *sē-* apart, SE- + *legĕre* to collect, choose, etc. Cf. Sp., Pg. *selecto.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Selected, chosen out of a larger number, on account of excellence or fitness; picked.

Select committee, see COMMITTEE 3. *Select meeting*, (amongst Quakers) a meeting of ministers and elders. *Select vestry*, see VESTRY.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Selectus*, chosen from amonge other: chief amonge other: selecte. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Ep. + ij b, When they shall perceiue your Lordshippe..doth allow and accepte them as fragraute floures selecte and gathered out of the pleasant gardynes Mathematicall. 1580 *Lease* in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 237 These twelve select trees. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. Ded., Whom my Muse Doth its select Mecænas chuse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 819 No sooner hee with them of Man and Beast Select for life shall in the Ark be lodg'd. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. *Medit. Lord's Pr.* 167 Not only at the select and solemn times of Prayer, but in the general Frame of our conversation. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1647, He married us in Sir Richd. Browne's Chapell.., some few select freinds being present. 1712 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends in Surrey & Sussex* XV. (1886) 140 Its Unanimusly agreed..that a Select Meeting be Held in each Weekly Meeting..concerning the good order and Discipline of the Church. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 653 Select from vulgar Herds, with Garlands gay, A hundred Bulls ascend the Sacred Way. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 159 In the Parish where I serve, the Vestry is compos'd of thirty select Members besides the Rector. 1744 DODSLEY (*title*) A select Collection of Old Plays. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. VI. I. 4 The more secret parts of the heathen worship, to which select persons only were admitted. 1819 SHELLEY *Œdipus* I. 217 Every gibbet says its catechism And reads a select chapter in the Bible Before it goes to play. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1496 (Doncaster) The mayor, aldermen and capital burgesses form the Select Body or common council. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 649 To the smaller plot..only a few select traitors were privy. 1873 (*title*) Cornelius Nepos. Select Lives. With notes by Edward Walford.

2. Hence, Choice, of special value or excellence; composed of or containing the best, choicest or most desirable; superior. a. Of things, material or immaterial.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 12 Whence all the world deriues the glorious Features of beautie, and all shapes select, With which high God his workmanship hath deckt. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 74 And they in France of the best rank and station, Are of a most select and generous cheff in that. 1623 LD. HERBERT in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* ser. I. III. 164, I will come from the ordinarie voice to the selecter iudgement of the Ministers of State, and more intelligent people in this Kingdome. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* Pref. 3 Most select Remedies for every Disease. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 513 And happie Constellations on that houre Shed their selectest influence. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 142 P 5 He has spent his most select Hours in the Knowledge of them. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Def. Poetry* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 19 The Romans appear to have considered the Greeks as the selectest treasuries of the selectest forms of manners. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXVIII, His senior..had consigned a quantity of select wines to him. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 99 If what is called the 'best select' copper is required, the refining process is gone through a second time.

b. Of persons, company, etc. Now often: Unexceptionable with regard to social standing or estimation.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* Prol. 3 Select and most respected Auditours. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. xvi, Men most select, of speciall worth and sort. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 The Venetian Embassador made a ball to Lord Ossery and his family, and Lord Arlington and his, and some other select company last weeke. 1770 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 84 The party though small were select. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, The Reverend Charles Merton..kept up all the most select of his old London acquaintances. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke* 559 Persecution of that sort which bows down and crushes all but a very few select spirits. 1855 — *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 266 He [the Elector of Saxony] had..a great desire to be a member of the most select and illustrious orders of knighthood. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 278 Company at first aristocratic and select.

absol. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 112 The first of our subscription-concerts..was attended by one hundred and twenty of the select, admittances being decided by ballot. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ii, The public games..where, in the select of their own countrymen, they saw the handsomest specimens of the human race.

3. Careful in selection. Hence, (of a society or association) admitting only persons of a high class, esp. with regard to social station; exclusive; (of a place of resort) frequented only by persons of good social position.

1842 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 23 The appetite becomes less keen and more select in its choice. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 316 You are select in your acquaintance. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* iii. I. 54 And I have spoken for Gwendolen to be a member of our Archery Club—the Brackenshaw Archer Club—the most select thing anywhere. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/1 Such a sweet, select watering-place. All the best people go there.

B. *sb.* † a. A selected person or thing. † b. A selected class or group, a selection. c. See quot. 1881.

a. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VII. iii. 261 If therefore felicity bee not to bee placed amongst those selects, because they gotte their places rather by chance then desert: yet surely fortune should bee one amongst them. *a* 1733 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 29 In Town, he had his Select of Friends and Acquaintance. *a* 1733 — *Exam.* I. ii. § 2 (1740) 32 Borrow of the profligate Speech-makers, or Lyars of the Time in Print, and make a Select out of a Select of them to adorn a Party. *Ibid.* II. iv. § 144. 308 He..sets forth a Select of the Rye-Plot Papers. 1805 T. HOLCROFT *Bryan Perdue* I. 159, I appeared to be the inmate and select of his soul, and almost as necessary to him as his horses and dogs. 1881 INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industr.* (Hist. Fish. Industr. U.S.) 248 *Selects*, oysters of the first quality, *i. e.* selected; applied wholly to opened stock.

Select (sĭle·kt), *v.* [f. L. *sélect-*, ppl. stem of *sēligĕre* (see prec.).]

1. *trans.* To choose or pick out in preference to another or others. Also *to select out.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 25 To select or choose forth amongst many things what is heade and principall. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VI. lxxxvii. (1609) 165 Haue you then selected me To be the man whom you would haue displac't Out of the roule of Immortalitie? 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. vi. 81 A certaine number..must I select from all. The rest shall beare the businesse in some other fight. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 141 Of some [reeds] the Arabians make darts and jauelins..; others they select to write with. 1706 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., You desire me to select..some Things from the first Volume of your Miscellanies, which may be altered so as to appear again. 1754 WARBURTON *View Bolingbr. Philos.* ii. 135 Men..were not always sufficiently careful in selecting their arguments. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1843) I. 187 A power of selecting and adapting means to proximate ends according to circumstances. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xiv, The party was admirably selected. 1839 EARL SPENCER in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* (1840) I. 22 The importance of selecting good male animals [for breeding purposes]. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 657 In selecting rebels for punishment. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. ii. 464 He then soon begins to select out fine days for this purpose. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 25 Would a forger have had the wit to select the most.. characteristic thoughts of Plato?

b. Said of impersonal agencies. Cf. SELECTION 3.

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* Introd. 5 Any being, if it vary however slightly in any manner profitable to itself,..will have a better chance of surviving, and thus be naturally selected. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 494 The eruption ..not selecting any special nerve territories.

c. To choose and dedicate *to, nonce-use.*

1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 504 The Limbs they sever from th' inclosing Hyde, The Thighs, selected to the Gods, divide.

2. *intr.* To choose or pick out something from a number; to make a selection.

1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. ix, 'The next dinner you give, George, we will select better', said Lady Frances. 'We will have up the local lawyer who knows the country politics, and all the friends and foes of the district.' 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* IV. 102 In man's methodical selection, a breeder selects for some definite object, and free intercrossing will wholly stop his work.

Selectable (sĭle·ktăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SELECT *v.* + -ABLE.] Worthy or fit to be selected.

1836 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) I. 239 Each going into his own quarters..though some next door houses were infinitely to appearance more selectable than their neighbours.

Selected, *ppl. a.* [f. SELECT *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Specially chosen, picked out.

1590 MARLOWE *and Pt. Tamburl.* V. ii. 4381 For we haue here the chiefe selected men Of twenty seuerall kingdomes at the least. 1620 QUARLES *Argalus & Parth.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 277/1 Sometimes (for change of pleasure) he would read Selected stories, whilst her eares would feed Upon his lips. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales* etc., *Knts. Bath* 14 He thrice twelve gallant Youths, of high Renown, Selected Souls, of all the Land the Flowr, Appointed to adorn the bridal Hour. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* vii, For an instant this man quitted the prisoner, whom he consigned to a selected guard. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* x. 273, I give some selected cases of the Argument from similar customs.

† 2. Choice, 'select'. *Obs. rare.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii, To his most selected [*Qo.* elected] friend, master Edward Knowell. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* VII. § 4 To keepe still the Lawe of breuitie, by vsing the most eminent and selected examples. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* 180 The first true worship of the

world's great king From private and selected hearts did spring.

Hence † **Sele·ctedly** *adv.*

1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Ship* (1638) 48 All of them in their severall faculties being knowne to bee the prime Workmen of the Kingdome, selectedly imploy'd in this Service.

Selecting (sĭle·ktiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SELECT *v.* + -ING 2.] That selects, chooses, or picks out.

1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases Mor.* i. 100 A reasonable result always implies some principle of selection and a selecting agency. 1880 R. H. HUTTON in *Fraser's Mag.* May 665 The..conception of will as a selecting power between two alternatives.

Selection (sĭle·kʃən). [ad. L. *sēlectiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sēligĕre*: see SELECT *v.*]

1. The action of selecting or choosing out; also the fact of being selected or chosen.

1646–58 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXV. (ed. 4) 211 While we single out several dishes, and reject others, the selection seems but arbitrary, or upon opinion. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 83 It should seem, then,..that the essence of right conduct lay in selection and rejection. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1843) I. 187 There is [in the instinctive action of insects] selection, but not choice; volition rather than will. 1890 A. J. BELL *Why does Man exist?* xi. 75 Can selection of food-materials by plants be accounted for without consciousness? 1893 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 113 The careful selection of the point of view.

2. A particular choice; choice of a particular individual or individuals; *concr.* the († person or) thing selected; a number of selected († persons or) things. Often, a passage or a number of extracts from one or more literary works.

1805 W. COOKE *Foote* II. 7 His company generally consisted of men of rank and fashion, some literary characters, and a selection from the stage. 1828 B. OAKLEY (*title*) Selections from Shakspeare. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXVII, At this, the assembled selections laughed very heartily. 1865 (*title*) A Selection from the Works of Alfred Tennyson. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* i. 27 They make a selection from His laws, choosing some and rejecting others. 1887 TRAILL in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 479 The English public..does not pretend to care for poetry except in 'selections'.

b. *Sporting.* The horse or horses selected by a racing prophet as likely to win or obtain a place.

1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 5/2 In 1897..the sporting selections of a highly respectable newspaper..the individual race prophecies numbered 1739.

c. in *pl.* 'In tobacco-culture, the choicest leaves and the highest grades of tobacco' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

3. a. Applied *spec.* to the action of a breeder in selecting individuals from which to breed, in order to obtain some desired quality or characteristic in the descendants. **b.** Hence in *Biology*, used by C. Darwin (*Origin of Species*, 1859) and subsequent writers, to designate any process, whether artificial or natural, which brings about a particular modification of an animal or vegetable type by ensuring that in successive generations the individuals that reproduce their kind shall be those that have transmissible variations from the ancestral form in the direction of this modification.

Natural selection: the operation of natural causes by which those individuals of a species that are best adapted to the environment tend to be preserved and to transmit their characters, while those less adapted die out, so that in the course of generations the degree of adaptation to the environment tends progressively to increase. *Sexual selection*: that kind of natural selection which arises through the preference by one sex of those individuals of the other sex that have some special characteristic, in consequence of which that characteristic tends to be transmitted, with progressive enhancement in succeeding generations.

a. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* iii. 60 That which enables the agriculturist not only to modify the character of his flock, but to change it altogether..—the principle of selection. 1844 H. D. RICHARDSON *Pigs* 51 In the selection of a boar and sow for breeding, much more attention and consideration are necessary.

b. 1857 DARWIN *Lett.* (1887) II. 123 There is such an unerring power at work, or *Natural Selection* (the title of my book), which selects exclusively for the good of each organic being. 1859 — *Orig. Species* iv. 81 This preservation of favourable variations and the rejection of injurious variations, I call Natural Selection. *Ibid.* iv. 88 And this leads me to say a few words on what I call Sexual Selection. This depends, not on a struggle for existence, but on a struggle between the males for the possession of the females; the result is not death to the unsuccessful competitor, but few or no offspring. 1868 — *Var. Anim. & Plants Domest.* (1875) II. 177 The principle of selection may be conveniently divided into three kinds. Methodical selection..Unconscious selection..Natural selection. 1878 TAIT & STEWART *Unseen Universe* v. § 170 Thus the struggle for existence bears to natural selection the same relation as man bears to artificial selection. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 929 The struggle for existence acts therefore in a certain sense similarly to the selection of the breeder; as the breeder developes only that which is suited to his own purposes..Thus, ..through what may be termed metaphorically *Natural Selection* by means of the struggle for existence,—forms are produced which are as well or even better adapted for the purpose of self-preservation than cultivated plants are for the purposes of man.

transf. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xix, That is the way ..physiological democracy is enabled to fight against the principle of selection which would disinherit all the weaker children. 1869 *Fortn. Rev.* June 644 By a sort of critical selection, the cultivated class improves the breed of literary egotists; it suppresses all but the best specimens.

4. *Austral.* **a.** = FREE-SELECTION. Also *attrib.*

1866 ROGERSON *Poems* 22 Heathcote never was so gay As on the land selection day. 1880 *Victorian Rev.* I. 628 It is surprising that the selectors themselves have not prayed the Government to stop selection for some years at least.

b. A piece of land selected or taken up through 'free-selection'.

1875 *Melbourne Spect.* 21 Aug. 189/3 Jumping selections ..is said to be very common now in the Wimmera district. 1881 Mrs. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* I. 50 He has a selection down the Koorong.

5. *attrib.* as **selection value**, value (of a variation or peculiarity) as affecting natural selection.

1892 ROMANES *Darwin & After* I. 275 We cannot speak of adaptations as due to natural selection, without thereby affirming that they present what I have elsewhere termed a 'selection value'.

Selectionist (sĭle·kʃənist), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SELECTION + -IST.] **a.** *sb.* One who believes in or supports the theory of natural selection. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to or connected with that theory.

1892 *Nation* 6 Oct. 266/3 Extreme selectionists like Wallace and Weismann. 1899 J. L. TAYLER in *Nat. Sci.* Sept. 190 A pure or nearly pure selectionist hypothesis.

Selective (sĭle·ktiv), *a.* [f. SELECT *v.* + -IVE. Cf. F. *sélectif.*] Having the quality or faculty of selecting; characterized by choice or selection.

1625 BP. HALL *Contempl.* XVIII. *Elijah with Sareptan* Wks. 1332 Who can enough wonder at the pitch of this selective prouidence of the Almighty? 1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* I. p. iv, The translation is thus rather a selective than an abridged translation. 1875 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* iii. 72 The selective and ordinant energy of the brain.

b. Applied to physical processes or agencies which result in the selection of some elements or factors and the exclusion of others.

1813 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* i. 39 The selective absorption of nutritious matter. 1889 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* vii. 171 The isolation of varieties by selective association.

c. *Wireless Telegraphy.* 'Designating a system by which two or more messages can be sent or received simultaneously without interference' (Webster 1911).

1906 EICHHORN *Wireless Telegr.* v. 23 A system of selective electric wave telegraphy, *i. e.* wireless multiplex telegraphy. 1906 KENNELLY *Wireless Telegr.* 173 The Problem of Selective Signaling.

Selectively (sĭle·ktivli), *adv.* [f. SELECTIVE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a selective manner; by selection.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 113 They..cannot selectively separate and draw forth one humour, from another. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 826 The respiratory centre is not selectively affected.

Selectiveness (sĭle·ktivnĕs). [f. SELECTIVE *a.* + -NESS.] The attribute of being selective.

c 1850 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 320 A certain withdrawal and separation, a moral and almost religious selectiveness,..are essential to Wordsworth's being.

Selectly (sĭle·ktli), *adv. rare.* [f. SELECT *a.* + -LY 2.] By selection; in a select manner.

1689 E. HOWARD *Caroloiades* 196 If from their Numbers they'd Scelectly [*sic*] take Men that, by zeal, their valours fiercer make. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. iv, The Minister speaking, as directed by the Rubric, to the people,..selectly represented..by G. & G. above mentioned.

Sele·ctman. *U.S.* [f. SELECT *a.* + MAN *sb.*1] One of a board of officers elected annually to manage various local concerns in a 'town' or 'township' in New England.

1646 in *Gen. Laws Massachusetts* (1672) 122 The Select men of Boston, Charlstown [etc.]. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 282 Three or five Selectmen are annually chosen in each town, who are entrusted with its general concerns. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxiv. II. 468 *note*, The 'selectmen' of a New England Town are not paid.

transf. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. (1859) 233 The select-men of an African kraal-village would have had more respect for their ancestors.

Selectness (sĭle·ktnĕs). [f. SELECT *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being select.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Selectness*, Chosenness, Choiceness. 1755 JOHNSON, *Selectness*, the state of being select. 1816 JEFFREY *Swift* Wks. (1853) 77/1 Goldsmith..had the harmony of Pope without his quaintness, and his selectness of diction without his coldness and eternal vivacity. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxix. (1893) 158 The Flat Hat Hunt had relapsed into its wonted quiet, or 'selectness' as its members called it, and Beggar-my-Neighbour Hill saw none but the regular attendants.

Selector (sĭle·ktəɹ). [f. SELECT *v.* + -OR.] One who or something which selects. **a.** *gen.*

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* cv. [civ.] II. 93 Like all inventors and selectors of their own systems, they have been hurried to excess. 1797 (*title*) The Selector. Being a new..collection of Visions, Tales [etc.]. 1809 HEBER in *Q. Rev.* II. 294 Given from Dr. King's work, with sundry comments by the ingenious selector. 1867 S. WILBERFORCE *Ess.* (1874) I. 67 Why should she [nature] become a selector of varieties? 1887 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 48/2 Here both parties were selectors or importers of cigars, not manufacturers.

b. *Austral.* = FREE-SELECTOR.

1875 *Melbourne Spect.* 18 June 704 A public meeting of non-resident selectors has been held at Rushworth. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xxvii. 242 She was the daughter of one of the selectors at Blue Gum Flats.

c. As a name for various appliances in metallurgy, telegraphy, motor-car machinery, etc.

1890 *Nature* 7 Aug. 357/1 A device [in a horsehair-cloth loom]..known as the selector..picks up one hair, and only one, to present to the jaws of the shuttle. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 15/2 The selector or operating mechanism is placed in the bottom of the gear-box; so that all the gears can be removed without disturbing any part of it. 1908 *Ibid.* 16 Nov. 14/2 A selector-gate change has been installed [in the motor-car].

Seledyne: see SELADYNE.

Selen- (se·lĕn), *prefix.*

1. *Min.* [After G. *selen* selenium.] In names of certain minerals containing or formerly supposed to contain selenium, as † **Se·lencu·prite** = BERZELLIANITE. † **Se·lenpa·lladite, -palla·dium** = ALLOPALLADIUM. † **Se·lensi·lver** = NAUMANNITE. † **Se·lensu·lphur**, a native compound of sulphur and selenium. **Se·lentellu·rium**, a native compound of selenium and tellurium.

1835 C. U. SHEPARD *Treat. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 177 Selencuprite. *Ibid.*, Selenpalladite. 1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 506 Selen-sulphur. 1857 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 327 Another seleniferous ore, from the Hartz, called selensilver. 1890 E. S. DANA & H. L. WELLS in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XL. 79 We propose to call it Selen-tellurium.

† **2.** *Chem.* [For *seleno-*, SELENIO-.] Formerly used (before a vowel or *h*) in names of certain compounds containing selenium. **Selena·ldine** [ALD(EHYDE) + -INE 5], a basic substance produced by the action of hydrogen selenide on ammonium aldehydate. **Selenethyl**, ethyl selenide. **Selenhydric** *a.* = *hydroselenic* (*acid*): see HYDRO-. **Selenhydrate** (see quot. 1858).

1848 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 6) II. III. 173 With seleniuretted hydrogen aldehyde-ammonia yields Selenaldine. 1853 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* VIII. 356 Selenide of Ethyl or Selenethyl. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Selenhydrate*, term by Berzelius for the combinations of hydric selenide with the metallic seleniurets which contain the radicals of alkalis and alkaline earths. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 218 Selenhydric Acid.

Selenate (se·lĭnĕt). *Chem.* Also **-iate**. [f. SELEN-IUM, after SELENIC *a.*] A salt of selenic acid.

1818 tr. *Berzelius* in *Ann. Philos.* XI. 293 The selenates of barytes and of lime are soluble in water. 1819 *Ibid.* XIII. 406 The acid obtained by the decomposition of the seleniate of tin. 1857 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 285 Selenate of lead. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 220 The seleniates closely resemble the sulphates. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. Theory* 139 The sulphate and selenate of silver.

Selenders (*pl.*). obs. form of SALI ENDER.

Selendine, -yne, obs. forms of CELANDINE.

Selenes, variant of SEELINESS.

Selenescope, obs. form of SELENOSCOPE.

Selenetic, obs. form of SELENITIC *a.*

Selenetted, var. *Selenietted* s. v. SELENIET *Obs.*

Selenian (sĭlī·mĭăn), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. σελήνη moon + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to the moon considered as a world.

1669 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 84 There are yet abundant laurels to be won in the Selenian games. 1864 *Intell. Observer* V. 525 They will have a right ..for regarding creation, the earth included, as especially made for the Selenian race. 1866 *Ibid.* IX. 136 Numerous tracts of selenian scenery.

Selenic (sĭle·nik), *a.*1 *rare.* [Formed as prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or derived from the moon.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 132 Selenic, Selenigenous, or simply mechanical source of motion. 1849 OTTÉ tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* I. Index s.v. *Chladni*, On the selenic origin of aërolites.

Selenic (sĭle·nik), *a.*2 *Chem.* [f. SELEN-IUM + -IC.] *Selenic acid*, an acid formed when selenium is oxidized by fusion with nitre.

1818 tr. *Berzelius* in *Ann. Philos.* XI. 293 The selenic acid is soluble in water and in alcohol. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 220 Selenic acid (SeO_3) is not known in the anhydrous state.

Selenide (se·lĭnəid). *Chem.* Also **-id**. [f. SELEN-IUM + -IDE.] A combination of selenium with an electro-positive element or with a radical.

1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 62 Selenide of hydrogen gas (prepared from the selenide of iron or potassium by decomposition with an acid, as in the sulphide of hydrogen). 1857 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 280 Clausthalite, or selenid of lead. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 212 Insoluble selenides are thus produced.

† **Sele·niet.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. SELENI-UM + *-et* as in *sulphuret.*] = SELENIURET. So † **Selenietted** (also **selenetted**) *a. Obs. rare.* = SELENIURETTED.

1831 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 7) I. 293 Selenium combines with hydrogen, and forms a gaseous substance, which has been distinguished by the name of selenietted hydrogen gas. *Ibid.* 597 This precipitate is probably a seleniet of copper. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 42 Clausthalite..Seleniet of Lead. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 13 Sulphuretted, selenietted, and telluretted hydrogen. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 220 Hydroselenic acid, or selenietted hydrogen (HSe).

Seleniferous (sĕlĭnĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. SELENI-UM + -FEROUS.] Containing or yielding selenium.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 219 Seleniferous Iron Pyrites. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 219 To extract selenium from the seleniferous deposit of the vitriol works.

Seleni·genous, *a. rare*−1. [f. Gr. σελήνη moon + -GENOUS.] Produced by the moon.

1816 [see SELENIC *a.*1].

Sele·nio-. *Chem.* Also **seleno-**. Used as a combining form of SELENIUM.

1832 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 249 Seleniocyanogen..was discovered by Berzelius. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 370 Seleniocyanuret of Potassium. [1848 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) I. 602 Seleniocyanide.] 1853 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.*

VIII. 122 Selenocyanide of lead. *Ibid.*, Selenocyanide of Ammonium. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 219 Seleniocyanates. *Ibid.*, Seleniocyanic Acid.

Selenious (sĭlī·niəs), *a. Chem.* [f. SELEN-IUM: see -OUS *suffix* c.] *Selenious acid*, a dibasic acid H_2SeO_3, forming salts called *selenites*.

1834 E. TURNER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 5) 326 Selenious acid. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 144 Selenium dioxide is..capable of dissolving in water, and thus forming selenious acid.

Seleniscope, obs. form of SELENOSCOPE.

Selenite[1] (se·lĭnəit). *Min.* and *Chem.* Forms: 6 silenite, (7 silonite), 7– selenite. [ad. L. *selēnītēs* SELENITES.]

1. A stone described by ancient writers; apparently to be identified with the mineral now so called (see 2), though the accounts of its properties are inconsistent and partly fabulous. (In the 17–18th c. often identified with stones described by travellers or existing in collections.)

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 19 Silinite the Stone is seene in Persia in colour like to the jasper, or like to a fresh and flourishing greene herb. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moone* 321 That stone [*side-note* the Selenite of σελήνη] that doth the name derive From me, with me that lesseneth or doth thrive. 1623 COCKERAM III, *Selenite*, a stone wherein is a white, that decreaseth and encreaseth as the Moon groweth. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. vi. 17 Some pretious Stones are Natural Moon-Dials; the Selenite, which Pope Clement the VIII..had among his Rarities [etc.]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 41/2 The Silonite..is a stone in Persia. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2) s. v., There are some of these selenites preserved in the palace of Peking, valued at an incredible rate. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 358 Selenite is supposed to give the faculty of prediction, and to reconcile lovers.

2. *Min.* Sulphate of lime (gypsum) in a crystalline or foliated form. Also, a slip or film of this mineral used for the polarization of light.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iii. § 2. 62 Selenite, Muscovia glass, Isinglass, Sparr, Talc. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1701) 119 Those rhomboideal selenites found near St. Ives. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. ii. 219 Hence silvery Selenite her chrystal moulds And soft Asbestus smooths his silky folds. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 334 There is another kind of marble made of the flaky selenite. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XXXVI, I had recognised the sparkling scales of the selenite. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 139 Used in combination with a superposed film of selenite or not as required.

attrib. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 367 (*head-line*) Colours exhibited by selenite analyzing plate. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 116 In the case of nosean very few or no selenite crystals are formed.

† b. *Chem.* Sulphate of lime, without regard to structure. *Obs.*

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 94 Many waters are charged with selenite; as those of Pyrmont..and others. 1776 WOULFE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 617 The acid of vitriol forsakes its alkaly to unite, and form a selenite with the calcareous earth. 1816 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1818) 293 Thus sulphate of lime, or selenite, may be precipitated by alcohol from water which contains this salt. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 334 Water may be found naturally free from fixable gas, selenite, or clay.

Selenite[2]. [f. Gr. σεληνίτης (*pl.* Σεληνῖται men in the moon), f. σελήνη moon.] A supposed inhabitant of the moon.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) III. ix. 18 The sphear of the Moon is peepied with Selenites or Lunary men. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 268 Leaving the new Baronets to search for land amongst the Selenits in the Moon, or turn Knights of the Sun. 1864 T. W. WEBB in *Intell. Observer* V. 200 Gruithuisen fancied that certain rows of hillocks might contain the habitations of Selenites!

Selenite[3] (se·lĭnəit). *Chem.* [f. SELEN-IUM + -ITE.] A salt of selenious acid.

1831 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 7) I. 290 The analyses of two selenites given by Berzelius. *Ibid.* II. 44 The selenites (as the salts which it forms are called). 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 258 Seleniates and selenites give the characteristic odour of selenium. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 145 Selenic Acid is best prepared by fusing a selenite with nitre.

‖ Selenites (selĭnəi·tīz). *Obs.* In 4–5 **silenites.** Also 7 **selenitis.** [L. *selēnītēs* (also *selēnītis*) = Gr. σεληνίτης λίθος (*lit.* 'moonstone'; so called because it was supposed to wax and wane with the moon), f. σελήνη moon: see -ITE.]

1. = SELENITE[1] 1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xci. (1495) 584 Silenites is a stone of Perse grene as grasse and shineth with a white specke and this stone foloweth the mone and wexyth and waneth as the mone dooth. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVII. x. II. 629 Selenites is a precious stone, white and transparent. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXI. v. 843. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2), *Selenites*, among the ancient naturalists, denotes a white, or transparent figured stone; thus called from its representing the moon as in a glass..Some give the same appellation to Muscovy-talc, from an opinion, that its brightness increases and diminishes with the moon.

2 *Min.* = SELENITE[1] 2.

1681 GREW *Museum* III. § I. v. 309 A lump of the Talk-rock near Spiral..consisteth of broken pieces, like those of the Selenites. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 172 A Body, that has the shape and appearance of a Diamond, may prove, upon Examination, to be nothing but Crystal, or Selenitis [(1713) Selenites]. *a* 1728 — *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 73 A pretty large Piece of a Selenites. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., *Selenites*,..the name of a large class of fossils. *Ibid.*, Of this class there are seven orders..The *selenitæ* of the first order are those composed of horizontal plates, and approaching to a rhomboidal form. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 308/2 Quarries of Heddington yield fine selenitæ.

Selenitic (selĭni·tik), *a.*[1] Also 8 **seleniti·cal.** [f. SELENITE[1] + -IC. Cf. F. *sélénitique*.] Of, pertaining to, resembling or containing selenite. † Of water: Impregnated with sulphate of lime (cf. SELENITE[1] 2 b).

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 51 The Stalactite seems to be but a meer sparry, or selenetic matter. 1794 SCHMEISSER *Syst. Min.* I. 243 Selenitic-Spar. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygeia* VI. 66 Hard selenitic and calcareous waters. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* ii. § 1. 78 A remarkably fine group of selenitic crystals. 1889 CUNDILL *Dict. Explosives* 61 Selenitic Powder is a mixture of nitroglycerine with plaster of Paris.

Seleni·tic, *a.*[2] *rare.* [f. Gr. σεληνίτης, SELENITE[2] + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the moon; also (*nonce-use*) said of a flower which opens when the moon shines.

1863 R. F. BURTON *Abeokuta* I. 39 A large white flower, said to be selenitic, and opening only to the moon. 1882 OGILVIE, *Selenitic*, pertaining to the moon.

† **Seleni·tical,** *a. Obs.* [f. SELENITE[1] + -ICAL.] Resembling, containing, or composed of selenite.

1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 156 Their shells break with a selenitical appearance. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 113 Some few crystal-gypsum or selenitical nodules.

Selenitiferous (selĭnitĭ·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. SELENITE *sb.*[1] + -FEROUS.] Containing selenite.

1891 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Selenitish, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. SELENITE *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Selenitic or somewhat selenitic.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 305 If the waters be selenitish, it would be a reason for adding a little alkali.

† **Selenitous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SELENITE *sb.*[1] + -OUS.] = SELENITIC *a.*[1]

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 319 A strongly impregnated selenitous water.

Selenium (sĭlī·niŭm). *Chem.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σελήν-η moon: see -IUM. Cf. G. *selen*.

Named in 1818 by Berzelius, the discoverer (*Journal für Chemie u. Physik* XXIII. 316), who explains that the name was chosen to indicate the resemblance of the properties of the new element to those of tellurium.]

One of the rarer elements, closely resembling tellurium in properties, and, like that element, formerly classed among the metals, but now regarded as non-metallic. Symbol Se; atomic weight 79.

Like sulphur, to which it is in many respects analogous, it has several allotropic forms; one of these, still sometimes known as *metallic selenium*, is a dark grey or black solid with metallic lustre.

An important property of selenium is that its electrical resistance is greatly increased by exposure to light: hence its use in the photophone or radiophone of A. Graham Bell.

1818 tr. *Berzelius* in *Ann. Philos.* XI. 292 The analogy of tellurium has induced me to give it the name of selenium. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 464 Phosphuret of Selenium. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 62 Selenium when distilled is of a reddish-brown colour, when reduced to powder it is red; when fused in a mass, it is of a lead grey colour and metallic lustre. 1881 A. G. BELL *Sound by Radiant Energy* 23 But the selenium was very inconstant in its action.

b. *attrib.* as *selenium cell*; **selenium eye** (see quot. 1893).

1880 A. G. BELL in *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Oct. 243 The resistance of selenium cells employed by former experimenters was measured in millions of ohms. 1893 SLOANE *Stand. Electr. Dict.*, *Selenium eye*, a model eye in which selenium in circuit with a battery and galvanometer takes the place of the retina of the human eye.

Seleniuret (sĭlī·niŭret). *Chem.* Now *rare.* Also † **selenuret.** [f. SELENI-UM + -URET.] A compound of selenium with hydrogen or a metal: now usually SELENIDE.

1818 tr. *Berzelius* in *Ann. Philos.* XI. 292 The seleniuret of potassium di-solves in water without evolving any gas. *Ibid.* 293 The selenurets of barytes and of lime are also red. 1822 CLEAVELAND *Min. & Geol.* (ed. 2) II. 539 Cupreous Seleniuret of Silver. Eukairite. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 294 Seleniuret of silver and copper. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* App. 60 Seleniurets of arsenic, antimony, lead, and other metals.

Seleniuretted (sĭlī·niŭretĕd), *a. Chem.* Now *rare.* Also † **selenuret(t)ed.** [Formed as prec. + -ED[1].] Combined with selenium. *Seleniuretted hydrogen*: a gaseous compound of hydrogen and selenium, SeH_2, formerly also called *hydroselenic* or *selenhydric acid*, and now *hydrogen selenide*.

1818 tr. *Berzelius* in *Ann. Philos.* XI. 292 If we pour diluted muriatic acid upon the seleniuret of potassium, a seleniuretted hydrogen gas is disengaged. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 502 Seleniureted hydrogen may be recognized by its odour. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 530.

Seleno- *Chem.*: see SELENIO-.

Selenocentric (sĭlĭnŏse·ntrik), *a.* [f. Gr. σελήνη moon + CENTRIC *a.*] Having relation to the centre of the moon or to the moon as a centre; as seen or estimated from the centre of the moon.

1852 HIND *Astron. Vocab.* 52. 1867–76 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 920.

Selenod. [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon.] See OD[2] b.

Selenodont (sĭlī·nodŏnt), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + ὀδοντ- tooth.] **a.** *adj.* Of molar teeth: Having crescentic ridges on the crowns. Also, having such teeth, of or pertaining to the *Selenodonta*. **b.** *sb.* A selenodont animal.

1883 FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 429/2 The grinding surfaces of the molar teeth either of a distinctly tuberculer (bunodont) or of a crescentic (selenodont) form. *Ibid.* 430/1 The Selenodont Artiodactyles. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Introd. Mammals* 294 These features being unknown in any other Selenodonts.

Selenograph (sĭlī·nogrɑf). [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + -GRAPH.] A photograph of a part of the surface of the moon.

1868 J. PHILLIPS in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XVI. 232 With this excellent arrangement I was enabled to use photography very successfully, and to obtain selenographs 2 inches across in 5[s] of time.

Selenographer (selĭnǫ·grăfəɹ). [f. SELENOGRAPH-Y + -ER[1].] One engaged in selenography.

1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 32 [He] represents the ansulae of Saturn, differently from what Fontana and the Dantiscan Selenographers do write. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Aug. 1655, He [Oughtred] believ'd the sunn to be a material fire, the moone a continent, as appears by the late Selenographers. 1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 122 The..selenographer Hevelius. 1881 PROCTOR *Poetry of Astron.* iv. 176 The astronomer Schmidt, a selenographer of selenographers.

Selenographic (sĭlī̆nogræ·fik), *a.* [f. SELENOGRAPH-Y + -IC.] Belonging to selenography.

1675 SHERBURNE tr. *Manilius* Pref. 3 Of the Moon and of her Spots, whereunto we have added the Selenographick Schemes of Hevelius and Grimaldi. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 663, 1647 the first Selenographick maps made by Hevelius. 1874 tr. *Jules Verne's Fur Country* (1881) 18 Results so interesting for selenographic science.

Selenogra·phical, *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ICAL.] = SELENOGRAPHIC.

1669 FLAMSTEED in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1107 Over what Spots of the Moon, the seeming way of the Star would pass, I do not here shew, because I dare not rely on our Selenographical Tables. 1876 NEISON *Moon* Pref. 9 In the final chapter a complete series of selenographical formulæ is given.

Seleno·graphist. [f. SELENOGRAPH-Y + -IST.] A selenographer. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Selenography (selĭnǫ·grăfi). [ad. mod.L. *selēnographia* (Bacon *Nov. Org.* II. xxxix), f. Gr. σελήνη moon: see -GRAPHY.] **a.** A description of the moon's surface. **b.** The description and delineation of the moon's surface; the descriptive science relating to the moon, 'lunar geography'.

a. 1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xiv. (ed. 2) 288 The learned Hevelius in his accurate Selenography, or description of the Moon. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. R. Soc.* 315 He has essay'd to make a true Selenography by measure. 1696 WALLIS *Acc. own Life* in *R. Brunne's Chron.* (1810) p. clxiii, We there discoursed of..the Inequalities and Selenography of the Moon, the several Phases of Venus and Mercury [etc.].

b. 1784 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 490 Some men have.. carried selenography to so great perfection, as to give us a complete map of the moon. 1852 HIND *Astron. Vocab.* 52 *Selenography*, the description and delineation of the surface of the moon. 1876 NEISON *Moon* Pref. 5 This work was undertaken with the view of promoting the study of Selenography.

Selenology (selĭnǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + -OLOGY.] The science relating to the moon; chiefly, the science of the movements and astronomical relations of the moon (or, occasionally, the science of the formation of the moon's crust, lunar 'geology'), in contradistinction to *selenography*. Hence **Selenolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to selenology; so **Selenolo·gically** *adv.*; **Seleno·logist,** one versed in selenology.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 85 The Welshmen are correct in their Selenology, except as to colour. 1860 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. *Let. to Cairns* (1861) 242 Mathematics, astronomy, and especially what may be called selenology, or the doctrine of the moon,..he knew more or less thoroughly. 1865 T. W. WEBB in *Intell. Observer* VIII. 374 We may distinguish, then, three clearly marked selenological epochs. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 166 Observations of the geologically or rather selenologically recent formations. 1881 W. R. BIRT in *Observatory* Feb. 48 Before we can obtain a clear insight into the operation of selenological forces we need a greatly extended topography of the moon's surface. 1890 *Nature* 2 Jan. 197/2 Neither is he the only selenologist who thinks that these crater-rings consist more or less of frozen water.

Selenoscope (sĭlī̆nŏskōəp). *rare.* Also 7 *erron.* seleniscope. [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + -SCOPE.] An instrument for observing the moon.

1652 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 70 The Seleniscope, which discovereth mountains in the Moon, divers Stars, and new Planets, never seen till our days. *Ibid.* 101 They are found by the Seleniscope [sic] to increase and decrease as the Moon doth. 1660 R. H. *New Atlantis* II. 68 He next showed me a selenoscope to view the Moon. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 June 1653, Mr. Henshaw..presented me with a seleniscope. 1876 *Catal. Sci. Apparatus S. Kensington Mus.* 71 *Seleniscope*, to demonstrate the kinematic effects of the three hypotheses of the moon's motion.

Selenotopography. *rare.* [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + TOPOGRAPHY.] The topography of the moon. Hence **Selenotopogra·phic, -ical** *adjs.*

1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 235 According to my Selenotopographical Observations. *Ibid.* 337 Referring to my Selenotopographic Fragments for the proofs I there adduced of the real existence of a lunar atmosphere. 1795 *Ibid.* LXXXV. 147 *note*, I contrived it for my purpose of a selenotopography, and constructed it myself. 1864 T. W. WEBB in *Intell. Observer* V. 194 Schröter introduced the use of the letters of the Roman and Greek alphabets for the minor details of his 'selenotopographical' plates.

Selenotropic (sĭlĭnŏtrǫ·pik), *a. Bot.* Also **seleno-, selenio-.** [f. Gr. σελήν-η moon + -τροπος turning + -IC, after F. *sélénotropique* (sic: Ch. Musset, 1883).] Bending or turning under the influence of moonlight. So **Selenotropism** (Musset *sélénotropisme*), **Seleno·tropy.**

1883 *Nature* 15 Mar. 476/2 Selenotropism of plants, by M.

Musset. 1883 *Times* 27 Mar. 3/4 Such movements of plants in moonlight M. Musset proposes to call selenetropic. [1883 *Sci. Amer.* 27 Oct. 263/3 Selenotropic.] 1883 *Nat. Educ.* XXIV. No. 6. 6 The branches almost immediately became curved toward the moon...The author [C. Musset] applies the name selenotropy to these motions. 1884 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XX. 64 The stalks at once grew seleniotropic, that is, they turned towards and followed the moonlight.

Selenuret(t)ed, obs. forms of SELENIURETTED.

Selenyl (se·lĭnil). *Chem.* [f. SELEN-IUM + -YL.] A compound radical consisting of one atom of selenium and one of oxygen.

1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 602/2.

Seler, obs. var. CELURE, SALER, SELLER 2, SOLER; obs. f. CELLAR, SEALER *sb.*1

Selerer, obs. form of CELLARER.

Seleri, obs. form of CELERY.

1695 RAY in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 635 The Root of Seleri, or Sweet Smallage. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Pref. 3.

Selerite, -itie, Selestial, obs. ff. CELERITY, CELESTIAL. **Selette,** obs. form of SELLETTE.

Seleucian (sĭlīū·sĭăn), *a. rare.* [f. *Seleuc-us*: see SELEUCID *a.* + -IAN.] = SELEUCID *a.*

1715 PRIDEAUX *Conn. O. & N. T.* I. VIII. (1718) 450 Which can be understood only of the Seleucian, or new Babylon, and not of the old. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 42 Dated in the Seleucian and Arsacean eras (113–93 B.C.).

Seleucid (sĭlīū·sid), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *Seleucid-ēs*, Gr. Σελευκίδης descendant of Seleucus, f. Σέλευκος: see below.] **a.** *sb.* One of the Seleucidæ, or members of the dynasty founded by Seleucus Nicator (one of the generals of Alexander the Great) which reigned over Syria from 312 to 65 B.C., and subjected a great part of Western Asia. **b.** *adj.* Pertaining to the Seleucidæ.

1851 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* v. (1868) I. 133 'Seleucia by the Sea' was a place of great importance under the Seleucids and the Ptolemies. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xix. 254 Smyrna was struggling to maintain its freedom against the Seleucid power.

So **Seleucidan, -ean, -ian, -ic** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the Seleucidæ; Seleucid.

Seleucidan, etc. *era*, an era usually reckoned as dating from 1st Sept. 312 B.C., formerly widely used in the East, and still used by Syrian Christians.

1803 [GOUGH] *Coins of Seleucidæ* Pref. 15 The Seleucidan Æra. 1849 *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Biog.* III. 776/1 The later Seleucidan kings. 1849 OTTÉ tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* II. 536 The traffic carried on in the Seleucidean kingdom was besides more an inland one. 1853 HORNER tr. *Lepsius' Lett. fr. Egypt*, etc., *Chronol.* 455 The Seleucidic Era. 1888–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 752 The Christians of the East continued to use the Seleucidian era.

Self (self), *pron., a.*, and *sb.* Forms: 1– self; 1–4 silf, 1–3 sylf, seolf, (2 solf, suelf), 2–3 sulf, 5–7 selfe, 6 silfe; 5–6 selph, (6 sealf, seylffe, sill); 1 selfa, silfa, etc., 2 seolve, silve, 2–5 selve, 3 sulfe, sulve; 2–5 (*orig. oblique cases*) selven, (4 selvin, selfine, selwyn), 9 *dial.* sen, 6– *Sc.* sell. *Plural*: 1 selfe, silfe, etc., *wk.* selfan, etc., 2–5 selven, selve, (2 seolve), 5–6 selfs, (6 selfis, selfes), 9 *dial.* sens, 6– selves. [Com. Teut.: OE. *self* str., *selfa* wk., corresponds to OFris. *self* str., *selva* wk., OS. *self* str., *selbo* wk. (MLG. *sulf, self, silf, solf*), Du. *self*, wk. *-selve, -selfde*, OHG. *selp* str., *selbo* wk. (MHG. *selp, selbe*, mod.G. *selb, selbe*), ON. only str. *sialf-r* (Icel. *sjálfr*, Sw. *sjelv*, Norw. *sjøl, sjølv*, Da. *selv*), Goth. *silba* wk.:—OTeut. **selbo-, selbon-*. The ultimate etymology is obscure; many scholars regard the word as a compound of the pronominal stem *se-* (in Goth. *s-ik*, G. *sich*; cf. L. *sē*).

In Goth. and Scandinavian the primary sense (=L. *ipse*) is the only one that exists; the sense of 'same', found in Eng. and the other WGer. langs., was developed from this in collocations where the notion of identity implied by a demonstrative was emphasized by the addition of *self* (thus the OE. *se selfa man þe* may be rendered either 'the *very* man who' or 'the *same* man who').]

A. *pronoun* and *pronominal adj.* In the sense of the L. *ipse*. In concord with a sb. or pron., to indicate emphatically that the reference is to the person or thing mentioned and not, or not merely, to some other.

1. With sb. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*; superseded by the use of the 'emphatic pronouns', *himself, herself, itself, themselves*, or, after a def. art. or demonstrative, by (*the, this, that*) *very*. † **a.** following the sb. (immediately or with interposed words).

In OE. the strong and the weak declension were both common in this use, and traces of the twofold inflexion remain even in early mod. Eng. From the 12th c. the uninflected form (prob. apprehended as adv.) was often used after a sb. in an oblique case.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 11 Nu is þam weorce þearf þæt se Crefiza cume and se Cyning sylfa and þonne gebete..hus under hrofe. *Ibid.* 134 Nu is rodera Weard, God sylfa mid us. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 320 þæt we æcearnl›n æt criste sylfum ece mede. *c* 1175 *Pater Noster* 234 in *Lamb. Hom.* 67 He fondede god self mid his wrenche. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 107 We mazen..habben us on ende þene eche wurðment a mid gode seoluan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Ase dude ure Louerd self, & alle his haluwen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 58 Enchan bi his euene, biforen Maxence seolf, wurðgede his maumez. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11985 And o lame o þaa lakes selue Wit handes made he sparus tuelue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 236 Þe bygynnyng of alle þis proces Ryght knawyng of a man self es. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 51 With all þe wele of þe worlde þay woned þer samen, þe most kyd knyȝtez vnder kryste seluen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* I. 202 Loue is leche of lyf and nexte owre lorde selue. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 365 By the auctorite I-yove to them of the pope self. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. Hen. VII*, Wks. (1876) 274 Tyl he came vnto the place selfe where he receyued the sacrament. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 473/2 Thys is the thing selfe that is in debate. 1541 WYATT *Declar. to Privy Council* Wks. (1816) 282 In searching Mason's papers, the minute thereof was found; and after.. the letter self came to his hands. 1548 GESTE *Agst. Priv. Masse* H iv b, Dyd not christ selue alwaye pray to hys father. 1566 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 208 We fynde the same confirmed by the parties self that were ther present. 1579 E. K. *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* June 18 *gloss.*, This is.. spoken of the Poete selfe.

b. Preceding the sb. (immediately or with interposed words). Now only *arch. rare.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. Introd. (1890) 26 Under þam sylium norðdæle middangeardes. *a* 1000 *Elene* 69 Þa wearð on slæpe sylfum ætywed þam casere, þær he on corðre swæf. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 746 (Jesus MS.) Ich graunti þat þu go to dome To-vore the sulve [*Cotton MS.* sulfe] Pope of Rome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22397 Þe self angels [*Gött.* þe seluen angelis] sal quake vnqueme for dute of him þat all sal deme. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 5 And when sche hef hir heued heyer sche perced[e] þe selue heuene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* V. (*Johannes*) 508 Quhen sancte Iohne..for selfe eld ves sa wery þat [etc.]. *c* 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 126 (Edin. MS.) Thai persauit..That he wes the selwyn Robert King. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 151 Oper elles opere hadde possessioun, in so moche þat þe self offrynges were reft fro þe autters under naked swerdes. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3837 Thurgh [Generides] shelde..He smote it in to the soket, That the Iren with the hawberk met Right ageyn the self brest. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 197 *Vere caritatis*. God ys the louer of very charite, and god is the selfe charyte. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 34/1 That the said copie of the said Recorde be taken, demed, and had for the self Recorde. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger Domus Edw. IV* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 61 Also they have oversyght for the Thesaurers partie in every office, bothe of the selfe stuffe, and the ministration, how it passith. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 b, In theyr olde age before y⁸ houre of deth, or in the selfe poynt of deth. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. XXV. (1880) I. 267 *Discretio* in latine..as it is communely used, it is nat only like to Modestie, but it is the selfe Modestie. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Man's Est.* x. (1580) 61 Christ hath hereby approved hymselfe the true anointed, the self Saviour, and verie Jesus. 1610 GWILLIM *Heraldry* I. VIII. (1660) 46 If a man do perform any praiseworthy Action the self deed will sufficiently commend him though he hold his peace. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Address of Thanks* XII, Even self K. T. that gart us ban, And eke that setting-dog his man. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow Papers* Ser. I. IX. *ad fin.*, I confess to a satisfaction in the self act of preaching.

† **c.** (?As adv.: cf. Ger. *selbst*.) Used, uninflected, before an article or poss. pron. *Obs. rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1806 Wulde he non senwe siðen eten Self his kinde mile ðat wune forgeten. *Ibid.* 2610 God haued swilc fair-hed him geuen, ðat self ðe fon it leten liuen.

† **2.** With pers. pronoun in the nominative. *Obs.*; *rare* after OE.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XVI. 104 Oft eac ȝebyreð ðonne se scrift onȝit ðæs costunga þe he him onðetteð ðæt he eac self bið mid ðæm ilcum ȝecostod. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke XXIV. 39 Ic sylf hit eom. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lxvii. 4 Doþ siðfæt ðæs..rihtne ðe he sylfa astah, þam [etc.]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 Ne michti hi alle hin acwelle ȝef he sylf nold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6096 In mining sal ye hald þis dai, Yee-self and your oxspring ai. *Ibid.* 2559 Þou wat child haue i self nan. *Ibid.* 19432 And siþen spak he o þair lagh, þat þai it cuth noght seluen knau. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* IV. XX, Self did I see a swain not long ago.

3. Following a pron. in oblique case. *Obs.* exc. in HIMSELF, HERSELF, THEMSELVES. **a.** *refl.*

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XXXIII. 220 Ðurh þa we forlætað ðone anwald ure selfra. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 Erest he scal hine seolfne wið sunnan lsteoran, and seoþðan his heorde. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 125 Bute þu neme riht of ðe seluen of ðe misdades þe þu mis-dest. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 108 He seið bi him suluen,..' Et factus sum sicut homo non audiens'. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 335 For of him self he toke his euen. *Ibid.* 16653 Wepe yee noght for me, Bot on yur children and on yow-self. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 172 But oo firstnesse of love shulde we have to us silf, and to oure fadir and oure modir. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 812 But atte laste..We fille acorded by vs seluen [*Camb. MS.* seluyn] two. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6322 He..louyt hym no lesse, en hym lefe seluyn. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7762 For to make the sylue strong. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* XI. (1885) 135 Wherby we bith lerned þat it shal not only be goode to owre prince, but also to vs self, that he be well indowed. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 24 Wilt thou, Seruius, stay thee selfe.

b. Emphasizing a non-reflexive pron.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. XI. § 5. 146 Þa sende Antigones hiene selfne [Neoptolemus] & his oþerne þegn Polipercon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Eower lond ic wulle frijsian and eow selfe mezhan and bi-werian. *c* 1205 LAY. 493 Mine þrafles i mire þeode me suluen þretiað. *a* 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* (Hausknecht) 550 þat he þe helpe in alle helve, Ase he wolde me selve. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* VIII. 7 How they discomfited greate Antiochus..: how they toke him self alyue.

† **c.** In agreement with a possessive genitive (expressed or implied by poss. pron.), the word may be rendered 'own'. Hence the use of the uninflected *self* in 16–17th c. for: Own, peculiar.

Beowulf 1215 Het ða hildeburh, at hæsfes ade hire selfre suna sweoloðe befæstan. 1526 *Wills of R. Pekc* 4 June, She wer fully agrede to for her sill parte, and they agreid to receyve for hir childes part. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 275 As he knoweth right well, who at his being here sawe her self visage. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 176 Colin clout I wene be his selfe boye. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXV, Let their sly witts unwares destruction gett Fall in self pitt, be caught in their own nett. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. XXXI. 153 b, He forbad the often attempting of warres agaynst ones self party or enemies. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 3 A thing which floated drawing neerer and neerer to the banke; but rather by the favourable working of the sea, then by any selfe industry. 1598 CHAPMAN *Hero & L.* IV. 185 What her hart Did greatest hold in her selfe greatest part. 1602 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 163 A people having many selfe fashions and strange kinds of behaviour differing from the rest. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* V. VIII. 70 His Fiend-like Queene; Who (as 'tis thought) by selfe and violent hands, Tooke off her life. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 158 They Gormandize at their selfe pleasures. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 316 He considered that many Towns in Picardy were under the self Forces of Spain.

† **4.** In OE. and ME., the nom. *self* in agreement with the subject of the sentence (sb. or pron.) was often preceded by the dative of a pronoun referring to the subject, used pleonastically (the so-called ethic dative); subsequently, *self* was often put in the dative, agreeing with the pers. pron. This use is now historically represented by certain uses of HIMSELF, HERSELF, THEMSELVES; some examples of *me self, thee self*, are given s.vv. MYSELF, THYSELF.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXI, Hi..weorþaþ him selfe to nauhte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Nis þas weorld nawiht ȝe hit iseoð eow seluen. *c* 1205 LAY. 3315 Vs selve we habbet cokes to quecchen to cuchene, vs sulue we habbet bermen & birles inowe. *Ibid.* 28484 Þa heo here seolf weore isunken in þe watere. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 45 And þe selue riȝt anon Ne schaltu to dai henne gon. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2810 We ous self buþ feynt & pal for hungre & for þerst. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 125 Pilat seide to hem, Tak ȝe him ȝou self, and do ȝe him on þe cross. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 20 Þey wente vp-on a walle..Both þe kynge & þe qwene hem selfen to-gedere.

† **5.** Used *absol.* as independent pronoun (= he himself, I myself, etc.). After OE. almost exclusively with pleonastic dative of pronoun, a use now represented by HIMSELF 3.

Beowulf 895 Þæt he bealhhordes brucan moste selfes dome. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1115 Eall þis maȝon him sylfe ȝeseon þonne. *c* 1205 LAY. 5246 Al þa kinges þus duden swa heom self demmeden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26738 Hast noght þi scrift on þiskin wis, Bot ilk-a sin be self þou schau. 1585 JAS. VI in *Holinshed's Hist. Scot.* (1587) 445/2 A thing hurtfull to none, profitable for selfis, acceptable to God, and vise in the sight of the varld. 1616 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. ii. Song *Wks.* I. 454 Selues [*ed.* 1607 Themselues], and others merry-making.

† **6.** Used indefinitely (= *oneself*) in a proverb.

1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. VIII. Wks. (1562) B iv b, For I did it my selfe: and selfe do, selfe haue. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 339.

7. In commercial use (hence *jocular* or *colloq.*) substituted for *myself*, or occas. for *himself*.

1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 P 21 Mr. H. and self agreed at parting to take a gentle ride. 1829 LAMB *Let. to Gillman* 30 Nov., He hath..served for self or substitute the greater parish offices. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* VI, I am, dear Sirs, for self and partners, Yours most faithfully, Samuel Jackson. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXVII, B wants a loan...B proposes self and two securities. B is accepted. Two securities give a bond. 1863 S. HIBBERD in *Intell. Observ.* IV. 267 Self and friend took train..for Leatherhead. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* IV. 88 With the exception of those payable to 'self', drawn at the bank counter, or paid to an authorised person for the use of the drawer. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 31 As both self and wife were fond of seeing life,..we decided a trip to Baden Baden would be a nice change for us. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 107 Faro ..much resembled the Self and Company still played by children. *Mod.* (*Cheque*) Pay self or order, Ten Pounds.

B. *adj.*

I. = SAME (and in derived senses).

† **1.** = SAME *a.* 1–3. **a.** Preceded by dem. pron. or definite article. *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. XXIII. (1890) 338 Þa wæs in þære seolian nihte, þætte [etc.]. *Ibid.* 340 Wæs in þæm seolfan mynstre sunu haligu nunne. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* CVII. 10 [CVIII. 11] Hwæt! þu eart se sylfa god, þe us synnige iu adrife fram dome. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5318 Tueye batnyles her after in þis sulfe ȝere Hii smite & at boþe þe heþene maystres were. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7396 (Kölbing) [They] helden hem a litel bi hest Vnder þe selue forest. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1997 Þay schulleþ haue þe selue dome. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 47 We by sechith, þt by the sadnesse of that selue byleue we be..defended of alle aduercetees. *c* 1420 *Lessons of Dirige* 183 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 123 He..fleeþ as shadow,.. Dwelleþ neuere in þe self stat of ouris. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3396 Ryht in the sylue wyse. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* XV. 51 I henne the proude pucelle..vnderstode ..that he was that self knyght that the kisse had taken of her. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. Prol. 31–2 The Son the self thing with the Fader is; The self substans the Haly Gaist, I wys. 1525 TINDALE *N. T.* Prol., That selfe good thynge. *c* 1530 — *Pathw. Script.* Wks. (1573) 378/1 In the Gene. iii. God sayth to the Serpent: I will put hatred betwen thee and the woman, betwen thy seede and her seede, that selfe sede shall treade thy head vnder foote. 1530 PALSGR. Epist. 7 Instructour to your noble grace in this selfe tong. 1540 BERRETON in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 206 The Satterday folowing I..arryved at Tryme, whiche selfe day Occhonor invading th'Englishe pale, burnte Kyldare. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Comm. Pr. & Sacram.* 249 b, To pray commonly is for a multitude to aske one & the selfe thyng with one voyce [etc.]. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 285 b, [He] was requited with the selfe trechery that he offered before. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. II. 123 He is your brother Lords, sensibly fed Of that selfe blood that first gaue life to you. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 118 Of this selfe opinion with

Plato, was a Spanish Gentleman; who [etc.]. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 379 Pluto sustaind no lesse By that selfe man, and by a shaft of equall bitternesse. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 387, I neuer saw any of that selfe Nation, to begge bread.

† b. With article omitted. *Obs.*; *rare* after OE.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 72 Wib swile genim gate tyrdlu on scearpum ecede ȝesoden & on selfe wisan on ȝedon. *c* 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* (*MS.* B) 563 On selue manere. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* 39 As he was troubled with the falling sicknesse, in his life time, in selfe manner it tooke him in his mounting vp to heauen.

† c. Combined for emphasis with the synonymous *ilk*, *same*. Also strengthened by *very* prefixed. *Obs.* Cf. SAME *a.* 4 and SELFSAME.

a 1300 *Signs bef. Judgem.* 96 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 10 No no tre in erþ so fast..þat ne sal adun to-berst þilk silue dai er hit be nigt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22948 O þat ilk seluin euen. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 61 þat ilk self ȝere. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 20934 The same sylue carpenter. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 95 Thou grauntt vs for to se The self body and the same the which that died on tre. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* ii. 1 For thou that iudgest doest euen the same silfe thynges. 1543 *Necessary Doctr.* L j b, This coniunction..is the very selfe thing, whiche is signified..by [etc.]. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 80 Two gentlemen, subiect to the selfe and same lawes.

† d. *One self*: one and the same. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. cviii. 135 a/2 He commaunded that in one selfe mesure & weighte all manere of marchaundyses sholde be solde. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss* I. Auth. Pref. 1 Albeit, that mortall folke are marueylously separated,..yet are they.. compact togyder by thistographier, as it were, the dedes of one selfe cyte. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) X iv b, And it maye be sayd, that Good and beautifull be after a sorte one selfe thing. 1598 FLORIO, *Germano*, a brother of one selfe father and mother. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. i. 39. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 131 They will not quite despaire, that one selfe man should be a lawyer and a Christian. 1624 QUARLES *Job Milit.* Med. xvii. N 3, Whirling like fire-balles in their restlesse spheares, At one selfe-instant mooving seuerall wayes. [1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. ii, Of one self-stock at first, Make them again one people —Norman, English; And English, Norman.]

† 2. *absol.* With def. art. (The) same person or thing. *Obs.*

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 322 Ne laʓa ðærto no ðine friend,..ne ðine welezan neahȝeburas, ðylæs hie ðe don dæt selfe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Metr. Lives Saints* IV. 352 Nelle þu leng beon hohful be þinre dohter eufrosinan so'lice ic earme eom sio sylfe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 84 He ..is that selve of whom men speke, Which wol noght bowe er that he breke. *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 776 in *Babees Bk.* 325 Ȝif þe baken mete be colde, as may byfalle, A gobet of þo self he sayes with-alle. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxi. A mantill..That furrit was with ermyn full quhite, Degoutit with the self In spottis blake. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hunting* e i b, And when he hath in the toppe .iii. of the selue Then ye shall call hym trochid an hert of .xij. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1905) VI. 76 Ane doublat with ane lang geit of the self.

3. Of a colour: The same throughout, uniform. (See also SELF-COLOUR.) Often prefixed to adjs. denoting colour (sometimes hyphened), as *self russet*, *self silver*. Cf. SELF-BLACK.

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. vii. II. 439 In a peece of selfe russet cloth (such as is made of blacke wooll as it came in the fleece from the sheepe). 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* May 71 A third [prize], to Mr. Sharp, for one [*sc.* seedling] named Purity, a self-white. 1898 *Ladies' Field* 6 Aug. 378/2 The chinchillas or self-silvers [i. e. cats]; the latter is undoubtedly the correct name...The self-silvers are a fine collection. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 12 July 3/2 The border carnation Miss Willmott,..a beautiful self brick-red flower of a quite distinct shade. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 May 2/1 Not in one self-tint, not spotted, but in tiny squares.

b. Of a carnation: Self-coloured.

1852 *Beck's Florist* 200 A stand of finely-grown Carnations ..was disqualified, owing to its having a self petal. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Mar. 4/3 A new variety of self carnation.

4. Of whiskey: Not blended.

1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 20 Aug. 5 In the market for self-whiskies there has been a pronounced want of activity.

II. Senses related to the pronominal use.

5. a. Of a portion of an instrument: Of one piece with the instrument itself.

1888 BELL *Later Age of Stone* 19 The second is a solid tool with a self-handle and is well able to make holes in wood.

b. Of a trimming: Of the same material as the garment itself.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 3 May 8/2 A new..crêpe that is being shown..is striped with its own material, and the stripe has a knot at frequent intervals which..makes, as it were, a self-trimming. *Ibid.* 5 May 8/3 Finished with self-ruffles edged with narrow lace.

6. Of a bow: Made all of one piece: in contradistinction to *backed*. Also in quasi-comb. (usually hyphened) *self-lance*, *self-yew*, applied *attrib.* to designate a self bow made of lance or yew (also with ellipsis of *bow*).

1801 T. ROBERTS *Eng. Bowman* 135 Back'd bows..were deemed so much preferable to self-bows, that [etc.]. *Ibid. note*, Yet many excellent archers give the preference to the self-yew-bow. 1840 G. A. HANSARD *Bk. Archery* 344 In selecting a bow, whether backed or self, the modern archer has little occasion to exercise critical acumen. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 40/2 (Archery.) Bows are called 'Self' if made of one piece of wood, and 'Backed' if made of two or more strips of wood glued together. Self-bows are generally made of yew or lance, though the term as applied to those made of the former wood is misleading, as they are almost invariably spliced at the handle. Self-yew is the dearest bow made, self-lance the cheapest.

† 7. *Mining*. Of a rock, etc.: Detached, of material different from its surroundings. *Obs.*

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Q 4, Many times a Vein will carry two Ribbs, and softness between them, and often self Lumps. 1824 MANDER *Derbysh. Miners' Gloss.* 60 A self rock or stone that often lies in the middle of a vein so as to cut or divide it into two branches. 1829 GLOVER *Hist. Derby* I. 49 Large stones, rounded by attrition, are called bolders; but if they retain the original shape and angles of the block, they are called self-stones. 1855 PHILLIPS *Geol.* Gloss., *Self-stone*, blocks of stone lying detached at, or not far below, the surface. A north of England term sometimes applied to solitary boulders='earth-fast'.

† 8. Own, peculiar. (See A. 3 c.) *Obs.*

C. *sb.*

I. From the pronoun.

[This use originated in early ME., when *mīn*, *þīn*, *his self* (see MYSELF, THYSELF, HIMSELF) began to be substituted for the two varieties of combinations of pers. pron. + *self* which were current in OE. (see A. 2–4).

The subst. use appears to have been developed chiefly from collocations in which the OE. masc. and neut. genitive *selfes* admitted of being taken as the genitive of a neuter sb. Thus in *his selfes*, *Godes selfes*, it was easy to interpret *selfes* as a sb. governing the preceding genitive, instead of as a pronominal adj. in concord with it. The same liability to change in the grammatical apprehension of the word existed also in the examples of the curious construction (shared by OE. with ON. and OHG.) by which a poss. pron. when followed by the genitive of *self* became assimilated in inflexion to that word, instead of retaining the form demanded by the syntax of the sentence: e. g. in *ic ontīne mīnes* (for *mīnne*) *selfes mōd*. (The same 'attraction' occurred in the fem., as in *mīnre selfre*, and in the plural, as *ūrra selfra*; but this has no bearing on the origin of *self* sb.)

Another influence which contributed to the development of the sb. was that of ME. *her self*, in which *her*, originally dative, was coincident in form with the genitive.

Although the subst. use of the pronoun thus appears to have originated in morphological processes, it came to supply a need of expression which has been felt and variously supplied in some other langs.; cf., e. g. Ger. *selbst* sb., which is an application of *selbst* adv. (earlier *selbes*, orig. the genitive of the pron.).]

1. (The pronominal notion expressed subst.) a. Preceded by a possessive pronoun, with which it forms a combination serving as a reflexive or an emphatic personal pronoun. Often qualified by an adj., either emphasizing, as *my own self*, *his very self*, or descriptive, as *your dear self*, *her sweet self*, *our two selves*, etc.

For examples of *my*, *thy*, *her*, *our*, *your self* (*selves*), see MYSELF, THYSELF, etc. The 16th c. use of *myself*, *thyself*, with a vb. in the 3rd person seems to belong more properly to the sb. than to the compound pron. (Cf. MYSELF 4.) For *his self*, *their selves*, see HIMSELF, THEMSELVES.

c 1205 [see MYSELF 1 β]. 12.. *Moral Ode* 15 (Egerton MS.) in *E. E. P.* (1862) 23 Ne beo þe leure þan þi [*oðer texts* þe] self þi mei ne þi mone [etc.]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* (Surtees) XXXV. 2 Þe un-rightwis saide with tunge hisse, þat in his self noght gilt in isse. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (verse) 577 Oure awn self we sal deny, And folow oure lord god al-myghty. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 As moche þonke I kan you for þat ȝe dydden to þe lest of myn, as ȝe hadden don hit to myn owne selfe. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 638 Gif thow will not selk him, my awin self sall. *c* 1530 TINDALE *Pathw. Script.* Wks. (1573) 381/2 As a stone cast vp into the ayre commeth downe naturally of his owne selfe with all the violence and swyng of his owne wayght. 1587 W. GIFFORD in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 143 Premised commendations to your good self & to the bulchen my cousin. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* x. 78 Give me but ten days' respite, and I will reply, Which or to whom myself affectionates. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 39 And eeke that angry foole..did with his smarting toole Oft whip her dainty selfe. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 96 But for my single selfe, I had as liefe not be, as [etc.]. 1651 STANHOPE in *Prestwich's Poems* To Author, But why translate, gild, batch, why not appear Thy solid self. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 46 There are some men..that would see the whole World in Flames without any concern, were but their own little selves secure from the Ruin. 1732 MANDEVILLE *Eng. Orig. Hon.* 39 There is nothing which he has so constantly before his eyes as his own dear self. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIX. i. § 19 He lies now dead, as perishing by his own self. 1745 *Life Bamfylde-Moore Carew* 64 Entertaining them in a most florid Manner with the sovereign Virtues of his Pills, Plaisters, and Self. 1749 C. WESLEY *Hymns*, '*And have I measur'd*' xii, Till He his glorious Self reveals, The Veil is on my Heart. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, We'll gang quietly about our job our twa sells, and naebody the wiser for't. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. ciii, Their hideous wives, their horrid selves and dresses. 1846 TENNYSON *Literary Squabbles* iii, Who..strain to make an inch of room For their sweet selves. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 233 If the discussion were confined to your two selves. 1884 C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 375/2 The installment of our twelve selves in these..carriages.

b. Preceded by a sb. in the possessive, with which it forms a combination having the sense now expressed by the sb. + *himself*, *herself*, *itself*, etc., and formerly by the sb. + *self* in concord with it.

Self may be qualified by an adj. as in 1 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12048 A tregetur i hope he be, Or elles godds self [*later MSS.* god him self] es he. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 Deliuerit to the Qwenis selue be Andro Balfour. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 490 His Grace..liketh both thordre therof, and the thinges self, exceedingly wel. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 141 For that thei abused the kynges selfes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 46 Ne shall the Saxons selves all peaceably Enioy the crowne. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, Purgation (*Purgatio*) is a cleering of a mans selfe from a crime, whereof he is probably and publiquely suspected. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 375 And Wisdoms self Oft seeks to sweet retired Solitude. 1667 — *P. L.* IX. 388 She..like a Wood-nymph..of Delia's Traine, Betook her to the Groves, but Delia's self In gate surpass'd. 1704 POPE *Winnsor For.* 223 Not Neptune's self from all her streams receives A wealthier tribute than to thine he gives. 1785 BURNS *Epist. to J. L—k* 1 Apr. viii, Yet crooning to a body's sel, Does weel enough. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* V. iv, 'Tis Edith's self!—her speechless woe, Her form, her looks, the secret show! 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 405 Though dark his brain It has, thou seest, an heavenly visitor That comfort brings when reason's self is gone. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. i, Nay, Sire, were it not better you, your Majesty's self, took the children? 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xvi, Elizabeth's self consecrated her solemnly. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xliv. 21 Not me That read the volume—no, but him, The man's vain self.

† c. *The self* = itself. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 6 Þe offrand of rightwisnes is a sorowful gast, punyschand þe self for synne. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) vii. 24 In Egipte er bot fewe castelles, for þe cuntree es strang ynogh of þe self. 1409 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IV. p. cciv, This endenture..purportis in the self and beris witnes that [etc.]. 1434 MISYN *Mending of Life* i. (1896) 107 For fayrnes soyne is lufyd, & qwhen it felis þe self lofyd, lightly it is chirischyd. 1475 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 418/1 The dowme..is false, and rottyn in the self, be cause it is gyffyn expresse in the contrare of the cursse of comone lawe. 1492 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 446/2 It is a doubt, whedre, the said V mark, be parcell of the Manor of Haveryng, or a somme by the self, and no parcell of the said Manor. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Pref. 119 Nocht for our toung is in the selfin scant. 1525 SAMPSON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 355 And as concerning the interception off the lettirs they esteme it. Sir, for a very grevos matir, as well for the deade off the selff, as the rumor that schuld aryse off the sam to the enemies. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 269 But this hye ioye and iubile of the spiryt..can not be expressed with tonge, as it is in the selfe, but the effect that it leueth behynde it sheweth..what it was. 1570 in *R. Bannatyne's Memor.* (1836) 56 Becaus I sie..my voce is not able to straicht the self vnto the earis of the multitud heir convenit, I wilbe content [etc.]. 1580 in *Sc. Bks. Discipl.* etc. (1621) 18 The whole Assembly of the Kirk.. declares the same pretended office [of bishop]..unlawfull in the selfe. 1605 *His Majesty's Sp.* etc. E 4, To so hatefull and vnheard of inuention there can be no greater enemy than the selfe. *c* 1614 MURE *Dido & Æn.* I. 470 The subtile air..In solide substance did the self congeale.

d. Sc. *The sell o' it*, itself. *The sell o' ye*, yourself. ? *Obs.*

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVI, The College didna get gude £600 a-year out o' bishops' rents..nor yet a lease o' the Archbishoprick o' Glasgow the sell o't. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* ix, I ken nae friend..that's been sae like a father to him as the sell o' ye, neibor Deans.

e. In generalized sense.

1826 DISRAELI *Vin. Grey* I. ix, Self is the only person whom we know anything about.

2. *transf.* in various uses, † *esp.* a person whom one loves as oneself or is a counterpart of oneself (*obs.* exc. in *other self*, *second self*: see SECOND *a.*).

1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* II. iv. 49 Welcome, my selfe of selfe. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 4 Heavens grant you a safe return. God keep thee my half self. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 115 But when the Babe breaks out into the Light, Soon as her little self is in her sight,..She feels a Mother's Bowels yearn within. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 133 The tender connexions of nature, which, as it were, multiply a man into many selfs for the safety of each dear particular of whom, his anxiety is greater than for his own. 1771 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 139 My dear heart and self and son Charles. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* xliv, We shall not die nor disappear, But, in these other selves ourselves succeed. 1858 STANLEY *Life Arnold* I. iii. 89 Our 'great self', the school.

3. Chiefly *Philos.* That which in a person is really and intrinsically *he* (in contradistinction to what is adventitious); the ego (often identified with the soul or mind as opposed to the body); a permanent subject of successive and varying states of consciousness.

a 1674 TRAHERNE *Poet. Wks.* (1903) 49 A secret self I had enclos'd within, That was not bounded with my clothes or skin. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 24 The noblest Digladiation is in the Theater of our selves. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. XXVII. § 9 Since consciousness always accompanies thinking, and 'tis that, that makes every one be, what he calls self. *Ibid.* § 17 Self is that conscious thinking thing, whatever Substance, made up of Spiritual, or Material, Simple, or Compounded, it matters not, which is sensible, or conscious of Pleasure and Pain,..and so is concern'd for it self, as far as that consciousness extends. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & P.* iii. Wks. 1871 I. 329, I, one and the same self, perceive both colours and sounds. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. iii. § 20 (1875) 65 If, then, the object perceived is self, what is the subject that perceives? or if it is the true self which thinks, what other self can it be that is thought of? 1865 J. H. NEWMAN *Dream Ger. 5th Choir, Praise to the Holiest*, God's Presence and His very Self And Essence all-divine. 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 207 Reid seems to have imagined that if I myself am only a series of feelings, the proposition that I have any fellow-creatures, or that there are any selves except mine, is but words without a meaning. 1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* i. (1867) 8 But these selves of ours do belong to Nature. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* lv, In reality the busy little creature within me, whom we call self, was digging pits for comfort to flow in, of any kind, in any form. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iv. 184 But Self does not come and go; it abides. Self, therefore, is not a phenomenon, nor yet a bundle of phenomena. 1879 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 267 Insanity has been already defined as defect or disorder of the process of adjustment of self to circumstances. *Ibid.* 288 So long as the 'self' is not implicated in what is done by the body, the self is not responsible and cannot justly be punished. 1909 CHESTERTON *Orthodoxy* iii. 63 You cannot call up any wilder vision than a city in which men ask themselves if they have any selves.

4. a. What one is at a particular time or in a particular aspect or relation; one's nature, character, or (sometimes) physical constitution or appearance, considered as different at different times. Chiefly with qualifying adj., (*one's*) *old, former, later self.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 160 In vain he burns..And in himself his former self requires. *a* 1711 KEN *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 282 My duty of loving those best, which either in blood are nearest my natural self, or in grace nearest my Christian self. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. x. 66 If e'r, forgetful of my former Self, I toil to raise unnecessary Pelf. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1859) 211 How pleasant it would be, if in another state of being we could have shapes like our former selves for playthings. 1910 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Pages fr. Jrnl.* (ed. 2) 268 The self of two hours before seemed to confront him.

b. An assemblage of characteristics and dispositions which may be conceived as constituting one of various conflicting personalities within a human being. *Better self*: the better part of one's nature.

1595 SPENSER *Amoretti* xlv. 3 And in my selfe, my inward selfe I meane, Most liuely lyke behold your semblant trew. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark xii. 34 Every man may, yea, ought to love himself: not his sinful self, but his natural self: especially his spiritual self, the new nature in him. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* 170 In self despite, Against his better self. 1849 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Biog., J. Taylor* II. 389 So, indeed, resolved the Self inhabiting one of the phrenological hemispheres within me. But the resolution was ultimately reversed by the superior energy of the Self who reigned over the opposite hemisphere. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann Q. Neighb.* vii. (1878) 125 Whatever your lowest self, and not your best self may like. 1867 GOLDW. SMITH 3 *Eng. Statesmen* (1882) 45 Our nation..had to go through greater trials, and be thrown more upon its nobler self, before it could deserve victory. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* x. 116 Sonia di San Vico was asking herself whether this were love... For the first time in her life that other self of hers gave no satisfactory reply.

5. One's personal welfare and interests as an object of concern; chiefly in bad sense, selfish or self-interested motives, selfishness.

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 70 Self is the great Anti-Christ and Anti-God in the World. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 3 Were it not for this Influence of Self and a Bigotry to our own Tenets, we could hardly imagine that so many..wicked..Principles should pretend to support and defend themselves by the Gospel of Christ. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. iii, But self will still predominate. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 34 Love..Smote the chord of Self, that, trembling, passed in music out of sight. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* ii, One who had long since learned to have no self, and to live not only for her children, but in them. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* liv, She's better than I am—there's less o' self in her, and pride. 1870 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 67 This respect to self and its ultimate good pertains to the very nobility of man's nature. 1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xix, Self is their god and Selfishness their religion.

II. From the adjective.

6. A 'self-coloured' flower: esp. applied to carnations. (See B. 3 b.)

1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict., Self*, a flower with petals of only one colour. 1859 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 149 Some of her characters are too much what a florist would call 'selfs'—all one colour. 1892 *Garden* 27 Aug. 104/2 The majority of present-day kinds [of Carnations]—I allude chiefly to garden selfs—are..scentless.

7. A self bow. (See B. 6.)

1856 H. A. FORD *Archery* iii. 14 Ascham..mentions none other than selfs.

D. -self in compound pronouns. For the diverse grammatical character (partly adj., partly sb.) of this element in *myself, thyself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves, oneself,* and for illustration of the emphatic and the reflexive functions of these words, see the several articles. Certain phraseological uses common to the whole group in their capacity of reflexive pronouns may conveniently be noticed here.

1. *To be —self*: **a.** *colloq.* To be in (one's) normal condition of body or mind; to be in (its) accustomed state. Also *to feel like —self.*

For other examples see HIMSELF 3 b, MYSELF 4 b, THEMSELVES 2 b.

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 644 The chief justice was all himself. His spirits rose higher and higher as the work went on. 1884 *Daily News* 23 May 5/3 Mr. Grace was all himself [at cricket].

b. To act according to one's true character, without hypocrisy or constraint.

1864 [see MYSELF 4]. 1896 'M. FIELD' *Attila* I. 26 Only the courage seems impiety For just a girl to dare to be herself.

2. The refl. pron. assumes in certain contexts the sense: The normal condition (of the person or thing). So *to come to —self* (COME *v.* 45 h), *to bring, restore to —self. Out of —self* (? now *rare*), †*from —self, beside —self* (see BESIDE *prep.* 5 a): out of (one's) mind or senses, deranged.

a 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* iii. (1906) 6 And he was so sore afraied and aferde, that he ranne awaie as he had be oute of hym self. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xii. 43 She fell doune from her ain beere as a woman from her self and in a swone. 1659 D. HARRIS *Parival's Iron Age* 17 France being..restored to her self, as well by the help of forreigners, as of her Neighbours. 1727 SWIFT *Furth. Acc. E. Civil Misc.* 1732 III. 30, I never perceived he was out of himself, till that melancholy Day that he thought he was poison'd in a Glass of Sack. 1846 DIGBY *Broad Stone Hon.* II. *Tancredus* 301 A novice of the order of St. Francis being now almost out of himself, struggling with death cried out [etc.]. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xix. (1879) 192 But Tom, who seemed fairly out of himself, would not stir.

3. *By —self*: alone, without society; unaided; separately. See BY *prep.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXV. § 6 Ne mæg nan oðru ġeceaft be him selfum bion. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1714 Þe meke [beist] be þam ai tua and tua, Þe wild do be þam-self al-sua. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 222 Noght from his owene bed ten foot or twelue His doghter hadde a bed al by hir selue Right in the same chambre by and by. 1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 8 All the bemes that lyen by hemself. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xv. 564 Aryens this..is maad a book by him silf clepid the Book of Faith. 1573 *Treas. Hid. Secrets* xiii, This wise you may make Marmalade of wardens, peares, apples &c..everyone by himself. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 17 b, It is dailie seene that a man being by himselfe is fearefull, and being in companie, is couragious. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 221 The Kings sonne haue I landed by himselfe. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 12 P 3, I am mistaken if he ventures to go to Bed by himself this Twelve-month. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 308 Mr. C. dines all by himself at present, I merely looking on. 1889 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* (1891) 65 If Hogg in some lucky moment did really 'write it all by himself', as the children say.

Self-, the word SELF used as a prefix [OE. *self-, sylf-*, ? occas. insir. *selfe-*, corresp. to OS. *self-*, MLG. *sulf-*, MDu. *self-* (Du. *zelf-*), OHG., MHG. *selb-, selp-* (Ger. *selb-*), also genitive *selbs-*, later *selbst-*), ON. *sialf-* (MSw. *sialf-*, also genitive *sialfs-*, Sw. *sjelf-*, Norw. *sjølv-*, Da. *selv-*), Goth. *silba-*] with reflexive meaning = 'oneself', 'itself' in various relations with the second element of the compound.

The basis of compounds falling under headings 1 and 2 (below) is normally a reflexive verbal phrase; thus, from 'to accuse oneself' is formed a series of formally related words, *self-accusation, self-accusatory, self-accusing, self-accused,* any of which may arise independently of the others.

In OE. the number of recorded compounds is 13, of which half exhibit the prefix in the objective relation. The only survivals of the OE. compounds in ME. are SELF-WILL and its cognates; these, together with the plant-name SELF-HEAL (which may also have been common Germanic) are the only representatives in that period of the prefix-formation. *Self-* first appears as a living formative element about the middle of the 16th cent., probably to a great extent by imitation or reminiscence of Greek compounds in *αὐτο-*. The number of *self-*compounds was greatly augmented towards the middle of the 17th cent., when many new words appeared in theological and philosophical writing, some of which had apparently a restricted currency of about 50 years (e. g. 1645–1690), while a large proportion became established and have a continuous history down to the present time. The latter, with the compounds formally related to them, are for the most part treated in this Dictionary as Main words, together with all such as require specific definition. With regard to the remainder, since the prefix is of unlimited application, no attempt has been made to represent with fullness the extent to which it has been employed either in early or in recent times, and in the present article only a typical selection is given from the hundreds of compounds for which evidence is forthcoming.

In the Elizabethan period the imperfect union of *self-* with the second element of the compound appears to be evident from the occasional correlation of the prefix with an adj., as *strange and self-abuse* (Shaks.), *wilful and self-murder* (Foxe); cf. *self and vain conceit* (Shaks.).

1. Compounds in which *self-* is in the objective relation to the second element: **a.** with nouns of action; as *self-abandonment* = abandonment by oneself of oneself, one's power, position, rights, desires, ambitions, or the like.

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xvii, The..generous *self-abandonment with which the Master of Ravenswood renounced his feudal enmity. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 23 To descend into the lowest Abyss of *Self-abdication. *a* 1763 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* (1764) 21 The duties of self-denial, *self-abhorrence, fasting. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 176 Without..respect of any, In will peculiar, and in *selfe admission. 1806 BYRON *On a Distant view of Harrow* vi, Fired by loud plaudits and *self-adulation, I regarded myself as a Garrick revived. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Hum.* v. 205 To accomplish this *self-advancement. 1892 *Self-advertisement* [see SELF-CENTREDNESS]. 1849 MANNING *Serm.* XX. (1848) I. 305 Fasting, and *self-affliction. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 228 That the system of this prince is founded on views of *self-aggrandizement. 1716 POPE *Wks.* (1751) I. Pref. p. lv, The agreeable power of *self-amusement when a man is idle or alone. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. iv. § 53 (1875) 177 Careful *self-analysis shows this to be a datum of consciousness. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii, Such *self-anatomy shall teach the will Dangerous secrets. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 280 Nor weighs the solid worth of *self-applause. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcvi. XII. 518 This song is curious, as..affording a measure of their *self-appreciation. 1752 EARL ORRERY *Rem. Swift* ix. (1752) 73 With the smiles of *self-approbation upon her equals. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. C. J. Blomfield* II. viii. 173 Had he been given to self-approbation, [he] might have claimed no small part of the credit. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xix. 166 He began to feel Some *self-approval on his bosom steal. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 37 The *self-betrayal that runs through all his works. *a* 1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. IV. 52 Confusion, Terrour, Trembling, Shame, And fierce *Self-blame. 1845 MAURICE in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 615/2 To a first cause we necessarily attribute *self Causation. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 202 Vnlesse *selfe-charitie be sometimes a vice. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 21 p. 1 In reward for his *self-chastisements. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* xix, With the common *self cheatery of fear, she loved not to give her apprehensions voice. 1848 POE *Eureka* Wks. 1865 II. 131 The finest quality of Thought is its *self-cognizance. 1583 LYLY in T. Watson *Poems* (Arb.) 29 Your *selfe commendations. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* (1868) 156 His [*sc.* Dryden's] self-commendations. 1862 G. P. MARSH *Eng. Lang.* x. 161 A cautious desire of avoiding embarrassing *self-committals. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. ii. 55 Till that Bellona's Bridegroome..Confronted him with *selfe-comparisons, Point against Point. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Juv.* (1789) 104 A vain self-comparison with creatures. *a* 1711 KEN *Urania* Poet. Wks. IV. 471 She to *Self-conquest me dispos'd. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 255 Whenever it schemed or aimed at the animal *self-conservation, which now made its master-impulse. 1594 SOUTHWELL *Marie Magd. Funerall T.* 80 A submitted soul..the deeper it sinketh in a *self contempt [etc.]. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley* 96 Perish in thy self-contempt! 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. iv. (1712) 15, I conceive the intire Idea of a Spirit..to consist of..Self-penetration, Self-motion, *Self-contraction. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* v. 238 Repentance is an act of *Self-correction. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 8 The *self-criticism which prompted the suppression of the dedication. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 333 The palsy of will, the incapacity of *self-cure. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 86 Themselves must their own *Self-damnation rue. *a* 1711 — *Hymns Festiv.* ibid. I. 359 Of God offended, the sad Thought Deep *Self-debasement wrought. 1695 ROKEBY *Mem.* 15 Sept. (Surtees) 56 This covenant and *selfe-dedication was..renewed by me. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 147 Humility and *self-dejection. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. II. (1873) 503 *Self-depreciation is not humility. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Stage Illusion*, The imbecility, helplessness, and utter *self-desertion [of the coward]. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* I. 23 [Hairs] endow'd with a Power..of *self-Dilatation. 1663 POWER *Exper. Philos.* II. 102 To fill up the aerial interstices (which must needs be considerable in so great a *self-dilation). 1798 R. WATSON *Addr. People Gt. Brit.* 29 The physical strength of the bulk of a nation is irresistible, but it is incapable of *self-direction. 1880 J. CAIRD *Introd. Philos. Relig.* ix. 285 We cannot, if we would effect any such..forced *self diremption. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. II. § 1 The more Contradiction and *Self-disapprobation he must incur. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lvi, That *self-disapproval which had been the awakening of a new life within her. 1838 PUSEY *Let. to B. Harrison* 13 Aug., His careful *self-discipline is..calculated in this self-indulgent age to do much immediate good. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 191 Here you deny the power of *self-disclosure. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. i. § 1 Called Picti, from their *self-discoloration. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Freed. Wit* IV. § 1 An alternate Disquiet and *Self-dislike. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 475 Inward *self-disparagement. 1744 BIRCH *Life of Boyle* 41 Nothing but the forbiddenness of *self-dispatch hindered his acting it. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Jan. 6/2 Self-bedizenment is one of the forms of *self-display. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IV. 195 Beeing in full capacity of Understanding and *Self-disposall. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 475 There is a luxury in *self-dispraise. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 209 What more potent principe of *self-dissolution is there than Division? *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* V. (1622) 449 Till it..runne it selfe vpon the rockes of *selfe-diuision. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* vii. 177 The whole of this immense structure [a tree] originated in a single cell, which, by repeated acts of self-division ..has gradually built up the mass. 1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. i, He [*sc.* a poet] must employ his intellect, and his *self-education must be large and comprehensive. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* II. xvii. 435 The Impious *Self-elation of the Bishop of Rome. 1844 W. H. MILL *Serm. Tempt. Christ* V. 133 The grounds of self-elation..were..the revelations with which he had been favoured by God. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. viii. (1853) 60 He must have been a great stranger indeed to the Business of *Self-Employment. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* XV. 144 His *self Encomiums. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. I. ad fin., To have the chief Means and Power of *Self-Enjoyment. 1710 — *Advice to Author* I. § 2 Neither Lover, Author, Mystick, or Conjuror, ..can..be Initil'd to a Share in this *Self-entertainment. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* II. 19 And that the Power in Man is not brought into act, it is for want of *Self-excitation. 1884 *Leeds Merc.* 30 Apr. 4/6 Her *self-exclusion from that great movement. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* XXVII, All screening *self-excuse..forsook him. 1839 DR QUINCY *Wordsworth* Wks. 1862 II. 182 Read..of the *self-expatriation..as a measure of despair on the part of myriads. 1622 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 8 A thing perplex'd Beyond *selfe-explication. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 152 Why beats thy bosom with illustrious dreams Of *self-exposure, laudable, and great? 1892 *Nation* 7 Apr. 263/2 This doctrine of unbounded self-indulgence—or, as his [Walt Whitman's] admirers would prefer to call it, *self-expression. 1846 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. xiv, He had to listen..to her haughty *self-felicitations. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Brothers of Birchington* x, Oh, such a knout!! For his *self-flagellations. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* II. 82 Every Mans proper Mansion House and Home, being..the Seate of *Selfe fruition. 1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* III. xx. 169 It may..be..for themselves that they work, in a *self-gratification of their natural Zeal for their way. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 330 His egotism renders him parsimonious even in self gratification. 1634 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* XXXIX. A *selfe-humiliation. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I. That timorous debasement and self-humiliation of a woman. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* III. (1818) I. 308 The ready *self-immolation of Madame La Valette. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* 1854 174 The suttee, or self-immolation of widows upon the funeral pile. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. (1853) 100 Creation itself is sacrifice—the *self-impartation of the divine Being. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 411/2

The process of copulation..does more than stimulate each individual to *self-impregnation. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. I. 462 Honours in him no *Self-inflations raise. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Self-inflation*, a method of rendering one's self buoyant in water when in danger of drowning. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. II. § 1 Nor are the greatest Favourites of Fortune exempted from this Task of *Self-Inspection. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. vii. 195 That palpitating *self-interrogation. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. i. 44 That the reading of poetry..was clearly *self-intoxication. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, I am obliged to you..for breaking the ice at once, where circumstances ..rendered *self-introduction peculiarly awkward. 1853 C. BRONTE *Let.* in Gaskell *Life* (1857) II. 287 No charge of *self-laudation can touch her. 1656 OWEN *Mortif. Sin* xiv. (1668) 170 The rigidest Means of *self-maceration. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Char., Obstinate Man* (1908) 177 He will rather suffer *Self-Martyrdom than part with the least Scruple of his Freehold. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul but Jesus* 287 Terror and *self-mortification. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxvii. 213 The vilenesse of a wilfull *selfe-neglect. 1876 Miss YONGE *Womankind* xv, The hopeless dejection of self-neglect. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xl. (1674) 54 Vain-glorious pomp, and *self-ostentation. 1726 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* App. 327 The poignancy of the satire, and artfulness of *self-panegyric. 1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 217 They demonstrate still their Spirituality by *Self-Penetration, haply a thousand and a thousand times repeated. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiogr.* II. xii. 98 The strange *self-permission of a man like Walter Scott..to countenance the border-like forages of his friends. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* v. i, We may feel Comfort by our *Self-persuasion. 1876 G. HENSLOW in *Nature* 19 Oct. 544/1 The pistil recovers itself, and its growth is equal to or precedes that of the stamens, the result issuing in a synchronous maturity, and consequently *self-pollination. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May 614/1 Fortitude, endurance, *self-postponement. 1803 T. SCOTT *Funeral Serm.* iii. Wks. 1807 III. 111 Was he not tempted to *self-preference, and to trust in his own righteousness? 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 140 This bridge between *self-preparation and the university course. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* i. 8 This naïve veracity of *self-presentation. 1901 GORE *Body of Christ* iv. 219 The heavenly intercession and self-presentation of Christ. 1880 SANDAY in *Expositor* XI. 353 A certain *self-projection of the commentator into a different order of ideas. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* V. 101 In *self-protection he had been obliged to arm his household. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 194 The *selfe-punishment for others fault. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 67 Son! by self-punishment thy guilt atone. 1902 *Class. Rev.* XVI. 148/1 These are examples of coincident language, not of *self-quotation. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 101 The time had come for inwardness and *self-reconstruction. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. xxxiii, One spirit goes Through all this bulk, not by extension But by a totall *self-reduplication. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 271 In *self-reformation the vicious become wretched by their abstentions. *Ibid.* 5 In judging of men, acts form an incomparably higher standard than *self-representation. 1676 OWEN *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 379 *Self-reputation in the exercise of gifts. 1668—*Expos. 130th Ps.* iv. 120 Unspeakable are the Advantages which a soul obtains by this *self Resignation. 1824 JAS. NICHOLS *Calvinism & Armin.* I. 376 *note*, The British Constitution..contained within itself copious materials for *self-restoration. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xii. (1848) I. 169 In all these acts of *self-restriction. 1898 *Month* Sept. 237 To learn independence and *self-rule. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. I. 464 Frequent *self-scrutinies the Humble makes. 1840 DICKENS *Master Humphrey's Clock* I. 47, I..have no power of *self-snatchation (forgive me if I coin that phrase) from the yawning gulf before me. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 669 *Self-study and Heart-knowledge. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxvii, Patience, self-denial, *self-subdual. 1863 KAVANAGH *Q. Mab.* III. vi, They prefer self-indulgence to *self-subjection. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxvii. XI. 387 Spartan *self-suppression and rigour of life. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xliv, When she doth with *self-sway Thus change herself. 1841 MERIVALE *Lect. Colonis. & Col.* I. iv. 101 A right to self-government and *self-taxation. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 31 The hideous practices of *self-torture. 1640 T. H[OOKER] *title*, The Christians two chiefe lessons; viz. Selfe-deniall, and *Selfe-tryall. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 33 Cultivation and refinement, apparently acquired by *self-tuition. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Moralists* III. § 2 *Self-valuation supposes Self-Worth. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* III. v. (1864) II. 13 *Self vendition into slavery. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 28 *Selfe-vexations..may by no way better be blowne over, then by reckoning Impossibles not to concerne our Desires. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 314 Jacobs silence..was far better than his son's *self-vindication. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* III. x, That primeval Superstition, *Self-worship.

b. With vbl. sbs.; as *self-abominating* = self-abomination.

1829 J. MACDONALD in Tweedie *Life* (1849) 131 On the very back of this *self-abominating, I rear another monument of self-exaltation. 1909 BANKS *Myst. F. Farrington* 280 Contain yourself in the matter of *self-advertising. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 571 Humiliations and *self-afflictings. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. 213 No sophistry, *self-blinding or other dishonesty. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lviii, *Self-checking and suppression. 1702 HOWE *Self-ded.* 26 Our dedicating our selves, to God, is a *self-committing. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 367 Without carkings, covetousnesse, or other *self-disquietings. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 992/2 A *self-emptying of himself, and the assumption of human nature. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* iii. (1848) I. 44 Nothing so wears down the sharpness of conscience ..as *self-excusing. 1790 T. BOSTON *Hum. Nat. Fourfold St.* (1784) 88 *Self-jealousing well becomes Christians. 1798 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* 53 To keep us ever humble, and to fill us with *self-loathing. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 366 Perversion of self-feeling may culminate in self-loathing or hatred. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 75 Selfe-loue..is not so vile a sinne, As *selfe-neglecting. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. (1853) 101 That one offering..repeated in the life and *self-offering of all. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 10/1 The habit of "self physicking, often with powerful drugs, is on the increase. 1649 LIGHTFOOT *Battle with Wasp's Nest* Wks. 1825 I. 421 Pride, blind zeal, and *self-prizing. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 199 My *self-questionings halted here. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 96/2 He was under a continuous course of *self-schooling. 1825 HALKETT *Hist. Notes Indians N. Amer.* xvi. 376 The..*self-scourgings publicly exhibited by the Indian Pigarouick in the church of Montreal. 1681 OWEN *Humble Test.* 139 This *Self-Searching is the first Duty we are..called unto. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xi. 8 Howsoeuer the vngodly beguyle themselues with their *selfesoothing. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 250 Good management may postpone the "*self-thinning', by the inside, shaded, and weak bottom branches dying out. 1882 ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 262/1 Lord, undo Our *self-undoing. 1902 J. SMITH *Integr. Script.* I. 9 The *self-unveiling of God. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 105 He *self-upbraidings felt his Spirit gore. 1840 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 124 Overcome by her tears and promises and self-upbraidings. 1671–2 R. WILD *Let.* 14 The..*self-whippings of the Popish Priests.

c. With agent-nouns; as *self-advertiser*, one who advertises himself, one given to self-advertisement.

1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Aug. 1/3 These safeguards.. would make it rather more difficult for the *self-advertiser and the bore to inflict themselves upon the House. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 296 Aquinas dareth do it to the proudest *Mihi placuit*, *Selfe-approver of them all. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 270/2 The *Samokreshchennike*, or "*self-baptisers'..baptise themselves by repeatedly diving into a river. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monsfet's Theat. Ins.* 890 In Greek *αὐτοπάτορες*, or *Self-begetters. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. 16 Who ('self-commanders) rather sin suppresse By self-examples then by rigorousnesse. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 88 P 8 If I had ever found any of the *self-contemners much irritated..by the consciousness of their meanness. 1672 BAXTER *Bagshaw's Scandals* ii. 16 What a forgetful *self-contradicter is this man? 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. xv, An all-in-all sufficient *self-director. *a* 1793 J. HUNTER in *Catal. Mus. Coll. Surg.* (1833) I. 259 It is most probable that all Barnacles are of both sexes, and *self-impregnators. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 118 To take you off ..from being a *self-ordainer, or a *self-intruder. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. § 2 Such a one is in reality a *Self-Oppressor, and lies heavier on himself than he can ever do on Mankind. 1840 DISRAELI *Misc. Lit.* 45/2 The letters of..Gray, Cowper, and Walpole..,*self-painters. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. 451 A blade Wherewith vain Man and his inveigled Wife ('Self-parricides) have reft their proper life. 1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, A *self-piquer upon immense good breeding. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* x, The *self-poisoner had done his work well. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 48 [Terence's] *Heautontimorumenos*, or *Self-Punisher. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 711 Man is a *self-survivor ev'ry year. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 250 When he..becomes not a *self-teacher but a disciple. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xxiii, If I could only turn *self-vivisector, and watch the operation of my heart. 1729 C. MIDDLETON *Let. fr. Rome* 51 That..Penance of the Flagellantes or *Self-whippers. 1819 KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* I. 207 Large *self worshipers.

d. With nouns of state or condition; as *self-awareness*, the condition of being aware of oneself, *self-mastery*, mastery of oneself, self-command.

Some of the combinations illustrated under this head and the next might with equal propriety have been referred to 3; they are placed here because the relation of *self-* to the second element may be conveniently defined as objective.

1880 CYPLES *Human Exp.* ii. 34 The egoistic consciousness—that is, our *self-awareness. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 23 (1716) 24 *Self-credulity, pride, and levity lead unto self-Idolatry. 1671 HOWE *Let.* in *Life* (1836) 185 A mean and inglorious *self-despiciency. 1885 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 832 The duty of *self-dominance. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* II, My habitual mood of humiliation, *self-doubt. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 41 Pressing men to spiritual poverty, *self emptinesse. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Inv.* (1789) 121 By the influence of the same native principle of flattery and *self-fondness. 1673 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* 12 Quick-sighted *self-jealousie is an excellent preservative from sin. *a* 1860 BAYNE (Worc.), A sustained *self-mastery. ? 1809 WORDSW. *Poems to Nat. Indep.* II. xvii, Happy occasions oft by *self-mistrust Are forfeited. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* A 6 We came into the world, and we know not how; we live in't in a *self-nescience. 1868 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Dryden* (1870) 40 He had more of that good luck of *self-oblivion than most men. 1842 in H. W. S[mith] *Secret of Happy Life* vii. (1886) 79 A relinquishment of the principle of *self-ownership. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. xxx. I. 129 The last Attribute..that of *Self-penetrability. 1809 R. HALL *Wk. Holy Spirit* (1813) 21 That *self-recollection and composure, which are so essential to devotion. 1832 *Self-reverence* [see SELF-CONTROL 1]. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* II. 104. 5 Lest from my selfe my owne *selfe-ruine bee. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. i. (1853) 6 With what..Care we are to..examine ourselves..in order to acquire this important *Self-Science. 1804 WORDSW. *Small Celandine* 8 In close *self-shelter, like a Thing at rest. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. li. (1650) II. 66 Hee is too much given to his study and *self society. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* ix. 67 *Selfe-suspition of hypocrisie, is a hopefull symptome of sincerity. 1807 JANE *Let. to Knox* 20 Aug., Encouragement is held out, to prayer, and to *self-watchfulness. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lxxi. (1749) II. 210 *Self-weariness is a circumstance that ever attends folly.

e. With adjs; as *self-adaptive*, capable of adapting oneself or itself, (hence, by extension) pertaining to, involving, or characterized by self-adaptation, *self-fond*, fond of oneself.

1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Pers.* I. 216 Typical of life is its *self-adaptive power. 1854 PUSEY *Let. Daniel* viii. 550 Earnest self-afflictive prayer. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 180 God, who is such a Good, Bountiful, *Self-communicative, *Self-diffusive, Universalized Being. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 267 A *self-disdainful air. *a* 1797 WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1847) I. 122 The *self-fondest and greatest of poets. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* x. (ed. 2) 272 All popular opinion and information, which is wholesome and enduring, is *self-generative. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. i. (1853) 7 Condemning others for the very crimes we ourselves are guilty of, which a *self-ignorant Man is very apt to do. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. I. 326 We from our proneness to back-lide, *Self-jealous, shou'd in Thee confide. *a* 1863 WHATELY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1864) 173 [A party] that assumes some *self-laudatory title. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* I. § 3 If a Creature be *self-neglectful, and insensible of Danger. 1816 SHELLEY *Daemon* I. 89 *Self-oblivious solitude. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 45 Ideas are abstract, reflective and *self-perceptive. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* i. § 8. 17 There is no need to offend by importunate, *self-proclaimant splendour. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* 407 Its self consuming fate, *self-punitive. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 846 A..*Self Recollective Power. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 274 *Self-reverent each and reverencing each. 1888 R. F. HORTON *Inspir. Bible* vi. 153 The author is entirely *self-suppressive. 1668 J. CORBET *2nd Disc. Relig. Eng.* 16 Modestly..*self-suspicious. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* v. ii, We are *self-uncertain creatures. 1903 *Speaker* 6 June 232/2 Nothing exists..to keep together a body of weary and *self-weary men.

f. With ppl. adjs. in *-ing*; as *self-abandoning*, abandoning oneself, (hence, by extension) pertaining to, involving, or characterized by self-abandonment. (For the extended meaning cf. sense 2 note, below.)

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvii, The wo-begone and *self-abandoning note in which he uttered the disconsolate words. 1836 KEBLE *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 57 When the *self-abhorring thrill Is past. 1874 W. WALLACE *Hegel's Logic* § 20. 30 Thought may be called a *self-actualising universal. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ii. 65 The then most stirring and *self-adapting people. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 184 Nature is..more *self-adjusting than his system contemplates. 1900 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 4/7 An advertising and..a *self-advertising age. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* III. i. F j b, Euery proud and *selfe-affecting Dame. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 118 His own *self-aggrandising impulse. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 255 One *self-approving hour whole years out-weighs Of stupid starers. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, A self-approving smile. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. 123 Their new *Self-arching arms in thousand Arbours grew. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. i. (1714) 40 *note*, Therein gravity doth so far over-power their *self-attracting Power. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 34 Love is so *self-betraying a Passion. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. i. 5 A *self-changing and self-developing force. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 3 In thy own *Self-comprehending Thought. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* xxxi. 12 Or doth thy *self-confounding fancy feare thee, When there's no danger neare thee? 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1907) II. 229 A *self-consoling grin. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 1 Fowle Gealosie, that..mak'st the louing hart..feed it selfe with *selfe-consuming smart? 1655–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 185 How it comes to pass that the Soul cannot withdraw her self from pain by her *Self-contracting faculty. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* III. v. § 4 (1651) 92 Those *self-couzening, formal, lazie Professors of Religion. 1896 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 42 The *self-deifying tendency. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 34 The *selfe-deuouring crueltie in his Father Atreus. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xi. 465 Whenever we conceive any object as *self-differentiating. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 735 Shame upon a *self-disgracing age. 1692 W. MARSHALL *Gosp. Myst. Sanctif.* iv. (1764) 65 What a *self-emptying grace faith is. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. 670 Foule-squinting Envie, that *selfe-eating Elfe. 1634 R. BOLTON (*title*) A Three-fold Treatise: containing the Saints..*Selfe-enriching Examination. 1868 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Shaks. once more* (1870) 217 Our *self-exploiting nineteenth century. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* iv. 24 A wounded Conscience, *selfe-fearing, selfe-frighted. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 102 *Selfe-harming Iealousie. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The *self-healing power of living animals and vegetables. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. I. 289 *Self-humbling View. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 322 God..must needs be..*self-imparting and communicative. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 377/1 In many [orders] the sexes are..*self-impregnating. 1778 J. BROWN (*title*) The *self-interpreting Bible. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxv, *Self-lacerating penitents. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 101 *Selfe-lashing Penitentiaries. 1834 J. MACDONALD in Tweedie *Life* iii. (1849) 228 In a very degraded and *self-loathing state of mind. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses on Var. Occas.* 23 Her heart's *self-mastering power. 1685 BOYLE *Salubr. Air* 34 A kind of propagative or *self-multiplying power. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* III. i. (1853) 167 O my wandering, *Self-neglecting Soul. 1860 TRENCH *Serm.* xv. 170 All acts of *self-offering love. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 119 All the bad passions of our nature have a.. *self-perpetuating power. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 266 In any soil congenial to its growth, the atocha is *self-propagating. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 315 b, To witnesse a *selfe-punishing repentaunce. 1827 POLLOK *Course of T.* VII. 84 *Self-purifying, unpolluted sea! 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xii. 349 *note*, The very supposition which he considers as *self-refuting is an indubitable physiological fact. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 73 They move in a constant and *self-repeating orbit. 1825 HAZLITT *Spirit of Age* 186 A lofty and *self-scrutinising ambition. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* 1630 A *self-surviving leafless oak. 1668 OWEN *Indwelling Sin* 297 Penances, and *self-torturing Discipline. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lxxvii, The self-torturing sophist, wild Rousseau. 1849 DANA *Geol.* ii. (1850) 107 The *self-triturating sands of the reefs. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. II. 83 Past vices gall his *self-upbraiding Mind. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 202 With a certaine slicere boldenesse of *selfe-warranting friendship. 1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 247 O soft *self-wounding Pelican! *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Let. Person Qual.*, Our exposednesse to the danger of *self-wronging consequences.

†g. With vb.-stems, forming adjs., as *self-tire* = self-tiring. Also SELF-KILL. *Obs.*

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVI. 5 The *selfe-tyre barking Dogs.

h. With vbs. (? *obs.*) and prcs. pples.

1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 13 This precious weede

..doth so *selfe-besot those which take it. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Mottoes* 204 What Beautie's This..*Self-blinds, *self-bindes, and self it self bewitches? *Ibid.* 286 In Fire, Air, Earth, Water, The world *self-drowns, *self-burns, *self-hangs, *self-slaies. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 138 She..cower'd..*self-folding like a flower that faints into itself at evening hour. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* XXXVI. i, He..*Self-soothing in his lost Estate Sleeps on secure. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* VII. 58 Then stood Peckskuot forth, *self-vaunting.

i. With advs. related to actual or possible formations in e and f (above).

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 2/1 The figure seems..*self-cognisably burthened with the griefs of all the generations. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 5/2 He *self-consolingly exclaimed, 'Le roi me reverra.' ?1629 DONNE *Serm.* vii. (1640) 65 To come..so *selfe proditoriously, as to betray himselfe ..to his enemies. 1909 R. LAW *Tests of Life* xi. 220 He who *self-tolerantly commits sin. 1901 *Academy* 14 Dec. 585/2 Only intense feeling can use it [a metre] *self-vindicatingly.

2. Compounds with pa. pples. and ppl. adjs. in which *self-* denotes the agent or what is conceived as the agent; = by oneself or itself, by one's own (unaided) efforts or action, without help from others.

Such compounds may qualify the designation of: (*a*) a person or thing that is the subject and object of the action, as *self-appointed censors* = censors appointed by themselves; (*b*) a thing that is operated upon, performed, produced, etc. by oneself, as *self-appointed duties* = duties appointed by the person himself; (*c*) a thing conceived as operated upon by itself, as *self-arched rocks* = rocks formed into arches of themselves without human or mechanical agency, *self-balanced* = balanced without external support; cf. 3 b below.

When transferred from a person to his actions, etc., compounds of this class (like those of 1 f) acquire a wider meaning; thus, *self-abandoned* = abandoned by oneself, hence, full of or marked by self-abandonment.

In some cases the formations are analogical and scarcely admit of analytical explanation; e. g. †SELF-ASSURED from SELF-ASSURANCE, SELF-DENIED from SELF-DENIAL, *self-mortified* from *self-mortification*.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* XII. 138 Nor expected less Than that.. the host Should *self-abandon'd fall an easy prey. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 1006 The *self-accorded grave Of ancient fool and modern knave. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 25 *Self-acknowledged beasts. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, When she stood *self-acquitted to her own mind. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 6 Nov. 5/3 An overdose of morphia *self-administered. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 53 His Treasons will sit blushing in his face, Not able to endure the sight of Day; But *selfe-affrighted, tremble at his sinne. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 21 Sept. 3/2 Some of them [pilots] are *self-appointed. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 172 His engrossing self-appointed duties. 1762 CHURCHILL *Night* 114 Where Virtue, *self-approv'd, reclines her head. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 537 Rocks *self-arched by the eating Current. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, His *self-assumed profession of the law. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iii. (1876) 55 The *self-authorised, arbitrary doctrines of the heretics. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 242 Earth *self-ballanc't on her Center hung. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Colonial Reformer* (1891) 348 Crutchless and self-balanced. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XV. 78 *Self-banish'd from his native shore. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) IV. 156 'Self-befooled Sinners. 1784 *New Spectator* No. 1. 7 The *self-be-paragraphed, the self-puffed and the self-adoring Mother Abington. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 171 *Self-betray'd, and wilfully undone. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Soul* Concl. 455 To transforme me totally into a *selfe-blessed creature. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* ix, If the Prelates were not *selfe-blinded, they might discerne the reason. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xvi, Her pompous self-blinded father. 1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* s. v., *Adder-stone*, a perforated stone—the perforation imagined by the vulgar to be made by the sting of an adder...They are also called *self-bored stones. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 88 *Self-buried ere they die. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* IV. iii. § 74 Every substance therefore is *self caused; that is its essence implies its existence. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 5 To ease *self-chosen pain. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XIV. 196 *Self-clos'd behind her shut the valves of gold. 1844 P. HARWOOD *Hist. Irish Reb.* 25 Hosts of armed citizens, self-paid and *self-commissioned. 1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* v. xiv, Bold in his self-commissioned cause. 1599 JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. ii, To beare too deepe a sense Of her owne *selfe-conceiued excellence. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 69 This lame and *self-confuted Story. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, The old gentleman, his *self-constituted companion. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 597 It shall be in eternal restless change Self-fed, and *self-consum'd. 1644 — *Divorce* II. iii. 39 Mans own will *self-corrupted. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 495 Learn, and lament, thy *self-defeated scheme. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 130 The first sort by thir own suggestion fell, Self-tempted, *self-deprav'd. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 259 'Self-depriv'd Of other screen. 1808 LAMB *Adv. Ulysses* vii. (1848) 74 Some have said..that they [sc. our vessels] move instinctively, *self-directed. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 516 Self-directed acts of perception. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 14 *Selfe disliked life. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. 393 Their *self-doom'd soules. 1789 COWPER *On the Queen's Visit to London* 14 And rockets flew, *self driven. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenstein* ii, It is a still greater evil to me that I am *self-educated. 1871 FRASER *Berkeley* ix. 351 His unborrowed, evidently *self-elaborated thought. 1799 SOUTHEY *Vis. Maid of Orleans* iii, The little glow-worm's *self-emitted light. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. i. 2 A diamond is a crystal *self-erected from atoms of carbon. 1634 *Self-fed [see *self-consum'd* above]. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iii. 124 To knit their soules..in *self-figur'd knot. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 742 Unhappy he, in whome selfe-succour lies, Yet *selfe-forsaken wanting succour dies. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 17 She stans; and from her selfe, *self-frighted, fled. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 332 Who, still *self-furnisht, needest borrow never Diana's shafts. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ret. Scotl.* Wks. 1721 III. 40 The *self-gotten Phœnix. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 161 The Titans fierce, *self-hid, or prison-bound. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 121 The oyster..is *self-impregnated. 1815 *Zeluco* III. 44 She never knew the *Self-incurred Catastrophe. 1654 OWEN *Doctr. Saints Persev.* xiii. 313 A vaine, superstitious, *selfe-invented Worship of God. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xvi, This *self-invited guest. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 253 And left one altar dark, a little space, Which turned *self-kindled, and renewed the blaze. 1889 *Spectator* 28 Dec. 922/1 A tax..*self-levied. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xviii. 306 The *selfe-maim'd Thracian King. 1903 A. R. WALLACE *Man's Place in Universe* iii. 44 By the use of the photographic plate the exact positions of..thousands of stars can be *self-mapped simultaneously. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Mycerinus* 28 When the duped soul, *self-mastered, claims its meed. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vii, The thoughts were *self-matured. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 376 Thy Selfe, is *selfe-mis vs'd. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. xiii. P 13 You are become highly moral and *self-mortified. 1819 WORDSW. *Waggoner* IV. 64 The vapours sweep Along..Like fleecy clouds *self-multiplied. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lond. & Lacedem. Oracles* Wks. 1709 III. III. 135 *Self-nam'd Athenians. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 112 Lord, I *self-offer'd, am not mine. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* XIV. ii. (1864) IX. 53 Those who were *self-outlawed, or outlawed by the dominant authority. 1844 *Self-paid [see *self-commissioned* above]. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1866) 171 Lewis the Pious, submitting to a fresh coronation, admitted the invalidity of his former *self-performed one. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Witches & other night-fears*, Had I never met with the picture, the fears would have come *self-pictured in some shape or other. 1822 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1823) 55 An ancient grove *Self-planted. 1830 TENNYSON *Dirge* v, Round thee blow, *self-pleached deep, Bramble roses. 1868 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. vi. 82 These molecular blocks of salt are *self-posited. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. v. 374 A private maid, how highly soever *self-pretended. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* IV. 8 Why dost thou hugge thy *self-procured woes? 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. ii. (1824) III. 82 Their shell is *self-produced. 1678 'Self-punish'd [see SELF-ACCUSED]. 1738 LILLO *Marina* III. ii. 50 *Self-resign'd to silence and despair. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 183 [The Serpent] In Labyrinth of many a round *self-rowld. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Shakespeare* 10 *Self-school'd, *self-scann'd, self-honour'd, self-secure. 1828 JOLLY *Sunday Services* (1840) 276 False and *self-sent teachers. 1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 25 Aug., So hard and dangerous a *self-set task. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. vii, Guardsman Pâris..will be found some months after, *self-shot in a remote inn. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. 80 His life was one long war with *self sought foes. 1852 *All Year Round* 13 Sept. 8 A rough kind of grass,..on the sharp points of whose rigid blades flies and beetles are often *self-spitted. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 295 Matter *self-form'd, self-mov'd, *self-steer'd. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 210 *Self-stimulated thoughts, in place of those implanted from without. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul but Jesus* 206 The sort of connection..between the undoubted Apostles, and this *self-styled one. 1907 *National Church* 15 Oct. 263/1 The self-styled 'Free Churches'. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 129 He..got praises of the King, For him attempting, who was *selfe-subdued. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* I. xxx, Here *self-suspended hangs in air,..The living carbuncle. 1667 *Self-tempted [see *self-depraved* above]. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xv, Thy father's battle-brand..Did, *self-unscabbarded, foreshow The footstep of a secret foe. 1866 *Ch. Times* 3 Feb., A *self-vaunted 'friend of the working classes'. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Past. Ode to Lyttleton* XXV, To see the babbling floods Thro' *self-worn mazes flow. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul but Jesus* 110 In comparison of *self-written biography, scarcely does any other biography deserve the name.

(*b*) Rarely, with adjs. in *-able*; as *self-impairable* = liable to be impaired by one's own action, *self-irrecoverable* = not recoverable by oneself (whence *self-irrecoverableness*).

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 36. 565 Endowed with ..Freewill, and consequently..*Self-improvable and *Self-impairable. 1782 J. BROWN *View of Nat. & Rev. Relig.* V. iv, We are altogether guilty, polluted, miserable and *self-irrecoverable. *Ibid.* VI. i, Their sinfulness, misery, and *self-irrecoverableness. 1769 — *Dict. Bible* s. v. *Gospel*, *Self-irreformable transgressors.

3. Compounds in which *self-* is adverbial: a. with sbs., adjs., vbs., advs. = for, in, into, on or upon, to or towards, with oneself or itself, the prep. to be supplied being that required in the construction taken by the word which forms the second element; e. g. *self-absorbed, -absorption* = absorbed, absorption in oneself, *self-acquaintance* = acquaintance with oneself, *self-addressed* = addressed to oneself, *self-compassion* = compassion for oneself.

1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. v. 85, I do not mean that people are to be *self-absorbed. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 131 That *self-absorption which the habit of reverie had fostered. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. vii. (1853) 50 *Self-acquaintance shews a man the particular Sins he is most.. addicted to. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pictures in Florence* xix, To become now *self-acquainters. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvi. 323 Sullennesse and *self-addiction, things ill beseeming his noble spirit. 1847 C. BRONTE *Professor* xxiii, A voice..so low, so *self-addressed. 1880 *Q. Rev.* CXLIX. 285 The honourable and..*self-advantageous task. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 250 *Vlis.* If he were proud...*Dio.* Or strange, or *selfe affected. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. XXVII. (1674) 277 *Self-affectionate people..prove perfidious. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* III. viii. [ix.] 10 And knocks his bare brest with *selfe-angry hands. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 114 Reflection, and *self-application. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 76 If I had *selfe-applied Love to myself. 1663 OWEN *Vind. Animadv.* Wks. 1851 XIV. 405 Such *self-assumings are many of the old papal epistles stuffed withal. 1837 TENNENT *Vis. Glaucos* 58 The *self-assuming smile. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 133 In *selfe-assumption greater Then in the note of iudgement. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 610 A school in which he learns..Mean *self-attachment. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxv. VII. 392 Held firmly together by its inherent *self-attraction. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 184 Luxury, Vain-glory, *Self-attributions. 1804 MRS. OLIPHANT *Autobiogr.* (1899) 81, I have fallen back into my own way of *self-comment. 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 2 'Life is roomy yet, and the odds unbounded'. So *self-communed I. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. xi. (1874) 139 With silence and with *self-communing fear. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Rev. for Honour* II. i. 202 *Self-compassion, soothing us to faith Of what we wish should hap. 1875 LOWELL *Lit. Ess., Wordsw.* Wks. 1890 IV. 406 *His self-concentrated nature. 1852 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 53 Intense *self-concentration is..a mighty magician. 1816 H. G. KNIGHT *Ilderim* 577 Some deep dream of *self-concenter'd thought. 1680 J. QUARLES (*title*) *Self-Conflict: or, the Powerful Motions between the Flesh and Spirit. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* xiv. (1852) 423 The partial, *self-conflicting, uncertain views. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VI. 170 The King..*self-considering, as he stands, debates. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Advice to Author* I. § 1 Our Exercise of *Self-Converse. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 866 *Self-cruell Mothers. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* 37 Those commands..which compell us to *self-cruelty above our strength. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 36 Ulysses..In *self-debate the Suitors doom resolv'd. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 133 *Self-designers are seldom disappointed. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* XIII, He continued talking to himself aloud after the manner of restless *self-discontented men. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 514 *Self-displeas'd For self-offence. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* (1658) 1047 A *self-displicency and severity towards our own errors. 1802 MRS. J. WEST *Infidel Father* III. 239 The earl..endeavoured to conceal his chagrin and *self-dissatisfaction. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) I. The *self-dissatisfied race of men. 1727 SOMERVILLE *Use of Looking-Glass* 14 On her the *self-enamour'd chit Was very lavish of his wit. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXVI, Its *self-enclosed unreasonableness and impiety. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 56 She cannot loue..Shee is so *selfe indeared. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXX, [She] in her *self-engrossment did not trouble herself about the nature of this agitation. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXV, The *self-exultation with which he was, as it were, distended. 1647 H. MORE *Philos. Poems* Addit. *Exorcismus* 18 You *self-exulting sprights. 1647 BP. HALL *Sel. Th.* § 34 The *self-felony of a wilful sinner. 1842 TENNYSON *'Of old sat Freedom'* ii, *Self-gather'd in her prophet-mind. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 78 A *selfe gracious remembrance. 1691 SOUTH *12 Serm.* (1697) II. 484 A fatal *Self-imposture. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. 30 Every vicious action must be *self-injurious. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vii. 433 To secure the poor sufferer from *self-injury, or from injuring others. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 93 His heart I know, how variable and vain *Self-left. 1876 MRS. OLIPHANT *Phœbe Jun.* XXVI, His *self-occupation was an offence to the girl. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* I. 798 The careless stillness of a thinking mind *Self-occupied. 1818 *Art Pres. Feet* 128 A mode of cure, less dangerous in the hands of a *self-operator than the knife. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Self-parasitism*, parasitic on its own species. 1819 BYRON *Mazeppa* XVII. 80 At times sought with *self-pointed sword. *a* 1592 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 179 Vnwise they were their sorrowes *selfe procuring. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 440, I will not think men that want Bread, do therefore want Wisdome (even that of *Self-provision). 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. vi. 197 The enjoyable *self-repose of certitude. 1856 MRS. CARLYLE in Froude *Carlyle* (1890) II. 197 Then I should be going as part of your luggage without *self-responsibility. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* XVII, *Self-retired In hungry pride and gainful cowardice. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 513 Who *self-rigorous chooses death as due. 1592 *Self-rumineth [see RUMINE]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 827 Impartial, *self-severe, inexorable. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* XXXVII, *Self-solicitude was near extinction in her. *a* 1586 SIR P. SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 346 These doubtful *selfe-speches. 1715 *Wodrow's Corr.* (1843) II. 37 My *self-tenderness will not allow me to spend time at night on the records. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 234 Since he [man] is not a Central and *self-terminating Being. *Ibid.* 303, I conclude that I am not..a Central or *self-terminative Being. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. vii. 293 Individual, *self-thinking minds. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. I. 99 Wishing already to dis-throne th'Eternall, And *selfe-usurp the Majesty supernall. 1888–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2507/1 The *self-witness of Jesus to his divinity. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xlviii. VI. 145 The Peloponnesians were a *self-working population with few slaves. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 168 Least my selfe be guilty to *selfe wrong.

b. with adjs. and related sbs., vbs., pples. = of or in oneself or itself, of or in one's or its own nature or power; e. g. *self-apparent* = apparent of itself, *self-desirable* = desirable in itself. Also (after SELF-FERTILE), *self-impotent, -sterile* adjs., *-sterility*.

1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 107 The utility of such a book..is *self-apparent. 1847–54 WEBSTER, **Self-attractive*, attractive by one's self. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. 574 [He] Hardens the King, and blinding him (*selfe-blinde) Leaves him to Lusts of his own vicious minde. 1882 H. S. HOLLAND *Logic & Life* xviii. 273 The Holy Church..must ..be also *self-complete. *Ibid.*, By faith, spirit shows its self-mastery, its *self-completeness. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LVIII. ii, The aspick..*self-deaf and unaffected lies. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* v. 200 The end having an intrinsic Goodness of its own, and so being *Self-desirable. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. II. xlvi, Whiles *self-flowing sourse I here detect In plants. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 834 And on shamefull Tree (*Self-guiltless) shed his blood. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 148 *Selfe-guiltie folke most prone to feele compassion. 1869 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* VIII. (ed. 5) 333 They have become *self-impotent, whilst still retaining the capacity of fertilising. 1764 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. v. 280 In the head of these *Self-intelligible objects let us..place the great..God. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 173 To eclipse the *self-resplendent blaze. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. 392 Whether the Sun *self-shine. 1725 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 286 The unwieldly Beast *self-sinking drops into the dark Profound. 1876 DARWIN *Cross & Self-Fertilisation* IX. 320 *Self-sterile Plants. *Ibid.* 346 The belief that *self-sterility has been acquired to prevent self-fertilisation. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845)

392 Peter is *self-strong. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xlv, All humane souls be *self-vivacious. 1695 Owen *Faith of God's Elect* Wks. 1851 V. 453 Those *self-whole, jolly professors which these days abound with.

c. with pples. = from or out of oneself or itself (as a source or point of origin); e. g. *self-arising* = arising from or out of oneself.

a 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* i. (1876) 20 This inward and *self-arising determination. 1744 J. Harris *Three Treat.* III. II. (1765) 192 Those other Preconceptions—being Durable, *Self-derived, and Indeprivable. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 63 But Spider-like Out of his *Selfe-drawing Web. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xviii. (1866) 360 It was proclaimed that the individual spirit..had..an independent existence as a centre of *self-issuing force. 1684 Howe *Redeemer's Tears* Wks. (1848) 84 The Christians of our age deceive themselves with a *self-sprung religion. 1855 Bailey *Mystic*, etc. 113 Begetting and conceiving and self-sprung.

4. In technical use, forming compounds to designate machines, appliances, or processes by or in which certain operations are performed without human or animal agency or special manipulation or adjustment for the purpose; usually = automatic, automatically. Also Self-acting, etc.

1834–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 175/1 To some boilers are also attached *self-adjusting feeders to supply the fuel to the furnace. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 15 Feb. 4/6 The new patent *self-aligning, self-adjusting roller axle-bearings. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 145/2 Thus making the boat *self-bailing. 1908 *Harrod's Stores* Price List 950 *Self-basting Roaster. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 32 Permanent *self-bury Anchor. 1825 Lunn in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) IV. 95/1 Cavallo's *self-charging jar. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 25 Feb. 10/4 *Self-clamp cutting machine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Selfclosing Bridge*, a pivot bridge opened by canal-boats in passing. 1863 *Battle-fields of the South* I. 125 An Adam's *self-cocker (unloaded). 1892 Greener *Breech-loader* 65 The *self-cocking of the locks is ..an immense advantage. 1888 Papworth *Gwilt's Encycl. Archit.* § 4148 *a*, Laths of wood rebated together, having numerous mortices, through which pass a series of tempered steel bands, causing the shutter to be *self-coiling. 1855 in *Brit. Alm. & Comp.* (1856) 50 Quick *self-discharge of water. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 35 The *self-disengaging coupling. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* LV. 373/2 A *self-dropping two-horse planter. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* Index 790 *Self-easing coupling. 1859 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. L 6, Enabling the machine to drill or bore at any angle whatever with a *self-feed. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines* 48 The adoption of *self-feeders. 1834–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 178/1 *Self-feeding furnace. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 27 Feb. 7/3 *Self-Filling Pens. 1884 W. H. Greenwood *Steel & Iron* vi. 104 The ore is accompanied by a sufficient quantity of calcareous matters to yield the necessary flux without any further addition of fluxing materials to the charge; such ores are..known as '*self-going' or '*self-fluxing'. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. L 6, *Self-friction feed motion. 1865 M. Mackenzie *Laryngoscope* 85 The *Self-holder, or *fixateur* for holding the laryngeal mirror after introduction. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 64 The *self-holding lever plough. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 155/1 *Self-inking Printing Press. 1864 Atkinson *Staunton Grange* 299 A *self-lighting hydrogen lamp. 1853 Whyte-Melville *Digby Grand* x, Heavy and light guns, *self-primers, revolvers, and other deadly weapons. 1899 *Daily News* 3 May 10/6 The *Self-Propelled Traffic Association. 1895 *Ibid.* 11 June 7/5 Very little is known in England of what is being done in France with *self-propelling carriages. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 7/2 *Self-recording observatories. 1895 *Army & Navy Soc.* Price List 15 Sept. 1639 Self-Recording Aneroid Barometer and Clock. 1836 Brande *Chem.* 140 The *self-registering thermometers..showing the maximum and minimum of temperature during the absence of the observer. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 500/1 Another form of the *self-starting injector. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 697 His invention of the *self-strippers for the main cylinders. 1868 Joynson *Metals* 61 The *self-subsidation of the iron on the hearth. 1864 *Trans. Highl. Soc.* Jan. 135 A *self-tipping platform. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 4/2 Considerable practical advantage has been derived by the photographer from the *self-toning papers which are being so widely adopted. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 239 *Self-winding..[is] a watch or clock fitted with apparatus for winding it automatically.

5. Compounds in which *self-* is in the adjective relation: †a. = relating to oneself, one's own, personal, individual, private, intimate. *Obs.* Cf. Self *pron.* 3 c.

1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 134 *Self-advantage can as easily incline some, to believe a falshood, as profess it. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 113 Ouer-full of *selfe-affaires. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 200, I would not haue your free, and Noble Nature, Out of *selfe-Bounty, be abus'd. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 182 He..speakes not to himselfe, but with a pride That quarrels at *selfe-breath. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iv. 149 By *selfe-danger, you should tread a course Pretty, and full of view. 1727 Fenton *Poems* 203 Sickly'd with Age, and sow'r with *Self-disgrace. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. 17 Who..rather sin suppresse By *selfe-examples, then by rigorousnesse. 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* ii, Thou art not couetous of least *selfe fame. 1640 D. Cawdrey *Three Serm.* (1641) 8 *Selfe-gulltinesse commonly makes men partiall, in judging others. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. I. 54 Sufficient rich in *self-invention. 1623 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 134 Anger is like A full hot Horse, who being allow'd his way *Selfe-mettle tyres him. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* v. xxxvii. II. 436 Quitting all *Self-reliches he became an entire Servant of God. 1658 Earl Monm. tr. *Parula's Wars Cyprus* 29 Whereby he might plead necessity of *selfe-safety for what he did. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. 12, I am concerned, that you ever wrote at all to him.. It was adding to his *self-significance. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. ix. 575 Yet is it safe by *selfe-waight [*pondere tuta suo*], and will last. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* xi. § 10 (1729) 365 The *Self-workings and Motions of his own Mind.

b. = inherent in, depending upon, or proceeding from oneself (itself), one's nature, etc.; belonging to oneself (itself) as an independent creature; in the 17th cent. often *spec.*, dependent or relying upon one's own efforts or merits apart from the grace of God. ? *Obs.*

1596 Norden *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 28 A slumber which procureth many drowsy dreams of *self-ability to wade through all adverse things of the world. 1626 Laud *Serm. 5th July* 32 No deserting the cause though no selfe-ability could hold it vp. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. 301 The other loud-resounded Heart-wanting Hymns, on *self-deserving founded. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* I. xxix. I. 119 By *Self-disunity I understand nothing else but that Matter has no *Vinculum* of its own to hold it together. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 217 Check the first Relishes of *self-excellency which you find in your Souls. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. (ed. 2) 254 Their pitiful old *self-holiness. 1858 Bushnell *Nat. & Supernat.* iv. (1864) 95 A soul..acting by its own free *self-impulsion. 1867 G. Easton *Autobiogr.* vii. 81 Never had I felt such a deep sense of *self-insignificance. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xvi. (1647) 169 A Vacuity, Indigence, and *selfe-insufficiency of the Soule. 1745 Eliza Haywood *Fem. Spect.* x. (1748) II. 162 Vanity, and a high opinion of *self-merit, sometimes renders one party easy and contented. 1773 Berridge *Wks.* (1864) 182 Self-will, *self-potence, and self-righteousness. 1668 Owen *Expos.* 130*th Ps.* 380 The..infinite *self-purity of this Eternal Immense Being. 1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. i. 7 Any *self-stability, aseity, or essential immutability of its own. 1656 Owen *Mortif. Sin* i. (1668) 5 Mortification from a *self-strength, carried on..unto the End of a self-Righteousness. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. ix, Indispers'd, quick, close with *selfe-union. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* I. xxx. I. 124 By the *Self-unity of a Spirit I understand a Spirit to be immediately and essentially one. 1633 Ford *Broken H.* I. i, So much out of a *selfe-vnworthinesse, His feares transport him. *a* 1631 Donne *Poems* (1669) 80 My *self-want of sight. 1639 W. Sclater *Worthy Communn.* 14 We must lay by all thoughts of honour, of place, of all kind of *selfe-worthinesse.

c. = having an independent existence, position, or authority; †pristine, original.

1839 E. A. Poe *William Wilson* Wks. 1864 I. 434 Natural rights of *self-agency. 1657 Heylin *Hist. Ref.* I. ii. § 5. 84 The Clergy of this Realm had a *Self-authority in all matters which concerned Religion. 1629 W. Sclater *Expos. 2 Thess.* 169 Are Churches, Councels, Popes Authentique, of *selfe credit? 1643 Ld. Digby *Obs. Relig. Med.* 34 Hee being in his proper nature *Selfe-Entity, all being must immediately flow from him. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. 1327 *Self-Eternitie, Infinite, All in all, yet out of all. 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* viii. 125, I dare follow none of the Moderne erroniously transcribing Relaters..but haue..tooke it from the best *selfe-fountaines. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict.* I. lxiii, Thou *self-Idea of all joyes to come. *c* 1616 Fletcher *Thierry & Theod.* I. i, A *selfe-peece from the touch of power and Iustice. 1905 *Athenæum* 1 Apr. 396/3 The full *self-sovereignty of Japan.

d. = having self as the object or aim; self-centred.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 367 This thread of *Self-aime runnes through the whole Peece of what men do. 1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 262 Neither does he [God] govern the Rational part of it by the Precepts of Religion out of any *Self-design, as if he feasted his nostrils with the perfumes of the Altar. 1647 H. More *Philos. Poems* Addit. 35 Save me, God! from *Self-desire. 1841 Gladstone in Morley *Life* (1903) I. 233 Men hurrying this way and that for gold, or pleasure, or some self-desire. 1621 Bargrave *Serm. agst. Selfe Policy* (1624) 28 This wicked sibi, this *selfe-doctrine. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 4 Nor was actuated by any other motive than *Self-Emolument. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 257 What else is the whole societie of man..but a *self-gaine? 1624 Bargrave (*title*) A Sermon against *Selfe Policy, preached at White-Hall in Lent. 1621. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 177 The *Ratio formalis*, essentiall of a Suist, or *selfe-polititian. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 156 Unbias'd by *self-profit.

e. = caused by oneself, of one's own making.

This use is rare; the mod. examples are due to analysis of compounds illustrated under 2; e. g. *self-chain* from '*self-chained'.

1652 Crashaw *Carmen Deo Nostro* To C'tess Denbigh, Fetter'd, & lockt up fast they ly In a sad *selfe-captivity. 1882 Rossetti *Poems* (1904) 262/2 Who from thy *self-chain shall set thee free? 1845 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* II. 163 The *self-outlaws of humanity.

Self-aba·sed, *ppl. a.* [Self- 2.] Full of self-abasement.

a 1748 Watts *Alt. Pract. Relig.* [II.] iii, Are you more penitent and self-abased under a sense of your sins?

Self-aba·sement. [Self- 1 a.] Humiliation of oneself.

1656 Owen *Mortif. Sin* xii. (1668) 128 Such Meditations as may serve to fill thee..with self-abasement. 1710 Shaftesb. *Charac., Adv. Author* III. iii. (1727) I. 331 The method of Self-abasement may perhaps be thought the properest to make Approaches to the sacred Shrines. 1860 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 160 Self-abasement, as illustrated by the parable of the sanctified Publican. 1883 Wace *Gospel & its Witnesses* iv. 76 The Church's daily Confession, with its keen self-abasement.

Self-aba·sing, *ppl. a.* [Self- 1 f.] Marked by, involving, or requiring self-abasement.

1656 Owen *Mortif. Sin* xii. (1668) 128 This self-abasing Consideration. 1793 Cowper *Let. to Y. Johnson* Wks. 1837 XV. 253 The self-abasing doctrines of the gospel. 1822 Ja. MacDonald *Mem. Jos. Benson* 330 Their joyful and self-abasing reflections.

Self-abnega·tion. [Self- 1 a.] Self-renunciation.

1657 *Baker's Sancta Sophia* II. II. iii. § 6 (1908) 249 The smallest act of love and service to God, performed with a perfect self-abnegation. 1856 Doyle *Logic Chr. Faith* IV. ii. § 5. 226 In the Christian missionary..we have some of the noblest specimens of..self-abnegation. 1873 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) I. ii. 57 Her true humility and self-abnegation.

So **Self-a·bnegating** *ppl. a.*, **-a·bnegatory** *a.* 1854 Pusey *Daniel* i. 22 Amid this *self-abnegating silence, what is the self-laudation? 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iv. § 5. 257 The recklessness of self-abnegating love. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 680 A *self-abnegatory religion.

Self-abu·se. [Self- 1 a.]

1. Self-deception. (Cf. Abuse *sb.* 4.)

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* III. iv. 142 My strange and self-abuse Is the initiate feare, that wants hard vse.

2. Abuse or revilement of oneself.

1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 910 Those cold humours ..That..had sometimes urged To self-abuse a not ineloquent tongue. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xx. 238 He abused himself for his own selfishness. But such self-abuse [etc.].

3. Self-pollution. Hence **Self-abu·ser.**

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Abuse*, Self-Abuse, is a Phrase used by some late Writers for the Crime of Self-Pollution. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 242 The evils that haunt the worn-out debauchee, and especially the self-abuser. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 373 Eroticism and self-abuse.

Self-accusa·tion. [Self- 1 a.] Accusation of oneself.

1662 E. Lake (*title*) Memoranda: touching the Oath Ex Officio, pretended Self-accusation, and Canonical Purgation. *a* 1716 Wycherley *Posth. Wks.* I. (1728) 35 His Self-Accusation calls his Sense in Question. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. I. 380 Too liberal self-accusations are generally but so many traps for acquittal with applause. 1842 Manning *Serm.* xvi. (1848) I. 229 The depth of his self-accusation and repentance,..in a time of severe sickness.

So **Self-accu·satory** *a.*, **Self-accu·sed** *ppl. a.*, **Self-accu·ser, Self-accu·sing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* 1836 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 309 This *self-accusatory recollection. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* IV. 51 This *self-accus'd, self-punish'd Criminal. 1872 C. J. Vaughan *Earnest Words* (1878) 54 Self-accused, self-emptied, self-condemned. *a* 1631 Donne *Epigrams* Poems (1639) 69 A *selfe-accuser. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. iii. 366 The *self-accusing of some is as little to be credited, as the self-praising of others. 1894 A. Whyte *Sam. Rutherford* i. 7 His self-discoveries and self-accusings. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 179 Then held she her tongue, and cast downe a *self-accusing looke. 1839 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* III. iv. § 5 The walls of the confessional are privy to the whispers of self-accusing guilt.

†Self-a·cted, *pa. pple. Obs.* [Self- 2.] Moved to action of their own accord.

1763–5 Churchill *Gotham* I. 8 All Instruments, self-acted, ..Shall pour forth harmony.

Self-a·cting, *ppl. a.* [Self- 3 b, 4.]

1. Acting independently, without external impulse or influence. Also applied to motion characterized by such action.

1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 2 A self-moving, self-acting secondary Agent. 1856 Grote *Greece* II. xcvii. XII. 612 Self-acting Hellas. 1890 A. R. Wallace *Darwinism* 12 This self-acting process which..brings about change in the organic world.

2. *Mech.* Acting automatically without the manipulation (or mechanism) which would otherwise be required. Also said of the operation.

1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 84 The .self-acting mechanism of the Atmospheric Engines. *Ibid.* 85 Their simultaneous (rather than self-acting) operation. 1834–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 175/1 For the prevention of this [the unnecessary destruction of fuel], the self-acting damper has been invented. *Ibid.* 700/2 The machinery in the self-acting mule. 1869 Rankine *Cycl. Mech. & Hand-tools* Pl. F 3 The self-acting motion is obtained from the lever. *Ibid.* L 2 Self-acting radial drilling machine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s. v., *Self-acting Valve*, one moved by the fluid, in contradistinction to one moved by the application of mechanical devices.

Self-a·ction. [Self- 5 c.] Independent action; action uninfluenced by external impulse.

1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxiv, At the feet of my Superior I have laid down the right of self-action—the privilege of independence. 1833 J. H. Newman *Arians* I. ii. (1876) 34 The existence of moral self-action or free-will. 1856 Grote *Greece* II. xcviii. XII. 613 The Hellenic world while yet in the period of full life, in freedom and self-action.

Self-a·ctive, *a.* [Self- 3 b.] Acting of itself without external impulse.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xxiv, Some souls at least are self-active Withouten body having Energie. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* ii. 17 Intrinsecally moved by an immaterial self-active Substance.

So **Self-acti·vity.**

1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* Concl. 455 A selfe actiuity, and vnbounded extent, and essence free from time and place. *a* 1761 Law *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 72 Stop..all self-activity. 1864 Bowen *Logic* I. 3 The spontaneity, or self-activity, of the intellect. 1889 Mivart *Truth* 190 Whenever we act, we have a certain vague feeling of our self-activity.

Self-a·ctor. *Mech.* [Self- 4.] A self-acting mule in a spinning-machine.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 40 One horse power drives 500 on the fine hand-mule, 300 on the self-actor mule. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Aug. 2/1 Fine spinning, for which self-actors cannot as yet be profitably introduced.

Self-admira·tion. [Self- 1 a.] Admiration of oneself, self-conceit.

1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 197 The quiet Enjoyment of their unenvi'd Self-admiration. *a* 1761 Law *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 83 They..full of self-esteem, and self-admiration, for their own progress in them. 1888 F. Cowper *Captain of Wight* (1889) 58 At first the sense of shyness had kept this feeling of self-admiration down.

So **Self-admi·red** *ppl. a.*, **Self-admi·rer**, **Self-admi·ring** *ppl. a.*

1785 G. A. Bellamy *Apol.* (ed. 3) VI. 98 My *self-admired person. 1863 I. Williams *Baptistery* I. ii. (1874) 17 Folding his in self-admir'd repose. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 204 A contrary state and temper of the heart in self-admiration secludes such *self-admirers. 1621 Sandys *Ovid's Met.* III. (1632) 92 Deaths cold hand shuts his *selfe-admiring eyes. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac., Misc. Refl.* III. 300 The self-admiring Wits.

Self-annihila·tion. [Self- 1 a.] Annihilation or obliteration of self.

1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xix. 17 Here then our Saviour learns this *yonker* humility, and self annihilation. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 153 ¶ 2 To sink the Soul into the lowest State of Humility, and what the School-men call Self-Annihilation. 1860 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (ed. 2) I. 119 The mystical death, self-annihilation, and holy indifference of the Quietists.

So **Self-anni·hilated** *pa. pple.*

1794 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 43 Till by exclusive consciousness of God All self-annihilated it shall make God its identity.

Self-applau·ding, *ppl. a.* [Self- 1 f.] Given to or marked by self-applause.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 296 The Toiles of Selfe-applauding Husbandry. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 94 Self-applauding confidences in our own wisdom and strength. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 58 The self-applauding bird, the peacock. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* iv, With the chuckle of a self-applauding wit. 1867 Mrs. Whitney *L. Goldthwaite* iii. (1873) 42 A little matter, nothing to be self-applauding about.

Self-applau·se. [Self- 1 a.] Approval or commendation of oneself.

1678 Marvell *Def. John Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 202 Its insolent boasting and self-applause upon no occasion. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 82 She..With self-applause her wild creation views. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xliv, He addressed himself to me..with a smile of self-applause. 1880 Burton *Reign Q. Anne* II. xi. 228 The exulting and abounding current of his self-applause.

So **Self-applau·sive** *a.* = Self-applauding.

1807 D. Gilson *Serm.* vii. 136 A mind already wounded with self-applausive, unnecessary advice.

Self-asse·rtion. [Self- 1 a.] The action of asserting one's individuality, or insisting upon one's claims or one's supremacy.

1780 Foster *Ess.* II. vi. (1806) I. 205 They [*sc.* passions which inspirit men to resistance] put the mind in the habitual array of defence and self-assertion. 1847 Ld. Lindsay *Sk. Hist. Chr. Art* I. p. ccix, The self-assertion of the Teutonic over the classic element of modern Europe. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* xliii. (1871) V. 188 A class whose intense self-assertion was inflamed by family names [etc.].

So **Self-asse·rting, -asse·rtive** (also **-asse·rtingly** *adv.*, **-asse·rtiveness**), **-asse·rtory** *adjs.*, full of or characterized by self-assertion.

1869 Trollope *He Knew*, etc. lvi. (1878) 311 Some specially *self-asserting American. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. xvi, A *self-assertingly temporary and nomadic air. *Ibid.* I. iv, Unwilling to own to the name of Reginald, as being too aspiring and *self assertive a name. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 374/1 A refreshing individuality and *self-assertiveness. 1866 Alger *Solitudes of Nature & Man* IV. 381 This *self-assertory language.

Self-assu·rance. [Self- 1 d.] Feeling of security as to oneself; self-confidence.

1594 Spenser *Amoretti* lix, Thrise happie she ! that is so well assured Unto her selfe [etc.]..Such selfe-assurance need not feare the spight Of grudging foes. 1780 Foster *Ess.* III. ii. (1806) II. 22 The flattering self-assurance simply of a life of singular felicity. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xii, Lightness, gallantry, and something approaching to well-bred self-assurance. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* vi, Going about her business with some self-assurance in the thought [etc.].

So **Self-assu·red** *a.*, self-confident.

1711 G. Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 3 He is so very self-assured as to affirm that [etc.]. 1880 M'Carthy *Own Times* xlviii. IV. 12 His style was far too self assured.

Self-bego·t, *pa. pple.* [Self 2.] Begotten of oneself by one's own power.

1667 [see Self-raised]. 1845 [see Self-born 1].

So **Self-bego·tten** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*; also **† Self-bego·ttenly** *adv.*

1671 Milton *Samson* 1699 That *self-begott'n bird In the Arabian woods embost. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 511 Souls of this kind..possess a self-begotten and self-vital essence. 1833 J. H. Newman *Arians* II. iv. (1876) 195 Iamblichus calls the Son self-begotten. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 574 Its Own-Parent, and its Own-Ofspring, and said to have sprung out, αὐτογόνως *Self-begottenly.

† Self-be·ing. *Obs.* [Self- 5 c.] Independent existence; also *concr.* a self-existent being.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* xiv. (1592) 199 So is reason or vnderstanding the very forme or Selfebeeing of the Soule of man. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. iii. § 3 (1622) 219 One certaine power or Nature of Selfe-being. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Medit. Love of Christ* § 10 Let me set all my soul upon Thee..who art the eternal and absolute Self Being.

So **† Se·lf-being** *ppl. a.*, self-existent.

1599 Davies *Nosce Teipsum* 17 Her selfe being Nature shines in this, That she performes her noblest works alone.

Self-bi·nder. orig. *U.S.* [Self- 4.] A reaping-machine which has an apparatus for binding the corn into sheaves automatically.

1882 *Evening Star* 28 June, The country has more wheat growing than it could reap save for self-binders. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Nov. 2/1 The regular price now paid in the States for a self-binder is 160 dols., say £33.

So **Self-bi·nding** *ppl. a.*

1883 *Sci. Amer.* 3 Mar. 138/3 A self-binding harvester. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Nov. 3/2 Self-binding reapers.

Self-black. Chiefly *northern.* Also 6 selblack(e. [Self B. 3.] **a.** Of a uniformly black colour. **b.** Of a naturally black colour, not dyed. Also *sb.*, a colour of this description; † a stuff of such a colour.

1558 *Will of Rolandson of Kendal* (Somerset Ho.), A selblacke jerkin. 1562 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 152 Inprimis, iij. mellyd russetts, xlij s. Item ij. other selblacks, xx s... Blacke woulle, xx s. Selblacke woulle, xij s. 1573 *Ibid.* 235 To Sybbel y^e^ doghter of Robart my soon a browne cote, a pare of selblacke slevys. 1595 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 117 Ane gown of selfblak. 1621 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 626/2 Selfblak Claithe maid in Scotland. 1828 [W. Carr] *Craven Gloss.* II. 109 My stockins er self black.

† Self-blood. *Obs.*

1. [Self- 1 a.] Self-murder.

c 1616 Fletcher *Thierry & Theod.* IV. i. (1621) H 2 b, Do you feele What followes a selfe blood, whither you venter, And to what punishment?

2. [Self- 5 a.] One's own blood relations.

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* III. i. (1605) E 4 b, Though he had proper Issue of his owne, He would no lesse bring vp, and foster these, Then that selfe-bloud.

Self-boa·sting, *vbl. sb.* [Self- 1 b.] Boasting about oneself. So **Self-boa·sted** *ppl. a.*, boasted of as one's own.

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* iv. 15 Importunate selfe-boasting. *Ibid.* vii. 23 Thy great selfe-boasted learning. *a* 1653 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xii. 10 This taketh away all ground of self-boasting from them. 1850 O. Winslow *Inner Life* 92 Self-confidence, self-seeking, self-boasting.

Self-born, *ppl. a.* [Self- 3 b.] Born of or originating from oneself or itself.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 79 Selfeborne, and fatner of himself. *a* 1644 Quarles *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xi, And leave to morrow To beare the burden of her selfe-borne sorrow. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* xv. *Pythag. Philos.* 580 From himself the Phœnix only springs: Self-born. 1845 Bailey *Festus* 120 The self-begot, self-wedded, and self-born. 1875 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* III. xi. § 7 The pleasure of the original or self-born feeling.

¶ In Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. i. 8 'one self-borne howre' = one and the same hour (see Self B. 1 d); in *Rich. II*, II. iii. 80 'self-borne Armes' is of disputed meaning (some mod. edd. read *self-born* = indigenous).

Self-bow: see Self B. 6.

Self-bred, *ppl. a.* [Self- 3 b.]

† 1. = Self-born. *Obs.*

1587 Golding *De Mornay* iii. 30 Plato..calleth God..the Beer..the selfbred, who also made y^e^ Heauen.

† 2. Native. *Obs.*

1590 R. W. *Three Lords & Ladies* B, Of selfe bred soile, of London is her race.

3. *Bot.* Applied to the offspring of self-fertilized flowers. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*

† Self-ce·ntral, *a. Obs.* [Self- 3 a.] = Self-centred 1, 2.

1647 H. More *Song of Soul* IV. xx, A self-centrall essence. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* VII. vi. (1821) 367 This sensual, brutish, and self-central life.

So **Self-ce·ntralism,** self-centredness; **† Self-centra·lity,** the quality of being 'self-central'; **Self-centraliza·tion, Self-centra·tion** (Webster, 1864), the state or quality of being self-centred.

1903 *Month* July 33 Proud *self-centralism. 1647 H. More *Song of Soul* IV. xix, Which doth all souls into one centre strain, And make them void of *self-centrality. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 407 The *self-centralisation of Latin politics.

Self-ce·ntre, *v. rare*[−1]. [Self- 3 a.] *trans.* To centre in oneself.

1794 Coleridge *Relig. Musings* 91 What thirsty cares Drink up the spirit and the dim regards Self-centre.

Self-ce·ntred, *ppl. a.* [Self- 3 a.]

1. Fixed or stationary, as a centre round which other things move.

1676 Dryden *State Innoc.* II. i. (1677) 12 There hangs the ball of Earth and Water mixt, Self-Center'd, and unmov'd. 1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 84 He is one unmov'd self-center'd Point of Rest. 1737 Pope *Hor. Ep.* I. vi. 6 Self-center'd Sun. 1872 Browning *Fifine* lxxx. 12 Your steadying touch of hand Assists me to remain self-centred, fixed amid All on the move.

2. Of persons, their activities, etc.: Centred in oneself (or itself); independent of external action or influence.

a 1764 Lloyd *Whim* Poet. Wks. 1774 II. 166 Genius self-center'd feels alone That merit he esteems his own. 1828 Sewell *Oxford Prize Ess.* 43 Self-centred circles of commercial employments, professions, and amusements. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* II. 13 The self-centred life that makes itself independent of everything but the individuality in which it is imprisoned. 1895 Zangwill *Master* III. viii, He would be fixed at last, swinging steadily on a pivot of happiness...Now at last he would be self-centred.

b. In an unfavourable sense, passing into that of: Engrossed in self, selfishly independent.

1783 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 20 Nov., A stubborn sufficiency self-centered. 1873 Morley *Rousseau* I. 126 He was both too self-centred and too passionate for warm ease and fulness of life in all things, to be truly sympathetic [etc.]. 1884 W. H. White *Mark Rutherford's Deliv.* vii. (1892) 97 That self-centred satisfaction which makes life tolerable.

Hence **Self-ce·ntredness.**

1891 F. Paget *Spirit of Discipline* iii. 98 The absurdity of self-centredness and self-advertisement. 1894 *Athenæum* 21 July 94/2 With nearly as strong a belief as his master's in the self-centredness of man.

Self-ce·ntring, *ppl. a.*

† 1. [Self- 3 a.] = Self-centred 1, 2. *Obs.*

1693 Norris *Pract. Disc.* IV. 186 The Self-Ending, Self-Centring Man does in a very true..Sense Idolize himself. 1701 — *Ideal World* I. vi. 398 Truth being of the Divine essence..is really a ground and foundation to itself, even as that self-centring essence is. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 217 They pursue the interests of freedom steadily, but with narrow and self-centring views.

2. *Mech.* [Self- 4.] Applied to chucks, etc., which hold the object in a central position without the necessity of tentative adjustments.

1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 237 These self-centring chucks. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Nov. 5/2 The clutch is of the self-centring type.

Selfcide. *nonce-wd.* [f. Self + -cide[2].] Suicide.

1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 479 Hobbes..saith..that no Homicide, or Selfcide,..is against the law of nature.

Self-colle·cted, *ppl. a.* [Self- 3 a.] = Collected 2.

a 1721 Ken *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 12 O may I self-collected here, Live all at once in filial fear. 1832 Scott *Ct. Rob.* xiv, The features, with their self-collected composure. 1842 Manning *Serm.* ii. (1848) I. 23 Look at the penitent sinner, calm and self collected.

So **Self-colle·ctedness, Self-colle·ction.**

1834 Godwin *Necromancers* 18 Boldness and *self-collectedness. 1842 Faber *Styrian Lake*, etc. 292 With solemn *self-collection did he slay Himself upon the barrow newly raised. 1871 Morley *Vauvenargues* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 29 The self-collection, the feminine solicitude, that [etc.].

Self-co·lour. [Self B. 3.]

1. One uniform colour; orig. used of flowers (cf. next). Also, a colour belonging to the same series as another.

1665 Rea *Flora* 177 These self-colours [in Columbines] are not valued. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Tulipa* 8 C 3/1 These do, in time, break into various beautiful Stripes, according to the Ground of their former Self-colour. 1849 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 414 The cattle of mountainous countries..are always of self-colours—black, red, or dun. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Painting* 19 The system of shading with a 'self-colour', as pink with crimson. 1888 Sansone *Dyeing* vii. 154 Madder is still employed..in wool dyeing, both as self-colour and in combination with other dyewoods.

2. The natural colour.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 440/2 The Scotch boxes [*sc.* snuff-boxes], called 'Holyroods'..are generally the 'self-colour' of the wood.

Self-co·loured, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed. Cf. MHG. *selpvar* having the natural colour or aspect.]

1. Of one uniform colour.

1759 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7) s. v. *Tulipa* 13 Q 4/1 The Stripes should be small and regular, arising from the Bottom of the Flower, for if there are any Remains of the former self-coloured Bottom, the Flower is in Danger of losing its Stripes again. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 784/1 Pieces of self-coloured glass. 1889 Mrs. Panton *Nooks & Corners* 29 The darkest brown self-coloured linoleum put down all over the passages and halls.

2. Of the natural colour. (In mod. Dicts.)

Self-comma·nd. [Self- 1 a.] Control of one's actions or feelings, self-control.

1699 Shaftesb. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. § 2 The Advantages..of a contrary Sobriety, and Self-Command. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* ii, My father had, generally speaking, his temper under complete self-command. 1898 J. Morley *Let.* in *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec., Your..self-command under the provocation of those 'unworthy insinuations'.

Self-compla·cence, -co·mplaisance. [Self- 3 a.] = Complacence I.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* I. xiii. 73 The self-complaisance which an imagin'd happy thought can be supposed to give the speaker. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 468 Extravagance and av'rice shall subscribe, While fame and self-complacence are the bribe. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xii, Foster..pointed with self-complacence to a piece of concealed machinery in the wall. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* IV. 73 Self-complaisance over the concealed destroys its concealment.

Self-compla·cency. [Self- 3 a.] = prec.

1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 302 Acts of self-complacency, whereby I delight and please my self in the perfections of my Nature. 1694 South *Serm.* 1 *Cor.* ii. 7 Wks. 1823 II. 396 To check those self-complacencies which it is apt to grow into. 1707 Norris *Treat. Humility* 26 To receive it modestly, without any expressions of self-complacency. 1827 Coleridge *Statesm. Man.* 36 In the blindness of self-complacency. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxviii. 490 About himself and his own exploits there is not one word of self-complacency.

Self-compla·cent, *a.* [Self- 3 a.] = Complacent 2.

1763 Churchill *Rosciad* 161 With a self-complacent jutting air, It smil'd, It smirk'd, It simper'd. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 543 Selfcomplacent stupidity. 1878 Gladstone *Prim. Homer* 148 The wisdom of Nestor is amusingly accompanied with self-complacent reflection.

So **Self-complaoe·ntial, -compla·cing** *adjs.*, self-complacent; **Self-compla·cently** *adv.*

a 1721 Ken *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 109 Thy Love *self-complacential. 1806 Knox *Let. to Jebb* 27 Oct., The sweet, rational, self-complacential, yea, direct, disinterested, delight. *a* 1700 Ken *Hymnothea* Poet. Wks. III. 304 God.. Self-knowing, *Self-complacing on his Throne. 1810 Foster *Ess.* I. iii. (1806) I. 49 As polemics most *self-complacently avow their opinions to be more firmly established by all that the opponent has objected.

Self-conceit. [Self- 1 a.]

1. One's opinion or estimate of oneself; *esp.* high or exaggerated opinion of oneself, one's talents, attainments, etc.

1588–9 Marlowe *Faustus* Chor. 20 Till swolne with cunning, of a selfe conceit [etc.]. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 84 To confirme that good selfe-conceit and opinion of his owne. 1608 D. Tuvill *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 62 b Not tainted

with anie humorous Selfe-conceit. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 35 Vaine-Glory; which is commonly called Pride, and selfe-conceipt. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 374 Philosophy, without his heav'nly guide May blow up self-conceit. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 185 He remarks the self-conceit of a younger generation of philosophers.

†**2.** One's own opinion; wilful thought. *Obs.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. lii. 234 Our Mindes doe wauer still Our selfe-Conceits be winged and we flie from good to ill. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 98 [Naaman] had a self-conceit of the way of curing him.

Self-conceited, *ppl. a.* Now somewhat *rare*; freq. in 17th c. [f. prec.] Full of or marked by self-conceit; having an overweening opinion of oneself; = CONCEITED 3.

1595 *Polimanteia* in Brydges *Brit. Bibl.* I. 285 Any male-contented selfe-conceited, vnregarded malicious subiect. 1597 THYNNE in *Animadv.* (1875) Introd. p. xcix, The selfe conceyted mr Savile, prouoste of Eatone. 1611 *Bible, Transl. Ep.* ¶ 5 If..we shall be maligned by selfe-conceited brethren, who runne their owne wayes. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Rest.* 211 Lulled asleep with self-conceited ignorance. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* i. 2 The French.. seem to me to be as self-conceited as the Japonese. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv, This troublesome, pedantic, self-conceited coxcomb. 1887 BESANT *The World Went* xv. 122 Dwarfs..are the most vainglorious and self-conceited persons imaginable.

¶ With predicative adj. = thinking oneself to be (so-and-so).

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 34 Others..which, selfe-conceited wise, Take a great pride in their owne vaine surmise.

Hence **Self-conceitedly** *adv.*, **Self-conceitedness** (freq. in 17th c.).

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. ix. 566 *Selfe-conceitedly to ouer-esteeme what they possesse aboue others. *c* 1616 S. WARD *Coal from Altar* (1627) 21, I feare most of them be sicke of *selfe-conceitednesse, new-fanglenesse, and desire of mastership. 1661 BAXTER *Mor. Prognost.* 67 Self-Conceitedness in their Controversies. *a* 1721 PRIOR 24 *Songs* xxiii, But self-conceitedness does reign In every mortal mind.

†**Self-conce'rn.** *Obs.* [SELF- 5 a.] Personal interest. So †**Self-conce'rned,** †**-conce'rning** *ppl. adjs.*, self-interested; †**Self-conce'rnment,** self-interest.

1681 OWEN *Φρονημα του Πνευματος* I. iv. Wks. 1852 VII. 302 Confined almost in their thoughts unto themselves,.. and their *self-concerns. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 367 The most *self-concern'd person of all that ever had the management of publick affairs. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemæan* v, For *self-concerning ends. 1644 MILTON *Divorce* To Parlt. of Eng. A 3, It is incredible how cold..we are, without the spurre of *self-concernment. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. § 2 A more than ordinary Self-Concernment, or Regard to private Good.

Self-condemna'tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Condemnation by oneself of one's own action.

1703 [J. HAY] *title*, Self-Condemnation: or the author of the second edition of the Debate in the Shop, condemned out of his own mouth. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* 31 It must have produced not only Self-conviction, but Self-condemnation. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* IV. 26 Shame ..and abasement and self-condemnation.

So (all *rare*) **Self-conde'mnable** *a.*, carrying with it its own condemnation; **Self-conde'mnant, Self-co'ndemnating, Self-conde'mnatory** = SELF-CONDEMNING.

1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 70 They become *self-condemnable, by being the Result of human Productions. 1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 234 If the spurious *self-condemnant reading *salvatur* be adopted. 1863 CARLYLE *Let.* 18 Mar., A wonderful *self-condemnating MS. by Frk. the Great. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul but Jesus* 111 He states the *self-condemnatory mental facts.

Self-conde'mned, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Condemned by one's own action or words.

1623 N. ROGERS *Strange Vineyard* 6 Had he knowne on whom the sentence would haue light, it should not haue beene so heauie; but now he is selfe-condemned. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vii. 131 Which we cannot violate without being Self-condemned. 1836 SIR H. TAYLOR *Statesman* xvii. 126 In adopting it [a course of conduct] they stand self-condemned without reason. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 90 Self-condemned in his wretchedness.

Hence **Self-conde'mnedly** *adv.*, so as to condemn oneself.

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* 216 Obstinately and Self-condemnedly maintaining inconsisting Things with the Faith.

Self-conde'mning, *ppls.* and *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 f.] Condemning oneself, one's way of life, etc.

1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* XXX. 27 That self-condemning shamefastnesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1188 They in mutual accusation spent The fruitless hours, but neither self-condemning. 1749 LAW *Serious Call* iii. 37 A self-condemning conscience. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1777, Johnson laughed heartily at this good Quietist's self-condemning minutes [=Dr. Rutty's Spiritual Diary]. 1826 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lix, And could the ceaseless vultures cease to prey On self-condemning bosoms.

Hence **Self-conde'mningly** *adv.*, in self-condemnation.

1681 BAXTER *Answ. Dodwell* iv. 37 Mr. Dodwell, self-condemningly saith, that [etc.].

Self-co'nfidence. [SELF- 3 a.] Confidence in oneself; often in an unfavourable sense, arrogant or impudent reliance on one's own powers.

1653 GAUDEN *Hieraspistes* 69 A matter..of self-confidence and intollerable boastings. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 405 Self-confidence and Self-Conceit render Men Fools. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* (1868) 375 Self-confidence is the first requisite to great undertakings. 1849 SCOTT *Talism.* I, The calm self-confidence belonging to the victor in many contests. 1849 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* II. vii. 135 Self-confidence, or, in plainer language, impudence, was the great secret of his success. 1875 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) VI. 120 Both rather abounded in self-confidence.

So **Self-co'nfident** (hence **-co'nfidently** *adv.*, Webster, 1847–54).

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* III. 310 Shallow and self-confident persons.

†**Self-confi'ding,** *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Trusting in oneself, marked by self-confidence.

1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 52 An haughtie, bold, out-stretching, and selfe-confiding spirit. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIII. 174 The thoughtless self-confiding train. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xiii, Free, and fearless, and self-confiding.

Self-congratula'tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Congratulation of oneself.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 381 ¶ 11 How many self-congratulations naturally rise in the mind. 1810 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. ix. 321 A sort of self-congratulation, a little tickling self-flattery. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iv. 22 The honor is mine and the self-congratulation is mine.

So **Self-congra'tulating, -congra'tulatory** *adjs.*

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 622 The puny child Of self-congratulating pride. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* iii, A very pleasant, self-congratulatory frame of mind.

Self-co'njugate, *a. Math.* [SELF- 3 a.] Applied to a figure each side of which is, relatively to some conic, the polar of the opposite vertex. Of a function (see quot. 1873). Hence **Self-conjugation,** the state of being self-conjugate.

1866 HAMILTON *Quaternions* § 349 Where the function $\phi\rho$ is its own conjugate, or is the common self-conjugate part of $\phi\rho$ and $\phi'\rho$. *Ibid.* § 353 When this condition of self-conjugation is not satisfied. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 12 In Quaternion language, the one vector is said to be a linear and vector function of the other, and when there are three pairs of equal coefficients the function is said to be self-conjugate. 1885 J. CASEY *Analyt. Geom.* 305 Let the conics be referred to their common self-conjugate triangle. 1893 in Cayley *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 269 Of course, here a self-conjugate term such as *bcd* is put in evidence.

Self-co'nscious, *a.* [SELF- 1 e.]

1. *Philos.* Having consciousness of one's identity, one's actions, sensations, etc.; reflectively aware of one's actions. Also said of action, thought, etc. [1690, etc.: cf. SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS 2.] 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 97 An infinite yet self-conscious Creator. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* i. (1881) 4 So far as human action is self-conscious as well as voluntary. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* vii. 136 A person is..essentially a self-conscious subject.

†**b.** Of which one is conscious in oneself. *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 174 My self-conscious Worth. 1824 BENTHAM *Bk. Fallacies* I. i. § 2 Wks. 1843 II. 392 Self-conscious and self-avowed imbecility.

2. Marked by undue or morbid pre-occupation with one's own personality; so far self-centred as to suppose one is the object of observation by others.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. vii, Self-conscious, conscious of a world looking on. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, Their..innocence so self-conscious and self-satisfied. 1882 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* XXXIX, He was singularly free from self-consciousness; and she was so exquisitely self-conscious as completely to conceal it.

Hence **Self-co'nsciously** *adv.*

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Shaks.* Lit. Rem. (1836) II. 68 A genial understanding directing self-consciously a power and an implicit wisdom deeper even than our consciousness.

Self-co'nsciousness. [SELF- 1 d.]

†**1.** The condition of being privy *to* a thing. *Obs.*

1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* II. 5 Self-consciousness to the closest Villany.

2. *Philos.* Consciousness of one's own identity, one's acts, thoughts, etc.; = CONSCIOUSNESS 4.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. XXVII. § 16 Appropriated to me now by this self-consciousness. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 15 A distinct Animal, endued with self-consciousness and personal sensation of its own. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* 184 That, which in man is the subject or *suppositum* of self-consciousness, thinks, and has the foresaid faculties, must be something different from his body or carcass. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Lect. Metaph.* XXIX, Perception is the power by which we are made aware of the phænomena of the external world; Self-consciousness the power by which we apprehend the phænomena of the internal. 1874 G. H. LEWES in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 689 Philosophy must be regarded in the light of a continuous history of Self-consciousness.

3. Internal knowledge or conviction *of* a thing; = CONSCIOUSNESS 2.

1751 EARL ORRERY *Rem. Swift* xiii. (ed. 5) 114 With only the self consciousness of deserving a rank among the companions of Brutus in the Elysian fields.

4. The condition of being self-conscious (sense 2).

1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* ii, It sweeps away that infernal web of self-consciousness, and absorbs me in outward objects. 1876 FARRAR *Days of thy Youth* XXXVII. 373 If he is not free from the self-consciousness which is usually called being nervous.

Self-co'nsequence. [SELF- 5 a.] Self-importance.

1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* XXXIV. (1791) II. 225 By no means wanting in pride and self-consequence. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xviii, To..enhance the self consequence of a powerful ecclesiastic. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 101 Warped by personal pretensions and self-consequence.

So **Self-co'nsequent** *a.*, self-important.

1878 MRS. H. WOOD *Pomeroy Abbey* III. viii, Jupiter, seated on Olympus..never felt more self-consequent than does Jeffs feel, perched on his box-seat to-day.

Self-consi'stency. [SELF- 3 a.] = CONSISTENCY 5, 5 b.

1692 NORRIS *Curs. Reflect.* 13 How then can he with any tolerable Self-consistency say [etc.]. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 66/1 Lycurgus..considered happiness..as flowing from virtue and self-consistency. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 270 You deny the self-consistency of the Church of England and call it a compromise. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 40 Such facts do not..destroy..the self-consistency of the objects themselves.

Self-consi'stent, *a.* [SELF- 3 a.] = CONSISTENT 6 b, 7.

1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 60 They are also so self-consistent as in consequence of their common principle to hold that they do not think. 1817 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* 5 Imposture, organized into a comprehensive and self-consistent whole. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 199/2 An accurate and self-consistent system of weights and measures.

Self-contai'ned, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Having all that one (it) needs in oneself (itself); independent of external means or relations; esp. (of persons) not dependent upon, or communicating oneself to, others; reserved or restrained in behaviour.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 694 Our own Bodie's self-contained motions. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 360 The self-contained Perfection. 1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* i. 3 Secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. 1850 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* V. VI. ix. § 7. 84 The pine rises in serene resistance, self-contained. 1865 MEREDITH *R. Fleming* viii, A beauty has all the world with her when she is self-contained. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 290 The vast, surging, excited, but self-contained crowd. 1905 CHESTERTON *Heretics* 181 When London was smaller, and the parts of London more self-contained and parochial.

b. Of a house: Of which the apartments and the approaches are restricted to the use of one family or household; having a private entrance. Orig. *Sc.*

1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* v, It is a house 'within itself', or, according to a newer phraseology in advertisements, self-contained. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* iv. 126 The Englishman has a weakness..to rent a self-contained house rather than an apartment.

allusive. 1829 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. iv. 73 We are a world 'within ourselves', a 'self-contained house'.

c. Of a machine or device: Complete in itself.

1828 SCOTT *Aunt Margaret's Mirr.* ii, [The mirror] no longer simply reflected the objects placed before it, but, as if it had self-contained scenery of its own, objects began to appear within it. 1839–47 [see *self-containedness* below]. 1869 RANKINE *Cycl. Mech. & Hand-tools* Pl. K 3, It [sc. shearing-machine] is self-contained, is easily fixed, requires ..but moderate skill to work it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., *Self-contained engine*, an engine and boiler attached together complete for working. 1893 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 133 A self-contained mechanical device for exposing the plates automatically.

Hence **Self-contai'nedly** *adv.*, **Self-contai'nedness**; so **Self-contai'ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Self-contai'nment,** the condition of being self-contained.

1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* III. 268 Ernest and Edie..went their own way as *self-containedly as usual. 1839–47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 348/2 All the advantage of Mr. Holland's microscope, except its *self-containedness. 1879 A. W. WARD *Chaucer* 147 That self-containedness (very different from self-contentedness) which distinguishes Chaucer. 1882 *Expositor* Aug. 140 The self-containedness, the incommunicableness of God. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 340 This, then, is the right ground of the sceptic—this of consideration, of *self-containing. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 101 The nation was to be free, self-helping, *self-containing, unconquerable. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 734/1 Their whole condition is..one of unsociability, *self-containment, and isolation. 1866 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) I. 108 A country the very essence of whose position is self-containment.

Self-conte'mpt. [SELF- 1.] Contempt of self.

1600 in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 446 An humble soule that sincks in selfe-contempt. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. I. 504 Thou Self-contempt didst practise and instil. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* XXXVII, Remorse and Self-contempt shall cling to thee. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for Nothing* II. 157 An expression in which joviality, recklessness, and a certain sorrowing self-contempt were strangely mingled.

Self-conte'nt, *sb.* [SELF- 3 a.] Self-satisfaction.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 367 If even in self-vexation, something of self-content is sought. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* III. ad fin., If Happiness in Self-content is plac'd. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 487 Like a vain loud multitude Vexing the self-content of wisest men. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. x, This self-content of his kept him in general good-humour.

Self-conte'nt, *a. rare.* [SELF- 3 a.] = next.

1857 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 257 Frenchmen are so self-content and superficial.

Self-conte'nted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Self-satisfied. So **Self-conte'ntedly** *adv.*; **Self-conte'ntedness, -conte'ntment,** self-satisfaction; †**Self-conte'nting** *a.*, self-satisfying.

1822 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 16 One of those *self-contented fussy men. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Early Rose* xlvi. Poems (1850) II. 299 Ye to yourselves suffice,..*Self-contentedly approve you Unto Him who sits above you. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 168 What an inward sufficiency and *Self-Contentedness. 1897 W. C. HAZLITT *Ourselves* 34 The wide prevalence of self-contentedness and self-complacency. 1647 H. MORE *Exercitatus* ii, Whose inward life Is *self-contenting joy. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Luke* ii. 16 He would chuse to live and dye in his self-contenting secresie. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* III. xiv. 374 He..talked on with much *self-contentment. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* I. x. 232 Esther felt herself seriously shaken in her self-contentment.

Self-contradiction. [SELF- 1 a.] The act or fact of contradicting oneself (or itself); also, a statement which contains elements that contradict one another.

1658 OWEN (*title*) A Defence of Mr. John Cotton from

the imputation of Selfe Contradiction. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 95 As if there were a great many Self-contradictions to be met with in the Scripture. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vii. 125 The most palpable Self-contradictions. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxvi, With the strange self-contradiction of human nature. 1876 MELLOR *Priesthood* v. 250 The superlocal presence of a body is a phrase which involves a self-contradiction, inasmuch as it excludes an essential property in the definition of body.

So **Self-contradi·cting** *ppl. a.* (hence **Self-contradi·ctingly** *adv.*), † **Self-contradi·ctious, Self-contradi·ctory** *adjs.*

1655-87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 221 It is an incongruous and *self-contradicting position to hold. 1672 BAXTER *Bagshaw's Scandals* ii. 15 The self-contradicting man. 1866 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 383 An authority thus divided, and thus self-contradicting. 1653 BAXTER *Christian Concord* 30 To say we deal *self-contradictingly. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. God.* I. v. 12 A Mystery which they hold impossible and *self-contradictious. 1657 BAXTER *Agst. Quakery* 8 Their Doctrines are *self-contradictory. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 162 The Florentine's precepts were..so self-contradictory..that he was supposed to be in jest.

Self-contro·l. [SELF- 1 a.]

1. Control of oneself, one's desires, etc.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 260 *note*, The Perfection of Virtue is from long Art and Management, Self-Controul. 1799 WORDSW. *Ruth* 154 A Man who without self-control Would seek what the degraded soul Unworthily admires. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 142 Selfreverence, selfknowledge, selfcontrol. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxxix, As if all self-control had forsaken him, [he] grasped Adam's arm.

2. Self-government. *rare.*

1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 26 If it be not only an independent but a national church, the right of self-control is one that it cannot part with without disloyalty.

Hence **Self-contro·lled, -contro·lling** *adjs.*

1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* viii. 210 The human frame, so strong, so dignified, so *self-controlled in its perfections. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. iv, The deep and *self-controlling mind of Adrian. 1873 SPENCER *Study Sociol.* vi. 131 A comparatively self-controlling nature, capable of sacrificing present ease to future good.

Self-convi·cted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Convicted by one's own words or action.

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* III. 306 Pale Guilt starts self-convicted, when arraign'd. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxi, I should stand self-convicted of villainy, were I to urge such a deceit. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. App. (1877) 738 Such a document is self-convicted.

Self-convi·ction. [SELF- 1 a.] Conviction of oneself by one's own words or action.

1640 R. BAILLIE (*title*) Ladensivm ΑὐτοκατακρισιϚ, The Canterbvrians Self-Conviction. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxxxi. (1779) III. 163, I began to hate him in proportion to the self-conviction I felt. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 90 Too late at last the self-conviction came.

Self-crea·ted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2] Created, brought into existence, or constituted by oneself.

1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* (1867) 403 That God promiseth to keep him in his ways, but not in self-created dangers. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* III. 198 The self-created distinction of polished society. 1815 W. PRICE *Hist. Oswestry* 78 Napoleon Buonaparte, the self-created emperor of the French. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* iv. I. 72 The particular, partly self-created, character of Gibbon's mind.

So **Self-crea·te** *ppl. a.* (*rare*) = prec.; **Self-crea·tion; Self-crea·ting, -crea·tive** *adjs.*, capable of self-creation.

1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* (1886) 270 They divided the universe into..the uncreate, the *self-create and the created. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 119 As the muscle is thus furnished with a kind of *self-creating power. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11 (1875) 32 The hypothesis of *self-creation, which practically amounts to what is called Pantheism. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* i. § 1 This capacity of self-determination, and therefore of self-creation, compels us to place will in a category by itself. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* 12 Thy might is *self-creative. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* i. § 1 We are, in a measure, self-creative, causes of ourselves.

Self-cu·lture. [SELF- 1 a.] The cultivation or development by one's own efforts of one's mind, faculties, manners, etc.

1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Goethe* Wks. (Bohn) I. 394, I suppose the worldly tone of his tales grew out of the calculations of self-culture. 1872 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Dante* Wks. 1890 IV. 149 From being the slave of his imaginative faculty, he rose by self-culture and force of will to that mastery of it which is art.

† **Self-dead,** *a. Obs.* [SELF- 3 a.] Dead to self.

1647 H. MORE *Philos. Poems, Addit.* 332 That pure fire Wherewith thou wontest to inspire All self-dead souls. 1688 NORRIS *Lett.* 187 To be thus self-dead and self-annihilated. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* VI. xxxi. (1805) I. 194 'Self-dead, for him alone to be, to breathe, to move.

Hence † **Self-dea·dness.**

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 147/2 The most profound and spiritual humility,..and a perfect self-deadnesse.

† **Self-death.** *Obs.* [SELF 1 a.] Self-murder.

1659 *Lag. Capt. Jones* in *Archæologia* Feb. (1840) 281 Brutus, I am a brute, and have thy spirit, Thy fortune and self-death I will inherit.

Self-deceit. [SELF- 1 a.] Self-deception.

1679 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* II. 26 Evidences of self-deceit in matters of Religion. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 399 P 2 This fatal Hypocrisie and Self-deceit. 1828 D. STEWART *Philos. Powers of Man* II. ii. I. 157 Our moral powers are warped by the influence of self-partiality and self-deceit. 1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. v. *Incendiary* 6 They show to the human heart its own desperate self-deceit.

So **Self-deceitful** *a.*, **-deceitfulness.**

1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cvi, How *self-deceitful is the sagest part Of mortals whom thy [sc. Love's] lure hath led along.

1850 W. H. GOOLD *J. Owen's Wks.* I. Pref. 9 The *self-deceitfulness of the heart.

Self-decei·ved, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Deceived by oneself, marked by self-deception.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 7 Who self deceiv'd And rash, before-hand had no better weigh'd The strength he was to cope with. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. i. 75 Some, self-deceived, who think their lust of gold Is but a love of fame. 1831 COLERIDGE *Table-talk* 30 July, An intense half self-deceived humorism.

So **Self-decei·ver, -decei·ving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1614 DYKE *Myst. Selfe-deceiving* iv. (ed. 8) 65 And so much for the three former *selfe-deceiuers. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., 6th Sund. Epiph.*, The self-deceiver's dreary theme. *a* 1614 DYKE (*title*) The Mystery of *Selfe-Deceiving. 1668 OWEN *Expos. 130th Ps.* (1669) 165 All their profession is but a miserable self-deceiving. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Juv.* (1789) 121 Thus we begin to learn and practise early this art of self-deceiving. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lx. § 3 (1617) 315 A *selfe-deceiuing vanitie. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 212 We are poor, empty self-deceiving and self-defiling creatures. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., 14th Sund. Trin.*, What sadder scene can angels view Than self-deceiving tears? 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 119 Easy and self-deceiving ways, by which to deny Christ.

Self-dece·ption. [SELF- 1 a.] The action or fact of deceiving oneself; self-delusion.

1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* (1867) 53 It may be said a man complies with those things which are intended for his delusion, and so improperly by his negligence may fall under blame of self-deception. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowledge* I. xi. (1758) 75 Of all impostures Self-Deception is the most dangerous, because least suspected. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* v, With all a lover's power of self-deception. 1907 RALEIGH *Shakespeare* 175 Self-deception is a male weakness.

So **Self-dece·ptious, -dece·ptive** *adjs.*

1809 KNOX *Let. to Webb* 8 Mar., A *self-deceptious substitution of a lower..good, in the place of the highest. 1894 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 599/1 [They] showed themselves theatrical, self-conscious, and *self-deceptive.

Self-defe·nce. [SELF- 1 a.] The act of defending oneself, one's rights or position; *spec.* in *Law* (see quot. 1769).

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxi. 113 The offer of pardon taketh from them, to whom it is offered, the plea of self-defence. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 458 Self-defence is Nature's eldest law. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 279 Forc'd into virtue thus by Self-defence, Ev'n Kings learn'd justice and benevolence. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 183 Homicide in self-defence, or *se defendendo*, upon a sudden affray, is..excusable rather than justifiable, by the English law. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 26 He deduced the doctrine that self-defence against pirates and assassins is unlawful. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xv. 420 The settler ..trusted for security in the forest to his perpetual readiness for self-defence. 1886 *Field* 9 Oct. 535/2 [Football] Each team scored a goal, and each touched down in self-defence.

b. *The (noble, manly) art of self-defence*: † (*a*) fencing; (*b*) pugilism, boxing. (Cf. DEFENCE *sb.* 4, NOBLE *a.* 9.)

1724 SIR W. HOPE (*title*) A Vindication of the true art of self-defence...To which is annexed, a short..memorial for sword-men. 1821 *Art & Pract. Boxing* Pref., A knowledge of the art of Self-Defence. 1849 CORDEN *Speeches* 76 Are the men the most peaceful in society, who have studied the 'noble art of self-defence?' 1887 W. P. FRITH *Autobiogr.* I. i. 5 A little knowledge of the manly art of self-defence.

Self-defe·nded, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Defended by oneself (or itself).

1775 in ASH. 1845 *Athenæum* 11 Jan. 37 A system should either be self-defended or not at all.

Self-defe·nsive, *a.* [SELF- 1 e.] Of, pertaining to, or involving the principle of, self-defence. So **Self-defe·nsory** *a.*

1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 6 A habit of *self-defensive refusal to all similar propositions. 1905 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 473 The next self-defensive artifice is that of accommodation and compromise. 1872 H. W. BEECHER *Lect. Preaching* ii. 33 A man of..peaceableness,..though of high spirit and *self-defensory power when required.

Self-deli·ght. [SELF- 3 a.] Delight in oneself, one's being or existence.

1594 SOUTHWELL *M. Magd. Funerall Teares* 76 b, Least you loose your selues in too much selfe delight. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 123 Seeing it affords such sweet self-delight to the Sense. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 41 God sits unchang'd in glorious Height, Self-life, Self-love, and Self-delight. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xv, The invincible instinct towards self-delight.

Self-deli·very. [SELF- 4.] Automatic delivery: a. by a reaping-machine of the corn in swaths or sheaves; b. of a pattern from the mould in founding. Also *attrib.* So **Self-deli·verer,** a self-delivery reaping-machine; **Self-deli·vering** *ppl. a.*

1864 *Trans. Highl. Soc.* Jan. 133 The self-delivering machinery now consisting of a series of four (formerly six) rakes attached to an upright shaft in such a manner as to admit of a free ascending, descending, and horizontal motion. *Ibid.* 143 Of the self-delivery reapers, Crosskill's Bell did its work most satisfactorily. 1908 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 396/1 [Reaping-machines] delivered by mechanical labour, or self-deliverers. 1908 J. G. HORNER *Encycl. Pract. Engin., Self Delivery*, the delivery of a pattern from the mould without requiring the use of cores.

Self-delu·ded, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Deluded by oneself, suffering from self-delusion.

1766 LD. MANSFIELD in *Hansard's Parl. Hist.* XVI. 318 What the self-deluded and self-destroyed king said deceitfully. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 326 Self-deluded nymphs and swains, Who dream they have a taste for fields and groves. 1884 *Leeds Merc.* 24 Oct. 4/4 He had warned the self-deluded members of the Conservative party.

So **Self-delu·der, -delu·ding** *ppl. a.*

1817 KEATS *Let. to Haydon* May, If one be a *self-deluder. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 325 Impostors or at best self-deluders. 1650 BAXTER *Saint's Rest* III. v. § 2 (1651) 86 Their own *self-deluding folly. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1673) 184 Thou self-deluding hypocrite.

Self-delu·sion. [SELF- 1 a.] The act of deluding oneself; an instance of this.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 365 If they be but false alarms of Fear, How bitter is such self-delusion? 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvii, Pitying the self-delusion which disarmed him of the will to depart. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xv, Covering with no unusual self-delusion his interested views with a hue of virtue. 1880 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 229 To go on as we do now..in the vague hope that some day we may begin to do our duty..is..mere self-delusion.

Self-deni·al. [SELF- 1 a.] Denial or abnegation of oneself; sacrifice of one's personal desires.

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. § 1 This notion of Selfe and her opposite Self-deniall. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 62 This excellent state is not obtainable without Self-denial, and suffering now and then a little gentle Hunger. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 248 P 1 The great Foundation of civil Virtue is Self-Denial. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., I have not written to you..these many months; a great piece of self-denial. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. v. 79 Let your very rising from your bed be a self-denial; let your meals be self-denials.

Self-denie·d, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Given to, or characterized by, self-denial; self-denying.

1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 9 They could not be so self-denyed as to be willingly deprived of the honour. *a* 1725 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 270 He..was a mortified and self-denied man, that delighted in nothing so much as in the doing good. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, The undaunted and self-denied manner in which he sacrificed himself. 1850 J. BROWN *Disc. & Sayings of our Lord* (1852) II. xvi. 206 Are we following him in self-denied service?

Hence **Self-denie·dly** *adv.*

1676 ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiogr.* xii. (1848) 379 Mr. Blair did seriously and self-deniedly bestir himself.

Self-deni·er. [SELF- 1 c.] A practiser of self-denial.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 366 The greatest Arnautists, Selfe-denyers in shew. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Ser. I. vii. (1886) 262 These saintly self-deniers, these resigned sufferers.

† **Self-deny·ing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [SELF 1 b.] Self-denial.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. iii. 181 To undergo a self-denying or some Sufferance. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 134 Breaking of an Oath, and Lying, Is but a kind of Self-denying.

Self-deny·ing, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 e.] That denies himself; characterized by or involving self-denial.

Self-denying ordinance (Eng. Hist.), 'an Ordinance appointing, That no Member of either House, during the Time of this War, shall have or execute any Office or Command, Military or Civil' (Jrnl. Ho. Commons, Dec. 11, 1644); also transf. (colloq.) applied to any course of action by which a person deprives himself of some advantage or benefit.

1632 E. SYMONDS *Eccles. Self-seeking* (1712) 1 A most learned, loving, faithful, and self-denying Man. 1644 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1732) 118 They could find no other way than by passing a self-denying ordinance, (as they called it,) which would serve their turn. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 3 The lords were this day in a long debate on the commons selfe denying bill. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 728 Whence springs Your self-denying zeal? 1795 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vii. 233, I anticipate with pleasure their marvellous adventures, in the course of which Dr. Black's *self-denying ordinance* will run a shrewd chance of being neglected. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* x, A benevolent individual, who, self-denying to himself, is liberal to all others. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xx, The self-denying and self-sacrificing part of the Catholic religion. 1878 EMERSON *Soc. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) III. 382 A self-denying, ardent church.

Hence **Self-deny·ingly** *adv.*

1649 ROBERT *Clavis Bibl.* 340 To submit silently and self-denyingly to the Lords chastisements. 1671 BAXTER *Power of Mag.* I. 15 Most impartially and self-denyingly faithful to Christ. 1876 STUBBS *Study Med. & Mod. Hist.* iii. (1886) 57 The labours self-denyingly and generously tendered of hard-worked tutors.

Self-depe·ndence. [SELF- 3 a.] Dependence entirely upon oneself, one's own efforts, etc.

1759 TOPLADY *Hymn*, '*Lord, I feel a carnal mind*', A submissive heart, From pride and self-dependence free. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 177 The children of America have the advantage of the best possible early discipline; that of activity and self-dependence. 1857 J. H. NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* (1881) vi. 81 The Omnipotence, the Self-dependence, the Self-sufficiency..of the Eternal God. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist U. S.* V. xvi. 522 His haughty self-dependence and force of will.

So **Self-depe·ndency.**

1853 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* II. 53 Custom..regarded as determining power, may be very well reconciled with spiritual self-dependency.

Self-depe·ndent, *a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Possessing or characterized by self-dependence.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 93 The excellence of the Angelic nature could not preserve them when self-dependent. 1764 GOLDSM. *Tract.* 341 The self-dependent lordlings. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. iv. 201 The existence of an irresponsible self-dependent Being. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* vi. (1852) 162 Salvation rests on the supernatural gift of God, and not on the self-dependent exertions of human excellence. 1861 GOSCHEN *Por. Exch.* 14 A nation, rich in capital and very self-dependent.

Hence **Self-depe·ndently** *adv.*; so **Self-depe·nding** *ppl. a.*, self-dependent.

1853 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* II. 57 In

so far as it..*self-dependently works and is active from out the very inmost of its essence. 1855 *Self-depending [see SELF-WROUGHT b].

Self-despair. [SELF- 1 d.] Despair of oneself.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 526 An holy self-despair and humble trembling dependence on Divine grace. 1742 C. WESLEY *Wrestling Jacob* viii. Hymns 116, I am weak But confident in Self-despair. 1858 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Janet's Rep.* XV, No human soul had..understood her self-despair. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 130/2 The widespread feeling of self-despair and the longing for divine illumination.

Self-destroyed, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Destroyed by one's own act.

1766 [see SELF-DELUDED]. 1805-6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXVI. 84 In what clime death o'ertook him self-destroyed.

Self-destroyer. [SELF- 1 c.] One who is the cause of his own destruction.

1657 BAXTER *Call to Unconverted* (1666) 215 It's apparent that you are self-destroyers, in that you draw the matter of your sin and destruction even from the blessed God himself. 1713 [see SELF-FLATTERER].

b. A suicide.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 376 No man is Master of his own Body, and therefore selfe-destroyers have not common buriall. 1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Fox's Cal. Prot. Saints* 473 Fox being in want of a saint-martyr thought proper to canonize a self-destroyer. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* viii. (1895) 84 By the crushed phial in the hand..Utterson knew that he was looking on the body of a self-destroyer.

So **Self-destroying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1612 W. SCLATER *Sick Souls Salve* 29 Lust, murther, *selfe destroying. 1687 BOYLE *Martyrd. Theodora* Pref. (1703) 21 St. Jerome..speaks of the unlawfulness of self-destroying. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* 127 To kill high thoughts of a *self-destroying sinner. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. CXXVIII. (1702) 96 Driving the self-destroying Trade of Sin. 1713 M. HENRY *Ordination Serm.* Wks. 1857 II. 501/1 This perishing self-destroying people. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 249 With the force of self-destroying swiftness.

Self-destruction. [SELF- 1 a.] Destruction of oneself, one's life; *esp.* self-murder, suicide.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 144 To frame of Earth a vessell of the minde, Where it should be to selfe-destruction bound. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 1016 Self-destruction therefore sought, refutes That excellence thought in thee. 1751 MASON *Elfrida* (1752) 77 Ye need not fear it, She means not self-destruction. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XV, To give gold to youth is..furnishing them with the means of self-destruction. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 371 Very commonly attempts at self-destruction or self-injury are made.

Self-destructive, *a.* [SELF- 1 e.] Having the property of destroying or annulling itself (or each other).

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 80 The Commons.. imagined it would make the Petition so much Royalist, as it would signifie nothing..and would prove *felo de se*, self-destructive. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. § 2 How mischievous and self-destructive Anger is. 1723 BLACKMORE *Alfred* Pref. p. xvii, Moral Evil and the divine Nature are contradictory and self-destructive Idea's. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xiii. 420 Any Reasoning..by which we might attempt to doubt or deny the validity of our Intuitions, would be self-destructive.

Hence **Self-destructively** *adv.*

1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* V, They cannot be intended to compete self-destructively with each other.

Self-determination. *Metaph.* [SELF- 1 a.] Determination of one's mind or will by itself towards an object.

1683-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. vii. § 5 Wks. 1718 I. 406 As necessary Agents, that have no Free-will or Principle of Self-determination. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xvii. § 4 The ideas of men and self-determination appear to be connected. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* iv. (1848) I. 59 Our fearful and wonderful inward nature..has a power of self-determination. 1870-2 LIDDON *Some Elem. of Relig.* iii. 89 It is your will which, by a voluntary self-determination, caused the movement of the muscles of your arm.

So **Self-determined** *ppl. a.*, determined by oneself; having the quality of self-determination; **Self-determining** *vbl. sb.*, = SELF-DETERMINATION; **Self-determining** *ppl. a.*, determining one's own acts; possessing self-determination.

1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 22 It is not doubted that man is accountable, that he acts, and is *self-determined. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Divine Immanence* I. § 1 We are self-determined; since, from the objects that occur to us, we can choose the one which we shall make our own. 1683 J. CORBET *Free Actions* II. 15 The Natural Liberty of the Will is .an Indetermination with a Power of *self-determining. 1853 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* II. 33 The self-determining of the free will. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iii. § 7 To give man the freedom of his actions, and a *self-determining power. *c* 1724 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. xii. Pope's Wks. 1741 II. 44 Every animal is conscious of some individual self-moving, self-determining principle. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. xc. XI. 700 A free self-determining political aggregate. 1864 PEARSON *Div. Pers.* (1865) 1 Is God a self-determining agent apart from the world? 1874 CARPENTER *Mental Phys.* I. i. (1879) 28 We have within us a self-determining Power which we call Will.

Self-devised, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Devised or invented by oneself.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. 169 The while this Priest-King sacrific'd To's clov'n-foot God in Bethel (self-devis'd). 1671 BAXTER *Power of Mag.* I. 9 Self-devised Worship and Religion. 1683 OWEN *Chamb. Imagery* Wks. 1851 VIII. 590 Unlawful vows, self-devised rules. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* viii. (1862) 201 To worship God not with self-devised services, but after the pattern that He has shown them.

Self-devoted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Characterized by self-devotion.

1713 ADDISON *Cato* IV. iv, For him the self-devoted Decii died. 1814 WORDSW. *Laodamia* 48 And forth I leapt upon the sandy plain; A self-devoted chief. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* II. (1818) I. 260 Self-devoted patriotism. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* IV, These bold and self-devoted men.

So **Self-devotedness,** †**-devotement,** †**-devoting** *vbl. sb.* (*rare*) = SELF-DEVOTION; **Self-devoting** *ppl. a.* = SELF-DEVOTED.

1823 LAMB *Guy Faux* Misc. Wks. (1871) 368 Heroic *self-devotedness and true Christian martyrdom. 1800 *Characters in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 23/1 To acquiesce cheerfully to this species of *self-devotement. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) II. 293 That Jehovah..through a mysterious self-devotement shadowed out by the rite of sacrifice,..would reconcile man to God. 1702 HOWE *Self-Ded.* 35 Solemn, personal *self-devoting. *Ibid.* 44 This *self-devoting disposition. 1832 DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 171 The self-devoting prowess of Arnold von Winkelried.

Self-devotion. [SELF 1 a.] Devotion of oneself, one's life, etc.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entom.* (1818) I. xi 372 The self-denial and self-devotion of these admirable creatures. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 46 The very essence of true chivalry, namely, self-devotion.

Hence **Self-devotional** *a.* = SELF-DEVOTED.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* i, The latter of whom invariably swore whatever the parish wanted; which was very self-devotional.

Self-diffidence. [SELF- 1 d.] Self-distrust.

1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* § 12 Yet is it with a mixture of self-diffidence, when I think what a person I dissent from. 1712 M. HENRY *Life of P. Henry* IV. (1765) 91 His great Modesty and Self-diffidence. 1872 J. L. SANFORD *Est. Eng. Kings* 334 This reserve was caused much less by self-diffidence than by self-conceit.

So **Self-diffident,** †**-diffiding** *adjs.*, self-distrustful.

a 1791 WESLEY *Serm.* xlix, This very consideration..would make all who now speak upon the subject, exceedingly wary and *self-diffident. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 52 A low, bashful,..*self-diffiding..disposition.

Self-distrust. [SELF- 1 d.] Distrust of oneself, one's powers, etc.

1789 BURKE *Lett., to Dupont* (1844) III. 105 It would become me, least of all, to be so confident, who ought..to have well learned the important lesson of self-distrust. 1847 KEBLE *Serm.* Pref. 19 Self-distrust is a temper so suitable to us.., that [etc.]. *a* 1890 LIDDON *Life Pusey* (1893) I. xviii. 441 Keble's habitual self-distrust made him at times of less service as an adviser than he might have been.

Hence **Self-distrustful** *a.*, **-distrusting** *ppl. a.*

1860 J. CAIRNS *Mem. J. Brown* viii. 263 This lady..of mature, though *self distrustful piety. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Sc. & Hymns of Life* 58 A lowly, fearful, *self-distrusting heart.

Selfdom (se·lfdəm). [f. SELF *sb.* + -DOM.] The realm or domain of self: a. a condition of things of which self is the centre; b. what constitutes a man's self.

1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shakesp. Char.* xvi. 396 These phrases, he says, are 'the delight of Noodledom'...Ay, and they are the delight, too, of selfdom. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* II. 373 If death should..put his selfdom to the test of loneliness. 1888 — *Study of Relig.* II. IV. ii. 350 This durable selfdom attaches to us..as personal beings.

Self-ease. [SELF- 5 a.] Personal comfort.

1604 ROWLANDS *Looke to it* 12 Regarding nothing but selfe-ease and health. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* I. v. 334 Churchmen..more thoughtful of self-ease, than of what was becoming and dignified, cut away the folds of the old chasuble. 1854 WHITTIER *Voices* xi, Self-ease is pain; thy only rest Is labor for a worthy end.

Self-edge, obs. form of SELVAGE.

Self-effacement. [SELF- 1 a.] The keeping of oneself out of sight or in the background.

1866 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selections* (1869) II. 319, I am.. content to remain unknown, and successful in self-effacement. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. i, The completest private humility and self-effacement. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 847 The skill and self-effacement which mark the book.

So **Self-effacing** *ppl. a.* (hence **-effacingly** *adv.*), **-effacive** *a.*, retiring.

1902 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Vultures* vi, Miss Netty Cahere was a vision of pink and *self-effacing quietness. 1900 *Academy* 25 Aug. 147/1 [He] *self-effacingly pulls the curtain aside, and intrudes not at all. 1883 CAIRD *Edin. Lect. Hume* 23 Nov., In society he was the most *self-effacive of men.

Selfegre(e)ne: see SENGREEN.

Self-elect, *a.* [SELF- 2.] = SELF-ELECTED.

1842 MIALL in *Congregl.* II. 97 In virtue of trusteeship to which they are self-elect. *a* 1885 SIR JAS. PAGET *Mem.* iii. (1901) 42 Some self-elect of the pupils, making themselves into a kind of club.

Self-elected, *a.* [SELF- 2.] Elected by oneself, (of a body) elected by its members; *transf.* of an office to which a person has appointed himself.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIX, The connivance of Government to his self-elected office of Protector of the Lennox. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 216 Self-elected Town Councils. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of Today* XXVI. (ed. 3) 248 Nominally, the election of the directors is in the hands of the stockholders; virtually, they are self-elected.

Self-election. [SELF- 1 a.] Election of oneself by oneself.

1790 *Bystander* 129 Whether or not Alexander was conscious that this self election..would not equally hold good with posterity. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 476/1 Their weakness ..lay in the system of self-election of those magistrates.

So **Self-elective** *a.*, having the right of electing oneself.

1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 228 The violent Aristocrats would have wished..that these [the Regents] should remain self-elective. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. ix. 728 Boroughs constituted with self-elective Councils.

†**Self-end.** *Obs.* Chiefly *pl.* (Very common 1650–1700.) [f. SELF- 5 a, d + END *sb.* 14.] Personal or private end or object; selfish aim or purpose.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Life of Sidney* ii. (1652) 33 These were not complements, self-ends, or use of each other. 1633 — *Let. to Hon. Lady* iii. Wks. 1870 IV. 254 My selfe-end being nothing but your fauor, and my true end your good. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 118 He that loves God, loves him for his own good ..; but he that Praises him..does it not upon any self-end, but meerly because he thinks it just. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 257 Having no Treachery, no Self-ends in his own Breast. 1728 R. MORRIS *Anc. Archit.* 11 They had some sinister View and Self-end.

†**Self-ended,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Of merely private or selfish aims; characterized by self-centred actions or desires.

1645 W. GOODE *Discov. Publ. Spirit* 17 Publique spirits delight in their worke more then their wages, but self-ended men love their wages better then their worke. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 17 (1716) 104 Narrow self-ended Souls make prescription of good Offices. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xliv. 361 Self ended Lawyers. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 10 That self-ended occasional Conformity. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Self-ended*, for one's own advantage.

Hence †**Self-endedness.**

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. II. viii. 131 Displaying the Frauds and Self-endedness of all their Errours and Mispractices. 1697 R. PIERCE *Bath Mem.* Pref. 5, I find a Physician of great Name..blaming the Bath..not without just Suspition of some Self-endedness.

†**Self-ending,** *ppl. a.* [analogical after SELF-ENDED; cf. *self-centred, self-centring.*] = SELF-ENDED.

1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 114 The Self-ending, Self-centring Man does in a very true..sense idolize himself.

†**Self-essence.** *Obs.* [SELF- 5 c.] Self-existent being. So **Self-essential, -essentiated** *adjs.*, self-existent.

1644 DIGBY *Nat Soul* Concl. 463 That..proceedeth..from the bounteous hand of the nothing annihilating *selfe essence. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. XXXIV, By her own centrall self-vitality Which is her *self-essentiall omniformity. 1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* xi, This eternal and self-essential Being, the infinitely blessed God. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. viii. (1712) 23 If any Thing may be *Self-essentiated besides God.

Self-esteem, [SELF- 1 a.] Favourable appreciation or opinion of oneself.

1657 *Baker's Sancta Sophia* II. II. ii. § 2 Independence, Selfe-esteem, Selfe-judgment, & Selfe-will. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 572 Oft times nothing profits more Then self-esteem, grounded on just and right Well manag'd. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowledge* I. i. (1853) 10 Thou wilt find nothing here that will flatter thy self-esteem. 1852 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xii. 121 The larger the man's self-esteem the surer is he of putting it off in the world's mart. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Nov. 5/2 There are plentiful grounds for an honest self-esteem.

b. *Phrenology.* One of the mental faculties with which an 'organ' or 'bump' in the cranium is associated; the 'bump' itself.

1815 SPURZHEIM *Physiogn. Syst.* III. ii. 332. 1825 COMBE *Syst. Phrenol.* 154 Self-esteem. This organ is situated at the vertex or top of the head, a little above the posterior or sagittal angle of the parietal bones. *c* 1835 W. D. COOLEY *Phrenol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 326/2 Self-esteem ..occupies the middle of the upper posterior part of the head immediately above the Inhabitiveness..of Gall's system.

So **Self-esteeming** *ppl. a.*

1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* § 6 Learned self-esteeming men.

Self-estimate. [SELF- 1 a.] Estimate or valuation of oneself.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 22 The event decides this matter of self-estimate. 1878 GROSART *More's Poems* Mem. Introd. 36/1 More's Wordsworthian self-scrutiny and lofty self-estimate.

So **Self-estimation.**

1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 504 Such an arrogant self estimation tends to weaken that strong sense of allegiance and dependance which is due from the creature to the Creator. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 355 An exorbitant personality and self-estimation.

Self-evidence. [SELF- 1 d.] a. Evidence of its own truth. b. The quality or condition of being self-evident.

1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 16 There is not a word but carries with it self-evidence in its Bowels. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 3 'Tis plain, that several other Truths, not allow'd to be Axioms, partake equally with them in this Self-evidence. 1692 NORRIS *Curs. Reflect.* 5 He resolves that ready.. assent which is given to certain Propositions upon their Proposal, into the Self-Evidence of them. 1796 COLERIDGE *Let. in Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 352 He deems that there is a certain self-evidence in Infidelity, and becomes an Atheist by intuition. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* II. 478 [Hutcheson's] writings..fetched back into the light of self-evidence many a generous trait of inward experience. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* IV. § 3. 87 The personality of Jesus Christ is its own self-evidence.

So **Self-evidencing** *ppl. a.*, providing itself the evidence of its own truth; hence **Self-evidencingly** *adv.*

1658-9 OWEN (*title*) Of the Divine Originall, Authority, *Self-Evidencing Light, and Power of the Scriptures (etc.). 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* VI. 118 The native clearness of self-evidencing principles. 1862 M'COSH *Supernat. in relat. to Natural* II. I. § 3. 133, I believe that the truths revealed in

Scripture are so self-evidencing [etc.]. 1890 *Spectator* 6 Sept., The self-evidencing character of intrinsic divinity. 1882–4 GROSART *Spenser* I. 191 The Poet was *self-evidencingly a man of moods.

Self-e·vident, *a.* (*sb.*) [SELF- 3 b.] Evident of itself without proof; axiomatic.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 14 These general and self-evident Maxims. *Ibid.* II. i. § 10 Whether this, That the Soul always thinks, be a self-evident Proposition. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. Concl. 290 The Truth of revealed Religion, ..is not self-evident. 1809 W. IRVING *Hist. New York* (1861) 115 He never suffered even a self-evident fact to pass unargued. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus' Persians* 578 *note*, This is one of those happy emendations which at once commend themselves by a self-evident propriety. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 405 The self-evident fact that growth is the result of eating and drinking.

b. as *sb.* A self-evident proposition.

1868 *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 241/3 The relations of premise and consequence which exist between self-evidents.

So **Self-evide·ntial** *a.*, resting upon self-evidence; **Self-e·videntism,** the character of being self-evident; **Self-e·vidently** *adv.*, in a self-evident manner.

1872 SANDAY *4th Gosp.* i. 1 Its *self-evidential force at once ceases. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIII. 336 Two propositions, which she is ready to back for *self-evidentism against any two in Euclid. 1696 LORIMER *Rem. on Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 40 The Major Proposition is *self evidently false, when stript of its Identical dress. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 684 All voluntary labour..appears an oddity and strangeness, and by that mark must needs be self-evidently wrong. 1886 *Law Times* LXXXII. 77/1 Any alteration in the terms of a contract which is not self-evidently for the benefit of the surety.

Self-evolu·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Evolution of oneself (itself) by one's (its) own power.

1857 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1877) II. 39 The idea of self-evolution in a story. 1883 *Bible Myths* (ed. 2) 369 In the progress of still further self-evolution, he [Brahma] willed to invest himself with the second quality of goodness, as Vishnu.

So **Self-evo·lved, -evo·lving** *ppl. adjs.*

1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 34 Their *self-evolved inexplicable explanations of everything. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11 (1867) 32 A symbolic conception of a self-evolved Universe. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* 526 Each heart lit up with *self evolving joy. 1871 *Times* 5 Apr. 3/1 The presumption that Man is but a term in this self-evolving series.

Self-exalta·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Exaltation of oneself, one's personality or claims.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 132 Proud self-exaltation brings down the soul. 1726 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* Pref. p. xxiii, To indulge the natural vanity of an author, by applying to my own performance the self-exaltation of the celebrated Horace. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 328 That exorbitant self-exaltation which formed the leading feature in his character. 1854 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vi. 337 It is not self-exaltation to speak the simple truth.

So **Self-exa·ltative** *a.*, **-exa·lted** *ppl. a.*, **-exa·lting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (whence **-exa·ltingly** *adv.*).

1820 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 23 Of these two branches of the art of deception, the first mentioned may be termed the depressive or humiliative; the other the *self-exaltative. 1905 HOLMAN-HUNT *Pre-Raphael.* I. 376 The arrogant self-taught and *self-exalted umpires. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Tim. iii. 6 The Errour of *Self-exalting. *a* 1688 BUNYAN *Of the Trinity* Wks. 1767 I. 690 Those high towering and *self-exalting imaginations. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 530 If self-exalting claims be turn'd adrift. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. David* lxxxvi. 5 So *self-exaltingly indignant at the injuries done them by others.

Self-examina·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Examination of oneself with regard to one's conduct, motives, etc., esp. as a religious duty.

1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Introd. 5 Resume thy long-neglected liberty Of selfe-examination. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Sept. 1655, Preach'd at St. Gregories one Darnell on 4 Psalm 4. concerning the benefit of selfe examination. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 317 ¶ 10 This kind of self-examination would give them a true state of themselves. 1875 KEBLE *Lett. Spir. Counsel* lxiv. (ed. 3) 128 Let your self-examination..turn upon the government of your thoughts.. towards your fellow-creatures.

So **Self-exa·minant, -exa·miner, -exa·m n ng.**

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 164 If the *Self-examinant will ..exchange the safe circle of Religion..for the shifting Sand-wastes..of Speculative Theology. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Adv. to Author* I. i, 'Tis the hardest thing in the world to be a good Thinker, without being a strong *Self-Examiner. *Ibid.* III. iii, There is something valuable in this *self-examining Practice.

Self-exci·ting, *ppl. a. Electr.* [SELF- 1 f.] Designating a dynamo-electric machine that excites its own field. So **Self-excita·tion.**

1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 119/1 Self-exciting machines. 1908 J. G. HORNER *Encycl. Pract. Engin., Self-Excitation,* the characteristic of a dynamo which enables it to build up a magnetic field upon the rotation of its armature from the residual maguetism of its magnet poles.

Self-e·xile. [SELF- 1 a.] Voluntary exile.

1827 *Buckham's Theat. Greeks* 137 The motives for this self-exile are obscure. 1852 H. W. PIERSON *Miss. Mem.* 168 Duty to our Lord required self-exile from home.

So **Self-e·xiled** *pa. pple.*

1737 SAVAGE *Of Public Spirit* 191 Must self-exil'd roam Never to hope a friend, nor find a home. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. Interl. v, Arthur must..Self-exiled seek some distant shore. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 60 Self-exiled from our grass delights.

Self-exi·st, *v. rare.* [Back formation from next.] *intr.* To be self-existent. 1697 [see next].

Self-exi·stence. [SELF- 5 c.] Existence of a being by virtue of his inherent nature independently of any other being.

1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 84 Even Self-existence signifies a kind of Form or Mode of the Subject that Self-exists. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* III. 102 'Tis plain, it then may absent be from all; Who then will this a Self-existence call? 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 325 That Name which He [God] vouchsafed to give to Himself, expressed His Self-existence. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11 (1867) 31 Even were self-existence conceivable, it would not in any sense be an explanation of the Universe.

So † **Self-exi·stency.**

1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 72. 317 Jehovah..sets out ..the eternity and selfe-existency of God. *a* 1653 — *Comm. Heb.* I. 10 Christ in regard of his self-existency giveth to himself this title, 'I am that I am'.

Self-exi·stent, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.]

1. Having the property of self-existence; existing of or by oneself (itself).

1701 [see SELF-MOVENT]. 1726 WATTS *Logick* II. v. § 2 (ed. 2) 258 The Argument for the Existence of God, derived from the Idea of a most perfect and self-existent Being. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* vi. (1852) 147 The self-existent Godhead. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11 (1867) 35 Those who cannot conceive a self-existent universe.

2. Having a primary or independent existence.

1779 BURKE *Sp.* in *Ann. Reg.* (1780) 142/1 Property was not made by government, but government by and for it. The one is primary and self-existent; the other is secondary and derivative. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S* VI. lvi. 441 The hatred of America as a self-existent state.

So **Self-exi·sting** *ppl. a.*

1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacr.* I. i. 1 This Self-existent Being hath the Power of Perfection, as well as of Existence, in Himself. 1747 LYTTLETON *Obs. Conv. St. Paul* Wks. (1774) 328 If.. we have recourse..to the independent existence of matter, then we must admit two self-existing principles. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 80 Self existing cause and end of all.

Self-expe·rience. [SELF- 5 a.] Personal trial or experience.

1645 BP. HALL *Rem. Discontent.* § 26. 159 Meere ignorance, and want of self-experience, is guilty of this errour. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Deut.* xi. 2 Those that have such evidence and self-experience, are usually more affected, then those that have things by hear-say only. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 164 The Self-Experience I have..had with respect to the Weather. 1846 JOWETT in *Life & Lett.* v. (1897) I. 132 Whether all this self-experience and over-sensibility ends in a morbid consciousness. 1886 M. F. TUPPER *Life as Author* 159 It is a volume of self-experiences, to be read 'through the lines'.

So **Self-expe·rienced** *ppl. a.*

1782 J. BROWN *Compend. View Relig.* Introd. p. vi, What stock of self-experienced truths.

Self-explai·ned, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Explained by itself, understood without specific explanation.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 651 The vision self-explain'd. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 209 The excellence of the German language is its independence; its compound words being like the Greek, self-explained.

So **Self-explai·ning** *ppl. a.*, **-expla·natory** *a.*

1864 WEBSTER, *Self-explaining. 1898 *Philos. Mag.* Ser. v. XLV. 73, I have drawn the diagrams for the various methods, which are nearly *self-explanatory.

Self-faced, *ppl. a.* [f. after SELF-COLOURED; cf. SELF B. 3.] Of a paving-stone: Retaining its natural face or surface, undressed or unhewn.

1850 in OGILVIE. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 473/1 Ordinary paving is of self-faced or of tooled York.

Self-feeling, *sb.* [SELF *sb.* and SELF- 1 d, 5 d. Cf. G. *selbstgefühl.*]

1. Used to render CŒNÆSTHESIS.

1835 J. YOUNG *Lect. Intell. Philos.* ix. 81 Dr. Crichton gives an account of a sense called by some German writers Cœnesthesis or self-feeling.

2. Feeling centred in oneself, egoistic feeling.

1879 MAUDSLEY *Path. Mind* v. 241 This extreme development of..selfhood or self-feeling among the insane. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 653 Self-feeling, a germ of the feeling of 'my worth' enters into this early passionateness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 194 There is often an exaggerated 'self-feeling' which may give rise to hypochondriasis, or to false ideas of self-importance.

3. The sense of one's individual identity.

1908 G. A. COE in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 365 [In self-hypnosis] First, the bodily sensations were modified... Second, the self-feeling underwent an equally marked change. It seemed as if the self melted into its object.

† **Self-feeling,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [SELF- 1 f.] Self-conscious.

1642 H. MORE *Song of the Soul* I. II. XXV, Self-feeling *Autæsthesia.*

Self-fe·rtile, *a. Bot.* [SELF- 3 b.] Of a flower: Having the property of fertilizing itself by the action of its pollen on its pistil. Of a plant: Fertilized by the pollen of its own flowers alone. Also applied to hermaphrodite animals. So **Self-fe·rtilizable** *a.*, **-fertiliza·tion,** **-fe·rtilize** *v.*, **-fe·rtilized** *ppl. a.*, **-fe·rtilizer,** a self-fertilizing plant, **-fe·rtilizing** *ppl. a.*

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* IV. 98 The contrivance seems adapted solely to ensure *self-fertilisation. *Ibid.* 100 Of aquatic animals, there are many *self-fertilising hermaphrodites. 1865 — in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 276, I conjectured that the Spider and Bee-orchids might be a crossing and *self-fertile form of the same species. 1871 A. W. BENNETT in *Trans. Linn. Soc., Bot.* XIII. 149 It is very commonly the case in closed *self-fertilized flowers for the pollen-tubes to penetrate the substance of the anther itself. 1877 A. GRAY in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XIII. 135 Many..flowers which are frequented by insects are none the less *self-fertilizable. *Ibid.* 126 The flowers of this species *self-fertilize, but must also be habitually cross-fertilized. 1879 G. HENSLOW in *Pop. Sci. Rev.* XVIII. 8 Scrophulariaceæ furnishes several *self-fertilisers.

Self-fla·ttered, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Flattered by oneself.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 180 Self-flatter'd, unexperienc'd, high in hope.

So **Self-fla·tterer** [SELF- 1 c].

1713 M. HENRY *Folly Desp. own Soul* Wks. 1855 I. 160 Self-flatterers and self-deceivers will prove self-destroyers. 1787 J. HOWIE *Ref. Princ. re-exhibited* Pref. p. xli, [We may] incur the suspicion of self-flatterers.

Self-fla·ttering, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 f.] Flattering oneself, encouraging oneself in a lofty opinion of one's achievements, powers, or influence.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 302 Which (like a self-flattering woman) she conceiued was done for her sake. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1673) 148 The damning sin of the self-flattering Hypocrite. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 70 Those self-flattering Companions, Novelty and Singleness. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 1007 The hopes And expectations of self-flattering minds. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* viii. (1848) I. 110 The indulgence of..some self-flattering and sensitive vanity.

So **Self-fla·ttery.**

1680 ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 83 In danger of being betrayed into such a self-flattery. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. vii. (1853) 55 It is dangerous Self-flattery to give soft and smoothing Names to Sins. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xiv. (1848) I. 191 It is only the vain self-flattery of the day to talk as if we had less need now of the daily service.

Self-forge·tful, *a.* [SELF- 1 e.] Forgetful of one's self or one's own individuality; having or characterized by no thought of self.

1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* vii. 438 The quick, honest, self-forgetful acknowledgment of the truth. 1897 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* xvii, One, fierce, uncalculating, self-forgetful triumph.

Hence **Self-forge·tfully** *adv.*, **Self-forge·tfulness**; so **Self-forge·tting** *ppl. a.*

1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* I. § 15 Art, devoted humbly and *self-forgetfully to the clear statement..of the facts of the universe. 1832 DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* I. xix, All that I can recommend you now is to practise *self-forgetfulness. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* I. 14 Daniel, in noble self-forgetfulness. 1847 MRS. TROLLOPE *Three Cousins* XV. I. 250 Her *self-forgetting kindness to every being that approached her. 1908 *Expositor* July 35 A self-forgetting idealist.

Self-forma·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Formation or production without extraneous aid; self-development of the mind or character.

a 1713 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1723) III. 139 *note*, The natural Production, and Self-Formation of the Arts. 1837 [C. LOFFT] (*title*) Self-Formation; or, the history of an individual mind.

So **Self-formed** *ppl. a.*

a 1700 [see *self-steer'd*, SELF- 2 a]. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 139 With them every noble Study and Science was ..self-form'd [tr. αὐτοσχεδιαστική]. 1787 HAWKINS *Life Johnson* 52 A character self-formed, as owing nothing to parental nurture, and scarce anything to moral tuition. 1834 NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 55 Whose spirits live..Each in his self-formed sphere of light or gloom. 1844 W. H. MILL *Serm. Templ. Christ* v. 125 A vain and self-formed assurance. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* VI. I. 319 Self-formed bands of volunteers started into being.

† **Se·lffull,** *a. Obs.* [f. SELF *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of 'self', self-centred, selfish.

1654 [J. SPARROW] tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* xxix. § 18 A Source out of the Centre of the fiery desire, a selfefull will of the fiery might of the Soule. *Ibid.* 167 A Source of selfe-full Lust. 1692 MATHER *Pref. to Owen's Holy Spirit* (1693) A 3 Untimely Abortions of a Self-full, Distempered Spirit.

† **Self-fu·ll,** *a. Obs.* [f. SELF- 3 b + FULL *a.*] = SELF-SUFFICIENT 1. So † **Self-fu·llness** = SELF-SUFFICIENCY 1.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. IV. xxii, [God's] being is self-full, self-joy'd, self-excellent. 1672 OWEN *Disc. Evang. Love* 25 His [*sc.* God's]..Communicative Love, from his own infinite self-fulness.

Se·lffulness. Now *rare.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] Selfcentredness, selfishness.

1654 [J. SPARROW] tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* xxix. § 18 A Sprout..out of the first Principle, in which..the first Principle, did in an especiall manner prevaile and would Sever it selfe into a selfe-fulnesse [orig. *ein eigenes*]. 1658 OWEN *Of Tempt.* viii. 172 Selfe-fulnesse as to principles, and selfishness as to ends. 1660 GAUDEN *Brownrig* 233 Savouring of self-fulness and conceit. 1887 BP. MOULE *Thoughts Spir. Life* iii. 54 Nothing does the world's Microscope discover more keenly than selffulness in a Christian man.

† **Self-given,** *a. Obs.* [SELF- 2.] Emanating or derived from oneself (itself).

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 219 Virtue's sure, Self-given, solar, ray of sound delight. 1751 J. BROWN *Shaftesb. Charac.* 123 A self-given and original beauty.

Self-gi·ving, *vbl. sb.* [SELF- 1 b.] The giving of oneself for others; self-devotion, self-sacrifice.

1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. (1857) 114 To give rather than to receive—the blessedness of self-giving. 1888 PIERSON *Evang. Wk.* xviii. 183 His self-giving to the cause of the poor.

So **Self-giving** *ppl. a.*, self-sacrificing.

1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. (1857) 113 A flow of this divine self-giving charity.

† **Self-gloria·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [SELF- 3 a.] Self-boasting.

1672 H. MORE *Brief Reply* Pref. A 2 b, That I ought to be utterly dead to all Self-joy and Self-gloriation.

Self-glorifica·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Glorification or exaltation of oneself.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xvii, The unconscious Captain walked out in a state of self glorification. 1885 G. RAWLINSON *Egypt & Bab.* iii. 50 The great King Nebuchadnezzar,.. his grandeur, his pride, his cruelty,..his self-glorification.

Self-glo·rious, *a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Marked by vain-glory or boasting.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. Prol. 20 Free from vain-nesse, and selfe-glorious pride. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* iv. ii, Your too self-glorious temper.

So **Self-glo·ry, Self-glo·rying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1647 tr. *Behmen's XL Quest.* i. § 66 Covetousnesse, Pride, *Selfe-glory and Arrogancy. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xvi. 299 If such a creature pretends to self-glory for any thing that he is, or does. 1878 GOSSE *Rivers of Bible* 118 Self-indulgence, self-glory..hide Christ from the soul. 1848 W. R. WILLIAMS *Lord's Prayer* ix. (1851) 326 To slay this *self-glorying. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 500 These are only *self-glorying records of victories.

Se·lf-good. [SELF- 5 a.] Personal benefit or advantage.

1618 *Barneveld's Apol.* C 3 All men are bound their selfe-good to procure. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. § 1 Nor has for Object any Self-Good or Advantage of the private System. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 155 Good for selfgood doth half destroy selfgood.

Self-go·verned, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.]

1. Acting or living according to one's own desires uninfluenced by others; independent.

1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* v. 386 How few who mingle with their fellow-men And still remain self-governed, and apart. 1797 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. iv. (1851) 273 When a self-governed man, No laws exist to thee. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* i, New works derived from the London library, to which my self-governed sisters were subscribers.

2. Of persons: Marked by self-control. Of a state: Having self-government.

18.. *Brit. Rev.* (Worc.), A self-governed state is a strong state, for it is made up of self-governed citizens. 1883 M. MORRIS *Bk. Health* 378 Reasonably self-governed beings. 1886 DICEY *Eng. Case agst. Home Rule* vii. 198 The constitutional relations existing between England and a self-governed colony.

So **Self-go·verning** *ppl. a.*, autonomous.

1880 A. TODD *Parl. Gov. in Brit. Col.* iv. i. 161 Matters affecting the internal administration of a self-governing colony. 1886 DICEY *Eng. Case agst. Home Rule* vii. 198 Victoria .. is .. for some purposes .. an independent, self-governing community.

Self-go·vernment. [SELF- 1 a.]

1. Self-control, self-command. Now *rare.*

1734 WATTS *Relig. Jour.* (1789) 201 Self-government is an eternal duty. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 47 His natural Faculty of Self-Government impaired by Habits of Indulgence. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxviii, He had but sense and self-government enough left to prevent his stabbing to the heart the audacious villain. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* xi. 128 Intensity of Achilles...Any degree of self-government is a wonder, when exercised over such volcanic forces.

2. Administration by a people or state of its own affairs without external direction or interference.

1798 JEFFERSON in Lieber *Civil Lib.* (1853) 205 *note*, The residuary rights are reserved to their (the American States) own self-government. 1870 J. E. T. ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 4 The towns gained charters of self-government. 1886 DICEY *Eng. Case agst. Home Rule* ii. 22 Home Rule does not mean Local Self-Government.

Self-gratula·tion. = SELF-CONGRATULATION.

1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* II. 125 The self-gratulation of her insidious guardian. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* III. iv, The wisdom of a choice which has brought you self-gratulation. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. vi. 196 It [certitude] is a feeling of satisfaction and self-gratulation.

So **Self-gra·tulating** *ppl. a.*, **-gra·tulatingly** *adv.*, **-gra·tulatory** *a.*

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xlii, The *self-gratulating ignorant prosperity of the Cohens. 1883 *Tait's Mag.* II. 533 Amusements and dissipations are *self-gratulatingly denounced as gross follies and sins. 1889 BAIN *Emotions & Will* vii. 136 Those various forms of *self-gratulatory feeling. *Ibid.* 140 The self-gratulatory pleasures.

† **Self-guard.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **-gard.** [SELF- 1 a.] Reserve.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 87 Selfe-gard with mildnesse, Sport with Malestie.

Self-heal (se·lfhīl). Also 4 selfhele, 5 selhele, sulfhele, selfhol (?), 6–7 selfehealе. [f. SELF- 1 + HEAL *v.*; cf. OHG. *selbheila* 'euphrasia' (see EUPHRASY).] A name for various plants believed to have great healing properties, esp. *Prunella vulgaris* (Common S.), *Sanicula europæa*, and formerly *Pimpinella Saxifraga* (see PIMPERNEL 3).

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 21 *Armoniaca*, i. Self-hele. *Ibid.* 13 *Betonica major*, i. Selfhele. *Ibid.* 33 *Oxyndrele*, i. Selfhele. *Ibid.* 43 *Unctuosa*, Self hele. *a* 1400–50 [see MORRCROF]. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 193 Unctuosa..an. selhele uel smerwrt. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 201 Tak crowsope, penywort, sulfhele. 1526 *Grete Herball* cccIv. (1529) T vj, De pinpinella. Selfe heale or pympyrnell. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 61 Selfe heale is good to heale grene woundes. 1664 DR. BURNET in Pepys *Diary* 1 July, Take..of Selfeheale, of Red Roses, of each one Handfull. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 Self-heal, *Sanicula*. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 944 The seeds..of the common self-heal, *Prunella vulgaris*, mix themselves with those of clover. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 132 In the grass the short self heal shows.

Self-he·lp. [SELF- 1 a.]

1. The action or faculty of providing for oneself without assistance from others.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii, In the destitution of the wild desert does our young Ishmael acquire for himself the highest of all possessions, that of Self-help. 1860 SMILES (*title*) Self-help. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, Free, with the divine instinct of freedom, and all the self-help and energy which spring thereout. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. lv, Birds which are possessed, immediately after hatching, of the faculty of self-help.

attrib. 1887 (*title*) Self-Help Emigration Society. 1908 (*title*) Self-help exercises in English.

2. *Law.* Redress of one's wrongs by one's own action, without recourse to legal process.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* III. (ed. 2) 476 The inducement to abstain from self-help..is still required.

Hence **Self-he·lpful** *a.* (whence **-he·lpfulness**), **Self-he·lping** *ppl. a.*, **Self-he·lpless** (whence **-he·lplessness**).

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* viii, A pig of *self-helpful and serene spirit..fatting fast. 1890 *Athenæum* 11 Oct. 476/3 The self-helpful quality which enables a man..to secure comforts and luxury without deserving..them. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxvii, His body, pampered with easily-obtained luxuries,..loses its *self-helpfulness. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. (1858) 239 He is a rough *self-helping son of the wilderness. 1855 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* 242 The young are active, self-helping little things. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* ii, I am miserable, self-disgusted, *self-helpless. 1881 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/2 Apathy, or at least what I would call *self-helplessness.

Self-ho·micide. Now *rare.* [f. SELF- 1 a + HOMICIDE *sb.*2] Self-murder, suicide.

1621 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* 308 Selfe homicide, the destroying of a mans selfe. *a* 1631 DONNE (*title*) BIAΘANATOΣ. A Declaration of that Paradoxe, or Thesis, That Selfe-homicide is not so naturally Sinne, that it may never be otherwise. 1651 CHARLETON *Eph. & Cinnm. Matrons* (1668) 20 Of all Murders, the most detestable was self-Homicide. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 371 Self-homicide occasionally occurs in melancholia.

Selfhood (se·lfhud). [f. SELF *sb.* + -HOOD.

Orig. representing G. *selbheit*, but rendering also *ichheit*, *meinheit*, and *eigenheit* (Jacob Behmen or Boehme, 1575–1624); see quots. 1649, etc. There is no evidence of the continuity of the word from the 17th cent., and it appears as a new formation in the middle of the 19th. Blake's use of the word, in 'the Great Selfhood Satan', *Jerusalem* (1804) 33, seems to be isolated.]

1. The quality by virtue of which one is oneself; personal individuality; ipseity; that which constitutes one's own self or individuality; (one's) self.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Ep.* i. § 23, I live to him & not to my selfehood [orig. *Meinheit*]. *Ibid.* ii. § 19, I cannot ascribe, or arrogate any thing unto my selfe, as if my selfehood [orig. *Ichheit*] were, or understood, any thing. *Ibid.* vi. § 35 The Separator of the naturall selfe-hood [orig. *Eigenheit*] hath no true Ens. *Ibid.* x. § 8 [A child's] naturall understanding of selfehood [orig. *Selbheit*]. 1682 HOWE *Prayer from Name of God* Wks. 1862 IV. 247 My single personality, ipseity, self-hood, call it what you will.

1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* ii. (1864) 57 Their glorious self-hood and immortal liberty. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 250 To act, to originate action, there must be..something of selfhood—a self. 1892 W. S. LILLY *Gt. Enigma* 239 The perception of selfhood is the very fundamental interior fact of which I am conscious.

2. Oneself as the centre of one's life and action; hence, self-centredness; devotion to self, selfish life or conduct.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Ep.* x. § 2 Antichrist.. acteth selfe-hood [orig. *Eigenheit*] and the lust of the flesh. 1661 SPARROW tr. *Behmen's Rem. Wks., Apol. conc. Perf.* 148, I wish that I yet might totally dye to self-hood. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 403 To destroy all the mischievous Works of Self-hood and the Devil. *a* 1763 BYROM *Poet. Vers. Let. Behmen* xiii, When the Soul has tasted of the Love,..Still in its Self-hood it wou'd seek to shine.

1860 J. YOUNG *Prov. Reason* 205 The..stubborn selfhood of men. 1884 *Ch. Times* 16 May 373/1 The destruction of self-hood and the entire indwelling of the Holy Ghost.

3. One's personality, one's personal interests or character.

1834 LADY LYTTON *Behind the Scenes* I. II. i. 160 They had connexions, or money, which served as a pretty relief..to the mosaic of his self-hood. 1867 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. *Rousseau* (1873) 377 Originality does not consist in a fidgety assertion of selfhood. 1886 *Century Mag.* XXXI. 440 In cultivating manhood we develop selfhood.

Self-ide·ntical, *a. Philos.* [SELF- 3 a.] Identical with itself.

1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xix. 660 We cannot determine the soul as a pure self-identical nature. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* IV. ii. 441 The eternally self-identical significance of Ideas. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* iii. 68 As self-conscious, self-identical, self-determined, we possess qualities which transcend or rise above the laws of matter.

Self-ide·ntity. *Philos.* [SELF- 3 a.] The identity of a thing with itself.

1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 229 Emotion and change..are incompatible with immutable self-identity. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xv. 544 Consciousness may pass through many states without losing its self-identity. 1899 J. CAIRD *Fundam. Ideas Christ.* II. xv. 161 That separate, solitary self-identity, which makes each human spirit..the bearer of its own burden.

Self-ido·later. [SELF- 1 c.] One who idolizes or worships self. So **Self-ido·latry, Self-i·dolized** *ppl. a.*, **Self-i·dolizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1844 LD. LEIGH *Walks in C.* 125 And *self-idolaters in drawling tone Whine about 'brethren dear', yet care for none. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 23 (1716) 24 Self-credulity, pride, and levity lead unto *self-Idolatry. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ii. 94 A self-idolatry, a self-deifying, which shall compete with the true God. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 94 The pharisee the dupe of his own art, *Self-idolis'd. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 193 Knowing such motions to come from pride and *self-Idolizing. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 441 From Isaiah, Zephaniah adopts that characteristic picture of self-idolising. 1870 J. FOSTER *Ess.* III. iv. (1805) II. 76 The *self-idolizing men who dream.

† **Self-ill,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SELF- 3 a + ILL *a.*] Harmful to oneself.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Hymn Marr. Cousins* xiii, Live each of other firmly lov'd, and loving; As farre from hate, as self-ill, jealousie.

Self-impo·rtance. [SELF- 5 a.] The sense of one's importance; bearing or conduct arising from this.

1775 in ASH. 1779 *Mirror* No. 43 ¶ 1 She found in him nothing of that self-importance which superior parts, or great cultivation of them, is apt to confer. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, The worthy burgher, in the plenitude of self-importance. 1825 — *Betrothed* xxii, Solitude is favourable to feelings of self-importance. 1872 SANFORD *Est. Eng. Kings* 331 The dignity of bearing in Charles..was sustained by a profound sense of self-importance and superiority.

Self-impo·rtant, *a.* [f. prec.] Marked by self-importance; having an exaggerated opinion of one's own importance.

1775 in ASH. 1783 O'KEEFFE *Birth-Day* 30 A little self-important court gadder. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 282 Five of our best hands being grown self-important, demanded an increase of wages. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* iii. (1843) 39 The imposing comments of self-important people.

Self-impo·sed, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Imposed on one by oneself.

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 350 Of needless shame, and self-impos'd disgrace. 1838 DICKENS *O Twist* xlii, Upon the night when Nancy..hurried on her self-imposed mission to Rose Maylie. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 651 There is no reason to think that the pilgrimage was other than a self-imposed one.

Self-impro·vable, *a.* [SELF- 2 b.] Capable of self-improvement.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. xxxvi. 565 Endowed with..Freewill, and consequently..self-improvable and self-impairable. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* iv. (1870) 83 Some sentient beings..(of whom is man) imaginative and self-improvable.

Self-impro·vement. [SELF- 1 a.] Improvement of oneself, one's character, etc., by one's own efforts.

1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. ix. (1853) 66 Had I such a temper by Nature, I should perhaps, with all my Self-Improvement find it a difficult Thing to manage. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Self-discipline* (1842) 21 The whole energies of the man devoted to self-improvement. 1879 R. K. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iv. 94 Self-improvement and the knowledge of one's own faults.

So **Self-impro·ver, Self-impro·ving** *ppl. a.*

1853 T. T. LYNCH *Self-Improvement* 1 The *self-improver is both a labourer and a field of labour; a labourer in his own field. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Moralists* III. § 2 Neither is this Knowledg [of ourselves] acquir'd by..the View of Pageantrys, the Study of Estates and Honours: nor is He to be esteem'd that *self-improving Artist, who makes a Fortune out of these. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1874) 41 A long series of self-improving processes.

Self-inconsi·stency. [SELF- 3 a.] = INCONSISTENCY 2, 4.

1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 113 To acquit himself from the imputation of Absurdity and Self-inconsistency. 1778 R. SMITH (*title*) Self-inconsistency Exemplified. 1844 J. JAMIESON *Real Infl. Holy Spirit* iii. 62 This objection cannot be made without obvious self-inconsistency.

So **Self-inconsi·stent** *a.*, = INCONSISTENT 3, 4.

1668 G. C. *More's Div. Dial.* To Rdr. A 3, As if the more perplext and self-inconsistent the Nature of God were, it were the more..adorable. 1745 WESLEY *Answer to Church* 12 They are, I believe, the most self-inconsistent People.

Self-indu·ced, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Electr.* [SELF- 1.] Produced by self-induction.

1886 *Science* 14 May 442/2 An extra current of opposite name self-induced in the wire. 1897 L. WRIGHT *Induction Coil* i. 20 The self-induced current in the coil from 'make' is inverse.

Self-indu·ctance. *Electr.* [SELF- 3 b.] = next. Also, the coefficient of self-induction.

[1888: see INDUCTANCE.] 1897 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. IV. IV. 431 We can always determine the mutual inductances in terms of the self-inductances. 1903 *Times* 6 Feb. 9/6 In self-inductance electricity had a property resembling inertia.

Self-indu·ction. *Electr.* [SELF- 3 b.] The production of an induced current in a circuit by means of a variation in the current of that circuit. (See INDUCTION 10, INERTIA 1 b.)

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 291 The self-induction of a round wire doubled on itself. 1876 CHRYSTAL in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 76/2 What has been called the coefficient of self-induction of a circuit he [Neumann] calls the potential of the circuit on itself. 1886 *Science* 14 May 443/2 The electromotive force of self-induction currents.

So **Self-indu·ctive** *a.*, produced by self-induction.

1834 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* (1844) II. 208 Self-inductive action of a current. 1886 *Science* 14 May 442 The self-inductive capacity of non-magnetic wires of different metals.

Self-indu·lged, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Indulged, gratified, or humoured by oneself.

1846 H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Horace* II. ii, Fell dropsy, self-indulg'd, is nurst, Nor drives away its growing thirst. 1882 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* i, Spoilt..and self-indulged.

Self-indu·lgence. [SELF- 1 a.] Indulgence of one's desires, etc.; = INDULGENCE 2 b.

1733 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* II. iii. (1811) 159 That you do not believe that ill-health comes to any but through their own self-indulgence. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Garth* (1868)

215 The author never slumbers in self-indulgence; his full vigour is always exerted. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. xviii. (1878) 98 One finds so few people that will do any duty that taxes their self-indulgence.

So **Self-indu·lgent** *a.* (cf. INDULGENT 2), **Self-indu·lger, Self-indu·lging** *ppl. a.*

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 27 Mar., an. 1776, A capricious and *self-indulgent valetudinarian. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. i. (1876) 21 Those festive, self-indulgent habits. 1847 MRS. TROLLOPE *Three Cousins* xxvii. II. 186 All the articles ever invented by the ingenuity of man for rendering the retired hours of an aged *self indulger luxurious. 1687 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) 275 Our most forward and *Self-indulging Opinions. 1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 311 Steeped in a self-indulging spleen.

Self-infli·cted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Inflicted by oneself or one's own hand.

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 430 Poverty, with most who whimper forth Their long complaints, is self-inflicted woe. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xvii, Self-inflicted penance. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 270/2 The injury was self-inflicted.

So **Self-infli·ction.**

1850 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 583 Self-infliction was characteristic of the idolatrous cuttings. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 36 In the absence of any theory as to how the cut could possibly have been made by that other hand, we should be driven back to the theory of self-infliction.

Self-instru·cted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Self-educated, self-taught. So **Self-instru·ction; Self-instru·ctor** (used as a title for a manual of self-instruction).

a 1704 T. BROWN *Lond. & Lacedem. Oracles* Wks. 1709 III. III. 136 The Desire of *Self-Instruction. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xviii. 326 Had we continued perfect, as God created the first man, perhaps the perfection of our nature had been a sufficient self-instruction for every one. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, What instruction is more effectual than self-instruction? 1905 *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 21/2 To assist officers in self-instruction in tactics. 1807 (*title*) The *Self Instructor, or Young Man's Best Companion; being an introduction to all the various branches of useful learning and knowledge. 1883 (*title*) Ward and Lock's Self-instructor; or, Every Man his own Schoolmaster.

† **Self-i·nteressed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [See INTERESSED.] = SELF-INTERESTED.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xi. (1674) 14 The self-interessed and perfidious heart of Man. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4324/1 Those narrow Self-Interessed Notions which..had so long cramp'd and fetter'd them.

Self-i·nterest. [SELF- 5 a.]

1. One's personal profit, benefit, or advantage. (Cf. INTEREST *sb.* 2 b.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1658 T. WALL *Charact. Enemies Ch.* 35 Self interest..is the second end. *a* 1662 DUPPA *Holy Rules Devot.* II. (1675) 162 Hast thou set up nothing in competition with him [*sc.* God],..no Profit, no Self-love, no Self-Interest of thine own? 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chapel* xi. 202 Greater Regards to Self-interest. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 332 An enlightened sense of self-interest. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xiii, He holds his own self-interest to be the devoted guide of his whole conduct. 1833 LYTTON *Godolphin* I. ii. 22 Like Lysander, he loved plotting, yet neglected self-interest.

b. A private or personal end. ? *Obs.*

1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 208 It admitted no alloy or mixture with By-respects or self-interests. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Church-W.* (ed. 4) 91 They have a By-end and Self-interest of their own. 1867 BAGEHOT *Engl. Const.* viii. 277 The self-interests, the jobbing propensities of the assembly.

2. Regard to, or pursuit of, one's own advantage or welfare, *esp.* to the exclusion of regard for others. (Cf. INTEREST *sb.* 5.) For the favourable sense, cf. SELF-LOVE 2.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Ep.* x. § 4 He must mortify the Antichrist in his soule..and become the poorest creature in the owne-hood selfenesse or selfe interest) of his mind. 1657 *Baker's Sancta Sophia* II. II. ii. § 5 (1908) 245 So absolute a purity and freedom from self-interest. 1693 DRYDEN *Exam. Poet.* Ded., Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 2 The same jugglings in State, the same hypocrisy in religion, the same self-interest and mismanagement. 1780 COWPER *Expost.* 439 The priestly brotherhood, devout, sincere, From mean self int'rest and ambition clear. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 271 An enlightened self-interest, which, when well understood, they tell us, will identify with an interest more enlarged and publick. 1865 LOWELL *Reconstruction* Wks. 1890 V. 236 The..weak good-nature inherent in popular government, but against which monarchies and aristocracies are insured by self-interest. 1878 EMERSON *Soc. Ethics* in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 407 In spite of malignity and blind self-interest..necessity is always bringing things right.

Self-i·nterested, *a.* [f. prec. + -ED.] Characterized by self-interest; actuated solely by regard for one's personal advantage or welfare.

1687 *Narr. late Parlt.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 462 Men, standing under such mercenary and self-interested obligations. 1688 LD. CHURCHILL *Let. to King* ibid. IV. 59 Those unhappy designs, which inconsiderate and self-interested men have framed against your Majesty's true interest. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* 19 Sept. (O.H.S.) II. 48 A..stingy self-interested Fellow. 1784 J. POTTER *Virtuous Villagers* II. 69 The gifts of Fortune..applied to..self-interested purposes. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. x. 360 The zeal of the middle ages had..nothing to recommend it to the favour of ..self-interested reformers. 1863 MRS. OLIPHANT *Salem Chapel* v, I must learn to be prudent and self-interested for your sakes.

Hence **Self-i·nterestedness**; so † **Self-i·nteressing** *ppl. a.* = SELF-INTERESTED.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sinisterness*, Unfairness, *Self-Interestedness. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 6 Experience of Mens ordinary Self-Interestedness and Treachery. 1870 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 67 This charge of self-interestedness against the motive of a future life. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Inq. conc. Virtue* II. 79 All social Love, Friendship [etc.]..does by its nature take place of the *self-interesting Passions. 1710 — *Adv. Author* I. 201 The self-interesting Partys [viz. the reader and the author] both vanish at once.

Self-involu·tion. [SELF- 3 a.] The condition or fact of being self-involved.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1907) II. 183 The self-involution and dreamlike continuity of Richardson. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 630 Heraclitus..seemed to appreciate the dangers of self-involution.

Self-involved, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Wrapped up in oneself or one's own thoughts.

1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream* 261 The pensive mind..all too dearly self involved. 1847 JAMES *Russell* I. ix. 175 That peculiar sort of self-involved business air. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* I. § 21 Coiling and recoiling and self-involved returns of some sickening famine and thirst of heart.

Selfish (se·lfiʃ), *a.* Also 7 self(e)-ish, selvish. [f. SELF *sb.* + -ISH[1] 2.

In Hacket's life of Archbishop Williams, *Scrinia Reserata* (1693) II. § 136, the word is said to be of the Presbyterians' 'own new mint'; it is used in reference to events of the year 1641. Synonyms current in the 17th cent. are *self-ended* and *self-ful.*]

1. Devoted to or concerned with one's own advantage or welfare to the exclusion of regard for others.

1640 W. BRIDGE *True Souldiers C.* 74 A carnal selfe-ish spirit is very loathsome in what is spirituall. 1645 T. HILL *Olive Branch* (1648) 27 When you are so selfish in your designs and undertakings, and so far prefer your self-ends before the Publique. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 14 It is a selvish fear, proceeding from an..adulterous love of ourselves. 1753 JOHNSON *Advent.* No. 62 P 5 Want makes almost every man selfish. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. iv, Anywhere to avoid the selfish violence of my mother-in-law. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nich.* xiv, 'Well, but what's to become of me?' urged the selfish man. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxv, The subjection of selfish interests to the general good. 1870 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 65 He necessarily wishes his own good; the wish..is no more selfish in him than it is selfish in him to be himself.

Comb. 1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 139 We cannot imagine him so selfish-spirited as to effect it. 1863 HAWKER in Byles *Life* (1905) 462 A downlooking lying selfish-hearted throng.

b. Used (by adversaries) as a designation of those ethical theories which regard self-love as the real motive of all human action.

[1663 W. LUCY *Observ. Hobbes* 178 To use the Phrase of the time, this Gent. [Hobbes] is very selfish.] 1847 *London Univ. Cal.* (1848) 157 The different systems to which the term 'selfish' has been applied. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 638 The Epicurean, or Selfish, System.

¶ 2. By etymological re-analysis used for 'pertaining to or connected with oneself'.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 72/2 The sensation excited on the skin is less *selfish*, if we may use the term in this sense. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 3/2 To pursue this self-ish ideal.

Selfishly (se·lfiʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a selfish manner.

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 293 Who can your merit selfishly approve. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 140 Who was never known to forget himself, and act otherwise than selfishly.

Selfishness (se·lfiʃnės). Also 7 selvish-. [f. SELFISH + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being selfish; selfish disposition or behaviour; regard for one's own interest or happiness to the disregard of the well-being of others.

1643 W. GREENHILL *Axe at Root* A iij b, It's domesticknes of spirit, selvishnesse, which is the great let to Armies, Religions, and Kingdomes good. 1645 T. HILL *Olive Branch* (1648) 26 As long as ever you are full of Envy..or full of Selfishness, it argues you want love. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. 115 The Opposite of Sociableness is Selfishness. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 333 A tax by which luxury, avarice, and selfishness were screened, and the load thrown upon productive capital. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 406 Passion, vanity, interest, and all the other species of selfishness.

Selfism (se·lfizm). [f. SELF *sb.* + -ISM.] Devotion to or concentration upon one's own interests; self-centredness. Also, the 'selfish theory' of morals.

1791-1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 524 In the pride of luxury and selfism. 1832 DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* II. x, That nothing could tempt me to compromise my absorbing selfism. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* (1861) 79 By treating the patient tenderly, to shut him up in a narrower selfism. 1871 BLACKIE *Morals* I. 50 Hobbes and the other advocates of selfism. 1894 [see OTHERISM].

Selfist (se·lfist). Also 7 selfeist. [f. SELF *sb.* + -IST.] A self-centred or selfish person.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Ep.* I. § 62 [It] covetously desireth to draw their life and maintenance to it selfe, and to make it selfe a Lord over it, and will be a Selfeist [orig. *ein eigenes*].

1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* ix. 223 The anchoret is a selfist by his very profession. 1857 J. HAMILTON *Lect. fr. Biogr.* (1859) 270, I have been a mere selfist, living for men's praise.

Self-judged, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Judged by oneself. So **Self-ju·dging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 10 Who but the wretch *self-judg'd, has cause to fear? 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* III. Poet. Wks. (1875) 49 Each self-judged helot, pleased to toil. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Self-Exam.* Wks. 1684 I. 825 With a power of self-tryal and *self-judging. 1847-54 WEBSTER, **Self-judging*, judging one's self.

Self-ju·dgement. [SELF- 1 a.]

† 1. Self-opinion. *Obs.*

1657 *Baker's Sancta Sophia* II. II. xi. § 20 (1908) 256 An obstinate self-judgment in this.

2. Judgement passed upon oneself.

1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. xiv. (1853) 108 The Want of this previous Act of Self-judgment is the cause of so much Self-Deception. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* x. (1870) 384 Nemesis is self-judgment by the inward law.

† **Self-justi·ciary.** *Theol. Obs.* [SELF- 1 c.] = JUSTICIARY *sb.*[1] 5.

1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes's Trial* 115 He professeth himselfe no Delinquent, but a just person...(O strange self-Iusticiary, O most impudent affronter of Iustice!) 1661 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) II. 333 The arrogant assertions of self-justiciaries on the one hand, and the wild opinions of the Antinomians on the other. 1692 *Christ Exalted* 79 The Apostle concludes, to the shame of self-justiciaries, Rom. 3. 27. Where is boasting then? it is excluded.

Self-justifica·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] The action of justifying or excusing oneself.

1775 in ASH. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 359 The total absence of sullenness and self-justification towards her superiors. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. vi. 371 He abounded in repetitions and explanatory self-justification.

Self-ju·stifier. [SELF- 1 c.]

† 1. = SELF-JUSTICIARY.

1655 BAXTER *Quaker's Catech.* 9 And yet was he counted a proud self-justifier.

2. *Printing.* A self-justifying type-machine.

In recent Dicts.

So **Self-ju·stified** *ppl. a.* (*Printing*), arranged by means of automatic justifying mechanism; **Self-ju·stifying** *ppl. a.* (whence **-jus·tifyingly** *adv.*).

1897 *Brit. Printer* 268 When followed by a like variation of the three remaining spaces between words in the line, the latter, when assembled, will be *self-justified. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiii. 275 What *self-justifying minds have the meekest of these women! 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 595 What have we spoken against Thee? is the self-justifying question which Malachi records of them. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v., A self-justifying type-setting machine. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* II. x. 257 She thought, as an observer; and *self-justifyingly thought on.

† **Self-kill,** *a. Obs.* [f. SELF- 1 g + KILL *v.*] Mutually slaughtering.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Mirac. Peace* xxxii, With self-kill Swords to cut each other's throat.

Self-ki·lled, *pa. pple.* [SELF- 2.] Killed by one's own hand; self-destroyed.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* vi. 4 Treasure thou some place, With beauties treasure ere it be selfe kil'd. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1664 And now ly'st victorious Among thy slain self-kill'd.

So **Self-ki·ller,** a suicide; **Self-ki·lling,** self-murder, suicide.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* 37 No relicks of traitors to their country, *self-killers or sacrilegious malefactors. 1678 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) To Rdr., Heathen, with whom..*self-killing, to avoyd disgrace, seemed an high point of true magnanimity. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) I. 149 In those Times Self-killing was not rare.

Self-know·ing, *vbl. sb.* = SELF-KNOWLEDGE.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1907) I. 186 Whether abstracted from us there exists any thing higher and beyond this primary self-knowing.

Self-know·ing, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 f, 3 b.]

1. Knowing oneself; having self-knowledge.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 510 And upright with Front serene Govern the rest, self-knowing. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* II. iii. (1853) 146 A self-knowing man can easily distinguish between these two. 1890 W. T. HARRIS *Hegel's Logic* ii. 23 (Funk) That this is meant for a personal Reason, we may know from the fact that Aristotle calls it self-knowing Reason.

2. Knowing of oneself, without help from another (Webster, 1828–32).

Self-know·ledge. [SELF- 1 a, d.] Knowledge of oneself, one's character, capabilities, etc.

a 1613 OVERBURY *Newes* Wks. (1856) 174 That a courtier never attaines his selfe-knowledge, but by report. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* Concl. 7 Self-knowledge is an everlasting taske. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* I. i. (1853) 10 Self-Knowledge is that Acquaintance with ourselves, which shews us what we are, and do, and ought to be. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* XX. IV. 455 It is a remarkable proof of his self-knowledge that, from the moment at which he began to distinguish himself in public life, he ceased to be a versifier. 1869 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. (1876) 35 Self-knowledge is the first condition of repentance.

Self-known, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Possessing self-knowledge.

1782 COWPER *Glory to God Alone* 17 Oh lost in vanity till once self-known!

Self-lane: see SELF B. 6.

† **Self-law.** *Obs.* [SELF- 5 e.] A law of one's own making or to suit oneself.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 365 It is Selfe-Law, or if you will, love God, so as not to lose by him, and thy Neighbour for thy selfe. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Mercy for Chief of Sinners* (1846) 16 [They] are so much a law to themselves, that it is difficult to persuade them..to part with this self-law in matter of justification.

So † **Self-lawed** *a.*, that is a law to himself.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. iii. 134 It reignes in ev'ry part, But playes the selfe-law'd Tyrant in my heart.

Selfless (se·lfles), *a.* [f. SELF *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Having no regard for or thought of self; not self-centred; unselfish.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 83 Holy instincts of maternal love detached and in selfless purity. 1850 TENNYSON *Vivien* 293 They never mount As high as woman in her selfless mood. 1894 LD. WOLSELEY *Marlborough* II. xci. 445 The noble, selfless word 'duty'.

2. Not identifiable with a man's self. *rare.*

1853 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* II. 49

Instead of the will being merely the self-less means for calling the natural individuality into activity.

Hence **Se'lflessly** *adv.*, **Se'lflessness.**

1853 VAUGHAN in *Guardian* 3 Jan. 18/2 That selflessness which God requires in His servant. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 411 A pious priest selflessly devoted to his church. 1904 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 122 With a worthy selflecsness he throws himself into the life of the people.

Self-life.

1. [SELF- 5 c.] = SELF-EXISTENCE.

1613 DONNE *Good Friday* Poems (1639) 353 Who sees Gods face, that is selfelife, must die. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 41 A co-eternal Force, Co-boundless with its Source, Could in no Moment idle rest, But in pure Act self-life express'd.

2. [SELF- 5 d.] Life lived for oneself; life devoted to selfish ends.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* 324 Let then mere self-life cease. 1893 *New Church Mess.* (N.Y.) 19 Apr. 242 In this self-laudation we are indulging ourselves in the vanities of self-life.

†Se'lf-like, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [In A. 1, f. SELF *a.* + LIKE *a.*; cf. SELFSAME; in A. 2 and B., f. SELF *sb.* + -LIKE.]

A. *adj.*

1. 'Very like', similar, of the selfsame kind.

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* G 3 You men be of the same selfe lyke qualite. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. Ecl. i. (1622) 95 Till Strephons plaining voice him nearer drew, Where by his words his selfe-like case he knew. 1594 H. WILLOBIE *Avisa* 19, I little thought to find you so:..Such selfe like wench I neuer met. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 114 This other in the selfe like passion, but with more government, he wrote.

2. Like oneself.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. iv. Decay 1143 And so God bless your lawfull-loved womb With Self-like Babes [orig. *enfans pareils à vous*]. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 6 His selfe-like jawes still grin [orig. *ab ipso colligit os rabiem*].

B. *adv.* Even; = SELFLY *adv.* 1 a.

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* H 7 In tyme & in place where they be not requiered, selfe lyke in the presence of so grete a Kinge & Quene.

†Self-liked, *a. Obs.* [f. next. Cf. OE. *selflice* self-conceited, self-satisfied.] Self-conceited.

1599 *More's Life* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biogr.* (1853) II. 106 That he should not be so obstinate and self-liked, as to persevere still in one minde.

†Self-li'king, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [SELF- 1. Cf. OE. *selflice* self-love, self-satisfaction.] Self-love; attachment to one's own opinion, self-conceit.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* Zzivb, Glue her self to vnderstand the full troth in euery thyng, without entring into self leeking and ignorance. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. vi. § 3 So full of wilfulnes and selfe liking is our nature. 1623 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 230 So over-gulled with selfe-liking, that they are more then giddy in admiring themselves. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 191 It is not amisse there should be perceived some kinde of selfe-liking and hardnesse in the works of excellent Artificers. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1729) II. 134 The Reasons why this Self-liking, give me Leave to call it so, is not plainly to be seen in all Animals that are of the same Degree of Perfection, are many.

So **†Self-li'king** *ppl. a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1605) 337 Spacious romes, such as the self-liking men, haue..found out the most easeful.

Self-limita'tion. [SELF- 1 a.]

1. The limitation of oneself, one's nature, etc.

1853 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* II. 204 A self-limitation of God. 1902 J. SMITH *Integrity of Scripture* iii. 106 There must have been a marvellous self-limitation in the Incarnation. 1907 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Doct. Trin.* x. 191 Virtue is rooted in self-control, self-discipline, that is, voluntary self-limitation.

2. *Med.* The property of being self-limited.

1879 FLINT in *Arch. Med.* (N.Y.) June, Self-limitation in Cases of Phthisis.

So **Self-li'miting** *ppl. a.*

1863 E. V. NEALE *Analogy of Thought & Nature* 43 By a first cause we mean a self-limiting will, while by the secondary causes derived from it, we mean powers thought of as limited by their effects.

Self-li'mited, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.]

1. Limited by oneself or itself.

1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* I. 92 They held The One to be spherical:..having neither beginning, middle, nor end: and yet self-limited. 1879 P. BROOKS *Inst. Jesus* ii. (1883) 86 The..self-limited character of the love of Jesus for His native land.

2. *Med.* Of a disease: That runs a definite course, being little modified by treatment.

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1885 J. F. PAYNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 166/1 The disease [*sc.* plague] was in fact, as in other cases, self-limited. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 781 Catarrhal dysentery..is a self-limited disease.

Self-lived, *a. rare.* [f. SELF- 2 a + LIVED or SELF-LIFE + -ED.]

†1. Animated by oneself. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. 197 Nor craftie Jugglers, can more eas'ly make There self-liv'd Puppits (for their lucre's sake) To skip..and play.

†2. Having an independent life. *Obs.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. i. xxxii, The soul then works by 't self, and is self-liv'd.

3. Living for oneself.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 66 Malignant, uncreate, inert, self-lived.

†Self-li'ving, *a. Obs.* [SELF- 3 b.] Self-existent.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 236 They are immediately Self-living.

Self-loss. [SELF- 1 a, d.] Loss of oneself, one's being or personality.

1826 LAMB *Ess., Sanity of True Genius* (1860) 292 He wins his flight without self-loss through realms of chaos. 1860 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (ed. 2) I. 119 That transformation and utter self-loss in which we love ourselves only for the sake of God.

Self-lost, *a.* [SELF- 2.] Lost through one's own action, fault, etc. In first quot., lost in one's own estimation.

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* 108 It is one thing to be lost, and a sinner, and another thing to be self-lost. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 154, I can repaire That detriment, if such it be to lose Self-lost. 1792 R. CUMBERLAND *Calvary* V. 214 Rush'd into sin prepense, self-will'd, self-lost. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* II. 149 The infatuated blindness of that self-lost young man. 1856 E. FITZGERALD *Salámán* I. 23 Thyself Self-Lost, and Conscience-quit of Good and Evil.

Self-lough, *local.* [f. SELF- 3 b + LOUGH 1.] See quot.

1700 C. LEIGH *Nat. Hist. Lanc.*, etc. I. 71 There are sometimes Cavities in the Body of this [Spar]..which are impleted with Water, tho there are no apparent Aqueducts leading to them; these by the Miners are stiled *Self-Loughs*.

Self-lo've. [SELF- 1 a, d.]

1. Love of oneself; in early use most freq. = partiality to oneself, AMOUR-PROPRE; later, usually = regard for one's interests or well-being; chiefly with definitely opprobrious implication, self-centredness, selfishness.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* ii, In Læthes floud, long since, in Stigian vale Selfe love I dreynt. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 19 Selfe-loue is better then any guilding to make that seeme gorgious, wherein our selues are parties. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxii. 1 Sinne of selfe-loue possesseth al mine eie. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* To Rdr., I, who never had the thought (being very free from Self-Love,) that my writings were of so much worth. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 281 Self-love forsook the path it first pursu'd, And found the private in the public good. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 35 That kind of self-love which takes the form of family pride. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 269 Bear irritations, nuisances, what not, rather than inflict any sudden wound on your friend's self-love. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* v. 130 Self-love..is the abuse and perversion of that love of self which is a divine law.

attrib. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N 3 b, In thys innouating selfe-loue Age.

2. *Philos.* Regard for one's own well-being or happiness, considered as a natural and proper relation of a man to himself.

1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 1 A rational and lawful sort of Self-love. 1688 NORRIS *Love* I. v. 51 That special sort of Benevolence which we call self-love. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chapel* iii. 55 Conscience and Self-love, if we understand our true Happiness, always lead us the same Way: Duty and Interest are perfectly coincident. 1727 POPE *Thoughts Var. Subj.* in *Misc.* I. 400 Religion is allow'd to be the highest Instance of Self-Love. 1828 D. STEWART *Philos. Powers of Man* II. i. I. 145 Self-love..is inseparable from our nature as rational and sensitive beings. 1883 MAUDSLEY *Body & Will* 166 Self-love is not despicable, but laudable, since duties to self, if self-perfecting..must needs be duties to others.

†Self-lo'ved, *ppl. a. Obs.* [SELF- 2.] Loved or cherished by oneself; marked by self-love.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 5 Puffed vp with smoke of vanitie, And with selfe-loued personage deceiu'd. 1602 CAMPION *Art Eng. Poesie* 6 Bring before me now any the most selfe-lou'd Rimer. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* III. Argt., Scorn'd Eccho pines t' a voice: Selfe-lou'd Narcissus to a Daffadill. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 43 Men ..with..the dull sneer of self-loved ignorance.

†Self-lo'ver. *Obs.* [SELF- 1 c.] A lover of self; one who cares for his own interests alone.

1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 167 The self lover [doth glory] in some part of his body more then in other. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 239 Saint Paul [2 Tim. iii. 2] speaking of wicked men that should be in the latter times, saieth first, that they shoulde bee selfe-louers. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 120 Self is the last end of self-lovers even in their highest acts of self-denial. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) IV. 10 A Nurse..may be careless, and a Self-lover; while a Mother prefers the Health of her Child to her own private Satisfactions.

Self-lo'ving, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 f.] Loving or devoted to oneself; seeking one's own interests or advantage; characterized by self-love.

1590 *Broughton's Lett.* ii. 8 Looking your selfe..in this Selflouing glasse. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. vi. 32 Insolent, O'recome with Pride, Ambitious, past all thinking Selfe-louing. 1616 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* ad. fin., From..all selfe-louing humours. *Chorus.* Good Mercvry defend vs. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 515 P 1 An happy self-loving dame, that takes all the admiration she can meet with. 1820 BYRON *Sketch* 83 Feel for thy vile self-loving self in vain. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xxiii. (1848) I. 346 All shallow, petulant, self-loving, boastful men!

Hence **†Self-lo'vingness.**

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Let. Hen. Lady* I, Those humble natures, that passe away the Fee-simple of themselues, either with Selfe-louingnesse, or superstitious opinion of Duty.

Self-lu'minous, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Possessing in itself the property of emitting light.

1792 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 85 If..this matter is self-luminous, it seems more fit to produce a star by its condensation than to depend on the star for its existence. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* Introd. 1 Self-luminous bodies, such as the stars, flames of all kinds, and bodies which shine by being heated or rubbed. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* x. (ed. 2) 253 The tail of the Comet is not self-luminous.

Hence **Self-lumino'sity.**

1901 *Nature* 4 July 244 Bodies like radium that exhibit self-luminosity in the dark.

†Se'lfly, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SELF + -LY 1.] **a.** (One's or its) own. **b.** *A* or *one selfly*, one and the same.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 402 Severally, and of a selfly motion. *Ibid.* v. 647 [The phœnix] re-ingendred of it's selfly seed. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. 730 Where, as (by Art) one selfly blast breath'd out From panting bellows passeth all-about.

†Se'lfly, *adv. Obs.* [f. SELF + -LY 2.]

1. a. Even. **b.** Specially.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 922 We knowe selfely (*neiz*) the soveraygne lyghtnesse to be darked of a lyght cloude. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* M 3 Selfley at this owre whan plaintes and wepinges seakes my.

2. Of or by oneself (or itself); of one's (or its) own accord or motion; spontaneously.

Several times in Sylvester, Sclater, and S. H. *Golden Law.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1176 Selfly too weak for the least weights foundation. 1595 SOUTHWELL *St. Peter's Compl.* (1602) 8 Selfely dismayd, I neyther fought nor lost, I gaue the field. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. 587 A Forrest thick..Which, selfly op'ning [etc.]. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. viii. 18 That ground..which attracts humors and selfely expels them. 1629 W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* 211 There is in God, what selfely inclines him to giue, without, and against merit. *Ibid.* 272 He monisheth them, selfely to correct their errors. 1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 4 His Right to the Crown is not Natural, or selfly Hereditary.

Self-made, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Made by oneself, one's own action or efforts; of one's own making.

Self-made man, one who has risen from obscurity or poverty by his own exertions. (orig. U.S.)

1625 DANIEL *Hymen's Tri.* Poems (1717) 119 Worshipping A Nothing, but his self-made Images. 1858 C. C. B. SEYMOUR (*title*) Self-made Men. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 422 Self-made blindness. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind., Gl. Publ. Char.*, We are fond in this country of what are called self-made men. 1870-2 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. § 1 (1904) 136 As a self-made devil differs from an angel. 1890 *Spectator* 25 Jan., Wealth, if it be self-made.

¶ Used as pa. pple. with predicative sb.

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 837 Men..Design'd by nature wise, but self-made fools.

Hence **Self-ma'king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1883 *Blackw. Mag.* 247 The process of self-making..is one of the most interesting at which it is possible to look. 1892 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 326 The ideal to which the average self-making Englishman continues to look up.

Self-mate, *sb. Chess.* [SELF- 1 a.] Checkmate produced by the side that is mated. Also as *vb.*

1888 J. A. MILES, etc. (*title*) Chess-stars: a galaxy of self-mates. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 754/4 Write to play and self-mate in three moves.

†Self-mi'nded, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3.] Obstinate in one's opinion. So **†Self-mi'ndedness.**

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. xiii. Wks. (1573) 315/1 Opinatiue, selfe-mynded and obstinate. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 39 b, The imagination which proceedeth out of the selfemindednes of the outward man.

Self-mo'tion. [SELF- 5 c.] Motion produced by inherent power apart from external impulse; voluntary or spontaneous motion.

[1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 145 As Car-nails fastned in a wheel (without Selfs-motion) turn with others turns about.] *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) p. iij, Ascribing that his inclination, not vnto his owne selfe-motion; but vnto Gods prouidence. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 99 By how much the more spontaneous..the self-motion is, by so much the more free it is judged to be. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. 10 Matter is not endow'd with Self-motion. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. Diss. 13 A self-motive nature, which is nothing besides self-motion, is the cause of motion to all things. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* IV. xi. 417 This theory [*sc.* Samuel Clarke's] of self-motion has been severely criticized by Sir W. Hamilton.

Self-mo'tive, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Moving by inherent power, endowed with self-motion.

1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* IV. 9 Beings, self-motive, penetrable and indivisible. 1788 [see prec.]. 1836 I. TAYLOR *Phys. The. another Life* (1857) 55 The most elastic gas is not in itself at all more self-motive than a block of granite.

Self-moved, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Moved of itself without external agency.

a 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 41 What is self-mov'd is unconfin'd. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xiv, As if self-moved, the mystic curtain arose. 1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* I. 69 The Soul, being a self-moved monad, is One.

So **†Self-mo'vable** *a.*, = SELF-MOTIVE; **†-mo'vably** *adv.*; **Self-mo'vement,** = SELF-MOTION; **†Self-mo'vent** *a.*, = SELF-MOTIVE; **†Self-mo'ver,** something that moves itself; an automaton; **†Self-mo'ving** *vbl. sb.*, (*a*) spontaneous motion; (*b*) an automaton; **Self-mo'ving** *ppl. a.*, moving spontaneously or automatically, capable of self-motion.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xxvi, All these be substances "self-moveable. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 565 Beings in their own nature Selfmoveable, and Active. *Ibid.* 582 Ἄλογα ψυχικά, All things Animally; that is, "Self-movably, Actively and Productively. 1885 *New Engl. Dict., Automaton*..Something which has the power of.."self-movement. 1905 *Athenæum* 1 July 21/2 Self-movement, which has been suggested [as the real touchstone of life]. 1701 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* I. i. 5 To suppose Body to be Self-Existent..is as absurd, as to suppose it to be "Self-Movent. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* II. i. [heading] The divers kinds of *Automata*, or "Self-movers. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* IV. ii. § 8 The..Essence and Idea of this Self-Mover. Watch or Horologe. 1740 LAW *Answ. Trapp's Disc.* Wks. 1756 VI. 305 Every intelligent Creature is its own Self-mover. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* ii. 26-37 Their sinnes come of nothing else than their owne

*selfemouing. 1587 — *De Mornay* vii. 100 Things..which men as thou art doe deeme to be without end, as straunge Milles and Trindles, and such other kind of selfmouings. 1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* E, Siluer *selfe-mouing we call Siluer-quick. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. (1687) 64/2 That God is an infinite self-moving mind. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 169 A great Automaton or self-moving engine. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. 115 Allowing Matter to be self-existent and self-moving. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 236 A self-moving valve. 1837 KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 341 The self-moving leaves of *Hedysarum gyrans*. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* iv. § 16 Moveable and self-moving things that could be carried or brought into court.

Self-mu·rder, *sb.* [SELF- 1 a.] The taking of one's own life; self-destruction; suicide.

1563-83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2114/1 The wilfull and selfe murder of Pauyer, of Richard Long, besides infinite other. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 282 Where Iudas hanged him-selfe.. there is a vault erected..in memory of his selfe murther. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 553 He[Lord Essex] was found dead; his throat cut...The Coroners Jury found it self-murder. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) IV. 68 In such a gloomy, saturnine Nation as ours, where Self-murders are more frequent than in all the Chri-tian World besides. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess. Addison* (1865) II. 338 The disciple [Budgell]..closed a wicked and unhappy life by selfmurder. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xii, To save me from dying of self-murder or of a broken heart.

transf. a 1631 DONNE *Div. Poems, Letanie* i. Wks. (Grosart) II. 298 My hart is by dejection clay, And by selfe-murder redd. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 251 ¶ 2 We should think it the most unnatural Sort of Self-Murther to sacrifice the Sentiment of the Soul to gratify the Appetites of the Body. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 15 (1726) I. 76 When a whole civil society..destroys itself, it is civil self-murder.

So † **Self-mu·rder** *v.*, **-mu·rdered** *pa. pple.*, **-mu·rdering** *ppl. a.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 153 Some have died under their own whipping, and have *selfe murthered themselves. 1716 OLDMIXON in *Ovid's Ep.* 180 My dear Mother there *Self-murder'd lyes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 337 The wife self-murder'd from a beam depends. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 57 Through long anguish, and *selfe-murdring thought. 1692 W. MARSHALL *Gosp. Myst. Sanct.* x. (1764) 166 The wicked, persecuting, self-murdering jailor [Acts xvi. 27].

Self-mu·rderer. [SELF- 1 c.] One who commits self-murder, a suicide, *felo de se*.

The OE. words were *selfbana, selfmyrþra*.

a 1614 DONNE Βιαθανατος (1644) 92 He is bound in conscience to steal, and were, in some opinions,..a selfe-murderer if he stole not. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 144 His Body was..buried..with a Stake driven through him, as is usual in the Case of Self Murtherers 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 189 The same argument would prove every other criminal *non compos*, as well as the self-murderer. 1865 BRADDON *Sir Jasper's T.* xviii, You would be sorry that one more self-murderer had gone red-handed to his doom.

Se·lfness. [f. SELF *sb.* + -NESS.]

1. Self-centredness; egoism; selfishness; † occas. *pl.* selfish acts or manifestations. Rarely in a neutral sense, Due regard for oneself.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. lxi, Wholly hers all selfenesse he forbeares. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Of Hum. Learn.* cxlv. Wks. (1633) 50 A sound foundation, not on sandy parts Of light Opinion, Selfenesse, Words of men. *a* 1628—*Sidney* xvii. (1652) 240 This Noble Secretary..moved, but not removed with those selfenesses of my opinion. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 158 That selfness which made the Temptation [of Adam and Eve] prevalent.

1857 EMERSON *Poems* 30 Now, to a savage selfness grown, Think nature barely serves for one. 1883 BEECHER in *Chr. World Pulpit* XXIV. 404 Religion is the power to deliver men from sinful, animal selfishness into a benevolent and other-seeking selfness. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 433 The magnificent 'self-ness' of his [Byron's] poetry.

2. Individuality, personality, essence. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Mesneité*, selfenesse. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* IV. xxxvi, The most profound and centrall energie, The very selfnesse of the soul. 1651 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Sign. Rerum* xi. § 89 The expressed Mercury must again come unto the End of its selfness [orig. *Selbheit*].

† **Self-no·thingness.** *Obs.* [SELF- 1 d.] Self-annihilation, self-abasement.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 373 This valley of *Ain* is nothing else but self deadnesse, or rather self-nothingnesse. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 31 It doth lift the heart above al things create and yet at the same time depresse it at the lowest centre of self-nothingnesse.

† **Selfode, selfoder.** *Obs. local.* [Of obscure origin.] A class of tenant in Northumberland and Cumberland.

In quot. 1290-1 *selfode* is app. fem. and may denote the holding, not the tenant.

1272 *Inquis. post mortem* 55 *Hen. III*, N. 33 in Vinogradoff *Vill. in Eng.* 250 Redditarii qui vocantur selfoders. 1290-1 in *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VII. 89/1 [Eglingham, Nhbld.] De qualibet selfode iij dietas vel iij denarios, exceptis selfod' propriis Joh'ide Somervile in terra sua comorantibus. 1378 *Rentale de Tynemuth* in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 594 Omnes selfodes facient quilibet tres precar' tantum.

Self-offe·nce. *rare.*

1. [SELF- 3 a.] Damage or injury to oneself.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Caliica* c, Feare..Confounds all powers, and thorough selfe-offence, Doth forge and raise impossibility. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 513 Self-displeas'd For self-offence, more then for God offended.

b. Attack upon oneself.

1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. i. 101 A word! which those of this false world Employ against each other, not themselves; As men wear daggers not for self-offence.

2. [SELF- 5 a.] One's own offence.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 280 More, nor lesse to others paying, Then by selfe-offences weighing.

† **Self-offe·nder.** *Obs.* [SELF- 5.] A self-willed offender.

c 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer-bk.* 70 Will you call men obstinate self offenders that differ from you?

† **Self-one,** *a. Obs. rare.* [SELF- 3 a.] ? Alone with itself.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, A selfe-one guilt doth onely hatch distrust.

Self-o·pen. *northern.* [SELF- 3 b. Cf. OPEN *sb.* 1 d.] A miners' term for a natural cavity met with in digging.

1683-4 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 512 That the Earth is more or less hollow is made probable, by what is found every where in the Mountains; viz. Natural Cavities or Chambers, which the Miners of the North call *Self-opens*. [1748 *Earthquake Peru* I. 118.] 1824 MANDER *Derbysh. Miner's Gloss.*, Self-opens. Natural Fissures in the stone.

Self-o·pened, *pa. pple.* [SELF- 3 b.] Opened of its own accord.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 254 The gate self-opend wide On golden Hinges turning. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 13 The door which ever, as self-opened, moves To them that knock. 1824 HOOD *Two Swans* xix, A little casement...Widens self-open'd into the cool air. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 162 Self-opened like a magic book.

So **Self-o·pening** *ppl. a.*

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* Index, Self-opening gate. 1895 *Army & Navy Soc. Price List* 15 Sept. 1403 The 'Ideal' patent self-opening pocket knife.

Self-opi·niated, *ppl. a.* [Formed after SELF-OPINION.] = SELF-OPINIONATED.

1627 SIR S. D'EWES *Jrnl.* (1783) 63 He being proud and selfe-opiniated, tooke his owne way. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 84 Such conceited and self-opiniated men.

Hence **Self-opi·niatedly** *adv.*; so † **Self-opi·niating** *a.*; **Self-opi·niativeness** (cf. SELF-OPINIONATIVENESS).

1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* Author's Pref., [I] would rather chuse to brooke with patience some inconveniences..then *selfe opiniatedly disturb the quiet of the publique. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 490 Peeuish and *selfe-opiniating Puritanes. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. Thring* 120 Disputants put this down to *self-opiniativeness.

Self-opi·nion. Now *rare.* [SELF- 1 d.] High opinion of oneself, self-esteem; esp. overweening estimate of oneself, self-conceit; obstinacy in one's own opinion.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Coriol.* (1595) 243 Wilfully giuen to a selfe opinion and obstinate minde. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 11 Rather equity than selfe-opinion must and ought chiefly to be weighed. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* Ep. Ded. 7, I have labour'd..to divest my self of the self-opinion of an Author. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 443 ¶ 5 Fortunatus is stocked with Ignorance, and consequently with Self-Opinion. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vi, I should be sorry to shock your self-opinion, but you were never more mistaken. 1858 BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* xxi. (1860) 297 The veils of pride are rent, the rock of self-opinion is shattered. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxiii, Her self-opinion rallied,..she was tempted to think that his judgment was not only fallible but biassed.

† **Self-opi·nionate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 36 Th' other learned, but selfe-opinionate. 1651 BP. HALL *Soliloquies* xliv, We all are born proud and selfopinionate.

Self-opi·nionated, *ppl. a.* [f. SELF-OPINION.]

1. Having an exaggerated opinion of oneself; self-conceited.

1671 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* viii. Wks. 1710 I. 114 There never was a nation more self-opinionated as to their wisdom, goodness, and interest with God. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. v. 187 Most men are so self-opinionated, that they will easily believe themselves masters of things, if they do but half understand them. 1825 HAZLITT *Spirit of Age* 372 He is no formalist, not he! All is crude and chaotic, self-opinionated, vain.

2. Obstinate in one's opinion.

1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 590 A body of Germans, who were so rash and self-opinionated as to separate from the troops of Spartacus. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 148 Self-opinionated doctrinairism. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 538 The young priest was far too self-opinionated to yield to argument.

Hence **Self-opi·nionatedness**; so **Self-opi·nionative** *a.*, **Self-opi·nionativeness.**

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Affectation*, Affectedness, Conceitedness, *Self-opinionatedness. 1888 GORE *R. C. Claims* viii. 119 The temper of self-opinionatedness. 1904 H. BLACK *Pract. Self-Culture* viii. 205 A man *self-opinionative and harsh. 1857 PUSEY *Real Presence* I. (1869) 65 Whose docility, unspoiled by any *self-opinionativeness.

Self-opi·nioned, *ppl. a.* [f. SELF-OPINION.] = SELF-OPINIATED.

1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* III. i, This self-opinioned fool. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) 355 A bold, self-opinion'd Physician. 1794 ELLIOT in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 578 He argues closely, but is long-winded and self-opinioned. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* i, An ingenious, but whimsical and self-opinioned mechanic. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 12/1 Nobody could have been less self-opinioned, and indeed if he made a suggestion it was with a half-apology.

Hence **Self-opi·nionedness.**

1879 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 6/5 A peculiar kind of religious self-opinionedness sprang up.

Self-ori·ginal, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Having its origin in itself.

1704 S. CLARK *Demonstr. Being & Attrib. God* (1760) 97 Self-original Independent Existence.

† **Self-ori·ginate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* xi, Its perfections were not self-originate. 1732 BERKELEY *Minute Philos.* I. 160 The..independent, self-originate Cause and Source of all Beings.

Self-ori·ginated, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Originated by oneself (itself).

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 229 That they are not self-originated, but had some beginning in prime Motors. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 47 O Self-originated Might, Thou All-creating Infinite. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 103 A..self-originated stimulus. 1871 FRASER *Berkeley* ii. 27 Thoughts, self-originated, or immediately occasioned by reading.

So **Self-ori·ginating** *ppl. a.*; **Self-origina·tion; Self-o·rigined** *pa. pple.*, = SELF-ORIGINATED.

1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. v. (1876) 127 To discriminate between the Son and His underived *self-originating Father. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* I. 129 A personal, spontaneous, self-originating and self-maintained surrender to evil influences. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. 175 By Self-existence here I mean *Self-origination. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xi. (1870) 177 The view..that there can be nothing in it [*sc.* moral action] of free self-origination. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 40 From God *self-origin'd.

† **Self-pa·rtial,** *a. Obs. rare.* [SELF- 3 a.] Favourable to one's own interests.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 702 O do not, through self-partiall zeal, With light-brain'd Counsels vex your Common-weale.

Self-partia·lity. Now *rare*; common *c* 1725–1865. [SELF- 3 a.] Partiality or favourable disposition towards oneself; excessive regard for one's own interests; self-love.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxix. 119, I know not what selfe-partialitie, makes vs thinke our selues behind-hand, if wee offer not repayment in the same coine wee receiu'd it. 1658 OSBORN *Q. Eliz.* Ep. A 4 b, Any acquired advantage.. self-partiality or others indulgence hath..been able to estate me in. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chapel* x. 189 Hardness of Heart with respect to others, joined with this Self-partiality. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 418 Self-partiality draws from each of them such of the facts as promise to operate in favour of his claim. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* 600 We have our self-partialities, but have learnt the value of equity.

Self-pe·rfect, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Perfect in oneself.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cttie of God* 308 Alcinous saith that God is supreme, eternall, ineffable, self-perfect.

Self-perfe·cting, *vbl. sb.* [SELF- 1.] = SELF-PERFECTION 2. So **Self-perfe·cting** *ppl. a.*, leading to self-perfection.

1883 [see SELF-LOVE 2]. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 6 Jan. 4/4 In self-perfecting there is something personal, something gratifying to self-love.

Self-perfe·ction.

† **1.** [SELF- 5 a.] Inherent perfection. *Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. ix. 22 Shee was of such a selfe-perfection; that she might very well embleme, whatsoeuer omnipotency could make most rare.

2. [SELF- 1 b.] The perfecting of one's character, life, etc. *U.S.*

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 49 In the days when mutual and self-perfection will be the prevalent idea which the civilisation of the time will express. 1905 E. B. HOLT tr. *Münsterberg's Americans* 355 In Puritan America the soul's welfare stood in the foreground, and only secondarily was the striving for self-perfection, self-searching, and self-culture made to contribute to the advance of objective culture.

Hence **Self-perfe·ctionating** *ppl. a.*, **Self-perfe·ctionment** (in recent Dicts.).

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 144 No self-perfectionating process..has warmth enough to ripen the soul's diviner fruits.

Self-pi·ty. [SELF- 1 d.] Pity or tender feeling for oneself.

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* V. (1632) 182 She tare, Without selfe-pitty, her dis-heueled haire. 1647 H. MORE *Philos. Poems, Insomn. Philos.* xxii, They would forsake This work of God, and out of dear self-pitty Fly from the creatures. *a* 1711 KEN *Christophil* Poet. Wks. I. 504 Not thy pure Will, not thy nice Sense of Pain, Cou'd Self-indulgence, or Self-pity gain. 1859 BAIN *Emotions & Will* viii. 135 Self-pity,..often very strong in the sentimentally selfish, but quite real in all who have any tender susceptibilities. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Apr. viii, Disconsolate, and with self-pity pined. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxx, Self-pity is bad at any time. It is fatal at twelve.

attrib. a 1628 F. GREVIL *Alaham* v. ii, This innocent.. With his selfe-pitty teares, drew teares from vs.

So **Self-pi·tiful** *a.*, **-pi·tifulness; Self-pi·tyingly** *adv.*

1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, The necessity for draining her of her self-pitifulness. *Ibid.*, In the morning she was a dried channel of tears, no longer self-pitiful. 1899 MACKAIL *W. Morris* II. 66 'I feel a lonely kind of a chap', he says of himself..half self-pityingly.

Self-pleased, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Pleased with oneself; self-complacent.

a 1809 J. M. MASON (Webster), A self-pleased man. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 283 She quitted the sofa she had been unwillingly sharing with the self-pleased beau. 1904 DOWDEN *Browning* 56 The self-pleased, keen-sighted Legate.

† **Self-plea·ser.** *Obs.* [SELF- 1 c.] One who does his own 'pleasure'.

1582 *Bible* (Rheims) 2 Pet. ii. 10 Them whiche..contemne dominion, bold, self-pleasers [Vulg. *sibi placentes*, Gr. αὐθάδεις, 1611 selfe willed]. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 28 S. Peters word..signifieth as much as self-pleasers.

Self-plea·sing, *vbl. sb.* [SELF- 1 b.]

1. Doing one's own 'pleasure' or will.

1681 OWEN *Humble Test.* 89 All Self-seeking, and Self-pleasing,..must utterly be cast away. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* vii. (1848) I. 98 The greater number of men live lives of mere self-pleasing.

2. Self-complacency.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Cockayne*, Their culture generally enables the travelled English to avoid any ridiculous extremes of this self-pleasing.

So **Self-plea·sing** *ppl. a.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 6 With such selfe-pleasing thoughts her wound she fed. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Marriage & Single Life* (Arb.) 266 Self pleasing, and humorous mindes. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 90 Who shames a Scribbler? break one cobweb thro', He spins the slight, self-pleasing thread anew. 1818 *Brit. Rev.* XII. 191 His vanity and self-pleasing activity. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xi, All the trickeries of self-pleasing sorrow.

Self-poise. *U.S.* [f. next: cf. POISE *sb.*] The condition or property of being self-poised.

1854 'GRACE GREENWOOD' *Haps & Mishaps* 3 A maturity of thought.., a self-poise about him, which impress you. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 394 A self-poise belongs to every particle. 1884 *Century Mag.* Jan. 453/2 Excellent qualifications for either soldier or citizen—self-poise, a quick intelligence, close application.

Self-poised, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Poised or balanced by its own unaided power or without support. Also *fig.* of persons, their actions, etc.

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 1 Nor hung the selfe-poiz'd Earth in thin Ayre plac't. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* X. 442 Each movement still beginning, still compleat, It's Author's type, self poised, perfection's seat. 1802 WORDSW. *To a Butterfly* 2 I've watched you now a full half-hour, Self-poised upon that yellow flower. 1838 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* Ser. 1. *Of Subjection* 7 The self-poised character of God. 1875 LONGF. *Masque of Pandora* iv, Thy form Self-poised as if it floated on the air.

Hence **Self-poi·sedness.**

1848 *Westm. Rev.* XLIX. 339 This favourite notion of man's self-poisedness.

Self-pollu·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Masturbation, self-abuse.

1626 R. BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 77 Fornication, Selfe-pollution, &c. 1733 *Ordinary of Newgate* No. 1 Advt., Self-Pollution (that cursed School Wickedness). 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 240 Two young men who had induced the same disease by a habit of self-pollution.

Hence **Self-pollu·ter.**

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 214/1 In scripture..we find self-polluters termed *effeminate, unclean*.

Self-posse·ssed, *ppl. a.* [Formed after SELF-POSSESSION; see SELF- 2.] Characterized by self-possession.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. v, Tall, self-possessed, and dressed plainly indeed. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxi, She was not embarrassed, but wholly self-possessed. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* iii, The voice was clear and low, remarkably self-possessed.

Hence **Self-posse·ssedly** *adv.*

1893 *Cornh. Mag.* July 2 She received the ovation self-possessedly.

Self-posse·ssing, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. after next.] = SELF-POSSESSED.

1789 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 20 To dare to be fearful, when all about you are full of presumption and confidence..discovers a self-possessing and collected character. 1863 M. BEYDIE *Tabl. Geol.*, etc. 54 A quiet, self-possessing mind.

Self-posse·ssion. [SELF- 1 d.] Command of one's faculties or feelings; self-command, composure.

1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* II. i. (1853) 135 To preserve an Equanimity and Self-possession under all the various scenes of Adversity and Prosperity. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, The youth underwent the gaze of Majesty, not the less gracefully that his self-possession was mingled with embarrassment. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Hom.* 112 The self-possession and self-command of every Greek are perfect.

transf. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 314 A low flight of steps on which the ponies pass up and down with extraordinary self-possession.

Self-praise. [SELF- 1 a.] Praise or commendation of oneself.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* A ij, Unles perhaps some be better acquainted with me, then this my self-prayse (as me seemeth) I maie well take vpon me. 1662 *Mr. Hobbes considered* 57 That part of his self-praise which most offends you is in the end of his Leviathan. 1725 *Pope's Odyss.* VIII. Notes II. 225 Self-praise is sometimes no fault. 1826 *Cobbett's Reg.* LVIII. 743/2 In general it is a good rule..that self-praise is no commendation. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxv, Osborne broke out into a rhapsody of self-praise and imprecations. 1856 GROTE *Hist. Greece* II. xciv. XII. 260 These and other self-praises disparaging to the glory of Alexander.

So **Self-praised** *pa. pple.*

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 120 A Stork; who, with white pinions rais'd, Is euer by her creaking bill selfe-prais'd.

Self-preserva·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] The preservation of one's existence; *esp.* applied to the natural law or instinct which impels living creatures to take measures to prolong life and avoid injury.

a 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) A A, It is onely upon this reason, that selfe-preservation is of Naturall Law. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 505 If the punishment Thou canst avoid, self-preservation bids. 1682 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* IV. ii. Self-preservation is the first of laws. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* II. I. 40 Against such internal enemies..the most severe regulations, and the most cruel treatment, seemed almost justified by the great law of self-preservation. 1875 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) III. 172 Both the instinct of self-preservation and the laws of duty combine in prompting them to put off the evil day.

So **Self-prese·rvative, Self-prese·rvatory** *adjs.*, **Self-prese·rving** *ppl. a.*; **†Self-prese·rvingly** *adv.*, so as to save oneself trouble.

1839 *Times* 29 July 4/2 Every creature has its *self-preservative instinct. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* iii. (1877) I. 45 The self-preservative correspondence between internal and external changes. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Natur. Wand.* III. viii. 254 My rower righted it by a *self-preservatory act. 1669 HOPKINS *Serm.* 1 *Pet.* 13, 14 (1685) 34 Upon..*self-preserving Principles, Submission may sometimes be yielded to the lawful Commands of an unlawful..Power. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chace* II. 503 Others, whom Fear Inspires with self-preserving Wiles. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. v, A traitorous self-preserving Court. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. viii. 123 It was..more *selfe-preservingly done to leave him to the Sarcasmes of his Book, then by a shoulder-experience to have learn'd how to write a literall invective against him.

Self-pride. [SELF- 3 a.] Pride in oneself, one's achievements, one's position; personal pride.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 289 Puffing them vp by being besought, with such a selfe-pride of superiority. 1632 STRAFFORD in Browning *Life* (1891) 301 That self pride which hath to our owne esteeme, represented vs much bigger ..then in deed ther is cause for. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xviii. 341 Banish..every thought of self-pride and self-distinction. 1822 COLTON *Lacon* II. cxxxviii. 104 This Self-pride is the common friend of our humanity. 1865 FLOR. MARRYAT *Love's Conft.* xxxix, George Treherne's self-pride came to his aid in this place, and stood him in the stead of virtue. 1907 *Ch. Q. Rev.* July 471 To gratify private pride and self-interest in the first case, then the self-pride of the Suprema.

Self-raised, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Raised by oneself, by one's own power; (of a plant) grown without human aid.

1647 tr. *Behmen's Clavis* § 54 The most Inward ground, wherein, the selfe raised [*marg.* Or owne arisen] will bringeth it selfe, by a reception, into somethingnesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 634 That all these puissant Legions..shall faile to re-ascend Self-rais'd. *Ibid.* 858 Self-begot, self-rais'd By our own quick'ning power. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Rosemary*, When the plants are self-raised on an old wall. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 6 The self-raised spontaneous products of some miraculous soil.

Self-rai·sing, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Applied to a kind of flour which causes dough or paste to rise without the addition of baking-powder, etc.

1869–71 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* IV. 14 Richardson's Tryphena, or Self-raising Flour. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 256/1.

Selfre: see SILVER.

Self-realiza·tion. *Philos.* [SELF- 1 a.] The fulfilment by one's own efforts of the possibilities of development of the self.

1876 F. H. BRADLEY *Eth. Studies* ii. 59 What remains is to point out the most general expression for the end in itself, the ultimate practical 'why'; and that we find in the word *self-realisation. Ibid.* 75 There is self-realization in all action. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* xii. 245 This realisation for which the Christian looks, while it is the realization of himself, is not self-realisation. For..it is not in the last resort his own achievement, but the gift of God.

Self-refle·ction. [SELF- 1 a, 3 a.]

†1. Reflection or image of oneself. *Obs.*

1636 DAVENANT *Plat. Lovers* II. i. D 4, The fam'd Antipheron, whom once the learned Stagerite Admir'd so for the selfe-reflection that He wore like to his perfect Image still where hee mov'd.

†2. Censure or reproof of oneself. *Obs.*

1681 OWEN *Φρονημα του Πνευματος* I. iv. Wks. 1852 VII. 307 We can omit and lose such..opportunities..without regret or self-reflection. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* Ded., They can hear the call to church, and see others go, and yet stay at home without any self-reflections.

3. Reflection, meditation, or serious thought as to one's character, actions, motives, etc.

c 1670 O. HEYWOOD *Script. Fast* in *Autobiog.* (1881) II. 332 How usefull is this self-reflexion in order to a fast. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Mor. & Int. Virtue* 285 Self-Reflection, the best means to an impartial judgment of things, will take place, and the true voice of Conscience will be heard. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 99 A moment's steady self-reflection will show us, that in the simple determination 'black is not white'..all the powers are implied that distinguish man from animals. *a* 1882 T. H. GREEN *Prolegs. Ethics* § 94 Self-reflection is the only possible method of learning what is the inner man or mind that our action expresses.

So **Self-refle·ctive,** **†-refle·xive** *adjs.*, disposed to or characterized by self-reflection.

1879 *Expositor* X. 87 In opposition to the Buddhist spirit of self-annihilation, he declares that the sympathetic are the most *self-reflective. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 6 These *self-reflexive Acts of Conscience.

Self-rega·rd. [SELF- 1 a, 3 a.]

1. Regard of or consideration for oneself.

1598 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 682 But selfe-regard of private good or ill, Moues me of each, so as I found, to tell. 1692–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 185 Without being sway'd by any by, private, or self-regards. 1705 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 30 Apr., The friendship..is the more likely to be true and unmixed with too much self-regard. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan. 43/2 Effectually fusing the indifference and cool self-regard of others.

2. = SELF-RESPECT 3.

1821 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 741 If friendship's nothing, self-regard might teach More polish'd usage of his parts of speech. 1836 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Cockayne* 83 This little superfluity of self-regard in the English brain, is one of the secrets of their power.

So **Self-rega·rdant** *a.*, **-rega·rding** *ppl. a.*, looking towards or centring upon oneself, marked by self-regard; watchful of oneself; **Self-rega·rdless** *a.*, **-rega·rdlessness.**

1840 C. H. TOWNSHEND *Facts in Mesmerism* III. ii. 294 To be *self-regardant and watchful of our own sensations as they arise. 1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Aug. 237 Man is not only a self-regardant but a sympathetic..being. 1789 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* p. xxxviii *note*, The pleasures and pains of amity and enmity are of the *self-regarding cast. 1868 HAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* IV. x. 393 The application of Prudential or self-regarding motives. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* vii. 140 Certain personal or self-regarding virtues.. consisting chiefly in habits of propriety and self-control. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 6/4 The courage and *self-regardless patriotism of youth. 1870 BLACK *Kilmeny* xxvi, Wonderful self-possession and *self-regardlessness.

Self-re·gulated, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2, 4.] Regulated from within or automatically.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 517 The Colleges were isolated, self-regulated and self-contained.

So **Self-re·gulating** *ppl. a.*

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 26/2 A self-regulating thermostat or heat-governor. 1839 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. vii. 191 A self regulating thermometer. 1840 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIII. 274 Chesterman's Patent Self-regulating Stove. The principal novelty..is the mode adopted for regulating the rate of combustion..by means of the vaporization of water.

Self-regula·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Regulation, control, or direction by or of oneself (itself).

1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 196 'Tis a very considerable degree of Self-regulation for a Man to proceed thus far, not to *enjoy*, but only to *use* the World. 1879 DOWDEN *Southey* ii. 29 His chief lesson was the large one of self-regulation. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 110 The muscular coats of the small arteries are..capable of self-regulation.

So **Self-re·gulative** *a.*, **Self-re·gulator, Self-re·gulatory** *a.*

a 1866 WHEWELL (Ogilvie), *Self-regulative. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 110 The endothelium of the capillaries is..self-regulative. 1862 BURTON *Bk.-Hunter* 11 Any peculiarity which may transfer them from the class of free *self-regulators to that of persons 'under treatment'. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 239 An..adaptive *self-regulatory capacity.

Self-reli·ance. [SELF- 3 a.] Reliance upon oneself, one's own powers, etc. (*rarely* with unfavourable implication.)

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 117 In as far as they exchange self-reliance for reliance on anything out of themselves. 1852 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* 203 If we have failed again and again in meeting Temptation..it will be well to examine whether there be not some particle of self-reliance lurking at the bottom of our hearts. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democracy* 18 A self-reliance which disposed each man to act individually and independently.

So **Self-reli·ant** *a.*, **Self-rely·ing** *ppl. a.*

1848 LYTTON *Harold* VIII. iv, *Self-reliant hath Hilda called me. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 292 Publius was sent off to Spain with a..force, which a less courageous and self-reliant people would have been unwilling to spare. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* iii, The *self-relying resolution of a mind too virtuous to suspect evil. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xl. III. 225 An independent, quiet, self-relying man.

Selfren, obs. form of SILVERN.

Self-renou·nced, *ppl. a.* [Formed after SELF-RENUNCIATION; see SELF- 2.] Full of self-renunciation. So **Self-renou·ncement,** = SELF-RENUNCIATION; **Self-renou·ncing** *ppl. a.* (hence **-renou·ncingly** *adv.*).

1838 MRS. BROWNING *Virgin Mary to Child Jesus* vi, I knelt down..Too *self-renounced for fears. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* v. (1848) I. 75 To take shelter in a secret life of *self-renouncement. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 93 Self-examination, self-renouncement, and mildness. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 568 That *self-renouncing wisdom. 1858 GEO. ELIOT *Sc. Cler. Life, Janet's Rep.* xix. II. 285 The self-renouncing faith which has soothed that conflict into rest. 1859—*A. Bede* I. iv, Such a woman as Lisbeth..at once patient and complaining, self-renouncing and exacting. 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* 196 Trustfully as child before mother, *self-renouncingly as child after sin.

Self-renuncia·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Renunciation of oneself, one's own will, etc.

1791 [HANNAH MORE] *Relig. Fashion. World* 63 He..who does not live in a regular course of self-renunciation, will not be likely..to perform acts of beneficence. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xii. (1848) I. 160 They who followed Him..had to make the same..act of self-renunciation. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* ii. 24 The only self-renunciation which it [*sc.* utilitarian morality] applauds, is devotion to the happiness..of others.

So **Self-renu·nciatory** *a.*

1901 W. MACINTOSH *Rabbi Jesus* 232 Jesus..asks for a love as *self-renunciatory as His own.

Self-repe·llency. ? *Obs.* [SELF- 1 d.] The quality (possessed by gases) of being made up of mutually repelling molecules or atoms. So **Self-repe·llent** *a.*, **Self-repe·lling** *ppl. a.*

1803 JOS. BLACK *Lect. Chem.* I. 34 We may expect to find the matter of heat..rarefied, in consequence of its own..*self-repellency. *Ibid.* 49 Heat depends on the abundance of a subtile matter highly elastic, or *self-repellent. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Self-repelling*, repelling by its own inherent power.

Self-repre·ssion. [SELF- 1 a.] Repression of oneself, one's desires, opinions, etc. So **Self-repre·ssed, -repre·ssing** *ppl. adjs.*, characterized by self-repression.

1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* xix, Rosa, I am *self-repressed again. 1904 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Chr. Rossetti's Poems* Pref. p. x, One finds in her verse a noticeable combination of the outspoken with the *self-repressing. 1866 *Ch. Times* 27 Jan., His whole official career has displayed a capacity for *self-repression which [etc.]. 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* ii, The habitual self-repression of a slave.

Self-reproa·ch. [SELF- 1 a.] Reproach of oneself.

1779 *Mirror* No. 50 P 4 A conscious blush of shame and self-reproach. 1797 WORDSW. *Old Cumb. Beggar* 136 Men who can hear the Decalogue and feel No self-reproach. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxiv. 354 The English monopolist had no self-reproach for prohibiting the industry of the colonists.

So **Self-reproa·ched** *ppl.a.*, **Self-reproa·chful** *a.*, **Self-reproa·ching** *ppl.a.* (hence-reproa·chingly, -reproa·chingness).

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 111 Such a man may live *self-reproached. 1869 P. LANDRETH *Adam Thomson* ii. 77 Disappointed, depressed, desponding, and fiercely *self-reproachful. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 600 *Self-reproaching conscience. 1848 KEBLE *Serm.* Pref. p. xxix, To help him to assuage his self-reproaching thoughts. 1847-54 WEBSTER, **Self-reproachingly*, by reproaching one's self. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 139 The weary..loathsome *self-reproachingness of idleness. 1890 TALMAGE *From Manger to Throne* 306 His *self-reproachment for doubting the words of Christ.

Self-reproof. [SELF- 1.] Reproof of oneself. So **Self-repro·val**, **Self-repro·ved** *ppl. a.*, **Self-repro·ving** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1775 ASH, **Self-reproof*, the reproof of conscience. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, The anguish produced by this self-reproof was so strong, that I put my hand suddenly to my forehead. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iii. 42 All that part of worldly trouble which consists of *self-reproval. 1828-32 WEBSTER, **Self-reproved*, reproved by consciousness or one's own sense of guilt. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. i. 4 He's full of alteration, And *selfereprouing. 1775 ASH, **Self-reproving*, reproving one's self.

Self-repu·gnance. Now *rare.* [SELF- 1 d.] Self-contradictory quality or character. So **Self-repu·gnancy**; **Self-repu·gnant** *a.*, self-contradictory.

1649 MILTON *Tenure of Kings* 5 The ignorance or the notorious hypocrisie and *selfe-repugnance of our dancing Divines. 1674 BOYLE *Corpusc. Philos.* 16 They..have recourse to agents, which..involve no *self-repugnancy in their very notions, as many of the judicious think substantial forms and real qualities do. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 339 For necessary truth to be the effect of God is a most inconsistent *self-repugnant notion. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* I. 398 An arbitrary, self-repugnant scheme. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xii. (1859) I. 218 This, at first sight, may appear like paradox: I trust you will soon admit that the counter doctrine is self-repugnant.

Self-repu·lsion. ? *Obs.* [SELF- 1 a.] The action of self-repellent molecules or substances. So **Self-repu·lsive** *a.*, self-repellent.

1834 PROUT *Chem. Meteorol.* App. 563 The individual molecules of the gas..are thus enabled to assume those positions..in which their mutual self-repulsion is the greatest possible. *Ibid.* 70 A given volume of steam,..contains the same number of self-repulsive molecules, as a similar volume of air. *Ibid.* 73 The molecules..may..be supposed to exert a self-repulsive influence on each other. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* III. 17 Æpinus devised a method of examining the nature of the electricity..by means of which he ascertained its distribution, and found that it agreed with such a law of self-repulsion.

Self-respe·ct. [In sense 1, SELF- 5 a, d; in senses 2 and 3, SELF- 1 d.]

†**1.** A private, personal, or selfish end. (Chiefly *pl.*; cf. SELF-END.) *Obs.*

1613 BP. HALL *Serm.* Wks. (1625) 468 Men; subiect to all passions, infirmities, self-respects. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 30 Impartial Rectitude and Uprightness, without all Self-respects. 1675 HOWE in H. Rogers *Life* (1863) v. 141 Have I not an undue design or self-respect in it?

†**2.** Self-love, self-conceit. *Obs.*

1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* Pref., Most men are transported with a philauty or self-respect, and have envious..ears, to hear ill reports of others.

3. Proper regard for the dignity of one's person or one's position.

1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VI. 353 To her guilty bowers Allured him, sunk so low in self-respect As there to linger. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 619 The fortitude of Monmouth was not that highest sort of fortitude which is derived from reflection and from selfrespect. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Engl.* 363 Much too cheap for any person of proper self-respect to indulge in. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. vi, Things which, if left undone, would cause a gentlewoman to lose her self-respect.

So **Self-respe·ctful** (hence -respe·ctfulness), **Self-respe·cting** *ppl. a.*

1890 *Academy* XXXVIII. 192/2 His style, while firm.., is *self-respectful with that reticence which in manners we call breeding and in art distinction. 1903 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1003 There was a dignity, a '*selfrespectfulness' in her demeanour that was most impressive. 1786 BURNS *Despondency* iv, The lucky moment to improve, And just to stop, and just to move, With *self-respecting art. 1828 SEWELL *Oxford Prize Ess.* 23 For the humiliation of habitual mendicity, it substituted an honourable and self-respecting industry. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. ii. 102 The well-becoming pride and self-respecting gravity.

Self-restrai·nt. [SELF- 1 a.] Restraint imposed by oneself upon one's actions, etc.

1775 ASH, *Self-restraint*, a restraint from one's self. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. x. § 3 (1876) 99 A prudent and conscientious self-restraint. 1871 JOWETT *Plato* II. 253 Those invalids who, having no self-restraint, will not leave off their habits of intemperance.

So **Self-restrai·ned**, **Self-restrai·ning** *ppl. adjs.*, marked by or involving self-restraint.

a 1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 398 Power, *self-restrain'd, the people best obey. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for Nothing* II. 195 Her tone was softened, and her bearing more self-restrained. 1828-32 WEBSTER, **Self-restraining*, restraining or controlling itself. 1844 MARG. OSSOLI *Woman in 19th Cent.* (1862) 65 Not [capable] of a steadfast wisdom, nor self-restraining virtue.

Self-revea·led, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Revealed by one's own action. So **Self-revea·ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, **Self-revea·lment.**

1908 *Outlook* 10 Oct. 462/1 Seeing all its strange beauty and listening to its mysterious *self-revealing. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* III. iv. § 3 By sanctioning the guilt of the *self-revealing party. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 645 The doctrine that God as a spirit is necessarily self-revealing. 1907 W. H. HADOW *Shaks. Sonn.* Introd. p. xi, Of all poetic forms the lyric..is the most self-revealing. 1897 DOWDEN *Fr. Lit.* IV. ii. 277 The *Esprit des Lois*..must always be precious as the *self-revealment of a great intellect.

Self-revela·tion. [SELF- 1 a.] Revelation of oneself.

1852 PULSFORD tr. *J. Müller's Chr. Doctr. Sin* I. 98 A self-revelation of God. 1853 W. JERDAN *Autobiogr.* III. 51 The self-revelations I have deemed essential to my life-story. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Immanence* iv. § 3. 88 This then was the primary proof, the essential evidence of the Incarnation; the self-revelation of a person to persons.

So **Self-re·velative**, **Self-re·velatory** *adjs.*

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 312/2 *Self-revelative passages are frequent. 1890 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Oct., I suppose that in the *self-revelatory character of these notes, I am bound to say that..I am lazy.

Self-rewa·rd. [SELF- 5 b.] Reward derived from or inherent in itself. So **Self-rewa·rded**, **-rewa·rding** *ppl. adjs.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 236 Who virtue's *self-reward so loud resound, Would..virtue, while they compliment, betray. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 229 Her sweet and loving temper was *self-rewarded. 1740 BP. RUNDLE in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 140 To perform to you all the *self-rewarding duties of good neighbourhood. 1868 BAIN *Mental & Moral Sci.* III. v. 245 If benevolent actions, instead of being a tax, were self-rewarding. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* XV. 259 Gratitude is..a self-rewarding virtue.

Self-ri·ght, *v.* [Back-formation f. SELF-RIGHTING.] *intr.* To right itself. So **Self-ri·ghted**; **Self-ri·ghter**, a self-righting boat.

1881 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 5/8 The 'Norfolk Lifeboats' ..will not *self-right if upset. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed.* etc. 101 He..From storm and mutiny emerged alone *Self-righted from the dreadful self-surrender. 1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 636 When a '*self righter' is upset by a heavy sea, her crew may be thrown out.

Self-ri·ghteous, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Righteous in one's own esteem.

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Mercy for Chief of Sinners* (1847) 15 This self-righteous temper is like an external heat got into the body, which produceth an hectic fever. *a* 1820 I. MILNER *Serm.* iii. I. 118 Pharisaical, self-righteous views and motives. 1854 C. HODGE *On Romans* vii. 200 Legal or self-righteous strivings after holiness. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 259 His severity was reserved for the self-righteous.

So **Self-ri·ghteously** *adv.*; **Self-ri·ghteousness**, the condition of being self-righteous; righteousness for which one gives oneself credit.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 7/3 A vigilant police are *self-righteously discussing whether they should enforce the lodging-house law. 1656 OWEN *Mortif. Sin* To Rdr. (1668) A 3 b, The deplorable Issues of Superstition, *self-righteousness and Anxiety of Conscience. 1833 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 209, I understand the disease which you call self-righteousness: though the word is hardly yet good English. 1893 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 27 The unconscious malevolence of self-righteousness which distorted the critical appreciations..of Lord Macaulay.

Self-ri·ghting, *vbl. sb.* [SELF- 1 b.] Of a boat: The action of righting itself after being upset. So **Self-ri·ghting** *ppl. a.*

1855 *Art. Life-boat Inst.* (Paris Exhib.) in *Brit. Alm. & Comp.* (1856) 50 The power of self-righting if upset. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 115 The new class of self-righting life-boats. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 573/1 Surf-boats, incapable of self-righting.

fig. 1891 *Times* 14 Jan. 5/3 The self-righting power which British constitutions derive from the absolute freedom of the people.

Self-sa·crifice. [SELF- 1 a.] Sacrifice of oneself; the giving up of one's own interests, happiness, and desires, for the sake of duty or the welfare of others.

1805 WORDSW. *Poems Sentim., Ode to Duty* 54 Give unto me, made lowly wise, The spirit of self-sacrifice. 1843 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 101 What a strange mystery is that of mutual self-sacrifice! to exist for one moment for another. 1888 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. i. § 7. 226 Absolute self-sacrifice of the passions and imagination.

So **Self-sa·crificed** *pa. pple.*; **Self-sa·crificer**, a self-sacrificing person; **Self-sacrifi·cial** *a.*, = next; **Self-sa·crificing** *ppl. a.*, making a sacrifice of one's life, etc. (whence **-sa·crificingly** *adv.*, **-sa·crificingness**).

a 1721 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. IV. 83 *Self-sacrific'd, his Father's Will, And our Redemption to fulfil. 1900 *Inscr. in Postmen's Park, Aldersgate St., London*, Mary Rogers, stewardess of the Stella, March 30, 1899, self-sacrificed by giving up her life-belt, and voluntarily going down in the sinking ship. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxv. I. 467 Martyrs and *Self-sacrificers to but so faint a Shadow..of the first uncreated Perfection. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Apr. 421/2 It is usual for the self-sacrificer to be a consistently melodramatic person. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 98 The painful pelican *Self-sacrificial. 1893 H. R. REYNOLDS in *Life* (1898) 473 Your self-sacrificial love to a great duty. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Parad. & Peri* (ed. 2) 149 That precious sigh Of pure, *self-sacrificing love. 1897 GLADSTONE *E. Christ* 14 In the midst of a high and self-sacrificing enthusiasm, the Greek Government and people have shown good sense. 1882 *Advance* (Chicago) 5 Oct., *Self-sacrificingly non-denominational in all directions. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* ix. (1876) 239 In *self-sacrificingness,..in the ordinary intercourse of life, mainly consists the difference between being well and ill bred.

†**Self-said,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [= SELF *pron.* or *a.* + SAID *ppl. a.*] Selfsame.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. John* x. 15-18 To sende furth this lyfe out of the bodye, and to cal agayn the same into the very selfsayd bodye [orig. *hoc ipsum corpus*]. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 129 Euen in the selfe said moment it is borne..to deliuer to a straunge nurse.

Selfsame (se·lfsēm), *a.* (*sb.*). Now *literary.* [orig. two words (see SELF A. 1 b, B. 1 c, and SAME A. 4); subsequently written as a compound with a hyphen, now as one word. Cf. Norw., Da. *selvsamme*; OHG. *selbsama* adv., in just the same way.]

A. *adj.* (The) very same, very identical.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3992 She..With the selve same suerde..Karf hyr hart even atweyn. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Matt.* viii. 13 Hys seruaunt was healed in the selfe same houre [TINDALE 1526 that same, 1534 the selfe, *Rheims* 1582 the same]. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 87 The self same day that Adrian was made Emperour of Rome. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 161 Both of you are Birds of selfe same Feather. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 23 We were nurst upon the self-same hill, Fed the same flock. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 213 And still he's in the self-same place, Where at his setting out he was. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 177 ¶ 2 The very self-same Action done by different Men can not merit the same Degree of Applause. 1782 COWPER *Table-t.* 388 He trod the very self-same ground you tread. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispens.* (1823) II. 331 In the Greek original, the self-same phrase occurs in each place without the least difference. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* iv, Pray, Alice, pray, my own sweet wife, That we may die the selfsame day. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* II. 333, I could hardly believe it was the same Jura Bek who had been such a bitter enemy to Russia..But it was the selfsame man.

b. *One and the selfsame* (arch.), † *one selfsame.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* bk. I. post. vi. 7 Thinges which are double to one and the selfe same thing, are equall the one to the other. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 19 One selfesame Creature, which at one selfesame instant, by one selfesame course, and with one selfesame qualitie of heate, doth all the said things. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 4 Sadnesse is one and the selfe-same thing...How canst thou part sadnesse and melancholy? 1611 BIBLE 1 *Cor.* vii. 11 All these worketh that one and the selfe same spirit [WYCLIF one and the same, TINDALE, etc. the silfe same]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 93 Having in one selfe-same field..both Corne, Vines, and Fruit-trees. *Ibid.* 117 This River (as Severne) ariseth..from one and the self-same Mountaine.

c. in predicative use. Now *rare.*

1582 *N. T.* (Rheims) Heb. i. 12 Thou art the self same, and thy yeres shal not faile [*earlier versions and* 1611 the same]. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. iii, Their souls self-same in nearer love did grow. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 16 The case is the self-same here. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 77 That we should believe in Him..as He Who Is, the self-existing, the self-same. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* vii. 148 Always selfsame, like the sky.

†**B.** *absol.* or *sb.* The selfsame person or thing; rarely as *sb.*, *pl.* identical things. *Obs.*

1422 HOCCLEVE *Minor Poems* 136/731 Let noon housbonde thynke it shame..Thogh his wyf do to him pat selue same. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Treat. Sacr.* Transl. Pref., So dyd he ordayne his apostles and in them all that shoulde succede them: priestes to offer vp the selfe same. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 15, I the Lord am the firste, and euen I the selfsame am also with the last. 1582 WATSON *Centurie of Loue* (Arb.) 41 The Author..varieth from that sense, which Chawcer vseth in translating the selfe same. 1638 QUARLES *Mildreiados* Ded., You shall receive but the selfe-same by Number and by Measure; which, before, you had by Waight. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 50 That they seem to be as so many self-sames, so many reproductions of one thing.

Hence **Selfsa·meness,** identicalness, identity.

1577 *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 629 The immutable self-same-nesse of the Trinitie. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. 87 There must needes be euer both a selfesamenesse and also an othernesse. 1639 LD. DIGBY, etc. *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 132 Sweet, happie, and I think sole, is the self-sameness which arises from pure principles of nature. 1876 F. H. BRADLEY *Eth. Studies* 5 The first condition..is my self-sameness; I must be throughout one identical person. 1893 — *Appear. & Real.* x. 113 Self-sameness exists as a fact, and..hence somehow an identical self must be real.

Self-satisfa·ction. [formed after next.] The condition or quality of being self-satisfied.

1793 BEDDOES *Math. Evid.* 117 We differ from one another in every circumstance of conduct, taste, and sentiment with perfect self-satisfaction. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXVIII, Following his chief, who rode away in great state and self-satisfaction. 1885 PATTISON *Mem.* 254, I have never enjoyed any self-satisfaction in anything I have ever done.

Self-sa·tisfied, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 3 a.] Satisfied with oneself, one's achievements, etc.; marked by self-satisfaction.

1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 42 No Bandit fierce, no Tyrant mad with pride, No cavern'd Hermit, rests self-satisfy'd. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, Hurried away, as the most cautious sometimes are, by the self-satisfied humour of the moment. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXV, The self-satisfied smirk of flash Toby Crackit. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. XXXVI. 74 One must care for them more than for the comfortably self-satisfied.

Self-sa·tisfying, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 1 f.] That satisfies oneself; affording self-satisfaction.

1672 MILTON *Samson* 306 They ravel more, still less resolv'd, But never find self-satisfying solution. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 7 Then farewell all self-satisfying schemes, His well-built systems, philosophic dreams! 1823 KEBLE *Serm.* (1848) II. 42 Those self-satisfying thoughts, which the doctrine of assurance..is continually fostering among Christians.

Self-secure, *a.* [SELF- 1 c.] Sure of oneself, one's position, etc.

a 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 17 His self-secure thought he should neither need. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 60/1 The most frugal and self-secure of sovereigns. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Shakespeare* 10 Self-schooled, self-scanned, self-honoured, self-secure.

So **Self-secu·rity.**

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iv. 50 This new polity..seems ..to have been..adopted..upon the same principle of self-security. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 33 Self-security prompted the princes and lords to guard against this reverse. 1905 *Speaker* 8 Apr. 32/1 Bunyan's self-security of opinion.

Self-see·ker. [formed after next.] One who seeks his own welfare; one given to self-seeking.

1632 SYMONDS *Eccles. Self-seeking* 6 No Self-seeker, but faithful for Christ. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* i, Self-seekers all of them, strivers after wealth, power, and worldly ambition. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Death Wellington* 187 Self-seekers trampling on the right. 1894 WOLSELEY *Marlborough* I. 257 William, like most men of the time, was a self-seeker.

Self-see·king, *vbl. sb.* [SELF- 1 b; cf. SEEK *v.* 7 c.] The seeking after one's own welfare before that of others, prosecution of selfish ends.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 202 Who by the rules of his own mind could construe no other end of mens doings but self seking. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 364 Further than Selfe-destruction, none can drive this Selfe-seeking. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Charac., State-Convert*, He has so much of a Saint left as to..denounce against Self-seeking, until he is sure to find what he looks for. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 55 Partiality and a corrupt principle of Self-seeking. 1860 WHITTIER *Quaker Alumni* 7 All your petty self-seekings.

So **Self-see·king** *ppl. a.*

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Let. Hon. Lady* i. Wks. (1633) 259 Those selfe-seeking Arts, which teare vp the bowels of the earth for the priuate vse of more than milke, and hony. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. viii. II. 29 The Reign of mere self-seeking Nature. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xv, He is a Tradesman, a self-seeking Wretch. 1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xiv. 83 To pamper the self-seeking wants, And prop the hill of these agrarian ants. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 233 The ..least self seeking Roman of his time.

†**Se·lfship.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SELF *sb.* + -SHIP.] Selfhood, personality, individuality.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. xxxiv. I. 143 Can you compare your distinct Selfship with this immense compass, and yet not conceive your self surrounded?

Self-slain, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Slain by one's own hand.

1814 BYRON *Devil's Drive* i, Sausages made of a self-slain Jew. 1883 L. MORRIS *Songs Unsung* 27 Being self-slain and numbered with the dead.

So **Self-slay·er,** self-murderer.

1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 212 Thou art ..a felo-de-se or self-slayer. 1823 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 390 They have, since Castlereagh cut his throat, relieved self-slayers from the disgrace of the cross-road burial. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* 254 Let it not be said He sought his God in the self-slayer's way.

Self-slau·ghter. [SELF- 1 a.] = SELF-MURDER.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 132 Oh..that the Euerlasting had not fixt His Cannon 'gainst Selfe-slaughter. 1649 *Vindic. Hammond's Addr.* 20 § 26 Those Lawes of our Land, which have look'd on this selfe-slaughter, as an inhumane crime. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 410 Just reeking from Self-slaughter, in a Rage To rush into the Presence of our Judge! 1842 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* v. 69 All the shapes of death were seen, Robbers, fell beasts, disease, Self-slaughter's murderous mien. 1897 *Daily Tel.* 6 Oct. 10/6 The horrible self-slaughter by religious fanatics.

So **Self-slau·ghtered** *ppl. a.*, self-murdered.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1733 Till Lvcrece Father that beholds her bleed, Himselfe, on her selfe-slaughtred bodie threw. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 132 Selfe-slaughtred. 1837 R. WILSON *Pleas. Piety* VI. 142 Dying self-slaughter'd that she may obtain Eternal bliss!

Self-sowed, *ppl. a. rare.* = next.

1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 300 In the middle of January, I had self-sowed marigolds and violets in bloom.

Self-sown, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2. Cf. ON. *sjálfsáinn.*] Sown by itself without human or animal agency.

1608 PLAT *Garden of Eden* (ed. Bellingham 1653) 78 These seeds will also come up well, being self-sowen. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* Introd. 3 Oaklings, young Beeches, Ash,..spring from the self-sown mast and keys. *a* 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Rem. & Dist. Virgil* (1768) 85, I rather believe, he means self-sown plants, and adds—'Nullis hominum cogentibus',—to explain his meaning. 1853 O. W. HOLMES *Poem Amer. Med. Assoc.* 30 The bud that came Self-sown in your poor garden's borders. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Auckolme* 379 The annuals being self-sown year by year.

Self-subsi·stence. [SELF- 5 b.] The quality or condition of subsisting alone without dependence on or support of anything external.

1629 DONNE *Serm.* XXIV. (1640) 240 We banish all self-subsistence, all attributing of any power, to any faculty of our own. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 339 This Independence and Self-subsistence of the Divine Wil. 1702 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 333 Whence has it [Truth] this self-subsistance and independency of being? 1853 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1869) II. 268 The belief..that causality.. has an absolute self-subsistence. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 172 It is the height of absurdity for an advocate of self-subsistence to measure prosperity by the export trade.

So **Self-subsi·stency; Self-subsi·stent** *a.*, **-subsi·sting** *ppl. a.*

1657 HEWLIN *Ecclesia Vind.* I. ii. § 2. 35, I look upon the Musarabick Liturgie..for as unquestionable a character of *self-subsistency as the Ambrosian Office was in the Church of Millain. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 325 The attribute of self-subsistency vanishes from the soul on the same grounds, on which it is refused to the mind. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. vii. (1876) 173 'Lynch-law' prevails only where there is greater hardihood and self-subsistency in the leaders. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *App.* Pref. 1 Any actuall and *self-subsistent Being. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 230 Those sensible qualities..such as heat, cold, sweetness..are not self-subsistent beings. 1827 COLERIDGE *Const. Church & State*, etc. (1839) 269 *note*, The self-subsistent Reason or *Logos*. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. iv. 321 Their Souls are not of a *self-subsisting nature, they cannot exist out of them. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 61 Those [Platonic] ideas were described as eternal and self-subsisting, forming an 'intelligible world', full of the models or archetypes of created things.

Self-substa·ntial, *a. rare.* [SELF- 3 b.] Derived from one's own substance.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* i, Thou..Feed'st thy lights flame with selfe substantiall fewell.

Self-suffi·ced, *ppl. a. rare.* [formed after next; see SELF- 2.] = SELF-SUFFICIENT 1.

1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyricæ* I. *To Mitio* II. 87 How self-suffic'd Lives their Eternal Maker, girt around With Glories!

Self-suffi·cience. [formed as next: see -ENCE.] = next.

1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyricæ* I. *Creator & Creatures* ii, Thou art thine own Original, Made up of uncreated Things, And Self-sufficience bears them all. 1867 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Studies* (1875) 133 This is the gospel of *αὐτάρκεια*, the creed of self-sufficience..[*Footnote*] I take leave to forge this word, because 'self-sufficingness' is a compound of too barbaric sound, and 'self-sufficiency' has fallen into a term of reproach. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. 221 This cardinal doctrine of limitation of desire, with its corollary of self-sufficience.

Self-suffi·ciency. [f. next (see -ENCY); in sense 1 a rendering Gr. *αὐτάρκεια.*]

1. The quality or condition of being SELF-SUFFICIENT: **a.** in sense 1; *esp.* as an attribute of God.

1623 R. CARPENTER *Conscionable Christ.* 59 A good..conscience is a..principall part of Gods Image in man, whereby he doth most resemble the selfe-sufficiency of God. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. iii. 157 The excellent perfections of the Divinity, especially those of His self-sufficiency and independency. 1847 F. W. NEWMAN *Hist. Heb. Mon.* 22 The land of Israel, for so very small a tract, possessed an unusual self-sufficiency for all physical well-being. 1897 J. MORLEY *Machiavelli* 26 Self-sufficiency, military strength, force, flexibility, address.

b. in sense 2.

1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 18 An author of your own quality..has given you all the commendation which his self-sufficiency could afford to any man. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise of Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 89 Such a self-sufficiency, such an overweaning conceit. 1745 J. MASON *Self-Knowl.* II. v. (1853) 147 An Eagerness and Zeal for Dispute on every subject, and with every one, shews great Self-sufficiency. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* vii. II. 211 Astonished even with all his self-sufficiency at the triumphant success of his enterprise. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Jan. 5/2 We threw him off, and acted..with arrogant inconsiderateness and self-sufficiency.

†**2.** A sufficiency for oneself. *Obs. rare.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iv. 10 Commodities..whereof that Countrey had not only a self-sufficiency, but also sent plenty thereof to Tyre.

Self-suffi·cient, *a.* [SELF- 3 b; in sense 1 rendering Gr. *αὐτάρκης.*]

1. Sufficient in or for oneself (itself) without aid or support from outside; able to supply one's needs oneself. Not now of persons.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xii. 22 One God Almightie, euerlasting, and in euery respect selfe suffizant (*autharcos*). *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1890) I. 41 A compleat self-sufficient Country, where there is rather a Superfluity than Defect of anything. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* IV. 228 Vertue, it seems, is Self-sufficient to render us as Happy as 'tis possible for us to be. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 411 These books..[which] if they be not written by the dictate of the Holy Spirit,..St. Athanasius assures us are self-sufficient. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. II. 1 Thou self-originated Deity,..Thou Self-sufficient, by thy self didst reign. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 427 The proportion of paupers to self-sufficient persons, is larger in villages than in cities. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 184 Syria is a very self-sufficient region. 1897 tr. *Fichte's Sci. Ethics* 223 The truly free and self-sufficient Ego. 1899 INGE *Christ. Myst.* vii. 267 Physical science..while it keeps to its proper subject..is self-sufficient, and can receive nothing on external authority.

2. In an unfavourable sense: Having excessive confidence in oneself, one's powers, etc.; characterized by overweening or self-conceited opinion or behaviour.

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* II. II. (1827) 96 Haughty and self-sufficient behaviour. 1824 R. C. DALLAS *Corr. Byron* (1825) I. 51 Self-sufficient free-thinkers and witty sophs. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* vii, A self-sufficient jackanapes.

Self-suffi·cientness, = SELF-SUFFICIENCY 1 a.

1889 LOWELL *Let. to Mrs. Mitchell* 9 Mar., [Philadelphia] was very sweet in its provincial valley of self-sufficientness and contentment.

Self-suffi·cing, *ppl. a.* [formed after SELF-SUFFICIENT.] = SELF-SUFFICIENT 1 and 2.

1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 84 Why not indulge his self-sufficing state, Live to himself..A wise eternal Epicure? 1799 WORDSW. *Poems Sentim., Poet's Epit.* 31 A reasoning, self-sufficing thing, An intellectual All-in-all. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 260 So great, quiet, complete and self-sufficing is this Shakspeare. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 157 In spite of some fond fit Of self-sufficing thoughts. 1893 TRAILL *Soc. Eng.* Introd. p. xix, It is in its earliest stages that Art is most distinctly independent and self-sufficing.

Self-suffi·cingness, = SELF-SUFFICIENCY 1 a.

1844 EMERSON *Ess., Character* 65 The face which character wears to me is self-sufficingness. 1847–8 DE QUINCEY *Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 95 *note*, The Greek autarkeia..self-sufficiency, or, because that phrase in English has received a deflection towards a bad meaning, the word self-sufficingness might answer. 1882 MYERS *Wordsw.* 13 A picture..of hardy English youth,—its proud self-sufficingness and careless independence of all human things.

Self-sugge·sted, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Suggested by oneself; caused by self-suggestion.

1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciii. XII. 145 The self-suggested illusion of untaught men. 18.. *Alien. & Neurol.* X. 444 (Cent. Dict.) Such self-suggested paralysis.

Self-sugge·stion. [SELF- 3 b.]

1. A suggestion arising of its own accord.

1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 247 Although sin overflows so as to embrace others besides the guilty, the idea of substitution by blood-shedding would scarcely come as a self-suggestion.

2. Suggestion to oneself; the voluntary fixing in one's own mind some idea in order that it may afterwards operate subconsciously or automatically.

1899 *Two Worlds* 6 Jan. 2/1 Self-suggestion will, I believe, prove a great aid in counteracting many of the evils of life. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Pers.* I. p. xxi, Self-suggestion..means a suggestion conveyed by the subject himself from one stratum of his personality to another, without external intervention.

So **Self-sugge·stive** *a.*; **Self-sugge·ster,** one who performs self-suggestion.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* 248 Who taking pleasure in all reason find The science of self-suggestive wisdom in themselves. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Pers.* I. 139 Some self-suggestive machinery by which the patient cures his toothache himself. *Ibid.* 213 The task is quite as difficult for the self-suggester as for the hypnotist.

Self-suppo·rt. [SELF- 1 a.] The act of supporting oneself (itself) without external assistance; the fact of being self-supporting. So **Self-suppo·rted** *ppl. a.* (hence -suppo·rtedness); **Self-suppo·rter** (see quot.); **Self-suppo·rting** *ppl. a.*, supporting oneself (itself) without external aid, (of a physical object) not requiring the usual support, (of an enterprise) paying its way; **Self-suppo·rtless** *a.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 197 The children, not long after they are born, appear possessed of a greater share of 'self-support. 1856 GROTE *Hist. Greece* II. xcvii. XII. 611 Hellenic power and interests become incapable of self-support, and sink into a..subservient position. 1896 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 8/2 To encourage self-support as far as possible, but not to plant a missionary down in a place, give him no salary [etc.]. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 679 They appear to need no foundation, being *self-supported by an inherent certainty. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 657 Few self-supported flow'rs endure the wind Uninjur'd. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 256 [tr. Sanskrit] Nor may *self-supportedness here be charged. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 June 10/1 '*Self-supporters'—that is, men out on ticket-of-leave in the settlement. These men are allowed to marry. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* XV. § 4 (1837) I. 340 The recent application of thin plates of corrugated iron to the purpose of making *self-supporting roofs. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 320 This establishment..is self-supporting, the sale of fish more than paying the expenses. 1895 *Army & Navy Soc. Price List* 15 Sept. 683 Self-supporting portfolio. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 186 The *self-supportless leaning for all pleasure on another's breast.

Self-surre·nder. [SELF- 1 a.] The surrender or giving up of oneself to an influence, emotion, or the like.

1702 J. HOWE *Self-Ded.* 12 This must be the Sense of the sincere Soul, intreating the Matter of its Self-surrender, and Dedication, with the great God. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Murder as One of the Fine Arts* Postscr. (ed. Masson) XIII. 102 In blind, passive, self-surrender to panic. 1859 O. W. HOLMES *For Burns Centen. Celebr.* 32 We love him, even in his wrong,—His wasteful self-surrender. 1900 W. L. COURTNEY *Idea of Trag.* 75 The absolute self-surrender of a middle-aged man who ought to be conquering the world.

Hence **Self-surre·ndering** *ppl. a.*

1903 W. H. GRAY *Our Div. Sheph.* 199 The Lamb of God, innocent and self-surrendering.

Self-susta·ined, *a.* [SELF- 2.] Sustained by one's own power or efforts; (*rarely* in a physical sense) held up without support.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 926 False pleasure from abroad her joys imports; Rich from within, and self-sustain'd, the tune. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 538 Whether we suppose this chain upholden by an intelligent being, or self-sustained. 1845 MRS. JAMESON *Early Ital. Painters, M. Angelo* II. 65 *note*, The dome of the Pantheon, which appears self-sustained. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gramm. Assent* II. vi. 160 We assented to them, we still assent, though we have forgotten what the warrant was. They are self-sustained in our minds. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 11 A certain self-sustained air which is apt to come upon children who are left much to themselves.

So **Self-sustai·ning** *ppl. a.* (hence **-sustai·ningly** *adv.*); **Self-sustai·nment; Self-su·stenance; Self-sustenta·tion.**

1844 EMERSON *Emancip. Negroes* 28 The *self-sustaining class of inventive and industrious men. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 254 The earth-banks..should..be sufficiently sloped to be self-sustaining. 1905 TUCKWELL *Remin. Rad. Parson* xii. 173 Healthily, happily, *self-sustainingly at work. 1840 DARLEY *Beaum. & Fl.'s Wks.* I. Introd. p. xxviii, Where is the single character delineated by our authors with the force,..and uniform *self-sustainment, of any principal portrait by Ben? 1867 LOWELL *Rousseau* Wks. 1890 II. 256 Souls capable of self-sustainment. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xlv, Though she was..frail-looking, there was within her a great power of *self-sustenance. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xi. (1870) 174 Impartial nature..in proportion to the freedom of attack by others, has made difficulty of self-sustenance. 1845 MAURICE in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 617/1 Whether the life in each plant ..must be considered as the active or only the passive instrument in *self-sustentation. 1890 H. SPENCER in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* May 22 During early life, before self-sustentation has become possible.

Self-taught, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Taught by oneself without aid from others; self-educated.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 383 Self-taught I sing. 1791 BOSWELL. *Johnson* 26 Oct., an. 1769, Mr. Fergusson, the self-taught philosopher. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, Like most self-taught men he over-estimated the value of an education. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xiv. (1857) 235 Every great writer..whether he be a learned Milton or an unlearned Burns, is self-taught.

b. Of that which is learnt: Acquired by one's own unaided efforts.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. xii, All the arts of inferior animals are self-taught, and scarce one acquired by imitation. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. 123 She had much of the self-taught knowledge, which is, of all knowledge, the surest and the best. 1903 *19th Cent.* Apr. 651 His scholarship was self-taught.

Self-to·rment. [SELF- I a.] Tormenting of oneself. So **Self-torme·nted** *ppl. a.*; **Self-torme·nting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Self-torme·ntor** (occas. used to render the title of Terence's play, *Heautontimorumenos*).

1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* iv. Wks. 1701 I. 32/2 The Self-revenges, the *Self-torments, which the Damned suffer for this their Folly. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxix, The stupid self-torments of an ascetic. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* v. i, So wakes my Soul, Restless and *self-tormented. *a* 1721 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. I. 115 Though all her *self-tormentings are in vain, She no Alleviation can obtain. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Aids Contemtn.* (1842) 8 To suggest some antidotes against the manifold ingenuity of self-torment ng. 1648 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple, Sospetto d'Herode* lii, Tyranny And *selfe-tormenting sin. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* III. 687 Tim'rous Minds with self-tormenting Care Create those awful Phantoms. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiv, The many wills made by my unhappy self-tormenting father. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 41 Mourners in Sion, you may, and ought to be; but *self-tormentors you must not be. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 521 ₱ 6 The Play of the *Self-Tormentor* of Terence's. 1825 SOUTHEY *Tale of Paraguay* IV. xv, Poor, erring, self-tormentor that thou art, O Man!

Self-trust. [SELF- I a.] = SELF-CONFIDENCE.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Dent.* ii. 12 Let vs vnderstand that there is no strength in vs, and that we must rid our selues of all selfetrust. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 158 Then where is truth if there be no selfe trust? 1841 EMERSON *Ess., Heroism* 253 Self-trust is the essence of Heroism. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* 145 Those..who in one and the same act of faith have renounced both self-will and self-trust. 1875 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. *Wordsworth*, Wordsworth had that self-trust which in the man of genius is sublime.

So **Self-tru·sting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. vi. 32 By *self-trusting and self-seeking [they] are drowned in worldly love and care. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* x. (1848) I. 144 The more learned, toilsome, and *self-trusting it [*viz.* the world] has become. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses on Var. Occas.* 157 Men close the door, and dress the cheerful hearth, Self-trusting still.

† Self-uned, *pa. pple.* [f. SELF- + F. *uni* united.] United or made one with itself.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. 408 When no more the soules chiefe faculties, Are 'sperst to serve the body many wayes, When all self-uned, free from days disturbers,..she finds a quiet harbor.

† Self-vi·olence. *Obs.* [SELF- 3 a.] The laying of violent hands upon oneself: a euphemistic term for SELF-MURDER.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1584 Self-violence? what cause Brought him so soon at variance with himself Among his foes? 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* IV. i, I..Exact your solemn Oath, that you'll abstain From all Self-Violence. 1787 HAWKINS *Life of Johnson* 231 Whether he resigned himself to the slow operation of that disease, or precipitated his end by an act of self-violence.

So **† Self-vi·olent** *a.*

1747 MALLET *Amyntor & Theod.* II. 358 Stay Thy hand self-violent.

Selfward (se·lfwŭɹd), *adv.* and *a.* Chiefly *U. S.* [f. SELF *sb.* + -WARD.] **A.** *adv.* Towards or in the direction of oneself.

1887 *Springfield* (Mass.) *Republ.* 8 Oct., Contrary to the beneficent law of his being, he [*viz.* man] exercised this choice selfward.

B. *adj.* Tending or directed towards oneself.

1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 15 Nov., I wonder if other ministers are prone to fall into this habit of selfward praying. 1888 GIBSON *Christ. acc. to Chr.* (1889) 3 The relative proportions of the Godward and selfward sides of the Christian life. 1907 R. J. CAMPBELL in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 340 Every possible activity of human nature is either wholeward or selfward.

Hence **Se·lfwardness.**

1889 *Advance* (Chicago) 28 Mar., The selfwardness of piety which Lent emphasizes.

Se·lfwards, *adv.* [-WARDS.] = SELFWARD *adv.*

1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* xxvi, When the eyes look self-wards.

† Self-wee·ning, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [SELF- I b.] Self-opinion, self-conceit. So **Self-wee·ning** *ppl. a.*, self-opinioned, self-conceited.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* v. 30 Wee must ridde ourselues of all selfweening and couet nothing but to goe vnto God. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 302 Wise in themselues, that is to say, arrogant and selfe-weening. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* XI. 149 Eeked and patched out by the Supplements of such self-weening wretches. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Part.* III. vi. (1713) 370 Those..self-weaning persons who would ingross all God's favours to themselves.

Self-will, *sb.* [Com. Teut.: OE. *selfwill* = MLG. *sulfwille*, OHG. *selb-, selpwuillo, -uuillî* (cf. mod.Ger. *selbstwille*), ON. *sjálfvili* (cf. MSw. *sialfsvili*) : see SELF- and WILL *sb.*, and cf. SELF-WILLY *a.*]

† 1. OE., ME. *selfwilles* (advb. gen.), voluntarily, of one's own accord; ME. *of selfwill*, without cause (cf. SELF-WILLY *adv.*). *Obs.*

Cf. OHG. *pt selpwillin* 'ultro', ON. *með* or *at sjálfvilja*.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) vii, Se gæð sylfwilles twa mila, to anre ȝeneadod. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 234 *Sponte*, sylfwilles. *Ibid.* 237 *Ultro*, sylfwilles. *a* 1100 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 17 Drihten..þe on hire self willes þ rowode. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxviii. 5 Multiplide thai ere abouen the hares of my heued: that hatid has me of self-will. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 221 Sire, wat hast þow þoȝt? Wilt þ silf willes lete þe slen? *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 120 Of verrey pure malyce and sylfe wyll.

† 2. One's own will or desire. *Obs.*

In OE. only in phr. with prep.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. § 1 Ȝetæc me nu sumne mann þara ðe þe ȝesæligost þince & on his selfwille sy swiðost ȝewiten. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* iv. 50 Ȝif ðu nu, waldend, ne wilt wirde steoran ac on selfwille sigan lætest. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3009 Whan I can not accused be By noo man but by your selfwil. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 199/23 We say..that a monk has na self will, bot anerly the will of his abbot.

3. Wilful or obstinate persistence in following one's own desires or opinions.

14.. *Why I can't be a Nun* 195 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 143 Where that selfe-wylle ys reygnyng, The whyche causethe dyscord and debate, And resun hathe none enteryng. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xix. 61 So blynded that thy sellfwylle letteth the to submytte thy self to reason. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 28 All in selfewyll without reason they fyght. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 48 They are growen to such a selfe-wil and liking of their owne opinions. 1657 *Baker's Sancta Sophia* II. II. iii. § 5 All the comfort of Nature lies in Selfe will. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 543 First appetite enlists him truth's sworn foe, Then obstinate self-will confirms him so. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, So totally unacquainted with contradiction, that she did not even use the tone of self-will. 1869 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 201 All idolatry is self-will, first choosing a god, and then enslaved to it.

† Self-will, *a. Obs.* [In OE. *selfwille*; in mod.E. prob. an adjectival use of SELF-WILL *sb.* (cf. attrib. uses of SELF-LOVE, SELF-PITY).] Self-willed.

1. (in OE.) Voluntary.

a 1100 *Gloss. Aldhelm De Laudibus Virg.* (Napier) 236 *Voluntarie seruitutis*, sylfwilles þeowdomes. *Ibid.* 1394 *Spontaneo*, i. *uoluntario*, mid sylfwilre.

2. Self-willed.

1552 ASCHAM *Germany* 9 Contemnyng easely all aduise of others (which selfe will condition doth commonly follow). 1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* 122 They be selfwill moichers, they be not diligent scholers. 1582 W. CLARKE in *Confer.* IV. (1584) C c ij b, All vnwritten and selfe will worshippings. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. v. 96 To single out a course..betweene selfewill stubbornes, and filthy flattery. [1719 J. T. PHILIPPS tr. *Thirty-Four Conf.* 83 Their pretended meritorious Performances of Self-will Worship.]

Self-willed, *a.* Also 5 -willyd, *Sc.* -willit, 6 -wyld, 6–7 -wild, 7 wil'd; 5 sel·willyd. [f. SELF-WILL *sb.* + -ED 2. Cf. SELF-WILLY.] Wilful or obstinate in the pursuit of one's own desires or opinions; characterized by self-will.

G. Campbell *Philos. Rhet.* (1776) I. 421 mentions the word as being 'now little used'.

c 1470 ASHBY *Active Policy* 366 Kepe no selfe-willed oppunion, But to all reason bethe appliable. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 452/1 Selwillyd..*Effrenatus*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vi. 17 The lad..pynd away in anguish and selfe-wild annoy. 1611 *Bible*, Tit. I. 7 A Bishop must be blameles..not selfe-willed, not soone angry. 1618 BRETON *Court & Country* ad fin., I will pray for your better wit, then you haue showne in a selfe wild humour. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. 39 If, during the Opportunity of Youth, Persons are indocile and selfwill'd; they suffer greatly in their future Life. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 25 Habits of self-willed caprice and domination. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, The little boy ..is..forward and inclined to be saucy and self-willed. 1893 LIDDON *Pusey* II. xx. 29 Keble's faith in God's presence and guidance made all high-handed, self-willed action on man's part appear..irreverent.

Hence **† Selfwi·lledly.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1530 PALSGR. 841/2 Selfwylledly, *testifyement*.

Selfwi·lledness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being self-willed.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 28 Hector also by his selfwilledne, Was slayne with payne for all his doubtynes. 1530 PALSGR. 269/1 Selfewyldenesse, *obstination*. 1646 P. BULKELEY *Gospel Cont.* I. 111 To suppresse our inordinate passions..self-willednesse, emulation. 1677 HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) II. 36 Like sullen Dogs, that would rather in their Self-willedness and Madness sit still to be shot through or cut in Pieces, than receive their Lives for the asking. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* III. I. 176 In order that I may not be accused of any self-willedness of interpretation. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 389 The capricious restlessness and self-willedness of this despotic king. 1888 *Yrnl. Educ.* Apr. 184 Suppose he could sympathise with *our* self-willedness.

† Self-wi·lling, *ppl. a.* [f. SELF- + WILLING, after SELF-WILL. Cf. *ill-willing*.] Spontaneous.

c 1000 *Lamb. Ps.* lxvii. 10 Ren' sylfwillendne, *Pluuiam uoluntariam*. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* li. 14 Ye free and selfwilling [orig. *vltroneum*] spirit from which hee was almost quyte faine away.

So **† Self-wi·llingness,** spontaneity.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 8 'Tis enough there, for the freedom of the will to stand alone in *spontaneitas ad bonum*, or self-willingness to good.

† Self-wi·lly, *a. Obs.* Also 5 sel(f)wylly, cel(f)wyl(l)y. [f. SELF-WILL *sb.* + -Y 1. Cf. *goodwilly, ill-willy*, and MDu. *selfwilligh*, MLG. *sulfwillich*, OHG. *selbuuillîch* (cf. early MHG. *selbswillîg*), ON. *sjálfviljugr*, Goth. *silbawiljis* 'αὐθαίρετος'.] Self-willed.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 70 Whan a man folwyth his owyn wyll for pompe, &..euere is selfwylly. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 65/2 Celwylly [*Winch. MS.* Celf-wylly]..*effrenatus*. *Ibid.* 452/1 Selwylly..[*Winch. MS.* selfe wyly], *effrenatus*. 1471–3 FORTESCUE *Decl. Certayn Wrytinges* Wks. 1869 I. 533 Yf I do not as ye move me I dred that men shall holde me selfewylly. 1611 COTGR., *s'Aheurter*, to be wilfull,..headie, selfewilly. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 212 Of a violent selfe-willie disposition.

Hence **† Selfwi·lliness.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1611 COTGR., *Teste*..headinesse, obstinacie, selfewillinesse

† Self-wi·lly, *adv. Obs.* Also 4 selwilli. [f. as prec.] Without cause. (Cf. SELF-WILL *sb.* 1.)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cviii 3 With wordes of hatred mikel Um-gaf þai me witerli, And over-wonnen me selwilli. *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Gratis*, selfwylly, i. sine causa.

Self-wi·sdom. [formed after next; cf. SELF- 5 b.] The condition of being self-wise.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* ii. 10 The fond swelling of self-wysdome wherewith they are puffed up. 1625 BACON *Ess., Wisd. Man's Self* (Arb.) 187 They become in the end themselves Sacrifices to the Inconstancy of Fortune; whose Wings they thought, by their Self-Wisdome, to haue Pinnioned. 1657 F. COCKIN *Div. Blossomes* 46 By crucifying All earthly members, to self-wisdome dying. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xxii. 448 His own self-will and self-wisdom, is of more weight with him, than the will and wisdom of God. 1877 W. BRUCE *Comm. Rev.* iii. 82 Happy are those who have so completely conquered their own self-love and self-wisdom. 1889 M. E. BAMFORD *Up & down the Brooks* 215 Those who know but little about them being much more elated with self-wisdom than those who know more.

Self-wise, *a.* [SELF- 3 b.] Wise in one's own conceit, relying on one's own wisdom.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 267 b, Selfwilled and selfewyse men, keeping a rule and a lawe of their owne making. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 67 A selfe-wise-seeming schoolmaster. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple, Sospetto d'Herode* x, How lost Art thou unto thyself, thou too self-wise Narcissus! 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* I. xvii, The Self-wise Inquirer. 1836 — *Lyra Apost.* lxxxvii. 11 Then keep good heart; nor take the self-wise course Of Thomas, who must see ere he would trust.

absol. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* B j, No selfe-wise, or enuious scripture learned could or can euer attaine vnto it.

Hence **† Self-wi·seling** [see -LING], one who is wise in his own conceit.

1649 *Test. conc. Jacob Beme* i. § 13 Hidden unto the high and selfe-wiselings.

† Self-wit. *Obs.* [SELF- 3 b.] Self-wisdom. So **Self-wi·ttedness.**

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 19 Bred of the Exhalations of their owne pride and selfe-wittednesse. 1657 [J. ELLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Sign. Rerum* Pref. sub fin., By Glosses, Comments, Curiosity and Self-wit, none shall be able to reach or apprehend it in his own ground.

Self-wrought, *ppl. a.* [SELF- 2.] Produced or brought about by oneself.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* II. xiv. 3 If without battell selfe-wrought wounds annoy them. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 682 Can man outwit Omnipotence? strike out A self-wrought happiness unmeant by him. 1830 TENNYSON *Tears of Heaven* Poems 118 The earth hath made her state forlorn With selfwrought evils of unnumbered years.

b. Self-wrought-out.

1656 OWEN *Mortif. Sin* To Rdr. (1668) A 3 b, [They] have anew imposed the Yoke of a self-wrought-out Mortification on the Necks of their Disciples. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* XIV. x. VI. 632 Teutonic Christianity, more self-depending, more self-guided, more self wrought out.

Self-yew: see SELF B. 6.

Selghe, obs. form of SEAL *sb.*[1]

Seli, variant of SELLY *a.* and of SELLY *a.*, etc.

Selibub, obs. form of SILLABUB.

‖ Seli·ctar. *Obs.* Also 7 selihhtar. [repr. Turkish pronunciation of Pers. سلاحدار *silaḥdār*, f. Arab. سلاح *silāḥ* (pl. of سلح *silḥ* weapon) + Pers. *-dār* having.] The sword-bearer of a Turkish chieftain.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1985/1 The Selictar Aga, or the Great Sword-Bearer, attended with a great number of Spahees. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 161 After him came his Selihhtar and Tchoadar, each with his long tail'd Cap hanging down behind his back. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4236/1 He was Selictar Aga to the late Sultan. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxii, Selictar! unsheathe then our chief's scimitar. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* II. 148, 3000 Albanian troops under the selictar or sword-bearer of the vizir.

† Se·lidone. *Obs.* Also 4 salidoine, 5 salidone. [a. OF. *celidoine*, ad. med.Lat. *c(h)elidonius*: see CELIDONY 2.] = CELIDONY 2.

13.. *Owain Miles* (1837) 37 Ribes and salidoines, Onicles and casteloines. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3302 A saphir, & a salidone, & a rich ruby. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8057 In hem stode many a riche ston, Saphur riche, and selidone.

Selie, variant of SELLY *a.*

Selihe, obs. form of SALLOW *sb.*

Selilich(e, -ly, Seliness: see SELILY, -NESS.

Selion (se·lĭən). *Hist.* and *local.* Forms: 5 sellion, seylon, 6 selyon, 7 sellione, sillyon, 4– selion. [ad. Anglo-L. *selion-em*, *sellon-em*,

AF. *seilon* = OF. *seillon*, mod.F. *sillon* furrow.] A portion of land of indeterminate area comprising a ridge or narrow strip lying between two furrows formed in dividing an open field, a 'narrow-land'.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 215, xx. seylons & j. of hys arable londe. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 68, ij. sellions or buttes of lond to a wey to be made at northosenay. 1542 *Conveyance* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 398 Foure selyons of lande arrable conteynyng two acres. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 5 b, By the grant of a selion of land, a ridge of land which containeth no certainty, for some be greater and some lesser, doth pass. 1669 *Will of R. Mavor* in *Blk. Bk. Dioc. Lichf.* I. 87 Four lands or rudges or sillyons of arrable land. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 363 A croft..containing five selions or ridges of land. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Isle of Axholme* 302 Two selions of land containing one acre, lying in a furlong called Foxholes. 1894 *Times* 19 May 7/3 The land is for the most part in open fields, cut up into numerous narrow strips, or 'selions' as they are locally termed, and cultivated by small farmers.

Seljuk (se·lˌdʒuk), *a.* and *sb.* Also 9 Seljouk. [f. Turk. سلجوق *seljūq*, the name of the reputed ancestor of the Seljuk dynasties.] **A.** *adj.* The distinctive epithet of certain Turkish dynasties which ruled over large parts of Asia from the 11th to the 13th c. Hence used to designate the branch of the Turkish people to whom these dynasties belonged (in contradistinction to *Ottoman* or *Osmanli*).

1834 J. B. FRASER *Acc. Persia* vi. 214 His heir Musaood was defeated ten years after by the Seljuk Turkomans, in Khorasan. 1879 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. III. 268 A new enemy appeared in the form of the Seljouk Turks. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. Seven Churches* xvii. 216 The coins of a Seljuk principality..bear the legend in mediaeval Latin.

B. *sb.* (or absol. use of the adj.). A member of the Seljuk tribe or dynasty.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 211/1 A dynasty which..overturned that of the Iranian Seljuks. 1899 F. M. CRAWFORD *Via Crucis* xxii. 351 A full hour the Seljuks slew and slew.

Seljukian (seldʒū·kiăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 Selzuccian, (Salghucian), Zelzuckian, 9 Seljookian, Seljucian. [f. SELJUK + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* = SELJUK *a.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 3 Tangrolipix, Chiefetaine of the Selzuccian Familie. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 84 The Zelzuckian Family. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lvii. V. 656 The first of the Seljukian sultans was conspicuous by his zeal and faith. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 484/1 The descent from Central Asia of the Seljookian Turks. 1875 BUNBURY in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 712/2 The whole country..continued subject to the Byzantine empire, until it was overrun by the Seljukian Turks in 1074 A. D.

B. *sb.* (or absol. use of adj.) = SELJUK *sb.*

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 284 The Salghucian..commanded Persia. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* vi. (1819) II. 181 The Seljukians of Rûm. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 210/1 Seljukides, or Seljucians, a dynasty originally Tartar, and descended from a captain named Seljuk. 1845 J. E. RIDDLE in *Encycl. Metrop.* XII. 276/1 Ortogrul acquired the confidence of the Seljukians.

Selk(e, Selken, obs. ff. SILK, SILKEN *a.*

†Selkhorn. ? *Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Of obscure origin: the mod. dial. forms are *shill-corn*, *shilf-corn* (E.D.D.).] An incrustation of the sebaceous matter of the skin, producing a small maggot-like mass.

1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 20 A mountain rather than a nose; Upon which savage beasts did feed, As worms and selkhorns.

Selkin, -yn, obs. forms of SILKEN *a.*

Selkoup, selkowp, selkuō: see SELCOUTH *a.*

Sell (sel), *sb.*[1] Now only *arch.* Forms: 4–5, 9 selle, 6 scell, 7 cell, 7–8 selly, 7– sell. [a. F. *selle*:—L. *sella*:—prehistoric **sedla* f. *sed-*, *sedēre* to sit; the Teut. form corresponding (except in declension) occurs in OE. *setl* SETTLE *sb.*]

†**1.** A seat, a low stool; a seat of dignity. *Joint sell* = JOINT-STOOL. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* xiv. 21 To eche sellis [Vulg. *sellas*], or smale setis, ben brouȝt forth and putt. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 1749 in *Macro Plays* 129 Heyl, set in þyn selle! 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 37 Item, iiij Joyntes scells, at iiij d the pesse. Some xvj d. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. 114 But empty stand those honor'd Sells.

2. A saddle.

c 1425 *Thomas Erceld.* 49 Hir selle it was of roelle bone. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 31 Yet was the force so furious and so fell, That horse and man it made to reele aside; Nath'lesse the Prince would not forsake his sell. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. xxxii, Downe from his steed the Christian backward fell; Yet his proud foe so strong and sturdie was That he nor shooke, nor staggered in his cell. 1803 SCOTT *Cadyow Cast.* xxx, From gory selle, and reeling steed, Sprung the fierce horseman with a bound. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 140 Then to horse; the gallant knighthood lift their ladies to the sells. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 175 He bade one of his pages saddle him his Nubian mare mule with her padded selle.

Sell (sel), *sb.*[2] [f. SELL *v.*]

1. An act of betraying or giving up to justice.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvi, I say,..what a time this would be for a sell! I've got Phil Barker here: so drunk, that a boy might take him.

2. *slang.* A contrivance, fiction, etc., by which a person is 'sold'; a planned deception, hoax, take-in. Also, something that utterly disappoints high expectations.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. vii, Mr. Verdant Green having swallowed this, his friend was thereby enabled not only to use up old 'sells', but also to draw largely on his invention for new ones. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt. Part.* I. ii. 5 The thing is what in the language of the turf is called a sell. 1890 R. F. D. PALGRAVE *Cromwell* xiv. 298 The Insurrection proved, in vulgar phrase, 'a thorough sell'. 1898 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.*, etc. *N. R. Yorks.* 79 The last sell I heard was sending a lad from one place to another for a bucket of steam.

3. ? *U.S.* (See quot.)

1911 *Webster's Dict., Sell.* 2. A stock that should be sold. *Stock Exchange Cant.*

4. Sell-out. *U.S.* **a.** An agreement or contract corruptly made by a public body, involving sacrifice of public to private interest.

1890 *Advance* (Chicago) 1 Feb. 3 The proposed sell-out of the State of North Dakota to the infamous Louisiana Lottery Company. 1906 *Tom Watson's Mag.* Jan. 362 (Cent. *Suppl.*) The Tariff Act..was an ungodly and unblushing sell-out to the Sugar Trust,..[and to] the greedy manufacturing interests generally.

b. A card game otherwise called *auction pitch*: cf. PITCH *sb.*[2] 4 b.

Sell (sel), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **sold** (sōuld). Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. wk. verb: OE. *sellan*, pa. t. *sealde*, pa. pple. *seald*, corresponds to OFris. *sella* to give, sell, OS. *sellian* to give, pa. pple. *gisald* (MLG., LG. *sellen* to sell by retail, huckster; hence in Ger. dialects), OHG. *sellen* to deliver up, pa. t. *salta*, pa. pple. *kasalt*, *giselit* (MHG. *sellen*), ON. *selja* to give up, sell, pa. t. *selda*, pa. pple. *seld* (Sw. *sälja*, Da. *sælge* to sell), Goth. *saljan* to offer (sacrifice):—OTeut. **saljan*, f. **salō* gift, delivery, SALE *sb.*

It has been suggested by Osthoff that OTeut. **sal* (:-pre-Teut. **sol*) may be an ablaut-variant, with causative sense, of **sel-* to take (Irish *sclaim*, Gr. ἑλεῖν).

The difference of vowel between the pres. stem and the pa. t. and pa. pple. arises from the fact that the *i* in OTeut. **salidō*, **salido-* was lost in W.Ger., and the root-syll. therefore has no umlaut except in the pres. stem. Cf. TELL *v.*

The OE. form (**siellan*) *syllan* (beside the normal *sellan*: cf. *tellan* TELL *v.*) is difficult to account for, as the breaking before *ll* otherwise occurs only when the gemination is of OTeut. date. Possibly the sibilant may in some way have affected the following vowel.]

A. Illustration of Inflexional Forms.

1. Present stem. *Inf.* 1 sellan, sillan, syllan, (*Northumb.* sealla, sella), 1–2 syl(l)e, 2 sillen, 2–3 sullen, (3 seollen), 3 *Ormin* sellenn, 3–5 selle(n, sulle, 3–7 sel, 4–5 sill(e, 4 *Kent.* zelle, suylle, 5 syll(e, (sile), seel(l, *Promp. Parv.* ceele, cellyn, sellyn, 3– sell. Also 1 *imper.* sele, syle; *3rd pers. pres. ind.* 4 *Kent.* zelp.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 7 Ne mæge ic arisa & sealla *e [*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* ibid., & syllan þe, *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* ibid., & sillen ðe]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 23 [It] nys me inc to syllanne [*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* ibid., to sellenne]. *c* 1000 Sylle [see B. 1]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þe sullere..swereð þat he hit nele lasse selle. *c* 1205 LAY. 29057, & we wulleð..to ȝisle sullen þe ure sunen. *Ibid.* 31053 And he wulle..to ȝisle seollen þe his sune. *c* 1250 Sel [see B. 3]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Huanne me zelþ þet þing. *Ibid.* 138 Þet hi hit moȝe yeue and zelle. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 189 And beere heor bras on þi Bac to Caleys to sulle [1377 B. III. 195 to selle]. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlvii. 22 Thei ben not nedid to sellen [1388 to sille] her possessiouns. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 113 Þei do uniustly, & silun God & þe peple. 1422 *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* xxvi. 159 He the kyngedome of hewyn sillyth for a lytill price. *Ibid.* 169 Sylle [see B. 7 a]. 1574 Shell, shyll [see B. 3]. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* ii. 77 Judas..at once sells a soul, and a Saviour.

2. *Pa. t. a.* 1–2, 4 sealde, 2 sælde, 4 seelde, *Kent.* zyalde, 5 seeld.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 857 (Gr.) Wiste forworhte þa he ær wlite sealde. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 227 Þes cenne god sælde & ȝesette æ. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1287 He..bet out ..þo þat bouȝte and sealde ine godes hous. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 He wrek þo þe zyalde and boȝte ine þe temple. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. vi. 309 Thei seelden possessiouns and catel.

β. 1–2, 3 salde, 3 sald, ssald, 6, 9 *Sc.* sauld.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 9 Uutudlice ondsuare ne salde him. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15960 Þa menn þatt saldenn cullfress þeer. *a* 1300 Ssald [see B. 3]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3518 Esau his forbirth sald [*c* 1375 *Ibid.* (Fairf.) salde]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1703 The ermyte..salde the skinnes that he broght. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 6 The Disciplis..sauld thair landis. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* 280 Whair euer the pape sauld indulgencis.

γ. 3–6 solde, (4 soold), 6 souide, 7–8 (9 *dial.*) sould, 4– sold.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Þet ase ofte ase me euesede him me solde his euesunge. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3550 (Göt.), As a wreche he sold his eritage. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 They solde theyr possessyons. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 7 They soulde their possessions. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 142 The first Christians..sould all, that they had.

δ. 3–5 selde, 4 sillide, 5 sellid, seld, 6 selled; 9 *dial.* (see Eng. Dial. Dict.) selled, sell'd, seld; *Sc.* and *north.* sell't, sellt, selt.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 286 He..selde al þat he hadde. 138.. Sillide [see B. 7 a]. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 64 Constancius..sellid his hors for xij d of gold. 1481 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* 77 For he seld hem nowt. 1562 Selled [see B. 3].

3. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 seald, 2 iseald, 3 isald, iseold, 4 seeld.

a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* cxix. [cxx.] 3 (Gr.) Hwæt bið þe salles seald..yflan tungan? *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 And ȝe beoð iseald eower feonde to prisune. *c* 1205 LAY. 21998 Seoðden þis world wes astald & monnen an honde isælde. *Ibid.* 29459 Heo scolden beon iseolde. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 19 Who is blynd, no but he that is seeld [Vulg. *venundatus*]?

β. 3 sald, (saald), isald, 4 salde; *Sc.* 4–6 sald, 6 salde, 5–9 sauld.

c 1205 LAY. 29471 And we weoren ut isalde of Anglene londe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 142 How þat ioseph was boght and sald. *Ibid.* 4241 He was eftursons saald. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 6755 (Fairf.) He salle be salde. *c* 1470 Sald, sauld [see B. 7 c]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 26 The fowlis..ar sent to the nerrest tounes to be salde.

γ. 4 i-sold(e, 4–6 solde, (5 swolde), 7 sould, (soald), 4– sold.

1382 [see B. 3 e]. 1387 [see B. 3]. *c* 1451 *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 230 Suffolk Normandy hath swolde. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 68 Our pepper..was soald long since. 1618 RALEIGH in *Four Cent. Eng. Lett.* 38, I might elsewhere have sould my shipp and goods.

δ. 4–5 seld, 5 *Promp. Parv.* celde; *Sc.* 6 sellit, 8–9 sell'd, seld, selt; 9 *dial.* selled. (See E.D.D.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 13182 (Göt.) Bot þis dede was seld ful dere. 1549 Sellit [see B. 2]. 1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* xii, It will be sell'd the morn to the highest bidder.

B. Signification.

I. The simple verb.

†**1.** *trans.* To GIVE, in various senses; esp. to hand over (something, esp. food, a gift) voluntarily or in response to a demand or request; to deliver up (a person, esp. a hostage) to the keeping of another; to grant (forgiveness, etc.); also, rarely of an impersonal agent, to yield. (Chiefly OE.)

Beowulf 1161 (Gr.) Byrelas sealdon win of wunderfatum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 11 Hlaf userne ofer wistlic sel us todæȝ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* vi. 8 (Gr.) Þat land..ic sylle eow to ȝenne. *Ibid.* xxii. 29 Sylle me þin forme bearn. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 223 And se eorðe his awiriad on þine weorcum, syle þornes and brembles. *a* 1200 *12th Cent. Hom.* 132 Ic ȝeafe heom mine milse; & sylle heom forȝefenesse. *c* 1205 LAY. 13437 Vortiger heom salde al þat heo wolden. *Ibid.* 23779 Me salde him an honde enne scaft stronge. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 63 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Seynt thomas wes biscop & barunes him quoldе..For þe dute of þe dom he þet lif solde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17042 And sua to mak vs ransouning, for vs him-self he sald.

2. To give up (a person) treacherously to his enemies; to betray (a person, a cause, country, etc.).

Chiefly, with mixture of sense 3, to betray for a price or in order to obtain some advantage for oneself. In early use often with reference to the betrayal of Christ by Judas.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vi. 71 Cuæð uutedlice iudam..ðes forðon uæs sellend hine [Vulg. *traditurus esset*]. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 115 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 He com to þe Gywes..And chepte heom to sullen vre helare. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 610 'Tratour', he said, 'thou has me sald'. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 72 Tha deserue as grite reproche as tha heu sellit traisonablye the realme to there enemeis. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 154 In things of common libertie, he that shall seeme most to serue you, the same is he that most will sell you. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 10 That he should for a forraigne purse, so sell His Soueraigne's life to death and treachery. 1654 tr. *Martinius' Conq. China* 48 But when the Emperour had perused the Treatie, he presently found his Plenipotentiarian had sold him. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CXXXII. 123 Those that Sell their Country..for Mony. 1791 BURNS *Such a Parcel of Rogues* iii, We're bought and sold for English gold. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 36 Have you e're met a faithless friend, That sold you to effect his end? 1820 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 12 Apr. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. 272 Brougham, it is said, grossly, has sold the Queen. 1895 WOLSELEY in *United Serv. Mag.* Aug. 475 There can be no moral doubt..that there were traitors in the Turkish ranks, and that the Turkish Army was more or less sold.

b. *transf.* Of a thing: To betray, 'give away', inform against.

1831 *Ann. Reg., Law Cases* (1832) 325/2 Bishop..said to May, 'It was the blood that sold us'.

3. (The chief current sense.) To give up or hand over (something) to another person for money (or something that is reckoned as money); esp. to dispose of (merchandise, possessions, etc.) to a buyer for a price; to vend. Const. †*with*, *for* (the price), †*at*, *to* (the buyer). Also, in habitual sense, of a shopkeeper, etc.: To deal in, keep for sale (a particular commodity).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 5 Hwi ne sealde heo þas sealfe wiþ þrim hundred penezon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 And þa..fuleden þam apostles and salden heore ehte and þet feh bitahten þam apostles. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15557, & he fand i þe temmple þeer Well fele menn þatt saldenn þærinne bape nowwt & shep. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1495 'Broðer', quad he [*sc.* Esau], 'sel me to wunes'. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5407 Þai saald þair landes þan for nede. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 386 Þe hors was seld..For to hundred schillinges. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 237 A busshel of corn was i-solde for twelf schillynges þat 3ere. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 216 He sellid a noder hors & spendid þe price þer-of. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* (1597) 77 b, So when they die, their wiues..selled for a little money, their books of visitations. 1574 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 424 The inhabitance..shall not..shell any kynd of flesh..to any of the bucheares. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 153 Yet sell your face for fiue pence and 'tis deere. 1615, 1618 [see A. 3 γ]. 1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 403 There be but three Things, which one Nation selleth vnto another; The Commoditie as Nature yeeldeth it; The Manufacture; and the Vecture or Carriage. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* II. 202 As pedlars with some hero's head make bold, Illustrious mark! where pins are to be sold. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 212 Last, for his Country's love, he sells his Lands. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, I bought you some books, madam,..from a lame fellow who sold them in the Market-place. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* v. 98 The auctioneer intoned his chant...

varied with a quick 'Sold!' as..he knocked off this lot or that. *Ibid.* 106, I won't sell this property at that price. *Mod.* Many grocers sell wines and spirits.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 787 Heav'n sells all pleasure; effort is the price.

b. To dispose of (one's commission in the army) by sale under the purchase system. Now only *Hist.* Also † *To sell* one's *company, regiment*, etc., and *absol.* (Cf. *sell out*, 12 c. below.)

1713 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Apr., Lieutenant-general Palmer will be obliged to sell his regiment. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. x, The half-pay officer having quarrelled with his colonel, was by his interest obliged to sell. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. iv, An old army acquaintance of Colonel Esmond's..had sold his company.

c. *causatively.* To promote the sale of.

1709 SWIFT *Vind. Bickerstaff* 8 Or, perhaps, a Name can make an Almanack, as well as it can sell one. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 8 Every costermonger knows it is the fine fruit which sells the orchard.

d. *Comm.* In passive with adv.: To have one's stock (well, etc.) disposed of.

1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar., The market will be better later on in the season, and hence makers who are fairly sold are not much inclined to do business for forward delivery. 1898 *Ibid.* 8 Nov. 2/7 Makers have but a small surplus to dispose of as they are well sold.

e. To hand over (a person, a people) into slavery or bondage for a sum of money. In Biblical use (after Heb.) often merely (without reference to a price received), To hand over to the dominion of another, to enslave. Hence *fig.*

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XXXVII. 27 Selre ys, þat we hine syllon to ceape Ysmahelitum. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* civ. [cv.] 17 And into a thral Joseph is sold. 1388 *Ibid.*, Joseph was seeld in to a seruaunt. *Ibid. Rom.* VII. 14 Sothli we witen, for the lawe is spiritual, or goostli; forsoth I am fleischly, sold vndir synne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 215 Mi brother hath ous alle sold To hem of Rome. *c* 1400 *Mirr. St. Edm.* in *Hampole's Wks.* (Horstm.) I. 221 Whene þou was saulde with syne þan he boghte þe. 1576 *Gude & Godlie B.* 122 My Mother als did eik the same, And I to sin was sald. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 282 Othersome, being as it were bought & sould to that laborious kind of life, spend their days in that allotted torment of toile, as in their natural countrie. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* XVII. 17 And they..sold themselues to doe euill in the sight of the Lord. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 99 Behold for your iniquities have you sold your selves. *Ibid.* 100 We must..see if we can leave it upon Adam: for did not he sell us many a fair year before we were *in rerum naturâ*? 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 63 He had sould a Serv[t] to Henry Bowman. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* i, Men from England bought and sold me, Paid my price in paltry gold.

f. *To sell his soul, himself*, etc., *to the devil*: to make a contract with the devil ensuring him possession of one's soul after death, as the price of his help in attaining some desired end. Also *transf.* of one who sacrifices conscience for worldly advantage.

c 1570 *Buggbears* V. ii. 72 *Tru.* Loue youe money so well? *Ame.* What a question ys that? do not very manye sell their soules & all for monye? 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. 125 They sell their Souls to the Devil, for 2, 3, or 400 l. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Lifted Veil* i, It is an old story, that men sell themselves to the tempter, and sign a bond with their blood, because it is only to take effect at a distant day.

4. *absol.* and *intr.* (Often in phrase *to buy and sell*; more rarely *to sell and buy*.)

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 þat is ure alre wune þe bigged and silled. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 287 þat our merchantz mot go forto bie & selle. 1458 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 300 And he sel or by in maner above sayd. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 36 *Iew.* I will buy with you, sell with you, talke with you..: but I will not eate with you. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XLII. 6 And hee it was that sold to all the people of the land. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Feb. 1657, They ..were permitted to sell to the friends of their enemies. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 467 The testator had no power to sell.

5. *To sell* (gerundial inf. used predicatively): on sale, offered for sale. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2399 Abram to sell moght find na sede. ?*a* 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 243 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 215/1 Wher such clob was to selle, Ne ho hit made, coube noman telle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 414 Winne whoso may, for al is for to selle. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21262 Folkys for to telle, That, with-inne, ys wyn to sell. *a* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXI. 23 Now quhill thair is gude wyne to sell, He that dois on dry breid virry, I gif him to the Devill. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* VI, Buy them, buy them: eve and morn Lovers' ills are all to sell.

6. *intr.* in passive sense. Of a commodity: To find purchasers. *To sell for, at* = to fetch (a price).

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 360 Let vs (like Merchants) shew our fowlest Wares, And thinke perchance they'l sell. 1626 B. JONSON *Epigr.* III, To my Book-seller. Thou, that ..Call'st a booke good, or bad, as it doth sell, Vse mine so, too. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts fr. Parnass.* I. i. 4 There is no Merchandize in this Ware-House which sels better, then certain Fans. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 24 Sept., Prior's *Journey* sells still. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* v. 63 They sell at about a shilling a dozen. 1851 LYTTON *Not so bad* IV. i. 77, I found a bookseller to publish my treatise. It sold well. 1896 WELLS *Wheels of Chance* i. 7 This, madame, ..is selling very well.

7. *trans.* In various figurative uses. **a.** To take money or reward for (something that should be freely bestowed or done); to make subservient to monetary considerations (something which should not be so influenced); to make profit or gain of.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 135 *Quatuor modis uenditur elemosina*...An fower cunne wise mon sulleð his elmesse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15968 He selleþþ Hali3 Gast forr fe & biggeþþ hellepine. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 364 Lich as it was be daies olde, Whan men the Sennes boghte and solde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iii. 10 þai sell beneficez of haly kirk. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 169 Whan Iusticia..hit for Penyes sylle and Sauyth gilti men. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 38 And oftetymes they [aduocates and men of lawe] selle as welle theyr scilence as theyr vtterance. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 41 Therefore, when Merchant-like I sell reuenge, Broke be my sword. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* vi. 9 Quhat justice sauld! vhat pilling of the pure! 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* II. iii, Do not your Lawyers Sell all their practice, as your Priests their prayers? 1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 419 When perjury..Sells oaths by tale, and at the lowest price. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 483 But ..Her worldly-wise begetters, plagued themselves To sell her.

b. To give up or part with one thing in exchange *for* another; esp. (after Gen. XXV. 29–34) to barter away (something of value) *for* (a trifle).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 148 Hware þuruh me buð þene kinedom of heouene, & sulled hit for a windes puf of wordes hereword. *Ibid.* 398 Me sulled wel luue uor luue. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 159 He..the kyngedom of hewyn Sillyth for a lytill price, lyke as esau didd, that [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 These maner of people sell paradyse for an apple, with Adam and Eue. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 92 But I will remedie this geare ere long Or sell my Title for a glorious Graue. 1650 B. *Discoliminium* 48, I will sell my Esquireship to any honest man for a good People-ship. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 229 Effeminates..Who sell their laurel for a myrtle wreath, And love when they should fight. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* V. 210 Whose applause he sells For the gross blessings of a patriot mob. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* lxix, [They] Have..sold my Reputation for a Song.

†**c.** To make an offender 'pay for', to inflict vengeance for (an injury). Chiefly qualified by *dear, dearly*, or an equivalent advb. phrase. *To sell* (another's act, an offence) *dear*, to exact a heavy penalty for. *To be dear* or *dearly sold*, to be attended with great cost. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13182 [Herod] þat godman dos wit tresun sla. But þis ded was sald ful dere. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7864 Ector sclees and Ector felles; His hors taking dere he selles. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 22 But wald ye do rycht as I wald you ler, This pes to thaim it suld be sald full der. *Ibid.* IX. 1068 Till Inglismen thar cummyng was sauld full der. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* k ij, Alas how this folysshe enuye..shalle to them be dere sold. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxii. 630 That aquayntauns shall be derely solde for with myne owne handes I shall sle her.

d. *To sell one's life* (rarely † *death*) *dear, dearly*, etc., to destroy many of one's adversaries before giving up one's life in an encounter; to make the enemy pay dearly for one's death.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4569 Sulle we he sede vure lif dere ar we be ded. *Ibid.* 4570, 8177. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1342 (MS. A) Sir Gij..seyd..'Dere we schul our deþ selle'. *Ibid.* (MS. C.), Full deere oure liffis we selle shall. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 139 The French kyng..slewe to the nombre of four hundred, whiche derely sold their lifes. 1603 *North's Plutarch, Cæs. Aug.* (1612) 1163 P. Naso was betrayed by his slaue freed...But he sold his death [Amyot *mais il vendit sa mort*], for he killed the traytor with his owne hands. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 69 With a resolution to sel their liues at as high a rate as possibly they can. 1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* III. iii, Better expose Our naked breasts to their keene Swords, and sell Our liues with the most aduantage. 1682 DRYDEN *Dk. Guise* Epil. 20 For what should hinder Me to sell my Skin, Dear as I cou'd, if once my Hand were in? 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 191 The brave beast was..doing his utmost to sell his life dearly.

e. *refl. To sell oneself*: to dispose of one's services for money; to enslave oneself. Also *pass.*

1771 *Junius Lett.* lii. 265 You have sold yourself to the ministry. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 375 Hast thou..brought home the fee, To tempt the poor to sell himself to thee? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iv, Is Bouillé a traitor then, sold to Austria? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 64 Money could be..obtained from the court of Versailles; and Sunderland was eager to sell himself to that court.

f. To lose (a match, game) for a bribe. *To sell one's back*, (*Wrestling*) to be bribed to allow oneself to be thrown. *To sell one's stone*, (*Curling*) 'to throw away the advantage of a well-placed stone' (Eng. Dial. Dict.).

1805 G. MCINDOR *Poems & Songs* 55 (E.D.D.) Dinna ride Nor sell your stane by playing wide. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 341 This match was said to have been 'sold' by the England side. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s.v. *Faggot*, In wrestling, a man who 'sells his back' is said 'to faggot'.

g. Phrase. *To sell the pass* (see quots.).

1850 OGILVIE s.v., *To sell the pass*, to betray one's countrymen, by giving information to the authorities. (*An Irish phrase.*) 1865 *Athenæum* 22 July 106/3 An Irish plotter invariably fancies that his companions will 'sell the pass' on him. 1897, 1903 [see PASS *sb.*[1] 3 b].

†**8.** To cry up, praise, recommend (a person) as if a saleable commodity. *Obs. rare.* [= L. *vendere, venditare.*]

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* G iij b, Who here happye selleth hym selfe .i. who is he here that setteth hym selfe out to the sale, for a fortunate or lucky man? [*margin* Phra. Beatum sese venditare.] 1622 SIR R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* 126 Had our Gunner beene the man he was reputed to be, and as the world sould him to me, shee had received great hurt by that manner of bourding.

9. *slang.* To cheat, trick, deceive, take in.

The two earliest examples suggest development from sense 2; the mod. slang use, however, may be partly ellipt. for the older phrase *to sell a person a bargain*: see BARGAIN *sb.*[1] 3.

1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Argt., Volpone, childlesse, rich, faines sick,..Offers his state to hopes of seuerall heyres,.. His Parasite receaues Presents of all..Then weaues Other crosse-plots,..New tricks for safety, are sought; They thriue: When, bold, Each tempt's th'other againe, and all are sold. 1733 FIELDING *Quixote in Eng.* I. viii, *Mayor.* I begin to smoke a Plot. I begin to apprehend no opposition, and then we're sold, Neighbour. *Voter.* I would ride all over the Kingdom for a Candidate if I thought Sir Thomas intended to steal us in this manner. 1849 A. B. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* XV. 123, I've sold them, though! 1852 SMEDLEY *Lewis Arundel* XXIV, You're not going to try and cut out Bellefield by proposing for my cousin Annie, are you? I wish you would, it would sell Bell so beautifully. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* XXXVII, I'll bet you a sovereign you never see a poacher, and then how sold you will be in the morning. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 113 Nor was I 'selling' him, for I certainly had read the works.

Phrase. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s.v., 'Sold again, and got the money', a costermonger cries after having successfully deceived somebody.

II. Combined with adverbs.

10. Sell away. **a.** *trans.* To dispose of, or dispossess oneself of, by selling, *lit.* and *fig.* ? *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 36 (MS. Bodl.) Wa wurðe þet cheaffeare, for ei hwilinde weole sullen meiðhad awei. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 425 An hondred þowsand were i-take prisoners and i-solde awey, þritty for a peny. ?1600 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 35, I..haue lefte heer..xxxix papers of Sylck..; which..I praie sell awaie to paie your self. 1611 BIBLE *Tobit* i. 7 The first tenth part of al increase, I gaue to the sonnes of Aaron.. another tenth part I sold away. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 309 Our wary Thyrse shall not sell away his power or mastery.

b. *absol.* To go on selling.

1878 A. L. PERRY *Elem. Pol. Econ.* 543 'Never mind', says England, 'sell away, and I will make up your loss by a bounty!'

11. Sell off. *trans.* To dispose of by sale; to sell the whole of (one's stock, possessions, etc.).

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Jan. 1671, He answer'd he [Grinling Gibbons] was yet but a beginner, but would not be sorry to sell off that piece. 1780 *Mirror* No. 106 He..wound up his business, sold off his stock, and purchased an estate in the country. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* V, You should..set up shop, and sell off all the goods you do not mean to keep for your own use. 1856 READE *Never too Late* XXXVIII. A farmer who was selling off his sheep. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Mar., Suppl. 2 Selling off! Bargains!

absol. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxxix. 3 Only let all your tribe sell off, and follow, Catullus.

12. Sell out. **a.** *trans.* To distribute by sale.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xii. 42 The Herbes and Salets.. which were sold out, brought in a great Rent yeerely. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Switzerl.* 506 The Corn being sold out at a much dearer Rate than 'tis bought up.

b. To dispose of (stock, shares, etc.) by sale. Also *absol.*

1721 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* (1893) I. 450, I advised him..to sell out the subscription [for South Sea stock]. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. (1778) 40 Then sell out till you sink it [*sc.* stock] two and a half. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* III. xxiii. 300, I wrote..sending her a power of attorney to him [*sc.* the agent], to sell out the stock. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* IV, He made arrangements for selling out a couple of hundred pounds worth of consols. 1893 CORDINGLEY *Guide to Stock Exch.* 61 Should a purchaser fail to take up his securities..when the Certificate and Transfer are presented to him, the seller has the right to instruct an official to 'sell out' at once by auction.

c. *intr.* To dispose of one's commission in the army by sale. Now only *Hist.* (Cf. B. 3 b above.)

1787 *Minor* 13 After some campaigns:..his creditors allowing him the alternative of rotting in a jail, or selling out. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* IV. (1861) 133 His regiment was ordered to India, and he sold out.

d. *trans.* To dispose of the whole of (one's stock, property, etc.) by sale. Also *absol.*

Also *colloq.* in passive, to have sold one's whole stock *of* some article.

1796 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* XXXIV, In spite of its [*sc.* an estate's] owner having once been within some thousand pounds of being obliged to sell out at a loss. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 155 Three young women went to market with eggs..All three sold out, and at the same rate. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 2/5 [He] sold out his licensed premises. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 9 Sept. 3/1, I produced two one act operas..and our takings were no more than £57. In Germany or Italy the house would have been sold out.

e. *U.S. political slang.* (*a*) See quot. 1888. (*b*) To betray (a candidate) by secret bargains (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. IV. LXXXIII. 110 When this transfer of the solid vote of a body of agitators is the result of a bargain with the old party which gets the vote, it is called 'selling out'.

13. Sell over. *trans.* †**a.** To sell again. *Obs.*

b. To transfer by sale. *lit.* and *fig.*

1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* VII. vii. Note 3. 287 It was sold to this John Galeas, and he sold it ouer to the Florentines. 1837 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) III. XXIII. 372 A man is sold over into bondage to this world.

14. Sell up. **a.** *trans.* To dispose of the whole of (a person's stock, goods, etc.) by sale. ? *Obs.*

c 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 209 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 118 Al the catel his fader hade, he sold it up, and money made. 1566 STOWE in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 140 He sold up his movable goods and went to Rie. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 55 He..had determined to sell all up.

b. To dispose of the whole or a portion of the goods of (an insolvent or bankrupt person) for the benefit of his creditors. Also with the goods as obj.

1825 C. M. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* (1907) I. 149 Being much averse to dunning, I was soon sold up. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* ix, He..would..drink his glass with a tenant and sell him up the next day. *Ibid.* xviii, The house and furniture of Russell Square were seized and sold up. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxviii, I was ouliged to sell him up..for he owed me fifteen months' rent.

III. 15. *Comb.* with a sb. as **sell-soul, sell-truth,** one who sells a soul, the truth. *nonce-use.*

c 1680 Hickeringill *Hist. Whiggism* Wks. 1716 I. II. 140 Is it not enough that this Kingdom..should be once in one Age undone by the same kind of Men, the same Sell Truths? 1681 — *Black Non-Conf.* Postscr. (1682) X 2, These little Sell-souls do the feat.

Sell, obs. f. Cell, Sill *sb.*[1]; var. Sele *sb.*

‖ Sella (se·lă). *Anat.* [L. *sella* seat, saddle.] A saddle-shaped portion of the sphenoid, more fully *sella equina, sphenoidalis* or *turcica.*

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sella Equina, seu Turcica,* it is compounded of four Processes of the Bone *Sphenoeides,* or Wedge-like Bone. .. *Sella Sphenoeidis,* the same with *Sella Equina.* 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 278/1 Internally the cerebral cavity [of a dolphin] is very remarkable...The sella is but slightly marked. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 232 The sella turcica is shallow. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 70 The upper surface of the posterior sphenoid exhibits, on each side of the sella, a faintly-marked groove.

Sellable (se·lăb'l), *a.* Also 4 sillable, 6 sellabill. [f. Sell *v.* + -able.] That may be sold, saleable. Hence **Se·llably** *adv.*

1382 Wyclif *Eccius.* x. 10 This forsothe hath his soule sillable, or able to be sold. 1561 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 334 Quhatsumewir schip of gudis sellabill arrywis to the port..of this burght. 1611 Cotgr., *Venalement,* vendibly, salably, sellably. 1620 J. Mason *Disc. Newfoundland* 6 Fish being a staple commoditie with us, and so sellable in other countries. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) V. 37/2 To sett downe the pryces of sellable teinds According to the worth thairof. 1886 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* V. 371/1 The..villein regardant—attached to the soil, and sellable with it.

b. Venal.

1650 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 424 Those were sellable, vendible men, (πρασιμοι,) to be sold for money.

Selladine, obs. form of Celandine.

1610 Markham *Masterp.* I. xcvi. 190 Generall Drenches. Take of selladine two handfuls, both root and leaues.

Sellak, Sellander, obs. ff. Sillock, Sallender.

† Se·llary[1]. *Obs.* [ad. L. *sellārius* (Tac. *Ann.* VI. i.), f. *sella* seat, couch.] A male prostitute.

1603 B. Jonson *Sejanus* IV. v, Others Are rauish'd hence ..and..dealt away Vnto his Spintries, Sellaries, and Slaues. 1603 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. I. (1622) 121 Then first of all were those vnknowen words of Sellaries and Spintries found out of the filthines of the place.

† Se·llary[2]. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. It. *sellaria.*]

1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 65 It was discover'd ..that the waters..were poison'd..specially in those Cisterns which receive the raine water, as in the Sellaries, the publick Markets [etc.].

Sellary, obs. form of Celery.

1727 Swift *Let. Sheridan* 1 July, We eat it like Sellary, either with or without Oil, &c.

Sellat, obs. form of Sallet.

Selle, obs. f. Cell, Sill *sb.*[1]; var. Seely, Selly.

Selleir, obs. Sc. form of Cellar.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiv. 47 Thair is sic wyne in my selleir As neuir come in this cuntrie.

Sellender, obs. form of Sallender.

Sellenger's round. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 Sellengars, 6–7 Sellingers, 7 Selingers, Sal(l)enger(s, Salinger's, Sallingers. [*Sellenger* represents the pronunciation of the surname *St. Leger*; cf. *Sellinger* as the popular name of the race called St. Leger (Saint *sb.* 3 c). See conjectures in quot. 1855.] An old country dance; also, the music for this dance.

1567 Pikeryng *Horestes* 305 (Brandl), Entrithe and singeth this song to y^e^ tune of 'haue ouer y^e^ water to floride' or 'selengers round'. 1593 'P. Foulface' *Bacchus' Bountie* C 3 b, The fidler he fidled, and the pots danced for ioy the old hop about, commonly called Selengars round. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* III. 119. 1604 Middleton *Ant & Night.* D 4, Dauncing of Sallingers-round in Moone-shine nights about May Poles. 1607, *c* 1645 [see Round *sb.*[1] 11 c]. *a* 1683 Oldham *Wks.* (1686) 55 Fairies dancing Salenger a Nights. 1698 [see Round *sb.*[1] 11 c]. 1855 W. Chappell *Pop. Mus.* I. 69 Sellenger's Round, or The Beginning of the World. *Ibid.* 70 This tune..is to be found in Queen Elizabeth's and Lady Neville's Virginal Books,..&c. ..It might be from 'Sir Thomas Sellynger', who was buried in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, before the year 1475..; or from Sir Antony St. Leger,..Lord Deputy of Ireland in 1540.

Seller[1] (se·lɔɪ). Forms: 3–4 sullere, 4 suller, -ar, *Kent.* zeller, 4–5 siller(e, 5 sellere, -ar(e, -our, 5–6 syller, 4– seller. [f. Sell *v.* + -er[1].]

1. One who sells.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Þe sullere louеð his þing dere. ..Ðe beger bet litel þar fore. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 90 Most principale sillere of benefices & veyn indulgencis. *a* 1400 *Old Usages Wynchestre* in *Eng. Gilds* 355 Enerych sullere of bred in þe heygestrete of Wynchestre. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 116/2 To damage of the beyour or sellour. 1540 *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 98 Having a byll of sale..delyvered to hym by the seller. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 240 To things of sale, a sellers praise belongs. 1692 Locke *Lowver. Interest* 132 And so [to] raise the Price of Land, by making more Buyers than Sellers. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. ii. 46 By diminishing the number of sellers, therefore, we necessarily diminish that of buyers. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* I. xii, The Plaintiff was a chaunter, not a singer of anthems, but a seller of horses. 1866 W. Reed *Hist. Sugar* 159 Whilst sellers advanced their claims to be heard on the ground, that if [etc.]..the Americans would immediately become strong buyers. 1884 J. Gilmour *Mongols* xxxi. 365 After the two busy seasons there are a few buyers and sellers. 1900 *Daily News* 20 June 9/1 The number of easy sellers in cloth is again on the increase.

fig. 1697 G. Burghope *Disc. Relig. Assemblies* xii. 121 His Ears itch, and he runs after the Canting Seller of Breath.

b. *Seller-up*: see Sell *v.* 14 b.

1894 A. Morrison *Tales Mean Streets* 294 A professional rent-receiver and seller-up.

2. A thing to be sold.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 80 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The packs, or shepherds' lambs, are divided into two sorts, sellers and keepers.

3. A book with a (wide, poor, etc.) sale; also, without qualification, a book that sells well.

1900 *Century Mag.* LIX. 646/2 But tragic novels are poor sellers. 1903 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIX. 764 What are known as 'sellers'—meaning books that enjoy a wide sale. 1905 *Athenæum* 9 Sept. 330/3 Fortunately the 'best sellers' are the worst survivors.

† Se·ller[2]. *Obs. rare.* Also 4 seler. [a. OF. *seller, sclier* (mod.F. *sellier*), f. *selle* saddle: see Sell *sb.*[1]] A saddler.

1311 in *Cal. Let.-Bk. Lond.* D 64 [The same day, Richard de Gloucestre], seler, [admitted]. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. 26 Sellers [*foot-n.* 'Sadellers' is written above].

Seller, obs. f. Cellar, Celure; var. Soler.

Sellerage, -edge, -idge, obs. ff. Cellarage.

1611 Cotgr., *Droict de Cellerage,* Sellerage; a duetie..paied..at the laying of wines into sellers.

Sellerar, obs. form of Cellarer.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 180 The Goule was a gryntar, The Suerthbak a sellerar. 1530 Palsgr. 269/1 Sellerar of a religyous place, *bouteller.*

Selleri(e, obs. forms of Celery.

Sellery, obs. form of Sillery.

1770 Hooper *Baron Bielfeld's Lett.* III. viii. 101 A large glass of water, which the princess..had ordered to be emptyd, and had filld it with sellery wine.

‖ Sellette (sɛlɛt). Also 7 selette. [Fr., dim. of *selle* seat: see Sell *sb.*[1]] The stool upon which a prisoner in France sits during his examination.

1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. VII. 315 His Host..demanded his Name, Surname, Country, Quality, and Age, with many other interrogatories, as if he had been upon the Selette. 1841 James *Brigand* III. iii. 63 The prisoner was brought forward and placed on the elevated seat called the scellette [*sic*], where he was interrogated..by his judges.

Selli, sellie, var. forms of Seely *a.*

Sellic, -ich(e, -ick, etc., var. ff. Selly *Obs.*

Sellid, obs. pa. t. of Sell *v.*

Selliform (se·lifɔm), *a.* [f. L. *sella* saddle: see -form.] Saddle-shaped. 1898 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Sellines, variant of Seeliness.

Selling (se·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Sell *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Sell; an instance of this.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 29 Þoru þe foreseide sullinges ore buchgiuges of londes. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 225 Biynge & sillynge þou not forsakist. 1591 *Child-Marriages* 151 And that yow doe not..make..any order..concerninge the sellinge of your Victualls. 1676 Phillips *Purchasers Pattern* 1 The buying and selling of Land. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 3 Sept. 1683, His late purchas'd house at Chelsey, which I once had the selling of. 1772 R. Graves *Spir. Quixote* (1783) III. 282 He excelled in smart repartees, and selling of bargains, as they call it. 1885 *Athenæum* 29 Aug. 269/1 The buyings and sellings of land.

b. With an adverb.

1852 Mundy *Antipodes* I. 58 During the first year or two of my residence in Sydney, the selling off of families going home or into retirement were very numerous. 1872 *Punch* 1 June 232/2 The notices of pretended sellings-off of swindling bankrupts' stock. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 11/1 Selling-out is going on in a desultory manner round the Stock Exchange to-day.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *selling invoice, rights, title, value*; **selling price,** the price at which an article is offered for sale; **selling race,** a race for horses which are to be sold after the race; so *selling handicap, plate* (hence *selling plater*), *stakes, sweepstakes*: see the sbs.

1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 60 A *selling Invoice. 1888 *Selling plate* [see Plate *sb.* 17]. 1886 *Selling plater [see Plater 3]. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 219/2 This is another risk run by owners who wish to gamble on selling platers. 1848 Leon *On Sugar Cultiv.* I. 68 The *selling price of sugar delivered on board ship. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 219/1 *Selling races are the lowest forms of contest recognised by the rules of racing; and selling handicaps, the lowest of all. *Ibid.* 219/2 The winner of a selling race has..to be sold by auction; the owner receives no more than the entered selling price. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 4/3 [They] have secured the sole *selling rights in this country..for the Autoclipse lamps. 1839 *Sporting Mag., Racing Cal.* 3 The *Selling Stakes of 5 sovs. each..for horses of all ages. *Ibid.* Ser. II. XX. 72 A *Selling Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 1 Mar. L. 20/1 The consent of the parties entitled for life was not necessary to enable the trustees to make a good *selling title. 1803 *Ann. Rev.* I. 383/1 The singularity of the parody has given to such notes a *selling value analogous to current value.

Selling (se·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Sell *v.* + -ing[2].]

1. That readily finds buyers, saleable.

1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 227 Irregular Bodied Letter of the smaller sizes sometimes serves the ends of proprietors of standing and selling Copies. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 241 He will find nothing more selling than a carefully selected lot of young stock. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 3/3 International quarrels unfortunately make the most selling 'copy'.

2. That is engaged in selling.

1848 Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. xvii. § 4. 116 The authors and leaders of opinion on mercantile questions have always hitherto been of the selling class.

Sellock, sellok, variant forms of Sillock.

Sellondine, Sellor, obs. ff. Celandine, Cellar.

Sellore, variant of Celure *Obs.*

c 1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 406 Item, a sellore, xij d.

Sellour, ? obs. form of Cellar.

1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 47 One Roome below..the same gate used for A Sellour.

Sellt, sell't, Sc. and north. pa. t. of Sell *v.*

† Se·lly, *a., adv.* and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 sellic, syllik, seldlik, 2 sullic, 3 sellic, -lik, sellich(e, (sælliche), seollic(h(e, sillich, sullich, (4 sellike), 3–4 selli, seli, (3 selle), 4 celly, (celli, solly), 4–5 selly, 4–6 sely. [OE. *sellic* (adv. *sellice*), *seldlic,* corresp. to Goth. *sildaleik-s* strange :— OTeut. **seldolīko-*: see Seldom and -ly[1].]

A. *adj.* Strange, marvellous, wonderful.

Beowulf 3038 (Gr.) Ær hi þær gesæzan syllicran wiht, wyrm on wonge wiðerræhtes þær laðne liczean. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxviii. 53 (Gr.) Is þæt sellic ðinc þæt hi ne wundriað, hu [etc.]. *c* 1205 Lay. 6438 Wnder þon hær com tidinde..þat wes icumen of þær sæ a deor swi:e sellich [*c* 1275 sullich]. *Ibid.* 7328 Sillich [*c* 1275 seollich] us þunche3 Cezar. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 466 Sella..þar tubal, a sellic smiþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26010 And it agh be sa selle wonder Als þof his hert him brest in sunder. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 498 Herkneth nou a selli tiding! 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1439 Þenne þay beten on þe bushez, &..On þe sellokest swyn swenged out þere. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15171 þat estre þat we on Englische calle Roucestre; Byforn hit hadde a name selly In Breton, Dorciberni. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 513 For now at erste shul ye here So selly an avisioun, That Isaye..Ne mette swich a dreem as this! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8713 The sorow þat ho suffert were solly to here. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3513 Of tham this was a selly case, That nowther wist what other wase.

B. *adv.* Wonderfully, marvellously, strangely.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 149 (Gr.) Næfre hie ðæs syllice bleoum breȝdaȝ æfter bancofan federhoman onfoȝ. *Ibid.* 269 Se fuȝel..singge3 syllice. *c* 1205 Lay. 20179 þat he com to Eouerwic riden swiðe sellic [*c* 1275 sellich]. *Ibid.* 30579 He igrap a nail sax selliche kene and wel iwhæt. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1315 Sellik ðu art on werlde cumen, Sellic ?u salt ben heðen numen. *a* 1290 *Pains of Hell* (MS. Digby 86) 191 For fendes hem stoundeþ bi And pineþ hem swiþe selli. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2271 Þis tour was selli mad vpright, Fiue thusand steppes it had on hight. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 72 This womane yode wit chylde full lange, And tholed paynes sely strang. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 94 He lette sle for his sake selli mony children. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3387 Hys brodyr..Was sely seke and sore vnsounde. *Ibid.* 3482 That shall thou rew sely sore.

C. *sb.* Marvel, wonder; something wonderful. Phrase, *to have selly.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 181 in *Lamb. Hom.* 171 Nis na sullic [*v.rr.* sellic, sellich, seollich] þech hom bo wa and hom bo uneade. *c* 1205 Lay. 18730 Nu ihere ich muche seollic [*c* 1275 sellich]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3260 Ðis bode herde king pharaon And him ðuhte sellic ðer-on. 13.. *Childh. Jesus* 176 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 329 No celly þof þai chaunged chere. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 239 For fele sellyez had þay sen, bot such neuer are. *Ibid.* 475, I haf sen a selly. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon MS.) 104 þat chirche was of vr ladi, þer-inne was a gret celli [*Laud MS.* 108 selly], an ymage of hire sone. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5153 All the souerayns hade selly..Of priam, the price Kyng, þat prudly hade saide. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2551 He sall vs sett on a-saute & surely encounbre If þai were sary & so na selly [*Dubl. MS.* no selly] me thingke.

Hence **† Se·llyly** *adv. Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 963 Þe tweyne yzen, & þe nase, þe naked lyppez, & þose were soure to se, & sellyly blered.

Selly(e, variant forms of Seely *a.*

Selm (sel'm). *dial.* Also 6 selme, 9 sellem. [Of obscure origin.] A bar of a gate.

1592 *Mem. St. Giles' Durh.* (Surtees) 16 Paid for one selme to the yeate iij[s]. 1893–4 *Northumb. Gloss., Selm, Sellem.*

† Se·londyn. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Corrupt form of OF. *celidoine*: see Selidone.] A precious stone.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2723 The keueryng of-bove, is of selondyn; And the pament be-ueth, of gold & asure fyne.

Selour(e, selowyr, var. forms of Celure *Obs.*

S'elp. Also 9 swelp. [Cf. MHG. *selftir – so helfe dir.*] Contraction of 'So help', in the oath 'So help me God'. Now only *vulgar,* often in jocularly altered forms.

a 1330 *Otuel* 308 Quaþ roulond, þar he stod on grounde, 'Selpe me gode'. *Ibid.* 879 3ef ani sarazin wiþ eie, Come þ to lette me of mi weie, Selp me god & þis day, He sschal abugge, 3ef ich may. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg., Dead Drummer* xlii, His jaw-work would never, I'm sure, s'elp me Bob, Have come for to go for to do sich a job. 1888 Kipling *Soldiers Three, In Matter of a Private,* Slane knelt down and murmured: 'S'elp me, I believe 'e's dead'.

† Selrife, *a. Obs. Sc.* [f. Sell *v.* + Rife *a.* Cf. mod.Sc. *salerife* in the same sense (Jam.).] That can be sold, marketable.

1517–42 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 644/2 Yeirlie confluence of our..subditis with merchandice and selrife gudis at the toun.

Selt, pa. t. of Salt *v.*[1]

Selt, Sc. and north. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Sell *v.*

† Selth. *Obs.* Forms: 1 selþ, 2 sielþ, 2–3 selðe, 2–4 selþ, 3 sealþe, selhðe, selthe, se-

lehðe, seleȝehðe, seluhðe, *Ormin* seollþe, sellþe, 3–4 **selthe**, 4–5 **selth**. [OE. *sélþ* str. fem. = OS. *sâlda*, OHG. *sâlida*, ON. *sæld*:—OTeut. **sēlipā*, f. **sēli-* good, happy: see SELE *sb.*] Prosperity, good fortune, happiness.

In OE. chiefly *plural*.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Ic nu hæbbe onȝiten þæt þa mine sælþa & seo orsorȝnes ðe ic ær wende þæt ȝe-sælþa beon sceoldan nane sælþa ne sint. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Of wam we alle and us sielþe habbeð. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2823 þin seollþe iss all unnseȝȝenndlic. *c* 1205 LAY. 32059 Seleh e him wes ȝiueþe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 354 Vor þis is þe meste seluhðe on eorðe hwose mei, uor Godes luue, habben scheome & teone. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM i. 394 Þe bisschop þese wordes seþ, And beþ wordes of selþe. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xx. 50 Euery gladnesse ys endet wyth sorowe, & euery selth hath wnselth at þe end.

†**Se·lthelike**, *adv. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. SELTH(E + -LIKE.] Successfully, prosperously.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1372 'Louerd god', quað he mildelike, 'min erdne ðu forðe selðhelike'.

Seltron, variant of SHELTRON.

Seltzer (se·ltsəɹ). Also 8 **selters**, 9 **selzer**. [Alteration of G. *Selterser*, f. *Selters*, the name of a village in Hesse-Nassau, Prussia. Cf. F. *seltz*, *selz*.] (In full *seltzer-water*.) An effervescent mineral water obtained near Nieder-Selters, containing sodium chloride and small quantities of sodium, calcium, and magnesium carbonates. Also an artificial mineral water of similar composition.

1741 POTT in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 618 To drink the Selters Water, and keep to a cooling Regimen. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, Then she was such a hand at making foreign waters!—for Seltzer, Pyrmont, Islington, or Chalybeate, she never had her equal. 1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 242 Seltzer water..excites upon the tongue a taste gently salt, and mildly alkaline. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* xix, Neither soda-water, however, nor seltzer-water..inspired me with courage to look Sir Robert in the face. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. ix. 277 A great gulp of brandy and seltzer.

Seltzogene (se·ltsŏdʒēn). [a. F. *sel(t)zogène*, f. *seltz*, *selz* (see prec.) + *-gène*: see -GEN.] An apparatus for the production of artificial Seltzer and other mineral and aerated waters.

1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 55/1 Carbonic acid water..prepared in the apparatus known as the gazogène or seltzogene. 1868 W. S. GILBERT *Bab Ball., Capt. Reece* 18 Did they with thirst in summer burn? Lo, seltzogenes at every turn. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 537 My seltzogene cost only 14*s.* 6*d.*

Selure, var. CELURE *Obs.*; obs. f. SILVER.

‖ **Selva** (se·lvă). *Physical Geog.* Also erron. **silva**. [Sp. and Pg.:—L. *silva* wood.] A tract of densely wooded country lying in the basin of the river Amazon. Usually *pl.*

1849 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Phys. Geog.* ix. (ed. 2) 177 The Silvas of the river of the Amazons, lying in the centre of the continent, form the second division of the South American low lands. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 175 Next we come to the great wood-covered plains known as the Selvas of the Amazons. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* I. xi. (1872) 109 The selvas or woody plains of the Amazon.

Selvage, selvedge (se·lvēdʒ), *sb.* Forms: [? *5 corruptly* sultviche], 6 silvadge, 6–7 silvage, selvege, 7 selvedg, self edge, 7–9 selvidge, selfedge, self-edge, 8–9 salvage, 5– selvage, 7– selvedge. [Apparently f. SELF + EDGE *sb.*, after the equivalent early mod.Du. *selfegghe* (Kilian), now *selfegge* = LG. *sulfegge*. Cf. the Du. synonyms cited by Kilian, *selfkant*, now *selfkant* (*kant* = border), *selfende*, now *selfeinde* (*einde* end) = G. *selbende*, by popular etymology *salband*.]

1. The edge of a piece of woven material finished in such a manner as to prevent the ravelling out of the weft. Also, a narrow strip or list at the edge of a web of cloth, which is not finished like the rest of the cloth, being intended to be cut off or covered by the seam when the material is made up.

c 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 657 in *Babees Bk.*, The ewerer schal hele his lordes borde With dowbull napere at on bare worde, The seluage to the lordes syde withe wine. 1537 BIBLE (Matthew's) *Exod.* xxvi. 4 Then shalt thou make loupes of Jacyncte coloure, a longe by the edge of the one curtayne euen in the seluege of the couplinge curtayne. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 44/1 Nether must they [*sc.* bandages] have any silvages. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 9 The two edges or silvages. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Clear Starching*, The two Selvages put together, then the Ends together, and wash it the Way the Selvage goes, to prevent the Fraying. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* 298 The application of gauze to the formation of selvages may now be readily understood. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 466/1 These prongs come in contact with the weft thread between the selvedge of the web and the shuttle box.

fig. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 28a Now when wee thus let slip these heavenly Thred Lines, that should bee the Selvedge, to bound in all our Worke, wee fall to tangling, tying, and knitting. 1864 *Spectator* 27 Feb. 244/2 Almost everything is left with what seamstresses call raw selvidges,—some loose threads just sticking out that the reader feels inclined to lay hold of and pull away.

b. *transf.* A marginal tract, border, edge.

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. ii. 34 Thus though for his disobedience forbidden the entrance of the land of Canaan, yet he came to the selvedge or out-skirt thereof. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoics* 149 It should not have been thrust out upon the selvage and border of time. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 321 The Seed..of a brown Colour, and hem'd about with a rusty colour'd List or Selvedge. 1850 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. iv. 59 This narrow interspace, this marge, This list and selvage of a glorious time. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xiii. (1857) 292 The population..now exists as a miserable selvedge. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xi, I..threaded through the midst of it [the wood], and returned to the west selvage.

c. *Tin-plating* = LIST *sb.*³ 7 d.

1834 [see LIST *sb.*³ 7 d].

d. A waste strip on either side of a piece of wall-paper.

1901 BLACK *Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 40 The handy man first cuts the salvage from all his paper on the same side, and then cuts his paper into lengths. 1904 SIR A. GRIKIE *Scott. Remin.* xi. 295 The paper had been stuck on the walls just as it came, without the selvages being cut off.

†2. The selvages of cloth cut off for use as a bandage. *Obs.*

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 102/2 Take two peeces of silvadge, and..tye him therwith above his knees as stiffely as is possible.

3. An ornamental border or edging. ? *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 467 Item, for xxiiij. ellys of sultviche to the same coverlett, the elne iiij.d. summa viij.s. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 16 As fresch Aurora.., Ischit of hir safron bed..In crammysin cled and granit violat, With sanguyne cape, the selvage purpurat. 1827–35 N. P. WILLIS *David's Grief* 20 The golden selvedge of his robe was heard Sweeping the marble pavement.

4. *Naut.* and *Mil.* = SELVAGEE.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 133 Salvages for Shrowds, worn. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Selvage*, a sort of hank or skein of rope-yarn tied together at several distances. It is used to fasten round any rope, as a shroud or stay, so that a tackle may be hooked in it, to extend the said shroud or stay, which is called setting it up. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 318 A block ..attached to a selvage, answers the same purpose.

5. *Mining.* A thin layer of clayey or earthy matter surrounding a metalliferous vein.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 61 The vein, which has its selvages entire and close. 1897 T. H. HOLLAND in *Rec. Geol. Surv. India* XXX. 18 Each group is represented by microcrystalline and hemicrystalline types occurring either as thin veins, or as selvages to larger masses.

6. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Selvage* (Locksmithing), the edge-plate of a lock through which the bolt shoots.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *selvage-thread*; **selvage-motion**, ? the motion of a shuttle in forming a selvage; **selvage-protector** (see quot.); **selvage-strop** (sense 4); **selvage-way** *adv.*, in a direction parallel to the selvage.

1893 J. T. TAYLOR *Cotton Weaving* 98 Another kind of *selvedge motion is that used for producing a plain selvedge on a loom weaving satteens with tappets. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* 160 The *selvage protector..to prevent the warp yarn from being broken by the weft shot drawing it too tightly. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 33 Put on the *selvage strop over the parcelling, and hook the single block of the luff tackle to both parts of the selvage. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* 161 They allow the pins to fall into position at the selvage, taking hold of the *selvage threads. 1875 *Plain Needlework* 13 Half a yard should be snipped *selvage-way into twelve portions.

Selvage, selvedge (se·lvēdʒ), *v.* [f. SELVAGE *sb.*] *trans.* To form a boundary or edging to.

1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* iv. 35 This has no blue above, but selvidg'd with Golden Eye-like Spots. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 37 Where the stream is selvaged with sedges, or the pond edged with shrubby trees. 1849 D. JERROLD *Man of Money* xi, One of the Primrose Places to be found selvaging London. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 180 Where the little grey towns cluster Deep in the hills or selvedging the sea.

Hence **Se·lvaged** *ppl. a.*, **Se·lvaging** *vbl. sb.*

1611 COTGR., *Orlement*, a hemming, seluidging. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 150 The outside is divided into five selvaged seams, the inside containing three blackish seeds.

Selvagee (se·lvădʒī). *Naut.* and *Mil.* Also 8–9 **salvagee**, 9 **silvagee**. [app. f. SELVAGE *sb.* (sense 5).] (See quot. 1867.)

1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expos., Salvagees* are made with three flat Strands breeded, or by a small Turn put into several Rope Yarns cut into proper Lengths. 1800 J. MITCHELL *Cursory Observ. Modes Manuf. Cables* Pref., Selvagee..is generally pronounced by seamen Salvagee. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Selvagee*, a strong and pliant hank, or untwisted skein of rope-yarn marled together, and used as a strap to fasten round a shroud or stay, or slings to which to hook a tackle to hoist in any heavy articles. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 392 Selvagees are used for slinging projectiles of the abovementioned natures [i.e. of R.M.L. guns, 9-in. to 12-in., of 25 tons] when loading.

b. *attrib.*

1860 ALSTON *Seamanship* 193 A *Selvagee Strop is made of spun-yarn, or small rope, according to the size required, warped off, and marled down. 1904 in *Dixon Kemp's Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 10). 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 46 The pendant, having two *selvagee tails, is secured to the bight. 1799 *Specif. P. Mitchell's Patent* No. 2333. 3 *Selvagee twists are of two sorts. 1843 A. SMITH in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXXIV. 164 *Selvagee wire ropes are made of wires laid parallel and without twist.

Selve, obs. form of SALVE *sb.*¹ *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3588.

Selvyt (se·lvit). [An arbitrary name.] A kind of duster or polishing cloth.

1891 *Patent Specif.* No. 21,399. 1898 *Cycling* 76 Plating is best cleaned of rust by hard rubbing with paraffin and polished with chamois leather or Selvyt.

Sely, Selybube: see SEELY, SILLABUB.

Selydoyne, variant of CELIDONY¹.

Selye, obs. form of SEELY.

†**Se·lyer.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. OF. *celier* (mod.F. *cellier*) :—L. *cellārium* receptacle for food: see CELLAR.] A storehouse, larder. In quot. *fig.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 346/2 The holy bodyes were the selyers of god temple of Jhesu crist.

Selyng(e, obs. ft. CEILING, SEALING *vbl.*

Sem, obs. form of SEAM, SEEM.

Semantic (sīmæ·ntik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. σημαντικ-ός significant, f. σημαίνειν to show, signify. Cf. F. *sémantique*.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Relating to signs of the weather. *Obs.*

1665 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* v. § 1 (ed. 2) 300 'Twere easie to shew how much this Semantick Philosophy..was studied.

2. Relating to signification or meaning.

1895 BLOOMFIELD in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XVI. 412 The semantic value of the older reduplications.

B. *sb. pl.* = SEMASIOLOGY.

1900 MRS. H. CUST (*title*) Semantics: Studies in the Science of Meaning. [tr. M. Bréal *Essai de Sémantique*.] 1901 *Athenæum* 13 July, As applied to language, psychology is not easily distinguishable from semantics or semasiology.

Semaphore (se·măfōəɹ), *sb.* [f. Gr. σῆμα sign, signal + -PHORE. Cf. F. *sémaphore* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.).] An apparatus for making signals, consisting of an upright post with one or more arms moving in a vertical plane.

Orig. used for transmitting telegraphic messages; = TELEGRAPH *sb.* 1. Now used on railways and at sea.

1816 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 85/2 The improved Semaphore has been erected on the top of the Admiralty. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 64 Sched. O. 33 In a straight line towards Worplesdon semaphore. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 238/1 The semaphore has been almost universally adopted for fixed signalling on railways.

b. *attrib.*, as *semaphore house*, *lamp*. Also, in recent use, applied to a special form of flag-signalling.

1821 *Lond. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 787/1 Building a Semaphore House at each of the following places. 1855 D. K. CLARK *Railway Mach.* 327/1 The semaphore lamps are lighted, to give signals, at night, by white, green, and red lights as required. 1904 *Army Signalling Regul.* 25 Semaphore alphabet. *Ibid.* 32 Semaphore drill.

Hence **Se·maphore** *v.* (*trans.* and *intr.*), to signal by semaphore.

1893 *Daily News* 3 July 5/6 The Commander-in-Chief semaphored to me to know 'what I was waiting for?' 1893 *Times* 30 Dec. 9/6 To semaphore to the Commander-in-Chief his doubt as to the signal.

Semaphore·tic, *a. Math.* Suggested as a var. of SIGNALETIC (where see quot. 1853).

Semaphoric (semăfo·rik), *a.* [f. SEMAPHORE *sb.* + -IC. Cf. F. *sémaphorique*.] Relating to, of the nature of, a semaphore.

1808 COCHRANE in *Naval Chron.* XXI. 73 The newly constructed Semaphoric telegraphs..have been blown up. *a* 1872 B. HARTE *Waiting for Ship* Wks. (Hotten) 415 Near this place formerly arose a great semaphoric telegraph with its gaunt arms tossed up against the horizon.

Hence **Semapho·rical** *a.* = SEMAPHORIC (Ogilvie Suppl. 1855); **Semapho·rically** *adv.* (Webster, 1847). Also **Sema·phorist**, one who has charge of a semaphore (Ogilvie, 1882).

†**Sema·r.** *Obs.* Also **semmar**, **-er**, **semeare**, **samare**. [var. of SIMAR.] A loose coat or mantle worn by women, *c* 1670–80.

1673 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 384 A semmar for my wife. 1674 T. DUFFETT *Spam. Rogue* Prol., Here's many a Spark, I fear, That has been lewdly Chous'd in fine Semar. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 19/1 A Semeare ..is a kind of loose Garment.., and was a great fashion for Women about the Year 1676, some call them Mantua's. *Ibid.* 95/2 A Semmer, or Semare.

Semasiology (sīmēsi,ɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. σημασί-α signification, meaning + -LOGY.] That branch of philology which deals with the meanings of words, sense-development, and the like.

1877 R. MARTINEAU tr. *Goldziher's Mythol. Hebrews* iii. 43 Some phenomena in the semasiology of Arabic words. 1884 *Athenæum* 27 Sept. 395/1 Philology is now advancing towards a new branch having intimate relations with psychology, the so-called semasiology of Abel and others.

Hence **Semasiolo·gical** *a.*, belonging to semasiology; **Semasiolo·gically** *adv.* Also **Semasio·logist**, one who studies semasiology.

1889 F. HAVERFIELD in *Academy* 7 Dec. 374/2 It is phonetically quite possible that..*asstimo* is connected with αἰσθάνομαι, but semasiologically (as the phrase now is) it is improbable. 1890 *Athenæum* 4 Oct. 450/2 Semasiological solecism. 1899 *Ibid.* 5 Aug. 185/3 The semasiologist..has to trace the vicissitudes which the history of forms, words, and phrases presents with respect to signification.

Semat, obs. form of SEMMIT *Sc.*, under-vest.

Sematic (sīmæ·tik), *a. Biol.* [f. Gr. σηματ-, σῆμα sign + -IC.] Of mimetic colours: Serving for signal or warning.

1890 POULTON *Colours of Animals* xvii. 336 Sematic or Warning and Signalling Colours.

Sematography (sī,mătɒ·grăfi). [f. Gr. σηματ-, σῆμα sign + -GRAPHY.] The use of signs or symbols (instead of letters) in writing. So **Sematographic** *a.*, of or pertaining to sematography.

1902 F. W. G. FOAT in *Jrnl. Hellen. Stud.* XXII. 135 (*title*) Sematography of the Greek Papyri. *Ibid.* 144 The sematographic condensation of the ordinary cursive letters. *Ibid.* 154 Perhaps the most striking feature of the sematography of the Roman period is the prominence of that sign or mark.

Sematology (sĭ-, semătɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *σηματ-*, *σῆμα* sign + -LOGY.]

1. Used by Smart for: The doctrine of the use of 'signs' (esp. words) in relation to thought and knowledge.

1831 [SMART] *Outline of Sematology* 1 If we might call the whole body of instruction which acquaints us with τὰ φυσικά by the name *Physicology*, and that which teaches τὰ πρακτικά by the name *Practicology*,—all instruction for the use of τὰ σήματα, or the signs of our knowledge, might be called *Sematology*. 1839 SMART *Way out* 40 Sematology, or the doctrine of the relation of lingual signs to thought.

2. = SEMASIOLOGY.

1880 SAYCE *Sci. Lang.* I. (*Contents-table*) Chapter IV. The Physiology and Semasiology of Speech (Phonology and Sematology). *Ibid.* iv. 336 But by its very nature a science of meanings, sematology, as it has been named, can never have the same certitude, the same exactness, as a science of sounds. 1884 J. A. H. MURRAY in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1882–4, 511 The writing of the Morphology, and of the Sematology, must go hand in hand.

Sembel: see SEMBLE *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]

Sembelande, -ant, etc.: see SEMBLANT.

Semblable (sĕmblăb'l), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 5 semlable, (semalable), sembleabil, semblabyll, 6 -yl, -il, -ell, sembleable, simblable. See also SEMNABLE, SIMILABLE. [a. F. *semblable* (13th c.), f. *sembler* to seem, appear: see SEMBLE *v.* and -ABLE. Cf. SEEMABLE.]

A. *adj.*

†1. Like, similar. Const. *to*. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. v. (1868) 48 Ȝe men þat ben semblable to god by Ȝoure resonable þought. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 98, I finde hem all so semblable that I can not knowe one from the other. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 17 If so be my discredit, and want of honestie, had been equal or semblable to theirs. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 72 It is a wonderfull thing to see the semblable Coherence of his mens spirits, and his. 1609 G. BENSON *Serm.* 7 May 60 Semblable vnto Ephraim are many, who know too much and too little. 1658 OSBORNE *Tradit. Mem. Jas. I*, § 17. 55 He owning a Countenance not in the least regard semblable to any my eyes ever met with. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 125 God who has made Light to move for thousands of Miles in an instant, by a streight Line, may make it move a semblable space through a Circle, if the use of the World requires it. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 214 Semblable to this is the story of the mad waggery, by which [etc.].

†b. Resembling something already mentioned or implied; the like, such-like. Also *the semblable, such semblable*. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 256, I seye the same, or elles thing semblable. *a* 1470 TIPTOFT *Cæsar* x. (1530) 11 These and such semblable things. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 50 b, To yelde to his lorde yerely at suche a feaste a horse, or a hauke, or such thynge semblable. 1572 FORTESCUE *Forest* 164 b, The fallyng evill also with others many the semblable and like infirmities. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 3 That and thousands more Of semblable import. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXXVIII. 151 As is the custom in semblable occasions.

†c. *In semblable manner, wise, sort*, in like manner; *semblablewise*, likewise. Also *in semblable case(s, in case(s semblable*. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 63 And riht so in semblable cas This vice hath ek his officers Among these othre seculers. *c* 1410 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 157 And thus in semblable wise The erthe did him self disgise. 1512–13 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 23 § 7 As thei have doon..in cases semblable. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* iv. 14–16 And in semblable wyse vnto this, there is a lyke procedyng in the ordre of godlinesse. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 10 The heavenly soule of man..semblablewise, doth feele..the ill affected crasis of the body. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 79 We may therefore Call vnto Holy Saints as well, and in semblable sort.

†2. Corresponding, proportional, accordant, suitable. *Obs.*

1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 19 And that hath bin..the vtter impouerishinge and vndooeinge not of a fewe men w^th^in this Realme, w^ch^ haue not bin able to make semblable intercessors and aduocates to theire Prince. *Ibid.* 145 The Kinge continewed by treatie trustinge to finde the way of peace, w^ch^ was semblable enoughe had not the Dolphine [etc.]. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 52 Their..legges [were] of a great growth, not semblable to their age, being but sixe and thirty dayes old. 1681 WITTIE *Surv. Heav.* 44 Whether it be not most suitable..to the Wisdom, and Power of God .., and semblable to the plain course of his Providence. 1817 PENNIE *Rey. Ministr.* II. 504 But who can paint In language semblable, the blissful scene.

†b. Seemly, becoming. *Obs.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lx. 188 Neither could Monarchy, Aristocracy, nor Democracy, attaine any semblable condition in any place so long as the Church held its designe apart.

3. Apparent, seeming, not real. †Of treason: Presumptive, constructive. *rare.*

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 264 Imitation implies three things: 1 *Factum*, semblable, or rather reall acting of what we pretend to imitate. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 244 Here is no actuall, but an appearing and semblable concurrence. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 124 That there shall be no semblable Treasons made by presumptions or straines of wit, but those Treasons specified there. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Semblable*, seeming, likely or probable. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* (1894) 122 What is gained..by supposing.. the miracle was only semblable, not real?

†4. quasi-*adv.* = SEMBLABLY *adv.* *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 54 For to make semblable [orig. *semblablement*] his aunsuers durynge the syx monethes of the somer. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 817 Semblable my Cosin the Erle of Richmonde,..will surely attempt..to pierce me on the other syde.

B. *sb.*

†1. *absol.* and quasi-*sb.* (occas. pl. *semblables*): Something that is like or similar. *The semblable* = the like (see LIKE C. 3); as, *to do the semblable* (= F. *faire le semblable*). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6759 In al this caas, and in semblables, If that ther ben mo resonables, He may begge, as I telle you here. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 115 He that doeth shewe loue and curtoisie ought to be thankyd by semblable. 1521 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 283 Who..herin geueth vnto you herty thanks, like as I do the semblable. 1528 *Instruct. P. Vannes* in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1679) I. II. Rec. 48 Studying how they may acquite this your Ingratitude..with the semblable. 1560 in J. Scott *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 448 Yf any soldiers of the garrison be appointed to keep scourage or any such semblables as their course shall come about. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* IV. vi. § 4. 343 Long before their time, Clodius..practised the semblable in pearles of great price.

†2. With qualifying possessive: (One's) like, (one's) fellow. (So F. *son semblable*.) *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4855 For he shulde setten al his wil To geten a likly thing him til, And to sustene, if he might, And kepe forth, by kindes right, His owne lyknesse and semblable. *?a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merch.* 83 Vnto his semblable thus euery thyng can drawe. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 6 b, Every natural complexion delyteth in his semblable. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 124 (1604 Qo.) To make true dixion of him, his semblable is his mirrour. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 22 His semblable, yea himselfe Timon disdaines.

†3. A similitude or parable. *Obs.*

1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* I. iv. (1550) A vj, Parrables, Semblables & examples, (though differing in sumwhat) drawe al to one ende.

†**Semblableness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEMBLABLE *a.* + -NESS.] Likeness; congruity.

c 1550 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. XL 30 For doo but conferre thys Masse of Mans makyng, wyth the Supper of Christs Institution; and see that sembleablenes ys betwene them. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 95 This Congruity or semblableness of our Actions and Affections one towards another with God's Favour and Mercy towards us.

Semblably (sĕmblăbli), *adv.* Also 5 semlably, sem(e)blabilly, semblabelie, (5–7 -blaby), 6 -billabillie, -blablye, 6–7 -blablie, (7 -bably). [f. SEMBLABLE *a.* + -LY[2].]

†1. In like manner, similarly. *Obs.*

1420 HEN. V in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 907/1 Th' Accorde..was there Sworne by both the sayde Commissaires, yn name of our foresaid Fader; And semblably by Us in oure owne Name. 1520 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 34 That all other shall take fearfull example by hym, semblably to offende hereafter. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen.* IV, v. iii. 21 A gallant knight he was, his name was Blunt, Semblably furnished like the king himselfe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. xxiii. II. 133 Semblably, good showres doe breed Silphium. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 167 The Idolatrous Tabernacle was called the Tabernacle of Moloch *i. e.* the King: Semblably the Mosaick Tabernacle was..held to be the Palace..of the Highest King, *i. e.* God.

2. Seemingly, apparently, speciously. *rare.*

1889 FARRAR *Lives Fathers* I. x. 635 Martin saw through his semblably orthodox language.

Semblance (sĕmblăns). Also 4–6 -aunce, (5 sembal-, sembelaunce, 6 sembleaunce). [a. F. *semblance*, f. *semblant*: see SEMBLANT. Cf. Sp. *semblanza*, It. *sembianza*.]

†1. The fact of appearing to view. *In semblance*, apparent, visible, to be seen. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 21638 Sin first þe werld was wroght, Meracles o þe cros might Has ben in semblance and in sight.

2. The appearance or outward aspect of a person or thing.

?a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 425 Ful lyk to hir was that image, That maked was lyk hir semblaunce. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4098 A burly best..Of sembalaunce as a see-bule. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 40 b, They jugged him with his mayntene and semblaunce to be a moche noble knight. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 200 Be you the Souldier, for you likest are For manly semblance, and small skill in warre. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 162 A timely-parted Ghost, Of ashy semblance. 1632 MILTON *Sonn.* ii. 5 Perhaps my semblance might deceive the truth, That I to manhood am arriv'd so near. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 120 By Juno, It bears a noble semblance. On this base my great revenge shall rise. 1806 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immortality* 108 Thou whose exterior semblance doth belie Thy Soul's immensity. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 417 It may be the vulgar part of human nature which busies itself with the semblance and doings of living sovereigns.

b. The form, likeness or image *of* a person or thing, considered in regard to another that is similar. Chiefly in phrases, as *to the semblance of*; *to have* or *take the semblance of*; *in* (*the*) *semblance of*, in likeness of, so as to resemble; †*of one's semblance*, resembling him.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 142 Þe hinges þat he had maked in to hys semblance [*L. in sui similitudinem*]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 285 And in semblaunce [*v. r.* semblaunt] of a serpent sat on þe appeltre. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 80 And sodenly was sente doune the hooly ghoost in semblaunce of fyry tonges. *c* 1450 *Merlin* v. 91 He hadde take the semblaunce of a moche olde man. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 245 This childe had hooly the verray semblance and liknes of kynge Iupiter. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 37 Whereby the water gathered and arised..to the semblance of a little sea. *Ibid.* 65 Smale children apparrelled in the semblance of Angels. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 21 A fault done first in the forme of a beast..and then another fault in the semblance of a Fowle. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* II. v. (1823) 172 To assume her semblance, is a tribute which vice must often pay to virtue. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* I. 277 'Twas said that She all shapes could wear; And oftentimes before him stood, ..In semblance of a lady fair. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits N. Amer.* xvi. (1875) 218 And now the lake narrowed to the semblance of a tranquil river.

3. A person's appearance or demeanour, expressive of his thoughts, feelings, etc., or feigned in order to hide them. (Cf. SEMBLANT *sb.* 1 b, c, d.)

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5192 Bot lat þi semblance be sadd quen þou þi saȝe ȝildis. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 21 What is tayre semblaunce, with thought & hevynes? Forsothe nought elles but cloked folysshness! 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 124 Weele haue a swashing and a marshall outside, As manie other mannish cowards haue, That doe outface it with their semblances. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* i. 4 He was neuer of the mind or semblance, to be couetous towards his subiects, whiles he was bountifull to himselfe. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Prov.* xi. 9 A dissembling friend with faire and false words and semblances draweth his neighbour into some dangerous inconvenience. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 77 Him, gath'ring round, the haughty Suitors greet With semblance fair, but inward deep deceit. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* IV. 78 Four mighty spirits toward us bend their steps, Of semblance neither sorrowful nor glad.

†b. Phr. *To make* or *show* (a specified) *semblance*. (Cf. SEMBLANT *sb.* 3 a, b, f.) *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 421 ȝif þe Grees..comeþ þeder, þe bryddes makeþ hem good semblaunce [*MS. a* semblaunt]. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 161 What chere or what sembelaunce that men make vnto suche women in thaire presence. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 778 Of truth the Protectour and the Duke of Buckingham made very good sembleaunce vnto the Lord Hastinge's and kept him much in their company. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vii. 44 He.. humble homage did vnto him make, Midst sorrow shewing ioyous semblance for his sake.

4. An appearance or outward seeming *of* (something which is not actually there or of which the reality is different from its appearance).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 117 With patches, colours, and with formes being fetcht From glist'ring semblances of piety. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 39 They had the appearance of a good body of men, there being all the semblance of great bodies behind on the other side of the hill. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 529 With high words, that bore Semblance of worth not substance. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. xi. 96 Where the parent is not prepared to grant a real and *bona fide* equality..he should avoid the semblance of it. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Frenchm. T.* (ed. 2) I. 288 [She] was not duped by this semblance of tranquillity. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Books & Reading*, To reach down a well-bound semblance of a volume. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 298 Carstairs was forced to content himself with the substance of power, and to leave the semblance to others. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xiii, On the door..appeared the semblance of a brass-plate. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. i. 21 Any thing which bore even the semblance of wealth was an irresistible excitement to their cupidity. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* ii. 89 In many cases oiled linen cloth served to admit a feeble semblance of light.

b. An apparition or vision (*of* a person, etc.).

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of Armes* III. i. 168 Appiered byfore me the semblaunce of a creature hauyng the fourme of a stately man. *a* 1717 FENTON *Odyss.* XI. *in Milton's Style* Poems 125, I last the visionary Semblance view'd Of Hercules, a shadowy Form; for He The real Son of Jove, in Heav'ns high Court Abides. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. XXVIII, And her semblance oft will seem, Mingling in a champion's dream, Of her weary lot to 'plain, And crave his aid to burst her chain. 1870 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Epic of Women* 202, I saw Him some time by the flickering light, As the one in my dream who was playing my part; 'Till his semblance grew dim and was gone from my sight.

c. With negative (or equivalent): Even the appearance, the bare appearance.

1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* P 29 When the Protector wished to put his own brother to death, without even the semblance of a trial. 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* vii. (1853) 300 Where is the semblance of proof that Christ visited disembodied spirits of the wicked? 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 6. 524 The fall of Strafford had put an end to all semblance of rule.

d. *In semblance*, in seeming, in appearance (only).

1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. (1866) 78 So was his government Roman in semblance rather than in fact.

e. In generalized sense and quasi-personification.

1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* v. (1840) 44 It is the heyday of Imposture; of Semblance recognising itself and getting itself recognised, for Substance. 1840 — *Heroes* vi. (1841) 382 The..return of mankind to Reality and Fact, now that they were perishing of Semblance and Sham.

5. A person or thing that resembles another; a likeness, image, or copy *of*.

1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 143 Maruelouslie imbordered w^th^ signes and semblances of Lillies and of Roses. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1246 No more then waxe shall be accounted euill, Wherein is stampt the semblance of a Deuill. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 88 John Rous, the antiquary of Warwickshire, who drew his own portrait and other semblances. 1824 CAMPBELL *Theodric* 155 The painting long in that sweet mansion drew Regards its living semblance little knew. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. I. xi. § 4 The fact of our deriving constant pleasure from whatever is a type or semblance of divine attributes.

6. The fact or quality of being like something; likeness, resemblance.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 236 There is auche affinitie and semblaunce in the matter, that we could not doe amisse to ioyne them all together. 1648–99 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* III. 67 The Reins were cloath'd in whitest silk, to hold Some semblance to the Hand that them controll'd. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 122, I thought no body had been like me, but I see there was some Semblance 'twixt this good Man and I. *a* 1864 FERRIER *Grk. Philos.* (1866) I. iv. 92 Construct our skeleton as we best may, and..give it..some semblance

to the remains of an organic creature. 1900 J. G. CAMPBELL *Superstit. Scott. Highl.* 78 The student..will recognize in them a semblance to the Fairy tales of the North of Ireland.

†7. Likelihood, probability. *Obs.*

1548 GESTE *Agst. Pr. Masse* F iv, It is expressely wrytten ..(say our catholiques) that they sacrificed to thee Lorde. Therfore by al sembleaunce they sacrificed his body and bloud. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxxi. (1739) 189 Yet some semblance there is, that it was yet more ancient.

8. Phr. *To make semblance*: to make an appearance or pretence. Const. *of* (something, doing something); also with clause introduced by *that, as if, as though*; also with inf. (Cf. SEMBLANT *sb.* 3 c, d.)

c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 39 He that shewed yow that, made yow semblance that ye sholde be deed for me. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xx. 24 He should make a semblance as though he would remayne there in hostage. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. i. Wks. 1856 I. 132 They all make semblance of loathing Piero. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 813 A souldior..making semblance to deliver unto him the keies of the Castle. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii. 224 His words make semblance as if hee were magnanimously exercising himself. 1670 — *Hist. Eng.* II. 52 Who, by his Father banish'd,..made semblance of marching toward Britain. 1850 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) V. 213 Did she, or did she not, ever make a semblance of surrendering it?

†Se·mblant, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 **samblant,** 3–5 **semblaund,** 3–6 **sembland,** -**blaunt,** 4 **sembelande,** -**aund,** -**aunt, semblont,** 4–5 **semblaunde,** 5 **sembelant,** -**blande,** 5–6 -**blaunte,** 6 -**blante,** 3–7 **semblant**; also 4 **semelant,** 4–5 **semlaunt,** -**land(e,** 4–6 **semlant,** 5 **semeland(e,** -**awnt, seemlaunte, seymland, semlante.** Also SEMENAUNT. [a. F. *semblant* (11th c.), sb. use of pr. pple. of *sembler* SEMBLE *v.*

The corresponding forms in the other Rom. langs. (see SEMBLANT *a.*) are likewise used subst.]

1. A person's outward aspect or appearance.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 5 Salue me mine wunden þat hit ne sem..o mi samblant þat ich derf drehe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 322/799 Þe eizene stareinde, And þe mouth of foul semblaunt. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3085 Þer come in tuelf olde men wiþ euene pas here, Men of wel vair semblant. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5537 (Kölbing) Alle his barouns him seyd, ywis. It sembled men of gret priis, Her semblaunt hem bar witnisse. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4019 By hir semlante he thought it shuld be she. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparrow* 936 His foule semblaunt All displeasaunte. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Godfrey* (1881) 109 And with a semblant braue and nobellest, (As lightning wonts) he in his armour shines. 1595 SOUTHWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1856) 118 In springing locks lay crouched hoary wit, In semblant young, a grave and ancient port.

b. esp. as betokening the thoughts, feelings, mood, disposition, etc.: Demeanour, air, look, expression.

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 247 Nis hare nan þe ne..gulteð ilome, oðer ifol semblant oder in vuel dede. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3464 Kyng Richard..Abouten hym gan loke ful yerne With wrathful semblaunt and eyen sterne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 275 Socrates..drank venym wiþ stedfast semblaunt [L. *constanti vultu*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 253 And thei hire sihe of glad semblant, Al full of merthes and of bordes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 211 With seymland full sory, wryngand both my handis ffor drede. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xi. (1880) II. 277 Pacience is a noble vertue,..retayninge all wayes glad semblaunt in aduersitie and doloure. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 31 Therein sate an amiable Dame, That seem'd to be of very sober mood, And in her semblant shewed great womanhood. 1652 *Life Fr. Sarpi* 4 Being in himselfe..of a semblant or meane, alwaies thoughtfull, and rather melancholique then serious.

c. The demeanour or 'countenance' which a person exhibits towards others; *good* or *fair semblant*, favourable countenance, favour. Also, a look or glance cast upon another. Cf. 3 b.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6134 He tok sire Conan by þe hond, & on hym low wyþ god semblaunt [*Petyt MS.* faire semblande]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 87 Som wikked men sight þat Berthericus hadde good semblant of meny men [L. *quod Bercaricus a multis esset salutatus*]. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xii. 3 And she, aperceyving this fantasyse in myne herte, gan her semblaunt goodly on me caste. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xvii. 96 He sawe an hondred ladyes and many knyghtes that welcommed hym with fayr semblaunt. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 61 And Ysiphile on that other syde alwaye in her amerouse semblants and regardes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 278 A minde which could cast a carelesse semblant vppon the greatest conflictes of Fortune. 1598 YONG *Diana* 49 Whereupon Doria with a gratious semblant answered her thus againe.

d. With contextual implication that the appearance is deceitful or misleading. Often *false* or *fair semblant* (= F. *faux, beau semblant*).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 128 Ant te valse ancre..habbeð efter þe boxe a simple semblaunt sume cherre, & beoð þauh ful of gile. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The word was lich to the conceite Without semblant of deceite. 1402 26 *Pol. Poems* 13/122 The world is like a fals lemman, ffayre semblaunt, and moche gyle. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. xlvii. 204 Shortly after the necessity ceased, or the false semblant [L. *simulatio*]. 1600 O. E. *Regl. to Libel* I. v. 121 In outward semblant they are sheepe, but inwardly they are goates.

e. The face, countenance. (= L. *vultus.*)

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* II. 57 Hy..By-spet hym þat swe[t]e semblant þat heuene and erþe a-lyste (L. *Vultum Dei conspuunt, lumen cæli gratum*). *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 36 Jhūs wente into heuene to apere to þe semlant of God for us [Heb. ix. 24 *ut appareat nunc vultui Dei pro nobis*]. 1382 — *Luke* xxiv. 5 Whenne thei dredden, and bowiden her semelant [1388 semblaunt, sembland, Vulg. *declinarent vultum*] in to erthe. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. xii. in *Anglia* VIII. 147/43 In swote of þy semelaunde þou schalte ete þy mete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Semelawnt [*Winch. MS.* Seemlaunte], *vultus.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 329/1 A Semlande (*v.r.* Semblande), *vultus.*

2. *gen.* Appearance, seeming, outward aspect; also, an appearance or show (whether true or false) *of* some quality, etc. Also, something that exists only in appearance or pretence.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 Vnder semblaunt of gode is ofte i-heled sunne. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 872 No pompe, no semblant of roialtee. 1554 PHILPOT *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 388 So that I dare say that the temples of the cruel barbarous nations have more semblant of religion. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 54 And thousand fancies bett his ydle brayne With their light wings, the sights of semblants vaine. 1591 — *Virg. Gnat* 93 Ne measures all things by the costly rate Of riotise, and semblants outward braue. 1624 *Brief Inform. Palatinate* 42 Counterfeit Embassades sent here and there, vnder false pretexts and semblants.

b. *By semblant*, in appearance or aspect (cf. OF. *par semblant*). Also *in semblant*, in seeming.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 152 And ful of gyle, and felle corage, By semblaunt [F. *par semblant*] was that ilke ymage. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 508 Right so this god of loue, this ypocryte..kepeth in semblant alle hise obseruances That sowneth in to gentillesse of loue. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 120 He saw a wonder faire ymage, & wel made, & in semblant as it were an Archire. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. xi. 43 As Cupide hingis abowt Eneas hals,..fenzeand luif full fals, By sembland as he his fader hed bene.

3. To make semblant [= F. *faire semblant*].

a. To have or assume a (specified) expression, look, or demeanour.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 322/797 Þwane huy i-seoz heore felawe to torment i-brouȝt, Luþur semblaunt huy makiez boþe, as it ne likede heom nouȝt. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 250 Thai ..maid gude sembland for the ficht. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 141 Allway where he wente he made heuy and tryste semblant. 1561 RANDOLPH *Let. to Cecil* (MS. Cott. Calig. B. 10 lf. 32), It is said..what semblant somever the noble men do make, that they are grieved with their queen's refusal. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 803 Valetta although his mind..was inwardly attainted with exceeding griefe, yet made semblant otherwise. 1624 *Brief Inform. Palatinate* 49 Where yet neuerthelesse was made all manner of faire semblant, and seeming to haue a desire to giue satisfaction.

b. To show a (good or ill) countenance (to any one); to give (a person) a welcome, reception, or entertainment (of a specified character, friendly or unfriendly). Cf. 1 c.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 His eie euer bihalt te ȝif þu makest ei semblaunt, oðer eni luue lates touward unðeauwes. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 41/256 Þe schrewe heom made fair semblaunt, ..Þat huy were for-dronke beie and a-slepe leiȝen sone. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1142 The kyng toke hym be the hande, And made hym glad semelande. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 24 Y praie you..that ye make me never the worse chere..nor that ye make me not the worse semblaunt.

c. To make a show, appearance, or pretence *of*; to appear *to do* or *be* something; to seem likely, threaten, *to do*. (Cf. F. *faire semblant de*). Also occas. without const.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 238 Lordingis, now ȝhe se How ȝon men, throu thar gret pouste, Wald, and thai mycht fulfill thar will, Slay vs, and mak sembland thar-till. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. viii. 224 And therwith al he made a semblaunt to slee hym. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xvi. 171 They..make semblaunt to be moche grete clerkis & experte. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lix. 205 Whan they saw them comynge, they made semblaunt to returne to the cyte a soft pace. 1573 *New Custom* Prol., Making semblant of antiquitie in all that they did. 1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 830 He will make semblant to despise and scorne the hounds. 1629 MAXWELL *Herodian* App. 98 Seeing what was done, could not be vndone, they..made semblant of reioycing, as others did.

d. With clause introduced by *that, as, as if, as though*. Also rarely with obj. + inf.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 389 Iesus made hom semblant as he wald ferrer goo. *c* 1340 *Ayenb.* 137 Þe wel couaytouse wrecheche, þet..makeþ alneway semblont þet he ne heþ naȝt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 570 Pay make semblaunt as þough þay speke of good entencioun. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 25 When Vortiger wiste he was ded, he made semblaunt as he hadde be right wroth. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 45–52 Jesus..made semblaunte as though he would haue passed by them. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. E ij b, Some Oratours..dissemblinge their cunning, made semblant their orations to bee made very simply. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. vii. 15 Making faire semblant, That himselfe was much disquieted.

e. With negative (or its equivalent): Not to let one's thoughts, feelings, etc. appear; to show no sign (*of*); not to seem (or not to seem likely) *to be* or *do* something. (So in Fr., esp. in phr. *ne faire semblant de rien*, to take no notice.)

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 44 (MS. Bodl.) Me þeo þe best luuieð, ham to-beoreð ofte þrin, þah ha na semblant [*MS. Titus* þerof na semblaund] ne makien ine marhen. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 2290 Þurch his bodi þe blod ran; Tirri made no semblaunt of þan. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 467 To smiten made he semblant non, Er otuwel was risen & gon. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xiv. 19 Her suster, that had lost atte the plaie as well as she, made no semblaunt of her losse..; but made as good chere as she hadd wonne. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 65 Whan saturne sawe that his enemyes made no semblant to meue. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxii. 256 Whan Gerard vnderstode the kynge he was ioyfull ther of in his herte, but he made no semblaunt of ioy by cause of the lordes that were there present. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Glouc.* xxii, Yet openly in shewe made he no semblaunt, By worde nor by deed to beare displeasure. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 368 For all that, Moses neither word or countenance made any semblant of liking, or disliking the message.

f. In similar phrases with other vbs., as *to show* or *kithe semblant*; *to give a semblant* (*of*). *To let no semblant be seen*: cf. e.

13.. *Cursor M.* 25067 (Cott. Galba) Bot when ȝe fast, þan sall ȝe schaw Meri sembland with glad chere. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 2214 Al togider þai gun smite; Semblant of loue þai kidde bot lite. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.t.* 468 Þa3 Arþer þe hende kyng at hert hade wonder, He let no semblaunt be sene. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 252 The whiche esquyer with his companye came with amyable contenaunce, shewyng no semblaunt but as frendes. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* IV. ii. (1636) 288 Had not five cohorts of the Pompeian horse..given a semblant of flying [orig. *nisi cohortes hostium quinque.. fugae speciem praebuissent*].

4. A likeness or resemblance, an image or portrait (*of*).

a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 84/21 Hys semblant he sette my saule with-in. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* lvi. 217 Phylomon..sayde, 'who-so Is this ymage?' They sayden, 'this ys the Semblaunt of the wyse ypocras'. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 12 But he the knight, whose semblaunt he did beare, The true Saint George was wandred far away. 1614 T. WHITE *Martyrd. St. Geo.* D 3, Here's thy clay-frame,—God, doe with it thy pleasure; Here's thine owne semblant by my sinnes abased. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 416 While we lay downe the old man, and take vp the new, there is a semblant of our dying, as well as of our rising againe.

5. By extension from 3 b (where cf. quot. *c* 1290). Entertainment furnished to guests. (For the sense-development cf. CHEER.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7167 He ber þe croune & huld þe deis mid oþer atil al so, & mid gret semblant þe feste huld. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 404 (W.) Thai..maked at ese the messagers, With god semblant, and glade chers. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 131 He..Solased hem with semblaunt & syled fyrre.

Semblant (se·mblănt), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 4, 6 **semband,** 5 **semland, samblant, 6 semblante,** 6–9 **semblant.** [a. OF. *semblant*, pres. pple. of *sembler* SEMBLE *v.*, used as adj. Cf. Sp. *semblante*, It. *sembiante.*]

†1. Like, similar. Const. *to. Obs.*

1377 [see SEMBLABLE *a.* 1]. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 240 O comforte of my body,..resemblyng to Iudas machabeus in prowesse, samblant to sampson in strengthe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xii. 130 Bot siclike chancis and semblant [*v.r.* sembland] ennoy Abydis the. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 15 They had..followed after strange and false gods, as semblant to the Heathens. 1612 W. SCLATER *Minister's Portion* 1 In other semblant imployments. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 33 Two youths approach, whose semblant features prove Their blood devolving from the source of Jove. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. 24 This figure tender grief, like mine, implies, And semblant thoughts, that earthly pomp despise.

†b. Of a portrait: Resembling the original.

1714 PRIOR *Ep. Desiring Queen's Picture* 18 That as their Eyes survey The semblant Shade, Men yet unborn may say: Thus Great, thus Gracious look'd Britannia's Queen.

†2. That simulates an appearance. *Obs.*

1725 W. HAMILTON *To C'tess Eglinton* 68 in Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.*, And semblant falsehood puts on truth's disguise.

3. Seeming, apparent, counterfeit.

1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 776 This alliance between Rome and a wide semblant indifference towards all creeds is the most characteristic and portentous sign of the times. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* V. (1841) 284 Thou art not *true*; thou art not extant, only semblant. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* I. ii. 16 A just real union as of brother and brother, not a false and merely semblant one as of slave and master.

Se·mblative, *a., rare.* [f. SEMBLE *v.* + -ATIVE, after SEMBLANT.] Coined by Shaks. (if the text is sound) to mean 'like, resembling', or perh. 'seeming, appearing'. In the later quots.: Seeming; simulating the appearance (*of*).

1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iv. 34 Thy small pipe Is as the maidens organ, shrill, and sound, And all is semblative a womans part. 1814 A. BECKET *Centl* i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 500 Well, young Marcellus, soon shall it be known If thine be actual worth, or merely semblative. 1826 TOWNE *Farmer & Grazier's Guide* 60 The..ague-stricken Appearance which is betrayed in Oxen, when they become Hidebound, is semblative of an autumnal, or intermitting fever.

†Se·mble, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *semble* :—L. *similis*: see SIMILAR *a.*] Like, similar.

1449 *Verulam MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1906) 4 The seide place without delaye to be abated in semble wyse. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 87 Thanne the quene after kneled tofore her lorde, and besought hym that men shulde do semble justice to Amon the seneschall. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* VI. iv. 118 b, Also he did in semble wise consecrate the Table. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* I. (1608) 16 A tyrant vile, Of name and deed that bare the semble stile, That did this king.

†Se·mble, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **semele,** 4 **sembul,** 4–7 **semble, sembyll.** *Pa. t.* and *Pa. pple.* 4 **semblet,** -**blyt, semlit,** 5 **sembelet, sembild, semblyde, semled, semlyd, semyld.** [Aphetic var. of ASSEMBLE *v.* (Godefr. has a few instances of OF. *sembler* in the same sense.)]

1. *trans.* To bring together (persons) into one place or company; = ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 1.

c 1250 [see ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 1]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7410 His scepe þam-self war [*read* wald] sembel samen. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii, 87 He sembled all his men full still. *a* 1500 *Ashet Prophecy* in *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 25 And þen thomas semblise sone seyue skore masons. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisell* V. ii. 2984 Heare you now, awl that bee sembled heere.

b. *spec.* (See quot.)
1870 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* 153 A group [of moths], the females of many of which are noted for the peculiar property they possess of collecting, or, as the old entomologists named it, 'sembling', the males from long distances.

2. To bring together (things) into one place or mass, to collect; = ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 2.
a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 55 Scho sall gedyre and sembyll gude whete and oþer gud cornnes to-gedir. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXV. i, That made a wall well wrought of lyme and stone, Where Seuer made of turues & soddes sembled.

3. *intr.* To come together; = ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 5.
13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 452 Þer sembled a fair ferred. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 800 Þe sarazenis semlit ilkane. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 47 Eueriche broþer & sister..shuln semelyn in a certayne place. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* lxx, Hor lordis sembelet to a sy3te. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* C iij, Ye people semblid togydre to ouercome vyce. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 67 Ten thousand men.. Syne semlit hes togither on ane da.

4. To meet in conflict; = ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 6. Also, to make an attack *on*.
c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3811 Þan aswiþe þei sembled to-gader. † *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 967 Sichе sex ware to symple to semble with hyme one. *Ibid.* 3746 Now they..Sembles one the sowdeours, and settys theire dyntys. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 164 Men may..geve thame the werr felde, outhir lawar or in a myre, quhare thai may nocht wele semble, na to help thame selff. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 60 To semble wyth thair schaftis.

5. *trans.* To assail, attack; = ASSEMBLE *v.*[1] 7.
a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1333 Þan bowes he to þe baistall & brymly it semblis.

Hence † **Se·mbling** *vbl. sb.*
a 1300 *Havelok* 1018 Þere was sembling i-now! *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 769 Þe same day at was sett þe sembling of bathe. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 661 With owttene more lettynge, Was dighte there thiere semblynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/2 Semlynge, or metynge to-geder, *concursus*.

† **Se·mble,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4 sembel, 5 semble, cem(e)lyn, 5–6 sembil. [a. F. *semble-r* :—L. *similāre, simulāre* (cf. SIMULATE *v.*), f. *simil-is* like. Cf. Pr., Sp. *semblar*, It. *sembiare, sembrare*.]

1. a. *trans.* To be like, resemble.
c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8853 (Kölbing) He no sembled no more him o3an, Þan doþ a child o3ain a man. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Þo þet makeþ zuo greate hornes of hare here..þet hi sembleþ wel fole wyfmen. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 117/1 And to that other she said thou were lyke and semblest wel thy fader. 1630 I. CRAVEN *Gott's Tribunall* (1631) 33 Let no man dissemble himselfe out of policy, or semble another in hypocrisie. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* iii. 61 A broad forehead which in a manner sembles a quadrangle may be somewhat suitable. 1713 *Yarkall's Kitchen* 2 With..Eyes that darted Fire, And a Proboscis sembling Sarum's Spire.

b. *intr.* To be like, to have a resemblance *to*.
c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (prose) 3 Til þe wyis man sembils he þat fundes his hus opon þe stan. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 125 She sembled not vnto the doughter of a senatour of Rome that had so cruell hert that [etc.].

2. *intr.* To seem, appear.
c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 136 And forthi that Crist tholes this, He sembeles that he slepand is. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5547 (Kölbing) Ac 3e semble so wi3t & fre, Þat 3e beþ welcome to me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 263 Then he wyll semble to go with vs to counseyle, & directe vs in our purpose.

b. To be likely *to do* something.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9781 If angel had tan mans kind Þan war he wayker mad Þan ar, Þat he suld haue na pouer Þar; And sembel lightli for to fall.

3. To assume an appearance, make oneself seem, to pretend. (Very common in Udall's writings.)
1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 128 Diogenes sembleyng to have no greate witte ne knowlage. *Ibid.* 214 b, He sembleed & made as though he tooke not indignacion. *Ibid.* 319 Sembleyng that he graunted his saiyng. *c* 1550 L. WAGER *Marie Magd.* 1502, I pray you do your diligence, And semble rather to loue hym than to hate.

4. *trans.* To simulate, feign; *absol.* to practise simulation.
1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* G iv b, Vtterlye appoynted to semble and dissemble, to haue one thinge in the harte and a nother in the mouth. 1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. Convoc.* ii. C j b, Al be it they swere..that they knowe not theyr father, nor mother,..as in dede they can semble & dissemble all thynges. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 60/5 To semble, *simulare*. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 1074 (Brandl), *Stage direct.*, Semble a goyng out. 1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* 11 A iij b, Ile tell thee what, thou wilt euen semble and cog with thine own father, A couple of false knaues togither. 1590 *Humble Motion with Submission* 57 By these couloured offices a man may haue a popish schoolemaister, especially if he can semble a little.

¶ Used for DISSEMBLE *v.*
1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* v. ii. 1769 *Sir Owe.* [a Welshman]. Ian Niclas is honest man: hee does not flatter, and sembles, but tell his intentions.

5. To liken, compare.
a 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/1 Cemelyn' or lykyn' [*MSS.* cemlyn, cemblen], *assimulo*. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* E iv b, Whiche piller for his strength is likned or to be sembled vnto Tuscana.

6. To represent, picture.
1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict. Earth* xlii, The azure fields of heav'n wear sembled right In a large round. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 94 The terrible sound of the last trumpe which Hierome so continually sembled to himselfe, how it made him feare where he was most secure. *Ibid.* 263 Semble to your selues a Papist prostrate before his breaden God. 1706 [see SEMBLING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1755 JOHNSON, *Semble*, to represent, to make a likeness.

Hence † **Se·mbling** *vbl. sb.*
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/2 Semlynge, or lykenesse, *assimulacio*. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 235 To thair sembling tak gude sicht, How that thay pas away sa bair.

‖ **Semble** (se·mb'l), *v.*[3] *impers. Law.* [Fr., 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind. of *sembler* to seem.] = 'It seems'; used in judicial utterances to introduce the incidental statement of an opinion on a point of law which it is not necessary to decide authoritatively. In reports abbreviated *sem.*, *semb.*
1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1294 And *semble*, under these circumstances, an eviction might be pleaded to the whole demand. *a* 1859 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) II. 850 It is essential to the character of a real servitude that there should be a 'prædium serviens', and a 'prædium dominans'. *Semble* that a personal servitude..can hardly exist over a movable.

Semblon, variant of SEMBLANT *sb. Obs.*

† **Se·mblesse.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? f. SEMBLE *v.* + *-esse*, -ESS 2.] Seemliness.
14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 53 A famos knyght and of grete semblesse.

† **Se·mbling,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SEMBLE *v.*[2] + -ING 2.]

1. That feigns or simulates.
1557–8 *Jacob & Esau* v. iv. (1568) F iv b, Ah hypocrite, ah hedgecreeper, ah sembling wretche. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 916 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, They knew him for a sembling baird. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 16 Counterfeit and sembling professors. 1642 S. W. *Parl. Vind. Answ. Rupert* 3 In this not sembling but suffering age.

2. That depicts or represents.
1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* xxviii, Where sembling Art may carve the fair Effect.

Semblont, variant of SEMBLANT *sb. Obs.*

† **Se·mbly.** *Obs.* Forms: 3–6 semble, 4–5 semblé, semblee, 6 sembla, semblay, semely, semlay, semle, semly, 5–6 semblie, 6 samble, semblye, 6, 8 sembly. [Aphetic form of ASSEMBLY. (AF. had *semblé, semblée*.)]

1. A gathering of people; an assembly. *To do, to make sembly*, to meet, to be present at an assembly.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6408 Moyses þan cald sir iosue, And mad him maister o þat semble. *Ibid.* 14489 Wit þis þai mad a gret semble. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 380 In the stour sa hardyly He ruschyt, that all the semble schuk. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 31 Quo-so be somouned to don semble er to congregaciouu. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxii, The semble, þat men clepeth gaderynge, shulde be maked in þis manere. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) Prol. 3 For a semblee of Peple withouten a Cheventeyn, or a chief Lord, is as a Flock of Scheep withouten a Schepperde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 63 A fest and a gret semble of ladies and gentilwomen. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 415 A blyth semblay was at his lychtyn doun. *a* 1542 WYATT *Penit. Ps.* cii. 72 But to this samble running in the way, My strength failed to reach it at the full. 1562 in *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1892) II. 25 Yf thenheritors..do not show sufficient title.. this side the next quarter sembly after Cristenmas. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 60 A Council of.. Fathers; whose sembly was called the Senate.

2. Suite, retinue.
14.. *Sir Beues* 3963/23 (MS. E.) Now wendiþ sere B. wiþ hys semble To Hampmyngforde, þat goode cyte. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 105 To come to Mountanar that feir Citie, And eche a Prince bring his semble.

3. Hostile meeting, conflict; = ASSEMBLY 3.
a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 797 Sa sare was þe semble bire seggis be-twene. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 92 At a semle þat segge in certayne was slayne. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 117 He that departis fra the ost in the tyme of semble, that is feid and wrytyn. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 454 Ane scharpar sembla 3it wes thair neuer sene.

4. *attrib.*, as *sembly-house*.
c 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. I. 51 The iij. orrible synne is symonie, and forswering in the semble hous. 1447 *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O.H.S.) I. 260 In a tym of a convocation in our semble house.

‖ **Sembrador.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Sp. *sembrador*, f. *sembrar* to sow :—L. *sēminare*, f. *sēmin-*, *sēmen* seed.] (See quot. 1670.)
1670 EVELYN in *Phil. Trans.* V. 1055 The Spanish Sembrador or New Engin for Ploughing, and Equal Sowing all sorts of Grain, and Harrowing, at once. *a* 1700 — *Diary* 23 Nov. 1668, I waited on Lo. Sandwich, who presented me with the Sembrador he brought out of Spaine.

Sembreefe, -brief(e, obs. forms of SEMIBREVE.

Semde, obs. pa. t. of SEEM *v.*[2]

Seme : see SEAM, SEEM. **Semeare** : see SEMAR.

Semeblabilly, obs. form of SEMBLABLY *adv.*

‖ **Semée** (se·mé, ‖ sɛme), *a.* and *sb. Her.* Forms: 6 semie, 6–7 semi, 7 seme, semy, 8–9 semé, 8–9 semée. [a. F. *semée* fem. of *semé*, pa. pple. of *semer* to sow.] **A.** *adj.* = POWDERED *ppl. a.* 3. † Also in AF. phrases, *semé de crosses, semé de luces* = Semée of crosses, of lilies.
1562 LEGH *Armory* 63 b, He bereth Geules, semi de crosses flourte, Or. If there were but vii, and that the half of some of them, were out of the fielde..yet it sholde be called Semi. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* I. 194 The chief: which is Or.. semie of teares, which is signified heere, by this colour of Azure. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. § 52 The golden Lillies of France, which now are borne in triangle, were in those dayes born, and aduanced Semi. 1641 BAKER *Chron., Hen. V* 47 First therefore he begins to alter in his Arms the bearing of Semy-de-Luces, and quarters the three Flower Deluces, as the Kings of France then bare them. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1651, Heralds in blew velvet semée with fleurs de lys. 1718 A. NISBET *Ess. Armories* Index Terms, *Semee*, that is sown when many small Figures are irregularly disposed in a Field. 1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* Introd. 22 Morville, Azure, Semée of Fleurs de Lys, and fretty, Or. 1873 MRS. PALLISER tr. *Jacquemart's Ceramic Art* 51 Blue ground semé with red and lilac splashes.

B. *sb.* = POWDERING 3 b.
In recent Dicts.; in quot. perh. adj. with plural ending.
1562 LEGH *Armory* 50 Geules, a playne crosse, Frette Azure, As ye haue this Frette: So shall you haue some Diaper & some Semies, of dyuers thynges, that I can not speake of here.

Seméed (se·méd), *ppl. a. Her.* Forms: 6 semyed, 7, 9 seméed, semied, 9 semé'd. [Anglicized f. prec.] = SEMÉE *a.*
1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 26 There are also to bee founde and seene in armes Crosses double partiied, semyed, quartered of the fielde wherein they stande. 1652 EVELYN *St. France* Misc. Wks. (1825) 61 A casque of blew velvet seméed with fleurs de lys. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 149 *note*, This chapel has been restored, the vaulting semé'd with gold stars on a blue ground. 1879 WATERTON *Pietas Mariana* 223 She wears a purple garment, seméed with leaves of Shamrock.

Semeiography (sīməi,o·grăfi). In Dicts. also semi-. [f. Gr. *σημειο-ν* sign + -GRAPHY. (Gr. had *σημειογράφος* short-hand writer.) Cf. F. *séméiographie*.] (In this and the following words the forms with *semi-* are in accordance with English analogies, but are little used, because they do not clearly suggest the etymology.)]

† **1.** Symbolic notation: in quot. with reference to the symbols of the planets. *Obs.*
1706 THWAITES in *Hearne's Collect.* 8 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 201 A dispute about Semeiography causes you this trouble.

2. *Path.* A description of symptoms; the art of describing symptoms.
1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Semeiography*..*Semiography*. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Semeiography*.

Semeiologic (sīməi,olo·dʒik), *a.* Also semiologic. = next. In recent Dicts.

Semeiolo·gical, *a.* In Dicts. also semi-. [f. SEMEIOLOGY + -ICAL.] Pertaining to semeiology.
1839 SPILLAN tr. *Schill's Outl. Pathol. Semeiol.* 8 These semeiological works. 1862 *New Syd. Soc. Year-bk.* 382 Remarks on the Semeiological Value of the Pulse in Child-bed.

Semeiologist (sīməi,o·lŏdʒist). [f. next + -IST.] One skilled in sign-language.
1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ii. Comment., Yet must he be a semeiologist the most expert, making himself intelligible to every people and kindred by signs.

Semeiology (sīməi,o·lŏdʒi). Also 7 erron. semæology, 9 semiology. [f. Gr. *σημειο-ν* sign + -LOGY. Cf. F. *séméiologie* (1762), in Dicts. *sémiologie* (in sense 2).]

1. Sign language.
[1641 WILKINS *Mercury* ii. (1694) 14 The particular ways of discoursing were before intimated to be threefold. ..3. By Signs or Gestures. According to which variety, there are also different ways of Secrecy...3. Semæologia.] 1694 MOTTEUX *Urquhart's Rabelais* Pref. 98 These ways of signifying our Thoughts by Gestures, called by the Learned Bishop Wilkins Semæology, are almost of infinite Variety.

2. The branch of medical science which is concerned with symptoms.
1839 SPILLAN tr. *Schills' Outl. Pathol. Semeiology* 1 Semeiology constitutes the doctrine of the relations in which the phenomena in the human system stand with respect to the vital state which causes them. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Semeiology*,..*Semiology*. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 8 The knowledge of these signs constitutes semeiology or symptomatology. 1887 *Homœopathic World* 1 Nov. 456 At first glance, the semiology suggested cancer.

Semeiotic (sīməi,o·tik), *a.* Also 7 semioticke, 9 (in Dicts.) semiotic. [a. Gr. *σημειωτικός* significant; also, concerned with the interpretation of symptoms (chiefly fem. ellipt.: see SEMEIOTICS), f. *σημειοῦν* to interpret as a sign, f. *σημεῖον* sign.]

1. Relating to symptoms.
1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. i. 13 The chiefe..part of Physicke diagnosticke or semioticke, which teacheth vs to know the nature, causes, and substance of the disease by the signes and grounds of the same. 1876 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Semiotic*, symptomatic. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Semeiotic*.

† **2.** Symbolic, serving to convey meaning. *Obs.*
1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 269/1 That the Egyptians were not acquainted with the alphabet, till the time of Psammeticus, and that commerce alone gave birth to semeiotic signs.

Semeiotical (sīməi,o·tikăl), *a.* Also 7–9 semi-. [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = SEMEIOTIC *a.* 1.
1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 79 Looke into the semeioticall or presignificative iudgements of phisitions. 1623 HART *Arraignm. Ur.* II. iv. 59 He maketh moreover this semioticall part of Physicke, concerning the signes of diseases, to depend altogether upon conjecture. 1703 *Art's Improv.* p. xxv, Thirdly, Semeiotical. Treating of the Crisis of Diseases. 1825 BEDDOES *Let.* 4 Dec. in *Poems* p. ii, It still remains for some one to exhibit the sum of his experience in mental pathology and therapeutics, not in a cold, technical, dead description, but a living semiotical display.

Semeiotics (sīməi,o·tiks). Also 9 semiotics. [ad. Gr. *σημειωτική*, ellipt. use (sc. *τέχνη*) of the fem. of *σημειωτικός* SEMEIOTIC. See -IC 2.] The branch of medical science relating to the interpretation of symptoms.
1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 73 Semeiotics, method of curing, and tried..medicines. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* iii. 27, I shall now proceed to consider Medicinal Semeiotics, or the signs of Health and Sickness. 1867 COPPE

in *Med. Times & Gaz.* 7 Sept. 252/1 Semeiotics may be construed as the doctrinal language of pathology. 1873 WAGNER tr. *Teuffel's Hist. Rom. Lit.* II. 26 The second [treats] of semiotics and general pathology and therapy.

†Se·mel. *Obs. rare.* In 7 semell, semill. [a. Du. *semele* (now *zemelen* pl.) fine wheat flour, fine wheaten bread = OHG. *semala, simula*, a. L. *similа* : see SIMNEL.] A cake of fine wheat flour.

1643 in Warden *Burgh Laws Dundee*, etc. (1872) 350 As also in beakinge of bunnes, semells, oat lowes, kaikis [etc.]. 1697 *Ibid.* 352 Any semill, or wastill or pis of beakin meat.

Semeland(e, -ant, -awnt : see SEMBLANT *sb.*

Semeld : earlier form of SAMEL.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. x. I. 565 A fragment or peece of a broken semeld brick.

Semele, obs. form of SEEMLY *a.*, SEMBLE *v.*

Semelfactive (sĭmelfæ·ktiv), *a. Slav. Gram.* [f. L. *semel* once + *facĕre* to do : see FACTIVE.] (See quot. 1827.)

1827 J. HEARD *Gram. Russ. Lang.* v. § 1. 142 The semelfactive [verb] expresses the sudden and single occurrence of an action. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 100 The author considered the 'semelfactive verbs', as Heard calls them, to represent the Sanskrit verbs of the fifth, seventh, and eighth conjugations. 1894 *19th Cent.* May 816 Semelfactive perfect aspect of unity.

Semeli, semelich(e, obs. forms of SEEMLY *a.*

Semeline (se·mĭlain). *Min.* Also semelin, semelina. [Named in Fr. by Fleurian de Bellevue (*Jrnl. de Physique* LI. 450, 1800) '*sémélinite*, and by abbreviation *sémdline*', f. L. *sēmen līnī* seed of flax, referring to the appearance of the crystals.] A variety of titanite found in the Eifel.

c 1830 H. J. BROOKE *Min.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 518/1 Silico-titaniate of Lime. Sphene. Spinthere. Semeline. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 151 Sphene. [Varieties :] Brunon, semelin, spinellane [etc.]. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuvius* x. 300 Sphene—Semelina—occurs in ejected blocks with icespar.

Semelitude, Semely : see SIMILITUDE, SEEMLY.

Semen (sī·men). [a. L. *sēmen* seed (of plants and animals), f. root **sē-* (: **sa-*) of *serĕre* to Sow.] The impregnating fluid of male animals; the seed or sperm.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) 743 The synewe..by the whyche semen sholde come downewarde to effecte of generacyon. 1725 P. DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 266 Some took it to be the true and proper Semen, being only found in the Bull [whale], at the Root of the Penis. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 164 The mode of passage of the semen into the funnel is not known.

†Semenaunt. *Obs. rare*—1. [var. SEMBLANT. Cf. the converse variation in *remlant* for REMNANT.] Appearance, 'false semblant'.

c 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 86 Semenaunt is a wonder thing, It begylyt bothe knyȝt and kyng. *Ibid.*, Semenaunt is a sly peyntour.

Se·mence. [a. F. *semence* (= Pr. *semensa*, It. *semenza*) :—pop.L. **sēmentia*, f. L. *sēmenti-s* a sowing, f. *sēmen* seed.]

†1. Seed; in quots. = SEMEN. *Obs.*

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xiii, Which [Pallas] was conceyved and born of the semence of the fader w'oute semence carnal. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxi. 257 Which.. do..benumb..with Cold the prolifick Semence.

¶2. Used for: A sowing. *rare*—1.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 401 The ground is rarely weeded unless wanted for a second and different semence.

Semend, semond, ? obs. forms of SALMON.

c 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 189 Item ij jollys sallt semend xviij d...Item a jowlle freshe semond.

†Semendacy. *Obs.* [Corruption of mod.L. *sēmen daucī* (*sēmen* seed, *daucī* genit. of *daucus* some umbelliferous plant, perh. carrot or parsnip).] The seeds of the sweet chervil (*Myrrhis odorata*), formerly used in medicine.

1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 97 Semendacy per 100 Weight.

Semeniferous, -ivorous : see SEMIN-.

Sement, obs. form of CEMENT.

†*c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 174 Our acquayntance is Too oulde, and as I hope frendshypp too fyrme To be nowe semented.

†Sementation. *Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *sēmentātion-em*, f. L. *sēmentāre* to sow seed, f. *sēmen* seed.] 'A bringing forth seed' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Sementation, erron. form of CEMENTATION.

1592 LYLY *Gallathea* II. iii. 13 Circination, Sementation.

†Se·mentine, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *sēment-is* sowing + -INE 1.] 'Belonging to sowing, continuing to seed time' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Seme·se, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *sēmēs-ius*, f. *sēmi-* + *esus*, pa. pple. of *edĕre* to eat.] Half-eaten.

1889 FARRAR *Julian Home* vii. 86 They're sons of gyps and that sort of thing, who feed on the semese fragments of the high table.

Semester (sĭme·stəɹ). [a. G. *semester*, ad. L. (*cursus*) *sēmēstris* (period) of six months, f. *sē-, sex* six + *mēns-is* month.] A period or term of six months, esp. in German universities and some U. S. A. colleges, the college half-year.

1827 *Lancet* 17 Nov. 252/2 The student..attends it daily during two semesters. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1864) 146 A young Englishman..fresh from Germany, after sundry semesters at Bonn and Tübingen. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. cii. 450 Graduates who..spend a semester or two at a German university. 1895-6 *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 33 The year is divided upon the semester plan. Each semester has eighteen weeks.

Semester, obs. form of SEMPSTER.

Semestrial, semestral (sĭme·strĭăl, sĭme·străl), *a.* [f. L. *sēmēstr-is* (see SEMESTER) + -IAL, -AL.] Half-yearly; taking place every six months; lasting for six months. Of persons : holding office for six months; exercising office every six months.

1701 J. SAGE *Vind. Princ. Cypr. Age* iii. 118 Neither was the change..made only from weekly, or monthly, or semestrial, or annual, to constant Moderators. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 332 As they may in their Semestral Visitations inform themselves touching such Churches as are become void. 1844 W. KAY in *Fleury's Eccl. Hist.* III. 406 *note*, The old canonical semestral council. 1847 THACKERAY *Barnwell* in *Punch* XII. 136/2 Speeding to the Bank for her semestrial pittance. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Dec. 1/2 The ideal state of things, Lord Salisbury's argument implies, would be not Triennial but Semestral Parliaments.

Hence **Seme·strially** *adv.*, every six months.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 9 May 573/2 [He] continues..semestrially ..to furnish his quota of sensational *aventures parisiennes*.

†Se·met. *Bot. Obs.* [f. L. *sēm-en* seed + -ET. Corrupted by later writers into SUMMIT.]

Term used by Grew for an ANTHER.

1672 GREW *Anat. Veget.* v. (1672) 140 The Attire I find to be of two kinds, Seminie and Florie : That which I call Seminie, is made up of two general parts, Chives and Semets, one upon each Chive. These Semets have the appearance (especially in many flowers) of so many little Seeds; but are quite another kind of Body : For upon enquiry we find, that these Semets, though they seem to be solid, and for some time after their first formation, are entire. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Attire*, The Semini-form Attire consists of two parts, viz. Chives, or the Stamina as some call them, and Semets or Apices.

Semeterrie, obs. form of SCIMITAR.

Semetory, obs. form of CEMETERY.

c 1502 *Joseph Arim.* 379 In the holy grounde called the semetory.

Semi (se·mi). *Sc.* Also 7-8 **semie.** [app. short for *semi bejanus* 'half a bejan'; A. Dalzel *Hist. Univ. Edin.* (1862) II. 10 cites 'Classis Semi Bejanorum' from a document of *c* 1590.] In Scottish universities (now at Aberdeen, and recently revived at St. Andrews), a student in his second year; also called **semi-bachelor** and **semi-bejan.** So **semi-class,** the class of second-year students; **semi-regent,** the regent in charge of the semi-class; **semi-year,** a student's second year.

1662 RAY *Itin.* in *Sel. Rem.* (1760) 203 [At Glasgow] about 40 Students of the first Year, which they call Obedients [*i.e.* bejants]; near so many of the Second, which they call Semies. 1688 in Dalzel *Hist. Univ. Edin.* (1862) II. 197 If they find him to have any competent skill in the Greek language, they are to signify the same unto the Semi Regent. 1695 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 374 That none be admitted or received into the semi-class, but upon strict tryall of their proficiencie in the Greek tongue. *c* 1700 *Dom. Details D. Hume* (1843) 5 In my semie year I was boarded in one Mr. Nisbet's. *Ibid.* 6 At this time, the 11th of March was solemnly keeped by the semies, in going to the foot-ball on the Borrow Moor. 1704 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 63 If he be readie for colledge to enter a semie and not com in this year. 1843 *Dom. Details D. Hume* Notes p. xv, The students of the second year continuing under the same regent, were called the *semi* class, or the *semi-bachelors*. [*Note*, Sometimes called the *semi-bajan* class.] 1857 [see TERTIAN *sb.* 3]. 1884 SIR A. GRANT *Story Univ. Edin.* I. 152 [*c* 1590] At the final examination..The Magistrands came before the Regents of the Bachelor, Semi-Bajan, and Bajan classes. 1889, 1891 [see MAGISTRAND].

Semi- (se·mi), *prefix.* Also 4-7 **semy-**, 5-6 **seme-**, 6-7 **semie-**. [repr. L. *sēmi-* (whence F., It., Sp., Pg. *semi-*) = Skr. *sāmi-*, Gr. ἡμι-, OHG. *sâmi-*, OS. *sâm-*, cogn. w. OE. *sam-* (see SAM-) :—Indogerm. **sēmi-*.] = HALF-; cf. DEMI-, HEMI-.

L. *sēmi-* (occas. shortened to *sēm-* before a vowel, e. g. *sēmanimis*) is, esp. in post-classical Latin, compounded freely with adjs. and pples., less commonly with nouns; in med. and still more in mod.L. the prefix is extensively employed in technical terminology. The compounds of earliest date in English are : the adjs. SEMICIRCULAR (1432-50), SEMI-MATURE (*c* 1440), SEMIVIF (Piers Plowman) direct from L., and SEMI-BOUSY (*c* 1400); the sbs. SEMICIOLE (*c* 1440), SEMI-COPE (Chaucer), SEMIGOD (1417), SEMI-SOUN (Chaucer). In the 16th-18th c., the number of permanent compounds was increased mainly by the accession of terms more or less technical (many of them adapted or imitated from Latin), such as SEMIBREVE, SEMICIRCLE, SEMIDIAMETER, SEMILUNAR, SEMI-PELAGIAN, SEMIVOWEL. At the same time there was gradual enlargement of the scope of the prefix in the formation of general nonce-compounds, which became very frequent in the 19th c., and of which it is possible to illustrate but a small proportion in the present article (branch I).

I. In general use.

1. Compounded with adjs. and pples., with the meaning 'half, partly, partially, to some extent'.

From the early part of the 19th c. it has been not uncommon to substitute '*semi-... semi-...*' for '*half-... half-...*' (HALF *adv.* 2); hence arise certain quasi-compounds that only occur in correlative pairs, as 'semi-chemical semi-mechanical'.

1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVII. 464 Nature seems..to have afforded this level space for a *semi-aerial dwelling. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. xi. § 3 The *Semi-agriculturalised Indians. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* xxi. 354 It was a magnificent *semi-alpine, semi-tropical scene. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iv. (1858) 293 It is a country as yet without a soul : nothing developed in it but what is rude, external, *semi-animal. *Ibid.* i. 205 This Odin, in his rude *semi-articulate way, had a word to speak. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. 63 A simpering *semi-bald apothecary. 1822 HOOD *To Celia* iv, Once it happ'd that, *semi-blind, He [Love] met thee on a summer day. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 74 Blows on the eye..with some blunt or *semi-blunt instrument. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, A *semi-cannibalic leer. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. vi. v, How thou glitterest with a fallen, rebellious, yet still *semi-celestial light. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. viii. 227 A *semi-chemical, semi-mechanical origin. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 248 Brought in contact with *semi-civilised man. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* ii, The second resolution was moved by a grievous gentleman of *semi-clerical appearance. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1453/1 His heart brought to Ludlow, and buried..in the *semi-collegiat parish church there. 1721 BAILEY, **Semi-combust*, (*semi-combustus*, L.) half-burned. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiogr.* (1859) 172 He looked semi-tragic, *semi-comic, like a mask with two sides. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xliii, A look of *semi-comical woe. 1721 BAILEY, **Semi-conspicuous*, (*semiconspicuus*, L.) half or partly visible. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 215 The *semi-coöperative community at Kainbar. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 130 A short *semi-dark passage between the studio and dark room. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 531 A *semi-demented old epileptic patient. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xi. (1870) 370 This half latent *semi-developed state. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 382 The coarse and *semi-diagrammatic figures which..occupy a..place in the text-books of histology. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. 25 Some *semi-domestic breeds. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 6/2 The *semi-domesticated buffalo. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 276 To maintain in the hive throughout the winter a uniform temperature, which will keep the bees in a continuous *semi-dormant state. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 444 The interests of the stage and the *semi-dramatic music-hall. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* v. 158 The narthex or *semiexternal vestibule. 185- A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 55 The *semi-fabulous monster of our own times, the celebrated Sea-Serpent. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 9/1 The 9.13 from London Bridge was a *semi-fast train to Brighton. 1897 *Ibid.* 8 July 3/2 The *semi-fitting coat is more usual than the Eton form. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedding Journey* ix, Some *semi-forbidding commissary of police. 1830 *Edin. Rev.* LI. 459 A flighty *semi-Frenchified coquette. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* i. ii, Like my ancestor Semiramis, A sort of *semi-glorious human monster. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 29 A more miserable race of starved, or *semi-human, beings I never beheld. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 54 Study..seems to make these weak-brained races *semi-idiotic. 1860 R. D. in *Calton's Vac. Tour.* (1861) 108 The *semi-independent existence of Montenegro. 1841 H. MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* x. (1887) 206 Notwithstanding the advantages of its *semi-insular situation, it was suffered to lie as an unclaimed common. 1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* iv. (1876) 95 The *semi-juridical, semi-popular opinions which were fashionable in France. 1871 MORLEY *De Maistre* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 128 There is a certain *semi-latent quality of hardness lying at the bottom of De Maistre's style. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 71 A *semi-legendary belief that he was still alive. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* II. 121 *Semi-liberall Arts. 1850 *Blackw. Mag.* May 515 The semi-Liberal semi-Tory Governments from 1815 to 1830. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Semimarine* (*semimarinus*), belonging partly to the Sea, and partly to the Land. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 11 Sept. 9/4 I should be much inclined to envy him his *semi-marine residence. 1839 *Semi-mechanical [see *semi-chemical*]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VI. vi. iii, *Semi-military costume. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* viii. 275 Varieties often suddenly produced and *semi-monstrous in character. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 255 The *semi-oriental aspect of its costumes. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Apr. 764 The head of the hoactzin is ornamented with a *semi-pendent crest. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 398/2 Semi-permanent telegraph lines. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* Pref. (1871) p. xvi, A *semi-political semi-sacerdotal fraternity. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 19 An obtrusion upon their Nation of a *Semipopish Book of Common-Prayer. 1860 ALDER *Prov. Poet.* viii, The transition from the *semi-popular poetry in monkish Latin to a decidedly popular poetry in the pure Romansh. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* ii, The..*semi-private throughfare. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* IV. 23 Delicts, according to him [Bentham], are..*Semipublic, or against some class or description of persons. 1875 JEVONS *Money* xviii. 217 It may allow private individuals, or semi-public companies..to undertake the work. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* i. (1904) 6/1 On subjects *semi-religious and semi-scholastic. 1841 MERIVALE *Lect. Colonis. & Col.* I. ii. 50 A singular race, of *semi-republican habits. 1849 *Westm. Rev.* L. 423 The *semi-Romanized Britons. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 25 The abode of these *semi-royal sober personages. 1864 *Realm* 23 Mar. 6 The most *semi-rural of suburbs. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 31 Dec. 812/1 Scientific or *semi-scientific observations. 1868 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iv. xii, A *semi-seafaring man. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. (ed. 2) 174 Tenant farmers of a *semi-servile condition. 1873 WHITNEY *Or. & Ling. Studies* 203 A long and tedious climb upward from a miserable *semi-simious state. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 6/7 A hilly, cross-country, *semi-single line railway. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xi. § 18 Where..the motive..is a *semi-social one, the love of reputation. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Marr. Clergie* I. § 3 Their Vow is but *semi-solemne. 1874 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Uncle John* xiv. II. 93 That *semi-sporting appearance which is attainable by means of scanty trousers [etc.]. 1880 FROUDE *Bunyan* I. 24 A *semi-supernatural being. 1850 *Semi-Tory [see *semi-Liberal* above]. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 July 4/6 The swamping of the agricultural labourers by the *semi-urban population. 1780 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 June, A *semivegetable diet. 1749 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 140 The automatic and *semivoluntary Exertions of

the Organs of Speech. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 74/1 A noble *semi-wild race.

b. Compounded with a sb. to form an adj. phr. 1899 *Daily News* 26 Aug. 7/5 Some fancy woollen fabric, only too ready to betray its *semi-cotton derivation. 1897 *Ibid.* 24 Apr. 2/5 A posting landau converted into a *semi-dress landau. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Oct. 4/5 Her dress.. was of *semi-Empire shape. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 3/2 Five *semi-gala carriages with Royal scarlet liveries. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. xi, What Un-Patriot or *Semi-Patriot Ministry. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXVII, A *semi-rattlesnake sort of eye. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 June 4/2 Since his father's death the Prince of Wales and the Princess have done the *semi-state honours. 1901 *Scotsman* 2 Mar. 9/7 One of the King's semi-State landaus.

2. Compounded with sbs.: **a.** with nouns of action or condition, as *semi-allegiance* = partial, imperfect, or incomplete allegiance; **b.** with descriptive sbs., as *semi-acquaintance* = one with whom one is partially acquainted, † *semi-body* = an imperfect body.

1872 HOWELLS *Wedding Journey* vii, Isabel had found among the passengers her *semi-acquaintances of the hotel parlour. 1689 D. GRANVILLE *Lett.* (Surtees No. 37) 117 An universall semi-conformity would end in as universall *semi-allegiance. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 14 There is under..these mutilate and *semi-bodies [*sc.* of beggars], a soule of the same alloy with our owne. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 189 One [testicle] sufficeth unto generation, as hath beene observed in *semicastration. *a* 1632 DONNE *Serm.* lvii. (1640) 581 All *Semi-confitents, that confesse them [*sc.* their sins] to halfs, without purpose of amendment. 1865 BAGEHOT *Eng. Const.* i. 19 A *semi-connection has grown up between the legislature and the executive. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 72 Such are the blots and spots of our *semi-conversions. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* lii, In the transports of his zeal he wrung this *semi-convert's hand. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 191 [She] was led out of the room in a sort of *semi-convulsion. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Charac.* iv, That description of *semi-curls usually known as 'haggerawators'. 1849 LEVER *Roland Cashel* li, The vast apartment is in *semi-darkness. 1817 PEACOCK *Nightmare Abbey* i, Nightmare Abbey .. in a highly picturesque state of *semi-dilapidation. *a* 1835 MCCULLOCH *Attributes* (1837) III. 134 A state of *semidomestication. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 128 Mrs. Abberly moved in that class of *semi-fashion, which..never exceeds a certain circle. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Oct. 13/2 Something between a sac and a *semi-fit. 1872 *Fair France* v. 160 That perpetual state of *semi-fuddle, peculiar to our beer-drinking agricultural labourer. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Sylva, Poeticall Revenge* 10 A *semi-gentleman of th' Innes of Court. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ix. (1853) 114 The oratory of the statesman in the senate has been kindled by *semi-intoxication. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 189 A flash of *semi-jealousy. 1688 D. GRANVILLE *Lett.* (Surtees No. 37) 229, I censure my censurers more for their *semi-loyalty. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. i, A *semi-madman..So fancy-ridden. 1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 157 The loins of the *semi-monster. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 102 The branches met overhead, veiling the path in *semi-obscurity. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 453 In short, till we recollect ourselves, we are *semi-pagans. 1894 *Daily News* 4 Oct. 2/1 The condition of *semi-panic which lasted for some hours. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* Pref., A motley cluster of philologists, *semi-philologists, and entire philologasters. 1713 POPE *Let. to Caryll* 31 Aug., A letter of yours has infinitely more charms to me, than the newest mail to the most ardent *semi-politician. 1626 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XXI. i. 356 Those sparkes of piety which he descryed in this *semi-proselite. 1866 *Macm. Mag.* XIII. 274 The *semi-rebellion of the Gallicans against the despotism of the Pope. 1653 WITHER (*title*) The dark Lantern, containing a dim discoverie, in riddles..parables and *semi-riddles. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iii. 103 It soon fell into decay, and remained a *semi-ruin. 1878 MRS. H. WOOD *Pomeroy Abbey* II. xv, That for which Leolin had been working for years in *semi-secrecy. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* IV. iii, A doleful and doubtful *semi-smile of welcome. 1825 JOS. BLACK *Capillary Circ.*, etc. 163 *Semi-stagnation may deteriorate into more complete deprivation of the materia vitæ. 1855 THACKERAY *Char. Sk.* Wks. 1878 III. 535 Tolerably cheerful in the midst of his *semi-starvation. 1865 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* II. 10 In the *semi-thoroughfare of Pall Mall East. 1878 MRS. H. WOOD *Pomeroy Abbey* III. ii, Something in the very words, in what she undoubtedly knew to be their *semi-truth. 1678 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) 135 Tho seriousness be generally reckon'd only as a *Semi-Virtue, and by some as no Virtue at all. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 424 Wasted affection, and rewardless semi-virtue.

3. Compounded with vbs., as *semi-castrate* = to castrate partially, *semi-close* = to shut in partly.

1828–32 WEBSTER, **Semi-castrate*, to deprive of one testicle. 1858 BARROW in *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 13 The bays which these headlands *semi-close. 1908 MONKSHOOD & GAMBLE *Kipling* (ed. 3) 240 [In 'Stalky & Co.'] he chose to *semi-conceal his purposes behind a lattice-work of farce. 1845 JOWETT in *Life & Lett.* (1897) I. 120 If you will resign yourself to be *semi-humbugged by a semi-humbug.

4. Compounded with advs., as *semi-adjectively* = in a function partly adjectival.

1820 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 368 And is not 'Scripture' as often used *semi-adjectively? 1851 MAINE *Ancient Law* v. 146 A duty *semi-consciously followed.

II. In special and technical use.

5. a. With designations of quantity, extent of space or time, and the like, as *semi-amplitude*, *-arc*, *-century* (= 50), †*-cotyle*, †*-cubit*, †*-dole* (see DOLIUM), *-drachm*, *-duration*, *-lunation*, *-molecule*, *-phase*, *-revolution*, *-span*, *-tour*, *-vibration*; †**semihore** [L. *sēmihōra*], half an hour.

1832 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 94 By exposing the north pole of a needle a foot long, the *semi-amplitude of the last oscillation was 6° more than the first. 1794 ATTWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 151 The balance commencing its vibration at the extremity of the arc B, after having passed the *semiarc BO with an accelerated motion. 1858 HUXLEY in *Proc. Ray. Soc.* (1859) IX. 428 Each distal portion of the hæmal semi-arc. 1650 J. GOLDOLPHIN (*title*) The Holy Limbeck, or a *Semi-Century of Spiritual Extraction. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Semicotyle*, half a Cotyla. 1623 COCKERAM I, **Semicubit*, halfe a cubit. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Semidole* (*semidolium*), a vessell containing half a Tun, a Pipe. 1827 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* V. XXVI. (ed. 2) 549 A *semi-drachm. 1719 POUND in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 1032 The *Semi-duration of the Eclipse. 1867 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* I. i. 8 Longer than the semi-duration of the Sun's rotation. 1623 COCKERAM I, **Semi-hore*, halfe an houre. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 564 Each *semi-lunation is distinguished into fifteen equal portions, or lunar days. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) iii. § 4. 238 Wurtz's double radicles would therefore be merely compounds in which the place of the *semi-molecule of hydrogen, or of the ethyl was supplied by a different hydrocarbon. 1863 *Intell. Observer* IV. 368 In this case the first *semi-phase of the vibration affected her room, and the second semi-phase operated more especially below. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 131 A *Semi-revolution of the Earth about the Sun. 1884 HIGGS *Magn. Dyn. Electr. Mach.* 242 The current changes its direction with every semi-revolution of the spindle. 1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 62 A circular arc whose..versed sine..=the *semi-span. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 187 A *semi-tour of the horizon is taken at a single exposure. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 517 The pendulum, moving down the arch of *semi-vibration.

b. With adjs., advs., and sbs. expressing periodical recurrence or duration, *semi-* denotes that the period is halved (after SEMI-ANNUAL); **semi-centenarian**, a person of 50 years of age; **semi-centenary**, the fiftieth anniversary; so **semi-centennial** *a.*; **semi-daily** *a.* and *adv.*, (occurring) twice daily; **semi-horal** *a.*, half-hourly; **semi-jubilee**, a twenty-fifth anniversary; **semi-menstrual, -mensual** *adjs.*, recurring twice a month; of tides (see quot. 1863); **semi-millenary** *a.*, lasting 500 years; **semi-monthly** *a.* and *adv.*, (occurring, issued, etc.) twice a month; also *sb.* a fortnightly periodical; so **semi-weekly**.

1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 36 Off the two *semi-centenarians started with a duet. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xxvii. 235 The *semi-centenary of the mission. 1859 (*title*) Memorials of the *semi-centennial celebration of the founding of the Theological Seminary at Andover. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 335 This process of impregnating and depositing in the hatching-house was repeated *semi-daily. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Oct. 7/1 Semi-daily attacks of epilepsy. 1847–54 WEBSTER, **Semi-horal.* 1893 *Miss. Herald* (Boston) Mar. 114 *Semi-Jubilee of the Mardin Church. 1901 *Nature* 27 June 210 His semi-jubilee as a doctor of physics. 1842 AIRY in *Encycl. Metrop.* V. 382* The observed *semimenstrual irregularities. 1863 HARBORD *Gloss. Navig.*, *Semimenstrual Inequality*, an inequality (of the tide) which goes through its changes every half month. 1857 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 3) II. 195 The laws of a great number of the tidal phenomena—namely, of the *Semi-mensual Inequality of the Heights. 1727 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* II. 24 A long millenary or *semi-millenary Life. 1895 *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 250 The Hesperian is the pioneer paper of the University, published *semi-monthly. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 14/2, 138 daily, 1141 weekly, and 125 *semi- or tri-weekly newspapers. 1851–6 (*title*) Semi-weekly courier and New York enquirer.

c. *Music.* (*a*) Designating a note, etc. of half the length, as † *semi-crotchet*, †*-minim*, †*-tact*; also **SEMIBREVE, SEMIQUAVER, SEMITONE**; † (*b*) = **IMPERFECT, DIMINISHED** 4 *a*, as *semi-diapason*, *-diapente*, *-ditone*, etc. (Cf. DEMI- 9, HALF- II. g.)

[1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 158/2 *Semi*, it is not to be taken for the half of such a Note or Interval in Musick, but only imports a dificiency, as wanting something of perfection.]

1598 FLORIO, *Semicrome*, a *semie crochet in musike. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 21 *Semidiapason Is an imperfect eight. 1694 W. HOLDER *Princ. Harmony* 172 The greatest [seventh], called Semidiapason, whose Ration is 48 to 25?.. wanting Hemitone Minor of Diapason. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 20 *Semidiapente Is an Interuall by an imperfect fift. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 73 The false fifth, or Semidiapente, made of a Fourth and Hemitone major, *i. e.* 64 to 45. 1730 *Treat. Harmony* 7 The Leaps of the False Relations, viz. of a Tritonus, and of a Semidiapente are absolutely forbidden. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Semi diatessaron*, in Music, a defective Fourth, call'd, properly, a false Fourth. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 18 A *Semiditone..is an Interuall of one Voyce from another by an imperfect third. 1598 FLORIO, *Semiminima*, a *semi-minime in musicke. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* IV. 248 The.. Semiminim now called Crotchet. 1683 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Semiminim*, Sometimes the head of the greater Semiminim was 'void'—that is to say, open or white. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 46 Tact is three-fold, the greater, the lesser, and the proportionate..The lesser Tact, is the halfe of the greater, which they call a *Semitact.

d. *Astron.* †semi-quadrate (? error. -quadrant), †-quartile, -quintile, -sextile, †-sixth, denoting aspects of planets when they are 45°, 36°, 30°, respectively, distant from one another; **semi-square** = *semi-quadrate*.

1721 BAILEY, **Semi-quadrant*, *Semi-quartile* (in Astronomy), an Object invented by Kepler, when two Planets are distant 45 Degrees from each other. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* etc. C. 511 You find in the directions of this Nativity, the *Semisextill, *Semiquintil, *Semiquadrate, Quintill, Sesquiquintill, Byquintill and Sesquiquadrate, mentioned. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 11 [Aspects.] .. *Semiquartil. 1835 'ZADKIEL' *Introd. Astrol.* 24 Evil aspects are the *semi-square, square, sesquiquadrate, and opposition. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Semi-Sextile*, The *Semi-sixth was added to the ancient Aspects by Kepler.

6. a. Designating a (geometrical) form derived from another by bisection (usually) in a vertical or longitudinal direction, as *semi-canal*, *-cone*, *-conic*(*al* adj., *-conoidal* adj., *-cup*, *-disk*, *-dodecagon*, *-egg*, *-fistular* adj., *-hexagon*, *-hexagonal* adj., *-lens*, *-octagonal* adj., † *-oid* [L. *sēmiorbis*], *-ovoidal* adj., *-pyramidical* adj., *-rotund* adj. (Cf. c. d.)

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 390/2 A *semi-canal formed by a fold of the right side of the mantle. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 496 The duct of the ovotestis..incompletely divided into two semicanals. 1899 *Daily News* 14 July 6/4 A silver-gilt chalice..of *semi-cone form. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 84 Sharp *semiconic leaves. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 299 The inner surface [of the teeth], which is round, or rather *semiconical. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 64 The fracture is at first *semi-conoidal or nearly so. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 28 Edible birds nests..I have taken them from the face of a perpendicular rock, to which they strongly adhered, in rows like *semi-cups, the one touching the other. 1784 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 265 The *semi-disk, which is full, is evidently part of an oblate spheroid. 1849 *Guardian* 733/2 This roof is boarded.., and its section forms a *semidodecagon. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 17 Cavities resembling the form of a *semi-egg when cut longitudinally. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 528 A handsome court-house 100 feet by 50, with a *semi-hexagon at each end. 1843 BLOXAM *Gothic Archit.* (ed. 5) 87 A *semihexagonal one [string-course], as at Hampton-in-Arden. 1832 *Nat. Philos., Optic. Instr.* xvii. 57 (U.K.S.) The divided object-glass micrometer is composed of two *semilenses. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 23 A *Semi-octogonal rusticated Turret. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 371 The belly of the partition which is like a *semiorbe stands out into it. 1851 MADDEN *Shrines & Sep.* I. 229 The interior assumes a *semi-ovoidal shape, or that of which the section will be a parabola. 1843 BLOXAM *Gothic Archit.* (ed. 5) 133 A *semi-pyramidical projection. 1652 *News fr. Low Countr.* 2 As an Ecliptick Line doth go, To the Antartick Pole, and frames Two *semi-Rotunds. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 813 Shell elliptical..with aperture semirotund.

b. *Math.* Designating a bisected line, arc, area, segment, etc., or the half of a definite quantity, as *semi-angle*, *-base*, *-circumference*, *-circumvolution*, *-cycloid*, *-perimeter*, †*-perimetry*, *-periphery*, *-quadrangle*, *-segment*; (in conic sections) *semi-ordinate*, *-parameter*, *-transverse*; also **semi-difference**, half the difference between two quantities; **semi-infinite** *a.*, limited in one direction and extending to infinity in the other; **semi-quadratally** *adv.*, from 0° to 45°; **semi-regular** (see quot.); **semi-sum**, half the sum of two or more quantities; **semi-tangent**, the tangent of half an arc.

1765 LUDLAM in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 213 Let the *semi-angle of the lever be 84° : 103'. 1666 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 461 The *semibase of a cylinder. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Cycloid*, The semi-circum[ference] DGC = semi-base AC. 1661 S. PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Prop.* 80 First get the Semidiameter, which in this example is 3, 5 inches, and also the *Semicircumference, which here is 11. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 83 Such a resistance will stop the wheel, as it is equal to the effort of all the buckets in one semi-circumference filled with water. 1762 *Brit. Mag.* II. 642 Two *semi-circumvolutions, or segments, of this curve. 1695 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 111 The *Semicycloid Figure. 1796 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Cycloid*, Two equal semicycloids OP, OQ. 1765 LUDLAM in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 210, ACK is the semi-sum, and DAI the *semi-difference of the angles CAI, CIA. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 23 The semi-sum and semidifference of the numbers to be multiplied. 1903 *Proc. R. Soc.* LXXII. 128 A '*semi-infinite' isotropic elastic solid, *i. e.*, a solid bounded only by a plane. 1704 HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Ordinate*..a Line in any Conick Section drawn at Right Angles to, and bi-sected by the Axis, and reaching from one side of the Section to the other: the half of which is properly the *Semi-ordinate. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Parabola*, The Squares of the Semi-ordinates are to each other as the Abscisses. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. iii, He found..that the parameter or *latus rectum*, of the conic section of the said path..and that the *semi-parameter [etc.]. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 43 The solid contained by the radius of curvature, at any point in an ellipsis, and the square of the semiparameter of the greater axis, is equal to the cube of the normal at the same point. 1829 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 328 Let *p* denote the *semiperimeter. 1571 DIGGES *Panton.* IV. iii. V j b, From the *Semiperimetry of the triangle deducte every side. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. viii. 61 Multiply the *semiperipherie by the perpendicular. 1770 LANDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 443 The semi-periphery of the circle. 1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* II. 32 That which has the vertical angle double of each at the base, as a *semiquadrangle. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 69 Logarithmic sines, tangents, and secants, *semi-quadrantally arranged, to every minute, to five places. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v. *Polyhedron*, The *semi-regular polyhedrons of Archimedes, the corners of which are equal and similar to one another, but formed by regular polygons of different kinds. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 226 Distance of the Center of Gravity of the *Semi-segment *PADQ* from *QD*. 1765, 1873 *Semi-sum [see *semi-difference* above]. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 203 In the Hyperboloid *BM*, described by revolving about *AP*, let the Semi-conjugate=*b*, *Semi-transverse *A*=*a*. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 177 The semi-transverse axes of the orbits. 1823 J. MITCHELL *Dict. Math.* s.v. *Projection*, Any arc EMF of a great circle is projected into the sum of its *semi-tangents.

c. *Nat. Hist.* With adjs. and sbs. descriptive of shape in the contour or marking of natural objects; **semi-annular**, of the form of a half-ring; **semi-collar**, **-coronet**, **-fascia** (hence *-fasciated*), **-ring**, a band, etc. roughly semicircular or extending halfway round a part or an organ; **semi-coronate**(d, having a semicircle of spikes, bristles, etc.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. II. 27 Another Boar-Tusk, somewhat slenderer, and of *semi-annular Figure. 1844 WILKINSON tr.

Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd. II. iii. 91 The semiannular cartilages. 1869 *Ibis* (N. S.) V. 409 The throat is a pure white, which is met below by a rufous *semicollar. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 354 *Semicoronate Prolegs. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 446/1 Shell turreted, fusiform, costated, and *semi-coronated. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 253 Several larvæ of butterflies, distinguished at their head by a *semicoronet of strong spines. 1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 45 A large, hyaline, oblique *semi-fascia about the middle on the anal margin. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 472 *Semifasciated Sparus. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Semifistular Flowers*, are such, whose uppermost part resembles a Pipe, cut off obliquely; as in Aristolochia or Birth-wort. 1841 MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* vii. (1887) 134 This huge *semi-ring of fossiliferous clays. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* iv. 941 The first and second bronchial semirings.

d. *Nat. Hist.* Denoting that a part has a certain form or character (*a*) for half the extent, or along half the length, etc. of an organ, 'half-way,' as *semi-adherent*, *-adnate*, *-amplexicaul*, *-appressed*, *-bifid*, *-costiferous*, *-equitant*, *-erect*, *-quinquifid*, *-sexfid*; semi-anatropal, -ous (see quot. 1839); (*b*) on one side only, or so as to exhibit the half of a particular figure, as *semi-cordate(d*, *-crescentic*, *-hastate*, *-lanceolate*, *-lenticular*, *-orbicular*, *-orbiculate*, *-pectinate(d*, *-penniform*, *-pinnate*, *-reniform*, *-sagittate(d*, *-terete*.

Sometimes represented by ½, as ½-hastate, ½-sagittate.

1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., **Semiadherent*, as the calyx or ovary of Purslane. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 431 Ovary *semi-adnate. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Leaf*, **Semamplexicaule Leaf*, one resembling the *amplexicaule*, but with its lobes at the base too small to entirely surround the stalk. 1877 HULME *Wild Flowers* Ser. I. p. xiv, The upper [leaves]..sinuate, semi-amplexicaul. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 368 Ovules..amphitropal or *semi-anatropal. 1839 — *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. (ed. 3) 215 There is the amphitropous ovule, whose foraminal and chalazal ends are transverse with respect to the hilum, which is connected with the latter by a short raphe; and the *semianatropous, which is only different from the last, in the ovule being parallel with the funiculus instead of being at right angles with it. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 43 Scales..*semi-appressed. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss., **Semibifid*, half way divided into two. *Ibid.*, **Semicordate*, half cordate. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXXV. III. 641 The wings..in several of the Heteropterous *Hemiptera*..may..be termed semicordate or semiovate. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXIII. 640/2 The posterior pair [of the lamina in *Pseudoboa Cærulea*] large, semicordate. 1877 COUES *Monogr. N. Amer. Rodentia* 549 Seventh cervical *semicostiferous, without vertebrarterial canal. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 390/1 A *semi-crescentic membrane. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semiequitant*, half-equitant. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 221 *Chama..unicornaria*: subimbricated, rough, with unequal, *semierect, vaulted squamæ. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 556 The semi-erect Apes. 1853 ROYLE *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 402 Stipules..*semihastate, spreading, minute. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semilanceolate*, half-lanceolate, longitudinally divided. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 99 A dark blue limestone, of a conchoidal or *semilenticular form. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss., **Semiorbicular*, half orbicular. 1860 L. REEVE *Elem. Conchol.* I. 185 Aperture semiorbicular. 1816 T. BROWN *Elem. Conchol.* 163 **Semi-orbiculate*, in the shape of a half globe. 1847 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. v. 228 The 5th [joint]..furnished beneath with three or four pairs of neat *semi-pectinate processes. 1848 *Ibid.* vi. 308 A pair of *semipectinated processes or combs. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xliii. IV. 178 A pair of *semipenniform muscles. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 338 The right gill is generally developed on one side only, so that it is *semi-pinnate, owing to the disappearance of the second row of lamellæ. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss., **Semiquinquifid*, half way divided into five. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1048 **Semi-reniform*, reniform on one side only. 1806 J. GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 329 Stipulæ *semi-sagittate. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 361 *Semisagittated teeth. 1819 *Pantalogia*, **Semisexfid Calyx*, in botany, half-six-cleft. 1857 MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 186 Stipes..*semiterete.

e. In *Building*, designating structural forms of half the full width, breadth, or girth, resulting from (usually) vertical or longitudinal bisection, as *semi-arch*, *-barrel vault*, *-bay*, *-channel*, *-counter-arch*, *-cross-rib*, *-cupola*, *-groove*, *-roll*, *-rotunda*, *-shaft*, *-transept*, *-vault*; semi-basement, a basement sunk only part of its depth below the ground surface; semi-beam = CANTILEVER 2; semi-engaged *a.*, (of a column) attached to a wall so that half its diameter projects; semi-girder = *semi-beam*; semi-relief, half-relief, mezzo-rilievo; so semi-ball, -urn, a ball, an urn in half-relief.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 295 To determine the centre of gravity of the *semi-arch. 1875 BRASH *Eccl. Archit.* 99 A bold label..bearing a line of *semi-balls. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 18 Mar. 3/4 In the *semi-basement are carpenters' shops, laboratory, &c. *a* 1878 SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 118 Not, as usual, embracing two bays, but two of these *semi-bays. 1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* I. 176 The *semi-beam, or cantilever,..has to support half the weight of the beam..suspended from its extremity. 1908 J. G. HORNER *Encycl. Pract. Engin.*, *Semi-Beam.—A beam supported at one end only. A cantilever. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 52 The two outward, or *Semi-Channels. 1752 LASELYE *Westm. Bridge* 83 Two *Semicounter Arches butting against the opposite Side of the..Piers. 1835 R. WILLIS *Rem. Archit., Mid. Ages* vii. 79 The *semi-cross ribs. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 79 In the transepts are *semi-cupolas. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* II. 533 A hexastyle portico of *semi-engaged columns. *Ibid.*, I. 273 The *semi-groove or 'rebate' which is cut..along the..edge 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 30 Embossments, which resemble *semi-Beads in *Semi-relief. *a* 1878 SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 80 The rib may be amplified by a central *semi-roll moulding. 1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* II. xliii. (ed. 2) 138 It rested on two *semi rotundas. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. 247 Small pilasters with *semi-shafts at their sides. 1783 T. WARTON *Hist. Kiddington* (ed. 2) 2 There is a proportionable lateral projection, or southern *semitransept. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 84 A Monument of white Marble.. being an oblong *Semiurn upon a large Face of a Cube. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1828) II. 176 The centre of gravity of the *semi-vault. *a* 1878 SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 59 The continuous semi-vault would do away with clerestory windows.

f. *Cryst.* semi-prismated, -tesseral, -tessular *adjs.* (see quots.).

1805 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (1817) 197 A crystal is named *semi-prismated, when only half of the edges on the common basis are obliterated by lateral planes. 1883 HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 355/2 Two *semitesseral forms with parallel faces occur..The two other semitesseral forms, the pentagonal dodecahedron and the pentagonal icositetrahedron, both bounded by irregular pentagons, have not yet been observed in nature. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Semitessular*, term applied to a combination of the tessular system, into which the forms enter with only half the number of their faces.

g. *Her.* = DEMI- B. I, HALF- II. b; as *semi-chevron*, *-saltire*.

1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. (ed. 3) 147 The Dexter *semi-chevrons are shown in combination with the sinister *semi-saltire. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 371/2 A *semi-Quadrant, of some called a demi-Quadrant.

h. *Printing.* †semi-quadratures, crotchets, square brackets; semi-quotes *colloq.*, single quotation-marks (' ').

1764 *Behmen's Wks.* I. Advt., Synonymous Expressions are placed..betwixt two *Semiquadratures [ ] in the Body of the Work.

7. = to the extent of (only) a half, imperfect(ly), incomplete(ly). a. With adjs. and sbs. expressing kinds or degrees of composition, consistency, texture, colour, as *semi-coagulated*, *-concrete*, *-crystalline*, *-digested*, *-ductile*, *-friable*, *-fused*, *-fusion*, *-grainy*, *-liquid*, *-lucent*, *-membranous*, *-opalescent*, *-pasty*, *-pellucid*, *-pellucidity*, *-petrified*, *-plastic*, *-purulent*, *-putrid*, *-resinous*, *-translucent*, *-volatile*. (See also d, f, i.)

1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 386/1 *Semi-coagulated, in respect to consistence. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder* (ed. 3) 154 Nodules, of a *semiconcrete consistence. 1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVI. 163 Primitive limestone of a..*semi-crystalline grain. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § 4. 104 Truly vitreous rocks tend to graduate into the..semi-crystalline type. 1842 G. BIRD in *Urin. Deposits* (1853) 254 The vomiting of the meal in a *semi-digested state. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 453 A grey *semi-ductil Regulus. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 157 An opaque, very dry, *semi-friable matter. 1876 in *Ure's Dict.* (1878) IV. 599 By grinding the *semi-fused mass and treating it with water. 1792 MACIE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 372 A *semi-fusion, or softening of the whole mass. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 260 The induration and semifusion of sandstones. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 387 Thin, fleshy, or *semigelatinous lips. 1893 *Times* 13 Dec. 3/5 *Semi-grainy brownish crystallized. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 125 While the mass was liquid or *semiliquid. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 383 Smooth *semilucent mist. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 625 Thin, *semi-membranous partitions. 1830 LYELL *Prine. Geol.* I. 213 This sinter has often a beautiful *semi-opalescent lustre. 1851 *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. iij*, At a temperature but just sufficient to maintain it in a *semi-pasty state. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. i. 32 A light grey *Semi-pellucid Flint, 'Tis of much the same Complexion with the common Indian Achate. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* xii. (1870) 247 The purest agates..are not perfectly transparent; they are only semi-pellucid. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Semipellucidity*, the quality or state of being imperfectly transparent. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxvi. (1856) 211 As they strike her, the *semi-plastic mass is impressed with a mould of her side. 1734 BURTON in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 103 By a *semipurulent cancerous *Sanies*. 1762 LYSONS ibid. LII. 639 The kidneys, in one of the subjects, are said to have been found putrid, in the other, *semiputrid. 1862 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* X. 330/2 The *semi-resinous material would..resume..the form it was in prior to solution. 1832 *Nat. Philos. Thermom. & Pyrom.* I. 9 (U.K.S.), It consists of a ball and tube of *semitranslucent porcelain, highly baked. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 140/2 The grateful Bitter is of a middle Nature, *Semivolatile.

b. In designations of heresies, sects, and schools of thought, expressing partial adherence to the tenets or theories connoted by the second element of the compound, as *semi-antiministerial*, *-Apollinarism*, *-atheist*, *-Augustinian*, *-catholicism*, *-conformist*, *-Darwinian*, *-infidel*, *-Jesuit*, *-Judaizer*, *-Manicheanism*, *-nonconformist*, *-Pythagorean*, *-quietism*, *-quietist*, *-revolutionist*, *-Romanism*, *-Sadducee*, *-Sadduc(e)ism*, *-separatist*, *-socialism*, *-Socinian*, *-Tychonic*, *-universalist*.

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 190 These *Semiantiministeriall adversaries. 1855 MORLEY *August. Doctr. Predest.* iii. 100 A *semi-Apollinarism in a soul imperfectly connected with the flesh, a *semi-Manicheanism in a flesh imperfectly connected with the soul of our Lord. *a* 1689 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xii. § 1 (1622) 123 This is to be, but a *Semi-Atheist. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* xi. 226 The two first Stuarts, coquetting with *semi-catholicism at home. 1685 D. GRANVILLE *Lett.* (Surtees No. 37) 210 A breach..which I do as much dread, as the phanatick and *semi-conformists do our union. 1903 (*title*) Doubts about Darwinism. By a *Semi-Darwinian. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall of Rome* xii. 683 The..*semi-Gnostic notions [of the Templars]. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. v. (1876) 124 The change to the second position, or *semi-humanitarian, may be detected in the Sabellians. 1735–6 GIBSON in Fraser *Berkeley* vii. (1871) 244 We have ..little trouble from professed infidels, but a great deal from *semi-infidels. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* xii. (1640) 113 A Jesuit, or a *Semi-Jesuit, a practising Papist, or a Sesqui-Jesuit. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* XVI. II. iv. § 23 This little sect is branded by the Socinian writers, with the ignominious appellation of *Semi-Judaizers. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. xvi. 161 How he interceded to qualifie the Arch-Bishop, for a *Semi-non conformist. 1857 PUSEY *Real Presence* iii. (1869) 247 Parker, whom, for his belief in the sacraments, his adversaries called 'Lutheran or *Semi-Papist'. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. i. 15 *note*, Alkmæon, a *semi-Pythagorean. 1876 SWEENEY in *Baker's Sancta Sophia* (1908) 493 The Quietism of Molinos, and the *semi-Quietism of Madame Guyon. 1882 MCCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 847 (Cassell) Fénelon and Madame Guyon ..are..usually called *semi-Quietists. 1812 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 298 Curio, the *quondam* patriot, reformer, and *semi-revolutionist. 1847 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 325 Church architecture has been set up under our own eyes as the banner of a more than *semi-Romanism. 1690 BAXTER *Kingd. Christ* (1691) 46 You brand all that dissent from you as *Semi-Sadducees of the Apostacy. *Ibid.* 42 He that accuseth others of *Semi-Sadduceism of the Apostasie. 1691 BEVERLEY *Thousand Years' Kingd.* 4 Antichristian Semi-Sadducism. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Disc. Nat. Episc.* II. vi. (1641) 90 The *Separist* is subdivided too (as they say) into *Seperatist*, and *Semi-seperatist*. 1647 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 4) 81 There is a sort of Semi-separatists, that will heare our Sermons, but not our Common-prayers. 1886 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 167, I have a long letter from W. Birchall..about *semi-Socialism. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 4 A *semi-socinian or five-quarter latitudinarian. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* iv. 63 He was abandoned by some of his followers, who chose rather to save this immense labour to the spheres, by ascribing a diurnal motion to the earth; on which account they were distinguished by the name of *Semi-Tychonics. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xxxiii. 2 [Aristotle] speaks of a set of men, who held a system essentially similar to that of the modern Semitychonic. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* XVII. II. ii. § 12 The Reformed Church was immediately divided into Universalists, *Semi-universalists, Supralapsarians, and Sublapsarians.

c. *Gram.*, as *semi-nasal* adj.; semi-consonant = SEMIVOWEL; semi-deponent, a verb in Latin of which the tenses of the present group have active forms and those of the perfect group passive forms, as *gaudeo*, *gavisus sum*; †semi-pause, a slight pause or cæsura; semiphonotypy, printing in a 'reformed' spelling intermediate between the traditional and purely phonetic spelling; semi-rhythm, free-rhythm verse; †semi-spiritous *a.*, (of a consonant) voiced; semi-telic *a.*, partially final or expressing purpose.

1828 WALKER *Pron. Dict.* 17/1 These two letters [*w* and *y*] are so far from being simple vowels, that they may more properly be called *semi-consonant diphthongs. 1888 KENNEDY *Revised Lat. Primer* (1900) § 6. *Ibid.* § 127 Some Verbs have a Perfect of Passive form with a Present of Active form; they are called *semi-deponents*. 1863 A. M. BELL *Princ. Speech* 178 The Englishman's difficulty in giving the Gallic effect to the French *semi-nasal elements. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xviii. (1774) II. 127 A *semipause..being short and faint, is not sensibly disagreeable when it divides a word. 1824 [see *demi-cæsura*, DEMI- 11]. 1876 MAX MÜLLER *Sel. Ess.* (1881) I. 259 A style of spelling will now be introduced which has received the name of *Semiphonotypy. 1893 G. A. GREENE *Italian Lyrist, Luigi Capuana* 54 The exact metre, ..is, as might be expected from 'semi rhythms', somewhat difficult to ascertain. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 369 By *Semi-spiritous or half breathed Consonants, are meant such as are accompanied with some kind of vocal murmure, as B, D, G. 1865 ALFORD *Grk. Test.* III. 285 When we are speaking of the divine proceedings, the tendency involves the purpose, and there is no need for a *semi-telic force.

d. *Nat. Hist.* = imperfectly, incompletely, partly (of a certain habit, form, texture, etc.), as *semi-aquatic*, *-arborescent*, *-articulate*, *-complete*, *-compicated*, *-connate*, *-coriaceous*, *-corneous*, *-crustaceous*, *-granulate*, *-heterocereal*, *-horny*, *-hyaline*, *-imbricated*, *-immersed*, *-internal*, *-osseous*, *-oviparous*, *-permeable*, *perspicuous*, *-petaloid*, *-radiate*, *-recondite*, *-retractile*, *-revolute*, *-septate*, *-spiral*, *-staminate*, *-striate*, *-striated*, *-valvate*, *-verticillate*.

1833 HOOKER in J. E. Smith *Eng. Flora* V. I. 112 Among *Sphagnum* and other *semi-aquatic mosses. 1910 ROOSEVELT *Afr. Game Trails* 126 They [buffalo] are semi-aquatic beasts. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 236 The vegetation..is of a *semi-arborescent character. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. 68 Those of the Linnean order Hemiptera, which resemble the perfect insect, except in having only the rudiments of wings, and to which the name of *semi-complete pupæ was applied by Linné. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 223 Valves *semicomplicated. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semiconnate*, applied to such structures as the half-united filaments of certain willows. 1834 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiv. 451 The *semi-coriaceous leaves. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 703/1 A brownish and *semi-corneous filament. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 364/1 The Hemiptera have four wings, the two superior ones being *semicrustaceous, and incumbent. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 185 Shell 8-valved, *semi-granulate. 1787 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 404 A *semi-horny substance. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 230 *Astreca clavicornis*..elytra *semihyaline. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 280 The scales are square, thick, and *semi-imbricated. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 417 Apothecia large,..*semi-immersed in thalline elevations. 1843 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (ed. 6) I. 289 This insect is a *semi-internal parasite. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 191 The ligament internal or semi-internal. 1841 H. MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* iv. (1887) 95 The *semi-osseous..ichthyolites of the Lower Old Red Sandstone. 1857 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov.

7 The oötiçoids or *semi-oviparous mammals. 1900 W. Ramsay in *Smithsonian Rep.* 253 A vessel the walls of which are permeable to the solvent, but not to the dissolved substance ('*semipermeable membrane'). 1681 Grew *Museum* III. iv. 288 Of the colour of yellow Amber, and *semiperspicuous. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 86 Cycnia has a *semipetaloid irregular calyx and no petals. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semiradiate*, when only a portion of the outer florets of a Composite are radiant and different from those of the disk. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 306 *Semirecondite... When the head is half covered by the shield of the thorax. 1883 Flower in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 440/2 Claws short, compressed, acute, curved, often *semi-retractile. *a* 1843 South in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 289/1 Sometimes, as in the *semi-revolute Shells, the whorls are perfectly distinct from each other. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Semiseptate*, half-partitioned; having a dissepiment which does not project into the cavity to which it belongs sufficiently to cut it off into two separate cells. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 33 Shell ovate, inflated, *semispiral. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semistaminate*, when part of the stamens are changed into petals. 1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 131 Shell 8-valved, *semistriate. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semivalvate*, when the valves of a fruit are only partially dehiscent. 1847–54 Webster, **Semiverticillate*, partially verticillate.

e. Designating an animal or vegetable form, class, species, etc., which has only some of the characteristics of that denoted by the second element, or is intermediate between that and another, as *semi-ape* (= Half-ape, lemur), *-avocet*, *burrower*, *-egret*, *-lichen*, *-looper* (cf. Half-looper), *-parasite* (whence *-parasitic* adj., *-parasitism*), *-pupa* (whence *-pupal* adj.), *-rapacious* adj., *-stilt*; similarly in anglicized forms of L. names of zoological groups, etc., as *semi-digitigrade*, *-phyllidian*, *-plantigrade* = belonging to (or a member of) the groups *Semidigitigrada*, *Semiphyllidiana*, *Semiplantigrada*; **semi-nymph** [= F. *semi-nymphe*], a nymph of such insects as undergo only a slight change in passing to the imago state.

1886 Sharborn in *Ibis* July 227 The four groups of which we are in search are Stilts, Semi-stilts, Avocets, and *Semi-avocets. 1864–5 Wood *Homes without H.* ii. (1868) 76 Among the *semi-burrowers we may rank the Starling...as this bird invariably lays its eggs in a hollow of some kind. 1864 *Reader* 23 Apr. 525/3 They [*sc.* the *Lemurini*] are all plantigrade or semi-digitigrade. 1880 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 760/2 The group of *Semi-egrets, containing some nine or ten forms. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semilichen*, Zukal's term for forms which when destitute of their appropriate Alga can subsist as saprophytes. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* I. 706 The larva [of southern army-worm or cotton-worm] is a *semi-looper. 1899 D. Sharp *Insects* vi. 415 When the abdominal legs are reduced in number (*Plusia*, e.g.) the larvae are said to be Half-loopers, or Semi-loopers, as they assume to some extent the peculiar mode of progression of the Geometrid larvae, which are known as Loopers. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 68 Those of the Linnean order Hemiptera...to which the name of semi-complete pupæ was applied by Linné, and that of *semi-nymphs by some other authors. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 354 Green perfect parasites (*Viscum*), and more or less coloured *semi-parasites (*Melampyrum arvense*). 1878–80 Brady (*title*) Monograph of the Free and *Semi-parasitic Copepoda of the British Islands. 1894 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXVI. 338 The head...is without a labrum or epipharynx, a loss due to adaptation to its suctorial habits and *semiparasitism. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1 Inferobranchians (Phillidians and *Semi-phillidians). 1870 H. A. Nicholson *Man. Zool.* lxxix. (1875) 634 The second family of the *Semi-plantigrade Carnivores is that of the Viverridæ. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 145 *Semirapacious; feeding commonly either on Carrion, or other things, and more seldome on living Animals. 1885 *Semi-stilt [see *semi-avocet* above].

f. In *Anatomy*, chiefly in names (in Latin form, but occas. anglicized) of muscles (*a*) situated partly in a certain region, as *semi-interrosseus*, *-spinalis*, or (*b*) being partly of a certain texture or shape, as *semi-membranosus* (also *-membranous*), *-nervosus*, *-orbicularis* (also *-orbicular*), *-tendinosus* (also *-tendinous*, *-tendinose*); also *semi-decussation*, *-intercostal*, *-mucous*, *-sarcodic*; **semi-bulb**, the bulbus vestibuli, either of two vascular bodies on either side of the entrance of the vagina.

1855 Dunglison *Medical Lexicon*, *Semi-bulb of the female, *Bulbus vestibuli*. 1855 Brewster *Newton* I. x. 226 The semi-decussation of the optic nerves. 1733 Douglas *Winslow's Anat.* (1756) II. 24 *Semi-intercostal Arteries. *Ibid.* I. 202 The Antithenar or Internal *Semi-Interosseus of the Thumb. *Ibid.* 216 *Semi-Membranosus. This is a long thin Muscle, partly Tendinous, from whence it has its name. 1875 Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 841/1 The biceps [is inserted] into the head of the fibula, and semi-tendinosus and semi-membranosus into the upper end of the tibia. 1896 Treves *Syst. Surg.* II. 31 An enlargement of the bursa between the semi-membranosus and inner head of the gastrocnemius. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc 8 *Semimembranosus*, the *Semi-membranous Muscle that serves to move the Leg. 1843 Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 350 The external skin or *semimucous membrane of the male. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Seminervosus Musculus*, the *Semi-nervous Muscle. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.*, **Semi-nervosus, seu Semi-tendinosus*, a Muscle of the Thigh, which is so called from its being half Tendinous and Nerve-like. 1733 Douglas *Winslow's Anat.* (1756) II. 346 The superior *Semi-Orbicular Muscle is oftentimes broader than the inferior. *Ibid.*, The *Semi-Orbiculares are commonly looked upon as one Muscle, surrounding both Lips, from whence it is called Orbicularis. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Spec.* 4 The *semi-sarcodic substance which surrounds their siliceous or horny skeleton. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Semispinalis*, a muscle, called also *transversospinalis dorsi*. 1875 Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 835/1 The semispinales, multifidi and rotatores spinæ muscles. 1704 **Semitendinosus* [see *seminervosus*]. 1733 Douglas *Winslow's Anat.* (1756) I. 215 This Tendon is inserted...above the Semi-Tendinosus. 1875 Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 841/1 The action of the sartorius, gracilis and semi-tendinosus, which are inserted close together into the tibia. 1733 Douglas *Winslow's Anat.* (1756) I. § 677 The Muscles which move the Vertebræ of the Back and Loins...were they to be reckoned separately as Vertebral or *Semi-Vertebral Muscles.

g. In *Pathology* and *Therapeutics*, as *semi-albinism*, *-coma*, *-comatose*, *-confluent*, *-fluctuant*, *-fluctuating*, *-hepatization*, *-luxation*, *-malignant*, *-pectoral*, *-prone* (whence *-pronation*), *-recumbent*, *-supination*.

1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Semi-albinism*, a half-white condition of the skin, sometimes occurring in negroes. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 202 Delirium...verging into *semi-coma. 1878 A. M. Hamilton *Nervous Dis.* 36 She complained of vertical headache, became *semi-comatose. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Semiconfluent*, half confluent. Used spec. of a kind of small-pox. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1137 An elastic *semifluctuant sensation on percussion. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 734 Fixed *semifluctuating growths. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 73 *Semi-hepatization of left lung. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Semi-luxation*, a syn. for *Sub-luxation*. 1864 Erichsen *Sci. & Art Surg.* (ed. 4) 469 *Semi-Malignant Tumours. 1881 *Trans. Obstetr. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 284 The patient resting either in the *semi-prone or *semi-pectoral position. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Semipronation*, the Semi-prone position, or the assuming of that position. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii. (ed. 2) 308 The individual should be placed in a *semi-recumbent position. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 534 When the hand is *semisupinated, *i.e.*, with the radius and ulna parallel. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Semisupination*, half-supination. A position halfway between supination and lying on the side.

h. In *Chemistry*, as *semi-acid*, *-acidified*, *-carbonization*, †*-oxidated*, *-oxygenated*, *-oxygenized*, †*-phlogisticated*, †*-saline*; in the designation of a class of compounds, as *semi-benzidam*, *-glutin* (see quot. 1879), *-naphthalidine*; also †**semi-carbonate**, a subcarbonate; **semi-combined** *a.*, partially or loosely combined; **semi-normal** *a.* (see quot.).

1880 *Webster's Suppl.*, **Semiacid*. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 91 The Calx which is certainly *semi-acidified. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 233 *Semibenzidam, this name was given by Zinin to a compound produced by the action of sulphide of ammonium on dinitrobenzene. 1808 *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 98 A saturated soda...becomes a true *semi-carbonate by being exposed...to a red heat. 1804 *Ibid.* XCIV. 400 Woody fibre in a state of *semicarbonization. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 132/2 Two distinct substances could be separated, one precipitable by perchloride of platinum, which he [Hofmeister] calls *semiglutin, and the other...which he calls hemicollin. 1852 W. Gregory *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 344 *Seminaphtalidine, $C_{10}H_5N$, is obtained when nitronaphtalèse is treated by Zinin's process. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 233 *Seminaphthylamine, $C^{11}H^8N^2$...; also called Seminaphthalidine, Seminaphthalidam, and Azonaphthylamine...A base produced by the action of sulphydrate of ammonium on dinitronaphthalene. 1896 Gould *Student's Med. Dict.*, **Seminormal Solution*, one containing in solution half the quantity of the substance contained in the normal solution. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 365 Moist *semi-oxygenated calces of iron. *a* 1846 Ure (cited by Worcester), **Semi-oxygenized*. 1805 Saunders *Min. Waters* 556 A very soluble *semi-oxydated calx. 1828–32 Webster, **Semiphlogisticated*, partially impregnated with phlogiston. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 379 The neutral and *semi-saline combinations before specified.

i. In *Geology*, *Mineralogy*, and *Geography*, as *semi-aluminous*, *-arid*, *-calcareous*, *compact(ed*, *-deltaic*, *-desert*, *-extinct*, *-fossil*, *-granitic*, *-hard*, *-indurated*, *-lapidified*, *-mineralized*, *-porphyritic*, *-stratified*, *-volcanic* adjs.; **semi-anthracite**, **semi-bituminous** *a.* (see quot.); †**semiprimigenous** *a.*, applied by Kirwan to formations intermediate between the primary and the secondary; †**semi-protolite** (Kirwan), a 'semi-primigenous' fossil.

1841 Miller *Old Red Sandstone* vi. (1887) 127 The stratified clay is mottled by layers of *semi-aluminous, semi-calcareous nodules. 1858 H. D. Rogers *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. ii. 990 The Anthracites being properly separable into Hard Anthracites and *Semi-anthracites; the Bituminous Coals into dry or *Semi-bituminous, and fat or true Bituminous Coals. 1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* I. II. 466 In the *semiarid region the struggle for existence is so great. 1841 *Semi-calcareous [see *semi-aluminous*]. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 158 A *semicompact mass of the nature of porcelain. 1796 *Ibid.* II. 348 A *semi-compacted coagulated mass. 1849 Dana *Geol.* vii. (1850) 433 The *semi-continent New Holland. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 106 Rivers may be divided into four great classes: (1) the tidal; (2) the deltaic; (3) the *semi-deltaic; and (4) the torrential. 1849 Dana *Geol.* ix. (1850) 455 The *semi-desert of California. 1903 W. R. Fisher tr. *Schimper's Plant Geog.* 163 Transition forms between desert on the one hand, and woodland or grassland on the other, are termed semi-deserts. 1839 G. Roberts *Dict. Geol.*, *Solfatara*, a *semi-extinct volcano, emitting only gaseous sulphurous exhalations, and aqueous vapours. 1896 H. Woodward *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 93 Teeth of Sharks...in a *semi-fossil state. 1791 Bendoss in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 50 *Semi-granitic, porphyritic, and common whinstone. 1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 197 A little more than *semi-hard, only being capable of being scratched with the point of a knife. 1794 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 76 Mild Calx in a loose or *semi-indurated form. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 236 Hills of *semi-lapidified marl. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 153 This *semi-mineralized coal. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iii. 83 Some very remarkable rocks with a *semi porphyritic character. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 41 *Semi-primigenous strata (Todliegendes). *Ibid.* 307 After this shale and coal alternate until all terminate in red *semiprotolite. 1890 Dana *Charact. Volcanoes* 23 The eruptions are only *semi-volcanic.

j. In names of articles or processes of manufacture: **semi-china**, **-porcelain**, ware resembling china, etc., but having an inferior glaze, finish, etc.; **semi-steel**, a steely iron produced in the puddling furnace, puddled steel; **semi-water-gas**, a fuel gas made by blowing a mixture of steam and air into a producer.

1786 Cavallo in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 9 The *semi-calcined part floats at the top. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 482 The blue printed tea-ware has recently obtained the name of *semi-china, owing to its being, when well fired, very fine, white and neat, and possessing some degree of transparency. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., **Semi-dried bricks*, bricks manufactured from clay, one half dry and the other half damp. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 188/2 The *semi-dry or 'dust' process of manufacturing encaustic tiles. 1897 Sparkes & Gandy *Potters* 40 The kind of *semi-glaze known as a 'smear'. 1893 Barber *Pottery & Porcel.* 391 The *semi-glazed old-gold color of the adjacent terra-cotta. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 210 The pottery *semi-porcelain, and porcelain known as Kutani ware, made in the province of Kaga. 1908 *Ch. Times* 20 Mar. 394/2 Pretty novelties in semi-porcelain. 1861 Fairbairn *Iron* 141 What he [Bessemer] calls *semi-steel. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 11) XI. 286/1 *Semi-water gas is especially adapted for the purpose of driving gas-engines on the explosive principle (gas motors).

k. Denoting styles of architecture having only some of the features connoted by the second element, as *semi-classic*, *-Gothic*, *-Norman*.

1843 Bloxam *Gothic Archit.* (ed. 5) 219 Key-stones after the Roman or Italian *semi-classic style. 1829 *Ibid.* 31 *Semi-Norman Pointed Arch.

l. In names of mechanical contrivances (see quots.).

1908 J. G. Horner *Encycl. Pract. Engin.*, **Semi-Automatic.*—This is practically identical in meaning with the term self-acting. It signifies a machine, some of the movements only of which are automatic, and which therefore requires constant attendance. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 796 **Semifixed*, said of a steam engine bolted to an iron foundation piece on which it may be moved intact. *Ibid.*, **Semi-multi-flue Boiler*, a flue-plate is fixed in the flue a short distance behind the furnace, and a number of wrought-iron or brass flues pass from this to the back of the boiler. *Ibid.*, *Semi-multi-tubular Boiler*, a term applied to those boilers in which a portion of the cylindrical shell is occupied by flues. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Semireverberatory fire*, in chemistry, a term used to express such a reverberatory fire, in which the flame is only beaten back upon the bottom of the vessel. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 6 Aug. 1/2 The so-called *semi-rigid airships.

8. Miscellaneous: **semi-armour-piercer**, **-piercing**, applied to a kind of shell for perforating some thickness of armour plate; †**semi-brick** [after L. *sēmilater*], a half-baked brick; **semi-bull** *R.C.Ch.*, a bull issued by a pope before his coronation (Cass.); **semi-cardinal**, applied to the points of the compass half-way between the cardinal points, as NE.; †**semi-cipher**, *fig.* a nothing or nobody; **semi-closed** *a. Fortif.* (see quot.); †**semi-commoner**, a demy of Magdalen College, Oxford; **semi-conducting** *a. Electr.*, intermediate between a good conductor and a non-conductor; so **semi-conductor**; **semi-cretin**, 'a variety of cretin who can speak in a rudimentary way and can appreciate his everyday bodily necessities' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898); **semi-definite** *a. Logic*, implying 'some but not all'; **semi-final**, in football and other contests, the match or round immediately preceding the final one; **semi-grand** *a.* and *sb.*, a modified form of the grand piano; **semi-high** *a.* = *half-high* (see Half- 4); **semi-hoop**, a semi-circular arc or arch; **semi-island**, **-islet**, a piece of land that becomes insular at high tide; **semi-logical** *a.* (see quot.); **semi-mute** *a.* and *sb.*, applied to those who, through deafness, speak only imperfectly; **semi-precious** *a.*, (of stones) that may be cut and polished but are not of sufficient value to rank as gems; **semi-proof**, proof depending on the evidence of a single witness; †**semi-time**, 'half a time' (see Rev. xii. 14 and cf. Dan. vii. 25, xii. 7); **semi-tint** (see quot. 1752; = *half-tint*); **semi-tropic(al** *a.*, subtropical; so **semi-tropics**.

1895 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/5 This company was supplying *semi-armour-piercers, built to perforate a considerable thickness of armour and to burst sufficiently inside. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 5/1 *Semi-armour piercing shell and other ammunition. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xix. x. II. 32 Water wherein the pouder of a *semi-bricke or halfe-baked tile is mingled. 1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 20 Let Cardinall windes be those which blow from corners or Angles of the World: *Semi-cardinall, those which blow in the halfe wards of those. †1550 R. Bierston *Bayte Fortune* A iij, Loe there goeth a *semesypher in algorisme, There goeth a wretch, a foole, and a barat bringer. 1688 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 June 3/2 The works in which these guns should...be mounted..must be of the kind known technically as '*semi-closed', strong enough to prevent a detachment taking them in the rear. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 14 William Lilye was...Elected one of the Demies or *Semi commoners of St. Mary Magd. Coll. in 1486. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 36 The foresaid William Grocyn, became a Divine or Semicommoner of St. Mary Magdalen College, Oxon. 1787 Cavallo in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 7 A *semi-conducting or imper-

fectly insulating plane. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* iv, Carbon and certain other *semi-conductors. *a* 1856 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* App. (1860) II. 279 Here *some* may mean *some only—some not all*. Here *some*, though always in a certain degree indefinite, is definite so far as it excludes omnitude,—is used in opposition to all. This I would call its *Semi-definite meaning. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 137 Whenever we predicate a Genus of a Species, the Predicate is obviously quantified as Particular; and *some*, which is the predesignation of particularity, must then be thought in its semi-definite sense. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 369/2 The *semi-final tie between Notts County and the Blackburn Rovers. 1895 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/5 Sunderland, the favourites for the trophy,..are pretty certain to obtain a place in the semi-final. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 220/2 Several *semi-grands were also shown to us: these were equal in power to ordinary grand piano-fortes, but with a lengthened undulation of sound. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 30 Apr. 172/1 The semi-grand pianoforte. 1875 BROWNING *Inn Album* II. 45 A brand-new bore she calls a 'semi-grand'. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 2 Nov. 3/5 *Semi-high bodices. 1687 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 226 They caused..the forefront..of the arches of the several gates to be trimmed up with bowes and green leaves tied to a *semi-hoop. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 283/2 In the true *Rasores*..the posterior lateral processes pass backwards exterior to the ribs, supporting them in the Capercailzie, like a semi-hoop. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 20 The Venerable Bede writes of Lindisfarne as a *semi-island. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Semi-islet, an old term for *bridge-islet*. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* (ed. 2) 138 The other kind [of Logical Fallacies] may be most properly called *semi-logical; *viz.* all the cases of ambiguous middle Term except its non-distribution. 1864 WEBSTER, *Semi-mute. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 163/1 The oral work which was at first only done for the benefit of semi-mutes. 1905 *Bookman* June 83/1 Metal clasps set with *semi-precious stones. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Semiproof, an imperfect Proof. The Depositions of a single Evidence only make a Semi-proof. 1856 BOUVIER *Law Dict.* (ed. 6), *Semi-proof*. Presumptions of fact are so called. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* vi. 105 Those people that keep my works to the end, to the last *semi-time of the Seven, they shall have power over the Pagan Christians. 1685—*Paralip. Prophet.* 236 A Semi-time (which I call also, in one word, an Hexamenon). 1752 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Teints*, and *Semi-Teints*, in painting, denote the several colours used in a picture, considered as more or less high, or bright, or deep, or thin, or weakened, and diminished. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 216 The great lights..are well enough coloured, but the semi-tints are without grace or variety. 1843 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* ix, The balmy *semi-tropic night. 1896 *Yearbk. U. S. Dept. Agric.* 191 The citrus and other semi-tropic fruits. 1860 *Semi-tropical [see *semi-alpine* in 1 above]. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 214 The growth of certain semi-tropical crops. 1908 R. W. CHAMBERS *Firing Line* x, These quaint little black quail of the *semi-tropics.

Semi, obs. form of SEMÉE.

Semi-a·nimate, *a.* [f. SEMI- + ANIMATE *a.*, after L. *sēmianimis*, *-us*.] Half-alive. Also *fig.*

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) I. 58 Should your greenhouse be infested with Aphides, or your grapery by the Semianimate Coccus. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 May 1/1 There are Bills before Parliament..They will remain in their present semi animate condition. 1908 SAINTSBURY in *Cambr. Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 209 The semi-animate condition of the final *-e*.

So **Semi-a·nimated** *a.*

1885 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 96 A cloudy day [will] tempt them out for a semi-animated inspection of the world.

Semia·nimous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sēmianim-is*, *-us* (*anima* life) + -OUS.] = prec.

1825 SYD. SMITH *Bentham's Bk. Fallacies* Wks. 1859 II. 70/2 Punished by semianimous semicadaverous judges. 1837 — *2nd Let. Singleton* ibid. 275/1 Semianimous on its back, or vigorous on its legs.

Semi-a·nnual, *a.* (and *sb.*) [SEMI- 5 b. Cf. L. *sēmi-annuus* in sense 2, and F. *semi-annuel*.]

1. Recurring every half-year; half-yearly.

1794 [see SEMI-DIURNAL 2]. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 470 Semi-annual solar Equation, Precession, and Refraction. 1860 (*title*) Semi-Annual United States Register. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* i. 33 Merchants are not in the habit of placing a semi-annual or even annual statement of their position before the public. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 260 [Esparto] becoming more vigorous and abundant with yearly or semi-annual gathering.

2. Lasting for half a year (only); esp. of plants. Also *sb.* = semi-annual plant.

1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 857/1 The higher plants may be classed, according to duration of life, as follows:—annuals, or semi-annuals..biennials. 1888 DAWSON *Geol. Hist. Plants* 258 Arctic semi-annual days and nights.

So **Semi-a·nnually** *adv.*, every half-year, once in every six months.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1889 FARMER *Americanisms* s. v. *Pappobotte*, It vi-its the Western prairies in large numbers semi-annually; early in the spring and late in the summer.

Semi-A·rian, *a.* and *sb.* [ad. eccl. L. *sēmiarīānus*: see SEMI- 7 b and ARIAN.] **a.** *adj.* Partially Arian; used chiefly with reference to a sect which arose in the 4th cent. A.D., holding that the Son is of like substance (*ὁμοιούσιος*) but not of the same substance (*ὁμοούσιος*) with the Father. **b.** *sb.* One who holds Semi-Arian views.

a 1626 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* v. (1625) 23 Some affirme the holy Ghost to be but a meere creature, as did Arius, the Semiarians [etc.]. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* Schol., Wks. (1723) 549 The Semiarians, who affirm'd the Son to be in no wise of the same Substance with the Father, but allowed him in all things to be like him in Substance and Being. 1756–9 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints, S. Meletius*, Eustathius, bishop of Sebaste, a semi-Arian. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxi. (1787) II. 267 The Arian and Semi-Arian factions. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* IV. ii, The Semi-Arian Creed.

Hence **Semi-A·rianism**.

1819 *Brit. Rev.* XIV. 81 From Calvinism, through the intermediate stages of Arianism and Semi-Arianism, into Socinianism, or Unitarianism. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 50/2 In 359 the Emperor did his utmost to establish Semiarianism, but his efforts were in vain.

Semi-atta·ched, *ppl. a.* [SEMI- 1.] Partially or loosely attached; also, = SEMI-DETACHED (mod. Dicts.).

1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* ii, I say, why didn't I say this to her? She would have come, I feel sure she would. We would have been semi-attached as it were. 1860 [EMILY EDEN] (*title*) The Semi-Attached Couple.

† **Semi-axe.** *Obs.* [f. SEMI- 6 b + AXE.] = next.

1728 tr. *Newton's Treat. Syst. World* 53 Put the semi-axe of the Earth's orbit 100000. 1780 LUDLAM in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 379 An ellipse, whose first semi-axe is CA.

Semi-a·xis. [SEMI- 6 b.] The half of the axis of an ellipse, etc.

1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 360 The Semiaxis of the Spheroid. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 215 If a fixed star had an annual parallax that was sensible, it would appear to describe an ellipsis, of which the greater semi-axis was equal to that parallax. 1866 HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci.* v. § 40. 213 The period of their mutual circulation may be stated at about ninety-six years, and the semiaxis of their mutual ellipse in angular measure at 4″·8. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Mean Distance*, the average distance of a planet from the sun; it is equal to half the longer axis of the ellipse, and hence is..termed the semi-axis-major.

Semi-barba·rian. [SEMI- 2; cf. L. *sēmibarbarus*.] One who is half-barbarian.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 4 The rude and simple Semibarbarians of Lycaonia. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 204 The sensual pleasures are the only study of the semi-barbarian. 1853 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Grand* x, Those semi-barbarians of the north.

So **Se·mibarba·rianism, -barba·ric** *a.*, **-ba·rbarism, -ba·rbarous** *a.*

1828 *Examiner* 122/2 An intention on the part of the Sultan to proceed to extremities in the usual headlong style of haughty..*semi-barbarianism. 1864 WEBSTER, *Semibarbaric*,..as semibarbaric display. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. iv. 164 The age of false refinement, which is that of *semibarbarism. *Ibid.* x. 437 Had the Hindus remained fixed from the earliest ages in the *semibarbarous state. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. p. xxv, Its Latin is rude and semibarbarous in grammar and spelling.

† **Semi-bousy**, *a. Obs.* [SEMI- 1.] Halfdrunk.

c 1400 *Beryn* 706 Som vnlusty persone, þat were nat wele awakid, or semybousy ouyr eve.

Semibreve (se·mibrēv). *Mus.* Also *a.* 6–7 semibriefe, -7 -eefe, 7–9 -ief. *β.* 6 sembreefe, 6–7 -iefe, 7 -ief, -eefe, -eve. [f. SEMI- 5 c + BREVE *sb.* 2, BRIEF *sb.* 8, after obs. F. *semibreve* (14th c.) or mod.L. *sēmibrevis*.] A note having half († in the greater prolation, one third) the length of a breve: in modern music the longest note in ordinary use. (Its figure is now an open oval ○.)

a. 1594 BARNFIELD *Sheph. Content* (Arb.) 25 No Briefes nor Semi-Iriefes are in my Songs. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxix. I. 286 [The nightingale] one while, full of her largs, longs, briefes, semibriefes, and minims; another while in her crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, and double semiquavers. 1696 DERHAM *Artif. Clock-maker* ii. 49 The first note in the 100th Psalm is a Semibrief. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, The signors and signoras..sliding their smooth semibreves, and gargling glib divisions. 1849 W. IRVING *Goldsm.* xxxiv. 290 He pretended to score down an air as the poet played it, but put down crotchets and semi-breves at random. 1883 W. S. ROCKSTRO in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 459/2 Until the beginning of the 17th century, the Semibreve represented one third of a Perfect Breve, and the half of an Imperfect one.

β. 1591 J. FARMER *Diuers Waies* B i, 2. parts in one in the fourth, a sembriefe after the other. 1602 CAMPION *Art Eng. Poesie* I In Musick we do not say a straine of so many notes, but so many sem'briefes. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I spend my breath to thee, and thou answerest me an houre after in a sembreve. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1649) 48 If there stood Minim or Sembrief in the upper part, there stood another against it in the lower and inner parts. 1678–1706 in PHILLIPS.

b. The 'space' of a semibreve.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, Great red coals roll out on the hearth, sparkle a semibrief,..and then dissolve into brown ashes.

c. *attrib.*, as *semibreve rest*; † **semibreve time**, (*a*) common time with two beats in a bar; (*b*) the time occupied by a semibreve.

1591 J. FARMER *Diuers Waies* C iij, The plainsong beneath beginning at the end, & so forward sembreefe time. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 14 All his talke's of crotchets and of quauers, His very words to sembriefe time doe fall. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 88 A perfect Mood is inwardly noted by a rest of 3. times. A perfect time by 2. Semibreefe Rests, placed with a Semibreefe. 1662 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Sembrief*, a slow time in Musick. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. x. (1674) 34 The Dupla or Sembreve Time (but many call it the Common Time, because most used). 1669 COKAINE *Poems* 79 His Life was but a Minum, till his prime; When as old Age should last out Sembrief-time. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 70 *note*, A Semibreve Rest forms.. a whole bar's rest in any time, or measure.

Hence † **Se·mibreved** *a.*, punctuated as with semibreve rests.

1632 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Yealous Neighbour* 189 He fetcheth a deepe sigh, semi-brev'd in these words. 1641 — *Eng. Gentlew.* 288 Their discourse is semibrev'd with sighes, their talke with teares.

Semi-cartila·ginous, *a.* [SEMI- 7 a.] Of a texture approaching that of cartilage. Of fishes: Having a semi-cartilaginous skeleton.

1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 109 It is a singular circumstance, that those strong semi-cartilaginous substances should have the power of coagulating milk. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 374 Such [diseased] kidneys have generally a lobulated form and semicartilaginous hardness. 1841 MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* iv. (1887) 95 The semi-cartilaginous..fishes. 1865 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* 553 Exchanged a..semi-cartilaginous spinal cord for an ossified one.

† **Semi-ca·seate**, *a. Obs.* [f. SEMI- 1 + L. *cāseus* cheese + -ATE².] Half converted into cheese.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 141 A lacteous semi-caseate & semi-petrified juice.

Semi-cho·ric, *a.* [f. next + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a semi-chorus. In mod. Dicts.

Semi-cho·rus. [mod.L., rendering Gr. *ἡμιχόριον*.] **a.** One of two parts into which the main body of a chorus is divided; chiefly *Mus.* **b.** A piece of music to be performed by a company of singers selected from a chorus.

1797 *Pope's Wks.* (ed. Warton) I. 159 Chorus of Youths and Virgins. Semichorus. 1820 SHELLEY *Prom. Unb.* II. ii, Semichorus I. of Spirits. 1828 R. WARNER *Psalter* p. xxiii, When..one band began the hymn thus..the chorus, or semi-chorus, took up the corresponding versicle. 1847–54 WEBSTER, *Semi-chorus*, a short chorus performed by a few singers. 1897 *Daily News* 15 June 7/5 The number..will be rendered.. by a semi-chorus consisting of the basses of the St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and Chapel Royal chorus.

† **Semicicle.** *Obs.* In 5 **semycicle**. [ad. med.L. **sēmicicla*, in Du Cange *semissecla*, f. *sēmi-* SEMI- + *sicla* = *siclus* a liquid measure.] Half a pint.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 148 A sester and a semycicle [orig. *sextarii unius et semis*] take Of senuey seede.

Semicircle (se·misə·ik'l). [ad. L. *sēmicirculus*: see SEMI- 6 b and CIRCLE *sb.*]

1. The half of a circle divided by a diameter, or the half of its circumference.

1526 *A C. mery talys* 3 b, [Oxford scholar loq.] Cobler I pray the set me ..ii. tryangyls & ..ii. semy cercles vppon my subpedytals. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., If that part be separate from the rest of the circle..And if it be parted juste by the centre..then is it called a semicircle, or halfe compasse. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. B ij, A Semicircle or halfe Circle, doth conteine both the Dimetient and Centre of his circle, with the precise halfe of his circumference. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 208 A very antient towne..situat amidst hilles in forme of a semicircle. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 164 The measuring of a Semicircle, is the multiplying half the Diameter..by a quarter of the Circle. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 301 An Angle in a Semicircle, is a Right Angle.

2. A set of objects or an arrangement in the form of a half-circle; a semicircular form, formation, structure, etc.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 27/1 We must file of all such teeth which will not be contayned in the semicircle of the other teeth. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* II. i. (1640) 70 Apostrophus..should, and of the learneder sort hath his signe and marke, which is such a Semicircle placed in the top. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 54 The smaller ships..lay in a semicircle moored along the shore. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, The Chains..gave me ..the Liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a Semicircle. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. 168 The pallid semicircle of the moon. 1831 in *Jrnl. Frankl. Inst.* VIII. (N. S.) 195 The teeth being placed on a fixed semi-circle. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 129/1 The semicircle of the orchestra. 1874 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ii, The harbour was overlooked by a semicircle of hills.

fig. *a* 1619 BEAUM. & FL. *Q. Corinth* IV. i, Has he given the lye In circle, or oblique, or semi-circle, Or direct parrallel? you must challenge him.

3. A semicircular instrument or one marked with a semicircle; now only = GRAPHOMETER.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* IV. (1597) 209 Another Circle of brasse plate..called the semi-Circle of position, which serueth chiefly for matters of Astronomie, as to find out the twelue houses of heauen. 1701 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 18 *Semicircle*, made of Brass, with an Index and sights, Box and Needle, Ball and Socket, and Staff; containing 180 Degrees, being half the Theodolet. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 81 Instruments made use of for tracing upon the Ground.. are the Graphometre, or Semi-circle. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 133 They meet at the corner of his park with paper and pencils, a pole, a chain and a semicircle, measure his fields.

Hence **Se·micircle** *v. trans.*, to surround with a semicircle; *intr.* to form a semicircle.

1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* I. 235 An immense concave..semicircled with a belt Flashing incessant meteors. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 124 A broad streak ..semicircling beneath either eye.

Semicircled (se·misə·ik'ld), *ppl. a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. SEMICIRCLE *sb.* + -ED.] Of the form of a semicircle; arranged as in a semicircle.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, When the Moon begins To ioine in one her semi-circled hornes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 68 A semi-circled farthingale. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* II. xlviii. 241 Seeds, which as soone as they are ripe, are like Marigold seeds, white, rough, and semicircled. 1629 QUARLES *Argalus & Parth.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 277/1 Now and then a kisse Would interpose like a parenthesis, Betweene their semicircled armes, inclos'd. 1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* I. i. 9 Rank above rank in semicircled grace.

Semicircular (semisə·ikiulă), *a.* Also 5 **-er**. [ad. med.L. *sēmicirculāris*, f. L. *sēmicircul-us* SEMICIRCLE. Cf. F. *semi-circulaire*.] Of the form of a semicircle.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 101 After auctores theatrum is proprely a flore semicirculer, in the myddes of whom was an howse whiche was callede scena. 1615 CROOKE *Body of*

Man 984 The figure of the ribs is semicircular like a Bow. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* I. 50 Semicircular Arches, or Hemispherical Vaults, being raised vpon the totall Diameter. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 417 The Lords.. when in the Inner House sit on a Semicircular Bench..to hear Petitions. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xi. I. 300 Disposing the legions in a semicircular form, he advanced the two horns of the crescent across the Danube. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* iv. (1875) 48 Behind in the semicircular apse sat the clergy, rising tier above tier. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 40 The arches [in the Romanesque style] always either semi-circular or segmental.

Comb. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Mouldiness* 5 P 4/2 Two twigs of ozier put semicircular-wise into holes made in the handle of the scythe. 1828–9 NARRIEN in *Encycl. Metropol.* (1845) V. 284/2 Semicircular-headed apertures serving as entrances. 1897 *Ch. Times* 20 Aug. 186/1 Small semicircular-headed windows of one light.

b. *Anat.* Designating †(*a*) the orbicular muscle of the eyelid; (*b*) the three canals of the internal ear.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Semicircular Muscles*, the same as *Claustent Muscles*. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. ii. § 5. 224 Vibrations communicated to the Cochlea, and semicircular Canals. 1843 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* § 518 The three semicircular canals are passages, excavated in the solid bone, and lined by a continuation of the same membrane as that which lines the vestibule [of the ear]. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 38/2 The horizontal semicircular canal in the internal ear of a pigeon.

Hence **Semicircula·rity, Semici·rcularness.**

1731 BAILEY, *Semicircularness*, half circularness. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* i, Observing his semicircularity and general condition.

Semici·rcularly, *adv.* [f. SEMICIRCULAR + -LY 2.] In a semicircular form; in a half-circle.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 770 The vse of this seuenth paire is semicircularly to mooue the head. 1705–30 S. GALE *Tour through Eugl.* (1790) 15 A narrow passage between two stone walls..built semicircularly. 1756 PENNANT in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 514 The flat or upper part is striated semicircularly. 1839 *Sat. Mag.* Sept. 127/2 The semicircularly-formed vault. 1888 *Century Mag.* XXX. 882 The 'belt', or rainbow, of fertile land Swept semicircularly round.

Semici·rculating, *ppl. a. rare*−1. [Cf. L. *semicirculātus*.] Semicircular.

a 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 4 A Gulf..Whose fertile semicirculating Head, With Temples and with Palaces is spread.

Semicirque (se·misɜ·ɹk). *poet.* [f. SEMI- 6 a + CIRQUE.] A semicircle.

1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* III. 50 Upon a semicirque of turf-clad ground, The hidden nook discovered to our view A mass of rock. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 328 The skater there, with motion nice, In semicirque and graceful wheel. 1872 A. DE VERE *Leg. St. Patrick* 153 Above the semicirque of grassy seats.

Semicolon (semikō·ulŏn). [f. SEMI- + COLON 2.] A punctuation-mark consisting of a dot placed above a comma (;): see quots.

In present use it is the chief stop intermediate in value between the comma and the full stop; usually separating sentences the latter of which limits the former, or marking off a series of sentences or clauses of co-ordinate value.

1644 HODGES *Eng. Primrose* N 3, At a comma, stop a little ..At a semi-colon, somewhat more. 1692 *B. Jonson's Eng. Gram.* Wks. 690 A Semicolon is a distinction of an imperfect Sentence, wherein with somewhat a longer Breath, the Sentence following is included. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 267 The semicolon is a point of great use to enforce and illustrate what has been advanced, and digested by the Comma..The Semicolon is used as an Abbreviation, in the word Esquire. 1800 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* 227 The semicolon is sometimes used, when the preceding member of the sentence does not of itself give a complete sense, but depends on the following clause. and sometimes when the sense of that member would be complete without the concluding one.

Se·mi-column. *Arch.* [SEMI- 6e; cf. med.L. *semi-columnium* (Isidore).] The half of a column cut longitudinally.

1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 52 Halls..surrounded with semi-columns. 1862 *Parthenon* 26 July 400 The walls projecting from the *cella* terminated in two semi-columns, instead of square pilasters. 1875 BRASH *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 99 The flank walls..are..divided by semi-columns.

Hence **Se·micolu·mnar** *a.*, of the form of a semi-column; *Bot.* applied to stems, etc. shaped like half a cylinder cut lengthwise.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796), *Semiteres*, semicolumnar. 1849 DANA *Geol.* iii. (1830) 274 Walls of semi-columnar lava.

†**Semi-concave.** *Obs.* [SEMI- 6 a.] Applied to the half of a hollow cylinder bisected longitudinally. (See CONCAVE *sb.* 1 b.)

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 231 As the Enclosure, that is Round about and Entire, preserueth the Sound; So doth a Semi-Concaue. 1734 *Builder's Dict.* s.v. II. B 7, A Semi-Concave-Cylinder.

Semi-co·njugate, *a.* (*sb.*) *Math.* [SEMI- 6 b.] *Semi-conjugate axis, diameter* = conjugate semiaxis, semidiameter: see CONJUGATE *a.* 6 a, and cf. quot. 1680 there, and 1885 s.v. SEMI-DIAMETER. Also *ellipt.* (as *sb.*) for these.

1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 187 Let *A D* be an Hyperbola, *B* the Center, *BA* = *a*, Semi-conjugate = *b*. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 536, CV and CW being a kind of semitransverse and semiconjugate axes to the elliptic track on the spherical surface. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 130 An ellipse referred to two semi-conjugate diameters, *pa*, *pb*, as axes.

†**Semicope.** *Obs.* [f. SEMI- + COPE *sb.*1] A short cloak.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 262 Of double worstede was his semycope That rounded as a belle out of the presse.

Semi-cu·bic, *a. rare.* = next.

1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 390 A conic parabola being given, a semicubic one may be found.

Semi-cu·bical, *a. Math.* [SEMI- 6 b.] Applied to the curve of the third degree with a cusp referred to rectangular axes, the equation to which can always be reduced to the form $ay^2 = x^3$.

The exponent of the power of the abscissa which is proportional to the ordinate is $^3/_2$, whence the name.

1677 WALLIS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 609 That [invention] of Mr. Neale is straightening the semicubical parabola without supposing the squaring an hyperbola. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Semi-cubical Paraboloid*, is a Curve whose Ordinates are in Subtriplicate of the Duplicate proportion of the Diameter. 1855 G. SALMON *Conic Sect.* xiii. (ed. 3) § 251 The equation of the evolute of a parabola represents a curve called the semicubical parabola.

†**Semicu·pium.** *Obs.* Also erron. **-cu·bium;** and anglicized **semicupe.** [med.L., f. *sēmi-* SEMI- + *cūpa* tun.] A bath in which only one's legs and hips are covered; a hip-bath.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* 1049 Bags, Fumigations, Semicupiums, Baths. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Semi-cupe*, is a half Bath, up to the navel of the patient. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 58 Many Lithotomists immediately after the operation clap the Patient in a Semicupe. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Semicubium.* 1785 GARTHSHORE in *Med. Commun.* II. 44 Fomentations, and the Semicupium..were of no avail. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 255 Oily embrocations, a blister, leeches, and the semicupium were had recourse to.

Semi-cy·linder. [SEMI- 6 a.] The half of a cylinder divided longitudinally.

1666 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 461 In the concave of the said semicylinder. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 228 This and the first trumpet were both made of two hollow semicylinders of wood. 1841 S. CLEGG *Manuf. Coal-Gas* 60 The scoop is a semi-cylinder made of thin plate iron. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 81 One of the two cotyledons failed to produce a petiole, whilst the other produced one consisting of an open semi-cylinder ending in a sharp point.

Hence **Semicylī·ndric, -cyli·ndrical** *adjs.*, of the form of a semi-cylinder.

1731 BAILEY (ed. 2), *Semicylindrical.* 1760 LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 185 *Semicylindric*, like a halved Cylinder; when they are round on one side, and flat on the other. 1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 10 The semicylindric cavity. 1801 *Ibid.* XCI. 131 The thermometer, having its scale-board..of a semicylindrical form. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 217 Semicylindrical vaults. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 147 Water-Pursiane..placentas semicylindric.

Semi-de·ity. [SEMI- 2.] = SEMIGOD.

c 1612 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymn to the Moone* 27 Men whose states the Deities did raise To Semideities. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 15 A certain Semi-Deity, which they call Nature. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 190 Adieu! ye semideities! 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 2 As if nature were a sort of semi-deity, or creation were its own Creator.

Semi-demi-, used (1) = half-half, i. e. quarter, in semidemisemiquaver, a note the 64th part of a semibreve; (2) vaguely in a diminutive sense, as *semi-demi-dinner.* (Cf. DEMI-SEMI.)

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* (1850) III. iii. 351 She..at last appeared to expect me at luncheon as regularly as she looked for that semi-demi-dinner itself. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Semidemisemiquaver*, a half demisemiquaver, the 64th part of a semibreve.

Se·mi-deta·ched, *a.* [SEMI- 1.] Partially detached.

1859 *Archæol. Cant.* II. p. xxxix, The foundations of the villa were very extensive including one semi-detached apartment. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. v. 93 Large semi-detached masses of rock. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 7/4 The miserable semi-detached life you and I have been living.

b. *spec.* Designating either of a pair of houses joined together and forming a block by themselves.

1859 [EMILY EDEN] (*title*) The Semi-Detached House. 1871 *Punch* 9 Sept. 100/1 A lot of semi-detached Cockney villas. 1882 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 16 Sept. 517/1 No drain should pass beneath a detached or semi-detached house.

Se·midia·meter. [late L. (Boethius): see SEMI- 6 b.] The half of a diameter.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., Diameters, whose halfe, I meane from the center to the circumference any waie, is called the semidiameter, or halfe diameter. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. v. (1635) 117 Astronomers measure the magnitude of the Starres by Diameters and Semidiameters of the Earth. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. vi. 38 That dis-proportion of distance, which there is betwixt the Semidiameter of the Cylinder AB, and the Semidiameter of the rundle with the spokes FA. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 44 Fifty or Sixty Semidiameters of the Earth distant from me. 1763 *Ann. Reg.* 106 A curious halo appeared round the moon. Its semidiameter, from the lower limb of the planet to the opposite arch of the phenomenon, was very near twenty-one degrees and a half. 1826 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 213, 23659 semidiameters of the Earth, or 93595000 miles. 1885 J. CASEY *Analyt. Geom.* 188 If any tangent meets two conjugate semidiameters of an ellipse.

fig. 1624 JACKSON *Creed* III. xii. 224 By so much doth the Pope..make his authoritie..greater then Christs, which is the semidiameter of this mouth of blasphemies.

b. *Fortif.* (see quot. 1704).

1669 STAYNRED *Fortification* 1 The Semidiameter of the Outward Polygon. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Semidiameter*..is two-fold, *viz.* the Greater and Lesser: The former being a Line composed of the Capital, and the Small Semi-diameter of the Polygon: And the other, a Line drawn to the Circumference from the Centre thro' the Gorget.

Hence **Semidia·metral** *a.*, that is a semidiameter.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 86 The Semi-Diametral line proceeding from the Center.

Se·mi-dia·phanous, *a.* Now *rare.* [SEMI- 7 a.] Partially or imperfectly transparent.

1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* I. iii. 22 We should not judge it Opacous, but either Translucid, or at least Semidiaphanous. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. I. 87 A yellowish semidiaphanous Crust. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entom.* xxxv. III. 606 Those [tegmina] of the Man es that resemble dry leaves are only semidiaphanous.

Hence † **Semi-diaphane·ity.**

1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* I. iii. 73 The Transparency or Semi-diaphaniety of the Superficial Corpuscles of Bigger Bodies.

Se·mi-diu·rnal, *a.* [SEMI- 5 a.]

1. *Astron.* Pertaining to, consisting of, or performed in, half the time between the rising and setting of a celestial body. Chiefly in *semi-diurnal arc.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. xviii. (1597) 154 It deuideth the artificial day and artificiall night each of them into two parts, that is to say, into two semi-diurnall and into two seminocturnall parts. *Ibid.* I. 176 b, There will remaine 9. houres 4′8. which is the length of the artificiall day, when the Sunne is in the first degree of Scorpio, the one halfe wherof is called the semi-diurnall Arke of that artificial day. 1664 WAKELY *Mariners-Compass rectified* (1694) 93 Astronomical Tables of Semidiurnal and Seminocturnal Arches. 1725 WATTS *Geog. & Astron.* xix, The difference between the sun or star's semidiurnal arc and a quadrant or ninety degrees. 1852 HIND *Astron. Vocab.* 52 *Semi-diurnal Arc*, is half the arc described by a heavenly body between its rising and setting. 1867 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron. Vocab.* 801.

2. Occurring every twelve hours. Chiefly of the tides.

1794 SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 414 The tides are semi-diurnal polar effusions, as the general currents of the ocean are semi-annual. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 309 The sole cause then of these semidiurnal breezes, being the capacity which the earth has for acquiring a higher temperature than that of the sea. 1865 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* 59 The semi-diurnal oscillatory movement of the waters of the ocean,—the tides.

3. *Ent.* Partly diurnal, flying at twilight. In recent Dicts.

Se·mi-divi·ne, *a.* [SEMI- 1.] Half divine; that is a demigod.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 95 All whatsoeuer is ..brought in by those outcasts of Moses, staine of Solon, and refuse of Licurgus, must be reputed for Metaphisicall, semie Diuine. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. iv. I. 110 Either the common god whom they worshipped, or some semi-divine being closely allied to him. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. vii. 226 The new governess was actually attempting to level sarcasm at the semi-divine head of her mistress.

Se·mi-dome. [SEMI- 6 a.] Half a dome, usually one formed by vertical section.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 94 The inside of St. Sophia, the cupola, the two larger, and the six smaller, semi-domes [etc.]. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 74/1 A large semicircular ..apsis, covered by a semi-dome. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 161 The..figure of Christ in the semi-dome of the apse.

Hence **Se·mi-domed, Semi-do·mical** *adjs.*, having the form of a semi-dome.

1864 LADY EASTLAKE *Hist. Our Lord* I. 19 The semi-domed tribune or apse. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 250 Other semi-domical projections branching out from the walls which support the great semi-domes. 1888 *Gd. Words* 238 The..semi-domed nest [of the willow wren].

Semi-dou·ble, *a.* (*sb.*) [SEMI- 1. So FR.]

1. *Liturg.* (See quots.) Also *sb.* = semi-double feast. [tr. med.L. *sēmiduplex.*]

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Semidouble office has double Vespers and Nine Lessons at Mattins; but the Anthems are not re-doubled. 1850 *Vesper Bk.* Pref. p. xii, Sundays and Days within an Octave are Semi-doubles. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* 344/1 On semi-doubles, half of the antiphon was repeated before, the whole after the psalm. 1909 *Cath. Encycl.* VI. 23/1 In the Mass, the semidouble has always at least three orationes or prayers.

2. Of flowers: Having the innermost stamens perfect, while the outermost have become petaloid.

1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iv. 294 The double Roses seldom fructify, but if you shall take the Hip of one that's semi-double [etc.]. 1796 *New Ann. Reg.* 146, I had collected my opium from double or semi-double poppies. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 366 Cultivated semi-double flowers.

Semie, obs. f. SEMÉE. **Semied,** var. SEMÉED.

Se·mi-elli·pse. [SEMI- 6 a.] The half of an ellipse bisected by one of its diameters (usually the transverse).

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 344 The two Semi-Ellipses, which are on the Fore-sides of their longest Axes or Diameters. 1841 MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* viii. (1887) 150 The convex or sharpened edge is elongated into a semi-ellipse cut in the line of its shortest diameter. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 57 To make the section of the narrower vault an upright semi-ellipse.

So **Se·mi-elli·ptic** (hence **Se·mi-elli·ptic, -elli·ptical** *adjs.*); **Semi-ellipsoi·dal** *a.*, of the form of half an ellipsoid.

1767 FERGUSON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 392 Right lines.. shall cut the *semi-ellipsis in those points through which the hour-lines must be drawn. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 703/1 The Yorkshire flagstone is ..used, to make curb stones of two feet in height, the laminæ being placed vertically, and the block worked above to a *semi-ellipsoidal figure. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Semielliptic*, half-elliptic, the division being longitudinal. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 6/3 The suspension of the rear part of the chassis is now by three-quarter ellip-

tical springs instead of semi-elliptics. 1762a *Ann. Reg.* 75 A bright semicircular or *semielliptical arch over the moon. 1841 MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* viii. (1887) 166 They remind one..of pieces of ancient iron armour, fitted into semi-elliptical scales. 1866 R. TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iv. 128 The aperture is oblique, semielliptical, thin.

Semi-feral, *a.* [SEMI- 2; cf. L. *sēmifer*, and see FERAL *a.*[2], FERINE.] Half-wild.

1887 FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 774/1 The semiferal pigs of New Granada. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 4/1 A stag in Warnham Park, one of a semi-feral herd.

So **Se·mi·ferine, Semiferous** (*rare*[−0]) *adjs.*

1854 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 3) 233 The she-dragon Delphyné, a *semi-ferine maid. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 603 [Achilles] is represented as having owed everything to the peculiar training of Chiron; whose semi-ferine life he shared. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Semiferous*, half wilde.

Semi-fidel, *a.* [f. SEMI- + *-fidel* in INFIDEL.] That is a half-believer.

1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xv. (1862) 37 Some of the infidel, some of the semi-fidel, and some of the super-fidel schools.

Se·miflex, *v.* [SEMI- 3.] *trans.* To bend into a position halfway between that of extension and that of complete flexure.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 805/2 Supposing that a muscular effort equal to 20 would completely bend the elbow, one equal to 10 would semiflex it. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 224 Semiflex the limb, to extend the parts and enlarge the articular line.

So **Se·miflexed, Se·miflexion, -flexure.**

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 78/1 The whole limb remains habitually in the *semiflexed position. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 323 The right knee was semiflexed; the joint was greatly distended. 1828 *Lancet* 12 Apr. 64/1 The fingers are constantly in a state of *semiflexion. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 91 *Semiflexure is the proper position to keep the limb in, the muscles being then in a state of relaxation.

Semi-floret. *Bot.* [SEMI- 6 c.] A floret having a ligulate corolla, as in the dandelion.

1731 BAILEY (ed. 2), *Semi-floret* (with Florists), an half-flourish, is tubulous at the beginning like a Floret, and afterwards expanded in the form of a tongue. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* vi. 68 You have observed two sorts of florets in the Daisy: the yellow ones, which occupy the middle.., of the flower, and the little white tongues..which surround them...We shall leave to the first the name of Florets, and to distinguish the second we shall call them Semi-florets.

So **Semi-flo·scule,** in Latin form **-flo·sculus;** hence **Semi-flo·scular, -flo·sculose, -flo·sculous** *adjs.*, having semi-florets (cf. LIGULATE *a.* 1).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Scorzonera*, The flower is of the *semifosculer kind. 1727 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* v. 210 All the *Semifoscles or half Flourishes have a Capillamentum and Vagina. *Ibid.* 227 The yellow radiated large Flowers..have their Corona, consisting of two or three Rows of very small Semifoscules. 1730 — *Bot. Ess.* i. 30 Each of these *Flosculi*, and '*Semifosculi*', are situated upon the top of an Embryo seminis. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xx. (1776) 232 The *Semifosculose Flowers of Tournefort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Semifosculose*, having the corolla split and turned to one side, as in the ligule of composites. 1730 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iii. 128 *Semifosculous Flowers. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 422/2 One naked seed, and compound flowers semifosculous.

Semiflu·id, *a.* (and *sb.*) [SEMI- 7 a.] **A.** *adj.* Of a consistency midway between fluid and solid.

1775 ASH, *Semifluid*, imperfectly fluid. 1791 BEDDOES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 174 Workman keeps stirring and turning over the metal; in 3 m. it becomes soft and semi-fluid. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 37 The reason why thick soups, pies, puddings, and all semifluid masses, retain their heat..so much longer than equal bulks of mere fluid. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xix, Semifluid, as if composed of earth and water. 1880–1 SAVILLE KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 234 *Monas fluida*...Body soft and semifluid, exceedingly variable in shape.

B. *sb.* A semi-fluid substance.

1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. vii. § 7 (1735) 189 Phlegm, or Pituite, is a sort of Semi-fluid. 1873 GEIKIE *Ice Age* iii. 33 What property does ice possess which enables it to creep upon slopes adown which only fluids and semi-fluids can move?

Hence **Se·mifiui·dity.**

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 455 The semifluidity of tar. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxv. 365 A proof of the semi-fluidity of the glacier.

Se·mi-form, *sb.* [SEMI- 2, 6 f.] An imperfect form; *Cryst.*, a hemihedral form.

1836 SMART, *Semi-form.* 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 137 A form of the hemi-symmetrical kind will be termed a semiform or a hemihedron.

Semi-form, *a.* *rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *sēmiformis*, f. *sēmi-* SEMI- + *forma* FORM *sb.*] 'Half formed, imperfect' (Bailey, 1721).

Semi-formed, *a.* [SEMI- 1, ? partly after L. *sēmiformis* (see prec.).] Half-formed.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Semi-formed*, half-formed; imperfectly formed; as, semi-formed crystals. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 44 Transparent semi-formed images of his own delirium.

Semi-globe. [SEMI- 6 a.] The half of a globe; a hemisphere or hemispherical form, structure, etc.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 312 A semi-globe, with the flat part upwards. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 142, I do not..determine, whether Semi-globes, or common square Lamps, will prove most commodious. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 17 The hills..swell in beautiful semi-globes. 1867 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* VI. vi. 550 Diodorus conceived it [*sc.* the Milky Way] to be a dense celestial fire, shewing itself through the clefts of the starting and dividing semi-globes. 1875 BRASH *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 43 The next order is enriched with a line of semiglobes.

So **Semi-glo·bose, -glo·bular** *adjs.*, of the form of a semi-globe or hemisphere.

1721 BAILEY, **Semiglobular*, of the Form of half a Globe. 1818 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* vi. (ed. 3) I. 199 The red *semi-globose bodies of the gravid females. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 100 The central semiglobular ventricular cavity. *Ibid.* 159 A semiglobose univalve. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xlii, The irregular chalk table-land or plateau, bosomed with semi-globular tumuli.

Se·migod. [SEMI- 2; freq. used to render L. *sēmideus*, Gr. *ἡμίθεος*.] A demigod.

1417 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 50 Thei had doute, whan he was ded, whethir thei schuld a noumbir him among the hie goddis or semigoddes. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 16 Some semi-God, more then a mortall creature. 1615 B. JONSON *Golden Age Rest.* Wks. (1616) 1013 Yonder soules..in Elysian bowres..That for their liuing good, now semigods are made. 1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod* i. 254 Diuine Heroes; That the surnames bore Of Semigods. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 21/2 Semi-Gods and Heroes to be Guardians over Cities. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* II. i. 259 The divine race of heroes, in former times called Semigods. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Culture* Wks. (Bohn) II. 363 Can rules or tutors educate The semigod whom we await?

Semihi·ant, *a.* *rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *sēmihiant-em*, f. *sēmi-* SEMI- 1 + *hiant-em*, pres. pple. of *hiāre* to gape.] Of lips: Half-open.

1873 M. COLLINS *Miranda* xxx, He stooped and softly kissed the semihiant lips.

Semili, obs. form of SEEMLY *adv.*

Se·milor, alteration of SIMILOR by association with SEMI-, *quasi* 'half-gold'.

1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 321 An inner smooth unbroken tube of semilor [*printed* semidor]. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* I. 63 Jeweller's Alloys..Semilor.

Semilunar (semilū·năr), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *sēmilūnāris*, f. **sēmilūna* half-moon (cf. late L. *sēmilūnium*); see SEMI- 6 a and LUNAR. Cf. F. *semi-lunaire.*] **A.** *adj.* Half-moon-shaped; crescentic. (Cf. LUNAR *a.* 3.) **a.** in general use.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 17 b/2 The Knife is of the Latinistes callede 'Culter excisorius lunatus', in Englishe a semi-lunare cutting Knife. 1727 *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 556 Some exactly Square, some oblong Square, some Semi-lunar. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772*, 188 A beautiful semilunar bay. 1795 *Anna Seward's Lett.* (1811) IV. 102 A semilunar seat, beneath its boughs, admits four people. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 74 It is probable that the semi-lunar instruments were fixed in wooden handles, and then used in cleaning skins.

b. *Zool.*, *Bot.*, and *Anat.* (e. g. *semilunar cartilage, fold, ganglion, valve*: see quots.).

1681 GREW *Museum* I. ii. 103 The Snout [*sc.* of the River-Whale] flat. Both the Chaps before of a Semilunar figure. 1719 QUINCY *Phys. Dict.* (1722), *Semilunar Valves*, thus called from their resemblance in shape to a half moon. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Semilunar Valves*..are little Valves or Membranes of a Semilunar Figure, placed in the Orifice of the Pulmonary Artery, to prevent the Relapse of the Blood into the Heart at the time of its Dilatation. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v., All the species of the semi-lunar shells have few convolutions. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 180 In the abdomen this nerve unites with the par vagum of the right side, and together form the great semi-lunar Ganglion. 1768 PENNANT in *Ibid.* LVIII. 93 Between the toes is a strong semilunar membrane. 1831 KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 133 The Semilunar Bone (*os Lunatum*), is smaller and less elongated than the scaphoid. Its upper surface is convex and smooth. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 84/2 The lacrymal caruncle and semilunar fold. 1840 W. J. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 69 The semilunar bone may be known by having a crescentic concavity, and a somewhat crescentic outline. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 474 The nasal opening in males is irregularly semilunar. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 23 In man..[the third eyelid] exists..as a mere rudiment, called the semilunar fold. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* v. 183 Two inter-articular cartilages, called semilunar, are..interposed between the cartilaginous articular surfaces of the femur and those of the tibia.

B. *sb.* A semilunar bone, valve, etc.

1893 S. GEE *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. iii. 50 That the closure of the aortic semilunars precedes that of the pulmonary semilunars.

Semilu·nary, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Formed as prec.: see -ARY.] = prec. adj.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 73 The Soldania Bay is of a semi-lunary forme. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. § 6 Schol., The semilunary Valvulæ. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1037 They both made but one continued semilunary Body. 1715 *Ibid.* XXIX. 328 The semilunary Valves in the Mouth of the Aorta. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 111 Semilunary rays darting from gilded clouds, surrounding an achievement motto, In Coelo Salus.

Semilu·nate, *a.* [As prec.: see -ATE 2.] = LUNATE.

1841 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. ix. 366 Operculum semilunate. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. i. 402/2 Semilunate pancreatic glands. 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 47 Cells semilunate, with the cusps either expanded or curved inwards.

So **Se·mi-lu·nated** *a.*

1726 MONRO *Anat. Bones* 106 We remark on the occipital Bone a small Rising and semilunated Excavation of each Side. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. i. 303 Avoset. ..Feet palmated; the webs deeply semilunated between each toe.

Se·mi-lune. [As if ad. L. **sēmilūna* half-moon: see SEMI- 6 a and LUNE 3.] A semilunar or crescent-shaped form, structure, etc.; *Fortif.* = DEMI-LUNE 2.

1858 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 162 The 'semilunar' bone may be told by its two 'semilunes' below. 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon. Assyria* iv, Between this outer barrier and the City moat were interposed a species of semilune.

1880 V. HARRIS & POWER *Man. Physiol. Lab.* 46 Granular semilunar bodies, the semilunes of Heidenhain. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 18 Oct. 4/4 The vast semi-lune along the Strand.

†**Semi-mature,** *a.* *Obs.* *rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *sēmimātūrus*: see SEMI- 1, MATURE *a.*] Half ripe.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 529 Semymature also me may hem gleue.

Semi-me·tal. *Old Chem.* [ad. mod.L. *sēmimetallum*: see SEMI- 2, 7 i.] A non-malleable metal.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. f 2 b, Semi-mettals, &c. which are mineral bodies, neere in nature unto mettals. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* 89 [A Metal] may comprehend both those that are strictly called Metals (not excluding common *argent vive* to be one) and those that are also called semi-metals, as Antimony and the like. 1732 *Hist. Lit.* III. 349 Fossils are divided into Metals, Salts, Sulphurs, Stones, Semi-Metals, and Earths. 1754 LEWIS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 680 Regulus of antimony, the most difficultly fusible of the semi-metals. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 26 Crude Antimony, or the Ore of Antimony,..is a semi-metal. 1831 T. P. JONES *New Convers. Chem.* Gloss., *Semi-metal.* This term is now obsolete. 1835 POE *Adv. Hans Pfaall* Wks. 1864 I. 8 A particular metallic substance or semi-metal.

Se·mi-meta·llic, *a.* [SEMI- 7 i.] Partly metallic; *spec.* of the nature of a 'semi-metal'.

1748–52 J. HILL *Mat. Med.* (J.), The semimetallick recrements. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Miin.* (ed. 2) I. 164 Lustre, of the grey part, silky, verging to the semimetallic. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 393 Semi-metallic matter.

†**Seminair(e.** *Obs.* *rare.* [a. F. *séminaire* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *sēmināriun* SEMINARY *sb.*[1]] = SEMINARY *sb.*[1]

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 64 The semynair is doluen in this mone Al bisily.

Seminal (se·minăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4–5 semynall, 5–6 seminall. [a. F. *séminal* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), = Pr., Sp., Pg. *seminal*, It. *seminale*, ad. L. *sēmināl-is*, f. *sēmin-*, *sēmen* seed, SEMEN: see -AL.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to seed; of the nature of seed.

1. Of or pertaining to the seed or semen of men and animals (applied *Phys.* and *Anat.* to structures adapted to contain or convey semen); of the nature of semen.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (Bodl. MS.), De humoure seminal. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 90 Then is the Marriage perfect..; And ye maie trewly know..How the seminall seed Masculine, Hath wrought and won the Victory, Upon the menstrualls worthily. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 154 They notably strengthen the seminall vessels. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6047 Animals, of spontaneous and seminal generation. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 19 The seminal liquor, not only of males, but of females also, abounds in these moving little animals. 1853 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* § 345 (ed. 4) 360 Some time after a seminal emission. 1861 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 3) 51 We regard the former as an ovary and the second as a testicle or seminal capsule. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* 351 The seminal matter is poured out.

† **b.** Begotten of the seed (of a person). *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 43 Some deny his Divinity, that he was begotten of humane principles, and the seminall sonne of Joseph.

2. With reference to plants: Pertaining to or of the nature of seed. *Bot.* Of organs or structures: Serving to contain the seed.

† *Seminal plant* (= mod.L. *plantula seminalis*): the future plant as contained in the seed, the embryo. † *Seminal root* = RADICLE 1. *Seminal leaf* = COTYLEDON.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 125 The seminal spike of Mercurie weld. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 56 Every small particle of that imperfect plant being rather beleived seminall..than [etc.]. 1671 GREW *Anat. Pl.* I. i. (1682) 5 If you take the Lobe of a Bean, and lengthwise pare off its Parenchyma by degrees, and in extreme thin slices, many Branches of the Seminal Root..will appear. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 99 Most Seeds having in them a seminal Plant perfectly formed. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Seminal Leaves. *c* 1770 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1777) 262 The seminal root serves the purposes of an anchor. 1833 HOOKER in Smith *Eng. Flora* V. i. 10 The inner membrane (or seminal bag) is attached by numerous threads or veins to the inside of the outer covering. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 119 The former [epigean cotyledons] springing up during the process of germination, and being converted into seminal leaves.

† **b.** Produced from seed. *Obs.*

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Crocus*, There are several other Varieties of the Spring Crocus.., which are seminal Productions. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Pease* 5 Z 1/2 Several of the above-mentioned..are..only seminal variations, which will degenerate into their original state in a few years, if they are not very carefully managed. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* v. (1798) 68 A seminal variety of any tree, or shrub, that is remarkably different from the original.

3. *gen.* Of or pertaining to the seed or reproductive elements existing in organic bodies, or attributed in pre-scientific belief to inorganic substances. Formerly often in *seminal power, virtue*: the power of producing offspring.

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. iv. 117 Gold phylosophicall,.. having gotten a more perfect vegetation and seminal vertue, may be dissolued into any liquor. 1652 BUGG *New Disp.* 73 The Earth bath of herself a seminall vertue of producing herbs. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 17. 463 And consequently different appearances and effects may be caused in the same bodies, though it results from seminal principles. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 122 To prove our assertion about the seminal production of all living creatures,..we appeal to observation and experiment. 1702 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* v. Misc. (1711) 74 We cannot prolong the Period of a

Commonwealth beyond the Decree of Heaven, or the Date of its Nature, any more than Humane Life beyond the Strength of the Seminal Virtue.

4. *fig.* Having the properties of seed; containing the possibility of future development.

a 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* in *Relig.* (1672) 77 In divers Children their ingenerate and seminal powers (as I may call them) lie deep. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 294 Conferring upon them Seminal and Initial Grace, which doth not presuppose Faith, but is it self the seed of Faith. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Acts viii. 25 Sinful thoughts are radical and seminal evils. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 184 ¶ 1 A careless glance upon a favourite author,..is sufficient to supply the first hint or seminal idea. 1779 — *L. P., Milton*, It is pleasant to see great works in their seminal state, pregnant with latent possibilities of excellence. 1838 MILL *Bentham* in *Westm. Rev.* Aug. 468 Jeremy Bentham and Samuel Taylor Coleridge—the two great seminal minds of England in their age. 1883 A. ROBERTS *O. T. Revision* v. 105 The Book of Job..seems to abound in those seminal thoughts which were developed and exhibited clearly in the later books. 1889 J. M. ROBERTSON *Ess. towards Crit. Method* 30 It was due to no seminal virtue in him that French literature later flowered afresh.

b. *nonce-use.* Concerned with the 'seeds' of future growth.

1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 199 The true reformer is the Seminal Reformer, not the Radical.

† **B.** *sb. Obs.*

1. A seminal particle; a seed, germ. Also *fig.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xvii. 379 Perhaps they containe the seminals of Spiders, and Scorpions. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 155 Did it [the Peripatetic Philosophy] suppose any thing of the form to pre-exist in the matter, as the seminal of its being; 'twere a tolerable sense to say it were educed from it. 1671 R. BOHUN *Disc. Wind* 175 The seminals of heat. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* IV. § 4 Mother-vices, which carry in their Bowels the seminals of other Iniquities.

2. *Phys.* A seminal vessel or duct.

1733 *Ordinary of Newgate* No. I. Advt., By..replenishing the Reins and Seminals.

† **Semina·lity.** *Obs.* Also seminalty. [f. SEMINAL *a.* + -ITY.] Seminal quality, principle, or condition.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 11 As though there were a seminalitie in Urine. 1651 in Biggs *New Disp.* Verses to Author c 2, My Quill Is to seek the Seminalty of things That's cover'd in these Lines. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 141 The Seminality or Ferment of the Disease being lodged in the Seed.

b. *pl.* Seminal properties; seminal particles, germs. *lit.* and *fig.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P215 Alien humours and seminalities. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 62 The Influence which the Seminalities of the Pox have by intermixture with other Maladies. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penitent Pardoned* I. iv. (1713) 87 Such kind of mutinous thoughts, such jealousies and suspicions are..the seminalities of all rebellion against God. 1681 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 28 Like the dispersed Seminalities of Vegetables at the Creation, scattered through the whole Mass of the Earth.

Seminally (se·minăli), *adv.* ? now *rare.* [f. SEMINAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a seminal state or manner; as a seed, germ, or reproductive element; in the form or state of seed; as regards germination or reproduction. Chiefly *fig.*

1634 JACKSON *Creed* VII. vii. Wks. VII. 35 All prediction of contingents to come, or of events not as yet seminally extant in their natural causes was from divine inspiration. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxxii. 394 If the Soule be seminally traduced, it must be either from the body, or from the soule of the Parents. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. v. 105 Why am I guilty of what Adam did, but because I have a nature that was seminally in him? 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 150 If we all received an unspeakable injury by being seminally in Adam when he fell..we all received also an unspeakable blessing by being in his loins when God spiritually raised him up. 1847 A. M'LEAN *Comm. Hebr.* I. vii. 264 Levi.. may be said to have been seminally in the loins of Abraham when Melchisedec met him. 1887 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* Jan. 2 Homer..is..also a great dramatist, and contains within him seminally the drama of his country.

† **Se·minant.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *sēminant-em*, pres. pple. of *sēmināre* to sow.] A sower of seed; applied allusively to a seminary priest: cf. SEEDMAN and SEMINARY *a.* 2 and *sb.*2 2.

c 1588 SEGAR *Blason of Papists* C 3, A Papist Seminant. Ioyn'd with the rest of this pernicious broode, Are Seminants calde Iesuistes of some.

† **Se·minar**1. *Sc. Obs.* [ad. L. *sēmināri-um*: see -AR 2.] = SEMINARY *sb.*1

1573 TYRIE *Refut. Knox* 44 b, But he of his prouidence hes reserrit sindrie, as ane seminar, be quhome he hes prorogat his doctrine to the posteritie.

‖ **Seminar**2 (semināːr). [Ger., ad. L. *sēmināri-um* SEMINARY *sb.*1] In German universities (hence in certain British and American universities), a select group of advanced students associated for special study and original research under the guidance of a professor. Also *transf.*, a class that meets for systematic study under the direction of a teacher.

1889 A. S. HILL *Our English* v. 209 In New York and Washington, if I am not misinformed, 'seminars' are periodically held, at which a clever woman coaches other clever women in the political, literary, and ethical topics of the day. 1892 *Daily News* 3 Aug. 6/1 [University Extension meeting at Oxford] A seminar is being organised in connection with the economic course, and the students will write essays and have tutorial supervision. 1893 *Chicago Advance* Apr. 27 The Seminar..is a society for the prosecution of independent work in some chosen field. There are to be eight of these Seminars next year. 1911 *Expositor* July 16 It has been well dealt with in the brilliant volume of Essays from Dr. Sanday's Seminar.

Seminarial (seminēˑriăl), *a. rare.* [f. SEMINARY *sb.*1 + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a seminary.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 180 Four are invested with the government of seminarial convents. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, Miss Twinkleton, in her seminarial state of existence.

Seminarian (seminēˑriăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. SEMINARY *sb.*1 + -AN.] † **A.** *adj.* = SEMINARY *a.*

1584 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 722 Martin Array, a Seminarian priest.

B. *sb.* † **a.** A seminary priest (*obs.*). **b.** A student at a seminary or Jesuit school, a seminarist.

1584 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 721 Lane, of Fisheborne receiveth Correy, a Seminarian. 1794 tr. *Barruel's Hist. Clergy Fr. Rev.* III. 27 At eight o'clock in the morning the clergymen of St. Nicholas..were dragged with their seminarians to the house of St. Firmin. 1908 G. TYRRELL in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 254 In protecting the seminarian from the knowledge of awkward facts.

Hence **Semina·rianism,** the mannerism of a seminarian.

1879 W. M. BAKER *His Majesty Myself* xviii. (1880) 139 (Funk) 'He, at least, has no seminarianism about him' she said, incidentally to Revel.

Seminarist (se·minări·st). [f. SEMINAR-Y *sb.*1 + -IST. Cf. F. *séminariste* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp., Pg., It. *seminarista*, Du., Ger., Sw., Da. *seminarist.*]

1. A Roman Catholic priest educated in a foreign seminary in the 16th and 17th c., esp. at Douay for the English mission. Now *Hist.*

1583 FULKE *Def. Tr. Script.* v. 147 One who hath more profited the Church of God, with his sincere translation, and learned annotations, than all the popish Seminaries, and Seminarists, shall be able to hinder it. 1679 EVERARD *Popish Plot* I, I surprized her with two of the chief Scotch Seminarists of Paris. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 4 The Romish regular *Clerici*, Cannon Regulars, Theatins, Oratorians, Seminarists, Chapterists, &c. 1826 J. R. BEST *Four Yrs. France* 6 The story of the poor seminarist of Douay. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 424 The seminarists were universally revered as candidates of martyrdom.

2. A student in a seminary; chiefly, a student in a seminary for the training of Roman Catholic priests.

1835 BECKFORD *Alcobaça & Batalha* 90 A tide of monks, sacristans, novices, seminarists..appeared all of a sudden flowing forth from every cell and cloister. 1862 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 185 The greatest stress is laid [in Prussian training-colleges] on learning by heart. The seminarist must be able to repeat without book all the Scripture histories read in the school. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* IV. 52 The Bishop does the same for all the seminarists who wish to be ordained.

b. *pl.* The teaching staff in a seminary.

a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 119 This Church now belongs to the Seminarists of the German Colledge. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 56 Shortly the Seminarists reported that, though not vicious, their pupil was not even good enough for a priest, so deficient was he in intellectual faculty. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 24/1 He was sent to the seminarists of St. Lazare to be improved in classics.

3. A member of a SEMINAR 2.

1865 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 347 A Göttingen student could not carry with him into the world any better recommendation than to have been one of Heyne's seminarists. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2497/2 [Wessenberg] sent his seminarists to Pestalozzi to learn the new method of instruction.

Hence **Seminari·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to a seminary priest.

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 299 The mixture of seminaristic modesty and nautical devil-may-care-ishness..caused me to laugh outright.

† **Seminarize,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SEMINAR-Y *sb.*1 + -IZE.] *trans.* To sow.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* G iij, Eleazer..was the first that seminarized thys hope of signiorizing and freedome amongst them. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Seminarise*, to sow or plant.

Seminary (se·minări), *sb.*1 Forms: 5 **seminari, semynarii,** 5–6 **semynary,** 5–7 **seminarie,** 6 **seminarye, (semenarie, -ye, semynarie, seameanary,** *pl. Sc.* **seminareis),** (7 **semenary**), 6– **seminary.** See also SEMINAIR(E, SEMINAR 1. [ad. L. *sēmināri-um* seed-plot (also *fig.*), orig. neut. of *sēmināri-us* SEMINARY *a.* Cf. F. *séminaire*, Sp., Pg., It. *seminario*, G. *seminar.*]

† **1.** A piece of ground in which plants are sown (or raised from cuttings, etc.) to be afterwards transplanted; a seed-plot. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 480 Let set in to thy semynari blue Oliues bowis vj feet long or flue. *Ibid.* III. 489, IV. 558. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. x. I. 510 Concerning seminaries and nource-gardens. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 46 Then taking your grafted trees out of the seminary, you shall transplant them into this nursery. 1729 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 185 For Apple-tree Seminaries, plant the Wildings grown from the Kernels..For a Seminary of Plumbs, plant the Suckers of their several kinds. 1778 R. WESTON *Gard. & Planter's Cal.* (ed. 2) 80 The Nursery and Seminary. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 47 They have become mere seminaries..and for raising dwarf trees.

† b. *transf.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 30 In that same Gardin all the goodly flowres, Wherewith dame Nature doth her beautifie, ..Are fetcht: there is the first seminarie Of all things, that are borne to liue and die [etc.]. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 29 The ground itself from its own seminary sent out the supposititious crop of oates.

† **2.** *transf.* A place where animals are bred; a region which supplies (some kind of animal). Also, a stock or breed (of animal). *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 21 He that will haue a good flocke of Asses, must looke that the male and female be sounde,. and out of a good seminary, as of Arcadia or Rea. *Ibid.* 69 Very great and large oxen, which the inhabitants cal *Pyrrhicæ*, because that their first stocke or seminary were kept by King Pirrhus. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* vi. 99 The whole tract is a Seminary of Horses. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 197 Man's rotten Carcase becomes a Seminary of Worms.

3. *fig.* **a.** A place of origin and early development; a place or thing in which something (e. g. an art or science, a virtue or vice) is developed or cultivated, or from which it is propagated abundantly.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 79 b, My insatiable and wanton eyes..whome I founde the seminaries and moovers of all so great strife and trouble, in my..heart. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* viii, Thyne eyes (those Semynaries of my griefe). 1625 JACKSON *Creed* V. xx. Wks. IV. 177 That the seminaries of poetry should be the chief nurses of idolatry argues how apt the one is to bring forth the other. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vii. 308 God..hath with variety disposed the principles of all things; wisely contriving them in their proper seminaries, and where they best maintaine the intention of their species. *a* 1656 USSHER *Power of Princes* II. (1683) 156 The bloud of this noble Army of Martyrs became the fruitful seminary thereof. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 114 If Gentlemen's families were so ordered, as to become Seminaries of Industry and Sobriety. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* (1722) 88 The Chaos, that known fund and seminary of the Six Days Creation. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 141 Wks. 1871 II. 415 All which demonstrates the air to be a common seminary and receptacle of all vivifying principles. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Ethical Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 113 The virtues which guard the natural seminaries of the affections are their only true and lasting friends. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 112 The Council chamber at Edinburgh had been..a seminary of all public and all private vices. 1864 LOWELL *Study Windows, Libr. Old Authors* end, We are profoundly thankful for the omission of a glossary. It would have been a nursery and seminary of blunder.

b. A place, country, society, condition of things, or the like, in which some particular class of persons are produced or trained.

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 53 The seminarie or bee hive of many thousands of Monkes. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* E 2 By which meanes euery Busse shall be a Seminary of Saylors and Fishers also, for so shall euery busse breede and make Sixe new Marriners. *a* 1626 BACON *Notes Sp. conc. War Spain* Wks. 1826 V. 234 There is not in the world again such a spring and seminary of military people as is England, Scotland, and Ireland. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 33 Those Netherland wars were the Queens Seminaries, and the Nurseries of very many brave Souldiers. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 762 The north used to be the seminary of Henry's and Margaret's forces, supplying them constantly with fresh recruits. 1756–9 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints, S. Wasnulf,* In the seventh century St. Vincent.. invited many holy monks from Ireland and Scotland, then seminaries of saints, into the Netherlands. 1876 BLACKIE *Lang. & Lit. Scott. Highl.* v. 309 What had once been..the seminary of a stout Celtic people, and the nursery of a brave British army.

† **c.** A continuous supply (of a class of persons).

1652–62 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 166/1 And from hence supply themselves with a perpetual Seminary of Slaves and Souldiers.

4. A place of education, a school, college, university, or the like; often explicitly (cf. 3 a) *seminary of learning, science,* etc. Also in more specific sense (cf. 3 b) an institution for the training of those destined for some particular profession.

In the earlier half of the 19th c. 'Seminary for Young Ladies' was very common as the designation of a private school for girls. This use is perhaps not wholly obsolete, but is no longer in repute.

1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 2 Universiteis and seminareis for instructioun of craftie personis. 1607 *Statutes* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 62 This schole is principallie ordained a seminarie for bringinge up of christian children. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 378 A Schoole which hath beene a most fruitfull seminarie of many excellent learned men. 1628 WOTTON *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 307 This Royal Seminary [Eton]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxiii. 146 He was preferred to be Master of Westminster School a most famous seminarie of learning. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Mar. 1687, I..much admir'd the order, œconomy, and excellent government of this most charitable seminary [Christ's Hospital]. 1709 SWIFT *Advancem. Relig.* 30 As for the Inns of Court,..they must needs be the worst instituted Seminaries in any Christian Country. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* II. ii. Wks. (1812) 282 That a nation..should..have established so flourishing a seminary of learning. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 436 They were made use of for seminaries, where young people were educated. 1800 HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (ed. 2) III. 9 The seminary to which Mr. Cavendish conducted his son could not properly be termed a school. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygëia* VIII. 71 A lady who believes herself to have been the favourite of the heads of one of the most numerous seminaries in England. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvii, To place his daughter in a seminary for female education. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* I. 23 The modern metaphorical refinement of styling a school a seminary which may be now seen in many a blind alley of London. 1831 BREWSTER *Newton* I. 4 At the usual age he was sent to two day-schools at Skillington and Stoke, where he acquired the education which such seminaries afforded. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. iii. 102 Young Walter spent one hour daily at a small separate seminary of writing and arithmetic. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii, Whereon ap-

peared, in circumambient flourishes, the words 'Ladies' Seminary'. 1840 Jos. QUINCY *Harvard Univ.* II. 452 The interests of society demand, that the number of the greater seminaries of science should be few. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 201 That famous seminary [Aberdeen University]. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Mikado* I. Trio, Three little maids who, all unwary, Come from a ladies' seminary, Freed from its genius tutelary—Three little maids from school!

5. *R. C. Ch.* A school or college for training persons for the priesthood. In 16–17th c. often used with reference to those institutions engaged in the training of priests for the English mission.

1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traict.* Epist. 9 He hes not neglectit ye occasion offrit to plant sindrie learnit and godlie 3ong men in a publik seminarie. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrd. Campion* (1908) 6 Hearing that there was a Seminary not longe before begonne in Doway. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marforius* A iij, At the last, hearing the Schollers of the English Seminarie merrie, as they returned from their Vineyarde..I stole out of Rome by night [etc.]. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Seminary*..a Colledge approved for the education of Priests of the Romish Church, who were to propagate their Doctrine in England, or other Parts of a different perswasion. 1716 in Payne *Rec. Eng. Catholics of* 1715 (1889) 148 John is now in some Popish seminary abroad. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 16 For monasteries, we should read convents, mission-houses, and seminaries.

b. *attrib.*, as in *seminary* † *college*, *-man*, *-priest*.

1581 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 20 William thorley..was brought uppe in a Semynary College at Reames iij yeares. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrd. Campion* (1908) 99 Confessing boldly himself to be a Catholike, a Priest, and a Seminarie man of Rhemes. 1582 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 26 He is now w^th^in this moneth returned a Seameanary preest from Rheames. 1693 *Mem. Ct. Teckely* I. 5 [The Emperors of the House of Austria] filled their Countreys with Missionaries, or Seminary Priests, as we call them. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. Wks. 1813 I. 542 He drove many of the seminary priests out of the kingdom. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, Giles Gosling..was at one time inclined to suspect his guest of being a Jesuit, or seminary priest.

6. = SEMINAR[2]. Also *attrib.*

1889 *Academy* 17 Aug. 103/2 The 'seminary' system seems to be making way [at Harvard]...The seminary is an association of the teachers, fellows, and scholars..for the prosecution of original studies by means of discussion and criticism. 1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., Seminary course.

† **7.** Short for *seminary priest* (see 5 b). *Obs.*

1581 W. CHARKE *Replie to Censure* I iii, This should be a note not only to those Iesuites, but to al whatsoeuer they be, Iesuites, or Seminaries or massepriestes, or what persons soeuer. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Q iij b, The Romish Seminaries haue not allured vnto them so many good wits as Atheisme. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. i, A while agone, they made mee, yea me, to mistake an honest zealous Pursiuant, for a Seminary. 1685 WOOD *Life* Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 162 M^r^ Ll. Jenkyns was imprison'd for a seminary.

¶ **b.** Often treated as a subst. use of SEMINARY *a.*, with the sense 'one who sows the seed' (of Romish doctrine). See SEMINARY *a.* 2 and *sb.*[2] 2.

1583 [see SEEDMAN 1]. 1610 J. DOVE *An Advert.* 2 Their yong frye of Seminaries and seed-men, which are trained up under them, see not with their owne eyes.

† **Se·minary,** *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [ad. L. *sēmināri-us*, f. *sēmin-* seed: see SEMEN.]

A. *adj.*

1. = SEMINAL *a.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* H ii, They [spirits] so comprehend those seminarie vertues to men vnknown, that those thinges which, in course of time,..Nature of it selfe can effect, they..can contriue and compas in a moment. 1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 727 That which the point is in the Mathematicks, the same is the seminarie power in the Phisickes. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 219 Aristotle..would haue that humor which is auoyded by the necke of the matrix not to bee a seminarie or seedy humour. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 233 The Testes and seminary vessels. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* ii. 33 Especially in declaring the root and seminary power of Metals. 1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iv. 306 The Seminary Particles in the Ova. *a* 1742 G. MARTIN in *Med. Ess. Edin.* V. 231 The seminary Blood-vessels.

2. Occupied in sowing seed. *fig.* with allusion to SEMINARY *sb.*[1] 7.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) To Rdr. ¶6 And so [he]..calleth the other Apostles *Messores*, Reapers, and S. Paul, being specially sent to the Gentiles, *Seminatorem* a Sower, or Seminarie Apostle. 1640 GAUDEN *Love of Truth* 25 Fortifying truth, against the Seminary incursions of those, that seeke to encroach upon its ancient bounds.

B. *sb.* (From absolute uses of the adj.)

1. a. A germ, embryo, seminal particle. **b.** *spec.* The morbific matter or principle (of a disease); *pl.* germs (of infection). Cf. SEMINAL *sb. Obs.*

a. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* III. 40 Plants were not created perfect at first, but only in their seminaries.

b. 1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* A iiij, The foure windes bring diuers affections of the aire, and especially contagious seminaries. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 244 In whom there lies hid the Seminary of a disease. 1665 G. HARVEY *Adv. agst. Plague* 9 Houses built upon a clay and foggy ground are more subject to conceive pestilent Seminaries. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 202 The Plague, whose *fomes*, seminary, or contagion you will never cast out of the Body, except by [Alexitericks or Sudorificks]. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 191/2 Dedicated to the Kidneys and Bladder, not only to evacuate what is viscous and sandy in them, but also to move the Seminary thereof, and hinder..the farther Generations of Sand, Gravel, or Stones.

2. A sower of seed. Only *fig.*, chiefly with punning allusion to SEMINARY *sb.*[1] 7.

[1583, 1620: see SEMINARY *sb.* 7 b.] *a* 1680 BUTLER *Charac. in Rem.* (1759) II. 450 A Pettifogger..is a Law-seminary, that sows Tares amongst Friends to entangle them in Contention with one another.

† **Se·minate,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *sēmināt-us*, pa. pple. of *sēmināre*: see SEMINATE *v.*] Disseminated.

a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 851 The suaue odour Was seminate about that blisfull tour.

Seminate (se·mine̊t), *v.* Now *arch.* [f. L. *sēmināt-*, ppl. stem of *sēmināre* to sow, bring forth, propagate, etc., f. *sēmin-*: see SEMEN and -ATE 3.]

1. *trans.* To sow; chiefly *fig.* to promulgate or disseminate.

1535 HEN. VIII in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1733) I. App. liv. 141 Who..intended to seminate, engender, & breed, among our people & subjects, a most mischievous & seditious Opinion. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* f iv b, I am not entred into this matter to sowe and seminate the same in an infertille grownde. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 60 If naturall, where are the innate principles, primely seminated, common to all men? *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dr. N. North* (1742) 248 He shewed an innate Hatred of popular Faction; as well that which had been seminated all over England..as also [etc.]. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *West Eng.* I. 164 The method of seminating the Wheat crop.

† **b.** *Her.* (Cf. SEMÉE *a.*, SEMINED.)

1620 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. x. (1611) 115 If they were strowed, or (as I may better terme it) seminated all over the field, then were it not a bend betweene but upon or over them.

2. *intr.* To produce seed. *rare*[−1].

1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 430 The secret spark of life that is in it, that Attracts, increaseth, Groweth, Seminateth, preserves it self and its kinds.

Hence **Se·minated** *ppl. a.*

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 236 Wherefore the whole muckie and phlegmatick Doctrine of Galen, hath been dried up in a seminated or seedied Stone.

Semination (semina·ʃən). [a. L. *sēmināti̯ōn-em*, f. *sēmināre* to sow: see SEMINATE *v.*]

1. The action or process of sowing. Chiefly *fig.*

1531 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 338 The semynacyon and sowing such euill seedes of dampnable and detestable heresies. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* ii. 8 But to make an Essay what Seed is most agreeable to the Soil, you may by the thriving of a promiscuous Semination make a judgement of it. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* II. 195 From a slender Semination of the Gospel there was likely to be a vast Harvest. 1797 J. LAWRENCE in *Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 314 It is beginning to be sown with the seeds of such as we fashionably style French principles: in a few years, the semination will be universal and complete.

† **b.** A mode of grafting. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 21 *note*, Semination, insition, inoculation or implastration, the three kindes of grafting.

† **c.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2), *Semination*, is called by Blasius the Immission of the Male-Seed into the Womb in Coition.

2. The production of seed or semen.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Semination*, or *Sementation*, a sowing, or bringing forth seed. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. iv. (1677) 267 And therefore such Herbs, if their Semination be prevented by being cut, survive to the next Year. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 112 The generic term Prœotia or Prœotes is copied from Theophrastus...It is, however, peculiarly applied to premature semination. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Borders* I. 124 All the Hieracia are erect throughout the process of florescence and semination.

3. The natural dispersion of seeds.

1765 JOHNSON *Shaks.* 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. *note*, Those who perceived that fern was propagated by semination, and yet could never see the seed.

† **4.** = INOCULATION. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 527 We are informed (by the learned Maitland) that this method of Semination of the small pox has been in use above 100 years among the Chinese.

Seminative (se·minə̊tiv), *a. rare.* [Formed as SEMINATE *v.* + -IVE.] Having the function of sowing or propagating; capable of sowing seeds (of thought). † *Seminative power*, *virtue*: cf. SEMINAL *a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxlii. (Bodl. MS.), Vertu semynatife of Rewe is in þe sede in the stalke in spraie and in rote. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 73 The seminative power is taken from the Earth. 1818 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 22 Lastly, the whole frame of seminative nature was, by all the gods, distributed in proper order. 1889 LOWELL *Latest Ess., Stud. Mod. Lang.* (1891) 143 There have been men of genius, like Emerson, richly seminative for other minds.

† **Se·minator.** *Obs.* [a. L. *sēmināt-or*, agent-n. f. *sēmināre*: see SEMINATE *v.*] A sower, a scatterer of seed. (With quot. 1609 cf. SEMINARY *sb.*[2] 2.)

1609 WOTTON *Life & Lett.* (1907) I. 462 Here hath been scattered a report by the Pope's seminators that his Majesty had [etc.]. 1651 PRESTWICH tr. *Seneca's Hippol.* I. ii. 7 The Gods fruitfull Seminator, who As he his Thunder brandishes, doth shake The trembling world.

† **Se·mined,** *ppls. Obs.* [f. **semine* vb., ad. L. *sēmināre*: see SEMINATE *v.*] = SEMÉE *a.*

1603 B. JONSON *King's Entertainm.* (1604) C 2 Irene, or Peace...Her attire White, semined with Starres. *a* 1616—*Hymenæi* B 2 Reason, seated in the top of the Globe..her Garments blew, and semined with Starres. 1621 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. § 47 Philip de Valoys sate crowned in violet velues, semined with golden lillies. 1672 T. JORDAN *Lond. Triumph.* 6.

† **Semi·nial,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SEMINI-UM + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a 'seminium'.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. iv. (1677) 272 The Seminial Particles of Insects.

Semini·feral, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sēmin-* SEMEN + *-fer* (f. *ferre* to bear) + -AL.] = SEMINIFEROUS *a.* 2.

1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 302 Between the seminiferal tubes.

Seminiferous (semini·fĕrəs), *a.* Also 8 semen-. [f. L. *sēmin-*, *sēmen* SEMEN + -(I)FEROUS.]

1. *Bot.* Bearing or producing seed.

Seminiferous scale, in *Coniferæ* the scale above the bract-scale bearing the ovules, and ultimately the seeds.

1692 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 198 Because, being seminiferous, I deferred it when I entred the Lenticulæ. 1707 *Monthly Miscell.* Dec. I. 230 Seminiferous Cup Mushroom. 1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iii. 192 There is a Difference among the Flowers of this Valerian, for some are Seminiferous, more compactly united, like the Heads of Scabiosa. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exemp.* 172 Most of the seminiferous, or Seed tribe. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 109 Seminiferous dissepiment parallel with the valves. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 518 The seminiferous scales ..appear to be axillary structures in the axils of bracts.. which spring from the axis of the cone.

2. *Anat.* Containing or conveying the seminal fluid; bearing or producing semen.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 808 These filaments are the seminiferous vessels or ducts. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* i. 33 In the male we have the bundles of seminiferous tubules enclosed in a fibrous capsule.

Seminific (semini·fik), *a. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *sēmin-* SEMEN + -(I)FIC.] Producing semen or seed.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Seminifick*, producing seed for generation. 1706 — (ed. Kersey), *Seminifick*, that makes or breeds Seed. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Seminific*, semen-producing. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms.*, *Seminific*, forming or producing seed.

† **Semini·fical,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Formed as prec. + -AL.] = prec.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. viii. 317 We are made to beleeve that the fourteenth yeare males are seminificall and pubescent. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Seminifica·tion. *rare*[−1]. [f. L. *sēmin-* SEMEN + -(I)FICATION.] Production of seed.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 45 The Faculties or Operations of this *Anima vegetabilis* are these; 1. Attraction of aliment:..6. Seminification and propagation from the seed or seminal parts. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Seminification*, propagation from seed.

Seminiform (sĕmi·nifɒ̯m), *a. Bot. rare.* [Formed as SEMINIFIC *a.*: see -FORM.] Having the form of seeds. † **a.** *Seminiform attire*, a name given by Grew to the stamens. See ATTIRE *sb.* 8. *Obs.*

1676 GREW *Anat. Pl.* I. v. § 13 (1682) 37 The Attire, I find to be of two kinds, Seminiforme, and Florid. *Ibid.* IV. II. iii. 167 That sort of Attire, which may be called Seminiform, being usually, as it were, a little sheaf of seed-like Particles, standing on so many Pedicills, as the Ear doth upon the End of the Straw.

b. Bory's epithet for the reproductive bodies of Fungi, Polypi, Confervæ, and other vegetable or animal organisms which have no specialized generative organs.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Seminiformis.*

Seminist (se·minist). *Biol.* [a. F. *séministe* (18th c.), f. L. *sēmin-* SEMEN: see -IST.] (See quot. 1876.)

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Seminist*, animalculist. 1876 *Ibid.*, *Seminist*, animalculist. The term was, also, used for one who belived that the new being was formed by an admixture of the seed of the male with the supposititious seed of the female.

‖ **Seminium** (semi·niɒm). *rare.* Pl. **seminia.** [L. *sēminium* procreation, also race, stock, breed, f. *sēmin-*, *sēmen*: see SEMEN.] The first principle (of anything), germ, etc. = SEMINARY *sb.*[2] 1.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. iv. (1677) 272 The first Seminium of these *Insecta*. 1720 tr. *Hodges' Loimologia* 52 There is an Efflux of the contagious Seminium. *Ibid.* 55 Hence it comes strongly to be conjectured, how the pestilential Seminium comes to be hid so secretly in the Porosities of the Air. 1723 MAITLAND *Acc. Inoc. Small Pox* (ed. 2) 15 But in effect, to cleanse Nature from the latent *Fomes* or *Seminium*; and to secure against that popular Contagion. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Seminium*, a term used by the writers on fossils to express a sort of first principle, from which the several figured stones..are supposed to have their origin. *Ibid.*, The *seminia* of fossils may be as easily sustained in the air, as those of plants and animals. 1822–9 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 426 It is difficult if not impossible, to account..for the quickening of the lurking seminium of the poison at this time rather than at any other. [1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Seminium*, ..applied (nom. pl.) to the seeds or predisposing causes of disease.]

Seminivorous (semini·vŏrəs), *a. rare.* Also 7 semenivorous. [f. mod.L. **sēminivor-us* (f. L. *sēmin-* SEMEN + -(*i*)*vorus* devouring) + -OUS.] Eating or feeding on seeds.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 310/1 Semenivorous Birds, such as feed upon Seeds, as the Linnet, Jacknicco, and..Finches. 1829 G. S. FABER *Dispens.* (1823) I. 59 The whole race of graminivorous and seminivorous and fructivorous animals.

Semi-noctu·rnal, *a. Astr.* [SEMI- 5 b.] Pertaining to, or accomplished in, half a night.

1594, 1664 [see SEMI-DIURNAL 1]. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. God.* VII. xv. 342 The seminocturnal archs of the Ascension of the Ecliptick. 1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 87 By the help thereof [the Meridian], is found..the..Seminocturnal Arch of any Star. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 49 Subtract the seminocturnal arc of the star from its oblique ascension.

Semi-nu·de, *a.* [SEMI- 1.] Half naked.

1856 SMYTH *Rom. Family Coins* 209 A seminude Victoria alata in a rapid biga. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. She had floated and bobbed and swum and splashed semi-nude. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 110 A semi-nude figure of a saint holding an ensign.

b. *Bot.* (see quot. 1849).

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 576 In mignonette, the seed-vessel opens early, so as to expose the seeds, which are called seminude. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 325 True Gymnospermous plants..should be carefully distinguished from those with seminude ovules.

Hence **Se·mi-nu·dity**, the condition of being half naked; *concr.* a semi-nude figure.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 417 The glittering semi-nudities gyrating here. 1896 *Daily News* 12 June 5/1 Then there were the Revolutionary semi-nudity, and the sham Greek dress.

Seminule (se·minil). *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *sēminulum*, diminutive of L. *sēmin-*, *sēmen*: see SEMEN and -ULE.] A reproductive corpuscle of cryptogamous plants; also a small seed, a spore. Hence **Se·minuli·ferous** *a.*, bearing seminules.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Seminva·riant. *Math.* Also semi-in-. [f. SEMI- + INVARIANT.] A function of the coefficients of a binary quantic which remains unchanged, except for a constant factor, when $x + \lambda$ is substituted for x, but not when $y + \lambda$ is substituted for y.

1860 in Cayley *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 241 The coefficients of the equation of differences, *qua* functions of the differences of the roots of the given equation, are leading coefficients of covariants, or (to use a shorter expression) they are 'Seminvariants'. [*Note*, The term 'Seminvariant' seems to me preferable to M. Brioschi's term 'Peninvariant'.] 1882 SYLVESTER in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* V. 79 On Subinvariants, i. e. Semi-Invariants to Binary Quantics of an Unlimited Order.

†**Se·miny**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 7 seminie. [irreg. f. L. *sēmin-* (see SEMEN).] = SEMINIFORM.

1671 [see SEMET].

Se·mi-occa·sional, *a. U.S.* [SEMI- 1.] Occurring once in a while. Hence **Se·mi-occa·sionally** *adv.*

1850 'Dow jr.' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 113 Semi-occasional intoxication. 1854 *Putnam's Monthly* May 459/2 A newspaper published semi-occasionally. 1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. i, They jest work semioccashnally, or else don't work at all.

Se·mi-offi·cial, *a.* [SEMI- 1.] Partly official; depending to some extent upon official authority or knowledge.

1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 292 Unless the dinner was a semi-official one. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 2 The semi-official and opposition press has done its best to increase difficulties which required no increasing. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 5/1 The Central News asserts that there is semi-official reason for stating that [etc.]. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/1 The semi-official 'North German Gazette'.

So **Se·mi-offi·cially** *adv.*, in a semi-official manner.

1859 LANG *Wand. India* 191 That a civilian in power had a quarrel with the Commissary-General, and had represented, semi-officially, that great frauds had been committed. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 38 The Bishop of Basle..writes semi-officially to the King a letter of excuse.

Semiography, Semiology, etc.: see SEMEIO-.

Se·mi-opa·city. [SEMI- 2; cf. next.] The condition or quality of being semi-opaque.

1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* iv. 147 The Opacity of the Uvea, and the Semi-opacity of the Retina. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 117/2 The membrane of the cyst is thin, delicate, transparent, or with a certain pearly semi-opacity.

Se·mi-opa·cous, *a. rare*⁻¹. [SEMI- 1.] = next.

1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* III. iii. 189 Semi-opacous Bodyes, and those such as look'd upon in an ordinary Light, and not held betwixt it and the Eye, are not wont to be Discriminated from the rest of Opacous Bodyes.

Semi-o·pal. [transl. G. *halbopal* (Werner, 1788).] An inferior variety of opal harder and more opaque than common opal.

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 290 Semi Opal..much resembles flint. 1837 DANA *Man. Min.* (1862) 139 Common opal has the hardness of opal and is easily scratched by quartz, a character which distinguishes it from some silicious stones often called semi-opal.

Se·mi-opa·que, *a.* [SEMI- 1.] Partly opaque; only partially transparent.

1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 198 The Element of Water being semi-opake. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 31 *note*, It looks like a piece of yellowish glass, semiopaque and brittle. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xiv. (1849) 114 Certain semi-opaque minerals and other substances becoming transparent when plunged in water. 1872 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 340 Semi-opaque Socotrine and Barbadoes aloes.

Semi-o·val, *a.* Chiefly *Nat. Hist.* [SEMI- 6 a.] Of the form of half an oval cut longitudinally, semi-elliptical.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 273 Semi-Oval Arches. 1756 G. DOUGLAS *Winslow's Anat.* II. § 554 The Semi-Oval Fibres of the upper Palpebra. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss. 1836–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 708 Aperture entire, semioval. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 100 The whole garden-ground is included in a semi-oval hollow.

So **Semi-o·valoid** *a.*

a 1848 J. F. SOUTH in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 314/2 The Skink has the anterior end of the [upper arm] bone very wide, with a semiovaloid head, looking upwards.

Semi-o·vate, *a. Nat. Hist.* [SEMI- 6 a.] Of the shape of half an egg divided lengthways, ovate on one side only.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 276 *Semiovate*, half Egg-shaped. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 211 Opening semiovate.

So †**Se·mi-ova·ted** *a.*

1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 66 The germen is of a semiovated figure.

Semi-pa·lmate, *a. Zool.* [SEMI- 7 d.] Partly palmate, half-webbed.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Semi-palmate, Semi-palmated*, half palmated or webbed. 1856–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 249 Anterior feet cloven, posterior semipalmate. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 51 This constitutes the semipalmate (½-webbed, that is,) foot.

So **Semi-pa·lmated** *a.*; hence **Se·mi-palma·tion**, the condition of being semi-palmate.

1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 502 Avoset...Feet *semi-palmated. 1808–13 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 63 *Tringa semipalmata*...Semipalmated Sandpiper. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 439/1 The Caymans are semipalmated. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 51 They [webs] run out to the end of the first, or along part of the second joint, constituting true *semipalmation.

Se·mipara·bola. *Math.* [SEMI- 6 b.]

1. Half of a parabola.

1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* iv. 34 You ought to have made a Semiparabola on the Diameter AC. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 809 When Comets describe a Semi-parabola only. 1745 BAILEY (ed. 10) vol. II, *Parabolick Conoid*, a solid figure generated by the rotation of a Semi parabola about its Axis.

2. 'A curve of such a nature that the powers of its ordinates are to each other as the next lower powers of its abscissas' (Hutton, *Math. Dict.*).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Parabola*, Those Curves are likewise used to be referred to Parabola's wherein $ax^{m-1} = y^m$. as *E. gr.* $ax^2 = y^3$, $ax^3 = y^4$, which some call Semi-parabola's. 1815 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* II. 150/1 Parabolas, that are expressed by the general equation $ax^{n-1} = y^n$..are called semi-parabolas.

Se·mi-parabo·lic, *a.* [In sense 1, f. SEMIPARABOLA + -IC; in 2, f. SEMI- 1 + PARABOLIC *a.*]

1. (See quot.)

1775 ASH, *Semiparabolic*, comprising half a parabola.

2. Partly of the nature of parable.

1876 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* (1880) 31 Semi-parabolic representation of spiritual truths.

Se·mi-parabo·lical, *a.* [f. SEMIPARABOLA + -ICAL.] = prec. 1.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* xvi. 170 The Body will be carried through the Semipa[ra]bolical crooked line AGD. 1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* iv. 36 Two Movents, one uniform, the other uniformly accelerated, make the Body describe a Semiparabolical line. 1775 in ASH.

Se·mi-ped, -pede. *Pros.* [ad. L. *sēmiped-*, *-pēs*, f. *sēmi-* SEMI- + *ped-*, *pēs* foot.] A half-foot.

1756 T. SHERIDAN *Brit. Educ.* (1761) 317 An English heroick verse is composed of ten semipeds, or syllables. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 387 'Day" or the sweet approach of even or morn'. Here the cæsura after the first semipede *Day*, stops us unexpectedly. 1907 OMOND *Eng. Metrists* 12 The first six lines of *Paradise Lost*, each of which consists of ten 'semi-peds'.

So **Semipedal** *a. rare*⁻⁰ [L. *sēmipedālis*].

1658 PHILLIPS, *Semipedal*, consisting of half a foot in measure.

Se·mi-Pela·gian, *a.* and *sb.* [ad. eccl. L. *Sēmipelagiānus*: see SEMI- 7 b and PELAGIAN.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to the semi-Pelagians or semi-Pelagianism.

1626 *Second Parallel* A iij b, No better then an halfe-faced groat of the Semipelagian alloy. 1626 PYM in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 341 A Semipelagian and a Popish Faction set on foot to the danger of this Church and State, whose Tenets are Liberty of Free-will. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. v. II. v. § 27 They had embraced the Semi-Pelagian doctrine before Cassian. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Lett. Cath.* i, [They] enabled every sublapsarian, and supralapsarian, and semi-pelagian clergyman, to build himself a neat brick chapel. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 346/2 Yet to Cassian is generally attributed the honour or disgrace of founding the Semipelagian School.

B. *sb.* An adherent of semi-Pelagianism.

a 1600 HOOKER *Wks.* (1888) II. 540 If his grace did no otherwise draw our minds than Pelagians and Semi-Pelagians imagined. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 420 Some papists, who are in this point (as they are rightly called) semi-pelagians; they, acknowledging originall corruption, yet doe limit it. 1744 TINDAL *Contin. Rapin* III. 511 *note*, The Semipelagians think, that an assisting Grace is necessary, but that the first turn of the will to God is the effect of a man's own choice. 1885 MARCUS DODS in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 472/2 A similar scheme was adopted by Cassian of Marseilles (hence Semi-pelagians are often spoken of as Massilians).

Se·mi-Pela·gianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] A doctrine intermediate between Augustinianism and Pelagianism, taught by Cassian of Marseilles in the 5th century.

1626 DONNE *Serm.* (1640) 675 Not disposed by preventing grace, without use of subsequent grace, by Antecedent and anticipant, without concomitant and auxiliant grace; that is Semi-pelagianisme. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Jansenism*, It is Semi-pelagianism to say, that Jesus Christ died, or shed his Blood, for all Men in general. 1885 MARCUS DODS in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 472/2 The differentia of Semipelagianism is the tenet that in regeneration..the divine and the human will are co-operating (synergistic) coefficient factors.

Semi-pe·rfect, *a. rare.* [SEMI- 1; in L. *sēmiperfectus*.] Imperfect, incomplete.

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Semiperfect*, halfe formed. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 107 The Concords in Musick which are Perfect, or Semiperfect, betweene the Vnison, and the Diapason are the Fifth, which is the most Perfect; the Third next; And the Sixth which is more harsh.

Semiquaver (se·mikwēvəɹ), *sb. Mus.* [SEMI- 5 a.] A note half the length of a quaver, the sixteenth part of a semibreve. (Also *attrib.*)

1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joye* iv. Wks. 1870 II. 296 Whiles I searcht the semyquaver toyes, the glancing sharpes, the halfenotes. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot. P 4 Who inuented the Crotchet, Quauer, and Semiquauer is vncertaine. 1669 [see DEMI- 9]. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* xi. 227 The Author had never heard of a Semiquaver. 1848 RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 57 When groups of Quavers, Semiquavers, &c. are to be repeated several times in succession. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* xiii, Kate, who did not know a crotchet from a semiquaver.

†b. *allusively.* A very short space of time. *The brief and the semiquaver*, jocular amplification of 'the brief' (see BREIF B. b). *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. C 3 b, The breefe and the semiquauer is, wee must haue the descant you made vpon our names, ere you depart. 1635 QUARLES *Emblems* IV. xv, Till then, earth's Semiquaver, mirth, farewell.

Hence **Semiquaver** *v. nonce-wd.*, to drive *away* with playing semiquavers.

1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 127 With wire and catgut he concludes the day, Quavering and semiquavering care away.

Semi-rect, *sb.* Anglicized form of **semirecta**, corruption of *cyma recta*: see CYMA I.

1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 13 A Cornice..consisting of a Semirect and a Semirevers and Tuscan Blocks. 1841 MILLER *Old Red Sandstone* viii. (1887) 162 Mouldings somewhat resembling the semi-recta of the architect.

Semirect, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sēmirectus*: see SEMI- and RECT *a.*] Half a right angle.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* xxiv. 285 If the angle of Inclination be semirect.

Semi-revers. Corrupt anglicized form of *cyma reversa*: see CYMA I. 1776 [see SEMI-RECT *sb.*].

[**Semi-rife.** In forms *semyryfe*, *-rife*, error for *semyvyf* (see SEMIVIF) in Bailey's Dict. 1728, etc.]

Semi-ro·tary, *a.* [SEMI- 7.] Partly rotary.

1850 in Woodcroft *App. Specif. Pat. Reaping Machines* (1853) 99 The part N moves by a lateral and semi-rotary motion. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 796 *Semi-rotary Engine*, an engine between a reciprocating and rotary one.

So **Se·mi-rota·ting, -ro·tative, -ro·tatory** *adjs.*

1881 T. WARDLE *Wild Silks of India* 30 A *semi-rotating brush is placed over them [cocoons], which quickly catches the exterior fibres of each cocoon. 1846 *Mech. Mag.* 3 Oct. 314 Soutter's Patent *Semirotative Pump. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXXV. III. 671 Upon these the tibia turns, with a *semirotatory motion up and down as upon a pair of pivots. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iii. 233 *note*, There are some of the large Monitors which can give a semi-rotatory motion to the back teeth.

Semi-sa·vage, *a.* and *sb.* [SEMI- 1, 2.] = SEMI-BARBARIAN.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VI. 528 The semisavage sees his tribes retire. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iii. (1876) 77 The rude and semi-savage state in which they are considered to have lived. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 May 5/1 Semi-savage tribes who lived by pillaging caravans.

Hence **Se·mi-sa·vagedom, -sa·vagery.**

1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. ii. 41 That unsophisticated semi-savagery which Hamleigh had expected in a place so remote. 1887 H. KNOLLYS *Life in Japan* 321 The spirit of semi-savagedom apparent amongst all [classes].

Semi-Sa·xon, *a.* and *sb.* [SEMI- 1, 2. Cf. mod. L. *Sēmisaxonicus* (Hickes 1689).] **A.** *adj.* Intermediate between 'Saxon' and 'English'; formerly used by philologists to designate the first period of Middle English, from *c* 1100–50 to *c* 1250. **B.** *sb.* The 'Semi-Saxon' language; Early Middle English.

1735 SHELTON tr. *Wotton's View Hickes' Thes.* 100 The Nicene..Creed, translated into Semi-Saxon. 1813 WHITAKER *Langl. P. Pl.* Introd. p. vii, From the extinction of the pure Saxon..to thereign of Edward the Third, the language of our country, which, during that period, may be called Semi-Saxon, had scarcely been reduced to any standard. 1847 (*title*) Layamon's Brut, or Chronicle of Britain; a poetical semi-Saxon Paraphrase of the Brut of Wace. 1853 MORTON *Encr. R.* Pref. p. x, A few passages in the Latin which are not in the semi-Saxon.

Se·misection. [SEMI- 2.] = HEMISECTION.

1889 *Lancet* 13 Apr. 720/2 After semisection of the cervical region in dogs.

†**Semi-semi-** = DEMI-SEMI-.

1611 COTGR., *Fredon*, a..Semie-semie-quauer.

Semi-so·lid, *a.* [SEMI- 7 a.] Half-solid, extremely viscous.

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* ii, The gun..was now useless, from sinking in the semisolid black soil. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlviii. (1856) 451 The semi-solid character of the ice. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iv. § 1. 259 Sperm oil becomes semisolid at about 45°. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 152 The tumor was excised..and a semi-solid mass..was removed.

Semiso·mnous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sēmisomn-is*, *-us*, f. *sēmi-* SEMI- + *somnus* sleep.] Half asleep.

1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* viii. 321 While his sister Oblivion reclineth semisomnous on a pyramid.

†**Semi-soun.** *Obs.* [f. SEMI- 2 + *soun* SOUND, Cf. late L. *sēmisonus*.] A slight or gentle sound.

a 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 511 And softe he knokketh with a semy soun [*MS. Lansd.* seme sowne].

Se·misphere. Now *rare.* [f. SEMI- + SPHERE. Cf. late L. *sēmisphæra*, *-ium*.] A hemisphere.

1659 TORRIANO, *Semi-sphæra*, a semy sphear. 1773 BRYDONE *Tour through Sicily* ix. 81 These are all..of a regular figure, either that of a cone or a semisphere. 1792 *Baron Munchausen's Trav.* xxiii. 99 The summit of the mountain, in the form of a semisphere. 1798 (see SEMI-SPHEROID). 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mamm.* III. 44 In the two-horned rhinoceros the disc which bears the anterior horn is a semisphere.

Hence **Semisphe·ric, -sphe·rical** *adjs.*

1662 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd. 68 b, Semi-

spherical, as callai, astroitæ. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 37 You shall in the Microscope see those 2. black spots to be semi-spherical eyes. 1896 VIZETELLY tr. *Zola's Rome* 198 A spacious round chamber with semispherical ceiling.

Se·misphe·roid. [SEMI- 6 a.] Half a spheroid. 1775 ASH, *Semispheroid.* 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 325 In the semisphere, or semispheroid; the distance from the centre is ⅓*r*, or ⅜ of the radius.

Hence **Semispheroi·dal** *a.*, of the form of a semispheroid. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 The Gray, or Horse-Fly. Her eye..'tis of a semisphaeroidal figure. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 48 Semi-sphæroidal masses. 1839 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* I. 71 Semi-spheroidal cavities.

‖ **Semita** (se·mitä). *Zool.* [mod.L. use of L. *sēmita* narrow way or path.] A band of minute close-set tubercles which bear ciliated clubbed spines, characteristic of the spatangoid sea-urchins. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 574 These bands of peculiarly modified spines are called *semitæ* or *fascioles.* 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 558.

Hence **Se·mital** *a.* [cf. L. *sēmitālis* belonging to footpaths], of or pertaining to a semita. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 573 Fig., Semital tubercles...Semital spine.

Semitar(ie, obs. forms of SCIMITAR.

† **Se·mitate,** *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *sēmita* path + -ATE.] *intr.* 'To make pathes, to divide into pathes or ways' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

† **Semitaur.** *Obs.* In 6 -tawre. [ad. L. **sēmitaurus,* f. *sēmi-* SEMI- 2 + *taurus* bull.] A creature shaped half like a bull. 1592 BRETON *Pilgr. Parad.* (Grosart) 8/2 Some Semitawres, and some, more halfe a Beare. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulian's Rescue* VI. 108 He sees Chimeras, Gorgons, Mino-Taures, Medusas, Haggs, Alectos, Semi-Taures.

Semite (se·məit). [ad. mod.L. *Sēmīta,* f. late Latin *Sēm,* Gr. Σήμ Shem: see -ITE. Cf. the earlier SHEMITE.] A person belonging to the race of mankind which includes most of the peoples mentioned in Gen. x. as descended from Shem son of Noah, as the Hebrews, Arabs, Assyrians, and Aramæans. Also, a person speaking a Semitic language as his native tongue. 1875 WHITNEY *Life & Growth Lang.* xii. 247 None but the Semites have, since the dawn of the historic period, seriously disputed with our family the headship of the human race. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 199 The mutual aversion of Semites and Aryans thus finds ample illustration in the literature of both. 1886 RAGOZIN *Chaldea* II. v. (1891) 237 Nor did the Semites preserve a separate existence.

Semiter(e, -erie, obs. forms of SCIMITAR.

Semitertian (semitə·ɹʃăn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Old Path.* [ad. mod.L. *sēmitertiāna (febris),* rendering Gr. *ἡμιτριταία* HEMITRITÆAN; see SEMI- and TERTIAN.] Applied to an intermittent fever which combines the symptoms of a quotidian and a tertian fever, consisting of a paroxysm occurring every day with a second stronger one every other day. 1611 FLORIO, *Hemitritèa fèbbre,* a Semitertian feauer. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 138. 1749 SHORT *Hist. Air,* etc. I. 223 In some Places few recovered who had it [*sc.* Peripneumony] accompanied with a violent Fever. Semitertians were next dangerous. 1888 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 165 The 'hemitritæus', i. e. semitertian, a form of ague mentioned by Galen.

Semitic (sĭmi·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 9 **Semmetic.** [ad. mod.L. *Sēmīticus,* f. *Sēmīta* SEMITE. Cf. F. *sémitique,* Sp., Pg., It. *semitico,* G. *semitisch.* Cf. SHEMITIC.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Semites. (In recent use often *spec.* = Jewish.) 1826 PRITCHARD *Res. Phys. Hist. Mankind* II. 210 The Semitic nations. 1835 J. B. ROBERTSON tr. *Schlegel's Philos. Hist.* vi. (1846) 206 The people of the Semitic race. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Add. 411 *note,* The Semitic origin of this worship. 1885 FLOWER in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 382 Hamitic and Semitic Melanochroi. 1886 [see SEMITISM 2 b].

b. In linguistic sense: The distinctive epithet of that family of languages of which Hebrew, Aramæan, Arabic, Ethiopic, and ancient Assyrian, are the principal members. Hence (in *Semitic scholar, studies, grammar, philology,* etc.) concerned with the Semitic languages. 1813 *Q. Rev.* X. 267 (Adelung's *Mithridates*) The Arabian family is called by our author Semitic. 1827 BUCKINGHAM *Trav. Mesopot.* II. 385 In any of the Semmetic languages. 1850 DONALDSON *New Cratylus* (ed. 2) § 100. 150 These arguments of the great Semitic scholar have been violently combated by one of his countrymen. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 470/1 (*Chosroes*), There is a large Semitic element in the Pehlvi language.

B. *sb.* **a.** A Semite (*rare*). **b.** The Semitic family of languages; *occas.* the Semitic language of Babylon in opposition to Sumerian. **c.** *pl. U.S.* The scientific study of the language, literature, etc. of Semitic peoples. 1875 WHITNEY *Life & Growth Lang.* xii. 252 The scale of dialectic differences is much less in Semitic than in Indo-European. 1879 tr. *Brugsch's Hist. Egypt* II. 107 *note,* A very remarkable word which shows a full knowledge of Semitic in the writer. 1886 *Athenæum* 21 Aug. 256 [Paull's] view that the Etruscans were neither Indo-Europeans nor Semitics. 1895 *Min. 9th Nat. Council Congr. Ch.* (U.S.A.) 239 With the growing interest in Semitics..it is not easy to get the time for study which these subjects demand. 1899 SIR H. HOWORTH in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 626 Written in the primitive language of Babylonia and in Semitic.

Hence **Semi·ticism** = SEMITISM. 1907 *Expositor* Nov. 434 The number of real Semiticisms is therefore smaller than was supposed. 1908 *Spectator* 18 Apr. 625/1 Further, he discusses the 'semiticism' of the Greek Bible,—what it is, and what it is not.

Semiticize (sĭmi·tisəiz), *v. trans.* [f. SEMITIC *a.* + -IZE.] = SEMITIZE *v.* 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXXIX. 48 The..Sawahili races, mulattos, originally African, but semiticised like the Moplahs of Malabar by Yemeni or Omani blood [etc.]. 1881 *Athenæum* 9 July 48/1 The word became Semiticized by the Assyrians into Dumuzu.

Hence **Semi·ticized** *ppl.a.*; **Semi·ticizing** *vbl.sb.* 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* I. 188 With..faces like the Semiticized negroids generally. 1887 *Athenæum* 28 May 698/3 He informs us..that Anu was a Semitic god, whereas it is only a Semiticized form of the Accadian Anna. 1885 *Academy* 3 Jan. 15/1, I used to watch with much interest the Semiticising of foreign names in Syria.

† **Semi-tile.** *Obs.* In 5 semy tyll. ? Alteration of **samel tile* (see SAMEL) = half-baked tile, by association with SEMI-. 1448 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 232 That no tyler frohensfurth ley no semy [*MS.* seny] tyle ne crased tyle. 1454 *Ibid.* 279 Quod non vendant aliquam Semy tyll, nec illi qui tegulant ponant huiusmodi semytyll.

Semitism (se·mitiz'm). [f. SEMITE + -ISM.] **1.** The attributes characteristic of the Semitic peoples. Also, the fact of being Semitic. 1851 LATHAM *Man & his Migrations* 146 The amount of Semitism in certain families. 1863 W. L. BEVAN in *Smith's Dict. Bible* II. s.v. *Philistines,* A period when the distinctive features of Hamitism and Semitism were yet in embryo.

b. In recent use, Jewish ideas or Jewish influence in politics and society. 1885 *Guardian* 6 May 697/3 The rivalry which exists with Catholicism and Semitism. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 198 The Church of Rome will never countenance semitic innovations of any sort. The Catholic party must be propped up by staunch opponents to semitism.

2. A Semitic word or idiom; also (*nonce-use*) Semitic speech. 1869 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* iii. (1870) 114 The soberest conclusion seems to be..for the present to exclude Egyptian from the dignity of being a kind of ante-historic Semitism. 1886 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Apr. 498 The Egyptian language, during the period of the nineteenth dynasty, is said by Brugsch to be as full of Semitisms as German is of Gallicisms. 1898 SIR H. HOWORTH in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 11 These Semitisms [in Egyptian], moreover, are partly popular, partly literary in origin.

Semitist (se·mitist). [f. SEMITE + -IST.] One versed in Semitic languages, literature, etc.; a Semitic scholar. 1885 *Athenæum* 10 Jan. 46/2 It will be for Semitists to decide if these words were borrowed from Hebrew. 1902 *Ibid.* 30 Aug. 282/2 The majority of Semitists consider the word to be connected with Sin, the Babylonian Moon-god.

Semitize (se·mitəiz), *v.* Also † **Semetize.** [f. SEMITE + -IZE.] *trans.* To render Semitic in character, language, or religion. 1869 BALDWIN *Prehist. Nations* iv. (1877) 159 The language of Phoenicia is said to have been Semetized. 1880 CHEYNE *Isa.* xx. I. 118 The name is..therefore non-Semitic, but the Assyrians..Semitised it into Sarru-kinu. 1895 *Athenæum* 6 Apr. 447/3 We have a school who would roundly semitize the whole Greek civilization.

Hence **Se·mitized** *ppl. a.*; **Se·mitizing** *ppl. a.* Also **Semitiza·tion,** the action of the verb. 1885 W. R. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 756/1 [The Philistines] were a Semitic or at least a thoroughly Semitized people. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 656/1 The partial Semitization of the southern districts of Abyssinia. 1884 CHEYNE *Isa.* xix. (ed. 3) I. 119 The political history of Palestine assisted this Semitising process.

Semitonal (se·mitōnăl), *a.* [f. SEMITONE + -AL.] = SEMITONIC. 1863 OUSELEY in *Guardian* 18 Nov. 1082/1 It is..improbable that they would ever have abandoned a semitonal scale ..in order to adopt so very different a system as their present one. 1891 *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 524/3 Double-basses..maintaining a semitonal trill.

Hence **Se·mitonally** *adv.*, = SEMITONICALLY. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Descant,* Notes altered semitonally by accidentals. 1885 *London & Prov. Mus. Trades Rev.* 15 Sept. 7 The trumpet calls are accompanied by the violins rising semitonally.

Semitone (se·mitoun). [f. SEMI- + TONE *sb.*; cf. late L. *sēmitonium,* OF. *semithon* and Gr. *ἡμιτόνιον* HEMITONE. Senses 2 and 3 (usually written *semi-tone*), are new formations distinct from 1.]

1. *Mus.* An interval approximately equal to half a tone, the smallest interval in the ordinary scales; a minor second.

Semitones are *chromatic* or *minor, diatonic* or *major,* and *enharmonic*; see these words. 1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 17 A Semitone..is a rising from one Voyce to another, (by an imperfect second) sounding flatly: and it is onely betwixt the Voyces *Mi, fa.* It is called a Semitone, not because it is halfe a Tone..but because it is an imperfect Tone. *a* 1620 CAMPION *Counterpoint* Wks. (1909) 109 A lesser Third consists of a Tone, and a Semi-tone. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Interval,* The lesser flat seventh is equal to the sixth major and semitone major. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), The Semitone-Major is produced by rising a degree..The Semitone-Minor, by passing from a natural note to its sharp. 1848 RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 33 A tone always includes both a Chromatic and a Diatonic semitone. 1876 tr. *Blaserna's Sound* vii. 133 Raising a note a semi-tone signifies raising that note to its sharp, as lowering it a semi-tone signifies lowering it to its flat.

2. *Art.* An intermediate tone or tint in a picture; = HALF-TONE 2. (Cf. *semi-tint* s. v. SEMI- 8.) 1782 *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* III. 97 *note,* The greatest harmony of colouring from the various semi-tones of tint laid on. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing,* etc. iii. 155 The semi-tones, formed by the reflected lights in his pictures, appear scarcely distinguishable. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Apr. 8/1 The soft tones and semi-tones seem to melt..into one another. *fig.* 1911 CHESTERTON *Crit. & Apprec. Dickens* 154 Anyone who thinks that Dickens could not describe the semi-tones and the abrupt instincts of real human nature.

3. A soft or gentle tone of voice; an undertone. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. vi, Speaking in a semi-tone. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 4 Oct., Preachers should pray less in semi-tones, and preach more in thunder tones.

Semitonic (semitɒ·nik), *a. Mus.* [f. SEMITONE + -IC.] Pertaining to or consisting of a semitone or semitones; (of a scale) chromatic. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Scale,* This, then, is the present Scale for Instruments, *viz.* Between the Extremes of every Tone of the natural Scale is put a Note, which divides it into two unequal Parts, called Semi-tones, whence the whole may be called the *Semitonic scale.* 1760 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 706 In the diatonic genus, the diapason consisting of five tonic and two semitonic intervals. 1833 RUSH *Philos. Human Voice* (ed. 2) 332 *note,* It is the diatonic shake, the semitonic not being found in his [*sc.* the mocking-bird's] song. 1838 G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* 7/1 The chromatic scales formed from these consist of a semitonic (or so-called semitonic) series between the key-note and its octave.

Hence **Semito·nically** *adv.*, by a semitone or semitones. 1838 G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* 25/1 The cadence is complete, from the third of dominant rising semitonically..to the tonic itself. 1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* iii. 113 Chromatic notes, which must always be quitted semitonically.

Semitor, -orie, obs. forms of SCIMITAR.

Se·mi-transpa·rency. [f. next: see -ENCY.] The quality or condition of being semi-transparent; partial transparency. *c* 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) XI. 434/1 This ore is so called from its colour and semitransparency, by which it resembles horn or colophony. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 161 The obscure semi-transparency of the texture of the animal.

Se·mi-transpa·rent, *a.* Chiefly *scientific.* [SEMI- 7.] Partially or imperfectly transparent. *c* 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) XI. 434/1 Corneous ore..is foliated and semitransparent. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iv. § 1. 253 They possess the property of rendering paper semitransparent, producing what is well known as a greasy stain. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iv, Her semi-transparent hands were clasped together. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 390/1 Common Opal: semitransparent, vitreous.

Semitte, obs. form of SEMMIT *Sc.*

† **Semitune.** *Obs.* Also 5 -toyn. [early f. SEMITONE: see TUNE *sb.*]. = SEMITONE 1. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iij b, Of hawkys Bellys..Looke.. that thay be..not both of oon sowne: bot that oon be a semytoyn vnder a noder. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* I. iii, Her Bels..had not both one waight, Nor was one semi-tune aboue the other.

Semi-u·ncial, *a.* (*sb.*) *Palæography.* [SEMI- 5 a.] Name of a style of writing intermediate between uncial and minuscule. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 16 It is not well to write, as the Fashion now is, uncial or semiuncial Letters, to look like Pigs Ribs. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xliv, The letters are uncial or semi-uncial, as somebody calls your large text-hand, and in size and perpendicularity resemble the ribs of a roasted pig. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alph.* v. ii. 173 [Irish script] is usually called the Irish uncial or semi-uncial.

† **Semiu·stulate,** *pa. ppla.* [ad. L. *sēmiustulātus*: see SEMI- 1 and USTULATE.] Half-burnt; also **Semiu·stulated**; so **Semiustula·tion,** a half burning. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. I. II. v. (1651) 81 Assation is a concoction of the inward moisture by heat, his opposite is a semiustulation. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Semiustulated,* halfe burnt. 1721 BAILEY, *Semiustulate, (semiustulatus* L.) half burnt or consumed by fire.

† **Semivif,** *a. Obs.* In 4–5 semi-, semy-, seme-, -uyf, -uiif. [ad. L. *sēmivīvus,* f. *sēmi-* SEMI- 1 + *vīvus* alive.] Half alive, half dead. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 55 Semiuyf he semed [C. XX. 55 *semiviuus, v.rr.* semiuyf, semeuiif]. *a* 1400 *Beryn* 2202 He sat hym down softly on a stall, Semyvif for sorow.

Semi-vi·treous, *a.* [SEMI- 7 a.] Partially vitreous. 1782 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 317 By a very strong fire, they are changed to a porcelain or semi-vitreous texture. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 339 Semi-vitreous oxide of lead. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 421 Semivitreous lava. 1890 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. I. 74 Finely vesicular rhyolitic rock with compact semivitreous green-grey base.

So **Semi-vitrifica·tion, -vi·trified** *ppl. a.* 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Slachen,*..a term used by the miners to express a spungy and semivitrified substance. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. Notes 52 The semivitrification, which constitutes porcelain. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 396 That which produces enamels and semi-vitrifications. 1841 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* II. 4 The semivitrified quartz rock of the western part of the Hoosac mountain. 1889 C. T. DAVIS *Pract. Treat. Bricks,* etc. (ed. 2) 78 A degree of heat when semi-vitrification and shrinkage take place.

† **Semivocal,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *sēmivocālis* (in sense A. 2, B., transl. of Gr. *ἡμίφωνος*): see SEMI- and VOCAL *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Applied to the sound of trumpets, drums, etc. (see quots.).

1614 Adams *Divell's Banket* 28 By vocall speeches, semi-vocall Drummes and Trumpets, mute Ensignes. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 167/2 A Semivocall signe, is that which is distinguished by the Trumpett, or other warlike Instrument.

2. That is a semivowel.

1828–32 Webster, *Semivocal*, pertaining to a semivowel; half-vocal; imperfectly sounding.

B. *sb.* A semivowel.

1530 Palsgr. Introd. p. xxiii, Theyr consonantes be devyded in to mutes and liquides or semivocalles.

Semivowel (se·mivɑuˌĕl). [f. Semi- 7 c + Vowel, after L. *sēmivocālis*: see prec. Cf. F. *semi-voyelle*.] A vocal sound that partakes of the nature of a vowel and of a consonant; a letter representing such a sound.

The general literary use echoes that of the Roman grammarians, who applied the term to the spirants and liquids (including nasals), *f, l, m, n, r, s, x*. As a technical term the word now most commonly denotes only *w* and *y*, but sometimes it includes these together with the liquids and nasals, chiefly in their non-syllabic values.

1530 Palsgr. Introd. p. xxiii, The latines in soundyng of theyr liquides or semi vowelles begyn with *e*. 1552 Huloet s.v. *X*, X is a semiuowell, and hathe the voice of a double consonante for the which in olde writinges *cs* and *gs* was vsed. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Semivowels*, certain Consonants so called, because they have the sound of Vowels, As *f, l, m, n, s*. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* III. xii. 369, (S) the correspondent mute (though it be commonly reckoned for a semivowel). 1726 Broome *Notes Pope's Odyss.* xvii. 46 When Homer..paints a beautiful face, or an engaging object, he chuses the softest vowels, and most smooth and flowing semivowels. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 88 ¶ 3 By tempering the mute Consonants with Liquids and Semivowels. 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* II. ix. 165 The Semivowel *y*. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxvi. 409 The whole Iroquois family never use the semivowel *m*.

attrib. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie V.* xix. (1891) 261 The foam-flowers dropping as the grass-flowers drop,—with sharp semivowel consonantal sounds,—*frsh*.

Semland(e, -ant(e, -aunt, var. ff. Semblant.

Semlar, var. Somler *Sc. Obs.*, butler.

Semle, obs. f. Seemly *a.*; var. Semble *v. Obs.*

Semli, -lich(e, -like, obs. forms of Seemly.

Semly, obs. f. Seemly; var. Semble *sb.* and *v.*

Semmar, -er, var. forms of Semar *Obs.*

Semme, Semmetic: see Seem *v.*[2], Semitic *a.*

Semmit (se·mit). *Sc.* Forms: 5 **semat**, 6 **semitte**, 9 **semmit, -et**. An under-shirt or vest.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 64 Cesar brocht with him nouthir wapyn na armuris na othir defence bot in his semat. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 22 § 1 Unles suche person ..doo make..therof tawed..Leather or Parchement or otherwise converte the same into Semittes Panelles [etc.]. 1888 *Glasgow Even. Times* 15 Oct. 3/5 Offering a petticoat and semmit in pledge. 1904 *C. T. C. Gaz.* Feb. 91 A tight-fitting woollen semmit next the skin (thin and light)...I also carry a semmit made of Welsh flannel, made wide and of full size...I wear this semmit during the evenings, and also sleep in it under my nightshirt.

† Se·mnable *a.*, **† Se·mnably** *adv.* Used by Fuller = Semblable *a.*, Semblably *adv.*

1651 Fuller *Abel Rediv., Huss* 19 That semnably with rhetoricall flusculations I should endevour to adorne his memoriall. 1659 — *Appeal Injured Innoc.* III. 57 As Marriners..are fain to fetch a compass; Semnably, I..was faine to go about. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Northumb.* (1662) II. 302 From Berwick to Dover three hundred miles over: That is from one end of the land to the other. Semnable the Scripture expression, From Dan to Ber-sheba.

‖ Semnopithecus (se·mnŏpiþī·kŭs). [mod.L. *semnopithēcus*, f. Gr. σεμνός revered, holy + πίθηκος ape.] A genus of long-tailed, long-limbed Asiatic monkeys. Also, a monkey of this genus: often in anglicized form **Semnopithec** (-pe·k), or **-thece** (-þī·s). Hence **Semnopithe·cine** *a.*, pertaining to the subfamily *Semnopithecinæ*, or to the genus *Semnopithecus*; *sb.*, a semnopithecine monkey. **Se·mnopithe·coid** *a.* and *sb.* = prec.

1824 Horsfield *Zool. Res. Java* 9 The comparisons which I have been enabled to make of the skulls of various Semnopitheci and of Gibbons. 1838 [? Rennie] *Nat. Hist. Monkeys*, etc. (Libr. Entert. Knowl.) 216 The tails, likewise, are much longer in the semnopithecs than in any of the ordinary monkeys. 1891 *Century Dict.*, Semnopithece...Semnopithecine [*a.* and *sb.*]..Semnopithecoid [*a.* and *sb.*].

Semola (se·mŏlă). [a. It. *semola* bran.] A trade name for a special variety of semolina.

1853 [see Semoletta]. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Semola*, an Italian name for bran; but often erroneously applied by grocers and other vendors, to semolino. 1882 in Ogilvie; and in later Dicts. 1895 *Stores' Price-list*, Gluten Preparations for Special Dietary...Semola.

‖ Semoletta (semŏle·tă). *rare.* (In some Dicts. *erron.* semolella.) [It. *semoletta*, dim. of *semola*: see Semola.] A variety of semolina.

1844 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* 767 Semolina..is called also *soojee*: and a still smaller kind, called semoletta, is sifted out of the other. 1853 T. C. Archer *Pop. Econ. Bot.* 86 Semolina, Semoletta, Semola, Semola rarita, Soojee, and Urena, are names used to designate a product of wheat.

Semolina (semŏlī·nă). Also **semoulina**, ‖ **semolino**. [Altered form of It. *semolino*, dim. of *semola* bran: see Semola.] An article of food consisting of those hard portions of 'flinty' wheat which resist the action of the millstones, and are collected in the form of rounded grains. (See also quot. 1858.) Also *attrib.*, as *semolina pudding*.

1797 Underwood *Dis. Children* III. 82 To broth may be added light puddings, made of bread, semolina, tapioca, or rice. 1845 Eliza Acton *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 395 A good Semoulina pudding. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Semolino*. ..The commercial name for the fine hard parts of wheat rounded by attrition in the millstones, imported chiefly from Italy...In France the name semolino is given to the large hard grains of wheat retained in the bolting machine, after the fine parts have been pressed through its meshes. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/4 It is sought, while dividing the bran from the interior of the grain, to break up the latter, not into flour but into fragments known as 'semolina', or 'middlings'. 1904 'E. Nesbit' *Phœnix & Carpet* xii. 219 When lunch came it was just hashed mutton and semolina pudding.

Semond: see Semend *Obs.*, salmon.

Semonde, Semoom: see Simmon *sb.*[1], Simoom.

† Semoted, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *sēmōt-us*, pa. pple. of *sēmovēre* to separate, f. *sē-*, apart, Se- + *movēre* to move: see -ed[1].] Separated, removed.

1542 Becon *Pathw. Prayer* vii. D iv, Is it ynough yf I pray with my mynde, the herte beynge semoted from mundane affayres?

Semoulina, obs. form of Semolina.

† Semo·vedly, *adv. Obs.* [f. Se- + Moved *ppl. a.* + -ly[2]. Cf. Semoted.] Separately.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 38 b, None I will semouedly allude to, but onely attaint vice in generall. 1623 Cockeram I, *Semouedly*, meaning one alone.

Sempect (se·mpekt). *Hist. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *sempĕcta, sempecta, sympæcta*, ad. Gr. συμπαίκτης playfellow.] A term formerly used in the Benedictine Order, according to Pseudo-Ingulf applied to monks over fifty years old, who were allowed special privileges on account of age.

This seems to be a misapprehension. In the Benedictine Rule itself (cap. xxvii) *sempectæ* denotes the elder monks chosen by the abbot to visit (secretly) an excommunicated brother and to encourage him if likely to fall into despair.

1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xx, Only the ancient sempects—some near upon a hundred and fifty years old—wandered where they would.

‖ Semper- (se·mpəɹ), the L. adv. *semper* always, used in various nonce-combinations (in imitation of Sempervirent, etc.), as **semper-annual** *a.*, unceasing in annual succession; **semper-green**, an evergreen; **semper-identical** *a.* [after L. phrase *semper idem*, always the same]; **semper-juvenescent** *a.*, always growing younger; **semper-lenity**, unvarying gentleness.

1623 Cockeram II, Accustomed Gentlenesse, *Semperlenity*. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 18 The common Bay-tree, which is a sempergreen, is now commonly found in most Gardens. 1820 ? Wainewright *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 98 That perfectly semperidentical display of idiosyncratic egotism which runs through..all his varieties. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 342 Blisses of an immortal and semperjuvenescent life. 1861 G. Meredith *Evan Harrington* xxviii, Supposing Lord Mayor's footmen to be plumed like estridges...What must Lord Mayors be and semperannual Lords?

Sempervirent (sempəɹvəi·rĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *semper* always + *virent-em*, pr. pple. of *virēre* to be green.] Evergreen.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iv. § 6. 109 Bacciferous sempervirent shrubs. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 762 It is sempervirent, and grows in sandy places. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Sempervirent*, evergreen.

Sempervirid (sempəɹvi·rid), *a. Bot.* [Formed as prec. + L. *virid-is* green, Virid *a.*] = prec.

1911 in Webster. [*Obs.* or *rare.*]

† Sempervive. *Obs.* Also 8 (after Sp.) **sempre vive.** [Anglicized form of Sempervivum. Cf. F. † *sempervive* (Cotgr. 1611), Sp. *siempreviva*.] The houseleek.

1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 277 An herbe (which for his forme is scarce to be discerned from a Semperuiue). 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 29 The greater Sempervive..will put out Branches, two or three yeares. 1764 Grainger *Sugar Cane* IV. 124 With sempre vive Unload their bowels.

attrib. a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1752) 257 Purge them with aloes, or sempervive leaves cleared of their outward skins.

‖ Semper-vi·vens. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [mod.L., f. L. *semper* always + *vīvens*, pr. pple. of *vīvēre* to live.] The houseleek.

1672 W. Hughes *Amer. Physit.* 98 Of Semper-Vivens.

‖ Sempervivum (sempəɹvəi·vŭm). [L. *sempervīvum* neut. of *sempervīvus* ever-living. The fem. *sempervīva* (sc. *herba*) was also used.] **a.** The houseleek. **b.** A genus (Linnæus 1737) of crassulaceous plants containing the houseleek, *S. tectorum* and about 50 other species; a plant of this genus.

1591 Percyvall *Span. Dict.*, *Yerua puntera*, sempervium, *Aiouus*. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Cambr.* 134 Two Serpents, erected, azure,..having a branch of semper vivum proper betwixt their heads. 1666]. Davies tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isl.* 62 *Semper-vivum*. There are in these Islands several kinds of Herbs that never dye or wither. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 506/1 To see the pleasing tints and forms of the Sempervivums at the present season makes one wonder why these plants are not grown in every rock garden.

Sempill, obs. Sc. form of Simple *a.*

Sempitan, obs. f. Sumpitan, Malay blow-gun.

Sempitern (se·mpitəɹn), *a. arch.* Forms: 4–7 **sempiterne**, 6 **sempyterne**, 6– **sempitern.** [a. OF. *sempiterne*, ad. L. *sempiternus*, f. *semper* always (cf. *æviternus*: see Eterne *a.*).] = next.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 88 That is the god, whos mageste Alle othre thinges schal governe, And his beinge is sempiterne. *c* 1440 Cangrave *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1586 Than is oure feyth grounded on noo lye, But on swhiche thyng whiche is sempiterne. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 505 In sempiterne rememberance to be Of Christis deith and Cristianitie. 1624 Darcie *Birth of Heresies* Ded., Vnder whose Sacred Sempitern Defence Long liue, Chast Star. 1683 E. Hooker *Pordage's Myst. Div.* Pref. Ep. 107 The only True, semper eadem, sempitern, ever-adorable and superbenedict Tri-une Deitie. 1866 Blackmore *Cradock Nowell* xxviii, That asylum is inviolable and sempitern, I hope. 1876 J. Ellis *Caesar in Egypt* 66 Those unexampled Temples sempitern.

Sempiternal (sempitō·rnăl), *a.* Also **sempiternall, sempyternal, -el**, 5–7 **sempiternall**, 6 **sempyternall**, 6–7 **sempeternal**. [a. F. *sempiternel* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. late L. *sempiternāl-is*, f. L. *sempitern-us*: see Sempitern *a.* and -al.] Enduring constantly and continually; everlasting, eternal.

14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 113 As thou art cyte of god, & sempiternal throne, Here now, blessyd lady, my wofulle mone. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 183 Trawthe is immortalle, immutable, and sempiternalle. 1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* xxvii. (1569) 55 A miraculous acte, and worthie (in deede) of sempiternall remembraunce. 1579–80 North *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 152 Some writers say, that they [*sc.* the Vestals] had nothing els in keeping but the sempiternall fire. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 437 Queene Elizabeth of sempiternall renowne. *a* 1730 G. Guthrie *Monogr.* (1900) 66 Fearing it might be a sempiternal work to him. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 499 All truth is from the sempiternal source Of Light Divine. 1831 J. Jekyll *Corr.* 18 July (1894) 274 Dull dinners..with the sempiternal saddle of mutton. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* III. cxxiv. 75 Two sources of war are sempiternal. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 8/1 We have discovered the elixir of sempiternal juvenility.

Sempite·rnally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly[2].] Everlastingly, eternally.

1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 27 God is aboue and regneth sempiternally [1570 sempeternally] Whiche shall vs deme at his last Jugement. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* App. 22 The Word and his Spirit sempiternally proceed from God, and are sempiternally in him. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. v, That is to be done infinitely and sempiternally. 1879 Escott *England* xi. (1881) 161 The filthy back-kitchen of the den, sempiternally reeking with the fumes of bad drink and vile tobacco. 1895 Zangwill *Master* II. x. 245 It wore a sempiternally festive air.

† Sempite·rnity. *Obs.* [ad. late L. *sempiternitās*, f. L. *sempitern-us*: see Sempitern *a.* and -ity.] Duration without end; perpetuity.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 22 Or thou wilt commend thy muse to sempiternity, and haue images and statues erected to her after her vnstringed silent interment. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 227 A Supposition of a future Sempiternity would produce the same difficulty, without such interposition of the Divine Wisdom and Providence. 1802 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 261 All concurred in the sempiternity of merit that they were determined to discover in him in all time forthcoming.

† Sempiternize, *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Sempitern *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To perpetuate.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. viii, The sempiternizing of Human Race.

† Sempiternly, *adv. Obs.* [f. Sempitern *a.* + -ly[2].] = Sempiternally *adv.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1888) 140 The gude entre in the joye of thaire lord sempiternely.

Sempite·rnous, *a.* ? *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *sempiterneux*, f. L. *sempitern-us*: see Sempitern *a.* and -ous.] Sempiternal.

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xv, A sempiternous Crone and old Hag. *Ibid.* II. xvii, Great old sempiternous trots [Fr. *grandes vieilles sempiterneuses*]. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VI. iv. (1849) 335 A race of pestilent sempiternous beldames.

‖ Sempiternum (sempitə·nəm). *Obs.* [L. *sempiternum*, neut. of *sempiternus* Sempitern.] A quality of woollen cloth made in the 17th c. and similar to Perpetuana. Cf. Everlasting *sb.*

1633 in *Nawarth Housh. Bks.* (Surtees) 295 For one yeards and a halfe of Sempiternum iiij. yd[4]. *Ibid.* 300. 1665 Brathwait *Comm. Two Tales* 65 She would have her Husband's Life of any Stuff rather than *Perpetuano* or *Sempilernum*.

Semplar, obs. form of Sampler.

1685 Boyle *Salubr. Air* Pref. 1 To give a Semplar or Specimen of what may be done upon the other Heads of the designed History.

Semple, obs. form of Simple.

Sempre vive, variant of Sempervive *Obs.*

Sempster, Sempstress, etc.: see Seamster, Seamstress.

‖ Semsem (se·msem). [Arab. سمسم *simsim*, prob. ad. Gr. σήσαμον.] = Sesame. Also *attrib.*

1866 Livingstone *Jrnl.* I. (1873) I. 17 Some sorghum, semsem seed [etc.]..constitute the commerce of the port. 1896 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 11/2 The valleys..were covered with plantations of Indian corn,..tobacco, semsem oil, and banana. 1899 *19th Cent.* Aug. 273 An interminably long stretch of dhurra cultivation appears, varied by semsem plants.

Semster, -stress(e, obs. ff. Seamster, -stress.

Semulacre, obs. variant of Simulacre.

‖ Semuncia (sĭmv·nʃĭă). *Rom. Antiq.* Pl. **-iæ** (sĭmv·nʃĭˌī). [L. *sēmuncia*, f. *sēmi-* Semi- + *uncia* Ounce *sb.*[1]] A half-ounce, the twenty-fourth part

of an *as*. Also anglicized † **Semunce** (*rare*—⁰). Hence **Semu·ncial** *a.* [ad. L. *sēmunciāl-is*].

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Semuncial*, of or belonging to half an ounce. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Semuncial*, belonging to a semunce, *i.* half an ounce. 1887 HEAD *Hist. Nummorum* 43 Bronze coins of Uncial and Semuncial weight, B. C. 217–89.

† **Semy,** *a. Obs.* Also semy. [Of obscure origin; possibly an inference from some compound of SEMI-.] (See quot.) Hence † **Se·myly** *adv.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/1 Cemy, or sotelle.., *subtilis*. Cemely, or sotely, *subtiliter*. *Ibid.* 452/2 Semy.., *subtilis*. Semyly.., *subtiliter*.

Semy, Semyed, obs. ff. SEMÉE, SEMÉED.

Semylacre, -ylytude, obs. ff. SIMULACRE, SIMILITUDE. **Semyld,** pa. t. of SEMBLE *v.*[1] *Obs.*

† **Se·mys,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [App. = G. *sämisch* (15th c. also *semisz*) a kind of soft leather.] The distinctive epithet of some kind of leather.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1902) IV. 25, iiij skinnis of blak semys leddir to be ane doublat to the King.

‖ **Sen** (sen), *sb.* Also † seni, † senni. [Japanese.] A Japanese copper or bronze coin (see quot. 1897). Chiefly *collect.* as *plural*.

1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., Japan* iii. II. 166 The Seni, of copper or iron, are strung like the Chinese pieces of a similar value. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 326/1 *Sennis*, or *Cashes*, are small pieces of iron, copper, or brass, having a square hole in the middle, through which, as in China, they are strung on a wire or thread. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. (ed. 2) 316, 10 Rin = 1 Sen = ¼d. 1895 C. HOLLAND *My Japanese Wife* 75 To be English spells generosity in Japanese eyes in the matter of sen for her own little pocket. 1897 *Daily News* 27 Sept. 5 The sen..is nominally equal to a halfpenny, though in fact only worth half that coin.

Sen (sen), *adv., prep.*, and *conj.* Now *rare*. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north*. Also 5 senne, 6 senn. [Contracted form of *sethen*, SITHEN: cf. SENE, SIN, SYNE, and SINCE.]

A. *adv.* Then, afterwards; also ago. *rare*.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 259 She weshyd hym with hir terys weytt, and sen dryed hym with hir hare. 1867 J. P. MORRIS *Siege o' Brou'ton* 3 (Lanc. Gloss.) That's a conny lang time sen now.

B. *prep.* From, after; subsequent to.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 24 Sen þe tyme of sir Noe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 74 Þe kyng..had.. ay were, sen þat tyme. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 92 Sen the passioun of Crist,..the haly kirk was never sit in pes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 714 It has bene told, sen many a day, sayngys of hym full sare. 1577 FULKE *Confut.* 7 There was neuer greater store in the church of Christ, sen Christ his time. 1593 (*title*), Actis of Parliament, past sen the Coronatiovn of the Kingis Maiestie.

C. *conj.* **1.** From or since the time that.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 28 Þe tend 3ere of his regne sen he was crouned Kyng. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 496 Sen the king discumfyt was At Meffan, he herd neuir thing [etc.]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) i. 4 It es lang sen it fell oute of þe hand. *c* 1421 *Lessons of Dirige* 231 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 114 Trowest þou ouȝt þat y..Shal..ȝelde rekenyng sen y bygan? 1552 LYNDSAY *Monarche* 329 Sen I could ryde. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* ii. 219 Sa great a wonder was not heard, sen first the warld began. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., Its lang syne, sen he left us. 1871 J. RICHARDSON *Cummerland Talk* Ser. I. 18 (E. D. D.) Theer's been a deal o' ups an' doons sen I went to scheul.

2. Seeing or considering (*that*). [Cf. SEEN *conj.*, which may have been partly confused with this.]

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 53 Sen he to blind has gifen þe sight.., whi suld he vnto ded be dight? *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxiv. 8 Sen þat he is turnyd away fra þe vnrest of þis life. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxliv, 'Now wele,' quod sche, 'and sen that it is so, That In vertew thy lufe is set with trueth [etc.].' *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 292 Sen I for luf, man, boght the dere,..I pray the hartely,..luf me agane. *a* 1500 *Lancelot* 1029 Bot, hart, sen at yow knawith she is here,.. Now is thi tyme. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xviii. 49 Huon, sen thou woldest be agreed with me, Then [etc.]. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 122 Sen we have sufficientlie according to our present purpose spokin hitherto. *a* 1756 PENNECUIK *Coll. Sc. Poems* 48 Sen your'e gotten out o's grips, Gi'e John a bucky.

Sen: see SAINT, SAY *v.*[1], SEE *v.*, SEND *v.*, SENE *a.*

Sena, obs. form of SENNA.

[Senacion, anglicized form of med.L. *senaciōn-em*, for L. *seneciōn-em* groundsel, SENCHION.

1526 *Grete Herball* cccxviii. (1529) Y ij b, Whan receptes expresseth Senacions in the plurell nombre it is to wyte cresses. But yf senacion be wryten in the synguler nombre, it is an other herbe.]

† **Se·nage.** *Obs.* Also 4 synage, 6 senagy. [a. OF. *senage* (f. *sene* synod: see SENE and -AGE) or its med.L. form *senagium* (1292 in *Durh. Acc. Rolls*, Surtees Soc., p. 490).] Money paid for synodals, a tribute due to the bishop or archdeacon (or bursar) at Easter.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 249 And whanne bischopis & here officeris comen & feynen to visite,..wrecchid curatis ben nedid to festen him richely & ȝeue procuracie & synage. *Ibid.* 456 Þis is a foul offiss of a prest to robbe his puple to ȝyue to bischop or erchedekene godis þat god biddiþ not, as senage & procuracies. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 30 Paiable yerely to the archebyshope of Yorke for proxies and senagies. 1684 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Manley) *Senage*, There goes out 3early in Proxege and Senege 33*s.* 6*d.*

Senarian (sĭnē·rĭăn). *Ancient Prosody. rare.* [f. L. *sēnār-ius*: see next + -IAN.] = next.

1803 PORSON *Let. to A. Dalzel* in *Mus. Crit.* (1826) I. 330 The fifth foot of a Senarian. 1895 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 34 The great Greek Iambic line is of course the Senarian, consisting of six Iambics or their equivalents.

‖ **Senarius** (sĭnē·rĭŏs). *Prosody.* Pl. **senarii.** [L. *sēnārius* adj., consisting of six each, f. *sēnī* adj. pl. six each, f. *sex* six; used subst. by ellipsis of *versus* verse.] (More fully, *iambic senarius*.) A (Greek or Latin) verse consisting of six feet, each of which is either an iambus or some foot which the law of the verse permits to be substituted; an iambic trimeter.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. C iij b, All the versis of this scene be *Senarii*. 1811 ELMSLEY in *Edin. Rev.* XIX. 80 The fifth foot of a tragic senarius cannot be a spondee, except in three cases. 1832 [see PYTHIAMBIC]. 1869 H. SNOW *Theocritus, Epigr.* xvi. Notes (1873) 219 The lines are alternately iambic senarii and hendecasyllables.

Senarmontite (senā·rmŏntəit). *Min.* [Named after H. de *Senarmont*, who first described it + -ITE[1].] A native tri-oxide of antimony, crystallizing in colourless or greyish-white octahedrons.

1851 DANA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XII. 209.

† **Se·nary,** *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *sēnārius* adj. (see next) used subst. by ellipsis.]

1. [= *senarius* (*numerus*).] The number six; a set or sequence of six things; in the 17th c. often, the six days of the Creation.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* x. lxx. 280 b, Hetherto hath bene spoken of sixe Senaryes, of which the first Senary [*sc.* of propositions] contayneth the production of irrationall lines by composition. *Ibid.* lxxiii. 282 b, Here beginneth the Senaries by substraction. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 16 Wherefore God having thus compleated his work in the Senary, comprehending the whole Creation in Six orders of things, he ceased from ever creating any thing more. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 339 They will bring you Cold and Heat, Calm and Storm,..in one Senary of Days. 1693 PASCHALL in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 816, I divided the Νυχθήμερον into four Senaries of Hours.

2. *Prosody.* = SENARIUS.

1579 G. HARVEY *Two other Lett.* (1580) 64 This foote [*sc.* the trochee]..is..quite thrust out of doores in a pure and iust Senarie. 1828 *Classical Jrnl.* XXXVII. 127 'Αλλ' ὅμως are words frequently employed by Euripides at the end of an Iambic senary.

Senary (sī·nări, se·nări), *a.* [ad. L. *sēnārius*: see SENARIUS.] Pertaining to the number six. *Senary scale*: the scale of arithmetical notation of which the radix is six. *Senary division*: division into six parts.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Senarie*, that contains or belongs to the number six. 1721 BAILEY, *Senary*, that which consists of Six. 1755 JOHNSON, *Senary*, belonging to the number six; containing six. 1810 P. BARLOW in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXV. 183 Thus, in the binary scale only two characters are wanted, namely 1 and 0; in the senary, six; in the decimal, ten. *Ibid.* 186 Transform 11111 to the senary scale. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 81 The Cephalotus of Labillardière, offers a remarkable exception to the usual characters..in the senary division of its flower [etc.]. 1881 BAUERMAN *Syst. Min.* ii. 11 The only other class of symmetry possible in crystals is senary or hexagonal, corresponding to a rotation of one-sixth of a revolution, such as that of a regular hexagonal prism about its axis.

Senassee, obs. var. SUNYASEE, Indian ascetic.

Senate (se·năt). Forms: 3 senaht, 4 senas, 4–7 senat, 6 cenate, *pl. Sc.* senat(t)is, 4– senate. [a. F. *senat*, *senas* (mod. F. *sénat*), ad. L. *senātus* (*u*-stem), lit. council of old men, f. *sen-em* (nom. *senex*) old (see SENIOR *a.*), absol. old man: see -ATE[1]. Cf. Pr. *senet*, Sp., Pg. *senado* It. *senato*, G. *senat*, Du. *senaat*.]

1. An assembly or council of citizens charged with the highest deliberative functions in the government of a state. **a.** In ancient Rome: A legislative and administrative body, consisting originally of representatives elected by the patricians, and in later times composed partly of appointed members and partly of the actual and former holders of certain high offices of state.

c 1205 LAY. 25388 Þis weoren þa sixe þe þat senaht al biwusten. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1477 His lettres come Into þe cite of grete Rome. Þe riche people, & þe senas, Spaken togedres of þis cas. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 352 Al þe hale senat [of Rome]. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvi. (1885) 149 The Romaynes, while thair counsell callid þe senate was gret, gate, through þe wysdome off that counsell, the lordschippe off gret partye of the world. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. ii. (1880) I. 20 The Senate..which was fyrste ordayned by Romulus. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 166 The Consuls both did then decree The Senate should assembled be. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 247 Cato..used to read philosophy in the senate-house, while the senate was assembling. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* viii. 79 The Senate was.. a body composed of men of any order who had secured the suffrages of the people.

b. Applied to bodies having more or less similar functions in other states of the ancient world, esp. as the equivalent of Gr. γερουσία (lit. 'body of elders') and βουλή (lit. 'council').

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 22 b, By the king and Senat of Lacedæmon, Demagoras was..banished the countrie. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 132 Th' Athenians By two of their most reuerend Senate greet thee. 1658 HARRINGTON *Prerog. Popul. Govt.* I. xii. 108 The Senate of the Beane being the proposing-Assembly (for that of the Areopagites, called also a Senate, was a Judicatory) consisted of four hundred Citizens chosen by Lot, which was performed with beanes. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 408 Lacedæmon's senate now approach'd. 1842 *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* s. v. βουλή, This senate of 500 [at Athens] was divided into ten sections of fifty each, the members of which were called prytanes (πρυτανεῖς), and were all of the same tribe.

c. In the Middle Ages, and subsequently, used as the official title of the governing body in various free cities of Europe.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 19 At þe citee of verone whan þat þe kyng gredy of comune slaugter caste hym to transporten vpon al þe ordre of þe senat þe gilt of his real maieste. 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 193 The day after our coming the Senate [at Nuremberg] sent gentilmen to shew us their provision of harneis, ordinance, and corne. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germany* 444/1 In the election chamber (Wahlzimmer) the Senate of Frankfort now holds its sittings. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 344 On the mainland there are four Supreme Tribunals, called Senates, placed at Turin, Chambery, Nice, and Genoa. 1880 H. A. WEBSTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 404/1 According to the present constitution [of Hamburg]..the legislative power is in the hands of the senate [of 18 members] and the general body of citizens, and the executive is committed to the senate alone.

d. *gen.* The governing or legislative assembly of a nation. Often applied, more or less rhetorically, to the British parliament.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 15 b, That he appointe a Cenate or counsell within the empire. 1584 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 12 At the table of whose Hon. Senat [app. of Privy Council], our supplications were..read. 1659 MILTON *Let. Friend* Wks. 1738 I. 583 Being now in Anarchy, without a counselling and governing Power..the first thing to be found out with all speed, without which no Commonwealth can subsist, must be a Senate, or General Council of State. 1718 PRIOR *On Corrup. Man.* vi, And senates vote, as armies fight, for pay. 1742 *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 139 (Ld. Hervey) It declares, my Lords, that there is now an enquiry depending before the Senate. 1775 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 227 Whether you are in the American Senate [*i. e.* Congress] or on board the British fleet, is a matter of uncertainty. 1787 *J. Lewis's Mem. Dk. Glocester* 58 *note*, [The Duke of Buckingham] was..an eloquent orator in the British Senate. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 22 The pernicious influence of this lax morality extends from the nursery and the school to the cabinet and senate. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, He says there is no place in the bar or the senate that Georgy may not aspire to.

† **e.** Applied (perh. in passages translated from Latin) to the Corporation of London. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 52 b, The Mayre of London and the Senate appareled in orient grayned Skarlet. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 633 Continuall watch was kept by the Maior and senate of London,..for the preseruacion of the peace, and continuance of good order.

f. In the 18th and 19th c. adopted as the official name for the upper and smaller branch of the legislature in various countries, as the United States (and each of the separate states of the Union), France, Italy, etc.

1780 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 388 Hancock will be Governor, by a very great majority; the Senate [of Massachusetts] will have to choose the Lieutenant-governor. 1789 *Constit. U. S.* Art. I. § 3 The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 52 From the hall of the Representatives, I went to that of the Senate, or Upper Chamber. *a* 1827 DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* (1823) IV. 159 New Hampshire...The legislature consists of a senate and house of representatives, chosen annually by ballot. 1887 W. C. FORD *Amer. Citizen's Man.* I. 11 In all the States the upper or smaller House is known as the Senate.

g. *transf.* and *fig.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. i. Y ij, Suerly the senate of my harte is sedicious. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 209 Like Cato give his little Senate laws And sit attentive to his own applause. 1820 COMBE *Syntax, Consol.* II. (Chandos) 152 Sometimes my bosom's senate sits In silent thought. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* Prol. 73 The senate of the Gods is met, Each in his rank and station set.

2. In the University of Cambridge, and in some other British universities, the official title of the governing body. Cf. SENATUS.

The Senate of the University of Cambridge corresponds to the Convocation of Oxford University, and consists of all Doctors, Masters of Arts, Law, and Surgery, and Bachelors of Divinity, who keep their names on the books. In the newer English universities, Durham, London, Liverpool, Birmingham, etc., the senate is a smaller body, its composition being different in different universities. In Scotland, the Latin form *Senatus* (*Academicus*) is commonly employed.

1736 *Charter* etc. *Coll. Will. & Mary, Virginia* 78 Concerning the College Senate. 1748 SALMON *Foreigner's Comp. Cambr.* 16 All Graces intended to be proposed to the Senate, must first pass the *Caput*. 1797 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 147 By the senate is meant all the doctors and masters of arts in the university, who have their names on the boards of their college. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 286 Regulations enacted by the Senate of the University of Glasgow, respecting Degrees in Medicine. 1829 R. GILBERT *Liber Scholast.* 50 The Senate [of Cambridge], in 1818, decreed the foundation of three scholarships.

b. *U.S.* In some American colleges, a council composed of members of the faculty and elected students, having the control of the discipline, etc., of the students. 1892 in *Century Dict.*

† **3.** A senate-house. *Obs. rare.*

1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Senat*, the Counsell house, where the Magistrates of a citie assemble themselues. 1628 COCKERAM I. 1700 tr. *Danet's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* s. v. *Senatus*, The Tribunes of the People at first stood at the Door of the Senate to know their Deliberations.

¶ 4. Misused for: A senator. *Obs. rare.*

1587 SEMPILL *Compl. Fort.* 87 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii, Of Julius Cesar..Slaine be his Senatis,..By his awin kinsmen Brutus and Cassus. *Ibid.* 210 To keip sic senattis it sall decore 3our land. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* C 4 b, The olde Senate has put on his spectacles, and Lentulus and hee are turning the leaues of a dog-hay, leaues of a worme eaten Chronicle, and they want Tullies iudgement.

5. *attrib.* as *senate-chamber, -fight, -hall,* etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, The Senate-hall [at Venice]. 1736 THOMSON *Liberty* V. 568 In the warm struggles of the senate-fight. 1737 SAVAGE *Of Public Spirit* 161 Bid Courts of Justice, Senate-chambers join, Till various All in one proud Work combine! 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. vii, The rugged remains of temples and tombs and palaces and senate halls and theatres.

Se·nate-house. [HOUSE *sb.*[1]]

1. A house or building in which a senate meets.

c 1550 N. SMYTH tr. *Herodian* II. 18 He wente too the Senate house. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 52 Wee'l send Mark Antony to the Senate house. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 389 Musing meditation most affects The pensive secrecy of desert cell,..And sits as safe as in a Senat house. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Oct. 1641, The Senate-house of this city [Antwerp] is a very spacious and magnificent building. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 162 ¶ 7 It was usual for them to expel a Senator who had been guilty of great Immoralities out of the Senate-House. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 815 The Curia or senate-house.

transf. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 129 b, The senate house of the planets was at no time so set, for the decreeing of perfection in a man, as at that time all folkes skilful therin did acknowledge. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* I. i. 10. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* Prol. 2 It is the day when all the sons of God Wait in the roofless senate-house, whose floor Is Chaos.

2. *spec.* The building which serves for the meetings of the senate of a university, esp. of Cambridge.

1748 SALMON *Foreigner's Comp. Cambr.* 15 The Senate-House is a magnificent and elegant Building; the Length [etc.]. 1769 GRAY (*title*), Ode performed in the Senate-House at Cambridge. 1797 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 148 In the senate-house the elections of all the officers of the university take place, the appointments of the magistrates, the admissions to degrees, congregations, and consultations upon important matters by the senate, and by a statute of the university, no language is to be spoken therein but Latin. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 43 Past the Senate-house I saunter.

b. *attrib.* **Senate-house examination,** examination for degrees in Cambridge University; so **Senate-house examiner**; **Senate-house problem,** a mathematical problem proposed in a Senate-house examination.

1837 *Math. Probl. fr. Senate-House Exam. Papers* Pref. 7 Questions which have actually been set from time to time, at the Senate-House examinations. 1855 *Housek. Words* 8 Dec. 442/2 He harassed me with questions about the book as pertinaciously as any senate-house examiner. 1875 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1896) IX. 246 A Senate-house Problem.

†Senatical, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SENATE + -ICAL.] Of or pertaining to a senate.

1651 *Animadv. Macdonnel's Answ. Eng. Ambass.* 48 Or incroach upon the Senaticall part and right of the people. 1652 PEYTON *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* (1731) 49 That which overthrows Monarchy, the same overthrows a Senatical Government.

†Senatoire. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *senatoire*, ad. med.L. *senātōrium*, f. L. *senātor*.] A senate-house.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. ii, Whan he was comen home from the senatoire. [Cf. SENATORY *sb.*[1] 2.]

Senator (se·nătəɹ). Forms: 3–5 **senatur,** 3–7 **senatour,** 4–5 **cenatour, sinatour,** 4–6 **senatoure,** 5 **cenatoure, senatowre, (6 sanatour),** 6– **senator.** [a. OF. *senateur* (mod.F. *sénateur*), ad. L. *senātor*, f. *sen-em, senex* old, old man; a parallel formation with *senātus* SENATE. Cf. Sp., Pg. *senador*, It. *senatore.*]

1. A member of a senate. **a.** A member of the ancient Roman senate.

In some of the early examples (*c* 1290, *c* 1386, 1390, and perhaps others) the writers evidently attribute to antiquity the usage of their own time, according to which 'the senator of Rome' was the title of a single high official. See sense 2.

c 1205 LAY. 25337 Þat was þurh þa senatures þa þet sinaō heolden. *c* 1290 *St. John* 81 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 404 For þe senatour him a-slovȝ: þat was þo of rome, In contek þat heom was bi-twene. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 1267 Amorewe aros that sinatour. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 863 For which this Emperour hath sent anon His senatour..And othere lordes..On Surryens to taken heigh vengeance. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 199 This Lord, with whom sche scholde go, Of Rome was the Senatour. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 65 Þerfore þe riche Emperoure Of þe Cite made hym Cenatoure. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxxi. 178 The Sinatouris of the Cite [of Rome]. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 1 The noble cenatoure of Rome Kayus son. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* Comm., Wks. II. 292 Quhen Cesar was slayn by the Sanatouris. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* xxxix. (1544) 101 b, For thy pacience, wysedom and temperance, we deeme the worthy to be admitted into the college of Senatours. 1696 B. KENNETT *Rome Antiqua* II. III. ii. (1717) 101 The right of naming Senators belong'd at first to the Kings; afterwards the Consuls chose, and refer'd them to the People for their Approbation: But at last the Censors engross'd the whole Privilege of conferring this Honour. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. vii, 'The emperor has been giving a splendid supper to the senators,' answered Sallust.

b. A member of the senate or governing council in other states of antiquity.

1586 SIR E. HOBY *Pol. Disc. Truth* viii. 23 The Ephores, hauing chosen a Senator that was very true, commanded him [etc.]. 1608 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 139 The Senators of Athens, greet thee Timon. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* V. *Plato* iii. (1687) 159/2 That he was a Senator, implies he was full thirty years old at that time, according to Solon's Law. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* VIII. 56 He..led the way, whom follow'd all The sceptred senators. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXV. IV. 379 The senators, ephors, and other magistrates [at Sparta].

c. A member of the senate or governing body in certain mediæval and modern cities of Europe. Cf. SENATE 1 c.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 79 b, The bishop of Strausborough writeth letters to divers of the senatours. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 230 The Duke, and the Senators of Venice greet you. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1737/2 The Count d'Archinto has received his Patent from Spain, to be first Senator of Milan. 1741 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 25 Aug. (1893) II. 95 The senators [at Genoa] can converse with no strangers during the time of their magistracy. 1762 *New Biogr. Dict.* IX. 222 s. v. *Peiresc*, They..were sent to Aix to their uncle Claude Fabri, their father's elder brother, who was senator there. 1782 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 404 [At the Hague] I am going to dine with..a number of Ambassadors and Senators. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. (1868) I. 12 The Sage-Men chose annually a board of senators.

d. *gen.* A member of a governing body or parliament. Often applied (unofficially and sometimes rhetorically) to a member of either House of the British Parliament.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 35 Þerfore was i-made a counsaile of þe real strete of Calne..þere seten in an hige hous þe senatoures of Engelond. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CCXVI. (1811) 234 A nyce folyssche couenaunte ought nat to be holden,..without the hole assent of the senatours of the same lande. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 17 The Magistrates..are no lesse estemed then amonge vs Senatoures or Lord of the Counsayl. 1628 A. LEIGHTON *App. Parlt.* Ep. Ded., To the right Honourable & High Court of Parliament. Right Honorable and High Senators. Such hath beene the care [etc.]. 1660 TATHAM *Roy. Oak* 8 Holding..in the other [hand] a statute Book as a Senator and maintainer of laws. 1708 SWIFT *Predict. for* 1708, 6 At home, the Death of an old famous Senator will happen on the 15th. *a* 1763 W. KING *Lit. & Polit. Anecd.* (1819) 35 [The Duke of Wharton's] speech..was indeed not unworthy of the oldest and most accomplished senator..in either House of Parliament. 1776 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 215, I had rather build stones upon Penn's hill, than to be the first Prince in Europe, or the first General or Senator in America. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 171 He had, during the first year of the Long Parliament, been honourably distinguished among the senators who laboured to redress the grievances of the nation. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 123 How those forty senators [*sc.* the Irish M.P.'s] (or their successors) have been going on since, is notorious.

e. In vaguer sense: A counsellor, statesman; †a leader in State or Church. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4999 Peyne and Distresse, Syknesse and Ire, And Malencoly, that angry sire, Ben of hir paleys senatours. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* civ. [cv.] 22 That he might enfourme his prynces after his wil, and teach his Senatours wysdome. ?1548 tr. *Viret's Expos. XII Art. Chr. Faith* M vj b, Euen so hathe the churche hys spirituall policie.. and hys pastures, ministers, and senatoures. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvi. § 6 That which children might haue seene, their grauest Senators could not discerne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Muncerians*, a sort of Anabaptists, so called from Tho. Muncer, who was their Prophet, Senator and General, when they rose in Rebellion in Suevia and Franconia, &c. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 73 Those green-rob'd senators of mighty woods, Tall oaks.

f. The official title of a member of the senate or upper house of the legislature in the United States, in modern France, Italy, etc.

In the U.S., *Senator* prefixed to the surname denotes a member of the federal Senate, not of the Senate of a particular state.

1788 J. STOKES in *M. Cutler's Life*, etc. (1888) II. 275 The Constitution of the United States pleases me much, but you ought to allow the people to have the power of appointing Senators-extraordinary in cases of exigency, as of war, or national distresses. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. viii, The long-gowned Senators of France. 1863 BRIGHT *Sp., Amer.* 30 June (1876) 139 He has been for many years a Senator from the State of Mississippi. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 347/1 He [Dombrowski] was named in 1815 general of cavalry and senator palatine of the new kingdom of Poland. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* iii. 17 He was a well-known scientist,..and, in recognition of his work in the domain of physical science, had been created a senator of the Italian kingdom.

2. In Papal Rome: The title given at various periods from the 12th c. onwards to the civil head of the city government, appointed by the Pope.

[*c* 1290, *c* 1386, 1390: see sense 1 a, and the note.] 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett.* xxvi. I. 427 In this [Senatorial] palace are held the sittings of Rome's one senator, and of the Judges of the Tribunal. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 253 Anarchy of Rome..induced Innocent in 1354 to send him [Rienzi] back as a governor with the title of Senator.

3. *Senator of the College of Justice*: in Scotland, the official designation of a Lord of Session.

1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 371/2 Þe president vice-president and senatores [of the College of Justice]. 1562 in *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 4 The Senators, ordinaris of our College of Justice, instituted be our maist nobill fader of gude memorie. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Jan. 8/2 One of the Senators of his Majesty's College of Justice in Scotland.

†4. *The Senators*: a convivial London club in the 18th c. *Obs.*

1761 *Ann. Reg.* IV. II. 51/1 He was a respectable member of The Killers of Care,..The Senators [etc.].

5. The Ivory Whale-gull.

[a 1713 RAY *Syn. Avium* 126 Raths-herr i. e. Senator *Fridderici Martens.*] 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 508 *Catoptraractes eburneus.* The Ivory Whale-Gull..Senator.

Senatorial (senătōˑriăl), *a.* [f. L. *senātōri-us* (f. *senātōr-em* SENATOR) + -AL. Cf. F. *sénatorial* (1727 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to a senator or senators; characteristic of or befitting a senator; consisting of senators. **a.** With reference to ancient Rome, or to other states of antiquity.

Senatorial order: the highest of the three ranks of citizens in the later Roman republic.

1792 COWPER *Iliad* X. 490 Hector, with all the Senatorial Chiefs [x. 414 ὅσοι βουληφόροι εἰσί]. 1842 *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* 851/1 It has been supposed by Niebuhr ..that a senatorial census existed at Rome at the commencement of the second Punic war. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* ii. (1865) I. 53 Whole cities and states placed themselves sometimes under the protection of a senatorial patron. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Aelius Lamia* Wks. 1860 X. 306 A Roman noble, a man..of senatorial rank.

b. With reference to modern senates.

1740 *Johnson's Debates* (1789) I. 19 (Sir R. Walpole), The authority which can be conferred only by senatorial sanctions. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 175 Not as at Venice, and many other senatorial assemblies. 1796 COLERIDGE *Watchman* No. 1. 20 The attack on the Duke of Bedford, for enjoying the senatorial office by hereditary right. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* ii, He eschewed honours senatorial. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 145 The senatorial leader.

2. Of a Roman province under the Empire: Administered by the senate (not by the emperor).

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 102 Into those provinces which were senatorial, the senate continued to send pro-consuls or prætors as Governors 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 342 Bithynia [was] at that time a senatorial province.

3. *U.S.* 'Entitled to elect a Senator: as, a *Senatorial* district' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Hence **Senato·rially** *adv.*, in a senatorial manner.

1754 A. DRUMMOND *Trav.* i. 17 The mother was chearful; the father senatorially grave. 1821 *Examiner* 83/1 Whatever may be thought senatorially of the modest assertion,.. the people at large may laugh at it.

Senatorian (senătōˑriăn), *a.* (and *sb.*). [f. L. *senātōri-us* (see prec.) + -AN. Cf. OF. *senatorien* (Godef.), mod.F. *sénatorien* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to a senator; = SENATORIAL *a.* 1. Now chiefly as applied to the senatorial order of ancient Rome, its members, their privileges, etc.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 167 The Senatorian ordred state Is neuer chang'd by place or date. *Ibid.*, That great Senatorian traine. 1629 MAXWELL *Herodian* 74 Yet was he far exceeded in Birth by many of the Senatorian Order. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 940 Janinus, having setled himself into a Senatorian Gravity, began thus to speak. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 199 The dignity of the senatorian rank. 1830 J. H. MONK *Bentley* (1833) II. 327 This distinguished prelate had already displayed his senatorian talents in the discussion on the Pension Bill, and other occasions. 1880 R. OWEN *Sanctorale Cathol.* 12 Mar. 136 He was of a high senatorian family at Rome.

2. = SENATORIAL *a.* 2.

1842 G. LONG in *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* 801/1 The Senatorian provinces.

B. *sb.* ? *nonce-use.* A partisan of the senate.

1869 SEELEY *Ess. & Lect.* (1870) 21 [Augustus] began as a professed Senatorian;..he became ultimately emperor.

†Senato·rical, *a. Obs.* [f. SENATOR + -ICAL.] = SENATORIAL *a.*; also ruled over by a senate.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims of State* vi. Rem. (1664) 9 And so that State is Senatorical or Aristocratical. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* V. 10 The Advocate marched in magnificent array, with a Senatorical countenance.

†Senatorious, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *senātōri-us* (see SENATORIAL *a.*) + -OUS.] = SENATORIAL *a.*

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 280 This Head of the Roman Hierarchy with his purple Cardinals are so Emperour-like and of such a Senatorious splendour.

Senatorship (se·nătəɹiʃip). [f. SENATOR + -SHIP.] The office or dignity of a senator.

1602 CAREW *Cornw.* II. 120 From which step his courage and wisedome raysed him by degrees to..the Senatorship of Rome. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. ix, We have got to the last scene of all, that ends this history of the Girondin Senatorship. 1909 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug., *Lit. Suppl.* 12 The senatorship conferred on him by Napoleon.

†Senatory, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *senātōrium*, f. L. *senātōr-ius* (see SENATORIAL *a.*): see -ORY[1].]

1. The senatorial order or body.

Chaucer's use is due to mistaking the adj. for a sb.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. (1868) 74 Þe rente of þe senatorie [is noþing but] a gret charge [L. *et senatorii census gravis sarcina*]. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 40 As for the comens vniuersally And a greate parte of the senatory Were of the same intencion. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. ii. § 6. 400 The Achaians..by a Senatorie and two Prætors, ordered all things in their Commonweale.

2. A senate-house. (Cf. SENATOIRE.)

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. ii, And thus hit happend anone after that alle the wyues of rome cam to the senatorye.

Senatory (se·nătŏri), *sb.*[2] Also **-orie.** *French Hist.* [ad. F. *sénatorerie*, f. L. *senātor* SENATOR: see -ERY.] The landed estate granted to a senator under the consulate and the first empire.

1804 *Revol. Plutarch* III. 164 Lucien was..afterwards ordered to visit his senatories on the Rhine. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 503 A senatory shall be established in the departments of Rome and Trasimene. 1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* xxix. Wks. 1870 XI. 349 Monsieur Fargues, senator of the district of Bearn, whom these plots..interested as having his senatorie for their scene. 1898 J. B. RYE in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* July 490 You leave in twenty-four hours, to live in your senatory.

†Senatory, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *senātōri-us* (see SENATORIAL *a.*): see -ORY 2. Cf. OF. *senatoire.*] = SENATORIAL *a.*

1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) H j, The comen people was taught to say, that Charles was of the senatorie stocke gouernour of Rome. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* VIII. 124 By senatory authority P. Sulpitius..was committee to transact with the enemy for leaving the Roman territory. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims of State* ii. Rem. (1664) 5 Aristocracy, or Senatory State. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVIII. 646 A Gentleman..of the Senatory Order, being subject to Diseases in his Spleen.

Senatour(e, obs. forms of SENATOR.

Senatress (se·nătrĕs). *rare.* [f. SENATOR + -ESS. Cf. OF. *senatresse* wife of a senator (Godef.).] A female senator; a female of senatorial dignity.

1731 GURDON *Hist. Parlt.* I. 200 Heliogabalus..made the first Senatress, he created a little Senate of Women, which met on *Collis Quirinalis.* 1793 MURPHY *Tacitus* IV. 319 There were no terms in the Latin language to signify senatress, dictatress or even empress.

‖Senatus (sĭnē·ttŭs). [L.: see SENATE.] The title given to the governing body in certain universities. More explicitly **senatus academicus:** see SENATE 2.

1835 MALDEN *Orig. Universities* 165 The government of the university [of Glasgow] is administered by the senatus academicus. 1839 W. CHAMBERS *Tour Holland* 26/1 The senatus [of Leyden University]..employs a set of travellers to gather rare specimens from Africa. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Emp.* (1854) II. 367 [In Scotch universities] The superintendence of their respective professors, and of the Senatus, does not extend farther.

‖Sena·tus consu·ltum. Pl. **consulta.** Also anglicized **senatus consult.** [L.; *senātŭs* genit. of *senātus* SENATE, *consultum* CONSULT *sb.*1] **a.** A decree of the ancient Roman senate. **b.** A decree of the 'senate' in certain modern states, e. g. France under Napoleon I and Napoleon III.

1696 B. KENNETT *Romæ Ant. Not.* II. III. ii. (1717) 203 A *Senatus-Consultum* was accordingly wrote by the publick Notaries. 1758 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* cxiv. (1774) II. 418, I will lay out twelve ducats for twelve bottles of the wine.. if you can obtain a *senatus consultum* for it. 1813 *Examiner* 4 Jan. 4/1 [tr. French] The *Senatus Consultum* of last September. 1875 POSTE tr. *Instit. Gaius* I. § 4 A senatus-consult is a command and ordinance of the senate. 1886 MUIRHEAD in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 704/2 In the imperial council, where the drafts of the senatus consults were prepared.

Senaw, obs. form of SINEW *sb.*

Sence, var. CENSE; obs. f. SENSE, SINCE.

Senceall, Sencer: see SENESCHAL, CENSER.

†Sench, *v. Obs.* Also 4 sinche; *pa. pple.* 4 seint. (See also ASENCH *v.*) [OE. *sęncan* = OS. *senkian*, OHG. *senchan* (MHG., mod.G. *senken*), ON. *sękkva* (Sw. *sänka*, Da. *sænke*), Goth. *sagqjan*:—OTeut. **saŋkwjan*, causative of **siŋkwan* SINK *v.*] *trans.* To sink, plunge.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 15 And þu cafarnaum oð heofon upahafen, þu byst oþ helle ȝesenced. *c* 1230 *Juliana* 32 (MS. Roy.) Þu..hare fan senchtest [*MS. Bodl.* asenchtest] þat ham efter sohten. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 24 In sunne and sorewe y am seint. *c* 1310 *S. Margaret* 307 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 233 In a fat ful of water, he had men schuld hir sinche [*rimes with* drenche].

Senche, obs. variant of SHENCH *sb.* and *v.*

Senchip, Sencial: see SHENDSHIP, SENESCHAL.

Sencion (se·nʃən). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 chynchone, chymchon, cyn-, synchone, (synyon, synthon), 6 senechon, (synthone), 7 senchion, 9 sension, sinsion, senshon, sencion. [a. OF. *senechion* (mod.F. *seneçon*) :—L. *senecĭōn-em*, perh. f. *senex* old man (cf. *senectūs* old age), with reference to the white down of the inflorescence.] Groundsel.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/2 Chynchone, herbe [*v. r.* cynchone]. *Ibid.* 456/1 Synchone, herbe (*v. rr.* synyon, synthon), *senecion, camadreos. c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winch.) 83/1 Chymchon, herbe: *Cenacion et cambidreos. Ibid.* 411/1 Synyon, herbe: *Senecion: Camadreas.* 1526 *Grete Herball* ccccix. (1529) Y iij, De senacionibus. Grownswell. Senechon is an herbe called sellechon. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Synthone, an herbe. *a* 1500 *Rel. Ant.* I. 324 Take groundis walle, that ys senchion. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Sencion.* 1882 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* 214 Suffolk Names..Sinsion (groundsel).

Senct, obs. form of SAINT.

Sencyal, obs. form of SENESCHAL.

Send (send), *sb.*1 [f. SEND *v.*1]

†1. *Sc.* The action of sending; dispensation (of God). *Obs.*

1551 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 137 Thair is na evil of payne or trubil in the pepil, bot it cummis be the send of God.

b. *Sc.* A message.

1825 *Gay Goss-hawk* x. in Child *Ballads* II. 360 Ye're bidden send your love a send.

c. An accelerating impulse; impetus. Cf. SEND *sb.*2

1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 Dec. 714/1 That piston that with a mighty send gives before them and spins the great wheel above. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Send,* impetus. 'It cam' wi' sic a send'. 1899 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Experi. Irish R. M.* xi. 273 Sultan came at it [*sc.* a wall] with the send of the hill behind him, and jumped it.

2. *Sc.* A messenger sent to the bride in advance of the bridegroom (see quots.); also, the bridal party. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1814 MARY BRUNTON *Discipline* xxii. (1852) 191 The harbingers of the bridegroom, (or, to use Cecil's phrase, the send,) a party of gay young men and women, arrived. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Nov. 412 A couple of envoys (Scot. *sends*) arrive from the bridegroom, who lead the bride to the temple of Hymen.

Send (send), *sb.*2 *Naut.* Also **scend.** [Belongs to SEND *v.*2 Cf. SEND *sb.*1 1 c.]

1. The carrying or driving impulse of a sea or wave; more fully *send of a* or *the sea.*

1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 65, I have frequently thought it impossible to escape striking upon them on every send of a sea. 1805 SIR R. LAWRIE in *Naval Chron.* XIII. 409 Much Sea running, appearing to cut us asunder at every send. 1885 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* I. 141 We found ourselves much nearer the Loadstone Mountain, whither the waters drave us with a violent send. 1901 CLARK RUSSELL *Ship's Advent.* v, To each foaming scend the ship drove in a curtsey of fury.

2. A sudden plunge (of a boat) *aft, forward,* etc.

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix, Both fell with the send aft of the boat. 1859 J. C. ATKINSON *Walks Two Schoolboys* xvii. 367 With many a forward send..she threw up showers of spray. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 143 The bows will..give a send in against the ship's side.

Send (send), *v.*1 *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* **sent** (sent). Forms: *Infin.* 1 sendan, 2–3 senden, (3 seind, siende, sent), 2–6 sende, 4 *Kent.* zende, 5 sendyn, cendyn, *Sc.* sen, 3– send. *3rd sing. pres. ind.* 1–3 sendeþ, 1–5 sent, 3 seint, *Kent.* zent, 4–5 sendith, 5 -yth, 5– sendeth; 3–7 sendes, (5 sendez, sendis), 6 sends. *Pa. t.* 1–6 sende, 2–3 seonde, (2 ssende, ssente), *Ormin* sennde, 3–6 sente, 4 seende, 3–7 send, (5 sont), 3– sent; 3, 6 sendet, 4 sendyd, seended, 5 sended. *Pa. pple.* 1 sended, 2 (ȝe) seond, (ȝe) send, 3 ysend, iseind, 3–4 isend(e, ysent, 3–6 send(e, 3 *Ormin* senndd, 4 i-sente, 4–5 isent, sente, (4 seynte), 5 ysende, 3– sent. [Com. Teut. wk. verb: OE. *sęndan* = OFris. *senda, sanda,* pa. t. *sante,* OS. *sendian,* pa. t. *senda, sanda* (LG. *senden,* Du. *zenden*), OHG. *senden, senten,* pa. t. *santa* (MHG. *senden,* pa. t. *sante, sande,* mod.G. *senden,* pa. t. *sandte, sendete*), ON. *senda* (Sw. *sända,* Da. *sende*), Goth. *sandjan*:—OTeut. **sandjan,* f. **sand-* (:—**sanþ-*) ablaut-variant (of the grade usual in causative verbs) of the root **senþ-* (:—OTeut. *sent-*) to go, found in Goth. *sinþ-s,* OE. *sīð* way, journey (see SITHE *sb.*1).] General sense: To cause to go.

I. To order or direct to go or to be conveyed.

* *with a person as object.*

1. *trans.* To commission, order, or request (a person) to go *to* or *into* a place or *to* a person. Chiefly, to dispatch as a messenger or on an errand.

Const. *about* (a business), *after, for* (something to be fetched), *on,* † *of,* † *in* (an errand, quest; the prep. is sometimes omitted). See also MESSAGE *sb.*1 2 b.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Heonu ic sendo iuih suæ scip in middum uulfa. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 He sende his patriarken and propheten for to bodien his tokume. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17034 He sennde dun Hiss ajhenn Sune ankennedd, To wurrþenn mann. *c* 1205 LAY. 26367 He sent þe his sonde wið uten gretinge. *c* 1290 *St. Barnabas* 34 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 27 Iesu cristes man icham, þat me gan hidere siende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 711 Bot adam son was send a saand. *Ibid.* 14846 Þan said an þat was his frend, Hight nichodem, was sent in saand,..'Me think' [etc.]. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* x. 5 Jhesus sente [*v. r.* seended] these twelue. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 11 The sone of God..was send in erde for salvacioun of man. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 120 Oh: he sends you for a Picture. 1599 — *Hen. V,* IV. i. 155 A Sonne that is by his Father sent about Merchandize. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 274, I will goe on the slightest arrand..that you can deuise to send me on. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* l. 16 And they sent a messenger vnto Ioseph, saying [etc.]. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Duke Flor.* II. i, I am sent..On a how doe you, as they call't. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* II. 26 If she were sent of an errand. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* i, If he was sent of an errand he would forget half of it. 1744 BIRCH *Life Boyle* 23 A gentleman of his father's, sent to convey them thither. 1776 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 144, I by no means approve of your sending a physician to her, except she is really ill. I hate the tribe. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, Workmen sent from London..had converted the apartments..into the semblance of a royal palace. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xv, Luff now..quarter master..Send the men aft directly. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvi, Send her to me, the instant she comes in. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 626 To whom the Prince Reported who he was, and on what quest Sent. 1907 'Q.' *Poison Isl.* xiv, Did he send you with that message to Captain Branscome?

fig. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 241 My thoughts do harbour with my Siluia nightly, And slaues they are to me, that send them flying. 1728 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 187 Commands his own thoughts, sends them to this or that place.

b. With specified destination considered as a place of residence, or connoting a sphere or kind of employment; e. g. in *to send to school, college,* etc. (sometimes with the notion of defraying the expense of the person's education); *to send* (one or more members) *to Parliament* (said of a constituency).

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii. (1880) I. 173 Where theyr parentes wyll nat aduenture to sende them farre out of theyr propre countrayes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 434 The king ..sent to the sea, Lord Edmond Holland Erle of Kent, as Chefetaine of that Crewe. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* I. ii, So that we are partely perswaded to send them vnto some vniuersity. 1737 POPE *Ep. Hor.* I. i. 119 Send her to Court, you send her to her grave. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 49 Heightsbury, a Town..sending two Members to Parliament. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 240 T' ensure the perseverance of his course,..Send him to college. *Ibid.* 872 Then..send him not to school. No—guard him better. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iii, He was sent to sea to be got rid of. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 57 The haberdasher sits in Parliament, and sends his son to Oxford. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 835/1 The education [at Christ's Hospital] is chiefly commercial, but four boys are annually sent to the universities.

c. In wider sense: To occasion or induce to go to a place or in a particular direction; to recommend or advise to go to a place or a person; *fig.* to refer (a reader) to some author or authority.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 52 Tho ij. textis seruen and remytten or senden into other Scripturis. *Ibid.* I. xx. 127, Y remytte and send ech man desiring forto it leerne..into the firste parti of the book. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 68 He sendeth vs ther to the pedigrew of the Leuites. I. Paralip. vi. 1752 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. i. 11 Those who send the blind out of their way. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 144 Writers who have sent us to the laws of the Christian Emperors.

d. *fig.* To describe (a person) in narrative as going (to a specified place).

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 125 Voltaire has corrected his error in sending Camoens to the East Indies.

e. With complementary sb. (now only, introduced by *as*) indicating the capacity in which a person is sent.

1605 1*st Pt. Jeronimo* I. i. 77 So, so, Andrea must be sent imbassador? 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII,* III. ii. 260 You sent me Deputie for Ireland. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4903/1 Signior Bentivoglio..is to be sent Nuncio into France. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 220 [They] sent the noble Julian and Martin ambassadors from..Japan to pope Gregory XIII.

f. *To be sent* (*into the world*): said of a child as born for some divine purpose, or as a gift to the parents. Cf. sense 7.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXXVI. 22 By syn maternall I am send, With vyce I vaneiss. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* I. i. 20, I, that am..sent before my time Into this breathing World. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xx, Being the only child.. and sent late in life to bless their marriage bed. 1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal.* Nov. *Comic Tales* (1841) II. 360, I..wore my red coat as naturally as if I had been sent into the world only for the purpose of being a letter-carrier.

g. Without the notion of a destination or errand: To cause or order to depart *from* one; to dismiss. Chiefly with advs., *away, off. To send packing*: see PACK *v.*1 10 b.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) L vj, As an ydell vacabunde man they dyspatched and sent hym awaie. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 148 Shee sent him away as colde as a Snoweball. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* i. 53 And the rich hee hath sent emptie away. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Nov., It is intended to..try them for a sum of money; and, if they do not like it, then to send them going, and call another [parliament]. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. i. iv. 85 There was no other way for him to get rid of his tutoring, without sending off Dr. Orkborne. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xvii. 215, I will not take no from you,..and if you send me away from you I will not go! *Ibid.,* The moment was fast coming when I should not have the strength to send him from me.

2. To compel or force to go; to drive, impel. Also *transf.* of a circumstance, impulse, etc. Also with *up.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ix. 21, & symble hine [*sc.* one possessed of a devil] & in fyr & on wætro sendeþ [Vulg. *misit*] þætte hine losade *vel* fordyde. *c* 1205 LAY. 14840 He haſð ..isend heom [*sc.* his foes] ouer se stran. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 64 Hail, wayward Queen!..Who..send the godly in a pet to pray. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 609 The royal troops instantly fired such a volley of musketry as sent the rebel horse flying in all directions. 1886 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* xiii, The plunge of our anchor sent up clouds of birds.

b. To drive (a person) *into* some state or condition, to cause to go *to* (sleep); also with adj. complement.

1831 *Society* I. 179 You, both of you, will send me distracted between you. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii, Rebecca laughed in her face, with a horrid sarcastic demoniacal laughter, that almost sent the schoolmistress into fits. 1852 — *Esmond* III. vii, He..sent the Colonel to sleep, with a long, learned, and refreshing sermon. 1892 TENNYSON *Foresters* IV, I had despair'd of thee—that sent me crazed.

3. To cause (a person) to be carried or conducted to a destination. **a.** To direct to be conveyed as a prisoner or a slave; to commit or consign officially *to* prison, the gallows, death, etc.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 237 Mid þy þe hie me sendon on his carcern. *c* 1205 LAY. 26981 Petreiun heo nomen & heore inume allen and mid þreo hundred sweinen in to wude senden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4445 Was tua men in þe kinges hus To prisun sent for þair misdede. *a* 1380 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 38/2, I am sent hider to beo slayn. *a* 1500 *Contin. Brut* 509 Þe Mair..sont þo þat cried so to Newgate. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI,* II. iii. 42 [Thou] That hast..slaine our Citizens, And sent our sonnes and Husbands captiuate. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 76 They took him, and with other Slaves sent him to Constantinople. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 2 [A ship of war is] the New-Bridewell of the Nation, where all the incorrigible Rogues [*printed* Viages] are sent. 1834 MARRYAT

P. Simple lvi, Miller was sent on board of the frigate, and under surveillance. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, I tell you they are rascals; men fit to send to the hulks.

b. To consign (a departed spirit) *to* (a place or condition).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) Prol. iii. 3 For þi he giuis us respit, þat we sal mende ure sinne and sipin to þe ioy be sent. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 632 To torment sent before thir time. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* v, The abode to which departed spirits are sent after this life.

c. In various phrases with the meaning to kill, put to death.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 211 b, I..sent him to feede fishes. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* v. ii. 110 What, is thy hand to weake? then mine shall helpe To send them down to euerlasting night. 1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. i. (1656) 59 He must make yong [judges] or none, for all the old ones Her father he hath sent a fishing. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 78 Thus was I..sent to my account With all my imperfections on my head. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 102 Ere they could strangle him, he sent three of them to the Deuill. 1711 W. KING tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 100 Quintus Fabius sent a hundred thousand Gauls into the other world.

** *With a thing as object.*

4. To cause (a thing) to be conveyed or transmitted by an intermediary to another person or place.

Beowulf 471 (Gr.) Sende ic Wylfingum ofer wæteres hrycg ealde madmas. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 Gif heo mei sparien eni poure schreaden, sende ham al derneliche ut of hire woanes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4162 His kyrtil sal we..til his fader seind. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 426 Ful redy hadde he his Apothecaries To sende him [*i.e.* the sick man] drogges. 1471 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 25, I shal sende yw mony to bye wyth soch stwfe as I wull have. 1536 CROMWELL *Let.* 30 Apr. in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 11, I sende your lordship certain Crampe ringes to be bestowed there amonges your Freendes. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* Advt., Though it come not forth before, divers parts were sent to the Press in 1660, or 1661. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* clxiv. Wks. 1875 II. 353, I sent my letter to the post. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 5 We sent on Board the Pearl twelve Butts..of Water. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* viii, Stages go every hour..by which Mr. W. may send his trunk with safety. 1826 *Museum Criticum* I. 137 Mr. Blomfield's edition of the *Persæ* of Æschylus will very shortly be sent to Press. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 544 Since the knight Came not to us, of us to claim the prize, Ourselves will send it after. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xii. 11 Or most speedily send me back the napkin.

b. To cause (food, wine) to be handed (to a guest).

1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* III. 52 Why, Madam..—shan't I send you a biscuit? 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v, Perhaps, Miss Rodney, you will let me send you wine...What wine do you take? *Ibid.*, General,.. you eat nothing; let Mr. Rodney send you some lamb.

c. To serve up (food, a course, meal): only with *in, up,* and in phr. *to send to table.*

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 64 The Countrey cannot produce Apples or other Fruits that are worth sending up to the Table. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Send,* Bid the Steward to send in Dinner. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 25 It should..be sent in hot and hot. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v, What paper is that, in which those cutlets have been sent to table? 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, He found the cook just resting after sending up the late dinner.

d. Of a country: To export.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 16 It sendes to the Easte cuntreyes verie fatt Rye. 1785 COWPER *Task* III. 583 Those [*sc.* greenhouse plants] Ausonia claims,..th' Azores send Their jessamine.

e. *transf.* and *fig.* Also with *up.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 51 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 163 Al þet beste þet we hefden þider [*sc.* to heaven] we hit solde senden. 1340 *Ayenb.* 73 Todel þine zaule uram þe bodye be þoȝte, zend þine herte in-to þe oþre wordle. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 409 We from the West will send destruction Into this Cities bosome. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 195 When all things that breath,..send up silent praise To the Creator. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 67 The sky overcast with Clouds, that now and then sent us some drops of Rain. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 256 Has some sickly eastern waste Sent us a wind to parch us at a blast? 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i, That sea which holds no living fish..and..sends not, like other lakes, a tribute to the ocean.

5. To dispatch (a boat, carriage, etc.). Also with *out.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101, And se cyng syððan scipa ut on see sende his broðer to dære & to lettinge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8701, & Drihhtin sennde an karrte himm [*sc.* Helyas] to. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 19 Þai sent þaire schippes on ilka side With flesch and wine. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii. 182 The Merchant, that for prinate gaine, Doth send his Ships to passe the maine. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 3 The Commodore sent out a Privateer Sloop. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xi, There would be two boats sent for them.

6. To dispatch (a message, letter, telegram, etc.) by messenger, post, or other means of communication. So *To send cards* (of invitation).

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxii. 213 Ne ðeah eow hwelc ærendgewrit cume, swelce hit from us send sie. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2832 Þatt Drihhtin hafde sennd hiss word Till hire. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Þe ne schulen senden lettres.. buten leaue. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 972 *rubric,* How dindimus sendyd an answere to alixandre by letter. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 143 þat all supplicacions which shalbe made to þe kynge..be sende to the same counsell. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. vi. *title,* Kyng Latyne till Eneas send message For peax. 1625 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 86 The Embassador..sent intelligence of the same into England. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Apr., I sent my excuses, adorned with about thirty compliments, and got off as fast as I could. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* II. 49 She very well knows that I have not sent cards but twice the whole season. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xvii. § 5 (ed. 3) 519 Heliogabalus being thus victorious, sent intelligence of his success..to the senate. 1859 LYTTON *What will he do* XII. xi, I sent a telegram. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xviii. 225, I sent him a line..just to say that I had succeeded in finding you.

b. *To send* (a person) *word*: to transmit a message (to a person); to inform, notify. Const. *of,* clause, or inf.

c 1205 LAY. 25309 Bi us he sende word þe þat he wule to þisse londe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 145 And syne till Scotland word send he, That thai suld mak ane assemble. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 13 And so God sent worde to the kinge and the citee bi the profete Ionas, but yef [etc.]. 1570 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 235, I pray yow send me worde by this bearer what yow thinke. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 59 He sent me word to stay within. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 18. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1687) 35/2 You send me word of an expedition you are preparing. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Dec., Whenever you would have any money, send me word three weeks before. 1886 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* xii, Not long after, word was sent forward that Jim Hawkins was wanted in the cabin.

c. With the message expressed by a clause † or inf.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656, Ða seonde se kyning æfter þone abbode þet he æuestlice scolde to him cumon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1239 Þis erl..to þe king ofte sende þat he ssolde..is herte somdel amende. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2209 The Soudan sent to sir Torent than, With honger that thes people be slan. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. ii. 88 Ile send to him to meet The Prince and me. *Ibid.* III. xii. 58 Although he send not that his Sonne returne. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Feb. 1672, We tooke order to send to the Plantations that none of their ships should adventure homeward single.

† **d.** *To send greeting*: see GREETING *vbl. sb. Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. x. (1891) 124 Bonefatius papa sende Eadwine greting. *c* 1205 LAY. 27885 And efte wolde heom alswa senden heom gretinge ma. 1483 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 489 Baillifes of the same cite..senden gretyng in oure Lorde Jhesu Criste. 1535 [see GREETING *vbl. sb.*]. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xxiii. 26.

e. In complimentary formulæ, *to send* (one's) *compliments, love, respects,* etc. † Also, *to send health, happiness,* etc.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* Ded., Your most humble servant william Caxton..sendes unto you peas helthe Joye and victorie upon your Enemyes. 1732–3 LD. CARTERET *Let.* 24 Mar. in *Swift's Lett.* (1767) III. 36 The whole family of my ladies send their compliments. 1779 MISS M. TOWNSHEND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 100 My father is very well, and sends his love to you. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. xiii, My aunt desires to send her affectionate regards to you. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, She made George write..., and persisted in sending Mamma's kind love in a postscript. 1852 — *Esmond* III. xi, The man said..that his young mistress had sent her duty.

7. Of God, fate, chance, etc.: 'To grant as from a distant place' (J.); to cause to happen or come into existence; to ordain as a blessing or a punishment.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xix. 3 Ȝehere ðe dryhten..send ðe fultum of halȝum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Ic wille senden flod. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5531, & 233 to þannkenn innwarrdliȝ Drihhtin all þatt he senndebþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1592 Forþi in forme of iugement God thoght a neu wengaunce to sent. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 162 Euil dedes er of oure awn entent, And all gude dedes fro god er sent. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 72 b, If yᵉ gods did not vouchsafe to send them raine in due season. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 51 Now Ioue in his next commodity of hayre, send thee a beard. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 774 The Nymphs.. have..sent a Plague among thy thriving Bees. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* 113 God sends not ill. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* VI, I..appoint thee to be kept in ward in the western tower, till God send us relief. 1877 W. S. GILBERT *Sorcerer* II. Quintette, Bless the thoughtful fates that send him Such a wife to soothe his years. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* V, Ah, spring was sent for lass and lad.

Proverbial. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 132 He maye chaunce haue cause to saye so of his fletcher, as..is..spoken of Cookes: and that is, that God sendeth vs good fethers, but the deuyll noughtie Fletchers. 1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 20 God sends never the mouth, but the meat with it. *Ibid.* 21 God sends meat, and the Devil sends Cooks.

b. In the phrase *God, Heaven, Lord send*; (also simply *send*); esp. with clause as obj. and † with obj. and compl.

† *God send* (a person) *safe, victorious,* etc. = God grant that he may be safe, etc. † *God send* (you, us, etc.) with inf. or subjunctive = God grant that you, we, etc. may do (what is indicated by the vb.).

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 146 Gret God sen we had euir with him past! 1530 PALSGR. 701/1 God sende him good spede. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 330 Grit God we pray, sen Prencis wald perceaue,...How be tha [etc.]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 773 God send grace they hurt not. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 190 God send him well. 1649 W. DUGDALE in *Lett. Eminent Men* (Camden) 176 God send him well recover. 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. ii. 45 God keep you all, Gentlemen; and send you meet this day with another bitch Otter. 1690 CROWNE *Eng. Friar* III. 28 *Sir Tho.* I have a great fancy I shall do well in the Country. *La. C.* Ah! send thou dost. ? 1740 *Thesaurus Musicus* in W. H. Cummings *God Save the King* (1902) 83 God save our Lord the King...Send him victorious, Happy and Glorious. 1776 FOOTE *Capuchin* III. (1778) 136 Lord send us safe to Old England, say I! 1820 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxii, God send my poor people may have no cause to wish their old man back again. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. viii, Heaven send him happy, but I fear for the success of my prayers. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* vi, Heaven forgive me if I am wrong, and send me just thoughts.

*** *absolute uses.*

8. *absol.* To send a message or messenger. Const. *after, to.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205, & [he] hie lærede þæt hie rædost to Rome sendon to ðæm papan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1021, Her on þissum ȝeare sende se cyng & his witan to ðam here. 1132 *Ibid.*, Sua ðet te king..sende efter þe muneces. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 261 To þe king of grece he sende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10737 Wit þis þai sent sun vp and don, And bad þam at a dai be bon. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 1047 And hastifly he sente after Custaunce. *c* 1425 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 734 He bade him nat long Tary to sende aftyr more socour. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 149 He sent thrughe all the londe and made com all the maysters masons [etc.]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* XCV. 309 He sende & commaundyd hym that he sholde no more fyght with me. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 132 Send to me in the morning. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Aug. 1660, Coll. Spencer..sent to me and intreated that I would take a Commission. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. v, When your lordship—wants me again, send. You know where I live. If you don't send I shan't come. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* ix, John, send to Mrs. Hoggarty in the shrubbery.

b. Followed by inf. (or, *rarely,* by *and* with a co-ordinated verb) indicating the purpose.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 151 Ha sende swiðe for to witen hwet wunder hit were. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7125 To þe duc he sende sone to helpe him in þat cas. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 Myne soule was gonne and paste out of my bodye yere my wyfe knewe hit or sende to calle for the pryste. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V,* III. v. 62 And let him say to England, that we send To know what willing Ransome he will giue. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xci. 86 His Wife sent up and down to look after him. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Aug. 1678, The D. of Norfolk..sent to me to take charge of the bookes. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Sept., Sir John Holland..has sent to desire my acquaintance. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 207, I have sent every half hour to know how she does. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* III x. 121 He inquired whether there was not a morsel left...Mr. R. was not sure. 'Send and see', said Lamb. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 218 He sent to invite her to supper with him.

9. Send for —. **a.** To send a messenger or message for; to send (a person) to fetch —.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 19 He sent for alle þe kynges, fro Berwik vnto Kent. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 237 He hadde nouȝt i-send for more help. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVIII. 566 Than com Merlin to Arthur, and bad hym sende for all his power in all haste. 1562 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 282 Ther was a gretт frey and my lord mare..was send fore. 1672 WISEMAN *Treat. Wounds* I. 38 The next day.. it burst out impetuously; I was sent for, and found it bleeding with a strong impulse. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 123 The guard..sent for drink. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 213, I send by poor Lovelace's desire, for particulars of the fatal breviate. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 220 She sent for Blanche to accuse her face to face. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* XXVIII. 373 Would you not like me to send for one of your priests?

b. With adv. qualifying 'to come' or 'be brought' understood.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* Epil. 3 The one tooke Sanctuary, and being sent for out, Was murthred in Southwark. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 34 My mother thought fit to send for me home. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 40 You must go away without seeing him, unless he sends for you in. 1714 SWIFT *Imit. Hor.* II. vi. 16 Send for him up, take no Excuse. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. ii. (1811) 60, I shall not send for you back. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. vii, The Squire was sent for home.

c. Of a sovereign: To command the attendance of; *esp.* to summon a leader or prominent member of a political party, for the purpose of offering him the office of prime minister.

1744 BIRCH *Life Boyle* 154 He was then by his Majesty's order sent for to Whitehall. 1765 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 382 The King declared to his ministers that he had no further occasion for their services, but had sent for Mr. Pitt. 1806 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 227 The King could do no better than to send for Lord Grenville. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. 512 The Queen sent for Lord Hartington, she then sent for Lord Granville; but everyone knew in advance who was to come into power at last.

II. To cause to go, by physical means or by direct volition.

10. *trans.* To discharge and direct (a missile); to throw or propel in a particular direction; occas. † to thrust (a dagger). Also said of a missile weapon.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xvii. 15 [xviii. 14] Sende strele his & tostencte hie. *c* 1205 LAY. 6483 And he lette fuse him to slan swuðe kene and alle him to sende. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 20 As thick againe their Shafts the English send. 1645–7 BOYLE in Birch *Life* (1744) 74 Which [wind-gun]..would.. send forth a leaden bullet..with force to kill a man at twenty five..paces. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 836 In his right hand Grasping ten thousand Thunders, which he sent Before him. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 83 To send a Dagger to a Mans heart is an expression older than thou art. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646, He was sending a brace of bullets into the poore beast. 1717 ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Metam.* III. 91 Cadmus ..Then heav'd a stone, and rising to the throw, He sent it in a whirlwind at the foe. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 570 None sends his arrow to the mark in view, Whose hand is feeble. 1785 — *Task* III. 803 And the whistling ball Sent through the trav'llers temples! 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., St. Medard.* As the cannon recoils when it sends its shot. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiv, 'I fling the words in your face, my lord', says the other; 'shall I send the cards too?' 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, Flashman..sent an empty pickle-jar whizzing after them.

fig. *a* 1844 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* xii. (1878) 392 The Duke of Wellington uses words with a strange frugality, and sends them straight to their mark.

b. To deliver (a blow). †Formerly const. *dative*. Also *to send home* (see HOME *adv.* 10 b).

a 1626 MIDDLETON *Mayor Queensb.* II. i, How am I serv'd in this? I offer a vexation to the King, He sends it home into my bloud with vantage. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. vii. 16 Hadrian sent his inferiour seruant a box on the eare, for walking but betweene two Senators. 1861 H. C. PENNELL *Puck on Pegasus* 111 Right to his dexter optic The Champion sent a blow. 1894 KIPLING *Jungle Bk.* 59 Kaa..sent home half-a-dozen full-power smashing blows.

c. To drive (a ball).

1782 *Kentish Gas.* 20–23 Nov., Now the Batsman..Sends the Ball Over all. 1887 *Field* 5 Nov. 714/1 Lawrence then, by a well-judged kick, sent the ball between the [goal] posts.

11. To emit, give forth as a source. **a.** To give off or out (light, heat, odour, etc.); to discharge, pour out (liquid). Chiefly with advs., *forth, off, out*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 245 Nu þonne, anlicnes,..sænd mycel wæter þurh þinne muþ. *a* 1425 *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 56 If þai sende out blode þai ar,seid ryȝtfully emeroydez. 1535 COVERDALE *Jas.* iii. 11 Doth a fountayne sende forth at one place swete water and bytter also? 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 145 He is the Morning Star, His bemis send he hes out far. 1574 HYLL *Art Garden.* lvii. (ed. 3) 115 By the watring on this wise, the roote sendeth such bitternesse as then remayneth in the same. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 74 b, I demaunded..the reason..why this streame ..neuer sent foorth any miste or vapour. 1611 BIBLE *Eccl.* x. 1 Dead flies cause the oyntment..to send foorth a stinking sauour. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 241 And with the very breath she sends The healthy aire taints and offends. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 204 Many Springs send forth their Water with such violence, that [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 141 That light Sent from her through the wide transpicuous aire. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* I. 15 And their breath was mixed with fresh odour, sent From the turf, like the voice and the instrument. 1840 H. SMITH *Oliver Cromwell* II. 239 Several pipes of trinidado were sending forth their powerful fumes. 1862 BORROW *Wild Wales* xxiii. (1901) 71/1 A white farm-house—sending from a tall chimney a thin misty reek up to the sky.

b. To give *forth* or *out* (sound); to utter (a cry, groan, etc.). Cf. 13.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 Muð sent ut þe stefne. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxviii[i]. 33 He shal sende out his voyce, yee and that a mightie voyce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 274 Or such a noise it was, as highest thunders sende. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie*, etc. 233 Rather then for her I'de shed one teare,..or send one grone. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 134/1 An Hart, when he sendeth forth his Cry, is said to Bellow. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 469 He sends a dreadful groan. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 821 When ev'ry star..Sent forth a voice. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. xv, But still her lips refused to send—' Farewell!' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 373 The lost lamb at her feet Sent out a bitter bleating for its dam. 1859 — *Geraint & Enid* 728 Then Enid..Sent forth a sudden sharp and bitter cry.

c. To throw out as a branch or offshoot. Chiefly with *off, out*, †*forth*.

1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. 297 The Aorta,.. bending a little upwards, sends forth the Cervical and Axillary Arteries. 1723 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 34 Sending forth here and there several Leaves. 1732 A. MONRO *Anat. Nerves* 3 The Nerves..send off their Branches at more acute Angles..than the Blood-vessels do. *a* 1767 — *Wks.* (1781) 312 The lymphatic vessel which enters its superior arch, is often sent from the thyroid gland. 1812 *New Bot. Garden* I. 90 It sends out several stems from the root. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 395 Each [bronchial tube] dividing and subdividing, and sending off secondary branches. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 131 A minute mesial stomato-gastric ganglion, which..sends nerves to the ..jaw and its muscles.

12. To direct (a thought, look, glance).

?*c* 1420 *Pol. Poems* 74 God asken of the:..þy swete þouȝtes (þou) me sende. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iii. 35 Send thou sweet looks, ile meete them with sweete lookes. 1782 COWPER *Alex. Selkirk* 37 My friends, do they now and then send A wish or a thought after me? 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* x, Many were the glances which the Princess sent among her retinue. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marr. at Sea* vii, Never can I forget the expression of her face..when..she sent a look at the yacht.

13. To cause (sound, one's voice) to 'carry' or travel. Chiefly *poet.* Cf. 11 b.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 33 Through Brazen Trumpet send the breath of Parle Into his ruin'd Eares. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 548 When Cherubic Songs by night from neighbouring Hills Aereal Music send. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. iii, The squire..sent after his sister the same holla which attends the departure of a hare. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 123 And livelier than the lark She sent her voice thro' all the holt Before her. 1892 HENLEY *Song of Sword* 76 The cry of a gull sent seaward.

14. To drive by pulsation, impulse, etc.

a 1767 A. MONRO *Wks.* (1781) 378 The liquors sent from the umbilical arteries to be mixed with the uterine blood, resemble the..liquors separated from the..blood. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 638/2 The cavities..on the right side of the heart send the blood to the lungs for the purposes of respiration. 1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xxii. § 4 (1881) 300 A simple key, which the operator depresses when he wishes to send a current. 1874 W. K. CLIFFORD in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 729 Like the wave which you send along a string and which comes back. *Ibid.*, There is a physical excitation or disturbance which is sent along two different nerves.

15. Of a blow or something having the effect of a blow, also of the agent, a weapon: To cause to go or fall violently. Also with *down*.

1822 A. THORNTON *Don Juan* II. ii. 25 But the contest was suddenly arrested..by a colossal fist which sent two or three of the combatants sprawling among the wine butts. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Aug., His lance took Tagrag on the neck, and sent him to the ground like a stone. 1848 — *Van. Fair* lxii, My lord nearly sent Jos off his legs with the most fascinating smile. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* ii, He struck his antagonist a crashing blow, which..sent him down like a shot. 1879 [see FLY *v.*[1] 9]. 1887 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Revol. Tanner's Lane* i. (ed. 8) 8 In an instant it was sent flying to the other side of the road. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 7/3 Sharkey..put a right hand smash on the jaw, sending Corbett down.

16. To cause (a thing) to go *down, up*, etc. Also *transf.* with immaterial object, e.g. prices, one's spirits.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ix. 20 Lavender..heateth the Belly, and sendeth down the Terms. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 213 The Jack-block is used for sending top-gallant-yards up or down. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 108 Tartar emetic..solution being heated with sulphuret of ammonia, sends down a copious gold coloured precipitate. 1830 SCOTT *Introd. to Ld. of Isles*, I sent up another of these trifles, which, like schoolboys' kites, served to show how the wind..was setting. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 30 If the topgallant sail is to be bent aloft, send it up to the topmast cross-trees by the clewlines. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 50 Reeve a topgallant mast rope, and send the mast on deck. 1895 DOYLE *Stark Munro Lett.* xvi. 332 We could manage very well on that—the more so as marriage sends a doctor's income up.

17. To cause to move or travel; to cause to work. Cf. *send along* 21.

1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 532 The breath of heaven came continually And sent her [*sc.* a ship] sweetly by the golden isles. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 7/2 The order was given to send the engines full speed astern. 1893 F. F. MOORE *Gray Eye or So* III. 205 Harold..sending his horses at a pretty fair pace into the square.

III. In idiomatic combination with adverbs. (For the obvious combinations see the simple senses and the adverbs.)

†**18. Send about.** *trans.* To dispatch (messengers) here and there; also *absol. Obs.*

c 1330 *King of Tars* 146 He sente aboute on uche a syde Alle that he mihte of seende. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 46 The Senate hath sent about three seuerall Quests, To search you out.

19. Send abroad. **a.** *trans.* To publish, make known widely; also, to cause (a sound) to be heard far and wide. *arch.* or *poet.*

1682 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.*, To send abroad or to publish, *edere, evulgare*. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 79 He has a thousand pretty Phrases which he never sends abroad. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiii, The great bell of the Castle..began to send its pealing clamour abroad. 1864 TENNYSON *E. Arden* 764 He..fear'd To send abroad a shrill and terrible cry.

b. *absol.* To send out notices widely.

1611 BIBLE 1 *Chron.* xiii. 2 Let vs send abroad vnto our brethren euery where.

†**20. Send against —.** *pass.* To be met. (Cf. *go against*, GO *v.* 51 a.) *Obs.*

1541 SIR T. WYATT *Def.* in *Poet. Wks.* (1858) p. xxxiii, He [Pole] was neither sent against, being the Bishop of Rome's legate, neither received,..nor accompanied out again.

21. Send along. *trans.* To cause to travel rapidly; *fig.* to accelerate the progress or growth of.

1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. 533 If they have been 'sent along' with Indian corn [etc.] they will make up to nearly 2 lbs. heavier. *Mod.* The coachman sent his horses along at a good rate.

22. Send away. **a.** *trans.* To dispatch (a messenger, message, boat, etc.). Also *absol.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 408 If I be not sent away poste, I will see you againe, ere I goe. 1612 SIR R. NAUNTON in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 118, I am in some haste, for fear Mr. More should send away before this comes to him. *a* 1779 COOK *3rd Voy.* III. viii. (1784) II. 128 Before we got near enough to send away a boat to sound the entrance.

†**b.** See quot. *Obs.* Cf. *send down* b.

1714 *Spectator* No. 596 P 3 Upon which I was sent away, or in the University Phrase, Rusticated for ever.

23. Send back. *trans.* (*Cricket.*) To cause (one who has come out to bat) to return; to 'put out'.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, The first ball..sent back Mr. Greenfield.

24. Send before. *trans.* To cause to go in advance. Now *rare.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Emissarius*,..signyfieth hym, whiche is sent before in battayle to espie. 1590 [see BEFORE *adv.* 2]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 4, I am sent before to make a fire, and they are coming after to warme them. 1646 BOYLE in Birch *Life* (1744) 55 At Salisbury I overtook my trunks I had sent thither before. 1740 [see BEFORE *adv.* 1]. 1744 BIRCH *Life Boyle* 34 To make his addresses to this lady, Mr. F. was sent..before up to London. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* 82 So he sent his slaves before To seize upon the Bank and Tower.

25. Send down. **a.** To dispatch from the King or the Lords to the Commons, from the capital, a city, one's headquarters, etc. into the country. Also *absol.*

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 303/2 That than the said provisions and exceptions be sende doune unto us, to that ende that we may gife oure assentz therto. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) II. xx. iij b/2 Wherfore in all haste he [Richard I] sent downe, cryuyng strayte commaundement that they shuld cease of the ryot. 1588 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 1 b, [He] sent downe his traine by water: and himselfe went by land. 1671, 1678 [see DOWN *adv.* 2]. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Dorothea Kirke* xviii. 164 If we meet any poor shop-girl..we'll send her down..to wonder at the blueness of the sky. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xi, I'm going to send down for Ruth to come up to help to nurse you.

b. To compel (an undergraduate) to leave the University (permanently or for a specified time), as a punishment. = RUSTICATE *v.* 2.

1853 [see DOWN *adv.* 2]. 1894 *Times* 16 May 10/4 Some 17 members of Christ Church..have been heavily fined and 'sent down'.

c. *Cricket.* To bowl (a ball, an over).

1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, Nine overs were then sent down for half a dozen runs.

26. Send forth. *trans.* To produce, yield; also, of a country, to export; of the press, to issue, publish.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 567 The Water also doth send forth Plants, that haue no Roots. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. i, I want a hero: an uncommon want, When every year and month sends forth a new one. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* x, I have.. cyprus, such as the East hath seldom sent forth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 415 The press now often sends forth in a day a greater quantity of discussion..than was published [etc.]. 1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 426/2 Skeffington Wood sent forth the first [fox].

27. Send in. **a.** *trans.* To give (one's name), hand (one's card) to a servant when making a call.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 204 The Colonel..sent in his name; and I..introduced the afflicted gentleman. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* v. ii, On sending in my card I was shown at once into the studio.

b. To cause (a thing) to be delivered at its destination, to the person entitled to receive it or to the appointed receiver; esp. to render (an account, a bill).

To send in one's jacket: see JACKET *sb.* 1 b. *To send in one's papers*: see PAPER *sb.* 7 d.

1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* II. i. (1841) I. 169 At Church there are bills sent in for the Minister to pray for folks. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* I. (1778) 22 Sir Robert Bumper's butler is to send in the wine. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lxi, My father's bills had been sent in, and amounted to twelve hundred pounds. 1887 ESHER in *Law Rep.* 19 Q. B. Div. 518 It is suggested that to send in a bill is not to demand payment of it, but this is a fanciful view. 1895 SAINTSBURY *Corr. Impr.* 179 An editorial notice of a poem which had been sent in.

c. *Cricket.* To send (a batsman) into the field to bat.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Arthur is sent in, and goes off to the wicket. 1898 GIFFEN *With Bat & Ball* viii. 111 Bonnor was sent in third wicket down.

28. Send off. *trans.* To cause to start on a mission from oneself; to see to the departure of (a person or thing, a message, etc., that is to be conveyed somewhere).

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lxxiv, His wounded men he first sends off to shore. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. ix, When she had sent off this letter. 1896 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* vi, We..sent off some native runners to go and find him.

absol. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix, The trembling old lady sent off for her doctor.

29. Send on. **a.** *trans.* To dispatch (a person or thing) in advance; also *absol.* for 'to send on one's horse'.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 June 1652, Having sent my man on before, I rode negligently under favour of the shade. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, Pitt accompanied them..having sent on their baggage in a cart previously. 1895 DOYLE *Stark Munro Lett.* xvi. 342, I work a town at a time. I send on an agent to the next to say that I am coming.

absol. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cross* xxxii, Because Sir Yawnberry Dawdle, who lies long in bed, sends on, Mr. Larkspur..must needs do the same.

b. To cause (a person) to go onward.

1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 357, A asks B to help him, and B, in his wonderful charity, does him the great favour of sending him on to C.

30. Send out. *trans.* To issue (†a commandment, an invitation); †to proclaim *that*.

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 26 Whan Octonianus had sent houte a commaundement..þat euery man and woman scholde go to his cite. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 22 Þan was send out a mawndement. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 May 1652, I rode to Coll. Blount's..who sent out hue and cry immediately.

31. Send over. *trans.* To dispatch across the sea, or (in later use) from one place to another (cf. OVER *adv.* 5). Also *absol.*

1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 140, I beseche yowre masterschypp to remember to send ower the pampelett. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. i. 94 Send Sextus over to some forraine Nation. 1646 BOYLE in Birch *Life* (1744) 65 Some of the least bad of which [verses] I shall venture to send you over. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Mar. 1652, I..meditated sending over for my wife. 1886 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ix, Hothouse blooms and delicate ferns and tall palms, which had been sent over by cartloads.

32. Send round. **a.** *trans.* To circulate.

1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal.* Dec. *Comic Tales* (1841) II. 366 'Never mind, my boys', I used to say, 'send the bottle round'. 1841 PUSEY in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 370 *note*, A circular is being sent round to all the members of Convocation.

b. *To send round the hat*: see HAT *sb.* 5 b.

c. *colloq.* To send (something; also *absol.* to send a message) to some one in the neighbourhood.

Mod. I will leave the basket; you can send it round any time. I will send round tomorrow to inquire how the patient is.

33. Send up. **a.** *trans.* Of things: To emit, give off, shoot out (something that rises or travels upwards).

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 76 The countrey is exceeding hote and parching, being altogether vnfit to sende vp any vapours. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 738 The Hills..Vapour, and Exhalation dusk and moist, Sent up amain. 1721

ADDISON *Spect.* No. 62 ¶ 5 It is a Flame that sends up no Smoke. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* 2928 [It] Passed like a spark sent up out of a burning oven. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 104 If a bean is planted..it will immediately begin to send up a stem.

b. To cause (a person) to go or (a thing) to be taken 'upstairs' (from the kitchen, entrance hall, etc.); esp. to serve up (a meal), to send in (one's name or card as a visitor).

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xi, The master of the inn.. sent up the bill by the waiter. 1884 *Graphic* 29 Nov. 578/3 Gerald..sent up his name to Lord Whitby.

absol. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxvi, Poor Tomlins has sent up three times to say the fish will be spoiled.

c. To send (a bill) from the Commons to the Lords.

1832 GREVILLE *Mem.* 6 Apr. (1874) II. 282 That could not be *now* in the Bill, as it was sent up from the Commons.

d. *Public Schools.* To send (a boy) to the headmaster (*a*) for reward, (*b*) for punishment.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxiv, I remember poor Shelley at school being sent up for good for a copy of verses. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii, 'What if we're late?' said Tom. 'No tea, and sent up to the Doctor', answered East. *Ibid.* II. vii, He sent me up to be flogged for it. 1881 *Everyday Life in Public Sch.* (ed. Pascoe) 322 *Sent up*, Eton. An honour due usually to distinction in verses. *Ibid.* 323 The Head Master exercised the power of sending up 'for play', which was counted as three times 'sent up for good'. Every third occasion of being sent up for good the boy could claim a book from the Head.

e. To put in prison.

1852 JUDSON *Myst. N. Y.* III. 7 (Farmer) They'd blow on me for some of my work, and I'd be sent up. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 10/1 Only two prisoners, men, occupied the prison-van... Burns was being 'sent up' for wife-beating, and Tannahill for theft.

Send (send), *v.*[2] *Naut.* Pa. t. **sended.** Also 7–9 **scend**, (8 **sand**). [Belongs to SEND *sb.*[2]; possibly a mere application of SEND *v.*[1] Often written *'scend*, as if aphetic for *descend* or *ascend*.] (See quot. *a* 1625.)

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), When a shipp falls (whether under saile or at Anchor) with her head or with her sterne deepe into the Trough of the Sea it is said she Sends much either a sterne or a head. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 122 An uneven and unlevel keel drooping forwards, or sending aft. *Ibid.* 127 What makes her pitch and scend too much. 1794 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 286 *She sands* or *sends.* When the ship's head or stern falls deep in the trough of the sea. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Sending*, the act of pitching precipitately into the hollow, or interval, between two waves. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* ii, She sended forward, heavily and sickly, on the long swell.—She never rose to the opposite heave of the sea again.

transf. 1896 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* i, All day and all night we go rocking and pitching, rolling and 'scending' along in the creaking, groaning old coach.

¶**b.** Apparently misapplied from incorrect notion of the etymology.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *'Scending* (from *ascend*), the contrary motion to pitching. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 50 The motion is termed..pitching or 'scending according as the bow of the ship moves downward and the stern upward or vice versâ.

Sendable (se·ndăb'l), *a.* [f. SEND *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] That may be sent.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 329/2 Sendabylle, *missilis.* 1791 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 263, I have it before me, but not in a sendable state.

Sendal (se·ndăl). Now only *Hist.* Forms: 3–4 **cendal**, 3–5 **cendel**, **sendell**, 4–5 **sandelle**, 4–6 **sendel**, **sendale**, (4 **cendale**, **-dele**, **sandale**), 5 **sandel**, **sendelle**, 5–6 **sendalle**, **syndall**, (5 **sendyll(e**, 5–7 **sandall**, 6 **sindal**, 6–7 **sindall**, (6 **cendell**, **sandell**, **syndale**, *Sc.* **san-**, **sendill**), 5–9 **sendall**, 4– **sendal**. [a. OF. *cendal*, = Pr. *sendal-s*, *sendat-z*, Sp., Pg. *cendal*, It. *zendale*, *sendale*, *sendado*; a Com. Rom. word, whence MHG. *zendâl*, *zindal*, mod.G. *sindel*.

It is probable that the word is ultimately derived from Gr. σινδών fine linen, which it renders in OF. translations of the New Testament; but the history of the form is obscure.]

1. A thin rich silken material; also, a covering or garment of this material.

a 1225 *Juliana* 9 (MS. Bodl.) Al þe cure ouertild..wiþ purpres & pelles, wiþ ciclatuns & cendals & deorewurðe clathes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14984 Pair lauerd was noþer cledd Wit silk ne yeitt cendel. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 19 And 3e, louell Ladeis.., þat habbeþ selk, and sendel souweþ. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 440 In sangwyn and in pers he clad was al Lyned with Taffata and with Sendal. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 4 A keuerlet of red sendel. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 740 There was pyght vp a pauylyon of crymasyn sendall, right noble and riche. *c* 1530 — *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 202 The ymage..blusshed as red as sendall. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 82 Gowlde & sylver sendalls narrowe at xx[d] the yarde. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 41 'Sendale'..was a thynne stuffe lyke sarcenette, and of a rawe kynde of sylks or sarcenett, but courser and narrower, then the Sarcenett nowe ys. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 117 Which horse shall have a saddle..covered with a sendal of the same armes. 1850 LOWER *By Seaside, Secret of Sea* ii, Sails of silk and ropes of sendal, such as gleam in ancient lore. 1882 F. T. PALGRAVE *Vis. Eng.* 46 One girdled with the vervain-red, And three in sendal gray.

†**2.** As a rendering of L. *sindon*, the word was often understood (even before it became obsolete in sense 1) in the original Gr. and L. sense: Fine linen, lawn; a piece of this, used esp. as a shroud and as a dressing for wounds, etc. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Gosp. Nicod.* (Galba) 722 He wand þat cors..in sendell new and clene. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 59 And the body taken, Ioseph wlappide it in a clene sendel, or lynnen cloth. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 174 Syxty senatours of Rome..whome the kynge dyd do bawme and.. do cere them in syxty fold of cered clothe of Sendale. 1530 PALSGR. 203/2 Cendell thynne lynnen, *sendal.* 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 147 A loose mantle of fine Sendall [*margin* Lawne or Tiffanie].

Sendaline (se·ndălәin). *rare*[−1]. [Extension of SENDAL: see -INE.] = SENDAL.

1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Ball. Death* 41 Upon her raiment of dyed sendaline [*rime-word* wine] Were painted all the secret ways of love.

Sendee (sendī·). [f. SEND *v.*[1] + -EE.] The person to whom a thing is sent.

1806 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 502 All transmission of papers ..highly dangerous both to the sender and sendee. 1869 LUSH in *Law Rep.* 4 Q. B. Div. 714 There is nothing in their [the telegraph company's] special Act which affects their relation either to the sender or the sendee of a message.

Sendel, -dell: see SANDAL *sb.*[1], SENDAL.

Sender (se·ndəɹ). [f. SEND *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who or something which sends (in the various senses of the verb).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 111 Eft sone he is sendere of alle holie heten. 1587 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 115 The bringers and senders thereof. 1642 T. GOODWIN *Heart of Christ* 65 The Sender and Bestower of the holy Ghost. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 852. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 4 The gift sent was not suited to the prophet so much as to the sender; he gave as a king. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 5/2 The sender of a telegraph message has henceforth to bear in mind..that [etc.]. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 303 The countries which are large senders of produce to our markets.

b. One who signals a message.

1904 *Army Signalling Regul.* 123 The Sender..will pay attention to his heliograph, lamp or flag...He will send each word or group as ordered by the caller.

c. The transmitting instrument of a telephone or telegraphic apparatus. = TRANSMITTER.

1879 tr. *Du Moncel's Telephone* 128 Its primary wire is traversed by a current from the local battery, and so also is the sender. 1906 EICHHORN *Wireless Telegr.* vi. 36 Closely-coupled Sender and Receiver.

Sendge, obs. form of SINGE *v.*

Sendill, obs. form of SENDAL, SENDLE *adv.*

Sending (se·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEND *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb SEND.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15293 He wolde neuere of sendyng blyn, Til he of me answere myȝt wyn. 1450 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 178/2 By cause of his fals messages, sendynges and writynges. 1627 ABP. ABBOT in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 461 Thus..to quicken my remembrance, I have laid down the Cause and the Proceedings of my sending into Kent, where I remain. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 153 The sending of the troops..to extirpate our friends in Poitou. 1882 E. R. LANKESTER in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl.* XVI. *Zool.* 460 For repeated sendings of a large number of Italian Scorpions..I am indebted to [etc.].

b. With adverbs, expressing the action of the verbal combinations: see SEND *v.* Also *attrib.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 301 Be-twene þe ascencione of criste & þe spryte sendynge-done, all þe apostolis semblyt vare. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 142 At the sending for of the Pape. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H iv, After we shall haue assembled our felowshyp togyther (by the sendynge aboute of oure bedyll). 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXV. 173 There is little intermission..betweene the drawing in and sending forth of their breath. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 278 The sending away our prisoners was our last transaction. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Oct. 209/1 Sending-in Day [Royal Academy].

2. The transmission of a telegraphic or telephonic message. Also *attrib.*

c 1865 *Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 271/2 One..ribbon may be carried..over any number of sending machines. 1876 PREECE *Telegraphy* 115 The sending of a clerk after a time loses clearness and legibility. 1906 KENNELLY *Wireless Telegr.* 110 A wireless-telegraph sending station.

3. Something sent.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 25 Too curst is more then curst, I shall lessen Gods sending that way. 1842 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 138 You ask me how I like your last sendings? 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 117 For I send east and I send west,..And syne my Sendings return to me. They come wi' news [etc.].

Sendle, *adv. Sc.* Forms: 6 **sendill**, **-yll**, **sindall**, **-ill**, **seindill**, **-ell**, **seyndil(l**, **sendle**, **seindl**, 6–9 **seindle**, **sindle**, 7–9 **sinle**, 8 **sinal**, **-ile**, **synle**, **seenly**, 8–9 **seenle**, **senil**, **seenil**, 9 **seinle**, **sennil**, **-el.** [Metathetic alteration of *selden*, SELDOM *adv.*] = SELDOM. Also *sendle-times* = seldom-times.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) XXVIII, His pray full sindill tymes will he mis. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xli, I knew that was the court sa variabill Of eirdly lufe, quhilk sendill standis stabill. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 130 It is rycht seyndil sene that he eschapis the deitht. 1588-[89] *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 342 The like barbarous and shamefull cruelties hes sendle bene hard of amangis Christeanis. 1644 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 291 Only the Saturday free [from exercise], and that for Sunday's preaching, when sinle times any of us does vacke. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Betty & Kate* iv, Sindle times they e'er come back. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 24 Frail man, alack! but seenil thinks..That [etc.]. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 8 A gentle horse should be sindle spurr'd.

†**Se·ndman.** *Obs.* [a. ON. *sendimann-* (nom. *-maðr*), f. stem of *senda* to SEND.] An envoy, messenger. Cf. *sand-man* (SAND *sb.*[1]), SANDESMAN.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21408 Þan sent þe king constantin, Send men til his moder eline.

Send-off.

1. *colloq.* A friendly demonstration on the occasion of a person's starting on a journey or the like. (Originally U.S.)

1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Roughing It* (1900) II. vi. 63 One of the boys has passed in his checks, and we want to give him a good sendoff. 1882 *Times* 27 Mar. 4/1 When General Grant went to Europe, he..had a grand 'send-off' on the Delaware. 1899 *Ibid.* 13 Dec. 12/1 The medical officers.. gave the slip to the medical students and other admirers who intended to give them an enthusiastic send-off.

attrib. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xviii, After the funeral Huggins..wrote a beautiful send-off notice. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Nov. 6/1 Adelina Patti's 'send off' concert.

2. Consignment (of goods).

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 4/2 A well-known gang [of bird-catchers for the London market], whose send-off had averaged 500 birds a week.

Sendony, variant of SINDONY *Obs.*

†**Se·ndre,** *v. Obs. rare.* [app. repr. (in Kentish form) OE. *syndrian* to separate, f. *sundor*: see SUNDER *adv.*] *trans.* To purify.

1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Þe ilke welle is zuo clier and zuo y-zendred þet þe herte hire y-knauþ..ane nayre welle wel yzendred.

Sendri, obs. form of SUNDRY.

Senduolliche, ME. variant of SHENDFULLY.

†**Sene,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [OE. *sien*, *sin*, *sion*, *syn*, str. fem. = OS. *siun*, ON. *sión*, *sýn*, Goth. *siun-s*:—OTeut. **sewni-z*, f. **sew-*: **sehw-* to SEE.] Vision, power of sight. Cf. EYESENE, ONSENE.

a 1000 *Juliana* 468 (Gr.) Oft ic syne ofteah, ablende bealoþoncum beorna unrim. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 26 Wiþ eagna miste minize men..lociað on ceald wæter..ne wyrt þæt þa seon. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9394 Ȝiff þatt tin eȝhe iss all unnhal Wiþþinnenn o þe sene. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 240 Þu hauest a-nizt wel brizte sene.

†**Sene,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 **cene.** [a. OF. *sené*:—L. *senātus* SENATE.

The word should etymologically be disyllabic; the metre appears (doubtfully) to indicate a monosyllable, and probably the OF. word was merely adopted in its written form. Even in Fr. some confusion arose between *sené* 'senatus' and *sene* 'synodus' (see next): Cotgr. explains *sené* as synod, and quotes a proverb in which it has clearly that sense.] = SENATE.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3311 Þe Sene seide þey were affrayed. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxix. 168 Therefor hit was cried in the Sene of the Senatowres of Rome. *a* 1470 TIPTOFT *Tulle on Friendship* (Caxton 1481) 4 b, By the lawe that Cassius made, me semeth that I see the people dissevered from the Cene.

†**Sene,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **seyne**, 4–6 **sene**, 5 **senne**, **seeine**, **seeyne**, **sean**, **ceene**, 5–6 **cene**, **seyn**, **seene**, **seane**, 6 **seeane**, 7 **seing.** [a. F. *sene*, *senne*, etc. :—eccl. L. *synodus*, a. Gr. σύνοδος SYNOD. Cf. SENYIE.] A synod, a meeting of clergy for deliberation. Often applied to the bishop's or the archdeacon's visitation; the form *seing* in this use is prob. due to the identification of the word with *seeing* vbl. sb.

1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 147 Bi peter pens gederynge bi sute and servyse þat þei owen to seynes and to chapitres. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 120/15 Theder he made come to-for hym al the bysshoppes & the clergye of Irland & held hys senne. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 171 The V[the] vniversalle seeine or cownesayle was kepede..at Aquileia. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66 Ceene of clerkys, *sinodus.* 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* L 2435 The Seyn was kepte at a place called Alue. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* 100 He kept a generall counseyle or sene at constantynople. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 § 4 Al..archebishops bishops and archedeacons..in euery their visitacion and seanes shall make diligent insearche. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 678 Anselme then Archbishop of Canterbury in a Seane that he helde at London, did make a Decree, that Priests should forsake their wiues.

attrib. 1596 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 270 For our apperance upon the seane daye. 1609 *Ibid.* 61 Item payed when we where before M[r] Hutton at the Seing day, xvj d.

†**Sene,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Also 6 **seene**, **seny**, 7 **senie.** [a. OF. *sené*, *cené*, *senet*: see SENNA.] = SENNA.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 192 Take xx. damascenes & xij. figis, & vj. datis, sene ʒj. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 173 Wee shulde have no nede to skamonye, ..Rubarde, sené, and yet they bene to nedefulle. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 149 *Colutea*..the trifolie tree, or (as some thinke) the sene tree. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Bastard Sene or Sene tree. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. v. 79, I had..drunke of an infusion wherein was some quantitie of Sene leanes. 1652 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 104 Allayed with aloes, rubart, sene,..and the like. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Senie*, the leaf of a medicinable herb which purgeth cholerick and melancholick humours [1671 adds:—see *Sena*].

†**Sene, i-sene,** *a. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 ȝesiene, **-séne**, **-sýne**, 3 **i-sene**, 4 **a-sene**, **ysene**; *b.* 3 **sen**, 4 **seine**, 4–5 **seene.** [OE. *gesiene*, *gesène* :—prehistoric **gisewnjo-*, f. **gisewen*, pa. pple. of **sehan*, *séon* to SEE. The dropping of the prefix was prob. hastened by the influence of the corresponding ON. *sýnn.*] Easy to see, visible, evident, manifest. (In later use blended with *seen* pa. pple. of SEE *v.*)

a. Beowulf 1403 Lastas wæron æfter waldswaþum wide ȝesyne. *c* 1205 LAY. 9548 Ȝet hit is isene þat heo wes her quene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 847 Who me loveth now worth a-sene [*Bodl. MS.* ysene]! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 502 Ful longe were his legges and ful lene,..ther was no calf ysene.

β. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2547 Þær wass full sene þatt ȝho wass All full off soþ clænnesse. *c* 1310 *Song agst. Retinues* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 239 Sene is on is browe Ant on is eȝebrewe, That he louseth a losynger, And shoyeth a shrewe. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 413 And that was sene, For all the woode was waxen grene. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 437 As it is sene by myn oppressed chere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/2 Cene, or besene, *apparens, manifestus*. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cresseid* 353 'Lo! quhat it is', quod she, 'With fraward langage for to mufe and steir Our crabbit goddis, and sa is sene on me! 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. x. 27 Hir self scho hid thairfor, and held hir quoye, Beside the altar sittand vnethis sene.

b. Used pleonastically in verse.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7684 And þat ilka myle fully contene A thowsand pases or cubites sene. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kȝt.* 341, I be-seche now with saȝez sene, þis melly mot be myne.

c. *Well sene*, easy to see; *evil sene*, hard to see. The former continued as *well seen(e* down to the 16th c.; it is still familiar from the example in the Prayer Book, but is now apprehended as a use of the pa. pple.

a. c 1205 LAY. 24277 Summe bokes suggeð iwisse þat þa burh wes biwuccheð. And þat is wel isene.

β. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 656 Þre dayes þer-biforn, i wene, Et he no mete, þat was wel sene. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 104 Sir Philip wanted all his will, þat was wele on his sembland sene. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 66 Now be we caytyues, as it is wel seene. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. viii. 85 It is euyl sene...that thou art a true man that thou wolt not telle thy name. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxvii[i]. 24 It is well sene (o God) how thou goest. [So in Prayer-bk.]

†**Sene,** *adv.* and *conj. Sc.* and *north. Obs.* [Var. of SEN, SIN, SYNE *advs.*, etc.] = SINCE.

adj. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* viii. (*Philip*) 62 Quhene he had a ȝer dwelte þare, In asya sene canne he fare. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 286 Thair gat he nane homage,..Of lord of yone lyngage, Nor neuer none sene.

conj. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (Galba) 439 Slike sotell talkinges.. was neuer ȝit sene þe world bigan sene in prophecy. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 511 Mony hundreth,..Sene he begane, ar lost with out ramede.

Sene, variant of CENE *Obs.*, supper.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xlviii. 31 Whanne that Iesus his Sene Made.

Sene, obs. Sc. form of SAIN *v.*

1691 R. KIRK *Secret Commw.* i. (1815) 3 Who..have made it a Custome..to keep Church duely evry first Sunday of the Quarter to sene or hallow themselves,..from the Shots and Stealth of these wandring Tribes.

Sene: see SENYE, SHEEN *a.*, SEE *v.*

Seneca (se·nɪ́kă). *U. S.* [app. identical with *Seneca*, the name given by white men to one of the 'Six Nations' of the Iroquois confederacy, living near Lake Seneca (N. Y.).] *attrib.* in **Seneca grass**, a name for Northern holy-grass (*Hierochloa borealis*); †**Seneca oil**, a name for crude petroleum (see quot. *a* 1864).

1826 HILDRETH in *Amer. Frnl. Sci.* X. 5 The other [well] discharges..vast quantities of petroleum, or, as it is vulgarly called 'Seneka oil'. 1833 — *Ibid.* XXIV. 64 This oil.. acquired its name of Seneca oil,..from having been first found in the vicinity of Seneca Lake, N. York. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 608 Seneca grass. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 16 Under the name of 'Seneca Oil' which it derived from an Indian tribe, petroleum was formerly collected in Chatauque County, N. Y., and in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, and sold for medicinal purposes.

†**Se·neal,** *a. Obs.* [f. *Seneca* + -AL.] Characteristic of, or conformable to the principles of the Stoic philosopher L. Annæus Seneca (died A.D. 65).

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 102 Euery word when it comes to a pragmaticall practise, hath close couched in it the energy of a Senecall sentence. 1612 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* IV. iv. 42 In short, this Senecal man is found in him,..To whom the day and fortune equal are.. Fix'd in himself, he still is one to all.

Senecan (se·nɪ́kăn), *a.* [f. *Seneca* + -AN.] Pertaining to Seneca (see prec.) and the tragedies written by him and his imitators.

1885 J. M. HART in *Nation* 26 Mar. 264/2 The Senecan spirit of the 'Gorboduc' writers. 1903 SECCOMBE & ALLEN *Age of Shaks.* I. 52 In 1594 appeared his [Daniel's] Senecan tragedy *Cleopatra*.

Se·necaster. *nonce-wd.* [-ASTER.] An imitator of Seneca.

1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predecessors* 227 Though..written by Senecasters of the purest water, both [plays] are founded upon ancient English fables.

Senechal, variant of SENESCHAL.

Senectitude (sɪne·ktitiud). [ad. med.L. *senectitūd-o* (*c* 800 in Du Cange), irreg. f. *senectūs*: see SENECTUTE and -TUDE.] Old age.

1796 *Mod. Gulliver* 49 Persons, of all ages, from twenty to extreme senectitude. 1898 B. GREGORY *Side Lights* 482 Replete with the mild wisdom of senectitude.

Senectude (sɪne·ktiud). [Badly f. L. *senectūs*: see prec. and -TUDE.] = prec.

1756 H. JOHNSON in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) III. 50 The word 'senectude', which you enquire after, is derived from *senex, senectus*. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 485 Did you think to conceal the heinousness of your tergiversation under the mask of senectude? 1863 READE *Hard Cash* III. iv. 103 The Archbold had not deigned to make him safe; senectude [1868 xli, senectitude] had done that.

†**Sene·ctute.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *senectūtem*, f. *senex* old man: see SENIOR *a.*] Old age.

1482 CAXTON *Tulle of Old Age* Pref., And in especial unto them that..ben approchid unto senectute callyd olde and auncient eage. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 13 Ages be foure: Adolescency to xxv yeres:..Senectute unto lx yeres.

Senefee, variant of SENVY *Obs.*, mustard.

Senega (se·nɪ́gă). Also 8 **senegaw, senekka,** 8–9 **seneka, seneca.** [app. identical with SENECA (see quot. 1738); the forms with *g* may be due to association with (*gum*) *senega* = *gum Senegal*.] The N. American plant *Polygala Senega*. Also a drug obtained from the root of this plant, formerly used as an antidote for snake-bite. Also *attrib.*

1738 TENNENT *Epist. to Mead* 5 At last I was informed.. that there was a Root discovered by the Seneca Indians which was a certain Remedy against the Bite of the Rattle-snake,..and was distinguished..by the Name of Seneca Rattle-snake Root. 1748 W. LEWIS *Pharmacopoeia* 63 Seneka, the root. Senegaw rattle-snake-root. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Polygala*, The trials..made of the virtues of the Senekka rattlesnake root, recommended by Dr. Tennent. 1799 *Med. Frnl.* II. 170 He prescribed the taraxacum, senega, and radix graminis, in decoctions. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 390 Ammonia and senega may be given, if there is much debility. 1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* (ed. 2) II. 458 Senega oil.., Senega, *Polygala Senega*...The root contains fat oil, resin [etc.].

Senegin (se·nɪ́gin). Also 9 seneg(u)ine. [f. SENEGA + -IN.] An amorphous glucoside, consisting of sapogenin and sugar, obtained from senega.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 146 A peculiar vegetable principle, called Senegin, has been discovered by Gehlen in the root of *Polygala senega*. 1845 W. GREGORY *Outl. Chem.* II. 459 Seneguine is an acrid..substance, found in *Polygala senega*. 1853 ROYLE *Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 329 The Polygalic acid, Senegine of Gehlen, and Polygaline of others.

Senegog, obs. form of SYNAGOGUE.

Senei, var. SENVY. **Seneiour:** see SEIGNIOR.

†**Se·nek(e.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *senex* old man.] An 'elder', one of authority on account of the dignity proper to his age.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* (MS. P.) 301 And sodenly a seneke [*MS. C.* þat senek] þei broght in to sale.

Seneour, obs. form of SEIGNIOR, SENIOR.

Senesce (sɪne·s), *v. rare.* [ad. L. *senēsc-ĕre*, f. *sen-em* (*senex*) old: see -ESCE.] *intr.* To grow old.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1894 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) II. 321 It gets a little stale, and my work will begin to senesce.

Senescence (sɪne·sĕns). [f. SENESCENT: see -ENCE.] The process or condition of growing old.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. 61 The Earth, Sea, and all natural things will continue in the state wherein they now are, without the least Senescence or Decay. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 138 The several Seasons of Life, open, with Novelty, to Childhood, to Youth, to Manhood, to Senescence. 1887 A. H. CUMMINS *Gram. O. Fries.* 17 In the senescence of the language.

b. *Biol.* (See quot.)

1879 MINOT *Probl. Age*, etc. App. v. (1908) 270 *Senescence.* With each successive generation of cells the power of growth diminishes...This loss of power I term senescence.

†**Sene·scency.** *Obs.* [f. next: see -ENCY.] Senescence.

1669 *Addr. Hopef. Young Gentry Eng.* 132 We may guess ..the worlds age not so full of the aggravated Symptoms of its Senescency.

Senescent (sɪne·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *senēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *senēscĕre* to grow old: see SENESCE *v.* and -ENT.] Growing old, elderly.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Senescent*, waxing old, growing in age, wearing away, drawing to the wain. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CXCI. (1848) 505 Senescent spinsters and dowagers. 1878 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* (1886) 153 It is not a dead but a living language, senescent, perhaps, but in a green old age. 1893 *Nation* 13 July 33/3 Great convenience to scholars, especially to those with senescent eyesight, would be secured by such a restoration.

Seneschal (se·nɪʃăl). Forms: 4–5, 7 **senescal(l,** 4–7 **seneschall,** 5 **senescha, senesshawle, senceall, sencial, sencyal,** 5, 9 **seneshall,** 6–8 **seneshal,** 7 **scenechal,** 4– **seneschal.** [a. OF. *seneschal* (mod.F. *sénéchal*) = Pr. *senescal-s*, Sp., Pg. *senescal*, It. *siniscalco, sescalco*; a Com. Rom. word ad. Teut. **seniscalc* (latinized *seniscalcus, siniscalcus*, in the Frankish and Alamannic laws), f. OTeut. **seni-* old (in Goth. *sinista* superl. of *sineigs* old) + **skalko-z* servant (Goth. *skalk-s*, OHG. *scalc*, OE. *scealc*). The Fr. word was adopted in MHG. as *seneschalt, scheneschlant*.]

1. An official in the household of a sovereign or great noble, to whom the administration of justice and entire control of domestic arrangements were entrusted. In wider use: a steward, 'major-domo'.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 93 Somme aren as seneschals and seruen opere lordes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 86 Amon was seneschalle of the king. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xiv. 55 Thenne syr kay cam vnto syr Morganore sencial with the king of the C knyghtes. 1506 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. I. 15 Which to prouide, she hath this Castle dight, And therein hath a Seneschall assynd. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 221 These great Lordes..managed their estates heere, by their Seneschals and Seruants. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 38 Then marshal'd Feast Serv'd up in Hall with Sewers, and Seneshals. 1715 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 47 The Seneshal rebuk'd, in haste withdrew. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* li. The respectable gentleman who acts as seneschal on the Duke's domains. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Instit.* V. 139 Whence came this great exaltation of..great Seneschal or Steward.

fig. 1864 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* Wks. (Bohn) III. 176 For example, what a seneschal and detective is laughter!

b. A cathedral official in England.

1882 *Standard* 31 Aug. 3/5 Mr. H. G. Austin, the Cathedral seneschal, said the Chapter [Canterbury] did not press for a heavy penalty.

As the title of a governor of a city or province, and of various administrative or judicial officers. Now only *Hist.* exc. with reference to the Channel Islands.

c 1400 *Brut* 232 To bene Senescal and wardein of Gascoigne. 1539 in Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 239 Wm. Seyntlow..beyng chief officer of the said shire by the name of Seneschall. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Seneschaux*,..Seneschals, Bailifs, other officers or stewardes of courtes. 1586 *Cal. St. Papers, Irel.* 1586–1588, 41 Nicholas Dawtrey, gent., Seneschal of Claneboy. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* (1810) 13 The High Seneschal of the Dutchy of Cornwall..in English..is termed Lord Warden. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 309 All is forfited & taken up by the Shiriffe or Senescall. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxiii. (ed. 2) 537 The court at Sark consists of the seneschal, or judge, or his deputy, the prevôt and the greffier.

3. *attrib.*

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 333 The officers of the seneschal jurisdiction of Auvergne.

†**Se·neschally.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *seneschallie*, f. *seneschal*: see prec.] The territory under the government of a seneschal.

1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng., Journ.* iii. (1707) 179 These [Counties] are subdivided..into divers Seneschallies or Sheriffdoms. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. II. v. (1710) 413 After the Seneschally came to the Crown, these Officers were called *Magistri Hospitii Regis*.

Seneschalship (se·neʃălʃip). *Hist.* Also 6 **senshalship.** [f. SENESCHAL + -SHIP.]

1. The office and functions of a seneschal.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Seneschaussée*, Seneschalship, or Stewardship. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 278 Graunts of Captaine-shippes or Seneschal-shippes, in the Irish Countries. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 57 The Seneschallship of Wexford..was worth but £20 Irish a year.

†**2.** = SENESCHALSY I. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 561 One citie and political communion, compounded of manie..Provostships, Bailliweekes, Senshalships [etc.]. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* vi. 35 A Man, who has lost his Cause before the Judges of the Bailywic, appeals to those of the Seneschalship. 1804 tr. *Picquenard's Zoflora* II. 63 The tribunals of the seneschalships, and all the superior councils of the island. 1837 W. F. SKENE *Highlanders* II. v. 153 One branch possessed the seneschalship, and another branch the office of baillie of the Abthainrie of Dull.

Seneschalsy (se·nɪʃălsi). *Fr. Hist.* Forms: 5 **seneschaloie,** 7 **seneschalsie,** 7, 9 **seneschalcy,** 7– **seneschalsy.** [a. OF. *seneschalcie*, ad. med.L. *seniscalcia*, f. *seniscalcus* SENESCHAL.]

1. A territory under the government of a seneschal. Cf. SENESCHALTY.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 38 [So he] toke the homages of alle the vassallis and subgettis in the seneschalcie of Agenois. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 707 Out of whose hands he had taken..the Seneschalsy of Anjou. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. ii, By Bailliages, by Seneschalsies, in whatsoever form men convene.

2. a. The administrative seat of a seneschal. **b.** The office of seneschal.

1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. 181 An Episcopall See, and the Seneschalsie for all the Countrie of Begorre. 1898 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 137 He believes the evidence may be trusted..of the Count of Anjou's claim to the seneschalcy.

Seneschalty (se·nɪʃălti). *Fr. Hist.* [f. SENESCHAL + -TY.] = SENESCHALSY I.

1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* G v, The deputies of about fourty baylywickes and Seneschaltyes of the realme. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Dec. 808/1 The Lieutenant-General of the Seneschalty.

Se·neschaunce. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [erroneous form of next.] = SENESCHALSY I.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clx. 178 The gouernyng of Languedocke was taken awaye fro the duke of Berrey, and deuyded in to Seneschaunces in the kynges profyte [orig. *remys par membres & seneschaussees au prouffit du roy*].

†**Se·neschausee.** *Obs.* [a. F. *sénéchaussée*, irreg. f. *sénéchal* SENESCHAL.] = SENESCHALSY I.

1647 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* II. 66 These being divided into 30 Precincts or Jurisdictions, which they call Baillages or Seneschausees.

Senester, -tre, obs. forms of SINISTER *a.*

Senet, Senett: see SENNIGHT, SINET.

Seneuel, seneuey(e, seneuy, var. ff. SENVY.

Senew(e, Senewy, obs. ff. SINEW, SINEWY.

Seneyt, obs. form of SENNIGHT.

Senffe, Senfulle, obs. ff. SEVENTH, SINFUL.

Senge: see SENYE *Obs.*, SIGN *sb.*, SINGE *v.*

Sengeley, -ell(e, -ill(l, obs. ff. SINGLY, SINGLE *a.*

†**Se·ngilbond.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? f. *sengle* = CINGLE + BOND *sb.*[1]] An encircling band.

1479 *Inv.* in *Paston Lett.* III. 272 Another maser sownde in the botom and a sengilbonde viij unc.' & j quarter.

Sengle, obs. f. CINGLE (girth), SINGLE *sb.* and *a.*

Sengler, Senglet: see SINGLER *a.*, SINGLET.

Sengreen (se·ngrin). Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.vv. Sengreen, Silgreen, Singreen). Forms: *a.* 1 **singréne,** 3, 6 **sin-,** (5 **sine-**), 5–6 **sen-,** (6 **sene-**), **syngrene,** (5 **sygryme,** 6 **sin-gren**), 6–7 **sengreene,** (7 **sean-, sem-, syngreen**), 7– **sengreen.** β. 5 **silfgrene,** 6 **selfegre(e)ne,** 9 *dial.* **sil(l)green,** etc. [OE. *singréne*, subst. use of *singréne* adj., evergreen:—OTeut. **singrēnjo-*, f. **sen-*:—pre-Teut. **sem-* one, always (in Goth. *sin-teins* daily, OE. *sin-niht* eternal night; cogn.

w. L. *semel* once, *semper* always, *sim-plex* simple, Gr. εἷς :—**sems*, etc.) + **grŏnjo-* GREEN *a.* Cf. MLG. *singrone*, MDu. *sindegroen* (mod.Du. *sene-groen*), MHG. *singrüen* (mod.G. *sinngrün*), names for periwinkle and other evergreen plants; ON. *sígrønn* adj., evergreen.]

1. The houseleek, *Sempervivum tectorum.*

a. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 152 Ðeos wyrt þe man singrene nemneð..ys swyðe fremful. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558 *Iouis barba*, iubarbe, singrene. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 64 Rubarbe [*read* iubarbe], i. sengrene. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 853 Thy seed with Iuce of rukel or syngrene To wete, vp sleeth the rukel. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVI. vii. II. 247 Or els to take Iubarbe, *i.* Sengreene, to the same effect. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* iv. (1651) 104 Macerate them in water of Sengreen. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* ix, The houseleek or sengreen.

β. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 787 *Hoc jurbarium*, a silfgrene. 1526 *Grete Herball* cclxxxi. (1529) Xij, De semper viua Howsleke or selfegrene. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 69/43 Selfegreene, *semper viuum*. 1825 E. HEWLETT *Cottage Comforts* xi, Mallow..and houseleek, (or sillgreen).

b. *Her.* Used as a bearing.

c 1550 *Arms of Caius* in J. W. Clark *Cambridge* (1881) 69 In the mydelle of the cheyfe sengrene resting vppon the heades of ii serpentes in pale.

2. Applied to other plants, *esp.* **a.** the sedums; **b.** varieties of saxifrage; **c.** the periwinkle, *Vinca minor*; **d.** **Water sengreen**, *Stratiotes aloides.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 54 Þa smalan singrenan. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 175 That which is commonly cauled Sengrene or Orpin. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxvii. 114 Amongst the kindes of Sengreene also, at this time there is conteyned, the herbe (called *Crassula minor*) whiche is great stone Crop, called of some wilde Prickmadam, or wormegrasse. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclxxxv. 677 Water Sengreene, or fresh water Soldier. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 231 *Sedum serratum flore rubente maculato.* The Princes Feather. This kinde of Sengreene is composed of heads of larger ..leaues. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Saxifraga, Saxifraga Alpina ericoides, flore cæruleo*...Mountain Heath-like Sengreen with a blue Flower. 1777 JACQ. *Plantæ Faversh.* 102 White Saxifrage, or Sen-green. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 402 *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*...Alternate-leaved Sengreen. *a* 1851 W. A. BROMFIELD *Flora Vect.* (1856) 306 *Vinca minor*, L. Lesser Periwinkle. Vect. Sengreen.

Sengyl, obs. form of SINGLE *a.*

Senȝe, senȝhe, senȝie: see SENYE, SENYIE.

‖ **Senhor** (sĕnyō·r). [Pg. *senhor* = Sp. *señor*, It. *signor*, F. *seigneur*:—L. *seniōr-em*, acc. of *senior* SENIOR *a.* and *sb.*] In Portuguese use, or with reference to Portuguese: A term of respect placed before the name of a man in addressing him or speaking of him, equivalent to the English 'Mr.' Also used without the name as a form of address, equivalent to 'sir' in English. Hence, a Portuguese gentleman.

1795 J. MURPHY *Trav. Portugal* 31, I am sorry, Senhors, (said she,) that you have not rested well. 1830 *Portugal; or Yng. Travellers* 56 Senhor Macedo..turning to Mr. Grey, said, smilingly: 'This is good policy, is it not, Senhor?' *Ibid.*, The lively sallies of the Senhor. 1853 A. R. WALLACE *Amazon & Rio Negro* 198 Though Senhor L. is well acquainted with the river, we here almost lost our way.

‖ **Senhora** (sĕnyō·ra). [Pg. *senhora* = Sp. *señora*, It. *signora*, a fem. formed upon *senhor*, etc.; see SENHOR.] A term of respect applied to Portuguese ladies; hence (with *a*, *the*, etc.) a Portuguese lady.

1802 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 193 To Miss Barker. Senhora Barkeriana,—it is but an awkward way of expressing the tune of those words. *Ibid.* 194 And do you, Senhora, instruct yourself in the Creed [etc.]. 1841 LEVER *Chas. O'Malley* xl, It was the Senhora's voice. 1874 LADY JACKSON *Fair Lusitania* 82 A staid middle-aged senhora.

‖ **Senhorita** (sĕnyōrī·ta). [Pg. dim. of prec.] A term of respect applied to a young Portuguese lady; hence, a young Portuguese lady.

1874 LADY JACKSON *Fair Lusitania* 61 There is..perhaps a furtive kiss, and the senhora, or senhorita, glides off quickly by the bye-paths to a *coupé* that awaits her.

Senical, erron. form of SINICAL.

Senicide, *rare*—1. [f. L. *seni-*, *senex* old man + -CIDE 2.] The killing off the old men of a tribe, etc.

1889 H. H. JOHNSTON in *Fortn. Rev.* XLV. 24 Although they are never accused of superadding cannibalism to 'senicide', still the ancient Sardi of Sardinia regarded it as a sacred..duty for the young to kill their old relations.

Senile, variant of SENE *sb.*3

Senight(e, Senil: see SENNIGHT, SENDLE.

Senile (sī·nəil), *a.* [ad. L. *senilis*, f. *sen-em*, *senex* old man: see -ILE. Cf. F. *sénile* (16th c.).]

1. Belonging to, suited for or incident to old age. Now only of diseases, etc.: Peculiar to the aged.

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* To Rdr. 2 A Person in whom Nature, Education, and Time have happily Match'd a Senile Maturity of Judgement with a Youthfull Vigour of Phansie. 1797 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 192 To exchange the roar and tumult of bulls and bears, for the prattle of my grand-children and senile rest. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 284 The form of emphysema distinguished as atrophous or senile. 1874 MAUDSLEY *Mental Dis.* iii. 83 Senile insanity. 1875 B. W. RICHARDSON *Dis. Mod. Life* 108 There is local death, or what is called senile gangrene.

2. Exhibiting the weakness of old age.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, Dobbin was not a little affected by the sight of this once kind old friend,..raving with senile anger. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. iii. 73 Your snaky Vivien, and your senile Merlin. 1902 MONKHOOD & GAMBLE *Kipling* 289 Certain supposedly effective ships of battle are senile, and others are yet unborn.

3. *Phys. Geog.* Approaching the end of a cycle of erosion.

1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Senile stream*,..a stream whose valley is reduced so nearly to base level that its longitudinal profile is flat and its current feeble. *Senile topography*,.. the configuration of land which prolonged degradation has reduced nearly to a base-level plain.

Hence **Se·nilely** *adv.*

1898 *Punch* 2 July 309/2 Yet he never whineth, he'll senilely say.

Senility (sĭni·lĭti). [f. SENILE *a.* + -ITY. Cf. F. *sénilité*.] The condition of being senile; old age or the mental and physical infirmity due to old age.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1778, Apr., Mr. Edwards.. again recurred to his consciousness of senility. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers* (end), He is yet in green and vigorous senility. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 361 The weakness of the wall [of the heart] implied in the fact that the disease is one of senility.

Senilize (sī·niləiz), *v.* [f. SENILE *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* and *intr.* To make or become senile. Hence **Se·nilizing** *ppl. a.*

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 18 Hence, senilising tribe! avaunt, ye piecemeal destroyers! 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* III. xi. 320 Often, as I began to senilise, did I reiterate Horace's prayer.

Senior (sī·niəɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4–6 senyour(e, 4, 6–7 seniour, 5–6 seniore, senyor, 6 seniioure, seneour, 7 seigniour, 8 seignior, 5– senior. [a. L. *senior*, compar. of *sen-ent*, *senex* old, cogn. w. Gr. ἕνος old (in ἕνη last day of the moon), OIrish *sen*, Lith. *séna-s*, Skr. *sána* old. The subst. use of the Latin word (cf. B. below) is the source of SEIGNEUR, SEIGNIOR, SENHOR, SEÑOR, SIGNOR.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Older, elder; esp. used after a person's name to denote the elder of two bearing the same name in a family; also (after a simple surname) the elder of two boys of the same surname in a school, etc. Abbreviated *sen.* (U. S. *sr.*).

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 103 Kynge Edwarde the senior. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 518/1 Johannes Robynson de Boston Sen'. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 6 Widowes old, and senior chuffs. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 311 (1810) 321 Edward, sirnamed Senior, a nurse-father of the church. 1668 STEELE *Husbandm. Calling* vi. (1672) 138 The grass sprung lately of the ground, and so did he, only he is the senior grass. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* VII. v. 491 Doctour Chamberlain Sen. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4475/4 Tho. Crabb, Sen. and Tho. Crabb, Jun. of Malborrow. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 201 The senior four children re-appeared in the drawing-room. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 449 It will sometimes be found impossible to distinguish his performances in this work from those of his son, owing to sen. and jun. being omitted. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 21 An infant school..kept by the Misses Donaldson...Miss Donaldson, senior, sat at a desk [etc.].

† **b.** Anterior in date, superior in antiquity *to.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. vii. § 87 Plain-song is much seniour to all Descanting. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 362 He must be senior to Zaleucus himself.

2. That ranks before others in virtue of longer service or tenure of a position; superior *to* others in standing. *The senior service*: the navy as distinguished from the army.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2164 Bycause that Werburge in order was senyoure, Her mother Ermenylde gaue her the sufferaynte. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) VII. 245 You are aware that he is senior to Marshal Beresford. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xxiv. (ed. 3) 225 The Inner and Middle Temple..are the two senior Inns. 1899 HOPE HUNTLY *Our Code of Honour* xxii, 'It was my heart's desire in boyhood to enter the senior service'. 'Then why did you not?' 'Oh, I yielded to my mother; she was keen on the army.' 1911 *London Mag.* Oct. 264 The Admiral turned round...'The Army', he said gaily, 'comes to the rescue of the senior Service.'

b. In school and college use.

(*a*) Applied to a pupil or student who has been longer under tuition than another (const. *to*). (*b*) Applied to a student who is no longer a freshman; in the U. S. to a student in his last year or term. (*c*) In certain universities, used in designations connoting a specific standing, as *senior* SOPHISTER. Also *Senior Fellow*, a term applied at Cambridge and Dublin to a select number of the fellows of longest standing in a college, in whom the whole or the greater part of its government was formerly vested; at Oxford in the 18th c. sometimes applied to those fellows who had graduated, as distinguished from the undergraduate fellows. *Senior student* (Christ Church, Oxford): see STUDENT.

1651 [LANGBAINE] *Found. Oxford* 4 Merton Colledge.. twelve Schollers, whereof nine should serve the nine seniour Fellows. 1651 — *Found. Cambridge* 9 Kings Colledge... In which Colledge at this present is a Provost, 70 Fellows and Scholars,..besides 12 servitors to the seniour Fellows, 6 poor Scholars, with other Students. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* III. ii, Your father was a senior fellow and your mother was an air-pump. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* xl. (1726) 212 He would give his vote, that every senior-fellow in the college should have a living tack'd to his fellowship. 1744 BIRCH *Life Boyle* 69 Mr. Tallents..became senior fellow and president or vice-master of his college [Magdalene, Cambridge]. *a* 1763 MARTYN & KIPPIS *Life of 1st Earl Shaftesb.* (1836) I. 42 On a particular day, the senior undergraduates, in the evening, called the fresh-men to the fire, and made them hold out their chins. 1837 *Stat. Harvard Univ.* 11 The third vacation for the Senior Class shall begin one day before the general vacation. 1877 in *Worthington's Pract. Physics* (1881) Introd. 1, I should be inclined to discontinue Physical Laboratory work in schools, except in the case of senior boys.

c. In quasi-superlative sense, applied to the officer, student, etc. who is highest in seniority among those of his own grade.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXX, The stout senior Major, who led the regiment into action. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* i, The senior pupil was standing with his back to the fire.

d. In commercial use, applied to the partner in a firm who (whether on account of length of standing or for other reasons) has precedence of the rest in the formal enumeration of the members.

1864 R. W. KIMBALL *Was he Successful?* 209 (Hoppe) Mr. Tenant..was..the senior member of the house of Allwise, Tenant & Co.

3. In certain Cambridge University terms, used to connote a pre-eminence in rank having no relation to length of standing. **Senior wrangler**, the head of the 'wranglers', i. e. of the first class of those who are successful in the Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge (hence **Senior-wranglership**); similarly, **Senior classic**, **Senior moralist**, the student who takes the first place in the Classical and the Moral Sciences Tripos respectively. (In consequence of the reforms of 1906–9, the status indicated by these titles has ceased to exist, the class-lists being now arranged not in order of merit but alphabetically). **Senior optime**, one who is placed in the second class in the Mathematical Tripos. (See OPTIME.)

1831 GREVILLE *Mem.* 2 Jan. (1874) II. 101 Maule was senior wrangler and senior medallist at Cambridge, and is a lawyer. 1859 FARRAR *Julian Home* v, Of course you intend to be senior classic, or senior wrangler? 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 44 Each perambulating infant Had a magic in its squall, For my eager eye detected Senior Wranglers in them all. 1878 LATHAM in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 778 The *éclat* attaching to the 'tripos list' and the senior wranglership.

4. Of institutions, associations, etc. reserved for the senior members of a body, as *senior common-room*, *senior mess*, etc.

B. *sb.* An elder person. *lit.* and *fig.*

1. One superior or worthy of deference and reverence by reason of age; one having pre-eminence in dignity by priority of election, appointment, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 303 Non drede siche seniours ben fendis þat speken lying in ypocrisie. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 78 Symeon, that senyour. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 31 When the bretheren had begunne matens y mette with a senyor that ye knowe wele in the chirche porch. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1175 Folowynge the counseyll and mynde of a senyor. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 360 The diuine senior Hippocrates. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 23 Meet then the Senior far renown'd for sense, With rev'rent awe, but decent confidence. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, His conversation, tricks, and songs, were..entertaining to the..younger brethren, and so unedifying in the opinion of the seniors of the fraternity, that [etc.]. 1905 TUCKWELL *Remin. Radical Parson* xii. 159 Its castellan was a dignified, sweet-visaged senior.

b. With possessive.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 17 In the begynnynge of this areysed frame oure senyoures tellid vs that one a day at evensong tyme whan derkenys drew vpon ther was seyn a light from heuyn. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 211 [tr. Herodotus]. Hesiod and Homer, were..not above four hundred years my Seniors [orig. μεν πρεσβυτέρους]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. i, Though much her senior, be was by no means of an age to render his addressing her an impropriety. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, His senior at the bar. 1862 F. W. ROBINSON *Owen* IV. vi, She was a year or two my senior.

† **2.** In early translations of the New Testament, used to render L. *senior*, Gr. πρεσβύτερος, in various applications, where the later versions have *elder*. Hence occas. used as the designation of the class of ministers called 'elders' or 'presbyters' in the primitive church, or in communities professedly formed on the model of this. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* vii. 11 And alle aungels stoden in cumpas of the trone and of [the] senyouris or eldre. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 233/26 Þan prayed for þis childe þe xxiiij seniores; and so þis childe was forgyffen his tryspas. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvi. 59 The chefe prestes, and the seniours, and all the counsell sought false witnes ageinste Jesus. 1564 *Brief Exam.* *****iij, Whence were Seniours in the primitiue Churche? 1572 [J. FIELD, etc.] *Admonit. Parl.* A vj, And to these three ioyntly, that is, the Ministers, Seniors, and deacons, is the whole regimente of the churche to be committed. 1582 N. T. (Rheims) *Rev.* iv. 4 Upon the thrones foure and twentie seniors sitting.

3. In school and college use: One of the more advanced students; also one no longer a freshman. In *U. S.* a student in his fourth year.

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xxvi. (1627) 272 That the two or foure Seniors in each fourme, be as Ushers in that fourme. 1741 *Customs of Harvard* in Hall *College Words* (1851) 318 No Freshman shall be saucy to his Senior. 1836 O. W. HOLMES *Song Centenn. Celebr. Harvard* 39 Lord! how the seniors knocked about The freshman class of one. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* VI. cii. III. 453 In an American college the students..of the fourth year [are called] seniors.

b. A senior fellow of a college; a member of a council or deliberative assembly for managing the internal affairs of a college. Cf. SENIORITY 3.

1645 *Ordin. Parl. Regul. Univ. Cambr.* 3 The Government of Trinity Colledge is setled in the Master and eight Seniors. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 3 Doctors and Seniors are too tough for continuall cramming, he must have Batchellers of art [etc.]. 1717 E. MILLER *Acc. Cambr.* 109 The 11th and 12th Statutes [Trin. Coll.] concern the Election of Officers, Lecturers, Seniors, College Preachers, and Fellows; and appoints first, That the Master read this Statute before the eight Seniors; then he and the Seniors are to take an Oath, That they will elect no-body to any Office by Favour, &c. but him only whom [etc.]

4. *Comb.*: †senior-junior, a person old and young at the same time.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 182 This signior Iunior gyant drawfe [*read* dwarf], don Cupid.

Senior, obs. form of SEIGNIOR.

Seniority (sīnio·rĭti). Forms: 5–6 **seniorite,** 6 **senyoryte, segniorite,** 6–7 **senioritie,** 6– **seniority.** [a. med.L. *seniōritās,* f. L. *seniōr-em* SENIOR; see -ITY.]

1. The state or quality of being senior; priority by reason of birth, superior age.

1533 MORE *Apol.* xv. Wks. 875/2 Sometime some one religion haue had some question and dysputed as it were a probleme, vpon thantiquitie or seniorite of their institucion. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* iv. 46 The first provoker has, by his seniority and primogeniture a double portion of the guilt. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 100 A sage Lady observ'd to them, that in this Assembly Respect and Precedence were only due to Seniority. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. 343 It had been agreed among the envoys that they should address the king in the order of seniority; and Demosthenes happened to be the youngest. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* i, The senior pupil..gave me his hand, cordially and frankly, for all his hauteur and seniority.

†b. The senile period of life. *Obs. rare*—1.

a 1688 BUNYAN *Mr. Badman* To Rdr., The minority, flower, and seniority of his Age.

†c. ? Numerical position in order of age. *Obs.*

1776 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* III. 342 In the second column is the surname and seniority of the infant, also in large characters.

2. Priority or precedence in office or service; esp. *Mil.* Superiority in standing to another of equal rank by reason of earlier entrance into the service, or an earlier date of appointment.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 366 Eche in hys order after their seniorite in religion. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* D 4, Where in an honorable Index they shall be placed according to their degree and segnioritie. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 75 We were certaine yeeres fellow-students together at Fez, where being of one standing and seniority we [etc.]. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Oct., That places of preferment may go according to seniority and merit. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1769 *Junius Lett.* iv. (1804) I. 33 Let me ask Junius, if he knows any one nobleman in the army who has had a regiment by seniority? 1853 BRIGHT *Sp., India* 3 June (1876) 3 To go on from beginning to end in a system of promotion from seniority. 1908 *Q. Rev.* July 238 The fetish of seniority is responsible for many a muddle.

3. The body of seniors or senior fellows of a college.

1678 A. FARMER in *Magd. Coll.* (O.H.S.) 69, I..do acknowledge before the Seniority that I have deservedly received..my..admonition. 1717 E. MILLER *Acc. Cambr.* 129 That 'tis the first Instance that ever appear'd in the College Books..That any By-Law..was enter'd, or made in the Master's Name, without the Consent of the Seniority. 1843 WHEWELL *Frnl.* in Willis & Clark *Cambr.* II. 627 If the Fellows were dissatisfied I regretted that the matter had not been brought before the Seniority. 1859 FARRAR *Julian Home* xxiii. 300 Kennedy..rushed back to the Seniority, who were already beginning to wonder at his long absence.

†4. Used for SIGNORITY, in the sense 'body of signors'. *Obs.*

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 14 The Duke Satt in Seynt Markes Churche in ryght hys [*read* hye] astate in the Qwer on the ryght syd with senyoryte which they call lords.

†**Se·niorize,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SENIOR *a.* + -IZE. Cf. SIGNORIZE *v.*] *intr.* To assume the position of a senior or superior, to have or exercise dominion, to rule, to lord it.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 88 Alas, that wise men..should once imagine, to finde it a matter of as light consequence, to seniorise in a realme, ouer the greatest Lordes,..as in a towne, ouer a company of meane marchantes.

Seniorship (sĭ·niŏɹʃip). [f. SENIOR + -SHIP.] The position of 'senior' or head boy of a school.

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* I. xi. 156 It is a shame if Pye has promised the seniorship to Yorke over my head.

†**Se·niory.** *Obs.* Also 6 **seign(i)orie,** 6–7 **sign(i)orie,** 7 **signeurie.** [f. SENIOR + -Y.]

1. Seniority.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* IV. iv. 36 If ancient sorrow be most reuerent, Giue mine the benefit of signeurie [*Qq.* sign(i)orie].

2. *Eccl.* A body of 'elders', a presbytery.

1572 [J. FIELD, etc.] *Admonit. Parl.* A vj, In steade of Chancelors, Archdeacons,..churchwardens and such like: You haue to plant in euery congregation a lawfull and godly seignorie. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 100 Though a seigniorie or eldership then in euerie particular church were necessarie. 1589 T. L. *Advt. to Q. Eliz.* (1651) 50 That the magistracy whereunder he is placed, whether it be of one of few, or many is his allowed seniory and lawfull presbytery.

Seniour(e, obs. forms of SEIGNIOR, SENIOR.

Senister, Senit: see SINISTER, SENNIGHT.

Senith, Senjaque: see ZENITH, SANJAK.

‖**Senn** (sen). *rare.* [G. *senn(e.]* A herdsman in the Alps. Also *Comb.* senn-cabin, sennhutt, repr. G. *sennhütte,* a herdsman's chalet.

c 1820 MRS. HEMANS *League of Alps* I 'Twas night upon the Alps. The Senn's wild horn,..had pour'd its last long tone. *c* 1822 — *Alp-Horn Song* 16 The low sen-cabins and pastures free. 1868 KINGSLEY *Hermits* 131 During that short period of the year when the maidens in the sennhutt watch the cattle upon the upland pastures.

Senn, obs. form of SEN *adv., prep.,* and *conj.*

Senna (se·nă). Also 6–8 **sena.** [mod.L. *senna, sena,* a. Arab. ..., *sanā*; cf. SENE *sb.*[4]]

1. *Bot.* A shrub of the genus *Cassia,* native in tropical regions, bearing yellow flowers and flat greenish pods. Cf. CASSIA.

American, Wild, or Maryland senna, *Cassia marilandica.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr., Sena hath lytle braunches, and the leafe of fenugreke [etc.]. 1601 CHESTER *Loves Martyr* (1878) 84 Mugwort, Sena and Tithimailes [etc.]. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 261 In vain the senna waves its glossy gold. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 92 The best senna, named in Nubia *guebelly,* or *sena mekki,* grows wild, and yields two crops of leaves, the abundance of which depends on the periodical rains. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 109 Maryland Cassia. Wild, or American Senna.

b. Applied with defining word to shrubs of other genera which have similar medicinal properties; as **Bastard senna** = next; **Bladder senna,** *Colutea arborescens,* see BLADDER 10; **Chili senna,** *Myoschilos oblongus*; **Scorpion senna,** *Coronilla Emerus,* see SCORPION 8 c; **Wild senna,** *Poinciana pulcherrima* or *Globularia Alypum,* formerly † the genus *Colutea.*

1705 DALE *Pharmacol.* Suppl. 318 Colutea..Bastard Sena. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 204 The Wild Sena, or the Wild Cassia Fistula; Lat. *Colutea.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Senna,* Wild Senna, *Poinciana pulcherrima*; also an American name for *Cassia marilandica.* 1874 *Ibid.* Suppl., Chili Senna, *Myoschilos oblongus.*

2. *Pharm.* The dried leaflets of various species of *Cassia,* used as a cathartic and emetic.

1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 363, ½ a lb ½ a q^n^ of sen'a xx^d^. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandises* F 4, Druggs..Sena the pound xviij.d. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 29, I shall hate you as bad as senna and valerian. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 91 The Senna of the shops consists, according to M. Delile, of Cassia acutifolia, Cassia Senna, and Cynanchum Argel. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 172 Senna was found by Röhrig to have an active effect on the secretion of bile.

b. The many varieties of the drug are commercially distinguished by defining words (now often used loosely), as *Alexandrian, Aleppo, Arabian, Indian, Tinnevelly,* etc., *senna.*

1693 DALE *Pharmacol.* 502 Senna Alexandrina *Offic..* Alexandrian Sena. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), Senna, Alexandrine, Ægyptian, Syriac. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 508/1 The Tinnevelly Senna consists of the leaflets of *Cassia Elongata.* 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 527 Bladder-Senna.—The leaflets have been used on the continent to adulterate Alexandrian Senna.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *senna leaf, leaflet, shrub*; **senna-draught, -tea,** an infusion of the drug taken as a purgative.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 190 A dose of calomel ..followed by a *senna draught in the morning. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* v. 103 A Folliage of dissembl'd *Senna Leaves Grav'd round its Brim. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 532 They are at once distinguished from *Senna leaflets by their regularity at the base. 1766 STORK *Acc. E. Florida* 48 The vines, the *senna shrub, sarsaparilla, China-root,..are indigenous plants of East-Florida. 1753 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* (1774) II. lxxiv. 307 Chewing a little rhubarb, when you go to bed at night, or some *senna-tea in the morning.

Sennachie (se·năχi). Forms: 6 **shannaghe,** 7 **sanachie,** 8 **senachi, seanachie, sennachai,** 9 **sennachy, shan(n)achie, seannachie,** 8–**sen(n)achie.** [a. Gael. *seanachaidh* (= OIrish *senchaidh*), f. *sean* old: cf. *seanachas* (OIrish *senchas*) ancient legend.] In Ireland and the Scottish Highlands: One professionally occupied in the study and transmission of traditional history, genealogy, and legend; now chiefly *Sc.* a Gaelic teller of legendary romances.

1534 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) II. 215 That no Yryshe mynstrels, rymours, shannaghes, ne bardes, unchaghes, nor messangers, come to desire any goodes of any man dwellinge within the Inglyshrie. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* Pref. 40 Nay, why should the British History be questioned? since no doubt the Britains had Druids, Sanachies, and Bards as well as the Scots or Irish. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* 258 A great family had a Bard and a Senachi, who were the poet and historian of the house. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* iv, Her stores of legendary history..were augmented by an unusual acquaintance with the songs of ancient bards, and traditions of the most approved Seannachies and tellers of tales. 1863 J. F. CAMPBELL *Pop. Tales W. Highl.* (1893) IV. 15 A Shanachie means a teller of old tales and traditions. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxv. 32 He was surrounded by a court or staff of sennachies—the bards and historians of his race.

Senne, obs. form of SEN *adv.,* etc.

Sennel, Sennen: see SENDLE *adv.,* SINEW.

Sennere, Sennest, obs. ff. SOONER, SOONEST.

†**Se·nnet**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 6 **senet, (sonnet),** 7 **sennit, sennate, sinet, synnet, cynet, signate, sennet.** [app. a variant of SIGNET, in the sense 'sign, token' (see SIGNET *sb.* 5).

The forms *senet, sinet,* and others, occur in OF. as variants of *signet,* which, however, seems not to occur either in the sense below or in the wider sense of token. The word may possibly be Anglo-French.]

A set of notes on the trumpet or cornet, ordered in the stage-directions of Elizabethan plays, apparently as a signal for the ceremonial entrance or exit of a body of players.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* 862 Sound a Sonnet [1609, 1611 Sinet], enter the Pope and the Cardinall of Lorraine to the banket, with Friers attending. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI,* I. i. 205 Senet. Here they come down. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* F 4, Trumpets sound a florish, and then a sennate. Enter King [etc.]. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. B 2 b, The Cornets sound a Synnet. *Ibid.* B 3 b, The Cornets sound a Cynet. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* I. i, Sound a signate, and passe ouer the stage..After a long signate is sounded, enter all the nobles. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII,* II. iv, Trumpets, Sennet, and Cornets. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Valentinian* V. viii, A Synnet with Trumpets.

Sennet[2] (se·nĕt). *Nat. Hist.* Also 7–8 **sinnet.** [? From some W.-Indian lang.] A West-Indian fish; = BARRACUDA.

1671 [JOHN] H[ARDIE] in *Lefroy's Mem. of Bermudas* (1879) II. 344 Which [fish] the people store As Pilchards, Sinnets [etc.]. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 451 *Perca?* 1. *Minor subargentea.* The Sinnet. 1859 J. M. JONES *Nat. in Bermuda* 105 The Sennet is likewise a common fish in the waters of Bermuda, and sells freely in the market. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 62 *Sphyræna Picuda..* Sennet.

Sennight (se·nəit). Now *arch.* Forms: α. see SEVEN and NIGHT; β. 2–3 **soveniht,** 3 **seoveniht, -nipt,** 3–4 **seve-, sove-nigt, -nygt,** 4 **seovenyght, sefnight, seve-nyht, -nigth,** 4–5 **sevenygh(e, sevenygt,** 5 **seve-nyth, -nyut,** 6 **sevenighte,** 6–8 **sevenight,** 7 **seue'night,** 7–8 **sev'night**; γ. 5 **sennygt, synyght, sennett, sennyt, senit,** 5–6 **senyght, sennet,** 6 **senighte, senyghte, seneyt,** 6–7 **sennyght,** 7 **senight, senet, senith, sennit, sinnitt, s'ennight,** 7, 9 (*dial.*) **se'night,** 7–9 **se'ennight, se'nnight,** 8 (*dial.*) **sennet,** 8–9 **sen'night,** 6– **sennight.** [Originally two words: OE. *seofon* SEVEN, *nihta* pl. of *niht* NIGHT *sb.* OE. had the derivative *seofonnihte* adj., seven days old (of the moon). Cf. FORTNIGHT.] A period of seven (days and) nights; a week.

α. *a* 1000 *Elene* (Gr.) 694 Heht þa..scufan scyldigne..in dryġne seaġ, þær he duguða leas siomode in sorgum seofon nihta fyrst. *c* 1200 ORMIN 545 Hiss sefennnahht To þewwtenn i þe temmple. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 53 Curteys she was..and bar hyr self so faire Syn thilke day þat she was seuen nyght oold. 1415 SIR T. GREY in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* (1882) 582 A sefenneghte after that Murdok of Fyche was take away. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 194 b, Iusts, both with sword and launce, maintained for a seuen-night together. *a* 1641 FINETT *Observ.* (1656) 133 The crosse windes..held him in the Downes almost a seavennight before they would blow him over. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 319 They never appear a shorter time than a seven-night.

β. *c* 1205 LAY. 4434 Seouenihț he wes þære. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 766 Swiche a sorwe he suffred a seue-nigt fulle. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 19, I prey 30w..lat me have an awnswer within this sevenyut. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 94 A notable waister, to daie full of money, within seuenight after not worthe a grote. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 23 Owr own usuall reckoning by nights, as Sevenight, Fortnight.

γ. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlviij, A sennyȝt duellut he thare. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 394, I dranke not this sennet A draught to my pay. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 77 The bold Iago, Whose footing heere anticipates our thoughts, A Senights speed. *a* 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 42 Nif won zey the le-ast Theng out, tha wut purtee a Zennet arter. 1851 TENNYSON *E. Morris* 30 My love for Nature is as old as I; But thirty moons, one honeymoon to that, And three rich sennights more, my love for her. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 139 A luscious treat that had been specially reserved for me, a sennight past, by the gardener's boy.

b. *This day, Sunday,* † *Sunday come* (*a*) or *was* (*a*), etc. *sennight*: a week from (this day, etc.).

c 1205 LAY. 5457 Ȝif ȝe speked mid rihte, comeð to dæi a seouen nihte. *a* 1350 *S. Stephen* 295 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 31 It fell efter on þat day seuyn night Of al þis same þan had he sight. 1486 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 68 Upon tewsday come a sennyt. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 158 What doctrine is written for vs in the .viii. Chapter of the fyrst boke of the kynges, I dyd partely shewe vnto you..this day sennight. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 59 Item one cope one vestment & one albe—sold to Thomas Inman for the some of Vs vpon sondaie was a sevenighte. 1633 W. MULSHO in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 274 They propose to..set forth on Tuesday sevennight. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 50 Newes.. That Waller was at Abingdon on Tuesday last was sevenight. 1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* 87 Bidding him not fail coming there again that Day Sev'night. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (ed. 3) II. 153 Every one names Thursday come Sev'nnight for our Nuptials. 1771 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* I. (1774) 90 An assignation, at that very hour, that day sevenight. 1862 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) I. i. 93 Mr. Canning stated that Lord Eldon's visit to Windsor had taken place on Saturday se'nnight, preceding the change of ministry.

c. *attrib.* as in *sennight space*; † **sennight day,** the space of a week; also, the same day in the following week.

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 380 Within a seuenyghte daye..I salle be seene on the see. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* I. 233 His wulfe come agayn vppon þe sennet day. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xlvi. I. 226 And this is one thing to be wondred at, That in that seven-night space there is not one that taketh hurt by Crocodiles.

Sennil, variant of SENDLE *adv. Sc.*

Sennit (se·nit). *Naut.* Also 9 **sennet.** [var. of SINNET.] a. = SINNET. b. (See quot 1858.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Sennit*. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sennit*, ..plaited straw or palm leaves, &c., of which grass hats are made. 1881 *Chequered Career* 92 These young gentlemen are to be seen..making sennet, the latter amusement being on a par with picking oakum.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 79 A sennit eye is worked in. *c* 1898 J. CHALMERS in Lovett *Life* (1902) 146 The long sennit hawser kept on deck had been passed ashore to natives on the reef.

Sennit, -nyght, -nyȝt, -nyt, obs. ff. SENNIGHT.

Sennon, -oun, -own, obs. forms of SINEW *sb.*

Senny, variant of SENYE *Obs.*

Senocular (sɛ̇nǫ·kiu̇lăı), *a.* [f. L. *sēnī* six each + *oculī* eyes + -AR.] Having six eyes.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. iii. (1727) 361 *note*, Most Animals are binocular..and some senocular. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Senocular*.

Senoculate (sɛ̇nǫ·kiu̇lēt), *a.* [Formed as SENOCULAR + -ATE 2; cf. F. *sénoculé*.] Having six eyes.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Senoculatus*,..senoculate.

Senofegia, obs. variant of SCENOPEGIA.

Senon, north. variant of SINEW *sb.*

Senonian (sɪnōu·niăn), *a. Geol.* [ad. F. *sénonien*, f. L. *Senonēs*, a people of central Gaul.] D'Orbigny's subdivision of the Cretaceous in France and Belgium corresponding to the 'Upper Chalk with flints' of British geologists. Also *absol.*

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. 336 Senonian division of D'Orbigny (*Craie blanche*). 1879 GEIKIE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 360/1 The uppermost member of the Senonian series contains in like manner a blending of well-known Upper Chalk organisms with the Tertiary genera *Cypræa*, *Oliva*, and *Mitra*. 1882 — *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. iii. § 3 (1903) 1205 The Senonian stage of N. W. Germany. *Ibid.*, The Lower Senonian is marked by the abundance of *Actinocamax*. 1885 ETHERIDGE *Stratigraph. Geol. & Palæontol.* 517 Senonian (Upper Chalk with Flints).

Senoper, variant of SINOPER *Obs.*

‖ Señor (senyō·r). Pl. **señores** (senyō·res). Also 7 **sennor.** [Sp. *señor*:—L. *seniōrem*: cf. SIGNOR, SEIGNEUR and SEIGNIOR.]

1. In Spanish use or with reference to a Spaniard: A title of respect placed before the name of a man, equivalent to 'Mr.'

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 129 How now (Sennor few-clothes) what winde draue you hither? 1868 MISS M. B. EDWARDS *Through Sp.* 166 Señor Bensaken.. would wait upon the Señoras at once, was the reply.

b. Used without the name as a form of address.

1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 196 'But have you ever met with it yourself?'..'No, Señor, God be thanked!' 1884 F. BOYLE *Borderland* 372 Now, señores! What was the creature that pursued me thus, in broad daylight?

c. A Spanish gentleman.

1868 MISS M. B. EDWARDS *Through Sp.* 189, I am..but a humble Señor, of little account.

2. A feudal lord, seigneur (in Spain).

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 938 Castro Urdiales of which the Black Prince was Señor, has its bay [etc.].

‖ Señora (senyō·ră). [Sp. *señora*, a fem. formed on SEÑOR. Cf. SIGNORA.] A title of respect prefixed to the name of a Spanish lady, or used without the name in addressing her; hence, a lady of Spanish nationality.

1579 G. GILPIN tr. *Rabbotem's Bee-Hive Rom. Ch.* ii. (1580) 17 A worthie matrone of Spaine called Senora Maria Osorio. 1818 LADY CHARLEVILLE in Lady Morgan *Passages Autobiog.* (1859) 244 He was not aware how you quizzed the unlucky Senora. 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Student* II. iv, Señora, pardon me! 1844 KENDALL *Texan Santa Fé Exped.* II. 336 The Mexican senoras have a frankness of deportment..which [etc.]. 1860 ANDROS *Pau & P. Sk. Spain* 64 The lovely señora sees it not, nor does the handsome Abigail.

‖ Señoria (senyōrī·a). *rare.* [Sp. *señoría*, f. *señor*: see SEÑOR. Cf. *Signoria*.] A lordship, fief. (In quot. 1634 used for SIGNOBIA.)

1634 G. BARRY *Milit. Discipl.* I. i. 2 The Senoria of Venecia was governed by Francisco Carmanola. *a* 1859 W. IRVING *Span. Papers* (1866) 401 (Stanf.) A prince of Portugal ..held the señoria of Serpa.

‖ Señorita (senyorī·ta). [Sp., dim. of SEÑORA.]

1. a. A Spanish title of respect prefixed to the name of a young lady, or used without the name in addressing her.

1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* XXVI, 'Do not be alarmed, señorita', said I, approaching.

b. A young Spanish lady.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xii. 263 In the evening we reached a comfortable farm-house, where there were several pretty señoritas. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. *A Letter*, Caleb hain't no monopoly to court the seenoreetas. 1886 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 276/1 The artist..filled up his foreground with a group of Spanish señoritas.

2. A name given to a small labroid fish, *Pseudojulis* or *Oxyjulis modestus*, native in Californian waters. Also *Senorita-fish*.

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Fishes N. Amer.* 604 *Pseudojulis* Bleeker. Señoritas. *Ibid.*, *P. modestus*..Señorita; Pesce Rey. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 299 The Senorita-fish, of Monterey, *Pseudojulis modestus*, is known as 'Pesce-rey'; southward it is called 'Senorita'.

Senou, -ow(e, senown, obs. ff. SINEW *sb.*

Senple, obs. form of SIMPLE

Sens, variant of CENSE *sb.*[1], incense.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4184 þan knelis doun oure conquirour & callis on his dryttins, Giffe þam alluir & so & sens at þaim castis. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 64 Item for a pund of sens, iiij s.

Sens, variant of CENSE *sb.*[2]

1458 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 299 Ther sholde no manere of man be recevid sensers to passe fre of thar custumes over the sea at sens makyng in no manner wise save [etc.]. 1466 *Ibid.* 303.

Sens, obs. form of CENSE *v.*[1]

16.. *Funeral in Popish Times* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 33 Att the West dore of the Church, A prælat shall sens the Corps.

Sens, obs. form of SINCE.

† Se·nsable, *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* In 5 sensabul. [a. OF. *sensable*, incorrect spelling of *censable*, f. *cense* tax, assessment + -ABLE; see CENSE *sb.*[2]] Capable of assessment or taxation.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 204/2 The pepul is forsake the Ile, so at this dai is not xv pepul sensabul. *Ibid.*, Seyng no more stuf of men, nor no stuf of arcerie sensabul left.

† Se·nsable, *a.*[2] *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. SENSE *sb.* + -ABLE.] Of figures of speech: Consisting in an alteration of the sense of words.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. x. (Arb.) 171 Your second [sort of figures] serues the conceit onely and not th'eare, and may be called sensable, not sensible nor yet sententious.

Sensament, var. form of SENSEMENT *Obs.*

Sensar, obs. form of CENSER.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.*, A Sensar, *thuribulum*.

Sensate (se·nsēt), *a.* [ad. late L. *sensāt-us* gifted with sense, f. *sensus* sense: see -ATE 2 2.]

1. Endowed with physical sensation.

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) 536 Sensualyte..by whom I haue power To do as all sensate bestys do.

† 2. Of the nature of or involving sensation. *Obs.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 86 In his Theætetus he [Plato] laies down this as his opinion,..It seems to me, that he who knows any thing has a sensate cognition of what he knows. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. III. 290 That Fourth Principle ..From whose power all sensate motions [orig. *sensiferos motus*] flow.

† 3. ? Endowed with sensibility. *Obs.*

1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* II. 264 Give me the sensate mind, that knows The vast extent of human woes!

4. Perceived by the senses.

1847 in WEBSTER. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 3/1 Mr. Merriman, it would seem, is of those who hold that poetry co-exists with the least congenial of elements, being common to all sensate things.

Sensate (sensē·t), *v.* [f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.* + -ATE 3, after SENSATION.]

1. *trans.* To perceive by sense; to have a sensation of.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IV. iv. (1821) 93 These corporeal motions, as they seem to arise from nothing else but merely from the *machina* of the body itself; so they could not at all be sensated but by the soul. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 179 Each of them can distinctly sensate or see onely those parts which are very neer perpendicularly oppos'd to it. 1889 *Academy* 16 Nov. 323/2 We find an irresistible impulse to find strain..or motion..of the ether wherever we sensate anything electrical.

† 2. *intr.* To have sensation. *Obs.*

1672 PENN *Spir. Truth Vind.* 24 No man can live, move, sensate, or act but from the original Heat, Life, Motion and Action of that which did beget him. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 112 When it finds only such, as are proper for sensation, it sensates.

Hence **Sensa·ting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* v. 149 Indeed, without such a universal sensating faculty as this is, we should never know when our souls are in conjunction with the Deity. 1888 H. W. PARKER *Spir. Beauty* 58 Sir John Lubbock's experiments proved nothing but the simple sensating of certain crude colors by bees.

Sensation (sensē·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *sensātiōn-em*, f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.*, after late L. *sensātus* SENSATE *a.*: see -ATION. Cf. F. *sensation* (OF. *sensacion*, Oresme 14th c.), Sp. *sensacion*, Pg. *sensação*, It. *sensazione*.]

1. An operation of any of the senses; a psychical affection or state of consciousness consequent on and related to a particular condition of some portion of the bodily organism, or a particular impression received by one of the organs of sense. Now commonly in more precise use, restricted to the subjective element in any operation of one of the senses, a physical 'feeling' considered apart from the resulting 'perception' of an object.

Often const. *of* with sb. defining the nature of the sensation, as in *a sensation of giddiness, nausea, cold*, etc.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 525 Finally, that our Motions and Sensations should not be rash or phanaticall as they are in such as are phrenetical, that is, haue their braines inflamed. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 8 Their understanding..submitteth unto the fallacies of sence, and is unable to rectifie the error of its sensations. 1759 PORTERFIELD *Eye* II. 343 The smallest or most refrangible Rays will excite the shortest and weakest Vibrations for making a Sensation of deep Violet. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* 309 When I grasp an ivory ball in my hand, I feel a certain sensation of touch. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 192 He said his sensations were such as would induce him to believe that his brain was loose. 1845 R. WILLIAMS in *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 544/2 An uneasy sensation and tension of the præcordia. 1890 BIERCE *In the Midst of Life* 23 The familiar sensation of an abraded shin recalled his dazed faculties.

b. In generalized use: The operation or function of the senses; 'perception by means of the senses' (J.). Now commonly (esp. in philosophical language) the subjective element in the operation of the senses; physical 'feeling'.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. xi, O sunken souls, slaves of sensation. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. I. iv. 86 As it now appears, science is nothing else than sensation, or a particular experimental feeling knowledge. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. i. § 2 (1888) 7 Impressions may be divided into two kinds, those of Sensation and those of Reflexion. 1812 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* I. 24 Or is it only a sweet slumber Stealing o'er sensation? 1876 MAUDSLEY *Physiol. Mind* iv. 221 Sensation expresses merely the state of simple feeling, without reference to an external cause.

† c. Observation by the senses, actual seeing or hearing. *Obs.*

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 104 The testimony of others founded in their several sensations being faithfully conveyed to us by undeniable tradition, are as unquestionably certain as if we had seen them ourselves.

d. Faculty of perceiving by the senses, physical sensibility.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 451 When excitement is produced in this system..then a corresponding change is occasioned in the nervous system, and sensation returns. 1869 *Lancet* 18 Dec. 842/2 The woman is of an older age than in other described cases [of scleroderma]. The sensation seemed not to be impaired.

† e. Effect produced on the senses; in quots. = appearance. *Obs.*

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Table, How to express the sensation of the Relievo or Extancie of objects, by the Hatches in Graving. 1663 BOYLE *Exp. Colours* ii. 10 Colour may be considered, either as it is a quality residing in the body that is said to be coloured, or to modifie the light after such or such a manner; or else as the Light it self, which so modifi'd, strikes upon the organ of sight, and so causes that Sensation, which we call Colour.

f. A popular name for the *aura epileptica*, the physical premonition of an epileptic seizure.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 770 Attacks [of Epilepsy] may consist only of the 'warning' or 'sensation'...This has led to the popular use of the word 'sensation' as a synonym for the minor attacks.

2. A mental feeling, an emotion. Now chiefly, the characteristic feeling arising in some particular circumstances.

1755 SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 421, I feel a sensation of distress in my bosom which is intolerable. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 100 ¶ 8 She smiles not by sensation, but by practice. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 3) III. 312 How distinct and different the sensation of positiveness is from the sense of certainty. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, All other sensations were, for the time, lost in the agony which his haughty spirit felt. 1883 FR. M. PEARD *Contrad.* iii, 'At last I have realized a dream', she said. 'Do you know the sensation?'

b. Mental apprehension, sense or 'realization' *of* something.

1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* (1702) 157 To have a continual sensation of thee. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi. 82 The nice sensation we naturally have of what certain quantities ..are fittest. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 9 Those who look but little into futurity, have perhaps the quickest sensation of the present. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. iv. 85 Therefore is it the prime merit of genius..so to represent familiar objects as to awaken..freshness of sensation. 1864 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* II. 139 Men of ordinary nerves who feel a little of the pains of society, who perceive what really passes..could well observe how keen was Thackeray's sensation of common events.

† c. Capacity for (moral) feeling, sensibility.

1742 *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 247 (*St. Aubyn*) He has undoubtedly a most passionate love for his native country, a passion which a man of any sensation can hardly divest himself of.

† d. What is felt or thought; sentiment, opinion.

1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 127 You would of course, however, wish to know the sensations here on those facts.

3. An excited or violent feeling. **a.** An exciting experience; a strong emotion (e. g. of terror, hope, curiosity, etc.) aroused by some particular occurrence or situation. Also, in generalized use, the production of violent emotion as an aim in works of literature or art.

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 237 We may be supposed to have also had our sensations. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* iii, He..was free from that periodicity of sensations which we call post-time. 1863 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 242 The cheap publications which supply sensation for the million in penny and halfpenny numbers. 1867 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. *Rousseau* (1870) 346 [Petrarch was] an intellectual voluptuary, a moral *dilettante*, the first instance of that character, since too common, the gentleman in search of a sensation. 1905 C. WHITNEY *Jungle Trails* xi. 303, I knew it was a tiger..; and as the jerky roar grew nearer and nearer, I stood there having sensations—I do assure you.

b. A condition of excited feeling produced in a community by some occurrence; a strong impression (e. g. of horror, admiration, surprise, etc.) produced in an audience or body of spectators, and manifested by their demeanour.

1779 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* I. 257 What had passed already caused a great sensation in foreign Courts. 1818 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVIII. 10 His death produced what in the phraseology of the present day is called, a great sensation. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, A slight sensation was perceptible in the body of the court. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 46 The sensation produced by this work was immense. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xliv. 333 His death created a profound sensation. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of Crime* xiii, Amid much sensation, the witness gave the name of the Sheriff of Cumberland.

c. An event or a person that 'creates a sensation'.

1864 *Times* 11 Apr. 7/4 The greatest sensation of the day: grand Incantation Scene from Der Freischütz. 1884 *St.*

James's Gaz. 29 Nov. 6 The sensation of a London season was the appearance of a new ballerina in a new ballet.

4. *colloq.* and *slang.* A 'taste', small quantity.

1859 F. FOWLER *South. Lights* 52 A Sensation. [*i. e.*] Half-a-glass of sherry. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Sensation*, a quartern of gin.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly in sense 3 a). a. simple attrib., as *sensation-drama, -novel, -paragraph, -scene*, etc.; b. objective, as *sensation-monger*; *sensation-seeking* adj.

1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On Two Round. Papers*, At the theatres they have a new name for their melodramatic pieces, and call them '*Sensation Dramas'. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 336 When we see in Piccadilly a file of men with blank boards on their shoulders, we become aware that a sensation drama has been put in hand at one of the leading theatres. 1882 A. MATHESON in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 496 What mere *sensation-monger would have chosen this morally obtuse old Pharisee? 1864 *Edin. Rev.* July 53 Two or three years ago nobody would have known what was meant by a *Sensation Novel. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 25 May 485/1 The local inditers of 'screamers' and '*sensation' paragraphs. 1865 EARLE *Sax. Chron.* 340 One of the established *sensation scenes of History. 1862 *Athenæum* 23 Aug. 233 Much of his pamphlet is mere '*sensation' writing.

Sensational (sensē·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. SENSATION + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to or dependent upon sensation or the senses.

1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* (1847) II. 651 No apprehension of things is purely ideal: no experience of external things is purely sensational. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* (1865) 98 If the entire lexicon of every language be capable of being reduced to a number of sensational roots, ..Grammar always remains as the indisputable result of the pure reason. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. i. 219 Hume had actually attempted to reduce mathematical truth within the limits of sensational experience. 1893 PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* II. 348, I am persuaded that the Divine-human life as much includes sensational pleasure, as intelligence, righteousness, purity, and goodness.

absol. 1854 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. *Keats* (end), The sensational was elevated into the typical by the control of that finer sense which underlies the senses and is the spirit of them.

2. Of philosophical theories: Regarding sensation as the sole source of knowledge.

1855 *Dubl. Rev.* XXXVIII. 198 The Sensational School [of Philosophy], as it has been called. 1860 YOUNG *Prov. Reason* 292 In opposition to a mere sensational, materialistic, positive philosophy.

3. Of works of literature or art, hence of writers: Dealing in sensation' (see SENSATION 3 a), aiming at violently exciting effects. Also of incidents in fiction or in real life: Calculated to produce a startling impression.

1863 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 242 The above samples may be considered as belonging to the aristocratic branch of sensational literature. 1864 *Times* 11 Apr. 8/3 Astley's. ..Stupendous sensational effect, never equalled on any stage. 1868 JAS. YORK tr. *Juan Manuel's C'nt Lucanor* (1888) Pref. 7 An age surfeited with the sensational novels that pour from our circulating libraries in an uninterrupted stream. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 190 The 'sensational' element which has crept into English and American literature is worse than the affected classicism of the 17th century. 1885 *Diary of Actress* 131 Rehearsing all the morning: a most sensational piece.

b. *absol.* Also *U. S.* as *sb.*, a sensational journal or journalist.

1899 H. WRIGHT *Depopulation* 90 In modern life, where the electric waves of the sensational vibrate through a continent rapidly. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 407/2 The sensationals had been encouraging cranks to remember the rights of labor.

Sensationalism (sensē·ʃənăliz'm). [f. SENSATIONAL *a.* + -ISM.]

1. *Philos.* The theory that sensation is the only source of knowledge.

1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* II. 228 Here is stated, in the broadest manner, the principle of sensationalism. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* Introd. ii. 13 Sensationalism necessitates..a materialistic explanation of the Universe.

2. Addiction to what is sensational in literature or art.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 145/2 That well of sensationalism pure and undefiled, the 'London Journal'. 1886 FROST *Remin. Country Journalist* 215 Without the vicious sensationalism which renders so objectionable a large portion of the cheap periodical literature of the day.

Sensationalist (sensē·ʃənălist). [f. SENSATIONAL + -IST.]

1. *Philos.* One who regards the senses as the ultimate source of all knowledge.

1855 *Dubl. Rev.* XXXVIII. 199 Locke himself did not profess to be a thorough-going Sensationalist. 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* II. 228 [Hobbes] is the precursor of modern sensationalists [1846 ed. Materialism].

attrib. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* (1865) 150 We are not surprised to find that Locke was claimed as the founder.. of a sensationalist school. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* Introd. iv. 60 The sensationalist view of the development of knowledge. *Ibid.* 61 A sensationalist theory of knowing.

2. One whose aim is to make a sensation; a sensational writer.

1868 PAGET *Lucretia* 309 The circumstances of most people's every-day life are as unlike those depicted by the sensationalists as anything that can be imagined. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Aug. 3/1 The most dangerous of modern criminals..is above all a great sensationalist.

Hence **Sensationalistic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of sensationalism.

1882 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Nov. 7 His moral sense is blunted by his sensationalistic views. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 40/2 The dominant sensationalistic materialism of France.

Sensationalize (sensē·ʃənəlaiz), *v.* [f. SENSATIONAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make sensational.

1. *nonce-use.* To restrict (concepts) to what is given in sensation.

1852 MANSEL *Prolog. Log.* 33 Individualize your concepts, does not mean sensationalize them, unless the senses are the only sources of presentation.

2. a. To subject to the influence of 'sensation' or factitious emotion. b. To exaggerate in a sensational manner.

1863 *Reader* 31 Oct. 507/2 Possibly we should learn in time to imitate the German example [in establishing dramatic academies], and another generation might refuse to be sensationalized, elevated and generally educated by upholstery, 'headers', and ghosts. 1869 *Athenæum* 18 Dec. 824 But in that class of specimens..are none of the merits of the above, while all their faults are vulgarized and sensationalized. 1900 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 5/6 The Paris Press as a whole does not sensationalise De Wet's raid, and the recent success of Delarey.

Sensationally (sensē·ʃənăli), *adv.* [f. SENSATIONAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sensational manner.

1. With respect to sensation or feeling.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Apr. 11 It is an old subject, argumentatively as well as sensationally. 1886 L. OLIPHANT in *Mem.* (1891) II. 335 For this cause He came into the world, that he might unite us sensationally to His Father.

2. In a manner intended to make a sensation.

1894 *Rev. of Rev.* (Amer. ed.) Oct. 356/2 Saratoga..has been sensationally exposed in the newspapers as the most reckless..gambling resort of all this year's watering-places.

Sensationary (sensē·ʃənări), *a. rare.* [f. SENSATION + -ARY 2.] = SENSATIONAL 2.

1864 *Realm* 18 May 5 It has lately been urged that Shakspeare is sensationary—that Hamlet, Lear, Macbeth, Othello, are heroes of strange and wild adventure.

Sensationish, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SENSATION + -ISH 1.] Bordering on the sensational.

1863 *Reader* 31 Oct. 497 The subject is a repulsive one, the treatment of it somewhat sensationish, and the plot is not well kept in hand.

Sensationism (sensē·ʃəniz'm). [f. SENSATION + -ISM.] = SENSATIONALISM 2.

1863 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 242 (art. *Sensation Novels*) In them we have sensationism pure and undisguised. 1878 *Scribner's Monthly* Nov. 144/2 Sensationism is a grievous vice of the pulpit... But sensationism is only an insurrection..against conventionality.

Sensationist (sensē·ʃənist). [f. SENSATION + -IST.] One who deals in sensation; a sensational novelist, dramatist, or journalist.

1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 24 Sept., '*Vult decipi, decipiatur*' is the motto of the Sensationists. 1863 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 248 (art. *Sensation Novels*) To these specimens of the sensationist's power of making, may we venture to add one more as a sample of his ability in marring? 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 27 Of late we have been handed over..to the tender mercies of the sensationists both on and off the stage.

Sensationless (sensē·ʃənlés), *a.* [f. SENSATION + -LESS.] Without sensation.

1874 TYNDALL *Presid. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 81 Imagine them [*sc.* atoms] separate and sensationless.

Sensative: see SENSITIVE.

† **Sensator.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SENSATE *v.* + -OR.] An agent concerned in sensation.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 41 The Braine therefore, not the Heart, is the first Moouer, and first Sensator. *Ibid.* 288 The Philosopher calleth sleepe ἠρεμία τοῦ πρώτου αἰσθητικοῦ, the rest of the first sensator.

Sensatorial (sensătōᵊriăl), *a.* [f. SENSATE *v.* + -ORIAL.] Of or pertaining to sensation.

1890 J. SULLY in *Academy* 16 Aug. 136/2 [Weber's] psychophysical theory of sensatorial intensity.

† **Sensatory**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SENSATE *v.* + -ORY 2.] = SENSORY.

1741 A. MONRO *Anat. Nerves* Wks. (1781) 331 The objections against the sensatory nerves acting by vibration.

Senscer, obs. form of CENSER.

Senschepe, -chip(e, var. ff. SHENDSHIP.

Sense (sens), *sb.* Forms: 6 oense, sens, 5–8 sence, 7 *Sc.* senss, 5– sense. [a. F. *sens* or ad. L. *sensus* (*u* stem), perception, feeling, faculty of perception, meaning, f. *sentīre* to feel. Cf. Pr. *sens, sentz*, Sp. *seso*, Pg. *siso*, It. *senso*.]

I. Faculty of perception or sensation.

1. Each of the special faculties, connected with a bodily organ, by which man and other animals perceive external objects and changes in the condition of their own bodies. Usually reckoned as five—sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch. Also called *outward or external sense* (cf. 8).

Earlier called *the five wits*: see WIT.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 127 Kyther within or withoutforth, that is to saye eyther in the conscyence, or in the outwarde censes. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 122 The common sense..is therefore so called, because it geueth iudgement, of al the fiue outwarde senses. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Not Fair* 21 My Reason strait did to my Senses shew, That they might be mistaken too. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 1 Of the Five Senses, Two are usually and most properly called the Senses of Learning..; And these are Hearing and Seeing. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xix. § 20 How is he prepared easily to swallow, not only against all Probability, but even the clear Evidence of his Senses, the Doctrine of Transubstantiation? 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, I must have the evidence of more senses than one to confirm me of its truth. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nature* II. i. (1874) I. 336 A, The only defect of our senses is, that they give us disproportion'd images of things. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* Concl. (1811) 221 With various inventions of disagreeableness for offending some or all of the senses! 1835 BECKFORD *Alcobaça & Batalha* 111 My sense of hearing is painfully acute. 184x T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (1871) 860 The sense of touch in Mammalia is diffused over the whole surface of the body.

† b. Used for: An organ of sense. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 Wyssheth that he neuer had had eyes to se..neyther eares to here..ne other senses to haue knowen [etc.]. 1538 STARKEY *England* 48 To the hede, wyth the yes, yerys, and other sensys therin. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 154 Mine Eyes, mine Eares, or any Sence.

c. *pl.* The faculties of physical perception or sensation as opposed to the higher faculties of intellect, spirit, etc.

1841 EMERSON *Ess.* vii. *Prudence* P 2 Prudence is the virtue of the senses. It is the science of appearances. *Ibid.* P 3 The world of the senses is a world of shows. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. in Crit.* Ser. I. vi. (1886) 215 The life of the senses has its deep poetry.

d. Applied to similar faculties of perception, not scientifically delimited, or only conjectured to exist.

Muscular sense: see MUSCULAR *a.* 1. *Sixth sense*: see quot. 1829; also, the feelings connected with sexual pleasure.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. ii. § 3 Had Mankind been made with but four Senses, the Qualities then, which are the Object of the Fifth Sense, had been as far from our notice, Imagination, and Conception, as now any belonging to a Sixth, Seventh, or Eighth Sense, can possibly be. 1699 MAUNDRELL *Acc. Turks* in *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 1 2 b, They know hardly any Pleasure but that of the sixth Sense. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. 405 We may possibly be capable of twenty senses, but being provided with inlets only for five, have no more conception of the others than a blind man has of light. 1822–9 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 22 The bat appears to be sensible of the presence of external objects.. that are neither seen, smelt, heard, touched, or tasted... And hence many naturalists have ascribed a sixth sense to this animal. *Ibid.* 23 In Germany it has of late been attempted to be shown that every man is possessed of a sixth sense [viz. a bodily feeling of health and elasticity, or of lassitude and fatigue]. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 121 Certainly it was in God's power to create beings who should communicate with nature by innumerable other senses than those few which we possess.

e. That one of the senses which is indicated by the context. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 120 When by and by the dinne of Warre gan pierce His readie sence. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. iv, Ha? I am somewhat short In my sense too... My hearing is very dead, you must speake quicker. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 23 The process of making Inck being..noysom and ungrateful to the Sence. 1733 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 53 So Darkness strikes the sense no less than Light. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 319 Salts, metals, plants, ordures of every kind..make one mass of corruption, equally displeasing to the sense, and injurious to the health. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xliv, As he gazed, he perceived the countenance of the knight change and begin to fade, till his whole form gradually vanished from his astonished sense! 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, The fearful picture of a vision, which appals my sense with hideous fantasies, but convinces not my reason. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 285 That heat of inward evidence, By which he doubts against the sense.

2. *transf.* An instinctive or acquired faculty of perception or accurate estimation. Now chiefly const. *of* (locality, distance, etc.).

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 82 b, There is saith Tullie, in the Dogge a meruelous perceiuerance and sharpe sense to know who doth him good. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 84 b, This Basilius (hauing the quicke sense of a louer) tooke, as though his Mistres had giuen a secret reprehension. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. Introd. iv, Ne let him then admire, But yield his sence to be too blunt and bace, That no'te without an hound fine footing trace. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 308 Take from them now The sence of reckning. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 54 A woman of quick sence. 1888, 1889 [see LOCALITY 8].

3. In generalized use: The senses viewed as forming a single faculty in contradistinction to intellect, will, etc.; the exercise or function of this faculty, sensation.

1538 STARKEY *England* 48 Al wyt, reson, and sens, felyng, lyfe, and al other natural powar, spryngyth out of the hart. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Nothinge is in vnderstandinge, but the same was fyrst in sense. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 15. 180 Thus wee adore vertue, though to the eyes of sense shee bee invisible. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xi. § 6 Though mathematical demonstrations depend not upon sense. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 226 What thin partitions Sense from Thought divide. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 324 A body is a real thing, an object of sense. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* (1809) I. 208 The only objects, on which the Indian had employed his reason, were those of external sense. 1827 WORDSW. *Eccl. Sonn.* II. XXX. 2 The Soul, freed from the bonds of Sense, And to her God restored by evidence Of things not seen. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* Introd. v. 91 The doctrine that sense is confused thought.

4. *pl.* The faculties of corporeal sensation considered as channels for gratifying the desire for pleasure and the lusts of the flesh. Also *sing.*, any one of such faculties so regarded.

1597 *Pilgr. Parnassus* IV. 480 He bringe you to sweet wantoninge yonge maides Wheare you shall all youre hungrie sences feaste. 1608 *Yorkshire Trag.* IV. 69 That heauen should say we must not sin, and yet made women! giues

our sences waie to finde pleasure, which being found confounds vs. *a* 1657 MURE *Sonn.* vi. 5 Thy beutyes did my sensses suire suppryse, Or eir thy sight my ravischt eyes did blesse. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 239 To take in whole Nature,..and have her every Sense gratify'd with the agreeable Feast of Variety! 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. i. 69 Seeing I please my senses as I list. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. xxvii, Love was born *with* them, *in* them, so intense, It was their very spirit—not a sense.

b. *collect. sing.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 52 b, This bastard Loue..vtterly subuerts the course of nature, in making reason giue place to sense. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 169 Can it be, That Modesty may more betray our Sense Then womans lightnesse? 1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 230 She [the soul]..oft has..escaped the inescations of sense. 1738 WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Infinite Power, Eternal Lord*' v, But Flesh and Sense, enslav'd to Sin Drawing best Thoughts away. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 123 But small the bliss that sense alone bestows, And sensual bliss is all the nation knows. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 374 Some bondage of the flesh.., Some slough of sense. 1871 J. R. MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xviii. 249 The life of sense—the life of selfish and sensuous pleasure.

†5. Capability of feeling, as a quality of the body and its parts; liability to feel pain, irritation, etc. *To the sense*, to the quick. *Obs.*

1562–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2083/1 He did lye..with his heeles so hye, yᵗ hoy by meanes the bloud was fallen from his feete, his feet wer almost without sense for a long time. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 11, I haue rub'd this yong Quat almost to the sense, And he growes angry. 1612 BACON *Ess., Death* (Arb.) 384 For the most vitall parts are not the quickest of sence. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. x. 69 The wound..extinguished both Sence and Motion of the Member. 1692 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 150 A..nervous Ligament..apt to stretch and shrink again as need requires, and void of sence. 1759 T. WALLIS *Farrier's Dict.* s. v. *Teeth*, But all within the sockets of the jaws is..covered with a thin membrane of exquisite sense. 1772 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) 313 He was without Sense, and cold all over his Body.

6. *pl.* A general term for the faculties of perception (including the 'five senses': see 1), which are in abeyance when their owner is asleep or otherwise unconscious. Also *sing.*, any one of these faculties. Cf. 10.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, III. i. 8 O Sleepe..how haue I frighted thee, That thou no more wilt weigh my eye-lids downe, And steepe my Sences in Forgetfulnesse? 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 749 The creeping Death Benum'd her Senses first, then stopp'd her Breath. *c* 1742 GRAY *Ignorance* 18 Dost thou..dews Lethean through the land dispense To steep in slumbers each benighted sense? 1762 LLOYD *Poems* 115 And gently lull my senses all the while With placid poems in the sinking stile! 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 439 Before ten his senses were gone. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 109 He seated himself on a log, and, with senses all alert, began his vigil.

b. *collect. sing.* The perceptive faculty of a conscious animate being.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xx. 57 Pictures ..are but dead things, & in whom there is no sence or feeling. 1635 LAUD *Diary* 26 Oct., I found him past sense, and giving up the ghost. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 289 There gentle sleep..with soft oppression seiz'd My drouséd sense. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (1875) 8 With that hee fell downe in a chaire..as one without all sence. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. Pref. 10 Through every species of animal life, ..to that point where sense is almost extinct, and vegetation commences. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* VI. 1 My sense reviving, that erewhile had droop'd With pity for the kindred shades.

7. Applied to faculties of the mind or soul compared or contrasted with the bodily senses; usually with some defining word, as *inner, interior, internal, inward sense. Moral sense*: see MORAL *a.* 1 d.

1566 ALDAY tr. *Boaistuau's Theat. World* T iv, Knowing that he had to exercise his fancie and other interior senses. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 102 Not sensibly champing it with their teeth but partaking it by the sence of the soule. 1672 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* xlii. 87 The inward Senses are three. The Common-sense...The Phantasie..The Memory. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 4 This Source of Ideas, every Man has wholly in himself; And though it be not Sense, as having nothing to do with external Objects; yet it is very like it, and might properly enough be call'd internal Sense. But as I call the other Sensation, so I call this Reflection. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xiv. (ed. 2) 256 They would soon see that the spirit of devotion was like any other sense or understanding. 1779 *Mirror* No. 48 ₱ 2 The truth of perception, in our internal senses, employed in morals and criticism. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 4) I. 239 *note*, His sensations, and impressions, whether of his outward senses, or the inner sense of imagination. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. 10 All the senses, if you might so call them, of the soul..that is, the affections and the perceptions. 1870 [see ILLATIVE *a.* 3].

b. *Reprobate sense*: used to render the Vulgate version of Rom. I. 28 *in reprobum sensum* (Gr. *εἰς ἀδόκιμον νοῦν*, A. V. 'to a reprobate minde').

1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 418 He hath geuen the ouer into a reprobate sence. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) Pref. 11 It is much to be feared they are given up to a reprobate sense.

†8. Capacity for mental feeling; sensibility. *Obs.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, I should be deade of sense, to viewe defame Blur my bright love. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* IV. 42 Sir, you haue much wrought with mee. I feele you in my soule...I never had sence till now.

9. Capacity for perception and appreciation *of* (beauty, humour, some quality, etc.). Rarely const. *for*. Formerly also without const.: †Feeling or sensibility in matters of artistic taste.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 71 Tempests themselues, high Seas, and howling windes..As hauing sence of Beautie, do omit Their mortall Natures, letting go safely by The Diuine Desdemona. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Imit. 1st Sat. Persius* Wks. 1730 I. 54 His sense is smothered, and his judgement dies. *a* 1704 — *Praise of Poverty* ibid. 97 They have no taste of wit, and sense of arts and sciences. 1715 POPE *Let. to J. Craggs* 15 July, We talk much of fine Sense, refin'd Sense, and exalted Sense. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. App. 373 The sense of beauty I consider a mixture of the senses of the body and soul. 1875 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* V 244 The sense which English people have for fact and for evidence will tell them that [etc.]. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* i. 4 The Bible..delights our sense of the picturesque. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 222 William Henry, who had a strong sense of humour.

10. *pl.* The mental faculties in their normal condition of sanity; one's 'reason' or 'wits'. (Cf. 6.) *In one's (right) senses*, in one's right mind. *To bring* (a person) *to his senses*: to cure of his folly (one who is behaving 'madly'). (*To frighten*, etc.) *out of one's (seven) senses*: out of one's wits.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 638 His senses were moued, and his wittes disturbed. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 As cleane bereft of sences [he] made towardes his enemies. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxviii. 67 What Man in his Right Senses..would make himself a Slave for Superfluities! 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xiii, The Filly was..scar'd out of her seven Senses. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* III. xiii, You shall..mortify yourself into reason, with..a little handsome discipline to bring you to your senses. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, I asked him whether he was really in his senses? 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xli, Sometimes he would be in such fits of violence, that we almost thought he had lost his senses. 1835 CORRIE in Holroyd *Mem.* (1890) 17, I thought with myself that the dog ought to be flogged out of his seven senses if he were not happy. 1893 DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 187 The public..would think that the artist had taken leave of his senses.

† b. *sing.* (with the same meaning). *Obs.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) H 2, Ne're was the Queene of Cypresse halfe so glad, As is Angelica to see her Lord, Her dear Orlando, settled in his sense. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. iv. 9 In the restoring his bereaued Sense. 1694 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* v. 99 He had the Comfort of a short Illness, and the Blessing of a clear Sense to the last.

11. Natural understanding, intelligence, esp. as bearing on action or behaviour; practical soundness of judgement.

See also COMMON SENSE 2, 2 b, GOOD SENSE, HORSE-SENSE.

1684 ROSCOMMON *Ess. Tr. Verse* 162 Pride..Proceeds from want of Sense or want of Thought. 1690 NORRIS *Refl. Cond. Hum. Life* (1692) 44 For first, 'tis reckon'd a notable point of Learning to understand variety of Languages. This alone gives a Man a Title to Learning without one Grain of Sense. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. viii, The Parson of the Parish preaching one Day with more Zeal than Sense [1712 a little sharply] against Adultery. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Prior* Wks. III. 131 If we can suppose him [Dryden] vexed, it would be hard to deny him sense enough to conceal his uneasiness. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. i, You speak, ma'am, like a lady of sense. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 169 The facility of Charles was such as has perhaps never been found in any man of equal sense. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 291 Alvan had a saying, that want of courage is want of sense.

b. *To have the sense*: to be wise enough *to do* something. Similarly, *to have too much sense to, to have more sense than to* do something.

a 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 56 Which if they should have the sence to do..they might shake off the Turkish yoak. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* II. 2 As early as I knew This Town, I had the sense to hate it too. 1735 — *Ep. Lady* 87 Flavia's a Wit, has too much sense to Pray. 1800 PAGET in *P. Papers* (1896) I. 184 My courier had the good sense to make two men with lanterns precede the carriage. 1806 LAMB *Juke Judkins*, He had slipped away to an eminent fruiterer's, about three doors distant, which I never had the sense to think of. 1847 EMILY BRONTË *Wuthering H.* iv, They [the children] entirely refused to have it [a foundling] in bed with them,..and I had no more sense, so, I put it on the landing of the stairs. *Mod.* He has more sense than to go where he is not wanted.

II. Actual perception or feeling.

12. A feeling or perception *of* (something external) through the channels of touch, taste, etc.; the feeling or consciousness *of* some bodily affection, as pain, fatigue, comfort or discomfort, etc. †Also (rarely) *absol.* a sensation.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 186 He..beating her with wandes he had in his hande, she crying for sense of payne, or hope of succour. *Ibid.* III. 306 b, Fire, burne me quite till sense of burning leaue me. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 289 The Lyblan horsses..haue no sence of their labors. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 13 Before you will be healed, you must haue a sense of your sickness. 1669 H. STUBBE in Birch *Life Boyle* (1744) 192 It creates in the throat such a sense, as remains after drinking pepperposset. 1675–6 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* No. 122, 522 The immediate contact of the Ingredients and the skin produc'd a sense of heat. 1709 FLOYER *Cold Bathing* I. iv. 98 The way to prepare our Body for Cold Baths..is to wash it all over in warm Water first..and so every Morning use cooler till it can bear the Sense of very Cold Water. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xxxiv, Like a lance, Waking an Indian..With cruel pierce, and bringing him again Sense of the gnawing fire at heart and brain. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiv. 305 Astringent injections, so weak that when used, they may produce merely a sense of ticillation. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* x. 182 An idle craving without sense of flavours.

13. A more or less vague perception or impression *of* (an outward object, as present or imagined).

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. x. 42 Lightned..with continuall candlelight, which delt A doubtfull sense of things, not so well seene, as felt. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* xxxiv. 12 And by Thy light Possesse my sight With sense of an eternall day. 1798 WORDSW. *Poems Imag., Tintern Abb.* 95 A sense sublime Of something far more deeply interfused. 1855 BAGEHOT *Biogr. Stud.* 334 He [Cobden] excited a personal interest; he left what may be called a *sense* of himself among his professed enemies. 1876 HENLEY *Life & D.* xxxiv. *Bk. Verses* (1888) 100 And the darkening air Thrills with a sense of the triumphing night. 1887 W. JAMES in *Mind* XII. 209 Such expressions as the abysmal vault of heaven, the endless expanse of ocean,..give the sense of an enormous horizon.

14. A more or less indefinite consciousness or impression *of* (a fact, state of things, etc.) as present or impending.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 338 What sense had I, in [*Q.* 1, 2 of] her stolne houres of Lust? 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 285 Perhaps it may be thought by some, after the Sense of the Thing was over, an officious canting of religious Things. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 53 No sense have they of ills to come. 1759 HURD *Moral Dial.* iv. 133 Her parliaments were disposed to wave all disputes about the stretch of her prerogative, from a sense of their own and the common danger. 1849 HELPS *Friends in C.* II. i (1854) I. 266 The keenness of pursuit thus engendered [in reading]..takes away the sense of dulness in details. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 592 In a very few days the confusion..was at an end, and the kingdom wore again its accustomed aspect. There was a general sense of security. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. 67 There are few books..that do not sadden us by a sense of incompleteness. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 466 His words..startled English ears with a sense of coming danger to the national liberty.

b. *const.* a dependent statement or question.

1683 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 83 He gave Me a kind of a cold Answer.., and I had a real sence upon Me, that he is not Right to thy Interest. 1698 A. BRAND *Emb. Muscovy into China* 22 The Resurrection (which they believe, without the least sense whither they are to go afterwards). 1713 JOHNSON *Guardian* No. 5 ₱ 4 Which gives the Mother an uneasie Sense, that Mrs. Jane really is what her Parent has a mind to continue to be. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* x, Seth, always timid in his behaviour towards his mother, from the sense that he had no influence over her. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxii. 84 The spirit of Puritanism, with..its sense..that there are times when Agag must be hewn in pieces before the Lord.

15. Mental apprehension, appreciation, or realization *of* (some truth, fact, state of things). Also, † comprehension, perception of the meaning *of*.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 360/2 Chrisostome sayth, Behold I see men that haue no trew sence of holy Scripture: yea they vnderstand nothyng at all therof. 1612 BACON *Ess., Praise* (Arb.) 350 The common people vnderstand not many excellent vertues:..but of the highest vertues they haue no sense or perceiuing at all. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxlvii. 214 The True Intent of This Fable is to Possess us with a Just Sense of the Vanity and Folly of these Craving Appetites. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xiv. 402 To have a just sense of the worth of a soul. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* II. I. ii. 43 He seemed visited by a sense of the vanity of all things. 1871 MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 175 The same sense of the puniness of man in the centre of a cruel and frowning universe.

b. The recognition *of* (a duty, virtue, etc.) as incumbent upon one, or as a motive or standard for one's own conduct.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 132 Do not beleeue That from the sence of all Ciuilitie, I thus would play and trifle with your Reuerence. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 145 These fellows have no sense of gratitude. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35, I was conscious of an inclination to oblige, and a quick sense of propriety. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 223 They would suffer no motives to influence them but a sense of truth and justice. 1848 J. MITCHEL in *State Trials* VI. 697, I have acted in this business, from the first, under a strong sense of duty. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. (1876) 296 He appealed to their sense of feudal honour.

†c. (*One's*) *sense of things*: perception or judgement of what is right, fitting, etc. *Obs.*

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. 327 He went into the humours of that high sort of people beyond what became him, perhaps beyond his own sense of things. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 98 Whenever they come to a true Sense of things, they will find Deliverance from Sin a much greater Blessing, than Deliverance from Affliction.

16. Emotional consciousness of something; a glad or sorrowful, grateful or resentful recognition *of* (another person's conduct, an event, a fact or a condition of things).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* V. i. 32 O braue Iago, honest, and iust, That hast such Noble sense of thy Friends wrong. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Edw. II* 149 The King in a calmer humour, beganne to have a sense of the Earle of Lancasters execution. 1642 *Lanc. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 6 Shewing..our heart-breaking sence, and sorrow, for the unhappy ..Distraction in your Majesties Dominions. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Gen. Thanksgiving*, Give us that due sense of all thy mercies. 1664 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 170 He declared the sence his Master had of the great Expressions of kindness which he had received. 1726 BROOME *Pope's Odyss.* XXIV. Notes V. 286 The sense I have of this, and other instances of that friendship. 1821 COMBE *Syntax* III. iv. (Chandos) 343 He spoke at once his grateful sense Of her warm friendship and regard. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xi, While he expressed his sense of the honour with which she now graced him. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 164 No better way of showing our sense of his hospitality ..has occurred to us.

† b. *With (great*, etc.) *sense*: with (much) emotion, feelingly. *Obs.*

1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* ¶ 276 Now this part of my Work I fulfilled with great sense...I preached what I felt, what I smartingly did feel. 1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 247 Then I did my duty to the Queen, who with great

sense condoled my loss. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) II. 170 He knew, he had led a bad life; (of which he spoke with some sense).

17. A consciousness or recognition *of* (some quality, condition, etc.) as attaching to oneself; esp. such as is accompanied by inward feeling or emotion, or acts as a motive for conduct.

1614 EARL STIRLING *Doomsday* v. lxxxiv, Who have no sence of sinne, nor care of fame. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick*, That the sense of his weakness may add strength to his faith. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lix. 59 The smart brings him to a sense of his Errour. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 97 For now I pray'd with a Sense of my Condition. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* III. i, Who..has done everything in his power to bring your nephew to a proper sense of his extravagance. 1791 COWPER *Retired Cat* 109 Beware of too sublime a sense Of your own worth and consequence! 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Three Ages* II. 44 The nation was growing bold under a sense of injury. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* ii. § 7 The healthy sense of progress, which is necessary to the strength and happiness of men. 1872 SANFORD *Estim. Eng. Kings, Chas. I*, 331 The dignity of bearing in Charles..was sustained by a profound sense of self-importance and superiority. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 178 Giving Eve a due sense of her crime. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vi. 51 To confess herself mistaken was altogether opposed to her sense of personal dignity.

18. An opinion, view, or judgement held or formed † **a.** by an individual. *To speak* or *give one's sense*, to express one's opinion. *To abound in one's own sense*: see ABOUND *v.*[1] 5. *Obs.*

1552–1775 [see ABOUND *v.*[1] 5]. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 24 These Monuments..I have not seen, otherwise I would give my Sense upon them. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 13 If I may be permitted to speak my sense. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 171/2 Not engaging himself in publick Affairs;..because the Athenians were accustomed to Laws different from his sense. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 138 (1740) 107 Under the Banner of &c. comes the Earl of Shaftsbury, and the Lords of his Sense. 1747 DR. HOADLY *Suspicious Husb.* I. i, My Lord Coke, in a Case I read this Morning, speaks my Sense. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxiv. 80 The entail of the Crown was drawn according to the sense of the king, and probably in words dictated by him.

b. by an assemblage of persons (or by a majority of their number). Now somewhat *arch. To take the sense of*, to ascertain the general feeling or opinion of.

1654 GODDARD in *Introd. to Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 96 Which had been otherwise declared by this Parliament, and seemed still to be the general sense of us all. 1691 WOOD *Athen. Oxon.* II. 315 Prynne afterwards was called in again to receive the sense of the House. 1778 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 343 Pray let us take the sense of the University;—not that they are the judges whom I most admire. 1793 BURKE *Observ. Conduct Minority* § 44 A House of Commons which does not speak the sense of the people. 1817 [see TAKE *v.* 32 a]. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 81 He soon found that he had against him almost the whole sense of Westminster Hall. 1855 *Ibid.* xv. III. 533 He spoke, he told the King, the sense of a great body of honest gentlemen.

† **c.** *In one's sense*, in one's opinion, according to one's judgement. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 290, I am not sorry neither, I'd haue thee liue: For in my sense, 'tis happinesse to die. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Cov.* (1634) 19 But because in his sence, the object is too narrow, there is something he would have more. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 24 Merit, that in the sense of all nations, gives the best Title to True Praise. 1832 GREVILLE *Mem.* 24 Feb. (1874) II. 263 The petition turned out to be one for a moderate Reform, more in their sense than in the Duke's own.

† **d.** const. *of* (a person, a matter), and with clause introduced by *that*. Also, favourable opinion, high estimate *of*. *Obs.*

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 122 b, Let vs see what sence he had of monasticall religion. 1638 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) II. 195 Your Lordship's of the 27th of June expresseth more Sense of me than I am worthy of. *c* 1650 DENHAM *Of Old Age* 813 Now you, my friends, my sense of Death shall hear. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2342/1 It is..Our constant Sense and Opinion..that Conscience ought not to be constrained. 1744 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 39, I will now simply tell you my sense of these matters. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Col. Mass. Bay* I. 64 A letter, wrote from New England, shews the sense they had of him after they had made trial. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1794) I. 148 Pardon the earnestness with which I write my sense of this affair. 1785 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 497 Congress have studiously avoided giving to the public their sense of this institution.

III. Meaning, signification.

19. The meaning or signification of a word or phrase; also, any one of the different meanings of a word, or that which it bears in a particular collocation or context.

1530 PALSGR. 792 Where *re* signyfyeth in our tonge agayne, he is very moche used in this sence in the composycion of verbes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Pref. A iij, As well for the difficultie in the true expressynge the lynely sence of the latine wordes. 1582 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 22 We give a large sense and signification to this word (Ciuile). 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 16 There bee some wordes that bee not of the same sense euery where. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 965 Gull'd with a Patriot's name, whose Modern sense Is one that woud by Law supplant his Prince. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 22 Here then are two different senses of the word nature. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 6 Education, in the enlarged sense of the word. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 78 Cheating conscience so With words depleted of their natural sense.

b. A meaning recorded in a dictionary, etc.

1755 JOHNSON *Dict.* Pref., The solution of all difficulties..must be sought in the examples, subjoined to the various senses of each word. 1818 TODD, *Largeheartedness*...See the fourth sense of *Largeness*. 1887 SKEAT *Gosp. S. Matt. in Ags.* Pref. 7 See the fifth sense of the verb *bield* in Murray's New English Dictionary.

20. The meaning of words in connected or continuous speech; the meaning of a passage or context. Also, one of two or more meanings which the words naturally bear or are held to bear.

1513 *Balade to Author* in *Bradshaw's St. Werburge* (1887) 201 O frutefull historе..With termes exquised and sence retoriall. 1530 PALSGR. *Introd.* 15 Thoughe we shulde gyve worde for worde, yet the sens shulde moche differ betwene our tong and theyrs. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* x. 83 Cayphas..spak treu prophesye; bot sit he and the iueis interpret it to the vrang sens. 1560 *Ovid's Narcissus* A iv, Thou speakest words, the sence whereof, myne eares can not deserne. 1611 BIBLE *Neh.* viii. 8 So they read in the booke, in the Law of God distinctly, and gaue the sense, and caused them to vnderstand the reading. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 79 The King's letter would not bear that sense. 1684 ROSCOMMON *Ess. Tr. Verse* 346 The sound is still a Comment to the Sense. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 141 We must read *προπωπιῶν*, as the learned Mr. Stanley guess'd from the Sense of the place. 1768 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 73 In the second letter, he is conscious he had gone too far in his expressions, and tries to give them a sense they will not bear. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) I. iii. 66 And lastly, Abstain from all Appearance of Evil. It might be translated, from every Kind of Evil. But even then, the Sense would be much the same. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. vii, He had barely enough Greek to make out the sense of the epigram. 1885 *Diary of Actress* 87 How I got the words, or the sense of the words, into my head I don't know.

b. The meaning or interpretation of a dream, or of anything cryptic or symbolical.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 11 It is needful then yᵗ..I lay open vnto you the true meaning and sence of the dreame. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* Prol. 12 'Gainst these, haue we put on this forc't defence: Whereof the allegorie and hid sence Is, that a well erected confidence Can fright their pride, and laugh their folly hence. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iv. 9 Which passage may serve as a parable, whereof our Saviour himself is the sense.

c. The gist, upshot, or general purport of words spoken or written. † *To that sense*, to that effect.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 268 With lettres to the Gouernour..; Quhairof this was the sence, that thay suld remayne constant and true in thair promise. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Aug. 1673, Where he read..that he should not long enjoy it, but should die, or expressions to that sense. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Poems, Ess.* I. 166 This is the general sense of his remark. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 575 They proceeded to pass several votes, the sense of which was finally summed up in an address to the King. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. iv. 9 Of this epistle Mano made the sense Ampler by various tidings that he brought.

21. Any of the various meanings or interpretations (*literal, mystic, anagogic, moral,* † *ghostly, spiritual,* etc.) of which, according to the principles of patristic and mediæval exegesis, a word or passage of Holy Scripture was considered to be susceptible. Hence *transf.* with reference to similar methods of interpretation as applied to other writings.

c 1400 *Prol. Wyclif Bible* xiii. 52–3 And of these iiij. sensis, either vndirstondingis, may be set ensaumple in this word Jerusalem; for bi the literal vndirstonding Jerusalem singnefieth a cyte..; bi moral sense..bi sense allegorik..bi sence anagogik [etc.]. *Ibid.* xiv. 54 The historial, either literal sense, and the mystik, either goostly sense, is taken vndir the same lettre. 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale* I. 16 Commandyng theym to here wyth tenderneese Of this your nightyngale the goostly sense. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* vii. (Percy Soc.) 28 To moralise thy lytterall censes trewe. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Cor.* xiii. 1–3 The gyft of prophecie, wherby I know all the secrete senses of the scriptures. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 232 These Greekes, as in this point, so in all other, follow the literall sense of the Scriptures. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. i. 2 The ancient Christians imitated the Jews in finding out Senses in the Scriptures, which were never intended.

22. *In a* (specified) *sense*, according to a particular acceptation or interpretation (of a word, phrase, etc.). Often in phrases, *in a sense, in some sense, in any sense, in no sense, in all senses* (which sometimes come to mean 'in some degree', 'in no respect', 'on every account', etc.).

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 324 He in the worst sence consters their denialL. 1596— *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 141 It blots thy beautie... And in no sence is meete or amiable. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 22 Resistance is usually taken in an ill sence, as when the subordinate resists his superior. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 82 Not that they really cuff or fence, But in a Spiritual Mistique sence. 1710 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 317 Tho' we destroyed so many capital Ships of France the two last Wars, yet..in some sence, the Naval Strength of France is rather encreased than diminished. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 97–8 Yet the Island was certainly a Prison to me, and that in the worst Sense in the World; but now I learn'd to take it in another Sense. 1745 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Oxford* 1 June (1893) II. 140 This is the first prize that ever came to my share, and that is owing to your ladyship in all senses. 1883 MAURICE *Prophets & Kings* ii. 22 All is, in the strictest sense of the word, dramatical. 1891 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 228 That one among the Conqueror's children who alone could be looked on as in any sense an Englishman. 1898 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* I. 10 Abram, whose vocation was so high,..bows to him as one whose vocation was in some sense higher than his own. *a* 1888 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1889) 110 The consciousness of the body is of course in a sense its inner nature. 1910 J. SARGEAUNT *Dryden's Poems* Introd. 21 If no poet in the highest sense of the word, he was at least a surpassing rhetorician.

† **23.** The meaning of a speaker or writer; the substance, purport, or intention of what he says.

c 1400 *Prol. Wyclif Bible* xv. 59 Austyn seith..that if equiuok wordis be not translatid into the sense, either vndurstonding, of the autour, it is errour. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B ij b, Our play..vnder whose couert or darke meanyng, thou haste a secrete sence or hydde intent. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 18 You are verie sencible, and yet you misse my sence: I meane Hortentio is afeard of you. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. viii. § 5 (1622) 290 His Expositor, Elias Cretensis, deliuereth his sense in the same hight of words. 1700 DRYDEN *Pref. to Fables* ¶ 3 Where I have been wrongfully accus'd and my Sense wire-drawn into Blasphemy or Bawdry. 1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Bp. Salisbury* 20 July (1893) II. 2, I endeavoured at no beauty of style, but to keep as literally as I could to the sense of the author [Epictetus]. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* ii. 126 Let no Court Sycophant pervert my sense.

24. *In a* (specified) *sense*: with a particular aim or purpose (in speaking or writing); to a (given) effect.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. iv, France..is now beginning to speak also; and speaks in that same sense. 1837 MOORE *Diary* 8 Aug. in *Mem.* VII. 196 The Fireworshippers, he told me, had been translated in Poland in a Polish sense. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* II. 118 He had no scruple in writing to the Baroness in the above sense.

25. A connected series of ideas expressed in words; the substance of a passage.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 93 *Metaphrasis* is, to take some notable place out of a good Poete, and turn the same sens into meter, or into other wordes in Prose. 1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* lxxxvi. (Arb.) 122 The sense of this Sonnet is for the most part taken out of a letter, which Æneas Syluius wrote vnto his friend. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 197 She took the pen, and..supported by Mrs. Lovick, wrote the conclusion...You will find the sense surprizingly intire, her weakness considered.

26. A passage, context, or set of sentences, expressed in bare prose, used as material for the composition of Latin or Greek verses. Also allusively. Also *attrib.*, as *sense verses*.

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 171 It is usual in such Cases for the poor Children to go to those of higher Forms with this Petition, *Pray give me a little Sense.* 1743 CHESTERF. *Lett.* xcviii. (1792) I. 275 As you are now got into sense verses, remember, that it is not sufficient to put a little common sense into hexameters and pentameters. 1765 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 361 When you write next to me, give me some *sense*, as the boys say, that I may answer for you as often as you are attacked. 1892 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 564 Write a paper on governesses. I can give you 'sense', as the boys say about verses.

27. Discourse that has a satisfactory and intelligible meaning. Phr. *to talk, speak, write* (*good*) *sense. To make sense of*, to find a meaning in. Of discourse: *To give, have, make sense*, to be intelligible.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 129 Beleeue it (Page) he speakes sence. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 296 A third sort doubted all things, though plain sence. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 20 The rest to some faint meaning make pretence, But Sh[adwell] never deviates into sense. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1899) IV. 344 Hot-headed people that can't speak sense, hate to hear it. 1686 [ALLIX] *Dissert.* iv. in *Ratramnus' Body & Bl.* (1688) 68, I must needs say, that I cannot make sence of him, if he mean not as the French Translator hath rendered him. 1721 A. MALCOLM *Treat. Mus.* 538 This, to make any Sense, must signify that [etc.]. 1746 FRANCIS *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 190 Rather..Than write good Sense, and smart severely for't. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. § 8 That is a wholly barbarous use of the word..for it is not English, it is bad Greek, and it is worse sense. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* 264 In the first authentic editiou.. the words, I believe, ran, 'and a table of green fields', which has no sense. 1910 J. SARGEAUNT *Dryden's Poems* Introd. 23 This is the only reading that gives any sense. *Mod.* Now you are talking sense.

28. What is wise or reasonable. *There is no sense* (*in* doing something): it is unreasonable or useless (to do it). † *It is to* (*good*) *sense* (obs.), *it stands to sense* (colloq.): it is reasonable, it stands to reason.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 98 He [Cardinal Allen] was often wont to say, that seeing England was lost and gone from her ancient faith..it was to good sense that we and all their posterity should be punished. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 226 As there is sence in truth, and truth in vertue. *Ibid.* 438 Against all sence you doe importune her. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 73 There is no sense I should leave out this goodly vertue. 1847 EMILY BRONTË *Wuthering H.* ix, 'Aw sud more likker look for th' horse', he replied. 'It 'ud be tuh more sense'. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 54 The more fashionable..were distinguished for the smartness, not the sense of their conversation. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxi, There's a good deal o' sense in what you say, Mr. Massey. *Ibid.* xxiii, It stands to sense..as old Mr. Poyser, as is th' oldest man i' the room, should sit at top o' the table. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* iii. 65 'What's the sense o' wastin' canvas?'

29. [After F. *sens.*] A direction in which motion takes place. *rare.*

1797 SIR G. STAUNTON *Acc. Embassy* (1798) II. 5 Cords were attached to the canvas, with a contrivance to enable persons underneath to move it in any sense that was necessary. 1900 H. C. JONES *Theory Electrolytic Dissoc.* 61 If the reaction is reversible..then there will exist a force which tends to stop the original reaction, and to set up one in exactly the opposite sense.

IV. 30. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sense-consciousness, -impression, -knowledge, -organ, -perception*; objective, as *sense-pleaser; sense-bereaving, -confounding, -confusing, -ravishing* adjs.; instru-

mental, etc., as *sense-besotted, -bound, -distracted* adjs. Also sense-box *jocular*, the head; sense-carrier *Anglo-Irish*, one who expresses the collective opinion of a group or party.

1597 Drayton *Heroic Ep., Isabel to Mortimer* 29 Those *sence-bereauing stalkes That grow in shadie Proserpines darke walkes. 1647 C. Harvey *Schola Cordis* iv. 7 Poore, silly, simple, *sense-besotted soule. 1620 Quarles *Feast for Wormes* (1638) 13 His *sense-bound heart relents not. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* viii. 99 The coarse and sense-bound tribe who can appreciate nothing but what is palpable to sense and sight! 1808 E. S. Barrett *Miss-led General* 132 Spun from my own *sense-box. 1879 McCarthy *Own Times* I. xvi. 401 Thenceforward he was really the mouthpiece and the *sense-carrier of his party. 1887 Dowden *Shelley* I. vi. 247 Eliza..had..evidently been assigned the position of sense-carrier to the others. 1600 Tourneur *Trans. Metamorph.* xlvii, Amazed with *sence-confounding wretchednesse. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. I. viii, One *sense-confusing tumult. 1874 Reynolds *John Bapt.* iii. § 3. 201 The prophet's ordinary *sense-consciousness was suspended. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* III. (1632) 97 With that, in-rush the *sense-distracted Crew. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* I. iv. § 22 (1875) 69 The illusiveness of *sense-impressions. 1847 Lewes *Biog. Hist. Philos.* I. 111 The distinction between *sense-knowledge and reflective knowledge. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* (1855) 13 Brain and *sense-organs. 1868 N. Porter *Hum. Intellect* § 102 (1872) 119 We define *Sense-perception as that power of the intellect by which it gains the knowledge of material objects. 1600 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* I. xiv. I 5, When these *sence-pleasers haue come from any of their sports. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 266 The ayre is a compound of *sense-ravishing odours.

Sense (sens), *v.* Also 6–7 sence, 7 sens. [f. the sb.]

†**1.** *trans.* To perceive (an outward object) by the senses; also, to feel (pain). *Obs.*

1598 Rowlands *Betray. Christ* D j, Could sinnes-besotted, hell-path wrandrers, see The horrours on an out-cast wretch imposed, Or sence the inward worme that gnaweth me. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 129 They loved their lives, and sensed their pains as well as you. 1873 Will Carleton *Farm Ball.* 33 O God! if you want a man to sense the pains of hell, Before you pitch him in just keep him in heaven a spell!

b. To feel, be conscious of (an inward state, etc.).

1685 W. Adams *Dedham Pulpit* 86 The man that does duly sense his spiritual poverty. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1769) I. Ded. 6 Your books and philosophy..hinder you from ever sensing the irksomeness of solitude and indolence.

†**c.** To test, make trial of. *Obs.*

a 1688 Bunyan *Christ Compl. Saviour* Wks. 1852 I. 221/1 To sense smell and taste what saving is..is a rare thing kept close from most. *a* 1688 — *Expos. Gen.* iii. ibid. II. 431/1 She took Satan's arguments into consideration and sensed or tasted them; not by the word of God, but her own natural or rather sore-deluded fancy.

†**2.** To expound the sense or meaning of; to ascribe a meaning to; to take or understand in a particular sense. Also, to explain (*to be* something). *Obs.*

1623 Ailesbury *Serm.* 4 The first [exposition]..is Origens, who hath sensed the bodie to be the church. *a* 1631 Donne *Polydoron* (1650) 88 The word good fellow as it is now senced by the vulgar, imports a drunkard. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xx. 16 Some sense the text thus. 1687 Stillingfl. *Doctr. Trin. & Transubst.* II. 2, *Pr.* How doth it [sc. the Doctrine of the Trinity] appear? *P.* By the Scripture sensed by the Church. 1726 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 261 Dr. Clarke at first tried to reconcile his doctrine to that of the Church of England, by sensing the Articles.

3. To perceive, become aware of, 'feel' (something present, a fact, state of things, etc.) not by direct perception but more or less vaguely or instinctively. (Often app. a nonce-word, adopted by the writer to express a particular shade of meaning.)

1872 L. Oliphant *Let.* in *Life* (1891) 102 He 'senses' the least coldness towards himself, and it stops everything. 1885 Hornaday 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* xvii. 189 The herd sensed the danger and made off. 1904 M. Hewlett *Queen's Quair* I. vii. 102 Queen Mary watched her closely, sensing an enemy. 1904 S. E. White *Forest* iii. 28 You must travel three or four days from such a place before you sense the forest in its vastness.

4. To understand, comprehend, grasp, 'take in'. Chiefly *U. S.* and *dial.*

1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *To sense*, to comprehend; as, 'Do you sense that?' New England. 1885 Merriam in *Century Mag.* XXX. 832 He..got at the plans of the leaders, the temper of the crowd, sensed the whole situation. 1891 Hardy *Tess* xlviii, I cannot sense your meaning sometimes. 1893 E. D. Fawcett *Riddle of Universe* Proem 2 He should sense how this spectacle belittles the theology of his fellows.

5. *Philos.* To have a sense-perception of. Also *absol.*, to experience sensations.

1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* xxii. 218 Is he [the Sciolist] sure, that objects are not otherwise sensed by others, then they are by him? 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. ii. 81 All that we sense or experience are the outward actions and motions which proceed from them. 1884 [Laurie] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 91 But we did not then *perceive* extension or space as such, although it was *felt* in the very first breath which consciousness drew, and was afterwards *sensed*. 1904 Titchener tr. *Wundt's Physiol. Psychol.* I. 14 We may sense in dreams, or in a state of hallucination, as intensively as we sense under the operation of actual sensory stimuli. 1909 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 434 The impossible assumption that there are sensations which are not 'sensed'.

Hence **Sensed** *ppl. a.*, **Sensing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1647 tr. *Behmen's Clavis* § 218 Wherein the Naturall will separateth it selfe in its Center, into a sensing. 1656–63 Br. W. Lucy *Observ. Hobbes* 37 When we have discerned things by our senses, and the act of sensing (pardon that word *sensing*, it is unusuall, yet significant) is done. 1659 Heylin *Certamen Epist.* 6 It is another subject (the sensing of the word Puritan) that I am speaking of. 1884 [Laurie] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 26 The subject as Will..itself goes out and seizes the sensed object. 1906 Laurie *Synthetica* I. 18 The feeling of an object by a subject-being or entity and the re-flexion of it into its cosmic locus I call rudimentary sensing, or sensation.

Sense, obs. form of Cense *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], *sb.*[2], *v.*[2]

c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 77 In paiment of theire rentes, customes and senses. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Honour* I. vi. 54 The sonnes..are not sensed and reputed to be noble [F. *ne sont censez et reputez Nobles*]. 1657 W. Morice *Coena* Pref. 1 The Ministery, whose honor and maintenance I have ever sensed to be very much of the interest of Religion.

Sensed, *a.* [f. Sense *sb.* + -ed[2]. Cf. F. *sensé*, L. *sensātus*: see Sensate *a.*] Only with defining word (adj. or adv.).

1. Having a specified sense or meaning.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 147 b, This olde englishe *Distichon*, better sensed, then footed. 1624 H. Mason *New Art Lying* v. 90 They call it Equiuocall, because it is a double-sensed Proposition. 1670 Eachard *Contempt of Clergy* 10 The committing of such high and brave sens'd Poems to a School-boy. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 236 His words are wonderfully deep, Oft doubly sensed, asking interpreter.

†**2.** Having wits or senses. *Obs.*

1582 Hester *Secr. Phiorav.* I. xxii. 23 Feuer corrupteth also the sences, so that the sicke is not stable senced.

Senseful (se·nsfŭl), *a.* [f. Sense *sb.* + -ful.]

1. Full of sense or meaning; significant.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 997 And gave thee power (as Master) to impose Fit sense-full Names unto the Hoast that rowes In watery Regions. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. iv. 37 The Ladie hearkning to his sensefull speach, Found nothing that he said, vnmeet nor geason, Hauing oft seene it tryde, as he did teach. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 44 Not sharp enough to conceive at the first..a senseful and witty word. 1865 Card. Wiseman *Shaks.* 9 It is not like that of the printer, who, from a chaotic heap of seemingly unmeaning lead, draws out letter after letter, and so disposes them that they shall make senseful..lines.

†**2.** Intelligent. *Obs.*

1598 Marston *Pigmalion*, etc. Sat. iv. 70 Prometheus who celestiall fier Did steale from heauen, therewith to inspire Our earthly bodies with a sencefull minde. *c* 1700 Norris (J.), Men, otherwise senseful and ingenious, quote such things out of an author as would never pass in conversation.

Senseless (se·nslès), *a.* Forms: see Sense *sb.* Also *superl.* 6–7 sense-, sencelest. [f. Sense *sb.* + -less.]

1. Of persons, their bodies or organs: Destitute or deprived of sensation; physically insentient.

1557 Grimalde *Cicero's Death* in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 125 Popilius fiyeth, therwhyle: and, leauyng there The senslesse stock, a gryzely sight doth bear Vnto Antonius boord, with mischief fed. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 25, I would I were senselesse sir, that I might not feele your blowes. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 306 His cheekes must not be pinched by the bridle, least the skin grow sencelesse. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 37 And stifning cold benums her senseless limbs.

transf. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* II. ii. 67 One that among us was in company Felt his knees smitten with a senseless cold.

b. That is in a state of unconsciousness.

1583 Forman *Diary* (1849) 28, I was sensles eight howares. 1595 *Caxton's Blanchardyn* liv. 212 More to hasten on deathes speedy pace to this sencles olde man. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxxiii, I was almost senseless with terror. 1820 Byron *Juan* IV. xxx, Strange state of being! (for 'tis still to be) Senseless to feel, and with seal'd eyes to see. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 433 His wife..was carried senseless to her chamber. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 109 Where the poor fellow was lying senseless from his fall.

†**c.** Said of sleep, death, the grave, etc. *Obs.*

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 67 What harme can there be in death? which if it were not senselesse, might much rather be termed immortalitie, then death. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 343 With that, he stabbed himselfe into diuers places of his breast and throte, vntill those wounds..brought him to the senselesse gate of death. 1627 Bernard *Guide Grand-Jury* I. ii. 13 In another disease..the sicke are..surprized with a senselesse trance. *a* 1674 Traherne *Poet. Wks.* (1903) 71 Those joys and praises must repair To us, which 'tis a sin To bury in a senseless tomb.

d. Of things: Incapable of sensation or perception.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. ii. (1592) 123 What needest thou any more hereafter, to hunt after senseslesse Idoles? 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 205 Semed, the senceslesse yron did feare, Or to wrong holy eld did forbeare. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 496 Then senselesse Illium, Seeming to feele his blow, with flaming top Stoopes to his Base, and with a hideous crash Takes prisoner Pyrrhus eare. 1610 Tofte *Hon. Acad.* 15 Loue doth willing draw The hardest hearts and sencelest rocks of Epyr with great awe. 1720 A. Hill *Zaara* III. i. (near end), I stand, immoveable, like senseless marble! 1825 T. Hook *Sayings Ser.* II. *Passion & Princ.* viii. III. 105 As he reflected whither the senseless paper [a letter] was soon to be conveyed. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 165 The brutish winds..senseless, voiceless, inhuman Utter'd cry they hear not, in answers hollow reply not.

2. Destitute of mental sensibility, incapable of feeling or perception. Also, having no sense, feeling, or consciousness *of* something. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. iv. 4 b, Those that chokyng the light of nature, do of purpose make them selues senseslesse [F. *s'abrutissent*]. 1582 Petyt tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 50 b, Which is a signe not onelie of presumptious arrogancie, but also of senseless brutishnesse. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. i, Piero..is no nummed lord, Senseless of all true touch. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. i. 135, I am senseless of your Wrath. 1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xvii. 59 To draw Mars like a yong Hippolitus with an effeminate countenance..proceedeth of a sencelesse & ouercold a iudgement. 1680 Otway *Orphan* V. vii. 2068 Why wert thou Deaf to my Cries and senseless of my Pains. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 516 Not senseless of its charms. 1796 Coleridge *Lett.* (1895) 171 Your poor father is, I hope, almost senseless of this calamity. 1818 Shelley *Eugan. Hills* 36 Senseless is the breast, and cold, Which relenting love would fold.

†**b.** Unconscious *that.* *Obs.*

1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* V. xiii, As though he thought not on it, As he were senseless that it should forgoe him.

3. Of a person, etc.: Devoid of sense or intelligence, stupid, silly, foolish.

1565 Calfhill *Answ. Martiall's Treat. Cross* ii. 42 b, I think there is none so senslesse as yourselfe, but consters his words otherwise than you. 1580 Lupton *Siuquila* 55 Far more senselesse, than the senselest or brutest beast in the world. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, An honest senselesse dolt, A good poore foole. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 99 Will both churche and laitie be soe senclesse as not to disclaime against such a Nero. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. VIII. 400 His Lieutenant..being so senseless as to come upon the draw Bridge of the Castle to talk with them. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1737) IV. 47 To hold forth, and harangue the multitude,..wheresoever, and howsoever they could clock the senseless and unthinking rabble about them. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* V. iii. 36 What! Will you give up these bodies to be dragged At horses' heels, so that our hair should sweep The footsteps of the vain and senseless crowd. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxiv. 345 But when Eusebius asked her if she knew the man, she answered that she would not be so senseless as to accuse such men.

†**b.** quasi-*adv.* Unreasonably. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. i. 44 You are too sencelesse obstinate, my Lord, Too ceremonious, and traditionall.

4. Of actions, words, dispositions, etc.: Proceeding from lack of sense or intelligence, foolish. Also, without sense or meaning; unmeaning, meaningless, purposeless.

The two uses, related to different meanings of Sense *sb.*, are often blended; unequivocal examples of the sense 'meaningless' are rare.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded. § 1 What so they vnderstand not, they streight way deeme to be senceleese. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 3, D. Bridges hath written in your defence, a most senceless book. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 627 The Rabbines haue another as senselesse a dreame that Phineas was Elias. 1645 Ussher *Body Div.* (1647) 419 Which thing yet were senslesse to doubt of. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* II. § 86 Cheap senseless libels were scattered about the city. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 11 (1699) 16, I cannot but conclude there are other Creatures, as well as Munkeys, who, little wiser than they, destroy their young Ones by senseless fondness, and too much embracing. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 26 ¶ 10 Putting all my Force against the horrid and senseless Custom of Duels. 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 129 Cheerful music and senseless words. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 441 The senseless and dastardly wickedness of mixing noxious drugs with the food of a young girl whom he had no conceivable motive to injure. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 150 It is senseless to bring the Ptolemies into the line of Syrian kings. 1884 Brett in *Law Rep.* 14 Q.B.Div. 799 If that argument be true, the clause..was an absolutely futile and senseless one.

Senselessly (se·nslèsli), *adv.* [-ly[2].] In a senseless manner, foolishly, irrationally. Also, †in a senseless or unconscious condition.

1611 Cotgr., *Stupidement*, Sencelessly, dully. 1621 Sir W. Alexander in *Sidney's Arcadia* III. (1629) 332 He was lying downe senslesly on his sensleese friend. 1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind.* 7 And then most senselessly he [White] confounds the offices of command and obedience. 1742 Wesley *Jrnl.* 26 June, A drunken man..was so senselesly impertinent, that even his comrades were quite ashamed of him. 1860 Sala *Lady Chesterf.* Pref. 3 The most brilliant achievements of human genius have been impudently and senselessly caricatured.

Senselessness (se·nslèsnès). [-ness.]

1. Absence of or incapacity for feeling (physical or mental); insensibility, impassibility. Also, unconscious or insensible condition, as in sleep, coma, etc. Now *rare.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. iii. (1592) 302 Which cannot choose but happen to them which of pacience doo make a kinde of sencelesnesse. 1583 B. Googe *Let.* in *N. & Q.* Ser. III. 243 The people (exceptynge theyr blindnesse, or rather senselessnesse in relygyon) live in as goodd order as maye bee. 1601 Deacon & Walker *Answ. Darel* 36 Besides this sencelessnes of bodie: he foamed at the mouth like an Horse. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Miscell.* I. 173 He was brocht in to Jonet Sklataris hous in Cogare, heavilie diseasit with a senslesnes, that he knew not quhat was said or done to him. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 198 Using divers remedies respecting her senselessness, Head, Throat, and Brest, in so much that within 14 hours, she began to speak. 1697 Burghope *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 75 The true cause of this carelessness and neglect is a senselessness in religion. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* IX. 86 Unchecked by dull and selfish chastity, That virtue of the cheaply virtuous, Who pride themselves in senselessness and frost. 1822–9 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 602 [They] fall down instantly in a state of senselessness and apparent death. 1839 Bailey *Festus* (1848) 43 A swimming, swollen senselessness of soul.

†**b.** Absence of sense or appreciation *of* something. *Obs.*

1618 Townson in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* (1781) II. 422 Out of an humour of vain-glory or senselessness of his own estate. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* IV. II. 37 A hasty challenge ..was accepted with a horse laugh of brutal senselessness of danger.

2. Foolishness, irrationality.

1611 Cotgr., *Stupidité*, stupiditie, sencelesnesse. 1621

T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 48 It is a brutish stupiditie and sencelesseness, both in yong and old men, to promise to themselues to morrow. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. II. iii. 44 The senselesness of the tradition of the Crocodiles moving his upper Jaw, is plain from [etc.]. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xvi, He said something in praise of your eyes, did he? Blind puppy! Open their bleared lids and look on your own accursed senselessness! 1903 Morley *Gladstone* VIII. iii. (1905) II. 262 In a boundless coil of mischief pure senselessness will entangle you.

†Se·nsement. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5sensment, 6 sensyment, -iment, censement, sens(i)ament, sensement. [a. OF. *sensement*, pseudo-etymological spelling (as if f. *sens* Sense *sb.*) of **censement*, f. *cense-r* to give a decision: see -ment.] A decision, judgement.

1488 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. *11 Forsamekle as it is fundin be sensment of Parliament. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. v. 89 Mony sensymentis For Turnus schawis evident argumentis. 1567 Q. Mary in R. Keith *Hist. Aff. Scot.* (1734) 394 He wes acquite to oure Lawis, and be the Sensament of Parlament. 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) III. 28 Our Souerane Lord..thairfor be censement of this present Parliament, authorisis [etc.]. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 514 The said Sir James standis forfaltit be the sensiament of the Thre Estattis in Parliament. 1582–8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 37 As concerning the honor, I refer it to the sensement of the indifferent reedar. *Ibid.* 51.

Senser, obs. f. Censer *sb.*[1], var. Censer *sb.*[2]

Sensewalite, obs. form of Sensuality.

Senshalship, obs. form of Seneschalship.

‖Senshaw (sen∫ɔ̄). [prob. repr. Chinese *sien-sha* (*sien* thread, *sha* gauze).] A Chinese gauze-like silk fabric.

1848 S. W. Williams *Middle Kingd.* II. xv. 123 The common people wear pongee and senshaw, which they frequently dye in gambier to a dust or black color.

Sensiament, variant of Sensement *Obs.*

Sensibilitous, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Sensibility + -ous.] Cultivating 'sensibility'.

1811 Byron in *Mem. F. Hodgson* (1878) I. 177 But you are a sentimental and sensibilitous person, and will rhyme to the end of the chapter.

Sensibility (sensibi·lĭti). [ad. L. *sensibilitās* (*-tātem*), f. *sensibilis*: see Sensible *a.* and -ity. Cf. F. *sensibilité* (1314 in Hatz.-Darm.), Pr. *sensibilitee*, Sp. *sensibilidad*, Pg. *sensibilidade*, It. *sensibilità*, *sensibilitade*, *-tate*.

Rare until the middle of the 18th century.]

†**1. a.** *pl.* Sensible species; the emanations from bodies, which were supposed to be the cause of sensation. **b.** Capability of being perceived by the senses. *Obs. rare.*

a. 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. met. iv. (1868) 166 Philosophers þat hyȝten stoiciens þat wenden þat ymages & sensibilites [*sensus et imagines*] þat is to sein sensible ymaginacions.. weren inprentid in to soules fro bodies wiþ oute forþe.

b. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* I. 496 That's only good In their grosse braines, whose visibility And appetituall sensibility Lies open to their sence.

2. Power of sensation or perception; †the specific function of any of the organs of sense (*obs.*). Now often, the (greater or less) readiness of an organ or tissue to respond to sensory stimuli; sensitiveness.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xci. 97 Þe sensibilitez of þe Eres er harkenyng of souns. *Ibid.* xcii. 97 Þe sensibilyte of þe tonge ys by way of tastynge & sauour. 1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* III. 5687 Comparysownyd..To a sowle þat were vegetable, þe whiche, with-oute sensibilite Mynystreth lyf in herbe, flour, and tre. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 52 The sinewes which make sensibilitie, the rootes of whom are in the braine. 1769 Cook *1st Voy.* I. iv. in Hawkesworth *Voy.* (1773) II. 51 Having now been exposed to the cold and the snow near an hour and an half, some of the rest began to lose their sensibility. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 557 The great sensibility of their [children's] organs. 1794 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xxvi. (1819) 431 An increased, no less than an impaired sensibility, induces a state of disease and suffering. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 523 The anatomically non-corresponding points of the two eyes may be possessed of equal sensibility. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 16 Sensibility resides in the nervous system. 1875 W. S. Watson *Dis. Nose* 21 Common sensation or tactile sensibility. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 350/1 A more than normal sensibility in the retina is an inconvenience.

b. *Philos.* Power or faculty of feeling, capacity of sensation and emotion as distinguished from cognition and will.

1838 [Haywood] tr. *Kant's Crit. Pure Reas.* 57 If we will term the receptivity of our mind for receiving representations..sensibility, so is..the faculty of itself bringing forth representations, or the Spontaneity of the cognition, the Understanding. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. 96 A man's body..is whatever is occupied by his will and his sensibility. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* iv. 59 Even though these pleasures are much diminished by..decay of his passive sensibilities. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* II. iii. 233 Our assertions must be based on the very nature of our own sensibility, and not on the nature of the objects affecting it.

†**3.** Mental perception, awareness *of* something.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 5009 Þei erren foule & goon out of þe wey; Of trouth haue þei scant sensibilite. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 57 That he said unto the Queen, with some sensibility of the Spanish designs on France: Madam, I beseech you be content not to fear [etc.].

4. Emotional consciousness; glad or sorrowful, grateful or resentful recognition of a person's conduct, or of a fact or a condition of things.

1751 Orrery *Rem. Swift* iii. (ed. 5) 21 The treatment was thought injurious, and Swift expressed his sensibility of it in a short, but satyrical copy of verses entitled *The Discovery*. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 83, I am very sensible..of your friendship.., and that sensibility constitutes..my happiness. 1776 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 1 Apr., I was on Saturday at Mrs. Montague's, who expressed great sensibility of your loss. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 250, I expressed my sensibility of his many marks of favour to myself. 1790 Duchᵉ *Discourses* II. xvii. 363 A sensibility of our own weakness. 1818 Lady Charleville in Lady Morgan *Passages Autobiog.* (1859) 244, I will only speak of my real sensibility of Sir Charles's kind politeness.

†**b.** *pl.* A person's feelings of gratitude. *Obs.*

1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) IV. xxii. 168, I cannot speak my grateful sensibilities.

†**c.** A mark of appreciation or consideration; a delicate attention. *Obs.*

1795 Sir J. Dalrymple *Let. to Admiralty* 9 Every sensibility that we can shew to our brave Officers and Seamen.. is too little for what they do for us.

5. Quickness and acuteness of apprehension or feeling; the quality of being easily and strongly affected by emotional influences; sensitiveness. Also, with const., sensitiveness *to*, keen sense *of* something.

1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 231 ¶ 7 Modesty..is a kind of quick and delicate Feeling in the Soul..It is such an exquisite Sensibility, as warns a woman to shun the first Appearance of every thing which is hurtful. 1741 Hume *Ess.* i. 2 There is a certain Delicacy of Passion, to which some People are subject, that makes them extremely sensible to all the Accidents of Life...And when a Person, that has this Sensibility of Temper, meets with any Misfortune, his Sorrow or Resentment takes intire Possession of him. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Introd. (1759) 34 It frequently happens that a very poor judge, merely by force of a greater complexional sensibility, is more affected by a very poor piece, than the best judge by the most perfect. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Philips* Wks. 1787 IV. 197 He had great sensibility of censure. 1794 Godwin *Cal. Williams* 101 My life has been spent in the keenest and most uninterrmitted sensibility to reputation. 1799 Sickelmore *Agnes & Leonora* II. 9 Her feelings, which had been so acutely wounded..as almost to hurry sensibility to madness, now assailed her with renovated force. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 655 A man's sensibility to pecuniary influence. 1810 W. Wilson *Hist. Dissent. Churches* III. 50 He discovered great sensibility and grief on this occasion. 1815 Jane Austen *Emma* II. vi, More acute sensibility to fine sounds than to my feelings. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. I. ix. 192 That trembling sensibility which is awake to every change and every modification of its ever-varying impressions. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* I. 203, I have often remarked this sensibility of the common people of Spain to the charms of natural objects. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. § 6. iii. § 4. 410 A sensibility to colour..being very different from a sensibility to form. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 197 From Charles neither the remains of his mother nor those of his grandfather could draw any sign of sensibility. 1874 Sherman *Mem.* (1875) II. xxiv. 395, I would define true courage to be a perfect sensibility of the measure of danger, and a mental willingness to incur it.

b. *pl.* Emotional capacities; †instincts of liking or aversion.

1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 36 It is fitting that reason convince our Sensibilities, causing us to agree to what is otherwise distasteful unto us. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii. 111 Something intensely human, narrow, and definite pierces to the seat of our sensibilities more readily than huge occurrences and catastrophes. 1892 Bierce *In Midst of Life* 109 Doubtless this feeling was due to his unusually acute sensibilities—his keen sense of the beautiful, which these hideous things outraged.

c. *sing.* and *pl.* Liability to feel offended or hurt by unkindness or lack of respect; susceptibilities.

1769 Gray in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 85, I wish he would not give too much way to his own sensibilities, and still less (in this case) to the sensibilities of other people. 1778 Laurens in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 203 The Count's sensibility was much wounded. 1806–7 J. Bernsford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VII. xli, Grating the sensibility, the prepossessions..of the person to whom you are speaking, by some unguarded words. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, II. I. (1857) I. 156 The sensibilities of a commercial people.

6. In the 18th and early 19th c. (afterwards somewhat *rarely*): Capacity for refined emotion; delicate sensitiveness of taste; also, readiness to feel compassion for suffering, and to be moved by the pathetic in literature or art.

1756–82 Warton *Ess. Pope* I. v. 262 The force of the repetition of the significant epithet 'foreign', need not be pointed out to any reader of sensibility. 1762 Cowper *To Miss Macartney* 68 Oh! grant, kind heav'n, to me, Long as I draw ethereal air, Sweet Sensibility. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ., Bourbonnois*, Dear sensibility! source unexhausted of all that's precious in our joys, or costly in our sorrows! 1809 Byron *To Romance* v, Where Affectation holds her seat, And sickly Sensibility. 1827 Carlyle *Richter* Misc. I. 12 Unless seasoned and purified by humour, sensibility is apt to run wild. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* III. v. (1850) I. 402 Those monuments of Oriental magnificence, whose light, aërial forms still survive after the lapse of ages, the admiration of every traveller of sensibility and taste. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxii, This lady had the keenest and finest sensibility, and how could she be indifferent when she heard Mozart?

7. (*transf.* from 2.) Of plants and their organs, also of instruments (esp. a balance, magnetic needle, etc.) or other inorganic objects: Aptness to be affected by external influences; sensitiveness. Const. *to* (rarely *of*).

1662 Sir S. Tuke *Adv. Five Hours* I. 6 Your Story (I confess) is strangely moving; Yet if you could my Fortune weigh with yours, In scales of equal Sensibility, You would not change your Sufferings, for mine. 1783 Cullum in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 417 As the two last are solstitial, and rather delicate plants, I wondered the less at their sensibility. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 184 Mortar made up with salt-water, might equally discover its sensibility of moisture. 1825 Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 42 Thus a receptacle is given to the fluid [mercury], which would otherwise disturb the centrifugal force and impair the sensibility of the instrument. 1841 R. Hunt *Art Photogr.* 3 The want of sensibility in the preparation..rendered it necessary that the prepared plate should be exposed..from seven to twelve hours. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1870) 21 The sensibility of the [magnetic] needle. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 431 Qualities of a balance:..Sensibility...The definite measure of the sensibility is the angle through which the beam is deflected by a stated difference between the loads in the pans. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 193 Here then we have a case of specialized sensibility, like that of the glands of Drosera. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 877 The differing sensibility of leaves to variations of temperature on the one hand, and to variations in the intensity of light on the other.

Sensibilize (se·nsibilai·z), *v.* [f. late L. *sensibil-is* Sensible + -ize, after F. *sensibiliser*.] *trans.* To render sensitive. Hence **Se·nsibili·zing** *ppl. a.*; **Se·nsibili·zer.** *a. Phys.* (see quot. 1900); **b.** *Photogr.* = Sensitizer.

1900 *Lancet* 25 Aug. 564/2 To this specific body [a certain substance in the serum of an immunized animal] M. Bordet gave the name of 'sensibiliser', because it renders the blood-disc or the specific micro-organism susceptible to the attack of the normally present hæmolytic ferment. 1904 *Knowledge* May 98/1 A sheet of silver bromide jelly to which a sensibiliser absorbing the yellow and green rays was added.

Sensible (se·nsĭb'l), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 4–6 sencyble, sensyble, 5 sensibill, -yll, censible, 6 sensybul, sensibil, 6–7 sencible, (sensable, 8 senceible). [a. F. *sensible*, ad. late L. *sensibilis*, f. *sens-* (:—**sentt-*), ppl. stem of *sentīre* to perceive, feel: see -ible. Cf. Sp. *sensible*, Pg. *sensivel*, It. *sensibile*.]

A. *adj.*

I. That can be felt or perceived.

1. Perceptible by the senses. (In *Philos.*, opposed to Intelligible 3: in this use now *rare*.)

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 165 For it [intelligence] knoweþ þe vniuersite of resoun and þe figure of þe ymaginacioun and þe sensible material conseiued. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 302 Cristis religion tellip lityl bi siche sensible habitis [of religious orders], but now takip oon & now an oþer as dide crist on good fryday. *Ibid.* 341 Iche good sensible dede þat we don..may be callid a sacrament. 1434–5 Misyn *Fire of Love* 2 When I felt fyrst my hert wax warme, and treuly, not ymagynyngly, bot als it wer with sensibyll fyer, byrned. 1534 [see Intelligible 3]. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 165 The gudnes of God (wych only therby mouyd made thys sensybul world). 1631 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 7 Fixed are the starres of the firmament, whose motion is not sensible. 1638 [see Intelligible 3]. 1670 R. Coke *Disc. Trade* Ded., Carnal copulation, killing another, and taking from another, are sensible Actions, and cannot be defined: but Murder, Justice, Adultery, Theft, &c. may be defined..but can never be perceived by the senses. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. ii. § 1 The Use then of Words is to be sensible Marks of Ideas. 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. iv. 271 By sensible objects, I mean those objects which the understanding has a perception of by the mediation of the senses. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments* (1735) 261 Taste and other sensible Qualities. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 2 The other sensible appearances of earths. 1805 T. Weaver tr. *Werner's Ext. Charac. Fossils* 1 External characters..are also called Sensible Characters, the use of our senses being sufficient for their discovery. 1805 Wordsw. *Prel.* XIV. 106 In a world of life they live By sensible impressions not enthralled. 1851 Westcott *Introd. Study Gosp.* vi. (ed. 5) 333 St. Matthew alone notices..the earthquake, the sensible ministry of the divine messenger. 1865 Grote *Plato* I. i. 20 Some primordial and fundamental nature, by and out of which the sensible universe was built up and produced. 1880 J. Milne in *Trans. Seismol. Soc. Japan* I. II. 53 The earthquake of which we write had certainly a radius over which it was sensible of 120 miles.

b. Const. *to.*

1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. i. 36 Art thou not, fatall Vision, sensible To feeling, as to sight? or art thou but A Dagger of the Minde. 1733 Arbuthnot *Ess. Effects Air* I. 1 Air is sensible to the Touch by its Motion, and by its Resistance to Bodies moved in it. *a* 1834 H. Reed *Lect. Eng. Lit.* i. (1878) 36 All of earth and sky that..is sensible to us.

c. Specific collocations in scientific use. *Sensible horizon*: see Horizon 1. *Sensible heat* (†*caloric*): used in contradistinction to *latent heat*: see Heat *sb.* 2c. *Sensible perspiration*: sweat as distinguished from the emission of vapour through the pores.

1642 Sensible horizon [see Rational *a.* 5 b]. 1764 J. Ferguson *Lect.* 156 The sensible horizon is that circle.. where the heaven and earth seem to meet. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 335 The sensible caloric of adjacent bodies is incessantly employed in maintaining each others equilibrium of temperature. 1830 Knox tr. *Béclard's Anat.* 152 The cutaneous perspiration, whether sensible or insensible, is to be considered as one of the most important secretions of the organic structure. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 444 Heat..perceived by the touch and measured by the thermometer, which is called sensible heat.

†**d.** Of or pertaining to the senses or sensation.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. i. 57, I might not this beleeue Without the sensible and true auouch Of mine owne eyes. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. ii. § 3 (1622) 200 As it is in naturall appetites: so is it, in sensible appetites too. 1793 Beddoes *Math. Evid.* 7, I will subjoin an instance which perhaps may give the reader an idea how the pronouns arise, and what is their primary sensible signification.

†e. quasi-*adv.* Perceptibly. *Obs.*

1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 167 Although his childe did neuer crie, so that it did sensible breath or moue.

2. Perceptible by the mind or the inward feelings.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 100 This waie is so well, as I perceiue no sensible fault in it. 1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos.* Biog. 11 He affirms that it bears sensible marks of its Newness. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Pref. 13 The visible and sensible connexion of sacred and profane history. 1782 J. Brown *View Nat. & Rev. Relig.* v. v. 498 Sensible assurance of God's love. 1854 C. Hodge *Comm. Rom.* vii. 201 Conversion is a great change, sensible to him that experiences it, and visible to others. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* iv. 104 But the love of God does not mean..the sensible love which we feel towards human friends.

3. Easy to perceive, evident.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 319 Their smart being more sensible to others eyes, then to their owne feeling. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 2. 166 In some musick there is to be noted a manifest loose effeminatenesse: and the experience is so sensible, that it were superfluous to proceed any farther in proofe. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Sensible*, easily felt or perceiued. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. v. § 8 These are too sensible proofs to be doubted. 1692 — *Let. to Molyneux* Lett. (1708) 10 We had here..a very sensible earthquake. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VI. vii. 78 In this present Evil World, it is no Wonder that the Operations of the Evil Angels are more sensible than of the Good ones. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. v. 125 Under the more immediate, or if such an expression may be used, the more sensible government of God. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 57 It..is most of all sensible and apparent in a new country. 1816 P. Cleaveland *Min.* 539 It yields a white smoke and a very sensible odor of garlic. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* vi. (1833) 142 A tremulous and perfectly transparent vapour was particularly sensible and profuse. 1853 Phillips *Rivers Yorks.* v. 150 The warming influence of the sea air begins to be very sensible in October.

4. Large enough to be perceived or to be worth considering; appreciable, considerable. Now only of immaterial things (as quantities, magnitudes, etc.).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cv. (1495) 849 And though a moughte be a sencyble beest: yet he hydeth hymselfe wythin the clothe that vneth he is seen. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* IV. xx. (1588) 619 If our Gaoles in Englande were more often swept and emptied, I doubt not, but that wee also should finde a sensible profite to arise thereby. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. vii. 196 We could discover no sensible difference in weight. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 116 A very sensible Distance Eastward. 1792 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) III. 340 You will perceive that the Indian War calls for sensible exertions. 1825 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.*, etc. XVIII. 398 It re-dissolves, especially if the muriatic acid added be in sensible excess. 1843 Portlock *Geol.* 215 Both contain a sensible amount of Strontian. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. I. 4 A fine mud, composed of particles of sensible magnitude. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 33/2 Epicycloidal cams described as follows..may be used without any sensible error. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* III. xv. 436 [It will] effect a sensible reduction in these figures.

†**5.** Of discourse, etc.: Easily understood; suited to make a strong impression on the mind; striking, effective. *Obs.*

c 1530 Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 42 To be techars of goddes worde in suche maner as maye be moste sensible and accepte to their audience. 1558 Bonner in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 2041/1 It doth appeare vnto me thou art of a good memorie & of a very sensible talke, but something ouerhastie. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 100 He..therefore imployed thereunto a fitte, sensible, and canlme kinde of speaking and writing. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 219 b, That as her wordes did paint out her minde, so they serued as a shadow, to make the picture more liuely and sensible. 1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exp.* To Rdr., Wherefore he judges it an Undertaking worthy of his great Mind to confront with the most Accurate, and sensible Experiments, the force of their Assertions. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 22 If such a Tube be bent, the Experiment will be much more sensible. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 40 The ideas, therefore, of poetry, must needs make the most sensible impression, when the affections, peculiar to them, are already excited by the music.

quasi-*adv.* 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 68, I shall endeavour to explain my meaning a little more sensible by a Scheme.

†**6.** Such as is acutely felt; markedly painful or pleasurable. Const. *to. Obs.*

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1678 My woe too sencible thy passion maketh More feeling painfull. 1598 Yong *Diana* 63, I felt so sensible griefe, to see my selfe forgotten of him, who had so great reason to loue me, and whom I did loue so much. 1640 tr. *Verdert's Rom. of Rom.* III. ix. 34 The fall of this young Prince..was so sensible to the Emperour, that had he not feared the anger of Brustafard..the Jousts had been at an end. 1665 Terry *Voy. E. India* iv. 122 Scorpions.. whose stinging is most sensible, and deadly. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 136 This very sensible mortification transported him so much, that [etc.]. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 184 His..death proved very sensible to the languishing King. 1781 J. Moore *View Soc. It.* (1790) II. lvii. 248 [The King] can inflict a punishment highly sensible to them, by not inviting them to the amusements of the Court. 1796 Pegge *Anonym.* 445 The circumambient air, when a man is so hot within, is very sensible to him, and..makes him chill, and liable to colds. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* ix. The time and place prevented his receiving.. more sensible marks of his master's resentment.

II. Capable of feeling or perceiving.

7. Endowed with the faculty of sensation. †**a.** Of living beings, their nature or mode of existence.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 166 A man is ymaginable and sensible. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXXI. xi. II. 423 That spunges have life, yea and a sensible life, I have prooved heretofore. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 536 A tree.. hauing..on each side of the leafe, as it were, two feete with which (as if it had bin mouing and sensible) it would stirre and go vp and down. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. 1. i. 528 Loue..extends and shewes it selfe in vegitall and sensible creatures. *a* 1676 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 39 That Sensible Natures should enjoy a life of Sense. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. i. § 1 It is the Understanding that sets Man above the rest of sensible Beings. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 79 Can it be possible for any sensible Beings to endure that Intensity of Cold, and live?

b. of organs, tissues, or parts of the body.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 24 From þe brayn comen .vij. peire cordes & þei ben clepid sensible senewis. *Ibid.* 28 þe skyn..is maad of smale þredis of veynes, senewis, & arteries, þat makiþ him censible, & 3euеþ him li3f & worchinge. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* xcvii. 38 A tothe is a sencyble bone, the whiche beynge in a lyvyng mans heade hath felynge. 1831 Youatt *Horse* (1843) 378 Between the coffin-bone and the horny sole is situated the sensible sole. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 234 The pain is of a sharper kind on those sensible parts of the body included in the circuit, which are on the negative side of the pile. 1850 Scoresby *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* v. (1859) 69 Outside of the sensible skin.

†**c.** *Sensible virtue, wit*, later *sensible faculty, capacity*: faculty of sensation. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xii. (1495) 55 The vertue sensyble that meuyth is departed on thre, One partye hyghte Naturalis, and the other Vitalis, and the other Animalis. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 716 Whiche vertu namyd ys sensible, And is, as y reherse kan, Yove to beste and eke to man. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. vi. § 2 Beasts are in sensible capacitie as ripe euen as men themselues, perhaps more ripe. *erroneous use.* *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2621 Wherfor wee must, with al our wit sensibill Such answers vs purvey, þat þey been insolibil.

†**8.** Having (more or less) acute power of sensation; sensitive. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 205 Whose blessed flesshe was moost tender sensible and lyuely. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. ii. 16 After the digestyve, ye must clense the place wyth a mundificatyve of syrupe of Roses, cheyfelye whan the aposteme is aboute very sensible places. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* II. xlvi. 299 The stomacke being easie and inclined to vomit, as hauing a verie sensible orifice. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 174 These Gentlemen, who are of such sensible and nimble Lungs, that they alwayes vse to laugh at nothing. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 54 An imposition which I cannot believe how he that values time, and his own studies, or is but of a sensible nostrill should be able to endure. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* 54 A Woman comes to me sorely afflicted a long time in all her limbs..; the woman I perceived was exceeding sensible, and in most grievous extremity cryed out. 1679 G. R. tr. *Boaistuau's Theat. World* II. 328 A Faggot burning hot, applyed to the most sensible parts about him. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 324 The Flesh at the Bottom of the Wound was very sensible. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* iii, Physicians tell us of a disorder, in which the whole body is so exquisitely sensible, that the slightest touch gives pain. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 45 Parts, which in the sound state have little or no sensibility, become exquisitely sensible in the inflamed. 1832 Brewster *Nat. Magic* ix. (1833) 229 The human ear is so extremely sensible as to be capable of appreciating sounds which arise from about twenty-four thousand vibrations in a second.

fig. phrase. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 14 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 44 Who have touch'd 'em in y^e^ sensible p^t^ by..making Scotch men Aliens. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) I. 416 And, to touch the King in a sensible point, he said, the covenant stuck so deep in their hearts, that no good could be done till that was rooted out. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 46 The dignity of the Directors was now touched in a most sensible part. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xv, He had alarmed his fears in a most sensible point.

†**b.** Liable to be quickly or acutely affected by (some object of sensation); sensitive *to* or *of*. *Obs.*

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 18 Yet his Hand, Not sensible of fire, remain'd vnscorch'd. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* II. 169 Dogs are well known to be very sensible of different tones in music. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. 1787 IV. 90 Extremely sensible of cold. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 52 The gum is often extremely sensible. *Ibid.* IV. 202 Albinoes..are painfully sensible to light.

9. Capable of or liable to mental emotion.

†**a.** Having sensibility; capable of delicate or tender feeling. *Obs.*

1675 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 13 A person of a tender, sensible and compassionate Temper. 1734 Watts *Relig. Juv.* (1789) 182 Preserve your Conscience always soft and sensible. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. vi, Thus his backwardness..wrought so violently on her sensible and tender heart, that she soon felt for him all those gentle sensations which are consistent with a virtuous and elevated female mind. 1760 Sterne *Serm.* III. 405 St. Peter certainly was of a warm and sensible nature.

†**b.** Sensitive; easily hurt or offended. *Obs.*

1759 Chesterf. *Lett.* IV. cccIv. 170 You will say..that if a person is born of a very sensible gloomy temper..they cannot help it. 1792 Gouv. Morris *Diary & Lett.* (1889) II. 3 These [titles] should be properly placed, you know, because monarchs are very *sensible* on that subject.

c. Sensitive or readily accessible *to* some specified emotional influence. Also const. *of*. Now *rare*.

1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1734, Johnson had, from his early youth, been sensible to the influence of female charms. 1845 Graves *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 738/2 The Roman mind seems to have been always sensible to the claims of justice. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 430 Work was to be done, however, which could be trusted to no man who reverenced law or was sensible of shame. *Ibid.* VI. II. 65 Even Sunderland, though not very sensible to shame, flinched from the infamy of public apostasy.

10. *transf.* Of material things or substances, esp. of instruments of measurement, as a balance, a thermometer: Readily affected by physical impressions or influences, sensitive. Const. *to*. Now *rare*.

Also in †*sensible plant, weed* = Sensitive *plant*, where the adj. has, strictly speaking, sense 8, the movements of the plant having been formerly regarded as evidence of real sensation.

1661 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxiv. (ed. 8) 231 Like the sensible plant, when the hand of flesh does touch it, she shrinks in all her leaves. 1678 Locke *Let. to Boyle* in Bourne *Life* (1876) I. 399 A very sensible hygrometer. 1684 R. Waller *Nat. Exper.* 5 The Third [thermometer]..is more sensible, and swifter near four times. 1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 58 Sensible Grass. It is so very sensible that..I have on horseback wrote my name with a rod in a spot of it which continued visible for some time. 1742 Burgess in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 4 The Antidote is, the Root of the Sensible Weed, as it is commonly called, or *Herba Sensitiva*. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 225 From the Sensible Plant to the scarce vegetable Moss, all are exquisitely adapted. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 372 This balance is sensible to the 1/100th part of a grain when loaded with 1000 grains in each pan. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxi. 330 This instrument [the galvanometer] is rendered much more sensible by neutralizing the effects of the earth's magnetism on the needle. 1835–41 Brande *Man. Chem.* 72 Nitrate of mercury is a prevaricating test, but very sensible to a variety of substances that may exist in mineral waters.

†**b.** Music. *Sensible note.* [tr. F. *note sensible.*] = *leading note* (see Leading *ppl. a.*). Cf. Sensitive. *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 521/1 This third major, which with the generator forms a semitone, has for that reason been called the sensible note, as introducing the generator. 1801 Busby *Dict. Mus.*, *Sensible*, the appellation given to the sharp seventh of any key. 1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 965 The first note..has the effect of that which our musicians call sensible. 1830 *Examiner* 340/2 (Review of Drouet's *Method of Flute-Playing*) [Condemns the term as not English].

III. Actually perceiving or feeling.

11. Cognizant, conscious, aware of something. Often with some tinge of emotional sense: Cognizant of something as a ground for pleasure or regret. Const. *of*, †*to*; also with *clause*. Now somewhat *rare*.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1566 Art þou ought, sone myn, sensible In whiche cas þat þou oghtest the for-bere, And in whiche nat? 1625 Bacon *Ess.*, *Great Place* (Arb.) 293 Be not too sensible, or too remembring, of thy Place, in Conuersation. *Ibid.*, *Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 481 Nay, it seemeth at this instant, they [the Spaniards] are sensible of this want of Natiues. 1662 J. Davies *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 200 The Birds, which were not yet sensible of the Cold,.. continued their Chirping and Singing till near the middle of December. 1666–7 Pepys *Diary* 14 Feb., Which shows how little we are sensible of the weight of the business upon us. 1676 Temple *Let. to Sir J. Williamson* 12 June, I went to Monsieur Mauregnault, and made him sensible, how all these Exceptions of the Resident were expresly provided against. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* (1697) 92 The learned Prophet Moses was sensible that the common and frequent eating of Flesh was very dangerous. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 309, I am sensible how long I have detain'd the Reader upon this Subject. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* June 1645, I think I was never sensible of so burning a heate as I was this season. 1700 Dryden *Sigism. & Guisc.* 270 The gloomy Sire, too sensible of Wrong To vent his Rage in Words. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 209, I am very sensible that I deserve none of those Favours. 1721 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* (1893) I. 452, I would have you then..try to make the wretch sensible of the truth of what I advance. 1739 Sheridan tr. *Persius' Sat.* iv. 63 You will soon be sensible how short your Abilities are. 1741–2 Challoner *Missionary Priests* (1803) II. 18 The catholics were made sensible that, however the persecution might in some measure be abated, it was not to cease. 1744 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Oxford* 13 Apr. (1893) II. 129 My health..is extremely good; I thank God I am sensible of no distemper or infirmity. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* 466 If these salts and oils actually fly off from it in such quantities, as to make us sensible of them by smell. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. iii, Cecilia, sensible of the truth of this speech,..now summoned her utmost courage to her aid. 1806 R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1807) II. 160, I was not sensible to the extent of my danger. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. 1. *Comm.* p. xxxvi, [Lucretius] sensible to the difficulty of the subject on which he is engaged. 1819 Byron *Juan* I. cli, That sublime of rascals, your attorney, Whom I see standing there, and looking sensible Of having play'd the fool. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Grace bef. Meat*, We may be gratefully sensible of the deliciousness of some kinds of food beyond others. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* ii, He was sensible that the alliance which he meditated might indeed be tolerated, but could not be approved, by his subjects. 1837 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* I. I. iii. 168, I am sensible that the mention of such a circumstance may appear trifling.

†**b.** Mindful *of* a person. *Obs.*

1643 Chas. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 309 The particuler persons whoe in this our extremity are soe sensible of us. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* Ded. 2 b, As we usually are more sensible of our enemyes than our friends.

12. Emotionally conscious; having a pleasurable, painful, grateful or resentful sense *of* something. In later use almost exclusively: Gratefully conscious *of* (kindness, etc.). Also const. *to* (? *obs.*), †*for*, and with *clause*.

1634 W. Tirwhyt *Balzac's Lett.* I. 26 They stood amazed to see a servant..Who was as sensible of the least evils of his country as of his proper sorrows. 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* 72 God seemeth to be more sensible of the injuries done unto his church and to his servants, then of the dishonor done unto himself. 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 74 His Pleasures require a larger Proportion of Excess and Variety, to render him sensible of them. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 166 P 8 He found that he was so very sensible of his Fault, and so sincerely repented of it. 1715 Hickes *Let. to Hearne* (MS. Rawl. Lett. I, 15) 75, I am as sensible & sorry for the great Loss of Mr. Urry, as any Friend he hath left behind him. 1778 Earl Carlisle in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 108 Lady Carlisle desires to be remembered to you; she is, indeed, very sensible of your goodness to us all. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxvi, He was sensible to the indignity of serving with his noblest peers under the banners of his own

vassal. 1831 — *Ct. Robt.* xvi, The creature seemed sensible of the clemency. 1856 CARLYLE *Let. to J. Knight* 19 Apr., Surely I am very sensible to the kindness of the President and Council in this matter. 1895 *N. Amer. Rev.* Aug. 149 They are always sensible to kindness and sympathy.

†b. Without const. *Obs.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 62, I kissed her, and she made me a courtesy for my condescension; and blushed, and seemed sensible all over.

13. Conscious, free from physical insensibility or delirium.

1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 283 The governor was not yet sensible. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 32 Where we saw Mr. Cozens..alive, and to Appearance sensible, but speechless. 1835 *Comic Almanack* (1870) 2 *Nurse.* Speak softly, Sir; my master's turning blue, He's not been sensible since last November. *Rig. Fun. (aside)* Nor ever was, that I can remember. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. vi, 'And now the doctor says he has not many hours to live.' 'I am sorry to hear it,' cried William. 'Is he sensible?' 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xiii, He's asking for you and is quiet and sensible.

IV. 14. Endowed with good sense; intelligent, reasonable, judicious.

Stigmatized by Johnson 1755 as used only 'in low conversation'. In some of the early instances the sense may perh. be rather 'capable of mental perception'.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* III. viii. (1886) 40 If they were sensible, they would saie to the divell: Whie should I hearken to you? 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 111 These (the more sensible they are with whom wee deale, and of greater capacity) the more vehemently may we enforce by all sorts of forcible arguments. 1596 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 151 'Twas a good sensible fellow. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 220 For the boxe of th'eare that the Prince gaue you, he gaue it like a rude Prince, and you tooke it like a sensible Lord. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xlvi. 85 In the Island of Seylon there are also great numbers [of Elephants], which are esteemed the best and sensiblest of all the worlde. *c* 1600 BACON *Elem. Com. Lawes* (1630) Pref. B 3 b, And that Ciuilians, States-men, Schollers, and other sensible men might not haue beene barred from them. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 130 ₱ 3 Sir Roger..knew several sensible People who believed these Gypsies now and then foretold very strange things. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 1 Sept., You will, I think, like Sir James Grey; he is very civil and good-humoured, and sensible. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxxi, My loveliest, my most sensible of girls. 1768 SIR P. FRANCIS *Let.* 26 Apr. *Mem.* (1867) I. 210 The woman..is honest and intelligent, or in the cant word, sensible. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 193 A moral, sensible, and well-bred man Will not affront me, and no other can. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 97 He was too sensible a man not to know that he might at some future time be called to a serious account by a parliament. 1860 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 184 It [a young female Gorilla] was tame, lively, sensible, and not near so noisy or dirty as a Chimpanzee. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 9 'They're all glad to get a husband; even the sensiblest of them', chuckled the farmer. 1885 O. W. HOLMES *Mortal Antipathy* iv. (1886) 65 No sensible person in Arrowhead village really believed in the evil eye.

b. Of action, behaviour, discourse, etc.: Marked by, exhibiting, or proceeding from good sense.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. xiii. (1662) 126 The manner of this Genius his sensible Converse. *a* 1699 TEMPLE *On Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 277 He had been a Soldier in the Cales Voyage..of which He gave me a sensible Account. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Sept., She has a sensible and penetrating countenance. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 362 A very sensible paper, on the use of lime. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Some Old Actors*, His rebuke to the knight and his sottish revellers, is sensible and spirited. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 221 *note*, The most sensible thing said in the House of Commons, on this subject, came from Sir William Coventry.

Comb. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath Veldt* (1899) 116 Oom Paul's mode of government is entirely unpopular amongst the more sensible-minded Dutch.

B. *absol.* and *sb.*

1. That which produces sensation; that which is perceptible; an object of sense, or of any one of the senses.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 269 This louely conformitie..betweene the sence and the sensible hath nature..most carefully obserued in all her owne workes. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* V. *Plato* IV. (1687) 160/2 In Sensibiles (saith Plato) neither magnitude nor quality is permanent. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* ix. 50 A blind man conceives not colours, but under the notion of some other sensible. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *London & Lacedem. Oracles* Wks. 1730 III. 131 By Phenomena's we understand Sensibles, which we oppose to Intelligibles. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 44 *note*, All the ancient theologists..affirmed that the soul was of a certain middle nature and condition between intelligibles and sensibles. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 54 Those..who think they can storm the Intelligible by the Sensible.

†**2.** A being that is capable of sensation. *Obs.*

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. (1677) 17 The Life that is in Vegetables..; the Life and Sense that is in Sensibles. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* Notes (1683) 33 This agrees to Plants as well as Sensibles, They are nourisht grow and live alike.

†**3.** The element (in a spiritual being) that is capable of feeling. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 278 Our torments also may in length of time Become our Elements,..our temper chang'd Into their temper; which must needs remove The sensible of pain.

4. One possessing good sense, a judicious person.

1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 323 The Sensibles are desired to confine theirs to Masquerades and Playhouses.

5. *The sensibles*, sensible views of things. *nonce-use.*

1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xli, After the sensitive age was past, and when the sensibles ought to reign,..he fell..into a violent passion of love for a beautiful Jewish maid barely turned seventeen.

Sensibleness (se·nsĭb'lnés). [f. SENSIBLE *a.* + -NESS.]

†**1.** The quality or state of being sensible or capable of sensation; sensibility; sensitiveness.

1628 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* R j b, Popie sede both taketh away the sensiblenes of the membres..and prouoketh to slepe. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 22/3 The yonge Chyrurgiane may knowe them by there sensiblenes, because they are verye dolorous and full of payne. 1656 W. MOUNTAGUE *Accompl. Woman* 124 Pain and sensiblenesse, are never in dead bodies. 17.. SHARP (J.), The sensibleness of the eye renders it subject to pain.

†**2.** Of speech: Intelligibility, impressiveness.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poet.* (Arb.) 69 Because with a playne sensiblenes, they might win credit of popular eares.

†**3.** Tenderness of feeling, sensibility. *Obs.*

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxxxv. (1649) II. 31 There lies a burden upon them too, to consider with a compassionate sensiblenesse, the grievances that oppresse the other part.

†**4.** The state or fact of being sensible or emotionally (esp. gratefully) conscious of something. Const. *of*; rarely with *clause*. *Obs.*

1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. late Popish Art.* Ded., All that remaines is by this, or some such like deed, to professe my sensiblenes of your great fauour. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. xii. 37 Blushing..not arising from guiltinesse..but..from sensiblenesse of disgrace. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 689 The fruit of these falls is..a deeper sensiblenesse wherein their security lies. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) II. 367 The first step to holiness and felicity, is sensibleness of our sin and misery.

†**5.** Perceptibility. *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. viii. (1712) 21 This absurdity cannot be excused from the sensibleness of Matter since the Atheist is forced to admit such things as fall not under Sense. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* V. (1848) 193 Bronze..may, from the weight and sensibleness of its colour, do extremely well.

6. The quality of being sensible or of having good sense; intelligence, sound judgement.

1888 *Spectator* 15 Sept. 1246/2 That quality of sensibleness which has made him a valued member of Conservative Cabinets.

Sensibly (se·nsĭbli), *adv.* Also 6 sensybly, sensiblie, senciblie, 6–7 sencibly; (uncontracted form: 7 sensiblely.). [f. SENSIBLE *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a manner perceptible to the senses; so far as can be perceived.

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. x. in *Anglia* VIII. 146/38 So grete froste þat..in þe holy chalys, while þe preste songe, wyne fros sensibly & sodeynly in to yce. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 H ij, Some parte of the medycament wyll flowe by lytel & lytel in to y^e^ artere sensibly and manyfestly. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 122 He is your brother Lords, sensibly fed Of that selfe blood that first gaue life to you. 1653 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 228 The maine pillars did bulge out, and sensiblely shake. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Ferrara* 114 From Venice to Ancona the Tide comes in very sensibly at its stated Periods. 1850 *Bohn's Hand-bk. Games* (1867) 561 If a ball is made to go to the brink of a pocket, and after sensibly standing still, should fall into it, the striker wins nothing. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 36 Lines drawn from various points on the Earth to Pollux would all appear sensibly parallel.

b. In an appreciable degree.

1675–6 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* No. 122. 522 The two Ingredients were easily mingled, and grew not only sensibly but considerably hot [in the palm of his hand]. 1728 tr. *Newton's Treat. Syst. World* 123 Though those rays are not able sensibly to move the gross substances in our parts. 1762 LD. KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xviii. § 4 (1774) II. 151 The pause also is sensibly affected by the position of the accent. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* (1823) IV. 358 At the end of two years, this currency, in consequence of enormous emissions, began sensibly to depreciate. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 278 The sea is said to be sensibly decreasing in size.

†**2.** a. With self-consciousness, consciously. b. Of feeling: Acutely, intensely. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 288 b, And than he begynneth to loue sensybly: and than first he feleth that he loueth God. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 176, I doe sensiblie feele all the superfluous humours (engendred by solitarinesse) consumed quite, and spent in mee. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 58. 296 No marvell then that they who..rashly thrust themselves into warre, be made sensibly to feele the smart of their folly. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 133 When he doth sensibly, and with heart-humiliation thus think, then hath he good thoughts of his own ways. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 114 It was now that I began sensibly to feel how much more happy this Life I now led was..than the wicked..Life I led all the past Part of my Days. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* VI. 110 As each thing to more perfection grows, It feels more sensibly both good and pain.

†**3.** So as to be easily understood or to impress the feelings; clearly, strikingly. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 226 Vnblameable affections, ..hath not their generation or issue, from the enticementes of Venerie, I meane (to speake more sensibly) from carnall pleasures. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1722) IV. Pref. 2, I know not whether I have met with any thing that has struck me more Sensibly, or made a quicker Impression upon my Spirit than a certain Reflexion which [etc.]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Dec. 1673, But the description..delighted me, so sensibly they spake of the excellent aire and climate in respect of our cloudy and splenetic country.

†b. So as to be keenly felt. *Obs.*

1655 J. JANE in *Nicholas Papers* (1892) II. 335 Never was the vanity of pretenders to wisdom and government more apparantly layed open to reproach..nor the people requited for their murmurings more sensibly then ours have beene.

4. With good sense, intelligently; judiciously, reasonably.

1755 JOHNSON, *Sensibly*, in low language, judiciously, reasonably. 1828–32 in WEBSTER s.v., The man converses very sensibly on all common topics. *Mod.* He behaved sensibly under the circumstances.

Comb. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Jan. 3/2 A sensibly-written book, which will serve a useful purpose.

†**Se·nsical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SENSE *sb.* + -ICAL.] Sensible.

1797 S. J. PRATT *Family Secrets* in *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 60 [Uses 'sensical' and 'sensate' for sensible]. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* I. iii. § 1. 75 With sensical and thoughtful men.

Sensifacient (se·nsifē·ʃĭent), *a.* [f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.* + -(I)FACIENT.] Producing sensation.

1879 HUXLEY *Sci. & Cult.* x. (1881) 257 The epithelium may be said to be receptive,..and the sensorium sensifacient. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 514 Sensifacient cells.

Sensiferous (sensi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.* + -FEROUS.] Conveying sensation.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. viii. (1713) 97 Besides, that the sensiferous impresses of motion through the eyes play under them. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 356 Two jointed sensiferous organs. 1879 HUXLEY *Sci. & Cult.* x. (1881) 246 On Sensation and the Unity of Structure of sensiferous Organs.

Sensific (sensi·fik), *a.* (and *sb.*) [ad. late L. *sensificus*, f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.*: see -IFIC.]

A. *adj.* Of nerves: Producing sensation.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 28 *marg.*, Hence sometimes a sensific power and sometimes a motory. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 800/2 Convulsion is not..an affection..of the sensific part of the nervous system.

B. *sb.* (or absol. use of adj.) Only in *pl.* = SIGNIFICS. 1896 [see SIGNIFICS].

Sensificatory, *a.* [f. late L. *sensificāre* SENSIFY *v.*: see -ORY 2.] Producing sensation.

1879 HUXLEY *Sci. & Cult.* x. (1881) 268 Each consists of a receptive, a transmissive, and a sensificatory portion.

Sensify (se·nsifəi), *v.* [ad. late L. *sensificāre*, f. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.*: see -IFY.] *trans.* To transform (physical changes) into sensation. Hence **Se·nsifying** *ppl. a.*

1678 J. BROWN *Disc. Wounds* 238 The Nerves are soon resolved and distended, the senses flagg, and the Sensifying Quality doth perish. 1881 W. M. WILLIAMS *Sci. in Short Chapters* (1882) 44 In such a world of intermediate activities the insect probably lives..with his minute eye-like ear-bag sensifying material movements that lie between our world of sounds and our other far-distant worlds of heat and light.

Sensigenous (sensi·dʒénəs), *a.* [f. SENSE *sb.* + -(I)GEN + -OUS.] Producing sensation.

1874 HUXLEY in *Nature* 3 Sept. 365/2 The sensation which has passed away leaves behind molecules of the brain competent to its reproduction—'sensigenous molecules' so to speak. 1879 — *Hume* ii. 73 The sensigenous object, and that masterful entity, the Ego.

Sensile (se·nsil, -əil), *a.* [ad. L. *sensil-is* endowed with sensation, f. *sens-, sentīre* to feel: see -ILE.] Capable of perception, sentient.

1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. II. *Comm.* p. xxxv, Plato.. taught that sensible beings are formed from sensile atoms. *Ibid.* II. VI. 904 Others with stench the sensile nostrils teaze. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 41 Different organic series, muscular, glandular, and sensile.

Sensine, obs. variant of SENSYNE.

Sensism (se·nsiz'm). *rare.* [f. SENSE *sb.* + -ISM.] **a.** Devotion to the things of sense, sensuality. **b.** *Philos.* = SENSATIONALISM.

1857 W. FLEMING *Voc. Philos.* 462 *Sensism*..is the doctrine that all our knowledge is derived originally from sense. *Ibid.* Sensism gives the single fact of sensation as sufficient to explain all mental phenomena. 1892 LILLY *Gt. Enigma* 74 Voluptuous sensism extracted from the purest idealism. 1903 W. TURNER *Hist. Philos.* 268 The denial of the universal means sensism.

Sensist (se·nsist). [f. SENSE *sb.* + -IST.] = SENSATIONALIST 1. Also *attrib.*

1874 MIVART in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 774 A wide divergence from the teaching of the last named writer has been introduced by his brother sensist, Mr. G. H. Lewes. *Ibid.* 786 The phenomena of Cosmical Evolution are presented by the sensist school in terms of matter and force. 1886 LOCKHART *Rosmini* I. 102 Wily agents were spreading the pernicious tenets of the Sensists.

Hence **Sensi·stic** *a.*

1882 T. DAVIDSON in *Fortn. Rev.* July 18 A sensistic philosophy, which, by circumscribing the natural powers of the mind within the narrowest limits, left indefinite room for authority.

†**Se·nsitie.** *Obs. rare*—1. [app. f. L. *sens-us* SENSE *sb.* + -ITY.] Sensation.

1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 180 Neither sensitie, facultie, nor appetite was amisse in him.

Sensitive (se·nsitiv), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: α. 5 sensitife, sensityf, 6 sensytyfe, sencitive, 7 sensetive, 5– sensitive. β. 6 censatyve, 6–8 sensative. [a. F. *sensitif, -ive* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *sensitivus*, irreg. f. L. *sens-*, ppl. stem of *sentīre* to feel. Cf. Sp., Pg., It. *sensitivo*. The β forms may possibly represent a med.L. **sensātivus*, related to *sensātio*, but it is not evident that *sensitive* and *sensative* were regarded as distinct words.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Having the function of sensation or sensuous perception.

Sensitive soul [med.L. *anima sensitiva*]: in scholastic philosophy, that one of the three kinds of 'soul' or of constituent parts of the soul which is concerned with sensation, and which is characteristic of animals; distinguished from the *vegetative soul*, which is common to animals with plants.

and from the *intellective soul*, which in rational animals (men) is superadded to the two others. Similarly *sensitive virtue* [*virtus sensitiva*], the faculty of sensation.

a. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4381 Þe faire florysche filds of floures & of herbys, Quare-of þe breth as of bawme blawis in oure noose, Þat ilk sensitife saule mast souorly delyte. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 698 God..Hath yove and graunted vnto man..Twoo maners of knowlychynge... The first..Called the vertu sensytif By which he feleth.. Thinges..Which to forn him be present. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 74 Tho same treuthis whiche outward sensityue wittis knowen. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxiv. (1880) II. 371 An other parte [*sc.* of the soul], wherin man doth participate with all other thynges lyuynge, which is called sensitife, by reason that therof the sensis do procede. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. x. (1592) 755 For there is the soule vegetatiue which worketh in plants. There is the soule sensitiue which..giueth life to brute beastes. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 109 Seeing, hearing, &c. are acts of the sensitiue powers. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xxv, That we term Soul sensitive, I'll call't form bestiall. 1653—*Antid. Ath.* I. viii. § 13 (1712) 24 Corporeal Matter is the proper Object of the sensitive Faculty. *a* 1714 ABP. SHARP *Serm.* Wks. 1754 IV. 142 The seat of the one is in the intellectual reasonable nature; the seat of the other is in the sensitive. 1732 POPE *Ess. on Man* i. Argt., To possess any of the sensitive faculties in a higher degree, would render him miserable. 1769–90 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* vii. (1876) 422 All arts have means within them of applying themselves with success both to the intellectual and sensitive part of our natures. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 327 The sensitive power of the iris. *a* 1806 BP. HORSLEY *Serm.* (1816) I. vii. 127 This spiritual sword of God's awful word..pierces to the very line of separation, as it were, of the sensitive and the intelligent principle. 1836 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 720 H/2 These are called sensitive nerves or nerves of common sensation. *a* 1881 BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 22 We may reasonably infer that of which we might be sensible..by a hypothetical extension of our sensitive powers.

β. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* ii. (1888) 19 From the brayne commeth vij payre of Nerues sensatiues. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 16 Salt is no enemie either to the vegetatiue, or sensatiue natures. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 288 In sleepe the sensatiue faculties are all at rest. 1656–63 BP. W. LUCY *Observ. Hobbes* 37 Yet there remains in the sensative memory that image, which represented the object at the first.

b. Of life, knowledge, perception (also formerly † of desires, feelings): Connected with the senses, sensuous. † Of objects: Perceptible by the senses.

α. 1530 RASTELL *Purg.* I. vi, The beest which hath a lyfe sensytyve. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. *Cosmogr.* Proheme 14 He that nold aganis his lustis strive But leifnis as beist of knawlege sensitive Eildis richt fast. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Fol. & Mor.* 4 Beeing for the most part led to iudge of matters onely by a Sensitiue apprehension they haue of them. 1633–55 CAPEL *Tentations* 11 Our sensitive love what follows the lower, and organical faculties of the soul. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. ii. 6 The sensitive pleasing of the body. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* III. xi. (1662) 461 The sensitive sinfull appetite and passion may prevail with the Will. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 7 The places of Scripture which testifie our Saviour's grief, sorrow, and fear: these passions being sensitive, do sufficiently convince that there was a sensual will in Christ. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 27 Hence it is that he so greedily prefers carnal before rational, and sensitive before spiritual Goods. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 5 Sensitive Knowledge reaching no farther than the Existence of Things actually present to our Senses, is yet much narrower than either of the former. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 40 Once, indeed, 'tis said, that he rejoiced; but then it was not with an outward, sensitive and tumultuous Joy. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 296 When a Plant becomes an Animal, it.. rises into a higher Station, by acquiring a Sensitive Life. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Priv. Th.* I. (1730) 104 By loving God, I do not understand that sensitive Affection I place upon material Objects. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 174 Our sensitive perception of objects. 1889 COURTNEY *Mill* 129 Beliefs..gathered out of the sensitive experience of his forefathers.

β. 1743 N. APPLETON *Serm.* 167 Our natural sensative Appetites and Desires.

† **c.** Of fever: Arising from sensation. *Obs.*

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. 391 Other new motions are then superadded, in consequence of sensation, which we shall call *febris sensitiva*, or sensitive fever. *Ibid.* 392 These sensitive fevers, like the irritative ones, resolve themselves into (etc.).

2. Of living beings: Endowed with the faculty of sensation. Formerly often: † 'Having sense or perception, but not reason' (J., 1755).

α. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 131 We wyll nowe therefore entreate of thynges sencitiue. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* v. iv. (1886) 78 Our bodies are visible, sensitive, and passive. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. Pref. I. 356 The natures as well in generall, as particularly in parts, of all living and sensitive creatures within the compasse of our knowledge. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. ii, As to those filthy Yahoos..I confess I never saw any sensitive being so detestable on all accounts. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. Pref. 5 Our fish,..our insects, and the various other sensitive productions of this kingdom. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* Introd. (1800) I. 2 The Deity when he formed it consulted for the happiness of his sensitive creation. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 382 It is only for beings vegetative and sensitive that Nature has created the fossil kingdom.

β. 1509 HAWES *Past. Plaas.* XXXV. (Percy Soc.) 112 By these twayne every thyng hath growynge; Bothe vegitatyfe and censatyve also, And also intellectyve.

3. Sensitive plant, † herb, † shrub, † tree, a shrub (*Mimosa pudica*, or *M. sensitiva*) possessing a high degree of irritability, causing the leaflets of the bipinnate leaves to fold together at the slightest touch (cf. HUMBLE-*plant*, SENSIBLE-*plant*); also applied with defining word to various plants possessing a similar quality, as † Bastard Sensitive plant (*Æschynomene americana*); False Sensitive plant (*Æ. hispida*); American Sensitive plant (*Cassia nictitans*), also called *Wild Sensitive plant* and *Sensitive Pea* (see PEA 3).

In the original use of this designation, the adj. belongs to sense 2 (not to sense 5); cf. SENSIBLE *a.* 10.

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* App. vii. 1599 This which I here call the sensitiue herb is..*Herba mimosa*, or the Mocking herbe. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 45 Thus the sensitive tree if ye touch one leaf the whole tree will quake. 1659 R. LOVELL *Herbal* 524 Sensitive plant, *Herba sensibilis*. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isl.* 64 A Sensitive-shrub valued at a very great rate. 1709 SWIFT & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 32 ¶ 2 She shrinks from the Touch like a Sensitive Plant. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Plant, Bastard sensitive, *Æschynomene*. 1782 COWPER *Poet, Oyster, & Sensit. Plant* 22 When, cry the botanists—and stare—Did plants call'd sensitive grow there? 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Plant* 1 A Sensitive Plant in a garden grew. 1821 BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 102 *Æschynomene hispida*. False-Sensitive-Plant. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 61 The American sensitive plant. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xi, So away we went..through broad-leaved grasses, and the pink balls of the sensitive-plants.

fig. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 139 Let but a single cloud darken the summer sky,..and the heart, that sensitive plant, shrinks instinctively at nature's warning.

b. Sensitive Brier, *Schrankia uncinata*. **Sensitive Fern,** *Onoclea sensibilis*.

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, Sensitive Fern. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 238 Sensitive Brier.

c. Of plants and their organs: Capable of responding to stimulation. Cf. 5.

1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* vii. 140 Some tentacles on the same leaf were more sensitive than others. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 191 A part or organ may be called sensitive, when its irritation excites movement in an adjoining part. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 729 The leaves of *Mimosa*..may again become sensitive when the temperature falls.

4. That feels quickly and acutely. **a.** In physical sense, of a living being, an animal organ or tissue: Having quick or intense perception or sensation. Also (const. *to*), Readily and acutely affected with pain or pleasure by some particular influence.

1849 LYELL *2nd Vis. U. S.* II. 175 When people have recovered from the yellow fever, the skin, although in other respects as sensitive as ever, is no longer affected by a musquito bite. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, Madame Defarge being sensitive to cold, was wrapped in fur. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 38 One effect of light upon the eye is to render it less sensitive. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 587 The tongue is one of the most sensitive of organs.

b. With reference to mental feelings: Having quick and acute sensibilities; easily touched to emotion, impressionable; easily wounded by unkindness; occasionally, ready to take offence, 'touchy'. Const. *to*, rarely *of*.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxix, That mournful impression,.. which the sensitive mind usually receives from a return to the haunts of childhood. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 72 The scenes of blood which followed shocked his sensitive nature. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. 215 They were the more sensitive to injuries and encroachments on their rights. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 84 His conscience, which, on occasions of little moment, was sufficiently sensitive. *a* 1859 *Ibid.* xxiv. V. 214 Torpid as Spain had become, there was still one point on which she was exquisitely sensitive. 1862 GROTE *Hist. Greece* V. II. lx. 288 Citizens, full of impressibility—sensitive and demonstrative Greeks. 1872 R. H. HUTTON *Theol. Ess.* i. (1888) 5 Sensitive to human emotions. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* II. vi. 163 A man of the most stainless and sensitive honour. 1888 H. S. HOLLAND *Christ or Eccl.* p. vii, Every educated man must be sensitive of the strain laid by miracle upon..scientific..methods of knowledge.

c. *spec.* Having the temperament that is receptive of hypnotic or other occult influences. Cf. B. 5.

1846 GREGORY *Abstr. Reichenbach's Res. Magnetism* 2 Healthy sensitive subjects..experience no inconvenience from the approach of magnets.

5. *transf.* Readily altered or affected by some influence specified or implied. Const. *to*, *of*.

1828 STEUART *Planter's G.* (ed. 2) 506 Oaks and Beeches, the plants of all others the most sensitive of drought! 1853 W. GREGORY *Inorg. Chem.* 254 Silver and all its compounds are very sensitive to sulphuretted hydrogen. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 689 Your life hangs on quinine, and.. it is most important to keep the system sensitive to it.

b. *Photogr.* Of paper or other prepared surface, of chemical substances, etc.: Susceptible to actinic influence.

1839 FOX TALBOT in *Philos. Mag.* XIV. 204 When a sheet of this, which I shall call *Sensitive Paper*, is placed in a dark chamber. 1839—in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* VIII. II. 3 A silver plate ..covered with a stratum of iodide of silver, which is sensitive to light. 1846 GREGORY *Abstr. Reichenbach's Res. Magnetism* 9 A very sensitive daguerreotype plate being prepared, was placed opposite to a magnet [etc.]. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 14 The sensitive plates, or films, are made to certain standard sizes. *Ibid.* 95 The paper is..very sensitive to all white light.

c. Of a scientific instrument of measurement: Indicating readily slight changes of condition, easily moved or affected by the external forces which it is constructed to detect or record.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 157 Determining the specific gravity by means of a sensitive hydrometer. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* I. § 8 (1870) 8 Had they..dipped sufficiently sensitive thermometers into the water..they would have found [etc.]. 1867—*Sound* VI. 243, I at one time intended to approach this subject of sensitive flames through a series of experiments, which [etc.]. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 349 Balances are made sensitive to the fraction of a grain. 1873–81 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 322 When the instrument is intended to indicate the existence of a feeble [electric] current, it is called a sensitive Galvanometer.

d. Of market-prices, stock, etc.: Having a tendency to fluctuate rapidly upon the publication of outside reports.

1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Pr.* I. xxi. 548 Such an article would be extremely sensitive to demand. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 12 We went also to the Gold Exchange, and gold happened to be 'very sensitive'..and would go up.

6. Music. *Sensitive note*: the leading note of a scale. Cf. SENSIBLE *a.* 10 b.

1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* (1892) 30 This 7th of the key is also frequently called the Sensitive-note. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 344 Modern harmony with..its constantly-present sensitive or leading note.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** A being that is capable of sensation. *Obs.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1053 Thynges created of God..ben elemented, vegetables and sensytyves, as ben all beestes. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvi. (1612) 316 The Sensitiues, as beastes, wormes, birdes, and fishes. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 230 The Mediator God-man doth exercise part of his Authority..even among brutes, and sensitives that cannot know him. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 28 In Mars..no vegetables or sensitives could subsist that we have any notion of, for want of Moisture.

† **2.** The faculty of sensation. *Obs.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1042 Of necessitie both the sensitive must be divided and goe with the sensible, and also the imaginative with the imaginable. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 74 Not onely the reasonable soule of man, but the sensitive of the least gnat.

† **b.** That which is capable of feeling (something specified). *Obs.*

1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 218 They rise to act their cruelties anew In my afflicted bosom, thus decreed The universal sensitive of pain, The wretched heir of evils not its own!

† **3.** *nonce-use.* One sensible of a favour. *Obs.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* b 8 b, An humble sensitive, Your Lordships Zealous and most humble Servant.

4. The Sensitive plant (see A. 3). [F. *la sensitive.*]

1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 87 The Sensitive..never opens its Leaves till some time after Sun-rising. 1893 STEVENSON *Isl. Nights' Entert., Beach of Falesá* iv, There are cocoa palms..and guavas and lots of sensitive.

fig. 1805 M. A. SHEE *Rhymes Art* 88 But arts, a tribe of sensitives, demand a hot-house culture.

5. *nonce-use.* One who is easily shocked.

1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* V. 143 This I am told it was which alarmed the Literary Sensitives.

6. One sensitive to spiritualist or other occult influences, a medium.

1850 ASHBURNER tr. *Reichenbach's Dynamics, Magnetism*, etc. 333 The most remarkable individual of all the healthy sensitives, whose perceptions exceeded those even of many diseased observers, in strength, distinctness, and duration, was..Josepha Zinkel. 1886 F. W. H. MYERS *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 63 Phenomena commonly attributed to 'spirits' (but many of which may perhaps be more safely ascribed to the automatic agency of the sensitive himself).

7. One in whom the sensitive faculty is highly developed. Also = SENSITIVIST.

1891 *Athenæum* 18 July 93/3 A new and active band of Dutch novelists who have thought it worth their while to take a fresh name—the Sensitives—the better to define their place in literature. 1907 J. LOBB *Talks with Dead* 59, I [Shakspere] was a man of extremes, a Sensitive, a term which embraces all the eccentricities of a soul tabernacled in clay. 1909 CHESTERTON *Thackeray* Introd. 31 He was a sublime emotional Englishman, who lived by atmosphere. He was a great sensitive.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1884 HAWEIS *Musical Mem.* iii. 94 New violins as a rule will take thicker strings than the fine old sensitives of the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries.

Sensitively (se·nsitivli), *adv.* [f. SENSITIVE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sensitive manner.

† **1.** Feelingly, tenderly; with the emotions as distinguished from the intellect. *Obs.*

1644 HAMMOND *Pract. Catech.* I. iii. (1646) 33 The sensitive faculty..may expresse its selfe more sensitively toward that inferiour object then toward God. 1673 BAXTER *Let. in Acc. Sherlocke* ii. 170 And thus God may be sensitively, or passionately loved, and must be.

2. With reference to feeling: Acutely, intensely.

1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. x, He was sensitively alive to the force of ridicule. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xliv. 1 To hear with the ears affects us more sensitively than to read with the eyes.

3. With delicate perception; also *transf.*

a 1881 ILLINGWORTH *Serm. College Chapel* 119 Never before..were the aspects and the processes of this natural world so curiously, sensitively, lovingly watched as now. 1881 HUXLEY in *Nature* 11 Aug. 346/1 A vast aggregate of molecular mechanisms,..sensitively adjusting themselves to every change in the surrounding world.

4. With pa. pple.: So as to be sensitive.

1897 MARY ALBERT *Diamond Shoe Buckles* 60 A delicate, sensitively-organized frame.

Sensitiveness (se·nsitivnės). [-NESS.]

1. The power or capacity of sensation. Also, with reference to plants: Capacity of responding to stimulation.

1828 BALLANTYNE *Exam. Hum. Mind* 427 In regard to sensitiveness many of the lower animals surpass man. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* vi. 212 She [Nature] has endowed these plants with, what must be called for want of a better term, sensitiveness. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 775 The sensitiveness of the leaves of Mimosa does not therefore depend on a change of growth caused by the irritation.

transf. 1848–9 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) IV. 284 Magic wires are stretching themselves in all directions over the earth, and when their mystic meshes shall have been..perfected, our globe itself will become endowed with sensitiveness.

2. Keen susceptibility to outward impressions, delicacy or keenness of feeling developed to an unusual or abnormal degree.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, In slow and solid natures there is usually..a sensitiveness to the breach of petty observances. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* v, But the minister's sensitiveness gave another interpretation to the gaze which he divined rather than saw. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Jan. 5/3 The new French Agent at Cairo..seems to be gifted with great diplomatic sensitiveness. 1908 *Athenæum* 21 Nov. 637/3 The analysis of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony..shows vivid sensitiveness to musical impressions.

b. Morbid self-consciousness, touchiness.

1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* x. (1857) 176 At last even sensitive people learn to suffer less from sensitiveness. 1881 EMMA J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xv, Sensitiveness, *per se*, is too often nothing but wounded vanity.

3. The quality or state of being easily affected by or of readily indicating changes of condition; *Photogr.* susceptibility to actinic influence. See SENSITIVE *a.* 5, 5 b, 5 c.

1839 FOX TALBOT in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* VIII. II. 5 The present degree of sensitiveness of the photogenic paper was stated to be as follows. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Depos.* (ed. 5) 387 Such is the sensitiveness of this test that five or six drops only of saccharine urine, diffused through water, is sufficient to show the effect. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xx. 336 An extreme degree of sensitiveness has been ascribed to the glacier as regards the changes of temperature. 1888 *Sci. Amer.* 25 Apr. 262/3 A sensitive plate showing a reading of 25 will be regarded as having an extreme degree of sensitiveness.

Sensitivism (se·nsitiviz'm). [f. SENSITIVE *a.* + -ISM.] The principles of the sensitivists.

1891 E. GOSSE *Introd. to Couperus' Footsteps of Fate* 14 For the peculiar quality which unites in one movement the varied elements of the school which I have attempted thus briefly to describe, the name Sensitivism has been invented by one of themselves, by Van Deyssel.

Sensitivist (se·nsitivist). [f. SENSITIVE *a.* + -IST.] The designation of a school of novelists in Holland, who aim at combining in their methods the valuable qualities of impressionism and realism.

1891 E. GOSSE *Introd. to Couperus' Footsteps of Fate* 5 The Dutch Sensitivists. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 557/1 They would be realists, or naturalists, or sensitivists, or heaven knows what.

Sensitivity (sensiti·vĭti). [f. SENSITIVE *a.* + -ITY. Cf. F. *sensitivité.*]

1. The quality of being sensitive, in various senses of the adj.

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 401 An eloquent exuberance characterizes the style of our author, and a sensitivity of imagination which makes even the minutest phænomenon appear important to his attention. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* IV. ii. § 5. 221 In the Vegetable World we behold the ..germ of individual Sensitivity. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* 57 Its sensitivity to such stimuli is..closely akin to the general organic irritability of protoplasm. 1882 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 703/1 The number of grades between the weights that any person can distinguish has to be found by trial, and that number becomes the measure of the coarseness of his sensitivity. 1904 TITCHENER tr. *Wundt's Physiol. Psychol.* I. 265 We find..symptoms of abrogation or diminution of cutaneous sensitivity upon the uninjured side of the body.

2. The activity and experience of the senses.

1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reas.* 75 Creatures whose whole being is entirely given up to sensitivity.

†Sensiti·vo-ra·tional, *a. Obs. rare.* Sensitive and rational.

Wollaston (*Relig. Nat.* 1722) uses the mod.L. form *sensitivo-rationalis.*

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 202 Man has been incompletely defined a rational animal; he is rather, to use Mr. Woolaston's words, sensitivo-rational. *Ibid.* II. 295 We are but sensitivo-rational creatures, having in our natures a spice of the angel and of the beast.

Sensitization (sensitəizē·ʃən). [f. SENSITIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The act or process of sensitizing.

1887 *Brit. Merc. Gaz.* 15 June 25/1 Experiments in sensitization of molecular masses of differential volumes, showing attraction, propulsion, and negation, will follow. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 559/2 The view of Bordet and the French school generally, that the action of immune body is what they describe as a sensitization.

Sensitize (se·nsitəiz), *v.* [f. SENSIT-IVE + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* (*Photogr.*) To render (a plate, film or paper) sensitive to the influence of light.

1856 R. F. BARNES *Dry Collodion Process* 31 The bath I employ for sensitizing dry plates. 1858 T. SUTTON *Dict. Photogr.* 12 Albumen..is not so sensitive as collodion..; but..it will keep longer when sensitized. 1865 *J. Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 153/1 Nitrate of silver..is the salt usually employed to sensitise the paper. 1879 LEAKE *Photogr.* in *Cassell's Tech. Educ.* IV. 323/2 A plate should now be coated with collodion in the tent, and sensitised in the usual manner.

2. To make (a person) sensitive (in various senses of the adj.).

1880 WINGFIELD *In Her Majesty's Keeping* I. 70 Education, while it sensitises a man's fibre, is incapable of turning weakness into strength. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 559/2 These bacteria are previously sensitized by union with a substance existing in the plasma.

Hence **Se·nsitized** *ppl. a.*; **Se·nsitizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1861 *Photogr. News Almn.* in *J. Wylde's Circ. Sci.* (1863) I. 160/2 A thirty-five grain nitrate bath,..is the best sensitising solution. 1864 ROSCOE in *Reader* 24 Sept. 386/3 It was necessary to construct an apparatus in which photographic sensitized paper could be exposed to the sunlight for definite times. 1877 MALLOCK *New Republic* III. iii. II. 50 Culture is..the sensitising of the mental palate—the making it a good taster. 1886 LOWELL *Harvard Anniv.* Wks. 1890 VI. 139 It is not their antiquity, but its association with man, that endows them [*sc.* ancient buildings] with such sensitizing potency.

Sensitizer (se·nsitəizəɹ). *Photogr.* [f. SENSITIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] A substance or preparation used for sensitizing.

1873 G. DAWSON *Hardwich's Man. Photogr.* 132 To apply the Ammonio-nitrate Sensitizer, the paper should not be floated on it. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 314 The addition to a sensitive film of certain coloring matters, which are known as optical sensitisers or selective sensitisers, renders the film sensitive to rays which would otherwise produce little or no photographic effect.

Sensitometer (sensitǫ·mĭtəɹ). *Photogr.* [f. SENSIT-IVE + *-ometer*: see -METER.] An instrument for ascertaining the degree of sensitiveness of photographic plates, films, etc. Also *attrib.*

1880 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* 3 Sept. 421/3 [Mr. Warnerke's] very useful 'sensitometer'. 1890 P. H. EMERSON *Naturalistic Photogr.* 159 The rapidity of plates can be measured by an instrument called a sensitometer. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 372 The lower grades of dry plates, that is, those of low sensitometer power.

Hence **Sensito·metry,** the determination of the degree of sensitiveness.

1907 SHEPPARD & MEES *Theory Photogr. Process* 276 Part III. The Sensitometry of Photographic Plates.

Sensitory (se·nsitŏri), *sb.* [f. L. *sens-, sentīre* to feel + *-it-* (after SENSITIVE) + -ORY[1].] = SENSORY *sb.* 1864 WEBSTER.

Se·nsitory, *a. rare*[−0]. [Formed as prec. + -ORY[2].] = SENSORY *a.* 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Sensive (se·nsiv), *a.* [a. OF. *sensif*, ad. Latin type **sensīvus*, f. *sens-, sentīre* to feel: see -IVE.]

1. Having the function of sensation or sensuous perception.

† *Sensive soul* = sensible or sensitive soul: see those adjs.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* Pref., Men of middle degree, like the sensiue soule shall attend to affaires and sciences more liberale. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VIII. 104 b, Galen sayth that for three principall endes Nature hath made such distribution of Nerues in the body. The first was to giue feelyng vnto the sensiue instrumentes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1598) 82 Palmes doe reioyce to be ioynd by the match of a male to a female, And shall sensiue things be so sencelesse as to resist sence? 1612 CHAPMAN *Rev. Busy d'Ambois* V. v. 134 Learnedst men hold that our sensiue spirits A little time abide about the graues Of their deceased bodies. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 13 The harmonizing together of our active powers, our sensive powers, and our various individual experience.

†**2.** Capable of sensation. *Obs.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii, The infection Which, as a subtle vapor, spreads it selfe, Confusedly, through euery sensiue part.

Sensize (se·nsəiz), *v.* [f. SENSE *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To perceive by means of the senses.

1862 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 284 What we sensise through the ear is simply the motion of the atmosphere.

Sensor (se·nsǫɹ), *a.* [irreg. shortened f. SENSORY, after *motor.*] = SENSORY.

1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xxi. 492 The transmission of intelligence through the sensor nerves. 1875 W. K. CLIFFORD *Lect.* (1879) II. 108 Various combinations of disturbances in the sensor tract are made to lead to the appropriate combinations of disturbances in the motor tract.

Sensor, obs. form of CENSER *sb.*[1], CENSOR.

Sensori- (se·nsŏri), used as combining form of SENSOR or SENSORY, chiefly in **sensori-motor** *a.*, applied to nerves which are both sensory and motor; also to reflex actions which arise from stimulation of the organs of sense. Similarly *sensori-digestive, -reflex, -volitional* adjs.

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 4 (1864) 263 This is the principle of sensori-motor, or sensori-reflex actions. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Sensori-volitional*, a term applied to nervous fibres which..are respectively concerned in sensation and volition. 1891 *Century Dict.* (citing A. S. Packard), Sensoridigestive. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 202 An ordinary sensorimotor nerve such as the sciatic.

Sensorial (sensǫ·rĭăl), *a.* [f. SENSORI-UM or SENSORY + -AL.] Of or relating to the sensorium. Also, relating to sensation or sensory impressions.

1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. I. iii. 56 If I can light upon any little hint which may do real service to somebody or other I care not thro' what channels it is conveyed; whether..by agitating the sensorial and motorial ether, or by beginning a succession of perceptions. 1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 41 The motion of light communicated to the nerve itself produces the sensorial affection. 1851 H. MAYO *Pop. Superst.* (ed. 2) 22 The most instructive case of sensorial illusions on record. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 108 This may form part of a sensory and sensorial hemianæsthesia.

†**b.** Pertaining to the brain as the centre of nervous energy; esp. in *sensorial power*, vital energy proceeding from the brain to the rest of the system. *Obs.*

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. 75 The sensorial power, or spirit of animation,..is perpetually renewed by the secretion or production of it in the brain and spinal marrow. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 292 The stream of nervous power, thus communicated by jets from the sensorial fountain. *Ibid.* IV. 502 The sensorial powers are those which are dependent on the sensorium or brain as their instrument or origin; and are three in number, the intellectual, the sensific, and the motory. 1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* II. 91/2 When there is a predisposition to epilepsy, a cause of either kind..may interrupt the equable transmission of the sensorial power by means of the nerves, and thus occasion a fit.

‖ **Sensori·olum.** *rare.* Pl. **-ola.** [mod.L. dim. of SENSORIUM.] A small sensorium: (*a*) (see quot. 1714); (*b*) a minute organ of sense.

1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 565 ₱ 8 Brutes and Men have their *Sensoriola*, or little *Sensoriums*, by which they apprehend the Presence and perceive the Actions of a few Objects, that lie contiguous to them. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 37 That it shall have the power of..expanding and relaxing..its sensoriola or papillæ.

‖ **Sensorium** (sensǫ·rĭŏm). Also 7–8 erron. **cens-.** [Late L. *sensōrium* (Boethius), f. *sens-*, ppl. stem of *sentīre* to feel: see -ORY.] The seat of sensation in the brain of man and other animals; the percipient centre to which sense-impressions are transmitted by the nerves. Also *common sensorium* (L. *sensorium commune*), †*first sensorium.* Formerly also used in a wider sense, for the brain as the organ of mind and the centre of nervous energy.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 139/2 For there is first a tactuall conjunction as it were of the representative rayes of every thing, with our sensorium before we know the things themselves. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 69 Spontaneous motion is performed by continuation of the Animal Spirits, from the common Sensorium to the Muscle. *c* 1688 TRYON *Dreams* ii. (1695) 15 When the first Censorium (which is called the Organ of the common Sense) is bound and obstructed with a soporiferous vapour. 1737 PORTERFIELD in *Med. Ess. Edin.* (ed. 2) III. 219 Which Agitation is communicated to the *Sensorium*, or that Part of our Brain in which our Mind does principally reside. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 1 Sensation and perception are by the means of nerves and a common sensorium. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* iv. 83 When the sensorium is strongly excited, the muscles of the body are generally thrown into violent action. 1879 CARPENTER *Mental Phys.* I. i. § 13. 15 That we are not always conscious of the working of this Mechanism, is simply because our Sensorium is otherwise engaged.

b. Used playfully in non-technical writing (sometimes for 'brain' or 'mind').

1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. x, The ringing of the bell, and the rap upon the door, struck likewise strong upon the sensorium of my uncle Toby. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxi, While these reflections passed like the stings of scorpions through Waverley's sensorium. 1842 CAMPBELL *Pilgr. Glencoe* 469 An artery in his wise sensorium burst. 1908 E. V. LUCAS *Over Bemerton's* iii. (1909) 21 There was, as it were, a veil between them and my sensorium.

c. *fig.*

1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 565 ₱ 8 The noblest and most exalted Way of considering this infinite Space is that of Sir Isaac Newton, who calls it the *Sensorium* of the Godhead. *a* 1861 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 595 Rome became the common sensorium of Europe, and through Rome all the several portions of Latin Europe sympathized and felt with each other. 1867 MACGREGOR *Voy. Alone* (1868) 24 The tiller, that delicate and true sensorium of a boat.

Sensory (se·nsŏri), *sb.* [ad. L. *sensōrium*: see prec. and -ORY[1].]

†**1.** An organ of sense. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 255 Visibles, and Audibles..doe languish and lessen by degrees, according to the Distance of the Obiects from the Sensories. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* V. 21 That we all have double Sensories, two Eyes, two Ears, two Nostrils, is an effectual Confutation of this Atheistical Sophism. 1714 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. iii. (ed. 2) 123 The Bone..serves..as a substantial Guard to the Sensory [of the Ear].

fig. 1681 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* I. iv. § 4 (1684) 317 These heavenly Graces are the Palate by which the immortal Mind tastes..its Heaven, the blessed Organs and Sensories by which it feels..the Joys of the World to come.

2. = SENSORIUM. Also *common* or †*first sensory.*

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 216 The irrigation of the brain, and of the first sensory, that is the obstruction of the common sense of the organs, indicates the Form. 1681 *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Sensory*, the organ of feeling, or of discriminating by the senses; the common sensory or seat of such organ, placed in the brain. 1689 NORRIS *Reas. & Relig.* II. ii. 188 These Species are carried by the external Senses to the common Sensory. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 78 ₱ 2 Uneasiness gives way by slow degrees, and is long before it quits its possession of the sensory. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlv. 294 The agent between the common sensory and the sense is the consciousness or perception of the impression. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 195 The general bustle and hilarity..break the sturdy chain of habit and association, and give leisure to the worn-out sensory to refresh itself. 1882 H. CALDERWOOD in *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 36 Three distinct cognitive faculties—the sensory, the understanding, and the reason.

Sensory (se·nsŏri), *a.* [ad. L. type *sensōrius*: see prec. and -ORY[2].] Belonging to sensation; carrying or transmitting sensation.

1749 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. 58 Sensory Vibrations. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 184 These nerves are equally motory and sensory. 1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 21 The sensory organs. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 279/1 The lower sensory ganglia, which receive all sensory impressions in the first instance. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 537 A dim and shadowy idea, when once it obtains a lodgment in the mind, may body itself forth as a sensory phantasm.

Sensour, obs. form of CENSOR, CENSURE.

Sensour(e, senssar, obs. ff. CENSER *sb.*[1]

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1565 Sum with sensours.. Quare-of be reke aromatike rase to be welken. 1546 *Suffolk. Powre Commons* 72 Sensoures, pixes, coopes. 1571 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* App. II. 97 For mendyng of ij sonssars.

Senssе, variant of CENSE *sb.*[1] *Obs.*, incense.
c 1450 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* E. 249 Gold, sensse, and myrre.

Senssour, obs. form of CENSER *sb.*[1]

Sensual (se·nsiu̯ăl, -ʃu̯ăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–7 sensuall, 5 sensuel. [ad. late L. *sensuālis*, f. L. *sensu-s* SENSE *sb.*: see -AL. Cf. F. *sensuel*, Sp., Pg. *sensual*, It. *sensuale*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the senses or physical sensation; sensory. Now *rare*.
c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3346 So kept he the seints in helle with out payne sensuel felyng. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 240 Thryes I tempte hym be ryth sotylle instawnce, Aftyr he fast fourty days ageyns sensual myth or reson. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* I. (1517) A ij b, Where through I myghte lese my sensuall intellygence, for he that procureth too knowe ouermoche..is in daunger for to be extraught from hymself [etc.]. *Ibid.* xviii. E iij b, It is impossyble yᵗ his sensuall wyt may comprehende, and haue so many dyuers cogytacyons in an instaunte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 151 The beestes..be made tame..: that is to say, the sensuall powers of man or woman, whiche by synne euer rebelled..be made obedyent to yᵉ spiryte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. xi. § 4 Man doth seeke a triple perfection, first, a sensuall,..then an intellectuall..lastly a spirituall & diuine. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* 229 Raging Mastives who, if they were loosed, one at another, they would fight till death, whereas in presence of the Bull..they ..both, eyther by sensuall consent or naturall instinct, unite themselves in one to assault their common adversary. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* IV. lxxiii, Let not dust blinde my sensual Eyes When as my spirits Energie transcends the skies. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 208 Far as Creation's ample range extends, The scale of sensual, mental pow'rs ascends. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 739 The wide stretcht realm of intellectual woe, Surpassing sensual far, is all our own. 1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. 11 Synonymous with the word idea, we shall sometimes use the words *sensual motion* in contradistinction to *muscular motion*. 1820 KEATS *Ode Grec. Urn* 13 Ye soft pipes, play on; Not to the sensual ear, but more endear'd, Pipe to the spirit ditties of no tone. 1846 I. WILLIAMS *Bapt., Voices of Dead*, But still the wall impassable Bars us around with sensual bond. 1881 WILLIAMSON in *Nature* 1 Sept. 414/1 The process of scientific investigation includes a great variety of operations, which may be considered under three headings, mental, sensual, and physical.

b. Perceptible by the senses. *rare.*
1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 243/2 Sometime as God, sometime as man,..sometime as in yᵉ person of his sensuall parties of his own body, otherwhile in yᵉ person of some particular part of his body mystical. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 245 A man born deaf must necessarily be dumb; and his whole sphere of knowledge must be bounded only by sensual objects. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* I. x, But, weights and shows of sensual things Too closely crossing him, On his soul's eyelid the pressure slid, And made its vision dim.

†**2.** Of living beings: Endowed with the faculty of sensation (but not with reason). *Obs.*
1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* III. vii. 2 A soule sensytive whiche is in every brute sensuall best. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* xlix. 20 As like a sensual Beast he lives, So like a Beast he dies.

3. Of appetites and pleasures: Connected with the gratification of the senses. **a.** In neutral use: Sensuous, physical. Now *rare.*
1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xii. (1870) 267 Clowtyd crayme..is eaten more for a sensuall appetyde than for any good nowrysshement. 1628 WITHER *Motto, Nec curo* (1621) D 8 b, I care not for his loue. My dogge doth so; He loues, as farre as sensuall loue can go. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 239 Some unassayed sensual sweetnesse. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 303 This kind of entertainment [opera] being so entirely sensual, it had no possibility of getting the better of our reason but by its novelty. 1752 HUME *Polit. Disc.* ii. 37 No gratification, however sensual, can, of itself, be esteemed vicious. 1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 190 The Gospel ..allows every sensual enjoyment that is consistent with the real good..of man. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* i, My father walked up and down the room with impatience, because he was kept from his dinner, and, like all orthodox divines, he was tenacious of the only sensual enjoyment permitted to his cloth.

b. In pejorative use, implying the notion of something base or vicious. Now often, Lewd, unchaste.
1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 191/1 Persones not dredyng God, ..but enclyned of sensuall appetite. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxxxii. (1811) 114 He was gyuen to all sensuall luste of his body. *a* 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 224 See thou kepe thee free From the feule yoke of sensuall bondage. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 77 They..all their friends, and native home forget To roule with pleasure in a sensual stie. 1645 HAMMOND *Sixs Weahn.* etc. § 23. 13 From whence..sinne is brought forth, that very consent of the will to the sensuall faculty, being formally sinne without, or before the acting of it. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 17 Intervals of spleen; for relief of which he is driven into sensual excesses. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ix. (1853) 114 The sensual pleasure of the glutton.

4. Of persons, their dispositions, conduct, etc. **a.** Absorbed in the life of the senses; indifferent to intellectual and moral interests. In religious use: Destitute of spiritual life, worldly, irreligious. Now *rare* or *Obs.*
1557 BIBLE (Genev.) *Iames* iii. 15 This wisdome is earthy, sensual [*so later versions*; Tindale, etc. *haue* naturall] and dyuelyshe. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) 1 *Cor.* ii. 14 The sensual [1611 naturall] man perceiueth not those things that are of the spirit of God. *Ibid.*, *Jude* 19 These are they which segregate themselues, sensual, hauing not the Spirit. 1599 DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 95 As some sensuall spirits amongst vs..Which hold the world to come, a fained stage. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. v. 12 [He trusts] the Senat willingly with the revenge of any injury he can receive, when sensual men are very loath to remit the like into the hands of God. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. v. (1677) 333 Sensual Men are not willing to believe any thing whereby they have not a sufficient Evidence, as they think, to their Sense. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. II. ii. 216 The brutish sensual World began to cal in question the very existence and providence of God. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 178 ᵖ 11 The gratifications of the palate; an entertainment so far removed from intellectual happiness, that scarcely the most shameless of the sensual herd have dared to defend it. 1882 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.* 230 But this whole drama..may be best described as the theatre of the *homme sensuel moyen*, the average sensual man,..whose city is Paris, and whose ideal is the free, gay, pleasurable life of Paris.

b. Excessively inclined to the gratification of the senses, voluptuous; often *spec.* with reference to sexual passion, lewd, unchaste. Of physiognomy or features: Indicative of a sensual disposition.
1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Sensuall gyven to vyce, *epicurien*. 1637 RALEIGH *Mahomet* 65 Don Roderigo..began to repent him of his sensuall life. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxxvi. 118 These Wasps in a Hony-Pot are so many Sensual Men that are Plung'd in their Lusts and Pleasures. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. 190 The Sensual Man is, of all Men living, the most improper for Enquiries after Truth. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sensual*, Voluptuous, given to Pleasures, Carnal or Fleshly. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 466 ᵖ 5 Were any one to see Mariamne dance, let him be never so sensual a Brute, I defie him to entertain any Thoughts but of the highest Respect and Esteem towards her. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 246 Homer has exhibited much repugnance to the sensual deity of Aphrodite. 1881 H. SMART *Race for Wife* i, By nature coarse and sensual in his habits. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxv. 268 The full mouth, with the sensual lips.

¶ **c.** Misused for: Obstinately self-willed. *Obs.*
1524 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 198 The realme of Scotland, by taking sensuall and wilfull waies, shal soner chose to lyve in warre trouble iniquetnes and adversite, than to florishe in joye [etc.]. 1538 *Ibid.* III. 36 His Lordshipp afterwarde despysid and maligned at the Kinges said Privaye Counsaile, following censuall and wilfull waies. 1539 EARL ORMOND *Ibid.* III. 150 My Lorde Deputie..hath broght the successes of his sensuall apetitis and wilfull procedinges now to such pass and effect, that [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 31 If any lawe or reason could have removed you from your sensuall opinions, ye have ben many and often tymes sufficientely aunswered to the same. 1584 BURGHLEY in Strype *Whitgift* App. III. (1718) 64, I favour no sensual & wilful Recusants.

5. Of opinions or ideas: Materialistic.
1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 48 Austin told his friend Alipius, and Nebridius, that Epicurus his sensuall doctrine had with him carried away the garland from all Philosophers and Divines; unlesse [etc.]. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xv. 329 Moses..only accommodated such figurative expressions to the sensual comprehensions of his tribes. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* VI. ix. III. 569 Views, at once transcendent and sensual, of the mission of a Messiah. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 67 He gives his own views of the common sensual idea of heaven.

b. *Philos.* = SENSATIONAL *a.* 2. *rare.*
1837–9 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* III. iii. § 94 The sensual and ideal schools of psychology.

†**B.** *sb. pl. Obs.*

1. a. The sensual faculties and appetites. **b.** The objects of sense.
a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Hants* (1662) II. 8 His Intellectuals had such predominancy of his Sensuals, or rather Grace so ruled in both, that the Man in him being subordinate to the Christian, he lived a pattern of Piety. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. viii. (1677) 375 The objects, means, and occasions of our fears in relation to sensuals, are ever more and greater than the objects of our hopes.

2. Beings capable only of sensation, brutes.
1605 TIMME *Quersit.* Ded. 2 The souls of men and angels are reasonable;..and the sensuals (as beasts and such like) not so. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* iii. 18 (1645) 14 Heav'n suffers mortals to be exercis'd In their own miseries, that they may see They'r not more happy then the sensuals bee.

Sensualism (se·nʃu̯ăliz'm). [f. SENSUAL *a.* + -ISM. Cf. F. *sensualisme* (1812 in sense 1).]

1. *Philos.* The doctrine that the senses are the sole source of knowledge; sensationalism.
1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 264 The more inviting system of sensualism, in which all knowledge is supposed to consist of original impressions from without. 1832 LINBERG tr. *Cousin's Introd. Hist. Philos.* xii. 393, I define the Scotch philosophy, gentlemen, as an honorable protestation against the extravagances of the last consequences of sensualism. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* xiv. (1852) 401 The School of Locke replies that they [the premises of reason] owe their existence to the senses...That theory, which, matured by Locke's subtiler and more consistent disciple, Hume, may be called the system of sensualism.

2. Addiction to sensual indulgence.
1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 251 Is not thy youth A vain and feverish dream of sensualism? 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iv. 62 There is something quite military in the sensualism of the Romans—an 'arbiter bibendi' chosen [etc.]. 1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xv, The ruts and looseness on a face coarsened by sensualism.

3. Absorption in material interests.
1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Fort. Republ.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 396 In this country..there is at present a great sensualism, a headlong devotion to trade.

Sensualist (se·nʃu̯ălist). [f. SENSUAL *a.* + -IST. Cf. F. *sensualiste* (1812 in sense 2).]

1. One whose disposition and conduct are sensual; one whose sole interests are in the things of sense; chiefly, one who is devoted to sensual pleasure, or given to vicious indulgence of the animal passions. The various shades of meaning can hardly be distinguished in the early examples.
1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* I. 310 It is charged as a foul fault upon those sensualists that they had lived in pleasure. 1682 FLAVELL *Fear* ii. Wks. 1701 I. 577/1 As it is noted of those secure Sensualists, Amos vi. 3. They put far from them the evil Day. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 16 Those pleasures which are highest in the esteem of sensualists. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 64 It is not the fear of lothsome or excruciating disease, that will deter the sensualist or the epicure from the indulgences of their appetites. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* ii. 45 As blind obedience is ever sought for by power, tyrants and sensualists are in the right when they endeavour to keep women in the dark. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Even for the basest Sensualist, what is Sense but the implement of Fantasy? 1871 BURR *Ad Fidem* ix. 176 The sty of the sensualist.

2. = SENSATIONALIST.
1852 WIGHT tr. *Cousin's Course Hist. Mod. Philos.* II. 138 On which side shall I rank myself, in this great battle of European philosophy in the eighteenth century? Shall I be a sensualist? 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* x. vi. (ed. 2) 261 That school of philosophers who are called 'the sensualists'.

Sensualistic (se·nʃu̯ăli·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to sensualism in philosophy or art.
1852 WIGHT tr. *Cousin's Course Hist. Mod. Philos.* II. 49 The four great schools,..namely Platonic idealistic dogmatism, peripatetic sensualistic dogmatism, skepticism, and mysticism. *Ibid.* 87 Gassendi,..the scholar of the sensualistic school. 1854 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) II. i. 38 Locke is the father of the whole sensualistic school of the eighteenth century. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. ii. § 13. 213 Sensualistic art, represented typically by that of Salvator.

Sensuality (senʃuæ·lĭti). Forms: 4–6 sensualite, (4–5 -litee, -lyte), 4 senswalyte, 5 sensewalite, 5–6 censualyte, 6 sensualytie, sensualitie, 6– sensuality. [a. F. *sensualité*, ad. late L. *sensuālitās*, f. *sensuālis* SENSUAL *a.* Cf. Sp. *sensualidad*, It. *sensualità*.]

†**1.** The part of the nature of man that is concerned with the senses; chiefly, the animal instincts and appetites; the lower nature as distinguished from the reason; also *occas.* the faculty of sensation. *Obs.*
a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 6 Þe neþer party of my saule þat is cald þe sensualite. *Ibid.* xxx. 11 My saule þat is my sensualite. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 262 God sholde haue lordshipe ouer reson, and reson ouer sensualitee, and sensualitee ouer the body of man. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 6 How that I myght make Reason & Sensualyte in oon to acorde. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxviii, It shall be mortyfyed & pyned in the sensualyte eyther by dyuers syknes or by felable tourment of the fende. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lviii. 136 Who euere kepe himself so under, þat sensualite obeye to reson, & reson to me in all þinges, he shal be a very victour of himself. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 135 in *Macro Pl.* 40 Þe on, sensualyte, Wyche ys clepyde þe flechly felynge. 1670 CRESSY 16 *Revelat. Div. Love* lvi. 145 That our sensuality by the vertue of Christs Passion, be brought up into the substance. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 596 The grand arcanum of the learned gourmand is the proper sequence of the viands, and the skilful interception of the glass, by which his sensuality is piqued.

†**b.** *pl.* Physical necessities and appetites. *Obs.*
1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 152 Such a gross Conceit of the Resurrection, as if our Bodies shou'd be in the same frail condition as now, and addicted to Sensualities.

†**2.** The lower or animal nature regarded as a source of evil; the lusts of the flesh. Also *pl.*
1413 LYDG. *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxviii. 73 This is the sensualite of men that draweth hym to synne and to bestly lustes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 349 An other dethe when the sawle..despisethe and refusethe the unlawefulle movenges and sensualites of the body. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Lady* 150 And that the reson desyreth, the sensualyte ageyne sayth. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xlviii, Thow may brek sensualitеis heid And fleschlie lust away fra the sall fle. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 83 Suffre not your soules damned and lost to be By vayne lust and carnall sensualyte. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 62 It pleaseth him to fortifie and strengthen vs, euen to ouercome..sensualitie.

†**3.** The following of the lower nature in preference to the higher; absorption in the things of sense. *Obs.*
c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 678 This is the wey of Resoun ..But the tother..Ys..The wey of sensualyte, Which set his entente in al To thinges that be temporal. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 240/2 Lede by sensuality and concupiscence. 1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 19 Preamble, Diverse..turnynge their knowledge therein to satisfye their sensualitye. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. vii. § 1. 159 b, Wherby the mynd of man, voide from his own sensualitie of flesh, bendeth it selfe wholly to the will of Gods spirite.

¶ **b.** Self-willed obstinacy. (Cf. SENSUAL *a.* 3 c.) *Obs.*
1536 R. COWLEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 370 Certain rynge leaders..applying moore to theire awne sensualities, singuler profittes, and affeccions, then to any good reason. 1538 LD. BUTLER *Ibid.* III. 95, I do take him to be..a man more mete to be governed, than to governe, for all his interprises be made upon his awne sensualitie, withowt thadvise ..of thois that been put in trust by the Kingis Majestie. 1544 *Ibid.* 502 But..what for ther owne pryvate censualyte to ther olde ravyne and customes, no doubte bothe the saide M^cCharties..woll joyne with hym.

4. Excessive fondness for, or vicious indulgence in, the pleasures of the senses.
c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 244 And yf be sensualyte ..Synnyst dedly, thou xalt not therfore dyspeyre. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I 3 b, O (quoth he) long haue I liued sworne brothers in sensualitie with one Esdras of Granado: fiue hundred rapes and murders haue we committed betwixt

vs. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 62 Those pampred animalls, That rage in sauage sensualitie. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 7 Loose and dissolute persons, abandoned to all sensualitie. 1685 R. BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 *Tim.* v. 23 b, To use Wine, yea, much Wine or strong Drink for meer appetite, instead of a little for health, is sinful sensuality. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxvii. 190 Here's a Reproof to Men of Sensuality and Pleasure. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. xiv. 394 Sense produces no Sensuality, till it warms the Affections with the Pleasures of the World. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 6 May (1815) 70 He owns himself addicted to the delights of the stomach, and often jokes upon his own sensuality. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. (1787) IV. 92 That he loved too well to eat, is certain; but that his sensuality shortened his life will not be hastily concluded. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* I. s. v. *Ecclesiastes*, Unrestrained merriment and giddy sensuality belong to those vanities which our author enumerates. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ii. 16 The once hardy, abstemious mode of living degenerated into grossness and sensuality.

b. *pl.*

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 8 The ignoronte men wol not abstyne them from their sensualitees. 1599 DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 100 Marre not her [*sc.* thy soul's] sense with Sensualities. 1803 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* IX. 321 Those capable of indulging in the pleasures and sensualities of a luxuriant table. 1817 COLERIDGE '*Blessed are ye that sow*' 66 *note*, Sensualities which both in sort and degree it would be libelling their Brother-beasts to call bestial.

† c. In innocent sense (as an oxymoron): A sensuous gratification or pleasure. *Obs.*

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. ii. 165 Euen..most devout men benefit their soules..with the sweetnesse of musicke.. with this sacred sensualitie and pleasant path which leadeth to the fountaine of spirituall comfort. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 8/1 A Poet Laureate readily tolerated what he called 'the most innocent of sensualities' [snuff-taking].

5. *spec.* Lasciviousness, unchastity.

1463 ASHBY *Poems* i. 171 Yef thow tak a wyfe to thy freelte Ryght thoutfull thow art..Yef thow lyue aftyr censualyte, That ys acursyd and vnthryfty lyf. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* viii. 151 But best it is that he maryed be For to eschewe all yll censualyte. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 197 Preistis..leif zour foule Sensualitie. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 14 Taxing his sensualitie and drunkennesse. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. i. 150 Judging the sensuality of a nation by its statistics of illegitimate births. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 154 The gluttony, the drunkenness, and the viler forms of sensuality.

Sensualiza·tion. *rare.* [f. SENSUALIZE *v.* + -ATION.] The action of sensualizing.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* X. 505 Layers of affecting plainness, and affected sonorosity, of scholastic jargon, and oriental sensualization, succeed each other without blending. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 202 A sort of intellectual sensualization.

Sensualize (se·nʃuəläiz), *v.* [f. SENSUAL *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To render sensual. a. To imbue with sensual habits or dispositions; to inure to vicious indulgence.

a 1687 H. MORE *Lett.* (1694) 79 Nothing can more incrassate, and sensuallize the Intellect, than such an Opinion. 1725 *Pope's Odyss.* I. *View Epic Poem* 10 Not to suffer ones self to be sensualiz'd by pleasures. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 202 It is that luxury and ease which sensualize the soul, and make it dull, stupid, hard-hearted. 1868 F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 302 It is no light crime to aid in sensualizing the character of a whole people.

b. To give a sensuous or materialistic character to.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 570 The Indian bramins and parsees accuse the gaurs..of having sensualized those ideas [of a Supreme Being]. 1828 DE QUINCEY *Rhetoric* Wks. 1859 XI. 43 Milton is taxed with having too grossly sensualized his supernatural agents. 1833 LONGF. *Outre-Mer* Pr. Wks. 1886 I. 194 These representations have a tendency to sensualize and desecrate the character of holy things.

c. To explain by reference to sensation; to regard as originating from the senses.

1838 SIR W. HAMILTON in *Reid's Wks.* I. 128/2 *note*, Which, in place of sensualizing intellect, intellectualizes sense. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xiii. 506 Locke sensualised the conception of the understanding.

d. To convert into or identify with something cognizable by the senses.

1884 [LAURIE] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 23 The percept thus becomes sensualized as an articulate sound. *Ibid.* 112, I have created my own difficulty by first sensualizing the dialectic percept, Cause.

2. *intr.* a. To live sensually.

1612 T. ADAMS *Gallant's Burden* 16 b, First, they visit the Tauerne,..then the Theater, and end in the Stewes...If they were Beasts, they could not better sensualize.

b. To entertain sensual notions.

1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 176 The constant reproach of the sensualising Pagans was, that Christians had in their strange worship, neither altars nor sacrifices.

Hence **Se·nsualized** *ppl. a.*

1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* vi. (1694) 167 A sensualized Soul would carry such Appetites with her thither for which she could find no suitable Objects. 1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 33 Virtue may, possibly, add to the pleasure..a spiritual complacency, of which in your present sensualized state you can form no idea. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 676 This was a lesson which our Lord sought to impress upon the degenerate and sensualized Jews of his day.

Sensually (se·nʃuəli), *adv.* [f. SENSUAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sensual manner.

† 1. In a manner perceptible to the senses. *Obs.*

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 109 That the very body of Christ in the Eucharist is broken with the Priest's hands..not sacramentally only, but sensually. 1686 HORNECK *Crucify. Jesus* xi. 193 They cannot sensually but only in a sacramental, or representative way, be handled by the Priest.

2. With a view to the gratifying of the senses.

1630 MASSINGER *Picture* II. i, Succeeding times..would instruct Their fairest issue to meete sensually, Like other creatures. *c* 1655 A. SIDNEY in *19th Cent.* Jan. (1884) 59 An Angell loves spiritually;..a man that is composed of reason and sense, rationally and sensually both together.

3. With subservience to the senses or the lower nature; with undue indulgence of the physical appetites; lustfully, licentiously.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 220 They shall neuer be wise or sober, so long as they be so sensually disposed. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 51 He spared not sensually to follow in enticing and forcing mens wives and daughters. *Comb.* 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. Gen. 8 For there is a sanctity even of Body and Complexion, which the sensually-minded do not so much as dream of.

† **Se·nsualness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SENSUAL *a.* + -NESS.] = SENSUALITY.

1530 PALSGR. 269/1 Sensualnesse, *sensualité*. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 219 Going beyond them in beastly sensualnesse, [they] become worse then bruite beasts.

Sensuism (se·nʃuˌiiz'm). *Philos.* [f. L. *sensu-s* SENSE *sb.* + -ISM.]

1. = SENSATIONALISM 1, SENSUALISM 1.

1829 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 2 Sensualism (or more correctly sensuism). 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XX. 540 Sensationalism or sensuism, which would deny to all human knowledge the character of universality and necessity.

¶ 2. Tendency to indulge the sensuous imagination in religious meditation.

1878 GROSART in *H. More's Poems* Mem. Introd. 30/1, I suppose the meaning is that, unconsecrated by high personal devoutness, mysticism is apt to 'degenerate' into sensuism, if not sensualism.

Sensuist (se·nʃuˌiist). *rare*–°. [f. L. *sensu-s* SENSE *sb.* + -IST.] = SENSUALIST 1.

1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 150 *note*, We consider this ['sensationalist'] on the whole a less objectionable term than 'sensualist' or 'sensuist'. 1887 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Sensui·stic, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sensu-s* SENSE *sb.* + -ISTIC.] Inclined to sensuous indulgence.

1850 E. MONRO *Paroch. Work* 194 Their own nature being sensuistic, they readily give vigour to temptations.

Sensuosity (sensʃuˌoˑsiti). *rare.* [f. SENSUOUS *a.*: see -OSITY.] The quality of being sensuous.

1755 BAILEY (ed. Scott), *Sensuosity*, sensitiveness. 1882 *Homiletic Monthly* Apr. 416 Much of what is called magnetism..and unction..in a speaker, is mere sensuosity.

Sensuous (se·nʃuˌəs), *a.* [f. L. *sensu-s* SENSE *sb.* + -OUS.

Apparently invented by Milton, to avoid certain associations of the existing word *sensual*, and from him adopted by Coleridge; evidence of its use in the intervening period is wanting. Coleridge seems to have been mistaken in saying that it occurs in 'many others of our elder writers'.]

1. Of or pertaining to the senses; derived from, perceived by, or affecting the senses; concerned with sensation or sense-perception.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. 3 The Soule..finding the ease she had from her visible, and sensuous collegue the body in performance of Religious duties..shifted off from her selfe the labour of high soaring any more. 1644— *Educ.* 6 To which Poetry would be made subsequent, or indeed rather precedent, as being lesse suttle and fine, but more simple, sensuous, and passionate. 1814 COLERIDGE *Princ. Gen. Crit.* iii. in *Farley's Bristol Jrnl.* Aug., Thus, to express in one word what belongs to the senses, or the recipient and more passive faculty of the soul, I have reintroduced the word *sensuous*, used, among many others of our elder writers, by Milton. 1842 EMERSON *Lect., Transcend.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 279 The idealist..does not deny the sensuous fact:..but he will not see that alone. 1850 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 15 Here the phenomena of motion are not made evident by the ordinary sensuous perception. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* l, Be near me when the sensuous frame Is rack'd with pangs that conquer trust. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 225 Such men live in the outside of themselves—in the sensuous or intellectual nature. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 154 The external or sensuous qualities of art. *absol.* 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 96 The understanding, wherever it does not possess or use the reason, as another and inward eye, may be defined the conception of the sensuous.

b. Of words and their meanings, etc.: Relating to sensible objects. Of opinions, conceptions, etc.: Based on representations of sense, material.

1864 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon., Assyria* viii. II. 277 Their religion..was of a sensuous character. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. 142 The beginning of eloquence is pictorial sensuous and metaphorical. 1869 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* iv. (1873) 112 Languages very crude and sensuous in their character. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases Mor.* i. 132 The familiar and sensuous theology of Homer. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vi. 249 The oldest roots are of the most purely sensuous description.

c. Of pleasure: Received through the senses. Now often with some colouring from sense 3, implying a luxurious yielding up of oneself to passive enjoyment.

1856 G. WILSON *Gatewayes Knowl.* (1859) 48 To be awaked from sleep by splendid music is to me the highest conceivable sensuous pleasure. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* vii, There is in the first taste of rustic life a kind of sensuous rapture scarcely to be described. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxvii. (1878) 295 It was something to gaze on with a placid and sensuous satisfaction. 1909 E. R. TENNANT in *Expositor* Aug. 123 That sensuous pleasure is a possibility is..a thing to give God thanks for.

2. Devoted to the gratification of the senses. *rare.*

1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 309 A sensuous or a frivolous life.

3. Readily affected by the senses; keenly alive to the pleasures of sensation; *occas.* of a poet or artist, moved by or appealing to the sensuous imagination. Also of physiognomy, etc. indicating a sensuous temperament.

In early use with favourable sense; now often with some notion of self-indulgent yielding to impressions or of a tendency to the sensual in imagination.

1870 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Plutarch* Wks. (Bohn) III. 342 A poet in verse or prose must have a sensuous eye, but an intellectual co-perception. 1875 LOWELL *Spenser* Wks. 1890 IV. 317 A poet is innocently sensuous when his mind permeates and illumines his senses; when they muddy the mind, he becomes sensual. *a* 1876 G. DAWSON *Lect. Hamlet* (1888) 16 None can help having a certain admiration for sensuous nature when very beautiful...She [Ophelia] was the perfection of sensuousness. 1880 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Ser. II. iv. (1895) 100 Keats as a poet is abundantly and enchantingly sensuous. 1895 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* vii. (1899) 100 His mouth was cruel and sensuous. 1909 E. THOMAS *Jefferies* 122 His expression [was] sensuous, tender, 'silent and aware'.

¶ 4. In recent use sometimes of climate, surroundings, etc.: Conducive to a vague sense of physical enjoyment.

1878 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs Italy* 51 How sensuous the night! how soft was the sound Of her voice on the night. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* 106 Their air and character [*sc.* those of the Italian lakes] are soft, sensuous, enervating.

Sensuously (se·nʃuˌəsli), *adv.* [f. SENSUOUS *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sensuous manner.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 326 To bring together every one of the sensible and ponderable stuffs or elements, that are sensuously perceived in the eye itself, or in the flesh itself. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 127 So warm and rich it is, so sensuously beautiful. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. viii. 357 The categories would have no use except in relation to a sensuously given manifold. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xi. 180 Venus..takes that sensuously dreamy..journey across the blue Mediterranean.

Sensuousness (se·nʃuˌəsnés). [f. SENSUOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sensuous.

1855 I. TAYLOR *Restor. Belief* (1856) 286 Easy, pleasure-loving sensuousness and sensuality. *a* 1876 [see SENSUOUS *a.* 3]. 1882–3 J. HARPER in *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1961 The sensuousness which distinguished the Old Dispensation from the New.

Sensure, obs. form of CENSER *sb.*1, CENSURE.

Sensyment, variant of SENSEMENT *Obs.*

Sensyne, *adv. Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4 **senesyne,** 5–7 **sensyne,** 6–7 **sensyn,** 6–9 **sensine.** [f. SEN *prep.* + SYNE *adv.* Cf. the later SINSYNE.] Since then, from or after that time.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 992 Quhat manere of clethinge had þou for to cleth þe sene syne? 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 38 He maid a citee, and callit it ..Saturne, that was callit sensyne Scitus. 1541 JAS. V in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 189 And inlikvise the innovationis maid sensyne. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. lxxiii. (S.T.S.) I. 281 Quha sen syn haue seruet sa faithfullie that cure,..that [etc.]. 1638 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 287 Ane new commission direct sen syn be his..majestie. 1651 D. CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 337 Her Majestie...by diverse proclamations sensyne, hath expresslie forbiddin [etc.]. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 40 *Sensine*, Cumb. since then, Var. Dial. 1863–4 ATKINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., It is now getting to look long sensine.

Sensyr, obs. form of CENSER *sb.*1

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 720/43 *Hoc turibulum*, a sensyr.

† **Sent,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **sente.** Aphetic form of ASSENT *sb.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1083 þat þemperour ne schuld souche þa þe at sent were. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 58 Be ye sent of alle ye breyeren and systers of yis gilde. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2278 Through the sente of All by-dene Ganne the kynge A lettre make.

† **Sent,** *v. Obs.* Aphetic form of ASSENT *v.*

13.. *Gaw. Nicod.* 512 (Add. MS.) To þaire consayle..We will nogt sent. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5336 þai prayde þair horse moght þar a byde; þe gude wyf sent þar to. 16.. *Eger & Grine* 38 in *Percy Fol. MS.* (1867) I. 355 They Ladye granted her good will, her father sented there soone till.

Sent (sent), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SEND *v.*] In senses of the vb. *rare* exc. in comb. as *heaven-sent.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 330/1 Sent, *missus, destinatus.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 852 The Sender not the sent.

Sent, obs. f. SCENT *sb.* and *v.*; obs. var. CENT 2.

Sent(e, obs. forms of SAINT.

† **Se·ntement.** ? Short for PRESENTMENT.

c 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 494 Na thing mycht cule þe tratrent of þair hert, Quhill be [*read* he] to de to Pilat wes present. Quhilk be þe law wes justice in þat art, In caus of blude to schaw þe sentement. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* x. (Percy Soc.) 35 And if it [*sc.* the cause] be a lytle probable, From any maner stedfast argument, We ordre it for to be ryght stable, And than we never begyn our sentement, Recityng letters not convenient.

Sentement, obs. form of SENTIMENT.

Sentenar(e, obs. forms of CENTNER.

1615 in *Wedderburne's Compt Bk.*, etc. (S.H.S.) 263, a sentenar lead. *Ibid.*, 5 sentenare of lead.

Sentence (se·ntĕns), *sb.* Also 4–5 **sentense,** 4–6 **sentens,** 5 **centence, centens(e, sentensce.** [a. F. *sentence* (12th c.) = Pr. *sentensa*, Sp. *sentencia*, Pg. *sentença*, It. *sentenza*, ad. L. *sententia* opinion, maxim, etc., irreg. (for **sentientia*) f. *sentire* to feel, be of opinion.]

† 1. Way of thinking, opinion. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 69 þer byeþ some..þet none guode techinge

ne onderuonge þ ak alneway weryeþ hare sentense huet þet hit by. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. ix. (Skeat) 6 The comune sentence of the people..that every thing after destenee is ruled, false and wicked is to beleve. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5813 The baronage to councel wente; In many sentences they fille, And dyversly they seide hir wille. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 364 Se how þat þe worþi prelacie,..Endowyd of profound intelligence, Of al þis land werreyen þi sentence. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1329/2 Yet is it the most common sentence of al the old holye men. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 4 Be ye perfite in ane mynd & in ane sentence. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 11 Touching the sentence of antiquitie in this cause. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Josh.* ix. 2 The Hetheite and Amorreite..were gathered, to fight against Iosue and Israel with one minde, and one sentence.

2. The opinion pronounced by a person on some particular question, usually, one on which he is consulted or which is being deliberated upon.

1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 1022 þe bischope thocht, and all þe lafe, þe sentence ganand þat scho gafe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 366, I wolde fayn knowe how that ye vnderstonde thilke wordes and what is youre sentence. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxvi. 156 Ne yeue thow not lyghtly thy sentence. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* clxviii. ii, Emong theim selfes our lordes for hie prudence Of the bishop asked counsaill and sentence. 1535 Coverdale *Acts* xv. 19 Wherfore my sentence is [Gr. ἐγὼ κρίνω], that [etc.]. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* viii. (1590) 366 Olde Chaucer so long agoe set his sentence downe against this exercise. 1602 Shaks. *All's Well* I. iii. 80 With that she..gaue this sentence then, Among nine bad if one be good..there's yet one good in ten. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 51 My sentence is for open Warr: Of Wiles, More unexpert, I boast not. 1678 Hobbes *Decam. Physiolog.* x. 122 It were too bold to pronounce any sentence of its substance. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 156 Thy Sire and I were one; nor vary'd aught In publick sentence, or in private thought.

b. *The four books* (or *the Book*) *of the Sentence*(*s*: the *Sententiarum libri quatuor*, a compilation of the opinions of the Fathers on questions of Christian doctrine, by Peter Lombard (12th c.), thence called *The Master of the Sentences*.

1387 [see Master *sb.*[1] 12 b]. 1492 *Acta Domin. Conc.* (1839) 243/1 Ane buk contenand four bukis of þe sentence. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 273 The Master of the Sentences did but gather together the opinions and Sentences of the Fathers. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 10 This Baggage once in her mad Moods and Tenses Had Lombard read, the Master o' th' Sentences.

c. *The Reading of the Sentences*: the office of lecturing on the 'Books of Sentences' (see b), which was the special mark of the second of the three stages of the degree of Bachelor of Divinity in mediæval universities.

1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon., Fasti* I. 745 Hieronim. Schlick, Count of Passan,..was then admitted to the reading of the Sentences. 1886 Lyte *Univ. Oxf.* 107 The Dominicans [in 1313]..took exception to another recent statute of the University, which forbade any one to lecture on the text of the Bible who had not already lectured on the Sentences and taken the degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

3. An authoritative decision; a judgement pronounced by a tribunal. †**a.** *spec.* = sentence of excommunication.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 133/932 ȝif ani man hond on ov set ich ov hote al-so þat ȝe þe sentence of holi churche for swuche violence ȝe do, And holdez vp holi churche riȝte þat ov is bi-take. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10370 He esste boc & candle þe sentence to do bliue. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 259 This Pope..Hath sent the bulle of his sentence With cursinge and with enterdit. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxiv. 21 Wylys sho is in sentence, sho ne sal noht be in cuuent, til it be amendid. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 281 As hit fell bysyde þe abbay of Lulsull by þre men þat hadden stolen an ox of þe abbot, and he had made a sentens þerfor. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxli. 536 Whiche of them y^e^ euer shulde breke this peace by any maner of wayes, shulde rynne in the sentence of the pope.

b. *gen.* The judgement or decision of a court in any civil or criminal cause. Now *rare* in popular use; still technically applied to the decisions of the ecclesiastical and admiralty courts.

c 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 172 The Iuge answerde: Of this in his absence I may nat yeue diffynytyue sentence. 1446 in *Cov. Leet-bk.* 228 Declaracion of a centens yeuon for the priour & Couent of the Cathedrall churche of our Lady of Conentre a-yeynest John Bredon. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 182/2 [The French king] by sentence judiciall dismyssed them and their plegges oute of the seid Courte. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* v. 23 These gyue sentence with the vngodly for rewardes. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 97 My Lord Governour and Lordis of Secreit Counsale, efter lang reasoning upoun the allegeance forsaid be sentence interlocutor, fand that conforme to the lawis [etc.]. 1585 Greene *Planetom.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 100 Sol, we haue agreed that your sensure shal stand for a sentence, and therefore I wil not inueigh against your verdict. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 9 These two sentences, haue these two contrary effects.., *the sentence interlocutorie*, may be reuoked at any time so longe as the principall cause dependeth vndecided. But the *sentence definitiue* cannot be reuoked. 1717 E. Miller *Acc. Cambr.* 30 Tho' he prosecuted his Action with all the Vigour he could, it was about seven Years before it came to a Sentence, which was at last, in Favour of the Townsman. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 44 No civil or criminal sentence could take place, till the voice of the judge was affirmed by the court. 1827 Selwyn *Laws Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 946 By the sentence of a French court of admiralty it appeared, that the ship insured, 'warranted American', had been condemned as enemy's property. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v. *Decree*, A decree or decreet is the final judgment or sentence of a court, whereby the question at issue between the parties is decided. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 85 § 16 A Sentence of Judicial Separation..may be obtained, either by the Husband or the Wife, on the ground of Adultery [etc.].

transf. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 3 They cannot pass a just sentence upon the performances of their respective writers.

c. The judicial determination of the punishment to be inflicted on a convicted criminal. Hence, the punishment to which a criminal is sentenced. Also *transf.*

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 7 For-thy I had na stabyll purpos in gude, na perfite contrycyone, tharefore sentence of dampnacyone ffelle one me. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 245 Þogh a woman by Goddys sentence bere hur childyr wyth so gret penance. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 302 Sir I will pronounce your sentence: You shall fast a Weeke with Branne and water. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 219 If you do finde me foule, in her report, The Trust, the Office, I do hold of you, Not onely take away, but let your Sentence Euen fall vpon my life. 1662 *Tryal Sir H. Vane* 51 After that, out comes the Judgement or Sentence of Death against him. 1747 V. Mathias in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 118, I am now to desire you would contrive for to-morrow, that I may hear the Lord High Steward's speech, and sentence passed. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxix. 373 When sentence of death, the most terrible and highest judgment in the laws of England, is pronounced. 1891 H. Matthews in *Law Times* XCII. 96/1 A convict who gains by steady industry the maximum number of marks during each day of his sentence. 1893 Leland *Mem.* I. 144 A noted murderer under sentence of death.

fig. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 21 We are all under a sentence of death for the first Man's sin. 1842 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 61 Our sentence is to labour from the cradle to the grave. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 197 No one when venturing on a perilous enterprise ever yet passed a sentence of failure on himself.

†**d.** *Dark, hard sentence*: a difficult problem. (In Bible translations used to render Heb. חִידָה *ḥîdâh*, Aram. אחידה *ḥîdâ* enigma, LXX πρόβλημα, Vulg. *propositio*.)

Cf. *hard sentence* (in sense 7) Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol. § 1.

1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* ix. 1 The quene of rich Arabia ..came with a very greate tryne to Ierusalem..to proue Salomon with darke sentences. 1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* lxxviii. 2, I wyll declare hard sentences of olde. 1563 Shute *Archit.* B iij, We can neither know or yet discusse the measures and harde sentences or questions of Symetrie.

†**4.** A quoted saying of some eminent person, an apophthegm. Also, a pithy or pointed saying, an aphorism, maxim. *Obs.*

In *Rhetoric* formerly used (after L. *sententia*) as the rendering of Gr. γνώμη Gnome[1].

c 1380 Wyclif in *Sel. Eng. Wks.* II. 399 Crist seiþ to hise apostlis, ȝe shulen be blessid whanne men shulen curse you. ..And if þe Chirche were wel enformed of þis sentence.. men shulden not drede feyned cursingis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 15 Herke what is the sentence of the wise: Bet is to dyen than haue Indigence. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 108 Now euery word and sentence is of cure. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1087/1 Then cometh there also on this part y^e^ saiengs or sentences of y^e^ holy fathers. 1567 *Trial of Treas.* A iij, The wyse mans sentence. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 158 Hungry stomackes are not to be fed with sayings against surfettings, nor thirst to be quenched with sentences against drunkennesse. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 244 Who feares a sentence or an old mans saw, Shall by a painted cloth be kept in awe. 1601 B. Jonson *Poet.* I. ii. 103 Thou speakest sentences, old Bias. 1657 J. Smith *Myst. Rhet.* 244 Gnome is a figure when we bring in a sentence or such a remarkable saying of anothers to the same purpose with the Author. *a* 1679 Hobbes *Rhet.* (1840) 476 To hear a young man speak sentences, is ridiculous. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* xiii. 115 A poet or orator would have no more to do but to send to the particular traders in each kind,..to the apothegmatist for his sentences, &c. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 79 P 1 A Greek writer of sentences has laid down as a standing maxim, that he who believes not another on his oath, knows himself to be perjured. 1823 Gillies tr. *Aristotle's Rhet.* II. xxi. 328 Sentences have great weight in discourse for two reasons.

†**b.** In generalized use: Aphoristic speech, sententiousness. *Obs.*

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 5, I write, as he that none intelligence Of metres hath, ne floures of sentence. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* 32 A discourse full of sentence.

5. An indefinite portion of a discourse or writing; a 'passage'. Now only (with approach to sense 6), a short passage of Scripture in liturgical use.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) lv. 36 Þabbes sal ta yeme of þis sentence of þe dedis of þe apostils. *c* 1420 *Wars Alex.* (Prose) (E.E.T.S.) 46 Scho was riȝte sory and wrote a lettre vn-till hym þat contened this sentence [etc.]. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Then shall folowe for the Offertory, one or mo, of these Sentences of holy scripture. 1557 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* IV. Argt. (1568) 106 b, That man..that vouchsafeth not to spend one howre of the day to read a graue sentence of some good booke. 1622 Cotgr., *Rubrique*, ..a special title or sentence of the Law written, or printed, in red. 1639 in *Brit. Mag.* (1834) VI. 379 For settyng up the sentences of Scripture in the church, o. 3. o. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 94 After which he reads a short Sentence of Scripture.

6. A series of words in connected speech or writing, forming the grammatically complete expression of a single thought; in popular use often (= Period *sb.* 10), such a portion of a composition or utterance as extends from one full stop to another. In *Grammar*, the verbal expression of a proposition, question, command, or request, containing normally a subject and a predicate (though either of these may be omitted by ellipsis).

In grammatical use, though not in popular language, a 'sentence' may consist of a single word, as in L. *algeo* 'I am cold', where the subject (= I) is expressed by the ending of the verb. English grammarians usually recognize three classes: simple sentences, complex sentences (which contain one or more subordinate clauses), and compound sentences (which have more than one subject or predicate).

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys, Agnes* 682 Fro sentence to sentence, I dar wele seyn, I hym haue folwyde euen by & by. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 160 Euery lettre, syllable, worde, & sentence of his prayer & duty from the begynnynge to y^e^ ende. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Tetracolon*, a sentence hauyng .iiii. membres. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 144 At euerie sentence end; Will I Rosalinda write. 1631 in Rymer *Fœdera* XIX. 305 The Statute before mentioned, or any Clause, Sentence, Matter or Thing whatsoever therein conteyned. *a* 1653 Binning *Princ. Chr. Relig.* Wks. (1735) 27 There is some hidden Secret that you must search for, that is inclosed within the Covering of Words and Sentences. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 550 P 5, I have so well preserved my Taciturnity that I do not remember to have violated it with three Sentences in the space of almost two Years. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Every Sentence comprehends at least Three Words. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VII. 177, I would not lose a sentence that I could gain from lips so instructive. 1787 Reid *Let. to Gregory* 26 Aug., In speech, the true natural unit is a sentence. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* iii, His displeasure was expressed in broken sentences. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* l, The combat, which we describe in a sentence or two, lasted for many weeks in poor Amelia's heart. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* vii. (1875) 61 What the logician calls a proposition the grammarian calls a sentence.

b. *Music.* A complete idea, usually consisting of two or four phrases.

1891 in *Century Dict.* 1893 Shedlock tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Phrase Signs*, The chief elements in Riemann's system are :..(3) The figures..showing period structure (2 for the point of stress of the first group of two measures;.. 8 for the point of stress of the whole sentence).

†**7.** The thought or meaning expressed, as distinguished from the wording; the sense, substance, or gist (of a passage, a book, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 348 Nimeð nu god ȝeme, vor hit is almest Seint Beornardes sentence. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 9571 Þus may þis tretice, with þe sentence, Pryk and stirre a mans conscience. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 429 As lordis of englond han the bible in freynsch, so it were not aȝenus resoun þat þey hadden þe same sentense in Englisch. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 345 *Mulier est hominis confusio*: Madame, the sentence of this latyn is, Womman is mannes loye and al his blis. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 27 The sentence of thys dede is, how John of synt John hathe grauntyd [etc.]. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. ii. 11 Or in othir langage or wordes betokenynge the same sentence. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 7 Perhappis in this matter muche eloquence Sholde make it tedyous or hurt the sentence. *a* 1555 Latimer in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1323/1 They..also added vnto his wordes, to alter his sentence. 1561 *Maitland Club Misc.* III. 284 He was sa far distant fra hyr he mycht not heyr the sentence of hyr word.

†**b.** *In sentence*: = 'in substance'. Very common in Lydgate, often as a mere expletive. *Obs.*

c 1412 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 515 Thow hast wel sayed, For which I wil, in sentence, That thow yive me Audience. 1421 — *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 9 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 15 Parties assemblid..Weren admitted to shewen in sentence, Ground of here quarell. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. viii. 322 And an other cronicler seith in sentence thus [etc.]. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xviii. 48 Gude James the Ferd..In sentens said full subtillie, 'Do weill', [etc.].

†**c.** In generalized use: Significance. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 306 Noght o word spak he moore than was neede And that was..short and quyk and ful of hy sentence. 1402 *Repl. to J. Upland* in *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 59 Now, Jak, to thi questions, nedes me moste answer, althou3 thei wanten sentence and good thrift bothe. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 179 Problemys of olde likenesse and figures, Whiche proved been fructuous of sentence. 1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 828/2 To the xxviii. [article] he sayth as it lyeth it hath no sentence: nor he cannot vnderstande it. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 262 Now if this disorder be in a whole clause which carieth more sentence then a word, it is then worst of all.

†**8.** Intelligence, insight, sound judgement. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) xxvii. 22 On alle maner sal þabbes entirmete hir Al maner of sentence at muster til hir sep. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 3, I have not enterprised the compilacion of this present volume vppon noe presumpcion of witt, sentence, or cunninge of my self. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxcix. 692 There Phylyppe Dartuell, by great sentence, shewed them fro poynt to poynt, the ryght that they thought they had in their quarell.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, (sense 6) *sentence-accent, -making, -monger, -stress, -structure*; (sense 3) *sentence-giving*; **sentence-day**, the day of a trial in which the sentence is pronounced; **sentence-money, silver** *Scots Law* (see quot. 1747); **sentence-word**, a word that serves as a sentence.

1662 *Tryal Sir H. Vane* 51 Wednesday June 11. being the *Sentence-day. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Judication*,.. *sentence-giving. 1870 Whitney *Germ. Gramm.* Suppl. 3 The main peculiarities of German *sentence-making. 1747 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 397 Whereas Sheriffs and stewards have at present no other legal reward, for doing their duty, than *sentence-money, which is a sort of poundage out of the sums decreed for. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* July 46 Nor can he be simply transposed as many a decent *sentence-monger may. 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) V. 412/2 All *sentance silver twelve pennyes of þe pund and other exactiones imposed wpoun sentances..to be pronounced by þe saidis Judges. 1884 H. Sweet in *13th Addr. Philol. Soc.* 93 *Sentence-stress, intonation, and, generally speaking, the higher phonetic analysis of our dialects, are almost ignored. 1872 Minto *Eng. Prose Lit.* Introd. 8 So defective were they in *sentence-structure, that [etc.]. 1889 Mivart *Orig. Hum. Reas.* 260 When used by a young child (or primitive man), *sentence-words require to be supplemented by gesture-signs.

Sentence (se·ntĕns), *v.* Also 7 sentense. [ad. F. *sentencier*, f. *sentence* SENTENCE *sb.* Cf. med.L. *sententiāre*.]

†**1.** *intr.* To pass judgement. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. v. 53 Ye haue falsely sentenced ageyne the trewe parte by cause that he was poure and made nought your purs peysen so heuy. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xxxix. (1612) 191 Like yoong Salomon, in sentencing betwixt Two mothers. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* x. 130 A Breue formed to sentence for the King. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* iii. 127 A Habit of Sentencing, as I may call it, or Determining, particularly in those things which are not defined by any Law.

†**2.** *trans.* To adjudge, or apportion by legal decision. *Obs.*

1616 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Bk. Days* 9 The Day, when all litigious goods, Are iustly sentenc't, by the peoples voyces.

†**3.** To decree or order judicially. *Obs.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 158 Therfore, we may noo more doo for that [it] is sentenced vpon that reame that this enemy hath to wynne it. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 351 Lastly it was sentencyd that the barons shuld restore all suche goodes, as they & theyre company had taken. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 22 Let them..Inforce the present execution Of what we chance to Sentence. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 387 One example of iustice is admirable, which he sentenced on the Gouernour of Casbin. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl., Dom. Maris* 5 That Convention was onely instituted for the execution of such things as were formerly sentenced. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 71 But you may see by his sentencing what he did.

b. *transf.* (*nonce-use*).

1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Character* (1851) 30 'He had better keep his bed to-day?' asked Faddle benevolently. 'Yes, to-day', sentenced [Dr.] Saffron.

†**4.** To decide judicially. *Obs.*

1586 *Let. to Earle Leycester* 24 Forasmuch as she stood obstinately in the deniall of matter..most iustly sentenced against her. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 5 As well these which are determinable by the Law of Nations, as these which are sentenced by the Ciuil Law and other Lawes. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (1886) 109 This cause came to be heard and sentenced this day. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 160 The matter in Debate was by the parochial Assembly sentenced at first. 1681 *Heylin's De Jure Par. Episc.* Pref. 2 If..any Controversie arose touching Lands or Inheritance, they sentenced it.

†**5.** To declare judicially or authoritatively. Chiefly with complement. *Obs.*

a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 51 Justification doth sentence this of mee, that I am just before God. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* (1622) Pref. 17 The Heathen Poet: who sentenceth all wicked, and licencious liuers, to bee no better, then a kinde of pragmaticall Atheists. 1625 LAUD *Serm.* 19 June 18 They sinne against their owne conscience..by sentencing Good Euill, and Euill Good. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* II. 95 The clearness of his judgment..sentenceth the place venerable. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 211 An auspicious Title, signifying that they whose names were found there, should be sentenced worthy of eternal Life.

†**6.** To pass judgement on (a person or his actions, the merit of anything). *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 98 After this cold considerance, sentence me. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* Epist. 1, I know I..am lykest to receaue most controlement of such as are least able to sentence mee. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 251 His sufficiency must now be sentenc't, not by pondering the reason he shewes, but by calculating the yeares he brings. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. v. P 4 Far from sentencing a piece on its first representation, we are jealous of its apparent merit while aided by scenic deception.

7. To pronounce sentence upon; to condemn *to* a punishment.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xl. 175 He being then indighted, Was hardly found a Felon, and too stricktly sentenc'st so. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iv. 8 Our throats are sentenc'd, and stay vppon execution. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 Slaves sentenced to the gallies. 1681 FLAVEL *Right. Man's Ref.* 179 Though they were sentenced to death, yea though they sentenced themselves. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Dec. 1684, The offender was sentenc'd and repriev'd. *a* 1714 ABP. SHARP *Serm.* Wks. 1754 II. 94 A wretch,..being convicted of grievous crimes, and thereupon justly sentenced to suffer death for them. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXVII. V. 17 They sentenced Phœbidas to a fine of 10,000 drachmas. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXIV, She was tried, and sentenced. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 566 He was hastily tried, convicted, and sentenced to be hanged.

transf. 1884 BROWNING *Family* 31 'Sole remedy is amputation'... His three sons heard their mother sentenced. 1895 BARING-GOULD *Noémi* XXIV. (ed. 2) 339 Which had lighted up the face of the man sentenced to a living tomb.

8. In various nonce-uses: a. To put into sentences. Also *absol.* or *intr.* To compose sentences.

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 32 It would giue vs occasion either in wording or sentensing the princip all parts thereof, to looke back a little into this outworne dialect. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. x. § 22 Let a man have..a facility of rhyming or sentencing.

b. To influence by maxims. Also *To sentence it*: to speak in aphorisms.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xciii. 272 Let me heare one wise man sentence it, rather then twenty Fooles, garrulous in their lengthened tattle. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* Pref., So it is as impossible by short documents to sentence them into their Wits and good Manners again.

Hence **Sentenced** (se·ntĕnst) *ppl. a.* Also **Se·ntencer**, one who sentences.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 270 He who can make the best and most differences of things by reasonable and wittie distinction is to be the fittest iudge or sentencer of decencie. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* v. L 4, The thief is found:..I beg That I may be his sentencer. ‖ *c* 1637 CLEVELAND *Elegy on Ben Jonson* 31 When thy maim'd Statue hath a Sentenc'd Face, And Looks that are the Horror of the Place. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* IV. xxiii. 628 It becomes not me to sentence either the sentenced, or sentencers that adjudged him to death. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IV. ix, Haruth and Maruth went, The chosen Sentencers. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* III. x, He had brooded lone O'er promised pangs to sentenced guilt foreshown. 1890 *Athenæum* 10 May 603/3 A friend..convinces the Home Secretary that it was the dog, not the sentenced man, who pulled the trigger and shot the victim. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 2/3 It is strange that the sight of a young fellow breaking down under his sentence should excite anyone, and particularly the sentencer, to such abuse.

Sentencill, obs. form of SENTENTIAL *a.*

Sentenel, obs. form of SENTINEL.

Sentener, obs. form of CENTENIER.

Sentential (sente·nʃăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *sententiāl-is* in the form of a sentence, f. *sententia*: see SENTENCE *sb.* and -AL.]

†**1.** Containing, or of the nature of, 'sentences' or 'maxims'. *Obs.*

a 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 51 Right so though I haue not seien scripture Of many bookes right sentenciall [etc.]. 1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* lxxxix. (Arb.) 125 The two first staffes of this Sonnet are altogether sententiall, and euerie one verse of them is grownded vpon a diuerse reason and authoritie from the rest. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 13 Containing principally..holy sentences, (whence also they may be called Sententiall).

2. Pertaining to a sentence or series of words in syntactical connexion.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv. 15 Verball expressions, or sententiall significations. 1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art of Reading* 142 Of the accentual speech I have mentioned two kinds; one verbal, the other sentential. 1776 GEDDES *Prosp. New Transl. Bible* 127 My translation..is neither literal nor verbal; but, if I may use the term, strictly sentential. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 379 There are two sorts of [poetical] pauses, one for sense and one for melody, perfectly distinct from each other. The former may be called sentential, the latter, harmonic pauses. The sentential pauses are those which are known to us by the name of stops.

3. Of the nature of a 'sentence' or final judicial decision. ? *Obs.*

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 121 The judgement of the Church doth not hinder the sententiall iudgement of our Sauiour. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 441 Seazing on their money be a sententiall forfeiture. 1677 OWEN *Doctr. Justif.* iv. 186 No more is Justification the change of a person from inherent unrighteousness unto Righteousness, but a sentential Declaration of him to be Righteous. 1701 BEVERLEY *Grand Apocal. Quest.* 9 After the Words going forth there is the Epoch of the 70 Weeks Fix'd; and in the Wise Provision of the Holy Spirit, we have an Explanation,..of the Words going forth by the Decree, or Sentential Word of the God of Israel.

4. *nonce-use.* Pertaining to opinion.

1792 D. LLOYD *Charact. Men*, etc. 22 Noisy discord and sentential strife.

Sententially, *adv. Obs.* or *rare.* Also 5–6 sentencially, -yally. [f. prec. (perh. not separately used until later) + -LY[2], after med.L. *sententiāliter*.]

1. By way of (judicial) sentence; judicially.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. xliii. (1859) 50 To alle the remenaunt after, Iustice sentencyally seyd: goo, al ye condempned and foriuged to brenne withynne the fyre of Helle. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Agnes* 262 Wherefore sentencyally I [the prefect] þe deuyse. *c* 1460 *Osney Reg.* 89, I axe þe saide Executours to þe forsaide best..to þe saide church of Cudelynton and to my lordis aforsaide..sentencially and diffinityfly to be condempned. 1544 BALE *Chron. Sir J. Oldcastle* 39 We sentencyallye and dyffynytyuely by this present wrytynge, iudge, declare and condemne the seyd syr Iohan Oldecastell..a most pernycyouse and detestable heretyque. 1673 BAXTER *Let.* in *Answ. Dodwell* 83 Whether a man *de facto* have been drunk,..it were hard judging sententially meerly on trust from others. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxxii. 540 He is virtually condemned now, and will be sententially condemned in the judgment of the great day.

2. *rare.* In or by sentences.

1860 WORCESTER (citing *Coleridge*), *Sententially*, by means of sentences. In later Dicts.

Sententiary (sente·nʃiări), *sb.* (and *a.*) *Hist.* [f. med.L. *sententiāri-us* (see below), f. L. *sententia* SENTENCE *sb.*: see -ARY.]

A. *sb.* a. One who writes or utters sentences or aphorisms. b. A compiler of 'sentences' or opinions of doctors of the Church on theological questions. c. A commentator or lecturer on the Book of Sentences (see SENTENCE *sb.* 2 b).

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 575 One of your owne, that lived about 170 yeares past, writing of your Sententiaries, alledgeth this place of the Apostle against them. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 2 Their schooldiuinitie, as Gabriel Biel, one of their chiefe Sententiaries.. hath laid it downe. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* I. 14 Using..the Fathers, Scholasticks, Sententiaries, Canonists. 1817 COLERIDGE '*Blessed are ye!*' Introd. 14 The inspired poets, historians and sententiaries of the Jews. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2490/1 The prevailing scholasticism [15th c.] and the method of the sententiaries.

¶ *erron.* A sententious discourse.

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. ii, It is easier to the warm heart of our cousin Warwick to preach sententiaries of sternness to his king, than to enforce the same by his own practice. *Ibid.* III. vi, Though his sententiary as to nature and science lacked loyalty and respect.

B. *adj.* [*Mod.* as transl. of med.L. *sententiārius*.] *Sententiary Bachelor*, a bachelor of the second order of theology in the Middle Ages, whose office was to lecture on the Sentences of Peter Lombard.

1889 in *Century Dict.* s. v. *Bachelor.*

So **Sententia·rian**, † **Sente·ntiarist** = prec. *sb.*

1677 OWEN *Doctr. Justif.* Introd. 8 It is..to no purpose to handle the mysteries of the Gospel as if Holcot and Bricot, Thomas and Gabriel, with all the Sententiarists, Summists, and Quodlibetarians,..were to be raked out of their Graves to be our guides. 1882 OGILVIE, *Sententiarian.*

† **Sente·ntiate**, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. med.L. *sententiāt-*, ppl. stem of *sententiāre*, f. L. *sententia*: see SENTENCE *sb.* and -ATE[3].] *trans.* To pronounce a judicial decision on, to adjudge or decide (a cause).

1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 313 The fourth Councill of Carthage prohibiteth the bishop to heare and sententiate any mans cause without the presence of his Clergie. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvii. 314 They very much doubted..if by any one part, or all of them together, it had been so judicially sententiated and awarded [*si plus iuridiquement eust esté par eux sententié*].

† **Sente·ntiolist.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *sententiol-a* a short aphorism, diminutive of *sententia* SENTENCE *sb.* + -IST.] A stickler for phrases.

1660 GAUDEN *Funeral Serm. Brounrig* 171 Not that he was such a Formalist, Verbalist, and Sententiolist, as could not endure any alteration of words, or phrases, or method, or manner of expressions in the Liturgie.

† **Sente·ntioner.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sentent-ia* SENTENCE *sb.* + -ION + -ER[1].] = SENTENTIARY *sb.*

1545 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. vi. (1550) G iij b, Nothynge can be more euydent then this, specyally to them that hath red the tryfiynge workes of the Sophisters, sentencyoners, schole doctoures, canonystes, and summystes. *Ibid.* ix. H ij, An infynyte table..of sentencyoners & summistes. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 358 b, Wherein reygneth ..For Evangelistes, cruell Canonistes, Copistes, Decretaries, Summularyes seditious Sententioners.

Sententiosity (sentenʃiɒ·siti). *rare.* [f. L. *sententiōs-us* SENTENTIOUS + -ITY.] Sententiousness; also a sententious remark.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi. 23 *Nosce teipsum* of Thales: *Nosce tempus* of Pittacus: *Nihil nimis* of Cleobulus;..are but vulgar precepts in Morality, carrying with them nothing above the lyne, or beyond the extemporall sententiosity of common conceits with us. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Feb. 7/1 A..dull compilation of sententiosities about the gross public and Byron and Shelley [etc.].

Sententious (sente·nʃəs), *a.* Forms: 5 sentencyowse, 6 -cyous(e, -ci(o)us, sententius, -ouse, 6–sententious. [f. L. *sententiōsus* (Cicero), f. *sententia* SENTENCE *sb.*: see -OUS. Cf. F. *sentencieux*, OF. *sententieux* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†**1.** Full of meaning; also, of persons, full of intelligence or wisdom. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/1 Sentencyowse, or full of sentence, *sententiosus*. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* Prol. 5 O vertuous Lydgat moche sentencyous. 1509 —*Past. Pleas.* XIV. (Percy Soc.) 53 The boke of fame, whiche is sentencyous He [Chaucer] drewe hym selfe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 75 He is ane hie theolog sentencius. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 83 This is a notable and sententious comparison. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 3 Your reasons at dinner haue beene sharpe & sententious. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* vi. 43 Let your stile..bee..sententious, yea better furnished with sentences then words. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* Wks. (1904) 135 Teares have Tongues, Sententious showers, o let them fall.

2. Of the nature of a 'sentence' or aphoristic saying.

1542 UDALL tr. *Erasmus* (*title*) Apophthegmes that is to saie, prompte, quicke, wittie and sentencious saiynges, of certain Emperours [etc.]. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 264 Brief sententious precepts. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 205 P 1 Sometimes [he] uttered grave reflections, and sententious maxims. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 676 The depth of sentiment was contracted into sententious epigrams. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 341 Many sententious and quasi-proverbial lines are ascribed to him [Menander].

3. Of discourse, style, etc.: Abounding in pointed maxims, aphoristic. In recent use sometimes in bad sense, affectedly or pompously formal.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* VIII. (Percy Soc.) 29 To make of nought, reason sentencious, Clokynge a trouthe wyth colour tenebrous. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, M. Cato* (1595) 373 His grace..in speaking..was pleasant and yet graue:.., sententious, and yet familiar. 1624 GATAKER *Wife in Deed* 1 It hath this preeminence aboue most, if not all, the Bookes in the Bible; that many of them are Sententious, this consisteth all of Sentences. For what are Diuine Prouerbs, but select and choise Sentences. 1681 DINELEY *Jrnl.* in *Trans. Kilkenny Archæol. Soc.* Ser. II. II. 22 [The Irish language] is sharp and sententious, with quick apothegmes, and proper allusions. 1747 DODDRIDGE *Life Col. Gardiner* 175 [He] only replied, in his Sententious Manner, 'We have an Eternity to spend together'. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Brutus* P 4 In Greek he affected the sententious and laconic way [of speaking]. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 187 Their wit [was] strong and sententious. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. i, The truth of this speech palliating its sententious absurdity, made Cecilia give up her faint attempt to soften him. 1833 MACAULAY *Ess., War Succ. Spain* P 3 Lord Mahon is also a little too fond of uttering moral reflections in a style too sententious and oracular. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* XXXIX. (1853) 192 His ordinary discourse was grave and sententious. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* II, A long sententious letter, full of Latin quotations. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* VII. (1878) 117 The sententious remarks of a pompous child. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 269 A person of gentlemanly bearing, small abilities, and sententious wisdom.

4. Of persons: Given to the utterance of maxims or pointed sayings. Now often in bad sense, addicted to pompous moralizing.

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case Altered* I. v. 289 Come, you are so sententious, my lord. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 66 By my faith, he is very swift, and sententious. 1630 BRATHWAIT

Eng. Gentlem. (1641) 5 This indifferencie towards fortune is excellently described by the sententious Seneca. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* II. v, Sententious Mirabell! Pr'ythee don't look with that violent and inflexible wise Face. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* ii. § 7 Sallust was a sententious pedant. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 214 You grow so horrid sententious. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., The Marquis de Hautlieu..was as short and sententious as French politeness permitted. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* XXXVI, He was a sententious person.

†5. Of a symbol: Expressive of a whole sentence; opposed to *verbal*. *Obs.*

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 149 The matter whereof these armes do consist is the same that the auncient Hieroglyphiques weare with the Ægiptians, or the sententious Emblemes to the Greekes. 1701 GREW *Cosmol. Sacr.* II. vi. 68 The making of those Figures being tedious..put Men first upon contracting them..instead of Sententious Marks, to think of Verbal; such as the Chineses still retain.

†6. Of composition: Consisting of detached sentences. *Obs.*

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 250 The first word of a new paragraph..is commonly put in Small Capitals...But this rule may be very well laid aside in matter which is too sententious and which would take up more Small Capitals than an ordinary..Fount could supply. *Ibid.* 386 Others are so sententious in their writing that they break off almost at every place that will admit of a Full-point.

Sente·ntiously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

†1. According to the sense; not word for word (of a translation). *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 26 A pore brodur and welwyller.. hath purposed wyth goddys grace to make..fro latyn in-to englyssh, sentencyosly, as foloweth thys symple translacion.

2. In a sententious manner; tersely and pithily.

1481 CAXTON *Tulle of Old Age* I. (R. Suppl.), The sayd versis of the grete poete be of grete effect, purposed sentencyously in few wordis. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3196 But as Salomon sayth sententiously, 'There may be no counseyll power ne prudence [etc.]'. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* x. 89 Iuvenal of Satyrists is the best, for..though he be sententiously tart, yet is his phrase cleare and open. 1726–17 BENTLEY *Serm.* xi. 372 Our Apostle concludes the whole with the words above, sententiously in way of Aphorism. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* 103 If the time which we can spare for such reading is short, books of thoughts, more or less sententiously expressed..will be found very serviceable. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 31 'Who goes slowly goes surely', said the maestro sententiously.

Sententiousness (sente·nʃəsnés). [f. SENTENTIOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The state or quality of being sententious.

1530 PALSGR. 269/1 *Sentenciousnesse.* 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvi. 176 His brevity of succinct speaking, full of gravity, matter, sententiousness. 1725 BROOME *Notes to Pope's Odyss.* I. 41 The solemnity and sententiousness of this speech is taken notice of by Eustathius. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iv. 80 The old King, with that pointed sententiousness he frequently used, said [etc.]. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXVII, 'When people make favourites, they are apt to be deceived by them', Miss Tonks answered, with icy sententiousness. 1870 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. (1877) 94 The frigid sententiousness..of their utterance.

Sentery, obs. form of SENTRY *sb.*[1]

†Senteur. *Obs. rare*—1. [a. F. *senteur* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *sent-ir* to smell + *-eur*: see SCENT *v.* and -OUR.] An odour or smell.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. xviii. II. 314 Much seeking there is after his guts, for the pleasant senteurs and odors wherewith they be stuffed ful.

†Senthis. *Obs. rare*—1. ? Metathetic form of SITHENCE *adv.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. lvi, Senthis till me all veritie be kend, I repute better thus to mak ane end, Than ocht to say that suld heiraris engreif.

†Se·nticous, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *senticōsus*, f. *sentis* a thorn; see -OUS.] Prickly, thorny.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 338 It is a senticous shrub, low and hamated with many dark Prickles.

Sentience (se·nʃiéns). [f. SENTIENT *a.*: see -ENCE.] The condition or quality of being sentient, consciousness, susceptibility to sensation.

1839 POE *Fall House of Usher* Tales (1845) 74 This opinion [of Usher's], in its general form, was that of the sentience of all vegetable things. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 77 The Sánkhyas use them to prove, that the whole world, every constituent part of which is for an end, has for its author that which possesses no sentience,—nature. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempsyc* (1883) 244 If physical *esse* is *intelligi*, and intelligence has been evolved from sentience, clearly physical objective existence has been produced by the ordinary impulse or inherent necessity of evolution.

Sentiency (se·nʃiĕnsi). [Formed as prec.; see -ENCY.] = prec.

a 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Isobel's Child* lx. All which broken sentiency And conclusion incomplete, Will gather and unite and climb To an immortality Good or evil. 1887 R. GARNETT *Life Carlyle* iv. 72 Reasoners who regard all phenomena as affections of their own sentiency. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* II. 285 A universe in which even one being may have been summoned into a sentiency destined to inescapable pain.

Sentient (se·nʃiĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sentient-em*, pr. pple. of *sentire* to feel.] A. *adj.*

1. That feels or is capable of feeling; having the power or function of sensation or of perception by the senses.

1632 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxiv. (ed. 2) 230 Forasmuch as God would that the faculties both intelligent and sentient should predominate in the head [etc.]. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. (1677) 56 This acting of the sentient Phantasie is performed..by a presence of sense, as the Horse is under the sense of hunger, and that without any formal Syllogism presseth him to eat. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* I. viii. § 3 (1734) 71 The Nerves..propagate this Vibration.. to the intelligent or sentient Principle in the Brain. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xiii. (1862) I. 197 [The legend] ascribes to the ship sentient powers. 1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 73 Thus is sentient man acted on by Nature. 1879 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. III. I. 8 We can define it [the relation of Mind to Life] by analytically distinguishing certain functions as sentient from other functions as nutrient.

b. Conscious or percipient *of* something.

1815 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XVII. 45 Of all within Oblivious there he sate, sentient alone Of outward nature. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* XC, The poet's sight grew sentient Of a strange company around.

2. *Phys.* Of organs or tissues: Responsive to sensory stimuli.

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 290 The sentient fluid with which they [the papillæ of the tongue] are supplied. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. 14 In cases of tic douloureux we divide the sentient and not the motive nerves. 1878 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* III. i. 394 A stimulus being brought to bear on some sentient surface.

3. Characterized by the exercise of the senses.

1906 H. JONES in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 558 Sentient experience in short is reality, and what is not this, is not real.

B. a. *absol.* That which has sensation or feeling.

b. *sb.* One who or something which has sensation.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1042 Intelligence is the motion of the intelligence about that which is stable..: but opinion is the mansion of the sentient about that which moveth. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xxii. 220 Some extraordinary alterations in the Brain duplicate that which is but a single object to our undistemper'd Sentient. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 28. 34 They concluded, that all the Phænomena of Inanimate Bodies, and their various Transformations might be clearly resolved into these two things, Partly something that is Real..and partly something that is Phantastical in the Sentient. 1691 HOWE *Redeemer's Tears*, etc. (1846) 210 What can you think of that Spirit that feels every where? that is in the body a universal sentient? 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1907) I. viii. 90 How *being* can transform itself into a *knowing*, becomes conceivable on one only condition; namely, if it can be shown that the *vis representativa*, or the Sentient, is itself a species of being. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. i. 80 Particular modifications of atoms..produced upon the sentient the impressions of different colours. 1886 F. W. H. MYERS *Phantasms Living* I. Introd. 71 The insentient has awoke ..into sentiency; the sentient into the fuller consciousness of human minds.

Hence **Se·ntiently** *adv.* 1847 in WEBSTER.

Sentiment (se·ntimĕnt). Forms: α. 4 sentement, centement, 4–5 sentemente, 4–6 sentement, 5 sentament; β. 7– sentiment. [a. OF. *sentement* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *sentimentum*, f. L. *sentīre* to feel; cf. Sp. *sentimiento*, Pg., It. *sentimento*.

In the 17th c. the word seems to have been re-introduced with the mod. Fr. spelling *sentiment* (1314 in Hatz-Darm.).]

†1. Personal experience, one's own feeling. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 13 For-whi to euery louere I me excuse That of no sentement I þis endite But out of latyn in my tunge it write. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 69 Ye loueres that kan make of sentement In this cas oght ye be diligent To forthren me sumwhat in my labour. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 197 Right so fare I, that of no sentement Saye right naught..But as I herde..This man complayne with a pitous soun.

†2. Sensation, physical feeling. In later use, a knowledge due to vague sensation. *Obs.*

α. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 1177 She cold was and without-outen sentement.

β. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 42 The approach or sentiment of the coole and fresh aire. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 334 While in turns it [*sc.* the hand] approaches nearer to or withdraws farther from this organ [*sc.* the eye], it teaches it to refer..to one place rather than to another, the impression that is produced on the retina, from the sentiment we have of every position of the hand.

†3. Sensible quality; in quot. = flavour. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 189 And other Trees there ben also, that beren wyn of noble sentement.

†4. Intellectual or emotional perception. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 43 Ye in my nakede herte sentement Inhelde and do me shewe of thi swetnesse.

†b. *pl.* ? Abilities. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* XXXIX. xvi, Bledud Gabred reigned, expert in song, And in all musike instrumentes Farre passyng was all other..Suche was his cunnyng and his sentementes, That for a god..Thei honoured hym.

†5. *In sentement* (Lydg.) = 'in sentence': see SENTENCE *sb.* 7 b. *Obs.*

1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 1558 Whan þei were present, Ryat þus he seide, as in sentament [etc.]. 1426 — *Da Guil. Pilgr.* 2135 Transgressyoun ys..shortly, in sentement, Brekyng off a comaundement. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 197, I dar conclude as to my feelyng, By confirmacioun as in sentement, Fewe men be stable heer in ther livyng.

6. What one feels with regard to something; mental attitude (of approval or disapproval, etc.); an opinion or view as to what is right or agreeable. Often *pl.* with collective sense.

1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* vii. (1702) 99 Now there is an exact parallel to be drawn, betwixt one and the other, according to the sentiment of several of the Ancients. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 38 We have not only Plato's Testimony, but..the common sentiment of all the World to Evince and Prove it. 1708 SWIFT *Abol. Chr.* Misc. (1711) 154, I shall handle it..with the utmost Deference to that great and profound Majority which is of another Sentiment. 1725 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 87 My sister Mary is quite of different sentiments from us all. 1773 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 61, I fear there will not be time to wait for your sentiments, but ..I think you will not disapprove of my taking this step. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iii. 27 What were his sentiments respecting the meeting? 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. 87 There needed..scarcely a voice to express the universal sentiment. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiv, Barnet, to say the truth, appeared to entertain an opposite sentiment on the subject. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 190 In one sentiment, indeed, you are pretty well agreed—that the Bible is to be discarded. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 231 We are..not attempting to draw a precise line between his real sentiments and those..attributed to him.

b. In wider sense: An opinion, view (e. g. on a question of fact or scientific truth). ? *Obs.*

1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 17 Sure this is your own sentiment: For you deny not that God knoweth from eternity whether [etc.]. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* Acc. Observ. 2 Proposing..to deliver my Sentiments on certain Heads of Natural History. 1760 DR. WALL in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 174 The duchess had too plainly explained her sentiments of Lady Coventry's condition. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 951 His sentiments seem to have been implicitly adopted by his contemporaries.

†c. Phrase. *In the same sentiments with, in sentiment with*: in agreement with, of the same mind as. *Obs.*

1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 458 He was in the same sentiments with Antony. 1777 A. ST. CLAIR in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 402, I was fully in sentiment with them. 1797 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 397, I am clearly in sentiment with you that [etc.].

7. A mental feeling, an emotion. Now chiefly applied, and by psychologists sometimes restricted, to those feelings which involve an intellectual element or are concerned with ideal objects. In the 17–18th c. often *spec.* an amatory feeling or inclination.

1652 tr. *G. de Costes' Cleopatra* I. To Rdr., I can assure thee that he is better versed in the Sentiments of Love, then in his Breviary. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) x. 57 This sight..gave him such a sentiment of joy, that [etc.]. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 672 What melting sentiments of kindly care, On the new parents seize! 1749 SMOLLETT *Regic.* II. iv, When thy soft heart with kind compassion glows, Shall I the tender sentiment repress? 1771 — *Humph. Cl.* 10 July (1815) 228 My uncle assured him he.. spoke from a sentiment of friendly regard to his interest. 1816 A. KNOX *Rem.* (1834) I. 52 The Church of England.. has manifested no sentiment with such unremitting intensity, as dread of. popery. 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* i. (1852) 26 We should feel a sentiment of modesty at this just but humiliating representation. 1854 LOWELL *Keats* Wks. 1890 I. 226 Men who scrupulously practised the Ten Commandments as if there were never a *not* in any of them, felt every sentiment of their better nature outraged by the 'Lyrical Ballads'. 1872 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (ed. 2) II. 578 The word Sentiments, as used in this and succeeding chapters, must be taken to comprehend those highest orders of Feelings which are entirely re-representative.

b. *Phrenology.* In *plural*, used as the name for the class of 'faculties' (including Veneration, Self-esteem, Benevolence, Wonder, etc.), which are concerned with emotion, and to which 'organs' are assigned at the top of the brain.

1815 SPURZHEIM *Physiogn. Syst.* III. ii. 275 The faculties which produce propensity, together with a peculiar feeling, and which I call sentiments. 1825 COMBE *Syst. Phrenol.* (ed. 2) 153 Genus II—Sentiments. This genus of faculties corresponds to the 'emotions' of the metaphysicians...Dr. Spurzheim has named these faculties Sentiments, because they produce a propensity to act, joined with an emotion or feeling of a certain kind.

8. A thought or reflection coloured by or proceeding from emotion.

1762 LD. KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xvi. (1774) I. 451 Every thought prompted by passion is termed a sentiment. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, This sentiment passed rapidly through William's mind, as he was bolding Amelia's hand.

b. *esp.* An emotional thought expressed in literature or art; the feeling or meaning intended to be conveyed by a passage, as distinguished from the mode of expression.

1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 32 Their finest Expressions, and noblest Sentiments, are to be met with in these Transcribers. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 37 P 5 Either the sentiments must sink to the level of the speakers, or the speakers must be raised to the height of the sentiments. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1907) II. 107 The sentiments and language are the poet's own. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 970 *note*, In the next verse the δὲ connects the sentiment thus [etc.].

c. An epigrammatical expression of some striking or agreeable thought or wish, often of the nature of a proverb or in proverbial language, announced in the manner of a toast by a person proposing to drink with others in company.

1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* III. iii, Come, Mr. Premium, I'll give you a sentiment; here's *Success to usury!* 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1907) II. 116 The speech from the convivial chair, announcing a toast or sentiment. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 225 The 'sentiments' were drank at intervals in very innocent liquids.

9. In generalized use. a. Refined and tender emotion; exercise or manifestation of 'sensibility'; emotional reflection or meditation; appeal to the tender emotions in literature or art. Now chiefly in derisive use, conveying an imputation of either insincerity or mawkishness.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* I. 3 'Tis the monarch of a people

..so renown'd for sentiment and fine feelings, that I have to reason with. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 539 New-fangled sentiment, the boasted grace Of those who never feel in the right place. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 247 The tear of elegant sentiment permanently in his eye. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxx. 55 Nor do their moral and religious impulses remain in the soft haze of self-complacent sentiment.

attrib. 1747 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1892) I. 75 Poets, romance or novel writers, and such sentiment-mongers.

b. Emotional regard to ideal considerations, as a principle of action or judgement.

1851 *Blackw. Mag.* July 20 A man in whose organization sentiment usurps too large a share for practical existence. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. 177 Their metaphysic and psychology..were pregnant with humanistic sentiment. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* 105 A nation with whom sentiment is nothing is on the way to cease to be a nation at all. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 45 Family sentiment is not everything.

†10. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1838 *Workwoman's Guide*, A necktie made of silk or velvet, and styled a sentiment.

Sentimental (sentime·ntăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL. The F. *sentimental*, according to Littré and Hatz.-Darm., is an adoption of the Eng. word as used by Sterne; so also G. *sentimental*.]

1. Of persons, their dispositions and actions: Characterized by sentiment. Originally in favourable sense: Characterized by or exhibiting refined and elevated feeling. In later use: Addicted to indulgence in superficial emotion; apt to be swayed by sentiment.

1749 LADY BRADSHAIGH in Mrs. Barbauld *Richardson's Corr.* (1804) IV. 282 What, in your opinion, is the meaning of the word *sentimental*, so much in vogue among the polite...Every thing clever and agreeable is comprehended in that word...I am frequently astonished to hear such a one is a *sentimental* man; we were a *sentimental* party; I have been taking a *sentimental* walk. 1752 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 27 July, I am still sentimental enough to flatter myself, that a man who could beg sixteen guineas, will not give them. 1763 FR. BROOKE *Hist. Lady J. Mandeville* (1820) 34 Your squires are an agreeable race of people, refined, sentimental, formed for the *belle passion*. 1823 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXVIII. 517 Rousseau addressed himself to the sentimental classes, persons of ardent or morbid sensibility, who believe themselves to be composed of finer elements than the gross multitude. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. xv, A soft sentimental whisper. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, Never satisfied with dropping a sentimental tear when there was room for the operation of effective charity. 1837 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Steele & Addison* Wks. 1853 II. 152/2 Dear Addison! drunk, deliberate, moral, sentimental, foaming over with truth and virtue. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xviii, You have no sentimental nonsense, no silly infatuation..to fear from me. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, I am not setting up to be sentimental about George Sampson.

b. *absol.* (with *the*). † Also (? *nonce-use*) as *sb.*, a sentimental person.

1784 *Unfort. Sensibility* I. 39 Your dying sentimentals, who can..execute more mischief in a single hour, than [etc.]. 1849 G. CUPPLES *Green Hand* iv. (1856) 44 Come, come, old boy,..'twon't do for you to go to the sentimental, you know! 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 48, I could hardly say more without approaching dangerously near to the sentimental.

†c. Arising from sentiment or refined æsthetic emotion. *Obs.*

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 158 Music.. is but..a distant and faint echo of those sentimental and rapturous tunings. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 41 They [i. e. the English in 7th cent.] were only incapable of sentimental pleasure.

2. Pertaining to sentiment. a. Arising from or determined by feeling rather than by reason.

1752 (*title*) Reflections on Sentimental Differences in Points of Faith. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 385 They might have a sentimental preference for the race to which they themselves belonged.

b. That is a matter of sentiment and not of material interests. Often in *sentimental grievance*.

1891 *Weekly Notes* 200/1 The tenant for life..could override the sentimental interests of the remaindermen.

3. Of literary compositions (occas. of music or other art): Appealing to sentiment; expressive of the tender emotions, esp. those of love.

1762 LD. KAMES *Elem. Crit.* ii. (1774) I. 138 *note*, It is beyond the power of music to raise a passion or a sentiment: but it is in the power of music to raise emotions similar to what are raised by sentiments expressed in words pronounced with propriety and grace; and such music may justly be termed *sentimental*. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, A genteel comedy..written in a stile which they have lately tried to run down, the true sentimental, and nothing ridiculous in it. 1805 W. COOKE *Mem. Foote* I. 182 *Piety in Pattens*.. was intended to ridicule a species of writing known under the name of *sentimental comedy*, which was then very much gaining ground upon the stage. 1877 A. W. WARD in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 419/1 The sentimental drama of France and other countries. *Ibid.* 422/2 Vriarte and Jovellanos.. produced a sentimental comedy in Diderot's manner.

Sentimentalism (sentime·ntăliz'm). [f. SENTIMENTAL *a.* + -ISM.]

1. The sentimental habit of mind; the disposition to attribute undue importance to sentimental considerations, or to be governed by sentiment in opposition to reason; the tendency to excessive indulgence in or insincere display of sentiment.

1817 BYRON *Beppo* li, How quickly would I..sell you, mix'd with western sentimentalism, Some samples of the finest Orientalism. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. iii, If we pierce through that rosepink vapour of Sentimentalism, Philanthropy, and Feasts of Morals. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1866) 181 The sentimentalism of youth. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* xiv. II. 279 Such a faith is no rag of metaphysic floating in the sunshine of sentimentalism. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* xciii. III. 303 Very few of the Reformers advocate woman's suffrage, apparently because they are opposed to sentimentalism.

2. An idea or expression indicative of sentimentality.

1833 FR. A. KEMBLE *Lett.* in *Rec. Girlhood* (1878) III. 170 My zeal for the cause of its people is an ignorant sentimentalism. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iii. IX. 299 What is to be done with that elegant inane creature, and his vaporous sentimentalisms. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* ii. (1894) 39 It was of a piece with his [Rousseau's] other sentimentalisms. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xli. 231 The..gushing sentimentalisms of a poet and a woman.

Sentimentalist (sentime·ntălist). [formed as prec. + -IST.] One who cultivates or affects sentimentality; one who holds sentimental doctrines.

1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 63 (1794) II. 447 Let such as come under this latter description..not be confounded with..those barren sentimentalists who love to refine upon sorrows without relieving them. 1821 HOOD *Sent. Journ.* Wks. 1862 I. 34 Some sentimentalists would have vented them upon the first dead dog or lame chicken they might meet with. 1858 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* III. IV. viii. 398 They were not dreamy sentimentalists to fall in love with melancholy winds. 1890 *Spectator* 15 Mar., The fixed notion that to help the rural poor you must injure the landlord, which is held by so many of the sentimentalists, makes it necessary to canvass all their schemes very closely.

attrib. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 29 A sighing, sentimentalist lover.

Sentimentality (sentimentæ·lĭti). [f. SENTIMENTAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality of being sentimental; affectation of sensibility, exaggerated insistence upon the claims of sentiment.

1770 *Monthly Rev.* 181 In a fit of tenderness and sentimentality. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. xvii. 436 She [Chaucer's Prioress] has even the false pity and sentimentality of many modern ladies. 1813 BYRON *Jrnl.* 8 Dec. in *Sheridaniana* 229 Lord Holland told me a curious piece of sentimentality in Sheridan. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 158 The attainment of pure sentimentality in art. 1887 LOWELL *Old Eng. Dramat.* (1892) 128 His plays seem to me now to be chiefly remarkable for that filigree-work of sentiment which we call sentimentality.

b. *pl.* Sentimental notions.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc., Burns* (1840) I. 335 Here are..no hollow fantastic sentimentalities. 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 525 Worn-out sentimentalities of the rose and nightingale. 1878 H. S. LEIGH *Town Garland* 205 The editors..They're all of them eager For sentimentalities put into rhyme.

Sentimentalization. [f. next + -ATION.] The action or process of sentimentalizing.

1839 *Q. Rev.* LXIV. 97 His implied negation of the inevitable results of evil training has a tendency to countenance their studied sentimentalization of the genus scamp. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 315 A boyish poet woos her, offers her a love that shall be richer than her present mere sentimentalisation of conjugal duty.

Sentimentalize (sentime·ntălaiz), *v.* [f. SENTIMENTAL *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To indulge in sentimental thoughts or expressions. Also with *about*. Cf. SENTIMENTIZE *v.*

1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Emilie de Coulanges* (1856) 201 They reproach and torment themselves, and refine and sentimentalize, till gratitude becomes burdensome. 1832 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLV. 194 Here the historian of the conspiracy sentimentalizes. 1860 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XIV. 50 Coming out..to flirt and sentimentalise, and tease and love. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* ii. 16 There is no novelty, no freshness, no mystery, for us—nothing, in short, to sentimentalize about.

b. quasi-*trans.* with *adv.*

1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) II. 40 He will not find me so soon moralized and sentimentalized out of my rights as he found your sister.

2. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) sentimental; to imbue (a person, work of art, etc.) with sentiment or sentimental qualities.

1821 *Examiner* 445/1 His leisure time he amuses..with cultivating his garden, and sentimentalizing it with inscriptions. 1832 MRS. STOWE *Let.* in *Life* (1889) III. 62 Coming away from New England has sentimentalised us all. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. i. 12 Unrestrained indulgence in the pleasures of music..may tend to..sentimentalise the mind.

3. To turn into an object of sentiment.

1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 232 O yes.., sentimentalise him, do! Why don't you sentimentalise his helpless, overworked horse?

Hence **Sentime·ntalized** *ppl. a.*; **Sentime·ntalizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xix. 197, I..whipped up my dogs so much after the manner of a sentimentalizing Christian, that our pagan Metek raised a prayer in their behalf. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 650 Sentimentalizing with the Magdalen and swearing at the Papist are two forms of religious zeal already far too popular in England to need any additional stimulus. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. iv. 105 He might stay at Mount-Royal for months sentimentalizing with Christabel.

Sentimentalizer (sentime·ntălaizə). [-ER 1.] One who sentimentalizes.

1865 LOWELL *Thoreau* Wks. 1890 I. 373 We now and then detect under the surly and stoic garb something of the sophist and the sentimentalizer. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* July 279/1 A sentimentalizer of Bible stories.

Sentimentally (sentime·ntăli), *adv.* [f. SENTIMENTAL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. With respect to sentiment.

1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* v. (1848) 187 An harmonious and sentimentally expressive chiaroscuro. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Chapter on Ears*, I even think that sentimentally I am disposed to harmony. But organically I am incapable of a tune. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 282 The imprecatory Psalms may not supply singing of a sentimentally agreeable quality.

2. In a sentimental manner.

1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I. viii, Elton may talk sentimentally but he will act rationally.

†Se·ntimentize, *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. SENTIMENT + -IZE.] *intr.* ? = SENTIMENTALIZE *v.* I.

1753 RICHARDSON in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr.* (1804) II. 286, I am involved in sentimentizing:—very hard,..that I could not get myself excused from this task.

Sentimentless (se·ntimĕntlĕs), *a.* [f. SENTIMENT + -LESS.] Without sentiment.

1880 JESSIE FOTHERGILL *Wellfields* II. III. i. 146 Why is not genius created senseless, sexless, sentimentless? 1911 *Daily Express* 9 Nov. 5/7 'The War God' is extremely dramatic in its theme, which is the clash between the seer and the sentimentless man of affairs.

†Se·ntinate, *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. late L. *sentīnāt-*, ppl. stem of *sentīnāre*, f. L. *sentīna* bilge-water, sink; see -ATE 3.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM II, To Pumpe water out of a ship. *Sentinate.*

†Se·ntine. *Obs. rare*—1. [a. F. *sentine* or ad. L. *sentīna* (see prec.).] A sink. In quot. *fig.*

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. Convoc.* ii. B vij b, Of the whiche al we..haue experience, the diuel to be a stynkyng sentine of all vices, a foule filthy chanel of al myscheues.

Sentinel (se·ntinĕl), *sb.* Forms: 6–7 centinell, sentinell, 6 centrinel, (centronel, centernell, centonell, sentonell, sentnell), 7 sentronell, sentenel, 6–9 centinel, 6– sentinel. [a F. *sentinelle* fem., sentinel, †watch-tower, ad. It. *sentinella* fem.; Sp. *centinela*, Pg. *sentinella*, are from It. or Fr.

No convincing etymology of the It. word has been proposed. The gender renders it probable that it originally denoted either the function of keeping watch (= sense 2), or a sentry-box, watch-tower, or the like. Cf. *spy, scout, guard*, the Fr. originals of which are all primarily fem.]

1. = SENTRY *sb.* 2. Phr. *to stand sentinel* (rarely pass. *to be set sentinel*). † *Forlorn sentinel* = †*Sentinel perdu, perdu sentinel*: see PERDU *a.* 1.

[The phrases noted above are imitated from Fr.]

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* III. viii. 100 [The Scout Master] ought in placing of his night Watches or Sentinels, to vse great consideration. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 41 And he, that points the Centonell his roome, Doth license him depart at sound of morning droome. 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. i. 70, I was imploy'd..About relieuing of the Centinels. 1593 SUTCLIFFE *Pract. Laws of Arms* xxi. 228 No souldier appointed to stand sentinell, shall depart from the place, or sleepe in the place, vpon paine of death. 1598 YONG tr. *Montemayor's Diana* 120 The gate..was opened to them out of hand by the Centrinels. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 106 Those which are set yet 30 pases farther, are to be single, which of some are improperly called forlorne Sentinels. 1639 *Laws & Ordin. War* 6 Whoever being set Sentinell by his Officer.., or other Service, shall be found drunk; shall dye for it. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 332 They went all to sleep,..without so much as a centinel placed for their guard. 1760 *Cautions & Advs. Officers of Army* 46 By making the Culprit do a double Duty, that is,..making him stand Centinel four Hours instead of two. 1784 *Cook's Third Voy.* II. III. VII. 114 John Harrison, a marine, who was sentinel at the observatory, deserted. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlvi, The..officer..having sent out his night patrols, and posted his sentinels. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 179 'Who goes there?' said the centinel at the gate. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 191 The sentinels who paced the ramparts announced that the vanguard of the hostile army was in sight. 1861 *Two Cosmos* IV. i. II. 6 Cosmo is a great favourite with his regiment.. The sentinels always present their arms to him as he passes. 1881 *Army Act* § 6 Every person subject to military law who..Forces or strikes a soldier when acting as sentinel; or..Being a soldier acting as sentinel,..sleeps or is drunk on his post..shall..be liable to [etc.].

b. *transf.* and *fig.* One who or something which keeps guard like a military sentinel.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 26 *Fairy.* Hence away, now all is well: One aloofe, stand Centinell. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. (1594) C 2 b, And in this groue..Ile lay Ascanius..: These milke white Doues shall be his Centronels. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 132 The mind having stood long centinell upon serious Thoughts, becomes..sluggish. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 3 P 4 A certain race of men..who stand as centinels in the avenues of fame. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lv, Sir Pitt..had given orders not to be disturbed ...—she slipped by the sentinel in livery. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 396 [Bad butter in pastry] thus escapes the very sense which was intended to act as a sentinel to the stomach. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 39 The grim cliff on which the castle stands sentinel over the North Sea.

†c. *Dark sentinel*: one employed to keep secret watch upon a person. ? *nonce-phrase.*

a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 36 But..why she should..permit him to go where and whither he listed, and onely on the security of a dark sentinell set over him, was ..beyond my apprehension.

†2. The occupation, duty or service of a sentinel; chiefly in *to keep sentinel*. *In sentinel*, on guard as a sentinel. *Obs.*

1584 A. MUNDAY *Fidele & Fortunio* 640 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXXIII. 60 Being his turne as he said for to watch this night, And breaking vp sentinel when it began to be light. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 1 Keeping sentinell in the night. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 287 The murderer being in sentinell, one of his owne fellowes

vnawares shot him. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 432 Those that kept the night sentinels. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 23 In which Towers there are always some *Aadgemoglans* in Sentinel. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* 1 Thess. v. 8 The soldiers that..kept centinel.

transf. and *fig.* 1612 BACON *Ess., Of Counsel* (Arb.) 322 Besides Councelles are not commonly so vnited, but that one keepeth Sentinell over another. *a* 1633 HERBERT *Priest to Temple* xviii. (1652) 73 The Parson in Sentinell.

† **3.** A military watch-tower for defence of a camp or the walls of a city. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. 550 Many places were..smitten with lightning..and two watchmen in their Sentinels stricken starke dead. 1612–17 S. DANIEL *Hist. Eng.* 200 King Edward who had gotten to a winde-mill hill, beholding as from a Sentinell,..the countenance of the enemy. 1643 *Lancash. Valley of Achor* 21 The Enemy..fired an house neer the Sentinell. *Ibid.* 25 They fire Houses and Barnes without the sentinell...Thus they heated and smoaked our valiant souldiers from their Sentinell.

† **4.** (*Private*) *centinel*: a private soldier. *Obs.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 5 ₱ 8 There were in the ranks of the company..one Unnion a corporal, and one Valentine a private centinel. 1741 in *Rep. Comm. Ho. Commons* II. 172 (Land Forces, etc.), 70 Grenadiers Coats and Breeches, at 1*l.* 8*s.* 530 Centinels *ditto*, at 1*l.* 6*s.* 1744–5–6 *Ibid.* II. 84, 87 Centinels [= 'Private Men']. 1762 GOLDSM. *Beau Nash* 80 He enlisted himself as a volunteer [in the Dutch army]. Here he underwent all the fatigues of a private centinel. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 483 He..served as a private centinel under the duke of Marlborough, at..Blenheim. 1815 *Articles of War* xxi. 68 But Non-commissioned Officers may be discharged as Private Soldiers, and, by the order of the Colonel of the Regiment, or by the sentence of a Regimental Court-martial, be reduced to private Centinel. 1894 C. WALTON *Hist. Brit. Standing Army* 1660 *to* 1700, xxiii. 417 All soldiers..below the grade of lance-corporal were denominated Privates or more correctly private centinels or private soldiers.

5. *Naut.* (See quot.) Cf. SENTRY *sb.*[1] 5.

1904 W. HALL *Mod. Navigation* (1909) 73 The *Sentinel* is a device for signalling automatically that water of a certain depth has been reached. It is a lead towed behind the ship at a known depth, with gear fitted to it which completes an electric circuit on touching bottom. This circuit contains a bell on board the ship.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive, quasi-*adj.* = acting or serving as a sentinel. **Sentinel crab**, a crab of the Indian Ocean, *Podophthalmus vigil.*

a 1658 LOVELACE *To Lucasta* 1 Like to the Sent'nel Stars, I watch all Night. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 586 The Sentinel-crab, so called from its extreme watchfulness [etc.]. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxxiv, The two sentinel poplars that guarded the front. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 396 The most noble view of Mont Blanc granted by any summit of his sentinel chains.

b. simple attrib., as *sentinel duty*, † *-house*, † *posture*; *sentinel-like*, *-wise* advs.

1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xii. (1743) 107 They perform *centinel duty on foot. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* II. viii. 100 The..rampier of the Picts..at euerie miles end had a..tower.., and watch-towers or *sentinell-houses betweene. 1896 'A. ST. AUBYN' *Bishop's Delusion* 54 The tall white lilies standing *sentinel-like on either side the garden path. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 24 Your *Sentinell Posture. 1642 J. CRUSO *Ord. Milit. Watches* 62 Every Sentinell must stand on his Sentinell posture.

Sentinel (se·ntinĕl), *v.* [f. SENTINEL *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To stand guard over, to watch as a sentinel. *lit.* and *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 942 To wake the morne, and centinell the night. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying of Christ* 28 The watchfull bird that centinels the morne. 1629 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. i. 27 All the powers That centinell iust Thrones, double their guards About your sacred Excellence. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* I. 9 Wee'll centinel their safety: This place Ile guard. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xiv, And mountains, that like giants stand, To sentinel enchanted land. 1868 B. J. LOSSING *Hudson* 48 The winding road was..sentineled by lofty pines. 1894 CLARK RUSSELL *Good Ship Mohock* I. 138 The fellow on deck sentinelling the hatch let us see he was on guard.

† **2.** *intr.* To act as sentinel, stand sentinel, keep guard. *lit.* and *fig. Obs. rare.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 17 My vigilance shoulde haue sentineld for all your sleepes. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. xxii, And all the watchmen, that so nimbly runne, And centinel about the walled towers.

3. *trans.* To furnish with or as with a sentinel or with sentinels.

1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 33 The Lord Fairfax..wisely Sentinel'd and Perdu'd it to prevent Surprisals. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxviii, They have sentinelled your door with armed men. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug., A wide course had been prepared duly roped off and sentinelled with police. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 Oct. 7/2 Three passes led into our valley, and I gathered they were all well sentinelled.

4. To post as a sentinel.

1827 POLLOK *Course of Time* VII. (1869) 196 The light that fell From angel-chariots sentinelled on high. 1832 LONGF. *Native Land* 7 There dwells the soul..sentinelled in heaven. 1870 THORNBURY *Tour round Eng.* II. xx. 68 A statue of the builder sentinelled high up in an airy niche.

Hence **Se·ntinelled** *ppl. a.*

1852 H. SPENCER *Use & Beauty* Ess. 1891 II. 371 The walled, moated, sentinelled security which was irksome to the nobles who needed it.

Sentinelship (se·ntinĕlʃip). [f. SENTINEL *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or duties of a sentinel.

1643 H. HEXHAM tr. *Laws Marshall Dieipl. United Prov.* 3 If any souldier shalbe found sleeping on his centinelship, he shal..be punished with death. 1883 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxiv. (1886) VII. 244 Temple watching, night-sentinelship.

† **Se·nting,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [As if f. **sent* vb., a. L. *sentire* to perceive + -ING[2].] Sentient.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* Ep., Doing, being, growing, senting, and reasonable, as Microcosums.

Senting, obs. f. SCENTING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

Sentisection (se·ntise·kʃən). [irreg. f. L. *sentire* to feel + *sectiōn-em* SECTION.] The dissection of a living animal without an anæsthetic.

1889 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1891 in *Century Dict.* (citing *B. G. Wilder*).

Sentition (senti·ʃən). *rare*[−1]. [Badly f. L. *sentire* to feel + -ITION.] (See quot.)

1865 J. GROTE *Treat. Moral Ideals* (1876) 30 Enjoyment ..is in the same sense the *summum bonum* as sentition or bare sensation is the *summum reale* or *summum verum*.

Sentnell, sentonell, obs. forms of SENTINEL.

Sentorye, Sentre, obs. ff. CENTAURY, CENTRE.

† **Se·ntre.** *Her. Obs.* [Perh. a spelling of CENTRE *sb.*] = PILE *sb.* 4.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv b, A Sentre in armys is called stakar of tentis [? *i. e.* a tent-stake]. *Ibid.* [see SENTRY *a.*].

† **Sentrell.** *Sc. Obs.* ? Corrupt form of CENTNER.

1615 in *Wedderburne's Compt Bk.*, etc. (S.H.S.) 263 Ane schip..laitlie arryved from Danskyne..Conteining..3 quarteris sentrell of pewther..halff sentrell of pewtter perteining to Williame carmichaell.

Sentrice, var. *centries* pl. of CENTRY *sb.*

1522 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 105 Gelis Monro and his complecis tuk one hand to vphaue the sentrice of the brig to the samyn...In the said Gelis defalt, the said sentrice ar broking, spylt and away to the see haid.

Sentronell, obs. form of SENTINEL.

Sentry (se·ntri), *sb.*[1] Forms: 7 sentrie, (centrie, -tree, sentery), 7–8 century, 7–9 centry, 8– sentry. [Perh. a shortening or back-formation (apprehended as containing -RY *suffix*) from *centrinel* (1598), *centronel* (1594): see SENTINEL *sb.*]

† **1.** = SENTINEL *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1621 COTGR., *Barbacane*,..some hold it also to be, a Sentrie, Scout-house, or hole. *Garite*,..also, a Sentrie, or little lodge for a Sentinell, built on high. *Guerite*.., also, a Sentrie, or Watch-tower. *Vedette*, a Sentrie, or Court of gard, placed without a fort, or campe. 1649 J. ROSWORM *Good Service Ill Rew.* in *Lanc. Tracts Civ. War* (Chetham Soc. 1844) 223, I advised him, that..he would immediately walk to the Deansgate, and from thence to the other Centuries, using his best encouragements to prop up their hearts against any dangers. 1653 COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* XXX. (1663) 118 Instead of Bulwarks it hath Sentries or Watch-towers.

2. *Mil.* and *Naval.* An armed soldier or marine posted at a specified point to keep guard and to prevent the passing of an unauthorized person; spec. *Mil.*, each of the men of a military guard (see GUARD *sb.* 9) posted at regular intervals round an army in garrison or in the field to watch the enemy, prevent a surprise attack and challenge all comers. Phr. *to stand sentry.*

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 141 The great silence kept within, made them hold the enterprize for accomplished, there being neither Centrees, nor rounds to be seene. 1650 T. B. *Worcester's Apophth.* 53 The Lieutenant call'd upon the Centry to give fire. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sentinel*, or *Sentry*, 'Tis not long since they said, To be on the Scout, in the same Sense as we now say, To stand Sentry. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 349 They appointed double centries over me. 1777 H. GATES in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 437 The advanced sentries of my pickets are posted within shot. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 189 The other [soldier] with his arquebuss on his shoulder is standing centry. 1822 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 221 The Standing Orders ..are to be distinctly read..after the Sentries first posted return to the Guard. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. i, The sentry at the gate saluted and admitted him. 1859 O. W. HOLMES *Boston Hill* 23, I hear their pacing sentry's tread. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 374 On the approach of any person, the Sentry will port Arms and call out, Halt! 1908 *King's Regul. & Ord. for Army* ₱ 937 The commander will visit his sentries at least twice by day and twice by night.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* One who or something which keeps guard like a military sentry.

1650 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. *Peace* Wks. (Grosart) I. 85 My soul, there is a countrie Far beyond the stars, Where stands a winged centrie All skilfull in the wars. 1670 SEDLEY in Medbourne *Tartuffe* Epil., Though Zeal stand Centry at the Gate of Sin, Yet all that have the Word pass freely in. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 20 ₱ 4 She..got him a post upon a Stall in Wapping where he may be seen ..as Centry to a Brandy-shop. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit. & Contempl.* (1818) 224 His trusty dog, who, for a considerable time stood centry at the door,..snores with his master. 1901 *Speaker* 20 July 446/2 Wild geese..when on the feed throw out sentries which keep a strict look out.

3. The occupation, duty, or service of a sentry; also the watch kept by a sentry, esp. in *to keep sentry.*

1639 *Laws & Ordin. War* 9 Whosoever shall be convicted to have slept upon his Watch, Guard, or Centry..shall be put to death. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 12. 174 Thou whose nature cannot sleepe, On my temples centry keepe. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 412 What evasion [can] bear him safe Through the strict Senteries and Stations thick Of Angels watching round? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 388 Here Tolls, and Death's half-brother, Sleep, Forms terrible to view, their Centry keep. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 89 Your Soldiers..cannot be able to keep sufficient centry about it. 1835 in *Rep. Comm. Milit. Punishm.* (1836) 192 [Scale of Punishment] Dilatory on sentry (if slight) 1 extra sentry or drill. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* XXXI, Some are on sentry.

† **4.** A military guard or watch. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 387 The Pharisees..obtained of Pilate to have..the Sepulchre watched by a strong Guard of Soldiers. This Centry would not suffer the Body to be conveyed out.

5. *Naut.* An apparatus in the form of an inverted wooden kite (towed from the stern of a vessel at a set depth), which is automatically released from its slings on striking the bottom and thus gives warning of the shoaling of the water by sounding a gong on board the vessel.

Invented by Mr. S. H. James, C.E., and adopted in the Royal Navy in 1889. Cf. SENTINEL *sb.* 5.

1894 S. T. S. LECKY *Wrinkles in Navig.* (ed. 9) 176 The Submarine Sentry.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sentry-bird*, *place*; **sentry board,** 'a platform outside the gangway of a ship for a sentry to stand upon' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **sentry-fashion,** like a sentry; **sentry fish, lark** (see quots.); also SENTRY-BOX, SENTRY-GO.

1857 EMERSON *May-day* Poems (1883) 204 When pacing through the oaks he heard Sharp queries of the *sentry-bird. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownsh.* 113 The [Custom-House] officer sauntered *sentry-fashion round and round his prize. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* (1665) 25 A strange sort of Oyster, that is called the *Sentry fish for his nature; for it is fastned to the Rocks, and most commonly stands open to catch fish. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 208 The *Sentry Lark (*Macronyx capensis*) has received its name from the peculiar cry that it utters when disturbed, which sounds exactly like the *Qui vive!* employed as a challenge by French soldiers on guard. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 116 The Tower of St. Nicholas..has..a *Sentry-place at each Angle. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IX. vi. ₱ 1 The subject of my *sentry-watch could not be mistaken.

Sentry (se·ntri), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Comb.* in proper names. Also 6 sentrie, 7 centrie, centori(e, 8–9 centry, sentry. [A contracted form of the earlier *sentuarie*, *seintuarie*, *saintuarie*, variant forms of SANCTUARY influenced by the Fr. form *saintuaire.*] = SANCTUARY. Also *attrib.*

1590 NASHE *1st Pt. Pasquil's Apol.* C 4, He hath no way now to slyppe out of my handes, but to take sentrie in the Hospitall of Warwick. *c* 1600 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees) 59 Att y^e^ easte end of the said Chapter howse..is a garth called y^e^ centrie garth where all the priors & mounckes was buryed. 1774 W. GOSTLING *Walk about Canterb.* xi. 67 A wall..with a very ancient arch in it, corruptly called the centry gate as parting the cœmetery or burying place of the laity from that of the monks. 1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 305/2 There is in most parishes of this county [Cornwall] a field (generally near the church-yard), which is commonly called the sentry (perhaps sanctuary). 1849 ROCK *Ch. of our Fathers* I. iv. 311 When Simeon the monk of Durham wrote, c. A.D. 1129, this latter cross stood in the centry-garth or cemetary of that cathedral. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. III. 254 At Moreton Hampstead, co. Devon, is a large field adjoining the church; it is called the Sentry-field.

† **Se·ntry,** *a. Her. Obs.* [f. SENTRE + -Y.] = PILY *a.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv b, The threde cootarmure restriall is calde in armys whan a cootarmure is sentry of dyuerse colowris to the poynt and whatt sentre mydyll in the point y^t^ coloure is the felde. The blaseyr shall blase from y^t^ colowre to the next colowre of the lefte side of the cootarmure and blase the colowre sentri. [1889 ELVIN *Dict. Her.*, *Sentrie*, an old term for Piles.]

Sentry (se·ntri), *v. rare.* [f. SENTRY *sb.*[1]] **a.** *trans.* To guard as a sentry. **b.** *intr.* To perform the office of a sentry.

1873 W. S. MAYO *Never Again* xii, To where a postern, deep in shade, Is sentried only by the maid. 1900 *Daily News* 27 Sept. 5/1 Most of the prisoners are..surrounded by a thick barbed wire fence, and sentried by the Gloucesters. 1910 T. HARDY in *Eng. Rev.* Apr. 1 The unslumbering sea, That sentrys up and down all night, all day, From cove to promontory.

Sentry-box. [f. SENTRY *sb.*[1] + BOX *sb.*[2] 13.] A small wooden structure in which a sentry may stand at his post in bad weather.

[1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 176 The thoughtless Wits..Who 'gainst the Centry's Box discharge their Tea.] 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Centry Box*, a wooden Cell, or Lodge, made to shelter the Centry..from the Injuries of the Weather. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xv. 65 Sentry boxes are placed at certain distances. 1827 SYD. SMITH *Cath. Quest.* Wks. 1859 II. 127/1 What is really possessed of a country so subdued? four or five yards round a sentry-box, and no more. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 372 On the approach of the relief, a Sentry will place himself in front of his Sentry-box.

Sentry-go. [Orig. a phrase of command; SENTRY (used vocatively) + Go *v.* (imperative).] **a.** *int.* (See quot. 1867.) **b.** The patrol of a sentry; also, the duties of a sentry.

1852–63 BURN *Techn. Dict.* II. (Eng.-Fr.), Sentry go! *en faction!* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sentry go!* The order to the new sentry to proceed to the relief of the previous one. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 23 Sept., The gallant fellows who were taking their turn at sentry-go on the other side of the Indus. 1884 ROBERTS in *19th Cent.* June 1059 Constant guard mounting, with its accompaniment of impaired health from 'sentry go'. 1886 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xx, We'll have to do sentry-go.

Hence **Sentry-going,** doing sentry-go.

1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 280/2 After his long term of hard labour at patrolling and sentry-going, as guardian of the line.

Senttuary, sentuarie, obs. ff. SANCTUARY *sb.*[1]

† **Senture.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *ceinture*: see CEINTURE.] A girdle.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4063 Þe kyng..him spoilis, Puttis of to be selfe serice senture & othire. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3925 A sword I-shethid, with seynture I-fretid all with perelis.

Sentwarie, -y, obs. ff. SANCTUARY *sb.*[1]

Senty, obs. form of SEVENTY.

† **Sentynode,** variant of CENTINODY.
1526 *Grete Herball* cccxlviii. (1529) T iv b.

Senue, obs. form of SINEW *sb.*

Senurie, senurre, obs. forms of SEIGNIORY.

Senvulle, obs. form of SINFUL *a.*

† **Senvy.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 senei, 3–4, 6 senevey, 4 senevei, 4–5 seneveye, 4, 6 senevy, synevey, 4–7 senvey, 5 senvyne, senefee, synewey, 6 senvye, synvy, sinvy, 6–7 senvie, seny, 7 seenie, seeny, (sceny), 5–8 senvy. [a. OF. *senevé*, also *-vei, -vel, -vil* (mod.F. *sénevé*) :—pop. L. **sināpātium*, f. *sināp-i* mustard.]

1. The mustard plant: see MUSTARD *sb.* 2.
c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 554/9 *Sinapium*, [Fr.] *seneuel*, [? Eng.] senei. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clv. (1495) 705 Senueye hyghte Sinapis..and though all the herbe in substaunce be kene and feruent: yet Bein louyth beste the floures of senuey. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 349/1 Mustard, or warlok, or se(n)vyne, herbe (MS. S. senwyn), *sinapis*. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 76 b, Q. Beareth Argent and verte..6 leafes de Senuye d'Or. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lv. 618 There be two sortes of Senuie, the tame & the wilde, wherof also the tame or garden Senuie is of two sortes. *Ibid.* 619 The seconde kinde of tame Mustarde.. whiche is the blacke Mustarde & common Senuy. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xxviii. 44 Senuie..bringeth foorth that seede whereof mustard is made. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ix. 190 The second kinde [of Mustard may be called] common Mustarde, or fielde Senuie. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xxxvi. 244 Senuie or mustard delighteth in a fat ground. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX. xxii. II. 73 The hearbe Senvey, whereof there be three kinds. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* II. ii. 267 The wheat seemed to have disappeared, to make room for a prodigious quantity of senvy, which looked extremely well.

2. = MUSTARD SEED 1.
1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 31 The kyngdam of heuenes is like to a corn of seneuey. *Ibid.* xvii. 19 3if 3e shulen haue feith, as a corn of seneuey. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Min. P.* 240 If yee haue as mochil feith as is the greyn of Senefee. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 85, I putte no3t..in..ouer þe quantite of a corne of senvey. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 610 Senvy let sowe hit now. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 41 If ye haue feith, as moche as hath þe corn of synewey. 1505 *Will of Jerard* (Somerset Ho.), Beryng yerely to the heyre a pownd of Senvye. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 86 He that in suche wyse will vomite, let him eate hastyly..townkeris, rokat, synuy, or purslane. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lv. 619 The Mustarde, especially the seede which men cal Senuie, is hoate and dry, almost in the fourth degree. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandises* M 4, Garble of Seny the pound ij.d.

3. *Comb.*: **senvy-seed** = MUSTARD SEED 1.
1398 in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* II. 174/2 Seneueyseed. 13.. *Sloane MS.* 5 lf. 11/2 Sinapis, tam semen quam herba.. A(nglice) Seneuy sed. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* viii. 149 A sester and a semycicle take Of senuey seed. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 212 Seneueye seed. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Sinapi*, senuie seede wherof mustarde is made. 1606 RIDER *Lat.-Eng. Dict.*, *Sinape*,..seenie seed. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 518 White Sceny-seede..being put into broath..will [etc.]. 1678 LITTLETON *Lat.-Eng. Dict.*, *Sinape*,..seeny seed...*Eng.-Lat.*, Senvie seed.

† **Senye.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 seȝ(e)n, seng, seiȝn, seȝin, 3 seine, 4 seigne, seyne, 5 senge, synge; *Vocabs.* 5 seny(e, ceny, senny, sene; 6 senye; *Sc.* 5 seyne, senyhe, senȝe, seinye, 6 senȝie, seinȝe. [App. of mixed origin: the OE. *segn* (ad. L. *signum* SIGN *sb.*) seems to have coalesced in early ME. with an aphetic form of *enseigne, asseigne*, ENSIGN *sb.*]

1. A military banner or standard = ENSIGN *sb.* 5.
Beowulf 2958 Þa wæs æht boden Sweona leodum, segn Higelace. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. [xi.] (1890) 184 His segen, se wæs mid golde & mid godwebbe gefrætwad. *c* 1275 LAY. 9282 Nam he his seine and his sceald briþte. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5468 Waster non þat wolde hym feye When þey sey þe kynges seigne. *Ibid.* 10024 Arthurr dide his folk abide, To arme þem, & til ordeyne Whylk schuld go, & wyþ whilk seyne.

2. A distinguishing mark, emblem, token. *In seyn that*, to signify *that*.
a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2370 Abraham..sette friðotacen.. on his selfes sunu, heht þæt segn wegan heah gehwilcne, þe his hina wæs wæpnedcynnes. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 197 Þis makeþ, quod þe wiht, þe marke of gold; And þis saues, quaþ þat wiht, þe seyne of seluer. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2055 He drissede in a derfe schelde,..With a dragone engowschede..Deuorande a dolphyne..In seyne that oure soueraygne sulde be distroyede. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3108 Then Parys pertly proffert a seigne, For to telle his entent. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Orig. Cron.* v. iii. 433 (Cott.) A Roman.. gat on þat seyne [*w.rr.* senyhe, senȝei þat Brettownys bar; syne can he seyne Hym a Brettowne for to be. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 290 Þus has god..Sette his senge [*sc.* the rainbow] ..Vppe in þe Ayre of heght. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XI. (*Wolf & Sheep*) xvii, Ye gart me schute behind; Vpoun my hoichis the seinyeis may be sene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 170 The Rede Reiffar..Held out a gluff, in takyn off the trew. His men beheld, and weyll that senge knew.

3. A battle-cry, rallying cry = ENSIGN *sb.* 1.
1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 139 Corrupt carioun, he sall I cry thy senȝie. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 222 Thai cryit on hicht thair seinȝe wounder lowde. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 78 Syne loud on hicht he cryit hes his seinȝe, With that ane flicht of mony fleand ganȝe.

4. A book-marker.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/1 Seny, of a boke, *indula*.

5. A token or tally used by innkeepers.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/2 Ceny, or tokyn of an in or ostrye, *tessera*. *Ibid.* 453/1 Senye, of an inne or ostrye, *texera*.

6. A signboard.
1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 33 Certane of the Baillies..of Edinburgh..brak and kaist doun, senyeis of wyne, expres aganis all ordour, the said Cannongait being..evir in possessioun of selling of wyne.

Senyeory, -our, obs. ff. SEIGNIORY, SEIGNIOR.

Senyght(e, obs. forms of SENNIGHT.

Senyhe, Sc. variant of SENYE *Obs.*

† **Se·nyie.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5 senȝhe, 6 senȝe, sanȝe, seinȝie, seinze, seinye, 6–7 senȝie, senzie, 8 senyie, (9 senzie). [App. an irregular alteration of SENE *sb.*[3], possibly due to association with *senyie* sign: see SENYE.] A deliberative meeting of clergy; a synod.
c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. i. 53 Þis pape of Rome..Gert a senȝhe solempne be seyn. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 79 Off Sathanis senzie syne sic ane vnsall menzie. 1524 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 107 Thai war informit that my lord of Aberdeen was nocht to cum afor the sanze. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 1967 Sir, I socht law thair..Bot I culd get nane at Sessioun nor Seinȝe. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Reform.* Wks. (1846) I. 172 After the Pasche he came to Edinburgh, to hold the seinze, (as the Papistes terme thare unhappy assemblie of Baallis schaven sorte).
attrib. and *Comb.* 1683 G. MARTINE *Reliq. Divi Andreae* (1797) 40 And after the reformation, I find they met in the *senzie chamber. 1552 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 280 That.. all sic sumpteous banketing be laid doun aluterlie except thre sobir and honest, vizt., upoun the *senze day [etc.]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 226 All maner of man havand entres to compeir vpone the seinzie day. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 97 And terrour garr'd them loup pell-mell Frae *senzie-house, kirk, court and cell. 1596 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 330 In the *Seinzie ouk efter Pace.

Senyor, -your(e, etc.: see SENIOR, SEIGNIOR.

Senyster, Senzie: see SINISTER, SENYIE.

Seoc(k, Seod, obs. ff. SICK, SEED.

Seofe(n, Seofeðe: see SEVEN, SEVENTH.

Seogun: see SHOGUN.

Seoile, variant of SOILE, seal (animal).

Seok, Seolk(e, -en: see SICK, SILK, -EN.

Seollic, -ich(e, variant forms of SELLY *Obs.*

Seoluer, Seoly, obs. ff. SILVER, SEELY *a.*

Seonne, Seop, obs. forms of SIN, SHEEP.

Seosynne, Seotel: see SEASON, SETTLE *sb.*

Seoðe, seoþe, obs. forms of SITH.

Seoudarie, obs. form of SUDARY.

Seouwe, seow(e, obs. ff. SEW *v.*, SOW *v.*

Seove, Seoveniht: see SEVEN, SENNIGHT.

Sep, obs. f. SHEEP. **Sepage,** var. SEEPAGE.

Sepal (se·păl). [= Fr. *sépale*, ad. mod.L. *sepalum* (proposed by Necker 1790), formed after *petalum* PETAL by substitution of the first syllable of L. *sēpārātus* SEPARATE *a.* Cf. LEPAL.]

1. *Bot.* Each of the divisions or leaves of the calyx of a flower.
[1821 GRAY *Nat. Arrangem. Brit. Pl.* I. 128 Sepales. Leaves, Sepala, Phylli, *Folioli calycini*. The distinct segments into which the calyx is divided.] 1829 LINDLEY *Synops. Brit. Flora* 7 Order 1. Ranunculaceæ *Juss.* Sepals 3–6. 1832 — *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 114 The sepals are generally longer than the corolla in æstivation..: during flowering they are mostly shorter. 1840 B. KINGDON tr. *De Candolle's Veg. Organogr.* II. III. ii. 48 Of the Calyx or Sepals. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* i. 6 A common flower..consists, firstly of an outer envelope or calyx, sometimes tubular, sometimes consisting of separate leaves called sepals.

2. *Compar. Anat.* (See quot.)
1894 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med.* etc. *s.v.*, In the anatomy of the lower animals, certain thin, leaf-like organs are also called *sepals*.

Hence **Se·pal(1)ed** *a.*, only in parasynthetic comb., as *gamo-, two-sepalled*, etc., having one sepal, two sepals, etc.
1821 GRAY *Nat. Arrangem. Brit. Pl.* I. 124 Calyx...Composition. Gamo-sepaled, one-leafed...Two-sepaled, two-leaved...Many-sepaled. 1838 BARTON & CASTLE *Brit. Flora Med.* II. 465 *Sepalled*, having sepals. 1864 in WEBSTER, and in later Dicts.

Sepaline (se·pălin), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sepalīnus*, f. *sepal-um*: see SEPAL and -INE.] Of or belonging to the sepal of a flower.
1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Sepaline*, relating to the sepals. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 11 Aconitum..covered by the sepaline hood.

Sepalody (se·pălodi). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. **sepalōdium*, or f. mod.L. *sepal-um* SEPAL + -ODE + -Y, after *phyllody*.] The reversion of the petals of a flower into sepals by inverse metamorphosis.
1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Sepaloid (se·păloid), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *sepaloid-eus*, f. *sepal-um*: see SEPAL and -OID.] Of the nature of or resembling a sepal.
1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 135 Sepaloid petals. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 256 Observe..the sepaloid outer and petaloid inner perianth-leaves of Allsma.

Separability (se·părăbi·lĭti). [f. SEPARABLE *a.* + -ITY.] The quality of being separable.
1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxxiv. 418 Aristotle inferres the separability and independance of the understanding on the Body. 1742 tr. *Algarotti on Newton's Theory* II. 213 The Separability of the Rays is prejudicial to the Perfection of Telescopes. 1864 *Reader* 9 Apr. 450/1 This apparent separability between heat and light. 1890 *Spectator* 5 Apr. 463/2 The theory of the separability of the soul from the body.

Separable (se·părăb'l), *a.* Also 5–7 seperable. [a. F. *séparable* (15th c.) or ad. L. *sēpārābil-is*, f. *sēpārāre*: see SEPARATE *v.* and -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being separated.
Separable accident, quality: one which can be separated from its subject.
1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 193 Siþthen þei ben surlepes [*MS. G.* seperable]..thei han sondry names. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt. v–vii.* Prol. (1550) 9 b, Though they [fayth, loue, and hope] be inseperable, yet they haue seperable and sondry offices. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 67 Common qualities, are separable, or inseparable. The former may be added or taked away from the subiect, without destruction thereof; as coldnesse from the water, whitenesse from paper. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 64 Separable accidents. 1643 DIGGS *Unlawf. Taking Arms* iv. 93 That the Magistrate is separable from the man is evident. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 217 A true natural aristocracy is not a separate interest in the state, or separable from it. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 22 Shell..conical, separable into two parts. 1850 NEWMAN *Lect. Difficulties Anglicans* ix. 223 Catholics..hold that faith and love,..faith and works, are simply separable, and ordinarily separated in fact.

b. *Gram.*
1773 BAYLY *Gram. Heb.* 14 The Cases are expressed either by entire Prepositions, called *separable*, or by a letter of the preposition prefixed to the noun, and called *inseparable*. 1815 S. LYON *Heb. Gram.* 61 Separable pronouns, signifying the agent. 1888 K. MEYER *Germ. Gram.* I. § 246 Verbs compounded with separable prefixes.

† **2.** ? Capable of separating. *Obs. rare*—[1].
c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XXXVI. 6 In our two loues there is but one respect, Though in our liues a seperable spight.

Hence **Se·parableness; Se·parably** *adv.*
1628 COKE *On Litt.* 151 b, The Rent incident to the Reuersion separably, but the fealtie incident to the Reuersion inseparably. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* To Rdr. b 5 b, The Separableness of Accidents from Subjects of Inhæsion. 1864 KINGSLEY *What, then, does Dr. Newman mean?* 33 The separableness of faith and works. 1906 *Tablet* 23 June 965 All idea of order or separableness among the elements of the spirit-life must be abandoned.

† **Se·paralty,** altered form of SEVERALTY, after med.L. *separālis*: see SEVERAL *a.*
1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Rec.* (1891) 167 That the said Deane and chapiter..shall..occupie and enjoye in separaltye ..the grownde commonlie caulled the Great fleate ponde.

Separate (se·părĕt), *pa. pple., a.*, and *sb.* Forms: 5–6 seperat, 5–7 separat, 6–8 seperate, 5– separate. [ad. L. *sēpārāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sēpārāre*: see SEPARATE *v.*]

† **A.** as *past pple.* Separated. *Obs.*
1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 73 If hit were separate [L. *si separaretur*] in that maner from this worlde habitable. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 Preamble, The same..Hereditamentes shuld be..separat severed and disanexed from the Duchie of Cornwall. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 969 Whan all the officers departed were thens Supposynge the soule seperate from the body. 1555 PENDLETON in *Bonner's Homilies* 33 b, Those, that haue seperate from the catholyke church. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 51 After they have separate from all other Churches. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 31 Why was my breeding order'd and prescrib'd As of a person separate to God. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vii. 7 The Atoms or Particles which now constitute Heaven and Earth, being once separate and diffused in the Mundane Space,..could never [etc.].

B. *adj.*

1. Parted, divided, or withdrawn from others; disjoined, disconnected, detached, set or kept apart. Const. *from*.
1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 422 He sought them both, but wish'd his hap might find Eve separate. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. iv. 35 'Twere hard to conceive an eternal Watch, whose pieces were never separate one from another, nor ever in any other form. 1729 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Oedip. Colon.* II. 162 He died without Sepulchre, separate from any Man. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 80 Stamens and Pistils are said to be separate when they are found upon the same plant, but in different flowers. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xx, The moment in which I detect the least sign of treachery, thy head and body are three yards separate! 1846 BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 29 Phosphorus..is never met with in a separate state, but always in combination with some other element. 1849 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ix, The footsteps appeared to have some object quite separate and disconnected from herself. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxv. 66 A friendship..Which masters Time indeed, and is Eternal, separate from fears. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 41 Small separate plates of ice are formed.

b. Of persons, a dwelling, etc.: Withdrawn from society or intercourse; shut off from access. *Separate confinement*, the system of confining prisoners in separate cells.
1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 166 This castle..being separate from concourse of people, and a solitarie place fitte for a man to studie in. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 24 The Women..are all lodged in a separate appartment together. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 954 Now, in a secret vale, the Trojan sees A sep'rate grove. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lviii, See, here's the plan of my Bungalow, with all convenience for being separate and sulky when I please. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 191 Conduct these culprits each to separate cells, 1849 *Edin. Rev.* July 11 The tendency of prolonged separate confinement is to affect the mind. 1863 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Gaols* 13 Prisons..upon the separate system.

c. Of a soul: Not joined to a body, disembodied.
1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xiv. § 2 (1712) 130 Separate Souls being ἰσάγγελοι, in a condition not unlike the Angels themselves. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 15 Whatever Ideas the Mind can receive and contemplate without the help of the Body, it is reasonable to conclude, it can retain without the help of the Body too, or else the Soul, or any separate Spirit, will have but little advantage by thinking.

d. Parted or withdrawn from the Church.

1680 STILLINGFL. *Mischief of Separation* 32 Nothing doth more alienate mens affections than withdrawing from each other into separate Congregations. 1686 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. vii. Wks. 1718 I. 451 A Church that is separate from the Church Catholick.

2. Withdrawn or divided from something else so as to have an independent existence by itself.

Separate establishment: see ESTABLISHMENT 10 b.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 July 1691, He..was..the sole industrious mover, that it should be made a separate parish. 1724 WATERLAND *Farther Vind. Chr. Div.* ii. 58 The prevailing Custom of Speech, which never gives the Name of Substances to any thing, but where the Substance is separate, or separable. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* vii, He proceeded to enrol the troops into separate bodies. 1861 *Two Cosmos* v. iv. II. 156 He had ready for publication an Essay on the separate existence of Matter. 1887 ZINCKE *Hist. Wherstead* 188 If it is regarded disconnectedly and as a separate entity, it teaches little.

b. Belonging or peculiar to one, not common to or shared with the other or the others.

Separate maintenance: see MAINTENANCE 7 b.

1673 TEMPLE *To Dk. Ormond* Wks. 1757 II. 235 This point can only be gained by a separate peace between us and Holland; for if the war should come to end in a general treaty [etc.]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Separate*, distinct, particular, different. 1711 SWIFT *Cond. Allies* (ed. 2) 86 Have not those two Realms their separate Maxims of Policy, which must operate in Times of Peace? 1771 *Junius Lett.* lix. 307 That each of them should act his separate part with honour and integrity to the public. 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiv, 'Kind host', he said, 'our needs require A separate board and separate fire'. 1823 — *Quentin D.* xxxvii, Each pressed forward upon his separate object. 1840–1 DE QUINCEY *Style* III. Wks. 1890 X. 203 One poem which..has a characteristic or separate beauty of its own. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xiii. 84 A married woman, although having separate estate, and living apart from her husband. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. 3 Luther and Calvin in their separate ways brought into splendid prominence their new ideas of moral order.

c. Considered or reckoned by itself (although mentioned as one of several); single, individual.

1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* P 19 While the great body [of the empire], as a whole, was torpid and passive, every separate member began..to move with an energy all its own. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xvi, Just as there comes a warm sunbeam into every cottage window, so comes a love-beam of God's care and pity for every separate need. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 716 The metamorphoses of material proceed *pari passu* with the growth of the separate parts.

d. Distinct in occurrence or enumeration; not combined or put together.

1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 161 Three separate baths of this strength.

C. *sb.* (absol. or ellipt. uses of the adj.).

1. One who withdraws from the Church; a separatist.

1612 W. SCLATER *Minister's Portion* 2 What ods is there betwixt this beggerly conclusion of those old beggers, and that of late separats, that make it Christs ordinance for Ministers to liue of their peoples voluntary contribution. 1647 OWEN *Eshcol* (1648) 52 He that will not separate from world, and false-worship is a Separate from Christ. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* I. ii. 41 Chusing rather to be a rank Separate, a meer Quaker, an arrant Seeker.

2. A member of an American Calvinistic Methodist sect of the 18th century, so called because organized into separate societies.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2160.

3. *U.S.* An article or document issued separately; esp. a copy of an article reprinted from a magazine, volume of 'transactions', etc., for separate distribution.

1886 *Rep. of U. S. Sec. of Treasury* 405 (Cent.) It will be noticed that to the questions 16, 17, and 18, in the separate of January 18, 1886, no reply is given by the superintendent of the mint. 1892 *Athenæum* 12 Nov. 666/3 From time to time we receive odd 'separates' of papers published in the *Proceedings* of the United States National Museum. 1894 *Harvard Teachers' Assoc. Leaflet* No. 11. 4 The geographical report..might be reprinted in the annual report of the superintendent of public instruction, from which 'separates' could be struck off. 1897 *Nat. Science* Dec. 432 This 4to tract..cannot be a separate of the Mém. de l'Inst. paper.

4. *Math.* Any one of a set of partitions into which a partition of a number can be separated.

1888 MACMAHON in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* (1889) XI. 2 A partition is separated into separates by writing down a set of partitions, each separate partition in its own brackets, from left to right, so that when all the parts of these partitions are assembled in a single bracket, the partition which is separated is reproduced.

5. A period of separate confinement (see B. 1 b).

1904 A. GRIFFITHS *50 Yrs. Publ. Service* xv. 193 There were penal servitude convicts of both sexes doing 'separates', the first probationary period of nine months, a modified form of solitary confinement.

Separate (se·pārēt), *v.* Also 6–8 seperate, 7 separat; *pa. t.* 6 *Sc.* seperat, 8 separate. [f. L. *sēparāt-*, ppl. stem of *sēparāre*, f. *sē-* (see SE-) + *parāre* to make ready, prepare.]

I. Transitive senses.

1. To put apart, set asunder (two or more persons or things, or one *from* another); to disunite, disconnect, make a division between.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 149 [They] supposede that God wolde separate theyme that he myghte subiecte theym diuidede the rather to hym. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* viii. 35 Who shall seperate vs from goddes love? *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 113 And surelie the distance betwixt London and Lysbon, should not stoppe any kinde of frendlie dewtie..if the greatest matter of all did not in certeyne pointes separate our myndes. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 27 Life and these lips haue long bene seperated. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. viii. 18 The dragon wing of night ore-spreds the earth And stickler-like the Armies seperates. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 143 Naturall Death doth but separate the body from the soule: But spirituall Death separates the soule from God. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 970 Rather then Death..Shall separate us, linkt in Love so deare. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 279 Separate the wires, and the effect ceases. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 91 Being thus separated from my attendants, I lost my way. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I.X. 158 What separates nation from nation so completely as ignorance of each other's speech?

b. *refl.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 42 They..have separated them selves from the laye men, countinge them viler then dogges. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) G viij, Hee ought to worke the matter wisely in seperating himselfe from the multitude. *a* 1600 HOOKER *1st Serm. Jude* § 11 (1614) 17 Men do separate themselues either by heresie, schisme, or apostasie. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 9 If one part of the Universall Church do separate it self from another part,..not as it is a part of the Universal Church, but only so far as it is corrupted and degenerated. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 173 To the Anglican Church he had always been strongly attached, and had repeatedly, where her interests were concerned, separated himself with regret from his dearest friends.

c. To put asunder in thought, to distinguish, treat as distinct. Also with *off*.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 182 The good of the Soveraign and People, cannot be separated. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 315 When the elevation of the object becomes too small to be discerned, as separated from the luminous reflection. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. vi. 143 In modern history it seems to me always impossible to separate religion from politics. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (1875) 85 Men had not yet learned to satisfy their consciences by separating the person from the office. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 12 It is as great a mistake..for the theologian to separate off the ship from the passengers as for the naturalist to separate off the passengers from the ship.

2. To remove from conjugal cohabitation, esp. by a judicial decree. (Cf. SEPARATION 3.)

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 331/2 Commaundyng to forbydde priestes that had not yet maryed, for to marry. And those y^t^ had maried, to bee separated from their wyues. 1764 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 325 The Duke and Duchess of Grafton are separated, though the articles are not yet agreed upon between them. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* iii. xiii, My Lord Mohun was separated from his wife.

3. To keep apart or divide by an intervening space or barrier. Of the intervening medium: To part by lying between, to occupy the space or interval between.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 32 Whether..nature.. had not so deuided and seperated the East from the West. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xii. 47 The goulph of Ponthus..separateth Asia from Europe. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 208 It standeth so neere the mountaine last mentioned, that they are onely separated with the foresaid riuer. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 6, Stables and even Kitchens ought to be separated from the main body of a Palace. 1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 39 Climbing up the rock.., he found at the bottom of it a narrow lake, which separated it from the land. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, The younger race..had..broken down many of the barriers which separated for half a century the Norman victors from the vanquished Saxons. 1822 PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 259 This shell has six turns, very projecting, deeply separated. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 276 The ten centuries which separated the reign of Charlemagne from the reign of Napoleon. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* I. xiii. 303 The deep gulf which separates the two regions.

4. To set apart or segregate for a special purpose. Const. *for, to, unto.* (Chiefly in Biblical language.)

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiii. 2 Seperat me Barnabas and Saul for the worke where vnto I have called them. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* i. 1 Paul..separated vnto the Gospel of God. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 9 Who separated the Gentile and rejected the Iew? 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* i. 12 Whoever of the ancient Patriarchs first separated a Tenth. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* v. viii. (1818) II. 92 Every trespass upon that reserve which public decency has established breaks down the fence by which the day is separated to the service of religion. 1798 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 11 You are now, Sir, vested with power to ordain and separate others to the work of the ministry.

† b. To exclude, prohibit. *Obs. rare*^−1^.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 51 Lastly, who shall forbid and separat all idle resort, all evill company?

5. To remove or part (a substance) *from* another with which it is combined or mixed; esp. to do this by some technical process. Also with *out*.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 147 The Tinne and Leade is mingled with Silver, but so, as it doth not largely quit the cost of the labour in seperating or trying it. 1683 SOAME & DRYDEN *Boileau's Art Poet.* IV. 1090 From the fine gold I separate the allay. 1784 CULLEN tr. *Bergman's Phys. & Chem. Ess.* I. 221 The selenite may be still better separated from the iron, by boiling the dried residuum [etc.]. 1830 M^c^COSH *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 205 It is in the furnace that the dross is separated. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 198 Plants..are able slowly to separate out and assimilate the potash from these rocks and soils.

b. Of a gland: To secrete. Of a material substance: To give off or emit from itself. ? *Obs.*

1692 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 33 There being Glandules on purpose to separate a humor for that purpose. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 206 Furnished with glands, which separate a substance that has the smell of musk. 1805 SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 286 Cheltenham water, when fresh drawn, appears tolerably clear...It becomes more turbid by standing, and separates air bubbles in a small quantity.

6. To divide into (two or more) parts. *rare.*

1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Tr.* 34 Moyses liftit vp his vand, and seperat the see. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 196 As a shepherd separates his flock, These to the upland, to the valley those.

† 7. *absol.* To make a division or severance. *Obs.*

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Isa.* lix. 2 Your iniquities haue separated betwene you and your God. *a* 1653 BINNING *Princ. Chr. Relig.* Wks. (1735) 9 The Cloud of our Sins, that separates between God and us.

II. *intr.* (Cf. the reflexive use 1 b.)

8. Of a person: To quit the company or society of another or others; to go away, secede or withdraw *from* (esp. a church).

1684 BAXTER *Answ. Theol. Dial.* 19, I must not separate from every Kingdom, Church, or Family that is ill governed. 1711 *Countryman's Let. to Curate* 20 William Whittinghame one of those that Compiled the Francfort Liturgie, and separate with the rest to Geneva upon the Contest about the English Liturgie. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xv, No, Miss Lucy Bertram, while I live I will not separate from you.

Indirect passive. 1595 F. JOHNSON (*title*) A Treatise of the Ministry of the Church of England. Wherein is handled this question, Whether it be to be separated from or joyned unto.

b. Of two or more persons: To quit each other's society or company; (of a company) to break up.

1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. § 39 When there was not room enough..for their Herds to feed together, they, by consent, ..separated, and inlarged their pasture. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iv, They separated at an early hour. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xix, The conversation held between the latter and Mr. Sawyer..before separating for the night. 1885 PATER *Marius* (1910) II. xx. 86 It was time for the company to separate.

c. To withdraw from conjugal cohabitation.

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 332 The differences that happen between man and wife..and the Reasons that move 'em to separate. 1794 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* *11 The parties had separated the 24th of July, 1793, and no evidence had been produced to affect his client, but cohabitation since the separation. 1819 *Ibid.* (1820) 252 Is the prisoner your husband?..Yes. I believe you separated from him for some time?—Yes.

9. Of a thing: To part (*from* something else); to be disunited or disjoined, to become detached; to draw apart or asunder.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 219 The bridge..has a plain and easie passage over 30 long boats, concatenated and made to separate at pleasure. 1739 S. SHARP *Oper. Surg.* Introd. 43 The Bullet makes an Eschar, which usually separates in a few days. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 390 Swammerdam..was of opinion that the bones themselves separated from each other, and closed again. 1801 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* V. 222 The gangrene was separating. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 549 The mortified parts separated, without assistance, from the sound parts. 1832 *John Bull* 13 Feb. 56/1 The roof of the nave has separated in one place from the wall.

b. Of a mineral or chemical substance: To be parted or disengaged from a mass or compound; to be drawn *out* from a solution in the form of crystals or as a precipitate.

1863 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 486 The salt separates in minute needles. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1874) 211 On cooling, potassium nitrate separates out in crystals.

Separated (se·pārēted), *ppl. a.* [f. SEPARATE *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses of the verb: Set apart or asunder, disjoined, withdrawn, etc.

Separated milk: milk from which the cream has been extracted by a separator.

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xli. 13 The house..and the seperated buyldinge. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23/2 If the separated partes can not with ease be brought together. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. iii. 144 Our seperated fortune shall keepe vs both the safer. 1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* IV. 255 The separated sulphurs or Chymical Oyles of things. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. v. (1677) 333 The Sect of the Sadduces..denied..the Existence of Angels or separated Intelligences. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 442 Every province is a separated state and has an entire sovereignty within itself. 1730 POPE *Let. to Gay* 11 Sept., I can't but look upon myself..as a separated spirit too from Courts and courtly fopperies. 1869 M. PATTISON *Serm.* (1885) 174 The Protestant or other separated communions. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Apr. 5/4 To prevent the wholesale dilution of whole with separated milk. *absol.* 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. Wks. 1709 III. 1 64 Widowhood..is much to be preferred before Separation; for the Separated are Savage Animals, uncapable of the prettiest Ties of Society. 1744 *Life & Adv. M. Bishop* 216 In the Morning all the separated got together again, to receive Orders.

Hence **Se·paratedly** *adv. rare.*

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 417 So no spirit did at all subsist, separatedly, subsisting alone, out or beside the body.

Separately (se·pārətli), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a separate manner; singly, severally, apart.

1532 HULOET, Separatly, *separatim.* 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 557 Togidder or separatlie as neid beis. 1612 BACON *Ess., Counsel* (Arb.) 324 It is of singuler vse to Princes, if they take the opinions of their Councell, both seperatly [1625 Seperately] and together. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4736/4 Hannah the Wife of Richard Hamp..liveth separately from her said Husband. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. i. Two separate, perhaps separately-voting Orders. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xx. 155 If you leave to every one separately what you desire each to have. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 388 Other things which we need not separately enumerate.

Se·parateness. [-NESS.] The quality, state, or fact of being separate.

1638–6 MEDE *Rev. God's House* (1638) 3 Sacred things,

which continue their state of separatenesse and sanctitie. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. xi. i. 219, I know men and women who pique themselves on their separateness from the world. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* 3.5 The Jews were steadfast in their separateness, and through that separateness Christianity was born.

Separatical, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sēparāt-* (see SEPARATE *v.*) + -IC (see -ATIC) + -AL.] Pertaining to separation in religion.

1846 WORCESTER (cites *T. Dwight*).

Separating (se·părēitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SEPARATE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of SEPARATE *v.*

c 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 44 *note,* This separating of chaf and dust awai from yᵉ good corne is called in greek ΛΙΚΜΑΝ. 1623 COCKERAM II, A Seperating of man and wife. *Diuorce.* 1644 MILTON *Divorce* I. x. (ed. 2) 26 By the separating of unmeet consorts. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxii, If so, his meeting with his plighted bride, after so many years' absence, was but a delusive preface to their separating for ever.

attrib. 1641 FRENCH *Distill.* i. (1651) 34 Let the Oil that is drawn with the Water be separated with a..seperating Glass. 1855 D. K. CLARK *Railway Mach.* 153/2 Edwards' separating pipes..for disengaging the steam from the priming.

Separating (se·părēitiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SEPARATE *v.* + -ING 2.] That separates, in various senses of the verb. † *Separating line* = SEPARATRIX.

1694 HALLEY *Oughtred's Key Math.* 3 Decimal Parts are written in the same line with Integers; but are distinguished by a rectangular line; which is therefore called the Separating Line. 1850 MISS WARNER *Wide Wide World* xxxvi, She clasped Alice, as if she feared even then the separating hand. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 23 The low separating wall.

† b. = SEPARATIST *a.* (Cf. *dissenting.*) *Obs.*

1734 WATTS *Relig. Jud.* (1789) 127 He attends the best of preachers in their separating meetings.

Separation (sepărēi·ʃən). Forms: 5–6 separacion, 6 -acyon, seperacion. 6–7 seperation, 6– separation. [a. OF. *separation, -acion,* F. *séparation* (= Pr. *separatio,* Sp. *separacion.* Pg. *separação,* It. *separazione*), ad. L. *sēparātiōn-em,* n. of action from *sēpārāre*: see SEPARATE *v.*]

1. The action of separating or parting, of setting or keeping apart; the state of being separated or parted. † *To make separation,* to make a severance or division.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xix. 64 And so the tyme come that seperacion shold be made bitwene this swete appel and this Appeltre and so it felle to the erthe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 128 b, Saynt Austyn sayth, that the passage of yᵉ chyldren of Israel from Egipt, signifyeth the separacyon of mannes soule from synne by.. baptym. *c* 1550 N. SMYTH tr. *Herodian* VI. 73 The Illirian nacions, dwellynge in a smale streyte,..doo onelye make seperacion betwene Italye, and Germanye. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. i. 28 Since their more mature Dignities, and Royall Necessities, made seperation of their Societie. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Funeral Serm. C't.ss Carbery* Wks. 1831 IV. 110 From whence it follows, that because the body casts fetters and restraints..on the soul, that the soul is much freer in the state of separation. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. v. 63 The Chaos, when it was first set on work, ran all into divisions, and separations of one Element from another. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 184 The separation of the Arabs from the rest of mankind, has accustomed them to confound the ideas of stranger and enemy. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XIV. 346 The mind Learns..to keep In wholesome separation the two natures. 1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 2 The entire separation of Church and State is really their object. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 363 After the age of six years the time has arrived for the separation of the sexes. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxiv. 255 Nothing but a separation from her lover..could accomplish this object.

2. The action of separating oneself, withdrawing, or parting company. † *To make separation,* to withdraw, go apart.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 240 Whan the Soule from the body xal make Separacion. 1623 E. JESSOP *Discov. Err. Anabaptists* 85 Here we see..that a separation ought to be made from all kind of Idolatry and vnrighteousnes of the heathen. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Bro.* III. v, Remove her where you will, I walk along still; For, like the light, we make no separation. 1686 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. iii. Wks. 1718 I 232 As separating into Parties..exposes the Separatists themselves to great Temptations to Atheism, so it doth those also who..stand engaged on neither Part of the Separation. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, When a separation from those we love is imminent, [we] cannot rest until the parting be over. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 356 It was the first active movement towards a separation from Rome. 1886 *Nat. Rev.* Mar. 83 With Mr. Parnell.. Separation is a means to an end.

3. Cessation of conjugal cohabitation, either by mutual consent of the parties or imposed by a judicial decree granted at the suit of one of them. *Judicial separation*: the name now given to the 'divorce *a mensa et thoro*' of the older English law: see DIVORCE *sb.* 1.

1600 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (Camden) 98 But in conclusion the woman scaped better cheape then was looked for, having only sentence of separation *a mensâ et thoro.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII,* II. i. 148 Did you not of late dayes heare A buzzing of a Separation Betweene the King and Katherine? 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. Wks. 1709 III. 1. 64 The usual Causes of Separation is assign'd as the Fault of the Wife. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xi, In order to prevail with him..to consent to a separation from his wife. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxv, Wasn't there a scandal about their separation? 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 85 § 16 A Sentence of Judicial Separation (which shall have the Effect of a Divorce *a Mensâ et Thoro* under the existing Law..) may be obtained, either by the Husband or the Wife, on the ground of Adultery [etc.].

† **4.** A sect of separatists or dissenters from *the* Church; esp. in the 17th cent., the body of Protestant nonconformists collectively. *Obs.*

1599 [H. JACOB] *title,* A short Treatise..Against the Reasons ..of Maister Francis Johnson, with others of the Separation. 1608 BERNARD *Chr. Advert.* 163 Positions..maintained by some godlie Ministers of the Gospell against those of the Separation. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. i, Such rebukes we of the Separation Must beare, with willing shoulders. 1623 E. JESSOP *Discov. Err. Anabaptists* 80 Which is the best ordination and succession, the Church of Rome..hath..and which the separations doe contend for. 1710 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 141 This is both a court and a church-game, and the separation it self isn't free from it.

† **5.** A separated portion, a division. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[IMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. ii. 435 Every portion of these foure had thirteene separations which had all their signs or particular figures. 1785 HUTTON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1788) I. 246 By this means the separations of the stone diminish, in a progression from the centre towards the circumference.

6. The place where two or more objects separate or are divided from one another; a parting, line of division.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 435 In woemen they are diuided by a line, which separation the Greeks call Ανσωμα.., in English we cal it the shed of the haire. 1839 W. CHAMBERS *Tour Rhine* 47/1 We now come to the separation of the Maas and Waal branches of the river. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 48 In the *brachiopoda* the separation is horizontal.

7. Something that separates or effects a division or partition; an interval or break between two objects; a cause of separating. *rare.*

1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 68 The Walls, which make the separation of every Apartment. 1728 R. MORRIS *Anc. Archit.* 51 Some omit this Member, and have only the second Fascia, projected..beyond..the first, without any Separation. 1821 RICH *Journ. Persepolis* 25 Aug. in *Babylon & P.* (1839) 249 The separation or stop in the first [kind of Cuneiform inscription] is [an oblique wedge]. 1906 BELLOC *Hills & Sea* 94 These dykes of the Fens are accursed things: they are the separation of friends and lovers.

† **8.** *Alchemy* and *Old Chem.* A process of analysis, extraction, or the like. *Water of separation* (see quot. 1728). *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 139 And Separacyon ys callyd by Phylosophers dyffynycyon Of the sayd Elements tetraptatyve dyspersyon. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 3 It seemeth Percolation..is a good kinde of Separation. *Ibid.* § 798, I remember to haue heard..that a Fifteenth Part of Siluer, incorporate with Gold, will not be Recouered by any Water of Separation; Except you put a Greater Quantity of Siluer, to draw to it the Lesse; which..is the last Refuge in Separations. 1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* IV. 276 What Disparity there may be between the salts and sulphurs of Metals and other Minerals, I am not my self experienced enough in the separations and examens of them, to venture to determine. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* II. 349/2 s. v. *Water,* A farther Use is in the making Separations of oily from saline Parts. *Ibid.* 351/2 *Water of Separation,* or *Depart,* is only *Aqua fortis*; thus called, because serving to separate Gold from Silver.

9. *Astr.* and *Astrol.* (See quot. 1819.)

1594 DAVIS *Seaman's Secr.* (1607) 6 Betweene the change and the full, it is called the Moone's sep ration from the Sunne. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 366 *Separation,* when two planets having been in partile configuration are beginning to separate. It is distinguished into simple and mutual.

10. *Med.* The process by which dead tissue becomes detached from the sound flesh.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 Separation is, whereby parts distracted are separated every one alike having his several being in himself. 1672 WISEMAN *Treat. Wounds* II. 14 It being a good Medicament to hasten separation of the Escars. 1800 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* III. 449, I know two or three cases where women have lost their lives by waiting too long for a spontaneous separation [sc. of the placenta]. 1801 *Ibid.* V. 80 No sloughing or separation took place, for the action of the absorbents was equal to the removal.

† **11.** *Navigation.* = DEPARTURE 7 a. *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Separation,* with some Writers of Navigation, is the same with what is more usually called, the *Departure*; that is, a Ships Difference of Longitude from any place, or from another Ship.

12. *Math.* The division of a partition into component partitions. Cf. SEPARATE *sb.* 4.

1888 MACMAHON in *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* XIX. 243 It becomes necessary to consider the separation of such a partition into component partitions. *Ibid.* 254 In general, if there are θ separations of any partition and ϕ species of separation, there must be $\theta-\phi$ syzygies between the θ separations.

13. *Horticulture.* (See quot.)

1891 L. H. BAILEY *Nursery-bk.* 1896) 26 Separation, or the multiplication of plants by means of naturally detachable vegetative organs, is effected by means of bulbs, bulbels, bulb scales, bulblets, corms, tubers, and sometimes by buds.

14. *attrib.,* as *separation funnel, -scene*; **separation-order,** an order of court for judicial separation (see 3).

1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter* iii. 171 A '*separation-funnel' with a glass stopcock. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s. v. *Separation,* A 'separation order can also be granted in England by a magistrate on proof of cruelty. 1907 'JOHN HALSHAM' *Lonewood Corner* 74 The wife and her mangle presently get a separation-order. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, As for the "separation-scene from the child, while Becky was reciting it, Emmy retired altogether behind her pocket-handkerchief.

Separationism (sepărēi·ʃənizm). [-ISM.] Advocacy of separation, or of a theory of separation.

1875 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 848 It may refer..to the separationism of Cerinthus, who maintained that the spiritual Being Christ descended on the man Jesus after the baptism. 1886 *Ch. Times* 7 May 347/2 The Ode of the Laureate, which was an emphatic protest against Separationism.

Separationist (sepărēi·ʃənist). [-IST.] One who advocates political separation or disruption. Also *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.*

1882 *Q. Rev.* July 261 The moment that Mr. Gladstone succeeded to power, the Nationalists, the Separationists and all the rest of them saw that their opportunity had come. 1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* II. i. 48 El Demonio had, during the last two years, gutted a ship once a week, as if he wanted to help the Kingston Separationist papers.

Separatism (se·părătiz'm). [f. SEPARATE *a.* + -ISM.] The disposition to separate or to be separate; advocacy of separation (esp. in regard to Church or State); the principles and practices of separatists.

1628 A. LEIGHTON *App. Parlt.* 85 B. Whitgift wrote the quoted treatise..before seperatisme was hatched. 1641 LD. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vii. 99 What is there then to be feared? Anabaptisme, Brownisme, Separatisme. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x, These people, animated with the zeal of a new Sect,..affect great purity and separatism. 1866 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Dec. 5 The numerous accusations of separatism made against the Baltic provinces. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. p. xxii, Confederation opposed by separatism. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 512 The object of these developments was to enclose the Law in a hedge of separatism, out of which no Jew could break.

Separatist (se·părătist), *sb.* and *a.* [f. SEPARATE *a.* or *sb.* + -IST.] **A.** *sb.*

1. One who advocates ecclesiastical separation; one who belongs to a religious community separated from the Church or from a particular church.

a. A member of any of the sects separated from the Church of England. In the 17th c. (hence in mod. use *Hist.*, with capital S) applied chiefly to the Independents and those who agreed with them in rejecting all ecclesiastical authority outside the individual congregation. In later use an occasional hostile designation for Protestant dissenters in general.

1608 BERNARD *Chr. Advert.* 21 Dissvvasions from the way of the Separatists, as they haue principles by themselues, the grounds of their separation, commonly called Brownisme. 1620 ALURED in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* (1781) I. 176 Some ignorant itching Separatists seek to find..an hole in our coat and church. 1632–3 LAUD *Diary* 28 Feb., *Wks.* 1853 III. 217 Mr. Chancellor of London..brought me word how miserably I was slandered by some separatists. 1641 LD. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vi. 90 The Church of England hath three maine Divisions; The Conformist, the Non-Conformist, and the Separatist. *Ibid.,* The Separist is subdivided too as they say into Separatist and Semi-Separatist. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* To Rdr. (ed. 2) D 2, The Brownists arrogate to themselves the name of Separatists, which well they may, being separated from their Mother Church, from all the Reformed Churches, and malitiously divided amongst themselves. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 65 (1740) 355 Do but observe what a persecuting Spirit, he bestows upon the Church of England, and the Members of it in general: when taken off the Papists, they diverted upon the Separatists. 1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Synonymy* II. 317 Between the open invasions of the Romanists on the one hand, and the undermining subtleties of Separatists on the other. 1843 GLADSTONE *Glean.* V. xcii. 79 The pious Separatists of our own Country. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. xii. II. 575 Congregations were formed under the direction of separatists. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 279 They [Wesleyan methodists] ought more properly, perhaps, to be called separatists than dissenters. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 88 Every little congregation of separatists was tracked out and broken up. 1883 *Congregationalist* 829 The Separatists were the true ancestors of modern Congregationalists.

b. *gen.* A schismatic, sectarian; also a member of a congregation not belonging to any recognized denomination.

1641 LAUD *Answ. to Ld. Say* Hist. etc. (1695) I. 501 The Name Separatist is a common Name to all Hereticks or Schismaticks, that separate for their Opinions sakes, either from the Catholick, or from any particular Orthodox Church. 1709 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* IV. 236 Finding some Reproofs in his First Epistle ineffectual he threatens these Separatists in his Second with the Censures of the Church. 1758 JORTIN *Erasmus* I. 255 To unite the Bohemian Separatists to the Church of Rome. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 109 Of the whole inhabitants [of Scoonie], there are not above 150 separatists from the established church. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 426 A small society of Separatists. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 321 Others were separatists from the religion established around them. 1860 J. CAIRNS *Mem. J. Brown* 169 The Relief Separatists, who arose twenty years after the Erskines ..arrived at this conviction much sooner than any parties in the Secession. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 999 The estates of Count Wittgenstein, the refuge of all separatists and mystics.

transf. 1859 RUSSE *Index of Dates, Shiites,* or Separatists, the name given to the Mohammedan sectaries, who venerate Ali as the rightful successor of the prophet.

c. Applied to those Wesleyan Methodists who in 1795–7 advocated separation from the Church of England.

1859 T. P. BUNTING *Life Jabez Bunting* I. vi. 87 The former class held strictly to Wesley's long and latest declaration, that his Preachers were mere Laymen.., while the Separatists either took the low ground of denying that the mere dispensation of the Sacraments implied any such assumption,..or [etc.].

d. *U.S.* A member of 'a communistic religious society (disbanded in 1898) of German Protestant

peasants, who separated from the state church of Germany, emigrated, and settled at Zoar, Ohio, in 1817; also known as Zoarites and the Zoar community' (Webster, 1911).

1875 NORDHOFF *Commun. Soc. U. S.* 99 The Society of Separatists at Zoar.

e. ? Adopted as the designation of a particular sect.

1821 *Monthly Repos.* Apr. 254/2 House of Commons April 12...Mr. J. Smith presented a petition from a body of Christian people, dissenters from the Protestant Church, residing in London, who were denominated 'Separatists'.

2. Often interpreted to mean: One who holds himself apart from others on the ground of superior piety. Hence used to render the etymological meaning of *Pharisee*.

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subsec.* 59 The Separatists, or Sanctified, as they terme themselves. 1624 T. GODWYN *Moses & Aaron* I. x. (1625) 44 We may English them [*sc.* the Pharisees] Separatists. 1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xx. (1628) 18 If I liue vertuously, and with pietie, the World will hate mee, as a Separatist. 1629 DONNE *Serm.* xlix. (1640) 494 Both these, the present Sadduce, the carnall Atheist, and the present Pharisee, the Separatist. *a* 1652 BROME *Covent Gard.* IV. i, A great Separatist that is now writing a book against playing at Barlibreak, moulding of Cocklebread, and such like prophane exercises. 1661 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) II. 336 So that the words amount to this, that St. Paul, before he was a Christian, was a rigid separatist. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xiii. § 1, I am not as this publican, was, we know, the voice of the proud Pharisee, whose very name signifies separation, and our modern separatists do but echo the same note. 1833 S. HOOLE *Disc.* xii. 150 The acknowledged offender on whom this self-congratulating separatist looks down with scorn and abhorrence. 1866 ANNIE HARWOOD tr. *De Pressensé's Jesus Christ* I. iii. 83 The pious party, henceforward designated by the name of Pharisees, or separatists.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 33 Separatists, a kind of Anabaptists so called, because they pretended to be separated from the world.

3. One who advocates political separation; applied, e. g. to the supporters of the secession of the Southern States from the United States in 1860–61, and (by opponents) to the advocates of Home Rule for Ireland.

1871 *Daily News* 21 Sept., The Reichsrath..declared that the Potocki Ministry was throwing itself too plainly into the arms of separatists. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 9 Sept. (Cassell), The Separatists know..that they have nothing to expect either from the Radical or the Whig section of the Liberal party. 1886 LD. R. CHURCHILL *Sp. at Manch.* 3 Mar., (1889) II. 23 Members of that party might be known as Unionists. Our opponents are the party of separation, and they may be known as 'Separatists'. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Aug. 6/2 The majority of the Separatists—as the *Times* delights to call those who voted for the second reading [of the Home Rule Bill]. 1887 *Spectator* 2 July 888/2 'Separatist' simply describes what Unionists believe must be the outcome of Home-rule.

4. *nonce-use.* A causer of separation.

18.. M. ARNOLD (Webster 1911), Science has and will long have to be a divider and separatist, breaking arbitrary and fanciful connections.

B. *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*) and *adj.* That is a separatist; pertaining to, consisting of, or characteristic of separatists. a. In ecclesiastical sense (see A. 1, 2).

1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* II. 392 The same formularism..will always much more appear in the smaller separatist parties.

b. In political sense (see A. 3).

1864 *Realm* 6 Apr. 1 The Hungarian regiments are composed of men..in no way interested in any revolutionary or separatist designs of the latter [Magyars]. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 168 The tendency of the Greek States, in spite of their separatist leanings. 1886 *Nat. Rev.* Mar. 83 The Separatist movement conducted by Mr. Parnell. 1887 CHAMBERLAIN *Sp.* 15 Apr. *Sp. Irish Question* (1890) 25 The organ of the Separatist party. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 204 A man who saw that the future of the United States hinged on the one question, whether the national should prevail over the separatist principle.

Separatistic (se:pără'tĭstĭk), *a.* [f. SEPARATIST + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of separation. So †**Separati·stical** *a.*

1610 R. BERNARD *Plain Evid.* 29 Mr. Smith a Separatisticall Errorist. 1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* II. 292 Regulations intended only to check a fanatic or separatistic spirit. 1891 CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* viii. 428 The growth of a mystic yet separatistic spiritual religion.

Separative (se'părătĭv), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *séparatif* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or directly ad. late L. *sēparātīvus*, f. L. *sēparā-re*: see SEPARATE *v.* and -IVE.]

1. Tending to separate or to cause separation.

1592 TYMME *Two Eng. Lepers* A 4 b, A Leprosie is..a fearefull, lothsome, contagious and separative maladie. 1643 RUTHERFORD *Trial & Tri. Faith* iii. 15 Grace is separative, and singleth out one of many. 1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chemist* I. 99 That..eminent Experiment of the Separative Virtue of extream Cold, that was made..in Nova Zemlia. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 364 We ought now..to inquire how it comes that every object hath this separative power over the particles of light; how it imbibes one colour, while it copiously reflects another? 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Imperf. Sympathies*, The spirit of the synagogue is essentially separative. 1858 PROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 55 The uniting influence was stronger than the separative. 1893 PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* II. 231 The fond, comfortable feeling..that we are better than others, is..separative alike from God and man.

†b. *absol.* as *sb. Obs.*

1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 88 It is such a separative, that it divorceth the pre-reputation of all thy actions.

2. *Gram.* †a. Applied to certain functions of the genitive (see quot.) b. Of conjunctions: Alternative, disjunctive.

1845 JELF *Gram. Grk. Lang.* § 530 II. 156 Separative Genitive...All verbs expressing any notion of *removal, separation, departure, rising from*, may have a genitive of the point whence these began. 1888 KENNEDY *Revised Lat. Primer* (1900) § 177 Co-ordinative Conjunctions are Connective:..Separative.

3. *Nat. Hist.* Of a mark or character: Affording ground for establishing a separate species or group.

1865 *Reader* 23 Dec. 716 This learned and popular author stands out firmly and solidly for an insurmountable, unsurpassable, separative distinction between man and brute.

Hence **Se·paratively** *adv.*, **Se·parativeness.**

1789 *Trifler* No. 41. 528 Individuals should separatively collect from observation and religion the art of life best calculated for their own real felicity. 1901 G. MATHESON in *Expositor* Aug. 107 To the mind of the Jew, the man who of all others emphasized the holiness of God, the distinctive feature of this holiness was its separativeness.

Separator (se'părē:tə(r)). Also **separater.** [a. late L. *sēparātor*, agent-n. f. L. *sēparāre* to SEPARATE.]

1. One who or something which separates; *spec.* † one who separates from the Church, a separatist (common in the 17th c.); a critic who ascribes the Iliad and Odyssey to different authors (transl. of Gr. χωρίζων: see CHORIZONTES).

1607 *Scholast. Disc. agst. Antichrist* II. vi. 74 The scandal which the ceremonies giue to the Separators is greater then that which is giuen by images to Turks. 1608 BERNARD *Chr. Advert.* 48 *marg.*, The grieuous sinnes of the Separators. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argum.* § 24. 42 Are these no Scandals? or not greater than offending or displeasing the dissenting Separators? 1842 EMERSON *Transcend.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 285 This retirement does not proceed from any whim on the part of these separators. 1860 BP. WILBERFORCE *Addr. Cand. Ordin.* 227 In such cases, the least offences are great separators, and..angry tempers need to be handled with the gentlest and most discerning touch. 1878 *Examiner* 2 Mar. 273/1 So Professor Jebb is a 'separater' and to a certain extent a follower of Wolf. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Dec. 810/2 The terminator of delights, the separator of companions, the desolator of abodes.

2. *pl.* The four teeth, two in each jaw, between the two central and the outer incisor-teeth of a horse. ? *Obs.*

1717 HOPE tr. *de Solleysel's Compl. Horseman.* 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Teeth*, The Middle-teeth or Separators (so called because they separate the Nippers from the Corner-teeth). 1808 *Compl. Grazier* (ed. 3) Introd. 20 When the horse is coming four years old he loses his four separaters or middle teeth.

3. An instrument or appliance for separating. a. An apparatus for separating grain from refuse, or for separating the various sizes of grain.

1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 347 After leaving the cooling floor the grain is let into the separator. 1880 J. W. HILL *Guide Agric. Implements* 5 Combined Double Aspirator, Separator, and Smutter. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/4 From the silos the wheat runs into a separator, which extracts the large and small refuse and dirt. *Ibid.*, In the purifying process the grain passes over a magnetic separator ..which is sure to attract and hold fast..pieces of iron [etc.].

b. *Weaving.* = RAVE *sb.*[2] 3.

1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 220 The instrument used for the purpose of guiding the threads of the warp and of spreading them regularly upon the yarn-roll is called a separator or ravel. 1842 [see RAVEL *sb.*[2]]. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 734/1 In the beaming, the weaver sometimes employs a rude sort of instrument called a separator or ravel.

c. = *cream-separator* (see CREAM *sb.*[2] 7).

1884 [see *cream-separator*]. 1887 *Daily News* 20 May 6/5 A separator takes in the milk hot from the cow, whirls it round at a great speed, and in two minutes the cream flows out at one pipe and the milk at another.

d. A partition, a plate interposed between compartments, e. g. in a voltaic battery, a beehive, etc.

1881 T. W. COWAN *Bee Keepers Guide Bk.* viii. 43 Never use sections without separators. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Aug. 10/2 The plates are zinc and carbon, the zinc being immersed in dilute sulphuric acid—the carbon in a solution of nitrate of soda. A porous separator keeps the liquids apart, save for diffusion through its pores. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 51 These pieces of paper, or thin card, can be placed by the side of the slide, thus acting as a separater and preventing breakage when they are carried about.

e. *Telegraphy.* (See quot.)

1891 *Man. Instr. Army Telegr.* 86 Separators provide a simple means of doubling the capacity for work of a telegraph line, by providing on the same wire Morse and vibration circuits which are independent of each other.

f. A contrivance for separating water from steam.

1834 N. W. CUNDY *Inland Transit* 74 The purpose of the separator is to disengage or separate the water from the steam in which it is mechanically suspended. 1855 D. K. CLARK *Railway Mach.* 152/2 Edwards' Separator, for disengaging Priming. 1901 *Feilden's Mag.* IV. 415 A cylindrical water separator.

g. In various applications.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Separator.* 1. A machine for separating, with the aid of water or air, materials of different specific gravity...2. Any machine for separating materials, as the magnetic separator, for separating magnetic from its gangue. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 51/2 Automatic Rain-water Separators, to reject the foul and store the clean water from roofs. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 312 The centrifugal separator..is an apparatus..employed by manufacturers who want to separate relatively heavy matters suspended in a liquid.

4. *Math.*

1869 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1894) VII. 402 The parallel through S to a ray meets the sphere in two points, poles of a great circle which I call a 'separator'.

5. *attrib.*

1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* II. 313 The oil..is, however, still mixed with some water, from which it is separated by means of a separator funnel. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 7/6 One of the engineers went to open the port bulkhead stop valve, when a separator pipe burst.

Hence **Se·paratress.**

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 117 The Severne, the separatresse of Wales and England.

Separatory (se'părătəri), *sb.* ? *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *sēparātōrium*, f. L. *sēparāre* to separate: see -ORY. Cf. F. *séparatoire*.] An instrument for separating; *spec.* in various uses (see quots.).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Separatory*, the Chizel or Instrument, wherewith Chyrurgeons cut out the peeces of bones, left between the holes, which they bore with a Trepan. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 296 Such especially is the Liver, the Colatory, Seive and Separatory of the Bile. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Separatory*...Also a Chymical Vessel for separating Oil from Water. 1791 G. WALLIS *Motherby's Med. Dict.* (ed. 3), A separatory...The name of an instrument for separating the pericranium from the cranium; also a chemical vessel for separating liquors. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., A Separatory..is a pharmaceutical vessel for separating fluids of different densities from each other.

Se·paratory, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sēparātōrius*, f. L. *sēparāre* to separate: see -ORY.] Having the function of separating.

1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. vi. (ed. 2) 298 The Lacteals are the emissary Vessels or separatory Ducts. 1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* I. 14 The oldest method of determining the percentage of fat is by means of a separatory funnel.

‖ **Separatrix** (sepără'triks). [late L., fem. agent-n. f. *sēparāre* to SEPARATE.

The feminine is in apposition with *linea* line, understood.]

†1. a. The mark (originally L, later l), formerly used to separate the figures representing decimals from those representing integers; now superseded by the decimal point. b. (See quot. 1771.) *Obs.*

1660 J. MOORE *Arith.* 11 But the best and most distinct way of distinguishing them [*sc.* Decimals] is by a rectangular line after the place of the unit, called Seperatrix. *Ibid.* 13 Therefore in writing of decimall parts let the seperatrix be always used. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 286 The Separatrix, or rule between the Numerator and Denominator [of fractions].

2. *Proof-correction.* (See quot.)

1892 A. OLDFIELD *Man. Typog.* iii, A wrong letter is noted by a stroke being drawn through and the proper letter written on the margin with a stroke after it. This stroke is placed after all corrections to keep the various marks separate. It is sometimes called the separatrix.

3. The line separating light and shade on a partly illuminated surface. Cf. TERMINATOR 2.

In recent Dicts.

†**Separe,** *v. Obs.* Also 5–6 **sepayre**; 5 *pa. pple.* **sepered.** [a. F. *sépare-r* (14th c.), ad. L. *sēparāre*: see SEPARATE *v.* and SEVER.] To separate: a. *trans.* (and *refl.*).

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 181 And therfore, syth that God hath assembled them, no man mortal ouȝt not to separe them. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* xiv. (1889) 233 The lyon..maade them to be separed eche one fro other. And whanne they were sepered, the lyon wente, and toke one of them. *c* 1489 — *Blanchardyn* xxxv. 131 After dyuerse talkynke..they sepayred hemsylf, & toke lene of eche other. 1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* xxiv. (1517) F vij b, Whan that god shall separe the body from the soule. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 3 *Esdr.* iv. 17 Men cannot be separed from wemen.

b. *intr.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 441 Lordes, ye doo not well for to separe thus the one from the other. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* D ij, In some places the veynes do separe from the arteres. And the arteres be founde wtout veynes.

†**Se·parist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEPARE *v.* + -IST.] = SEPARATIST.

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 15 Iove separat me from these Separists. 1641 LD. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vi. 90 The Separist is subdivided too, as they say, into Separatist and Semi-separatist. 1700 *Labour in Vain* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) VI. 353 In contradiction to the present thought, My sole Opinon signifieth Nought; 'Tis over-rul'd, and I am surely cast, Which proves the Fate of Separists at last.

Hence †**Separi·stic, †Separi·stical** *adjs.* = SEPARATISTIC, -AL *adjs.*

1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* Ep. Ded., If they haue beene villified of late by any Separisticall humorist. 1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 15 A part of Mr. Robinson's Separistick congregation.

Sepawn, Sepayre, var. ff. SUPAWN, SEPARE *v.*

†**Sepelible,** *a. Obs.*[-e] [ad. L. *sepelibilis*, f. *sepelīre* to bury: see -IBLE.] That may be buried.

1721 BAILEY, 1755 JOHNSON, *Sepilible* [sic].

†**Sepelite,** *v. Obs. rare*[-1]. [f. L. *sepelīt-*, rare ppl. stem of *sepelīre* to bury.] = SEPULT *v.*

1577 *Will of E. Prestwick* (Hulme, Manchester) 14 Oct., My body to be sepilited or buried within the Parish Church.

†**Sepeli·tion.** *Obs. rare*[-1]. [ad. med.L. *sepelītio*, f. *sepelīre* to bury.] Burial.

1637 BP. HALL *Serm.* xxxi. Wks. 1808 V. 440 The other extreme is of them who do so over-honour the dead, that they abridge some parts of them of a due sepelition.

Seperate, -ation, etc. : **obs.** ff. SEPARATE, etc.

‖ **Sephardi** (sĭfā·ɹdĭ). *Plural.* **Sephardim** (-dĭm), **-din** (-dĭn). [mod. Heb. סְפָרַדִי *sᵉphardī*, f. סְפָרַד *sᵉphārād*, the name of a country mentioned only *Obad.* 20, and identified by the Rabbins with Spain.] A Spanish or Portuguese Jew, a Jew of Spanish or Portuguese descent. Also *attrib.* Hence **Sepha·rdic** *a.*, pertaining to the Sephardim.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 125 The Spanish and Portuguese Congregation of Jews, who are also called Sephardin. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* 1 The synagogical hymns of the Sephardic Jews. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 3 The pioneer colony of wealthy Sephardim, descendants of the Spanish crypto-Jews who had reached England viâ Holland. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 4/4 The loans which Charles II., while in exile, received from Sephardi Jews at Amsterdam.

Sephen (sē·fen). Also sephin. [a. mod.L. *sephēn* (specific name), a. Arab. سفن *safan* shagreen.] A kind of sting-ray. Also *attrib.*

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 460 The Red Sea swarms with divers kinds of huge sharks and skate...The sephin is one of its own children. 1879 SIMMONDS *Commerc. Prod. Sea* 262 Galuchat or Sephen skin, from the back of the *Hypolophus Sephen* and *Trygon Sephen* Cloq. *Ibid.*, The best galuchat, or what we should call shagreen, is made from the skin of the sephen, which abounds in the Mediterranean Sea.

‖ **Sephiroth** (sē·fĭɹoth), *pl.* Rarely in *sing.* **sephira.** [late Heb. סְפִירוֹת *sᵉphīrōth*, sing. סְפִירָה *sᵉphīrā*, f. סָפַר *sāphar* to number.] In the philosophy of the Cabbala, the ten hypostatized attributes or emanations by means of which the Infinite (אֵין סוֹף *ēn sōph*) enters into relation with the finite.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* cii. 184 The Doctours of the Hebrewes say that this beast [the ass] is an example of fortitude.., and that his influence dependeth on *Sephiroth*, whiche is called *Hochma*, that is to say, wisdome. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. ix. 282 One Head in this Cabala was the doctrine of the Sephiroth. 1795 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* I. I. i. 72 Their [*sc.* the Rabbins] devout and rapturous expressions concerning the three great Sephiroth. 1847 SOANE *New Curios. Lit.* II. 76 This knowledge was in fact the original and proper Cabala, according to which..a number of Sephiroths, Æons, or Emanations, flowed from God. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 122 The seven names or sephira of the Hebrew Talmud. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of Worker* 26 En Soph was manifest, ..but splendour covered Him; And circles of the Sephiroth tenfold, Vast and mysterious, intervening rolled. 1900 *New Century Rev.* VII. 376 In their totality these ten sephiroth represent and are called the *Primordial* or *Archetypal* man, *Adam* Kadmon...The seventh and eighth sephiroth, *Firmness* and *Splendour*, are the two legs...*Kingdom*, or *Shekinah*, the tenth sephira, represents the harmony of the whole archetypal man.

Hence **Sephiric** (in recent Dicts.), **Sephiro·t(h)ic** *adjs.*, pertaining to the Sephiroth.

1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 210 Matter cabalistic, archetypal, sephirotic, metaphysical, ideal, and divine. 1900 *New Century Rev.* VII. 379 The following may be taken as the characteristic teaching of the Kabbalah:—...All that we perceive or know is of the sephirothic type.

Sepia (sī·pĭă). Also 6–7 **ssepia**, 9 **seppia.** [a. L. *sēpia*, a. Gr. σηπία.

The Latin word gave It. *seppia*, F. *sèche*, Sp. *jibia*, Pg. *siba*; F. *sépia* in sense 2 is from It., as is prob. also the Eng. word in that sense.]

1. The cuttle-fish; now *rare* exc. *Zool.* a cuttle of the genus *Sepia* or family *Sepiidæ*; also, the genus itself.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 10 b, They seeke in Aristotle an easines, they reproue his darkenes, and call him *Sepia* [*marg.* A fishe called a Cuttell]. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* C j b, They are the very Spawnes of the fish *Sepia*, where the streame is cleere..they vomit vp yncke to trouble the waters. 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* i. B, The Sepia's inkie humor. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 333 Like the Fish Sepia, which being in danger to be taken by the Fisherman, throws out abundance of black Matter, which discolouring the Water all about, it safely escapes under that Covert. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 97 The body of the Sepia is of an oblong figure and depressed. 1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadrup.* 242 They..feed on lobsters, fish, *Sepiæ*, and shell fish. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* XV. § 2 (1837) I. 307 [The ink-bags] contain the fluid which the living sepia emits in the moment of alarm. 1839 T. BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 58 The internal shell of the common sepia is large and broad. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 315 The Common Sepia or Cuttle-fish (*Sepia officinalis*).

2. A pigment of a rich brown colour (used in monochrome water-colour painting) prepared from the inky secretion of the cuttle-fish; the colour of this pigment. Also called *Roman sepia.*

1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. ii. 102 Water-colour sketches performed entirely in seppia, or bistre, or any brown colour. 1842 B'NESS BUNSEN in *Hare Life* (1879) II. ii. 46 Her outlines are in pen and sepia, like Flaxman's. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 82 The pigment used in water colour painting and known as Roman Sepia. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* viii, This shall be in sepia. It's a sweet material to work with.

b. The inky secretion itself. *rare.*

1886 *Globe* 27 Oct. (Cassell), Nobody who has not tasted the great cuttle-fish, his feelers cut up and stewed in the black ink or sepia which serves him, apparently, for blood, can imagine how good he is.

c. *ellipt.* A sepia drawing. [So Fr.]

1863 *Life in Normandy* I. 169 Will you shew the sepias to this gentleman?

3. In full *sepia bone*: Cuttle-bone, *esp.* as used in pharmacy, etc.; = SEPIUM.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Narr. Whaling Voy.* II. App. 290 The interior of the back [of the Flying-Squid] contains an elastic horny rod, or substitute for the 'sepia bone' that occupies the same part in some other tribes of the cuttle-fish.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = Of the colour of sepia; drawn in sepia. Also Comb., as *sepia-coloured, -eyed, -like, -tinted* adjs.

1827 HONE *Table Bk.* I. 445 A sepia drawing. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xi, Rich in crayon touches and sepia lights and shades. 1875 R. B. SHARPE *Catal. Striges Brit. Mus.* 154 The primary-coverts..inclining to sepia-brown. 1896 *Century Mag.* LI. 799/1 Dark-haired, sepia-eyed. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 78 A sepia-like decomposition product.

Sepiacean (sĭpi,ē·shăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Sepiāceus*, f. SEPIA: see -ACEOUS.] Pertaining to, or a member of, the group *Sepiacea* of cuttle-fishes. Also **Sepia·ceous** *a.*

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 360/2 The borders of the mantle or of the sac of the Sepiaceans. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Sepiaceus*..sepiaceous.

† **Se·pian,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [f. SEPIA + -AN.] Inky.

1632 FULLER *David's Heinous Sin* xxxii, Sepian juice did sink Into his spongy paper.

Sepic (sī·pik, se·pik), *a. rare*—[0]. [f. SEPIA + -IC.] 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., *Sepic*, pertaining to sepia; done in sepia, as a drawing.

Sepiment (se·pimĕnt). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *sēpiment-um*, f. *sēpire* to hedge, f. *sēpes* hedge.] A hedge, fence, pale.

1636 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sepiment*, an hedge, pale, mound or inclosure. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. xi. § 3, 279 Such things as are used for the fencing of Places; Sepiment, Wall, Pale, Fence, Enclosure, Fold, Mound. 1905 *Longman's Mag.* July 272 That hedge, its [an orchard's] southern sepiment..is a huge mass of bramble.

† **b.** *transf.* and *fig.* Something that encloses or guards.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 16 Making the sepiment of skyn which man is bounded with a symbol of his Mortality. 1678 *Lively Oracles* ii. § 27 A farther testimony and sepiment to which, were the Samaritan, Chaldee, and Greek versions.

Sepioid (sī·pi,oid). *Zool.* [f. SEPIA + -OID.] A cuttle-fish of or related to the genus *Sepia.*

1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S.* I. 47 In the class of Cephalopoda, that of the Sepioids. 1893 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXVI. 121 The sepioids may be convergent with belemnoids.

‖ **Sepiola** (sĭpai·ŏlă). *Zool.* Also anglicized sepiole (cf. F. *sepiole*, Cuvier). [L., dim. of SEPIA.] The name of a genus of small cuttle-fishes.

[1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 282 The sepiola, or small cuttle, with a short body, rounded at the bottom.] 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 105 In some genera, as the poulpe and sepiole, besides eight shorter arms, there is a pair of very long ones. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 255 Some [naked cephalopods] are of very large dimensions, and others —the *Sepiolæ* for instance—very small.

Sepiolite (sī·pĭŏləit). *Geol.* [ad. G. *sepiolith* (Glocker 1847), f. Gr. σήπιον SEPIUM: see -LITE.] Meerschaum.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 277. 1875 DAWSON *Life's Dawn* v. 118 The great beds of sepiolite in the..Tertiary strata of Europe.

Sepiostaire (sĭpi·ŏstē·ɹ). *Zool.* Also in shortened form **sepiost.** [ad. F. *sépiostaire*, f. Gr. σηπία SEPIA + ὀστοῦν bone + *-aire* (cf. -ARY).] = CUTTLE-BONE.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* II. 67 Sepia officinalis, shewing the position of the internal shell or sheath (Sepiostaire) within the dorsal portion of its sac. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 540 The sepiostaire or 'cuttle bone'..is composed of a broad plate answering to the pen. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 458.

‖ **Sepium** (sī·pĭŏm). Also in Gr. form **sepion.** [mod.L., a. Gr. σήπιον.] Cuttle-bone.

[1752 *Chambers' Cycl.*, *Sepium*, *Sepia os*, or *testa*, cuttle-fish bone is a white..testaceous substance.] 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 546/1 The Sepium or Cuttle-bone is a well-known substance, and formerly figured in the Materia Medica as an antacid. 1895 A. H. COOKE *Mollusca* xiii. (Cambr. Nat. Hist.) 389 The sepion or 'cuttle-bone' runs the whole length and width of the body.

† **Seplasiary.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *sēplăsiārius*, f. *Sēplăsia*, name of a street in Capua where perfumers sold their wares.] A perfumer.

1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 53 Sorcerers..destroy onely by poyson, which every common Seplasarie [*sic*] and petty Apothecary can imitate. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 160 Distill'd out of herbs by the Seplasiaries or Apothecaries. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Seplasiary*, a compounder or seller of sweet ointments; also a nice effeminate man.

So † **Seplasiator** *rare*—[0]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Seplasiator*, he that makes sweet ointments.

Sepoltur, obs. form of SEPULTURE.

Sepometer (sĭpo·mĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. σήπ-ειν to rot + -(o)METER.] An instrument for detecting septic matter in the atmospheric air.

1876 RANSOME *Stethometry* App. 189 Dr. Angus Smith used his sepometer and the test of permanganate of potash to determine the quality of breathed air.

† **Sepone,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sēpōnĕre*, f. *sē-* apart + *pōnĕre* to place.] To set apart.

1619 in *Foxii Abred.* (1854) 276 The seponing of the sowme of fourtie pundis and uther casualties appointed for the maintenance of the edifice of the said universitie.

† **Sepo·se,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *sēposit-* (see next), reduced by analogy of POSE *v.*[1] and its compounds.]

1. *trans.* To set aside, dismiss from consideration.

1593 BILSON *Perpet. Govt.* vii. 79 If seposing a little the names of men, wee examine the grounds of both interpretations. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 90 The grand Points of the Christian Truth, which, that Parenthesis being seposed, do immediately follow.

2. To set apart or reserve.

c 1609 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 111 God seposed a seventh of our time for his exterior worship. *Ibid.* XV. 190 Such as were under penance, aswell as Catechumens,..such are still presupposed to be seposited from our discourse. 1661 FELTHAM *Lett.* in *Resolves*, etc. 67 Parents, and the nearest bloud must all for this be laid by and seposited.

† **Seposi·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *sēpositiōnem*, n. of action f. *sepōnĕre* SEPONE.] Setting aside.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. xi. 150 To this we must contend with prayer, with actuall dereliction & seposition of all our other affaires. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Sepoy (sī·poi, sĭpoi·), **sipahi** (sipā·i). *Anglo-Indian.* Forms: 7 **seapy**, 8 **sepay, sipoy, cephoy, sea-poy**, 8–9 **seapoy**, 8– **sepoy.** β. 8– **sipahi**, 9 **sipahee.** [ad. (prob. through Pg. *sipae*) Urdu = Pers. *sipāhī* horseman, soldier, f. *sipāh* army. Cf. F. *cipaye.* See also SPAHI.

In the following quot. the word is used in its orig. sense of 'horseman'.

1682 HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 55, I went..to Ray Nundelall's to have had y^e Seapy, or Nabob's horseman, consigned to me.]

A native of India employed as a soldier under European, esp. British, discipline.

1717–18 in *Hedges' Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. p. cclix, A Company of Sepoys with the Colours, Trumpets, and Countrey Musick. 1733 in G. W. Forrest *Sel. Lett. Bombay Secr.* (Home Ser.) II. 55 To make a thorough survey..of the island..., the number of the guns therein..and the number of fighting sepoys. *Ibid.* 57 That..the garrison of Seepoys shall become the subjects of the said Hon^ble Company, and remain in their..service at the usual pay that is now paid to the garrison Seepoys of Bombay. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 62 Sepays, who have their proper officers, with the titles in the country-language, all however under the Orders of the English. 1761 *London Mag.* XXX. 184 A body of about 400 Europeans, with a train of artillery and 400 Seapoys. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 68 On the 22nd of January, 1857, Captain Wright, of the 70th Bengal native infantry, informed Major Bontien..of the unpleasant feeling among the sepoys in respect to the cartridges. 1878 WOLSELEY in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 134 The dispatch of this handful of sepoys from Bombay to Malta.

β. 1798 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Philos.* I. 459 England has at present in India..54,000 sipahis well armed, and disciplined. 1809 BROUGHTON *Lett. Mahratta Camp* iii. (1892) 25 Many of our Sipahees..have children whom they have..purchased in this manner. 1819 F. HAMILTON, *Nepal* Index 362 Seapoy, properly Sipahi, in Nepal applied to irregular armed men employed in the police and revenue. 1850 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XIV. 344 The escort of sipahees.

b. *attrib.*, as *sepoy band*; **sepoy crab,** a species of crab found in the Indian and Pacific Oceans; **Sepoy Mutiny** or **Rebellion,** a revolt against British rule in India in 1857–8.

1763 in Jas. Long *Rec. Govt. Ft. William* (1869) 290 (Y.) Captains who command the Sepoy batallions. 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 159 E'en wed a Seapoy chief and mend the breed. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 38 And guard with Sepoy band the peaceful vale. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 54 The fall of a European officer was invariably the signal for sepoy-faltering. 1857 W. SINCLAIR (*title*) The Sepoy Matinies: their origin and their cure. 1857 *Housek. Words* 31 Jan. 105/1 Mr. Cuming frequently found sepoy-crabs on Lord Hood's Island in the Pacific.

Seppande, variant of SHIPPEND, creator.

Seppia, obs. variant of SEPIA.

Seps (seps). [a. L. *sēps*, a. Gr. σήψ, f. σήπειν to make rotten.]

1. A very venomous serpent described by classical writers: see quots.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 103 [Porcellayn] is..good agaynst the bytyng of a venemus beast, called seps. 1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. 809 The seps, whose bite Consumes the bones, dissolues the body quite. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 126 The Seps, whose wound is very venomous, and causes the part affected to corrupt in a very short time. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. i. 40 All my being, Like him whom the Numidian seps did thaw Into a dew with poison, is dissolved.

2. A lizard of the scincoid genus *Seps*, having a serpent-like body; a serpent-lizard.

[Cf. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 157 The Chalcidian Lizard of Aldrovandus, very improperly called the Seps, by modern historians. This animal seems to make the shade that separates the lizard from the serpent race.]

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 252 Seps Lizard. *Ibid.*, The Seps is rather a small species. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 528/2 They [*sc.* Blind-worms] are, in short, as Cuvier observes, so,

to speak, Seps-lizards without feet. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 57 The little lizard *Seps*.

Sepsine (se·psin). [f. SEPS-IS + -INE⁵.] **a.** A poisonous crystalline substance obtained from decomposing yeast. **b.** A ptomaine of septic poison.

1880 FLINT *Princ. Med.* 83 Panum and other investigators have succeeded in isolating from decomposed fluids a substance .. which, when injected .. into the blood of animals, produces the symptoms of septicaemia. The name sepsin has been proposed for this substance. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 2 In 1868, Bergmann and also Schmiedeberg obtained from the extracts of putrid beer a nitrogenous crystallizable substance which they called sepsine.

‖ **Sepsis** (se·psis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *σῆψις*, f. *σήπειν* to rot.] Putrefaction, putrescence.

[1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*] 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 348 True putrefaction, putrescence, sepsis. 1892 *Lancet* 16 May 1108/2 He believes that tuberculin increases the symptoms produced by sepsis.

Sept (sept), *sb.*¹ [ad. L. *sēptum*: see SEPTUM.]

1. An enclosure; an area marked off for a special purpose; a fold (*fig.*).

1548 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. ZZZ. 403 Al the sept, scite, circuit and precincts of the college. *a* 1638 MEDE *Diatribæ* (1642) 47 And yet was not this abuse .. within those Septs of the Temple which the Jews accounted sacred. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 28 What a ravenous beast he was, within the Sept of Christ. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Ad. Sect. xi. 24 Jesus entred the Temple, and espyed a Mart kept in the holy Sept, a Faire upon holy ground. 1719 PRIDEAUX *Connect. O. & N. T.* II. II. (ed. 4) 96 No stranger should enter within the Sept of the temple. 1883 W. L. KERR *Abbey of Kilwinning* v. 72 While William, Abbot of Kylwynnyng, with his convent, were assembled in the Septs of the Abbey.

2. *Arch.* A dividing screen, railing, etc.

1821 BRITTON *Antiq. Canterbury* 61 [A chapel] inclosed with a double sept or rail of iron for fear of thieves. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 761/1 The nave [is] divided from the aisles by an arched sept.

Sept (sept), *sb.*² Also 6 cepte, 6–7 septe, 7 cept, seapt. [prob. a var. of *sect*, which is used in the same sense in the 16th cent. (see SECT *sb.*¹ 7).

In OF. *septe* occurs in the 16th cent. as a by-form of *secte* (mod.F. *secte*):—L. *secta*; and It. *setta*, of the same origin, is found latinized as *septa* in mediæval documents. The spellings with *p* are perh. due to association with L. *sēptum* (see prec.).]

A division of a nation or tribe; a clan: orig. in reference to Ireland.

Occas. used by anthropologists (after Sir H. Maine, *Early Hist. Institutions*, 1875) for a clan consisting of those who are, or at least are believed to be, descendants of a common ancestor.

1527 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 399 No man .. shall .. receve .. enny of the Burkes, MacWillams, the Kellies, nor no cepte elles. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 373 The Erle of Desmonde, and the Geraldines of his kyn and septe. 1568–9 *Act* 11 *Eliz.* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 321 The seapt of the Neyles. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 87/2 The sept of the Tooles. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 21 The professors of every faculty would have striven no less for him than the Seaven Cities did to have Homer of their Sept. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 135 The manner of living most usual amongst Hoords or Septs in Tartary. 1747 CARTE *Hist. England* I. 157 There was an infinite number of little tribes or Septs among the Cantabrians and Gallicians. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvi, Chiefs .. whose word was accounted as a law by those of their own sept, or clan. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. ix. III. 54 Amphion belonged to the gens or sept of the Bacchiadæ. 1858 MILL *Eng. & Irel.* 12 Before the Conquest, the Irish people knew nothing of absolute property in land. The land virtually belonged to the entire sept.

b. *transf.* A 'tribe' or class.

1620 B. RICH *Descr. Irel.* 37 There are other Septes or professions, namely of Bardes, which are in manner of Poets or Rythmers. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 138 'Tis of this great Order and Sept of Men only, that all Synods and Convocations are compounded. 1856 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* xii. (1857) 493 The very curious relations that united into one great sept the prevailing members of the Oolitic flora.

Septa-, erron. form of SEPTUA-.

‖ **Septæmia** (septī·miă). Also *U.S.* **septemia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *σηπτ-ός* putrefying, putrefactive (f. *σήπειν* to rot) + *αἷμα* blood.] = SEPTICÆMIA.

1887 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1888 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 2/6 The jury found that the deceased died from the effects of peritonitis and septemia [*sic*] following inflammation.

Septagon (se·ptăgŏn), *a.* [ad. late L. *septagōnus*, hybrid f. L. *septem* seven + Gr. *-γωνος* -angled, -GON.] Heptagonal.

1756 AMORY *Bunclc* (1770) I. 215 Making it [basalt] into pentagon, hexagon, and septagon columns. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 597 The rock itself .. cut into septagon shape.

Septal (se·ptăl), *a.*¹ [f. SEPT-UM + -AL.] Pertaining to, consisting of, or forming a septum or septa.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 732/2 The internal or septual [*sic*] branches [of the nose] are about twelve in number. 1852 RICHARDSON *Geol.* viii. 217 The body has no septal divisions. 1859 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* 22 Septa, each of which is perforated by one or more septal apertures, and in most cases indicated externally by a ridge or depression, called the septal line. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 76 The septal cartilage of the nose.

Septal (se·ptăl), *a.*² [f. SEPT ² + -AL.] Pertaining to a sept or clan.

1883 MCCARTHY *Outl. Irish Hist.* iii. 29 He had done much to Normanize the country by making large and wholly illegal grants of Septal territory to his followers.

† **Se·ptan,** *a.* [ad. mod.L. *septāna* (*febris*), tr. Gr. *τριτεοῦς ἑβδομαῖος* (Galen), f. L. *sept-em* seven: see -AN.] Designating a fever of which the paroxysms recur every sixth (according to old reckoning, every seventh) day.

1657 *Expert Physician* 123 The Quintan, Sextan, Septan, and Nonan Feavers. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 63 A septan, being really a quartan, of whose paroxysms none are perceptable, but those of every 7th day.

† **Septangle.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *septangulus*, f. *sept-em* seven + *angulus* ANGLE.] A heptagon.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., Septangles, whiche haue seuen angles. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 253 Triangle, quadrangle, sexangle, septangle, octangle and the rest. 1656 [see SEPTANGULAR].

So † **Septangled** *a.* = next.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Septangle*, or *Septangled Figure.* 1709 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* (1729) 8 The Description of a Septangled form is impossible, and cannot be known by Human Minds.

Septangular (septæ·ngiŭlăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. **septangulāris*, f. *septangulus* (see prec.).] Having seven angles, heptagonal.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Septangular*, that hath seven corners, a Septangle. 1682 GREW *Anat. Pl.* III. I. i. 104 A great number of Vesicles: of which .. some appear Pentangular, others .. Septangular. 1819 TURTON *Conchol. Dict.* 92 *Murex septangularis.* Septangular Rock-shell. 1866 LOSSING *Hudson* (1868) 127 A line of defences in septangular form. 1902 W. L. NEWMAN *Politics of Aristotle* III. 556 Triangular and septangular harps.

Hence **Septa·ngularness.**

1730 BAILEY (folio), *Septangularness*, the having 7 Angles.

† **Se·ptarchy.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sept-em* seven + Gr. *-αρχία* sovereignty.] Sovereignty wielded by seven rulers; in quot. *fig.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Bawd* Wks. II. 98/1 No man can deny Pride to bee another of the said Septarchy [i. e. the seven deadly sins].

Septarian (septē·riăn), *a.* [f. SEPTARI-UM + -AN.] Of the form or character of septaria.

1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 632 A stratum of septarian stone, forming the Broad Beach on the coast of Dorsetshire, affords an excellent cement. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. I. 488 Such septarian nodules .. are abundant in many shales. 1884 H. G. SEELEY *Phys. Geol. & Palæont.* 47 These concretions [*sc.* of phosphate of lime] rarely assume a septarian structure.

So **Septa·riate** *a.*; also **Septa·riiform** *a.*

1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 621/1 Clay, 50 to 100 feet, with layers of nodules, often septariate. 1875 DAWSON *Life's Dawn* iv. 91, I use the term 'septariiform' to denote the curdled appearance so often presented by the Laurentian serpentine.

‖ **Septarium** (septē·riŏm). *Geol.* Pl. **-aria** (-ē·riă). [mod.L., f. L. *sēptum*: see SEPTUM and -ARIUM.]

1. A septal arrangement.

1785 HUTTON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* (1788) I. 246 The form of these iron-stones is that of an oblate or much compressed sphere .. In the circular or horizontal section, they present the most elegant septarium.

2. A nodule of argillaceous limestone, ironstone, or the like, of which the parts near the centre are cracked, the spaces between being filled with some mineral: formerly much used for cement. (Cf. *cement-stone, turtle-stone.*)

1792 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. Addit. Notes 39 The volcanic origin of these curious septaria. 1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 32 Great quantities of cement stones are at present procured by dredging off the coast of Hampshire for the septaria which have been derived from the Barton clay. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 314/3 The concretionary nodules of hard carbonate of lime, called 'septaria', which are found in the London clay.

Septate (se·ptēt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. mod.L. *sēptātus* (in late L. = surrounded): see SEPTUM and -ATE ².] Containing or divided by a septum or septa; partitioned.

1846 DANA *Zoöph.* vii. (1848) 117 The cells .. are transversely septate, rarely solid. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 9 Spores .. simple or variously septate. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 139 These chambered or septate sacs.

So **Se·ptated** *a.*

1877 BENNETT *Thomé's Bot.* 366 It is comparatively rare for the wood-cells to become septated .. by one, still more rare by several partition-walls. 1895 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 4) 137 A piece of quartzyte .. divided up, or septated, by the oxidation process.

Septation (septē·ʃən). [f. SEPTUM + -ATION.] Division by a septum or septa.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 143 Filamentous matter multiplying itself by internal septation at the elongated apex. 1895 *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Bot.* XXX. 442 The intercalary transverse septation of the articulations of certain branches of the creeping thallus.

Septa·to-, used as comb. f. mod.L. *sēptātus* SEPTATE.

1872 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 292 Paraphyses moderate, thicker at the fusescent apices and there generally septato-articulate.

Septem-, L. *septem* seven, used in a few compounds, chiefly adjs. = SEPTI-¹ (which is more frequent): **Septemdece·nary** [for *-decennary*], occurring once in 17 years; = SEPTENDECENNIAL. **Septemfid,** *Bot.* [L. *-fidus* cleft], divided into seven parts. **Septemfoil** [*-foil* as in CINQUEFOIL], an ornament of seven cusps or points. **Septemfo·liate,** *Bot.* [mod.L. *septemfoliātus*], having seven leaflets. **Septempa·rtite,** *Bot.*, divided nearly to the base into seven parts. **Septe·mpedal** = SEPTIPEDAL. **Septe·mvious** [L. *via* way] *nonce-wd.*, going seven different ways.

1843 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (ed. 6) vi. I. 172 Their [*Cicada septemdecim*] *septemdecenary appearance. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 148 [Simple leaves] may be .. trifid, quinquefid, *septemfid, multifid. 1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 67 Having the space between the two arches filled by a rich cinque-foil, or rather *septem-foil. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 170 A leaf .. is septenate or *septemfoliate, if there are seven [leaflets], as in the Horse-chestnut. 1847–54 WEBSTER, **Septempartite*, divided nearly to the base into seven parts. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Septempedal*, of or belonging to seven feet, that is seven foot long. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lxxiii, Officers of state ran *septemvious, seeking an ape to counteract the bloodthirsty tomfoolery of the human species.

September (septe·mbəɹ). Also 3–6 septembre, 5 semtembir, septembyr. Abbreviated Sep., Sept., in 17th c. also 7ᵇʳ. [a. L. *September* or its deriv. F. *septembre* (OF. *setembre*), f. *septem* seven, this month being the seventh of the old Roman year. The native OE. name was *hærfestmónaþ* HARVEST MONTH.] The ninth month of the year (according to the modern reckoning).

c 1050 [see OCTOBER]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 12/392 Þe holie Rode was i-founde ase ȝe wutez, in May; He was anhauset in septembre sethþe on þe holie rode-daiȝ. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 17 Þe ferþ day of Septembre, in þe he[r]uest tide. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xvii. (Bodl. MS.), The ixᵉ. moneþ hatte Septembre and haþ þat name for he is þe seuenþe moneþ after temporat rayne. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 29 Til þe hali rodis dai in semtembir. 1500 20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxv. 14 Without gud lyfe all in the self dois de As Mayis flouris dois in September dry. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXI. (1555) T j b, Under our signet in our court ryall Of September the two and twenty day. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxv. 581 The vttermost pilling of common walnuts .. may be distilled in the moneth of September. 1628 *World Encomp. by Drake* 108 The 26 of Sept. 1676 C. HATTON *Corr.* (Camden) 129 Either this or another will be called to meet about 7ᵇʳ next. 1765 EARL COVENTRY in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 388, I think I shall reside here till the second week in September. 1853 A. R. WALLACE *Amazon & Rio Negro* 201 On September 30th, .. we again saw the opposite side of the river.

b. *personified* and *allusively.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 38 Next him [*sc.* August], September marched eeke on foote. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* II. ii, *Simonides.* When dies thy husband? Is't not July next? *Eugenia.* Oh! you are too hot, sir: Pray cool yourself, and take September with you. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 425 P 3 September, who came next, seem'd in his Looks to promise a new Spring.

c. *attrib.*, as *September day, dew, month*; **September thorn** (see quot. 1832).

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 10998 (Trin.) Penne bere she childe elizabeth In septembre moneth ȝe foure & twenty nyȝt. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 136 If you have any May-Dew, or September-Dew. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 105 The September Thorn (*Geometra erosaria*, Stephens) appears in August and September in woods and parks. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. I. 10 It was a bright September afternoon. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 252 The September days were yet long enough for a sunset walk.

Hence **Septe·mbered,** coloured with autumnal tints.

1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xxvi, His honest face was Septembered with many a vintage.

Septe·mberer. = SEPTEMBRIZER 1.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vi, The great Day of Judgement, when the Eternal .. shall judge both Kings and Septemberers.

Septe·mberish, *a.* Also **Septembrish.** [f. SEPTEMBER + -ISH.] Pertaining to, like that of, September.

1851 HAWTHORNE in *Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) I. 425 A clear and beautiful sunset, with a brisk, Septembrish temperature. 1853 — *Eng. Note-bks.* (1883) I. 437 A clear atmosphere, bright sunshine, and altogether a Septembrish feeling. 1886 E. S. PHELPS *Burglars in Paradise* xi, These [*sc.* flowers] had a Septemberish look, as of a flower that was feeling bilious but would not own it.

† **Septe·mbral,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *septembral*, f. *septembre* SEPTEMBER: see -AL.] *Septembral juice*, wine.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. i, The pure septembral juice [orig. *pures Septembrale*].

Septembrian (septe·mbriăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. SEPTEMBER + -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to September.

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 18 Troops to the partridge at her ev'ning call Her scattered brood Septembrian.

B. *sb.* One who believes that our Lord was born in September.

1644 [E. FISHER] *Feast of Feasts* 25 No marvaile if these Septembrians oppose the tradition of Christs Church.

Septembrist (septe·mbrist). [f. SEPTEMBER + -IST.] **a.** In Portugal, a supporter of the (successful) insurrection of September 1836 in favour of the restoration of the constitution of 1822. **b.** = SEPTEMBRIZER.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 439 Many individuals of importance .. have joined the now dominant party of the Septembrists [in Portugal]. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 320 Ho! St. Antoine, arouse thee now—ho! brave Septembrists all. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 553 (art. *Portugal*) It was now [1845] the turn of the radicals or Septembrists to have recourse to arms.

So **Septe·mb(e)rism,** the action or policy of the Septembrizers.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. ix, A Citoyen Henriot, one whom some accuse of Septemberism, is made Generalissimo of the National Guard.

Septembrize (sɛptɛmbrəiz), *v.* orig. *Fr. Hist.* Also **-berize.** [ad. F. *septembriser*, f. *septembre* SEPTEMBER: see -IZE.] *trans.* and *intr.* To assassinate like the Septembrizers.

1793 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 154 They kept them in the jails of Paris, to Septemberize them. 1794 tr. *Brissot's Addr. to Constituents* 46 They have gone the length of regretting with the Prussian Cloots, that they had not sufficiently septemberised. 1798 JEFFERSON *Let. to Jas. Madison* 26 Apr., The war hawks talk of septembrizing, deportation, and the examples for quelling sedition set by the French executive. 1819 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXVIII. 537 The Abbé told me that he was to go..and visit one of the Septemberizing assassins.

Hence **Septembriza·tion,** action like that of the Septembrizers.

1802 BENTHAM *Panopt. Corr.* Wks. 1843 XI. 131 In my hearing he has defended Septembrization, and wished..to see it imitated here.

Septembrizer (sɛptɛmbrəizəɹ). Also **-ber-.** [ad. F. *septembriseur*, f. *septembriser* (see prec.).]

1. *Fr. Hist.* One who took part in or advocated the massacre of the political prisoners in Paris on September 2nd–5th, 1792. Also *transf.*, a bloodthirsty revolutionary.

1794 tr. *Brissot's Addr. to Constituents* 13 You will then see the Convention..confer the most honourable..missions upon these atrocious Septembrizers. 1820 *Scraps for Curious* 26, I saw at Meux a famous Septembrizer chop off the head of the curate of St. Nicholas. [1866 *Spectator* 1 Dec. 1329 The wild thirst for blood which..turns decent, quiet citizens ..into men like the Septembriseurs.]

2. = SEPTEMBRIST *a.*

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 437 The revolutionary Septembrisers of the [Portuguese] ministry.

3. One who shoots partridges (in September): with allusion to sense 1.

1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. lxxx, Some deadly shots too, Septembrizers, seen Earliest to rise, and last to quit the search Of the poor partridge. 1834 *L. Hunt's London Jrnl.* No. 22. 171/2, I recollected the month, and thought how well its name was adapted to these Septembrizers of the birds.

Septemfluous (septɛ·mflĭŭəs), *a.* [f. L. *septemflu-us* (f. *septem* seven + *fluĕre* to flow) + -OUS.] Flowing in seven streams.

1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 323 Aristotle..would desperately drowne himselfe in that septemfluous sea of Euripus. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. v. 81 Nothing being more famous in humane poetry and prose then this septemfluous river [Nile]. 1655 — *Hist. Waltham-Abby* 5 The River Ley.., which..seven times parteth from itself, whose septemfluous stream..is crossed again with so many bridges.

fig. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 220 Doth salvation..depend upon your septemfluous sacraments?

Septemia, U.S. spelling of SEPTÆMIA.

Septemplicate. [f. L. *septem* seven + *-plicate* as in DUPLICATE, etc. Cf. L. *septemplex*.] One of seven copies of a document.

1805 COLERIDGE *Let. to D. Stuart* 20 Apr., The above is a duplicate, or rather a sex or septem-plicate of an order.

Septemtryo(u)n, obs. forms of SEPTENTRION.

Septemvir (septɛ·mvəɹ). Pl. **septemviri** (-virəi). [L., sing. of *septemvirī*, f. *septem* seven + *virī* men.] One of a body of seven men associated in an office or commission.

a 1760 W. DUNCAN *Sel. Orat. Cicero* xvi. (1841) 355 Did you not desert him, when he put up for being a septemvir? 1841 BREWSTER *Martyrs Sci.* II. i. 132 John and Paul Hainzel, the one a septemvir, and the other the consul or burgomaster. 1883 *Sat. Rev.* 5 May 560/1 The scheme of Honours examinations..proposed by Professor Seeley and the other *septemviri* is simplicity itself.

†**Septe·mviral,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Pertaining to a septemvir.

1641 SIR S. D'EWES in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 374 The Septemviral Dignity and Suffrage he [the Duke of Bavaria] hath obtained by the Prince Elector's..Misfortune.

Septemvirate (septɛ·mvirɛ̆t). [ad. L. *septemvirātus*, f. *septemvir*: see SEPTEMVIR and -ATE [1].]

1. The office or dignity of a septemvir, government by septemviri.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 72 This reason of State sounds well why the Septemvirate lets it continue there so long. *c* 1642 *Observ. his Majesty's late Answ.* 31 The whole kingdome is not to bee mastered..by the Traine Band,..nor the maior part in Parliament by I know not what septemvirat. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Septemvirate*, the authority of seven Officers in like power. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 299 [At Nurenberg] The raising of forces or levying taxes, are usually referred to a select number of the council, stiled by way of eminence, the Septemvirate.

2. A group or set of seven men.

1781 T. DAVIES *Mem. Garrick* (ed. 3) II. 39 *note*, Swift, in his list of six great men, to whom no seventh (in his opinion) could be added, might have very safely made a septemvirate with Alfred. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 106 The legend of the Seven Sleepers, a septemvirate of Christian youths.

Septenarian (septĭnē·rĭăn), *a.* [f. L. *septēnārius* SEPTENARY + -AN.]

†1. Used for SEPTENNARY.

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* I. vi. 51 The septenarian madness of Nabuchad-nezzar, inflicted by God for destroying that septenarian work of Solomon (his holy Temple).

2. *Pros.* That is a septenarius.

1891 *Athenæum* 28 Feb. 275/1 Septenarian iambic lines.

So **Septena·rious** *a. rare*—[0]. = SEPTENARY *a.* 1.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Septenarious*, of or belonging to seven, containing seven in number.

‖ **Septenarius** (sɛptĭnē·rĭŭs). *Pros.* Pl. **-arii** (-ē·rĭ,əi). [L. *septēnārius*, f. *septēni*, distributive of *septem* seven.] A line of seven feet, esp. the trochaic or iambic tetrameter catalectic.

1819 CAREY *Lat. Pros.* 273 The *Catalectic Trochaic Tetrameter* (called likewise *Quadratus*, *Octonarius*, and *Septenarius*) consists of seven feet..followed by a catalectic syllable...It is..only the Iambic Octonarius wanting the first syllable. 1872 KENNEDY tr. *Ten Brink's Hist. Eng. Lit.* 267 [In the southern English lives of saints] regular *septenarii* or tetrameters are more rarely found. 1894 *Gildersleeve's Lat. Gram.* § 770 The strict Septenarius of the later poets keeps the odd feet pure. 1897 J. H. GRAY *Plautus' Trinummus* p. XXV, Trochaic septenarii.

Septenary (sɛ·ptĭnări, -ĭnări), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 septyn-, 8 septin-. [ad. L. *septēnāri-us*, f. *septēnī*: see prec. and -ARY.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining or relating to the number seven; forming a group of seven. *Septenary number*, the number seven.

1602 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Defence* 118 If the force of this argument lie in the septenarie nvmber [of the sacraments]. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 29 This septenary number gained Authority from the creation of the world, because the first works of God were made in six dayes, and the seventh was dedicated to rest as sacred. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 167 To be able to reject the septenary number of the planets by the detection of the four satellites of Jupiter. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. iv, Between whose Septenary Links [*chaiuons septenaires*],..Rubies, Emeralds, and Unions were..set in. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 64 The septenary stars.

b. With reference to the division of time into periods based on the number seven, e. g. a week.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. iv. 212 This containeth but 27. dayes, and about 8. howres, which commeth short to compleat the septenary account. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 75. 1/1 So is one in seven in a Constant Septinary return. 1745 R. JAMES *Med. Dict.*, *Septana*, a septinary Fever; that is, one which performs its Period in seven Days. 1848 R. W. HAMILTON *Horæ Sabb.* i. 16 That septenary notation of days which we call the week. 1865 J. G. MURPHY *Comm., Exodus* xvi. 23 Traces of the septenary division of time have been found among the Egyptians.

2. Consisting of seven lines. *nonce-use.*

1814 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XII. 69 Lydgate..preferred the septenary stanza.

B. *sb.* (Cf. HEBDOMAD, HEPTAD.)

1. The number seven.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* 161 The Hebdomad or Septenary is a fit Symbole of God, as he is considered having finished these six days Creation. 1690 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* IV. iii. 148 Those constitutions of Moses that proceed so much upon a Septenary, or the number Seven.

2. A group or set of seven.

1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 223 The seuen gifts of the Holy ghost, the seuen orders of the Church, seuen workes of mercy,..with sundry other septenaries. 1614 A. ROBERTS (*title*) A Sacred Septenarie, or the seven last wordes of our Sauiour Christ vttered vpon the Crosse. 1650 GELL *Serm.* 8 Aug. 15 The Septenary of Planets. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* 231 The sacred septenary of the most highly-renowned men, for prudence and true wisdom. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xv. 99 The Moon, which..runs from her Mouth to her Month by Septenaries. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispens.* (1823) I. 258 A septenary of erratic living animals which are the seven Worlds or seven Planets. 1847 SOANE *New Curios. Lit.* I. 296 Philo Judæus..tells us that nature delights in a septenary; the planets, he says, are seven; the Bear is composed of seven stars [etc.].

3. A period of seven years (*occas.* weeks, days).

1577–86 HARRISON *England* I. ix, The time of the pentarchie indured likewise 49 yeares, or seauen septenaries. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* in *Relig.* (1672) 78 Certain Periods, or Degrees of Change..every seven years; whereof the two first Septynaries..I will call the Obsequious Age. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. iv. 208 The dayes of men are usually cast up by septenaries. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. v. 395 Septenaries of daies, or weeks, or months, or years, or ages? 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xix, If Elsie could only outlive three septenaries, twenty-one years.

4. *Mus.* The seven notes of the diatonic scale.

1662 PLAYFORD *Introd. Skill Mus.* I. i. 2 By these Three Septenaries is distinguished three several Parts, that the Scale is divided into. 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* II. II. viii. 214 To shew the analogy between the seven planets and the chords included in the musical septenary. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 81 In completing the scale, or septenary.

5. *Pros.* = SEPTENARIUS.

Chiefly applied to the English metre represented, e. g. by the verse of the *Moral Ode* and the *Ormulum*.

1887 HORSTMANN *S. Eng. Leg.* Introd. p. ix, [MS. Egerton] generally shortens the lines from septenaries to Alexandrine verses, by omitting words [etc.]. 1892 J. C. PARSONS *Eng. Versif.* 80 A form..called the Septenary, with seven accents and fourteen syllables to the line.

Septenate (sɛ·ptĭnɛ̆t), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *septēnī* seven each + -ATE [2].] Growing in sevens, having seven divisions, heptamerous.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 115 Leaves..compound, quinate or septenate. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 171 Septenate leaf of the Horse-chestnut.

Septendecennial, *a.* [f. L. *septendecim* seventeen, after *biennial*, *septennial*, etc.] Recurring every seventeen years.

1896 *Home Miss.* (N. Y.) Sept. 252 This splendid septendecennial..anniversary.

Septende·cimal, *a.* [f. L. *septendecimus*, ordinal of *septendecim*.] Pertaining to the number seventeen. (In quot. used incorrectly for prec.)

1885 *Proc. Amer. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* XXXIV. 329 These insects [the periodical cicada] appear in fewer numbers at each septendecimal visit.

Septennary (septe·nări), *a.* [f. L. *septenn-is* (f. *sept-em* seven + *annus* year) + -ARY.] Septennial.

1644 SIR E. DERING *Prop. Sacr.* Pref. e, They are elder then my septennary examination, which is confined between 1633, and 1640. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. x. § 26 If Dunstan did septennary Penance, to expiate every mortall Sin. 1887 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1897) 6 Aug. 3/1 Whereas, by septennary revolutions, the Speakership of the Ports has now devolved upon us.

Septennate (septe·nɛt). [ad. F. *septennat*, f. L. *septenn-is* (see prec.) + *-at* = -ATE [1].] A period of seven years during which office is held, etc.

Orig. applied to the military dictatorship of Marshal MacMahon set up for seven years from 20 Nov. 1873.

1874 *Times* 13 Apr. 7/1 The Septennate [of Marshal MacMahon] and the Press. 1885 *Athenæum* 2 May 570/1 Lord Carnarvon passed under review the principal events which had marked his septennate. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 2/2 If this Bill fails or is withdrawn, a Conservative Septennate is as absolute a certainty as to-morrow's sunrise.

b. *German Hist.* A period of seven years during which the strength of the army is to remain fixed. Also *attrib.*

1885 LOWE *Bismarck* II. 401 *marg.*, The Military Septennate. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Feb. 11/2 Of the seats occupied by the members of this majority the Septennate party has already captured some thirty or forty by the displacement of former members. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* LI. 592 The passing of the Septennate Bill will certainly make the French more inclined to pause before attacking Germany.

Septe·nniad. *rare.* [f. L. *septenni-um* (cf. next) + -AD.] A period of seven years.

1851 E. FITZGERALD *Euphranor* 50 And so I leave him at the end of his second septenniad.

Septennial (septe·niăl), *a.* [f. L. *septenni-um* SEPTENNIUM + -AL.]

1. Consisting of, or lasting, seven years.

Septennial Act (Eng. Hist.), an act of 1716 providing that 'all Parliaments shall and may respectively have Continuance for Seven Years, and no longer'. Hence allusive uses of *septennial*, as in quot. *a* 1832; cf. 1748 in sense 2.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Septennial*, of seven years space. 1719 STEELE *Plebeian* No. 4 ad fin., Sitting out the remainder of the septennial term. 1759 SMOLLETT *Hist. Eng.* X. 42 (an. 1733) That a bill should be brought in for repealing the septennial act. 1772 *Junius Lett.* Ded. p. viii, Although the last session of a septennial parliament be usually employed in courting the favour of the people. *a* 1832 CRABBE *Posth. T.* xviii. *Boat Race* 6 When once enlisted upon either side, He must the rude septennial storm abide. 1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 384 The argument..may also be used in behalf of triennial or of septennial, or of decennial sessions.

2. Recurring every seven years.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 23 Being dispensed withall for his septenniall visit. 1748 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 97 Our supple Tribes..ask no Questions but the Price of Votes; With Weekly Libels and Septennial Ale, Their Wish is full to riot and to rail. 1866 J. G. MURPHY *Comm., Exodus* xxiii. 10, 11 The septennial Sabbath thus bore a complete analogy to the hebdomadal. 1886 *Field* 30 Jan. 178/2 He was ready to accept a principle of septennial revaluations.

Hence **Septe·nnialist,** one who is in favour of septennial parliaments; **Septennia·lity,** the condition of being septennial.

1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 282 The reduction, of the at present established long term indicated by the word septenniality, to the dimensions of this short term. 1820 *Examiner* No. 612. 13/1 To Annual Parliaments the objections of the Septennialists are singularly weak. 1892 *Review of Rev.* V. 3/2 Balfour is too ardent a Septennialist to sanction a premature dissolution.

Septennially (septe·niăli), *adv.* [f. SEPTENNIAL + -LY [2].] Every seven years.

1791 MACKINTOSH *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 117 A House of Lords, which..should..have a majority of its members septennially or triennially nominated by the King. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 134 It would be as much easier to take men's votes annually than septennially, as for a boy to comb his hair daily than once a week. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char., Body-Coachman* I. 259 The fifteen guineas per annum were paid septennially.

†**Septe·nnian,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Formed as SEPTENNIAL: see -AN.] Of seven years.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 355 Children, under the said Septennian Age.

‖ **Septennium** (septe·nĭŭm). [L., f. *sept-em* seven + *annus* year.] A period of seven years.

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 263 The septennium required for the arts degree.

†**Septe·nnual.** *Obs.* [f. L. *septennis*, after *annual*.] A feast recurring every seven years.

1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 58 The Law was read on the weekly Sabbath, as well as on the annuall of Tabernacles in the septennuall of Release.

Septenous (sɛptĭnəs), *a. Bot.* [Formed as SEPTENATE + -OUS.] = SEPTENATE. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

†**Septentrial,** *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *septentrio* (see next) + -AL.] = SEPTENTRIONAL.

1549 in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 333 To calle up Baro, whom he taketh an orientalle or septentrialle spirit. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XX. 19 When Waveney in her way, on this Septentrial side..From Lapbamford leads on her stream

into the East. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xii. § 1. 171 Our Septentriall cold Countries.

Septentrion (septe·ntriən), *sb.* and *a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 4-5 **septem(p)trio(u)n**, 4-6 **-tryon**. [ad. L. *septentrio*, sing. of *septentriōnēs*, orig. *septem triōnēs*, the seven stars of the constellation of the Great Bear, f. *septem* seven + *triōnes*, pl. of *trio* plough-ox. Cf. F. *septentrion*.] **A.** *sb.*

1. *pl.* (chiefly as Latin.) The constellation of the Great Bear, *occas.* the Little Bear.

1532 *Chaucer's Boethius* II. met. vi. Wks. fol. ccxlvi/2 This Nero gouerned by ceptre al the peoples that be vnder the colde sterris that highten the Septentrions [*MSS.* vii. tyryones, the seuene triones]. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 22 Ye seuen starres called *Septentriones* (being not farre from *Vrsa maior* called charles wayne). 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. xxv. I. 16 That region of the skie which is under the North starre *Septentriones*. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xxv. 286 What influence the septentriones had upon him..is to be easily guess'd. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 217 The Stars call'd the *Septem Triones*. 1859 Ld. Lytton *Wanderer* 21 Wild Desire; Which, hungering for the sources of the suns, Makes moan beyond the blue Septentrions.

2. The north; the northern region(s) of the earth or the heavens.

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 3657 He..This wyde world hadde in subieccioun Bothe Est and West North and Septemtrioun. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) x. 117 In the Hed of that See of Galilee, toward the Septemtryon, is a strong Castelle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 298 But from the cold Septemtrion decline, And from northwest ther chilling sonnys shine. 1503 *Kalender of Sheph.* (Sommer) H viij b, Drawyng towart the septentryon and other tymys towart the myd day. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 32/2 That other parte of Indien is aboute Septentryon. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 136 Thou art as opposite to euery good, As the Antipodes are vnto vs, Or as the South to the Septentrion. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* XII. 368 The Polonians have two powerfull..neighbours, the Moscovianns towards the Septentrion and the Turk in the Orientall part.

3. A northerner. *rare.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 42 There is a constellation called the beare in the figure of seauen Starres like a Carte. ..The Septentrions call them *Triones*, that is yoked Oxen. 1854 Lowell *Fireside Travel* Wks. 1890 I. 175 We graver-tempered and -mannered Septentrions.

B. *adj.* Northern; = next.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 318 The Sunne declining Northward.., and warming..the Septentrion sides of these Cynthian mountaynes. 1672 Milton *P. R.* IV. 31 A ridge of hills That screen'd the fruits of the earth and seats of men From cold Septentrion blasts. 1814 Cary *Dante, Purg.* XXXII. 98 And in their hands upheld those lights secure From blast septentrion and the gusty south. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Poems* (1850) II. 251 Their countless hosts Sped from their chill septentrion nursery.

Septentrional (septe·ntriənăl), *a.*, *sb.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *septentriōnālis*, f. *septentrio* (see prec.). Cf. F. *septentrional* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.* Belonging to the north, northern; formerly (of learning, etc.), pertaining to northern countries.

Septentrional signs (Astron.), the first six signs of the zodiac.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 40 Than saw I wel that the body of Venus in hir latitude of degrees septemtrionales ascendid in the ende of the 8 degre fro the heved of Capricorne. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), þis signe ys septentrional þ[t] is of north partie. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 48 The pole artic, boreal, or septemtrional. *Ibid.* 52 The septemtrional tropic of cancer. 1557 H. Baker *Rules Use Almanacs* C j b, When the sunne is in the signes septentrionalles. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* I. 108 The body of Armenia standeth in fortie three degrees Septentrionall. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 388 The Goths and other septentrional nations. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 32 The Catalogue of Septentrional MSS. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* II. xxiv. 125 Dr. Marshall the..reviver of Septentrional Learning in the University of Oxford. 1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 562 The investigation of septentrional antiquities. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xvii. 270 What were the politics, gossipings, squabbles, friendships, or parties, in this septentrional city. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 684 Disposed to dispute the septentrional hold of the country with its Austrian rival. 1887 Pater *Imag. Portraits* IV. 145 The Septentrional Apollo (Duke Carl of Rosenmold).

Hence †**Septentriona·lity**, northerliness (Bailey, 1730); †**Septe·ntrionally** *adv.*, in the direction of the north; †**Septe·ntrionate** *v. intr.*, to point to the north.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 58 A directive or polary faculty, whereby conveniently they [sc. steel and iron] do septentrionate at one extreme, and Australize at another. *Ibid.* 62 If they [needles] be powerfully excited and equally let fall, they commonly sink down and break the water at that extream wherat they were septentrionally excited.

B. *sb.* = Septentrion 2.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxiv. 255 Turquesten..streccheth he him..toward the Septentrionalle, to the Kyngdom of Chonsasne.

Septe·ntrionaline. *Chem.* [f. L. *septentriōnālis* + -ine.] A crystalline alkaloid obtained from *Aconitum septentrionale*.

1897 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXII. I. 303 Septentrionaline, ..which is a yellowish powder melting at 128-9°, acts as an anæsthetic.

Septentrio·nic, *a. rare.* In quot. **septem-**. [f. L. *septentrio* Septentrion + -ic.] Northern.

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 318/2 The minstrelsie of our septemtrionic tubes was made applicable to classic themes.

So **Septentrio·nical** *a. rare.*

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. vi-vii. 203 The septentrionicall part of those Saxons.

Septer(e, obs. forms of Sceptre *sb.*

Septet(t, -ette (septe·t). *Mus.* Also (*italianized*) septetto. [a. G. *septet*, f. L. *septem*: see -et, -ette.] A composition for seven voices or instruments.

a 1837 (*title*) Beethoven's Grand Septett. Arranged for the Piano Forte, with Accompaniments of Flute, Violin, and Violoncello, by I. N. Hummel. 1841 tr. *Schindler's Beethoven* II. 380 Septett in E flat for Violin, Alto, Violoncello, Clarionet, Bassoon, Horn, and Double Bass. *Ibid.* 386 Trio ..(from the Septetto). 1863 *Reader* 1 Aug. 120/1 He is incapable of singing the duel septett (even transposed) without an effort so painful as to destroy the pleasure of the listener. 1872 Kingsley *Poems, Delectable Day* 17 The septette of Beethoven. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 488/1 The septette in 'Patience'.

b. *transf.* A set of seven.

1886 *Field* 9 Jan. 50/3 Another septette faced the starter for the inaptly named Thursday Hurdle Race. 1907 *Academy* 9 Mar. 230/1 A septette of water-colours by the late H. B. Brabazon.

Septfoil (se·tfoil). Also 6-7 **set-**. [ad. late L. *septifolium*, as if through OF.: see Septi-[1] and Foil *sb.*[1], and cf. *cinquefoil*.]

1. The plant tormentil. Now *rare.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lvii. 84 This herbe (sc. *Tormentilla*) is now called..in English Setfoyle and Tormentill. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 616 For this disease the Sheapheardes take no other thing but the Hearbe *Tormentill*[*a*], or Set-foyle. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xiii. 56 Tormentil, or septfoil, grows wild on dry pastures and commons in most parts of England. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* X. 122 Here the dwarf sallows creep, the septfoil harsh. 1852 Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 40 Certain annual plants—as the septfoil and bistort.

2. *Arch.* An ornament with seven cusps or points.

1849 [see Sixfoil]. 1877 F. G. Lee *Gloss. Liturg. Terms.*

Septi-[1], comb. form of L. *septem* seven, forming adjs. in L, several of which have analogues formed with *septem-*, as *septiceps*, *septichordis* (also *septemchordis*), *septicollis*, *septipēs* (also *septempedālis*); in English forming compounds for the most part adapted from or modelled on the L. compounds: **Se·ptichord**, seven-stringed. **Se·ptico·loured**, of seven colours. **Septifa·rious** *rare*[−0]. [f. L. *septifariam* adv., in seven parts: see quots.] **Septifluous** *rare*[−0] = Septemfluous. **Septifo·lious** [L. *folium* leaf], having seven leaves. **Se·ptifro·nted**, having seven foreheads. **Septila·teral**, seven-sided. †**Septimestre** [L. *septi-*, *septemmēstris*], seven months old. **Se·ptimontial** [L. *Septimontiālis*, f. *Septimontium* (*mont-*, *mons* mountain)], belonging to the feast held on the seven hills of Rome. **Se·ptipartite** = Septempartite. †**Septipedal** [cf. Septempedal], seven feet in length. **Se·ptiregal**, of seven kings. **Septisy·llable**, a word of seven syllables. **Septi·valent**, *Chem.*, combining with seven atoms of hydrogen or other univalent element or radical. **Se·ptizone** [L. *septizōnium*]: see quot.

1721 A. Malcolm *Treat. Mus.* 522 A third Tetrachord was added to the *septichord Lyre. 1825 Waterton *Wand. S. Amer.* IV. ii. 284, I was in hopes to have found the Grande Gobe Mouche of Buffon, and the *septicoloured Tangara. 1865 Grote *Plato* I. i. 62 *note* x, A wheel painted with the seven prismatic colours and made to revolve rapidly, will look white, but it is still really septi-coloured. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Septifariæ*, of seven manner of fashions, sorts or ways. *a* 1860 A. Gray (cited by Worcester), *Septifarious*, turned seven different ways. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Septifluous*. See *Septemfluous*. 1721 Bailey, **Septifolious Plants*, such as consist of 7 Leaves. *a* 1708 T. Ward *Eng. Ref.* IV. (1716) 363 With ten huge Horns on ev'ry Forhead, And with a *Septi-fronted Scull. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxii. 331 Seven equicrural triangles..whose bases are the seven sides of the *septilateral figure. 1834 H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. iv, A septilateral figure. 1658 Phillips, **Septimestre*, of seven moneths space. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 262 At the solemne *Septimontiall sacrifice, hee made a dole of Viands. 1808 G. S. Faber *View Prophecies* I. 124 Whether the division of the mystic Euphrates into seven streams denotes some *septipartite division of the Turkish empire. *a* 1878 Sir G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 198 Sexpartite or septipartite vaulting. 1902 *Nature* 27 Nov. 80/2 If a line cutting the fourth portion in four real points be projected to infinity, the projection will be septipartite. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 3 To defraude the most landles liuer on life at lest of his *septipedall inheritance so equally proportioned to all by death. 1847 *Gentl. Mag.* July 45/2 Age has scarcely less likelihood of returning to childhood than Roman history of reverting to the Trojan origin and *septiregal succession. 1834 Oswald (cited by Worcester), **Septisyllable*. 1872 Watts *Dict. Chem.* VI. 243 Sodium also can act as a trivalent and as a *septivalent element. 1880 Cleminshaw *Wurtz' Atom. Theory* 229 [Chlorine] is septivalent in perchloric acid. 1730 Bailey (folio), **Septizone*, a Building girt with seven Rows of Columns.

Septi-[2], comb. form of Septum, as in Septiferous, Septiform[2], Septifragal. (Cf. Septo-[2].)

Septic (se·ptik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **eptick**. [ad. late L. *septic-us*, a. Gr. σηπτικός, f. σήπειν to putrefy.] **A.** *adj.* Putrefactive, putrefying; in mod. use, of disease, caused by the absorption of the products of putrefaction.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* III. 160 Either septic putrifying, or caustic burning. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 211 Vitriol, according to Galen..is of a corroding and sceptick quality. 1705 Greenhill *Embalming* 272 After the nature of Septic and Escharotic Medicines, it corrodes and consumes the Flesh in a very short Time. 1752 Pringle *Obs. Dis. Army* III. vii. (1765) 337 The miasma or septic ferment ..being received into the blood. *Ibid.* App. p. xxxviii, It would seem that salt is subservient to digestion chiefly by its septic virtue, that is, by softening and resolving meats. 1806 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* XV. 79 If this matter is the sceptic [*sic*] principle, the foundation of all these chronic diseases. 1873 F. T. Roberts *Handbk. Med.* 92 The symptoms are of such a low type..that they may be truly termed malignant. The terms 'putrid' or 'septic' are sometimes applied to fever under these circumstances. 1879 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) II. xiii. 334 The preventing of the wound from becoming a nidus for the propagation of septic bacteria. 1881 *Times* 25 Mar. 5 Illness has palpably been produced by the use, by paper-hangers, of size and paste undergoing or speedily entering on septic change.

†**b.** *Septic acid*: nitric or nitrous acid. (Cf. Septon and Septous.) *Obs.*

1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 26 [Abstract of paper by Dr. S. L. Mitchill.] The azote, by the absorption of oxygen, is converted into nitrous oxide gas (septic acid), which is supposed to be the..cause of infectious fever. 1800 S. L. Mitchill in *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* IV. 25 It is..ordinarily impossible to procure one drop of pure and naked septic acid, by any decomposition of nitre.

†**B.** *sb.* A septic or putrefactive substance. *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* 218 The venome of the Salamander is reckoned among Septicks, or corroding things. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 62 Septicks..may not be applied to any Ulcer. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 14 Acid of salt..constitutes..with regulus of antimony, a powerful septic. 1771 Watson in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 219 The proportion in which it acts as a septic.

‖ **Septicæmia** (septisĭ·miă). Also *U.S.* **septicemia.** [mod. L., f. Gr. σηπτικός Septic + αἷμα blood: see -ia.] Septic poisoning.

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 86 Putrid infection of the blood, or septicæmia. 1879 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) II. xiii. 335 Splenic fever was often overmastered by septicæmia. 1882 Playfair in *Standard* 17 Mar. 2/1 Puerperal septicæmia.

Hence **Septicæ·mic** *a.*

1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 227 Those in which they [metastatic abscesses] occur being termed pyæmic, those in which they are absent, septicæmic. 1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 84 Good observers have failed to detect bacteria in septicæmic cases. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 597 Septicæmic patients.

Se·ptical, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Formed as Septic: see -ical.] = Septic.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xiii. 139 There was no absurdity in Galen when as a Septicall medicine he commended the ashes of a Salamander. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 303 Their own septicall and escharoticall medicines. 1810 W. Scoresby *Arc. Arctic Reg.* I. 343 Occasionally assailed by the septical influences of rain.

Hence **Se·ptically** *adv.*, so as to produce putrefaction. 1879 Webster, *Suppl.*

Septicidal (se·ptisəidăl), *a. Bot.* [f. Septum + L. *-cīdĕre*, comb. form of *cædĕre* to cut + -al.] Applied to the form of dehiscence in which the pod splits through the dissepiments. Also to the capsule so divided. Hence **Septici·dally** *adv.*, with septicidal dehiscence.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 10 *note* The septicidal dehiscence of a plurilocular pericarp. 1830 — *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 146 The plants called Sauvageæ..have a septicidal dehiscence. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 247 Compound multilocular ovaries dehisce .. septicidally. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 68 Hypericineæ..Fruit a septicidal capsule. *Ibid.* 240 Capsule..septicidally 2-valved.

Septicine (se·ptisoin). *Chem.* [ad. G. *septicin*: see Septic and -ine.] (See quot.)

1876 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc., Abstr.* I. 405 Septicine, an Alkaloid formed during Putrefaction.

Septicity (septi·sĭti). [f. Septic + -ity, after F. *septicité*.] The quality or condition of being septic.

1828-32 in Webster. 1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 June 1210 Septicity introduced brings disaster on your patient and discredit on yourself.

Se·ptico-, comb. form of Gr. σηπτικός Septic.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 586 Pyæmia, Septico-pyæmia, is usually an acute disease, starting in a purulent or ichorous focus. 1921 Webster, *Septico-pyæmic.*

‖ **Septier** (sętyē). Also 6 **ceptyer**, 8-9 **setier**. [a. F. *septier*, var. *setier*, earlier *sestier*:—L. *sextārius*, f. *sextus* sixth.] A French measure of capacity for corn, etc.; a measure of land: see quots.

1514 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 26 In wyn iiij septiers. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cliii. 183 A ceptyer of whete was worthe xl. Parys viii. li. parisien, and a septier of otes xl. s. of parys. 1588 Archdeacon tr. *True Discourse Army K. Spain* 69, 6320 septiers of Beanes and white Pease. 1633 Grimeston tr. *Polybius* VI. 202 A Septier of Wheate, *marg.* A Septier is two Mines, and a Mine two London bushels. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 114 A Septier of Land he saith is much about the Arpent. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 64 The Muid, Paris Measure, containing 12 Septiers, which makes 2 Tons. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Hippocras*, Take three half Setiers of good Water boiled and cool'd, with half a Setier of good white Wine. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 211 The septier of wheat, a measure which contains a little more than four Winchester bushels. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* II. 631 The septier of Paris is 7736 French, or 9370·45 English, cubical inches. 1828 J. M. Sparman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 423 The corn measure was the muid equal to 12 setiers, 48 mines, or 144 bushels..The wine measure was the muid of 36 setiers, 144 quarts, or 288 pints. 1832 J. Davies *Manx Mist. Med.* 27 Verre, or ½ setier (glass).

†Septiesm. *Cards. Obs.* [a. OF. *septiesme* (mod. F. *septième*), ordinal of *sept* seven.] A sequence of seven.

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 59 The Elder acquaints you with his Sequences,..and they are Tierces, Quarts, Quints, Sixiesms, Septiesms, Huictiesms and Neufiesms. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/2 A Septeism, is a sequence of 7 cards.

Septiferous (septi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. SEPTI-[2] + -FEROUS.] Having a septum or septa.

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 113 Capsule.. 3-valved; valves septiferous in the middle. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 265 Beaks nearly terminal, septiferous internally.

Septiform (se·ptifōrm), *a.*[1] [ad. late L. *septiformis*: see SEPTI-[1] and -FORM.] Sevenfold.

1728 in BAILEY. 1849 DIGBY *Compitum* II. 310 That they may acquire the septiform grace, to the exclusion of the seven sins. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* xv. (1869) 532 The septiform system was apparently represented in the seven gates of Thebes. 1878 H. G. GUINNESS *Approaching End* Prel. (1880) p. viii, The epacts of the prophetic periods of Scripture form a remarkable septiform series.

Septiform (se·ptifōrm), *a.*[2] [ad. mod.L. *septiformis* or F. *septiforme*: see SEPTI-[2] and -FORM.] Of the form or nature of a septum.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 313 Septiform (*Septiformis*). When the Canthus forms an elevated ridge or septum. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 131/1 A tendency to the development of septiform prominence is visible in the walls of the gastric passages of certain calcareous sponges.

Septifragal (septi·frăgăl), *a. Bot.* [f. SEPTI-[2] + *frag-*, root of *frangĕre* to break + -AL.] Applied to the form of dehiscence in which the septa are separated from the valves.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 10 It [*sc.* the valvular mode of dehiscence] is called septifragal when it bursts the external edge of the dissepiments, which are then divided from the valves. 1898 L. H. BAILEY *Less. with Plants* 265 Septifragal dehiscence..may occur in either loculicidal or septicidal pods.

Hence **Septi·fragally** *adv.*, with septifragal dehiscence.

1896 G. HENSLOW *Wild Flowers* 149 It [*sc.* the fruit] dehisces loculicidally (through the back) and septifragally (across the septa).

Septile (se·ptəil), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *septilis*: see SEPTUM and -ILE.] Pertaining to a septum or septa.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*

Septillion (septi·lyən). *Arith.* [ad. F. *septillion* (16th cent.), f. L. *septem* seven, after *million*.] The seventh power of a million, denoted by 1 followed by 42 cyphers. In American (following the later Fr.) use, the eighth power of a thousand, denoted by 1 followed by 24 cyphers.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvi. § 6 Septillions. 1870 [see OCTILLION]. 1875 GRINDON *Life* xxvi. 334 Thousands of plants consist of nothing more than a few such cells as in septillions make up an oak-tree. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 18 May 9/4 M. Inaudi subtracted correctly a sum of figures running into septillions—purely from memory.

Hence **Septi·llionth** *a.* and *sb.* (in recent Dicts.).

Septimal (se·ptimăl), *a.* [f. L. *septim-us* seventh + -AL.]

1. Of a numerical system: Based on the number 7.

1855 in OGILVIE Suppl. 1865 MILL *Comte* 195 The number seven..is to be made the basis of numeration, which is hereafter to be septimal instead of decimal.

2. *Mus.* Pertaining to a seventh.

1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* v. 161 There being then no sounded note with which the 7th forms a dissonance, in the absence of both the root and the 3rd of the chord, the 7th has no longer any of its septimal characteristics.

†Septima·narian. *Obs.*—° [f. med.L. *septimānārius*, f. *septimāna* SEPTIMANE *sb.*] = HEBDOMADARY *sb.* Also **† Septima·rian** [med.L. *septimārius*].

1662 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Septimarians*, certain Officers in Monasteries, which were chosen every week. [Misprinted *Septinarian* in Bailey 1728, etc.] 1882 OGILVIE, *Septimanarian*, a monk on duty for a week in a monastery.

†Se·ptimane, *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *septimāna*, f. *septem* seven + *-āna*, fem. of *-ānus*, *-AN*, *-ANE* in a collective sense.] A week.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* Explan. Words, *Septimane*, A weeke or seven-night. 1694 J. SMITH *Doctr. Lord's Day* 52 The Eastern Nations..retained a true account of the order of days in the Septimane.

So **Septimanal** *a.*, weekly.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 706 Diurnal or septimanal literature.

†Septimane, *a. Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *septimānus* (see prec.).] (See quot.)

1721 BAILEY, *Septimane*, of the order of 7, also belonging to a Week.

Septime (se·ptim). [ad. L. *septimus*, ordinal of *septem* seven.]

1. *Mus.* a. Proposed name for the octave. *rare*—°. **b.** [after G. *septime*] A seventh. (In recent Dicts.)

1763 *Ann. Reg., Misc.* 192/2 By dividing the musical notes into six, as nature directs, the unisound will fall on the seventh note, and should, for this reason, be called a septime, and not an octave.

2. *Fencing.* A parry: see quots.

1889 POLLOCK, etc. *Fencing* (Badm. Libr.) 46 To parry *septime*, bring the foil into septime by making it describe half a circle from right to left, passing under the adversary's blade or hand. *Ibid.* 77 From septime, to give the Bertrand riposte. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 379/2 (Fencing) Septime: The hand opposite the right shoulder, the finger nails turned upwards, the arm half extended, elbow down, the blade horizontal, the point opposite the left shoulder.

Septimole (se·ptimōl). *Mus.* [arbitrarily f. L. *septimus* seventh: cf. QUINTOLE.] A group of seven notes to be played in the time of four or six.

1854 SCHUBERTH *Mus. Handbk.* 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 618/2 When a note is divided into seven instead of four parts—for example, a minim into seven quavers, or a crotchet into seven semiquavers—the group is called a septimole.

Septine (se·ptin). [f. Gr. *σηπτός*, vbl. adj. f. *σήπειν* to rot: cf. SEPTIC and see -INE.] (See quot. 1875.) Hence **Se·ptinous** *a.*

1875 B. W. RICHARDSON *Dis. Mod. Life* I. vi. 89, I succeeded in separating from the poisonous matter exuded from the peritoneal secretion of a patient labouring under surgical fever, a substance which would give a similar disease to an inferior animal...I named this substance 'septine'. 1877 *Times* 5 Oct. 4/5 [Dr. Richardson] classed the diseases produced by organic poisons as septinous instead of zymotic, he preferring the word septine for this poison.

Septingente·nary. [f. L. *septingentī* 700, after *centenary*.] A seven-hundredth anniversary.

1894 *Rochdale Times* May, St. Chad's church celebrating the 'septingentenary' of its birth-date.

Septinsular (septi·nsiŭlăi), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *septem* (see SEPTI-[1]) + *insula* island. Cf. the Fr. name *Sept-Îles*.] *Septinsular Republic*, etc.: the Ionian Islands. Also as *sb. pl.* the people of the Ionian Islands.

1809 *Ann. Reg.* Pref. p. iv, The restoration of the Government of the Septinsular Republic. 1859 *Times* 5 Dec. 10/6 The little Septinsular State which stands under the protection of Great Britain. 1889 *Athenæum* 6 July 20/3 A monograph of Andreas Hidromenos, 'The Struggle of the Septinsulars for National Unity'. 1898 MCCARTHY *Gladstone's Life* xvii. 190 The Senate of the Septinsular Commonwealth at Corfu.

Septir, obs. form of SCEPTRE *sb.*

†Se·ptite. *Chem. Obs.* [f. SEPT-OUS + -ITE.] A salt of septous acid; a nitrite or nitrate.

1799 S. L. MITCHILL in *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* I. 47 These carbonates and septites of lime, pot-ash, and soda.

†Septleva. *Obs.* Also sept-et-le-va, sept and leva. [Shortening of F. *sept-et-le-va*, lit. seven and the 'va', 'vade', or first stake.] At basset, seven times the amount of the first stake.

1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* II. ii, *Wild.*..Who can resist the charms of Mattadors? *Lur.* Ay, Sir Harry; and then the *Sept le va*, *Quinze le Va*, & *Trante le Va!* 1706 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* IV. 50, I have only won a *Sept & Leva*. *Ibid.* 53 Do you think it possible to lose a *Trante & Leva*, a *Quinze-leva*,—and a *Sept-et-leva*,—and never turn once. 1709 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* (1734) 115. 1716 POPE *Basset-Table* 14 in [Lady M. W. Montagu] *Crt. Poems* 2 As You by Love, so I by Fortune cross't; In One bad Deal, Three Septleva's have lost. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. H. S. Conway* 12 Feb., I am sorry she could not discover any wit in Mrs. Hussey's making a septleva.

Septo-[1], comb. form of Gr. *σηπτός* (see SEPTON), as in: **Se·ptodiarrhœ·a**, septic diarrhœa (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898); **Septoge·nic** *a.*, producing sepsis; **Se·ptogerm**, a septic germ; **Septo·meter**, an instrument for the detection of organic impurities in the atmospheric air (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 104 There is a septogenic element in ordinary air. *Ibid.* 107 Experiment and clinical experience alike show that it will kill a certain proportion of septo-germs.

Septo-[2], used as comb. form of SEPTUM, as in: **Septocepha·lic** *a.* (see quot.); **Septoce·phaly**, the condition of being septocephalic; **Septomaxi·llary**, applied to a small bone lying above the vomer in some birds and fishes; **Septo·meter**, an instrument for measuring the nasal septum.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* I. v. 176 *Septocephalic, microcephalic, small skull. *Ibid.* Index, Septocephaly. 1874 W. K. PARKER in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* Ser. II. *Zool.* (1879) I. 8 The bones figured are what I at first called in the Reptile 'prævomers', and now call '*septomaxillaries'. *Ibid.* 9 The main septo-maxillary piece. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 435 An ingenious '*septometer' has been invented by Seiler, which serves to distinguish thickening [of the septum] from deviation when these affections occur separately.

Se·ptole. *Mus.* = SEPTIMOLE.

1854 SCHUBERTH *Mus. Handbk.*

†Septon (se·ptŏn). *Obs.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *σηπτόν*, neut. of *σηπτός*, vbl. adj. f. *σήπειν* to rot. First in Fr. form *septone*, adopted by Brugnatelli, on the suggestion of Saltonstall, in *Annales de Chimie* (1798) XXIX. 181.)

A name for nitrogen, from its being regarded as the agent in putrefaction.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* July 26/1 The origin of the yellow fever is attributed by Dr. Mitchill to the putrefaction or spontaneous decomposition of such substances as contain much azote (according to Dr. Mitchill's Nomenclature *septon*). 1803 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* IX. 304 The gaseous oxyd of septon. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 712 The febrile miasm, and septon, or the elementary matter of putrescency, are the same thing.

Septo(u)r, obs. forms of SCEPTRE *sb.*

†Se·ptous, *a. Obs.* [f. SEPT-ON + -OUS.] *Septous acid*, nitrous (or nitric) acid.

1799 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* II. 284 Obtaining phosphoric acid from the bones of animals, by employing septous (nitrous) acid, which dissolved their lime.

†Sept psaumes. *Obs.* Also set sames. [a. OF. *septpsaumes* (*sept* seven, *psaume* PSALM *sb.*).] The seven penitential psalms.

c 1300 *Beket* 1084 He..seide furst the set sames and sithe the letanye. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1670 Thay sayd the sept psaulmes.

Septre, obs. form of SCEPTRE *sb.*

Se·pt-ship. *rare.* [f. SEPT *sb.*[2]] Clanship.

1823 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) IV. 114 The spirit of sept-ship.

Septuagenarian (se·ptiŭădʒĭnē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *septuāgēnārius*, f. *septuāgēnī*, distributive of *septuāgintā* (see SEPTUAGINT).] **A.** *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the number seventy. *rare.*

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 96 Unquestionably believ'd it [*sc.* the Septuagint] to have been perform'd by the same Septuagenarian and Binary number (for the Translators are reckon'd to have been 72 Elders of the Jews).

2. Seventy years old; characteristic of that age.

1793 tr. *Gresset's Ver-Vert* (ed. 2) 41 A sulky, sour, septagenarian [*sic*] maid Is made the keeper of the Renegade. 1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Oct. 441 Our septuagenarian premier.

B. *sb.* A person seventy years old.

1805 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IX. 1, I am an elderly man, verging now upon the glory of a septuagenarian. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* III. ii. 23 Landor..although ..a septuagenarian..was in the full vigour of his understanding.

Hence **Septuagena·rianism.**

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 532 In the plentitude of septuagenarianism.

Septuagenary (se·ptiŭădʒĭnări), *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *septuāgēnārius* (see prec.). Cf. F. *septuagénaire*.] = prec.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. 24 The same objection..Lucian maketh to Iupiter...And asketh whether they were become Septuagenarie, or whether the lawe..against old mens mariages had restrayned them. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. ix. 125 Nor can the three hundred years of ..Nestor, overthrow the assertion of Moses, or afford a reasonable encouragement beyond his septuagenary determination. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 27, I have often observed Septuagenary great-grandmothers adorned, as they thought, with all the colours of the Rainbow. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 92, I was in appearance a middle-aged man, and in mind a septuagenary. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 2 The task would require..septuagenary years.

†Septuagene. *Obs.* [Back-formation from prec.] A septuagenarian.

1656 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. Ep. Rdr. c j, A good way passed beyond a Septuagene.

Septuagesima (se·ptiŭădʒe·simă). *Eccl.* Also β. 4–5 Septuagesme, 5 -gesym, 5–6 -gesime. [a. L. *septuāgēsima* (sc. *diēs*) fem. of *septuāgēsimus* seventieth, f. *septuāgintā* seventy; in early use through OF. *septuages(i)me*.

It has been conjectured that the analogy of the names *Quadragesima* and *Quinquagesima* suggested the unmeaning application of *Sexagesima* and *Septuagesima* to the two preceding Sundays. Another (less likely) conjecture is that *Septuagesima* means 'the seventieth day' before the octave of Easter. Both conjectures are in Alcuin (8th c.).]

1. In full *Septuagesima Sunday*: the third Sunday before Lent.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 29 Wednesdai Gospel next after Septuagesme Sondai. *c* 1425 *Process. Nunn. Chester* (1899) 4 This procession shalbe saide on Sonday & so forth from septuagesme to lenton. 1430 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 92 Pereby demyd I þat septuagesime sonday schal falle þe 28 day of..Jannare. 1538 *Prymer in Englyshe* C j b, Betwene Septuagesima and Easter thys psalme foloweynge is sayde in steade of Te Deum. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xix. 159 b, There be no mariages celebrate, from Septuagesime to the vtas of Easter. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 93 The Penitential Time between Septuagesima and Easter. 1860 NEALE *Comm. Ps.* I. 35 The Lauds of Septuagesima Sunday, as said in the Ambrosian Office. *a* 1866 — *Notes on Div. Off.* (1877) 203 The custom of repeating it [*sc.* Alleluia] frequently on the Saturday before Septuagesima.

†2. The seventy days beginning with the third Sunday before Lent and ending with the Saturday in Easter week. Also *transf.* *Obs.*

†*Sunday in (the) S.* = *Dominica in Septuagesima*, i. e. Septuagesima Sunday.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 223 He..lefte flesche [on] Monday and Wednesday, [and] also in Septuagesme [*v.r.* Septuagesima]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxviii. (1495) 363 Septuagesme..stretcheth from the sondaye that hyghte Septuagesima..to the Saturday in Ester weke. *Ibid.* 364 When the Septuagesime of this lyfe is full ended, thenne we shall shyne in whyte in presence of thys lambe. *a* 1400 *Table of Lessons* in *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 685 The Sonday in Septuages. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 61 Pys day is called Sonday yn þe Septagesim. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Legend* II. (1503) A viij b/2, In the saterdaye after ester, in whiche septuagesme is cumplete we synge dou[b]le Alleluya.

†Septuage·simal, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *septuāgēsim-us* (see prec.) + -AL.] (See quot. 1656.)

In quot. 1646 (perh. Blount's source) the sense is 'limited to seventy years of life'; in quot. 1778 the word is misused for SEPTUAGENARIAN.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vi. 298 In our abridged and septuagesimall ages, it is very rare and deserves a distich to behold the fourth generation. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Septuagesimall*, pertaining to the number seventy, or Septuagesima Sunday. 1778 ELIZ. CARTER *Lett. to Mrs. Montagu* (1817) III. 145 (F. Hall) Your description of his septuagesimal gallantry would make one laugh.

Septuagint (se·ptiŭădʒint). [ad. L. *septuāgintā* seventy, f. weakened form of *septem* seven.]

†1. The 'seventy translators' of the Old Testa-

ment into Greek (see 2); = L. *septuaginta (interpretes)*, Gr. οἱ Ο'. *Obs.*

[1563 *Homilies* II. *Parell of Idol.* I. E ij b, Accordynge as the Septuaginta haue in theyr translation in Greke εἰδωλα. 1584 in D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 44 Will you followe the *Septuaginta* in their whole translation?]

1589 Cooper *Admon.* 50 The translation..was..according to the *Septuagint.* 1622 Ailesbury *Serm. 2nd June* 11 Which latter clause though it answer not the Originall; yet the Septuagint so translate it. *a* 1656 Hales *Golden Rem.* (1673) 84 The Septuagint, to make the sense more plain, do add another clause. 1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* II. vii. 251 The Septuagint, who render this word *Eden.*

† **b.** *pl.* in the same sense. *Obs.*

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* V. viii. 84 The translation of the olde testament by the septuagintes. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 217 The Septuagints were no Grammarians, saith that bold bayard, Stenchius. 1653 Gataker *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 36 Whether they..had studied upon the matter apart in their several cels, as the tale goes of the secluded Septuagints. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*

2. The Greek version of the Old Testament, which derives its name from the story that it was made by seventy-two Palestinian Jews at the request of Ptolemy Philadelphus (284–247 B. C.) and completed by them, in seclusion on the island of Pharos, in seventy-two days. (Denoted by LXX.)

The authority for the old story is the Letter of Aristeas to Philocrates, long known to be spurious, which purports to give contemporary evidence of the undertaking. The translation is now held to have been made by Egyptian Jews, independent of each other and living in different times.

1633 J. Done (*title*) The Auncient History of the Septuagint. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 278 As for the Septuagint, it is the first and most ancient Translation recorded. 1778 Bp. Lowth *Transl. Isaiah* Prelim. Diss. p. lxvi, The Greek Version, commonly called the Septuagint, or of the Seventy Interpreters. 1854 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 377/1 The severe condemnation which we have been compelled to pass on the Septuagints of the Christian Knowledge Society and the University of Oxford. 1887 *Bible* (R. V.) Pref., The Ancient Versions, the oldest of which, namely the Greek or Septuagint, was made, at least in part, some two centuries before the Christian era.

† **3.** *pl.* The 'seventy elders' of Israel. (*Exod.* xxiv. 1.) *Obs.*

1564 Rastell *Confut. Jewel's Serm.* 137 He [*sc.* the pope] continueth in his supremacie, as a Moyses aboue the septuagintes.

4. A group of seventy.

1864 De Morgan in *Athenæum* 2 July 21 Not to mention the Iscariot which Leverrier and Adams calculated into existence, there is more than a septuagint of new planetoids. 1887 Sir W. Harcourt in *Times* 29 Sept. 5/3 The Septuagint [of Liberal Unionists] still meets, I believe, at Devonshire House.

5. *attrib.* of sense 2.

1658 Phillips s.v., The Septuagint translation of the Bible. 1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* I. iii. 24 If you follow the Septuagint Chronology. 1708 Kersey s.v., The Septuagint or Septuagint-Bible. 1769 H. Owen (*title*) An Enquiry into the present state of the Septuagint Version of the Old Testament. 1850 Donaldson *New Cratylus* (ed. 2) § 100. 151 The Septuagint translators.

Se·ptuagi·ntal, *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the Septuagint.

1760 Byrom *Rem.* (1857) II. ii. 618 The frequent Hebraisms that occur through the whole New Testament, and their Septuagintal style. 1854 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 377/1 In the third chapter of the Septuagintal Daniel. 1863 Westcott in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* s.v. *Vulgate* § 19 The Septuagintal tradition was at length set aside. 1892 *Nation* LV. 482/2 Septuagintal text-criticism.

Hence **Septuagi·ntalist,** a student of or an authority upon the Septuagint.

1850 Grinfield *Apol. Septuagint* App. 177 Of all our Divines, Bishop Pearson, has proved himself the best Septuagintalist.

Septual, erron. form of Septal.

† **Se·ptuary,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *septem* seven + -ARY, by association with *septuāgintā.*]

A. *adj.* Consisting of seven; septenary.

1604 T. Wright *Clymact. Yeeres* 5 God hath appointed these Septuarie, and Nonarie yeeres as best seeming his wisdome and prouidence. *Ibid.* 8 In this septuarie number of our yeeres.

b. Of seven days.

1703 E. Ward *Lond. Spy* XVII. (1706) 403 After I had..bestow'd two Pennyworth of Razorridge on the most Fertile part of my Face, whose Septuary Crop requir'd Mowing.

B. *sb.* A group of seven days.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 212 Months howsoever taken are not exactly divisible into septuaries or weeks.

Septulate (se·ptiŭlĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. mod.L. *septulātus*: see next and -ATE 2.] Having a septulum or septula. 1864 Webster.

‖ **Septulum** (se·ptiŭlŏm). *Nat. Hist.* [mod.L., dim. of next.] A small or thin septum.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* XXXIII. III. 382 The *Septula*, the lesser ridges and partitions raised on the surfaces of the metaphragm. *Ibid.* XXXV. (1828) III. 384 The septula consist for the most part of the endosternum or internal sternum and its branches.

‖ **Septum** (se·ptŏm). Pl. **septa** (se·ptă). [a. L. *sēptum, saeptum*, f. *sēpīre, saepīre* to enclose, f. *sēpēs, saepēs* hedge.] A partition; a dividing wall, membrane, layer, etc.; a dissepiment. **a.** *gen.*

1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xi. 225 When the Plants of the outer Row are too numerous on a shallow Mould, the Roots of these, which are always thickest near the Bottom of the Stems, make a *Septum* or Hedge betwixt the Roots of the middle..Row and the Interval. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) ii. § 4. 114 It [*sc.* vegetable parchment] may be substituted for bladder as a septum, in electrolytic operations, with great advantage. 1871 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* I. I. ii. § 5. 38 Two pieces of stamped brass forming a strong septum in the cap. 1877 F. G. Lee *Gloss. Liturg. Terms, Septum*, a term used by certain seventeenth-century Anglican writers for the..rail, placed on each side of the entrance of the sanctuary, to support the communicants. *a* 1879 W. K. Clifford *Lect.* I. 205 Hydrogen goes through a septum or wall of graphite four times as fast as oxygen does. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 64 A hoop supporting a bag-like net..with a septum about 11 inches from mouth leading into the lower portion of the net.

b. *Anat.* e. g. the partition between the nostrils (*septum nasi*), the membrane separating the ventricles of the heart (*septum cordis*).

1726 Monro *Anat. Bones* 86 In some Sculls, besides the large osseus *Septum*, there are found in each *Sinus* several bony Pillars. 1733 *Winslow's Anat. Hum. Body* (1756) II. 243 The Falx, or great longitudinal Septum of the Dura Mater. 1781 Pennant *Hist. Quadrup.* II. 530 The nostrils oval, and divided by a *septum*. 1833 Brewster *Nat. Magic* iii. 312 Some of the party experienced sharp pains in the tips of their ears and in the septum of the nose. 1859 J. Tomes *Dental Surg.* 4 The septa, which divide into a series of cells that which at an earlier age was but a continuous groove. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 124, I have only removed one [*sc.* Polypus nasi] from the septum. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 66 In Notidanus, membranous septa..cross the substance of the gelatinous notochord. 1883 Martin & Moale *Verteb. Diss.* 128 The tendinous septum (*aponeurosis*) of the great pectoral muscle.

attrib. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 606 Douglas's septum perforator and curved septum knife.

c. *Bot.* e. g. the division-wall of a cell, a partition in a compound ovary or spore.

1720 P. Blair *Bot. Ess.* ii. 54 The *Placentæ*..sometimes ..arise from an *Axis medius*,..fram'd by the Conjunction of the three Septa, which meet in the Center. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 159 A fruit with the valves alternate with the septa. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 85 Pod 2-valved, turgid or flat with a longitudinal septum. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 259 The septum, at first simple, splits into two lamellæ.

d. *Geol.*

a 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 81 In those Bodies that are invested with a Crust, the Septa lessen and grow thinner as they approach the Crust. 1785 Hutton in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* (1788) I. 246 The septa have been formed by the uniform contraction of the internal parts of the stone. 1836 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* XV. § 4 (1837) I. 347 When these thin septa are converted into iron pyrites, their edges appear like golden filigrane work, meandering amid the pellucid spar. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iv. § 6. 407 The dark partitions, or septa, are veins of spar.

e. *Zool.* e. g. one of the radiated plates of the cell of corals, one of the partitions of a chambered shell.

1815 S. Brookes *Introd. Conchol.* 94 The septa transverse and perforated by a tube. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 353 The transverse septa are sometimes seen to extend quite across the whole interior. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 158 In..the *Aporosa* and *Perforata*,..septa, in sets of five or six, normally occur.

† **Septu·ncial,** *a. Obs.*—° [ad. late L. *septunciālis*, f. L. *sept-em* seven + *uncia* Ounce 1.]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Septuncial*, of seven ounces, or seven parts of the whole.

Septuor (se·ptiŭĕr). [a. F. *septuor*, f. L. *septem*, after *quatuor* quartett.] = Septet.

1890 Longf. *Life* (1891) II. 177 The first and longest a symphony..the last a Septuor, very beautiful. 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarel* I. XII Phrase after phrase, chorus on chorus, solo and septuor, and recitative.

Septuple (se·ptiŭp'l), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *septuplus*, f. *septem* seven: see -PLE.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Sevenfold.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 456 The 'quadruple' alliance will very soon be..a 'septuple' one. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 350, 8 Orionis is a septuple star. 1882–3 Schaff in *Herzog's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 49 The septuple fulness of the Holy Spirit.

2. *Mus.* Having seven beats in a bar.

1884 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 190/1 There seems no reason why a Composer, visited by an inspiration in that direction, should not write an Air in Septuple Time, with seven beats in a bar.

B. *sb.* The seventh multiple.

1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xv. 123 The Cube of The Septuple thereof is 1·913. 1755 Johnson, *Septuple*, seven times as much. A technical term.

So **Se·ptuple** *v. trans.*, to multiply by 7, increase 7 times; **Septuplica·tion,** multiplication by 7; † **Septuply** *adv.*, sevenfold.

1615 T. Adams *Blacke Deuill* 2 He that is quit of so bad a Guest, shall *septuple his owne woes by his re-entertainment. 1633 — *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 4 That furnace whose heate was septupled. 1833 Herschel *Astron.* viii. 278 Let any one figure to himself the condition of our globe, were the sun to be septupled. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 23 *Septuplication, or to multiply by 7. 1654 Vilvain *Theorem. Theol.* viii. 299 The Churches restauration, whose glory shal *septuply exced the Suns splendor.

Septuplet (se·ptiŭplĕt). [f. L. *septuplus* (see prec.), after *triplet*, etc.]

1. = Septimole. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*

2. One of seven offspring at a birth.

1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Septur(e, obs. forms of Sceptre *sb.*

Sepulchral (sĭpʌ·lkrăl), *a.* [ad. L. *sepulcrālis*, f. *sepulcr-um* Sepulchre *sb.*: see -AL. Cf. F. *sépulcral*, Sp., Pg. *sepulcral*, It. *sepolcrale, sepulcrale.*]

1. Of or pertaining to burial or a place of burial.

a. Pertaining to or serving as a sepulchre or tomb; forming part of a sepulchre, or its furniture; monumental.

Sepulchral cone: a cone of baked clay found in some Egyptian tombs, intended to represent offerings of food.

a 1631 Donne *Poems, Ecstacie* 18 We like sepulchrall statues lay. 1645 Milton *Passion* vii, Mine eye hath found that sad Sepulchral rock That was the Casket of Heav'ns richest store. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 43 Sepulchral Lies, our holy walls to grace, And New-year Odes, and all the Grub-street race. 1740 Gray *Let.* in *Poems* (1775) 85 A sepulchral marble at the villa Giustiniani. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 358 Old sepulchral urns. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. II. v. 423 The sepulchral-lamp,..burning through long ages to light up the entombed ashes. 1904 Budge *3rd & 4th Egypt., Rooms Brit. Mus.* 107 A collection of baked clay 'cones', stamped with the names and titles of princes, chiefs, and officials who were buried in the necropolis of Thebes... The objects are commonly called sepulchral cones.

b. Pertaining to rights and customs connected with burial, funeral.

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* III. 430 Thus hauing slaine him; a sepulchrall feast He made the Argiues. 1729 G. Adams tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* II. iv. II. 29 She..copiously adorns the Carcase with sepulchral Libations. 1863 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (ed. 2) I. iii. 76 The system of human sacrifices was not unknown among early Roman sepulchral rites.

† **c.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Sepulchral Hereticks, were thus call'd from their principal Error, which was, That by the Word *Hell*, whither the Scripture tells us Jesus Christ descended after his Death, they understood his Sepulcher.

2. *transf.* Suggestive of a sepulchre, appropriate to a tomb; dismal, gloomy, melancholy.

a 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 73 Sepulchral Cypress, Lawrel, Pine, and Bays, Yew, and all Trees, whose Verdure ne're decays, Are planted in long Rows, where Mourners walk. 1796 Southey *Rudiger* xii, A deep sepulcral sound the cave Return'd. 1840 J. T. J. Hewlett *P. Priggins* v, His laugh..was a sepulchral oh! hah! which issued from his chest without any sympathetic movement of the muscles of his face. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lxvii, The sepulchral Ezra.

† **3.** Like a tomb, serving to entomb. *Obs.*

1801 Southey *Thalaba* I. xxii, For this..The silkworm of the East Spun her sepulchral egg. 1802 E. Darwin *Orig. Soc.* IV. 61 With monstrous gape sepulchral whales devour Shoals at a gulp.

Sepulchralize (sĭpʌ·lkrălәiz). [f. Sepulchral *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* 'To render sepulchral or solemn.' 1855 Ogilvie Suppl.

Sepulchrally (sĭpʌ·lkrăli), *adv.* [f. Sepulchral *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sepulchral manner.

1819 H. Busk *Banquet* III. 273 Where, it is said, sepulchrally they burn, Near some sarcophagus or sacred urn. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 5/2 A current of sepulchrally icy air meets you inside.

Sepulchran (sĭpʌ·lkrăn), *a.* [f. Sepulchre *sb.* + -AN.] *Sepulchran nun*: a member of the Order of Canonesses Regular of the Holy Sepulchre; *pl.* the church of this order. Cf. Sepulchrine.

1844 A. P. de Lisle in E. Purcell *Life* (1900) I. 130 Mr. and Mrs. Craven met us at Mass at the Sepulchran Nuns. 1857 G. Oliver *Coll. Cath. Relig. Corruw.* 30 The English Sepulchran nuns had determined to emigrate from Liege.

Sepulchre (se·pĭlkәr), *sb.* Forms: 2–7 **sepulcre, 4 sepulchur, 5 scepulcur, sepulkyr, 5–6 sepulcur(e, sepulker, 6 sepulcor, sepulcar, sepulcer, sepullcre, sepullcur, (sepulchree, sepulchrie, sepulcrye),** 6–9 (now *U. S.*) **sepulcher,** 3– **sepulchre.** [a. OF. *sepulcre* (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *sepulcrum* (less correctly *sepulchrum*), f. root of L. *sepul-tus*, pa. pple. of *sepelire* to bury; cf. Sp., Pg. *sepulcro*, It. *sepolcro.*]

1. A tomb or burial-place, a building, vault, or excavation, made for the interment of a human body. Now only *rhetorical* or *Hist.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 101 Oðer is þat bitwenen his þrowenge and his ariste he lai on his sepulcre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 170 Uor ze beoð mid Iesu Criste bitund ase ine sepulcre. *c* 1290 *Holy Rood* 400 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 13 And þo he cam to Ierusalem of þe sepulchre he hadde doute þat ore louerd was on i-leid. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5188 Þar es þe mount of calvery, And þe sepulcre of Crist fast þarby. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 498 The sepulcre of hym Daryus Which that Appelles wroghte subtilly. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xliv. 173 (Harl. MS.) As longe as eny bone is in the sepulcure of my husbonde. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 402 The kyng gerion had brought vp that custome to make these sepulcres, for to haue remembrance of them that were vaylliant in armes. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xi. 47 Wo be to you that bilde the sepulcres off the prophetes: for youre fathers killed them. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 43 Many instruments, which neuer haue playing till such time as the dead is put into the sepulcher. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* lxviii, Before the goulden tresses of the dead, The right of sepulchers, were shorne away To liue a second life on second head. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 321 Such as have gone on Pilgrimage to Mecca, to Mahomet's Sepulchre. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 14 We found there a multitude of Sepulchres hewn into the Rocks. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 80 Under the choir of the church are the sepulchres of the old dukes of Bavaria. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxix, The very sepulchres lie tenantless Of their heroic dwellers. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* II. II. 68 There was strange darkness cast o'er every street, And all was stiller than a sepulchre.

b. *Whited* († *painted*) *sepulchre*: in biblical language, used fig. for a hypocrite, or one whose fair outward semblance conceals inward corruption.

[*c* 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 27 Woo to 3ou scribis and Pharisees, that ben lic to sepulcris maad whijt.] 1388 *Ibid.* Like to sepulcris whitid. [1539 BIBLE (Great), painted sepulcres; 1582 *N. T.* (Rheims), whited sepulchres; so 1611.] *c* 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Rom.* (1538) W iv b, Christ..calleth them ypocrytes, that is to saye, simulers and paynted sepulcres. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* xcvii. II. 61 Those varnished qualities, which, like whited sepulchres, are but a disguise for internal deformity. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 428 He was a sham,—a whited sepulchre.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI* II. v. 115 My heart (sweet Boy) shall be thy Sepulcher, For from my heart, thine Image ne're shall go. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Armado* C 3 b, Such beasts and birds of prey and rapine are commonly the liuing sepulchres of dead Horses. 1640 *Wand. Jew telling Fortunes* 38 He is a curse to Pasties; a tormenter of Poultry, a sepulchre to Lobsters. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. i. 53, I will ..make his youth The sepulchre of hope, where evil thoughts Shall grow like weeds on a neglected tomb. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* viii. (1879) 155 The whole area of the Pampas is one wide sepulchre of these extinct gigantic quadrupeds. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 122 The whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men.

2. *The Holy* (†*Saint*) *Sepulchre* (occas. *the Sepulchre*): The cave in which Jesus Christ was buried outside the walls of Jerusalem; hence, the name for the group of buildings erected over the traditional site of this cave. Also in the title of some churches in other parts of the world erected in memory of this.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 And was his holie lichame leid in burieles in þe holie sepulcre þat men sechen giet in ierusalem. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 17 þis Folk fraynede him feire from whenne þat he coome? 'From Synay', he seide, 'and from the Sepulcre'. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 9 This was yeve and writen in the lordes In of Cherlton without Newgate, in the parosch of seynt sepulcre in the suburbe of london. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 79 The Chirche of the Sepulchre...The Chirche of Seynt Sepulchre. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b ij b, A knyght is made in .v. dyuerse placis In musturing in londe of werris...And at the sepulcur. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 13 As the holy Sepulcher at Ierusalem, is visited by Christians. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xi, Hewing with our swords the way to the Holy Sepulchre. 1898 A. H. THOMPSON *Camb. & Its Colleges* 301 Just opposite St. John's Chapel is the church of the Holy Sepulchre. *Ibid.* 303 St. Sepulchre's is one of those rare livings which are in the gift of the parishioners.

b. *Knight of the* (*Holy*) *Sepulchre*: a member of a secular confraternity composed of those who were knighted in the crusades, esp. those knighted at the Holy Sepulchre itself.

Since 1342 the confraternity has existed only as a religious organization, having the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem as its Grand-master.

1590 SEGAR *Bk. Honor* v. 59 Knights of the Sepulcher. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 235 [They] would make us Knights of the Sepulcher, so we would crave that honour. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Sepulchre*, To excite Rich and Noble Persons to visit the Holy Places, by giving them the Title of Knights of the Holy Sepulcher. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. *Landlord's Tale* 2 It was Sir Christopher Gardiner, Knight of the Holy Sepulchre.

3. a. *Antiq.* A permanent or temporary structure prepared in a church for the dramatic burial of the reserved Sacrament (sometimes also the Cross) upon Good Friday.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 48 On kandel of xvj. pound of waxe to brenne about þe sepulcre in þe fornseide Chirche of seynt Nicholas. 1426–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 63 First payd for the sepulcre for diuers naylis & wyres & glu, ix d ob. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 67 One sepulcre sold to Johnne orson and he hath made a presse therof to laie clothes therein. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Ann. Q. Eliz.* (Camden) 28 And not onely images, but rood-loftes, relickes, sepulchres, bookes [etc.]..wer..committed to the fire. 1739 BLOMFIELD *Norf.* (1805) II. 217 These sepulchres were erected alwayes (as I take it) on the north side of the chancel, near to the altar. 1791 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* (1792) III. 239 [At Valencia] In the sacristy, I saw a massive sepulchre of silver gilt, designed for the reception of the host on good Friday. 1836 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 421 At Bampton, Oxfordshire, is a singular example ..of a kind of double sepulchre, one over the other.

b. (See quot. 1753.)

1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 220 The Place where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Church in order for the Office of Good-Friday (on which Day there is no Consecration) is by the People called the Sepulchre, as representing by Anticipation the Burial of Christ. *a* 1800 *Waterperry Chapel Reg.* in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 393 On Maundy Thursday Prayers in y^e^ morning at 10 a clock after which y^e^ Bd Sacrament is put into y^e^ Sepulchre & y^e^ Congregation, & Family wattch 2 by 2 till 10 a clock at night. 1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 187 A chapel of the sepulchre should be prepared. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 445/2.

4. Interment, burial. *rare.*

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiii. 4 3yue 3e to me rist of sepulcre [Vulg. *jus sepulcri*] with 3ou. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 262 His incensement at this moment is so implacable, that satisfaction can be none, but by pangs of death and sepulchre. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1871 NAPHEYS *Prevent. & Cure Dis.* I. xi. 331 Modes of sepulchre which have prevailed.

†**5.** App. some article of personal jewellery.

1567 SIR N. THROCKMORTON *Let. to Leicester* 30 Apr. (*MS. Magdalene Coll.*), I did remember you by Mr. Dier for sending your sepulchre as you told me by the way. Since your messenger had no better fortune in safe-carrying your token..he has left no devices undone to recover your diamond. 1567—*Let. to Leicester* 10 May, Retain your adamant sepulchre until you have the condition better annexed.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as †*sepulchre-door*; † (in sense 3) *sepulchre-cloth, -light, -nails*; †**sepulchre-stone** (? cf. sense 5); †**sepulchre-table**, a sepulchral tablet; †**sepulchre-tree**, ? the beam or frame upon which the Easter sepulchre was placed.

1566 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 114 Item, a *sepulchre clothe of red and blewe braunched with golde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 513 in *O. E. Misc.* 51 He hwelfde at þare *sepulchre-dure enne grete ston. 1505 *Cat. Anc. Deeds P. R. O.* (1906) V. 492 The *sepulcur lyghte in the seyd chyrche. 1546 in Throsby *Hist. & Antiq. Leicester* (1791) 246 Solde to Ryc^d^. Raynford the sepulchre light. 1494–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 214 Item, for the *sepulker nailes ob. 1489 *Will of Sandon* (Somerset Ho.), Lego ecclesie unum Agnus dei aureum cum lapide vulgariter dictum *Sepulcre stone. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 236 [An inscription] in a grave or *Sepulcher-table [L. *in sepulchrali tabula*], betweene two little images. 1449 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 90 For makyng of the *sepulkyr tre, xx^d^.

Sepulchre (se·pʊ̈lkəɹ), *v.* [f. SEPULCHRE *sb.*] Formerly also stressed *sepu·lchre*.

1. *trans.* To place in a sepulchre; to bury.

16.. ROWLEY *Birth Merlin* v. i. (1662) G 3, A place.. Where Merlins Mother shall be sepulcher'd. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wand. West* 5 It is very probable that King Arthur (our English Worthy) was there sepulchred. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 103 My bones sepulchre not from thine apart. 1896 *Dublin Rev.* July 123 Had everyone been allowed..to sepulchre their dead in the churches, there would very soon have been no space left.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 118 Goe to thy Ladies graue and call hers [*sc.* her love] thence, Or at the least, in hers, sepulcher thine. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* lxiv, Where merit is not sepulcher'd aliue. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 221 He may as well be buried in the Monastery as sepulchre himself in his chamber. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* V. 1040 We are sepulchred alive in this close world.

2. To receive as in a sepulchre, to serve as a burial-place for.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 134 If thou should'st not be glad, I would diuorce me from thy Mother Tombe, Sepulchring an Adultresse. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* II. ii, That which was mortal of My dear Martino..I know this mother earth hath sepulchred. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. i, When Ocean shrouds and sepulchres our dead. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. *Image*, xxii, Stillness and subterranean shade Her saints doth sepulchre. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 187 O to that tomb be tender then, which bears Only the name of him it sepulchres!

†**Se·pulchrer.** *Obs. rare*—^1^. [f. SEPULCHRE *sb.* + -ER ^2^.] A member of the order of Knights of the Sepulchre.

1537 [COVERDALE] *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 33 Sepulchrers order.

Sepulchrine (sɪ́pʊ·lkrəin), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. SEPULCHRE *sb.* + -INE ^1^.] Used in the popular designation of the religious order of Canonesses Regular of the Holy Sepulchre. Also as *sb.*, a Sepulchrine nun.

a 1800 in *Chron. St. Monica's, Louvain* (1904) I. 228 The Sepulchrine community with whom she dwelt. 1905 F. M. STEELE *Convents Gt. Brit.* 228 Another [daughter] was a Sepulchrine at Liège. *Ibid.*, A little volume preserved in the convent of the Sepulchrine nuns at Newhall.

†**Se·pulchrize,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SEPULCHRE *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To bury.

1595 T. EDWARDS *Cephalus & Procris*, etc. (Roxb.) 52 My wearied lims, Closse as I could to touch this Saint I couched, My bodie on the earth sepulchrizing him, That dying liu'd. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 343 Thou in obliuion hast Sepulchrized here, Earths dearest life.

†**Sepulchromany.** *nonce-wd.* [f. *sepulchro-*, SEPULCHRE + -MANIA.] 'Mania' relating to burial.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* Ded., Brain-sicke superstitions, instanced especially in their manifold sepulchromany.

Sepulchrous (sɪ́pʊ·lkrəs), *a. rare.* [f. SEPULCHRE *sb.* + -OUS.] Of the nature of a sepulchre.

1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* vi, A perfume..more suitable to sepulchrous chambers, than to the dwellings of men.

Sepult (sɪ́pʊ·lt), *a.* [ad. L. *sepult-us*, pa. pple. of *sepelīre* to bury.] Buried.

1898 F. DAVIS *Silchester* 7 The sepult cities of the Romans are with us.

†**Sepu·lt,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *sepult-*, ppl. stem of *sepelīre*.] *trans.* To bury.

1544 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 39 My bodie to be sepulted and buried. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physiche* 54/2 Occlude it then close together, and sepulte the same a cubite vnder grownde. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 342 The second..made of Holly-bark elixated, sepulted in mud, putrifyed.

fig. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* (1809) 6 And an hundred mo iniuries, whiche..he remitted and sepulted in obliuion.

†**Se·pultary.** *Obs. rare*—^1^. [f. L. *sepult-* (see SEPULT *v.*) + -ARY.] = SEPULTURE *sb.*

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 7 b, Leasure without learning, is a death & sepultarie [orig. *sepoltura*] of a liue man.

Sepultural (sɪpʊ·ltiŭrăl), *a.* [f. SEPULTURE *sb.* + -AL.] Of or pertaining to sepulture or burial.

1789 *J. Lewis's Mem. Dk. Gloucester* 72 If the sepultural spot could be ascertained, he would erect a stately monument over it. 1821 *John Bull* 15 Jan. 40/1 No remains of sepultural enclosure were discernible. 1889 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 697 A treatise on the funeral monuments and sepultural usages of the ancients.

Sepulture (se·pʊ̈ltiŭr), *sb.* Forms: 4 *Sc.* sepultore, 5 supulture, sepulturre, sepoltur, 5–6 sepult(o)ur, 6 sepoltre, sepulter, 3– sepulture. [a. OF. *sepulture*, ad. L. *sepultūra* burial, f. *sepult-*, ppl. stem of *sepelīre* to bury; cf. Sp., Pg. *sepultura*, It. *sepoltura*, *sepultura*.]

1. Interment, burial.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3466 Wel aȝte þat be a wurþe stude wanne þer such sepulture ys. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM *Poems* (E. E. T. S.) 125 For þe offyce of hyre sepulture Was al an heuene gyse. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2553 Myn body mote 3e se..In the hauene of Athenys fletynge With-oute sepulture & beryinge. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. *Trav.* (1839) xxix. 243 The Erthe mynystrethe to us..oure Sepulture aftre oure Dethe. 1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 100 And I beqweth to the seid churche for my sepultur vj s. viij d. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIX. ii, Their bodies killed With sepulture can no where meete. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* II. i, He had rather dye aliue for debt Of the old man in prison, then he should Rob him of Sepulture. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 429 The common Rites of Sepulture bestow, To sooth a Father's and a Mother's woe. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* II. ii. Wks. 1812 V. 516 The monastery was always the place of sepulture for the greatest lords and kings. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Ranke* ¶ 51 Even the honours of sepulture were long withheld from his remains. 1902 'FAIRLESS' *Roadmender* 30 Yesterday a funeral passed, from the workhouse at N——, a quaint sepulture without solemnities.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 558 For dronkenesse is verray sepulture Of mannes wit and his discrecion. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* I. iii. (1883) 15 Ydleness wyth oute ony ocupacion is sepulture of a man lyuyng. 1621 BACON in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 43 For the house of Commons, I began my credit there, and now it must be the place of sepulture thereof. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 150 Tore thy limbs And left them to the Muses' sepulture.

2. A burial-place, grave, tomb: = SEPULCHRE *sb.* 1. Now only *arch.*

a 1375 *Cursor M.* 25614 (Fairf.) Squete ihesus..atte time of complin..þer was þou wondin laide in sepulture & noȝt fondin. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 369 þe place of pasture were i-torned to buriels and sepultures. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 142 Ther roos up oon out of his sepulture, Terrible of face. 1496 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 229 In the holy sepulture of the cherche yeerd of Seynt Marie. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. vi, Marius..also caused Caius Cesar..to be violently drawen to the sepulture of one Varius..and there to be dishonestly slayne. 1540 HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 14 At Hierusalem haue I bene Before Chrystes blessed sepulture. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) T v, The manner was too reare about ones sepulture so many Obeliskes, as he that lay there buryed had slayne of his enimies. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 593 A faire Abbay, the Sepulture in times past of..the Burneis. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi. 23 She erected over their sepultures, a marble tombe of her owne. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* V. 91 From Campaldino's field what force or chance Drew thee, that ne'er thy sepulture was known. 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* iii. 117 The Royal sepultures of Westminster were also remarkable from their connexion..with the residence of the English Princes.

†b. *Holy Sepulture*: = SEPULCHRE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxi. 204 All these wente to se and vysyte the holy sepulture.

†c. *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1463 ASHBY *Prisoner's Refl.* 344 Pryson properly ys a sepulture Of lyuyng men. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 213 My money..was spent vpon Sepultures for dead bodies, on dead workes, and worldly vices.

†**3.** = SEPULCHRE *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1485 *Acc. St. Marg. Southwark* in Feasey *Anc. Eng. H. Week Cerem.* (1897) 153 *Item.* ij blew Cortyns [to] draw afore the sepulture. 1494–5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 228 Item, for the mending of the sepulture, the chapell dure, and Judas crois. 1553 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 51 Delyuered a stayned Cloth yat went about y^e^ Sepultere. 1557 *Churchw. Acc. St. Helens, Abingdon* (Nichols 1797) 141 To the sextin for watching the sepulter two nyghtes o o 8. *attrib.* 1527–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 343 Paid for an ell of fyne lynnyn cloth to amend the sepulture cloth wherat it was eiton with rattes.

Sepulture (se·pʊ̈ltiŭr), *v.* [f. the *sb.*] *trans.* To bury, inter.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVIII. 592 And after the sepulturynge of the holy corps, the brethern wente agen in to theyr countree. 1826 MRS. SHELLEY *Last Man* III. 146 Grave in which my heart lies sepultured, farewell for ever! 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 114 Thou gavest him his light, Though sepultured in night Beneath the dead bones of a perished world.

†**Sepu·rture.** *Her. Obs.* (See quots.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 11/1 He beareth Sol, an Angel..: Wings in Sepurture, Luna: Of some expenced:.. If the Angels be sideways, and the Wings behind each other, they are termed Sepurture (or Expenced,) yet this..is not termed an Angel Sepurture; but an Angel kneeling, the Wings Sepurture. *Ibid.* 13/2 He beareth Or, a demy Angel in Sepurture, Gules...This is also termed a demy Angel, half faced, with Wings Sepurture, &c. *Ibid.* III. 156/2 He beareth Azure, an Angel, Wings Sepulture [*sic*], Argent. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Sepurture.* This ancient heraldic term is used in the same way as *endorsed*, as *wings sepurture*, or *endorsed...Sepurture disclosed* differs from the last, by merely showing more of the off wing. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her., Sepurture.*

Seq. Pl. seqq. Also sq. Pl. sqq. Abbreviated forms in *sing.* of L. *sequens* the following, *sequente* and in what follows, *sequitur* it follows; in *pl.* of *sequentes*, *-tia* the following, *sequentibus* in the following places. Also, more fully, *et seq.*

1726 J. KER *Mem.* I. (1727) Index, Scotland, a View of their Affairs. 113, 131, & *seq.* 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Thistle, Tourn.* Inst. p. 440. seq. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Add. 414 See Creuz. Symb. iv. 108. sq. 1842 DONALDSON *Pindar, Nemea* vii. Introd. 235 The passage, which follows (v. 70, seqq.), is perhaps the most difficult. 1850 — *New Cratylus* (ed. 2) § 76. 211 *note*, See Grimm, *Gesch. der deutsch. Spr.* p. 824 sqq. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 177 What has been already said about the structure of chlorophyll granules..(168 *et seq.*).

‖ **Sequa** (sī·kwă). [perh. native W. Indian ; cf. SEGRA.] (See quot. 1866.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 491/1 *Fevillea cordifolia* is the Sequa or Cacoon Antidote of Jamaica, where it is a common plant in shady woods. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xiii, It has—like that curious flat gourd the Sequa—the property of keeping iron from rust.

† **Sequa·ces,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [a. OF. *sequaces*, a. L. *sequācēs* pl. of *sequāx* that follows, a follower, f. *sequī* to follow.] Successors, followers.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* Balade ii. 32 He hath..left it for holsome memoriall To all his sequaces. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 147 Why did this man, and those his sequaces, signe unto the former acts? *Ibid.* III. 43 Ormonde and his sequaces.

Sequacious (sĭkwē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *sequāc-*, *sequāx* (see prec.) + -IOUS.]

1. Of a free agent or his attributes: Given to following another or others, esp. a leader. † Const. *to, of.*

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 20 See how sequacious these poor creatures are to God their Centurion. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 30 How sequacious were they all to God..they all come at his call. 1687 DRYDEN *St. Cecilia's Day* vii, Orpheus cou'd lead the savage race, And Trees unrooted left their Place, Sequacious of the Lyre. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 5 The frequent disappointments..induced them to gather together such animals as were of a more tame and sequacious nature. 1833 BP. HAMPDEN *Bampton Lect.* (1848) 73 We find individuals..like the Sophist of old, leading after them, by the charm of their voice, troops of sequacious hearers. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* xi, Here..he could wander out into the woods alone (after he had shaken off the attentions of the too sequacious Almeda).

b. Given to slavish or unreasoning following of others (esp. in matters of thought or opinion).

Common in the 17th c.

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* To Rdr. (e), By seeming to..admire their many new masters, and their rarer gifts ; which make them worthy indeed of such soft and sequacious disciples. 1696 *Artif. Handsom.* 111 They make loud and fierce Declamations,..rather in a sequacious and credulous easinesse, than after the rate of any perswasive strictnesse. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 32 A Momus, a poor sequacious Animal, that follows such as went before him. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1713 Those superstitious horrors that enslave The fond sequacious herd. 1842 W. HOWITT *Rur. & Dom. Life Germany* 202 The Germans.. have thus acquired in matters of public opinion, a sequacious and yielding character. 1880 LADY EASTLAKE *Mrs. Grote* iv. 77 The sequacious deference to the Ministry of the day..filled us with painful reflections. 1885 M. PATTISON *Mem.* 208, I had been drawn into Tractarianism, not by the contagion of a sequacious zeal, but by the inner force of an inherited pietism. 1893 T. K. ABBOTT '*Do this*' etc. 5 Some passages of the LXX. there are which have been referred to in the most sequacious manner by writer after writer.

† 2. Of things: Readily yielding to traction; easily moulded to any required shape; ductile, pliable, flexible. *Obs.*

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxxi. 321 Of all Fire there is none so ductile, so sequacious and obsequious as this of Wrath. 1652 CULVERWEL *Disc. Lt. Nat.* I. vii. (1661) 47 Such falsities, as come disguis'd in a Syllogistical form, which by their sequacious windings, and gradual insinuations, twine about some weak understandings. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 726 The Salve..should be sequacious. 1661 G. RUST *Origen* 84 The inferiour spirit of the world.. will not fail to bring her treasure into view when invited by congruous and sequacious dispositions of matter. 1673 GREW *Anat. Plants* (1682) 237 Convolvula's..wind..because their Parts are disposed so, as to render them more sequacious to the external Motor. 1752 C. SMART *Hop-garden* II. 67 Now extract From the sequacious earth the pole.

3. Of musical notes, metrical feet: Following one another with unvarying regularity of order.

1795 COLERIDGE *Æolian Harp* 18 And now, its strings Boldlier swept, the long sequacious notes Over delicious surges sink and rise. 1864 D. W. THOMPSON *Daydreams Schoolm.* 243 That Hellenic speech..that rises and falls in Plato with the long sequacious music of an Æolian lute.

4. Of style or thought: Persisting in one continuous direction.

1828 DE QUINCEY *Rhet.* Wks. 1862 X. 41 Milton..polonaises with a grand Castilian air, in paces too sequacious and processional. 1835 — *Autobiog.* Wks. 1889 II. 69 The motions of his mind were slow, solemn, sequacious, like those of the planets.

Hence **Sequa·ciously** *adv.*

1801 *Century Dict.* 1897 A. B. BRUCE in *Expositor's Grk. Test.* I. 148/1 *note*, One in a herd of swine might..begin to run wildly about, and be followed sequaciously by the whole flock.

Sequaciousness (sĭkwē·ĭ·ʃəsnés). [f. SEQUACIOUS *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The state or condition of being sequacious.

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 69 Endless janglings..which would make Religion, a matter..of sequaciousness and feminine softness. 1696 *Artif. Handsom.* 181 It is time..to get beyond that servility and sequaciousness of conscience. 1832 DE QUINCEY *Ld. Carlisle on Pope* Wks. 1863 XII. 27 Pursuing them [*sc.* thoughts] through their unlinkings with the sequaciousness (pardon a Coleridgean word) that belongs to some process of creative nature. 1881 G. ALLEN *Evolutionist at Large* iii. 33 Another mountain trait in the stereotyped character of sheep is their well known sequaciousness.

† 2. Ductility (of matter). *Obs.*

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* iv. ii. (1677) 304 Although Almighty God be not bound or straitned in his Operation to the sequaciousness of the Matter.

Sequacity (sĭkwæ·sĭti). [ad. late L. *sequācitās*, f. *sequāc-* (see SEQUACIOUS) + -ITY.]

† 1. Ductility, pliability (of matter). *Obs. rare*—1.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 900 All Sperme, all Menstruous Substance,..haue euermore a Closenesse, Luntour and Sequacity.

2. Disposition or readiness to follow; lack of independence in action, judgement, thought, etc.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 207 But this Liberty of Judgement..seemes allmost lost, either in Lazy, or blinde Sequacity of other mens Votes. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* App. (1866) II. 264 Another example of the passive sequacity of the logicians. They follow obediently in the footsteps of their great master. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxii. VIII. 125 At best a tame and dumb sequacity to leaders whom they neither chose nor controled. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xxix, Against each good old-fashioned smoothness, and fine-fed sequacity, a rapid stir was now arising.

Sequar, variant of SQUARE *Obs.*

Sequel (sī·kwĕl), *sb.* Forms: 5–7 sequele, (5 sequely, 6 sequeale), 6–8 sequell, 6 sequeile, *north.* sequyle, 7 sequill, *Sc.* sequeill, 6– sequel. [a. OF. *sequelle* (mod.F. *séquelle*), ad. L. *sequēla* (*sequella*), f. *sequī* to follow.]

† 1. A train of followers, band of adherents, following, suit ; *rarely*, a follower. In *Feudal law*, the offspring, retinue, chattels, and appurtenances of a villein. *Obs.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 871 These were her names: fyrst, Nygromansy, Geomansy, Magyk, and Glotony,.. Fysenamy also, and Pawmestry, And all her sequelys. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Whiche is callede otherwhile a sequele [L. *sequela*: *Trevisa* sewte] of natife men. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 559 The forsaid bondmen or natifs with all ther catallis sutis or sequelys. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 22 Thenne Eneas and all his sequele made theym redy for to..leue the sayd countrey of Trase. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 273/2 He had also a grete sequely & rowte of worldly & galaunt seruauntis. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 330 The great nombre of Irisshery, so being in exile, being togider with ther tenauntes and sequell. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. II. v. 164/2 The yeomanrie, of whom and their sequele, the labourers and artificers, I haue said somewhat euen now. 1591 Q. ELIZ. in *Lett. Eliz. & Jas.* (Camden) 65 My lewde rebel, whose person and forse..drawes few for sequel. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. § 72 That eithers friends, adherents, and sequels, should be comprehended in the truce. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 190 His freeholders and villaines with their Sequells.

† b. *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh.* i. (1584) 180 But nowe there be other dishes, which be sequels or hangynges on, wherewith the chiefe dishe is powdred. 1590 SOUTHWELL *M. Magd. Funerall Teares* Ded. 4 For passions being sequels of our nature, and allotted unto us, as the handmaids of reason. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 114 These foure great llandes with their sequele.

c. *Scots Law.* (See quot. 1838.)

c 1609 *Inchaffray Charters* (S. H. S.) 171 The myine of Dumfalleis myinlandis astrictit multures and sequeillis thairof. 1701 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 202 The milne of Balmad milne lands multures suckine sequells and knaveships thereof. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 223 The sequels are the small quantities given to the servants, under the name of knaveship, bannock, and lock or gowpen. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, Not one in the Halidome pays their multures more duly, sequels, arriage, and carriage. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.*, *Sequels*, in thirlage, are the small allowances of meal, or of manufactured victual, or of money composition, made to the servants at the dominant mill for their real or implied trouble in grinding the victual of the servient lands.

† 2. Descendants, posterity; successors in inheritance. Also *pl. Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 199 And for þis, fro hensfurth, all his sequele at holdis þis same possession & knowis þerof, mon be punysshid. 1533 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 78 To pray..for the prosperitie of the said Nicholas and his heyres and sequele. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 218 A goodly meane both to deterre from crime: And to her steppes our sequele to enflame. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 212 b, Promising to beare his..frendly favor to kyng Henry the sixte and his sequele. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 387, I wyll that when these leases be expyred..that thay or ther sequyles shall haue the same again.

fig. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* 230 All murders, robberies, spoyles, slaughters, and desolacions, beyng the sequele, and as it wer, yᵉ children of warre.

b. Law. *Sequels in estate*: (a person's) successors in a holding.

1889 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 7/3 The Bill will authorise Lord Tredegar and his sequels in estate, and trustees..to exchange..portions of the hallast land..for [etc.].

3. That which follows as a result of an event or course of action ; an after-consequence. *In sequel to*, as a consequence of. † *By sequels*: by consecutive stages. *Obs.*

The sense has been rare since the 16th century ; the occasional examples in 19th c. writers are akin to sense 6.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 3 b, Suche tresor may nat by gadred wythoute the sequele be to hys daunger. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. (1516) 23/2 Wherfore after punyshement done vpon some of his Enemyes, he ferynge yᵉ Sequell and Reuengement of the same laft that Countree. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Love* 1189 And he that lacketh any one of those three..Deth must be sequell howe euer it be. *Ibid.* 1227 That my ioy by loue shall bryng deth in sequell. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, M vij b, This gere came by Sequels...He by vnrepentaunce fel from euyll to worse, and from worse, to worste of al, til at the length he was made a spectacle to all the world. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. xxiii. II. 733 For I have seene the fearfull sequele of that experiment, in a man, who..threw himselfe headlong from an high loft. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iii. 10 The Future being but a fiction of the mind, applying the sequels of actions Past, to the actions that are Present. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 152, I woo thee not with gifts. Sequel of guerdon could not alter me To fairer. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. iii. 270 He had assured himself that every phenomenon in the moral or material world was the sequel of a natural cause. 1895 W. MUNK *Life Halford* ii. 20 Cullen was still living and lecturing, though in sequel to age failing somewhat.

† b. Consequence, importance. *Obs.*

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 26 The granting whereof.. would be..newes of wofull sequell vnto the papists. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* 82 b, There is no such affection..betwixt the Pope & the Turke, as that he should banish a subiect for not obeying the Popes ordinance, specially in a matter of some sequele for the alteration of times within his owne countries. 1658 A. Fox tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* III. x. 247 The dressing is of as great sequel and concerament, as applyed medicines to Wounds.

† c. *concr.* Something developed from or produced by something else. *Obs.*

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 246 Whatever parts, or supposed simple Principles, any sort of Bodies are reducible into, they are but the sequels or after-products..of those two real Principles, Water and Seed.

d. *Med.* = SEQUELA.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 237 The nervous sequels in mumps are not confined to cases which begin with such nervous symptoms. *Ibid.* III. 56 In many of these [cases] the lesions are rather of the nature of sequels.

† 4. That which follows or is thought to follow as a logical consequence ; an inference. *Obs.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 19 It is a very simple sequele, onely vpon remembrance of Christs Death to found the Masse. 1585 SANDYS *Serm.* viii. 133 The people pay tithes of that they haue, therefore there must needes be sufficient to maintaine them. If things were well ordered, this sequele were good. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 20 So fareth it with the bodies and by sequele with the soules of men. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 152 Doe they not..make, I know not what vn-ioynted sequels, by which after one errour granted, they runne into a thousand. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. xi. 44 These..are scarce Rhetoricall sequells, concluding metaphors from realities. *a* 1658 LOVELACE *Poems, Adv. to Brother* vii, 'Tis a false sequel.. to suppose That, 'cause it is now ill, 'twill ere be so. 1689 PRIOR *Ep. to F. Shepherd* 39 Then he, by Sequel Logical, Writes best, who never thinks at all.

† 5. Sequence, order of succession ; also a number of things in succession, a series. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 361 The King hath graunted euery Article: His Daughter first ; and in sequele, all. 1615 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1629) 675 That second part is sett downe in a sequele of foure. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 581 The Apocalypse..hath marks..whereby the Order, Synchronism and Sequele of all the Visions therein contained may be found out and demonstrated. 1713 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Free-Thinking* I. (ed. 2) 18 Homer..wrote a sequel of Songs and Rhapsodies, to be sung by himself for small earnings and good cheer. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 87 Molinet having got the Sequal or chaine of 400 Brass Medals of the Popes. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 15 Signatures..at the bottom of the page, to shew the sequel of the sheets.

6. What happened or will happen afterwards ; the ensuing course of affairs, subsequent train of events, issue, result, upshot. † *In sequel*, afterwards, subsequently, in the end. *Obs.*

1524 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. I. iii. 50, I do tremble to remember the End of all these high and new Enterprizes. For oftentimes it hath been seen, that to a new Enterprize, there followeth a new Maner, and strange Sequel. 1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* 140 b, His prophecie also seamed fully verefyed in the sequeile of the licenceous lyuing of his new wif. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Artaxerxes* (1595) 1015 He could not haue deuised a fitter place.., as it fell out in sequell. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 137 O plague right well preuented ! so will you say, when you haue seene the sequele. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 24 By reason of some unlucky sequells of his first speedy coming into this kingdome..hee is brought into a lower condition of fortune. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 334 Hee, after Eve seduc't, unminded slunk Into the Wood fast by,..To observe the sequel. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 276 Their lives are first taken away, and in sequel their estates. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Aff.* (1741) 11 The October-Club which appeared so formidable at first..proved in the Sequel to be the chief Support of those who suspected them. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xx. 386 Uses which discover themselves in the sequel of the process. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* xxiv, Whether Captain Turnbull or I were right, remains to be proved in the sequel. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* II. xviii. 205 We must await the sequel for a complete justification of this course.

† b. The remaining period (of the year, one's life). *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxviii. 746 The Oke Apples..forshewe the sequell of the yeere..by the liuing thinges that are founde within them. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, That in the shortened sequel of my life I may pour forth my soul into thine arms. 1619 EARL SUFFOLK in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 80 And all the sequel of my lyfe after, lyue Your Majesties trwe subject and faithfull servaunt.

c. An age or period as following and influenced by (a former period).

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 10 When this step has been made..there may generally be observed another period, which we may call the Sequel of the Epoch, during which the discovery has acquired a more perfect certainty. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 32 The nineteenth century is what it is as the sequel, not of the eighteenth century only, but of all the centuries that have preceded it.

7. The ensuing narrative, discourse, etc. ; the following or remaining part of a narrative, etc. ; that which follows as a continuation ; esp. a literary work that, although complete in itself, forms a continuation of a preceding one.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* I. Prol. (1533) 2 But of those dedes me lyste nat here to shewe For in the sequele they shall well appere. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 1 b, What profite..succeded in the realme of England by the union of the fornamed two noble families you shall apparantly perceive by the sequele of this..history. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 122 *Val.* I will write..a thousand times as much: And yet—. *Sil.* A pretty period: well: I ghesse the sequell. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 147 Which..proved a Babell, a hill of confusion to them in the issue, as you shall hear in the sequill. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 94 Wherein how they have either acquitted their Client, or acquighted themselvs, the seqele shal shew. 1689 LOCKE *Govt.* II. ii. § 15 (1694) 176, I moreover affirm, That [etc.]; And I doubt not in the Sequel of this Discourse, to make it very clear. 1710 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 253 ₱ 13 The Sequel of the Proceedings of this Day will be published on Tuesday next. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* ix. 174 In *Love's Last Shift*, and in the Sequel of it, the *Relapse*. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. vii. (1817) 289, I will only observe, as a sequel of the argument, the remarkable similitude between the style of Saint John's Gospel, and of St. John's Epistle. 1858 E. A. BOND *Russia* (Hakl. Soc.) Introd. 1 The one [work] serves as a sequel to or complement of the other. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xv. 297 This story has an interest of its own..independently of the grander narrative to which it is a close sequel. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* xiii. 244 We shall meet with it again more than once in the sequel of this history.

†**8.** *Phonetics.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—¹.

1706 LHUYD *Archæol. Brit.* 35/1 Sequels, or such Consonants as when they begin words, admit of none other immediately after them; tho they'l immediately follow. I. n. r.

†Se·quel, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SEQUEL *sb.*] That followed after, subsequent.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 293 The sequell morne, we marched through a fiery faced plaine. *Ibid.* X. 488 After this, their sequell answere being mortified, and I set at liberty.

†Se·quel, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SEQUEL *sb.*] *trans.* To follow. Hence †**Se·quelled** *ppl. a.*

1594 *Zepheria* xl, If she shall attend what fortunes sequell'd The naufrage of my poor afflicted bark, Then tell [etc.]. 1805 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IX. 254 But ah! who can control his fate? My sequel'd tale I'll brief relate.

‖Sequela (sĭkwī·lă). Pl. **sequelæ** (sĭkwī·lī). [L. *sequēla*: see SEQUEL *sb.*]

1. *Path.* A morbid affection occurring as the result of a previous disease. Chiefly *pl.*

c 1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 299/2 But..these sequelæ of this disease are perhaps more readily overcome by country air. 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1816) 115, I had, recently, a case of the sequelæ of this malady. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 529 The change..is sometimes a sequela of myocarditis.

b. *transf.* A consequence.

1883 *Spectator* 28 Apr. (Stanf.), Those terrible sequelæ which interfere so deeply with human happiness. 1910 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 429 Ostentation and oppression on the part of the rich with the sequelæ of vice, crime and demoralisation.

2. A person's followers (cf. SEQUEL *sb.* 1). *rare.*

1858–9 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* XXX. (1860) 673 The long *e* in *there*, which Walker and his sequela make identical with *a* in *fate*.

†Seque·larly, *adv. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. L. *sequēla* SEQUEL *sb.* + -AR + -LY ².] Subsequently.

1600 SIR J. DOWDALL in *Carew MSS.* (1869) 353 [The smoke of rebellion was first seen in..Magweyre, next in Tyrone, and] sequelarly [in his confederates].

Sequence (sī·kwĕns). Also 4–6 **sequens.** [ad. late L. *sequentia*, f. *sequent-em*, pres. pple. of *sequī* to follow: see SEQUENT *a.* and -ENCE. Cf. OF. *sequence* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *séquence*, Sp. *secuencia*, Pg. *sequencia*, It. *seguenza*.

Orig. introduced (perh. through OF.) in the eccl. Latin sense (7 below). In this use *sequentia* was a transl. of eccl. Gr. ἀκολουθία, which denoted a neume or prolonged succession of notes sung on the last syllable of the Alleluia. When the Alleluia was adopted in the Western ritual, this neume was retained, but it became usual to sing it to a separate form of words, to which the name *sequentia* was transferred. In its primary use the word first appears late in the 16th c.]

I. Succession, following.

1. The fact of following after or succeeding; the following of one thing after another in succession; an instance of this.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 199 For how art thou a King But by faire sequence and succession? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 2 For as in Man, the ripenesse of strength of the bodie and minde commeth much about an age..; So in States, Armes and Learning..haue a concurrence or nere sequence in times. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 138 The ancient forma of absolution..may be also exhibited by one Hand laid in sequence of the other; or both conjoyned and held above the head. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Serm.* Ps. cviii. 34 Wks. 1808 V. 240 What should I instance in that, whereof..the whole world is full: the inevitable sequences of sin and punishment? 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) II. II. i. 143 The constancy of nature's Sequences. 1843 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1846) 6 If..we regard causation as invariable sequence, we can find no case in which a given antecedent is the only antecedent to a given sequent. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. v. § 6. 139 Instead of Coexistence and Sequence, we shall sometimes say, for greater particularity, Order in Place, and Order in Time. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. iii. § 47 (1867) 163 Relations of which the terms are not reversible become recognized as sequences proper; while relations of which the terms occur indifferently in both directions, become recognized as co-existences. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xvi. (1878) 330 Now I must report another occurrence in regular sequence. 1884 [LAURIE] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 215 There are fixed in his associative memory certain sequences as always occurring.

†**b.** *In sequence of*: in pursuance or consequence of. *Obs.*

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 262 The Cardinall ..having read them, deliver'd immediatly the Great Seale; In sequence thereof, also submitting himself to the King. *Ibid.* 378 In sequence whereof, on the twelfth of March following..the Bishop..returned the Protestants this answer. *Ibid.* 394 France, where in sequence of a Protestation..to attend the French King..he resolved to march.

c. *In sequence*: one after another.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Weeds* (1907) I. 463 Davids salutacions to Berzabe wherein are three sonets in sequence, written uppon this occation. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. i. 37 *Ti.* Why lifts she vp her armes in sequence thus? *Mar.* I thinke she meanes that ther was more than one Confederate in the fact. 1638 R. BAKER IX. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 113 Fortune hath robbed me of it, for feare I should..have two pleasures in sequence. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Peninsular War* I. 20 The others were to be called upon in sequence. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Johnson & Horne Tooke* Wks. 1853 I. 160/2 You will wonder at finding both a hexameter and pentameter, and in sequence.

2. Order of succession.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 4 Whereof the first in sequence which I will deliuer vnto you..shall be in the state coniecturall. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 211 Tell Athens, in the sequence of degree, From high to low throughout. *a* 1632 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 60, I doubt..not that I writing in my dungeon of Michim without dating, have made the Chronologie and sequence of my Letters perplexed to you. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 121 Wherein without any consideration of the sequence of time..the holy Doctrine, Deeds and Miracles of our Lord are the chief matters of our meditations. 1833 CAROLINE BOWLES in Southey *Corr.* (1881) 277 Admiration, disappointment, and disgust has been, I think, the sequence of feeling with which I have read them. 1852 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xix. 364 Works.. arranged in chronological sequence. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 20 The annexed table exhibits the natural sequence where all the strata are developed. 1873 SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* ii. 45 He asserts that there is a natural sequence among social actions. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* iii. 24 The next example, two years later, in sequence of date.

b. *Gram.* Chiefly in *sequence of tenses*, the manner in which the tense of a subordinate clause depends on that of the principal clause. Cf. CONSECUTION 2 b.

1848 J. T. WHITE *Xenophon's Anab.* I. viii. § 15 (1872) Notes 72 What is in Latin the sequence of tenses is in Greek the sequence of moods. 1891 SONNENSCHEIN *Plautus' Rudens* 91 The sequence of tenses *hic dico..qui adoruaret ut faciat* is Plautine. 1892 L. KELLNER *Hist. Outl. Eng. Syntax* § 372 Sequence of Tenses ('consecutio temporum'). Principal tenses depend on principal tenses; historical on historical.

3. A continuous or connected series (of things).

In 16th c. examples there is sometimes an allusion to the specific sense 4.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Flowers* (1907) I. 85 Of such our patrone here, The viscont Mountacute, Hath many comely sequences, well sorted all in sute. *Ibid., Weeds* I. 463 In the beginning of the booke [he] wrote this sequence. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* E ij, I haue manie sequences of Saints. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 8. 35 b, In this sequence of sixe Princes, we doe see the blessed effects of Learning in soueraigntie. 1626 I. T. *A, B, C, of Armes* C 4, A perfect File is a sequence of men standing one behinde another. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sequences*, answering Verses, or Verses that answer one another sequentially; [1661 adds] things that follow one another in order. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 183 This is one of the noblest palaces in Rome for..the rare sequens of chambers, one going into the other. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xii, Then came a long sequence of reflections. 1829 CARLYLE *Voltaire* Misc. 1840 II. 102 Neither is that sequence which we love to speak of as 'a chain of causes', properly to be figured as a 'chain'. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 27 Dec. [The] orchestra struck up a sequence of patriotic and loyal airs.

b. *Mus.* (See quots.)

1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Mus.* 85 A Sequence, or Succession of Harmony, is nothing else but a Link or Chain of Keys and Governing-notes. 1838 G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* 22/2 Sequences or chains of sevenths. 1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* (1892) 57 A Sequence, in the strict style, is the repetition of a melodic or harmonic progression at a higher or lower part of the scale, without a change of key.

c. *Math.* (*a*) A succession of natural numbers in order. *rare.*

1882 SYLVESTER in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* V. 291.

(*b*) An endless succession of numerical quantities corresponding one to one with the natural numbers 1, 2, 3, etc., in order.

1910 SHEPPARD *Algebra* in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 11) I. 611/2.

(*c*) *spec.* (See quot.)

1911 G. B. MATHEWS *Number* in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 11) XIX. 850/1 A sequence is an unlimited succession of rational numbers $a_1, a_2, a_3 \ldots a_m, a_{m+1} \ldots$, in order-type ω) the elements of which can be assigned by a definite rule, such that when any rational number ϵ, however small, has been fixed, it is possible to find an integer m, so that for *all* positive integral values of n the absolute value of $(a_{m+n} - a_m)$ is less than ϵ.

4. *Cards.* A group of three or more cards of the same suit following in numerical order; a 'run'. Phrase, *in sequence.* In *Poker*: see quot. 1882.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies* (1907) I. 392 Untill she had..turned over and retossed every card in this sequence. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., A Sequence at Cards, is three of a sort that answer or follow one another, in number or degree. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 59 Picket...A Quart is a sequence of four Cards, a Quint of five, a Sixism of six, &c. These Sequences take their denomination from the highest Card in the Sequence. 1748 HOYLE *Whist* (ed. 6) 13 A Sequence of King, Queen, and Knave. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 175 To divide and sort, Her mingled suits and sequences. 1826 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 239 If a king is played, and you have not the queen to form a sequence, you play the fool. 1868 PARDON *Card Player* 20 It is not necessary that the cards of a sequence should be played in consecutive order. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1601, I called king, Queen and knave in a sequence, and cards came, All three, three only! 1882 *Rules of Poker* 13 A Sequence Flush. Which is a sequence of five cards and *all* of the same suit. *Ibid.* 14 A Sequence. Which is all five cards not of the same suit but all in sequence. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 499 All the cards in the hand being in sequence.

†**b.** 'A certaine game that standeth much on sequences' (Cotgr.). *Obs.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxii, There be played..At post and paire, or even and sequence..At the sequences.

5. Something that follows. **a.** A logical consequence; also † an inference, conclusion.

1613 DAY *Dyall* viii. (1614) 207 Vpon which Confession if you please you may make these sequences: *First* what is the right and interest of Princes in matters Ecclesiasticall: *Secondly*, that [etc.]. 1862 J. G. HOLLAND *Less. Life* xi. 158 The logical sequence of disbelief in what Mr. Emerson calls a 'pistareen Providence' is a belief in pantheism or polytheism.

b. A subsequent event; sometimes contextually, a consequent event, a result.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXXVI. (1856) 325, I am, I fear, heterodox..as to the direct action of remedies, and rarely allow myself to claim a sequence as a result. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. 35 The Chinese felony and its Indian sequences. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. iv, A movement which was but a small sequence of her energetic resolution. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 9 Maritime commerce was the natural sequence to that along the courses of rivers.

†**c.** Event, end, issue, sequel. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxxxiii. 621 You must see to the ordering and continuing of your fire,..euermore carefully looking vnto the sequence [orig. F. *l'euenement*] and successe of the worke. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 402 They might afterwards repent their neglect of so great an offer, so it prov'd true, as by the sequence will appear.

6. The quality of being sequent; the fact of following as a logical inference or as a necessary result; orderly connexion between successive events or the successive parts of an argument or discourse; continuity, consecutiveness.

1828 CARLYLE *Goethe* Misc. 1840 I. 263 These two classes of works stand..at first view, in strong contradiction, yet in truth, connected together by the strictest sequence. 1831 — *Sart. Res.* I. iv, In this remarkable Volume, it is true,.. [there is] a certain show of outward method; but of true logical method and sequence there is too little. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. xlviii. 180 A series of contemporaneous utterances,..with no shape or sequence, no method or coherence. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Hist.* IX. (1855) 282 As to the sequence, the connection of one with another, it is utter darkness. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* ix, With strange sequence to all that rapid tumult after a few moments' silence she said [etc.]. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* i, When any distinct word has been flung into the air, it has had no sense or sequence. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 378 Whatever we say of his premisses, his conclusions follow from them with a sequence which cannot be gainsayed. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* XX. 249 No; every link was complete, every combination of circumstances crushing in its logical and cruel sequence.

II. **7.** *Eccl.* A composition in rhythmical prose or accentual metre said or sung, in the Western Church, after the Alleluia and before the Gospel. Sometimes called a *prose*: see PROSE *sb.* 2.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 501 Þis is þat Robart þat made þat sequence of the Holy Goost; Sancti spiritus assit nobis gratia. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood.* App. 218 Per clerkis synge her sequens. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (E.E.T.S.) 15 That gloryous hevenly queene..In whoos worshepe this sequence as I mene In hire feestys is songen. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 77 When þai war att þe laste end of þe sequens & had songen þis vers; 'hunc diem gloriosum fecisti'. *c* 1449 [see PROSE *sb.* 2]. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 430/4 Duryng that tyme men saye noo sequence for the sequence sygnefyeth joye and consolacyon. 1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1689 Playnly declaryng..What.. excellence Our sauiour shewed for his spouse openly, As is rehersed at masse in her sequens. 1563 *Homilies* II. ii. *Agst. Peril of Idol.* III. (1623) 48 All our Legends, Hymnes, Sequenses, and Masses, did conteine Stories, Laudes, and Prayses of them [*sc.* the Saints]. 1745 J. LEWIS *Life Pecock* (1744) 158 The tropery..; a book of sequences. 1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. xi. 21 This drawing out of the notation for the Alleluia, they called the 'sequence'. ..On all lower feast days the sequence, that is, the gradual Alleluia..was sung. 18.. Alleluiatic sequence [see ALLELUIATIC *a.*]. 1882 LD. SELBORNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 583/2 The 'Golden Sequence', 'Veni, sancte Spiritus' ('Holy Spirit, Lord of Light') is an early example of the transition of sequences from a simply rhythmical to a metrical form. 1903 C. E. OSBORNE *Life Dolling* xxiv. (1905) 229 The sequence was that usual at the burial of the dead in Western Christendom, the *Dies Iræ*.

†**b.** A sequencer or sequence-book. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1500 in Wordsw. & Littlehales *Old Service-bks.* (1904) 211 A boke of expownations and a sequens, both notyd.

c. *Sequence book*: a sequencer.

1862 BP. FORBES in *Ecclesiologist* XXIII. 35 The Sarum Tropers, or Sequence books.

Sequencer (sī·kwĕnsəɹ). Now *Hist.* [a. OF. *sequencier* (AF. **sequencer*), ad. L. *sequentiārius*: see SEQUENTIARY.] A book containing sequences.

1488 in *Archæologia* XLV. 218 A Primer and a Sequencer. 1904 WORDSW. & LITTLEHALES *Old Service-bks.* Index, Sequentiale, Sequentiarius, a Sequencer, or Book of Sequences.

†**Sequencery.** *Obs.*—° = SEQUENCER.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 330/1 A Sequencery, *troparium*.

Seque·nciar. *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *sequentiārius* (*sequentiārius*).] = SEQUENCER.

1904 WORDSW. & LITTLEHALES *Old Service-bks.* 207 Then

the name 'Troper' survived only as an alternate for the 'Sequenciar'.

Sequency (sī·kwĕnsi). [ad. late L. *sequentia*: see SEQUENCE and -ENCY.]

†1. = SEQUENCE 7. *Obs.*

1641 R. B. K. *Parall. Liturgy with Mass-Book* 28 That famous sequency of Pentecost... In some of their sequencies ..are contained praises of the B. Virgin.

†2. The condition or fact of being sequent *to*.

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* iv. 40 The sole difficulties about the Will, its nature, and sequency to the Understanding, &c. have almost quite baffled inquiry.

†3. = SEQUENCE 5 a. *Obs.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. iv. xxxiv, Why was this world from all infinity Not made? saist thou: why? could it be so made? Say I. For well observe the sequency.

4. The quality of being sequent, or of following as a logical or natural consequence; connexion between successive events, or between the successive parts of an argument or discourse; consecutiveness.

1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 231 The connexion of the parts with the sum total of the discourse is maintained by the sequency of the logic. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. i. 48 Were it redeemed and set free from..the sequency of cause and effect. 1857 J. W. DONALDSON *Chr. Orthod.* 164 A want of sequency in the narrative of events. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxii, It was to suppose a sequency in the conduct of a variable damsel.

Sequent (sī·kwĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. OF. *sequent*, ad. L. *sequent-em*, pres. pple. of *sequī* to follow. Cf. Sp. *siguiente*, Pg. *seguinte*, *seqüente*, It. *seguente*, *sequente*.] **A.** *adj.*

1. That follows or comes after. †a. That one is about to say or mention; (the) following, ensuing. *Obs.*

a 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 810 And scho in hand ane letter had quhairon Hir charge scho red, quhais tennour is sequent. 1607 WALTER *Diary* (Camden) 15 There are extant books in print, the one by an eye-witness, to the sequent event. 1653 LD. BROUNCKER tr. *Des Cartes' Compend. Mus.* 37 Such as are set in the Sequent Figure. 1821 *Rouge et Noir* 45 You'll find it in the sequent canto.

b. That succeeds or is subsequent in time or serial order. Now *rare*.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 197 Of six preceding Ancestors, that Iemme Confer'd by testament to 'th sequent issue Hath it beene owed and worne. *a* 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 191 Miracles..creditably recorded from age to age, both in the Evangelists and other sequent Histories. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 553 Priviledges.. of which Lodovicus Pius was in Possession, and all the sequent Kings. 1651 CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 79 What primitive, or sequent Church ever taught..such doctrine as this? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 165 There he dies, and leaves his Race Growing into a Nation, and now grown Suspected to a sequent king. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Econ.* II. 256 Virtue then Requires the pruner's hand, the sequent stage It barely vegetates. 1867 EMERSON *May-Day*, etc., Wks. (Bohn) III. 439 Nor sequent centuries could hit Orbit and sum of Shakspeare's wit. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* ix, The Rector..enjoyed his sequent glass of port. 1887 PROCTOR *Chance & Luck* 133 From his sequent remarks it appears that he had very imperfect information.

c. That follows or moves in the train of another. *rare*.

1612 *Two Noble Kinsmen* I. ii. 65 Either I am The forehorse in the Teame, or I am none That draw i'th sequent trace. 1805-6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* v. 98 The coast, where Po descends To rest in ocean with his sequent streams. 1874 RUSKIN *Val d'Arno* (1886) 229 The treatment of light and shadow in the figures of the Christ and sequent angels.

2. That follows as a result or a logical conclusion. Const. *to*, *on*, *upon*.

1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. ii. 56 Indeed your O Lord sir, is very sequent to your whipping. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. i. 378 Immediate sentence then, and sequent death, Is all the grace I beg. 1605 — *Lear* I. iii. 115 The sequent effects. 1796 G. L. WAY tr. *Le Grand's Fabliaux* I. 52 Her son's arrest, and sequent punishment. 1853 *Zoologist* II. 3871 Some of the inferences drawn are not sequent on the premises. 1878 P. BAYNE *Pur. Rev.* iii. 82 The strictly sequent corollary to the Puritan view of Antichrist.

3. Following one another in succession or in a series; successive.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 41 The Gallies Have sent a dozen sequent Messengers This very night, at one anothers heeles. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* xiii. 323 The never-ending chain of sequent events. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Basis Faith* ii. 49 Every harmonious combination of events, sequent or coexistent. 1881 J. SULLY *Illusions* 263 A very similar kind of unification takes place between sequent images under the form of transformation. 1884 [LAURIE] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 115 The series of sequent movements which in a dog ends with the sensation of pain.

b. Characterized by continuous succession; forming an unbroken series or course; consecutive.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lx, Like as the waues make towards the pibled shore, So..our minuites..In sequent toile all forwards do contend. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 188/2 A file, is a sequent number of men standing one behind an other. 1860 READE *6th Commandm.* 318 A masterpiece of construction and arrangement, sequent, articulate, clear, pointed. 1871 RUSKIN *Aratra Pentelici* 114 Perfectly arranged disposition of counted masses in a sequent order. 1875 BLACKMORE *Alice Lorraine* III. viii. 122 The sweet face, more and more lit up with sequent thought. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 58 Chamber to chamber of her sequent brain Gives answer.

4. That forms a sequel or continuation.

1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* Pref. 4 The nearly connected and sequent subject.

B. *sb.*

†1. A follower, attendant. *Obs. rare*—1.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 142 And here he hath framed a Letter to a sequent of the stranger Queenes.

†2. A unit of a sequence; esp. of playing-cards. Cf. SEQUENCE 4. *Obs.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 49 There bee others that delight in figures, and their words fall in, one after another like sequents. 1730 SWIFT *Game Traffic* Wks. 1745 VIII. 169 Dame Floyd looks out in grave suspence For pair-royals and sequents. 1734 SEYMOUR *Compl. Gamester* I. (ed. 5) 93 (Picquet) Each is to examine what Cards he has in his Hands of the same Suit, which are Sequents.

†3. The following narrative; the subsequent course of events; the sequel. *Obs. rare*—2.

1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* i. 36 A brave resolute man, as the sequent will demonstrate. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Linc.* (1662) II. 164 Elias de Trekingham, was born..at a Village so called, as by the sequents will appear.

4. That which follows in order (of arrangement, time, etc.).

1833 W. WIRT in J. P. Kennedy *Life* (1872) II. xx. 353 [The 'De Senectute' is] infinitely superior, I think, to that 'De Amicitia' which..follows it,—or even to the..'Somnium Scipionis', usually the sequent of the two former. 1893 FAIRBAIRN *Christ in Mod. Theol.* II. ii. § 3. 55 The later [age] is the sequent in time but not in thought of the earlier.

5. That which follows naturally as a result; the consequent of an antecedent; also in *logical sequent*.

1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 200 Conscience, morality, and responsibility,..may be shown to be based in consciousness, and necessary sequents thereof. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. § 5. 193 No human thought can deal with them..as necessary antecedents or sequents in any logical deductions. 1884 [LAURIE] *Metaph. Nova & Vet.* 119 The relation of antecedents and sequents. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* (1889) I. 464 Assuming an interval between the two sequents (physical and mental) upon the molecular change. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 528/1 Universal suffrage brought into France in 1789 its logical sequent; the right of the voter carried with it the duty of the defender.

Sequential (sĭkwe·nʃăl), *a.* [f. late L. *sequentia* SEQUENCE: see -AL.]

1. That follows as a sequel *to*. Of two or more things: Forming a sequence.

1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* II. 82 A brief resumé of these thronging reminiscences must necessarily precede the telling of the story sequential to them. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 209 Mental action, though disorderly and not sequential to the question put. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 219 These two books, while not sequential, are closely related.

b. *Path.* Following as a secondary affection; occurring as a sequela to a previous disease.

1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 230 Sequential Labour ..Sequential, or after-pains as they are ordinarily called. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 606 Inflammatory œdema is brought under the heading of phlegmonous laryngitis, primary and sequential.

c. Resultant, consequent.

1899 W. M. DAVIS in *Geog. Jrnl.* (R. G. S.) XIV. 487 'Initial' is therefore a term adapted to ideal rather than to actual cases, in treating which the term 'sequential' and its derivatives will be found more appropriate. 1900 J. OAR in *U. P. Mag.* Feb. 62/2 With these divisions of opinion on the nature of the Church are connected many sequential differences.

2. That is characterized by the regular sequence of its parts; continuous.

1844 [A. WALLBRIDGE] (*title*) The Sequential system of Musical Notation: a proposed new method of writing Music. Second edition. 1849 (*title*) The sequential book of church music. No. I. 1862 S. LUCAS *Secularia* 67 If the history of man has been in the main sequential. 1879 CARPENTER *Mental Phys.* I. viii. 346 The complete engrossment of the consciousness by a particular series of Cerebral changes..enables those changes to proceed with more sequential regularity. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Nov. 4/2 There is in this country 'no sequential teaching'.

3. Pertaining to sequency of thought. *rare*—1.

1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. ii. 38 God..has given to the man whom he means for a student, the reflective, logical, sequential faculties.

4. *Mus.* Of the nature of a sequence.

1889 H. A. HARDING *Analysis of Form* 5 A sequential passage leads to an inverted dominant pedal point. 1892 PROUT *Counterpoint* (ed. 2) 100 The sequential character of the treble and tenor is maintained in the added alto part.

Hence **Seque·ntially** *adv.*; **Seque·ntialism** *rare* (see quot. 1848); **Sequentia·lity**, the quality of being sequential.

1650 [see SEQUENCE 3]. 1848 'A. WALLBRIDGE' *Council of Four* Advt., Sequentialism: The new Musical Reform. Preparing for publication, the third edition of the Sequential System of Musical Notation. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 168 What common-place man..has not dreams more lively and more sequentially evolved than this cento of wire-drawn reflections? 1883 *Harper's Mag.* LXVIII. 158 The story is remarkable for its fresh naturalness and sequentiality. 1891 PROUT *Counterpoint* (ed. 2) 45 We may now employ the same figure—especially sequentially—for several bars.

Sequentiary (sĭkwe·nʃări). [ad. late L. *sequentiārius*, f. *sequentia* SEQUENCE.] = SEQUENCER.

1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Troparium* [sic], a tropor a sequencyarye. 1857 *Ecclesiologist* XVIII. 205 An imperfect Sequentiary, apparently of the beginning of the fifteenth century. 1891 MRS. HERNAMAN in *Newbery Ho. Mag.* July V. 20 Missals and Sequentiaries.

Sequently (sĭ·kwĕntli), *adv.* [f. SEQUENT *a.* + -LY 2.] In sequent order.

1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 527/1 The whole of the events of the past few weeks flashed through his brain, clearly and sequently.

‖ **Se·quere me.** *Surg. Obs.* [L., lit. 'Follow me'.] The name of a flexible probe used in mediæval surgery.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 8 Instrumentis þat perteneth to þe cure of þe fistule. .Of whiche þe first is called 'Sequere me'—'follow me'. *Ibid.* 15, 22.

†**Seque·st**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [Badly f. L. *sequī* to follow.] *trans.* To follow.

1567 PIKERYNG *Horestes* 290 (Brandl), I thanke your grace, I shal sequest your gratius mind herin. *Ibid.* 807 So a wicked wight doth tourne Those that be good, and cause them eke his euell to sequest.

[**Sequest**, *v.*, in some Dicts., is evolved from the misprints *sequested*, *sequesting*, for *sequestred*, *-tring*: see SEQUESTER *v.*]

†**Seque·ster**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 suquestre. [a. L. *sequester*; prob. f. **seques-*, **sequos* a position apart (whence *secus* adv., otherwise); the etymological sense of the word (which is primarily an adj.) would thus be 'standing apart'.] In *Civil Law*, a person with whom the parties in a suit deposit the thing contested until the case has been decided. Also, in wider sense, a mediator.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 125 But take we heede to þe popes & cardinals bope;..& dekenes & officials & sequestris. *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 363 And þat no man ne legge in lond ne in tenement by-fore y-seyd, þe whyle þe suquestre ys þare set. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 309 Kynge Iohn and pope Iulius dyed both in one day, wherby he [Basilius] lacked a conuenient sequester or solicitoure. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 17 c, This doth take the possession from the parties in controuersie, and giueth the same to the Sequester or indifferent man, to thend he may deliuer the same to him that recouereth it. 1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacr.* i. 65 The Minister then is..appointed as a Sequester betweene God and the Congregation.

†**Seque·ster**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [a. F. *séquestre*, ad. L. *sequestrum*, orig. neut. of *sequester* adj.: see prec.]

1. Sequestration, seclusion, isolation.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 40 This hand of yours requires A sequester from Liberty.

2. The office or court to which goods seized by an act of sequestration are taken.

1568 tr. *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 59 b, All the goodes and merchandise which he brought with him..were according to their common vsage seised and taken into the sequester.

3. *Path.* = SEQUESTRUM. [So in Fr.] ? *Obs.*

1831 SOUTH *Otto's Path. Anat.* II. 146 A jelly-like mass gradually hardens and becomes ossified, surrounds, like a sheath,..the necrotic bone, which is then called a sequester.

Sequester (sĭkwe·stəɹ), *v.* Also 4–9 sequestre. [ad. late L. *sequestr-āre* to place in safe keeping, to remove, separate, f. L. *sequestr-*, *sequester*: see SEQUESTER *sb.*[1]

Cf. OF. *sequestrer* (14th c.), mod.F. *séquestrer*, Sp. *secuestrar*, Pg. *sequestrar*, It. *sequestrare*.]

1. *trans.* To set aside, separate. †a. To separate and reject; to eliminate; chiefly in immaterial sense, to set aside, dismiss from consideration.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 437 Sequestre we al mannes lawe, supposynge Crists ordynaunce. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. xviii. (1554) 90 b, Poetes..should be quiet fro worldly mocion, And it sequester out of their remembraunce. 1537 *Inst. Chr. Man* O iij b, These be the wordes of Christe.. that we shulde sequester this care from us and seke for the kyngdome of god. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. i. 53 Thirdly, the great trouble..nature hath in the expelling and sequestring such humours. 1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* IV. 259 They presume, that they can sequester the sulphur even of Minerals and Metalls.

†b. *Eccl.* To remove (a person) from the privileges of church-membership, to excommunicate.

1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 29 He shal be sequestrid, or departid fro the chirche, til he knouleche his gilt and amende him. 14.. *Fothergill MS.* in Henderson *York Man.* (Surtees 1875) Pref. 16 We curse and descry and fro the boundes of all holy kyrke sequestre and depart all thos that this illys hase done [etc.]. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 146 It is to be..prayed for, lest while any being sequestred, is separated from ye body of Christe. he remaine farre from health. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* (1647) 223 If their Bishop have sequestred them from the holy Communion, they must not be suffered to communicate elsewhere.

†c. With religious signification: To set apart, consecrate to a particular service, to 'separate'. *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* I. vi. (1534) 21 Hym hath god the father specyally sequestred and seuered and set asyde out of the nomber of all creatures. 1632 *Consecr. Chapel Mersham Hatch* in Legg *17th cent. Consecr. Churches* (1911) 141 And after the ascention of our Saviour taught us by thy Apostles to distinguish [places] sequestred for religious exercises, from private houses. 1692 T. WATSON *Body Divinity* 332 This Lord's Day is to be sequestred and set apart for Divine Worship. 1697 BURGHOPE *Div. Worship* 147 Let him..wholly sequester his soul to this work of religion.

†d. To remove from membership of a body, or from a public office or station. *Obs.*

1571 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* (1587) 128/2 in *Holinshed*, Euerie person of the parlement ought to keepe secret..the secrets and things spoken and doone in the parlement house..vpon paine to be sequestred out of the house. 1629 MAXWELL *Herodian* 252 He tooke to wife..Augusta, yet soone after diuorced her, and..sequestred her to a priuate Life. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Dec., The Court of Aldermen have sequestered him from their Court till he do bring in an account. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. liv. 164 Immediately after Strafford was sequestered from parliament. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. 165 Many had already been sequestered from their livings.

e. To seclude (a person, thing, or place) from general access or intercourse; to keep apart *from* society. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in SEQUESTERED *ppl. a.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xlvi. (1869) 93 For it is not in my powere to sequestre him longe from thee. 1497 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfect.* B iij b, Heris sequestred from all carnall desyres. *c* 1550 N. SMYTH *Herodian* VI. 73 Those which inhabite the Orient, are sequestred wyth great distaunce of lande, and Sea. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 75 Why are you sequestred from all your traine? 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xxvii. 489 They laboured and tooke paines to sequester their children from delights and liberties..imploying them in honest and profitable exercises. *a* 1626 BACON *War with Spain* (1629) I, I had wholly sequestred my thoughts from ciuill affaires. 1698 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. 179 A Christian, in all Acts of Duty, ought to sequester his Mind from all Respect to an ensuing Reward. 1766 *Life of Quin* ii. 18 Cato.. being nine years sequestered in Mr. Addison's closet. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* IX. 116 Men Whom in the city, privilege of birth Sequestered from the rest.

refl. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxvi. (1893) 106 Fewe can fully sequestre & departe himself fro perisshing creatures. *a* 1557 MRS. M. BASSET tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1372/2 Sequestring themselfes from those wretched fetters that haue so long holden theim in sinne. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 93 It shalbe lawful for a man to sequester himself from his owne wife. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxxviii. 119 It is not enough for a man to have sequestred himselfe from the concourse of people...A man must sequester and recover himselfe from himselfe. 1657 *North's Plutarch* (1676) Add. Lives 34 He was resolved to sequester himself from the world. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VI. 339 But why, Ladies,..do you sequester yourselves from the company? 1834 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 232 He sequestered himself from his subjects in the recesses of his palace. 1847 — *Joan of Arc* ibid. III. 221 As surely as the wolf retires before cities, does the fairy sequester herself from the haunts of the licensed victualler.

f. To segregate, separate in thought from the surroundings.

1841 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. I. xii. 356 The virtue of art lies in detachment, in sequestering one object from the embarrassing variety.

2. To confiscate, appropriate, to take forcible possession of.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 363 Than the commons of ye cytie..toke certayne of the aldermen, & caste theym in prysone, and sequestryd theyr goodes & dispoyled moche therof. 1534 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) L viij b, The gouernours..commaunded all the saied shyppes to bee sequestred into theyr owne handes. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 21 His Majesty to be enfourmed that there is just grounde for his Majesty to sequestre the Seale, and then the L. Chancellor to come to the barre. 1640 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1735) XX. 429 We..thereupon have been pleased to sequester the said Offices, into the Hands of Philip Burlamachy. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 32 He is in rebellion and his estate sequestered. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* ix. ii. (1864) V. 207 The German prelates were commanded..to sequester the goods of all who had presumed to assist in the incarceration of an archbishop. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 June 7/2 The banker to-day sequestered some State property, which was sold by auction.

3. *Law.* a. To remove (property, etc.) from the possession of the owner temporarily; to seize and hold the effects of a debtor until the claims of creditors be satisfied; *Eccl.* to divert the income of a benefice to the payment of debts due from the incumbent, or for the purpose of making good dilapidations; to hold the income of a benefice during a vacancy for the benefit of the next incumbent.

1530 PALSGR. 709/1, I sequester, I put a thyng from the possessoure by the auctorite of a judge. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 127 He hath..the admynystratyon of intestate godys, by the reson wherof they be sequestryd from the profyt of al the frendys of hym wych so dyed intestate. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 255 Both his Livings.. [were] sequester'd. 1731 SWIFT *Advant. Repeal. Test* Misc. 1735 V. 407 Every Bishop upon the Vacancy of a Church-Living, can sequester the Profits for the Use of the next Incumbent. 1790 DALLAS *Amer. Law Rep.* I. 399 The profits of his property may be sequestered during war, but no forfeiture can take place. 1884 *Law Rep.* 25 Chanc. Div. 341 The Bishop..was commanded to sequester the fruits and profits of the rectory..until he should have levied the sum of £2285 13 4.

transf. and *fig.* 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. 1872–5 IV. 251 But sequestring it [the Bible] only into such hands as were interested in the cheat, they had the opportunity to vitiate..those Records by which the poor people hold their salvation. 1837 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. 417 The liberties of New York were thus sequestered by a monarch [James II] who desired to imitate the despotism of France.

† b. To remove (property in dispute) from the possession of contending parties in a suit, until reference has been had to a third party as arbitrator or umpire. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* To Rdr., For God and man beeing at ods, the difference was Sequestred or referred into Christs his hand to end and umpire it. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

c. To apply the process of sequestration to (a person); to sequestrate the estate or benefice of.

1681 BAXTER *Apol. Nonconf. Min.* 80 The Vicar was sequestred by the Committee. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxv. 253 Thomas Morrison, Rector of Henly upon Thames..was sequestred. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. Green Shutters* 328 Sandy ..was informing a bunch of unshaven bodies that the Gourlays were 'sequestered'.

† d. *intr.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sequester*, is a Term used in the Civil Law for renouncing, as when a Widow comes into Court, and disclaims to have any thing to do, or to intermeddle with her Husband's Estate, who is Deceased; she is said to *Sequester*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

† 4. To withdraw into seclusion, to retire, keep apart. *Obs.*

1627 SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 286 Is it our pride..or what, that makes vs willingly sequester from such societie? 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 51 To sequester out of the world into Atlantick and Eutopian polities..will not mend our condition. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 541 Have you no hobby whereon you may whisk yourself away from this diurnal sphere, and so sequester from the real to the ideal?

Hence **Seque·stering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xv. 91 And it might so be, that in this time of sequestring, he might forget all his vanities. 1653 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 60 The sequestring variance of virile Nature. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argum.* § 16 They ordered the Sequestring of all Ministers that would not Fast and Pray.

Sequestered (sĭkwe·stərd), *ppl. a.* Also 7 sequestred. [f. SEQUESTER *v.* + -ED 1.]

† 1. Separated; cut off from congenial surroundings. *Obs.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 33 To the which place a poore sequestred Stag That from the Hunters aime had tane a hurt, Did come to languish. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* ix. 2 To humbler Strains, ye Nine, descend And greet my poor sequester'd Friend. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. v. 413 [They] suffer some grief in their sequestered state.

b. Under sentence of sequestration; esp. *Eccl. Hist.* Of the dispossessed clergy under the Commonwealth: Deprived of a benefice.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Gen.* xi. (1662) I. 37 Next I desire them to reflect upon aged sequestred Ministers; whom, with their charge, the (generally ill paid) fifth part will not maintain. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* v. xiii, Fifteen hundred pounds a year is no ill match for the daughter of a Sequestred Cavalier. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 79 He is a poor sequestred Parson. 1808 W. WILSON *Dissent. Churches* I. 366 At Cliff..he succeeded Dr. Griffith Higges, the sequestered minister.

† c. Of estates, benefices, etc.: In sequestration.

1649 (*title*) Two Resolutions of Parliament respecting Tenants of Sequestred Estates. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. xii. § 58 The rules by which a judicial factor on a sequestered estate ought to conduct himself.

† d. *Chem.* Separated, eliminated. *Obs.*

1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* IV. 260 These sequestered substances.

2. Sheltered, retired, secluded.

1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* Pref. 2 Neither my Genius, nor calling, will allow me a sequestred time, to dwell long upon any subject. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 75 Along the cool sequester'd vale of life They kept the noiseless tenor of their way. 1773 COWPER *Ode to Peace* 17 And wilt thou quit the stream..The grove and the sequester'd shed, To be a guest with them? 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXXV, To this sequestered spot Colonel Ashton had guided the stranger. 1878 H. S. LEIGH *Town Garland* 204 In a part of a suburb sequestered and gloomy I took up my quarters a twelvemonth ago.

b. Of persons: Retired, living a secluded life or in a quiet, unfrequented place.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. i. § 25 These Bonehomes,..(the poorest of Orders) and Eremites, (the most sequestred of begging Fryers) had two..Convents in England. 1783 WATSON *Philip III*, IV. (1793) I. 433 This imputation had often been cast upon the Moorescoes, by speculative and sequestered men, who had no access to know the truth of their assertion. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* V. 718 In powers of mind, In scale of culture, few among my flock Hold lower rank than this sequestered pair. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* iv. Wks. 1890 VI. 323 The Emperor, himself a sacred and sequestered creature, might be supposed to enjoy the secret tutelage of the Supreme Deity.

transf. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 10 Those disordered motions, which accompany our sequestred imaginations. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, The household of the Lady Eveline..was of a solemn and sequestered character, corresponding to her place of residence. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 989 Confess..That, O Pompilia, thy sequestered eyes Had noticed..More of the Canon, than that [etc.].

† **Seque·sterer.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 sequestrer. [f. SEQUESTER *v.* + -ER 1.] = SEQUESTER *sb.*

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 682/7 *Hic sequestrarius*, a sequesterer. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. i. 113 He that was the sequestrer of the couenante, becometh suretie for the parties.

† **Seque·sterment.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEQUESTER *v.* + -MENT.] A private, secluded situation.

1778 *Saberna* 12 Seek out some lone sequesterment to dwell, Where spirit-shapes repair at dewy eve. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe Robinson* vii. (1860) 88 The sequesterment of the Dove Cote was not sufficient to shut out the noise nor the intrigues of the war.

† **Seque·strable,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 sequesterable. [f. SEQUESTER *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being sequestered, liable to sequestration.

1652–3 in *Royalist Comp. Papers, Lancs.* (1892) I. 185 Her sonne Henry at that tyme was..noe way for his parte Seq[a]ble, but hath ever bene a Protestant and a well wisher to the Parliament. 1656 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 95 Persons not only sequestrable, but actually sequestered. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 200 Life-interests, such as entailed estates, church-livings and annuities, should be wholly sequestrable with less ceremony.

2. Separable.

1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chem., Physiol. Consid.* 34 Harts-Horn, and divers other Bodies..that abound with not uneasily sequestrable Salt.

Seque·stral, *a.*[1] *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *sequestr-*, *sequester* adj. (see SEQUESTER) + -AL.] (See quot.)

1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* III. 365 Virgil calls a truce a sequestral peace [Grotius *quanquam Virgilius pacem sequestram dixit* (Æn. xi. 133)], which Servius, on the passage, explains as a temporary peace.

Sequestral (sĭkwe·străl), *a.*[2] [f. SEQUESTR-UM + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a sequestrum.

1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 128/1 Around the sequestral tube the bone has the involucral thickening.

† **Sequestrate,** *a. Obs.* Also 6–7 sequestrat. [ad. late L. *sequestrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sequestrāre*: see SEQUESTER *v.* and -ATE 2.]

1. Separated, cut off *from.*

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 57 We came to a ful grete fylde, and as hyt semyd hyt was sette yn a lowe grownde sequestrate and departyd from al othir. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* I. i. (1893) 153 And who so may haue the iey of theire soule sequestrate in worldlye thynges, in this scripture of our lorde may fynde swete manna. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 48 Religious men..wholy sequestrate from the world in body and mind. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* V. 194 Mount Libanus is sequestrate from the circum-iacent Regions.

b. Politically separate, independent.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 25 The other sequestrate Tuscan jurisdiction, is the little comonwealth of Luca. *Ibid.* I. 39 This sequestrat Citty [Venice].

2. Sequestered, retired, secluded.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 297 Their dwellings being in sequestrate dennes. *Ibid.* VIII. 352 [They] made merry with vs in..the best cheare their sequestrate cottage could afford. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* I. 342 It is..easy, by planting their banks, to beautify..a variety of sequestrate spots.

Sequestrate (sĭkwe·strēit), *v.* Also 6–7 *Sc.* sequestrat. [f. late L. *sequestrāt-*, ppl. stem of *sequestrāre*: see SEQUESTER *v.* and -ATE 3.]

1. *trans.* To remove, put away; to seclude, keep away from general access or intercourse; to put in a place of concealment or confinement. = SEQUESTER *v.* 1. Now *rare.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. iii. 76 Twelf days of trewis thai band, to stanch debait, For to kepe pece and weris sequestrate. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (1878) 199 A celestial spouse, from whom she shall never be sequestrated and divorced. 1582–8 *Hist. & Life Jas. VI* (1804) 54 We..were compellit to sequestrat hir for a seasoun in preseoun. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* vii. 192 In general Contagions, more perish for want of Care and Necessaries, than by the Malignity of the Disease; they being, as it were, sequestrated from Mankind. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* XXVI, My purpose went no farther than to sequestrate Alexius for a little time from the fatigues of empire. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Essenes* (1887) 260 A sect sequestrating themselves and locking up their doctrines as secrets.

2. *Law.* a. To divert the income of an estate or benefice, temporarily or permanently, from its owner into other hands. Cf. SEQUESTER *v.* 3.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 63 Gif the patronage of anie kirk is sequestrat in the Kings hands, be reason of the contumacie of the patron [etc.]. 1804 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) III. 26 It appears that half the revenue of the office.. has been lately sequestrated. 1839 W. O. MANNING *Law Nat.* IV. v. (1875) 189 A right to sequestrate the taxes. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* viii. (1876) 217 When..all his worldly estate had been sequestrated.

b. = SEQUESTER *v.* 3 c. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 14, I shall..seperate All matters on both sydes, and than sequestrate Thone syde. 1650 W. DUNDAS *Let. to Cromwell* 9 Sept., When Ministers of the Gospel have been..sequestrated.

† c. = SEQUESTER *v.* 3 b. *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. xlix. 778 To compromise all differences, it was agreed to sequestrate it [a fortress] into the hands of the infanta as a neutral person.

d. *Scots Law.* (*a*) To place (lands, belonging to a bankrupt, or of disputed ownership) in the hands of a judicial factor or trustee, for the prevention of waste, or in order that the income arising may be applied for the benefit of the creditors. (*b*) In modern use: To place (the property of a bankrupt) in the hands of a trustee to be divided among the creditors; hence *popularly*, to make (a person) bankrupt.

1726 [see SEQUESTRATED]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The Deanses at Woodend [—I sequestrated them in the dear years, and now they are to flit, they'll starve. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v. *Sequestration*, The Court may, if they think proper, sequestrate the rents, and appoint a judicial factor. 1909 A. H. MILLAR *Forf. Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) Introd. 15 The creditors sequestrated many of the estates.

† e. *intr.* or *absol.* To perform an act of sequestration. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. xii § 56 The debtor's consent to sequestrate. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, Landlord sequestrates—creditors accept a composition.

3. *trans.* To confiscate. = SEQUESTER *v.* 2.

1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 157 The whole goodes, geir, cornes, cattle, rentes and uthers perteining to thame, and now to the publict, are sequestrate and appryset to the use of the public. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 447 He did not long enjoy this accession to his resources, being shot as he sat in his court by a chief, whose Jagir he had sequestrated. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) II. xv. 221 They found it convenient..to sequestrate for their own private uses the property of the Catholic Church.

Hence **Seque·strated** *ppl. a.*, in senses of the verb; also *rarely* † = SEQUESTERED.

1726 *Index Acts of Sederunt* s.v. *Factors*, That Factors upon sequestrated Estates, shall make and produce Rentals of the Estate. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd. *note*, An ancient sequestrated garden. 1865 *Good Words* VI. 143 Auctions and sales of sequestrated furniture.

Sequestration (sīkwestrā·ʃən) Forms: 4–5 **sequestracoun**, 5 **sequestracyo(u)n**, 5–6 **sequestracion**, 6 **sequestratioun**, 6– **sequestration**. [ad. late L. *sequestrātiōn-em*, f. L. *sequestrāre*: see SEQUESTER *v.* Cf. OF. *sequestration*, Sp. *secuestracion*, Pg. *sequestração*, It. *sequestrazione*.]

1. An act or the action of sequestering, banishment, exile; esp. *Eccl.*, a cutting off from the privileges of Church-membership, excommunication.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 20 How þat we spek of curse oiþer it þat is dedly,..or it þat is sequestracoun of þe iust man fro comyn. *a* 1450 in Myrc *Par. Pr.* (1902) 63 Alle þat brekuth or letuth sequestracion of any prelatys, wit-oute here leue. 1581 Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 357 Ἀφορισμὸς. Sequestration. Whereby all offendours whatsoever, were excluded from the Sacraments. 1663 *Aron-bimnucha* 2 The gall and wormwood of his exile, was, his sequestration from the Ark, the holy Ordinances and worship of his God. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* III. vi. (1864) II. 89 The punishment of delinquents was sequestration from the oratory, the table, and the common meetings. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sequestration*,..seclusion of infected persons or of lunatics.

b. *transf.* Separation, disjunction.

1567 Fenton *Trag. Disc.* ii. (1898) I. 122 The fatall sequestracion of our sowle and bodye. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. iii. 351 It was a violent Commencement in her, and thou shalt see an answerable Sequestration. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 266 This Antimony seem'd to have been a little refin'd by the sequestration of its unnecessary Sulphur. 1842 Mrs. Browning *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 177 Protesting ..against the sequestration of pauses.

†**c.** Setting apart, consecration. *Obs. rare.*

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 58 Professions. Sequestred by God, (and in that Sequestration confirmed by Policy,) for the good of Mankind. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* xvi. 301 This blood..was prepared by his voluntary sequestration, or sanctification of himself to this very use or purpose.

2. A state of being sequestered, separation, seclusion, retirement.

1565 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xlvii. 476 To have some greater Restraint put upon the Lady Lenox and some harder Sequestration than she now hath. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. i. 58 And neuer noted in him any studie, Any retyrement, any sequestration, From open Haunts and Popularitie. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. xciv. 274 It is no other, but a place of retyring, and sequestration from the World. 1648–99 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xxiii. clxxvi. (1702) 354 Her Phylax tir'd with his long Sequestration From his dear Charge. 1792 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 223 You observe that a sequestration from the connexions of society, makes the heart cold and unfeeling. 1835 Wordsw. *Death Charles Lamb* 122 O gift divine of quiet sequestration! 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xiv. 350 [She] had shown her enduring consciousness of the injuries she had sustained, by a sixteen years' sequestration of herself from his side.

fig. 1647 Fuller *Good Th. in Worse T.* To Rdr., I earnestly desire that in heaven both thou and I may ever bee under Sequestration in that Mediator for Gods glory.

3. *Law.* **a.** The appropriation of the income of a property in order to satisfy claims against the owner; esp. *Eccl.*, a writ diverting the income of a benefice to the advantage of the creditors of the incumbent.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 432 Arreistment and sequestratioun of the money foirsaid. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Two Dx. Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 7 The Churchwardens tell me, that they have a sequestration upon my living.

b. *Eccl.* (See quot. 1641.)

1575–6 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 11 § 5 The Ordinary..shall graunte the Sequestracion of suche Proffites to suche Inhabitante.. within the Parrishe. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 246 Sequestration..is used also for the gathering of fruits and profits of a benefice voyd, unto the use of the next Incumbent. 1712 Prideaux *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 102 On a Suspension there must be a Sequestration for the serving of the Cure. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* iv. (1876) I. 180 They were in consequence suspended from their ministry, and their livings put in sequestration.

c. An order of court appointing the goods of a deceased person whose executor or executors have renounced probate, to be secured and administered; also, a writ of Chancery empowering commissioners or a sheriff to seize the property of the person against whom it is directed.

1591 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) II. 199 For probate bondes and regestring 26s. 4d. For relapsinge of the sequestration 5s. 2d. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 246 Sequestration.. is used also for the act of an Ordinary, when no man will medle with the goods and chattels of one deceased. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxvii. 444 If he eludes the search of the serjeant also, then a sequestration issues to seise all his personal estate, and the profits of his real. 1828 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 102 Sir John..stood out all process of contempt to a sequestration. 1884 [see Sequestrator].

†**d.** The separation of a matter of controversy from the contending parties and its reference to an umpire or arbitrator. *Obs.*

1592 West 1st *Pt. Symbol.* § 17 A. The keeping of a thing litigious is called Sequestration, which is therefore defined, the depositon of a thing in controuersie.

e. Seizure of the possessions of a subject by the state; esp. the act of a belligerent power in seizing debts owing from its own subjects to the opposing power.

1568 tr. *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 41 b. They made Sequestration of the ship and goods, and carled the child to prison with the rest of his company. 1654 (*title*) An Ordinance for the better ordering and disposing the Estates under Sequestration. 1660 (*title*) An Act for Repeal of two Acts for Sequestrations. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 279 He paid 545*l.* for his delinquency and sequestration. 1823 Scott *Peveril* I, His former delinquencies.. were severely punished by fine and sequestration. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* VIII. i. (1905) II. 248 The Cabinet..considered the sequestration of the customs' dues at Smyrna to be practicable.

f. *Scots Law.* (See Sequestrate *v.* 2 d.) (*a*) The placing of lands (belonging to a bankrupt, or of disputed ownership) under the control of a judicial factor or trustee. (*b*) In modern use: The placing of a bankrupt's estate in the hands of a trustee for division among the creditors.

1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* II. xii. § 55 Sequestration of lands..is a judicial act of the court of session, whereby the management of the subject sequestered is taken from the former possessor, and intrusted to the care of a factor or steward named by the court. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v. *Sequestration*, A petition praying for the sequestration of a land estate. 1870 *Standard* 16 Nov., The plaintiff, as the assignee of the Rev. J. Storie, who had become insolvent, brought this action to recover the total sum which had been paid to the defendant during the existence of the sequestration.

4. Seizure, confiscation.

1640 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1735) XX. 429 We..have accordingly..commanded our said Secretary to see the Sequestration [of the Office of Postmaster for foreign Parts, etc.] put in speedy Execution. 1694 *Milton's Lett. of State* 316 Upon this News, Antony and Manuel..presently look'd upon the Goods as their own,..covering this Fraud of theirs with a Sequestration of English Goods that soon after ensu'd. 1895 R. Olney in *Curr. Hist.* V. 197 To resent and to resist any sequestration of Venezuelan soil by Great Britain.

5. *Path.* (See quot.)

1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sequestration*, formation of a Sequestrum.

6. *attrib.*

1648 (*title*) An additional Ordinance of Parliament for the better regulating and speedy bringing in the Sequestration Monies out of the Estates of Papists and Delinquents. 1826 G. J. Bell *Comm. Laws Scot.* (1826) II. 313 The proper manufacturing of the rude materials into a commodity, brings a person within the reach of the Sequestration Act. *Ibid.*, The provision which extends the Sequestration Law to manufacturers.

Sequestrator (sīkwestrē·tə(r)). [a. late L. *sequestrātor*, agent-n. f. L. *sequestrāre*: see Sequestrate *v.*] One who sequestrates; a trustee or bailiff having control of property upon which there are claims by creditors. Also, a person named in a writ of sequestration as authorized to collect and administer the income of a sequestrated estate.

1646 T. Edwards *Gangrena* I. 62 Sequestratours, Collectours, Receivers. *a* 1658 Cleveland *Cl. Vind.* (1677) 99 The Committee-man hath a Side-man, or rather a Setter, hight a Sequestrator... He is the States Cormorant. *a* 1689 Mrs. Behn tr. *Cowley's Plants* VI. C.'s Wks. 1721 III. 453 The Warriour may a while his Spear forsake, But Sequestrators will no Respit take. 1712 Prideaux *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 102 The..Church-wardens, or other Sequestrators, are to Account to him for..the Profits. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 188 The Puritan, a conqueror, a ruler, a persecutor, a sequestrator, had been detested. 1884 Cave in *Law Times Rep.* LI. 661/1 Persons who were named as sequestrators in a writ of sequestration against B.

b. *fig.* One who sets apart, a separator.

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 381 Even that first and worst Sequestratour, that sequestred man from his God, and so from his Happinesse.

†**Sequestra·trix.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. L. **sequestrātrix*, fem. of *sequestrātor* Sequestrator.] A female sequestrator.

1657 H. Pinnell tr. *Paracelsus' Three Bks. Philos.* 9 Separation..is the sequestratrix that gives to every thing its form and essence.

†**Sequestree.** *Obs.* [f. Sequester *v.* + -ee.] = Sequestrator.

1621 Cotgr., *Gardien de biens*, a Sequestree, or keeper of the goods of an indebted, or condemned person, seised by order of Law. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* III. i. § 30 In which case a salary to the sequestree for his trouble is either expressed or implied. 1845 Sarah Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 309 The elector of Saxony..offered to place all the suppressed convents under sequestration; the sequestrees..were to pledge themselves to the emperor to allow nothing to be abstracted from the property, till a council should decide on its application.

Sequestrotomy (sīkwestrǫ·tŏmi). *Surg.* [f. Sequestr-um + Gr. *-τομία* a cutting.] The operation for the removal of a sequestrum.

1876 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Sequestrotomy*, a hybrid term for the operation for necrosis. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Sequestrum** (sīkwe·strŏm). *Path.* Pl. **sequestra.** [mod.L. use of L. *sequestrum* something separated, neut. of *sequester* adj.: see Sequester *sb.*] A detached piece of bone lying within a cavity formed by necrosis. Also applied to a portion of skin separated by disease from the surrounding parts. Cf. Sequester *sb.*2 3.

1831 South *Otte's Path. Anat.* II. 246 One or several holes ..which..produce an outlet for the continually absorbed and diminished sequestrum. 1859 J. Tomes *Dental Surg.* 74 The teeth, whether permanent or temporary, implanted in the sequestrum, are usually lost. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 584 A zone of ulceration, which leads to the gradual separation of a sequestrum of skin.

attrib. 1891 *Century Dict.*, Sequestrum forceps. 1895 *Cutel. Surg. Instr.* 38.

Sequill, obs. form of Sequel.

Sequin (sī·kwin), *sb.* Now *Hist.* Also 8 zequin. See also Chequeen, Zecchin. [a. F. *sequin*, ad. It. *zecchino*, f. *zecca* the mint (= Sp. *seca*), ad. Arab. *sikkah* die for coining, whence Sicca.]

1. An Italian gold coin (originally Venetian), worth about 9 shillings. Also used as a name for a former Turkish coin, the sultanin.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 292 At Naples..ten quatrines make one sequin. 1677 tr. *Tavernier's Grand Seignior's Seraglio* 14 The Scherif, otherwise called Sequin, or Sultanine. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* 6 Apr. (1810) 136 For which they pay the Turks a rent of one zequin a day. 1788 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 464 The government of Algiers demands of France sixty thousand sequins, or twenty-seven thousand pounds sterling. 1820 Shelley *Let.* Pr. Wks. (1888) II. 316, I bought the vases you saw for about twenty sequins less than Micale asked. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* lxxii, Velvet bags, one full of pearls, another of rubies, others of Venetian sequins. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxxiv, Moidores and sequins [etc.].

2. A small spangle used in the ornamentation of dresses, etc.

1882 *Daily News* 3 June 3/1 Never before, probably, have dress trimmings been more artistic than they are now. Sequins are the newest. 1891 *Leeds Merc.* 27 Apr. 4/7 The.. sleeves studded thickly over with tiny glittering silver sequins. 1909 'Vernon Lee' in *Eng. Rev.* Feb. 454 Slave girls with stuff of striped silver about their loins and sequins at the end of their long hair.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (sense 1) *sequin gold*; (sense 2) *sequin-sewn*, *-weighted* adjs.; †**sequin-hazard** = Chicken-hazard.

1837 Disraeli *Venetia* v. viii, The gilding, although of two hundred years' duration, as bright..[etc.]: *Sequin gold, as the Venetians tell you. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 8 If any body had a desire for a little *sequin hazard, there *were* such things as dice at hand. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 3/1 To much manipulate or trim embroidered and *sequin sewn fabrics were to defeat their charm. 1904 *Ibid.* 7 Jan. 3/2 An evening frock of black chiffon with wide insertion of *sequin-weighted lace.

Sequin (sī·kwin), *v.* [f. Sequin *sb.*] *trans.* To ornament with sequins. Hence **Se·quined** *ppl. a.*

1894 *Daily News* 5 June 6/4 Sequinned net. *Ibid.* 22 June 6/7 The gold bonnet was sequinned in pink and green. 1905 Mrs. C. N. Williamson *Castle of Shadows* V. 120 A tall woman in sequined black tulle.

‖ **Sequitur** (se·kwitŭr). [L. = it follows.] An inference or conclusion which follows from the premisses. Cf. Non sequitur.

1836 J. M. Gully *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 184 *note*, I do not see the sequitur in this sentence. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.*, *Spectre Tapp.*, Mr. Maguire..looked as if he did not quite subscribe to the *sequitur*. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* ii. 57 What a reason to give for his being in a state of perdition!..—what a 'sequitur'!

Sequoia (sīkwǫ·iə). [mod. Latin (Endlicher, 1847); after *Sequoiah*, a Cherokee, who invented a syllabary for writing his native language.] A genus of large American coniferous trees belonging to the *Abietinæ*; a tree of this genus. Cf. Redwood *sb.* 2. Popularly often called *Wellingtonia*, the name given by Lindley, 1853.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Sequoia* (including *Wellingtonia*), A genus of the Abietinæ tribe of *Coniferæ* from North-western America, closely allied to *Sciadopitys*. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.*, *Farming* Wks. (Bohn) III. 60 The mammoth Sequoias rose to their enormous proportions. 1878 J. E. Taylor *Flowers* 61 The *Sequoias* (better known as *Wellingtonias*) of which there are now only two species. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 123 There is the 'curly redwood', due to the sequoia taking a twist when young.

Sequyle, obs. north. form of Sequel.

Ser, obs. form of Sear *v.*

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 122 Lette hym [a horse] ron in a parke tyll Hallowtyd and then take hym wpe and ser hym and lette hym stand in the dede of whynter.

Ser, obs. f. Sear *a.*, Sir; obs. Sc. f. Sore *adv.*

Ser, variant of Seer 2.

1819 F. Hamilton *Nepal* 216, 72 Paises = 1 Ser = 1lb. avoirdupois 1·666. 1842 Vigne *Trav. Kashmir* I. 196 The *ser* at Lodiana is equal to about 2 lbs. English.

Ser., abbreviation of Series.

†**Sera.** *Mil. Obs.* [? a. It. *serra* a tight place, vbl. sb. f. *serrāre* to shut up, press.] *At the sera*: at close quarters.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 7 Which at the Sera and close is very necessarie.

Sera, obs. form of Seer 2, Seral.

Serabite, obs. form of Sarabaite.

Serac (sĕræ·k). [a. Swiss-Fr. *sérac*, orig. the name of a kind of white cheese; the transferred application was doubtless suggested by similitude of form.] (See quot. 1898.)

1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 51 These ridges are often cleft by fissures..thus forming detached towers of ice...*Foot-note.* To such towers the name *Séracs* is applied. 1891 G. F. Wright *Ice Age N. Amer.* 8 Fissures and seracs where the glacier moves down the steeper portion of its incline. 1898 *Encycl. Sports* II. 54/1 (Mountaineering) *Serac*, a tower of ice on a glacier, formed by the intersection of crevasses.

Seraco, **Seraff**, variant forms of Serai, Sarai.

Seraffin(e, var. ff. Seraphin *Obs.* (a coin).

Serafic, obs. form of Seraphic.

Serafile, variant of Serrefile.

Serafin, var. Seraphin *Obs.* (a coin); Seraphim.

Seraglio (serā·lyo). Also 6 **sarralia**, **seralyo**, **serraqlio**, 7 **seraglia**, **seralia**, **seralio**, **serraglio**, **serralia**, **surralia**, **-ya**, **sereglia**, *Pl.* **seragli**. [a.

It. *serraglio* :—popular L. **serrāculum* enclosure, place of confinement (cf. med.L. *serrāculum* fastening of a door), f. **serrāre* (whence It. *serrare*, F. *serrer*, Sp. *cerrar*) for *serāre* to lock up, close, f. *sera* lock or bolt. The It. word was, from similarity of sound, used to render the Turkish *serāī* lodging, palace (see SERAI[1]). The applications of the word which have been adopted in Eng. all relate to Turkey and the East, but some of them represent merely the etymological sense of the It. word, while others owe their meaning wholly or partly to the Turkish word. Cf. SERAI[1], SERAIL.]

I. Enclosure, place of confinement.

1. The part of a Mohammedan dwelling-house (esp. of the palace of a sovereign or great noble) in which the women are secluded; the apartments reserved for wives and concubines; a harem.

1581 RICH *Farewe.* P j, The kyng of Tunise..caused her to be put in the Cube, whiche is a place where he keepeth his Concubines (as the Turke doeth his in his Serraglio [*sic*].) 1588 HICKOCK tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 30 One principall wife, which is kept in a Seralyo. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. ii, Thou shalt be the master Of my seraglia. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* I. i, Can I know my sister Mewde vp in his Seraglio..and not haste to send him To the Deuill his tutor? 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. 553 A kinswoman of his, liuing in the Zereglia. 1653 RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 145 In this our age we build more Serralias then Churches. 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. I. 100/2 Shutting up women in seraglios, and degrading them into an inferior class of beings. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 233 The secrecy of Oriental seraglios.

b. The inmates of the harem; a polygamous household.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 115 Each house top spred with Carpets, wheron slept a man and his peculiar Seralio. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xxiv, I would not exchange this one little English girl for the grand Turk's whole seraglio.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* IV. i, This Key will admit me into the *Seraglio* of the Godly [*sc.* the Nunnery]. 1691 *Comedy, Win Her & Take Her* II. i. 15 He'le make the Drawing-Room his Seraglio. 1709 *Tatler* No. 50 ¶ 1 Woman was his mistress; and the whole Sex his Seraglio. *a* 1721 KEN *Urania* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 478 There I a whole Seraglio met Of flatt'ring Lusts, which me beset. 1773 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) IV. 141 One grand-signior cock, with a seraglio of seven hens. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* i, The mighty bull moved at the head of his seraglio and their followers. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. (1868) I. 48 A seraglio of maids of honour ministered to Henry's pleasures. 1881 H. W. ELLIOTT *Seal Isl. Alaska* (1884) 38 The same indifference is also exhibited by the male [fur-seal] to all that may take place..outside of the boundary of his seraglio.

†2. *gen.* An enclosure; a place of confinement. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 136 Near to the Stables stands the Seraglio where the wild beasts are kept. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Jan. 1645, I went to the Ghetto, where the Jewes dwell as in a suburbe by themselues...I passed by the Piazza Judea, where their Seraglio begins.

II. =SERAI[1].

3. A Turkish palace, *esp.* the palace of the Sultan at Constantinople.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 290 The..dayly paiments..by the Grand Signior..to the Officers of his Seraglio or Court. 1600 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc. 1893) 57 The surralia..which doth joyne close to the Cittie. *Ibid.* 61 The Grand Sinyors Courte, Called the surralya. 1630 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 559 The pleasantest of any Palace on the face of the earth, termed by them the Port, or Seraglio. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 80 All about these parts are the Serraglioes, or Countrey-houses of the great Men among the Turks. 1728 ELIZA HEYWOOD tr. *Mme. de Somes's Belle A.* (1732) II 251 He was immediately order'd to come to the Seraglio, where he was receiv'd by the Grand Visier with all imaginable tokens of Friendship and Esteem. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 304/2 The remains of the Seraglio, former palace of the Ottoman sultans.

†4. A place of accommodation for travellers.

1627 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 606 At euery tenth course a Seraglia or Place of lodging for Man and Horse. 1659 EVELYN *Let. to R. Boyle* 3 Sept., At the other back front a plot walled in of a competent square for the common seraglio disposed into a garden.

†5. A warehouse. *Obs.*

1628 in FOSTER *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 230 Depositing those intended for Cambay and Ahmadabad in the 'seraglia'. 1676 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 168 On the shoar towardes the factory seraglio is a fair large fountain. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 42 The Currans..are..put into Ware-houses they call Seraglio's. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 160 They are thrown thorow a Hole into the great Magazine, call'd the Seraglio.

†6. ? A barrack for a particular corps of the Turkish army; hence, a corps or grade of Turkish soldiers. *Obs.*

1600 PORY *Leo's Africa*, etc. 386 They are called home againe to the Seraglios of the Zamoglans (for so are they termed, till they be enrolled among the Ianissaries). 1613 WOTTON *Let. to Sir E. Bacon* 21 Mar., The Turk..having made a leavy..of 5000 youths out of the Seragli. 1696 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxii. 57 To give the command of Armies..to men of the first or second Seraglio.

III. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *seraglio-guard, lady, window*; **seraglio cake**, a name given to a kind of fancy bread.

1842 MERLE *Dom. Dict.* 46 *Seraglio Cake. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 114 Man the *Seraglio-guard! 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1893) I. 294 This is the chief guardian of the *seraglio ladies. *Ibid.* 323 The Grand Signior was at the *seraglio window.

‖ **Serai**[1] (sərai·). Forms: 7 **sarray, sera, seraw**(e, **serray, suray, surroie**, 7, 9 **sarai, -ay**, 8 **serauee**, 9 **seraee, seray, -oy**, 8– **serai**. [a. Turkish (orig. Persian) سراى *serāī* lodging, residence, palace. Cf SERAGLIO, SERAIL.]

1. In various Eastern countries, A building for the accommodation of travellers; a caravanserai.

1609 W. FINCH in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 434 By it the great Saray, besides which are diuers others..wherein diuers neate lodgings are to be let. *c* 1616 *Ibid.* 520 Euery fiue or sixe Course, there are Seraes built..for the..entertainment of Trauellers. 1782 G. FORSTER *Journ.* (1798) I. 74 The stationary tenants of the serauee..approach the traveller on his entrance. 1793 W. HODGES *Trav. India* 32 The lodgings of the traveller in India are the serais, or caravanserais, ..as they are called in Europe. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 281/1 A handsome seray built of stone. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* Prel. Rem. (1876) 8 The seraees for travellers..owe their existence to the enlightened self-interest of the better order of princes. 1879 W. WAKEFIELD *Happy Valley* 35 These serais..generally consist of a large square stone building. 1895 *Outing* (U.S) XXVI. 467/2 A 'Serai' covers a space about 150 feet square or larger, and is built around a quadrangular court with a continuous veranda.

†b. ? A warehouse. = SERAGLIO 5. *Obs.*

1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 103 The goods have since been taken to Bershanpur, and placed in the common 'sera'.

2. A Turkish palace; esp. the palace of the Sultan at Constantinople.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 68 The Sultans or Emperours Pallace (vulgarly called *Saray*, and by the Italians *Seraglio*). 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 117 Nothing more observable in the Town than the Serrays and [etc.]. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxvii, The Serai's impenetrable tower. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 230 Having sent..to the Pasha to ask for horses, we thought it right to pay him a visit in his serai.

¶3. Misused for SERAGLIO 1: A harem.

1813 BYRON *Giaour* 444 Not thus was Hassan wont to fly When Leila dwelt in his Serai.

‖ **Serai**[2] (sərai·). Also 7 **sou-, sowray**, 9 **surahee**. [Anglo-Indian, repr. Urdu (orig. Arab.) صراحى *surāhī*.] 'A long-necked earthenware (or metal) flagon for water' (Yule).

1672 tr. *Bernier's Hist. Rev. Emp. Gt. Mogol* IV. 10 A Souray of the water of Ganges...Sowray is that Tin-flagon full of water, which the Servant that marcheth on foot before the Gentleman on horseback, carrieth in his hand. 1808 ELPHINSTONE in Colebrooke *Life* (1884) I. 199 We had.. two surahees of water [etc.]. 1825-9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxix. 47 She broke a serai of water.

Serail (sərēi·l). Now *rare*. Forms: 6 **sarail, sarell**, 7 **serail(l)e, serraill, serrayle**, 7– **serail**. [a. F. *sérail*, ad. It. *serraglio*: see SERAGLIO. Cf. Sp. *servallo*.]

1. =SERAGLIO 1.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxii. 59 b, [The women's] priuate bathes, which for the most part they haue ..within their houses or Sarails. 1587 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii. 1176 He shall be made a chast and lustlesse Eunuke, And in my Sarell tend my Concubines. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlii. 143 What longing-lust would not be alaide, to see three hundred women at his dispose and pleasure, as hath the Grand Turke in his Seraille? 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. 244 Thou wouldest haue said, that she was brought vp in the warres; they bred in a Serrayle of Women. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 65 They consigned them with good commendations to the surgeons of the serail. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 161 A numerous serail must be attended with vast expence. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii. 42 Venice..is the bowing slave of the Sultan..she watches the walls of his Serail. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxx, The purest monotheism, they discovered, was perfectly compatible with bigotry and ferocity, luxury and tyranny, serails and bowstrings.

†2. =SERAGLIO 3, SERAI[1] 2. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxv. 140 b, Selim builded there for a dwelling place, a fayre and sumptuous Sarail. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1311 The embassador went himself to the serrail. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2307/3 The other report is, That the Grand Signior is only kept a close Prisoner in the Serail. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 231 And from his high serail the sultan hears The wide Propontis' beating waves resound.

†3. A barrack for Turkish soldiers; = SERAGLIO 6. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxv. 140 b, There is besides another Sarail, for the lodging of the Azamoglans or Ianissaries.

Serain(e, obs. forms of SERENE *sb.*[1], SIREN.

Seral (sī·răl), *a.* (and *sb.*) *Geol.* [f. L. *sēr-us* late + -AL: see quot.] **a.** *adj.* Used by H. D. Rogers to designate the Millstone Grit formation of the Pennsylvanian Coal-measures. **b.** *absol.* or *sb.* Used as a name for this formation.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* I. 109 **Seral series**, or Coal strata. Seral Conglomerate (or Lowest Division of the Coal-Measures). *Ibid.* II. II. 1027 Seral..a synonym for the coal-formation expressing the period of the nightfall or late twilight of the Appalachian Palæozoic day.

Seralbumen, -in (sĭĕralbĭ·mĕn, -in). *Chem.* Also **sero-albumen**. [f. SER-UM + -ALBUMEN.] The albumen of the blood. Hence **Seralbu'minous (sero-albu'minous)** *a.*, composed of or containing seralbumen.

1835-6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 62/1 An orange-yellow coloured sero-albuminous fluid. *Ibid.* 89/2 When coagulated seralbumen is digested in acetic acid, it becomes soft and transparent. 1857 [see OVALBUMEN]. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 28 Ovo-albumin is distinguished from sero-albumin by the following characteristics. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 124 Chyle contains potassium-albumin, casein, and seralbumin.

‖ **Serang** (səræŋ). *Anglo-Indian.* Also **sarang, syrang**. [a. Pers. سرهنگ *sarhang* commander.] A native boatswain or captain of a Lascar crew.

1799 *Hull Advert.* 21 Dec. 4/1 Seringapatam Prize-money. ..first dividend. Commandant Subadars, and Serangs of Gun Lascars. 1806 *Naval Chron.* XV. 469 The sarang, or principal native. 1827 in R. G. Wallace *Fifteen Yrs. India* (1822) 256 The syrangs..exerted their powerful influence over the seamen. 1891 KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 297 Pambé, the Serang or head man of the Lascar sailors.

Seranine (se·rănəin). (See quot.)

1889 CUNDILL *Dict. Explosives* 61 Seranine is a mixture of nitro-glycerine and chlorate of potash. 1890 EISSLER *Mod. Explosives* 38.

Serapah, obs. form of SERRAPAW.

‖ **Serape** (sərāpe). Also **sarape**. [Mexican Sp. *serape, sarape.*] A shawl or plaid worn by Spanish-Americans.

1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico*, etc. xxiv. 210, I..knew that I had seen the last..of civilized man under the garb of a Mexican sarape. 1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* xi, The ranchero..is never seen without the 'serapé'. *a* 1883 — *Lost Mtn.* xv. 147 Keeping the rain off with waterproof serapes.

Seraph[1] (se·răf). [Back-formation from the plural SERAPHIM, SERAPHIN (on the analogy of *cherubim, -in* and *cherub*). (Perh. first used by Milton.)

Cf. G. *seraph*, in mod. use perh. from Eng., though Luther had in one passage used *seraph* (as a plural). Certain mediæval commentators on Pseudo-Dionysius, followed by many glossaries down to the *Ortus Vocabulorum* (1518), give *seraph* (genitive *seraphis*) as the sing. corresponding to the pl. *seraphin*; but the form appears to have had no actual currency in med. Latin.]

1. One of the SERAPHIM.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 667 Brightest Seraph tell In which of all these shining Orbes hath Man His fixed seat. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1716) II. 171 Who sees Darkness even in the Angels of Light, and charges the loftiest Seraph with Folly! *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 184 The Seraphs who of all love Godhead most Had near the Throne the honourable Post. 1786 COLERIDGE *Genevieve* 4 Sweet your voice, as Seraph's song. 1816 BYRON (*1st*) *Stanzas to Augusta* iv, Oh! blest be thine unbroken light, That watch'd me as a seraph's eye. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon Styl.* 166 That Pontius and Iscariot by my side Show'd like fair seraphs.

b. *fig.* A seraphic person, an 'angel'.

1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxi, I knew another of these seraphs..she was [etc.].

2. *Geol.* A fossil shell. Cf. SERAPHIM 4.

1822 PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 153 *Seraphs*, a convoluted, elongated, univalved shell. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 106.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sometimes quasi-adj. = seraphic), as *seraph-band, -bard, fire, -man, note, song, way, -wing*; *seraph-winged* adj. Also **seraph-tide** *Anglo-Irish*, Michaelmas.

1786 BURNS '*O Thou dread Power*' v, The beauteous, *seraph Sister-band. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VI. xx, This seraph-band, each waved his hand. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* V. 379 Then, as yon *Seraph-Bard fram'd Hearts below, Each sees him here transcendant Knowledge show. 1803 HEBER *Palestine* 32 One faint spark of Milton's *seraph fire. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VI. xix, A man all light, a *seraph-man On every corse there stood. 1824 BOWDLER *Hymn*, '*Sing to the Lord*', Israel's shepherds heard amazed The *seraph notes of peace and love. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* XII. iv, Or liker the first sound of *seraph song And Angel greeting. *a* 1849 MAR. EDGEWORTH *White Pigeon*, You promised to make me a compliment of it last *Seraph-tide was twelvemonth. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. lxxv, For he would learn the rudiments of love, I mean the *seraph way of those above. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* III. ii, He, that rode sublime Upon the *seraph-wings of Extasy. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 448 A *seraph-winged Victory.

‖ **Se·raph**[2], *Obs.* [a. F. †*seraph*, corruptly a. Turkish شريف *sharīf*: see SHARIFFE. Cf. It. †*saraffo.*] A Turkish gold coin; a sequin.

1576 EDEN *Hist. Trav.* (1577) 364 Three thousande Saraphes of golde. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xiv, I will give thee my Codpiece;..there are six hundred Seraphs in it, and some fine Diamonds. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Seraph*, a Turkish coyn of fine gold, worth about a French crown.

Seraph, obs. variant of GIRAFFE.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 4 Their nourishment goeth more forward then backward, like the best horses, and the Arabian Seraph, which are higher before then behinde.

Seraphic (sĕræ·fik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **seraphique**, 7–8 **seraphick**, 8 **serafic**. [a. eccl. L. *seraphicus*, f. *seraph-im*: see SERAPHIM. Cf. F. *séraphique*, Sp. *seráfico*, Pg. *seraphico*, It. *serafico.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the seraphim.

1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* V. i, Seraphique Angells Clap their celestiall wings in heavenly plaudits. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 794 The great Seraphic Lords and Cherubim In close recess and secret conclave sat. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 81 This supposition..places him [the Devil] beneath the dignity of his seraphic original. 1735 YOUNG *Centaur* VI. (1757) IV. 275 A being big with..hope.. of adding melody to seraphic choirs, in ceaseless Hallelujahs to their Eternal King. 1840 MRS. JAMESON *Legt. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 238 Seven beautiful seraphic or allegorical figures.

2. Of attributes: Resembling what pertains to the seraphim; worthy of a seraph; ecstatically adoring.

1659 BOYLE *Some Motives Love of God* 9 This Love I have taken the freedome to style Seraphick Love, borrowing the name from..those nobler Spirits of the Cælestiall Hierarchie, whose Name..expresses them to be of a flaming Nature. 1683 NORRIS *Idea Happin.* 35 There is a more peculiar Acceptation of the Love of God proper to this place. And it is that which we call Seraphic. By which I understand ..that Love of God which is the effect of an intense Contemplation of him. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* I. 44 Nor did his Arts in vain weak Man assail, His false Seraphick Tongue and Charms prevail. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. 1821 II. 191 Seraphick Ardour dwelling in each Vein, The Majestatick Presence in the Brain. 1778 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 336 Mr. Mudge.. had a most seraphic finger for the harpsichord. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. viii, On the thick Hyperborean, cherubic reasoning, seraphic eloquence were lost. 1846 DE QUINCEY *Shelley* in *Tait's Mag.* Jan. 29 Many people remarked something seraphic in the expression of his features. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cix, Seraphic intellect and force To seize and throw the doubts of man. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* vi, Dinah's seraphic gentleness of expression. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 97 Her voice was sweet..Her singing quite seraphic. 1884 W. S. LILLY in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 263 That religious romanticism which paints for us a mediæval period full of seraphic sweetness.

† b. ? Concerned with sublime objects. *Obs.*

a 1697 AUBREY *Brief Lives, Dunstan* (1898) I. 243 Meredith Lloyd tells me that, three or 400 yeares ago, chymistry was in a greater perfection, much, then now; their proces was then more seraphique and universall: now they looke only after medicines.

3. Resembling a seraph, either in beauty or in fervour of exalted devotion.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 121 That seraphic dame, Mrs. Rowe, also painted. 1807 CRABBE *Sir Eustace Grey* 71 Her morals [show'd] the seraphic saint. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. x, That seraphic being, whose lustre even now haunts my vision. 1870—*Lothair* xiii, Seraphic saints, and gorgeous scenes by Tintoret.

b. Of discourse, actions, appearance: Showing ecstasy of devout contemplation.

a 1668 DAVENANT *Play-ho.* I. (1673) 76 A spiritual Musician too With his seraphick Colloquies expresst In stilo recitativo. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 24 May, A very good and seraphic kind of sermon, too good for an ordinary congregation. 1884 *Punch* 18 Oct. 191/1 The seraphic look of personal affection that mantled his brow.

4. *Special collocations*: **Seraphic doctor**, a title given to St. Bonaventura (in Spain also popularly to St. Teresa); **seraphic Father**, a title given to St. Francis; **seraphic friar**, a Franciscan, hence *seraphic habit, order*; **seraphic hymn**, the Sanctus (see Isa. vi. 3).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In the Schools, St. Bonaventure is call'd *The *Seraphic Doctor*, from his abundant Zeal and Fervour. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. v. 153 The seraphic doctor observes that [etc.]. 1894 MRS. G. C. GRAHAM *S. Teresa* I. iv. 179 *note*, Teresa, by a definitive decree of the Tribunal of the Rota, is formally declared a Doctor of the Church. The 'seraphic doctor', the antonomasia by which she is as often as not referred to in Spain, relates to this, and not to the Doctor's degree bestowed upon her, after her death, by the University of Salamanca. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., St. Francis, the Founder of the Cordeliers and Franciscans, is called the *Seraphic Father, in Memory of a Vision he saw on Mount Alverna,..when.. he saw a Seraph glide rapidly from Heaven upon him; which impress'd on him certain Stigmata or Marks. 1884 *Tablet* 11 Oct. 592/1 The Feast of the Seraphic Father St. Francis was celebrated with great solemnity. 1826 SOUTHEY *Lett. to Butler* 534 The *Seraphic and Cherubic friars. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 143 Those who take that habit, which they call *Seraphick, are not to be numbered among Men, but are become Angels. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain* (1799) 418 Of the Mendicants the most numerous is the *Serafic, or Franciscan order.

B. *sb.*

†**1. a.** [= eccl. L. *seraphicus*.] A Franciscan friar. **b.** Allusively applied in the sense of zealot.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* II. xxxii. 256 Many high Seraphicks and supercilious Separatists. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 265 They are commanded to wear the Coat and Hood (for so say the Seraphicks).

2. *Seraphics*: rapturous moods or discourses.

1709 SWIFT & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 32 ¶ 2 To hear her talk Seraphicks, and run over Norris, and Moor, and Milton. 1769 CHARL. SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) I. 182 And the angel will descend from her seraphics.

Hence **Sera·phicness.** *rare.*

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Seraphicknes*, the being of the seraphick Nature. 1888 LIGHTHALL *Young Seigneur* 72 No romantic seraphicness glowed upon her features.

Seraphical (sĕræ·fikăl), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. eccl. L. *seraphic-us* SERAPHIC *a.* + -AL.] = SERAPHIC *a.*

1. Pertaining to the seraphim; = SERAPHIC 1.

1568 T. NEWTON in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) 553 The troupes seraphicall. 1632 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 13 Some of the hairs that fell from the seraphical angel.

2. Resembling what pertains to the seraphim; rapturous, ecstatically devout.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 304 Let us take a test of this your Seraphicall obedience. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Letter* Wks. (Grosart) I. 274 In the profoundest traunce of rapt Seraphicall Zeale. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* G 4, My Seraphicall visions in Queene Poetrie. 1648 J. GOODWIN *Yongling Elder* 2 A man of such Seraphicall parts and learning. 1674 BP. CROSS *Let. Pop. Idol.* (1676) 13 St. Francis, ..and many others, in their Seraphical Meditations, have been rapt up into the third Heaven. 1742–3 *Observ. Methodists* 17 Together with a mixture of Seemingly Seraphical Flights and extravagant Allusions.

† **b.** Of ideas, etc.: Lofty, sublime. Cf. SERAPHIC *a.* 2 b. (In quot. *ironical*.) *Obs.*

1656 CROMWELL *Sp.* in *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. Introd. 161 Now we would be loth to tell you of notions more seraphical.

3. Of persons: Resembling the seraphim; characterized by ecstatic fervour of devotion. In the 17th c. often *ironical*, applied to fanatical religionists or to impassioned orators.

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* G 4 b, Graue Heliconists, seraphicall Omniscians. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Seraphicall*, inflamed with diuine loue like a Seraphin. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* (1844) 44 Such like rare seraphical rhetoritians. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 18 The most florid and seraphical Teacher in the University. 1692 SOUTH 12 *Sermons* (1697) V. 33 The most Seraphical *Illuminati*, and the highest Puritan Perfectionists. *a* 1714 ABP. J. SHARP *Serm.* Wks. 1754 III. 218 Thus some very seraphical men do talk.

† **4.** In *Seraphical Doctor, Order*: see SERAPHIC 4.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 278 For these thinges bee geuen vnto them peculiar names, as subtile and seraphicall, and irrefrigable Doctours. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 116 b, The Seraphicall order of S. Fraunces. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 80 These Seraphicall Fathers doe so under value all other Orders, that [etc.]. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 69 Bonaventure..called generally the Seraphical Doctor. 1721 *Constitutions Blue Nuns* x, Let them keep the Octave of the Seraphicall Father S. Francis.

Hence † **Sera·phicalist,** one who pretends to 'seraphic' excellence; † **Sera·phicalness.**

1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 301 It's strange to see these seraphicalists [*sic*] can act without law, against Parliaments and against morality. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Seraphicalness*, the being of the seraphick Nature.

Seraphically (sĕræ·fikăli), *adv.* [f. SERAPHICAL + -LY 2.] In a seraphic manner.

1678 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) 260 Till I ascend in Spirit to the Element of Love, where I shall know thee more clearly, and love thee more Seraphically. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xiv, He is so seraphically happy. 1909 *Nation* 3 Apr. 14/1 He was smiling seraphically.

† **Sera·phicism.** *Obs.* [f. SERAPHIC *a.* + -ISM.] Pretence of 'seraphic' raptures.

1676 CUDWORTH *Serm.* (1 Cor. xv. 57) 87 Such are a self-chosen holiness..high-flown enthusiasm and Seraphicism.

Seraphim (se·răfim), † **se·raphin.** Forms: 1, 3–7, 9 *arch.* **seraphin**, 3 **serafin**, 4 **serafyn**, 5 **ceraphin, secheraphym, -phyn, seraphyn, -en, serophyn, syraphyn**, 6–7 **seraphine**, 1, 6– **seraphim**. [a. late L. *seraphim* (Vulg.), in MSS. often *seraphin* (= Gr. σεραφίμ, σεραφείμ, LXX.), a. Heb. שְׂרָפִים *s'rāphīm* (only in Isa. vi), pl. of * שָׂרָף *sārāph*, which is not recorded in the Bible, unless it be identical with the formally coincident word denoting a kind of venomous serpent, which occurs as quasi-adj. or in apposition with *nāḥāsh* serpent in Num. xxi. and Deut. viii. (Eng. Bible 'fiery serpents', after Vulg. *ignitos serpentes, serpens adurens*; LXX ὄφεις θανατοῦντας, ὄφις θάνατον), and in Isa. xiv. 29 and xxx. 6 with the epithet 'flying' (Eng. Bible 'fiery flying serpent'). Some scholars assume the identity of the word occurring in Isa. vi. with that found in the other passages. On this view the 'seraphim' seen by Isaiah flying above the throne of God represent a mythic or symbolic conception which must originally have had the form of a 'fiery flying serpent', though in the vision this appears considerably modified. The word *sārāph*, as the name of a kind of serpent, may belong to the root *sāraph* to burn, in allusion to the effect of the bite (cf. Gr. πρηστήρ). This etymology has given rise to a conjecture that the celestial 'seraphim' originally symbolized the lightning. Of those who reject the identity of *sārāph* 'seraph' with *sārāph* 'fiery serpent', some refer the former to the root of the Arabic *sharafa* to be lofty or illustrious. Phonologically this is unobjectionable, but on other grounds it is now generally abandoned. Various suggestions of non-Hebrew (Egyptian, Assyrian, etc.) etymology have been made, but have not found wide acceptance.

The L. form *seraphim*, which is found in many MSS. of the Vulgate, and is the source of all the forms used in Eng. down to the 16th c. (as well as of those in the Rom. langs.), coincides with the Aramaic *s'rāphīm*, but it is very doubtful whether it is more than a scribal error or a euphonic alteration. Cf. F. *séraphin* (*serafin*, 12th c.), Pr. *seraf*, Sp. *serafin*, Pg. *seraphim*, It. *serafino* (all masc. sing.).

In the Latin liturgical passages from which the word first became widely known, it was prob. originally apprehended correctly as a plural, and readers of the Latin Bible would be guided aright by the syntax of Isa. vi. 2; but there is evidence that 'Cherubim and Seraphim' were often supposed to be the names of two individual angels. From the 15th to the 18th c. the English plural ending was often appended, but *seraphin* as a sing. = 'one of the seraphim' does not appear in Eng. till late in the 16th c. (the form *seraphim* in this use not till the 17th c.). After the introduction (perh. by Milton) of the form SERAPH, the misuse of the plural forms in singular sense gradually became rare, and it is now obsolete.]

1. In Biblical use: The living creatures with six wings, hands and feet, and a (presumably) human voice, seen in Isaiah's vision as hovering above the throne of God.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* vi. 2 Serafyn stoden up on it. [1535 (Coverdale), 1537, 1539, 1551 the Seraphins; 1540 Seraphins; 1560 (Geneva), 1611 the Seraphims; 1568, 1609 (Douay) Seraphims; 1884 (Revised) the seraphim.]

2. By Christian interpreters the seraphim were from an early period supposed to be a class of angels, and the name, associated with that of the cherubim, was introduced in the Eucharistic preface and subsequently in the *Te Deum*, and thus became extensively known. The presumed derivation of the word from a Heb. root meaning 'to burn' (see above) led to the view that the seraphim are specially distinguished by fervour of love (while the cherubim excel in knowledge), and to the symbolic use of red as the colour appropriate to the seraphim in artistic representations. In the system of the Pseudo-Dionysius, the chief source of later angelology, the seraphim are the highest, and the cherubim the second, of the nine orders of angels.

a. *Seraphin* (*obs.* exc. *poet.* as *nonce-use*), *seraphim*, used as *plural*. (Some of the early examples are ambiguous, and may belong to b.)

a. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 754 Syndon tu..he man Seraphin be naman hatеð. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 191 Heih is þi kinestol onuppe cherubine, Biuoren ðine leoue sune wið-innen seraphine. *c* 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* lxxv, Cherubin ant serafin, a þousend þer were. 13.. *Ipotis* 92 (Vernon MS.) in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 342 Þe furste ordre is Cherubin And þat oþer Seraphin. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 104 Cherubin and Seraphin an al þe foure [*the B and C texts have* nine] ordres. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) 34 Seraphyn is a multytude of angellis that is to vnderstonde: brennynge other settynge a fyre..and the propre offyce of thyse angels is to brenne in theymselfe and to moeue other to brenne in the loue of god. *c* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 21 To thee cherubyn and seraphyn cryeth with uoys with owten ceessynge. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. vii. in *Anglia* VIII. 140/3 She sawe oon of Seraphyn, þat is a brennynge aungel. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a iv b, The iiii. Tronli [orders of angels] be theys Principatus Trony Cherubyn and Seraphyn. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Te deum*, Cherubin, and Seraphin. 1642 R. WATSON *Serm. Schisme* 32 The first place or degree is given to the Angels of love, which are termed Seraphin. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 289 What is it that makes the Seraphin burn and flame above the rest of the Angelical Orders? 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 74 You shall..ay, press in Where faint the fledge-foot seraphin.

β. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 719 (Gr.) Cheruphim et Seraphim þa on swegeldreamum syndon nemned. *a* 1500 *Adrian & Epolys* 92 in *Brome Bk.* 28 The secund ordyr is secheraphym. 16.. MILTON *At a Solemn Music* 10 Where the bright Seraphim in burning row Their loud up-lifted Angel trumpets blow. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 146 The angels..are here called Seraphim, from burning or fiery spirits. 1827 HEBER *Hymn, 'Thou art gone to the grave'*, The sound which thou heard'st was the Seraphim's song! 1829 COLERIDGE *Monody Chatterton* (later version) 24 Thou..The triumph of redeeming Love dost hymn..to harps of Seraphim. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ix. (1876) 533 Like the Seraphim, they are seen in adoring love, about His throne. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Ave* 104 And from between the seraphim The glory issues for a hymn.

† **b.** Taken as the name of an angel.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22600 þan sal quak sant cherubin, And alsua sal do seraphin. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 37 Michaell and Gabrielle and Raphaelle, cherubyn and seraphyn, and all þe oþer angells and archangells.

c. Plural. † *seraphins, seraphims* (now *rare*).

a. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 9415 Þe silloure full of Seraphens & othire sere halows. *c* 1420 *Virgin's Compl.* 88 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 241, I sawe angelis with gret lithe of seraphynnys order adowne gan sende. 1490 CAXTON *How to die* 22 The cherubyns and the syraphyns come to thyne helpe. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 73 These were their names,..Angels, Arch-angels,..Powers, Cherubines, and Seraphines. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Beauty* 94 Those eternall burning Seraphins, Which from their faces dart out fierie light. *a* 1610 PARSONS *Leicester's Ghost* (1641) 24 Know that the Prince of Heavenly Seraphines..Was tumbled downe for his presumptuous sinne. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory*, Panegyr. e 7, All the strings Of Seraphins tun'd high, lowd Hymnes did play. 1649 LOVELACE *Elegy on Princ. Katherine* 51 Clap wings with Seraphins before the Throne. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 76 The Seraphins resound it.

β. [1560, 1568, 1609, 1611: see 1.] *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Epiphany* 38 Who..trie our actions in that searching fire By which the seraphims our lips inspire. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Yr.* ii. 16 The joy is so great that it runs over and wets the fair brows and beauteous locks of Cherubims and Seraphims. 1675 ABP. J. SHARP *Serm.* ii. Wks. 1754 I. 58 To know and be known by angels, arch-angels, and seraphims. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 201 Seraphims, whose Mold is heav'nly Love, Who nearest to the Godhead wait above. 1756–9 A. BUTLER *Lives Saints, S. Ludger*, God, in whose presence the highest seraphims annihilate themselves.

† **d.** *Seraphin, seraphim* as a sing. = one of the seraphim, a seraph. *Obs.*

a. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* B ij, The Seraphin with his fiery sword not being taken away. *c* 1610 MIDDLETON *Witch* IV. ii. 111 No, he that would soul's sacred comfort win Must burn in pure love, like a seraphin. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 35 She should have every thing divine That would befitt a Seraphin.

β. *a* 1649 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* 74 We will pledge this Seraphim [*viz.* St. Teresa] Bowles full of richer blood [etc.]. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Poet. Wks.* (1903) 104 While we see What every Seraphim above admires! 1700 ASTRY tr. *Sauvedra-Fazardo* I. 168 God gave not the flaming Sword, which guarded Paradise, to a Seraphim. 1802 MRS. WEST *Infidel Father* II. 85 Or had you..blended the service of the Deity with the idolatrous worship of a seraphim.

3. *Her.* † **a.** In Sir John Ferne's fanciful method of blazoning by 'spirits', the equivalent of Argent.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 144 A fosse waynee between the two starres artick and antiartick seraphines.

b. The representation of a seraph.

Usually, a child's head with two wings above, two below, and one on each side.

1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* s. v. *Carruthers*, Crest, a seraphim, volant, ppr.

4. A Swedish order of knighthood. (See quot.)
1784 H. Clark *Hist. Knighthood* II. 213 Sweden. The Order of the Seraphim, or of Jesus...first instituted by Magnus the IId, in the year 1334...It..lay dormant, until February 1748, when it was revived..by Frederick the First.

5. *Geol. sing.* and *collect.* A fossil crustacean of the genus *Pterygotus*.
1839 Murchison *Silur. Syst.* 606 Fig. 4 and 5 belong undoubtedly to the same animal as the Seraphim of the Old Red Sandstone. 1853 H. Woodward in *Intell. Observ.* IV. 229 The 'Seraphim', a fossil found in 'the Arbroath paving-stone' of Forfarshire, which from the wing-like form of some parts of the shell, and the scale or feather-like markings upon its surface, has given rise to this angelic title among the natives. 1894 *Q. Rev.* July 191 The giant crustaceans or arachnids known to the Scotch quarrymen as 'Seraphim'.

6. A moth of the genus *Lobophora*. Also *seraphim-moth*.
1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 132 The Seraphim (*Lobophora hexapterata*, Curtis) appears in June...The small Seraphim (*Lobophora sexalisata*, Curtis) appears in June and August. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 67 In..*Lobophora* there is so large an additional lobe to the hind wing as to give them the appearance of having six wings, whence they are called 'Seraphims' by collectors. *Ibid.*, Index to Popular Names, Seraphim Moths.

‖ **Se·raphin.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 seraffine, serafyne, seraphine, xeraphin, 7 serafin, seraffin, xeraphin, 8 seraphyn, xerapheen. [a. Pg. *xerafim*, *xarafim*, a. Arab. شَرِيفِي *sharīfī*, orig. the name of a gold coin. Cf. Seraph 2.] A silver coin formerly current in India, worth about 1*s.* 5*d.*
1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 56 b, He must give him 600 Serafynes. 1584 R. Barret in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) II. i. 273 There is also stamped in Ormuz a seraphine of gold, which is litle and round. 1588 Hickock tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 37, I lost my 800 Seraffines or duckets. *a* 1613 W. Hawkins in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 217 *Inprimis*, of Seraffins *Echeri*, which be ten Rupias a piece, there are sixtie Leckes. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 207 The Cruzado of Gold, 12 Zeraphins. 1704 *Churchill's Collect. Voy. & Trav.* III. 772/2 A *Candil* of Rice was sold ..for 2500 *Seraphyns*, or Gilders. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxi. 249 Their Soldiers Pay [at Goa] is very small...They have but six Xerapheens per Month,..a Xerapheen is worth about sixteen Pence half Peny Ster.

Seraphine (se·răfĭn). Also **seraphina**. [f. Seraph + -ine.] A musical instrument of the reed kind, invented by John Green in 1833.
1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 378/2 Certain improvements in the construction of certain musical instruments.. of the kind commonly called seraphines. 1845 Gresley *Frank's First Trip* 201 Six or eight women..were singing a plaintive hymn, accompanied by a seraphine. 1879 A. J. Hipkins in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 667 In England keyboard harmonicas with bellows were known by the name of Seraphine, which was not an harmonium. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 June 8/1 In most Boer houses of the better class there is an American organ or 'seraphine'.

Se·raphism. *rare.* [f. Seraph 1 + -ism.] Ecstatic devotion.
1846 C. Maitland *Ch. Catacombs* 212 That religion..presents..a joyful serenity, worth all..the proud seraphism of the Thebaid.

† **Sera·phium.** *Obs.*—1 ? = Serapine.
1583 *Rates Custom ho.* E iij b, Seraphium the pound.

‖ **Serapias** (sĕrā·piăs). [L. *serāpias*, f. the name of the Egyptian god *Serāpis*.] Formerly, a book-name for various orchids, and for the dried roots of these as used in pharmacy. Now only mod. Latin (*Bot.*) as the name of an orchidaceous genus.
1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. civ. 173 We haue called these kindes Serapias stones, or Orchis Serapiades,..taking the name as it were from Serapias the god of the Citizens of Alexandria...It is also called..in English Satyrion, and finger Orchis. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1354 The properties of these Serapiaes. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Serapias*, (Gr.) an Herb call'd Dog-stones, or Rag-wort. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Serapias*, in the materia medica, the officinal name of the dried root, called *salep*.

Serapic (sĕre·pik), *a.* [f. *Serap-is* + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the Egyptian god *Serapis*.
1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXII. 560 (Cent.) They include various types of the god Abraxas, Cnuphic and Serapic emblems, Egyptian types.

† **Serapin(e.** *Obs.* Also in Latin form. [ad. med.L. *serapinum*; of obscure origin; perh. this and Sagapenum represent some Oriental word.]
1. = Sagapenum.
a. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* (1894) 43 Azafetida is best medicyn if þou make of him emplastre, serapinum, & þe fecis of a litil wex. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* Interpr., Sagapenum commonly called Serapinum droppeth out of the stalke of ferula. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandises* F 2 b, Gum Serapinum.
β. 1526 *Grete Herball* cccl.xxx. (1529) X ij, Serapyn is.. the goumme of a tre that groweth beyonde the see and in Grece. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* G ij, Serapine stampte and put into the hollow tooth taketh awai yᵉ paines therof. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Gumme Serapine. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 92 Gum Serapin per 100 Weight 06 05.
2. The tree that produces sagapenum.
1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 43 Al maner of trees, as pinetrees, Serapins, Cypres, Terebinths [etc.].

‖ **Seraskier** (sĕrăskĭ·ɪr). Also **seraskur**, **serasquier**. [repr. Turkish pronunciation of Pers. سپهسالار *sepahsalar* head of the army, f. سپاه *sepah* head + Arab. عسكر *ʿaskar* army.] The title of the Turkish Minister of War, who is also commander in chief of the army.
1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1952/2 The Turkish Officer, who is known by the Title of Serasquier. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Pope* 12 Feb., A very numerous garrison of their bravest janissaries, commanded by a pasha seraskiér (i. e. general). 1803 Wittman *Trav. Turkey* 237 The title of Seraskier corresponds with that of our commander in chief of the army. 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* vi. 261 The Seraskier at Stamboul..had persisted in withdrawing the regulars stationed in the province.

‖ **Seraskierate** (sĕrăskĭ·ɪrĕt). Also **seraskarat**, **-kerat**, **-keriat(e**, **-kierat**. [f. prec. + -ate 1.] The War Office at Constantinople.
1876 *Illustr. Lond. News* 8 July 43/2 The execution..took place..in the open square of the Seraskierate or War Office. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 307 The great tower of Galata, like that of the Seraskierat (War Office) on the opposite height in Stamboul, is used as a fire-tower. 1891 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 868/3 They are instructed to send all local details as to situation to the Seraskierate.

† **Serate.** *Obs.*—1 [a. F. †(*laict*) *serat* (Cotgr.).] (See quot.)
1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. xiv. 90 The Normans do boile milke with garlicke and onions, and keepe it in vessels for their vse, calling it sowre milke or Serate.

Serauee, seraw(e, seray, obs. ff. Serai 1.

Serayn(e, obs. forms of Siren.

Serb (sɔ̄ɹb), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 **Syrbe**. [a. Servian *Srb*, *Serb*. Cf. F. *Serbe*.] **A.** *sb.*
1. † *a.* A Wend of Lusatia. (Cf. Sorb.) *Obs.* *b.* A native of Servia, a Servian.
1813 *Q. Rev.* X. 283 The Serbs or Wends came about the same time into the countries between the Saal and the Oder. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 103/2 The Syrbes or Wends, who inhabit Lusatia. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 629/2 (art. *Servia*) Every Serb carries arms. 1883 Morfill *Slav. Lit.* ii. 33 The Serbs have, unlike the Russians and other Slavs, kept their old name.
2. The Servian language.
1886 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 146 Serb became a proscribed tongue. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 40 Everyone, whether Christian or Moslem, speaks Serb only.
B. *adj.* Servian.
1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* i. 16 The barbarous Serb races who settled in the Danubian basin in the fifth and succeeding centuries.

Serbian (sɔ̄ɹbiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Serb + -ian.] = Servian *a.* and *sb.*
1862 Denton *Servia & Servians* 11 About the middle of the seventh century the Serbians, a Sclavonic tribe, entered Mœsia. 1867 Misses Mackenzie & Irby *Turks, Greeks & Slavons* 412 We asked, in Serbian, if they would kindly show us their books. 1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* i. 7 The headdress of the Serbian women. *Ibid.* 26 Besides my native tongue..I know Serbian. 1883 Morfill *Slav. Lit.* i. 8 The Serbian chieftain, Vouk Brankovitch. 1887 — (*title*) Simplified grammar of Serbian.

Se·rbo-, combining form of Serb, as *Serbo-Croatian*, *-Italian*. Cf. Servo-.
1876 A. J. Evans *Through Bosnia* ix. 389 Her Serbo-Italian neighbours. 1883 Morfill *Slav. Lit.* i. 8 The..extent of the territory over which Serbo-Croatian and its dialects..are spoken. 1905 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 598 The Serbo-Croat language.

Serbonian (sɔ̄ɹbō·nĭăn), *a.* [f. Gr. Σερβωνί-ς (λίμνη) + -an.] *Serbonian bog*: Milton's name for Lake Serbonis in Lower Egypt, a marshy tract (now dry) covered with shifting sand. Hence used allusively.
1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 592 A gulf profound as that Serbonian Bog Betwixt Damiata and mount Casius old, Where Armies whole have sunk. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Sel. Wks. II. 231 In the 'Serbonian bog' of this base oligarchy they are all absorbed, sunk, and lost for ever. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* VIII. vii. III. 121 The Serbonian bog of Egyptian finance.

Serc, obs. form of Sark.

Sercee, obs. Sc. form of Search *v.*

Sercee, Sercer, obs. ff. Searce, Searcer.

Sercell, var. Sarcel *Obs.* (hawk's feather).

Sercenett, obs. form of Sarsenet.

† **Serch.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **seergh**. [Of obscure origin.] ? Some kind of worked stone for building purposes.
1426–7 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 442 Pro lviij pedibus de lapid' vocat' seerghys ij$^{s.}$ v$^{d.}$ *c* 1429 *Ibid.* II. 445 Pro..xxiij pedibus de serchis.

Serch(e, obs. forms of Search *sb.* and *v.*

Sercial (sɔ̄·sĭăl). A kind of Madeira wine.
1818 Accum *Chem. Tests* 190. 1851 Redding *Mod. Wines* (ed. 3) 265 The sercial is said to be the product of the hock grape, transplanted to the island. 1873 *St. Pauls Mag.* June 637 A glass of his favourite old Sercial. 1882 Ellen M. Taylor *Madeira* 75 The principal varieties of wine-making grapes are the following: Malvasia, Bual, Sercial [etc.].

Sercil, var. Sarcel *Obs.* (hawk's feather).
1678 in Phillips (ed. 4).

Sercle, obs. form of Circle.

Serclet, t, obs. forms of Circlet.
1530 Palsgr. 269/2 Serclet for a brides heed, *cedre*.

Sercote, obs. form of Surcoat.

Sercute, obs. form of Circuit.
1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 125 The mone maketh one turnyng or one sercute..within xxvii. dayes or there about.

Serd, var. Sard *v.* and obs. pa. t. of Serve.

‖ **Serdab** (sɔ̄ɹdă·b). Also **serdaub, sirdab**. [Pers. (hence Arab.) سرداب *serdāb* grotto, ice-house, cellar.] **a.** In Western Asia, a cellar or underground chamber. **b.** In Egypt, a secret passage or chamber in an ancient tomb.
a. 1842 W. F. Ainsworth *Trav. Asia Minor*, etc. II. 332 The foundations, cellars, or serdaubs,..were generally all that remained. 1842 J. B. Fraser *Mesopot. & Assyria* i. 25 When the inhabitants of Bagdad are panting in their *sirdabs*, or cellars under ground, whither they retire to avoid the rays of the sun.
b. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* iv. 92 This tomb.. also contains a secret passage of the kind that M. Mariette calls a serdab. These serdabs are constructed in the thickness of the walls and have no entrances. 1897 *Daily News* 5 July 8/3 In the serdab, or statue-chamber, of one of the principal tombs, a very fine statue..was found.

Serdar, obs. form of Sirdar.

Serdge, obs. form of Cierge, wax candle.
1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 84 The other xii serdges to be burned in like manner.

† **Serdoner.** *Obs. rare*—1.
a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* II. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 429 Thou arte..The syre of serdoners, And prince of pardoners.

† **Sere,** *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **seere, serre, sear(e.** [a. OF. *serre*, vbl. n. f. *serre-r* to hold fast, shut :—pop.L. *serrāre*, altered form of late L. *serāre*, f. *sera* bolt, bar. Cf. Sear *sb.*1] A claw, talon.
1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Tropheis* 136 A paire of busie chattering Pies, Seeing some hardie Tercell from the skies To stoop with rav'nous seres, feel a chill fear. 1618 Chapman *Hesiod's Georg.* I. 318 The Hauke once, hauing trust vp in his Seres, The sweet-tun'd Nightingale. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1799/4 Lost near Cadnam.., a thorough mewed Falcon, the Feet and Sear very yellow. 1864 Lowell *McClellan's Rep.* Wks. 1890 V. 94 Every excuse was invented..except the true one, that our chicken was no eagle after all. He was hardening his seres, he was waiting for his wings to grow [etc.].

Sere, sear (sĭəɹ), *a.*1 Forms: 1 séar, síere, 4–7 seare, seere, 4–8 seer, 5 seyr, 6 seyre, 7 seir(e, 7–9 (*dial.*) sare, 4– sere, 6– sear. [OE. *séar* corresponds to MLG. *sôr* (LG. *soor*), Du. *zoor* :—OTeut. **sauso-* :—Indogermanic **sausó-*, whence Lith. *saũsas*, OSl. *suχŭ*, Gr. *αὗος* dry, Skr. *çōsha* drying up, withering.
OE. seems to have had also a synonymous derivative *stere* (–**sauzjo-*), which in later Eng. would be represented by the same form as *séar*.]
1. Dry, withered. Now *poet.* or *rhetorical*.
824 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 515 Hit stent on þam sieran boc hazan. *a* 1000 *Gloss. Prudent.* in *Germania* (1878) XI. 402 *Steriles*, seare. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4425 (Bodl. MS.) Þe spere crakeþ also picke So on hegge sere stykke. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 28 Seyr and drye membyrs. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 47 b, And that appereth in the tree of nature whiche..in wynter..semeth seyre, drye, & in maner as deed. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 19 He is deformed, crooked, old, and sere. 1620 Quarles *Feast for Wormes* C 4, Will greene wood burne, when so vnapt's the seire? 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Thatching*, When they [Withs] are grown Sear they will fly and break. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* I. 84 Now here, now there, an acorn, from its cup Dislodged, through sere leaves rustled. 1901 H. Trench *Deirdre Wed* 12 Aghast, the woman Fumbled at her sere breast, and wept.
b. *transf.* and *fig.*, and in fig. context.
1530 Tindale *Gen.* xlvii. 21 *marg.*, To sucke out yᵉ iuce of them with their poetrye, till all be seer bowes and no thinge greene save their awne comenwelth. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 93 b, Receyue me to thy carelesse couch in sere and silent night. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* v. iii. 25, I haue liu'd long enough, my way of life Is falne into the Seare, the yellow Leafe. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 13 The house that grows sere, needs supporters. 1795 Coleridge *Sonnet to Southey*, Till sickly Passion's drooping Myrtles sear Blossom anew. 1837 Carl. Wiseman *St. Eliz. of Hungary* in *Ess.* (1853) III. 226 The rude materialities of life in this sear generation. 1880 O. W. Holmes *Shadows* 18 Some locks had got silvered, some lives had grown sere.
c. *absol.* (Cf. quot. 1605 in 1 b.)
1791 W. Taylor tr. *Lessing's Nathan* IV. (1886) 133 In my sear of life An Assad blossoms for me. 1890 J. Watson *Conf. Poacher* (1893) 74 By the third week of October, the yellow and sere of the year has come.

† **2.** Of textile fabrics: Thin, worn. *Obs.*
1523 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 35 An Olde Seer dyapur Towell. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Raça de pasno*, the place where cloth is seere or thinne. *a* 1631 Donne *Elegies* I. Poems (1633) 44 If swolne with poyson, hee lay in his last bed, His body with a sere-barke covered. 1736 Pegge *Kenticisms* (E. D. S.) 45 My coat is very sare. 1798 Colebridge *Anc. Mar.* V. v, A roaring wind..shook the sails That were so thin and sere.

3. *Comb.* **a.** Forming parasynthetic adjectives, as *sere-coloured*, *sere-leaved*, † *sere-souled*. Also † **sere-dried** *pa. pple.*, dried to excess.
1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 The background of *sere-coloured autumn foliage suggests the passing of a glorious summer day. 1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 62 Hay, which if *sear-dryed in the Sun, is half in half damnified. 1870 D. Lindsay in *Poets Ayrsh.* (1910) 254 *Sear leaved decay does o'er the woodland steal. 1659 H. M. *Pair Spectacles for Nation* 4 Tell us you *Sear-soul'd men that will swear *pro* and *con*, tell me what an oath is?
† **b.** in syntactical combinations formerly often hyphened or written as single words: *sere tree, wood*; also **Sere month**, a name for August. *Obs.*
1686–7 Aubrey *Rem. Gentilisme* (1881) 123 Proverbs.. Item, *Good to cut Briars in the *Sere month* (August. † *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Wit without Money* III. i, Old age like *Seer-trees, is seldom seen affected. *c* 1615 Chapman *Iliad* I. 449 The Priest, with small *sere wood Did sacrifice. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 414 The Lawrel-Champions..Sere-wood from the rotten Hedges took. 1764 Cullum *Hist.*

Hawsted 173 The wood-stealers always tell you they never take any but sear wood.

† **Sere,** *adv.* and *a.*[2] *Obs.* (? exc. *dial.*). Forms: 3–5 ser, 3–6 seir, 3–6, 8 (*dial.*) sere, 4 seyre, schere, 4, 7, 9 (*dial.*) seer, 5–6 seyr, 5, 7 seere, 6 seare. [a. ON. *sér*, orig. dative of the refl. pron. (accus. *sik*, gen. *sín*); the sense 'for oneself' gave rise in ON. to the advb. meaning 'separately, apart' (also in compounds, e. g. *sérdeilis* partly, *sérligr* particular); the further development into an adj. is peculiar to English. Cf. Da. *sær* singular, Da. *især*, Sw. *sär* particularly.]

A. *adv.* Separately, severally. *Sere twice*, on two separate occasions.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4231 His o̓per suns com ilkan sere For to mend þair fader chere. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1522, I haf seten by your-self here sere twyes, 3et herde I neuer of your hed helde no wordez þat euer longed to luf. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 20 Þe water I will be set to flowe bothe fare and nere, And þan þe firmament, in mydis to set þame sere.

b. ? 'All told', in all.

?*a* 1600 *Flodden F.* iii. (1664) 30 The number did but mount To six and twenty thousand seere.

B. *adj.*

1. Separate, distinct; each in particular, single.

c 1200 Ormin 18653 Forr ser iss Sune, & Faderr ser, & ser iss þe33re baþre Allmahhtiȝ Gast. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5461 His sunis blessed he on rau, He gaue ilkan seir benissun. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5804 Men sal alswa yhelde rek-kenynges sere Of al gudes þat God has gefen þam here. *a* 1400 *Rel. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* v. 64 Jhesu, joyne þi lufe in my thoghte, Swa þat þay neuer be sere. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 107 Instrumentes for euery sere archer to brynge with him, proper for his own vse. 1565 Calfhill *Answ. Martiall* v. 130 b, Traditions in euery age with euery sere byshop [haue] varied.

2. Divers, various, sundry.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2 And romans red on maneres sere. *Ibid.* 6840 Your land yee sal sau seuen yeir, And scer þar-of your corns seir. *a* 1340 Hampole *Ps.* cl. 4 Orgyns þat is made as a toure of sere whistils. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass-bk.* (MS. B.) 70, I have synned largely, In mony synnes sere. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 260 in *Babees Bk.*, Þe boke hym calles a chorle of chere, That vylany spekes be wemen sere. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 28 That your vertewis singuler and seir May wholly all in them be also found. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (E. D. S.). 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* 8. v. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) 261.

3. *Comb.*, as **sere-coloured**, parti-coloured; (on) **sere-wise** *adv.*, in divers ways.

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. i. in *Anglia* VIII. 151/5 A cote *sere-colerd comynge to þe helys. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3261 Þus sal þai on *sere-wyse pyned be, Sum many wynter for þair syn. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 515, & hyre prayere quhen scho had ser-wyse to god deuotely mad, a licht of hewine rathly schane.

Sere, var. Cere *sb.* and *v.*, Sear *v.*; obs. f. Sir *sb.*

Sersa, obs. form of Sibrah.

† **Se'rean,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *Sēr-es* (see Seres) + -an. Cf. Serian, Seric.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Seres; silken. **b.** *sb. pl.* = Seres.

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 316 That hath soft Sereans yellow Spoyls. 1633 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* (1656) 160 Here are no Serean Fleeces.

Serefe, obs. Sc. form of Sheriff.

Sereiaunt, obs. form of Sergeant.

‖ **Serein** (sərēn). *Meteorology.* [Fr.: see Serene *sb.*[1]] A fine rain falling from a cloudless sky after sunset.

1870 Tyndall *Heat* § 495 Whose condensation produces the *serein*. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 41.

Sereine, variant of Serene *sb.*[1]

† **Se'rekin(s,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 **sirekin, serekines, serekens,** 3–4 **serekin,** 3–5 **serkin.** [f. Serk *a.*[2] + Kin *sb.*[1] (6 b).] Of several kinds.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2654 Abraham..þis nam sua mikel es to rede Als fader o mani serkyn lede. *Ibid.* 7407 Daaid cuth on sere-kin [*Gött.* serkin] note Bath he cuth on harpe and rote. *Ibid.* 10218 Ilkan þan to þe temple broght Sirekin gift after þai moght. *c* 1400 *Langland's P. Pl. C.* (Ilchester MS.), in Skeat III. Pref. 36 On serkyn wys þes seculers it certefiez also, Lewed men by labour lyue and lordes go to hunt In frith and in forest.

† **Se'relepes,** *adv.* (*a.*). *Obs.* Also 3 *Ormin* **serlepess,** 4 **-lypes.** [f. Serk *a.*[2] + *-lep-* (as in Onlept) + advb. *-es*, *-s*.] Separately.

c 1200 Ormin 513, & iwhillc an serlepess off þa fowrre & twenntiȝ hirdess Was nemmnedd affterr an mann off þa fowre & twenntiȝ prestess. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 502 For-þi þis 3ol ouer-3ede, & þe 3ere after, & vche seasoun serlepes sued after oþer. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 264 That thre þinges bilongeth in owre lorde of heuene, And aren serelepes by hem-self asondry were neure.

b. as *adv.* Separate, distinct; sundry, various.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 994 Vch tabelment was a serlypes ston. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4893 Seuenty wyndowes beside of serelepis werkes.

† **Se'relepy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Serk *a.*[2] + *-lepy* (as in Onlept).] Separate; with pl. sb., sundry, various.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 603 3it were þai sett vn-eamen of serelypy hewys. *Ibid.* 4440 Sere-lepy kyndis. *Ibid.* 4502 Sacrifice to ilk a segge a sere-lepy gifte.

† **Se'rely,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4 **serelyoh, serliche,** 4–5 **ser(e)ly.** [a. ON. *sérliga*: see Serk *a.*[2] and *-ly* [2].] Particularly, separately.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2149 þei souȝt alle so serliche þurh cites & smale townes,..at no seg..schuld hane schapit. *c* 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-bk.* B. 465 For hore soules, I pray derly, þate I shall neuen serly. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 193 Sone haf þay her sortes sette & serelych deled. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xliv. 24 It nedis we vs avise, þat we saye noȝt serely.

Serement, var. Serment *Obs.*, oath.

Seremon(y, obs. forms of Ceremony.

† **Sere'na.** *Obs. rare.* [It. (Neapolitan); cf. Sp. *serena* in the same sense.] = Serene *sb.*[1]

1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* H 1 b, It hath caused such a thicke fulsome Serena to descend on my braine. *a* 1600 R. Dudley in *Hakluyt's Voy.* III. 575 The most infectious serenas or dewes that fall all along these coasts of Africa. 1723 *Gentl. Instructed* I. Suppl. iii. (ed. 5) 14 They had.. armed themselves against the *Serena* with a Caudle.

Serenade (serĭnēi·d), *sb.* Also 7 **serenate,** 8 **seranade.** [a. F. *sérénade* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), app. ad. It. *serenata*: see Serenata.]

1. A performance of vocal or instrumental music given at night in the open air, esp. such a performance given by a lover under the window of his lady.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 236 They go and give the Governour a Serenade. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 768 Serenate, which the starv'd Lover sings To his proud fair. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. v, The Musick and Serenades that were given her, sounded more ungratefully in her Ears, than the Noise of a Screech Owl. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* III. iii, My voice awaked the stillness of the waving sedges with a soldier's serenade. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Roman Singer* I. 163 A serenade is an every-day affair.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1649 Lovelace *Lucasta, To a Lady Madam A. L.* 118 Or the soft Serenades above In calme of Night, when Cats make Love. 1656 Cowley *Misc., Swallow* 3 Foolish Prater, what do'st thou So early at my window do With thy tuneless Serenade? 1695 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 27 We are enabled to..entertain our selves with the serenades of a good conscience. 1843–54 Surtees *Handley Cross* lix, When I will finish wot I've left unsung, as the tom-cat said when the brick-bat cut short his serenade. 1871 Forsyth *Highl. Central India* 391, I listened one night to the most remarkable serenade of tigers I ever heard.

† 2. A poem suitable for a serenade. *Obs.*

1710 *Tatler* No. 222 ₱ 4 Horace's tenth Ode of the third book was originally a Serenade.

3. *Mus.* A piece of music suitable or specially composed for singing or playing in the open air as a complimentary performance.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The Pieces compos'd or play'd on these Occasions, are also call'd Serenades. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xvi, Some of their servants..were performing a simple serenade. 1883 Rockstro in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 467/2 The most delicious example of this that we possess is the Serenade in Sterndale Bennett's Chamber Trio in A, Op. 27. *a* 1897 tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus.* s. v., The only thing retained from the past in serenades is that they have more movements than is usual in a sonata or symphony.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1908 Rockstro in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 418/2 The two Serenade trios of Beethoven. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 663/1 The six-movement scheme (though without the serenade style) was adopted by Beethoven in..the string quartet in B flat. *Ibid.*, The classics of the serenade forms are among the works of Mozart and Haydn.

Serenade (serĭnēi·d), *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To entertain (a person) with a serenade.

1672 Wycherley *Love in Wood* II. i, I intend to serenade the whole Park to-night. 1692 *Comedy, Win Her & Take Her* I. ii. 5 A fourth [would] make verses upon you; treat, present, and Serenade you. 1727 Sewall *Diary* 15 Apr., Last night three musicians serenaded me under my chamber window. 1842 Mrs. Kirkland *Forest Life* I. 253 It's only a parcel of fellers gone to serenade an old widower that's been a-marrying of a young girl. 1887 Fenn *Master Cerem.* vi, I am going to beg our guests to come with us and serenade a lady whose name I will not mention.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. ii, From serenading his patient every hunting morning with the horn under his window, it was impossible to withhold him. 1774 G. White *Selborne, To Barrington* 28 Sept., In hot mornings several [swifts]..dash round the steeples and churches, squeaking as they go in a very clamorous manner: these..are supposed to be males serenading their sitting hens. 1829 Selby *Illustr. Brit. Ornith.* 240 The male bird..uttering the singular but unmusical notes with which he serenades his mate during incubation.

2. *intr.* (or *absol.*) To perform a serenade.

1668 Dryden *Even. Love* II. i. 29 When I go a Serenading again with 'em, I'll give 'em leave to make Fiddle-strings of my small-guts. 1710 *Tatler* No. 222 ₱ 13 Our honest countrymen..seldom begin to sing until they are drunk; which also is usually the time when they are most disposed to Serenade. 1832 W. Irving *Alhambra* I. 299, I'll warrant, these cavaliers have their loves among the Spanish beauties ..and will soon be serenading under their balconies.

Hence **Serena·ding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1673 Dryden *Assign.* II. iii. 19 Where is this Serenading Rascall? 1705 J. Taylor *Journ. Edin.* (1903) 90 We caus'd 3 Serenading Tunes to be particularly play'd at Sir Lothian Blacket's, Enamoretta's and Astraea's houses. 1797 T. Holcroft tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxxviii. (ed. 2) 449 The custom of serenading..ever will prevail.

Serenader (serĭnēi·dəɹ). [f. Serenade *v.* + -er [1].] One who serenades.

1676 Durfey *Mad. Fickle* III. iii. That an impertinent Serenader..shou'd have the impudence to talk thus. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xvii, The music of serenaders. 1883 Fr. M. Peard *Contrad.* I. 29 A barca with serenaders was slowly approaching.

‖ **Serenata** (serenā·ta). *Mus.* [a. It. *serenata* an evening song (whence Sp., Pg. *serenata*, F. *sérénade* Serenade *sb.*), app. f. *sereno* the open air, subst. use of *sereno* Serene *a.* (Pr. had *serena* in the sense of 'serenade'.)]

1. A song or form of cantata suitable for performance in the open air.

1743 Boyce (*title*) Solomon, a Serenata. 1834 Beckford *Italy* II. 261 Having been a mighty reader of operas, serenatas, sonnets, and romances. 1862 Spencer *First Princ.* II. ii. 173 From the ballad up to the serenata.

2. A piece of instrumental music, developed from the orchestral suite, and usually composed of a march, and a minuet interposed between two movements of another kind.

1883 Rockstro in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 468/2 Haydn also wrote Serenatas, but seems to have taken less kindly to the style than Mozart.

† **Se'renate,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Serene *a.* + -ate [3]; cf. It. *serenare*.] *trans.* To render serene.

1654 Flecknoe *Ten Years Trav.* 169 Then for serenating the mind,..Where in lowd cities shall you find A recollection like to this?

Serenate, obs. form of Serenade *sb.*

Serendipity (serendi·pĭti). [f. *Serendip*, a former name for Ceylon + -ity.

A word coined by Horace Walpole, who says (Let. to Mann, 28 Jan. 1754) that he had formed it upon the title of the fairy-tale '*The Three Princes of Serendip*', the heroes of which 'were always making discoveries, by accidents and sagacity, of things they were not in quest of'.]

The faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries by accident.

1754 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 28 Jan., This discovery, indeed, is almost of that kind which I call Serendipity. 1880 E. Solly *Index Titles of Honour* Pref. 5 The inquirer was at fault, and it was not till some weeks later, when by the aid of *Serendipity*, as Horace Walpole called it—that is, looking for one thing and finding another—that the explanation was accidentally found.

† **Serene,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 6–7 **seren,** 7 **serene, -eine, -ain(e, syren(e,** 8 **serein.** See also Serena and Serein. [a. F. *serein* of the same meaning (OF. *serain, sierain* evening) = Pg. *serão*:—popular L. **sērānum*, f. *sēr-um* (F. *soir*) evening, subst. use of neut. of L. *sērus* late.

The word seems to have been confused in Fr. with *serein* Serene *a.* The Sp. *sereno* Serena may be from Fr.]

A light fall of moisture or fine rain after sunset in hot countries (see Serein), formerly regarded as a noxious dew or mist.

1591 Florio *2nd Fruites* 153 The Seren neuer hurts a man in these colde countries. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* III. vii, Some serene blast mee, or dire lightning strike This my offending face. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Seraine*, a foggy mist or dampish vapour falling in Italie about sunne set, at which time it is vnwholesome to be abroad especially bareheaded. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 219 When the Syren or dew falls at night, they keepe themselves within dores till it be dried up. 1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* III. vii. 105 Which not to acknowledge, would hang as a Sereine or rotting Mildew vpon any thankfull nature. 1636 G. Sandys *Paraphr. Ps.* cxxi. 205 Nor unwholsome Serene shall From the Moons moyst influence fall. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 7 Have a care of your health, take heed of the seren's. 1682 *Phil. Collect.* XII. 148 To preserve the Brain from the Serenes that fall in hot Countries. [1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Serein* (Fr.), a dampish and unwholesome Vapour, that falls after Sun-set in hot Countries; a kind of Mildew.]

Serene (sĭrī·n), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [ad. L. *serēn-us* clear, fair, calm (of weather, etc.). Cf. OF. *seri, serin, serain*, mod. F. *serein*, Sp., Pg., It. *sereno*.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of the weather, air, sky: Clear, fine, and calm (without cloud or rain or wind).

1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 108 Quhill loud resownyt the firmament serene. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. ccxviii. 238 To perce the heuyns that beeth so serene. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. i. 1. v, As the heauen it selfe is, so is our life, sometimes faire, sometimes ouercast, tempestious, and serene. 1634 Milton *Comus* 4 Where those immortal shapes Of bright aëreal Spirits live insphear'd In Regions milde of calm and serene Ayr. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 108 Whether it will be serene, or stormy weather. *a* 1771 Gray *Song* 9 Western gales and skies serene Speak not always winter past. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 200 Timely alternatives of serene and rainy days. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* v. (1870) 91 So pure and serene is the air that..the faintest far-off sounds are heard with surprising distinctness.

b. Of the heavenly bodies: Shining with a clear and tranquil light.

1704 Pope *Winter* 6 The moon, serene in glory, mounts the sky. 1744 Akenside *Pleas. Imag.* I. 61 Ere the radiant sun Sprung from the east, or 'mid the vault of night The moon suspended her serener lamp. 1817 Shelley *Pr. Athanase* I. 62 Through which his soul, like Vesper's serene beam..Shone, softly burning.

c. Hence as a poetic epithet of colour: Pure, clear, bright. Also (cf. 2 b), Quiet, sober.

1750 Gray *Hoary* 53 Full many a gem of purest ray serene. 1846 Landor *Pentameron* Wks. II. 343 Serener colours are pleasanter to our eyes and more becoming to our character.

2. Of other natural phenomena (e. g. the sea): Calm, tranquil.

1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* III. 397 And gazed where inland waters lay Serene as night. 1816 Shelley *Mont Blanc* 61 Mont Blanc appears—still, snowy, and serene. 1821 — *Hellas* 1067 A brighter Hellas rears its mountains From waves serener far. 1870 O'Shaughnessy *Epic of Women* 76 Through each shock of sound that shivers The serene palms to their height.

b. *transf.* Restful to the eye, expressive or suggestive of repose.

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § 8. 36 The magnificent and serene constructions of the early Gothic. *Ibid.* iii. § 21. 88 Laws as inviolable and serene as those of nature herself.

3. Of a person, his mind, circumstances, etc.: Calm, tranquil, untroubled, unperturbed. Of the countenance: Expressive of inward calm, unruffled.

a 1635 [see SERENITY 2]. 1640 FULLER *Abel Rediv., Hues* (1867) I. 19 Stokes, an Englishman then present at the council, his serene antagonist. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 67 The duke heard him without the least commotion, and with a countenance serene enough. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* vii. (1691) 103 The ordinary charge of the Government, in times of deep and serene Peace. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 ₱ 5 He who resigns the World..is in constant Possession of a serene Mind. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. lxxxiii, A quiet conscience makes one so serene! 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 460 His serene intrepidity distinguished him among thousands of brave soldiers. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 144 A great event in her serene life. 1911 *Athenæum* 8 July 35/1 Mr. Austin surveys his mental development with serene satisfaction.

b. *All serene*, a slang phr. for 'all's well', 'all right'. Also jocularly *all sereno*.

1856 K. H. DIGBY *Lover's Seat* I. vi. 161 Well I never, all serene, stunning,..and such like phrases. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Serene*, all right; 'its all serene', a street phrase of very modern adoption, the burden of a song. 1873 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 378/1 'All serene, Ben', was the general reply. 1901 F. HUME *Golden Wang-ho* i, 'All sereno!' sung out Teddy.

4. An honorific epithet given to a reigning prince (esp. of Germany), formerly also to a member of a royal house, etc.; sometimes jocularly applied to anything appertaining to a person so designated. Also *most serene* = med.L. *serenissimus*, It. *serenissimo*, F. *sérénissime*. Cf. SERENITY 4.

1503 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxix. 11 Borne of a princes most serene. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 3074 And send one Message to the Qnene, Prayand hir Maiestie serene That scho wald [etc.]. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* I. ii, You are like me a subiect. Her more then serene Maiesty being present. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 17 A Warrant for the Execution of His late Sacred and Serene Majesty. 1673 OGILBY *Asia* Ded., To His Most Serene, and Most Excellent Majesty, Charles II. 1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 4 The most serene Elector of Brunswick-Lunenburgh. 1740 GRAY *Let.* 20 May, Poems (1775) 83 His Highness the Duke of Modena..laid his most serene commands upon me to write to Mr. West. 1745 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 24 June, The Duke of Saxe Weissenfels ..is not of so serene a house but that he might have known something of the motions of the Prussians. 1746 — *Let. to G. Montagu* 17 June, The Serene Hessian is gone. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 153/2 Genoa, Dec. 26. On the 22d instant..died ..the serene John Baptist Cambiaso, Doge of this republic. 1850 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. (1861) 26 There were 600 horses in the Serene stables. *Ibid.* 29 The lovely sisters.. journeyed to Hanover, and became favourites of the serene house there reigning. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 29 Princes to whom the predicate of durchlaucht ('your serene highness') is accorded.

5. *Drop serene*: Milton's rendering of mod.L. *gutta serena* amaurosis: see GUTTA[1] 1 b. Hence allusively (quot. 1843).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 25 So thick a drop serene hath quencht thir Orbs. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* I. ii, Thick serene opacity, thicker than amaurosis, veiled those smiling eyes of his to Truth.

6. quasi-*adv.*

1655 FANSHAWE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* III. lv. 57 Her pleasant Vale..Which Thou, sweet Tagus, waterst so serene. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* II. 43 Serene quoth Adam, 'Lo! 'twas crush'd by me'. 1769 GRAY *Install. Ode* 93 The Star of Brunswick smiles serene. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Threnody* Wks. (Bohn) I. 488 Gentlest guardians marked serene His early hope, his liberal mien.

B. *sb.* (absol. use of the adj.). [Similarly L. *serēnum* (neut.), It. *sereno*, OF. *seri*, *serain*.] Now *rare* or *Obs.* a. A condition of fine quiet weather.

1644 DERING *Prop. Sacr.* Pref. b 2, It is indeed the present issue of thunder and tempest, but was begotten in a quiet serene. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1859) I. 220 No more than ye can see the gloom of last winter in the smiling serene of a summer's evening.

b. The unruffled expanse of clear sky or calm sea.

1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 28 And twinkling stars emblaz'd the blue serene. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 132 The bark that plows the deep serene. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxx, As winds come whispering lightly from the west, Kissing, not ruffling, the blue deep's serene. 1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* I. xiii. 279 Not a cloud obscured the deep serene. 1870 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Epic of Women* 172 And some have..through the blue serene Gone up to heaven and been lost.

c. Calm brightness, quiet radiance.

1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 506 With moonlight patches..Or fragments of the day's intense serene. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. xxiii. (1874) 84 Upon the dark and ruin'd scene Throwing a beautiful serene.

d. Serenity, tranquillity (of mind, conditions, etc.).

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 40 Deep in rich pasture will thy flocks complain? Not so; but to their master lo deny'd To share their sweet serene. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 107 The serene of heart-felt happiness has little of adventure in it. 1762–9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 127 The calm domestic scene Had o'er his temper breathed a gay serene. 1828 MRS. BROWNING *Cæsa Guidi Wind.* II. 335 Behold, the people waits, Like God. As He, in His serene of might, So they, in their endurance of long straits.

Serene (sĭrī·n), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *serēnāre*, f. *serēn-us* SERENE *a.* Cf. 16th c. F. *seraner* (Ronsard).] *trans.* To make serene.

1. To make (the sky, air) clear, bright, and tranquil. † Also, to clear *from* (cloud). Also *fig.*

1613 J. DAVIES *Muses Teares* (Grosart) 15/1 Then let Fates Snuffes and Puffes as winds of Grace, Serene the Heauen of your Maiestick Face. 1639 SALTMARSHE *Pract. Policy* 4 If your businesse be perplexed and obscure..the best course heere for clearing and serening, is to divide the parts that are mingled and more obscure. 1655 FANSHAWE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IX. xxiv. 178 She, where she passes, makes the Wind to lye With gentle motion, and serenes the skye. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 322 Heav'n which before in Rivulets ran down, Its Face seren'd, clear from all cloudy Frown. 1747 MALLET *Anyntor & Theodora* III. 42 As Reason thus the mental storm seren'd. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 486 Homer and Shakspeare..so far from being unfit for the gross atmosphere of human nature,..soared through it like eagles,..serened it like a calm.

† b. To clarify, make clear and bright (a liquid).

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 68 The hoary Frosts and Northern Blasts take care Thy muddy Bev'rage to serene, and drive Præcipitant the baser, ropy Lees.

† c. To expose to the air (articles suspected of infection). *Obs.*

[Littré has F. *sérénage* for the action of doing this.]

c 1750 M. MACKENZIE *Plague* in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 385 To what purpose..keep ships in Sandgate-Creek for weeks, and even months, without landing and serening the goods?

2. To make (a person, his mind, etc.) calm and tranquil. † Also, to render free *from* (anything that perturbs).

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 226 This temper Serenes the Soule from Passion. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* viii. 339 It calms and serenes the regions of the breast. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 1465 Hope, like a cordial,..Man's heart, at once, inspirits, and serenes. 1854 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 164 Thus serened, speak on.

absol. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 886 Something that serenes or troubles, soothes or jars.

b. To make (the countenance, brow) calm, unruffled, or cheerful.

1648–99 J. BRAUMONT *Psyche* XV. CCXVII. (1702) 237 When he seren'd his Father's gloomy Frown. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XV. 178 While a Smile serenes his awful Brow. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* III. 316 While Air, all calm and gentle, soothes the breast, Serenes the face, and lulls the soul to rest.

Serene, obs. form of SIREN.

Serenely (sĭrī·nli), *adv.* [f. SERENE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a serene manner.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 13 It being impossible, that Men should, without Shame or Fear, confidently and serenely break a Rule, which they could not but evidently know, that God had set up. 1704-9 POPE *Autumn* 13 Now setting Phœbus shone serenely bright. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. xi, She..stands alone, her hands serenely crossed on her breast. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 9 Lady Dolly smiled serenely on the person who glided to her elbow.

Sereneness (sĭrī·nnĕs). *rare.* [-NESS.] The quality of being serene; serenity.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. v. 11 A man that..labours to approue himselfe in the serenenesse of a healthful Conscience. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xvi. 233 But now in the Sereneness of my Mind, and in the Quiet of Solitude, I was in a Capacity to see and reflect. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig.* 9 With a smile of cold sereneness, Came the Sadducee.

† b. as a title = SERENITY 4. *Obs.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Serene*, The Emperor,..in treating with them, uses *Electoral Sereneness* or *Serenity* to the Electors; and *Ducal Sereneness* to the other Princes.

† **Sereness**[1]. *Obs.* In 4 ser(e)nes. [f. SERE *a.*[2] + -NESS.] Diversity, variety.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 368 þe werld i call wit min entens þe mater of þe four elements, þat yeit was tan o forme mischapen, Quar of was serenes siben scapen. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliv. 11 Vmgiuen with sernes gode [Vulg. *circumdata varietate*]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xliv. 15 Vmcled in sernesis [Vulg. *circumamicta varietatibus*].

Sereness[2]. [f. SERE *a.*[1] + -NESS.] The quality of being sere, or dry and withered.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/2 Seernesse [*v.r.* sernesse], or updryynge of treys or herbis, *ariditas, marcor.* 1530 PALSGR. 269/2 Serenesse drinesse, *sechevr.* 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xii. § 141 Wherin he seemed to forget the searnesse of his body, and the greennesse of his Grandchild yong Richard. 1660 HEXHAM II, *Dorheydt ofte Dorrigheydt*, Drienesse, Searenesse, or Witherednesse.

† **Sere·nify**, *v.* *Obs.* *rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *serēnificāre* to make serene: see SERENE *a.* and -FY.] *intr.* To become serene.

1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. iv. 243 It's now the faire, virmilion, pleasant spring, When meadowes laugh, and heaven serenefies.

‖ **Sereni·ssime**, *a.* and *sb.* *rare.* [a. F. *sérénissime* (15th c.), ad. It. *serenissimo* or L. *serenissimus*, superl. of It. *sereno*, L. *serēnus* SERENE *a.*] 'Most serene'; an honorific epithet bestowed on certain princes. Also *sb.*, one so entitled.

1624 *Brief Inform. Palatinate* 5 The Serenissime Prince and Lord Lewis King of Hungary. 1881 LARWOOD *Lond. Parks* xvi. 328 He showed his prowess to..foreign princes and German serenissimes.

‖ **Sereni·ssimo**, *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* Pl. -i, also -o's. [It.: see prec.] = prec.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 140 The Tiara which was worn by Serenissimo's. 1672 tr. *Nieremberg's Temporal & Eternal* III. vi. 272 (Stanf.) How many are called Serenissimi, who have their understanding darkened.

† **Sereni·ssimous**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare.* [f. L. *serēnissim-us* (see above) + -OUS.] = SERENISSIME *a.*

1623 COCKERAM I, *Serenissimous*, most famous, a terme applyed to Kings. 1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, Maiestique Pru, and Serenissimous Pru.

† **Sere·nitude.** *Obs.* *rare*[−1]. [f. L. *serēn-us* SERENE *a.* + -TUDE.] Serenity.

1672 *Wotton's Relig., Educ.* 79 From which..I am wont to hope..will flow a future quietude and serenitude [(1651) 325 and (1654) 294 Serenity] in the Affections.

Serenity (sĭre·nĭti). Also 6 -yte, 6–7 -itie. [a. F. *sérénité*, ad. L. *serēnitās*, f. *serēn-us*: see SERENE *a.* and -ITY.]

1. Clear, fair and calm weather; clearness and stillness of air and sky.

1538 STARKEY *England* 64 The sone communyth hys perfectyon at al tymys to thes inferyor thyngys..as wel in cloudys as in serenyte. 1594 ASHLEY tr. *Leys Le Roy* 42 In Syria, and Egipt, where by the serenitie of the summer season, almost all the starres are cleerely seen. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. v. 19 There is never no Rain, Dew, Hail, Snow, or Wind, but still a clear serenity. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 108 The serenity of the sky was suddenly changed. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 15 One of those sudden storms that will sometimes break in upon the serenity of a summer voyage. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 40 No breath disturbed the perfect serenity of the night.

2. Tranquillity, peacefulness (of conditions, etc.). Sometimes with express reference to sense 1.

a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 32 Untill the tenth of her reign her times were calm and serene, though sometimes a little over-cast...For the clouds of Spain, and vapours of the Holy League, began then to disperse and threaten her serenity. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 173 There being now so great a serenity in all his dominions. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXX, 'The serenity of Heaven', she said, 'is above me; the sounds which are around are but those of earth and earthly passion.' 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iv. (1870) 65 The weary, careworn spirit bathes in the serenity of the silence.

b. *transf.* Appearance of reposefulness.

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iii. § 17. 83 The desirableness of serenity in plane surfaces.

3. Cheerful tranquillity (of mind, temper, countenance, etc.).

1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 77 His serenitie of mind was alwayes alike. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lvi. (1640) 566 This..is that *Serenitas Conscientiæ*,.. that calme and serenity, that acquiescence, and security of the Conscience. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 9 By degrees he lost that temper and serenity of mind he had been before master of. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 9, I cannot see how any Men, should ever transgress those Moral Rules, with Confidence, and Serenity, were they innate, and stamped upon their Minds. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iii, When he returned, his countenance had recovered its usual serenity. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. xii. 310 Though ruffled for a moment, Newton's excellent temper soon recovered its serenity. 1899 DOYLE *Duet* (1909) 123/1 She faced the future with a sweet serenity.

4. A title of honour given to reigning princes and other dignitaries. (So L. *Serenitas*, applied to the Roman emperor, the Pope, bishops, etc., F. *Sérénité*.)

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 379 Next the souerane signe was sekirly sene, That seruit his serenite euer seruable. 1596 DALRYMPLE *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 296 Quhilk gif 3our Serenitie plesandlie accepte. 1613 B. CARIER in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 142 Do such good offices with her Serenity as the Catholics may continue that good hope of her. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2878/2 His Serenity [the Doge of Venice] continues still at the Lido. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 452 They could..acquaint his Serenity [the Duke of Genoa]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, The army was exhausted in providing guards of honour for the Highnesses, Serenities, and Excellencies who arrived from all quarters. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 7 Nov. 6/4 The discreet policy adopted by their Serenities the Doges of Venice. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* I. v. 50 A German Serenity was her delight.

Serenize, *v.* *rare.* [f. SERENE *a.* + -IZE. Stressed *se·renize* or *sere·nize*.] *trans.* To make serene. Hence **Serenizing** *ppl. a.*

1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 66 This my Icarian soaring (boue my reach)(Through Beauue, serenising fals my Hart). 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacrif.* (Grosart) 33/1 And being Grace and Goodnesse most abstract, How can I, wanting both, serenize thee? 1865 *Reader* 11 Feb. 157/3 The sweet, serenizing scenery of the Thames.

‖ **Sereno** (sĕrē·no). [Sp.] A Spanish night-watchman.

1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 593/1 The foot-falls of the faithful *sereno* still lingered, echoing down the solitary street. 1904 W. CHURCHILL *Crossing* III. vii. 493 A sereno ..was crying the hour.

† **Serenous**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare*[−1]. [f. L. *serēn-us* SERENE *a.* + -OUS.] = SERENE *a.* 1.

a 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 67 In loud plesaunt & serenous they cheue In euery kynde.

‖ **Seres** (sī·rīz), *pl.* [L. *Sērēs* (Gr. Σῆρες), whence *sēricum* SILK.] The name of a people anciently inhabiting some part of Eastern Asia (prob. China), whose country was believed to be the original home of silk. Hence † *the Seres' wool*, silk.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3936 A sertane folke was in þat soile þat Serres ere callid, And all þe lyndis in þat land with leves as wolle. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 388 Yet oftentimes the softnesse of Woolle, which the Seres sende, sticketh so fast to the skinne, that..it fetcheth bloud. 1587 GREENE *Euphues' Censure* (1634) C 4 b, A worme that fretteth like the Seres woole. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 169 How the Seres spin Their fleecy forests in a slender twine. 1842 *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* s.v. *Sericum*, Many of those [silks] produced by the industry and taste of the Seres,

†Se·resith. [f. SERE *a.*2 + SITHE *sb.*1] Several times.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7066 Þar was slain o þam..Aght hundret sith sexti sexti and ten, O thusands seresith o þair men.

†Se·rety. *Obs. rare*−1. In quot. seer-. [f. SERE *a.*2 + -TY.] Variety.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4634 For many seerties we seet [? *read* he set] þat sysed all þe werde.

Sereu(h)ful, obs. forms of SORROWFUL.

Se-reverence, variant of SIR-REVERENCE.

†Serew·e. *Farriery. Obs.* [a. F. *suros*, †*surot* (13th c. *souros*), f. *sur* upon + *os* bone.] A bony excrescence on the leg of a horse.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 96 A serewe is an yll soraunce, and is lyke a splent, but it is a lyttell longer and more, and lyeth vppe to the knee on the inner syde. And some horses haue a throughe serewe on bothe sydes of the legge. 1620 MARKHAM *Maister-Peece* II. lxiv. 326 Of the Serew, or therrow Splent. Although diuers of our Farriers do distinguish..betwixt a serew and a splent, saying, that the serew is euer of the out-side of the leg, as the splent is of the inside; yet..the disease..is all of one. [Echoed by later writers.]

Serewe, Sereyn, obs. ff. SORROW, SIREN.

Serf (sɔ̄f). [a. OF. *serf*:—L. *serv-um* slave; cf. Sp. *siervo*, Pg., It. *servo*.]

Not in Johnson. Todd 1818 has '*Serf*, a slave. Not in use', with quot. from Hume 1761 (see 2 b).

†**1.** A slave, bondman. Also *fig. Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 101/2 Who so loueth the rychessys of thys world he is..bonde and serf in kepyng the rychesse. *Ibid.* 243/2 There was a yong man which was serf and bonde to a yonge lady. 1484 — *Chivalry* 15 Yf thou be wycked thou aughtest to be put under a serf or bonde man.

2. A person in a condition of servitude or modified slavery, distinguished from what is properly called 'slavery' in that the services due to the master, and his power of disposal of his 'serf', are more or less limited by law or custom.

In most of the typical examples of serfdom, the serf was 'attached to the soil' (*adscriptus glebæ*), i. e. he could not be removed (except by manumission) from the lord's land, and was transferred with it when it passed to another owner. This feature is often assigned as the distinctive mark of 'serfdom' as opposed to 'slavery', and is popularly apprehended as an essential part of the notion.

a. In the 17–18th c. used (after Fr. example) with reference to the contemporary condition of the lower class of cultivators of the soil in various countries of Europe, esp. in parts of Germany, in Denmark, Poland, and Russia. Now used *Hist.* with the same application; chiefly with reference to Russia, where the serfs were not emancipated until 1861, while elsewhere in Europe serfdom ceased to exist early in the 19th century.

1611 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 75 [France], As for Serfes, Slaues or Villaines, they are Domesticke, and serue vppon baser condition, for Wages and Victuals. *Ibid.* 76 Neither the Subiect nor the Serf are bound to go to the warres, but only the vassall. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1762) I. App. i. 151 There were two kinds of slaves among the Anglo-Saxons; household slaves,..and prædial or rustic... These latter resembled the serfs, which are at present met with in Poland, Denmark and some places in Germany. 1784 W. COXE *Trav.* I. viii. I. 129 The peasants in Poland, as in all feudal governments, are serfs or slaves. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 571 The subordination of ranks was more complete [among the Russians] than in any other European nation; but with this simplicity peculiar to them and the Poles, that they had but three ranks, the sovereign, the noblesse or gentry, and the serfs. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. v, Lower than the Portuguese or the Poles, the serfs of Russia, or the lazzaroni of Naples. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp., Amer.* 4 Dec. (1876) 90 [In Russia] twenty-three millions of human beings, lately serfs, little better than real slaves, have been raised to the ranks of freedom. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. 381 You have no serfs now, even in Russia.

b. Used by modern writers with reference to mediæval Europe.

In English Law Latin the terms corresponding to the modern use of *serf* were *nativus* (NATIVE *sb.* 1, NEIF), *villanus* (VILLEIN), and occasionally *servus*. The OE. ÞEOW, and the *servus* of Domesday Book, are usually rendered 'slave'.

1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1762) I. App. ii. 404 A great part of them were serfs, and lived in a state of absolute slavery or villainage. 1803 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. v, A half-clothed serf was all their train. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 4. 240 By this entire detachment of the serf from actual dependence on the land, the manorial system was even more radically changed than by the rise of the serf into a copyholder. 1895 W. J. CORBETT in *Soc. Eng.* v. (1902) II. 140 As the tone of society became gentler, the lords naturally had a tendency to free their serfs;..in the eyes of the law the villeins remained serfs.

c. *gen.*

1908 G. A. SMITH in *Expositor* Sept. 268 The people they [the Israelites] conquered became their serfs.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1847 HELPS *Friends in C* I. ii. 22 The serf to custom points his finger at the slave to fashion. 1854 LOWELL *Keats* Wks. 1890 I. 245 As soon as we have discovered the word for our joy or sorrow we are no longer its serfs, but its lords.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, simple attrib. and appositive, as *serf-class, -girl, -population, -system, -tenant*; objective, as *serf-emancipation, -owner*.

1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 43 The rebellion of the 'serf-class. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 143 The chief committee for peasant affairs to study the subject of 'serf-emancipation. 1878 M. A. BROWN tr. *Kuneberg's Nautesehda* I, Then.. would I Brightly hide the 'serf-girl's sombre garb. 1850 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. clxxvii. 213 The mortifications and sufferings which might have been brought on aristocratic 'serf-owners. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxiv. IX. 423 The 'serf-population which tilled the fields. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* v, There are still the remains of the 'serf system. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 136/2 Under the developed regime of feudalism,..the 'serf-tenant has become simply a tributary under various appellations.

Serf, obs. form of SERVE *v.*1

Serfage (sɔ̄·rfedʒ). [f. SERF + -AGE; cf. SERVAGE.]

1. = SERFDOM.

1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Const.* I. ii. (1784) 27 When the English villeins were freed from serfage. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Life* (1349) IV. 204, I am now in a manner attached to the soil by a sort of moral and intellectual serfage. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* ix. (1876) 87 Serfage was extinguished, and an influential class of yeomanry..arose. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 6/1 The political serfage of long generations. 1903 COLLINS in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvii. 601 In Denmark they [the peasants] were obliged to have recourse to the practice of commendation, which ended..in a widespread system of serfage.

2. The body of serfs collectively, the serf-class.

1364 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. i. 34 The wretched serfage who were driven into the field.

Serfdom (sɔ̄·rfdəm). [f. SERF + -DOM.] The state or condition of a serf, bondage.

1850 MRS. BROWNING *H. Fowers's Grk. Slave* 10 Break up ere long The serfdom of this world! 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. 13 Thus serfdom had merged into free servitude. 1861 BRIGHT *Sp., Amer.* 4 Dec. (1876) 90 The present Emperor of Russia..has insisted upon the abolition of serfdom in that empire. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* iii, The Tories were far from being all oppressors, disposed to grind down the working classes into serfdom. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 8/1 Exactly one hundred years ago (June 13, 1799) the last survival of serfdom in the United Kingdom was swept away by the Act which declared the colliers 'in that part of Great Britain called Scotland' free from the servile yoke under which for several centuries they had groaned.

b. *fig.*

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 470 His soul is full of meanness and serfdom—the best elements in him are enslaved. 1876 MELLOR *Priesthood* ii, At length the laity sank into the most abject spiritual serfdom.

Serfe, serff, obs. forms of SERVE *v.*1

Serfhood (sɔ̄·rfhud). [f. SERF + -HOOD.] The collective body of serfs.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 550 The Serfhood of Russia is a remarkable feature in her constitution. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 266 While knighthood had its St. George, serfhood had its St. Nicholas.

Serfice, obs. form of SERVICE.

Serfish (sɔ̄·rfiʃ), *a.* [f. SERF + -ISH1.] Having the (debasing) qualities of one in a servile condition; characteristic of a serf. Hence **Se·rfishness.**

1879 *Echo* 18 Apr. 1/4 The negroes, either through serfish instincts, from intimidation, or from a not unfounded belief that their interests are identical, are voting with their old masters. 1906 MACKINNON *Hist. Mod. Liberty* I. 145 There is no spirit of self-assertion in these serfish centuries to aspire to self-government. 1906 *Athenæum* 5 May 539/1 The absence of allusion to 'serfishness' in the second volume [of Mackinnon].

Se·rfism. *rare.* [f. SERF + -ISM.] The state of things characterized by the existence of serfs.

1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 592 No man..can possibly sympathise with despotism, serfism, and that enormous stretch of feudal power which is given to a privileged class.

Serfship (sɔ̄·rfʃip). [f. SERF + -SHIP.] Serfdom.

1830 GALT in *Fraser's Mag.* II. 446 In those countries where serfship exists—in Russia, for instance. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xiv. 305 *note*, [Scotch colliers.] Their slavery seems not to have been derived from the ancient times of general serfship, but to have originated in comparatively modern acts of the Scottish Parliament.

Sergancie, -gant(e: see SERGEANCY, SERGEANT.

Sergans, -gantz, -ganz, obs. pl. ff. SERGEANT.

Serge (sɔ̄ɹdʒ). Forms: 4–6, 8 **sarge,** 6 **surge,** 7 **seargе, sierge, serg, sharge,** 6– **serge.** [a. OF. *serge, sarge* (mod.F. *serge*) = Pr. *serga, sargua*, Pg., Catal. *sarja*, Sp. *sarga*, Rumanian *sárică*:—popular L. **sārica* = class. L. *sērica* (*lāna*): see SERIC *a.* and SILK. From Fr. the word has passed into all the Teut. langs.: G. *sarsche, serge*, Du. *sargie*, Da. *sars, sarge*, Sw. *sars*.

The material originally designated by the name must have been silk, though there is no evidence of this in the early English (and app. not in the Romanic) uses of the word. But names of textile fabrics often come to be applied to materials cheaper and coarser than those which they originally designated.]

1. A woollen fabric, the nature of which has probably differed considerably at different periods. Before the 16th c. it is mentioned chiefly as material for hangings, bed-covers, and the like; afterwards it is often referred to as worn by the poorer classes (both men and women), perh. rather on account of its durability than of its price, which seems not to have been extremely low. The name now denotes a very durable twilled cloth of worsted, or with the warp of worsted and the woof of wool, extensively used for clothing and for other purposes.

Certain imported varieties were formerly known by French designations indicating the place of manufacture, as *serge de Chant.* v. *de Nismes*, v. *de Ro(h)am*, v. *de Shalon.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1710 The Citee large, Hanged with clooth of gold, and nat with sarge. 1491 *Acta Domin. Concil.* (1839) 228/2, xxij coveringis of beddis of sarge, price x li. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 Som peece of a white sarge or blanket. 1620 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XII. 339 Seargeis Double and Single. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 14 Where one is ready to take his rise out of Sierge into Sattin, out of Parsonage..into a Deanarie. 1648 in Magrath *Flemings Oxf.* (O.H.S.) I. 391 For 8 ya. & halfe of serge de roan for sute..02 11 00. 1649 J. MASTER in *Archæol. Cant.* XV. 182 For 3 ya. 3 quar. of serge de shaloon at 6s ye yard. 1683 *Rspr. Advantages Manuf. Woollen-cloath* 4 That sort of Serges called Stirling Serges. *Ibid.* 5 Mixt Seargers, Cloath-Searges, and these called in France Seargе de Nismes. 1695 MOTTEUX tr. *St. Olon's Morocco* 138 Serges de Nismes, Fustians and Dimities of Montpelier. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Serge*,..a Woollen cross'd Stuff, manufactured on a Loom with four Treddles, after the Manner of Rateens, and other cross'd Stuffs. 1757 DYER *Fleece* III. 576 The Dune and Rother, who have won The serge and kersie to their blanching streams. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. i, The long loose gown and the plain tunic, both of dark-grey serge. 1861 *Our Engl. Home* 174 The walls [of a bedroom, temp. Q. Eliz.] were hung with say, or the scarlet serge of Ghent. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. x. 221 Mopsy and Dopsy were dressed in home-made gowns of dark brown serge. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 443 There are a great many varieties of cloth known as Serge, viz. French Flannel Serge..; the Serge de Berri,..Witney Serges,..and Pompadour Flannel Serges. 1888 [see *navy blue* NAVY1 6].

b. A garment made of serge.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 93 They slewe two of the watch, hauing gotten for their paines, three cloaks, one Cushin and a Sarge. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 43 Many of them tore off their serges and cast themselves recklessly overside. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 17 Oct. 6/6 'Serges' —as the loose-fitting jacket is termed in the [police] force.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. ii, I wonder at nothing more then our gentlemen-ushers that will suffer a piece of serge, or *perpetuana*, to come into the presence. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 320 Let your black Serge pore on Books, it is not for Scarlet Boyes, to task themselves to such serious spendings of their time.

¶ **2.** Used to translate L. *sagum*, in Vulg. with the sense of curtain. Cf. SAY *sb.*1 2.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxvi. 8 The lengthe of the too sarge shal haue thretti cubitis, and the brede foure; euen mesure shal be of alle the sarges [*MS. E. pr. m.* say..sayis].

3. *Silk serge*: a silk fabric twilled in the manner of serge, used for linings of coats, and formerly for mantles. Also †*serge du soy* (= Fr. *serge de soie*).

1844 *Ladies' Hand-bk. Haberdashery* 15 Serge..is of various colors and qualities; it is known by its being a stout silk with a very fine twill. 1853 PERKINS *Haberdashery* (ed. 8) 112 Serge is a stout twilled silk..usually sold for lining the skirts, cuffs, and padded parts of coats. 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 450 A silken stuff called 'sergedusoy' was used in the last century for coats by the commonalty.

4. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Made of serge.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* I. iv, He in the uneven beard and serge cloak. 1685 *Rec. Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 105 Ane seargе justicoat. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 10 Let us ask..whether gentlewomen in those days would not esteem themselves well cloathed in a Serge gown, which a chamber maid now will be ashamed to be seen in. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xiv, A serge covering..concealed the contents of the basket. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 60 A white serge frock.

humorous. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 27 Ah thou Say, thou Surge, nay thou Buckram Lord.

5. *Comb.*, as *serge-cloth, -clothier, -maker, -manufacture, -market, -weaver.* Also †**serge-wale,** ? a striped serge (see WALE *sb.*).

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 201 Lych a 'seergecloth hire nekke is clene. 1829 LAMB *Let. to Gillman* 30 Nov., A fall in serge cloth was expected. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4377/4 William Crooke,..'Serge-Clothier. 1689 *Ibid.* No. 2420/4 Richard Richardson..had a Box of 'Serge Makers Paper sent by his Wagoner. 1822 LYSONS *Magna Brit.* VI. Devonsh. p. cccii, At Honiton there is only one serge-maker. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 310 Here we see the first of the 'Serge-manufacture of Devonshire. *Ibid.* 324 The 'Serge-market held here every Week. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1762/4 Stolen..several Pieces of Rich Silk Druggets, 'Serge-Wale, Thred Druggets. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3920/4 Tho. Noble,..a 'Serge-Weaver by Trade.

Serge: see CIERGE, SEARCE *v.*, SEARCH *sb.*1 and *v.*

Sergeancy, serjeancy (sɑ̄·rdʒănsi). *Hist.* Forms: 4 **sergeancie, serjancy, sergancie,** 7 **sergeancy, serjeancy,** (9 less correctly **sergeantcy**). [a. AF. *sergeancie*, graphic variant of *sergeantie* SERGEANTY. In later use a new formation on SERGEANT + -CY.]

†**1.** The body of sergeants in a country, the sergeant-class. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13391 *note*, Þe seriaunts [*v.r.* sargeancie] & þe archers, & opere noble arbalasters. 1338 — *Chron.* (1725) 83 Knyght & sergeancie als how mykelle þei helde.

†**2.** The district or province held by or under the government of a sergeant. *Obs.*

1371 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 306/1 Touz les Hundrez,..Serjancies, & Fraunchises. 1464 *Ibid.* V. 547/2 Eny Graunto.. to be had..of the Sergancie withynne our Counties of Not' and Berk'.

†**3.** = SERGEANTY 1. *Obs.*

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 21 *Grand sergeancy*, is where a man holdeth his lands or tenements..by doing some speciall seruice to the king in person. *Ibid., Petite Sergeancy*, is where a man holdeth his land of the king, paying

yearely vnto him a bow, or a speare, or a dagger, or a launce, or a spurre of gold &c. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 296 (1810) 306 Lord Martin held this land..by serjeancy.

4. The office of a sergeant or a serjeant in various senses; e. g. an appointment by writ or patent of the crown as serjeant-at-law; also the commission of sergeant in the army.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 110 Lord Keeper ..congratulated their Adoption unto that Title of Serjeancy. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* vii, Some sly petitions for sergeantcies and corporalships. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ix. (1872) IV. 205 He did reward them by present, by promotion to sergeantcy.

Sergeant, serjeant (sɑ̈·ɹdʒənt), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–5 sergeaunte, 3–6 sergant(e, 4 sergeiaunt, -gond, -gont(e, 4–5 sergaunt(e, seregeaun, 4–6 sarg(e)ante, -iant, sergeaunt, 5 sargeande, sergend, -gyaunte, 5–6 sargantt, -eaunt(e, -ent, sergeand, 6 schargant, sergeante, -ent, -iand, -iaunte, 6–7 s(e)argeant, sergiant, 4– sargant. *β.* 3–6 seriaunt, 3–7 seriant, 4 seriont, 4–5 seriaunte, 4–6 sariant, serieaunt, 5 ceriawnt, sariand, -aunt, seriauntte, seriawnt(e, serja(u)nte, 5–6 seriand, -ante, 6 sereiaunt, serjeaunt(e, 6–7 serieant, serjand, -ant, 7 sarient, sarjant, sarriant, 5– serjeant. (Down to the 15th c. the *t* was often omitted in the plural, which therefore ended in -ns, -nz, -nde.) [a. OF. *sergent*, *serjant* (mod.F. *sergent*) = Pr. *serven-s*, Sp. *sirviente*, Pg., It. *servente* servant :—L. *servientem*, pr. pple. of *servīre* SERVE *v.*[1] The Fr. word has been adopted into other Rom. langs.: It. *sergente*, Sp., Pg. *sargento* sergeant, Sp. *sergente*, Pg. *sargente* catchpoll.

Down to the 19th c. the *a* and *β* forms were used indiscriminately. In recent times, however, the spelling *serjeant* has come to be generally adopted as the correct form when the word is the designation of a member of the legal profession, while *sergeant* is the prevailing form in the other surviving senses, and in most of them the only form in use.]

†**1.** A serving-man, attendant, servant. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Þe senden here sergantes to bringen iuele tiðinges. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Hac hye spac to Þo serganz Þet seruede of Þo wyne. *c* 1290 *Beket* 687 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 On of is seriaunz sat a niȝt Þe ȝwile Þat men woke. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 665 Þer ben seriauns in Þe stage, Þat serue Þe maidenes of parage. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2516 He [*sc.* Abram] did to-geder samen his men, Thre hundret aght sariants and ten [Vulg. *vernaculos*, Gen. xiv. 14]. *Ibid.* 3221 A sargiant call Þan comand he Þat mast wist of his priuete. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2066 Cum now forth with me And Þine seriaunz al Þre. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2361 ȝyf Þou be a seriaunt And take more Þan Þy cunnaunt..Ȝ rede Þat Þou Þer-of lete. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2522 (Kölbing) On Þe gate loude Þai bete, Seriaunce com & hem in lete. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 And þis is Þe sixte vice of Þe kueade sergonte. Þet he fayleþ er Þan he come..to his terme. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 216 Seruantz [*v.r.* Sergauntz] for her seruise..Taken Mede of here maistre. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xii. 323 An Old Serjaunt he gan to calle, And there him Comaunded..The Cristene to kepen with ful gret honour. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 133 Sho qwitte hym of awayt of hire fladers sergeantz and lete him out at a wyndowe.

†**b.** *transf.* A servant (of God, of Satan). *Obs.*

c 1290 *Matheu* 64 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 79 'Nai certes', quath þis holie man; 'god nam ich nouȝt Ake godes seriaunt'. 14.. *Alexius* (Laud MS. 622) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIX. 104 Alexis hys sone..sayd, Sergeaunte of god haue pyte of me that am a poure pylgryme. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* h ij, Which [Raab] god wold haue saued by cause she had saued his mynystres and sergeans. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1024 The minister of myschef & sergeaunt of sathanas. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 78 That Apostat, that Feyndis awin Seriand.

†**2.** A common soldier. *Obs.*

[Cf. Cotgr. '*Sergent*..in old French, a footman, or souldier that serues on foot.']

c 1300 *Havelok* 2361 With hem fiue thusand gode Sergaunz, Þat weren to fyht wode. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 895 Seuen þousand now we are Of knyghtes to bataille ȝare, Wyþoute seriauntz & oþer pytaille. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 22 He hasted him to Þe Swin with sergantes snell. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 113 And the barons..were well viij[m] knyghtes, with-outen seriantz and arblastis. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 47 Sevin thousand knychtis, four score of thousandis of sergendis. 1470 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 478 He wythdrewe his arme, & gaff to one of the sergaunte suche a stroke wyth it in to yᵉ forhede that [etc.].

†**b.** In alliterative verse used for: A man. *Obs.*

Perh. with a pun on *geaunt*, giant.

†*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1173 Be sekere of this sergeaunt [*sc.* the giant], he has me sore greuede! 15.. *Droichis Play* in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 314 Se ȝe not quha is cum now? .A sergeand out of Sowdoun land A gyane strang for to stand.

†**3.** A tenant by military service under the rank of a knight; esp. one of this class attending on a knight in the field. *Obs.*

App. nearly equivalent to ESQUIER, though 'squires' and 'sergeants' are often mentioned together in a way that suggests that there was some difference of meaning in the terms. Cf. F. *sergent noble*.

c 1290 *Beket* 2427 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 176 For to honouri his holi man þer cam folk i-novȝ;..Of Eorles and of barones and manie knigtes heom to; Of seriaunz and of squiers. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1250 To Londoun, to hys somouns, Come erl, bysschop, and barouns,..and manye bachelers, Serjaunts, and every freeholdande. 13.. *Sewyn Sag.* 253 Som squier or som seriant nice, Had I-told th'emperice Al of th'emperoures sone. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3464 Mony baron, mony sergant, Mony strong knyght and gẽant. *c* 1314 *Guy Warw.* 7000 On ich side he seye come knigtes, Burieys, and seriaunce redi to figtes. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7210 Of hym [*sc.* the king] hauy no lond ne rent So þat y may not holde to me Fourty squiers [*Petyt MS.* sergeanz; Wace *sergans*] on al my fe. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1872 Knightes, serjantes, and swiers. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* VIII. xxix. 431 Off sergeandis þar and knychtis keyn He gat a gret company.

†**4.** An officer whose duty is to enforce the judgements of a tribunal or the commands of a person in authority; one who is charged with the arrest of offenders or the summoning of persons to appear before the court. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17293 Þai send sergantz for to nym Both sir nichodem & him. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 413 Seriaunce þe bodi souȝt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 519 A maner sergeant [Petrarch *satelles*] was this prince man. — *Sec. Nun's T.* 361 The sergeantz of the toun of Rome hem soghte And hem biforn Almache the Prefect broghte. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xix. 14 Saul sente sergeauntis [Vulg. *apparitores*], that schulden rauysche Dauid. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 684/5 *Hic lictor*, a sargent. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 477/1 That the Baylyffs..make 11 Sergeauntes of the seid Town. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Ceriawnt, *indagator*. *Ibid.* 453/2 Seriawnt, undyr a domys mann, for to a-rest menn, or a catche-pol. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 570 He..after sent forth sergeauntes, and arestit dyuers Constables and vinteners. 1455–6 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 290 He schold assingne one of hys serjauntys to arest the Mayre. 1479–81 *Ac. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 111 Item, payd to a sergeaunte for the arrest of our tenaunte þat dyd vs wronge, viij d. 1490 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 174 To the sergeandis of the towne ix s. 1496 *Ibid.* 302 To the seriand of Leith, to rest the avnaris of the Cukow to the court ij s. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xi. (S. T. S.) I. 66 And quhen þe seriandis [orig. *præcones*] had with þare noyiss and hohas warnit in speciall þe albanis to here þe kingis concioun [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. xv. II. 5 Assembil þarefore now all þe seriandis and burreois of thy collegis [orig. *omnes collegarum lictores*], armit, as þare custome is, with wandis and axis. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Cor.* xi. 21–30 Thryse was I beaten with sargeauntes roddes. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* v. 25 Agre with thin aduersarie quickely..least..thy iudge deliuer thee to the seargeant. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 56 Oh yes, if any haue meete a Serieant, a turnes backe for verie feare. 1606 BP. HALL *Heaven upon Earth* § 6 When..thy conscience, like a stern Sergeant, shall catch thee by the throat, and arrest thee vpon Gods debt. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xvi. 35. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 244 Foure Serjeants attired in red gownes attend the Senate and summon men to appeare. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Beggery* B 2, He's free from shoulder-clapping Sergeants clawes. 1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* II. vi. D 4 b, He may..consort with wits and sword-men, bee afraid of Sergeants, and spend more for his Protection then would pay the debt. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schade-beletter*, A Sargeant to save one from Harme. 1673 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1872) IV. 286 The toun serjands of this brughe. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 378 They were put into the serjeants ward.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxii. (1859) 24 Thylke dethes sergeaunt, maladye, She hath arest, and haldyth the now in hande. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 163 He shall finde it one of their speciall Priuiledges, to be exempted from the arrest of the sixfooted Sergeant, a continuall haunter of other hairy beastes, and onely fauorable to the good Asse, and the gentle Sheepe. 1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xli, One day? Nay sure a twelve-months' time t'will be, Ere seriant death will call me at my doore. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 347 Had I but time (as this fell Sergeant death Is strick'd in his arrest) oh I could tell you. 1618 BP. HALL *Contempl. N. T., Widow's Son*, Our decrepit age both expects death and sollicites it; but vigorous youth, lookes strangely vpon that grim sergeant of God. 1646 JENKYN *Remora* 12 You shall not be able to intoxicate this Sergeant of God [conscience]. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* XXXV. 594 If ever God send forth those two grim sergeants, his Law and thine own conscience, to arrest thee for thy sins.

†**c.** More fully *Sergeant of (the) peace*. *Obs.*

1357 in Blount *Law Dict.* (1691) s. v., Et etiam habere ibidem sex Servientes qui vocantur Serjeants of peace, qui servient Cur. Manerii prædicti, & facient Attach[iamenta] [etc.]. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 541/2 Th'Office of Sergeant to the pees of alle oure Countees, in alle oure Lordship. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 380/2 The Offices of Sergeaunt of Peas..in the Lordship of Denbygh.

d. *King's sergeant* (Guernsey): see quot.

1682 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 58 The King's Sergeant..To his office it belongs to proclaim and publish all orders of the governor or of the Court.

5. Sergeant (or **serjeant**) **at arms.** (Also †*sergeant of arms*.) †**a.** In early use *gen.*, an armed officer in the service of a lord (cf. sense 1); *spec.* one of a body of men of knightly rank, originally 24 in number, who were required to be in immediate attendance on the king's person, to arrest traitors and other offenders. **b.** An officer of each of the two Houses of Parliament, who is charged with the duty of enforcing the commands of the House, the arrest of offenders, etc. Hence, an officer having corresponding duties under certain other legislative assemblies, as the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 335 Now is Peres to þe plow & pruyde it aspyde, And gadered hym a grete oest..And sente forth surquydous his seriaunt of armes. †*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 632 He sender furthe sodaynly sergeantes of armes. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 159/1 One of the Sergeauntes of Armes of our Soverayne Lord the Kyng. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 71 A yeman of þe crowne Sargeaunt of armes with mace. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 87 Ther bode not with hym [a bishop] over xij persones atte the most, with his serjaunt of armes; whiche serjaunt was fayn to lay doun his mase. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxxxviii. 569 Thre sergeauntes of armes. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 84/1 His Office of oone of oure Sergeauntes at Armes. 1482 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 496 Ric. Shawe was arrested be þe seriaunt of armes þat brought þe writyng & caried vp to Wodstok vnto þe kyng. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 2. § 8 Serjauntes of Armes that be purposely ordeyned for the personall attendaunce of the..King. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 45 A sergant at harmes of the parlament howse. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Apparitor regis*, a seriеaunt at armes. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. i. 7 A Serjeant at Armes, who shall beare the Mace of the Queenes Majesties Armes before him. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xiii. (ed. 23) 96 Knocking at the Door of the House of Commons, which thereupon is by the Serjeant at Arms attending the House opened. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xix. 259 The lord high steward directs a precept to a serjeant at arms, to summon the lords to attend and try the indicted peer. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 25 Four counsel..were taken into custody of the Sergeant-at-arms by the speaker's warrant. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* viii. (ed. 3) 89 Seats for this space are in the gift of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

6. As a title borne by a lawyer. (Now always written **serjeant.**) **a.** A member of a superior order of barristers (abolished in 1880), from which, until 1873, the Common Law judges were always chosen (hence a serjeant was always called by a judge 'my brother So-and-so'). More explicitly, *serjeant at* (†*the*) *law*, †*serjeant of* (*the*) *law*. Sometimes called *serjeant of the coif*: see COIF *sb.* 3 b.

The title represents the law Latin *serviens ad legem*, which may be rendered 'one who serves (the king) in matters of law'.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8833 Mid is wisdom þat was so muche he hom out drou & false serians of assise & dude hom ssame ynon. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6084 Þai sal þan na help gett Of sergeaunt, ne auturne, ne avoket. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 276 Schal no seriaunt for þat seruise were a selk houue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wys. 1404 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 540/1 The Kynges entent is, to assigne..alle his Justices, and his Sergeantz. *c* 1435 in Kingsford *Chron. London* (1905) 57 Markham the Justice and Gascoigne Seriaunt of lawe. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj b, A sotelty of sergeauntis. 1501 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 152 *note*, John Yaxley, Sergent at the Law. 1503 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 101 Item to John Mordant Sargeant at Lawe xl s. *c* 1530 HEYWOOD *Love* 808 (Brandl) Nowe am I a iudge and neuer was seriaunt. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. III. L j b, To Poules crosse, or to the barre, where sergeantes plede in westmister hall. 1552 Edw. VI *Jrnl.* Lit. Rem. (Roxb.) 415 Also ther ware appointed eight sergeants of the law against Michelmas next comming. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvi. § 9 A linnen Coife,..an ornament which only Sergeants at law doe weare. 1602 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (Camden) 132 One Pelham, a lawyer, was made sergeant to be sent Cheife Baron into Ireland. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sergeant* at Law (or of the Coyf) is the highest degree, taken in that profession, as a Doctor of the Civil Law. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ess. (Ker) II. 162 A judge upon the bench does not willingly commend his brother serjeant at the bar, especially when he controuls his law. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. xv. (ed. 23) 212 None may be Judge in this Court, unless he be a Sergeant of the Degree of the Coif. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 ¶ 1 At present he is a Serjeant at Law. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii, Serjeant such a one has a Silver Tongue at the Bar. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 172 Marking grave Serjeants cite each wise Report. 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 183 Lens and Vaughan, Serjts. now shewed cause against this rule. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 762/2 Three Inns have belonged from very early times to the Judges and Sergeants at Law. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 272/1 A paper endorsed with..the words 'Mr. Serjeant A (or 'Mr. B'), retainer for the plaintiff' (or for the defendant). 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 155 Serjeants are sworn to do their duty to their clients. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 66 § 8 Provided, that no person appointed a Judge of either of the said Courts shall henceforth be required to take, or have taken, the degree of Serjeant-at-Law.

transf. (*jocular*) 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1164 By black caps underlaid with white, Give certain guess at inward light; Which Serjeants at the Gospel wear, To make the Spiritual Calling clear.

b. *The King's* (or *Queen's*) *Serjeant*: a title given to a limited number of the serjeants-at-law, appointed by patent.

The king's serjeants were supposed to be charged with the duty of pleading in the courts on behalf of the crown; but from an early period it had ceased to be more than an honorary distinction. The senior in rank of the king's serjeants was designated 'the King's Serjeant', and the second 'The King's Ancient Serjeant'.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 201/2 The King' Sergeant to be sworne..to yeve the poor Man..Counsaill. 1454 *Ibid.* V. 240/1 Oon of the Kynges Sergeauntz atte lawe. 1482 *Ibid.* VI. 207/1 Richard Pygot, and Roger Townessend, the Kyng's Sergeants of the Lawe. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Lewis Pollard the Kynges serjeaunt at the Lawe. 1602 COKE *Rep.* III. To Rdr. D iv b, Out of these the King electeth one, two, or three as please him to be his Serieants, which are called the *Kings Serieants*. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xxx. (ed. 23) 576 The Queens Serjeants at Law. 1825 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVII. 308/2 The King's Serjeant, so constituted by special patent; the King's Ancient Serjeant. 1882 SERJ. BALLANTINE *Exper.* I. 209 A post filled at that time by Mr. Serjeant Manning, Queen's ancient serjeant. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 682/2 Until 1814 the two senior King's serjeants had precedence of even the attorney-general and solicitor-general.

c. *Prime serjeant*: the title given until 1805 to the first in rank of the three (earlier two) serjeants-at-law in Ireland. (Now called *first serjeant*.)

1666 in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* 1666–9 (1908) 73 Sir Audley Mervin, Prime Sergeant at Law. 1733 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 205 The prime serjeant, Singleton, may probably

be a means of assisting you to get light in these particulars. *a* 1797 H. HOWARD in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 434/1 John Hely Hutchinson, Prime Serjt at law, ye vainest man alive, set his heart upon ye place. *c* 1799 SIR L. PARSONS in *Charlemont MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1894) II. 404 There is no end of the turnings-out talked of,...—lord Carhampton, the prime serjeant,..and even Toler. The prime serjeant is, I believe, certain. 1806 DUNCAN *Nelson's Funeral* 31 Prime Serjeant.

d. Common Serjeant (at Law). A judicial officer appointed by the Corporation of London as an assistant to the Recorder.

[1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 47 Le..Commune Sergeaunt de ley, qui autrement est dit 'Commune Countour'.] 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 64 It was proclamyd opynly with the kynges shreffe & two harraldes & two pursevanttes & a trumpet, with the comyne sargant of the citte of London. 1680 *Lex Londin.* 55 The Common Serjeant of the City is the only person intrusted by the Court of Aldermen to take all Inventories and Accompts of freemens' estates. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 292/2 Common Sergeant, an officer..who attends the lord mayor..on court days. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xvi. (1862) 366 So high judicial functionaries as the Recorder of London and the Common Sergeant are elected. 1861 [see COUNTOUR 2]. 1887 *Times* 27 Aug. 11/4 The three City Judges (the Recorder, the Common Serjeant, and Mr. Commissioner Kerr). 1890 *Ibid.* 28 Apr. 11/6 The Common Serjeant sentenced the prisoner to two years' hard labour.

7. (Now commonly written **sergeant**; in some uses **serjeant** appears to be officially adopted.) In the titles of certain officers of the Royal Household. **a.** The head of a specified department, as *sergeant of the cellar*, of the *saucery*, of the *vestry*. † Also *s. of the bears*, a bearward; *s. of the minstrels*; *s. of the surgeons*, *of the trumpets* = sergeant-surgeon, sergeant-trumpeter.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 192/1 William Pecke Clerke of oure Spicerye, Ric' Ludlowe Sergeant of oure Seler. *Ibid.*, Robert Broune Sergeant of oure Saucerye. *Ibid.*, Sergeant of oure Chaundelerye. 1464 [see MASONRY A. 3]. 1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 140 The Serjeant of the bake-house. *Ibid.* 141 The Serjeant of the chaundry...The Serjeant of the ewry. *Ibid.* 142 The Serjeant of the larder. *Ibid.* 143 The Serjeant of the squillery. *Ibid.* 169 Serjeant of the Mynstrills. 1539 CROMWELL *Let.* 24 Apr. in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1733) I. II. 272 Jemynes, Sergeant to your Graces Pastery House. 1541 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 109 Thomas Sperin and his son sergiantes of the beres. 1561 VICARY *Will* in *Anat.* (1888) App. vi. 187, I, Thomas Vicary, Seriante of the Suriantes vnto our saide souereigne ladie the quenes maiestie. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt.-Brit.* I. II. xiv. (ed. 23) 120-1 The Sergeant of the King's Wood-Yard. ..The Sergeant of the Ewry...The Sergeant of the Larder. *Ibid.* II. III. xvii. 534 H. Parker, Esq; Serj. of the Vestry. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. I. i. 2 The Sergeants of the Trumpets.

b. Prefixed appositively to certain designations of office, as *sergeant-cater*, *-farrier* (*-ferrour*), *-footman*, *-painter*, *-plumber*, *-porter*, *-squiller*, *-surgeon* († *chirurgeon*), *-tailor*, *-trumpet*, *-trumpeter*.

Many other similar designations, adopted from Anglo-French, and not proved to have been used in English, will be found in F. Tate, *Household Ord. Edw. II*, 1601 (new ed. 1876).

1614 GENTLEMAN *Engl. Way to Wealth* 25 His Maiesties *Seriant Cater. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Dyuers Balettys* Wks. 1843 I. 24 Hare in *sergeaunt ferrour, myne horse behynde is bare. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xx. (ed. 23) 549 Serjeant Farrier, John Willis, Esq. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 7/3 *Sergeant-footman Boswell. 1548 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 81 To Anthony Toto, *sergeante paymtor, in rewarde for his paynes takyng..in drawyng of patrons for the masks 20*s*. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5848/3 His Majesty's Serjeant-Painter. 1887 PATER *Imag. Portr.* 146 The sergeant-painter and deputy sergeant-painter were conventional performers enough. 1533 in *Hampton Crt. Accts.*, The Kynges *sergeaunt plumber. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 58 The Serjeant Plumber calling his workmen to caste in his presence a Leaden Medal. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 192/2 John Stok *Sergeant porter of oure Gate. 1720 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xix. (ed. 23) 545 To the Serjeant Porter. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, One of the sergeant porters told them they could not at present enter. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 87 Sergeant State Porter. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 81 He receivethe..all the plates of pewtyr by the pourveyaunce of the *sergeaunt-squylloure. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xix. (ed. 23) 545 *Serjeant skinner. 1565 J. HALLE *Hist. Expost.* 19 Maister Vicary, late *sergeant chyrurgien to the queenes highnes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xiii, Serjeant-surgeon to the King. 1821 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 17663, 2189/1 Serjeant-Surgeon to His Majesty. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 88 Sergeant Surgeon, Lord Lister. 1480 *Wardrobe Acc. Edw. IV* in *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York*, etc. (1830) 155 George Luf'kyn *Sergeant taillour of the grete Warderobe of the Kynge. 1588 DELONEY in *Reform. Ball.* (1887) VI. 397 The *Sargeant trumpet with his mace, and nyne with trumpets after him, Bare headed went before her grace. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4416/4 Her Majesty has appointed John Shore, Esq; Serjeant-Trumpet of Great Britain. 1603 *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* III. 164 *Serjeant trumpeter. 1700 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 413 Gervas Price esq., serjeant trumpeter to his majestie, died lately. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 87 Sergeant Trumpeter.

8. In the titles of certain inferior officers employed by the Corporation of the City of London, and by other municipal bodies.

1423 *Cov. Leet-Bk.* 43 Per schall no beestys be pynnyd at the comen pynfold by the comien seriante. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. v. 359 Satan as the Common Serjeant and Jaylor seized upon them. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xliv (ed. 23) 631 Serjeant-Carvers...Serjeants of the Chamber or Mace...Moses Griffith, Serjeant of the Channel. 1720 [see TAKER 2 3]. 1766 ENTICK *Lond.* III. 307 The officers belonging to the lord-mayor,..are..the three serjeant carvers; three serjeants of the chamber; a serjeant of the channel [etc.]. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* IV. 2345 [At Lincoln.] Four Serjeants of the Key or Bailiffs. *Ibid.* II. 998 (Hastings) The Mayor's Serjeant..serves process; attends the corporation meetings with a mace; and is sworn in as a constable. ..The Common Serjeant, who is also a serjeant at mace,.. has the same salary and clothing as the mayor's serjeant.

b. *Sergeant at* († *the*) *mace*, † *of* (*the*) *mace*: an inferior executive officer (cf. sense 4), carrying a mace as a badge of office.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 64 The king..folowed fast one þe tras, Withe many Sergeant of mas. *Ibid.* 498 þe lordes by-lyue hom to list ſedes With many seriant of mace, as was þe manere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Ceriawnt of mace, *apparitor*. 1474 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 103/1 Henry Neuton, oon of the Sergeants at Mace of Robert Billesdon, oon of the Shirrefs of the Cite of London. 1510 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 70 The meyer..sent oon John Yong sergeaunt att the mace within the seid Towne to the seid Priour. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 43 For arest of Robert Taylor sergant of maysse. 1680 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 506 If the Sergeants-at-Mace shall neglect theire duty in not summoning every member of the Council [etc.]. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5394/4 Cesar Grist, Serjeant at Mace to the Bailiffs of the Corporation of Welsh Poole. 1761 in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 369 The serjeants at mace for the city to arrest for debt in the Borough. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 292 Sergeants of the mace of an inferior kind. 1835 [see 8]. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 178 [Lord Mayor's Court.] Sergeant at Mace.

transf. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 211 A hundred Soldiers..follow'd with a hundred Serjeants at Mace. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 356 He appears to be nothing more than a chief of bumbailiffs, serjeants at mace, catchpoles, jailers and hangmen.

† **c.** *Sc.* An officer of a guild. *Obs.*

1557 *Baxter-bks. St. Andrews* (1903) 10, viiid to thomas demster, yair schargant.

9. *Mil.* (Now always written **sergeant.**) In modern use, a non-commissioned officer of the grade above that of corporal. In the 16th c. the title, more explicitly † *sergeant of a band* [= F. *sergent de bande*], appears, like many other military titles, to have indicated a much higher rank than in later times. See also COLOUR-SERGEANT, DRILL-*sergeant*, RECRUITING-*sergeant*, SERGEANT-MAJOR.

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* H vij b, Sargeauntes of the band to the foreward. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 86 This Serjeant ought perfitly by memorie to know every Souldiour within the Bande. 1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Brief Disc. War* 26 The least Serieant of a Band, being a naturall Spaniard, will seeme to command the greatest man of qualitie of anie other Nation. 1593 SUTCLIFFE *Pract. & Lawe Arms* 61 The officers of companies, namely lieutenants, ensignes, sergiants, corporals, are chosen by the captaines of companies. 1624 W. G. *Count Mansfield's Direct. Warre* 11 If all the three fore-named Officers [Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign] be out of the way by any accident, then the eldest Sergiant is to command the Company as next in place. 1690 MACKENZIE *Siege Londonderry* 47/2 Serjeants, Corporals, Drummers, and private Men 2d. per diem each, besides Bread. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 87 P 1 The Epistle is from one Serjeant Hall of the Foot-Guards. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xi, All disputed points were settled by the sergeant of marines with a party, who divided their antagonists from the Jews. 1898 STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 274 'Fall out, sergeant, you're wounded,' said the subaltern of his troop.

b. Prefixed appositively to various designations of offices in which sergeants are employed, as *sergeant armourer*, *bugler*, *clerk*, *compounder*, *cook*, *drummer*, *farrier*, *instructor*, *master tailor*, *saddler*, *schoolmaster*, *tailor*, *trumpeter*.

1810 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Desp.* (1838) VI. 308 *Serjeant armourers and serjeant saddlers' implements. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 220 *Sergt. Bugler. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 252/1 It changes the title of the brigade sergeant-major to that of *sergeant-clerk. 1901 *Whitaker's Almanack* 220 *Sergeant Cook. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 1/2 A *sergeant-drummer in each battalion of the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Scots Guards. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *Sergeant instructor. 1865 *Army Clothing Warrant* 30 The *Sergeant Master Tailor. 1837 *King's Regul. Army* 239 The *Serjeant-Schoolmasters. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 4/2 The Secretary of State..is causing inquiries to be made on the feasibility of having officers' uniforms made by the *sergeant-tailors of their regiments.

10. (Now always written **sergeant.**) A police officer, of higher rank than a simple constable; in Great Britain ranking next below an inspector.

1839 HOOD *Last Heir* 36 Oh serjeant M'Farlane! you have not come across my poor little boy, have you, in your beat? 1856 A. WYNTER *Curios. Civilis.* 469 The force consists of three inspectors, nine sergeants, and a body of police termed 'plain-clothes men'.

11. Comb. Sergeant Baker *Australian*, a fish of New South Wales, *Aulopus purpurissatus*; † **sergeant corn** *Sc.*, ? some feudal impost paid in corn; **sergeant-fish** *U.S.*, a name applied to various fishes having marks like the stripes on the sleeve of a sergeant's uniform, esp. *Elacate canada*; † **sergeant-loaf**, some kind of bread; † **serjeant's ring**, one of the rings which a newly appointed serjeant-at-law was required by custom to present to various persons of high rank or official position.

1888 TENISON WOODS *Fish N. S. Wales* 82 The *Sergeant Baker in all probability..was called after a sergeant of that name. 1581 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 107/2 Lie *serjand-corne. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 444 The name '*Sergeant-fish' refers to its peculiar coloration, several stripes of brown and gray being visible on the sides of the body. 1341 *Secretum Abb. Glastonie* (MS. Wood empt. 1) lf. 146 b, Unum panem uocatum Priketlof, et alterum panem uocatum Bastardlof et tercium panem uocatum *seriauntlof de Panetria predicti abbatis. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2613/4 They offered to sell or pawn.., one Gold *Sergeants Ring, and one pair of Gold Lockets.

† **Sergeant,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Back-formation from SERGEANTY.] In *grand*, *petit sergeant*, said of a tenure by grand or petit serjeanty respectively.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1771 Many helde their landes..By tenure grand-seriante..Some by petit-seriant.

† **Sergeant,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [a. OF. *sergenter*, f. *sergent* SERGEANT *sb.*] *intr.* To act as a sergeant.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xxi. (1869) 187 After þat þat þe matere is..ordeyned, þer after j shal sergeaunte [orig. *use de ma commission*] and werche diuerseliche.

† **Sergeantess.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SERGEANT *sb.* + -ESS.] A female sergeant.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xix. (1869) 185 And for oure mootiere þou art and oure sergeantesse we senden þee and comitte þee þat þou go bi alle houses, and [etc.].

† **Sergeant-general.** *Obs.* [f. SERGEANT *sb.* + GENERAL *a.*] = SERGEANT-MAJOR 1 b. (In the later examples *sergeant-general of battle*, as a title of high rank in certain foreign armies.)

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 93 To sende his serjeant to the Serjeant general. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2028/3 Being a Sergeant-General of Batalia in the Service of his Catholick Majesty. 1693 *Mem. Count Teckely* IV. 55 The Prince of Auguste of Hanover, Serjeant General of Battle.

Sergeant-major. [f. SERGEANT *sb.* + MAJOR *a.*; in Fr. *sergent-major.*]

† **1.** In the 16–17th c., a military title variously applied to officers widely differing in rank and function. **a.** A field officer, one in each regiment, next in rank to the lieutenant-colonel, and corresponding partly to the 'major', partly to the 'adjutant', of the modern army.

Ordinarily referred to as superior to the captains, but in many instances a 'captain' is said to be also 'sergeant-major'.

1573 WHITHORNE *Briefe Tables* H j b, Maister of the Campe, or Seargeant Maier, or Capitaine. 1591 SIR J. SMYTHE *Instr. Milit.* (1595) 36 The Sergeant Maior must command all the Captaines or their Lieutenants. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 15 Euery Regiment hath this Sergeant Maior. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. v, He might haue beene Serieant-Maior, if not Lieutenant-Coronell to the regiment. 1604 E. GRIMSTON *Siege Ostend* 20 An English Captaine who was also Sargent Maior. 1624 W. G. *Count Mansfield's Direct. Warre* 13 The eldest Sergeant..is also to fetch the Word from the Sergeant Maior of the Regiment. 1633 *Swed. Intelligencer* IV. 127 The Sergeant-Major over these 5 companies, was Captaine Thomas Grove, who now commanded them. 1642 (*title*) A List of the Names of the severall Colonells..with the Leivtenant Colonells, Serieant Maiors, and Captaines and Lievtenants appointed by the Committee, for the ordering of the Militia of this Honourable City of London. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm. for Rais. Forces* 22 Dec. 7 Serjeant-Major of the sayd Regiment. 1683 TURNER *Pallas Armata* XI. 225 The Swedes of a long time allowed him [*sc.* the Major] no company, yet allow'd him the command over Captains, but it is now many years ago since they were permitted to have companies; hence perhaps it is that when they have no companies, they may be called Serjeant-Majors, as when they have companies, the Germans call them Captain-Majors, but the English use frequently the words of Serjeant Major and Serjeant-Major General, none of them are used either by German, Swede, or Dane. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2).

† **b.** A general officer, corresponding to the modern major-general. Also *sergeant-major major*, *sergeant-major general*. *Obs.*

1591 SIR J. SMYTHE *Instr. Milit.* (1595) 60 If a Lord Marshall or a Sergeant Maior Maior, haue..10000 or more or fewer piquers to reduce into one bodie of squadron, hee may [etc.]. *c* 1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 14 We buried Captaine Arnolde Baskerville, our serjant-major generall. 1599 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (Camden) 38 Sir Ferdinando Gorge is named to be Sergeant Major [of the army in Ireland]. 1625 G. M. *Souldier's Accid.* 62 The Serieant-Maior of the Horse, which in some discipline is called the Commissary-generall. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xvii. 222 The Sergeant Major, being the second Commander to Don Iohn. 1642 *List Army Earl Essex* 1 His Excellencie Robert Earle of Essex, Capt. Generall. Sir Iohn Merrick, Serjeant Major Generall, and President of the Councell of Warre. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 50 Lord Wentworth was Serjeant Major of the Horse. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* VIII. 147 [Richard III] Went himselfe in Person in the head of his Army..executing Himselfe the duty of a Sergeant Major. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 26 Philip Skippon..was now made sergeant-major-general of the army by the absolute power of the two houses.

2. A non-commissioned officer of the highest grade.

The *regimental sergeant-major* (who is, strictly speaking, not a 'non-commissioned officer', but a 'warrant officer'), is an assistant to the adjutant. There is also a sergeant-major belonging to each squadron of cavalry and each battery of artillery.

1808 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v., In most regiments the serjeant-major, under the direction of the adjutant, is directed to drill every young officer who comes into the regiment. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiv, Claverhouse..called for his serjeant-major. 1837 *King's Regul. Army* 270 The Troop Serjeant-Majors...The Regimental Serjeant-Major.

transf. 1897 *Daily News* 15 June 3/4 They were members of the Salvation Army, one of them, a woman, describing herself as the sergeant-major.

3. An American fish, the cow-pilot, *Pomacentrus saxatilis*.

1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 38 *Glyphidodon saxatilis*, ..Cow-pilot; Sergeant-major. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 407 Fine little black and white 'serjeant-majors' as they are called, because of their many stripes.

Hence **Sergeant-majorship.**

1892 *Athenæum* 1 Oct. 448/2 [*c* 1630] The king gave him [Fabert] another company vacant by death, again permitting his retention of the sergeant-majorship.

† **Se·rgeantry, serjeantry.** *Obs.* Also 5 sergawntry, seriauntrie, -rye, seryauntre, 7 *Sc.* serjandrie. [a. OF. *sergenterie* (cf. Anglo-L. *sergenteria*, *c* 1200 in *Rot. Chart.*, ed. 1837, p. 56/2), f. *sergent*: see SERGEANT and -ERY.]

1. = SERGEANTY 1.

c 1400 *Brut* I. 242, Y 3elde vp, Sir, now vnto 3ow my homage, ..for ham alle þat holden by seriauntrye [1480 CAXTON seryauntre]. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Scrivelsby*, This manor is held by grand serjeantry. *Ibid.* s. v. *Pitchley, Northamp.*.. The ancient lords of this manor held it of the King by petit serjeantry, *i.e.* to furnish dogs, at their own cost, to destroy the wolves, foxes, polecats, and other vermin, in the counties of Northampton, Rutland, Oxford, Essex, and Bucks. 1795 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. 1842 II. 550 If the tenant was in an office about the king's person, this gave rise to sergeantry. 1830 SCOTT *Ayrsh. Trag.* I. i, We'll not suffer A word of sergeantry, or halberd-staff. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Spect. Tappington*, These lands were held in grand serjeantry by the presentation of three white owls. 1830 JAMES *Darnley* vii, To hold his land by sergeantry, as it had been held by Lord Fitzbernard.

2. The office of sergeant or serjeant.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16021 [Tribulation *loq.*] And thus vsynge myn Sergawntry, I kan werke dyuersly; Wherffore I rede be war off me, For I anoon shal smyte the. 1669 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 588/2 All and haill the office of Serjandrie of the lands & Lordship of Methven.

3. *nonce-use.* Skill as a serjeant-at-law.

1830 LAMB *Album Verses, In Autograph Bk. Mrs. Serjeant W——*, These should moot cases in your book, and vie To show their reading and their Serjeantry.

Sergeantship, serjeantship (sā·ɹdʒənt-ʃip). [f. SERGEANT, SERJEANT *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office of a sergeant or a serjeant, in various senses.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 197/2 Theyre Fees of Serjauntship atte armes. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 33 § 11 The offices of Sergeauntshippe of the Pese and [etc.]. 1584 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 436 The office of Seriantship. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 157 His serjeantship being denoted by the *Coif*. 1909 *Essex Rev.* XVIII. 71 The persons they thought of appointing to serjeantship or corporalship.

Sergeanty, serjeanty (sā·ɹdʒĕnti). *Hist.* Forms: *a.* 5–7 sergeantie (5 sergeaunte), 6 sergeauntie, sergentie, 7– sergeanty. *β.* 4–5 seriauntye, 5 serjantie, (*pl.* serjaunteez), 7 seriantie, serieanty, serjeantis, 7– serjeanty. [a. OF. *serjantie*, *sergentie*, f. *serjant*, *sergent*: see SERGEANT *sb.* and -Y.] (The usual spelling is now serjeanty.)

1. A form of feudal tenure on condition of rendering some specified personal service to the king.

1467 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 595/2 The rent of the Sergeantie, and of the small parcellz of Serjaunteez of oure Counteez of Notyngh' and Derb'. 1468 *Ibid.* 605/2 Other fermes to us of Serjanties or otherwise. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 171/1 Smale parcells of Serjantie in diverse parcells,..thre Roodes of Serjantie. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 464 Baldwin Le Pettour..held certaine lands, by Sergeanty. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Rich. II* 1 John Wiltshire Citizen of London, by reason of a Moyitie of the Manour of Heydon, holden in Sergeantie, claimed to hold a towell for the King to wipe with when he went to meat. 1880 HARTING *Extinct Brit. Anim.* I. 82 Several grants of land..held by the serjeanty of keeping..boar-hounds. 1906 *Athenæum* 18 Sept. 269/1 A little criticism is perhaps invited by the interesting list of serjeanties with which the volume closes.

b. Distinguished as *grand* and *petit* (or *petty*) *serjeanty*.

In their AF. form, these terms occur in the 13th c. According to *Britton* (*c* 1292), *grand serjeanty* obliges the tenant to a service 'touching the defence of the country', such as acting as marshal, putting an army in the field, or finding a horseman and his equipment for the army, while *petit serjeanty* binds him to a service 'amounting to half a mark or less', such as carrying to the king a bag, a brooch, an arrow, or a bow without string, etc. Later writers give more or less differing accounts: see quots. The Latin of Magna Carta (1215) has *occasione parvarum sergantiarum* (v. r. *parvæ serganteriæ*).

(*a*) 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 167/2 His Auncestres..have holden..the Manoir..by Graunte Sergeaunte. 1523 [see (*b*) below]. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 154 Euery grand Serieanty is a tenure in chiefe, being of none but of the King, to doe vnto him a more speciall seruice whatsoeuer by the person of a man, as to beare his Banner or Lance, to lead his horse, to carry the sword before him at his coronation [etc.]. 1695 GIBSON *Camden's Brit.* 55 Briemston..was held in Grand Sergeanty by a pretty odd jocular tenure. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. v. 73 Such was the tenure by grand serjeanty, *per magnum servitium*, whereby the tenant was bound, instead of serving the king generally in his wars, to do some special honorary service to the king in person; as to carry his banner, his sword, or the like; or to be his butler, champion, or other officer at his coronation. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 118 The office of High Steward was originally annexed to the manor of Hinckley in Leicestershire, and held in grand serjeanty. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xi. 344 These [offices] had become..hereditary grand serjeanties.

(*b*) 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 12 And all these tenauntes maye holde their landes by dyuers tenures..as by..graunt sergentie, petyte sergeantie, franke almoyne. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 37 b, Tenure by Petyte sergeauntye. 1616 BULLOKAR *Engl. Expos.*, *Petite Sergeantie*, a tenure of lands, holden of the king, by yeilding to him, a Buckler, Arrow, Bow, or such like seruice. 1875 DIGBY *Real Prop.* i. (1876) 49 When land was held of the king not by military service, but under the obligation to render some small thing 'belonging to war', as, for instance, to 'yield to him yearly a bow or a sword, or a dagger, or a knife, or a pair of gilt spurs, or an arrow or divers arrows', this was called tenure by petit serjeanty.

† 2. 'Sergeants' or squires collectively. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11979 Alle armed men,..Wyþoute fotmen & seriauntye [*v.r.* sargeancie].

† **Sergelim.** *Obs.* Also 6 zerzelnie, 6–7 zerzeline, 7 schirgelim, sergelin. [a. Pg. *gergelim*, *zirgelim*, a. Arab. جلجلان *juljulī*, also جلجلان *juljulān*.] = SESAMUM.

1588 HICKOCK tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 22 b, Mirabolany ..long Pepper, Oyle of Zerzeline. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 314 Mixt with the Oyl Sergelin it stops pissing of Blood. *Ibid.* 322 Oyl of Schirgelim. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 126 The Root boil'd in Sergelim Oil..takes away freckles or spots.

Sergend, -ent, obs. forms of SERGEANT.

Sergette (sɑ̄ɹdʒe·t). [a. F. *sergette*, dim. of *serge*.] See quot.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sergette*, a thin and slight serge.

Sergiand, -iant, -iaunt(e, sergond, -ont(e, obs. ff. SERGEANT.

Sergre(i)ant: see SEGREANT *Her.*

Seri, variant of SIRIH.

1864 D'ALMEIDA *Life in Java* II. 104 Chewing tobacco betel, and seri leaf.

Seri, obs. form of SORRY.

Serial (sī·ɹriăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *seriālis*, f. *seri-ēs*: see SERIES and -AL. Cf. F. *sérial* (1861), *sériel* (1874).] **A.** *adj.* Belonging to, forming part of, or consisting of a series; taking place or occurring in a regular succession.

1854 *Fairholt's Dict. Terms Art* s. v., Serial Pictures are of that order in which a story is carried on consecutively, such as the four seasons, the four ages, &c. 1855 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) II. 16 A thinking of the three in serial order—first, second, third. 1864 *Realm* 6 July 8 The last performances of all the great serial concerts.

b. *spec.* of the publication of a literary work, *esp.* a story, in successive instalments (as in a periodical magazine or newspaper).

Serial rights, rights attaching to the publication of a story in serial form.

1841 F. VESEY *Decl. Eng. Lang.* 86 Serial publication. 1867 E. YATES *Black Sheep* xxxi, She..had set herself to read the serial story. 1874 *Athenæum* 28 Feb. 293/1 After contributing to the newspapers and the magazines, [he] became a serial novelist. 1879 *19th Cent.* 997 Country journals, ..instead of using an inferior article, will often purchase the 'serial right', as it is called, of stories which have already appeared elsewhere.

c. In scientific use; *esp.* applied to the disposition of the parts of an organism in a straight line or longitudinal succession.

Serial temperatures, temperatures taken at different successive depths between the bottom and the surface of water.

1855 T. WILLIAMS in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. XVI. 405 The serial history of any given structural element of any given complex organ. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Serial*, or *Seriate*, in rows. 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. 16 They preserve a serial arrangement: their aggregation is little more than that of close linear succession. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 9 The transverse septa, a serial continuation of those in the tail, are directed from the median line above. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 10 Serial symmetry may be much less and much more developed than we find it to be in man. 1877 THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. 11 Taking bottom and serial temperatures. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 109 The serial arrangement of the elements of the cork perpendicular to the surface is always very regularly preserved. 1897 M. L. HUGHES *Mediterranean Fever* iii. 136 The qualitative alterations are both nodal and serial.

B. *sb.* A serial or periodical publication, *esp.* a novel published in serial (as opposed to *book*) form.

1846 *Athenæum* 5 Dec. 1237/1 A fresh serial from the prolific pen of Dickens. 1859 *Trnl. Soc. Arts* 25 Feb. 213/2 How valuable would be some of our serials with all their advertisements—The *Gentleman's Magazine*, for instance. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* ii. 20 When the popularity of the serial was once established, it grew with extraordinary rapidity.

attrib. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Wks. 1890 IV. 59 A practised serial writer.

Hence **Se·rialist,** a writer of serials; **Seriality** (sīeriæ·lĭti), serial arrangement; **Serialization,** publication in serial form; **Serialize** *v. trans.*, (*a*) to publish in serial form; (*b*) to arrange in a series.

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 594 The characters depicted by some of our later *serialists. 1855 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* IV. I. 500 The advance of the correspondence of itself necessitates a growing *seriality in the psychical changes. 1892 *Author* July 49/1 It is desirable that authors should understand the difficulties with which *serialisation is surrounded. *Ibid.* 48/2 If a story is *serialized* in England and is not serialized simultaneously in the States, the American copyright is of course seriously jeopardised. 1893 *Athenæum* 11 Nov. 663/3 The serializing of fiction. 1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* v. 172 To frame some system of concepts mentally classified, serialized, or connected in some intellectual way.

Serial, variant of CEREAL *a. Obs.*

Serially (sī·ɹriăli), *adv.* [f. SERIAL *a.* + -LY 2.] **a.** In a series, in series, in serial arrangement; **b.** in serial form, as a serial.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 203 A supplementary costal piece, serially homologous with the appendage to the proper pleurapophysis. 1870 *Daily Tel.* 22 Sept., Small parties of the sparse artillerists hurrying along behind the wall from gun to gun, firing progressively and serially. 1872 *Athenæum* 1 June 681/1 However 'Middlemarch' may appear, it is clear that it has not been written, although published, serially. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 163 Round bordered pits, arranged in left-handed oblique series, with the inner apertures serially coalescent into long slits.

† **Se·rian,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SER-ES + -IAN.] *Serian worm*, silkworm. (Cf. SEREAN, SERIC.)

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XII. iii, No Serian worms.. that with their threed Draw out their silken lives.

Seriand, -ant, -antie, etc.: see SERGEANT, -Y.

Seriary (sī·ɹriări), *a. rare.* [f. SERI-ES + -ARY 1. Cf. F. *sériaire*, Sp. *seriario*.] Serial.

1900 DENIKER *Races of Man* 65 The characters called seriary, to which we have recourse in order to compare man with animals which bear the closest resemblance to him.

Seriate (sī·ɹriĕt), *a.* Chiefly *Zool.* and *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. **seriāt-us*, f. SERIES.] Arranged or occurring in one or more series or rows.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 139 Tubercles small,..vertically seriate. 1857 [see SERIAL A. c]. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 137 Sedum acre..leaves obscurely 6-seriate. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* XXVI, The remainder was a mere question of time and natural seriate changes.

So **Se·riated** *a.*; hence **Se·riately** *adv.*, in series.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 266 Disks seriately and reticulately budding. 1872 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ* 227 The gelatinous tubes or sheaths in which the cells are seriated are very obvious. 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 120 Vitality and Sensibility may be said to rest on seriated Change.

‖ **Seriatim** (sī·ɹriē·tim), *adv.* (and *a.*) [med.L., f. L. *seri-ēs* after GRADATIM, LITERATIM.] One after another, one by one in succession.

1680 C. HATTON *Corr.* (Camden) I. 225 Y^e^ judges did every one of them seriatim declare y^t^ that board was a proper place of judicature of state affaires. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 80 (1740) 72 The Judges thought fit to give their Judgments, *seriatim*, after solemn Argument had. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. I. 303 If not content with taking them [*sc.* spiders] seriatim you should feel desirous of eating them by handfuls. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xv, MR. and Mrs. Kenwigs thanked every lady and gentleman, *seriatim*, for the favour of their company. 1871 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) II. 343 This question subdivides into several questions, which we will consider *seriatim*.

b. as *adj.* Following one after the other. *rare.*

1871 EARLE *Philol. Engl. Tongue* x. 497 There are places where force would be lost by dividing it into two or three successive and *seriatim* sentences.

Seriation (sī·ɹriē·ʃən). [ad. mod.L. **seriātiōn-em*, f. *seri-ēs*: see SERIES and -ATION.] Succession in series, serial succession; formation of or into a series.

1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* iv. 30 Where there is no fear of enormity, there may be a secure seriation of supremacy. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 47 The acids of these two series presented..a marked parallelism in their constitution, seriation, and properties. 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. I. I. 144 The demonstration that thinking is seriation. 1887 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 299/3 In the seriation of the [chemical] elements certain gaps occur.

† **Seriatly,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 seryatt-, seriat-, 6 seryat-. [Partial anglicization of med.L. SERIATIM.] In succession, seriatim.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 273 Now I wyl fede 3ow alle with awngellys mete, Wherfore to reseyve it come fforth seryattly. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1836 Thai ..With-out taryng to wash ther handes went; After went to sitte ther ceriatly. *c* 1520 BARCLAY *Ynglwrth* 37 b, To write of the besynesse and dedes of both the parties seriatly and dystinctly. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 200 We have receyuid Your Graces most gracius letters..the contents wherof we have seriatly redde.

Seriaun, -aums, -aunt(e, etc.: see SERGEANT.

Seriba, variant of ZAREBA.

Seric (se·rik), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *sēric-us*, (1) belonging to the Seres, (2) of silk (neut. *sēricum* as sb., silk), = Gr. σηρικός (neut. σηρικόν silk), f. Σῆρες: see SERES.]

1. Chinese.

1842 TUPPER *Proverb. Philos.* Ser. II. Introd., Unclean meats as of the clean hang upon my Seric shambles. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 310 The pure concoction of the seric herb [=tea].

2. Silken.

1886 *Edin. Rev.* July 155 The manufacture of seric stuffs.

Sericate (se·rikēit). *Chem.* [f. SERIC-IC + -ATE 2.] A salt of sericic acid.

1841 *Turner's Elem. Chem., Org.* 1084 Sericate of oxide of ethule is a colourless mobile liquid.

Sericated, *a. rare*—0. [f. L. *sēricāt-us* (f. *sēric-um* silk: see SERIC) + -ED 1.] = Clothed in silk; also = SERICEOUS.

1623 in COCKERAM. 1880 WORCESTER, *Sericated* [sic].

Sericeo- (sĭri·ʃio), used as comb. form of L. *sēriceus* (see next) = silky and ...

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 359/2 Ovaries sericeo-tomentose.

Sericeous (sĭri·ʃəs), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. L. *sēric-us*, f. *sēric-um* silk (see SERIC): see -EOUS.] Silky, covered with silky down.

1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 15 *Sericeous*, covered with a down of extremely fine texture. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 282 Hylæus...Lip lanceolate, little sericeous. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. v. 236 Shining yellow sericeous down. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand.* IV. App. 376 The sericeous brand on the male.

Sericic (sĭrĭ·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *sēric-um* silk (see SERIC) + -IC.] = MYRISTIC.

1841 *Turner's Elem. Chem., Org.* 1083 Sericic Acid. Syn. Myristic Acid. Discovered by Playfair.

Sericiculture (se·risikɔ·ltiŭ, -tʃəɹ). [ad. F. *sériciculture*, f. L. *sēric-um* (see SERIC) + *cultūra* CULTURE.] = SERICULTURE. Hence **Se·ricicu·ltural** *a.*, **Se·ricicu·lturist.**

1892 CROOKES tr. *Wagner's Man. Chem. Technol.* 803 Sericiculture.—Varieties of Silkworms. *Ibid.* 804 Sericiculturists become sufficiently adepts..to be able to select a sufficient number of cocoons of each sex.

Sericin (se·risin). *Chem.* Also -ine. [Formed as SERICIC + -IN [1].]

1. = MYRISTIN.

1841 *Turner's Elem. Chem., Org.* 1083 Sericate of oxide of glycerule (sericine or myristine).

2. The gelatinous constituent of silk.

1868 BLOXAM *Chem.* § 446. 1886 tr. *Benedikt's Chem. Coal-tar Colours* 39 Both fibroine and sericine (silk-glue) consist of carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen and oxygen.

Sericipary (serisi·pări), *a. rare.* [f. L. *sēricum* silk + *-par-us* (-PAROUS) + -Y.] Producing silk.

1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 350/3 A double apparatus..situated on either side of the intestinal canal, and below it, called the sericipary gland.

Sericite (se·risəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *sericit* (1852), f. L. *sēric-um* silk: see SERIC and -ITE [1] 2 b.] A fibrous variety of muscovite.

1854 DANA *Syst Min.* (ed. 4) II. 223 Sericite of K. List, is regarded by him as near Damourite. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 23 Sericite, a green mineral, of silky lustre.

b. *attrib.* = SERICITIC.

1879 RUTLEY *Study of Rocks* 296 *Sericite-Schist.*—This is a schistose rock closely allied to the porphyroids, and consists of sericite, fragments of quartz [etc.]. 1884 *Nature* 13 Nov. 35/1 Sericite mica.

Hence **Sericitic** (serisi·tik) *a.*, containing or having the character of sericite; **Se·ricitiza·tion**, the production of a sericitic character.

1814 *Nature* 13 Nov. 34/1 A slight development of sericitic mica. 1893 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. ii. (ed. 3) 617 Where the silky unctuous sericite has been developed from orthoclase (sericitization).

† **Sericon.** *Alch. Obs.* [a. med.L. *sericon* (indeclinable).

In *Turbæ Philosophorum alterum exemplar*, printed in *Artis Auriferæ quam Chemiam vocant volumen primum* (Basileæ 1593) 138, 'sericon' is mentioned (in connexion with 'magnesia'; see MAGNESIA 2) as 'a composition which is called by ten names', and which is one of the ingredients in 'the ferment of gold'. That the word originally stood for some real chemical substance is not improbable, but its proper meaning and etymology (perh. Arabic: ? cf. ZIRCON) are obscure. There is no ground for identifying it with mod. L. *sericum* (prob. merely a use of L. *sēricum* silk) cited by writers of the 18th c. as a name for the flowers of zinc. On the other hand, '*Sericum*, an old name for minium', in some modern dictionaries, may represent a conjecture as to the meaning of the alchemical term.]

A substance supposed to be concerned in the transmutation of inferior metals into gold.

The explanation given in Gifford's note on the Jonson passage, 'the red tincture', appears to be an unauthorized conjecture.

?15.. in Ashmole *Theat. Chem.* (1652) 428 This centrall Earth who can it take, It and *Sercion* [sic] do our Maistry make. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, Both *Sericon*, and *Bufo* shall be lost.

‖ **Sericterium** (seriktī·riŭm). *Entom.* Pl. **-eria** (ī·riă). Also anglicized **serictery** (sĭrĭ·ktĕri). [mod.L., irreg. f. Gr. *σηρικόν* silk (see SERIC) + *-τηριον*, after *sialisterium* (*σιαλιστήριον*) salivary gland of insects.] A glandular apparatus in silk-worms for the production of silk; a silk or spinning gland.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xli. (1828) IV. 137 In the sericterium the fluid that produces it [*sc.* silk] is sometimes white or grey. 1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 287 The two fine filaments from the sericteria are glued together by another secretion from a small gland. 1898 PACKARD *Text-bk. Entomol.* 337 In the imago the sericteries revert to their primitive shape and use as salivary glands.

Sericultural (serikɔ·ltiŭrăl, -tʃəɹ-), *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Pertaining to or engaged in sericulture.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 515 The sericultural departments of France. 1886 WARDLE *Catal. India Silk Culture* 28 Aids to Sericultural Study.

Sericulture (se·rikɔltiŭr, -tʃəɹ). [Shortened ad. F. *sériciculture*: see SERICICULTURE.] The production of raw silk and the rearing of silkworms for the purpose.

1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 320/2 The Central Society of Sericulture of France. 1863 *All Year Round* 11 July 467/1 Model silkworm houses..would greatly tend to popularise this new branch of sericulture. 1881 WARDLE *Wild Silks of India* 53 Eria sericulture plantations.

Hence **Sericu·lturist**, one engaged in sericulture, a silk-grower.

1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 513 He recommends the sericulturist to separate his dark worms from the general stock.

Seridolath, northern f. *cered cloth*: see CERED.

1438-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 408 In 22 virgis panni linei empt. pro le Seridclath pro vestimentis.

† **Serie.** *Obs.* [app. ad. L. *seriēs*: see SERIES.] Succession of points in an argument.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2209 What may I concluden of this long serye, But after wo I rede vs to be merye?

Seriea(u)nt, -y, obs. forms of SERGEANT, -Y.

Seriema (seri,ĭ·mă), **çariama, cariama** (sœ-, kæriă·mă). Also **siriema.** [mod.L. *seriema* (A. de St. Hilaire, 1830), *cariama* (Brisson, 1760), a. Tupi *siriema, sariama, çariama*, explained by Ruiz de Montaya as = crested. The erroneous form *cariama* (without cedilla) comes down from Marcgrav, *Hist. Nat. Brasil.* 1648.] A large long-legged crested bird, *Cariama cristata*, inhabiting parts of Brazil; the crested screamer.

1836 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 30 Though the Çariama, in its osseous structure, exhibits but little resemblance to the Birds of the Raptorial order. 1860 *Ibid.* 334 A New Form of Grallatorial Bird nearly allied to the Cariama. 1869 R. F. BURTON *Highl. Brazil* II. 26 The Siriéma, that hunted the serpents from our path. 1870 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 666 Burmeister's Cariama. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLVI. 770 The far-famed seriema (*Dicholophus cristatus*), a form that has puzzled the best of taxonomers since the middle of the seventeenth century.

Series (sī·ri,īz, sī·əriz). Pl. (8-) **series**, (7-8, *rare* in 9) **serieses**, (7-8) **series's.** [a. L. *seriēs* row, chain, series, f. *ser-ĕre* to join, connect. Cf. F. *série*, It., Sp., Pg. *serie.*]

I. General senses.

1. A number or set *of* material things of one kind ranged in a line, either contiguously or at more or less regular intervals; a range or continued spatial succession of similar objects; † in early use applied to a row of building.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 454 A very faire architectonical Machine..in which are three degrees, whereof each containeth a faire Statue...At the very toppe of this rowe or *series* of worke is errected a most excellent effigies of a Cocke. *Ibid.* 636 A faire front of building...Which front or *series* extendeth it selfe in a goodly length. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 163 For five hundred paces it every way gives a *series* of all sorts of Persian fruits and flowers. 1812 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 191 In Oxfordshire, where I saw a landscape, or rather a series of landscapes, of singular beauty. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocracy* Wks. (Bohn) II. 81 The series of squares called Belgravia. 1872 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ* 68 Cells mostly arranged in a simple or double series in the filament.

2. A number *of* things of one kind (chiefly immaterial, as events, actions, conditions, periods of time) following one another in temporal succession, or in the order of discourse or reasoning.

1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* II. 455 The noisome gales,..that incense the seas And raise together in one *series* Ioues Autumne dashes. 1646 HOWELL *Lewis XIII*, 20 So was his whole life attended with a series of good successes. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* I All men can reason to some degree,..but where there is need of a long series of Reasons, there most men wander out of the way. 1663 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 122 The Series and Chain of our former Experiments. 1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 188 The worst Province an Historian can fall upon, is a Series of barren Times, in which nothing remarkable happeneth. 1765 W. WARD *Grammar* IV. IV. 167 Several participles cannot conveniently be used so as to affect every part of long serieses of words immediately. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 514/1 These different heights of tide are observed to succeed each other in a regular series...This series is completed in about 15 days... Two serieses are completed in the exact time of a lunation. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. vi, What a hoping People he had, judge by the fact, and series of facts, now to be noted. 1871 R. W. DALE *Commandm.* x. 242 These Commandments occupy a great place in a series of Divine revelations. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 44 § 13 That the repayment of the money to be borrowed should be spread over a series of years.

with pl. concord. 1864 BABBAGE *Passages* 46 Another series of experiments were..made. 1871 MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 245 A complex series of historic facts do not usually fit so neatly into the moral formula.

b. A number *of* persons in succession holding the same office or having some characteristic in common. † Also, a succession of persons in descent, a family line.

1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. V. 15 Aaron, and those that issued from his loynes, (in whom the series of Priests was continued). 1638 NABBES *Totenham Court* II. i, To make the series of their Families Spread in so many glorious divisions. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Series*..an issue or descent of kindred. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 26 Teimûr Lenk, though extracted from the noblest blood of the Kings, yet remote from the Royal Stock by a long series. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 287 ¶ 6 Look into the Historian I have mentioned, or into any Series of Absolute Princes. 1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 16 Mar., Entails are good, because it is good to preserve in a country serieses of men, to whom the people are accustomed to look up as to their leaders. 1865 G. GROTE *Plato* I. IV. 234 Speusippus succeeded him..as teacher,..being succeeded..by Polemon, Krantor..and others in uninterrupted series.

† c. A catalogue, list. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxx. (1674) 108 [They] made a long and exact Series of many abuses which reigned in that State. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 60 It is not my purpose to relate a series and catalogue of all the British Kings to the Saxon Monarchs.

† **3.** A succession, sequence, or continued course (*of* action or conduct, *of* time, life, etc.). *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 152 The *series* both of fate, and of fortune. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 138 To devote the Series of their whole Life to the Divine honour. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. vii. 251 The Series of Providence that was to follow in this Earth. *Ibid.* xi. 316 No long Series's of Providence. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* 190 After such a long series of time. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 140 How trace the tedious series of our fate? 1772 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 373 A more decent..and prudent series of proceeding. 1805 T. LINDLEY *Voy. Brazil* 11 His life had been a series of industry. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, After a series of what had appeared to him strong encouragement.

† b. A continued state or spell. *Obs.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 98 We had a series of as favourable weather, as could well be expected. *Ibid.* II. i. 111 Those ..who have endured a long series of thirst. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 249 A series of unsettled weather.

† **4.** The connected sequence (*of* discourse, writing, thought). *Obs.*

1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies* Ep. Ded., As the conceit may neither taste of too much lightnesse..nor the whole passage or *series* incline to too much dulnesse. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple, Delights Muses* 104 The plyant Series of her slippery song. 1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 31 Not to look upon any thing as my Opinion or Assertion that is not deliver'd in the entire Series of my own Words. 1667-8 S. WARD *Infidelity* (1670) 5 Reflecting..upon the Text as it lies in the Series of the Epistle. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Series*,.. a continuation of Discourse. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 549 ¶ 1, I am engaged in this Series of Thought by a Discourse which I had..with..Sir Andrew Freeport.

† **5.** Order of succession; sequence. *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xii. 312 Wee haue shewed the ancient Coines of the Britaines, and obserued a series thorow the Romanes succession. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Gov. Eng.* II. xxviii. 223 Nor [are] they good Historians, that will tell you the bare journall of Action without the *Series* of occasion. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 2 It seems impossible that any thing should really alter the *series* of things, without the same power which at first produced them. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Watts* (1868) 450 The series of his works I am not able to deduce.

6. A number of magnitudes, degrees of some attribute, or the like, viewed as capable of being enumerated in a progressive order. Also, a set of objects of one kind, differing progressively in size or in some other respect, or having a recognized order of enumeration.

1786-8 (*title*) A Series of [64] points of ancient history. 1818 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (ed. 2) 61 *note*, A series of these [test] tubes should be always ready at hand. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1873) 41 These differences blend into each other by an insensible series.

II. Technical senses.

7. *Math.* A set of terms in succession (finite or infinite in number) the value of each of which is determined by its ordinal position according to a definite rule known as the *law* of the series; *esp.* a set of such terms continuously added together.

See ARITHMETICAL, GEOMETRICAL, RECURRING, etc.

1671 J. GREGORY in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 224 Reducing all of them [*sc.* equations] to infinite serieses. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 739/1 Any one who is conversant in Series. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 20 The operation, by having two or more series's to multiply into one another, becomes very troublesome. 1791 *Ibid.* LXXXI. 148 The serieses deduced should converge. 1839 R. MURPHY *Algebr. Equat.* 92 Recurring Series have been much used..in the solution of algebraical equations. 1874 GROSS *Algebra* II. 153 Summation of Series.

allusively. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* ii. 59 To examine in detail the series, of which the computed sum betrays at once somewhere in the calculation so gross an error. 1853 [WHEWELL] *Plural. Worlds* V. 76 We have here to build a theory without materials;—to sum a series of which every term, so far as we know, is nothing.

8. A set of coins, medals, etc. belonging to a particular epoch, locality, dynasty, or government. Also, a set of postage stamps, bank notes, etc., of a particular issue.

1697 tr. *Jobert's Knowl. Medals* 28 A Gold or Silver series of Medals. 1697 EVELYN *Numismata* 26 We begin with Heads, as best determining and guiding the Series. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 128 Among the many and particular Series's collected by him, he has 800 Medals of Colony's, 1500 Greek Coins, and 1200 Egyptian. 1808 PINKERTON *Ess. Medals* I. 3 Serieses of Roman coins. 1867 *Philatelist* I. 23/1 New series, 4 annas, light green. *Ibid.* 129/2 The stamps which were immediately adopted for the empire [*sc.* Mexico] were the 'eagle' series. 1876 MATHEWS *Coinage of World* Introd. p. iii, A recently discovered series of Bactrian coins. 1879 H. PHILLIPS, jr. *Addit. Notes upon Coins* 3 The present medal is one of a series struck to commemorate this occurrence. 1907 *Lancet* 16 Feb. 471/1 A fresh series of 5-franc notes is about to be issued.

9. A set of literary compositions having certain features in common, published successively or intended to be read in sequence; a succession of volumes or fascicules (of a periodical, the publications of a society, etc.) forming a set by itself (distinguished as *first, second*, etc. *series*). Also, in recent use, a succession of books issued by one publisher in a common form and having some similarity of subject or purpose; usually with a general title, as 'the Clarendon Press Series', 'the Men of Letters Series'.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ¶ 6 [The Chaplain] has digested them [*sc.* Sermons] into such a Series, that they follow one another naturally. (?) 1791 (*title*) A Series of original papers on that great National Subject, The Improvement of the art of Ship-building. 1813 BRYDGES (*title*) The Ruminator: containing a series of moral, critical and sentimental essays. 1832 SCOTT *Betrothed* Introd., The

Tales of the Crusaders was determined upon as the title of the following series of these Novels. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Aug. 1/1 Of all these *serieses* the 'Men of Letters' has, I suppose, been the most popular.

10. *Nat. Sci.* A group of individuals exhibiting similar characteristics or a constant relation between successive members: see quots.

1823 H. T. Brooke *Crystallogr.* 100 When the sets of new planes are so much extended as entirely to efface the primary planes, a *series* of entirely new solids will result. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* ii. § 3. 116 The entire series of phalangeals with the corresponding metatarsal of a..species of Dinornis. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 177 The upper Series or grade of Flowering or Phænogamous Plants, which have their counterpart in the lower Series of Flowerless or Cryptogamous Plants. *Ibid.*, The following schedule.. comprises all that are generally used in a natural classification,..Series, Class, Subclass [etc.]. 1857 [see Isologous]. 1869, 1876 [see Homologous 3]. 1878 Dallinger in *Nature* 23 May 102/2 A hitherto unrecorded organism belonging to the septic series.

11. *Geol.* A set of successive deposits or group of successive formations having certain common fossil or mineral features.

1822 Conybeare *Outl. Geol.* II. iii. § 2. 181 A zone of argillo-calcareous beds belonging to the Purbeck series. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iii. 59 The series having been slightly overlapped. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* 197 A curious series of deposits may thus be produced.

12. *Electr.* and *Magn.* A number of wires of different metals each connected with the preceding. (Such wires or the cells are said to be *in series*.)

1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* ii. § 21 (1881) 43 Any series of metallic conductors thus placed in contact. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. Th. Electr. Magn.* I. 229 If any number of wires of different metals M_1, M_2, M_3, M_4 are joined together in series,..the wire of metal M_1 beginning and ending the series.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = (*a*) arranged or connected in series; (*b*) short for *series-wound*, i. e. wound in series, or so that the coils on the field-magnets are placed in series with the outer circuit.

1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 125/1 The ordinary or series dynamo. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 194/2 The 'series' system..may be likened to the arrangement of disks on the chain of a chain-pump. 1891 *Lightning* 19 Nov. 107 Series-wound dynamo-machine. 1893 Sloane *Electr. Dict.*, *Series*, arranged in succession as opposed to parallel ..[e.g.] Series Connection. *Ibid.*, *Series-multiple*, arrangement of electric apparatus, in which the parts are grouped in sets in parallel and these sets are connected in series.

13. *Philol.* (tr. G. *reihe*.) In the Indogermanic languages, a set of vowels, or of diphthongs and vowels or sonants, which are mutually related by ablaut.

1888 Wright *OHG. Primer* 61 The vowels vary within certain series of related vowels, called ablaut-series. There are in OHG. six such series.

14. A parcel of rough diamonds of assorted qualities. (In recent Dicts.)

Serif (se·rif). *Typogr.* Also **seriff**; (formerly) **oeriph, seriph, -yph, surryph**: see Sanserif. [Of obscure origin.] One of the fine cross-strokes at the top and bottom of a letter. Also used loosely as in quot. 1894.

1841 Savage *Dict. Printing* 163 The fine lines, and the cross strokes at the tops and bottoms of letters, are termed by the letter founders ceriphs. 1869 *N. & Q.* Ser. IV. III. 381 The word *serif*, used by printers and type-founders. 1885 De Vinne in *Trans. Grolier Club* I. 36 The bracketed serifs of Van Dyke and Garamond. 1894 Kipling in *My First Bk.* 94 Even a Hindoo does not like to find the serifs of his f's cut away to make long s's.

Seriff, variant of Shereef.

Serific (sĭri·fik), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *sēric-um* silk (see Seric) + -fic.] Producing silk.

1895 Sedgwick *Peripatus* x. (Cambr. Nat. Hist.) 246 There are a large number of 'serific glands' of two kinds in the female [of the Mantidæ].

Seriform (sī·rĭfōrm), *a. rare.* [f. L. Ser-es + -form.] Applied to a division of the Ugro-Finnish races comprising the Chinese, Siamese, etc., and to the group of languages spoken by these peoples.

1849–52 W. B. Carpenter in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1347/2 The Seriform, or Indo-Chinese [languages], which are spoken by the people of South-Eastern Asia. *Ibid.* 1364/2 The Seriform stock of Southern Asia. 1850 Latham *Var. Man* 15 Altaic Mongolidæ..Seriform Stock.

Serigraph (se·rigraf). [irreg. f. L. *sēricum* silk (see Seric) + -graph.] An instrument for testing the uniformity of raw silk.

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 62a/2 A most ingenious American invention, the serigraph.

So **Serimeter** (sĭri·mĭtəɹ), an instrument for testing the strength of silk thread.

Serimonie, -y, obs. forms of Ceremony.

Serin (se·rin). Also 6 **seryne, -ene.** [a. F. *serin* canary, of disputed origin; cf. Pr. *serin*.]

1. In early examples perh. the canary (*Serinus canarius*); in modern ornithology, a bird of the genus *Serinus*.

1530 Palsgr. 269/2 Seryne a byrde, *serin.* 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 39 The grene serene sang sueit. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Hand-bk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 53 A small Serin (*S. pusillus*) with a red forehead.

2. In full, *Serin finch*: the finch *S. serinus* (*S. hortulanus*), a native of central Europe.

a 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1678) 265 It [*sc.* the Citril] differs from the Siskin and Serin, 1. In its ash-coloured Neck [etc.]. 1783 Latham *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 1. 296 Serin F[inch]. 1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* II. 540 The Serin ..is..remarkable for its small and very short bill. 1871–81 Dresser *Birds Eur.* IV. Pl. 25 The call-note of the Serin Finch. 1882 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) II. 113 The Serin is a very popular cage-bird on the continent.

Serin(e (se·rin). [f. Serum + -in[1], -ine[5].]

1. *Chem.* a. Serum albumin. b. Amido-glycerol.

1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Fermentation* 84 It is not the serine which is active in this case. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 6/4 The only hot drink we prepared was a kind of toddy made of lime juice tablets, or serine powder.

2. (See quot.)

1898 Johansen in *Windsor Mag.* Sept. 436/2 'Serin', or whey powder...This is really nothing else than pulverised whey, which we mixed with boiling water.

‖ **Serinette** (serine·t). [Fr., f. *serin* canary: see -ette.] A bird organ.

1858 *Lond. Jrnl.* 27 Feb. 408/3 There are puppet-shows, and performances on the accordion, and the serinette in the subterranean passage.

Sering, obs. form of Syringe.

Seringa (sĕrĭ·ngă). [a. F. *seringa* (formerly also *seringat*) = Pg. *seringa*, ad. L. Syringa.]

1. Any of the shrubs of the genus *Philadelphus*, esp. *P. coronarius*, common in gardens; the mock-orange, Syringa. (Also † seringo.)

1740 C'tess Hartford *Let. to C'tess Pomfret* 17 Apr., Arbours interwoven with lilacs, woodbines, seringas, and laurels. a 1785 T. Potter *Moralist* II. 144 'Twas then a Black-bird and its mate In a seringo built their nest. 1840 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. 109 The rich perfume of the seringas and acacias. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Dau.* x, A dark-brown jug of roses and seringa on the window-sill.

‖ **2.** The Portuguese name for Brazilian plants of the genus *Hevea* (*Siphonia*), yielding india-rubber.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Siphonia*, They [species of *Siphonia*] are called Seringa-trees by the Brazilians. 1880 C. R. Markham *Peruv. Bark* 455 In Brazil the name is *seringa*, and the collectors are *seringueiros*.

Hence **Seri·ngahood** *nonce wd.*, the condition of abounding in seringa bloom; **Seri·ngous** *a.*, resembling that of seringa.

1754 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 8 June, [Strawberry Hill] is now in the height of its greenth, blueth, gloomth, honeysuckle and seringahood. 1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkal.* 32 An almost cloudless liquid of slightly oleaginous consistence, of a seringous odour.

Sering(e, variant of Cering *vbl. sb.*

1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1900) 88 Seringe candell. 1571 *Ibid.* 142 Other lightes Seringcandle Corde.

Seringe, obs. form of Syringe.

Seringue. = Seringa 2.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Seringue*, a South American name for the caoutchouc-yielding Siphonia.

Serio, short for Serio-comic *sb.*

1894 *Yellow Bk.* I. 76 Coming after all those sly serios.. Miss Cissy Loftus had the charm which things of another period often do possess. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 3 Aug. 4/4 'As if a serio had anything to do with anything serious!'

Serio- (sī·rio), used as comb. form (see -o-) of Serious, = partly serious and partly . . .

1902 *Academy* 12 Apr. 387/2 The *serio-grotesque headlines of the New York *Journal*. 1811 [E. Nares] (*title*) Thinks-I-to-Myself. A *serio-ludicro, tragico-comico tale. a 1834 Lamb *Guy Faux* Misc. Wks. (1871) 373 It is familiarized to us in a kind of *serio-ludicrous way. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Mr. J. Dounce*, The young lady..went through various other *serio-pantomimic fascinations. 1866 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) I. 85 What a fantastic *serio-ridiculous set these road companions of his mostly were.

Se rio-co·medy. [f. next.] A serio-comic piece.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Apr. 4/1 The libretto of 'The Canterbury Pilgrims' is no ordinary work;..its story is ..told tunefully and gaily, as befits a serio-comedy. 1891 M. Williams *Later Leaves* xix. 226 Nothing will ever come near him in *The Roused Lion*, which..was serio-comedy.

Se·rio-co·mic, *a.* [f. Serio- + Comic *a.*] Partly serious and partly comic; (of an actor, vocalist, etc. or his performance) presenting a comic plot, situation, etc. under a serious form.

1783 Colman *Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) III. 147, I was almost confounded in the serio-comick scenes of the Satyrick Piece. 1787 Keate (*title*) The Distressed Poet, a serio-comic poem. 1826 F. Reynolds *Life & Times* II. 321 Lewis, by a striking display of serio-comic talent,..proved, that..he could excite tears as abundantly as smiles. 1858 H. Morley *Jrnl. Lond. Playgoer* (1866) 227 The production at the Olympic of a 'new serio-comic drama'. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* ii, 'Good Heavens!' interrupts Fred, regarding him with serio-comic horror—'*young* did you say?'

b. as *sb.* (also **-comique**). A serio-comic actor, vocalist, etc.

1907 H. Wyndham *Flare of Footlights* xxxi, Miss Constance Plantagenet, the Favourite Serio-Comique.

So **Se·rio-co·mical** *a.*; **Se·rio-co·mically** *adv.*

1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* VII. viii. (1782) III. 67 My serio-comical reception behind the scenes. 1872 *Punch* 18 May 202/1 The Ministry..were defeated only three times this week—once comically, once seriously, and once serio-comically. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown* 11 Her hair..was tumbled serio-comically about her forehead.

† **Seriol.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *striola*, dim. of *stria* jar.] A small jar.

a 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 393 Ek whelse a seriol therout that haue Grauel vp to the myddes.

Serion, -iont, obs. ff. Surgeon, Sergeant.

Seriosity (sĭərĭo·sĭti). [ad. late L. *striōsĭtās*, f. *sēriōsus* Serious. Cf. Seriosste.] Seriousness.

1637 Bastwick *Letany* 1. 6 It would..move laughter to men though disposed otherwise to seriosity. 1693 *Humours Town* 20 The grave starch'd seriosity of a Sylogistical Argumentation. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 284 If I may claim from my reader a moment's seriosity, I will explain. 1903 *Academy* 21 Feb. 168/1 Laugh! Few things are worthy of seriosity.

b. A serious saying, a piece of seriousness.

1893 Leland *Mem.* I. 288 Painfully elaborating jocosities or seriosities for the million.

Serious (sĭə·rĭəs), *a.* Forms: 5 **sery-, ceryows,** 5–6 **seryous,** 6 **seryouse, -iouse,** 6–7 **-eous,** (7 *superl.* **seriousest, seriousst**), 6– **serious.** [ad. F. *sérieux* (14th c.) or its source, late L. *sēriōsus*, f. L. *sērius* (whence Sp., Pg., It. *serio*). Cf. It. *serioso*.]

1. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Having, involving, expressing, or arising from earnest purpose or thought; of grave or solemn disposition or intention; having depth or solidity of character, not light or superficial; now often, concerned with the grave and earnest sides of life as opposed to amusement or pleasure-seeking.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/2 Seryows, sad and feythefulle, *seriosus*. 1530 Palsgr. 324/1 Seryouse ernest, *serieux*. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 480/2 Saint Paule woulde not haue made so serious and earnest remembrance of the putting vpon of the handes..if [etc.]. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. (1611) 329 All that belongeth to the mysticall perfection of baptisme outwardly, is the element, the word, and the serious application of both vnto him which receiueth both. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* III. iii, The King is serious, And cannot now admit your vanities. c 1640 A. Stafford *Just Apol. Fem. Glory* (1869) p. xcii, The faire sereous Prince wee are now blest in. 1663 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 95, I do hereby, with my last and seriousest thoughts, salute you. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 222 ₱ 2 I have taken that Matter into my serious Consideration. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. xii, Shaking off his old serious friends, and keeping company with buffoons and pickpockets. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., I was..glad to see that she took a serious thought of any kind. 1838–9 Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 20, I really entertain serious thoughts of learning to use a gun. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* III. I. 320 His chief serious employment was the care of his property. 1882 Mozley *Remin.* (ed. 2) I. 64 He was too serious to smile; indeed, I cannot remember him ever smiling except sadly. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 619 Such a dietary, adapted for an adult man, is little irksome to any serious patient.

† b. Earnestly bent or applied (to the pursuit of something); keen. *Obs.*

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* A 5 Julius Cæsar,..serious after the inquisition of good Discipline. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 178 If I should seeme serious, in doing seruice to the aduauncement of mine owne wit. *Ibid.* 186 They assaulted me with more serious supplications, not holding me..excusable. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 203 All my mind was set Serious to learn and know.

† c. Staid, steady, reliable. *Obs.*

1693 J. Clayton in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 291, I have been told by very serious Planters, that 30 or 40 Years since, ..the Thunder was more fierce.

2. Earnest about the things of religion; religious.

1796 Simeon in Carus *Life* (1847) 117, I could wish..that the custom of drinking toasts was banished from the tables of the serious, because it tends to excess. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xvi, Pleasant Place, Finsbury. Wages, twelve guineas. No tea, no sugar. Serious family. 1840 Newman *Lett.* (1891) II. 311 Such a general feeling exists amongst serious people of the need of religious communities.

b. Cited as a canting expression.

1809 Kendall *Trav.* I. xxxiii. 323 His sons death brought him to God—he grew serious [*note*, Serious has the cant acceptation of religious]. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* I. i, And Peter Bell, when he had been With fresh-imported Hell-fire warmed, Grew serious. 1885 'F. Anstey' *Tinted Venus* x, No one knows the power that a single serious hairdresser might effect with worldly customers.

3. Dealing with or regarding a matter on its grave side; not jesting, trifling, or playful; in earnest. Hence, of theatrical compositions or actors, not jocular or comic.

[1590: see 4.] 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Jan., I was going to be serious, because it was seriously put; but I turned it to a jest. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 224 Magnificent serious pantomimes. 1796 Oulton *Theatres Lond.* II. 107 Orpheus and Euridice, a grand serious Opera, translated from the Italian. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 497/1 Gaetano Guadagni..had been in this country..as serious-man in a burletta troop of singers. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* viii. III. 104 A note of enquiry, half serious, half waggish. 1864 H. Morley *Jrnl. Lond. Playgoer* (1866) 339 A play which demands alternation of serious and comic acting. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 201 The gentlemen are not serious, but are only playing with you.

4. Requiring earnest thought, consideration, or application; performed with earnestness of purpose.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xx. (1537) 76 b, Socrates..was not ashamed to account daunsynge amonge the seriouse disciplines. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 29 Your sawcinesse will lest vpon my loue, And make a Common of my serious howres. 1607 Chapman *Bussy d'Amboise* II. ii, And never My fruitless love shall let your serious honour. a 1625 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman's Prize* III. iv, *Row.* She made a puppy of me...*Bya.* She must doe so sometimes, and oftentimes: Love were too serious else. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Dis.* (1708) 35 He makes Cards and Dice his serious Entertainment. 1825 Lamb *Elia* II. *Barbara S—*, I have played at serious whist with Mr. Liston. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 26 May 6/2 Perhaps more serious reading would then dethrone the eternal novel. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. vi. 196 Knowing of sorrow only just so much as to make life serious to me.

† b. Used for purposes of business. *rare.*

1622 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 32 The treacherous Lady stept aside Into her serious closet.

5. Of grave demeanour or aspect.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, Prol. 2 A weighty and a serious brow. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Staffs.* (1662) III. 47 Queen Elizabeth was serious (I dare not say sullen) and out of good humour. 1688 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Dec., He is very stately, serious and reserv'd. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 297 A shallow brain behind a serious mask. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* x, A good portrait..must be either serious or smirking, or it's no portrait at all. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* ii, White smocks, and slate, surmounted by hats of a serious brim. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iii. 82 His aspect was grave and quiet, and his dress seemly and serious.

b. Inducing or associated with grave or solemn thoughts.

1822 LAMB *Elia* II. *Bks. & Reading*, I should not care to be caught in the serious avenues of some cathedral alone, and reading *Candide*. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* vi. § 1 It would be difficult to conceive a scene less dependent upon any other interest than that of its own secluded and serious beauty.

6. Weighty, important, grave; (of quantity or degree) considerable, not trifling.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 11 Ether permit me to..make one in ye voiage, or alleage some more wayghty & seryous reason why you retayne me. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. b 2 b, So many different Employments..have not at all diverted him from the study of the most serious and difficult matters. 1782 WARTON *Ess. Pope* II. xii. 380 Swift was always reading lectures of œconomy..to his poetical friends. A shilling, says he, is a serious thing. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 103 To level the Sugar-Loaf to its base, would of itself be a serious work. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xiii. 28 Serious sums in healing misery spent. 1835 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* IV. xxx. 336 The light infantry of the enemy, which was..making serious progress. 1861 F. A. PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Prometh.* 433 *note*, In the epodus..it is probable that serious corruptions exist. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 13 Of the numerous company, three only take any serious part in the discussion. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Sept. 1/2 All vessels of serious tonnage must lie at the anchorage, about twelve miles by river from the city. 1884 *Times* 27 June 4 The damage is not thought to be serious.

b. Attended with danger; giving cause for anxiety.

1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* IV. 260 As well as she had ever been since her serious illness. 1891 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 3/3 He was badly thrown...It is feared that his condition is serious.

7. quasi-sb. *The serious*: that which is serious; the serious side of life, etc.

c 1730 RAMSAY *Some Contents* ii, Dunbar does..in the serious schyne. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. i. *heading*, Of the serious in writing, and for what purpose it is introduced. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 71 You have found out how seriously he objects to the serious.

8. *Comb.*

1825 HOOD *To Sylv. Urban* i, A sober age made serious drunk by thee. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. iii, It was piercing and fearful, and a most serious-looking thing. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 489 The thinking and serious-minded among his contemporaries. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Queen of Love* v, He had been brought up in the straightest sect of serious-mindedness.

Seriously, *adv.*[1] Also 4–5 ceryous-, -ious-. [Rendering of med.L. *seriōsē*, used as adv. of *seriōs* SERIES; cf. SERIATIM, SERIATLY.] In due order or sequence; from beginning to end; one after another, seriatim. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 87 Thise Marchantz han hym toold of dame Custance So greet noblesse in ernest ceriously. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5442 There namys by and by Be rehersed ceriously. 1422-30 — *Chron. Troy* I. 1449 Whan þe kyng had herd ceryously pentent of Iason. 1463 ASHBY *Prisoner's Reft.* 313 Redyng thys tretyse ceryously. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 79 And 6 Barles w^th 470 speares, and 1420 archers, whose names seriouslie hereafter ensewe. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. viii, Nowe will I proceede seriously, and in a due forme to speke more particularly of these thre vertues. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* X. 361 And this (said Dolon) too (my Lords) Ile seriously unfold.

Seriously (sĭə·rĭəsli), *adv.*[2] [f. SERIOUS *a.* + -LY[2].] In a serious manner.

1. With earnest thought or application; with serious intent; in earnest, earnestly; with gravity; not lightly, superficially, or jocosely.

Sometimes *elliptically*, introducing a qualifying statement or a question = to speak seriously.

1509 FISHER *Funt. Serm. C'tess Richm.* Wks. (1876) 294 Tho dayes that by the chirche were appoynted she kept them diligently & seresously. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 225 Kyng Edward and his counsaill tooke the matter in great earnest, and seriously wrote to Duke Charles, that [etc.]. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 62 By the remembrance and thinking vpon the same seriously. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 84 If seriously I may conuay my thoughts In this my light deliuerance. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 242 This I beleeved not, till..the English Merchants..seriously affirmed the same to be true. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 15 It is absurd ..to call a thing seriously (for in mockery indeed sometime we doe) by the name of some other thing. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 67 Except here and there an officer, (and seriously I saw not above three or four that looked like a gentleman). 1650 BAXTER *Saint's R.* III. vi 368 If one fall down in a swoun..how seriously will you run to relieve..them. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 27 When he's sober again, he seriously curses the Freedom of his Tongue. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 P 4, I would have them seriously think on the Shortness of their Time. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiv, As you seem to be a seriously disposed young woman, you may attend family worship in the hall this evening. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 265 Seriously impressed by religious convictions. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 204 Quite seriously, all the vital functions.. rise and set with the sun. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* xxiii, Seriously, though, what ought I to do?

b. Phr. *To take seriously* (cf. TAKE *v.* 42): to be serious in one's dealings with, or attitude towards.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. xi, 'Dear Mrs. Delvile' cried Lady Honoria, giddily, 'you take me too seriously'. 'And dear Lady Honoria', said Mrs. Delvile, 'I would it were possible to make you take yourself seriously'. 1889 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 573 It is really time..that you took things more seriously.

2. To a serious extent.

1765 R. RIGBY in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 365, I should be seriously sorry that March should suffer for want of attention to his master. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, 'Help, Nazarene!' cried Sheerkohf, now seriously alarmed. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. iv. 59 The Earl fell more seriously than before under the Queen's anger. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 55 *Preamble*, The health of many young persons employed in shops and warehouses is seriously injured by reason of the length of the period of employment.

Seriousness (sĭə·rĭəsnĕs). [f. SERIOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being serious; gravity or earnestness of purpose, thought, or conduct; importance, weightiness. †*In seriousness*, seriously.

1530 PALSGR. 269/2 Seriousnesse, *serieuseté*. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* Prol. B 2 b, Where I but striue in honest seriousnes, To scourge some soule-poluting beastlines. 1607 FLETCHER *Woman Hater* I. iii, Sister, in seriousnesse you yet are young And faire. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick*, That the sense of his weakness may add..seriousness to his repentance. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 3 Seriousness and Merriment are near Neighbours. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 153 The utmost gravity, seriousness, and solemnity in his countenance. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iii. ii, Nay, in seriousness, let no man say that Calonne had not genius. 1844 S. G. OSBORNE *Let.* 23 July (1891) I. 13 Now, Sir, one word in all sober seriousness. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 417 The seriousness of his [Spenser's] poetic tone reflects the seriousness of his poetic purpose. 1895 *Law Times* XCVIII. 280/1 Plaintiff's counsel dwelt forcibly on the seriousness of the injury, as blighting the plaintiff's whole future career.

†**Seriouste.** *Obs. rare*—°. In 5 cery-, -owste. [f. SERIOUS + *-le*, -TY.] Seriousness.

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 142/1 Ernest, ceryowste, *seriositas*. *c* 1490 *Ibid.* 453/2 Seriowste, *seriositas*.

Seriowre, obs. form of SEARCHER.

Seriph, variant of SERIF, SHEREEF.

Seripositor (seripɒ·zĭtəi). [f. L. *sēricum* silk (see SERIC) + POSITOR.]

1881 WARDLE *Wild Silks of India* 28, I propose..to change the word 'spinnaret', which conveys an inaccurate impression, and substitute for it that of 'seripositor'. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 58/1.

†**Serish,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. In 7 searish. [f. SERE *a.* + -ISH.] Dryish.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Dorachtigh*, Dryish, or Searish.

Serius, obs. form of SIRIUS.

Serjand, -jaunt, etc.: see SERGEANT.

Serk(e, obs. forms of SARK.

Serkel(l, serkle, serkill, etc., obs. ff. CIRCLE.

Serkelet, obs. form of CIRCLET.

Serly: see SIRLY, SERELY, SURLY.

†**Serment.** *Obs.* Also 5 serement. [a. OF. *ser(e)ment, sairement*:—L. *sacrāmentum*.] An oath.

a 1325 tr. *Stat. Westm.* II. xlvii. (MS. Rawl. B 520, lf. 27), Ant te lord king aioinez to alle his Iustises in fei and in serment..þat [etc.]. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vii. (Skeat) I. 52 To make a trewe serment. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xv. 143 Kepe thy feyth, thyn vndyrtakynges, and thy Serementz. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 21 If..it be found, that the Pety Jury have given a false Serement. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 136 This serment vas veil maid & bettir kepit.

Serment, obs. form of SERMON.

Sermocinate, *v. rare*—°. [f. L. *sermōcinat-*, pa. ppl. stem of *sermōcinārī*, f. *sermo* (see SERMON).] *intr.* To talk.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sermocinate*, to talke, to commune.

†**Sermocination.** *Obs.* Also 7 cerm-. [ad. L. *sermōcinātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *sermōcinārī* to SERMOCINATE.]

1. Talk, conversation; a discourse, sermon.

1514 *Fruyte of Redempcyon* (W. de W.) A iij b, Every oryson, every tonge, and sermocynacyon. 1623 COCKERAM II, A Talking together. *Cermocination*. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* 53 Barrow and Greenwood were possessed with a spirit of railing and scoffing, terming..preaching preachment and sermocination. 1646 BP. HALL *Three Treat., Free Prisoner* § 2 No sermocinations of Ironmongers, Feltmakers, Coblers. 1662 PHILLIPS *Pref.*, Whatever kind of sermocination is generally used in any Country, may very properly be termed a Language. 1674 SIR W. PETTY *Disc. Royal Soc.* Ep. Ded., Paltry..cannot be rectified by any sermocinations.

2. *Rhet.* A form of prosopopœia in which the speaker, having made a remark or put a question, immediately answers it.

1753 *Chambers Cycl. Supp., Sermocination*,..in rhetoric, denotes discourse in general, whether held by a person alone, or in company, and is the same with what is called dialogism.

So †**Sermocinator,** a talker, speaker; †**Sermocinatrix,** a female talker.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sermocinator*, hee which talketh. *Ibid., Cermocinatrix*, shee that instructed to speake. *Ibid., Sermocinatrix*, she which talketh. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 214 These obstreperous Sermocinators..make exile impressions upon the minds of the vulgar. 1657 [W. SANCROFT] *Mod. Policies* iv. (ed. 7) D 5 b, These Clancular Sermocinators bear as great sway in popular minds..as the Loyolists do.

Sermon (sə·mən), *sb.* Forms: α. 3-4 sermun, 3-5 sarmun, 3-6 sarmon, sermoun, 4-5 sarmoun(e, sermown(e, 4-6 sermone, 4- sermon. β. 5-6 sermond(e, 6 serment, sarmond, 7 searmond, 8 *vulgar* sarmant. [a. AF. *sermun* = OF. *sermon* (= Pr. *sermo,n*, It. *sermone*, Sp. *sermon*, Pg. *sermão*), ad. L. *sermōnem*, *sermo* talk, discourse, speech.]

†1. Something that is said; talk, discourse. *Obs.*

To make sermon: to speak. *To make* (α) *long sermon*: to speak at great length.

c 1275 *Serving Christ* 53 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Þureh his sely sermun sorewe him wes by-þouht. α 1300 *Cursor M.* 13245 To þe Iues..In his louing he made sermon. *Ibid.* 13494 Quat sal i sai yow lang sermun? *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9240 Arme vs swybe, & go we doun, Wyboute any more sarmoun! 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1185 If hit be ueray & soth sermoun. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 40 Withoute more sermone, Thei drouhe handes, as weddynge askethe of rihte. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 177 Thair wes na sermone amang thaim how thair army suld be arrayit. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 16 When any of you come to your confession at Tyborne, what is your last sermon that you make. 1594 *2nd Rep. Faustus* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 404 Desiring Don Infeligo with very mild sermon to be friends with Medesimo again.

†b. In particularized use: A speech, discourse; *pl.* in collective sense, words, talk. *Obs.*

α. α 1300 *Cursor M.* 22219 Sant Paule þus sais in his sarmuns To þe folk of þe tessaluns. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2025 What shuld I langer sermone off it make? *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's Prol.* 87 He..Nolde neuere write in none of his sermons Of swyche vnkynde abomynacions. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Agnes* 189 The prefect..made hir a sermoun ful of flatery. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 1509 Quhilk ar þe sarmonis quhilk ȝe at oþer speir? 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* I. 1 These are the Sermons of Ieremy the sonne of Helchia the prest.

β. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11491 He said in his sermond, þat sothely the grekes Were of pepull & pouer plaintius mony. α 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxi. 246 It is not nedefull that I sholde make a longe sermonde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xi. (S.T.S.) II. 186 He ceissit nocht with sic playis, sermondis & exerciciouns..to draw þame.

†c. *pl.* The satires (*sermones*) of Horace.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I j, As Horace witnesseth in his .ii. boke of sermons, the .iiii. Satyre. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, Good Horace..I am for your odes or your sermons, or any thing indeed. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 438 Again Horace in his Odes...Likewise in his Sermons.

2. A discourse, usually delivered from a pulpit and based upon a text of Scripture, for the purpose of giving religious instruction or exhortation. Phr. *To preach*, † *do*, † *make*, † *say a sermon*.

α. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 35 He wisseð ðes mannes iðang ..oðer ðurh haliȝe writes oðer ðurh hali sermuns. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Weope we, cweð þe holi mon in 'Uitas Patrum', þo me hefde longe iȝeied on him efter sarmun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 Ine þet þou ne hest..y-hyerd his seruise ne y-zed his benes ne yhyerd sermons. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 81, I have to day been at youre chirche at messe, And seyd a sermoun after my symple wit. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 1 Here begynnes a Sermon..þe whilke teches how scrifte es to be made. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 65 He herde in a sermone that deth spareth none. *c* 1521 1st *Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) 35/1 He comyth bodiȝly euery yere in his chirche & doth a sermon. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxi. 38 Sermons are not the onely preaching which doth saue soules. 1692 T. WATSON *Body Divinity* 342 Which is worse, to stay from a Sermon, or sleep at a Sermon? 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 P 5 The Sunday before he had made a most incomparable sermon out of Dr. Barrow. 1828 WHATELY in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 263/1 Sermons not unfrequently prove popular, which consist avowedly and almost exclusively of Exhortation. 1869 ARNOLD *Cult. & Anarchy* 29 A life of jealousy of the Establishment, disputes, tea meetings, openings of chapels, sermons.

β. *c* 1500 *God spede the Plough* 62 Preching dayly Sermondys inough With good Examples full graciously. 1564 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 130 Y^e Byshope of London went to the pulpyt and prechyd a sermond. 1599 in W. Kelly *Notices illustr. Drama* (1865) 230 [He] further said the preacher was a Liar, for that, in his sermond, he said [etc.].

b. as an institution connected with a particular church or pulpit or particular season.

1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 426 The Maire and Shiref of Bristowe shall..kepe theire Aduent sermondes. 1550 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1877) II. 40 Allso this yeare the sermons at Whitsontyde was kept at Pawles Crosse. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 57 Thys yere on sent Martyns day begane the sarmond at the crosse agayne. 1646 PRYNNE *Canterb. Doome* 378 Concerning the Sermon weekly on Wednesday in Saint James Chappell in Brackley. 1765 FOOTE *Commiss.* I. i, Never misses the sarmant on Sundays.

c. as a written or published work.

1422 YONGE *Secreta Secret.* xxxii. 183, I fynde In a Sermonde writte, that an extorcioneere is wors than the deuyil. 1547 (*title*) Certain Sermons, or Homilies, appoynted by the Kynges Maiestie, to be declared and redde, by all Persones. 1657 *Crooke's Div. Char.* To Rdr. A 2 b, Certain select Sermons..licensed by the Vice-chancellor of Oxford, to be printed there. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 203 And Sermons are less read than Tales. 1862 J. F. STEPHEN *Def. Rowland Williams* 150 In Bishop Horsley's Sermons.

d. without article.

At, after sermon = at, after church.

a 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. London* (Camden) 239 Whyle men were at sarmonys the Sonday after noon. 1582-8 *Hist. Jas. VI* (1804) 106 Immediatlie he past to the kirk, and..maid sermon as though he had done na sic thing. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxii. 49 Those places which euery day for the most part are at sermons as the flowing Sea. 1666 EVELYN *Diary* 4 July, After Sermon I waited on my Lord Abp. of Canterbury. 1773 ANNE GRANT

Lett. Mountains (1809) I. vii. 53 Kilmore, where we heard sermon, is four miles off. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, The young Laird of Hazlewood rides hame half the road wi' her after sermon. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, To march in procession to Notre-Dame, and hear sermon.

e. Applied to the discourses of our Lord and the Apostles.

Sermon on the Mount, the discourse recorded in Matt. v-vii and introduced by the words 'he went up into a mountain..and taught them, saying'.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 31 He hedde i-yne þo newe laghe in one montayne and hedde i-maked þet formeste sarmun þet euerte made in erþe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 138 Oure lord ate biginnynge of his uayre sermon zayþ þet yblyssed byeþ þe poure. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T. in Scots* I. 13 The serment of Petir befor the congregratioun at Jerusalem. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 82 Quhen he prechit the sueit sermond to thaym apone the montane. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. v. *margin*, The sermon of Christ vpon the Mount. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxii. 45 Hearers of the Apostles Sermons. 1645 HAMMOND *Of Conscience* 26 Christs improvements of the Law in the Sermon on the Mount. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xii. 339 The Sermon on the Mount is the law of perfection given to the Christian people of the world. 1897 *Ch. Times* 20 Aug. 186/4 In spite of the Sermon on the Mount, men expect a deanery or a comfortable competency to be the sequel to a life of work for God.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* a. A discourse (spoken or written) on a serious subject, containing instruction or exhortation. Also *contemptuously*, a long or tedious discourse or harangue.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 186 Making a sermon of continencie to her. 1786 BURNS *Ep. Yng. Friend* i, Perhaps it may turn out a Sang; Perhaps, turn out a Sermon. 1816 [see LAY *a.* 2]. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, And now let's go to business, gentlemen, and excuse this sermon. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* vii, I will not repay your confidence with a sermon. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 62 They do not make their woes the text Of sermons in the *Times*.

b. Something that affords instruction or example.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 17 Bookes in the running brookes, Sermons in stones. 1700 DRYDEN *Char. Gd. Parson* 78 His preaching much, but more his practice wrought; (A living sermon of the truths he taught).

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sermon-book, -head, note, -pamphlet, -style, -time,* † *while*; objective, as *sermon-actor, -horrower, -hunter, -hunting, -maker, -monger, -slighter, -taster, -writer*; adverbial, as *sermon-goer, -proof* adj., *-shaken,* †*-trodden* pa. ppples., *-wise* adv.; **sermon-bell**, a bell rung to give notice of a sermon; **sermon case**, a cover for the protection of a sermon in manuscript; **sermon class**, a class for instruction in preaching sermons; **sermon paper**, writing paper of foolscap 4to size; †**sermon-prayer**, a prayer said by the preacher before his sermon; †**sermon-sick**, temporarily 'upset' by the hearing of a sermon; so **sermon-sickness**; **sermon week** *Sc.*, the week passed in preparation for receiving the Sacrament.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 46 The finicall goosery of your neat *Sermon-actor. 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* i. 41 Do the office of the *sermon-bell at least, we know not what God may there do for them. 1687 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 255 They shall..ring the great bell for the Searmond bell. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 569 Of them not one Shall court our view on the sepulchral stone;..Or keep the sexton from the sermon-bell. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 9 He might meet in any *sermon-book, with abundant field to forage in. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 106 Which the *Sermon Borrower complained of to the Lender of it. 1853 *Hodson's Booksellers' Directory* Advt., *Sermon Cases, Black Roan, 2s. 1847 CARUS *Life C. Simeon* iv. 62 He would..encourage the least hopeful of his *sermon-class by telling them, that with his example before them none need despair. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 578 Hypocrites, dissemblers, holy brethren, *sermon-goers, Puritans. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Mark* i. 15 These were foure of our Saviours *Sermon-heads. 1886 H. F. LESTER *Under two Fig Trees* 186 The fashionable *Sermon-hunters. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 208 Psalm-singing, *sermon-hunting, ejaculating. 1552 HULOET, *Sermon maker, *concionator*. 1850 THOMSON *Owen's Wks.* I. Life p. cvi, No one..will refuse to him the praise of a great sermon-maker. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg., Fr. Greybeard* 231 These modern orthodox-jugglers and *sermon-mongers. 1705 — *Priest-cr.* II. ii. 22, I have found more Honesty [amongst the naked Indians in America]..in one Day, than amongst those Sermon-mongers in a Year. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 269 He..had..taken *Sermon notes by his most dexterous and incomparable faculty in short-writing. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 69 Latin *Sermon-Pamphlets. 1855 *Hodson's Booksellers' Directory* Advt., Ralph's *Sermon Paper. 1637 C. DOW *Answ. to Burton* 161 If *Sermon-prayers shall bee used as libels. 1624 DONNE *Serm.* xlvi. (1640) 466 It is a fearfull obduration to be *Sermon-proofe. 1769 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) III. 367, I am afraid many of them are sermon-proof. *a* 1696 VINES *Lord's Supper* (1657) 364 Sometimes a man is *Sermon-shaken, and his heart begins to tremble. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 226 Many may be said to be *sermon-sicke, as there are some said to be sea-sick. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled with Spirit* (1670) 38 That which some call a *Sermon-sickness, when the Conscience of a man is only troubled..with the dreadful concernment of the things he hears. 1646 SALTMARSHE *Groans for Liberty* 29 That the Parliament are *Sermon sleighters. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1711) IV. 191 Let 'em by N——'s *Sermon-Stile refine Their English Prose. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 7/3 A Sett o' Gentlemen..that are call'd *Sermon-Tasters, they peep in at twenty different Churches in a Service. 1534 *Chron. in Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 163, & per stod on a skaffold, all pe *sermond tyme, pe holy maid of Kent. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xii. A set of wicked wretches, who were at play during Sermon-time. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, He always took his nap during sermon-time. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xiii. 19 People are now so *Sermon-trodden..that their hearts..grow hard by the Word. 1794 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. 223 This being *sermon week..we are looking very religious and very sour at home. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 546 On which date in the *Sermon while. 1646 PRYNNE *Cante-b. Doome* 378 That it was a Catechizing *Sermon-wise, and as bad as preaching. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* IV. 423 The first head of his argument, which he divided sermon-wise. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. xxxviii. 329 The quaintness of the old *sermon writers.

Sermon (sɔ́ːmən), *v. rare* in mod. use. Also 3 sarmoni, sermonye, 4–5 sar-, sermone, -oun, -un, 5 sermowne. [a. AF. *sarmuner* = OF. *sermonner* (mod.F. *sermonner*), f. *sermon* (see prec.). In mod. use a new formation on SERMON *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To preach to (a person). *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 þis monne me mei sermonen mid godes worde. *Ibid.*, þes ilke Mon is strong to sermonen. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* II. ii. 181 Come sermon me no further.

1863 R. F. BURTON *W. Africa* II. 185 He once..gathered energy to sermon me upon the subject of over-curiosity.

2. *intr.* † a. To preach (*of* a thing).

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 161 in *O. E. Misc.* 77 þeos prude leuedies..Nulleþ here sermonye Of none gode þinge. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 466/158 Crist hire hauede a-boute i-sent to sarmoni and to preche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19320 'þe men þat yee did in prisun', He said, 'in temple þai sermon'. [*a* 1300–1657: see SERMONING *vbl. sb.*].

b. To preach (*at* a person).

1819 KEATS *King Stephen* I iv. 16, I would be..Spoken to in clear, plain, and open terms, Not side-ways sermon'd at.

† 3. *intr.* To speak (*of* a thing). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18666 Wit þam he lenged fourti dais, And sermond..Of heuen blis. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6955 Seynt Ihon to Troyle bygan to sermun with ensamples of gode resun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 551 What nedeth it to sermone of it more? *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xciii. (1869) 109 Whan þe olde hadde þus spoken, and sermowned of hire craft. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 302 And þerfore sermones you no more. 1586 J. HOOKER *Descr. Irel.* 28 in *Holinshed*, You sermon to vs of a dungeon appointed for offendors and miscredents. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 25 And when Saul came himselfe, hee sermoned in such sort.

† 4. *trans.* To speak, utter, declare. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Wisdom* viii. 12 And me sermounende manye thingis [orig. *me sermocinante*]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q., Let. to Raleigh*, Good discipline deliuered plainly in way of precepts, or sermoned at large.

† **Sermonary,** *a. Obs.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -ARY.] Of the nature of a sermon.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 338 Who never.. knew what it was to make any notions cohere at all save onely in a loose sermonary way. 1666 — *Let. Thanks* 28 Loose sermonary Discourses.

Sermond(e, -one, obs. forms of SERMON.

† **Sermoneer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -EER.] A preacher.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lxvii. 39 The wits will leave you, if they once perceive You cling to Lords, and Lords, if them you leave For sermoneeres.

Sermoner (sɔ́ːmənəɹ). *rare.* [f. SERMON + -ER[1]; in ME. after AF. *sarmuner* = OF. *sermonnier* (f. *sermoun* SERMON *sb.*).] A preacher of sermons.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 147 Quen he sendes his messageres, That es at sai, thir sarmouneres, That clenses man of gastli wede, And schawes in him Goddes sede. 1547 *Will of H. Marwood* in *C. Worthy's Devonshire Wills* (1896) 3 The sayde s'moner to have of my executryxe for hys stypent.. syxe shyllyngs and eghtypens. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* x, Guarded by cordons of sentinels, sermoners, old aunts. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 2/2 Without hireling singers, sermoners, or supplicators.

Sermonesque (sɔ̀ːməne·sk), *a.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -ESQUE.] Of the nature or style of a sermon: with depreciatory force.

1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. vi. 117 This essay of Durnford's is not a bad essay, though somewhat sermonesque. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 3/2 These sermonesque platitudes.

Sermonette (sɔ̀ːməne·t). Also -et. [f. SERMON *sb.* + -ETTE (-ET).] A short sermon.

1814 H. & L. M. HAWKINS (*title*) Sermonets addressed to those who have not yet acquired..the inclination to apply the power of attention to compositions of a higher kind. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 289 Each sermonette was succeeded by a prayer. 1895 S. R. HOLE *Your Answ.* 241 He thrust in a sermonette, an impressive little moral deduction.

Hence **Sermonetti·no,** a diminutive sermon; **Sermone·ttist,** a preacher of sermonettes.

1818 LADY MORGAN *Flor. Macarthy* II. 17 Sermonettinos or religious Bagatelles. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* xxxii, Farmer Giles, continued our pretty sermonettist, is asked his opinion on free trade and protection.

Sermonic (sɔɹmɒ·nik), *a.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -IC.] Of the form or nature of a sermon; resembling (that of) a sermon. Somewhat *depreciatory.*

1762 HURD in *Warburton & H.'s Lett.* (1809) 330 The sermonic cast of this sentence. *a* 1849 POE *Predicament* Wks. 1864 IV. 247 The grateful sermonic harangues of Dr. Ollapod. 1856 BAGEHOT *Biogr. Studies* (1881) 27 His tone is a trifle sermonic. 1892 *Bookman* Oct. 5/2 The book is introduced by a sermonic preface from the Committee of the Religious Tract Society.

b. *sb. pl.* Sermonizing. *rare.*

1804 *Something Odd* III. 82, I have not troubled myself.. to transcribe the letter, well assured that..you have no taste for sermonics.

So **Sermo·nical** *a.*; hence **Sermo·nically** *adv.*, after the fashion of a sermon.

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* clxiv. II. 324 First then of the first (forgive my sermonical style), namely, of the Fine Man. 1829 *Censor* 87 The egregious lecture..half sermonical, half theatrical. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIX. 77 Sermonically speaking, I cannot conclude without a piece of advice.

Sermonies, -ys, obs. pl. of CEREMONY.

† **Sermoning,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SERMON *v.*]

1. Preaching; also, a sermon.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1829 þai for-soke his sermoning And toke his word al til hething. *Ibid.* 21123 Matheu, a-postil and wangeliste,..For sarmoning of gods word, Men sais he stiked was wit suord. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xxvii. (1869) 18 Sermonynge and prechinge maketh men many times leue sinne. 1554 PHILPOT tr. *Curio's Def.* Ded., Wks. (Parker Soc.) 323 The divelish hypocrisy hath been..vanquished.. both by reasoning, sermoning and writing. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 5 Quaint Sermonings interlin'd with barbarous Latin. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. Pref. Ep. 11 To break out unto preaching and sermoning in the pulpits of others.

2. Talk, discourse, conversation. *To make sermoning of*, to speak of.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8824 þe stones to Bretaigne for to brynge, þat Merlyn made of sermonynge. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1100 þan held þai wele lang sermonyng of..hewinlik thing. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1184 Herof was so longe a sermonynge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 98 With sic wordis and prudent sermonyng Of his wise agit freynd. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 7 Thair he hes maid, with richt lang sermoning, Ane sair complaint.

So **Se·rmoning** *ppl. a.*, preaching.

1677 *and Pacquet Advices* 57 The whole Posse of Sermoning Matrons (the chief Garison of the Presbyterian Clergie).

Sermonish (sɔ́ːmənɪʃ), *a.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -ISH.]

1. Inclined for a sermon.

1858 BAILEY *Age* 113 When once a man feels sermonish or psalmy.

2. = SERMONIC *a.*

1847–54 WEBSTER, *Sermonish*, resembling a sermon. 1880 *Academy* 16 Oct. 272 A sermonish restatement of what is very much better said in Canon Farrar's *Seekers after God.* 1889 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 Apr., A very prosaic and sermonish letter.

Sermonist (sɔ́ːmənɪst). [f. SERMON + -IST.] A preacher, sermonizer.

1630 WIDDOWES *Schysmat. Puritan* B 2 b, The factious Sermonist, is he, whose purenes is, to serue God with sermons, and extemporary praiers made according to his supposititious inspiration. 1632 LUPTON *Lond. Carbonadoed* 82 [Players] do as some wandring Sermonists, make one Sermon trauaile and serue twenty Churches. 1816 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 331 What a contrast between him and our dramatic sermonists. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIX. 292 We were together lookiag over the ponderous sermonist.

Sermonize (sɔ́ːmənəɪz), *v.* [f. SERMON *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To deliver or compose a sermon; = PREACH *v.* 1. Chiefly *depreciatory.*

1635 [see SERMONIZING *vbl. sb.*]. 1651 JANE ELKON ΑΚΛΑΣΤΟΣ 214 Its like his preachers pray and sermonize without premeditation. 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 35 To go and hear this black-gown lover sermonize. 1887 F. W. MACDONALD *Life W. M. Punshon* ii. 37 He sermonised with ease. 1893 JESSOPP *Stud. Recluse* vii. 229 Like a young curate sermonising.

b. To give serious exhortation, talk seriously; = PREACH *v.* 1 b. Also with *it.*

1753 E. MOORE *Gamester* IV. (ed. 3) 55 If they should laugh at you, fly to my Lord, and sermonize it there. 1788 BURNS *Let. to R. Aiuslie* 30 June, You see how I preach. You used occasionally to sermonize too. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 204 In sailor fashion roughly sermonizing On providence and trust in Heaven. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ii. 34 To allegorise and sermonise is out of place here.

2. *trans.* To preach a sermon to (*rare*); to talk seriously or earnestly to, 'preach' to, 'lecture'.

1802 MARIAN MOORE *Lascelles* II. 60, I do not intend.. to sermonize you about coquetry. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, I won't be always sermonised by you because you're five years my senior. 1860 MRS. BYRNE *Undercurrents* II. 307 A preacher of the time of Charles II.,.. being called upon to sermonize royalty. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 173/2 Fined and sermonised by the magistrates at Bow Street.

3. To 'preach' upon (a subject). *rare.*

1789 *Poetry in Ann. Reg.* 158 To..sermonize the follies of the age.

4. To bring into a specified condition by preaching.

1768 W. LIVINGSTON *Let. to Bp. Landaff* 15 People..may be mendicated or sermonized out of their money. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 7/1 Which of us shall sing or sermonize the other fast asleep. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xiv, I should have claimativeness written, talked, educated, and sermonized down.

Sermonizer (sɔ́ːmənəɪzəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER.] One who sermonizes or preaches.

1652 JANE ELKON ΑΚΛΑΣΤΟΣ 46 The Rebellion, perjury and Atheisme, that hath followed such sermonizers. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* (1790) I. xxxviii. 324 The method which the old sermonizers pursued to eke out their sermons. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* vi, What the deuce, Colonel! you turning sermonizer? 1868 DORAN *Saints & Sinners* I. 296 One of the heaviest and longest sermonizers of the seventeenth century was..Dr. Manton.

Se·rmonizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SERMONIZE + -ING[1].] Delivery or composition of sermons; preaching (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1633 F. WHITE *Sabbath* Ep. Ded. 14 Concerning their owne ecclesiasticall sermonizing. 1762 HURD in *Warburton & H.'s Lett.* (1809) 331 The common way of sermonizing is most wretched: neither sense, nor eloquence. 1796 MRS.

M. Robinson *Angelina* II. 245 There was something so awful in the old gentleman's sermonizing, that I could not immediately answer him. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 27 May, Any whining or sermonizing would have..confirmed me in my absurdity. 1890 *Spectator* 13 Sept., Dr. Liddon had early realised that preaching does not come by nature;.. that amateur sermonising is no better than amateur acting.

So **Se·rmonizing** *ppl. a.* (or *vbl. sb.* used *attrib.*).

1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* I. (1723) 12 Whom d'ye think The Sermonizing Rascal chid? A Glover that sold Lamb for Kid. 1740–87 *Lett. of Miss Talbot* (1808) 43 You see I am in a sermonizing humour. 1808 E. Sleath *Bristol Heiress* III. 131 Tired of her sermonizing conversation. 1877 Owen in Marq. Wellesley *Desp.* Introd. p. xxxvii, The sermonizing and inquisitorial passage from the Directors' own Despatch.

Se·rmonless, *a.* [-less.] Without a sermon.

1869 Landreth *Adam Thomson* iii. 147 A sermonless Sabbath. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Pen Sk.* (1879) I. 20 A sermonless Sunday seems rather in the nature of a holiday.

Sermonoid (sɔ̈·rmənoid). *rare.* [-oid.] Something of the nature of a sermon.

a 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 489 For the want of merely a comma, it often occurs that an axiom appears a paradox, or that a sarcasm is converted into a sermonoid. 1886 *Tinsley's Mag.* Sept. 282, I will not turn more of my reminiscences into sermonoids.

Sermono·latry. Excessive devotion to sermons.

1859 F. E. Paget *Curate of Cumberworth* 149 The rampant sermonolatry—(forgive so barbarous a word!) of the day.

Sermono·logy. [-(o)logy.] Sermonizing; sermons collectively.

1854 E. G. Holland *Mem. Jos. Badger* viii. 141 The sermonology that then passed for the Word of Life. 1864 Kidder *Homiletics* iii. 86 The opportunity of investigating ..the sermonology of ancient and medieval as well as of modern times. 1897 Talmage in *Chr. Herald* (N.Y.) 24 Nov. 884/1 The old styles of sermonology.

†**Sermonward:** see -ward.

c 1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 61/1 Nowe was it before deuised, that..the protector should haue comen in among y^e people to y^e sermonwarde.

Sermonyal, obs. form of Ceremonial.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 285 Sermonyalis of þe oolde lawe.

†**Sermountain.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *sermontain* (also *sel-, seur-*), *sermontaygne*, ad. med. L. *siler montanum*, lit. mountain willow.] The umbelliferous plant *Laserpitium Siler.* (Cf. Hartwort 1.)

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 169 *Sifula*..gallice et anglice sermontaygne. *Ibid.* 169 *Siseleos uel siselenum*.. gall. et angl. sermontayne. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 909 *Ligusticum verum sive Siler montanum.* Libisticke or Sermountaine of Liguria. 1768 W. Lewis *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 541 *Seseli*..Hartwort or Sermountain.

Sermuncle (sɔ̈·rmʌŋk'l). [ad. L. *sermunculus*, dim. of *sermo* Sermon.] A sermonette.

1886 *Ch. Times* 2 Apr. 253/3 The essence of this devotion is a series of sermuncles, meditations, hymns, or prayers.

†**Sero.** *Obs.* [L., adv. of *sērus* late.] Late; also, a late boy (at school).

1682 *Rec. Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 17 And if the clerk be *sero* or absent to pay the double. 1734 T. Watt *Vocab., Lang. School* 8 What will you do to me? I'll set you up Amongst the Sero's.

Sero- (sī·ro), used as comb. form of Serum in the senses: (*a*) of or pertaining to serum, as *sero-diagnosis* (hence *-diagnostic* adj.), *-phthisis*; sero-therapy, treatment of disease or infection by serums, serum-therapy; hence **sero-therapeu·tic** *a.*, **sero-the·rapist**; (*b*) pertaining to, consisting of, or involving serum (and something else), as *sero-abuminous, -fibrinous, -fibrous, -gelatinous, -lactescent, -membranous, -mucous, -puriform, -purulent, -sanguineous, -sanguinolent, -synovial* adjs.; sero-pus, serous pus; (*c*) characterized by serous effusion or infiltration, or involving a serous membrane (cf. Serous 1 b), as *sero-colitis, -cyst, -cystic* adj., *-dermatosis, -dermitis, -enteritis, hæmorrhagic* adj., *-hepatitis, -synovitis*; sero-serous *a.*, pertaining to two or more serous membranes jointly.

1855 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* s. v. *Colitis*, Inflammation of the peritoneal..membrane of the colon..is termed *Serocolitis. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 765 The simple *serocyst is usually found single in the mammary gland. 1846 Sir B. Brodie *Lect. Pathol. & Surg.* vii. 156, I would suggest 'the *sero-cystic tumor of the breast' as being an appropriate appellation. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 166 Sero-cystic sarcoma within the orbit. 1897 *Lippincott's Med. Dict.*, **Sero-dermatosis*, cutaneous disease with serous effusion into the skin. *Ibid.*, **Serodermitis*, dermitis with serous infiltration. 1896 *Lancet* 24 Oct. 1157/1 *Sero-diagnostic Test for Typhoid Fever. *Ibid.* 1157/2 *Sero-diagnosis of Typhoid Fever according to Widal's Method. 1876 *Dunglison's Med. Lex.* s. v. *Enteritis*, The inflammation of the serous coat, *Serоenteritis. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 213 The meshes of the pia mater become infiltrated with a *sero-fibrinous liquid. 1896 Whitney in *20 Cent. Pract.* VII. 10 Serofibrinous pleurisy. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 107 *Sero-fibrous adhesions. 1894 *Foster's Med. Dict.* s.v., **Sero-gelatinous*, partaking of the nature of both serum and gelatin. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 569 *Serohæmorrhagic extravasations. 1835 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Hepatitis*, It may be seated..in the peritoneal covering, *Sero-hepatitis. 1867 Bullock tr. *Cazeaux' Midwifery* 130 A serous, or *sero-lactescent liquid. 1894 *Foster's Med. Dict.*, **Sero-mucous*, partaking of the nature of both serum and mucus. 1901 *Lancet* 2 Feb. 317/2 Some *sero-puriform fluid escaped. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 61/2 The inflammation..producing *serо-purulent suppuration. 1873 Ralfe *Phys. Chem.* 168 In ichorous, muco-, or *sero-pus. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 81 A *sero-sanguineous congestion of the pulmonary texture. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Organs* 90 To..change the discharge into a *sero-sanguinolent one. 1894 *Foster's Med. Dict.*, **Sero-serous*, pertaining to two or more serous membranes jointly. *Ibid.*, **Sero-synovial*, partaking of the nature of both serum and synovia. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 703/2 Acute serous synovitis,..*sero-synovitis. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 486 Experiments in immunizing by *sero-therapeutic methods have not as yet met with success. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 31 Aug. 5/6 The medical puffery of the *serotherapists. 1894 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Nov. 1008 The series of discoveries which finally led to that of the *serotherapy.

Sero-albumen: see Seralbumen.

Serocco, obs. form of Sirocco.

Seroid (sī·roid), *a.* [f. Ser-um + -oid.] 'Resembling a serous membrane' (*Dunglison's Med. Lex.* 1876).

Serolin (sī·rɔlin). Also -ine. [ad. F. *séroline* (Boudet), f. *sérum* Serum, L. *oleum* oil + *-ine* -in.] A fatty substance found in blood serum.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 411/1. 1845 W. Gregory *Outl. Chem.* II. 556 A peculiar fat called seroline.

Serological (sī·rɔlɒ·ʤikăl), *a.* [f. Sero- + -logical.] Involving examination of the serum.

1911 *Lancet* 4 Feb. 319/2 Serological tests for blood.

Seron (sī·rɒn, sɛ́rũn). Also 6, 9 serone, 9 seroon; see also Ceroon. [ad. Sp. *seron* hamper, crate (f. *sera* large basket), partly through F. *serron* (spelt also *céron*).] A bale or package (of exotic products, e. g. almonds, medicinal bark, cocoa) made up in an animal's hide.

1545 *Rates Custom ho.* d vij, A cheste of suger...A serone of sope...A barrell of pepper. 1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron.* 213 An olde Seron, wherein the slaues did beare out the ordure of the stable. 1640 in *Northouck's Lond.* (1773) 841/2 For a bag or sack 4*d.* For a seron 3*d.* 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Seron of Almonds*, the Quantity of Two Hundred Weight: Of Anis-seeds from 3 to 4 C: Of Castle-Soap from 2½ C to 3½ C. 1745 *Loud. Even. Post* 5 Mar. 1/2 Having on board 800 Serons of Cacoa. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 164 Twenty-three serons of dollars, each weighing upwards of 200 *l.* averdupois. 1821 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* 103 [Horse Hair] In Serons or Bales from South America..usually weighing from 18 to 24 lbs. each. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* ix, Forty seroons of cochineal. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 11 Jan. 22 The bulk of medicinal barks are imported in bales and serons.

‖**Seroot** (sĕrū·t). Also **serut.** [African.] A tabanid fly of the genus *Pangonia*, which inhabits the region of the upper Nile.

1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* viii. 189 The seroot fly was teasing them. 1903 in *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* (1907) II. II. 181 The first serut met with going south is at Goz-abu-Gooma.

Serop, obs. f. Syrup. **Serophyn,** obs. f. Seraphim. **Seropis,** obs. f. Serapis.

†**Serose,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *serōsus*, f. Serum.] = Serous.

1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* II. 9 It doeth much repell serose humors. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. ii. § 11 (1712) 46 Pressing out the milky and serose Humour in the Butter. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 70 They have a softer Habit of Body, their Bloods are more serose.

Serosity (sĭrɒ·sĭti). [ad. F. *sérosité* (16th c.) or mod.L. *serōsitās*, f. *serōsus* Serose.]

1. Watery fluid in an animal body; the serous or watery part of blood or milk, serum; freq. *pl.* in 17–18th c. = watery humours.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. Catal. Words Art, Serosities, or Serous humours, bee the thinner parts of the masse of bloud, answering to the whey in milke. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. iii. 110 The salt and lixiviated serosity with some portion of choler, is divided betweene the guts and bladder. 1685 J. Chamberlayne *Coffee, Tea, & Chocolate* 66 The Cheese, which hinders and stops the flux of the Belly, the serosity or Cream which is purgative. 1753 N. Torriano *Gangr. Sore Throat* 16 From the two Nostrils there dropt a very sharp and corrosive Serosity (i. e. Ichor). 1771 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 243 By the seasonable discharge of the serosities, the fever..is moderated. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 107 A bloody serosity. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 216 The lateral ventricles..become distended with serosity (acute hydrocephalus). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 481 The eruption consists of papules infiltrated with serosity.

b. A yellowish alkaline liquid produced when serum is heated.

1807 J. Murray *Syst. Chem.* IV. 531 If the coagulated mixture, obtained by the action of heat on serum, be gently pressed, there flows from it a liquor somewhat turbid, named the Serosity. 1836 Brande *Chem.* 1137.

2. The condition of being serous. *rare.*

1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 232 The too great Serosity or Viscidity of the Blood. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 365 The mass of the blood..is too copiously dissolved into a state of serosity. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xii. 207 Deficient serosity of the blood from excessive sweating.

Serotine (se·rɔtain), *sb.*[1] [ad. F. *sérotine* (Buffon), ad. fem. of L. *sērōtinus*, f. *sērō*, adv. of *sērus* late.] A small European bat flying late in the evening, *Vespertilio serotinus.*

1771 Pennant *Syn. Quadrupeds* 370 Serotine...Bat with a longish nose. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. 142 Great Serotine Bat. 1837 T. Bell *Brit. Quadrupeds* 34 The Serotine..was mistaken for the Noctule by Geoffroy.

Serotine (se·rɔtain), *a.* and *sb.*[2] [ad. L. *sērōtinus* (see prec.).] Late in occurrence or development; chiefly of plants late-flowering. Also *sb.*, a late-flowering plant or species.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 53/3 To serotine doth Doctour then beginne When the disease to deepe is rooted in. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 27, I find he [Ferrarius] makes but two sorts; Præcoces and Serotin's [*printed* Serolin's]. 1786 Abercrombie *Arr.* in *Gard. Assist.* 76 Serotine, or late flowering, white autumnal narcissus. 1868 Longf. *Dante, Purg.* xv. 141 As far as ever eye could stretch Against the sunbeams serotine and lucent.

Serotinous (sĭrɒ·tinəs), *a.* [f. L. *sērōtinus*: see Serotine *sb.*[1]] = prec. adj.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Serotine, Serotinous*, that is in the evening, late, lateward. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 54 The Vulgar and Septuagint [signify] that it was serotinous or late, and our old Translation that it was late sown. 1857 A. Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss., *Serotinous*, happening late in the season. 1900 *Jrnl. Quekett Microsc. Club* Apr. 260 The bulk of the Radiolaria belong to the latter or serotinous division.

Serous (sī·rəs), *a.* [ad. F. *séreux* (16th c.), ad. L. *serōsus*, f. *ser-um* Serum.]

1. Of or pertaining to serum; consisting of or containing serum; of the nature of serum.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. Rdr. A 8 b, The sucking veines serue to purge the blood from the serous substaunce of it. 1618 W. Barclay *Well at King-horne* A vj b, For the croudy part bindeth some, and the serous or wheyish part louseth others. 1638 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. i. III. iii, Ichores and those serious [ed. 1651 serous] matters. 1683–4 Boyle *Mem. Nat. Hist. Hum. Blood* 13 The Differences between the Serous and the Red part of Humane Blood. 1735 Somerville *Chace* I. 345 The serous Particles evade Thro' th' open Pores. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 501 Ass's, mare's, and woman's milk, are the most saline and serous. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 334 Serous infiltration occurs in cells.

b. *Path.* Involving or characterized by an effusion of serum.

1779 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 5 Oct., Mr. Thrale's disorder whether grumous or serous. 1879 P. Smith *Glaucoma* 19 Serous Iritis. 1893 W. R. Gowers *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 407 The so-called 'serous apoplexy'. 1895 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 Dec. 1492/1 Serous cysts.

2. *Anat.* Secreting or moistened with serum, as a membrane.

1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* iv. in *Aliments*, etc. (1735) 395 This Disease [dropsy] may happen wherever there are serous Vessels. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 143 The external surface of the stomach is covered by a membrane, the peritoneum, denominated serous. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 271/2 The back layer of the cornea and the front of the iris are what anatomists call serous membranes. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 462 The proper serous sac of the thorax.

Serow (se·rou). Also **saraw, sarau, surow, se(e)rou.** [Native name.] Any of the Asiatic antelopes of the genus *Nemorhædus* (*Capricornis*), esp. *N. thar* (*N. bubalinus*), the Thar.

1847 Hodgson in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* XVI. II. 697 Genus Nemorhædus. Vel Capricornis...The Thar or Saraw. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. viii. 295 Two species of antelopes (*Antilope Ghoral* and *A. Thar*), one called '*Ghoral*', and the other '*Surow*'. 1865 Mathias *Sport in Himalayas* 52 Returning to camp, I came across a serow, the first that I have seen. 1900 Lydekker *Gt. & Small Game India* 128 The Sumatran Serow (*Nemorhædus sumatrensis*). *Ibid.*, It appears preferable to call them by the name by which they are commonly known in the North-West Himalaya, viz. serow, or, correctly, sarao. 1908 *Times* 17 Aug. 11/3 A fine young serow..from Perak.

Seroy, obs. f. Serai. **Serpaw,** var. Serpaw. **Serpe(e)-cloth,** var. Sarp-cloth, sarplier, *Obs.* **Serpe,** var. Sarpe[2] *Obs.*, collar.

1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 110 Item to Robert Greyndoor, squyer, my Serpe of siluer and my cheyne of goold.

Serpe·dinous, *a. rare.* [f. med.L. *serpēdin-, serpēdo*, synon. of Serpigo.] Serpiginous.

1616 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* 63 The itch is a corrupt humour betweene the skin and the flesh, running with a serpedinous course.

Serpent (sɔ̈·rpĕnt), *sb.* Also 6 **sarpent**; 4–6 *pl. Sc.* **serpens.** [a. OF. (mod.F.) *serpent* = Pr. *sarpent*, Sp. *serpiente*, It., Pg. *serpente*:—L. *serpent-em*, *serpens* creeping thing (e. g. a louse), serpent, properly pres. pple. of *serpĕre* to creep, cogn. with Gr. ἕρπειν to creep, Skr. *sṛp* to creep, crawl, *sarpa* creeping, crawling, snake.]

1. Any of the scaly limbless reptiles regarded as having the properties of hissing and 'stinging'; *Zool.* a reptile of the group Ophidia; a snake; now, in ordinary use, applied chiefly to the larger and more venomous species; otherwise only *rhetorical* (e. g. in contexts suggesting senses 2 and 3), or with reference to serpent-worship.

c 1305 *Land Cokayne* 157 Per nis serpent, wolf no fox. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1497 She told eek..of the holy serpent, and the welle. *c* 1386 — *Manciple's T.* 5 He slowe phiton þe serpent. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 57 A Serpent, which that Aspidis is cleped. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* III. 835 (Horstm.) Julyan..clepyd to hym oon wych had cunnyng Serpentys to charm. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 21 He slow the serpent clepit Ydra. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* I. 20 It is desolat, and inhabit be serpens. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 17 Here come and sit, where never serpent hisses. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 29 Your Serpent of Egypt, is bred now of your mud by the operation of your Sun. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 895 The green serpent, from his dark abode,..At noon forth-hissing. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 181 The true Serpents..comprise the genera without a sternum, and in which there is no vestige of a shoulder. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 198 The serpent has no limbs, yet it can outclimb the monkey, outswim the fish, outleap the jerboa. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xix,

I trust neither men nor women, nor even the angels in heaven; for one of them turned serpent. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 75 There used to be..harmless water serpents in the Swiss waters.

† b. A creeping thing or reptile, *esp.* one of a venomous or noxious kind. *Obs.*

1440 [see 5]. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 27 The Serpente called Salamandra, which lyueth in the fyre wythoute any hurte. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 77 b, Very hydeous and terrible serpents called Crocodyles. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 10 By Serpents we vnderstand in this discourse all venomous Beasts, whether creeping without legges, as Adders and Snakes, or with legges, as Crocodiles and Lizards, or more neerely compacted bodies, as Toades, Spiders, and Bees; following heerein the warrant of the best ancient Latinists. 1691 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Dec., Mr. Charlton's collection of spiders, birds, scorpions, and other serpents.

c. Applied to serpent-like animals inhabiting the sea; cf. SEA-SERPENT.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 235 In the Germaine-Ocean there is found a Serpent about the bignesse of a mans legge. 1616 T. ADAMS *Soul's Sickness* 65 One knaue guls him, hee innumerable fooles, with the strange Fish at Yarmouth, or the Serpent in Sussex. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 272 We spy'd Two Serpents rank'd abreast, the Seas divide. 1859 GRATTAN *Civilized Amer.* I. iv. 54 She saw..a huge serpent, gliding gracefully through the waves, having evidently performed the action of turning round.

d. In proverbial and allusive phr. referring to the serpent's guile, treachery, or malignancy. † *The serpent's tongue*, vulgarly supposed to be the 'sting'; allusively used for 'venomous' speech; also (*nonce-use*) for hissing.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 286 Þe serpent þat so slyly crepith Vndyr þe gras & styngith subtyly. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlix. 17 Dan be maad a serpent in the weie, and cerastes in the path. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* li. 93 This fals greek whiche counseylled them allewey to theyr dammage And was alway as the serpent emonge the elis. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 75 Dissaitfull tyrand, with serpentis tung. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* 10 The Gentleman surprised with this sodaine ioye, and vnacquainted good speaches (not dreading that the Serpent laye hidden in the grasse)..assented. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 440 Now to scape the Serpents tongue, We will make amends ere long. 1595 — *John* III. iii. 61 He is a very serpent in my way. 1605 — *Macb.* I. v. 67 Looke like th' innocent flower, But be the Serpent vnder't. 1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Heart-breaking* ii, The mighty Serpent Love, Cut by this chance in pieces small, In all still liv'd, and still it stung in all.

2. The serpent, 'more subtil than any beast of the field', that tempted Eve (Gen. iii. 1–5); the Tempter, the Devil, Satan. Also, *the Old Serpent* (after Rev. xii. 9).

a 1300 *Fall & Passion* 26 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 A serpent he [þe deuil] com þro3 felonie an makid eue chonge hir þo3t. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xii. 9 The greet olde serpent, that is clepid the Deuel. 1420–2 LYDG. *Thebes* 466 Lucyfer, fader of Envie, The olde Serpent, he levyathan. 14.. — *Serp. Div.* (1911) 50 The contagious Serpent of Division eclipsed and appalled theire worthines. 1534 in *Norwich Pageants* (1856) 17 It. to Edm^d Thurston playeng y^e Serpent, 4^d. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 50 The oulde serpente who hath so longe had them in hys possession. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 243 Being put into such a Paradise of Conserues, the Serpent of the flesh might tempt me to eate of this forbidden fruit. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xvi. 4 It was the Serpents grammar that first taught men to decline God in the plurall number. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 454 The Serpent, Prince of aire. *a* 1720 SEWELL *Hist. Quakers* (1722) 31 Some Men have the Nature of the Serpent (that old Adversary) to sting, envenom and poison. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 638 Some, whose souls the old serpent long had drawn Down.

3. *fig.* as a symbol of envy, jealousy, malice, or wiliness.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 837 Thou wikked serpent Ialousye. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 1066 *rubric*, Howe Kynge Priamus..by þe serpente Of Envye was stirede. 1513 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 760 Such a pestilent Serpent is ambition. 1609 TUVILL *Vade-mecum* (1629) 127 Here is Policie without Iustice, a Serpent without a Doue. 1854 T. T. LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* (1872) 409 Error is a siren and a serpent.

b. A treacherous, deceitful, or malicious person.

[1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 33 3ee sarpentis, fruytis, or buriowwyngus, of eddris,..hou shulen 3ee flee fro the dom of helle?] 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 73 With doubler tongue Then thine (thou serpent) neuer Adder stung. 1605 — *Lear* v. iii. 84 Edmund, I arrest thee On capitall Treason; and in thy arrest, This guilded Serpent. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xviii, Mr. Pott..ground his teeth..and exclaimed, in a saw-like voice,—'Serpent!' 1884 *Chr. World* 15 May 366/1 The *Times* degraded itself..by patting these unmannerly serpents [*viz.* hissers] on the back.

4. A representation of a serpent, esp. as a symbol or an ornament.

Brazen serpent has been used allusively in reference to Num. xxi. 9.—The figure of a serpent with its tail in its mouth is a symbol of eternity.

13.. *Coer de L.* 5728 In his blasoun..Was i-paynted a serpent. 1388 WYCLIF *Num.* xxi. 8 Make thou a serpent of bras, and sette thou it for a signe. 1388 — 2 *Kings* xviii. 4 He brak the brasun serpent, whom Moyses hadde maad. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xx. 217 At 4 Corneres of the Mountour, ben 4 Serpentes of Gold. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 434 Hym happend on a tyme to lose a saket and a thowsand talentis perin and a serpent of gold. 1577–8 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 79 A serpent of ophall with a ruby pendant. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Mar., A fountaine of serpents twisting about a globe. 1655 R. FARNWORTH (*title*) The Brazen Serpent lifted up on high, or Truth cleared and above the deceit exalted. 1730 BAILEY (folio), *Serpents*, (in Hieroglyphicks) were used to represent Heretick. 1832 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. x, Mistaking the illcut Serpent-of-Eternity for a common poisonous Reptile. 1857 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xi, The..daintily rounded wrist encircled by the jet serpent.

5. *Astron.* † a. The sign of Scorpio (?*nonce-use*). † b. The southern constellation *Hydra*. c. The northern constellation *Serpens*.

[*c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Whan þe moone is in Scorpio þ^t is the signe of a serpent.] 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 269 The great Serpent whiche is called of the greekes and latines Hydra: it containeth 25 starres. 1599 T. HILL *Sch. Skil* 22 The Serpent hath 11. stars. 1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* I. iii. § 10 (ed. 3) 19 The Southern Serpent. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 328 Above the Scorpion, Ophiuchus and the Serpent are..visible.

6. A kind of firework which burns with a serpentine motion or flame.

1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat.* 61 The Composition for middle sized Rockets may serve for Serpents. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 6 June, Mrs. Mercer's son had provided a great many serpents, and so I made the women all fire some serpents. 1697–8 *Act 9 Will. III.*, c. 7 § 1 Whereas much Mischief hath lately happened by throwing casting and fireing of Squibbs Serpentes Rockettes and other Fire-workes. 1763 COLMAN *Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 122 Some queer old gentleman may be alarmed at the..serpents hissing at his tail. *a* 1845 HOOD *To Vauxhall* 13 Wheels whiz—smash crackers—serpents twist. 1869 ALDRICH *Story of Bad Boy* viii, The smaller sort of fireworks, such as pin-wheels, serpents, double-headers.

7. An obsolete bass wind instrument of deep tone, about 8 feet long, made of wood covered with leather and formed with three U-shaped turns. Also, an organ-stop of similar tone.

1730 BAILEY (folio), *Serpent*, a Kind of musical Instrument, serving as a Bass to the Cornet or small Shawm. 1775 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 16 High mass..was accompanied with a variety of instruments, among which the Serpent supplies a good bass. 1838 G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* 12/1 The serpent is chiefly used in military music. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 105 Serpent is a reed-register seldom to be met with. 1861 THACKERAY *Leaf out of Sk. Bk.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 644 There is a great braying and bellowing of serpents and bassoons. 1872 T. HARDY *Under Greenw. Tree* I. iv, They should have stuck to strings as we did..and done away with serpents.

8. Miscellaneous transferred uses: A candle of spiral form; a 'rope' of hair; the crank-shaft in a weaving-machine. *Pharaoh's serpent*: see PHARAOH 4.

1802 FOSBROOKE *Brit. Monachism* I. 33 On the Sunday the same ceremony followed..respecting the serpent. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1365 Had I enjoined 'Cut off the hair!'..at once a yard or so Had fluttered in black serpents to the floor. 1870 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Epic of Women* 120 Through the swift mesh'd serpents of her hair. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* 230 The crank-shaft is called a 'serpent'.

9. *Hist.* = SERPENTINE *sb.* 2.

1830 D. BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 137 Smaller machines, having the names of Dragons, Serpents, Scorpions, War-wolves. 1895 OMAN in *Traill's Soc. Eng.* III. 75 A couple of hundred gunners, with ten or twelve 'serpents' or 'bombards'.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *serpent-bite, breed, -coil, emblem, enemy, -poison, -race* (see OPHIOGENES), *skin, -slime, symbol, -tail, -train, tribe*; (with reference to the snake-like hair of the Furies) *serpent-braid, -fury, -tress*; b. objective, as *serpent-bruiser, -charmer, -eating* adj., *-killer, slayer, -worship, -worshipper*; c. similative (cf. 12), as *serpent-footed, -haired, -hearted, -rooted, -throated* adjs., also *serpent-green*; d. instrumental, as *serpent-bitten, -cinctured, -circled, -stung* ppl. adjs.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. i, A miraculous Brazen Serpent..whereon whosoever looks..shall be healed of all woes and *serpent-bites. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 63 The *serpent-bitten-man looked, and liued. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 880 The sablest of the *serpent-braid That o'er her fearful forehead stray'd. 1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* (1775) I. 481 Ὀφιογενεῖς, or the *serpent-breed. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns, Jesu God of our Salvation* iv, Jesu! Help, thou *Serpent-Bruiser. 1861 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. 289 The poor *serpent-charmer never came to life again. *Ibid.* 279 [Hasselquist] records his judgment that there is no delusion in *serpent-charming. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 324 A *serpent-cinctured wand [*sc.* the caduceus]. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlii, With..feet that fly on feathers, And *serpent-circled wand. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 83 The *serpent-coil of Laocoon. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* C 1 Foule *serpent-eating enuies loathsome cottage. 1887 G. SALMON in *W. Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* IV. 80 A religious use of the *serpent emblem was common to the Phoenicians with the Egyptians. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* ii. 18 That by the woman's seed her *serpent enemy should finally be subjugated. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 5 The *Serpent-footed Giants. 1849 AYTOUN *Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 219 The *serpent-furies Coiled around the maddening brain. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 13 A *serpent-green sky. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. viii, These *serpent-haired Extreme She-Patriots. 1850 F. MASON *Nat. Product. Burmah* 329 *Serpent-hearted eel. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* xv. Annot. 279 The *Serpent-killer, Ibis. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 200 The potency of the *serpent poison. 1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* (1775) I. 484 The natives of Thebes in Bœotia..esteemed themselves of the *serpent race. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 135 Seated on a *serpent-rooted beech. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 125 A *serpent skyn. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 239 Where go, When I have cast this serpent-skin of woe? 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 508 That stout *Serpent-slayer, His Satan-taunting Son. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 651 Bring no *serpent-slime Athwart this path. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 118 His bright bride Though *serpent-stung. 1851 SQUIER (*title*) The *Serpent Symbol, and the worship of the reciprocal principles of Nature in America. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 243 The blast and bray of the long horn And *serpent-throated bugle. 1769 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 8 Let painted Flatt'ry hide her *serpent-train in flowers. 1791 DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 217 With bright wreath of *serpent-tres-es crown'd...young Medusa frown'd. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 279/2 The *serpent tribe. 1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* (1775) I. 425 Mount Lebanon, and Hermon..where *serpent-worship particularly prevailed. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Culture* II. 218 The old Prussian serpent-worship and offering of food to the household snakes. *Ibid.*, Legends of serpent-races who turn out to be simply *serpent-worshippers. *a* 1875 KINGSLEY in C. K. Paul *Memories* (1899) 160 I've always thought that the serpent [in Genesis] was a *serpent-worshipping black tribe.

e. *Serpent-tail* vb. (nonce-wd.), to link up. (Cf. SERPENTINE *a.* 1 b.)

1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxiv. 12 It is necessary to serpent-tail this pit with the upper hell by a district for insanity without deed.

11. Special comb.: **serpent-bearer** = OPHIUCHUS; **serpent bird**, a bird of the family *Plotidæ* = DARTER 4 a; **serpent-boat**, a canoe of great length used on the Malabar coast (Ogilvie, 1882); **serpent cucumber**, a cucumber of the genus *Trichosanthes*, having long serpent-like fruit, esp. *T. colubrina*; **serpent deity** = *serpent-god*; **serpent eagle**, a bird of prey of the genus *Spilornis*; **serpent-eater**, (*a*) the secretary bird; (*b*) the markhor; **serpent-eel**, a marine animal of the genus *Ophichthys*; **serpent-fence**, 'a zig-zag fence made by placing the ends of the rails upon each other' (Ogilvie); **serpent-fish**, the red snake-fish, *Cepola rubescens*; **serpent-god**, a serpent worshipped as a god; the object of worship of the Ophites; **serpent-king**, a name given to Cecrops, who is represented with a body terminating in a serpent form; **serpent-lizard** = SEPS 2; **serpent melon** = *serpent cucumber*; **serpent paper** [= F. *papier (à la) serpente*], a very thin transparent paper having a serpent for the water-mark; **serpent-star**, an ophiuran; † **serpent-tongue**, a jeweller's ornament in the shape of a snake's tongue; **serpent-wand**, the caduceus; **serpent-withe**, *Aristolochia odoratissima*; † **serpent-wood**, the wood of *Strychnos colubrina* or some related plant.

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 264 Serpentarius, that is the manne with the Serpente, or *Serpent bearer. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 273/1 *Serpens*..astronomically distinguished from Ophiuchus, but not mythologically, being the serpent carried by the Serpent-bearer. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 263 The Darter..in the United States..has received the name of the *Serpent Bird. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 *Serpent Cucumber, *Trichosanthes*. 1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* (1775) I. 428 When the Greeks understood that in these temples people worshiped a *serpent Deity, they concluded that Trachon was a serpent. 187. *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 284 The Indian *Serpent Eagle (*Spilornis cheela*). 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape Good Hope* II. 142 The Cape Europeans call this Bird the *Serpent-Eater. 1819 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. 193 Hoatzin Serpent-Eater. 1840 VIGNE *Narr. Visit Afghanistan* 86, I procured a good skin of the markhur, or serpent-eater. 1896 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 449 *Serpent-eels are represented by a great number of species. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Serpens rubescens*, the red *serpent fish,..properly of the tænia kind. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXII. (1818) II. 273 Their wonder would have been diminished, and their *serpent-gods undeified. 1873 MISS R. H. BUSK *Sagas fr. Far East* 18 A pool where lived two Serpent-gods, who had command of the water. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Theseus* 1, Kekrops the *serpent-king. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 307 *Serpent Lizard. 1778 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 192 There is now growing..in Lancashire a *serpent melon which measures in length five feet two inches and an half. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 715/2 The manner of preparing this [oiled] paper is to take that which is thin and smooth, known commonly by the name of *serpent paper. 1852 MANTELL *Petrifactions* ii. § 1. 82 Asteridæ (named *Ophiura* or *Serpent-stars). 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 81 A grete *serpent toung set with gold, perle and precious stanis. 1849 AYTOUN *Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 277, I have seen the robes of Hermes glisten—Seen him wave afar his *serpent-wand. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 *Serpent-withe. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. § I. i. 180 A piece of *Serpent-Wood. *Lignum Colubrinum.*

b. Combinations with *serpent's*: **serpent's beard**, *Ophiopogon japonicus* (Treas. Bot. 1874); **serpent's head, skull**, names for species of COWRY; **serpent's tongue**, † (*a*) = ALDER'S TONGUE; (*b*) the fossil tooth of a shark.

1815 S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 156 *Serpents Head. *Cypræa Caput serpentis.* 1795 tr. *Thunberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. 82 Small shells, called *serpents skulls (*Cypræa monata*). 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xciii. 135 [Ophioglosson] is now called.. in English, Adders tongue, & *Serpents tonge. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 720 A kind of stone called the serpents toong. 1835 D. BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 284 The fossil bodies called *Glossopetræ* (petrified tongues) and Serpents' Tongues.

12. quasi-*adj.* Resembling a serpent or that of a serpent, serpent-like, serpentiform, serpentine.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 73 O Serpent heart, hid with a flowring face. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. ix. Their serpent windings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 302 With Serpent error wandring. *a* 1718 PARNELL *Hesiod* 101 Back roll'd her azure veil with serpent fold. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 342 He, whose practis'd wit Knew all the serpent-mazes of deceit. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 135 It feeds

the quick growth of the serpent vine. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. v, The serpent smile is your countrymen's proper distinction. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iv, Shaking their serpent-hair. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1611 All the way down the serpent-stair to hell! 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 884 Those long loops Wherethro' the serpent river coil'd.

b. *Antiq.* of temples, etc. having the supposed symbolical form of a serpent.

1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* (1775) I. 464 Tor-Opus, the serpent-hill, or temple. 1830 DEANE *Worship Serp.* vi. 341 The erection of a serpent-temple, like that of Abury. 1897 *Saga-Bk. Viking Club* Jan. 256 Whether any old serpent-mounds had been found in Iceland.

†Se·rpent, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *serpent-em*, pres. pple. of *serpĕre* to creep.] Of an ulcer: Spreading.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* G ij, Serpent vlceres & other affections yᵗ maketh the vlceres long in healyng.

Se·rpent, *v.* Now *rare.* [ad. F. *serpenter* (14th c.), f. *serpent* SERPENT *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To move in a serpentine manner; to follow a tortuous course; to wind.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Trophеis* 1038 The Banks of Forth (Whose forceful stream runs smoothly serpenting). 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 3) 78 [Poplars] in Italy, for their Vines to serpent on. *a* 1706 — *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 28 Rivers and larger streams; made to serpent in meandering crooks. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 58 One sees a Light serpenting all along the Tube. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 500 Shapes, wizard and brute, Laughing and wailing, groveling, serpenting.

fig. 1841 LEVER *Charles O'Malley* xvii. 93 So did Mr. Webber tread his way, serpenting through the statute-book.

b. To make (one's way) tortuously.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 23 May 620/2 Serpenting their way through the dry grass.

†2. *trans.* To entwine. *Obs.*

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Jan. 1645, Fruit-trees, whose boles are serpented with excellent vines.

‖Serpentaria (sɔ̄ɹpĕntē·riă). [late L. *serpentāria* (scil. *planta*), fem. of *serpentārius*, f. *serpent-*, *serpens* SERPENT *sb.*: see -ARY.] = SERPENTARY 2.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 100 A clyster made of a strong decoction of bark and serpentaria. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 45 Dried serpentaria root is imported into this country in bales. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 493 Serpentaria (in powder).

b. *Chem.* An alkaloid obtained from serpentary.

1831 J. DAVIES *Man. Mat. Med.* 168 Dr. C. Conwell has lately discovered in this root, a new alkali, which he has called serpentaria... The hydrochlorate of serpentaria forms brilliant plumose fibrils.

Se·rpentarin. *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. late L. *serpentāria* SERPENTARY *sb.* 1 + -IN.] A bitter substance obtained from serpentary root.

1847 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) 1166.

‖Serpentarius (sɔ̄ɹpĕntē·riŭs). [mod.L.: see next.]

1. *Astron.* = OPHIUCHUS.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The Stars in the Constellation Serpentarius in Ptolomy's Catalogue are 29. 1795 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* I. I. x. 339 Serpentarius..is one of the forty-eight old constellations, and a very near neighbour of the Scorpion. 1868 LOCKYER (*Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 366 Since the observation of Tycho Brahé, many temporary stars have been seen in the constellations of Serpentarius and Cygnus.

2. *Ornith.* The serpent-eater or secretary-bird.

1893 *Public Opin.* 10 Nov. 590.

Serpentary (sɔ̄·ɹpĕntări), *sb.* Also 5 -ory. [ad. late and med.L. *serpentāria* (in sense 1, scil. *retorta*, in sense 2 *planta*), fem. of *serpentārius*: see next.]

†1. A kind of retort or still. *Obs.* (Cf. SERPENT *sb.*)

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 183 On þe morowe dystylle hem þorow a serpentory. 1625 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* 31 Take Saxifrage..two gallonds of good wine, or else wine lees, and put it into a slerpentary [*sic*].

2. The plant Virginian Snake-root, *Aristolochia Serpentaria*; the root of this (in full, Serpentary Root = *Serpentariæ Radix*) used medicinally.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Serpentary*, a kind of herb called Vipers-grasse. 1706 — (ed. Kersey), *Serpentary-Wood*, a kind of Wood that grows in Malabar,..and is commended for its Virtue in expelling Poison. 1837 T. CASTLE *Pharmacopœia Lond.* 170 Infusion of Serpentary... Diaphoretic, diuretic, stimulant. 1872 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 308 *Serpentariæ Radix*, Serpentary Root. *Ibid.* 309 Serpentary contains a volatile oil and resin.

Serpentary, *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. med.L. *serpentāri-us*, f. *serpent-em* SERPENT *sb.*: see -ARY.] = SERPENTINE *a.*

1682 JORDAN *London's Joy* 10 Suppress Pamphlet-Contentions, for they are The Serpentary Seeds of Civil War.

Serpentcleide (-klēid). *Mus.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + *-cleide* of OPHICLEIDE.] A form of the ophicleide with a body of wood instead of brass.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* I. 469/1 Newly-invented euphonic serpentcleide. 1882 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 470.

†Serpenter. *Obs.* [app. f. SERPENT *v.* + -ER¹.] A serpentine line.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. II. iv. *Columnes* 370 Other, whose Tracts never directly slide, As with the Snayl, the crooked Serpenter [orig. *Comme la limacente auec la serpente*].

†Serpentess. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -ESS.] A female serpent.

1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* IV. xii. 273 Apollodorus saith, that Sphinx was engendred of Typhon and of a great Serpentesse [*ex Echidna & Typhone parentibus ortam*].

†Se·rpentful, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [-FUL.] Teeming with serpents.

1557 PHAER *Æneid* VII. T 3, So serpentfull she seemes, and ouer all begrowen with snakes.

Serpe·ntian. App. error for SERPENTINIAN.

1841 MURDOCK & SOAMES tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* I. Cent. II. II. v. § 19 The Ophites or Serpentians..of which one Euphrates is said to be the father.

†Serpentic, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -IC.] Serpent-like, serpentine.

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* I. v. 56 So also were the heroes of ancient time [honoured] for destroying of Serpentick kind of men.

†Serpe·ntical, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -ICAL.] = prec.

1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 74 O diuelish subtiltie, more then serpentical!

Serpenticidal, *a.* [Formed as next + -AL.] Serpent-slaying.

1817 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. 348 Their serpenticidal Chrishna. 1819 — *Disp.* (1823) I. p. xx, The serpenticidal and virgin-born God.

Serpenticide[1] (sɔ̄ɹpe·ntisəid). [f. SERPENT *sb.*: see -CIDE 1.] A slayer of serpents.

1801 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* (1818) II. 294 *note*, Vishnu, much of whose character has been borrowed from old tradition respecting the predicted Serpenticide. 1817 S. R. MAITLAND *Dissertation* 31, I have before mentioned Apollo as a king: I must now say something of him as a Serpenticide.

Serpenticide[2]. [f. SERPENT *sb.*: see -CIDE 2.] Killing of serpents.

1882 *Field* 3 June 733, I think we must acquit the gentle deer of this charge of habitual serpenticide.

Serpentiferous (sɔ̄ɹpĕntĭ·fĕrəs), *a. rare.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -FEROUS. Cf. L. *serpentifer*.]

1. Bearing or containing a serpent.

1743 STUKELEY *Abury* 62 This sacred figure of the alate and serpentiferous circle.

2. Abounding in serpents.

1905 GEIL *Yankee in Pigmy Land* IV. 45 This road was emphatically serpentine, if not serpentiferous.

Serpentiform (sɔ̄ɹpe·ntifɔ̄ɹm). [ad. mod.L. *serpentiform-is*: see SERPENT *sb.* and -FORM. Cf. F. *serpentiforme*.] Having the form of a serpent; serpentine in shape.

1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 53 Asterias... Five-Rayed, with slender or serpentiform rays. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 114 Julus...Body serpentiform, cylindric. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 26 A wriggling or serpentiform motion.

Serpenti·genous, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *serpenti-gena*, f. *serpent-* SERPENT *sb.* + *-gen-* to produce.] See quot. So **Serpenti·gerous** [L. *serpentiger*; see -GEROUS].

1730 BAILEY (folio), *Serpentigenous*, ingender'd..of a Serpent. *Ibid.*, *Serpentigerous*, bearing or carrying Serpents.

Serpentile (sɔ̄·ɹpĕntəil), *a. rare.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -ILE.] = SERPENTINE.

1795 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* I. I. i. 68 This profound veneration of the serpentile tribe. 1857 MUNDY *Antipodes* 14 A serpentile [*ed.* 1852 serpentine] line of demolished rocks and gum-trees.

‖Serpentin (sɛrpantæn). [F.: see next.] A long coloured paper ribbon which is unrolled and thrown into the air at times of rejoicing.

1894 *Nation* 22 Mar. 215/2 They shouted unmusical songs, threw confetti, serpentins, and paper darts among the ladies. 1905 J. K. JEROME *Idle Ideas* iii, The 'serpentin' is a feature of the Belgian Carnival.

Serpentine (sɔ̄·ɹpĕntəin), *sb.* Also 4–6 **serpentyn**, 5–6 **-yne**, (5, 7 **sarp-**, 5 **-ene**, 6–8 **-in**, 6 *Sc.* **scharpentyn**). [a. OF. *serpentin* and *serpentine*, ad. med.L. *serpentinum* and *serpentina*, absol. uses of the neut. and fem. sing. respectively of *serpentīnus* (see next).]

1. A name for certain plants reputed to contain an antidote to the poison of serpents; e. g. dragonwort, fenugreek.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii, 651 in *Anglia* XVIII. 323 Dragaunce & serpentyn in same And nedderstonge, alle on be name. 1526 *Grete Herball* cccxx. (1529) Y iij, Powdre of serpentyne put alone in to yᵉ eye is good to clense the eye of the pynne & webbe. 1552 HULOET, Serpentine [*ed.* 1572 *adds* or serpentarie, *...dracuntium .. Vulgo Serpentaria*]. 1608 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 611 Fœnegreek..is called also Serpentine, because when Snakes..are hurt therewith, they recouer their woundes by eating therof.

2. A kind of cannon; in the 15th and 16th cent. used largely as a ship's gun. Now only *Hist.*

c 1450 *Brut* ccl. 305 Many other gret gonnes & serpentines. 1485 *Cely Papers* (1900) 177, iiij small serpentynus with vij chamburs of on mackyng. 1523 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 484 For iij scharpentynnis..to the greit schip. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 70 A Serpentine. Height [=bore] in Inches 3¼. 1824 METRICK *Ant. Armour* II. 201 In the year 1474 King Edward the Fourth directed all the bombs, cannons, culverines, fowlers, serpentines..to be taken and provided for his use. 1863 KRK *Hist. Chas. Bold* II. 451 The battering-train consisted of thirty bombards and fifty large serpentines.

3. A rock or mineral, consisting mainly of hydrous magnesium silicate, of a dull green colour with markings resembling those of a serpent's skin. Also, an ornamental stone made of this.

The purest kind is called 'noble' or 'precious serpentine'. The impure or 'common serpentine' occurs in rock-masses and is worked as serpentine marble.

1426 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 118 [My best covered] cup of silver and gilt, with one] serpentyn [in the bottom (*in fundo*) of the said cup]. *c* 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 47/1256 A ston ys ther, That the serpent may noght hym noght dere. The name off home serpentyne ys. 1561–2 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 114 A small coller of serpentyne garneshed with silver gilt. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 181 In the bottome of this manger, and just in the middle a round Serpentine is set. 1644 EVELYN, *Mem.* (1857) I. 97 Four pillars of a kind of serpentine. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 288 The seats of the chairs in this apartment are made of serpentine. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 466 Serpentine..is either compact, granulated, scaly, lamellated, or fibrous. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 380 The main ridge seems to be made up of a series of metamorphic slates, sandstones, and serpentines.

†4. = SERPENT *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 434 This sakett and þis gold is not pine, for þou says þou lost ij serpentynys and here-in is bod one.

5. The coiled pipe or worm of a distilling apparatus. *Obs.* exc. as representing F. *serpentin.*

1519 in Noake *Mon. & Cath. Worc.* (1866) 185 A limbeke with a serpentyn closed both on oun. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxxii. (1636) 227 Distill it with a Limbecke or Serpentine. 1611 FLORIO, *Serpentina*, ..a kind of winding limbecke called a Serpentine or doubble ss. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 34/2 Then distil twenty four hours, and distil through a Serpentine or Worm. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* Qq 4/2 A Canal made of Tin,..very long, and winding..; For which Reason they have given it the Name of Serpentine. 1885 *Forestry* 209 This is subjected to a cooling process, in this case a serpentine of cold water.

†6. The cock of the harquebus. *Obs.*

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Cert. Discourses* 21 b, If Harquebuziers in putting their matches into their serpentines do faile to set them of a conuenient length. 1611 FLORIO, *Serpentina*, an iron at the end of a Gunners Linstocke called a cocke or serpentine. [1881 GREENER *Gun* 45 The serpentin is hung upon a pivot passing through the stock and continued past the pivot, forming a lever.]

†7. A serpiginous disease. *Obs.*

1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 94 Pin and web, dragons, serpentines, and such numberlesse sorances. 1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* III. 134 He was afflicted with a Distemper called a Serpentine or Cancer, which some Years since was caused by an Erysipelas.

†8. [after Pg. *serpentina.*] A kind of hammock.

1767 *Byron's Voy. round World* 15 The rich [at Salvador, Brazil] cause themselves to be carried about in a kind of cotton hammocks called serpentines.

†9. a. A malicious action. **b.** A wily, cunning person. *Obs.*

c 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 3/2 When thei perceiued, that thei coulde not against his connyng any thing openly preuaile: thei brought forth the serpentines of false crime. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* vii. (1537) 11 When our senate fayllethe of meke and wyse Senatours, and multyplieth with these serpentines.

10. A winding path or line.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Mar. 6/1 The narrow-gauge line can ..wind down mountains, with a number of quick turns and serpentines. 1886 *Field* 13 Mar. 310/1 (Skating) The more sedate delineator of 3's, 8's, Q's, serpentines, and what not. 1893 R. F. BURTON in Lady Burton *Life* I. 269 The yellow ..Wazegura wilderness, traversed by a serpentine of trees.

b. *Math.* A cubic curve to which the equation is $y(a^2 + x^2) = abx$. (In recent Dicts.)

11. *attrib.* **a.** Consisting of, containing, or made of serpentine (sense 3), as *serpentine knife, porphyry, pillar, rock, tankard, -wacke.*

1463 *Will of J. Bavet* in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 35 My serpentyn knyves. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phisrav.* I. lxv. 78 A rounde Corrall like vnto the Serpentine Purphire. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 16 *note*, The serpentine pillar of the Hippodrome. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* I. 120 The principal mountains of these parts [*sc.* Lapland], consist of granite..and probably likewise of porphyry and serpentine-wake. 1838 W. F. AINSWORTH *Res. Assyria*, etc. 336 Serpentine rocks. 1875 J. W. DAWSON *Dawn of Life* VI. 144 Serpentine-limestone or ophicalcite.

b. (sense 2) *serpentine cart, gun.*

1471 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 363 Delyuered to Rob. Onley a serpentyne gun & a staffe gun. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 291 The feys and schethis to the serpentyn cartis.

Serpentine (sɔ̄·ɹpĕntəin), *a.* Also 5–6 **-yn(e**, 6–7 **-in.** [a. F. *serpentin* (12th cent.), ad. L. *serpentīnus*, f. *serpent-*, SERPENT *sb.* + *-īnus* -INE¹.]

1. Of or pertaining to a serpent or serpents; of the form of or resembling a serpent, or that of a serpent.

c 1420? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 616 Wyngys had hit serpentyne and a long tayll. *Ibid.* 968 Vice..On hys steedis serpentyn. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXVI. xi, The sorceresse..Of the best, made the head serpentyne. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 235, I will not expresly define whether this may be called a Sea-Serpent, or a Serpentine-fish. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. viii. 250 That notorious Serpentine shape which deceived Adam and Eve. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 870 Thy shape..and colour Serpentine. 1774 J. BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* I. 428 Servius, who distributes the serpentine species into three tribes. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 80 The most active and malignant of all the serpentine poisons is that of the rattlesnake. 1880 *W. Smith & Cheetham's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 1889/2 Continual use is made of the serpentine or lacertine form in Irish and Anglo-Saxon ornament. 1896 CROCKETT *Clay Kelly* vii, Once more he protruded his head in that monstrously serpentine manner round the corner of the low shop-door.

b. In allusion to the representation of a serpent

with its tail in its mouth. *Serpentine verse*, a metrical line beginning and ending with the same word.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Rythmes* 26 Our Poets hath their knacks..as Ecchos, Achrostiches, Serpentine verses,..&c. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Serpentine verses*, are those which do, as it were, run into themselves, as we see Serpents pictured with tail in mouth.

c. *Surg.* (See quot.)

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Bandage*, These creeping, or as we sometimes call them serpentine bandages.

d. *Serpentine pot*: a potters' utensil for colouring or ornamenting common stoneware.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1017 The serpentine or snake pots.. are made..in three compartments, each containing a different colour...On inclining the vessel, the three colours flow out at once..; whereby curious serpent-like ornaments may be readily obtained.

† e. Caused by serpents. *Obs. rare.*

1446 LYDG. *Two Nightingale Poems* II. 315 Receyved ..medicyne Of al theyr hurtis, that were serpentyne.

2. Having the evil qualities of the serpent; pertaining to the Serpent as the tempter of mankind; diabolical, Satanic; devilishly wily or cunning.

In early use often with retention of literal phraseology.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vii. (Skeat) I. 40 Enemyes.. wol seche privy serpentynes queintyses, to quenche..by venim of many besinesses, the light of truthe. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* (1892) 236 This serpentyn womman..shee That had him terned with false deceitis. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xl. 58 b, An euyll and serpentyne tongue full of venyme. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 426 Sectes serpentyne. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 96 A serpentine generation, wholly made of fraud, of policies and practises. 1637 DOW *Answ. to H. Burton* 25 The poysoned shafts of his serpentine tongue. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 31 A serpentine wariuesse in declining dangers. 1752 LAW *Spirit of Love* II. (1816) 125 All that is earthly, serpentine, and devilish in every man. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* XIII. 84 In De Foe's time the serpentine temptation consisted in laced shoes instead of leathern. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* XIV. vi. III. 99 With serpentine deceit, she said the King was cheerful in his trials.

3. Having a direction or following a course resembling that of a serpent in motion; tortuous, sinuous, winding.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 26 The Serpentine and writhen Meanders of the Veynes. *Ibid.* 603 A Serpentine Still. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. i. xvi, The branching and serpentin cours of the River Seine. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Serpentine Line*, a crooked winding, that incloses itself continually, as a Serpent wraps himself up in Folds. 1754 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 535 Upon the serpentine river in Hyde-park. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 (Dict. Terms), *Serpentine* (*repandus*), the edge of some leaves is formed like a serpentine line; without any angles or corners. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 127 The road was..so serpentine as never to be visible beyond an hundred yards. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 379 When the stools were examined, they were found..to be serpentine or twisted. 1868 BAIN *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* III. xiii. § 18. 307 The most beautiful line is the serpentine line, called by Hogarth, the Line of Grace. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. v, A broad gravel path led in a serpentine sweep towards the stables.

b. In various technical uses (see quots.). *Serpentine temple* = serpent temple (see SERPENT *sb.* 12).

1743 STUKELEY *Abury* 9 Those with the form of a snake annext, as that of Abury, I call serpentine temples, or *Draconia*, by which they were denominated of old. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 321 A horse is said to have a serpentine tongue, if it is always frisking and moving, and sometimes passing over the bit. 1851 SQUIER *Serpent Symbol* 137 Ancient serpentine structures of the United States. 1860 C. R. M. TALBOT tr. *Newton's Lines 3rd Order* 12 We shall call..that which cuts the asymptote in contrary flexures, having on both sides contrary branches, the serpentine hyperbola. *Ibid.* 17 Where the serpentine curve does not pass through the intersection of the asymptotes. 1867 *Philatelist* I. 99/2 The peculiarity of the serpentine perforation is that no paper is taken away by the machine; it is simply a serpentine cut, with twelve waves to the base of the stamp on one, eighteen on the other. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Serpentine Molding Machine*, one for carving parlor frames, lounge, sofa, and chair backs, and other crooked work [etc.].

4. *Comb.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 249 All that intestine and serpentine-like tragedie. 1867 *Philatelist* I. 103/1 This, which has been called serpentine-pierced, is found..on the.. stamps of Finland. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 93 The gentle serpentine-like curvings of the wall-sides.

Serpentine, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To move in a serpentine manner; to pursue a serpentine or tortuous path; to wind.

a 1774 HARTE *Vis. Death* 2 In those fair vales Where Guadalquiver serpentines with ease. 1797 T. HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxi. (ed. 2) 89 Garlands of flowers serpentine with a free..air. 1802 COLMAN *Broad Grins, Elder Bro.* (1804) 120 Toby [who was drunk]..Went serpentining home. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 289 Permitting the road to serpentine and zigzag up the cliff terraces.

b. *trans.* To pursue (one's way) with a winding motion.

1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* viii, He was merely serpentining his way to the part of the details.

2. To cause to take a serpentine direction; to wind. Also, to bring into a condition by serpentine behaviour.

1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxxv, If you're an eel, Sir, conduct yourself like one...I am not going to be serpentined and corkscrewed out of my senses! 1870 THORNBURY *Tour Eng.* I. i. 25 He serpentined water through the gardens, and built two bridges. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Val Strange* III. xxiv. 243 'My dear,' said Hiram, serpentining his long arm about her.

Serpentinely, *adv.* [f. SERPENTINE *a.* + -LY².] In a serpentine manner; in a serpentine path.

1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 23 So would my Excepter do, if in their place, Serpentinely save his head. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 77 The great canal..serpentinely flows through the city. 1877 RUSLING *Great West* 87 Down this [bed] the wild little creek shoots very serpentinely. 1906 M. CHOLMONDELEY *Prisoners* iv, Perhaps..he might have serpentinely glided through into the next room without her perceiving him.

Serpentine marble. [= med.L. *marmor serpentīnum*; cf. F. *marbre serpentin*.] The mineral serpentine in massive form.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. vii. II. 573 The Serpentine marble called Ophites. 1657 [see OPHITICAL]. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 278 A Sphinx wrought in Numidian or Serpentine marble extraordinary hard. 1865 W. B. CARPENTER in *Reader* 8 July 45 The Serpentine marble of Canada. 1875 J. W. DAWSON *Dawn of Life* vi. 147 A beautiful variety of ophicalcite or serpentine-marble.

Serpentine powder. [See SERPENTINE *sb.* 2.] Gunpowder for use with the serpentine; gunpowder in fine meal as distinguished from the corned or granulated kind.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 129 Serpentine poudre with ij barelles brent in the botom. 1588 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) G 2 b, What though the Serpentine powder is quickly kindled, and quickly out. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iv. 137 Powder both serpentine and corne powder. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 344/1 Serpentine Powder..is weak, and will not keep at Sea. 1787 *Act* 27 *Geo. III*, c. 13 (Sched. A, Rates Inwards) Gunpowder, Serpentine Powder.

Serpentine stone. [= med.L. *lapis serpentīnus*, rendering Gr. λίθος ὀφίτης: cf. OPHITE 1.] = SERPENTINE *sb.* 3.

1662 MERRETT *Neri's Art of Glass* 259 This stone most commonly partakes of a light Green, like the Serpentine stone. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 33/1 The green, or Serpentine-stone mightily resists the Fire.

† **Serpenting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SERPENT *v.* + -ING 1.] Winding.

1677 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Oct., This place is exceeding sharp in the winter, by reason of the serpenting of the hills. 1679 *Ibid.* 23 July, A circular view..which with the serpenting of the Thames is admirable.

So † **Serpenting** *ppl. a.*, winding.

1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems*, This Moone, that Sunne, ..Be but the same which vnder Saturnes Raigne, Did the serpenting [*ed.* 1711 serpentine] Seasons interchaine. *a* 1649 — *Flowers of Sion* Wks. (1711) 26 Her Floods and prating Brooks,..with serpenting [*ed.* 1630 maz-like] Crooks.

Serpentinian (-i·niăn). [f. L. *Serpentīnus* (see SERPENTINE *a.* and *sb.*) + -IAN.] = OPHITE 2.

1758 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* I. Cent. II. II. v. § 19 The Ophites, or Serpentinians, a ridiculous sort of heretics, who had for their leader a man called Euphrates.

Serpenti·nic, *a.* [f. SERPENTINE *sb.* + -IC.] Of or pertaining to serpentine.

1883 *Science* I. 75/2 The chloritic and serpentinic series. 1887 *Geol. Mag.* Jan. 23 A serpentinic substance containing bronzite, ilmenite [etc.].

Se·rpentining, *ppl. a.* [f. SERPENTINE *v.* + -ING 2.] Winding or coiling like a serpent; winding, sinuous, tortuous.

1799 SOUTHEY *Let. to John May* Aug. *Life* (1850) II. 22 Ascending from Lynmouth up a road of serpentining perpendicularity. 1855 BROWNING *Men & Women, Andrea del Sarto* 26 My serpentining beauty, rounds on rounds! 1888 *Punch* 4 Feb. 60/2 The gnarled serpentining root of yonder..elm.

Hence **Se·rpentiningly** *adv.*, windingly.

1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 355 Though they leap all the way the pillar leads,..And serpentiningly enrich the roof.

Serpentinization (sɔ:rpĕntinəizē·ʃən). *Geol.* [f. SERPENTINE *sb.* + -IZATION.] Conversion into serpentine.

1885 JUDD in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLI. 382 The results are, in this case, not complicated by serpentinization.

Serpentinize (sɔ:rpĕntinəiz), *v.* [f. SERPENTINE *sb.* or *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* = SERPENTINE *v.* 1.

1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 248 The venerable beauties of Innerpaffray, fronting Castle Drummond, in a concavity of the serpentinizing Ern. 1798 W. MAVOR *Brit. Tourists* V. 18 Extensive lawns through which a river serpentinizes.

2. *trans.* (*Geol.*) To convert into serpentine.

1889 *Amer. Nat.* Nov. 1007 Scyelite..consists of serpentinized olivine, altered augite, bleached mica. 1899 *Nat. Sci.* XV. 173 The ferro-magnesian minerals are more or less serpentinised.

Se·rpentinoid, *a.* [f. SERPENTINE *sb.* + -OID.] Having the characters of the mineral serpentine.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 801/1 Serpentines and obscure serpentinoid rocks.

Serpentinous (sɔ:rpĕntəinəs), *a.* [f. SERPENTINE *sb.* or *a.* + -OUS.]

1. Of the nature of or consisting of serpentine.

1833–4 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 764/2 The serpentinous masses in the Northern Apennines. 1856 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* (1876) 157 The..serpentinous limestones of Canada.

2. Serpentine, winding.

1888 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. III. 512 Causes the outcrop to describe a widely serpentinous course.

† **Serpentinously**, *adv. Obs.* [f. **serpentinous* (a. OF. *serpentineux*, f. *serpentin* SERPENTINE *a.*) + -LY 2.] With serpentine or diabolical action.

1300 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) II. xii. L ij, The deuyll the whiche by the meane of the tonge serpentynously putteth all humayne lygnage vnto perdycyon.

† **Serpentive**, *a. Obs.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -IVE.] = SERPENTINE *a.* 2.

1635 SHIRLEY *Traitor* III. i, Finding this serpentive treason broken in the shell. 1645 *City Alarum* 17 The Serpentive abuse that hath devoured the memory of all other. 1649 *Shute's Sarah & Hagar* Table b iij b, The serpentive motion of sin.

Serpentivorous (sɔ:rpĕnti·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. *serpent-em* SERPENT + -VOROUS.] Serpent-eating.

1882 *Nature* No. 642. 378 The lightning 'dabs' of a serpentivorous bird.

Serpentize (sɔ:·rpĕntəiz), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* = SERPENTINE *v.* 1.

1699 GARTH *Dispens.* VI. 75 Where living Floods of Mercʼry serpentize. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 202 The Euphrates serpentizes among wonderful plants. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 128 The colour of this shell is the purest white; its canalures or ribs, which serpentize, are crossed by circular lines. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* I. 23 How happy I was, when I had duly serpentized over his garden, to find myself once more in the grand avenue. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. ii. V. 32 The miserablest Brook in nature, which takes to oozing and serpentising forward thereabouts.

2. *trans.* To cause to take a serpentine shape, motion, or course.

1762 MRS. MONTAGU in Doran *Lady Last Cent.* (1873) 117, I dare say his Grace of Newcastle will fall to serpentizing rivers. 1808 *Europ. Mag.* LIII. 253, I would teach them a circumbendibus; I would serpentize them.

Hence **Se·rpentizing** *ppl. a.*, winding, tortuous.

1629 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 266 A Cabinet..inlaid ..with siluer Plates, wrought in a serpentizing manner. 1739 H. BROOKE *Gustavus Vasa* II. i, I know thou hast a serpentizing genius, Can'st wind the subtlest mazes of the soul. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 455 A glen there is with serpentizing bend.

Serpent-like, *a.* and *adv.* [-LIKE.] **A.** *adj.* Like a serpent; = SERPENTINE *a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 93 A creeping serpent-like of mortall woe. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 307 His serpent-like gate. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Wks.* (1711) 4/1 Serpent-like Meander. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1825) III. 159 Its serpent-like figure. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* XXV, I re-read the serpent-like scroll which had been cast into my Eden of love and faith.

B. *adv.* With serpentine motion, habit, disposition, etc.; † malignantly, treacherously.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 163 She hath..Look'd blacke vpon me, strooke me with her Tongue Most Serpent-like, vpon the very Heart. 1682 LISTER *Gædart Of Insects* 109 These Insects did put off their skins, Serpent like. *a* 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. clxvi. (1702) 10 Where, Serpent-like, in Paradise, she over Her foul Design spread this fair-faced cover. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, The marabout..glided on ..serpent-like, or rather snail-like.

Se·rpently, *adv.* [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -LY 2.] = prec. adv.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 49 Jak, thou seist ful serpentli. *c* 1530 *Calisto & Melib.* A iij, Semyng to be shepe and serpentlysbrewd. 1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 374 Stealthily, serpently, he slimed his way.

† **Se·rpentous**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -OUS.] = SERPENTINE *a.* 1.

c 1500 *Melusine* 320 On the basse stone of the wyndowe apereth at this day themprynte of her foote serpentous.

Serpentry (sɔ·:rpĕntri). [f. SERPENT *sb.* + -RY.]

1. Serpents or serpentine creatures collectively.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 821 To..wipe away all slime Left by men-slugs and human serpentry. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 87 There is an Æsculapian as well as an evil serpentry among the Draconidæ. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XII. 561 For egg turned snake needs fear no serpentry.

2. A place where serpents are kept and reared.

1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* Introd. 12 A serpentry for improving the domestic breed of rattlesnakes [etc.].

3. A winding like that of a serpent.

1848 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Serpent-stone.

1. = AMMONITE 1. Now *Obs.* or *local.*

1681 GREW *Museum* III. § i, i. 261 The Helick Serpent Stone, *Ophites Ammoneus*. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 73 The serpent-stone, or *cornu ammonis*. 1851 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. IV. 262 At Whitby, where these fine fossils of the Lias are called 'St. Hilda's Serpent-stones'.

2. An artificial 'stone' used as a remedy for the poison of serpents. Also = BEZOAR 2 a.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. § iii. 52 The Serpentstone. Said by some, to be factitious. *c* 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vii. 62 East India Serpent Stone..much esteemed in the Indies as a certain Remedy for the Bite of the Cobra de Capello or Hooded Snake, out of whose Head some affirm this to be taken; but it's more probable..that it's factitious and said to be composed of burnt Elephant's Bones. 1732 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape Gd. Hope* II. 167 The artificial Serpent-Stone..is shap'd like a Bean. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 297 The *Glain naidr* or Druidical bead..is..made of glass, marked with figures of serpents coiled up. The common people in Wales and in Scotland..call it by the name of Serpent-stone. 1881 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 68 Bezoars:..(serpent stone, cobra de capello).

3. ? = SERPENTINE STONE.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 361 Ophites or serpent-stone.

† **Serpet.** *Obs. rare*—1. [error for Turkish سپت *sepet* wicker basket.] A kind of basket. In 18th c. dicts. (by misinterpretation of quot. 1678), a kind of rush.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 67 After them are carried in Serpets (a kind of baskets) their presents. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Serpet*, probably from *Scirpus* a sort of Rush, of which is made

a kind of Basket. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), *Serpet*, a sort of Rush of which Baskets are made.

Serpiginous (səɹpi·dʒinəs), *a.* [ad. mod.L. **serpiginōsus*, f. *serpīgin-*, SERPIGO. Cf. F. *serpigineux*.] Of the nature of serpigo; (of skin diseases) creeping from one part to another.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* I. xxv. 139 A dry white Scurf, under which the serpiginous circles lay covered. 1753 R. RUSSELL *Diss. Sea Water* 143 Many Diseases of the serpiginous Kind. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 18 Apr., A serpiginous eruption, or rather a pocky itch. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 387 Serpiginous chancroids. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 633 Deep ulcers..spreading..in a serpiginous manner. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 590 Senile gangrene..tends to be serpiginous.

Hence **Serpi·ginously** *adv.*, in a serpiginous manner or form. After the manner of serpigo.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 51 Individual spots may increase greatly in size, or neighbouring ones may coalesce into large serpiginously bordered tracts.

‖ **Serpigo** (səɹpi·gō). Pl. **serpigines** (səɹpi·dʒinīz), **serpigoes**. Also 6–7 **sarpego**, 7 **sapego**. [med.L. *serpīgo*, f. *serpĕre* to creep; cf. *herpes*.] A general term (cf. HERPES) for creeping or spreading skin diseases; *spec.* ringworm.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxiii (1495) 278 Serpigo is a drye scabbe.] *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 194 Serpigo is a scharpnes of a mannes skyn, & it is clepid serpigo, for it passip fro place to place. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* L ij b, The..Serpigines that is drye and small scabbes and spottys. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 31 The Gowt, Sapego, and the Rheume. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 651 Carbuncles, Tetters, Serpigoes, and such like. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royall King* III. xi, Be all his body.. with the Sarpego dry'd. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* 677 Ulcers, Serpigines, Scall'd-Heads. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 25 *Herpes Exedens*, or Serpigo.

† **Serpille.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. It. *serpillo*, ad. L. *serpyllum* (see SERPOL).] Wild thyme. Also † Serpyne [?].

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 45 b, Jasemyn, Maioram, Sauourye, Serpyne, or Serpille, called wilde Time [orig. *gelsomino, maggiorana, serpillo, satureggia*].

Serpils, obs. form of SURPLICE.

Serpitant. Blundered f. SERPENTINE *sb.* (2).

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 251 Serpitantis and doubill doggis witht hagbut and cullvering.

Serpivolant (səɹpi·vōlănt). [ad. It. *serpe volante* (pl. *serpi volanti*) flying serpent.] The figure of a flying serpent.

1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 138 Under the outstretched neck of one of those serpivolants on the gate.

Serplaith, -ath (e, Sc. variants of SARPLIER.

† **Serpol.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 **sorpol**, 7 **serpoile.** [a. OF. *serpol*, *-oul*, = Sp., Pg. *serpol*:—L. *serpullum*, *-yllum*, repr. Gr. ἕρπυλλον.] = next I.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) fol. 7 b, Whan þei pasture of ij herbes, þat one is clepid Sorpol, and þat other puligin, þei be..fastrennynge. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 147 The mutation of Mint into Cresses, Basill into Serpoile, and Turneps into Radishes.

Serpolet (sɔ·ɹpŏlet). [ad. F. *serpolet*, a. Pr. *serpolet*, dim. of *serpol*:—L. *serpullum* (see prec.).]

† 1. Thyme; wild thyme. *Obs.*

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. l. 407 [Called] Serpolet, because it creepeth along the ground. 1843 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Achilles & Helena*, Pleasant the short slender grass, ..interrupted..by little troops of serpolet running in disorder here and there.

2. In full *serpolet oil*: see quot.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., *Serpolet*, an essential perfumery oil obtained from *Thymus Serpyllum*. 1897 *Lippincott's Med. Dict., Serpolet oil.*

Serpoloid (sɔ·ɹpŏloid). [f. L. *serpĕre* to creep, *serpens* SERPENT + POLOID.] = HERPOLHODE.

1862 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 572 A curve called 'the Serpoloid', which is the locus of the points with which the several points of the poloid come successively in contact with the tangent plane, and is a species of undulating curve.

Serpow, variant of SEEPAW.

Serppelys, obs. form of SURPLICE.

‖ **Serpula** (sɔ·ɹpiŭlă). *Zool.* Pl. **serpulæ** (*f*). [mod.L. use of late L. *serpula* small serpent.] A marine annelid which inhabits a tortuous calcareous tube.

1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 432 The Serpula, or Worm-shell. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 256 Bent like the tubes of a Serpula. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 124 The tubes of serpulæ and other annelidæ. 1881–2 SAVILLE KENT *Man. Infusoria* II. 778 Flashing out of sight after the manner of a serpula with the rapidity of lightning.

Hence **Serpula·cean, Serpulean, Serpulid, Serpulidan, Serpuline,** an annelid belonging to a group or family of which *Serpula* is a typical genus; **Serpulite** *Geol.*, a fossil serpula; also, a formation containing these; attrib. *serpulite-grit*; **Serpuloid** *a.*, resembling or characteristic of the serpulæ.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 182/1 *Serpulaceans. Under this division Lamarck arranges the genera *Spirorbis Serpula, Vermilia, Galeolaria*, and *Magilus*. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. xii. 334 The second [Order] he (Savigny) names *Serpuleans. 1883 *Science* I. 344/2 A new species of *serpulid, belonging, apparently, to the Sabellidæ. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 608 *note*, A Serpulid *Placostegus benthalianus*. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. xii. 344 The *Serpulidans, in general, imitate the spiral structure of the Trachelipod and other Molluscans. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 240 *Ditrupa subulata*, one of the *Serpulines. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Serpulite*, petrified shells or fossil remains of the genus Serpula. 1856 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* x. 118 We rank provisionally under the head *annelida* such organisms as serpulites (so called from their resemblance to the serpula of existing seas). 1880 J. F. BLAKE in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXXVI. 192 The lower part is so full of *Serpula gordialis* as to almost merit the title of Serpulite. 1884 *Nature* 13 Nov. 34/1 Fucoid-shales, Serpulite-grit, and limestone. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 272/1 The *Serpuloid, Lumbricoid, and Hirudinoid orders have no head.

† **Serr,** *v. Obs.* Also serre. [ad. F. *serrer* = It. *serrare* (used intr. to close up the ranks):—pop. L. **serrāre*, for class. L. *serāre*, f. *sera* lock, bolt.] *refl., pass.*, and *intr.* To press close *together*; esp. to serry the ranks, form a serried company.

1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 31 b, The Christians serred them selues and charged them. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 33 Let vs, serred together, forcibly breake into the riuer. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 18 His Troope of 600 Horse close serred. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 82 The more grosse of the Tangible Parts doe contract and serre themselues together. 1683 SIR JAS. TURNER *Pallas Armata* 22 They were oblig'd to serr together as close as they could. *Ibid.* 43 Some Tribunes..found the Gauls serr'd together in a Testudo. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 88 His own men were..hardly able though serred together to stand the shock.

‖ **Serra**[1] (se·rä). Pl. **serræ**. [L. = saw, saw-fish.]

1. a. A fabulous marine monster.

The first quot. is doubtful.

c 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 44/1177 The qwyche dragan, serra men calle. *c* 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. lxxii. in *Babees Bk.*, Serra is a fysshe with great tethe, and on his backe he hathe sharpe fynnes lyke the combe of a cocke and iagged lyke a sawe. 1845 *Archæol. Album* (ed. T. Wright) 183 Among the monsters of the deep one of the most remarkable was the serra or serre..When a serre sees a ship, the bestiaries tell us, it flies up.

b. A saw-fish.

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 418 The larger and fiercer the adversary, the more ardently does the serra desire to join battle.

c. The fish *Alepisaurus serra*, found on the coast of California.

1896 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. & Middle Amer.* I. 597.

2. Dentation resembling the teeth of a saw, as of the edge of a leaf, the sutures of the skull; *pl.* the 'teeth' of a serrated edge.

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 435 This has a serrated edge; but the serræ are confined to the soft part, not extending to the membrane covering the bone. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Serra, Serratures*, the saw-toothings at the edge of leaves and similar bodies. 1898 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. & Middle Amer.* II. 1285 Serræ of preopercle at angle blunt.

‖ **Serra**[2] (se·ra). [Pg.:—L. *serra* saw. Cf. SIERRA.] A ridge of mountains or hills (in Portuguese territory).

1830 *Portugal; or Yng. Travellers* 152 The burra-drivers kept shouting vociferously, to deter, they said, the wolves from coming down the serra. 1846 G. GARDNER *Brazil* 308 The storm..passing over a high Serra..again altered its course. 1853 A. R. WALLACE *Amazon & Rio Negro* 147 The great marsh which extends from the Amazon to the serras.

‖ **Serradilla** (seräde·lä). Also **-ella.** [Pg., dim. f. *serrado* SERRATE. Cf. F. *serradelle*.] A kind of clover used as a fodder-plant.

1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 547 Clover, Medick, Lucerne, Trefoil, &c., are well-known fodder-plants, as are also Saint-foin, Ornithopus or Serradilla. 1880 CRAWFURD *Portugal* 181 Cutting serradella, clover, and plantain for stall-feeding.

Serrafdom, obs. form of SHERIFFDOM.

Serraglio, -aill, -alia, obs. ff. SERAGLIO, SERAIL.

Serran (se·rän). *Ichth.* [ad. mod.L. *serrānus*, f. *serra*: see SERRA and -AN.] A fish of the genus *Serranus* or the family *Serranidæ*, which includes many food fishes, as the black sea-bass.

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 439 Serran Sparus. 1841 KITTO *Palestine: Phys. Geog.* viii. 416 The Brazen Serran. 1851 GOSSE *Nat. Hist., Fishes* 57 The Serrans (*Serranina*), a very numerous sub-family [of the *Percadæ*].

Hence **Serranoid** *a.* and *sb.*, belonging to, a fish of, the family *Serranidæ*.

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 413 The Serranoid Fishes of the Pacific Coast.

Serrasalmonoid (serăsse·lmŏnoid). *Ichth.* [f. mod.L. *serrasalmon-*, *-salmo-*, irreg. f. *serra* saw + *salmo* SALMON: see -OID.] A fish of the South American genus *Serrasalmo*.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 111 The voracious Serrasalmonoids of the South American rivers.

Serrate (se·rĕt), *a.* Chiefly *Nat. Hist.* [ad. L. *serrāt-us*, f. *serra* saw: see -ATE[2].] Having or forming a row of small projections resembling the teeth of a saw; jagged or notched like a saw. *Serrate leaf*: see quot. 1866.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 3. 109 Oblong shining serrate leaves. 1692 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 145 All [Birds] that have serrate Teeth are carnivorous. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xv. (1727) 256 *note*, Strong hooked Talons, (one of which is remarkably serrate on the Edge) the better to hold their Prey. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 158 The leaf is serrate, as in the common Nettles. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Serrate*, having sharp straight-edged teeth pointing to the apex. When these are themselves serrate, they are biserrate or duplicato-serrate.

b. *Comb.*, as *serrate-spined, -toothed* adjs.; also = SERRATO-.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Serrato-ciliatum folium*, a Serrate-ciliate leaf. *Ibid., Serrato-dentatum folium*, a Serrate-toothed leaf. 1850 F. MASON *Burmah* 323 Serrate-spined Cat-fish.

Se·rrate, *v.* [f. L. *serrāt-*, ppl. stem of *serrāre*, f. *serra* saw.]

1. *intr.* To saw. Only in vbl. sb.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 38/1 The membrane Periostium..which also in serratinge or sawinge might be some hinderance.

2. *trans.* To make serrated or saw-toothed, jag the edge of; to impress in a serrated form.

1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 41 This mark..is found..impress'd or serrated on the new shell. 1865 *Morn. Star* 4 Oct., This corner of Ireland is absolutely serrated with bays. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 32/1 If you make any rude sketch..of a pair of wheels acting together, and serrate the edges of the teeth. 1893 'Q.' *Delect. Duchy* 47 The larches and Scotch firs that serrate the long ridge above.

Serrated (se·rēited), *a.* Chiefly *scientific.* [f. L. *serrāt-us* SERRATE + -ED.] = SERRATE *a.*

1703 DAMPIER *Voy. New Holland* 156 The Leaves are.. like the top Leaves of *Barduna major*...In the Figure they are represented too stiff and too much serrated. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 469 The bill is..finely toothed, or serrated. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 72 Serrated Tortoise. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxviii, A serrated and rocky mountain. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 645/2 The *ligamentum dentatum* (serrated membrane of Gordon). 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xi, That white spheroidal mass, with its grinning rows and serrated sutures, that is a human skull. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. xvi. 430 Bare and serrated hilly ridges.

Serratic (seræ·tik), *a. Path.* [f. L. *serrāt-us* SERRATE *a.* + -IC.] Resembling or suggesting the motion of a saw or the sound of sawing; = SERRATILE. (Cf. SAWING *ppl. a.* 2.)

1753 N TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 102 The Pulse was always small, *serratic*, or like a Saw, hard and unequal. 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 296 When the respiration is frequent and *serratic*, that is to say, imitating the noise of a saw cutting a stone.

Serratiform (serā·tifōɹm), *a.* [f. L. *serrāt-us* SERRATE *a.* + -FORM.] Saw-shaped, serriform.

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 59 The margin ..marked by about four serratiform indentures.

† **Se·rratile,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **sarratylle.** [a. F. *serratile*, ad. mod.L. *serrātilis*, f. *serrāt-us* SERRATE *a.*: see -ILE.] Saw-like; serrate; serratic.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* D iv, The commyssures [of the skull] called sarratylles seames endented as tethe of a sawe. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 105 The Pulse in most Inflammations is hard and serratile.

Serration (serē·ʃən). [ad. mod.L. *serrātiōnem*, f. *serrāre* (see SERRATE *v.*).]

1. *Surg.* The operation of sawing. *rare*[0].

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

2. The condition of being serrated; indentation like that of a saw; chiefly *concr.* and *pl.*, saw-like indentations, the teeth of a serrated edge or surface.

1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 101 The serrations are found to result from a structure resembling a series of inverted cones, encircling a central stem. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 38 The comb..is low, thick, destitute of serrations. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xiii. § 8 The eye which has once been habituated to the continual serration of the pine forest. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 122 Differing in pubescence and amount of double serration of the leaflets. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* vii. 141 Dim serrations of Coast Range loom indistinctly on the hazy air. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 123 As the saw refused to 'bite', and he had to withdraw it to feel, with his tongue, if the serration was still perfect.

Serratirostral (serătirŏ·străl), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *serrātus* SERRATE + *rostrum* beak + -AL.] = SAW-BILLED.

Serrato-, used as comb. form (see -o-) of L. *serrātus* SERRATE *a.* in the senses 'serrate and . . .', 'in a serrate manner, with serrate indentation', as *serrato-crenate, -dentate, -glandulous, -spinose* adjs.

1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 40 [Pinnules] *serrato-crenate. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 177 Lamellæ thin, regularly *serrato-dentate. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss., **Serrato-glandulous*, bearing glands and partly serrated. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 218 *Serrato-spinose before, and crenato-squamous in the hinder part.

Serrature (se·rătiŭɹ, -tʃəɹ). [ad. L. *serrātūra*, f. *serrātus*: see SERRATE *a.* and -URE.] = SERRATION.

1541 R. COPLAND *Gruydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* F j b, In the top of euery of the other extremytees in cuttynge is a bowed sarrature which is composed with an addycion very subtylly made and bred there. *a* 1725 WOODWARD *Catal. Foss.* II. 95 The Serratures towards the Point are wanting in this Tooth. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 181 *Duplicato-serrate*, ..when there is a twofold Serrature, the less upon the greater. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 319 The edges of the mandibles are marked with sharp serratures. 1863 M. J. BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 15 The serratures consisting..merely of cells projecting beyond their neighbours. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 115 In Petromyzon this serrature is absent, or but faintly indicated.

‖ **Serratus** (serē·tŭs). *Anat.* [mod.L. use of L. *serrātus* SERRATE.] Any of certain muscles which are inserted into the vertebral or costal region in such a way as to suggest a serrated border; *esp.* short for *serratus magnus*, which

connects the eight upper ribs and the vertebral border of the shoulder-blade.

1881 Mivart *Cat* 279 Where it [posterior thoracic nerve] lies upon the serratus muscle. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 210 The posterior border of the scapula projects like a wing owing to paralysis of the serratus.

Serray, obs. form of Seraï, Sirrah.

Serrayle, obs. form of Serail.

‖ **Serre**[1] (sɛr). [F., vbl. sb. f. *serrer*, ad. pop. L. **serrāre* : see Serr.] A greenhouse.

1819 [H. Busk] *Banquet* III. 147 Lock'd in my *serres*, from hail-engendering blast, Exotic fruits from spring to spring shall last.

Serre[2]. Anglicized form of Serra[1] (1 a).

Serre, obs. form of Seer *sb.*[2]

‖ **Serre-**, stem of F. *serrer* to tighten, constrict, forming the first element in compounds denoting surgical instruments used for constricting ligatures, as serre-nœud, serre-pédicule (see quots.).

1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 19 The '*Serre nœud' (Knot-tightener) of Graefe, an imitation of the tourniquet of Petit. *Ibid.* 326 The two ends of the ligature should be passed into a *serre-nœud*, and the polypus strangled to the required degree. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc. Lond.* XXII. 160 Koeberle's serre-nœud. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Serre-pedicule*, a clamp used for constricting a pedicule

Serrefile (se·rəfəil). *Mil.* Also **serafile.** [ad. F. *serrefile*, f. *serre-r* (see Serr) + *file* File *sb.*[2] Cf. Pg. *serrafila.*] *pl.* The line of supernumerary and non-commissioned officers placed in the rear of a squadron or troop; *sing.* one of these.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 19 In the filings of the squadron, the serrefiles take their place in the rear of the files. 1875 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) V. 117 The serre-files were Boyd, Nugent, and..Prendergast. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xvi, Being now a sort of 'serrefile' or hanger-on to the column. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Nov. 3/4 Sergeant-Major Harrison..bade me mount a grey mare he led as he rode serafile.

attrib. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 219 The serrefile rank remains closed to the right. 1833 *Reg. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 35 The Serrefile Officers pass through the intervals and cover to the right.

‖ **Serre-fine** (sɛrfin). [F. *serre fine*, fine clamp.] (See quot.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Serre-fine*, a small clip used to compress a severed artery pending the farther conduct of the operation. 1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instr.* 30 Serre-fines, Silver, straight or curved.

Serreli, var. Sirly *a. Obs.* **Serrey**, obs. f. Serry. **Serrha**, obs. f. Sirrah. **Serrhfull**, obs. f. Sorrowful. **Serrial(l**, obs. ff. Cerrial.

Serricorn (se·rikɔ̃n), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *serricorn-is* (through F. *serricorne*), f. *serra* saw + *cornū* horn.] **A.** *adj.* Of beetles: Having serrated antennæ. **B.** *sb.* A beetle of this class.

[1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 348 Those Serricornes, in which the posterior extremity of the præsternum is not similarly prolonged.] 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. *Serricorns*,..a family of Coleopterous insects. 1862 T. W. Harris *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 45 One great tribe, named serricorn or saw-horned beetles.

Serried (se·rid), *ppl. a.* [app. f. Serry + -ed[1]; but perhaps a graphic representation of *served*, pa. pple. of Serr, pronounced as a disyllable. The modern currency of the word is app. due to Scott.] Of files or ranks of armed men: Pressed close together, shoulder to shoulder, in close order.

1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 548 Thronging Helms Appear'd, and serried Shields in thick array. *Ibid.* VI. 599 Nor serv'd it to relax thir serried files. 1757 W. Wilkie *Epigoniad* II. 39 The Theban chief survey'd The close-compacted ranks..To find where least the serried orb could bear The strong impression of a pointed war. *a* 1785 Glover *Athenaid* II. 226 No engine..To man destructive, like his own fell hand In serried fight. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. xxxiv, Linked in the serried phalanx tight. 1814 — *Ld. of Isles* V. xv, Shield compact and serried spear. 1828 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* I. 164 To present a serried front to the enemy. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* xii. 192 The French ranks were so serried that..you could not throw an apple but it would fall upon a helmet or a lance. 1879 Green *Readings Eng. Hist.* xv. 74 The Norman horsemen, in serried line and with lances at rest.

b. Of things likened to ranks of soldiers.

1834 Lytton *Pompeii* III. ix, The dark ranks of the serried clouds. 1857 Gosse *Omphalos* iii. 57 An enormous Frog (*Labyrinthodon*),..apparently allied, in its serried teeth,.. to the Crocodiles. 1858 Longf. *M. Standish* v. 13 The serried billows, advancing. 1883 'Ouida' *Wanda* I. 31 The gorges, dark with the serried pines.

c. Of argument, etc.: Closely reasoned, compact in expression.

1899 *Blackw. Mag.* No. 1001. 511 To follow a long or serried argument. 1910 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 93 His composition is lucid, logical, serried.

¶ Misused for Serrated.

1848 B. Webb *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 173 The bleak crags are serried by the numerous torrents which fall straight into the lake. †1886, B. Harte *Friar Pedro's Ride* in *Fiddletown*, etc. (1873) 111 The morning came above the serried coast.

Serriform (se·rifɔm), *a.* Also erron. **serreo-**. [f. L. *serra* saw: see -form.] Saw-shaped, serrate.

1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 218 Thirty ribs, with serriform teeth. 1895 A. H. Cooke *Molluscs* (Camb. Nat. Hist. III.) 235 Marginals much pectinated and serriform.

†**Serrine**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *serra* saw + -ine[1].] Of the pulse: = Serratic.

1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 136 In most Inflammations the Pulse is hard, and serrine.

†**Serring**, *vbl. sb.* [f. Seer *v.* + -ing[1].] Arraying in close order.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 714 Grinding of the Teeth is caused (likewise) by a Gathering and Serring of the Spirits together to resist.

Serring, obs. form of Syringe.

Serriped(e, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *serriped-*, *-pēs*, f. L. *serra* saw + *pēs* foot.] Having serrations on the feet. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Serripes.*

Serriro·strate, *a.* [f. mod.L. *serrirostris*, f. L. *serra* saw + *rostrum* beak.] Having a serrated beak.

†**Se·rrous**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *serra* saw + -ous.] Resembling the action of a saw, saw-like. (Cf. Serratic, Serrine.)

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. 176 A serrous or jarring motion like that which happeneth while we blow on the teeth of a combe through paper.

Serrulate (se·riŭlēit), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. mod.L. *serrulātus*, f. late L. *serrula*, dim. of L. *serra* saw.] Finely or minutely serrated; having small serrations.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.*, *Serrulatum folium*, a serrulate leaf. 1810 *Encycl. Lond.* I. 683/1 Leaves oval,..obsoletely serrulate. 1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 9. 268 The penis of the male is..serrulate on the outer side.

Serrulated (se·riŭlēitĕd), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ed.] = prec.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 126 Calyx, husks equal, both serrulated on the keel. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* 133 Uncini, 2, the inner broad and serrulated.

Serrulation (seriŭlēi·ʃən). [f. prec.: see -ation.] The condition of being serrulated; a fine or minute serration.

1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 59 The margin ..in the older leaves..marked by about four serratiform indentures, scarcely deserving the appellation of serrulations. 1881 *Jrnl. Bot.* X. 115 The serrulation on the back of the nerve was also continued lower down.

Serry (se·ri), *v.* Also 6 **sar(r)ie, serrey, serrie.** [As a military term in the 16th cent., app. f. F. *serré*, †*sarré*, pa. pple. of *serrer* (see Serr), already adopted in ME. as Sarray (see also Sarrally). In recent use, a back-formation from Serried.]

1. *intr.* To press close *together* in the ranks; to stand or move in close or serried order.

1582 Styward *Mart. Discipl.* I. 71 First, to cause your pikes to sarie close together, then to traile their pikes with the sharpe ende toward the enimie. *Ibid.* II. 102 They must sarrie close together, and not disseuer to followe or flie. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* I. i. 4 When men come to the..push of the Pike, they sarrie close together. *Ibid.* III. i. 36 Being brought into a Ring, and serreying close shoulder to shoulder. 1888 Henley *Bh. Verses* 18 High shoulders, low shoulders broad shoulders, narrow ones, Round, square and angular, serry and shove.

2. *trans.* To cause to stand in close order, to close up (the ranks).

1635 Barriff *Milit. Discipl.* vi. (1643) 25 Close order is onely usefull for your files of Pike-men, so they may..stand the stronger, by so much as they are the closer serried together.

1821 Byron *Sardanap.* III. i. 259 Serry your ranks—stand firm. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* III. ii. (1864) 143 The courageous band of warriors, serried together. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* IV. 407 Others serry the ranks.

Serry, obs. and dial. f. Sorry. **Sers(e**, obs. ff. Search *v.* **Serse**, obs. f. Searce, Search *sb.*[1] **Sersour**, obs. Sc. f. Searcher.

†**Sert**. *Obs.* [Aphetic of Desert *sb.*[1]] Desert, merit; phr. *for sert of*, for the sake of.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 645 Nocht for my sert, bot þi gudnes. *a* 1400 *Pistil of Susan* 223 For sert of hire souereyn and for hire owne sake.

Sert-: see Cert-.

†**Serte**. *Obs.* [a. OF. *serte* fem. (also *sert* masc., cf. *desert*, *deserte* Deseet *sb.*[1]) :—pop. L. **servita* for **servīta*, noun of action f. *servīre* to Serve.] Service due from a servant to his lord.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 513 By sertes thow was my sandes, and senatour of Rome. *Ibid.* 2926 We for-sake þe to-daye be serte of owre lorde.

‖ **Sertularia** (sɔ̄tiŭlē·riă). *Zool.* Pl. **-æ, -as.** [mod.L., f. L. *sertula*, dim. of *serta* garland.] One of a genus of branching hydroids having small sessile hydrothecæ; the genus itself.

1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 434 A great many zoophytes, which were formerly called Corallines, now Sertularias and Cellularias. 1833 Mantell *Wonders Geol.* (1838) 474 The elegant arborescent forms of the Sertularia. 1876 *Van Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 62 One of these Halodactyles spreads itself upon the stalk of a Sertularia.

Hence **Sertula·rian** *a.*, of or belonging to the genus *Sertularia* or the family *Sertularidæ* of hydroids; *sb.* a sertularian hydroid; so **Se·rtularid**, in the same sense.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 47/1 The Sertularian Polypes. *Ibid.* 49/1 The stem of the Sertularian is composed of two layers. 1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd.*, *Calent.* 90 For no example of a Sertularid has yet been recorded in which the hydrosoma exhibits but a single polypite.

‖ **Sertulum** (sɔ̄·rtiŭlɔm). *Bot.* Also anglicized **se·rtule.** [mod.L., dim. of *sertum*, assumed sing. of *serta* n. pl., garlands.] A simple umbel.

1831 Macgillivray tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 420 Small flowers, either solitary or disposed in a spike or sertule. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Sertulum*, a simple umbel.

‖ **Serula** (se·riŭlă). [See quot. 1678.] The red-breasted merganser, *Merganser serrator.*

[1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* 336 The Bird called at Venice, *Serula*: *Mergus cirratus fuscus.*] 1802 Montagu *Ornith. Dict.*, Merganser-red-breasted...Red-breasted Goosander. Lesser-toothed Diver. Serula.

Serum (sī·ɔ̃m). Pl. **sera** (sī·ɔ̃ră), **serums** (sī·ɔ̃mz). [L. = whey, watery fluid.]

1. Watery animal fluid, normal or morbid; *spec.* blood-serum, the greenish yellow liquid which separates from the clot when blood coagulates.

1672 Wiseman *Treat. Wounds* I. 59 That morning I let her bloud, taking away about 10. ounces with a rotten *Serum* upon it. 1678 J. Brown *Disc. Wounds* 272 Being as the Hearts *Marsupium*, it being wounded, it loseth its store of *Serum*, whereby the Heart is kept moyst. 1701 J. Peter *Truth* 36 Every Body useth the Salt..to purge the Serum off, about the finishing of their Water-drinking. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 202 All Pains are to be Cured by removing of the Cause, as Inflammations, Sizy Serum. 1793 Beddoes *Obs. Calculus* 230 The blood..coagulated immediately...A small quantity of greenish serum was separated. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 401 This swelling depends partly..on the effusion of serum into the interstices of the cellular membrane. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* iii. 83 It brought out serum as black as porter, as if the blood had been impregnated with bile. 1872 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* 444 The epidermis is raised by a small quantity of purulent serum.

b. *Therapeutics.* The blood serum of an animal used as a therapeutic or diagnostic agent.

1895 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 20 July 181/1 The antitoxic serums prepared at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. *Ibid.* 16 Nov. 1253/1 The physiological action of the serums of tuberculised sheep is remarkably different in guinea-pigs and rabbits. 1910 *Lancet* 26 Mar. 861/2 The sera employed included anti-streptococcic serum, anti-diphtheritic serum, anti-tetanic serum.

2. *attrib.* (of 1), as *serum albumin* (cf. Seralbumin), *-globulin.*

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 526 Leube has noticed the appearance of albumen and even of serum-albumen in the sweat of four patients. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 825 Of the various forms of albumin, serumalbumin is constantly found. 1897 *Ibid.* IV. 303 Serum albumin and globulin being also present. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 562 Hahn could find no difference between the serum and histon blood. *Ibid.* 566, 0.24 and 0.48 mg. of acid reduce the serum agglutinability to one thirty-third of its normal value.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (of 1 b); esp. applied to treatment by means of serum.

1886 Crookshank *Pract. Bacteriol.* 29 Serum-steriliser. *Ibid.* 30 Serum Inspissator. 1893 *Lancet* 21 Oct. 1036/2 Serum Injections in Tetanus. 1894 *Ibid.* 17 Nov. 1189/2 The Serum Treatment of Diphtheria in Russia. 1895 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 16 Nov. 1253/1 Serumtherapy in Tuberculosis. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 44 A bacteriological diagnosis of diphtheria..by means of the incubator and Loeffler serum tube. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Archives Surg.* IX. 328 A serum-injection treatment.

Serup, obs. form of Syrup.

Serurgien, -erie, etc.: see Chirurgeon, Surgeon, and Chirurgery, Surgery.

Seruse, obs. form of Ceruse.

†**Servable**, *a.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **serveabill.** [a. OF. *servable*, f. *servir* Serve *v.*[1]: see -able. Cf. Serviable.] Ready to serve.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 379 Next the souerane signe was sekirly sene, That seruit his serenite euer seruable, The armes of the Dowglass. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 50 He promist to [be] allis seruceabill as ony man wnto this realme. 1626 J. Haig in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 178, I rest, Your loving and servable brother.

†**Servable**, *a.*[2] *Obs.*—[o] [f. Serve *v.*[2] + -able.] That may be kept or preserved.

1623 Cockeram I. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* 1721 Bailey.

Servable (sɔ̄·rvăb'l), *a.*[3] [f. Serve *v.*[1] + -able.] That may be served, worthy to be served.

1855 Ogilvie Suppl., *Servable*, capable of being served. 1881 F. Harrison in *19th Cent.* Mar. 462 If we seek to love and serve the greatest loveable and serveable thing on this earth.

Servage (sɔ̄·rvēdʒ). Also 6 **sarvage, 7 servadge.** [a. OF. *servage* (in med.L. *servāgium*) :—L. type **servāticum*, f. *servus* slave, Serf: see -age. Cf. Pr. *servage*, *servagi*, It. *servaggio.*]

†1. Servitude, bondage, slavery. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 1999 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 164 Nov wolde ȝe holi churche In grete seruage do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4193 Þar was ioseph in seruage sald, For tuenti besands. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 426 It is greet shame..to been in seruage To thee, that born art of a smal village. *c* 1440 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 111 Thei were in seruage as prisoners in Egipte. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxxviii. 468 The emperour of Almayne who hath..slayne my men, and some kepethe in saruage. 1536 *Ir. Acts* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 (1621) 97 The Kings enemies haue them in servadge. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 109 Scanderbeg declaring his weari-somenes of captivitie and servage.

attrib. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* II ij, The selfe same man had Iole made in seruage yoke to toyle.

b. *fig.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 122 Coueitise & glotonye ben seruage of maumetrie. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. 79 O þe holy state of religiose seruage [L. *famulatus*].

†2. Feudal homage, allegiance. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1059 Is noble seruage Dude to þe heye emperour. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 769 Al this I put in his seruage As to my lorde, and dyd homage.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 918 (Dubl. MS.) This freke of all þe fraunches of kyng philop haldes,..& seruage hym awght. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxiii. 105 He doth me yerely seruage by the seruyce of a rynge of gold.

† 3. A service, or its equivalent in money or kind, due from a serf to his lord. *Obs.*

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 58/1 The forseide..Chanons hav cleymed..bonde servages and custumes. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 122, I, Henry of Saunder, clerck, 3afe..all my londe..with all seruices and seruages, men [etc.]..of the same londe. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 645 The Kyng, yᵉ which yerely oppressyth his subiectys with taskys and other grenouse seruagys. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 122/2 Ethelwulfe..gaue to them..libertie and freedome from all servage and civill charges.

4. Serfage, serfdom.

1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. v. I. 298, I speak of negro slavery, not of the servage of the Slavonic nations.

† Servagery. *Obs. rare.* [f. SERVAGE + -ERY.] = SERVAGE 2.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 140 Polleus hadde wel gret envye That men dede him [Jason] suche seruagery. *Ibid.* 11494 He was not worthi To haue of hem suche seruageri.

Serval (sɔ̈·rvăl). [a. mod.L. *serval*, F. *serval* (Buffon, 1765), a. Pg. (*lobo*) *cerval* lynx (cf. F. *loup-cervier*).] † a. A name applied (after Buffon) to some Asiatic wild cat or lynx; also to an American animal resembling this. *Obs.* b. A carnivorous quadruped, *Felis serval*, native of S. Africa, having a tawny coat spotted with black, a short tail and large ears; the *bush-cat* (BUSH *sb.*¹ 11).

1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadrupeds* 186 Called by the natives of Malabar, the Maraputé; by the Portuguese, the Serval. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 369 The Serval is a native of India and Tibet and is an extremely fierce and rapacious animal. *Ibid.* 370 American Serval..inhabits North America..is considered as a mild and gentle animal. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* viii. 262 In the Genista Cave at Gibraltar.. [they] have discovered..the leopard, lynx, serval [etc.]. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* 321 The serval is a tireless hunter, and runs down its prey.

Serval, obs. Sc. form of SERVILE.

Servaline, *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *servalinus*, f. *serval*: see prec.] Resembling the serval.

1876 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 413 A collection of Angolian animals. ..Servaline Cat. *Felis Servalina.* From River Kwanza.

Servant (sɔ̈·rvănt), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–7 **servand,** 4 **servon, serfaunt,** 4–5 **servaund, -ond, sirvand,** 4–6 **servande, -ante, serwand, sirvant,** 4–7 **servaunt(e,** 5 **servaunth, -awnt, -onde, -unt, serwaunt, siervaunt, cervawnte,** 5–6 **serwant,** 6 **servont, -ent, serwonde, serviand, scherv-, scherw-, schirwand,** 3– **servant**; (pl. forms 3–4 **servanz,** 4 **-ans**); *β.* 4 **sarvaunte,** 4–5 **sarvande,** 4, 7, 9 *dial.* **sarvant,** 5–6 **sarvand,** 6 **sarvand, -ante.** [a. F. *servant*, subst. use of pr. pple. of *servir* SERVE *v.*¹

In mod.Fr. only the fem. *servante* has survived in this sense. In OF. the pr. pple. had the same form in both genders; hence the Eng. word has always been applied both to males and females, without any distinction of form.]

A person of either sex who is in the service of a master or mistress; one who is under obligation to work for the benefit of a superior, and to obey his (or her) commands.

1. A personal or domestic attendant; one whose duty is to wait upon his master or mistress, or do certain work in his or her household. (The usual sense when no other is indicated by the context; sometimes with defining word, as *domestic servant.*)

Upper servant, a domestic servant of superior grade of employment, as a butler or a housekeeper. *General servant* (see GENERAL *a.* 6), *servant of all work*: a female servant who does all kinds of housework. *Servants' hall*: an apartment for use as a common room by the servants in a large house.

a. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Non ancre seruant ne ouhte, mid rihte, uorto asken i-sette huire. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2560 Child haue i self nan, Bot mi seruand sun allan þat serues me, eleazar [*cf. Gen.* xv. 2, Vulg.: *filius procuratoris domus meæ*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 101 A Yeman hadde he and seruantz namo. 1433 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 205 No citsaine herafter..shall not bake ne brewe ..but only by his wif or siervaunt. 1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 10 Alle men of habite servantis familiars knawed without any fraude generally. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 296 The housholde seruauntes muste be put in some good ordre. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. That man of hers, Pisanio, her old Seruant. 1728 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 183, I am in great concern at your being without a servant. 1780 *Mirror* No. 96 We..keep a good number of servants. 1813 *Examiner* 8 Feb. 89/1 The ethics of the kitchen and servants'-hall. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Bos, Scenes* vii, The intense delight with which 'a servant of all work', who is sent for a coach, deposits herself inside. 1843 WORDSWORTH in Chr. Wordsw. *Mem.* (1851) II. 76 A stranger..asked of one of the female servants..permission to see her master's study. 1881 *A Chequered Career* 285 Let us peep into the servants'-hall. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxiii. 293 She had evidently learned the language from servants and was, therefore, not quite at home with her *h*'s.

β. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Verse) 54 And put vs vn-to pyen for þi, Als wykkyd saruandes er worthy. *c* 1500 *God Speed the Plough* 19 Our sarvanntys we Moste nedis paye. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 John Knill, sarvante to Mr. Wyseman, marchante. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (1875) 29 One of his sarvants came and told mee that [etc.].

2. In wider sense: One who is under the obligation to render certain services to, and to obey the orders of, a person or a body of persons, esp. in return for wages or salary.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 475/1 How that late he sende into Bretayn Wauter Trenchevyle, his Servant, Factour and Attournay, to Marchandise ther. 1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 85 Yᵉ Honᵇˡᵉ Company's Servants. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 172 Polydore Virgil..Servant to the Pope in the Time of K. Henry VIII. 1783 BURKE *Rep. Aff. India* Wks. 1842 II. 6 One provision, indeed, was made for restraining the servants [of the E. Ind. Comp.]. 1848 *Times* 6 Nov. 4/4 Every attention was paid by the servants of the [railway] company to the deceased.

b. *fig.* Applied to things (chiefly with more or less of personification).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 467 Mi siȝt is seruant to mi hert. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 100 As it is in Phisique write Of livere, of lunge, of galle, of splen, Thei alle unto the herte ben Servantz. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræmiologia* 206 Fire and water be good servants, but bad masters. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 320/2 A Shovel..is a Servant for several uses about the Lady Ceres. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 17 Disposing therefore of his faithful Servants, his Horse and Asses in Bridgwater. 1900 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 6/3 They knew that the Empire was the best servant that mankind had ever had.

† c. Used for SERGEANT, SERJEANT, in various senses. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 1641 Hys knyghtes weren dyght, al redy, Servauntes off armes, and squyers. 1340 *Ayenb.* 37 þe ontrewe reuen prouos and bedeles and seruons, þet steleþ þe amendes, and wyþdrageþ þe rentes of hire lhordes. 1511 *Chron.* in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) 156 This yer ix. seruantis of þe coyff made. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* A 4 b, In *Babees Bk.*, Also yf marshall, squyers and seruaunttes of armes be there. 1561–2 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 127 To John Betts, Servent of the Pastrye, twoo guilt spoones.

† d. One who assists a workman. Cf. SERVE *v.*¹ 36. *Obs.*

1554–5 in *Extracts Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 313 Item, to David Grahame, masoun, for his oulk's wage xxiiij^{s}. Item, to Laurence Paterson, his servand viij^{s}.

e. Applied occas. to any state official, as expressing his relation to the Sovereign. Similarly, *servant of the state, public servant*, etc. See also CIVIL SERVANT.

1570 BUCHANAN *Admonitioun* Wks. (1892) 33 Being ane gude stuand to ye croun. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 186 When he had no Power, But was a pettie seruant to the State. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 112 Besides Scots and Swissers, there are divers of the King's servants that are protestants. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 307 Talthybius and Eurybates..Two public servants of the king were these. 1787 W. THOMSON *Cunningham's Hist. Gt. Brit.* I. Introd. 16 King William was wont to observe, that he got more truth from Argyle than from all the rest of his servants in Scotland. 1845 *Gen. Index Parl. Papers* 1832–44, 632 Public Servants voting at Elections. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 273 The chief servants of the crown form one body. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxxiv, We hadn't been used to firing on the Queen's servants.

f. In the 16th c., certain companies of actors were permitted to describe themselves as the 'servants' of some noble patron, and in the 17th c. similar privileges were granted by the sovereign. Hence in mod. use *His* (or *Her*) *Majesty's servants* sometimes appears as a jocular designation for the theatrical profession.

1559 EARL LEICESTER *Let. to E. Shrewsbury* in Collier *Northbrooke's Dicing* (Shaks. Soc.) Introd. 7 Where my servauntes..be suche as ar plaiers of interludes, and for the same haue the licence..to plaie in diverse shieres within the realme. 1603 in Rymer *Fœdera* XVI. 505 James by the Grace of God &c...Knowe ye that Wee..doe licence and authorize theise our Servaunts, Laurence Fletcher, William Shakespeare,..And the rest of their Assosiates, Freely to use and exercise the Arte and Faculty of playing Comedies, Tragedies [etc.]. 1609 in *Shaks. Soc. Papers* (1849) IV. 45 Thomas Greene [and others]..Servants to our most deerely beloved wiefe, Queene Anne. 1696 J. DRYDEN, jun. (*title*), The Husband his own Cuckold. A Comedy, As it is acted ..by His Majesty's Servants. 1864 DORAN (*title*) 'Their Majesties' Servants.' Annals of the English Stage.

3. a. In the 14th and 15th c. often used to render the L. *servus* slave. In all the Bible translations from Wyclif to the Revised Version of 1880–4, the word very often represents the Heb. עבד *ʿébed* or the Gr. δοῦλος, which correspond to *slave*, though this term as applied to Israelitish conditions would perh. be misleading. *Servant of servants*: a Hebraism for one in the most degrading bondage.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 220 Serwandis and threllis mad he fre. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxvii. 13 Thei, thi biers, broȝten seruauntis [1388 boonde men] and brasen vessels to thi puple. 1388 — *Gen.* ix. 25 Cursid be the child Canaan, he schal be seruant of seruantis [so the later versions] to hise britheren. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 330/2 To make a Servande, *manspare*. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T., Gal.* iv. 30 The sonn of the seruand sall nocht be aire with the sonn of the fre wife. *fig.* 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 38 For he is seruant & bonde vnto money and not lord therof.

b. In the North American colonies in the 17–18th c., and subsequently in the United States, *servant* was the usual designation for a slave.

1643 *Virginia Stat. at Large* (1823) I. 253 If any such runnaway servants or hired freemen shall produce a certificate [etc.]. 1784 *Acts & Laws of Conn.* (1784) 103 Apprentices under Age and Servants bought for Time excepted. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. 272 Servant, in the statute book of Connecticut..is put for slave. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxi. 223 Why don't we teach our servants to read?

4. In various transferred uses. † a. One who owes feudal service to his overlord, a vassal. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11505 Þou frolle, our baroun [*v.r.* seruant], slow, ffrance & fflaundres from vs þou drow. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 525 O right noble kynge as I am your trewe seruant and vassale. 1527 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 58 Me Johne Mure.. grants me and myne airs ppetualie, to bekum man and servand till Hew Erle of Eglingtone, and till his airs ppetualie.

† b. A professed lover; one who is devoted to the service of a lady. (Cf. MISTRESS 10.) Also, in bad sense, a paramour, gallant. *Obs.*

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 60 Sheweth vnto youre rialle excellence Youre servaunt, yf I durst me so calle, Hys mortal harme. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 466, I have ane secrete seruand,..That me supportis of sic nedis. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ii, Servant (in troth) you are too prodigall Of your wits treasure, thus to powre it forth Upon..my worth. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* vii. F 1 b, Nor hath her seruants nor her fauorites That waite her husbands issuing at dore. 1629 FORD *Lover's Mel.* I. iii, For your reward, Henceforth Ile call you Seruant. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Jan., Pegg, and her servant, Mr. Lowther. *a* 1700 SEDLEY *Poems* Wks. 1778 I. 54 Some caution yet I'd have thee use, Whene'er thou dost a servant chuse: Men are not all for lovers fit.

c. With religious signification.

Servant of the servants of God (*servus servorum Dei*): a title assumed by the Popes (first by Gregory the Great).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3118 Herkens o godd þat all weldand, How he wald faand his lel seruand. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1082 þe world here, es þe devels servand, þat brynges his servauntes til his hand. *a* 1340 — *Pr.* lxv. 5 þai ere saruauntes til þaire godes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 362 It bylongiþ to þe godheed of criste..to rewarde his trewe saruandis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* 699 The Pope calleth hym-self seruant of the seruantz of god. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* ix. 904 She seruaunth was To Cryst in heuene. 1574 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 405 Lawrence dunccane serwand to the churche of god and Minister at the churche of belford. 1655 (*title*) A true Testimony of what was done concerning the servants of the Lord, at the Generall Assizes at Northampton. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) VII. ii. 19 Christians..must not draw back and become the servants of sin. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, The good Bishop labours night and day to preserve peace, as well becometh a servant of the altar. 1871 J. ELLERTON *Hymn*, '*Now the labourer's task is o'er*' i, Father, in Thy gracious keeping Leave we now Thy servant sleeping.

d. *Your* (*humble, obedient*) *servant*: one of the customary modes of subscribing a letter, or of addressing a patron in the dedication of a book. † (*Your*) *servant*: a mode of expressing submission to another's opinion, often equivalent to 'there is nothing more to be said upon the subject'; a form of greeting or leave-taking.

α. [1444 *Paston Lett.* I. 48 Wretyn right simply..By your most symple servaunt Jamys Gresham.] 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* Ded., Your most humble servant william Caxton amonge other of your seruantes sendes unto yow peas. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* 1139 Yowr servont and Umfrey! of trewthe, father, I am he. 1601 J. DONNE in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 333 Yoʳ L'ps most dejected and poore servant, J. Donne. 1649 LOVELACE *Being treated to Ellinda*, But now to close all I must switch-hard. Servant ever; *Lovelace Richard.* 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* I. ii, Your Servant,—your Servant.—Mr. Ranger. 1687 PRIOR *Hind & P. Transversed* Wks. (1907) 9 Nay Gentlemen, if you question my skill in the Language, I'm your humble Servant. 1705 [T. WALKER] *Wit of a Woman* II. 21 Enter Boastwit. *Boast.* So, Sir, your Servant, your Servant, Captain. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II. (1781) 27 As to Sculpture, I am his very humble Servant. A Man must know damn'd little of Statuary, that dislikes a Bust for want of a Nose. 1770 — *Lame Lover* III. Wks. 1799 II. 89 Oh! if you are angry, your servant—I thought that the news would have pleased you. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. 116 *Sen.* I shall be content with a few selections..*Tes.* O, your servant!—those you shall have without demur. 1845 [MACRAY] *Man. Brit. Hist.* Ded., To the Rev. Bulkeley Bandinel,..this volume is..dedicated, by his obedient and obliged servant. 1851 LYTTON *Not so bad* II. i. 33 Enter Wilmot and Softhead. Wilmot. Your servant, ladies;—Sir Geoffrey, your servant. 1896 CROCKETT *Cleg Kelly* vii, 'Servant, m'am!' said he, putting his pipe behind him as he came into the shop.

β. 1680–1 MARLBOROUGH in Wolseley *Life* I. 237, I am your..faithful frend and sarvant. 1859 HUGHES *Scouring Wh. Horse* vii. 169 The old farmer..came and sat down at the table. 'Your sarvant, gen'l'men,' said he, taking off his broad-brimmed beaver.

5. *attrib.* and *appositive*, as *servant-boy*, † *-gentleman, -lass, -maid, -man,* † *-train,* † *-wench, -woman*; *servant-like* adj. and adv. Also SERVANT-GIRL.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* vi, Her *servant-boy.. now came up. 1604 in *T. Pont's Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitland Club) 183 To Thomas Blair, his *servand-gentilman of fie, xl lib. 1694 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1872) IV. 315 That.. noe *servant lass goe in to the pews of either churches. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvi, The Irish servant-lass rushed up from the kitchen. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* L (ed. 2) H 5 b, When thou most *seruant-like thy head dost beare Downe to the ground. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 567 This is a servant-like act which you have openly done. 1661–2 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 236 For the *servant maid of W. Hayter, 6s. 1782 COWPER *Let. to Hill* Wks. 1837 XV. 113 As servant maids, and such sort of folks. 1880 MᶜKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 160 With his wife, eight children, and a servant-maid he then set out for London. 1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* VI. 12 Robertus *seruantman, iiijd. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 17 The wife of Mr. Metters,..was murdered by her servant man. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 906 Must my *servant train Th' allotted labours of the day refrain? 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 128 A *servant wench in London. 1812

Ann. Reg., Chron. 37 The servant-wench, who slept in the next room. 1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* VI. 23 Elena *Seruantwoman iiijd.* 1842 Arton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 126 The servant-women in the manse are nearly unexceptionable.

† Se·rvant, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *servant*, pr. pple. of *servir* to Serve; cf. Servant *sb.*] Serving, ministering; serviceable, useful; servant-like.

1531 Tindale *Exp. John* (1537) 6 They..haue promysed ..to waxe euer lower and lower, and euery daye more seruant then another. 1614–15 Boys *Wks.* (1629) 758 He that in Christs Church is most seruant is the greatest, and he that is most lordly the least.

† Se·rvant, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Servant *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To put in subjection *to.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. ii. 89 My affaires Are Seruanted to others.

2. *pa. pple.* Provided with a servant.

1631 J. Done *Polydoron* (1650) 133 Hee is ill servanted that hears his mayde before hee sees her.

3. *intr. To servant it,* to act as a servant.

1656 S. H. *Golden Law* 68 He mated..not only his Master, but his Masters also,..by servanting it to them all in his administrations and services..for their good.

Servantdom (sɔ̄·rvantdəm). [f. Servant *sb.* + -dom.] Servants as a class.

1883 T. Wright in *19th Cent.* Feb. 285 The point of the saying, 'No man is a hero to his valet' extends in practice to all servant-dom. 1884 Mrs. Banks *Sybilla* III. 88 Mrs. Price was holding forth on the subject of servantdom.

‖ Servante (sɛrvā·nt). [F. *servante* side table.] An extra table or concealed shelf used in conjuring.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 344/1 The servante, or hidden shelf. 1878 tr. *Houdin's Secr. Conjuring* 66 The *gibecière* or *servante*, as it is now more generally called.

† Servantess. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Servant *sb.* + -ess [1].] A female servant.

1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xvi. 2 Entre thou to my seruantesse, *Ibid.* xxxii. 22 He took hise twei wyues, and so many seruantessis..and passide the forthe of Jaboth.

Servant-girl. A young female servant.

1834 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 10 The very servant-girls wear bustles. 1853 *Punch* XXIV. 98/1 *Servant Gal...*I a'int a going to stop in sarvice no longer.

attrib. 1894 Miss E. L. Banks *Campaigns Curios.* 15, I sat down on the hat-rack in orthodox servant-girl fashion.

Hence **Servantgirldom, Servantgirlism.**

1853 *Punch* XXIV. 98/1 Servantgalism; or, what's to become of the missuses? 1896 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 3/4 The Sunday afternoon attire of servant girldom in the East-end.

Servantless (sɔ̄·rvăntlĕs), *a.* [-less.] Having no servant (in various senses of the sb.).

1669 Cokaine *Poems* 158 One of less beauty and..Servantless, sooner should my heart command. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* (1895) II. 306 We must go to our mountain servantless. 1889 G. Gissing *Nether World* III. xiii. 295 Bessie was just now servantless.

† Servantly, *a. Obs.* [f. Servant *sb.* + -ly [1].] Having the qualities appropriate to a servant.

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 259 b, He would therfore haue worshipped and honoured the Angel wyth seruauntly worshyppe as they terme it [*dulia*]. *a* 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 78 You call the Pope the most seruantlie seruant of the Church.

Se·rvantry. *rare.* [f. Servant *sb.* + -ry.] The servants of a household or estate considered collectively.

1860 W. H. Russell *Diary India* II. 205 The male servantry summoned to do homage by the blast of the cows' horns. 1892 Hardy *Tess* v, It was evidently the gentleman's wish not to be disturbed..by the servantry.

Servantship (sɔ̄·rvăntʃip). [f. Servant *sb.* + -ship.] The state or condition of being a servant.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* b i b, Supposed euen so that his seruauntship (that is his seruauntship out of the law) should be his heire. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* lxiv. 391 That seruantship bare no sway in him by the space of those fortie dayes. 1776–80 Bentham *Introd. Princ. Mor. & Legisl.* xvi. (1789) 263 Usurpation of servantship [coincides] with usurpation of mastership. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* xxi, I suppose the appellation mistress put her in mind of her ci-devant servantship. 1876 Bathgate *Deep Things* v. 87 Any man who treated his neighbour, either in servantship or mastership, as he should be treated.

† Serva·tion. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *servātiōnem*, n. of action f. *servāre* to preserve.] Preservation.

1521 Wolsey *Let.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1733) I. i. 32 For the Servation of themselves, and Surety of their Goods.

† Serva·tor. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. L. *servātor*, f. L. *servāre* to preserve.] A preserver.

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* 60 b/1 Abdalazys Soldan of babilon ..seruator and defensor of the lordes of assia.

Servator(e, servatour, erron. ff. Servitor.

† Se·rvatory. *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *servātōrium* magazine, f. L. *servāre* to preserve: see -ory [1].]

1. A reservoir or tank for water.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 301 The cowrte, and all the bildyngis, with the gardeyne, and seruatory.

2. A safeguard, preservative (see quot.).

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 141 Their Phylacteries or Seruatories, Defensiues..(so the word signifieth)..they vsed as Preseruatiues, or Remembrancers of the law.

Servatour, variant of Servitor *Sc.*

† Serve, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [OE. *syrfe* wk. fem. :—prehistoric **surbjōn-*, a. popular L. **sorbea*, f. *sorb-us* Service [2].]

1. = Service [2].

940 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 490 Of wulfa leaze to cawel dene..of cawel dene to þeere syrfun. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 227 In Iane, in ffeueryeer and Marche in coold Erthe, October and Nouember in hoot Erthe, is settyng of seruys nobul hold. *Ibid.* III. 877 In serue & peche, in plane & populer, In wilous may this melis graffid be.

2. The fruit of the service-tree.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. i. 92 Nuts, Medlers, Serues, &c.

Serve (sɔ̄iv), *sb.*[2] [f. Serve *v.*[1]]

† 1. ? Service, adoration. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1440 *Rel. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 73 Þou gyffe me grace the serue to paye.

2. *Tennis.* An act of serving, a service.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 264/2 (Tennis) Serve, is the first casting out of the Ball upon the Pent-House, for him on the contrary side to strike at. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Mar. 3/1 This is the serve, and to be a good one it has to come off the wall into the right court. The serve is then taken by one of the opposing party. 1909 *Ibid.* 7 Aug. 2/1 He is the most difficult of all the bowlers who have applied to cricket the American serve at tennis.

† Serve, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. F. *serve* (:—L. *serva*), fem. of *serf* Serf.] A female slave.

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XI v, And helde her as hys serve & paramour.

Serve (sɔ̄iv), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 2–3 (*Ormin*) serrfenn, serrvenn, 3 servie, sarvi, 3–4 servi, 2–5 serven, 3–5 servy, 3–6 serf, 3–5, 7 serfe, 3, 5–9 (*nowvulgar*) sarve, 4 servin, 4–7 *Sc.* serwe, 5 cervyn, servyn(ne, 5–6 *Sc.* serff, (6 *Sc.* scherve, 7 searve, searfe, serv), 2– serve. *β.* 3 sarevy, 5 seryf(, -iff, serof, serryff, sarif, -yf, sarofe. *γ. Sc.* and *dial.* 5, 6, 8 ser, 5–6, 9 sar, 5, 8– sair; 9 sarrow, sarra (see Eng. Dial. Dict.). [a. OF. (and F.) *serv-ir* :—L. *servīre* to be a servant or slave, to serve, f. *serv-us* slave, servant. Cf. Pr. *servir, sirvir*, Sp., Pg. *servir*, It. *servire.*

In Latin the verb was intransitive, often followed by a dative. In Fr. (as other Rom. langs.) the intransitive use has remained, but by the side of it there has been from an early period a transitive use, resulting from the conversion of the indirect into a direct object. In ME. both uses were common; in mod.Eng. the vb. is felt as primarily transitive, the intransitive senses which survive having blended with the absolute uses.]

I. To be a servant (to), render service (to).

1. *intr.* To be a servant; to perform the duties of a servant.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 835 Þe seruyng man, þat seruyþ yn þe 3ere. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 33 Whilom he serued in his panterie. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (prose) xxxv. 26 Þe vassels þat tay serue wid [orig. *vasa ministerii sui*]. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* III. i. 270 She is her Masters maid, and serues for wages. *c* 1655 Milton *Sonn.*, '*When I consider*', They also serve who only stand and waite. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 263 Better to reign in Hell, then serve in Heav'n. 1664 R. Codrington *Prov.* in *Youths Behav.* II. 200 He that serves well needs not fear to ask his wages. 1729 Swift *Direct. Serv., Cook* (1745) 37 Whether you serve in Town or Country. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 215 From the highest subject to the lowest, no man chuses to serve for nothing. 1800 Wordsw. *Farmer Tilsbury Vale* 50 All trades, as need was, did old Adam assume,—Served as stable-boy, errand-boy, porter, and groom. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 453 The men who served About my person. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* II. 246 He served some time as a waiter in an eating-house.

† b. To be a slave or bondman; to be in bondage; to labour as a bondman. Also with cognate object. (A latinism.) *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xiv. 3 Thin harde seruage, that thou beforn seruedist. 1382 — *Gal.* iv. 3 So and we, whanne we weren litile, weren seruynge [1388 we serueden] vndir the elementis of the world. 1611 Bible *Exod.* i. 13 The Egyptians made the children of Israel to serue with rigour. *Ibid., Ezek.* xxix. 18 Nebuchad-rezzar..caused his armie to serue a great seruice against Tyrus. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 378–9 Serving as of old Thir Fathers in the land of Egypt serv'd.

2. To go through or perform a term of service under a master. Usu. with advb. accus. denoting the period, as *to serve one's time, to serve an apprenticeship* (*to* a trade, etc.). Also with *out.*

[1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxix. 20 Thanne Jacob serued for Rachel seuen 3eer.] 1562 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 293 He served his apprentycehode. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 21 To serve as Apprentice..to any suche Arte Misterye or Manuell Occupacion. *c* 1570 *Sapartion's Alarum* in *B. L. Ball. & Broadsides* (1867) 118 If euer warlike wighte Hath serued his time in vaine. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. vi. 187 (Qo.) Serue by indenture to the common hang-man. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 110 Those who had served out their time [*sc.* as soldiers]. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* I. iv, Lewis Baboon had taken up the Trade of Clothier and Draper, without serving his Time, or purchasing his Freedom. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1667 A person bound to a free mariner..for seven years, and having served during that period. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvii, Having served his full time in India..he was free to come home and stay with a good pension. 1863 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 418/1, I served my time to trawling.

b. *fig.*

1553 R. Ascham in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 16 Som reason I have, to be made free and jorneyman in lernyng, whan I have allready served out threeprentyships at Cambrige. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 271 (Qo.) Must I not serue a long apprentishood To forreine passages. 1603 Dekker, etc. *Patient Grissill* IV. ii. 2132 When a quarrell enters into a trade, it serues seauen yeares before it be free. 1648 [see Prenticehood]. 1685 Dryden *Albion & Alb.* Pref. (b) 2 As if I had not serv'd out my time in Poetry, but was bound 'Prentice to some doggrel Rhymer. 1693 *Hum. Trans.* 107 Some old nonsensical Translations which have serv'd a Patriarch's age to the Library of Moore-fields. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iii, Or shall we say: Insurrection has now served its Apprenticeship.

c. *trans.* To go through, work out (a term of imprisonment, a penal sentence). Also with *out.* Also ellipt. *to serve time* and simply *to serve.*

1873 Greenwood *In Strange Comp.* 57 One lad..laid claim to have 'served' both in Maidstone gaol and the prison at Wandsworth. *Ibid.* 288 The virago who has just 'served' three months for a murderous assault. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 756/2 The obligation to return to a convict prison to serve out the unexpired term of penal servitude. 1886 *Science* 24 Sept. 287 Every unfortunate or miscreant who has once 'served time'.

3. To be a servant to; to work for, be employed in the personal service of (a master or mistress).

In the early instances the obj. may possibly be *dative.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Helpeð mid ower owune swinke,..to schruden ou suluen and þeo þet ou serueð. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1670 Ic sal, for rachel, Seruen þe seuene winter wel. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 518 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 291 That on partie he [Alfred] yef hem That in ys court serveden hym. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 115 For sum tyme I Seruede Simme atte noke, And was his pliht prentys. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* ii. 17 Plautus..was faine for his liuing to serue a baker. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. v. 54 A Gentleman that serues the Count. 1611 Bible *Exod.* xxi. 6 His master shall boare his eare through with an aule, and he shall serue him for euer. 1661 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Gervise Lucas served George Earle of Rutland as gentleman of his horse some yeares. 1740 [? Dr Foe] *Mrs. Chr. Davies* (1741) 10 Richard Welsh, a young Fellow who had served my Aunt. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxvii, My two brethren, who serve the rich Rabbi. 1828 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 II. 49 That is the lot o' the puirest herd callant, wha, ha'in na pawrents, is glad to sair a hard master, withooten ony wage.

b. *fig.* To be the slave of (sin, one's lower nature, etc.). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 3 It is the cuppe whom he serveth. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* in 26 *Pol. Poems* 127, I seruyd syn, and was hys knaue. 1535 Coverdale *Tit.* iii. 3 For we oure selues also were..seruynge lustes [1382 Wycl. seruynge to desyris]. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 135 Suche persones as serven onely the throte & the bealye.

c. *rarely* of a beast made to work for his master.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccviii. 178 A Certain Ass that serv'd a Gard'ner.

d. To work for (a body of persons, a company) as a paid servant.

1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 8 His retirement from public duty on account of failing health..called forth..a deserved tribute of acknowledgment from those whom he had long faithfully and ably served. 1876 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 296 Another term of four years brought him back, the least Indian..of all the civilians who had ever served the Company.

4. To attend upon (as a servant does); to wait upon, minister to the comfort of.

c 1250 *Owl & N.* 1579 Þat gode wif..seruеþ [*Jesus MS.* saruеþ] him to bedde & to borde mid faire dede & faire worde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 40 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 And þer comen engles hym to seruy. *a* 1300 *Floris & Bl.* 978 (Hausknecht), Ehe moretid þer moste come Two maidenes ut of hire bure, To serven him up in þe ture. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20120 To fere and seke ai did scho bote, And serued taim till hand and fote. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 225 Whan the kynges doughter hadde serued the thre kynges, than she serued hir fader. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 251 He presently fell sicke, and not able to serve himselfe, could not..doe me any service. 1794 [see Granny 2]. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. iii, His health was still shattered; and he took a lodging near to his mistresses, at Kensington, glad enough to be served by them. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 379 The good house..Endures not that her guest should serve himself.

β. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 80 What is he þis at sytuis att supper & I holde candell vnto and dure such serves? what am I þat I sulde seryff hym þis? *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4347 All bot he and his wyfe, And a seruand þaim to sarofe.

b. *To be* (*well* or *ill*) *served.* (Cf. branch V.)

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 32 The common price of the Bagnio, is two Aspres to the Master; and they who would be well served, give as much to the Man. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 283 Never were people worse served by the post, than we are in this country. 1858 Longf. *M. Standish* I, Serve yourself, would you be well served, is an excellent adage. 1869 Miss Alcott *Gd. Wives* I, The mistress of a house, however splendid, should know how work *ought* to be done, if she wishes to be well and honestly served.

5. To assist (a priest) *at* (or † *to*) mass as server. Also *absol.*, to act as server. Also *to serve mass* (= F. *servir la messe*).

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 12 'Canstow seruen,' he seide 'oþer syngen in a churche.' 1595 in J. H. Pollen *Acts Eng. Martyrs* vi. (1892) 108 It was proved he had served a priest to Mass some three days before this happened. 1667 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 62 There was nothing more gratefull vnto him then to serue Masse, nor any more welcome to the Priest he served. 1706 J. Stevens *Sp. Dict., Missario*, or *Missero*, a Boy that serves at Mass. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 153 [The] Acolyth, whose Function is to serve at Mass. 1844 A. P. de Lisle in E. Purcell *Life* (1900) I. 122 Arno and Everard served the Mass. 1889 Pater *G. de Latour* (1896) 30 At the great ecclesiastical seasons..Gaston and his fellows 'served' Monseigneur.

6. (In the earliest use, with obj. in dative.) To be (officially) a servant of (God, a heathen deity); to take official part in the worship of.

c 1175 in Assmann *Angs. Hom.* 118/2 He sealde..oðerne del þeem þe gode ane seruedem [*O.E. orig.* þeowodon]. *c* 1200 Ormin 615 Annd illc an hird wel wisste inoh Whille lott badd hise prestess I Godess tammple serrfenn Godd.

1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 76 A priest who has forsworn the God he serves.

† b. *intr.* To officiate as a minister of God, to perform divine service. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 506 Þatt illc an shollde witenn wel Whillc lott himm shollde re33senn, To cumenn inntill 3errsalæm, To serrvenn i þe temmple. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3634 Aaron bissop, oðere of ðat kin, Sette he hem for to seruen ðor-in. *a* 1330 *Roulaud & V.* 358 Wiþ an hundred chanouns & her priour,..For to serui þere. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 346 3if Apostlis weren now alyve, and sawen þus preestis serve in þe Chirche. 1435 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 30 [Granting to the] Lady Awter off the parisshe kyrk of North Berwyk and tyll Schir Androw Ferour thare serwand. 1537 [see CLERK *sb.* 2]. 1568 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 74 Being found qualifiit to serf and mak ministratioun in the kirk of God. 1691 *Galliæ Notitia* 68 There are eight Chaplains that serve quarterly..Who are to say every day (excepting the High-Mass dayes) a low Mass before the King.

7. † **a.** *trans.* To worship (God, a deity) with religious rites; to offer praise and prayer to, give divine honour to. *Obs.*

a 1300 *X Commandm.* 26 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 Sundai wel þat 3e holde, to serue god þilk dai wis boþe 3ung and eke olde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 225 Ine holy stede..þet þeyþ apropred uor god to bidde and hym seruy. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* ii. 6 þe whech dey 3e schull come to þe chyrch to serue God, and forto worschip the holy apostoll for þe speciall uertues þat he hade. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 8 First serud on knees, the Maiestie deuine. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiii. (1617) 377 The Spirits which were serued in Stockes and Images..were vncleane and mischieuous Spirits. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Oct. 1686, Shewing the costome of the primitive Saints in serving God with Hymns. 1702 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 221, 500 protestants in Languedock met in a wood to serve God.

b. To render habitual obedience to, to do the will of (God, a heathen deity, Satan).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 Hu me sulde godalmihti serue and his wille wurche in orðe. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Đo ðe ðese swikele woreld habbeð forlaten And seruið ure drihten on religiun. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1080–1 Þas þat þe world serves and loves, Serves þe devel. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 632 3e..serue sory idolus þat 3ou in sinne brynge. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (prose) Prol. 1 To seryf our lorde Iesu criste. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* I. v. 10 God with-outen doutte we lufe noȝt, forsoth hym not sarifand. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* iv. 19, I swere to the, by the goddis whom thou seruest. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlviii. 14 The children of Israel, euen the people that serueth him. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. lvi. (1890) II. 89 Now make accompt of your pilgrimage here, and serue no more such Sainctes. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 157 The Devill thy maister, quhome thow seruis. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. v. 130 Sure, one of you do's not serue heauen well, that you are so crost'd. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonnet*, '*When I consider*' 11 Who best Bear his milde yoak, they serve him best. 1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 186, I did not think that London was yet such a sink of depravity, as to openly serve God and Satan on the same day. 1850–1 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* II, For a whole century Had he been there, Serving God in prayer.

8. To render obedience and service to, to fulfil one's duty to (a feudal superior, a sovereign).

c 1275 LAY. 4855 He saruede [*earlier version* herde] þan kinge mid balle his mihte. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 123 His lord he serued treweliche In al þing manschipeliche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 203 Hit bicomeþ for a kyng..To 3iue meede to men þat mekeliche him seruen. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 397 We serff a lord; thir fysche sall till him gang. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 92 To serve the kynge in warre and peace. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xiv. 4 Twelue yeeres they serued Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth yeere they rebelled. 1765 H. WALPOLE in *Lett. C'tess Suffolk* (1824) II. 299 Serving a tyrant, who does not allow me many holiday-minutes, I am forced to seize the first that offer. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. viii. 164 Northumberland was serving a master for whose service he felt no zeal.

† b. *intr.* Of land: To pay feudal service to a lord. [tr. L. *servire.*] *Obs.*

1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 272 At Excester when hee [the King] made any Expedition by Land or by Sea, this Citie served after the rate of V. Hides of Land.

† c. *trans.* To be obedient to (parents). *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 5072 To cwemenn ure faderr wel & ure moderr babe, To lutenn hemm, to lefftenn hemm, To serrfenn hemm well 3errne.

d. To be the 'servant' or lover of (a lady).

a 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 448 But as hir man I wol ay live and sterve, And never other creature serve. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 160 Mi ladi that I serve. 1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Juliet* 78 What booteth me to loue and serue a fell vnthankfull one? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 53 That gentle Lady, whom I loue and serue. 1621 SIR W. MURE *Misc. P., Elegie* 24 Still sall I hir adoir and serwe. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyph.* 119 Can he that serves the Fair do less? 1819 BYRON *To Murray* 29 June, A Neapolitan Prince..serves the wife of the Gonfaloniere.

† **9.** *intr.* (with const.). To render service or obedience *to*, *unto* (God, Satan, a feudal lord, etc.: see 7, 8). *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xcix. 1 Serues to lauerd in fainenes [Vulg. *servite Domino in lætitia*]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 504 All vnrightwismen, þat seruys till þe deuyll as his trew knyghtis. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troil.* I. 458 Good goodly, to whom serve I and laboure As I best can. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 436 For he Ay lely has serwyt to me. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* viii. 5 The whiche seruen to [1611 Who serue vnto] the saumpler and schadewe of heuenly thingis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 320 And thus thi will is cause of Sinne, And is thi lord, to whom thou servest. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 1 But O th' exceeding grace Of highest God, that loues his creatures so..That blessed Angels he sends to and fro, To serue to wicked man, to serue his wicked foe.

† **10.** *trans.* To obey (a person's will): to fulfil, execute (a command, etc.).

1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 24 þer he miȝte alone be to servy godes wille. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1180 Gretes wel,..Bothe myn erchebysschopys tway, And so ye doo the chanceler, To serve the lettre in all maner, In no maner the lettre fayle. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2410 þat þai with-sitt suld his sages & serue noȝt his pistill. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 244 And thus rennethe on to other..tille the Emperours entent be served. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lix. (1612) 262 The King commands he there be slaine, Which Warrant did Banaiah serue. *a* 1639 SIR H. WOTTON *Char. Happy Life* 2 How happy is he born and taught, That serveth not an others will? 1822 SHELLEY *With Guitar* 34 Ariel still Has tracked your steps, and served your will.

b. To gratify, furnish means for satisfying (desire); to minister to, satisfy (one's need).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 23 For bot his lust be fully served, Ther hath no wiht his thonk deserved. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 21 Sic is thair weird, thairfoir quha sould thame wyte To serue thair beistlie lust and appatite. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 159 To serue their insatiable and damnable auarice. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 135 Many there were that did his picture gette To serue their eies. 1605 — *Lear* III. iv. 89 A Seruingman.. that seru'd the Lust of my Mistris heart. 1697 PRIDEAUX *Mahomet* (1716) 131 It appears how much he made his Imposture serve his Lust. 1715 POPE *Iliad* III. 374 May all their Consorts serve promiscuous Lust! 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 138 The very elements, though each be meant The minister of man, to serve his wants, Conspire against him.

c. To comply with the request of (a person); to fulfil the wishes of, give (one) his wish.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1685 Quod Alexander belyue, 'all þis I graunt, And els any othire thing aske & be serued'. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 31 Quhen seruit is all vdir man, ..Na thing I get, na conquest than.

† **d.** ? To give way to (the sea). *Obs. rare*[−1].

1614 GORGES *Lucan* V. 200 To guide the helme the maister dreads: To port, to weare, or serue the seas, The labouring ship he cannot ease [V. 645–6 *nescitque magister Quam frangat, cui cedat aquæ*].

11. *To serve the time*: to shape one's conduct in self-interested conformity to the views that happen to be in favour at the time. [L. *tempori servire.*] Cf. TIMESERVING.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 441 Those, whome it best became to remeadye it, partlye wincked therat, partly seruing the time [orig. *obsecundantes tempori*], had a respect more to their priuate commoditye. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. i. § 1 Who thinke that herein we serue the time, and speake in fauour of the present state, because thereby we eyther holde or seeke preferment. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (1613), *Temporise*, to serve the time. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xviii, Be wary, watch the time, and always serve it. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Death Wellington* 179 Who never sold the truth to serve the hour.

12. To render active service to (a king or commander) in the army or navy; to fight for, 'to obey in military actions' (J.).

1518 SIR J. STILE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 193 For otherwise he [the gunner] wol go to serve the King of Portugale. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 18 Nov., He had two hundred thousand men ready to serve her [*sc.* the queen] in the war. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 179 Let them be forced to serve the king in his fleet. 1786 BURNS *Ep. to J. Rankine* vi, I'd better gaen an' sair't the king, At Bunker's hill. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, I have learned to be dangerous upon points of honour ever since I served the Spaniard. 1887 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* i, We pledge in peace by farm and town The Queen they served in war.

¶ b. In the phrase *to serve one's country* the meaning of the vb. fluctuates between 'to labour for, be in the service of' and 'to benefit, do good offices to' (see 16).

1600 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* I. iii. D 1, He serued his country for his countries sake. 1651 HOBBES *Leviathan* II. xxviii. 166 Men have no lawfull remedy, when they be commanded to quit their private businesse, to serve the publique, without Reward, or Salary. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 564 To what can I be useful, wherein serve My Nation. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. vi, War-Minister Narbonne ..threatens..to 'take his sword',..and go serve his country with that. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* Add. 196 A labourer serves his country with his spade, just as a man in the middle ranks of life serves it with his sword, pen, or lancet. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 527 Those who serve their country ought to serve without receiving gifts.

13. *intr.* To take one's part in war under a sovereign or commander; to be a soldier or man-of-war's-man. Said also of a ship.

1518 SIR J. STILE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 192 The said master George gonner,..wol not in no wise serve any lenger here. 1523 EP. FOX *Ibid.* 323 Souldyers..contynually attendante and servinge in the werre uppon the said borders. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 158 The Suddartis swarfit, and said they wold not sar. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, [He] sent his gally..to serue in the warres. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 154 Who seru'st thou vnder? *Will.* Vnder Captaine Gower, my Liege. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 95 The Ianizers, who serve with muskettes of longer and bigger bore then those of the germans. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Honour* I. i, You are Sr A knight of Malta, and as I have heard, Have serv'd against the Turke. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Apr. 1689, People being generally disaffected..so that the sea and land men would scarce serve without compulsion. 1744 BIRCH *Life Boyle* 201 He..then went to Scotland, where he served in the army till 1655. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. I. 301 In 1666, John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave..volunteered to serve at sea against the Dutch. 1855 G. C. LEWIS *Credib. Rom. Hist.* II. 208 Pay had been introduced, in order to overcome the reluctance of the citizens to serve. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 268 The 84th Regiment, in which I formerly served.

† b. Phr. *to see and serve*: cf. *to see service* (SERVICE 12 d). *Obs.*

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 b, That haue seene and serued in the well ordered warres of Emperours or Kings. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 84 I'ue seene my selfe, and seru'd against the French.

c. To be employed as a sailor in the mercantile marine.

1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 52 [He had] served a year On board a merchantman, and made himself Full sailor. *Ibid.* 120 The master of that ship Enoch had served in.

14. *trans.* To perform the duties of (an office, cure of souls, etc.). Also, to go through a tenure of (a terminal office).

? 1404–8 *26 Pol. Poems* v. 46 Let eche man serue his charge in skylle. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 97 The ballance gois vnevin, That thow allace to serff hes kirkis sevin. 1557 in Warden *Burgh Laws Dundee*, etc. (1872) 335 Albeit he hes not seruit dewtie in all poyntis as become him of ye Craft. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 20 § 2 His Curat..that shall there serve the Cure for hym. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 281 They do you wrong to put you so oft vpon't. Are there not men in your Ward sufficient to serue it? 1711 *Act* 10 *Anne*, c. 14 (*title*) For exempting Apothecaries from serving Parish and Ward-Offices. 1786 BURNS *To Gavin Hamilton* i, As lief then I'd have then, Your clerkship he should sair. 1824 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. II. viii. 164 A Vicarage was established for serving the Cure. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 54 § 9 The whole of the stipends to the curates serving any such benefice shall not exceed [etc.]. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xxvi. (ed. 3) 240 The Lord Mayor..must have served the office of sheriff.

b. To work for, assist at, take part in (a function); to take part in the service of (an institution); esp. to minister, discharge religious functions in (a church) or at (an altar).

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 80 Paid to John Modley, for servyng the quere for þe termez of Mydsomer & Mighelmasse. 1565 ALLEN *Defence Purg.* II. x. (1886) 299 Such as would profess the truth and serve the Altar. 1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 218 For the children that served the Mask. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. ii. 253 A Gentile Player that served the Theatre. 1840 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* X. ii. (1847) III. 240/1 His monasteries were served by priests from without. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 458 He found his church small, poor, served only by four or five canons. 1892 J. H. POLLEN *Acts Engl. Martyrs* 368 In the following year he came on the English Mission, which he served for seven years.

c. To attend (an auction).

1854 W. CHAMBERS *Things in Amer.* 282 One migratory company..serving all the slave-auctions in the place.

15. *intr.* To perform official duties, hold office (e. g. as sheriff or M.P., or on a jury). Formerly with sb. as direct complement, *to serve churchwarden*, etc.

1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 80 To the same Iohn.. seruyng as a paressh Clerke, for his wages, xiij^{s} iiijd. 1632 Serving in juries [see JURY 1]. 1676 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 19 Mr. Dickonson promisd me to serve Church warden next year if I would excuse him this. 1696 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (1875) 174 A very fitt person to serve in parliament. 1698 *Laws Nevis* xvii. (1740) 16 Several Gentlemen of this Island have heretofore refused to serve as Assemblymen. 1721 BAILEY, *Burgess*,..one that serves for a Borough in Parliament. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 180 The Crown's having power to compel a subject to be a sheriff; and to fine him for refusing to serve. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* P 10 When Parliament met in 1735, Thomas made his election to serve for Oakhampton. 1851 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 419 Members returned to serve in Parliament. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 786/1 The class of persons entitled and liable to serve on special juries.

† b. Of a serjeant: *To serve at the bar. Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 85 þer houeþ an Hundret In Houues of selk, Seriauns hit semeþ to seruen atte Barre.

† c. To have the office *to do* something. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 271 Asmod, which was a fend of helle, And serveth, as the bokes telle, To tempte a man of such a wise.

16. *trans.* To render useful service to, do good offices to (a person); to work for or assist *in* any matter.

1638 MARQ. HAMILTON *Let.* 1 Dec. in *H. Papers* (Camden) 64 Thinking my self most miserabill, in thatt I haue nat beine abill to serfe you as I uoold. 1658 W. DUGDALE *Let. to Sir T. Browne* 9 Nov., I..shall rest At your Commands wherein I may serve you, W. Dugdale. 1727 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* June (1893) I. 307, I am sure whatever I can serve my poor nieces and nephews in, shall not be wanting on my part. 1748 SMOLLETT *R. Random* ii, In all his calamities, they never discovered the least inclination to serve him. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xiii. 106 He ardently desired to serve his fellow-creatures. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* P 29 Cranmer rose into favour by serving Henry in the disgraceful affair of his first divorce. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii. (1878) 270 The lad thinks you were the ladies in serving whom he got into trouble.

b. To render service to (a person's memory); to labour for (a cause).

1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Dec., Which is all I can do to serve her memory. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* viii, A tradesman or outlaw, who has served the cause.

II. (Chiefly of things, primarily as a fig. use of senses in branch I.) To be subordinate, serviceable, or useful (to); to answer a purpose.

17. Of a thing: To be subordinate or subsidiary to (another).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 þe vttre riwle, ðet ich þuften cleopede, & is monnes findles, nis for nobing elles istald bute forte seruie ðe inre. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 194 Fastyng was made to serue prayere, & noȝt prayere to serue fastyng. Perfore, prayere, þe heued, goth be-forn & þe handyll, fastyng, folowyth after him to be redy to seruyn hym, as þe heued

of he schouele is be-fore, & he handyl her-of is be-hynde to serue he heued. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 101 In the Soule Are many lesser Faculties that serve Reason as chief. *Ibid.* VIII. 87 That Bodies bright and greater should not serve The less not bright.

†**18.** *intr.* To be serviceable *to* (a person); be subsidiary *to* (a thing). *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 196 Al creatur to be commone settis þare cur, as sone, mone, sternis al smal, presis þam to serwe til all. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4114 Bot or he partyd þat pelfe he proued first in him selfe Whaikyn vertu it was of; To him full wele it serof. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 8 As was said of the Senses, to which they [the tongue and pen] serve.

19. *trans.* To be useful or advantageous to; to answer the requirements of; to be used by. Const. inf. of purpose. With negative expressed or implied: To avail or profit (one) nothing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3545 For-birth, he said, quat serues me? 13.. *Coer de L.* 1550 Off froyt here is gret plente! Fyggys, rayysyns, in frayel, And notes may serve us fol wel. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 173 A flaume..That seruep þese swynkeres to seo by a nyghtes. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1364 If he cuthe seke any sleȝt þat him serue wald. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Ep. Ded. b ij, He hath maystered the latinitie, and forced it to serue hym, to set forthe to all clerkes his intent and purpose. 1565 ALLEN *Defence Purg.* xvii. 283 Which forme of argument serued the Arians against the consubstantiall vnitye of God the father, and his son our sauiour. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 444 That scuse serues many men to saue their gifts. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vi. 94 It brings forth a great aboundance of reedes..which serves them to a thousand vses. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 405 We knew the Convoy he intended us, would serve us in no stead. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 178 If my going to Milan, or going anywhere, would serve you, I would joyfully go directly. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxv, May your penitence avail you before God; with me it shall serve you nothing. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, I had youth and hope. I believe, beauty...Neither of the three served, or saved me. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agam.* 72 *note*, The readings of the MSS...may be made to serve both sides of the question.

b. To be used in common by (a number of persons).

1418 *E. E. Wills* 32 That than the forsaide ij. vestmentes shull remayne & duelle still alwey in the forsaide Chaunterie to serue the prestes of the same Chaunterie. 1563 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 93 A graie stoned horse to serve the townes-hippe. 1612–13 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 92 Item,..for ane quheil barrou to serue the toune, 12s. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* II. vii. (1782) I. 166 A wretched flock-bed, covered with a doubled sheet, which had served an hundred different travellers, at least, since the last washing. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Poetry* I. Diss. II. a 3 b, At the beginning of the tenth century books were so scarce in Spain, that one and the same copy of the bible..often served several different monasteries.

c. Of a bodily faculty or organ: To render its normal service to (the owner). Also const. inf.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 463 Min eiȝen sorly aren sogettes to serue min hert, & buxum ben to his bidding as boie to his master. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 214 And yet his tongue serued hym well otherwise, to vtter what soeuer came in his hedde. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* II. (1702) 58 Will your Teeth serve you now to fetch out the Marrow of this Prophesy? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Mar. 1681, Her eyes serving her as well as ever. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, 'And where are the two women?' said Sharpitlaw. 'Both made their heels serve them, I suspect.'

d. Of a thing: To supply the need or contribute to the working of (another thing).

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Cur. Horses Dis.* xcv. 42 b, *Tenasmus*.. is an vlcer in the right gut seruing the fundament. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. iv. II. 378 As touching the cricks of the nerues or sinews that serve the nape of the necke. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. ii. 325 The third [branch of a nerve] by the Cavity of the Nostrils serves the coat of the said Nostrils. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag* v. xii. 49 Two Screws fitted to serve the four holes. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 4 Here and there a flight of steps to serve a ferry.

20. *intr.* To have a definite use or function, answer a purpose, effect or conduce to an end; to admit of being used for some end. With negative expressed or implied = to be of no use, not to avail.

†**a.** const. *of* (a purpose). [= F. *servir de.*]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9687 For quar-of serues ani a-sise Of sothfastnes, or of iustise, Bot for to yeme þe pes in land, Dom es þar-for sett to stand. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 235 Wost thou wherof a racle tonge serueth? 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 45 Than was it ffoly..To sette siluer signes þat of nouȝt serued. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 8 b, An enuious man serueth of noght but to disprayse alle other. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 90 The fortis..be cassin doun becaus tha serve of na thing in tyme of pece.

†**b.** const. *to* (a purpose). *Obs.*

c 1305 *Land Cokayne* 47 Watir seruiþ her to no þing Bot to siȝt and to waiissing. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2775 Penaunce to thole here with gude wille, Serves here till twa thynges by skille. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 51 As to the body, there are many members, seruing to seuerall vses. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 6 To what end do these miracles serve? 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 28 Every Man's Words being intelligible only to himself, would no longer serve to Conversation. 1737 WATERLAND *Eucharist* 124 The Uses which they serve to. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. viii, This served to many good purposes. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* x. xiii, How far his reasonings and patience served to his ends, remains yet to be seen. 1863 — *Caxtoniana* I. xi. 195 The times in which they were composed, and the purposes to which they served.

c. const. *for* (a purpose).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 380 And ther fore servith scheld and spere. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 73 Gud ordinance, that serd for his estate, His cusyng maid at all tyme. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* II. (1880) 14 Such Dogges as serue for fowling. 1599 E. WRIGHT *Errr. Navig.* F 2, These numbers..serue only for the finding out of the degrees and minutes of latitude. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 161 Unto others it [*sc.* water] performs the common office of ayre, and serves for refrigeration of the heart. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 32 The Organs which serve for Articulation. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxii, To clear a convenient part of the sents..that it might serve for the accommodation of Prince Tancred's followers. 1844 S. TYLER *Baconian Philos.* I. (1846) 51 (Funk) The nerve of vision..can never serve for hearing. 1845 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1869) II. 20 This, however, though of very wide application, will not serve for the solution of every problem.

d. const. inf. (expressing purpose or use).

a 1300 [see a]. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 707 Alle þe godus þat ȝe geten..Seruen for to sustaine ȝour vnsely wombe. 1477 [see a]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 20 b, They will serve well to confute their Errours. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxii. 296 The grape ripens not well..so as they serve only to eate. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 211 [The dodo's wings] serue only to proue her Bird. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigismn. & Guisc.* 84 This little Brand will serve to light your Fire. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* I, I'm sorry they taught him any philosophy at all; it has only served to spoil him. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxvi[i]. 7 These.. lullabies..May serve to curl a maiden's locks. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 91 The great latent heat of water serves to retard the melting of snow.

e. without const. Often with negative, or in rhetorical question, as *what serves it?* = what is the use of it?

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 331 What seruez tresor, bot garez men grete When he hit schal efte with tenez tyne? *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2374 (Dubl. MS.) What seruyd ȝitte all þar sapience & sleghtes of were? *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* 716 (Brandl) Nother of them both that hath wyt nor grace To perceyue that both myllys may serue in place. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* I. ii, But this lighte serueth not very well, I will beholde it an other day, when the ayre is clearer. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXX. ix, What serves, alas, the blood of me When I with in the pitt doe bide? 1785 BURNS *Epist. to J. Lapraik* xi, If honest Nature made you fools, What sairs your Grammars? 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 209 It makes however excellent water mortar,..and will very well serve in those parts of the kingdom. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 343 If the manganese that has been once used, be exposed for some time to the air, it will serve again. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* liii, When no evasion Served—for the cunning one his match had found. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, Barricading serves not.

f. To be usable or available *for*.

1528 ROY *Rede me* II. (Arb.) 98 For the best meate awaye they carve, Which for their harlottis must serve, With wother frendes of their kynne. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* IX. 385 Then they vnto that Temple came, That serues for all the Libian name. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. iii. (1640) 46 This vision, though calculated for this one Bishop, did generally serve for all the non-residents which posted hither. 1662 CHARLETON *Mysl. Vintners* (1675) 181 The same Parell serves also for White Wines upon the Frett. 1671 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Eng.* II. 79 Besides these Courts serving for the whole Province, every Bishop hath his Court held in the Cathedral of his Diocess.

21. *trans.* To help to fulfil or bring about (an end, purpose, etc.); to be a means to, contribute or conduce to, tend to promote.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 82 They make Christ and his Gospell, onelie serue Ciuill pollicie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. x. 36 He had no weapon, but his shepheards hooke, To serue the vengeaunce of his wrathfull will. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 94 Since it serues my purpose. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 398 As thir shape servd best his end. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 178 Turners have commonly two or three pair of Puppets to fit one Lathe, and always strive to use the shortest they can to serve their Work. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. i. Wks. 1874 I. 156 Christianity served these ends and purposes, when it was first published. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxxii, Neither do I know another human being who could serve any interest by such a deception. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 107 It fortunately serves my close designs. 1884 *Manch. Examiner* 20 Feb. 5/1 Diatribes so blind and furious can do no good to the cause they are meant to serve. 1893 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 19 It would serve no useful purpose. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 545/2 We best serve our own interests in studying the interests of those for whom we act.

22. To discharge a specified function; to take the place of some specified agency.

a. *intr.* To be of use, admit of being used *as, for, instead of* (some means, agency, or the like).

1387 HIGDEN *Trevisa* (Rolls) V. 171 And anon his mouþ bycom his ers, and servede afterward in stede of his neþer ende. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 135 A naturall abashmente and shame, which with the vaile of honor doth serue, or ought to serue for a bridle. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 41 One turfe shall serue as pillow for vs both. 1606 KNOLLES tr. *Bodin's Commw.* I. v. 35 Let one example serue for many. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 111 Those may make excellent merchants and mochanicks which will not serve for Scholars. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiv. 212 The Cloud served as a sign of God's presence. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 280 When the land is wet, the furrows serve for drains. 1820 SHELLEY *Œdip.* I. 87 He'll serve instead of riot money. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 145 Mr. Hall, being familiar with the localities, served admirably as a guide. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 44 The Great Hall, serving for a council-chamber on days of general convocation, and as a banqueting-room for the oft-recurring festivities. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 A grasshopper or almost any large fly will serve for bait.

†**b.** With omission of *as*. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 15 It [*sc.* the Tuscan Servia] well may serue A nursserie to our Gentrie, who are sicke For breathing, and exploit. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* Pref., Nor could the Monuments of these Whirlegigs serve Muniments to their expiring glories.

c. *trans.* To be of use to (a person or thing) in the way specified; const. as in **a.**

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 47 This precious stone, set in the siluer sea, Which serues it in the office of a wall, Or as a Moate defensiue to a house. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. xix. 48 So that a talke of tumult and a breath Would serue him as his passing-bell to death. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VIII. 329 Vntill..Babylon they had throwne downe To serue the Grassi for their tombe. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 112 My Stomach serves me instead of a Clock. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. vi, Some..paradise or cavern, Which serves the happy couple for a tavern. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* VIII. 95 There was plenty of long grass about...This served me well for a bed.

¶**d.** *To serve the place* or *stead of*: app. for 'to serve in place of' (cf. **a.**).

1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* V, She lighted..a splinter of bog pine which was to serve the place of a candle. 1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* I. 199 They may serve the stead of presence of mind, to a certain point at least.

†**23.** Of one's courage, conscience, inclination, etc.: To prompt, encourage (one), *to do* something; (with negative expressed or implied) to permit, suffer.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 255 Ys herte was god & sykerly serued him to do þat dede. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiii. (1885) 142 But þer hartes serue hem not to take a manys gode, while he is present, and woll defende it. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 33, I grawnute my executours ful power to do to hire as ther discrecyon wyl serve hem to doo. 1521 BP. LONGLAND in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 252, I mynystred as my weykenes wold serve, in pontificalibus. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* 871 (Brandl) Yf your appetyte serue you so to do. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1185/1 My conscience can not serue me..to praise her calfe aboue twoo pence. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. ii. F j, Go safely thyther as thy harte or courage serueth the. 1576 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Forefathers* (1877) 249 He cometh not to the church because his conscience will not serve him so to do. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 38 The Mathematicke, and the Metaphysicke Fall to them as you finde your stomacke serues you. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. ii. 1 Certainely, my conscience will serue me to run from this Iew my Maister. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 100 Do so if your mind serue you.

b. *intr.*

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, V. iv. 164 And therefore take this compact of a Truce, Although you breake it, when your pleasure serues.

24. Of the wind, weather, tide, etc.:

†**a.** *trans.* To favour, be favourable to. *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 56 Anon the sayl up thay drowgh, The wynd hem servyd wel inowgh. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 143 The wynde hem served, it was ful goode. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 9 § 6 As soon as Wind and Weather will serve them after the said Two Months. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 31 [We] found the wind to be at Northwest, which serued vs so wel, that..we sayled that night 60. miles. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iv. 131 They come from the East, where the Easterly or Northerne windes do serve them.

b. *intr.* To be favourable or suitable.

1443 *Acts Privy Council* (1835) V. 239 Yif winde & weder wol serve. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 To make..their departur from the said port..as soone as wynde and wether wyl serue. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 5 Thare we came to an anker, for the wynde sarved not to pass by Dover. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 223 On such a full Sea are we now a-float, And we must take the current when it serues, Or loose our Ventures. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1740/4 The Tide serving early. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) II. 73 The wind and tide served for us. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 225 The weather serving at intervals,..the first course..was finished. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxi, I propose to make a farther excursion through this country while this fine frosty weather serves. 1827 — *Surg. Dau.* Pref., Leaving to the atmosphere to bring forth the young, or otherwise, as the climate shall serve. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Yrs. Life* II. 247 As the tide did not serve, the anchor was let go.

25. Of time, occasion, or the like: To be opportune, convenient, or favourable (to). Of one's leisure: To afford (one) occasion or opportunity, to be at one's disposal. Also const. inf. of purpose.

a. *trans.*

1570 T. WILSON tr. *Demosth. Orat.* iv. 38 There is no let in your way to passe into his country, when occasion shal serue you. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 78 If fortune serue me, Ile requite this kindnesse. 1596 — *Merch. V.* IV. i. 405, I am sorry that your leysure serues you not. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* V. (1626) 97 But, ours perhaps to heare, Nor leasure serues you, nor is't worth your eare. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxiii, Tell Colonel Ashton.. I shall be found at Wolf's Crag when his leisure serves him.

b. *intr.*

1410 26 *Pol. Poems* IX. 146 And ȝe in batayle haue maystrie, And fortune serue, and god ȝow spede. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. iii. P ij, While the tyme dyd beare .i. whyle the tyme serued. 1562 WINȜET *Cert. Tractates* i. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 8 Tyme seruis not to schaw. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 104 And as occasion shall serue I will requite thee. 1584 A. MUNDAY *Fidele & Fortunio* 711 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXXIII. 62 My leasure serues, and I will stand. 1599 *George a Greene* C 3 b, In spite of thee they now shall feede their fill, And eate vntill our leasures serue to goe. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. iii. 32 The day serues well for them now. 1682 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* IV. iii. 62 Read that. 'Tis with the Royal Signet sign'd, And given me by the King when time shou'd serve To be perus'd by you. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, The large boughs which had been left on the ground till time served to make them into fagots and billets. 1879 G. A. SALA in *Daily Tel.* 21 July, At eating and drinking London I shall arrive, should occasion serve by-

and-bye. 1879 SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* § 349 II. 36 The sportsman, narrating his feats when opportunity serves.

26. Of the memory: To assist or prompt its owner, be at his call, not to fail him. **a.** *trans.*

1634 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 398 The subprincipall..testifiet that since the twalt day of Marche last, as his memorie serwes him, the said principall did [etc.]. 1641 MILTON *Reform. Eng.* II. 70 You have now at length this question.. as my memory would best serve me in such a copious, and vast theme, fully handl'd. 1695 *New Light Chirurg. put ont* 54 The Doctor's either Modesty or Memory hath not served him to insert [etc.]. 1861 S. BROOKS *Silver Cord* viii. (1865) 44 Or perhaps your memory don't serve you as well as it did. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* Iv, I think I did tell you so, Hamish, if my memory serves me right. 1895 BUDD in *Law Times* XCIX. 543/2 If my memory serves me, the late Sir Henry Jackson..brought a Bill into Parliament on the subject.

b. *intr.*

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 31, I will content my self to discover a view of the country, as faithfully, and exactly as my memory will serve. 1911 SAINTSBURY in *Cambr. Hist. Eng. Lit.* VII. v. 104 So far as memory serves, there is not any passage in his entire work which [etc.].

27. *trans.* To suffice (a person) in regard to some need or requirement. Const. inf., or *for* (a purpose). Also, to last (one) *for* a specified time.

1450 HEN. VI in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 85 There vitailes ben not suffisant to serue them for iij wekes at the farrest. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 24 Few wordis may serve the wyis. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* 692, I say we nede no water mylles at all For wyndmylles be suffycyent to serue all. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 52 b, A romishe acre of it [medick fodder]..will serue iii. horses for an hole yere. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. viii. 74 It will serue you to mend your shooes. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 303 They provide Ice enough to serve them all Summer. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 146 The 21st day we sent out our Moskito Strikers for Turtle, who brought aboard enough to serve both Ships Companies. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 ¶ 3 A polite Country 'Squire shall make you as many Bows in half an Hour, as would serve a Courtier for a Week. 1734 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 53 One half-pint bottle serves them both to dine. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* v. ii, Never let me hear you utter any thing like a sentiment; I have had enough of them to serve me the rest of my life. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, Private apartments..bedizened fine enough to serve the Queen.

b. In sentences containing a negative: To satisfy, content, meet the wishes or demands of. Esp. in forms like 'nothing would serve him but..'.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 140 No other water would serue their pallat. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 168 Nothing will serve me but going on Pilgrimage. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. i. (Rtldg.) 76 He took such a fancy to me that nothing would serve him but I must be his guest at Segovia. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxv, With those whom such reasons did not serve, they dealt more rudely. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, Nothing would serve him but that we should turn off for Hungerford at once.

c. To be sufficient for, furnish what is requisite for (a thing). Also, † to be a sufficient account of, be applicable to.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. xliii. (1890) I. 248 Not suffring so much straw, as would serue the couche of two dogges, to be left vnconsumed. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 9 Lesse fencing serues six acres together, than three in seuerall inclosures. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 96 About twelve or fourteen quarter of lime serves an acre. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. (1674) 99 These Directions for the Bass-Viol do also serve the Treble-Viol. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 476 What hath been said of the Habits, Cattle and Fruit of the former, may also serve them.

28. *intr.* To suffice, meet the needs of the case; to be adequate or sufficient. Also, to last for a given period. Const. *for* or inf.

1496-7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 13 § 1 As mych of the goodez.. as shall serve for the payment of suche somme. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 126 Reed wethy is beste in marsshe grounde; asshe, maple, hasel, and whyte-thorne wyl serue for a time. 1549 *Bk. Comm. Prayer, Communion.*, Puttyng yᵉ wyne into the Chalice, or else in some faire or conueniente cup, prepared for that use (if the Chalice will not serue). 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 101 'Tis not so deepe as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore, but 'tis inough, 'twill serue. *c* 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV. ii, Bestow on me.. so much as may serve To keep that little piece I hold of life From cold and hunger. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iv. 4 Thus much may serve concerning the originall and institution of these Schools of the Prophets. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 119 The Indians make use of no more Land than serves to maintain their Families in Maiz; and to pay their Taxes. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 9 Which [provision] a man must husband as he thinks best; it is to serve for the whole week. 1802 H. K. WHITE *Lett.* Apr. *Life & Rem.* (1850) 256 My father generally gives me one coat in a year, and I make two serve. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxiv, Short greeting serves in time of strife. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* lxii, *Laverock* III, A hert for the micht o' 't Wad sair for nine men.

b. (Chiefly in certain negative forms.) To satisfy, be considered satisfactory, meet people's wishes or demands.

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xiii, 'Will nothing less than Hanging serve' (quoth Jack)? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. ii, Nothing will serve but you must gather your way-worn limbs and thoughts, and speak to the multitudes.

† **29.** To be valid, hold good; to be available *for*; to be satisfactory, pass muster. Of coin: To pass current, be accepted. *Obs.*

a 1467 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. London* (Camden) 230 But þe prevelege wolde not serve that tyme for noo cause of eresy. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 The coyne of one countre wyll not serue ne be admytted or receyued in an other countre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 774 Serueth this libertie for my person onely, or for my goods to? 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 119 The world was very guilty of such a Ballet some three ages since, but I thinke now 'tis not to be found: or if it were, it would neither serue for the writing, nor the tune. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 123 A Bishop may prove himself to be a Bishop several ways... First, By the Bulls or Letters of his Election: but then this only serves in the Romish Countries.

30. *trans.* To suit, fit. (Chiefly of clothes.) *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

1540 W. G. *Answ. to Maister Smyth* vii. (Huth), Although a shypmans hose wyll serue all sortes of legges. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 154 Demonedes hauing crooked feete ..made his praier to God, that his shoone might serue his feete, that had stolne them awaie. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 167, I was trim'd in Madam Iulias gowne, Which serued me as fit, by all mens iudgements. As if the garment had bin made for me. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. i. 3 How fit his Garments serue me! 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* II. iii. (1782) I. 136 With a doublet and breeches which would have served a man four times as big as me. 1790 SCOTT *Let.* 6 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 167 This character..would serve most of them. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Saur*,..to fit, to be large enough. The coat does na sair him, i. e. it is too little. 1879 'SARAH TYTLER' *Bride's Pass* v. in *Good Words* 198 I've no quarrel with his appearance; unless that I think it would better serve a pinging lassie than a bold lad.

III. To minister to a person at table; hence, to supply, furnish, present *with* (a commodity).

31. [Cf. sense 4 above.] To wait upon (a person) at table; hence, to set food before, help (a person) to food.

To serve in (later *on*) *silver*, etc.: to give (a person) his food in vessels of silver, etc.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Architriclin, þat was se þet ferst was i-serued. *c* 1275 LAY. 22776 Þe hehge ibore men þane mete beare..ech man þare sareuede his freonde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1156 He dude serve Olimpias In gold and seolver, in bras, in glas. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* xvii. 8 Girde thee, and serue me [1382 mynystre to me, Vulg. *ministra mihi*], while Y ete and drynke. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 153 He has fyfty damyselles þat seruez him ilk a day at his mete. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvi. 226 They..sat down to supper, where as they were rychely seruyd. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 370 All the vessels wherein they are serued,..were of golde. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 22 Let your Betters be serv'd before you. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* v, Our two little ones..were regularly served after we had done. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxvi, When I was only a refugee..I was served upon gold plate by order of the same Charles. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, There is a servant in scarlet and lace to attend upon every four, and every one is served on silver.

b. Const. *with*, † *of*: To supply (one) with food at a meal, to help (one) to food.

13.. *K. Alis.* 539 To the mete they weoren y-set, No myghte men beo served bet, Neither of mete no of drynke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 749 And to the soper sette he vs anon And serued vs with vitaille at the beste. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxvi, In siluer sa semly þai serue þame of the beste. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 51 Whan they had seruyd Alexander in vayssell of gold and siluer with dyuerce metes. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 18 Apr., I was very sorry I could not eat of as many [ragouts] as the good lady would have had me, who was very earnest in serving me of every thing. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 335 Serve him with ven'son, and he chooses fish. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Trevlyn Hold* xxix, How many are there to serve with pie still?

† **c.** *To serve* (a person) *forth* or *in*: to set his food before him. (Cf. 43.) *Obs.*

1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Meals & Manners* (E. E. T. S.) 156 Than serue forth your souerayne withouten blame. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 16 Now let vs come to the Collegiates or Students, and their diet: First they are serued in by seuen of their owne rancke Weekely and in Course.

d. Proverbs. *To serve with* (or † *of*) *the same sauce*: see SAUCE *sb.* 3 a. *First come, first served* (also used with reference to sense 35).

1523–: see SAUCE *sb.* 3 a. 1545–: see FIRST *adv.* 1 b. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* CXV. 707 That hee which hath gone about to do his neighbour harme shall be serued of the same sawce himselfe. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 9 They must wait their tour..; and he that's first ready must be first served. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iv, Their long strings of purchasers, arranged *in tail*, so that the first come be the first served,—were the shop once open!

32. *absol.* [Cf. sense 1.] To wait at table; to present or hand food to guests. † Formerly const. *of* (meat or drink); also *to* (a person).

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 29 Hye spac to þo serganz þat seruede of þo wyne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3950 Kay king of aungeo a þousend knistes nom..Of o sywte & seruede at þis feste anon. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 234 Tech him..Binore me to kerue & of þe cupe serue. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 892 He calles sir Cayous that of the cowpe serfede. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 57 He taught hym..to serve in halle, Bothe to grete and to smalle. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxii. 27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meate: or he that serveth? 1526 ROY *Rede me* II. (Arb.) 93 Knyghtes and squyres honorable, Are fayne to serve at their table As vnto Dukes excellent. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr. 1645, [The Pope] serves at their table.

33. *trans.* To set food on (the table), to spread *with* food.

The expression *to serve tables*, in *Acts* vi. 2 applied with reference to the administration of the alms of the church, is now sometimes allusively used with reference to the secular functions attached to the office of the clergy, viewed as encroaching on the time available for their more spiritual work.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 23 His bord was servyd most with whit and blak. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Acts* vi. 2 It is not mete yᵗ we should leaue yᵉ worde of God, & serue tables [Gr. διακονεῖν τραπέζαις, 1526 TINDALE, serve at the tables]. 1557 F. S[AMPSON] *Sch. Vertue* iii. (heading), Howe to behaue thi selfe in seruynge the table. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 120 The boards are princely seru'd. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 107 As soon as the guests were all arrived, the table was served, and they sat down to eat.

34. To set food before, feed (animals). Const. *with*, † *of*. † Of meat: To be food for.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 Serue thy swyne bothe morn-yng and euenynge. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 177, I can..serue the houndes of theyr ryghtes. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) I. p. lxiv, Well, sayd Skelton, for this once, serue my mare wyth horse bread. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIX. ii, The livelesse carcases of those That liv'd thy servants, serve the crowes. 1602 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (Camden) 148 Wherein you served two pigeons with one beane. 1625 BACON *Apophth.* § 278. 304 This Lady..called to one of her Maids, that lookt to the Swine, and askt; Is the piggy serued? 1680 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1882) II. 298 Mathew Midleborough's wife serving a swine. 1781 BECKFORD *Hunting* 199 No, master, I have not seen him [the fox]; but I smelt him here this morning, when I came to serve my sheep.

35. To attend to the request of (a customer in a shop). Hence, to supply (a customer) *with* a commodity which he has come to purchase.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 190 Marchaundes..Bi-souȝten him in heore schoppes to sullen heore ware, Apparayleden him as a prentis þe Peple for to serue. 1556 J. BROOKS *Injunct. Gloucester* § 20 All tavernes..and vitlinge houses to be shutte up at the time of Divine Service, and non to be served there at those times, but passingers onlie. 1727 *De Foe's Compl. Eng. Tradesman* (1732) I. xii. 147 If I am at any other part of the shop, and see him serving a customer, I never interrupt them. 1832 LAMB *Elia* II. *Ellistoniana* ¶ 2, E... was serving in person two damsels fair, who had come into the shop ostensibly to inquire for some new publication. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxviii. [Squeers *log.*] You came to the right shop for mercy when you came to me, and thank your stars that it is me as has got to serve you with the article. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 181 My wife told me she noticed the shopkeeper served other people before her, though she came first. 1901 W. W. JACOBS *Light Freights, A Marked Man* (init.), Knocking on the mantelpiece all night with twopence and wanting to know why he wasn't being served.

b. *To serve the shop*: to attend to customers.

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* iii. (1856) 34 The old salt had been rocking the cradle, with..a line made fast to keep it in play when he served the shop.

c. *intr.* To attend to customers in a shop.

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 49 All the pastrycooks always try to get handsome ladies to serve in the shop! 1860 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* vii, Is na' this Hester, as serves in Foster's shop? 1881 *A Chequered Career* 279 This young man serves behind a counter in a grocer's shop.

36. *trans.* To assist (a workman) by handing him materials; to 'feed' *with* material for work.

1525 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 46 Paide to John Haddenham for sarving of the mason for ij days..viij*d*. 1547 in *Archæologia* XXV. 562 To Dingle for iiij dayes thackinge xvj d...To Dingles sonne for servinge him iiij dayes viij d. 1601 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 137 A laborer, for iij days sarving the wallers, le day ij*d* ob., vij*d* ob. 1676 *Poor Robin's Intell.* 9–16 May 1/2 A Magistrate..received a Letter..as he was thatching a Hogsty, which being with much difficulty read by the Clark of the Parish that was serving him with Straw [etc.]. 1826 *Cheshire Gloss.* s. v. *Sarve*, The assistant who hands the straw up to the thatcher, or bricks and mortar to the bricklayer, is always said to 'sarve' him.

37. To give alms to, relieve (a beggar). *dial.*

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Frnl.* 205 How extremely impudent is this beggar! I served him as I went in; and yet now he bawls for more. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Serve*, to relieve a beggar. Derb. 1822 GALT *Provost* xiii. 106 Two bonny bairns..going from house to house, like the hungry babes in the wood;..as I was seeing them served myself at our door, I spoke to them. 1825 JAMIESON s. v. *Sair.*

38. *gen.* (Said of persons and things.) To supply, provide, or furnish with something necessary or requisite. Also, to furnish (a person, town, etc.) with a regular or continuous supply.

† **a.** const. *of* (something).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22508 Þe sun þat es sa bright, And seruis al þis werld o light. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 17 He hihte þe eorþe to seruen ow vchone Of wollene, Of linnene. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Oure land seruez vs of twa thinges, þat es to say of oure lyflade,..and of sepulture. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 334 He..serryfied seke folk of swilk as þaim nedud. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 6 § 1 The Commons.. be worse served of such Stuff and Merchandise as else should come to the said Fairs. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVII. 64 Quhen thay wer set wit of thair speiris. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Liij, She appoynted..her to..serue mee of such necessaryes as I lacked. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVIII. 1008 That..they might..be served of a mart-towne for vent.

b. const. *with*.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 320 Serwyt thai war with gud speris enow. 1515 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 97 The said dauy serued my lord darcy house in Berwyke with hooppis. *c* 1553 CHANCELOR in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 252 Colmagro serues all the Countrey about it with salt, and salt fish. 1625 G. SANDYS *Trav.* IV. (1658) 202 Naples is..served with water by fountains and conduits. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* (Chandos) 18 Dorking, which serves it abundantly with provisions. 1726–31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 32 A woman who..used to serve my family with butter. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 758 These [plants] serve him with a hint That nature lives.

c. without const.

1512 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 22 Which condyttes serue all the Cytie in euery place. 1532 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 363 Giff þe said abbot..desyris ony pan wod of my lord of sanct andr' coill thay sall be seruit befor ony vþeris. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 4 A Conduit of water, which serves all the Towne. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. ii, Besides, the Rascal has good Ware, and will serve him as

cheap as any Body in that Case. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 1.4/1 The distributing reservoir..must therefore be higher than the highest house to be served. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 79 The thatch of the byres will serve their fires when all the cattle are slain.

d. To supply with means of transit and conveyance: esp. of railways.

1866 *Roy. Comm. Railways, Min. Evid.* 602/1 He said that we [the company] had really served Rochdale well with trains and accommodation. 1892 TURRELL & GRAVES *Roads Oxf.* 38 The country described in this book is served almost entirely by the Great Western Railway.

†39. *refl.* To make use *of*, avail oneself *of*. Also const. *with*, in the same sense. [After F. *se servir de.*] *Obs.*

In quot. 1560 = 'to make use *of* as slaves'; the choice of expression was suggested by the Heb. original.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Jer.* XXV. 14 Many nacions and great Kings shal euen serue them selues of them [so 1611 and 1884]. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 56 Seruing himselfe with meane fellowes. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. 960 Intending ..to serve himselfe of the provision prepared for the enemie. 1648 tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 6 God..serves himself sometimes with criminals to execute his designes. 1655 JER. TAYLOR *Golden Grove* 53 It were well if they would serve themselves of this form set down at the end of this Diary. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 114 She had serv'd her self with Romantick Names, and a feign'd Scene of Action. 1750 WARBURTON in W. & Hurd *Lett.* (1809) 58 You may serve yourself of the following hints. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* vi. (1862) 189 *note*, In the intercourse of ordinary life our Lord served Himself, as was natural, of the popular Aramaic.

†b. *intr.* (? for *refl.*). To make use *of*. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 79 þes feyned þeues seruen of þis, to forbede men to do goddis seruyce.

40. *transf.* (*trans.*) To ply, assail *with* (hostile weapons). *rare.* (So F. *servir.*)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 451 And with suerdis that scharply schar Thai seruit thame full egyrly. *Ibid.* 454. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, Then to read or mumble something about the King's peace; and, after certain pauses, serve any undispersing Assemblage with musket-shot, or whatever shot will disperse it.

41. *Sc.* To satisfy or content *with* (food, etc.). (Cf. sense 27 b.) Hence, to give (one) a glut *of*, weary *of*.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* (1789) 30 The squire..Says cannily, I'm sure ye are not saird; Here's fouth of meat, eat on and do not spair't. *Ibid.* 47 It seems ye are na sair'd wi' what ye got. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 148 (E.D.D.) Whan sair'd o' beef, they get a roast O' dainty rare sweet mutton. *a* 1819 A. WATSON in W. Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 328 They saired them o' fighting wi' very few blows. 1886 WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* xii. (1887) 93 Dauvit tried nae mair experiments in galvanism. Ae dose o'it saired him.

IV. (Inversion of the construction in branch III. Cf. the converse development of sense in PRESENT *v.* 11–13.)

To dish up (food); to deal out, present (a commodity).

42. To set (meat or drink) on the table or before a person; to bring in or dish up (a meal). †Also const. *to* or *into* (the table). Also (*is*) *serving* = (is) being served.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 997 Ho [Lot's wife] serued at þe soper salt bifore drygtyn. *a* 1400 *Sir Cleges* 382 The cheryse were servyd thorowe the hall. 1513 *Bk. Kervynge* in *Meals & Manners* (E.E.T.S.) 160 Fyrste on that daye [Easter] he shall serue a calfe soden and blessyd. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 A piece whereof is served to the Emperours table. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 268 A fishes head of great bignesse being serued into the table. 1640 tr. *Verderc's Rom. of Rom.* III. ii. 7 Having fed heartily on a kid, that was served into the table. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii. 188 They cut up the joints that were served to his majesty's table. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 213 The dinner serv'd, Charles takes his stand, Watches your eye, anticipates command. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* XXXVIII, But dinner is serving, go into the after-cabin. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. vi. 74 He cooked and served our breakfast-meal. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* XVIII. 487 After luncheon..coffee was served. 1885 *Truth* 2 July 9/1 It was getting on for two before supper was served.

absol. 1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* II. ii, *Cor.* Will your ladyship please to dine yet? *Lady Fan.* Yes, let 'em serve. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 241, I see my People coming to tell us they have served: *Allons*..refresh yourself at Dinner. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* XXIV. 256 The men servants were already bringing in the coffee, and Monsieur d'Antin was constrained to wait until they had served and retired.

b. const. *to* (a person) or dative. Hence also in indirect passive.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 167 How durst you villaines bring it from the dresser And serue it thus to me? 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 18 Apr., After this they served me coffee upon their knees in the finest japan china. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 88 This afternoon the People insisted to be serv'd Brandy out of the Casks that were buried Under-ground; accordingly they were serv'd half a Pint each Man. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, The Colonel's breakfast was served to him in the same dingy..plated ware. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 304 So that ye do not serve me sparrow-hawks For supper.

c. To dish up or send to the table in a specified manner or *with* some other edible.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 1. 6 As men seruyth furmenty wyth venyson. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* II. 83 And so serue hit hote. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 50 Bake them [Larks] in a gentle Oven, serve them without Sauce. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King Bokhara* 287 Cherries served in drifts of snow. 1864 *Englishw. in India* 145 Boil these gently together and serve on toast. 1884 HOWELLS in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 111/2 Everything is served *à la Russe*.

d. To hand out (food) in portions; = HELP *v.* 8 b.

1682 G. ROSE *Sch. Instruct. Officers Mouth* 24 They ought to serve the Sweetmeats with a Fork, but the Dragee, or small Seeds of Sugar with a Spoon.

43. With adverbs, †*away*, †*forth*, †*forth in*, *in* (? obs.), *up*, in the same sense as in 42.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 1. 5 Serue it forth. *Ibid.* 13 Panne serue it forth ynne. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 208 (Harl. MS.) A fatt goos..Is served vp at the kyngis table. *c* 1530 *Doctrynall Gd. Servauntes* in *Anc. Poet. Tracts* (Percy Soc.) 8 Fyrste serue ye in the potage, And than eche meet after his degre. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 101 Madam, the guests are come, supper seru'd vp. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 83 At supper they served in a peece of roasted beefe hot. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 38 Marshal'd Feast Serv'd up in Hall with Sewers, and Seneshals. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ¶ 5 The Gentleman..had the Pleasure of seeing the huge Jack, he had caught, served up for the first Dish. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xi. 123 Put in the Meat again..and let it boil; then serve it away. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* lvi. (1783) II. 164 The dinner was serving up as I entered the dining-parlour. 1827 in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., The dinner was very handsome (though slowly served in). 1878 W. S. GILBERT *H. M. S. Pinafore* II, And dinner served up in a pudding basin!

absol. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 7 Let boyle to-gederys, an serue in. *Ibid.* 8 Sette hem on þe dysshe, an serue forth.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. *dish up.*)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 296 The beste wordes wolde I pike.. And serve hem forth in stede of chese. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* To Rdr., If I serue in their meat with wrong sawce. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. i. 14 Then giue me leaue to read Philosophy, And while I pause, serue in your harmony. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Priesth.* v, Th' holy men of God such vessels are, As serve him up, who all the world commands. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. 243 History is meat not only well seasoned..but substantially and magnificently served in to please the curious pallat. 1711 *Medley* No. 23. 267 The Examiner utters Falshoods that are altogether stale and exploded; whereas Abel serves them up fresh and fresh. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 488 ¶ 2 Provided the *Spectator* might be served up to them every Morning as usual. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., To Serve up*, to expose to ridicule; to expose. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xiii. 371 You serve them up to us like new articles of science.

c. *To serve out*, to distribute or deal out (food, ammunition, etc.) in portions. Also jocularly (chiefly *Naut.*), to mete out or administer (corporal punishment); cf. 46.

1802 RICHARDSON in *Naval Chron.* VII. 54 My grog was served out. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xi, To preside over the stock-fish and ale, which was just serving out for the friars' breakfast. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 67, I served out some kegs of gunpowder. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Serving out slops*, distributing clothing, &c. Also, a cant term to denote punishment at the gangway. 1884 SIR S. ST. JOHN *Hayti* iii. 81 On many of the large estates, a certain number of lashes was served out every morning as regularly as the rations. 1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* xi. 207 The short measures of flour which 'Rowdy Jack', one of their fellow-men, served out.

†44. *gen.* To supply, furnish (a commodity); to yield a regular or continuous supply of. Of the earth: To yield, bring forth. Const. *to*. *Obs.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 129 What fruits this soyle may serve. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Errr.* IV. iv. 14 *Ant.* Fiue hundred Duckets villaine for a rope? *E. Dro.* Ile serue you sir fiue hundred at the rate. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 102 Our People too, with this Money, make Cloth, and serve it cheap in all places where we send our Cloth. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Oct. 1695, The pump he had erected that serves water to his garden.

b. *intr.* (? for *refl.*). Of a commodity: To yield a supply, to be forthcoming. *rare.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruits of Warre* CXXXVII, Three dayes wee fought, as long as water served. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., Gas is said to *serve* when it issues more or less regularly from a fault, slip, etc., in a coal mine.

45. *trans.* (in *fig.* uses). †To deliver or deal *blows* or the like (*obs.*; cf. 43 c); †to play (one) a *trick*; to do (one) a (good or bad) *turn.*

1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 38, I remember the tricke you serv'd me, when I tooke my leaue of Madam Siluia. 1607 — *Timon* I. ii. 237 What a coiles heere, seruing of beckes, and iutting out of bummes. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXVII, It would have been serving you a good turn, ma'amselle, as well as myself. 1887 W. E. NORRIS *Major & Minor* III. 249 You never in your life served me a worse turn than when you prevented me from hitting that man.

46. To hand (a commodity) to a customer in a shop. (Cf. sense 35.)

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. vi, Ben Tyrrett's wife says will you let her have a gill of vinegar? Be I to serve it?

V. To treat in a specified manner. [Developed from the use of *to serve well, ill*, etc., in the senses of branch I. Cf. esp. sense 4 b.]

47. To treat in a specified (usually unpleasant or unfair) manner. Now chiefly *colloquial.*

c 1275 LAY. 9206 He lette smite him of þat heued..and þus he 3am sareuede euerechone. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 624 3if alle luber holers were iserued so Me sholde vinde þe les such spousbruche do. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 584–5 As I his suster serued by nyghte Right so thenke I to serue hym pryuely. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Prince.* 3853 Allas! I at drynke so man serue schal! 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 49 The tree that bryngeth forth no good fruyte shall be serued in lyke wyse. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxviii. (Arb.) 71 Or else be locked into the Church by the Sexten as I my selfe was once serued reading an Epitaph in a certain cathedrall Church of England. 1612 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 248 She is seru'd. As I would serue a Rat. 1693 DRYDEN *Ded. to 3rd Misc.* ESS. (1900) II. 10 And no better than thus has Ovid been served by the so-much-admired Sandys. 1727 GAY *Fables* V. 7 All cowards should be serv'd like you. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xiii, If I served you as you deserve, I should now put my bullet into you. 1850 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvii. 119 On swerving a little..the mass turned over, and let me into the lake. I tried a second one, which served me in the same manner. 1870 *Murray's Handbk. Essex*, etc. 200 The nave piers have unfortunately been covered with a yellow wash, which..has been removed from some in the S. aisle with very good result. It is much to be wished that all the piers were so served.

b. *To serve* (a person) *right*: to treat (an offender) as he deserves. Now chiefly in phr. *it serves* (me, you, etc.) *right*; also colloq. *serves* (you, etc.) *right*, (*and*) *serve* (you, etc.) *right*, an exclamation of satisfaction at seeing a person punished for his folly or wrong-doing.

1587 HIGGINS *Mirr. Mag., Iago* Lenvoy iii, This sleeper ..Which for his slouthfull sinne was serued right. *c* 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 303 The wretch (said Luther) was served right. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 419 What think you, Sir, Were not these Villains right served? 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* II. 31 They serv'd you right enough! will you never have done with your Horse-play? 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlii, Natural death—..workhouse funeral—serve him right—all over. 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Mar., But papa was stern for once, and vowed that I had been served quite right. 1841 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Misadvent. at Margate*, 'He's stolen my things and run away!!'—Says she, 'And serve you right!!' 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 99 Confound the fellow!..it would serve him right if they tossed him. 1889 A. LANG *Prince Prigio* vi. 45 Everyone had heard of his disgrace, and almost everyone cried 'Serve him right!'

†48. a. *Thieves' slang.* To rob. b. To maim, wound. *To serve out and out*, to kill (cf. next). *Obs.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Serve*, to serve a person, or place, is to rob them; as I *serv'd* him *for* his *thimble*, I rob'd him of his watch; that crib has been *served* before, that shop has been already robbed, &c. To *serve* a man, also sometimes signifies to maim, wound, or do him some bodily hurt, and to *serve* him *out and out* is to kill him.

49. *To serve out*: to punish, take revenge on; to retaliate on (one) *for* something objectionable. *colloq.* (orig. pugilistic slang). Also (*Hunting slang*), to 'punish' or smash (a fence).

1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 18 The butcher was so completely served out, that he resigned all pretensions to victory. 1819 MOORE *Tom Crib's Memor.* (ed. 3) 34 And whosoe'er grew unpolite, The well-bred Champion serv'd him out. 1836 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 113 I'll serve him out for it. 1862 H. H. DIXON *Scott & Sebright* 398 This was the third or fourth flight of rails that Cognac, who was very fresh after a frost,..had served out that day. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* 183 I'll serve you out for telling the salmon where I was. 1892 MRS. RIDDELL *Mad Tour* 9 He set his mind to work to consider how he could best serve me out.

VI. Technical senses (with various const.).

50. *Law.* To make legal delivery of (a process or writ). Const. *on* or *upon* (a person).

1442 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 43/2 If any Processe of suche Appell..be awarded or servet in othir wyse. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 238 To the seruing of the breif of ydeotrye vpone the Erle of Suddirland in Inuerness. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 240 To serve the processe of that suite upon him. 1585 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 3 § 5 The same Privie Seale was duely served..upon the person of the same Heire. 1612 N. FIELD *Woman Weathercock* III. i, You are come to serue a warrant, or a Scitation. 1776 *Trial Wm. docomar* 24/2 Has any notice been served upon you by Mr. Jarut? 1798 DALLAS *Amer. Law Rep.* II. 335 An attachment must be served by the marshall. 1896 *Law Times* C. 488/1 The vestry served a notice on the respondent, calling upon him to repair the drain.

fig. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1780 The deepe vexation of his inward soule, Hath serv'd a dumbe arrest vpon his tongue. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXI, Some frank..girl would have been the only one likely to serve a writ on the jovial attorney's heart. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* X. (1853) 22 Notice to quit was now served pretty liberally.

b. To present (a person) *with* a writ. Also, *to serve in* (cf. 31 c).

1575 in D. King *Vale-Royal* (1656) I. 88 For which cause, he was served by a Pursevant from York. 1630 *Banquet of Jests* 135 A Waiting Gentlewoman being summoned into a Court to take an Oath (for she was served in with a *sub pœna*) The Examiner asked how [etc.]. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 137 Never before was the Bishops served with such a prohibition. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 199 The holder of that place or fortune was immediately served with a summons to surrender it.

c. *Scots Law.* To declare (a person) heir to an estate, by the affirmative verdict of an 'inquest' or jury appointed to adjudicate the claim. Const. †*of* (an estate); now only with compl., *to serve* (a person) *heir to*.

†An erroneous shortening of the phr. *to serve and retour*: see RETOUR *v.* 3.

1506 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 174 The inqueist that servit him of his breif of the said vi merkis worth of land. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 138 Ane inquest that servit Richert, umquhile lord Inuermeith, of..the landis of Inuermeith. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 558 He sall entir and obtene himself servit air as use is within the space of thrie termes. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 54 O that he would..serve himself Heir to the poor mean portion I have. 1693 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* III. iv. (ed. 2) 449 Other Heirs.. cannot be served Heirs, but by a special Service, serving them to such particulars, whereunto they succeed, by Infeftment or Provision. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* I. We must pass over his father, and serve him heir to his grandfather Lewis. 1844 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xvi. (1857) 356 After getting myself served heir to my father before the Court of the Canon-

gate. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* i, To-day I was served heir to my position in life.

absol. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Breve de morte antecessoris*, Gif the persones of inquest..deliveris and servis *Negative*, in favoures of the defender.

51. *Tennis* (and similar games). †**a.** *intr.* To act as assistant or marker. Also ? *trans.* (see quot. 1611).

1531 in *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 180 Paid to one that served on the kinges side at Tennes at hamptoncourte, in Rewarde, v^s. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 951 *Nacqueter*, to serve at tennes. 1611 COTGR., *Naquet*, the boy that serues, or stops the ball after the first bound, to make a better chace, at Tennis. *Naqueter*, to serue (or stop) a ball at Tennis.

b. *intr.* To start play by striking the ball into the opposite court.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 296 *Datatim ludere*..to serue or to tosse from hand to band. 1611 COTGR., *Blouse*, a close Tennis court,..hauing a house on either side to serue on. 1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 162 The server continues to serve until two chases be made.

c. *trans.* To put (the ball) in play.

1696 R. H. *Sch. Recreation* 97 Love is the Court, Hope is the House, And Favour serves the Ball. 1837 D. WALKER *Games & Sports* 255 The player who commences..must serve the first ball over a red line marked upon the wall. 1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 161 The ball served must be struck with the racket.

d. To strike the ball to (one's opponent); to 'feed' *with* the ball. Also *fig.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xliii. 111 And as at Tenis the Dane and Bishop served each other with the fond Countrey man. 1849 *Boy's Own Bk.* 29 (Rounders) Another in-player takes up the bat, and is served or fed with the ball.

52. Of a male animal: To cover (the female); esp. of stallions, bulls, etc. kept and hired out for the purpose. Also *absol.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 148 b, At halfe a yeere old they [boars] are able to serue a sowe. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 248 Given to Sir Raphe's man, when the little black mare was served at the Abbie, ij^s vj^d. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Tuesd. 106 Then saw the cow well serv'd, and took a groat. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 317 Ewes to be served by more than one ram. 1885 *Bell's Life* 25 June 1/2 Camballo will serve a limited number of mares at 70 sovs. each. 1909 *Ruff's Guide to Turf* IV. 145 List of principal stallions serving in 1909.

53. a. *Falconry.* To drive out game into the view of (the hawk). Said of the falconer or of the dog.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* II. (1880) 14 Of gentle Dogges seruing the hauke. 1891 HARTING *Bibl. Accipitr.* 229 *Serving a hawk*, helping to put out the quarry from covert. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 373/2 (Falconry) *Serve* (of the falconer), to put out the quarry from the cover for the falcon waiting overhead.

b. *Coursing.* (See quot. 1897.)

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 249 If there be no Cotes gyuen betwene a brase of Greyhounds, but the one of them serueth the other at turnyng. *a* 1600 in Markham *Country Contentm.* I. vii. (1615) 105 If one dogge turne the Hare, serue himselfe, and turne her againe, those two turnes shall be as much as a coate. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 210/1 (Coursing) When a dog turns his hare, and keeps his place for another turn, he serves himself; or, losing his place, serves his opponent.

54. Chiefly *Naut.* [Formerly often in form **sarve.**] **a.** To bind (a rope, rod, etc.) with small cord or the like, so as to protect or strengthen.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 25 To sarue any rope with plats or Sinnet, is..to lay Sinnet, Spun yarne, Rope yarne, or a peece of Canuas vpon the rope, and then rowle it fast to keepe the rope from galling. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 64 Ropes..served close..with Yarn. 1775 FALCK *Day's Diving Vessel* 54 The eyes, as well as the splice by which they were bent, were also served with inch rope. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 360 Two men can worm and serve seven fathoms of 3¾ inch rope in an hour. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 232 It [the copper conductor] is then served with a covering of tape which has been well soaked in Stockholm tar. 1895 'J. BICKERDYKE' *Sea Fishing* 60 For the simpler binding, intended merely to act as a protection.., we say we 'serve' the line rather than 'whip'.

b. To wrap (a rope, bandage) round an object.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 295 Parthenia laid his head in her lap, tearing of her linnen sleeues & partlet, to serue about his wounds. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Life Nelson* 43 Her hull had long been kept together by cables served round. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 625/3 Over which a tarred rope.. is 'served' or wrapped.

55. *Mil.* To operate, keep in play or action (a gun, battery, etc.).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Serve a Battery*..is to see that the Guns play well. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 344 A constant fire of a numerous and well serv'd artillery. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 611 The cannon,..though ill served, brought the engagement to a speedy close. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. i, The enemy's cannonade, which was very hot and well served. 1876 DOUBLEDAY *Forts Sumter & Moultrie* 163 An artillery-man, serving his gun.

b. *To serve the vent*: to close the vent of a muzzle-loading gun while it is being loaded.

1808 SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 175 Number..s, sponges; 3, loads; 4, serves the vent and primes.

VII. 56. *Comb.*: †**serve-image**, an idolater.

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 272/1 So art thou an Idolater, that is to say in Englishe, a serue Image.

☞ For *To serve one's* (*a*, *the*) *turn* (in various senses), see TURN *sb.*

Hence **Served** *ppl. a.* (chiefly with prefixed adverb).

1747 [see 55]. 1884 RUSKIN *Bible of Amiens* I. 1 At this halting-place in mid-journey there is a well-served buffet.

1907 WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* i, The well-chosen and perfectly served dinner.

†**Serve,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Also 3 sareve, 4–6 (chiefly *Sc.*) serf, *Sc.* serwe, 5 sarve. [App. aphetic a. OF. *deservir* DESERVE *v.* It may, however, be a use of SERVE *v.*[1], as the sense 'to gain by serving' may have been developed in the simple vb.; cf. It. *servire* to merit, deserve.]

1. *trans.* To earn or acquire a right to; to become, or to be, worthy of (reward or punishment, praise or blame); to merit; = DESERVE *v.* 1, 2.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1686 Oc serf me seuene oðer 3er, If ðu salt rachel seruen her. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15849 Forsoth i neuer serued it, in dede ne yetit in sau.. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 553 More haf we serued..þat suffred han þe dayez hete. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 573 þar-for, me think, I serwe no blame quhen I say: god luffis [etc.]. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1315 My lorde meruailles hym mekylle, ..Why thow morthires his mene, that no mysse serues. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (verse) 614 Vn-to hell we suld take hede, And were vs euer with al our mayn Fro filth of sin, þat sarues payn. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 104 For þe sauynge of hem þanke þou haste seruethe. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 298 Quhat blame serve we now..that brekis Goddis bidding. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. Prol. 78 Quhar I offend, the I s repreif serf I. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 195 It is tyme to seik your reward quhan ye haue serwed it. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 319 They give you less wite than you serve.

b. with *inf.* or *clause* as obj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9089 Sin i haf serued to haue þe scam, Gis me mi scrift, o godds name! *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 951 (Kölbing) Þei sche haue serued to be spilt, þe child þer of haþ no gilt. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4900, Y serued neuere he scholde so do! *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 26 In þis maner of curse þat men curse man iustli for his misdede, was Crist not cursid, for He seruid not to be cursid. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXV. 81 And how nane servis to haif sweitness That nevir taistit bitterness. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 335 Thow seruis weill on Rakkis to be rent.

2. *intr.* or *absol.* = DESERVE *v.* 3.

c 1275 LAY. 24154 And he þare eche cnihtes he 3ef alle hire rihtes, ech one he 3af heahte ase hii i-sareued [*c* 1205 iærned] hadde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 550 þat 3e me faith make, In dede for to do as I desyre wille, And my wille for to wirke, if I wele serue. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. (*Playsterers*) 8 To suffir sorowe on soghi, syne þai haue seruid so. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 866 As we haue serued, gif vs our mede. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 361 Sayand, curst knaif thow sall haif afflictioun As thow did serue, rise, and resaif thy bill. 1575 *Mirr. Mag., Manlius* xiv, We either are rewarded, as we serue; Or else are plaged, as our deedes deserue.

†**Serve,** *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *servāre*, or aphetic form of PRESERVE *v.*] *trans.* To preserve.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 513 And in this wise he serued his entente That saue the feend noon wiste what he mente. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xv. 207 Thenne wold I haue baumed hit [thy body] and serued hit and soo haue kepte it my lyfe dayes. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 304 Whiche gathered diligently thou shalt serve in a phyall of glas.

Serveable, variant of SERVABLE.

Serveiour, obs. form of SURVEYOR.

Serventism (sɜːˈvɛntiz'm). Also **serventeism.** [f. It. *servente* (in *cavaliere servente*: see CAVALIER *sb.* 5) + -ISM.] The system which countenances the devotion of a man to the service of a married woman; cicisbeism.

1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 151 The slavery of serventism. 1839 DARLEY *Introd. to Beaum. & Fl. Wks.* I. 29 Cicisbeism and serventeism were mentioned with no less complacency than if the dramatists themselves had been Italians. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 277 We may still see serventeism ludicrously caricatured among the middle classes, where a domestic sometimes has to dress for the evening, and attend his mistress as a companion to the theatre or the promenade. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 308/2 The cicisbeism or serventism of Italy and Spain.

Server (sɜːˈvəɹ). Forms 4–5 servere, 6 servar, 5– server. See also SERVIER. [f. SERVE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who serves or ministers to the requirements of another. Now *rare.* Also, † a servant.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 386 But Crist is among hem as a good servere. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 60 Lo! yonder is his server. 1554 *Dyer's Acc.* in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 186 Payd to ij servers of the cressets iiij d. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 1277, I, who then Was but a server of poor men Outside our Abbey walls.

b. An attendant at a meal, one who serves food and drink to those sitting at table.

? 1460 *Bk. Curtasye* 532 in *Babees Bk.*, þe seruer hit next of alle kyn men Mays way and stondes by syde. 1545 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 21 Payde to the servers of wyne on Easter day. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 67 The Napkin where-with hee seru'd as Seruer. ? 1784 *Scot. Piper's Queries* 18 For one article having eggs the server of the table, as usual, laid the cloth on every one's knee, wherewith to hold their egg in when hot. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Land E. of Sun* 3065 While the servers bore Unto the guests rich meats and drink.

†**c.** An artisan's assistant. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 382 Item, to Iohn Hege, his server, for iij. dayes iiij d. ob. 1514 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to ij tyllars & ij seruars ij days. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 140 The seruer bringing one thing when the builder called for another. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* S ij, This Server likewise carries away the Wash-Ore, to the Ore-Place, it being their Business.

d. With religious signification. Now *arch.*

[1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 282/1, I..am an image seruer & walke after myne own imagination & not after Gods word.] 1600 PALFREYMAN *Baldwin's Mor. Philos.* (ed. 4) 64 He cannot bee a true seruer of God, which serueth him not in the spirit of his minde, and in truth. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 446 Jupiter..made gods to be the curators of men, and he made men to be the worshippers and servers of those gods. 1900 *Pilot* 3 Nov. 551/1 The servers of icons..demonstrated that the doctrine of their opponents led to Judaism and Manichæism.

e. *Eccl.* An assistant at Mass who arranges the altar and makes the responses.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Cerem.* 292 Before leaving the sacristy with the Priest, the Server will light the candles on the Altar. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 145 Two servers in surplices kneel before the altar in silence. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 2/1 Working men generally act as servers at the early daily celebrations.

f. In various games: The player who serves or puts the ball in play.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 296 *Dator*,..a player or seruer: he that in playeng casteth the ball. 1868 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Bk.* 269 (Rackets) In a close-court game, the 'server' who serves the ball properly above the line [etc.]. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* III. I. v. § 4. 690 The server [at lawn-tennis] then has to return the ball again, and so on till one player fails. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 399/1 (Fives) The Server. A who begins serving, is bound to give C..the sort of service which he prefers.

g. *Anglo-Irish.* = PROCESS-*server.*

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xiv, To..harry a bum, Or 'clip a server' [*Footnote*, Cutting off the ears of a process-server].

2. Something which serves or is used for serving.

†**a.** A conduit or pipe for conveying water. *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 248 The Citizens likewise..deriued rilli·s and servers of waters into euery street.

b. = SALVER[2].

1686 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 208 One silver server or a patten with a foot to screw on and a leather case. 1727 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1900) 133 Pewter spoons, server, basone, and potinger. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, A little bit of diet-cake, on a small silver server of exquisite old workmanship. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xii. (1895) 87 He took them [letters] both in to her ladyship on the silver server. 1894 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xxv, My share o' the tea was brocht to me on a server.

c. *pl.* A spoon and fork for serving salad.

1884 *Cyclist* 13 Feb. 243/1 Salad bowls and servers.

Servery (sɜːˈvəɹi). [f. SERVE *v.*[1] + -ERY, after *pantry.*] A room from which meals, etc. are served.

1893 *Builder* 11 Feb. 112 Kitchen..Servery..Pantry. 1899 *Athenæum* 15 Apr. 450/3 Chambers to let, unfurnished... Three Rooms, Bath-room, and Servery.

Serves, obs. form of SERVICE *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Servet, obs. form of SHERBET, SERVIETTE.

Servetian (sɜːvɪˈʃən), *a.* (and *sb.*). *Eccl. Hist.* [f. *Servetus* + -IAN.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Michael Servetus (Miguel Servede), a Spanish heresiarch of semi-pantheistic opinions, who was burned at Geneva in 1553.

1655 J. OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Pref. 11 Every Heretical blasphemy,..whether it be Arian, Servetian, Eunomian [etc.].

B. *sb.* A follower of Servetus.

[1564 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* xv. 158 Anabaptistæ, Serretiani, Antinomi.] 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 35 *Servetians.* 1764 tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. xvi. II. iv. § 6 (1833) 531. 1874 *Blunt's Dict. Sects*, Servetians.

Hence **Servetianism,** the heresy of Servetus.

1655 J. OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Pref. 12 A man..wholy infected with Servetianisme.

Serveting. *Sc. Obs.* [f. *servet*, SERVIETTE + -ING[1].] Material for table-napkins.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 319 Linning cloth..Towelling and serveitting of Holland making the eln xxvi. s. viii. d. *Ibid.* 321 Servitting.

†**Servetist.** *Eccl. Hist. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -IST.] A follower of Servetus (see SERVETIAN).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Servi, obs. form of SERVE *v.*[1]

Serviable, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *serviable*, irreg. f. *servir* to SERVE; see -ABLE.]

1. Willing to serve, complaisant, obedient.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 979 (Camb. MS.) And sche þe moste seruyable of alle Hath euery chambre arayed and his halle. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6004 They..been, in good feith, more stable and trewer, and more serviable. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 472 Also chese your servantes of goode draught, That wol attente and be seruiable. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 88 The byssy knaipis..About thame stud, full 3aip and seruyabill. 1638 W. HAIG in Russell *Haigs* (1881) 219 Your loving and servyable friend.

2. Belonging to the servant class.

1612 *Acts & Stat. Lawting, Sheriff, & Justice Courts* (Maitl. Club 1840) 160 Act for Servandis.—Item Forsamekill as thair is monie serviable persones that mareyis and takis up housis nocht haveing whervpone to live [etc.].

Hence **Serviableness.**

1530 PALSGR. 269/2 Servyablenesse, *serviableté.*

Servial, -all, obs. forms of SERVILE.

Servian (sɜːˈviăn), *a.*[1] and *sb.* [f. *Servia* (properly *Serbia*: see SERB) + -AN.] **A.** *adj.* Of or belonging to Servia, a country of South-eastern Europe occupied by a Slavonic people.

The Slavonic kingdom of Servia was conquered by the Turks in 1389; the country remained a principality tributary to Turkey until 1878, when the kingdom was revived.

1808 C. STOWER *Printer's Gram.* Index, Servian alphabet. 1847 BOWRING *Servian Pop. Poetry* Introd. 38 'Fair as the mountain Vila,' is the highest compliment to a Servian lady. 1879 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. III. 273 Had the Servian Czar entered Constantinople in the fourteenth century.

B. *sb.* A native or an inhabitant of Servia.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 543 The language of the

Dalmatians, Bosnians, Servians [etc.]. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 328/1 A stronghold to the Servians in their wars with the Turks. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 402 Christian volunteers from Russia helping the belligerent Servian.

Servian (sē·rviăn), *a.*[2] *Roman Hist.* [a. L. *Serviānus*, f. *Servius*: see -AN.] Of or pertaining to Servius Tullius, the sixth king of Rome, who is said to have organized the plebs into thirty local 'tribes', and to have encircled the city with a wall, of which extensive remains still exist.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 201 The probability is in favour of five tribunes, so that one was taken from each of the five Servian classes. 1855 LIDDELL *Hist. Rome* I. i. iii. 56 A person who once belonged either to a Romulian Tribe of birth or a Servian Tribe of place, always remained a member of that Tribe. 1886 PELHAM in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 734/2 Only Etruscan builders..could have built..the Servian wall.

[**Serviant.** A spurious word, due to Berners' having misread the F. *serment* oath as *seruiant*.

In the first quot. Berners seems to have taken the word as an adj. (cf. SERVIENT *a.*).

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clii. 167 b, There all the companyons made them seruyaunt to Aleyne Roux. *Ibid.* II. clxxiii. 210 No man myght entre in to that..company, without he make seruyaunt or othe, neuer to beare armoure agaynste the crowne of Englande.]

Service[1] (sē·rvis). Forms: 1 serfise, 2–5 servise, 3 serviz, 3–4 serveis, 3–6 servyse, 3–7 servis, 4 servijs, servyss, *Sc.* serwise, 4–5 servese, servеys(e, 4–6 servyce, servys, 4–6 (8) serves, 5 cervyce, sarvyse, servysse, serwyse, 5–6 sarvys, 5–6 (8–9 *vulgar*) sarvice, 5–7 *Sc.* serwice, 6 sarves, servicie, *Sc.* schervice, scherwyce, servyiss, servyss, serwyce. 6–7 servies, 6–8 *dial.* sarvis, 7 cervis, 9 *Sc.* sairvice, 3– service. *Pl.* 7 service. [a. OF. *servise*, *service*, also *servige*, *serviche* (mod.F. *service*), ad. L. *servitium*, f. *servus* slave. Cf. Pr. *servizi*, *servis*, Sp. *servicio*, Pg. *serviço*, It. *servizio*, *servigio*.

The word in English, as also in the Romanic langs., has supplied the place of a noun of action to the cognate SERVE *v.*[1], and its sense-development appears to have been materially influenced by association with the verb.]

I. The condition of being a servant; the fact of serving a master.

1. The condition, station, or occupation of being a servant. (In mod. use almost exclusively *spec.* = *domestic service*.) **a.** In phrases with preps. † *at*, *in*, † *into*, † *on*, *out of service*; *to go to*, *put to*, *set to service*; *to go into*, *put into*, *take into service*; *to place out at service*.

1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 644 Icham comen to fand, For to win gold & fe, In seruise wiþ 3our king to be. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4400 He ordant angels after his deuyse, And set hom in seruice hym seluyn to honour. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 4 If a man haue an hired plowman in to serueys to dwel wiþ him. 1426 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 71 And I woll and pray 3ow þat Phelippe be kept on seruice stille. 1495 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 568 þat euery Maide & sole woman.. take a Chambre within an honest persone..or els to go to seruice. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Persons..that shall haue any office..or shalbe receyued in saruice with his grace. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 49 b, The sayde Barlo set me with a merchaunt of Middelboroughe too seruyce. *c* 1550 N. SMYTH tr. *Herodian* I. 10 The same beynge put to seruice in the Emperours house. 1557 *Order Hospitalls* F 5, Whether the same Childe be..in the Howse, or at Nurse; at Service, or els dead. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* II. ii. 76 Least my maister turne me out of seruice. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 286 Caliban Whom now I keepe in seruice. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. xvii. (1782) I. 104, I resolved to go to service, and hired myself to a great woollen-draper. 1772 — *Humph. Cl.* 29 May, They..swarm up to London, in hopes of getting into service. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* II. ii, I place her out at service. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vandeleur & S.* i. 12 All this is less than many a maid has that has been at service a shorter time. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vii, He had put two of his daughters into service. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of Worker* 176 Not even the fretting when the eldest girl In service far away forgot to write.

fig. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 26 But turning these lests out of seruice, let vs talke in good earnest.

b. In other constructions.

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) 1, Alle that ther wold seruyse haue, Knyȝte squiere, ȝoman and knaue. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxv. (1906) 86 The whiche Amon was Seneschall of the king,..and became riche by his seruice. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* an. 1527 (1883) 97 Gif ony freman of the said craft pass furth of the toun or his band of his service be worne furth. 1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. xi. (1890) II. 268 [She] determined therefore..to seeke seruice in that house, counterfaytinge the kynde and habite of a Page. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 124 (*Le Dimanche*), The sons and daughters of service part with liberty, but not with nature in their contracts. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. I. xi, Service in this country is, as it ought to be, voluntary, and by contract. 1870–4 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* lv. § 1 (1904) 137 Holy Scripture..speaks of sin as a service, the wages of which is death. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xxx, I wish you could have given up service by this time. 1886 HEREFORD *Lit. Rel. Eng. & Germany* 310 Grumshall..goes to take service with Bartervile, a well-reputed Naples merchant. 1892 KIPLING *Light that Failed* ix. (1900) 157 'When did you leave service?'..' How did you know I was in service?..I was. General servant.'

Proverb. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 841 Seruyse, I wot wel, is non heritage. 1632 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Undersheriff* 98 But service is no inheritance;..therefore..hee beginnes now in his summer, to store up against winter. 1709 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* Gen. Direct., Answer, that..a poor servant is not to be blamed if he strives to better himself; that service is no inheritance.

† **c.** Servitude, slavery. *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 935 Ón weies & women awrak hee his teene And solde them too seruise in sorowe too liue.

2. Const. *of* or possessive: The condition of being a servant of a particular master.

c 1290 *St. Cristofer* 39 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 272 Ich am a man opon mi seruiz [*Harl. MS.* in mie seruise] and noman serui i nelle Bote mi loued þat ich seche. *Ibid.* 59 Daþeit banne, Cristofre seide, þat leng beo in þine seruise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9485 Nu has him sathanas in wald,..Quils he es thralled in his seruis He ne mai be fre on nakins wis. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* v. 3 A lytill chyld woman caytife, that was in the seruyce [Vulg. *in obsequio*] of the wiyf of Naaman. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4594, I am so sore bounde him til, From his servyse I may not fleen. 1536 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 5 For my sake to accept this berer salisbury again into your seruice. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 156 To leaue a rich Iewes seruice. 1716 HAWKINS *Pleas Crown* I. 130 If a Parent in a reasonable Manner chastise his child, or a Master his Servant, being actually in his Service at the Time. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle*, That's the very housemaid..She went into Fanny's service when we were first married, and has been with us ever since. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, You will hardly fancy that I..knew anything of the concerns of the Company into whose service I entered as twentieth clerk. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 26, I do not ask thee to enter my service, or to receive wages.

b. In religious use: The condition or fact of being a servant (of God). Cf. 13. † *To end in God's service*: to die in the faith.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 28 þe selie godes spuses, þe..in his anes seruise hare lif leadeð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2277 Constance is eldoste sone in godes seruice Monek he made at winchestre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5482 Siþen him deid ioseph, þat wis, And endid in our lauerd seruis. *c* 1325 *Prov. Hendyng* 11 in Böddeker *Alteng. Dicht.* (1878) 288 Leue vs alle to ben wys, Ant to ende in his seruys. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. [x.] 79 O þe acceptable & þe iocunde seruice of god. 1549 *Bk. Comm. Prayer, Morn. Prayer*, 2nd Collect, O God..whose seruice is perfect fredome.

† **c.** The condition of being the 'servant' (of Love, of one's lady). *Obs.* (Cf. 10.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 189 For this day in hir seruise shal I dye. *c* 1386 — *Squire's T.* 272 He moste han knowen loue and his seruyse. *a* 1450 MYRC 57 Wymmones serues thow moste forsake. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 8 This wes hir sentens sueit and delectable, A lusty lyfe in luves scheruice bene. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 276 And Longauill was for my seruice borne. 16.. MURE *Sonn. to Marg.* ii. 12 Gif I be thyne, no greiff can death impairt Sall mak me seime thy service to deny.

† **d.** A particular ministerial office or charge.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3754 He [*sc.* Korah and his company] seiden he weren wurði bet to ðat seruise to ben set. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 247 þe sixte servise takeþ he þat is above in bysynesse..In þe seuenþe servyse is he þat haþ mercy in gladnes. 1382 — 2 *Cor.* v. 18 God..3af to vs the mynisterie, or seruyse, of reconcilinge.

3. † **a.** A situation or place as servant (*obs.*). **b.** A particular employ; the serving of a certain master or household.

1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 387 Whedyr that they shall sek hem newe servysys or not. 1505 in *Extracts Burgh. Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 107 Ony maner of vagabounds, young fallowis or young husis, haffand na prettik nor seruice to life vpon. 1564 *Child-Marr.* 126 John Jackson came to this deponent, and willed to have a Service for a maide. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 165, I cannot get a seruice, no, I haue nere a tongue in my head. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 85 And take the Weeds and likenes of a Swain, That to the service of this house belongs. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 248 And doubtless for so small abuse, a young man may his Service lose. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 181 The children..were put into the world in services. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 53 Her mother, who is now reduced to wish a service [as French governess] in a foreign land. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vi, It seems to me..that you might have found a service where they eat less, and are more orthodox in their worship. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xx, 'It will be hard' they say 'to find Another service such as this'.

4. The condition or employment of a public servant (of a sovereign or state). *In the British, French*, etc. *service*: (chiefly of a soldier or sailor).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2418 & hii ssolle be such þat no prince ne dorre hom vorsake Ac vor hor prowesse gladliche in to hor seruise hom take. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 704 & wiþ him felawes tventi,..þat wiþ þerl Rohaud hadde ben long, In his seruise armes to vnder-fong. 1396–7 *XII Concl. Lollardes* vi. in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 299 A kyng and a bisschop al in o persone,..a curat and an officer in worldly seruise, makin euery reme out of god reule. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, He being in seruice of his most Christian Maiesty. *a* 1763 W. KING *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 55 My Lord Taaffe of Ireland, a general officer in the Austrian service. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 95 Charles Fox has made his motion for the removal of Lord Sandwich from his Majesty's service and counsels. 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Jan., I have borne the commission of lieutenant in the service of King George. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 504 That the three English regiments in the Dutch service might be sent to the Thames. 1857 CONSTANTINE *Mar. Englin.* vi. 51 Blasco de Garay, an officer in the Spanish naval service.

† **b.** *Horse of service*, a war-horse or charger.

1577–86 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 20/1 in *Holinshed*, Of the horsse of seruice they make great store. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxiii. 155 b, Those whiche..might maintaine a horse of seruice, were..called knights. 1606 *Chaloner, Chance*, etc. (1881) 48 To see a horse of seruice drawe in a doung-carte. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 116 That the said Robert ought to come armed upon his Horse of service, with twenty men at Armes [etc.].

c. *To take service*: to enlist under a military commander, join a fighting force.

1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxvii, Recollect, that, whatever general you take service under, you will follow him. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 78 He..had gone to Spain to take service against the Moors.

5. A branch of public employment, or a body of public servants, concerned with some particular kind of work or the supply of some particular need, as in *the consular service*, *the customs service*, *the diplomatic service*, *the excise service*, *the* CIVIL SERVICE.

1685 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 176 Fearing Agent Beard and Councill at Hugly might be soe displeased with him for shewing any kindness to me, as to turne him out of y^e^ Service. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 153 Thomas Pearson, Esq.; of the East India Company's Service. 1801 SURR *Splendid Misery* II. 194 A Neapolitan pirate originally, but who took to the land service afterwards. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* x, Francis Kennedy, of his majesty's excise service. 1835 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will. IV*, c. 19 § 45 To prevent any Seaman..from entering or being received into the Naval Service of His Majesty. 1860 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xxiii, The commanding officer of the impress service. 1901 SKRINE *Sir W. Hunter* 308 With a small Service which has a few splendid prizes and many blanks, it is inevitable that [etc.].

b. *The service*: the Army or Navy (according to the implication in the context) considered as a sphere of duty or occupation, or as a profession. So *the* (*United*) *Services*, the Army and Navy.

For *the senior service* (the Navy), see SENIOR *a.* 2.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* IV. i, Sir, I wou'd qualifie my self for the Service. 1714 *Spect.* No. 566 P 3 A Man has scarce the Face to make his Court to a Lady, without some Credentials from the Service to recommend him. 1777 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 208 No domestic reasons can be strong enough to justify a man in quitting the service at the opening of a campaign. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxviii, I wish Mr. Harrison would stay on shore with his wife altogether,—it's really trifling with the service. 1842 BURN *Naw. & Mil. Techn. Fr. Dict.* Pref. (1852), My brother officers, or those of the Sister Service. 1845 STOCQUELER *Brit. India* (1854) 381 The merchants and others not connected with 'the services' could only be admitted by ballot. 1862 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 362 Every morning there is a small row of the United Services standing just abaft of the mainmast. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 185/1 The Service is going to the dogs.

II. The work or duty of a servant; the action of serving a master.

6. Performance of the duties of a servant; attendance of servants; work done in obedience to and for the benefit of a master. *To do*, † *bear* (one) *service*, to serve, attend on (a master); now *rare* exc. *poet.*

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 33 ȝewerȝed bie ðe man..þe want his herte..more to mannes seruise ðanne te godes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28283 Ouer slaw i was for þam to ris, Reckeles to do þam þair seruise. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3138 Threo hundrod to-fore him stode, Flombardynges, knyghtis gode,..Redy to the kyngis servys. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 210 Seruaunts for heore seruise..Takeþ Meede of heore Maystres. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 145 Thre ther were That most service unto him here. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxiv. 251 Bothe I and these fyue honderd knyghtes shal alweyes be at your somons to doo you seruyse. 1586 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 32 Margerie Heselden for tene wykes servies iij^s^ vj^d^. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 1 Wine, Wine, Wine: What seruice is heere? I thinke our Fellowes are asleepe. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 247 Remember I haue done thee worthy seruice. 1822 *S. Carolina Stat.* (1840) VII. 462 In case any male slave or slaves be so permitted..to hire out their own time, labor or service. 1845 S. FOX *Monks & Monast.* xiii. 147 He [the porter] was allowed the service of a boy. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 405 Then tending her rough lord,..In silence, did him service as a squire. 1878 MANN *Dom. Econ.* 351 When there is a parlour-maid in the establishment her share of the service is the parlour and pantry work, and waiting at table.

fig. (of things). 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6389 What nede war þat þa creatures þan Shewed swilk servyse mare for man. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* vi. 46 The starres didest thou sett in ordre, and gauest them a charge, to do seruyce euen vnto man [Vulg. *ut deservirent homini*].

b. An act of serving; a duty or piece of work done for a master or superior.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15333 [Christ washing the disciples' feet.] þe seruis al i yow ha don. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 156 Thus scholde every worthi king Take of his knihtes knowleching, Whan that he syh thei hadden nede, For every service axeth mede. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lvii. 4, I haue no precious time at al to spend, Nor seruices to doe til you require. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 35 Thou, and thy meaner fellowes, your last seruice Did worthily performe.

† **c.** *The flesh's service*, sexual intercourse. Also *the service of Venus*. *Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 196 ȝef þer ne mey nobere kendelyche Do þe flesches seruyse. *Ibid.* 1975 And þaȝ þat seruyse be foul, ȝet hyt hys tokne of gode. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. iii. (1495) 605 The swete almonde..kyndlyth the seruyce of Venus [orig. *venerem accendit*].

† **7.** The use of the sb. (in sense 6) as obj. to verbs of ambiguous meaning like *pay*, *yield*, led to the development of the sense: Reward for service, wages, payment. (Cf. SERVE *v.*[2]) *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 900 King þe wise, ȝeld me mi seruise. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28397 Myn hird-men and als oþer man Haf i þaire seruis halden fra.. 13.. *Ibid.* 12390 (Gött.) Trein beddes was he wont to make, And þar-for his seruis to take. *c* 1325 *Song of Mercy* 108 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 121 But ȝe þat hated cristendame..ȝour seruise schal be endeles schame.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 846 in *Macro Plays* 102 Pay not þi serwauntys here serwyse! *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 178 She.. delyuered hym his seruyse & he out of cowrte wendes. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 17 Thay that wil noth help thair nichtburs in thair necessite and wil notht len to thayme in thair mister without okker mony or seruice or raward.

8. In feudal use. †**a.** Feudal allegiance, fealty; profession of allegiance, homage. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3865 Þe king wende þo to parys..& alle þe heye men of the lond þuder come ywis. Hor omage of hom & hor seruise he nom. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 259 But he [the king of France], that wiste nothing why He scholde do so gret servise After the world in such a wise, Withstod the wrong of that demande. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 918 Þis freke all his franche of Ph[ilip] he haldis, And was a suget to himself & serues him a3t. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 325 And I shall holde you quyte of all the servyse that ye owe me & your eyres also, for evermore. 1538 Starkey *England* 55 Gyuyng..to theyr pryncys and lordys al humbul seruyce and meke obedyence. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. i. 23 Vpon your oath of seruice to the Pope. *Ibid.* 34 Your Nobles will not heare you, but are gone To offer seruice to your enemy.

fig. 1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 425 O noble Chaucer.. bounde ar we with all deu reuerence..To owe to yow our seruyce.

b. A duty (whether a payment in money or kind, a definite amount of forced labour, or some act useful or complimentary) which a tenant is bound to render periodically to his lord. Cf. *Knight-service* 1.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 290 Þe barons..said, þei suld not so, Suilk a new seruise to reise ne to do. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Whs.* (1880) 26 Vpon þis seruyces þei han þes heize statis & lordischipis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7984 Þe monkes possessioun made he Fra all seruice and customes fre. 1491 *Act* 7 *Hen. VII* c. 19 Kyng Edward the fourthe ..graunted the Lordshippe..to Grisekd..to have and hold to hir and to hir heires..by the service of a redde rose yerely. 1549 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 434 Payand heir for 3eirlie..ten penneis for bundage arrage or carrage and vthir dew seruice vsit and wont. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 129 Divers services reserved on the Land he gave his Subjects. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 11 Apr. 1689, When the King and Queen had din'd, the ceremonie of the Champion, and other services by tenure were perform'd. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 404 Landlords would soon find their advantage in converting all these services into a fixed rent. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 611 The Duke of Bridgwater..granted the said premises to the said W. Murhall.. freed and enfranchised from all services. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* I. v. 13 The peasants groan..Weighed down by tolls, by services and dues, Which to their mighty lords they ever owe.

c. *To hold in service* [tr. AF. *tenir en service* (Britton), law Latin *tenere in servitio*]: To hold (land) not in one's own occupation ('in demesne') but in that of a sub-tenant. See Demesne 1.

†**d.** A feudal holding. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 69 In al þe seruyse of Slouþe I sese hem to-gedere.

9. *transf.* In complimentary expressions: Respect, 'duty'. *My service to you*: a phrase accompanying the drinking to a person. In epistolary use, *Give my service to* = remember me respectfully to (a third person). *To pay, present one's service (to)*, to pay a call of ceremony. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 106 My dutie Madam, and most humble seruice! 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 3 Fellow, commend my seruice to her beauty. 1625 Massinger *New Way* I. ii, He will in person first present his seruice. 1646 Endecott in Hutchinson *Collect. Papers Massachusetts Bay* (1769) 158 [P. S.] My wife desires to have her service remembred to Mrs. Winthrop. 1679 Lady R. Russell *Lett.* I. i. 9 My kindest service to all the dear young ones. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* I. i. 4 It lies convenient for us to pay our Afternoon Service to our Mistresses. 1721 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 Apr., Give my hearty service to Stoyte and Catherine. *c* 1751 Chatham *Lett. Nephew* i. (1805) 3 Pray shew him this letter, with my service to him. 1773 Goldsm. *She Stoops* II, Sir, my service to you. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxi, Call..and give my service to him. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiv, 'My service to you, Mr. Morton', he said, filling one horn of ale for himself, and handing another to his prisoner.

†**b.** *pl.* in the same sense. *Obs.*

1603 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 29 My seruices to your Lordship. 1614 J. Donne in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 345 My errand ys onely to deliver my thanks and services..to yo^r selfe, and all y^r good company. 1723 Atterbury *Let. to Pope* 10 Apr., Give my faithful services to Dr. Arbuthnot, and thanks for what he sent me.

c. *At* (a person's) *service*: ready to obey his commands. (Cf. sense 25.) †*At your service*: used *ellipt.* as a phrase of politeness. Also †*Yours to do you service.*

1554 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 315 Youres to do yow service, as I am most bounden, ducring lief Fruncis Yaxley. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. v. 318 What hoa, Maluolio. *Mal.* Heere Madam, at your seruice. 1600 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* I. xxiv. N 3, *At your seruice*, hath beene so connersant, as one asking, what's a Clock? 1722 Addison *Spect.* No. 269 P 5 The Knight told me..his Chaplain was very well, and much at my Service. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 13 July (1815) 230 My name is Matthew Bramble, at your service. 1908 R. Bagot *Passport* xxxv. 408 'Ask me anything', Silvio replied. 'I am entirely at your service'.

10. The devotion or suit of a lover; professed love. *arch.* (Cf. 2 c.)

c 1374 Chaucer *Compl. Mars* 167, I yaf my trewe seruise and my thoght For evermore..To hir. *Ibid.* 183 What wonder is then, thogh that I besette My seruise on suche oon. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xliv. 34 All wemen of wsuld haif honoring, Serwice and luve, aboif all vthir thing. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. x. 38 So well he wood her, and so well he wrought her, With humble seruice, and with daily sute. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 95 *Phe.* Good shepheard, tell this youth what 'tis to loue... *Sil.* It is to be all made of faith and seruice. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. vi. 140 Let me my seruice tender on your lippes. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 119 Yourself, Now weary of my service and devoir.

11. The serving the sovereign or the state in an official capacity; the duties or work of public servants. *On His* (or *Her*) *Majesty's Service*: a formula (often abbreviated O.H.M.S.) printed on the cover of a letter to indicate that it is official (and therefore exempt from postage). *Secret service*: see Secret *a.* 4 c.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 30 Yat no man schal ben excusyd of absence at yat messe, but it be for ye kynges seruise. 1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 497 One that dyd good and trewe sarvys to owre soveren lord the kyng. 1568 in H. Campbell *Love Lett. Mary Q. Scot.* (1824) App. 27 You, tarrying behynd, wold furder us in this her Majesties sarvys. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 15 The Lords..because they so judged it best for her Majesties service, sent over Sir John Norreys. 1709 Swift *Project Adv. Relig.* Misc. (1711) 226 Men of great Abilities would then endeavour to excel in the Duties of a religious Life, in order to qualify themselves for publick Service. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Hist. Life* (1714) 12, [I] seldom went afterwards, upon those publick Services, without a loaded Pistol in my Pocket. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxvii, 'And I,' said his father, 'have no wish to detain him on the service in which he is now employed'. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v, All Public Service lies slack and waste. 1874 Whyte Melville *Uncle John* xiv. II. 89 Three letters ..marked 'On Her Majesty's Service'.

12. The duty of a soldier or sailor; the performance of this duty. Often, actual participation in warfare; more fully *active service.*

Piece (or †*parcel*) *of service*: a military achievement or exploit. (In Shaks. used *ironically.*)

1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* 6 Our trained Low Countrie Captaines..some of them more hungrie after charge, spoyle and gaine, than skilfull to do anie great seruice. 1590 Barwick *Disc. Weapons* 7 And so dooth the matter fall out, if a parcell of seruice should be doon, where 500. [men] should be imployed therunto. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 155 And such a peece of seruice will you do, If [etc.]. 1599 — *Hen. V*, III. ii. 49. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 48 He hath done good seruice Lady in these wars. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* I. i. B 2 b, Pray you shew vs The difference betweene the city valour And service in the field. 1702 *Propos. Effectual War in Amer.* 9 When they [*sc.* the Companies] form a Battalion or go upon Service, the Eldest or Senior Officer should command. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 248 When I was a soldier we were on service together. 1829 W. Irving *Granada* lxvii. II. 160 It was evident, from the warlike character of El Zagal, that there would be abundance of active service and hard fighting. 1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* i. 10 Then I volunteered for service in Mexico, and fought my way to..a captaincy.

b. A military or naval operation in which a soldier or a regiment serves (often *pl.*); an expedition or engagement.

1590 Barwick *Disc. Weapons* 7 The Countie of Creance had in the seruice against Charles the 5. the charge of 600. footmen. *c* 1594 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 4 Who made us this answear..that they came from the service of Brest, and withall delivered the truth of that honorable, allthough blooddy, service theare accomplished by our Englishmen. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 1. 41 b, Alexander..when hee receiued Letters out of Greece, of some fights and seruices there. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 135 Then the King's forces entered the town after a very warm service, the chief officers and many soldiers of the other side being killed. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xxxii, The captain..swore he would confine Macksbane as soon as the service should be over. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 13 The late service..affords very little matter of improvement in the art of reducing or defending strong places. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* II. 55 Nothing could be more harassing than that service. Driven from one stockade, they entrenched themselves behind another. 1844 *Asiatic Jrnl.* Ser. III. III. 407 The loss of the European Regiment during the foregoing services is stated as having been very severe.

†**c.** A manner of serving in warfare (e.g. mounted or on foot, with some specified weapon); a branch of the service (= Arm *sb.*[2] 9). *Obs.*

1610 Rich *Descr. Irel.* 37 The Galloglas succeedeth the Horsman..: his service in the field, is neither good against horsmen, nor able to endure an encounter of pikes. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* vii. 84 His force consisting only of Foot, and the Galles entirely of Horse, a Service at which they are very expert.

d. To see service. Of a soldier: To have experience of warfare. Hence (in perfect tense) of a thing, to have been much used or worn.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. ii. 14 Our Gentlemen that meane to see The Tuscan service. 1612 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 71 If this bee a horsemans Coate, it hath seene very hot service. 1778 T. Townshend in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 304 He has an ardent desire to see service. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxiv, There, take it—it has seen service, though it could do little in defending the castle. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* III, My face has seen service, but there is still a good set of teeth [etc.]. 1838 Mill *A. de Vigny* Diss. & Disc. (1859) I. 298 Fourteen years a soldier without seeing any service. 1891 A. H. Crauford *Gen. Craufurd* 74 Many soldiers who had seen a good deal of active service.

†**e.** *Man of service*: a veteran soldier. *Obs.*

1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* 6 b, Besides that, by the imployment of such a number of trained Captaines, the regiment..should bee the more full of men of seruice and skill. 1845 Carlyle *Schiller* III. 202 That rude tumultuous host which Wallenstein presided over...In this ludicrous doggrel..these men of service paint their hopes and doings.

f. *pl.* (See quot.)

1802 C. James *Milit. Dict., Services*, pecuniary disbursements, or payments which are made for military purposes.

III. In religious uses. (See also 2 b.)

13. The serving (God) by obedience, piety, and good works. Phrase, †*to do God's service.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 155 Dauid..deþ us to understonden on hwiche wise þe halie Men hersumden ure drihten ine þisse liue, and hwiche mede heo sculen habben for hore feire seruise. *c* 1275 *Duty of Christians* 35 in *O. E. Misc.* 142 If we ..luuyeþ vie dryhte And doþ his seruyse myd al vre myhte. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 22 He..lufid vs in his goednes, noght for oure seruys. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 6 Þei don not goddis seruyce in hem selfe but drawen oþere men þerfro. 1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* iv. Wks. (1876) 343 He weneth that in so doyng he pleaseth god & dothe a specyall seruyce vnto god. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 39 Quharin standis the trew and principal service quhilk we aucht to God. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Almsdeeds* III. 180 Wyll he see vs lacke necessaries when we do hym true seruice? 1614 *Life & Death Geninges* 91 A Virgin who had wholy dedicated her selfe to the seruice of God. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* General Thanksgiving By giving up ourselves to thy service. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 529 Our voluntarie service he requires. 1846 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* II. III. i. xv. § 12 There will come a time when the service of God shall be the beholding of him.

14. Worship; esp. public worship according to form and order. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in *divine service.* †Formerly often, *God's service, public service, common service.*

c 1205 Lay. 8071 Þe king bi-gon seruise on ælches cunnes wise æfter þan heðene laȝen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28251 In kyrk i wroght oft syth vn-ro Quen goddis seruis was to do. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* 4 (Prol.) Þis boke of all haly writ is mast oysed in halykyrke seruys. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 3455 When þe lyst slepe and wil noght ryse, And comes overlate tyl Goddes servise. *c* 1386 Chaucer *2nd Nun's T.* 553 Hir hous the chirche of seinte Cecilie highte..In which, in to this day, in noble wyse Men doon to Crist and to his seinte seruyse. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1146/2 Toward this purpose, are expressely praied many deuout orasons in the comon seruice of our mother holy church. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xi. § 1 Solemne duties of publique seruice to be done vnto God must haue their places set and prepared. *Ibid.* v. xxix. § 1 The attyre which the Minister of God is by order to vse at times of diuine seruice. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xxi, A drear and dying sound Affrights the Flamins at their service quaint. 1749 *Minutes Method. Conf.* (1812) 41 Exhort those, who were brought up in the Church, constantly to attend its service.

15. A celebration of public worship.

Often without the article, where a particular occasion is indicated by the context.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 315 On other thing his look som-tyme he caste, And eft on hir, whyl that servyse laste. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 144 When serves was done, he went vnto þe bysshopp & shrafe hym. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. iii–v. 41 So vpon newe yeresday whan the seruyce was done, the barons rode vnto the feld. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 110 b, The houre of seruice being come, the Maizins beginne to cry vppon the towres. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxviii. § 3 So that, according to this forme of theirs, it must stand for a rule, No Sermon, no seruice. 1599 Dallam in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 23 Sarvis beinge ended, we Departed out of the chapell. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* H 4, Then the Parish is like to haue no seruice to day. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 181 The service past, around the pious man, With steady zeal, each honest rustic ran. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* viii. 121, I looked into the church, where service was going on. 1882 Mozley *Remin.* (ed. 2) I. 55 He preached once at St. Mary's, and occasionally assisted in services.

16. A ritual or series of words and ceremonies prescribed for public worship, or for some particular occasion or ministration. Often with defining word, as *baptismal, burial, communion, marriage service* (none of these are so entitled in the Prayer-book). †*Altar-service*, the Communion. †*Book of service* = *service-book* (see 38).

Phrases, *To read, say, sing service.*

†*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1070 (Parker MS.) Þa gewraðede hine se arcebiscop Landfranc & bebead þam biscopan ðe þar cumene wæran..þa serfise to donde & eallan þan munecan þæt hi scoldan hi unscrydan. *c* 1305 *O.xf. Student* 63 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 42 Þo come þe maistres..þe seruise for to do. And þo hit was to ende ibrouȝt and þe bodi ibured [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5059 Whan þe seruise was seid as it schold bene, þat fel to a mariage be-maked at cherche. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Kut.'s T.* 2054 To do the office of funeral seruyse. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 227 And vp-on sonedays..godes seruyce to huyre, Boþe matyns and messe. 1396–7 *XII Concl. Lollards* iv. in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 297 Þe seruise of Corpus Christi imad be frere Thomas. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2355 Sir Ywayn to the Kyrk yede, Or he did any other dede; He herd the servise of the day. 1418 *E. E. Wills* 31 To fynde Twey honestes prestes to singe goddys seruice for my soule..be vij 3ere next folwyng after my desese. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 454/1 Servyce, don for dede menn and women, *exequie*. *c* 1450 *Brut* 425 The Archebisshop of Caunturburi..and othir Engelisshe Bisshoppis..diden this solempne seruyce there, and weddid hem togederis. 1543 in Rymer *Foedera* XIV. 766 Thies Bookes of Divine Service, that is to sey, the Masse Booke, the Graill, the Antyphoner, the Himpnall (*sic*), the Portans, and the Prymer, bothe in Latyn and in Englyshe of Sarum use. 1548–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 388 Paide for ij bookes of y^e new service, vijs. vjd. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 84 A mass booke portas wythe all other bookes of seruys. *c* 1585 [R. Browne] *Answ. Cartwright* 49 The dumbe ministers may be heard reading service. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. i. 259 We should prophane the service of the dead, To sing sage Requiem, and such rest to her As to peace-parted Soules. 1635 Bernetton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 72 Here is only a curate maintained to say service. 1721 A. Campbell *Doctr. Middle State* Pref. 7 Upon this bottom

also were the Ten Commandments introduced into the Altar Service, for the first time. 1726–1857 [see BURIAL 5]. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. i. 14 The service of their church was performed in the Latin tongue. *Ibid.* I. ii. 90 This washing of feet formed part of the public service of the day. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 159 A baptismal service in which the sign of the cross might be used or omitted at discretion. 1883 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* xxvi. 317 A service consisting of the chanting of prayers and the blowing of trumpets is gone through.

† b. *spec.* The daily office or hours of the breviary (= OFFICE *sb.* 6 a); more fully *divine service. Our Lady service*, the Little Office of the Virgin Mary. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Iðe ereste dole of ower boc, of ower seruise. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 122 Ful weel she soong the seruice dyvyne, Entuned in hir nose ful semeely. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxix. (1495) 364 In fastyng tyme we reherse ofte the lj psalme in the seruyse of the daye. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 166 Sho sufferd all þis becauce þe space of v wekis sho nowder hard dyvyne serves nor mes. *Ibid.* 250 A yong monk þat was passand devowte in saying of our Ladie serves & hur howres. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11 How and why goddes seruyce is sayde, eche daye in vii. howres. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2548 Or that her systers came to the oratory To say dyuyne seruyce. 1516 Bp. FOX *Rule of seynt Benet* F j, The xlvii. chapiter treateth of thappoyntment of the houre of diuine seruice. 1547 *Injunctions given by Edw. VI* xxiv. c j b, People neuerthelesse perswadyng themselfes, sufficiently to honor God on that daie, if thei heare Masse & seruice. 1549 *Bk. Comm. Prayer* Pref., The common prayers in the Churche, commonlye called diuine seruice. 1583 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* (1880) VI. 714 He was made prest and beneficed in Queen Mary's time. He saith service with me daily.

† c. *Common service*, the 'Common Prayer' of the Prayer-book. *Obs.*

1561 Bp. PARKHURST *Injunctions* A iv, Whether the parsons, vicare, curate or reader doth reade the common seruice with a lowde, distinct and treatable voyce. 1565 *Aduertisments* 25 Jan. A iii, The booke of Common seruice.

† d. *To give* (*one*) *service*: to have the service of the church performed over a dead man. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xviii. 716 And on the morne he gaf hym seruyse and putte hym in the erthe afore the hyghe Aulter.

† e. Used *transf.* of the singing of birds. *Obs.*

† *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 669 By note made fair serwyse These briddes..; They songe hir song as faire and wel As angels doon espirituel. *c* 1369 — *Dethe Blaunche* 302 [The birds] songen, euerich in his wyse, The moste solempne seruyse By note, that euer man, I trowe, Had herd.

17. A musical setting of those portions of the church-offices which are sung; esp. the music for the canticles at Morning and Evening Prayer.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 815 Joh. Tomkins .. a composer of certain Church Services and Anthems. 1782 MASON *Collect. Anthems, Ess. Cathedr. Mus.* p. xix, The Service which Thomas Tallis composed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. *Ibid.* p. xlii, Those Hymns which Church Musicians call by the technical term of Services, by which they mean the *Te Deum, Magnificat*, &c. 1789 *J. Lewis' Mem. Dk. Glocester* 83 *note*, A very ingenious service of his, formerly performed at the King's Chapel. 1883 STAINER in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 471 A Service may be defined as a collection of musical settings of the canticles and other portions of the liturgy which are by usage allowed to be set to free composition.

18. A SERVICE-BOOK. Now only, a volume containing the Book of Common Prayer together with the daily lessons; = CHURCH-SERVICE 3.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Aug. 1654, A vast old song book or service. 1860 SALA *Lady Chesterfield* v. 76 Young lasses ..with big velvet and gold-clasped Services in their hands.

IV. Help, benefit, advantage, use.

19. The action of serving, helping, or benefiting; conduct tending to the welfare or advantage of another. Chiefly in *to do, render service* (cf. 6).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castenheda's Conq. E. Ind.* ii. 4 b, A man experimented in matters of the Sea, and of Nauigation, wherein he had done to this kingdome great service. 1601 HAKLUYT *Galvano's Discov. World* 30 Christopher Columbus..who first had offered his seruice for a western discouerie vnto king Iohn of Portugall. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 15. 31 We see..what notable seruice and reparation they [the Jesuits] haue done to the Romane Sea. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* viii. (1687) 39, I intend to do you service by revealing to you my very heart. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 Professions of friendship and regard will lead to expectations of service that cannot be answered. 1853 W. F. AINSWORTH *W. B. Barker's Lares & Penates* Introd. Pref. 3 During the campaign of the French in Syria he also rendered good service to our old ally the Porte. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 4 Oct. 5/2 The Howard Association is doing good service by its persistent watchfulness in all matters relating to the treatment of crime.

b. An act of helping or benefiting; an instance of beneficial or friendly action; a useful office.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lvi. 189 The grete seruyce that he hathe done to me shall be euen ryght well rewarded. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 181, I pre'thee (Lucio) doe me this kinde seruice. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept. 1667, If they esteem'd it a service to the University (of which I had been a member). 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Pompey* (Rldg.) 434/1 In the Mithridatic war they [the Pirates] assumed new confidence and courage, on account of some services they had rendered the king. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iii. 406 He..mentioned two services by which the co-operation of that Prince might be ensured. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 567 While Mary lived, it might well be doubted whether the murder of her husband would really be a service to the Jacobite cause. 1862 MAURICE *Mod. Philos.* 604 In so far as Bentham brought these contradictions before the face of those who were committing them we conceive he was doing a service.

c. *collect. pl.* Friendly or professional assistance.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* iii. 40 Seeing that greater strength of finger was what they wanted, he offered his services. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, I think we shall be able to help each other,..and shall have no need of Mr. Bowls's kind services. 1887 GUNTER *Mr. Barnes* xxiv. 192 Edwin said..that he would hand me over to you as his fee for your medical services.

† **20.** With *of* or possessive: A person's interest or advantage. *Obs.*

14.. *26 Pol. Poems* v. 44 Loke how goddis lawe ȝe vse; Whom ȝe refuse, and whiche auaunce, ffor goddis loue, or ȝoure owen seruyce. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 227 The Queen of Bohemia, whose service they desired to advance. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 26 He hath been sedulous in promoving the service and contentment of your house. 1713 JOHNSON *Guardian* No. 1 ¶ 5, I shall find enough to do to give Orders proper for their Service, to whom I am by Will of their Parents Guardian. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 266 If we have..a reasonable prospect of promoting her service in the long run.

21. Assistance or benefit afforded by an animal or thing (or by a person as involuntary agent); the work which an animal or thing is made to do. Phr. *to do service.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1310 Thai..brak the bait, quhen thai war landyt thair; Serwice off it Sotheroun mycht haiff no mayr. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 The churle hempe..is nat so good as the female hempe, but yet it wyll do good seruice. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 218 Ile haue the cudgell hallow'd, and hung ore the Altar, it hath done meritorious seruice. 1604 N. F. *Fruiterers Secrets* 10 If they bee gathered afore, they will shrinke, wither, and eate tough, and doe no seruice. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instr.* I. i. (1766) I. 13 He..has given them to you for Food and Service. Don't you see that we eat them, ride upon them, and the like. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. vi. ¶ 2 (1782) I. 36, I bore their discourse with patience, because to fret myself would have done me no service. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* i, He certainly would not..have suffered the coachman to proceed while the horse was unfit for service. 1882 FROUDE in *Longman's Mag.* I. 205, I passed the rod to X——, in whose hands it did better service. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* XXXV. (ed. 3) 311 Excursionists..press into service every vehicle which can carry them away from town.

b. Of the limbs: Function, office.

1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* II. i. (1782) I. 117 Though his hand shook, it did not refuse its service, but went and came with great expedition. *Ibid.* x. x. IV. 73 After having walked about two hours, my little legs began to refuse their service.

† **22.** The purpose or use to which a thing is put.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 50 They know not what seruice to put their waxe vnto. 16.. SPELMAN (J.), All the vessels of the king's house are not for use of honour, some be common stuff, and for mean services, yet profitable. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 129 The Neptune..would be..a store-vessel for the service of rebuilding the Lighthouse. 1805 SKENE *Let.* in Lockhart *Scott* (1896) 130 A new kitchen range (as..the grate for that service is technically called).

† b. *To stand* (a person) *in no service*: to be of no use to. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 12 b, He refused yᵉ gift whiche should stand hym in no service [orig. *munus inutile*].

23. Supply of the needs *of* (persons, occas. of things).

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* ciii. 15 Þou art bryngand forþe hay to meres and grasse to seruice of men [Vulg. *et herbam servituti hominum*]. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. [x.] 78 Hevene & erþe, þat þou hast made unto mannes seruice [L. *in ministerium hominis*]. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, A great fountain for the common seruice of the house. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 214 The baths of Antoninus Caracalla, which were open, at stated hours, for the indiscriminate service of the senators and the people. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* v, On the south shore they have built a pier for the service of the Ferry.

24. Serviceableness, utility. Now *rare.*

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* (1692) Pref., It may be objected by some, that much of the Service of it is over. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 103 The usefulness and service of the said Lead. 1910 *Expositor* Apr. 371 The system has its service in showing how impossible it is to get rid of Sin as a tragedy in the universe.

b. *Of service* (predicatively): of use or assistance, useful, helpful. Const. *to.*

1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 3 If I am of any Service to Your Lordship. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 132 Even the bearing of this rule in their thoughts may be of some service. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Pref., In this pursuit, whether we take or whether we lose our game, the chace is certainly of service. 1779 STORER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 295 This paper war will not be of much service to us. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Introd. 93 *note*, The reader who wishes to work this out for himself, will find the following references of service. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 132, I found him of some service to me. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. 196 The long tails of the giraffes ..would be of little service against..the scroot.

25. *At one's service*, at one's disposal, ready or available for one to use. Cf. 9 c.

1669 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* III. 47 *Tod.* Lead 'em a Dance, I'll have a Dance. *D. John.* My feet are at your service, Sir. 1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 132, I told him the last time he was here..I promised him a Persian Horse; I had now one at his Service, which he accepted with some ceremony. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. ii, My whole strength..is, day and night, at the service of my fellow-Citizens. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 385 My means, which are certainly ample, are at your service.

† **26.** Permission to use; the loan *of* a thing for use.

1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxvii, Tell Roderick Dhu I owed him naught, Not the poor service of a boat, To waft me to yon mountain-side. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xiii, Wayland, obtaining from the cook the service of a mortar,..mixed, pounded, and amalgamated the drugs which he had bought.

V. Waiting at table, supply of food; hence, supply of commodities, etc.

27. The act of waiting at table or dishing up food; the manner in which this is done. Phrase, *the service of the table* (now *arch.*).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1401 When alle segges were þer set, þen seruyse bygynnes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 58 And eek it nedeth nat for to deuyse At euery cours the ordre of hire seruyse. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 4187 Þe straunge metis, þe manere of þe seruyse. 1528 ROY *Rede me* II. (Arb.) 93 Whose prowde service to beholde, In plate of silver and golde, It passeth a mans witt. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 27 He was..serued with al magnificence..and superfluity of meates.., and this seruice was done..by officers in number. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 275 Necessary implements, not onely for the vse of the Kitchin but seruice of the Table. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i, You may want, though, A dish or two when the service ends. 1674 T. P., etc. *Eng. & Fr. Cook* 431 Bills of Fare, as well for great Feasts as ordinary Services through the whole year. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlix, More pretty things were said on both sides during the service of the tea-table than we have leisure to repeat. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, He described..the service of the table..enumerated the dishes and wines served. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Service*, waiting at table: as, The service was good *or* indifferent.

b. That which is served up or placed on the table for a meal; the food set before a person; an allowance or portion of food. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13990 A man þat hight symon leprus, At ete he praid him til his hus..Ful fair seruis symon him dight. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1504 Anon they wer to borde sette, And fayr servyse byfore hem sette. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1584 Þat euer-ilkon wil of hir laue þe third part til hir sopper saue, And to þe celerer wil it seme Swilk seruys for to saf & ȝeme. *c* 1430 *Stans Puer ad Mensam* 26 in *Meals & Manners* 278 And whanne þou seest afore þee þi seruice, be not to hasti upon breed to bite. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 24 The servyce of his table and of his cupborde to be dayly recorded into the King's countyng-house. 1557 F. SEAGER *Sch. Vertue* 342 Disshes with measure thou oughtest to fyll, Els mayste thou happen thy seruyce to spyll. 1598–9 B. JONSON *Case Altered* I. i, Gods lid man, seruice is ready to go vp man, you must slip on your coate and come in, we lacke waiters pittyfully. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 81 In the Summer let them haue their first meate in the morning, and their second seruice at noone. 1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* II. i. *Stage Direct.*, A banquet brought in, with the limbes of a Man in the seruice. 1700 [E. WARD] *Lond. Spy* XVII. 14 A Service of Sweet-meats, which every Gossip carry'd away in her Hankerchief. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 86 Services of food were then spread before them. *c* 1880 R. H. STODDARD *Sgr. Low Degree* (Cent.) I'll spread your service by the door, That when you eat you may behold The knights at play where the bowls are rolled.

† c. A division of a meal served up at one time, a course. Also, a particular 'dish' or kind of food.

a 1536 *Songs, Carols* etc. (E. E. T. S.) 33 The boris hede, I vnderstond, Ys cheff seruyce in all this londe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. v. I. 458 Even at this day throughout Spaine, the manner is to serve up acorns and mast to the table for a second service. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* I. ii, An excellent pickeld Goose, a new seruice. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 152 One of the most sumptuous Feasts that ever I saw, being but of nine dishes, in three several services. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 278 Certain services of Paste and Sugar, according to the German fashion, which were brought to the Table, rather to divert the Eye, than to sharpen the Appetite. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5336/2 The Entertainments..consist only of one Service. 1707 *Curios. in Husb.* 47 Fruits..are still the most agreeable Service of Tables. 1765 in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 137 His dinner—four services.

28. The furniture of the table; esp. a set of dishes and other utensils required for serving a particular meal. Often with defining word, as *dinner, dessert, breakfast, tea service.*

1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 445 A very pretty service of gilt plate. 1710 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 597 A magnificent service of plate, consisting of many large silver dishes, stands, plates, &c. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1862) III. 67 The service of Sèvres china arrived all safe. 1852 *Beck's Florist* 266 A handsome silver tea and coffee service. 1882 OGILVIE, *Service*, an assortment of table-linen. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 175/1 A service of plate bequeathed by a baronet. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 345 The damsel..completed the clearing off and washing up of the various articles of the service.

b. Similarly: A set of vessels for the altar, for the toilet, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Jan. 1645, The compleate service of the purest chrystal for the altar of the Chapell. 1852 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 368/1 A green and white chamber service all complete, with soap trays and brush trays. 1867 C. T. NEWTON *Blacas Coll. Antiq. Brit. Mus.* 24 Silver toilet service of a Roman bride.

29. An administration or application (*of* something).

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 465 From whence carrying a pot full of water..hee did powre it in my bellie..The first and second seruices I gladly receaued, such was the scorching drouth of my tormenting payne. 1700 [R. WARD] *Lond. Spy* XVII. 10 The next piece of Lip-Exercise my Part'ner set me, was to make a Regular Service of Kisses round the Room. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1143 In France a small quantity of solution of sulphate of iron is added during the boiling of the soap, or rather with the first service of the lyes.

30. The supply or laying-on of gas, water, etc., through pipes from a reservoir; the apparatus of pipes, etc., by which this is done.

1879 W. YOUNG *Town & Country Mansions* 41 From one of the cisterns a separate service of pipes should be carried

to the water-closets. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 254/1 Sinks were constructed, and the city water-service was introduced.

b. *attrib.*, as *service-box*, *-pipe*, etc.

1819 PECKSTON *Gas-Lighting* 299 He must prepare to bring the gas into the houses by laying the service-pipes. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 44 Improved service-box for supplying water-closets. *Ibid.*, To be connected either with the service-pipe direct from the main, or with the supply-pipe from the cistern. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 103/2 The distributing or service reservoirs should be roofed.

c. = *service-pipe* (see b).

1865 S. HUGHES *Gas-works* (ed. 2) 233 The pipes which convey gas or water through the different streets are called main pipes or mains; and the small pipes which convey the fluid therefrom to the houses are called services. 1877 W. RICHARDS *Manuf. Coal Gas* 271 Services should be of course always laid with a slight incline to the main.

31. Provision (of labour, material appliances, etc.) for the carrying out of some work for which there is a constant public demand.

1853 PAPWORTH *Museums*, etc. 15 Regulations as to admission into public museums..the porter not to allow the entrance of any person out of the hours of public service. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* (ed. 3) 320 St. Bartholomew's Hospital..has a service of 710 beds. 1892 *Post Office Notice*, The object of the new Post Office Express Service is to secure the immediate delivery of Messages, Letters and Parcels by Special Messenger. 1904 G. B. SHAW *Common-sense Munic. Trading* vi. (1908) 48 There is, however, one very important difference between a telegraph and a telephone service.

32. Accommodation for conveyance or transit afforded by vehicles plying regularly on a route.

1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. IX. 355/1 *Service*..is of very late importation from the French, within three years, as applied to the lines of steamers, or traffic of railways. 1865 *Cassell's Handy Guide Sea-side* (ed. 2) 103 There is a very fine service of steamboats between Douglas, Ramsey, and Liverpool thrice a week in the winter. 1866 *Roy. Comm. Railways, Min. Evid.* 519/1 The London and North-western Company running a very good service between London and Birmingham. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* vi, A short squat omnibus..which was then the daily service between Cloisterham and external mankind. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 111/1 The right of the railway company to suspend the ordinary service of trains on occasions of great and exceptional pressure. 1904 G. B. SHAW *Common-sense Munic. Trading* v. (1908) 40 London is at present helplessly at the mercy of a cab service which [etc.].

VI. Action of serving, in technical senses.

33. *Law.* **a.** The action or an act of serving (a writ, notice, etc.) upon a person.

To accept service (of a writ): see ACCEPT *v.* 3.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346/1 Touching the retourne, servise, and all executions of the Writtes, Processe and Juggements, in and of the saide actions. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, 'Beg your pardon, Mr. Pickwick', said Mr. Jackson..' But personal service, by clerk or agent, in these cases, you know, Mr. Pickwick—eh, Sir?' 1863 LE FANU *Ho. Churchyard* III. 7 I'll permit the services of the notices.

b. *Scots Law.* The procedure for ascertaining and declaring the heir to a person deceased. A *general service* determines generally who is heir to another; a *special service* determines who is heir to a special estate.

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Breve de morte antecessoris*, Be the auld law of this Realme, the Justice-generall and his deputes..was judge competent to the service of this breve. 1693 STAIR *Inst. Laws Scot.* III. v. (ed. 2) 467 The general Service is a compleat establishing of the Right in the Person of the Heir. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lviii, [We have] got our youngster's special service retoured into Chancery. 1847 *Act* 10 & 11 *Vict.* c. 47 § 1 The Practice of issuing Brieves from Chancery for the Service of Heirs shall cease.

34. *Tennis* (and kindred games). The act of 'serving' the ball or starting it in play; a particular player's manner of doing this; the ball served.

1611 COTGR., *Grebonde*, a seruice at Tennice, wherein the ball runs not along on the house, but bounds on the side thereof. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 380/2 (*Tennis*) When the player gives his service at the beginning of a set, his adversary is supposed to return the ball. 1819 *Examiner* 7 Feb. in *Hazlitt's Table-talk* ix. (1821) 203, 204 His service was tremendous. He once..made seven and twenty aces following by services alone. 1894 *Times* 6 Mar. 7/3 Mr. Young's service and return were very severe in the third game. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 402/1 (Fives) If he fails to return the 'service' above the 'line' no stroke is counted.

b. *attrib.*, as *service-box*, *-court*, *-line*, *-side*, *-wall*.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 380/1 (*Tennis*) Over this long gallery..is a covering, called the pent-house, on which they play the ball from the service-side. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 650 If the service drops in the wrong court, or beyond the service line, it is a fault. 1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 139 *Service court*, that part of the floor which is contained between the service-line, the pass-line, the grille-wall, and the gallery-wall and battery. *Ibid.* 160 *Service-wall*, the wall above the side-pent-house. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 344/1 (Rackets), *Service-box*, the square (marked out on each side of the floor) from which the service must be delivered.

35. *Naut.* Small cord, or the like, wound about a rope to protect it. (Cf. SERVE *v.*[1] 54.)

1729 Capt. W. WHIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 24 Nov., Veered out the best bower Cable on the Flood, and claped on the mooring Service. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 318 The cables..armed with the chains..were besides cackled..seven fathom from the service. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 137 Not only the service and worming were cut, but the cable itself was..injured by the sharpness of the rocks. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, This chafing gear consists of worming,..battens, and service of all kinds. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 323 We could not.. repair the 'service' where chafed out aloft.

36. The action of covering a female animal. (Cf. SERVE *v.* 52.)

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 845 He is often so much fatigued when brought to the mare..as to be quite unfit for effective service. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1260/3 With each pup a written guarantee of a service from a pedigree St. Bernard dog will be given. 1911 *Kingsbridge* (Devon) *Gaz.* 26 Mar. 2/4 For service—a Pedigree Large Black Boar.

VII. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (See also 30 b, 34 b.)

37. Simple attrib., passing into adj.

a. Belonging to the army or the navy; esp., employed on active service, as *service ammunition*, *bullet*, *charge*, *company*, *rifle*, etc.

1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 124 The service charges in the above table [required for cartridges]. 1837 *King's Regul. Army* 153 Regiments on Foreign Stations are formed into Six Service Companies and Four Depôt Companies. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 111 All Regiments are to have, in the constant possession of each Man, Ten Rounds of Service Ammunition. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 73. 546 The ordinary unrifled service gun. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 236 By service rigs, is to be understood the rig that boats use when on service. 1898 *Times* 28 June 13/6 The new service bullet..fits all the service rifles and machine guns in use by the British Army. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Mar. 8/2 He wished the members of the service company God-speed. *Ibid.* 2 Mar. 10/1 Dressed in their service khaki. 1909 Col. EGERTON in *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 3/1 Match-rifle conditions..are directly opposed to service-rifle shooting and training for war.

b. Belonging to household service, the serving of meals, etc.

1864 R. KERR *Gentl. Ho.* 247 Butler's Service-room, its position, uses, and fittings. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 351 The ventilation of the kitchens is conducted up the 'service' staircase and shaft. 1885 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 774 While each man has a small service-room of his own, there are on each staircase two larger gyp-rooms. 1899 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 7/7 The fire originated in the service-lift. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 25 June 3/4 In all the club rooms there are what are called 'service-hatches', which will supply food or drink in infinite variety.

38. Special combinations: **service-book**, a book containing one or more forms of divine service (in the 17th c. often applied to the Book of Common Prayer); **service measure, metre**, the 14-syllable line which is the equivalent of a couplet of common metre; also used = common metre (see COMMON *a.* 19 b); **service paste**, a porcelain-paste prepared to serve for all ordinary work; †**service-room**, a music-room or song-school in a religious house; **service-time**, †**-while**, the time of divine service.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Breviaire*, the *service booke of priestes of the church of Rome. 1638 LAUD *Diary* 29 Apr., The tumults in Scotland, about the Service-Book offered to be brought in. *c*1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 558 The book of Lamentations seems to have been a kind of service-book or office. 1846 MASKELL *Mon. Rit.* I. p. lxxxi, The revision of the service-books of the Western Church which followed the council of Trent. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* v. 382 *Poulterer's Measure.*—Alexandrines and *Service Measures alternately...It will be seen that a couplet of Bailad Metre is equivalent to a line of *Service Metre. 1886 MRIKLEJOHN *Eng. Lang.* 182 Iambic Tetrameter with Iambic Trimeter in alternate lines—the second and fourth rhyming—is called Ballad Metre. When used, as it often is, in hymns, it is called Service Metre. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1022 The following composition has been adopted for the *service paste of the royal manufactory of Sèvres. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. 276 The Nuns, then in the *Service-room. *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 144 He..happend þat day ..to be assigned be þe bisshopp to be his dekyn in *serves tyme & rede þe pistle. 1582 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 420 Uppon the Soundaye..owt of service tyme. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, She had never seen Robertson since his remarkable escape during service-time. 1573 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 154 Hyr gesse compyng in *sarves wylle. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transpr. Rek.* 83 A citizens sitting bare-headed all service-while.

Service[2] (sə·rvis). Forms: *α.* 6 servis(se, serves, servyse, 6–7 cervise, cervice, 6–8 servise, 6– service; *β.* 6 sarves, 9 *U.S.* sarvice; *γ.* 7 sorvise, sorveise, sorvice. [orig. *serves*, pl. of SERVE *sb.*[1]]

1. A tree, *Pyrus* (*Sorbus* L., *Cormus* Spach) *domestica*, native in continental Europe and cultivated in the British Isles, bearing small pear-shaped or round fruit edible when in an over-ripe condition; see CORMB[1] 1, SERVICE-TREE, SORB.

1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sarves, tree, *alisier*. *Ibid.* 269/2 Servyse, tree, *alisier*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 72 Upon the same stocke are grafted..the Medler, and the Servisse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xv. xiii. I. 437 The fruit Sebesten..beeing grafted vpon Services. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1679) 38 Catalogue of Fruit-trees..Services or Chequers. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 40 Plant fruit trees..quinces, medlars, mulberries, filberts, services, &c. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 10/1 The service is of slow growth, seldom fruiting until sixty years old.

†**2.** The fruit of this tree. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Sarves, frute, *alise*. *c*1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 1073 Walnuttes, cervyse, medlers, aples. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 283 Ceruyces be in maner of lyke operacyon. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. v. N.'s Wks. (Grosart) VI. 64 Browne Almonds, Seruises, ripe Figs and Dates. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. v. II. 18 Divers there be, who after another sort make a confection thereof, namely with Quinces, with Sorvises, or Plums. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* II. vii. (1634) 196 A basket of Servises, Medlers and Chestnuts. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* VI. 452 A Fruit,..not much bigger than Cervices. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 56 They also feed upon several species of roots and berries, namely, cloud-berries,..and services. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xvii. (1813) 287 Service, (sweet) or sorb apple, is rarely cultivated for fruit, as it requires a warmer climate than England to ripen it.

3. *Wild Service*: a bush or low tree (*Pyrus torminalis*) bearing harsh bitter fruit.

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 374 There are several other Trees and Shrubs which are now in Flower, as..wild Service or Quickbeam. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Gard. Dict.* 758 *Pyrus torminalis*. Wild-service.

4. *attrib.*, as †*service-apple*; **service-berry**, †(*a*) the fruit of the Service (*Pyrus domestica*); (*b*) a N. American shrub, *Amelanchier Canadensis*, the Shad-bush (also attrib.); (*c*) the fruit of the white-beam, *Pyrus Aria* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 122 The baskets which held the cheeses, chesnuts, and dried *service-apples. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lii. 727 The Sorbe Apples or *Seruice beries. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 136, I saw service-berry bushes hanging full of fruit. 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* xxiv. 206 A shrub which produces a fruit called by the mountaineers service-berries. 1894 *Outing* July 306/1 The undergrowth was poplar, sarvice-berry bushes and other shrubs.

Serviceability (sə·rvisăbi·lĭti). [f. next + -ITY.] Capability or readiness for service; usefulness.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 531 Her kind-heartedness, her serviceability, and naiveté of mind, rendered her..a welcome guest. 1898 GREGORY *Side Lights Meth.* 13 The basis of his character was seriousness and an indomitable serviceability.

Serviceable (sə·rvisăb'l), *a.* Forms: *α.* 4 servisabylle, -abul, serviseable, 4 servicable, 4–6 servisable, 5 servesabill, cervysable, servysabill, 6 servychable, 6– serviceable; *β.* 4 servisiable, 4–5 serviciable, 5 cervycyable. [a. OF. *serviçable*, *-isable*, f. *service* SERVICE[1]: see -ABLE. With the *β* forms cf. med.L. *serviciābilis* (Du Cange).]

1. Ready to do service; prepared to minister, willing to be of service; active or diligent in service. Now *rare*.

α. *c*1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (Rolls) 31139 He..was plesaunt & seruisable. *c*1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 40 þe Pope shulde be..moost servysable and most pore. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 99 Curteis he was, lowely, and seruysable, And carf biforn his fader at the table. *c*1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 36 Thei wer ..ful seruiceable in al wise. *c*1450 *Merlin* 100 Arthur was goode and seruisable, and seide, 'With gode will'. 1534 MORE *Picus* Wks. 32 Thirdelye of reason bee we seruisable ..To suche as haue done muche for vs before. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 80 Are they not all seruisable spirites sent forth to doe seruice for their sakes which are heyres of saluation. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 257 A seruiceable Villaine, As duteous to the vices of thy Mistris, As badnesse would desire. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 393 Seeing her [Enid] so sweet and serviceable. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Jan., Her loyal and serviceable friend.

β. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* (Lansd.) 979 And sche þe most seruisiable of all Haþe euery chambre arraide. *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* I. 223 Sho was seruyciable to euerilk creatur. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/1 Ceruycyable, or redy alle waye, *obsequiosus*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 331/1 Servysiable.

†**b.** Of actions or conditions: Involving or expressing readiness to serve. *Obs.*

α 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 172 b, Once Zelmane could not stirre, but that..Basilius with seruiceable steppes, ..would follow her. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* A 3, My seruiceable affection towards your Honour. 1629 MILTON *Christ's Nativ.* xxvii, And all about the Courtly Stable, Bright-harnest Angels sit in order serviceable.

†**c.** Subservient. *Obs. rare.*

1613 HAYWARD *Will. I* 88 He was..sottishly seruiceable both to pleasure and sloath. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iii, Thou hireling, serviceable knave.

†**2.** Suitable to be served (as food). *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcvi. (1495) 663 Lens lentis is a manere of coddeware: and is seruysable to potage. *c*1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 798 in *Babees Bk.*, Beef or moton stewed seruysable.

3. a. Of persons: Profitable, useful.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 280 A dead man is often more serviceable to the living, than the living themselves. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 133 What makes you Good and Religious here, serves also to make you useful and serviceable hereafter. 1704 DE FOE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 83 Wishing..that you may find this neglected fellow serviceable or at least make him so. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 263 In what manner the people of Vermont could be the most serviceable to the British government. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxix, Johnson was a most serviceable subordinate. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 129 'She will, I trust, be serviceable to you', said the doctor.

b. Of things: Capable of being applied to an appropriate purpose, or to the performance of a proper function.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 153 For thelementz ben servicable To man. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 126 b, The Camel..some suppose to be the seruiceablest cattell for man that is. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 b, To suppresse and extinguishe the exercise and seruiceable vse of Long-bowes. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 51 To find so and so many seruiceable horse for the war. 1668 HALE *Pref. to Rolle's Abridgm.* 8 He shall never be able to carry on a distinct serviceable Memory at all..without helps of Use or Method. 1708 SWIFT *Sacrum. Test* Wks. 1755 II. I. 123 The most serviceable treatise that could have been published at such a juncture. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 306 The barometer..is also serviceable in measuring the heights of mountains. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxv, His museum..contained nothing that could be service-

able on the present or any other occasion. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 7 To procure him large intervals of healthful rest and serviceable leisure. 1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* 93 The work is as strong and serviceable as in a whole-bound book. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 4 Past farmsteads where man and beast .. learn pleasant and serviceable lessons each of the other.

Serviceableness (sə·rvisăb'lnės). [f. SERVICEABLE + -NESS.] The quality of being serviceable.

1. Readiness for service, helpfulness. Now *rare*.

1564 HAWARD *Entropius* x. R iij b, He estemed him greatly for the earnest trauaile and payns which he sustained in the battail..& for other seruiceablenesse & good endeuor, which he apperceiued to be in him. 1578 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xlv. 120 All godlinesse,..seruisablenesse, stayednesse, temperance. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 77 Contending by laudable means, which shall surpasse other in their Serviceablenesse to God. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. ix. (1852) 154 Having always but low expectations, after he had merited as highly as possible by his universal serviceableness. 1878 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Girlhood* II. vi. 196 His serviceableness to his friends was unwearied. 1886 HEREFORD *Lit. Rel. Eng. & Germany* 317 The polished urbanity of King Alphonso's guest, the ironical serviceableness of the merchant's clerk.

2. Usefulness, ability to render service or to promote the interests of another.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* App. I. xi. (1712) 210 Those long and subordinate concatenations of instrumental serviceableness of such things, say they, is but our fancy, no design of any First Cause. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 268 The serviceableness of these small bodies of firemen. 1851 RUSKIN *Sheepfolds* 46 There is no fear that the civil officer should underrate the dignity or shorten the serviceableness of the minister. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. x. 421 Not undervaluing the force and serviceableness of his argument.

Serviceably, *adv.* [f. SERVICEABLE + -LY².]

†1. With a disposition to serve, obediently. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Famulanter*, humbly, seruysably. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 64, I most humblye serviceablelye after my dutifull manner take my leave of your Excellencyes feete.

2. Usefully.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 16 June, My Lord Sandwich..hath done most honourably and serviceably. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 15 She would know in an instant what part of to-morrow's work might be most serviceably forwarded.

†Service. *Obs.* [f. SERVICE ¹ + -AGE.]

1. Bondage, servage.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 62 If but such sixe were mongst our enemies, Ere now had Syria stoupt to seruiceage. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VIII. lxxxiii, He..obaies the raine Of thraldome base, and seruiceage, though loth.

2. ? Feudal military service.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 24 The seruiceage is suspended vntill the maturitie of his age.

Serviceless, *a.* [f. SERVICE ¹ + -LESS.]

†1. ? Without reward or pay (cf. SERVICE ¹ 7).

14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* B. (MS. O.) xv. 119 Many a prest ..Schulden go synge seruyseles wiþ sire philip þe sparwe.

2. Of no service; without usefulness, useless.

1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* II. 93 They [truisms] will not be serviceless in their admonitions to your understanding. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 595 The intestine appendix..now is serviceless and a perpetual menace to health and life.

Hence **Servicelessness.**

1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* I. xv. 236 The elegant vessel..an image..of a beautiful servicelessness.

Service-tree. [f. SERVICE ² + TREE *sb.*]

1. = SERVICE ² 1.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xl. 507 Such is the force of the ceruise tree, to raise vp, renew and reuiue a qualified and appeased madnes. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 23 Mar., The walk which is bordered by service-trees. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 410 An acid derived from the berries of the service-tree. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 181/1 The..wood of the small service-tree.

b. The wood of this tree used in the arts.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 124 Steles be made of dyuerse woodes as..seruis tree. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 33 By this Method, the Violet Wood which Dyers use, will be Stained Black as Ebony;..Pear-Tree and Service-Tree will be of Reddish Colour.

2. *Wild service-tree.* = SERVICE ² 3.

1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xi. § 122 The bay-tree, the maple and wild service-tree beare berries. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 458 Wild Service-tree, or Sorb. 1832 *Planting* 103 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The wild service-tree (torminalis). 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Our Woodlands* (1862) 55 In the Southern parts of the kingdom, we may often meet with the Wild Service Tree.

3. †*Narrow-leaved, Fowler's Service-tree*: names for the Mountain Ash, *Pyrus* (*Sorbus*) *Aucuparia*.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IX. 328 They fixed branches of mountain ash, or narrow leaved service-tree above the stakes of their cattle, to preserve them from the evil effects of elves and witches. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Our Woodlands* (1862) 59 The Mountain Ash is often called the Fowler's Service-tree.

4. The N. American service-berry (SERVICE ² 4).

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 84 *Amelanchier Canadensis*...June berry. Shad bush. Service tree.

Servicie, obs. form of SERVICE ¹.

†Servicious, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *servitiōs-us*, f. L. *servitium* service; see -OUS.] = SERVICEABLE.

1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 408 Servycyows, or seruicyable, *obsequiosus*.

Servie, obs. form of SERVE *v.*¹

Servient (sə·rviĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *servient-em*, pr. pple. of *servīre* to serve.]

1. Subordinate, subject to rule. *rare.* †Also, performing service, serving.

1647 COWLEY *Mistress, The Soul* i, My Soul..in another's Breast does lye, That neither Is, nor will be I, As a Form Servient and Assisting there. 1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* 3 A liberall fountaine, which was no lesse servient to the grotts for waterworks, then to the house for use. 1724 WATERLAND *Farther Vind.* 120 This celebrated Father is full and express, in his famous Creed, against any thing created, or servient, in the Trinity. 1892 T. WATTS in *Athenæum* 2 Apr. 436/2 She..endows men..with two different kinds of personality, the dominant and the servient.

†b. *absol. Obs. rare.*

c 1615 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 436 But in generall onely you se that Angels are seruients vnto God, and his people.

2. Law. *Servient land, tenement*: a land or tenement over which a servitude has been granted or acquired in favour of a dominant land or tenement. *Servient proprietor*: the tenant of a servient land or tenement.

1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vii. (1693) 284 The Servitude of Support, whereby the servient Tenement is lyable to bear any Burden for the use of the Dominant. *Ibid.* 287 A Watergang is a Servitude, of conveying Water thorow the servient Ground, for the use of the Dominant. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Law Scot.* (1809) 221 The owner of the servient tenement is not obliged, in a servitude of support, to repair it, unless [etc.]. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 864 This class of servitudes imports no obligation on the servient proprietor to maintain the road. 1871–4 MARKBY *Elem. Law* § 371 English lawyers call..the land over which it [an easement] is exercised the servient land.

transf. 1864 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* lxvii, His great fear was, that the..Della Croce estates should become a servient tenement to the frozen fields of the North.

†Servie·ntial, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SERVIENT *a.* + -IAL.] Pertaining to service.

1897 F. W. MAITLAND *Domesday Bk.* 162 The relation between thegn and lord is no longer conceived as a menial, 'serviential' or ministerial relation.

†Se·rvier. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **sarueyere.** [irreg. f. SERVE *v.*¹] = SERVER 1.

a 1475 ASHBY *Poems* (1899) 26 And euer remembre olde Sarueyeres. 1530 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 135 For a servyer to ye said maysons, 2s. 8d.

Serviette (sə·rvie·t). Forms: α. *Sc.* 5–7 **serviot**, 6 **serviat**; β. *Sc.* 6–7 **servit**, 8 **servite**, 6, 9 **servet**; γ. 6–7 *Sc.* **serviet**, 9 **serviette**. [a. F. *serviette* a towel, table-napkin, of obscure formation, connected with *servir* SERVE *v.*]

The older use of the word was exclusively Sc. In the 19th c. it was re-introduced with the French spelling (at first only as a foreign term). It may now be regarded as naturalized, but latterly has come to be considered vulgar.]

A table-napkin; also, †a slip-cloth.

α. 1489 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 131/2, xij cuschingis.. and xij seruiotis of dornewik. 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 28 Item, for serviotis to the same [King's burd] vij elne lang and iij quartaris braid. 1560 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 72 Ane hand towall, ane serviat [etc.]. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 235 The air sall have..twelf servettis and ane buird-claith of dornique. 1619 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XII. 761 Tua dusane of dornik serviottis.

β. 1588 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 289 [Twenty-four] linteolum lie seruittis [at 18s. the dozen]. 1601 in *T. Pont's Topogr. Acc. Cunninghame* (Maitland Club) 179 Ten small seruittis, twentie round seruittis. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Cl.) I. 108 The generall himselfe..and souldiers, sat doun..and of their own provision, with ane servitt on their knee, took their breakfast. 1719 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 131 Table cloths and servites of damask and dornick and hagabag servites, sheets, &c. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* xxxi, Her hands..Unfolding spread the servet white.

γ. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. xi. 17 With soft serviettis to mak thair handis clene. 1587–8 in *Extracts Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 515 Thai sall nocht..be sene in the streits with thair aiprunes and seruiets. 1612 in A. M'Kay *Kilmarnock* 308 Saxteine seruietis of damais. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 114 A dirty coarse canvas *serviette*. 1864 SALA *Quite alone* I. viii. 133 At table d'hôte time he..carried a serviette in lieu of a feather broom under his arm. 1889 ROY TELLET *Pr. Mashiloff* 167 Mordaunt and Scarnell..always spoke of napkins as serviettes. 1906 H. BLAND *Lett. Daughter* 53, I think..she was the sort who would call a table napkin a serviette.

Servile (sə·rvəil, sə·rvil), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4, 6 **servyle**, (5 **servylle**, **serval**, **-all**), 6–7 **servil**, (6 *Sc.* **serviall**, 7 **servial**), 7 **servill**, 5– **servile**. [ad. L. *servīlis*, f. *serv-us* slave: see -ILE. Cf. F. *servile* (14th c. in *œuvre servile*: see 1 b), Pr., Sp., Pg. *servil*, It. *servile*.] A. *adj.*

1. Of, belonging to or proper to a slave or slaves. *Servile habit* was formerly sometimes applied *transf.* to the dress of a labourer or a poor man. *Servile war, insurrection*: one raised by slaves against their masters.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2666 Thay knewe noght the king in his servylle habite. 1542 BECON *Potat. Lent* I v, The bearynge of Olyues shewethe that we are..delyuered oute of seruile captiuite. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. v. 176 Asiaticus, for his lewde credit vnder his master, made satisfaction now as a freed-man with a seruile death. 1607 CHAPMAN *Byssy d'Ambois* III. I. 28 Like a monster Kept only to show men for servile money. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 40 A Doctor..thinking my servile habit not fit for contemplation, commanded mee to draw water for his horse. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Crassus* III. 430 He thought he could easily rekindle the Servile war, which had but lately been smothered. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lix. VII. 325 Demetrius was of very low, if not of servile origin. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 383 The total extinction of the servile condition of the Súdras is..an improvement. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Oct. 5/4 A well-known..device..for securing servile labour without the name of slavery. 1885 W. PATER *Marius* I. iv. I. 53 This lad of servile birth.

b. Of arts, employments, labour: Befitting a slave; unworthy of a free man; hence, 'mechanical' as opposed to *liberal*.

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* Wks. (1570) D iij b, Thus began honour and thus began bondage,..And seruile labour first in the worlde began. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 444 Bot vse his office as ane man of kirk, No seruiall werkis with his handis wirk. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust* (1631) i, This study fits a mercenary drudge, Who aymes at nothing but externall trash, Too seruile and illiberall for me. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 3 Each of which Bond-men was ..to Plow, reap, make the Lords Malt, and do other servile work. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 406 No works indeed That ask robust tough sinews, bred to toil, Servile employ. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 81 [Tarquinius] employed the great bulk of them [*sc.* the people] in servile works, in the building of the circus [etc.]. 1868 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* xviii. (ed. 2) 109 A great number of quite necessary employments are, in the accuratest sense, 'servile,' that is, they sink a man to the condition of a serf, or unthinking worker.

c. *Servile work* [after L. *opus servile* (Vulg.), a literal rendering of Heb. מלאכת עבודה *mᵉlĕketh ʿăbōdâh*]: in religious use applied *spec.* to laborious or mechanical work forbidden to be done on the Sabbath and hence on the festivals of the Church.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxiii. 21 And ȝe shulen clepe this day.. moost holi; al seruyle werk ȝe shulen not do in it. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 104 Haue mynde to helewe þin holi day,.. Leue seruile werkis & nyce aray. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 152/1 Yᵗ yer be no Merketts in thy places,..ne oyer servile werkes don uppon Sondays. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* IV. iii. 7 To doe servile worke upon the sixe dayes of labour is good. 1884 ADDIS & ARNOLD *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 218/1 To keep the Sundays and holidays of obligation holy, by hearing Mass and resting from servile works.

2. Of a person: Subject as a slave or serf to a master or owner; living in servitude. Of a class, etc.: Composed of slaves or serfs.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Seruilis, Capita seruilia*, Liuius. Seruile persons. 1695 KENNETT *Paroch. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Coterellus*, Spelman and Du Fresne make cotarius and coterellus to be both the servile inhabitants. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 365 Let barb'rous Ganges arm a servile train. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 356 A distinct line of separation was hitherto preserved between the free and the servile part of mankind. 1784 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* iii. 95 To this manor belonged two *nativi*, or servants born of servile tenants. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xxi. (1896) III. 624 Possibly these [*sc.* bondmen on some manors] were the survivors of the peasant population which had been servile before the Conquest. 1906 MACKINNON *Hist. Mod. Liberty* I. 285 During the three centuries following the Conquest, the condition of the servile class undoubtedly improved.

†b. In wider sense: Belonging to the serving class or to the lower orders; engaged in 'servile' or mechanical occupations. *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* xi. 163 If þou þan..be a ientyl wumman, A serual persone why shewyst the In maners & condycyouns for to be? 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 53, I will ..by the Waggon wheele, Trot like a Seruile footeman all day long. 1599 *George-a-Greene* D 3, Ile..take that seruile pinner George a Greene, And butcher him. 1612 *Acts & Stat. Lawting, Sheriff & Justice Courts* (Maitl. Club 1840) 160 That it shall not be lesum to servile persones not worth..lxxij li Scottis to tak vp housis. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. i. (ed. 3) 136 The mother will be more carefull..then any seruile woman or such hired creatures. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* III. xliv, Of all mechanicks, of all servile handicraftsmen, a gamester is the vilest.

3. Of a person: That behaves like a slave; slavish, meanly submissive, 'cringing, fawning' (J.); destitute of independence in thought and action; slavishly deferential or obedient *to*.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 21 *Lear*. Heere I stand your Slaue,..But yet I call you Seruile Ministers, That [etc.]. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 166 King Henry the fourth, who though curteous, was not servial to the Pope. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. § 4 Others..give themselves up in too servile a manner to the Opinion and Authority of other Masters. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 256 A low-born, cell-bred, selfish, servile band..who fight for any God, or Man. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 96 ₱ 4 Those who are neither servile nor timorous are yet desirous to bestow pleasure. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. i, Be courteous to all men, servile to none. 1840 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 49, I was servile to the opinions of the very persons I despised. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* iv. Wks. (Bohn) II. 373 A supple, glib-tongued tribe, who live for show, servile to public opinion. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 418 A tribunal..where established principles of law could not be utterly disregarded even by the most servile judges. 1865 SEELEY *Ecce Homo* v. (ed. 8) 44 This magnanimous self-restraint saved him from false friends and mercenary or servile flatterers.

absol. 1665 EVELYN *Let. to Sir W. Coventry* 2 Oct., If you can believe I retaine so much of servile in me, as to informe you of tales.

†b. Slavishly devoted *to* (an object). *Obs.*

1619 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *False One* IV. ii, He is.. a meere wandring Merchant Servile to gaine.

c. Of personal attributes and actions: Befitting, or characteristic of a slave or a state of servitude; slavish, ignoble. *Servile fear* (Theol.): see FEAR 3d.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 73 He that feareth god onely for this cause, his feare is called seruyle feare. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 80 [Cæsar] Who else would soare aboue the view of men, And keepe vs all in seruile fearefulnesse. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. xxi. (1636) 243 Marius by servill flight saved himselfe. *a* 1626 BACON *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 239 Riches ..when they are gotten by Flattery, Feeding Humours, and other Seruile Conditions. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 225 For as he [Falkland] had a full appetite of fame by just and generous actions, so he had an equal contempt of it by any servile expedients. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 305 Disciplin'd..from servil fear To filial. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 307 Besides, not Egypt, India, Media more With servile Awe their Idol King adore. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue* I. iii.

Charac. (1711) II. 55 The Obedience is servile, and all that is done thro it, merely servile. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 37 The..Servile Fears usual in those of a mean depending Condition. 1720 POPE *Ep. to Craggs* 10 Then scorn to gain a Friend by servile ways. 1817 SHELLEY *To Ld. Chancellor* xii, By..The servile arts in which thou hast grown old. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1873) III. i. 2 It encourages that blind and servile respect which men are apt to feel for those who are above them. 1862 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) I. i. 6 In a presumptuous or in a servile spirit.

4. Of a people, state, its condition, etc.: Politically enslaved; subject to despotic or oppressive government or to foreign dominion. Const. *to*. Now *rare* or *Obs*.

1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* 229 Wee could finde in our hartes to become seruile..to a forrein nacion. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1586) III. 2/1 They..declared to them ..the pride and insolencie of the Normans, and the hardnesse and griefe of bondage and seruile estate. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xxxviii, What? haue we hands, and shall we seruile bee? Why were swordes made? but, to preserue men free. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* IV. xiv. 85 But Claudius since that Nation servil made. 1661 WEBSTER & ROWLEY *Thrac. Wonder* IV. i, His Subjects..shall servile be to Turks and Infidels. 1703 POPE *Thebais* I. 241 O servile land, Where exil'd tyrants still by turns command! 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 957 And all the green delights Ausonia pours When for them she must bend the servile knee. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, When wicked men wax mighty, and a state Turns servile. 1873 C. ROBINSON *N.S. Wales* 6 A despotic Government and a servile people never can prosper.

absol. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 69 ¶ 4 The day is always coming to the servile in which they shall be powerful.

† **b.** Of government: Exercised over slaves, oppressive, despotic. *Obs*.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 57 Under whose servile government it was holden of long time. 1644 H. PARKER *Jus Pop.* 28 Servile power is tolerated because it tends to the good of him that is subject to it.

† **5.** Of immaterial things: Subject *to* the control of something else; not free. *Obs*.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 167 b, Agayne whether offence be committed through free or seruile choyse of will. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 9 Reason thus with life:.. a breath thou art, Seruile to all the skyie-influences. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* (1806) I. i. iii. 51 Even should the attention be awake, and opinions be formed, the faculty which forms them is very servile to the other parts of the human constitution. *Ibid.* I. II. ii. 141 His judgment is not servile to the mood of his feelings.

6. Of imitation (esp. in literature and art), translation, etc.: Unintelligently close to the exemplar or original; 'slavish'. Hence of a person as agent.

After Hor. Ep. I. xix. 19 *O imitatores, servum pecus.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. § 2. 2 Speech that is framed after the imitation of some patterne of eloquence, though neuer so excellent: All this hath somewhat seruile, and holding of the subiect. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 29 How unprofitable..it is that we should tie our endeavours to a kinde of servile Imitation. *c* 1647 DENHAM *To Sir R. Fanshawe* Poems (1668) 120 That servile path thou nobly dost decline, Of tracing word by word, and line by line. 1680 DRYDEN *Pref. Ovid's Epist.* (1716) a 2, A servile, litteral Translation. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 666 While servile trick and imitative knack Confine the million in the beaten track. 1806 *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* XV. 363 The idle conceits of the chemists, of which our modern quacks are the servile imitators. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. IV. ii. § 3. 271 The commentators or disciples of the great philosophers did not assume at once their servile character. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. i. 11 If..a minute and servile record had preserved for us every hasty expression.

7. *Philol.* **a.** Of words: Expressing mere grammatical relations; auxiliary.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* IV. iv. 419 The more servile Particles are of three kinds; Articles, Modes, Tenses. 1885 J. AVERY in *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVI. App. 17 Case relations are denoted by added syllables, some of which retain their form and sense as independent words, and others have been degraded into servile particles.

b. *Semitic Gram.* Of a letter: Not belonging to the root of the word in which it occurs; serving to express a derivative or flexional element. Hence applied to those letters of the alphabet (in Heb. the eleven grouped mnemonically in the words אמתן שהיו לבר) which represent sounds that may be used in derivation or flexion. Opposed to *radical*.

1653 W. ROBERTSON *Gate to Holy Tongue* 7 These servile letters are eleven in number. *Ibid.* 9 These servile letters are so called, not because they are always servile, for all of them do make up roots by themselves,..but because they are often servile..; the other eleven, being always radicall. 1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* 17 *note*, The *Alif of union* is always servile. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 138 [Berber] has a distinction of letters..into servile and non-servile, nearly identical with that of Hebrew and Arabic.

c. Of a letter: 'Not itself sounded, but serving to lengthen the preceding vowel, as *e* in *tune*.'

1864 WEBSTER.

d. Of sounds: Subject to euphonic change.

1879 WHITNEY *Skr. Gram.* 23 Certain nasals in Sanskrit are of servile character, always to be assimilated to a following consonant.

B. *sb.* (elliptical or absolute uses of the adj.).

1. A servile person.

1830 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 3 Administr.* (1837) II. 17 They have been distinguished by the King's favour, and nothing else—quacks, serviles, sycophants, and buffoons. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* XIII. 476 Swarms of anti-national servviles, the relics of bygone days. 1831 E. ELLIOTT *Poet. Wks.* (1840) 108/2 Self-robb'd servile I sold, not bought, For the shadow of a groat! 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 29 The Sudra, or serviles, doomed to menial duties.

2. *Sp. Hist.* A hostile designation applied (in 1820 and later) by Spanish Liberals to the royalists.

1822 *Gentl. Mag.* XCII. I. 75 The Lapidas, or constitutional pillars, set up in the different towns of Spain are sometimes, during the night, defaced or bemired by the Serviles. 1840 NAPIER *Penins. War* VI. XXII. vi. 312 And always the serviles yielded under the dread of personal violence. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 345/2 The royalists or serviles, as they were called, were dismissed from office.

3. *Philol.* a. A servile particle. See A. 7 a.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. vii. 343 Both these may contribute to the Abbreviating of Language, when they are compounded as serviles.

b. *Hebr. Gram.* A servile letter. See A. 7 b.

1738 R. GREY *New Meth. Hebr.* p. ii, The Letters are divided into an equal Number of Radicals and Serviles. 1773 BAYLY *Gram. Hebr.* p. xxvii, The principal use of the Letters יהוא is with the other Serviles to form Number, Gender, Moods, Tenses and Derivatives.

Servilely (sə·rvəil,li), *adv.* Also 6–7 servilly, (7 -llye), 7–8 servily. [f. SERVILE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a servile manner.

1. In the spirit of a slave; with servile fear or submission; cringingly.

1550 VERON *Godly Sayings* Ep. Ded. A 5 b, Seruillye.. worshipping..the signes, for the thinges, whiche by the signes are signified. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. i, *Ed.* I meane to visit him as he requests; But how? not seruilely disposed to bend, But like a conquerer to make him bowe. 1660 COKE *Power & Subj.* 72 He who rigorously executes his power will be hated, and servilely feared. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 959 Who more then thou Once fawn'd, and cring'd, and servilly ador'd Heav'ns awful Monarch? *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 167 This is not true Obedience, that is done servilely and by constraint. 1727 [DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 84 The docile beast most servilely obeys. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VIII. I. § 74. 199 The senate joyfully and servilely registered his decrees. 1878 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxiii. 2 Not quarreling with his justice..nor servilely dreading his power.

b. With servile adherence to rules or conformity to an exemplar or original.

1668 DRYDEN *Def. Ess. Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 130, I say not this with the least design of limiting the stage too servilely to twenty-four hours. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 29 ¶ 8 An English composer should not follow the Italian recitative too servilely, but make use of many gentle deviations from it. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iii. 299 This Method of Reasoning has been adopted too servilely. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* 43 Or how can you ascertain that these men meant what you mean, when you thus servilely copy their language? 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 209 Most English writers servilely follow Brentano.

2. In or as if in a state of servitude or slavery; as a slave. Now *rare* or *Obs*.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. (1562) 12 So many being seruilely born and brought vp, do wythout douting boast themselues to be the children of God. 1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* II. vii. 171 b, I was seruylely borne. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 392 How like a iade he stood tied to the tree, Seruilly maisterd with a leatherne raine. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 220 The Germans are very churlish to their wives and keep them servily at home. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. (1726) 21 Who inveigle Children..and carry them away to the Plantations of America, to be servilely employ'd there. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXV, Is it indeed you, ..gallant Sir Kenneth of Scotland..thus servilely disguised?

Servileness (sə·rvəilnės). *rare.* [f. SERVILE *a.* + -NESS.] Servility.

1573 *Lady's Call.* I. ii. § 4 To be thus yielding, is not a meekness but servileness of understanding. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vi. 243 Humility will despise no man..for the servileness of his condition in being our slave or servant. 1755 in JOHNSON. In recent Dicts.

Servilism (sə·rvilizm). [f. SERVILE *a.* + -ISM. Cf. F. *servilisme*.]

1. Systematic servility.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 140 [That journal's] truckling, and trimming, and shifting, and debasing servilism to mob opinions. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* XV. 93 But we are not aware that servilism, and sycophancy,..ought to be considered as essential recommendations in an historian. 1845 *Foreign Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 277 Twenty years residence in Russia had encrusted Cobenal with a coating of submissiveness (servilism), that was at times almost comical.

2. The doctrine which advocates political 'slavery'. A hostile designation for anti-Liberal opinions. Cf. SERVILE *sb.* 1.

1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) III. 242 Though calling himself Philosopher, Mr. Taylor..still painfully struggles in the questions of Naturalism and Supernaturalism, Liberalism and Servilism. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 146 He who refutes servilism proves nothing for liberalism.

3. The social system based on the existence of slaves.

1880 *Congregationalist* (U. S.) 17 Nov. (Cent.), The remnants of domination and of servilism [in the southern United States] will soon take themselves hence.

Servility (səɹvi·lĭti). [f. SERVILE *a.* + -ITY. Cf. F. *servilité* (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

† **1.** Servile condition; the quality or status of being a slave; the condition of being in bondage.

1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 238 As our ancestours attained..the highest pitch and perfection of liberty, so we of servility. 1623 T. JACKSON *Eternal Truth Script.* I. II. § 3. ix. 267 Such serullitie as the Iewes suffered vnder the Greeks & Asiaticks. 1625 RICH *Honestie of Age* 47 The Pride of this age is growne to that height, that..who is able by the outward shew, to discerne betweene Nobility and Servility, to know a Lord from a Lowt? 1645 MILTON *Colast.* 15 How should hee a Servingman..know..what the meaning is of gentle... Who could have devis'd to give us more breifly a better description of his own Servility?

quasi-*concr.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 169 Such hast thou arm'd, the Minstrelsie of Heav'n, Servilitie with freedom to contend.

fig. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 255 Shall the will be therfore not wicked in doyng wickedly, bycause it is not free, but enforced to yield to a necessary Servilitie?

2. Servile disposition or conduct.

† **a.** Illiberality, meanness. *Obs*.

a 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1616) 77 Illiberality, or Servility, is too great a contempt of glorie, proceeding from the like desire to spare expence.

b. Mean submissiveness, degradingly obsequious demeanour, cringing. (The prevailing sense.)

1573 G. HARVEY *Common-pl. Bk.* (1884) 15 He tould me.. that it was mi flatteri and Serviliti (for so it pleasd him now to term it) that bewitchid him. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* viii. 135 Lying, Servility, and Treachery..make up a loathsome Monstrous guilt. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 374 The domestics..had an air of servility and constraint. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 465 The ceremonial of the kings, however, had not the servility since introduced by the Mussulmans. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 185 The servility with which she addressed the cardinal so long as he was in power. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 341 The success of such a system depended wholly on the absolute servility of Parliament. 1909 GWATKIN *Early Ch. Hist.* I. iii. 50 Servility to Rome and armed resistance were alike impossible.

personified. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 127 Servility with supple knees, Whose trade it is to smile, to crouch, to please.

c. Lack of independence in opinion or action; undue subjection or deference *to* some person or influence.

1674 *Govt. Tongue* vi. 94 For what besides this unhappy servility to custome, can possibly reconcile men that own Christianity, to a practice widely distant from it? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 398 In our island there was less of this servility than on the Continent... Yet even here homage was paid..to the literary supremacy of our neighbours.

d. Of imitation, translation, etc.: The quality of being servile or unduly close to the original.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. v, Servility of imitation.

† **Servilize,** *v. Obs. rare*—2. [f. SERVILE *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make servile.

1619 A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* etc. C 7, Know I must dye, That all the Land may mourne for me, That, serulized, first made it free. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* V. App., Wks. 1788 III. 192 Lord Shaftesbury..pretended that every motive regarding self tended to servilize virtue.

Serving (sə·rvĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SERVE *v.*1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb SERVE in various senses; an instance of this. Also comb. with advs., as *serving-up*.

c 1205 LAY. 8097 Þa þe serruinge wes idon þat hit to þe mete com. *Ibid.* 8114 Hit wes al isomned & þere sereuunge. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXV. 69 Jhesu,.. Thou ne askesd me non other thing, Bot trewe love ant eke servyng. 1463 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1874) XII. 28/2 And þat ȝe mak na ger mak na stoping to me in þe serving of thame [breves]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 As stacyons, inclynacyons, gestures, turnynges, wesshynge, seruynge at meet and in other places..and suche other. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 79 The shirefe shall haue..for the seruing of euery writ of haberi fac. seisinam, syx shillinges eyght pence. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 52 Nor are [they] to be called crossings or opposings of his will; but rather they are servings and obeyings of it. 1757 CHALLONER *Garden of the Soul* (ed. 7), Method of Serving at Mass. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 127 Here [at restaurants] both the supply and the serving-up are of the most elegant description. 1857 J. H. WALSH *Man. Dom. Econ.* 240 The Serving at Dinner commences by taking in the first course, after which dinner is announced. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* xvii, While Hester and me is left i' t' shop for t' bear t' brunt o' t' serving.

¶ The part or character 'served' by (a disguise).

1621 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 173, I haue already fit..Doublet, Hat, Hose, all That answer to the them: Would you in their seruing,..fore Noble Lucius Present your selfe.

b. *concr.* A helping (of food, etc.); also *Sc.* as much as 'serves' or satisfies one.

1769 Ross *Helenore* 10 You cou'd na look your sairing at her face. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXV, I hae been waur mistrysted than if I were set to gie ye baith your ser'ing o't. 1843 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* IV. 113 Baith beast an' bodie aye gat their full sairin. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Trevlyn Hold* XXIX, Nora immediately drew an apple-pie before her, and began to cut unlimited servings from it. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* XXI. 159 An' he gae far that road they'll seen get their sairin o' him.

c. *Cornwall.* 'A supply of tin ready for smelting'.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 326. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metall. Min.* 420.

2. The action of winding 'service' round a rope, etc. Also the material so used.

a 1625 [see PUDDING *sb.* 4]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XV. (Roxb.) 30/1. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XVI, The captain of the maintop reports the breast backstay much chafed in the serving. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 27 The parcelling is put on with the lay, and the serving against the lay. 1890 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 403 The core [of a submarine cable] travels through another set of machines which first wrap it with a thick serving of tarred jute.

3. *Comb.*, as *serving-hatch, -main, -valve*, etc.; (in sense 2) *serving-board, -mallet* (also *transf.*).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 160 **Serving board* is a tapering thin piece of board, with a small score gouged at the end and sides. It is used for serving small ropes. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXIV, I balled up my yarns, took my serving-board in my hand. 1881 EDIS *Decor. & Furniture* 114 *Serving hatches. 1904 GASQUET *Eng. Monastic Life* II. 23 A screen pierced with doors would probably have somewhat veiled the serving-hatch, the dresser, and the passages to the butteries, cellars, and pantry. 1823 P.

Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 408 The Forcing-pump consists of a working-barrel, a suction-pipe and *serving-main, or raising-pipe. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor* s. v. *Mallet*, *Serving Mallets. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 371 Magnificent clipper ships..who seemed to turn up their splendid noses at the squat, dumpy, antiquated old serving-mallet that dared to mingle with so august a crowd. 1864 R. Kerr *Gentl. Ho.* 248 To place the Butler's-Pantry in intercommunication with the *Serving-room. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Feb. 8/1 A lift carries the joints up to the serving-room [from the kitchen]. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 464 The small cylinder, which contains the *serving valve.

Serving (sɔ̈·rvɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Serve *v.*[1] + -ing[2].]

1. That serves, or does service to, another; that acts as a servant. Often hyphened to the qualified sb. as in *serving-maid*, Serving-man, -woman.

1303 [see Serving-man]. 1382 Wyclif *Heb.* i. 14 Seruyng spiritis, sent into mynysterie for hem that [etc.]. *a* 1450 [see Serving-woman]. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* iv. i. 67 To keepe her from the Painter. *Cla.* Why more from a Painter then from a seruing creature like your selfe? 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 119 Then will I lay the seruing Creatures Dagger on your pate. 1610 in *T. Pont's Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitland Club) 185 To Johne Birsbane, his serveing gentilman, of fie the said zeir, threttie thrie pund vj s. viij d. 1688 Durfey in *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 364 If I were but her Serving-Loon, I'd never ask for wages. 1693 G. Stepney *Dryden's Juvenal* viii. *note* 43 Oriculana, whom Juvenal calls a Serving-Maid. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, A tight serving-maiden entered the room. *c* 1820 S. Rogers *Italy, A Funeral* (1838) 154 None were near, None save her serving-boy, who knelt and wept. 1851 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* I. 267 The wanton serving wench. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* iv, His serving-maid entering, and announcing 'Mr. Jasper is come, sir'.

b. That acts as server at Mass.

1885 (*title*), Server's Missal. A Practical Guide for Serving Boys at Mass.

2. Of a soldier, etc.: That is on service.

c 1570 *Saparton's Alarum* in *E. L. Ball. & Broadsides* (1867) 118 Al Mars his men..Sit downe a while, and harken heere,..A seruinge souldiers case. 1900 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 3/2 The whole of the home-serving troops. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Mar. 9/1 Serving Yeomen and Volunteers who wish to enter the Territorial Force need not attest before June 30.

† 3. Of things: Subsidiary. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 30 All these are but seruing Sciences, which..are..all directed to the highest end of the mistres Knowledge. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 87 For this sort of wisedome, the cold and drie of Melancholie is a seruing instrument.

Serving-ma·n. Now *arch.* [Serving *ppl. a.*]

1. A man who serves; a male servant or attendant. (Common in 16th and 17th centuries.)

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 835 Þe seruyng man, þat seruyþ yn þe 3ere, Owe þ to come [to church on Sunday] when he haþ leysere. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 78 Of thos sortys be ouermany, and specyally of them wych we cal seruyng men, wych lyue in seruyce to gentylmen, lordys, and other of the nobylyte. 1581 W. Stafford *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 64 For now a dayes Seruingmen goe more costely in apparell,..then their maisters were wont to doe in times past. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iii. iv. 87. 1677 Mrs. Behn *Debauchee* i. i. 7 You know the serving-man is always allow'd to break his fast upon his master's leavings. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xviii 'The mercy of Heaven forbid!' said the old serving-man. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lyn.* 781 There brake a serving-man Flying from out of the black wood, and crying, 'They have bound my lord to cast him in the mere.' 1888 J. Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* xx, Save these two serving-men, there was not a menial at the Court who [etc.].

Comb. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* iv. i, Or, Serving-man like, ready to carry up the hot meat for your Master.

† 2. *Serving-man's joy*: a name for Rue. *Obs.*—°

1671 Phillips (ed. 3), *Rue*, a Solar herb,..it is otherwise called Herb-grace, or serving-mans joy. 1721 Bailey, *Serving-man's joy*, the Herb Rue.

Hence † **Serving-manned** *pa. pple.* (*nonce-wd.*).

1609 Rowlands *Knave of Clubs* (1612) B 1, Yes sir (said she) I pray come in, Thus was she seruing-mand.

Serving-wo·man. Now *arch.* [Serving *ppl. a.*] A female servant or attendant.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxi. (1906) 31 There is a maner now amonge seruyng women of lowe astate, the whiche is comen, for thei furre her colers. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* iv. ii, One of those Ambitious Serving-women who [etc.]. 1849 James *Woodman* iv, One of the elder sisters soon appeared, followed by two stout serving women.

Servitary (sɔ̈·rvɪtări). *local.* = Servitor 5.

1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Servitary Wanted, for Gas Globes.

Servite (sɔ̈·rvəit), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. med.L. *Servitæ* pl., f. L. *serv-us* servant (in *Servi Beatæ Mariæ*, the formal name of the order): see -ite[1].]

A. *sb.* A friar or nun of the order of 'Servants of Blessed Mary', founded in 1233.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* iv. 180 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 441/1 Servi and Servytes, And sondry Jacobites. 1607 Sir H. Wotton *Let.* 13 Sept. *Lett.* (1907) I. 399 A very true picture..of Maestro Paolo the Servite. 1768 Boswell *Corsica* iii. (ed. 2) 175 There are two colleges of Jesuits, two convents of Dominicans, five of Servites. 1857 F. W. Faber *Foot of the Cross* Pref., It is now twelve years since the Author became a tertiary of the ancient order of the Servites. 1884 Addis & Arnold *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 840/1 The habit finally adopted by the Servites was black, with a leather girdle, a scapulary, and a cope.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to this order.

1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 82 Poggibonzo of Tuscany, who was a Servite monk in the convent. 1862 Howells *Venet. Life* xv. (1866) 208 The old Servite Convent..associated with the great name of Paolo Sarpi. 1884 Addis & Arnold *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 840/1 In England there is a flourishing Servite community established in the Fulham Road, London,..also three convents of Servite nuns.

Serviter. *Sc. rare.* Forms: 6 servatour, servitor, 9 serviter. [app. alteration of *servet* Serviette, perh. by association with L. *servātor* preserver.] A table napkin.

1530 in A. Laing *Lindores Abb.* (1876) 489 Item xxxij hayll seruatours for my lords bourd. 1530 J. Symsoun *Inv.* in *Liber S. Marie de Lundoris* (Abbotsf. Club) 32, viij seruitors of dornyth werk. 1858-62 Ramsay *Remin.* vi. (1870) 246 Serviter, Napkin.

Servitial (sɔ̈·rvi·ʃăl), *a. Hist.* [ad. med.L. *servitiālis*, f. L. *servitium* Service *sb.*[1]: see -al.] *Servitial nobility*, those ennobled by service in the king's household.

1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* vi. § 66 I. 160 In the laws of Canute..the earl..is included in the servitial nobility.

Servitor (sɔ̈·rvitər). Forms: 4-5 servytour, 4-6 servitur, -oure, 4-8 servitour, 5 servytor, (servertor, servitieure), 5-6 servytoure, 6 servyture, serveture, serviteure, -uir, (sarvytor), *Sc.* schervitour, servatour, 6-8 serviture, -eur, 7 serviter, servatore, 5- servitor. [a. OF. *servitor* (mod.F. *serviteur*), a. late L. *servītor*, agent-n. f. *servīre* Serve *v.*[1] Cf. Pr., Sp., Pg. *servidor*, It. *servitore*.]

1. A (male) personal or domestic attendant (in early use chiefly, one who waits at table); a man-servant. Now *arch.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11300 Þat ilke vsage was at þer feste,..Þe wommen wyboute men schuld be, But seruitors of here meyne. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 165 Statin his stiward spak to þe Emperoure, Als his mete he sat, & was his seruitoure. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxii. 239 He hathe in his Court many Barouns, as Servytoures, that ben Cristene. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 682 in *Babees Bk.*, And se þat ye haue seruytours semely be disches for to bere. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 267 To the prest that cam with the cors from London, iiis. iiiid. To servytors that awaytyd upon hym..xxid...To lxx. servertors, eche of them iiid., xviis. vid. 1473 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* VIII. 157 *note*, Our lovete familiare servitieure of houshaulde Johnne of Wardelaw. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 117 He hed ane domestik seruitour. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 189 One diligent seruiture, skilfull to waight, more comelieth thy table than other some eight. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) *Matt.* xxiii. 11 He that is the greater of you, shal be your seruiteur [Vulg. *minister*]. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph.* i. (1618) 7 We see in earthly seruiters, their glory is so much the greater, by how much their Lords and masters are in greater præeminencie. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pains*, It must be set on the Table by a neat handed Servitor, lest it should be broken as it is serving up. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xix, The least servitor of the favourite Earl. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxx, That favoured servitor entered his bed-chamber. 1877 'Rita' *Vivienne* iii. vii, The old servitor left him alone with the dead.

b. *gen.* A servant. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1450-80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* Prol. 3, I that am servitoure of the kyng, haue put in execucioun his comaundement, and travayld forto gete the book of good thewes to him. *a* 1500-34 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* ii. 128 And so this stare wasse a serveture And vnto iij kyngis a playn cundeture Vnto the mancion of a virgin pure. 1543 Traheron tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* 35/2 Nature sendeth bloude or cholere, and spiryres as seruitoures to succour the hurted place. 1563-87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 7/2 The office of a Bishop or servitour ecclesiasticall, was in the old law to offer sacrifice. 1570 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Rebell.* iv. (1574) 586 Achitophel..for lacke of an hangman, a conuenient seruitour for suche a traytour, went and hanged vp hym selfe. 1580 *Second & Third Blast Plays & Theatres* 109 Neede and flatterie are two brothers, and the eldest seruitors in the Court. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 4 This workman [God], whose seruitor nature is, being in truth but only one. 1594 Shaks. *Lucr.* 285. 1616 Hieron *Three Serm.* 10 b, Surely the spirite of Christ Iesus is not in mee;..I am yet a limme of the kingdome of darknesse, a seruitour of the prince of darknes. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 156 A Bore: Dian's reuenge, and horrid Seruatore [orig. *famulus*]. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. iv. 13 To the performance of w^ch^ [office] the Levits were but as servitors & Deacons. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 5 And though he was an universall Scholar, yet did he make other sciences..but drudges and serviteurs to Divinity. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 126 The grandest..are thus but servitors of a grander than themselves. 1874 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcvi. 9 Holiness is the royal apparel of his servitors.

† c. An attendant or caretaker in a church. *Obs.*

1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 38 Alwaies provyded w^th^ fresh water..by two of y^e^ bell Ringers or servitors of y^e^ church.

† d. *Sc.* A person in a subordinate office or employment; an assistant in a school; an apprentice, *spec.* a lawyer's apprentice or clerk. *Obs.*

1486 *Aberd. Reg.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 30 Thome Gray, tailzour..and in likuiss, gif ony seruitor of his be fundin conuikit in sic faltis [etc.]. 1598 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1588, 547/2 Patrik Glesfurde and Geo. M^c^Cartnay schervitouris to the said Wil., Thomas Home schervitour to Mr. Jhone Prestoun advocat. 1602-8 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 129 Item, to Mr. George Mackie, servitor of the grammer school, for his panis in attending on the school, fra the deceis of the maister thairof till the new maisteris wer admittit..10 lib. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lxvi, The Baillie was in search of his apprentice (a servitor, as he was called Sixty Years since), Jock Scriever.

attrib. 1583 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 559 James Bonar, servitour clerk of the schireflome of Forfair.

e. An official or semi-official title of certain officers, e. g. of the Royal Household, or municipal bodies. † *Servitor of bills*, a tipstaff of the court of King's Bench.

1543 tr. *Act 2 Hen. IV*, c. 23 No seruytour of hylles that bereth a staffe of the same courte shall [etc.]. 1597 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 417 A petition of the Creditors & Servitors of the Revels. 1658 Fanshaw *Pract. Exch. Crt.* 48 All Officers, Ministers and Servitors of the Exchequer. 1671 Jordan *London's Resurr.* 2 The two City-Marshals, riding each of them on Horse-back, with six Servitors to attend them, with Scarfs and Colours of the Companies. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 363 Four Whifflers (as Servitures) by two and two walking before with White Staves in their Hands.

f. A military attendant, a squire or page. *rare.*

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. (1533) 124 b/2 They agreed to purvey at theyr propre costes .v. C. men of armys, wyth a seruyture to eueryche spere. 1839 Mrs. Browning *Romaunt of Page* xxiv, She..followed him she wed before, Disguised as his true servitor, To the very battle-place.

g. A lover; = Servant *sb.* 4 b. *rare.*

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxiv. 16 The lustiast ladie that nature can devyne, Thocht scho have mony semelie scheruitour, 3it [etc.]. *a* 1529 Skelton *Colliope* 20 Yet is she fayne Voyde of disdayn, Me to retayne Her seruiture. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) x. 39 Is no^t^ in erd I cure, Bot pleiss my lady pure, Syne be hir scheruiture Vnto I de. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 145 Till, turning, I beheld the servitor Of Lady Lagia.

† 2. Used in expressions of humility or politeness. = Servant *sb.* 4 d. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Somp. T.* 477 'Now, maister', quod this lord, 'I yow biseke'. 'No maister, sir', quod he, 'but servitour, Though I have had in scole such honour'. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxvii. 457, I am a poure knyght and a seruytour vnto yow and to alle good knyghtes. 1562 O. Rowe in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 339 Your Honors pore sarvytor. 1580 J. Hay *Demandes* Ded. in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 34 Yours most humble and obedient Seruiteure, Iohne Hay. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 196 *War*[*wick*]...My Noble Queene, let former grudges passe, And henceforth, I am thy true Seruitour. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) I. II. vi. 76 Your truly devoted Servitor, J. H.

‖ b. In Fr. form *serviteur*. *Obs.*

1664 Etherege *Com. Revenge* I. ii, Your most humble *Serviteur*, my Lord. 1697 Vanbrugh *and Pt. Æsop* (end), There's a Tale for your Tale, Old Dad; and so—*Serviteur*. [Exit.] 1702 — *False Friend* I. 9, I like your Daughter very well; but for Marrying her—*Serviteur*.

3. One who serves in war; a soldier; *spec.* one of a class of persons to whom lands were assigned in Ulster in the reign of James I, as having served in a military or civil office in Ireland. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* in the specific use.

1561 Awdeley *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 3 A Ruffeler goeth wyth a weapon to seeke seruice, saying he hath bene a Seruitor in the wars, and beggeth for his reliefe. 1587 T. Sanders *Voy. Tripoli* B ij b, A Spaniard called Sebastian, which had beene an old seruitor in Flanders. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 5 *Sen*[*tinel*]. Thus are poore Seruitors..Constrain'd to watch in darknesse, raine, and cold. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* IV. ii. 107 Among our English seruitours in the Low Countreis. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 422 The..most venterous Mariners and servitours at sea. 1612 Davies *Why Ireland*, etc. 127 Our Norman Conqueror..gaue away to his seruitors, the Lands and possessions of such, as did oppose his first inuasion. 1618 *Carew Papers in Roy. Engin. Jrnl.* Aug. (1909) 126 To survey and make a return of the proceedings and performances of conditions of the undertakers, servitors and natives planted [in Armagh, etc.]. 1634 *Ir. Act* 10 *Chas. I* Sess. II. c. 3 (*title*) The estates of the undertakers, servitors, natives, and others holding lands..in..the plantations. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon.* 20 A valiant servitour in sundry wars beyond sea. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xviii. 380 Sir Arthur Chichester..advised that the lands should be assigned,..partly to servitors of the crown, as they were called.

4. *Oxford University.* In certain colleges, one of a class of undergraduate members (no longer existing under that title: see quot. 1852) who received their lodging and most of their board free, and were excused lecture fees.

Originally the servitors acted as servants to the fellows, and although the requirement of menial services from them gradually fell into disuse, they continued to be regarded as socially the inferiors of the commoners. The last mention in the Oxford University Calendar of servitors as an existing class (at Christ Church) is in 1867; in the following year the same persons are called 'exhibitioners'. In most of the colleges the funds originally used for servitorships are now used for 'exhibitions', but at Balliol for scholarships. The scholars of Balliol appear in 1507 as 'scholastici sive servitores'.

1642 *Let. Stud. at Oxford, & Answ.* 2 My Servitor hath brought mee in the tidings. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s. v. *Serviteur*, Wee use the word *Servitor* in our Universities, where the poor or meaner sort of Schollars..execute the office of a Servitor or attendant to those of greater wealth and quality. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 305 Whether he was at his first coming a Servitour, or Scholar, I know not. 1732 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 118 The Bishop, in this case, must take some raw young Man, perhaps a Servitor in a College. 1745 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 377 The Dean said if his parents would consent to his entering the college of Dublin as a sizer (which in Oxford and Cambridge are called servitors) he would take care he was treated with a particular regard. 1754 Johnson *Let.* 28 Nov. in *Boswell*, Let a servitour transcribe the quotations. 1787 Sir J. Hawkins *Johnson* 12 It was the practice in his time, for a servitor, by order of the master, to go round to the rooms of the young men, and knocking at the door, to enquire if they were within, and if no answer was returned, to report them absent. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. of Snobs* xiii, The unlucky boys who have no tassels to their caps, are called sizars—*servitors* at Oxford. 1852 *Rep. Oxf. Univ. Comm.* 135 Servitors are found, under that name, only at Christchurch, where they used within the last twenty years to bring the first dish into the Hall; but now they differ from other Students of that Society in little, except in academic dues. In some other

colleges the class of Servitors are represented by Clerks or Bible-Clerks, of whom there are about forty in the University. 1858 [J. C. THOMSON] *Almæ Matres* 86 Christchurch ..is the only College which preserves the odious distinction of servitors, or as they call them, 'scrivs.'

b. *Eton.* (See quot.)

1865 W. L. C. *Etoniana* viii. 138 At the college dinner three lower boys (called *servitors*) wait to hand the plates and pour out beer; their dinner is half an hour later, with the 'upper servitor'—one of the higher boys, who superintends the hall economy.

5. *Glassmaking.* †a. An assistant to a master workman (*obs.*). b. Now *spec.* as the designation of the second of the men composing a 'chair': see quots. Also SERVITARY.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 242 [Of the Furnaces.] *Boccarellas*, one on each side of the *Bocca*,..out of these the Servitors take coloured or finer Metall from the piling pot. *Ibid.* 244, 246, 247. 1849 PELLATT *Curios. Glass-making* 89 [A 'chair' consists of] first, a gaffer, or workman; the second, a servitor; and the third, a foot-maker; the latter usually earns about half the wages paid to the chief, and the servitor receives an intermediate amount. 1887 *Rep. Patent Cases* IV. 273 Shaw was his servitor—the servitor being the man who made the feet of the wine glasses. 1897 *Worc. County Express* 3 Apr., There were ten chairs at the works each occupied by a glassmaker, servitor, and footmaker.

Servitorial (sɔːvitōˑriăl), *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -IAL.] Of or pertaining to a servitor (in any sense).

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 386 Your cherry-cheeked friend and another..do the servitorial offices of the table. 1866 TYERMAN *Life S. Wesley* 81 His servitorial services [at Oxford] might obtain him bread. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* (1886) 4 The squire was diverted from his objurgations against this piece of servitorial defiance.

Servitorship (sɔːvitɔˑʃip). [f. SERVITOR + -SHIP.] a. The position, state, or duties of a servitor at an Oxford college. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1785 BOSWELL *Tour Hebrides* 130 *note*, Dr. Johnson..by his interest with the Rev. Dr. Adams, master of Pembroke College, Oxford,..obtained a servitorship for young M'Aulay. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 52 Servitorships are more in the spirit of a Roman Catholic than of an English establishment. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 73 It is not so much we that have abolished servitorships, as time and manners that have made the position untenable. 1897 FAIRBAIRN *Catholicism* (1899) 445 The evil system and associations of the old servitorship left for life their ignoble stamp on the soul of Whitefield.

b. The condition of being a servitor or servant.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 254 Postmen, beadles, scavengers, chimney-sweeps—the whole *pecus* of parochial servitorship was at my gate.

Servitress (sɔːvitrès). [See SERVITOR and -TRESS.] A female servant or attendant.

1860 J. P. KENNEDY *Rob of the Bowl* xii. 125 [She] now attended him as his servitress and only domestic. 1873 M. COLLINS *Miranda* II. 100 Tom Jones had fitted up a buffet..and put some servitresses behind it. 1877 KINGLAKE *Crimea* VI. xi. 439 An obedient servitress attending hospital sick-beds.

†Servitrice. *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 **servetrice.** [ad. med.L. *servitrīce-m*, acc. of *servitrix*.] = next.

1477 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 101 *note*, Oure lovete familiare servitrice Margret Sandelandis. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 170, I, your servitrice and pure wedo. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1870) V. 124/1 Maistres Margaret Wincester servetrice to his Majesties said vmq[uhi]l darrest mother.

†Servitrix. *Sc. Obs.* [a. med.L. *servītrix* (Diefenbach), fem. of L. *servītor*: see SERVITOR.] A female servant.

1566 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* (1840) I. 43 Marie Betoune familiar servitrix to our said souerane lady. 1615 in Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* (1880) 136 Janet Shortus, servitrix to Mr. Alexander Knowis. *c* 1775 in M'Dowall *Hist. Dumfries* xlvii. (1867) 680 [Janet Watson] a servitrix [at the very farm].

Servitude (sɔːvitiūd). Also 5–6 **servytude,** 6 *Sc.* **schervitude.** [a. F. *servitude*, ad. late L. *servitūdo*, f. *serv-us* slave, SERF: see -TUDE.]

1. The condition of being a slave or a serf, or of being the property of another person; absence of personal freedom. Often, and now usually, with additional notion of subjection to the necessity of excessive labour. Also, a (more or less rigorous) state of slavery or serfdom.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 611 Or that we shall be ledde in seruytude & bondage in to strange contreyes. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 144, I had rather to be in seruitude there than to pay .iiii. drams to this Gyaunt. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 107 Whiles shee abode in Ægypt, shee was redeemed and acquit of her seruitude by one Charaxus, who purchased her libertie by a great summe of money. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 25 All the rest are shaved as a mark of their servitude. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 270 The greatest part of the nation was gradually reduced into a state of servitude. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* iv. 59 There was a probability of the woman marrying as soon as she could obtain remission of her servitude. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* IV. iv. II. 457 It enabled them to reduce the peasantry to a still harder state of servitude. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 40/1 In Hungary..the abolition of servitude in 1781–1782 carried with it the freedom of the Gipsies.

personified. 1769 GRAY *Install. Ode* 6 Servitude that hugs her chain.

b. With reference to animals: Subjection to mankind. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 268 For his soft Neck, a supple Collar make Of bending Osiers; and (with Time and Care Enur'd that easy Servitude to bear) Thy flatt'ring Method on the Youth pursue. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 376 The wild ass is even more asinine..than that bred in a state of domestic servitude.

c. The condition of being politically enslaved; subjection to a foreign power or to oppressive rule. † With *of* (or possessive): The state of being under the yoke *of* (a tyrant, a conqueror).

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 276 For hit is the destyne that Troye shall neuer be quyte of this right harde seruytude and thraldom vnto the tyme that [etc.]. 1477 EARL RIVERS *Dictes* (Caxton) 10 b, Al be it that they be in his seruitude yet ought he to his power to kepe them in fraunchyse and liberte. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 5 The feare of servitude under forraine nations, may restraine them from such attempts. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 160 b, These wretched Græcians are left vnder the miserable seruitude of these miscreated Mahometists. 1598 BACON *Ess., Of Hon. & Reput.* (Arb.) 72 Such as..deliuer their Countries from seruitude of strangers or tyrants. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 53 Nebuchadnezzar..carried the Jews themselves into most miserable servitude. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 43 P 2 A disturbed Liberty is better than a quiet servitude. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 217 Sesostris..reduced Judæa into servitude. 1904 H. PAUL *Hist. Mod. Eng.* II. 244 One wanted the liberation of Italy and the other her servitude.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* A condition resembling slavery; a state of degrading or burdensome subjection.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 80 For the debilite and feblenes of corage that is broken in conscience by pryde Enuye or by couetyse is ryght seruytude. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 429/1 He lamenteth the miserable seruitude of the symple soules the poore sely women, because men will not suffer them to say masse. *Ibid.* 556/1 The deadly synne in the time of his fall, and of the seruitude and thraldom that he lyeth in. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) vii. 18 Tho' this belappit body heir Be bound to scheruitude and thrall, My fathfull hairt is fre inteir And mynd to serf my lady at all. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 265 b, So did she..with the tribute of gifts, seeke to bring her mind into seruitude. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 178 This is servitude, To serve th'unwise, or him who hath rebelld Against his worthier. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 2 Tim. i. 9 Who hath saved us from our servitude to sin and Satan, and called us out of the World to be a Holy people. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 May 1677, This business being now at an end and myself deliver'd from that intolerable servitude and correspondence, I [etc.]. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. IV. ii. § 4. 276 The Arabians..tamely adopted the intellectual servitude of the nation which they conquered by their arms. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* III. iv. (1869) 192 The religious servitude into which the Scotch fell ..was a willing servitude.

† e. *concr.* Slaves or servants collectively. *Obs.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 132 After him [Abraham] a cumbrous Train Of Herds, and Flocks, and numerous servitude.

2. The condition of being a servant, service; esp. domestic service. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (exc. as a contextual application of 1 d).

1651 tr. *Life Sarpi* (1676) 10 He had likewise a very near familiarity with the Father Inquisitor,..with whom he continued servitude till his death. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 89 The longer Cecilia lived upon a footing..with people of fortune, the more irksome Servitude would appear to her. 1792 G. WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I. 532 You would have been led into a more healthy situation, and might have procured, after a short servitude, some comfortable preferment. 1807 SOUTHEY *Spec. Eng. Poets* II. 234 At the age of 24, married, in servitude, with little leisure, and no money or books, he set about his plan of improvement. 1817 *Salisb. & Winch. Jrnl.* 29 Sept., A servant girl..was found drowned...She had been missing from her place of servitude since the preceding Thursday. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXXVIII. He sentenced her to be dismissed from her servitude with no more than the wage she had actually earned.

3. Apprenticeship. ? *Obs.*

1791 in Langford *Cent. B'ham Life* (1868) I. 368 At the Expiration of the Servitude of these..Apprentices. 1799 *Hull Advert.* 12 Oct. 2/4 John Brown..lately enticed..apprentices..from their servitude. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 323 The duration of apprenticeship in this country is excessive. Five years ought to confer all the privileges of servitude. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1667 Admission to the company [*sc.* Trinity House, Newcastle-on-Tyne] is acquired, 1st, by Birth; 2d, by Servitude; 3d, by Gift.

4. A person's (period of) service (in the Navy).

1818 *Tuckey's Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* Introd. p. xlix, Though wanting eighteen months for the completion of his servitude to qualify him for a lieutenant's commission. 1836 MARRYAT *Three Cutters* ii, During my servitude as first lieutenant.

5. Compulsory labour as a punishment for criminals. Chiefly *penal servitude*: see PENAL *a.*[1] 1 c.

Free by servitude (Austral.): see quot. 1889.

1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 129 Those who have become free by servitude. 1889 *19th Cent.* Nov. 765 When you were a little familiar with colonial phraseology you at once understood that..Giles..was what was called a 'free by servitude man', i.e., a convict whose sentence of transportation had expired.

† 6. Feudal or ecclesiastical subjection; vassalage, subordination. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* lix. 359 Thou holdest me for thy subget & woldest hold me in seruitude and thou hast therof nothing to shew. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funerall Mon.* 559 S. Albans exempted from the iurisdiction of Lincoln... Robert was the next Abbot..and deliuered his Monastery from the seruitude of the Bishop of Lincolne.

† b. Feudal homage or service. *Obs.*

1498 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 504 Of all maner Toll, pontage, pykage,..kayage and all oþer Impositions, charges & seruitudes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvi. 249 For yf he escape grete shame shal be to vs in an euyl heure is he come in to oure land for to demande seruytude of vs. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 26 But there are some instances of personal service, and which are held to be legal..provided they relate to husbandry, and not to any servitude or attendance upon the person of the landlord.

7. In *Civil Law* (= L. *servitus*), and hence in *Scots Law*: a subjection or subserviency of property either: (1) to some definite person other than its owner ('personal servitude'), or (2) to some definite property other than that of its owner for the benefit of the dominant property ('prædial servitude'). In *Scots Law* the term is now in practice restricted to prædial servitude, which includes both the 'easement' and the 'profit à prendre' of English Law; it has been sometimes used by English lawyers to include both these kinds of rights.

A personal servitude (of which usufruct is an example) could be constituted either over movables or immovables; a prædial servitude (e. g. a right of way) could only be constituted over an immovable in favour of another immovable.

1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 609/2 And siclyk exceptand and reservand the seruitude altius edes non tollendj prospectui et luminibus non officiendj constitute and imposit vpon ane tenement of land now pertening to mr Johnne nicolsoun aduocat. *Ibid.*, And all vther seruitude quhatsumeuer. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 133 Hereupon Servitudes have been imposed, against the rearing of Houses higher then ordinary. 1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vii. (1693) 282 Servitudes are distinguished in Real and Personal, though neither of them be personal Rights; yet these Servitudes whereby one Tenement is subservient to another Tenement, and to persons only as having Right to, and for the use of that Tenement, are called Real Servitudes, as not being subservient directly to Persons, but to Things: And the other are called Personal; because thereby the Tenement is subservient directly to Persons, and not with respect to any other thing, as Liferents, &c. *Ibid.* 287 Watering is a Servitude of taking Water, proper to one ground for the use of another. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Law Sc.* (1809) 221 The owner of the servient tenement is not obliged, in a servitude of support, to repair it, unless the servitude be expressly so constituted. 1765–8 — *Inst. Law Scot.* II. ix. § 12 The chief rural servitudes of the Roman law are, *iter, actus, via, aquæductus, aquæhaustus*, and *jus pascendi pecoris*. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 558 One great obstacle to improvements in agriculture is the Servitude of Thirlage. 1816 G. J. BELL *Comm. Laws Scot.* (1826) I. 757 Servitudes, when of a positive nature, require possession to complete them; but negative servitudes are effectual without possession or registration. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 321 Ministers have frequently servitudes of peat, of feal, and divot, and of pasturage on particular estates or farms. 1872 W. GUTHRIE *G. J. Bell's Princ. Law Scot.* (ed. 6) § 981 Servitudes have been classed as Prædial and Personal... But, practically, the only servitudes in Scotland are Prædial. 1888 W. D. EDWARDS *Law Property in Land* II. vi. 271 Easements resemble rights of common appendant and appurtenant, in that they are annexed to the ownership of land for its benefit. They are, therefore, sometimes classed with such rights of common, under the name of 'servitudes'. 1900 *Act* 63 & 64 *Vict.* c. 93 *title*, To acquire lands and servitudes for the purposes of such water supply.

fig. 1720 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 59/2 This earthly house, it lies under many servitudes, and the believer..pays a dear mail or rent for his quarters.

b. *attrib.*

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v. *Road*, A public-road may be used by all the Queen's subjects, whereas a servitude-road can be legally used only by the dominant proprietor and his family. 1884 WATSON in *Law Times Rep.* LI. 802/1 Servitude rights burdening the corporeal lands taken by the company.

†Servitudinous, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *servitūdin-, servitūdo* (see prec.) + -OUS.] Of the nature of, or characterized by servitude.

1647 *Maids Petit.* 1 Wee the Mayd-servants in generall of the City of London, and in behalfe of the universall sisterhood of the same servitudinous ranke and quality.

†Serviture. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **scherviture.** [ad. med.L. *servitūra*, f. L. *servīre* to SERVE: see -TURE.]

1. Service, servitude.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlv. 8 Scho baldis with continwance No scheruiture.

2. The whole body of servants in a family.

a 1667 MILTON in *Prose Wks.* (1738) I. p. xliv, The Chorus of Shepherds præpare resistance in thire Maister's Defence, calling the rest of the serviture.

Serviture, obs. form of SERVITOR.

†Servitute. *Obs.* Also 4, 6 **servitut,** 5–6 **servytute.** [a. OF. *servitute, -uit*, or ad. L. *servitūt-em* (*servitūs*), f. *serv-us* slave.] Servitude, slavery. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 866 Seruitut or thrildome. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 742 In gret lordshipe, if I wel avyse, Ther is gret servitute in sondry wyse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 182 Bot Pharao with wrong hem ladde In servitute ayein the pes. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 51 Ynglonde was redacte iiij. tymes into servitute. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 83 Whan virginite is vnder the seruytute or bondage of elacyon or pryde. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 95 Giff vse grace to dant our bodis and to subiect thayme in seruitut. 1546 BALE *1st Exam. Askew* 40, A verye servitute of Ægipte is it, to be in daunger of these papystyck Byshoppes.

Servo- (sɔːˑrvo), combining form of SERVIAN, as *Servo-Croat, -Croatian.*

1887 MORFILL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 145/1 Servo-Croats, including those of Servia, Montenegro, the southern part of Hungary. *Ibid.* 148/2 Servo-Croatian, Slovenish, Slovakish, and Bohemian possess the vocal *r*. 1896 KEANE *Ethnol.* 412 Slavic Branch..Servo-Croatian.

†Servoice. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. F. *cervoise* :—L. *cerevisia.*] Ale.

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 32 One gallon servoice. *Ibid.* 35 A quart wyne, one gallon servoice.

Servo-motor. [ad. F. *servo-moteur* (1873 in Littré *Suppl.*), f. L. *servus* slave + F. *moteur* MOTOR.

In the official notice of the prize awarded in 1875 to the inventor, M. Farcot, the apparatus is called 'servo-moteur ou moteur asservi'.]

An auxiliary motor, e.g. one used for directing the rudders of a Whitehead torpedo, or the reversing gear of a large marine engine.

1889 SLEEMAN *Torpedoes* (ed. 2) 184 The servo-motor is the air-engine from which is derived the power to move the horizontal or diving rudders. 1902 BODMER *Hydraulic Motors* (ed. 3) 504 [In turbines] a so-called indirect-acting governor is almost invariably necessary, that is, a governor acting on the regulator through a relay, or as it is sometimes called, a 'servo-motor'.

†Servulate, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *servus* slave; ? after *adulate.*] *intr.* To be servile.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Bro.* I. ii, *Br.* I embrace their loves. *Egr.* Which wee'll repay with servulating.

Serwand, obs. form of SERVANT *sb.*

Serwe, obs. Sc. form of SERVE *v.*¹, SORROW.

Seryauntre, variant of SERGEANTRY.

Seryf(f, obs. forms of SERVE *v.*¹

Serymonie, -y(e, obs. forms of CEREMONY.

Seryne, obs. Sc. form of SIREN *sb.*

Ses: see CEASE, SAY *v.*¹, SEE, SESS.

Sesame (se·sămi, *formerly* se·săm, sī·săm). Forms: 5 sysane, 6–7 sesama, 7 sesami, sesamo, sesamy, 7– sesame, (9 -é), 6– sesam. [In early use, a. or ad. L. *sēsamum* (see SESAMUM), also *sīsamum*, and *sēsama*, *-ima* = Gr. *σήσαμον*, *σησάμη*, prob. of oriental origin, but the relation to the Semitic forms (Syriac *shūshmâ*, Jewish Aramaic שומשמא *shumshᵉmā*, Arab. *simsim*) is not clear. Some of the earlier forms represent It. *sesamo*, or mod.Gr. *σησάμι* (= earlier *σησάμον*, dim.). The mod. currency and form of the word are due to translations of the Arabian Nights from Fr. (*sésame*), and the trisyllabic pronunciation to association with Gr. *σησάμη*.] A widely cultivated East Indian plant, *Sesamum indicum* (N.O. *Pedaliaceæ*). Also, the seeds of this plant, from which an oil is expressed.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* x. 67 Sysane in faat soil & grauel is sowe. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. P vj b, Euonymus.. hath coddes lyke vnto sesam. 1562 *Ibid.* II. 134 No beast will eat sesama when it is grene. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 324 This little citie built vpon the riuer of Nilus,.. aboundeth greatly with the graine or seed called Sesama. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. XXV. II. 140 Sesama stamped or beaten into pouder, and so taken in wine, restraineth immoderat vomits. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 67 Sesami (of which they make Oyl). 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat.-Eng. Dict.*, *Sesama*, a white grain or corn growing in India,.. sesame. 1744 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 121 A vegetable (called Sesamo) extraordinary productive of oyl of a sweet taste. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. (1794) 148 Wheat, Barley, Vetches, Sesame, &c., are said by Berosus to be wild in Babylonia. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xlvi. (1879) 547 Wheat fields alternated with fields of barley, sesame and rice. 1897 [see GINGILI].

b. The word used as a charm to open and shut the door of the robbers' den in the tale of 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'; hence, a magic password, something which acts like magic in obtaining admission; = OPEN SESAME.

1785 *Arab. Nts. Entert.* 562 Their captain..pronounced these words distinctly: 'Sesame' (which is a sort of corn), 'open.' *Ibid.*, Then Ali Baba heard him bid the door shut, by pronouncing these words—'Shut, Sesame'. *Ibid.*, Ali Baba..perceiving the door,..said—'Open, Sesame'. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* xxii, No Tory, however wise,..could ..have obtained the *sesame* to those apartments. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 96 Thy name shall be a Sesame, at which the doors of the great shall fly open. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 83 'Open, open, green hill!'—you needed no more recondite sesame than that.

c. *attrib.*, as *sesame grain, oil, -seed*; **sesame cake**; **sesame grass** = GAMA GRASS.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XV. vii. I. 434 The Sesame-seed doth yeeld an oile. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* XI. ii, In the provinces beyond the sea some sow their sesam-seeds either in this or the following month. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc 8 b, *Sesamoidea Ossa*, several small Bones..resembling Sesamy-Seed. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 623 *Tripsacum dactyloïdes*. Sesame Grass. 1867 BAKER *Nile Trib.* ii. (1872) 35 The sésamé grain. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* II. (1872) 207 Sesame oil..is frequently used for the adulteration of balsams and volatile oils. 1876 *Crace-Calvert's Dyeing* 111 The fabric is steeped in an emulsion of sesam oil. 1883 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XLIV. 360 Albuminoïds in Peach Kernels and Sesame Cake.

†Sesamine, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *sēsamin-us*, a. Gr. *σησάμινος*, f. *σήσαμον* SESAMUM.] A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to, or obtained from sesame.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 214 A Sesamyne seede. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 454 They were annointed with Sesamine oyle.

2. = SESAMOID.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 31 The Sesamine Ossicles.

B. *sb.* = SESAME.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 133 A vomit made of Butter, Annise, and oyle of Sesamine. 1608 — *Serpents* 212 Drinke also two drammes of the roote of Centaury, or Hart-wort, Nosewort, or Gentian, or Sesamine.

Sesamoid (se·sămoid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sēsamoīdēs*, a. Gr. *σησαμοειδής*, f. *σήσαμον* SESAMUM: see -OID.]

A. *adj.* Shaped like a sesame-seed; applied in *Anat.* to certain small bones and cartilages formed in tendinous structures.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Sesamoide*, Sixteen, Nineteen, Twenty, and sometimes more little Bones.. which are found in the Joynts of the Hands and Feet. 1728 *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 891 Sesamoide Bones in the Fingers and Toes. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 404 A sesamoid bone belonging to the tendon of the *ulnaris internus*. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 247 Dissect the skin from the sole of the foot, leaving the sesamoid bones on the phalangeal articulation. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 234 A sesamoid ossicle.

B. *sb.* A sesamoid bone or cartilage.

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 256 The wrist has nine bones,.. besides supplementary sesamoids. 1886 W. N. PARKER *Wiedersheim's Anat. Vertebr.* 113 Wherever a marked friction occurs, ossifications (sesamoids) may become developed in the course of a muscle or tendon.

So **Sesamoi·dal** *a.* (in recent Dicts.); **Sesamoi·deal** *a.* [mod.L. *sēsamoīdeus*] = SESAMOID *a.*

1869 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* § 678. 439 The superior Sesamoideal Ligament

‖ **Sesamum** (se·săməm). [L., ad. Gr. *σήσαμον.*] = SESAME.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb* I. (1586) 32 b, What say you to Sesamum, that was greatly in vse in the olde tyme. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xl. 251 You must steepe your seedes in the oile of Sesamum, otherwise called Turkie millet. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 551 Rice, sugar-canes, corn, sesamum. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 133 Common Sesamum, or Oily Grain. 1884 A. LANG *Custom & Myth* 93 The girl performs no magic feat, but merely throws sesamum on the ground to delay the cannibals.

b. *attrib.*, as *sesamum-cake, -oil, -plant, -seed.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxcix. 1054 Columella saith, that Sesamum seedes must be sowen after Autumne Æquinoctiall. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s.v. *Sesamoide*, Sesamum Seeds. 1850 F. MASON *Nat. Product. Burmah* 176 The sesamum plant is largely cultivated by the Karens. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Abeokuta* I. 132 Sesamum oil. 1891 *Daily News* 16 May 5/4 Sesamum cake..is..mixed with both Persian and Indian opium.

†Sesamus. *Obs.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *σήσαμος* = *σήσαμον* SESAMUM.] Sesame, sesame oil.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 205 Their sinewes and ioyntes are..annointed with the oyle Sesamus. 1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 667 The plain of the Cayster..is cultivated with cotton and tobacco plants, with sesamus and a little barley.

Sesban (se·sbæn). [ad. F. *sesban*, ultimately ad. Pers. سيسبان *sīsabān.*] Any leguminous plant of the genus *Sesbania*, esp. *S. ægyptiaca* and *aculeata* (which yields rope fibre).

1860 *Sir Rohan's Ghost* vi, Orange-colored sesban. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787.

Sesce, obs. form of CEASE.

Sescuple (se·skiup'l), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *sescuplus* or *sescuplex*, var. *sesquiplus, -plex*, f. *sesqui-* SESQUI- + *-plus, -plex* -FOLD.] = SESQUIALTER *a.*

1694 W. WOTTON *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1697) 100, 9 is in a Sescuple Proportion to 6. 1774 MITFORD *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 13 Rhythmus is either even, as in the dactyl, which has one long syllable equal to two short ones,..or it is sescuple, as in the pæon, composed of one long syllable and three short ones. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 369 Superparticular ratio..: its varieties are sescuple or sesquialter, sesquitertius, sesquiquartus, &c.

Sese: see CEASE, CESS, SEE, SEIZE.

Seseli (se·sĭli). Also 6 -y. [med.L. *seseli, -is* (also *seseleos*), a. Gr. *σέσελι*, var. of *σέσελις.* Cf. F. *séséli* (16th c.), It., etc. *seseli*, and CICELY.] a. = HARTWORT. b. A plant of the umbelliferous genus *Seseli.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 6 If it be drunken with Annis seede or Sesely. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxviii. 893 Of Seselios, or Harte woorts of Candie. *Ibid.* 894 *Seseli Creticum.* Seseleos of Candie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. XXXII. I. 213 The hearbe Seselis or Siler-mountaine. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 172 Take..of the seedes peony, of seseli or comin, of each two ounces. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Seseli seed*, in the materia medica, the name of the seed of a plant, called also by some *libanotis.* 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 43 The root of several of the seselis.

Seser, variant of SISER, cider.

†Se·skyn. *Obs.* Also **suskyn.** [a. MDu. *seskijn*, f. *ses* six + dim. suffix *-kijn* = -KIN.] A Dutch coin of the value of 6 mites.

1423 *Act* 3 *Hen. V*, c. 1 § 2 Les Galyhalpens & la Moneie appelle Seskyn & Doydekyn. *Ibid.*, Galyhalpens, Seskyns ou Doykyns. 1423 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 255/1 Le moneie appelle Galihalpenys, Suskyns & Dodekyns. 14.. in *Athenæum* (1867) 7 Dec. 768, vi mytis is a seskyn.

Sesora, variant of SISERARY.

17.. *Ballad* in H. Walpole *Let. to Percy* 5 Feb. 1765, They [the bells] rung with a Sesora.

Sesours, obs. form of SCISSORS.

Sesperal, obs. variant of SUSPIRAL.

Sesqui- (se·skwi), a Latin prefix [L. *sesqui-*, also *sesque-*, contraction of **sēmis-que* a half in addition; cf. *sestertius* :—**sēmis-tertius*], expressing a superparticular ratio.

1. With designations of measure or amount, denoting one-and-a-half times the unit; as *sesquihōra* an hour and a half; *sesquipēs* a foot and a half (see SESQUIPEDALIAN); so **†sesquiho·ral** *a.*, lasting an hour and a half; **se·squioce·llus** *Ent.* (see SESQUIALTEROUS); **†se·squitone** *Mus.*, an interval consisting of a tone and a semitone, a minor third; also used loosely in **†sesquide·cuman** *a.*, consisting of fifteen; **†sesquide·cury,** a set of fifteen.

1650 *Descr. Future Hist. Eur.* 31 Merlin prophesied to him, 'That within lesse then a *sesquidecumane period of time, the Eagles head should be cloven in two.' 1650 RAVIS (*title*) A generall Grammer for the ready attaining of the Ebrew...Also a *Sesquidecury, or a number of Fifteene Adoptive Epistles..concerning care of the Orientall Tongues to be promoted. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 279 Their tedious pharisaical prayers before supper, and *sesquihoral graces upon a dish of skink and leg of mutton. 1694 W. HOLDER *Harmony* 80 The Third Minor, Trihemitone, or *Sesquitone, as consisting of three half Tones (or rather of a Tone and half a Tone).

b. *Chem.* In the names of salts, expressing a proportion of 3 to 2 between the constituents, *viz.* a combination of 3 atoms or equivalents of the substance denoted by the word to which it is prefixed with 2 atoms of another element or radical; e.g. *sesquibromide*, a bromide containing 3 atoms of bromine for 2 of another substance; similarly **sesquiba·sic** [see BASIC *a.*], having 3 equivalents of the base for 2 of the acid; **se·squico·mpound, se·squisa·lt,** a compound, a salt having its constituents in these proportions.

This terminology was introduced into English by T. Thomson in his *First Principles of Chemistry* 1825, and *System of Chemistry* 1831, where many terms, not illustrated here, are to be found.

1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 208 The *Sesquibasic acetate of lead, $3PbO,2(C_4H_3O)+Aq$. 1831 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 388 *Sesquiborate of ammonia. *Ibid.* I. 324 The *sesquibromide of arsenic. 1825 — *1st Princ. Chem.* II. App. 515 *Sesquicarbonate of ammonia. 1883 HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 9) 38 When first formed it has nearly the composition of a Sesquicarbonate, but by exposure to the air neutral Carbonate of Ammonia escapes, and a white powder is left, which is a Bicarbonate. 1871 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXIV. 1012 *Sesquicarbonyl Chloroplatinite, $C_3O_3Pt_2Cl_4$. 1825 T. THOMSON *1st Princ. Chem.* II. App. 515 *Sesquichloride of iron. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 218 Aluminum forms a *sesqui-compound $(Al_2(C_4H_3)_3)$ corresponding to its oxide Al_2O_3. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 32/2 The ferrocyanide of potassium also gives a deep blue, but the *sesquiferrocyanide gives none at all. 1831 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 452 *Sesquihydrated carbonate of soda. 1887 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LII. I. 558 The formula of the fibrous alum, $3MgO,SO_3+2Al_2O_{1,3}SO_3+53H_2O$, represents a *sesqui-magnesia alum. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 186 *Sesquinitrate of iron, $Fe_2O_3,3NO_5$. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 32/1 Sulphate of Peroxide of Iron, or *Sesquipersulphate of Iron. *Ibid.*, [Pernitrate of iron] is..a *sesquisalt. 1825 T. THOMSON *1st Princ. Chem.* II. App. 515 *Sesquisulphate of uranium. *Ibid.*, *Sesquisulphuret of arsenic. 1890 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 6/1 It has been found that sesqui-sulphuret of phosphorus..melts only at 142 deg. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 176 *Sesquitartrovinate of copper. 1888 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LIV. 377 *Sesquiterpene, $C_{15}H_{24}$.

c. In *Astrology*, **sesquiquadrate, -quartile,** denoting an aspect of planets when 135° from one another; **sesquiquintile,** when 108° from one another; **sesqui-square** = *sesquiquadrate.*

c 1610 SIR C. HEYDON *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 95 The *Sesquiquadrate [aspect] of 135 degr. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* c. 512. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 11 Aspects..*Sesquiquartil. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* c. 512 *Sesquiquintil [consists of degrees] 108. 1861 'ZADKIEL' *Hand-bk. Astrol.* I. 8 The new aspects are semi-square, 45°; quintile, 72°; *sesqui-square, 135°.

†d. Prefixed to words descriptive of forms of religious belief, = extreme(ly), excessive(ly), ultra-; e.g. *sesqui-conformist, -deist, -heretic, -jesuit, separation*; also *sesqui-superlative* adj. *Obs.*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Glouc.* (1662) I. 360 Some pressed super-Canonical Ceremonies, and such *Sesqui-Conformists made Mr. Workman turn first but a Semi-Conformist, and then by degrees to renounce all Conformity. 1880 F. HALL *Doctor Indoctus* 52 If he invented a brand-new form of allotheism, and came out a *sesquideist, or a quaternitarian. 1627 DONNE *Serm.* i. (1649) II. 5 They are *se[s]qui-Heretiks in this, that they countenance Incontinency, and Fornication, which those very heretiks abhorred. *a* 1631 — *Serm.* xii. (1640) 113 A Jesuit, or a Semi-Jesuit, a practising Papist, or a *Sesqui-Jesuit, a Jesuited Lady. 1653 R. BAILLIE *Dismas. Vind.* (1655) 9 Why..do the Independents..runne beyond it..to a *sesqui-separation? 1611 DONNE *Poems, Upon Caryat's Crudities* 2 Oh, to what height will love of greatness drive Thy learned spirit, *sesqui-superlative!

2. With an ordinal numeral adjective, denoting the proportion $1+\frac{1}{n}:1$, *i.e.* $n+1:n$, where n is the corresponding cardinal number, as *sesquioctāvus*, bearing the ratio $1\frac{1}{8}:1$, *i.e.* 9:8; so **SESQUIALTER, -ALTERA,** etc., **SESQUITERTIA,** etc.; **† se·squibite·rtial,** involving a proportion of 5:3; **†se·squide·cimal,** of 11:10; **sesquino·nal,** of 10:9; **se·squiocta·val, -o·ctave,** of 9:8; **se·squiqua·rtal, -quartan,** of 5:4; **se·squise·ptimal,** of 8:7.

a 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 228 Sextuple proportion is by addition of the Antecedents made of Sesquitertial,

*Sesquibitertial, and Triple proportions. *Ibid.* 180 If above the exact Multiple of the Consequent, there remains in the Antecedent any Quotal part of the Consequent, as an half, a third, a fourth, or a tenth part of the Consequent, (or otherwise thus named, a Sesquialteral, a Sesquitertial, a Sesquiquartal, a *Sesquidecimal part, &c.). 1787 HAWKINS *Life of Johnson* 375 The proportion of a column is taken from that of the human figure, which..is in a man sesquioctave of the head, and in a woman *sesquinonal. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 182 The Exponent of their proportions is the common Quotient $1\frac{1}{8}$, which shews the proportion to be..*Sesquioctaval. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* Explan. Words, **Sesqui-octaue*, that which compriseth the whole and one 8 part; as 9 to 8. 18 to 16. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 30/2 Its proportion will be as eight to nine, which the Latins call a Sesquioctave. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 180 This proportion is named triple *Sesquiquartal, and is noted thus $3\frac{1}{4}$. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. p. xi, The same Tension upon a sub-sesquialteran Chord acts in a double *sesquiquartan Ratio. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 30/2 Seven to eight,..the proportion which the Latins call *Sesquiseptimal.

b. in *Music*, after SESQUIALTERA and SESQUITERTIA; **sesquiquarta, -quinta, -sexta, -octava (-octave), -nona**, applied (i) to harmonic intervals producible by sounding four-fifths, five-sixths, etc. of a given string; (ii) rhythmic combinations of four notes against five, five against six, etc.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 54 If they would make fiue crotchets to one semibreefe, then must they set downe *Sesquiquarta* proportion thus $\frac{4}{5}$, wherein fiue semibriefes or their value make vp the time of foure semibriefes or strokes. 1694 W. HOLDER *Harmony* 153 To divide a Sesquioctave Tone (9 to 8) by dupling the Terms of the Ration thereof, into 2 Hemitones. 1698 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 81 We assign to a Fifth..the Sesqui-alter Proportion..And to a Tone..The Sesqui-octave (or that of 9 to 8). 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* I. 74 The ditone he had demonstrated to be in sesquiquarta proportion, as 5 to 4. *Ibid.* 75 The greater or sesquioctave tone, 9 to 8, and the lesser or sesquinonal tone, 10 to 9. *Ibid.* The semiditone is sesquiquinta. 1883 ROCKSTRO in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 475/1.

‖ Sesquialter (seskwiæ·ltəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*). [L., f. *sesqui-* (see prec.) + *alter* second. For the formation cf. ON. *hálfr annarr*, OE. *ðþer healf*, G. *anderthalb.*]

1. Of a proportion: That is as $1\frac{1}{2}$ is to 1. Of an object: Proportionate *to* another object as $1\frac{1}{2}$ is to 1; that is such a multiple *of*.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* c j b, A Cylinder, whose heith, and Diameter of his base, is aequall to the Diameter of the Sphære, is Sesquialter to the same Sphære. 1598 FLORIO, *Hemiolio*, an arithmeticall proportion called Sesquialter or Sesquiplex, which is so much, and halfe so much againe. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 119 This would by sesquialter proportion exceed all the rest. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* IV. xi. Schol., Isosceles triangle, whose angles at the base are multiples sesquialter of those at the top. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 81 We assign to a Fifth..the Sesqui-alter Proportion (or that of 3 to 2). 1711 H. NEEDLER in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) I. 90, 6 is only sesquialter of 4. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. 222 In all the Revolutions of the Planets about the Sun,..the periodical Times is [*sic*] in a Sesquialter Proportion to the middle Distances. 1784 J. KEEBLE *Harmonics* 29 The sesquialter chromatic. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 369/2 The following ratios are superparticular: 15 to 10, which is sesquialter.

† b. *Mus.* = SESQUIALTERA 1 b.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* s. v. *Time, Sesquialter Proportion*, which signifies a Triple Measure of three Notes, to two such like Notes of the Common Time.

2. = SESQUIALTERA 2.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 293/2 Sometimes the Mixture stop is considered as part of the Sesquialter. 1846 *Ibid.* Suppl. II. 369/2 The sesquialter stop of an organ.

‖ Sesquialtera (seskwiæ·ltĕră), *a.* (*sb.*). [L., fem. (sc. *ratio*) of *sesquialter* (see prec.).]

† 1. = SESQUIALTER *a.* Also as *sb.*, a sesquialteral proportion. *Obs.*

1609 J. DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 62 Now as of Duples you make Sesquialteraes, so of Triples you may make sesquitertiaes. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 150 If you onely contemplate the Diameters of longitude and latitude of a mans Face, you shall find a Sesquialtera proportion.

b. *Mus.* (See quots. and cf. SESQUI- 2 b.)

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xli, Proportionis..Duplat, triplat, diatesseriall, Sesqui altera, and decupla resortis. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 32 *Phi.* Come then to Sesquialtera, what is it? *Ma.* It is when three notes are sung to two of the same kinde. *Ibid.* 92 The manner of singing *Sesquialtra* proportion. 1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 34 Figures set thus $\frac{3}{2}$ called Sesquialtera proportion, which signifies a Tripla Measure of three Notes to two such like Notes of the Common Time. 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* I. 67 If the fourth chord was to be..sesquialtera. 1883 ROCKSTRO in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 475/2 Sesquialtera expresses the Proportion of two to three, and therefore represents the Perfect Fifth, which is produced by sounding two-thirds of a given string. *Ibid.*, In rhythmic combinations, Sesquialtera is used as the general symbol of Triple Time. The term Sesquialtera is also applied to passages of three notes sung against two.

2. The name of an organ stop, consisting of several ranks of pipes, of a brilliant tone. Usually *absol.* as *sb.*

1688 in Hopkins *Organ* (1870) 453 Ecchos..Sesquialtera.. 105 pipes. 1798 HARGROVE *Hist. Knaresbro* (ed. 5) 53 The organ hath ten stops, viz. two diapasons...one susquialtra [etc.]. 1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s. v. *Stop*, *Sesquialtera Stop*, a mixed stop running through the scale of the instrument, and consisting of three, four, and sometimes five ranks of pipes, tuned in thirds, fifths, and eighths. 1883 STAINER in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 475/1 The Sesquialtera organ stop.

Sesquialteral (seskwi|æ·ltĕrăl), *a.* [f. L. *sesquialter*: see prec.] = SESQUIALTER I.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1358 The proportion..of Diapente, [is] Hemolios or Sesquialterall, that is to say, the whole and halfe as much more. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* viii. (1693) 10 As the six Primary Planets revolve about Him, so the Secondary ones are moved about Them..in the same Sesquialteral proportion of their Periodical motions to their Orbs. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 180, 10 to 4 is in Multiple superparticular proportion duple Sesquialteral $2\frac{1}{2}$, that is $2\frac{1}{2}$. 1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* II. 148 The proportion of Coal to Sulphur, shall be either Sesquialteral or Double, or Triple, or sometimes Equal. 1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. 287.

b. *Bot.* and *Ent.* (See quots.)

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.*, *Sesquialter flosculus*, a Sesquialteral floret. When a large fertile floret is accompanied by a small abortive one. 1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Sesquialteral*...In entomology it means occupying a third part of the wing, or including a smaller band or spot within a larger one. [1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms*, *Sesqui-alter*... Where the stamens are one half as many as the petals or sepals.]

† **Sesquialteran**, *a. Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] = SESQUIALTER I.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 271 Here you may finde the Double proportion, the sesquialteran, the sesquitertian. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 137 That the Periodic Times of the Planets will be exactly in the Sesquialteran Proportion of their Orbits or Circles.

Sesquialterate (seskwi|æ·ltĕrĕt), *a.* [Formed as prec. + -ATE 2.] = SESQUIALTER I. Hence † **Sesquialterate** *v.* (see quot. 1609).

1609 DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 64 There be, which adde the colour to the figures which are made sesquialterate by the Caracters of the numbers: and contrarily sesquialterating the sesquialteraes. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 270 These all..bear a sesquialternate [*sic*] part to the former proportion. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Lime*, The Marks of a well-burnt Lime..are, that its Weight is to that of the Stone in a sesquialterate Proportion. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. vi. 67 Time..of odd numbers or sesquialterate proportion is more proper to excite commotion. 1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. 287 In what time will my principal be raised to the sesquialterate amount? 1907 OMOND *Eng. Metrists* 14 Feet of sesquialterate ratio (3 : 2 or 2 : 3) 'answer to the Diapente or fifth in Music'.

b. (See quot. and SESQUIALTERA 1 b.)

1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Sesqui-Alterate*, *The greater Perfect*...A triple in the old music, in which the breve is three measures, or semibreves.

Sesquialterous (seskwi|æ·ltĕrəs), *a. Ent.* [Formed as prec. + -OUS.] See quots. and cf. SESQUIALTERAL b.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 288 Sesquialterous Ocellus (*Ocellus sesquialterus*). An ocellus with a smaller near it, called also *Sesquiocellus*. *Ibid.* 289 Sesquialterous Fascia (*Fascia sesquialtera*). When both wings are traversed by a continued band, and either the primary or secondary by another. *Ibid.* 342 Sesquialterous (*Sesquialteræ*). When a minute areolet is appended to a large one.

Sesquicentennial (se·skwisente·niăl), *a.* and *sb. U.S.* [f. SESQUI- + CENTENNIAL.] a. *adj.* Pertaining to a celebration of a hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary. b. *sb.* Such a celebration or anniversary.

1880 *Lond. & Prov. Mus. Trades Rev.* 15 Nov. 3/1 The Sesqui-centennial of Baltimore was celebrated during the second week of October. 1888 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Aug., The sesquicentennial celebration of the church. 1896 *Academy* 6 June 468/2 The sesquicentennial celebration of the University of Princeton, New Jersey.

Sesquiduple (se·skwidiu·p'l), *a.* [f. SESQUI- + DUPLE, to express the meaning 'two and a half' (on a false analogy), after *sesquialteral.*] Involving a ratio of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1. So **Sesquidu·plicate** *a.*

1775 ASH, *Sesquiduplicate*, belonging to the ratio of five to two. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s. v. *Sesqui*, Sesquiduplicate..sometimes occurs in modern treatises. 1850 OGILVIE, *Sesquiduple*, is sometimes used in the same manner as *sesquiduplicate*.

Sesquioxide (seskwi|o·ksəid). *Chem.* Also † **sesquoxide**. [See SESQUI- 1 b.] An oxide containing three equivalents of oxygen to two of another element or radical.

1831 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) I. 515 When the native binoxide of manganese is exposed to a low red-heat it is converted into sesquoxide. *Ibid.* II. 818 Muriated sesquioxide of manganese. 1848 NORMANDY tr. *Rose's Chem. Analysis* I. 159 Sesquioxyde of Iridium, Ir_2O_3. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* I. 5 The sesquioxides of chromium and iron.

Hence **Se·squioxida·tion**, conversion into a sesquioxide; **Se·squioxidized** *pa. pple.*, converted into a sesquioxide.

1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 27 The amount of iron sesquioxidized. *Ibid.* 142 A complete sesquioxidation of the iron salt.

Sesquipedal (sĕskwi·pĭdăl, se·skwipēdăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sesquipedāl-is*, f. SESQUI- + *ped-*, *pēs* foot: cf. PEDAL.] A. *adj.* = SESQUIPEDALIAN.

1611 R. BADLEY in *Coryat's Crudities* k 2 b, The sesquipedale belly of thy Tome. 1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. vi, Fustian, big, sesquipedal words. 1802 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1869) 4 Dr. Parr seems to think that eloquence consists..in a studious arrangement of sonorous, exotic, and sesquipedal words. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 917 Admirable dissertations on old chamber-pots are poured into ears sesquipedal. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* ix, Some lovely sesquipedal adverb.

B. *sb.* A thing a foot and a half in length: cf. next B. 1. (In quot. used jocularly.)

1713 *Guardian* No. 108 P 4, I am but a Sesquipedal, having only six Feet and a half of Stature.

Sesquipedalian (se·skwipĭdē·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *sesquipedālis*: see SESQUIPEDAL and -IAN.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of words and expressions (after Horace's *sesquipedalia verba* 'words a foot and a half long', A. P. 97): Of many syllables.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., Sesquipedalian words (*verba sesquipedalia*) used by Horace for great, stout, and lofty words; words that are very long, consisting of many Syllables. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Char., Courtier* (1860) 20 Noddle puzzling sesquepedalian words. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1776 (1831) III. 407 Finding one of his sesquipedalian words hang fire. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 80 (1794) III. 276 A set of sesquipedalian exclamations. 1807 SOUTHEY *Spec. Eng. Poets* I. Pref. p. xviii, The verses of Stephen Hawes are as full of barbarous sesquipedalian Latinisms, as the prose of the Rambler. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. viii. (1864) 338 In these sesquipedalian compounds the significative root remains distinct. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. Forew. p. xii, Sesquipedalian un-English words.

b. *transf.* Given to using long words.

1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* v, Towards the end of her letter Miss Jenkyns used to become quite sesquipedalian.

¶ Used for 'very tall or big'.

1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xxv, This [half-crown] she sacrificed to the avarice of Mrs. Proudie's metropolitan sesquipedalian serving-man.

2. Half a yard high or long.

c 1714 ARBUTHNOT, etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. xiv. (1741) 48 Hast thou ever measur'd the gigantick Ethiopian, whose stature is above eight cubits high, or the sesquipedalian Pigmey?

B. *sb.* 1. A person or thing that is a foot and a half in height or length.

1615 *Curry-Combe for Coxe-Combe* iii. 113 He thought fit by his variety, to make you knowne for a viperous Sesquipedalian in euery coast. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

2. A sesquipedalian word.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 350 What an amazing power in writing down hard names and sesquipedalians does not the following passage manifest! 1894 *Nat. Observer* 6 Jan. 194/2 His sesquipedalians recall the utterances of another Doctor.

Hence **Se·squipeda·lianism**, style characterized by the use of long words; lengthiness; so **Sesquipe·dalism**; **Se·squipeda·lity**, sesquipedalian quality; *transf.* great length, lengthiness; also, 'the practice of using long words' (Ogilvie, 1882).

1863 *Sat. Rev.* 440 How dear to his heart must be that marvellous *sesquipedalianism in which he ordinarily revels. 1887 W. C. RUSSELL *Bk. for Hammock* (1893) 120 Everything must be done quickly at sea: there is no time for sesquipedalianism. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 148 The era of galvanized *sesquipedalism and sonorous cadences. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ix, With a breadth of back, and a *sesquipedality of belly, which might have done honour to a serjeant in the horse-guards. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 654 There is certainly some sesquipedality in the word. 1855 *Ibid.* LI. 63 A most wonderful topknotted cock with a sesquipedality of wattle.

Sesquiplicate (seskwi·plikĕt), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sesquiplicātus*, f. SESQUI- + *plicātus* folded, PLICATE, to express the meaning 'subduplicate of the triplicate'. (L. *sesquiplex* = taken once and a half.)] Bearing or involving the ratio of the square roots of the cubes of the terms of a certain ratio.

Thus, *a* is to *a'* in the sesquiduplicate ratio of *b* to *b'*, when $a : a' :: \sqrt{b^3} : \sqrt{b'^3}$.

1714 DERHAM *Astrol. Theol.* (1769) 22 Their motions round the Sun, are in sesquiplicate proportion to their distances from him. 1728 tr. *Newton's Syst. World* 12 The periodic times of the satellits of Jupiter are, one to another, in the sesquiplicate proportion of their distances from the center of this planet. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 309/2 Sesquiplicate ratio of A to B. 1873 PROCTOR *Expanse of Heaven* 108.

‖ Sesquitertia (seskwitō·ɹĭă). *Mus.* [L., fem. (sc. *ratio*) of *sesquitertius*, f. SESQUI- + *tertius* third.] Denoting a ratio of $1\frac{1}{3}$ to 1, *i. e.* 4 to 3; chiefly *Mus.* denoting (i) an interval having this ratio, viz. the perfect fourth, (ii) a rhythm of three notes against four.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 33 Sesquitercia is when foure notes are sung to three of the same kinde. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 149 Wherefore the latitude of the Face compared with the longitude..should be in a sesquitertia proportion. 1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* I. 64 GB is sesquitertia to DB. *Ibid.* 68 The number 256, sesquitertia of 192. 1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* 1883 ROCKSTRO in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* s. v. *Sesqui.*

Sesquitertial (seskwitō·ɹĭăl), *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Expressing a ratio of 4 : 3. Cf. prec.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1358 The proportion of the Musicke or Symphonie Diatessaron, is Epitritos or Sesquitertiall, that is to say, the whole and a third part over. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* II. xiii. 1066 These legs also are made in a sesquitertiall proportion. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 180 As 40 to 12 is $3\frac{1}{3}$ or $3\frac{2}{6}$, Triple Sesquitertial.

b. *transf.* (See quot.)

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Sesquitertial*, occupying the fourth part.

Sesquitertian (seskwitō·ɹĭăn), *a.* ? *Obs.* [Formed as prec. + -AN.] = SESQUITERTIAL.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* Explan. Words, *Sesquitertian*, a proportion, whereby is understood as much as comprehendeth the whole, and one third part, as 12. to 9. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 58 The legs of Spiders are made after a sesquitertian proportion. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 81 We assign to a Fifth..the Sesqui-alter Proportion..And, to a Fourth..the Sesquitertian. 1760 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 727 If the interval diatessaron, or ses-

quitertian ratio, should be assigned for the limitation of the extreme tones. 1774 J. Duncombe *New Arithm. Dict.*

So † **Sesquite·rtianal** *a. Obs.*

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Sesquitertianal Proportion*, is when any..Quantity contains another once and one third.

Sesquitertious (seskwitɜ̄·ɪʃəs), *a. Ent.* [Formed as prec. + -ous.] (See quot. and cf. Sesquialterous.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 290 Sesquitertious Fascia (*Fascia sesquitertia*). When both wings are traversed by a continued band, and more than half of either the primary or secondary by another; or, when a wing or elytrum contains a band and the third of a band.

Sess, *sb.*[1] Also 7 sesse. [Aphetic f. Assess *sb.*: see Cess *sb.*[1]]

1. An assessment, impost. Now only *dial.* and in Ireland, a local rate; = Cess *sb.*[1] 1 a (which is more usual).

1580 [see Cess *sb.* 1 a]. 1673 *Acct. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 119 Paid to Richerd Bell for the sesse, 8*d.* 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4442/4 They intend to make Sale of the Lands of such Persons.., who refuse to pay the Sesses laid upon them. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Row in Omnibus*, There's the rent, and the rates, and the sesses, and taxes.

† **2.** *Ireland.* = Cess *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. x. (1633) 126 The abuses whereof with sesse and Souldiours, doe so impouerish and alienate the needie Farmers from us. 1586 [see Assess *sb.*]. 1612 [see Cess *sb.* 2]. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Kent* (1662) II. 75 Sir Henry Sidney..established the Composition of the Pale, in lieu of Purveyance and Sesse of Souldiers.

Sess (ses), *sb.*[2] *Soap-manuf.* [Origin obscure.] Each of the sections composing the frame or mould into which the soap is thrown to cool and solidify after the process of fitting (see Fitting *vbl. sb.* 4).

1884 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 539/1 The semi-fluid mass is ladled out from the precipitated ley into rectangular frames, or sesses, as they are called in Liverpool.

† **Sess,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 5 ses, sese, 6 seasse, seise, 6–7 sease, seaze, sesse, 7 seize. [Aphetic f. Assess *v.*; see Cess *v.*[1]

For the variation in the length of the vowel, cf. Cease *v.*]

1. *trans.* To assess or determine officially the amount of (a tax, contribution, wages, or prices); = Cess *v.*[1] 1.

1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 382 That the price of ale be sessed at euery lawday by the gret enquest. 1484 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 519 Wheruppon they were commytte to warde, and their ffyn sessed be pe seid Maire..at xx li. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 The saide maire and the aldermen maie haue power..to sesse fines by their discreasions. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* v. 108 b, When the hostages were brought in by the day limitted, he appointed dayesmen betwene the Cities to consyder of the matter in variance, and to sesse the penalty. 1620 J. Wilkinson *Coroners & Sheriffes* 60 The Coroners ought to be there to sesse the wages. 1640 *Archdeaconry of Essex Min.* (MS.) 1638–40, 195 Not paying iiˢ viᵈ which he was seast for bread and wyne and diverse other necessary expences. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxxii. 365 Those [taxes] which were at first sessed but for a limited time.

2. To impose (a tax, fine, etc.) *upon* a person or community; = Cess *v.*[1] 2.

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 199 There putte into the Kynges pryson by cawse of the fyn which was sessed upon the forsaid John Smyth, John Hopton, and me. 1551 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 207 Suche taxe and tallenge as shall be uppon hym taxed and sessyd. 1561 in *Rec. Caernarvon* (1838) 298 That you giue likewise in chardge to the said Jury to taske and sease such severalle fines vppon the severall offenders. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. i. 16 Any person, upon whom any such Fines shalbe so seased. 1764 [see Cess *v.*[1] 1].

3. To fix the amount of payment due from (a person, a community, a property); to impose a tax upon, tax: const. *at, to, unto*; also with indirect question as second object. = Cess *v.*[1] 4.

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 139/2 Henry Bodrugan..sessed the people of the said Shire to grete notable sommes. *c* 1488 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 61 As for our land, we pay our dymes therfore, and trust in you that ye will not ses none thereof, wherby we should have cause to make further labor; for it is not the Kyngs mynd to ses no dymeable land. 1530 Palsgr. 710/1, I sesse, as a kynges officers do a kynges subjectes what they shall paye, *je taille.* 1542 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 166, ij persons shalbe chosen to sesse and tax..the inhabytaunts. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 29 For which cause the Kyng..seassed and fined her at a great some of money. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates* III. xi. 306 So that euery one rateably was seased [1619 seised] at a certaine summe. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 43 At last the bird was sessed to pay. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. iv, That was with the griefe Thou took'st for being sess'd at eighteene pence, For the waterworke. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. ix. 49 Cæsar..seized them at forty hostages, with sufficiency of graine for his whole array. 1643 Baker *Chron., Will. I*, 32 Likewise he Sessed all Bishops and Abbotts what number of souldiers they should finde. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 26 The Clergy and Lords then refusing to pay any more then they were first sessed unto. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 166 Causing his Coin to be stamped with his Master's Inscription, his Subjects Mulcted and Sessed by his Impositions.

Sess, *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Also 7 ses. A call to a dog when giving him food.

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. iv. *Decay* 216 Ses, ses, here Dogs.

Sess, variant of Cess *sb.*[5]

1887 Hall Caine *Deemster* xxviii, Bad sess to the women, the idle shoulderin' craythurs.

Sess(e, obs. forms of Cease *v.*

† **Se·ssa,** *int. Obs.* [perh. var. of Sa-sa, or possibly a. F. *cessez* 'cease!']

It is not certain that modern editors are right in inserting the form *sessa* in all the passages; the word may not be the same in the three places.]

An exclamation of uncertain meaning.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 6 Looke in the Chronicles, we came in with Richard Conqueror: therefore *Pancas pallabris*, let the world slide: Sessa. 1605 — *Lear* III. iv. 104 Dolphin my Boy, Boy Sesey [*Q*1 caese; *Q*2 cease; *Q*3 ceas; *Malone* sessa!]: let him trot by. *Ibid.* III. vi. 77 Dogs leapt the hatch, and all are fled. Do, de, de, de: sese [*Malone* Sessa!]: Come, march to Wakes and Fayres.

† **Sesse**[1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *sesse*, a. Arab. *shāsh*: see Sash *sb.*[1]] = Sash *sb.*[1]

1718 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 356 They are distinguished by the White Sesse [orig. *la sesse blanche*] of their turbants.

† **Sesse**[2]. *Obs.* Aphetic form of *dissesse*, Decease *sb.*; = Cess *sb.*[2]

1427–8 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 39/3 Also it ys my wyll þat..all þat sche schele haue, after þe sesse of her, þat it be sold.

Sesse, obs. form of Cease *sb.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15893 þen com þe folk wyþouten sesse Aboute Brian for to presse.

Sessile (se·səil, se·sil), *a.* [a. L. *sessilis* sitting down, dwarfed, stunted, f. *sess-*, ppl. stem of *sedēre* to sit: see -ile.]

1. Having no footstalk. **a.** *Bot.* Of leaves, fruits, flowers, or other organs: Immediately attached by the base; not having a peduncle, pedicel, or the like. Hence of a species or variety (e. g. of oak) bearing sessile fruits: opposed to *pedunculated.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Leaf, Sessile Leaf*, one which rises immediately from the stalk without any pedicle. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 835 The leaves..[are] generally quite sessile, or close to the stalk. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* vi. (1794) 70 In the whole compound class the seed is always sessile, that is, it bears immediately upon the receptacle without any intermediate pedicle. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* 1 (ed. 4) 71 Seed-vessel of common Poppy, showing the *rayed stigma*..placed close down, or *sessile* upon the ovary. 1875 *Lyell's Princ. Geol.* II. III. xliv. 507 Prostrate trunks of the Sessile Variety of the Common oak occur. 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 6. 251 The filament, being only a stalk or support, may be very short or wholly wanting; the anther is then sessile. 1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 565 In Piperaceæ however the stigma, which is sessile on the apex of the ovary, is often placed obliquely or divided into several lobes.

b. *Zool.* Of limbs or organs: Immediately in contact with the structure to which they are attached; having no connecting neck or footstalk. Also of certain animals.

1777 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* IV. 61 The shell..fixed by a stem: or sessil. 1834 M'Murtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 298 The Læmodipoda are the only Malacostraca with sessile eyes. 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy.* II. 248 A sessile spur on the heel. 1851 Darwin *Monogr. Cirripedia* I. (Ray Soc.) 4 The more important valves..being common to the pedunculated and sessile Cirripedes. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. 65 The cerebral hemispheres always contain a lateral ventricle, which is prolonged into the interior of the sessile olfactory lobes.

c. *Path.* Of morbid growths, warts, etc.: Adhering close to the surface.

1725 Huxham in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 380 During the Suppuration, the Pox would become very sessile, and the coherent kind would enlarge their Bases exceedingly. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 670 Simple Wart, Simple and distinct: sessile or pensile. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 891 The skin..in many cases 'peppered' with warts, both sessile and pedunculated.

2. Of certain animals: Sedentary, fixed to one spot; not ambulatory. Of cells: Immobile.

1860 Wraxall *Life in Sea* x. 242 They [Serpulariæ, etc.] are, therefore, nothing further than sessile nurses, just as the Siphonophoræ are nurses swimming about freely. 1871 E. D. Cope *Orig. Fittest* (1887) 193 It is now important to observe that great numbers of centrifugal animals are sedentary or sessile; while the longitudinal are vagrant, moving from place to place. 1879 G. Allen *Colour-Sense* iii. 23 Sessile or sedentary animals, as a rule, do not possess any form of visual organ. 1880 E. R. Lankester *Degeneration* 39 We may now proceed to look at some sessile or immobile animals which are not usually regarded as degenerate. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 586/1 Certain cells which are normally fixed or sessile cells.

3. *Comb.*, as *sessile-eyed, -flowered, -fruited, -leaved* adjs.

1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 294 *Sessile-eyed Crustaceans (Edriophthalmata). 1796 C. Marshall *Gardening* xix. (1813) 372 Herb-true-love, nodding, and *sessile flowered. 1846 Keightley *Notes Virg.* Flora 391 The *Quercus sessiliflora*, or *sessile-fruited oak. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 356 *Sessile-leaved Eupatorium.

Se·ssiliflore, *a. Bot. rare*—[1]. [ad. mod.L. *sessiliflōrus* (f. L. *sessili-s* Sessile *a.* + *flōr-*, *flōs* flower).] Sessile-flowered: specific name of a kind of oak.

1822 J. B. Fraser *Mesopot. & Assyria* xv. 354 Quercus sessiliflora..Sessiliflore oak.

† **Se·ssing,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. Sess *v.* + -ing[1].] = Assessing.

1482 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 480 This concideracion to be taken in their sessyng, that such persones as ware ouercharged in theire wardes at þe vij li. etc. aforesaid to be eased nowe. *a* 1500 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 286 This yere was a greate Sessyng of all lordes landes thrugh England. 1513 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 11 Ye sessing of ye subsidy. 1522–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 316 Item, paid for brede, drink and ffire at þe Newe sessing of þe clarkes bill. 1530 Palsgr. 269/2 Sessyng that a prince setteth in a countrey, *imposition.* 1612 Davies *Why Ireland* 177 Irish exactions..namely..Sessings of the Kerne, of his family,..of his Horses,..and the like. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 107 There was a certaine sessing to be set in a ratable proportion, vpon the Townedwellers..for some publike peece of worke.

attrib. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 153 Angliæ commentarios Censuales, that is, The Taxe register, or Sessing booke of England.

Session (se·ʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 sessioun, 5 cessiown, sessyone, 5 cessione, 5–6 cession, sessyon, 6 cessioun, cecion, cessyon. [a. F. *session* (= Sp. *sesion*, Pg. *sessão*, It. *sessione*), ad. L. *sessiōnem* (*sessio*), n. of action f. *sedēre* to sit.]

1. The action or an act of sitting; the state or posture of being seated; occupation of a seat in an assembly or the like; also a manner of sitting. Now *rare.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 996 On the foreside it is gibbous, and that is profitable..for Session and sitting. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 65 To the Bishop whereof was assigned the next place of session in councell after the Bishop of Hierusalem. 1670 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 325 The King has ever since continued his session among them, and says it is better than going to a play. 1695 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 133 The antientest heroes used session not discumbiture. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spirit* 297 The Art of See-saw on a Beam, and swinging by Session upon a Cord. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 693 Vivien .. Leapt from her session on his lap. 1859 F. E. Paget *Curate Cumberworth* iv. 34 Whether Mrs. Crakanthorpe had indulged herself during her decline by session or recumbency thereon [*sc.* on a settee] there is, unfortunately, no evidence to show.

b. *spec.* The 'sitting' of Christ at the right hand of God.

c 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* cx. Collect, Where, by the session of the ryghte hande of thy father, thou subduest thy enemies. 1605 Bp. Andrewes *Serm.* (1629) 369 His Passion and his Session. 1706 Stanhope *Paraphr.* III. 85 This Ascent, and Session of our Blessed Master at God's Right Hand. 1894 Swete *Apostles' Creed* vi. 64 Some of the oldest accounts, which place the Session immediately after the Resurrection.

† **c.** A place for sitting. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 1003 And al aboue, reysed was a se,..þat callid was..Of þe regne þe sete moste royal... And sessions wer made on euery syde, Only þe statis by ordre to deuyde.

2. The sitting together of a number of persons (esp. of a court, a legislative, administrative, or deliberative body) for conference or the transaction of business. Also (now somewhat *rarely*), a single continuous sitting of persons assembled for conference or business.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 122/1 To eny Baillif or Baillifs, Lieutenauntz, Deputez or eny othur, in her Sessions and assembleez. 1564 Haward *Eutrop.* VI. 60 When Cesar on a daye wyth the reste of the Senate, were at theyr sessyon in the councell house. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 121/1 The archbishop of Canturburie kept a synod at Herford, the first session whereof began the 24 of September. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 81 Each part most highlie pleas'd, then vp the Session brake. 1661 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, A Prayer for the High Court of Parliament, to be read during their Session. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 514 Then of thir Session ended they bid cry With Trumpets regal sound the great result. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 171 Nor herald sworn the session to proclaim. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 1 The frequent session of parliament.. furnished a security against illegal taxation. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, Already his Majesty..had held session of Notables. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* lviii. II. 240 For the sessions of these dignitaries each tribe has..a Government or council-house. 1869 Huxley in *Sci. Opin.* 21 Apr. 464/1 The British geologists..here in solemn annual session assembled. 1890 P. H. Hunter *After Exile* II. ii. 33 They proposed further that this court should not confine its sessions to Jerusalem, but should go on circuit.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1594 J. Dickenson *Arisbas* (1878) 59 Being in these dumpes he held a session in his thoughtes. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 127 His pigeons, who in session on their roofs Approved him.

c. *pl.* with sing. sense and construction. *rare* (cf. 3 c).

1623 Heywood *Silver Age* K 4 b, Let 's breake this Sessions vp, I am dull. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. vi. 86 Is it not comfortable to have our sessions here for once, and to be looking out on a good solid English wet day?

† **d.** A number of persons sitting in conference.

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* II. 40 The old man..weeping, thus bespake the Session. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* VI. (1658) 468 Both parties appeared to Ptolemei Philometor, and a Session of his friends, for the hearing and decision of the Cause.

e. = Séance. *rare.*

1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 14 Browning and his wife had both been present at a spiritual session held by Mr. Hume.

3. A continuous series of sittings or meetings of a court, a legislative, administrative, or deliberative body, held daily or at short intervals; the period or term during which the sittings continue to be held; opposed to *recess* or *vacation.*

1553 in Burnet *Hist. Ref., Rec.* II. 1. lvi. (1681) 225 The said Lord President and Council shall keep four general Sittings or Sessions in the Year, every of them to continue by the space of one whole Month. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 130 It was in this Christmas session of the Witan that the vacancy would regularly be filled. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 60 § 4 A session of the Council shall be held once at least in every two years.

b. *spec.* In English parliamentary use, applied to the period between the opening of Parliament and its prorogation.

The term *autumn session* (instead of 'autumn sitting') is sometimes used to designate the exceptional resumption of the sittings of the Houses, after an adjournment, in what is normally the autumn recess; but this use is condemned by parliamentary authorities as incorrect.

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* II. iii. (1589) 54 The last day of that parliament or session the Prince commeth in person in his Parliament robes. 1676 Lady Chaworth in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 34 Parliament.. some says will be dissolved of course by reason of three sessions past without any bill passing. 1683 *Repr. Advantages Manuf. Woollen-cloath* 1 The 20th Act of the third Sess. of the same Parl. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Mar., I doubt the session will not be over till the end of April. *a* 1832 Mackintosh *Hist. Rev.* Wks. 1846 II. 43 At the opening of the Session, that House had contented themselves with general thanks to the King for his speech. 1878 H. S. Leigh *Town Garland* 195 Very few Members of Parliament only Will wait for the Session to crawl to its close.

†c. *pl.* with sing. sense and construction. *Obs.*

1642 Chas. I *Message to Both Ho.* 28 Apr. 5 Other Bills passed this Sessions. 1701 *Maryland Laws* v. (1723) 16 Within Six Months from the End of this Sessions of Assembly. 1732 W. Pulteney in *G. Colman's Posth. Lett.* (1820) 38 This day is to conclude a very tedious Sessions of Parl[t]. 1780 M. Madan *Thelyphthora* II. 59, I much doubt, whether every sessions of Parliament, for some years past, has not afforded melancholy proofs [etc.].

d. In Scotland and the U.S., and in some of the newer universities and colleges in England, the portion of the year during which instruction is given.

Summer session, in recent Sc. use, a period of instruction during the summer, additional to the old winter session.

1775 Johnson *West. Isl.* 12 A [St. Andrews'] student of the highest class may keep his annual session,..which lasts about seven months, for about fifteen pounds. 1807 Grierson *Delin. St. Andrews* 108 The session of this college lasts only about four months,..and the complete course of a student's attendance is, at the shortest, four sessions. 1851 *Catal. Univ. Virginia* 15 (Hall *College Words*) The session commences on the 1st of October, and continues without interruption until the 29th of June. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 515 The medical session [at Edinburgh] began on the 1st November. 1880 (*title*) The Mason Science College. Calendar for the Session 1880–81. 1891 *Edin. Univ. Cal.* 30 A Summer Session (1st May to 1st October).

4. A judicial sitting. †a. *gen.* A sitting of a judge or judges to determine causes; a judicial trial or investigation. *sing.* and *collect. pl.* (often const. as *sing.*). *Obs.* (exc. *arch.* as contextual use of sense 1 or 2).

14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 60 þe sayd Burgoye schall answere..in all sessyons and inqwyres. 1548 Cranmer *Catech.* 58 He that sayeth to his brother Racha..is worthye the sessyons. 1557 in *Select Pleas Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) II. 33 At the Sessyons of the same courte which should be holden the .xiij^th^ daye of Decembre then next followinge. 1585 Fleetwood in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 296 Uppon Thursdaye laste..we kepte a Sessions of Inquyrie in London in the forenone, and in the afternone we kepte the lyke att Fynsburie for Middlesex, in which two severall Sessionses all such as were to be arrayegned for felonye at the Gaole deliverye were indyted. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 159 *Car.* Araigne the poore Whore. *Ast.* Ile not misse that Sessions. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 202 Summon a Session, that we may arraigne Our most disloyall Lady. 1691 Conset *Pract. Spir. Crts.* (1700) 3 The first general Sessions held in the Court of the Arches..was kept..the next day (if no Holyday) after the Feast of St. Faith the Virgin.

transf. and *fig.* 1591 H. Smith *Lords Supper* ii. 30 This is the priuate araignement or close Sessions, when Conscience sits in her chaire to examine, and accuse, and iudge and condemne her selfe. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xxx. 1. 1630 Bp. Hall *Occas. Medit.* lxxxix. (1633) 225 To hold a privy Sessions, upon my Soule, and actions. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 194 The hard hearts of others unchastisable in those judicial Courts, were so remitted there, as bound over to the higher Session of Conscience. 1659 W. Brough *Sacr. Princ.* 190 Those particular sessions on my self, prevent His generall assizes. 1879 Chr. Rossetti *Seek & Find* 22 Daniel..beheld the Session of the Ancient of Days, beheld the Judgment set and the Books opened.

b. Sessions of the peace (in ordinary language simply sessions): the periodical sittings of justices of the peace (or, in some instances, of a stipendiary magistrate or a recorder). Often const. as *sing.*

In England the sessions of the peace are of the following kinds: *petty sessions*, a court held by two or more justices or a stipendiary magistrate, exercising summary jurisdiction in minor offences within a particular district (a 'petty sessional division'); *special sessions*, a periodical meeting of the justices of a division prescribed by statute for the transaction of some particular kind of business (under this head are included *brewster* or *licensing sessions*, for the hearing of applications for licences to sell alcoholic drinks); *general* or *quarter sessions*, a court held four times a year (in a county, riding, etc. by the justices of the peace, and in certain boroughs by the recorder), having a limited criminal and civil jurisdiction and certain administrative functions. (*The sessions*, without qualification, usually denotes the quarter sessions.) Quarter sessions are also held in Scotland and Ireland. In certain British colonies the English system of sessions of the peace formerly existed, and was for a time retained in some of the United States.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 355 At sessiouns ther was he lord and sire. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 267/2 The Justicez of the peax in theire Sessions of peax. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 173/2 Diverse of the Kyng's Justices of the peas..sittyng in the Kyng's generall Cessions of pease in the same Counte. 1548 in J. H. Glover *Kingesthorpiana* (1883) 108 One Gregorye Cosbye..was indyted at a cessyons holden at North^t^ for huntyng of the hare in the feld of Pysford. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 34 A prisoner brake from the halle at Newgate whan the cecions was done. 1673 Sir W. Temple *Ess. Adv. Trade Invl.* Misc. I. (1680) 116 Sometimes one share of that Money is paid to a single pretender at the Sizes, or Sessions. 1699 *Plea agst. Exir. Price of Corn* 23 Our Country Alehouse-making Justices at their Petty-Sessions, Quarter, and General Sessions. 1754 *Gentl. Mag.* XXIV. 461 The Brewster-Sessions at Bray in Northungria. 1844 L.D. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xix. (1862) 315 The Magistrates, when acting singly or in small numbers at petty sessions. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. v, A favourite at the Old Bailey, and eke at the Sessions.

rarely in *sing.* 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 43/1 Ones a yere a gret Cession holden afore the Kynges Justice,..and also a petit Cession, holden afore the said Justice. 1588 Lambarde *Eiren.* IV. i. (1591) 374 *margin*, The description of a Session of the Peace. 1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* v. vi. 21 *Pug.* How? longer here a moneth? *Ing.* Yes, boy, till the Session. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 160 Appleby..is the shire town where the session and assizes are held. 1844 *Act* 7 & 8 *Vict.* c. 101 § 2 Such Justice of the Peace shall thereupon issue his Summons to the Person..to appear at a Petty Session.

†c. *Petty* or *statute sessions*: see quots. (cf. *petty sessions* in b). *Obs.*

1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 40 That it shalbe laufull to the Highe Constables of Hundredes in every Shire, to holde kepe and contynue Petie Sessions, otherwise called Statute Sessions. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 247 Petit Sessions or statute Sessions are held by the high Constables of every Hundred for the placing of servants. 1787 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Norfolk* (1795) I. 40 The High Constable of the Hundred in which a statute is held, holds what is called a 'petty sessions'; at which the hiring [of servants] and its attendant circumsiances are, or may be, registered.

d. *Great* or *grand session(s)*: a court of justice formerly held half-yearly in each of the counties of Wales, presided over by itinerant judges forming a distinct body from the judges of assize in England. *Court of Session*: a court formerly exercising for the County Palatine of Chester a jurisdiction more or less corresponding to that of the courts of assize in the rest of England. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Both these courts were abolished in 1830 by the Act 11 Geo. IV & 1 Will. IV, c. 70 § 14.

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 4 There shalbe holden ..Sessions twyse in everye yere in everye of the saide Shyres in .Wales:..the whiche Sessions shall be called the Kinges Greate Sessions in Wales. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4330/4 The Grand Jury, Justices of the Peace, and others..met together at the Great Sessions holden for the said County [Pembroke]. 1730 *Act* 3 *Geo. II*, c. 25 *Preamb.*, Judges of the Great Sessions in Wales. *Ibid.* § 9 Causes in the Grand Sessions in any County of Wales. *Ibid.*, At least eight Days before every Grand Sessions. § 14 The Grand Session in Wales. 1899 W. R. Williams (*title*), The history of the Great Sessions in Wales 1542–1830.

5. *Scots Law.* a. *Hist.* The name given to a court of justice (often called 'the Session of James I'), established in 1425, consisting of the Chancellor and other persons chosen by the king, which sat three times in the year to determine such causes as had previously been brought before the king and his council. The judges of this court were called the *Lords of Session*. b. *Court of Session*: the supreme civil tribunal of Scotland (otherwise called the *College of Justice*: see College 1 c), established by Act of Parliament in 1532, and uniting in itself the powers and jurisdiction which had belonged to the Session of James I, to the Daily Council of James IV, and to the Lords Auditors of Parliament. The judges of this court are officially styled *Lords of Council and Session*, but in ordinary language *Lords of Session*. (Formerly the court was often spoken of as †*the Session(s)*.

1495 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 242 Item, gevin to the Freris of Edinburgh at the Kingis commande xviij s. at the sessyon. 1496 *Ibid.* 269 Quhen the King raid to Sanct Jhonistoun to the cessioun. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 134 At Counsale, Sessioun, and at Parliament. 1503 Lords of Session [see Council 7]. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 665 Gevin and pronunceit be the Lordis of Counsale and Sessioun. 1577–87 Holinshed *Hist. Scot.* 317/2 This yeere [1530] the college court of iustice called the sessions was instituted. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 8 The Colledge of Iustice, or as they call it The Session. 1652 Lamont *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 37 Lords of Session and Counsell. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. ii. vi. (1710) 426 None shall be named..to be ordinary Lords of Session, but such who have been Advocates or principal Clerks of Session for the Space of Five Years. 1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 13 § 2 The Christmas Vacation of the Session or College of Justice.

6. *Sc.* = Kirk-session.

a 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* III. Wks. 1848 II. 152 That the auld Sessioun befor thair departure, nominat twenty-four in Electioun for Elders,..and thirty-two for Deacounes. 1672 Sir G. Mackenzie *Pleadings* Pref. A iij, Our Session having been at first constitute of an equal number of Churchmen and Laicks. 1725 in J. J. Vernon *Hawick* (1900) 187 The Minister did read to ye members of ye Session a petition. 1786 Burns *Answ. to Trimming Epist. by Tailor* vii, Wi' pinch I put a Sunday's face on, An' snoov'd awa' before the Session. 1846 J. Macfarlane *Lays Secess. Ch. Scot.* 124 The list of parishes vacant, and of sessions dismembered, and of churches thinned, is not to be overlooked.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 2) *session-bell*; (sense 3) *session-time*; (sense 4) *sessions-chamber*, *session('s) day*; (sense 6) *session-clerk*, *-clerkship*; **session(s-book** *Sc.*, a book kept in each parish to record the proceedings of the kirk-session; **session(s-house**, (*a*) a building in which sessions are held; (*b*) *Sc.*, a room attached to a church in which the session meets; †**sessions-paper**, a list of cases put down for trial at the sessions.

1701 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 221 After the ringing of the *Session-bell. 1829 Train in Scott *Old Mort.* Introd., His death is not registered in the *session-book of any of the neighbouring parishes. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Weldon-Great*, A handsome market-house, and a *sessions-chamber over it. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xii. (1895) 86 The schoolmaster was likewise *session-clerk and precentor. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVI. 511 This and the *session-clerkship do not belong to him as schoolmaster. 1537 London in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 81 In the *cession dayes and other cowrt dayes. 1602 Heywood *Wom. killed w. Kindn.* (1617) C 1 b, This is the Sessions day. 1592 Lewkenor *Contarini's Commw. Venice* I. 22 Euery holliday ..this great councell is assembled into a great and spacious hall, which we will call the *Session house. 1600 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1908) V. 389 They were..bidd to putt on their bootes and to goe to the sessions house. 1647 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 55 All the advocates sall come to the Session-hous. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxv, The right wing of the prison [Newgate] nearest the Sessions-house. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Pleas. Lett. to Gent.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 16 The greasy Fragments of a *Sessions-Paper. 1728 Gay *Polly* I. (1777) 18 Every monthly sessions-paper..was a record of his [a thief-taker's] services. 1817 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. ii. 59 In the vacation I never sit down; in the *session-time I seldom rise up.

Session (se·ʃən), *v. Sc.* (see also E.D.D.). [f. prec.] *trans.* To bring before the kirk-session.

1895 Crockett *Men of Mosshags* 125 Was there one of us ..that had not bee.t sessioned time and again?

Sessional (se·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. Session *sb.* + -al.] Pertaining to a session or sessions. a. Belonging or relating to, supplied by, a kirk-session.

1715 in J. F. S. Gordon *Bk. Chron. Keith* (1880) 89 The Session..thought fit to give them a sessional admonition to make conscience of ordering their affairs [etc.]. 1811 T. Chalmers in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. 218, I gave her sessional assistance. 1849 Hanna *Mem. Chalmers* II. 307 The number of sessional poor (that is, of poor who had been on the session's roll of one or other of the three parishes .) was ninety-eight. 1885 Edgar *Old Ch. Life Scot.* 240 The Lord's table was not to be approached without a sessional pass.

b. Pertaining to the session of a law-court. So *petty sessional*, *quarter sessional*, pertaining to petty sessions, quarter sessions.

1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 64 § 9 Such other places..as are locally situated within..the said sessional divisions. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) VI. 326 Scott being then on one of his short Sessional visits to Abbotsford. 1846 S. G. Osborne *Lett.* 28 May (1891) I. 6 The sitting on the quarter sessional bench. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* May 693 To establish petty sessional districts.

c. Belonging, relating, or restricted to a session of a House of Parliament; recurring every session.

1834 A. W. Fonblanque *Eng. under* 7 *Administr.* (1837) III. 104 The sessional stages. 1839 *Times* 7 Sept. 4/1 He will make a sessional motion in the House of Commons. 1844 May *Parlt.* 132 Sessional orders. At the commencement of each session both houses agree to certain orders and resolutions, which, from being constantly renewed from year to year, are evidently not intended to endure beyond the existing session. 1886 C. E. Pascoe *Lond. of To-day* vii. (ed. 3) 81 The Sessional dinners of each House.

Sessionally (se·ʃənăli), *adv.* [f. Sessional + -ly 2.]

1. *Sc.* By the kirk-session.

1715 in J. F. S. Gordon *Bk. Chron. Keith* (1880) 88 They were sessionally rebucked, till further guilt, if any be, appear. *a* 1732 T. Boston *Acc. My Life* (1908) 96 The precentor professing his sorrow for his offence, was readmitted sessionally. 1887 W. Ross *Pastoral Work Covenant. Times* viii. 168 Some faults dealt with sessionally would not be looked upon nowadays as sufficiently grave.

2. Every session.

1863 Cox *Inst. Eng. Govt.* I. ix. 158 No standing committees of the whole House appointed sessionally now sit.

Sessionary (se·ʃənări), *a. rare.* [f. Session *sb.* + -ary.] Of or pertaining to a session or sessions.

1702 *Case of Schedule Stated* 86 The *Dies Statutus*, is ever the Next Sessionary Day. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 401/2 If the sessionary courts were invested with more discretionary power.

b. *transf.* During which business is carried on.

1837 C. Lofft *Self-formation* II. 188 The sessionary hours of the shopkeepers.

†**Se·ssioner.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 -air. [f. Session *sb.* + -er 1.]

1. A member of the Court of Session.

1597 R. Bruce *Apol.* in Wodrow *Life* (1843) 169 We take us not to his Majesty, neither to the nobility of Scotland..; we take us only to the Sessioners. 1620 Jas. VI in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VIII. 613 The saidis President and Sessionaris sall weir these habitis upoun the streitis of Edinburgh induring the tyme of sessioun. 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1814) V. 403/1 And in Lyke maner the sessioners with the advise and approbation of the most part of that hous, wch elections made in the interval shalbe allowed or disallowed. *a* 1657 Sir J. Balfour *Ann. Scot.* Hist. Wks. 1825 II. 129 That from hencefurth [1626] no judge or sessioner should be a priuey counseller.

2. A member of a kirk-session.

1643 in Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 41/2 That none win to the Sessions loft till the Sessioners be placed. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 173 Ilk minister haveing ane ruleing elder chosen out of the worthiest of the sessioners of his presbiterie. 1682 J. Finlay in *Cloud of Witnesses* (1778) 193 They..now are sessioners to this Curate. 1683 in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. 317 That the Ministers give in upon Oath a List of their Sessioners.

Sessions (se·ʃənz), *v. slang.* [f. *sessions*, pl. of SESSION *sb.*] *trans.* To commit (a person) to the sessions for trial.

1857 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* III. vi, I am the only chap they could prove against... They could sessions me, but Ned and Phil are safe enough.

Sessle, *v. dial.* Also sissle. *intr.* To move uneasily, fidget.

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Cart-Sadel*, In Kent to *sessle* about is to change seats very often. 1865 GARLAND *Words W. Cornw.* in *Jrnl. Roy. Inst. Cornw.* Apr. 52 *Sissling*, moving uneasily in sleep.

† **Se·ssment.** *Obs.* Also 6 seas(s)-, 6–7 ses-, sesse-, seaz(e)-, 7 seasse-, seize-. [Aphetic f. ASSESSMENT; cf. CESSMENT. For the variation of quantity in the root-vowel cf. SESS *v.*] = ASSESSMENT in various senses. Also *attrib.*

[1538 in *Norwich Pageants* (1856) 18 Assembly at Black Fryers, 19 May, 1538, elected Officers; a Sesmant 14*s.* Charges, 19*s* 2*d*. Assembly at Guyldhalle, 9 May, 1539, elected Officers; Assmt. 16*s* 6*d*.] *c* 1540 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 239, I marvill greatly that your said manor shold be so highley charged... I could never se no writing of the sesment therof. 1548 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. i. 135 A precept directyd to the Craftes.. of London, for payment of their Sessment vnto the poore. 1576 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 10 § 5 By Taxacion and Sessement at one Courte or Lawedaye. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 26, I would wish a generall seazement to be made vpon euery parish. 1620–21 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 247 P'd by him for sessement to kinge and churche there, vj*s* viij*d*. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xiii. 179 In other seizements you give as you are in the King's books. 1647 in *Polit. Ball. Commw.* (Percy Soc.) 34 The seazement for the lots and subsydyes, The weekly seazements for the trained bands. 1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 208 Our House yesterday perfected the proviso of 380,000 l. of the Sesment Bill. [*Ibid.* 209 Bill of Assessment.]

Sessone, -oun, obs. Sc. forms of SEASON *sb.*

† **Sessor.** *Obs.* [Aphetic f. ASSESSOR. Cf. CESSOR 1.] = ASSESSOR in various senses.

1481 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 481 The names of þe sessours [of a war-levy]. 1496 *Rolls of Parit.* VI. 516/1 The Sessours and Ordrers in every of the said Citees and Boroughs. 1527–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 343 Paid for the drinking of the Sessours of the clerkes wages.. vj d. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, P. Æmil.* (1595) 282 They [*sc.* the Censors] be the sessours of the people, and the muster masters. 1642 *Ordin. & Decl. Lds. & Comm.* 29 Nov. 5 To nominate Sessors for the same City and Borough. 1712–13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 29 Jan., We also raised sixty guineas upon our own Society; but I made them do it by sessors,..and we fitted our tax to the several estates.

Sess-pool, Sestain, var. ff. CESS-POOL, SEXTAIN.

Sest(e, obs. ff. pa. t. and pa. pple. of CEASE.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1017 Þe Sarsyns fleȝe & noȝt ne sest. 14.. *Polit. Rel. & Love Poems* (1903) 137 Of þi seruyse oft hafe I seste.

Seste, obs. form of SIXTH.

Sester (se·stəɹ). Now only *Hist.* Also 4 cestre, 5 sestre, 6 cester, sestur. [OE. *sester* (also *seoxter*) and AF. *sester* = OF. *sestier* :—L. *sextārium* SEXTAR, SEXTARY.

Cf. OS. *soster, suster*, Du. *sester, sister*, MLG. *sestere*, OHG. *sehtari* and *sextari* (MHG. *sehtere* and *sehstere*, G. *sechter, sester*). See also SEPTIER.]

† 1. A vessel for holding liquid; in OE. a jar, pitcher; in ME. ? a brewing-vat. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 122/30 *Amfora*, sester. *c* 1000 — *Judges* vii. 16 Gedeon..het heora ælcne ȝeniman anne æmtiȝne sester oððe ænne wæterbuc to þam ȝewinne forð. *c* 1341 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 542 In 2 novis Sestres factis de novo pro bracina, *vod.* 1347–8 *Ibid.* 546 In 2 Cestris novis fact. et ferro ligand. pro bracina, 2*s.* 10*d.*

2. A liquid measure for beer, wine, etc.

In OE. rendering L. *modius, cadus, metreta*, and *sextarius*. 909 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 158 Twelf seoxtres beoras. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 6 Stænino fatto..niomende syndrige sestra tuoege *uel* ðrea [*Ags. Gosp.* ælc wæs on tweȝra sestra ȝemete oððe on þreora]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 92 Tweȝen sestres sapan, & tweȝe hunies & þre sestres ecedes, & se sester sceal weȝan twa pund. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 410 In half a sester [L. *heminam*] aged wyn do shake. 1494 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 113 Then yee must goe to the servant of the seller, and warne him to make readie..as many sesteres of wine as yee thinke will serve the people. 1528 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 696 No bruer..fromehensfurth shall sell eny ale within this Citie by the Cester aboue ij *s.* 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Demy Sétier*, ..halfe sester.

b. † **Sester-penny,** ? a charge made upon every sester of beer brewed.

1328 in *Essex Rev.* XIII. 203 Every copieholder that doeth brewe bere or ale to sell, shall paye yerely in the moneth of harvest one penye called Cestre-penye.

3. A dry measure for wheat, etc.

In mod. use only *Hist.* with reference to *O. E. Chron.* an. 1043, On þisum wæs..corn swa dyre..swa þæt se sester hwætes eode to .lx. penexa & eac furðor.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 444/4 *Mina*, halfsester. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 148 A sester and a semycicle take Of senuey seed. 1707 BP. FLEETWOOD *Chron. Prec.* 65 A Sester or Sextarius was what we now call a Quarter, or a Seam, containing 8 Bushels. [1848 PETRIE tr. *Ags. Chron.* 433.]

Sesterce (se·stəɹs). Pl. **sesterces** (se·stəɹsiz). Also *pl.* 6–7 sestercies, 7 -ties; *sing.* 7 sestercie. [ad. L. *sestertius* properly adj. (sc. *nummus* coin) = that is two and a half, f. *sēmis* half + *tertius* third; cf. SESQUI-.] A Roman coin, originally equivalent to 2½ asses, later to 4 asses; the fourth part of a DENARIUS.

pl. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. iv. (1622) 127 Putting a hundred million sesterces in bancke. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv. 64 What does this gentleman owe thee, little Minos? *Mino.* Fourescore *sesterties*, sir. 1611 — *Catiline* II. i, He, tame Crow,..would haue kept Both eyes, and beake seal'd vp, for sixe sesterces. 1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III. (ed. 2) 267 Rings on his fingers worth 20000 sestercies. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* I. Wks. 1766 III. 10 That..would rather choose to count out a Sum in Sesterces, than in pounds sterling. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. i, An additional reason for supping with him while the sesterces last. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* 5 A robe covered with pearls and emeralds, which had cost forty million sesterces. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* III. ii, See, here I give you Two hundred sesterces.

sing. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. vii. 9 I'll sell 'hem my share for a sesterce. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sesterce, Sestercie.* 1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 489 The *As* was reduced to one ounce, and the silver denarius made to pass for 16 *Asses*; the quinarius, for eight; and the sesterce, for four. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxi. (1865) VII. 338 Costly wars ..had drained perhaps to the last sesterce the coffers of the empire. 1861 SHEPPARD *Fall of Rome* ii. 98 Destitute and degraded, without a sesterce and without a friend.

¶ Misused for SESTERTIUM.

1693 *Dryden's Juvenal* IV. (1697) 76 The lavish Slave Six thousand Pieces for a Barbel gave; A Sesterce for each Pound it weigh'd. 1819 *Pantologia* s.v., Some authors make two kinds of sesterces: the less, called sestertius..and the great one, called sestertium.

† **Se·stern.** *Obs.* Also 5 cestron, 6 sestorne, seystarne, 7 sestron. [var. SESTER; cf. *testern*, var. TESTER 1. See also SEXTERN.] = SESTER.

1421 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 25 That no breuster sell no derre a Cestron ale to noo hukster but for xviij d. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 72 b/2 The tonne of burdeux..holdith in sesternes lxiij. sesternes. The..sesterne iiij. galons. 1534 in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 183 A Seystarne & a halfe of ale ijs iijd. 1682 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 15 Every Sestron is 4 gallons.

Sestern(e, obs. forms of CISTERN.

‖ **Sestertium** (sestɔ̄·ɹʃiŏm). Pl. **sestertia** (-ʃiă); also 6 sex-, -cia, -tiaes, 7 -tias. [L., usually explained as the gen. pl. *sestertium* of *sesterlius* SESTERCE (with ellipsis of *mille* a thousand), taken as neut. sing.

The use of the sing. in the sense '1000 sesterces', which must on this view have existed, does not appear to be found in the classics; the pl. for 'thousands of sesterces' was common. On the other hand, the gen. pl. *sestertium*, after *decies* ten times, *centies* a hundred times, was used with ellipsis of *centena millia* (= 100,000), and when so used was sometimes treated as a neut. sing.]

A sum of a thousand sesterces.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* XXX. (1544) 71 b, Euery *Sestertium* (which in englysh money of olde grotes..amounteth to .iiii. li .xvi. s. viii. d.). 1549 W. THOMAS *Hist. Ital.* 27 b, Plinie saieth, that The conueighaunce of this water [Aqua Claudia] did coste .555. thousande sextertia..the summe amounteth to .vii. millions and .viii. hundred thousand poundes of our money. 1598 MERES *Palladis Tamia* II. 284 b, Octauia..gaue him [*sc.* Virgil] for making 26 verses, 1137 pounds, to wit, tenne Sestertiaes for euerie verse. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* I. i, There is a Gentleman of Rome would buy... *Sat.* A Tribunes place, my Lord. *Sei.* What will he giue? *Sat.* Fiftie Sestertia. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 832/1 They thought it better to deposit five hundred sestertia each. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. iii, 'I will play no more,' said Glaucus, 'I have lost thirty sestertia.' 1842 *W. Smith's Dict. Class. Antiq.* 875 Up to the time of Augustus..the sestertium = £8. 17. 1; after the reign of Augustus the sestertium = £7. 16. 3.

‖ **Sestertius** (sestɔ̄·ɹʃiŭs). Also 7 *erron.* sex-, -ties. Pl. **sestertii** (-ʃiˌəi). [L.: see SESTERCE.] = SESTERCE.

In the first two quots. the form app. represents the Lat. acc. pl.

1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. xiii, She sent one to demaunde .xii. C. Sestercios of siluer. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* clxxviii. 143 Asinius Celer..paid..8000 Sestertios, which after Tonstals account is fourty pound sterling. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLV. 1231 Twentie millions of Sestertij. *a* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) Wks. I. 66/2 An As, a Drachma, a Sesterties. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 May 1645, The Sestertius was a small silver coyne marked H. S. or rather LLꟻ, valu'd a pound and half of silver. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 653/1 Under Severus Alexander there was the latest large issue of denarii and sestertii.

Sestet(t, sestette (sestɛ·t). [ad. It. *sestetto*: see next and -ET, -ETTE, and cf. SEXTET.]

1. *Mus.* A composition for six voices or instruments.

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Sestetto*, or *Sestett.* 1874 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* 52 Thus are constructed..sestetts, septetts, and ottetts. 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 475/2 Instrumental sestets are of two kinds; those for strings only..and those for various combinations of strings, wind and pianoforte.

2. *Pros.* The last six lines of a sonnet. Cf. OCTAVE, OCTET.

a 1859 L. HUNT *Bk. Sonnet* (1867) I. 10 The Minor division [of the Italian sonnet consists] of six lines, called the Sestette. 1881 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 459/3 The regular sonnet of octave and sestet. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 325 This rhythmic variation of the order in the sestet rhymes. 1896 E. GOSSE *Crit. Kit-Kats* 7 No fault can be found with the structure of her [Mrs. Browning's] octaves and sestetts.

‖ **Sestetto** (sestɛ·tɔ). *Mus.* [It., f. *sesto* sixth (:—L. *sextus*) + dim. suffix *-etto.*] = SESTET 1.

1801 [see SESTET 1]. 1824 MEDWIN *Convers. Byron* II. 261 At the moment he was listening to a sestetto in Mayer's opera of 'Elena'. 1879 LONGF. *Life* (1891) III. 294 The sestetto at the end of the second act was splendid.

† **Se·stiad.** *Obs.* In 6–7 sestyad. [ad. Gr. Σηστιάς, -άδος (Musæus) adj., f. Σηστός Sestus, a town on the Hellespont.

Used by Chapman (after *Iliad*) as the title of each of the six divisions of *Hero & Leander* (Linley's ed. 1598); hence in transf. sense below.]

Any one of six cantos or main divisions of a poem.

1646 S. SHEPPARD (*title*) The Times Displayed in six Sestyads.

‖ **Sestina** (sestī·nă). *Pros.* Also *erron.* sestino. [It., f. *sesto* sixth.] A poem of six six-line stanzas (with an envoy) in which the line-endings of the first stanza are repeated, but in different order, in the other five.

1838 GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* IV. v. II. 372 The Sestino-stave, invented by Arnaud Daniel, the Troubadour eulogised by Dante and Petrarch. [1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 818/1 It was from the Provençal *chanzo* that the Italians derived their *Sestina* and *Distichi*.] 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* Ser. II. 60 The Complaint of Lisa. (Double Sestina.) 1880 HUEFFER in *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 49 The sestina is a dangerous experiment, on which only poets of the first rank should venture. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 158 (*title*) Sestina of the tramp royal.

Sestine (sestī·n). *Pros. rare.* [a. obs. F. *sestine*, ad. It. *sestina* (see prec.). Cf. SEXTAIN.] = prec.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1598) 219 To present Pasilius with some other of their complaints Eclogue-wise, and first with this double Sestine. *Ibid.* IV. 426 One Agelastus.., framing an vniuer-all complaint in that vniuersall mischiefe, vttered it in this Sestine. 1611 COTGR., *Sestine*, a Sestine, or stanzo of six verses. 1879 E. GOSSE *New Poems* 157 Arnaut, great master of the lore of love, First wrought sestines to win his lady's heart.

Sestole, Sestolet, occas. var. ff. SEXTOLE, -ET.

Sesto(u)rne, obs. forms of CISTERN.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 28 b, My Barley is fyrst steeped in a Sestorne of water a day or two. 1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 27 One greate copp' sestourne to stand at the coobard.

Sestre, obscure variant of THESTER *v.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxiii. 20 Ful-filled er þai þa þat sestrede [*v.r.* cestered] er in mirkenes.

Sestrone, obs. form of CISTERN.

1536 *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chetham Soc.) III. II. 1179 Item oone grete Sestrone of ledd at xx *s.*

Sestuor (se·stiuˌǝɹ). *Mus.* Also SEXTUOR. [f. It. *sesto* sixth, after SEPTUOR.] A sestet.

1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* I. vi. 112 Quartettes, sestuors, quintettes.

Sesun(e, -yn(e, obs. forms of SEASON.

Set (set), *sb.*1 Also 4–5 sete, 3–6 sette, (6 seat), 5– (now prevalent in many technical senses) sett. [f. SET *v.*, partly directly from the vb.-stem, and partly a subst. use of SET *ppl. a.*; the two formations cannot always be distinguished.

OE. had *set* neut., seat (in sing. place of setting of the sun; in pl. *setu, seotu* collect. in the senses camp, stable or cow-house), corresp. to OHG. *sez* neut., seat (MHG. *sez* neut., masc., seat, siege, mod.G. *sess* masc., seat), ON. *set* neut., abode :—OTeut. **seto-m*, f. **set-*; see SIT *v.* It is doubtful whether this survived beyond OE.; the rare early ME. *sette* seat appears to be (as the rhyme shows in one instance) an irregular spelling for *sete* SEAT *sb.*1 Sense 1 below can hardly have been influenced by the OE. word, as this occurs (in sing.) only in phr. e. g. *to sete gán* (= to set), and the dat. sb. would have become *sète* in early ME. On the other hand, sense 1 may be partly due to an adoption of ON. *-setr* neut., *-seta* fem. (in *dagsetr, sólarsetr, -seta*: see SUNSET), which are cogn. with OE. *set.*]

I. The action of setting or condition of being set.

1. The act of setting (of a luminary); the apparent descent of the heavenly bodies towards the horizon at the close of their diurnal period. Now only *poet.* except in SUNSET.

c 1386 [see *day set*, DAY *sb.* 24]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 257 Riht evene upon the Sonne set. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2045 And so to sett of þe son sesid þai neuire. 1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* Wks. (1717) 39 This fair Morning had a shameful Set. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* liii [lx], Tell me, if euer since the world begunne, So faire a morning had so foule a set? 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 292 But [the King] like a Lacquey, from the Rise to Set, Sweates in the eye of Phebus. 1605 — *Macb.* I. i. 5 That will be ere the set of Sunne. 1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* II. 366 The Seuen-stars, and the Fiue, That twixt the Bulls hornes, at their set arriue. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 569 The Sun was fiue hours from his set. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvii, Frae the sun's rysing to his sett. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XVIII. 80 When they of Rome behold him [the sun] at his set Betwixt Sardinia and the Corsic isle. 1834 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* xxxi, The sun had already made a fiery set. 1845 SUMNER *True Grandeur Nations* (1846) 13 Between the rise and set of a single sun.

b. *Set of day*: (*a*) the time at which the sun sets; (*b*) the west.

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Ded. xv, Thou..shalt..Extend thy fame fro Set to Spring of day. 1830 TENNYSON *Adeline* ii, Looking at the set of day. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* V. 127 At set of day. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxiii, Look left and right to rise and set of day.

c. *fig.* of the close of life.

1625 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 158 Yet can they never deny but that admired Serenity had its set in a Cloud. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 13 Anna..being then in the occident, or set of life.

† **2.** ? A setting oneself to fight, encounter, attack. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15658 Wyþ Cadwaly so harde he met, & Cadwalyn fley atte ferste set.

† **3.** Letting, lease. *Sc. Obs.*

1439 *Charters*, etc. *Edin.* (1871) 64 Sindry alde charteris, takis, and settis of feefedorme made to thaim. 1471 *Acts Lds. Auditors* (1839) 14/2 þat he sall haue na dale nor en-

trometing þarwith..without þt he optene tak & set þarof. 1476 *Ibid.* 41/1 Dauid allegiand at þe said landis of logycarroch belangit him be Resone of Sete. 1583 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 564 Thair was ane set maid of the kingis majesties landis. 1600 J. MELVILL *Autobiog.*, etc. (1842) 11 Be whome they might gett a new sett and possessioun of thay teind fisches. *a* 1637 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1655) 452 He should not delapidate his Benefice..nor make any set, or disposition thereof. [1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 50 § 3 'Lease' [in this Act] shall include tack and set.]

b. (Usually *sett.*) A mining lease. Chiefly *Cornwall.* (Cf. 21.)

1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5141/4 The Setts heretofore made of the Copper-works..will determine at Michaelmas next. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 326 A Set..sometimes..implies the deed or lease by which they enjoy the premises. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 241 The sett, or lease, frequently extends to twenty-one years.

attrib. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Sett quarries*, a number of mines or quarries taken on lease.

4. *Scots Law.* The action of setting to sale (see quots.).

1693 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. xvi. (ed. 2) 135 A Roup at the half or major part of the Owners against the rest, or a Set at any of the Owners instance against the whole, either to take his part at such a rate, or [etc.]. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Sett*, Where the owners of a ship disagree as to the manner in which a vessel is to be employed, or where one of the owners is desirous to sell his share, he usually offers it, at a certain price, to the other owners; and failing an extrajudicial arrangement, an action of sett is competent.

† **5.** The condition of being stopped or checked; a check. Phr. *at a set*, at a standstill, in difficulties, nonplussed (cf. 10 e); *hard* or *sore set* (Sc.), a serious check or set-back (cf. phr. s.v. SET *v.*).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. iv. 211 Our Gull-gallants ..who would sometimes be at a sette in their braue and brauing phrases, if they should not haue varietie of oathes and curses. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 87 He is at a set, and knows not what to make of it. *c* 1680 *Mem. Mrs. Veitch*, etc. (1846) 26 (E.D.D.) They were both against it, which gave my faith a sore set. 1751 [R. PALTOCK] *Life P. Wilkins* xii, It rose so steep..that I was at a Set upon the first Entrance. 1768 Ross *Helenore* (1789) 45 Great may the hardships be, that she has met, Gotten for my sake so hard a set. *Ibid.* 70, I shanna tell you..How sad the set was, that my heart did get.

b. *Bowls.* (See quot. and RUB *sb.*[1] 2 a.)

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 180/2 A 'rub' or 'set' is when a jack or bowl, *in transitu*, comes in contact with any object on the green.

† c. *Mach.* (See quot.)

1763 FITZGERALD in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 156 The stop, or sett, generally in large engines, when the ends of the leaver come to the springs, is a defect that has been endeavoured to be remedied.

6. The act of a dog in setting game. (Cf. 10 f.)

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I. s. v. *Arrest*, A Dog that makes a fine set. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1749) I. 309 Their little Dogs make a Set at them in the Manner of Setting-Dogs. 1897 *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 448 All your senses tingle as you go to the set, and encourage the statue-like animal to go on. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 479/2 Only twenty years ago the term 'set' was in general use. A sportsman, especially an old-timer, when a setter paused on game, would then say 'There's a set!'

7. = *dead set*, 10 c, d.

1829 *Examiner* 609/1 'A set' is made upon him of the most inveterate and splenetic character. 1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 17 When 'a set' is made at a bank, every information is..sought for, by the burglars. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table T.* I. 136 On one occasion, at a noble table, a great set was made at him. 1857 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* II. x, A direct set upon Phil was made by the satirical young rogues. 1887 W. E. NORRIS *Major & Minor* xxiii, No one could say that Miss N. was making a set at him.

8. (Usually *sett.*) A form of power used by shipwrights: see quots.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 10 The sett is made by driving wedges between the head or heel of the shore. *Ibid.* 19 Both must be set close together with cross-setts. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Setts*, in mast-making denotes powers made use of, where force is required to bring or unite two or more pieces together, and is performed by screws, shores, cross-setts, or cleats. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 83 A 'set' or pressure is obtained by means of other pins driven and wedged into holes on the opposite side of the angle-iron.

9. The action of setting or hardening, or the condition of being set. *To take a set*: to set.

1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vical's Mortars* 53 The 'time of set' may sometimes transgress the prescribed limits. 1839 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 69/1 Before the cement was perfectly hardened and had taken a set.

10. Dead set: often in phr. *to make a dead set at.* † a. *slang.* (See quots.)

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Set*, as *Dead Set*, a Term used by Thief-catchers when they have a Certainty of seizing some of their Clients. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Set*, a dead set, a concerted scheme to defraud a person by gaming.

† b. A fixed look. *Obs.*

1781 G. PARKER *View Soc.* I. 196 The Doctor..gave me what I term the dead set with his eye.

c. A pointed attack; a determined onslaught; const. *at, against.* Also, an attitude or position of hostility.

1835 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) III. 274 The abhorrence of every thing like a 'dead set', or an attempt to run down a man by abuse and clamour. 1836 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 92 A dead set is to be made from various quarters, against the abominable innovation of publishing Divisions by authority. 1841 KEBLE *Let. to Newman* 29 July, It was plain from the moment Young went into the room that a dead set was to be made at him. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v., 'A dead set', a determined stand, in argument or in movement. 1885 *Manch. Evening News* 16 July 2/1 The disaffected sections of the Irish population made a dead set against him from the first.

d. Of a woman: A determined attempt to gain a man's affections. Also *occas.* conversely of a man.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIV. xlii, Her late performance had been a dead set At Lord Augustus. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 3 James had..made a 'dead set' at a 'fortune'. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iii, There was a girl at Dumdum..who made a dead set at me in the year '4. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* xvii, I made a dead set at a new beauty just arrived from the South. 1894 MRS. F. ELLIOT *Roman Gossip* v. 148 Women all through his life made a dead set at Garibaldi.

e. An absolute stop; a complete check; phr. *at a dead set.* Also *Univ. slang* = DEAD *sb.*[1] 5.

1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* III. 211 Hollo—what's this!—the duchess of Drinkwater at a dead sett! 1848 WEBSTER s. v. *Set, To be at a dead set*, is to be in a fixed state or condition which precludes further progress. *a* 1851 in B. H. Hall *College Words* 92 See the front of Logic lower; Screws, dead-sets, and fines. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* i. (1863) 72 The man is at a dead set who has got through a knot hole or gateway where his sledge load of furniture cannot follow him.

f. *Sporting.* An abrupt stop made by an animal with its muzzle in the direction of the prey; *esp.* the position taken up by a dog in pointing game. (Cf. 6.)

1819 T. B. JOHNSON *Shooter's Comp.* 23 Happening to pass a small bush, with the whelp close to me..when the bitch was at a distance, he made a dead set. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* v. 122 He made a dead set, getting my wind; and immediately made a desperate charge.

II. The manner or position in which a thing is set.

† **11.** The way in which something is set down in writing. *Obs. rare.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 27 Ane herald..Quhilk schew to him ilk word fra end to end,..In forme and sett as I haif said 3ow heir.

12. Tendency, inclination; determination (of the mind, character, action, etc.) in a certain direction; often = settled direction, fixed habit.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 14 There is another kind of Lodestone..that is of contrarie set and disposition, which will haue none of Iron. 1603 DANIEL *Def. Rhime* Wks. (1717) 7 Which Frame of Words..are disposed into divers Fashions, according to the Humour of the Composer, and the Set of the Time. *c* 1620 FLETCHER *False One* II. ii, Here's a strange alteration in the Court; Mens Faces are of other setts and motions. 1692 BURNET *Past. Care* vii. 80 Tully's Offices will give the Mind a noble sett. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* viii. (1899) 168 The Lord was pleased to give my heart a set toward the preaching of Christ. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xvi. (1857) 268 The poetical mind of England had taken an inveterate set. 1852 BLACKIE *On Studying Lang.* 10 In the..process by which the mother tongue is acquired, the mind acquires a habit and a set. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 843 Strain of the heart,—that is, of a permanent 'after-strain' or 'set' towards other than the normal lines of its action.

13. The direction in which a current flows or a wind blows; also, the action of the water, etc. in taking a particular direction.

Locally applied to particular currents.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 193 How the Sets of the Tide, or Currents lay, when the Flood came in. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 125 By a sudden sett of the sea ..Jack tumbled forward. 1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 189 Although the northern set was trifling..; yet the wind, being both scant and light, we could never overcome the tendency of the current. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 350 The set of the ice. 1827 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 13 As straws show the set of the wind. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* ii. 19 A feather will show you the direction of the wind; a straw will prove the set of a current. 1879 *Scribner's Monthly* XIX. 327/1 Often in storms a strong swift current runs along the coast between the outer bar and the shore, called by the surf-men the 'set' or 'cut'.

14. The build or make of a person. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. (1623) 1186 Of a bigge and broad set. *c* 1620 FLETCHER *Custom of Country* I. v, A goodly gentleman, Of a more manly set I never look'd on. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 32. 4/2 He is of a Squat Set. 1825 JAMIESON, *Set*..8. Shape, figure, cast, make, Aberd[een]. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 291/2 Something effective and picturesque in the set of his strongly built frame.

† b. *gen.* ? Shape. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 46 Houselike..for his endurance is resembled to Ambrosia..for his roundset [? *read* round set] or figure to the Bullocks eie.

15. *Weaving.* (Usually *sett.*) The adjustment of the reeds (of a loom) necessary for the making of a fabric of a particular texture; hence, the make of a fabric as determined by this.

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour. Irel.* I. 324 The grist or fineness of the yarn, determines the set or fineness of the reed through which it is to be wrought. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 350 When the set of the web is from three fourths of an inch to forty meshes in the inch. 1879 ASHENHURST *Weaving*, etc. 272 The systems of calculating the sett of reeds. *Ibid.*, If a cloth contains sixty threads per inch, it would be said to be a sixty sett cloth. 1893 *Times* 10 July 4/6 Medium and heavy setts of powerlooms are having most attention, fine descriptions being almost neglected.

b. (Usually *sett.*) Each or any of the squares in the pattern of a tartan; the pattern itself.

1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 197 The Plaid itself gives pleasure to the sight, To see how all its sets imbibe the light. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Scarlet and green the sets, the borders blue. 1811 MRS. A. GRANT *Superst. Highl.* II. 207 Every clan wore a different *set*..of tartan. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* viii, How many checks in the sett of his plaid and trews. 1897 *Standard* 21 Sept. 7/1 The Murray 'sett'.

16. The form which a body assumes as the result of strain or pressure or in the process of solidification, etc.; *esp.* the permanent deflexion of a bar or plate of metal or wood.

1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 85 When the timbers are sagged, either by casting or by a set. 1824 TREDGOLD *Ess. Cast Iron* (ed. 2) 81 That iron is to be esteemed the best which will bear the greatest degree of flexure without set. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xii. (1857) 204 Like a piece of old elastic parchment that had been acquiring for ages the set of the roll. 1869 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Molec. Sci.* I. ii. 77 The..phenomena of crystals depends upon unequal conductibility..and their set is determined by the difference between the forces of attraction and repulsion. 1883 *Science* I. 174/1 The 'set' of a zinc bar when heated. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s. v., When the crystals of bay-salt begin to form upon the strings and thorns, the pan is said to have a good or a bad set according as the crystals are large or small. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin., Permanent set*, that amount of deflection from which a beam or structure is unable to return to its original form, but which remains constant. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 24 Turning the shingle, returning the shingle, changing the set of the sand.

17. The way in which an article of dress is arranged or 'hangs'; also similarly of a ship's sails.

1822 *Examiner* 68/2 Studying the set of her bonnet. 1827 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 107 She who shapes the mistress's caps, and gives the set to her head-dress—the lady's maid! 1828 H. LE BLANC *Art of Tying the Cravat* (ed. 2) 65 Scrutinizing examination will be made on the *set* of his Cravat. 1845 MRS. M. J. HOWELL *Hand-bk. Dress-making* 40 In order to give the skirt a pretty 'set'. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., Considering the squareness of her bows and the set of her canvas. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 166 The set o' the tunic's 'orrid.

18. The position or attitude (either occasional or habitual) given to a limb or a part of the body.

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. i. § 3 (1864) 335 A peculiar set of the limb, for example, the turning out of the toes. 1863 B. TAYLOR *Han. Thurston* iv, His yellow hair..grew back from the temples with a sturdy set. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* vii, The set of her head and neck. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 165 'E saw the set o' my shoulders.

19. a. The inclination or dip of the arm of an axle-tree; the elevation of a gun.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1163 Were all wheels made with one uniform degree of dish, we should then have one simple standard for the *set* of the axle-arms. 1852 BURN *Nav. & Milit. Dict.* s. v., To give the proper set or dip. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 168/2 (Punt shooting), '*Set' of the gun*, the elevation given to the gun as it lies on the gun-rest.

b. The slight lateral deflexion in opposite directions of the alternate teeth of a saw; the amount of this deflexion.

1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 630 Each successive tooth is placed in opposite directions, at the desired *set*, to allow the blade of the saw to pass through the wood without resistance. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 584 The 'set' of the saw consists in inclining the teeth at the particular angle known to be the best to facilitate the exit of the sawdust. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1047/1 *Hack-saw*, a frame saw of moderate set.

c. *Typogr.* (See quots.)

1892 *Southward's Pract. Printing* (ed. 4) 29 *note*, The set of the types signifies the proper position of the letters, with reference to the precise amount of space between them. 1908 LEGROS in *Proc. Instit. Mech. Engin.* Dec. 1043 As the letters are not only unequal in set, and since the widths of set generally bear no particular relation to the em (or body). *Ibid.* 1075 The mould thus made is of definite size for body but variable for the width of set.

III. Something which is set.

† **20.** An area marked out for a hunt. *Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxv, The maister of þe game shulde be accorded with þe maister forster or parker whedyr þat it be where þe kynge shall hunte suche a daye. And if þe sette be wyde [etc.]. *Ibid.*, þe maister of þe game shulde be enformed by þe forster or þe parker, what game þe kyng shall fynde withinne his sette.

21. (Usually *sett.*) The area of ground worked by a particular mining company. Chiefly *Cornwall.* (Cf. 3 b.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 326 A Set is the ground granted to a company of Adventurers. 1835 *English's Mining Rev.* July 113 The setts comprise a circumference of several miles, and abound in lodes producing argentiferous ores. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 537 The bounder had the right of granting the sett. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 136 The lord of the soil grants a *sett*.., or portion of mining soil, for a lease of years. 1893 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 2/1 There are many old workings in Wheal Owles, and several setts have of late years been discontinued.

† **22.** ? An ornament of jewellery set on a garment. *Obs.*

1502 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 21 Spangelles settes..sterrys dropes and pointes..for garnishing of jakettes. 1542 *Inv. Royal Wardrobe* (1815) 67 Upon the samyne bonet tene settis, in every set four dyomonttis,.. with xxiiii settis of perle in every set four perle. *Ibid.* 67-68 Tene plain dyamonttis in settis of gold, xviii settis of perle, & thrie in every set, and nyne set lang, and four in every sett.

23. 'Any thing not sown, but put in a state of some growth into the ground' (J.); a twig, slip, or sucker, used for planting or grafting; also, a young plant, *esp.* a bedding-out plant.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 139 The plane pulderyt

with semely settis sovnd. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 Take a sharpe hatchet..and cutte the settes in a playne place, nyghe vnto the erthe. *Ibid.*, At euery two fote, or iii fote, to leaue one set growyng not plasshed. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 26 b, To ympe or graffe yong settes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 67 Do they growe of the seede, or of the sette? 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 12 It shall grieue you much to see your yong sets rubd loose at the roots. 1618 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 233, ij hundrethe setts of lycorise for my M^rs, iiij^s. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 147 Chuse the largest Sets that you can get; which are to be had best out of a Garden well kept. 1760 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 107 One runner will make many setts. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 563 The hop-set is no sooner put in the ground than its enemies find it out. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Set..*(2) Young plants of any kind used for bedding out. 1894 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 6/6 Find a swampy place, and get good setts (that is, two or three year old withy).

fig. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieroiimo* III. ii. 123 This arme neare met So strong a courage of so greene a set. 1662 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 80 We may..graft an Set of our own upon their motion.

b. A potato, or a portion of a potato, used as seed. *local.*

1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 12 Dropping potatoe setts. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 655 The tubers are either planted whole, or cut into parts called *sets*. 1896 P. A. GRAHAM *Red Scaur* vi. 83, I found her and Mark and Elsie planting potatoes..She carried a basket of 'sets', ..and Mark was doing the hard work of digging. 1901 *Dundee Adv.* 23 Apr. 4 The common potato growing practice is to allow..six inches from sett to sett of the seed.

†c. A shoot. *Obs.*

1675 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* 182 When you have cut off the heads of your Cabbages..they will produce small sets, which the Italians call Broccoly.

†24. The stake put down at dice, etc. Also *fig.*

1537 in *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 143 Paied to the iij Cotons for iij settes the whiche the kinges grace loste to them in Grenewiche parke. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 39 The plaie that I vsed was with them, the sette by agreement not great, concluded vppon more to passe time, then wherof to make gaine. 1602 HEYWOOD *Wom. killed w. Kindn.* (1617) E 2, Let them that are taken playing false forfet the Set. 1611 COTGR., *Mommon*..a set, by a Mummer, at dice.

†25. A game at dice or cards; hence, the number of points to be made in order to be 'up'.

1594 HENSLOWE *Diary* (1845) 47 [Title of play] The seat at mawe. 1611 FLORIO, *Partita*,..a set or match at any game. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* III. G 2 b, You were best to try a set at Maw. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* I, I lose all my sets, when I want but one of up. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 58 Picket...The usual Set is an hundred. *Ibid.* 75 At Cribbidge..the number of the Set is sixty one. *Ibid.* 79 This Game I conceive is called All-Fours from Highest, Lowest, Jack, and Game, which is the Set as some play it. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* IV. i. Wks. 1778 II. 161, I lost three sets at back-gammon.

†b. *fig.* Match, contest. *Obs.*

c 1605 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* I. i, Your Sister and Lord Edwin are in game, And all their wits at stake to win the Set. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cclxxxvi, If the sword must try it, Hee had an Equall sett, and choos'd to play it. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 161 That was but civil war, an equal set, Where Piles with piles, and Eagles Eagles met.

26. *Tennis.* A group of six games which counts as a unit to the side that wins more than half of them; see also quot. *a* 1769. (Sometimes spelt *sett.*)

1578 FLORIO *1st Fruites* 8, I will goe see some play at Tenise, and perhaps play also: will you play two or three settes with me? 1591 — *2nd Fruites* 23 *P.* How manie are you my masters? *H.* We are but two that will plaie. *P.* Will you plaie in set? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 185 Ye shall see them play Sets at Tennis in the heat of Summer. *a* 1769 HOYLE *Games* (1778) 203 Six Games make a Set of Tennis, but if what is called an Advantage Set is played, two successive Games above five Games must be won to decide; or, in Case it should be six Games all, two successive Games must still be won on one Side to conclude the Set. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxiii, Perhaps you would like a set at tennis, or a game at balloon. 1886 *Field* 31 July 182/2 Mr. Joy only beat Mr. Thorpe after all three sets had been exhausted. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley the Painter* 36 I shouldn't have liked to lose my first sett with you.

†27. One of the pleats of a ruff; also, the arrangement of a ruff in pleats. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1904 II. 255, I warrant you should not see one set of her neckercher peruerted or turned awrie. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1617) 47 Some are as proud of their falling bands and little sets, as others are of their great ruffes. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* I. i. B 2 b, You haue a pretty set too, how big is the steele you set with? 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. iii, He speakes out of a fortification 'Pray god, he ha' no squibs in those deep sets. 1652 *Randolph's Hey for Honestie* III. iii. 27 The sets of my old Ruffe lookt like so many Organ-Pipes.

28. = *set scene*: see SET *ppl. a.* 8.

1861 *Cornh. Mag.* IV. 169 In the *Frogs*, we have.. a grand full stage 'set' of the Acherusian lake. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-sea Fruit* xxvi. II. 296 If such a set were only manageable at the Bonbonnière! But we have not enough depth for this kind of thing. 1880 *Theatre* Apr. 223 The set was excellent, representing the interior of an Elizabethan house.

29. (Usually *sett.*) A squared stone (chiefly granite) used for paving.

1871 WILLIAMSON *Science Lect.* Ser. II. 98 Those square stones which I think are technically called 'setts'. 1880 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 6/3 One of the small steamers which trade with setts from the quarries. *Ibid.* 9 Dec. 2/3 A sett stone quarry. 1905 *Academy* 9 Sept. 935/1 The streets used to be paved with setts taken from the black marble quarry.

30. Miscellaneous technical senses.

a. *Plastering.* The finishing coat on walls prepared for painting. b. In pile-driving, etc., a body placed between the hammer and the object to be struck. c. *Fishing.* (*a*) = 'set net' (see SET *ppl. a.*); chiefly *eel-set.* (*b*) See quot. 1867. (Cf. MDu. *set, sete.*) d. *Mining.* (See quots.) e. *Saddlery.* 'The filling of deer's hair or other stuffing beneath the ground seat of a saddle, to bring the top seat to its shape' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). f. (*a*) A young oyster when first attached; (*b*) the crop of young oysters in a locality.

a. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 373 As the plasterer lays on the set, he draws the brush backwards and forwards over it, till the surface is smooth. 1825 [see RENDERING *vbl. sb.* 3 a].

b. 1837 in *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* (1838) I. 242/2 A set is then applied to the end of the wedge, and the workman strikes it with a hammer. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1031 *Sett*, in piling, a piece placed temporarily on the head of a pile.

c. *a* 1808 *State, Leslie v. Fraser* 56 (Jam.) The practice of hauling their fishing-nets and feith-sets to the shore. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iv. (1880) 106 The angler..hooks the fish on to his line by a certain arrangement of hooks called a flight or set. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 102 The silver-bellied eel..is only caught in the eel-sets. 1892 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 88 Along the Norfolk rivers a very important eel fishery is carried on by means of fixed nets known as 'eel-sets'.

d. 1858 R. HUNT *Catal. Mus. Pract. Geol.* 223 The pillars are taken away, commencing at the extreme end of the sett. 1862 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Apr. 216 The strait sets are excavations four or five feet wide..made..in the side of a seam of coal at a distance of about six yards from each other. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Sett*, a measure of length along the face of a stall, usually from say 6 to 10 feet, by which holers and drivers are paid. A certain number of setts comprise a day's work.

f. 1881 INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industry* 248 'The Set is good in Somerset this year'; *i.e.*, there is an abundance of infant oysters. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U. S.* v. II. 515 At only a few places does a breed of oysters, or a 'set', as it is termed, occur with any regularity. *Ibid.* 540 *note*, There is no word in the Northern States for infant oysters, except the terms 'set', 'spat', 'spawn', &c.

IV. A place where something is set.

31. A place where stationary fishing nets are fixed.

1745 BLOMEFIELD *Topogr. Hist. Norfolk* II. 866 There were 19 appropriated Fishing-Places, which they called Setts, which were yearly allotted by the Mayor, to certain Fresh-Water Fishermen. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sett*, the particular spot in a river or frith, where stationary nets are fixed.

32. The earth or burrow of a badger.

1898 A. E. PEASE *Badger* 40, I knew of nine badger 'sets' in the vicinity. *Ibid.* 44 A badger's earth or warren is properly and generally called a 'set' or 'cete'. 1908 *Nation* 6 June 340/2 For a year or two past the brocks had held their sett in the brake.

V. 33. (Often *sett.*) A tool or device used for 'setting' (in various technical senses): see quots.

1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor, Setts* for Saws, are for setting the Teeth when out of Order, so as they may cut with the greater Exactness. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc., Smithing* 353 *Side Set*, a hammer used to set shoulders of rivets to a true square or bevel, as required. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 387 The work..is bent over with the blows of a flat-ended punch or set. 1846 [see *saw-set*, SAW *sb.*[1] 5 d]. 1881 *Design & Work* 24 Dec. 451/2 The operation of 'driving' rivets consists in placing a set on the end of the rivet, and sledging it down to form the head. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin., Set*, or *Sett*, (1) a narrow square nosed or round nosed chisel-like tool used by fitters and boiler makers for chipping grooves in metal. (2) Broad chisel-like tools used for cutting off hot or cold bars on the anvil. *Ibid., Hook Wrench*, or *Set*, or *Hand Hook*, a smith's tool used for taking work out of winding or out of twist. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Sett*, a piece of bar-iron bent to the same curvature or shape that an iron pipe is required to take.

Set (set), *sb.*[2] Also 4–6 sette, 5– sett. [orig. (in sense 1) a. OF. *sette* :—L. *secta* SECT *sb.*[1], but in subsequent developments of meaning influenced by SET *v.* and apprehended as equivalent to 'number set together'. The application to things (branch II) may be partly due to MLG. *gesette* set or suite (of pieces), whence app. G. *gesetz* set of knitting-needles, etc., Da. *sæt* set of china, suit of clothes.]

I. A number or group of persons.

†1. A religious body, sect. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 41 After þe deþ of Machometus þat cursede secte encresede so faste þat it drou3 my3ti men of Pers to þe corsed lawe of þe Arabes. Al þat sette haþ infecte..al Affrica. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxvi. 272 Many other of our sette and lawe. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Acts xxiv. 14 Efter the sett [*Wycl.* secte] quhilk thai say herresie, sa I serue to God the fadir. *Ibid.* 2 Pet. ii. 1 Maistris leuis, that sal bring in sectis [*Wycl.* sectes] of perdiliioun. 1538 in Archbold *Somerset Relig. Houses* (1892) 80 What ys my lord Audley, a man off ye new sett or arfter ye olde sorte?

transf. c 1450 *Mankind* 372 Ze wolde haue me of yowr sett?

2. A number, company, or group (*of* persons) associated by community of status, habits, occupations, or interests. Often with depreciatory implication (cf. LOT *sb.* 8). In the 17th–18th c. freq. spelt *sett.* [Prob. *transf.* from uses in branch II.]

1682 TATE *Abs. & Achit.* II. 533 The rest..Who ne'er had wit nor will for mischief yet. But pleased to be reputed of a set. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 122. 151 A Sett of Children thus ordered, and kept from the ill example of others, would.. learn to read, write, and what else one would have them, as others do their ordinary Plays. 1702 [W. PATERSON] *Comm. Trade* 72 The Fisheries were become a tempting Morsel for a Sett of avaricious Hucksters and Monopolists. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Venice* 105 A Set of Artisans, that by the help of several Poles..build themselves up into a kind of Pyramid.

1712 — *Spect.* No. 440 P 1 A Sett of merry Fellows. 1733 J. BARBER *Let. to Swift* 6 Feb., I have been, for many years, plagued with a sett of ungrateful monsters, called Cousins, that I tremble at the name. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 258 This kind of divination is still carried on by a set of priests. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Yalden* Wks. III. 229 A very numerous and splendid set of acquaintance. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, A set of smugglers, gipsies, and other desperadoes. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 164, I think the abolitionists of the United States the most reasonable set of people that I ever knew to be united together for one object. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 601 In the hope that a new set of customers might be developed. 1894 E. T. AVENS *Bowls* 26 The six [players] divide or 'cut' into two sets of three.

b. *absol.* (cf. sense 3).

1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 34 There will come a new hungry Sett. 1691 DRYDEN *Prol. to K. Arthur* 38 Among the rest there are a sharping Sett. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 92 If this sett were thrown aside and men of poverty and honesty put in their stead. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 78 P 3 There was a select sett, supposed to be distinguished by superiority of intellects. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xiv, 'Who are we among,..?' asked Vivian. 'Oh! an odd set,' said the lady, looking dignified. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 16 A highly trustworthy laborious and hardworking set. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 292 The shepherds were an uncouth-looking set. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 23 Oct. 4/7 He did not speak or preach in the dialect of any party or set.

†c. A political group or party. *Obs.*

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. liv, In comes another sett, and kicketh them downstairs. 1750 in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 78 That the Bedford set will be honourably kicked up or down stairs. 1790 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 140, I intend no controversy with Dr. Price, or Lord Shelburne, or any other of their set.

d. A division of pupils in a school for some special subject, *e. g.* mathematics (as at King Edward's school, Birmingham).

1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 7 Sept. 781 Those dry definitions [of Euclid] seem twaddle to me (I admit I am low in my set).

e. A gang of pickers assigned to a hop-bin.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 752 Three, four, or more pickers being employed in clearing the binds of the hops..: these, with the person engaged in sorting the poles, are denominated a set.

3. A group of persons in society having its own peculiar interests, fashions, and conventions; a social group of a select or exclusive character.

Smart set: see SMART *a.* 13.

1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* I. ii, The set she meets at her house, encourage the perverseness of her disposition. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 91 Sir Edward, not deigning to mingle with the set, leaned on his daughter's chair. *c* 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* II. iv. (1833) 346 They will move in the first set in Bath. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 33 What a delightful 'set' she belonged to at her school: how comfortable they all were once, without any sets, till several grocers' daughters began to come in. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 8, I was there From college, visiting the son..with others of our set. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xlvi, Your intimacy was with Emma. It has cooled. Your sets are different. The Tomkins's are not *quite* &c. &c. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* i, These men constituted the best set in the College...All were reading men, and all good men. 1906 BERNARD VAUGHAN *Sins of Society* (1908) 16 What a treacherous world was the Smart Set in which the Prodigal rioted.

4. The number of couples required to perform a country dance or square dance.

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, We were in want of ladies to make up a set at country-dances. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. ix. (Rtldg.) 362 The household of the governor and his lady formed a set. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxxviii, Emma was..delighted to see the respectable length of the set as it was forming. *Ibid.*, Mr. Knightley leading Harriet to the set! 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, Quadrilles were being systematically got through by two or three sets of dancers. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* xviii. (1891) 209 She is at the side of the set, he at the head.

II. A number or collection of things.

5. A collection of instruments, tools, or machines customarily used together in a particular operation; a complete apparatus employed for some specific purpose.

For various specific applications, see quots.

[1561: see 6]. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Ieu, Vn ieu de violles*, a set, or chest of violls. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. ii. 53 You must have two or three Sorts and Sets of Steel Letters and Figures. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 98 A whole Set of Punches of the same Body of Roman and Italica. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I. s. v. *Jeu, Un Jeu de Quilles* [Boyer: *neuf quilles pour jouer*], a Set of Pins. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 70 They will..provide two setts of Rudder-Irons to each Ship. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 208 P 4 A Set of Shuttlecocks. 1773 *Life N. Froude* 39 A complete Sett of Mathematical Instruments. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 215 Five or six of these barbacues form a set close to the pulping-mill. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 387/1 The 'hanging sets' or columns of pumps, with their 'ground spears' used in sinking the shafts. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 567 The bin-man, with his pickers, is placed to a certain number of hills, which is called a set. 1864 A. JEFFREY *Hist. Roxburghsh.* IV. 117 A sett of machines, at this time [*c* 1828], consisted of a double scribbler,..a double carder,..a 36-spindled billy,..and four 48-spindled jennies. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 117 A set of scales, consisting of a front and rear scale. 1881 FORGAN *Golfer's Handbk.* 35 *Set*, a pack of clubs. 1884 *Mil. Engin.* I. II. 23 In laying out tools in rows the sets should be one pace apart. 1897 R. F. FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 563 Matadore Game...Four dominoes in the set are trumps or Matadores.

6. † a. A number *of* musical instruments arranged to play together; a band; also *set of music.* b.

A suite *of* bells to be rung together. **c.** A 'pair' of organs, of bagpipes: see PAIR *sb.*[1] 6

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Miv b, The musike of a sette of Violes. 1660 *Englands Joy* in Somers *Tracts* Ser. IV. II. 142 In many Places Sets of loud Musick. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Church Div.* 75 As a musical instrument in tune or a set of musick, delight the hearer by the pleasing harmony. 1679 LOVELL *Pomey's Indic. Univ.* 165 A set of Violins. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 18 July (1815) 263 A variety of tunes played upon a set of bells. 1795 *Diary* in *Antiquary* (1896) Oct. 303 Doncaster... Fine set of organs. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* Concl. 368 We were guided up to the garret where he lay by the sound of Highland piping. It seemed he had just borrowed a set of them from Bobaldie to amuse his sickness. 1906 RAVEN *Bells* II A treble in a village set of four or five.

†**7.** A 'pair' of beads. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 147 Ile giue my Iewels for a sett of Beades. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 55 Vpon the Coffin lie a set of great Beades.

8. A collection of volumes by one author, dealing with one subject, belonging to one department of literature, or issued in a series.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 107 And this small packet of Greeke and Latine bookes..Take you the Lute, and you the set of bookes. *c* 1615 in Walcott *William of Wykeham* (1852) 166 Item, a sett of Ovids o 5 4. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 461, I want Setts also for several others. 1726 *Advt.* in J. Ker *Mem.*, Price 10 Guineas the small, 15 Guineas the large Paper in Sheets for the whole Set. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 25 July, My father told me it was a shame that I, the author, should not have even one set of my own work. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xx, Commentaries,.. sets of the fathers, and sermons. 1873 ALDRICH *Marj. Daw* i. 10 A complete set of Balzac's works, twenty-seven volumes. 1911 *Publisher's List*, Dickens' Works, 18 vols. Sold in Sets only, excepting the single vols. listed above.

b. A number of musical compositions forming a whole, as a church 'service'.

1590 T. WATSON (*title*) The first sett, of Italian Madrigalls Englished. 1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 24, vj bookes covered with pchement. conte vj setts in a book, with songs of iiij, v, vj, vij and viij partes. 1788 in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (1883) III. 476/2 A set of Quartetts. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxx, His Highness..composed an entire set of grotesque music for the Festival of Asses. 1883 STAINER in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 472 The *Gloria* has once more been included in the set... The Offertory sentences may perhaps be looked upon as a legitimate addition to the set.

c. A complete series of the parts of a periodical publication.

1701 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 302, I wish you would try..the Philosophical Transactions, our sett reaching not far, and being imperfect in the first Volumes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 P 8 They had never heard of the Tatler 'till I brought down a Set. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter again* (1840) II. 313 He perused the antiquated sets of Newspapers. 1834 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 354 All the Edinburgh Reviews are being bound, so that we shall have a complete set up to the forthcoming number.

d. A series of prints by the same engraver.

1768 *Boyer's Dict. Royal* II. s. v., A whole set of Prints ingraved by John Audran. 1841 BROWNING *Bells & Pomegr., Pippa Passes* 5/1 You brought those foreign prints... Nothing but saying His own set wants the proof-mark, roused him up. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xl, He could talk the Art-cant..and had a set of Morghens and Madonnas.

e. A definite number of copies of a bill of exchange or of lading: see quot. 1818.

1818 CHITTY *Bills of Exchange* (ed. 5) 81 The several parts of a foreign bill are called a set; each part contains a condition, that it shall be paid, provided the others remain unpaid. 1855 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 91 Bills of exchange were directed to be prepared in setts of four. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q. B. Div.* 333 The bill of lading had been drawn in a set of three copies.

9. A number of things connected in temporal or spatial succession or by natural production or formation.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 135 He'le watch the Horologe a double Set, If Drinke rocke not his Cradle. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 74 The least bitling of it will so far club and fall in with the laws that bind the whole Set. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* App. II. 278 The seven last plagues of the Vials supposing a Sett or Number of plagues antecedent. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 32 You do not cast any given Sett of Faces with four Cubical Dice. 1759 R. SMITH *Harmonics* ix. (ed. 2) 212 The Proper Set of Beats, which the said v^the ought to make in the given organ. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxviii, A new set of words to the old tune of 'Over the Water to Charlie'. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 574 An elaborate temporary set of muscles provided for the purpose. 1893 SIR H. HOWORTH *Glacial Nightmare* I. 51 A set of low hills also intervene.

b. The complement *of* teeth (natural or artificial) with which a person (or animal) is furnished.

1678 J. BROWN *Disc. Wounds* 236 The Tongue being thus guarded with a Sett of Teeth. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 97 Other knaves..take as much for Drawing out an Old Tooth, as would buy a Sett of New ones. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* I. i, I have worn out four pair of pattens with following my old lady Youthful, for one set of false teeth, and but three pots of paint. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxiv, Her ladyship's teeth (a new and exceedingly handsome set). 1878 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* 230 With mouths so unfavourable that it is impossible to adapt a set of teeth to them. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 15 Each set when complete consists of incisor, canine, and molar teeth.

†**c.** *Set of features*: the lineaments of a person's face. *Obs.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I, iv, 'Tis not a sett of features, or complexion..that I admire. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 59 That air of sensibility..accompanied with a pleasing set of features. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, He had a tall, handsome figure, a good set of features.

d. A spell (of weather); = SERIES 3 b. (But cf. *set in*, SET *v.* 146 e.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 104 Wee must haue a set of faire weather, to passe the Straight. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Sept. 1666, With a long set of faire and warme weather. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s. v., A long set of saft weather.

10. A number of things grouped together according to a system of classification or conceived as forming a whole.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. i. § 4 Which Operations..do furnish the Understanding with another sett of Ideas. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 50 He assumes..an entire sett of very different airs. 1730 MALCOLM *New Syst. Arith.* 509 Conceive two or more different Setts (or Systems) of Things, containing each the same, or a different number of Things. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 23 My old Friend did..invent a Set of Words and Phrases. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 387 Virtue has her peculiar set of pains. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 240 An exact plan.. of Nature's operations in this minute set of creatures. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xiv. 110 The set of notions which he had acquired from his education. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. i, The Constitution, the set of Laws,..that men will live under. 1857 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1890) III. 35 Let *L* denote a set of any four elements, *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*. 1897 W. P. KER *Epic & Rom.* II. vi. 201 The poet is at this point free to make use of a new set of motives.

11. The complete collection of the 'pieces' composing a suite of furniture, a service of china, a clothing outfit, or the like.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 160 All these Pavillions are..lined within with sets of lovely Tapistry. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v., A fine Set of Silver Plate. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3158/4 Fine Sets for Dressing Tables. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 140 Neither is it enough to have one Sett of Jewels, as our Ladies in France have. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, A Set of Diamonds...A Set of Buttons. 1779 *Mirror* No. 40 The fall of a set of Dresden. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. clx, I had every man ..at work to alter some of her own sails, and some we got from the Serieuse to make up a set for her. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, A set of Irish diamonds and cairngorms. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iv. 163 Her set of winter sables. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 74 The doorkeeper wears a set of shooting dittos.

12. A series of buildings or apartments associated in use; *esp.* a suite of apartments let as lodgings.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 136 He led me into a..set of warehouses. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 79/1 A single room out of the sixteen sets composing that part of the Hall [i. e. Magdalen Hall]. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* iv. 53 His one set of farm buildings. 1840 J. T. J. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* xiv, The Dean's scout was summoned to..show me the rooms..that I might select any set I chose. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* ix, First we went into lodgings,—into three sets in three weeks. *a* 1890 LIDDON *Life Pusey* (1893) I. iv. 89 At Lent term, 1826, Pusey went into rooms in Oriel College. The set he occupied [etc.].

b. *Mining.* In full *set of timber(s*: A frame for supporting the side of a level or shaft, or the roof of a gallery.

1830 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss., Cornw.* (1860) 22 *Set of timber*, a frame complete to support each side of the vein, level, or shaft. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 263 *note*, The 'set of timbers' may perhaps be fairly assumed to represent 50 cubic yards of material removed. *Ibid.* 276 Replacing the old timbers with new square sets.

13. A team of (usually six) horses.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Attelage*, a Set of Horses for a Coach or Cart, or of Oxen for a Cart or plough, four of each. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 402 He would give Sets of Chariot-Horses. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 275 To wait upon my Beloved with a coach-and-four, or a Sett. *c* 1789 GIBBON *Autob.* (1896) 162 The favourite team, an handsome set of bays or greys. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of many Fr.* I. 153 A set of horses for town.

b. A train of coal-trucks.

1863 R. SCOTT *Ventil. Mines* 10 [The doors] are at a sufficient distance from each other, so as to admit the set to pass through the one before the other is required to be opened. 1871 *Daily News* 17 Aug., When the sets had arrived at 'meetings', instead of passing each other, they ran on to the same line.

14. The series of movements or figures that make up a square dance or country dance, *esp.* the quadrille; the music adapted to this. *First set*: see quots. 1894, 1898. (Cf. *set dance*, s. v. SET *ppl. a.* 8.)

1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* vii, He attached himself solely to Miss Julia Briggs, with whom he danced no less than three sets consecutively. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* iii. (1856) 29 They were soon swimming away in the first set. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xi, The discreet automaton [at the piano]..played a..tuneless set. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 129 The Quadrille. (Generally known as the First Set.) 1898 tr. *Vuillier's Hist. Dancing* 431 The 'First Set' came over from Paris,..and was introduced..as the 'Parisian Quadrille'.

Set (set), *v.* Forms: see below. Pa. t. and pa. pple. **set.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *settan* = OFris. *setta* (mod.Fris. *sette*), OS. *settian* (MDu., MLG. *setten*, Du. *zetten*), OHG. *sezzan* beside *sazzan* (MHG. *sezzen*, G. *setzen*), ON. *setja* (Sw. *sätta*, Da. *sætte*), Goth. *satjan*; causal of **setjan* (*sitjan*) to SIT.

Confusion between *set* and *sit* arose as early as the beginning of the 14th c., owing partly to the identity or close similarity of the forms of their past tenses and pa. pples., and partly to the identity of meaning in some uses, as between *to be set* (= seated) and *to sit*; cf. SIT *v.* (etym. note and A. 5 a, a note). For cases of mere substitution of forms of *sit* for forms of *set*, see A. 1 γ, 25 below. The spelling *sett* is still sometimes found in technical senses; cf. SET *sb.*[1]

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. *Infinitive* and *Present stem.* **α.** 1 settan (*Northumb.* setta), 2–5 (6 *arch.*) setten, 3–6 sette (2 setton, seotte, 3 *Orm.* settenn, *Lay.* sætten, 4 *Kent.* zetten, 5 settyn, cettyn, satte, 6 seatt-), 4–9 sett, 7–9 *s. w. dial.* zet, 4– set.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P 13 *Pastinare*, settan. *a* 900 *Laws Ælfred* II. v. (Liebermann) 50 We settað æghwelcere cirican..ðis frið. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 23 Seðe wil reht setta miððeȝnum his. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) c. 3 Ne sette ic me fore eaȝum yfele wisan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656, Pæt hi scoldon..seotte þa dæi hwonne [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3941 Soþ sahhtnesse settenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 17569 Heo wolden al þis lond sætten on hæore tweire hond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12416 To sett iesu to werld lar. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 10 Settand vndire ȝoure fote ȝoure enmys. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 32 Boþe to sowen and to setten. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1872 Ȳ set noȝt by þy sawes. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. xlv. (1859) 51 Prowde men ..that settyn att nought al other men. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1761 How lytull his martrus setton by worldelyche gode. 1499 *Pronp. Parv.* 67/2 Cettyn or putten. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* iii. 5 Huon and gerarde who by theyr pryde settyth no thynge by me. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 199 Setteynge many on worke. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Exhort. Morn. Pr., To sette foorth his moste worthye prayse. 1584 *Eltham Churchw. Acc.* in *Archæologia* XXXIV. 63 For seatting fourthe of a soldger into Frawnce. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 14 Themselues to setten forth to straungers sight. 1605 *Lond. Prodigall* v. i. 470 Che zet not a vig by a wife if a wife zet not a vig by me. 1613 E. WRIGHT *Descr. & Use Sphære* 61 Such starres as sett when the sunne riseth, are said to set cosmically. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 176, I sett again the quære, how can the Irish..be..deemed rebels? 1801 NELSON *Let.* 28 Jan. in *Quaritch's Catal.* Oct. (1909) 28 To sett in a dark room. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 193/2 Unless you have..seen him..'sett' the game he fetches.

β. north. 3–4 seit(t, 4–5 sete. (Cf. 2 ð, 3 ƿ.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1177, I sal seit on þi mi merk. *Ibid.* 6060 To seiit him soru at his hert. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* l. (*Katerine*) 27 Quhar all þe folk..he mycht seit opynly and see. 1455 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 215, I sete vij marcs to a preste to syng a yere for me.

γ. 4 sitt, syte, 5 sitte, 6–7 sit. (Cf. 2 ζ.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 1580 (Gött.) þe schame, þe sin,..To tell war lang to sit aboute [*Fairf.* syte]. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxiv, Men sittus ryȝte noȝte him bye. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 18 Be ware of your stremes of flode for they sitten north est on the Iron groundes. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 57 Sittand thair strenth thy word againe. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 145 Shall we sit about some Reuels? 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 82 For sitting up of Bouyes in the River and Bay.

b. *Pres. Ind. 2nd person sing.* I– settest, 4–5 settist, 5 -yst, 6–7 setst, settst; *north.* 1 settes, 1, 5–6 settis.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xx. 4 Ðu settes heafde his beȝ of stane deorwyrðum. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xiii. 38 Saul ðin fore mec ðu settis [*Rushw.* setes]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxiii. 16 Þu dæȝ settest. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 988 Thou settis more by a littill golde,..Þan to fighte one goddes foo. 1411 in *26 Pol. Poems* 43 Þou settest at nouȝt, y bouȝt so dere. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 927 in *Macro Plays* 66 Why werkyst þou hys consell? by myn settis lyght? *c* 1460 RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 69 in *Babees Bk.*, When þow settyst a pipe abroche. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* vii. 17 What is man that thou..settest so moch by him? 1558 PHAER *Æneid* I. C jb, My son, that of the thonderblastes of hye Ioue settst but light. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 134 Shall I set at my hart, that thou settst at thy heele. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxiii. 20 In all that thou settest thine hand to. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac-Fl.* 199 With whate'er gall thou settst thy self to write.

c. *Pres. Ind. 3rd person sing.* **α.** I–4 setteþ, (*Anglian* seteþ), 3 -eþþ, 4 zetteþ, 5–6 settyth, -ith, 5 -eth.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ciii. 3 Se seteð wolcen upstize his. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 51 Dæl his [he] seteþ miþ liceterum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxiv. 12 And on weȝ setteð wise gangas. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7821 Drihhtin setteþþ i þin þohht God dede to biginnenn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 Huo þet ine þise þinges ageltep zetteþ zuo moche hire herte..[etc.]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 283 ȝe settyth noght by no worldely worschyp. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 149 He setiethe nothynge by yt. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 169 Let Christ (as it setteth him well) have all the glory.

β. 1–5 set(t, (2 sæt, 4 *Kent.* zet).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 4 Pæt hehste god, ðæt..hit eall set. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Nan man buton se abbot ane, & þam þe he þærto sæt. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Gief he him set a speche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Ine þe stede of þe sabat..zet holi cherche þane sonday to loky. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4925 Youthe sett man in all folye. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxxvi. 191 Man be-hettith woman loue when he Set the Ring on hir fynger.

γ. 1 (*Northumb.*), 5 settes, 4 settus, 4–6 *north.* settis, -ys, (5 setis, sattys), 6– sets (setts).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 51 Dal his [he] settes miþ legerum. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 182 Þe..king .þere-on settus his sel. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1221 Sampson on anothire side setis out belyue. 14.. *Erthe upon Erthe* (1912) 32/4 How erthe vpon erthe sattys all at noght. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 579 He saies he settes here þat he fande. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* CIII. ii, He setts thee free. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 79 And consequently setts downe the manner how. 1607 — *Cor.* III. i. 270 Which he so sets at naught. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* II. 334 At this Michælmas (1805) he *setts* 2000.

d. *Imperative.* I–5 sete (1 *Northumb.* sett), 3–6 sette, 4 zete, 4–6 sett. 4– set; *pl.* 1 settaþ, 3–4 setteþ, 4–5 settith, *north.* settis.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 18 On sett hond ofer his [*Rushw.* zesette]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 87 Sete nu þin wuldres tacn in helle. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 542 Setteð eornostlice on eowerum heortum þæt [etc.]. *c* 1205 LAY.

27216 Setteð heom after. *Ibid.* 3699 þu ..irum al þat lond and sete hit Cordoille an hond 1340 *Ayenb.* 254 Zete ane brydel to þine couaytises. 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 622 But manly set þe world on sixe and seuene. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 563 Beis nocht abasit..Bot settis speris 3ow befor. 1410 in *26 Pol. Poems* 37 Among seyntes þy soule sete. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xviii. 257 Sette thou me bisidis thee. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 139 Castys don þes mawmetys..and settyþe þer a cros. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 27 Settith before vs the bred. 1535 COVERDALE *Col.* iii. 2 Set youre mynde on the thinges which are aboue.

2. *Past Tense.* α. 1–6 sette (1–3 sætte, 3 seate), 3–5 sete, (4 zette), 4–7 sett, 4– set.

Beowulf 325 Setton sæmeþe side scyldas..wiþ þæs recedes wæl. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John xx. 15 Sæze hræðe me hwer ðu settes hine. *c* 1000 *Guthlac* 405 (Gr.) Guðlac sette hyht in heofonas. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, He sætte mycel deorfrið. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke xix. 21 þu nymst þæt þu ne settst. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 God him sette nama adam. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4175 Siþen þai settam [= sett þam] dun and ete. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (Rolls) 2086 Gwyndolene a child had þan,..When tyme was, [she] set hit to boke. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 208 Wher-to, my modir, settist þou me on þi knees...and rokkid me, and fed me? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 507 He sette nat his benefice to hyre. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 14 Thou didest me avaunce, And settest me uppe in thys great pompe and pryde. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 65 The same proposition..which I sette downe before. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 35 Some she sett out of prison. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 May 1685, The jeweller and goldsmith who sett them.

β. 5–9 sat, sate.

Frequent in inferior writers of the second half of the 18th c., esp. in intr. senses.

c 1420 *Master of Oxf. Catech.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 231 *C*[*lerk*] Who sat first vines? *M*[*aister*] Noe set the first vines. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xv. (1558) 10 Theodose..Smote of his heed, and sate [*edd.* 1494, 1554 set] it on the gate. *a* 1547 in Fosbrooke *Econ. Mon. Life* (1796) 84 She sate forward aft[er] masse. 1561 NUCE tr. *Seneca's Octavia* (1581) III. iii, That..rage..Sate them agog. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 66 We sate Sayle. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 119 The fore-most sat down his load and halted. 1742–3 *Observ. Methodists* 19 The Lord sat his Banner over us. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 74 Like Yorick, he often sat the table on a roar. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 109 The coach being ready, the ladies..sate out for the hall. 1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 318 The example which the king and his courtiers sat. 1808 HELEN ST. VICTOR *Ruins of Rigonda* I. 186 He then sat before them some dried fruits. 1824 ELLIS *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 137 *note*, The Prince and Marquis..sate out with the names of Thomas and John Smith.

γ. *dial.* 8–9 sot, *s.w.* zot.

1776 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 5 June (1886) II. 67, I sot out from Falmouth this morning. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* II. 51 Dolly informed her that she was to depart the next day..because, as the caravan *sot off* by five in the morning, they should not catch her travelling before daylight. 1840 SPURDENS *Voc. E. Angl.* s. v. *Sot*, I sot it down. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* III. 161 If ever he sot a foot here! 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., Zot his back up purty well.

δ. *north.* [1 *pl.* seton], 4 seit, sete, 5, 8–9 seet(e. [*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 19 Seton cnewa.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2442 þar he seit first his auter stan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 394 And certane tyme till him he sete [*rime* meite]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4654 For many seerties we seet þat sysed all þe werde. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* vi. (1828) 68 Then they aw seete ogen meh.

ε. 4 settede, 4–5 -ide, 5 -id, -yd, 5–6 -ed, 6 *Sc.* -it, 9 *s.w. dial.* zetted.

Frequent in Caxton.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* liii. 3 Wherfore ne wee setteden by hym. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. ix. 530 Crist..settid the lawe of hise sacramentis to the seid lawe of kinde. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 245 Reynawde setted noughte by his lyffe. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. iv. 5 The feend..settit him on the pynacile of the tempile. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* iii. 330 O heauenlie King, who..settedst me in the regall throne. 1888 *Berks. Gloss.* 12, I zetted.

ζ. 4 sitt. (Cf. 1 γ.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5058 And þan on bink he sitt him bi [*other MSS.* set, sete, sett].

3. *Past Participle.* α. 1 zeset(t, -sæt, 2–4 iset, (2–3 *infl.* isette, 3 *Lay.* isæt, hi(i)-sette, 4 ysett, *Kent.* y-, izet), 3–4 (6–7 *arch.*) yset, 4–5 ysett(e, isett(e, 5 i-sete.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. § 2 Þa zesælðа þe ze oninnan iow habbað..zeset. *c* 1050 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 183 Hys flæsc wearð eall zesett. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 þas dazes beoð iset us to muchele helpe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 Þeos riche ancren þet..habbeð rentes i-sette. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9 Childer, þat ben to boke ysett. 1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Erþan hi by yzet ope þet bord. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1373 Swythe chayres was i-sete And quyschonis of vyolete. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 491/11 In tymys I-sette. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* Prol. 1 My seruice well ysette and quitte. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 24 The stone therein yset. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 387 With words in forme yset.

β. 1–9 sett, 2–3 (*infl.*), 4–6 sette, (5 cette), 3– set, (9 *s.w. dial.* zet).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxliii. 14 Settum beamum. 1128 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Fulle feolit was sett betwenen ða Cristene & þa heðene. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 101 Wiþþ all swillc rime alls her iss sett. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2612 Þe helmes heye on heued sette. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 189 She shal noght to any þe sette Withoutyn leue of my maumette. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 850 Henne is set. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 179 Sen it is sett to be soo. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cette, or putt. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 67, I haue not sette by golde ne siluer. 1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 59 All partialitie sett apart. 1729 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 62 To be sett out so as not to prjudice the highway. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) l. 228 When tha art zet agog. 1757 R. ROBERTSON *Let.* in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 359 All your neighbours are sett to be upon you. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 140 To make a sett near to another that cannot be sett on any more.

γ. 1 *Anglian* zeset(t)ed, -et, 5 settyt, 6 -it, 9 *dial.* zetted.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* ii. 6 Ic soðlice zeseted ic eam cyning. *c* 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xviii. § 1 Þa wilnade he liif onhyrxan, þe he wel zeseted zeneah in Gallia rice. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iv. 21 Zesetted bið, *ponatur*. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Luke xix. 21 Thou takis away that that thou has nocht settit. *a* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1055 The soule vegetable..is setted within the myght elemented. 1888 *Berks. Gloss.* 12 Zetted.

δ. 1 *Northumb.* zesatted, 3 isat, 5 sat(t)e, 6–7 sat.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xx. 6 Ða linne hræglo zesattedo *vel* asetedo, *linteamina posita*. *c* 1205 LAY. 30229 þe dæi wes isat. 14.. *Three Chron.* (Camden) 77 Sir Baudwyns hede caryed to Excester and sate upon the castell yate. 14.. *Tyndale's Vis.* (Wagner) 203/1 Acrowne..satte aboute.. Wyth precious stones. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 47 b, To be sat at their ease. *a* 1695 WOOD *Life* an. 1683 (1772) II. 324 In the Pump below the Star Inn was a Tub sat.

ε. *dial.* 9 a-sot, sot, zot (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* xxi. (1839) 76 To get it sot to rights. 1888 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v. *Set up*, He's a quiet sort of a man like till he's a zot up.

ζ. Chiefly *north.* 1 zeseten, 5 settyn, 6 settin, 5, 9 setten.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke Pref. 9 Zeseteno miþ bisene, *positaque similitudine*. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xvi, Of euery one I am setten aback. ? 1567 *Decl. Lordis just quarrell* 91 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 60 Quhen faceles fuillis sall not be settin by. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict. Suppl., Setten*...This old part. form is still used by the common people. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Setten up.*

η. *north.* 4 seeit, 4–5 seit, 5 seete, seyt, 5, 9 seet, 4–6 seta.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11166 Mi sin me has seit in vnsell. *Ibid.* 20179 Has he sete me ani dai? *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 74 Goddis curs is seit at nouȝt. *Ibid.* 174 Here herte is seeit to loue his muk. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 451 Holy Chirche is seet in virtues and good lif. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadas* (Weber) 370 Full mykyll seyt by. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. 3 Thei hem silf..ben despisid and ben not seet bi. 1488 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) I. 320 The said reuerend fadir..has seit and to male lattin..þe saidis landis. 1584 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 21 Payed for a horce showe wch was sete on in Chorlaye iij^{s}.

B. Signification.

General arrangement of senses. I. To cause to sit, seat; to be seated, sit. II. To sink, descend. III. To put in a definite place (the manner of the action being implied either in the verb itself or in the context). IV. To place or cause to be in a position, condition, relation, or connexion. (This group embraces a large number of uses in which the precise implication of sense depends mainly on the kind of construction employed.) V. To appoint, prescribe, ordain, establish. VI. To arrange, fix, adjust. VII. To place mentally, suppose, estimate. VIII. To put or come into a settled position or condition. IX. To put in the way of following a course, cause to take a certain direction. X. Senses perhaps arising from reversal of construction or from ellipsis (their origin being often obscure). XI. With prepositions in specialized senses. XII. With adverbs in specialized senses. (Combinations formed on the verb-stem are given in a separate article, SET-.) ☞ A phrase key is given on page 548.

I. To cause to sit, seat; to be seated, sit.

The intransitive sense 'to sit' (5) was apparently developed out of the reflexive and passive uses of the original transitive sense of 'to seat'. *Set*, being thus used synonymously with *sit*, became capable of taking its other senses and constructions (see 5 d, e, 6, 7).

1. *trans.* To place in a sitting posture; to cause to occupy a seat; to seat.

This sense is barely exemplified outside certain phraseological expressions, e.g. *to set on a seat, a throne, on horseback*, etc., in which the sense 'cause to sit' is now lost sight of. (Prov. *to set a beggar on horseback*: to give an undeserving person an advantage which he will misuse.)

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* viii. § 5 Þu settest us on | set setl ðines sceoppendes. 1130 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Þa munecas..setten him on þes abbotes settle. *c* 1205 LAY. 14074 þe king..sætte hine bi him sceoluen. 1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. xx. 446 To king he was iblessed..& iset in trone. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 198 Riȝt as sum man ȝeue me mete and sette me amydde þe flore. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. ii. 101 The Bisshop of Caunterbury..sette the viij and xx knyghtes in her syeges. *c* 1485 in *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 19 The King..shalbe sett a gayn in his chair befor the high aulter. 1530 PALSGR. 712/1 Come hyther, Kate, and I wyll set the on my lappe, and daunce the. *Ibid.* 713/1 In the stede of a good man we set a shrewe upon the benche. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. (1608) B 2, *Dui.* Nay set you a horse back once, Youle nere light off. *Spn.* Indeed I am a beggar. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. 395 Set a beggar on horseback, and he will ride a gallop. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 158 Having set the two Ladies..upon two green Seats. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxx. 69 They.. Set Boys upon the Back on't [a camel]. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia*, Descr. xiv. 192 Who setting us upon Camels, conducted us to Maxua.

†**b.** To cause (a body of persons) to sit in deliberation. *Obs.* (Cf. 4 c.)

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 675, Ða heot seo kining þone ærcebiscop Theodorus þæt he scolde setton ealle ȝewitenemot æt þone stede þæt man cleopeð Heatfelde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 591 The king a parlyament Gert set tharefter hastely. 1560 *Inchaffray Charters* (S. H. S.) 167 With power to gar set and affirme courte or courtis.

c. To put (a hen) to sit on eggs.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 575 What wommon connot sette an hen obrood And bringe her briddis forth? 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 Whan they waxe brodye, to sette them there as noo beastes..hurte them. 1530 PALSGR. 710/2, I will set sixe hennes a brodyng agaynst this Marche. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 191 The best Age to set a Hen for Chickens, is from two years old to five. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 709 It is not an unusual practice to set a hen at any time of the day. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. 522, I never set less than three hens at one time.

d. To cause (a bird) to perch.

1530 PALSGR. 710/2, I set a hauke on her perche, *je perche*. ..Go set my hauke on her perche. 1864 BROWNING *Y. Lee's Wife* III. i, The swallow has set her six young on the rail.

†**2.** *refl.* To go down *upon one's knees* (*aknee, a-knewling, on knee*(*s*, etc.); = SIT *v.* 19. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Meid Maregrete* lxvii, Malchus herde thes wordes, he sette him acne. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 781 He sette him a knewelyng. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1211 On knes ful fayre he hem setten. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 455 Doun I sette me on myn kne.

3. *refl.* To seat oneself, take a seat, sit down. (Most freq. *to set oneself down*: see 143 i, *a.*)

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1475 He sette him on þe benche His harpe for to clenche. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 608 After to þe souper alle and some..þey hym sette. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5092 Perfore set you full sone. *Ibid.* 12214 He..set hym to ground. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 154 My doughter, sette you here by me. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* IX. ii, Setting thy self, in throne which shined bright, Of judging right.

4. *pass.* To be seated. (See also *set down* i, *b.*)

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6516 Afterward her compeinie Was yset,..& next hem..Sat þe knistes of þe rounde table. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 62 þe men weren sette as it were fyve þousand. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1711 When þe souerayne was set in a sete riall. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 469 The kynge was sett in his parlor, Wyth myrth solas and onor. 1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 192 Next the..Saxon, the marques of Brandeburgh..bisshop of Lawtenburgh were sett. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 156 It so fortuned that as thei were set, the Italian knockt at the Gate. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 821 The Queen of Furies by their sides is set. 1793 SMEATON *Eddystone L.* § 305 Most of the workmen were set round the fire. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xv, Most of the party were set to cards. 1875 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life* (1882) II. 254 Soft chairs, in which, when one is once set, it is hard to get up again.

b. To be seated to partake of a meal (*to meat, at* or *to dinner*, etc.). *Obs.* or *arch.*

Partly a spec. use of prec., partly a true passive of sense 1.

13.. *K. Alis.* 538 To the mete they weoren y-set. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 387 The Kyng was sette and serued in the hall. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 183 Quhen thay war seruit and set to the Suppar. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. 396 He.. was set at the table to eate some meate. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 118 After the K[ing] was set to dinner. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* III. ii, I play the foole To stand here prating, and forget my dinner. Are they set Marrall? 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 132 When they were again set to dinner, the page entered.

†**c.** To be seated for deliberation or judgement; (of a court) to be in session. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 249 Whan the Court is set. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 422 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 134 Thou shalt me call at domesday, When thow art set on iugement. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 181 b, After that thei [the Legates] wer set..their Commission was redde. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. vi, Bring forth the Prisoner, for the Court is set. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. i, 41 Is the examiner set? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 26 May 1671, Being all set, our Patent was read.

d. Of a rabbit: To be resting.

1801 [see FORM *v.*²]. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 105 The stag is said to be harboured,..the hare formed, the rabbit set, the marten-cat treed.

5. *intr.* To sit, be seated. (Sometimes, as in 4 b, c, with spec. reference to partaking of a meal or sitting in judgement, etc.). Now *dial.* or *vulgar*. (See also *set down*, 143 i, *c.*)

c 1205 LAY. 22913 A bord swiðe hende þat þer mazen setten [*c* 1275 sitte] to sixtene hundred & ma. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 19704 Here vte sette þ [*c* 1205 sitted] six men. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 132 Quhene at he Suld sit in sege of maieste, þai twelf sud set with hym-self. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5095 Þen set þai sone, as said hom the kyng. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. vii. 620 And soo after vpon that to souper, and euery knyȝt sette in his owne place. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 377 He made theim to set vpon a benche. 1530 PALSGR. 713/2, I set hyest, or upper moste in a companye, *je preside*. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* K 1, Such men as..set on the pillory for..periurie. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iv. 23 They may set in the Orchestra, and noblest Seats of Heaven. 1662 GERBIER *Principles* 30 The King and Queen only remaining ..setting under the Cloath of State. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* III. ii, As with his Guests he set in Mirth rais'd high. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 385 It is very possible that the President and the new Congress may be setting at New York. 1825 R. P. WARD *Tremaine* I. xxiii. 173 He had set upon tenter-hooks during the whole conversation. 1844 DICKENS *Chimes* I. 30 You must always go and be a settin on our steps must you! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lv, I'm thinkin' if I set here until I'm paid my wages, I shall set a precious long time, Mrs. Raggles; and set I will, too. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VI. ii, When you two was a-settin' by the pool, a-eatin' the breakfiss.

b. Of a hen: To sit *upon* eggs.

1586 [see ABROOD]. 1611 COTGR. *Ocmé* layed, or set on, as an egge. 1721 R. BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 85 Stopping when they have laid as many as they can

set upon. 1726 — *Country Gentl. Monthly Director* 31 Chuse the old Hens to set upon the Eggs, for they will set close. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 371 The boobies..that were 'setting hard', as the schoolboys say,.. screamed..on our approach.

c. To become lodged *upon*.

1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* i. 16 Sand is the worst description of ground for a ship to set on as it forms a curved base. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* v. II. 540 The first thing found out was that the floating spawn would not attach itself to, or 'set' (in the vernacular of the shore) upon, anything which had not a clean surface.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* = SIT *v.* B. 7, 8, 14. Now *dial.* or *vulgar*.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 317 þam..þat for godes sake here sett Vnder þe band of Sant Benett. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 121 They off Gaunte hath sent to the Inglysch naschon and to Dutch naschon..commaundyng them to sett styll..and entermete wt noo party. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 113 The emperor him selfe was glad to sett still. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 484 That which setteth neerest hir husbands hart. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. vi, O monstrous times, where murders set so light. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 2 The Eastern Emperors have divers times set upon her skirts [see SKIRT *sb.* 3]. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 34 Setting full as close to the very stamp or inmostness of a thinking Being, as [etc.]. 1803 *Forest of Hohenelbe* III. 103 A disappointment that ought not to set very heavily on her mind. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 22/1 The cat ate a rat, and it did not set well on her stomach.

e. To have a certain set or hang; to sit (well or ill, tightly or loosely, etc.). Cf. SIT *v.* 16 b.

1804 tr. *La Martelière's Three Gil Blas* II. 95 Your new clothes, which do not by any means set so well upon you. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 250 To make the artificial hair curl and set naturally to the head. 1878 NAPHEYS *Phys. Life Wom.* 205 A body-case of strong linen..setting snugly to the form. 1883 J. P. QUINCY *Figures of Past* 129 His brown wig, which set low upon his forehead. 1887 *Lady* V. 46 Sleeves lined with stiff or harsh linings never set well. 1892 *Field* 2 July 30/1 Her sail did not set at all well.

6. *trans.* To become, befit, suit. Chiefly *Sc.* (in mod. use often ironical).

c 1480 HENRYSON *Poems* (S.T.S.) III. 103 Scho woir nevir grene nor gray That set hir half so weill. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 196 How it settis him so syde to sege of sic materis. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 41 It settis not madynis als To lait men lowis thair lace. 1606 ROLLOCK *1 Thess.* 190 (Jam.) It is ouer sore to a Gentleman to doe that, it settes him not. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 55 It sets him well howbeit he be young, to make Christ his garland. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Shep.* IV. i, It sets him weel To yoke a plough where Patrick thought to till! 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXX, It wad better set you to be nursing the gudeman's bairns than to be deaving us here. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* II. 241 How prettily the lace cap sets her. 1860 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Holmby House* II. XXI. 301 It set him well now, a worn and broken man, to be taking thought of his looks like a girl. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* ii, Gavin,..do you think this bonnet sets me?

b. Also said of the person with regard to clothing, etc.

1892 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 59 Mysie..was a pretty creature, 'setting', in Scottish phrase, everything she wore.

7. To sit (a horse); = SIT *v.* 31. *rare*.

1648 *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 11 It will try how the new Riders will set the saddle. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 P 1 She set her horse with a very graceful air.

II. To sink, descend.

†8. *intr.* To subside, abate. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 86 Nim fyrs..& lege uppa þat geswollene & hyt sceal sona settan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 274 þe swell schal setten.

9. Of the sun or other luminary: To go down; to make an apparent descent towards and below the horizon. (Conjugated, like other intr. verbs of motion, with either *be* or *have*.)

Not in OE.: cf. ON. *setjask*.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2671 So þat þei nouth ne blinne, Til þat to sette bigan þe sunne. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3050 Als sone as þe son hup soght þe slaghter begynnys, And to sett was be same sesytt þai neuer. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 þou sall dye or þe son sett. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Somnor) 172 The Sun was readie to set. 1613 CHAPMAN *Mashe Inns Crt.*, The ruddy Sunne was seen ready to be set. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. x. 220 With them all the stars equally set & rise. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 18 The sun, on the point of being set. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* vi, The sun setting red. 1822 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* i. (1823) 121 Till the last pale star had set. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* v, The moon was set, and it was very dark. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. III. xxxiv. 360 The sun had long been set.

transf. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* I. ii. (1668) 6 Distant skies that in the Ocean set.

b. Of the day: To come to its close. *poet.*

1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* II. 48 Euery minute is a day and night That breakes and sets in twinkling of an eie. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. ii, The euening will set red, vpon you, sir. 1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 67 The third day Had set upon the sepulchre.

c. *fig.* To decline, wane.

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* IV. I 4 b, May not we set as well as the Dukes sonne. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 1302 And rise againe in health, to set in shame! *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* v. ii, Your malice sets in death, does it not, sir? 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* Pref., Having absolved your courses through Zodiac of praise worthy actions, you wil set laden with Lustre. 1818 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. xii. 396 She should have no twilight, but set in the full possession of her powers. 1890 TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689 282 The British Empire in India seemed setting in fire and blood. 1892 *Argosy* June 496 The glory of Egypt seemed to have set.

†10. Naut. *To heave and set*: to rise and fall with a heavy sea. *Obs.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXI. (1555) 99 Quadrant it was, and did heve and sette At every storme whan the wind was great. 1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* vi. (1577) 26 The Sea..causeth the shippe to heaue, and sette little or much. 1630 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 9 This day the ship heaved and set more than before. 1674 PETTY *Disc. bef. R. Soc.* 60 If the said water be so rough, as that the Vessel heavs and sets.

III. To put (more or less permanently) in a definite place.

* *Where the manner of the action is implied in the verb itself.*

†11. *trans.* To place on or as on a foundation; to build, erect; = *set-up*, 154 n. *Obs.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 356 Þa þu ærest wære mid þone ecan frean sylf settende þas sidan gesceaft. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1881 Ongunnon..heora burh ræran & sele settan. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 562 Dat arche ..set and limed a-3en de flood. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1395 Strong castel he let sette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20902 Quen he of antioche had fund þe kirk, and graytli set on grund. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1238 For mi blod no worþ it þe bet, Neuer more þe bet yset. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1649 Godis awen temple, þat of sir Salamon þe sage sett was & foundid. *Ibid.* 4305 And þat sullepe sire at sett all þe werde, In him we lely beleue & in na laȝe ellis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1689 Qwhen this Citie was set & full sure made. 1470 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 133 A litill newe howse..is bild and sett vpon the Comyn grond in the hye strete iij fote.

fig. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 61 That oure lawe is sette alle vpon loue and charyte.

†b. *pass.* Of a figure: To rest (*on* a base). *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* VI. Prop. XXVI. 173 b, If from a parallelogramme be taken away a parallelograme like vnto the whole and in like sorte set. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. XXXVIII, Triangles set upon equal bases.

12. To put (a shoot or young plant) into the ground to grow; to plant (a tree, also by extension, a vineyard, flowers, a crop). Also, less usually, to plant (seed) by hand, as opposed to *sowing*; sometimes said of the plant; formerly also, † to cause to grow from seed (*of a kernel*).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P 13, *Pastinare*, settan. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1558 Da Noe..wingeard sette, seow sæda fela. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Ȝe beoð ȝunge impen iset in Godes orcharde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1278 Abraham..tillede corn and sette treen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1015 Treis o frut þan es þar sett; at serekin vertu has at ette. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 14 His appultreen, what hour Best is to sette. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 If the hedge be of .x. or .xii. yeres growing sythe it was first set. 1530 PALSGR. 713/2, I have set rosemarye and sage ynough in my gardayne. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Sertor*, he that soweth seedes or setteth the herbes. 1572 MASCALL *Planting & Graff.* (1592) 36 Ye ought to transplant or set your trees from Alhallow-tide vnto March. 1602 KYD *Sp. Trag.* Add. 1999 This was the tree; I set it of a kiernnell. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 100 He not put The Dible in earth, to set one slip of them. 1612 HOPTON *Concord. Yeares* (1615) 112 The time [December] is good.. to set beanes, pease, &c. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iii. § 2 To order his trees, and set his flowers. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 154 Those trees which are propagated by..setting shoots. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* lii, She..cover'd it with mould, and o'er it set Sweet Basil. 1830 *Examiner* 796/1 The seed is to be set by hand. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 717/1 If a man sets potatoes in wet bog.

†b. *absol.* or *intr.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 26 Ne settas *vel* sauues *non serunt*. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 912 For to sowe & to sette in þe sad erthe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 6 Alle þat halpe hym to erie to sette or to sowe. ?*a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxi. 17, I sau, I sett—no flour nor fruit I find. 1690 R. LUCAS *Hum. Life* 245 Idleness..never ploughs nor sows..it never plants nor sets.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 663 And eac monigfealde modes snyttru seow and sette ȝeond sefan monna. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 57 Suete Jhesu,..In myn huerte thou sete a rote Of thi love. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xliii. 3 Þyn honde desparplist þe folk, and þou settest hem. ?*a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxi. 17, I sau, I sett—no flour nor fruit I find. 1690 R. LUCAS *Hum. Life* 245 Idleness..never ploughs nor sows..it never plants nor sets.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 663 And eac monigfealde modes snyttru seow and sette ȝeond sefan monna. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 57 Suete Jhesu,..In myn huerte thou sete a rote Of thi love. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xliii. 3 Þyn honde desparplist þe folk, and þou settest hem. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boethius* II. pr. v. (1868) 48 Is it þan so þat ye men ne han no propre goode I-set in ȝow. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1011 in *Macro Plays*, And þorwe Mankynde we settyn & sowe þe dedly synnys seuene. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1055 The soule vegetable..is setted within the myght elemented. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 367 Faire women are set thicke, but they come vp thinne.

†d. As a literalism or contextually: To graft.

1388 WYCLIF *Rom.* xi. 24 For if thou art kit doun of the kyndeli wielde olyue tre, and azens kynd art set in to a good olyue tre, hou myche more thei that ben bi kynde, schulen be set in her olyue tre. 1645 USSHER *Div.* 165 We see one tree may be set into another, and it groweth in the stock thereof, and becommeth one and the same tree.

†13. To put down, deposit (a pledge, security). Cf. WEDSET *v.*

c 1000 *Laws Æthelred* I. i. (Liebermann) 218 Gif he bonne ful wurðe, æt þam forman cyrre..sette ȝetreowe borȝas, þæt he seloes yfeles ȝeswice eft. 16.. in Turreff *Gleanings* (1859) 29 The said day John Michel is ordaint to be put in kirk wolt, thairin to remain quhile he sett caution to adhear to Margratt Quhytt, his spous. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 38 They with the marquess should sett caution, for keeping of the king's peace.

14. To put (a sum) down as a stake; to stake, wager. Also *fig.* *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 524 He leseth his after game, That surely cannot sette his poyntes double. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXVI. 27 ȝung airls, That his auld thrift settis on ane ess. 1509 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.* Dial. 67, I set him two shillings, he cast and drew them. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 136 Set lesse then thou throwest. 1668 DRYDEN *Evem. Love* IV. i, He is nettled, and sets me twenty: I win them too. 1726 *Art & Myst. Gaming* 23 Whatever Sum you set me, I will do the same to you. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. xli. 4 His great Empire's worth Is set on Laon and Laone's head. 1853 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Grand* ix, The stakes were 'set', the dice rattled [etc.].

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To put down a stake, lay money *on* (or *at*). Also *fig.* to give a challenge *to*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

Freq. with dat. of the person against whom the stake is laid. The dat. being interpreted as a direct obj., a personal pass. const. was evolved (see quot. 1823).

a 1553 *Nice Wanton* 212 Heer six come on seuen. *They set them*...Come on fiue. *She casteth and they set.* 1560 *Misogonus* II. iv. 171 Sett lustilye, my boykins...That was knavishlye throwne. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. ii. 23 Thou shalt set on the king. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* v. i, Come, Dariotto, set me. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. iv, A very sharke, he set me i' the nicke t'other night at *primero*. 1610 — *Alch.* I. ii, If I doe giue him a familiar, Giue you him all you play for; neuer set him: For he will haue it. 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* Prol. ii. 54 Throw boldly, for he sets to all that write. 1716 E. PARKER *Fielding's Acc. Comet* 6 Happy the Man who Punts upon a Knave during the Month of January, or sets on 6 upon Twelfth Night. 1739 *Act 12 Geo. II*, c. 28 § 3 Every Person..who shall..set at, stake or punt at..Ace of Hearts [etc.]. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 132 Come, seven's the main—who'll set me? 1823 *Mirror* I. 176/1 Observing that he was completely set, he stopped short,..saying, 'I believe I am set, gentlemen!' 1845 *Examiner* 631/2 The King would at one time set higher than usual.

c. *Dominoes.* To play first.

1897 R. F. FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 561 The one whose turn it is to set lays down any domino he pleases.

15. To put (a thing, such as an ornament, fitting, piece of furniture, etc.) in a place allotted or adapted to receive it; (contextually) to fit, fix.

c 1205 LAY. 7832 Þa Bruttes..nomen longen ræftres..& setten heom i Temese flod. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 29 A tortayes to sett his lyverey in the wynter nyghtes. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 26 The side borde in the haull with the tristillis sett in the ground. 1556 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 58 For ii Wode Candyllstyckes to set apon tapurs. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iv, Set me a candle, let me seeke. 1590 BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* 10 b, There be other peeces [*viz.* guns], to be set vpon Blockes. 1610 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 192 For Coventrie blue to sett lettres in the chaffe beddes. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xii, While the Creator Great His constellations set. 1632 — *L'Allegro* 106 How the drudging Goblin swet, To ern his Cream-bowle duly set. 1673 DRYDEN *Assign.* II. iii. 20 Set the Ladder, and mount first. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr. 1643, Setting the candles in little paper lanterns. 1729 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 202 If the Pulley be set backwarder still. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 622 The fire-side chair, still set, but vacant still. 1808 *Lady's Econ. Assist.* 4 The sleeves must be set into the shirt rather full. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 86 When he considers if he shall set a bridle on a horse. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* vii. 83 No chair is wiped and set for the visitor.

†b. To fit or attach (one thing) *to* another.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 372 þe hed to set þe body till. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 233, I shall set to your necke an halter. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 237 Workmanship in..settyng the Newe ledders vnto the seid Bellowes. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 174 Be Mercurie, set feathers to thy heels.

†c. To place in a certain sequence in a literary work, in writing or print. *Obs.*

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* 19 Tindals vncharitable pistle set before hys newe Testament. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 3, I have set before the beginnyng of every boke, the some or argument. 1679 DRYDEN *Pref. to Troilus & Cr.* Ess. 1900 I. 204, I made..an order and connexion of all the scenes; removing them from the places where they were inartificially set.

d. To put (eggs) *under* a hen to be hatched.

1726 R. BRADLEY *Country Gentl. Monthly Director* 31 You may now likewise set Duck-Eggs under Hens. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 27 The saving of eggs..which you intend to set. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* (1855) I. 170 James, you shall have a dozen eggs to set.

16. *pass.* To have a certain position or arrangement by nature.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 35 Swannes swyre swythe wel y-sette. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Her yhen smale and depe set. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* vii. 15 At the tops of the stalks come forth the flowers set at certain spaces one above another. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 209 His fine Teeth, well set. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Parish of Hilby* iii, Their heads were set on long and graceful necks.

** *Where the manner of the action is implied in the adverbial extension.*

(Many of the divisions under this heading do not indicate a difference of sense, but serve mainly to exhibit the great variety of usage.

The development of phraseological expressions has brought into existence many uses in which the original physical reference is obscured. Cf. IV.)

17. To put or place, cause to be, lie, rest, or stand, in a locality specified by an advb. expression. (See also branch XII with advs.)

Beowulf 1242 Setton him to heafdon hilderandas. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 312 [God] heo..under eorðan neoðan..sette sixelease, on þa sweartan helle. *a* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 13 Ic sette minne renboȝan on wolcnum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11351 Þe deofell..brohhte himm o þe temmple, & sette himm heȝhe uppo þe roff. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1972 Her, amid heapes, wes þis meiden iset. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21624 A wessel..Sett vnder þat licure to hint. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 738 (Laud) He sette sadel on stede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 179 Basilius awook and fonde..his armour i-sette þere as it was raþer. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 87 þai sett þis mawmet with grete wirschepe in a chariot. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xlii. 260 As

an erthyn pott..sett on þe fyir brestyth on-sundir. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xlix. 38, I wil set my stole [1611 throne] in Elam. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* (1550) 32 b, He caused his crowne to be set on the pillowe at his beddes heade. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* Rubr., Settyng both the breade and wyne vpon the Alter. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 179 Set him brest deepe in earth, and famish him. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 82 They set this iuyce vpon the fier, continually stirring it. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 155 Set it over the fire to melt. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 1057 They saw a light at a window now and then, They had not set there. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXV, Two drops of blood had fallen on the tablecloth, and the girl instantly set her cup and saucer over them.

b. *pass.* To be situated, lie (in a certain locality); to be placed (at a certain height, interval, etc.).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 14 Ofer mor ȝeseted, *supra montem posita*. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2 Engelond his a wel god lond..ech londe best Iset in þe on ende of þe worlde as ai in þe west. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 527 Seuen maister sterns er sette in heuen. *Ibid.* 10005 þe four torels on hei er sett. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 5 þe citee Oxenford, i-sette bytwene þe tweie riveres of Tame and of Temse. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 381 The graffes..With gemmes fele aboute on hem ysette. 1530 PALSGR. 711/2 Rychemonte is very well set. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, A small fountaine beeing no higher set then the pauement. 1594 WEST 1*st Pt. Symbol.* § 60 d, The said W. M. set, lying, or being in W. 1650 BAXTER *Saint's R.* III. i. § 6. 275 Betwixt them and you will be a great gulf set. 1756 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 28. 234 They are gone to their country seat set in Berkshire. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 118 Nor struggle in the net Wherein thine helpless feet are set.

18. a. To place (a thing) *upon* or in some kind of contact with some part of a person's body, *esp.* as a part of insignia. *Obs.* or *arch.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 [Hie] wundan beaȝ of þornum & him setton on heafod. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1571, & te an toc ane guldene crune, & sette on hire heauet. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 846 His leefe a rosen chapelet Had made, and on his heed it set. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 Upon the hond to were a Schoo And sette uppon the fot a Glove. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 17 Then anon com oure lady..and set a garlond on his hedde. 1525 SIR J. RUSSELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 298 If your Highnes woll, he woll sett the crowne of Fraunce on your hed. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 152 He sette his horne to his mouthe and blewe it. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. iv. 44 Chil in, Diccon, a cleene aperne to take and set before me. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1736) IV. 213 It is they that occasioned the Crown having been set upon your Head.

† **b.** To put (a thing) *in a person's hand.* (Cf. 27.)

c 1000 *Oaths* iii. (Liebermann) 396 Swa hit me se sealde, ðe ic hit nu on hand sette. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8181 Himm wass sett inn hiss rihht hannd An dere kineȝerrde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4472 Me-thought..i þis cupe in hand him sette. *Ibid.* 17629 Son in his hand he þe letter sett.

c. To put (something) *in one's sight* (or *view*), *before one* or *one's eyes* (or *view*), † *to* SHOW, † *to the sight*, † *to* VIEW.

To set before, orig. = to place so as to be seen by, acquired the meanings of to put before one for use, consideration, imitation, etc.

a 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xi. 26 Nu to dæȝ ic sette beforan eow bletsunga and wirȝinssa [*En propono in conspectu vestro*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lv. 7 Ic..sette on ðinre ȝesyhðe sarige tearas. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xviii. 8 He toke butter, and mylk ..and sette bifore hem. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 436 With pelur and pall..set to þe sight. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* lxiv. 241 Whan a man syttyth atte mette, and dyuers maner mettis afor hym Is sette. 1535 COVERDALE *Rev.* iii. 8, I haue set before the an open doore. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Delicate Diet* Wks. 1910 II. 464 They dyd Clarkly in figures, set before us sundry tales. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1624 What was set before him Which without help of eye, might be assay'd,..he still perform'd All. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 971 To set before your sight your glorious race. 1725 BROOME *Notes Pope's Odyss.* x. 295 The description sets the figure [of Terror] full before our eyes. 1848 PUSEY *Par. Serm.* I. xix. (1873) 371 He cannot set them before him; he cannot see, believe, grasp them. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. v. 2 His birth.. and his parentage have been fully set before the public.

† **d.** To put (a person) *in prison.* Similarly *to set in* (*on*) *the pillory* (see PILLORY *sb.*). *Obs.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1036, Ða let he hine on hæft settan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23315 Þai sal be sett in þair prisun. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxxviii. 468 My wyfe set in pryson. 1535 LAYTON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 61 We have sett Dunce [*sc.* Duns Scotus] in Bocardo. *a* 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 74 Then the maiore to sett theym in presone.

† **e.** With complementary advb. phr. expressing removal or issue *from* or *out of* a place. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Brut* 336/20 Þei sette out of þe Tour þe Archebishop of Caunturbury. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. Prol. 25 All this tyme settis na man his heid out of the hous. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus* (1636) 25 Is the dish set from thee? stay it not. 1667 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 335 For setting the watter away from the church style, 2d. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 180 Now they..befooled themselves for setting a Foot out of doors in that Path.

f. *To set on the sea, water, afloat*, etc.: to launch.

1559 [see *set afloat*, 137 a]. 1568 C. W[ATSON] *Polybius* 48 They were vndockte, and sette on the water. 1587 [see AFLOAT 1]. *a* 1800 *Fair Janet* i. in Child *Ballads* II. 105 Ye'll build to me a bonnie ship, And set her on the sea.

† **g.** To lay (siege) *before* a place. *Obs.*

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. 130 A prynce that setteth a siege to fore a castell. 1530 PALSGR. 711/2 Whan the kynges good grace dyd set his siege byfore Tournaye.

h. To put (pen) *to paper* († *book*).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 As I had set the penne to the boke. *c* 1530 [see PEN *sb.*[2] 4]. 1579 HAKE *News out of Powles* Ep. Ded. (1872) A ij b, And so shall I..set my Pen to Booke againe. 1581 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Z j, Setting pen to paper. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* A 4 b, My fingers did euen itch to set pen to paper. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 62 P 7, I am apt to think that Euclid was the greatest Wit that ever set Pen to Paper. 1895 KERNAHAN *God & Ant* Apol., The worst of all reasons which inexperienced writers put forward for setting pen to paper.

19. To place (a part of the body) upon a surface or an object.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xii. § 5 [He] sette his þa swiðran hond him on þæt heafod. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 239 He sette his hand ofer hiora heortan. *a* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxiv. 2 Sete þine hand under min þeoh. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 758 To lond he him sette & fot on stirop sette. *c* 1520 *Everyman* 778 Now set eche of you on this rodde your honde. 1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* I. iii, When her husband sets first foot in the bedde. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxx. 29 A Child of the Family happen'd to set his Foot upon't [*sc.* a snake]. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* II. iii. (1782) I. 136 Fabricius..set his hands in his sides. 1870 ROSSETTI *Dante at Verona* xxxii, At such times, Dante, thou hast set Thy forehead to the painted pane Full oft. *a* 1908 F. THOMPSON *Poppy* i, Summer set lip to earth's bosom bare.

† **b.** *To set (one's) hand(s on*: to lay hands upon, seize; *esp.* to lay violent hands upon, attack. Also *to set one's hand against*, to oppose. *Obs.*

c 1290 *Beket* 931 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 133 Ȝif ani man hond on ov set. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5815 Hir hondes sche sett on hir here & hir fair tresses al totere. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2290 Maraigne arose..And set hond fast on Beryns othir scleve. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 79 Aymon..began to sette sore hande vpon theym. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* (1636) III. 37 Our Princes and Bishops set their hand against Image-worship. *c* 1641 F. HAWKINS *Youth's Behav.* (1663) 36 Without setting hand on any thing before him.

c. *To set (one's) hand to*: to lay hold of, take into one's hand; *fig.* to set about, engage upon († formerly const. inf.). *To set one's hand to the door*: see DOOR *sb.* 6.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 60 b, Argos sette hande unto the werk. 1542 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2 Of your aboundaunt pitie to sette your helpyng hand to the bestowyng of me to suche condition. 1561 *Thersites* (Roxb.) 47 They wyll not ones set hande to fight with me. 1638 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* II. 144 If you appoint him to set hand to his Penne. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. ix. 13 God set his hand to this warre. 1662 EVELYN *Sculpturn* Table, Painters encouraged to set their hands to the graver. 1788 *Trifler* No. 4. 47, I..resolved to set hand to work. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1972 She set her hand to the wood, She took the fire in her hand. 1889 F. BARRETT *Under Str. Mask* I. iii. 46 He set his hand to this good work.

† **d.** To take (a step). *Obs.*

1593–1642 [see FOOTING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 219 The first step that I set within those holy gates. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 212 He was not able to set a step. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 241 Every step the horse set.

† **20.** To plant or deal (a blow); with dat. of the person or *upon*. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2405 He robert sette Biforn þe teth a dint ful strong. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1382 So wele his strok he sett þat his heued fram þe bodi flei. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 2422 And when they were together met, There were strokes sadlye set. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1408 They settyd strokes of mode. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 3175 Nor he so hard his strok apone hyme set.

† **b.** *transf.* To strike (a person). *Obs.*

13.. *K. Horn* (Harl.) 714 Wel sone bote þou flette myd suert yshal þe sette. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 577 He..set hym with þe ladill on the grustill on þe nose.

† **c.** To direct, aim (*trans.* and *intr.*). *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1201 To herte knif heo sette. 1472 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 292 Theseus was the firste..that sette and cowched his speer ayenst hym. 16.. *Sir Andrew Barton* xxxi, A noble gunner..That can sett well with his eye.

d. To apply (a weapon, etc.) *to*.

To set spurs to: see SPUR *sb.*

1388 WYCLIF *Luke* iii. 9 An axe is sett to the roote of the tree. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 165 We set the Axe to thy vsurping Roote.

21. (orig. † *To set on write.*) To put down in writing; to put on paper; † *occas.* to depict. Now *set down* (see 143 e).

a 900 *Laws Ælfred* I. xlix. (Liebermann) 46 Ic ne dorste ȝeðristlæcan þara minra awuht fela on ȝewrit settan. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 654 (Gr.), & þa winterȝerim on ȝewritu setton. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Þet rihte ileue setten þe twelue apostles on write. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. vi. 20 That he shulde se that they were sett in trew and conuenyente termes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv, Yᵉ token of a beest..set with in the cootarmure. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. Metres E ij b, I.. haue soo often as any greke word was to be englished, set ouer him..*græca nox*. 1623 TAPP *Pathw. Knowl.* 38 Therefore I take but 8, which I set in the quotient. 1681 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 460 Theyr armes in yᵉ window, genealogically sett. 1686 W. HOPKINS *Ratramnus* Dissert. iii. 38, I conceive it will not be unacceptable to the Reader to see them set in parallel. 1810 P. BARLOW in *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXV. 187 Set the inches, parts, &c. as decimals.

b. *Geom.*, etc. To lay or mark off (a line of a definite length). (Cf. *set off*, 147 d.)

1617 SPEIDELL *Geom. Extract.* 27 From the end A, drawe the line AE,..then set the line C, from A, to F. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* VI. iv, Set the side BC in a direct line to the side CE. 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 42 Take *Ins* in your Compasses and set it from D to the Dot in the Line DE. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 171 Next proceed to set aft the distance of dead-flat from the foremost perpendicular. 1830 HEUDEBWICK *Mar. Archit.* 247 On this line set the half-thickness of the stem from the centre-line.

22. To put down in a record, catalogue, etc.; to mention or treat of in a writing or composition; to put down or enter in an account. Now *set down.*

c 1200 ORMIN 3282 He badd settenn upp o writt All mannkinn. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 31 Of levedis love that y ha let,..Ofte in song y have hem set. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife of Bath's Prol.* 209 Why sholde men elles in hir bookes sette That a man shal yelde to his wyf hyr dette? 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 12 Whan Crist him self hath bode pes And set it in his testament. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. vii. 182 Wherfore he setted not the versis of homere in his book. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D iij, Sette in a byll, what thy chyldes parte commeth to. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 98 All his faults obserù'd, Set in a Note-booke. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 105, I know it was set in the Ship's Log Book by Order.

23. To put (one's signature), affix (a seal) *to* († *on*) a document. (Cf. *set to*, 152 b.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 6889 (Göt.), He..wrat þe name and set [*v.rr.* sett to, sette on] þe sele. 1405 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/2 In Witnessing of whilk thyng, to thys presentes we have sette our forsaide Seal. 1524 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 66 We have hereunto set the comon seal of Kyngesthorp. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* xv. (1869) 60 One should make writinges and set seales for lycences and passporte. 1600 *Weakest goeth to Wall* I 3 b, Here is your hand set to confirme the deed. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2029 Hee'l make the landlord set both hand & seale To this new lease. 1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* IV. i, Have you set your hands To the accusation? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Dec. 1699, For setting the Greate Seale to the pardon of an arch pirate. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 473/1 In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal. 1892 *Temple Bar* Nov. 358 He set his hand to the death-warrant.

fig. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 310 Force grace into that cheeke wher impudence setts her seale. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 342 Lend Christ your heart: Set him as a seal there.

IV. To place or cause to be in a certain position (other than merely local), condition, relation, or connexion.

* *Where a person or thing is placed in or brought into a condition.*

24. To place in a state or sphere specified by an adverbial expression.

Now less freq. than *place* or *put*.

c 1200 ORMIN 10728 3ho dop þe to settenn þe Binebenn þine lahȝhre. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1758 Ȝef ȝe beoð mine, as under me isette. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11408 Quen ani deid o þat dozein, His sun for him was sett again. *Ibid.* 23552 If it sett þam into will to mak anoiþer erth or heuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 48 þat he worth worthier sette and with more blisse. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 223 Hit wold sothely me set as soueraȝne in Joye. *Ibid.* 1728 þat ben set vnder seruage. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4957 Celde gan..sette men by her ordinaunce In good Reule and in gouernaunce. 1530 PALSGR. 714/2 And I be set ones in auctorite. 1566 DRANT *Hor., Jer.* K viij b, Preists haue set God, in this chafinge moode. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 159 Quhen Sathan was lousit out of hell, And had set man in my place. 1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Matt. v. 13 This holy calling, wherein yee are set. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ix. § 1. 253 Everything remains in the course and order wherein it was set at the Creation. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 235 P 4 Providence for the most part sets us upon a Level. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ix, My age sets me beyond your cruelty. 1846 TRENCH *Hulsean Lect.* Ser. II. viii. (1880) 245 He must be set in those conditions, where to abide by this good shall bring upon him every outward calamity. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* vi. (1857) 92 It had to be set under a keeper, to insure better behaviour.

† **b.** With complementary advb. phr. expressing removal from a condition or position. *Obs.*

(Now commonly expressed by *put*.)

c 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1043, & ræðe þæs man sette Stigant of his biscoeprice. 13.. *Cursor M.* 8639 (Göt.) þe dede childe..es þin, þat þi-selue of liif has sett [*Fairf.* atte þou fra life to dede has sette]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 1 This vice, which so out of rule Hath sette ous alle. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccev. 285 b, His mynde was so sore therof, that no man coude set hym therfro. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1, I feare me he hath set my fote out of joynte. *Ibid.* 715/2 Who hath set my bookes out of order on this facyon? 1548 [see BESIDE *prep.* 4 c]. 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. App. x. 31 Note th' end of these men's doctryns, that is to sett us withowt God. 1596 [see BY *prep.* 16 c]. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 88 This present enterprize set off his head. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXI. 105 It was a far easier labor to depose them of Rome then to set them beside their Empire. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 55 Wks. 1714 III. 18 This.. spoils his Mind, and sets that farther out of order. 1756 in *Colinass Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 209 They wanted to have a haggas, but John said we must set our hearts bye that.

25. In a large number of phraseological expressions (often equivalent to a single verb), in which *set* acquires the sense of: To cause to be or become (so-and-so). Cf. PUT *v.* 25, 26.

To set at ease, at rest, to rest, † *in* or *at peace*; *to set* † *at debate, at difference,* † *at a jar,* † *at jars, at odds, at one, at variance,* † *at square, at war, by the ears,* † *in sunder*; *to set agog,* † *at gaze, astray*; *to set ablow, afire, on fire, aflame, in flame*(*s*, etc.; *to set in array, in order, in readiness, to rights*; *to set* † *in effray,* † *on fear*; *to set at large, at leisure, at liberty*; *to set on edge*; *to set in or on a roar*; *to set in action, motion, operation*; *to set at bay, at fault,* † *in press,* † *in stay*; *to set at contempt, at defiance*; etc.: see also the sbs. and advs.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2728 Ne þearf ðe on edwit Abraham settan. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 344 (Gr.), Hine god setteð ðurh ȝeearnunga endȝum to ræste. 1297 [see AFIRE 1]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 257 Settand in pes all the cuntre. *Ibid.* XVI. 427 The Ynglis rout in gret effray War set. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2188 Sette thyn herte best at ese. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 102, I trust to God that the ij Dukes of Clarans and Glowcester shall be sette att one. 1509 HAWES

Past. Pleas. xxv. iii, Whan that God set them [the planettes] in operacyon. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* viii. iv. 142 That on this wise had Cacus set in pres [L. *telis premit*]. 1530 Palsgr. 715/2 Set your herte at rest. *c* 1530 *Cvt. of Love* (MS.) 418 And lovers true to setten at debate. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 35 He set that Countrie in good rest and peace. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse of Govt.* iv. i, I have..set al thinges in redynesse for my Sonnes departure. 1578 *Paradise Dainty Devises, Sturdy Rock* 8 The stately stagge..By yalping hounds at bay is set. 1595 Shaks. *John* iii. iii. 9 Imprisoned angells Set at libertie. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* ii. 48 An vnresolued man..is distracted here, set on feare there. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 8 Nov., At my chamber all the morning, setting my papers to rights. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Hist. Greece* I. 111 The Athenians..sat many of their ships on fire. 1805–6 Cary *Dante, Inf.* xxviii. 132 Father and son I set at mutual war. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x. x. (Rtldg.) 371 Which set my lungs as well as appetite in motion. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. ii, They have quite another feat to do: a paralytic National Executive to set in action. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 284 A peculiarity which had set at fault..the modern ship-carpenter. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxiii, At last she was set once more adrift in the world. 1879 Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxxi. 316 His followers set themselves in battle array. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 298 That day's incident set the whole neighbourhood agog.

b. With complementary adj.; chiefly *to set free, loose, right*: see also the adjs.

1530 Palsgr. 713/2 As for your costes, take no thought for, I wyll set you fre. *c* 1570 W. Wager *The Longer thou livest* 1558 (Brandl), Let me helpe you to set your gowne right. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* iii. iii. 31, I cannot thinke, but in the end, the Villanies of man will set him cleere. *a* 1639 W. Whately *Prototypes* ii. xxiv. (1640) 8 She is a bad and unloving wife,..who sets him short, and cares not to fit him with pleasing food. 1693 Locke *Educ.* § 89 Wks. 1714 III. 35 His Practice must by no means cross his Precepts, unless he intend to set him wrong. 1780 *Mirror* No. 92 Who make people laugh, or set them asleep. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 19 An immense quantity of inflammable air set loose. 1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* iii, Orme's Hindostan, the book.. which set dear Tom wild to go to India. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo* 45 Let's sit and set things straight now. 1890 Tout *Hist. Eng. from 1689*, 155 The death of the old king set them free from their last scruple.

† **26.** To place (a person) in a certain sphere of activity or occupation; esp. *to set to lore, to book, to school*; also, to place *with* an instructor or employer. *Obs.* (Cf. 114.)

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 115 Hire feder hefde iset hire earliche to lare. *c* 1290 *Beket* 210 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 112 þis child was 3ong to schole i-set. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9 Childer, þat ben to boke ysett. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 454 We ben lered..lore of no scole, Ne to no sience i-set vs silue to wisse. 1486–93 *Early Chanc. Proc.* 94/14 (P. R. O.), Your said oratour (when newly set to Courte in Davys Inne). 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* i. 491 He set her for doctryne to the abbesse Saynt Hylde. 1538 Starkey *England* i. ii. 43 Settyng themselfe in relygyouse housys, ther quyetly to serue God. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* (1550) 49 b, The sayde Barlo set me with a merchaunt of Middelboroughe too seruice. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 261 Set him betimes to school.

† **b.** *To set above, aloft, high,* or *on high*: to exalt. *To set nether*: to bring low. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 4049 Feowere here weren riche þe haueden ferden muchele þeo nedden al þæ oðere & heom nedðer sætten. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 7 Tho was the vertu sett above And vice was put under fote. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* 37 Wrong is an hiȝ seete þere riȝt schulde be. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vi. 58 Feyll sys or than he had beyne set abuff. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxiii. xxv, Verite on the first fane Did sette aloft of falshood the hede. 1530 Palsgr. 711/1, I set a lofte, as a man is whan one dothe promote him. 1596 Norden *Progr. Pietie* (Parker Soc.) 28 That God that can give and take away, set aloft and pull down. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 244 Fortune..hath set no man so high, but she threatneth to take from him as much. *c* 1675 Waller *Epitaph Col. Cavendish* 25 Equal success had set these champions high.

† **c.** To put (singers) at the proper pitch. *Obs.*

1506 in Legg *Clerk's bk.* (1903) 76 The said clarkis..whanne ony seruyce shalbe don by note shall sett the quyer not after his owne brest. 1530 Palsgr. 714/1 Can you nat set these syngyng men in tune yet?

d. orig. *to set upon the muzzle*: To muzzle (a horse) so as to prevent him feeding improperly.

1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* II. 115 My training groom had his orders and yet I was afraid Idris would not be set upon muzzle, and so get improperly filled. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* II. i. vi. § 7 Some [horses] requiring to be set over night after having eaten their hay. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* (1862) 143 They set them [the horses] very sharp.

27. To place (a person or thing) in one's possession or control, or in a condition to be used, dealt with, or occupied.

To set in hand: †(*a*) to place in (a person's) possession or control; †(*b*) to take in hand, undertake; also *intr.* with *with*, in the same sense; (*c*) to put out to be done. *To set to* (*for, on*) *sale, a-sale*: see Sale *sb.*[1] 2a, c. †*To set at pawn, to pledge, to wed*: to pledge, pawn.

c 1205 Lay. 12348 Cheorles..hefden al þis kine-lond iset a cheorlene hond. *Ibid.* 25171 Mi lond ich wulle sette to wedde for seoluere. 1388 Wyclif *Ecclus.* x. 10 For whi this man hath also his soule set to sale. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxiii, That he had sette, and layd to wedde. *c* 1500 *Robin Hood* liv, My londes beth sette to wedde..To a ryche abbot. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* v. 8 Let vs set our londes..to pledge. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vii. 6–10 He left them and set in hand to preache. *Ibid.* x. 19–24 New matter to set in hand and dispute w^t him again. 1553, 1577 [see A-sale]. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 349 Neither done, nor set in hand withall. 1602 Hakluyt tr. *Galvano's Discov.* 77 He set in hand sending foorth two ships. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 28 § 7 A man who has..set his country to sale. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* xix. 256 Concerns it you what books I set for sale? 1864 *Builder* 16 Apr. 281/3 The proposed restoration of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, is to be set in hand forthwith.

28. To cause (a thing) to assume a certain physical position expressed by a complementary adj. or advb. phr.; chiefly *to set open* († *wide*), *set on end, set upright* (see also these words).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3804 He it sett vp right. *a* 1300 [see End *sb.* 17 d]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2142 Werpis þam vp ..& wyde open settis. 1549–62 [see Ope *a.*]. 1615 Murrell *New Bk. Cookerie* 32 To make Pancakes so crispe that you may set them vpright. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *To set taught the Shrouds*, in the Navigators Dialect, is to make them stiffer when they are too slack. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 101 Seeing that the..legions were so close and crouded, he commanded them to set themselves more at large. 1724 Calamy *Life Howe* 11 Setting the Top on the piqued end downwards. 1775 Johnson *Tyrnl.* 23 Oct. in *Boswell*, The plate..is..then set sloping to drop the superfluous mercury. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. iv. viii, With door set ajar. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 7 An ill-tempered frown, that set her beauty askew.

b. To cause to take a certain shape (defined by an adj. or advb. phr.).

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* i. 12 Turn the other side of your work, and with your Hammer set it flat and straight. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 432/2 The sword is then set to the required shape by placing it on a sort of fork upon the anvil, and wrenching it by means of tongs.

29. To place (a person, his body or limbs) in a certain posture. Also *refl.*

To set on one's feet, legs: see Foot *sb.* 27, Leg *sb.* 2c.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1838 The hoost..set his hond in kenebowe. 1565 J. Phillip *Patient Grissell* 53, I was set on my legges and reyzed vpright. 1662 Hopkins *Funeral Serm. A. Grevil* (1663) 27 What are they..but..Nothings set a strutt? 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 200 Standing still, and setting itself on its hinder leggs. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 116 P 10 When a man can set his hands to his sides, and say he is worth forty thousand pounds every day of the year. 1835 Harewood *Dict. Sports* s. v. *Cock-fighting*, When brought beak to beak, and set on their legs. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* I. ii. 82 Unless the old man would set him astride on his shoulder. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 250 In standing, the legs ought to be straight, or one of them bent a little, but not set wide apart.

***Where something is assigned, applied, allotted, apportioned, etc.*

† **30.** To give, bestow, assign (a name). Const. dat. or equivalent with *to*, *upon*. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 12 God him sette naman Adam. *c* 1200 Ormin 722 Whatt name he shollde settenn Uppo þatt illke child. *a* 1635 Sibbes *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 79 God setteth a stile upon us suitable to the excellency of our spirituall being.

† **31.** To apply or allot (money) *to*, spend (a sum) *on* a certain object; to expend, invest. *Obs.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, [He] wrohte on þe circe & sette þar to landes & rentes. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2244 Wele settith he his peny, þat þe pound..savith. 1455 [see A. 18]. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 81 Late it be set in money to the remedie and socoure of this gret importunyte and necessite. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 7 All somes of money sett upon hym for the same [office]. 1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 334 To the King himself, quhilk was set on the syment riall,..xx Franch crounis.

† **32.** To apply (a remedy) *to*; to bestow (pains). *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 89 To sette traueil On thyng þat may not auail. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 100 And he mycht set no help thar-till. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4722 (Fairf.) Bot 3e sette bote our life ys gane. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* v. 19 My trauayle were wele sette Myght y hym so betraye. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 114 That alle shull be distroied but god sette remedye. 1481 Caxton *Godfrey* 277 To thende that they myght sette remedye for theyr affayres. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 394 To sett ane remedy thairto.

† **33.** To add (one thing) *to* another. *Obs.*

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 303 Nim þæt an, & sete onforeweardum þam concurrentium. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 We wrecche sunfulle..setteð deihwamliche sunne uppon sunne. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 23 Grett saumpel he settis þer-to, whi hit is ful ille to do. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* i. xi. 55 That to Holi Writt men schulde not sett eny exposiciouns, declaracions, or glosis. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 505/2 If any manne any thing set to these thynges. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* i. i. Metres E iij b, They..sette a syllable or mo to the nexte verse folowynge.

34. *To set* († *a*) *fire* † *in*, † *on*, † *upon*, † *of*, now only *to*: to kindle, ignite. (Cf. 25.)

c 1400 *Laud Troy Book* 5879 Thei sette ffir In schip. 1535 Coverdale *Matt.* xxii. 7 The kynge..destroyed those murtherers & set fyre vpon their Citie. 1568–1700 [see Fire *sb.* 1 f]. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Discov. E. Ind.* 120 Our men..did set fire to all the Townes y^t were in the Ilande. 1641 T. Jordan *Walks of Islington* iv. ii. (1657) F 4, I will even make bold to set fire of your Bush [tavern], then throw your water and spare not. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. vii, By setting fire on your house. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 8 July 5/2 These set fire by rockets to the straw barracks. 1907 Elinor Glyn *Three Weeks* vi, As a child..who sets a light to a whole box of matches in play.

35. To stake the welfare or existence of (something) *upon*; also *pass.* to be dependent for its destiny *upon*.

Phr. *to set an* (*at*) *cinque and sice, on six and seven*: see Cinque 3, Six.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iv. 9, I haue set my life vpon a cast, And I will stand the hazard of the Dye. 1601 — *Jul. C.* v. i. 75 To set Vpon one Battell all our Liberties. 1670 Dryden *Tyr. Love* v. i. 49 Yet all my Fortune on his death is set. 1832 [see Die *sb.*[1] 2 b (*d*)]. 1894 W. J. Dawson *Making of Manhood* 74 Their life is set upon a rushing whirling star.

36. To put (one thing) in the balance *against* another; to compare (one thing) *by* or *to* another.

[*a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vi. 7 Hiora birhiu ne bið auht to ȝesettane wiþ þære sunnan leoht.] 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* iii. xix. (Arb.) 241 When a man will seeme to make things appeare good or bad,..he sets the lesse by the greater, or the greater to the lesse. 1687 Burnet *Reply to Varillas* 30 Improbabilities ought never to be set against Positive Proofs. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* lxviii. 68 This method of Setting what we Have against What we have Not. 1729 *Act 2 Geo. II*, c. 22 § 13 Where there are mutual Debts between the Testator or Intestate, and either Party, one Debt may be set against the other. 1873 Spencer *Study Sociol.* ii. 40 Against his professed theory may be set his actual practice. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 Sept. 331/1 Has she no human faults to set against so much sterile virtue?

*** *Where something is made to dwell in or rest upon a person or thing.*

37. To place (one's hope or trust) *in* († *on*); to cause (one's thoughts or affections) to dwell *upon* or to be centred *in* something. Phr. *to set one's heart on* († *in*).

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxvii. 7 Dæt hie setten in gode hyht. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 227 Up to heofenum..þyder his modȝeþanc a ȝeseted wæs. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. 11 Nil þou set on þam þi hert. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7226 Þai..on þe world þair hertes sett hard. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 392 Many men..more sette here hertis In good þan in god. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 854 In vengeance he al his herte sette. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 607 In god we set al our thoght. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvii. 62 Kyng Arthur sette his loue gretely vpon her. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* (1550) 3 b, Whose mindes and studyes he..knewe to be..set in the polytique regiment..of the publique wealth. 1576 Gascoigne *Droomme of Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 307 To set mynde, upon vice and wickednesse. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 195 His heart is very much set upon the enterprize of Ireland. 1714 Addison *Lover* No. 10 P 3 The fragility of china is such as a reasonable being ought by no means to set its heart upon. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. xi. 90 He had set his fancy upon his friend's horses. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliii, She had set her mind on the Major. 1862 Tyndall *Mountaineer.* i. 3 We set our thoughts on the sublime and beautiful. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleau.* Ser. II. 203 He had set his heart on seeing his son a clergyman. 1891 E. & D. Gerard *Sensit. Pl.* III. iii. xii. 91 Jeannette had set her fancy there.

† **b.** *pass.* and *intr.* (said of the affections). *Obs.*

1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* iv. i. G 3 Where the hearts set, there goes the tongues consent. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* x, Whether, she had..felt a partiality towards one whose heart was not particularly set upon gaining hers.

† **38.** To cause (a feeling or state of mind) to arise *in* a person; to fix *in* one's mind. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Uton we symle þæs dæȝes fyrhto & ege3san on ure mod settan. *c* 1200 Ormin 2337 þe laffdiȝ Sannte Marȝe..haffde sett inn hire þohht To libbenn i clænnesse. *Ibid.* 7187 Iss ned tatt he Dredinng & aȝhe sette On alle þa [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 646 Sete, Iesu, swucche sahen i my muð to marhen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Alle monne sores setteð in ower þouhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6060 To seitt him soru at his hert. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 24 If ȝe wil not sett to þe hert to ȝef glory to my name. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* i. iii. G ij b, What care goest thou about to set at thy fathers hart.

39. To rest (one's eye, one's look) *upon*.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13821 Ilk on oþer auisement sett. *c* 1385 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 233 Vp on Grisilde..this Markys sette his eye. *c* 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 1053 At the firste look he on hire sette. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4423 His syght on þe lyght he settys. 1575 Gascoigne *Hemetes the heremyte* Wks. 1910 II. 482, I cold nev^r more sett eye on her. *a* 1645 Waller *To Amoret* 5 Joy salutes me when I set My blest Eyes on Amoret. 1765 Foote *Commissary* ii. (1782) 32 The first time I set eyes on captain Wilkins..I accost him. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xlvi, He..never has been seen or heard of since, till I set eyes on him just now.

† **b.** *To set sight of* (*in*) = to set eyes on, to sight. *Obs.*

c 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 11 On which daie it pleased God that wee sett sight of a carvell. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) l. 37 Nif 20 be tha dest bet zet Zeert [= sight] in Harry Vursdon.

40. To put (a mark, impression) *upon*; to place as a distinguishing mark, token, or imprint. Now *rhetorical*.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2369 Abraham..sette friðotacen [*viz.* circumcision]..on his selfes sunu. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iv. 15 The Lord sette a signe in Caym [1611 set a marke vpon]. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* iv. 2156 Al pat is good, be so þe prente be set. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. ii. 31 In womens waxen hearts to set their formes. 1653 Manlove *Leadmines* 21 The Barghmaster..on the Spindle ought to set a nick, If that the grove unworked be three week. 1653 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 4, I shall hope to set nothing upon his spirit but what may be of a good sculpture.

41. To lay or spread (a surface of a certain kind) *on* an object; hence, to put (a favourable or specious appearance) *upon* a thing.

To set a good face upon: see Face *sb.* 10. *To set a gloss upon*: see Gloss *sb.*

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. i. I iij, Seinge thou settest as good a face vpon beanes, as if they were blanched almondes. 1566 Gascoigne *Supposes* iv. v, What a brazen face he setteth on it! 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, iv. ii. 7 Iacke Cade the Cloathier, meanes to dresse the Common-wealth and turne it, and set a new nap vpon it. 1602 — *Ham.* iv. vii. 133 Wee'l..set a double varnish on the fame The Frenchman gaue you. 1607 — *Timon* i. ii. 152 You haue..Set a faire fashion on our entertainment. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* Pref. B 4 b, They took him to set a face upon thir own malignant designes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* ix. 8 Kick'd out, we set the best face on't we cou'd. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Pope* 14 Sept., I find that I have..

whatever face I set on't, a strong disposition to believe in miracles.

42. To put (an edge or point) *on, to.* (Cf. 75.)

1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* F 1, What sets an edge on a knife? the grindstone alone? no, the moyst element powr'd vpon it, which grinds out all gaps, sets a poynt vpon it. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 11 This did but set an edge to her wanton appetite. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* xxxix. 3 What I get Serves but to set An edge upon mine appetite. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 638, I am now setting a very keen edge to my blade.

43. To fix (a certain price) *upon* a thing; now chiefly in *to set a price upon one's head* and the like; otherwise expressed by *put*. (Cf. 89.)

1530 PALSGR. 715/2 And you set nat a price upon your marchaundyse, howe can it be bought? 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 492 Setting great ransom upon their Fisher-men. 1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 203 A Bill has bin read for setting the prices of wine as well upon the merchant as retaylor. 1687 BURNET *Contin. Reply to Varillas* 35 There is not a word of any sum set on his Head. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. xi. 184 Sylla set a Price upon the Heads of all that were proscribed. 1765 [see PREMIUM 1]. 1861 *Temple Bar* I. 521 A price was set upon the head of the Prince. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 420 s. v., To set a price upon a share in a mine.

b. *fig.* To put (a certain value) *upon*, have (a certain estimate) *of*.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. iv. 48 Since of your liues you set So slight a valewation. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 160 That I On what I offer set as high esteem. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 238 After setting a just value upon others, I must next set it on myself.

† **44.** To lay (something burdensome) *upon*; to impose or inflict (a penalty, tax, etc.) *upon. Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 10 Þæt God nylle..nan unaberendlice broc him an settan. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1266 Hwonne frea wolde on wærlogan wite settan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Listeð nu wich þreat dauid setteð uppen us. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 55 Forto reise þe treuage, þat on þe lond was sette. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23666 (Gött) [Pine] Þat godd has sett vs for vr sin. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6246 þe tax on þaim to sett. 1537 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 47 The seid felaweship..sett vpon euery of the seyd compleynauntes for his contribucion xij d. by the yere. 1552–3 *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 12 § 10 The somme or sommes upon hym sett to be due. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 115 There being a great penalty set upon any that carry their Armes. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 220 This man sets a seisure on Nilamon's lands. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 399 He was to have a proportion of all the fines that should be set upon this evidence. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* June, Of which offence he being convicted, the Court set a fine on him.

V. To appoint, institute (a person); to prescribe, ordain, establish (a thing).

45. To post or station (a person) in a certain place *to* perform certain duties.

With infin. this sense passes into 112 b.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 Þa he bebyrʒed wæs, settan him hyrdas to. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Isboset lei & slepte & sette ane wummon uorte beon ʒeteward. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8113 Hii..at ech of þe vour ʒates sette an compaynie. *Ibid.* 10685 He astorede þe castel..& sette þer uolk inou to holde him aʒe þe kinge. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 22 Þeose sixe ben I-set to saue þe Castel. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxv. fol. 55 b, Þe stable þat oweth to be sette or þe kyng comme. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 16 Þen wer þer þefes set for hym yn a wod þat he most nede goo þrogh. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 259 Loke that ye set good watche at euery gate. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* II. i. 22 He shall..assist him..in setting the watch. 1630 WINTHROP *Hist. New Eng.* (1825) I. 10 Our captain, so soon as he had set the watch, at eight in the evening, called his men. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 607 Like Centries set. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Rr 4 b, To set the Watch, is to appoint one division of the crew to enter upon the duty of the watch. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxviii, How came he to leave the Castle after the watch was set? 1873 SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* x. 251 Spies have to be set to check them. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. III. xxiii. 214 A watch was set all round the castle.

† **46.** To place (a person) in an office, appoint *to* a certain function or *to perform* a certain duty; to appoint (an official). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) civ. 17 He sette hine on his huse to hlafweardе. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13438, I sette ʒuw to ben Amang hæþene lede Lihhtfattess muþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11753 Preistes..To do þe folk, als þai war sete, Ma sacrifies to þair maumet. *Ibid.* 23877 Hirdes þat þe lauerd has sett. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 20 Þabbes ah at set nan þar-to bot þat scho is sikir offe. *c* 1450 *Brut* 429 He..made his testament full, and sette his executoris. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 5 The which sett in the seyde church seculer chanons. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 613 There is no iuge yset on such trespace. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 7 Than I woll..admytte..an honest preest to the said Chauntry, & hym set & inducte in the same. 1498 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 597 Auditours therupon to be sett.

47. To place in a position of superiority or control *over* another (e. g. as a ruler, protector, guard).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xvii. 48 Þa hælo þæs cyng s Þe ðu ʒesettest ofer folcum. 1123 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Hit was tozeanes riht þæt man scolde setten clerc ofer muneces. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3910 To..setten enngless oferr hemm To ʒemenn hemm. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Þet beoð ouer oðre iset, & habbeð ham to witene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6202 Ouer al þat ost he sett leders. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 965 Lord, o-bouen set hase þou Souerayns to wham vs bus bew. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iv. 76 b, The Ambassadors, vnto whom they are set ouer as theyr gard. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 941 Us his prime Creatures,..Set over all his Works. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646, They..set a guard upon us. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. xiii. 80 The seventh man was set over the post-boy. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 235 In the estimation of those whom he was set over. 1879 GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xiv. 127 He promoted the French clergy, and set them over the English.

b. To cause (a person) to act in a grievous way *upon*.

Phr. *To set* (one) *in* another's *neck*: see NECK *sb.* 3 c. Similarly *to set on* another's *back*.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 251 They reyse vp the people..and them they sette in theyre neckes vnder the coloure of some olde tytle of ryghte. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* IV. i, Your Friend was set upon you for a Spy. 1695 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) IV. 49 He endeavoured to set Sir William Glynn on his back.

c. *To set* (a person) *on* (another): to get him to use influence with. *rare.*

a 1725 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 241 He took care to set the English Bishops on the King.

48. To appoint (a boundary, limit). Const. dat. of person or equivalent with *to*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi, He hæfð heora mearce swa ʒesette þæt hie ne mot heore mearce ʒebrædan. *a* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xix. 23 þu hete settan ʒemæro. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii. 9 Thou hast set them their boundes, which they maie not passe. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* Wks. 1910 II. 521 Asthough ye bounds were sett, How longe mans lyfe, might heere on earthe endure. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 265 Since she found she could set no limits to his passions. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 538 Where bounds were set To darkness. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 882 Those narrow Limits, which Vulgar Opinion and Imagination sets them. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* IX. i. (1782) III. 226 Ambitious fellows, who set no bounds to their desires. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, My sufferings will soon be over; but yours—Oh, who but Heaven shall set a boundary to them! 1885 'LUCAS MALET' *Col. Enderby's Wife* II. IV. i. 130 The limits of our nature are set, and we can never cross them.

† **49.** To appoint (a season, festival, etc.) to be observed. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxv. 7 Þæt ic þe symble daʒ sette and ʒyrwe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 310 þes dæʒ [Pentecostes] wæs on ðære ealdan æ ʒesett and ʒehalʒod. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Þas dazes beoð iset us to muchele helpe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 28260 Þe festes þat in kyrk ar sette. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 Þe festes principals þet byeþ yzet ine holy Cherche vor God to bidde.

50. To ordain or establish (a regulation); to lay down (a law); to prescribe (a form or order). † Also, in OE. and ME., to ordain or lay it down (*that* something should be done). *Obs.* or *arch.*

Cf. *set law* s.v. SET *ppl. a.* 1 b.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ii. § 3 Hio ʒesette ofer eall hyre rice þæt nan forbyrd nære [etc.]. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 236 [God] sylfa sette þæt þu sunu wære efeneardiʒende mid þinne engan frean. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1102, Hi þær maneʒa beboda setton þe to Cristendome belimpað. *c* 1200 ORMIN 491 Drihhtin haffde þanne sett, þatt nan ne shollde wurrþenn þa sett to wurrþenn prest, butt iff He prestess sune wære. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 359 Alle ich iseo þine sahen sotliche isette. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. vii. 461 Seint Poul..which made this now rehercid lawe and settide it to be had in vce. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. (1652) 46 Rasis set the Dietary. 15.. BODENHAM in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 100 The chiefe of the Turkes set order yᵗ none shal do any harme to the people or to their goods. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 14 Feb., When our rules are once set,..no Governor should offer to alter them. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. xii. 422 Actual positive laws: which..have ..been set by some ill-qualified historical ruler, or have grown up insensibly.

absol. c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 10 An reȝhellboc to follȝhenn Unnderr kanunnkess had & lif, Swa summ Sannt Awwstin sette. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 379 Aiter custome to kepe as the Kyng set.

51. To fix or appoint (a time) for the transaction of an affair, or as the term of a period. Also, to fix a time for. Cf. SET *ppl. a.* 2 a.

a 1056 *Diplom. Angl.* (Th.) 376 [Hi] settan dæʒ to þæt man to ðam lande scolde faran. *a* 1122 [see A. 1 a]. *c* 1205 LAY. 2554 A þon daie þet wes iset þa comen heo to summe. *c* 1290 *Beket* 782 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 129 Ich þe lende þo fif hondred pound..Sete me þar-of ane schorte day for þov schalt heom ʒelde ech-on. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5939 Sett vs term wen we sal for þe prai. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 103 Þere was i-sette a day to answere. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxxvii. 568 Sette ye a day said sir Tristram that we shalle doo bataille. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* i. (1888) 16 They shal..neuer set any certaine day of the sicke-mans health, for it lyeth not in their power. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Isa. xvi. 14 Within three yeares (which shall be as precisely set and observed, as the hireling uses to keep account of the time agreed upon for his service). 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 127 Wks. 1714 III. 58 Upon his dispatching his Study within the Time set him. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. xxi. 163, I thank my grandmamma and aunt for their kind summons. I will soon set my day. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 21 Let's set the bridal night afore ye gang. 1890 MARY E. WILKINS *Far-away Melody, etc.* 305 Two o'clock had been the hour set for the wedding. 1893 *Field* 18 Feb. 223/3 The club's opening day..is set for April 22.

b. Said of God, destiny, etc.; also in impers. pass.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15163 Þe tide, þat in his suete wil was sett. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 191 The time set of kinde is come. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 1 Þe teerme þat is sett of god, þat noman may a-schape. 1590 LODGE *Rosalynde* (Hunter. Club) 1 b, You see that Fate hath set a period of my yeares. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* IV. ii. 147 Heauen sets our time. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 364 Yet sir ther is a date set to all sorrowes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 499 His Seed, when is not set, shall bruise my head. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* 109 God had set his time wherein these afflictions.. should end.

† c. *intr.* To fix *upon* a time. *Obs.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 84 We set upon the time that we should take our flight.

† **52.** *trans.* To appoint as one's lot or destiny. Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 64 Ac he sette ʒecamp ʒeleaffullum sawlum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 775, & forrþi sette himm Drihhtin Godd To ben Johan ʒehatenn. *Ibid.* 4836 All þatt he settebb uppo þe Off sellþe & off unnsellþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15548 Als prophetis has sett..I sal rise on þe thrid dai. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 522 He..Said it was sett to be so he sage by his artis. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 691 For Inglismen he settis no doym bot ded.

† **53.** To appoint or provide to be used or observed by a person. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 312 On ðam ealdan Pentecosten sette God æ ðam Israhela folce. 1129 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Crist sette red for his wrecce folc. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11690 þe lare off haliz hoc þatt ȝuw iss sett to follȝhenn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 11 Þe tueIf apostles þet hise zette to hyealde and to loky to alle þon þet wyleþ by yborȝe. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (Roxb.) 28 After þe offices þat he hath sett vn to hem. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xi, Sche took councell of Seyn Ambrose, and he sette hir his reule. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. § 6. 158 It would be in vain for one intelligent Being, to set a Rule to the Actions of another.

54. To present (an example or pattern) for others to follow; to introduce (a fashion).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Godalmihti..sette us bisne. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvii. 1 Crist..settand him ensaumpile til rightwismen. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* § 12. 57 Their Maister Christ gave them this precept, and set them this example. 1710 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Matt. xi. 6) (1734) I. 81 To trace all the Steps of that Example which he set us in the Flesh 1786 *Microcosm* No. 11. 130 Homer having prescribed the form, or, to use a more modern term, set the fashion of Epic Poems. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 378 A Thegn of Danish descent, Thurcytel.., set the example of flight. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 813/3 He set a pattern of controversial violence at a time when tolerance was the lesson most needed by all parties. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* II. xvi. 213 The Genoese and Venetians set the models of these vessels. 1895 A. J. BALFOUR *Found. Belief* I. ii. 54 A fashion, as the phrase goes, has to be 'set'.

b. To put before a person (a specimen of work) to be followed, mark out (the lines) on which he is to work or proceed.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 95 We tooke him setting of boyes Copies. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Antients* 8 Children follow the copies which are set them. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 586 To walk..in the ways which he hath set them. 1714 POPE *Let. to Caryll* 16 Aug., I could turn writing-master at last and set copies to children. 1862 MACLAREN *Milit. Syst. Gymnastic Exerc.* 9 The instructor will set (*i.e.*, perform in its perfect manner) each exercise. 1912 *Scott. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 193 Successful in a brief military campaign on lines set for him by his circumstances.

† c. To start (a hymn, etc.) for others to take up.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 360 The chefe chauntresse. To whos charge..it belongeth for..to sette the songe euen and mensurably. 1712 STEELE *Spect* No 284 P 5, I had one Day set the Hundredth Psalm, and was singing the first Line in order to put the Congregation into the Tune. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 148 One Sunday as the Clerk had set the Psalm. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* I. vi, I should be very willing to be his Clerk: for which you know I am qualified, being able to read, and to set a Psalm.

d. In a chase or race, *to set the pace*, to proceed at a rate of speed to be followed by another. So *to set the stroke* (in rowing).

1891 *Murray's Mag.* Mar. 367 Walking the pace set by her pupil. 1892 *Field* 2 Apr. 480/1 Elin, in the Cambridge boat, is setting a longer stroke. 1898 NEWBOLT *Isl. Race* 84 He's leading them straight for Blackmoor Gate, And he's setting a pounding pace!

e. *Bowls*, etc. (See quots.)

1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., At each round [of skittles] the loser has to set—i.e. to fix the spot where the bowl shall be delivered in the next. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 129/2 (Bowls), A 'mark' is *set, thrown*, or *led*, by the winners of an end after the score has been settled.

55. To allot or enjoin (a task). Const. dative of person or *upon*.

In mod. use often *pass.* said of what is required to be done.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29000 Crist..has be sett vs certain task quilk ar þai bones for to ask. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 127 (1699) 235 Set him such a Task, to be done in such a time, as may allow him no opportunity to be idle. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxvii, Repeating the words like a task which was set him. 1821 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I. 187 While I sit working or setting work. 1845 [PYCROFT] *Collegian's Guide* 107, I shall close my door another morning after the first five minutes, and then set impositions. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* xiv, I shall not set him anything to do. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 June 5/1 The master..was in the habit of setting lessons for the children to work upon at home after school hours. 1892 *Standard* 27 July 7/3 The Club were set 94 runs to win. 1892 *Field* 6 Feb. 188/1 We had our work set to keep up with hounds.

b. *Mining*, etc. To appoint the amount of (work to be done).

1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 141 They appoint ..the Quantity each Dredgerman shall take in a Day, which is usually called Setting the Stint. 1868 BALLANTYNE *Deep Down* xxviii, The manager..read out the names, positions, etc., of the various 'pitches' that were to be 'sett' for the following month. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 420 To set bargains or work to miners. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 10/3 Those other bargains which it was impracticable to 'set' on the 19th and 20th November will be 'set' as usual on the same day (December 5th).

c. To propound (a question or set of questions) to be solved or answered; to prescribe (a book) for an examination or a course of study.

1721 (see A. 1 a). 1845 [PYCROFT] *Collegian's Guide* 317 [It] enabled Williamson..to answer two of the ethical questions with the *ipissima verba* of two of the examiners who set

them. 1889 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Thro' Long Night* I. i. vii. 101 No mind-reader..could have solved the problem had it been set him. 1890 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 June 297/2 He will henceforward set no papers either in Greek or in Latin verse. 1891 *Murray's Mag.* X. 743 Milton's 'Areopagitica' is set for examinations. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 547/1 The intermediate examination is in special books set from time to time.

†56. To appoint (a meeting), make (an appointment). Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4702 Galathin & Gawainet To gider com, þer þai hadde set. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1160 To þe kirk he come but let, quhare scho to hyme triste set. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 119 (Qo.), Nowe shall we knowe if Gadshill haue set a match. *a* 1810 Tannahill *Poems* (1846) 19 They set their tryst where neist again to meet.

†b. To appoint (a council, etc.) *to be held. Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. l. 30 Ther was a counsell set to be at Uyllenort. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 394 He sett ane parliament at Edinburgh to be haldin the tent day of Juin.

57. To let on lease, lease, let. Also *to set in feu, in feu ferm, in lease, in tack.* Now *local.*

1422 in Raine *North Durham* (1852) App. 104 For til haue Set & to ferme latty[n] to my der frende .all my landis of Eddirham. 1426 in C. Rogers *Chartul. Priory Coldstream* (1879) 43 Be it kend..ws Wilzame Drax..till haue set and to ferme lattyn al ye landis of Litill Swynton. *c* 1480 *Oseney Reg.* (Exch. MS.) 60 b, Howses..the which, to whoome soo ever they will, they maye sett or lette. 1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 465/1 Moche lesse Rent..then the said Lordshippes.. myght resonably be sette for. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 2 b, How moche euery acre is worthe to set by the yere. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 304 He..hes..set and disponit the few of the saidis landis owir his heid. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. 635 That these Censors should set and to ferme let the territorie of Capua. 1618 in *Rec. Convent. Roy. Burghs Scot.* (1878) III. 61 That..sall nather sell, dispone or sett in few or in tak anie of the saids lands. 1682 G. Vernon *Life Heylin* 120 He removed his Study to Alresford, setting his House for no more than 3 l. a year. 1693 Stair *Instit.* II. xi. (ed. 2) 347 All Tacks set by the Vassal without the Superiors Consent. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Oct., I have had also a letter from Parvisol, with an account how my livings are set; and that they are fallen, since last year, sixty pounds. 1788 Burke *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 233 By setting the rest to farmers at rents and under hopes, which could never be realized. 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Jas. Bruce* Wks. 1816 II. 163 A comely spot..; A leasehold though..; Set..at a moderate rent. 1806 Morison *Decis.* XXXIII. 14259 The magistrates and council did set in lease to certain persons a stell fishing. 1884 R. Hunt *Brit. Mining* 107 The custom of setting or leasing a mine on tribute. 1910 P. W. Joyce *Engl. in Irel.* 319 A struggling housekeeper failed to let her lodging, which a neighbour explained by: 'Ah, she's no good at setting'.

†b. *intr.* To take a (mining) lease. Cf. Set *sb.*[1] 3 b. *Obs.*

1653 Manlove *Lead-mines* 3 May set In any ground, and there Lead-oar may get. *Ibid.* 37 The Vulgar term, is setting for a Mine, For the grace of God, and what I there can find. *Ibid.* 41 Another Miner for a Crosse-vein sets.

†58. *trans.* To establish by agreement or authority (a settled condition, an alliance, a peace). *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xviii. § 1 Þa wilnode he þæt lif onhyrigan, þe he well gesæt geseah in Gallia rice. *c* 1205 Lay. 30031 Heo setten grið, heo sette frið. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25870 þer has þi schrift sett end o pyne, þat elles war wit-vten fine. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2331 A trews they sette and sekeryd thare. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lii. 30 b, The thyrde shulde set agrement bytwene them. 1535 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 411 As ye can..sett a fynall ende therin. 1545 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 175 To sett suche fynall ordre and determinacion therin as maye stand with our Lawes. 1576 Gascoigne *Droomme of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 352 Thynke not..that I came to set peace in the world. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 31 It is now high time to set an end to this discourse. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 2 Hauing sette an order in his householde affaires. 1632 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts* Matt. xv. 2 Why do thy disciples violate and neglect this good order, set by our wise Elders in their repast? 1633 *Ibid.* 2 Sam. xix. 29, I have in my first sentence set an order in these affaires. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep. Ded. 14 You were readie to set an end to the present differences.

†b. To settle (an affair). *Obs.*

1605 Stow *Ann.* 1426 [Jas. I] called a councell to him, and taking order for setting all things in his Realme of Scotland, began his voyage toward England. 1619 Cushman in Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 36, I..could not effecte y^t^ which I aimed at, neither can yet sett things as I wished.

VI. To put in position, arrange, fix, adjust.

* *To fix or arrange in a required position or manner.*

59. To spread out (a net) to catch animals; to lay (a trap). †Also *absol.*

For *set a gin, snare, trap* used phraseologically in a fig. sense, see the sb.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxviii. 110 Setten synfulle ȝerene me. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 Ic brede me max and sette hiȝ on stowe ȝehæppre. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1057 Þe louerd.., Lym & grune & wel ihwat Sette & leyde þe for to lacche. *c* 1366, etc. [see Gin *sb.*[1] 4]. 1388 Wyclif *Jer.* v. 26 Fouleres settynge snaris and trappis. 1530 Palsgr. 711/2 Go set for some connyes. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 56 As they had ben settand tinchellis for the murther of wyld beistes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 413 For stalking Cranes to set the guileful Snare. 1825 [see Gin *sb.*[1] 4]. 1827 J. Mayer *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 176 To have traps constantly set and baited. 1827 *Act 7–8 Geo. IV*, c. 18 § 1 If any Person shall set or place..any Spring Gun, Man Trap, or other Engine calculated to destroy human Life. 1842 *Act 5 & 6 Vict.* c. 106 § 7 Every Person offending by setting or leaving set any such Net. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* iv, We..proceeded to set our lines [for fishing]. 1890 *Good Words* Aug. 549/1 The snare was set..outside the field.

60. To put (a thing) in place; to fix up in the proper or required manner; † to erect (a tent, a mast); in early use often = *set up*, 154 m.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 166 Kerving þe cloþe all to pecis, þat seuene goode sowers..Moun not sett þe seemes ne sewe hem aȝeyn. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1143 And þen trussis him to Tyre & þare his tentis settis. 1429–30 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 73 For iȝe latthes set..xvj d. *a* 1530 Heywood *Play of Wether* 742 (Brandl) Except ye be perfyt in settynge your [mill]stones. 1603 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 151 A mason, iiij days and halfe settinge the chimly pyppes. *a* 1647 in *Archæologia* XII. 283 We reared our sheers to set our masts. 1669 Boyle *Contn. New Exp.* II. (1682) 187 Whilst I set the screw all things in the Receiver suffered a compression. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xvii. (1840) 296 She lay to set her mast. 1735 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Set,..* a Term used for turning a Crane round, so as to raise the Weight that is to be shipped from the Shore. 1765 Franklin *Let.* Wks. 1887 III. 390 You mention nothing of the furnace. If that iron one is not set, let it alone till my return. 1830 Hedderwick *Mar. Archit.* 280 Having the sheer adjusted and set fair on one side. 1863 G. A. Lawrence *Border & Bastille* iv, The fore and hind wheels are nearly the same height, and set very close together. 1870 *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 18 She has been occupied in setting cards to card wool with. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 130/1 He [a slater] was to have 4*s.* a square, *viz.* a foot for setting the ridge. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* II. 498 The lancets are set and released simultaneously. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Setting trees*, the placing of timber props to support the roof in a coal mine.

b. = *set going* (114 c).

c 1500 More *Wks.* ¶ iij, A toppe can I set, and dryue it in his kynde. 1781 Cowper *Let. to Rev. W. Unwin* 28 May, When the press is once set..[the printers] are rather impatient of any delay. 1819 Hayman *Art of Brewing* 16 When the tap is set, the liquor passes perpendicularly through the goods. 1833 Brewster *Nat. Magic* xi. 294 He can, by setting an engine, produce [etc.].

61. To insert (a stitch). Phr. *to set a stitch*, to use needle and thread, to sew. Formerly † *to set seams.*

1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 94 For a poor Cobbler to set a stitch on the Sabbath day. 1771 Foote *Maid of B.* III. Wks. 1799 II. 239, I am almost resolved never to set another stitch for him as long as I live. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* xxvii. 654 Bellairs..shed a tear for every stitch she set in the trousseau. 1862— *C'tess Kate* xiv, She has never let Lily wear a stitch but of her setting.

62. *Baking, Glass-making*, etc. To put into the oven or furnace.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 263/1 To set in Owen..*in fornacem ponere.* 1530 Palsgr. 714/1 At the settyng in to the oven folkes make syde loves. 1735 Dyche & Pardon *Dict., Set,* ..in particular used by Bakers, as putting their Bread, &c. into the Oven. 1834–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 459/1 The seggars, in *setting-in* the oven, are first placed in the spaces between the bags opposite the entrance. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 577 (*Glass-making*) Before *setting the pots* in the furnace. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 45 The withdrawal of an old pot and replacing it with a new one is called 'setting a pot'. 1854 G. Read *Biscuit Baker's Assist.* (ed. 2) 15 An old practice of setting a suit of biscuits, called 'chuck and shove'. 1885 Lock in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 171/1 Before commencing to 'set' the retorts.

63. To fix (a stone or gem) in a surface of metal as an ornament; †formerly also on a garment (cf. Set *sb.*[1] 22). Also, to fashion (a design or pattern) *in* precious stones.

a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 146 Many a riche stone Was set on the purfiles. 1501 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 91 A ryng of gold w^t^ a toorkes set in. 1530 Palsgr. 710/2, I wyll set my rubye in fyne golde. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xiv. 459 To cut, and set the stones in worke. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Beauty* (Arb.) 208 Vertue is like a rich stone, best plaine sett. 1611 Bible 1 *Chron.* xxix. 2 Onix stones, and stones to be set. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 A Crochet of 122 Diamonds, set strong and deep in Silver. 1737 [S. Berington] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 15 We found several Precious Stones, some Set, some Unset, of a very great Value. 1828 *Mirror* V. 15/2 Fine brilliants are always set open. 1890 W. C. Russell *Ocean Trag.* xxvii, On the back..were his initials set in brilliants.

transf. and *fig.* 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 55 O sinfull thought, neuer so rich a Iem Was set in worse then gold. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* IV. ii, And him too rich a Jewel to be set In vulgar metal, or for vulgar use. 1827 Keble *Chr. Y., 2nd Sunday Advt.* iv, Each tender gem, Set in the figtree's polish'd stem. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 23/2 No vice could be odious when set in so much gold.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To place (a thing) *in* a certain setting; † to frame (a picture).

1530 Palsgr. 721/1 Now that my picture of the crucifix is set in bordes. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 328 She..draws all her Relations Pictures in Miniature; [which]..must be..set by no body but Charles Mather. 1822 Coleridge *Table-t.* 29 Dec., A scrubby boy, with a shining face set in dirt. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 534 It is a dark and terrible picture richly set in a massive framework of old English manners. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* iii. 33 Large square windows set in stone.

c. To fix (artificial teeth) on the plate.

1844 P. B. Goddard (*title*) The anatomy, of the human teeth; with methods of treatment; including operations, and making and setting teeth. 1878 C. Hunter *Mech. Dentistry* viii. 100 The models..must now have wax plates made for them, and upon these the teeth are set.

64. To put (a sail) up in position to catch the wind. Also said of a ship carrying (so much canvas).

[*a* 1300: see *set up*, 154 b.] 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 41 Set your foresaile. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 16 Loose the Main-sail, and set him. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 377 Their..ships..set all their plain sails. 1805 in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 166 *note*, All our masts badly wounded and no sail fit to set. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 26 July 469/2 There was no more canvas on her to set. 1892 *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* X. 42 When under full sail this vessel sets 45,000 square feet of canvas.

fig. 1819 Crabbe *T. of Hall* XI. 869 A daily guest the man appear'd, Set all his sail, and for his purpose steer'd. 1843 Bethune *Scott. Peasant's Fireside* 15 Setting all the sail they could to catch the gale of admiration.

b. phr. *To set sail*: to start on a sea voyage. Also †*to set one's sails*: to sail.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. xiii. 69 That salflie throw the se It may be lefull thai thare salis set. 1599 Bodenham in *Hakluyt's Voy.* II. I. 100 After the sayde dayes expired, I wayed & set saile for the Iland of Chio. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 227 On the sixt of June they were licensed to set sail. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 507 ¶ 6 When Pompey was desired not to set sail in a tempest that would hazard his life. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 He reimbarked in the frigate, and directly set sail. 1890 Tout *Hist. Eng. from 1689*, 118 Buonaparte set sail from Toulon.

65. To put (a movable part of an instrument or piece of mechanism) in a certain position.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 3 Tho sette I the centre of this Alhabor vpon 18 degrees among myn Almykantaras. 1592 Hues *Treat. Globes* IV. xii, The Globe being set to the latitude of the place. 1675 J. S. *Horol. Dial.* II. 39 What hour soever you would have your Larrums to ring at, to that figure..set your Larrum hand. 1833 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VI. 800 A larger knob or button..sets the hand of the watch backward or forward as may be necessary. 1857 C. Hoare *Wine & Spirit Merchant's Guide* 49 Set the length on the slide to 18.79 on D. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 116, No. 1 having set his scale replaces it in the gun. *Ibid.* 117 He first sets the tangent scale to the required deflection. 1883 R. H. Scott *Elem. Meteorol.* 68 Just before setting the vernier.

66. *Bell-ringing.* To ring (a bell) up till it stands still in an inverted position, either balanced or held by the stay and the slider. Also *intr.* of the bell.

1671 *Tintinnalogia* 3 He is able to Set a Bell Fore-stroke and Back-stroke. 1688 [see *set change*, Set *ppl. a.* 8]. 1733 *Campanologia* in *Encycl. Metrop.* XV. 410 The first step he (the learner) makes in this art, is to learn perfectly to set a Bell, both back stroke and fore. [1788 W. Jones, etc. *Key to Art of Ringing* (repr.) 9 *note*, As the first half-pull sets the bell up at back-stroke..; so the next half-pull brings her at hand or fore-stroke, which is the position we suppose her to have set off from.] 1860 E. Beckett Denison *Clocks & Watches* (ed. 4) 420 A bell of about 52 cwt..which he and some other boys used to raise and set. 1871 Wigram *Change-ringing Disentangled* 41 The learner should begin his practice on a bell when 'set'. 1875 Haweis in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 539/1 The first half-pull 'drops' the bell, the second 'sets' it.

67. a. To put (a liquid) in a vessel, at a certain temperature, strength, etc., ready to undergo a process; *spec.* in *Cheese-making* (see quot. 1861 and cf. *set together*, 153 c).

1736 Bailey *Dict. Domest.* s.v. *Cheese*, The milk must be set to turn in two different vessels. 1789 W. H. Marshall *Glo'stersh.* I. 275 The evening's meal is set for cream; and, being skimmed in the morning, is added to the morning's meal. *Ibid.* 297 The heat of the milk when set 83½°. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. I. 37 The churn should be set at 58° or 60°. 1861 *Ibid.* XXII. I. 50 The temperature of the milk when it is 'set' (that is, when the rennet is added). 1875 F. J. Bird *Dyer's Hand-bk.* 39 Run your cloth through a jigger, set with cutch at 4° Twaddle, temperature about 180° Fahr.

transf. 1861 T. Woolner *My Beautiful Lady, Wild Rose* ii, And sets a crimson rose to bleach.

b. *Baking* and *Brewing.* To add barm or yeast to. *To set the sponge*: to leaven a mass of flour.

1743 *London & Countrey Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 329 This Servant..being obliged to set his Drink that Night. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 41 The..journeyman..is occupied in carrying out bread till about half-past four, when he sets the sponge. 1844 T. Webster *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* § 4317 The sponge being thus set, cover the whole over with a cloth.

** *To put in a certain order or arrange according to a plan.*

†68. To compose, write (a treatise, book). *Obs.*

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* ii, Ða lioð..ic sceal nu..mid swiþe unȝeradum wordum ȝesettan. *a* 950 *Guthlac* (prose) Prol., For ðisum þingum ic ðas boc sette. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 576 Dauid ðurh ðone Halgan Gast ða sealmas sette. 1340 *Ayenb.* 12 Þe uerste article ys þellich. 'Ich beleue ine god þe uader almiȝti..'. Þis article zette saynte peter. *a* 1400 *Launfal* 4 Of a ley that was ysette, That hyght Launval. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 4 Whyche was in prose so well and compendiously sette and wreton.

†b. Contextually: To translate. *Obs.* (Cf. *set out*, 149 s, *b.*)

c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* Proem, Hwilum he sette word be worde, hwilum andȝit of andȝite. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 90 The forme of thay preuyleges..ne myght I nat comly setten yn Englyshe. 1602 W. T. tr. *Ld. Remy's Civ. Consid.* 1st Ep. Ded., I attempted to set it out of French into our vulgar tongue.

†c. To arrange (words) in speech; to phrase, give a particular turn to. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 3781 Geffrey set his wordis in such manere wise. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. xii, Of a fewe wordes euyll sette cometh a grete noyse and daunger. 1530 Palsgr. 714/2 Beware of hym, he can sette his wordes, I tell you.

†d. *Astrol.* = Cast *v.* 39. *Obs.*

1570 in *Archæologia* XL. 391 Bedo..desyred this examynate to cast a fygure for certen mommy that was hydden.. and upon his importunat sute this examynate sett a fygure.

†69. To settle or dispose of (land). *Obs.*

[971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79, & bæt land gesættan swa hie sylfe woldon.] *c* 1205 Lay. 24088 Arður hafde France and freoliche heo sette. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7780 Þo he adde iset is londes. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 903 Tvo ȝere he sett þat land, His lawes made he cri.

†70. To settle the arrangement of (an army) for battle. *To set the field*: see FIELD *sb.* 8 b. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 27430 Ælc king of his folke 3arkede ferde. Þa hit al was iset & ferden isemed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 432 Brut ordeinede is ost, and sette hom wisliche. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 634 The capyteyns..B[e]st to set hys felde and folow on the chase. 1502 [see FIELD *sb.* 8 b]. 1573 WHITEHORNE (*title*) Certaine Waies for the ordering of Souldiours in battelray, and setting of battailes. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Consp.* v. H 4, I am not bee that can set my Squadrons ouer-night [etc.].

71. a. To make (a table) ready for a meal, spread (a table) *with* food, etc. b. To lay (a meal).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 975 She gan the hous to dighte, And tables for to sette. *a* 1547 in Fosbrooke *Econ. Mon. Life* (1796) 84 The bordes was divers times set. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* II. i 23 Was there none at home thy dinner for to set? 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* VIII. *Baucis* 83 The good old Huse-wife, tucking up her Gown, The Table sets. 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* I. 21 He..declined partaking of the supper, which was setting on the table. 1861 *Temple Bar* I. 343 Go and set the tea. 1884 J. T. TROWBRIDGE *Farnell's Folly* II. xxxvi. 101 You may as well set the table for two. 1890 *Univ'sal Rev.* Aug. 580 A table is set with refreshments.

c. To arrange the colours in the desired order on (a palette).

1847 *Man. Oil Painting* 126 To set a palette is to arrange the tints and colours in their due order for service. 1866 E. YATES *Land at Last* I. vii. 122 By the easel were a big palette already 'set', a colour-box, and a sheaf of brushes.

72. *Printing.* To place (type) in the order in which it is to be printed from; to compose, set up (type); hence, to put (manuscript) into type. †Also *absol.*

1530 PALSGR. 711/2 Your worke must nedes go forwarde, for I have foure that do nothyng else but set upon it. 1535 JOYE *Apol Tindale* (Arb.) 20, I correked but the false copye wherby and aftir whyche the printer dyd sette his boke. 1609 TOURNEUR *Funeral Poem* 428 As practis'd printers sette and distribute Their letters. 1637 [see COMPOSE *v.* 7]. 1708 in Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 126 The third sheet..is set. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. 241 The proprietor of the county newspaper, who keeps the advertisement of this matchless villa constantly set. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 28 June, Next, to the composing-room, where I find about seventy men at work 'setting' small scraps of copy before them. 1892 *Leisure Hour* Feb. 232/2 The type from which the journal is set. 1899 *Tit-Bits* 8 Apr. 36/2 A good compositor can set 12,000 letters a day.

73. To put (words) *to* (†*in*) music; to write (a musical composition) *for* certain voices or instruments. Also (less freq. and now *Obs.*) to put (music) *to* words, adapt (a melody) *to*, compose (a tune).

1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 2 For setting an Anthem of oure lady and Saint Elizabeth. *Ibid.* 83 Item to Cornishe for setting of a carralle upon Cristmas day. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 8 Exercisyng hym selfe daily ..in settyng of songes, makyng of ballettes, & did set ..ii. goodly masses, euery of them fyue partes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 233 This Psalme..he made it also in metre, and set a note to it. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* D 2, He..setteth wanton songs vnto the Lute. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* v. iii. 67 Consorts fit to sound forth harmony Set to the falls of kingdoms! 1645 (*title*) Poems of Mr. John Milton...The songs were set in Musick by Mr. Henry Lawes. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 134 A fine consort of musick, wherein the word Maria was soe sett it took up halfe an hour in singing. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Aug. 1661, [He] plaied 9 or 10 tunes on the bells very finely, some of them set in parts. 1762 COLMAN *Mus. Lady* II. 19 *Sophy.* And you really think it is set prettily...*Mask.* Delightfully!..and sung — O heavens! 1774 STORER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 77 An air set to the words of one of his own ballads. 1821 SHELLEY *Song* iv, Let me set my mournful ditty To a merry measure. 1879 TENNYSON *Window* Pref., Sullivan..had been very successful in setting such old songs as 'Orpheus with his lute'. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Nov. 558/2 The poem is set for chorus and orchestra.

b. *fig.*

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 8 He sets his talk to a sounding tune. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. x. (Rtldg.) 371 Get out of my sight, or I shall set your *solfeggio* in a crying key. 1862 TYNDALL *Mountaineer.* xi. 92 Clothing the crags with splendour, and setting the wind to melody. 1879 MORLEY *Burke* x. 209 Burke's mind was not easily set to these tunes.

c. *intr.* To be capable of being put *to* music; to go (*well*) *to* music.

1697 J. LEWIS *Hist. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 82 He thought that they [the verses] would set very well to music.

74. trans. *Theatr.* To make up (a scene) on the stage; to arrange (an item of the scenery) in a particular way. Also *to set the stage.*

1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. i, Sir, the scene is set, and everything is ready to begin. 1889 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* II. II. ii. 4 He wanted to see how he should be received when the stage was not set nor were the lamps trimmed for his reception. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* June 68/2 The palace of the Borgias was 'set' as a modern apothecary's shop. 1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 July 110/2 The time necessary for setting and changing scenes.

*** *To give a required shape or form to.*

75. To put an edge on (a cutting instrument, *esp.* a razor). Also *to set the edge of.* (Cf. 42.)

In first quot. app. fig. phr. *to set upon the hone*, to sharpen (a person) up.

1461 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 62 As for Wylliam Wyrcestyr, he hathe be set so up on the hone, what by the parson and by othyr,..that they hope he wole do well i now. 1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 30 A stone to whette or sette the rasure with. 1667 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 129 Setting a razor, *ad.* 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 192 It is afterwards Set upon a round Whet-stone. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 19 You have ground the persecuting knife, And set it to a razor edge on life. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* II. vii. (1782) I. 165 A case and two razors..with a thong of leather to set them. 1816 BYRON *Parisina* XV. The headsman..Feels if the axe be sharp and true Since he set its edge anew. 1868 BEMROSE *Fret-Cutting* 10 In 'setting' the tools, apply a few drops of sweet oil to the Arkansas stone. 1892 *Leisure Hour* Apr. 387/1 Are my razors set yet?

b. fig. phr. *To be sharp* or *keen set*: to be hungry or keen. (See also SHARP-SET.)

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. M ij, My mynd is al redy in the platters or dishes .i. I am sharpe set. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 94 Being fed temperatly, our mindes may be the sharper set to fall to those other dainties. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* II. 120 As in smooth oil the razor best is whet, So wit is by politeness sharpest set. 1891 'L. KEITH' *Halletts* III. iv. 80 Her own appetite was keener set than usual. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 22, I knew she [a lioness] must be pretty keen set.

76. To adjust (the teeth of a saw) by deflecting them alternately in opposite directions so as to produce a kerf of the required width. Also *to set a saw.*

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 94 Then with the Saw wrest ..they set the Teeth of the Saw. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) iv. 77 Having your impatience soothed by the setting of a saw, close at your ear. 1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 382 In sawing valuable timber the teeth are not turned out so much (or as the workmen term it, set so rank) as for coarse cheap stuff.

†77. To tune (an instrument). *Obs.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 324 Orpheus setted & entuned his harpe. 1530 PALSGR. 714/1, I set in tune, as mynstrelles do their instrumentes of musyke. 1590 BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* B 3, I doubt not..we shall haue a Cornelius to set these instruments in better tune.

78. †To tenter (cloth); to stretch (leather).

1473 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 78 The fullyng teynteryng or settyng and sheryng of wullen cloth..teyntered sett and drawen out in lengeth and brede. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 797/1 To set a side of leather, it is spread upon the table when wet, and is smoothed out on it. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 217 It is well to have a tub of water by the side of the stuffing table, and dip in each side to soften it before proceeding to set the same.

79. To put (a broken or dislocated bone) in a position adapted to the restoration of the normal condition. Also *intr.* said of the bone.

1572 in Gage *Hengrave* (1882) 192 To Adkyns of Bury, surgon for setting of ij dogges legs. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 114 b, Gynecia..had her shoulder put out of ioinct; which though..it was set well againe [etc.]. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. 71 It was doubted, whether the Bone was Set or not. A Bone Setter was sent for. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 41 ₱ 7 The new Man has broke his Leg, which is so ill set, that he can never dance more. 1821 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Writ. 1892 I. 100 A dislocated wrist, unsuccessfully set. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 682/1 Accurate apposition is termed 'setting the fracture'; this is best done by the extension of the limb and coaptation of the broken surfaces. 1891 *Field* 14 Nov. 761/2 Dogs' bones soon set.

fig. a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 430 Pride doth breake the peace, humilitie doth set it againe. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 65 When a kingdome is broken just in the neck joynt,..ropes and hatchets are not the kindliest instruments to set it.

†80. To pleat (a ruff); to arrange the pleats of (a gown). *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 710/2, I set a gowne, I put the playtes of it in order...I can nat sette a gowne, I was never no taylour. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* Wks. 1910 II. 534 They set their ruffes, thei ruffle up theire heare. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. vii, His linnen collar Labyrinthian-set. 1611 COTGR., *Godronner vne fraise*, to set a ruffe.

†81. To adjust (one's attire, the hair). *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5206 Be nat proud of þy croket Yn þe cherche to tyse and set. 1694 DRYDEN *Love Triumph.* Ded., Combing his Peruke and setting his Cravat. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* v. i, He's at the great Glass in the Dining-Room,..setting his Cravat and Wig. 1712 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 146 These set the head, and those divide the hair. [1722 STEELE *Consc. Lovers* I. ii, Such an Author consulted in a Morning, sets the Spirits for the Vicissitudes of the Day, better than the Glass does a Mans Person.]

82. *Weaving.* To fix the texture of (a fabric). In first quot. *pass.*, of a tartan: To have a pattern of a certain kind (cf. SET *sb.*[1] 15 b).

1685 *Depred. Clan Campbell* (1816) 114 Item, ane new colored womans wearing plaid, most sett to boday red. Item, ane gray broken plaid, sett most to the green. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1056 A thorough knowledge of the adaptation of yarn of a proper degree of fineness to any given measure of reed. ..The art of performing this properly is known by the names of *examining*, *setting*, or *slaying*. 1892 *Yorksh. Coll. Textile Soc. Jrnl.* I. 129 By the sett of a fabric is meant the number of threads it contains in a given space. There are a great many things to be considered in setting any fabric.

83. To arrange (a butterfly, etc.) as an entomological specimen. (Cf. *set up*, 154 o.)

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1860) 317 In setting long-legged specimens, a square piece of stiff paper or card should be pushed upon the pins under the insect. 1892 *Field* 18 June 904/1 'Setting' the insects, which means the spreading of specimens on blocks of cork or wood to dry.

84. To give the requisite adjustment, alignment, or shape to (a mechanical contrivance, an instrument, etc.). (Cf. SET *sb.*[1] 33.)

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 413/2 The rough-maker..smoothes off all the sharp edges and 'sets' them, i.e., bends them into graceful and uniform shape over a block. 1881 BURGESS *Coach-building* 78 Setting axles is giving them the bend and slope required. 1886 WALSINGHAM & PAYNE-GALLWEY *Shooting* (Badm. Libr.) I. 70 The next process is to 'set' or straighten the barrel inside. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Year* (1899) 222 Being able to 'set' a wheel better than anyone about here.

**** *To adjust according to a standard.*

85. To regulate, adjust *by* a standard; *esp.* to put (a clock, etc.) right.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrolabe* II. § 3 To haue sette Iustly a clokke. 1640 SUCKLING *Let. to German* Fragm. Aur. (1648) 92 In Court they..determine his [the king's] good by his desires: which is a kind of setting the Sun by the Diall. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. xv. (1675) 254 A little Sun-Dyal, furnished with an excited Needle to direct how to set it. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Ess., Opinion* Wks. (1907) 196 Quare [a clock maker] does not set his Watch more actually than Mathar does his understanding. 1762 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 579 The 16th, at noon, I sat a pendulum-clock..to solar time. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* I. (1778) 21 To set his watch by Tompion's clock in the Hall. 1844 HOOD *Workhouse Clock* 8 The Overseer of the Poor Is setting the Workhouse Clock. 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 397 We watch vainly every cloud and in vain set our weather-glass. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iv, The Tally-ho [coach] was a tiptop goer..and so punctual that all the road set their clocks by her.

b. with immaterial obj.

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 14 (1699) 19 The Seasoning and Cookery which by Custom they [*sc.* our palates] are set to. 1693 PRIOR *To Montague* iii, Pleas'd, when his Reason He deceives; And sets his Judgment by his Passion. 1717 — *Alma* I. 88 He ..sets men's faith by his opinions.

86. To fix the amount of (a fine or other payment), put down *at* a certain amount. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1420 in *26 Pol. Poems* 76 And þou nylt 3eue it [*sc.* love] me..; Sette pris to selle it. 1521 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* 57 Truly affur and sett al maner of mercyaments made. 1525 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 24 To set his raunsom at a somme of money reasonable. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 To set the prices of all kinde of wynes. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xx. 72 He payd for all that he bought at the price the sellers would set. 1691 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* Wks. 1714 II. 5 That Law cannot keep Men from taking more Use than you set. *Ibid.*, The Rate you set, profits not the Lenders, and very few of the Borrowers. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Cicero* ₱ 13 Verres being thus condemned, Cicero set his fine at 750,000 drachmæ.

VII. To place mentally; to suppose, estimate.

†87. To posit, assume, suppose. Phr. *set the case* (see CASE *sb.*[1] 12), chiefly in imper. or pres. pple. as equivalent to a conj. = suppose, supposing.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxii. 4 Gret vertu is in man when he dredis na ill þat may fall for he settis þe werst. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 367, I sette þe worste þat ye dredden þis Men wolden wondren to se hym come or gon. *c* 1386 — *Melib.* ₱ 525 Yet sette I caas, ye have bothe might and licence for to venge yow. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ix. (Skeat) 64, I sette now the hardest. *c* 1440 [see CASE *sb.*[1] 12] 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) X ij, Setting case therefore this be so. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyropædia* 129 Set case..that a man should make so much of those dogs which you keepe. 1659 BUNYAN *Law & Grace Unfolded* (1685) 286 Set the case that there be two men who make a covenant. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. 10 Setting the case I had not their interest at heart, yet it was for my interest to support theirs.

88. To place mentally or conceptually in a certain category; †to regard as being (so-and-so); to consider (a thing) to reside *in* or to depend *on* (another); †to attribute *to.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 8 Quere-so-euer I Iugged gemmez gaye, I sette hyr sengely in synglure. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 826 That wes mar To myrakill of god almychty; And to nocht ellis it set can I. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 81 Hircanus, for he was 3ong, was i-sette laste of þe wise men. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1278 Allas! þat ever a man should ..Setten al his wisdom on his wyvis tayll! 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* v, This noble man, That in him-self the full recouer wan Off his Infortune, pouert, and distresse, And in tham set his verray sekernesse. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvi. 141 Euery man settis his felicite to distroy his nychtbour. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 240 He alwayes setteth his end in thinges which he must have. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xiv. 46 They set Tharsis in Affrike, saying, it was the same Citie which was anciently called Carthage. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* iv. 209 The want of skill may make Caradoc set his Gildas elder than he ought to have done. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 21 Tradition sets Wiklif's birth in the year 1324.

b. To place (a person or thing) *before* or *after* another in estimation. Now *poet.*

c 1383 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1911) 747 Religiouse possessioneris..shulden sette before [*preferrent*] þe comaundements of god. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 99 þat i e manere and þe usage of al holy chirche of Grees, of Italy, of Rome, of Gallia. and of Fraunce, schulde be i-sette tofore þe manere and custom..of a corner of þe worlde, *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2475 So þat þai set non erthly þing Be-for þe luf of crist. 1592 HUES *Treat. Globes* Pref. (Hakl.) 16 These Globes..may justly bee preferred before all other that have been set before them. 1648 MILTON *Sonn.* xiii. 12 Dante shall give Fame leave to set thee higher Then his Casella. 1671 — *Samson* 1375 Venturing to displease God for the fear of Man, and Man prefer, Set God behind. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 148 And justly set the Gem above the Flow'r.

89. To fix the value of (a thing) *at* so much. *Obs.* or *arch.*

Cf. the reverse construction in sense 43.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 131 That [*sc.* salt] is now sett to so grete price, þat the bushell, wich the kyng bieth ffor iij^{s} or iiij^{s}, is solde to his peple ffor ij^{li} and a j^{li}. 1530 PALSGR. 712/1, I sette my horse at foure pounde..How moche set you his plate at? 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Nav.* IV. XXVI. 149 [The women] beyng once set at a price none could marry them, except they first payde the pryce. 1626 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 204 Yf the Hollanders set pepper at that rate, they sell other comodetis at a bier. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 34 At the times

of the faires, Coaches are set dearer then any time els. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* clxx. 142 Well..and what's the Price of that Juno there? The Carver set That a little Higher. 1713 Pope *Let. to Swift* 8 Dec., I cannot set his delivery from purgatory at less than fifty pounds sterling.

fig. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 301 There shall no figure at that Rate be set, As that of true and faithful Juliet. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iii. 122 Set your entreatments at a higher rate, Then a command to parley. 1648-9 *Eikon Bas.* xvii. 170 Setting Peace at as high a rate, as the worst effects of War.

b. Hence in idiomatic phr. connoting disesteem or depreciation: *to set at naught* or *nought* (see Nought A. 6), *at little, at the least, at nothing*; *to set at a pease, at a pie's heel, at a pin's fee*; *to set at no price, store*, or *value*.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 3013 And he þat ys vnbuxum al Agens hys fadyr spiritual, And setteþ hym ryȝt at þe leste. *Ibid.* 7774 þe mayster fend..sette at noȝt þat he hadde tolde. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 171 Lete liȝte of þe lawe..And sette Pieres at a pees. *Ibid.* vii. 194, I sette ȝoure patentes..at one pies hele! *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 602 Al the worlde he sette at noo value. 1413 in *26 Pol. Poems* 51 Þou3 all here gold were hider brou3t, I wolde set hit at lytel store. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi, To sette all þinges at no price for þe. 1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 413/2 Unreverently sette theym at litill or nought. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VII. vi. 44 Shee had..Long loved the Fanchin, who by nought did set her. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. iv. 67, I doe not set my life at a pins fee. 1649 Earl Monm. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 203 He then sets at nothing what he so much esteemed. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. viii. 238 Canonical custom is set at naught.

†c. *To set light, at light* (see Light *a.*[1] 13 d), *lightly, coldly*. (Cf. 91 e, f.)

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. iii. 65 Thou maist not coldly set Our Soueraigne Processe. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 149 Wee'll not disgrace your Realm, nor lightly set Your Fame. 1718 Bp. Hutchinson *Witchcraft* vii. 104 He set them light [*ed.* 1720 set them at light].

d. To estimate the amount of *at* so much.

1863 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. I. 21 The yearly increase..is set at about 8*s.* per acre. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 599 We cannot set the increase at less than 100 per cent.

80. To assess (a person) *at* so much. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1521 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* 57 Set every man after the quantyte of the trespace. *c* 1537 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 47 Like as all other brethern of the seid felaweship were and be set at. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Add., *Duicensus*, he that is sette with an other to pay money for a taxe. 1557 in Marwick *Edinb. Guilds* (1909) 89 Prouyding always that pay the sowmes to the quhilk thai were sett. 1607 in W. H. Hale *Prec. in Causes of Office* (1841) 9 And so shall sett every parishoner proportionably. 1611 Bible 2 *Kings* xii. 4 The money that every man is set at. 1831 Macaulay *Ess., Hampden* (1843) I. 453 The sheriff was blamed for setting so wealthy a man at so low a rate.

81. To have (a certain estimate) of a person or thing; in idiomatic phrases expressing high or low regard, great or little esteem, for a person or thing. Here the construction is the reverse of that of 93 b.

a. *To set* (*so*) *little* (or †*lite*), (*so*) *much* (or *mickle, a great deal*), *less, least, more, most by. Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

Originally substantival or pronominal, *little, much*, etc. were capable of being taken as adverbial; whence the substitution of adverbs of equivalent meaning (see f).

a 1300 [see Little B. 3]. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* II. 432, I se iul wel þat ye sette lite of vs Or of oure deth. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 109 þey sette more by here lawes.. þan þey dude by þe lawe þat God ȝaf to hem. *c* 1380 *Antechrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 151 And more þei shal be sett by and wurshiped. 14.. *Why I can't be a Nun* 220 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 144 But alle..set not by her nether most ne lest. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 33 Tynsale of the body..that is lytill to sett by. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 74 Howe moche the Persians..set by shotinge. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 4 What set that Conqueror, by their Salique Lawes. 1664-5 Pepys *Diary* 9 Mar., He did..give me one of Lilly's grammars..which I shall much set by. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 23 A pretious soul was no more set-by by them. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 173 He was sure I should set more by it, than the richest Diamond in the World. 1785 B. Tupper in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 118 A visit, which I shall set more by than the interest I possess in Massachusetts. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. i. (1874) 190 God knows how hard it is to help setting a good deal by one's children. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 5 Apr., A man much set-by.

†b. *To set naught* or *nought* (*nothing not anything*) *by*: to have no esteem or regard for. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23860 (Fairf.) In hert to halde hit as a houde & noȝt to sette be goddis worde [*Cott.* Quen noght es mad o crists word]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 348 Bot noght forthi Mi will hath nothing set therby. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. xxxviii. 331 By the myghty lord of this yle he setteth nought by. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* e j b, Mocked & scorned & nought set by. 1535 Coverdale *John* IV. 44 A prophet is nothinge set by at home. 1549 —, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xii. 1-6 By despisyng and settyng naught by worldly reproche. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* I. v. 8 The souldyers..set nought by all military discipline. 1602 Shaks. *Twel. N.* V. i. 194, I thinke you set nothing by a bloody Coxecombe.

absol. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 14 And suppos it be sum part subtile to understand, settis nocht by.

c. By substitution of *not* for *nought*, and by extension of the idiom to negative expressions generally, *set by* came to be equivalent to 'esteem, regard', and, by elimination of the negative, to 'esteem or value highly, think or make much of'. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

Formerly *to set not by* sometimes = to have no scruples about.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 302 Men setten nat by songe-warre. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 692/10 Now is þe selue I-set not by. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 459 Þai wil set bi no man saw. 1426 Audelay *Poems* 3 Avoutré ne lechory men set not by. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1152 The kyng of Aragon sett her bye. 1467 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 308 Thei set not be a woman as thei shuld set be a man. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab., Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 1098 (Charteris MS.) To beir ȝour office than wald I not set by. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 238 Quhat man settis by the! 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. iv. 98 Onlesum war syk plesour I set by. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. H ij b, They do not onelye not sett by letters, but they rather abhorre them. *a* 1659 Bp. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 57 Men set by good servants. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, N'hants* (1662) II. 291 Set by and extolled. 1663-4 Pepys *Diary* 20 Jan., Mr Pierce tells me that my Lady Castlemaine is not at all set by by the King. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ix, Wite folks aint sot by half ez much.

d. *To set* (*no, more*, etc.) *store* or †*price by*: see Price *sb.* A. a, B. 8, Store *sb.*

†e. *To set light by* · see Light *a.* 13 d. Also *to set short by. Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 2 Scripture scorned me..and liȝte by me she sette. *Ibid.* xii. 124 No clergie to dispise, Ne sette schort be here science. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 927 in *Macro Plays* 66 Why werkyst þou hys consell? by myn settis lyght? 1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 129 Such smal matters were not of good Christians light sett by. 1594-1771 [see Light *a.* 13 *d*]. 1633 Marmion *Fine Comp.* III. v. F 3, She set as light by me, as by the least feather in her Fanne. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxix, I am a fool..to set light by that which Heaven has so often preserved.

†f. *To set* †*greatly*, †*littly, lightly*, †*so*, etc. *by. Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 713/1 The man is hyghely sette by in our countraye. 1537 *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 28 Hitherto haue they ben in estimacion & greatly set by. 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 30 No man that setts so by hym self, can please the Lorde a right. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* To Rdr., Things lightly come by are lightly set by. 1729 Bp. Butler *Serm.* xv. (1862) 209 That in all lowliness of mind we set lightly by ourselves. 1809-10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) I. 104 To set lightly by the emancipation of the human reason.

g. In negative context, with a sb. as obj. connoting a negligible or contemptible quantity.

To set not a cherry, curse, a fly, a haw, a mite, an onion (etc.) *at, by, of*: see also the sbs.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* III. 900, I nolde setten at his sorwe a myte. *c* 1386 — *Miller's T.* 648 Of paramours he sette nat a kers. 1406 Hoccleve *La Male Regle* 380 For by hem two, he settith nat an hawe. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 442, I shall not sette a rotyn appull for all the power of Charlemagne. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi. 22 Lat ws..sett nocht by this warld a chirry. *a* 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (Rtldg.) 223 The roffyans set nat a poynt. *c* 1570 W. Wager *The Longer thou livest* 1691 (Brandl), By honest men he setteth not an Oynion.

h. In various constructions, with preps. other than *by*.

† *To set little, more, nought, not, of*; *to set a* (*great, little*) *price*, †*rate, store upon*; *to set no price, littly at*; † *to set light of, before*; †*to set little, nought to*; etc.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) 67 How shulde ye, lady, sette prise on so foule fylthe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 211, I sette noght of his beyete. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1386 Sith he of my wordis so litil prise set. *Ibid.* 2838 To save hir lyvis, & set nat of hir los. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1717 Set not of youre Barons so light. 1422 Yonge tr. *Secreta Secret.* ix. 139 Men that lytill bethe sette of. *Ibid.* xix. 146 Men sholde sette lytillie at this goodis. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* v. ii. 162 Of his demaunde and commaundement I sette nothyng. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. v. 18 They setted not of mete and drynke. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 239 We set but light of the matter. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XXXIII. xii. II. 483 Disdaining and setting light by any other bathing-vessels. 1607-12 Bacon *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 232 Doe you not see what fayned prices are sett vpponn litle stones, and rarityes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, What a high Value was set upon the Widdowes Mite. 1638 [see Rate *sb.*[1] 2]. 1642 [see Light *a.* 13 d]. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. x. 42 By comparison to the rate that each man setteth on himselfe. 1662 [see Price *sb.* 8]. 1688 *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 79 Nor would it have been set on so much by their Holy Patriarchs. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxx, Where be these dog-priests now,..who set such price on their ghostly mummery. 1861 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* xx. 396 The grounds upon which so great store has ever been set upon colonial possessions. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* iv. 105 They are continually showing that they set small price on the Eternal God. 1891 F. W. Robinson *Her Love & His Life* III. vii. iv. 262 He did not set any value on his own life.

†i. To care (so much) for. Also *intr.* (Not) to care *for. Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* III. 832 Yf to lose his loye he set a myte Than semeth it þat loye is worth but lyte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5002 Yf þou set noght our saghe. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 233 Ane unworthy lymmare, that settis nocht for honour bot for pillery.

VIII. To put or come into a settled or rigid position or state.

92. *pass.* To be resolved or determined; to have a settled purpose. Chiefly const. inf. Now *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17332 Mi-self es sett to wrek þe wrang. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 403 [S. Vincent] til pies god wes mar sette, þane ocht þat wes in þe markete. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 42 þerfore to telle you I am set, ..what herbs..Ben gode to putage. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* III. 324 Thai are set till wndo all thi kyn. 1525 Abp. Warham in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 10 Seeing almoste al the people obstinatly sett not to graunte to the request. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. F iv b, I am at a poynte, or my mynde is fully sette. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 261 b, But my hart is already set..to lead a virgins life to my death. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 256 She was wayward, disdainful, and set to contradict. 1757 in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) xii. 359 All your neighbours are sett to be upon you. 1827 Keble *Chr. Yr., Morning* 30 If on our daily course our mind Be set to hallow all we find. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 407/2 Mamma was completely set in her own mind that we must go to the south.

†b. *intr.* To resolve. *Obs.*

1638 Earl Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 280 The King hath set to be at Hinchenbrook to bed the 27th of March. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 161 Could not God then make the world, when he set with himself that he would do it?

c. *trans.* To make (a resolution). *rare.*

1771 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) V. 100 If he does but once set a resolution.

93. *pass.* To have one's mind or will fixed *upon* something.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 301 He was upon pacience So sett. *c* 1400 *Balade of Pite* 100, I am sette on yowe in suche manere þat..I moste you loue. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4829 They are so sette Vpon delite to ploy in feere. 1611 Speed *Hist. G. Brit.* IX. xviii. 25 If she be..so obstinate, and so precisely set vpon her owne will. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1201 When I perceiv'd all set on enmity. 1740 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. xxxi. 50, I am so set upon it, that I am not to be persuaded. 1890 *Universal Rev.* Mar. 457 Cap'n Prust's as set as never was on little Dot. 1893 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Jan. 58/2 Isabell is always set on the news.

†b. To have a specified disposition or inclination to be (so) disposed. *Obs.*

1470-85 Malory *Arthur* X. lxxxviii. 570 Whanne syre launcelot wyste how his kynnesmen were sette. *c* 1500 *Cocke Lorelles Bote* 1 She is as softe as a lamme yf one do her meue, And lyke to yᵉ deuyll wan a man dothe her greue, So well is she sette. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* II. ix. 58 Bot he..was nocht to Priame sa hard set. *a* 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 103 The commissioners told how the marquess and burgh of Aberdeen were peaceably sett. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 598 Were he ever so wickedly set.

94. *To set one's* or *the face* (*countenance*): to give a fixed or settled expression to the countenance.

† *To set a face*: to make it appear (*as though..*). *To set one's face as a flint*, after Isaiah l. 7.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Isa.* l. 7 Therefore haue I set my face like a flint. 1564-5 *Buggbears* I. ii. 154 Formosus set a face as thoughe he knew wher to find a cunnyng mane. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 212 When she set her countenaunce to tell the matter. *c* 1610 B. Jonson, etc. *Widow* v. i, Set your countenance then; for here he comes. 1635 Cranley *Amanda* 9 She would..sometimes set her countenance as if shee had bin angry. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. 353 Set thy Face, and thy best Curchy make. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. i. 31, I..May make my heart as a millstone, set my face as a flint.

b. *pass.* and *intr.* (and *refl.*) Of the eyes, the features, the countenance: To have or assume a fixed look or expression.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. i. 205 O he's drunke..an houre agone: his eyes were set at eight i' the morning. 1611 Bible 1 *Kings* xiv. 4 But Ahiah could not see, for his eyes were set by reason of his age. 1717 Garth tr. *Ovid's Met.* XIV. *Iphis* 45 Set are her eyes and motionless her limbs. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* i, He saw that Marner's eyes were set like a dead man's. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* v, iii. 214 His face set, The eyes not curious to the right or left And reading in a book. 1880 Mrs. Riddell *Palace Gardens* ix, The lines in his face set and hardened. 1881 P. Greg *Ivy* III. iii. 68 Her face sets as it used against your mother. 1884 'Rita' *My Lord Conceit* I. i. v. 72 A face set in stern, rigid lines. 1888 G. Gissing *Life's Morning* III. xxii. 210 Her features had set themselves in sorrow. 1898 G. B. Shaw *You never can tell* IV. *Stage dir.*, His face set and sulky.

95. To press (the teeth, lips) together into a rigid position; to clench (the teeth), compress (the lips, mouth).

Phr. *To set one's teeth*: see Tooth.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* v. iii, Another frets, and sets his grinding teeth. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* VI. vii. 73 They were sometimes hindred from eating their Meals, by having their Teeth set. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxiv, The old woman set her lips firmly, and drew her dagger. 1860 Whyte-Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xxii, 'I think not!' replied Mr. Sawyer, setting his teeth for a catastrophe. 1867 'Ouida' *Cecil Castlemaine*, etc. 263 His mouth sternly set, and his forehead paler and more severe than ever. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxii, Each set his mouth and kept his eyes in front of him.

b. *refl.* and *intr.* Of the mouth, or the teeth.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 714 [This] maketh the teeth to set hard one against another. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 191 My Teeth..would..set against one another so strong, that for some Time I could not part them again. 1883 Mrs. F. Mann *Parish of Hilby* xix, Helen's mouth set itself firmly as she thought of it.

c. *pass.* and *intr.* Of muscles, or the like: To have or assume a rigid attitude or state.

1851 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 174/2 The hams should not be too full of flesh, *lyary*, which in a young animal indicates that the carcass will soon set from growing. 1862 Tyndall *Mountaineer.* vi. 53 The muscles have become set, and some minutes are necessary to render them again elastic. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 313 Butterflies generally *set* in one or two weeks. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 154/1 At the words 'Get set!' the arms are raised, the knees slightly bent, and..the starter braces his legs apart.

d. *intr.* To become bent or twisted as a result of strain. (Cf. Set *sb.*[1] 16.)

1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 485 If a wire is twisted only a little more than its elasticity admits of, then, instead of setting, as it is called, or acquiring a permanent twist all at once, it sets gradually. *c* 1865 *J. Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I.

404/1 The scales will have a tendency to 'set' when overloaded.

†e. *trans.* To stick up, cock. *Obs. rare.*

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4428/16 Stollen.., a Bay Nag..sets his Head and Tail.

96. *Dyeing.* a. To prepare (woad) for dyeing.

1529 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 697 To occupie the Craft of dying and settyng of wadd. 1590 WEST *Symbol.* § 82 Euery set of the same woad shall make, when it is set and prooued, fower pound sterling. 1811 *Self Instructor* 535 Wood-wax..is set with pot ashes.

b. To make (a colour) fast or permanent.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. ii. II. 115 To set all other colours that can bee devised, with the juice onely of certaine hearbs. 1882 CROOKES *Dyeing* 15 The brown colouring matter of the flax instead of being removed is fastened, or as it is technically called, 'set'.

97. To cause to become firm, hard, or rigid in consistency; to curdle, coagulate (milk, etc.).

1736 BAILEY *Dict. Domest.* s. v. *Cheese*, While this rennet is fresh, one spoonful of the liquor will turn or set about 16, 18 or 20 gallons of milk. *Ibid.*, When you would turn or set milk for cheese. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exempl.* 102 Boiling Water..will set the Curd in some degree, and fix it hard. 1855 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. i. 135 If you clay heavily..you must muck heavily, or you will set the land. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2286/1 [He] uses golden sulphuret of antimony and sets the rubber by vulcanizing it.

b. *pass.*

1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 168 Dutch Tarras,..which, after being once set, would afterwards become hard, without ever being compleatly dry. *Ibid. note*, [*Set*], the term used in the application of calcareous mortar, which denotes its first step, or degree of hardening. 1839 CHATTO & JACKSON *Wood Engraving* 723 Recent impressions of a wood-cut, before the ink is set. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. ii. 493 The skin was set, that is, it would not easily rub off. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 99 When the film is just set enough to bear a light touch, without receiving any impression of the finger.

c. *intr.* To become firm or solid in consistency; (of milk) to curdle or turn; (of mortar, etc.) to solidify.

1736 BAILEY *Dict. Domest.* s. v. *Cheese*, When it [milk] sets or turns to curd very quick. 1776 SEMPLE *Building in Water* 79 The out-side Mortar..set, that is, grew hard immediately. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 9 We say that a lime has set, when it bears without depression a knitting-needle of 0.12 cent...diameter, filed square at its extremity, and loaded with a weight of 0.30 kil. 1839 HANSARD *Print. & Typefounding* (1841) 151 When the varnish has had time to set. 1842 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. i. 16 The soil..is rather sticky when wet, and sets hard when dry. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 168 Silver 'sets' before the lead. 1883 *Standard* 17 May 2/2 Nor shall we permit the meat to hang, to 'set' over the reeking fumes of the killing chamber. 1886 J. BLANDY *Baker's Guide* 51 A certain sort of loaf, put into the oven without touching, 'set crusty', as the baker would say.

d. Of cream: To collect and settle on the top of the milk.

1859 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XX. i. 53 The milk..is..left until the cream has set.

98. To cause (fruit) to form on a tree by the process of fertilization; to cause (a flower) to develop into fruit: said of bees, etc. and (also *absol.*) of the tree bearing the fruit.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict. s. v. *Bud*, Well Budded or well set Trees; is said of those Fruit-Trees, that have abundance of Fruit Buds. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 25 Concerning the Generation of Plants, and the manner of setting their Fruits. 1729 LANGLEY *Pomona* 77 Our Fruits being plentifully set. *a* 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne, Obs. on Veget.* (1836) 301 When they [bees] are once induced to haunt the frames, they set all the fruit. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Flowers* i. 28 Flowers legitimately fertilised set seeds under conditions which cause the almost complete failure of illegitimately fertilised flowers. 1892 *E. P. Dixon's* (Hull) *Seed Catal.* 18 It is a robust grower and sets very freely. 1893 *Field* 8 Apr. 530/1 The plant..'sets' a larger proportion of the flowers.

b. *intr.* Of blossom or fruit: To develop as the result of fertilization. Also said of hemp fibre.

1718 J. LAWRENCE *Fruit-Gard. Cal.* 53 This Blossom Set, and produced me a Peach. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 475 February was so mild and fine that the wall-fruit flowered ..and set much fuller, than the apples, which were two months later. 1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. i. 177 The fibre has not set, nor has the male stem shed its pollen. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 361 To mark how very few of the blossoms have set. 1891 *Field* 24 Oct. 634/1 About a dozen fruit set, of which six ripened.

c. Of a plant: *To set to seed* = SEED *v.* 1.

1897 WILLIS *Man. Flowering Pl.* II. 234 Moneywort..is said never to set to seed in Brit[ain].

99. *Plastering.* To put a finishing coat on. (See SET *sb.*[1] 30 a.)

1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 249 They finish the Plastering when it is almost dry,..setting it, that is to say, Trowelling and brishing it. 1812 F. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 309 (Plastering) *Lath Floated and Set Fair.* These words bear the same meaning as lath pricked-up and floated and set. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 128 Render, float, and set, is three-coat work. 1874 J. BIRCH *Country Archit.* 44 Lath, plaster, float, set and twice whiten all ceilings throughout.

100. a. *Sheep-breeding.* To settle or establish (a particular stock).

1782 MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 321 Bought by those who are increasing, or 'setting' a ewe stock. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* II. 334 His flock has been 1140 breeding ewes; and at this Michaelmas (1805) he setts 2000. *a* 1819 REES *Cyc.* XXXII. *Setting*, a term used in sheep-management, which signifies the picking, choosing, and selecting those which are the best formed..for the purpose of breeding, forming the flock, and keeping as stock. *Ibid.*, *Setting Lamb-Stock.* 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. i. 17 In setting the flocks particular attention is paid to size, wool, strength of constitution.

b. *intr.* Of a period of time or weather: To become settled; = *set in*, 146 e. (Cf. SET *ppl. a.* 6 c.)

a 1800 *Gil Brenton* vi. in Child *Ballads* I. 74 Till the evening set and birds they sang. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s. v., 'The night is set'..night has come on. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 98 It's set wet, it'll rain right into the new year. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 359/1 The night set very cold.

c. *Cricket.* (*pass.*) To have become accustomed to the bowling.

1865 *Lillywhite's Cricketers' Comp.* 127 As a bat he is deficient in defence, though a punishing hitter when once set. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, The Colonials were firmly set, and the runs came fast.

101. To settle the growth of (a plant) in the right way.

1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. ii. 339 Where the clover is not well set. 1864 *Ibid.* XXV. ii. 275 Wheat is rolled..in spring, to set the young plant.

102. To check; to puzzle, nonplus, 'stump'; to tax the resources of. Now *north. dial.*

1586 HOOKER *Irish Hist.* 87/2 in *Holinshed*, At this answer Meth was set. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xii. I. 9 The silie mind of men was before sett and to seeke. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Mil.* 51 Learning was pos'd, Philosophie was set. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 164 Standing ..will make them [feet] grow so hard,..that it will set the Smith to drive a Nail in shoeing. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Misc. Wks. (1775) 62, I wur warr set to get eawt (if possible) in e wur when Nip an me feel off the Bridge. 1819 *Pantalogia* s. v. *Cart-horse*, Four thorough-shaped horses will draw, with facility, a weight which would set five ordinary ones.

103. *Dancing.* (*intr.*) To take up a position and perform a number of steps with one's face *to* one's partner or *to* the dancer on one's right or left. Chiefly in *set to partners, to corners* (also *set corners*).

1652 *Dancing Master* Expl. Charac., Set and turn single, is a single to one hand, and a single to the other, and turn single. *Ibid.* 1 Sides all, set and turn S. *Ibid.* 72 Meet all, back again, set to your own, and to the next. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 67 ¶ 9 A. Step called Setting, which I know not how to describe to you, but by telling you that it is the very reverse of Back to Back. 1791 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 147 The dancers..reel'd, they set, they cross'd, they cleekit. 1801 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 18 Tou kens we danc'd a threesome reel, And Betty set to me. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* iii. (ed. 3) 51 Set corners, ladies. 1811 T. WILSON *Country Dancing* (ed. 2) 6 Foot and set are the same; it is merely dancing in your place to fill up the time of the music. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 113 The gentleman sets to and turns with the lady on his left hand. *Ibid.* 119 Set to partners and turn. *Ibid.* 120 All set to corners and turn...They set and turn to places.

transf. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, Two green sauce tureens, with ladles of the same, were setting to each other in a green dish.

104. *pass.* and *intr.* To get stuck. † Also *trans.* to allow to get stuck.

(There is perhaps a punning reference to this sense in Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 3 *Stew.* Where may we set our horses? *Kent.* I' th' myre.)

1756 J. CLUBBE *Misc. Tracts, Hist. Wheatfield* (1770) I. 83 Carters..when their waggons were set in bad roads. 1778 [MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 2 Sept. 1776 If he spill or overturn his load, or if he break his waggon, or set his horses. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xvi. (1863) 316 A plough got set in the furrow and had to be cut out. 1888 *Sci. Amer.* 4 Feb. 74/1 To prevent the 'setting' and sliding of the wheels.

b. *Bowls.* (*intr.*) = RUB *v.*[1] 14 b.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* III. i. iii. § 3 If a bowl be struck and if it do rub or set on the striker's partner.

IX. To put in the way of following a certain course, cause to take a particular direction.

**Where physical direction or motion in a certain path is the prevailing notion.*

†**105.** To take (a journey), direct (one's course).

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1004 (Gr.) Ƿ̄ff hie..ȝesundne siþ settan mosten. *a* 1000 *Sat.* 189 (Gr.) Ic..sceal nu wreclastas settan sorhgcearix, siþas wide. *a* 1330 *Sire Degarre* 425 Mani a jorne thai ride and sette. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 13668 (Fairf.) To ihesus þe way he sette.

†b. To lay (a ship's course). Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 1723 Sett þer-with, yf we mown, for I wott itt is a havyn town. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 10 It is also cummyn to our eris, ȝe set ȝour cours ouer see thir mony ȝeiris. 1588 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 42 Setting our course east Northeast.

106. *intr.* (less freq. *refl.*) To proceed in a specified direction; to begin to move, start off, put out, set out. Now surviving (exc. *Sc.*) only in *set forth, forward, off, on*, etc. (see XII).

a 1000 *Boe. k. Metr.* I. 4 Setton suðweardes sizebeoda twa. 1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Ða ȝeaxedon þæt liþ þæt on Sandwic læg embe Godwines fare, setton þa æfter. *c* 1205 LAY. 27216 Setted heom after. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1999 He set hym in ful purpose to his Shippis ward. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1828 At Salame full sound þai set into hauyn. *Ibid.* 11209 Sadly ho sete, sewit hym agayne. 1568 C. W[ATSON] *Polybius* 62 b, Immediately to set towardes his ennimies. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. Prol. 34 The King is set from London. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 440 From thence I set East-ward to Syragusa. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 342 To set up the bone to the King's city. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 508 The faithless Pirate soon will set to Sea. 1786 BURNS *Hallowe'en* xxi, While for the Barn she sets. 1808 JAMIESON s. v., *I set, or set out, after him*; I pursued him.

107. *intr.* Of a current, wind: To take or have a (certain) direction or course.

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 11 At the Hedelonde the streme settith North West and Southest. 1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 From hence..a great currante setts towards the eastward. 1685 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 181 The Current (which usually setts to the Northward at this time of the Year). *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Oct. 1644, Blowing very hard from land..it set so violently as rais'd..so great a sea. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iv. 51 We found the tide to set S.S.E. and N.N.W. 1835 SYD. SMITH in *Mem.* (1855) II. 362 When the wind sets that way. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 174 The current which sets into the Gulf of Mexico. 1890 *Longman's Mag.* July 336 The prevalent winds set from the west.

b. Of the tide (cf. *set in*, 146 f).

1777–83 LESCALLIER *Voc. Termes Mar.* 64 The tide sets to the South. 1825 *Examiner* 30/1 There was a strong tide setting. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 627 As the vast tide Of the bright rocking Ocean sets to shore At the full moon.

c. *fig.* and in fig. context: To have a direction, tendency, or bent.

1778 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 340, I think I have strength of mind enough to stem the torrent, let it set against me with all its fury. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 24 All the current of my being sets to thee. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Feb. 5/3 The current of popular fiction in this country has lately set strongly towards pure sensationalism. *Ibid.* 28 Sept. 5/3 The public opinion of the young men is setting against the practice. 1891 *Temple Bar* Nov. 309 Her ambition did not set in the direction indicated. 1893 *National Observer* 1 Apr. 490/1 The sleeve puffings reveal an artful under-garment, setting towards pink.

108. *trans.* To cause to pass into a certain place or from one place to another; to convey, transport (? orig. by water, cf. *set over*, 150 a). Now *rare*, the usual verb being *put*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIV. 382 With four schippes that he had tane, He set thame our the Ban ilkane. *c* 1500 in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* (1841) App. A. 37 The Bedyll shall sett the Masters of Gramer to the Fathers place. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1 Ferye man, what shal I gyve the to set me over the water? 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 36 The curet with all the parich and solempnite sette the osttes home with soleme procession. 1575 (*Gamm. Gurton* IV. iii. 21, I set him soone inward. *a* 1598 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 394 To..sett certane bandis of men of weir to the bordouris. 1601 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 80 A laye layde..for settynge soldyars into Ireland. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 2 Drifts of snow will set Deere, Hares, and Conies..ouer your wals. 1819 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 227 The price may pinch me for cash to set me home. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Notebks.* (1870) II. 53 We went back to the ferry, and, after being set across.., we drove back to Melrose.

†b. To put *a land, on land, ashore. Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 425 Ane That rowyt thaim our deliuerly, And set thaim on the land all dry. *c* 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* (1870) P 11 Many of the Turkes that were sette a land by the brygge from the shippes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 47 The barke..set us on land neere the Towne. 1700 S. PARKER *Homer in Nutshell* 6 You'll ferry o'r, And at the Pallace-stairs be set a'shoar.

intr. for *refl.* 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxi. 59 b, He counselled the kyng..to set a lande in Normandy.

c. To accompany or escort (a person) for part or all of the way he has to go. Chiefly *north. dial.*

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 99, I was setting my Patient a little on the Road. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 34 And monie a time he's set me heame. 1889 M. E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* III. II. ix. 17 I've had a very happy day, and they set me to the stile. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* I. vii, I'll set you as far as Ballasalla.

†d. *To set home*: to bring to bear closely *upon*; to enforce, emphasize. *Obs.*

a 1656 VINES *Lord's Supper* (1677) 178 Setting home the sin and danger of it. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 422 Which Argumentation is further set home by such Similitudes as these. 1757 JON. EDWARDS *Orig. Sin* i. Wks. 1807 II. 97 To set home this awful truth upon their consciences.

109. Of a current, wind, etc.: To cause to move, carry along in a (certain) direction.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6792 Bot þai were lett, And fra þe se to land sett. *c* 1580 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 9 She plies that course her compasse sets her on. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 180 There was a current which set us to the northward. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. ci, The current..Still set them onwards to the welcome shore. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 74 A breeze sprung up from the south-east, and set the ice so rapidly upon us. 1892 *Field* 6 Feb. 198/3 The current in a rapid usually 'sets' the canoe clear of rocks.

110. To propel (a boat or other craft) with a pole; to punt. Also *absol.*, to use a punt pole or setting pole; now *esp.* in punt-shooting, to move up *to* the fowl, to get within shooting distance (cf. *set up*, 154 pp).

c 1566 SOUTHAM in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1599) I. 366 We departed from Ostroue in the morning before Sunne rising, rowing and setting vp the riuer 5. miles. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 338 Those in the Boats are obliged to set 'em along by sticking their Pole in the Ground. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 295 By the help of towing and setting as well as they could, they came to a flatter shore. 1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 31 Dec., We rowed or set the battoe as far as she could swim. 1823 *Examiner* 719/1 At Shields, as a young keelman..was in the act of setting the keel to which he belonged, the pole slipped. 1859 FOLKARD *Wild-fowler* xxiv. 145 When 'setting' to birds side by side with other punters. 1888 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler Irel.* 468 When setting to fowl in this style of craft the shooter lies partly on his left side.

111. To direct or point (one's face, foot, etc.) *to, towards, for* a place.

1621, 1632 [see FACE *sb.* 2 g]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Aug. 1654, I, with my wife, &c. set our faces towards home. *a* 1701

MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 14 That way the Mussel-mans are obliged to set their faces when they Pray. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* iv. 65 With hearts always set towards Heaven. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cii, I turn to go: my feet are set To leave the pleasant fields and farms. 1861 *Temple Bar* I. 394 It was time for him to set his face homewards. 1862 COLLINS *No Name* II. i. I. 279 The lonely figure of a woman..with her face set towards the westward view. 1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 426/2 As usual he [*sc.* the fox] set his head for Nosely. 1890 MISS I. D. HARDY *New Othello* i, They have set their faces for home.

b. To put (a person) *on the way* leading to a destination.

1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 24 By turning thee from the way in which I had set thee. *Ibid.* 46 He directed me to the Wicket-Gate..and so set me into the way that hath led me directly to this house. 1883 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 212 Your host comes out with you to set you on your way. 1891 MURIEL M. DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* xviii. 239 He knew the path and could set us on it.

** *Where a person (or thing) is put to perform a task or to act in a certain way.*

(☞ For phr. *set a work, at, in, on,* or *to work,* see AWORK and WORK.)

112. To put (a person) *to* a piece of work or a task.

c 1200 ORMIN 4166 Þe sexe dashess sette God Hiss follc to þezzre werrkess. 1522 *World & Child* 848 Folye met me..And vnto all synnes he set me. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1 To set every man to his taske. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 349 To doe any y^e most vyle or paynefull dewty they are set unto 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 487 The 70 seniors disagreed in their translation..and so were set to it again. 1836 B. HALL *Schloss Hainfeld* vi. 77 We set the children to their regular lessons. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 331/1 He was set to a work for which he had no stomach.

b. Const. inf. (occas. † gerund): To put (a person or agent) to the task of doing a certain thing, cause (him) to be so occupied.

Prov. *Set a thief to catch a thief.*

a 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3634 Aaron bissop, oðere of ðat kin, Sette he hem for to seruzn ðor-in. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18563 And o mi knightes sum þai sett For to do his graf be gett. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 311 Paschasius,..in þe peyne of purgatorie, was i-sette for to serve bathes. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 255 They schal be sette to say..fyftene pater nostres. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. 56 That men shold sette poure children to labouie in the felde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 The free mason setteth his prentyse first longe tyme to lerne to hewe stones. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. i. (1600) D 2, Ile instantly set all my Hinds to thrashing Of a whole Reeke of corne. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 8 To set your children to begin to learne. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 435 P 1 As one set to watch the Manners and Behaviour of my Countrymen. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* II. ii. 22 Nurse set us to ask my brother Robert. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. vii, Baubles..for which men have been set to kill and quarrel ever since mankind began. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 42/2 The twilight that sends the hens to roost sets the fox to prowl. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 37/2 The naval operations our squadrons are set to perform.

c. *transf.* with a thing as obj.

1841 HELPS *Ess., Pract. Wisd.* (1842) 6 By setting one evil thing to counteract another. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiii. 18 Let a gong clash glad emotion, set a giddy fury to roam.

113. To direct (one's mind, intention, or will) *to* the consideration or performance of something. Now *rare.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 97 He þat til ille settes his wille. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 11, I wald fayne set my will,..To put in wryt a suthfast story. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 314 He that wolde sette his entente to thise thynges. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xxxviii, Sen him to serue he myght set my corage? *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xiii, Þe loue of his hert is now only sette to serue God. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xiii. 105 My desire was sett..all Troy for to doun bett. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 60 To which whiles absent he his mind did set. *a* 1668 DENHAM *Of Prudence* 133 Our hearts are only set..to be Rich or Great. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 202 All my mind was set Serious to learn and know. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* 183 He..will set his mind to the taking of the more strongly fortified places. 1879 GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxiv. 236 He set his mind to govern his people well.

b. *refl.* To apply oneself *to* a piece of work, a task, or employment. Most often (and now always) const. inf.; also † to lay oneself out *for.*

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) x. 20, I rede þat þou..sone set þe to schriue. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 17845 (Fairf.) A-twynne they sette hem to þat note. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 81 þay maden to take Mathy eftsones, and set hom to throw stonys at hym. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 37 That King sett him to have seneeoury of all the Orient. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 13 Quhen I sett me to sing or dance. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. ii. § 5. 178 He set himselfe for their deliuerance. 1624 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 131, I had set myselfe close to my worke. 1901 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 259 He set himself to redress the Abuses. 1845 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. I. i. 9 They..will yet set themselves..to look for petty discrepancies. 1880 MEREDITH *Trag. Com.* v, She set herself to study it.

c. *intr.* in the same sense: const. *to* with sb. (pron.) or inf., or *to* or *a-* with gerund. (Cf. *set about,* 127 a.)

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 90 Quhether I aw to defend my nychtbour in armys, and men wald sett to sla him. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Mettre,* If I vndertake it, if I set to it. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* ii. 18 Your Bishops have set as fair to doe it as they durst. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxix. I. 492 Two Asses..that set a-braying. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 395 Most of them set to running before the Enemy appears. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. att Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 14 The Chief of the Inquisition..set to the Scrutiny of his Papers. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 99 A young man.. reached a book from a shelf..and set to read. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, He sets to denouncing Stockbrokerage. 1890 *Cornh. Mag.* June 643 The mother and daughters set to the making of beds. 1893 *Black & White* 29 July 124/2 Let us..set a-hunting once more for the philosopher's stone.

114. trans. *To set* (a person) *upon*: to put in the way of doing or performing, cause to be occupied with (something): often with implication of urging or impelling (cf. PUT *v.*[1] 27). Also *refl.*

1435 *Contract Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 29 During all the sayd werke the seid Will. Horwode shall nether set mo nor fewer Free-Masons..thereupon. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 394 Ane man..That neuer wald set him on assay withoutin his assent. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 184 A..Historiographer, who was at that time set upon the same undertaking. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 29 Nothing setting us upon the change of state, or upon any new action, but some uneasiness. 1693 — *Educ.* § 94 Wks. 1714 III. 40 The Studies which he sets him upon. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 255 P 8 This often sets him on empty Boasts and Ostentations of himself. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 406 [It] has set us upon an inquiry into the present state of religion. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* vi. 75 This rude shock..set Usher upon a more careful examination.

b. Const. *on* (occas. † *in, to*) with gerund.

Obs. with reference to physical movement, e.g. *set on going, packing*: cf. d.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 366 Lond grauel anoon sette in worchinge. 1624 BACON *Consid. War Spain* (1629) 5 This wheele set on going, did power a Warre vpon the Venetians. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xli. (1640) 100 Suspicion giveth a passe-port to faith to set it on packing. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 31 [It] sets them also upon making of one name, that may comprehend both Gold, and Silver. 1695 DRYDEN tr. *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* 72 You will do well to ..set your self on designing after the Ancient Greeks. 1745 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 27 The pernicious conduct of the French at Canada in setting their Indians on destroying the Inhabitants. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* III. 156 If the ground be..not wet enough to set it on growing. 1832 *Examiner* 91/2 This address set him to dancing again. 1851 KEBLE *Occas. Papers* (1877) 242 Is not this a thought to set us on praying? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxvii, That he might..set him on persuading the Squire to consent. 1889 F. PIGOT *Strangest Journ.* 188 It was perhaps this that set..Jem on stealing my own silver goblet.

c. Const. gerund with *a-* prefixed: in this const. and next, often, to put (a thing) in motion or progress, to start; esp. *to set* (*a-*)*going.*

1530 PALSGR. 712/1 Go set these glasses of rose water a sonnyng. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 334 Whosoeuer listeth to drinke of it, must set it a cooling for the space of an hower. 1660 BOYLE *New Exper. Phys. Mech.* xvii. 129 Which perhaps will set..You..a thinking. 1705 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ.* I. v. (1715) 186 The Impulse of an Almighty Hand to set them first a-going. 1794 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 440 Those who set the plan agoing. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiv, Those cards set people sadly a-quarrelling. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 27. 292 A morsel of food on the tongue sets a-going the movements of mastication. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* ii, The abbey bells are set a-ringing.

d. Const. simple gerund.

In early use †*to set packing,* etc., where in modern idiom *send* is used.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 43 The..Gadarits set packing the stoutest of them. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 1653 One touch will set him flying. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 26 Neither let him think that it [ague] will be set going with one violent potion. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. ix. (Rtldg.) 361 The good wines..were set running at a furious rate. 1832 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Girlhood* III. 176 Victor Hugo has set my mother raving. 1843 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxix, With reference to your duties, I can set you going. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 24 Half-a-bar sets several couple Waltzing in convenient spots.

¶ **e.** *To set gone*: to set going, send or let off.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 429 He..well might haue set gone A hundred arrowes. 1615 — *Odyss.* XIII. 121 The Rowers..set gone The Ship.

115. To cause to be busy *about.* Also *refl.* and *pass.* (For the corresponding *intr.* see 127.)

1622 MABBE tr. *Alaman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 131 Taking little sleepe when I had any thing to set my selfe about. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 202 Wks. 1714 III. 93 The advantages propos'd from what they are set about. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. 1900 II. 32 The archangel..sets her [Discord]..about her business. 1849 HELPS *Friends in C.* II. i. (1854) I. 277 It set me..about thinking of Cicero's *De Senectute.* 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* I. xiv. 289 Mr. Axworthy had exclaimed that if ever he wanted a thing to be done, he must set Ward about it.

*** *Where attack or opposition is the motive.*

116. To incite (a dog or other animal, also a person) to make an attack or pursuit: chiefly with preps. *at, on.* (Cf. *set on,* 148 c.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 229 Hondis that & þai be set at any maner of beste, þai will kill it. 1560 PILKINGTON *Aggeus* Cc vj, If a sheepe runne from hys felowes, the Shepeherde settes hys Dogge after it. 1695 A. TELFAIR *New Conjut. Sadd.* (1696) 6 When any one whistled for him [a dog] to set him on the Cattel. 1776 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 137, I shall prevent this man from setting ruin like a bull-dog at her. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Oct., While young Tug set the dog at their heels. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xlvii, In setting the boys' tutor..on her Ladyship's director, Father Mole. *Ibid.* ii, Once or twice they set people at her, but they failed. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* x, They set dogs on us as though we were rats.

b. To encourage (an animal) to perform some evolution or feat; to pit (fighting cocks).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 288 They,..making their horses answer their hands, with a gentle galop, set the one toward the other. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 253/1 In Setting of a Cock, none are to be up on the clod but the 2 Seeters [*sic*]..When the Cocks are set Beak to Beak in the middle of the clod,..if the set Cock do not strike in counting of 20, and six times 10, and 20 after all; then the Battle is lost. *Ibid.,* The Cock is to be set, and they are to fight it out. 1884 *Western Daily Press* 16 Apr. 7/2 A well-known Kentish amateur..decided to 'set' his own birds. 1890 F. BARRETT *Betw. Life & Death* II. xix. 38 She would set her horse at anything.

117. To place in a position of hostility or opposition; to cause to be hostile or antagonistic; to pit (one) *against* (another). Phr. *To set* (a person) *against,* to cause him to have an antipathy for.

To set one's face against: see FACE *sb.* 2 g.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9375 Vor setteþ him one hardeliche aȝen an hondred to wende. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 5 If castels be set agaynes me my hert shal not drede. *c* 1420 in *26 Pol. Poems* 108 Why settyst þou by herte aȝen resoun? 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 308 To set our owne wicked wills directly against his most holy will. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 261 He wonders that any man should set his wit against it. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., Why would ye set such a man against ye? 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* ix, Set a brave spirit, then, against your fortune. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iv, Man has been set against man. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. v. 62 Henry VIII tried to set François against it. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 25 June 5/2 The story..set people against a useful article of fish food. 1891 FENN *Mahmie Nousie* II. iii. 54 You have been setting her against me.

b. Const. *to, at.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1316 (Dubl.) A sege by hym-self sett to a hundreth. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 264 So mak'st thou faith an enemy to faith, And like a ciuill warr setst oath to oath. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. 1910 III. 75 Were there a thousand more of them and they should set their wit to his. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 94 Will you set your wit to a Fooles? 1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *On some of the old Actors,* I have seen some Olivias..who..have seemed to set their wits at the jester. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxvi. 20 Whiles her bridegroom bold set to the battle a face.

c. *refl.* and *pass.* To be hostile or antagonistic.

c 1482 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* II. (1830) Pref. 70 Whoos lordship and ladyship..is so hevely sette ayene the said suppliant. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxiv. 2 When the kynge of Babilon set himself agaynst Ierusalem. *c* 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 303 The Cardinals would yield to no Reformation, but set themselvs against it. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 107 With a mind against me set. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. xiii, My Papa and Mama are set against thy life. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iii. 158 The Cistercians..at first set themselves against the wholesale pillage of the parochial clergy. 1889 GISSING *Nether World* iii, She only gets more and more set against me.

d. *intr.* To make an attack: see *set against* 128 a, *set at* 129, *set on, upon,* 131, 132 a.

X. Senses which appear to have arisen by reversal of construction or by an ellipsis.

† **118.** To people or garrison (a place) *with.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 121 Hie wiston þæt heora eþel þær on heofenum sceolde eft ȝebuen & ȝeseted weorþan mid halȝum sawlum. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 964, Her dræfde Eadgar cyng þa preostas on Ceastre of Ealdanmynstre,.. & of Middeltune & sette hy mid munecan. *c* 1205 LAY. 13337 And setten þine castles mid kene monnen.

b. To beset (a place) for the purpose of intercepting or capturing a person.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 19717 (Trin.) Ofte þe toun for him þei set And saul wist þat he was þret. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 56 And tauld how thai the way for his man sett. 1525 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 298 Setting þe gait Laying wachis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 123 With mony spy [he] Gart sett the wod. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Mass. Paris* 332 That they which haue already set the street May know their watch-word.

119. To plant (ground) *with* 'sets' or (young) trees; formerly often with *about.* (Cf. 12.)

To be set with = to have growing upon it, to be overgrown with.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 239/695 Þicke it was i-set wiþ treon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 95 God zette paradys erþlich uol of guode trawes. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. iv. (1495) 443 Ampnis is a ryuer arayed and sett wyth woodes. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3862 þat fosse whare þe water was ȝett It is aboute with trees sett. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 56 The begge ..With sicamour was set and eglatere. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* (1631) D, The Riuer Maine..Whose bankes are set with groues of fruitfull Uines. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Sept. 1644 The Pall Mall is sett with faire trees. *Ibid.* Apr. 1646, Several..walks all set about with orange..trees. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 196, I have set the last acre of Belmont since I came down. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 417 The whole 3 acres were ploughed and set with beans. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* v, Many a fairy foreland set With willow-weed and mallow. 1892 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* xiii. 163 A grassy clearing, set with whortleberries.

120. To ornament (metal or other surface) by inlaying or encrusting it with stones or gems.

c 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 57 (Camb. MS.) Alle was set with perrye. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 290 Sencers..set wiþ riche stones. 1432 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 27 A myter of cloth of gold set with stones. 1572–3 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 324 One ring of golde sett with diamondes lozengye. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxxiv. 575 A sword that hath an hilt of gold, set thick with diamonds. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1651 Whose belt was set with pearle. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* 607/2 A superb watch, set with brilliants.

b. To surround (a large stone) *with* a mount of small stones; to mount (an object) *in* a particular metal. ? *Obs.*

1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 246 Ane mergreit set with stanes. 1705 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Feb., He had a most rich George in a Sardonyx set with diamonds. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, I got it [a maid of honour's corn]

hollowed into a cup and set in silver. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. vi, And this snuff-box...Set in gold!

121. *pass.* To be studded, dotted, lined, etc. *with* a number of objects; *occas.* † to be adorned or trimmed *with*. *To be set about* (arch.) or *round with*, to be surrounded or encircled with, to have a circle of.

1382 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* vii. 2 As an hep of whete, set aboute with lilies. *a* 1400 *Pearl.* 3 *Ages* 31 And he assommet and sett of vi and of fyve. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* (Camden) x, In clething vn-clere Was sette aure [*Thornton MS.* Cerkelytt] with serpentes, that sate to the sidus. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. ii. 90 Enuyrouned and set aboute wyth gardes & wacchemen. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* b iv, Quadrat is calde in armys whan the felde is set with sum tokyn of armys. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, A very fayre fountaine, set about with diuers faire cypres trees. *Ibid.* xxii. 60 b, A rich pauillion of..satten set with gold and siluer. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. v. 6 A brownish stalke..set with long sharpe leaues. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 755 As with Starrs thir bodies all And Wings were set with Eyes. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Feb. 1645, An admirable picture..set about with columns of alabaster. *Ibid.* 29 May 1660, The windowes and balconies well set with ladies. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 P 4 How thick the City was set with Churches. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi, Fantastically set With cupola or minaret. 1889 M. E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* III. iii. viii. 205 The serene sky was set with stars. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxiv, A small ante-chamber, set round with velvet settees.

b. *rare* in the corresponding active use.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 382 A corone on hire heed they han ydressed And sette hire ful of Nowches. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 398/1 Winter had set them [the summits of the mountain] with snowy castles.

122. † a. To beset or besiege (a place or a person): esp. with *about*. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7342 They..set the castel al aboute. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxxi. 5408 He was set harde. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1307 We here be sett alle abowte. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1, I set rounde aboute, as a man is with his enemyes, or a beest with hunters.

b. *fig.* esp. in pass. phr. *to be hard set*, † *ill set*, to be in great straits or hard put to it.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 473 Þe kyng..was hard i-sette wiþ tempest in þe see. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 449, I sall hald that I haue hecht, bot I be hard set. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* xx. 20 Lufe, Quhilk now setts the so sair. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. ix *heading*, How hard set the Atheist will be for a subterfuge against this story. 1673 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1883) III. 204 They were ill set to liue. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 254 The poor Creature is very hard set to drive his Water from him. 1891 *Temple Bar* Dec. 514 He..was hard set to restrain himself in his desire.

123. Of a hunting dog: To mark the position of (game) by stopping dead and pointing the muzzle towards it. (Cf. SETTER *sb.*[1] II.)

1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prevention* 255 If..you chaunce to see your dogge to make a sudden stop..you shall then presently make into him (for he hath set the Partridge). *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 76 To see a dog set partridge. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I. s. v. *Arrester*, To set Quails, or Partridges, as a setting Dog does. 1892 *Field* 7 May 666/3, I remember once having a young setter dog out with me, when he set a partridge on her nest.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig.* App. I. 23 Yet for all this Tully sets this Royal Game [Varro]. 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, Have I said any thing against Mr.****? You have set him, that I might shoot him: but I have not shot him. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 5 My reader may perchance have seen a cat *set* a mouse. 1888 *Times* 16 Oct. 10/5 The puppy was..encouraged forward on my trail..and 'set' me without a fault.

c. *intr.* To set game. † Also formerly (of persons), *to go setting*, to hunt with a setter.

To set dead, to make a dead set: see SET *sb.*[1] 10 f.

1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 12 His dog may refuse to set. 1841 H. MILLER *Old Red Sandst.* iii. (1887) 66 The puppy of the setting-dog squats down and sets untaught. 1892 *Field* 23 July 124/1 He..steals along a few paces, and then sets rigidly, just as an old grey hen flushes. 1897 *Badm. Mag.* Apr. 456 The mother, twenty yards off, backs her point and sets dead.

† d. Of persons, *To go a-setting*: see SETTING *vbl. sb.* 1 c (*b*).

124. *Naut.* To take the bearings of (an object).

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 Set him by the Compasse. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 38 Set the land, how it beares by the Compasse. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. x, We weigh'd Anchor, hois'd up Sail, stow'd the Boats, set the Land, and stood for the Offing. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Setting*, We set the Tower of Arabia near the port of Alexandria. 1808 ASHE *Trav.* I. 25 Having set the house with a pocket-compass. 1863 HARBORD *Gloss. Navig.* s. v. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Set the chase*, to mark well the position of the vessel chased by bearing.

† b. To sight or 'make' (land, a vessel). *Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 328 When they set land, Some this, some that, doe gesse, this Hill, that Cape.

125. To mark down as prey, fix on as a victim, make a set at; to watch for the purpose of apprehending or robbing. *slang.* (Cf. SETTER *sb.*[1] 7 a.)

1670 *Mem. Du Vall* 8 He, with his Squadron, overtakes a Coach which they had set over night. 1692 SERJT *Relat. Contrivr. Blackhead & Young* I. 50 He might come to Rob, or to Set the House. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* III. ii. (1776) 43 There will be deep play to-night at Marybone,..I'll give you the hint who is worth setting. 1732 *Tricks of Town* 12 The Dogs that belong to private Families and Shopkeepers, the proper time for setting them is generally soon after Seven in the Morning. 1800 in *Cornwallis Corr.* (1859) III. 320 The person who procured for me all the intelligence respecting Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and got —— to set him. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 2 July 8/3 Two of the fraternity 'setting' a young man..and endeavouring to win the gold for which he had laboured.

† **126.** *Sc. Law.* To reject, set aside. *Obs.*

1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxiii. § 6 (1699) 250 Thus an assizer was set..because he was not twenty-five Years of age. *Ibid.* xxvi. § 2. 265 To object against a witness in our Law, is called to cast a witness, or to set him.

XI. With prepositions in specialized senses (intransitive).

127. Set about —.

a. To begin working at, take in hand, begin upon.

1601 [see A. 1 y]. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* (Malone Soc.) 1182 He will weigh the work he vndertakes, and sett about it een in the best sobrietie of his Iudgem[en]t. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 189, I purpose God willing to set about Hosea & to try if I can get it to the presse here. 1707 SHAFTESB. *Let. Enthusiasm* (1708) 8 Men..are wonderfully happy in a Faculty of deceiving themselves, whenever they set heartily about it. 1784 *New Spect.* No. 1. 6 My friend sat about it with great diligence. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, Let every man and woman here set about their ain business. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 2 This essential education might be more easily got..if they set about it in the right way. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxx, We had best set about our part of the contract.

(*b*) *const. inf.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1580 Þe scham, þe sin þat þan was vte At tell war lang to sett aboute [*Gött.* sitt aboute, *Fairf.* syte a-bout]. 1736 LEDIARD *Life of Marlborough* I. 147 The Queen set about to form Her Ministry. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. iv. 404 He sets about to clean his land in good earnest. 1889 'M. GRAY' *Repr. Annesley* I. i. iv. 94 He scrambled to his feet, and set about to console himself.

(*c*) *const. gerund.*

1749 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 24 Nov., I..will set about doing the orders contained therein. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 172 Don Sancho's servant ..immediately sat about enquiring into Dorothea's conduct. 1865 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* VII. (1879) 34, I will set about explaining what I mean. 1890 TOUT *Hist. Eng. from 1689*, 173 Peel..set about forming a new party.

b. To set upon, attack. *colloq.*

1879 HORSLEY *Jottings from Jail* (1887) 5 This got to my father's ears; when I went home he set about me with a strap until he was tired. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 22 May 3/3 It is always well to name the antagonist whom you are setting about.

128. Set against —.

† a. To make an attack upon, be hostile to. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4874 Þis paiens..oþains þis children set. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2082, I my-self'e with a sowme set þaim agayns. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 333 He spared not to sette against Philippus w^t^ monte vehemente oracions. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 146. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xix. 8 The nations set against him on euery side. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Mark vii. 9 You think it very well done, to set against Godliness and God's own Laws.

b. To compensate, balance.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* vii. 104 Such a fright as we have had will set against a great deal of the good.

c. To move in a direction opposed to.

1859 TH. PARKER *Exper. as Minister* Wks. 1865 XII. 318 Public opinion, now setting against this beastly vice. 1889 C. LARKING *With Everything agst. her* III. xi. 245 On the last day luck set dead against her.

129. Set at —. To assail, attack. (Cf. 127 b, 128 a, 131, 132 a.)

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xliii. (1869) 26 Ne were ye so gret a ladi, ye shulde right soone haue þe weire, and at yow i wolde sette. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 49 b, They were prively sett at and in many jeopardies. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 262/1 He sets at the church..and he deals it.. strong advice and comment. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. III. xxxvi. 391, I would go, although as many devils should set at me as there are tiles on the housetops.

Set by —: see 91 c.

130. Set into —. † a. To enter or embark upon.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 188 Boldnesse to challenge and set into dangers. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. To the King § 12 When Schollars come to the practises of professions, or other actions of ciuill life, which when they set into [etc.].

b. To get into (a certain condition).

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 292, I begin..setting into wind to follow the foxhounds in November.

131. Set on —. = 132.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 16/530 A cristine man sone he mette,..and on him faste he sette. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. 434 He set sore on the Frensshe men. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. x. 87 Syr said a knyght set on arthur for they are wery and forfoughten. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 136 The Frenchemen, beyng sodainly surprised and set on. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xl. (Arb.) 62 He..sets boldly on good natures, as the most vanquishable. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Apr. 1644, The company behind us were set on by rogues. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 447 With despair pictured in every face, the crew set on the pumps. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Aug. 185/2 If you see a man set on by robbers.

Set to —: see 14 b, 103, 113 c.

132. Set upon —.

a. To attack, assail, fall violently upon.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 247 The lordes alle upon him sette With drawe swerdes. 1523 in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* II. I. 300 Wheere the Emperors thought to have set upon them being encamped, they founde them in array and goode ordre. 1530 PALSGR. 716/1 They dyd sette upon me foure to one. 1562 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 230 His maister..meteth whithe theeves..And ys sett vpon by them. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 60. 100 David..set upon a Beare at one time, and on a Lion at another, and slew them both. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 11 May, I was set upon by a great dogg, who got hold of my garters. 1722 *St. James's Even. Post* 14–16 June 2/1 A young Man was set upon by three Rogues..and robb'd of Bills and Money. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, Wounded, hunted, set upon by dogs. 1879 GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xii. 109 The Danes came against them and set upon them again and again.

(*b*) *in immaterial sense.*

1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 205 Of all brags the foolishest is, that which sets upon the reputation of a weake sex. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. xi. § 118 However sin might set upon him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 16 P 3 If I attack the Vicious, I shall only set upon them in a Body. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 356 This is the reason why my three accusers..have set upon me.

b. To urge strongly, importune. *rare.*

1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 158 The Princesse was secretly set upon in private to suffer herself to bee conveyed away. *a* 1725 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 236 The best of the Episcopal Clergy set upon the Bishops, to lay hold on this opportunity. 1883 [G. N. BANKES] *Cambr. Staircase* vi 95 Milstead again set upon Oxden for his story.

† c. = *set about*, 127 a. *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* II. xii. 300 It behoued them to sende for the Bishoppe, to hallowe the firste corner stone...And then might the Masons sette vpon the reste, but not afore. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 146 It was my fortune to set upon a hard and difficult building in a Church of Mixco. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 69 Him that sets upon Building. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxiii. 234 The Dean..exciting them with all his Rhetorick, to set upon the Reparation of it. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 103 To level the Sugar-Loaf..would..be a serious work; as it never could be set upon except when the sea was remarkably still.

d. *Naut.* To haul or pull upon.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 196 This tackle being a little slacked,..and then set upon. *Ibid.* 197 The rope..being then set upon by the main tackle.

XII. With adverbs in specialized senses.

133. Set about. To circulate, spread about (a statement, report). Now chiefly *north. dial.*

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 168 Many discourses were set about upon this occasion. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Oct. 385/1 Alarming reports have been set about as to the imminence of serious trouble.

134. Set abroach. *arch.*

a. To broach (a cask, liquor).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II 183 Riht as who sette a tonne abroche. *c* 1460 [see A. 1 b]. 1697, 1855 [see ABROACH 1].

fig. 14.. LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2464 (Digby MS.) He..gan approche & wiþ his swerd to sette a broche..be Grekys hatful blood. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i, My Purse set a broch By euerie cheating come you seauen? 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* I. p. iv, He had drunk of his wine, which now began to warm his heart, and set all his secrets abroach.

b. To set on foot, get going, give currency or publicity to.

c 1475 *Mankind* 572 in *Macro Plays* 21 Ther xall be sett a-broche a clerycall mater. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. Wks. (1904) 26 Than euery one of them setteth his shiftes abroche. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 32 There set they abroche straunge consortes of melody. 1638, 1835 [see ABROACH 2]. 1702 *Engl. Theophrastus* 324 A studied and a laborious forecast toward the setting of a humour abroach.

† **135. Set abroad.** *Obs.*

a. To spread abroad, spread wide.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 5 They set abroade there philateries, and make large borders on there garmenttes.

b. To publish (a treatise); to circulate (a report); to disseminate (a disease); to set (a matter) on foot.

1555 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. 127 Thoughe yt be never so daungerous to me to sett this lyttell Treatys abroad. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxliii. 265 The plague..was set abroade in the towne through burying..bedding..infected. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 192 And set abroad new businesse for you all. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To set a Story abroad. 1759 SARAH FIELDING *Cleaves of Dellwyn* I. 257 Ingeniously set it abroad that a Fire had happened.

† **136. Set adown.** = *set down. Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 19686 We weoren..for gode men iholden a þat Sæxisce men setten us a-dune. 13.. *Coer de Lion* 2142 The steward on knees him set adown. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2459 þanne as bliue þat barn þe best a-doun sette. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 226 Vp-on the..gras They settyn hem ful softely adoun. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 107 And I..deme þat I be disposed and i-sette adoun.

137. Set afloat († on float). *arch.*

a. To launch, float (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Cade* xl. 1 See here how fortune setting vs a flote, Brought to our nets a portion of our pray. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 62, I trust maister Philosarchus fees will be sufficient to set both thee and me a floate. 1785 BOSWELL *Tour Hebrides* (1807) 537, I got our common friends there to assist in setting him afloat. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. v, Wondrous leather-roofed Floating-batteries, set afloat by French-Spanish *Pacte de Famille*.

b. To bring to the surface (as the dregs of a liquid); hence *fig.* to set (*esp.* something bad) in motion, set agog, stir up, make active.

1586 [see AFLOAT 8]. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 191 Seeing all Unsavouriness of Wines whatever seems to proceed from their impurities set afloat. 1724 WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 4 Ill Qualities,..when indiscreetly set on Float become fatal on the Constitution. 1749 [see FLOAT *sb.* 4]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IX. x. (Rtldg.) 332 Hold your hand.. exclaimed I...You must not set my avarice afloat again.

† c. To flood (land). *Obs.*

1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1693) 74 So much Water..as..caused a considerable Flood..; setting all the Meadows on flote.

† d. To cause to become unsettled, 'carry away'.

a 1713 ELLWOOD *Hist. Life* (1714) 320 [Their] Applause setting his Head afloat, he came up to London.

138. Set apart.

† a. To lay aside, put on one side. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 711/1 You may sette this a parte for a whyle, for we shall nat occupye it.

† b. To get rid of, do away with. *Obs.*

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 279/2 To..purvey for restfull..reule in Wales, and to sette aparte such riottes and disobeisaunces as have be there. 1475 *Ibid.* VI. 143/2 That the said blessed intent,..and last Will..be not..fordoon and sett a parte.

† c. To dismiss from one's consideration; to put out of one's mind; to cease to entertain, put aside, discontinue. *Obs.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 676 They..sette aparte all dangers and paryllis. 1515 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 103 To set aparte all suche neue besynes as that thenne they hadde begonne. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* (Malone Soc.) 1581 Be frollicke and ioyfull, set sorowes aparte. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xx. vii. 152 Sequestring and setting apart his anger for that time. *a* 1641 SPELMAN *Hist. Sacrilege* (1698) 144 They all set all other Business a-part.

(*b*) *in absolute ppl. phr.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 146 That thou retorne in to the mercy of thy fader..alle excusacions set a part. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 5 Set aparte the goodnes and gentylnes of almyghty god. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 14 b, He would..all delaye sette a parte, repaire into Germany. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 159 All reuerence set apart To him and his vsurp'd authoritie. 1636 HEYWOOD *Challenge Beautie* I. Wks. 1874 V. 11 To parallel the Queene in beauty and vertue?..Which he may easily doe, her Prerogative of birth set apart.

d. To separate for a special purpose; to devote to some use. 1604–1853 [see APART 6].

139. Set aside (†on side). a. See simple physical senses and ASIDE *adv.* 1, 2, 3; to put on one side.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2696 Make þi choyse..Whan euery drogge & pot is set a-syde. *c* 1430 *Art of Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 10 Write a cifre in the place of the figure sette a-side. 1530 PALSGR. 711/2 Set this asyde, tyll I call for it. 1598 DELONEY *Jacke of Newberie* Wks. (1912) 16 Set your link aside, and giue mee your hand. 1611 COTGR., *Remouvoir*, to remoue, retire, withdraw, set aside, put away. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VIII. 343 His Roman pile was set aside. 1697 [see ASIDE A. 3].

† b. To discontinue the performance or practice of; also, to discard the intention of doing (something). *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22458 Late lordes..Sette asyde alle flaterye! *c* 1440 — *Hors, Shepe & G.* 90 Lett alle werr and stryffe be sett A-syde. 1528 ROY *Rede me* I. (Arb.) 65 Sett thy busynes a whyle a side, And lett vs have fyrst a songe. 1530 PALSGR. 711/2 The kynge wyll, all other thynges set asyde, that you examyne this mannes mater. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 188 Our purpos'd hunting shall be set aside. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 584 Set your Tasks aside.

† c. ? To repulse. *Obs.*

c 1500 *World & Child* 294 To set our enemy sharpely on-syde.

d. To dismiss from one's mind, abandon the consideration of.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 3189 And al they mente in honest wyse, Vnleful lust was set a-syde. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. ii. K ij, Settynge care and thought a syde. 1562 *Aberd. Kirk Sess. Rec.* (Spalding Club) 4 All vder excusatioun set asyde. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* Epist. (1869) 21 Settinge asyde all feare. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 119 All dissembling set aside, Tell me for truth, the measure of his Loue. 1720 WYCHERLEY *Let. to Pope* 1 Apr., Yet..set raillery or compliment aside, I can bear your absence..better than I can your company when you are in pain. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, To make her lady's safety the principal object of her care, setting all other considerations aside.

const. inf. *c* 1572 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Fruites of Warre* xl, I set aside to tell the restlesse toyle The mangled corps.

(*b*) In imper. or ppl. const.: Excluding, excepting, except for, apart from.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 567, I saw Solyhill: but in it, setting a side the Church, there is nothing worth sight. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 55 And set wine aside..they abound in all things necessary for human life. 1657 — tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 107 But set this respect aside, to live out of a mans Countrie, hath no resemblance of evil. 1760 *Impostors Detected* III. xi. II. 123 He was a very good kind of a man, setting aside his figure. 1883 EMILY LAWLESS *Millionaire's Cousin* iv. 95 Setting aside this, all inequality so far as I can see ceases.

† (*c*) In ppl. const.: Not taking account of, let alone. *Obs.*

1753 L. M. *Accomplished Woman* I. 61, I think, that setting aside scandal, it were enough to escape their [men's] censure. 1785 *Liberal Amer.* I. 63, I flattered myself that the sight of a country..which is certainly beautiful, setting aside the charm of novelty, would have amused her.

e. To reject or throw over as being of no value, cogency, or pertinence; to overrule.

1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 22 Equitie..setting on side the common rules of the law. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 May 1688, Such a dispensing power as might..set aside all Laws. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 57 [He] was brought to set aside his evidence. 1870–2 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iv. § i. (1904) 133 The existence of moral evil is too patent..a subject, to be permanently set aside by human beings. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. vi. 135 The rule of hereditary succession was ..set aside. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* III. i. 12/2 To set our honoured oaths and firm allegiance To you aside, as being unjustly sworn.

f. To discard or reject from use or service, in favour of another.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes day* K iij b, Settinge a side such thinges as are requisite for the soules health: And omitting the obseruance of gods holy commaundementes. 1692 *Trials Sir R. Graham*, etc. 24 *Mr. Cradock.* My Lord, I know not how I came to be summoned upon this Jury; for I am no Freeholder. *L. C. J. Holt.* Then set him aside. 1779 *Mirror* No. 39 When a man of acknowledged honour ..sees himself set aside, and obliged to give way to the worthless and contemptible. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 5 If that national force [the militia] were set aside, the gentry of England must lose much of their dignity and influence. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. 220 To set aside the elder or Stuart branch, and to substitute..the younger. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xliii. 440 The English prayer-book was set aside, and the Latin mass said again.

g. To annul, quash, render void or nugatory. Chiefly *Law.*

1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 179, I have it in my power to set aside the whole unnatural, nonsensical will. 1790 DURNFORD & EAST *K. B. Rep.* III. 5 A rule to shew cause..why the verdict should not be set aside and a new trial granted. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 61 Nor does it set aside the necessity that those men should cheerfully accept the gospel of Christ. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 591 A rule was subsequently obtained by Mr. Woollett to set that nonsuit aside.

h. To separate out for a particular purpose.

1720 GORDON & TRENCHARD *Indep. Whig* (17-8) 66 Particular Persons who are set aside and paid for that Purpose. 1890 TOUT *Hist. Eng. from 1689*, 91 To set aside a part of the national revenue every year. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 130/2 To set aside a portion of his wages in order to meet Lloyd's debt.

140. Set away. † a. To remove, do away with.

c 1430 *Art of Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 16 Settyng away alle that is ouer hym in respect of the doublede. 1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 200 Knoweledge..causeth vs to forget all, and set a waye discipline. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To set (or put) away, *oter.*

b. = *set by*, 142 b.

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 52 Strain it and set it away for Use.

c. *intr.* To set off. *north. dial.*

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, Mattie had ill-will to see me set awa on this ride.

141. Set back.

a. To hinder the progress of, give a check to.

[1530 PALSGR. 712/2 I set backewarde, or hynder a mater that it gothe nat forwarde..I have set hym backwarde this mornynge more than he shall come forwarde these seven yeres]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. 118 Thou hadst more need to set me backe with force of arms. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parlt.* I. ii. 20 The endammaging and setting backe of that newly established Kingdome. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 62 By so eagerly persuing he effectually setteth back his designs. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Aug. 1693, This succeeded much wet, and set harvest extremely back. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 56 This had like to have set all back again.

b. To put (a clock, its hands) to an earlier time.

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* v. vii. 2 Or hns some frolick heart set back the hand Of Fates perpetuall Clock? 1892 *Illustr. Lond. News* 9 Jan. 45/1 They reconcile people to monarchy and set back the clock of progress.

c. *intr.* To flow in the reverse direction.

1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 24/1 Is not the tide of opinions..setting back with a strength equal to its flow?

142. Set by. † a. To put on one side, lay aside (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 295 Ile play this bout first, set by a-while. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. ii. (1905) 66 To be separated and set by For Vshers, to old Countesses. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Goblins* I. Wks. 1874 II. 16 Set him by, till he's sober. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 12 You have forced him not onely to set by his Mil[i]tia, and to depose his Crown.

b. To lay up or lay by for future use.

1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 8 To trimme his shippes..set by some new pinnaces. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 100/2 The Pantry for setting by what is left after meals. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, Let the house be redd up, the broken meat set by. 1850 MISS WARNER *Wide Wide World* xxxvii, After that many a basket of apples..was set by for her.

† c. To reject, dismiss; to disregard, scorn.

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* Wks. 1910 I. 294 No more set by, but set by, thrust aside. 1636 HEYWOOD *Challenge Beautie* I. Wks. 1874 V. 9 Birth wee set by. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* II. xiv. 23 Being now set by, layd aside as uselesse, and not sett by. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. i. 36 To set by this conclusion for a while. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvi. 481 'Tis indisputable..Devils cannot set it by, and the judge will not.

† (*b*) *Setting by*: setting aside, not counting.

a 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* I. i, Setting by Alphonsus' power divine, What man alive..Could countervail his courage? 1657 HEYLIN *Undeceiv. People* 7 Setting by all children which live under their parents [etc.]..the number of the residue will be found so small.

† d. To give up (doing something). *Obs.*

a 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 282 To set by disputing with him, as one that is to be convinced only by himself.

143. Set down. (Cf. *set adown*, 136.)

a. See simple trans. senses and DOWN *adv.*

(*a*) To cause to sit down. *rare.*

a 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 222 The Erle of Worseter was take before the mayre and sette downe in the myddys of the hy tabylle. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxxvii. 295 b, The duke of Orlyaunce set euery man downe. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* III. 135 We were set down..at nine, to cold grouse, salmon [etc.]. 1861 S. BROOKS *Silver Cord* v. (1865) 27 The little girl having..been..set down, in a half-darkened apartment, to amuse herself with the pictures in Fox's Book of Martyrs.

† (*b*) To encamp (an army or host). *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 2 We will before the walls of Rome to morrow Set downe our Hoast. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 34 Because he did not..spend so many bookes..as Antimachus did, before he sate downe the seuen Princes at Thebes.

(*c*) To place, situate, locate.

1827 *Edin. Weekly Jrnl.* 28 Feb., in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., Wherever the belligerent powers might be pleased to set down this new theatre. 1882 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 67 Lewes is set down better than any town I have seen in England. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 316 He was the exact counterpart of the London Jew dealer, set down in the midst of the country.

(*d*) *Falconry.* (See quots.)

1614 LATHAM *Falconry* I. xi. 40 You doe at her first setting downe, giue her as much as she list to take into her gorge. 1892 HARTING *Bibl. Accipitr.* 229 *Set down to mouit*, put into the mew.

b. † (*a*) To bring low, debase; to depose from office; to put down, quell. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 635 That is broght up she set al doun. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 261 In þat counsaille were y-sett doun meny bisshops and abbotes. *Ibid.* VIII. 179 He was i-sette doun of the fourþe pope Innocentius. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 141 Quhat was best to be done aganis..thair new reliegieoun and to sie quhat way thay might sett done the samin.

(*b*) To lower (a person's pride, etc.); to take down, snub.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) III. xviii. 251 Sir Harry own'd himself to blame: and thus the Lady's pride was set down softly. 1846 D. JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle* xxxi, Like her impudence!—I set her down for the rest of the evening. 1889 MRS. COMYNS CARR *Margaret Maliphant* I. i. 11, I was such a headstrong girl that it took a deal to set me down.

c. † (*a*) To slacken (the strings or pegs of a musical instrument). *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Chelys, Intendere chelyn*, to wreste vp the stringes of the lute. *Laxare chelyn*, to sette downe. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 202 Oh you are well tun'd now: But Ile set downe the peggs that make this Musicke.

(*b*) To beat down to a shape.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 193 So much of the Sheet as lies over the Cavity is set down into it with the Seaming-mallet. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 213 When the iron is to be set down..it is first nicked with a round fuller.

d. To place so as to rest upon a surface; to put down, as upon the ground. Also *absol.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 12958 (Trin.) On an hege pinacle he set him doun Of þe temple. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 67 In some places the Caruer doth vse to shew and set down,..and in some place he beareth the first dish, and..setteth it downe couered before the degree of a Knight. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 4 He hath set down his staf. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxliii, As a..huswife..Sets downe her babe. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* III. 180 Sir Edward sat down the candlestick. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* x, The body was here set down before the door of the chapel. 1878 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Girlhood* II. i. 28 If you attempt to lift or carry me down the stage, I will kick and scream till you set me down.

(*b*) To cause or allow to alight from a vehicle; to 'drop' (a person at a place). Also *absol.*

(Said of the person or persons in charge of or occupying the vehicle, or of the vehicle itself.)

1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Mar., My wife and I going by coach, she went with us to Holborne, where we set her down. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* v. v, My coach shall set you down. 1715 GAY *Let. to Pope* 8 July, I have just set down Sir Samuel Garth at the Opera. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. vi, I knew the postilion very well...And then he told me where he had set you down. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, A number of carriages full of ladies were drawing up and setting down. 1844 *Act 7 & 8 Vict.* c. 85 § 6 Such Train shall..take up and set down Passengers at every Passenger Station. 1889 MRS. ALEXANDER *Crooked Path* I. iv. 110 The carriage is to come back for us after setting you down at the theatre.

e. To put down in writing or in print; to put on paper; to enter in a catalogue or account; to write out, compose; to put on record; to record, relate, give an account of.

1574 H. BAKER *Well-spring Sci.* (1617) 9, I set downe 7 vnder the line against the place of penies. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes day* II. E viij, [In the Scriptures] there are set down two..entyer parts of rightuousnesse. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 16 The harshest penne may sette downe somewhat woorth the reading. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 22 You Nicke Bottome are set downe for Pyramus. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 6. 28 After the Creation was finished, it is sette downe vnto vs that man was placed in the Garden to worke therein. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 288 And here I am willing to set down their names. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 70, I forgot to set downe how I receaved a letter from Martin de Guinia. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgrim* xi. (1687) 59 You will expect..that I should set down at large the particulars of every days conference. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 182 A great many good Ports that are not set down in the Maps. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 2 Her Women..are alphabetically set down in her Book. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. ix. 62, I set down the whole scene as soon as F— left me. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 3) III. v, My youngest boy..bethought himself of setting down a few 'School-miseries'. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 393, I have always regretted that Hazlitt set down that passage. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. v, It would not be fair to set down in cold blood the things he habitually said.

† (*b*) *To set down the* or *one's period*: to come to a final decision. *Obs.*

1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 23 They set downe the period with a deepe sigh. 1590 — *Mourn. Garm.* Ibid. IX. 150 At last she set downe her period on the face of Alexis, thinking he was the fairest.

† (*c*) To fix at a certain amount. *Obs.*

c 1593 ? GREENE *George a Greene* (1599) G 1 b, George a Greene, set downe the king of Scots His ransome. 1621 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 141 It being the price sett downe. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 85 Prescribed the indowments of Vicars, set down the wages of Priests.

(*d*) To put down, as in a schedule or table, *to*

be performed at a certain time; †to appoint a time for the performance of (something).

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 319 On Wednesday next, we solemnly set downe Our Coronation. 1594 — *Rich. III*, III. iv. 44 We haue not yet set downe this day of Triumph. 1795 [C. ABBOT] *Jurisdiction Crt. Gt. Sessions Wales* 120 The plaintiff must..set down his cause to be heard. 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 85 Cases out of Chancery..cannot be set down nor heard, unless they are signed by a Serjeant. 1889 ACWORTH *Railways Eng.* 203 The Great Western express..was set down to leave Didcot ..3 minutes earlier. 1893 *Weekly Notes* 68/1 After the cause had been set down for trial.

†f. To lay down (a principle), prescribe (a regulation, mode of procedure). *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 257 Whiles I set doune directions and precepts. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 193 She endeauoreth to set down good lawes. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simul. & Dissim.* (Arb.) 508 Therfore set it downe; That an Habit of Secrecy, is both Politick, and Morall. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 47 If..the Constitution of the Church be already set down by divine prescript. 1688 *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 30 All of that Cabale had set down this for a Rule.

†g. To determine or resolve upon. Also *set down one's rest* (see REST *sb.*2 8 b). *Obs.*

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Discov. E. Ind.* xxx. 73 b, Of the meeting of the King..and the Captaine generall, at which time there was set downe a Trade and Factorie. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iv. 178 Wee will haue these things set downe by lawfull Counsell. 1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts*, Luke xiv. 29–31 [He] must..set it downe with his owne heart to undergoe resolutely all the difficulties that [etc.].

(*b*) *pass.* and *intr.* To be resolved, resolve. *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* const. inf.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 20 One, that to praise well, one must first set downe with himselfe, what it is to be excellent. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks*(1638)295 A man set downe to mischiefe. 1684 N. LEE *Constantine* III. ii. 36 If you set down t'enjoy me, Sir.

h. (*a*) To estimate, reckon; †in early use with obj. and compl., or with clause; now only, to regard (a person) *as*, take (him) *for*, consider (him) *to be* (so-and-so).

1798 *Geraldina* I. 183, I never see a library of books with highly gilt bindings, but I set down that the owner seldom opens them. 1799 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T., Frenchman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 198 The playful unconscious character she had first been set down. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xii. (Rtldg) 25 The corregidor..set me down for the culprit. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 9 He sat himself down as invulnerable. 1828 SCOTT *Aunt Marg. Mirror* ii, You had best set him down a Jesuit. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xlviii, Those who cling to the truth and support the right cause, are set down as mad. 1872 J. HARTLEY *Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. II. 118 They used to be sat daan to be young ens 'at hadn't le'nt wit. 1889 F. BARRETT *Under Str. Mask* I. iv. 68 He would set her down at once for an impertinent..busy-body.

(*b*) To attribute, or put down *to*.

1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *Mod. Gallantry*, He could not set it down to caprice. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. xii. 137 This, as usual, was set down to malice prepense on his side.

i. Now *dial.* (*a*) *refl.* To seat oneself. (Cf. 3.) †Also, to go down *on one's knees*: cf. sense 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14092 For-wit his fete sco sett hir dun. 1470 85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xix. 65 He sette hym doune by a fountayne. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. John* vi. 1–4 Iesus, beyng sumwhat separate from the people, setteth hym down on the hyll. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) i. 64 They set themselves down on the Grass. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 15 We..set us down to fish.

(*b*) *pass.* To be seated. (Cf. 4.) Also *transf.* to be settled in a place.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13495 All right þar war þai sett dun. 1575 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. iv. (1890) II. 178 The king and Ariobarzanes being sette downe at a table. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 229 When I was set downe to my meat. 1741 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) III. 189 When I am set peacefully down at my farm, I shall often read over your letters. 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 74, I was just set down to the card-table at the Delmores. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvi, When all should be gone to bed, or set down to cards, which is the same thing.

‖ *With mixed construction.*

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* (Arb.) 38 My harte is sett him downe twixt hope and feares Vpon the stonie banke of high desire. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 2 The King by this, is set him downe to sleepe.

(*c*) *intr.* To sit down. (Cf. 5.)

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1741 Þai sal set down And mak a schort colaciown. 1442 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 7 That..[he] sal cum..and set downe on his kneis. 1530 PALSGR. 713/1, I set downe, I rest me on a seate, *je massis*. 1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* (1636) I. 124 That we should..set down with modesty ..to heare the Law. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Sept. 1685, All the gentlemen in his traine setting down at table with him. 1720 *Humourist* 212 Till he set down to Dinner. 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* I. 28 He had just..set down to his coffee. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* I. 43 He is ever ready..to say a grace to God, before he sets down to feast with Mammon.

†(*d*) *To set down by* = to put up with. Cf. SIT *v.* 21 d (*a*).

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 64 The Venetians..having a very rich Shipp robbed by Turkish Pyratts..were forced to sett down by the losse.

j. *refl.* To begin to devote oneself *to*.

1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 243, I set myself down to my translation of St. Athanasius. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 173/1 In his green old age, he set himself down to write this great dictionary.

†k. *intr.* To be encamped; to 'sit down' *before* (a town) to besiege it. *Obs.* Cf. a (*b*).

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 129 Man setting downe before you, will vndermine you, and blow you vp. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 168 Cæsar sets downe in Alexandria. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 130 Then did the braue Generall set down before Thessalonica. 1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 248 Nothing to stop our march, till we set downe With all our troopes, before the Holy Towne.

l. *intr.* To have a direction downwards.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* S 2 b, If a fair leading sets down under the second Sett, it may in all probability lead down to a third, and so on.

144. Set forth. See simple senses and FORTH *adv.*

†a. To thrust forth. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 827 Ah nu we beoð of se feor for þe iflut hidere, þu schalt setten sikel forð. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 118 Some settes forth their lippes two ynches good beyonde their teeth.

†(*b*) To direct or send forward, set on the way.

1525 LEE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 75 To sett forthe the standard against thies Philistees. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 17, I have assaied to sette furth my plough to proue what I coulde do. 1590 BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* 7 My commaunder commaunds me to set foorth of my band of 200. one hundred, to keepe a straight or passage.

†(*c*) To arrange or dispose in a certain manner; to lay out. *Obs.*

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 373 The butler schal sett forthe the pottys..up on eche table. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 295 W'el set forth In best appointment all our Regiments. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 1 A man that goeth to the River..must understand..to set forth his Tackles. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 429 There the Eagle and the Stork ..set forth Thir Aierie Caravan high over Sea's Flying.

†b. To send out (soldiers, etc.) for service; hence, to equip, fit out (men, a fleet, a voyage). *Obs.*

1451 [implied in SETTER-FORTH] *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 213 They sette forth a galay & .xxx. paynyms therin. 1584 [see A 1]. 1603 OWEN *Pembr.* (1891) 41 They are forced to sett furthe manye to theire owne dislike, althoughe the best that cold be founde. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. v, Setting forth some Lady, Will cost as much as furnishing a Fleete. 1635 R. N. tr *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 54 He intended to set forth a voyage into West India. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 July 1667, The charge of setting forth a fleete. 1702 — *Diary* 3 May, Every Missioner, besides the 20 *l.* to set him forth, should have 50 *l. per. ann.* 1805 *Act* 45 *Geo. III*, c. 72 § 7 If such Ship or Vessel so retaken shall appear to have been, after the taking by His Majesty's Enemies, by them set forth as a Ship or Vessel of War.

†(*b*) To furnish with what is necessary. *Obs.*

c 1610 *Women Saints* 207 Haue you nothing..lying in store, wherewith her exequies may be sett forth?

†(*c*) To furnish, provide (entertainment). *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *John* ii. 10 All men att the begynnynge sett forth goode wyne. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 330 Certain Priests, whose office it was to set forth publike playes and games in honor of their Gods. 1693 CONGREVE *Dryden's Juvenal* XI. 6 When Poor Rutilus spends all his Worth, In hopes of setting one good Dinner forth.

†c. To provide, allot, or set apart for a purpose.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 358 In this ordour..ar mony sett furth to hald sitizenis in peice and in thair office. 1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Matt. xxiv. 29 When as my Church shall have endured that full proportion of affliction, which I have set forth for it. 1684 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 318 The wast ground..formerly set forth for that purpose

†(*b*) To put aside as tithe; = *set out*, 149 q (*b*).

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 13 § 2 Yf any person carrye awaye his corne or haye or his other prediall tythes before the tythe thereof be sett forthe. 1670 W. SHEPPARD *Parson's Guide* 9 The Parson or Vicar is to take away his Tythes in a convenient time after they are set forth.

(*c*) To lay out (money); = *lay forth*, LAY 52 c; = *put forth*, PUT 42 j.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 208 This [sum of money] to bee set forth in Lands, of the best and most certaine Reuenue.

d. To promulgate, publish, issue (a regulation, proclamation, etc.).

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* Epist. (1869) 19 Many good..lawes and actes made and setforthe in this..realme. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 17 If the prince than doe set foorth a lawe contrarie to the lawe of God. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Oct. 1651, Our religion, that had neither appointed nor set forth any houres of prayer or breviaries. 1711 STERLE *Spect.* No. 17 ¶ 2 The Rules of the Club, as set forth, in a Table, intituled, *The Act of Deformity*. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, Lafayette..took upon him to set forth more than one deprecatory oration. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. III. vii. 64 A proclamation was set forth placing a price..on his head.

e. To publish (a literary work).

1535 COVERDALE Prol. to Rdr., I toke the more upon me to set forth this speciall translacyon. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garment* Concl., Wks. (Grosart) IX. 221, I haue..set forth many Pamphlets, full of much loue and little Scholarisme. 1628 S. WARD in *Ussher's Lett.* 394 Dr. Jackson hath lately set forth a Book of the Attributes of God. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* July 1645, Father Kirchner, who was then setting forth his greate work *Obeliscus Pamphilius*. 1779 *Mirror* No. 21 (1787) I. 154 The latter has set forth his in print.

f. To express in words, give an account of, present a statement of, *esp.* in order, distinctly, or in detail; to declare, expound, relate, narrate, state, describe; †to describe the features or characters of.

1530 PALSGR. 713/1 Now haue I shewed you in a generaltie the contentes of the chapiter, but to set forthe the partyculers requyreth a further layser. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion, Pr. Whole St. Ch.*, That thei maie..set furthe thy true and liuely worde. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 38 One that wyl set furth paptistrie aswel as him selfe wyll do. 1585 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 100 As if in setting foorth our most gracious Soueraigne, wee should say: That Goddesse like adorned with high aspectes... she issued foorth. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 41 They set forth the dolefull falles of infortunate and afflicted Princes. *a* 1660 N. ROGERS (*title*) The Rich Fool, set forth in an exposition on that parable. Luke 12, 16–22. 1688 *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 31 A Sect of men that were set forth as Monsters. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxx. 78 In These Three Fables, is set forth the Vanity of Unnatural Wishes, and Foolish Prayers. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 54 ¶ 3 A Treatise, wherein I shall set forth the Rise and Progress of this famous Sect. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 151 Even fancy has her merit when she sets forth in such pleasing imagery, the crucified Jesus. 1780 COXE *Russ. Disc.* 254 The instructions given to the Captain set forth that a private ship had in 1762 found there a commodious haven. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 80 An advertisement..inserted in some of the public papers, setting forth the miseries of the poor. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* I, Hereward, whose history this tale sets forth. 1872 C. E. MAURICE *Stephen Langton* i. 21 One after another he set forth the hideous corruptions which were growing up. 1893 *National Observer* 14 Jan. 201/1 He invites the fault-finders to set forth their grievances.

(*b*) To represent in art. ? *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 b, I haue thought good..too sette foorth vnto you, a woman as shee goeth in the streete. 1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* 38 But to proceed, Albert [Durer] being very young set forth our Lady, some designes of Horses after the life, [etc.].

g. To adorn, decorate. Now *rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 713/1 This blacke velvet gowne setteth fort this lady verye well. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii. 51 b, [The gate] is..well set forth, with letters of gold, and leaues of diuers colours. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Ezek. xxiii. 6 The Assyrians..which were rich and proudly set forth. 1889 HERRING & ROSS *Irish Cousin* I. I. v. 62 Heavy mahogany tables, each duly set forth with books and daguerrotypes.

†h. To further the progress or advancement of; to promote, advance. *Obs.*

1528 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 262/2 To confesse..what he had done for the settinge forth of that secte. 1542 [implied in SETTER-FORTH]. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* L j, The very cause of thynges, is such a one that if it be practised in very diede, and set forth with other naturall causes, the effect must nedes folowe.

†i. To praise, commend. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Commendare*, to prayse: to sette forth. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 95 *Les.* Nay, let me praise you while I haue a stomacke? *Lor.* No pray thee, let it serue for table talke...*Iessi.* Well, Ile set you forth. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 2 To set forth a person by that which in its self is no matter of commendation.

†j. To exhibit, display, show forth. *Obs.*

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. B j b, Onles I wolde ..set furth the brightnes of the sonne wyth a candell. *Ibid.* II. S ij b, Wretches..whose pouerty she [Pride] might.. encrease by gorgiously setting furthe her riches. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 69 b, Thys woman disdaines..that any should sette forth the porte and maiestie, in gate and behauiour like vnto her. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 190 Fortunes are but the outsides of true worth, it is the mynde that sets his master forth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 310 To set forth Great things by small.

k. *intr.* To set out *on* a journey, *against* an enemy, *in* pursuit, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4604 Hast you to saile; Sette furthe to þe se. 1530 PALSGR. 713/1 Whan sette you forthe on your journay, and God wyll. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 294 They set forth that were appoynted to breake the array of the Archers. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iv. 28, I with my hand set foorth against the Prince. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 13 My willing loue, The rather by these arguments of feare Set forth in your pursuite. 1675–6 *City Mercury* 10–17 Feb. 2/1 Exeter Coach...Sets forth every Monday morning from the Sarazens head Inn. 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Acts xxvi. 26) (1734) I. 4 Just as if it [Christianity] were now in its Infant State, and newly setting forth in the World. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* IV. 76 Your fair Columbian,..the moon being at full..sat forth alone. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 55 Before they set forth on their day's journey. 1890 W. E. NORRIS *Misadventure* I. vi. 88 The two young people set forth for the village. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 110 If the partners join right and left hands in setting forth.

145. Set forward (†**forwards**).

a. To carry, send, or thrust forward. *To set one's (best) foot forward*: see FOOT *sb.* 29, 29 b.

c 1430 *Art of Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 10 Sette forwarde the figures of the nombre multiplying by 00 difference. *a* 1547 in Fosbrooke *Econ. Mon. Life* (1796) 83 When hir hors letyr was app[ar]eled..she was set forwards aft[er] this manner. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 70 Settinge forewarde with their ores the brigantine. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 202 That man neuer yet set right foote forward in the way to the Kingdome of God.

(*b*) To put (a clock) on.

16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* III. i, I would have you set forward the Clock. 1848 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* vii. (1857) 113 One of his companions..set forward the house-clock.

†(*c*) To increase, aggravate. *Obs.*

1611 BIBLE *Job* XXX. 13 They set forward my calamitie. 1684 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* 24 Luxury likewise breaks in apace upon you, to set forward your Poverty and Misery.

b. To assist (a person) in the way of progress; to help on (a matter, plan, etc.); to advance, promote.

1530 PALSGR. 713/2, I set forwarde a person, or avaunce him to promocyon. *Jaduance.* 1540 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 401 To set forwards whatsoever was your Majesty's will. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 193 For..setting fordwart of the commone effaris of the cuntre. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 204 Walking after a potion taken..setteth forward the working of physicke taken. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Pr. Ember Weeks*, That..they may..set forward the salvation of all men. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 7 *note*, To set the workmen forward..I have been obliged to continue on board our stone vessel..frequently a week. 1821 SIMEON *Let.* in Carus *Life* (1847) 308 Some of the young men..were endeavouring to set forward a Bible Society.

c. To put forward, promulgate; to advance (an opinion).

1560 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* (1621) 47 We leave it..to be weighed by your honours wisdome, and set forwards by your authority. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xl. 252 To set forward ..such doctrine as was agreeable to Moses his doctrine. 1890 *Universal Rev.* Sept. 64 The theory now set forward.

d. *intr.* To go forward, set out, start.

1530 PALSGR. 713/2, I set forward, as an armye..dothe. *Je me avance.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III,* 12 The erle.. aventured..to set forwarde hym selfe by lande. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 670 With which fleet..[he] set forward against the Portingals. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 411, I set forward through the vaile of Ombria. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. v. (1840) 248 Mrs. Miller set forwards to her son-in-law's lodgings. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xiii, He..set forward at last in his own carriage. 1889 'M. GRAY' *Repr. Annesley* III. VI. i. 129 He..set forward again after supper.

146. Set in. a. See simple trans. senses and IN *adv.*; to enter (a name); to insert, put in; to engraft, implant; † to put in office or power, etc.

1388 WYCLIF *Rom.* xi. 23 3he, and thei schulen be set yn [Vulg. *inserentur*], if thei dwellen not in vnbileue. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 361 To sette in the names of sustres and brethren professed in the register of the chapter. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 169 They hawe dischargyd all the old wytt [=magistrates] of Bruges the whych was sett yn be the Kyng. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 13 The said James Smith toke a Lease of his part of the Tenement, and set-in the said Ellin to have hit after his decesse. 1563-4 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 109 John Atkyns to blo y^e^ organs when he set in y^e^ pypes vjd. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* i. (1592) 6 When a member that was out of ioynt is set in again. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XII. xi. (1622) 172 [They] set in Companies to robbe and spoile [*immittere latronum globos*]. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Aug., At Greenwich set in Captain Cocke. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 Set in your Lee-braces. 1709 *Tatler* No. 37 P 2 Beau Slimber a Londoner, undertook to keep up with Trips, a whelp just set in. 1808 *Lady's Econ. Assist.* I The worked part of the frock body must be set in quite plain. 1859 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XX. II. 364 To prevent any escape of the manure while turning [the plough] and setting in again. 1888 *Co-op. News* 16 June 619 If the clothes are placed in cold water out of the boil the fabric will contract, and so set in the dirt. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* xii, I want the ring to be quite plain and heavy, with three stones set in level with the gold. 1889 'M. GRAY' *Repr. Annesley* I. II. ii. 158 Having now finished setting in a row of young plants.

(*b*) *absol.* (See quot.)

1530 PALSGR. 714/1, I set in to the oven, as bakers do their breed...We shal nat set in tyll to morowe thre of the clocke

(*c*) To put (a vessel) in towards the shore. Also *absol.*

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Feb. 10/2 The ship was set in towards the land by a current. 1891 F. W. ROBINSON *Her Love & His Life* III. VII. i. 236 'Set in to shore,' cried Kerrs, roughly.

(*d*) To draw or gather in.

1858 *Ladies' Cabinet* Jan. 54/1 The skirt..is set in at the waist, in large fluted or hollow plaits.

b. † (*a*) To direct into the fight. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 610 Schir Eduardis cumpany, Quhen thai had thrillit thame hastely, Set stoutly in the hedis agane.

† (*b*) *To set in foot*: to enter upon an undertaking.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 78 b, Whoso hath ones stepped foorth, and sette in foote to take charge of a commen weale. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 122 b, It belongeth..to the Emperour..to set in foote in counselles. 1562 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 169 He hath set in foote, thyngs by wyt to be sped.

† (*c*) 'To put in a way to begin' (J.). *Obs.*

1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 48, I think I had better decline the Task, than injure the Argument. However, if you please to assist, and set me In, I will endeavour to recollect my self for a short Conference.

† c. *intr.* To make one's way into the fight, among the enemy; hence, to offer fight, to intervene in behalf of a person or in support of a cause.

1450 *Merlin* xxix. 388 Whan thei saugh the hoste comynge thei merveiled fro whens so moche peple myght come. Neuertheles thei sette in a-monge hem. 1630 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Magistr.* I. (1674) II. 258 A rich opportunity ..to set in for Gods cause. 1656 BAXTER *Reformed Pastor* 73 It is our duty to set in for the assistance of these,..to help them to a conquest of their corruptions. 1665 SANDERSON *Eight Cases Conse.* (1674) 85 Princes may see cause to set in for their own safety and interest. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1693) 143 May not the Stoicks here set in and help us out at a dead lift?

d. To set to work, begin (upon something); *esp.* followed by *to, for. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 495 Where the fire setteth in, the whole is spoiled. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Lev.* xiii. 6 God also will set in and wash such with the blood of his son. 1693 TATE *Dryden's Juvenal* II. (1697) 30 To behold your unnerv'd Sex set in To Needle-Work. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. i, Sir Wilfull is set in to drinking, madam, in the parlour. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 24 P 1 A worthy old Batchelor, who sets in for his Dose of Claret every Night. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* II. XXIX. 93 To let the first mower and his attendants set-in well before the second follow. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXV, They are all set in to feasting yet. 1835 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 82, [I] set in hard at work at the remainder of my volume. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* IX, I go upon the hurricane-deck, and set in for two hours of hard walking up and down. 1893 *Field* 11 Feb. 192/2 It set in to freeze.

e. To begin, become prevalent: chiefly of the weather entering upon a particular state.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1684, The weather was set in to an absolute thaw and rains. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* III. (1782) 61 The latter end of the year, when the winter sets in. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) N 2 b. When the western monsoons set in. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lx, Politics set in a short time after dessert. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 167 The evening set in misty and obscure. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 137 Though no fermentation had set in. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 32/1 Sooner or later a reaction must set in.

f. Of a current or wind: To flow or blow towards the shore.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 193 The Current of the Flood set in close by the Shore. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 46 The westerly winds setting in on this coast. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* i, The current of a strong and furious tide,..setting in betwixt the Orkney and Zetland Islands. 1831 *Mirror* XVII. 102/1 The tide sets in on this part of the coast with extraordinary velocity.

147. Set off. a. See simple trans. senses and OFF *adv.*: † (*a*) To take away, remove. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* IV. i. 145 Euery thing set off, That might so much as thinke you Enemies.

† (*b*) To alienate. *Obs.*

1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* I John iii. 15 If any mans heart bee set upon the world, it is set off from God. 1651 — *Soliloquies* vi, Do Thou set off my heart from all these earthly vanities.

† (*c*) ? To discharge, cancel. *Obs.*

1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 27 Such [sums] as shall appeare to be discharged or set off by such matter of Record. *Ibid.* 30 The Clerk of the Pipe is not to discharge or set off any part of the Sheriffes charge, but by Tallies to be leavied in his Majesties Receipt of Exchequer.

(*d*) To put (a person) off. *Sc.*

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 75 But think na, man, that I'll be set off sae, For I'll hae satisfaction ere I gae.

(*e*) To stop the working of. *Sc.*

1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 51 Gae warm ye, and crack with our dame, Till I set aff the mill. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXI, The goodman has set off the mill, to come to wait on you himself.

(*f*) To set up in type separately. *? nonce-use.*

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 375 A very close line in the Copy, which we set off, to see how it comes into the measure made to m's.

(*g*) To let. *Sc.*

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 516 He..set off five new farms, formerly waste land.

(*h*) To cause to go off or explode, let off.

1881 *I. of Wight Gloss., Zet off*..to explode gunpowder. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s. v., He sat off the cannon. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 69 A spark..that might set off the explosives.

b. To start off, give (a person or thing) a start; to send off *into* a fit of laughter, etc.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* III. vi, I seek a brave hand To set me off in death. 1828 SIR H. STEUART *Planter's Guide* (ed. 2) 478 It is extremely important for the success of Trees, to possess a certain degree of vigour in the outset, or to be what is technically called, 'well set off.' 1830 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Girlhood* (1878) II. 163 The carriage..was set off at its utmost speed. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* iii, To divert her attention from the subject which had set her off into hysterics. 1865 LEVER *Luttrell* xix. 132 One of those practised laughs, which, by setting others off, frequently cut short an unpleasant discussion. 1886 *Tip Cat* xxii. 301 Her questions set Dick off thinking. 1889 'M. GRAY' *Repr. Annesley* III. v. ii. 44 He..set Mr. Rickman off upon one of his interminable monologues.

c. To apportion or assign to a particular purpose; to portion off.

1687 BURNET *Contin. Reply to Varillas* 60 The appointments that were set off for her. 1828-32 WEBSTER s. v., To set off a portion of an estate. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 8 Oct. 395/2 A portion of the stabling is set off as a 'sick-box' for the invalids.

d. To mark or measure off (a certain distance) on a surface; to lay off (the lines of a ship).

a 1647 in *Archæologia* XII. 250 They found by due trial all lines [of the ship] to be truly set off. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 1 The varied Measure must be set off from the top of the Cilinder. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 93 Set off 30 Fathom on the Side BD. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marit. Surv.* I. iii. 11 Taking the Length of XY from a Scale of equal Parts, set it off from X to Y. 1830 HEDDERWICK *Mar. Archit.* 201 The square measurements of the cant-timbers are set off on the body-plan of the schooner foreward and abaft. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 335/1 This space is formed by setting off demi-gorges of 30 yards. 1891 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 June 400/1 If three hundred and sixty separate degrees be set-off from the centre of a perfect circle.

(*b*) To place along a surface at definite intervals.

1850 INKERSLEY *Ing. Styles Archit. France* 311 All these windows being set off on the outer face of the wall.

(*c*) To mark off, separate from the context.

1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gramm.* (ed. 5) I. 399 When adjuncts or circumstances are of importance,..they may be set off by commas.

e. To set in relief, make prominent or conspicuous by contrast.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* I. ii. 239 My reformation glittering o'er my fault, Shall shew more goodly...Then that which hath no foyle to set it off. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Foil* ii, God hath made starres the foil To set off vertues; griefs to set off sinning. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 801 She fables not, I feel that I do fear Her words set off by som superior power. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xix. (1674) 20 Picture-drawers do the better set off the Figures they draw, by dark shadows. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 93 (1699) 148 Good qualities are the Substantial Riches of the Mind, but 'tis good Breeding sets them off. 1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* viii. (1876) 454 That the blue, the grey, or the green colours..be used only to support and set off these warm colours. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 121 His raiment served to set his destitution off. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* ix, The primrose is set off by its nest of green. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Jan. 23 Thick brown hair..fell down on her shoulders and set off the margins of her smooth pure cheeks.

absol. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iii. 13 It is Place, which lessen's, and sets off.

(*b*) *intr.* To form a contrast (*with*).

1652 *Bk. Drawing*, etc. 34 What Colours set off best together. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* II. H h 4, Blues set off with yellows, reds, whites, browns, and blacks. Greens set off well with purples and reds.

f. To show to advantage, enhance, embellish.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 170 He hath a kinde of Honor sets him off, More then a mortall seeming. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* lv. (Arb.) 79 No quality sets a man off like this. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 439 Claudian has set off his Description of the Eridanus, with all the Poetical Stories that have been made of it. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xvi. 142 Fairy Butter...This is a pretty Thing to set off a Table at Supper. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* III. v. (1782) I. 255, I adorned myself to the best of my power, the barber lending a helping hand, in order to set me off. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Thou seest how well the French hose set off the leg and knee. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* iv. § 42. 133 The sculpture is approved and set off by the colour. 1891 *Temple Bar* July 445 Dress helped to set off her many charms.

g. To give a flattering description of, commend, praise.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* III. i, Set 'em off Lady I mean sell 'em. 1706 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., The great Dealers in Wit, like those in Trade, take least pains to set off their Goods. 1785 [R. GRAVES] *Eugenius* II. xviii. 118 Young Scrip, whom Mrs. Banks was going to set off as a young man of great expectations. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *To set off*...To give a pompous or flattering description of; to eulogize; to recommend; as to set off a character.

h. To take into account by way of compensation or equivalent; to put in the balance (*against* something); *spec.* in *Law*, to allow or recognize as a counter-claim. Also *absol.*

1735 *Act* 8 *Geo. II*, c. 24 § 5 The Debt intended to be set off, shall be pleaded in Bar, in which Plea shall be shewn how much is truly and justly due on either side. 1775 F. BULLER *Introd. Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) 179 A Debt by simple Contract might by the former Act have been set off against a Specialty Debt. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. v. (Rtldg.) 56 We may set off their drugs against our specifics. 1818 J. CAMPBELL *Nisi Prius Cases* II. 586 The defendant had therefore a right to set off this loss against the premiums. 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 481 The Defendants' guaranty does not so make the Defendants parties to the contract, that they can set off. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* iv. 64 He is required to set off his customer's counter-claim. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Aug. 192/1 The produce is set off against the advance, the balance is fairly struck.

(*b*) To counterbalance, compensate.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. i, Thus the beauty of day, and that of summer, are set off by the horrors of night and winter. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xl, The merry-men of the forest set off the building of a cottage with the burning of a castle. 1893 *Times* 8 May 7/6 The loss feared in one branch of trade would be set off by a gain in another branch.

(*c*) *intr.* To be a set-off *against.*

1824 *Examiner* 152/2 Prices neither have risen, nor is there the least prospect of their rising, to a rate that will set off against the taxes..that burden the land.

i. *intr.* To start on a journey or course; *transf.* to start (doing something).

1774 *Trinket* 91, I sat off in immediate pursuit of them. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xi, They mounted and..set off at a round gallop. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. 473 Messengers set off to solicit succour from Badajoz. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iii, They both set off in a fit of laughter. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* viii, He..set off to go home alone.

(*b*) To take off for a leap. *rare.*

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 95 A mark from whence the rivals were to set off on their leap.

† j. To have a certain appearance. *Obs.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poet.* Epil. 20, I, now, but thinke, how poore their spight sets off, Who,..Haue nothing left, but the vnsau'ry smoake Of their blacke vomit, to vpbrayd themselues.

k. *Printing.* To soil the next leaf or sheet: said of the ink or of the printed page.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 23 Trane-Oyl ..hinders the Inck from drying; so that when the Work comes to the Binders, it Sets off. 1777 in *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. V. (1900) 189/1 [The binder] is particularly desired to beat the work before he places the cuts, in order to prevent the letterpress from setting off on the engravings. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 27 Some printers' works 'set off', as they term it, when the ink of one page leaves its impression upon the opposite page. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 343/2 An undue proportion of lampblack in the ink will cause it to smear,..and to 'set-off' during bookbinding operations.

l. In the pianoforte, (of the hoppers) to make the proper set-off.

1853 W. SANDILANDS in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 187, I..claim an improvement through the same means in the setting off of the hopper. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 281/1 Blocking is caused by the hoppers not 'setting off'.

148. Set on. a. *lit.* To place on or upon something: see simple senses and ON *adv.*: with special implication, e. g. to set (a vessel) on the fire; † to put on (an article of clothing); † to hang (a door).

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark v. 23 Sete on honda ofer hiæ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 197 He ne mihte finden on al 'is licame hwar he his finger on sette bute uppen wunden. *c* 1205 LAY. 311 Brutus sette on his flo. *c* 1420 *Avown. Arth.* XXXI, Downe thay take that birde brynte, Sette hur one, behinde the knyste. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 987 in *Babees*

Bk. 183 But furst sett on his sokkis. 1522 in *Archæologia* XXV. 450 Item p^d..for settyng on of a horne & trymmyng of yor long bowe..iiij d. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* iii. 6 They..set on the dores, lockes & barres of it. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. 213 Soom doe set on caldrons, oothers doe kendel a bauen. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 38 Another course [of a meal] is set on. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Mar. 1690, To protect, set on, and bring off, those who should manage the fire-ships. 17.. in *Ritson's Gammer Gurton's Garl.* (1783) 52 Is John smith within?.. Can he set on a shoe? 1808 *Lady's Econ. Assist.* 22 A welt should be set on to the waist at the back. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 140 To *relieve*, to make a sett near to another that cannot be sett on any more till it is taken in on each side. 1859 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XX. II. 330 The tail is not neatly set on. 1880 *Plain Knitting* 11 Knitting can hardly be set on too loosely. 1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 1 Aug. 107/1 A..Setter Dog, good all round, with the exception of his ears, which are set on too high.

† b. To set on foot, instigate, promote. *Obs.*

1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* vii. (1702) 94 They behold the shape of Folly of their own setting on. *c* 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 334 The Emperor sent his Embassador to John Frederick, Prince Elector of Saxon, to set on and to further a Council. 1688 *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 158 The Son of him that set on the Massacres of the Protestants. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 262 The King was as earnest in the setting it on, as the Duke was in opposing it.

c. (*a*) To urge (an animal, *esp.* a dog) to attack.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* B 4 What Cur wil not bawle.. when he is set on by his maister? 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. Stage Dir., Enter diuers Spirits in shape of Dogs and Hounds, hunting them about: Prospero and Ariel setting them on. 1890 MRS. A. MACLEOD *Austral. Girl* I. xxii. 259, I found him setting a puppy on to some sheep.

(*b*) To instigate, incite, urge on (a person) *to do* something.

1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lviii. 32 b, By the settyng on of Sir Willyam Bayllule. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D ij b, The vndewe loue he hath to hym selfe..setteth him on to take this way. *Ibid.* D iij b, He hath priuyly or by secrete menes stered the, or set y^e on to do this thinge). 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 Beinge ayded by the Byshop of the same Citie, or set on rather. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 115 The chirurgion is a prating fello, and I think sett on per others. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 150 My Master was now bent against me, his Wife had set him on. 1743 T. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 184 Whether they went out of their..choice, or were set on by others. 1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 286 The devil set me on to marry you. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiv, Woman, thou art set on to this. 1892 *Gd. Words* May 300/2 It was..the boys —they set us on to ask.

† (*c*) To carry through to a conclusion; to drive *home*. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. 1910 III. 123 Speaking to him, that he shuld not go about to answere me, except he set it soundly on. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* App. iii. (1712) 186, I confess the Objection is very ingenious, and set on home.

d. † (*a*) To advance, send forward. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 331 Set on your foote, And..I follow you. *Ibid.* v. iii. 108 Let vs to the Field, Labio and Flauio set our Battailes on.

(*b*) To set in motion, set going. Also *absol.*

1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. i. § 3 By what influence do we draw our first breath, or set on the first stroke of the heart? 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Set on*, the order to set the engine going on board a steamer.

e. To start (a person) doing something. Cf. *set off*, 147 b.

1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xxxi. 58 It is well known to be no easy matter to check the people when they are once set on. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xxi. II. 86, I have coughed a great deal lately..and the coming in from the cold air to the atmosphere of your stifling stove, has set me on now.

f. To set or appoint (a person) to do something; = *put on*, PUT *v.* 46 l.

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. x, He was set on to read Latin. 1856 *Household Words* 21 June 546/2 Frazer..set on two or three extra gangs of navvies.

g. *intr.* To advance, go forward.

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2555 On thay set with herte stronge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 383 Loke ye sette on alle to-geder tiier as ye shull here an horne blowe right high and lowde. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* III. iv. 6 Set on to Spaine in most triumphant measure. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 682 We set on..to th' Sea-side. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. iii, Marmion Gave..the signal to set on.

† (*b*) To make a move *for*. *Obs.*

1616 SIR T. ROE *Jrnl. Embassy* (1899) 342 When I deliuer the Next guiftes to the Mogoll..I will sett on anew for a formall contract.

(*c*) To begin working.

1889 W. WESTALL *Birch Dene* II. iii. 34 All of you to your places; the engine is setting on again. *Ibid.* xi. 173 Nearly an hour after the engine had 'set on'.

h. To make an attack. Now *dial.* in *set on at* or *to* = attack, assail.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 120 Country People..read not so many Gazetts, as a Citizen, nor concern themselves where the Turk, or King of France sets on next. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. vi, His sister..set on at the wife, saying it was her fault.

149. Set out. * a. See simple senses and OUT *adv.*; to lay out, spread out; to cause to project or extend; to display (a flag); etc.

1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 293 Setting owre & Taking in againe..sundry kyndes of Apparell. 1576 PETTIE *Petite Pallace* 54 Setting out flag of defyance. 1592 TIMME *Ten Engl. Lepers* vii. H 2 b, Olde age draweth in the eyes, setteth out the teeth. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VIII. 331 The light That Pharus tower sets out at night. 1642 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 190 Let us a little set out the bounder-stones of this disquisition upon which we are fallen. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, The Enemy approaches, we must set out our false Colours. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 121 How many [*sc.* pots] crack'd by the ..Heat of the Sun, being set out too hastily. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* xii, The jeweller..set out some trays of pretty inexpensive brooches. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 250 The side having been stuffed, and next 'set out'..the next step in the process of manufacturing upper leather is that of whitening.

† b. To set in relief, set off. *Obs.*

1577 WHETSTONE *Remembr. Life Gascoigne* vii, Euil sets out good, as far as black dooth white. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 2225 The Body..drest vp in black veluet which setts out the pailenes of the handes and face. 1658 SANDERSON *Graphice* 48 Light and Shadows forward, set out any Painting outwards.

† c. To expose. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* xxiii. 404/2 That our life seemeth to be set out to Sathan [orig. *exposee à Satan*]. 1611 COTGR. *Exposé*..set out, put or layed open to.

d. To accompany or escort on the way. *dial.*

1725 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 7, I rose and set son John out towards the coalpit. 1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 57 Young Susy half consenting To set me out a mile o' geate.

** † e. To fit out (a ship, fleet) for a voyage; to equip for an expedition; to send out (forces), fit out (an expedition). *Obs.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1047, Man sette ut .ix. litsmanna scipa. 1557 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1897) II. 31 Another shippe of warre..furnished manned and victualyd and sett out to the seas by Walter Rawleighe. 1601 HAKLUYT tr. *Galvano's Discov.* 20, I know not whether the charge of that voiage was theirs or the kings. But by whom soeuer it was set out [etc.]. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 783 *marg.*, The Christian Princes set out a fleet for the recouery of Tripolis. 1605 STOW *Ann.* 1402 The Citizens of London set out 500 souldiers into Ireland, with their furniture. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Goblins* I. i. Wks. 1874 II. 11 Why does not then the state Set out some forces, and suppress them? 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 1 Christopher Columbus first solicited the king of Portugal to set him out. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 313 The fleet could not be set out that year.

(*b*) To equip or furnish *with*.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. i. 114 Set out and furnished with bowes and arrowes. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Goose*, They set out Arrows with its Feathers.

† (*c*) To dress for going out. *Obs.*

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v., To set out a Child in order to go abroad, *habiller un Enfant pour sortir*.

† (*d*) To put out (a boat). *Obs.*

1694 tr. *Martens' Voy Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 128 They set out their Long-boats after the Whale.

† f. With immaterial obj.: To cause to go forth, send forth; to give currency or vogue to; to issue, promulgate. *Obs.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1052, & setton stefna ut to Lundene & man bead þa folce þider ut ofer ealne þisne norðende. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 197 For epitaphies are..not set out till the parties bee deceassed. 1548 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 9 This confescion was fyrste wrytten and set out by the ministers of the churche and congregacion of Sweuerland. 1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 216 Traditiones of men sett owt to thirle the consciences of Goddis people. 1687 BURNET *Contin. Reply to Varillas* 83 The Articles of our Religion were agreed on, and set out by Authority. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Dec. 1695, The Parliament..setting out a proclamation prohibiting the currency of half crowns. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 500 The King set out a declaration for satisfying his people.

† g. *To set out one's* (*a*, *the*) *throat*: to cry aloud, shout. *Obs.* (Cf. *set up*, 154 c.)

1574 tr. *Marlorat* in *Marbeck's Bk. Notes* (1581) 1108 Set out thy throte & cry. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt* II. i. C, I should cut your throate..but that I know you would set out a throate. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. iii. His gag is melted, And now he sets out the throte. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 263 She thereupon began to set out so loud a throat, as if (like a pig) I had offered to sticke her.

† h. To exhibit (a play) on the stage; to exhibit (public games). *Obs.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. B ij b, That same wyll we nowe sette out before you (with personages) in our play. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Comparo*, To sette out playes with great charges. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 29 Romulus..set out playes to gather the fayre women togither. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVII. 635 A decree was graunted, that C. Hostilius the Pretour should vow, and set out the games and playes of Apollo.

† i. To put into print, publish (a literary work).

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* Pref. A j, This Arte was..wryten in our Dutch tung and first set out by him. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. Wks. (1904) 285 Which booke I haue in writyng, and is not yet set out in print. 1612 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 214, I hear of some verses are set out or given to some few, but not publicly sold.

† j. To declare, proclaim, show forth, reveal. *Obs.*

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 293/2 That..the declaration and setting out of his worde. 1547 HARPSFIELD in *Homilies, Mis. Mankind* *** j b, He is the God, whiche..setteth out his charitie and exceadyng loue toward vs. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Deco*, To employe his studie to set out ones prayse. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 646 Robert Melwene of Carnebie, That with that bischop went about, To sett his fenyeit falsett out. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 77 If I should not set out to the publick view the worth of her people. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Law C. Wars* 545 If any more eminent matter of Valour or Policy happen, there is given a fair occasion..to set out the Authors or Inventors thereof. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* 233 Then will this Antichrist by a publick writing be exhibited or set out to the world in his colours.

† k. To express, denote. *Obs.*

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 4 The word *art*, doth set out the generall nature of Logick. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 53. 284 The word whereby the Evangelist setteth out consent in prayer. 1684 H. MORE *Answ.* 41 The Kings of the Earth..calling to the Rocks and Mountains..sets out the fear of those great Men.

*** l. To display (wares) for sale.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7077 Ac theygh the marchannt sette out his ware, In the stret. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1 This felowe hath set out his marchandyse to the shewe. 1611 COTGR., *Mangonner*, to..set out vnto the eye sale things. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 198 All vertues become lesse prized in them, who set them out to sale. 1829 *Examiner* 370/1 Shop-keepers set out their goods for the purpose of attracting the gaze.

† m. To display to advantage, put forward to attract attention, make attractive. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. Ep. Ded., Seeing they are sent to edifie others, and not to set out themselves. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* V. ii. 195 As for your mother, shee ..could set out her taile with as good grace as any shee in Florence. 1619 W. WHATELY *God's Husb.* I. (1622) 102 Hee that is apt to set out himselfe, and cannot brooke another that goeth not so farre as himselfe: that man doe thou suspect, and from him be thou reserued. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 9 Mahomet..when hee set out the felicitie of his heaven, by..the delights of sense.

† (*b*) To extol, 'crack up'. *Obs.*

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v., To set one out, or speak much to his Praise. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. in *Ess.* (1900) II. 68 The colours [of rival charioteers] themselves were but a fancy; but when once a man had taken pains to set out those of his party, and had been at the trouble of procuring voices for them, the case was altered. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. viii. 39 How have you over-rated my merits!..should you not.. have known something of my mind before you had set me out thus.

† n. To embellish, adorn, deck out, trick out. Also *refl. Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 422 O noble Chaucer, whos pullisshyd eloquence Oure Englysshe rude so fresshely hath set out. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 84 Not set out with fayre & fyne clothes. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 56 The Libeller to set out his Pasquill, raketh all things. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. iii. 572 Gold and pretious stones doe condescend to set out their shooes. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 205 They set out their Discourse with all sorts of Fables. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Ess. on Women* Wks. 1711 IV. 157 They bestow..as much Times and Pains in the Art of Dissimulation, as they do in setting out their Faces. 1714 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1865) 36 There she was, set out in all her Airs. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 89 It is good with Vinegar, and a fine Dish to set out a cold Table.

**** † o. To put out at interest. *Obs.*

1533 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 8 All such goodes..shall.. be sett owte to the vse and profett of John Mering, Robert Mering and Nicholes Mering. 1614 RICH *Honestie Age* (1615) 36 Euery man can call him an Vsurer that setteth out his money. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 22 All such as..dare not set out their Moneys at interest.

† p. To put (a child) out to nurse; to place out with a master or at school. *Obs.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* IV. iv. Wks. 1910 II. 64, I thinke no mens children are thus set out. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxi. 7 If the childe must be set out, let a fit nurse be looked after. *c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 130 Somtimes she would tell him that she would set him out to an attorney or sollicitor. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 61 To-day we set son Henry out to school to Mr. Nabb.

† q. To set apart *for* certain treatment. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. iv. 57 Whom you your selues shall set out for reproofe. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts*, Zech. xi. 4 Thus saith the Lord, my God, yet amongst these Jewes, which I have justly set out for this slaughter, there is a flocke of mine, whom I have due care of.

(*b*) To put aside (a tenth part); to reserve as tithe. *Obs.* (Cf. *set forth*, 144 c, *b*.)

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 13 § 1 Everye of the Kinges subjectes shall..devide sett out yelde and paye all manner of their prediall tythes in their proper kynde. 1670 W. SHEPPARD *Parson's Guide* 41 The common course of setting out and delivering Corn by the Common Law, is by the tenth Shock, Cock, or Sheaf. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 160 Men were forced to set the Tithes duly out, and pay them fully. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 697/1 And no Quaker shall after such Notice, and before the setting out, or after such Tythe shall be so set out, withdraw or take away, or cause to be withdrawn or taken away the said Tythes. 1768 *Case of Jeffry Ruffle* 3 He gave him notice every time of the setting out of his tythes.

† r. To let or lease out. *Obs.*

1614 RICH *Honestie Age* (1615) 37 The Land-Lords that doe set out their liuings at those high rates. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 6 Some boyle not the Salt in their owne name but set it out to others. 1693 STAIR *Instit.* I. xvi. (ed. 2) 135 Letting out of Lands, or setting out of Houses.

***** s. † To exhibit graphically (*obs.*); to put down on paper in express or detailed form; to describe or enumerate expressly; to detail.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 158 Before Luthers booke was sette out a picture. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 13 There ye shall see it [pallium] set out in white with a great many of blacke crosses vpon it.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 43 The other [Cicero] setteth oute no poynte of rhetorike, so fullie in all his bookes, as [etc.]. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 The very same partie by whom the liuely figure before set out was made. *Ibid.* IV. xxix. 150 b, The places..most notable, and that doe merite to be set out. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 109 Yt shoulde sett out the matter orderly. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 14. xvi. 314 The Christians getting to heaven, is set out as a businesse of so much difficulty. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1697) 244 The Poets Design in this Divine Satyr, is to represent the various Wishes and Desires of Mankind; and to set out the Folly of 'em. 1775 F. BULLER *Introd. Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) 176 In such Case the Jury are not to set out the Value of the

Land descended. 1842 *Act* 5 & 6 *Vict.* c. 45 Sched. 4 Set out the Title of the Book. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 101 This moving situation Gauden, no mean stylist, set out in the best academical language of the period. 1896 *Athenæum* 14 Mar. 339/1 A list of authorities set out in the appendix.

† (*b*) To furnish a translation of. *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* To Rdr., I do not doubt, but many..will wonder that..I haue taken vpon mee to set out that in our vulgar tongue. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 232 It was he that set us out the life of Sir Thomas More in English. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Sept. 1649, Dr. Crighton, ..a learned Grecian who set out the Council of Florence.

t. To delimit, define, mark out.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead-mines* 48 The finder,..May have two meers met, and set out by stake. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. *Parmenides* (1687) 747 He..first set out and limited the habitable parts of the Earth. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iv. § 13 A false Supposition, that these two Names, Man and Beast, stand for distinct Species so set out by real Essences, that there can come no other Species between them. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s. v., Every Man has his Share of Provisions and Business set out. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* xiv, If he is to work..it must not be by having work set out for him. 1870 HUGHES *Alfred the Gt.* xv, The shires and their sub-divisions..were carefully set out.

(*b*) To portion out (land) into lots.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Mar. 1675, When the rebells were dividing their conquests in Ireland, he was employ'd by them to measure and set out the land. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 17 The commissioners should set out, allot, and assign unto the lady of the manor, twenty statute acres of the common and waste grounds. 1893 *Field* 1 Apr. 486/1 My predecessor had set out a large field in allotments.

(*c*) To plan, lay out (a town, road, garden, etc.); to lay out (ground) *with* plants.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 3 The present Town having been contrived and set out all at once. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 298 To set out a Cart road according to Statute. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Jan. 1653, I began to set out the ovall garden at Sayes Court. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 138 A Gardener who has a Parterre or a Grove to set out. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. II. 335 A ditch is then to be set out 4 feet wide. 1854 *Ibid.* XV. II. 426 He ..himself sets out his drains and his water-meads. 1893 *Cornh. Mag.* May 485 Every year sees another acre or two set out with narcissus bulbs.

(*d*) To mark out, lay out in a pattern or design.

1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 322/1 Professor Phillips described an Odontograph, or instrument for setting out the teeth of wheels. 1861 *Temple Bar* I. 234 The lines of a floating battery in setting out the lines of a..fast frigate. 1891 DENNING *Art Cabinet-Making* 213 The sketch from which the working drawing is set out. 1892 ELEANOR ROWE *Chip Carving* 45 To set out the borders on Figs. 35 and 36.

u. (*a*) To arrange (a table, a room, etc.) for a meal or other purpose; to spread (a table, etc.) *with* ornaments, etc.; to dress (a window). (*b*) To put out or arrange (things necessary for a meal, game, etc.), esp. on a table; to lay (a meal).

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. v. (Rtldg.) 10 The next step was to regale after their labours. A large table was set out in the hall. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 764/2 The room was set out for dinner. 1856 *Leisure Hour* V. 604/1 Is it beneath his dignity to take down the shutters and 'set out' the window of his establishment? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* x, Seth..began to..clear the small round deal table that he might set out his mother's tea upon it. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 34, I see her..setting out the tea-things, For a howling herd of hungry boys. 1885 J. PAYN *Luck of Darrells* xliii, The table was brilliantly set out with glass and silver

(*c*) To arrange (objects) at proper intervals or with a due amount of display; *spec.* to plant out; to leave (plants) at a distance apart, by thinning (cf. SINGLE *v.* 7).

1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 15 Removing the plants..and setting them out in beds. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 6009 The planters differ in the number of hills to be made ..some choosing to set them out..in rows of equal distances. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. I. 215 The plants are set out with the hoe, the distance varying from 14 to 18 inches. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 285 This line [of stakes] was set out and numbered from the Trélaporte side of the valley. 1888 B. W. RICHARDSON *Son of Star* II. v. 79 A commander-in-chief who cannot set out troops. *Ibid.* III. xii. 218 The tents..are set out in the order of a city. 1890 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Aug. 429/2 The examples are nowhere 'set out', but buried in the body of the page.

****** † v. To put (people) at variance. *Obs.*

a 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 51 If he be chosen Arbitrator betwixt two at difference..hee sets them out further then euer they were before. 1649 *Nicholas Papers* (1886) 136 To breed differences with and set him out with the Queene his mother.

******* *intr.* w. To begin or start on a journey; to start on one's way.

Set out is felt as more appropriate than *set off* in this sense when the journey is undertaken with some deliberation or is of an important or arduous character.

1583 STOCKER *Cic. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 24 b, Thei franckly and freely sette out of the Towne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 111 Mee thou thinkst not slow, Who since the Morning hour set out from Heav'n..and ere mid-day arriv'd in Eden. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 June 1650, The next morning by 4 we sat out for Canterbury. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 215, I write this after all are gone to bed; and the fellow is to set out with it by day-break. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. xi. 366 The Baronet..set out on his return to the North. 1886 MISS SERGEANT *No Saint* IX, He set out resolutely to walk across country. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 164 We set out together for the base of the Buet,—I on muleback, he walking.

(*b*) const. *inf.* To begin one's career or start off with the object of doing something; to lay oneself out (*to do*).

1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* Index. III. 221 It..accomplished much of what it set out to do. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 313/2 Did he..deliberately set out to be a tyrant? 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 126/1 The..stories..don't set out to prove anything.

(*c*) *ellipt.*

1744 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 12 June, A new vice-legate,..young, rich, and handsome, and sets out in a greater figure than ever has been known here. 1798 *Geraldine* I. 191 Nor would I set out a Reformer.

x. To start on a certain course; to begin or start off (*with* or *by doing* something).

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 93 (1699) 151 A young Gentleman, who gets this one Qualification from his Governour, sets out with great Advantage. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Isa. lx. 22) (1726) I. 100 But Christianity, when it set out, took none of these methods of recommending it self. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi. 89 The two general ideas we sat out with at the beginning of this chapter. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 247 Every Printer ought to consult with himself about the scope and nature of the business which he sets out for. 1829 LAMB *Let. to Gillman* 30 Nov., Life opened upon him with comparative brilliancy. He set out as a rider or traveller for a wholesale house. 1853 J. NAPIER *Man. Dycing* 261 If we start with a protosalt of iron..and if we set out with a persalt. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* III. 22 He set out by admiring his niece's fat arms.

y. To project.

1892 *Black & White* 11 June 758/1, I have observed..that several of the new skirts..show a tendency towards setting out round the feet. 1892 *Pictorial World* 25 June 98/1 It is only cut and stiffly lined to set out round the feet.

† z. = *sit out* (trans. and intr.): see SIT *v.* 37 a, b.

1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 40, I..saw the Person for whom she was accus'd, set the Play out. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 82 Not but I'd rather set out; for it's quite unfair to sing a foolish thing that nobody likes, when I could do better.

150. Set over. † a. To convey to the other side of a piece of water. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (Cf. *put over*, PUT *v.* 49 d.) *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2998 There light þai full lyfely, lept into bote, And were set ouer soundly into the same yle. 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1809) 292 He was a frayde to set ouer or to geue battayl, knowynge not to what parte his souldiers would enclyne. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* xi. (1869) 54 By that tyme the boye was sette ouer, his Maister..hadde taken a Bote and followed hym. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 61 Finding the riuer to be fordeable.., he there set ouer his horse.

† b. To give up, surrender *to*. *Obs.*

1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* vii. 109 The vineyard of the Lorde is set ouer to the spoile. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 460 Sorry Ascetæ they were..who could not find in their hearts to set over to Gods service any more then two times or hours in the day.

c. To make over, transfer.

1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 141 The said sherife..did..bargaine, sell, assigne, & set ouer the said lease..vnto one G. H. 1613 R. WITT *Arithm. Quest.* 148 This Merchant hauing occasion to imploy money at 3. moneths end after he deliuer the said 300*l.* is desirous to sell or set ouer the said debt. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 10 A covenant from the lessee, that he would not 'assign, transfer, or set over..the said indenture of demise'. 1820 GIFFORD *Compl. Engl. Lawyer* (ed. 5) 660 The said A. B. hath..assigned, transferred, and set over..unto the said N. O...all that messuage.

† d. To brush aside, dismiss. *Obs.*

1701 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 80 Objections..which they could by no means Sett over.

† e. *intr.* Of a vessel: To run over. *Obs.*

1608 BP. ANDREWES *Serm. Holy Ghost* ii. (1641) 609 Filled: not to hold, but to set over.

f. *pass.* and *intr. Salt-manuf.* Of the pan: To collect a crust in the process of evaporation.

1808 H. HOLLAND *Agric. Cheshire* 59 When a crust of this kind forms [on the surface of the brine] the salt boilers say that 'the pan is set-over'. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 744 The introduction of a very few grains being amply sufficient to clear the largest pan, and to prevent any recurrence of the 'setting over'.

151. Set through. † To carry through, bring to a conclusion. *Obs.*

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 53 A kinde of tribunall.. wherein all contentions..are presently decided and set through [orig. *decidituur ac sedatur*].

152. Set to. † a. *trans.* To add. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 339, & tale wile ioc settenn to, To don ȝuw tunnderrstanndenn Hu fele [etc.]. 1552 TURNER *Herbal* I. H ij, Seynge the place..is proued to be but bastarde, and set to by sume other to Dioscorides.

† b. To affix (one's seal or signature). *Obs.*

Often written *sette* or *set-to*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6889 He..wrat þe nam, and sett to sele [*c* 1375 *Fairf.* sette on sel]. 1418 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 29 In the wytnesse of the wyche thynge, I haue set to my sele. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 44 He made hyt stronge by settynge to of hys seale. 1464 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 192 In witnesse of the quhilk thing I haf set to my signet. 1534 TINDALE *John* iii. 33 He that hath receaved hys testimonye hath set to his seale that God is true. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Stafford* 43 To thes presents interchaungeabli have setto our handes. 1624 HEBIOT *Conficil to Wild* in *Mem.* App. III. (1822) 102 In witness whereof to this..I have..set to my seal. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 38 Men must set-to their hands to being the born thralls of a proprietor of human cattle.

† c. To set (a broken limb). *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 133 Can Honour set too a legge?

† d. *To set to one's hands*: to get to work. *Obs.*

1611 *Second Maiden's Tragt.* 1787 Remoue the stone that I maie see my mistres, setto yo^r handes yo^u villaines, and that nymblie.

e. *Cock-fighting.* To put (cocks) beak to beak. (Cf. SETTER-TO 1.)

c 1800 in *Hoyle's Games Improv.* (1814) 443 No persons to set-to, but those who are appointed by the masters of the match.

f. *intr.* To make a beginning; to get to work; *esp.* to begin seriously or energetically.

c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 130 He sette to, & asked of the out-comen men that ynto the lond wer comen, howe hyt shold be of ham. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 189, I beseech you set to, to goe through scripture. *c* 1830 MRS. SHERWOOD *Houlston Tracts* III. 9 The lass was at the washing-tub till it was quite late in the day, without getting anything forward, so that my wife was obliged to set to. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* viii, Edward then set to with a good appetite. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* I. 222 He again set-to on his own account, munching and crunching. 1890 H. M. STANLEY *Darkest Africa* I. v. 100 The engineer set to to repair the rudder.

(*b*) *Pugilism.* To begin fighting (*with*).

1743 *Broughton's Rules* iii. in Egan *Boxiana* (1830) I. 52 Every body is to quit the stage as soon as the champions are stripped, before they set-to. 1792 *Ann. Reg.* 17 These famous pugilists set-to exactly at a quarter before 3 o'clock. 1823 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 271/1 They [*sc.* poachers] take a delight in setting-to with the gamekeepers. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* vi, Du Loo and his pet of the Fancy retired to the far end of the room, and there set-to, delivering from the left shoulder.

(*c*) *Racing.* To make the final effort to get in front. (Cf. SET-TO 3.)

1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* xii. 204 Buckle's great forte was to wait and then set-to on an idle horse.

† g. *pass.* or *intr.* Of food: To 'catch' on the bottom or side of a vessel in cooking. *Obs.*

a 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 72 Then he tels you that his Sieges were blacker then broth, that's set to.

153. Set together. † a. To put (things) together; to set (a bone); to construct (a framework). *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 51 Feþeren he nom mid fingren & fiede on boc-felle & þa soþere word sette to-gadere. 1530 PALSGR. 715/2 And you wyll set your horses nere togyther, you have romme ynough in this stabell for two mo. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1585) 6 Though a man can finde out good matter and good wordes, though hee can handsomely set them together. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 58 Doth not he remember that the broken bone once set together, is stronger than ever it was? 1598 CHAPMAN 7 *Bks. Iliads* To Rdr., I haue good authoritie that the bookes were not set together by Homer himselfe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 670 After it [timber for building a fleet] was framed, and ready to be set together. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 46 Who set the Body, and the Limbes Of this great Sport together?

† (*b*) *To set together by the ears*: see EAR *sb.*[1] 1 e.

1663 [see EAR *sb.*[1] 1 e]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxvii. 65 So Mean a Rascal, as to set other People together by the Ears, without Fighting your self.

† (*c*) *To set horses together*, to agree. *Obs.*

1685 in *Verney Family Mem.* (1899) IV. 344, I wonder how Sir Rich. who is boyling water & the Mayor doe, to set their horses together.

† b. To couple together in comparison. *Obs.*

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 117 The Oxe, and Israell are set together, in the quantitie of ignorance.

c. *Cheese-manuf.* To prepare (the milk) for the process of coagulation by adding the rennet.

1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 426 (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) The firmness of the curd, if the milk be set hot together, will be much greater than that from milk which has been set cold together. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. I. 107 They make their cheese 'cold'—that is, set the milk together at a low temperature.

† d. *intr.* To curdle. *Obs.*

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod* 215 The word is *kapha*, which properly signifieth the running or setting together of cheese.

154. Set up. * a. To place in a high or lofty position; to raise to an elevated situation.

[*c* 1200 ORMIN 3430 He sette a steorrne upp o þe lift.] *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 238/680 Þis monekes he [a whale] ladde ech-on, And sette heom up hole and sounde. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5911 [They] sett him vp as a king, þat er lay as a brepeling. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xii. 336 Sir Gawayne..toke the knyghtes lady, and sette her vp behynde his squyer. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Pono*, He sette vp a marke on the toppe of an elme for archers to shoote at. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 57 M. Forde being set up in the carte. 1632 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. Ded. 406 You have brought me forth into the open field, and set me up to be gazed on. 1861 C. BEARD *Port Royal* I. 308 They..set up an inscription in the same church. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* XXXVI. 364 [She] caused his head to be set up on the gates of York.

† (*b*) To drive up. *Obs.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 305 To ij childer that chasit dukis in the dubbis, and set thaim vp to the halkis, ij s.

† b. To hoist (sail, a flag). *Obs.* (Cf. ON. *setja upp segl.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24829 þair sail þai sett up o þair scipp. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 115 Vp þai sett sail & mast. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 22 Them wych..wythout wynd wyl set vp the sayle. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. 31 b, [They] set vp a redde flagge. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XVI. § 237 The wind coming fair, he set up his Sails. 1790 *Lond. Comp.* 144 Any waterman who sets up a sail between Lambeth and London Bridge, forfeits for each offence 5*s*.

c. To raise (a cry); to utter (vocal sound).

† *To set up one's throat*: see THROAT *sb.* 3 b.

c 1230 *Gen. & Ex.* 3717 Dis folc þo sette up grot and gred. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. ii. S iij b, Let vs begynne or set vppe a prety songe or balade. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 657 The whole Rout Set up their throats with clam'rous shout. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 285 With one voice they set up a cry that reached up to the Heavens. 1720

De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xii. (1840) 211 They set up a huzza. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* I. v. (1782) I. 28 Setting up my pipes, as if he had flayed me. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* x. x. (Rildg.) 365 The good old man set up a roar of laughter. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xi, Dame Crane set up her throat, and began a horrible exclamation against Jack Hostler. 1853 Hawthorne *Tanglewood T.* (1883) 238 Setting up her childish voice, she called him back. 1887 Miss Betham-Edwards *Next of Kin Wanted* II. vii. 78 Baby..set up a yell.

†d. To open. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 129 Whan Constantyn was i-cristened he made prisouns i-oponed,..and chirche dores i-sette up [*aperiri*].

†e. To put up for sale or auction. *Obs.*

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* III. 1198 They that..sette hem up to any sale. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4343/7 On the 4th of July..will be exposed to Sale.., 10 Bags of..Spanish Wool, ..set up at 20*d.* per lb. 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg.* XIV. 64 Their flesh, yet living, sets he up for sale. 1819 Hazlitt *Pol. Ess.* 260 Let them set them up at auction, and see what they will fetch.

f. To post up (a paper or notice); to give notice of, advertise.

c 1540 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 And in the night season sett upp certeyn refutacions in wrytyng on the churche dore. 1562 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. 163 Peter van Duran..was licensed by the same Courte to sett vp bylles vpon postes, in suche partes of this Cytye as to him shall seame good. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 145 Good Cinna, take this Paper..set this vp with Waxe Vpon old Brutus Statue. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 122 And soe we sett up a bill in writing, that I would geve a bar of plate to him which brought the keyes. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* liii, A Summons, to be set up at the most noted Plying-places between Gravesend and Windsor. 1727 Boyer *Dict. Royal* II, To set up a Play on the Posts. 1779 Stiles *Diary* 1 June (1901) II. 343, I attended evening prayers in the Chapel and set up College Orders. 1876 J. Fergusson *Hist. Ind. Archit.* I. vi. 139 It appears unlikely that Asoka would have been allowed to set up two copies of his edicts in the dominions of such powerful kings as Aira and his father seem to have been,

†g. To throw into relief, make brilliant, heighten the lustre of. *Obs.*

1588 Kyd *Housek. Phil.* Wks. (1910) 275 The Pewter so set vppe, the Biasse and yron works so bright [etc.]. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 94 Painters to set up their colours, and to give them more beautifull light and lustre. 1615 S Ward *Coal from Altar* 24, I haue heard our Marchants complain, that the set vp blewes haue made strangers loath the rich oaded blewes.

h. †(*a*) To tighten (strings) so as to raise their pitch. *Obs.*

1642 M. Newcomen *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* 5 Nov. (1643) 25 To proceed as Musicians doe in tuning their instruments: Who straine their strings with a gentle hand, and set them up by little and little.

(*b*) *Naut.* To take in the 'slack' of (shrouds, stays), make taut.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 80 One mizen-shroud broke,.. which we knotted, and set up immediately. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor* s. v. *Salvagees,* Salvagees..are used when a Shroud or Back Stay wants setting up. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* XXV, Setting up the weather breast-backstays. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii. (ed. 2) 282 The hawser is to be set up by means of the double block tackle purchase.

i. (*a*) To stake: only in phr. *set up one's rest* (see Rest *sb.*2 6 b).

†(*b*) To score (so much) at cards. *Obs.*

1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 76 Cribbidge...And when they have play'd out their three Cards and set up with Counters their Games in their hands. *Ibid.* 82 He that hath three Honours in his own hand, his partner not having the fourth sets up Eight by Cards, that is two tricks.

j. To place in an exalted, eminent, or superior position; to raise to power or authority; sometimes *spec.* to put on the throne. Also *absol.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 612 Þane Iosaphus þe met gert dycht, & set vpe tytus..to þe bowrde as þare oure-mane. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 41 Foure false popes þat Frederik þe emperour had i-sette up. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 21 All the things she did to ouerthrow him did set him vp vpon the height of honor. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ii. 41 He maketh Kings to sit in soueraintv; He maketh subiects to their powre obay; He pulleth downe, he setteth vp on hy. 1603 Ld. Cecil in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 16 To dispossess his majesty and his royal issue of this crown, and to have set up the Lady Arabella Stuart. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* Pref., God hath set you up the Oracles of War. 1713 Addison *Cato* I. iv, Where's the worth that sets this people up Above your own Numidia's tawny sons! 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* XXVI. She ll be keen for a that can set up King James, and ding down King George. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xlvii. 477 Judges..were almost tools of the king, who could set them up and put them down at his pleasure.

(*b*) To appoint (an officer or functionary).

1642 Vicars *God in Mount* 45 Lecturers, chosen and set up with the peoples consent. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 267 Some were for setting up a King. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxxi. 308 Two rival popes were set up.

(*c*) To appoint to or nominate for a position.

1689 T. R. *View Gov. Eur.* 40 A Mountebank was set up for Lord Chancellor. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Apr. 1685, For this Parliament, very meane and slight persons..were set up. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1734) I. 480 When a person was set up to be Sheriff that would not serve. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* I. xvi. 99 Supposing that he would set up his nephew when at age..as a representative for the county.

k. To make (a person) elated, proud, or vain; *esp.* in *pass.* to be elated, gratified; to be proud, or 'stuck-up'.

1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 2025 Nowe she wyll laughe; forthwith she wyll frowne; Sodenly set vp and sodenly pluckyd downe. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* IV. iii. 67 Come hither, cockatrice: here's one, will set thee vp, my sweet punke: set thee vp. 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) II. 168 He's not so set up with it. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daughters* xiv, Sister thought such a message would set you up too much. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 392 We were very much set up at making his acquaintance. 1893 Kipling *Many Invent., Bal'ala Herodsfoot* 297 She's that set up you wouldn't know her.

l. †To speak highly of, extol, praise (*obs.*); to put forward *as* a model, 'put on a pedestal'.

1535 Coverdale *Song 3 Childr.* 63 O ye spretes and soules of the righteous, speake good of y^e^ Lorde: prayse him, and set him vp for euer.

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. viii. P 1 This exterior did not prevent her from being set up as the cleverest woman in all Madrid. 1891 'H. S. Merriman' *Prisoners & Captives* x, I do not set him up as a hero.

(*b*) *dial.* (esp. *Sc.*) in ironical or contemptuous use.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* ii, Set him up for confectioner! 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., She rides in a coach —set her up, indeed! 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xi, Which makes me the keener for your company, Mr. David Balfour of the Shaws, and set ye up!

** m. To place in an erect position; to set or stand upright; to erect (an image, statue); to raise (a standard).

c 1205 Lay. 27244 Þa lette he sette up þene drake heremærken unimake. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1468 Me schal..setten hit [an ymage] on heh up. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1746 A Chese [= chessboard] þere was I-brou3t forth..The meyne were I-set vp. 1530 Palsgr. 716/1 Set up this ladder agaynst the wall. *a* 1533 Berners *Huon* lxii. 215 She fell downe in a transe...Than Huon..set her vp, and comforted her. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 2 We must not make a scar-crow of the Law, Setting it vp to feare the Birds of prey. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 435 It hath beene knowne, that a Fruit-Tree hath beene blowne vp (almost) by the Roots, and set vp againe, and the next yeare bare exceedingly. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 14 June 1685, Certaine intelligence of the Duke of Monmouth..having set up his standard as King of England. 1707 S. Sewall *Diary* 7 Aug., Peter Weare set up the stone post to shew a mile from the Town-House ends. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xii, In less than a minute, by setting up his mustaches and his hair, he seemed a different person. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 359 Palisades were set up, and a pleasant garden laid out. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. viii, Old Bailey gravely sets up the middle stump again and puts the bails on. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxiii. 234 A beautiful monument was set up.

†(*b*) ? To trim or curl up. *Obs.*

a 1625 Fletcher *Wild-Goose Chase* II. iii, Let me set my Beard up. — *Hum. Lieut.* IV. i, She hates curl'd heads too, And setting up of beards she swears is Idolatry.

(*c*) To 'erect' (lines) in a plan.

1731 W. Halfpenny *Perspective* 24 To draw the Steps, first draw their Plan.., then set up their intended Heights.. from G, on the Line G*g*. 1830 Hedderwick *Mar. Archit.* 247 Set up the tangent-lines at the exact half-breadth of the midship-frame, on each side of the centre-line.

†(*d*) To set (a top) spinning. *Obs.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. v. 161 He turn'd me about with his finger and his thumbe, as one would set vp a Top. 1649 Lovelace *Lucasta* 8 Then, as a Top, he sets it up, And pitifully whips it! 1679 Dryden *Troil. & Cress.* III. i, He's an old wooden Top, set up by Father Time three hundred Years ago.

(*e*) *To set up one's bristles*: to be irate. *To set up one's comb* or *hair*: to be proud. *To set one's back up*, etc.: see Back *sb.*1 24 f.

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man.* 47 b, Then fume we and rage and sett vp the bristels. *a* 1536 [see Comb *sb.*1 5]. 1576 Gascoigne *Droomme of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 251 Men thus advaunced..hould up theyr heads, set up their heare, shew theyr pryde. 1845 [see Back *sb.*1 24 f]. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* I. ix, I hear you've been to see my mother and you've set her back up.

(*f*) *U.S.* To put (drink, etc.) before customers for their consumption; hence, to 'treat' to (drinks, cigars).

1884 *Lincoln* (Nebraska) *Jrnl.* Aug., A counter where the beer could be set up. 1888 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 9 Nov. 2/6 Well, we must make him set up the cigars on that happy event.

n. To erect and make ready for use; to pitch (a tent); †to erect (a building). Cf. 60.

c 1205 Lay. 8716 Þa þet work wes up iset. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10378 Sir Ioachim was fain and blith, And vp he sett an auter suith. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2296 Þe powere him grauntis To sett his cite vp agayn. 1472–3 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 The seid hous shuld have be..fully sett upp, garnysshed, and doon by the fest of the nativite of our lady Seint Mary. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 241 He made hys tentys to be sette vp there. 1523–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 323 Paid..for Settyng vpp of a pewe in Seint Annys chappell iiij d. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 49 Constantinople being reedified and new sette vp. 1603 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 132 When they were settinge upp the chimle pyppes and the batlement. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 247 He voutsafes Among them to set up his Tabernacle. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 212, I made a..fram'd Door-case, and a Door..; and..set it up in the Passage. 1880 Lady F. Dixie *Across Patagonia* 206 Several vain attempts were made to set up the tents, but the wind was too strong.

†(*b*) To build (a ship). *Obs.*

1595 Maynarde *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 21 Settinge up more newe pinnaces. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 481, I oblig'd him to set up the Sloop which I had brought [in frame].

o. To set (a trap), lay (a snare). Now *dial.*

1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 72 Cupide sets vpp a Springe for Woodcockes. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v. *Mouse,* To set up a Mouse-trap. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s. v. *Set up* A man 'sets up a trap for vermin'.

p. To put together the parts of (a machine) and erect it in position.

(Merges in the sense of 'establish, set on foot', see aa.)

1683 *Repr. Advantages Manuf. Woollen-cloath* 18 We have 25 Loomes constantly imployed, and have ordered the setting up 10 more. 1751 Labelye *Westm. Bridge* 84 Three ..Months were employed..by the Carpenters in new framing and setting up the Centers. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 323 [He] ought to know as much of setting-up a Press as the Press-man himself. 1872 Pope *Telegraph* I. 13 In setting up the battery pure water may be used in the porous cell. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxviii. 284 Flemish weavers set up their looms and taught the English to weave cloth.

(*b*) To start (a piece of work) on a loom, etc.

1857 Miss Cummins *Mabel Vaughan* xxxiii, Drawing a huge ball of yarn from her pocket, [she] commenced setting up a stocking. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* v, A piece of very fine twine was indispensable to his 'setting up' a new piece of work in his loom.

q. *Typogr.* To put (types) into the composing-stick; to arrange (type) in words or blocks of words; to put (a book, etc.) into type; occas. said of the type (quot. 1770). Also *absol.*

1668–9 J. Leigh *Let. to S. Clarke* (MS. Rawl. D. 398 fol. 141), I Request y^m^ giue halfe Crown a man to each Compositor when hee begins to sett it vp. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xix. P 6 When the Boy Sets up Letters.. [he] takes the Composing-stick..in his left-Hand. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Printing* 247 A Fount of English, which sat up about twelve sheets in 4to of the Surgeons Case, in Paris. 1818 Byron *Ep. to Murray* i, My dear Mr. Murray, Your'e in a damn'd hurry, To set up this ultimate Canto. 1832 Hallam in *Life Tennyson* (1897) I. 89 The (printer's) devils are full of promise to set up immediately. 1891 *Chamb. Jrnl* 16 May 319/2 The speech..was set up in an incredibly short time.

r. To place (the dead body of an animal stuffed or otherwise treated for preservation) in an erect or lifelike position.

1781 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 64/2 These Bats were kept for some time..before they were set up. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 500 A nearly perfect skeleton has been obtained and is being set up. 1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 2 Where they stuffed birds or set up exotic butterflies in little cabinets. 1892 *Field* 30 Jan. 133/3, I am sending the skin..to be set up.

s. *To be well* (*straight*) *set up*: to have a stalwart, well-knit frame.

1825 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* (1856) 159 Charles Hope was tall and well set up. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 53 Leotard is not straight set up, after the standard so cherished by soldier martinets. 1904 Sir P. Burne-Jones *Dollars & Democr.* 53 In New York..the women..are so well 'set up', so excellently 'turned out'.

t. To make erect and soldierly by drill.

1865 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* i, No master of callisthenics could have set them up better. 1893 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 10 June 364/1 When I joined the [Police] Force I was a big awkward-looking, country Johnny...Drill soon set me up.

(*b*) (See quot.)

1842 in R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* II. 134 The assault consisted in 'setting her up', that is, making her hold a brush above her head for an hour and forty minutes; and when her arms began to be tired, and dropped a little, he put them up again

u. *Agric.* To earth up (root-crops).

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 52 The turnips thrive better when not set up.

†v. To fix (a price or standard); also, to put up the price of. *Obs.*

1530 *Proper Dyaloge* in Roy *Rede me,* etc. (Arb.) 138 Oure fearmes set vp dayly more and more. *Ibid.* 139 And yet no hygher price was ther vp set Than good conscience did require. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. 1910 I. 197 In setting vp a sise of Bread.

†w. To compose (verses). *Obs.*

1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 72 Those which are able shall upon that daye sett upp verses.

†x. *Cards.* To make up (a side). *Obs.*

1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* III. vi, *Cen.*..Mavis and shee will set vp a side. *Trv.*..And mistris Mavis, shee will sustaine her part.

*** y. To put into operation; to bring into use or vogue; to establish a course or series of. Now *rare.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2135 And settes vp a sawte to þe towne sydes. 1570 [see Plea *sb.* 1 7]. 1612 Chapman *Rev. Busy d'Ambois* v. iv. 3, I have had lotteries set up for my death. 1622 Jas. I *Let. to Earl Southampton* 9 July (*title-p.*), The present setting up of Silke works..in Virginia. 1685 Dryden *Pref. to Alb. & Alb.* Ess. 1900 I. 279 When operas were first set up in France. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 19 July 1664, The lottery which his Majesty had permitted Sir Arthur Slingsby to set up for one day in the Banqueting House at White-hall. 1700 *Ibid.* 24 Mar., Some Lectures were set up. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 35 All the Plays and Interludes, which..had been set up. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & Bks.* II. iii. 44 The numerous smaller periodical works which were set up by Steele. 1849 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. I. 33 A new post-coach had been set up which performed the journey to Bath in a single day.

(*b*) To cause (a certain condition, *esp.* of disease) to arise. Often *pass.*

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 528 Inflammation is set up in the soft tissue. 1853 *Ibid.* XIV. I. 199 Fermentation was more readily set up. 1889 Mrs. Comyns Carr *Mary Maliphant* II. xxi. 122 Want of proper nourishment..had caused the accident to set up a disease. 1892 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 602 This sets up fructification.

z. To establish (a state of things, a custom, a form of government, a society, etc.).

1431 *Acts Privy Council* IV. 95 It alwey pourveide and scene þat..justice be set uppe and stabylyssheide þere. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Chron.* xviii. [xix.] 3 Whan he wente to set

vp his power by the water Euphrates. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 30 His office is to hinder religion,..to set vp Idolatrie. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 50 To plucke a Kingdome downe, And set another vp. 1640 *Articles agst. Laud* 3 He went about to subvert Religion, and to set up Papists and superstition. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 200 They have their Coales and 3 shillings p^r^ weeke allowed to Each to maintain them,..its set up and allowed to by M^r^ Coleson a merch^t^ in London. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 52 The legislature..which was originally set up by the general consent of the society. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 184 In consequence of two rival 'Burial Societies' being set up in the place. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 225 Though he had not taken part in setting up the new government. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 371/1 He succeeded in setting up Episcopacy..in Scotland. 1890 TOUT *Hist. Eng. from 1689*, 151 The house of Savoy now set up a united Italy.

aa. To set on foot, establish (a business, profession); to begin (housekeeping, life).

To set up shop: see SHOP *sb.*

1525 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 691 Euery persone that haith beene full prentise..doithe sett vp his occupacion or Craft within the same [city]. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* Epist. (1869) 21 To set vp houses and kepe hospitalytie. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xvi. 130 b, They haue also there set vp printing, not before seene in those countries. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 136 Buying pewter, brasse, and such like implements as if to set up house keeping. 1663 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 91 The Earl of Carlisle is going upon an extraordinary embassage to Muscovy, in order to setting up the English trade again there. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 17, I have often wished, that certain..Instructors..would set up Schools. 1777 *Ann. Reg.* II. 42 He returned to London and set up the small-coal trade. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. x, He taught the science of the small-sword, and set up a saloon-of-arms. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* vi, The next thing we shall hear will be that you have set up house and got married. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 299 As new cells budded from the parent they moved away and set up life for themselves.

(*b*) To begin the use or practice of; to adopt as part of one's establishment, etc.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead* Wks. 1711 IV. 36 She set up a Basset-Table. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 176 ₱8, [I] have set up a Pack of little Beagles. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VIII. ix. (1782) III. 188, I..bought the coach of a notary, who had set it up through ostentation, and now wanted to get rid of it. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xli, He had lately set up a carriage. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. xi, He conceived the idea of setting up a drum! 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 63 You will have heard of my setting up a second servant. 1890 *Cornh. Mag.* July 45 Improved..by the short beard he had set up.

bb. To provide (a person) with means; to place in a position of prosperity or in the way of retrieving one's fortune; to set 'on one's legs' *again*.

1530 PALSGR. 716/1, I shall than be set up agayne. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* 10 Thou maist haue money in thy purse, and other necessaries to set thee vp againe. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. i. 10 May they not be my Oracles as well, And set me vp in hope. 1658 *Wit Restor'd* 25 But when a Fammily is sunck, And Titles are a fading, Some Merchant's daughter setts you up. 1728 LAW *Serious C.* viii, She has set up near twenty poor tradesmen that had failed in their business. 1811 MARY TITHERINGTON *Diary* in *Mem.* (1819) 103 Job was set up again by the bounty of his friends. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv, We had a light, fair wind, which set us up again. 1892 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 10 Dec. 446/3 He soon set us all up in funds.

cc. To establish or start (a person) in a business or profession; *transf.* said of the money, stock, or outfit sufficient to equip a person.

To be set up for (colloq.): to be well provided with.

1556 *North Country Wills* (Surtees) 238 The same company [of mercers in London] shall deliver yerlie the said rent to one poore yong man to sett hym up that hathe nother father nor mother. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 65 Two Deskes, and a quire of Paper set him vp. 1679-88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden Soc.) 88 To W^m^ Lloyd,..bounty, to sett him up to his trade of a shoemaker. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 184, I was..set up in the world, made a master. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 52 He expended a small Sum of Money to set her up for a retail Trader in Buckles. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 366 Mistress of as many branches of knowledge as would set up half-a-dozen literary hacks. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxii, He had brilliant under-waistcoats, any one of which would have set up a moderate buck. 1863 MRS. H. WOOD *Verner's Pride* V, I'm set up for cotton gownds. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiii, Now, John, if you don't fix a time for setting her up in her own house and home, and letting us walk out of it, I'll turn Informer. 1886 MRS. C. PRAED *Miss Jacobsen* II. iii. 48 His father will set him up in business.

(*b*) *refl.* To constitute or establish oneself (*as*).

1883 FENN *Middy & Ensign* xxiv. 242 Dick had no intention of setting himself up as a prophet. 1892 *Murray's Mag.* X. 728 The Wincauntons set themselves up as judges of their neighbours.

†**dd.** To restore, repair, make good. *Obs.*

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Macc.* iii. 43 Let us set up [Vulg. *erigamus*] the abasing of our people, and let us fight for our people. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 286 Whill his loissis was set vp.

ee. To bring to a proper state of health and strength; to restore to health.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, To set one up again..(to recover his Health). 1804 NELSON *Lett.* (1814) II. 63 A little of your good nursing, with ass's milk, will set me up for another campaign. 1863 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 170, I returned from that visit quite set up. 1889 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Nights* II. II. xiii. 200 Change is just what Estelle wants to set her up again.

****** ff.** To put away for future use, lay up in store, store away. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1421 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 33 þat hur hoost haue in charge that they bryng all hur fysche in-to the markett, without they sett up any fische in any othur fyschers houses. 1530 PALSGR. 716/1 Go, set up this bagge of monaye, tyll I call for it. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 242 Mellons, Cytrons, and such like,..were..reserued and set vp. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 82 They beginne them in the midst of the broade side, making a round hole there, into which hole, when the cheese is to be set vp, they put some few drops of wine. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* ii. ₱7 If your lady orders you to set up a piece of meat for supper. 1730 T. BOSTON in Morrison *Mem.* ix. (1899) 221, I refused to eat;..and the meat was set up again untasted. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 393 The corn is then set up, that is, set down in the sacks on the floor, and remains there unemptied.

†**gg.** To put (a horse, etc.) up in a stable; *occas.* to keep (cattle) up to fatten them. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 124 He went privalie into þe stabyll þer þe knightis man had sett vp her hors. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 68 Yf she be rydden vppon, and sette vp hotte. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. v. B b j b, The caulfe that is well fatted..i. that is set vp to be made fatte. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 46 My Companion..sets vp his Asses in the Stable. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 21 When I..had set up my Horse at an Inn. 1768 *Boyer's Dict. Royal* II. s.v., To set up a coach..*Dételer les chevaux d'un carrosse.*

******hh.** To put into an attitude of hostility or opposition; to incite, instigate.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* VII. vi, Arise, O Lord, in wrath thy self up sett Against such rage of foes. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 35 Hee was skilfull enough to haue liu'd still, if knowledge could be set vp against mortalitie. 1606— *Tr. & Cr.* v. iv. 13 They set me vp in pollicy, that mungrill curre Aiax, against that dogge of as bad a kinde, Achilles. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 4 (1806) I. 144 They set up argument against matter of fact. 1804-6 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 218 Sudden variation,..in a great scale, is most commonly either grand or sublime; it sets all the faculties up in arms. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxii, As for them that have abused your Grace's ear, and set you up against a man that [etc.]. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* III. xxvi. 27 The environment is too strong for you; and if you set yourself up against it, it'll crush you. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 33 This one has perhaps been set up as a rival to an earlier St. Patrick's Purgatory.

(*b*) *Hunting.* To bring to bay. Also *fig.*

1608 CHAPMAN *Trag. Byron* v. Q 4, As a Sauadge Bore that (hunted longe, Assayld and set vp) with his onely eyes, Swimming in fire keepes of the baying hounds. 1747 *Tricks of Town laid open* (ed. 3) 31 You see, Sir, how naturally all these Beasts of Prey hunt a Country Squire, and..they seldom lose the Scent till they have set him up (as you phrase it) *brought him to a Bay.* 1889 *Field* 12 Jan. 41/3 The hounds..came up with their stag there, and set him up to bay at this well-known landmark.

*******ii.** To put forward (a claim, defence, a case in law).

1697 *Mem. Trans. Savoy* 123 Several Reasons engage the French King to set up anew his Title to Savoy. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 77 That apology Which kings who rule, and cowards who crouch, set up For their unnumbered crimes. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, After setting up a vain and unjust pretence to the throne of England. 1855 [see ALIBI *sb.*]. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 202 The best defence is that which..has been set up by M. de Remusat. 1858 [see CLAIM *sb.*1]. 1885 BOWEN in *Law Rep.* 10 Prob. Div. 194 The husband sets up in bar a deed of separation.

jj. To advance, propose, put forward (a theory, idea, plan).

1803 *Pic Nic* No. 3 (1806) I. 87 They seem to have set up for themselves a peculiar test of their merit. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* (1851) I. Pref. p. xiv, They are rejoiced to set up a standard of imaginary excellence. 1883 FENN *Middy & Ensign* xii. 70 You set up a theory of your own. 1890 MISS I. D. HARDY *New Othello* III. x. 211 You set up those false and morbid scruples between yourself and me.

********* *intr.* kk.** To sit up (late at night). Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1697 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 201 In this Season they set up till four or five a Clock in the Morning because of the heats. 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 208, I find the whole family..is to set up. 1822 MRS. NATHAN *Langreath* I. 176 You forget, my child, how late you set up at night.

ll. (orig. *absol.* of **aa.**) To start in business, begin the exercise of a trade or profession.

Formerly const. *for*, now *as* (with the sb. connoting the occupation); in recent use also with simple sb. as compl.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 46 b, My young Merchant returnes, and settes vppe fresher then euer he did. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iii. (1730) 7 They had but new set up, and had not yet found out the right way of Trade. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 377 He set up for a writing-master. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 11 A Wit and a Beau set up with little or no Expense. 1779 *Mirror* No. 67 Your predecessor, *The Spectator*, used to be consulted in cases of difficulty. I know not if you, Mr. Mirror, set up on the same footing. 1809 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. vi. 237 Ballantyne's brother is setting up here as a bookseller. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Aug. 247/1 When people had set up in business. 1891 *Ibid.* 26 Dec. 728/1 He even set up smuggler on his own account.

mm. To set up for. (*a*) *To set up for oneself*, to start on a career on one's own account.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 55 He got him a Stocke, to set vp for himselfe in the world. 1702 W. WORTON *Hist. Rome* 268 Three of them set up for themselves, Pescennius Niger in the East, Septimius Severus in Illyricum, and Clodius Albinus in Britain. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., After this Victory over Mark Anthony, Augustus had a mind to set up for himself. 1852 C. W. HOSKYNS *Talpa* xviii. (1854) 153 No sooner is a new thought imparted, than it sets up for itself, and denies its pedigree.

(*b*) To put oneself forward as (a person of a certain kind or class), to lay claim to being (so-and-so). Also, to *set up for being* (so-and-so).

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To set up for a Reformer. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxvii. 66 Shall any Man..that Willfully..procures the Cutting of whole Armies to Pieces, set up for an Innocent? 1709 E. WARD tr. *Cervantes* 206 Covetous Men commonly set up for being very long sighted. 1716 J. CRAGGS *Let. to Pope* 2 Sept., I fancy I am..setting up for a wit. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. (1782) 17 *Sim.*.. Why he must be upwards of— *Mrs. Mech.* Fifty, I warrant. *Sim.* Rather late in life to set up for a gentleman. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 237/1, I do not set myself up for a purist. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 557/1, I don't set up for a beauty.

†(*c*) To have as one's object or goal. *Obs.*

1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* ii. 50 Clodius Albinus having set up for the Empire in Britain, and being beaten by Severus. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 504 Whether or no they have done well, to set up for making another kind of Figure, Time will witness. 1707 *Diverting Muse* I. 6 An Old Lady, who has bury'd Six Husbands and sets up for the Seventh.

†(*d*) To support the claims of. *Obs.*

1689 T. R. *View Gov. Eur.* 4 Ahaz's Dial is no President for our time or measures; nor may the Theocracy of the Jews authorize us to set up for King Jesus. 1691 W. NICHOLLS *Answ. Naked Gospel* 97 The first then that stood up for this Heterodoxy was Michael Servetus..who..set up for the Unitarian Doctrine in Europe.

(*e*) To lay claim to (a quality, virtue, etc.). Also, † to lay claim to having (a concrete possession).

1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 226 This Spark sets up for Sense. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. i, Had the Landlady but a Highland Piper to joyn with 'em, she might set up for a Collection of Monsters. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 127 If People will set up for Virtue, and all that, let 'em be uniformly virtuous. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xv, No doubt ..you have known ladies set up for wit that had none. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Sir Jasper's T.* xxii, I suppose Pauncefort sets up for originality.

nn. (*absol.* of **ii.**) To lay claim or pretend *to be.*

a 1849 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Pop. Tales, Rosanna* v, What more could we have, if we were to set up to be gentry? 1889 MISS SERGEANT *Luck of House* I. xxi. 286 You need not set up to be virtuous.

†**oo.** (orig. *absol.* of **gg.**) To put up *at* an inn or other lodging. *Obs.*

1684 MRS. BEHN *Novels* (1722) II. 325 Bellamora..was obliged to lodge..at the same Inn where the Stage-Coach set up. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 92 He..then rode away Post-Haste to Exeter; where being arrived he sets up at the Oxford Inn. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 105 On setting up for the night, I rejoiced to find..Louisa was..alive. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* civ. 209 Every house where the stages set up. 1819 LADY MORGAN in *Mem.* (1862) II. 116 We set up at the Nova-Yorka [Hotel], kept by an Englishwoman.

pp. To punt, esp. so as to get close *to* waterfowl to shoot them. (Cf. sense 110.)

1776 C. CARROLL *Jrnl. Miss. Canada* in B. Mayer *Mem.* (1845) 47 In many places the current was so strong that the batteau men were obliged to set up with poles, and drag the boat by the painter. 1824 HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsmen* (ed. 3) 343 If we can neither find a creek nor a 'latch', with sufficient water to set up to birds. 1882 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler Irel.* 26 Illustr., Wexford floatmen setting up to fowl together.

qq. Of a cart: To tip up. *local.*

1841 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* II. II. 178 The carts..are..larger, and with moveable bodies, so as to set up for the purpose of turning out their load at once.

rr. Of a soft-nosed bullet: To expand on impact.

1896 *Times* 16 Dec. 5/2 The metal covering at the point being made thin and the lead core slightly exposed, the result being that the bullet 'set up' on striking any object. 1898 *Engineer* 4 Mar. 216/2 A bullet should do more than make a man rub his leg some hours afterwards. Consequently efforts have been directed to causing bullets to set up on impact.

☞ *Key to phrases and idiomatic uses.*

Uses of the passive: (= be seated) 4, (= be arranged) 16, (= be situated) 176, (= be resolved, determined, fixed, settled, rigid) 92, 93, 94 b, 95 c, 97 b, (= be hostile) 117 c; to be *s* with 119; to be *s* round or about (with) 121; to be keen *s*, sharp *s* 75 b; to be hard *s*, ill *s* 122 b.

Uses of the intransitive: (= sit) 5, (= sit on eggs) 5 b, (= subside) 8, heave and *s* 10, (= stake) 14 b, (= become fixed, rigid, solid, coagulated) 94 b, 95 b, c, d, 97 c, (of fruit or blossom) 98 b, (= set in) 100 b, (in dancing) 103, (in bowls) 104 b, (= proceed, start off) 106, (of a current) 107, (= punt) 110, (of a setter) 123 c; see also branches XI and XII.

Set about (prep.) 127, (adv.) 133; *s* above 26 b; *s* abroach 134; *s* abroad 135; *s* adown 136; *s* afloat 137; *s* against (= attack) 128; *s* one person against another 117; *s* aland 108 b; *s* aloft 26 b; *s* apart 138; *s* ashore 108 b; *s* aside 139; *s* at (= attack) 129; *s* away 140; *s* the axe to 20 d; *s* back 141; *s* one on another's back 47 b; *s* a bargain 55 b; *s* before one or one's eyes 18 c; *s* a bell 66; *s* a bone 79; *s* to book 26; *s* bounds to 48; *s* a butterfly 83; *s* by 91 c, 142; *s* case 87; *s* caution 13; *s* the chase 124; *s* a clock 85; *s* a colour 96 b; *s* a copy 54 b; *s* (to) corners 103; *s* one's countenance 94; *s* dead 123 c; *s* a dog on 116; *s* down 143; *s* an edge on 42; *s* the edge of 75; *s* eggs 15 d; *s* an end to 58; *s* on end 28; *s* an example 54; *s* (one's) eyes on 39; *s* a fabric 82; *s* a or one's face 94; *s* a (good) face upon 41; *s* one's fancy on 37; *s* a fashion 54; *s* in feu 57; *s* the field 70; *s* a fine 86; *s* fire to 34; *s* on fire 25 b; *s* a flock 100; *s* (one's) foot 19; *s* footing 19 d; *s* forth 144; *s* forwards 145; *s* to fowl 110; *s* free 25 b; *s* the fruit 98; *s* game 123; *s* a gin 59; *s* a gloss on 41; *s* (on, a-) going 114 b, c, d; *s* gone 114 e; *s* in hand 27; *s* in one's hand 18 b; *s* one's hand against, on, to 19 b, c; *s* one's hand (= signature) to 23; *s* one's heart on 37; *s* a hen 1 c; *s* (on) high 62 b; *s* home 108 d; *s* on horseback 1; *s* in 146; *s* (= tune) an instrument 77; *s* into 107, 130; *s* the keel 110; *s* land 69; *s* on land 108 b; *s* the land 124; *s* in lease 57; *s* (at) light 89 c; *s* light by 91 e; *s* lightly (littly) by 91 f; *s* a limit 48; *s* lines 59; *s* little by (of, to) 91, etc.; *s* at little 89 b; *s* loose 25 b; *s* to lore 26; *s* a mark on 40; *s* a mast 60; *s* a match 56; *s* a meal 72; *s* milk for cream 67 a; *s* one's mind on 37; *s* one's mouth 95; *s* much by 91; *s* to music 73; *s* upon the muzzle 26 d; *s* at naught 89 b; *s*

naught by (of, to) 91 b, h; *s* a net 50; *s* nether 26 b; *s* not by 91 c; *s* off 147; *s* on 131, 148; *s* a person on another 47 c; *s* open 28; *s* order in 58; *s* in order 25 b; *s* out 149; *s* over 150; *s* a person over another 47; *s* the pace 54 d; *s* (on, a-) packing 114 b, c, d; *s* a palette 71 c; *s* to partners 103; *s* a pattern 54; *s* at pawn 27; *s* pen to paper 18 h; *s* (= frame) a picture 63 b; *s* in (on) the pillory 18 d; *s* to places 103; *s* a plant 12, 101; *s* to pledge 27; *s* a pot 62; *s* a price on 91 h; *s* a price on one's head 43; *s* in prison 18 d; *s* the psalm 54 c; *s* a question 55 c; *s* a rate 86; *s* at a rate 89; *s* a razor 75; *s* remedy 32; *s* right 25 b; *s* a ruff 80; *s* the saddle 7; *s* sail 65 b, *s* to sale 27; *s* a saw 76; *s* to school 26; *s* on the sea 18 f; *s* one's seal 23; *s* on a seat 1; *s* the scene 74; *s* to seed 98 c; *s* a siege before 18 g; *s* in one's sight 18 c; *s* sight of 39 b; *s* a snare 59; *s* a song 73; *s* the sponge 67 b; *s* a squadron 70; *s* the stage 74; *s* a stake 14; *s* a step 19 d; *s* a stitch 60 b; *s* a stock 100; *s* a stone 63, 120 b; *s* a stroke 20; *s* the stroke 54 d; *s* a table 71; *s* in tack 57; *s* a task 55; *s* teeth on a plate 63 c; *s* one's teeth 95; *s* on a throne 1; *s* through 151; *s* a time for 51; *s* to (prep.) 113 c, (adv.) 152; *s* (= add) one thing to another 33; *s* together 153; *s* a trap 59; *s* tryst 56; *s* type 72; *s* up 154; *s* upon 132; *s* upright 28; *s* a varnish on 41; *s* a watch 45; *s* on the water 18 f; *s* a person on his (or the) way 111 b; *s* to wed 27; *s* one's wit at 117 b; *s* woad 96 a; *s* one's words 68 c; *s* on write 21.

See also the lists of phrases under senses 25, 89 b, 91.

Set (set), *ppl. a.* Forms: see SET *v.* A. 3. [pa. pple. of SET *v.*]

When in concord with a following sb., it was formerly often hyphened.

I. 1. In various strictly participial uses, with reference to corresponding senses of the vb.

a. Of a task, a subject of study or discourse: Imposed or prescribed. Now *rare* exc. in *set book*: a book 'set' or prescribed as one of the subjects.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26270 Quen nede es for to slak þe sett penance þat es for plight. 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 66 P 1 When you are to talk on a Set Subject. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* I. 2 My natural aversion to any set task. 1888 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 5/2 Set books are for a Tripos the exception rather than the rule.

† **b.** Of law: Imposed by definite enactment; = POSITIVE 1. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Hit is iset lage..þat me sal children fuluhtnie. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 170 Two lawen Adam scholde..holden In Paradis: þat on him was þorw kynde i-let, þat oþer was clept lawe I-set. *Ibid.* 193 Þe kuyndeliche and þe set ek, Boþe his lawen he to-brek.

† **c.** Of plants or trees: Planted, not self-sown or growing wild. Also, that has been 'set' or dibbled, not 'sown' broadcast. *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 60, ii. sortes of sowen or set myrtel trees. *Ibid.* 60 b, The set or gardin Myrt tre. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 44 Round about the howse many rowes of sett tall oakes. 1780 *Lett. & Pap. Bath Soc.* I. 15 A whole field was sown, and set, in alternate stetches...The produce of the set part was eight bushels per acre more than the sown.

† **d.** Provided with a musical setting. *Obs.*

1598 YONG *Diana* 237 The sweetenes of a Set-song 1600 BODENHAM *Eng. Helicon* 4 M. Birds set Songs. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* xi. 226 Our Psalm Tunes were composed before any of our Set Services.

e. Placed in a setting, mounted.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* XXX [xxix.] 2 Onix stones, set Rubyes [1611 stones to be set], and stones of dyuerse coloures. *a* 1732 [see NEW-SET *ppl. a.*].

f. Inserted in a fixed framework, built in.

Set bowl (U. S.), a lavatory basin. *Set tub* (U. S.), a tub for washing, fixed in masonry. Also *set-pot* (see 8).

1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 66 I'll do the wash .., said Mrs. Lapham. I presume you'll let me have set tubs. 1899 — *Ragged Lady* 185 He sympathized with her in her wish that there was a set-bowl in her room.

g. Of the teeth: Clenched.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xi, With set teeth and clenched hand. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* viii. 368 The sailors..with set teeth laboured at the oars as for grim life.

h. Of types: That have been 'set up'.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iv, Your military ranked Arrangement going all (as the Typographers say of set types, in a similar case) rapidly to pie!

2. Appointed or prescribed beforehand; † appointed for observance by the Church. Hence (with sense less distinctly ppl.), Fixed, definite, not subject to uncertainty or alteration. **a.** Of a point of time.

c 1050 *Laws Northumb. Priests* § 36 (Liebermann) 382 Ȝif preost on ȝesetne timan tida ne ringe oððe tida ne singe. *c* 1205 LAY. 25459 Arður þa hehte aðelest kinge to ane isette time þat folc isomnien. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Ȝif out limpeð mikliche þet ȝe beon nout i-huseled i þeos i-sette termes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 213 Quhen the set day cumin was He sped him fast toward the place. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 24 b, The triews faylled at time sette and exspired. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. (1617) 377 Festiuall Solemnities and set-dayes. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 37 An old Colledge Butler..keepes the set houres at his booke more duly then any. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. i. 12 God ..sets much by them, that put him not off with some set-dayes service. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Commons* Wks. 1755 II. I. 28 The set time for payment. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 325 The Indians have no set time of eating. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. i, There will not have arrived, at the set day, Three-thousand of them in all.

b. Of wages, income, rent, quantity. Now *rare*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 428 Non ancre seruant ne ouhte..uorto asken i-sette huire, bute mete & cloð. 1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 262 Item, to the said Maister Andro, that he gaif in almous be the Kingis command, by the set almous ..xxxj s. 1587 R. HOVENDEN in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 217 Which a sett rent can no wise affoord. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. 1910 II. 149 Half a Crowne..is the sette pryce of a strumpets soule. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, Some.. make a set living on't. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxii. 123 It is not a set number that makes the Assembly Unlawfull. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Switzerl.* 480 Handsom Fountains planted at set Distances from one End of the Streets to the other. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* ix. (1854) 157 There always will be a set amount of wrongdoing. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Set wages*, a fixed weekly wage, apart altogether from piece-work.

c. Of rules, order, a form of words, etc.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 239 The..Princelike Palaices..which the Archbishops..kept..to perfourme their set solemnities of housekeeping. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. xxvi. § 1 A strange conceipt, that to serue God with any set forme of common prayer is superstitious. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. i. § 7 (1622) 182 As strictly tied vnto his set-motion, as a Mill-horse to his Mill. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* lxxx. (1633) 200 The Monarchical government requires a constant and regular course of the set degrees of rule and inferiority. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 215 A long preparation of set Diet. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 30 The set rules or established methods. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 292 The set words of a proverb. 1883 JAS. GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 201 Our religious system has no set form of liturgy to be got off by heart and repeated.

† **d.** Of persons, things, places: Fixed, specified, definite. *Obs.*

1594 ? GREENE *Selimus* 327 Things that were as common as the day, Did then to set possessors first obey. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* I. i. 5 There are formal Set-Places, where..there is enough said and taught of this kind.

3. Deliberate, intentional. **a.** Of a purpose or design: Deliberately conceived. Chiefly in phrases, *of* (or † *on*, † *a*) *set purpose* (see PURPOSE *sb.* 10, 11).

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Laws Arms* (S. T. S.) 84 To byde in felde fermly of sett purpos..cummys of a calde sett mynde confermyt in hardyness with deliberacioun. 1530 PALSGR. 835/1 Evyn a set purpose. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 24 b, How much more hainous those faults are which are committed of set mallice, then those which are done of blinde ignorance. 1600 in R. M. Fergusson *Logie* (1905) II. 22 *note*, Cruellie slaine be yame..vpon sait purpois and foirthocht fellonie. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. (1723) 303 Should a Man go about with never so set Study and Design. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 57 This fatal predominance was first founded, though assuredly not of set design, by Voltaire.

b. Of phrases, forms of expression: Deliberately composed, not spontaneously arising. Also, customary, 'stereotyped.' Cf. 5 d.

In good set terms: often used (after the context of the Shaks. example) for 'roundly', 'with outspoken severity'.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 17, I met a foole i'th Forrest ..Who..rail'd on Lady Fortune in good termes, In good set termes, and yet a motley foole. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 382 The set sayings of the Stoicks. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan. 1689, He did this without any set or formal repetitions, as one who had learn'd things without book. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* ix, He drew it up in good set terms, like one who had his senses much at his command. 1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* Introd. 1 The set phrase of Scientific inquirers. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* x. (1865) II. 85 The governor-general..often denounced him in good set terms. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxii, It had no set beginning, as Dear Mr. Pip, or Dear Pip.

† **c.** Contrived in order to deceive. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. v. 10 Nor by surprises, or stratagems by night, nor by set-flights [*par fuittes apostees*].

4. (In *set battle, field*) = PITCHED *ppl. a.*[1] **2.** Now *rare* (cf. sense 5).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 367 The king, in set battalye.. Vencust him with a gret menye. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 9 Off set battaillis fyve he dyscumfyt haill. 1552 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 257 In set fylde the wyues doo stande euerye one by here owne husbandes syde. 1572 J. SADLER tr. *Vegetius* Pref. ¶¶ *. ii. b, Whether they should fight in skirmishe, or set battel. 1664-5 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Feb., He hath fought more set fields than any man in England hath done. 1773 HAMPTON *Polybius* IV. Contents XIV, The Carthaginians..are defeated in a set engagement. *transf.* 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* xvii, I challenged her to a set flirtation.

5. Formal, ceremonious, regular. **a.** As the designation of a particular style of handwriting: see quots. Now only *Hist.*

1513 [see HAND *sb.* 16]. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vi. 2 Here is the Indictment..Which in a set Hand fairely is engross'd. 1685 MATLOCK *Fax Nova Artis Scribendi* 6 The Set-Hand is thought fittest..for Ingrossing all Evidences of Lands. *Ibid.* 11 The English-Ingrossing-Hand, commonly called Set-Secretary. 1784 ASTLE *Orig. Writ.* v. 98 The writing which prevailed in England from..596 to the middle of the eleventh century, is generally termed Saxon, and may be divided into five kinds, namely, the Roman Saxon, the Set Saxon, the Running hand Saxon, the Mixed Saxon, and the Elegant Saxon. *Ibid.* 143 The specimens of the charters..are composed partly of characters called Set Chancery and Common Chancery. 1885 E. M. THOMPSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 156/2 In the 8th century appears the set book-hand in an even..character.

b. Of a meal, a meeting for business or pleasure: Carefully pre-arranged; attended with some degree of ceremony or formality; stated, regular, formal. So † *set table*.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 71 He feasted daily: and never otherwise than at a set table [L. *tenia recta*]. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* ii. 3 Keeping a set table for above seven hundred persons. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 95 They have one most egregious piece of Roguery more, and that is playing the High-Game at Putt; and this is to be done but once at a Sett-meeting. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 14 (1699) 21 The Romans usually fasted till Supper; the only set Meal, even of those who eat more than once a Day. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 19. 133 His Physicians advised him to leave off Set-Suppers. 1818 in Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 266 It is not a set party, but one without full dress or ceremony. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* s. v. *Curling*, These *bonspiels* or set matches, are contested with immense spirit.

1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxii. 495 The ambassador would fain have discussed such grave matters only at a set audience.

† **c.** Of costume: Suited to ceremonial occasions.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 390 The set dress of the Persian. 1676 ETHEREGE *Sir Fopling Flutter* IV. ii, We should not always be in a Set Dress.

d. Of a discourse, treatise, etc.: Elaborate, composed in due form; expressly or systematically dealing with a subject.

Set speech: public speech more or less elaborate; an oration, as distinguished from extemporaneous or informal utterances.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (1884) 12, I am inforcid rather to bungle up a pelting histori then to write a set epistle. 1608 CHAPMAN *Trag. Byron* V. i. Q 1, The most lawierly deliuery Of his set speeches. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1701) 4 He did not confine himself to set Lectures in the Chair. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 2 A learned man hath in a set discourse endeavoured to shew the great defects that were in it. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* XXX, I had prepared a set introductory speech for the occasion. 1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh* (1824) 126 The young lady dies, in a set speech. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* P 29 He was no speaker of set speeches. His few prepared discourses were complete failures. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* viii. (ed. 3) 89 It is not easy to learn beforehand when the great popular leaders may be expected to make set orations.

† **e.** Regularly established. *Obs.*

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* IV. Introd. (1852) 9 They soon determined..that set-schools are so necessary there is no doing without them.

6. That has assumed a permanent form or condition; immovable, persistent.

a. Of facial expression, looks, or countenance, tones of voice: Fixed, rigid, unvarying.

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* IV. i, A set countenance Of rage and choller. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* I, Look, who comes here, sir! his love fit's upon him: I know it, by that set smile, and those congies. 1760 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 127 Those even, set tones, so common among readers. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Two Dreams* 28 The heavy sun's Set face of heat stopped all the songs. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 96 In that set immobile face was no sign; it was as hard as bronze.

b. Of a feeling, attitude of mind: Fixed, settled, immovable. † Of action: Resolute. Also (*dial.* and *U.S.*) of persons: Obstinate. (Cf. HARD-SET 3.)

a 1625 FLETCHER *False One* IV. ii, Why do you frowne? good gods, what a set-anger Have you forc'd into your face! 1650 BAXTER *Saint's R.* IV. vi. (1654) 146 The set and solemn acting of all the powers of the soul. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 38, I can not, at present, write to every particular unless I would be in set defiance. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., He is very set in his ways. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ix (end), Wen I hev once made up my mind, a meet'nhus aint sotter. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 680/1 'You are a terribly set person,' she said, ..after she had consented to let him have his own way.

c. Of a kind of weather: Persistent, likely to continue some time. So quasi-*adv.* in *set fair*.

Set fair is usually marked on English barometers at the point indicating that the height of the mercury is 30½ inches.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 55 Then you have set Rains till the latter end of August. 1823-4 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XV. 281 To the next half-inch below this highest point are written *set fair* on the one side, and *set frost* on the other. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv. (1893) 167 The road..was certainly enough to have shaken tempers that were not resolutely at Set Fair, down to some inches below Stormy.

† **d.** Of demeanour: Composed, grave. *Obs.*

a 1660 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 286 She was always of a set and womanly carriage, not wild or given much to play.

e. Chiefly predicative: Of settled form or habit of body.

1862 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, The other man was evidently a year or two older than himself, his figure was more set. 1861 *Temple Bar* IV. 53 Their limbs are not sufficiently 'set' to prevent serious accidental injury. 1894 ASTLEY *50 Yrs. Life* I. 144 Orme was, as we should say of a racehorse, 'too set.'

7. With prefixed adv.: Having a specified position, location, arrangement, conformation, build, adjustment, disposition, pitch, etc.

See *broad-set* (BROAD *a.* D. 2), DEEP-SET, *fine-set* (FINE *a.* D. 2 b), *firm-set* (FIRM *a.* C. 2), HARD-SET, HIGH-SET, ILL-SET, *low-set* (LOW *a.* 5), STRONG-SET, THICK-SET, *thin-set* (THIN *a.* D. 11), WELL-SET.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7112 Cadace was a ferly best, Thries set [*Laud MS.* shet] teth was in his teste.

II. Combinations.

8. In special collocations (most of which are hyphened as compounds, and often stressed on the first syllable): † **set board** *Sc.*, (*a*) ? a washboard in a ship [cf. Du. *zetboord*, G. *setsbord*]; (*b*) some kind of table; **set changes** *Bell-ringing*, = *set peal*; † **set cloth**, a kind of worsted fabric; **set dance**, a quadrille, country-dance, or the like; **set iron** [cf. Du. *zetijzer*, G. *setzeisen*] *Shipbuilding*, a bar of soft iron, admitting of being bent so as to be used for transferring curves from the scrive-board to the bending plate; **set line** [cf. Du. *zetlijn*], a fishing-line with baited hooks, pegged or anchored; also *attrib.*; † **set match**, an agreement, conspiracy, an appointment made for a highway robbery (cf. *to set a match*, SET *v.* 56); **set net**, a fishing net fastened across a stream or channel, into which the fish are driven; † **set peal** *Bellringing*, a ringing of a peal of bells in one position for a considerable length of time before a change is given; **set piece**, (*a*) a painting, or

a sculptured group of figures; (*b*) a picture or design composed of fireworks; set-pot, *se*-tpot, (*a*) *dial.* a fixed cauldron or boiler used for heating water for domestic purposes; (*b*) a copper pan, heated by a special flue, used in making varnish, and for heating oil, size, etc.; † set-pull *Bell-ringing*, the position of a bell when raised so that it stands mouth upwards; set scene, an apparatus built up and placed in position upon a theatrical stage before the rise of the curtain; a collection of side scenes, 'skies', etc. depending upon one another for a particular effect; so *set scenery*; set sod, a turf used in building up a bank of a ditch in the operation of water-tabling; set square, (*a*) a plate of wood, metal, etc. in the form of a right-angled triangle, the acute angles being either 60° and 30° or both 45°, used by draughtsmen as a guide for drawing lines at one of these angles; (*b*) a form of T-square with an additional arm turning on a pivot, for drawing lines at fixed angles to the head; (*c*) a joiner's square; † set-stitched *a.*, ? of 'set-work' embroidery. See also SET-WORK.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 456 Item..for xvᵉ seym and ruf for the *set burdis of the greit schip. 1529 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1883) 178 A comptar burd price 2 markis, a set burd with formis and trestis price 13s. 4d. 1677 [STEDMAN] *Campanalogia* 169 For such as have not yet attain'd the skill to ring these compleat peals, *Sett-changes are very proper for them, being easie. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 462/2 Ringing in Set Changes, that is, the Bells being Set, they order which Bell shall lead away & what to follow. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* iii. in *Ch. Bells Devon* 231 Its members rang nothing but rounds and set changes, till about the year 1642, when single changes were first attempted. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 629 Divers Wollen Clothes, some called brode *sette Clothes, and that other called streite sette Clothes. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Vesses, otherwise called Sette clothes of diuers colours. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 434 § 5 Several Regular Tunes and *Sett Dances. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* ii. (1877) 11 He has carried down many a sett dance with her. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 83 When the scrive board is used, a flat rod of soft iron termed the '*set iron' is bent to the curvature. 1865 BERTRAM *Harvest of Sea* 160 *Set-line-fishing..can only be practised in places where the tide recedes to a considerable distance. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 37/2 in *Holinshed*, These things came not thus to passe, as it were by a *set match. 1592 GREENE *Discov. Coosenage* C 3, When their other trades fail, as..yᵉ high lawier, when he hath no set match to ride about. 1614 BP. HALL *Contempl.* VII. *Aaron's Censer* 269 A set match betwixt the brethren. 1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (ROXB.) 192 A *sett net of ij. fadom. 1745 BLOMEFIELD *Norfolk* II. 866 Two Wardens of the Fishermen-Company..to inspect the Sett Netts belonging to them. 1863 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 1190/1 Small quantities of herrings were taken with set-nets close in shore. 16.. in *Eng. Gilds* 290 If the Master..shall neglect to warn the Company..for to ring a bisett *sett peale, he shall pay..one shilling. 1846 DICKENS *Pictures Italy, Rome* 190 The hollow-cheeked monk..went down on his knees, in a corner before this *set-piece. 1874 W. H. BROWNE *Art Pyrotechny* 118 'Set pieces' (as they are called). 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 6/3 A group [of flowers] of the set-piece kind in the form of a grotto. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* s. v. *Varnish*, Black japan is made by putting into the *set-pot 48 lbs. of Naples or any other of the foreign asphaltums. 1862 ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds, Set pot*, a stone boiler or 'copper', with a fire-grate under, for the purpose of boiling and 'stewing' dirty linen. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 65/2 Take the gum pot from the fire; let it cool for a few minutes, then pour it into the oil in the set pot. 1677 [STEDMAN] *Campanal. gia* 26 The falling of the bells from a *Set-pull. *Ibid.* 46 Supposing that a peal of 5 bells were raised, and rung at a Sett-pull. 1887 *Spectator* 25 June 857/2 Theatrical speculators now spend such vast sums on the upholstery of their *set scenes. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* 382 The scenery..was entirely of the nature of what is now termed *set-scenery, regularly built up by carpenters before the curtain rises, to be taken to pieces again when it falls. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 574 After a few of these smaller sods have been made ready, the hedger lays them, with the grass side downwards, upon the edges of the *set-sods. 1854 in *Specif. Patents, Artists' Instr.* (1872) 73 An improved artizans' tool, which may be used as a measuring rule, straight edge, *set square, T square, bevel, and plumb rule. 1837 BINNS *Orthogr. Profection* 1 One 8-inch set square. 1884 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* V. 64 The sliderest is adjusted to it by means of the set square, an instrument with a straight shaft and a steel blade fixed to it at right angles. 1892 ELEANOR ROWE *Chip-Carving* (1895) 15 The set-square of 45°. *Ibid.* 7 The 60° set-square. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxix, An old *set-stitch'd chair.

9. In parasynthetic derivatives. *rare.*

1614 CHAPMAN *Andromm. Lth.* Ep. Ded. ¶ 3 b, The one-ear'd Race Of set-eyed vulgars. 1615 — *Odyss.* XVII. 602 You are a sawcy set-fac't Vagabond. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xi. 74 The treacherous Guid, who did upon a set purposed malice draw this Draught, was..hanged.

10. With adverbs (see the corresponding combinations of the vb.), as *set-apart* (rare), *set-down, -on, -out*, etc. With specific meaning: set-down *nonce-use*, described in books, recognized; set-in, (*a*) inserted, inset; (*b*) of rain, etc. that has set in or become continuous; set-off *Sc.*, of part of a tenement, let off to a sub-tenant; set-on *Sc.* (see quot. 1825); set-up, (*a*) established; (*b*) in phr. *well set-up* (see quot. 1867; also in wider use); (*c*) *dial.* and *colloq.* conceited, 'stuck up'; (*d*) of type, composed.

1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 292 This act of choice baseness and 'set-apart iniquity. 1858 — *Audi Alt.* lxxvi. II. 28 All have sunk into a state of lamentable indifference, there is no burning zeal left except among the set-apart. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* II. (1874) 281 'Tis no *set-down sickness that I have, Nor are my pains set down. 1884 RUSKIN *Bible of Amiens* I. 9 *note*, The first fixed and set-down footsteps. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 185 To be ane *set in nek to ane veluet slop. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. vi. 158 A set-in rain came on. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1534/2 *Side-notes*, marginal or set-in notes. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* I. 454 One may set *set-off chambers and parts of a house. 1825 JAMIESON, **Set-on*, a term applied to what is singed or slightly burned in the pot or pan. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 467 Well set-on tails and very sloping shoulders. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 359 If the pomp..be carry'd out of proportion,..it is an ill *set-out ambition. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. iii. (Rtldg.) 87 There was no want of magnificence, good taste, or a well-designed set out table! 1607 The..new-*set-up company [see NEW-SET *ppl. a.*]. 1856 JULIA KAVANAGH *Rachel Gray* iv. 66 Serve her right—the set up thing! 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., Soldiers, mariners, and small-arm men, well drilled, and instructed to be upright and soldierlike in their carriage, are 'well set up'. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 116/1 Set-up type is also sometimes copied thus.

† **Set,** *conj. Sc. Obs.* [Prob. evolved from the imperative or the pa. pple. (in absolute construction) of SET *v.* in the sense 'to put the case,' 'to suppose (that)'. Cf. G. *gesetzt* = 'on the assumption that'.] Though, although. Also with *at* (= that).

Very frequent in the *Sc. Leg. Saints.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machor*) 26 God mad hym to rest syn in fraunce,..til honouryt be, set þare a strangere was he. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 345 And sett thou myhtest lust atteigne, Of every lust thende is a peine. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. Prol. 33 And set to þis I gif my wit I ken sa skant þartill That I drede saire þame till offend. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1432 Blaym nocht the buk, set I be wnperfyt. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 99 And set yhoue clep one erbis and one treis, Sche heris not thi wo. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 31 Set thow think this bot sport.

Set-, the stem of SET *v.* in comb., chiefly in sbs. derived from phr. with advs. (see SET *v.* XII.): set-forth, a setting forth, departure; set-in, the beginning of a period of time, a spell of weather, or the like; set-on, the way in which a thing is set on; set-up, (*a*) an object set up or upright, an upright; (*b*) the manner or position in which a thing is set up; *U.S.*, personal bearing or carriage; *Billiards*, etc., a position of the balls (e.g. as left by the last player) from which it is easy to score. See also SET-BACK, SET-DOWN, SET-TO, etc. Also set-fair, the second coat in plastering; set-hands, applied to devices connected with setting the hands of a watch or clock; in names of devices for adjusting or shaping, set-bolt, -hammer, -screw, -stud (see quots.). See also SETFAST.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 5 *Set bolts for forcing the workes and plankes together. 1770–4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 115 Backing out a Bolt, or Trenail, is driving it out by means of a tool called a Set-bolt. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Set bolt..a.* One used as a drift, to force another bolt out of its hole. *b.* A bolt used to bring a plank to its bearings. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 312 (*Plastering*), *Set Fair, is used after roughing-in and floated or pricked up and floated: it should be well troweled. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Corr. Car. Bowles* (1881) 177 Whether the next *set-forth from the house be for a marriage, or a funeral. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 456 **Set-hammer* (a hammer used in forging a set-off). 1883 CRANE *Smithy & Forge* 29 The 'set-hammer' is employed by being held against a certain portion of the heated iron and its top struck with the hammer. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 240 *Set-hands Arbor..the arbor in a three-quarter plate key-winding watch by which the hands are set. *Ibid.*, Set-hands Dial. *Ibid.*, Set hands Square. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 337/1 The set-hands stud. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 270 A regular *set in of Arabian wind is hardly to be expected. 1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* IV. 331 At set-in of day. 1892 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 344 A regular set in of wet weather at last. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 48/2 The *set-on of the tail is prominent, and detracts from their appearance. 1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 15 Aug. 154/2 In Puppies the winner..falls away too much from loin to set-on of tail. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 456 *Set-screw, Adjusting screw, Regulating screw. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 129 Set screws,..and all kinds of small work, are produced at the same rate. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 456 *Set-bolt*, **Set-stud* (a bolt screwed into the two pieces to be joined, and fastened so as to prevent the play of the pieces). 1841 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 264/1 The *set-ups on the rail with the line fixed. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 30 Set-ups..are four-sided oblong pieces of beech of proper dimensions. They are placed on both sides, the back, and in the front of the oven, to keep the loaves in their places. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Set up*,..the steam-ram used in the squeezer which operates on the loup or ball of iron from the puddling-furnace. The action is to up-set or condense longitudinally the bloom. 1890 T. C. CRAWFORD *Eng. Life* 147 (Cent.), They [English soldiers] have a set-up not to be found in any of the soldiers of the Continental armies. 1893 *Outing* (N. Y.) XXVI. 66/1, I found an easy set-up and pocketed fifteen straight.

‖ **Seta** (sī·tă). Pl. **setæ** (sī·tī). [L. *sēta, saeta* bristle.]

1. *Bot.* A stiff hair or bristle-like body. Also the stalk which supports the theca or capsule of mosses.

1793 T. MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Seta*, a bristle. A strong, stiff, roundish hair. A sort of pubescence.—Linnæus also puts it for the scape of the capsule in Mosses. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 320 *Thecæ* [of mosses], hollow urn-like cases seated upon a seta or stalk. 1832 — *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. 104 When the *arista* proceeds from the very apex of the bracteæ, and not from below it, it is denominated in the writings of Palisot a *seta*. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 219 Leaves covered..with long flexuous scattered..hairs or setæ with bulbous bases.

2. *Zool.* A bristle; a bristle-like appendage.

c 1820 *Edin. Encycl.* (1830) VII. 432 *Amphithoe.* Superior antennæ, without a seta at the base of the last joint. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xliv. 225 A number of small hexapods distinguished by two pairs of anal setæ and a proleg. 1858 W. CLARK tr. *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 553 *Gypaëtus.* Head closely plumed, bearded with rigid setæ under the bill. 1881–82 SAVILLE KENT *Man. Infusoria* II. 779 Two oblique rows of ventral setæ, three caudal, but no anal setæ.

† **Setace.** *Obs. rare.* Also settace. [ad. mod. L. *sētāce-um* seton, neut. of *sētāceus*: see SETACEOUS *a.*] = SETON.

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 114 Setaces are principle good, applyed to the Neck. *Ibid.* 155 He set a settace between the first and third Spondil.

Seta·ceo-. Used as combining form of next.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 1104 *Setaceo-rostrate*, having a beak with the figure of a bristle. 1833 HOOKER in *Smith's Eng. Flora* V. I. 32 Leaves from a broad base setaceo-capillary spreading on all sides flexuose.

Setaceous (sĭtā·ʃəs), *a.* Also 9 *erron.* seta-teous. [f. mod.L. *sētāce-us*, f. L. *sēta* bristle: see -ACEOUS.]

1. Having the form or character of a bristle. Chiefly in scientific use (*Anat., Zool., Bot.*), of the nature of a seta or setæ.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 273 These setaceous prickles. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. 427 The Parent-Insect with its stiff setaceous Tail, terebrates the Rib of the Leaf. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 168 The Gattorugine..The teeth slender, almost setaceous. 1769 BANCROFT *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 391 The setaceous hairy substance growing on the outside of the pod. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 19 *Justicia nigricans*...Bractes setaceous. 1835 T. BELL in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 474/1 The cats and..the seals, in which animals the long elastic setaceous whiskers are so useful as feelers. 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Alga* I. 120 Thallus very thick, setaceous.

2. Furnished or covered with setæ or bristles, bristly.

Setaceous Hebrew-character: a book-name for the moth *Noctua C-nigrum* (1803 HAWORTH *Lepidoptera Brit.* 226. 1869 NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 346).

b. *jocularly.* Bristly, unshaven.

1787 *Minor* II. i. 66 My father's broad, setaceous visage alternately displayed specimens of all the various colours.

Hence **Seta·ceously** *adv.*

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 14 The serratures or little teeth being sometimes only setaceously armed.

Setaceous, obs. (erron.) f. CETACEOUS.

Setal (sī·tăl), *a.* [f. L. *sēta* bristle + -AL.] 'Of or pertaining to setæ; as the setal bands of a brachiopod which may run along the pallial margin and denote the site of the setæ.'

1891 *Century Dict.* (citing *T. Davidson*).

Setarious (sĭtē·rĭəs), *a. Ent.* [f. L. *sēta* bristle + -ARIOUS.] Of antennæ: Ending in a naked arista or bristle.

1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Syst. Nat.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Setarious*, applied to the antennæ of insects, it means, terminating in a simple naked bristle. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 324 Setarious...When the awn or bristle is naked.

Set-back. [f. vbl. phr. *set back*: see SET *v.* 141.]

1. *fig.* A check to progress, a retardation or retrograde movement, a relapse, reverse.

1674 FLAVEL *Husb. Spirit.* i. 20 Even when he is about his work, how many set-backs doth he meet with! 1883 *Century Mag.* July 431 Yet, in the face of all set-backs, the city [New Orleans] that once was almost annually scourged, has, in the twenty-seven years since the great epidemic,..suffered but one mild and three severe epidemics. 1895 *Daily News* 25 Sept. 2/5 Operators are..sore at this sudden set-back, when the boom appeared to be resuming its course on a sounder basis. 1899 *Ibid.* 1 Mar. 5/4 It is now feared that a set-back in the patient's present weakened condition may result in collapse.

2. *Arch.* A plain, flat set-off in a wall.

1864 WEBSTER (citing *Weale*). 1887 *Arch. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, *Set-off*; or set-back, or offset.

3. A setting back or backward; a thrown-back set (of the shoulders), a backward set (of a golf-club).

1900 MARY E. WILKINS *Parson Lord*, etc. 188 The old Beau..had a military set-back to his shoulders. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Nov. 2/1 The angle..which gives the club the necessary set-back and resulting loft.

4. *U.S.* = BACK-SET *sb.* 2. In recent Dicts.

5. *attrib.*: set-back hinges, hinges for setting back window-shutters.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* 269 The hinges used should be what are called set-back hinges, when it is wished to make the shutters fit close to the windows when shut, and to throw them back close to the wall when open.

Setchal, setchel (obs. forms of SATCHEL *sb.*

Set-down. (Stress variable.) [f. vbl. phr. *set down*: see SET *v.* 143.]

1. a. A single drive (ending where the passenger first alights) in a vehicle plying for hire; the distance covered by such a drive. (= F. *course.*)

b. An opportunity of conveying some distance on one's way by a passing vehicle; a 'lift'.

a. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 220 A guinea for a set-down from any

of the squares..to Westminster abbey. 1767 Bush *Hibernia Cur.* (1769) 23 The rates of hackney-coaches, and sedans, are established here as in London, for the different distances, or set-downs, as they are called. 1891 *Daily News* 27 May, Cabbies..bargain not to be taken by the hour, or for set downs at long distances.

b. 1792 W. Roberts *Looker-On* No. 30 (1794) I. 437, I have seen a very able disputant very much humbled..by a cold offer, on the part of his wealthy opponent, to give him a set down in his carriage. 1799 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. Tales, Lame Jervas* ii, Part of the journey I performed on foot; but wherever I could, I got a set down. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 142, I secured a set-down to Zug in our late vehicle.

2. An unexpected and humiliating rebuff. Also, a severe scolding.

1786 Mrs. A. M. Bennett *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 12 Miss Franklin's..ideas of the..felicity of the marriage state received a most mortifying set down. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. (Rtldg.) 199 The lady then, offended at my words ..gave a complete set down to my assurance. 1861 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* III. 143 The home monopolists ..have had a notable though not complete set-down. 1867 J. Macgregor *Rob Roy on Baltic* xviii. 216, I gave him such a hearty set-down in good sound English that he was ashamed of himself.

3. *U.S. slang.* A sit-down meal.

1900 Flynt *Tramps* 105 (Farmer) He will almost always give a beggar a set-down.

†Sete, *sb. Sc. Obs.* (Only *pl.* setis.) [Of obscure origin; perhaps from OE. (Northumb.) pl. *giseto* 'insidias'; OE. *sæt* 'ambush' would also correspond in form and sense.] A number of men posted to intercept or shoot game.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 479 Thai..soucht schawys, and setis set; Bot thai gat litill for till ete. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. i. 46 Þe kynge þan warnyt his menȝhe Withe hym at huntynge for to be i..þan on þe morn..þe setis [*Wemyss MS.* settis] and þe stabile set [etc.]. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. iii. 58 Quhen that the rangis..Dynnis throw the gravis, ..And setis sett the glen on euery side.

†Sete, *a. Obs.* Also 4 seete, 5 sety (?). [Related to Sit *v.*; the precise formation is uncertain.]

1. Settled or easy in mind, content.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxx. 89 Withoute gold other eny tresor, he mai be sound ant sete. *Ibid.* xlii. 114 Whose loveth untrewe, his herte is selde seete.

2. Fitting, suitable; (of food or drink) wholesome.

13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 108/109 Þis is þe ȝok,..Þat crist on his meyne wol ley, To Monnes soule hit is ful seete; Þerfore he seide, hit was ful sweete. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 889 Serued..Wyth sere sewes & sete, sesounde of þe best. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 420 To this x pounde of hony swete And best: this wol be plesaunt drynke & sete. *Ibid.* IV. 457. 1467 *Ordin. Worc.* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 382 Ale conners..to se that the ale be good and sete. *Ibid.* 397 To se that all suche vytelle be able and sete for mannys body. *Ibid.* 425 That the ale be gode, able, and sety.

Sete, obs. form of City, Seat, Set, Sit.

Setel, setelle, obs. forms of Settle *sb.* and *v.*

Setenes, variant of Setness[1] *Obs.*

Seterdai, -day, Seters-dai, obs. ff. Saturday.

Setewale, obs. form of Setwall.

Setfast (se·tfast). [f. Set *v.* (? vb.-stem or pa. pple.) + Fast *adv.*] A hard tumour on a horse's back; = Sitfast I. Also *dial.* 'a gathering, tumour; the central part of a wound or boil' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4591/4 A..Gelding,..with..a Set fast under the Saddle. 1826 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 192 This man..is a sore to Westminster; a set-fast on its back. 1866 *Morn. Star* 10 July, On examination he perceived it had a bad back, a set-fast [etc.].

Setfoyle, obs. form of Septfoil.

‖ Seth (sɛth). *India.* Also 8 seat, set. [Hindī *seṭh*, Skr. *śēṭha*, said to be a corruption of *çrēṣṭha* best, chief; in meaning the mod. word corresponds to the Skr. derivative *çrēṣṭhin.*] A leading Hindoo merchant or banker.

1740 in J. Long *Select. Unpubl. Rec. Govt.* (*Ft. William*) (1869) 9 (V.) The Sets being all present at the Board inform us that [etc.]. 1772 Dow *Hist. Hindostan* III. Diss. I. 109 The well-known bankers, the Jaggat Seats of Murshedabâd. 1880 Growse *Mathura* (ed. 2) 15 The Seths..also advanced large sums of money for Government purposes on different occasions. 1884 M. Thornhill *Pers. Adv. Ind. Mutiny* 79 The Seths held rank next to the sovereign princes. 1895 *Rep. Opium Commiss.* VII. 319 *Seth*, or *Sheth*, or *Sah*, the honorific title of a Hindu merchant.

Seth, variant of Saithe, Seath *Obs.*

Seth, seþ, obs. forms of Sith.

†Seth(e. *Obs.* Also 5 seeth(e, seyth, syth. [Aphetic f. Asseth(e, due to apprehending the phr. *make asethe* as *make a sethe.* See also the later (Scottish) Syth *sb.* and *v.*] Satisfaction, amends, atonement. **a.** *To make a seth(e*: see Asseth(e.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 91 Þat þey schulde make a sethe to þe bisshop [orig. *ut præsuli satisfacerent*]. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. v. (1554) 77 To make a seeth for his transgression. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst., Salut.* 103 He may nevyr make a seyth be resone. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxciv. (1533) I. 219 That he made a seth and amendes to goddes pleasure.

b. *To make (a) full sethe, make amends and sethe.*

c 1420? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 97 Tyll he haue made full seethe and recompence For hurt of my name. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 122 in *Macro Plays* 39 Wysdam, þat was Gode & man ryght, Made a full sethe to þe fadyr of hewyn. 1461 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 36 To make amendes and sethe to the pore peple.

Sethe, variant of Saithe; obs. form of Sith.

Sethen(ne, -in, etc., var. ff. Sithen *Obs*

Sethence, -ens, obs. forms of Sithence.

Sethian (se·þiăn). [ad. eccl. L. *Sēthiān-ī* (Gr. Σηθιανοί) pl., f. *Sēth* (LXX. Σήθ, Heb. שֵׁת *shēth*), the name of the son of Adam who according to the Book of Genesis was the ancestor of Noah and hence of the existing human race.] A member of a Gnostic sect of the second century, holding Seth in great veneration, and believing that Christ was Seth revived.

1721 Bailey. 1780 N. Lardner *Hist. Heretics* II. xiii. Wks. 1788 IX. 449 Irenæus, at the conclusion of his first book, has two chapters, the first of Ophites and Sethians, whom he joins together. 1874 *Blunt's Dict. Sects*, etc.

Sethic (se·þik), *a.* [f. *Seth* (see prec.) + -ic.] Of or pertaining to Seth.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1662/2 Noah.. was the tenth and last in the list of the Sethic line.

Sethim, sethin, obs. forms of Shittim.

†Sethinian. *Obs.* [f. mod.L. *Sēthīn-us* (f. *Seth*) + -ian.] = Sethian.

1723 *Dict. Relig.* (ed. 2). 1728 Chambers *Cycl.*

Sethite (se·þoit), *sb.* and *a.* Also Shethite. [f. *Seth* (see Sethian) + -ite.]

A. *sb.*

1. A descendant of Seth (occas. *transf.* a spiritual descendant of Seth).

1659 Gell *Ess. Amend. Transl. Bible* 102 The Shethites and Shemites were and are taken up wholly or principally with matters of the life to come. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Gen.* iv. 23, 4 The Cainites were..an older race than the Shethites. 1896 Dawson in *Expositor* Sept. 206 The Sethites were thus sons and daughters of Adam by special right.

2. = Sethian.

1765 Maclaine tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. II. II. v. § 18 The Sethites..honoured Seth in a particular manner, and looked upon him as the same person with Christ. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* IV. 804/1 To the Syrians may also be reckoned the Ophites, Cainites, and Sethites.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Seth, descended from Seth.

1795 T. Maurice *Hindostan* (1820) I. xii. 382 The virtuous Sethite progeny. 1877 Dawson *Orig. World* xii. 255 This intermixture of the Sethite and Cainite races.

Seþþe(n, seththe(n, obs. forms of Sith(en.

Setiferous (sĭti·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *sēta* bristle: see -ferous.] Having setæ or bristles.

1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 128 Rows of setiferous papillæ. 1835–6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 165/1 The setiferous annelidans. 1856 W. Clark *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 628 *Bomolochus*...Feet bifid, setiferous in four pairs.

Setiform (sī·tĭfōɪm), *a.* [f. L. *sēt-a* bristle + -(i)form.] Having the form of a seta or bristle; bristle-shaped.

1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 89 Two setiform tubes. 1826 Lindley in *Bot. Register* XII. 992/2 The setiform processes. 1849 Owen in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 874/1 When the teeth are..rather stronger than these, they are called 'setiform'. 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 163 Terminal cell setiform.

Setiger (sī·tidʒəɹ). [a. L. *sētiger, sætiger* bristle-bearing, f. *sēta, sæta* bristle + *-ger* bearing.] A setigerous worm.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Setigers*,..the name of a tribe of Anellidans, including those which like the earthworm, are provided with bristles for progressive motion.

Setigerous (sĭti·dʒérəs), *a.* [f. L. *sētiger, sætiger* bristle-bearing (f. *sēta* bristle + *-ger* bearing) + -ous.] Furnished with or having setæ or bristles.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Setigerous*, that bears or hath bristles on his back. 1721 Bailey. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 299 Antennæ inserted near the front, setigerous. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvii. IV. 377 The antennæ..in the other [*sc.* Homoptera]..are very short and setigerous. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 14 The feet are usually setigerous. 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 170 Terminal cell often setigerous.

Setil, obs. form of Settle *sb.*

†Setin. *Obs.* Also 7 Setine. [ad. L. *Sētīn-um*, f. *Sētia*, a city of Latium.] Wine of Setia.

1693 W. Bowles *Dryden's Juvenal* v. (1697) 97 Perhaps to morrow he may..drink old sparkling Alban, or Setine. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 50 Nectareous Wines, that well may vie With Massic, Setin, or renown'd Falern.

Setiparous (sĭti·părəs), *a.* [f. L. *sēt-a* bristle + -parous.] Producing setæ or bristles.

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 125 Due to the development in these segments of the setiparous glands of the inner row of setæ.

Setirday, obs. form of Saturday.

Setireme (sĭtirīm). [f. L. *sēta* bristle + *rēm-us* an oar.] A name given by Kirby to the setose leg of an aquatic insect, serving as an oar.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 133 These might be named *Setiremes.*

Setirostral (sĭtirɒ·străl), *a. Ornith. rare.* [f. L. *sēta* bristle + *rostr-um* beak + *-al*: see Rostral.] 'Having the bill furnished with conspicuous bristles along the gape; having long rictal vibrissæ.'

1891 *Century Dict.* (citing *P. L. Sclater*).

Setl(e, obs. forms of Settle *sb.* and *v.*

Setling (se·tlin). Also 6–8 settling. [f. Set *sb.*[1] + -ling. Cf. LG. *setling*, G. *setzling.*] A slip taken from a tree and planted.

1587–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 23 Every yonge setling lightly with smale stormes is apeyred. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* lxiiij, A setlyng yᵗ spryngeth out of a nother trees Roete. 1564 Becon *Wks.* I. Pref. B vj, Such as be..newly planted in the religion of Christ, and haue taken no sure roote in the same, are easily moued, as young setlings & caryed away. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* xix. 41 For setlings, those are to be preferr'd which grow neerest to the stock. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sallow*, Some there are who plant them [*sc.* Sallows] at full Height,..but then they are less useful for Staves and Settlings, nor do they grow so speedily.

†Se·tly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Set *ppl. a.* + -ly[2].] In a set manner; resolutely, of set purpose.

1678 E. Coles *God's Sov.* Pref. 6 This put him upon searching the Scriptures more Setly touching the Doctrine. *Ibid.* i. 11 That Honour..which they setly intended to prevent.

†Se·tness[1]. *Obs.* Also 3 sett-, sætt-, sættnesse-, 4 zet-. [OE. *setnes* (also *geseтnes*), f. (*ge*)*set*, pa. pple. of *settan* Set *v.* + -ness.]

1. Constitution; establishment; imposition (of a law).

Law of setness: positive law as opposed to law of nature ('kind'). Cf. Set *ppl. a.* 1 b.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 2 Ðęznas ðinne hia ofergæs *vel* oferhoȝas selenise *vel* setnesa [*traditionem*] ðara ældra. *c* 1200 Ormin 16837 Godess laȝhe & Godess rihht & hiss hallȝhe settnesse. *c* 1205 Lay. 4258 Heo makeden ane sættnesse, and mid nȝe heo semde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11292 Þai bar þe child..vn-to þe temple, For to do fore him þat dai, Þe settenes of þe ald lai. *Ibid.* 24958 Þis ilk abbot... A settnes set in his abbai. 1340 *Ayenb.* 223 Huanne þe lost ne paseþ naȝt þe markes ne þe zetnesses of spoushod.

3. ? Fixed abode.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 23 Chireche is cleped..kiriaca .i. dominicalis,..and is þerto nemned for þe heuenliche kinges lichame is to setnesse þarinne.

4. Appointed time.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5553 Sone so þe setnes was gane þat him-selfe made [*Tempus..quod militibus suis predixit Alexander completum erat*].

Setness[2] (se·tnės). [f. Set *ppl. a.* + -ness.] The quality, state, or character of being set, in various senses; also an instance of this.

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 187 Looking sometime more..at the setnesse of our sentences..then at Gods awfull presence. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 67 Don't you see by the Setness of some of these Letters..that it is the Hand of a Person bred in the Law-way. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* viii. (1869) 195 There is in the chief character..a setness of purpose which John Kemble alone was capable of giving. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Her little peculiarities and setnesses, so unlike the careless freedom of southern manners. 1899 R. H. Charles *Eschatol.* xi. 380 There is a setness and rigidity in the teaching of the Apostle.

Se·t-off. Pl. **set-offs** (*incorrectly* **sets-off**). [f. vbl. phr. *set off*: see Set *v.* 147.]

1. Something used to set off or adorn; an adornment, decoration, or ornament.

1621 Fletcher *Wild Goose Chase* III. i, This course creature, That has no more set off, but his jugglings, His travell'd tricks. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* Ep. Ded. a 4 b, The plain dress of the Scriptures, without the paint and set-offs which are added to it by the severall contending parties of the Christian World. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 347 A fine woman charms us without any other set-off than that of her beauty and youth. 1856 J. H. Newman *Serm. Var. Occas.* i. (1881) 13 Nor is science..an ornament and set-off to devotion.

2. The act of setting off on a journey, etc.; a start.

1759 Franklin *Hist. Rev. Pennsylv.* Wks. 1840 III. 425 What the governor's set-off could not effect, was to be re-attempted by this put-off. 1798 *Geraldina* II. 189 This is but a dull set-off. 1806 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 376, I suppose the new Magazine will start with the new year, in which case I must lend a helping hand for awhile, and give a hearty shove at the set-off. 1893 'Q' [Quiller-Couch] *Delect. Duchy* 52 Never do I mind such a gay set-off for the journey.

3. *Comm.* and *Law.* An act of 'setting off' one item of account against another, i. e. of reckoning the former as a counterbalance to or a deduction from the latter; an item or amount which is or should be set off against another in the settlement of accounts; a counter-claim, or a counterbalancing debt, pleaded by the defendant in an action to recover money due; also, this mode of defence. Cf. Offset *sb.* 5.

1766 Burrow *Cases K. B.* II. 820 There was a Plea of a Set-off. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xx. 304 The practice of what is called a set-off: whereby the defendant acknowleges the justice of the plaintiff's demand on the one hand; but, on the other, sets up a demand of his own, to counterballance that of the plaintiff, either in the whole or in part. 1775 F. Buller *Introd. Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) 181 Defendant..gave a Notice of Set-off. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 195 This plea, however, is not properly a bar to the action, but of the nature of a set-off or counter-claim, which extinguishes or modifies the pursuer's claim. 1844 Mill *Pol. Econ.* III. xii. 6 If the cheque is paid into a different bank, it will not be presented for payment, but liquidated by set-off against other cheques. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 104 § 101 If in any Proceeding..touching the Claim of a Master to Wages any Right of Set-off or Counter-claim is set up. 1861 Goschen *For. Exch.* 16 Otherwise, involving no immediate claim, they [American securities] cannot be

regarded as a set-off to the debts which we incur to the Americans for cotton and corn. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iv. (1876) 39 The debts may be made to act as a set-off against each other.

b. In wider sense: A taking into account of something as a counterbalance to a partial compensation for something else; a counterbalancing or compensating circumstance or consideration.

1773 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 106*/2 The idea of a set-off of services against offences was trivial. 1799 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 263 Something is required from you as a set off against the sin of your retirement. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vii. (Rtldg.) 151 As a set-off against his henpecked cowardice..he gave me fifty ducats. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiv, Her own delight was no set-off to this. 1864 *Reader* 5 Nov. 567/3 We must take her evidence with great allowances and sets-off.

4. a. *Arch.* (Also *sett-off.*) A reduction in the thickness of a wall, buttress, etc.; the sloping or flat projection or ledge formed when the portion above is reduced in thickness; = OFFSET *sb.* 7.

1717 TABOR in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 554 There was a Set-off (as our Masons term it) in the inside of the Wall, eight Inches broad. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 81 My Dam had hitherto from the Foundation been carry'd up by Set-offs on each Side, of about seven foot in breadth. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 427 The sets-off thus made..will also afford a secure support to the floors. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Sett-off.* 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) s. v. *Buttress*, The set-offs dividing the stages [of Early English buttresses] are generally sloped at a very acute angle. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vii. 254 Set-offs would have caused dislocation in the panelling.

b. A similar reduction or shoulder in a metal bar, etc.

1830 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss., Cornw.* (1860) 22 *Set-off*, the part of a connecting rod to which the bucket rod is attached. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 821 The safe-edge file is principally required in making a set-off, or shoulder at any precise spot in the work. 1883 CRANE *Smithy & Forge* 42 A set-off is a reduction from the original size of the bar with a square shoulder or two square shoulders.

5. *Printing*, etc. The transference of ink from one page to another.

1842 *Penny Mag.* 24 Sept. 379 The rolling-press is found to be more efficacious than the hammer in producing less 'set-off', or transference of ink from one page to another. 1882 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* 436 In this way only can 'set off' be prevented.

b. An impression transferred.

1839 HANSARD *Print. & Type-founding* (1841) 138 Impressions in reverse, which, whilst the ink was yet fresh, were to be pressed strongly between clean paper, the set-off upon which would be fit for use. 1854 *Ev. Man Own Printer* 26 This will leave upon the stone what is termed a 'set off', or light transfer of the drawing.

6. In a pianoforte, the space left between the hammer at its full rise and the strings.

1896 HIPKINS *Pianoforte* 33 A prolongation, forming the escapement lever *h*, controls the escapement or set-off from the strings by the screw and button *k*.

7. *attrib.*: **set-off button**, a button to control the 'set-off' (sense 6) in a pianoforte; **set-off paper, sheet** *Printing* (see quots.).

1822 SAVAGE *Hints Decorative Printing* 45 These Set off Sheets..prevent the ink setting off from one sheet to another while it is newly printed. 1839 HANSARD *Print. & Type-founding* (1841) 111 The master should not grudge ample supplies of set-off paper. 1896 HIPKINS *Pianoforte* 36 The set-off button.

Setoler, var. CITOLER *Obs.*, citole-player.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 343 (Thornton MS.).

Seton (sī·tən), *sb. Surg.* Forms: 5–6 ceton, 7 setton, 8 seaton (9 *illiterate* seething), 5– seton. [ad. med.L. *sētōn-em*, app. f. L. *sēta* bristle, in med.L. also silk. Cf. OF. *seton, ceto* (mod.F. *séton*), It. *setone*.]

1. A thread, piece of tape, or the like, drawn through a fold of skin so as to maintain an issue or opening for discharges, or drawn through a sinus or cavity to keep this from healing up (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 308 The .x. canterie is clepid ceton. *Ibid.* 310 Alle þese cauterijs wolen be maad best wiþ seton. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* P ij b, Rounde cauteres, or cauteres with cetons, that kepeth it better open. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 22/1 Applyinge of the corrosive in place of a Seton. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* F 255 A Seton or coard of twisted thred or silk is runne through on both sides the skin of the neck. 1724 [see ROWEL *sb.* 6]. 1823 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 75 The defendant attempted to pass a seething up the wound. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 841 Some farmers introduce a seton into the dewlap of all their calves...The seton consists of a piece of tape or soft cord passed under a portion of the skin by a seton-needle. 1895 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 Dec. 1492/1 It was replaced by a tight seton of quadrupled cord.

b. *Seton-needle*, a needle used for passing a seton through the skin.

1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* x. vii. 61, I passed a Seton-needle through, and that way discharged the Matter. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 6537 When the seton needle is removed, the ends of the tape should be joined together.

2. The issue so formed.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 43/1 The Seton, properlye, the threde which we drawe through the skinne with the needle...Improperly, a longe stretchinge vlceration which is cleane thrust throughe the dubble skinne with a glowinge Cauterye. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 430/1 This Needle being..heated red hot..makes a Seton, or perforates the flesh almost paineless. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Glanders*, First to make a Seaton under the Tail and in the Withers. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 59 The seton is a kind of issue made by piercing the skin in two corresponding points, and passing through them a *mèche* of cotton, or a bit of linen unravelled at the edges. 1850 JESSIE WILSON *Mem. G. Wilson* 323 Lecturing ten, eleven, or more hours weekly..frequently with torturing setons and open blister wounds.

fig. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. i. 32 A sort of seton, I suppose, A moral bleeding at the nose.

Hence **Se·ton** *v.*, to apply a seton. **Se·toned** *ppl. a.*, **Se·toning** *vbl. sb.*

1542 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* P ij, The fyfth place is the necke where as cetons are applied with tonges cetoned or with a nedle cetonned. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* vi. 118, I have bled, and physicked and setoned, and blistered, and used the moxa. 1897 *Yearbk. U. S. Dept. Agric.* 254 Many plans of prevention [of blackleg] have been adopted, such as bleeding, setoning [etc.].

Setose (sī·tōs), *a.* [ad. L. *sētōs-us, sætōs-us* bristly, f. *sēta, sæta* bristle: see -OSE.]

1. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Set or covered with bristles or stiff hairs, bristly. Also, of a bristly nature.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 1 b, The taile ..setose in those that are longish, as horses. 1819 MACLEAY *Horæ Entomol.* I. 35 Porrect mandibles, and setose maxillæ. 1881–2 SAVILLE KENT *Man. Infusoria* II. 779 Three or four distinctly differentiated setose cilia.

2. *Bot.* Having setæ or bristles.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xvii. (1765) 43 *Setose*, bristly. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 114 If those hairs..are very unusually stiff, it [*sc.* the *pappus*] is setose. 1881 BABINGTON *Brit. Bot.* (ed. 8) Gloss., *Setose*, having bristles or setæ usually ending in glands.

Hence **Seto·sity.**

1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Setosity*, fulness of bristles.

Setous (sī·təs), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *sētōs-us, sætōs-us*: see prec. and -OUS.] = SETOSE.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 120 Their spines are various, never uniformly setous. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Setous*, bristly; having the surface set with bristles; as, a setous leaf or receptacle [citing MARTYN who in *Lang. Bot.* (1793) has *Setosus*].

Set-out. (Stress variable.) Chiefly *colloq.* and *dial.* Pl. **set-outs** (*incorrectly* sets-out). [f. vbl. phr. *set out*: see SET *v.* 149.]

1. A display.

a. A display or set of plate, china, etc.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) x. xxi, Every dish..being served up on the kitchen table, with a set-out of crockery from the same apartment. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf*, etc., *Set out*,..'tis also applied to a side-board, decked out, or a dinner table, set out. 1830 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 14 He and his punt came home looking like a set-out of glass, and himself half-frozen. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 368/1 The lady..wanted me to go and buy expressly for her a green and white chamber service all complete,..and all this here grand set-out she wanted for a couple of old washed-out light waistcoats.

b. A 'spread' of food.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. viii. (Rtldg.) 101 There was a grand set-out, and mirth, the best relish, was not wanting to the banquet. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xlii, 'There shall be cold meat in the house.' 'Well, as you please; only don't have a great set-out.' 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. iv. 161 A becoming set-out of coffee and buttered toast. 1898 MRS. H. WARD *Helbeck* I. v. 98 It wor a varra poor set-oot, wor Jenny's buryin. Nowt but tay, an sic-like.

c. A 'turn-out'; i.e. a carriage with its horses, harness, etc.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 82 The set out of these gentlemen excited admiration. 1819 *Ibid.* V. 123 The Corinthians, in their bang-up sets-out of blood and bone. 1827 *Ibid.* XX. 47 The fame of the Western sets-out is recorded in Nimrod's best style. 1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* vi. (1843) 86, I thought of the impression the whole set-out would be likely to produce on an English road. *a* 1837 [APPERLEY] *Road* (1852) 62 The vis-à-vis,..with all its *set-out*, has cost at least a thousand pounds. 1837 J. F. COOPER *England* (ed. 2) III. 119 A procession of mail-coaches, which however neat and seemly the set-outs, had too much the air of a cockney show. 1851–62 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 46/2 The 'whole set out'..poney included, cost 50*l.* when new. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Coventry* iv. 38 As we pulled up in front of the Castle Hotel ..'Ere's a spicy set-out, Bill!' said one.

transf. 1839 LADY MORGAN in *Mem.* (1862) II. 114 He said he had orders to bring the Captain's boat and ten men for me as often as I pleased. He came with this set-out twice.

d. A person's costume or 'get-up'; the way in which a person is dressed.

1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 192 Her cap is..a plain set-out, round which is thrown loosely a piece of white muslin bordered with lace. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 605/2 Both at a glance seemed to make a rapid inventory and appraisement of Mrs. Mark Luke, and her entire set-out. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, He called his companion's attention to the large gilt button, which displayed a bust of Mr. Pickwick in the centre, and the letters 'P. C.' on either side. 'P. C.', said the stranger,—'queer set out—old fellow's likeness, and "P. C."'. 1892 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 6/3 In a blue and green dress, with bows flying, and every one turning round to look and laugh at her set-out.

e. A show or public performance; an entertainment for a number of people, a party of pleasure.

1828 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 290 He excited some sensation here last Wednesday, when I had a most brilliant set-out. 1862 W. ROBINSON in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* (1837) 140 We went to the play here; but it was a horrid set out. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* I. ch. II, Never saw anything like that Captain Rose's set-out—eh! *Ibid. Tales* vii, The best way will be, to have a committee of ten, to..manage the whole set-out. 1887 *Kent Gloss.*, *Set out*,..a grand display; an event causing excitement and talk. 'There was a grand set-out at the wedding.'

f. A party, set (of people), company.

1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* I. viii, She must just hate and detest the whole set-out of us.

g. A commotion, disturbance, 'to-do'.

1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* 101 There's been a pretty set-out up at the forge. 1887 *Kent Gloss.*, *Set-out*, a great fuss and disturbance.

2. A beginning or start.

1821 BYRON *Diary* 18 Feb. in Moore *Lett.* etc. (1830) II. 429 The commotions left every body a side to take; and the parties were pretty equal at the set out. 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Dial., Set out*, an outset; a starting, or a proceeding. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 4 Mar. 392/1 The children ..might have had such a good set-out in the world.

3. Outfit, equipment.

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 7 Oct. 4/4 Gambling set-outs of every description. 1832 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 45 But my grand object was to try all the tackle, having (except the gun, newly done up) an entirely new set-out, on a somewhat different, and I hope, improved plan. 1864 *Gd. Words* 788/1 The teacher..is supposed to have on his shelf a full set-out of the most approved elementary volumes.

4. *Coal mining.* (See quot.) Also *set-out tub.*

1849 GREENWELL *Gloss. Terms Coal Trade* (1851) 46 *Set-out*, a tub or corf of coals filled insufficiently, and consequently forfeited. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Set-out Tub*, a tub of coal insufficiently filled by a miner.

Setrack, obs. form of CETERACH.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 5/36 Setrack, herbe, *lepidium.*

Setre(t)-day, Setry(s)day, obs. ff. SATURDAY.

Setryne, obs. form of CITRINE.

Set sames: see SEPT PSAUMES.

Setsayne, rare obs. form of CITIZEN.

Setsman (se·tsmăn). [f. *sets* pl. or genit. of SET *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*] A workman who makes 'sets' or paving-stones.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 86 Stone quarrier...Sett Miner, Maker, Setsman, Setsman Finisher.

Sett (set). *Sc.* Also 9 set. [Possibly a use of SET *sb.*[1] (though its relation to the other senses is difficult to assign); it may, however, be a. MLG. *set, sette* (also *gesette* = G. *gesetz*) ordinance, law, f. *setten* to SET.] The constitution or form of government of a burgh, fixed by charter.

1683 (*title*) The Sett, and Decreet Arbitral of King James the 6th..containing the Fundamentall Principles of the Government of the City of Edinburgh. 1739 in *Edin. Antiq. Mag.* (1849) 133 The Council of Dingwall, by the act of sett, consists of a Provest, two Bailies [etc.]. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* IV. 109 The set or constitution [of Kirkcaldy]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, An anxious..discussion, concerning provosts, bailies, deacons, sets of boroughs [etc.]. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v., The setts are either established by immemorial usage, or were at some time or other modelled by the convention of Burghs.

Sett: see SET *sb.*; also obs. f. SET *a.* and *v.*

Settable (se·tăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SET *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be set. (In quot. perh. that may be planted with trees.)

a 1657 BRADFORD *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 216 They should only lay out settable or tillable land.

‖ **Settaine.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *septain* (pronounced sɛtæ̃), f. *sept* seven: cf. QUATRAIN.] A stanza of seven lines.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. x[i]. (Arb.) 101 The huitain or staffe of eight verses, hath eight proportions such as the former staffe, and because he is longer he hath one more then the settaine.

Sette, obs. form of SEAT *sb.*, SET, SETTEE[1].

Settee[1] (sĕtī·). Now only *Hist.* Forms: 6 settea, 7 sattie, -y, satia, sett(y)e, 7–8 sattee, 8 cettee, saetia, setye, 7– settee. [a. It. *saettía* (pronounced -tī·a), 'a very speedie pinnace' (Florio 1598), of obscure origin, commonly viewed as f. *saetta* arrow. Cf. F. *sétie, setie, scilie.*] A decked vessel, with a long sharp prow, carrying two or three masts with a kind of lateen sails, in use in the Mediterranean. Also *attrib.* **settee-sail** (see quot. 1794).

In some of the early quots. the vessel appears to have been a fairly large merchant ship.

1587 T. SANDERS *Voy. Tripoli* Civ, M. Barton with all the residue of his companie departed from Tripolie to Oezant in a vessell called a Settea of one Marcus Segoorus. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 13 To take that opportunitie to cleanse my shippes and to furnish myselfe with a sattie and other necessaries, and to change my ballast. 1653 H. APPLETON *Fight Legorn-Road* 1 The Warwick..takes a French Sattee coming in to the Road. 1665 *Oxf. Gaz.* No. 17/4 A Sette came also from Malaga, a Vessel rarely seen in these parts; she is about fifty Tuns, and her Masts like a pair of Taylors Sheers opened. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 133/1 An English Satia from Tangier. 1686 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 237 We came up and spoke with a French Settee of Marse[lls]. 1712 BLINSTON in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5026/6 Three Martineco Ships, a Cettee and Gavilan. 1755 *Acts Gen. Assembly Georgia* (1881) 53 For every Ship Twenty Seven Shillings and Sixpence for every Snow Brig Polacre or Saetia [*printed* Sactia] Twenty Two Shillings and Six pence for every Sloop or Schooner [etc.]. 1786 In *Amer. St. Papers* (1833) I. 107, 1 Setye of 34 guns. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 136 *Boat's Settee Sail.* This sail is quadrilateral. The head is bent to a latteen-yard. *Ibid.* 236 *Polacre-settee* is a vessel with three masts, usually navigated in the levant or mediterranean,..generally rigged with square-sails upon the main and mizen mast, and a latteen-sail upon the foremast, like a xebec. *Ibid.* 238

Settee, a vessel used in the mediterranean, rigged and navigated similar to xebecs or galleys, with settee-sails instead of latteen-sails. 1860 DUNDONALD *Autobiog. Seaman* (1862) 181 On the 11th [Nov. 1808] we captured a settee.

† **Settee**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [Of unknown origin.] A double pinner for the head.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 482/1 A Coronet settee..covers the Head, and by doubling it makes it stand at a great height both above and besides the Face. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 63 With top-knots fine, to make 'em pretty, With tippet, pallateen and settee. 1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 11/1 A Settee is only a double Pinner.

Settee[3] (setī'). [perh. a fanciful variation of SETTLE *sb.*: see -EE[2].] A seat (for indoors) holding two or more persons, with a back and (usually) arms; occasionally also with divisions (see quot. 1784). In America sometimes furnished with rockers.

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5494/4 All Sorts of Hangings for Rooms and Stair-cases, Chairs, Settees and Screens. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 44. 317 The Damask Settee was placed in the Center. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) I. 321 An oak settee, on which his bones lay. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 75 Ingenious Fancy..devis'd The soft settee; one elbow at each end, And in the midst an elbow it receiv'd, United yet divided, twain at once. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 336 *Settee*, a sopha or moveable window-seat; in more modern language called, I believe, conversation stool. I have not heard the word of many years, and believe it is going out. 1839 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Gengulphus*, The aforesaid *barbe gris*..Had been stuff'd in the seat of a kind of settee Or double-arm'd chair. 1888 EGGLESTON *Graysons* i. 6 There was a green settee with three rockers beneath and an arm at each end. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 141 An abundance of velvet 'settees', or divan sofas. 1895 *Stores' Price List* 192 Cane Settee.

b. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict., Settee*,..(*b*) A small part taken off from a long and large sofa by a kind of arm: thus, a long sofa may have a settee at each end partly cut off from the body of the piece.

c. **Settee-bed**, a bed that can be folded up so as to form a settee.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) II, *Banc à coucher*, a sort of folding bedstead, or settee-bed. 1786 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 141 Settee bed with blue and white cheque covers.

Settel(l, obs. forms of SETTLE.

Setter (se·təɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 *Sc.* settar, 6 *Sc.* -are, 7 seter. [f. SET *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. Du. *zetter*, OHG. *sezzari* (Ger. *setzer*), Sw. *sättare*, Dan. *sætter*.]

I. One who or something which sets, in various senses of the vb.

1. *gen.* One who sets something specified or contextually implied. Often as the second element of a compound, in which the first element denotes the thing 'set,' as in BONE-SETTER, EEL-*setter*, TYPE-*setter*.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/34 *Prepositor*, a setter of mes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Finitor*, a setter of boundes. 1557 in Marwick *Edin. Guilds* (1909) 89 Thai wer ordanit be the settaris of the said taxt to pay ane pairt thairof. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Zetter*, a Setter, or a Compositor of letters. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 181, I usually afforded the setter copy at the rate of above a whole printed sheet in the day. 1859 *Lancet* 24 Dec. 649/2 Having the special repute of being a first-class..setter of stoves, grates, &c. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Cleopatra* II. iv, Who..would believe that she was the setter of that snare in which the Queen..should miserably perish?

b. With adverbial extension or complement. See also SETTER-FORTH, -ON, -OUT, -TO, -UP.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xix. 16–22 He was and is..a setter of all them at libertie whiche professeth his name. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 228 b, Neyther wanted the matter setters foreward. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xx. 89 Maricus..pretending to be the setter of France at freedome. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. to Serm. Easterday M 4, An earnest louer and a great setter forward of monkery. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 30 They come as Refiners of thy Drosse, or gilders (setters off) of thy Graces. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Spretor*, a contemner,..a setter-light by. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxiv. (1862) 352 *note*, He was come now a Redeemer, that is a setter free of man..from alien powers which held him in bondage. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* III. xii, 'Gin-and-bitters will put you on your legs again,' whispered this Samaritan setter-right of the alcoholic disasters of mankind.

2. A workman employed to 'set' something.

†a. One who 'sets' or lays stone or brick in building. *Obs.* Also *rough-setter*: see ROUGH *a.* 21.

?1403 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 21 In remuneracione data cementariis vocatis setters ad parietes. 1435 *Contract Fotheringhay Ch.* (1841) 30 The Setters shall be chosyn and takyn by such as shall haf the governance and oversight of the sayd Werke by my seid Lord. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Choseth hym as a connynge man,..& maketh hym a setter or orderer of ye same stones. 1601–2 *Accts. Trin. Coll.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 486 To laborers diging foundacions..and seruing the setters at the fountaine.

b. *Woollen Manuf.* (See quot. 1757.)

c 1515 *Cocke Lorelles B.* (Percy Soc.) 9 Lyne webbers, setters, with lyne drapers. 1713 ADDISON *Trial Count Tariff* 3 He was Huzza'd into the Court by several Thousands of Weavers, Clothiers,..Packers, Calenders, Setters, Silk-men, Spinners [etc.]. 1757 R. CAMPBELL *Lond. Tradesman* (ed. 3) 201 Setters..are called so only because they rent Tenter-grounds and stretch Cloths after they are milled, upon Frames called Tenters.

c. A workman who sets jewels.

1819 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 382 Woolcott & Co.,..Cutters and Glaziers' Diamond Setters, 127 High Holborn. 1874 *Dieulafait's Diamonds*, etc. 275 The setter has at his command a furnace filled with burning charcoal. His work is to solder the diamond into a quantity of alloy [etc.]. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/4 Jeweller's Setter.—Wanted a good Hand, used to flush work.

d. *Agric.* (See quot.)

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 90 To each Cart [of marl] must be a Driver and a Setter, whose Office is to shew where 'tis to be laid, and to assist in the unlading of it.

e. A workman who sets or puts into working condition saws, razors, gun-barrels, etc.

1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 29 A celebrated setter or whetter of razors. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 630 They [saws] are next handed to the setter, who places each alternate tooth over the edge of a little anvil [etc.]. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 234 To determine if a barrel is straight, the setter holds it a few inches from his eye with one end pointing towards the top of a high shop-window.

†3. 'A officer on the Border, who, with a searcher, was responsible for setting the appointed watch' (*Northumbld. Gloss.* 1893–4). *Obs.*

1552 in Nicolson *Leges Marchiarum* (1705) 235 The Ford of Bellester..to be watched nightly, with two Men at either Watch..; Setters and Searchers, Thomas Blenkensop and John Orsby. *Ibid.*, Setters and Searchers of the same Watch, Christopher Bowman, Nichol Blaykloke.

4. In *Dice-play*. The player who stakes on the throw of the 'caster'.

1726 J. KER *Mem.* II. 93 And when the Cullies that are not in the Secret, throw at All, they commonly throw out, and lose the Box, which the Bites take, and the Setters go round, laying Guineas, and most extravagant Odds upon the Success. 1726 *Art & Myst. Gaming* title-p., Tables calculated betwixt the Caster and Setter, throughout the whole Course or Changes of the Dice. 1814 *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 367 If the main be seven, and each person stakes a guinea, the gain of the setter is about 3½d. per guinea. 1856 CARLETON in Bohn's *Hand-bk. Games* (1867) 359 (Hazard), If the Caster throw 2, 3, 11 or 12, next after the main is declared, the Setter wins the stake.

5. †a. *gen.* One who places a combatant in position. *Obs.*

1648 BP. HALL *Select Th.* xv. 60 This duel [between the flesh and the spirit] may well beseem God for the Author, and the Son of God for the setter of it.

b. *spec.* In cock-fighting: = SETTER-TO 1.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 253/1 When the Cocks are set Beak to Beak in the middle of the Clod, and there left by the Setters. 1835 H. HAREWOOD *Dict. Sports* s. v. *Cock-fighting*, The battle is conducted by two setters, as they are called, who place the cocks beak to beak. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 16 Apr. 7/2 The whole number at the pit side, including the 'setters' was only 37 persons.

6. †a. *Sc.* One who grants or makes a lease. *Obs.*

1484 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 603 Our commissioneris and settaris of all and sindri our landis. 1586 in *Extracts Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1882) IV. 478 The said setters of thair land to sic persouns sall be poynded or wairdet for ane vnlaw of fyve pund swa aft as thai failyie. 1638 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 163 He was a setter of tacks to his sones and goodsones, for the prejudice of the church. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 186 Tacks necessarily imply a *delectus personæ*, a choice by the setter of a proper person for his tenant.

b. 'One who lets anything to another for hire' (Jam.). *north. dial.*

1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVII. 42 A person in the city of Chester, who is noted for a high setter of shops, as they express it in the north. 1825–82 JAMIESON s. v., A *horse-setter*, a horse-hirer.

c. In quarrying and mining work: The foreman by whom the contracts are made with the workmen. See also SETTING *vbl. sb.* 1 e.

1884 *West. Morn. News* 5 Sept. 2/4 The setter will engage that the bridge shall ply..daily...The setter also will appoint engineers and pay their wages. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Setter*, a *bargain-setter* (or *letter*) is the official who *sets* or *lets* the contract to the quarrymen. 1901 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 6/5 At the beginning of each month, upon what is called bargain day, one, two, or three skilled quarrymen agree with a foreman, or 'setter', upon the tonnage rate at which they will work out a given portion of the quarry for the following month.

7. a. A confederate of sharpers or swindlers, employed as a decoy; also (? with transferred notion of sense 11), one who is employed by robbers or murderers to spy upon their intended victims.

1592 GREENE *Disco. Coosenage* A 4, There be requisite effectually to act the art of Conny-catching, three seuerall parties, the Setter, the Verser, and the barnacle. The nature of the Setter, is to drawe anie person familiarly to drinke with him [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 53 *Poin.* O 'tis our Setter, I know his voyce: Bardolfe, what newes? 1647 DIGGS *Unlawfuln. Taking Arms* iv. 237 It is beyond my skill to..determine, whether the slye and cunning setter, or the stout thief can claim greatest share in the spoyle. 1722 SWIFT *Dying Words Elliston* Wks. 1761 III. 355 We have setters watching in corners, and by dead walls, to give us notice when a gentleman goes by. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 86 P 4, I became Setter to a Fleet-Parson.

b. 'A person employed by the vendor at an auction to run the biddings up' (*Hotten's Slang Dict.* 1860).

1698 DUNTON *Life & Errors* 547, I had not one Setter (to advance the price, and draw on unwary Bidders) in any of my five Sales. 1732 *Tricks of Town* 36 Away to the place of Auction; the Orator,..surrounded by his Puffs and Setters, shows away.

c. A police spy or informer.

1630 J. LANE *Contin. Squire's T.* and vers. (1887) 134 So maie wee doe and live, woold Algarsive and his state setters, all vs thus reprive. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Lond.* (1662) II. 222 It was not long before he [Campian] was caught by the Setters of the Secretary Walsingham, and brought to the Tower. 1778 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 314, I shall have the satisfaction at last of finding something that I am fit for,—a setter, a dun, a catchpole, or a bum-bailiff, to recover bad debts. 1866 FITZ-PATRICK *Sham Squire* 125 All the information regarding the movements of Lord Edward Fitzgerald came through Francis Higgins, who employed a gentleman..'to set' the unfortunate nobleman. The 'setter' we believe to have been Mr. Francis Magan, barrister-at-law. 1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Setter*,..a policeman in disguise or a man in the employ of the police (the French 'indicateur') who points out the thief for others to arrest.

†d. (See quot.) *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Setters*..also..an Excize-Officer to prevent the Brewers defrauding the King.

e. *transf.* and *fig.*

1600 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* I. iii. C8, They are the effect of need, or wantonnesse, venial faults. Age commonly reclaimeth the one, and the other is punished by the setter Pouertie. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. (1668) 82 Self-love, which is, as it were, the common Setter to all those cheats which circumvent and fool us. 1683 CAVE *Eccles., Basil* 218 Their first care was to lodge him in the House of some Friend, or Country-man, or at least one of those Setters, that plied up and down in the behalf of that Sophist.

8. One who sets to music.

1605 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Wit's Pilgr.* (Grosart) 8/1 Thy Soule vpon so sweet an Organ plaies As makes the Parts, she plaies, as sound as sweete; Which sounds the heau'nly Setters, and thy praise. 1635 WALLER *To Mr. H. Lawes* 23 The Writers and the Setters skill At once the ravisht Ears do fill.

† 9. One who devises or instigates. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. 605 As well the maisters that were the setters thereof, as the servants that were privie and accessarie thereto, had their deserts, and suffered for it.

10. a. That which fertilizes a flower, so that the plant is able to 'set' or develop fruit (see SET v. 98).

a 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne, Obs. on Veget.* (1836) 301 If bees, who are much the best setters of cucumbers, do not happen to take kindly to the frames, the best way is to tempt them by a little honey put on the..bloom.

b. A plant which 'sets' or develops fruit; only with adj. as *good, bad setter*.

1888 M. T. MASTERS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 237/2 Some..varieties [of the vine] are, as gardeners say, bad setters',—i. e. do not ripen their fruit owing to imperfect fertilization.

11. A dog trained to 'set' game.

a. As the name of a special breed.

Of the breed now so called, there are three varieties, the *English*, the *Irish*, and the *Gordon setters*. The name was formerly applied to a kind of spaniel.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 16 When he approcheth neere to the place where the birde is, he layes him downe, and with a marcke of his pawes, betrayeth the place of the byrdes last abode, whereby it is supposed that this kinde of dogge is called *Index*, Setter. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* VII. xxii. 680 There is also another sort of land spannyels which are called Setters. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 167 The setter that crouches down when it scents the birds, till the net be drawn over them. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 25 Some..authorities are convinced that the setter is directly derived from the spaniel. *attrib.* 1885 *Field* 17 Jan. Advt., For Sale, handsome highly bred Setter Bitch. *Ibid.*, A gentleman is desirous of placing Two Red Setter Pups..with a first-class breaker.

†b. *gen. Obs.*

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1317/4 A little Land Spaniel, red and white, no Setter. 1742 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 314 But Water Spaniels may be brought to be Setters, if they have a perfectly good Scent.

†c. One who practises 'setting': see SETTING *vbl. sb.* 1 c (*b*). *Obs.*

1780 T. DAVIES *Garrick* I. 3 Mr. Hunter was..a great setter of game. Happy was the boy who could inform his offended master where a covey of partridges was to be found.

II. 12. An instrument or tool used in setting, in various senses.

†a. A net or trap for catching or killing birds.

1526 *Housek. Exp. Sir T. Le Strange* (MS.), Item. a woodcocke and ij partriches kylled with the setter. 1540 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1837) VII. 56 Taking or killing..any partriches and fesantes with any nettes setters horses trameles or other gynnes.

b. *Gunnery.* A wooden instrument used, with the aid of a mallet, to set the fuse into a shell.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Setter*, in *gunnery*, a round stick to drive fuzes, or any other compositions, into cases made of paper. 1808 J. M. SEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 79 Wood Setters. 1854 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (ed. 6) 82 They are carefully driven into the Shell with a mallet and setter. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 377/2.

c. ? = SETTING-POLE.

1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* 32 The appurtenances were as follows:—6 balks..2 oars; 1 anchor; 1 grapnel; 1 pole or setter.

d. *Porcelain Manuf.*

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 454 A plate sagger will hold twenty plates placed one on the other of earthenware, but china plates are fired separately in 'setters' made of their respective forms. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 43/2 Setters also should be used at the bottom of each piece, and ground flint applied, but not sand, for the placing or seating.

e. A kind of lifting-jack.

1895 *Stores' Price List* 15 Sept. 490 Carriage Setter. Best Wood Setter—each 15/0.

13. *dial.* (See quot.)

1849 GREENWELL *Gloss. Terms Coal Trade* (1851) 46 *Setters*, large pieces of coal; so called by the landsale cartmen, from their use in piling or setting round the sides of their carts, to enable them to hold a larger quantity of coals than could otherwise be placed upon them.

Se·tter, *sb.*[2] *dial.* [f. SETTER *v.*] A seton or issue produced by 'settering': see the vb.

1766 *Complete Farmer, Setter*, a kind of setom [*sic*] or issue, made by cutting a hole in the dewlap of an ox or cow, and putting into the wound a sort of tent formed out of the root of helleboraster. 1788 [see SETTERGRASS].

Setter (se·təɹ), *v. dial.* Also 6 syter. [f. SETTER-in SETTERWORT.] *trans.* To insert a piece of setterwort under the skin of (an animal) in order to produce an issue.

[1523: cf. SEVER *v.* 5 c.] 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. L vj, Dyuerse husband men..vsed to put the roote of berefoot into beastes eares, and called the puttynge in of it, syterynge of beastes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 133 The order of Settring a Bullocke is this, take setterwoort [etc.]. *Ibid.* 151 Some again cure them with settering. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words*, To *Setter*; to cut the Dewlap of an Ox or Cow, into which they put Helleboraster, which we call Setterwort. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 506 It is necessary at the same Time to setter the Hog in the Ear with the common Hellebore. 1863 ATKINSON *Danby Gloss.* s. v. *Seton*, We took care that she [a cow] was weel setter'd.

Setterday, obs. form of SATURDAY.

Setter-forth. [See SET *v.* 144.] One who sets forth (in various senses); one who promulgates an opinion, who equips an expedition, etc.

1451 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 225/1 Noon owner, Vitailler, nor setter-forth of eny Shippe or Vessell. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 5 *marg.*, Mecænas was..so great a fauourer, promouter, and setter fourthe of Virgil, Horace, & suche other learned menne, that [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xvii. 18 He seemeth to be a setter foorth of strange gods. 1616 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* 48, I was beholden to the setters forth of the foure ships that went with Cooper. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. 1641 (1879) I. 22 Mr. Bleaw, the setter forth of the Atlas's and other workes of that kind. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. xl. 319 Sebastian Cabota.. was the chief Setterforth of the first Voyage into those Parts. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 26 Your setters-forth of unexampled themes.

Se·ttergrass. *Obs.* exc. *dial. rare.* In 4 saturgrese, 5 setyr grysse. [f. **setter*- in SETTERWORT + GRASS.] = SETTERWORT.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 18 *Elleborus*, i. saturgresse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 331/2 Setyr grysse, *eleborus niger, herba est.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccIxi. 827 *Consiligo* is called in English Bearfoote, Setterwoort, and Settergrasse. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 Settergrass, *helleborus fœtidus*; a species of bear's-foot; used in making 'setters' or issues in cattle. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* 439 The plant setter-wort, or setter-grass.

† **Setter-on.** *Obs.* [See SET *v.* 148.]

1. One who sets on; an instigator or inciter.

c 1550 BALE *K. Johan* 2482 (Manly) Tyll my setters-on were of their purpose wyde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 4 b, I sent unto them that were my setters on, at Woormes. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 163 The Jesuistes and other padres are the fyre brands and setters on of all this, in provoking children against parents and subjects against their naturall princes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ix. The great Dowdy who acts the part of a madman as well as some of his setters-on do that of a fool.

2. One who 'sets on' or makes an onset. *rare.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 294, I made once a vowe that the first battaile that eyther the king your father or any of his children should be at, how that I would be one of the first setters on, or else to die in the trauaile.

Setter-out. *rare.* [See SET *v.* 149.]

1. One who sets out; one who publishes, proclaims, etc.

c 1553 ASCHAM *Disc. Germ.* (1570) 21 A noble setter out, and as true a follower of Christ and his Gospell. 1582 in ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 101 That the autors, dyters, setters out of that infamous lybell be punished accordinglie. 1824 [W. CARR] *Craven Gloss.* Introd. 5 T'Setter-out o't book.

2. *spec.* (See quot.)

1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Setter out*, an under or assistant foreman of joiners or leading joiner, whose work is to accurately set or line out every detail of each piece of joinery.

Setter-to. ? *Obs.* [See SET *v.* 152.]

1. A professional handler of game-cocks in a cock-fight; = SETTER *sb.*[1] 5.

1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 169 To these another class become annexed, called 'handers' or 'setters to'. 1835 H. HAREWOOD *Dict. Sports* s. v. *Cock-fighting*, When once the cocks are pitted, neither of the setters-to can touch his cock ..unless [etc.].

2. *Pugilism.* With epithet: One who has a particular style of 'setting to' or beginning the fight.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 125 A shewy setter-to, but a slight hitter. 1824 EGAN *Boxiana* II. 493 The most accomplished setter-to of the day, Tom Belcher.

Setter-up. [See SET *v.* 154.] One who sets up (in any sense).

1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Peril Idol.* III. 59 b, The erecter, setter vp, and mainteyner of Images in Churches and Temples. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 37 Thou setter vp, and plucker downe of Kings. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* II. iii, I am but a yong setter vp; the vttermost I dare venture vppon't is three-score pound. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Honest Man's Fort.* II. i, Old occupations have too many setters up to prosper. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* III. Wks. 1871 I. 359, I do not pretend to be a setter-up of new notions. 1853 R. S. HAWKER in *Life & Lett.* (1905) 251 Neither can I congratulate your Setter-up [i. e. compositor] on his accuracy. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* VIII. 134 Dardanus first setter-up and sire of Ilian wall. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 43 Spinning and weaving machine maker... Setter-up.

Setterwort (se·təɹwɜ̃t). Also 6 syter wurt. [Perh. adopted from MLG.; Diefenbach s.v. *Elleborum* gives a great variety of synonymous forms in MHG. and MLG. such as *sitro, sutir-, sitlir-, sitti-, siter-, sutten-, -sutwurz, -wort* (f. HG. *wurz*, LG. *wort* WORT[1]). The first element is of unknown origin; cf. ME. (14th *c.*) *satur(gresse)* SETTERGRASS.] The plant Bear's-foot or Fetid Hellebore, *Helleborus fœtidus*; also the Green Hellebore, *H. viridis.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. L vj, The herbe syter wurte. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 124 b, The hearbe called blacke Ellebor, of some Bearfoot, and others Setterwort. 1597 [see SETTERGRASS]. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. 42 Setterwort, Greenish. 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne, Let. to Barrington* 3 July, *Helleborus fœtidus*, stinking hellebore, bear's-foot, or setterwort. 1907 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 3 The tender green of the setterwort does not own the power of the frost by a single black spot.

Settewale, obs. form of SETWALL.

Setthe(n, obs. variant forms of SITH, SITHEN.

Settherday, dial. form of SATURDAY.

Settil, obs. form of SETTLE.

Setting, *sb. Orkney & Shetl.* Also 6 settein, 7–9 setten, 9 settin, -een. [a. ON. *séttung-r* sixth part, f. *sétte* sixth.] A unit of weight in the Orkney and Shetland Isles; the sixth part of a 'meal' (MEAL *sb.*[4]); identical with the LISPOUND.

1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetl.* (1859) 72 Ane barrell of malt of nyne setteins wecht. 1588 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 390 Selling..63 lastis 23,003 settingis 4 marks coist, 125 lastis 1002 settingis beir, 95 lastis 1004 settingis flesche. 1703 M. MARTIN *Descr. West. Isles* 370 A Young Boy..stole a setten of Barley, which is about twenty eight Pound Weight. 1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Shetl.* 159 Twenty-four marks make a settin or lispund...Six settins or lispunds make a meil.

Setting (se·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SET *v.* + -ING[1].]

I. 1. The action of the verb SET in various transitive senses; putting, placing, planting, etc. Also, the fact of being set.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXXVI. (1495) 692 The rose tree spryngith somtyme by settynge and plantynge and somtyme by graffynge. 1427–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 68 Also for settyng of þe same ston iij dayes. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) P j, M. Thomas..writte to his wife, and did hir to weete hys setting at libertie. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 423 A Tree, at the first Setting, should not be Shaken, vntill it hath taken Root fully. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Setting*, when applied to the sails, is the loosening and expanding them. 1796 W. JONES, etc. *Key to Art of Ringing* Pref. 1 Instructions for the attainment of the practical part of the art, from the setting of a Bell itself to the perfect knowledge of the most difficult peals. 1841 *Guide to Trade, Baker* 38 This is called the quarter sponge, and the operation is denominated setting. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 235 At that time setting or straightening was so little known that many of the barrels were far from being straight. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Setting of the Brick*, the fixing of the bricks in a kiln.

† **b.** An ambush or trap. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. viii. (1869) 180 Keepe þee.. from hise settinges and from hise nettes.

c. *Sport.* (*a*) The action of a dog in indicating game.

1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prev.* 265 To make a true election of your dogge, which you intend to apply to this purpose of Setting. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Setting-dog*, a Dog train'd up to the Setting of Partridges. 1819 T. B. JOHNSON *Shooter's Comp.* 22 Dogs, called setters, are now to be met with of all forms, miserably deficient in the most prominent quality, setting.

(*b*) The sport of 'putting up' game with a setter.

1661 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 36 When I go a Hawking or Setting. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Aug. 1654, I went a setting and hawking. 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, Let. to Pennant* 12 May, I knew a lover of setting, an old sportsman. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 113 His great skill in all the sports of the field, especially that of Setting, of which diversion his Lordship was passionately fond.

d. *Sc.* and *dial.* The action of letting or leasing (land, etc.); the right to do this; a lease.

1397 in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 252 All giftys, taliees, settyngys, and condysyoungs mad or to be mad be dame Isabell, Contas of Mar, to the sayd George hir brothir. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 246 The saide founder ..shall have the lettinge, settinge, boynes, services and customes of all the landes. 1634–46 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 173 Cruell oppression of the poore tenants; evidenced, 1°. By deare setting of rowms. 1760 *Patrington Haven Act* 16 The intention of such letting or setting. 1898 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 546 The lettings, here called 'settings' or 'takings', are at Candlemas.

e. *Mining.* The act of contracting with miners for work to be done.

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 569 Of the remainder he paid the adventurers one-half, or one-quarter, as may have been agreed upon according to the supposed prospects of the mine at the time of setting. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Setting*, sometimes termed 'letting'...in the slate industry,..means agreeing upon a contract for a month.

2. The manner or position in which anything is set, fixed, or placed. In *Croquet*, any one of the different arrangements of the hoops and pegs on the ground.

14.. *Wycliffite Bible, 2 Kings* ii. 19 *marg.*, That is, the setting of the citee was best for profetis. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 279 How 3e schull pray to God, þe settyng of þe chyrch hyt tellyþe you: Hit ys sette yn þe est, techyng [etc.]. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 The temperynge to go brode and narrowe is in the settyng of the culture [= coulter]. 1625 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* Induct. 40, I saw the bravest setting for a game now That ever mine eye fix'd on. 1868 W. J. WHITMORE *Croquet Tactics* ii. 19 There are as many as eight different settings. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 254/1 (Croquet) The original setting had ten hoops...Finally came the six-hoop or championship setting.

b. The inclination or dip of an axle: = SET *sb.*[1] 18 a.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1162 The setting or form of the axle.

c. *Gas-works.* The manner of placing retorts in a furnace; *concr.* a group or set of retorts placed together.

1872 W. C. HOLMES & Co. *Manag. Gas Works* 15 The setting of the retorts is a matter of the utmost importance. 1877 W. RICHARDS *Manuf. Coal Gas* 354 Of all the apparatus of a gasworks, unquestionably the most important are the settings of retorts. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 91/2 A furnace or bed of retorts is composed of a group or setting, heated by a separate fire.

d. *Type-founding.* The position of the face of a letter on the body or shank. Cf. SET *sb.*[1] 19 c.

1887 J. SOUTHWARD in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 710/1 All founders now supply imitations of the old types. Comparing the old face and the modern characters, the latter are more regular in size, lining, setting, and colour,—using these words in the technical sense of the founder.

† **3.** Putting into words, redaction. *Obs.*

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 519 For þe ton storie the tothir Medlyth withal, After the settyng Of the forseid Robert That somtym it translated. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. vi. 21 Therefore thus after the settynge of mayster Alphonse is youre legende red in all places of this order.

† **4.** A sum staked at play; a bet or stake. *Obs.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. iii. Tj, All the stakes and settynges that be sette within the dyce borde, whiche lye on lyttell heapes.

† **5.** A set (of stones) with which a surface is 'set' or studded. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1612 BIBLE *Exod.* xxviii. 17 And thou shalt set in it settings of stones [*margin*, Hebr. fill in it fillings of stone].

6. The manner in which a jewel is 'set' or mounted; *concr.* the frame or bed (of precious metal or the like) in which a jewel is set.

1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 192 *note*, A very valuable antique ring, the setting of which did not meet his approbation. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. ii. *Aristocr. Lett.* (1869) 48 The setting is more valuable than the jewel. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 350/2 There are two systems of setting practised—viz., Roman setting, and what is called colletting.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* The environment or surroundings in which a person or thing is 'set'; the literary framework of a narrative or other composition; the mounting of a play.

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 8. 30 The connecting links—the framing and setting—of these Revelations. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 315 Mythology has a setting in geography and history. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 5/4 The setting of the piece is charming, and it is quite wonderful how much has been made of a little stage.

7. The manner in which a poem or form of words is set to music; a piece of music composed for a particular poem or form of words.

1879 HUSK in *Grove's Dict. Music* I. 84/2 Arne gave to the world those beautiful settings of the songs 'Under the greenwood tree' [etc.]. 1881 CROWEST *Phases Mus. Eng.* 93 Settings for the Canticles by modern Church writers.

8. a. *Plastering.* The finishing coat of plaster, the *setting-coat* (see 14, SET *sb.*[1] 30 a, SET *v.* 101).

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 390 The term setting is commonly used, when the third coat is made of fine stuff for papering. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 606 With this tool all the first coats of plaster is laid on, as are also the last, or, as it is technically termed, the setting. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 121/2 Setting may be either a second coat upon laying or rendering, or a third coat upon floating.

b. A wash of gum or other suitable material applied to the surface of a pencil, charcoal or crayon drawing to prevent it being rubbed; a fixative.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

9. A crop of fruit developed by fertilizing (see SET *v.* 98). ? *Obs.*

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Cucumis*, For Want of which kindly Heat, the first Setting or Crop of Fruit..drops off.

II. Senses related to intransitive uses of SET *v.*

10. The sinking of a heavenly body towards and below the horizon; the quarter or direction in which a heavenly body sets. Also, the fall of night or darkness.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5508 Þan sewis furth þat souerayn ay by þa salt strandis Toward þe settynge of þe son. 1592 HUES *Treat. Globes* xii, Yon shall in like manner have the houre of the setting. 1607, 1728 [see HELIACAL 1]. 1699 *Relat. Sir T. Morgan's Progr. France* 13 The Major-General reply'd he would fall on just at the setting of the Night, and when the dusk of the Evening came on. 1823 CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 22 The sun being now near his setting. 1877 BROWNING *Agamemnon* 67 The shield-bearing people That made a leap, at setting of the Pleiads.

b. *fig.*

1623 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 225, I haue touch'd the highest point of all my Greatnesse, And from that full Meridian of my Glory, I haste now to my Setting. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. x. (1852) 156 Upon the setting of Mr. Francis Newman, there arose Mr. William Leet. 1807 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immortality* v, The Soul that rises with us, our life's Star, Hath had elsewhere its setting, And cometh from afar. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* I. i, The setting of a great hope is like the setting of the sun.

11. The process or fact of becoming set, hard, or stiff; coagulation.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. Addit. Notes xii. 24 The clay becomes as hard as before, being pressed together..by its self-attraction, called setting by the potters. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 456 An almost impenetrable crust may be produced by the quick exhalation of the moisture, and what is termed by farmers the setting of the clay. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 312 (Plastering) *Setting* is also the quality that any kind of stuff has to harden in a short time. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 9) 166 If too much Alcohol be employed, the setting of the Pyroxyline will be..greatly retarded.

attrib. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 610 The coagulating or setting power of burnt alabaster. 1878 ABNEY *Treat. Photogr.* vii. 52 The alkali decomposes the pyroxyline, rendering it..defective in setting qualities.

12. The flowing of a current in a particular direction; the direction of flow. Also *fig.*

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 52 The settinge of head seas in soe darke a night within soe straight and daingerous a passage. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 10 You are to.. observe all..Courses of Tides, flowings and settings of Currents. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) N 2 b, The setting, or progressive motion of the current. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *N.-W. Passage* xl. 533 It was attempted to explain this appearance, by supposing the setting of a current here from west to east. 1875 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* (1879) VI. 199 That powerful setting of the current of human motive and inclination.

III. Combinations.

13. With various advs., as *setting-down, -forth, -in, -off, -out, to*: see the corresponding combinations of SET *v.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 6 As sais 'þe romance of þe rose', but settyng to of ony glose. 1439 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 157 Atte the settyng vp of his Crafte he schal pay iijs. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. H iv, The gallaunt garnishing, and the bewtiful setting furth of it. 1606 BACON *Cousid. Plant. Irel.* Resuscit. (1657) 259 So that, this must rather be an Adventure, for such as are full; Then a setting up, of those, that are of low Means. 1614 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princes* 52 From his [the Cock's] head to the setting on of his shoulders. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 132 ¶ 1 The first preparation for our Setting out was, that the Captain's Half-Pike was placed near the Coachman. 1778 HALHED *Bengal Gram.* Advt., Till the setting in of the dry season. *c* 1800 in *Hoyle's Games Improv.* (1814) 444 The person appointed..is to tell ten between each setting-to, till one of the two cocks has refused fighting ten times successively. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* iii. 82 Their teeth and the setting-up of their backs will confirm this. 1859 H. H. DIXON *Silk & Scarlet* 216 We do not just like the setting on of his [a horse's] neck.

b. Specific uses: **setting-down,** †a siege; **setting-forth,** †a means of advancement or bringing into celebrity; **setting-off,** †something that enhances the charm of a thing; **setting-out,** a working drawing.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. ii. 217 O Iove, what a setting forth it is to a man, to haue many courtiers come to his house! 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* V. iv. 10 The confident Tyrant Keepes still in Dunsinane, and will indure Our setting downe before't. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* II. v, A Bed-fellow, To whose rare entertainment all these are But foils and settings off. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 48 They were rather excursions than sieges or settings down, for he staid not long in a place. 1891 DENNING *Art Cabinet-Making* 220 The setting out or working drawing may be made on paper.

†**c.** Phr. *To cost one the setting on*, ? to cost one dear. Also, *to cost one* (*dear*) *in the setting on.*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. v, This good fellowshippe shall cost mee the setting on at our next meeting. 1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. II. viii. 255 Carthages often prouocation of Rome cost it dearer in the setting on, then other Cities vanquished by the Romanes.

14. Attributive, in many names of technical instruments and appliances, as *setting-chisel, -dibble, -hammer, -iron, -knife, -pin, -screw, -trowel*, etc.; **setting-board,** (*a*) a board used by glaziers in lead-work (see quot. 1825), (*b*) a board of wood or cork, usually grooved, for setting insect specimens; **setting-circle,** a graduated circle attached to a telescope for ascertaining the position of a star (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*); **setting coat,** a finishing coat of fine plastering (cf. 8 a); **setting muzzle,** a muzzle used for preventing a horse from feeding (cf. SET *v.* 26 d); **setting-net,** ? a SET-NET; **setting-rule,** a composing-rule; **setting-up drill,** a course of gymnastic exercises used to give an erect carriage, etc.; also **setting-up exercise.** Also SETTING-POLE, SETTING-STICK.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 638 The *setting-board is that in which the ridge of the light is marked and divided into squares, struck out with a chalk line, or drawn with a lath, which serves to guide the workmen. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. IV. 534 The English plan, except in the case of some large-bodied moths or hawk-moths, requires no groove in the setting-board. 1399 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 18 Magnæ *settyng chisiles. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 312 **Setting Coat.* 1626 T. H. tr. *Caussin's Holy Court* 28 To handle the scepter, with the same humility of heart..that one would do a *setting-dibble. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 382/1 Tools used by Jewellers. ..A *Setting Hammer. 1611 COTGR., *Fiche*, a gardeners dible, or *setting yron. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 186 With what are known as masons' setting-irons stuck into the stone-work behind. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 638 The *setting-knife [used by glaziers in lead-work] consists of a blade with a round point, loaded with lead at the bottom and terminating in a long square handle. 1835 H. HARE WOOD *Dict. Sports* s. v. *Muzzle*, There are two descriptions of muzzles: 1. the dressing muzzle.. 2. the *setting muzzle. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 1127. 319 A setting muzzle prevents it [*sc.* wind-sucking in horses] usually. ?*c* 1690 *Basford Ball.* (1877) 757 This Honourable Covey met, Hodge draws the Members *Setting-Net, And gets from all, without regret, Subscriptions. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Gloucester* I. 144 The *setting pin resembles the gardener's dibble. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 376 Having made and secured our measure, we look for a *setting Rule. 1867 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 608/2 A thin slip of brass called a setting-rule, which he places in the composing-stick when he begins. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 329 The Use of this *Setting-Screw is, to increase or diminish the Proportion of seed to be turned out by the Notches. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 249 A *Setting Trowell, being less than the Laying Trowell, with which they finish the Plastering when it is almost dry. 1862 MACLAREN *Milit. Syst. Gymnastic Exerc.* 26 The *setting up and position drill of recruits.

Setting (se·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SET *v.* + -ING².] That sets, in various senses of the verb.

1. Becoming, suitable, graceful. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Cf. SITTING *ppl. a.* 2.

1535 *Goodly Primer* Admon. to Rdr. (1537), It is not mete, comely, nor settynge, that [etc.]. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* (1789) 50 Says she, that lad was a' her care, That was so setting with his yellow hair. *Ibid.* 94 The ither too was a right setting lass, Though forthersome.

2. Of a dog: That sets or indicates game. See also SETTING-DOG.

1551 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 71 To my brother Rayff Thompsone my setting spanyell doge, with all netts and geyr pertenyng to it. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2275/4 Lost.., a large Setting-Bitch about 4 years old.

3. Of a hen: Sitting. Now *dial.*

1829 MRS. S. C. HALL *Sk. Ir. Char.* II. 29 Mr. Billy.. sent her a setting hen and seven eggs. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Aroostook* (1883) II. 14 A ship's time is worth no more than a setting hen's.

4. Sinking below or nearing the horizon; said of the sun or other heavenly body, its light, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 12 The setting Sun. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 79 When the setting Stars are lost in Day. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 194 His shadow lengthen'd by the setting sun. 1798 WORDSW. *Tintern Abbey* 97 Whose dwelling is the light of setting suns. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xix, A flush like evening's setting flame Glow'd on his cheek. 1882 SIR W. W. HUNTER in Skrine *Life* (1901) 314 By the light of a setting half-moon.

b. *fig.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. i, All turn'd their faces to the rising sunne And leaues his setting-fortune night begun. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Parall. Essex & Buckhm.* Reliq. W. (1651) 11 First, he was to wrastle with a Queens declyning, or rather with her very setting Age (as we may term it). 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* v. 26 We whose generations are ordained in this setting part of time. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* i, That important period, when chivalry still shone with a setting ray, soon about to be totally obscured.

†**c.** *transf.* Western. *Obs.*

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 248 The Flemings were inforc't to take them to their Ores, To try the Setting Maine to find out firmer shores. 1622 *Ibid.* xxix. 22 Yorkshire which doth lye vpon my Setting side. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vii. 305 Magnifying the condition of..the Easterne Countries, above the setting and occidentall Climates.

d. *Setting-sun*: an edible bivalve mollusc, *Psammobia vespertina.*

1867 LOVELL *Edible Mollusks* 150.

5. Of fruit: Beginning to develop from the flower.

1891 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 438 The setting plums or apples.

6. With adverbs, *down, in, up*, etc. (see the vb.).

1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 413 Here the sea has formed caverns, which are rendered dreadful by a setting-in tide. 1874 *Hislop's Bk. Scot. Anecd.* 514 'Did ye ever hear a cuddie bray, Hawkie', said a youth to him one day... 'Never till the noo,' was the setting-down and quick answer. 1882 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 51 Type Founding...Setting-up Boy.

†**Setting dog.** *Obs.* A dog trained to 'set' game; = SETTER *sb.*¹ 11.

1611 COTGR., *Braque*, a kind of short-tayled setting dog. 1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prev.* 253 A Setting Dogge is a certaine lusty land Spaniell, taught by nature to hunt the Partridge before, and more then any other chase whatsoeuer. 1697 *Post Boy* 12–14 Aug. b/2 An old Brown and white Setting-dog. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 116 ¶ 1 He was eminent for a breed of pointers and setting-dogs. 1780 H. WALPOLE *Let. to W. Cole* 5 Feb., Dr. Birch was..running about like a young setting-dog in quest of anything. 1835 H. HARE WOOD *Dict. Sports* s. v. *Setter*, It is said that Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, was the first person that broke a setting-dog to the net, doubtless the spaniel.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1643 *True Chr. Subj. under Heathen Prince* 5 Looke to the twentieth part, which is but a setting dogge to shew where the covey of nineteen are. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Setters*, or *Setting-dogs*, they that draw in Bubbles, for old Gamesters to Rook; also a Sergeant's Yeoman, or Bailiff's Follower, or Second, and an Excize-Officer to prevent the Brewers defrauding the King. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Address of Thanks* xii, Even sell K. T. that gart us ban, And eke that setting-dog his man.

Setting-pole. A pole, esp. one used by wild-fowlers for propelling a boat or punt on mud-banks, securing wounded birds, etc.

1765 *Universal Mag.* XXXVII. 370/1 When they go against a current, they use setting-poles. 1797 F. BAILY *Tour* (1856) 270 The longest setting poles we had would not reach the bottom. 1824 HAWKER *Instr. Yng. Sportsman* (ed. 3) 345 Let one go out for the birds, taking with him the setting pole. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. ix. § 2. 121 The shooter proceeds, generally by night, with an assistant in the punt, using the oars, paddle or setting-pole.

Setting-stick.

1. A stick used for making holes for 'setting' or planting. Now *dial.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 19 b, A dibell or settynge sticke, *pastinum.* 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 233 Plant them with the setting-stick, or dibber. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* vii. § 4 (1681) 121 Make the holes with an ordinary Setting-stick. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) V. 54 The plant is then to be planted with a setting-stick so that the upper part of the root shall appear about half an inch out of the ground. 1817–8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 66 A setting-stick which should be the top of a spade-handle cut off, about ten inches below the eye. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Setting-stick*, a short pointed stick, used for planting cabbages.

†**2.** A rod used for stiffening the plaits or 'sets' of ruffs, a poking-stick. *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 37 Marshalld in good order: wyth a stetting [*sic*] stick, and stoout, that euery ruff stood vp like a wafer. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 36 They haue also another instrument called a setting sticke,..and with this they set their ruffes. 1615 HOWES *Stow's Chron.* 948/2 About the sixteenth yeere of the Queene, began the making of steele poking-stickes, and vntill that time all Lawndresses vsed setting stickes, made of wood, or bone. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. (III.) iii. 568 Pots, glasses, oyntments, irons, combes, bodkins, setting stickes.

3. A composing-stick.

1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.* (ed. 2) 123.

Settirday, obs. form of SATURDAY.

Settle (se·t'l), *sb.*¹ Forms: α. 1 **setl, setel,** setol, seotl, sotl, seatl, sitl (-el, -ol, -ul); 3 sættel, seotel, seotle, 3, 6 settle, 3–4 settel, 4 setill(e, setil(e, 5 setyl, 4– **settle.** β. 1 *Northumb.* seð(e)l, sedl, 5 *north.* **sedylle**; see also LANGSETTLE. [OE. *setl* neut., pl. *setlu* (also, in Northumb., pl. *setlas, seatlas*, etc., as if masc.) corresponds to OHG. *sezzal* (MHG. *sezzel*, mod.G. *sessel*) masc., Goth. *sitl-s* masc.:—OTeut. **setlo-*:—pre-Teut. **sedlo-*, cogn. w. L. *sella* (:—**sedlā*), f. Indogermanic root **sed-*, OTeut. **set-*: see SIT *v.* The β forms, OE. (Anglian) *seð(e)l, sedl*, ME. *-sedil, sedylle*, mod. north. dial. *-seddle, -saddle* (see LANGSETTLE), represent a WGer. variant **sepl* (with the irregular variation in the articulation of the dentals sometimes found before *l* and *m*: see BOTTLE *sb.*¹, BOTTOM *sb.*), which is found also in OFris. *sedel*, OS. *sethal, sedal, sedel* masc., OHG. *sethal, sedal* (MHG. *sedel*) neut., masc., whence MHG. *sidelen* (mod.G. *siedeln*) to settle in a place. Cf. the metathetic form SELD *sb.*

In Eng. the β type appears only in Anglian dialects (after the OE. period almost exclusively in the forms of LANGSETTLE), and does not show (as it does in OHG.) any differentiation in application from the α type.]

†**1.** A sitting place. Also *transf.* and *fig.*, a 'seat', position, abode. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1782 (Gr.) Ga nu to setle. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiv. [xvi.] (1890) 202 Ond mon mæg gen to dæge þa stowe his sedles [orig. *locum sedis ejus solitariæ*] on þæm ilcan ealonde sceawian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Ags. Bible* (Gr.) 2/45 Þa næfde he nan setl, hwær he sittan mihte, for þan þe nan heofon nolde hine aberan. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17872 (Göttl.) Adam..wid patriark and wid prophete, In mirk settlis þar þai sete. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 9, I sall rest in þe bed of endles blis & in þe setil of heuen. *Ibid.* Cant. 504 Þou did down ill gastis & vicys of þaire alde setile, þat þai hafe na powere in my saule.

†**2.** Something to sit upon; a chair, bench, stool, or the like. *Obs.*

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 435 Hit is swiðe ġewunelic ðætte domeras & rice menn on setelum sitten. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 12 Hyra setlu [*c* 975 *Rushw.* settlas] þara þe culfran sealdon he tobræc. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 594 Among þe wede, among þe netle, þu syttest & singst bihinde seotle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14734 Þair settles þat þai in can sete, He kest þam dun. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 882 A cheyer by-fore þe chemné..Was grayþed for sir Gawan..& he sete in þat settel semlych ryche. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 226/2 He dyd do make a siege or a stole of yron..and after to sette fyre under it..but the siege or setyl maite like waxe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/2 A Sedylle, *sedile.*

b. *High settle* (OE. *héahsetl* = OHG. *hôhsedal*): an elevated seat, a chair of dignity or state; a seat of honour at table; a throne, seat of judgement. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* after OE. use.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 13 Fore þæm hehsedle [Vulg. *pro tribunali*]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 272 Se rica man ðe sitt on his heahsetle hraðe ġeswicð he his ġebeorscipes ġif ðu þeowan ġeswicað ðæra teolunga. *c* 1205 LAY. 16646 Þa sat Agag þe king inne his hæh sættele. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 20 He lette bringen hire biuoren him to his heh seotel as he set in dome as reue. 1877 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* I. i. 16 The high settle of King or Ealdorman.

3. *spec.* A long wooden bench, usually with arms and a high back (often extending to the ground), and having a locker or box under the seat. Cf. LANGSETTLE.

1553 *Rec. St. Mary-at-Hill* 53 Item, In y^e qvire ij settelles with lockars apece. 1590 in *Archæologia* (1866) XL. 327 Itm. an olde standing bedsted w^th a settle unto it. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* To Rdr., D. His Booke..I haning kept idle by me in a by settle out of sight amongst old

shooes and bootes almost this two yere. 1658 tr. *Ussher's Ann.* 114 They rap and make a noise with their hands or mallets, upon the deskes or settles in their Synagogues. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 47 Looking down under the Settle there he espied his Roll. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* VIII. *Baucis & Phil.* 44 The Man..A common Settle drew for either Guest, Inviting each his weary Limbs to rest. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 579 And cast him..Down on an oaken settle in the hall. 1868 Eastlake *Hints Househ. Taste* 145 The common wooden settle which forms so comfortable and snug-looking a seat by rustic hearths.

b. A bench or seat in a boat (see quot.).

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Settle*, now termed the stern-sheets.

4. A ledge, raised platform. †a. In the Bible, used to render Heb. עזרה *ʿăzārāh* (Vulg. *crepido*), app. either of two platforms or stages, surrounding the great altar, the one on a level with its base, and the other between this and the ground. *Obs.*

1611 Bible *Ezek.* xliii. 14 And from the bottom vpon the ground, euen to the lower settle [*R. V.* or ledge], shalbe two cubits,..and from the lesser settle euen to the greater settle shalbe foure cubites. *Ibid.* 17. *Ibid.* xlv. 19.

b. (*a*) = *settle-gang* (*b*): see 6. (*b*) See quot. 1833.

1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 183 For this purpose, I have seen the settles of the byre (cow-house) sometimes floored. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1206 The settles (gutters) for carrying off the urine.

c. (See quots.)

1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* s. v. *Cart-Sadel*, The frame of wood to support the barrels in a buttery or cellar, is call'd the Seddle and Settle. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss., Settle*,.. a foundation, usually raised, for a rick. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss., Settle*, any bench or frame for supporting heavy weights. Thus a barrel of beer might be said to be stillaged 'on a stone settle'.

5. *Firework Manuf.* A projection on the upper surface of the block used in filling tourbillon cases; it fits into the end of the case and forms a base for the composition during the process of filling.

1873 Spon *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 135/2 Tourbillon cases are filled by means of an apparatus which consists of a block of wood, provided with a settle, on which one end of the tourbillon case is placed...The settle projects into the case about ½ of an inch. 1888 W. H. Browne *Firework Making* xx. 144 To fill the piece..fit the end on to the settle, and see that it stands perfectly upright.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *settle-back*; **settle bed**, a settle adapted for alternative use as a seat or bed; †**settle-bench, -chair** = sense 3 above; **settle-gang**, †(*a*) the setting (of the sun); (*b*) *dial.*, 'the raised part of a cow-house on which the animals lie' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* vii. (1905) 97 Reaching across the *settle-back. 1641 in *Burlington Mag.* Mar. (1912) 342/2 A *settle bed of wanscote in Fashion of a Fourme, wherein is a Fetherbed. 1781 C. Johnston *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 8 A settle-bed, which served the double purpose of being sat upon, and slept in. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xix, His eyes involuntarily rested upon the little settle-bed. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 67 Sitting down upon a *settle-bench. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 14/2 Some terme it a *settle chaire, being so weighty that it cannot be moued from place to place.., haueing a kind of box or cubbert in the seate of it. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xlix. 2 Fram sunnan up-gange, oð hire *setl-gang. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlix. 1 Fra sonne springe to setelgange.

Settle (se·t'l), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Sc. rare.* [f. Settle *v.*] The action of the verb Settle; settling, settlement. *To take settle*: to be settled, to be at ease.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 24 Castlhaven did continue in Marlborough 9 or 10 daies givinge orders for the settle therof. *Ibid.* 166 For the settle of his freinds. 1822 Ainslie *Pilgr. Land of Burns* 39 Frae the settle o' the night To the income o' the light. 1889 Barrie *Window in Thrums* 153 I'll tak no settle till ye're awa.

Settle (se·t'l), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 setlan, 3–7 setle, 4, 6–7 settell, seatle, settill, (4 sedle, setel, 5 setelle, setyll). 3– settle. *β.* 4–6 satle, (4 satille), 5–6 satty l, -yll, (5 sattil), 6 satell, sat(t)ill, 4–7 sattell, 5–7, 9 *dial.* sattle. [OE. *setlan* (only once), f. *setl* seat, place of rest: see Settle *sb.*[1] Cf. mod.Du. *setelen*, to place, settle. The *β* forms seem to represent another formation from the same Teut. root; ? OE. **sætlan*:—prehistoric **satuljan* f. **sat-*, ablaut variant of *set-*: see Sit *v.*

In some uses the vb. became synonymous with the like-sounding M.E. *seztle* to appease, reconcile (Saughtel *v.*), association with which may perhaps have influenced the development of these uses.

In many of the senses explained below, the verb frequently appears with a colouring derived from senses of different origin, so that the position of many of the examples is open to dispute.)

I. To seat, place.

The examples here treated as passive uses of senses in this branch mostly admit of being interpreted as intransitive uses (branch II) conjugated with *be*.

†1. *trans.* To seat; to put in a seat or place of rest; also, to cause to sit down. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Whale* 15 (Gr.) Wæglþende..setlaþ sæmearas [= 'stable their sea-horses'] sundes æt ende. *c* 1200 Ormin 14049 Patt hæfedd mann patt heghesst wass Att tatt bridale settledd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23340 Bot suld þai [*sc.* the righteous] haf a gret delite, To se þam [*sc.* the wicked] setlid [*MS.* seclid] in þair site. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. K j b, And assone as he had saluted the Dutchesse, and setled the reste that were risen vp at his comminge, he satte hym downe. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 129, I kept my selfe setled on the plancke till the morning. 1663 Wood *Life* 24 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 493 After they were setled in their chaires under the canopy. 1691–2 *Ibid.* 26 Jan. III. 381 A meeting in the Apoditerium before the vice-chancellor, Doctors, and Masters setled in the house.

†b. *fig.* in *passive*: To be 'seated', situated.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4429 For all 3oure wisdom, I-wis, is wroken to 3our tongis, And all þe sauour of 3oure sauls is sattild in 3our mouthis.

2. To place (material things) in order, or in a convenient or desired position; to adjust (e.g. one's clothing).

1515 Barclay *Eclogues* III. (1570) B vj/2 Or els must he rise and walke him selfe a space, Till time his ioyntes be setled in their place. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66, I twisted a wallet On my broad shoulders, my nape did I settle eke vnder. 15.. *Sir Andrew Barton* xliv. in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 341/1 With that hee lett his gun-shott goe; Soe well hee settled itt with his eye, The first sight that Sir Andrew sawe, Hee see his pinnace sunke in the sea. *c* 1650 in Gutch *Hist. & Antiq. Univ. Oxford* (1796) II. 943 *note*, That they [*sc.* Selden's books] bee placed..in the new built west end of the publique Library,..with such inscription upon the place where they shall bee soe settled as the said Executors..shall directe. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 48 ¶ 4 He adjusted the cock of his hat a-new, settled his sword-knot. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 69 Having settled my houshold Stuff and Habitation. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 486 Th' uplifted frame..He settles next upon the sloping mount. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xiv. (1813) 196 Thus having settled the plants, shut the lights close. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvi, He washed his face and hands, settled his wig in the glass. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* i, They immediately began to settle their clothes, which were a little deranged. 1861 Trollope *Orley Farm* I. xxxiii. 264 I'll come for the answer when you're settling the room after breakfast tomorrow. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* I. vii. 192 As I was settling her pillow for her. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* xi, May Maxwell settled her shawl closer about her.

†b. To dispose in order (an argument, the parts of a discourse). *Obs.*

1551 T. Wilson *Logic* G vj, Now..I will declare howe to seatle & place an argumente, that any bodie may geue a reason, why euery worde is set in an argument, in this, or that place. 1553 — *Rhet.* (1580) 159, I thinke meete to speake of framyng, and placyng an Oration in order, that the matter beeyng aptly seteld and couched together: might better please the hearers.

3. To place (a person) in an attitude of repose, so as to be undisturbed for a time. Chiefly *refl.* to dispose oneself comfortably, adjust one's position on a chair, etc. with the intention of remaining seated.

1515 Barclay *Eclogues* III. (1570) B vj b/1 Neuer shalt thou knowe thy lodging or thy nest, Till all thy betters be setled and at rest. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. x. (1562) L j b, In no place could she sit hir selfe to settle. 1627 Drayton *Nimphidia* 516 Yet scarce he on his back could get, So oft and high he did coruet, Ere he himselfe could settle. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 381 They soon came away and settled themselves at the East part of the Library. 1781 Cowper *Ep. Lady Austen* 39 Thus we were settled when you found us, Peasants and children all around us. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, When her patient above was settled for the night. 1893 'Q' *Delect. Duchy* 16 The man ..settled her comfortably in the stern-sheets. 1901 W. S. Walker *In the Blood* vi. 72 You were asleep like a child almost as soon as you were settled. 1905 R. Bagot *Passport* ii. 12 Settling himself in his saddle, Sor Beppe started off at an easy canter.

b. In *passive.* To be installed in a residence, to have completed one's arrangements for residing.

c 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 185, I was but newly settled in my Lodging. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 130 Why should we make you remove now you are settled in your lodging? 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. i, Such was the house in which Cecilia was now settled. 1813 W. Bingley in *Lady Morgan's Mem.* (1862) II. 31 You, I presume, are by this time comfortably settled in your new residence. 1837 Lever *H. Lorrequer* i, We were soon settled in barracks. 1901 W. S. Walker *In the Blood* viii. 97 Billy's sisters..were at length settled in a small cottage out Redfern way.

4. To cause to take up one's residence in a place; *esp.* to establish (a body of persons) as residents in a town or country; to plant (a colony, †a town).

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 198 So God I trust for Christes sake, Shall settle me in blis. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 17 Ere towne could †atelye be builded, Or Gods theare setled. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 47 Charles the Great..There left behind and settled certaine French. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 940 My afflicted Powers To settle here on Earth. 1670 Denton *Brief Descr. N. York* (1845) 1 Part of the Main Land belonging to New York Colony, where several Towns and Villages are setled. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Jan. 1665, I went..to settle physitians, chirurgeons, agents, marshals and other officers in all the Sea Ports. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 149/1 The practice of settling commercial colonies in distant countries hath been adopted by the wisest nations of antiquity. 1830 M. T. Sadler *Law Popul.* I. 483 Maryland..was first settled by Roman Catholics. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxxiii, What interest I have..shall be strained to the uttermost to settle thee in thine own beloved native country. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XIV. 392/1 The first town that was settled by the English in North America.

b. *refl.* Also in *passive*, to have taken up one's abode.

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. C j b, The Romysh clergy satled them selues all the worlde ouer. 1572 *Act 14 Eliz.* c. 5 § 16 That the said aged ympotent and poore People should have convenient Habitacions and Abydinge Places throughout this Realme to settle themselves vppon. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 22 She went to Bethleem,..where she settled her self. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 30 That the Grand Signior should not entertain..any European Nation, except what were already setl'd there, but under the French Banners. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 12 ¶ 1 It was some time before I could settle my self in a House to my likeing.

1738 *Whitehall Even. Post* 12–15 Aug. 3/2 This is to give Notice, That Mr. Isaac De Vic, Jun., Wine-Merchant, of Southampton, is settled in this City. 1780 Harris *Philol. Enq.* (1841) 470 He induced..many of the first families in Italy..to leave their country, and there settle themselves. 1827 O. W. Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 45 One of the rivers on which they are settled has its source in a kind of lake. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1876) I. I. ii. 52 A tribe of them.. settled themselves between the high Tartar land and the sea of Aral.

c. To fix or establish permanently (one's abode, residence, etc.). † *To settle one's rest*: to take up one's residence. (Cf. *to set up one's rest*, Rest *sb.*[2] 7 f; and see Rest *sb.*[1] 5.)

1562 J. Hopkins *Ps.* lxxxiv, Much rather would I keepe a dore within the house of God: Then in the tentes of wickednes, to settle myne abode. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, Isa.* xi. 10 And he shall settle his rest among them, which shall be glorious for himselfe, and happy for them. 1678 J. Godolphin *Repert. Canon.* (1680) 17 St. Augustine..took on him the Title of Archbishop of England, settling his See at Canterbury. 1727 Boyer *Fr. Dict.*, To settle one's Abode somewhere. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., The town at which I had settled my temporary establishment.

d. To assign to (a person) a legal domicile in a particular parish. Chiefly in *passive.* Cf. Settlement 3.

1572 *Act* 14 *Eliz.* c. 5. § 16 Then the said Justices..shall ..settle the same poore People for their Habitacions and Abydynges, yf the parishe within the whiche they shalbee founde shall not..provide for them. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 12 § 1 To such Parish where he or they were last legally setled either as a native Householder Sojourner Apprentice or Servant for the space of forty dayes. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 77 Children whose parents settlements cannot be discovered and illegitimate children, are all settled wherever they are born. 1814 Maule & Selwyn *K. B. Rep.* I. 380 If the pauper lived 40 days under that assignment we should hold him settled in the parish.

e. To furnish (a place) with inhabitants or settlers.

1702 *Propos. Effectual War in Amer.* 18 The..setling and fortifying that large Island of Newfoundland. 1768 J. Byron *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 112 The country hereabouts ..is so circumstanced as to discourage the most sanguine adventurers from attempts to settle it. 1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 321 Margate..is so thickly settled with stock-jobbing cuckolds at this time of year, that [etc.]. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xiii, Your..brother, sir, is better bestowed than in settling Newfoundland.

†f. To establish, set up (an institution, a business, etc.) in a particular town or country. *Obs.*

1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxx. 75 He was come thether..to settle a trade in y^e citie. 1624 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 16 Hee should have a howse and there to settell a factorye in his towne of Pullasera. 1645 Durye *Israel's Call* (1646) 48 Next unto the Schooles of the Prophets (whereof besides the Universities, it were to be wisht that some lesser ones might be setled in every Province). 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 157 This might be made one of the richest Cities in the World, because of the commerce that might be settled there. 1705 De Foe *Consolidator* Wks. 1840 IX. 354 They..settled a sub-cash, depending upon the grand bank, in every province of the kingdom. 1773 *Life N. Prowde* 6 Having by his frequent Voyages settled a good Correspondence on the Continent.

†5. To fix, implant (something) *in* (a person's heart, mind, etc.). *Obs.*

1560 Ingelend *Disob. Child* G ij, All such sayinges as in my mynde At the fyrst tyme ye studied to sattell. 1579 Lodge *Def. Poetry* 6 Witt hath wrought that in you, that yeares and studie neuer setled in the heads of our sagest doctors. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* v. i. 54 What a Gods Gold..? 'Tis thou that Setlest admired reuerence in a Slaue. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. ix. 37 [Poets' inventions] setling impressions in our tender memories, which our advanced judgements, doe generally neglect to expunge. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. vii. § 11 Before Custom has setled Methods of Thinking and Reasoning in our Minds.

†6. To set firmly on a foundation; to fix (a foundation) securely. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1560 Bible (Geneva) *Prov.* viii. 25 Before the mountaines were setled..was I begotten. 1583 H. Howard *Def. Pois. Supposed Prophesies* A j b, The higher any man will rayse his toppe, the lower must he settell hys foundation. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 1 That goodly frame of Temperaunce ..Formerly grounded and fast setteled On firme foundation of true bountyhed. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xiv. 461 The water is so deep as they can not settle any foundation. 1666 Stillingfl. *Serm.* (1673) 21 That the glory of the City may not be laid upon the tears of the Orphans and Widows, but that its foundations may be setled upon Justice and Piety.

II. To come to rest after flight or wandering.

†7. *intr.* To take a seat, sit down (? OE.). Of the sun: To set. *Obs.*

[*c* 1000 ? Implied in *setlung*, sitting down, setting (of the sun) *Lambeth Ps.* cxxxviii. 2, *Sax. Leechd.* III. 266.] *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2459 Till þe semli sunne was setled to reste.

8. Of a bird, flying insect: To take up a position of rest from flight; to alight *on* something.

13.. *K. Alis.* 484 Him thoughte a goshauk with gret flyght Setlith on his beryng [*MS. Bodl.* settleþ on his herbergeynge]. *Ibid.* 488 A dragon out of his den flygth..And setled [*MS. Bodl.* settleþ]..On the stude there the quene was. 1728 *Congress of Bees* in *Arbuthnot's Misc. Wks.* (1751) II. 135 The Bees..all settled. 1792 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 91 Time was, when, settling on thy leaf, a fly Could shake thee to the root. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. in Pacific* iii. 29, I have often seen flocks of snipe..settling to the left of the town. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 221 The gnat That settles, beaten back, and beaten back Settles. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 260/1 The common blue fly which settles on meat.

fig. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. i. 21 All the honors that can flye from vs, Shall on them settle. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 106 This man..(hauing flowne ouer many knauish professions) he setled onely in Rogue. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 672 A mind..after poising her advent'rous wings, Settling at last upon eternal things. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 220 We coursed about The subject most at heart, more near and near, Like doves about a dovecote, wheeling round The central wish, until we settled there.

b. Of things, esp. flying or floating objects, also *transf.* and *fig.* of darkness, silence, etc.: To come down and remain.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 409 Muche sorȝe þenne satteled vpon segge Ionas. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3281 þat fyr þat settlede so on þe walle ȝerne hit gan to brenne. 1715 POPE *Iliad* IV. 527 Shades eternal settle o'er his eyes. 1779 *Mirror* No. 50 P 4 A deep gloom settled on his spirits. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 232 The dust which had settled on the white figures. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. iii, And silence settled, wide and still, On the lone wood. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 239 The dog had inhaled the noxious air which, sinking to the bottom, had settled there. 1864 E. YATES *Broken to Harness* I. xv. 271 You find..a yellow fog settling down. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* III. ix. 208 Suddenly from out of the dark a hand settled on my arm. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* III. ii. 3 The snow came flying..Stealthily and perpetually settling and loosely lying.

9. To come together from dispersion or wandering. †**a.** Of a body of persons: To direct their course to a common point. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2465 Thane the price mene prekes, and proues þeire horser, Satilles to þe cete, appone sere halfes.

b. *Hunting.* Of hounds: To keep steadily to the scent.

1781 BECKFORD *Th. Hunting* xiv. 185 By this time his hounds get together, and settle to the scent. 1827 [APPERLEY] *Chace* (1852) 44 The scent being good, every hound settles to his fox. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 148/2 The music of the pack as they settled to the line. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 551/2 Hounds settle like bees upon the line.

10. Of things: To lodge, come to rest, in a definite place after wandering.

1622 VENNER *Via Recta* (ed. 2) 190 Those crude and superfluous humors..fluctuating from part to part, doe at length settle and produce morbificall affects. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Revenge for Hon.* v. i, Where like a fixt Star 't [*sc.* love's flame] settles, never to be removed thence. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XI. ix. § 6 (1687) 764/2 The Earth at first wandred up and down..; but in time growing thick and heavy, it setled down immoveable. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* VI. 202 The Earth..Inclining only from its usual Plain, Then turns, and settles in its seat again. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* ii, Down went the huge fragment,..settling at length in the channel of the torrent.

b. Of pain or disease: To establish itself *in* or *on* a definite part of the body.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. i. 99 And suddainly..A chyl-cold shyuering (setled in my vaines) Brake vp my slumber. 1768 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 301 A cold which chose to settle in my eyes. 1856 JULIA KAVANAGH *Rachel Gray* xvii, A cough settled on her chest. 1877 *Five Yrs. Penal Serv.* i. 26 Poor A. caught a cold he never recovered from; it settled on his lungs.

c. Of the wind: To become 'set' *in* (*at*, *into*) a specified quarter.

1626 BACON *New Atl.* 1 But then the Winde came about, and setled in the West for many dayes. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (1868) 75 It continued all day verie foule weather ..: in the end it settled a stiffe gale at N.W. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 40 [The hurricane] came about to the North-West, and then settled into the North-East. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 140 A..Storm..which in the space of forty-eight Hours varied to every Point of the Compass, and at length, settled in the East by North.

d. Of affections, etc.: To come after wandering *to*, become fixed *on* an object.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xxx. 95 Finding my affections settle to them [*sc.* the world's choicest solaces] without resistance, I cannot but distrust my selfe. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 16 Friendship is not idle where it settles, it presently falls to worke. 1714 *Spect.* No. 605 P 6 When Time hath worn out their natural Vanity, and taught them Discretion, their Fondness settles on its proper Object. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 May 4/7 The interest..which led to the inquiry too often evaporates or settles on some new object before it is finished.

11. Of persons: To cease from migration and adopt a fixed abode; to establish a permanent residence, take up one's abode, become domiciled. Also with *down*.

1627 EARL MANCH. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 267, I hope to be settling at Kimolton for a while. 1685 WOOD *Life* 1 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 158 He setled for a time in Shropshire. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 1 My Father being a Foreigner of Bremen, who settled first at Hull. 1779 LADY A. HOWARD in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 235, I..go into Hertfordshire on Sunday. When I come to settle, I hope, Mr. Selwyn, you will do me the favour to call upon me. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* I. § 3. 25 If trouble befell the Christian preachers who came settling among them. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 127/2 Riley had left his father's house..for America, where he intended to settle down. 1904 DOR. P. HUGHES *Life H. P. Hughes* I. 6 When he finished his wanderings as a Methodist preacher..and settled in Carmarthen as a supernumerary.

b. Of a people: To take up its abode in a foreign country. Also, to establish a colony.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 158 The Saxons settling over all England, maintained an uniform Language. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Feb., The Parliament voted against the Scots settling in Darien. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 358 They are secure from the attempt of any European nation to settle on them. 1872 FREEMAN *Europ. Hist.* xiii. § 28 (1874) 277 So men tried to get more freedom by settling in distant lands. Thus the French Huguenots tried to settle in America.

indirect passive. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* xi. 147 The greatest surprise I experienced was, that they [these islands] were not colonized and settled upon long before this.

12. = *to settle oneself* (sense 3). Sometimes of birds, etc. with mixture of sense 8. *To settle in*: to dispose oneself for remaining indoors.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xvii, The little irritable citizens [*sc.* bees], who were settling in their straw-thatched mansion for the evening. 1827–35 WILLIS *Idleness* 55 When..the birds settle to their nests. 1833 LADY MORGAN *Mem.* (1862) II. 377 On my return, settled in to write. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint* 250 Like a clamour of the rooks At distance, ere they settle for the night. 1864 E. YATES *Broken to Harness* I. xv. 272 The inhabitants of the neighbouring houses had pulled their blinds down and settled in for the night. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xiii, The clang of the wild-fowl settling down to rest. 1902 'M. FAIRLESS' *Roadmender* 24 The child..extracted from the basket a small black cat, and settled in for the afternoon.

III. To descend, sink down; to lower. [From sense 8.]

13. To sink down gradually by or as by its own weight. Of the ground: To subside. Of a structure or part of a structure: To sink downwards from its proper level.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 758 Ase oþer mete In hy wombe hyȝt sedlyþ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8186 Þen schok þe ground [*v.r.* þe grounde satled]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 248 Whan it [*sc.* a standard] sattles or sadly discendis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saggyn, or sallyn [?*read* satlyn] (*P.* satelyn), *basso*. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 131 For with shoting it [*sc.* the feather] wyll sattle and faule very moche. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 287 Y^e^ very earth..did continually, for euer after, setle and sinke downeward. *a* 1597 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* II. iii. (1599) E j b, As doth the daylight settle in the west. 1602 [see SAG *v.* 1]. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 256 These Arches..must be made of Bricks and Morter that are very good,..that they do neither settle nor give way. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 76 The..Pier..was observed to settle. 1791 W. HUTCHINSON *Treat. Pract. Seamanship* 15 Which caused their..floors to sag downwards, so much as to make their hold stanchions amidships..settle from the beams. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 251 The single-row fence..must sag and settle toward the ground, if pleached without staking. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. i, The *débris*..again falling and settling into new and permanent shapes. *Ibid.*, A great mass of loose earth settled, carrying me with it in its fall.

†**b.** *fig.* Of feeling, conviction: To sink deeply *into* (the mind, heart). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24225 And al þe baret þat he bar, It setteld [*Gött.* satlid] in þi hert ful sare. 1523 MORE in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 814 This olde adage so sanke, and setled in my heade, that [etc.]. 1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 361 And nowe the said newes doe satell and synke into the Scottes myndes. 1574 DEE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 35 Onely God can make the perswasion of the truth hereof to settel into the bottom of your Lordships hart.

†**c.** ? *transf.* Of troops: To fall back, yield ground, retire. Also *trans.* (causatively). *Sc. Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xiii. 28 Turnus a lityl..Begouth frawart the bargane to withdraw, And sattyl towartis the ryveris syde alaw. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 429 So cruell counter..Quhilk satlit hes the Sutheroun far abak Beȝond the place quhair that tha first began. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 97 Ane companie of fresche men..come so fercelie wpoun the Earle of Huntlieis wangaird quhill they war compellit to satill a littill abak. *Ibid.* 275 Thay causit the inglismen to sattill frome thame.

†**14.** *trans.* (*causatively*). **a.** To lower in condition; to reduce in degree. *Obs. rare.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 225 Þis legate Ottobone mad a cursyng hard..& som of þer heyres..it peyres, & som has satled sore. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4562 Þe comli quen of palerne oft crist þonked, þat..hade setteled hire sorwe so sone, þat was huge.

b. To lower (a commodity, rent) in price or value. Also *intr.*, to go down in price. *dial.*

1812 in W. Cudworth *Round abt. Bradford* (1876) 412 Mr. Joseph Dawson settled his coals at Wrose Pit from seven-pence to sixpence a load. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* s.v., Corn's sattled a vast sen last market. Ah's quit at May-day gin he weeant sattle me [*i. e.* reduce my rent] a bit. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., Arter all this dry weather, an no keep, stock's bound to settle.

†**c.** To put *down* to the original place. (Cf. 2.)

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, s.v. *Cucumis*, If you find your bed too hot, it is but raising up the Baskets..and when the violent Heat is over, they may be settled down again.

15. *Naut.* **a.** *intr.* Of a ship: To sink gradually; also with *down*.

1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xliv, The ship was evidently settling now Fast by the head. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 289 The ship began to settle down in the water.

transf. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, The ancient vehicle used to settle quietly down, like a ship scuttled and left to sink. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Narr. Whaling Voy.* II. App. 174 The whale will occasionally sink in the horizontal position, or, as it is technically expressed, 'settle down'. 1873–5 HENLEY *In Hospital* xlii. *Bk. Verses* (1888) 22 Raised, he settled stiffly sideways: You could see the hurts were spinal.

b. *trans.* To diminish the height of, to reduce to a lower level (a deck, topsail). †Also, to cause (the land) to appear lower in the water by receding from it (cf. LAY *v.*1 5).

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) To Settle a Deck. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 28 We shall haue wind, settle your top sailes. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 Settle our fore and main Top-sails two thirds of the Mast down. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Settle a Deck*, is the Word at Sea for taking a Deck lower than it was at first. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Settled*, lowered in the water; as, we have settled the land, or sunk it lower, by sailing further out to seaward. This phrase is usually opposed to raising. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To settle*, to lower;..as..'we settled the land'. 'Settle the main topsail halliards', *i. e.* ease them off a little, so as to lower the yard.

16. *intr.* Of soil, loosely compacted materials: To subside into a solid mass. Of new masonry or brickwork: To become consolidated by its own weight and drying of the mortar.

1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* F j, I wyll make thy skyn to rattell, And the braynes in thy Scull more depely to sattell. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Garden* vii. (1623) 20, I shake the Set easily to and fro, to make the earth settle the better to his roots. 1664 GERBIER *Counsel* II. 27 See the Morter well tempered, since if unequall in thicknesse; that which is thin, will cause the work to settle more in one place then in the other. 1791 MAWE & ABERCROMBIE *Every Man his own Gardener* 157 Shaking the plant gently as the earth is filled in, to cause it to settle close between all the roots and fibres. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 60 The people cannot build more than about a foot and a half in a day which must be allowed to dry and settle for three or four days. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Settle*, to sink after being heaved, and to dry; as, roads settle in spring after frost and rain. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., 'Tis a maain gurt heap, but he on't look so big arter he've a settled a bit.

b. To shrink in size. *dial.* (? *obs.*) and *techn.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 12 When sheepe are first putte out of the closes into the field, they will sattle and goe backe extreamely for the space of a weeke. 1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks* v. 139 The bricks are now ready to shrink, or as it is termed in burning, to 'settle'.

c. *trans.* To cause to subside into a solid mass; to consolidate, compact. Also with *down*, *home*.

1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxv. 10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrowes thereof. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 68 With the Rammer give two or three strokes more to settle it home. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 123 Mud or Clay..which in tract of Time hath been setled together and hardned. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 75 A short Breakfast upon the Crumbs of Comfort well settl'd down with a humming Stroke at the Brandy-Bottle. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 106 The Earth should be trod upon to settle it. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 91 They are all built..and both the Abutments of the Bridge compleated and settled. 1791 MAWE & ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gardener* 157 If they are watered as soon as planted, it will settle the earth about all the roots. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Settle*, to cause to subside after being heaved and loosened by frost; or to dry and harden after rain. Thus clear weather settles the roads. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 33 Then give the whole a good watering to settle the soil.

IV. To come or bring to rest after agitation.

17. *intr.* Of a liquid: To become still after agitation or fermentation, so that the suspended particles or impurities are separated as scum or sediment. Also in figurative context.

c 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 101 Sye it throughe a clothe and let yt stond and setelle. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. x. in Ashm. (1652) 150 For they together lyke lyquyd Pyche that tyde, Shall swell and burbyll, setyll, and Putrefye. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 And so for wyne, or ale, or any thynge that fyrst swelleth and afterwarde sattylleth. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Jer.* xlviii. 11 Moab..hathe setled on his lees, & hathe not bene powred from vessel to vessel. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Trag. Chabot* I. i. 197 And not be like a dull and standing lake, That settles, putrefies, and chokes with mud. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 298 If you let the turbid water settle, and distill the sediment. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 290 Pour the ingredients of the three glasses into one, stop them up, and let them settle. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 361 The mixture is left to settle. 1866 LOWELL *Study Wind.*, *Swinburne's Trag.*, Goethe, in whose capacious nature..the spiritual fermentation of the eighteenth century settled and clarified.

b. *trans.* To cause (liquor) to deposit dregs or work off impurities; to clarify.

1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* Introd. xl, So working seas settle and purge the wine. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 578/1 Should the coffee be settled with an egg or with fish-skin?

c. *Soap-making.* To refine or purify (soap) by fusing in water or weak lye.

1906 L. L. LAMBORN *Manuf. Soap* ix. 343 Soap to be filled with soda-ash solution..may be settled finer or thinner; i. e., more heavily hydrated than the various kinds of soaps just mentioned.

18. *intr.* Of suspended particles or impurities in a liquid: To come to rest after agitation or disturbance; to collect as scum or sediment by gravitation; now chiefly (with mixture of sense 13), to sink to the bottom as sediment. Also *to settle out*. Also *fig.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 480 Whanne her dregges sattled doun beth go. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Fistula* etc. 59 Poudry resolucions which..ar..putte out with þe vryne. And for þai ar heuy and erþi þai satle in þe grounde. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 14 The Wine setling in the top..and the Water descending & setling in the bottome. 1630 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 14 The melancholike [humours]..remaine, and as dregges settle at the base of all their actions. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 505 But evil..shall..mix no more with goodness, when at last Gather'd like scum, and setl'd to it self it shall [etc.]. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VI. 100 Especially if the Small Beer chance to be new, and its Yest not well settled from it. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. 75 That which had the least Gravity sinking not down till last of all, settling at the Surface of the Sediment.

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xiv. § 587. 326 When they die their shells settle to the bottom. 1883 HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 302/2 The liquor is kept..in a fluid condition, to allow mechanical impurities to settle out.

19. Of passion: To subside, calm down. Of the brain, mind, etc.: To become calm or composed.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xv. 61 The feare, which at first is most terrible, settling by litle and litle. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 482 Then till the fury of his Highnesse settle Come not before him. 1680 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* II. i, Your fury then boil'd upward to a foam; But since this message came, you sink and settle, As if cold water had been pour'd on you. 1693 PRIOR '*While blooming Youth*' 28 The Heat, with which thy Lover glows, Will settle into cold Respect. 1779 JOHNSON *Let. Mrs. Thrale* 28 Oct., I dined on Tuesday with *** and hope her little head begins to settle. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, Better let her mind settle a little. 1823 — *Quentin D.* xxviii, Risks which raise a man's blood so, that, by Saint Andrew, it will not settle for an hour or two.

b. Of persons: To become composed; to compose oneself *to* sleep; to come to a quiet or orderly state after excitement or restless activity. Also with *down*.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 111 He waxit irefull aganis all consperatouris bot zeit wald settill of his ire sa sune as they became penitent of thair offences and cryme. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 69, I again perceive The soothing influence of the wafted strains, And settle in soft musings as I tread The walk. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXI, It is impossible to settle down after this, and why not go, in a party, to the play? 1896 BODKIN *Ld. Edw. Fitzgerald* xiii, Maurice Blake was too excited..to settle at once to sleep.

c. *To settle down*: To subside into indolence or contentment.

1853 F. W. FABER *All for Jesus* (1854) 328 It is incredible how soon people can make themselves comfortable in low things...If it were not for this fatal facility of *settling down* [etc.]. 1862 *Lady Morgan's Mem.* II. 22 Lady Morgan was always anxious that Sir Charles should exert himself and not settle down into indolent comfort.

20. *trans.* To quiet, tranquillize, compose (a person, his mind, brain, nerves, etc.); to allay (passion). Also *refl.*

1530 PALSGR. 698/1, I sattyll, or sober, or appayse my selfe from myne anger, or any passyon, *je me rassis.* 1550 BALE *Apol.* 30 If all thys wyll not sattle his wyld wytlesse head. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* IV. i, How still he sitts: I hope this Song has setled him. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 12 Hoping that sleep might settle his brains, with all haste they got him to bed. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* I. i, We'll..drink a dish of tea to settle our heads. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* I. 8 A glass of gin..to settle him to his sleep. 1848 LEIGH HUNT *Town* (1906) 581 [Charles II] was a rapid and constant walker, to settle his nerves. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiii, Cold pudding is good to settle a man's love.

b. *To settle the stomach*: to check vomiting or nausea.

1662 J. DAVIES *tr. Mandelslo's Trav.* 195 There is not any thing that..settles the stomack better than this herb doth. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 129 The minister..made a large pot of coffee,..declaring it to be the finest thing to settle the stomachs of the whole company. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* VI. 122 Effervescing mixture often helps to clean the tongue and settle the stomach.

c. To recover from the effects of (drink).

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 62 They let him sleepe..and whilest he setles his drinke, the Duke prepares [etc.].

21. To quiet with a blow; to knock down dead or stunned; to finish, 'do for'.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 587 It settled him, and set his spirit gone Amongst the hands of his best friends. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* L. XXVII. 44 They [of Northamptonshire] used to say when at Cudgel playes..one gave his Adversary such a sound blow, as that he knew not whether to stand or to fall that he Settled him at a blow. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Lancash.* (1662) I. 124 He [Lambert] at Preston gave the Scotch Army such a Blow, as setled or stun'd it. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 44. 3/1 Clowns..Call it Settling a Man when they knock him down dead. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 103 There's nothing will settle me but a Bullet. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding Ho.*, 'She says she'll settle her missis's life,' replied Mrs. Tibbs. 'The wretch! they're plotting murder.' 1888 KIPLING *Soldiers Three, In Matter of a Private*, 'Come to —' laughed Simmons, sending a cartridge home with his thumb. 'Not before I've settled you an' Jerry Blazes.'

b. *To settle* (a person's) *hash*: see HASH *sb.* 3 b.

1822 A. THORNTON *Don Juan* II. xii, Which..settled his hash, or, to speak in the language of real science, floored him.

c. To compel to cease from opposition or annoyance; to silence, nonplus.

1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xi, [He] rebelled against my being so distinguished [as to be called by my Christian name], but Mick Walker settled him in no time.

† **22.** In occasional physical uses: **a.** *trans.* To steady, keep from quivering. **b.** In *passive*, of the blood: To cease to move or pulsate. **c.** *intr.* of the eyes: To become set. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 26 Alas shee's cold, Her blood is setled and her loynts are stiffe. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 267 His tongue hung out and his eyes setled in his head. 1632 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 48. 273 To settle his hand, and to make it the more steddy..Aaron and Hur staid up his hands. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* VIII, 'Miss Pratt!' cried the Earl, in a tone enough to have settled quicksilver itself.

23. *intr.* To come to an end of a series of changes or fluctuations and assume a definite form or condition. Const. *in, into.* Also *to settle down* (*to*).

1684 BURNET *Th. Earth* I. v. 53 The Chaos..was wrought by degrees from one form into another, till it setled at length into an habitable Earth. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. (1735) 191 Our Aliment in the Form of Chyle..is whitish; by..Circulation it runs through all the intermediate Colours, till it settles in an intense Red. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. ii. 32 The elements of war are often gradually accumulating before they settle into an open rupture. 1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) I. 775/2 [The ball of glass] settles by cooling into a form similar to that of Fig. 1078. 1858 CARLYLE *Frederk. Gt.* VII. vi. II. 236 The Duke..blushed blue, then red, and various colours; at length settling into steady pale. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 250 This smile should not settle into a simper. 1900 'Q' *Old Fires* viii, Young men who have run through all beliefs by the age of twenty and settled down to a polite but weary atheism.

b. Of the weather: To become steadily fine. Also, *to settle* (*in*) *for*: to come gradually to a steady condition of (rain, frost, etc.).

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 106 As soon as the Rains were over, and the Weather began to settle. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, Howsomever, I'm no denying that it may settle..till Monday morning. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 879 His cautious neighbour..waited for the weather to 'settle'. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* (ed. 2) I. xiv. 294 The air was very still, settling in for a frost. *Mod.* It seems to be settling for a storm.

c. *To settle down*: to drop into a regular or uniform rate of movement.

1899 *Daily News* 5 June 3/7 Sweet Mart colt settled down with a clear lead.

V. To render or become stable or permanent; to fix or become fixed in a certain condition.

24. *trans.* To ensure the stability or permanence of (a condition of things, a quality, power, etc.).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 2405 Til that youre sighte ysatled [*v.r.* ystabled] be a whyle Ther may ful many a sighte yow bigile. 1526 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 441 Till the peax were some deall moore firmely satilled. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 667 To settill and estableis universall peace. 1610 B. JONSON *Masques, Sp. Pr. Henry's Barriers* Wks. (1616) 969 Th' increase Of trades and tillage, ..Begun by him [Edw. I.], but settled and promou'd By the third Heroe of his name. 1648-9 *Eikon Bas.* xiii. 106 Other violent motions..shall never either shake or settle my Religion. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 41. 43 Thus much for the Setling your Authority over your Children in general. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iv. 172 After they had settled peace between the Father and the Son. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vi. 345 The eastern monsoon was now, we reckoned, fairly settled. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-eaters* 127 'Tis hard to settle order once again.

† **b.** To adopt firmly (an opinion, mental attitude). *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 38 They rather increased new doubts, then gaue him ground to settle any iudgement. 1697 CIBBER *Woman's Wit* III. 34 When he does that, I shall know how to settle my Opinion. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist.* 2 *Orphans* IV. 210 Mr. Richmond had settled so great a respect for that accomplished gentleman, that he could not suffer him to depart [etc.].

25. To fix, make steadfast or constant (a wavering, irresolute or doubting person, heart, mind, etc.). Const. *in, to.*

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 99 Þerfore my mynde to þi power take & make itt stabyll, þat..my mynde so in þe sattyld so in þi lufe byrne þat, with no chauns..it be kelyd. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* ii. 2 My sonne,..sattle thine hert, and be pacient. 1581 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 49 If a man were not setled in his religion this were inough to convert him. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 246 If Beauty, Wisedome, Modesty, can settle The heart of Anthony. 1611 BIBLE *Col.* i. 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and setled. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 52 He kept back his anger, and setled his minde to sufferance. 1643 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 475 All these being.. Papists yesterday, and to day Protestants, who being scarce setled in their Religion, how should they be setled in their Loyalty? *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 26 There was no opinion which he was most settled in,..but he would patiently and impartially hear it debated. 1714 SWIFT *Public Spirit of Whigs* 5 It is a Pamphlet.. against the Ministry..; it will settle the Wavering, confirm the Doubtful. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xix. (1840) 331 However, William settled my mind to more prudent steps than these. 1882 MOZLEY *Remin.* (ed. 2) I. 61 A sermon designed to recall and settle the troubled spirits of Oxford, ..in what to him was the faith and practice of his forefathers.

26. **a.** *refl.* To fix one's attention *upon* an object; to make up one's mind *to do* something; to dispose or set oneself steadily *to* some employment. Now usually with mixture of sense 20, to compose oneself after excitement or restlessness and apply oneself quietly to work. (Often with *down*.) **b.** *intr.* In the same senses. † Also, to become fixed or steadfast *in* (affection, etc.).

a. 1530 PALSGR. 698/1 The mans mynde is so wandringe that he can sattell hym upon nothyng. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Comparare se ad respondendum*, to prepare or settle hym selfe to make an answere. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 356 Let vs take the axe,..and settle our selues to cleauing and riueing. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* I. (1872) B j b, Then Paule began..To settle forth him selfe to speake. *c* 1582 M. PHILLIPS in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 432, I could neuer throughly settle my selfe to marry in that countrey. 1675 DUPPA *Rules Devotion* 70 When thou art therefore setling thy self to thy devotions. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briary Creek* IV. 78 When I settle myself down to my pursuits. 1881 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* II. 378 After some talk of this nature we settled ourselves to our music and to tune our instruments.

b. 1576 PETTIE *Petite Pallace* 65 She began to settle so surely in good wyl towardes him. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 1 June, It troubles me to see how hard it is for me to settle to it [sc. business] sometimes when my mind is upon pleasure. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. vi. 128 When the violent Storm..took us, I was but just settling to Work. 1756 WALPOLE *Let. Conway* 22 Jan., The Opposition, like schoolboys, don't know how to settle to their books again after the holidays. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lix, His daughter could not induce him to settle down to his customary occupations. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I. xix. 215 She went down into the drawing-room, and could not settle to anything. 1883 *Law Times* LXXVI. 118/2 The horse..when checked..broke into a canter, and would not trot and settle down to its work afterwards.

27. To secure or confirm (a person) *in* a position of authority, an office; to install permanently, establish *in* an office, an employment.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 187 b, When Kynge Henry was somewhat setteled in the realme of Scotlande. 1553 BALE *Vocacyon* 42, I thought my selfe..wele satteled in the bishoprycke of Ossorye. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 180 After the death of Tiridates, and setling Erona in her gouernement. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 35 He beheaded and strangled most of them..to settle himselfe in a more quiet tyranny. 1660 WOOD *Life* Dec. (O. H. S.) I. 360 Many..being absent from the University either to get, or settle themselves in their preferments. 1694 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. I. (ed. 18) 356 How a Clergyman becomes settled in a Living. 1705 DE FOE *Consolidator* Wks. 1840 IX. 354 They went on to settle themselves in all sorts of trade in open companies. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. i, He had made to himself a practice large enough to enable him to settle two sons well in his own profession.

b. (Chiefly *Sc.* and *U.S.*) To appoint (a minister) to the charge of a parish; also, to appoint a minister to (a parish). In U.S. also *intr.*; see quot. 1828–32.

1719 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 448 The Presbytery of Ayr are appointed..to go on and settle the parish. 1726 *Ibid.* III. 253 That Mr. Chambers being now settled, the Magistrates..and Communicants in Aberdeen..could not be deprived of him. 1756 in [N. Morren] *Ann. Gen. Assembly Ch. Scot.* (1840) II. 77 That the blood of the parish of Nigg would be required of them if they should settle a man to the walls of the kirk. 1773 BOSWELL *Johnson* 1 May, In some cases the Presbytery having refused to induct or settle, as they call it, the person presented by the patron. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Settle*, to be ordained or installed over a parish, church or congregation. A. B. was invited to *settle* in the first society in New Haven. 1890 MARY E. WILKINS *Faraway Melody*, etc. 32 He was settled over a neighbouring parish [New England].

28. To establish (a person) in the matrimonial state. Phr. *to settle in the world* or *in life.* Now chiefly *refl.* and *pass.*

1566 KINWELMARSHE *Jocasta* I. in *Gascoigne's Wks.* (1907) I. 247 Thou knowst what care my carefull father tooke, In wedlockes sacred state to settle me With Laius. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* IX. *Iphis & Ianthe* 70 The fond Father thought the time drew on Of settling in the World his only Son. Ianthe was his choice. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* II. i. 27, I therefore have resolv'd to settle thee, and chosen a young Lady, witty, prudent, rich and fair. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* III. (1778) 71 And as to my young cousins within, I hope we shall be able to settle them without Sir Matthew's assistance. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* iii, The prudent gentlewoman..wishes to settle her daughter. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* v, I have been very much in love; but now I am come to years of discretion, and must think..of settling myself advantageously. 1864 TROLLOPE *Can you forgive her?* vii, How are you to settle yourself in life if you don't care for them [*sc.* amusements]?

b. *intr.* 'To establish a domestic state' (J.); chiefly in phr. *to marry and settle, to settle in life.*

1718 PRIOR *Alma* II. 49 As people marry now, and settle, Fierce love abates his usual mettle. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 102 Why don't you marry, and settle? 1822 DE QUINCEY *Conf.* 29 My landlady..had but lately married away and 'settled' (as such people express it) for life. 1830 M. T. SADLER *Law Popul.* I. 564 Their very object in leaving their native countries is to settle in life, a phrase that needs no explanation.

† **29.** To establish (a person) in legal possession of property. *To be settled of*: to be seised of.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 10 This man dying without heires males, his said brother came up to the State, that he might be setled in his inheritance. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xli. (1689) 64 If the man was settled of such estate..and died, his Wife surviving,..she had her Dower, or third part of such estate of inheritance.

30. To secure (payment, property, title) *to*, *on*, or *upon* (a person) by decree, ordinance, or enactment.

1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 32 By yeelding that to be a Due, which the Law hath setled vpon the Minister. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xl. 250 The succession to that Office was setled upon Aaron, and his heirs after him. 1659 MILTON *Consid. Means to remove Hirelings* title-p., Wherein is also discoure'd..whether any maintenance of ministers can be settl'd by law. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 8 He..setl'd sure Succession in his Line. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* lv, So much Money as shall from time to time be settled to and for each of them in the Poor's List. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. I. iii. 207 They therefore settled the crown, first on king William and queen Mary..for their joint lives. 1859 MISS PIDDINGTON *Last of Cav.* XXXIV, The conditions on which the crown was to be settled. 1863 H. COX *Inst.* III. iii. 620 The statute settling the present title to the Crown.

b. Of a private individual: To secure (property, succession) *to*, *on* or *upon* (a person) by means of a deed of settlement.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset.* (1662) II. 37 She would have setled on that House Lands to the value of five hundred pounds *per annum*. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Jan. 1692, Boyle..had settled a fund for preachers who should preach expressly against Atheists [etc.]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 206 ₱ 6, I..have settled upon him a good Annuity for Life. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 137 It became usual, on mar-

riage, to settle by express deed some special estate to the use of the husband and his wife, for their lives, in jointenancy or jointure. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 285 A tenant for life, with power to settle a jointure. 1844 J. WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 103 The modern English custom of settling the family estates on the eldest son. 1884 FLOR. MARRYAT *Under Lilies* xiii, The day that Miss Rayne becomes Lady Coombe, I will settle a thousand a year on her for her private use.

c. *absol.* To make a jointure (see JOINTURE *sb.* 4).

1713 GARTH *Epil. to Cato*, He sighs with most Success that settles well.

†d. *intr.* Of an estate: To pass legally. *Obs.*

a 1626 BACON *Use of Law* (1629) 65 Vpon Feofments and Recoveries, the estate doth settle as the vse and intent of the parties is declared..before the Acts was done.

31. *trans.* To subject to permanent regulations, to set permanently in order, place on a permanent footing (institutions, government); to bring (a language) into a permanent form.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 4. 223 The greatest felicitie they wish to the common wealth..is that..no faulte may be capitall besides dislike of things setled in so good termes. 1629 SELDEN in *Lett. Lit. Men.* (Camden) 143 For the Library is not yet so setled as that books may not be lent if the founder will. 1642 J. M[ARSH] *Argt. conc. Militia* 1 The King refusing to settle the Militia for the defence and securitie of his people. 1643 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 93 King Richard at his going out of England, had so well setled the Government of the kingdome, that [etc.]. 1659 MILTON *Treat. Civ. Power Eccl. Causes* 44 [They] who think the gospel..cannot stand or continue..unless it be enacted and settled, as they call it, by the state. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, For the High Court of Parlt.*, That all things may be so ordered and setled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations. 1712 SWIFT *Propos. Corr. Eng. Tongue* 45 If You will not take some Care to settle our Language, and put it into a state of Continuance. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 575 The government should be settled on principles favourable to liberty. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 10 They proceeded at once to settle the Government on a Parliamentary basis. 1886 T. L. K. OLIPHANT *New Engl.* II. 1 Tyndale, Coverdale, and Cranmer had done so much to settle our language.

absol. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Aug. 1660, The National Assemblies beginning to settle, and wanting instruction. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 704 Her Will alone could settle or revoke; And Law was fix'd by what She latest spoke.

†b. To vest the control of (something) *in* a person. *Obs.*

1671 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. 279 Besides, the fore-mentioned forces there is the standing Militia..setled in the King.

c. *To settle one's estate, one's affairs*: to arrange for the disposal of one's property, the payment of one's debts, etc., esp. with a view to one's death, removal to a distance, or retirement from business. Occas. with *up*.

In the first quot. perh. rather: to render one's worldly position secure (sense 24).

1652 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 144 Oh the poor and base thoughts of men! How may I raise my house? how may I settle my estate? *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Sept. 1647, Being call'd into England to settle my affaires after an absence of about 4 yeares. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 164 P 6, I several months since made my Will, settled my estate, and took leave of my friends. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 555 He had settled all his affairs so well at Bengal, and left his Effects in such good Hands, that [etc.]. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxi. 363 They..are expected to settle up their affairs and return to their remote abodes. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 84 Besides, hasn't he settled his affairs—made his will, in fact, most sensibly.

VI. To fix (what is uncertain), to decide (a question).

32. To appoint or fix definitely beforehand, to decide upon (a time, place, plan of action, price, conditions, etc.); †to adjust (one's action) *to* something.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. II. 158 The Wardanis setlis a day. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* III. i. 50 My lord, I stand not on these deep discourses To settle my course to your fortunes. 1754 COWPER *Ep. R. Lloyd* 31 Thus, the preliminaries settled. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. v, His journey to Bristol was settled to take place in three days. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 164 Having settled his route..[he] set out. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 14 The allowance settled by the magistrates for a young, hearty, labouring man! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, The Hall is ready: the very costume [of the Deputies], as we said, has been settled. 1867 MRS. OLIPHANT *Madonna Mary* III. xiv. 236, I came that it might be all settled out of hand. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iii, 'Then it's as good as settled,' he remarked, smiling broadly.

†b. To appoint or arrange (something to be done or to take place). *Obs.*

1694 PENN *Trav. Holland* 162 Being the first monthly meeting that was setled for Friesland. 1705 *New Jersey Archives* XI. 13 These are to give notice, That Her Majesty ..Hath settled Packet-Boats for the West-Indies. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* 143 P 3 There is a Stage-Coach settled from the One-Bell in the Strand to Dorchester.

c. To fix by mutual agreement.

1620 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 122 Capt. Speck came..to talke about going to Nangasaque to Gonrok Dono, to settell the price of the lead. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s. v., We have at last settled that Business. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 23 P 3, I think it is very convenient there should be a cartel settled between them. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Aug., The conversation concluded with nothing being settled. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* viii. All these matters being settled, Miss Pratt then accepted the arm of her companion. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iv, If a dear girl has no dear Mamma to settle matters with the young man. 1896 BODKIN *Ld. Edw. Fitzgerald* xi, Meanwhile the two seconds were settling the fatal formalities in the library.

d. *intr.* To come to a decision; to decide *to do* something; to decide *upon* (a plan of action, an object of choice).

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vii, Two other young ladies, who were..settling to dance in the same cotillon. 1814 MME. D'ARBLAY (Miss Burney) *Wanderer* (1817) I. 122 A comedy that we have been settling to massacre. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* xii. 127 The masters met and settled that they would give no more than the medium wages. 1867 MRS. OLIPHANT *Madonna Mary* III. xiii. 222 This was what Will had always intended and settled upon. 1885 H. FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia!* 196, I settled to shift my camp up the creek. 1886 HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* xxiv, But settling upon new clothes is so trying.

33. *trans.* To decide, come to a fixed conclusion on (a question, a matter of doubt or discussion); to bring to an end (a dispute) by agreement or intervention.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iv. 15 In Geometry..men begin at settling the significations of their words; which settling of significations, they call Definitions. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 111 This being thus setled in the First place, we may in the Next consider, that [etc.]. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 53 P 3 Casuists..that will settle you the right of Princes. 1793 *Blackstone's Comm.* (ed. 12) I. 114 *note*, At the great council assembled in 1072, to settle the claim of precedence between the two archbishops. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q. B. Div.* 575 In settling the value of a copyhold fine. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Jan. 5/4 The dispute at Llandulas quarries has been settled. 1895 ROWLANDS in *Law Times* XCIX. 564/2 Now that this point has been definitely settled, it seems too clear for argument.

b. With indirect question as obj.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 282 Mr. Tyrold intreated him to stay till they had settled how to get rid of the business. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xii. 237, I have to settle with myself what I mean by art in general.

c. Of a fact or argument: To be decisive of (a question).

1825 COBBETT *Hist. Prot. Reform.* (1899) xvi. § 468 There! that settles the matter. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* Introd., You shall see enough to-day to settle for you the question whether we old-country folk are in a state of decadence.

d. *Law.* To decide (a case) by arrangement between the contesting parties. More fully, *to settle out of court*.

1900 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/4 After one of the plaintiffs.. had been in the box, it was agreed to settle the case.

e. To put beyond dispute, establish (a principle, fact) by authority or argument.

1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* v. 97 Another Fact, settled by a fair Experiment of the ingenious Mr. Hales, is, that [etc.]. 1883 KAY in *Law Rep.* 24 *Chanc. Div.* 107 It is well settled that the transmissibility of contingent interest is a doctrine applying equally to real and personal estate.

34. *intr.* To arrange matters in dispute, to come to terms or agreement *with* a person.

1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 272, I have first depeched Mons[r] Gregory, who, after he hathe satelled with Mons[r] de Lotrik..shall [etc.]. 1647 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 110 For my awin chargis..in settling w[t] y[e] ladie, and resaving of y[e] rents. 1682 *Rec. Scott. Cloth. Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 33 Ordered thatt upon settleing with Smith in the teerms thatt the rest of the silk stocken men are upon thatt he have a gratuity of 3 legg dollars. 1800 PAGET in *P. Papers* (1896) I. 191 It was not till yesterday that I was enabled to settle with the Master of an English Merchantman for my conveyance.

b. To make an arrangement, compound *with* a creditor.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 197 In extra-judicial arrangements for settling by composition, no creditor can be required to accept the composition offered, unless he pleases. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. xxxii. 294 The reverend Baptist Bellman..had helped himself to 73,000 l. more, for which he settled in the Bankruptcy Court. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 *Q. B. Div.* 11 The underwriters of the ship ultimately settled with her owners at 88 per cent.

35. *trans.* To close (an account) by a money payment; to pay (an account, bill, score); also *dial.* to write 'settled' to a bill, to receipt (it).

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s. v., To settle an Account, *regler un Conte*. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. (1782) 26 Let us settle accounts, Mr. Paduasoy; you'll see no more of my money. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* ii, [At the foot of a bill.] Settled, Juliana Gann. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xxxiv, I'd best go and settle the score. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* s. v., Gan an' pay John Lewis' bill, an' mahnd an' git him to sattle 't.

fig. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxiii, If I was they, I would settle accounts with myself, for all my hard fighting, the same way. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi. 148 What an awful account these wicked creatures will have to settle, at last, especially for being lazy! 1887 W. E. NORRIS *Major & Minor* III. xi. 199, I am here to settle accounts with you, my fine fellow. I suppose you thought it was a very safe thing to insult and desert a girl who had nobody at hand to protect her except an old man.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To settle accounts by payment. Chiefly const. *with*.

1788 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* III. 105, I was obliged to go to the inn to settle with the landlord. 1796 *Hist. Ned. Evans* II. 190 He had still upwards of £300 in his hands, for which he would be ready to account whenever he chose to settle. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* I, Some change that was due to me on settling with my landlady. 1844 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) II. 155, I then called to the steward, and pretended to be very anxious to settle with him about some coffee that I had taken. 1873 *Money Market* ix. (ed. 3) 113 The 'settling' days occur twice in each month, when the transactions of the preceding fortnight are settled for in cash. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., I went and begged o' un vor to settle; he've a got a plenty o' money.

fig. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Arqua* 40 When he had done and settled with the world.

VII. 36. Comb.: †**settle-brain**, something that calms the brain; **settle-down**, *nonce-wd.*, a flock settling down.

1629 FORD *Lovers Mel.* II. ii, Sir, is your stomacke vp yet? get some warme porredge in your belly, 'tis a very good settle-braine. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* v. vii, I have yet an entertainment for him, Of better Settle-braine, then Drunkards porridge. 1692 TRYON *Good Housew.* xxvi. 213 Coffee is the Drunkards Settle-brain. 1855 BROWNING *Cleon* 15 Like the chequer-work Pavement..Now covered with this settle-down of doves.

Se·ttleable, *a. nonce-wd.* [-ABLE.] Capable of being settled.

1837 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 202 He seemed to consider the whole thing as settled, or, at least, settle-able without any difficulty.

Settled (se·t'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SETTLE *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Of mental states, purposes, habits, etc.: Fixed, firmly embraced or implanted; become regular or customary; unchanging, undeviating.

1556 HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* II. 8 Oh sodayne sorowe, from setled solas. 1568 *Gismond of Salerne* IV. iii. 17 There stayed in me so settled trust, that thy chast life..vold not haue yelded to vnlawfull lust. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 12 But I judge the beste, for in dobtes I will not resolue with a settled iudgemente. *a* 1617 HIERON *Penance for Sin* xv. Wks. 1628 I. 235 A settled bent of the soule, in nothing to sinne against God. 1693 NORRIS *Pract. Disc. Div. Subj.* (1722) IV. 17 For alas what is a Mode or Fashion, but only a continued and settled Practice of a great Many? 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 349 P 7 He died under a fixed and settled Hope of Immortality. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 778 Where ..His virtuous toil may terminate at last In settled habit and decided taste. 1796 SOUTHEY *Mary, Maid of the Inn* i, Her silence implies The composure of settled distress. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 41 To remain to the end of life destitute of any settled religious opinions. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 5 It was his settled purpose to fling off the yoke of the Baronage.

b. Of the mind, character, etc.: Rendered staid, steadfast, or sober.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 203 Pacience thy setled minde dothe guide and stere. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* (Qo. 2) IV. vii. 81 For youth no lesse becomes The light and carelesse liuing that it weares Then setled age, his sables, and his weedes. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. iii. 72 No setled Sences of the World can match The pleasure of that madnesse. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 96 What you have delivered ..concerning the Soul of man..might become a man of a more settled brain than Anthroposophus. 1670 DRYDEN *Tyr. Love* II. i. 16 Nor pride nor frenzy, but a setled mind. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, Wayland, now a man of settled character.

c. Of the countenance or bearing: Indicating a settled purpose, mind, character, etc.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 111 With a setled countenance, not accusing any kind of inwarde motion. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 90 This outward sainted Deputie, Whose setled visage, and deliberate word Nips youth i'th head. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 225 With..a graue countenance, a settled gate, and words well plaste. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. iv, In your settled Face And clouded Brow methinks I see my Fate. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xv, Rose saw her cheek assume a paler but more settled hue, instead of the angry hectic which had coloured it. 1839 G. DARLEY *Nepenthe* II. 31 Antiquity, thou Titan-born! That..look'st with dim but settled eye O'er thy deep lap.

2. Of a matter in dispute, an arrangement, regulation, etc.: Determined, decided, enacted or agreed upon. Of a truth, a principle: Established, placed beyond dispute.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 82, I finde it now for a setled truth, which earst I accompted for a vaine talke, that the purple dye will neuer staine [etc.]. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 11 It is then expedient that we should not wander, but rather follow a settled short way. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 325 Those who are entertain'd into his Service have a setled pay at all times. 1666 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* (1673) 21 That there be no complaining..in the Churches for want of a settled maintenance. 1749–50 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 1 P 1 The settled and regular forms of salutation which necessity has introduced into all languages. 1803 *Vesey's Chanc. Cases* (1827) XI. 537, I cannot upon any doubt of mine..shake what is the settled law upon the subject. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. § 60, I wish this were a settled question in London markets. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 386 We look to have from him a settled day When we must change our faith or bide the worst.

b. Phr. *A settled thing* (or *matter*), used predicatively (often = something about which there is considered to be no room for doubt or question).

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, 'I thought', said he,..'that was a settled matter—they are continually together'. 1839 THACKERAY *Stubb's Cal.* Apr. (1841) 305 She was told to call me her little husband; and she did; and it was considered a settled thing from that day. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* v. vii, 'Is it a settled thing between Lady Joan and Mr. Mountchesney?' 'Not the slightest foundation...She is not in a hurry to marry'. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* vii. Still, it was not at all a settled thing that Mrs. Fitz-Adam was to be visited. 1864 E. YATES *Broken to Harness* I. xv. 272, The twilight had been a settled thing for at least an hour. 1868 H. BLACKBURN *Artists & Arabs* I. 7 At Marseilles, where..it is an understood and settled thing that every Englishman is on his way, to or from Italy or India.

3. Of affairs, an institution, or the like: Estab-

lished on a permanent footing and under fixed conditions or regulations.

1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* xvii. 149 Since the first Age,..not one Example can bee produced of anie settled Church, wherein were manie Ministers and Congregations, which had not som Bishop above them. 1650 HUBBART *Pill Formality* 152 Man ..in his most settled estate is altogether vanity. 1672–5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 7 Such a liberty therefore cannot be granted in a setled Church. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 259 The parliament had no settled army. 1765 JOHNSON *Shaks.* Wks. (1773) I. Pref. D8, Grammatical and settled languages. 1794 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 254 Settled governments have not the bold resources of new experimental systems. 1842 TENNYSON '*You ask me, why*' iii, A land of settled government. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 119 A settled age can imperfectly comprehend an age of revolution. 1883 P. H. HUNTER *Story Daniel* i. 8 At such time as this..when the settled order of things was breaking up.

4. Fixed in place or position; having a fixed abode.

1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 106 But now thy Vnckle is remouing hence, As Princes doe their Courts, when they are cloy'd With long continuance in a settled place. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* viii. 13, I haue surely built thee an house to dwel in, a setled place for thee to abide in for euer. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* i. xvii, The setled rock seem'd from his seat remove. 1645 *Direct. Lords & Comm. for Elect. Ruling-Elders* 2 In the place where his most setled dwelling and imployment doth lie. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Mar. 1652, No more intending to go out of England, but endeavour a settl'd life, either in this or some other place. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia* Descr. i. 47 They..live like the Arabs, without any settled Habitation. 1830 M. T. SADLER *Law Popul.* i. ix. 146 Since mankind have become more settled and numerous. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. x. 191 Becoming a settled..instead of a nomadic people.

b. Of an ailment: Fixed in the system.

1811 LADY MORGAN *Mem.* (1862) I. 479 A bad cold and a settled cough.

5. Of weather of a specified character: Established and maintaining itself without change or break (cf. SET *a.* 6 c). Of wind: Blowing continuously in one direction.

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (1868) 8 The current did then sett strongly out of the straightes, which I vnderstand is vsuall after settled Leuant windes. 1710 *Loyal Mourner* 9 The smiling Aspect of Earth, Sea, and Air, All for a lasting Calm, and Settled Fair. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 72 Now it began to be settled fair Weather. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. de Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 143 It was the most settled and downright Rain (as the Saying is) that ever I saw. 1798 S. ROGERS *To Friend on Marr.* Poems (1812) 162 And settled sunshine on her soul descend! 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxcvi, As roll the waves before the settled wind. 1837 SOUTHEY *Poems* IV. Pref., Raising my spirits to the degree of settled fair. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life Miss Mitford* I. v. 136 What is a tiunder shower..to settled, set-in, bad weather?

b. Of weather (without other specification): Calm and fine.

1717 in J. O. Payne *Rec. Eng. Catholics 1715* (1889) 156 Such brave settled weather as't has been ever since you left us. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Cucumis*, Towards the latter End of May, when the Weather appears settled and warm. 1830 T. MOORE in *Lady Morgan's Mem.* (1862) II. 312, I am preparing to take advantage of the very first appearance of more settled weather.

† 6. Of a liquid: Not flowing, stagnant, coagulated. Also of wine: That has 'settled on the lees'.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 112 The warming of the Blood: which before (cold, and setled) left the Liuer white, and pale. 1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* II. 36 The fleet hurrying flood..As a black lake or setled marish stood At th'extensure of the Hebrewes wand. 1659 HOWELL *Vocab. Arts & Sci.* xviii, Settled wine; *vin riposato*; *vin rassis*. 1681 CROWNE *Hen. VI*, IV. 58 His Face is black and swell'd with settled Blood.

7. That has sunk down or subsided. Of earth: Compacted, consolidated.

1642 HEXHAM *Princ. Art Milit.* II. (ed. 2) 48 The stopping which is made newly is not so firme as the old setled Earth, which hath lain a long time in it. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 80 The further Loading of the settled Pier would be dangerous.

8. Of a person: Established in life, esp. by marriage; brought into a regular way of life.

a 1706 EVELYN *Mrs. Godolphin* (1888) 128 Wee will looke vpon this Lady now, as a setled Woman, and in the Armes of that excellent Person the most worthy to possess her. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* II. iii. Plays (1902) 169 Mercy on me—He's greatly altered—and seems to have a settled married look. 1884 'C. E. CRADDOCK' (Miss Murfree) *In Tennessee Mts.* 83 A settled married man, a-behavin' no better 'n them fool boys.

b. Established in an office or living; *spec.* of Presbyterian ministers (cf. SETTLE *v.* 27 b).

1773 *Ann. Reg.* 148 Mrs. Greeve was to have procured the place of a settled tidesman for Mr. John Smith. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIV. II. 991 The settled Relief minister at Irvine. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New-Eng.* (1823) IV. 397 In the year 1798 there were..two hundred and forty-two ministers; of whom thirty-three were without any charge; or, in the language of New-England, were not settled ministers.

9. Of an estate or property: Secured to a person by a legal act or agreement; held by a tenant for life under conditions defined by the deed.

1856 *Act* 19 & 20 *Vict.* c. 120 (*title*), An Act to facilitate Leases and Sales of Settled Estates. *Ibid.* § 1 The Term 'Settled Estates'..shall signify all Hereditaments..and all Estates..which are the Subject of a Settlement. 1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 38 (*title*), An Act for facilitating Sales, Leases, and other dispositions of Settled Land. 1889 *Wharton's Law Lex.* (ed. 8), *Settled land*, land limited by way of succession, to a person other than the person for the time being entitled to the beneficial enjoyment thereof.

10. Of a country: Peopled with new-comers; colonized. Also *settled up*.

1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 12 In the settled part of it, the land is divided into smaller farms. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's Roost*, etc. *R. Ringwood* (1855) 196, I had relatives in Lexington, and other settled places. 1897 BEATRICE HARRADEN *Hilda Strafford* 146 She had seen some of those settled-up parts.

11. Of soap: Refined by fusing in water or weak lye.

1898 G. H. HURST *Soaps* vii. 228 Three chief varieties of hard soap..known as 'curd', 'fitted', or, in America, 'settled', and 'run' soaps. 1906 L. L. LAMBORN *Manuf. Soap* ix. 328 Settled Rosined Soap.

† **Se·ttledly,** *adv. Obs.* [-LY 2.] In a settled manner.

1602 WARNER *Albion's Eng.* XIII. Epit. 360 The first Kingdome..was Kent...It setledly began about the yeere..475. *a* 1617 HIERON *Penance for Sin* xviii. Wks. 1628 I. 263 When hee doth aduisedly, and setledly, and with deliberation and purpose doe that which is naught. 1635 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 472 To shew you how chearfully and settledly I remain Your Lordship's .most humble Servant, Wentworth. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. ii. (1713) 291 Those that either slight or misbelieve Christianity..do not seriously or settledly believe there is a God. 1692 T. BEVERLEY *Concil. Disc.* 5 Men, among whom Scripture is setledly receiv'd.

Settledness (se·t'ldnés). [-NESS.] The state or quality of being settled (in various senses).

Frequent in 17th c.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* i. 1 The 'seate' by which word he betokeneth..the settlednesse that is concieued of the continuall custome of liuing. 1607 BEAUMONT *Woman Hater* v. iii, *Coun.* You are your self my Lord, I like your setel'dnes. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 151 Their eyes [turn] to a swolne settlednesse & dulnesse of look. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxiv. 221 § 1 The Scythian wandring Nomades,..wanting both civility and settlednesse. 1648 BP. HALL *Breath. Devout Soul* xxxiv. 53 Lord, work my heart to so firme a setledness upon thee, that it may never be shaken. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxiii. (1665) 248 Setledness and stediness of mind. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. (1677) 196 The Antiquity and Setledness of this Monarchy. *a* 1866 GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xii. (1870) 195 The discriminateness or settledness, with which moral notions present themselves to the mind. 1875 J. H. RIGG *Living Wesley* II. ii. 43 The pleasant and old-fashioned settledness of the town of Epworth. 1877 BRYCE *Transcaucasia & Ararat* i. 25 The general want of settledness [in Russia] is seen in the ease with which the population move from place to place.

Settlement (se·t'lmĕnt). [f. SETTLE *v.* + -MENT.] **I.** The placing of persons or things in a fixed or permanent position.

1. The act of fixing (a thing, material or immaterial) in a secure or steady position; the state of being so fixed; a fixed or steady position.

1648 BP. HALL *Breath. Devout Soul* § 3. 3 Can ye hope to finde rest in any of these sublunary contentments. Alas? how can they yeeld any stay to you, that have no settlement in themselves? 1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 5 The Winds and Tide trouls them [*sc.* the Sands], and give them a settlement along the Shores. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xii, Bring, if thou canst, thy wavering understanding to a right settlement for a minute or two. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xii, A vast trunk uprooted from its ancient settlement. 1902 ALLBUTT in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXX. 611/2 Even more set diseases began to lose their settlements, and were recognized as terms of series, as transitory or culminating phases.

2. Establishment of a person in life, in marriage, in an office or employment.

1652 WALTON *Life Wotton* in *Reliq. Wotton.* c 4 b, This [*sc.* the Provostship of Eton Coll.] was a faire settlement for his minde. 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 21 A magistrate of an hour's settlement is as much a magistrate as if he had been one never so long. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxci. 254 Every Man..Applies himself..toward the Attaining of his End; whether it be Honour, Wealth, Power, or any other sort of Advantage, or Settlement in the World. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* III. i. (1782) I. 212, I shall find no difficulty in procuring for you a good settlement. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lii. V. 445 Thirty thousand Persians, who had obtained service and settlement in the Byzantine empire. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *E. Lynne* xii, That Mr. Carlyle was not of rank equal to her own she scarcely remembered: East Lynne seemed a very fair settlement in life,..superior to the home she was now in. 1861 *Two Cosmos* I. 294 Contrary to all that Mr. Caird had ever dreamed or planned for a settlement of his daughter in the married state.

3. Legal residence or establishment in a particular parish, entitling a person to relief from the poor rates; the right to relief acquired by such residence.

1662 *Act 14 Chas. II*, c 12 § 3 If the person..shall not returne to the place aforesaid when his..worke is finished.. it shall not bee accounted a Settlement in the cases abovesaid. 1689 in G. T. Lawley *Hist. Bilston* (1893) 59 Forasmuch as some persons by sculking w'in this Constablewick, have surreptitiously gain'd a settlement here. 1704 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. x. (ed. 21) 425 There is a Workhouse in Bishopsgate-Street, for employing..all such as have no Settlement. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 113 Many of them were without what we call legal Settlements, and so could not claim of the Parishes. 1792 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* (1809) xvii. 138 But I soon convinced 'em he had not staid long enough in the parish to gain a settlement. 1857 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* Introd. iii, At one Union..they had told her that she must go back to where she had been born, for her settlement was there. 1898 *Daily News* 20 July 8/4 The appeal involved a question as to the settlement of a pauper..who was born at Plymouth, but had done no act to gain a settlement.

4. The act of settling oneself, or state of being settled, in a fixed place or position, in a permanent abode, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Mar. 1652, I went to Deptford, where I made preparation for my settlement, no more intending to go out of England. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 112 This little wandring Journey, without settled Place of Abode, had been so unpleasant to me, that my own House, as I call'd it to my self, was a perfect Settlement to me, compar'd to that. 1791 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* 12 Dec. *Jrnl. & Corr.* (1861) II. 396 Nothing can be known till the settlement in the new house and in society is completed. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* iv. 85 She began..with a comfortable settlement in the chair, which meant a good long talk.

5. In Presbyterian churches: The placing or installing of a minister in a pastoral charge.

1723 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 14 Our settlements are turning extremely vexatious. 1825 JAMIESON Suppl. s.v. *Settle* v., A congregation is said to get a settlement, when the Pastor is introduced to the discharge of the pastoral office among them, S. 1842 W. M. HETHERINGTON *Hist. Ch. Scot.* 666 Great opposition was made to the settlement by the pious parishioners. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* ii. 31 Gillespie had been deposed..for refusing to assist in the disputed settlement of Inverkeithing.

6. The act of settling as colonists or new-comers; the act of peopling or colonizing a new country, or of planting a colony. (Cf. sense 14.)

Phrase, *to effect a settlement.*

1827 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* II. 83 It would be well, also, to attempt the cultivation of tea in some part of our colony, by a settlement of Chinese. 1850 W. MURE *Lit. Greece* I. v. § 1. 89 The settlement of Oriental colonies in Greece produced no sensible effect on the character either of the language or the nation. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. iv. i. 170 A band of pioneers effected a settlement on the southern part of Argyleshire. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 2 We have traced the rudiments of our Constitution to the first moment of the English settlement in Britain. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Sept. 5/1 That region is now divided into four distinct provinces—Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Athabasca—in all of which, except the last, settlement is rapidly progressing.

transf. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 897 Being a great wanderer, it [*sc.* the Tree-Sparrow] has effected settlements even in such remote islands as the Færoes.

II. Arrangement or regulation (of affairs, etc.).

7. The act or process of regulating or putting on a permanent footing; the act of establishing (public affairs, etc.) in security or tranquillity; the state of being settled and established; a settled arrangement, an established order of things.

1645 DURYE *Israel's Call* (1646) 47 Then look to the further settlement of the civill state. *Ibid.* 48 With the settlement of the Church, as a body compact together. 1661 COWLEY *College* Ess. etc. (1906) 254 That every third year (after the full settlement of the Foundation) the Colledge shall give an account..of the fruits of their triennial Industry. 1681 H. NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 23 People..who think that the growth of Popery is our only Evil, and that if we were secure against that, our Peace and Settlement were obtain'd. 1696 EVELYN *Let. Wotton* 30 Mar. *Diary* (1879) III. 484 In religious matters..I could not but discover in him the same free thoughts which he had of philosophy...For the rest always conformable to the present settlement. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 50 P 6 A sufficient force for the reformation of such disorders, and the settlement of the publick peace. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 197 These [*sc.* manufactures and commerce] are the offspring of peace and settlement. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 555 A settlement such as Argyle would have made..seemed to them not worth a struggle. 1900 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Mar. 350 The settlement that should be made after the war.

b. Determination or decision of a question, dispute, etc.; the establishing of an opinion, the text of a document, etc.

1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. xx. 249 The opinion ..does not seem to have tended to a settlement before the fifth century. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* (1861) Pref. p. xi, The settlement of the text of Aeschylus..has been a gradual process of restoration and recovery. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 159 The settlement of the question..could not long be delayed. 1866 LOWELL *Study Wind., Swinburne's Trag.*, That is an affair of taste, which does not admit of any authoritative settlement.

8. *Law.* The act of settling property upon a person or persons; the particular terms of such an arrangement; the deed or instrument by which it is effected. Often spec. = *marriage settlement*: see MARRIAGE 8.

1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 9, I have been a Commissioner in the Third part of the greatest Estates in the County, wherein I have seen the Settlements two ways. 1685 DRYDEN tr. *Idylls of Theocritus* xxvii. Misc. Wks. 1727 II. 68 My Flocks, my Fields, my Wood, my Pastures take, With Settlement as good as Law can make. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Dec. 1679, I went to meete Sir John Stonehouse, and give him a particular of the settlement on my sonn, who now made his addresses to..his daughter-in-law. 1732 SWIFT *Strephon & Chloe* 40 But, Strephon sigh'd so loud and strong, He blew a Settlement along. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. vii, All the world..would approve the connection, and the settlement made upon her should be dictated by herself. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxx, The deed of settlement, the professional gentlemen inform me, is now ready. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* xi. 69 Your wife..may..claim a settlement out of it for herself and her children. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 36 The splendid settlement which Rudolf was ready to make upon his son.

attrib. 1879 CHAMPNESS *Insur. Dict.* (1883) 302 *Settlement policies*, life policies in which are introduced clauses giving them all the effect of marriage settlements so far as the moneys assured are concerned.

b. The settling the succession to the Crown.

Act of Settlement, the Act passed in 1701 (12 & 13 Will. III, c. 2) by which the succession to the British crown was settled upon Princess Sophia of Hanover and her descendants.

1714 R. STEELE (*title*) The Crisis, or, a Discourse Representing..The several Settlements of the Crowns of England

and Scotland on Her Majesty. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 1. i. 124 These liberties were again asserted..in the act of settlement, whereby the crown is limited to his present majesty's illustrious house. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 179 The immediate settlement of the crown at the Revolution extended only to the descendants of Anne and William.

c. *Scots Law.* The disposition of property or heritage by will; also, the document by which this is effected. *Disposition and settlement*, a deed by which a person provides for the disposal of his property, heritable and movable, after his death.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxv, This lady..made a general settlement of her affairs in Miss Lucy Bertram's favour. *Ibid.* xxxviii, Mr. Protocol..began to read the settlement aloud in a slow, steady, business-like tone. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Testament*, Testament or Will disposing of Moveables only...Disposition and Settlement or Will disposing of Heritage as well as Moveables.

d. The amount settled upon a person.

1811 T. C. MORGAN in *Lady Morgan's Mem.* (1862) I. 525 My wife's settlement is vested in the Three per Cents.

e. *U.S.* A sum of money or other property formerly granted to a minister on his ordination, in addition to his salary.

1828-32 in WEBSTER. *a* 1840 NATH. EMMONS *Autobiog.* in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (Cent.), Before the war began, my people punctually paid my salary, and advanced one hundred pounds of my settlement a year before it was due by contract.

9. The settling or payment of an account; the act of satisfying a claim or demand, of coming to terms (*with* a person).

1729 *Act* 2 *Geo. II*, c. 23 § 23 Upon the Taxation and Settlement of such Bill and Demand. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, Ye might say..that the carline awed ye rent, and that ye wad allow it in the settlement. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. v, From the Townhall he..emits..fresh plans of settlement with Château-Vieux. 1873 MRS. H. WOOD *Master Greylands* I. x. 172 In an incredibly short..time..the affairs of the bank were in a way of settlement. 1878 MRS. J. H. RIDDELL *Mother's Darling* I. vii. 197 No heavy bills were sent to Dilfield for settlement.

b. *spec.* The fortnightly (or, for government securities, monthly) settling of accounts on the Stock Exchange.

1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. (1778) 41 For de next settlement, would your honour be de bull or de bear? 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Dec. 8/2 With regard to Mining markets preparations are now in full progress for the settlement.

10. In India: The process of assessing the government land-tax over a specific area.

1789 EARL CORNWALLIS *Let.* 2 Nov. *Corr.* (1859) I. 443 The Board continued..to form and issue the necessary instructions for making a settlement of the land revenues of the province of Bahar. 1849 *Direct. Revenue Off. N. W. Prov. Bengal* (1850) 7 There are evidently two distinct operations in the formation of a Settlement. The one is fiscal—the determination of the Government Demand—the other is judicial, the formation of the record of rights.

attrib. 1849 *Direct. Revenue Off. N. W. Prov. Bengal* (1850) 27 Directions for Settlement Officers.

III. The act of becoming set or still, sinking, subsiding, etc.

11. The act of settling and clarifying after agitation or fermentation.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 302 First for Separation; It is wrought by Weight; As in the ordinary Residence or Settlement of Liquors. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 156 The too frequent or violent motion of Wines after their settlement in their vessels. *Ibid.* 179 They counsel to rack it from the Milky bottom, after a weeks settlement.

fig. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 9 In the age which followed the Trojan War, Hellas was still in process of ferment and settlement.

b. The deposition of grosser particles or solid matter. Also *concr.*, a deposit or sediment. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s. v., This Liquour is not right, there is a Settlement. 1692 J. HOUGHTON *Coll. Improv. Husb.* No. 9 P 3, I dry'd both the Settlements asunder. 1739 W. MONTAGU *Let.* 16 Aug. in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* (1893) II. 43 They are occasioned by a settlement of humours, which are removed by exercise. 1739 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 64 The Tide of Ebb having so long a Time to deposit its Settlement. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Settlements*, sediment.

12. A sinking down or subsidence (of a structure, loose earth, etc.).

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 283 Twelve pieces..of near a ton each,..laid upon the first vaulted floor, without..the least degree of settlement. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 410 After a certain degree of desiccation their masses were capable of a much closer approach to each other, or of what builders commonly call settlement. 1820 TREDGOLD *Carpentry* § 298 By shrinkage, or settlement, the joints will bear only upon the angular points of the joint. 1833 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 135 The whole may be explained by the settlement of loose sand..during the violent shocks of an earthquake. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Settlements*, those parts in which failures by sinking in a building have occurred. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. i, These landslips are sometimes followed, at the return of the tide, by a further fall, called a 'settlement'.

13. The process of becoming calm or tranquil.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. v, It is like the settlement of winds and waters, of seas long tornado-beaten.

IV. An assemblage of persons settled in a locality.

14. (Cf. sense 6.) A community of the subjects of a state settled in a new country; a tract of country so settled, a colony, esp. one in its earlier stages.

Back settlement: see BACK *a.* 1 a. *Straits Settlements*, the collective name given to the British possessions in the Malay Peninsula.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. vii. 163 In some River where the Spaniards have neither Settlement nor Trade with the native Indians. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 280 Have the Spaniards no..ports or towns, settlements or colonies in it? 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 65/2 British subjects in the back settlements. 1776 A. SMITH *W. N.* I. viii. I. 89 The present state of Bengal, and of some other of the English settlements in the East Indies. 1844 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xvii. (1862) 280 The endless variety of our settlements in all the most remote quarters of the globe! 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 4 Offa resolved to create a military border by planting a settlement of Englishmen between the Severn and the huge 'Offa's Dyke'. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 159/1 The English settlements in Virginia, New England, Maryland, and Pennsylvania had..developed into a new nation.

b. Of a religious community.

1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. i. (ed. 22) 201 According as their [*sc.* the Quakers'] Settlements are more Numerous and Thick. 1884 R. PATON *Scott. Ch.* viii. 75 St. Finnian had twelve chief disciples, who filled the land with religious settlements. *Ibid.* 81 There was the earthen rampart enclosing the settlement.

15. In the outlying districts of America and the Colonies: A small village or collection of houses. Also, the huts forming the living quarters of the slaves on a plantation.

1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 31 The terms settlement and plantation mean the residences of the natives. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 18 There are four settlements or villages (or, as the negroes call them, camps) on the island, consisting of from ten to twenty houses. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 417 At another plantation..I found the 'settlement' arranged in the same way, the cabins only being of a slightly different form. 1884 'C. E. CRADDOCK' (Miss Murfree) *In Tennessee Mts.* 81 And certainly the instinct of the eagle built that eyrie called the Settlement..far above the towering pine forest. 1896 *Trans. Roy. Soc. Canada* II. ii. 210 Topographical terms actually used by the people of New Brunswick...*Settlement*, rarely village.

16. An establishment in the poorer quarters of a large city where educated men or women live in daily personal contact with the working class for co-operation in social reform.

1884 *Oxf. Mag.* 23 Apr. II. 171/2 Oxford and East London. The Executive Committee of the University Settlement have issued a prospectus and appeal for donations towards the initial expenses of the Settlement. *Ibid.* 172/1 Nine men have undertaken to commence residence in the Settlement. 1892 *Ch. Times* 4 Nov. 1094/1 Those 'settlements', or missions, which have become of late such a striking feature in the religious life of London. 1904 D. PRICE HUGHES *Life H. P. Hughes* ix. 207 A site in the City Road, where it was proposed to erect premises containing full accommodation for a Settlement.

Settler (se·tlə). [f. SETTLE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who or a thing which, settles fixes, decides, etc.

1598 FLORIO, *Acconciatore*,..a mender, a setler, an ordrer. 1611 COTGR., *Ficheur*, a fixer, fastener, setler, or setter in. 1659 *England's Universal Distraction* 1643-5 16 True Religion is rather a Setler then Stickler in Policy, and rather confirmes men in obedience to the Government. 1687 WOOD *Life* 9 Dec. (O.H.S.) III. 245 Mr. A[rthur] Ch[arlet] of Trin. Coll., the chief setler of unsettled minds in Oxford. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 113 He fancied himself a settler of destinies. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* Introd. 6 This powerful settler of disputes [*sc.* artillery]. 1898 *Daily News* 6 July 4/6 That sum was..paid by him over to Mr. Goodson, who acted as Sir John's settler.

b. *colloq.* Something that settles or 'does for' a person, a finisher; something that settles an antagonist in an encounter or argument; a crushing or finishing blow, shot, speech, etc.

1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Advent.* ix. 124, I endeavoured to revive them by saying I intended to have a Bowl of Punch, by way of a Settler and then to go to Bed upon it. *c* 1827 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 221 This was a settler; I could make no answer to that. 1829 MOORE *Tom Crib's Memorial* (ed. 3) 15 So he tipp'd him a settler..Full plump in the whisker. 1833 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) II. 338 Cook knocked him on the head instantly; this is what the English call a settler, that is, in this way they settle their accounts. 1837 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. XX., That shot was a settler, it struck poor Sall right atwixt wind and water. 1888 *Sportsman* 22 Dec. (Farmer), A mistake at the last hurdles proved a complete settler, and he succumbed by six lengths. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 239 After this settler [a crushing speech], the man sat down, and turned his back on the Parson.

2. One who settles in a new country; a colonist.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lii. V. 442 The fields and vineyards were divided among the new settlers. 1786 T. DUNDAS *Let.* 28 Dec. in Cornwallis *Corr.* (1859) I. 279 The half-pay provincial officers are valuable settlers. 1802 G. BARRINGTON *New South Wales* iv. 98 The natives taking advantage of the distance settlers lived from each other. 1867 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Progr. Culture* Wks. (Bohn) III. 225 Land without price is offered to the settler. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 1 Each dweller within the settlement was jealous of his own isolation and independence among his fellow-settlers. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. 7 Churches* xi. 133 Hence the Jewish settlers formed a counterpoise against the Greek colonists in the Seleucid cities.

b. *gen.* One who settles in a place as a resident.

1825 SCOTT *Guy M.* vii, Nor was Mr. Bertram in a hurry to exert his newly-acquired authority at the expense of these old settlers. *Ibid.* xii, If..he should become a settler in that part of Scotland. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding Ho.*, He resides among the original settlers at Walworth.

c. A worker at a social settlement (see SETTLEMENT 16).

1884 *Durham Univ. Jrnl.* 5 July VI. 44 What then are Settlements, and their Settlers, to do in the East End of London? 1887 *Charity Organiz. Rev.* III. 408 The university settlers [at Toynbee Hall]. 1899 *Daily News* 26 June 4/7 The 'settlers' at Mansfield House look forward to having one of the best-equipped boys' clubs in London.

3. *Law.* One who settles property: = SETTLOR.

1800 *Act* 39 & 40 *Geo. III*, c. 98 § 1 The Term of Twenty-one Years from the Death of any such Grantor, Settler, Devisor, or Testator.

4. A pan or vat into which a liquor is run off to 'settle' or deposit a sediment. In *Metallurgy* (see quot. 1881).

1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Allom Works Whitby* 140 Which [kelp] being put in so soon as the Liquor boils or flows up.., they draw it off into a settler. 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Anil*, There are three of these [indigo] Vats commonly built one above another...This last Vat is also call'd at St. Domingo, a Settler. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 161 The pump..draws the petroleum from the settler. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 193 The roasted ore is amalgamated in 8 pans, with as many settlers. 1881 — *Mining Gloss.*, *Settler*, a tub or vat, in which pulp from the amalgamating pan or battery-pulp is allowed to settle, being stirred in water, to remove the lighter portions.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *settler-folk*, †*slam* (SLAM *sb.*3); **settler's or settlers' clock, matches, twine** *Austral.* (see quots.).

1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 716/2 The westward march of the 'settler-folk. 1743 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 121 A Method of making Alum out of Dross (commonly called *Settler Slam). 1847 L. LEICHHARDT *Jrnl. Australia* viii. 234 The laughing Jackass (*Dacelo gigantea*) which, from its regularity, has not been unaptly named the 'settlers' clock. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *'Settlers' Matches*,..the long pendulous strips of bark which hang from the Eucalypts and other trees, during decortication and which..are used as kindling wood. **Settler's Twine*, a fibre plant, *Gymnostachys anceps*, R. Br[own]..used by farmers as cord or string.

Se·ttlerdom. *nonce-wd.* [f. SETTLER + -DOM.] Settlers collectively.

1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 123 *Veni, vidi, aedificavi*, should be the motto of Western settlerdom, so rapid is the growth of cities in the West.

Settling (se·tliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb SETTLE.

OE. *setlung* = a sitting down, also the setting of the sun. The latter sense is recorded by Ash (1775) and Todd (1818) for *settling*, but this is prob. an error for *setting*.

1. The action of fixing, establishing, arranging permanently, adjusting, deciding, etc.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1560) 3 The setling or ordering of things inuented for this purpose, called in Latin *Dispositio*. *a* 1569 KYNGESMILL *Confl. with Satan* (1577) Pref. A v b, This I say must be a setlinge vnto thee, if thou hast tasted how good and gracious God is. 1619 W. SCLATER *Expos. 1 Thess.* 173 To Gods children let it be a settling of their Faith, that it neuer waner. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 21 To gif thair advise anent the satling of the disordouris of the Middle shyris. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Let.* in *Fragm. Aurea* (1648) 62 Since the setling of your Family would certainly much conduce to the setling of your mind. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ix. § 2. 261 The miracles done at the setling of their Law. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 465 This thing will be an absolute setting of my fortune, which..is in no good condition. 1747 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 142 Has desir'd me to take upon myself the settling of the Terms for paying the Men off. 1827 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* II. 917 The adjustment of a loss is the settling and ascertaining the amount of the indemnity. 1909 GWATKIN *Early Ch. Hist.* I. vi. 112 We get a general impression of apostolic superintendence..and of settling of churches.

†**b.** The state of being settled, a settlement; a station. *Obs.*

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxvii. 137 Those that went in the vangard, as soone as they came to their setling [orig. *chegando à estancia*], did giue fire to theyr ordinance. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vi. 26 Those Epistles of Peter and John, which are likely to be latest written, when the Church grew to a setling.

2. The action of planting a country with colonists, or of establishing a colony. †Also the result of this, a settlement.

1609 SALISBURY in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 83 An enterprise of plantation in the Indies, where..the King of England..might have a setling as well as the King of Spain. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 2 To search the Moon by her own Light;..And make the proper'st Observations, For settling of new Plantations. 1707 J. ARCHDALE *(title)* A New Description of..Carolina: with a brief account of its Discovery, Settling, and the Government Thereof to this Time. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 149/1 That the settling of colonies would have been a cheaper and better method of bridling modern countries, than building fortresses in them. 1877 *Ibid.* (ed. 9) VI. 159/2 The ultimate constitution of a colony depends but little on the manner in which the territory for settling was originally acquired.

3. The adjusting or liquidating of accounts; also *settling up*.

1761 T. MORTIMER *Ev. Man his own Broker* II. (1762) 28 The four principal times, for which contracts or bargains are made,..are called in 'Change Alley, the Rescounter settlings. *Ibid.* 82 Against the day of settling he has made out, what he calls his list. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 377 After a great event—a Derby, Oaks, or Leger..the newspapers generally devote a neat paragraph or two to what is called 'the settling'. 1893 *Baily's Mag.* Oct. 275/2 A backer, who..refused to face an adverse settling, and quietly skedaddled.

fig. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 283/1 After dinner there would be a settling up with the two rebels.

b. Settling day, a day appointed for settling accounts; *spec.* the fortnightly pay-day on the Stock Exchange. **Settling room**, a room (esp. at the Stock Exchange) in which accounts are settled.

1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XII. xviii, Attending at the Stock-exchange on settling-day. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxi, The score of pieces that must be made up at settling-day. 1859 H. H. DIXON *Silk & Scarlet* 97 In the yard of Tattersall's, on Priam's settling day. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 9/1 The Settling-room underneath the House [Stock Exchange].

4. (Cf. SETTLE *v.* 21 c.) *To get a settling* (Sc.): 'to be frightened into quietness' (Burns *Gloss.* 1785).

1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxiv, But Och! that night, amang the shaws, She gat a fearfu' settlin!

5. The action of coming to rest, taking up a fixed or permanent position, becoming quiet or composed, etc.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 82 The great rage You see is kill'd in him:..Trouble him no more till further setling. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 106 ¶ 6 At his first settling with me. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Advent.* viii. 111, I hope you have no Thoughts of going again to Sea, as I have waited so many Years in Expectation of your settling, when you came home. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 344 Dr. Marchmont..had been introduced to Sir Hugh upon the baronet's settling in the large mansion-house of that village.

6. The action of sinking down, subsiding, forming a deposit or sediment, etc.; also, the result of this.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 440/2 Saggynge, or satlynge, *bassacio.* 1540 JONAS tr. *Roesslin's Byrth Mankynde* I. vii. 32 After the delyueraunce happeneth to women other the feuer or ague, ..or els commotion or settelynge out of order of the..matrice. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. iii. II. 408 [These plants] come up..in some low grounds where there is a settling or stay of raine water fallen from higher places. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. iv. 70 Purple being severall sanguine colours, differing onely in degrees, and the severall settlings thereof. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 294 For as too long sitting..hindereth the full descent of meat to the depth of our stomachs; so too speedy rising causeth an overhasty setling. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 26 The unequall setling of the Work. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 260 Which occasions Cracks and Settlings in the Walls. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 174 The Shifting of the Beach without, and Settling of the Sullage within. 1880 *Standard* 10 Dec., The ground..immediately over a disused rock saltmine, began to show signs of 'settling'. 1881 *19th Cent.* 247, I have known a settling down of strata crumple up 14 feet of solid masonry, as though it were paper.

attrib. 1782 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 320 After complete vitrification, the heat is abated for some hours to 28 or 29° which is called the settling heat. 1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* VIII. 422/2 The strong liquor is drawn off into settling cisterns. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 667 The solution is allowed to run into a deep vessel or settling back. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII 506/1 As these..naturally act as settling-ponds they get rapidly silted up.

b. *concr.* Sediment, lees, dregs. Chiefly *pl.*

1594 PLAT *Yewell-ho.* III. 23 The residence or setling, which you find in the bottom therof. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 810 Yet 'tis but the lees And settlings of a melancholy blood. 1646 P. BULKELEY *Gospel Covt.* I. 180 The Lord formed man.. out of the earth, the dregs and settlings of all creatures. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 65 Fill these Cups with the Jelly, which you must take clear from the Settling at the Bottom. *Ibid.*, Take the fine Jelly clear from the Settlings at Bottom. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Glass* ix. 240 A layer of the finer settlings of the enamel is to be spread..over the convex side. 1895 *Daily News* 11 May 7/7 The stuff [illicit spirit] was made..from sugar and wine settlings.

Settling (se·tliŋ). *ppl.a.* [f. SETTLE *v.* + -ING².] That settles (in the senses of the verb).

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 82 [As bees] So from the ships,.. The rabble..Hurried together;..earth did grone Beneath the setling multitude. 1681 DRYDEN *Spaw. Friar* III. 36 You call it Settling of a man; just as when a fellow has got a sound Knock upon the head, they say he's settled: Marriage is a Settling blow indeed. 1762-3 MACPHERSON *Ossian's Poems, Coulath & Cuthona* (1806) II. 287 Go; view the settling sea; the stormy wind is laid. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 170 The settling hush A bird makes in her nest with feet and wings. 1850 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* 21 Oct. in 'J. Oldcastle' (W. Meynell) *Newman* (1885) 27, I have just received Maskell's able and settling pamphlet. 1902 MABEL BARNES-GRUNDY *Thames Camp* XII. 256 'Of course you refused him', I said, in my most settling manner. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Aug. 7/1 The wild little black [horse] ..stood trembling and snorting in the settling dust.

Settlor (se·tlə(r)). *Law.* [Altered form of SETTLER (sense 3): see -OR 2 d.] One who makes a settlement of property.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 317 Where an estate was limited to the use of the settlor for 99 years. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. x. § 2 (1876) 207 Every settlor and testator has an almost unbounded licence to multiply interests in land. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* IV. (ed. 2) § 151 A settlor of dower. 1876 K. E. DIGBY *Real Property* VII. § 2. 329 The great object of settlements of lands, the preserving them in the settlor's family.

Set-to. Pl. **set-toes** (-to·z); *incorrectly* **sets-to.** [f. vbl. phr. *set to*: see SET *v.* 152.]

† 1. A talking-to, dressing-down. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1774 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 313, I gave her a good *set-too* just now.

2. orig. *Pugilism.* The action of 'setting to' (SET *v.* 152 f. (*b*)); hence, a bout or round; a pugilistic encounter or boxing match. Also, a bout, engagement, or match at some other sport.

1743 *Broughton's Rules* in Egan *Boxiana* (1830) I. 52 Every fresh set-to after a fall, or being parted from the rails. 1789 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 199/2 The set-to was prodigiously fine, and after a few feints on each side, Ryan put in the first blow. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) III. 31 They will exhibit two grand set-to's in boxing. 1821 EGAN *Boxiana* (1830) I. 67 Taylor died in three months after this set-to. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXXI, Gentlemen of the fancy hastening to a set-to. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 41 A rattling set-to at lawn tennis. 1899 A. DOBSON *Paladin Philanthr.* xii, [He] proposed a preliminary set-to with the gloves.

b. *gen.* and *fig.* A fight, contest.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXIII, Signor Verezzi is always losing..and Signor Orsino wins from him,..and they have had several hard set-to's about it. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* App. (ed. 5) 333 There were many set-to's of dogs, chiefly mastiffs. 1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. viii. 253 My stomach is now getting confirmed, and I have great hopes the bout is over; it has been a dreadful set-to. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Set-to*, an argument, a strong contest, a warm debate. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lv, Every gun was ready,..and every soul..was anxious for the set-to. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* I. ii. 42 The starlings on the chimney began to quarrel, and had a terrible set-to. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* xii, Didn't you ever have a set to at school?

c. An attack or 'go' (*at*); *dial.* a drinking-bout.

1801 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 191 There are materials before me for another set-to at the Evangelicals. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 407 The dinner much invited a set-to. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 358 His noise soon procured him materials for a set-to at sangaree.

3. *Racing.* (See quot. 1842 and SET *v.* 152 f (*c*).)

1842 APPERLEY *Life Sportsman* xvi. 329 The struggle of the last few yards between two horses very nearly equal—which we call the set-to. 1894 *Field* 9 June 829/1 After a tremendous set-to, Haut Brion beat her by three-quarters of a length.

Settres-, Setturday, obs. ff. of SATURDAY.

Setule (sĭ·tiul, se·tiul). (Also in Latin form.) [ad. mod.L. *sētula*, dim. of *sēta*; see SETA.] A small seta or bristle.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 302 *Setule*, a little bristle. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 702 The most prominent setules are at the outer apex of the penult joint at base.

Hence **Se·tuliform** *a.*, having the form of a setule; **Se·tulose, Se·tulous** *adjs.*, covered with setules.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 276 Setulose (*Setulosa*). Setose with the bristles truncated. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 882 Having two very low prominences near base of finger, the first rounded and minutely setulous. 1857 M. J. BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 386 Substance various;..sometimes setulose. 1879 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* (ed. 3) 522 *Setuliformis*, thread-like.

Set-up: see SET *ppl. a.* 10, SET-.

Setwall (se·twǫl). Forms: *α.* 3 sedewal, 3, 5 zeduale, 5 zedewal(l)e, 6 zedual; 4 sed(e)wale, 5 seduale, 6 -wale. *β.* 4 ceteuall, setewale, 4-5 sette-, 4-7 cetewale, 6 cety-, 7 setywall. *γ.* 4-6 setuale, 4-8 setwell, 5 cetuall, 5 set(t)-well, setwaly (?), 5-6 setwale, 6 setual(l, -waule, settwelle, 7 set(t)wal(l, 6- setwall. [a. AF. *zedewale* = OF. *citoual, citual, sotoval* (Palsgr.), also *citouar(t*, etc., ad. med.L. **sedoāle*, var. *zedoārium*, ad. Arab. *zedwār*: see ZEDOAR, ZEDOARY.]

† 1. The root of the East Indian plant *Curcuma Zedoaria*, used as a drug; also the plant itself; = ZEDOARY. *Obs.*

α. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Ne makeden heo neuer strencðe of gingiuere ne of gedewal [*MS. T.* ȝedewal, *MS. C.* zeduale], ne of clou de gilofre. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 74 In þe praer is a tre..þe rote is gingeuir and galingale, þe siouns beþ al sedwale. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 27 With gyngyvre ant sedewale ant the gylofre. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 187 Canelle, Zedewalle, Notemuges and Maces. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 621/16 *Zedoarium*..zeduale. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* iii. 8 Take of Anys sedes, of Fenell sedes, of Zedual, of eche the weyght of xii d.

β. 1310-11 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 507 In 3 *li.* di. de Ceteuall. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 21 As sweete as is the roote Of lycorys or eny Cetewale [*v.r.* Settewale]. *a* 1400 in *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1844) I 569 Gynger setwell almondis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 454/1 Setuale, or seduale, herbe (*K.* setwale, *P.* setwaly), *Zedoarium*. 1496 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 57 Item a fl. settwell. 1530 PALSGR. 269/2 Setwall. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 37 Cetewale, is an Herbe whose roote the Phisitions vse to gather in Sommer. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 495 *Nardi radix*, which wee call setwal. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1612 Zedoaria..the Setwall that we have usually in our shops.

attrib. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Phys. Secrets* 211 Take the powder of Setwell Roots.

2. The plant valerian, *Valeriana pyrenaica.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 62 Phu is called in englishe setwal, of other some Capones tayle. 1590 SPENSER *Mutop.* 196 Dull Poppie, and drink-quickning Setuale. 1593 DRAYTON *Ballad of Dowsabell* 33 This mayden..Went forth..to get sweete Cetywall [? 1605, 1619, Setywall).. to deck her summer hall. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Settwall*, a kind of herb growing near walls. 1741 *Complete Fam.-Piece* I. iv. 254 Take red Sage, Betony,..Setwell. 1865 'C. BEDE' *Rook's Gard.* 9 Clusters of the red valerian or setwall.

Set work, se·twork. [SET *ppl. a.*]

† 1. A kind of embroidery used in working tapestry; also *attrib. Obs.*

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 214 Ane gret liar of set werk of worsait. 1624 *Inv.* in *Archæologia* XLVIII. 136 A set work chaire. 1649 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 220 My posted settworke bedstead.

† 2. Regular or fixed employment. *Obs.*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Leic.* (1662) II. 132 Especially making it his Set-work (what was Pits his by-work) to observe the Natives of this Shire.

† 3. Piece-work. In quot. *attrib. Obs.*

1720 S. SEWALL *Diary* 12 Nov., His Trade of Set-Work Coupering.

4. Two-coat plastering on lath.

1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 312 The plasterers denominate set work by the compound term of layed and set.

5. a. A method of boat-building in which the strakes are placed edge to edge and battened inside. **b.** Mechanism for feeding transversely material that is being sawed. (In recent U.S. dicts.)

Setye, obs form of CITY.

1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 497.

Setyn, obs. f. and pa. t. SIT *v.* **Setyrday,** obs. f. SATURDAY. **Seu,** obs. f. SEW, SUE; obs. pa. t. SOW *v.* **Seuer, Seuerance, Seuerte,** obs. ff. SURE, SURANCE, SURETY. **Seuge, Seuggen,** obs. ff. SAY *v.* **Seugh,** var. SHEUGH. **Seuȝ,** obs. pa. t. SOW *v.* **Seuir,** obs. Sc. f. SURE.

† Seul, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 seulle, 6 seile (?). [a. F. *seul* alone, SOLE *a.*] Sole, unique.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 32 Jason..thought..onely, upon the seulle and oultrepassed beaute of the uertuouse myrro. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 26 If I thought to haue endomaged you of one seile farthyng [*sic*; Fr. *d'un seul espy*]. [*Ibid.* 106 Seul heritier of his brother.]

† Seur. *Obs.*—¹ [? a. F. *seur* 'a kind of Net, or Engine to catch fish with' (Cotgr.).] A kind of fishing-net. 1558 [see LAMMET].

Seur(e, Seur(e)ly, Seur(e)te, etc., obs. ff. SURE, SURELY, SURETY, etc. **Seute,** obs. f. SUIT.

[**Sevant, -ly**: see List of Spurious Words.]

‖ Sève (sɛ̃v). [Fr. = sap.] The fineness and strength of flavour proper to any particular wine.

1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 556 The *Sève* and *Verdeur* of the Vine. 1851 REDDING *Mod. Wines* (ed. 3) vi. 175 When carefully kept until old, it approaches Barsac in *sève*. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 605/2 Sauterne..possessing a special *sève*, or, in other words, having that special taste which, while it remains in the mouth, leaves the palate perfectly fresh.

Seve, obs. form of SIEVE; see also SEVRES.

Seveare, Seveirlie, obs. ff. SEVERE, SEVERELY.

Seven (se·v'n), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α* 1-2 seofon, -en, (1 seofan, -un, siofun, sibun, sifun, sufon, syfan, -on, 2 soven), 2-3 seoven, (*Ormin* se(o)ffne, se(o)fenn), 2, 5 sefen, 3 seovene, seofne, 3-5 sevene, 4 sefne, seyven, 4-5 seyvyn, sevon, sevyan, 4-6 sevin, -enne, ceven(e, -yn, 5-6 sevyne, 5-7 seaven, 6 sevn, 7 seavne, seivine, 3- seven. *β.* Chiefly *Sc.* 4 sewine, 5 sewne, 5-7 sewin, 6 seweyne, sewn, sawin. *γ.* 4 sen, sene (?); see also SENNIGHT. *δ.* 1 seofo, -a, siofo, sefo, 1-2 seofe, 2 sefe, 2-4 sove, 2-5 seve, 3 seove, 4 *Kent.* zeve, 5 sef(f. [Com. Teut.: OE. *seofon* (infl. *scofone, -u*, etc.) = OFris. *sowen, sawen* (later *sân, saan*, mod. *saun*), *sigun, siugun* (mod. *sjûggen*, etc., OS. *sibun, sivon* (MLG. *seven, soven*, MDu. *seven*, Du. *zeven*), OHG. *sibun* (MHG. *siben*, G. *sieben*), ON. *sjau* (Icel. *sjö*, Norw. dial. *sjau, sju*, etc.; Sw. *sju*, Da. *syv*), Goth. *sibun*:—OTeut. **sebun*. The Indo-germanic **septṃ* is more closely represented by Skr. *saptá*, Gr. ἑπτά, L. *septem*, OSl. *sedmĭ*, Lith. *septyni*, OIr. *secht n-*.] The cardinal number next after six, represented by the symbols 7, VII, vii.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with a sb. expressed.

α. Beowulf 3122 Þegnas syfone. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 193 An gear & seofan monaþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xli. 53 Þa þa seofon godan gear agane wæron. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Þa oðre souen laȝe. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 252 Godnessess seffne. *Ibid.* 8399 Forr sefenn winnterr haffde he beon Tosamenn inn Egippte. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3845 Þo seiȝe þai seuen baners. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 140 So that..he be bereined Be times sefne and sore peined. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Ceventymes, *septies*. 1591 DIGGES *Pantam.* 8 The line AB which I would diuide into seauen equall portions. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 35 Sax, sevin, or viii. cubites hich. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 18 June, For the last seaven yeares. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 198 The capture of seven sail of the line. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* viii, When seven girls succeed each other in one family.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* viii. (*Philepus*) 79 Sewyne dais ..before his ded. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 153/10 He makyd the Cite of Rome afyre to sette, and Sewyn dayes and Sewyn nyghtes to brente. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 5 All thing wrocht in dayis seweyne. 1559 in J. Campbell *Ch. & Par. Kirkcaldy* vi. (1904) 59 Sewn pundes and twelf shillinges. 1612 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* (1905) 304 Of erras wark tapestrie sewin stand ewerie stand contenying fywe pieces.

γ. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 7 Þe sen [*v.r.* seuen] giftis of þe halygast. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 500 In hevene it [God's body] is sene fote in fourme. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1386 Sene yere and more.

δ. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke ii. 36, & lifde miþ wer hire wintrum seofo. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 He him sceaude an ouen on berninde fure; he warp ut of him seofe leies. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 140 Wa wurð sorȝe seueȝer for souenihte blisse. *c* 1275 LAY. 3970 Þo soue ȝer were a-gon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 88 Þe saxons..Seve kynges made in engelond. 1340 *Ayenb.* 4 Þe zeue stapes of chastetè. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4181 A lytell body of sixe or sef yere age.

b. Used predicatively.

1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* II. i, We are seven of us. 1655 F. W. *Observ. on Fulke's Meteors* 162 Metalls are seven in number, as the Planets are. 1708 WORDSWORTH (*title*) We are seven. *a* 1847 ROSSETTI *Blessed Damozel* i, The stars in her hair were seven.

c. With *day, night, month* in more or less specific uses.

Seven days: a week; often referred to as the period of the Creation; in England, a common term of imprisonment. Also *seven days and seven nights*. *Seven months' child*:

one born at the seventh month; a type of weakliness. Cf. SEVEN-DAY(S, SEVEN-YEAR(S, and SENNIGHT.

c 1200 ORMIN 4356 Forr seffne dazhess brinngenn 233 þe wuke till hiss ende. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2952 Þis wreche.. Lestede fulle seuene niȝt. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 42 Þer wiþþoute mete and drinke seue dawes he lay. *c* 1375–1500–20 [see 1 β above]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. XIX. 144 And rode daye by day wel a seuen dayes or they fond ony auenture. *a* 1513 DUNBAR *Compl. to King* 5 God, that..all thing wrocht in dayis seweyne. 1611 BIBLE *Job* II. 13 They sate downe with him vpon the ground seuen dayes, and seuen nights. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* IV. ix, Seven days seven nights I saw that curse. 1817 *2nd Rep. Committee Police Metrop., Min. Evid.* 352 He is sent for seven days to the House of Correction. 1847 *Act* 10 & 11 *Vict.* c. 89 § 29 Liable..to Imprisonment for a Period not exceeding Seven Days. 1850 [I. WILLIAMS] (*title*) The Seven Days, or the Old and New Creation. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 561 A seven-months' babe had been a truer gift. 1892 *Oxf. Chron.* 19 Mar. 6/7 Fined 1*s.* and costs 3*s.* 6*d.*, or seven days. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* IX. 364 In December of the same year his wife was delivered of a seven months' child. 1903 *Ladies' Field* 7 Nov. 346/1 The Crystal Palace Cat Show..Neila Billi, a grand seven-month son of Orange Blossom of Thorpe.

d. Used (*a*) symbolically, often denoting completion or perfection (esp. in echoes of biblical phraseology), or (*b*) typically in expressions of time, etc. for a large number or quantity, esp. †(*this*) *seven year(s*, etc. (= a long period). See also SEVENSITHE(S.

†*Seven times fold* = SEVENFOLD *adv.*; *seven-times-folded* = SEVENFOLD *a.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Judges* XVI. 7 Ȝif ic beo ȝebunden mid seofon rapum of sinum ȝeworhte, sona ic beo ȝewyld. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 66, I haue suwed þe þis seuen ȝer. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's-Pr. Epil.* 7 The were nede of hennes, as I wene, 3a, moo than seuene tymes seuentene. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. XIII. 232 Men sayen that he hath seuen mens strength. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 664 Thocht he had socht sic ane sicht all this seuin ȝeir. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4182 Better..seff tymes fold. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* II. 24, I sal strik 3ou vitht ane plag, seuyn tymes mair vehement. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 591 There shall not, at your Fathers House, these seuen yeeres Be borne another such. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 32 The Lord recompenceth and will give thee seauen-times as much. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1122 Add thy Spear, A Weavers beam, and seven-times-folded shield. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XIII, And gold seven times tried he was, when God..took him home at last.

2. With ellipsis of sb., which may usually be supplied from the context.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. III. (1890) 262 Mid feaum broðrum, þæt is seofonum oðþe eahtum. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1335 (Gr.) Ond þu seofone ȝenim on þæt sundreced tudra ȝehwilces ȝeteled rimes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Erðon he nesde buta enne deofel, nu he haued sefene. *c* 1205 LAY. 15878 Joram þe witie & seofne of his iueren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1455 Nine hundret yeir and seuen a[nd] fiue, Sua lang it lasted seth liue. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* VII. 2 Of alle hauynge sowles clene, thow shalt take seuene and seuene, maal and femaal. 1411 in *26 Pol. Poems* X. 34 Wiþ water, for synne þe world y slow, Saue seuene, and noe þat was my gest. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 47 Bot beneficis ar nocht leill devydit; Sum men hes sewin, and I nocht ane. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. I. 111 Sure it is no sinne, Or of the deadly seuen it is the least. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. 89 He first divided an oration into four parts, some say into seaven. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 648 Th' Arch-Angel Uriel, one of the seav'n Who in God's presence..Stand. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VIII. II. 357 It was known all over London that the Bishops were before the Council..When the Seven came forth under a guard [etc.].

b. With ellipsis of *parts*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8372 Her ost hii delde a seuene [*MS.* β departed in seuene].

c. *esp.* With ellipsis of *hours* (of the day) or *minutes*, as *seven o'* (†*of the*, †*a*) *clock*; also simply *seven*; *half-past seven*, *seven fifteen*, etc.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2008 O-boute þe hour of seuene. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. V. 804 Or it be seuen of the clok. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. III. 193 It shall be seuen ere I go to horse. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 512, I meant what time o'th' day 'tis? Quoth Ralpho, between seven and eight 'tis. 1779 *Mirror* No. 43 P 6 A clock was heard to strike seven. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* IV, It's gone seven by th' clock. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 93 Ere yet the minster clock chimed seven.

1580 G. HARVEY *Letter-Bk.* (Camden) 72 Afternoone seavenaclocke dinnars. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* V. II, To dress for her ridiculous seven o'clock dinner.

d. With ellipsis of *years* (of age). *To be more than seven*: to 'know one's way about'.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. VI. 81 Did you goe too't so young, were you a gamester at fiue or at seuen? 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 199. 254 The first Season to get Foreign Languages, ..I should think, should be from Seven to Fourteen or Sixteen. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 65 A dull little varmint Of seven or eight. 1898 GISSING *Town Trav.* VIII. 81 Oh, we all know that Mr. Gammon's more than seven.

e. With ellipsis of *shillings* or *pence*, as in *seven and seven(pence)*. *Seven-and-sixer*: an article (in quot., a hat) costing seven shillings and sixpence.

1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal.* Dec., I had charged a gentleman in the coffee-rooms seven-and-sixpence for a glass of ale and bread and cheese. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. V, We are allowed two seven-and-sixers a half.

f. Specific uses.

The Seven: (*a*) the seven deacons of Acts VI. 5; † (*b*) the Seven Sages of Greece (see SAGE *sb.*[2] 1); (*c*) the seven Argive heroes that made war against Thebes; (*d*) in soldier's slang (see quot. 1898). †*The erring seven*: the planets.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* XXI. 8 Philip euangelist, that was oon of the seuene. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. IV. § 3 Which later kind of Parabolical wisedome was much more in vse in the ancient times, as by the Fables of Aesope, and the briefe sentences of the seuen..may appeare. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* X. 220 As the old verses of the Seven tells us. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. III. XV, So doth the earth one of the erring seven Wheel round the fixed sunne. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* VIII. § 6 (ed. 3) 216 The memorable war of 'the Seven against Thebes'. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 230 War of the 'Seven' (under Adrastus of Argos). 1898 *United Service Mag.* Mar. 649 In their way soldiers are very philosophical. If anything in their work annoys them they say, 'It's all in the seven', *i. e.*, the seven years for which they join the army. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. Early Cent.* IV. 117 They are never called deacons; the Seven is the technical name they were known by.

†**3.** = seven times. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6834 More þank þou getest for swych ȝyuyng þan seuene so moche with chydyng. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9382 (Trin.) Sonne & mone þat is so briȝt Had seuen so michel more liȝt.

4. a. Multiplying another numeral.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. V. § 2 His heres wæs seofon hund þusenda. *c* 1205 LAY. 364 We habbeð seoue þusund of gode cnihten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1488 Lameth his sun his eild to neuen, Seuen hundret yeir seuenti and seuen. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 141 Seuen score dayes. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3788 One seuenschore knyghtes. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8669 Douȝti knyȝtes thousandes seuene. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 4 Seuin hundir thousand pace lang. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 755 Who lived till she was seuen-score yeares old. 1650 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 587 Seivine dusson egges 0 14 0. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 216 The river Missisippi is of more than seven hundred leagues in length. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. i, Then do but touch some spring dexterously, the whole machine, clattering and jerking seven-hundredfold, will whirl with huge crash. 1859 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* XX, To-morrow I may be Myself with Yesterday's Sev'n Thousand Years.

b. Coupled with a higher (cardinal or ordinal) numeral, so as to form a compound (cardinal or ordinal) numeral.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) XXVII. *heading*, Dauid sang þisne seofon and twentiȝoþan sealm. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 594 Seuene and .xx.ti dais. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 107 Tuelff hundred ȝer, tharto nynte and sewyn. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 302 The seuen and sixtieth Chapter. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 163 b, A young girle of a seuen and twenty yeare old. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 270 The seven and twentieth Booke of Plinies Naturall Historie. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Slashed by seven-and-twenty wounds.

c. Forming fractional numerals.

1726 *Act* 13 *Geo. I*, c. 26 § 11 In Breadth full Three quarters of a Yard, or full Seven eighths. 1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & M.* 64 Wings one inch one-half to seven-twelfths. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Jan. 16 We must divide the number of days between the time of the observation and the nearest equinox by three and seven-eighths.

†**5.** = SEVENTH *a.* *Obs.*

The ME. *sevenday* may be either an instance of this or a contraction of *sevende day* (see SEVENTH); cf. SEVENDELE.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 247 Þe seuendai morȝen sprong. *c* 1305 *Pop. Treat. Sci.* 137 Ther nis bote the sove del that men wonyeth on i-wis. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 800 To his castel..He sailed þe seuenday. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* VI. (*Thomas*) 422 Þat in lele pennance we suld dwel, as fore þe sewine gre ve ma tell. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 23 The seuen braunche of pryde es elacion. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1261 The seffe child Ffromont that tyme callyd was. 1491 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 375 The yer of the regn of Kyng Harry the Seventh the sewne yer. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. XI. 755 For now the sevin symmir hidder careis the Wilsum, and errant, in euery land and see. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 39 Ye sawin commandiment.

6. In special collocations.

Seven bishops *Eng. Hist.*, Archbishop Sancroft, and Bishops Ken, Lake, Lloyd, Trelawney, Turner, White, who in 1688 protested against the Declaration of Indulgence of James II. **Seven brethren**, the seven sons of St. Felicitas, whose festival is assigned to July 10th. **Seven champions**, the national saints of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Spain, and Italy, viz. George, Andrew, David, Patrick, Denys, James, and Anthony. Hence sing. †*seven-champion* allusively (see quot. 1676). **Seven islands**, the Ionian Islands (cf. SEPTINSULAR). **Seven jargons** (see quots.). **Seven names of God**, cf. quot. 1905; a partial coincidence with this Jewish list appears in the incantatory formula (in Heinrich *M.E. Medizinbuch* 149) *El, Elye, Sabaoth, Adonay, Alpha, Omega, Messias, Pastor, Agnus, Fons.* The 14th c. quots. below point to a use of *Seven* as a name of God. **Seven Seas**, the Arctic, Antarctic, North and South Pacific, North and South Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. Also SEVEN SISTERS, SEVEN SLEEPERS, SEVEN STARS. For others see AGE *sb.* 5, ART *sb.* 7, BELL *sb.* 3 b, COMMAND *sb.* 2, DEADLY *a.* 5 (*s. deadly sins*), HEAD *sb.* 6 3 b (*s. head-sins*), HEAVEN *sb.* 4, MERCY *sb.* 7 (*s. works of mercy*), PLANET *sb.*[1] 1, PSALM *sb.* 2, SACRAMENT *sb.* 1, SAGE *sb.*[2], SCIENCE *sb.* 3, SENSE *sb.* 10, STAR, VIAL, VICE, VIRTUE, WHISTLER, WISE (*s. wise masters* and *men*), WONDER, WORD.

1731 TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* XV. 142 *marg.*, Tryal of the *Seven Bishops [1688]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 109, I pray 3ou þen *Brethren seuyn, That I may be one of Benet ys heyre. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 189 The 7 brether sones of S. Foelicite martt. at Rome vnder Antoninus 136. 1596 R. JOHNSON (*title*) The Famous History of the *Seauen Champions of Christendome. 1676 *Poor Robin's Intell.* 28 Mar. 1/1 He is a Seaven-Champion in Quackery, that delights in nothing but dangerous adventures. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *Study Hist.* I. (1752) 5 Some..read the life of Aristides or Phocion,..just as..they would read the story of the seven champions. 1803 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 20 The republic of the *Seven Islands. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 206/2 In 1800, the emperor Paul erected the Republic of the Seven United Islands. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* XXXIX, I heard one of them [the alguazils] say 'he understands the *seven Gypsy jargons'. 1896 *Gentl. Mag.* CCLXXX. 129 It was very galling for one who had just been discussing the Seven Jargons with a past master to be now floored in a missing word competition. *a* 1325 *Adam & Eve* 125 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 140 Yblissed be his *nam seuen. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 2841 God, for his name seuene He bring 3ou to gode heuene! *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XIII. 191 Now lord, for thy naymes sevyn, that made both moyn and starnes, Well mo then I can neuen thi will, lorde, of me tharnys. [1905 *Jewish Encycl.* IX. 163/2 The number of divine names that require the scribe's special care is seven: El, Elohim, Adonai, YHWH, Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh, Shaddai, and Zeba'ot.] 1872 FITZGERALD tr. *Omar* XLVII, Which of our Coming and Departure heeds As the *Sev'n Seas should heed a pebble-cast. 1895 KIPLING (*title*) The Seven Seas.

B. *sb.* **1.** The abstract number seven.

At or *on six and seven*, *at sixes and sevens*: see SIX *sb.* 5. †*Be sic seven*: see SIC *a.* 1 b.

c 1055 tr. *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in Anglia VIII. 303 Twia seofon beoð feowertyne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5351 Forr tale off seoffne tacneþþ uss þatt seofennkinne bene. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXX. (1495) 922 Seuen hyghte Septenarius and is the thyrde amonge odde nombres. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 10 Cast 3 to foure, þat wole be seuen. ? 1593 DRAYTON *Man in Moon* Poems (1619) 484 The which foure Seuens the Eight and Twenty make. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 42 The number of seuen, is otherwise iudged of in the holy Scriptures.

†**b.** *To set on seven*: said of the work of God in creation. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 264 Þou maker of myddelert,..Bobe þe sonne and þe see þou sette vpon seuene. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XIII. 738 The fader of heuen god omnypotent, That sett all on seuen. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1045, I swere be suthfast God, that settis all on sevin.

c. Short for the date of the seventh year of a particular century, e.g. 1707. Also, *Two sevens*: 77th year.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXIV, At the last riding of the Scots Parliament, and that was in the gracious year seven. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 63 When he was in his 'two sevens', I followed him from church on Christmas Day in his Doctor's red gown, big wig, and silk stockings.

2. A set of seven persons or things.

Sevens: a ball game (see quot. 1868).

1590 H. BROUGHTON *Let. to Friend* A 2 Seauen seauens (of yeeres) and sixtie and two seauens. 1599 PONT *Right Reckoning of Years* 76 The wicked spirites also are numbred by seavens. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* VII. 2 Of euery cleane beast thou shalt take to thee by seuens. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 731 Of everie Beast, and Bird, and Insect small Came seavens, and pairs. 1853 *N. Brit. Rev.* Feb. 397 Till the end of the forty-ninth annual revolution, a period of seven sevens. 1868 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Bk.* 48 Sevens. This game is very like Catch-ball. The object is to catch a ball seven times in a particular fashion.

b. A playing card marked with seven pips.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 288 The fair advantage which he had of three Sevens in hand. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 90 You then play your seven of Clubs. *Ibid.* 102 They may lay out the threes, fours, fives, sixes and sevens. 1783 W. HOOPER *Rat. Recr.* (ed. 2) I. 120 With the seven and eight of diamonds. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 121 Gather up the four sevens, and place them on the top of the pack.

c. *Cricket.* A score of seven runs from one hit.

1765 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 59 Harding fetched 24 notches off his own bat at four strokes: that was one 5, two 6's, and one 7. 1886 PYCROFT *Oxford Mem.* II. 101 He hit Mr. Lowth for a fair seven.

d. *pl.* Verses of seven syllables.

1825 *Collect. Psalms & Hymns* 197 Hymn 170. (Sevens.) Gracious Spirit, Love Divine. 1891 J. C. PARSONS *Eng. Versif.* 35 Sevens. Trochaic trimeter, with added syllable.

†**3.** In the game of hazard, with reference to the throwing of a main. *Obs.*

Seven's the main: see MAIN *sb.*[3]. *Seven is* (*my*) *chance*: see CHANCE *sb.* 3 b. *Seven and eleven*: the two casts upon which the highest expectation can be wagered when seven is the main. *Come on seven*: ? = 'seven's the main'; ? so *Come you seven*, in quot. used as sb., a hardened gamester.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 653 Seuene is my chaunce, and thyn is cynk and treye. *a* 1553 *Nice Wanton* 219 Heer six come on seuen. 1596 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* XXI, Hee still doth swear By come on seauen that al is lost and gone. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. I. 42 Shall I be made A foolish novice..By everie cheating come you seaven? 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 121 (Hazzard) If again Seven be the Main, and the Caster throws eleven, that is a Nick. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* V. I, Farewel for ever Old Hock..Seven and Eleven, Sink-Tray, and the Doublets. 1693 *Humours Town* 25 But at Seven and Eleven to shake away an Estate to known Rooks that live by the Dice, is an unaccountable piece of folly. 1726 *Art & Myst. Mod. Gaming* 13 Whereas of the 36 Changes 24 only are Mains, viz. 8 Fives and Nines, 10 Sixes and Eights, and 6 Sevens. 1814 *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 362 If seven is thrown for a main, and four the chance, it is 2 to 1 against the person who throws. 1839 THACKERAY *Lect. Fine Arts* II. Wks. 1900 XIII. 273 A gambling-house, where many a bout of seven's-the-main..has been had.

†**b.** *To set* (*all*) *on seven*: to make a desperate venture; hence, to make an attack. Cf. *to set* (*all*) *on six and seven*: see SIX *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2131 Thus he settez on seuene with his sekyre knyghttez. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1279 3et wold I sett all one seven flor Myldor the swet. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 668 With seymely scheildis to schew, thai set vpone seuin.

4. A person or thing to which the number seven is attached in a set or series, e.g. in an eight-oared boat, the rower occupying the seat behind stroke. Also *number seven*.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* XII, 'Had not I better get a piece of duck for that?' 'No, no—number seven [sc. canvas] will do as well.' 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills*, etc. II. 59 You spoilt the boat by carrying away young Dickson,..and instead of rowing a good seven in the boat, he was bowled out with five runs at Kennington. 1891 *Cambr. Rev.* 12 Mar. 267/1 On Saturday with a new seven they rowed 10 well [etc.].

†**5.** A seventh in music. *Obs. rare.*

1562 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) E j, The verie sense of our hearing..oftentymes delyteth in a second or in a seauen. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. xi. (1599) 228 When they sute Some harsher seauens for varietie My natiue skill discernes it presently.

C. Combinations.

1. In parasynthetic adjs. with suffix **-ED**[2], as *seven-branched, -caped, -channelled, -chorded, -cornered, -eyed, -formed* [after eccl. L. *septiformis*], *-gated, -headed, -horned, -mouthed, -piled, -quired, -sealed, -sided, -syllabled, -thorned, -tined, -toned, -twined, -twisted*; seven-footed, seven feet high; †seven-mountain-seated = Seven-hilled; †seven-ported, seven-gated. See also Seven-hilled, Seven-leagued.

1863 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* xvii. 377 On the left of the Entrance, stood the *seven-branched candlestick. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 34. 176 She calls the *seven-caped cabman. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 12 *Seuen-chanel'd Nile. 1647 H. More *Triumph* 27 But Æther..Tunes his *seven-corded Harp. 1841–6 Longf. *To a Child* xii, Pythagoras.. formed the seven-chorded lyre. 1621 Florio, *Settangolare*, *seuen-cornered. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 615 The vigilant *seven-eyed Providence of the Lord. [See Zech. iv. 10.] 1787 Colman *Inkle & Yarico* I. iii, Some grim, *seven-footed fellow ready to scalp us. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 47 b, He is sayd..to haue the *seuen formed spirite, whom he also powreth out vpon the faithfull. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IV. 71 The *seauen gated Thebes towne. 1729 G. Adams tr. *Sophocles' Antig.* I. ii. II. 14 Round the seven gated City. 1849 M. Arnold *Strayed Rev.* 247 Seven-gated Thebes. 1561 Daus *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 5 b, The old *seuenheaded, and the new twohorned beast. 1646 [S. Gorton] (*title*) Simplicities Defence against Seven-headed Policy. Or Innocency vindicated, being unjustly accused by that Seven-headed Church-Government united in New England. 1810 Southey *Kehama* XIV. i, Joy in the seven-headed Idol's shrine! 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 200 Seven-headed monsters only made to kill Time by the fire in winter. 1835 I. Williams in *Lyra Apost.* cxi[ii]. (1836) 139 And old imperial Rome Looks up, and lifts again half-dead Her *seven-horned head. 1849 Rossetti *Mary's Girlhood* ii, The seven-thorn'd briar and the palm *seven-leaved. 1624 *Nero* II. (1633) C 3 b, Empire-crown'd *seven mountaine-seated Rome. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. v. 18 As when a wearie traueller that strayes By muddy-shore of broad *seuen-mouthed Nile. 1850 Marg. Fuller *Wom. in 19th C.* (1862) 187 Their ever weeping skies and *seven-piled velvet of verdure. 1603 Murray in *Stirling's Darius* In praise Author, *Seauen-ported Thebes wals. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 20 Where *seven-quired psalterings meet. 1826 E. Irving *Babylon* II. 339 The 14th chapter, which is no portion of the *seven-sealed book. 1766 B. Martin *New Art Survey* 27 A Heptagon, or *seven-sided Figure. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improvem.* iv. 96 Seven-sided subjects. 1869 Hood *Rules of Rhyme* 30 Tetrameter (*seven-syllabled). 1849 *Seven-thorned [see *seven-leaved*]. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 682 The implement..is now very frequently used with five tines, in place of the original *seven-tined implement. 1853 *N. Brit. Rev.* Feb. 399 The *seven-toned rhythm of the universe. *Ibid.*, A pencil of light..*seven-twined and beautiful. *Ibid.*, A web of *seven-twisted thread.

b. *Nat. Hist.*

1812 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. i. 190 *Seven-banded Armadillo. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 32 The third *seven-gilled Shark, called *Notidanus indicus*. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Siete en rama*, *seauen leaued grasse. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 175 Seven-leaved Tooth Wort. 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 14 Leaves..*seven-nerved. 1812 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* VI. i. 55 The common or *seven-spotted Lady-Bird.

2. Combined with sbs. forming adjs., as *seven-carbon, -feet, -figure, -foot, -inch, -line, -octave, -ounce, -part, -shilling*, †*-shot*, *-wire*; seven-water, containing seven parts of water to one of spirit. See also Seven-league.

1852 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* IV. 233 *Seven-carbon ether, Amylate of ethyle, or Ethylate of amyle. 1829 W. Pearson *Pract. Astron.* II. 367 Mr. South's *seven-feet instrument. 1865 De Morgan & Schroen (*title*) *Seven-figure Logarithms. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xx, A small *seven-inch drain. 1869 Hood *Rules of Rhyme* 38 The *Seven-line Stanza. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 77/2 Broadwood's *seven-octave concert grands. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas* 97 (Lost Legion) We've shouted on *seven-ounce nuggets. 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 464/1 Several short pieces for female voices in *seven-part harmony. 1780 H. Walpole in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 317 Last night I saw a proof-piece of *seven-shilling pieces struck in 1776. 1821 Byron *Vision* III. lx, A lady with her daughters or her nieces Shine like a guinea and seven-shilling pieces. 1870 Henfrey *Engl. Coins* I. 87 One-third guinea or Seven-shilling piece. 1682 Grew *Museum* IV. § ii. 366 A *Seven-Shot Gun, or a Gun which carries Powder and Bullets, for seven Charges and Discharges. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. ix. 382/1 A Wax Box, with a *seven Stone Ring set in it. 1836 Marryat *Three Cutters* II, *Seven-water grog. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 242 To the old *seven-wire cable..four new wires are added.

3. With sbs. Footer, Pounder, Shooter (q. v.).

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 205 A very effective seven-shooter. 1896 *Daily News* 22 Apr. 7/7 A Hotchkiss seven-pounder. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Sept. 3/3 That giant seven-footer.

4. Seven-bark, (*a*) = 'nine-bark' (*Spiræa opulifolia* and other species); (*b*) *Hydrangea arborescens* (Syd. Soc. Lex. 1891); **seven-bore**, a shot-gun with calibre seven; **seven-eye**(s [cf. G. *siebenauge*], the lamprey, in allusion to its seven gill-openings; **seven-gills**, a shark of the genus *Heptanchus* or *Notidanus* (Cent. Dict. 1891; *cf. seven-gilled* in 1 b); **seven-holes** = *seven-eyes*; †**seven-leaf, -leaves** = Septfoil.

1814 Lewis & Clarke *Trav. Missouri* (1815) III. 18 The *seven bark, or as it is usually denominated, the nine bark of the United States. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 375, I have shot for ten years constantly with a *seven-bore of his make. 1740 R. Brookes *Art of Angling* I. xxxviii. 81 The Lamprey..is called by Dr. Plot, the Pride of the Isis, and by others, *Seven-Eyes. 1839 T. C. Hofland *Brit. Angler's Man.* XV. (1841) 186 The lamprey,..or seven eyes. 1883 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 360 Names—Lampern, lampron, and lamper-eel; nine-eyes, nine-holes, the eye and nasal orifice appear to be here counted; *seven-holes, when only the gill-openings are enumerated. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 232 Þeos wyrt þe man eptafilon & oðrum naman septifolium nemneð & eac sume men *seofenleafe hatað. 1657 Coles *Adam in Eden* 76 Tormentil, Setfoil or Seven-leaves.

Seven-day(s, -days', *attrib. phr.*

1. Consisting of or extending over seven days or a week. Also Comb. *seven-days-long* adj.

1823 Bentham *Not Paul* 354 The seven-days-long false oath. 1862–3 (*title*) The Seven Days' Journal of Literature, Science, Art, and General Information. 1879 *Law Rep.* (*Ireland*) II. 386 It is competent to him..to exchange such six-day license for a general or seven-day license. 1885 'H. Conway' *Family Affair* vii, The seven days wonder about the boy had almost died away.

2. *Seven-day*(*s disease*, a form of tetanus. *Seven-day fever*, a kind of relapsing fever; septan fever.

1797 Underwood *Dis. Childhood* I. 377 Having escaped the seven-days-disease, they thrive well until the third or fourth month. 1888 Fagge *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 153 *note*, Synonyms [of Relapsing Fever]..bilious remittent, seven-day fever, famine fever. 1891 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Seven-day disease*, a term for *Trismus*.

†**Se·vendele.** *Obs.* [f. *sevende* (see Seventh) + *dele* (see Deal *sb.*[1] 1 b). Cf. OFris. *sawendel*, MHG. *sibenteil*.] Seventh part.

[*c* 1305: see Seven A. 5.] 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 45 Þe roundenesse of a cercle aboute conteyneþ þre so mioche as þe brede [MS. *a addis* and the seuendele of the brede]. [*a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2342 A-losed mare of strenth þan I my-selfe or my seggis be þe seuent dele.]

†**Seven-double,** *a. Obs.* [Cf. Three-double, etc.] Sevenfold.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. Ecl. (1598) 86 Her hands which pierc'd the soules seau'n-double shield. 1611 Florio, *Settemplice*, seauen-fold, seauen-double.

Sevener (se·v'nər). [-er[1].] **a.** A criminal who is sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. **b.** A hit for seven runs.

1897 P. Waring *Old Regime* 219 Pedder was a 'sevener', Blake was a 'niner'. 1898 in Bettesworth *Chats Cricket Field* (1910) 417 Stephens again hit me to leg, but this time he only made a sevener!

Sevenfold (se·v'n,fōuld), *a., adv., sb.* [OE. *seofonfeald* = OFris. *sivonvald*, *saunfald*, OHG. *sibunfalt* (MHG. *sibenvalt*, G. *siebenfalt*), ON. *sjaufaldr*: see Seven and -fold.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Consisting of seven together or seven in one; having seven parts, divisions, elements, or units.

Formerly a frequent epithet of the river Nile.

c 960 Æthelwold *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) xvi. 40 Dæt seofonfealde ȝetæl bið þus þurh us ȝefylled, ȝif [etc.]. *c* 1055 tr. *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 302 Witodlice hine ofer stiȝað þæt seofonfealde ȝetæl pære sunnan ȝeares dazas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 268 Þe dede of alle ine mennesse ys zeueuald: Hy lybbeþ, hy smackeþ, hy louyeþ, hy byeþ glede, hy heryeþ, hy byeþ zuyfte, hy byeþ zikere. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* 3 From seuenfold Nilus to Taprobany. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 38 The seuen-fold shield of Aiax. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 156 The Alcoran bids a seuen-fold daily worship. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 244 The Master of the sev'nfold Face. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 816 He fill'd the sevenfold surplice fairly out. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 168 A sevenfold period of years. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 696/1 A 'litania septiformis', that is to say a sevenfold procession of clergy, laity, monks, virgins, matrons, widows, poor, and children.

b. *Theol.* [tr. eccl.L. *septiformis*.] Applied to seven gifts of the Holy Ghost enumerated in Isaiah xi. 2 (Vulg. and LXX.); see also Rev. i. 4.

a 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 326 We wurðiað þæs Halȝan Gastes to-cyme mid iofsangum seofon dazas, forðan ðe he onbryrt ure mod mid seofonfealdre ȝife. *c* 1200 Ormin Ded. 301 Þiss sefennfald godleȝe þatt Crist Uss dide þurrh hiss are. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* xx. 9 Þou art in ȝifte seuenfold, Godus riht bond finger art þou. *c* 1450 *Mirrour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 21 The sevenfold haly gast. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 1 The vij folde graces of the holy goost. 1563 Winȝet tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* vii. Wks. (S.T.S.) 27 The seuinfald licht of the Haly Gaist. 1627 Cosin 'Veni Creator', Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart. 1738 Wesley *Hymns, Creator Spirit, by whose Aid* iii, Plenteous of Grace, descend from high, Rich in thy sevenfold Energy. 1847 Keble *Chr. Y., Confirmation*, Draw, Holy Ghost, Thy sevenfold veil, Between us and the fires of youth.

2. Seven times as great or numerous; seven times increased or repeated. Hence, typically = very great, strong, etc.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* (1881) I. 66 Iulianus wycode wið þa ea eufraten and him ofer-wacedon syfan-fealde weardes. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxx. 26 The liȝt of the sunne shal be seuene fold, as the liȝt of seuene dazes. 1557 Record *Whetst.* B ij, Septupla 7 to 1: 14 to 2..Seuenfolde. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 359/2 Chymists advise a sevenfold Rectification. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 601/2 A seventy times seven-fold Vengeance from above. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IV. 204 And foul transgression dips in sev'n-fold guilt. 1852 Bailey *Festus* 296 With A sevenfold blessing and inviolate rest, Yea, with His sabbath. 1872 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxiv. 20 In some places a sevenfold night of superstition and unbelief has settled down. 1908 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 670/2 Among his [*sc.* Stainer's] most successful..pieces of church music must be named the well-known 'Sevenfold Amen'.

3. Seven in number. *poet.*

1614 Gorges *Lucan* VI. 232 Here stood..Echions Thebes with seauenfolde gates. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* I. i, Never did Greece, Not when she flourished in her sevenfold sages,..Produce a law more grave and necessary. 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg.* XXXII. 17, I mark'd that glorious army ..turn, Against the sun and sevenfold lights, their front. 1887 Morris *Odyssey* XI. 263 Thebes of the gates sevenfold.

B. *adv.* (OE. had *seofonfealdlice*.)

1. In a sevenfold manner or degree; seven times. Hence, exceedingly, greatly.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 171 Þe rihtwise shulle ben seuefeald brihtere þane þe sunne. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 18 So mare ȝe me helpeð seoueuald to heouene. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xi. 7 Syluyre examynd in fire proued of þe erth, purged seuenfald. 1382 Wyclif *Dan.* iii. 19 He bad, that the fourneyse shulde be sette on fijre seuen fold hatter than it was wont for to be tendid. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 373 For he that sloys yong or old It shall be punyshid seven-fold. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 119 Seuinfald, their sin, gude Lord, mot punist be. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 289 Plutus the God of Gold Is but his Steward: no meede but he repayes Seuen-fold aboue it selfe. 1632 W. Forster tr. *Oughtred's Circles of Proportion* 16 Let the ratio given be septuplicated, that is multiplied sevenfold into it selfe. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 340 The population of some [country towns] has multiplied sevenfold.

2. In seven folds or coils. *nonce-use.*

1830 Tennyson *Mermaid* ii, That great sea-snake..From his coiled sleeps in the central deeps Would slowly trail himself sevenfold Round the hall where I sate.

C. *sb.* (*nonce-uses.*) **a.** *The sevenfold*, a sevenfold amount. **b.** A group of seven.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* vi. 31 Caȝt therewith forsothe he shal ȝelde the seuene fold [Vulg. *septuplum*]. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* iv. 165 *note*, Some of the poets have said, who measure age τοῖς ἑβδομάσι, by the sevenfolds.

Hence †**Se·venfold** *v.*, to make sevenfold; **Se·venfolded,** †**-folden** = Sevenfo d *a.*; **Se·venfoldness**, the quality of being sevenfold.

1611 Florio, *Settiplicare*, to *seauen-fold or double. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. v. 6 His *seuenfolded shield. 1876 Morris *Æneids* XII. 925 The..outer rim of that seven-folded shield. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 66 b, I tolde you..how the seuen spirites of God are put for the *seuen folden, full, and perfect spirite of God. 1856 P. Fairbairn *Prophecy* II. iii. 306 The *sevenfoldness ascribed to it must be..seven different states or forms of dominion.

Seven-hilled, *a.* [Cf. L. *septicollis* (Prudentius).] Standing on seven hills: epithet of the city of Rome.

1608 H. Clapham *Errour Right Hand* 73 The Seauen hilled Citie (Rome). 1681 H. More *Expos. Dan.* Pref. 24 The seven-hilled City of Rome. *c* 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Sec. Poem* 117 Mayst thou, in all thy radiant course, Nothing more great than seven-hill'd Rome behold! 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxx, The Goth, the Christian, Time, War, Flood, and Fire, Have dealt upon the seven-hill'd city's pride. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. xii, Rome..with her seven-hilled diadem.

So **Seven-hilly** *a. rare.*

1562 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 281 The seuen hilly Rome. 1824 Byron *Def. Transf.* I. ii. 149 In old Rome, the seven-hilly, We'll revel at ease.

Sevenight(**e**, etc., obs. forms of Sennight.

Seven-league(**d,** *a. Seven-league*(*d*) *boots* [F. *bottes de sept lieues*], the boots in the fairy story of Hop o' my Thumb, which enabled the wearer to cover seven leagues at each step. Hence allusively = of enormous size or speed.

1799 Southey in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 254 He has advanced with such seven-leagued strides as to overtake everybody. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 26 Apr. 262/2 Heaven grant he may not have put on his seven-league boots in vain! 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* iv, Giants with seven-leagued boots. 1826 — *Woodst.* xxviii, Leave swelling phrase and seven-leagued words at home. 1849 Hawthorne *Twice-told T., Mr. Higginbotham's Catastr.*, The stranger on foot must have worn seven-league boots, to travel at such a rate. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. xii, With a..rapid step, as if he wanted to get his seven-league dress-shoes on and go round the world. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 141/2 The sergeant strode forward with one of his characteristic seven-leagued movements.

Comb. 1864 A. J. Warden *Linen Trade* 240 The rapid progress in this seven-league-booted century.

Sevenpence (se·v'n,pĕns). [f. Seven + Pence.] A sum of money equal to seven pennies. Hence **Se·venpence-ha'lfpenny; Se·ven-pe'nnyworth** (-penn'orth).

1671 E. Leigh *Three Diatribes* 73 In Venice a Liver is about seven pence half peny. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 229 Peices..of sevenpence (called a skillen). 1824 Ure tr. *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 8 A measure of corn, which would at present cost sevenpence-halfpenny English. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Seven pennorth*, transportation for seven years. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* I. § 33 Now £700 is to £30,000 roughly, as sevenpence is to two thousand pounds. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Mar. 4/1 Mary L. warmly asserted that 'she had been married at the sevenpence-halfpenny-church'..The sevenpence-halfpenny demanded pays only for the legal stamp.

Sevenpenny (se·v'npĕni), *a.* [See Penny *sb.* 10.] Costing or valued at sevenpence; hence, †trifling, contemptible. Also as *sb.*, a volume that costs sevenpence.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 247 Antecrist makiþ hise [priests] knowen..bi her sevenpeny

wedding & haliwater spryngynge. 1664 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 122 Readers would never be induced to swallow such a Gudgeon, as that seven-penny Men should be fed with Venison. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Jan., I forgot Catherine's sevenpenny dinner. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 17 Aug. 5/4 The neatly-bound, well-printed sevenpenny or shilling volume of fiction. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 4/3 The 'sevenpenny' has come to stay as a form for the circulation of English literature.

Seven sisters. [See also Sister *sb.*]

†1. The Pleiades. *Obs.*

1412–20 *Lydg. Chron. Troy* II. 3334 Sche allone among þe susters seuene Schroudeth to vs schamfastly hir chere. [1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 673 To Taurus with the Seav'n Atlantick Sisters, and the Spartan Twins Up to the Tropic Crab.] 1742 Gray *Propertius* II. 35 Whence the seven Sisters' congregated fires.

2. *Hist.* Seven cannon, resembling each other in size and make, cast by Robert Borthwick and used at the battle of Flodden.

? 1513 Skelton *Agst. Scottes* 162 Your Seuen Systers, that gun so gay. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 259 Sewin cannonis that he tuik fourth of the castill of Edinburgh, quhilk was callit the sewin sisteris. 1808 Scott *Marmion* IV. xxvii, Borthwick's Sisters Seven.

3. a. A name of two common spurges. *dial.*

1886 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, Seven Sisters. *Euphorbia Helioscopia* and *E. Peplus*, in allusion to the seven branches of the stem. Co. Donegal, Ireland.

b. *Seven sister(s') rose*: a climbing rose producing densely clustered heads of white, cream, or pinkish flowers.

1864 Hibberd *Rose Bk.* 27 One of the finest is *Grevillei*, or the Seven Sisters' rose, a climber which grows with tremendous vigour. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Aug. 10/1 The seven-sister rose Blossoms about the gabled close.

4. A popular name for *Malacocercus terricolor*, an Indian bird of gregarious habits.

1878 P. Robinson *In Ind. Garden* 31 The Seven Sisters pretend to feed on insects, but that is only when they cannot get peas. 1901 Kipling *Kim* 90 The chattering, gray-backed Seven Sisters.

†**Sevensithe(s,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: see Seven and Sithe *sb.*[1] [OE. *seofon síþa, síþum*: cf. ON. *sjausinnum.*] Seven times.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxviii. 164 Seofen siðum in dege lof ic segde ðe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 21 Huu oft synngiga mæge in mec broðer min & ic forgefo him, wið sefo siða? *c* 1055 tr. *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 303 Seofon siðon seofon beoð nigon & feowertig. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Seofesiðe brihtre þene þa sunne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1680, & alle þe burhmen seouen siðes brihtre þen beo þe sunne. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1825 Seue siðes he fell him bi-foren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1851 Til seuensith tuenti dais war gan. *a* 1300 *Floris & B.* 650 Hu ihc hire boȝte apliȝt For seuesiþe of gold hire wiȝt. 1410 *26 Pol. Poems* ix. 89 Seuene sypes on þe day, Men seyn, the riȝtwis man doþ falle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 331/2 Seven sithe, *sepcies*. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 436 Seven sith at night thy lady for to please.

Seven sleepers. [tr. L. *septem dormientes.*] Seven youths of Ephesus said to have hidden in a cave during the Decian persecution and to have slept there for several hundred years.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* (1881) I. 488 Her efne on-ginð þæra eadiȝra seofon slæpera ðrowung. *c* 1310 *Leg. Saints* (MS. Ashm. 43) lf. 122 b, Seue sleparis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 221 þe array of þe sevene slepers. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 19 Make us to study þe seuen slepars. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. 1905 III. 163 The forty yeares vndermeale of the seauen sleepers. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 77 The seven Sleepers, that slept.. three hundred seaventy, and two years. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxiii. (1787) III. 350 The memorable fable of the Seven Sleepers. 1831 Carlyle *Sartor Res.* I. iv, A peal of laughter, enough to have awakened the Seven Sleepers!

b. Hence *sing.* **Seven-sleeper:** *allusively*, one who has been asleep for years; *dial.* a dormouse or other hibernating (or migrating) animal. [So G. *siebenschläfer.*]

1671 Glanvill *Further Discov. M. Stubbe* 30, I thought there was something in 't, that you now publish him for a Seven Sleeper, that knows not the Transactions of the Learned World. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. III. i, But in seasons of Revolution..your miraculous Seven-sleeper might, with miracle enough, awake sooner. 1873 W. P. Williams & Jones *Somerset Gloss.*, *Seven-sleeper*, dormouse. 1899 H. C. Hart in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 13 *Seven sleepers.* The summer migrants supposed to sleep through the Winter.

Sevensome (se·v'nsŭm), *sb.* and *a.* [f. Seven *a.* + -some. Cf. Fris. *sauneson.*]

A. *sb.* Seven together. *Sc.*

17.. Ramsay *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* viii, He drait the gaislings forth to feid, Thair was but sevensum of them aw.

B. *adj.* Consisting of seven. *rare*—°.

1864 in Webster.

Hence **Se·vensomeness,** the quality of being 'sevensome'. *rare*—¹.

1853 *N. Brit. Rev.* Feb. 398 The Sevensomeness of the microcosm. *Ibid.* 407 The sevensomeness of the luminous, or of the musical octave.

†**Seven stars.** *Obs.* (Also ME. *sterres seuen.*) [OE. *seofon steorran*: see Seven and Star *sb.*, but OE. had also collect. neut. *sifun-, sibunsterri* = WFris. *saunstjerre*, WFlem. *seven(ge)sterre*, MLG. *sevensterne*, Du. *zevengesternte*, OHG. *sibunstirni, -stirri* (MHG. *sibensterne*, G. *siebenstern* and *siebengestirn*), ON. *sjaustirni.* Cf. med.L. *septistellium.*] a. The Pleiades. b. ? The planets. c. The Great Bear.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P 451 *Pliadas*, sibunsterri. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 7 Nov. 202 Ond þonne gongað þa seofon steorran up on æfen. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 477 þe sonne set in his cours & þe seue sterres. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1961 (Dublin MS.) One of þe souerenest syres vndir þe seuen sternes. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 3323 Pliades, þe seuene sterris brist, Of whiche sixe apperen to oure sist. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 331/2 þe Seven sterns, *plias, septemtriolis, septemtrio.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 151 The pleuch, and the polys, the planettis begane, The son, the sevin sternis, and the Charll wane. 1535 Coverdale *Amos* v. 8 [so 1611; *Revised* 1884 Pleiades]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 182 b, The best time for the first haruest, the rising of the seuen starres, or the beginning of May. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. v. 38 The reason why the seuen Starres are no mo then seuen, is a pretty reason. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 85 Where so many kingdomes are united, making a more perspicuous shew over the universe, than the seven starres doe in the Firmament, over the single planets. 1754 J. Hill *Urania, Seven Stars*, a common denomination of the constellation, called, by astronomers, the Pleiades. [1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, Mrs. Bickerton, lady of the ascendant of the Seven Stars, in the Castle-gate, York.]

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. ii. (1544) 5 b, He would haue raught vp to y^e^ sterres seuen. *c* 1450 Metham *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 10 Hys brycht plowgh of sterrys, and eke the systyrrys at ther stent, The qwyche be namyd the sterrys seuyn. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxv. 66 We pray to all the Sanctis of hevin, That ar aboif the sterris sevin.

Sevent, obs. form of Seventh.

Seventeen (se·v'ntī·n, se·v'ntēn; see -teen), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: see Seven and -teen; also 3 sceoven-, 5 cevyn-; 3–5 -ten; 6 *Sc.* sewinteine, sewinttein. [OE. *seofontíene, -tíne, -týne* = OFris. *sogen-, soven-, savntiene* (WFris. *sauntsien*), OS. *sivontein*, MDu. *seventien* (Du. *zeven-*), OHG. **sibunzehan* (MHG. *sibenzehen*, G. *siebzehn*), ON. *sjautján* (Sw. *sjutton*, Da. *sytten*): see Seven and -teen.] The cardinal number next after sixteen, composed of ten and seven, represented by the symbols 17, XVII, xvii. A. *adj.*

1. In concord with a sb. expressed. Also, qualifying a higher numeral.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xxiv. (1899) 315 Wæs he Wulfhere Mercna cyning seofontyne winter. *c* 1205 Lay. 27200 Seouentene þusend selere cnihten. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6487 þe ȝer of grace a þousend & seuentene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9124 þis roboam þat i of mene, Regned winters seuentene. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8895 A knist of dede vertuous þat on hur gat knistes seuentene. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2105 Saudiours him to sewe seuyntene thousand. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. 1904 I. 225 Scotland, Denmarke, and some more pure partes of the seauenteene Prouinces. *a* 1627 Hayward *Edw. VI* (1630) 94 A proclamation vnder the hands of seuenteen persons. 17.. in *Ritson's Gammer Gurton's Garl.* (1783) 23 There was an old woman toss'd in a blanket, Seventeen times as high as the moon. 1777 (*title*) Seventeen Hundred and Seventy-Seven; or, a picture of the manners and characters of the age. 1814 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) III. iii. 132 A..dissenting clergyman, who has..brought up ..sixteen or seventeen children..upon L.150 a-year. 1879 Morley *Burke* 161 A Lyons silk weaver, working..for over seventeen hours a day. *a* 1890 Liddon *Life Pusey* (1893) I. iv. 76 In all Germany the number of professors who then contended for the truth of the Gospel..was thought to be seventeen.

2. With various ellipses, esp. of *years.*

Sweet seventeen is used typically for the most attractive period of a girl's life. *The seventeen-eighties*: the decade extending from 1780 to 1789.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 264/107 Ȝeot heo leouede twenti ȝer after þe seuentene bi-fore þat heo ne et no mannische mete bote weodes and wilde more. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 645 Scho set hym in so hard assay, That he with sevintene in a bat Wes fayne for to hald haine his gat! *c* 1386 [see Seven A. 1d]. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (1904) 205 From seuentene to seuen and twentie (the most dangerous tyme of all a mans life). 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 9 That the posterity of Noah might beget children at seventeen. 1712 Strele *Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 2 A slim young girl about Seventeen. 1767 H. Walpole in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 190 The lottery tickets which I have bought for you at twelve pounds seventeen and sixpence apiece. 1855 Tennyson *Brook* 113 Clasp hands and that petitionary grace Of sweet seventeen subdued me ere she spoke. 1878 H. S. Leigh *Town Garland* 29 The gushing heart of seventeen. 1896 E. V. Lucas *Willow & Leather* (1898) 32 The Hambledon Club's ground was changed..somewhere in the seventeen-eighties.

†3. = Seventeenth. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6369 Polidarius, the porknell, and his pere Machaon, Suet with the xvij, sad men & noble. 1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xxviii, As the seuentene conclusion doth teache. 1580 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 68 As hie declaris in the sewinttein buik of the Citie of God.

4. *Comb.* (chiefly parasynthetic), as *seventeen-branched* adj.; *seventeen-day, -foot, -mark, -mile*, attrib. phr.; **seventeen-hander,** a horse of 17 hands; **seventeen-hunder linen** (*Sc.*), linen in the weaving of which 1700 threads go to the warp; **seventeen-year(s') locust,** *Cicada septendecim* (see quot. 1882).

1862 Hagen *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 207 Sector 1 *seventeen-branched. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Seventeen-day fever*, relapsing fever. 1900 Kiplingin *Daily Express* 29 June 4/3 The *seventeen-foot Union Jack. 1886 Miss Braddon *One Thing Needful* xxii, The horses were her own particular *Seventeenhanders, grand, upstanding bays. 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 154 Snaw-white *seventeen hunder linnen! 1861 *Two Cosmos* I. 228 Sheets o' seventeen hunder linen. 1824 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* III. iv. 438 Gilbert Macdoual..who held the *seventeen-mark lands. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 357/1 Regular watches were once more set upon the boats as they entered the upper or *seventeen-mile level. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 122 One North American species is called the *Seventeen-years' Locust (*Cicada septendecim*) because it is said to appear only at intervals of seventeen years in any given locality.

B. *sb.* The abstract number seventeen; the symbol representing this.

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1905 II. 211, I vp with a long circumstance, alias, a cunning shift of the seuenteenes. 1596 Harington *Apol. Ajax* Aa 2, Lyke a trycke of seuenteene in a sinkapace.

Seventeenth (se·v'ntīnþ, sev'ntī·nþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 seofonteoðа, -teoȝeðа, -tiȝeþa, -teoðа, 4–5 seventeþe; *β.* 3–4 seventenþe, 5 -tenyth, 6 -tenth, 6– teenth; *γ.* 4–5 sevintende. [OE. *seofontéoþa*, f. *seofontíene* Seventeen: see -teenth. The later developments (*β* and *γ* forms) are parallel with those of Fifteenth (q.v.); with the *γ*-form cf. ON. *sjautjándi.* See also Tenth.]

A. *adj.* The ordinal number corresponding to the cardinal seventeen; qualifying a sb. expressed or implied.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. v, Severus casere..se wæs seofonteoȝeða [*v.r.* seofonteoða] fram Agusto. *Ibid.* III. xxiv, þi seofanteoþan [*v.r.* -tiȝeþan] dæȝe Kalendarum Decembrium. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2559 Of marz þe seuentenþe day. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 108) 325 At þe seuentebe ȝeres ende. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xii. 17 þe hundred seuintende [psalm]. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 147/27 The ȝere of þe reyne of kyng Edwarde þe seventenyth. 1530 Palsgr. 372 *Dixseptiesme*, sevynteenth. 16.. Middleton, etc. *Old Law* v. i, September the seventeenth. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* II. 386 My seventeenth year was come. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 590 About the end of the seventeenth century. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxxv, He..married me three months after my seventeenth birthday.

B. *sb.* 1. A seventeenth part.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Measure*, One Paris Ell, and fifteen Seventeenths.

2. *Mus.* A note seventeen degrees above or below a given note (both notes being counted); the interval between, or consonance of, two notes seventeen degrees apart; a chord containing this interval. Also, an organ stop (see quot. 1855.)

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 126 Though I do in it talke of fifteenth and seuententhes, yet are these cordes seldome to be taken in three parts. 1609 Dowland *Ornith. Microl.* 79 A seuenteenth, which is equall to a third, and a tenth. 1694 W. Holder *Princ. Harmony* 102 A Seventeenth Major. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 509/2 The double octave of the third is called a seventeenth. 1855 Hopkins *Organ* 120 *Tierce-Seventeenth.* A Stop formed of open metal cylindrical pipes, the pitch of which is a major third above the Fifteenth, or a seventeenth above the Diapasons. 1897 tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus.* 372/1 The (major) Seventeenth (second octave extension of the major third..),..the Minor Seventeenth (second octave extension of the minor third). *Ibid.* 730/1 *Seventeenth*, the seventeenth degree of the scale; also called the 10th or 3rd.

Hence **Seventeenthly** *adv.*, in the seventeenth place (in an enumeration).

1623 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 283 Seventintlie, that [etc.]. *c* 1643 Cleveland *Let.* Poems, etc. (1677) 127 Cheverel-Lungs that will stretch as far as Seventeenthly. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* VI. II. iv. 250 Seventeenthly, That baptiz'd Infants..ought to be instructed in the Faith of Jesus Christ. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* xiv, The Captain heard sixteenthly—seventeenthly—eighteenthly, and to conclude, with a sort of feeling like distracted despair.

Seventh (se·v'nþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α. north.* (and *Kentish*). 1 seofunda, -onda, siofunda, 2 seofende, 3 (*Ormin*) se(o)ffnde, sefennde, 3–4 sevende, 3–5 sevend, 4 zevende, seyvend(e, 4–5 sevind, -ynd. *β.* 1 seofoþa, -eða, sufoþa, 1–2 -oþe, 2 seofeþe, 3 seoveþe, 3–4 sovethe, seveþe; 3 sefþe, 5 sefth. *γ.* 3 seouenþe, 3–5 seventhe, 4 sevenethe, sefnthe, 4–5 seveneth, 5 sevynthe, (senthe), 6 sevoenthe, sevinth, 6–7 seaventh, 4– seventh. *δ. north.* 4 seyvent, sevente, sewinte, sevynte, 4–6 sevent, sevint, 4, 6 sewint, 5 sevenete, sente, (senfte), 6 sewent. [Formations of different types are here represented: *α.* OE. (Anglian) *seo-, siofunda*, ME. (Northern and Kentish) *sevende*, corresp. to OFris. *siugunda, sogunda, savnda* (mod. *saunde*), OS. *sivondo*, OHG. *sibunto* (MHG. *sibente, sibende*, G. *siebente*), ON. *sjaunde* (Norw. *sjaunde*, Sw. *sjunde*, Da. *syvende*):—OTeut. **sebundo-*; cf. late OE. *nigende* ninth, ME. *tende* tenth. *β.* OE. *seofoþa, -eþa* = OS. *sivoðo*:—OTeut. **sebunþo-*, f. **sebun* Seven; cf. OE. *nigoþa* ninth, *téoþa* tenth. *γ.* ME. *seventhe*, a new formation on Seven and -th; cf. Ninth, Tenth. The *δ*-forms exhibit the by-form (-*t*) of the suffix characteristic of Sc.] The ordinal number corresponding to the cardinal number Seven. A. *adj.*

1. In concord with a sb. expressed or understood.

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 26 Sellc ðe æftera & ðe ðirda wið to ðæm seofunda [*c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* siofund]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* seofoþan, *v.rr.* seofeðan, sufoþon; *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* seofende, *v.r.* seofeðen]. *c* 1200 Ormin 4168 þe sefennde, þe lattste dazz. *Ibid.* 5598 þe seoffnde ȝlfe Godess Gast Her ȝifeþþ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 445 Lamech is at ðe sexte kne, ðe seuende man after adam. 1340 *Ayenb.* 3 þe zeuende bene of þe holy pater noster. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 93 For hunger he cried on þe seuynd day. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) vii. 24 /e semind degree o mekeness *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvi. 73 þis faire lady sall com to him at þe seuend day, or þe thridd day, and

β. 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Ærest on ærne morȝen..seofoþan siþe on uhtan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Inman þan sea weren vii bittere uþe..þe seofeþe [wes] ful stunch. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 8 Þe seoueðe time of þe dei. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2577 Þe seueþe ȝer it was after þat hii to londe come. *Ibid.* 9068 In þe seueþe & tuenti ȝer of þe kinges crouninge. *a* 1300 *Signs bef. Judgm.* 97 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 10 Þe sefþe dai hit sal grow aȝe. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 144 The syxte, hit is a paþ of pees...The seueþe, hit is a welle of wysedome. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4427 Thys Grymold is the fifte Geant found, The sixte, or the sefth of thaim hath be last. *a* 1550 *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 186 Kyng henry the sevethe.

γ. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1815 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 158 Þe seuenþe ȝer þat he wende furst out of engelonde. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* II. 681 Blisful Venus wel arayed Sat in here seuenethe hows of heuene þo. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 130 The sefnthe sterre in special Of this science is Arial. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xxiv. 58 He arryued, the yer of hys kyngedome, senthe [*v.r.* the Senfte]. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 42 Sex semelye sonnes & a dowȝter þe seueneth. 1493 *Dives & Pauper* III. xiii. 1 j b, God bad reste in the seuynthe day. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 84 Henrie the seuinth. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. i. 118 Another yet? A seauenth? 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 128 Thir wandring course..In six thou seest, and what if sev'nth to these The Planet Earth.. Insensibly three different motions move? *Ibid.* XI. 696 Hee the seventh from thee, whom thou beheldst The onely righteous in a World perverse. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 31 Oct., I have sent my seventh [letter] to your fourth, young women. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 353 In both cases the focus [of disease] seems to have affected the issuing seventh [cerebral nerve].

δ. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 6844 (Fairf.), vj. dayes sal ȝe wirke.. and ȝe sal rest þe seyuent day. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 95 The sewynt ȝere of his bischophad. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 169 Þe sevent werke of mercy. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 Pape Gregore the sevynt. *a* 1500 *Signs of Doomsday* 95 in *Bronne Bk.* 74 The sente day schall fall down Chyrch, and castyll. 1576 in *Oppress. Orkney & Zetld.* (1859) 47 This Sewint Article. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 183 The sext is bontie... The Sewent is gentilnes.

b. *elliptical* for *seventh day, chapter, regiment*, etc.

To commit the seventh (slang), to transgress the seventh commandment, to commit adultery.

1598 J. Chamberlain *Lett.* (Camden) 29 The seventh of this moneth. 1674 Brevint *Saul at Endor* 298 The seventh of St. John's Revelation. 1841 Lever *O'Malley* cxvii, He ordered me to picket two squadrons of the seventh. 1874 Hardy *Far fr. Madding Crowd* viii, As soon as he could ..fancy he was doing wrong and committing the seventh.

2. *Seventh part*, or † *deal* (see also Sevendele), one of the seven equal parts into which a thing may be divided.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 318/657 Þare nis bote þat seouenþe del þat men woniez on, i-wis. *Ibid.* 318/665 Þe seuenþe part. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 45 Þe seuenþe parte of þe þridde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2157 Þai pleyne more þe pouirte & þe pite of þar horsis þan þe soroȝe of þam-selfe by þe seuynt parte [*Dubl. MS.* seuent dele].

b. *Seventh heaven*, see Heaven *sb.* 5 c, 7 c.

Hence *seventh-heaven-arian* (nonce-wd.), one who is always in the seventh heaven of ecstasy.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, You will find that, when you have heard my counsel, you may go to the seventh heaven with it in your pocket, if you have a mind, and not feel yourself an ounce heavier in the ascent. 1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* II. 104 What a blue stocking, pre-Raphaelite seventh-heaven-arian she would have been. 1892 Clifford *Aunt Anne* xiv, Florence was in a seventh heaven of happiness

3. = Seventhly. *rare.*

1576 Gascoigne *Droome of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 330 Seventh, he ought in all things to [etc.]. 1840 *Dom. Brewing* 8 The following articles only are requisite... Seventh, a stirring stick.

B. *sb.* **1.** = Seventh part.

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* B ij b, *Sesquiseptima.* 8 to 7 : 16 to 14..(1 1/7) a seuenth more. 1623 J. Johnson *Arith.* 229 Because your fractions are seuenths, cut off 7 figures. 1762 Ramsbottom *Fractions Anatomized* 33 For if to 4 Sevenths We add 4 Eighths..it is neither 8 Sevenths nor 8 Eighths. 1844 R. Rouse *Turf Betting* 8 Different denominators, as fifths, sevenths, elevenths. 1897 Günther in Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 711 Eye two-sevenths of the length of the head.

2. *Mus.* **a.** A note seven degrees (see Degree *sb.* 11 a) above or below a given note (both notes being counted); the note immediately below the octave in a scale, = *leading note.* b. The interval between two notes seven degrees apart; it is either *major, minor*, or *diminished*: see these words. c. (In full, *chord of the seventh.*) A chord consisting of a note together with its third, fifth, and seventh: denominated from that note of the scale which forms the root, as *dominant seventh, tonic seventh*; also *minor, diminished seventh* (see quots. 1880, 1883), *leading seventh* (see Leading *ppl. a.* 1 b).

1591 J. Farmer *Plainsong* B vj, 2 pars in one in the seuenth, the Base before, the Meane follow a sembreefe, the plainsong in the midst. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 72 *Phi.* Which distances make discord..? *Ma.*...a second, a fourth, a seuenth. 1694 W. Holder *Princ. Harmony* 169 These Discords, the Tritone, and Semidiapente; as also, the Seconds, and Sevenths, are of very great use in Music. 1730 *Treat. Harmony* 15 The Seventh of the key. 1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Mus.* 28 The perfect Chord, and that of the Seventh. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 508/2 An interval consisting of four tones and two semitones, as from *re* to *ut*, is called a *seventh minor.* 1818 T. Busby *Gram. Mus.* 326 The chord of the Seventh is susceptible of three changes. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 257/2 The dominant 7th and the diminished 7th, or their inversions. 1855 Browning *Toccata of Galuppi's* vii, Those lesser thirds so plaintive..Those commiserating sevenths. 1880 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* I. 673 The use of the minor seventh, which we call the Dominant seventh, without preparation. 1883 *Ibid.* III. 477/2 The chord of the Diminished seventh..is in its complete form composed of a set of minor thirds.

Seventh-day. (Also 5–6 *north.* sevent, -ynt.)

† **1.** = Week's-mind. *Obs.*

1462 *Test. Ebor.* II. 256, I wille that I be brought forthe at the day of beriall as my degre askis withouten any seventday. 1527 *Ibid.* V. 238, I witt a quarter wheate and ij barils bere to be delt in the kirke of Hornese opon my sevynt daye.

2. The seventh day of the week, Saturday; the (Jewish) Sabbath; *transf.* Sunday. Also *attrib.*

1692 T. Watson *Body Divinity* 332 The old Seventh-day Sabbath (which was the Jewish Sabbath) is abrogated. 1710 O. Sansom *Acc. Life* 226 On the Seventh Day we went to Youghall, and on the First Day had two Meetings there. 1870 Conway *Earthward Pilgr.* xxviii. 345 The sanctity of the Seventh Day is the survival of the old worship of Ashtaroth. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Organ-Blower* 27 When the seventh day's sunshine falls Through rainbowed windows on the walls. 1885 R. Buchanan *Matt* iii, I thought her ordinary costume far more becoming than her seventh-day finery.

b. In the designations of bodies of Christians who observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday) as the principal day of rest and religious observance.

Seventh-day Adventists: a millenarian sect holding sabbatarian principles. *Seventh-day Baptist*: see Sabbatarian *sb.* 3. †*Seventh-day man*: see Traskite.

1684 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 302 The seventh day minister, in Newgate. 1694 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 18) III. i. 378 Traskitts, now called Seventh-day-men, who keep the Jewish Sabboth. 1784 Backus *Ch. Hist. New Eng.* II. Index 15 Seventh-day Baptists. 1876 *Direct. Amer. Publ.* 19 in *Amer. Catal.* (1880), Seventh Day Adventists. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U.S.) s. v., Traces of seventh-day keepers are found in the days of Gregory I.

Seventhly (se'vnθli), *adv.* [f. Seventh *a.* + -ly 2.] In the seventh place (in an enumeration).

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 929 Seventhly, *septiesmement.* 1574 Whitgift *Def. Answ.* xvii. 631 Master Gualter..sayth : He comprehendeth seuenthly in this order, gouernours vnder whom [etc.]. 1648 D. Jenkins *Wks.* 38 Seventhly, we maintaine that the King is the onely supreme Governour in all causes. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Rules*, Seventhly, Galloping is the last, and must be join'd to all the other Paces. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 328 Seventhly, no one can find these footpaths, which probably led nowhere.

b. As *sb.* with ref. to the heads of a sermon.

1815 Scott *Paul's Lett.* i. (1816) 4 The Parson has spared his flock one Seventhly of his text. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* ix, I have been..catechised respecting Boanerges Boiler, his fifthly, sixthly, and his seventhly.

Se'venth-night. *Obs.* [f. Seventh *a.* + Night.] = Sennight.

1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* I. v. 86 His Father dy'd on this day seuenth-night. 1672 Locke *Let. to Mapletoft* 19 Oct., That day seventhnight I parted from you.

Seventieth (se'vntiəθ), *a.* Forms: 3–4 seventiþe, 4 sevetetþe, (*north.* seven-, seyvintiand), 4–6 seventeþe, 6 seventyth, 7 seaventieth, 7– seventieth. [f. next + *-eth*, -th. The forms in Cursor Mundi are after the ON. ordinal ending *-tugonde.*] The ordinal numeral corresponding to the cardinal Seventy.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5730 Yssryned he was nyn hondred & on & seuentiþe ȝere. 13.. *Cursor M.* 21209 (Gött.) Þe seuentiand and feird ȝere [*Fairf.* seyuintiand]. 1382 Wyclif *Zech.* i. 12 This is now the seuentithe ȝeer. 1530 Palsgr. 372 *Septantiesme*, seventyth. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 88/41 Ye Seuenteth, *septuagesimus.* 1612 Florio, *Settuagesimo*, the seauentieth. 1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* 206 She liv'd to her seaventieth yeare. 1900 (*title*) Report of the Seventieth Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Seventy (se'vnti), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: [1 hundseofontiȝ, -sifontiȝ, etc.: cf. Seven], 3 seoventi, (*Ormin*) seof(f)enntiȝ, 4 seyventi, sewinty, seventy, 4, 6 sevinty, -tie, 5 seventye, senty, 7 seaventy, 3– seventy. [OE. (*hund*)-*seofontig* = OFris. *siugun-, sogen-, sovontich* (mod. *sauntich*), OS. *sibuntig* (MLG. *seven-, soventich*, MDu. *seventich*, Du. *zeventig*), OHG. *sibunzug* (MHG. *sibenzec*, etc., G. *sieb(en)zig*), ON. *sjau tiger* (Norw. *sjautti, sytti*, Sw. *sjuttio*): see Seven and -ty.]

A. *adj.*

1. The cardinal number equal to seven tens, represented by 70 or lxx: **a.** with sb. expressed or implied in the context.

c 1200 Ormin 4319 Þe feorþe staff iss nemmnedd O & seofenntiȝ bitacneþþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1486 'Il þat nine hundret yeir war gan And seuenti. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 Blind, and dyaf, and alsuo domb. Of seuenty yer al uol rond. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 634 In foure or in fyfe ȝere he ferre was in lare þan othire at had bene þare seuynte wynter. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cevyntye, *Septuaginta.* 1530 Palsgr. 367 *Septante*, seventy. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 151 A ship..that carried seventy guns. 1824 Wordsw. *Excurs.* II. 600 The still contentedness of seventy years. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* li, 'Lend me a hundred, Wenham, for God's sake,' poor Rawdon said—'I've got seventy at home.'

b. With ellipsis of *years* (*of age*).

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 114 He..who at seventy odd forsakes this light. 1729 Pope *Let. to Swift* 28 Nov., My first friendship at sixteen, was contracted with a man of seventy. 1832 Scott *Cl. Rob.* vi, His age was some seventy and upwards. 1884 Ryle *Princ. Churchmen* (ed. 2) 424 By the time we are seventy, our memories and intellects begin to fail.

c. Specific elliptical uses.

The Seventy: (*a*) the seventy disciples of our Lord whose mission is recorded in Luke x. 1; (*b*) the Seventy Interpreters = Septuagint 1; (*c*) in the organization of Mormonism, a body of seventy elders acting as missionaries.

1520 Nisbet *N. T.* (S.T.S.) I. 10 He sendithe the sevinte befoire him to preche. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. World* I. vii. § 8. 110 The Geneua Translation calls it [Gopher] Pinetree, the Rabbine Cedar, the Seuentie square timber. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* I. ii. § 11. 37 The Seventy render it.., τὰ γλυπτὰ, by which they understand graven Images. [1669 Barrow *Expos. Creed* (1697) 143 Fitly rendered κύριος by the Seventy interpreters.] 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* II. vii. Wks. 1718 I. 485 Matthias, who..was one of the Seventy that was Chosen and Ordained by the other Apostles to succeed Judas in the Apostolate. 1858 *Trans. Phil. Soc.* 72 The Greek rendering of the Seventy. 1861 R. F. Burton *City of Saints* ix. 484 The fourth body in rank is the Seventies. The 'Seventy' act in the name of the Lord, under direction of the 'Twelve', in building up the church, and like them are travelling ministers.

2. In comb. with numbers below ten (ordinal and cardinal), as *seventy-one, one and seventy, seventy and one, seventy-first*; often with ellipsis (e.g. of *years*).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Seouene & seouenti lefdies. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7672 In þe ȝer of grace a þousend & seuenti & þre. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 139 And disciplis ȝet had he may, forowtin þir, sewinty and twa. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 414 After þe Incarnacyon ayȝte hundreth ȝere senty and fyue hit was. 1562 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 17 His Apostolis and seuinty-twa Discipulis. 1615 W. Bedwell *Moham. Impost.* III. § 109 You shal be separated farre off from me vnto the seuenty three generation. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. V. 218 Seventy-two Houris..of resplendent beauty. 1791 J. Townsend *Journ. Spain* (1792) III. 266 On the seventy-first day. 1862 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. II. ii, Wal, by heaven, Thet's the wust news I've heerd sence Seventy-seven! 1873 *All Year Round* 3 May 13/2, In 1791, the Seventy-third, now the Seventy-first, that had won a name in Indian warfare, again took a foremost part against ..Tippoo. 1885 Tennyson *To E. FitzGerald* 43, 44 And I am nearing seventy-four, While you have touch'd at seventy-five.

b. Specific uses.

Seventy-four: (*a*) a ship carrying seventy-four guns (now *Hist.*); (*b*) see quot. 1853. *Seventy-five*: a bow requiring a power of 75 lbs. *Seventy-twos, seventy-twomo* [reading of the symbol 72mo; cf. *sixteenmo*, etc.], the size of the page of a book in which each leaf is one seventy-second part of a whole sheet.

1797 Nelson in Duncan *Life* (1806) 44 Two first-rates and a seventy-four are with him. 1840 G. A. Hansard *Bk. Archery* 368 A seventy-five, which commands all lengths within four hundred yards. 1841 Savage *Dict. Printing*, *Seventy-twomo*, a sheet of paper folded into seventy-two leaves or one hundred and forty-four pages is termed seventy-twos or seventy-twomo. 1853 Pappe *Edible Fishes C. Good Hope* 21 *Dentex Rupestris*..(Bastard Silverfish; Seventy-four). 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* xv, The dark hold of an old Seventy-four. 1882 Southward *Pract. Printing* (1884) 110 A variety of formes from folio to seventy-twomo. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 238 For fifteen years the seventy-four was the ideal fighting ship for the line of battle.

3. *Comb.* (chiefly parasynthetic), as *seventy-horse* (= horse-power), *-mile*; *seventy-footer* (see Footer *sb.*1 5); *seventy-times-seventh*, *seventy-year-old* adjs.; also *seventy-fold* adv. and vb. (see -fold).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 231 Lamech his synne was i-punisched seuene and seuenty folde. 1611 Florio, *Settantiplicare*, to seauentie-fold. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 705/2 The propelling powers are two seventy-horse steam-engines. 1877 Besant & Rice *Son of Vulcan* II. iv. 198 His seventy-times-seventh flogging. 1893 Kate F. Sanborn *Truthful Woman* 50 From San Diego to Los Angeles, a seventy-mile run along the coast. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 761/2 The seventy-year-old Blücher. 1900 *Daily News* 9 July 8/5 The new seventy-footers..now being sailed in American waters.

B. *sb.* **1.** A set of seventy persons or things; † a period of seventy years.

1590 H. Broughton (*title*) A Letter to a Friende, tovching Mardochai his Age, which helpeth much to holde the trueth, for that chiefe prophecie of our saluation, in Gabriels seuenties. 1741 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 398 Many companies that were seventy's when we embarked, have not six men left in them. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 828/2 There are eighty seventies in Utah. [Cf. A. 1 c, 1861.] 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* 106 A Mormon empire..ruled over by the Priesthood of the faith of Joseph Smith and the Council of Seventies.

2. *The seventies*: the decade 70 to 79 in a particular century or in a person's life.

1865 'C. Bede' *Rook's Gard.*, etc. 96, I have heard the word sparrowgrass from the lips of a real Lady—but then she was in her seventies. 1895 Saintsbury *Corr. Impr.* 173 It was not easy to reconcile these two laws in the late seventies and early eighties with regard to Mr. Anthony Trollope.

Seven-up. *U.S.* The game of all-fours when played for seven 'chalks'.

1845 J. J. Hooper *Simon Suggs* (Bartlett), Simon and Bill were..very earnestly engaged at seven-up. 1847 Ruxton *Adv. Mexico* xxvii. 245 'Euker', 'poker', and 'seven-up', the regular mountain-games. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 47 There sat four 'cow-punchers',..playing 'seven-up'.

Seven year(s, -years', *attrib. phr.* Consisting of or lasting for seven years; having a period of seven years. † *These* (*this*) *seven years day*, this long time: cf. Seven A 1 c, d.

Seven-year's apple, a fruit of tropical America, *Genipa clusiæfolia*, supposed to require seven years to ripen. †*Seven-years bean, pea*: see quot. 1666. *Seven Years' War*, the third Silesian war (1756–1763), in which Austria, France, Russia, Saxony, and Sweden were allied against Fred-

erick II of Prussia. *Seven-year-vine*, the West Indian *Ipomœa tuberosa*.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 2, I saw not better sport these seuen yeeres day. 1647 SYMMONS *Vind.* To Rdr. b 3 b, It hath been mine endeavour this seaven years day, and my usuall Prayer, that I may be able to conclude as M. Bradford the Martyr did. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribbee Isles* 64 Those called the Seven-years Beans, because the same stalk bears seven years one after another. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physit.* 20 Of the seven years Pease. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 434 The Seven Years Apple. 1788 TOWERS *Mem. Fredk. III of Prussia* II. 325 Thus ended [1763], what is called in Germany, The Seven Years War. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. i, In that seven-years sleep of his, so much has changed! 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* i. 17 We lately met with a seven-year-old. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 Seven-year-vine. 1880 J. C. HARRIS *Uncle Remus* i. (1881) 17 'Miss Sally' missed her little seven-year-old. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 141 The seven-year periods.

Sever (sɛ·vəɹ), *v.* Also 5 sevyr, severe, *Sc.* sevir, 6 sevour, seaver, *Sc.* siver, -ir, syver, sewer. [a. AF. *severer*, *ceverer*, OF. *sevrer*, *severer*, mod.F. *sevrer* to wean :—pop.L.**sēperārе*, L. *sēparāre* to SEPARATE. Cf. It. *sceverare*, *scevrare*.]

I. Transitive senses.

1. To put apart, set asunder (two or more persons or things, or one *from* another); to part or separate by putting in different places.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXV. 6 He seueryde [Vulg. *separavit*] hem fro Ysaac..to the est plage. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 307 Everiche in his owne celle..i-serued [*v.r.* ysevered] by hem self [orig. *ab aliis separatus*]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 147 And seuered by hem self sette euery kynd. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 402 Than he seuered a part of his peple. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* XXXIV. 20, I will seuer the fat shepe from the leane. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 623 By which iust Minos righteous soules doth seuer From wicked ones. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. XXV. § 9. 112 The chaffe may and ought to be seuered from the corne in the Eare. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* II. E 1 b, *Franc.* What winde hath rais'd this tempest? Seuer 'em, I command you. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 252 Least harm befall thee sever'd from me. 1788 COWPER *Negro's Compl.* 11 What are England's rights,..Me from my delights to sever? 1908 S. A. COOK *Relig. Anc. Palestine* v. 56 Cremation.. may have been intended to sever the soul from the body.

b. To part or open (the lips, eyelids).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xvii. (1495) h ij b, Mannes lippes..maye be seueryd & departed. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 372 Pyrocles, then first seuering his eye liddes, and quickly apprehending her danger. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream*, *Sleeping Pal.* iv, Her lips are sever'd as to speak.

c. To disjoin, dissociate, disunite (persons or things normally united by some immaterial tie).

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xvi. 28 The man ful of woordis seuereth princis. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* v. 24 Amonge hem silf to bring in variaunce, And her hertis..Contagiously to seueryn & deuyde. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 § 1 That all the same..Hereditamentes shuld be..seperat severed and disanexed from the Duchie of Cornwall. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 21 God forbid, that I should wish them seuer'd, Whom God hath ioyn'd together. 1602 — *All's Well* I. iii. 57 How somere their hearts are seuer'd in Religion. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 3 In whose person the two mightie Kingdomes of England and Scotland hitherto severed, are now conioyned. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, I will ..take an opportunity of severing these two young men. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 188 A revolution which severed England from the papacy. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 529 Plato sees that the ideal of the state in his own day is more and more severed from the actual. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. xi, I would trample it [a coronet] in the mud, if it were to sever me from Winifred.

d. in legal phraseology (cf. 7).

1532 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. vii. 19 b, The fealtie can nat be seuered fro the reuercion. 1579 *Termes de la Ley* 44 b/2 Such common [*viz.* common appurtenant]..may bee seuered from the land to which it is appurtenaunte. *a* 1625 FINCH *Law* I. iii, Things incident cannot be seuered. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 12 Apr. 201/1 Where a fund is directed to be at once set apart and severed from the rest of the testator's estate, it carries income from the testator's death.

† e. To part or remove by some technical process (a substance) *from* another with which it is combined or mixed; = SEPARATE *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 311 It is vsuall in Clarifying Ippocrasse to put in Milke; Which after seuereth and carrieth with it the Grosser Parts of the Ippocrasse. 1661 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 251 The thinner and more serous Liquor..being thus sever'd from the grosser parts of the milk. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 704 A second multitude With wondrous Art founded the massie Ore, Severing each kinde, and scum'd the Bullion dross. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 485 A general method of discriminating and severing them [*sc.* earths].

fig. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 490 This Axiome is of large extent; And therefore would be seuered, and refined by Triall.

† f. (In Biblical language.) To set apart or segregate for a special purpose. Also with *out*.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* iv. 41 Thanne Moyses seuerde thre citees, bisonde Jordan. [Also 1611.] 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *2 Esdras* iii. 16 Iacob thou didst sever to thy selfe, but Esau thou didst separate. 1611 — *Ezek.* XXXIX. 14 And they shall seuer out men of continual employment. 1718 PRIOR *Callimachus' Hymn to Jupiter* 93 The Soldier..rich with hostile Spoil, Severs the Bull to Mars.

† g. In occasional uses: To deprive *of*; to hinder *from*; to free *from*. *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit. Wemen* 337 Quben I seuerit had that syre of substance in erd. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. XX. (S. T. S.) I. 208 The Inemyis..mycht skairslie be severit fra oppugnatioun of þare tentis [orig. *aegre abstinent quin castra oppugnent*]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 29 b, Weeding when it is knotted, seuereth the Corne from all anoyances. 1601 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* I. vi. 484 What slimie bold presumtious groome is he, Dares with his rude andacious hardye chatt Thus seuer me from skybredd contemplation?

h. *refl.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 61 The most part of them that came with the Archebishop and accompanied him before, for feare of the kinges displeasure seuered themselues from him. 1589 NASHE *Pref. to Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 10 Amongst others in that Age, Sir Thomas Eliots elegance did seuer it selfe from all equalls. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* IV. 11 Now Heber the Kenite..had seuered himselfe from the Kenites. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 14 Their Lordships advised the Lord Deputy to offer Odonnel pardon, so as he would sever himselfe from Tyrone. 1845 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. IV. v. 537 Switzerland, which had now severed itself from the empire. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. iv. (1880) II. 44 To sever herself from the man she loved no longer. 1872 RAE tr. *Taine's Notes Eng.* xvi. 206 The Englishman does not sever himself from public affairs.

2. To separate in thought or idea; to distinguish, treat as distinct; to mark off *from*.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2032, I [Reason] am she By whom that ye yknowe be ffrom other bestys..And seueryd in especyal. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* (W. de W.) A iv, Suche vnknowen and straunge tokens..severynge the cradyls of suche specyall chyldren fro y^e^ company of other of the comune sorte. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iii. § 2 Expedient it will be that we seuer the law of nature obserued by the one from that which the other is tied vnto. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. v, *Volp.* Am I then like him? *Mos.* O, Sir, you are bee: No man can seuer you. *c* 1652 MILTON *Sonn. to Sir H. Vane* 11 To know Both spirituall powre & civill, what each meanes, What severs each. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T., Books* (Arb.) 31 He is a poor Divine that cannot sever the good from the bad. 1909 *Expositor* Sept. 222 In another letter he severs his own position most definitely from that of Sabbatier. 1910 *Ibid.* Aug. 127 We cannot sever religious cult from social custom.

3. To keep distinct or apart by an intervening space or barrier. Of the intervening medium: To occupy the space or interval between. Also *fig.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* lviii. 223 That the rybbis Bene wel departid or Seueret. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xi. (S. T. S.) I. 171 Belive all municioums, quhilkis war laid be Industrye to sivir þe armyis, war removit. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxli. 240 Let your lodging be in an vpper chamber, yet seuered from the roufe with some false flower. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* H 4, Ile beate downe the partition with my heeles Which as a mud-vault seuers hell and thee. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* viii. 22, I will seuer in that day the lande of Goshen..that no swarmes of flies shall be there. 1665 HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 102 A large cover'd room in the poop, sever'd from the banks of rowers. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XI. 94 With such general insight into evil, And of the bounds which sever it from good. 1814 — *Excurs.* III. 661 Immense The space that severed us! 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh.* (near end) *Poems* I. 183 The gulf which severs rule from servitude. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 1 Fens nearly one hundred miles long severed East Anglia from the midland counties.

4. To divide into (two or more) parts. Also *refl.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 5.

1435 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 182 For & the Craft were severed in the maner as hit [is] seide aboue, Then the Cardwirdrawers and the myddelmen most nedes bye the wire that they shull wirche of the smythiers. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 83 Part of psalmis ar sewert be this vord sela that singnifeis rest and pece. 1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 16 § 3 The Tayle of Rewarde of everie of the foresayd Counties..shalbe severed and devyded. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* V. xii. (1619) 85 He sheweth this heresie in his time to have been severed into sundry sects. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 73 b, Running in one streame til it come to the city of the Cercasians, and afterwards seuering it selfe into three sundry chanels. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 95 The rest were severed into small companies, and unlike to draw to any dangerous head. 1654 [ELLISTONE & SPARROW] tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* IV. 11 Now the will Severs it selfe..into two Kingdomes, where each dwelleth in it selfe.

† b. To divide according to kind or quality, to sort. *Obs.*

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 36 To seuer pees, beanes, and fytches...Let theym be well reed with syues, and seuered in thre partes, the great from the small. *Ibid.* § 53 Whan thou haste all shorne thy shepe, it is than best tyme to drawe them, and soo seuer theym in dyuers sortes. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 33 Now friend, as ye wish, goe seuer thy fish: When friend shall come, to be sure of some.

† c. To divide and distribute. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1548 GRESTE *Agst. Pr. Masse* I ij, He bad vs seuer the consecrate breade charitablye emong vs & not eche of vs to reserue it to hym selue.

5. To part or divide suddenly or forcibly; to cut in two, cleave or rend asunder. With a material or immaterial thing as object.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 2056 Eueryche on oþer lik tigers or lyons Be-gan to falle, and proudly to assaille, And furiously seuere plate and maille. *Ibid.* v. 648 Þe pondre, þat seuerede seil & mast. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 49 No man shulde putte betwene hem no thinge that might seuere the loue that God and the churche hathe ioyned in hem. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* IV. 52 b, Many they were y^t^ sought to seaver and break that societie. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VI. xciv, There the closest ranks hee seuereth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 958 Our State cannot be severd, we are one, One Flesh. 1791 MACKINTOSH *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 163 Let the Court of Madrid..sever every tie that unites her to Europe. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 190 Under their hands, the pediment was severed at its vertex, and divided into separate halves. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. (1857) xii. 171 Not many years ago the Church of Scotland was severed into two great divisions. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. iii. 166 Thus it was that this great tie was severed. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xiv. (1886) 246 Another galloped up behind, and severed the hamstring. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. VIII. 240 The aged man Hastened to sever with his sword the thongs That bound him to the car. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 377/1 Having discovered that this company was merely a swindling concern, he severed his connection with it.

b. To break up, scatter, disperse (an assemblage or company of individuals). Also *refl.* Now *rare*.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2301 But Troylus ay hem chaseth her & 3onder, And seuered hem maugre al her myst. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V. xcii. (1516) 36 b/1 Y^e^ Brytons..that were disparkled and seueryd in many countres. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 976 On Friday at night blewe such a storme that seuered all the naule. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 23 As..russed-pated choughes, many in sort (Rising and cawing at the guns report) Seuer themselues, and madly sweepe the skye. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 638 Let the flitting aire my vaine words sever. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXI. (1856) 168 A gale of wind has severed the pack, and the drift begins.

¶ c. To cut the dewlap of (cattle). (? Misprint for *setter*: see SETTER *v.*)

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 59 (1525?) 26 b, There be many men that can seuer theym, & that is to cutte the dewlappe before.

6. 'To part by violence from the rest' (J.); to separate suddenly and forcibly; to cut, tear, or pull off.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 400 It is reported..that a Sacrificed Beast hath lowed, after the Heart hath been seuered. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 May 1641, The fatal stroke which sever'd the wisest head in England from the shoulders of the Earle of Strafford 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 519 P 6 That Species of Shell-fish..that grow to the Surface of several Rocks, and immediately die upon their being sever'd from the Place where they grow. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 38 He from the stack carves out th' accustom'd load,..With such undeviating and even force He severs it away. 1798 WORDSW. *Simon Lee* 86, I struck, and with a single blow The tangled root I severed. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 27 By which any length desired will instantly be severed from the rest of the tube. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 108 The blow, which I gave with the view of severing his head, only cut the gullet and skin and flesh. 1908 S. A. COOK *Relig. Anc. Palestine* ii. 16 The heads had evidently been severed before burial, and there was no trace of the bodies.

7. *Law.* a. To divide (a joint estate) into independent parts.

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 69 Whan the Ioyntenauntes were ioyntly seased in fee symple..thoughe that one of them made estate of that, that vnto him belongeth for terme of lyfe..yet he hath nat seuered the fee symple. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 182 b, If a man maketh a lease to two for their liues, and after granteth the reuersion to one of them in fee, the ioynture is seuered. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 185 How an estate in joint-tenancy may be severed and destroyed. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 499 The question was, whether the ioinsture was severed or not. 1895 STRAHAN *Law of Property* (1908) 89 On the reversion being severed the conditions of all kinds are to be apportioned between the persons among whom the reversion is divided. *Ibid.* 132 A joint tenancy, where the joint tenants are beneficial owners, may be severed either (a) by a partition of the joint estate, or (b) by alienation by one of the joint tenants of his undivided share.

b. To detach (growing fruit or trees, minerals, fixtures, etc.) from the soil or realty.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 37 If a man..deuiseth the corne growing vpon the lande, and dyeth before it bee seuered, the deuisee shall haue it. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 55 b, If a Disseisor sowe the ground and seuer the corne. 1911 ODGERS *Common Law* I. 329 All these become personal property as soon as they are severed from the soil, and until they are severed they cannot, of course, be carried away. *Ibid.* II. 700 The produce of the trees, when they should be cut down and severed from the freehold.

c. To separate and remove (one of the plaintiffs in a joint action, when he is nonsuited). (See also SUMMON *v.*)

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 29 By our law if two bring a writ of warde of the body of the heire beeing within age, and the one of them is summoned and seuered, and the other recouereth, hee which was seuered may haue a writte of accompt against the other for the profites. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 139 In reall or mixt actions the Nonsuite of one Demandant is not the Nonsuite of both, but he that makes default shall be summoned and seuered. 1652 tr. *Fitzherbert's Nat. Brev.* 36 If one of those who is named by his proper name, will not sue..he shall be severed. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* I. vi. 109 If two Coparceners join against the Alienee in a Writ of Partition at Common Law, and one of them does not proceed, yet he may be summoned and severed, as his Part shall be parted and severed, as well as the other Parts.

d. To part (two or more defendants) in their trial. (Cf. 10 a.)

1660 *Trial Regicides* 57 Are you all agreed as to your Challenges?..No, my Lord...Then we must do as before, sever you, and go to tryal severally. 1691 *Arraignmt. Sir R. Graham*, etc. 22 Since they are pleased to declare they will sever in their Challenges, we must desire to sever them in their Tryal, and to begin with the Tryal of my Lord Preston.

8. *absol.* To make a separation or division (*between*). *rare.*

1611 BIBLE *Exod.* ix. 4 The Lord shall seuer betweene the cattel of Israel, and the cattell of Egypt. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Water-cormorant* A 4, The Pope sends stormes forth, seuers or combines, According to his mood it raines or shines. 1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* xi. 82 There remain's in far the Major part of both Houses..so much Learning, Reason, Religion, and just Moderation, as to know how to sever between the use and abuse of things. 1882 PUSEY *Parochl. & Cathedr. Symm.* xvii. 243 He stands between the dead and the living. He severs between her past and her future life.

II. *intr.* (Cf. the reflexive uses in branch I.)

9. Of a person: To go away, part, be sundered *from*. Of two or more: To be separated, quit each other, go asunder, part.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1707 Ho..semly hym kyssed, & siþen ho seueres hym fro. *Ibid.* 1987, & vche segge as sore, to seuer with hym þere, As þay hade wonde worþyly with þat wlonk euer. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 396 In oure last day..when þis worlde & we shal seuer. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 86 Gude lycht harnes, fra that tynie, wyst he euir; For sodeyn stryff, fra it he wald nocht seuir. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. x. (S.T.S.) I. 60 Sone eftir baith þe armyis siverit and returnit bame. 1618 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* II. i, Come, all sever, But keep still within sight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 366 Seek not temptation then, which to avoide Were better, and most likelie if from mee Thou sever not. 1715 POPE *and Epist. to Miss Blount* 5 From the dear man unwilling she must sever, Yet takes one kiss before she parts for ever. 1791 BURNS *Ae Fond Kiss* i, Ae fond kiss, and then we sever. 1825 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 31 Should we sever from each other,..no foreign power will ally with us. 1842 W. A. BUTLER *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1849) 166 The more the parties sever, the closer the knot is bound.

b. of things.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* I. xiv. (1552) 39 Manye tymes the one [vein] seuereth from the other before conuenient season and so causeth abortement. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., C'tess Salisb. to Black Prince* 47 If modesty and women once doe seuer, Farewell our fame, farewell our name for euer. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. § 17. 86 b, Theis three as in the bodye, so in the minde seeldome meete, and Commonly seuer. *a* 1626 — *Physiol. Rem.* Baconiana (1679) 140 Spirit of Wine mingled with common Water, although it be much lighter than Oyl,..severeth not again, as Oyl doth. 1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer, Once* xxiii, These lips from thine, I know, must sever.

c. Of the lips, doors, or the like: To go apart, open.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 267 Her lips severed, but no voice was heard. 1811 MISS MITFORD *Blanch of Castile* in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 130 The deaf man..Felt her hands' pressure soft and warm, Saw her lips sever. 1871 B. TAYLOR *2nd Pt. Faust* I. I, 'T is thus,..The portals of fulfilment widely sever.

d. Of a whole or aggregate: To part, become divided, be separated into parts.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2527 Her companye Ne seuereth nat, but y-fere Eche ys to other so entere. 1412–20 — *Chron. Troy* IV. 4084 She..slowe of hem vp-on euery syde, Makynge her rengis for to seuere wyde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 102 b, This fortresse stode in such a place, that what with waters and what with marishes, the army must sever in thre partes. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* III. i, As, the soul departed from the body, The body wants coherence in his parts Can not consist but seuer and dissolue. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXV. 124 His tongue, continuous before and apt For utterance, severs [*si fende*]; and the other's fork Closing unites.

10. *Law.* a. Of two or more defendants: To plead independently. More fully *to sever in their challenges, in their defence*, etc.

a 1625 HOBART *Rep.* (1650) 245 Now though the Defendants shall not sever in Dilatories, yet in Bars they may. 1660 *Trial Regicides* 57 If one challenge one [of the Jury-panel], and another challenge another, we must sever, and go to Tryal one by one. 1691 *Arraignmt. Sir R. Graham*, etc. 23 If you had joyned in your Challenges, then you had been tryed all together...That Advantage you lose by severing in your Challenges. 1824 STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* 270 If the defendants have once united in the plea, they cannot afterwards sever at the rejoinder. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 523 The prisoners who were first arraigned did not sever in their challenges, and were consequently tried together. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 10 May 321/1 The defendants had severed in their defence to the action. 1884 *Law Rep.* 26 *Chanc. Div.* 701 Motion made by counsel for the Defendants..for leave to sever in their defences.

b. Of joint tenants: To divide their jointure.

1895 STRAHAN *Law of Property* (1908) 131 When joint tenants for life sever, each takes a tenancy in severalty or in common for his own life in his share.

Severable (se·vərăb'l), *a.* [f. SEVER *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being severed or separated; †distinct, separate. *Severable contract*: see quot. 1848.

1548 GEST *Agst. Pr. Masse* G v b, By Paules doctryne to serue the aultare & to preache be soundrye and seuerable offices and ministeryes. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* s.v. *Apportionment*, Common appendant is of common right and severable. 1652 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1653) 292 Suit by two is not severable. 1828 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 470 A joint estate given to the husband and wife before marriage ..is severable. 1847 C. G. ADDISON *Contracts* II. i. § 1 (1883) 250 The ornamental fixtures now held severable and removable by the tenant are..stoves, tapestry,..and ornamental cornices capable of being detached without injury to the building. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* s.v. *Contract*, A severable contract is one, the consideration of which is, by its terms, susceptible of apportionment on either side, so as to correspond to the unascertained consideration on the other side. 1852 C. WORDSWORTH *Occas. Serm.* Ser. III. 42 Whether secular knowledge can rightly be regarded as severable from religion. 1878 A. MITCHELL *Past in Present*, etc. (1880) 231 A state could not give up its gods, nor could the gods give up a state. The connection was not severable. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 532/1 Two causes of action which are severable and distinct.

Several (se·vərăl), *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb.* Also 4–8 -all, (5 -ell, -ele, *pl.* -alx), 5–6 el(le, alle, (7 -ale); *poet.* 7–8 sev'ral (7 -all). [a. AF. *several* adj. and sb. (whence med.L. *severālis*), ad. med.L. *sēparālis* (neut. sb. *-āle*), f. L. *sēpar* separate, distinct.

Seuerel in Trevisa's translation (1387) of Higden's *Polychronicon* (Rolls) VIII. 49 (MS. St. John's, Camb. H 1) 'seuerel werkes', is an error for *servile*.]

A. *adj.*

I. Existing apart, separate.

†1. Having a position, existence, or status apart; separate, distinct: (*a*) in predicative use. *Obs.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xlvi. 209 So oweste thow, Alexander, to haue v messagers and v consaillours, and euery of tham shall be seuerall [orig. *per se separatus*]. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (ed. Halliw. 1844) 22 The thrydde poynt most be severele, With the prentes knowe hyt wele, Hys maysyter cownsel he kepe and close, And hys felows by his goode purpose. 1539 BIBLE (Great) 2 *Chron.* xxvi. 21 Uzia..dwelt seuerall in an house [1611 in a seueral house] beynge a leper. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 145 Varro doth commend sundry little flocks kept seueral, rather then greate flockes together. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* 109 Many Mahumetans be also found..both seuerall in sundry provinces, and otherwise mingled with idolaters. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. i. 243 Severall are the causes of Favourites falls,..different the degrees and manner of their ruine. 1652 SPARKE *Prim. Devot.* (1660) 553 Mistaking the Son of Alphæus, and St. James the Brother of our Lord, for seueral; which were but one and the same person. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 330 Keeping the Delivery of others Opinions and my own severall. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 334 Then grind or beat them, keeping the Fruit severall, in case you have enough to fill a Vessel of one kind.

(*b*) in attributive use, with *a* and *pl.*

1511 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 79 They haue..seuerall cloysters and seuerall lodgynges, but they kepe all theyr dyuine seruyce in one quere al togyther. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* I. (end) F vij, What soeuer is not answered in this parte, shalbe..fully conuynced in the thyrde, which shall be a seuerall boke agaynst my lorde of Rochestre. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 5 Receaue the oile into a seuerall glasse by it selfe. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 3 If you shoulde aske them, why two men of one name should not both giue one Armes? they will straight answere you, that they be of seuerall houses. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* ii. (1891) 33 In seuerall and lone houses. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 518 The commixture of seuerall sexes, which we call Marriage. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* IV. § 2 (1643) 60 Every scale of an onyon is a severall and differing scale. 1690 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. (end), But so different a state of things requires a several relation. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, From hence we visited St. Spirito and St. Lawrence, faire Churches in severall islands. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *C 1 b, The Reeve, the Miller, and the Cook, are several Men. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 311 It is the custom of Providence to perfect mighty works by a multitude of.. instruments, each performing a small and several part of the whole.

†b. Separate, distinct, or different *from*. *Obs.*

1533 TINDALE *Supper of Lord* Wks. (1573) 467/2 So be we now by Baptisme rekened to bee consigned vnto Christes Church seuerall from Iewes, paynyms, &c. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. xxvi, The thirde likeiamme..hathe his grounde line.., seuerall from the other, but yet equall vnto it. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 373 b, It [penance] is also a seuerall Sacrament from Baptisme. 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewel* iii. 58 Saint Luke.., if that crye of the Lycaonians hade bene in greke, woulde not haue termed it a seuerall language from the greke, as he doth, calling it Lycaonicall. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* xii. 40 Christianity hath vsed many words in seuerall sence from the common phrase. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 But the precept is entire of it selfe, and seuerall from the other before. 1636 *Recorde's Gr. Artes* 302 Either the whole number is seuerall from the Fraction..or else the whole number is ioyned with one, or both of the Fractions.

†c. With reference to function or use: Distinctive, particular. *Obs.*

1564–5 *Form Prayers Genev. & Scot.* (1584) H 8, That the Minister..also vse some forme of prayer..to the which he may appoint some seuerall daye after the Sermon, weekely to be obserued. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* To Rdr. B 3, Vnder the pretense of seuerall deuotion to commit manifold vngodlinesse. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 79 b, Euery one.. doth seruice to all the gods indifferently, no man being clarked or chosen to be the seuerall minister of any one god alone. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 681/2 All men should marke theyr cattell with an open seuerall marke upon theyr flanckes. 1614 CAMDEN *Rem., Armories* 178 The ancient Picts and Britans..adorned their bodies with figures and blazons of diuers colours, which they coniecture to haue bene seuerall for particular families. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 214 There are no seuerall terminations for cases, as in Latine.

†d. Acting separately or individually; having separate responsibility. *Obs.*

1456 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 322 That every person..have his accion of trespas agaynes all manner person or persones of Chester..juncte or severell at his plesyre. 1475 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 312 The payne..to be levid by thofficers and by every of them, juncte and severall.

2. Qualifying a pl. sb.: Individually separate; different.

a. Preceded by an adj. of number or plurality.

1448 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) I. 483 There is due unto him the somme of vij. c. xlij. li...22 by iij. several accomptes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 127 Although diuerse.. learned men haue made one herbe of Thymbra and satureya, yet it is playne..that they are two seuerall herbes. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 42 Two seuerall Iohns, the father and the sonne, that had beene both recusants. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 20 An exact command, Larded with many seuerall sorts of reason. 1617 ABP. ABBOT *Descr. World* (1634) 91 China..containeth in it very many seuerall Kingdomes. 1641 R. BROOKE *Disc. Nat. Epist.* II. iv. 73 The word *Elder*, is used twenty seuerall times in the New Testament. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 70 All these Days entirely spent in many several Voyages. 1800 WORDSW. *Hart-Leap Well* 67 Three several pillars, each a rough-hewn stone. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* I. 3 Three several times astonished.

b. Preceded by the def. article, a possessive, etc.: Each and all of *the*, *these*, †*one's* (etc.) various or different.

1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 279 So that yf thou woldist nat enclyne to her seuerel preyers At Romys request thou sholdist not lette her wille soon to perfourme. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. ii. 78, I doe not like these seuerall Councels. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. vii. 2 Draw aside the curtaines, and discouer The seuerall Caskets to this noble Prince. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 33 Hee had well viewed her seuerall forces. 1681 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.s' Wks. 1727 II. 253 All the several separate Congregations,..will watch one another. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 205 P 2 Besides a great many little Blemishes which you have touched upon in your several other Papers. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 39 In the Compass of my own several Acquaintance. 1794 LD. GRENVILLE in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 64 Your several Dispatches have been duly received and laid before the King. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) II. x. 107 During the several weeks which they spent on the coast of Natolia. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 198 Now combine these several propositions. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 1 It is to the control of the Sun that the several planets are indebted for the regulation of their movements.

c. Without limiting word: A number of different; various, divers, sundry. (Now merged in 4.)

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XLIII. (1555) 212 Whose goodly stories in tongues seuerall About were sent for to be perpetuall. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Almsdeeds* I. 168 b, When seuerall matters are seuerally handeled. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 320, I will this Night, In seuerall Hands, in at his Windowes throw, As if they came from seuerall Citizens, Writings. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 12 Seuerall respects of things, considered alone, and by themselues. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iv. 11 Dates, Almonds, Nuts,..and other severall fruits. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 25 Were they Nature's Workmanship, they could not be so various..in several Men. 1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. i. ii. (1743) 329 It seems to have been built at several times, and by different Persons. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 51 Two or three lenses may be kept, of several focal lengths. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 206 Upper limestone, cavernous, with coral bands in several stages.

d. In legal use: More than one.

1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* I. viii. 15 b, They be set in this writyng for seuerall groundes and he that lysteth may so accompt them, or if he wyll he may take them for one grounde after his pleasure. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* III. i. § 241. 164 They be but one heire, and yet seuerall persons. 1824 STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* 279 The use of several counts, and the allowance of several pleas. 1853 in W. Williams *Introd. Pleading* (1857) 307 Several pleas, replications or subsequent pleadings, or several avowries or cognizances founded on the same ground of answer or defence. *Ibid.*, Several counts on the same cause of action shall not be allowed.

3. Being one of a number of individuals of the same class. a. *Every* or *each several*: every or each individual or single.

a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 112 Under the sealls of every severall unyversitie. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 2 That euery seuerall person, aswell horsemen as footemen should carye a greene bough in his hand. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 108 Ile kisse each seuerall paper, for amends. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 237 The tearing of euery seuerall hayre seemed vnto him the plucking out of so many eyes out of his head. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 193 Without the consent of every several Province. 1823 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* (1879) I vi. 214 Each several person wishes each several cardinal a happy conclave. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* XVIII. (1857) 154 Unless the families said to inhabit Bark's Buildings were hoisted up by the crane attached to each several house. 1861 MANNING in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* Ser. I. (1865) 39 Every several Greek is bound to submit to the Catholic Church, one by one. 1883 PARRY in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 477/2 Any of its elements can be treated as the discordant note, with the result of leading to a different key in each several case.

†b. *A* or *one several*: a single, one and only one. Also *many a several* = many a. *Obs.*

1543 *Necessary Doctr.* F iij, The church of Rome being but a seuerall church, chalenginge that name of Catholyke aboue all other. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* I. 122 b, Why dyd the Apostles immediatly after his ascention, gather them selues together into one seuerall place? 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) Rev. xxi. 21 Every gate was of one several pearle. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 206 These tallents of their heir, ..I haue recean'd from many a seueral faire.

4. As a vague numeral: Of an indefinite (but not large) number exceeding two or three; more than two or three but not very many. (The chief current sense.)

In earlier instances that may be brought under this definition, it is difficult to determine how far the sense of 'different, various' remains; cf. the remarks s.v. DIVERS *a.* 3.

†1562 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 During which times he received several sums of money to the value of 300 *l.* 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 154 The current having forc'd the Ship upon the shore, where we were constrained to stay for several hours. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 276 Nineveh, of length within her wall Several days Journey. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 P 1 When I was at Grand Cairo, I picked up several Oriental Manuscripts. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 65 A thong of several fathoms in length,..with a running noose at one end of it. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 37 Which may be seen by several hundred persons at once. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* iv, Some of the men..remembered..to have seen several strangers on the road.

†b. A good many. *Obs.*

1712 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* 24 Several young Men at the Universities, terribly possessed with the fear of Pedantry, run into a worse Extreme. 1733 RUDDELL *Bee* IV. 341 A French-Celtick, or French-British Dictionary.. useful and curious..for finding the Etymology of several

French and British Words. 1753 L. M. *Accomplished Woman* II. 26 We must not be surpris'd that this passion hath so great influence on the mind of several women.

c. *ellipt.* and *absol.*, esp. followed by *of*. *A good several* (nonce-use): a good many.

1685 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 340 His majestie hath turn'd off severall of his servants, as is said, near 200. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 7 The French are very numerous..over all the Levant, there not being a Port of Turkie upon the Mediterranean sea, wherein there are not several. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Pref., There are still several of these Topicks that are far from being exhausted. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 232 Commerce was the reigning passion of several of the European Princes. 1774 *Chesterfield's Lett. to Son* I. xi. 30 Cicero, the greatest Orator that Rome ever produced; although it produced several [orig. Fr. *plusieurs*]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 605 France contains no workable gold mines; but it presents in several of its rivers auriferous sands. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. v. V. 525 A good several of them cut and wounded. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* iv, While we could get several who were willing enough to ride to Dr. Livesey's.

† 5. Consisting of different elements or parts; of diverse origin or composition. Chiefly *poet.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 26 A heavy load he bare Of nightly stelths, and pillage severall. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cxxvi, How Richard fell, the various Reports Of many writing, make it seuerall; Some say that he was starv'd. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 515 Seventy Messes with three Carts of several Meath [*i. e.* mead = drink] sent after him.

6. *Comb.* (parasynthetic).

1633 SHIRLEY *Triumph Peace* I. i. Stage Direct., Fancy in a suit of several-coloured feathers, hooded, a pair of bat's wings on his shoulders. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 201 There are several fashion'd Collers: As the Joynt-Coller marked G, the Round Coller marked H, and the Coller marked I, in Plate 13. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 181 Seeds nut-like, sometimes cohering into a several-celled putamen. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Poa*, The spikelets..are for the most part several-flowered and without awns. 1882 SYMONDS in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 325 It is a several-chorded lute on which they play. 1882-4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 270 Or even forming transverse, several-celled bands.

II. Pertaining to an individual person or thing.

7. Chiefly *Law.* (Opposed to *common.*) Private; privately owned or occupied.

a. of land, *esp.* of enclosed pasture.

1421 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 33 That þe Trinite gilde haue hur close feldis severell. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 37 þe tythe awȝte to be payed..of pasture, comoun & seuerall. 1483 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 257/1 All the seid XL Acres of Lande..as their proper and severall grounde and soil. 1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 50 Good land that is seuerall, crops may haue three, in champion countrie it may not so bee. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 27 The commons..are inclosed, made seuerall. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. iii. (1623) 42 This ground is best if it be seuerall and inclosed, yet may be bred vpon though it bee open and in common. *a* 1656 VINES *Lord's Supper* (1657) 183 A severall not a common field.

b. Of a house, water, or any possession or commodity. *Obs.* exc. in *several fishery*, a right to fish derived through or on account of ownership of the soil.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2352 Sestow nat how a comoun welle Mor avaylleth..Than doth A-nother seuerel? *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. angle* (1883) 35 That ye fysshe not in noo poore mannes seuerall water. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 401 The abbesse of Godestowe..yaf..to henry kyngeston and to william more, Fysshers, ther seuerell fysshwere in the subarbis of Oxenford that is I-called Charwelle. *a* 1547 T. KEY *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 35-43 This thyng dyd Iesus then in a nother mannes seuerall house. 1618 DALTON *Countrey Justice* ciii. (1630) 263 To take fishes that be kept in a trunke or severall pond. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 39 He that has a several fishery must also be the owner of the soil. 1842 *Act* 5 & 6 *Vict.* c. 106 § 114 The Words 'several Fishery' shall, for the Purposes of this Act, be construed to mean an exclusive Fishery, possessed and enjoyed as such by virtue of Grant, Patent [etc.]. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.*, c. 79 § 3 A right of several fishery or of regulating a fishery shall not exceed sixty years.

† c. Const. *to*, also *by*, *for* (the possessor); esp. *to himself* (etc.). *Obs.*

1423 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 47 The tenement..schal-be seuerall to þe priour of Couentre. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 284 The olyue that growyth in gardyns is seueral to the owners. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 18 He that hath a falowe felde, seuerał to hym-selfe. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 101 Here..euerye man hath hys possessyons seuerall to hymselfe, and there all thinges be common. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 83 Euery one of the old monkes had his Carrell seuerall by him selfe. 1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* 112 The Jews have not for their mansion any peculiar countrey;..neither have they..any other region in the world, several to themselves.

d. *fig.* and *allusively.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 207 The bastyle. longith of verray dewe ryght, To fals bakerys it is trewe herytage, Severelle to them. 1526 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v. (*c* 1550) 24 b, The lyght of Christes gospell may not bee hidden nor made a seuerall thinge, as though it parteyned to some certayne holy parsons onelye. 1569 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. lv. 558 Many of your Disordered..Wives are much agrieved that Priests, which were wont to be Common, be now made Several. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 223 *La.* My lips are no Common, though seuerall they be. *Bo.* Belonging to whom? *La.* To my fortunes and me. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* CXXXVII, Why should my heart thinke that a seuerall plot, Which my heart knows the wide worlds common place? 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 303 So enuious is our nature, and so gladly would we make seuerall Gods common fauours.

8. Belonging, attributed, or assigned distributively to certain individuals referred to; different for each respectively. a. Preceded by a possessive (or its equivalent) referring usually to a collective or distributive adj. or pron.; (*a*) qualifying a pl. sb.

1457 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 85 Bothe my lord and we haue now late writen vnto you diuers times our seueralx lettres of especial Recommendation. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 51 As to the body, there are many members, seruing to seuerall vses. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 285 Now I will set downe the divers moneys of Germany, with the severall values of them. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. xxxix, Bid each kinde their severall places fill. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 714 Swift to thir several Quarters hasted then The cumbrous Elements, Earth, Flood, Aire, Fire. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 118 Moses and our Saviour Christ himself; both of them in their several times, the meekest persons upon the earth. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVIII. They embraced accordingly, and departed on their several roads. *a* 1842 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. xliv. 175 The officers for the year being thus appointed, it remained to determine their several provinces. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 149 The Acharnians..did not attempt any united action, but guarded their several districts.

(*b*) qualifying a sing. sb.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 33 They are to be sowed in tyme and place as I haue tolde before, in my seuerall entreatyng of them. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* V. iii. 29 Good morrow masters, each his seuerall way. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* XXVI, Each fetter'd Ghost slips to his severall grave. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* viii, All in a shipwrack shift their severall way. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Ruin'd Abbey* 18 Ambitious to display Their several merit. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* I. 161 While each pursues his several road. 1866 LOWELL *Study Wind., Swinburne* (1870) 214 Each was natural in his several way. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 4 But most of them, avoiding classification, keep each his several tender significance.

b. Preceded by the indef. article. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1526 TINDALE I *Cor.* XV. 38 To every seed a severall body. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 102 To euery dish a seuerall sawce appropriat to his kinde. 1634 FORD *Perkin Warbeck* Epil., Here ha's appear'd, though in a severall fashion, The Threats of Majestie; the strength of passion; Hopes of an Empire; change of fortunes. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* III. (1636) 83, I finde added to the end of every Psalme a severall Prayer. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. ii. (Arb.) 77, I see, Sir, you have a several design for every Scene. 1707 CIBBER *Com. Lovers* IV. Stage Direct., Florimel and Celadon walk carelessly by one another, humming a several Tune. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 237 Each individual seeks a sev'ral goal. 1879 J. EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 3) 193 To observe the distinction..by a several [*ed.* 1871 distinct] orthography, writing the interjection *wo*, and the substantive *woe*.

† (*b*) *ellipt. Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xliii. 127 Opinions are as various, as false. Iudgement is from every tongue, a severall. 1651 HOBBES *Gov. & Soc.* vi. § 1. 86 In neither sense can a multitude be understood to have one will given to it by nature, but to either a severall. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivʼd* 182 Within these Ovals do grow Saffron, Anniseed, Carroway, and Coriander-seed in each Plot a several.

† c. Preceded by other limiting words. *Obs.*

1614 TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* III. E 1 b, Search through the guts of greatnes, and behold What seueral sin best pleas'd them. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 131 He repeated the Several, and Distinct discourse every man had made.

d. Not preceded by a limiting word, and qualifying a sing. or pl. sb. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. xi. R iv, To teach seuerall rules for euery sorte it were ouer tediouse. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1428/1 My lord gaue to them seuerall thanks, and they seuerallie did giue to him the like. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* xxxvii, How happy are all other liuing Things, Which though the Day dis-ioyne by seu'rall flight, The quiet Eu'ning yet together brings. 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devil* 2 Every one shewed him severall kindness. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 610 This said, they betook them several wayes. *Ibid.* 650 The Creator calling forth by name His mightie Angels gave them several charge. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 166 A mightier Pow'r the strong direction sends, And sev'ral Men impels to sev'ral ends. 1838 WORDSW. '*Serving no haughty Muse*' 4 My hands have here Disposed some cultured Flowerets..Each kind in several beds of one parterre.

9. *Law.* (Opposed to *joint.*) Pertaining separately to each of the tenants of an estate, parties to a bond or suit, etc. Of inheritance, tail: By which land is conveyed or entailed to two persons separately by moieties. Of an obligation to which several are parties: Enforceable against each of the parties independently of the others. *Several tenancy*: see quot. 1607.

1532 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. xxx. 64 That writte lyeth where two presente by seuerall tytles. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 67 Tenauntes in comon be they that haue landes and tenementes..by seueral tytle, and nat ioynt tytle, and none of them knowe that, that is seuerall to him. [1582 KITCHIN *Court Leet* 198 Cestuy que plede seueral tenancy.] 1607 COWEL *Interpr., Several tenancie* (*tenura separalis*) is a plee, or exception taken to a writ, that is laide against two as ioynt, which are seuerall. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 189 Joyntenants haue the Lands by one ioynt Title, and in one Right, & Tenants in common by seuerall Titles, or by one Title, and by seuerall Rights. 1684 MANLEY *Cowel's Interpr., Several tayle*, is that whereby Land is given or entayled severally to Two: For example Land is given to two Men and their Wives, and to the Heirs of their Bodies begotten; the Donees have joynt Estate for their two Lives, and yet they have several Inheritance. 1821 ARCHBOLD *Digest* 307 If several tenancy be pleaded to parcel, the tenant must also plead over to the action or vouch. 1826 G. J. BELL *Comm. Laww Scot.* (ed. 5) I. 346 *note*, A bill drawn abroad, without the words jointly and severally, settled to be joint and several on a report of mercantile usage. 1847 C. G. ADDISON *Law of Contracts* I. i. § 2 (1883) 38 Wherever several persons agree to perform a particular act, they are bound jointly and not severally in the absence of express words creating a several liability. 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 732/2 The general rule of law is, that a contract of several persons is joint and not several.

† 10. *Logic.* Used as designation of the minor proposition: see MINOR *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logic* F viij, The seconde is called *Minor*, that is to saie, the seuerall proposicion. *Ibid.*, The second terme is called the seuerall, whiche is in the second proposicion. *Ibid.* G j, The terme at large, is in the first proposicion, and the terme seuerall, is in the second proposicion.

† B. *adv.* = SEVERALLY *adv.*; separately, apart; distinctly, differently; each in his own place, way, turn, etc. *Obs.*

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. v. (1895) 157 Euerye kynde of thynge is layde vp seuerall in barnes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* VI. 78 They al pourged them selves every man several [orig. L. *separatim*]. 1576 G. BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 228 b, These beaten seuerall and apart, and compounded after altogether,..keepe to your use. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 10 Both tooke goodly leane, and parted seuerall. *c* 1615 W. GORDON in Purchas *Pilgrims* III. iii. xii. 555 Foure or fiue Wiues, with whom he lyeth by turn euery night seueral. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 697 Hee together calls, Or seueral one by one, the Regent Powers. *a* 1777 *Robin Hood & Golden Arrow* xiii. in Child *Ballads* III. 224/1 We'll dress us all so several They shall not us perceive. One shall wear white, another red [etc.].

C. *sb.*

1. In several [AF. *en several*]: † a. Of land, pasture: As private property; in private hands, under separate ownership, not common. *Obs.*

1473 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 27/1 þe landis of Wistoune pertening to him in seuerale & propirte. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 145 More profit is quieter found (where pastures in seuerall bee:) Of one seelie aker of ground, than champion maketh of three. [1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 13 Their workes, both Streame and Load, lie either in seuerall, or in wastrell, that is, in enclosed grounds, or in commons.] 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 24/1 Where the Lands lie in several, and are duly cultivated, it answereth to the former character. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 204 Good store of Pasture, either in several or common.

b. Separately, individually; apart from others or the rest; as a separate member, unit, etc. Now *rare.*

To know one's part in several (Law): see 2 c.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1595) 47 As touching these particularities which wee haue tearmed Motions and affects let vs consider if you wil in seuerall, and see [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxxiii. I. 149 Now are we to compare respectively the greatnes of each part of the world in severall. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 11 Concerning their members or parts in seueral, they are black and hairy,..a long Dogges face, and teeth stronger and longer then Dogges. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 320 They all, will fight in seuerall then, (Easie for note). 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 3/1 So it retained that name [Asia] to it self in several, distinct both from the Greater and the Lesser Asia. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 160 *note*, Nescience and ignorance, when referred to souls in several, are only fractional portions of illusion.

† c. Divided into separate portions. *Obs.*

1652 W. BROUGH *Sacred Princ.* (ed. 2) 28 If thou wouldest have a reason, why these Prayers are so short, and in severall, which use to make a long one, all put together.

2. Land in private ownership or over which a person has a particular right; chiefly in particularized use, a plot of such land; *esp.* enclosed pasture land, as opposed to common. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see quots. 1787, 1895).

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 139 Thabbot and Couent..purposenne.. to close all þe forsayde ffelde of le heth and lynlonde as here seuerell. 1473 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 27/1 Quhethir þe said land..has been broukit..be þe saide Johne of carmichell.. as propirte & seuerale til him. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 7 The lorde may haue an actyon of Trespace agaynst any man that chaceth or kylleth any of theym in his commen as well as in his seuerall. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Sheep* (1627) 229 They haue no seuerals to put their lambs in when they should bee weaned. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiii. 409 He counts to enter common with others as good as his own seuerall. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 15 A Farm divided into many Severals. 1787 MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 378 *Dole*, or *Several*, a piece of land upon a heath or common, off which only one particular person hath a right to cut fuel. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Several*, a portion of common land allotted to a certain person.

† b. *gen.* Private property or possession. *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. A ij, When no man claimed aught for his seueralle, but lande and water ware as commune to al, as Ayer and Skie. 1616 CHAPMAN *Homer's Hymn Apollo* 734 No more Yee must be made, your owne Reciprocalls To your lou'd Cittie, and faire seueralls Of wines, and houses. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* (1640) 89 Truth lyes open to all; it is no mans severall. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. i. 242 Some are so boysterous, no severals will hold them, but lay all Offices common to their power.

† c. *To know one's several* [AF. *savoir son several*]: see quots. *Obs.*

[1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 None of them [joynt tenauntes] by the lawe..maye knowe their severall partes or porcions in the same. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 67 Which haue suche landes & tenementes by seueral tytle, and nat ioynt tytle, and none of them knowe that, that is seuerall to him. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 292 Their occupation is indeuided, and neyther of them knoweth his part in seuerall.]

1598 *Termes de la Ley* § 267 Though two tenants in common be seised throughly & of the whole and none knoweth hys seuerał, yet if one die the other shall not haue the whole by ye suruiuor. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 292 None of them [tenants in common] know of this his seuerall.

transf. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. viii. (1640) 54 The deluge of the Saracens tyranny had washed away the bounds of the Churches jurisdictions, that now they knew not their own severals, where Mahometanisme so long had made all common and waste.

3. *pl.* †**a.** Particular or individual points, parts, or qualities; particulars, details. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 86 There was not time enough to heare..The seuerails and vnhidden passages Of his true Titles to some certaine Dukedomes. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 180 All our abilities, gifts, natures, shapes, Seuerals and generals of grace. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xii. 32 No man can leaue his Successor rules for seuerals. 1673 *Ladies Cal.* I. i. § 7 This will be found true in all the severals we are to pass thro. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Matt. vi. 13 In this comprehensive and compendious prayer, the following severals are remarkable.

(*b*) *rarely* in *sing.*

1606 HIERON *Truths Purchase* 65 This is the first thing which I will..commend as a direction, for the meaner sort, (who cannot enter into the examination of every seuerall). 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), A *Several*, a Particular.

†**b.** Different parts, branches, or heads. *Obs.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xix. (1640) 260 Herein we branch our opinion into these severals. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 26 Make Infallibility minced (as I may terme it) into severalls, and private Interpretation the Canon of our owne and other mens beleife. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. considered* iii. 39 This [general charge] will appear to be most untrue in the severalls, by him mentioned, when we shall come to them.

†**c.** Individual persons or things. *Obs.*

1621 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 226 Not noted, is't, But of the finer Natures? by some Seueralls Of Head-peece extraordinarie? 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. § 3 (1686) 73 Besides these general acts of Chastity which are common to all states of men and women, there are some few things proper to the severals.

d. Several persons or things; = A. b. (Cf. *others*.) *Sc., Irish*, and *U.S.*

1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 106 He spoak with severalls that were com in. 1693 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* I. iii. § 5 (ed. 2) 21 They remain only as bonds upon the good-will and honesty of these who are thereby bound, of which there are severals. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 58 Itt was knowne to severalls aboutt the Court what my concerne in him was. 1711 *Countrey-Man's Lett. to Curate* 70 In all the Impressions of the Genevan Liturgie that ever I saw, and I have seen severals, there is a Table for the Moveable Feasts. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 155 They..were acquented with severalls of the great folks. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Severals*, for *several*, is used in Pennsylvania. 'How many hats have you?' 'I used to have severals, but now have got only one.' 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Sk. Ain Folk* (1882) 121 Severals o' them wud lickly be cautioners or hae len't sooms till 'im. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v., Severals told me about it.

†**4.** ? A partition or boundary. *Obs.*

[Possibly another word, f. SEVER *v.* + -AL.]

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xiv, [The Jews] had..their seuerall for the Priests, and for the high Priest alone their seuerall. Their being in ours for locall distinction betwene the Clergie and the rest..but one partition. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) III. 55 High stiles troublesome to be clambred over. But the owners grudge not the pains in climbing them sensible that such severals redound much to their own advantage.

†Several, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SEVERAL *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make (a field) 'several' or enclosed and private property.

1482 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 310 My lorde Priour severels the Brodwok wast. *Ibid.* 511 The Maister of þe Trinite Gilde severels a feld in Stychall-hiron calde Miry-felde. 1577-87 HARRISON *England* I. x. 36 in *Holinshed*, The people of this Ile vsed not to seuerall their grounds. 1794 W. PEARCE *Agric. Berks.* 49 The advantage resulting from inclosing, or at least severalling common fields, is so very obvious.

2. To divide or break up into separate parts or branches.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j b, Our Seuerallyng, distinctyng, and Numbryng, createth nothyng: but of Multitude considered, maketh..distinct determination. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 55 Wee will severall the story into her branches.

Se·veral-fold, *a., adv.*, and *sb. rare.* [f. SEVERAL *a.* + -FOLD.] Used like MANIFOLD, but with the implication of not very many.

1738 MEDLEY tr. *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* (ed. 2) I. 194 Some of the grown Women have above a Hundred of those Rings upon each Leg, lying several-fold one upon another. 1833 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Cagliostro* I. (1872) V. 79 As for the other question, of his resources, these we perceive were several-fold, and continually extending. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 33 In P[eperomia] magnoliifolia and rubella, it [the epidermis] exceeds several-fold the rest of the substance of the leaf, and in P. pereskiifolia it exceeds it seven-fold. 1892 *Advance* (Chicago) 13 Oct., There is a growing interest in the cause, and..we may look for an increase of severalfold.

Severality (sevĕræ·lĭti). *rare.* [f. SEVERAL *a.* + -ITY. Cf. the earlier SEVERALTY.]

1. *pl.* Individual or particular points, matters, or objects.

1562 [see SEVERALTY 4]. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* IV. v. (1654) 332 All the severalities of the degrees prohibited run still upon the male. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 359 He..Packs up his severalities. 1843 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Carlyle* Wks. (Bohn) III. 315 And no such glaring contrasts or severalities in that or this.

†**2.** Separateness, distinctness. *Obs.*

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 9 Multiplicity of parts, diversity of figures, severality of functions.

3. *In severality*: separately, singly, each by itself.

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 31 Reckoning up the Parts of Structures in Severality. 1836 J. ABBOTT *Way to do Good* ix. 284 The objects, though..trifling when regarded in severality and detail rise to..importance when we consider their fast aggregation.

Se·veralize, *v. rare.* [See -IZE.] *trans.* To separate or distinguish (*from*). Cf. SEVERIZE *v.*

1645 BP. HALL *Peace-maker* i. § 3. 14 There is one and the same Church of Christ, however farre disterminate in places, however segregated and infinitely severallized in persons. 1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Epist.* vi. § 17. 85 The properties of the Severalized distinguishing or separating will [orig. *die Eigenschafften des schiedlichen Willens*]. 1852 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 284 Its epithet visuddha, 'pure', is intended to severalize it from 'modificational cognition'.

Severall: see SEVERAL and SEVERON.

Severally (se·vĕrăli), *adv.* [f. SEVERAL *a.* + -LY².]

1. Separately, individually; each of a number of persons or things by himself or itself; each successively or in turn.

(*a*) with distributive adj. or pron.

1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 451/1 The Answeres of certeins Lordes..ware herd, iche man severallyche by hymself. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* Wks. (1573) 13/2 Let us see how he aunswereth the argument, and seuerally examine euery part. 1549 *Form Consecr. Archbishops*, etc. rubric, The Bisshop with the Priestes presente shall laye their handes seuerally vpon the heade of euery one that receaueth orders. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* XVI. 228 b, He had spoken with eyther of them severally. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 2 In speaking vnto euery communicant seuerally. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *C, All his Pilgrims are severally distinguish'd from each other. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* XXX, He turned severally to each for their opinion. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* v. (1873) 39, I take it for granted that every intelligent man, woman, and child..has stood severally and respectively in Little Russell Street.

(*b*) referring to plural subject or object.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 101 It nedys noght þat a kyng aske conseyll of vs, of any of his pryue doynges, But þat he aske seuerally of some his conseill. 1456 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 286 Endentures seuerally made be-twix the seyde Mayre & the Collectours. 1528 MORE *Dial. Heresies* III. iii. Wks. 209/2 Whan thei be wisely & seuerally examined, thei can seldome so well make their tale before, but that their vntrouth shall in some parte appere. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. xxxiii. 133 Yet heere and there they seu'rally withdrew. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 33 We must needs try them severally. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, Receiving the mute salutations of the members of the council whom he had severally addressed. 1890 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 31 Dec. 5/7 My own inability to acknowledge severally the gifts..which have reached..me. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 33 We severally think with a mind which is more or less in harmony with a universal mind.

b. In legal language, opposed to *jointly*.

1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 140/1 An action of trespasse ayenst such takers and ayenst all thaym, to whom the possession..comes..joyntly or severally. 1474 *Ibid.* VI. 115/2 That the same Shires..stond and be severally chargeable and charged of the same men Archers. 1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* (1870) I. 104 To proceed jointly or severally with your grace. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* § 296 In this case of the two Abbots in respect of their seuerall capacities, albeit the words be ioynt, yet the Law doth adiudge them to be seuerally seised. 1652 tr. *Fitzherbert's Nat. Brevium* 38 Whether they shall recover severally damages upon that joynt count, it is a doubt. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* III. 396 In Correality each creditor is *severally* entitled to receive, and each debtor is *severally* bound to discharge, the whole Object of the obligation. *a* 1887 J. GRANT *Royal Highlanders* 19 Holcroft would in some way or other bring trouble upon them conjunctly or severally.

(*b*) *Jointly* (Sc. *conjunctly*) *and severally.*

1454 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 261 Be it kende til al men me Edwarde of þe Vesthale til haf maide [the several persons named] coniunctly and seuerly my ful procuratoris. 1467 *Godstow Reg.* 347 They made..Iohn Baywell and Symond Turnere..there trew and lawfull attorneyes, ioyntly and severally, to entre and delyver in ther name. 1554 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 1 That thay, and ilk ane of thaim, conjunctlie and severalie, suld lelelie and trewlie minister in the said office of curatry. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 117 The quhilk to do we commit to you, coniunctlie and severallie, our full power, be this our precept. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xii. II. 193 A devise to two persons, to hold jointly and severally, is a joint-tenancy. 1826 G. J. BELL *Comm. Laws Scot.* (ed. 5) I. 346 If the co-obligants be bound jointly and severally, any one may be taken for the whole debt. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Conjunctly*, When two or more persons are bound conjunctly and severally to perform an obligation, they are liable *singuli in solidum*, and it is in the option of the creditor to exact performance, either from each of them proportionally, or to enforce the obligation to the full extent against any one of them, leaving him to seek his relief from the rest.

†**c.** Preceded by numeral adv.: On two (etc.) separate occasions. *Obs.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 121 Twise severally summoned to appeare before the great Gods.

2. Apart from others or from the rest; not together or in a company; independently. *arch.*

1530 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1541) 104 The thyrde state was of the base people or communers to whom seuerally should not be committed any authoritee. 1548 GRETE *Agst. Priv. Masse* L j, In the pryuate masse where the priest seuerally all alone hath hys loofe & eateth it alone. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccles. Hist., Euseb.* II. xvii. (1663) 29 They assembled together, severally men, and severally women. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* I. 25 Take knot grasse and shepheards purse, and plantaine, and stampe them seuerally. 1630 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 55 These Christians live severally by themselves without any mixture of Mahometans or Pagans. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. xxxii, Two angles (taken severally, or together). 1709 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Rom. xi. 6) (1726) II. 256 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob..to whom the Promise of the Blessed Seed was severally made. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 9 A great variety of oaks stood, now severally, now in a becoming grove, among the fields.

const. *from.* 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xi. 102 [The King is] not to be consider'd severally from them [the Parliament]. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 99 It is the same as concerns the experience of cognition, or the like, considered severally from its experience.

†**b.** Specially, particularly. *Obs. rare.*

c 1610 *Women Saints* 70 The place cutt for the head seuerallie was made so iust for her head as could be deuised.

3. Respectively.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 b, Grecians and Geneuoises, and..Iewes..seuerally haue one streete to dwell in. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* I. x, They stick severally to their own species in preference to all others. 1827 C. WORDSWORTH *Chas. I* (1828) 2 The parts which I and they have severally taken are openly justified. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 33 The great benefits which mankind would obtain from their severally doing the things which they knew. 1909 *Athenæum* 20 Mar. 345/1 'The Constitution is saved.' 'A Commission is needed at once.' So say severally the very old and the very young amongst our legislators.

†**4.** Differently, variously. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. i. § 3 To deliuer it [*sc.* learning] from the discredites and disgraces which it hath receiued; all from ignorance; but ignorance seuerally disguised. 1625 — *Ess., Of Building* (Arb.) 549, I vnderstand both these Sides..to be vniforme without, though severally Partitioned within. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xciii. 271 There are, and that seuerally, that be much troubled with the disease of speaking. *a* 1644 CHILLINGWORTH *Serm.* ii. § 42 How severally Satan plants his Engines for the subversion of the Church.

Severalty (se·vĕrălti). [a. AF. *severalte, -aute*: see SEVERAL *a.* and -TY.]

1. The condition of being separate or distinct; separateness, distinctness, independence.

1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. x. 50 3it herfore tho craftis in thilk man ben not the lasse dyuerse, ne neuer the lasse kepen her seueralte in boundis and markis as in hem silf. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiv. 16 Insatiable covetousnes and ambition breaketh whatsoever severaltie [*quicquid distinctionis*] is made in the world. 1648 BP. HALL *Select Th.* 269 He singles them out in a familiar kinde of severalty both of knowledg and respect. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 37 A respective severalty, that each Nation should operate separately..in cases peculiar to their severall interests. 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 21 The several societies of Christian men, unto every of which the name of a Church is given, with addition betokening severalty, as the Church of Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, England. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. x. III. 92 The original severalty and subsequent consolidation of the different portions of Attica. 1849 *Ibid.* II. xxxviii. V. 8 The discordant severalty of agents conspicuous in the Homeric theology. *a* 1882 T. H. GREEN *Prolog. Ethics* (1883) 31 Something other than the manifold things themselves which combines them without effacing their severalty.

2. In **severalty** [AF. *en severalte*]. **a.** *Law.* Of land: (Held) in a person's own right without being joined in interest with another (opposed to joint-tenancy, coparcenary, and tenancy-in-common); (held) as private enclosed property (opposed to common).

To know in severalty: = 'to know one's several': see SEVERAL C. 2 c.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3640 Thi land shal be..Parted in partes ..Neuer to-geders hold in seueralte. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 447 He kepeth diuerse pastures in seueralte, which owen to be comen. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 2 And than is nat an acre so moche worthe as & it were in seueralty inclosed or in seuerall pasture. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 § 3 The same in three partes to be divided in certainety and by speciall divisions as it may be knowen in severaltie. 1581 W. S. *Compend. Exam.* 18 b, Tenaunts in common be not so good husbandes as when euery man hath his parte in seuerally. 1653 tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (ed. 2) 476 They are Tenants in severalty. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 185 If two joint-tenants agree to part their lands, and hold them in severalty, they are no longer joint-tenants. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 102 Coarse moor-land, lying in severalty. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 329 Not in the nature of dower, that is, in severalty, but in common with the heir. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Instit.* iv. 101 The arable lands are held in severalty, while pasture and bog are in common. 1895 STRAHAN *Law of Property* (1908) 132 By partition is meant the dividing up of the joint estate among the joint tenants, who henceforth hold their individual shares in severalty.

(*b*) Const. *to* or *for* (the possessor).

1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Yt shalbe leafull to your said besecher [etc.]..to enclose the said olde Waye.. and that frohensforthe to holde in Severaltie to them and to their Heires and Assignes to their owne use and profitt for ever..without any comon Waye or passage ther. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. 44 Every one..should..take as much ground in severalty for his own inheritance, as he could overcome.

b. Separately, apart from others, particularly.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Logike* II. iii. 89 b, If the same Logicall Doctor..should affirme the same of all the other kindes of causes specially and in seueralty. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* I. 64 Hauing considered the precedent Appertions or Ouertures, in seueraltie according to their particular Requisites. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 240 That all should enjoy the produce of their skill and industry in severalty, without interruption from others. 1893 TRAILL *Soc. Eng.* Introd. 17 It has seemed best to treat of each great department of our social life in severalty.

c. In or into several divisions or parts.

1824 J. DAVISON *Disc. Prophecy* vi. III. 388 Polytheism divided the world, and its own creed, in severalty; it set up its deities over particular regions. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* viii. § 12. 304 One group of these traditions..which when associated compose a nebula, appears before us in severalty, divided between the three individualities of Artemis, Persephonê, and Aphrodite.

3. Land held by an individual not joined with

other owners. Also, the condition of land so held; a state of being owned by individuals.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a ij, Which was when..ground sold were to be layd out: or (when disorder preuailed) that Commons were distributed into seueralties. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xii. II. 194 Estates in common can only be dissolved two ways: 1. By uniting all the titles and interests in one tenant..which brings the whole to one severalty: 2. By making partition between the several tenants in common, which gives them all respective severalties. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 400 Reducing all common and intermixed possessions into severalty. 1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Shetld.* 179 Till land is placed in a state of severalty, . inclosures are seldom erected in any country. 1844 *Mim. Evid. Sel. Comm. Commons' Inclosure* 27 It often happens that in these shifting severalties the occupier of lot one this year goes round the whole of the several lots in rotation. 1862 MERIVALE in *Macm. Mag.* July 265 Not inclosed from the waste, but merely converted from 'common field' into severalty.

b. *attrib.*

1844 *Mim. Evid. Sel. Comm. Commons' Inclosure* 27 After the crop has been removed, these lands become commonable to all the parties having a severalty right, and to no others. *Ibid.*, The severalty crop. *Ibid.*, Circumstances under which the severalty ownership of these lands shifts from time to time. 1892 *Pall Mall Gas.* 30 May 6/2 A private arrangement between the lord, the severalty owners, and the owners of lammas rights.

†**4.** A separate, distinct, or particular thing, point, feature, etc. *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xiii. 37 Lette it not come in our myndes ones to imagine suche a Trinitie of Persons as may hold our thought withdrawen into seueralties [ed. 1562 seueralities]. 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VIII. vii. tr. *Vives* 309 The first apprehensions..nature hath giuen man, whence the knowledge of many great seueralties arise [*vnde rerum multarum magnarumque oritur cognitio*]. 1637 HEYLIN *Answ. Burton* 163 These are the seueralties contained in that generall head; and they relate either to preaching or to praying. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. vii. 124 Here is a manifest distinction betwixt the Pastor or Bishop, and those of his charge; and they are described by the seueralties of their estates. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Narr. Fire in London* 17 Many other Authors have given us seueralties which summed up together, makes out such secret policies.

5. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Severalty,* the denomination under which disagreements respecting accounts amongst the part-owners of a ship are referred, either to equity courts, or the common law.

Severance (se·vĕrăns). [a. AF. *severance,* OF. *sevrance,* f. *sevr-er*: see SEVER *v.* and -ANCE.]

1. The act or fact of severing; the state of being severed; separation.

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 574/1 Severaunces from Shires, and makyng of Shires by theymself. 1491 *Act* 7 *Hen. VII,* c. 12 § 1 To preserve the possessions of the Crown hoolly and entierly without any severaunce or decreasing therof. 1565 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 16 § 2 The w^ch sayd seveirance and Devision of the sayd proffers shalbe entred of Recorde. 1602 CAREW *Cornw.* II. 152 These 2. riuers..doe enclose betweene them..a neck of land..in regard of his fruitfulnesse, not vnworthy of a seuerance. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 66 This measure..gives me serious apprehensions of the severance of the eastern and western parts of our confederacy. 1787 J. BARLOW *Oration* 4 *July* 8 Our severance from the British empire. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 501 A meeting..after this first severance. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xxxiii. 474 The sea again stole in between our islands and the Continent, until a final severance was effected. 1875 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* Pref. 34 Their religion involved severance from Rome. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 81 He..kissed her with more warmth of feeling than he had ever shown after so short a severance. 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Br.* iv. 91 There is no real severance of the lobes.

b. const. *between* (two or more objects). †For merly, a distinction or difference *between*.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 180 Mekenesse is the Seuerance and the difference betwene a kynge and a tyraunt. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 311 For, thocht I say it my self, the seuerance wes mekle, Betuix his bastard blude, and my birth noble. *c* 1642 *Contra-Replicant's Compl.* 28 The Law itself makes ever a distinction betwixt the King and his agents: though our Replicant will not allow any such severance. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 665/1 Now more than at any former time there was a severance between religion and philosophy. 1851 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. xlviii. 32 To draw in practice those lines of severance between truth and falsehood. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 59 The temporary severance between Rome and both Asiatic and African Churches. 1883 CHALMERS & HOUGH *Bankruptcy Act* Introd. 9 A severance is made between judicial and administrative functions. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 148/2 The severance between the Parliament and the country is complete.

2. *Law.* **a.** The division of a joint estate into independent parts; the destruction of the unity of interest in a joint estate.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII,* c. 1 § 1 Forasmuche as..diverse of the Kinges Subjectes being seised of Mannors landes [etc.] as joynt tenauntes..cannot..make any severans division or partition thereof, without either of their mutuall consentes and assentes. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 192 If two Joyntenaunts be, and one maketh a Lease, this is a seuerance of the joynture. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 185 Joint-tenants being seised *per my et per tout,* every thing that tends to narrow that interest..is a severance or destruction of the jointure. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 501 A mortgage by a joint tenant, for a term of years, will operate as a severance of the joint tenancy. 1895 STRAHAN *Law of Property* (1908) 89 The severance of the reversion.., that is, the dividing between two or more of the estate in reversion. *Ibid.* 134 Severance of joint tenancies in land may also be brought about by merger.

b. The detaching of fruit, minerals, fixtures, etc. from the soil or realty.

1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 38 After the sowing and before the seuerance [of the corn]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 55 b, Seuerance or remouing of the corne. 1684 MANLEY *Cowel's Interpr.* s.v., Severance of Corn is the cutting and carrying it off from the ground, and sometimes the setting out the Tythe from the rest of the Corn is called Severance. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 232 Of things..that adhere to the freehold, as corn, grass, trees, and the like, or lead upon a house, no larciny could be committed by the rules of the common law; but the severance of them was, and in many things is still, merely a trespass. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1208 The right to tithes accrues immediately on the severance. 1911 ODGERS *Common Law* II. 700 When things annexed to the freehold are sold in contemplation of an immediate severance.

c. The separation of two or more parties that are joined in a writ, as when one is nonsuited and the other is allowed to proceed in the action. Also, 'the putting in several or separate pleas or answers by two or more disjointly' (Bouvier).

1607 COWEL *Interpr.*, *Severance* is the singling of two or more, that ioyne in one writ, or are ioyned in one writ. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 139 If two be Plaintifes in a *Natiuo habendo,* if one be nonsuit this is the Nonsuite of both, and no sommons and seuerance doth lie in that case. *Ibid.* 139 b, *Note,* Seuerance is twofold, *viz.* by Sommons *ad sequendum simul,* and that is when one of the Demandants or Plaintifes neuer appeared; and by award of the Court of Nonsuit without any sommons, and that is after appearance. 1684 MANLEY *Cowel's Interpr.* s.v., Severance in Debt [is] where two, or more, Executors are named Plaintiffs, and the one refuses to prosecute. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* I. vi. 110 It is the less unreasonable that the Part of him not proceeding should be divided with the rest in this Case, because he does not by the Severance absolutely cease to be Party to the Record. 1824 STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* 270 Where in respect of several subjects or several defendants, a severance has thus taken place in the pleading, this may..lead to a corresponding severance in the whole subsequent series.

Severane, obs. form of SOVEREIGN.

Severans, -ant: see SEVERON.

†**Severat(e,** *a. Obs.* Altered form of SEPARATE *a.*, after *sever.* Hence †**Severatly** *adv.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. vii. 127 He tooke vs seueratly as we rode on oure auentures. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Right Use Ch.* II. D d j, When euery man and woman in seuerate [*edd.* 1567–71 seuerat, *later edd.* seuerall] pretence of deuotyon prayeth priuately.

Severation (sevəre·ʃən). *rare.* [f. SEVER *v.* + -ATION.] Separation, severance.

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Epist.* vi. § 60 The humane Science..may in that same light see, not onely it selfe, but likewise all other naturall things according to the severation of the Word. 1654 [ELLISTONE & SPARROW] tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* iv. 12 Now we are to consider of the Severation in the fire. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 27 Michaux deemed it sufficiently at variance with that genus in its fruit, to justify a severation. 1852 W. JERDAN *Autobiog.* II. 282 The last severation of all human ties.

Severe (sĭvī·ə), *a.* Also 6 sever, *Sc.* seveir(e, (7 seveere, seveare). [a. F. *sévère* or ad. L. *severus.* Cf. It., Sp., Pg. *severo.*]

I. Rigorous in condemnation or punishment.

1. Of persons, their temper, disposition, etc.: Rigorous in one's treatment of, or attitude towards, offenders; unsparing in the exaction of penalty; not inclined to indulgence or leniency.

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Asper,..*rude, seuere, rigorous. *Ibid., Austerus,..*cruelle, austere, seuere. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* XV. 197 b, In a steade of a gentle and mercifull Prince, you shall haue a seuere executour of iustice. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 47 One of the greatest benefites, that euer God gaue me, is, that he sent me so sharpe and seuere Parentes, and so ientle a scholemaster. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 276 He who the sword of Heauen will beare, Should be as holy, as seueare. 1611 BIBLE *Wisd.* v. 20 His seuere wrath shall he sharpen for a sword. 1611 HEYWOOD *Golden Age* I. i, Why should not I proue as seuere a mother As he a cruell father. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1169 And am I now upbraided, as the cause Of thy transgressing? not enough severe, It seems, in thy restraint. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. 290 They were men of severe tempers, and kept good discipline. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enq.* Wks. (1841) 463 [Athens] found the cruel Sylla her severest enemy. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiv, Charles of Burgundy deserved the character of a just though severe prince. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 342 The King's temper was arbitrary and severe. 1878 DALE *Lect. Preach.* iii. 74 Nature is sometimes kindly if she is often severe.

absol. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxiv, Nor are the strong and the severe to keep The empire of the world.

b. Const. *to, with, against.*

[1561: cf. 3.] 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 216 The Houses haue been of late very seuere against the poore Caualiers. *a* 1699 STILLINGFL. (J.), What made the church of Alexandria be so severe with Origen for, but holding the incence in his hands..? yet for this he was cast out of the church. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 July 1674, A severe master to his servants. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 132 Each rules his race, his neighbour not his care, Heedless of others, to his own severe. 1742 GRAY *Adversity* 31 Justice, to herself severe.

c. Of a person's looks, demeanour, etc.: Betokening a severe mood or disposition.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Seuerus,* Seuere grauitie of countenance. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 155 The Iustice, ..With eyes seuere, and beard of formall cut. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 709 Saying with a severe countenance, that they were worthie of such death. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 206 A full, roundish high forehead, a severe brow. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVI, 'There is in this mansion..,' said the Grand Master, in a severe tone, 'a Jewish woman.' 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, The Lady Bareacres..to whom the Colonel's lady made also a most respectful obeisance: it was returned with severe dignity by the exalted person in question.

2. Of law, judgement, punishment, discipline, restraint, and the like: Involving strict and rigorous treatment; executed or carried out with rigour; not leaning to tenderness or laxity; unsparing.

1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* ii. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 21 The seueir punisment of Core, Dathan, and Abiron. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The Longer thou liuest* 1752 (Brandl), I represent Gods seuere iudgement, Which dallieth not where to strike he doth purpose. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 269 Let my old life be sacrific'd..Vnto the rigour of seuerest Law. 1661 *Act* 13 *Chas. II,* c. 9 § 21 None shall presume to quarrell with his Superior Officer, upon pain of severe punishment. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 12 It is not evident that the Laws of all the antient Common-wealths were so severe against Atheism. 1669–70 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 306 The House..voted..that severe provision be made against all frauds upon the importation [of wine]. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* x, Schedoni hinted that the obedience of youth was hopeless unless severer measures were adopted. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 73 To pursue this monstrous crime By the severest forms of law. 1838 F. A. P[ALEY] tr. *Schömann's Assemb. Athen.* Introd. 19 The people..disliking the severe controll of the four hundred. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 Severer penalties awaited drunkenness, dissipation, or dicing.

b. Of a compact: Imposing rigorous conditions, stringent. Of an account: Unsparingly exacted.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI,* v. iv. 114 If we conclude a Peace, It shall be with such strict and seuere Couenants, As little shall the Frenchmen gaine thereby. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. ix. (1699) 106 Let us not misspend the time of this Life, since so severe an account will be demanded of all the benefits which we have received. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. vii. 135 Power wantonly exercised is the undesirable opportunity of doing mischief, for which a severe account is to be given in the next state.

c. Of a prisoner: Rigorously confined. *nonce-use.*

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 138 You told me once she was in London waiting on a bishop's lady, when all the time she was a severe prisoner here.

3. Unsparing in censure, criticism, or reproof.

1561 B. GOOGE *Palingenius' Zodiac of Life* Ep. Ded., As the deuine Plato (although a Iudge somethynge to seuer agaynste them)..doth confesse. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traict.* 21 S. Hierom, the seueir impugner of all hæritiks in his age. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 83 Your friend therefore, is certainly more severe than he needs to be. *c* 1673 WALLER *To the Duchess, when he presented this Book* 8 While we your wit and early knowledge fear, To our productions we become severe. 1680 DRYDEN *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* (1716) 9 The most severe Censor cannot but be pleas'd with the Prodigality of his [Ovid's] Wit. 1683 SIR J. TURNER *Pallas Armata* 39 *marg.,* Lipsius severe to Vegetius. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 1 As the most severe Reader makes Allowances for many Rests and Nodding-places in a Voluminous Writer. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcix, Her very appearance was sufficient to silence the severest satirist of the sex. 1780 *Mirror* No. 70 His goodnature..prevented him from viewing, with too severe an eye, the occasional excesses of some of his companions. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* ¶ 7 Nor..will the severest of our readers blame us. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 138 The exact but severe historian of astronomy, Delambre,..loses all his bitterness when he comes to Hipparchus. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Maiden Sisters* xii. 119 'There is no depth in the talk of general society, but plenty of lightness and flippancy.' 'I think you are severe,' said Ellen, courageously. *absol. c* 1614 SYLVESTER *Micro-cosm.* 374 Wks. (Grosart) II. 100 If I be merry, I am mad (say the Severe).

b. *To be severe on* (or *upon*): to pass harsh or sarcastic judgement on, 'to be hard upon'.

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* II. i. 26 His wit properly lies in..being severe as they call it, upon other peoples cloaths. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 162 ¶ 1 The good Lady Lizard..desired her Cosin Thomas..not to be so severe on his Relations. 1732–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 103, I suppose the Colonel was cross'd in his first Love, which makes him so severe on all the Sex. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Maiden Sisters* xiv. 138 'One must not be severe on a little inequality of temper,' said Norah, laughing.

c. Of an utterance, opinion, etc.: Unsparing in censure; strongly condemnatory.

1561 B. GOOGE *Palingenius' Zodiac of Life* Ep. Ded., Humbly requesting that..the simple frutes of a yong head, may strongly be defended from the seuer reprehensions of Momus. 1668 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 253 We on Munday send to the Lords severe votes against their proceedings. 1692 NORRIS *Two Treat. Div. Light* I. 15 He..very gravely applies to me two of the most severe Texts of Scripture that he could pick out in all the Bible. 1709 SWIFT *T. Tub* Apol. (1710) a 3, The severest Stroaks of Satyr in his Book. 1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 103, I grant the sarcasm is too severe. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 27 He was arrested..and discharged with a severe reprimand. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* ix. 151 English travellers in Oriental countries frequently make severe remarks on the manner in which the ..remains of antiquity are allowed to go to ruin.

II. Conforming to a rigorous standard.

4. Extremely strict in matters of conduct or behaviour; rigorous in self-discipline and self-restraint; austere with oneself; shunning laxity or self-pleasing.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Seuerus,* A seuere man eschewynge all sensuall pleasures. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 301 Come, you are too seuere a Moraller. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 7 To doe no injury, nor take none, was a principle, which to my former yeers..seemed to contain enough of Morality, but my more setled yeares, and Christian constitution have fallen upon severer resolutions. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 280 The Stoic severe. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 41 ¶ 8 He is held in the highest Veneration imagin-

able for a severe Honesty, and Love of his Country. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 459 He was a man of severe morals. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 411 Emily affected severe economy in her travelling expences. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiii, A man of severe temperance. 1822 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* i, We must fall As men that in severe devotedness Have chosen their part, and bound themselves to death. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 306 [His] severe impartiality adds weight to his authority. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxviii. 481 A Roman matron of the strictest and severest type.

b. Of habits, etc.: Dictated by strict and austere principles of living.

1828 SEWELL in *Oxf. Prize Ess.* 36 The Spartan manners were rough, simple, and severe. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* vi. 49 The habits of the household were simple and severe.

c. Of a secret: Strictly kept (*? obs.*). Of a resolution: Unyielding, rigid.

1734 FIELDING *Univ. Gall.* IV. i, I beg this thing may be kept a severe secret. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Engl. Mail Coach* Wks. 1890 XIII. 276 The Emperor..descended in great pomp from his throne, with the severest resolution never to remount it.

5. Of intellectual operations, thought, etc.: Conforming to an exacting standard of mental effort; rigidly exact or accurate; grave, serious, not light or recreative; not shrinking from what is toilsome or difficult. (Cf. 9.)

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. i. § 3. 8 A substantiall and seuere Collection of the Heteroclites, or Irregulars of Nature, well examined & described. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) II. xli. 50, I find you have a genius for the most solid and severest sort of studies. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. viii. § 6. 235 And upon severe enquiry we shall find the grand principle which [etc.]. 1682 DRYDEN *Relig. Laici* 233 Those hours hast thou to Nobler use employ'd, And the severe Delights of Truth enjoy'd. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 127 Truth severe, by Fairy Fiction drest. 1812 CRESSWELL *Maxima & Min.* I. 10 In haste to quit the province of severe reasoning. 1821 HAZLITT *Table-t., Milton's Sonn.*, A day spent in social retirement and elegant relaxation from severer studies. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 203 Under the continual restraint of severe good sense. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. xii, [He] is held in high honour for his severe scholarship.

absol. 1683 SOAME & DRYDEN tr. *Boileau's Art Poet.* I. 76 Happy who in his verse can gently steer From grave to light, from pleasant to severe [orig. *du plaisant au sévère*]. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 380 Form'd by thy converse, happily to steer From grave to gay, from lively to severe

b. said of a student, thinker, etc.

1603 DANIEL *Def. Rhyme* H 5 b, Peraduenture there will be found in the now contemned recordes of Ryme matter not vnfitting the grauest Diuine and seuerest Lawyer in this kingdome. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 8 Mar. (O.H.S.) I. 201 Mr. Smith..has been..a severe Student.

6. In reference to style or taste, literary or artistic: Shunning redundance or unessential ornament; not florid or exuberant; sober, restrained, austerely simple or plain.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* VI. i. (1848) 341 To expect that Piety and Vertue were able, by their native charms, so much to endear my dress, as to win themselves adorers in a plain, or even a severe one. 1676 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* Pref. (1677) b 3 Virgil and Horace, the severest Writers of the severest Age. 1693 — *Disc. Satire* Ess. 1900 II. 65 Lucilius, who was more severe, and more correct. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 221 That inlet to severe magnificence Stood full blown, for the God to enter in. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § 24. 56 The forms of the tracery were still severe and pure. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Manners* Wks. (Bohn) II. 50 Even Brummel their fop was marked by the severest simplicity in dress. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. xi. 319 He would have been remembered as one of the severest of painters. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* x, Queen Titania's more severe but no less graceful costume.

† **b.** Of a language: Concise, terse, not redundant. *Obs. rare.*

1680 DRYDEN *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* (1716) 13 The Latin (a most Severe and Compendious Language).

III. Of impersonal agencies or conditions: Pressing hardly, rigorous.

7. Of the weather, etc.: Causing great discomfort or injury to living beings; hard, rigorous; very cold, wet or stormy.

1676 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 32 God bless your two deare sweet babies and keep them from the sharp colds of this seveare weather. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Mar. 1658, This had been the severest winter that any man alive had known in England. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Earl Strafford* 25 June, We have had some severe rain; but the season is now beautiful. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772* 175 The climate is very severe. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 420 Very severe shower in the night. 1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 50 In case the frost is not so severe as to destroy the flowers. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxviii. (1876) 477 Very severe weather came. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 283/2 They would require slightly severer cold to affect them.

b. Of fire or light: Painfully or searchingly intense. *rare.*

1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 252 O that Book! whose leaves so bright Will sett the world in severe light. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 276 Our torments also may in length of time Become our Elements, these piercing Fires As soft as now severe. 1822 SHELLEY *Tri. Life* 424 In that light's severe excess.

c. Of an attack of illness or disease: Attended with a maximum of pain or distress, violent.

1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 265 It is the way Nature her self often takes, in solving the severer Fevers. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 224 The coldness of the inn had given Mr. Calderwood a severe cold. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 522 The complaint was in many cases very severe, but fatal to very few. 1823 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 83, I finally caught a severe cold. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 507 In severe cases [of eczema] there may be some prodromal symptoms.

8. Of pain, suffering, loss, or the like: Grievous, extreme.

1742 GRAY *Eton* 80 Moody Madness laughing wild Amid severest woe. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 101 His voluntary pains, severe and long. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, The silence of Valancourt..oppressed Emily with severe anxiety. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 173 Severe shooting pains in the head were felt. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* I. xi. (1854) I. 272 The loss inflicted on the infantry was also severe. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 200 Their exposure beyond the trenches to the fire of the garrison would have been attended with still severer loss of life. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, She..watched incessantly by the wounded lad, whose pains were very severe. 1888 *Spectator* 30 June 874/2 There has been a severe fall in the value of the shares.

absol. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygeia* VIII. 141 The gouty, besides having to struggle with every thing that pain has of severe, are [etc.].

b. Qualifying an agent-n., as *a severe loser.*

1748 FOOTE *Knights* II. Wks. 1799 I. 80 'Tis odd, that the same cause that increases the passion in one sex should destroy it in the other; the reason is above my reach, but the fact I am a severe witness of. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. v. 185 Individuals engaged in the trade might be severe losers.

9. Of events or circumstances, labour or exercise, a struggle or contest, a test, trial, etc.: Hard to sustain or endure; making great demands on one's powers or resources; arduous.

1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 58 Osiris..then entered Thrace, with the King of which he had a severe encounter. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 389 The man feels least, as more inur'd than she To winter, and the current in his veins More briskly mov'd by his severer toils. 1798 FORESTER in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 114 This day..met near Oakham, have had a very severe day. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* IV. xiii. 244 De Bœffleurs once more assisted me, though his terms were most severe. 1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* Introd., The master of the pack takes as severe exercise as his whipper-in. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* II. xiv. (1854) II. 220 This action was one of the severest which occurred in these wars. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxii. 347 In the following experiment the ice was subjected to a still severer test. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xiv. (1886) 244 The pace was too severe, and, although running wonderfully, he was obliged to give way to the horses. 1880 C. T. NEWTON *Art & Archæol.* viii. 323 Universities where this elaborate training was tested by competitive examinations of the severest kind.

b. Of a curve: Sharp, hard to 'negotiate'.

1897 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 3/1 This is again a very difficult piece of running. There are severe curves at Smethwick and at Worcester Foregate.

10. *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.)

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii, Belay all that; take a *severe* turn, and don't come up an inch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Severe*, effectual; as, a severe turn in belaying a rope.

11. *colloq.* (chiefly *U.S.*) A vague epithet denoting superlative quality; very big or powerful; hard to beat.

1834 J. HALL *Kentucky* II. 9 Your whiskey is as good as your fire, and that is saying a great deal, for you are the severest old beaver to tote wood that I've seen for many a long day. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Milit. Nun* Wks. 1890 XIII. 209 *note*, These Andes, in Jonathan's phrase, are a 'severe' range of hills. 1864 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 75 The whole party arrived, quite ready for a 'severe tea'. 1889 C. D. WARNER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 270/1 A well-known character in the mountains, who has killed twenty-one men...He is called, in the language of the country [Kentucky], a 'severe' man.

12. Epithet of a small snake, *Coluber severus.*

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 421 Severe snake. *Coluber Severus.*

13. quasi-*adv.* = SEVERELY.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 20 Not any where is the word seuerer practised, the preacher reuerentlier obserued and honoured. 1653 MILTON *Ps.* ii. 9 The Lord shall scoff them, then severe Speak to them in his wrath. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 446 No blame severe his choice.

Severe, obs. form of SEVER *v.*

Severed (sĕvə·rĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEVER *v.* + -ED[1].] In senses of the verb.

1582 HOWELL *Devises* L iiij, Then eche a seuerde peece doth spoyle, Which late conioynde, no force could foyle. 1588 T. HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* III. i. 107 How close the seuered skinne vnites againe. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 170 Our seuer'd Nauie too Haue knit againe. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1626) 6 Part of his seuer'd scarce-dead limbs he boyles. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 274 How to regain my sever'd company. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 49 We must not think of the ascension of Christ as a severed thing from us. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 746 Take, running river, take these locks of mine..This severed hair. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. i, The executioner lifted the severed head. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiii. 352 We have, in the case of ice, the actual regelation of the severed surfaces.

Hence **Se·veredly** *adv. rare*[−1].

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 3. 35 But heere I must giue warning, that it bee done distinctly and seueredly.

Severee: see SEVERY.

Severely (sĭvĭə·rlĭ), *adv.* [f. SEVERE *a.* + -LY[2].]

1. With rigour or extreme strictness in the treatment of offenders; with severity in judgement, punishment, censure or rebuke.

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Aspere*,..rigorously, severely. *Ibid., Duriter*...cruelly, severely. 1573 T. CARTWRIGHT *Reply Whitgift's Answ.* 27 The transgressyons of the lawe in the tyme of the gospell oughte rather to be seuerelyer punyshed then they were vnder the lawe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 108 She..is..kept seuerely from resort of men. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 74 Olivarez had been heard to censure very severely the duke's..want of respect towards the Prince. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* V. 564 Be mercifully Just, severely Kind. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 P 2 My Master received Orders every Post to use me very severely. 1759 HUME *Hist. Eng. Tudors* I. Mary i. 356 Taylor..was very severely handled, and was violently thrust out of the house. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 209 Of legislation such as this it is impossible to speak too severely. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. i. 121 The treaty of 1709..was severely censured as too favourable to the Dutch.

b. With severe looks or demeanour.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Exuere vultus seueros*, to look no more seuerely. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 779 Whose Jaws with Iron Teeth severely grin. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* VII. 225 Severely smiling, thus the hero spoke. 1898 W. W. JACOBS *Sea Urchins, Money-changers* (1906) 223 The fare, who had been leaning back in the stern with a severely important air.

c. With rigour or strictness in examining, revising, or the like.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* ii. § 3. 141 Here therefore it concerns us to examine our selves strictly and severely. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 July 1679, Dr. Lloyd.. with Dr. Burnet, who had severely examin'd him, came away astonish'd. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers*, His housekeeping was severely looked after, but he kept the table of a gentleman. 1897 *Daily News* 6 May 6/2 He wrote best, as most Frenchmen do, in the morning, and corrected much less severely than Victor Hugo.

d. *To leave* or *let severely alone*: to avoid of set purpose; to pursue a deliberate policy of ignoring or isolating.

1880 PARNELL *Sp.* 19 Sept. in R. B. O'Brien *Life* (1898) I. 237 You must show him..by leaving him severely alone, by putting him into a moral Coventry..your detestation of the crime he has committed. 1886 *Referee* 20 June 5 (Cass.), England and her wants..are to be severely let alone. 1898 *Dubl. Rev.* Oct. 276 The question was regarded as quite insoluble, and severely left alone.

2. With rigour or strictness in one's own practice or conduct; rigidly, inflexibly.

1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl.* 38 Halfe a life need to be severely spent in learning them. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penitent* I. i. 207 With deadly Imprecations on her Self, She vow'd severely ne'er to see me more. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 36 Severely chaste Penelope remains. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, My father is stern and strict in his temper, and severely true to his trust. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* iii. 79 Bishop Butler, in general the most severely exact of writers. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 415/1 Though they were severely orthodox.

3. With austere plainness or simplicity of style or taste.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* III. Wks. 1905 I. 337 On's head an helm of well-wrought brass is place'd, The top with warlike Plume severely grace'd. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iii. § XV. 79 Severely rectilinear forms were associated with the curved ones in the cornice. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Open Verdict* I. 335 Dog-cart, severely painted darkest olive. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 524/2 The fire-places..are severely plain.

4. Painfully, grievously; in a manner, or to a degree, that is distressing or hard to bear.

1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. x. (1716) 64 This the fallen Angels severely understand,..and more afflictively feel the contrary state of Hell. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 74 He..received the great and small Shot of one half of the Turkish Fleet, which he mawled severely. 1711 SWIFT *Cond. Allies* Wks. 1841 I. 414/2 We have shamefully misapplied [our strength]..to effect [ends], which after a peace we may severely repent. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxi, I now most severely felt the folly of my plan. 1807 WILKINSON in Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. App. 25 The night was severely cold. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* vi. 38 After this feeble delusive thaw, the silence set in as severely as before. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. (1886) 107 The plague of boils broke out, and every one was attacked more or less severely. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 May 6/1 The extremely cold nights..tell very severely on the elderly members of the House. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 121 The mangrove-swamp..stank severely.

5. *colloq.* To a great or excessive degree, 'not wisely but too well'. (Cf. SEVERE *a.* 11.)

1854 WHYTE MELVILLE *General Bounce* xii, That officer has dined 'severely', as he calls it, and is slightly inebriated.

Severeness. Now *rare.* [-NESS.] Severity.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Phocion* (1595) 792 This fault of seuerenes was in Cato the younger. 1597 I. T. *Serm. Paules Crosse* 37 We doubt he will execute it with seuerenesse. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-Martyr* 118 The certainety, seuereness, and length of Purgatory. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* V. xxi. (1713) 476 That Severeness and Austerity observable in the Baptist. 1673 TEMPLE *United Prov.* I. 20 The Severeness and Gravity of the [Spanish] Nation.

Severer (sĭvə·rəɹ). *rare.* [f. SEVER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who severs or separates.

1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 102 The severer separateth (severeth) the stony filth, the washer washeth the things thus separated. 1887 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Severey: see SEVERY.

Severian (sĭvĭ·rĭăn). [ad. L. *Sevēriān-ī* (pl.), f. the name *Sevērus* (see below) + -IAN.]

1. A member of an Encratite or Gnostic sect of the 2nd century which condemned marriage, etc.

'It may reasonably be doubted whether there really was an Encratite teacher named Severus, or whether sects did not merely get the Latin name of Severians from the austerity of their rule of life' (*Smith's Dict. Chr. Biog.*).

1607 T. ROGERS *39 Art.* vi. (1633) 30 Of the former sort [i. e. those who rejected the books of the O. T.] were the Seuerians,..and the Manichies. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Severians..a sort of Hereticks that condemned marriage, abstained from eating flesh and drinking wine, &c. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 500 The Severians..who rejected the Epistles of St. Paul and the Acts of the Apostles. 1887 SALMON in Smith & Wace *Dict. Chr. Biog.* IV. 633/1 A sect of Severians is described by Epiphanius (*Haer.* 45) which except the feature of Encratism has little in common with the sect described by Eusebius.

2. A follower of Severus, the Monophysite patriarch of Antioch (early 5th c.).

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 272 Severus Bishop of Antioch.., from whom they were denominated Severians. 1765 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* Cent. VI. II. v. § 5. 1878 P. SMITH *Hist. Chr. Ch.* xvi. § 6. 368 *note*, The Severians ..held that the body of Christ before the resurrection was mortal and corruptible. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Rel. Knowl.* II. 1137 The Egyptian Monophysites called themselves.. Theodosians, or Severians.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1718 J. SHARPE *Hist. Acc. Heresie* II. 51 The Severian Sect (in the Year 521)..took its Name from Severus

Severiga, obs. variant of SEVRUGA.

Severing (se·vəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb SEVER; an instance of this.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* vii. 17 Fro the dayes of the seueryng of Effraym fro Juda. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. x. (S.T.S.) I. 59 Afore þe seuering [*v. r.* syvering] of þare armyis. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 349 ¶ 7 The severing of his Head from his Body. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* IX. 271 In memory of the farewells of that time, Domestic severings. 1807 — *Ode Intim. Immortality* 192 And O, ye Fountains, Meadows, Hills, and Groves, Forebode not any severing of our loves!

†**b.** *concr.* A division, partition, separated part.

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiii. (1907) 83 Thei had no grete hous but a litel in the whiche thei hadde thre seuerynges as it were thre smale chambres there specially to praye and to slepe.

Se·vering, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That severs.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 8 Looke Loue what enuious streakes Do lace the seuering Cloudes in yonder East. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 92 That spirit of God..is a severing spirit. 1793 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk.* 310 Th' insuperable rocks and severing tide. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN in *Lyra Apostol.* (1891) 217 Thou shrinkest now From urgent rule, and severing vow. 1888 MEREDITH *Night-frost in May* Poems 1898 II. 238 In this shrill hush of quietude, The ear conceived a severing cry.

Hence **Se·veringly** *adv.*

a 1390 WYCLIF *Isa.* Jerome's Prol., And off euer either rewme, now togidere, now seuerendely [Vulg. *nunc commistim, nunc separatim*], he ordeynede the profecie.

Seve·rish, *a. rare.* [-ISH.] Somewhat severe.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 566 One don't sift Such trifling doggrel strains with eye severish. 1863 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 158 Russel was severish, but justish.

†**Severite** 1. *Obs.* [f. the name *Sevērus* (see SEVERIAN) + -ITE 1.] = SEVERIAN 1 and 2.

1607 T. ROGERS *39 Art.* ii. (1633) 13 The Seuerites..who affirmed the diuinitie and humanity of Christ, to be of one and the same nature. *Ibid.* vi. 32 Others, of all other bookes reiected the said Acts, as the Manichies, and the Seuerites. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 284 The Eutychians, Nestorians, Apollinarists, and the Severits or Acephalians.

Severite 2 (se·vərəit). *Min.* [Named from Saint-*Sever* (Landes, France) + -ITE 1. Cf. F. *sévérite*.] A synonym of LENZINITE.

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 87 Severite..occurs in small masses [etc.]. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 504 Severite, a variety of halloysite.

Severity (sĭve·rĭti). [a. F. *sévérité*, ad. L. *sevēritās*, f. *sevērus*: see SEVERE *a.* and -ITY. Cf. It. *severità*, Sp. *severidad*, Pg. *severidade*.]

1. Strictness or sternness in dealing with others; stern or rigorous disposition or behaviour; rigour in treatment, discipline, punishment, or the like.

1530 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 33 Your most excellent nature wych hath ever be moved and propensyd to clemency and mercy then to rygor and severyte. 1538 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 50 Wher as severitie is to be used ayenst the anabaptistes. 1582 *N. T.* (Rheims) *Rom.* xi. 22 See then the goodnes and the seueritie of God. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 47, I laugh to see your Ladyship so fond, To thinke, that you haue ought but Talbots shadow, Whereon to practise your seueritie. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 235 As for the Seueritie vsed vpon those which were taken in Kent, it was but vpon a Scumme of People. 1680 DRYDEN *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* Ess. 1900 I. 231 The Emperor who condemned him had as little reason as another man to punish that fault with so much severity. 1752 HUME *Polit. Disc.* x. (ed. 2) 203 Excessive severity in the laws is apt to beget great relaxation in their execution. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xli. V. 178 His regulations were..enforced with inflexible severity. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. xxxii. 443, I have to guard its ventilation with all the severity that would befit a surgical ward. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. iii. 41 An illustrious poet..apologises for it [the massacre] as an act of unavoidable severity.

b. An act or instance of severity.

1538 STARKEY *England* 220 A lyke seueryte I fynd in the punnyschment of treson. 1689 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 613 The severityes towards the protestants were continued. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 201 That so a colour might be put on their severities against such as should refuse it. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 157 There is a Difference between an Ecclesiastical Censure, and an Ecclesiastical Severity: For under the Appellation of a Censure we only include Excommunication, Suspension, and an Interdict; but under the Denomination of an Ecclesiastical Severity, every other Punishment of the Church is intended...But according to some, a Censure and a Severity is the same Thing. 1871 FRASER *Berkeley* ii. 79 The severities of Tyrconnel obliged Molyneux to fly to England.

c. Harshness of judgement, criticism, or rebuke. Also *pl.*, severe rebukes or criticisms.

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 2 Though I received some severities from my mother on this occasion. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Ep. Ded., The Devout..will be scrupulous to be more Severe to these Papers, than a Person in whom, upon the score of her own Style, Severity were more justifiable than in most Readers. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 50. 326, I should be very loth to see you fall with too particular a severity upon the Error. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 170 'Twas but a mortifying stroke Of undesign'd severity, that glanc'd ..On human grandeur and the courts of kings. 1859 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 176 We should think it unseemly to criticise the..work..with extreme severity. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* v. 2 Sour severity, tongue of eld maligning. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* i. 2 Bacon has been judged with merciless severity.

d. Sternness of aspect or countenance; a severe look or expression.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 160 ¶ 11, I think, says the Author, I never saw a greater Severity than in this Man's Face. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Cleomenes* V. 177 In the court, where, with a silent severity of aspect, he observed all that passed. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. vi, How will his noble mother disdain me! how cruelly shall I sink before the severity of her eye! 1828 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 21 Apr., [Sir J.] Moore's countenance assumed a great severity.

e. *transf.* in reference to handling or dealing with inanimate objects.

1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 112 Though not playing with so much severity as some others, he yet can cut the ball so as to make and win short chases on the floor with some certainty. 1898 W. W. JACOBS *Sea Urchins, Grey Parrot* (1906) 219 Mr. Gannett..with a small knife dug with much severity and determination a hardened plug from the bowl [of his pipe].

2. Strictness or austerity of life, morals, etc.

1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) g ij (R.), Seuerity is continuance and perseuerance of oon maner of lyuyng as wele in the thyngys within as in theym without. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Severe*, Life passed in great seueritie and grauitie. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 178 We would.. with more seueritie direct the sequele of our life, for the feare of present death. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 225 Beauty steru'd with her seuerity, Cuts beauty off from all posteritie. 1680 DRYDEN *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* Ess. 1900 I. 230 'Tis true, they [Ovid's Elegies, etc.] are not to be excused in the severity of manners. 1728 LAW *Serious C.* xviii. (1732) 329 Such severity of behaviour, such abstinence [etc.]. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. viii. 256 He affected the severity of the Stoic. 1903 in Westcott *Life Bp. Westcott* I. 23, I had ever before me what I may call the severity of his example.

b. *pl.*

1673 *Ladies Calling* I. i. ¶ 10. 8 Tho these first severities were soon lost in the successes of that Empire. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* vi, O, Ellena! let the severities of custom yield to the security of my happiness. 1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Wedding*, The tristful severities of a funeral. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 291 The ordinary prudences and severities of conscience.

3. Strictness in matters of thought or intellect; rigid accuracy or exactness; undeviating conformity to truth or fact. Also *pl.* instances of this.

1628 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 73 Then the Artists themselves, the severitie and integritie of whose judgements is often weakened by the love of their owne and the dislike of other mens workes. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 27 A sort of Men that pretend to much severity of Wit, and would be thought too wise to be imposed upon by Credulity. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. 1900 II. 24, I may say it, with all the severity of truth, that every line of yours is precious. 1791 BURKE *Let. Memb. Nat. Assembly* Wks. 1834 I. 477 The process of reasoning called *deductio ad absurdum*, which even the severity of geometry does not reject. 1834 *Burke's Wks.* I. Introd. 75 A vagueness and looseness of language quite incompatible with precision of thought, and utterly inconsistent with the severity of philosophy. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Syst. Heavens* Wks. 1889 III. 294 A wish for the naked severities of science, with a total absence from all display of enthusiasm. 1864 HAMERTON *Doré* in *Fine Arts Q. Rev.* III. 2, I have but one law of conduct in criticism which is to judge..neither with indulgence nor prejudiced harshness, but with severity (in its true sense) stating qualities and defects with equal force.

4. Austere purity or simplicity of style, taste, etc.

1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 18 Considering the Disadvantage of the Language, and the Severity of the Roman Muse, the Poem is still more Wonderful. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* III. i, The severity of French taste. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) I. 153 Look at that old hound...Look at the severity, delicacy, lightness of every curve. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iii. 36 The modest severity of the Breton dress. 1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 90/2 That severity of treatment on which the success of iron-work greatly depends.

5. Rigour or inclemency (of weather or climate); esp. extremity of cold.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. ix. 210 The severity of the Winter finds them [*sc.* Insects] out and destroys them. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 112 Winter continues with such severity from December to April, as that the largest rivers are frozen over. 1826 LAMB *Let. to V. Novello* 9 May, Summer, as my friend Coleridge waggishly writes, has set in with its usual severity [also alleged to be a phrase of H. Walpole's]. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. v, The bare wintry morning, the chill air, were welcome in their severity. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* iv. 175 The severity of the climate in this part of Asia may be estimated by a comparison of this January and July temperatures of Astrachan. 1912 *Cowley Evangelist* 181 We have had on three successive evenings thunderstorms of increasing severity.

6. Violence or acuteness (of illness).

1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 362 Nor does this disease at all seem to increase either in severity or in frequency. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 126 The eruption..increased in severity till death. 1893 ECCLES *Sciatica* 68 After a period of rest..varying in duration..according to the severity of the case.

7. Grievousness (of pain, affliction, penalties, etc.).

1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* xxix. (1854) IV. 309 They now felt the severity of the confiscation they had inflicted on others. 1890 NICOLAY & HAY *Lincoln* X. 314 The news [of Lincoln's assassination] fell with peculiar severity upon the hearts which were glowing with the joy of a great victory. 1893 *Law Times* XCIV. 600/2 The [income] tax falls with excessive and undue severity upon one class, and with unreasonable lightness upon others.

Severiza·tion. *rare*–1. [Formed as next + -ATION.] The action of severing or cutting in two.

1861 *Temple Bar* I. 248 A Scottish *fête* in Holland Park, where..sergeants of the Life Guards effected the 'severisation of the leg of mutton', and performed the 'Saladin feat'.

†**Se·verize,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. SEVER *v.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To sever or separate. (Cf. SEVERALIZE *v.*) Hence †**Se·verized** *ppl. a.*

1649 J. E[LLISTONE] tr. *Behmen's Epist.* vi. § 65. 91 All Beings are but one onely Being, which hath breathed forth it selfe out of it selfe, and hath severized, and formized it selfe. *Ibid.* § 66 The severized, parted, and divided will. 1691 TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Phil.* 381 Mutually unfolded and severized.

Severly, obs. Sc. form of SEVERALLY *adv.*

†**Severon.** *Arch. Obs.* Forms: 5 severonne, -yn, -ant, *pl.* -ans, 6 severall, *pl.* se(y)verns. [a. OF. *sev(e)ronde, souv(e)ronde, souverante, severonne*, etc. (Godefroy):—L. *suggrunda, subgrunda* eaves, ? f. *sub* under + *grunda* (only in a gloss) roof, projecting part of roof: cf. It. *gronda* eaves, gutter of a roof.] 'Some kind of water-table or cornice' (Parker *Gloss. Archit.* 1850). Also *severon table.*

1412 *Contract Catterick Ch.* (1834) 10 And also forsaide Richarde sall make tablyng of the endes of the forsaide Kirke of a Katrik with seueronne tabill. 1422–3 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 48 Et in ix. m waltiell emptis ..pro j severyn facto ex parte Archiepiscopi. 1443 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 386, iiij^{c}xvj fote of Seuerant table scapled with poynts aftur a molde. 1450 in *Hist. Dunelm. Script. Tres* (Surtees) p. cccxxvi, Pro factura xxiiij ulnarum de severans. 1517 in *Hearne's Hist. Glastonbury* (1722) 287, vii^{s}. and iii^{xx}. footes off cresse table, and severall table att iii. d. the foote. 1527–8 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 101 In les fre stone, in evis bordes, severns et j soletre. 1532–3 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 173 Pro sarracione ½ rod [cf. ROOD 8 c] pro molendinis, in seyverns.

Severy (se·vĕri). *Arch.* Forms: 5 severy, -ee, 6 -ey; *pl.* 4 sewerwus, 5 severyse, civerys, (civers, cyfres), 6 severey(e)s. [ad. OF. **civorie, civoire* ciborium:—L. *ciborī-um* (see CIBORIUM), used by Gervase of Canterbury (12th c.) in the following sense.] A bay or compartment of a vaulted roof. Also, a compartment or section of scaffolding.

1399 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 131 In j porcione meremii empta de Willelmo Kyrkby pro sewerwus pro præd. tenemento, 6*d.* 1422–3 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 47 Pro vj magnis saplyngs emptis pro scaffaldyng in le severy Archiepiscopi. *Ibid.* 48 Pro bruscis porcinis pro bruscis faciendis ad dealbacionem le severyse in le yle ecclesiæ, 15*d.* *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 244 Memorandum de le severee duarum fenestrarum. *Ibid.* 302 Ab illo hostio usque ad illas les civerys in quibus mariatagia dependent. 1506 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 115 Which roof conteyneth vii. seuereys [*printed* senereys]. 1512 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 608 The tymber of ij seuereys of the said grete scaffold. *Ibid.*, For euery seuerey in the seid churche.

1859 GWILT *Archit.* (ed. 4) 838 App., The vault of the chapel in question [*i. e.* King's Coll. Chapel at Cambr.] is divided into oblong severies. 1866 R. WILLIS *Archit. Hist. Glastonbury* 35 The nave contained ten severies, the eastern arm of the cross four severies. 1883 *Archæol. Cantiana* XV. 64 It projects a severy eastward of the rest of the range.

†**Sevi·dical,** *a. Obs.*—^{0} [f. L. *sævidic-us* (f. *sævus* fierce, furious + *dic-* stem of *dīcĕre* to say, speak) + -AL.] 'That speaks cruel and rigorous words, that threateneth' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Sevier, var. SIEVIER *Obs.*, sieve-maker.

1630 in Mayo *Munic. Rec. Dorchester* (1908) 403.

‖ **Sévigné, sevigné.** [Prob. named after Mme. de *Sévigné* 1627–96.] A kind of bandeau, *esp.* one for the hair.

[1817 LADY MORGAN *France* III. (1818) I. 364 The *chignon à la Sevigné*, or *coëffure de Ninon*, now triumph over *la tête à l'Agrippina*.] 1825 *Court Mag.* VI. p. vi/2 Some are ornamented with Sevignés of *tulle*, disposed in regular plaits. 1837 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 55 They were covered with gold and jewels,..bands round their heads, sévignés, and rings on all their fingers and all their toes. 1843 *Commissioner* 221 A..damsel with long black ringlets ..and a sevigné on her forehead.

Sevile, Sevilioun, obs. ff. CIVIL, CIVILIAN.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2069 For they were grete Sevilioun & vsid probate law. *Ibid.* 2665 Sevile law.

Sevillan (sevi·lăn), *a.* [f. *Seville* (see next) + -AN.] = SEVILLIAN *a.* *Sevillan ware*, an earthenware made in Seville in imitation of Italian majolica. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Seville (se·vĭl), *a.* Forms: 5 Syvyle, Cyvylle, 6 Cyvyl, 6–7 Cyvill, Civil(l, 7 Civile, Sivil, 7–8 Sevil(l, 8– Seville. [The name (Sp. *Sevilla*) of a city and province of Andalusia, used attributively.]

†**1.** *Seville oil*: olive oil brought from Seville.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* 54 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 Lycorys, Syvyle [*marg. note* Cyvylle] oyle, and grayne. 1541 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 122 On hogs hede of Cyvill oyle. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lxxx 358 Other Farriers take of Ciuill oyle and brimstone, of each like quantity. *a* 1628 *Rates Marchandizes* I 4 *b*, Seuill oile, Maiorca oile [etc.].

2. *Seville orange*: the bitter orange, *Citrus Bigaradia*, used for making marmalade.

1593 NASHE *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 282 For the order of my life, it is as ciuil as a ciuil orenge. [1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 304 The Count is neither sad, nor sicke,..: but ciuill Count, ciuill as an Orange.] 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* clxvii. 256 In Spaine about Sivil, where the best Orenges grow, and are called by us Civil-Orenges. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Feb., I wish you had some of our Seville oranges. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793–4 II. xi. 81 The whole tribe of Oranges, seville and sweet. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 482/2 Take some Seville oranges.

ellipt. 1892 *Garrett's Encycl. Cookery* II. 31 Oranges are capable of being adapted to many culinary purposes..; the Seville being preferred..as having the stronger flavour.

Sevillian (sevi·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Seville. Cf. SEVILIAN. **b.** *sb.* An inhabitant of Seville.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xlviii, This grove is the favourite promenade of the Sevillians. 1849 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 233/2 [Murillo] the prince of Sevillian painters. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 709/2 The Casa de los Abades is in the Sevillian plateresque style.

Sevocation (sevŏkā·ʃən). *rare*–°. [n. of action f. L. *sēvocāre*: see SEVOKE *v.* and -ATION.] The action of calling apart or aside.

1623 COCKERAM II, A Calling aside, *Seuocation.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* Hence in PHILLIPS, BAILEY, and later Dicts.

†Sevo·ke, *v. Obs.*–° [ad. L. *sēvocāre*, f. *sē-* apart, aside + *vocāre* to call.] *trans.* To call apart or aside. 1623 COCKERAM II, To Call aside, *Seuoke.*

†Se·vous, *a. Obs. rare*–¹. [ad. L. *sēvōs-us*, *sēōsus*, f. *sēv-um*: see SEVUM and -OUS.] Of the nature of suet or tallow.

1725 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 223 A thick Layer of sevous Fat.

‖ Sèvres (sɛ̄vr), *a.* Forms: 8 Sève, Seve, 8–9 Sèvre, Sevre, 9– Sèvres. [The name of a town in France, near Paris.] The designation of a costly porcelain made at Sèvres.

1764 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 287 We saw the china you speak of at Poiriers,..; it is Sevre china. 1782 H. WALPOLE *Let. to T. Walpole* 6 Sept., A cup and saucer of the Sève china. 1789 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* (1892) 101 A table formed of Seve porcelain. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 81 A salver of Sèvre coffee-cups. *Ibid., Man of Many Fr.* I. 294 Etruscan vases, and Sèvres tables. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxii, The Benvenuto Cellini carvings and the Sèvres porcelain. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxi. 254 A basket of beautiful old Sèvres china.

absol. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxii, The Sèvres and bronze, the buhl and ormolu. 1870 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* 40 The breakfast, in dainty Sèvres and silver.

‖ Sevruga (sevrū·gă). Forms: 6 severiga, 9 sewruga, 8–9 sevruga. [Russ. севруга *sevrúga.*] A species of sturgeon, *Acipenser siellatus.*

1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (1857) 12 The fish called bellougina, the sturgeon, the seueriga, and the sterledey. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* III. 143 The several kinds of sturgeon, namely beluga, sturgeon, and sevruga. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 218 One thousand sevrugas produce one pood and a quarter of isinglass. 1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav. Cauc.* 308 The most common fishes in the Terek are carp, barbel, sturgeon and sewruga.

‖ Sevum (sē·vŭm). [L. *sēvum*, *sēbum.* Cf. SEBUM.] Suet, as used in pharmacy.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1141 Or siftid askis clene And seuum molton, held in euery chene. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sevum*, Suet. 1853 ROYLE *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 733 *Sevum*...Fat of Ovis Aries, the Sheep. Suet... Useful in giving consistence to ointments and plasters.

Sevyan, sevyne, obs. forms of SEVEN.

†Sew, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 sēaw, sēa, (3 -sæw), 4–5 seew, seue, 4–6 sewe, 5 oewe, seau, 5–7 sew, 6 seu. [OE. *sēaw* neut. = NFris. *sâtje, sei, siź*, OHG. *sou*, MHG. (genit. *sowes*) juice, poison, food:—OTeut. **sawwo-*. Cf. ON. *sǫgg-r* wet, dank. The root may be identical with that of Gr. *θεϝ* (:— **su-*) it rains.]

1. Juice, moisture, humour. (OE. only; but cf. ME. ELESÆW oil, in Ormin.)

Cf. the combs. *līfsēaw* synovia, *plūmesēaw* plum-juice.

c 900 *Bede Glosses* in Sweet *O. E. Texts* 182 *Sucum*, sea. *a* 2000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 268 Wiþ ðæra earena sare, ȝenim þisse sylfan wyrte [*sc.* of foxglove] seaw, mid rosan seawe. *Ibid.* II. 176 Cumaþ þa adla...ou [*? read* of] yflum seawum.

2. Pottage, broth; a mess of pottage. (Cf. *figsue*, FIG *sb.* 10.)

In the 15th c. sometimes used as the equivalent of OF. *cive* onion broth, minced meat stewed with onions. (Cf. quot. *c.* 1440.) There may have been a disyllabic *seve* (a. OF. *cive*) which may have been confused with the native word because of the ambiguity of the spelling.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 108 Pyse ilk renkes..Schul neuer.. suppe on sope of my seve. *Ibid.* 825 Penne ho saueres with salt her seuez vchone. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 59, I wol nat letten of hir straunge sewes. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvii. 4 Whanne thou hast take ony thing bi huntyng, make to me a seew therof. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* lxix. 246 Flesh y-rostid, wych is more bottyr than in seau, or sode in watyr. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Sewe, *sepulatum. Ibid.* 454/2 Sew, *sepulatum.* 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 572/7 *Ceplarium*, sewe. *c* 1500 LAUT *Wyl Buché's Test.* a iij, The potage stued tripes and Noumbles in sewe. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 309 Beware of eatyng of frutes, potages, and sewes. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxv, To have gud spiced Sewe and Roste, and plum-pies for a King. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xx. xvi. II. 63 If a thicke grewell or sew be made thereof. 1633 J. FISHER *Fuimus Troes* III. ix, Hidder, eke and shidder, With spiced sew ycramd.

fig. 1645 *Answ. Pref.* 89 You..durst not upon the peril of quenching your kitchin-fire; put forth your single sew of translation, without the Coloquintida of your Annotations.

attrib. 1459 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89 Item ij sewpottez.

Sew, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [a. OF. **sewe, saiwe*, aphetic f. **esseve, escheve*, f. *essever* SEW *v.*[4]

But cf. the synonymous SOUGH (north. dial. *seugh*), which may conceivably have undergone alteration through association with SEW *v.*[4] and SEWER *sb.*[1]]

A sewer, drain.

1475 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 27 The hows of Robert Raynald next by stoppes the watyr sew, that the water may not hawe it reght corsse. *Ibid.*, The new sewes in Gouththorp..is defectyve. 1585 HIGINS *Nomenclator* 391/2 *Cloaca*, the towne sinke: the common sew. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 237 Common Sewes or Sinks. 1710 FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 244 Julep..scoms out feculent Rubbish..of the Body [and] sweeps it into the Common-Sew of the Circulating Blood. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, *Sew*, an underground drain. 1898 B. KIRKBY *Lakeland Words* 127 *Sew*—Mig hole, sewer, muck midden.

Sew (siū), *a. dial.* Also sue, zoo, etc. [? Shortened form of *a-sew* (s.w. dial.): see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* This word may possibly represent OE. *āsiwen*, pa. pple. of *āsēon* to strain, drain.]

Of a cow: Dry of milk. Chiefly in phr. *to go sew*, also *to go to sew.*

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 To go Sew: i. e. to go dry, Suss[ex] spoken of a cow. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 36 Thee hast a let the Kee go zoo vor Want o' strocking. 1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* s. v., A cow is said to be gone to sew when her milk is dried off. 1886 *W. Somerset Wordbk.* s. v. *Zoo*, We milks twenty cows, but you know they never baint all in milk to once, some be always zoo.

¶ **b.** The alleged subst. use = 'a cow which gives no milk' is perh. based on an erroneous analysis of *a-sew* (see above).

1681 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 331 A Cow is a Sew when her Milk is gone. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sew* (Country-word), a Cow, when her Milk is gone. 1885 SWEETMAN *Wincanton Gloss.* (E.D.D.).

Sew (sō), *v.*[1] Pa.t. **sewed** (sōud). Pa. pple. **sewed, sewn** (sōun). Forms: 1 seowan, siwan, seowian, siowian, siwian, 2 sewen, 3 seouwen, 4 seu, souwe, sowen, 4–6 sewe, 4–8 sowe, (5 sawe), 6 *Sc.* schew, 6–7 sow, 7–9 *Sc.* shew, 5– sew. *Pa. pple.* 1 seowed, 3 ise(o)uwed, 4 isued, y-sewed, 4–8 sowed, (5 saude, sawede), 6 soude, sowd, *Sc.* sowit, 7 sewit, 4– sewed; 4–6 sowen, 7 sewen, 9– sewn. [Com. Teut. and Indogermanic: OE. *siwan*, *siowan* (usually, with change of conjugation, *siwian*, *siowian*, *seowian*) = OFris. *sta* (mod.Fris. dial. *siije*), OHG. *siuwen*, ON. *sýja* (Sw. *sy*, Da. *sye*), Goth. *siujan*:—OTeut. **siwjan*, cogn. w. the synonymous L. *su-ĕre*, Gr. (*κασ-*)σύειν, Lett. *schuju*, OSl. *šiti* (Russ. ШИТЬ, ШИВАТЬ), Skr. *sīv* (3 sing. pres. *sīvyati*, pa. pple. *syūtá*; derivatives are *syū* fem., needle or thread, *syūman* suture).

The root (for which Hirt suggests a primary form **seyewa-*) appears in the words above quoted as **syū-*: **sīw-*. Another ablaut-grade, **syow-*, is found in OTeut. **sauwo-* SEAM *sb.* The pronunciation (sō[u]) is abnormal (cf. *strowe*, var. of *strew*, repr. OE. *streowian*); the written forms show that it goes back at least to the 14th c. In the 17th c. *sew* sometimes rhymes with *clue*, *new*; the mod.Sc. pronunciation is (sū).]

1. *trans.* To fasten, attach, or join (pieces of textile material, leather, etc.) by passing a thread in alternate directions through a series of punctures made either with a needle carrying the thread, or with an awl; to make the seams of (a garment, etc.).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1773 *Sarcio*, siouu. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 7 Hiz..siwodon ficleaf and worhton him wædbrec. *c* 1000 — *Saints' Lives* xv. 23 Sum sutere siwode [*v.r.* seowode] þæs halzan weres sceos. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 Schepieð, and seouweð, and amendeð chirche clooes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19766 To seu þe pouer þair clething. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* P 256 They sowed of fige-leves a manere of breches. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 36 Fylle thy bagge ..And sew hit fast. 1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 506 Item of lyncum tuyne to schew the Quens curges tua unce. 1576 G. BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 21 A Bagge..shaped and sowen after this manner. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Wks. 1910 II. 171 When shoomakers make shoes, That are wel sowed. 1666 *Third Adv. to Painter* 29 Bring home the old ones, I again will sew And dearn them up to be as good as new. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 243 A boy who sowes point in the forenoon. 1843 HOOD *Song Shirt* 31 Sewing at once, with a double thread, A Shroud as well as a Shirt. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 40 She can get a girl to sew them for her.

b. To fasten, attach, or fix (something) by this process *on, upon, in, to, round* (etc.) something else.

a 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark II. 21 Nan man ne siwaþ niwne scyp to ealdum reafe. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1804 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 158 In þe schipes seile an heiz þis holi man let do Ane Croiz, þat Man fer isaiȝ Iseuwed faste þer-to. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 16, I souwide a sac vpon my skin. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 685 A vernicle hadde he sowed on his cappe. 1464 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 376 As it appiers in a cedule to þis sewed. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 8 Preamble, The said Diers..uppon the lystes of the same Clothes festen and sowe greate Rissbes. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iv. 39 Faire Philomela she but lost her tongue, And in a tedious Sampler sowed her minde. 1635 R. N. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 267 His head was soone after sewed to his body by his friends, and committed to buriall. 1681 DINELEY *Jrnl. Visit Irel.* in *Trans. Kilkenny Arch. Soc.* Ser. II. II. 28 [They] adorn it with flowers, sewen to the shroud. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* vi, Two slips of parchment, which she sewed round it, to prevent its being chafed. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 362 She had a black ribbon sewn round her lame finger.

fig. 1598 Q. ELIZ. *Hor. de Arte Poet.* 20 Oft to beginnings graue and shewes of great is sowed A purple pace. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* i, My own good breeding is not so firmly sewed to me but that I can doff it, and resume it again without its losing a stitch.

c. with adv., esp. *on, together.*

c 1290 *St. Edmund Conf.* 54 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 433 And euere ȝwane heo sende heom cloþes..þare-with heo wolde herene sende faste i-seuwede with-inne. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 7 Thei soweden to gidre leeues of a fige tree. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 424 The other two and Paule also, had as it were sowed together certen fragmentes and patches. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 105 Prams, sowed together with hempe and cord. 1709 FELTON *Diss. Classics* (1718) 32, I can compare such Productions to nothing but rich Pieces of Patchwork, sewed together with Pack-thread. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 269 Mere tents of dressed buffalo skins, sewed together and stretched on long poles. 1855 LADY E. FINCH *Sampler* (ed. 2) 83 To Sew on a Button. 1901 L. F. DAY & M. BUCKLE *Art in Needlework* (ed. 2) xii. 116 A thread may be laid across and sewn down—couched, as it is called.

d. *Surgery.* = *sew up*: see 4 a.

c 1502 *Joseph Arim.* 269 The wounde to sewe fast he began to spede. 1795 J. BELL *Disc. Wounds* 17 *note*, The older Surgeons..called it a Continued Suture when they sewed the wound all along like a seam. 1801 — *Princ. Surg.* II. 52 Except in those cuts which are so slight as only to require a cloth to be wrapped about the part, every wound ought to be sewed.

e. *Bookbinding.* To fasten together the sheets of (a book) by passing a thread or wire backwards and forwards through the back fold of each sheet, so as to attach it to the bands: distinguished from *stitch.*

1637 *Star Chamber Decree* in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 9 Nor cause any such [books] to be bound, stitched, or sowed. 1809 C'TESS CHARLEVILLE in *Lady Morgan's Mem.* (1862) I. 366, I read *Ida* before it was all issued from the press, a volume being sent me as soon as sewed.

f. With cogn. obj.: To make (a seam).

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 166 Kerving þe cloþe all to pecis, þat seuene goode sowers sixe wekes after Moun not sett þe seemes ne sewe hem aȝeyn. *c* 1400, 1630 [see SEAM *sb.*[1] 1].

2. *absol.* and *intr.* To work with a needle and thread.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 136 þis man..toke hys schone to hym, and began forto sawe on hit. And as he sewet full helt [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 67 Whan a virgyn begynneth fyrst to lerne to sewe in the samplar. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 77 As I was sowing in my Chamber. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Art Love* I. 780 What means Eacides to spin and sow? 1846 J. E. TAYLOR *Fairy Ring* 65 She sat steadily at her work, sewing away at the shirts. 1855 BROWNING *In a Year* iii, When I sewed or drew. 1891 MORRIS *Poems by the Way* (1896) 162 Hellelil sitteth in bower there, And seweth at the seam so fair.

3. *trans.* To enclose *in*, put *into* a cover or receptacle secured by sewing; = *sew up*, 4 b.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3060 þan þa komeli quen kast in hire hert, Sche wold wirche in þis wise wel to be sewed In an huge hindes hide as þe oþer were. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 195 Peraventure ȝe schal kepe my body if it be sewed [1432–50 sawede] in a hertes skyn. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 124 Her picture sowd in his apparell nere vnto his breste. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 137 Master, if euer I said loose-bodied gowne, sow me in the skirts of it. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 27 Sow these spices in a little bag. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 797 They sow'd them in the Skins of Bears And then set Dogs about their Ears. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxx, Nell had still the piece of gold sewn in her dress. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, The diamonds were sewed into her habit.

4. Sew up.

a. To close (an orifice, a wound, also anything that envelops) by stitching the edges together.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* li. (1890) 143 Merencyus..made his wounde to be shwed [*? read* sewed; orig. *faisoit coudre sa playe*] vppe, that was yet full sore. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 181 The lordes sat still..neither whisperyng nor spekyng, as though their mouthes had been sowed up. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 148, I commanded the sleeues should be cut out, and sow'd vp againe. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 436 ¶ 9 The Wound was exposed to the View of all who could delight in it, and sowed up on the Stage. 1776 *Trial Nundocomar* 31/1, I sewed up the bag with my own hand. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 37 A surgeon sewed up the wound. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 224 The fishermen..generally sew up the mouth before placing it with others.

¶ *transf.* To keep (one's mouth) resolutely closed. *? nonce-use.*

1785 H. WALPOLE *Let. to C'tess Upper Ossory* 20 June, I sewed up my mouth, and though he addressed me two or three times, I answered nothing but yes or no.

b. To enclose *in* a cover or receptacle and secure it by sewing.

1611 BIBLE *Job* xiv. 17 My transgression is sealed vp in a bagge, and thou sowest vp mine iniquitie. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacrif.* II. ii, A Creature Sow'd vp in painted cloth, might so be styl'd. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Nuptial Song* xv, But since it must be done, dispatch, and sowe Up in a sheet your Bride. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, He has sewn up ever so many odaliques in sacks and tilted them into the Nile. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 234 A piece of paper sewed up in a cloth button.

c. *slang.* (*a*) To tire out (a horse). (*b*) To tire out, exhaust (a person); to nonplus, bring to a

standstill; to put *hors de combat*; to outwit, cheat, swindle. (*c*) To make hopelessly drunk. (*d*) *To sew up one's stocking*: to put to silence, confute.

(*a*) 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 17 He preserves his cattle in such rare condition, that with great difficulty are they to be 'sewn up'. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Inside Bar* x, I like you young fellows to enjoy yourselves..and sew up your horses and come home.

(*b*) 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxix, Here's Mr. Vinkle reg'larly sewed up vith desperation, miss. *Ibid.* lv, 'Busy!' replied Pell; 'I'm completely sewn up'. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm. Ser.* II. x. 154 You might have traded with him, and got it for half nothin'; or bought it and failed, as some of our importin' marchants sew up the soft-horned British. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* xiii. 113, I have introduced him to you as soon as I could, and you must sew him up as quickly as you can. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* ii. 12, I did not think there was a man living who could have sewn me up in ten minutes like that; but you are..quick with your fists. 1857 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* II. xvii, He told Fred Tattenham in confidence that if the men who were in his debt did not come up to the scratch on settling day he should be regularly 'sewed up'.

(*c*) 1829 BUCKSTONE *Billy Taylor, Kitty.* (*Aside, and taking out a vial.*) This liquid, sent me by Monsieur Chabert, The fire-king, will sew him up. 1840 J. T. J. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* xx, We must ply him with liquor, for I don't think a little will sew him up. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* v, To use Jack Horan's own phrase, the apothecary was sewed up before he had any suspicion of the fact.

(*d*) 1859 READE *Love me Little* xxvi, At this home thrust Mrs. Wilson was staggered...'Eh! Miss Lucy', cried she, 'but ye've got a tongue in your head. Ye've sewed up my stocking'.

5. *Comb.*: **sew-and-fell** *attrib.*, made by sewing and felling; **sew-round**, used *attrib.* to designate a method of sewing the upper of a shoe directly to the sole; also *sb.*, a shoe so made.

1880 *Plain Hints* 27 The edge of the patch should be turned down as for a sew-and-fell seam. 1885 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* xi. 94 In the best sewrounds, the sole is reduced to the thickness of the upper. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Nov. 4/3 Men engaged in the sewround branch of the boot trade. 1900 C. RUSSELL & H. S. LEWIS *Jew in London* 78 In the 'sew-round' or slipper-making trade.

†Sew, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 cew, 5–6 shew, 6 sewe. [Back-formation from SEWER *sb.*2] *trans.* To place (food) on the table as a sewer does; *intr.* to act as a sewer.

The gloss *cepulo* in *Promp. Parv.* is due to association with SEW *sb.*[1]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cewyn, *cepulo. Ibid.* 454/2 Sewyn, at mete.., *ferculo, sepulo. c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe, & G.* 208 A fatt goos..is sewid [*v.r.* served] vp atte kingis table. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 36 He [the sewer] seweth at one mele, and dyneth and soupeth at another mele. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 366 First, mustard and brawne, swete wyne shewed therto. 1530 PALSGR. 716/2, I sewe at meate, *je taste. a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 14 b, The esquier whiche was acustomed to sewe and take the assaye before kyng Rychard. 1560 RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 67 In some places the Caruer doth vse to shew and set down. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* III. vii. *marg.*, La-Foole passes ouer sewing the meate.

†Sew, *v.*[3] *Falconry. Obs.* [aphetic a. OF. *essuer, essuier* (mod.F. *essuyer*) to wipe, cleanse :—L. *exsūcāre* to deprive of juice, f. *ex-* out + *sūcus* juice.] *trans.* Of a hawk: To wipe (the beak) after feeding.

c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 296 An hawke suyth is beke and not wypith. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a vj, An hawke snytith or sewith hir beke and not wipith hir beke. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 289 Let hir tire against the Sunne, snyting and sewing hir beake a little at your discretion.

Sew (siū), *v.*[4] Also 6 seaw, sewe, 7 siew, 7–9 sue. [a. OF. (north-eastern) **sewer* (latinized *sewāre*), aphetic a. OF. *essewer, essever*:—popular L. **exaquāre*, f. L. *ex-* out + *aqua* water.

The OE. *séon* (pa. pple. *gesiwen*) had precisely the sense 2 below. It is possible that in this sense the vb. may be a distinct word, from the OE. pple. The F. *suer* to sweat may also be a partial source.]

1. *trans.* To drain, draw off the water from. Now *dial.* Also, † to draw off (water).

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 487 [They] slewe and hurte many of the abbottes tenauntes, and spoyled and brake his closures and warynes, and sewyd their pondes and waters. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 32 Sewe ponds, amend dams. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, J. Cæsar* (1595) 785 He determined to draine and seaw all the water of the marishes. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xiii. 45 Mills, for Siewing of surrounded grounds. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 268 A good time to sew Fish-ponds, and take Fish. 1853 W. D. COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sue*, to make furrows to draw off water from land. 1887 *Kent Gloss., Sew*, to dry; to drain; as, 'To sew a pond.'

2. *intr.* Of a liquid: To ooze out, exude. (Said also of the containing vessel.) Now *dial.*

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1567) 53 The droppes of bloud that from the head did sew Of Gorgon being new cut off. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 292 Whensoever the humor makes a shew to sew out at the hawkes eares. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 79 The Percolation or Suing of the Veriuyce through the wood. *Ibid.* § 410 Some Wheat lay vnder the Pan, which was somewhat moistned by the Suing of the Pan. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. clxvii, The deadly juice that from his brain doth sue. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIV. 549 The water sues through the brick work. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 337 *Sew*, to ooze out. Water, from wet land—blood, from a bound-up wound. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Sue*, to issue in small quantities; to exude as a fluid from a vessel not sufficiently tight to confine it.

3. *Naut.* **a.** Of a ship: To be grounded, to be high and dry; also (with specifying addition), to have its water-line (so much) above the water.

c 1588 in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) I. 16 For that she was aground and sewed two foot, and could not be gotten off. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 45 When the water is gone and the ships lie dry, we say she is Sewed; if her head but lie dry, she is Sewed a head; but if she cannot all lie dry, she cannot Sew there. 1676 WOOD *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1694) I. 166 The Water did Ebb, and the ship Sued above 3 Foot. 1745 P. THOMAS *Voy. S. Seas* 178 At Low-Water she Sued about one Foot and a half. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor* s. v., When a Ship at low Water comes to be on the Ground to lie dry, they say, she is Sewed; and if she be not quite left dry, they say, she Sews to such a Part. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Sewed*, If a ship runs aground on the tide of ebb, and it be required to know if she has sewed, the water line ..is examined, and this mark being found above the water, she is said to be sewed by as much as is the difference. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 109 If the water has left her two feet, she has sued two feet.

† **b.** Of the water: To subside or diminish in depth. *Obs.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 355 The tide of ebb making, the water sewed to sixteen feet.

†Sew, *v.*[5] *Obs.*—[0] *intr.* Of a cow: To go dry. (Perh. only a compiler's error; cf. SEW *a.*)

1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v., To Sew, or go Sew, to go dry; spoken of a cow.

Sew, obs. f. SAW *v.*, SHOW *v.*, SOW *sb.*, *v.*, SUE *v.*

Sewable (siū·ăb'l), *a.* [f. SEW *v.*[4] + -ABLE.] Capable of being drained.

1848, 1894 [see DIKE-REEVE].

Sewage (siū·ĕdʒ), *sb.* [Formed after SEWER *sb.*[1] (apprehended as a derivative with -ER[1]) by substitution of suffix: see -AGE.

The assumed verb-stem implicit in this formation coincides in form and sense with SEW *v.*[4], but, unless the sb. is much older than the evidence shows, it was prob. framed without any knowledge of the verb as having been actually used.]

1. Refuse matter conveyed in sewers.

1834 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Metrop. Sewers* 169 A grating..through which the lighter and thinner parts of the sewage would rise. 1849 in *Mech. Mag.* Aug. (1850) 177/1 The separation of the sewage from the surface waters 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 25 Shallow wells are very apt to be contaminated..by sewage soaking from cesspits.

fig. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Dec. 749/1 (art.) Newspaper Sewage. 1884 *Bookseller* 6 Nov. 1190/1 The literary sewage which is pouring forth from the Paris press.

2. = SEWERAGE 1, 2. *rare.*

1834 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Metrop. Sewers* 136 The public have ..built more sewage within the same level and the same term of years. *Ibid.* 182 Have you any communication to make..respecting the want of sewage in Holloway? 1850 OGILVIE, *Sewerage, Sewage*, The system of sewers or subterranean conduits for receiving and carrying off the superfluous water and filth of a city; as, the *sewage* of the city of London.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sewage-outfall, -question, -water, -works*; **sewage farm**, a farm on which sewage irrigation is practised; so **sewage farming**; **sewage grass**, grass grown on land fertilized by sewage; **sewage irrigation**, the system of disposing of liquid sewage by turning it on to land; so **sewage-irrigated** *a.*

1870 CORFIELD *Treatm. Sewage* 234 Examples of *Sewage Farms. *Ibid.* 271 Influence of *Sewage-Farming on the public health. 1888 *Science* 30 Mar. 156/1 *Sewage-grass is very inferior to normal herbage. 1867 B. LATHAM *Purif. Sewage* 10 The *sewage-irrigated farm of Beddington. 1870 CORFIELD *Treatm. Sewage* 237 Near Edinburgh, *sewage irrigation has been going on for the last 200 years. 1858 *Prel. Rep. Comm. Sewage Towns* 11 The present state of *sewage outfalls. 1850 *Mech. Mag.* Aug. 177/1 The Metropolitan *Sewage question. 1854 BAZALGETTE & HAYWOOD *Rep. to Metrop. Sewers Comm.* 5 The commercial value of *sewage water, and the cost of its conversion into dry manure. 1884 *Punch* 16 Feb. 82/1 The Vestry strongly object to *sewage-works being there erected.

Sewage (siū·ĕdʒ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To irrigate or fertilize with sewage.

1861 *2nd Rep. Comm. Sewage Towns* 24 Plot 2. To be irrigated with sewage at the rate of 3,000 tons per acre per annum. Plot 3. To be sewaged at the rate of 6,000 tons per acre per annum. 1880 [cf. SEWAGED 1].

2. To furnish with sewers, drain with sewers.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Dec. 11/2 The streets..are badly paved, abominably sewaged [etc.]. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Sewaged (siū·ĕdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. SEWAGE *v.* or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Fertilized by the application of sewage.

1861 *2nd Rep. Comm. Sewage Towns* 28 Ten Hereford oxen were tied up in a shed; two to be fed on unsewaged grass, and the remaining eight to receive sewaged grass. 1880 H. ROBINSON *Sewage Disposal* 25 Weeds which are a source of trouble and expense on sewaged land.

2. Contaminated with sewage.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Aug. 9/2 'Sewaged water never can get pure' says another.

Sewaging, *vbl. sb.* [f. SEWAGE *v.* + -ING.]

In quot. 1610 app. an independent word, f. SEW *v.*[4]

1. The action of draining by means of sewers.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. ii. 50 Bancking, balking, dyking, drayning, sewing, sewaging, rilling.

2. The action of irrigating with sewage.

1894 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* June 348 Berlin adopted very stringent regulations for the management of the [sewage] farms and for the sewaging of each field in particular. *Ibid.*, A careful systematic sewaging of the land.

†Sewane. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 145 Seroppis, sewane, sugour, and synamome.

Sewant, Sewantly: see SUANT *sb.* and *a.*, SUANTLY.

Sewar, obs. form of SEWER, SOWAR.

Sewarry, variant of SOWARRY.

Sewch, Sewdarie, obs. ff. SHEUGH, SUDARY.

Sewe, obs. form of SEW, SIEVE, SOW *v.*, SUE *v.*

Sewed (sōud), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SEW *v.*[1] Cf. SEWN.] Joined, fastened, etc. by stitching.

1585 HIGINS *Nomenclator* 113/2 *Corona sutilis.* A sowed garland, or a garland the flowers wherof are tied together with thread. 1601 in *T. Pont's Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitl. Club) 179 Twa pair curtingis with sewit rebbenis. 1652 in Beck *Gloves* (1883) 152 Twenty four shillings for the Doz. of twice shewed sheep leather. 1763 in Macgill *Old Ross.sh.* (1909) 148 A Black gauze sewed hood. 1861 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Oct. 79/2 Bonnet of sewed rice straw. 1861 *Times* 4 Oct. 7/4 The trade in sewed muslins. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 279/1 Whether 'sewed' or 'open-tanned' goat-skins are preferable.

b. Of books: Having the sheets stitched together, but not bound.

1766 *Catal. Mod. Bks.* 87 Young's (Dr. Edward)..Conjectures on Composition 8vo, sewed, 0 1 0. 1834 *J. R. Smith's Catal. Bks.* May 5/2 Historie of Friar Rush, 4to, sewed 2s 6d.

Sewed, obs. form of SUET.

†Sewee. ? Variant of SOY. (Cf. F. *soui.*)

1737 WESLEY *Jrnl* 2 Dec., Sewee Beans, about the Size of our Scarlet, but to be shelled and eaten like Windsor Beans.

Sewel, variant of SHEWEL *Obs.*, scarecrow.

Sewellel (sĭwe·lĕl). [See quot. 1893.] A small rodent of the Western coast of the United States, *Haplodon rufus.* Called also *mountain-beaver* (see MOUNTAIN 9 c).

1814 LEWIS & CLARKE *Trav. Missouri* (1815) III. 30 Sewellel is a name given by the natives to a small animal found in the timbered country on this coast. 1859 S. F. BAIRD *Mammals N. Amer.* 353 *Aplodontia leporina*, Rich. Sewellel; Showt'l. 1887 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* (1896) III. 97 The sewellel is torpid during the winter. 1893 COUES in *Lewis & Clark's Exped.* III. 861 *note*, It seems by the later researches of George Gibbs into the unspellable jargon of the Columbia River Indians, that 'sewellel' is their name for the robes, mistaken by Captain Lewis for the name of the animal.

Sewen, obs. f. SEWIN, SUE *v.*; obs. pa. pple. of SEE *v.*, SEW *v.*[1]

Sewer (siū·ər), *sb.*[1] Also 5 suer(e, 6 sewar souer, 7 sewre, sure, 7 seward. See also SYRE, SYVER (*Sc.*; prob. unconnected), and SHORE *sb.*[4] [a. OF. (north-eastern) *se(u)wiere* channel to carry off overflow from a fishpond (latinized *seweria*, 1264 in Du Cange):—L. type **exaquāria* (cf. med.L. *exaquātōrium*), f. **exaquāre* (L. *ex-* out + *aqua* water), whence OF. *essever* to drain off, with which are connected OF. *essevour, -eur, essoeuer, essouere* drain, ditch. (For the phonology cf. EWER.)

Until the 16th c. chiefly in legal formulæ as representing the earlier Anglo-Latin *sewera* or Anglo-Fr. *sewer(e.*]

1. An artificial watercourse for draining marshy land and carrying off surface water into a river or the sea. Also *water-sewer.*

[1299 *Memoranda LTR* 26 & 27 Edw. I, m. 5r (Public Rec. Office), Per defectum reparacionis Walliarum Watergangarum et Seweraruum contra impetum fluctuum aque Humbrie.] 1402–3 [see *sewer-gate* in 5]. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 493/1 For Sewers, Walles of Mersshes, Dyches, Gutters. 1482 *Ibid.* VI. 210 Makyng of Sewers for avoidyng of lake waters. 1543 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, XVIII. II. 118 For skoryn of a water souer. 1610 *N. Riding Rec.* I. 200 Tho. Skarth of Carlton in Cleveland, theldest, [presented] for stopping of the water-sewer upon the West Shortflatt. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXV. 5 One general sewer which seemeth to divide Low Holland from the high. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 22 § 22 It shall..be lawful for the Occupier ..of Land..adjoining to any..Sewer..to take..such Gravel, Soil,..and Weeds.

transf. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 187 The great ryuer of Wharfe, which is the great sewer of y^e^ broke, and of all the water comyng from Towton.

2. An artificial channel or conduit, now usually covered and underground, for carrying off and discharging waste water and the refuse from houses and towns. *Common sewer*: a drain through which all or a large part of the sewage of a town passes, a main drain collecting and discharging the contents of auxiliary drains. Cf. SHORE *sb.*[2]

The development of this sense (*c* 1600) is prob. due to the fact that the drainage of towns near tidal rivers had come under the control of the commissioners of sewers. See Act 3 Jas. I, c. 14 (1606).

Technically, 'sewer' is distinguished from 'drain', the latter being restricted to channels used 'for the Drainage of one Building only or Premises within the same Curtilage' (Act. 11 & 12 Vict. c. 112 § 147).

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. i. 83 *Ther.* Sweet draught: sweet quoth-a? sweet sinke, sweet sure. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 423 A sewer within the ground to ridde away filth. 1611 COTGR., *Gesse*, a common sinke or sewer. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* V. xli, Vnder whose Floore, the common Sewer past Vp to the same, a loathsome stench that cast. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 387 It was no noysome Ayre, no Sewre or Sinke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 446 As one who long in populous City pent, Where Houses thick and Sewers annoy the Aire. 1684 I. PETER *Siege of Vienna* 42 Some

Men were discovered in the Common-Sewer. 1739 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 72 Drains or Sewers discharging themselves into a small Arch. 1834 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Metrop. Sewers* 136 Open and Covered Sewers built within the Ranelagh Level. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 389 Fleet Ditch, which was perhaps the first main sewer of London. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 713/1 For small sewers, circular pipes of glazed earthenware..are used, from 6 inches to 18 inches in diameter...Where the capacity of an 18-inch circular pipe would be insufficient, built sewers are used in place of earthenware pipes.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iv. 16 This Island hath from time to time been no other than as a sewer to empty the superfluity of the German Nations. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 94 London! the needy villain's general home, The common sewer of Paris, and of Rome. 1765 FALCONER *Demag.* 240 His black entrails, faction's common sewer. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 39 A territory Wherein were bandit earls,..Assassins..this common sewer of all his realm. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zero* ix, The moral sewer of Europe.

3. *Law.* a. *Commission of Sewers*: (*a*) a royal commission issued to a number of persons (hence called *Commissioners of Sewers*) constituting them a temporary court with authority for the repair and maintenance of 'walls, ditches, banks, gutters, sewers, gotes, causeys, bridges, streams and other defences by the coasts of the sea and marsh ground lying and being within the limits of' a specified district liable to inundation from the sea or rivers; also, the body of commissioners of sewers for a district; (*b*) a body of municipal officers (abolished by Act 60 & 61 Vict. c. 133, 1897) who were responsible for the control of the 'sewers' (sense 2) in the City of London; these officers were first appointed in pursuance of the Act 19 Chas. II, c. 8 (1667), and were invested with the title and jurisdiction of commissioners of sewers by the Act 7 Anne, c. 32 (1708).

The term 'Commission of Sewers' (AF. *Commission de Sewerez, de Sewers*) occurs first in 1427 (Rolls of Parlt. IV. 333/1 and Act 6 Hen. V, c. 5), but the issue of similar commissions is recorded in 1314 (Rolls of Parlt. I. 319/1) and in 1322 (Placit. Abbrev. 339/1).

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 109/1 Hit was ordeyned..that by x yere then next folwyng, severals Commissions of Sewers shuld be made unto divers persones. 1504 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 9 The kynges Commyssioners of Sewers. *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 227 One of the Kynges Commysioners of Sewers. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 2 The authoritie to you yoven by the Commission of Sewers. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 135 If a Collector or Officer of Sewers do distrain a man, or do any other act contrary to an Inhibition of Sewers to him directed by the Commissioners of Sewers. 1623 BACON *Ordin. Chancery* § 94 (1642) 20 The Commission of Sewards. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4442/4 The Commissioners of Sewers for the Levels of Havering and Dagenham. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 22 § 60 The Words 'Court' and 'Court of Sewers' ..shall..be deemed to mean every Court..of any Six or more Commissioners of Sewers..named in any Commission of Sewers. 1848 *Act* 11 & 12 *Vict.* c. 112 § 3 The Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers. 1881 *Ann. Local Taxation Returns* 112 Monies Raised and Expended by Commissioners of Sewers during the Year last ended.

b. *Law of Sewers*: a local law relating to embankment and draining. *Statute of Sewers*: the Act 23 Hen. VIII, c. 5, relating to the issuing of Commissions of Sewers. † *Work of Sewers*: any of the works of defence against floods (e.g. a sea-wall, ditch, bank, gutter, sewer, etc.) to which commissions of sewers relate.

1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 3 Concerning the execution of any suche Lawes Ordynaunces and Constitutions of Sewers. 1605-6 *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 14 The saide Statute of Sewers [23 Hen. VIII, c. 5]. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 133 If one oppose against a Law of Sewers. *Ibid.* 138 If one do suffer a Wall, Bank, or other work of Sewers to fall into decay for want of repairing. 1661 N. N. *Narrative Drain. Fens* in Arb. *Garner* I. 317 A Law of Sewers made at Saint Ives. 1835 *Tomlins' Law Dict., Romney-marsh.* A large tract of land in the county of Kent..which is governed by certain..laws of sewers.

4. Elliptical for: Commissioner of Sewers. *Obs.*

1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Sewer*..one that hath authoritie to ouerlooke water courses. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 247 The Sewers are Commissioners that sit by vertue of their Commission and authority grounded upon divers statutes, to enquire of all nusances and offences committed by the stopping of rivers [etc.]. 1675 ASHMOLE *Mem.* (1717) 53 This Morning a Jury of Sewers set out my Brick Wall made towards the High-way. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Clerk of the Sewers*, an Officer belonging to the Commissioners of Sewers, who writes down all Things they do, by virtue of their Commission. 1901 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VII. 496 Some of the family were 'sewers' of Wisbech.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sewer-assessment, authority, -ditch, grating,* †*law* (see 1 b), *-man, -rate, -water*; **sewer-air, -gas,** atmospheric air mixed with gas formed by the decomposition of sewage; **sewer-block,** a stoneware brick used for building the walls of sewers; †**sewer-gate,** a floodgate at the mouth of a drain or water-course; **sewer-heading** (see HEADING *vbl. sb.* 11); **sewer-hunter,** one who searches sewers; **sewer-rat,** the brown rat (*Mus decumanus*) common in sewers and drains.

1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* ii. (ed. 2) 23 A stream of "sewer air coming up the back staircase of a grand London house from the sink. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 313 Similar symptoms may follow poisoning by sewer air, if this be concentrated. 1814 *Regent's Park* 72 He misunderstood the nature of the "sewer assessments. 1893 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/1 The Corporation..are at once the "sewer authority and the road authority. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 50/1 Sanitary stoneware..including drain-pipes.. "sewer-blocks [etc.]. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 390 Open sewer-ditches, into which drains were emptied. 1870 CORFIELD *Treatm. Sewage* 174 It would be difficult to imagine a more ingenious method for delivering "sewer gases at high pressure into houses than the one above described. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 716/1 The corrosive action of sewer gas. 1402-3 *Doc. New Romney*, [An entry about new gates to the sluice of the] "suergate. 1897 W. RYE *Norfolk Songs* 42 He cut his wife up into small pieces and dropped her down "sewer gratings. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 236/2 Note on a Boulder met with in driving a "Sewer-Heading in Liverpool. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 151 The "sewer-hunters usually go in gangs of three or four for the sake of company. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 40 The works done in pursuance of this Act, not to be subject to the "sewer-laws. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 383 Of the "Sewermen and Nightmen of London. *Ibid.* (1861) II. 431/1 The "sewer-rat is..said by the Jacobites to have come in with the first George. 1888 WOOD *Farmer's Friends* 23 Sewer-rats, of course, are to some extent beneficial. 1823 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Sewers Metrop.* 15 Laying a "sewer rate over the whole district. 1848 *Act* 11 & 12 *Vict.* c. 112 § 77 Every District Sewers Rate to be made under this Act. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1864) II. 463, I..regard the Thames in the neighbourhood of the metropolis as nothing less than diluted "sewer-water.

[*Note.*—In the collocations 'Commission of sewers', 'works of sewers', etc., the word had virtually a much wider meaning than sense 1 above; it practically denotes any means of defence against inundation from the sea. The formula enumerating the things placed under the control of the commissioners begins with 'walls' (1322 more fully 'sea-walls', *murorum maritimorum*) and mentions 'sewers' only in the fifth or sixth place. This had already attracted the attention of lawyers early in the 17th c.; in 1622 Callis (*Stat. Sewers*, ed. 1647, p. 57) states that 'some compound the word of *sea* and *were*' (=WEIR, defence). Although sense 1 is certainly genuine, and the etymology stated at the head of this article is well established, it seems not impossible that there may have been some early confusion with a native compound of the formation suggested by the writers referred to by Callis. No instance of OE. "*sǽwer*, however, is known; a (†plural) *sǽ-wǽre*, of obscure meaning, occurs A.D. 1045 (Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* No. 776): 'Se izgað æt portes bricge & healfe sæ-wære & se mylnstede æt Mannæs bricge.' The Anglo-Latin derived verb *sewerare* (1314 in *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 319/1) appears to mean 'to protect from flood'.

The pseudo-etymological spelling *seward* (quot. 1623 in 3) is noteworthy. Skinner (Etymol. 1671, s. v.) erroneously attributes to Minsheu the statement that the word 'was formerly written *seward*, perhaps from *seaward*, either because they [*sc.* sewers] are made towards the sea, or because they ward off the sea'.]

Sewer (sīū·ɔɹ), *sb.*[2] Now only *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 **sewere,** 4–7 **sewar,** 5 **seware, ceware,** 5–6 **sever, 6 sawere,** 7 **sewre,** 4– **sewer**; *β.* 6 **shewere, shower,** 6–7 **shewer.** [aphetic a. AF. *asseour*, f. OF. *asseoir* to cause to sit, seat:—L. *assidēre*, f. *ad-* + *sedēre* to sit. ASSEWER (q.v.) is not recorded so early as the aphetic form. The *β*-forms are assimilated to *shew, show.*] An attendant at a meal who superintended the arrangement of the table, the seating of the guests, and the tasting and serving of the dishes.

Down to the 15th c. it was the designation of an officer of the Royal Household; it survived somewhat later as the title of a ceremonial office at coronations.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 639 As sewer in a god assyse he serued hem fayre, Wyth sadde semblaunt & swete of such as he hade. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 251 Olyver, cheef sewere of þe kynges bord. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Ceware at mete. 1447–50 Q. MARG. *Lett.* (Camden) 97 Oure trusty and welbeloved Squier Thomas Burneby, sewer of our mouth. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 535/2 Oure Servaunt William Wade, Squier, Sewer of oure Chambre. 15.. in W. Jones *Crowns & Coronat.* (1883) 119 [At the coronation of Elizabeth, queen of Henry VII, 1487] the lorde Fitz-water, sewer, or dapifer, attended..and served the messes. 15.. *Bk. Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 17 A viscount..may haue Caruer and Sewer, with there Towells, when they sett there seruisse on the table. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. Stage Direct., Enter a Sewer, and diuers Seruants with Dishes and Seruice ouer the Stage. 1637 N. WRITING *Albino & Bellama* 129 The dropsied Host, like to a Sewre did strut To marshall every dish. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 2) 257 The Sewers of the Chamber are 8. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Apr. 1661, Gent. Ushers, Daily Waiters, Sewers, Carvers. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* I. 178 The sewer with savoury meats Dish after dish, served them. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, Let the master of my lord's household see that both clerk and sewer taste the dishes which the one dresses and the other serves. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 168 *note*, Atholl performed the part of sewer, and Morton of carver.

β. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxxi. 36 b/1 Sir yuan of Leichell was shewer and sir Gracyen bare his cuppe. 1533 MORE *Answ. poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1036/2, I beshrew such a shewer as so serueth in the supper, that he conueieth away the best dysh. 1553 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 119 Therls of Sussex claymethe to be shewer at dyner the daye of the coronacion. 1565 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 204 Athall shower, Morton carvar, Crayforde cupbearer. 1602 W. S. *Life Cromwell* IV. iv. Stage Direct., Enter the Usher and the Shewer, the meate goes ouer the Stage.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. lviii, His maister sewar hecht verteous discipline. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 7 It shew'd but green practise..to blurt upon the eares of a judicious Parliament with such a presumptuous and over-weening Proem: but you doe well to be the Sewer of your owne messe. 1649 — *Eikon.* xxiv. 192 Som such place, as may stile them the Sewers, or the Yeomen Ushers of Devotion.

Sewer (sōū·ɔɹ), *sb.*[3] Forms: 4–5 **sower,** 5 **sawer,** 7 **shewer,** 5, 8–9 **sewer.** [f. SEW *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who sews.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 165 Seuene goode sowers sixe wekes after Moun not sett þe seemes ne sewe hem aʒeyn. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 795/21 *Hec sutrix*, a sewer. 1481 in *Eng. Gilds* 314 That no man of the forsayde crafte [of tailors] set no new sawer a-warcke a-bofe the spasse of xv. days. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 331/2 A Sewer, *filator, sutor, sutrix.* 1652 in Beck *Gloves* (1883) 152 [The Craft] ordains every boy and fial to take such work from his Master as his shewers cast. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sewer*..He that uses a needle. 1870 *Echo* 30 Dec., The sewer has it placed on a long table round which she travels, stitching as she goes. 1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* 21 It will be better if the cords are a little to the right of the press, so that the sewer may get her or his left arm to rest better on the press. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 108 She was not only a neat sewer, but could cut out men's shirts.

Sewer (sīū·ɔɹ), *v.*[1] Also 6 sewar. [f. SEWER *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** *trans.* To drain. *Obs.*

1565 in *Arch. Cantiana* XIII. 269 A cricke, or waterwey, sewared or dryed upp.

2. To furnish (a town, road, etc.) with a system of sewers. Hence **Sew·ering** *vbl. sb.*

1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. I. 155 These towns have been sewered under the improved system. 1865 *3rd Rep. Comm. Sewage of Towns* 210 The sewering of towns on correct principles ought to be promoted, so as to ensure cleanliness, comfort, and health. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 July 2/1 In some of the southern cities of America..sewering, draining, and scavenging have brought about great improvement. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. li. II. 287 To grade, pave, and sewer streets.

† **Sew·er,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. SEWER *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To act as sewer at a meal.

c 1553 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 652 A Gent. to sewerer yf they were not otherwise occupyed in the Q. busynesse. 1623 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.*, To Sewer or taste before, *vide Hazer salva. a* 1641 FINETT *Observ.* (1656) 156 His assertion was not followed for the better convenience of the said Officers carving and sewering. 1647 HEXHAM II, To Sewer, *Voor-smaecken, voor-tasten.*

Sewer, obs. form of SURE.

Sewerage (sīū·ərēdʒ). [f. SEWER *sb.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. Drainage by means of sewers; a method or system of draining by sewers.

1834 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Metrop. Sewers* 149 The tenantry are paying sewer-rates; they never have enjoyed sewerage. *Ibid.* 150 To prepare a sewerage and manage it themselves. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 317/2 How imperfectly the advantages of good sewerage are appreciated. 1892 EMINSON *Epid. Pneumonia* 12 Good sewerage will, I trust, banish this disease as effectually.

attrib. 1848 *Act* 11 & 12 *Vict.* c. 112 § 34 The Limits of such Sewerage Districts. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 57 Glazed sewerage-pipes. 1865 *Times* 5 Apr. 3/1 The opening..of the great sewerage works.

b. The carrying away *of* refuse.

1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* v. 246 The hole [in the altar rock] is an aperture for the sewerage of the blood of victims.

2. *concr.* Sewers collectively; the system of sewers belonging to a particular locality.

1834 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Metrop. Sewers* 150, I have seen a programme of the street; I think that is the position in which the sewerage is. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 389 Our arched and subterraneous sewerage. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* v. 46 Whose foul-smelling gutters have been replaced by under-ground sewerage.

3. Sewage.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 383 Which forms a part of the street mud..of the scavenger's cart, rather than of the sewerage. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* II. 182 The Tiber..enriched with city sewerage. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) June 207 To carry sewerage of Chicago toward the Mississippi river.

b. *fig.* Moral filth or garbage.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xl, [She] poured a little social sewerage into his ears. 1868 SWINBURNE *Blake* 131 The weltering sewerage of Aphra's unreadable and unutterable plays. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 230 The foulest depths of literary sewerage.

Sewering, *vbl. sb.*: see SEWER *v.*[1]

Sew·erless, *a.* [f. SEWER *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no sewers.

1854 *Chamb. Jrnl.* I. 209 The saturated and sewerless ground. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 850/1 Sewerless cities.

Sew·ery, *sb. rare.* [f. SEWER *sb.*[2] + -Y.] The office or apartment used by a sewer.

1852 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* I. 68 In household rolls of the thirteenth century the daily expenditure is almost always classed under the following heads; 1. The amount of bread, wine and beer supplied from the sewery and butlery.

Sew·ery, *a.* [f. SEWER *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].] Characteristic of sewers.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 390 The Fleet Ditch seems always to have had a sewery character. 1896 *Punch* 1 Dec. 257/1 Some thought them [the smells] like Eau-de-Cologne, whilst their foes Denounced them as sickly and sewery.

Sewet, obs. form of SUET, SUIT.

Seweyne, obs. Sc. form of SEVEN.

Sewin[1] (sīū·in). Forms: 6 **suwynge, sewing,** 8 **shewin,** 9 **sewen, suin,** 8– **sewin.** [Of obscure origin: app. not Welsh. Cf. SUANT *sb.*] A fish of the Salmon tribe (*Salmo cambricus* or *eriox*), the bull-trout, found in Welsh rivers.

1532 in G. T. Clarke *Carta Glamorgan* IV. 454 Yeldyng and paynge yerely to the sayd abbotte..x. samones v. gyllynges and xliij[te] suwynges..or elles..for euery cuple

sewinges 1. d. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 248 Taken in the river Wye, where it is known by the name of Sewin, or Shewin. 1805 DUNCUMB *Agric. Heref.* 17 The botcher resembles the suin taken in the Welsh rivers. 1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. ii. 52 The sewin will most likely prove our Scotch hirling or whiting. 1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict.* c. 109 § 4. 1900 *Field* 28 July 153/1 There is not a better sea trout or sewin river in North Wales.

Sewin[2] (sĭū·in). Corrupt form of *sewel*, SHEWEL.

1886 WALSINGHAM *Shooting* (Badm. Libr.) I. 201 A substitute for nets in covert shooting, where it is desirable to stop the winged game rather than the ground game, is commonly known as 'sewin'. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 85/2 (Pheasant) The number of stops may be materially reduced by the use of the sewin.

Sewin(e, obs. Sc. forms of SEVEN.

Sewing (sōu·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Forms: 3 seuwingue, 4–5 sewinge, 4–6 sowinge, 5 sawyng, sowenge, soyng, 5–6 sewin, 5, 7, sowing, 6 *Sc.* schiuine, 7 soweing, soeing, 4– sewing. [f. SEW *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of SEW *v.*[1]; the use of a needle and thread; the uniting of pieces of material (etc.) by this means. In *Bookbinding*: see SEW *v.*[1] 1 e.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 261/18 With spinningue and with seuwingue hire liflode heo wan. 1428–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 71 The lauendere for a hole þere wasshynge & sowenge ..ij s. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xiii, [A taylle] whiche surmounted alle the other in shapynge or sewynge. 1566 in Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 506 Item for schiuine and the fassoune and pontis. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 13/3 Sowinge of a wounde is a vnitinge and coupling together of the dissevered partes with a threded needle. 1691 RAY *Creation* III. (1704) 322 To manage the Needle in Sowing and the Pen in Writing. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 155 The rise of the tailor's art did not take the constant occupation of sewing out of the hands of women. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2.v. *Bookbinding*, A machine for folding sheets for gathering, sewing and binding.

b. with prefixed word denoting the kind.

1878 JEVONS *Primer Pol. Econ.* 72 Those who were not.. wise enough to learn machine-sewing, receive better wages for hand-sewing than they would formerly have done.

2. *concr.* Work sewn; materials to be sewn; the stitches or seams of anything.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 143, & þanne bynde þe nose wiþ two bandis..þe toþir schal be leid aboue þat he mowe kepe þe plumaciols, poudre, & þe sowynge. 1565 in Fleming *Reform. Scot.* (1910) 610 Four coffarris with hir clayis and sewingis. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 177 (Near to the Sewing), not at ye Top of ye Page. 1845 MRS. M. J. HOWELL *Hand-bk. Dress-making* 47 No opportunity should be lost in making the sewing look well. 1865 HATTON *Bitter Sweets* iii, Mrs. Grey looked up from her sewing.

3. *pl.* Sewing thread or silk: see 4.

1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 184 Sewings are compound threads of silk, wound, cleaned, doubled and thrown, with especial reference to their ultimate use as sewing-silk. 1853 PERKINS *Haberdashery* (ed. 8) 24 Cloth Sewings—coarse large skeins for tailors' use. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 3656, Dyed and polished yarns and sewings.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sewing-work*; = employed in sewing or in teaching sewing, as *sewing-class*, *-maid*, *-mistress*, *-society*, *-woman*; of materials used for sewing, as *sewing cotton* (COTTON *sb.*[1] 3), †*gold* (GOLD *sb.* 4), *silk*, *silver* (SILVER *sb.* 4), *thread*, *worsted*; of contrivances, etc. for holding materials to be sewn, as *sewing-bird*, *-frame* (FRAME *sb.* 13 b), *-horse*, *-press* (PRESS *sb.*[1] 10), *table*; **sewing-brod** *Sc.*, a tailor's board; **sewing-clerk**, in the glove trade, a district collector of sewing done by home-workers; †**sewing-rope**, ? some kind of rope used for scaffolding.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sewing-bird*, ..a device for holding the work while sewing... It has assumed many forms, the bird being ornamental and holding the work in its beak. 1790 A. WILSON *Callamphitre's Elegy*, He at the **sewing-brod* was bred, And wrought gude serge and tyken. 1864 LAYCOCK *Lanc. Rhymes* 62 We couldn't have an easier job nor goin' to th' *sewin' class. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 May 4/1 The glove-making counties are mapped out into circuits, each of which has its *sewing clerk or commercial traveller. 1826 *Haberdasher's Guide* 13 Coloured *Sewing Cottons. 1818 *Art Book-binding* 1 *Sewing-frame, with brass or iron keys, to fasten the cords or bands. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 43/1 When taken out of the sewing-frame the fly-leaves are pasted on. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 191 Twa gret hankis..*sewing gold. 1566 in Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 505 Item of schiuine gold iiij doubil hankis. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sewing-horse*, a harness-maker's clamp for holding leather while being sewed. 1886 *York Herald* 23 Aug. 1/5 Useful *Sewing-maid. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 75 § 3 The term 'teacher' includes assistant teacher, pupil teacher, *sewing mistress. 1623 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 6 Smaller wiers, *sowing-needles and such like small waights. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 540, I stuck the point of this sewing needle to the lower extremity of a steel magnet. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 144 If a common steel sewing needle be substituted for the iron [etc.]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Bookbinding*, They are then sew'd in the *Sewing-Press. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 24 Sept. 380/2 When the book is taken from the sewing-press, an inch or two of each string is left hanging to it. 1336 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/3 m. 4 *Sewenge rope [made of skin (*pelle*)]. *a* 1515 *Build. Louth Steeple* in *Archæologia* X. 74 Paid to Robert Beverley for 6 bunch sewing rope, 0 0 5. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 287 The *sewing-school, the pastry-school, were then essential branches of female education. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 136 *Sowing sylk, j lb. ij unces and a quarter. 1621 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 426 Stitching and soeing silke, 4*s. 6d.* 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 190 Trimmings, ribands, sewing-silk, and lining. 1546 in *Extracts Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 226 *Sewing sylver, to be sawld in punds. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 32 They have among themselves a *sewing Society to make clothes for the poor. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Sewing-table*, a table or bench at which signatures of books are sewed to the cords or bands by which they are fastened together, and also secured in the cover. 1566 in Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 499 Four pound of fyne *suyng threide. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things Sea-side* iv. 247 Scarcely larger than a sewing thread. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 25 All the *sewing women I knew of being unable to come. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 343 She..took up her *sewing-work. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 296 *Sewing worsett the dozen pound weght thairof.

†**Sew·ing**, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SEW *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of a sewer; the arrangement of the guests and serving up of dishes or courses.

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 37 The manner of sewing of dishes at the dressour. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 270 Here foloweth sewynge of flesshe. *Ibid.*, The borde of sewynge. *Ibid.* 286 Here endeth the boke of seruyce, & keruynge, and sewynge. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 430 Dinner and supper was served in with all accustomed ceremonies, as sewing, water, grace, carving, say taking, &c. 1660 R. MAY *Accompl. Cook* (1665) B 4 b, The Sewing of Fish...To go to the sewing of fish, muscalade, minews in sew [etc.]. [1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 72 The terms of carving and sewing.]

Sew·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. SEW *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That sews.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iii, The fair sewing fingers.

Sewing, -ly, var. ff. SUING, SUINGLY.

Sew·ing-machine. [SEWING *vbl. sb.*[1]]

1. A machine designed to perform the operation of sewing.

1847 *Artisan* Mar. 65/1 Sewing Machine. A new machine for sewing has recently been invented [etc.]. 1858 HOGG *Shelley* II. 457, I thought very little of it [*sc.* Cleopatra's Needle], ..after having seen the sewing-machine in London. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 411 Two pieces of waterproof cloth, sewn together by the sewing-machine.

attrib. 1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy Did at Sch.* ii. 37 The nice half-dozens of pretty underclothes came home from the sewing-machine woman's. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v. *Bobbin*, A bobbin for sewing-machine shuttles.

2. *Bookbinding.* (See quot.)

1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* 176 *Sewing-machine*, a recent invention for the sewing of books with wire instead of thread.

Hence **Sew·ing-machi·nist.**

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 75 Sewing Machinist.

Sewinti, obs. form of SEVENTY.

Sewirer, obs. comparative of SURE.

Sewit, obs. f. SUIT. **Sewl**, var. f. SULL. *dial.*

Sewn (sōun), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SEW *v.*[1]] Stitched, fastened by means of sewing. Chiefly with prefix, as *hand-sewn*, *machine-sewn*.

1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 645 The operator, who keeps drawing the sewn cloth off at the eye-end of the needle. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 73 Sewn Ornament Maker. 1895 *Hasluck's Boot Making* iii. 57 Shoemakers call all work sewn that is treated with a round awl; while stitching is only technically applied where the square awl is used.

Sewn(e, obs. forms of SEVEN.

Sewr(e, Sewrance, obs. ff. SURE, SURANCE.

Sewre, obs. form of SEWER *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2]

Se·wster. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Forms: 4–5 sewestre, -stare, sou-, sowe-, sywester(e, 4–9 sewster, 5 sew-, sowstare, 5–9 sowster, 6 seu-, sewe-, sewstar. [f. SEW *v.*[1] + -STER. Cf. Fris. dial. (Hinderlooper) *syster.*] A sempstress.

1391 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 86/26 Edwyne Moreyn sewster pro filo ab ipsa empto. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 362 Sesse þe sywestere [*v. rr.* sowester, sewestare, sewestre, soustere; A. v. 158 souters, *v. r.* soustere; B. v. 315 souteresse, *v. r.* sowestere]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 454/2 Sewstare, or sowstare (sowares) *sutrix*. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 40 Taylourys, sowsterys. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 238 Brotherers, sylkewomen, and all seusters craftis occupye redyls. 1550 BALE *Engl. Votaries* II. 29 A yonge wenche..whych was a very connynge sowster. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 450 Labouring Women, and Sewsters, and Seruants, and Handmaids. 1590 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber C.* 121 Le sewester sive silkewoman. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II. iii, At every twisted thrid my rook let flie Unto the sew'ster, who did sit me nigh. 1657 C. BECK *Universal Char.* K 7 b, A sewster. 1824 MACTAGGART in Trotter *East Galloway Sk.* (1901) 370/1 When plowman Tam meets sewster Bess His dogg'rel rhymes he'll chime till her. 1825 JAMIESON, *Sewster*, a sempstress. [ed. 1882 also *Sowster.*]

Sewte, obs. f. SUIT *sb.* **Sewy**, obs. f. SUE.

Sewyn, obs. pa. pple. of SEE *v.*

Sewyr, obs. form of SURE *v.*

Sex (seks), *sb.* Also 6–7 sexe, (6 seex, 7 pl. sexe, 8 *poss.* sexe's). [ad. L. *sexus* (*us*-stem), whence also F. *sexe* (12th c.), Sp., Pg. *sexo*, It. *sesso*. Latin had also a form *secus* neut. (indeclinable).]

1. Either of the two divisions of organic beings distinguished as male and female respectively; the males or the females (of a species, etc., esp. of the human race) viewed collectively.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* vi. 19 Of alle thingis hauynge sowle of ony fleshe, two thow shalt brynge into the ark, that maal sex and femaal lyuen with thee. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* II. 152, I had as leue he bare them both a bare cheryte, as wyth the frayle feminyne sexe fall to far in loue. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* E 4 b, Neither of them debarred the heires female..as though it had ben..vnnatural for that sexe to gouern. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* XCVIII, I speake against my sex. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 158 The sexe of womankind of all other is most bound to have regardfull eie to mens judgements. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* F 3 b, A woman they imagine her to be, Because that sexe keepes nothing close they heare. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 274 If wee respect the..conformation of both the Sexes, the Male is sooner perfected..in the wombe. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 19 Both sexe goe naked. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 822 To add what wants In Femal Sex. 1671 — *Samson* 774 It was a weakness In me, but incident to all our sex. 1679 DRYDEN *Troilus & Cr.* I. ii, A strange dissembling sex we women are. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 10 ¶6 Their Amusements..are more adapted to the Sex than to the Species. 1730 SWIFT *Let. to Mrs. Whiteway* 28 Dec., You have neither the scrawl nor the spelling of your sex. 1742 GRAY *Propertius* II. 73 She.. Condemns her fickle Sexe's fond Mistake. 1763 G. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 265 It would astonish you to see the mixture of sexes at this place. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* VI. § 35 The sensibility of the female sex appears..to be greater than that of the male. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. iii, Her sex's dress regain'd. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. II. 51 Solon also made regulations for the government of the other sex. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* Feb. 41 The propriety and necessity of dividing the sexes during the publick offices of the Church. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXV, She was by no means so far superior to her sex as to be above jealousy. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, It was a school for both sexes. 1886 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* ii, Zadwiga had not yet given any serious attention to the other sex.

b. *collect.* followed by plural verb. *rare.*

1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* IV. (Globe) 632/2 Our sex are like poor tradesmen. 1839 MALCOM *Trav.* (1840) 40/1 Neither sex tattoo any part of their bodies.

c. *The fair(er), gentle(r), soft(er), weak(er) sex*; *the devout sex*; *the second sex*; †*the woman sex*; the female sex, women. *The* †*better, sterner sex*: the male sex, men.

[1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* E vij b, Y^e magnificency & liberalitie of that gentle sex. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 38 Strong Sampson and wise Solomon are witnesses, that the strong men are slaine by this weaker sexe.]

1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* III. (1652) H 4, I am bound by a strong vow to kisse all of the woman sex I meet this morning. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIV. l, The softer sex, attending Him And his still-growing woes. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 22 Whiles the better sex seek prey abroad, the women (therein like themselves) keep home and spin. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. ix. 176 Persons of the fairer Sex. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Nov. an. 1644, The Pillar..at which the devout sex are always rubbing their chaplets. 1701 STANHOPE *St. Aug. Medit.* I. XXXV. (1704) 82, I may.. not suffer my self to be outdone by the weaker Sex. 1732 [see FAIR *a.* 1 b]. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* x. 65 An elegant degree of plumpness peculiar to the skin of the softer sex. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. cviii, Benign Ceruleans of the second sex! Who advertise new poems by your looks. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* 430 It is much frequented by the fair sex. 1894 C. D. TYLER in *Geog. Jrnl.* III. 479 They are beardless, and usually wear a shock of unkempt hair, which is somewhat finer in the gentler sex.

¶ **d.** Used *occas.* with extended notion. *The third sex*: eunuchs. Also *sarcastically* (see quot. 1873).

1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. lxxxvi, From all the Pope makes yearly, 'twould perplex To find three perfect pipes of the third sex. *Ibid.* v. xxvi, A black old neutral personage Of the third sex stept up. [1873 LD. HOUGHTON *Monogr.* 280 Sydney Smith..often spoke with much bitterness of the growing belief in three Sexes of Humanity—Men, Women, and Clergymen.]

e. *The sex*: the female sex. [F. *le sexe.*] Now *rare.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 235 As he that had tolde a long tale before certaine noble women, of a matter somewhat in honour touching the Sex. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 101 b, Not yet weighing with himselfe, the weaknesse and imbecillitie of the sex. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* I. ii, I am called The Squire of Dames, or Servant of the Sex. 1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* II. ii, He has a strange penchant to grow fond of me, in spite of his aversion to the sex. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcix, The men of Asia behave with more deference to the sex than you seem to imagine. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 220 The sex of Venice are undoubtedly of a distinguished beauty. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. lxxix, We give the sex the *pas*. 1863 R. F. BURTON *W. Africa* I. 22 Going 'up stairs', as the sex says, at 5 a.m. on the day after arrival, I cast the first glance at Funchal.

f. Without *the*, in predicative quasi-adj. use = feminine. *rare.*

a 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 368 She hugg'd th' Offender, and forgave th' Offence, Sex to the last!

2. Quality in respect of being male or female.

a. With regard to persons or animals.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 282 b, Y^e bee, whiche neuer gendreth with ony make of his kynde, nor yet hath ony distinct sex. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 72 b, If by corps supposd may be her sexe, then sure a virgin she. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) A 3 Euen as Hares change shape and sex, some say Once euery yeare. 1638 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iii. 18 A critical view of bones makes a good distinction of sexes. *a* 1665 DIGBY *Chym. Secrets* (1682) II. 225 Persons of all Ages and Sexes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 424 For Spirits when they please can either Sex assume, or both. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., I find I was mistaken in the sex, 'tis a boy. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* IV. v, As for me, my sex protects me. 1824 SCOTT *Betrothed* xiii, I am but a poor and neglected woman, feeble both from sex and age. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 349 When persons of different sexes walk together, the woman always follows the man. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish N. S. Wales* 116 Oysters are of distinct sexes.

b. with regard to plants (see FEMALE *a.* 2, MALE *a.* 2).

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 28 Some seeme to haue both sexes and kindes: as the Oke, the Lawrell and such others. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* (ed. 2) 49 There be sexes of hearbes..namely, the Male or Female. 1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* iv. 237 These being very evident Proofs of a necessity of two Sexes in Plants as well as in Animals. 1790 SMELLIE *Philos. Nat. Hist.* I. 245 There is not a notion more generally adopted, than that vegetables have the distinction of sexes. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 80 Change of Sex under the influence of external causes.

3. The distinction between male and female in general. In recent use often with more explicit notion: The sum of those differences in the structure and function of the reproductive organs on the ground of which beings are distinguished as male and female, and of the other physiological differences consequent on these; the class of phenomena with which these differences are concerned.

Organs of sex: the reproductive organs in sexed animals or plants.

a 1631 DONNE *Songs & Sonn., The Primrose* Poems 1912 I. 61 Should she Be more then woman, she would get above All thought of sexe, and think to move My heart to study her, and not to love. *a* 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Siedge* III. vi, My Soul's As Male as yours; there's no Sex in the mind. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lxii. (1749) II. 119 There may be a kind of sex in the very soul. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 129 Besides number, another characteristic, visible in substances, is that of sex. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 68 Athenè..has nothing of sex except the gender, nothing of the woman except the form. 1887 K. PEARSON *Eth. Freethought* xv. (1888) 429 What is the true type of social (moral) action in matters of sex? 1895 CRACKANTHORPE in *19th Cent.* Apr. 607 (art.) Sex in modern literature. *Ibid.* 614 The writers and readers who have strenuously refused to allow to sex its place in creative art. 1912 H. G. WELLS *Marriage* ii. § 6. 72 The young need..to be told..all we know of three fundamental things; the first of which is God,..and the third Sex.

¶ **4.** Used, by confusion, in senses of SECT (q. v. 1, 4 b, 7, and cf. 1 d *note*).

1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xx. 358 So are all sexes and sorts of people called vpon. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* L iij b, Whether thinkest thou better sporte & more absurd, to see an Asse play on an harpe contrary to his sex, or heare [etc.]. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 180/2 in *Holinshed*, The whole sex of the Oconbours. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 359 O detestable furie, not to be found in most cruell beasts, which spare the blood of their sexe. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Friendship* Wks. 1711 IV. 56 We have had enough of these Christians, and sure there can be no worse among the other Sex of Mankind [i. e. Jews and Turks]? 1707 ATTERBURY *Large Vind. Doctr.* 47 Much less can I imagine, why a Jewish Sex (whether of Pharisees or Saducees) should be represented, as [etc.].

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sex-distinction, function,* etc.; *sex-abusing, transforming* adjs.; **sex-cell,** a reproductive cell, with either male or female function; a sperm-cell or an egg-cell.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. lxxi, Mad-making waters, sex trans-forming springs. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 415 Sin, that in old time Brought fire from heav'n, the sex-abusing crime. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xxxvii, You cannot have celebrity and sex-privilege both. 1887 *Jrnl. Educ.* No. 210. 29 If this examination craze is to prevail, and the sex-abolitionists are to have their way. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* 91 Very commonly the sex-cells originate in the ectoderm and ripen there. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 317 The sex-distinction slowly gathers definition. 1897 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* VIII. 230 Loss of Sex Function.

Sex (seks), *v.* [f. SEX *sb.*] *trans.* To determine the sex of, by anatomical examination; to label as male or female.

1884 GURNEY *Diurnal Birds Prey* 173 The specimen is not sexed, neither is the sex noted on the drawing. 1888 A. NEWTON in *Zoologist* Ser. III. XII. 101 The..barbarous phrase of 'collecting a specimen' and then of 'sexing' it.

Sex, obs. form of SIX.

Sex- (seks), repr. L. *sex* six in combination (as in *sexangulus* SEXANGULAR, *sexennis* SEXENNIAL), occurs in many mod. formations, chiefly scientific or technical. (In some of these SEXI- is also used.)

1. Forming parasynthetic compounds, as *sexannulate* (= six-ringed), *sexarticulate, sexcuspidate, sexlocular, sexradiate, sextubercular, -tuberculate* adjs. (see ANNULATE, etc.); **sexdi·gital, -di·gitate, -di·gitated** (also **sedigital,** etc. after L.) *adjs.*, having six digits (fingers or toes); **sexdi·gitism,** the condition of having six digits; **sexdi·gitist,** one who has six digits; **sexfa·rious** *a. Bot.* [mod.L. *sexfarius*], see quot.; **se·xfid** *a.* [mod.L. *sexfidus*], divided into six segments; **sexta·ctic** *a. Math.*, pertaining to or involving six coincident points of contact.

1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 317 *Leucocera,*.. Abdomen elongate, *sexannulate. Ibid.* 345 *Chironomus,* ..Antennæ filiform,..in females *sexarticulate.* 1899 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 560 In the molars..the derivation from the *sexcuspidate type is equally recognizable. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Sexdigital,* having six digits. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. xii. 13 The child of the fifth generation would have only 1-32nd part of the blood of his *sedigitated ancestor. 1775 ASH *Suppl.*, **Sexdigitism.* 1845 A. CLARKE *Bible Comm.* II. 2 Sam. xxi. 20 Maupertius..says, that he met with two families near Berlin, where sexdigitism was equally transmitted on both sides of father and mother. 1880 PROCTOR *Rough Ways* 211 In a branch of a well-known Scotch family sex-digitism—after continuing for three or four generations—has apparently disappeared. 1775 ASH *Suppl.*, **Sexdigitist.* 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, **Sexfarious*, presenting six rows, extending longitudinally round an axis. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xi. (1776) 26 In respect to its Segments..it [a calyx] is.. *Sexfid, in six. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. (1794) 341 The exterior calyx..in Alcea is sexfid. 1777 ROBSON *Brit. Flora* 34 *Sexlocular, divided into six cells, as in Asarum. 1853 MACDONALD & ALLAN *Bot. Word-bk.* 29 *Sexlocular*, applied to a pericarpium which has six internal divisions or cells. 1874 J. E. GRAY in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* Ser. IV. XIII. 288 Sponges with spicules of the *sexradiate type. 1859 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 228 The twenty-seven *sextactic points form nine groups of three each. 1893 *Ibid.* (1897) XIII. 387 Halphen assumes that $a^2d-3abc+2b^2$ is the sextactic reciprocant. 1890 *Nature* 20 Mar. 467/1 The addition of a postero-internal cusp in the bunodont series gives us the *sextubercular molar. 1899 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 558 The unworn molars..are..*sextuberculate.

b. *Chem.* In the names of classes of compounds, denoting the presence of six atoms, molecules, or combining proportions of the substance indicated by the second part of the compound, as *sexalu·minate, sexbo·rate, sexde·cyl.* Also in other kinds of words: † **sexba·sic** *a.*, having six combining proportions of the base; **sexva·lent** *a.*, having an equivalence of six, combining with or replacing six hydrogen atoms.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 219 The mineral might be considered as composed of 2 atoms sexaluminate of magnesia 1 atom tersilicate of magnesia. 1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 839 A hydrated sexbasic nitrate of lead is formed. 1849 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 89 Sexborate of soda. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 632 Sexdecyl, or Cetyl Alcohol,..also called Ethal, is obtained from spermaceti. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 243 Sulphur, regarded as sexvalent, may take with it into combination the quinquivalent group. 1877 — *Fownes' Chem.* I. 256 Sexvalent elements, or Hexads.

2. Combined with a numerical element: **sexde·cimal, sexduode·cimal, sexo·ctonal** *adjs.* (see quots. 1816, 1822); **sexde·cimo** = SEXTODECIMO; **sexmillena·rian** *a.*, holding the doctrine of the 'sexmillenary duration' of the world: **sexmille·nary, -mille·nnial** *adjs.*, of 6000 years.

1816 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 2) 201 **Sex-decimal*, when the planes that belong to the prism..and those which belong to the two summits, are the one six, and the other ten in number, or *vice versa*. In the same manner, we say, *octodecimal*, **sex-duodecimal* [etc.]. 1870 J. POWER *Handy-bk.* 112 *Sex-decimo,—sixteenmo; contraction, 16mo, now called foolscap 8vo. 1851 A. P. STANLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1893) I. 429 A conversation..going on between the Dean, Dr. Spry, and the *sexmillenarian C——. 1728 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* II. 16 The Prophecy of the Jews..of the *Sexmillenary Duration thereof [*sc.* of the World]. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 34 The prophecy..concerning the *sexmillennial duration of the world. 1822 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* (ed. 2) I. 36 Quadridecimal, octodecimal,..octosexdecimal, *sexoctonal, &c. when..a prism or the middle part of a crystal, and the two summits have the number of faces, indicated by the several names respectively. Thus..plomb carbonaté (carbonate of lead) sexoctonal.

Sexa-, irreg. for SEX-, SEXI-.

1891 *Century Dict., Sexadecimal.* 1905 KAMENSKY *Mendeleff's Princ. Chem.* (ed. 3) I. 441 *note*, Sulphur is bivalent towards hydrogen, and sexavalent as regards oxygen.

Sexagecuple, *a. rare.* [f. L. *sexāgintā* sixty, after *decuple.*] Proceeding by sixties.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Minute*, The Divisions of Degrees are Fractions, whose Denominators increase in a Sexagecuple Ratio.

Sexa·genal, *a.* [f. L. *sexāgēnī* 60 each + -AL.] = SEXAGENARY *a.* In recent Dicts.

Sexagenarian (seksădʒĭnē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *sexāgēnāri-us*: see SEXAGENARY and -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of the age of sixty years. Also, characteristic of one sixty years old.

1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* I. ii. 27 A sexagenarian sire. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* iii. 28 He gives a sexagenarian nudge to his companion.

B. *sb.* A person sixty years old.

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Sexagenary*, Some casuists dispense with sexagenarians for not fasting. 1826 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 88 The rouged cheek of the sexagenarian. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxxv, Your enamoured sexagenarians.

Hence **Sexagena·rianism,** the state of being sixty years old.

1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xlii, The sort of sexagenarianism beside which a young woman's happiness can sometimes contrive to keep itself alive in a quiet sleepy way.

Sexagenary (seksæ·dʒĭnări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *sexāgēnāri-us*, f. *sexāgēni* sixty each, distributive of *sexāgintā* sixty.

In some dicts. of the 18th and 19th c. the word is accented *sexagenary*, in some of the 18th *sexagenary*.]

A. *adj.*

1. *Math.* Of or belonging to the number 60; composed of or proceeding by sixties; pertaining to a scale of numbers of which the modulus is 60.

Sexagenary arithmetic = SEXAGESIMAL *arithmetic. Sexagenary table*, a table of proportional parts which shows at sight the product or quotient of any two sexagenary numbers to be multiplied or divided.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. (1597) 34 (*Bit*), The Sexagenary progression is alwaies to be vsed, as well in Diuision as in Multiplycation. *Ibid.* 37 b, The description and vse of the Sexagenarie Table. 1669–70 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men.* (1841) II. 93 In the study of..Mr. Halton I once saw one [*sc.* a mathematical canon] of Vlaccus to every ten sexagenary seconds. 1721 BAILEY, Sexagenary Arithmetick. 1785 HUTTON *Math. Tables* I Ptolemy, who used the sexagenary arithmetic for this division of chords and arcs, and for astronomical purposes. 1795 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* (1820) I. i. viii. 274 The emperor Yu,..who flourished.. about the middle of the third great sexagenary cycle. 1819 JAS. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* 398 Leaving the left hand column for the seconds, but they may be made to answer to any sexagenary proportion.

2. = SEXAGENARIAN *a.*

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 141 Though he was a Sexagenary Bridegroome. 1755 CHESTERF. in *World* IV. 132 The sexagenary widow remembers that she was handsome, but forgets that it was thirty years ago. 1819 BYRON *Wks.* (1846) 799/1 Having a sexagenary aunt of my own. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 88 Some will have this to be the due consequences of sexagenary decay. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 1038, I count it strange..That nearly all young poets should write old, That Pope was sexagenary at sixteen.

B. *sb.*

† **1.** *Math.* and *Astr.* = SEXAGESIMAL B. *sb.*

1668 GLANVILL *Plus Ultra* 23 The Decimal Arithmetick, which avoids the tedious way of computing by Vulgar Fractions in..Sexagenaries in Astronomy. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Sexagesimal Fractions, or Sexagenaries, are such as have always 60 for their Denominator. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sexagenary Tables*, are Tables of proportional Parts, shewing the Product of Two Sexagenaries, or Sexagena's that are to be multiplied; or the Quotient of Two, to be divided.

2. = SEXAGENARIAN *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xliii, The lad can sometimes be as dowff as a sexagenary like myself. 1841 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 290, I..went down an English country dance of fifty couples on the stone floor, no trifling achievement for a sexagenary.

Se·xagene. *Math.* Also in L. form. [ad. mod. L. *sexāgēna* fem. sing. f. L. pl. *sexāgēnī, -æ, -a*: see prec.] A quantity or number multiplied by sixty or a power of sixty; an arc of sixty degrees. *First, second,* etc. *sexagene*: the first, second, etc. stage in ascending order of a sexagesimal scale of numeration or measurement.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *ij, The Astronomers, for spede.. haue deuised a peculier maner of orderyng numbers, about theyr circular motions, by Sexagenes, and Sexagesmes. 1597 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. (ed. 2) 37 In those Tables are often vsed two kinds of denominations,..Sexagenæ and..Sexagesimæ,..the denomination Sexagenæ being set ouer any number doth signifie that the vnite of the Integrum is multiplyed by 60. But the denomination Sexagesimæ doth signifie that the vnite of the Integrum is diuided by 60. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 233 Bring all the Circles and Signs, or Sexagenae thereof, into Degrees. 1694 tr. *Oughtred's Key Math.* 32, 53″. 09′. 34″. *i. e.* 53 second Sexagenes; 9 first Sexagenes; and 34 Unites. 1709 MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* (1729) 77 Days also are accounted in Sexagenes, so that 60 Days make one Prime Sexagene: and sixty Prime Sexagenes, or 3600 Days makes one Second Sexagene, etc. 1728 [see SEXAGENARY B].

Sexagesima (seksădʒe·simă). *Eccl.* Also 4 **sexagesime,** 5 **-ym(e, -in, sexagesme,** 7 **sexagesm.** [Eccl. L., fem. (sc. *diēs*) of L. *sexāgēsimus* sixtieth, f. *sexāgintā* sixty. For the etymological meaning see SEPTUAGESIMA.] In full *Sexagesima Sunday*: the second Sunday before Lent. (Also † *Sunday in S.*: cf. SEPTUAGESIMA 2.) Hence *S. week.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 102 Sexagesime Sonday Gospel. *c* 1400 *Table of Lessons*, etc. in *Wycl. Bible* IV. 685 The Sonday in Sexages. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 193 At the fest of Sexagesyme fyfty shillyngis. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 69 Þys day ys called yn holy chirch Sonday in Sexagesin. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* (1892) I. 30 The sexagesme sygnefyeth the tyme of reuocacion. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Sunday called Sexagesima. 1638 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 314 Upon Sexagesima Sunday before Prime. 1710 WHEATLEY *Bk. Com. Prayer* v. § 9 The Gospel for Sexagesima-Sunday..admonishes us to be careful in the performance of our duty. 1883 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 559/2 To fast three days in Sexagesima and three in Quinquagesima week. 1886 E. MILLER *Text. Guide* 111 The Tuesday after Sexagesima.

Sexagesimal (seksădʒe·simăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *sexāgēsimālis*, f. L. *sexāgēsimus* (see next).]

A. *adj.* Proceeding by sixties; *esp.* pertaining to, involving, or based upon division into sixty equal parts (as seconds and minutes).

Sexagesimal arithmetic, a method of computation based on the number 60. *Sexagesimal table* = SEXAGENARY *table.*

1685 WALLIS *Alg.* vii. 20 Concerning this Process, by Sexagesimal Multiplication. *Ibid.*, The Sexagesimal Tables of Multiplication. *Ibid.* 21 The Arabs..have introduced.. their Table of Sines..., expressed in like manner by Sexagesimal Parts. 1694 tr. *Oughtred's Key Math.* 29 If there be several Sexagesimal Species joined to Integers, suppose 127. 32′. 00″. 09‴. 45⁗. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sexagesimal*, or *Sexagenary Arithmetic*, a Method of Computation, proceeding by Sixties. 1780 M. TAYLOR (*title*) A Sexagesimal Table, exhibiting, at sight, the result of any proportion, where the terms do not exceed sixty minutes. 1785 HUTTON *Math. Tables* I The sexagesimal division both of the radius and of the parts [of every circle]. 1826 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 439/2 Stifelius ventured to simplify the sexagesimal notation. 1876 tr. *J. Verne's Adv. Engl. & Russ.* iv. 36 The length of the pendulum that beats the sexagesimal second. 1887 *Academy* 3 Sept. 144/2 The sexagesimal numeration which we employ for the division of the hour.

b. *Sexagesimal fraction*: a fraction whose denominator is 60 or a power of 60.

1685 WALLIS *Alg.* vii. 19 Writers of Astronomical or Sexagesimal Fractions. 1749 S. LOWE *Arithm.* 72 Thus it is..

that Sexagesimal fractions..are reduc'd to decimal. 1858 *Catal. MSS. Univ. Libr. Camb.* III. 61 A table of the square roots of numbers from 1 to 102, calculated to three places of sexagesimal fractions.

B. *sb. pl.* Sexagesimal fractions; also, the system of sexagesimal fractions.

1685 WALLIS *Alg.* vii. 20 By this way of Multiplication and Division in Sexagesimals. 1694 tr. *Oughtred's Key Math.* 29 The Conversion of Sexagesimals into Decimals. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 93 By this Proposition, Fractions are reduced..into Decimals, Sexagessimals &c. 1794 CUNN *Doctr. Fractions* 62 Sexagesimals are such places of Figures below Unity, that decrease in a *60th* rate. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1. 25 The table is prepared as if for three places of sexagesimals. 1907 *Athenæum* 9 Nov. 589/1 The Elamites appear also to have used a decimal system of notation instead of the Babylonian sexagesimals.

Hence **Sexage·simally** *adv.*, into sixtieths.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 489/1 The talent of the 80 grain system was sexagesimally divided. 1900 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. V. 299/1 There is no utility, only needless complexity, in dividing 1° of arc sexagesimally.

†**Sexage·sime,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [As next.] Sixtieth (part).

1632 W. FORSTER tr. *Oughtred's Circles of Proportion* 66 To reduce sexagesime parts into Decimals. Diuide the sexagesimes giuen by 60.

†**Se·xagesm.** *Math. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *sexāgēsima* (sc. *pars*), fem. of L. *sexāgēsimus*, ordinal of *sexāgintā* sixty.] A sexagesimal fraction. Also, the sixtieth part of a degree, a minute.

1570 [see SEXAGENE]. 1635 GELLIBRAND *Variation Magn. Needle* 13 The differ. is 11^{0008} MZB..which converted into sexagesmes is 11 gr. 0 min., 0 Sec. [1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 233 To turn *Sexagenae* into Integers, or Decimals into *Sexagesimae*, multiply continually by 6, every time removing the *Separatrix* one place.] 1685 WALLIS *Alg.* vii. 18 For 1/7, (because this cannot be exactly expressed in Sexagesms) they would put 8'. 1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 470 The Declination of all needles (especially if touched by different Magnets) is different a few Sexagesms.

Sexagon (se·ksăgŏn). [mod.L. *sexagōnum*, alteration of *hexagōnum* HEXAGON by substitution of L. *sex* 'six' for the first syllable.] = HEXAGON.

1616 RATHBORNE *Surveyor* IV. 114 To inscribe a Sexagon within a circle giuen. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 377/2 A Sexagone, Hexagone, or Exagon. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarèl* III. vi, The white sexagons of the stars of Bethlehem grew amongst the grasses. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 9/6 Showcase,..sexagon shape.

Sexagonal (seksæ·gŏnăl), *a.* [f. mod.L. *sexagōn-us* (see prec.).] = HEXAGONAL.

1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 76 The beryl has a clear sexagonal form [orig. L. *sexagonam formam*]. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 409 Sepulchral buildings of a sexagonal, heptagonal, or octagonal form. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* July 192 *note*, A reticulated sexagonal pattern, which gives the surface the appearance of being honey-combed.

†**Sexangle.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sexangulus*, f. *sex* six + *angulus* ANGLE *sb.*2 Cf. SISEANGLE (1551).] A hexagon.

1685 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* II. xxiii. 253 Triangle, quadrangle, sexangle [orig. L. *hexagonum*], septangle, octangle, and the rest. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. Pref., As Barocius observes, why..should not πεντάγωνος and ἑξάγωνος be rendered quinquangle and sexangle. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict., Sexangle*, in Geometry, a figure having 6 angles, and consequently 6 sides also.

So †**Sexangled** *a. rare*$^{-1}$ [after late L. *sexangulātus*], = next.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* III. iv, The fayre tower..Was all about sexangled. 1730 BAILEY (folio), *Sex-Angled* [with Geometricians] having six Angles, as in the Figure.

Sexangular (seksæ·ŋgiŭlăr), *a.* [ad. late L. *sexangulār-is*, f. *sexangulus*: see SEXANGLE.] Having six angles; hexagonal.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 94 If you eye well their [*sc.* hornets'] nestes, you shall finde them all for the most part exactly sexangular or sixe cornered. 1637 WOTTON *Will* in Walton *Life* (1670) 71 Item, A piece of Christal Sexangular, (as they grow all). 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. iii. § 27. 15 The known Figure of Nitre, is a Sexangular Prisme. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 25 The Beacon is sexangular. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 344 Teeth sexangular.

So †**Sexa·ngularly** *adv.*, in a sexangular form; †**Sexa·ngulary** *a.* = SEXANGULAR *a.*

1658 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Disc. Cure Wounds* (ed. 2) 72 Armoniac salt [doth form it self] in Hexagons of six points, as the snow doth, which is sexangulary. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. iii. 35 Cancellated with little squares..on the top of the back, sexangularly. 1701 — *Cosm. Sacra* I. iii. § 21. 14 Diamonds are often sexangularly pointed.

Sexcentenary (seksˌsentī·nări), *a.* and *sb.* [In A. 1, f. L. *sexcentēnī*, distributive of *sexcentī* 600; in A. 2 and B, f. SEX- + CENTENARY.]

A. *adj.*

1. Pertaining to the number 600: see quot.

1779 J. BERNOULLI (*title*) A Sexcentenary Table; exhibiting, at sight, The Result of any Proportion, Where the Terms do not exceed 600 Seconds or 10 Minutes. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 320/1. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 9/1.

2. Relating to a period of 600 years.

1864 *Times* 15 June 11/3 The sexcentenary Festival of Merton College, Oxford.

B. *sb.* The six-hundredth anniversary (of an event).

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 98/1 Worcester College..has recently celebrated the sexcentenary of its first building in 1283 as Gloucester Hall. 1909 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 158 The sexcentenary of the birth of Dante.

†**Sexcuple,** *v. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *sex* six, after DECUPLE.] *trans.* To multiply by six.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 200 The Square of 16, sexcupled and multiplyed by the square of 8, makes 98, 304.

Sexe, obs. form of SIX.

Sexed (sekst), *a.* [f. SEX *sb.* + -ED 2.]

1. As the second element of a parasynthetic compound: Pertaining to one or both of the sexes (specified by the prefixed word).

1598, 1873 Double-sexed [see DOUBLE C. 1]. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in one* Wks. (1647) 27/2 Tie up my sight, let not soft nature so transformed be (and lose her gentler sex'd humanitie) to make me see my lord bleed. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiæ Flagellum* C 6, Shamelesse double sex'd Hermophradites, Virago Roaring Girles. 1883 MEREDITH *Poems & Lyrics* 140 Alas, that I should have to say it I bad Is two-sexed upon earth.

2. Of an animal or plant: Having sex; not neuter or asexual.

1891 *Century Dict.*

†**Sexenary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *sex* six, after SEPTENARY.] = SENARY *a.*

1815 HUTTON *Math. Dict., Sexenary or Sextuple Scale* of Notation. 1864 WEBSTER.

Sexennarrian. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *sexenn-is* (f. *sex* six + *annus* year) + -ARIAN.] A six-year-old child. So **Sexe·nnary** *a.*, sexennial; **Sexe·nnate** [after SEPTENNATE], a period of six years.

1753 W. MAITLAND *Hist. Edin.* II. 223 A Sexenary [*sic, for* sexennary] Account of Burials in the City of Exeter. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 118 Scholars..mostly quinquennarians, or at most sexennarians. 1890 *Times* 7 Feb. 5/2 The Government contemplated the consolidation of the sexennary bonds. 1898 *Ibid.* 16 Dec. 5/1 A further increase in the navy beyond the limits of Admiral Tirpitz's sexennate.

Sexennial (seksenniăl), *a.* [f. L. *sexennis* or *sexennium* (see prec.) + -AL.] Continuing for a period of six years; occurring every six years.

1646 J. TEMPLE *Irish Reb.* 81 That as in England there past an Act for a Triennial Parliament, there may passe in Ireland another for a Sexenniall Parliament. 1676 in *Fasti Aberd.* (1854) 347 The sexennial residence of the regents and masters of philosophie in the colledges. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 300 Your new contrivance of sexennial elective judicatories. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 230 The recent sexennial period (1812–1817). 1890 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 4/6 The sexennial bonds will be consolidated in Perpetual Three per Cent. Rentes.

Hence **Sexe·nnially** *adv.* (1854 in Webster.)

Sexern, variant of SIXERN.

1906 H. W. SMYTH *Mast & Sail* 114 *note*, Very few 'sexerns' are now being built.

Sexfoil (se·ksfoil), *a.* and *sb.* [f. SEX-, after *trefoil, cinquefoil.*] **A.** *adj.* Having six foliations.

1848 *Rickman's Styles Archit.* Introd. 26 A small sexfoil gable window. 1906 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 6 Dec. 261 The chalice is 5⅞ inches high, with a sexfoil foot. 1907 E. A. JONES *Ch. Plate I. Man* Introd. 16 The sexfoil depression is superseded..by a single circular depression.

B. *sb. Arch.* and *Her.* = SIXFOIL.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. iv. 60 He beareth Argent, a Sexfoile, or a Sisefoile, Sable. 1828–40 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I, *Sexfoil*, or *Sisefoil*, is a grass, or flower, with six leaves, formed like the cinquefoil which has five. 1851 PUGIN *Chancel Screens* 85 With images of angels in sexfoils.

Sexfoiled (se·ksfoild), *a.* [f. prec.] = prec. A.

1846 *Ecclesiologist* VI. 69 The clerestory is Middle-Pointed, of sexfoiled circles. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. iv. 167 The highest part of which [window] is sex-foiled.

Sexhindman. *Hist.* [Altered form of OE. *siexhynde mon* (in Instituta Cnuti, *c* 1110, *sexhende-, -hændeman*, also *sexhindus*) lit. six-hundred man.] A thane of the middle class, assessed at 600 shillings.

1729 JACOB *Law-Dict.* s. v. *Hindeni*, The middle Class [were] valued at Six hundred Shillings, and called Sexhindmen.

Sexhood (se·kshud). [f. SEX *sb.* + -HOOD.] The quality or condition of belonging to one or other sex; status with reference to sex.

1866 J. B. ROSE *Ovid's Met.* 79 For seven long years to a changed sexhood bound. 1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 5 Mar., To lift women from mere sexhood up toward glorious womanhood.

attrib. 1869 BUSHNELL *Woman Suffrage* vii. 62 Their sexhood qualities of variation.

Sexi-, occas. used as combining form of L. *sex* six: **Se·xifid** = *sexfid* (see SEX- 1). **Se·xiped** (= [L. *ped-, pēs* foot] = HEXAPOD. **Sexipo·lar** *a.*, having or involving six magnetic poles. **Sexisylla·bic** *a.*, of six syllables; so **Sexisy·llable. Sexitube·rcular, Sexiva·lent** *adjs.* = *sextubercular, sexvalent* (see SEX- 1, 1 b).

1860 WORCESTER **Sexifid.* 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXI. 756 The delicate monsters, the savoury **sexipedes*, with whom Typee and his comrades had to wage incessant war. 1889 MACCOLL *Mr. Stranger's Sealed Packet* v, All the creatures ..were quadrupeds; there were no quintipeds, sexipeds, or anything of that sort among them. 1835 OGILVIE Suppl. **Sexisyllable.* 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* (1883) 35 The decasyllabic quatrain, or the octosyllabic with alternate **sexisyllabic*, or other rhythms. 1874 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* 244 The four **sexivalent* atoms of sulphur are the centres of subordinate groups connected with this nucleus.

Sexiferous (seksi·fĕrŏs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *sex-us* SEX *sb.* + -FEROUS.] Bearing sexual organs.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 15 There is then no such thing as a naked seed..proceeding from an ovulum with a covering that is simple, and consequently immediately sexiferous.

Sexi·llion. [f. L. *sex* six, after *million, billion.*] = SEXTILLION. 1850 in OGILVIE.

Se·xing, *vbl. sb. rare.* [f. SEX *v.* + -ING 1.] Attribution of sex.

1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* III. 6 'That blind and unconscious matter cannot, by any of her combinations,' (Why *her*? This sexing is a stock receipt for mystification).

†**Sexious,** *a. nonce-wd.* [? for **sectious*, f. SECT *sb.* + -IOUS.] ? Sectarian.

1592 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* 857 (Brooke), To ouerthrow those sexious Puritans.

†**Sexism.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. OF. *sixiesme* (mod. *sixième*) sixth.] = SIXIEME.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/2 A Sexism, is a sequence of 6 cards.

Sexit, obs. Sc. form of SIXTH.

Sexless (se·klĕs), *a.* [f. SEX *sb.* + -LESS.] Without sex; lacking the characteristics of sex; asexual.

1598 [see SIRELESS]. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 99, I perfectly lothe the sight of those sexless animals [*sc.* eunuchs.] 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* II. ii. 40 Which..I must leave to be uttered only by the pure lips of sexless priests. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* I. 374 Sometimes the soul was pourtrayed as a sexless child, rising out of the mouth of a corpse. 1903 F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 583 One reading of her character, and perhaps the best, makes her heartless and nearly sexless.

b. *Nat. Hist.* = NEUTER *a.* 4.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 363 Like two sexless bees, from flower to flower, They wander'd unreproved. 1858 LEWES *Sea-Side Studies* 283 The insect which issues from the egg [of the aphis] is a wingless sexless insect. 1877 DARWIN *Forms of Fl.* Introd. 6 Between the sexless, female and hermaphrodite states of these latter flowers, the finest gradations may be traced.

Hence **Se·xlessly** *adv.*, in a sexless manner; without reference to sex; **Se·xlessness,** absence of sexual power or characteristics.

1864 JAS. MANNING *Possessive Argument* 56 In Wicliff's translation, 'And Mary..turnid again to *his* own house' Luke i. 56, the masculine possessive pronoun appears to be applied sexlessly. 1873 PATER *Renaissance* viii. 194 Here, there is a moral sexlessness, a kind of impotence. 1891 ELIZ. R. PENNELL in *Mary Wollstonecraft's Rights Wom.* Pref. 23 The new sham sexlessness of emancipation.

†**Se·xly,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SEX *sb.* + -LY 1.] Characteristic of one's sex.

1601 Q. ELIZ. *Sp. to last Parlt.* 30 Nov. A 3 b, Should I ascribe any of these things vnto my selfe or my sexly weakenesse, I were not worthy to liue.

Sexpartite (sekspā·ɹtəit), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sexpartīt-us*: see SEX- and PARTITE *a.*] Divided into or consisting of six parts.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xiv. (1776) 39 In respect to their Number the Stigma may be Sexpartite, divided into six Parts. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* 234 The cup is monophyllous, sex-partite, campanulated. 1830 WHEWELL *Archit. Notes* 25 A roof consisting of six cells, which may be called, therefore, sexpartite. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 367 The vaulting is usually quadripartite, but sometimes sexpartite.

Sexst, obs. 2nd sing. ind. pres. of SEE *v.*

Sex sum, obs. form of SIXSOME.

Sext (sekst). Also 5 **sexte, syxt.** [In sense 1, ad. L. *sexta* (sc. *hōra* hour), fem. of *sextus*, ordinal of *sex* SIX. In sense 2, ad. L. *sextus* (sc. *liber* book). In sense 3, ad. L. *sexta* (sc. *pars* part). Cf. F. *sexte*, G. *sexta, sexte.*]

1. *Eccl.* The third of the lesser canonical hours; so called because belonging orig. to the sixth hour of the day (midday). Also *pl.* (cf. NONES).

An early name was 'midday': see MIDDAY 1 b.

c 1425 *St. Eliz. of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 118/7 Atte a dewe oure, and, as me menip, bytwix sexte & noon. 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale Poems* 1. 342 Sygnyfinge all the tydes, ..Whech that haue be fro tierce vnto syxt. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* v. (Arb.) 10, I will now go forth, for I haue yete to saye my sexte, none, and myn euensonge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 164 b, All the seruyce of god & houres canonicall.., matyns, pryme, tierce, sext, none, euensonge & complyn. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 212 Terce, Sext, and None, begin with *Pater, Ave* &c. 1805 SOUTHEY *Ballads & Metr. T.* Poet. Wks. VI. 118 'Tis the hour of noon..And the Sexts are begun. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 195 On Ash Wednesday, after Sext there might be a Sermon. 1898 CHR. WORDSW. *Med. Services* 28 On Sundays and semi-doubles at Lincoln Terce was followed by High Mass; and Sext and None then were sung after the Mass.

2. *Eccl.* The sixth book added to the Decretals by Pope Boniface VIII.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1883 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 115/1 Of these five collections—namely, the Decretals, the Sext, the Clementines, the Extravagants of John XXII., and the Extravagants Common—the 'Corpus Juris Ecclesiastici' is made up.

3. *Mus.* a. An interval of a sixth. b. An organ stop of two ranks of pipes having an interval of a sixth between them.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sext*, the name of an organ stop of two ranks, having the interval of a sixth between them, namely, a twelfth and tierce.

Sext, obs. form of SIXTH.

Sextain (se·kstān). *rare.* Also 7 **sestain.** [? Alteration of obs. F. *sestine*, after *quatrain, sixain.*] = SESTINA.

1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Conv. wr. B. Jonson* Wks. (1711) 226 Sextains, madrigals, and songs, echoes and equivoques.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Sestain*, a stanza consisting of six verses. 1880 *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 49/1 Dante..has paid him the practical compliment of imitating one of his favourite metres, viz. the sestina, or sextain.

Sextan (se·kstăn), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *sextāna* (sc. *febris* fever), f. L. *sext-us* sixth : see -AN.] Designating a fever of which the paroxysms recur every fifth (according to old reckoning, every sixth) day.

1657 *Expert Physician* 123 The Quintan, Sextan, Septan, and Nonan Feavers. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 318 Further modifications have been recognised by nosologists as quintan, sextan, octan.

Sextant (se·kstănt). Also formerly in Latin form 6–7 sextans (7 -ance?). [ad. L. *sextant-, sextans*, sixth part (of an as, acre, etc.), f. *sextus* sixth : see -ANT.]

†**1.** The sixth part of the Roman as. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. x. II. 480 That purse..wherein every man put his sextant, *i.* the sixt part of an As. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sextant*, a coin less then that called Quadrant, by the third part.

†**2.** The sixth part of a circle. *Obs.*

1596 BLAGRAVE *Uran. Astrolabe* H 2, The Sextans of a circle. 1609 — *Dyalling* 141 Describe the Sextans, A.B.C. 1656 J. B. *Descr. Carpenters Rule*, etc. 137 The Dyal it self is in form of a Quadrant, Sextance, or Circle, according as you please. *Ibid.* 139. 1730 BAILEY (folio), *Sextant*, with Mathematicians is the 6th Part of a Circle, or an Arch comprehending 60 Degrees.

3. An astronomical instrument resembling a quadrant, furnished with a graduated arc equal to a sixth part of a circle, used for measuring angular distances between objects, esp. for observing altitudes of celestial objects in ascertaining latitude at sea.

Tycho Brahe, *Astron. Instaur. Mech.* (1602) A 5, states that he gave the name *sextans* to this instrument.

1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (ed. 3) 264 To examine and calculate the motions of the Planets..by those curious helps of glasses, astrolabes, sextantes [1632, sextants], quadrants. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iii, Stored with great variety of sextants, quadrants, telescopes [etc.]. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marit. Surv.* 32 Hold the Sextant vertically, and direct the Sight to some Object in the Horizon, or between you and the Sky, under the Sun. 1828 MOORE *Pract. Navig.* 156 Hadley's Sextant is constructed on the same principles as the Quadrant; but ..the Arch is extended to 120°..; it is also provided with some appendages not generally annexed to a Quadrant. 1860 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 125 His sextant (which is about the size and shape of a cocked hat), on being applied to his eye, entirely concealed him. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 520 If we require to measure simply the angular distance of one celestial body from another, we employ a sextant.

4. *Bot.* Each of a group of six segment-cells; also *attrib.*

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 122, 123 The section of the stem now appears as if composed of six cells or sextants, whose walls are placed nearly radially, forming a six-rayed star... Hence the walls..are called sextant-walls... The sextant-cells are still further broken up. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 19 Then follows in each of these the division into alternately dissimilar sextants.

5. *Astr.* The constellation *Sextans*.

1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict., Sextans*, the Sextant, in Astronomy, a new constellation, placed across the equator, but on the south side of the ecliptic. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 817/1 The constellations added by Hevelius are the following..:—..10. Sextans, The Sextant.

Sextantal (sekstse·ntăl), *a.* [f. L. *sextans* (see prec.) + -AL.] Pertaining to or based on the ancient Roman *sextans* (see prec. 1).

1887 B. V. HEAD *Hist. Num.* 37 Bronze coins of the Roman sextantal and uncial systems.

†**Sextantary**, *a. Obs.*—[ad. L. *sextantāri-us*.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sextantary*, of or belonging to the measure, quantity or weight of Sextant.

Sextar (se·kstar). *rare.* [ad. L. *sextār-ius* : see next. Cf. SESTER.] = SEXTARY.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* Pref., Sieth ij sextars of the juice of Roses. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIV. xiii. I. 418 Among donatives..certaine sextars or quarts of milke have been many times given. 1656 DUGDALE *Warwickshire* 340/1 In the time of the said King Edward [the Confessor] the Shirivalty of this County..answered lxv *li.* in money and xxxvi. Sextars of honey. 1707 FLEETWOOD *Chron. Prec.* 68 In 1125, a Sextar or Quarter of Wheat, at 01*l* 00*s* 00*d*. *Ibid.* 73 Sir H. Spelman says, that at Paris, a *Modius Vini* holds 36 *Sextarios*, and that a *Sextar* is 8 Pints. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* ii. 33 [transl.], I also grant that they hall sell each sextar of ale dearer by one penny than is done at Appleby.

Sextary (se·kstări). Also in Latin form. [ad. L. *sextāri-us*, f. *sextus* sixth : see -ARY. Cf. SESTER, SEPTIER.]

1. An ancient Roman liquid measure containing the sixth part of a CONGIUS. Also used loosely = SESTER 2, SEPTIER.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiv. 10 He shal take..bisides a sextarie of oyle. 1398 [see CONGIUS 1]. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 24 One sextarie of wyne; viii gallons of ale. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* Pref., It consisteth of v sextaries of water, ii sextaries of hony. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 256 Let the fasting patient..take three sextaries Warme of that milke. 1633 N. HUNT *Handmaid Arith.* 387 The Spanish Sextarius. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 76 A Sextary of July-Flower Wine. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* VIII. ii. § 9 The bath is able to contain seventy-two sextaries. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk. York*, etc. 291 Value in King Edward's time forty shillings and two sextaries of honey. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 472 The Attic amphora contained.. seventy-two sextaries, equal to about two gallons, five pints and a half of English wine-measure.

2. A dry measure containing the sixth part of a MODIUS. (Cf. SESTER 3.)

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxix. 40 The fourthe part of hyn, that is a sextarye, that is a mesure of two pownd. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (1495) 932 Sextarius is the mesure of two pounde..and is Cenix in grewe. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. XVIII. 380 If every man of the Army had had a chenix of Corne a day, that is a sextary and halfe, or about two pints and a quarter. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 89 Whether by confounding the Attick and Roman Sextaries ..I know not. 1707 [see SESTER 3]. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* IX. iv. § 4 The Hebrews bought a sextary of dove's dung, instead of salt. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristoph. Clouds* II. i, I ask..what thou thinkest the most perfect measure, The trimeter or the tetrameter? *Str.* I think that nought beats the half sextary.

†**3.** Any of the six divisions of the city of Venice.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 78 The City [of Venice]..is of old divided into six sextaries, or six parts vulgarly *sestieri*. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 13 Six Councellors, whose peculiar priviledg is to be chosen out of the six Precincts or Sextaries of the Citty.

Sexte, Sexten, obs. forms of SIXTH, SIXTEEN.

Sextend, obs. Sc. form of SIXTEENTH.

Sextene (sekstī·n). *Chem.* [f. L. *sext-us* sixth + -ENE.] = HEXENE.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 554.

Sextene, obs. form of SIXTEEN.

Sextennial (seksteniăl), *a. rare*—1. [irreg. f. L. *sext-us* sixth, after *sexennial*.] = SEXENNIAL.

1824 J. ADAMS *Lett. J. Taylor* x. Wks. 1851 VI. 468 The legislatures of the several states are balanced against the senate by sextennial elections.

†**Sextern**[1]. *Sc. Obs.* Variant of SESTERN.

1425 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 12/1 The ald boll first maid be king Dauid contenit a sexterne [orig. *sextarium*] þe sexterne contenit xij galonnis. 14.. *Assize of Measures* in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 320 Item þe boll sall contene a sexterne viz. xij gallonis of aile.

Sextern[2] (se·kstəɹn). [ad. med.L. *sexternum, -us*, f. L. *sex* six, after *quaternum, -us* (see QUIRE *sb.*[1]), variants of *quaternio*, QUATERNION.] A quire consisting of six sheets.

1885 E. MAUNDE THOMPSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 144 Sexterns, or quires of six sheets (twelve leaves).

Sexters, rare obs. pl. of SESTERCE.

1541 PAYNELL tr. *Felicius' Conspir. Catiline* xiv. 20 b, Who so euer wolde detect the conspiracie,..shoulde haue his freedome, and an hundred sexters.

Sextes, obs. pl. form of SECT *sb.*[1]

Sextet (sekste·t). Also -ett. [Alteration of SESTET after L. *sex* six. (In sense 1, a. G. *sextett*.)]

1. = SESTET 1.

1841 tr. *Schindler's Beethoven* II. 380 Sextett in E flat, for two Violins, Alto, two Horns, and Violoncello. 1880 *Academy* 28 Feb. 168/1 A sextett in A major, op. 48, for two violins, two violas, and two violoncellos, by Anton Dvorák.

2. A stanza of six lines.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 36 Two sextetts followed by two quattrains. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 86 Paris scatters his blossoms with one of those graceful love-speeches in the form of a rhymed sextet.

3. A group or set of six persons or things.

1873 W. BOYD (*title*) Sextet of Morse Alphabets. 1896 (*title*) A Sextet of Singers, or Songs of Six.

4. 'A bicycle for six riders' (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909). Cf. SEXTUPLET.

Sextetto. Alteration of SESTETTO : cf. prec.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms.*

†**Sexti-,** occas. combining form of L. *sextus* sixth, used in the sense of 'six': **Sextipartite** *a.*, drawn up in six copies; **Sextipartition,** division by six; **Sextise·ction,** division into six parts. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 12 The sedicious congregacion..made an indenture sextipartite..In the whiche eche bounde him selfe to other..for the destruccion of Kynge Henry. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 34 Sextipartition, or to divide by 6. 1697 G. K. *Discov. Geom. Problems* 9, I shall begin with the Sextisection, and then proceed to the Quinquisection.

Sextic (se·kstik), *a.* and *sb. Math.* [f. L. *sext-us* sixth + -IC.] **A.** *adj.* Of the sixth degree or order.

1853 [see QUINTIC *a.*]. 1867 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1893) VI. 249 The discriminant of this sextic function contains the factor Δ. 1872 — in *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* IV. 105 On the Mechanical Description of Certain Sextic Curves.

B. *sb.* A quantic, or equation, of the sixth degree; a curve of the sixth order.

1872 CAYLEY in *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* IV. 110 The curve is consequently a unicursal sextic, or sextic with 10 dps. 1885 J. HAMMOND in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* VII. 327 On the Syzygies of the Binary Sextic and their Relations.

Sextiene, obs. form of SIXTEEN.

†**Sextier,** variant of SESTER.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 7/19 *Cannes dun sextier* Cannes of a sextier. *Ibid.* 21/8 By quarters or by sextiers, By poundes or by half poundes.

Sextile (se·kstəil, -il), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -ill. [ad. L. *sextilis* (in class. L. only with *mēnsis* or ellipt., as the earlier name of August), f. *sextus* sixth : see -ILE.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Astrol. *Sextile aspect*, the aspect of two heavenly bodies which are 60° or one sixth part of the zodiac distant from each other.

1557 H. BAKER *Rules Use Almanacs* B vij b, ✻ Signifieth sextile aspecte: whiche is caused, by the distaunce of two sygnes betwene two planettes. 1614 CHAPMAN *Androm. Lib.* C 4 b, Venus in aspect Sextile or Trine. 1638 WILKINS *New World* V. (1707) 40 When she [the Moon] is about a Sextile Aspect distant from the Sun. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 204 If a Sixth Part of the Zodiac lies between them, they are said to have a Sextile Aspect. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, Signs and planets, in aspects sextile, quartile, trine, conjoined or opposite. 1856 [see QUARTILE *a.*].

†**2.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sextile* or Sextilian moneth,..the moneth of August.

B. *sb.*

1. *Astrol.* A sextile aspect. Phr. *in* (*a*) *sextile.*

1592 *Greene's Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 278 Canst thou ..tell the course of the Starres, setting downe their aspects, oppositiues, times, and sextiles? *c* 1610 SIR C. HEYDON *Astrol. Disc.* (1650) 74 Six Sextiles equal to six aequilater Triangles, fill the whole space about a point, which is equal to four right Angles. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* IV. ii, Mars being Lord of the Geniture in Capricorne, Is..now a Sextile here, With Venus Lady of the Horoscope. 1638 WILKINS *New World* I. (1684) 114 If you behold the Moon ..when she is in a Sextile with the Sun. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 659 Thir planetarie motions and aspects In Sextile, Square, and Trine, and Opposite. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 176 By observation of the moon, when she was nearly in trine and in sextile with the sun. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* XVI, Venus also casting a sextile to the cusp of the ascendant.

2. A sixth form boy at Eton.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* (1907) I. 33 He is our captain, a Sextile, a Roue. 1838 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 3 Westmacott, Bullock, and Tarver, all sextiles.

†**Sexti·lian,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. *sextilis* SEXTILE : see -IAN.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sextilian moneth*, the moneth of August. 1656 [see SEXTILE 2].

Sextillion (seksti·lyən). *Arith.* [ad. F. *sextillion*, f. L. *sex* six, after *septillion, octillion.*] The sixth power of a million, denoted by 1 followed by 36 cyphers. In American (following the later Fr.) use, the seventh power of a thousand, denoted by 1 followed by 21 cyphers. Hence **Sexti·llionth** *a.* and *sb.* (in recent Dicts.).

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvi. § 6 Sextillions. 1730 MALCOLM *New Syst. Arith.* 8 Quintillions, (or a Million of Quadrillions;) Sextillions, (or a Million of Quintillions). 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll G.* xxi, He..adorned the surface of the ice with successions of 898, till they amounted to as many sextillions, with their homogeneous sequences. 1870 PHIPSON *Guillemin's Sun* 39 This sum of work is represented by 510 sextillions of kilogrammetres. 1881 WALT WHITMAN *Leaves of Grass, Song of Myself* XXXI, I believe ..a mouse is miracle enough to stagger sextillions of infidels.

Sextine (se·kstīn). [ad. F. *sextine*, ad. Pg. *sextina* = It. SESTINA.] = SESTINE.

1598 YONG *Diana* 31 After she had plaied a while on it, she began to sing this Sextine following. 1884 R. F. BURTON (*title*) Camoens. The Lyricks. Part I. (Sonnets, Canzons, Odes, and Sextines) Englished by Richard F. Burton.

attrib. 1823 ROSCOE tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* IV. 438 Camoens also wrote some sextine pieces [orig. F. *sextines*].

Sextine, obs. form of SIXTEEN (*a.* 3).

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 7 This sextine centurie.

Sextinvariant. *Math.* [f. L. *sext-us* sixth + INVARIANT.] An invariant of the sixth degree.

1878 SYLVESTER in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* I. 112 On the principal forms of the general sextinvariant to a quartic and quartinvariant to a sextic.

†**Se·xtiply,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *sextiplicāre*, inferior form of *sextuplicāre* SEXTUPLY *v.*] *trans.* To multiply by six.

1602 J. DAVIES (of Hereford) *Microcosmos* 86 So, some Affections our soules browes vnbend, And other some doe sextiply each dent. 1602 — *Mirum in Modum* xv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 6/2 And thus executes Their pow'res as one, though sextiplied in sutes.

Sexto (se·kstō). [a. L. *sextō*, ablative case of *sextus* sixth : cf. QUARTO, etc.] The designation of the size of a book, or of the page of a book, in which each leaf is one-sixth of a sheet.

1847 DE MORGAN *Arithm. Bks.* Introd. 11 When he folds a sheet of paper into six leaves, making what ought to be a sexto book, he calls it a duodecimo printed in half sheets.

Sexto-decimo (sekstoˌdese·simo). = DECIMO-SEXTO, q.v. (Cf. SIXTEENMO.)

[1626 S. WARD *Let.* in R. Parr *Life of Usher* (1686) 344 A Book of large 16o.] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. XV. (Roxb.) 23/1 A sextodecimo booke, is of 16 leaues in a sheete. 1819 DIBDIN *Typogr. Antiq.* IV. 282 Justification of Man, &c. 1548. Sextodecimo.

Sextole (se·kstōul). *Mus.* Also (Dicts.) **sestole.** [a. G. *sextole*, arbitrarily f. L. *sext-us* sixth : cf. QUINTOLE.] A group of six notes to be played in the time of four. So **Se·xtolet.**

1854 J. SCHUBERTH *Mus. Hand-bk.* (ed. 4) 233 *Sextole*, a group of 6 notes, having the value of 4 equal notes. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sextolet*, or *Sextuplet.* 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 478/1 Sextolet.

Sexton (se·kstən). Forms: *a.* 4–5 segerstone, 4–6 -ane, 6 -en, (sequestern, segerson), 6–7 segerston, 7 seggerston; 6 sagar-, sacarston, 6–7 sagerston. *β.* 5 secristeyn, -ane, -oun, sekyrsteyn, 6 secri-, secra-, secrestan. *γ.* 4 sekesteyn, 4–6 sexteyn(e, -eine, (4 -eyene, -ein, 5 -een, cexteyne, 6 cyxten, seixten), 5–6 sextayn(e, -ene, 5–7 sexten, (5 sex(e)sten, 6

sextine, 7 -aine, -an, -in, sixeteene), 6– sexton; 6 saxten, 7 saxton. [a. AF. *segerstaine*, = OF. *segrestein, secrestein, -in*, etc. (whence med.L. *segrestanus*), semi-popular ad. med.L. *sacristānus* SACRISTAN (of which this word is a doublet). The trisyllabic (α and β) forms are almost entirely confined to northern texts; cf. the early quots. s.v. SACRISTAN.]

1. A church officer having the care of the fabric of a church and its contents, and the duties of ringing the bells and digging graves.

In early use often = the sacristan in a religious house, cathedral, etc., having charge of the vestments, sacred vessels, relics, and the like. In popular use from the 16th c. usually = bell-ringer and grave-digger.

α. [1330 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 47/2 Benefices appurtenantz al Segerstaine d'Everwik.] 1391 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 110 In salario Johannis Segerstane mundantis ecclesiam in le flore ejusdem, item parietes et fenestras vitreas ejusdem. 1537 *Whalley Abbey Inv.* (P. R. O.), The sequestern that had the keping of al the seid copes. 1546 *Yorksh. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 353 Yerlie to the segeɜstane [*read* seger-] and belman, iiij^{s}. vj^{d}. *Ibid.* 530 In the saide collegiate churche bee..fower segersons. 1637 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 100 For the seggerston, 3s.

1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 280 Being..sagarston of the same church 20 yeres togither. 1597 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 127 Item the sacarston for his fourth quarter's wages, xij d. 1687 *Ibid.* 255 That John Riddam shall make and assist the sagerston to make graves.

β. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 680/36 *Hic sacrista*, a secristoun. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 26 To the Secristeyn and to the Priour of Dusgylde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/2 A Secristane; vbi Sacristane. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1588 Werburge appered to the secristan alone. 1537 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 151 Quhen thai ar warnit be the secrestanis seruand, or him self. *Ibid.*, Gyf the secrastan preevis nocht his warning.

γ. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11093 A nyȝt, whan þe sekesteyn yn bede was leyd, Hym þoȝt [etc.]. 13.. *St. Alexius* (Cott. MS.) 192 That Images spake, þat was so bryght, to the sexteyene vppon a nyght. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 48 Thou art som Officer Som worthy sexteyn or som Celerer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cexteyne (*edd.* 1508, 15x6 cyxten), *sacrista*. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 17 V^{e} Sexteyn of y^{e} chirche to haue..xij d. for his rynggyng and his mete. 1498 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 363 The said cruetts and paxebrede to be in the kepyng of the Sexten of the said priorie. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 56 That the president of your religion or sextene kepe them [*sc.* church keys]. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 168 b, As a sextine said, a man cannot carie the crosse, and ring the bells altogether. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O, [The] continuall crashing of sextens spades against dead mens bones. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 177, I haue bin sixeteene heere, man and Boy thirty yeares. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* xi. 140 As if all that are made Priests among you were Psalmists, Sextens, Readers, Exorcists, Torch-bearers, Subdeacons, and Deacons before. 1638 in Legg *Clerk's Bk.* (1903) 99 Whether your Parish Clark or Sexton hath had due regard to the Ornaments of your Church. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. II. vii. (1755) 71 Where the Office of the Clerk and Sexton are distinct, the Minister chooses the former, the people the latter. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 395 Parish clerks and sextons are also regarded by the common law, as persons who have freeholds in their offices. 1826 HOOD *Faithless Sally Brown* 67 They went and told the sexton, and The sexton toll'd the bell. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* I. i. 18 The sexton waited in the belfry ready to set the one bell in joyful agitation just at the right moment.

1593 in Legg *Clerk's Bk.* (1903) 81 And also that the same Saxten shall..rynge the fowerthe Bell for a daye Bell. 1696 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 260 If the said saxton be negligent therein, he shal hereby incurr the forfeiture of his place.

†**b.** Applied to the pope's sacristan. *Obs.*

1667 P. A. *Acc. Pope Alex. VII*, etc. 25 The Sandals were taken up by the hand of the Lord Sexton. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Office of Sexton of the Pope's Chapel is particularly affixed to the Order of the Hermits of Saint Augustin: He is generally a Bishop...He takes the Title of Prefect of the Pope's Sacristy.

†**c.** *transf.* Applied to custodians of heathen temples, etc.; a keeper, warden. *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. 78 Seixten of Hesperides Sinagog. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 298 Varro..writeth, that Hercules his Sextaine [etc.]. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 39 The warden and Sextaine of that ground or soyle, which Augustus of happy memory touched first.

d. *fig.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 61/1 O tho most noble bishop..thou art y^{e} clere lyght of thy feyth & y^{e} sexten of y^{e} crysten relygion. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 324 Old Time the clocke setter, y^{t} bald sexton Time. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1150 A Sextaine [*orig.* μυσταγωγός], who leadeth by the hand those that are professed in some religion, shewing unto them all the holy reliques and sacred ceremonies. 1867 BAKER *Nile Trib.* I. (1872) 7 The usual sextons were the crows.

2. = SEXTONESS, SACRISTAN 2.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1472 The Priores, & oþer nane, Aw for to ches a segerstane To ring þe bels in right aray. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 271 A nunne þat hyȝte Beatrix, sexteyn of here hows. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 284 Sche that is sexteyne moste ordeyn that the awter in the sustres quyer be honestly arayed. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 780/16 *Hic et hec secrista*, a sekyrsteyn.

3. A sexton beetle.

1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 385 *Necrophorus*... These beetles are often called sextons or grave-diggers.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: sexton beetle, a beetle of the genus *Necrophorus*; a burying beetle.

1839 G. DARLEY *Nepenthe* II. 31 Floods of dust..Heaped o'er thee by the sexton winds! 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 516 *Necrophorus*, Fabr...The instinctive habits which these insects possess of burying small quadrupeds, has caused them to be named Sexton, or Burying Beetles. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 195 Sexton-Beetles (Blapsidæ). 1891 MEREDITH *One of Our Conq.* xli, That worm-like thread of voice [of a dying woman] came up to him still from sexton-depths.

Sextoncy (se·kstənsi). *nonce-wd.* [f. SEXTON + -CY.] Sextonship.

1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 288 While Eulenspiegel held this Sextoncy.

Sextoness (se·kstənės). Also 5 **sexteynes, sextenesse.** [f. SEXTON + -ESS.] A female sexton (or sacristan).

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2843 þe sexstenes rong þe belles þo alle abouȝte. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 306 The sexteynes schal ordeyne be fore the profession the bere with fayre newe erthe,..and thys bere sche schal sette forthe at the dore. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xl. 121 þe nunne, þe sextenesse, rang to mateyns. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 117 He..even dug a grave for the sextoness, an old woman of eighty. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Sir Rupert*, It reach'd such a pass That the sextoness hasten'd to turn on the gas. 1888 BURGON *Lives Twelve Gd. Men* I. iv. 397 Rebecca (the dear old sextoness of S. Mary's).

†**Se·xtonry.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 6 **sextenry.** [f. SEXTON + -RY.] = SEXTONSHIP.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxcvii. 250/2 He..retayned to hymselfe but a small lyueng, and that was the sextenry of our lady churche in Renes.

Sextonship (se·kstənʃip). [f. SEXTON + -SHIP.] The office or position of a sexton.

1511–2 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 279 Paid to William Wylde for his wages this yere for the sextenship. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 671, I am double benefisde with my sextonshipp and my clearkeshippe! 1731–2 SWIFT *Consid. 2 Bills* Wks. 1737 VI. 152 They may get a Dispensation to hold the Clerkship and Sextonship of their own Parish *in Commendam*. 1816 BYRON *Churchill's Grave* 13 And thus he answer'd—..'He died before my day of Sextonship, And I had not the digging of this grave.' 1833 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Corporate Reform* 7 The Candidate for the sextonship grounds his pretensions on being an 'Old inhabitant'. 1903 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 269/1 [He] cherished open aspirations towards the sextonship, presently vacant.

†**Se·xtress, -trice.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SEXTON by substitution of the suffixes -TRESS, -TRICE. Cf. next.] = SEXTONESS.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 138 *note*, Hou vre lady dude þe offys of a sextresse fyftene ȝeer for a nonne. 1476 *Crabhouse Reg.* (1889) 11 The mony..remaynyd..to the profiht of the sextrice.

Sextry (se·kstri). Also 4 **sextrize**, 5 **cextrye**, 5–6 **sextrye**, 6 **sextre**, 6–7 **sextery**(e, **sextrie**, 7 **sextary.** [Of obscure formation; perh. f. SEXTON after *vestry*, or an alteration of OF. *sacrestie* (mod.F. *sacristie*), med.L. *sacristia*, by metathesis of *r*.]

†**1.** = SACRISTY. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. § 1. 51 Seþen him-self goþ to þe Sextrize, þat was þe Munstres treserye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67/2 Cextrye, *sacristia*. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 350 The tapers schal be lyghte abowte the sepulcre be the minister of the sextry. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 358/2 Whan he sawe he taryed ouer long to clothe hym he entryd in to the Sextrye. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 10 Bere these iewelles into the sextrye. *c* 1530 in Strype *Cranmer* (1694) App. 25 There are in the Sextre five Crosses of gold. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* L 3 b, His sextrie or vestry, wherin he was wont to bestow his holy relicks. 1611 COTGR., *Secretainerie*, a Sextrie, or Vestrie. 1691 *d'Emiliane's Frauds Rom. Monks* 222 The Abbot and his Officers, having put off their Ornaments, went into the Sextry.

2. The residence of a sacrist or sacristan.

1585 in *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon* (Camden) App. 167 The soil of divers houses pulled down..called the Abbottes lodging..the Sexterye [etc.]. 1829 J. BRITTON *Hist. Abbey & Cath. Glouc.* Ess. 13 The Under-Steward of the Abbey. ..His dwelling was in a chamber, with a garden annexed to it, called 'the sextry'.

3. *attrib.*: sextry barn, land (see quots.).

1675 DUGDALE *Baronage* I. 324/1 All the Lands called Sextery-Lands, lying in the Towns of Hellingley..and Hailesham, in that County of Sussex. 1691 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* (ed. 2) Sextery lands..are Lands given to a Church or Religious House, for maintenance of the Sexton or Sacristan. 1843 R. WILLIS *Descr. Sextry Barn* 5 The Tithe-Barn at Ely...This was commonly known by the name of the Sextry Barn (or Sacrist's Barn), because..the Tithes, for the reception of which this building was erected, belonged to the Sacrist of the monastery.

‖ **Sextula** (se·kstiŭlă). *Antiq.* Also (in Dicts.) anglicized **sextule.** [L., dim. of *sexta* (*sc. pars*), fem. of *sextus* sixth.] The sixth part of a Roman ounce (*uncia*). Also a Roman land measure, the sixth of an *uncia*. Hence †**Se·xtulary** *a.* [after mod.L. *sextularis*], of a 'sextula'.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sextule*. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. v. 114 Both being added, make five Sextules (for half an ounce contains three of them) so that by this means all the parts of an ounce might be computed, both the duellary and sextulary parts. 1658 J. ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1056 Rabby Moyses prescribes one Sextula of Frankincense with Wine sufficient. 1888 PETRIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 488/2 The sextula after Constantine had the name of solidus as a coin weight.

Sextumvirate. *rare.* [Badly f. L. *sex* six, with reminiscence of TRIUMVIRATE, SEPTEMVIRATE. Cf. *quartumvirate.*] A group of six persons.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. vii. A sextumvirate, to which all the ages of the world cannot add a seventh. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Feb. 2/2 It is curious to read the reasons alleged for their action by this Lordly Sextumvirate.

Sextuor (se·kstiuǫr). *Mus.* [a. F. *sextuor*, f. L. *sex* six, after QUATUOR. Cf. *septuor.*] = SEXTET I.

1824 *Dict. Musicians* II. 184 Grand Sextuor, for Pianoforte. 1829 J. JOUSSE *Dict. Terms Mus., Sestetto* or *Sextuor*...Mozart's sextuor in Don Juan. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sextuor*, a composition in six parts.

‖ **Sextupla.** *Mus. Obs.* [mod.L., neut. pl. of *sextuplus*: see next.] See quot. (cf. SEXTUPLE A. 2).

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 32 Wee call that sextupla, where wee make sixe black minymes to the semibriefe.

Sextuple (se·kstiup'l), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. type **sextuplus*, f. *sex* six, after late L. *quintuplus, septuplus*: see QUINTUPLE, SEPTUPLE. Cf. F. *sextuple*, Sp., Pg. *sextuplo*, It. *sestuplo.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Sixfold; six times as great or numerous; consisting of six parts or things.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 186 Cause some halfe dozen Pipes to be made..with a single, double, and so on to a Sextuple Bore. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 192 The proportion of man, whose length..is sextuple unto his breadth. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* I. (1691) 6 But what is exported out of Holland into England is worth three Millions; and what is exported thence into all the World besides, is Sextuple to the same. 1784 HERSCHEL *Catal. Double Stars* in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 90 In the quadruple or n. preceding set, the two nearest very unequal...In the sextuple or s. following set, the two largest pretty unequal. 1805 T. WEAVER tr. *Werner's Ext. Charac. Fossils* 170 A sextuple-passage [occurs] when the folia of a fossil intersect each other in six different directions. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 459 The fourfold division of the army (horse, foot, chariots, and elephants) was the same as that of Menu; but Strabo makes a sextuple division. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 393 *note*, The great nebula which surrounds the sextuple star θ Orionis. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* June 835 Our nearest continental neighbour..may have much to lose, by a quadruple or sextuple control.

†**2.** *Mus.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 2), *Sextuple, Sestuplo*, in music, denotes a mixed sort of triple time, which is beaten in double time. 1746 TANSUR *New Mus. Gram.* 32 The next Species [of Time] is Sextuple (or Binary-Tripla-Time..) and call'd Six to Four; each Bar containing six Crotches.

†**3.** = SENARY *a.* 1815 [see SEXENARY].

B. *sb.* The number which is six times a specified number.

1657 HOBBES *Absurd Geom.* 5 The excesse shall be that proportion which unity hath to the sextuple of the number of termes after o. 1692 J. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. xv. 123 The Sextuple thereof is 1.817.

Sextuple (se·kstiup'l), *v.* [f. SEXTUPLE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To multiply by six; to make six times as large, numerous, powerful, etc.

1632 W. FORSTER tr. *Oughtred's Circ. Proportion* 14 Bring the Anticedent arme unto the quadrupled space and the consequent arme, keeping that duplicated opening, will cut the space sextupled. 1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* iii. 22 Your instance therefore of six, three, one, is here impertinent, there being in them no doubling, no tripling, no sextupling of Proportions, but of numbers. 1864 MAINE *Village-Commun.* (1876) 248 We have sextupled our students. 1884 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 358 The range of vision was more than sextupled.

2. *intr.* To increase sixfold.

1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 157 *note*, The number of schools has more than doubled in the last twenty years..; the number of girl-scholars has sextupled. 1870 *Daily News* 18 June, In Ulster during 90 years the value of land was trebled, and in Scotland..it had sextupled.

Sextuplet (se·kstiuplet). [f. SEXTUPLE *a.* after *triplet.*] A group, set, combination, etc. of six things. **a.** *Mus.* = SEXTOLET. **b.** *pl.* Six children born at one birth. **c.** A cycle for six riders.

1852 [see OCTUPLET]. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sextolet*, or *Sextuplet*, a double triplet, six notes to be performed in the time of four. 1894 GOULD *Illustr. Dict. Med., Sextuplet*, one of six offspring from a single gestation. 1896 *Daily News* 17 July 7/1 A proposal was recently made..to match a sextuplet [*sc.* cycle] against a railway train. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 19 Oct. 5/3 Professor Hamy..reported that a negress living in the Gold Coast Colony gave birth recently to sextuplets.

Sextuplex (se·kstiuplεks), *a.* [a. med.L. *sextuplex*, f. *sex* six, after *triplex, quadruplex*, etc. Cf. SEXTUPLE *a.*] Sixfold.

1668 WALLIS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 495 Sextuplex is as much the double of triplex as 6 is the double of 3.

b. *Electric Telegr.* Applied to a system by which six messages may be transmitted simultaneously by the same wire. Hence **Se·xtuplex** *v.*

1889 [see OCTUPLEX]. 1891 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* x. (ed. 9) 202 The application of the same terms, duplex, quadruplex and sextuplex..to the corresponding arrangements in multiplex working would tend to confusion. 1895 *Times* 29 Jan. 6/6 The wires were all worked on the simplex plan 25 years ago; now the processes are simplex, duplex, quadruplex, and sextuplex.

†**Sextu·plicate,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. med.L. *sextuplicāt-um*, pa. ppl. of *sextuplicāre*: see SEXTUPLY *v.*] Sixfold.

1697 HOBBES *Absurd Geom.* 10 An infinite row of Arithmetically proportionalls in proportion quadruplicate, quintuplicate, sextuplicate &c.

Sextuplica·tion. *rare.* [n. of action f. med.L. *sextuplicāre*: see next.] Multiplication by six.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 24 Sextuplication, or to multiply by 6.

† **Se·xtuply**, *v.* *Scots Law.* *Obs.* *rare.* Cf. SEXTIPLY *v.* [ad. med.L. *sextuplicāre*, f. *sextuplic-*, *-plex*: see SEXTUPLEX *a.*] *intr.* To make a rejoinder to a quintuplication.

1673 *Rec. Justic. Crt. Edinb.* (S. H. S.) II. 167 Quintuplyes his Majesties Advocate, that..Sextuplyes Sir Geo. McKenzie, that [etc.].

Sextuply (se·kstiupli), *adv.* [f. SEXTUPLE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sixfold manner.

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 175 In the sextuply connected part of the spherical surface.

Sexual (se·ksiuăl), *a.* Also 7 -all. [a. late L. *sexuāl-is* (5th c.), f. L. *sexu-s* SEX. Cf. F. *sexuel* (18th c.), Sp., Pg. *sexual*, It. *sessuale*.]

1. Of or pertaining to sex or the attribute of being either male or female; existing or predicated with regard to sex.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 69 The same simple rotteth, and is changed into little animals, these are..of both sexes, which truly would not come to passe if those simples had already a sex or sexuall powers within them. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* (1776) Pref. 9 The Honour of having first suggested the true sexual Distinctions in Plants appears to be due to..Sir Thomas Millington. 1794 SULIVAN *View Nat.* II. 222 One only single sexual pair of every species of living things. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 46/1 Delphine is said to be intended for the authoress, and Madame de Vernon (by a slight sexual metamorphosis) for Talleyrand. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vii. 249 We may take, by way of illustration, the question of gender. What..was the source..of the sexual relation of nouns? 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 81 These extremely simple organisms have not yet reached the stage of sexual differentiation.

2. Pertaining to sex as concerned in generation or in the processes connected with this.

Sexual intercourse: copulation.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 323 The act of sexual intercourse. 1803 *Ibid.* X. 509 Sexual function is impaired. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 282/1 Some one has said that Sir George Etherege was the first who founded a comedy barefacedly upon the sexual passion. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 334 It is most probably for sexual purposes. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 695/1 We are inclined to attribute very little weight to the nature of the sexual desires of the malformed individual. 1861 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 133 To insure the existence of the race, she [Nature] reinforces the sexual instinct. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Thought & Nat.* 183 The sexual impulse. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 329 It [acne] has a special connection with the period of development and maturation of the sexual functions. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 206 No sexual organs are known [in Protophytes], and whether the sexual act occurs or not is somewhat doubtful.

b. *Sexual organs*, the organs of sexual generation in animals or plants.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 407 Worms..with..the sexual organs separate. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Calent.* 74 If the producing zoöid possess sexual organs. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 224 The morphological characters of the sexual organs.

c. Of or pertaining to the organs of sex.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 695/1 In attempting to determine the true sex in such doubtful instances of sexual formation. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Sexual diseases*, diseases of the sexual organs.

d. *Sexual system* (or *method*): the Linnæan classification of plants, based on the differences in their sexual organization.

In 1735 Linnæus (*Bibl. Bot.*, ed. 1747, p. 64) has *systema sexuale*, referred to 1731.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* (1776) Pref. 6 Dr. Linnæus; whose Labours..and whose Invention of the Sexual System in particular, are well known. 1825 T. K. CROMWELL *Colchester* 352 The herbaceous collection will be arranged according to the sexual system of Linnæus.

3. Relative to the physical intercourse between the sexes or the gratification of sexual appetites, as *sexual morality*, *vice*, *excess*, etc.

1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 112 Sexual frailty exists among Achaians, only in narrow measure. 1911 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 383 Berlin is outbidding Paris in its sexual immorality.

4. Of animals and plants: Having sex; sexed; separated into two sexes; having sexual organs; producing offspring by means of sexual congress. (Opposed to *asexual*.)

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* Introd. 18 Plants are naturally and primarily divided into two great divisions, called Sexual and Asexual. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. vii. 329 The Linguatulæ are at first asexual...They pass.. into the bodies of the carnivora.., where they complete their development, and become sexual. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 361 They [sc. Vascular Cryptogams] present an alternation of sexual and asexual generations. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 273 It is only towards the close of the period of growth that sexual individuals make their appearance.

b. *Sexual cell*, a reproductive cell which is either male or female; a sperm-cell or an egg-cell.

1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. xii. 2 Some trifling peculiarity..transmitted through the male or female sexual cells. 1883 AVELING tr. *Haeckel's Pedigree Man*, etc. 242 That blending of the two kinds of sexual cells that is the sole essential in sexual reproduction.

c. Of reproduction in animals or plants: Taking place by means of the congress of the two sexes. Opposed to *asexual* or *agamic*.

1872 H. C. WOOD *Fresh-w. Algæ U. S.* 100 The propagation is both sexual and non-sexual. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 251 Conjugation is the simplest form of sexual reproduction.

5. Characteristic of or peculiar to the one sex or the other.

Secondary sexual characters: those marks of sex (e. g. the beard in man, the distinctive plumage in birds) which are not immediately connected with the reproductive structure.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 74 Her looks, her turns, her whole manner of speaking and acting is sexual. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 316 Of all the organs of the head, none seem so little subject to sexual variation as the under-jaws. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 204 To ingraft, by her sexual sense of beauty, upon his masculine austerity those graces, which [etc.].

6. Having reference to the sexes.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 719 The sexual distribution of this disease.

Sexualism (se·ksiuăliz'm). [f. SEXUAL *a.* + -ISM.] Sexuality as a principle of action or thought.

1857 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXII. 751 Siva..is most useful and popular as the god of reproduction and sexualism. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* V. 187 Cecco Angiolieri..drives his master, Dante, into the strangest development, refusing to see anything in him save merely a sort of artistic sexualism.

Sexualist (se·ksiuălist). *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *sexuālista* (Linnæus 1735), f. *sexuāl-is*: see SEXUAL *a.* + -IST.] a. One who attributes sexuality to certain organisms. b. An adherent of the 'sexual system' of botanical classification.

1790 W. SMELLIE *Philos. Nat. Hist.* I. 246 Here, then, the analogy stops; and, instead of bringing aid to the sexualist, operates powerfully against his favourite hypothesis. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. iii. 261 It was difficult for sexualists to believe that plants of so large a size were destitute of such organs [of fecundation].

Sexuality (seksiuæ·liti). [ad. mod.L. **sexuālitās*: see SEXUAL *a.* and -ITY. Cf. F. *sexualité*.]

1. The quality of being sexual or having sex.

a 1800 COWPER *Wks.* (1836) VII. 320 It is on their sexuality that he has built his poem [Loves of the Plants]. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 325 The wonderful diversity of forms.. to which mere sexuality gives rise amongst insects. 1882–4 COOKE *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 63 Larger cœnobia,..with daughter-cœnobia enclosed within the mother, evolved without sexuality.

b. (See quot.)

1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VI. 436/2 According to a strict biological definition sexuality is the characteristic of the male and female reproductive elements (genoblasts), and sex of the individuals in which the reproductive elements arise. A man has sex, a spermatozoon sexuality.

2. Possession of sexual powers, or capability of sexual feelings.

1879 J. M. DUNCAN *Dis. Wom.* xxvii. (1889) 223 In removing the ovaries, you do not necessarily destroy sexuality in a woman. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 191 Precocious sexuality..interferes with normal mental growth.

3. Recognition of or preoccupation with what is sexual; *pl.* (*nonce-use*), allusions to sexual matters.

1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* viii, Paradise and hell..as grossly material as Mahomet's, without the honest thorough-going sexuality, which you thought made his notion logical and consistent. 1893 C. A. CLARKE *Knobstick* xiii. 137 Under the unsteady inspiration of..alcohol, there was rude and uproarious bawling of music hall ditties..and chuckling sexualities were tossed to and fro.

4. Appearance distinctive of sex.

1908 S. A. COOK *Relig. Anc. Palestine* iii. 29 [The Astarte-plaques] offer a large variety of types from the coarsest exaggeration of sexuality to highly conventionalised forms.

Sexualize (se·ksiuălәiz), *v.* [f. SEXUAL *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make sexual, endow with sex, attribute sex to.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 462/2 The French [language].. has no resources for elevating its diction...The single misfortune of having no neuter gender,..by sexualising in all cases, neutralises the effect. 1876 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Philos. Relig.* 31 The bright divinity of Heaven may have been sexualized and married to a goddess of Heaven before [etc.]. 1900 POSTGATE *Pref. to Mrs. H. Cust's Transl. Bréal's Semantics* 12 Even in the case of animals the sexualizing, if I may so call it, of the endings *-us* and *-a* was by no means complete.

Sexually (se·ksiuăli), *adv.* [f. SEXUAL *a.* + -LY 2.] a. In a sexual manner; by means of sexual congress. b. With respect to sex.

1655 in Hartlib *Ref. Commonw. Bees* 21 These Wormes.. engender sexually. 1862 HUXLEY *Lect. Working Men* 86 Whether we consider the reproduction..of organic beings as they take place asexually or as they may take place sexually. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 132 These are developed into the sexually mature form.

Sexualogy (seksiuæ·lŏdgi). *rare*—1. [f. SEXUAL *a.* + -LOGY.] The science of sexual relations. Hence **Sexualo·gical** *a.*, of or belonging to sexualogy.

1885 K. PEARSON *Ethic of Freeth.* xiii. (1888) 372 Not until we have ample statistics..will it be possible to lay the foundations of a real science of sexualogy. *Ibid.* 387 The whole question of Neo-Malthusianism is fraught with immense social and sexualogical difficulties.

Sexuate (se·ksiuĕt), *a.* *Ent.* [f. L. *sexu-s* SEX + -ATE 2.] Having sex, separated into sexes = SEXUAL *a.* So **Se·xuated** *a.*

1882 *Entomol. Mag.* Mar. 225 This last genus is sexuate; it has males and females which copulate. *Ibid.* 226 A single egg..will produce..males and females; and before these sexuated insects appear, would be seen winged insects [etc.].

Sexupare (se·ksiupeər). *Ent.* [ad. mod.L. *sexupar-um*, neut. of *sexuparus*: see next.] 'In the plant lice, one of the parents of the sexed generation, usually developed late in the season' (*Cent. Dict.* 1909).

18.. *U. S. Dept. Agr.*, Div. Entom., Bulletin 44 p. 8 (Cent.) The sexupares or return migrants.

Sexuparous (seksiū·părəs), *a.* *Biol.* [f. mod.L. *sexupar-us*, L. *sexu-s* SEX: see -PAROUS.] Producing offspring sexually.

1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 586 One [series of Chermes] is wingless, and exclusively parthenogenetic,..while the other part becomes winged; these latter are called sexuparous.

† **Sexvirate.** *Obs.* *rare*—1. [ad. late L. *sexvirātus* (*sēvirātus*), f. *sexvir* (*sēvir*) one of six colleagues (back-formation from *sex virī* six men): see -ATE 1.] A body of six colleagues.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* II. 374 The eldest of the six professors which constitute the sexvirate of the college is styled primicerius.

Sey 1 (sē). Also 7 sye, 9 sei. [var. of SAITHE. Cf. Norw. *sei*.] = SAITHE. Also *sey-fish*, *-pollack*.

1698 M. MARTIN *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 27 Their food is Herring, Mackarels, and Syes. 1842 BONNYCASTLE *Newfoundld.* I. 264 The gadus carbonarius, the sey-fish of Norway, or coal-fish. 1863 KINGSLEY in *Reader* 29 Aug. 213/1 A two-pound 'sei' (*Pollachius viridis*), the most beautiful in form and colour of all British fish. 1864 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 84 Sey Pollack.

Sey 2 (sē). *Sc.* Also 8 say. [Of obscure origin.] (See quot. 1844.)

1719 RAMSAY *Ep. J. Arbuckle* 89 A healthfu' Stomach sharply set Prefers a Back-sey pipin het. 1724 — *Health* 259 His squeamish Stomach loaths the savory Sey. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Back-sey*, a Surloin. 1737 *Ochtertyre House Bk. Acc.* (S. H. S.) 65 Sent a hinde quarter of the cow to Gray and a fore say to Fentry. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xv, He'll make as muckle about buying a forequarter o' lamb in August as about a back sey o' beef. 1819 — *Bride Lamm.* xxxiv, This bit morsel o' beef..is out o' the back sey. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 168 The sirloin, or back sey. The spare rib, or fore sey. [In the Scotch mode of cutting up a carcass of beef.]

Sey 3 (sei). *Sc.* and *Ulster.* Also sie, sye, etc. (see E.D.D.). Cf. SCYE. [Of obscure origin.]

1825–80 JAMIESON *s. v.*, The sey of a gown or shift is the opening in which the sleeve is inserted. S.

Sey: see SAY, SEA, SEE, SYE (sieve).

‖ **Seyal** (seyā·l). Also sayall. [Arab. سيال *sayāl*.] The acacia.

1844 KITTO *Phys. Hist. Palestine* vii. 251 The Arabs of the desert now use the epidermis of the *seyal*.. for tanning. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* ii. 36 Some fine acacia or 'seyal' trees. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 18 Nov. 8/6 The sayall bushes began to grow more densely.

Seyalle, obs. form of SEAL *sb.*2

Seybertite (sēi·bərtəit). *Min.* [Named after H. *Seybert*: see -ITE.] A synonym of clintonite.

1833 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXIV. 171 Mr. Clemson..proposes for it [Bronzite] the trivial name of Seybertite, after the distinguished American analyst, Mr. Henry Seybert. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 297.

Seybie, Sc. variant of SYBO, young onion.

Seych, obs. Sc. form of SIGH *v.*

Seyd, var. SAYYID. **Seyde**, obs. f. SAID, SEED *sb.*

Seye, obs. f. SAY *sb.*1, *sb.*2, SAY *v.*, SEE *v.*

Seyed, var. SAYYID. **Seyen**, obs. f. SAY *v.*1

Seyer, variant of SYRE *Sc.* (gutter, drain).

Seyetyka, obs. form of SCIATICA.

Seyf(e, Seyge, obs. forms of SIEVE, SIEGE.

Seygnery, -o(u)rye, etc., obs. ff. SEIGNIORY.

Seyin, variant of SYNE *adv.*, since.

Seyk, -nes, obs. forms of SICK, -NESS.

Seyl(l(e: see SAIL, SEAL, SELE.

Seym, obs. form of SEAM *sb.*1, *sb.*2, SEEM *v.*2

Seymar, variant of SIMAR.

Seyme, obs. f. SEAM *sb.*1, *sb.*2; Sc. var. SEAM *sb.*3

Seymland, var. SEMBLAND *sb. Obs.*

Seymme, obs. form of SEEM *v.*2

Seyn: see SAY, SEE, SEEN, SENE, SYNE.

Seynct, obs. form of SAINT.

Seynd, obs. form of SIND *v.*, to rinse.

1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 180 The said Isobel ..gatherit ane number of deid folkis baines, and seyndit thame in water.

Seynd, Seyndil(l: see SINGED *ppl. a.*1, SENDLE.

† **Sey·ne.** *Obs.* *rare*—1. [a. OF. *seigné*, pa. pple. of *seigner* in the sense to assign, designate.] = ASSIGN *sb.*2

a 1500 *Brome Bk.* 140 [To] J. B. [and] T. P., to þe eyrys and seyneys of them.

Seyne: see SAY, SEE, SENE, SEYNE, SYNE.

Seyng(e: see SAY *v.*1, SEE *v.*, SING *v.*

Seynorye, -ourye, obs. forms of SEIGNIORY.

† **Seynt.** *Obs.* Also 4 saynt, (sayn), ceint, 4–5 seinte, ceynt(e, 4–6 seint, 5 saint, (sent). [a. OF. *ceint* masc., *ceinte* fem. :—popular L. *cinctum* neut., *cincta* fem. (whence Sp., Pg., It. *cinto*, *cinta*) = older L. *cinctu-s* (*u*-stem), f. *cingĕre* to gird.] A girdle.

a 1350 *Assumpt. Mary* 473 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 118 A saynt of silk..þat was obut hir medel done. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 589 With silk sayn vmbe his syde. *Ibid.* 2431. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 329 A Sergeant of the Lawe.. Ther was..He rood but hoomly in a medlee cote Girt with a ceint [*v.rr.* ceynt, seynt, seint, sent] of silk with barres smale. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 140 For they..settith all her siluer in seintis and hornes. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1772 A riche robe als gan sho ta, And a saint of silk alswa.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* v. v. (1859) 76 Aungels..clothed..of reed bloody purpure, gyrd with ceyntes of gold. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 Seynt, or cors of a gyrdylle, *textum*. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 817 With aureat seint about her sydes clene. 1530 PALSGR. 268/1 Seynt of a gyrdell, *tissu*.

Seynt, obs. form of SAINT, SINGED *ppl. a.*1

Seyntery, -tuarie, etc.: see SANCTUARY *sb.*1

Seynt graal, obs. form of SANGRAIL.

†Seynture. *Obs. rare*−1. [a. F. *ceinture*. Cf. CENTURE.] A waist-belt.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3925 The second brou3t a swerd I-shethid, with seynture I-fretid all with perelis orient & pure.

Seyntwar(e, variant forms of SAINTUAIRE *Obs.*

Seyntwary(e, obs. forms of SANCTUARY *sb.*1

Seynur(r)ye, Seyon: see SEIGNIORY, SCION.

†Sey·ny. *Obs.* [a. OF. *seigné* bled, or *seignée* bleeding.] Used *attrib.* in *seyny book* (= *liber sanguinatorum* in *Consuet. Mon. S. Petri Westmon.* § 317), a choir book provided for the use of monks who had lately been bled.

c 1492 in J. A. Robinson & M. R. James *MSS. Westm. Abbey* 9 Payments for the newe repairyng of the Seyny bookes. *Ibid.* 10.

Seyper, var. SIPER. **Seyrch**, obs. f. SEARCH *v.*

Seys(e, Seysere, etc., obs. ff. CEASE *v.*, SEIZER.

Seyson(e, -oun, -yne, obs. forms of SEASON *sb.*

Seyt, -tte, obs. forms of SEAT *sb.*

Seyth, obs. form of SAITHE *Sc.*; var. SYTHE.

Seyud, seyyad, -id, variant forms of SAYYID.

1824 HEBER *Jrnl.* 20 July, Real Seyuds, descendents of the prophet. 1912 *Scotsman* 5 Apr. 4 A seyyid..and twenty-four other persons..have been arrested.

Seyverns, pl. form of SEVERON *Obs.*

Seywinge, obs. form of SHOWING *vbl. sb.*

†S'fire, *int. Obs. rare*−1. [See 'S.] Used as a minced oath.

1791 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* I. i, *Sir Geo.* S'fire, my Lady.

†'Sflesh, *int. Obs.* [See 'S.] = FLESH *sb.* 9 d.

1705 [T. WALKER] *Wit of a Woman* III. 29 'Sflesh I'm a Gentleman Soldier now. *Ibid.* 30.

†'Sfoot, *int. Obs.* Also 'sfut, sfut, sfoot(e, s'fut, s'foote. Shortened form of *God's foot*: see GOD 14 a.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Gods neakes he has wrong, that he has: and S'fut, an I were he, I would beare no coles. 1602 — *Ant. & Mel.* V. H 3, Sfoote, a sits like Lucifer himselfe. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 6. 1616 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iv, 'Sfoot [1598 *reads* Gods foot], I haue lost my purse, I thinke. 1662 [see FOOT *sb.* 1 b].

‖Sforzando (sfɒɪtsa·ndo). *Mus.* [It., gerund of *sforzare* to force.] A musical direction indicating that the note so marked is to be specially emphasized or rendered louder than the rest. Abbreviated *sf.*, *sfz.* *Sfz.p.*, abbreviated form of *sforzando piano*, suddenly loud followed by diminuendo or piano.

1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (1811), *Sforzando*, or *Sforzato*, or SF. (Ital.). 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus.* 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.*

b. *transf.* Increase of loudness (in speaking).

1902 R. HICHENS *Londoners* 34 'Instant destruction', he repeated, with a slight sforzando.

c. *Comb.* **sforzando coupler, pedal**: see quots.

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* iii. (1878) 20 The Sforzando coupler is a movement for increasing the power of the Swell instantaneously. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 114 The sforzando pedal is a coupler of great value.

‖Sforzato (sfɒɪtsä·to). *Mus.* [It., pa. pple. of *sforzare*: see prec.] = SFORZANDO.

1801 [see SFORZANDO]. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms.*

‖'Sforzato. *Obs. rare*−1. [Error for It. *forzato*.] A galley-slave. = FORSADO.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. ii, I was condemn'd a 'Sforzato to the Galleys, for poysoning the Cardinall Bemboo's Cooke.

‖Sfumato (sfuma·to), *a. Painting.* [It., lit. 'smoked'.] (See quot. 1869.)

1847 *Manual of Oil-Painting* 126 *Sfumato.* Painted with a light, vapoury touch. 1869 EASTLAKE *Mater. Hist. Oil Painting* II. 206 Another quality which was adopted from Leonardo..was the 'sfumato' system—the imperceptible softening of the transitions in half-tints and shadows.

†S'gad, *int. Obs. rare*−1. = EGAD.

1731. FIELDING *Eurydice* Wks. 1771 III. 212 *Auth.* Ay! s'gad, I should as soon have suspected half the Dutchmen to be dancing-masters.

Sge, early ME. form of SHE.

‖Sgraffito (sgraf,fī·to). Also 7 **sgrafit.** Pl. **sgraffiti** (sgraf,fī·tī). [It.: see GRAFFITO; the prefix *s-* represents L. *ex-* (see Ex-).] (See quots. Cf. GRAFFITO.)

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Sgrafit*, a method of Painting in black and white only, not in *fresco*. 1847 *Manual of Oil-Painting* 126 *Sgraffito.* A kind of bold design, in black and white, done by scratching a wall where it was purposely painted of the former hue. 1847 EASTLAKE *Mater. Hist. Oil Painting* I. 150 Works so produced must have resembled the *nielli*, or, on a small scale, the *sgraffiti* of the Italians. 1902 BALDRY *Mod. Mural Decoration* 101 The term sgraffito is now limited to a particular method of scratching lines upon a plaster surface...The plaster is so laid that the incisions in an upper coat reveal a lower stratum of a contrasting colour.

attrib. 1883 *L'pool Daily Post*, Panels in Sgraffito work. 1886 *Offic. Catal. Col. & Ind. Exhib.* 53 Layer upon layer of coloured lac are laid. Then, with a stylus, these coats are scratched through in a manner analogous to Italian *sgraffito* decoration.

b. *Pottery.*

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Pract. Treat. Bricks*, etc. xv. 463 Each clay is to be separately compressed, unless sgraffito effects are desired. 1897 SPARKES & GANDY *Potters* 237 The introduction, in 1867–1870, of the 'Doulton-ware Sgraffito' pottery. These were vases and jugs made in the common pipe-clay, with simple incised or stamped patterns, coloured equally simply.

SH, a consonantal digraph representing the simple sound (ʃ). In late OE. this sound was represented by the combination *sc*, which retained its original phonetic value (sk) only in words of foreign origin. The sound (ʃ) did not exist in early OF., and hence the early ME. texts, written by French-educated scribes, show great diversity of attempts to find expression for it. The OE. notation by *sc* became rare after the 12th c. Some scribes of the 12–13th c. used the single *s* initially and finally. More frequent was *ss* (used in all positions), which is found as late as 1340 (*Ayenbite*). In medial and final positions *ssh* was common from the 13th to the 16th c.; Coverdale (1535) has frequently *sszh*, sometimes *szh* (but also often *sh*). The prevailing form from the end of the 12th c. to the end of the 14th c. was *sch* (initially; in other positions it was less frequent); in the north it was common down to the end of the 16th c. In the 13th c. we occasionally find *sge, s3e, sse* for *she* (rarely *s3* or *ss* in other words), and in the 14–15th c. some East Anglian scribes wrote *xal, xulde* for *shall, should*. In ME. texts the suffix *-ship* is often written *-chipe*, and sometimes *ch* occurs as the symbol of (ʃ) in other positions.

The combination *sh* (probably to be regarded as a simplification of *sch*) is regularly used in the *Ormulum* *c* 1200 and frequently in the *Trinity College Homilies* of about the same date. It is the usual symbol in the London documents of the 14th c. and in the MSS. of Chaucer, and from the time of Caxton onwards it has been the established notation for (ʃ) in all words except those which (as *machine, schedule, Asia*, the derivatives in *-tion*, etc.) are spelt unphonetically on etymological grounds.

In some compounds as *dishonest, mishap, Gateshead, s* and *h* come together without forming a digraph. The pronunciation of some proper names in which this sequence occurs has been affected by misinterpretation of the spelling; e.g. Evesham is often called (ɪ·vʃăm), Petersham (pɪ·təɹʃăm).

Sh (ʃ), *int.* Also written **'sh** (as if an abbrev. of *hush*). An exclamation used to enjoin silence or noiselessness; = HUSH *int.* The reduplication or prolongation of the sound is indicated by *sh-sh, s-s-sh*, and the like (see quots.).

1847 *Man in the Moon* II. 114 He..imposed silence by a long-drawn S-s-s-s-s-s-sh! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix, When anybody entered the room, she uttered a *shshshsh* so sibilant and ominous, that it frightened the poor old lady in her bed. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxvi, Sh! Sh! don't make a scene! 1883 HOWELLS *Register* ii. in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 79/2 'Sh! Listen. 1893 ASHBY-STERRY *Naughty Girl* vii. 66 S-s-sh! Don't make a noise!

b. Used (in reduplicated form) to express a low faint rustling or swishing sound. Cf. SHISH.

1878 BESANT & RICE *Monks of Thelema* xii, The gardener's boy sharpened his scythe musically, and then began again his low and gentle sh-sh-sh over the lawn.

Sh-, sh', formerly used for *she* in certain elisions, as *sh'as* for she has'.

1575 *Gammer Gurton's Needle* III. iv. 8 Shase as much wyt in her head almost as chaue in mine! *Ibid.* IV. ii. 23 Chad thought shad stopt hir throte. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. i. D 1 b, Life, sh'as the Spirit of foure great parishes. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 20 Twice thirtie yeeres, Sha'd past with cares. 1631 KNEVET *Rhodon & Iris* III. i. E 3, Sometimes sh'applauds a pavement-sweeping traine.

Sh., abbreviation of *shilling*.

1607–8 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 135 Item, for four buistis, at ten sh. the buist, is 2 lib. 1730 A. MALCOLM *Syst. Arith.* 79 The Sum is 68*d.* which I divide by 12 (because 12*d.* = 1 *sh.*).

‖Sha (ʃä). [? Shortened f. SHAPOO.] The oorial (*Ovis cycloceros*). Also applied to *O. vignei*.

1842 VIGNE *Trav. Kashmir* II. 280 The Shâ is a tragelaphus, or goat-deer. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 77 The so-called sha (Ovis-vignei) of the upper Indus valley. 1894 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 223 The Asiatic wild sheep known in the Punjab as the urial, but in Ladak as the sha.

Sha, obs. form of SHAH.

Shaake, Shaar(e, Shaarpe, obs. ff. SHAKE, SHARE, SHARP.

Shab (ʃæb), *sb.* Forms: 1 sceabb, scæb, sceb, 3 schabbe, 4 shabbe, 4– shab. [OE. *sceabb* masc. corresponding to ON. **skabbr* SCAB *sb.*, f. Teut. root **skab-* to scratch, SHAVE:—Indogermanic **skăbh-*, whence L. *scabiēs* itch, *scabĕre* (perf. *scābī*) to scratch. From the same root are Flem. dial. *schab* (Kilian *schabbe*), mod.G. *schäbe* (*schabe*, dial. *schabbe*) itch.]

1. = SCAB *sb.* 1–3. Now only *dial.*, a cutaneous disease in sheep (= SCAB *sb.* 2).

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. Care* xl. 70 Se hæfð singalne sceabb se þe hæfre ne blinð unzestæðixnesse. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 322 Eac hyt afeormaþ ðone leahtor..þe hy achoras nemnað þæt ys sceb [*v.r.* scæb]. *c* 1290 *St. Francis* 309 in *S. Engl. Leg.* 62 Þo bi-gan þe souwe a-non..To beo ful of schabbe and of buyles. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (1839) 239 He shrapeth on is shabbes. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxii. 22 Litil bleynes, or shab, or drye round shab. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 518 They were afflicted, not with the sheep-pox, but with the scab, or shab. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 30 Our poor kiddy..which died yesterday of the shab. 1825 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* § 6522 (Sheep) The scab, shab, ray, or rubbers. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Shab*, scab in sheep.

2. *slang.* A low fellow (= SCAB *sb.* 4). ? *Obs.*

1637 BASTWICK *Litany* I. 19 Neither are those Shabs for any merit in themselues..worthy to glue guts vnto a beare. 1735 DYCHE & PARDON *Dict., Shab*, a mean, sorry, pitiful Fellow, one that is guilty of low Tricks &c. 1837 BAYLY *Songs & Ball.* (1844) II. 40, I belong to the Club, which is very genteel—We ne'er let a Scamp or a Shab in. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xcvIII, 'Any name but that, you shab,' said Black Jack.

Shab (ʃæb), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin; sense 2 suggests connexion with SHAB *sb.* 2.]

1. *trans.* with *off*: **a.** To get rid of; get (a person) out of the way.

1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* POSTSCR. T 3 b, Certain Nipnets intended to have sheltred themselves under Vncas; but he perceiving it would be distastful to the English, soon shab'd them off. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* IV. iii, I have shabb'd him off purely. *a* 1824 in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 347 They shab'd puir Thomas aff to hell Wi nimble feet. 1828 CROKER *Fairy Leg. S. Irel.* II. 212 But when that [money] was gone..they soon shabbed him off.

b. To put (a person) off *with* (something inferior or unsatisfactory). Cf. FOB *v.* 3.

1840 J. P. KENNEDY *Quodlibet* iii. (1860) 61, I hold the people in too much esteem to shab them off with anything of a secondary quality.

2. *intr.* with *off* or *away*: To slink away, sneak off. Also, to fall away from one's engagement.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shab'd off*, sneakt, or slid away. 1720 *Humourist* 185 And so the fat Parson shabb'd off. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words, Shab-off, Shab-away*, to sneak away. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s. v., He wanted to shab-off without paying.

b. (See quot.)

1755 JOHNSON, To *Shab* v. n., to play mean tricks; a low barbarous cant word.

†3. *trans.* ? To rob. *Obs.*

1787 W. HUTTON *Courts of Requests* XXXVII. 187 He bore it like a philosopher; to be shabbed was nothing new, he had often lost everything he had, but himself.

†Shabaroon, shabroon. *slang. Obs.* Also 7 shabberoon, 9 shabbaroon. [? f. SHAB *sb.*, after *picaroon*.] A disreputable person, ragamuffin.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shabberoon*, a Ragamuffin. 1703 E. WARD *London Spy* XV. (1706) 366 Poor loose Shabroons in Bawdy-Houses Bred. 1762–7 T. BRIDGES *Hom. Trav.* (1797) II. 12 That no more rogues to-day may drop, Go you and all your shabroons stop. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 21 Letting a tribe of shabroons and painted Jezebels into their honest house. 1898 *New Monthly Mag.* LIV. 214 If..a recognition from a coroneted carriage stamps you a lord,..the notice of a shabaroon can be nothing less than a hint to your tailor to send in his bill. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shabbaroon*, a mean shabby fellow.

attrib. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* V. 56 Trap answered, he believed he had nobody belonging to him worth seeking after, for that he was but a shabroon sort of a gem'man.

Shabbaron, obs. form of CHAPERON.

Shabbaroon, variant of SHABAROON.

Shabbed, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 sceabbede, scæbbede, 4–5 schabbed, shabbid, -yd, 7– shabbed. [f. SHAB *sb.* + -ED 2. Cf. SCABBED.]

1. Afflicted with scab or scabs; = SCABBED *a.* 1.

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 126/4029 *Purulentus*, scæbbede [*v.r.* sceabbede], zettræn. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 17 Hou heore schabbede schep schal heore wolle sane. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 102 For schabbed hands.

2. = SHABBY.

1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Abus. Physick* 63 The Chymical Doctor..offered him his help contrary to his custome, (for I believe he hateth that shabbed trick of asking people to buy health). *a* 1687 COTTON *Poems* (1689) 94 We..Had happy been had we chang'd features, Garments at least, though theirs be shabbed, With those who that cold place inhabit. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 220 He died in a shabbed Condition, as he lived. 1891 'M. GRAY' *In Heart of Storm* Prol. I. 1. 28 My best bonnet was that shabbed I didn't like to go to church of a fine Sunday.

Shabberoon, variant of SHABAROON.

Shabbify (ʃæ·bɪfəɪ), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. SHABBY *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make shabby.

1866 *All Year Round* 9 June 518 Walking over Mont Cenis ..has somewhat shabbified my travelling attire.

Shabbily (ʃæ·bili), *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a shabby manner (see the adj.).

1755 JOHNSON, *Shabbily*, meanly; reproachfully; despicably; paltrily. A cant word. 1756 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog.* (1861) III. 417 Madame de Sevigné goes on but shabbily: this cold weather numbs my faculties. 1781 J. RIPLEY *Sel. Orig. Lett.* 47 The caparisons upon his horse, shabbily splendid. 1821 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 12 June, Burdett.. comes shabbily off, for he denies a meaning which his words have. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* III. vi, A little dark man, shabbily dressed. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. ii. 23 The rooms were furnished shabbily. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Covard Conse.* IV. i, Fanny behaved so shabbily to your brother.

Shabbiness (ʃæ·binès). [-NESS.] The quality or state of being shabby (in various senses).

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 31 ¶ 1 The Shabbiness of his Dress. 1712 STEELE *Ibid.* No. 264 ¶ 2 His gay Shabbyness of Clothes. 1827 SYD. SMITH *Cath. Quest.* Wks. 1859 II. 120/1 Explaining away this sale of your soul by every species of falsehood, shabbiness, and equivocation. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* I. i. 3 In spite of..the shabbiness of her straw bonnet. 1899 DOYLE *Duet* (1909) 69/1 His occasional shabbiness in money matters.

Shabble: see SHABLE.

Shabby (ʃæ·bi), *a.* [f. SHAB *sb.* + -Y. Cf. SCABBY; also LG. *schabbig, schäbbig*, MHG. *schebic* (mod.G. *schäbig* = sense 1 below).

'A word that has crept into conversation and low writing; but ought not to be admitted into the language' (J.).]

1. That has lost its newness or freshness of appearance; dingy and faded from wear or exposure. Said of clothes, furniture, houses, etc.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2070/4 Having a Gray Coloured Coat and a shabby Perriwig. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Bristol* 22 Aug., In the other, you see a sort of shabby finery. 1763 R. LLOYD *New-River Head* 11 With the drap'ry she had got Within her little shabby cot. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* xxi. [vi.] ¶ 1 A man in very shabby cloaths. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xvi, There was a stream of people pouring into a shabby house. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vi. (1878) 82 It was an old book in very shabby binding. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 65, I should have been a poacher In shabby velveteen. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iii. 123 The surest token that a monastery was in a bad way was that its church was in a shabby condition.

b. Of persons, their appearance, etc.: Poorly-dressed, 'seedy'.

1669 OGILBY *Odyss.* XXIII. 334 Shabby my looks, so mean my garments be, That for her lord she'll not acknowledge me. 1688 CLARENDON *Diary* 7 Dec., They were very shabby fellows, pitifully mounted, and worse armed. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shabby*, in poor, sorry Rigging. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. i, [She] was shewn, by a little shabby footboy, into a parlour. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. ix. 179 He lived with a shabby old half-pay father.

c. *transf.* Discreditably inferior in quality, making a poor appearance.

1820 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 191 Excuse this shabby letter. 1824 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 46/2 We Scotch, who live in a little shabby scraggy corner of a remote island. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xiv, My Lord Duke's entertainments were both seldom and shabby. 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 448 Who, then, would expect such shabby, not arguments, but mists of arguments, as the author presents us with. 1880 E. A. FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 198 Unless they have mended their ways at Laon since 1869, you will hear the shabbiest of masses there.

2. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Contemptibly mean, ungenerous, or dishonourable. Often applied, in a lighter tone, to conduct which is less friendly or generous than one had hoped for.

1679 J. SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Charac. Tory* Wks. 1729 II. 66 These shabby fellows who pretend to be robbed. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* VII. (1722) 374 Among these was a shabby Fellow, who to get Victuals without working, had thrust himself among the Quakers. 1763 LD. HOLLAND in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 270 Stephen gives his compliments, but says you left Paris in a shabby manner. 1840 THACKERAY *Bedford-Row Consp.* i, It was voted a shabby excuse. 1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairlegh* XV, It would be horribly shabby of you to desert us now. 1892 W. S. GILBERT *Mountebanks* I, What shabby things a man will do when he's eaten up with jealousy.

b. Mean or ungenerous in giving or paying.

1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* v. 7 So I took out my Purse, as I hate to be shabby. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 154 The Admiralty, always generous to profusion to unworthy people,..is shabby to the sailor.

c. Of a gift or the like: Small or poor as estimated by the giver's means.

1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment*, II. iii. (1811) 139 Make him some shabby allowance, hardly enough to keep him from starving. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav. S. Africa* iii. 68, I, being..familiar with their customs, knew that this shabby present was an insult to us.

3. † a. ? Dirty, muddy. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1705 BERKELEY *Cave of Dunmore* Wks. 1871 IV. 504 A spacious vault, the bottom whereof is always shabby by reason of the continual distillation of rock-water.

b. *dial.* Of weather: Wet and unpleasant.

1855 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., A wet shabby day.

4. Of the pulse: Weak.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 175 His pulse was 140 in a minute and remarkably shabby. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 70 A rapid shabby pulse.

5. *dial.* Diseased with 'shab' or scab; = SCABBY 1. App the original meaning, though not recorded early.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 66 *Shabby*, affected with the shab. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., They sheep be shabby.

6. *Comb.*, as †*shabby-looked, -looking* adjs.

1705 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Gamester* I. i, But, Sir, here was a kind of a—kind of a shabby-look'd fellow. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 365 We are an uncouth, snobby, and withal, shabby-looking set of varlets.

Sha·bby-genteel, *a.* Attempting to look genteel and keep up appearances in spite of shabbiness. Also *absol.*

1754 in *Connoisseur* No. 25. 146 The numerous fraternity of the shabby-genteel, who are the chief support of the clothiers in Monmouth-street. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Const. Neville* (ed. 2) II. 342 A tall meagre female,..whose habiliments might come under the description of shabby genteel. 1821 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 50 Shabby-genteel houses, surrounded with dead fences, and things called gardens. 1868 ALEX. SMITH *Last Leaves* 76 He has.. a feeling of respect for shabby-genteel virtues. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 341 A shabby-genteel imitation of an expensive building.

Hence **Shabby-gentility.**

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Charac.* x, This compound of the two—this shabby-gentility.

Sha·bbyish, *a.* [-ISH.] Somewhat shabby.

1830 CARLYLE *Let.* 21 Aug. in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 120 A cold-hearted, shabbyish, dandy parson. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. i. 25 The advancement of one of his brothers from the shabbyish bishopric of Poitiers to the brilliant see of Paris.

Shable, shabble (ʃæ·b'l). *Sc.* Also 7 shabel, schable. [ad. It. *sciabla, sciabola*, or Hungarian *száblya*, Polish *szabla*, parallel forms to Du. *sabel*, G. *sabel* (now *säbel*): see SABLE *sb.*[3], SABRE.]

1. A sabre or curved sword.

'Now generally used to denote an old rusty sword' (Jam.).

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 208 Shables, or short crooked swords. 1683 SIR J. TURNER *Pallas Arm.* 171 The Persians, Turks, Russians, Polonians, and Hungarians, for most part wear Scimiters and Shables. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 414/2 One of them had his left Arm cut off with one blow of a Schable or Polish sword. 1749 CROOKSHANK *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. 22 At last, the Commander struck him with a shabble on the face. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVIII, He tugged for a second or two at the hilt of his *shabble*, as he called it. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Mosshags* 75 He would strike them on the face with the basket hilt of his shable.

2. 'Any little person or thing' (Jam.).

1842 CARLYLE *Let.* 19 Apr. in Froude *Life Lond.* (1884) I. ix. 251 Fly away with your shabble of a Duke.

‖ **Shabracque, shabrack** (ʃæ·bræk). Also 9 shubrach, (chabrague, shabrag), schabraque, shabraque. [a. G. *schabracke*, F. *schabraque* (also *chabraque*), from some lang. of Eastern Europe: cf. Russ. чапракъ, Czech *čabrak(a, čapraka, šabraka*, Magyar *csabrág*, Turkish چاپراق *čāpraq*.] A saddle-cloth used in European armies.

c 1808 PORTER *Russ. & Swed.* (1813) II. xxxi. 59 The leopard-skin shubrach (or saddle covering). 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 151 A saddle-cloth vying in size with the shabrack of a heavy dragoon. 1838 *Hist. Rec. Life Guards* 190 Sheepskin Shabraques, black for the Officers, and white for the Men. 1865 MILLER *Equipm. Artillery* 74 Shabraque... Worn by officers of horse brigades only. 1904 *Dress Regulat. Officers* 17, 18 Shabracque. 1908 BAIN *Slav. Europe* 213 Their..shabracks ablaze with precious stones.

Sha·b-rag, *a.* and *sb. dial.* and *slang.*

A. *adj.* Shabby, damaged, the worse for wear.

1762–7 T. BRIDGES *Hom. Trav.* (1797) II. 254 None of your Bromingham affairs, Nor any such like shabrag wares, But good new halfpence from the mint, With honest George's face in print. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s. v. *Horny-wink*, An old tumble-down house has been revilingly described as an old shabrag horny-wink place.

B. *sb.* A mean beggarly person, a ragamuffin.

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words.* 1869 R. B. PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.* 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Shab-rag*, a term of contempt applied to persons of dirty, depraved appearance.

Shabroon: see SHABAROON.

† **Shabub, shawbubbe.** *Obs.* [app. repr. G. † *schabab*, explained as black coriander; f. *schab ab* imper. of *abschaben* to get away, be off.] Alleged name for the plant Honesty (*Lunaria biennis*).

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 85 It maye be called in englishe great Lunari. Some cal it Shabub. 1568 — *Herbal* III. 52 Some call this herbe Shawbubbe.

‖ **Shabunder** (ʃəbʌ·ndəɹ). Forms: 7 sabandar(e, -er, sabendor, savendar; shabandar, xabandar, shawbander, chabandar, -er, 7–8 shabander, -bender, shah-, shawbunder, 8 shebandar, 9 shahbendar. [a. Pers. شاهبندر *shāh-bandar*, lit. 'king of the port'. Cf. Pg. *xabandar*.] 'The title of an officer at native ports all over the Indian seas, who was the chief authority with whom foreign traders and ship-masters had to transact. He was often also head of the Customs' (Yule).

1599 J. DAVIS in Purchas *Pilgrimes* (1625) I. III. 120 The Sabandar tooke off my Hat, and put a Roll of white linnen about my head. *c* 1603 *Ibid.* 161 The Saiendar, or Gouernour of the Citie. 1606 *Sir H. Middleton's Last East-Ind. Voy.* E 4, Then came the Sabendor with light, and brought the Generall to his house. 1613 in Purchas *Pilgrimes* (1625) I. IV. 462 The Xabandar. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 130 Choja Hasanaly, Shabandar. 1628 *Ibid.* III. 212 Cojah Tellaldine, Shawbander or admirall of this port. 1678 J. PHILLIPS tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. 18 The Chabander and Mint-master are very observant to the Company.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 98 The Shawbunder..who is King of the Port, or Chief Customer. *a* 1711 in C. Lockyer *Acc. Trade India* 223 The *Shabander* or Custom-Master. 1795 M. SYMES *Embassy Ava* (1800) 160 The important office of Shawbunder, or intendant of the port, and receiver of the port customs. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 62/2 At Batavia..the Shabander exacts a dollar *per* pecul on all sugar exported. [1833–5 LANE *Mod. Egyptians* (1836) I. 137 The Shah-bendar (chief of the Merchants of Cairo).]

Shach, obs. form of SHAH.

Shachle, variant of SHAUCHLE *v. Sc.*

Shack (ʃæk), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* [f. *shack*, dial. variant of SHAKE *v.* Cf. SHAKE *sb.*[1] 2 e.]

1. Grain fallen from the ear, and available for the feeding of pigs, poultry, etc., after the harvest; a supply of fallen grain for this purpose. Also, fallen beech-mast or acorns.

1536 *Rolls House MS.* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1185–6) III. 93 *note*, Able and sufficient with the help of the shakke in the stubbe to succour and feed as many great beasts..as the land would keep. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogat. Week* IV. 251 b, The common balkes and walkes, whiche good men before tyme, made the greater and broder,..partlye for the better shacke in haruest tyme, to the more comfort of his poore neyghbours cattell. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. lxxiv. 322 [Produce of farm (Suffolk)] One hundred coomb of wheat.. £75 0 0. Shack for cattle, £1 10 0. 1802 *Sport. Mag.* XX. 64 Lonely watch'd he the grunters all day, As they rooted the stubbles for shack. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 337 *Shack*, the corn left in a barley or pea field, after the crop has been carried. Pigs and poultry are then turned in 'to shack'. 'Tha's good shack in that there filld'. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Shack*... The shaken grain remaining on the ground when harvest and gleaning are over; or, in woodland countries, the acorns, or mast under the trees. 1858 *U. S. Newspaper* in J. F. Morgan *Eng. Norm. Occup.* iii. 57 *note*, The woods in the vicinity of Sandusky..were frequented by vast numbers of wild hogs, which..grew fat upon the shack which every where abounded.

2. a. In phrase *to be, go* or *run at shack, to go to shack*, said of pigs, poultry, etc., when turned into the stubble to feed on the 'shack' (sense 1) after the harvest. Hence b. The right of sending pigs or poultry to 'run at shack' on another's land after the harvest; also, in extended sense, the right of pasturing cattle in winter on another's land.

1629 COKE *Rep.* VII. II. 5 Ceux parolx, daler Shack, sont tant adire comme daler a libertie ou daler alarge. *Ibid.*, Le dit common appel Shacke. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 247 *Shack* is a peculiar name of Common, used in the Countrey of Norfolke. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shack*, (in Norfolk and Suffolk) the liberty of Winter-Pasturage;..Also a Custom in Norfolk to have Common for Hogs, from the end of Harvest till Seed-time in all Mens Grounds: Whence *to go at Shack* in that County, signifies as much as to go at large. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 387 *Shack*. Stock turned into the stubbles after harvest are said to be at shack. Grounds lying open to common fields are said to 'lie quite shack'.

c. *attrib.*, as *shack-land, -time* (cf. SHAKE-*time*).

1821 *Monthly Repos.* Feb. 97/1 A great part..of our lands were formerly *shack lands, of which the occupant had the use only whilst his crop was on, the land then reverting to the community for pasturage. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 42 Yoke seldom thy swine while the *shacktime doth last. *Ibid.*, Where loue among neighbors do beare any stroke, While shacktime indureth men use not to yoke. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Shack-time*, the time when pigs are at shack.

3. An animal or animals 'at shack'.

1842 C. W. JOHNSON *Farmer's Encycl.* 1087/1 *Shack*,.. the stock turned upon the stubble after harvest. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 33. 160 The pig is an admirable gleaner, 'a shack' they call him in Norfolk.

Shack, *sb.*[2] *dial.* and *U.S.* [? Short for SHACKRAG. Cf. SHAKE *sb.*[2]]

1. An idle disreputable fellow, a vagabond.

1682 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Concl. 64 Such vile Shacks as will swear an hundred Oaths for Nothing, or a Whisker for Something. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 120 (1740) 293 Great Ladies are more apt to take Sides with talking flattering Gossips than such a Shack as Fitzharris. *c* 1800 *Derbysh. Rhyme* in W. Andrews *Bk. Oddities* (1882) 84 Ripley ruffians, Butterley blacks, Swanwick bull-dogs, Alfreton shacks. 1862 BORROW *Wales* lxxviii, A fellow.. having much the appearance of a town shack. 1892 HOLE *Mem.* xvi. 192 The shack is a man [in Notts] who objects to regular employment, but can and will do anything except ordinary work.

2. 'A worthless horse; a plug' (Webster 1911).

Shack, *sb.*[3] *U.S.* and *Canadian.* [Of obscure origin.

The late J. Platt, Jun., suggested (*N. & Q.* Ser. x. XII. 306/2) that the source might be the Mexican *jacal*, Aztec *xacalli*, wooden hut. Cf. SHACKLE *sb.*[3]]

A roughly built cabin or shanty of logs, mud, etc.

1881 *N. Y. Times* 18 Dec. in *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. V. 65/2 The average 'shack' comprises but one room, and is customarily roofed with earth, supported by poles. 1882 *Century Mag.* Sept. 774/1 He [a stockman in the north-west] lives, as a rule, in a wretched dirt-roof 'shack'.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1885 *Home Missionary* (N. Y.) Mar. 426 The rude shack-like store has changed to an imposing structure of stone. 1909 *N. Y. Even. Post* 4 Feb. in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s. v., An Italian was murdered in his bunk by his shack-mate.

Shack, *sb.*[4] *U.S.* Also (in comb.) **shag-**. [Of obscure origin.

There is some affinity of meaning with SHACK *sb.*[1] 1.]

1. Bait picked up at sea, refuse fish, flesh of porpoises or of sea-birds, etc., as distinguished from

regular bait carried on the vessel. More fully *shack-bait*. Also *attrib.*, *shack-fisherman*, *-fishing*.

1891 in *Century Dict.*; and in later Dicts. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* 75, 'I mistrust shag-fishin' will pay better, ez things go.' That meant the boys would bait with selected offal of the cod as the fish were cleaned.

2. A catch of sea-fish, made up of cheap varieties, esp. of the cod species. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1904 *Rep. Mass. Comm. Fisheries & Game* 78 (Cent. Suppl.) Such fish, tumbled in together, without effort at classification, are known as shack. *Ibid.*, At first a shack trip referred particularly to a voyage on which cheap species of fishes constituted the bulk of the catch.

† Shack, *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [? Evolved from SHACK-HAIRED *a.*] Shaggy.

1577 HARRISON *Descr. Scot.* vii. 9/1 in *Holinshed*, White Bulles with shack [1587, p. 13/2 shackt] hears and curled manes like fierce Lions.

Shack, *a.*[2] *dial.* [f. SHACK *sb.*[1]] Used predicatively in phrase *to lie shack*, said of land so situated as to be liable to 'shack'.

1787 [see SHACK *sb.*[1] 2].

Shack (ʃæk), *v.*[1] *dial.* [f. SHACK *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *intr.* ? To 'run at shack' (in quot. *transf.*).

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 196 Those rayes of other atoms that are shacking all over the worlds wasts.

2. *trans.* To turn (pigs or poultry, etc.) into stubble-fields; also, of animals, to feed on (stubble). Also *intr.* to feed *upon* stubble.

[1658– cf. *shaking-time*: SHAKING *vbl. sb.* 4.] *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shack*.. To turn pigs or poultry into the stubble-fields, to feed on the scattered grain. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. III. II. 533 They [turkeys] are then sold..to the larger farmers to 'shack' upon the barley or oat stubbles. 1887 SUFFLING *Land of Broads* 253 *Shack*, to turn cattle out to graze after the corn has been carted. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Shake* 9 The pigs shack the barley.

Shack, *v.*[2] *dial.* [f. SHACK *sb.*[2], or of cognate formation. Cf. SHACKLE *v.*[2] (sense 2).]

1. *intr.* To idle away one's time; to loaf *about*.

1787 [implied in *Shacking* ppl. a., see below]. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shack*.. To rove about; as a stroller or mendicant. 1865 *Good Words* Feb. 125/2 What makes the work come so heavy at the end of the week, is, that the men are 'shacking' at the end of the beginning. 1896 E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM *False Evid.* xxvi, What would you have me do? Shack about with my hands in my pocket all day?

2. *Western U.S.* 'To hibernate, as an animal, especially the bear: also said of men who "lay up" or "hole up" for the winter, or go into winter quarters' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Hence **Sha·cking** *ppl. a.* (in sense 1).

1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 387 *Shacking*, a shabby rambling fellow (living at shack). 1881 *Dr. Gheist* 227 I'm tired enough of this shacking night-work. 1891 *Rutland Words* Add., *Shacking*, idle good-for-nothing. He's a shacking chap.

Shack, *v.*[3] *U.S.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* 'To go after, as a ball batted to a distance' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); 'to chase and fetch, as a batted ball' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Shack, dial. variant of SHAKE *sb.* and *v.*

Shackage (ʃæ·kėdʒ). [f. SHACK *sb.*[1]] The turning (of pigs, etc.) into the stubble or 'shack'. Also *attrib.*

1885 W. RYE *Hist. Norfolk* 59 *note*, Open fields over which the manor tenants had grazing and shackage rights during certain times of year. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 3/1 To this day in Bygrave..the different occupiers of lands in the open fields enjoy the right of 'shackage'—that is, of pasturing beasts on one another's lands after harvest.

Shackal(l, obs. forms of JACKAL.

† Shackatory. *Obs. rare.* Also **shockatory.** [Of obscure origin: possibly a blundered reproduction of It. *cacciatore* hunter.] ? A huntsman's underling, a beater.

In Dicts. erroneously explained 'an Irish hound'.

1630 DEKKER *and Ft. Honest Wh.* III. i. E 1 b, The Irish Footman can tell you all his hunting houres..that Irish Shackatory beates the bush for him, and knowes all. 1640 W. M. *Wand. Jew telling Fortunes* 34 For Time..is an excellent footman; no Shockatory comes neere him if hee once get the start, hee's gone, and you gone too.

Shack-bag. Also **shack-back.** [variant of SHAKE-BAG.]

1. *dial.* = SHACK *sb.*[2] 1.

1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, A *Shackbag*, a loose trustless fellow. 1886 FENN *This Man's Wife* I. xiv, I was a fool to come down as I did before, such a shackbag as I was.

2. The name of a large breed of fowls.

1816 'B. MOUBRAY' *Treat. Poultry*, etc. (ed. 2) 25 Shack-bags. Formerly the largest variety, but in probability it has been entirely worn out for some years. It was called the duke of Leeds' breed, [etc.]. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 75 The famous 'shack-backs', 'shack-bags', or 'Duke of Leeds' fowl',..were supposed to have been a cross between the Jago and Dorking fowls.

Shackbolt (ʃæ·kbǫlt). *Her.* [? Shortened from *shackle-bolt*: see SHACKLE *sb.*] A shackle or fetter used as a charge.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xvii. (1660) 249 He beareth, Argent, a Shackboult sable. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Shackbolt* or *Shackle*, a prisoners Bolt, a Fetter or Give. 1688 [see SHACKLE-BOLT]. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4973/4 A Lion's Head erased in a Shackbolt on a Wreath. 1868 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* vii. (1893) 115 Fetter-lock, or Shack-bolt: a somewhat rare Charge.

† Shacked, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **shackt.** [f. SHACK *a.*[1] + -ED 2. Cf. SHAGGED *a.*] Shaggy.

1587 [see SHACK *a.*[1]]. 1587 HARRISON *England* I. x. 41/1 in *Holinshed*, Their haire is betweene the wooll of a sheepe and the haire of a goat, resembling both, shacked, and yet absolutelie like vnto neither of both.

Shacker (ʃæ·kəɹ). *U.S.* [f. SHACK *sb.*[4] (sense 2) + -ER 1.] See quot.

1902 *Boston* (Mass.) *Transcript* 20 Aug. 13/6 A shacker, as the vessels, which bring fresh cod and haddock to the wharf are called.

† Shackerell. *Obs.* Also 5 **shaker(e)l.** [? f. SHAKE *v.*] A vagabond.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 675 Shamefull shakerles, soleyn shaueldores. 1610 B. RICH *Descr. Irel.* 9 The meanest Shackerell, that hath scarce a mantle to wrap himselfe in, hath as proud a mind as Oneal himselfe.

Shackfork, dial. variant of SHAKEFORK.

† Shack-haired, *a.* Also **shak-, shake-.** [? Altered form of SHAG-HAIRED; cf. *shock-haired.*] Shaggy or shock-haired.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 187 Certeine salvages with dogges heades, and shacke heared on their bodies. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 1084 Herbes which neuer calf..nor shakheard Goate did feede. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. vii. 230/1 in *Holinshed*, Of which sort [of dogs] also some be smooth,..and some shake haired.

Shackle (ʃæ·k'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 **sceacul,** scacul, 3 scheakel, 4 schackle, schakel, 4–5 schakle, 5 shakill, schakyl(l, -ylle, schakkyl, 5–6 shakyl, 5–7 shakel, 6 schakill, schaccle, shakyll, shackil, -yll, 6–7 shackel(l, 6–9 *now dial.* shakle, (7 schackell), 9 *dial.* sheakle, 6– shackle. β. *north.* and *Sc.* 5 shekyl, 6 schockill, 7 schaikill, 8 shekle, shekel, 9 sheckle, shaikle. [OE. *sceacul* masc., fetter, corresp. to LG. *schakel* link of a chain, hobble for a horse, Du. *schakel*, HG. dial. *schakel* link of a chain, ON. *skǫkull* masc., pole of a wagon (Sw. *skakel*, Da. *skagle*):—OTeut. type **skakulo-*. A cognate word is LG. *schake* link of a chain.

The notion common to these words appears to be that of 'something to fasten or attach'. On this ground it seems difficult to refer them to the Teut. root **skak-* SHAKE *v.* Falk and Torp suggest a Teut. root **skēk-*:—pre-Teut. **skēg-*, a doublet of **kēg-*, whence Teut. **hāk-* (: *hak-* : *hōk-*) found in G. *haken*, OE. *hōc* HOOK *sb.*; but this is very doubtful.]

I. A kind of fetter.

1. A fetter for the ankle or wrist of a prisoner, usually one of a pair connected together by a chain, which is fastened to a ring-bolt in the floor or wall of the cell. In the OE. examples, a ring or collar for the neck of a prisoner. a. *sing.*

α 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 107/10 *Columbar*, sceacul, *uel* bend. [*Ibid.* 116/10 *Nerui boia* fotcopsa, *uel* sweorscacul.] *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2655 in *Macro Plays* 156 Þou schalt be schakyn in myn schakle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schakkyl, or schakle, *murella*, *numella*. α 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 262 At last his shackell falleth from him,..the prison openeth and [etc.]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 336/1, I should rather take it [a Cop-sole and Pin] for a Shackle and Bolt. *a* 1779 COOK *Voy. Pacific* III. vi. (1784) II. 102 He carried with him the shackle of the bilboo-bolt that was about his leg. 1851 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xviii. (1855) 303 It is not the shackle on the wrist that constitutes the slave—but the loss of self-respect.

b. *pl.*

1540 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 220 There was put vpon your sayd poore subiecte..a great payer of Shackels. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 91 b, A prison and a man loking out at a grate..and all his apparel was garded with shakelles of sylver. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 252 Then caused two payre of shackels of iron to bee put on theyr legges. 1597 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 69 Tua pair of scheckills to the witches in the stepill. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* V. 167 They resolved rather to dye fighting then to live in schackells. 1652 COTTERELL tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. (1676) 51 You go to offer your hands to the shackles that are already prepared for you. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 42 Slaves cannot breathe in England; ..They touch our country, and their shackles fall. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* x, Haley, drawing out from under the waggon-seat a heavy pair of shackles, made them fast around each ankle. 1864 SEATON *Cadet to Colonel* xiii. 272 Shackles were put on their legs. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Shackles*, semicircular clumps of iron sliding upon a round bar, in which the legs of prisoners are occasionally confined on deck. *Manacles* when applied to the wrists.

c. *Her.* A shackle used as a bearing.

1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss. In mod. Dicts.

2. *fig.* and in figurative context. Applied to restraint on freedom of action. Chiefly in *pl.*

α 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Auh ancren..schulen beon per [i. e. in heaven]..lihture & swifture & ine so wide scheaklees pleien ine heouene, ase me seið ine heouene is large leswe, þet tet bodi schal beon hwar so euer þe gost wule, in one hondhwule. α 1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 145/13 For synne is cald þe deueles schakel, His net, his tool, his takyng takel. α 1500 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) II. 142 Staying thus in suspence, I shaked off the shakles with calling to remembraunce the saying of a poore Painter in Sienna, who [etc.]. 1681 TEMPLE *Mem.* III. Wks. 1731 I. 337 They would leave the Crown after him in Shackles, which..would not be easily knock'd off by any Successor. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 13 This body is become a prison, a shackle, a sepulchre to the soul. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 4/1 To knock off the Shackles of Ignorance and Prejudice. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* II. i, Virtue's a shackle, under fair disguise, To fetter fools, while we bear off the prize. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 152 That rhyme makes the poet walk in shackles is denied. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 281 Elizabeth..removed the chief shackle upon British trade.

b. *The shackles*: the bonds of matrimony.

[*c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 72 Bot begyn she to crok, To groyne or to clok, Wo is hym is of oure cok, ffor he is in the shekyls.] 1780 *Mirror* No. 89 Were I to enter the shackles, I have too much regard to my own ease to chuse a lady of reflection.

† 3. A fetter-like bond, esp. one used as an ornament, an armlet or anklet. *Obs. rare.*

1571–2 in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) I. 294 An armlet or skakell [*sic*] of golde. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 10 They bury his Armolets, Bracelets, Shackles and such Treasure. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 514 Most of the Men and Women on the Island..had all Ear-rings made of Gold, and Gold Shackles about their Legs and Arms.

4. [Short for SHACKLE-BONE.] The wrist; also *rarely* the ankle. *dial.*

1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 *Shackle of the arm*, the wrist. 1861 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds*, *Shackle*, the wrist. 'Spreined one o' my shackles'. 1902 HYNE *Thompson's Progr.* 195 'T' sheckle willn't mend...'..The fool of a woman ought to have had her shackle set at the infirmary.

5. a. A hobble for a horse. ? *Obs.*

1529 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 366 Ane pair of schakillis to the grete hors. 1562 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 38 b/2 Shakels or spannes vpon the horse legges, *numelli*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Soles, fetters, and shackles, with horselock and pad. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 171 Those shackles which we clap on the legs of an vntrained Mule, which going with them many dayes, taketh a steddie and seemly pace. 1620 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lxxxiv. 364 If a horse be galled in the pastorne, on the heele, or vpon the cronet, either with shackell or locke, as it many times happens in the Champion countries, where the Farmers vse much to teather their horses; then for such a soare you shall [etc.]. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XXV. 91 Some sleek and sober mule Long trained in shackles to procession pace.

b. A chain, rope, twisted band of straw or the like, used for securing cows. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1064 A plant, whils it is grene..A man may with his fyngirs ply it wher hym list, And make ther-of a shakill, a withey, or a twist. 1858 M. A. DENHAM in *D. Tracts* (1891) I. 275 The custom of twisting birch twigs in a peculiar manner, to serve instead of hempen bands for the purpose of tying up cattle. These are called 'sheakles'. 1869 PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Shackle*, ..a cow chain.

II. In various technical senses.

6. A ring, clevis, or similar device, used for attaching or coupling, so as to leave some degree of freedom of movement; often a U-shaped piece of iron, closed by a movable bar passing through holes in the ends. a. A coupling for a plough, harrow, wagon, carriage, etc.

1343 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 205, 1 clitta pro molde-bredd; 2 schackles de ferro pro carucis; 2 coupewaynes. *Ibid.* 543, 3 Reyns, 3 paribus de pastrons, 3 Schakles et 1 croper pro longa carecta, 26*s.* 9*d.* 1422–3 *Ibid.* 619 Pro 5 novis Reynes de corr. pro stabulo d'ni Prioris, 3 Shakelys de correo, 2 heltres de corr. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15. C 4 b, The fote teame shall be fastened to the same [*i. e.* 'the formest slote' of the harrow] with a shakyll, or a withe to drawe by. 1530 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 27 A wayne and yoke with bolte and shakyll. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 3 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The price charged..is for the plough fit for use, but not including the shackle, by which it is drawn and regulated. 1881 J. W. BURGESS *Coach-Building* x. 98 Shackles are iron staples, which serve to receive the leather suspension braces of C spring carriages on the springs; they are also used for coupling springs together. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Sheckle*, *sheakle*, *shaikle*, ..the sling that fastens the double-tree to a plough-head or bridle.

b. *Naut.* A fastening for a port-hole; a coupling for lengths of chain cable, an anchor, etc.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 68 Shackels are a kinde of Rings but not round,..fixed to the middest of the ports within boord, through which wee put a billet to keepe fast the port for flying open in foule weather. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 142 A large swivel, with shackles and bolts,..the western chain..joined to the eastern..by a bolt and shackle. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 130 *Shackles*, the small ring-bolts driven into the ports, or scuttles, and through which the lashing passes when the ports are barred in. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 190 A large shackle is also fixed at one end to be joined to the anchor. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 363 Each length is to be provided with a shackle and shackle bolt, to be tested as part of the chain. 1891 WINN *Boating Man's Vade-M.* 78 *Shackle* is a small half hoop shaped iron, fitted with a screw pin connecting the two open ends. Anchor shackles have the lug or pin countersunk [etc.].

c. A ring, hook, or the like for lifting, holding, carrying, etc. a weight or something heavy.

1552 in R. H. Hore *Wexford* (1901) II. 243, 2 Iron Shackells for bucketts. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Nov. 10/1 The immense wooden beams on which it [the bell] formerly hung have long since been broken down at the shackle.

d. The hinged and curved bar of a padlock which passes through the staple.

1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 7.

7. *Telegr.* A form of insulator used in overhead lines for supporting the wire where a sharp angle occurs.

1855 *Lardner's Mus. Sci. & Art* III. 243 The conducting wire of the main line in passing the station is cut and the ends jointed by a shackle. 1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Electr. & Magn.* 288 Non-conducting shackles (used at stations to break the continuity of the wire) consist of a solid piece of gutta percha inserted into metal hooks [etc.]. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 213 A special form of insulator known as a shackle is employed, which confines

the strain of the wire to one spot. *Ibid.* 214 The shackle is formed of porcelain, with a hole through the centre, into which a 4½in. bolt is inserted.

8. A device for gripping anything; *spec.* 'either of the pivoted gripping devices for holding a test piece in a testing machine' (Webster 1911).

1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 380/1 A shackle was placed round the centre of the block [of concrete], and two others at the extremities.

9. A length of cable 12¼ fathoms (orig. the distance between two 'shackles', in sense 6 b).

1886 J. M. CAULFEILD *Seamanship Notes* 4 The length of the bower cable is generally 12 shackles, a shackle is 12½ fathoms.

†**10.** Some implement used by chimney-sweepers; ? a link for fastening poles together. *Obs.*

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 198 A Chimny-sweeper, with his Brooms, his Poles and Shackles.

III. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, **shackle-bar**, (*a*) the swingle-tree of a coach, etc.; (*b*) *U.S.* 'the coupling between a locomotive and its tender' (Webster 1864); **shackle-breeching** (see quot.); **shackle-crow**, 'a bar of iron slightly bent at one end like the common crow, but with a shackle instead of a claw at the end... used for drawing bolts or deck-nails' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); †**shackle-dancer**, a performer who dances in shackles; †**shackle-gall**, a sore under the fetlock of a horse, caused by the galling of the shackle (cf. 5 a), hence *shackle-galled* adj.; †**shackle-hammed** *a.*, knock-kneed, so also †**shackle-hams**, knock-knees; **shackle-head** *dial.*, a seine-net; **shackle-irons** *dial.*, hand-cuffs; **shackle-jack** (see quot.); **shackle-joint**, (*a*) a joint in the form of a shackle (sense 6), esp. one for adjusting the tension of rods, wires, etc.; (*b*) a peculiar kind of articulation in the vertebræ of some fishes (see quot. 1872); **shackle-net** *dial.* (see quots.); **shackle-pin**, †(*a*) the pin or bolt of a shackle; (*b*) 'the small pin of wood or iron that confines a shackle-bolt in place' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **shackle-plate** (see quot.); †**shackle-vein**, 'a vein of the horse, apparently the median ante-brachial, from which blood used to be let' (*Cent. Dict.*); †**shackle-wise** *adv.*, in the form of a shackle. See also SHACKLE-BOLT, SHACKLE-BONE.

1834 *D. Walker's Manly Exerc.* 201 *Shackle- or swing-bars. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Shackle-breeching*, two shackles are turned into [*i.e.* fastened to] the breeching, by which it is instantly disconnected from the port-ringbolts. 1709 E. SMITH *Poem Death J. Philips* 102 So the stretch'd Cord the *Shackle-Dancer tries. 1596 MASCALL *Bk. Cattle* II. *Horses* 164 *Shakell-gall, is on the pastornes. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Armado* C 6, The Chinegall, the Nauellgall, Windgall, Spurgall, Lightgall, and Shacklegall. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* 1958/4 Her two fore Feet *Shackel-gald. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 1 b, His legges *shackle hamd, as if his knees had beene laced to his thighes with points. 1674 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 907/4 A Red Roan Nag about 13 hands high, shakle hammed. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* III. I. 180 (E.D.D.) Colts broken too young are often shackle-hammed. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 132 The Grashopper ..with his *shackle hammes weakely skips too and fro. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* June 287/2 If I lies than Bessy, than I wishes The *Shackleheads may never close the fishes. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, **Shackle-irons*, prison hand-cuffs. 1896 J. K. SNOWDEN *Web of Old Weaver* XV. (1897) 176, I looked to be taen any day, and I did not want all to see me wear the shackle-irons. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shackle-jack*, an implement for attaching the thills to the shackle on the axle where an anti-rattling box of india-rubber is used. 1837 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 48 A round wrought-iron tie-bar.. with a *shackle joint in the centre. 1872 MIVART *Anat.* ii. 25 Some spiny bones of Siluroid fishes have a perforation at their base, through which passes a bony ring..a shackle-joint. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, **Shackle-net*, a net, called a flue. 1446 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 95, vij shakels ferri, unde ij sine *shakelpynnez et v cum shakylpynnez ferri. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 67 At *K* is shown a *shackle plate to receive rudder pendants, which secure the rudder to the vessel in the event of the former becoming accidentally unshipped. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VII. ix. 22 The cuer is to let them blood very much in the *shackle veins to draw the humors from the vpper parts. 1610 — *Masterp.* II. CXV. 414 A slender string, which commeth from the shackell veine to the gristell in the nose and betweene the lippe. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 347 Take up the shackle veynes. 1596 MASCALL *Bk. Cattle* I. 73 Yee shall fasten them vnto the postes, with a bowe-withe made *shacle wise.

Sha·ckle, *sb.*[2] *dial.* [f. SHAKE *v.*: see -LE.]

1. Stubble.

a 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, *Shackle*, stubble. Herefordsh.

2. a. Sc. *Silver shackle*: the quaking-grass, *Briza media*. (Cf. *silver shaker*, SHAKER 7.) **b.** *pl.* The yellow rattle, *Rhinanthus Crista-galli* (E.D.D.).

a 1824 in *Mactaggart's Gallovid. Encycl.* 427 The sillar shakle wags its pow, Upon the brae.

3. A game of dice; a raffle. Cf. SHAKE *sb.* 2 g.

1881 *Chequered Career* 350 The shanty-keeper now produces the dice-box and proposes a 'shackle'. 1885 *Western Gaz.* 30 Jan. in *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. XI. 245/2 He..was asked by a young man to join in a 'shackle' for live tame rabbits. He consented, and a box was brought containing three threepenny pieces, and those who threw the highest gained the rabbits.

Shackle (ʃæ·k'l), *sb.*[3] *U.S.* [See SHACK *sb.*[3]] = SHACK *sb.*[3]

1890 *Advance* (Chicago) 18 Sept., I found lots of families living in the most miserable shackles.

Shackle (ʃæ·k'l), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 **schaklyn, -ylle**, 6 **shakel, shakle, shakkle**, 6–7 **shackel**, 6– **shackle**. [f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To confine with shackles; to put a shackle or shackles on.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schaklyn, *numello*. *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* 237 (Manly) In Newgate we dwelled togyder, For he and I were bothe shakeled in a fetter. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 20 Edmond Mortimer..whome..Owen Glendor kepte in filthy prison shakeled with yrons. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 158 This mischiefe you may easily preuent, with shackling him with a shooe sole. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. § 4 (1643) 252 To find their horses unfettered in the morning, although they were fast shackled over night. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 Sore and shackled as I was, I got..on deck. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5 (1882) 139 A smith was ordered to shackle him. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xviii, It's harder yet to lie shackled in a red-coat prison.

b. of a chain.

1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angels* 58 These chaines shall shackle and binde them for ever.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 121 They will say, it were a plaine slauerie, and iniurie to, to shakkle and tye a good witte. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* i. (1596) 7 Our vnderstanding shackled with the rules and precepts of Logicke. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 245 The last post day I was shackled in my bed with an humour fallen into my right foot. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxxv. 74 His Claws were so Shackled in the Fleece..that the Shepherd..caught him. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 345 Moss likewise, which shackles the vine, as with a fetter,..must be carefully scraped off. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* I. xv. 123 Had she been shackled to a morose,..jealous fellow ..the case would have been different. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 326 The views of Paul were..less shackled by associations. 1901 EARL SPENCER in *Parl. Deb.* 5 July 948 The work which they did hindered and shackled me in my endeavours to do what I considered right..for the Navy.

†**3.** *Chem.* To fix in combination. *Obs.*

1675 GREW *Anat. Pl.* Lect. VI. iv. (1682) 288 A Sulphur well impregnated, either with an Alkaline, or an Acid Salt, but also shackled with Earth. 1681 — *Musæum* II. § ii. ii. 224 A little of that Fixed Salt, serves, it seems, to Shackle or Crystallize..a very great quantity of the Essential Salt of this Plant. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 227 Sulphur, well impregnated with an Alkaline Salt, shackled with Earth.

4. To join, couple, or fix by means of a shackle.

1834–5 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* I. I. 18 Its [the yard's] heavy iron-shod heel was shackelled by a chain of a fathom long, to a strong iron-bar. 1845 *Ann. Reg.* 131/2 A goods truck was placed across the up line at the 'points'..ready to be shackled to a down train. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 171 Shackle the cable.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1865 *Times* 19 Aug. 9/3 Up came the cable and wire rope shackling together on the V-wheel in the bow. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 50 The foremost ends shackle on to dolphin striker.

5. *Telegr.* To attach to or furnish with a shackle (SHACKLE *sb.*[1] 7). *To shackle off*: to terminate (involving the use of a shackle).

1852 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Electr. & Magn.* (1859) 257 Shackling the wires. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 224 When the wire has to be terminated, or 'shackled off', as it is termed, at intermediate points. 1910 *N. Hawkins' Electr. Dict.*, *Shackling*, connecting a line wire to a shackle insulator.

Hence **Sha·ckling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Sp. & Flie* lxxii. 20 Rather then bide their perpetuall shakling, To stand agaynst them, and stick to our takling. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 3 A medly made to the everlasting shackling of that head or question. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xvii. 229 They then have recourse to steel collars and other iron machines [to prevent children from stooping]; all which shacklings are repugnant to nature, and may make the body grow crooked. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 484 *note*, The entangling and shackling garment called ποδιστῆρ πέπλος. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XI. i. (1865) IV. 13 Censorship, or the shackling of men's poor tongues and pens. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 307 For the miserable floods, and the long snowtime, and the shackling of the stream is over.

Sha·ckle, *v.*[2] *dial.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.* for other senses, and forms.) [Frequentative f. SHAKE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To lay (standing corn); also, to litter, disorder (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Also *To send hogs a shackling*, to send them to feed in the stubble (cf. SHACK *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]).

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 83 Every neighbour's horse or cow, that breaks their hedges, or shackles their corn. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Shacking*, To send hogs a shackling, to send hogs to feed in the stubble. Essex. 1891 *Rutland Gloss.* s. v., After some heavy rain the corn is 'so shackled that you cannot reap it'.

2. *intr.* To idle or loaf *about*, to shirk work. (Cf. SHACK *v.*[2])

1809 BATCHELOR *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 143 *Shakling*, idling. 1845 F. E. PAGET *Tales Village Childr.* Ser. II. 120 That good-for-nothing fellow, rat-catcher Falkener, who is always shackling about. 1859 — *Curate Cumberworth* 266 There's a lot of lads that are always shackling about, ready for any mischief on Sundays.

Shackle, variant of SHAUCHLE *v. Sc.*

Shackle-bolt. [f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1] + BOLT *sb.*[1]] **a.** The bolt which passes through the eyes of a shackle. **b.** *Her.* This used as a bearing. **c.** 'A bolt having a shackle or clevis on the end' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). **d.** *dial.* A handcuff.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 311/1 He beareth sable, a double shake-bolt or shackle-bolt, Argent. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shackle-bolts* or *Shackles*, a sort of Fetters put upon Malefactors in Prison. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, A fetter-lock and shacklebolt azure. 1852–63 BURN *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict.* (ed. 4), Shackle bolt of a triangle gin. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 214 Through the hole in the arm or bracket a 4½ in. bolt is placed; connecting this with the shackle-bolt are two galvanized iron straps..which [etc.]. 1897 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 1 May (E.D.D.), Shackle-bolts [= handcuffs].

Shackle-bone. *Sc.* and *dial.* [SHACKLE *sb.*[1]]

1. The wrist.

1571 in *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* XIV. 93 The tormentaris ..band baythe my handis at the schakilbanes withe a coird. 1622 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 509 Scho..tuik him be þe schaikill-bane with the ane hand. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Boy & Pig* 13 [He] drugs till he has maist disjointed His shekelbane. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xi, The shackle-bones are of the largest, and so they were obliged to keep the handcuff wide. 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 65 His shackle-bane was as thick as baith mine.

2. The knuckle-bone; also 'the hind leg of a pig's carcase, between the foot and the joint at which it is cut off' (Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*).

1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* lxxxviii, Gin ye hae the shachle bane o' a mutton ham.

Shackled (ʃæ·k'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1] + -ED[1].] Wearing or bound in shackles.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schakklyd, *numellatus*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 185 We wrestle alone: And shall, tyll tyme our shakled breeches be gone. 1600 *Maids Metam.* v. i, Hee's as good a footeman as a shackled sow. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. XXXV. 259 To make them, who fly like eagles..to walk no faster than a shackled Hen. 1842 LONGF. *Witnesses* i, With shackled feet and hands. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* liv, The hunted wounded shackled creature.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1837 WHITTIER *Lines Celebr. 3rd Anniv. Brit. Emancip.* 14 The shackled soul and hand are free. 1894 E. LEE-HAMILTON *Sonn. Wingless Hours* 22 Let not this shackled body drag thee down Into that stagnant sea.

†**c.** *Shackled-ham'd* = *shackle-hammed* s. v. SHACKLE *sb.*[1] 11. *Obs.*

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 112 A Colt, who is check'd by being work'd too soon, will be shackled-ham'd, stunted, and complain ever after.

Sha·ckledom. *nonce-wd.* [f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1] + -DOM.] The condition of being bound with shackles. (In quot. = marriage.)

1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) IV. 121 Why does the sage Julia S. so soon after the commencement of her own shackledom, ask such a question?

Shackling (ʃæ·klin), *ppl. a.* [f. SHACKLE *v.*[2] + -ING[2]. In sense 2 perh. influenced by RAMSHACKLE.]

1. Loafing, dissipated.

1788 PARR *Let. Burney* 16 Feb., Wks. (1828) VII. 407 And upon this account I call him a shuffling, shilly-shally, shackling fellow. 1889 DOR. E. HURST *Horsham* (ed. 2) 267, I carn't employ him, he is such a shackling fellow.

2. *U.S.* Rickety, ramshackle.

1872 J. T. TROWBRIDGE *Coupon Bonds* 387 (Farmer) The gate itself was such a shackling concern, a child couldn't have leaned on it without breaking it down. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 738/2 A poor old black horse, harnessed to a shackling buggy.

†**Sha·cklock.** *Obs.* [? Contr. of **shackle-lock*, f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1] + LOCK *sb.*] A fetterlock.

The surname *Shacklock* is known in Derbyshire.

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. v. 98 The swarty Smith ..bids his Man bring out..His shackles, shacklockes, hampers, giues and chaines.

Shackly (ʃæ·kli), *a. U.S.* and *dial.* [f. SHACKLE *sb.*2 or *v.*[2] + -Y.] Shaky, rickety; ramshackle.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., What a shackly old carriage! *c* 1850 DOW *Serm.* III. (Bartlett 1860), The general fly-offs and moral unhitches incident to poor shackly mortality. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* xxi. 208 All kinds of old shackly wagons. 1897 — *More Tramps Abroad* lxxi, A gaunt, shackly country lout six feet high. 1896 DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* Pref. p. xvii, The poverty of the old printing-house... Its scant supply of types, its shackly hand-presses [etc.]. *Ibid.* 426 The needless wearing of elastic or shackly-fitted parts of the press.

†**Sha·ck-rag.** *Obs.* = SHAKE-RAG, SHAG-RAG.

1611 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* v. i. K 4, To send a man abroad vnder guard of one of your silliest shack-rags; that he may beate the knaue, and run's way.

†**Sha·cky,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. = SHAGGY *a.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. 275 His garments turnde to shackie heare.

Shaco, variant of SHAKO.

Shad (ʃæd), *sb.* Forms: 1 **sceadd**, 6–7 **shadde**, (7 **shed**), 7, 9 **chad**, 6– **shad**. *Pl.* **shad**, also **shads** (? 7 **shades**). [OE. *sceadd*, of unknown origin; cf. Welsh *ysgadan* pl. (sing. *ysgadanyn*), Irish and Gaelic *sgadan*, herring.

The LG. *schade* shad, herring, may be from Eng.; in Dicts. it has been confused with *scheide* sheat-fish, catfish.]

1. Any clupeoid of the genus *Alosa*; the British species are the allice, *A. communis* or *vulgaris*, and the twaite (or herring-shad), *A. finta*; the common or white shad of America is *A. sapidissima*, and the Chinese shad is *A. reevesi*.

1002 *Will* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 147 On ðæt ȝerad, ðonne sceaddgenge sy, ðæt heora æȝðer sylle .III. þusend sceadda into ðære stowe æt Byrtune. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Addit., *Acon, aconis*, a fyshe, whiche after the description of Paulus Iouius, I suppose to be that, whiche at London is callid a shad [1545 a shadde]. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* clxxviii. 143 Shad & Mackerel are both sweete in tast &

soft in substance. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 30 Of round fish there are..Chad, &c. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. ii, Whilst I [had]..seen poor rogues retire all gore and gash'd Like bleeding shads. 1629 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 28 (Arb.) I. 356 Of fish we were best acquainted with Sturgeon, Grampus, Popus..Catfish, Shades, Pearch of three sorts,.. and Muscles. 1634 WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 38 The Shaddes be bigger than the English Shaddes and fatter. 1792 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1792 XII. 245 To furnish me with a certain quantity of shad and herreing. 1819–20 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Sleepy Hollow* (1865) 440 There was..broiled shad and roasted chickens. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 24 Ælian again tells us, that the chad is allured by the sound of castanets. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 238 Bream, chads, or young bream, gurnards. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* viii. 164 A herring-shad—a large bony flat-fish like a magnified fresh-water bream.

2. *U.S.* Applied, usually with defining word, to other fishes, as **gizzard shad**, the genus *Dorosoma*, esp. *D. cepedianum* (called also *mud, white-eyed, winter shad*); **green-tailed, hard-head(ed, yellow-tailed shad**, the menhaden; **hickory** or **tailor shad**, see TAILOR *sb.* 6; **long-boned shad** = MOHARRA a; **Ohio shad**, *Pomolobus chrysochloris*; **trout shad**, the squeteague.

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 569 The Menhaden..'Hard-head Shad'..'Yellow-tailed Shad.' *Ibid.* 607 The Hickory Shad. *Ibid.* 608 The 'Tailor Shad.' *Ibid.* 610 The..'Mud-Shad', 'Winter Shad', or 'Stink Shad',..or 'White-eyed Shad'.

†**3.** As a term of abuse. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii, Then you are an Otter and a Shad, a Whit, A very Tim.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., as *shad-box, -fish, -fisher, -fry, genus, -hatcher, -seine.*

1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 409 These eggs were placed in *shad boxes. 1679 A. LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 35 A *Shed fish, *Alosa.* 1908 LD. CROMER *Mod. Egypt* II. 326 Six live electric shad-fish from the Nile. 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing & Shooting in Spain* 195 The *shad-fishers of Seville. 1857 PERLEY *Hand-bk. N. Brunswick* 25 Upwards of two hundred boats and five hundred men are employed in the *shad fishery, every season, in Cumberland Basin. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v. *Shad-bird*, It is probable that the Severn fishermen, connecting the appearance of the bird with the advent of the *shad-fishing season, gave to it the local appellation of Shad-bird. 1904 GALLICHAN *Fishing & Shooting in Spain* 164 Shad-fishing is still a flourishing industry in the Valley of the Minho. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 606 The *shad fry..spend the first six months in our rivers. 1891 *Century Dict.*, **Shad-hatcher*, one who engages in the artificial propagation of shad. *Ibid.* s. v. *Seine*, *Shad-seine, a seine especially adapted or used for taking shad, and generally of great size. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 604 In the Albemarle the important Shad seine-fisheries begin early in March.

b. Special comb. [Chiefly U.S. names of plants which are in flower or fruit when the shad are found in the rivers, and of birds, insects, etc. that appear about that time.] **Shad-berry**, the shad-bush or its fruit; **shad-bird**, (*a*) *dial.* the common sandpiper, *Tringoides hypoleucus*, ? *Obs.*; (*b*) 'the common American snipe, *Gallinago wilsoni* or *G. delicata*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **shad-blossom**, the shad-bush or its blossom; †**shad-brid** (see quot.); **shad-bush**, the genus *Amelanchier*, esp. *A. canadensis*, also called *June-berry* or *service-berry*; **shad-flower**, (*a*) = *shad-bush* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); (*b*) the whitlow-grass, *Draba verna* (*Cent. Dict.*); **shad-fly**, a fly which appears when shad are running; **shad-frog**, *Rana halecina* or *virescens*; **shad-herring**, a gizzard shad; **shad-salmon**, the whitefish or freshwater herring, *Coregonus clupeiformis* of Lakes Erie and Ontario; **shad-splash** = *shad-wash* (1891 in *Cent. Dict.*); **shad-tree** = *shad-bush* (1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*); **shad-trout**, the squeteague; **shad-waiter**, the Menomonee whitefish, *Coregonus quadrilateralis*; **shad-wallow**, the spawning ground of shad; **shad-wash**, 'the wash, swish, or splash of the water by shad in the act of spawning; hence a place where shad spawn' (*Cent. Dict.*); **shad-worm**, a 'worm' which is the food of shad. See also SHAD-BELLY.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 537 *Amelanchier canadensis.*—The fruit is known in Rupert's Land, &c., under the name of *Shad-berry or Service-berry. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Shad-bird. 1883 KRIGER in Trumbull *Names & Portraits Birds* 157 (Cass. Suppl.) [In Delaware] snipe are called shad-birds by many of the fishermen. 1821 T. DWIGHT *Trav.* I. 42 *Shad blossom. This tree grows about fifteen feet in height. 1860 MISS WARNER *Say & Seal* II, Under the trees were various low shrubs in flower: shad-blossom, with its fleecy stems, and azalia, in rosy pink. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 325/2 A Minnow [is] first a *Shad-brid, then a Sprat, then a Minnow. 1856 BRYANT *Old Man's Counsel* 28 Within the woods..the *shadbush, white with flowers, Brightened the glens. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) II Aug. 114/2 The Eastern shadbush, with its two varieties, and the northwestern (species of *Amelanchier*) come next. 1857 THOREAU *Maine Woods* (1894) 316 We met with ephemerae (*shad-fly) midway, about a mile from the shore. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav.* 278 The *shad frog, so called in Pennsylvania from their appearing and croaking in the spring season, at the time the people fish for shad. 1852 THOREAU *Autumn* (1894) 79 Painted tortoises and shad frogs. 1845 STORER in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* (1846) II. 462 *Chatoëssus signifer* Dekay..Called '*Shad-Herring', 'Thread-Herring', and 'Thread-fish' in New York. 1842 *Ibid.* 452 *Coregonus clupeiformis*, Common *Shad-Salmon. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 362 In the Southern Atlantic States it [the Squeteague] is called 'Grey Trout', 'Sun Trout', and '*Shad Trout'. 1879 GOODE *Catal. Anim. Res. U.S.* 57 Prosopium quadrilaterale, (Rich.) Milner.—*Shad-waiter. 1884 GOODE, etc. *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 606 The favorite spawning grounds of the Shad, or '*Shad Wallows', as they are termed by the fishermen. 1857 PERLEY *Hand-bk. N. Brunswick* 25 Their [shad's] favourite food, the *shad-worm and the shrimp.

Shad, *v. rare.* [f. SHAD *sb.*] *intr.* To fish for shad. Cf. SHADDER *sb.*

1863 T. W. HIGGINSON *Out-Door Papers* ix. 240 (Funk) Along our maritime rivers the people associate April, not with 'sugaring' but with 'shadding'. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Aug. 4/2 Fishing mainly consists, it is true, of pnol-locking (whiffing), and chadding.

Shad, obs. form of SHADE, SHED.

Sha·d-belly. *U.S.* [f. SHAD *sb.* + BELLY *sb.*] A Quaker coat, so called from its shape (see quot. 1860), hence a Quaker. More fully *shad-belly coat.*

1842 *Philad. Spirit of Times* 18 Mar. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), A gentleman in a shad-belly coat. 1854 J. C. BALDWIN *Flush Times* 67 (*Ibid.*) He had doffed the cassock, or rather the shadbelly, for the gown. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Shad-belly coat*, one which slopes gradually from the front to the tails, and has no angle. Drab coats of this shape are worn by Quakers, who are hence sometimes called shad-bellies.

Hence **Shad-bellied** *a.*, **a.** Of a coat (*rarely* of a waistcoat) = prec.; **b.** Of a person, having an abnormally thin or flat belly.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xiii. (1874) 83 Many wore three-cornered hats, shad-bellied coats, shoe and knee buckles. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi, A harpooner in a broad shad-bellied waistcoat. 1871 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Fireside Stor.* 12 He was kind o' mournful and thin and shad-bellied. 1874 EGGLESTON *Circuit Rider* xx. (1895) 146 His coat is straight-breasted,—shad-bellied, as the profane call it.

Shadd, doubtful var. SHOAD. **Shadde,** obs. f. SHED; and *shod* pa. pple. of SHOE *v.*

Shadden, bad spelling of SCHADON.

1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* v. i. 107 (E.D.S.) Else the honey will be corrupted by the shaddens in the comb.

†**Sha·dder,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SHAD *sb.* + -ER [1].] A fisher for shad.

1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 78 None of the said Shadders shall go forth to fish until they have received Leave and Licence.

Shadder (ʃæ·dəɹ), *v.* [Cf. SHALDER *v.*] *trans.* To break up (the larger pieces of crude lead ore).

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 264 [He delivered] 20 pound weight of the said Ore, grinded, shaddered and washed. 1890 WALLACE *Alston Moor* 145 (E.D.D.) The larger pieces were shaddered.

Shaddo, obs. form of SHADOW *v.*

Shaddock (ʃæ·dək). Also 8 **shattuck, shaddoe, shadock, chad(d)ock.** [Named after a Captain *Shaddock*: see quot. 1707.] The fruit of *Citrus decumana* (also called POMPELMOOSE) resembling an orange, but very much larger. In stricter use, applied to the large pear-shaped varieties of the species, the smaller and rounder varieties being called *grape-fruit.*

1696 [see *shaddock tree*]. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 41 In Barbados the Shaddocks surpass those of Jamaica in goodness. The seed of this was first brought to Barbados by one Captain Shaddock, Commander of an East-India Ship, who touch'd at that Island in his Passage to England, and left the Seed there. 1720 S. SEWALL *Diary* I Jan., Mr. Cooper sends my wife a present of oranges and a shattuck. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 44 The golden shaddoc, the forbidden fruit. 1773 Chaddock [see POMPELMOOSE]. 1823 BYRON *Island* I. viii, A seaman..Held the moist shaddock to his parched mouth. 1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 181 Oranges are distinguished from shaddocks by the complete absence of down on the young shoots and leaves.

b. The tree bearing this fruit.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXV. (1794) 371 Shaddock, which has them [the leaves] obtuse, and emarginate or notched at the end. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 139 The orange, lemon, shaddock, pomelo,..were weighed down by their own golden fruit.

c. *attrib.*, as *shaddock-bower*, etc.

a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 23 My coffee walks and *shaddock bowers. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-r. Ballads* 130 He has stripped my rails of the *shaddock-frails. 1732 BRADLEY *Gardening* 592 The *Chadock Orange. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 29/1 s. v. *Citrus*, The great Shaddock orange, or pumplemoes. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 81 The orange is best propagated by grafting or budding on lemon or *shaddock stocks. 1696 *Shaddock-tree [see POMPELMOOSE]. 1884 *Leisure Hour* Feb. 78/2 The fragrant blossoms of large shaddock-trees.

Shaddow, obs. form of SHADOW.

†**Shaddrew,** var. CHEDREUX *Obs.*, a kind of wig.

1678 D'URFEY *Fool turn'd Critick* I. ii. 5 And let me see you strut it in the Streets, Display thy Garniture, Hat, Curl'd Shaddrew.

Shaddy, obs. form of SHADY.

Shade (ʃēd), *sb.* Forms: 1 **sceadu, scead, scad, sced, scæd,** 3 **ssade,** 3–4 **schade,** 4 **ssed(e,** 5, 7, 9 *dial.* **shad(de,** 6 **shaad,** 6–7 *Sc.* **schad,** 4, 6– **shade.** [ME. *schade*, repr. OE. *sceadu* str. fem. (oblique cases *sceadwe*, also irreg. *sceade*) and the by-form *scead* neut. (dat. sing. *sceade*, pl. *sceadu*). The flexional form *sceadwe* is represented by SHADOW *sb.*, q.v. for the further etymology.

The ME. *schade*, mod.Eng. *shade*, descend regularly from the nom. *sceadu* of the fem. sb., and from the dat. *sceade*, which is common to the fem. and the neut. sb. The neut. nom. *scead* is represented by ME. *schad(de*, mod. dial. *shad.* The OE. *sceade* for *sceadwe* genit. and dat. is due to the analogy of other sbs. with nom. sing. in *-u.* The neuter *scead* prob. arose from taking the sing. *sceadu* as a plural.]

I. Comparative darkness.

1. Partial or comparative darkness; absence of complete illumination; esp. the comparative darkness caused by a more or less opaque object intercepting the direct rays of the sun or other luminary.

a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 116 (Gr.) Hydeð hine æghwylc æfter sceades sciman. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 18 Thou Polymya..that..Singest with vois memorial in the shade Vnder the laurer. ?*c* 1400 LYDG. *Æsop's Fab.* i. 84 (Trin.) [Cock-crow] Causeþ merchauntys and pylgryms to be glad, The theuys swerde hyd vndyr þe shad. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 29 Let vs be Dianaes Forresters, Gentlemen of the Shade. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* XX, In twilight shade of tangled thickets. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1139 The night begins to fall, A shade immense. 1791–2 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk.* 98 Aloft, here, half a village shines arrayed In golden light; half hides itself in shade. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xlviii, The pensive shade of twilight was pleasing to her. 1797 — *Italian* Prol., The shade of the long aisles. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* viii, The lady stood in the shade. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl. XXX, And touch with shade the bridal doors, With tender gloom the roof, the wall. 1870 ROSSETTI *Last Conf.* 253 As when a bird flies low Between the water and the willow leaves, And the shade quivers till he wins the light.

†**b.** *Shade of death* = SHADOW of death.

a 900 [see SHADOW 1 b]. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iv. 89 But darkness, and the gloomy shade of death Inuiron you. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 54.

c. *fig.* Comparative obscurity. Chiefly in phrases, *to be in the shade*, to be in retirement, to be little known; *to cast, throw into the shade, put into the shade*, to obscure by contrast of superior brilliancy, to surpass so as to render insignificant.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* I. 3 Though I am a stranger to the Court and Camp, a man..of the shade, yet [etc.]. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. (1892) 55 They throw the light on one side only of their case; though ..the other side which is kept in the shade has it's importance too. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 556, I have chosen to remain in the shade. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXVII, Hast thou..sought refuge from oppression in the shade of the convent? 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xliv, Adeline would throw into the shade ..Their sort of half profession. 1852 *Beck's Florist* 229 Young's Crimson King..puts all other bedding varieties into the shade. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* V, How can we see a man's brilliant qualities if he is what we call in the shade? 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 2 May 4/7 Internal taxation ..is so excessive in other Portuguese colonies as to cast even an illiberal tariff into the shade. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* iii. 68 Bacon still remained in the shade.

d. *transf.* A fleeting look of displeasure, a 'cloud' on a person's brow or countenance.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, The whole countenance loses its sterner shades, and becomes serene and placid. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iv, A shade came over her forehead. 1879 E. K. BATES *Egypt. Bonds* I. viii. 183 A shade of annoyance crosses his face.

2. In plural. **a.** *The shades* (*of night, of evening*, etc.): the darkness of night; the growing darkness after sunset. Also *fig.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. 8 Watrye shaads Aurora remooued. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 177 To dwell in solemne shades of endlesse night. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 580 O night and shades, How are ye joyn'd with hell in triple knot. 1667 — *P. L.* IV. 1015 The Fiend..fled Murmuring, and with him fled the shades of night. 1682 DRYDEN *Religio Laici* 182 Sin spread once again the Shades of Night. 1717 POPE *Let. to Mrs. M. Blount*, The shades of the evening overtook me. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 6 How faint, How slow, the dawn of Beauty and of Truth, Breaks the reluctant shades of gothic night. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. XX, The shades come down—the day is shut. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. vii, The thick shades of night are falling. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* vii, The shades of evening had by this time fallen upon the quiet city. 1841 LONGF. *Excelsior* I.

b. *The shades*: the darkness of the nether world; the abode of the dead, Hades. (Often indistinguishable from the collective plural of sense 6).

1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. i. 107 When shall this soule of mine Come visite thee in the Elisian shades? 1601 CAMPION *Bk. Ayres* I. XX, When thou must home to shades of vnder ground. 1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* XXXIV. (1648) 50 No mufling Clouds, nor Shades Infernall, can From his inquiry hide offending Man. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 349 Sent by great Ajax to the Shades of Hell. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regic.* V. ii, Then let our swords..Dismiss him to the shades. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. vi, And e'en for change of scene would seek the shades below. 1907 QUILLER-COUCH *Introd. to Coleridge's Poems* I After a third attempt to embrace his mother in the Shades.

c. Applied to the condition of the present life in contrast to that of heaven. *nonce-use.*

1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. i. 53 Us poor dwellers in the woeful shades Of mortal being.

3. *Drawing* and *Painting.* Absence of complete illumination as represented pictorially; the parts, or a particular part, of a picture which represent this; the darker colour expressing absence of illumination. Often in *light and shade.*

1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* I. (1906) 89 Perel has discovered a particular talent for Landskips, if not a little exceeded in the darknesse of his shades. 1710 WHITWORTH *Acc. Russia* (1758) 40 Miserable paintings without shade or perspective.

1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 167 Streaks of *verde antico* inlaid by way of shades. 1768 W. GILPIN *Ess. Prints* (1781) 158 The whole is in dark shade, except three figures on the fore-ground. 1779 *Mirror* No. 48 ₱ 10 By the distribution of light and shade, to make every figure stand out from the canvas. 1799 [G. SMITH] *Laboratory* I. 179 Delineate the outlines or capital strokes and where the shades appear soft. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XII. 29 What master of the pencil or the style Had traced the shades and lines. 1840 *C. O. Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* xi. § 2 He contemplates it as the shade in a picture. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 112 A good contrast of light and shade.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* In various applications: those portions of a story, a literary work, or the like, which are designedly less brilliant in effect than others; the less praiseworthy features of a character, the sadder portions of a person's history, etc. *Light and shade*: in a literary work, a musical performance, or the like, the contrast necessary to artistic effect, of passages of lighter and graver tone, or of greater and less brilliancy.

1732 [see LIGHT *sb.* 12]. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* ii. (ed. 2) 80 The shades which were in his private conduct, are to be forgotten. 1818 T. BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 480 The Voluntary, like the Organ Concerto, should have its lights and shades. *Mod.* (*Conductor log.*) You must be careful of your light and shade in this passage.

c. *Ent.* An ill-defined patch of darker colour on the wing of a moth.

1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 415 The hind margin is chiefly occupied by a darker band-like shade. *Ibid.* 417 The discoidal spots are green,..the reniform having..a gray-brown shade on the median area. In recent Dicts.

4. Degree of darkness or depth of colour; hence, any of the many minutely differing varieties of quality that may exist in what is broadly considered as one and the same colour; a tint.

By chromatologists (after Clerk Maxwell, *Sci. Papers* 1890 I. 131) the word is used in a more restricted sense, distinguished from *hue* and *tint*. Two varieties of a mixed colour (e. g. lilac) differ in *shade* when one is lighter or darker than the other; in *hue* when the one is more red or more blue, etc., than the other; and in *tint* when the one is more or less decided in colour than the other. For a different distinction see quot. 1879.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. iii. § 1 Colours, as white, red, yellow, blue; with their several Degrees or Shades, and Mixtures. 1783 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 285 Darker or lighter shades of black and brown. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 274 Various shades of rose, violet, and dark red. 1879 POLE in *Nature* 6 Nov. 15/2 *note*, In technical language mixtures of a colour with white are called *tints*, with black, *shades*. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* xix, My stubbly hair came out of the treasure cave about three shades greyer than it went in.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A minutely-differentiated degree or variety (of a quality, a condition, meaning, etc.). Often advb. with comparatives, *a shade better, less*, etc.

1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* IX. ii. (1782) III. 229 He put (to use the expression) different shades of consideration in the civilities he shewed. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 89 Among the different branches of the human race, the Sarmatians form a very remarkable shade. 1820 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 2 Feb., The King is a shade better. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1891) 211, I drew my chair a shade nearer to her. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. v. 13 Men of all shades of opinion..combined against him.

c. A tinge, a minute qualifying infusion (of some quality); colloquially, a minute quantity or portion added or removed.

1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* 6 Without any shade of sorrow. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xliii, There was now in his conduct a shade of lunacy. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xi. 290, I..was unwilling to accept an observation of such importance with a shade of doubt attached to it. 1888 PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* III. l. 257 A touch of pity, just the merest shade, but still a touch, crept into those threatening eyes. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 194 Up came Whitworth's highly scientific foreman to tell the American that in their shop they did not work to 'shades', but to measurement.

II. 5. A dark figure 'cast' upon a surface by a body intercepting light, a shadow. Now *dial.* and *poet.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 113 (Gr.) Blace stodon ofer sceotendum scire leoman, scinon scyldhreoðan, sceado swiðredon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20883 Peter..a ded he quickend wit his schade. 1340 *Ayenb.* 179 Zuich uolk is y-lich þe horse þet heþ drede of his ssede. *c* 1400 *Pety Job* 308 in *26 Pol. Poems* 131 And thus I chaunge in euery shoure, And fle away ryght as a shade. 1561 W. KETHE in *Sc. Psalter* xc. v, They are..euen lyke a slepe or shade. 1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* v. 122 You see likewise in this very Figure, that the oblique, and direct shades *o u x y* are caused by the cathetus *m t n*. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 80 ₱ 2 After a few hours, we see the shades lengthen. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Cupid & Psyche* 641 And when she woke the shades were lengthening. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxi, I zid you kissing his shade.

b. *fig.* An unsubstantial image of something real; an unreal appearance; something that has only a fleeting existence, or that has become reduced almost to nothing; = SHADOW *sb.* 6. Now only *poet.* or *rhetorical.* Also, with strengthened hyperbole, *the shadow of a shade.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2330 Þe king nas him sulf bote as a ssade & let im worþe al out. *a* 1300 *Sarmun* XXXVIII. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 5 Man is lif nis bot a schade nov he is and nov he nis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 77 Holy wryt þet hise cleþeþ leazinges and ssed and metinges and uanites. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXIX. iv, They are but shades, not true things where we live. 1664 S. CROSSMAN in Palmer *Bk. Praise* (1865) 166 My life's a shade, my days Apace to death decline. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 43 The consulate, that empty shade Of long-forgotten liberty. 1814 COLERIDGE *To Lady with Falconer's 'Shipwreck'* vi, Remembrances of Friend, Or absent or no more! Shades of the Past, Which Love makes substance! 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXVII, I am a member of the suffering and Episcopal Church of Scotland —the shadow of a shade now, and fortunately so. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 185 We die..And shades, we hunt some shade of our desire.

c. *transf.* An inseparable follower or companion. *poet. nonce-use.* Cf. SHADOW *sb.* 8.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 249 Thou my Shade Inseparable must with mee along.

6. The visible but impalpable form of a dead person, a ghost. Also, a disembodied spirit, an inhabitant of Hades (= L. *umbra*); chiefly with allusion to pagan mythology. Often collective plural, *the shades*: the world of disembodied spirits, Hades (cf. sense 2 b).

1626 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xvii. 26 Glorefied amidst the schads dewyne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 726 The youth essay'd To stop her flight, and strain the flying shade. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 4 Where grateful Science still adores Her Henry's holy Shade. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* iii. 85 Lucian..allows only a foot to each of the shades. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 299 Peace to his hallowed shade! 1879 C. F. KEARY *Dawn Hist.* X. 149 A journey after death to reach the home of shades.

b. A spectre, phantom. *rare.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* V. v. 42 Fairies blacke, gray, greene, and white, You Moone-shine reuellers, and shades of night.

c. In humorous invocation of the spirit of a deceased person, as likely to be horrified or amazed by some action or occurrence.

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* (ed. 4) 167 Oh, shade of the Cheesemonger! [*Note.* One of the Fancy, who..was killed ..at Waterloo.] 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* i. 8 Shades of Hugh Peters and John Cotton, save us from such pulpits! 1866 WYNTER *Our Social Bees* Ser. II. 96 Shade of my aunt! why, her Dresden china poodle dog cost more money.

†7. = SILHOUETTE *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1781 *Advt.* in *N. & Q.* (1900) Ser. IX. VI. 356/2 Old Shades reduced with Care and Expedition. 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's Physiogn.* xlii. 219 No art can attain to the truth of the shade taken with precision. 1809 'J. A. ANDERSEN' *Dane's Excurs.* I. 22 Lord Nelson pointed out to me a profile, and then observed 'You see it is but a shade: yet I had great difficulty in obtaining it'. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 8/1.

III. Protection from glare and heat.

8. Cover afforded by the interposition of some opaque or semi-opaque body between an object and light, heat, etc.; esp. the shelter from the sun afforded by trees; quasi-*concr.* (*sing.* and *pl.*) overshadowing foliage.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) XXXV. 8 Manna bearn soðlice symle hopiað to þæm sceade þinra fiðera. 1340 *Ayenb.* 95 Þis trau is to alowe and to louie uor manye þinges. Vor þe rote..And uor his uayre ssed. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 22 þe buschys þat ..lent grete schade. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 42 When his souldiers saide, the enimies did shoote arrowes so thicke that the sunne was couered, He aunswered: Then let vs fighte in the shade. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 108 Fayre braunched trees, ouershadowing yᵉ waters with a coole & pleasant shade. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 111 Vnder the shade of melancholly boughes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 303 In Vallombrosa, where th' Etrurian shades High overarch't imbowr. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 458 The canal ought not to be under shade. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* i, The high swelling of the mountains round, still gave a pleasant shade to one side of the valley. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. iii. § 19 Too much light impels us to seek the shade. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 431 Printing..should be done in shade by preference.

fig. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 28 There's not I thinke a subiect That sits in heart-greefe and uneasinesse Vnder the sweet shade of your gouernment. 1789 W. BLAKE *Songs Innoc., Cradle Song* 1 Sweet dreams, form a shade O'er my lovely infant's head! 1832 LONGF. *Coplas de Manrique* liii, And he, the good man's shield and shade.

b. *In the shade*: in a position screened from the direct action of the sun's rays; opposed to *in the sun*. Also *fig.*

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 130 If from his youth he..hath not bin brought vp in the shade, but hath endured stormes, cold, and extreame parching heate [etc.]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, One may walk all round it, dry, and in the shade. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 371 The patient distinctly perceives the light, and can even plainly discern in the shade,..large objects, or bright colours. 1883 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* I. xv. (ed. 6) 435 Two maximum thermometers are issued—one to observe the greatest heat in the sun, the other in the shade.

9. A place sheltered from the sun; chiefly, a piece of ground overshadowed by trees. Now rare exc. in *collective plural*, with poetical colouring.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 284 Þone man sceal mid linenan claþe befealdan & on sceade ahon oððet he ʒedrifeed beon mæʒe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3800 A knigt þat zephall was callid fand in a cole schade A litill drysnyng of dewe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 140 b, In the noone time..you must driue them to the valleies and shades. 1646 CRASHAW *Delights* Wks. (1904) 126 No lone shade, but rings With chatting Birds delicious murmurings. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Brescia* 61 Corn, that in these warm countries ripens much better among the Mulberry Shades, than if it were expos'd to the open Sun. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 59 The respectability which leafy shades, of apparently long standing, always confer on a habitation. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s. v. *Egypt* (1849) I. 599/2 The climate is..exceedingly hot..; a shade is not easily found.

b. *transf.* A retired spot. Hence, an abode sheltered from the world, a quiet habitation. Chiefly *pl.* Now only *poet.* or rhetorical.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. iii. 1 Let vs seeke out some desolate shade, & there Weepe our sad bosomes empty. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 536 Delighting in nothing but in ease, in shades, in dancing and drinking. *c* 1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Hewet* (1887) I. 30 People mistake very much in placing peace in woods and shades. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales, Proposals*, etc. 48 Hail to those Shades where, in our golden Age, The godlike Sidney pen'd the deathless Page. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 180 ₱ 9 Men bred in shades and silence..may be allowed to feel terror at personal danger. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, In the depth of college shades..or in his lonely chamber, the poor student shrunk from observation. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. i, Sought the retired shades of Cherbury.

c. In dial. use: A meadow open to the breeze, into which cattle are turned in hot weather.

1806 [see SINGLE *sb.* 2]. *a* 1847 in F. Sheldon *Minstrelsy Eng. Border* 421 He raced thro' reise and shad. 1893 *Cornhill Mag.* June 591 When they say the cattle come 'to shade' they mean they seek a spot where they are open to the cooling influences of water and breeze.

10. *The Shades*: originally, a name for wine and beer vaults with a drinking-bar, either underground or sheltered from the sun by an arcade. Hence often used, both in England and in the U.S., as a name for a retail liquor shop, or a drinking-bar attached to a hotel.

1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf, Shades* (the) at London-bridge are under Fishmongers' hall. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 315 In the cities Shades are perhaps the most numerous. 1882 E. EDWARDS *Words, Facts & Phrases* 507 *Shades*...The name originated at Brighton...Numbers of other publicans, in London and elsewhere, adopted the name 'Shades', which is now fully established in the language as a synonym for wine vaults.

11. Something which affords protection from light, heat, etc. **a.** A shelter from wind and weather, a screen from excessive heat or cold. Also, *U. S.* a window-blind.

1624 *Capt. Smith's Virginia* III. vii. 73 To keepe vs from the winde we made a shade of another Mat. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 349 The first who invented a Shade in the Theatre. 1814 T. HAYNES *Treat. Strawberry*, etc. (ed. 2) 70 Such shade or skreen will admit of being removed and taken away. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xviii, A window opened from the hall, and to-day, though a rose-coloured shade was lowered, the sash had been raised. 1894 HOWELLS *Trav. fr. Altruria* 126 The windows had paper shades

b. A lace scarf for the head worn by women. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shade*,..an Ornament for a Woman's Head. 1738 *Boston News Let.* in Alice M. Earle *Costume Col. Times* (1894) 213 Worsted Shades. 1753 *Ibid.*, White Paris net shades. 1755 *Ibid.* 214 Gauze for Shades. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* iii. 76 All that Fancy's self has feign'd In a Band-Box is contain'd: Painted Lawns and chequer'd Shades. 1800 ELIZA S. BOWNE *Girl's Life* (1888) 42 Why can't you go and see McLellan's lace shades? Perhaps he may let you have one reasonably. 1868 LADY VERNEY *Stone Edge* vii. 81 Lydia appeared in her black 'shade' (a sort of mantle) and hood.

c. A dome-shaped cover of glass to protect ornaments from dust or accidental injury.

1705 HAUKSBEE in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2130 A Shade (as they generally call such as are put o're Images to keep them from Dust). 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (ed. 3) I. xiv. § 8. 267 One shot broke the mirror over the chimney-piece, another the shade of the clock. 1894 MORRISON *Mean Streets* 115 A 'shade of fruit'—a cone of waxen grapes and apples under a glass cover.

d. A globe or cylinder of some semi-transparent substance placed over the flame of a candle, lamp or gas-jet to soften or diffuse the light or to protect the flame from draughts; also, a screen of silk, paper, metal, etc., supported upon a light framework and placed above an illuminant to reflect, concentrate, or soften the light. Also (Westminster School) a lamp with a fixed shade. *Wall shade* = SCONCE *sb.*[1]

1780 *Hickey's Bengal Gaz.* 8 Apr. (Y.) Borrowed last Month by a Person or Persons unknown..a very elegant Pair of Candle Shades...—N.B. The Shades have private marks. 1789 I. MUNRO *Narr. Milit. Operat.* 186 His tent is furnished with..a folding-table, a pair of shades for his candles [etc.]. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. xxi. 251 It was well lighted up, with many wall-shades and standing-shades. 1884 FORSHALL *Westminster Sch.* 64 The Juniors had then ..to clean the 'shades' of the Seniors and third Election. 1891 HARDY *Tess* liii, The two customary candles were burning under their green shades in the Vicar's study.

e. A covering worn to protect the eye from light (see quot. 1857).

1801 NELSON *Let. to Lady Hamilton* 28 Jan., He has directed me..to have green shades for my eyes. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 71 The dear Comte de Ségur, with a green shade over his eyes, and almost blind. 1857 BARWELL *Care of Sick* 80 The proper method is to use what is called a shade, made of a piece of cardboard, large enough to hang over the eye.

f. The part of a head-dress that projects in front so as to shade the eyes; the peak of a cap.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, The projecting shade of a curch, or coif.

g. In scientific apparatus: a shutter or other mechanical means of intercepting light falling upon or through an object.

1847 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 74, I likewise drew a

shade over the objective end of the microscope. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 156 Reflectors, shades, &c.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

12. a. Simple attrib., as (sense 8) *shade-mantle, -side*; (sense 8 b) *shade-heat*; (sense 9) *shade-plot*; (sense 11) *shade-frame, -stone*; **b.** objective, as *shade-giving, -loving, -seeking* adjs.

1909 *Cent. Dict. Suppl.*, **Shade-frame.* A frame for the partial shading of a seed-bed. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 282 A clump of *shade-giving mango trees. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 249 We distinguish between radiant or sun heat, and *shade or air heat. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 264 Ferns and other *shade-loving plants. 1880 O. CRAWFURD *Portugal* 318 Detached clouds..shall throw their *shade-mantles on the land. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 73 Thou Tityr, at ease in a *shade plott. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 173 That..cold-braving, *shade-seeking plant. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VI. 429 The artist's eye, That keeps the *shade-side of the thing it loves. 1904 H. C. BUTLER *Archit. & other Arts* 126 Another interesting detail of the domestic architecture of Northern Syria is the shed or *shade-stone frequently found over the doorways.

13. Special comb.: **shade-cord**, *U.S.* a blind-cord; **shade-deck**, an upper deck of a passenger vessel, covered at the top but open at the side, forming a sheltered promenade in hot weather; hence **shade-decked** *a.*; **shade-fish**, = MAIGRE *sb.*; **shade maximum**, the highest temperature recorded in a single day by a thermometer placed in the shade; **shade-reading**, the indication of a thermometer protected from direct influence of the sun's rays; **shade-tree**, a tree planted for the purpose of affording shade.

1904 RIIS *Roosevelt* xii. 298 When he passed each window [he] would seize the *shade-cord and give a little abstracted pull. 1894 *Times* 22 Oct. 7/5 The boats are carried on a *shade deck, which forms a covered promenade. 1894 W. H. WHITE *Man. Naval Archit.* (ed. 3) 382 A tank steamer of the 'shade-deck' type. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXXII. 550/1 Most of the latter have a continuous upper deck above the main deck: if this be of light construction .. the vessel is called a *Shade-decked Vessel. 1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 214 Here.. tim'rous *Shade-Fish the blind Haunts pursue. 1863 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* II. 54 Sciæna. Shade Fish. Maigre. 1896 *Daily News* 20 July 7/3 In London the *shade maximum on Friday was only 67 degrees. 1897 *Ibid.* 21 Sept. 5/2 There was no *shade reading below 40 deg. reported. 1806 *Balance* 22 July 228 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) It is to be regretted that a *shade tree, useful and ornamental as the poplar, should be in danger. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 179 Through plantations of fine coffee, protected by the usual 'shade-trees'.

Shade (ʃēd), *v.*[1] Also 4 **schade**, 8–9 *dial.* **shad.** [f. SHADE *sb.*]

†**1.** *intr.* To cast a shadow. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 479 May no grysliche gost glyde þer hit [the cross] shadewe þ [MS. M. schadeþ].

2. *trans.* To screen from light or heat, to protect from the glare or heat of the sun's rays.

c 1400 in 26 *Pol. Poems* (1904) 143 A place I fonde shadyd with bowes I-bent. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 65 The grettest trees that any man may fynde In forest to shade the deere for her comfort. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 120 Barges, shaded with damasks, and stuffes of India. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 16 Here wanton Mincius..shades his happy Banks with bending Reeds. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 58 They cannot well stand too dry, if they are but shaded in dry Weather. 1820 SHELLEY *Orpheus* 12 The overhanging rock That shades the pool. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 20 Aloe, I made thee A garden to shade thee.

†**b.** To place in the shade; *refl.* To take shelter from light or heat. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 120 b, How to feede his beastes before noone, where to shade them in the extreame heate. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 140 The Cattle..lie and shade themselves under their Boughs.

fig. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. XXVI. 77 Many retired themselves to solitary places..chiefly to shade themselves from the heat of persecution.

c. To protect (one's eyes or face) from the glare of the sun, with the hand or with something used as a screen.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. ix, You have indeed a bad cold my love; but shade your eyes with your hat, and after dinner [etc.]. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiii, His hand interposed between his eyes and their faces, like a man that would shade his eyesight from the level sun. 1902 'MICHAEL FAIRLESS' *Roadmender* 74 He shaded his keen old blue eyes, and looked away across the water.

†**d.** *transf.* To overshadow protectingly; to protect. ? *Obs.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 160 Now good Angels.. shade thy person Vnder their blessed wings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 266 Leave not the faithful side That gave thee being, stil shades thee and protects. 1701 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 18 Whose Female Glories shade them from my Song.

¶ **e.** Misused for: To shelter (from wind). *rare.*

1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* viii. 102 They [the hills] shaded it from the trade winds.

f. To cover with a screen, to protect (a light) from draughts.

1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* viii, A large chandelier, which, shaded opposite to his face, threw all the light to the other side of the table. *c* 1885 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Sick Child's Medit.* 4 Fresh air blows in, and mother shades the light.

3. To conceal from view; to hide partially, as by a shadow; to veil, obscure; to disguise.

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1272 'How is', (quod I) 'that he [Prevy Thought] is shaded thus With yonder cloth, I not of what colour?' 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. X. 42 Through hollow caues, that no man mote discouer For the thicke shrubs, which did them alwaies shade From view of liuing wight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 277 A Seraph wing'd; six wings he wore, to shade His lineaments Divine. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Introd. § 3 All this he cunningly shades under the following allegory. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* I. 41 Her golden tresses shade The bosom's stainless pride. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iii, A Lady shaded in broad gipsy-hat. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 72 Shaded from view on the South side.

4. To cover with shadow, to darken. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* x, Bright orient pearl, alack, too timely shaded! 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 253 From this accursed root branching out so many sects as in short time infected and shaded all the orient, in an eclipse of fearfull darknesse. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXIV, Never..had she watched with so much pleasure.. twilight shade and darkness veil the scene. 1700 PRIOR *Carm. Sec.* xii, The Piece by Virtue's equal Hand is wrought, Mix'd with no Crime, and shaded with no Fault. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* V, A melancholy smile shaded his cheek.

b. To appear like a shadow upon.

a 1704 T. BROWN *On Duke Ormond's Recov.* Wks. 1730 I. 49 Ee'r rising down to shade his cheeks began. 1750 tr. *Leonardus's Mirr. Stones* 132 Nassonites is a stone of a sanguin colour, marked or shaded with black veins.

c. To cast one's shadow upon, to be close to. *nonce-use.*

1717 POPE *Iliad* X. 183 But sleep'st thou now? when from yon' Hills the Foe Hangs o'er the Fleet, and shades our Walls below.

5. In occasional figurative uses. **a.** To cast into the shade; to surpass, eclipse (now *dial.*). **b.** To obscure, dim the lustre of (good qualities). **c.** To throw a veil over (faults).

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 49 This had like't o shad awth' tother! 1785 ADAMS *Let.* 17 Nov. in Boswell *Johnson* Advt. P 4, I wish..a few of our hero's foibles had been a little more shaded. 1823 *Sk. Character* (ed. 2) I. 14 His good qualities were not a little shaded by an inherent pride of ancestry, and an austerity of manners. 1865 BRIERLEY *Irkdale* xiii. I. 210 Queer! It shads Guilliver ut thy feyther ust read abeawt.

6. To represent as by a shadow, to shadow forth, symbolize. *To shade out*: to sketch faintly.

1592 SIDNEY *Astrophel* lxxxi, How faine would I paint thee to all mens eyes, Or of thy gifts at least shade out some part! 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. vii. 2 Calling him [Iustice] great Osyris .. With fayned colours shading a true case.

7. *Painting* and *Drawing.* To represent the shade or shadow on (an object); to furnish (a picture) with the indications of shade. In black-and-white or monochrome work: To furnish (a drawing) with the gradated dark markings (produced by lines more or less close together, rubbing of crayon or pencil, a wash of tint, or the like) indicating shade and colour of the object. Hence *occas.* to darken (parts of a diagram, etc.) in a similar manner. *To shade up*: to fill in (an outline sketch) with markings indicative of contour.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 116/1 After the learner has made himself..perfect in drawing outlines, his next endeavour must be to shade them properly. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 718 The perspective drawing thus produced, may then be completed, by shading it according to the manner in which the light appears to fall on the original. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, She buys a couple of begilt Bristol boards..and paints.. a shepherd with a red waistcoat on one, and a pink face smiling in the midst of a pencil landscape—a shepherdess on the other..with a little dog, nicely shaded. 1875 SEATON *Fret Cutting* 64, I have not shaded the leaf to show any depth of the carving. 1886 W. N. BROWN *Wood Engraving* 33 Filling in or 'shading up' with a softer and darker pencil and washes of Indian ink.

b. *To shade in*: to insert by shading. *fig.*

1878 *Irish Monthly* VI. 506 And then the eloquent Member for Louth proceeds to shade in the darker tints of this companion picture.

8. To colour (a textile fabric) with shades gradually passing one into another.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 495 Shading [of ribbons] 6d. per gross extra. 1845 MRS. M. J. HOWELL *Hand-bk. Dressmaking* 27 Observe, in silks and satins that are shaded, there is an up and a down.

9. a. *intr.* Of a colour, hence *gen.*: To pass by imperceptible degrees *to* or *into* something else; also with *away, off.* Also *to shade away*: to disappear gradually.

1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. viii. 272 It will perhaps shade off into a mild chronic complaint. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 162 The colour of the skin is a golden yellow shading into green. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. v. 123 Three primary spectra..having their intensity of illumination and maximum at different points, and shading to nothing at their extremities. 1880 E. WHITE *Certainty Relig.* 80 Their own teaching was at once definite and vague, carrying a central lustre and a dimmer enfolding radiance, shading away into the Infinite. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* 15 Feb. 235 No other nation has company officers of the average ability and education of our own; but the superiority shades away as their service progresses.

b. *trans.* To change or make to pass by imperceptible degrees *into* something else; also with *away, off.* Also *to shade away, down*, to soften the abruptness of (a statement) by qualifying words.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iii, A touch of coarseness and hardness about the manners of the times, which has since, in a great degree, been softened and shaded away. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* x. 336 Their various sorts and degrees are shaded into each other imperceptibly. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* viii. 235 The thoughts of Aristophanes are not shaded down, concealed or wrapped up in symbols.

Shade, *v.*[2] Forms: 3–5 schade, 9 shade. [Northern repr. OE. *scádan, sceádan*: see SHED *v.*]

†**1.** *intr.* To distinguish *between*. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22930 Wel bituix þam can he schade.

†**2.** *trans.* To shed, scatter abroad. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2329 in *Macro Plays* 146 Gostly grace I spylle & schade.

3. *Sc.* To part (the hair). Also *transf.*

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, Hastily shading her dishevelled hair back from her wasted, but still beautiful countenance. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 116 He'd shade the binwud door aside. 1869 [MCLENNAN] *Peasant Life* Ser. I. 265 To have her hair combed and shaded.

Shade, doubtful form of SHOAD.

Shaded (ʃē·dĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHADE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Protected from light or heat.

1634 HABINGTON *Castara* I. (Arb.) 49 I'de rather like the violet grow Vnmarkt i'th shaded vale. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 153, I placed a piece of amber in a shaded part of a window. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 186 There are shaded walks for study and contemplation. 1827 KEBLE *Burial of Dead* 45 in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 59 If human anguish o'er the shaded brow Pass shuddering, when the handful of pure earth Touches the coffin lid. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 276 These narrow shaded swamps gave us a world of trouble.

b. Of a lamp, candle: Covered with a shade.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. V, H was standing with some papers in his hand by a table with shaded candles on it. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* XXXVIII, A small shaded reading lamp. 1881 LADY D. HARDY *Through Cities & Prairie Lands* 96 The shaded lamps were lighted.

2. Covered with shadow.

1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. i. Song (1673) 27 From her white Temples fell her shaded Hair, Like Cloudy Sunshine, not too brown nor fair. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 12 O'er the shaded billows rush'd the night. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 402 If the moon indeed be attentively viewed, some days after her conjunction, the boundary of the shaded part will be seen as it were indented.

†**3.** Obscurely hinted, shadowed forth. *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* K iv, His highnes perceiuing the shaded drift, called a counsell of diuers noble men [etc.].

4. Having colours gradually passing into one another, marked with gradations of colour.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 151 P 1, The artificial nosegay, and shaded furbelow. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 25 May 3/1 A complete stock of shaded worsted. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* V, These shaded pink geraniums are exquisite.

b. In collectors' names of moths: see quots.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* Index 277 Shaded Broad Bar. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 151 The Shaded Broad Bar (*Thera obeliscata*). *Ibid.* 122 The Shaded Pug (*Eupithecia subumbrata*).

5. Of a drawing, etc.: see SHADE *v.*[1] 7. Also, of a colour or coloured object: Edged or variegated *with* some darker colour.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 188 Gills extremely white: pileus mouse-colour, shaded with brown. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 17 Those far clouds of feathery gold, Shaded with deepest purple. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 107 The shaded spaces *b b*, representing the position of the valve when shut. 1869 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 279/1 An outline woodcut copy, and also a shaded one, of Occleve's beautiful miniature of Chaucer. 1871 *Amer. Encycl. Printing* (ed. Ringwalt) 405 *Shaded*, a general name for many varieties of job-letter, in which the main character is shaded.

Shadeful (ʃē·dfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. SHADE *sb.* + -FUL.] Abounding in shade; umbrageous.

1563 B. GOOGE *Eclogs* i. (Arb.) 34 Then shadefull places oute he lookes, and all alone he lyues. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 78 O'regrowne it was with mighty shadefull Trees. 1613 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iii. 78 The Easterne Avon vaunts..To be the onelie child of shadefull Sauernake.

Shadeless (ʃē·dlĕs), *a.* [f. SHADE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Lacking shade, without shelter (from heat, etc.).

1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 143 An opening Shadeless, and shelterless. 1882 ARNOLD in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 145 The shadeless streets of a hot and dusty town.

2. Affording no shade.

1890 H. H. JOHNSTON in *Nature* 13 Nov. 46 The shadeless acacias with their cruel thorns.

3. Not marked by shadows; unrelieved by shade, monotonously faultless.

1835 MRS. BROWNING *Felicia Hemans* 2 Thou bay-crowned living One, that o'er the bay-crowned Dead art bowing, And, o'er the shadeless moveless brow, the vital shadow throwing. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 13 Walter Scott was a little heavy for her with his introductions, while his heroines were just a trifle shadeless and uninteresting.

4. Not furnished with a shade.

1852 MAITLAND *Eight Ess.* 237 Though for reasons of his own he might incessantly wear a shadeless cap.

Hence **Sha·delessness.**

1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 153 Its sunny shadelessness filled him with a strange tremor of dread. 1909 *Eng. Rev.* Apr. 70 In the wonderful light and shadelessness of that noon..I looked at you.

Shader (ʃē·dəɹ). *rare.* [f. SHADE *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] One who or something which shades (in various senses of the verb).

1728 *Capt. G. Carleton's Mem.* 151 In every Age Virtue has its Shaders or Maligners. 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl.* 221 Black and deep the night begins to fall; a shader immense. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 55 Flower Making..Shader. *Ibid.* 64 Woollen Cloth Manufacture..Shader.

Shadew(e, obs. forms of SHADOW.

Shadewy, obs. form of SHADOWY.

Shadine (ʃædī·n). [f. SHAD *sb.*, after SARDINE.] A trade name for the menhaden, preserved in oil like a sardine.

1782 CREVECOEUR *Lett.* 132 It is on the shores of this part of the island..where they catch their best fish, such as seabass, tew-tag or black fish,..shadine, pike, &c. 1842 in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* (1846) II. 260 *Alosa sadina*, Spotted Shadine. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 386 'American Sardine', 'American Club-fish', 'Shadine' and 'Ocean Trout'.

Shadiness (ʃē·dinės). [f. SHADY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being shady.

1611 COTGR., *Opacité*, opacitie, shadinesse, vmbrage. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* XII. 361 The.. Shadiness of the Chamber. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* I. 82 It is difficult to see the bird in the woods, on account of.. the shadiness of its dwelling-places. *Mod.* I agree with you as to the shadiness of their transactions.

Shading (ʃē·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHADE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of SHADE *v.*[1] in various senses.

1. Protection from light or heat.

1611 COTGR., *Ombragement*, a shading or shadowing. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* ii, I thought I might take the privilege of an old comrade to ride across through the trees, both for shading..and for avoiding of dust. 1858 GLENNY *Everyday Bk.* 210/1 Attention to the watering and shading is all that is required for the established plants.

2. A foreshadowing, adumbration.

1850 WORDSW. *Prel.* IV. 248 Whatever shadings of mortality,..Had come among these objects heretofore.

3. Delineation of shade; a marking or colouring resembling this.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 85 Painting..upon flat moulding, and set off with shading. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Young Women* (1767) I. vi. 253 The business of shading with the needle is now..seldom thought of but at school. 1839 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* iv, Gilt letters and dark shading. 1882 MORRIS *Hopes & Fears for Art* iv. (1903) 148 Gradation, which in more naturalistic work is got by shading.

fig. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 254, I fear the finer shading was entirely omitted in the making of me.

b. *Mus.* The imparting of 'light and shade'.

1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 331 That expression.. was obtained..by the much more delicate shading of various transpositions of consonant chords.

4. A minute variation or difference (of a colour, hence of a quality, species, etc.).

1775 ASH, *Shading*, the different gradation of colours. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* xix. 168 The seven colors and their shadings. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 602 Appearances suggesting the idea of such shadings among species are..rare.

b. *Shading-off*: decrease in the intensity of a colour, or its passage *into* some other, by imperceptible gradations; also *fig.* of a quality, species, or the like.

1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 60 The shading-off or evanescence of tint. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Mar. 5/4 In Egypt..there is no gradual shading off from fertile into waste ground. 1892 *Spectator* 16 Jan. 77/2 The University ..lends its influence even to the shading-off of one political class into another.

5. A toning-down, qualifying (of a statement).

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiii, The circumlocutions, shadings, softenings, and periphrasis, which usually accompany explanations betwixt persons of different sexes in the higher orders of society.

Shading (ʃē·diŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHADE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That shades, in various senses of the vb.

1. Affording protection from heat or light.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. x. P 7 (1912) 63 Grasse (which plentifully grewe, brought up under the care of those wel shading trees). 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 221 A shelter and a kind of shading cool Interposition, as a summers cloud. *c* 1709 PRIOR *First Hymn of Callim.* 15 Wild Lycæus, black with shading Pines. 1910 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 14/2 If such a shading hood were applied at all times..the clearness of the photograph taken would be very much clearer.

†**2.** Delineating shade. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 509 Thick with sparkling orient Gemmes The Portal shon, inimitable on Earth By Model, or by shading Pencil drawn.

Shadock, obs. form of SHADDOCK.

Shadoing, obs. form of SHADOWING *sb.*

Shadoof (ʃădū·f). Also **shadouf, shayduf; chadous.** [Egyptian Arabic شادوف *shādūf*.] A contrivance used in the East for raising water for irrigation purposes, consisting of a rod or pole working upon a pivot, at one end of which is fastened a bucket and at the other a weight to serve as a counterpoise.

1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* xiv. (1890) 300 The most common of these machines is the 'shádoof'. 1837 WILKINSON *Mann. & Cust. Anc. Egypt.* ii. (1841) I. 53 The mode of irrigation was by the *shadoof*. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 440/1 The cotton plants [in Egypt] are watered periodically by means of Sakyiehs, Shadoufs, or waterwheels. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 90/2 The shadoof or chadous of Egypt. 1904 H. SPENCER *Autobiog.* II. 338 The fellahs..work all day with their shadoofs, raising water to irrigate their lands.

Shadow (ʃæ·dou), *sb.* Forms: 1 *dat.* **sceadwe, sceaduwe,** 2 **sceadewe,** 2–3 **scadewe,** 2–5 **shadewe,** 3 **scheadewe, scaudu, sadue,** 3–4 **schadw(e,** 3–5 **schadew(e,** 3–7 **schadow,** 4 **schadu(e, shaldw, shadw, shadu, shodow, sadwe, szadewe,** *Sc.* **schedow, -aw,** 4–5 **shadue, shadwe,** 4–6 **schadowe,** 4, 6 *Sc.* **schaudow,** 4, 6–7 **shaddowe,** 4–7 **shadowe,** 4, 7 **schadou,** 5 **schado, shadew, shedow,** 5–7 **shaddow,** 6 **shadoe, shadoo, shadou, shoddowe,** *Sc.* **schaudou, schaddou,** 6–7 *Sc.* **schaddow,** 7 **shaddou,** 8 **shadoue,** 4– **shadow.** [repr. OE. *scead(u)we*, oblique case of *sceadu* str. fem.; the nom. sing., with the variant form *sceade* of the oblique case, and the by-form *scead* neut., are represented by SHADE *sb.*, q.v. The Teut. cognates show some variation in declension and gender: OS. *scado* masc. or fem. (MLG. *schade, schadewe*, mod. LG. *schadde, scharde, scharre, scharr*; cf. mod. WFris. *skaed*, EFris. *schād*, NFris. *skaar*); MDu. *schade, schaduwe* (mod.Du. *schaduw* fem.); OHG. *scato* masc., genit. *scatewes* (MHG. *schate, schatte* str. and wk. masc., also *schatewe*, early mod.G. *schatte* wk. masc., mod.G. *schatten* masc.); wanting in ON. (the mod. Norw. *skadda, skodda* fog, is of doubtful origin); Goth. *skadus* masc. The OTeut. form was prob. **skaðwo-z* masc. or **skaðwā* fem. (the traces of *u* declension in Goth. and OE. being due to analogical alteration):—pre-Teut. **skotwó-s, -wā* or **skatwó-s, -wā*; cf. Gr. *σκότος* masc. and neut., darkness, OCeltic **skāto-s* masc. (Irish *scáth*, Cornish *scod*, Breton *squeut*, Welsh *cy-sgod*, shadow).]

I. Comparative darkness.

1. Comparative darkness, esp. that caused by interception of light; a tract of partial darkness produced by a body intercepting the direct rays of the sun or other luminary. Cf. sense II.

a 1220 *Bestiary* 648 Ðanne cumeð ðis elp unride, and.. slepeð bi ðe tre in ðe sadue. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 159 E pus au boys en umbrail [*glossed* in the sadwe (szadewe)] Passerom desouz l'overayl. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1411 And fayre in shadowe was euery wel. *c* 1421 *26 Pol. Poems* 104 So sopfast sunne, by hys pouste, Dryueþ awey shadewe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* II. i. (Arb.) 106 The shadowe of the tree is contagious. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 257 That the time may haue all shadow, and silence in it. 1820 BELZONI *Egypt & Nubia* III. 400 Where there is no index to direct the stranger on his way, ..nor even a stone or a shadow to shelter him from the sun. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vi. 42 The fronts of the ridges.. remain in shadow all the day. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* xxi. 258 She quietly withdrew from the bedside, and stood in the shadow of the curtains at its head.

b. *Shadow of death*: a Biblical expression (= LXX and N.T. σκιὰ θανάτου, Vulg. *umbra mortis*) embodying an ancient interpretation of Heb. צַלְמָוֶת, traditionally vocalized *ṣalmā·veth*, as if f. *ṣēl* shadow + *mā·veth* death.

Ewald and many other scholars, however, think the word should be pronounced *ṣalmūth* (or as pl. *ṣᵉlāmōth* = Arab. *ṣalamāt*), and that it comes from the Semitic root found in Arab. as ظلم *ẓalima* to be dark. However this may be, it is in the Old Testament merely a poetic word for intense darkness (so the margin of the Revised Version, 'deep darkness'). But the phrase 'shadow of death' has (in Eng. as in Christian Latin and other langs.) often been used with various meanings naturally suggested by the words; the commonest use is to denote the gloom and horror of approaching dissolution.

The valley of the shadow of death (Ps. xxiii. 4 in Eng. versions from Coverdale 1535; the earlier versions follow the Vulg. and LXX, which read 'midst' instead of 'valley'): often applied to the experience of being brought by illness apparently near to the grave.

The Land of the Shadow of Death: a rhetorical name for a tract of Western Africa in which the mortality among the white inhabitants is very great.

[*a* 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 118 Þa þe longe ær..deorc deaþes sceadu dreoȝan sceoldan.] *c* 1050 *Lambeth Ps.* cvi. 10 Ða sittendan on þeostrum & on sceaduwe deaþes. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cvi. 10 In shadow of ded, þat is in vicious life, þat is, ymage of endles ded. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 177 The lond of mysese and of derknesse, where as is the shadwe of deeth [= *Job* x. 22, Vulgate]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxiii[i]. 4 Though I shulde walke now in the valley of the shadowe of death [so 1611]. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 58 Now at the end of this Valley, was another, called the Valley of the Shadow of Death. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* xli. 480 If you've watched your child through the valley of the Shadow and seen it come back to life. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 441 The..depressing scenery of the Land of the Shadow of Death—a land that stretches from Goree to Loanda. 1910 *Lond. Mag.* Dec. 478/2 That Valley of the Shadow of Death which lies between Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

c. *fig.* with various notions: Gloom, unhappiness; a temporary interruption of friendship; sometning that obscures the lustre of a reputation.

1855 LONGF. *Hiawatha* x, Love is sunshine, hate is shadow. 1894 DOYLE *Sherlock Holmes* 38 There never was a shadow between us until this accursed affair began. 1905 *Century Mag.* Aug. 484/1 The episode left an unfortunate shadow on the sportsmanship of the visitors.

2. *pl.* **a.** The darkness of night; the growing darkness after sunset.

1382 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* ii. 17 To the time that the dai springe, and shadewes be bowid in. *a* 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in One, Tri. Death* Wks. 1912 X. 349 Give me such kisses as the Queen of shadows Gave to the sleeping boy she stole on Latmus. 1728 YOUNG *Ocean* xix, The stars are bright To chear the night, And shed, thro' shadows, temper'd fire. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Hymn*, '*Now the day is over*' i, Shadows of the evening Steal across the sky.

†**b.** *The shadows*: the shades, Hades. *Obs. rare.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xx. 73 Wherof I shalle make my reporte vnto the pryue goddis, beyng in the lowe shadowes.

3. *Painting* and *Drawing*. The darker part of a picture, etc. representing the less illuminated portions of the original. Also the colour used in the tincture of such a part. = SHADE *sb.* 3 (which is now more usual).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* c viij, A dowte theer is yit of a certayn shadow of a mylnerys cros as it shewith here folowyng [etc.]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Vmbræ pictorum*..Shadows cast in peynctyng. 1675 A. BROWNE *App. Art Limning* 9 An Excellent Shadow for Old Mens Bodies, temper Pink, Lake, and Red Lead. 1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* viii. (1779) 19 One of the first rules..respecting his conduct and management of light and shadow, would be what Leonardo Da Vinci has actually given. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 365/1 The result is a negative harmonious from high light to clear shadow. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 116 The lights being hard and the shadows dense.

II. Image cast by a body intercepting light.

4. The dark figure which a body 'casts' or 'throws' upon a surface by intercepting the direct rays of the sun or other luminary; the image (approximately exact or more or less distorted) which this figure presents of the form of the intercepting body.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19277 Þe seke war born þam for to mete, Þat petre scaudu on þaim suld rine Þar-of had mani seke medicine. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 212 Certes a shadwe hath the liknesse of the thyng of which it is shadwe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 188 Wher þat euer he ȝeode, and his schadow glod on a seke body, he was hole anon. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* II. 56, I solde you not the shadowe of the Asse. 1635 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. x. 226 The shaddow is alwayes found to be opposite in place to the Sunne-beams. 1785 MISS FIELDING *Ophelia* I. xxiii, Lord Larborough..followed me about like a shadow. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 467 Eclipses of the moon are owing to the shadow of the earth falling upon the moon. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 14 An opaque body is illuminated on that side of its surface only which is turned towards the light, its opposite surface, as well as a space covered by it, the shadow, remains dark.

fig. 1801 CAMPBELL *Lochiel's Warn.* 56 Coming events cast their shadows before.

b. Phrases, *To be afraid of one's own shadow*: to be unreasonably timorous. *May your shadow never grow (be) less!* may you keep on increasing (in prosperity)! [A Persian phrase.]

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 659 Whether shee were afrayed of her awne shadowe..the truth is, that the whole army returned to their Shippes. 1824 [MORIER] *Hajji Baba* xxviii. II. 64 'May his shadow never be less', said another. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* I. 9 *note*, The little fleet—may its shadow never be less!—began with chartered ships. 1887 *Referee* 2 Jan. (Cass.), The recipients hope.. that Sara's shadow may never grow less.

c. As a type of what is fleeting or ephemeral.

a 1272 *Luue Ron* 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 94 Þus is þes world as þu mayht seo al so þe schadewe þat glyt away. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 715 Man..passes away Als a shadu on the somers day. ? *c* 1415 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 67 Lyf passith as a shadwe in euery age. 1830 SCOTT *Jrnl.* II. 160 In this phantasmagorial place [London] the objects of the day come and depart like shadows. 1871 CASWALL *Hymn*, '*Days and Moments*' II. i, As a shadow life is fleeting.

d. *Optics*, etc. †*Right shadow*: the figure thrown by an opaque body upon a horizontal plane to which it is perpendicular. †*Contrary*, †*Versed shadow*: the figure thrown by an opaque body upon a vertical plane to which it is perpendicular. *Geometric shadow*: the figure produced upon a vertical screen by extending the lines from a luminous point which envelop an opaque body placed between the screen and the point. †*Line of shadows*: a scale engraved upon some mathematical instruments used in taking altitudes; = QUADRAT.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xii. D iij b, Marke well the diuisions of pointes touched in your scale, if they be of right shadow..But and if they bee of contrarie shadow, worke contrarely. 1644 NYE *Gunnery* II. (1670) 37 But if of contrary or vers'd shadow, multiply the distance from the middle of your foot by the parts cut. 1727–52 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Quadrat, Quadratum*, called also *geometrical square*, and *line of shadows*, is an additional member on the face of the common Gunter's and Sutton's quadrants. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 581/1 How to place a plane quadrilateral of given form so that its geometric shadow may be a square.

e. *transf.* (See quots.)

1875 TYNDALL *Sound* vii. (ed. 3) 317 The possible influence of a sound-shadow. 1883 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 299 *heading*, Acoustic Shadows. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Shadow*, A region protected or screened off from radiation of any kind: used with qualification or in composition; as, a sound-shadow; an electric shadow.

5. In loose or extended use.

a. A reflected image.

A similar use of the corresponding sb. is found in many other langs.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Hu maht þu iseon þine sceadewe in worie watere? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Hie [*sc.* þe wimman] bihalt hire sheawere, and cumeð hire shadewe þaronne, þe shadewe hire tacheð [etc.]. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1529 He [*sc.* Narcissus) louede his owne shadowe soo That atte laste he starf for woo. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* x. (*Fox & Wolf*) xxiv, The schadow of the mone schone in the well. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 58 Such Mirrors..That you might see your shadow. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* vi. 5 But out of a Greediness to get Both, he [*sc.* the dog] Chops at the Shadow, and Loses the Substance. 1797–8 COLERIDGE

Anc. Mar. VI. xvi, And on the bay the moonlight lay, And the shadow of the Moon. 1803 WORDSW. *Yarrow Unvisited* 44 Let..The swan on still St. Mary's Lake Float double, swan and shadow! 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxix, The planets which shine above us as little influential of our destiny, as their shadows, when reflected in the river, are capable of altering its course.

†b. The faint appearance of something seen through an obscuring medium. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 42 Let the scholler write vpon the shadowe of the text lines.

c. Applied to the appearance of degenerate corpuscles, bacilli, etc. faintly visible under the microscope; also known as *Shell-shadows.*

1885 *Buck's Med. Handbk.* I. 204 (Cent. Suppl.), The occurrence of..'shell shadows' in the blood after release from the bell jar. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 83 In tuberculosis..it is not unusual to find in the giant-cells some bacilli .. but faintly traceable as unstained, translucent shadows.

6. *fig.* a. An unreal appearance; a delusive semblance or image; a vain and unsubstantial object of pursuit. Often contrasted with *substance.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 He þet neuede nout of sunne, bute scheadewe one. 1526 ABP. WARHAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 42, I..shulde bee as a shadoo and ymaige of an Archebisshop and Legate, voide of auctoritie and jurisdiction. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 265 The very substance of the Ambitious is meerely the shadow of a Dreame. 1611 MURE *Misc. Poems* i. 52 Thy pleasour is bot paine, A dreame, a toy, a schadou. 1701 DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 41 Titles are Shadows, Crowns are empty things. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Bristol declining Poll* ₱ 5 The worthy gentleman ..has feelingly told us, what shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. vi. (Rtldg.) 405 The minister..was now determined to seize the substance as well as catch at the shadow. 1840 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* V. i. 4 At present we are in a world of shadows.

†b. Applied rhetorically to a portrait as contrasted with the original; also to an actor or a play in contrast with the reality represented. *Obs.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 259 For Appelles shadowes are to be seene of Alexander, but not Alexanders of Appelles. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 213, 430. 1591 — *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 126 To your shadow, will I make true loue. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* III. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 347, I have a dumbe-shewe of all their pictures, each has sent in his several shadow. 1679 in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 186 He was wont to gaze away whole days on her picture,..practising upon the shadow to fit himself for the substance.

c. An obscure indication; a symbol, type; a prefiguration, foreshadowing.

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* ii. 17 The whiche ben schadowe of thingis to come; forsoth the body is of Crist. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 3 b, But all these were but figures and shadowes of thynges to come. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 233 Religious Rites Of sacrifice; informing them, by types And shadowes, of that destind Seed to bruise The Serpent. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1711) 305 Certain curious Figures,..which were so many Shadows and Emblems of the whole Mystery. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xix, That eternal world, whereof all here is but a shadow and a dream.

d. Something of opposite character that necessarily accompanies or follows something else, as shadow does light.

1830 TENNYSON *Love & Death* 10 Thou [Death] art the shadow of life. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 1 A new type of belief, and of its shadow, disbelief.

e. An imitation, copy; a counterpart.

1693 *Humours Town* 31, I desire you to parallel the Follies and Vices of the Town with the shadows of such in the Country. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* XV. III. 362 Everything [on a voyage] goes on with the precision of clockwork, and one day is only the shadow and echo of another. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* XVIII. (1875) 330 The Roman Empire was the shadow of the Popedom.

f. Used *hyperbolically* to designate a person extremely emaciated or feeble.

1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 262 This tragicall discourse of fortune so daunted them, as they went like shadowes, not men. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 11 Great numbers of miserable and pitiful ghosts or rather shadowes of men. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 45 All were faire knights, and goodly well beseene, But to faire Britomart they all but shadowes beene. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 8, I hardly eat or drank, and became a perfect Shadow. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xli, He appeared to wither into the shadow of himself. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* III. 590 A stranger, by want to a shadow worn.

g. An attenuated remnant; a form from which the substance has departed. Also, *the shadow of a name* (L. *nominis umbra*), a shadowy or faintly surviving renown.

a 1569 KYNGESMILL *Godly Adv.* (1580) 13 Least instead of a man, ye finde but the shadowe of a man. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 152 But his greatness at home was but a shadow of the glory he had abroad. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & Fall* xvii. II. 29 The emperors themselves, who disdained the faint shadow of the republic. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Who shall become the eloquent orator of Royalism, and earn the shadow of a name. 1862 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* iii. 52 The prerogative of the Crown was reduced to a shadow.

h. A slight or faint appearance, a small insignificant portion, a trace.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 8 Simple, plaine, and of the lowest and meanest stile, utterly devoide of any shadow of high and loftie speeches. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 18 (1743) 321 There was no shadow of reason, why [etc.]. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 28 There is not so much as this shadow of probability, to lead us to any such conclusion. 1831 KEBLE *Serm.* V. (1848) 113 For the shadow of anything like proof of it, we may search far and wide in vain. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. App. 774 There is not a shadow of evidence that Harold ever reigned as Under-king in England.

7. A spectral form, phantom; = SHADE *sb.* 6.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 1151 Þan come a schadow full hugly, blak and blay, & stud hyme by. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (1858) 266 Eke he [Rich. II] thoute evyr that a schadow of a man walkid before him. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 100 That so the shadowes be not vnappeased. — *Mids. N.* III. ii. 347 Beleeue me, King of shadowes, I mistooke. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* 146 And I..Will be as cunning as Agrippa was, Whose shadowes made all Europe honor him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 264 Whom thus the meager Shadow answerd soon. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* II. 71 At mine head The shadow took his stand. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* VIII. 45 To the valley now..let us descend; and hold Converse with those great shadows. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 153 No handful of earth shall bury me, pass'd to the shadows. 1888 HONNOR MORTEN *Sk. Hosp. Life* 48 Every second the silent shadow feared of man drew nearer.

8. One that constantly accompanies or follows another like a shadow.

a. A parasite, toady; also (= L. *umbra*) a companion whom a guest brings without invitation.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 40 Though the pryde of their shadowes (I meane those hangebyes whome they succour with stipend) cause them to be somewhat il talked of abroade. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. ii, Laught at by the Lady of the Colledge, and her shadowes. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* III. i, I must not haue my boord pester'd with shadowes, That under other mens protection breake in Without invitement.

b. A spy or detective who follows a person in order to keep watch upon his movements. Cf. SHADOW *v.* 12.

1859 MATSELL *Rogue's Lex.* 78 *Shadow*, a first-class police officer, one who possesses naturally the power..to follow his quarry. 1890 *Daily News* 4 Oct. 4/6 The refusal of the magistrates to allow a policeman to be asked whether he was a 'shadow'. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 10/2 His duties as official police 'shadow' to the Prince of Wales.

c. *Westminster School.* (See quot.)

1884 FORSHALL *Westminster Sch.* 4 The master..called me to him, and along with me another boy, whom he assigned to me as my 'Substance'. I was the 'Shadow'. The 'Substance' was, for the space of a week, responsible for the proper conduct of his 'Shadow'. 1903 F. MARKHAM *Recoll. Town Boy Westminster* 231.

†9. An outline for a picture. *Obs.*

1656 JEANES *Fuln. Christ* 14 Painters, whose first rude or imperfect draught is termed a shadow, or adumbration.

10. *Algebra.* A symbol having no meaning apart from a symbol of another kind to which it is attached.

1898 A. N. WHITEHEAD *Univ. Algebra* I. 87 The Greek letters have no meaning apart from the Roman letters to which they assign properties, and therefore should not be written alone. Let these Greek letters be called shadows or umbral letters; and let the Roman letters denoting regions be called regional letters.

III. Shelter from light and heat.

11. Protection from the sun; shade. Now *rare.*

†*In the shadow* = 'in the shade' (SHADE *sb.* 8 b). 'Dry it in the shadow' is a constant direction in pharmaceutical recipes in the 17th c.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 754, & vnder a tri appeltre tok him tid a sete, þat was braunched ful brode & bar gret schadue. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 8451 (Trin.) Vndir þe shadow of þat tre þe kynde of þingis lerned he. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ciii. [xcix.] 299 They shall be in the sonne and in great heate, and we shall be in the shadowe and in the fresshe ayre. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. ix. II. 320 Prepared they ought to bee and dressed, before Autumne, when they be new and fresh washed, & dried in the shaddow.

†b. *concr.* That which affords shade. Cf. 13.

1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 402 Though an only son be inestimable, yet it is like Jonah's sin, to be angry at God for the withering of his shadow.

†c. A shady place. *Obs.*

1526 *Grete Herball* lxii. (1529) D iv, Betony..groweth on hylles, woodes, & shadowes, and about trees. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 176/1 A Shepheards Bower..[is] called Shades, or shaddows, by the Poets.

†d. Retirement, seclusion. *Obs. rare*—1.

1612 BACON *Ess., Of Gt. Place* (Arb.) 280 They..are impatient of priuatenesse, euen in age and sicknesse, which require the shadow.

12. Overshadowing (of wings, etc.), as affording security; protection or shelter from danger or observation.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 101 Vnder ðare scadewe of ðine fiðeres. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvi. 10 Hile me vnder schadou of þi wenges twa. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. viii. (1883) 187 Prayngе your good grace to resseyue this lityll and symple book made vnder the shadowe of your noble protection. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. iv. 6 Such As slept within the shadow of your power. 1719 WATTS *Hymn*, 'O God our Help' ii, Beneath the shadow of Thy throne Thy Saints have dwelt secure. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, There is no treason, sure, in a man's enjoying his own thoughts, under the shadow of his own bonnet? 1827 — *Surg. Dau.* xii, She is under the shadow of the British flag, and she shall experience its protection. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 106 Deeds were done under the shadow of his name which we may be sure that in his own heart he abhorred.

†b. *Under the shadow of* [= Fr. †*en l'ombre de, sous* (*l'*) *ombre de*, It. *sotto ombra di*]: = under colour of, on pretence of. *Obs.*

1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxvi. 206 b, He was nat worthy to holde any herytage in the realme of Fraunce, vnder the shadowe of his children. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 146 He stroue (vnder the shaddow of inuented lies) to mitigate the fury of her..disdaine.

†13. Denoting various appliances for affording shade. a. A handscreen; also a parasol, sunshade. b. A woman's headdress, or a portion of a headdress, projecting forward so as to shade the face. c. A tester or canopy for a bed. *Obs.*

a. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxix. 418 They put vpon him certaine ensignes of feathers, with fannes, shadowes and other things. 1611 COTGR., *Ombraire*, an Vmbrello, or shadow. *Ibid.*, *Ombrelle.*

fig. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule Wife* III. (*init.*), Now you have got a shadow, an *umbrella* To keep the scorching worlds opinion From your fair credit.

b. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 116 Besides all this their shadows, their spottes, their lawnes, their leefekyes, their ruffes, their rings, shew them rather Cardinals curtisans, then modest Matrones. 1598 FLORIO, *Velaregli*, bonegraces, shadowes, vailes or launes that women vse to weare on their foreheads for the sunne. 1631 KNEVET *Rhodon & Iris* III. i. E 3, Shadowes, rebatos, ribbands, ruffes, cuffes and fals. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 106 Lawne..is much used for fine necke-kerchers, and fine shadowes, and dressinges.

c. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 25 The testern, or the shadow over the bed.

14. *Theatr.* A penthouse or roof over the stage. *Obs.* EXC. *Hist.*

1600 in Greg *Henslowe Papers* (1907) 5 W^th a shadowe or cover over the saide Stadge. 1831 J. P. COLLIER *Dram. Poetry* III. 305 The projecting tiled roof over the stage [at the 'Fortune'] is called in this agreement 'the shadow', but it is also technically termed 'the heavens'.

IV. *Comb.*

15. a. Simple attrib., as *shadow-side, -streak*; (sense 4) *shadow-show, -tracery*; (sense 4 c) *shadow-wave*; (sense 7) *shadow-crown, -king, -patriarch, -shape, -world*; (sense 13) *shadow-plant*; *shadow-like* adj. (and adv.); also quasi-adj. = SHADY, as †*shadow ditch*, †*hedge*, †*hilet*, †*place*, †*tree.*

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* cccxiv, The figure of a palm-branch brown Traced on its brightness up and down In fine fair lines,—a *shadow-crown. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 54 *Nummularia*..groweth by hedge sydes, and in *shaddowe ditches. 1602 tr. *Pastor Fido* II, Where a *shadow hedge [*vna siepe ombrosa*] doth close it in. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* iv. 6 And a tabernacle shal ben in to a *shadewe hilet of the dai, fro brennyng. 1896 LINA ECKENSTEIN *Wom. Monasticism* 75 Ebruin..again became house-mayor to one of the *shadow kings, *rois fainéants*, the unworthy successors of the great Merovech. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. ix. II. 444 The garbage and skales of the *shadow-like Sciæna. 1623 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres of Sion* (1630) 31 Glories breath, which Shadow-like on wings of Time doth glide. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. Imag. xiii. (1874) 170 A something deep, And shadowlike, yet shadowless. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. ii. (1640) 111 Let those who are delighted with Sciographie, paint out..these *shadow-Patriarchs. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. E v b, Astragalus..groweth in places open to the wynde in *shadowe places. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 140 '*Shadow-plants' which have to be grown in order to protect the young cacao-plants. 1872 FITZGERALD *Omar* (ed. 3) lxviii, We are no other than a moving row Of Magic *Shadow-shapes. 1859 *Ibid.* xlvi, 'Tis nothing but a Magic *Shadow-show. 1570 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat., Life* 117 When the sunne was verie hote about noonetide, they both would go on the *shadow side of the Asse. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 147 If the light is too strong on the nose it must be lowered by bringing up the shade on the cheek, especially on the shadow side. 1833 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 76 The ragged rims of thunder brooding low, With *shadow-streaks of rain. 1885 WARREN & CLEVERLY *Wand. Beetle* 72 Lying on the sunny sward, dappled with the restless *shadow-tracery of the trees. 1602 tr. *Pastor Fido* F 3 b, Among these *shadow trees. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Wks. Fancy & Imag.* II. 11 Scaring *shadow-waves o'er fields of corn. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister Songs* (1895) 50 A *shadow-world, wherethrough the shadows wind Of all the loved and lovely of my kind.

b. Instrumental, as *shadow-chequered, -dappled, -haunted, -peopled, -vested, -winged* adjs.

1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 102 Many a *shadow-chequer'd lawn. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* XXV, Gazing out over the *shadow-dappled lawn. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XII. 285 To wander o'er the *shadow-haunted sea. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xxix, But we will leave this *shadow-peopled cave And live among the Gods. 1832 — *Invoc. Misery* i, *Shadow-vested Misery. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 131 *Shadow-winged night hovers nearer above.

c. Objective, as *shadow-bringer, -fighter, -hunting, -maker, -painting, -pursuer*; *shadow-bringing, -casting, -fighting, -grasping* adjs.

1902 W. S. CROCKETT *Scott Country* xix. 479 The great *Shadow-bringer was fast approaching. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Umbriferous*,..*Shadow-bringing. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 479 To him the wall That sunders ghosts and *shadow-casting men Became a crystal. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 584/1 The shadow-casting object should be near the screen. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Met.* II. 582/1 He becomes a mere *shadow-pursuer and *shadow-fighter. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 473 Locke..then addressed the *shadow-fighting champion in these words. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* VI. 81 Thou, whose *shadow-grasping hand even tires Vpon the vanity of thy vast desires. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. v. § 11 The strange shapes it [a cast shadow] gets into..cannot be imagined until one is actually engaged in *shadow-hunting. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 226 That singular *shadow-painting seen on the wings of moths.

16. Special comb., as †**shadow-adder** (tr. L. *coluber*, pseudo-etymologically 'qui colit umbram'), a serpent lurking in shady places; **shadow-band** 1, a company of or resembling phantoms; **shadow-**

band², one of a series of parallel bands, alternately light and dark, seen passing over any light-coloured surface immediately before and after totality in a solar eclipse; **shadow-bird**, a popular name for *Scopus umbretta*, a bird of nocturnal habits native in Africa and Madagascar; **shadow-building** (see quot.); **shadow canoe** (cf. *shadow-building*); **shadow catcher**, (*a*) one who grasps at and retains trifles; (*b*) a photographer; †**shadow dial**, ? a sundial; **shadow-fight**, a fighting with shadows (i.e. imaginary foes), or a fight between shadows, a sciamachy; **shadow-figure**, a silhouette; **shadow-fish** = SCIÆNA; †**shadow grass**, ? *Luzula sylvatica*; **shadow-half, -part**, 'that portion of land which lies towards the north, or is not exposed to the sun' (Jam.); †**shadow-house**, a summer-house; **shadow-light**, a reflected light; **shadow-line**, (*a*) = *line of shadows* (sense 4 d); (*b*) a line cast by the shadow of an upright post or by the gnomon of a sun-dial; **shadow-photograph**, a picture taken by means of the Röntgen rays; hence **shadow-photography**; **shadow-picture**, a shadow-photograph; **shadow-pin** (see quot.); **shadow-play**, a play in which the actors appear as shadows cast upon a screen placed between the stage and the auditorium; †**shadow-plough**, ? a PLOUGH (sense 3 a) on the shady part of an estate; **shadow-script** (? *nonce-use*), markings in shadow; **shadow-stick**, an upright post used for casting a shadow line; **shadow-stitch**, 'in *lace-making*, a mode of using the bobbins so as to produce delicate openwork borderings and the like' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **shadow test**, (*a*) a method of finding out by refraction whether an eye is myopic or hypermetropic; (*b*) a method of examining the outer side of an eye affected with cataract in its second stage (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898).

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxiii. 32 It shal bite as a *shadewe eddere. 1891 C. DAWSON *Avonmore* 156 In dear memory's hallowed land They move a silent *shadow band. 1900 S. P. LANGLEY in *Science* 22 June 977 (Cent. Suppl.) Shadow bands were seen. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Sept. 6/3 The shadow-bands were splendidly exhibited before and after totality. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 62 The Hammer-head, or *Shadow-bird. 1891 WINN *Boating Man's Vade-M.* 9 The construction of small boats without regard to particular lines and without special intermediate dimensions is termed '*Shadow building'. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 197 Full-size whale boat, dories, *shadow canoe, .. Indian birch canoe, &c. 1774 MITFORD *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 53 *note*, Such a *shadow-catcher as I. Vossius .. seems to have been. 1907 *N. & Q.* Ser. x. VII. 67 A firm of photographers in Bishopsgate Street are now describing themselves as 'Shadow-catchers'. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. Aaaa 2, A Globe with two Pole-Dials, and one *Shadow-Dial. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 471 Who is that antagonist whom he bumps and pummels so furiously in his *shadow-fight? 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* 34 While the latter present a shadow-fight of Things and Quantities, the former gives us the history of Men. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 311 The *shadow-figures sold this winter by one of my informants were of Mr. and Mrs. Manning, the Queen, Prince Albert [etc.]. 1598 *Egulario* F iiij b, To dresse a Latus or *shadow fish. 1705 DALE *Pharmacol.* Suppl. 348 Umbra...The Grunter or Shadow-Fish. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. vi. 8 Wood grasse or *Shadow grasse. 1505 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 600/2, 6 mercatas terrarum bine partis de Smythtoun de Noth, viz., le *Schaddow-half earundem. 1574 *Ibid.* 1585, 263/1 The *schaddow or myd thrid part and how schaddow thrid part. 1586–[87] *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 149 With the barnis, byris, biggingis and uthiris abonespecifeit standing upoun the shaddow haiff thairof. 1869 C. LESLIE *Family Leslie* III. 45 George Leslie of Tocher granted a charter of the shadow half of the town and lands of Drumdurno. 1649 in *Archæologia* X. 419 One garden summer or *shadowe house. 1623 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowres of Sion* (1630) 6 Of which that golden Eye, which cleares the Skies, Is but .. a *Shadow light. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* 207 So as the uppermost edge of the shadow of the gnomon may just cover the *shadow-line. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Jan. 2 The shadow-line is marked at each hour during the school day. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 4/2 They watched the slowly moving shadow-line and cast sorrowful glances towards the erratic clocks in the neighbourhood. 1896 *Daily News* 13 Feb. 2/1 At least two years ago a German scientist took what are now called *shadow photographs in a small way. *Ibid.*, '*Shadow photography', nevertheless, is the term that has 'caught on'. 1896 *McClure's Mag.* VI. 415/2 A Crookes tube .. with which he has taken all his *shadow pictures. 1891 *Naut. Mag.* Sept. 809 The *shadow-pin .. attached to a compass card, to indicate the bearing of the sun at noon. 1895 MRS. GRINDROD *Siam* 49 Burlesques, comedies introducing current events, and *shadow-plays, are productive of much mirth at fair-times. 1910 *Handbk. Ethnogr. Coll. Brit. Mus.* 102 The first two forms of Wayang are shadow-plays, the puppets being cut from leather. 1544 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1587, 402/1 Octo bovatas terre .. vocatas the *Schaddow-pleuch of Sonnyside. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 312 The Fraunhofer spectrum, being a *shadow-script on a bright ground. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Jan. 2 The *shadow-stick aids in teaching latitude. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 248 *Shadow Stitch .. is used in Pillow Lace making to form the shadow of a pattern, to fill in the inside of curves [etc.].

Shadow (ʃæ·dō), *v.* Forms: 3–4 **shadu**, 3–5 **schadow**, 4 **sseduy**, 4–5 **shadew**, **-dwe**, **schadewe**, 4, 6 **schadou**, 4–7 **shadowe**, 4, 6–7 **shaddow**, 5 **schado**, **schad(o)we**, 6 **schaddow**, **shad(d)o**, 6–8 **shaddowe**, 4– **shadow**. [OE. *sceadwian* f. *sceado* SHADOW *sb.* (cf. OS. *skadowan*, *skadoian*, OHG. *scatewen*, also OE. *ofer-sceadwian* OVERSHADOW *v.*, and its Teut. equivalents).]

1. *trans.* To protect or shelter (a person or thing) from the sun; to shade. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1511 Whan he was to that welle comen, That shadowid was with braunches grene. 1530 PALSGR. 699/2 The sonne can nat come hyther, yonder house shadoweth me. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 98 Against the heat of the sun..shadow them as wel as you may. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 69 The Land is..shadowed with huge woods. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 202 Two more in like manner went fanning him all the way and shadowing him (for it was about ten o'clock, and a most excessive hot day). 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 48 These..Stones..make a kind of pavement at top to shadow and protect the Substructure.

†**b.** *refl.* To obtain shade, take shelter from the sun. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 97 Ine þe ssede of þise trawe him ssel guod herte sseduy. 1530 PALSGR. 700/1, I wyll go shadowe my selfe under yonder fayre oke. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 69 A rock, under which they shadowed themselves. 1682 LISTER *Gœdart Of Insects* 138 These Spiders delight to be about the herbe Balm; and in Summer time they shaddow themselves under it.

†**c.** *intr.* for *refl.* *Obs.*

a 1533 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Z j, Agaynste enuye is no..thycke wodde to shadowe in. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 205, I find that under these trees the grasse is most rancke and fruitefull,..by reason of..the cattle shelt-ring and shadowing under them.

2. *trans.* To shelter or protect as with covering wings; to enfold with a protecting and beneficent influence; = OVERSHADOW *v.* Chiefly in Biblical use. *Obs.* exc. *poet.* with *over*.

c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xc. 4 His sculdrum he scaduaþ þe [*obumbrabit tibi*]. *a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* xc. 4 And he shal shadow þe wyþ hys shulderis. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Lam. Green Tree* 18 in *Reg. Princes* App. p. xxxvii, O holy gost,..That of heye vertue shadowist me. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xxxv. 112 Þe commemoraciones of holy seyntis used in þe cherch, be whech we be schadowyd fro wyndes of temptaciones. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 202 The holy goost shall comme ouer the, and the vertue or myght of the moost hye god shall shadowe the. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 14 You giue his offspring life, Shadowing their right vnder your wings of warre. 1830 TENNYSON *Supposed Conf.* 181 Let Thy dove Shadow me over, and my sins Be unremember'd.

¶**b.** *intr.* with prep. *on*, *over*, *up* (= L. *obumbrare* with *super*), in the same senses. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxix. 8 [cxl. 7] Lauerd..þou schadowed ouer mi heued in dai ofe fighte. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter*, þou shadued, Lord, vp min heuede. 1382 WYCLIF, Thou al aboute shadewedest on myn hed.

†**3.** *trans.* To screen, protect from attack. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xix. 56 A rowte of folke on horsbake that ouer ranne about the felde here and there for to shadowe theyre fote men. 1558 LD. WENTWORTH *Let. to Q. Mary* 2 Jan. *Cal. State Pap., For.* 1553–8, 355 The enemy, shadowing themselves under the turnpike wall..kept themselves so secure that the pieces from the bridge could not touch them. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 154 The Cauallerie, in their quarters.., would be defended and shadowed by the Infanterie.

†**b.** In immaterial sense: To be a security or protection to; to take under one's protection or patronage; to screen from blame or punishment, or from wrong. Also, to put (oneself, one's rights, etc.) under the protection of another. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 127 b, And so, shadowed with this counsaill..he tooke a determinate peace. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 2116 (Malone Soc.), Shadow and defend them, with thy glorious spright. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 161/1 Though she were no nun, yet the offense seemed verie heinous, for that he should not once touch anie woman shadowed vnder that habit. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Ep. Ded. (1607) A 2 b, But I hope my willing minde shall excuse my slender skill, and your Honours courtesie shadowe my rashnesse. 1621 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* III. i, Was't not enough I saw thou wert a Coward, And shadowed thee? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 420 He invaded Livonia.., which had shadowed it selfe under the protection of the said Sigismund. 1704 TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. II. 286 Those Laurels which his conqu'ring Sword has won Should shadow this Miscarriage.

4. To cast a shadow upon, to cover or obscure with a shadow.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 15 That..the schadowe of him schulde schadowe [Vulg. *obumbraret*] ech of hem. [Similarly TINDALE 1526.] 1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 64 (Harl. MS.), My dayes..ben shadowed and waxen drye and derke. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iiij b, The Proiecture, shalbe as before..sauing onely that Mutili shall hange ouer so farre as ye maye conueniently not hyddinge or shadowing his Cymatium. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 56 The warlike Elfe much wondred at this tree, So faire and great, that shadowed all the ground. 1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court*, Her tresses in tucks braided with siluer: The hinder part shadowing in waues her shoulders. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 1 When the Compositer is at work the Light may come in on his Left-hand; for else his Right-hand..might shadow the Letter he would pick up. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* x. 168 The dark battalions of the foe Shadowing the distant plain. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiii, The features..no longer shadowed by the mass of hair. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlv[i], The path we came by, thorn and flower, Is shadow'd by the growing hour.

†**b.** In *passive* of a shadow: To be 'cast' by an object. (If the reading be genuine: other MSS. read 'shadwe'.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 212 (Camb. MS.) Certis a schadewe hat the liknesse of the thyng of whiche it is schadewid.

c. *intr.* To cast a shadow. Now *rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 42 On huyle þer perle hit trendeled doun, Schadowed þis wortez ful schyre & schene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 431 May no grysly gost glyde þere it [the cross] shadweth. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. Prol. 2 Thow bricht Cytheria, Quhilk only schaddowist amang sterris lite. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 100 To seek the brook that down the meadows glides, Where the grey willow shadows by its sides. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 515 As comes a pillar of electric cloud,..shadowing down the champaign till it strikes On a wood.

d. To grow dark or gloomy. Also *transf.*

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 753 Evening shadowed; the violet deepened. 1891 MEREDITH *One of Conq.* III. 12 'There's the mother too', said he; and Nesta saw that the ladies shadowed.

†**5.** *trans.* To intercept or dim the light of (the sun or other luminary). *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xl. (1869) 91 Whan the sunne is shadewed, and at time of miday is shoven vnder a cloude. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 1 The bright glory of the triumphant Rome was eclipsed and shadowed. 1561 B. GOOGE *Palingenius' Zodiac Life* I. B j, As the sonne behinde the cloude, or shadowde of the moone. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 117 They are in such multitudes that they shadow the sun. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 42 He [Christ] was borne in the Night, to shew that the dignity and glory of his Godhead was shaddowed and darkened with the Night, and vaile of our flesh.

†**6.** To screen from view or knowledge; to keep dark, conceal. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 369 Thenkynge to schado his rape by the simplicite of seynte Wulstan. 1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 502/1 Under ye umbre of such vidimus, all an hole Navye of Adversaries myght been and been shadewed. *c* 1560 *Trag. Rich. II* (1870) 51 You and I will heere shadowe ourselues, and writ downe the speches. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 71 Manie, to the ende they may be taken for others then they are, vse to shadow the trueth. 1588 KYD *Househ. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 257 Neyther are their [women's] faces shadowed with beards. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. iv. 5 Let euery Souldier hew him downe a Bough, And bear't before him, thereby shall we shadow The numbers of our Hoast. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. i. 29 Though I shadow it, that sweet virgin's sickness grieves me not lightly!

b. ? To clothe (a person) *with* a garment, to wrap, enfold.

1605 B. JONSON *Masque of Blackness*, Oceanus..shaddowed with a robe of sea-greene. *Ibid.*, Niger..shaddowed with a blue, and bright mantle.

7. To represent by a shadow or imperfect image; to indicate obscurely or in slight outline; to symbolize, typify, prefigure. Now chiefly with adv. *forth*, *out*.

1575 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 47 The mysterie of the election and sealyng vp of Gods children by the holie Ghoste, seemeth too be ryghte trimly shadowed vnder this figure of speeche. 1606 BACON *Consid. Plant. Irel.* Resuscit. (1657) 257 That Glorious Emblеme or Allegory, wherein the wisdome of Antiquity, did figure, and shadowe out, works of this Nature. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* VI. viii. 312 By the same foure [creatures], in the opinion of many of the Fathers, are shadowed forth the foure Euangelists. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded. (b) 2, Augustus is still shadow'd in the Person of Æneas. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 327 ¶ 5 Tho' the Catastrophe of the Poem is finely presag'd on this Occasion, the Particulars of it are so artfully shadow'd, that they do not anticipate the Story which follows in the ninth Book. 1715 CHAPPELOW *Right way Rich* (1717) 18 As the times grew nearer that dispensation which they shadowed out. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometheus* I. 247 Tremendous Image, as thou art must be He whom thou shadowest forth. 1843 GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 370 Some of them [i.e. symptoms] will be faintly shadowed out, or altogether absent. 1894 *Knowledge* 1 May 99/2, I have ventured..to shadow forth what I believe will be the most hopeful principle on which to mount a monster reflecting telescope.

†**b.** *intr.* To hint *at* something. *Obs.*

1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 150 My purpose is rather to shadow at some, then amply to dilate on all.

†**8.** *trans.* To portray, paint the likeness of; to draw or paint (a picture). *Obs.*

Very common in Lyly and some of his contemporaries.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 58 It surpasseth all the pictures shadowed with the painters pencill. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 213 The first picture that Phydias the first Paynter shadowed, was the portraiture of his owne person. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 89 A Phœnix..I neuer saw but portrayed and shadowed in coloures. 1589 LODGE *Scillaes Met.* D 3, The pencile man that with a careles hand Hath shaddowed Venus, hates his slack regard. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 130 Apelles would not loose a day without shadowing a phisnomie. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 36 This is the best forme of a fruit-tree, which I haue here only shadowed out for the better capacity of them that are led more with the eye, than the mind. 1635 H. GELLIBRAND in J. W[ells] *Sciographia* ¶ 3 b, Others voice it on that witty Samian Aristarchus,..as first shadowing out the houre lines on a Plane. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. iv. 8 The Stile..you may make with Copper.., in form as you see shadowed.

†**9.** To depict the shadows in (an object, a scene); to place the shadows in (a picture or a part of it); to shade. *Obs.*

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. ix. 29 The shinbone from the knee to the instep, is made by shadowing one halfe of the leg with a single shadow. 1674 LEYBOURN *Surv.* 311 Vmber is good to shadow upon Gold. 1682 T. A. *Carolina* 23 A deep Green, shadow'd with a Murry. 1714 JERVAS *Let. to Pope* 20 Aug., I have done Homer's head, shadow'd and heighten'd carefully. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* II. H h 4, Umber is shadowed with umber burnt... Masticote is shadowed with red orpiment. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 2 With the pencil and gold size touch the places you would have shadowed. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. vii. 367

He cannot by means of his art singly, delineate and shadow the face and person of his friend.

10. *intr.* †**a.** To be tinged *with* a darker colour. *Obs.* †**b.** To agree in shade of colour *with* (in quot. *fig.*); to border or verge *upon* a certain colour. *Obs.* **c.** (Also *passive.*) To pass by degrees, shade off *to* or *into* a certain hue; also *fig.*

1648 J. Goodwin *Right & Might* 32 Nor doth the Act of the Army in that dissociation of the Parliament..colour, or shadow (in the least) with the act of the King, breaking into their House. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 256 [She] is of so sallow a complexion, that she shadows upon the Moor. 1666 Boghurst *Loimogr.* (1894) 39 A urine shadowing with a greenish black. 1839 *Standard* 25 Feb., This sphere [of falsehood] is so wide, and its several degrees so shadowed into one another. 1868 Lowell *Pict. Appledore* ii, Now pink it blooms, now glimmers gray, Now shadows to a filmy blue.

†**11.** *trans.* To reflect, to imitate. *Obs. rare*—1.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* Ffvij, I have not thought it unsemely for the Percians to shadow y^e^ customes of the Macedons.

12. To follow (a person) like a shadow; in mod. journalistic language said of a detective who dogs the steps of a person under surveillance.

1602 Rowlands *Greenes Ghost* 17 Then did Gibson sweare that he shuld not buy one peniworth of ware that day..and thereupon he shadowed him vp and downe, and mard his market quite. 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* i, A bear who was 'shadowing' the man and meant claws. 1899 *Yorksh. Post* 20 Dec. 3 A Spanish Steamer shadowed by a British Cruiser.

Shadowed (ʃæ·doud), *ppl. a.* [f. Shadow *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Protected from light and heat; furnished with shade.

1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* lviii. 79 Wyn..þat growys in playn and moyst valeys, and stedys shadwyd. 1526 *Grete Herball* cxxxiv. (1529) H v b, Candelacia.. groweth in shadowed and humourous places. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* ii. xliii. 277 Pimpernell..craueth a moist and shadowed ground. 1713 C'tess Winchilsea *Misc. Poems* 27 A Shepherd seeking with his Lass, To shun the Heat of Day; Was seated on the shadow'd Grass. 1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* xx, That peak is four miles from us now; and yet the shadowed cliffs at its foot seem double that distance.

†**2.** *Her.* = Umbrated. *Obs.*—1

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* c viij, He berith of golde with a mylneris cros umbratid or shadowyd. 1611 Cotgr., *Ombré*, vmbred, or shadowed; (a tearme of Blason).

3. Obscured or darkened by shadow or shadows. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* ii. i. 2 Mislike me not for my complexion, The shadowed liuerie of the burnisht sunne. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* iii. 290 Winter more nitrous chills the shadow'd sky. 1825 Longf. *Burial of Minnisink* i, On sunny slope and beechen swell, The shadowed light of evening fell. 1857 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxv, He scrutinized the sadly sharpened and shadowed features. 1908 Alice Shield *Henry Stuart* Pref., The quiet shadowed story of the last Stuart prince.

4. Of a portion of a visible object or scene: Lying in shadow or shade. (Chiefly with implied reference to artistic representation.)

1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 171 The shadowed beauty of the ripened grapes. 1778 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* viii. (1779) 19 You must oppose a light ground to the shadowed side of your Figure. 1830 in *Builder* 9 Jan. (1864) 22/3 [Fuseli:] 'Don't say shadowed, it is incorrect'. 'Shaded, then, sir?' 'Yes. I know Sir Joshua uses "shadowed"; but it is not right.' 1879 Linton *Hints Wood Engraving* 28 The shadowed face of the boy,..and it may be the level sky, are engraved in regular lines.

†**5.** Of textile fabrics: Having colours or tints gradually passing one into another. *Obs.*

1639 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 154 Some shadoede sattine ribbinge.

†**6.** ? Faintly written; ? showing faintly through a semi-opaque medium. (Cf. Shadow *sb.* 5 b.) *Obs.*

1588 W. Kempe *Educ. Children* F 3 b, The Maister shall teach his Scholler to write by practise of drawing the Pen upon the figures of shadowed letters.

7. Indicated obscurely, or by symbol or type; disguised, veiled.

1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* i. 32 Whether this proceeded from any virtue of his, whereof he gave some shadowed tokens. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* xix. 627 A visionary thought I'll now relate, Illustrate, if you know, the shadow'd fate. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxxiii, Leave thou thy sister when she prays, Her early Heaven, her happy views; Nor thou with shadow'd hint confuse A life that leads melodious days.

†**b.** Adopted as a disguise. *Obs. rare*—1.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* 173, I know your place and haue an ayme, To shewe your merits in a shadow'd name.

†**8.** Reduced to a shadow; shadowy, unreal.

1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* ix. 7 What were it to be shadow of a king? A vanity; to wear a shadow'd crown?

9. Followed by a 'shadow' or spy, kept under observation.

1889 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 2/1 At last the shadowed man seized his opportunity, and slipped into the Irish mail unobserved.

Shadower (ʃæ·douəɹ). [f. Shadow *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who or something which shadows, adumbrates, or portrays.

1600 Surflet *Country Farm* Ep. Ded. A 4, Those..liuely shadowers and setters forth of natures workes. [1618 *Owles Alman.* 56 *Painters*, You Beauty-shadowers, that robbe the raine-bow of her colours.] 1822 Beddoes *Brides' Trag.* ii. ii, His words are feeble shadowers Of such pure beauty!

b. One who portrays shadow: tr. Gr. σκιαγράφος.

1842 Wornum in Smith *Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* 691/1 s.v. *Painting*, Apollodorus..was surnamed the shadower.

†**2.** Something affording protection. *Obs. rare*—1.

1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* 162 (Tho' not in the holy Book, yet) in the adjunct, shadower or cover.

3. One who follows another in order to keep watch upon his actions, a spy.

1889 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 2/1 This seems to have taken the shadowers a little aback. There was a delay in getting out the police cars. 1893 F. F. Moore *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 186 Lupus has several shadowers.

Sha·dowgram. [f. Shadow *sb.* + -gram.] = Skiagram.

1896 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Feb. 558, I sent her to Dr. Mackenzie Davidson that a shadowgram of the foot might be obtained. 1896 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 496 Actual shadowgrams, realizing all that had been reported of them, passed into circulation.

Shadowgraph (ʃæ·dougraf), *sb.* [f. Shadow *sb.* + -graph.]

1. A picture formed by a shadow (usually, of the operator's hand or hands) thrown upon a screen or other lighted surface; an exhibition of a series of such pictures as a form of entertainment.

1888 *Glasgow Even. Times* 10 Sept. 4/3 Prof. Wynne brings his shadow-graph to the Gaiety and Star this week. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 4/3 An account of Trewey's famous shadowgraphs.

2. A picture or photograph taken by means of X-rays, a radiograph.

1896 *Dubl. Rev.* Apr. 422 A shadowgraph is produced on the plate, revealing the skeleton stripped of flesh and muscle.

Hence **Sha·dowgraph** *v.*, *intr.* to produce shadowgraphs; *trans.* to depict by shadowgraphs, take shadowgraphs of. **Shadowgra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to shadowgraphs. **Sha·dowgraphist,** one who produces shadowgraphs. **Sha·dowgraphy,** the production of shadowgraphs.

1888 *Weekly Scotsm.* 29 Sept. 4/8 Mons. F. Trewey, famed as a shadowgraphist. 1896 *Daily News* 29 Feb. 5/4 Mr. Stanley Kent photographed,shadowgraphed,electrographed, or radiographed..a fractured finger bone at St. Thomas's Hospital. 1896 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 14 Mar. 678 Shadowgraphy is an impossible monster. 1897 *Strand Mag.* Dec. 625/2 Mr. Devant..actually gave his shadowgraphic entertainment in the dazzling glare of a noon-day sun. 1902 *Music Hall & Showman* 28 Mar., His *répertoire* consists of shadowgraphy, conjuring [etc.].

Shadowily (ʃæ·douili), *adv.* [f. Shadowy *a.* + -ly 2.] In a shadowy manner, like a shadow.

1845 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* I. 336 Numerous torches here gleamed upon walls, shadowily giving out pictured battles, and kneeling priests, and stern deities. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Mar. 133/1 The sailors..went staggering shadowily under their burden along the poop.

Shadowiness (ʃæ·douinės). [-ness.] The quality or condition of being shadowy.

a 1672 Sterry *Freed. Will* (1675) 213 [Christ] takes away ..the shadowyness of the shadowy Image in its dissolution and restauration. 1682 H. More *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 116 And the shadowyness of the Night may help them in the more composing Introversions of their contemplative mind. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 479 The shadowiness and want of concreteness in the portraiture.

Shadowing (ʃæ·douiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.] The action of the verb Shadow in various senses.

1. The action of affording shadow or protection from the sun; the state of being protected from the sun; protective overshadowing or sheltering.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ciii. 4 Thoro shadoyng of þi grace we are taken in contemplatyf life. *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1503 For Narcisus,..By auenture come to that welle To resten hym in that shadowing. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 329 Whiche hathe conceyued thyne only gotten sonne by shadowyng of the holy goste. *a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 252 And there my lady 'mid the shadowings Of myrtle-trees..Singing I saw.

†**b.** *concr.* Something affording shade, a canopy, curtain. *Obs. rare.*

1598 Florio, *Vela*,..a vaile or shadowing, a couering, a curteine. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 256 Then she [the Queen] was anoynted in this manner; there was a Cloth of silver twilight Embroyder'd, held a Little shaddowing over her head.

2. The act of casting a shadow upon something; obscuration of light; quasi-*concr.* shadows cast upon something. Also *fig.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 258 On sumum earde hi [*sc.* days] beoð længran, on sumon scyrtran, for þære eorðan sceadewunge [*v.r.* sceadwunge]. 1382 Wyclif *Jas.* i. 17 Anentis whom is not ouerchaunginge, nether schadewing of whileness [Vulg. *obumbratio vicissitudinis*]. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* ii. i. § 9 (1622) 197 Peter [healed], by his onely shadowing. 1868 Lockyer *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 169 It is by projecting these total and partial shadowings one on the other that they produce the phenomena of eclipses. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* 556 *Penumbra*, a partial shadowing.

3. The position or distribution of shadow, in a visible object or scene; the placing of the shadows in a picture. †Also, in *Drawing* and *Painting*, = Shading.

1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* C 3, Lend me Art (without any counterfeit shadowing) to paint..the whole story. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* xii. 115 You must obserue the shadowing of Taffata's. 1705 Addison *Italy* 371 An infinite Variety of Inequalities and Shadowings, that naturally arise from an agreeable Mixture of Hills, Groves and Vallies. 1732 Berkeley *Minute Philos.* iv. § 23 A little soft shadowing of evil sets off the bright and luminous parts of the creation. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 35 This way of drawing and shadowing is generally performed with black chalk.

†**4.** A variation of colour, a shade, tint. *Obs.*

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 352 When Phydias first paynted, they vsed no colours, but blacke, white, redde, and yeolow: Zeuxis added greene, and euery one inuented a new shadowing.

5. An imperfect or obscure representation; a prefiguring or adumbration. Also with *forth.*

1642 R. C. *Union Christ & Ch. Shadowed* 4 God..delighted to draw some Shadowings and Adumbrations of it here below. 1805 A. Knox *Rem.* (1834) I. 15 If every species of the sublime be..a shadowing of Deity [etc.]. 1872 A. P. Forbes *Kalendars Sc. Saints* p. xlvii, The first shadowings forth of the minsters and cathedrals of the best days of pointed architecture.

6. The action of dogging a person's steps to spy on his proceedings.

1890 *Guardian* 9 July 1085/1 The real author of shadowing is..the National League.

attrib. 1904 Sweeney *At Scotl. Yard* iii. 35 Nominally, you are not on shadowing duty for more than a certain time.

7. *Comb.*: †**shadowing place,** a place of shade, a shelter, an arbour. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xxxiv. 19 The hilet, or the schadowyng place [Vulg. *umbraculum*], of the myd-day. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16750, I se that ffolkys..ffynden a Shadwyng place and an holsomme Refuge whan they ffien to the ffor socour and helpe. 1509 Fisher 7 *Penit. Ps.* cxxx. Wks. (1876) 231 After this Ionas..made hym a shadowynge place. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Auvent*, an arbour, a shadowyng place.

Shadowing (ʃæ·douiŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That shadows, in various senses of the verb.

1. Affording shade, shelter, or protection.

1552 Huloet, Shadowynge or makynge shadowe as wood doth, *umbrifer*. 1562 Turner *Herbal* ii. 81 Peplis..hath a brode shaddowyng bushe which is full of whyte iuice. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 214 Shadowing trees. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* i, Shadowing pines and thickets of oak. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxix, The horseman..pulled the shadowing hat still deeper on his forehead.

2. Indicating obscurely or by symbol; prefiguring, boding.

1579 Fulke *Heskin's Parl.* 58 [The pascal lamb is] a shadowing figure, like the first draught of a painter. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. i. 41 Nature would not inuest her selfe in such shadowing passion, without some Instruction. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* iii. 350 The dark and shadowing visions of the night. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* iii. i, The king Is holy, and hath talk'd with God, and seen A shadowing horror.

3. Spying, following for purposes of information.

1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* v. 46 Of Hermann and his shadowing Jolly [a detective] he sees nothing.

Hence †**Sha·dowingly** *adv.* *Obs.*—1

1635 Brathwait *Arcad. Princ.* 24 Hee shadowingly deliuers unto her, in what manner they are handled.

†**Sha·dowish,** *a.* *Obs.* Also 6 **shadowysshe, shaddoish, shadowishe.** [f. Shadow *sb.* + -ish.]

1. Characterized by shadow, shady.

1530 Palsgr. 323/1 Shadowysshe, *vmbrageux*. 1568 Turner *Herbal* iii. 66 Sanicle..groweth commonlye in colde and shadoish woddes and hedges.

2. Of the nature of or resembling shadow.

1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 278 As the walls of the house cannot of their own nature but cast forth all day long a shadowish darkness.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Unsubstantial, fleeting; figurative, mystical.

Very common in the 16th and 17th c.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* i. 8 Euen thys is it, to make a shadowishe God, to driue farre away the true God whome we ought to feare and worshyp. 1621 *Three Quest. Answ. Fourth Commandment* 30 Take heed this doctrine bee not rather shadowish then substantiall. 1685 Bunyan *Seventh-day Sabb.* iv, The nature of that law is moral, but the..circumstances thereunto belonging are shadowish and figurative.

Hence †**Sha·dowishly** *adv.*, indistinctly. *rare*—1.

1681 Glanvill *Sadducismus* i. (1682) 155 A certain faculty in the soul, which, in some manner, though very shadowishly, answers to that power in God of creating Matter.

Shadowist (ʃæ·douist). [f. Shadow *sb.* + -ist.]

†**1.** A constructor of dials. *Obs. rare.*

1635 H. Gellibrand in J. W[ells] *Sciographia* ¶ 4 The Surveyour may search out Altitudes..by the only helpe of three right lines; But the compleat Shadowist cannot here rest without further helpe from above. 1650 T. Rudd *Pract. Geom.* B j, The compleat Shadowist can teach the Sun to trace out his way upon the Earth.

2. One who gives an entertainment consisting of shadow pictures.

1902 *Music Hall & Showman* 28 Mar., Another well-known conjurer and shadowist.

Shadow-land. A place conceived as the abode of phantoms and ghosts, an imaginary land of spirits.

1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. i. *Witches*, A peep..into the shadow-land of pre-existence. 1862 Lytton *Str. Story* II. 16 Trials and visitations from the shadowland of ghosts and sorcerers. 1877 *Outl. Hist. Relig.* 181 [The soul] then sets off on its journey to the shadow-land. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 243, I shall start forth from my burial-mound upon the chase in the shadow-land just as now I start forth from my cave. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct 425 The country suddenly felt itself face to face with reality when it heard M. Clemenceau, and M. Jaurès faded away into shadowland.

Shadowless (ʃæ·dōulĕs), *a.* [f. SHADOW *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Casting no shadow.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 6 They cast their shadowes both wayes according as the Sunne is in declination, and Ascij or shadowlesse, when Sol is Zenith. 1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ennui* i. (1809) 38 She had a large assortment of fairies and shadowless witches, and banshees. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxviii. 186 Under the bare and shadowless trees in the grey February atmosphere.

b. Of a lamp or its furniture: So constructed as to cast no shadow.

1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 77 Gas chimneys, per dozen. Shadowless ditto. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Y. Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 111/1 Parker's Sinumbra Lamp..was called the shadowless lamp. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* p. liv, Gasaliers and brackets with improved shadowless burners.

2. Having no shadows on its surface; unsheltered from the sun. Of light, the sky, etc.: Unclouded.

1827 POLLOK *Course T.* v. 145 Black Ethiopia, that, shadowless, Beneath the Torrid burned. *c* 1810 T. MOORE *Song of Hyperborean* iii, That shadowless orb [the moon]. 1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* II. 144 There was something startlingly new and strange in that wild, shadowless landscape. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Ring given to Venus* 1275 And in the shadowless still morn A sense of rest to him was born.

fig. 1830 PRAED *Poems, My Little Cousins* 42, I used to have as glad a face, As shadowless a brow. 1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 94 A day of shadowless pleasure.

Hence **Sha·dowlessness.**

1881 HARDY *Laodicean* I. I. iii. 51 He saw the dinted nose of the De Stancys distinctly outlined with Holbein shadowlessness against the blue-green of the distant wood.

†**Sha·dowly,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SHADOW *sb.* + -LY [1].] Of the nature of a shadow.

1434 MISYN *Mending of Life* 128 Myendly sight truly is takyn vp heuenly to behald be schadoly syght 3it & meroly, not clere and opyn.

Shadowly (ʃæ·dōuli), *adv.* [f. SHADOW *sb.* + -LY [2].] In the manner of a shadow, obscurely.

1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xxx, He could see her shadowly. 1892 DOYLE *Round Red Lamp* (1894) 221 Terrible possibilities loom ever shadowly upwards.

†**Sha·dowous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SHADOW *sb.* + -OUS.] Shadowy, shady; also *fig.* (see quot. 1483).

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* (1892) I. 313 He was vmbrouse or shadewous. That is to saye he was cold & refrigerat fro all concupyscence of the flesshe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 b, They study to seek places coole & shadowous, to eschew the heat of the Sun.

Shadowy (ʃæ·dōui), *a.* Forms: 4 **shadewy, schadewy, shadwye,** 5 **shadwy, schadowye,** 6 **shaddowy,** 7 **shadowey,** 4– **shadowy.** [f. SHADOW *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Resembling or of the nature of a shadow. **a.** Unsubstantial, impalpable; transitory, fleeting; unreal, imaginary.

1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iv. (Skeat) II. 60 Thise shadewy transitorie dignitees [L. *has umbratiles dignitates*]. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 108 When in one night..His shadowy Flale hath thresh'd the Corn That ten day-labourers could not end. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 419 ¶ 8 We find a whole Creation of the like shadowy Persons in Spencer. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. vii, He did not follow what they all pursued..; Nor shadowy honour, nor substantial gain. 1855 LONGF. *Hiawatha* V. 58 Gazing with half-open eyelids Full of shadowy dreams and visions. 1884 LINDLEY in *Law Times Rep.* LI. 277/1 The plaintiff's case is of such a shadowy, frivolous, and vexatious character.

b. Spectral, ghostly.

1681 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* I. iii. (1684) 72 Their Monuments and Sepulchres, where the shadowy Phantasms of such Souls have sometimes appeared. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* v. (1840) 45, I come now to the main and most disputed part of shadowy appearance, viz, the apparition of unembodied soul. 1804 MOORE *Passing Deadman's Isl.* iv, Yon shadowy bark hath been to that wreck. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 243 From the river of Death he recalls Shadowy ghosts.

c. Faintly perceptible, indistinct, vague.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, He perceived a shadowy figure station itself at the entrance of the arch. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxlvii, Where the blue veins look'd shadowy, shrunk and weak. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. v. § 32 (1875) 113 A belief seeming to them so shadowy and indefinite. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 160 A shadowy sail, silent and gray, Stole like a ghost across the bay.

†**d.** Of the nature of a faint or reflected image; symbolic, typical. *Obs.*

1641 MILTON *Ch. Gov.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 103 Indeed the description is as sorted best to the apprehension of those times, typicall and shadowie. 1676 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 90 Philosophers had some kind of..dark adumbration or shadowy description of the first principles of Nature. 1726 PENN *Tracts* Wks. I. 578 That it might the better end the Jews shadowy services.

e. quasi-*adv.*

1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 60 A silken robe of white, That shadowy in the moonlight shone. *c* 1804 MOORE *Odes to Nea* vii, The broad banana's green embrace Hung shadowy round each tranquil grace. 1897 OLIVE CUSTANCE *Opals, A Pause,* In silver mail all shadowy pale, The moon shines white.

2. a. Abounding in shade; protected from the sun.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De. P. R.* XVIII. lviii. (Bodl. MS.), His modre huydeþ hym..in schadewi places. *c* 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 1918 In placys pleyn moyst and shadwy. 1526 *Grete Herball* xcii. (1529) Fij, It ought to be gadred whan it bereth floures & than be hanged to dry in a shadowy place. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xi. 23 Primroses and Cowslips joy most in shadowy places. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* 35 The bluish tints that pervaded their shadowy recesses. 1824 MRS. SHERWOOD *Waste Not* III. 3 The various shadowy lanes branching off from the high road. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiii. 41 When he smote the shadowy twilight with his healthy team sublime.

b. Enveloped in shadow; obscured by shadows.

1840 SUSAN E. MILES in Palmer *Bk. Praise* (1865) 70 Our spirits shall not dread The shadowy way to tread. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. I. ii, A shadow there at my feet, High over the shadowy land. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xlvi, From the shadowy archway came a shining lantern which was seen to be dangling from the hand of..the hostler, John.

†**c.** Screened from observation, retired; hence, remote, inaccessible. *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 177 These [Gymnosophistæ] haunte the outemoste borders, and shadowie partes of that countrie. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 2 This shadowy desart, vnfrequented woods I better brooke then flourishing peopled Townes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 369 Then they wash it with the bloud of a slaine Wolfe, and carry it into a shadowie place.

3. Casting a shadow, affording shade.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 605 About noon when the season groweth hot, they lead them [sheep] to shaddowey trees and rocks. 1796 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XX. 515 The shadowy palm. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* x. (1894) 250 To climb the rocks when the sun is hot and creep into cool shadowy ledges.

†**4.** Of an inflorescence: Shaped like a 'shadow' or umbrella. *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 107 b, A shaddowy or spokye top with a round circle as dyll. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xlii. 606 The stalkes..be full of branches, vppon the which grow spoky tufts or litle shadowy toppes with white flowers. *Ibid.* VI. lxxx. 760 The flowers [of the *Viburnum Opulus*] be white, and grow in brode round shadowy tuffetes.

5. *Comb.*

1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* xviii, A thousand shadowy-pencill'd valleys And snowy dells.

Shadrach (ʃē·dræk). [Allusive use of the name of one of the 'Three Children' delivered unharmed from the fiery furnace (Dan. iii. 26, 27).] See quot. 1847. Cf. SALAMANDER *sb.* 3.

1847 WEBSTER, *Shadrach,* in the smelting of iron, a mass of iron on which the operation of smelting has failed of its intended effect.

Shady (ʃē·di), *a.* Also 7–8 **shaddy.** [f. SHADE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Affording shade.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 31 You naked trees, whose shady leaues are lost. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xl. 22 The shady trees couer him with their shaddow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 74 The winged Nation..o'er the Plains and shady Forrest flies. 1825 WORDSW. *To Skylark* 7 Leave to the nightingale her shady wood. 1879 'EDNA LYALL' *Won by Waiting* XXVI, There was a shady hat to be chosen.

2. Shaded, protected by shade.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 36 The shadie valleies [shall be] thy euenings arbour. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 4 Her angels face..made a sunshine in the shady place. 1661 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 191 Those little moats that from a shady place we see swimming up and down in the Sun-beams. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Pope* 17 June, I am in the middle of a wood..divided into many shady walks. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 1 Deep in the shady sadness of a vale. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 29 There are shady places under the trees, at which..we may often rest and talk.

b. fig. phr. *On the shady side of*: older than (a specified age).

1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 87 The younger being somewhat on the shady side of thirty. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 74 Thou art on the shady Side of sixty too.

c. Inhabiting or loving the shade; choosing retirement and security. *nonce-use.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 51 We were full of courage, giuen to martiall exercises;..and not lulled a sleepe in shady idlenes with Poets pastimes.

†**3.** Opaque; also, not luminous, dark. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 48. 118 This Globe which seemeth to vs a dark and shady body is in the view of God as Christall. 1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Astron.* 343 And that 'tis not Pellucid or Shining, but is the same shady Body, is evident from this [etc.].

b. said of night. *poet.*

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 281 From dawning Day till shady Night [L. *ad umbram lucis ab ortu*]. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xix, Eyes the shady night has shut.

†**c.** Of qualities: Of the nature of shade or defect. *Obs.*

1719 OLDISWORTH *E. Smith's Wks.* Charac. Author A 8, If the World had half his good Nature, all the shady Parts would be entirely struck out of his Character.

†**4.** Shadowy, indefinite in outline, faintly perceptible. *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 249 You shall see..diuers such Super-Reflexions, till the *species speciei* at last die. For it is euery Returne weaker, and more shady. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* IV. 332 The light of Conscience..may be..made shine very dim, so as to give but a very faint and shady direction.

5. *colloq.* **a.** Of questionable merit or prospects of success; uncertain, unreliable. [? Orig. university slang.]

1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* I. 24 The Tutor..Shady in Latin, said Lindsay, but topping in plays and Aldrich. 1858 BP. FRASER in Hughes *Life* (1887) 97 We have twenty-one candidates for the Ireland—a shady lot. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* XXV. 95 What looks very well one way may look very shady the other. ? *c* 1880 JOWETT in Tollemache *Mem.* (1895) 21 [Commenting on the remark that England had one living poet of the first order, but hardly another even of the second class.] I think that Browning deserves a shady first. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Oct. 5/2 The chances of the Underground Railway against the omnibuses will be very shady.

b. Not bearing investigation, of a nature or character unable to bear the light; disreputable.

1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 156 Balls and bazaars continue to be the refuge of institutions, whether charitable or religious, whose balance-sheets are 'shady'. 1873 *Punch* 25 Oct. 167/2 Have always heard that 'shady people' went to Boulogne. 1882 SERJ. BALLANTINE *Exper.* IV. 42, I was entrusted with a brief by a rather shady attorney. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 52 A Roman lady of extraordinary beauty and somewhat shady character.

Shae, Shaeling, obs. ff. SHE, SHIELING.

Shaell, Shaet, obs. ff. SHELL, SHAHI.

Shafe, shaff, obs. ff. SHEAF *sb.*

Shafferne, shafferoon : see SHAFFRON.

Shaff(e-hoke, obsolete forms of SHAVE-HOOK.

Shaffle (ʃæ·fl), *v. dial.* [In sense 1 (northern), app. a variant of SHAUCHLE *v.*; sense 2 may be developed from this, or belong to a distinct word, perh. of imitative or symbolic formation: cf. *shiffle-shaffle, shiffle* vbs. (E.D.D.) and SHUFFLE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shuffle in walking.

[1552: implied in SHAFFLER.] 1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 95 *Shaffle* and *Shiffle* v. to hobble in walking. 1818 TODD, *To Shaffle,* to move with an awkward or irregular gait; to hobble. Used in the north of England 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Shaffle, Shaughle,* to shuffle in walking.

2. a. To work or move in a lazy fashion; to be undecided in plan or action; to vacillate, delay.

[1703 implied in SHAFFLES.] 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shaffle*..to do things ineffectually. 1873 R. FERGUSON *Dial. Cumbld.* 121 *Shaffle,* to be undecided, to vacillate. 1890 *Sheffield Gloss., Shaffle,* to move in a lazy way; to delay, to put off.

b. 'To retreat from a bargain or engagement, make excuses, prevaricate' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1781 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 95 *Shaffle,*..also to act unfairly. 1866 BROGDEN *Provinc. Words Lincolnsh.* 178 Don't shaffle with me.

Hence **Sha·ffler,** one who 'shaffles'; **Sha·ffles,** a bungler, shiftless person.

1552 HULOET, Shaffler with his fete whych fayleth in going, *atta.* 1703 THORESBY in Ray *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 336 A *Shaffles,* a Bungler. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shaffler,* one who walks lame. 2. A bungler in business. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of Crime* xxiv, Or mayhap ye'll ask yon shaffles, yer father.

†**Sha·fflin.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **shafflynge** (in Continental authors **schafoling, schafling, -lyng**). [Perh. the same word with SHAFTLING, though applied to a different fish. Cf. SHAFT-EEL.] A kind of eel.

1553 BELON *De Aquatil.* 273 Anglorum autem pisces..hisce nominibus agnoscuntur,..Eils, Lampres, Schafolings, Fausen, Griggs. 1555 — *La Nat. des Poissons* 267 Eils, Lampres, Schaflings, Fauson, Griggs. 1558 *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. 54 Minima Anguilla iisdem [Anglis] *Grigge* uocatur. *Schaflyng* uero media inter *Grigge* & *Fausen ele.* 1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), Shafflinge, or eele of a middle bignesse, *anguilla media.* 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 163 Fish in Season..Midsummer Quarter Grigs, Shafflins and Glout [etc.].

Shaffolde, obs. form of SCAFFOLD *sb.*

†**Shaffron.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **shawfron,** 6–7 **shaf(f)ron,** 7 **shafrone, shaferne,** 8 **shafferoon**; 6 (*Sc.* in sense 2) **schaifron, saferon, schaffroun, chaffrone, cheffroun, chaiffer, schaiffer.** [Variant of CHAFFRON, CHAMFRAIN.]

1. The frontlet of a barbed horse: = CHAFFRON, CHAMFRAIN.

1465 Shawfron [see CHAMFRAIN]. 1547–8, 1610, 1617 [see CHAFFRON]. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 31 b, Their shafrons, cranets, or steele pectorells. 1660 in *Archæologia* XI. 100 Shaffroones.

2. *Sc.* 'A piece of ornamental head-dress anciently worn by ladies' (Jam.).

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 210 Item, to be schaiffronis to the sam hudis, half ane elne crammesy. *Ibid.* 230 Item, for half quartar crammesy satin, to be ane schaiffer to hir hud, viij s. ix d. *Ibid.,* Item, for making of the hud and chaiffer, viij s. 1512 *Ibid.* 213 For ane chaffrone of gold. 1516 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 24 Ane saferon with ane chenye of gold of blak veluous. *Ibid.* 27 Item, ane schaffroun with ane burd of gold with lxxxi perle...Item, ane cheffroun sett with goldsmyth werk with xxxv perle.

†**b.** = CHAPERON 2. *Obs.*

[Possibly *shafferoon* may be the correct form, and the form *chaperon, -oon* may be due to pseudo-etymology.]

1725 J. COATS *Dict. Her.* (1739) 73 Those little Shields, containing Death's Heads, and other Funeral Devices, plac'd upon the Foreheads of the Horses, that draw Hearses at Pompous Funerals vulgarly now call'd, by Corruption *Chaperoons,* or *Shafferoons.*

Shafiite (ʃæ·fiəit). Also **Shafeite, Shafæite.** [f. Arab. شافعي *shāfiʿī* + -ITE [1].] A member of one of the four sects or schools of the Sunnites or orthodox Mohammedans, named from the cognomen (*ash-Shāfiʿī*) of their founder, Abu Abdallah Muhammad ibn Idris, 767–819. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

[1704 PITTS *Acc. Mahometans* viii. 93 The Malachees and Shaffees lift up their Hands in a sort of careless manner, and then let them fall down and hang by their sides.] 1838 G. C. RENOUARD in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 440/2 The Sect of the Shâfi'is or Shafeites, is named from Mohammed ibn Idris Al Shâfi'i. 1886 Shafeite [see HANBALITE].

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 661/1 The Hanafite praxis is the least rigorous, then the Shâfi'ite. *Ibid.*, In Egypt and North Africa Shâfi'ites are more numerous than Mâlikites, while the opposite is the case in Arabia.

Shaflie, obs. (non-literary) form of SAFELY *adv.*

1639 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 94.

Shafman, -ment, obs. forms of SHAFTMENT.

Shafnet, corrupt form of SHAFTMENT.

†**Shaft,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 sceaft (also with ȝe-), sceft, 2–3 sceft-e, saft-e, 2–3 *Ormin.* shafft, 2–4 scaft, 3 seft, 3–4 schafte, (scaf *Cursor M.*), 3–5 shafte, schaft, 4 chaft, *pl.* schefte, *Ayenb.* sseppe, (ssefpe), 2–5 shaft. [OE. *sceaft, gesceaft* fem. :—OTeut. *(*ga*)skapti-z* f. **skap-* to make, create : see SHAPE *v.* Cf. OS. *giscaft*, OHG. *gascaft, giscaft* fem.]

1. Creation, origin (*OE.* only); make, constitution, nature or species.

888 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth.* xxx. § 2 Ealle sint emnæþele, ȝif ȝe willað þonne fruman sceaft ȝeþencan, & þone scippend. [*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 He is..þe king of heuene þe com in to herþe and auenede him in to his iscefte.] *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 349 Flesses fremiõe and safte same boõen he felten on here lichame. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 739 A littel best þe quilk es noght vnwiliest, þe nedder þat es of a scaft þat mast kan bath on crok and craft. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cii[i]. 13 [14] Fore our schaft wele knawes he. 13.. *Guy W.* 7168 Gret wenges he haþ wiþ to fle, His schaft to telle alle ne mow we. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 661 He moste be boren of a wommon, þulke schaft to vnderfonge wiþ-alle þat ouȝte to monnes kynde bi-falle. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9386 He [Merlin] can ynow of swylke craftes, Of alle vigures he turnes þe schaftes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 þe dyeuel him sseweþ ine uele ssefþes. *Ibid.* 158 Me be-houeþ to zyenne..ine þe perle of þe eȝe þe sseþþe of þe þinge þet is him be-uore. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 297 Feyrest of feytures of fourme and of schafte. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merlin* (Linc. Inn MS.) 1579 His schaft may nomon telle, He loked as a feond of helle.

2. That which is created; a creature.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Boeth.* xli. § 2 ðif God næfde on eallum his rice nane frize ȝesceaft [12.. *Bodl. MS.* sceaft] under his anwalde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 Lauerd he is of alle scafte. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 84 He wit and walde∂ alle þing and scop alle scefte [*c* 1200 safte]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19444 Acc hallȝhe weress sæȝhenn Godd I shafftess onnlicnesse. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 456 Seftes sop ure seppande. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 239 þæt schafte of mon þæt he schop. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 127 God saȝ his safte fair and good. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23640 Wit alkin scaf [*Gött.* schaft] þai sal discord. 1340 *Ayenb.* 84 He [man] wes lhord of alle sseþþes þet were onder heuene.

Shaft (ʃaft), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 sceft, 1–3 sceaft, sceft, 3 scaft, saft, 3–4 ssafte, scheft, 4 shafth, 4–5 schafft, schafte, 4–7 schaft, shafte, 5 chaft(e, 4– shaf; *rare* 4 schaf, 4–5 shaffe, 4, 7 shaff, 7 shafe. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *sceaft* masc. = OFris. *skeft* (Hettema), OS. *skaft* masc. (MLG., MDu., Du. *schaft, schacht* fem.), OHG. *scaft* masc., pl. *scefti* (MHG., mod.G. *schaft* masc.), ON. *skapt* neut. (Sw., Da. *skaft*) :—OTeut. **skafto-*, **skafti-z* :—preTeut. **skapto-, -ti-s*.

App. cogn. w. L. *scāpus* shaft, stem, shank; somewhat more doubtfully with Gr. (Dor.) σκᾶπτον staff (Ion., Att. σκηπτο- in σκηπτοῦχος staff-bearer, σκῆπτρον staff, SCEPTRE, σκήπτειν to prop.). The Teut. word might, with regard both to form and meaning, be plausibly explained as a passive ppl. derivative from the root of SHAVE *v.*; but it is doubtful whether the supposed cognates can be similarly accounted for.]

1. The long slender rod forming the body of a lance or spear, or of an arrow. Also of a staff, harpoon, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in WR.-Wülcker 143/7 *Contus*, spereleas sceaft. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8658 He sset þe kyng [William Rufus] in atte breste þat neuereft he ne speke Bote þe ssafte þat was wyþoute grisliche he to brek. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xx. 5 The brother of Goliath Jethee, whos spere schaft was as the beme of websters. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 504 (Morris), His sleep, his mete, his drynk is him byraft, That lene he wexe, and drye as eny schaft. 1506 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* III. 358 Item, for xij staf schaftis ..xxiiij s. 1533 *Ibid.* VI. 188 For v dosane shaftis to Jedburcht stavis coft to his grace. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 113/1 Parts of a Pike. The shaft, for military service is reputed 16 or 18 foot long or there about. 1801 T. ROBERTS *Engl. Bowman* 293 *Shaft*, an arrow: properly so called when it wants only the head. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xvi, His broken weapon's shaft survey'd The King, and careless answer made. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Aspasia* Wks. 1846 II. 419, I can compare the Lacedemonians to nothing more fitly than to the heads of spears without the shafts. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* vii. 132 Points being held to the haft of the harpoon by long plaited lines. When the fish is struck these points detach themselves from the shaft.

b. A spear or lance. Now *arch.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lives Saints* xii. 53 His sceaft ætstod ætforan him..swa þæt þæt spere him eode þurh ut. *c* 1205 LAY. 23907 þe an an his ænde..and þæ oðer an his ænde.. heo quehten heore scaftes [*c* 1275 saftes]. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 1404 So miȝti strokes þer wer ȝiuen, þat strong schaftes al to-driuen. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1594 So harde þay acoupede on hur scheldes þat broke buþ boþe hure schafte, & þe peces fulle on þe feldes þe hedes on þe tre by-lafte. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 301 And whenne þat shafte is schyuered take scharpelye another. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 57/2 A Chafte; *vbi* spere, &c. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 627 War from stubborn Myrtle Shafts receives: From Cornels Jav'lins; and the tougher Yeugh Receives the bending Figure of a Bow. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 53 Hyperion's march they spy, and glitt'ring shafts of war. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 492 All the plain,—brand, mace, and shaft, and shield—Shock'd.

2. An arrow. *Cloth-yard shaft*, see CLOTH-YARD.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1747 So at the last the shaft of tree I drough out, with the fethers three. *c* 1480 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 253 Item xiiij shaffe of bolts and shoytyng shaftes, price xiiij s. Item v shaffe of rowyng shaftes iiij s. Item xlvij shaffe of childre shaftes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 57/2 A Chafte; *vbi*[z] Arowe. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 3 Euerie man, hauynge..men children..shall prouide..a bowe and two shaftes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 140 In my schoole dayes, when I had lost one shaft, I shot his fellow in the selfesame flight The selfesame way. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of H.* v. iv, Draw me the biggest shaft you haue out of the butt you wot of. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peace-maker* Wks. (1625) 539 Thou wounded heart [*sic*]..; alas, the shaft sticks still in thee, or if that bee shaken out, the head. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 236 Shafts aim'd at Trees can never mount so high, As those we shoot directly tow'rds the sky. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iv. (1878) 129 The air was darkened by the shafts from the hosts of English archers.

b. *Proverbial phr.* See BOLT *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Nt.* Wks. 1904 I. 368 To make a shaft or a bolt of this drumbling subiect of dreames, from whence I haue bin tost off and on I know not how.

†c. In various occasional scientific uses, as transl. of L. *sagitta*: (*a*) *Astr.* The Pole-star and its companion; (*b*) *Anat.* (see quot. 1552); (*c*) *Geom.* A versed-sine: cf. ARROW *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 263 The lesser Beare.. is the chiefe marke whereby mariners gouerne their course in saylinge by nyghte, and namely by 2 starres in it, which many do call the shafte. 1552 UDALL tr. *Geminus' Anat.* B vij b, In the bone of the temple is a bone lyke a smal pyller, or a nedle, and therefore called the nedlelyke bone, ..the quyll bone, the shafte, and the staffe bone. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. (1597) 49 b, A.H. is the Shaft, called in Latine *Sinus versus*. [See also ARROW *sb.* 6.]

†d. An 'arrow' on a plan or diagram showing the direction. *Obs. rare.*

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 293 The Bending of the Stairs; the Knowledge of which..will be much facilitated by the Shafts which shew their Extension.

e. *loosely.* A missile. *rhetorical.*

1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1836) 80 By my formidable art, the clouds shall pour grape-shot in the faces of the assailants, and shafts of red-hot iron on their heads. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xi, Then the shaft Of the artillery from the sea was thrown More fast and fiery. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 196 The trees and thickets with which it was bordered would be sufficient to turn aside any shaft of the enemy. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* I. x. (1846) I. 427 Some threw away their arms; hoping by this means to facilitate their escape, while in fact it only left them more defenceless against the shafts of their enemies.

f. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 409 To wound and wearye theyr soules, with..the shaftes of sundrye shamefull concupyscences. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxxiv, Death hath exchang'd againe his shafts with loue, And Cupid thus lets borrow'd arrowes flie. 1608 HIERON *Help Devot.* Wks. 1632 II. 760 Let his children be as chosen shafts in thy quiuer. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 763 Here Loue his golden shafts imploies, he lights His constant Lamp. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* I. xxx. 281 It is..to be regretted, that he allowed the shafts of his ridicule to glance upon the Christian religion. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 444 And often came Melissa hitting all we saw with shafts Of gentle satire, kin to charity, That harm'd not. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* XIX. vii. IV. 41 Having suffered for a whole year past from the shaft of love.

g. *transf.* A beam or ray (of light, etc.), a streak of lightning, etc. Chiefly *poet.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 982 By-ȝonde þe brok fro me warde keued, þat schyrrer þen sunne with schaftez schon. *Ibid.* C. 455. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1544 A Mitre,..Stiȝt staffull of stanes þat straȝt out bemes, As it ware shemerand shaftis of þe shire son. 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 264 When midnight and the frightful Tempest come, The Farmer wakes, and sees..The angry shafts of Heaven gleam round his bed. ? 1799 COLERIDGE *On a Cataract* 13 It embosoms the roses of dawn, It entangles the shafts of the noon. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 588 The sunrise broken into scarlet shafts Among the palms and ferns and precipices. *a* 1878 W. C. BRYANT *Leg. Delawares* 4 A thousand shafts of lightning pass. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* XIV. iv, Masses of vapour..blazing..whenever the bright shafts of morning struck them.

3. A pole, flagstaff; *spec.* †a may-pole; also †the pole on which the candle lighted at the 'new fire' was carried in the ceremonies of Easter Eve. Also, †a gate-post. *rare.*

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* i. 11 Fana hwearfode scir on sceafte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3899 Moyses ðor made a wirme of bras, And heng et hege up on a saft. 1419 *26 Pol. Poems* 71 Of here banere of grace, god broken haþ þe shaft. 1428 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 179 Et Thomas harpmaker pro emendacione de la schafte xj d. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 351 The holy water schal go before, the schafte after with ij tapers unlyght...Aftyr the sensyng of the fyre the schafte schal be lyght only. 1522 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 17 Paid for a whope of Iron to the Shafts of the churche gate iij d. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 107 On May day..a high or long shaft (or May pole) was set vppe there,..which shaft when it was set on end..was higher then the Church steeple. *a* 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXXII, *Set*, a term used for a pole or shaft, used to shove boats along a canal, &c. 1852–63 BURN *Techn. Dict.* I. (ed. 4), *Trabe*,..pole or shaft of an ensign or colour.

†b. A guild in the parish of St. Dunstan's, Canterbury; ? named from a pole carried by the warden in procession. Also, ? the pole itself. *Obs.*

1486 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* in *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 294 The acompte of the Schafte made be..[the two] then beyng wardeyns. 1511 *Ibid.* 321 We haue receyud of Wyllyam Carpenter of his gyfte a gyrdyll for to bere the Schaft contynuyng for euer from Warden to Wardeyn. 1535 *Ibid.* 98 For the expensis of the dyner, Seynt Dunstones lyght, mendyng of the Shaft, and other charges xxiij s. xj d. 1539 *Ibid.* 102 Wardens of a Brotheryd caulyd the Shafte in the parysch of Seynt Dunstone.

4. A stem, columnar or straight portion of something.

a. The stem or trunk of a tree. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (Bodl. MS.), þe schafte of a tree þat streccheþ fro the rote vp to þe toppe is propreliche cleped lignum. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. vi. 28 Tho bowis grewen out of stockis or tronchons, and the tronchons or schaftis grewen out of the roote. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 4. 62 If you will haue sciences growe, it is lesse matter for the shafte or bodie of the Tree, so you looke well to the takinge vp of the Rootes. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 98 By far the finest tree that I ever saw in my life. The stem or shaft is short. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 203 They were the shafts of bee-trees, found in the forest. 1889 B. HARTE *Cressy* x. II. 113 The dim colonnade of straight pine shafts.

b. In various Natural History uses. (*a*) The main stem or scape of a feather. [So G. *schaft.*] (*b*) The part of a hair between the root and the point. (*c*) *Anat.* The middle portion of a long bone. (*d*) *Ent.* The SCAPE of an antenna or of a halter. †(*e*) *Bot.* = STYLE (1787 Withering *Brit. Pl.* ed. 2, *passim*).

(*a*) 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 161 The Shafts of the Tail Feathers are very stiff. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIV. I. 177 The white on the shafts of the feathers is broader. 1886 P. L. SCLATER *Catal. Birds Brit. Mus.* XI. 345 Feathers of head and neck lanceolate and with shining shafts.

(*b*) 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 200 The constituent fibres of the shaft are marked out by delicate longitudinal striæ, which may be traced in vertical sections of the hair. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 33 In considering the hair we distinguish two portions,—the shaft, and the root.

(*c*) 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 431/1 The long bones..are never exactly cylindrical, being always contracted in the middle or shaft, and enlarged at each end. 1858 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 165 The 'shafts' are slightly concave towards the palm, to form the hollow of the hand.

c. The part of a candlestick which supports the branches.

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 31 Thou schalt make a candilstike..and thou schalt make the schaft [1382 staf, 1535 Coverdale, 1611 shaft] therof, and ȝerdis, cuppis, and litle rundelis, and lilies comynge forth therof. *Ibid.* 33 Sixe ȝerdis, that schulen be brouȝt forth of the schaft. *a* 1586 CARTWRIGHT in *Answ. to Cartwright* 88 The shaft..of the candlesticke.

†d. 'The Spire of a Church-Steeple' (Phillips 1706). [Cf. F. *flèche.*] *Obs.*

c 1450 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 156 The Steple of Seynt Pawlis chirche was sette on fire aboute the medyll of the Shafte in the tymbir. 1581 *Churchw. Acc. Dunmow* (MS.) fol. 49 In repayringe the steple in stone worke xxxix*li.* iii*s.* i*d.* Item, repayringe the shafte and tymber therof, vl*li.* xvi*s.* ix*d.* 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. vi. 19 Practise to draw small and easie things,..as a cherry with the leafe, the shaft of a steeple [etc.]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Aug. 1654, Famous is the Steeple [at Grantham] for the exceeding height of the shaft, which is of stone.

e. Of a chimney, a blast-furnace: (see quots. and *chimney-shaft* s. v. CHIMNEY 11).

c 1450 *Nominale* (Harl. MS. 1002) 146 b, *Caminus*, a chymney. *Epicaustorium*, þe chaft þer-of. *a* 1548 in J. Bayley *Tower Lond.* (1821) I. App. p. XXV, To fynyshe x. shaftes upon x. chymneys. 1668 GERBIER *Brief Disc.* (1665) 10 Neither are those high Shafts of Chimnies real Ornaments to a Building. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shaft*,..the Tunnel of a Chimney. 1836–50 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) s.v., The part of a chimney-stack between the base and cornice is called the shaft. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 457/2 *Shaft* of a blast-furnace (the internal cavity of the furnace), *der Schacht*; *Cuve, cheminée.*

f. *Arch.* The body of a column or pillar between the base and the capital. Also the 'die' of a parapet. See also quot. 1842.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 332/1 A schafte of a pylar, *stilus.* 1598 HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* I. xxiv. 86 The shaft or trunke of the columne is to be diminished a fourth parte at the toppe. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* 31 They [the Columns] are all Diminished or Contracted..from one third part of the whole Shaft vpwards. 1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 461 The pedestal [of this pillar] consists of one stone, the base of eight, the torus of one, the shaft of twenty-three, and the capital of one. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 310 The shaft or die, which is the part immediately above the plinth. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Shaft of a King Post*, the part between the joggles. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 16 Then gradually bringing within its power the details of shaft and capital.

g. The upright part of a cross; *esp.* the part between the arms and the base.

1781 LEDWICH in Vallancey *Collect. de Rebus Hibern.* II. 446 The arms were broken, but the shaft [of the market cross of Kilkenny] remained adorned with beautiful figures. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. viii, A slender crosslet form'd with care,..The shaft and limbs were rods of yew. 1836–50 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) s.v. *Cross*, In some instances they had small niches..round the top of the shaft below the cross. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 90 The limbs and a portion of the shaft of a Saxon cross were found. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 279 One of them has retained its top perfect, and really is a cross, not a shaft only.

h. The stem or long straight handle of a tool, etc.; the shank of an anchor; the stem of a pipe; †the stalk or foot of a goblet or wine-glass.

1530 PALSGR. 266/1 Shafte of any edged tole, *manche.* 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Shank*, the beam or shaft of an anchor. *a* 1837 J. HOGG *Tales & Sk.* I. 297, I then took out my brandy bottle, and a small crystal glass without the shaft, that I carried in my pocket. 1841 CATLIN

N. Amer. Ind. xxix. (1844) I. 235 The shafts or stems of these pipes. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 46 *Shaft*,..the handle of a pick, hack, shovel, or maul. 1855 FRANKE *Beil's Technol. Dict.* II. 457/2 Shaft of a forge hammer (the helve or handle of the hammer), *der Helm, Stiel*; *Manche.* 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 473/1 (Golf), *Shaft*, the handle of the club.

1. †(*a*) Of a cannon: = CHASE *sb.*[3] 2. (*b*) 'The forward, straight part of a gun-stock' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 32 Her shaft or chase, her trunnions.

5. a. *Arch.* A slender column, *esp.* one of 'the small columns which are clustered round pillars, or used in the jambs of doors or windows, in arcades and various other situations' (Parker *Gloss. Archit.*).

1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* ii. 27 But the compound archway did not long remain in this simple form, its component archways were early decorated in various ways with shafts and mouldings. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* I. ii, The ceiling of cedar-wood..was supported by slender shafts, of the whitest alabaster. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. i. I. 8 Images of the goddess on her jasper shaft. 1878 MCVITTIE *Christ Ch. Cathedral* 67 The inside moulded jambs are decorated with six short limestone shafts.

b. *U.S.* An obelisk or column erected as a memorial.

1847 EMERSON *Poems, Hymn* Wks. (Bohn) I. 494 Spirit, that made those heroes dare To die, and leave their children free, Bid Time and Nature gently spare The shaft we raise to them and thee. 1873 B. HARTE *Washington in N. Jersey* in *Fiddletown*, etc. 93 The gray shaft that commemorated the Morristown dead of the last civil war. 1878 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs of Italy* 49 The whole country round vaunts our deed and the town Raised that shaft on the spot.

†**6.** A kind of balance: = AUNCEL, POUNDER (app. orig. *auncel's shaft*).

1429, 1439 [see POUNDER *sb.*[1]]. 1502 [see AUNCEL].

7. a. One of the long bars, between a pair of which a horse is harnessed to a vehicle; a thill. Also (? *U.S.*) 'the pole of a carriage, also called *tongue* or *neap*' (Webster 1828–32).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 325 The shafts or beam of Gordius his cart. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 208 The bounding shafts upon the harness play. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Cobbler of Cripplegate's Let.* 124 The racer stumbles in the shaft, And shews he was not meant for draft. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 61 The Shafts of a Carriage are the side framings, by which it is supported by the horse. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 77, I found him smoking his vesper pipe on the shaft of his cart.

b. Either of the two side-pieces of a ladder which support the rungs or steps.

1888 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* (1892) 197 The weedy spokes and shafts of the ladder.

c. (See quot.)

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 630 The sides of this table [for casting sheet lead]..are guarded by a frame or edging of wood, 3 inches thick, and 4 or 5 inches higher than the interior surface, called the shafts. *Ibid.* 631 So that its ends, which are notched.., may ride upon the shafts.

8. *Mech.* A long cylindrical rotating rod upon which are fixed the parts for the transmission of motive power in a machine; also, a separable portion of a line of shafting.

Also with qualifying word indicating a specific kind of shaft, as *crank, paddle, propeller, screw shaft*, COUNTER-SHAFT, etc.: see those words.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 340/2 The Shaft [of a Wind-Mill], that on which the Sail Rods are set. 1764 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts* s.v. *Mill*, The undershot-wheel, upon whose shaft is fixed a spur or cog-wheel. 1814, etc. [see JOURNAL *sb.* 10]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 43 In forming couplings, great care should be taken to make them fit, so that the coupled shaft may move as though of the same piece with the driving shaft. 1841 R. WILLIS *Princ. Mechanism* 44 *note*, Axis is the general and scientific word, shaft the millwright's general term, and spindle his term for smaller shafts. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 4 The last shaft, or the one farthest from the engine, can be driven at a higher speed than the other shafts to suit joiners' machines on an upper floor. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 30, Fig. 25, which represents a brake shaft carrier of a locomotive tender.

9. *Weaving.* Each of a pair of long laths between which the heddles are stretched; also applied to the pair taken together. Also in parasynthetic compounds with prefixed numeral, as *four-shaft, ten-shaft* adjs., designating makes of cloth.

Although no early examples have been found, the sense is certainly old; the G. *schaft* and Du. *schacht* are similarly used. Cf. '*thre-schaptyd cloth*, triplex' (*Promp. Parv.*, *c* 1440): see THREE III. 2.

[1801 see LAM *sb.*[2]] 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1230 The heddles being stretched between two shafts of wood, all the heddles connected by the same shafts are called a leaf. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* 173 With four shafts and twenty pairs of leashes..the effect that may be produced will be noticed at ABCDE and F. *Ibid.*, At D the leashes are raised, and the shafts also. *a* 1904 W. THORNTON in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., [*Obs.* in W. Yorksh.] Long thin flat rods of wood, upon which the 'gems' or 'healds' were stretched. The stretching was effected by a 'top' and 'bodom' shaft, and the whole was also termed a 'shaft', when describing the pattern or make of cloth to be produced, as 'four shaft', 'ten shaft', &c.

†**b.** *Sc.* A kind of woollen cloth. *Obs.*

[Prob. generalized from designations like *four-shaft, ten-shaft*, etc.: see above.]

1797 *Statist. Acc. Scot., Aberd.* XIX. 208 Cloths manufactured from the above wool,..three quarters to yard broad seys, sarges, shafts, plaidings, baizes, linsey woolseys, jemmies, and stripped apron stuffs.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense **2** (arrow, etc.), as *shaft-arm*, †*-end*, *-hand*, *-head*, *-maker*; *shaft-armed*, *-like*, *-straight*, *-strong* adjs.; † **shaft-wise** *adv.*, ? in cylindrical form.

1801 T. ROBERTS *Engl. Bowman* 293 **Shaft-arm, Shaft-hand*, the arm, the hand, employed in drawing the arrow. 1790 COWPER *Iliad* I. 18 His hands charged with the wreath And golden sceptre or the God *shaft-arm'd. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. Wks. (1904) 116 Yf I should shoote at a line and not at the marke, I woulde alwayes loke at my *shaft ende. 1801 *Shaft-hand [see *shaft-arm* supra]. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. Wks. (1904) 115 To looke at your *shafte hede at the lowse, is the greatest helpe to kepe a lengthe that can be. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* IV. i. 90 A huge quiver rose With shaft-heads feather'd from the eagle's wing. 15.. J. BRYAN *Ps.* CXXVII. 7 in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* II. 335 Straight, *shaft-like sprowts in shape and mind. 1899 R. B. SHARPE in *Daily News* 21 Feb. 6/2 A long shaft-like plume. 1904 WINDLE *Preh. Age Eng.* iv. 80 Here the object was..to shape off the roughnesses of a stick, so as to convert it into an arrow-shaft—for which reason this kind of scraper is sometimes called a '*shaft-maker'. 1849 CHARL. BRONTË *Shirley* II. v. 127 Her *shaft-straight carriage and lightsome step. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 105 b, All preciouse stonys may be made *shaft wyse, saue pearlys. *Omnes gemmæ teretes fieri possunt, extra vnum vnionem.*

b. In sense 5 a (*Arch.*), as *shaft-architecture, -cap, -ring.*

1851 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. viii. § xxiii, The earliest and grandest shaft architecture which we know, that of Egypt. 1882 *Archæol. Cant.* XIV. 364 The segmental arch of its head springs not from shaft-caps but from vertical stilts. 1909 *Century Dict.* Suppl., *Shaft-ring*, an annular band..which seems to surround a shaft of a column. It is often the wrought edge of a stone plate which separates two stones that make up a shaft, the inclosing ring being an appearance only.

c. In sense 4 h (handle), as **shaft-hole**, *Archæol.* the hole in an axe-head or similar implement for the insertion of the haft or handle.

1852–63 BURN *Techn. Dict.* II. (ed. 4), Shaft prop, *servante. Ibid.*, Shaft stay, *cravate.* 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* iii. (1878) 62 The British lance-heads frequently have loops at the side of the shaft-hole,..which is never the case with Danish specimens. 1894 J. MACINTOSH *Ayrsh. Nt.'s Entert.* 201 A stone axe..having a shaft-hole one inch in width.

d. In sense 7 a (thill of a carriage, etc.): as *shaft-bar, -bender, -bolt, -jack, -loop, -man, -ring, -tug*; **shaft-horse**, the horse which goes in the shafts.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, **Shaft-bars*, are two pieces of wood to fasten the hind ends of the shafts together, into which they are pinned with wooden pins. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 56 Coach making..*Shaft Bender. 1852–63 BURN *Techn. Dict.* II. (ed. 4), *Shaft-bolt, *boulon de limonière.* 1769 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 28 July, The *shaft-horse.. boggled and turned short. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 182 The four horses were driven by one postillion riding the shaft horse. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shaft-jack*, (Vehicle) an iron attaching the shafts to the axle. *Ibid.*, **Shaft-loop*, (Harness) the ring of leather suspended from the gig-saddle to hold the thill or shaft. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 56 Coach making..*Shaftman. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Rings*, in artillery, are of various uses such as, the *shaft-rings to fasten the harness of the shaft-horse by means of a pin. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* III. III. iv. 543 A buckle and strong loop on each side, called the *Shaft Tug, by which the shaft is supported.

e. *Ornith.* (sense 4 b), as *shaft-mark, -spot, -streak, -stripe*; **shaft-tailed bunting**, Latham's name for one of the buntings of the genus *Emberiza.*

1884 J. H. GURNEY *Diurnal Birds Prey* 157 The dark *shaft-marks much narrower than in the female [Kestrel]. 1888 P. L. SCLATER *Argentine Ornith.* I. 164 Above plumbeous, with slight darker *shaft-spots. 1874 R. B. SHARPE *Catal. Accipitres B. Mus.* 438 Crown rufous, with blackish *shaft-streaks. 1867 P. L. SCLATER & SALVIN *Exotic Ornith.* 71 There are linear elongated *shaft-stripes on the head and on portions of the under plumage. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. I. 183 *Shaft-tailed Bunting.

f. In sense 8 (axle or revolving bar), as *shaft-bearing, -boss, -bracket, -coupling, -drive* (so *-driven*), *-eye, -gearing, -governor, -head, -passage*, etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shaft-bearing. 1863 BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 236 This is 42 feet in length, and, with its sole and *shaft-boss, weighs 40 tons. 1894 W. H. WHITE *Man. Naval Archit.* (ed. 3) 415 (Cent. Suppl.), Stems, sternposts, *shaft-brackets, rudders, etc., are now commonly made of cast steel instead of forged iron or steel. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 June 4/1 As regards transmission, fourteen of the cars are employing chains, as against twenty relying on *shaft drive. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 14 Nov. 9/3 These cars are *shaft-driven. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 34 The recent innovations in..adjusting the movements of the system of *shaft-geering. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 146/2 The Design and Setting of *Shaft Governors. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 130 A gudgeon from the end of each cylinder runs into an iron fastened to the *shaft-head. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 115 The bulkheads of the *shaft passages are sometimes made watertight.

g. *Weaving* (sense 9), as *shaft harness, monture.*

1878 BARLOW *Weaving* 168 The second [contrivance] is generally used in weaving the richest silks now made, and is termed the split harness, or 'shaft monture'. *Ibid.* 170 The above contrivance entirely dispenses with a separate set of treadles to work the shaft harness.

h. Shaft-furnace, 'a high furnace, charged at the top and tapped at the bottom' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881).

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 Those shaft-furnaces which use charcoal as fuel.

Shaft (ʃaft), *sb.*[3] Also 5 **shafte**. [Corresponds in sense to MHG. *schaht*, mod.G. *schacht* masc., which is prob. **a.** LG. *schacht* (also Du.) of the same meaning, usually regarded as a specific application of *schacht* = SHAFT *sb.*[2], the primitive notion being that of something cylindrical. It is possible, however, that the type **shafto-* represented by LG. *schacht*, Eng. *shaft* 'pit-hole', may be a separate formation on the Teut. root **skab-* of SHAVE *v.*, in its original sense to dig (cf. Gr. σκάπτειν). On either of these views, it is doubtful whether *shaft* 'pit-hole' goes back to OE. (though not recorded before the 15th c.), or was introduced into England by foreign miners.

Some scholars still adhere to the view of Grimm, that the HG. *schacht* (and LG. *schacht* in this sense) represent a Teut. type **shaftо-z*. On this supposition the Eng. word would necessarily be a loan word from the continent. Grimm's hypothesis is formally possible, but leaves the ultimate etymology obscure, as the suggested connexion with the root **skab-* SHAKE *v* is semasiologically improbable.]

1. A vertical or slightly inclined well-like excavation made in mining, tunnelling, etc., as a means of access to underground workings, for hoisting out materials, testing the subsoil, ventilation, etc.

For *air-shaft, engine-shaft, pumping-shaft*, etc. see those words.

1433–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 711 Pro factura unius shaft infra campum de Heworth pro carbonibus ibidem lucrandis, 20*s.* 1443 *Ibid.* 713 Cum thirlyng unius shafte. 1602 CAREW *Surv. Cornw.* 8 b, There they sincke a Shaft, or pit of fiue or sixe foote in length [etc.]. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 80 By letting down shafts from the day (as Miners speak). 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* ii. 34 Suppose a Tube, or, as the Miners call it, a Shaft were sunk from the Surface of the Earth to the Centre. 1815 CLANNY in *Thomson's Ann. Philos.* (1816) VII. 369 In this district there are several coal-mines that have only one shaft, which serves the double purpose of ventilation and working. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 369/2 Shafts of at least four feet diameter should be sunk along the line of the tunnel. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Rhodope* 14 Nor as yet had any one Sunk shaft in hill-side there, or dried the stream To see if 'neath its sand gold specks might gleam. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. i, She..sank a shaft in the place indicated.

2. *Mil. Mining.* (see quot. 1876).

1834 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1847) 183 The top frame of the shaft is then let into the ground. *Ibid.* 184 In unfavourable soil the whole shaft must be lined with sheering. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Shaft*, in military mining is the perpendicular passage sunk from the surface of the ground to the required depth, from which the branches of the mine diverge, termed 'galleries'...Shafts and galleries are lined with timber to prevent the soil from breaking in.

3. *transf.* Applied to other well-like excavations, or passages.

1820 BELZONI *Egypt & Nubia* II. 270 Where the granite work finishes at the end of this passage [in the 2nd Pyramid], there is a perpendicular shaft of fifteen feet. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 18 Numerous shafts, the forsaken passages of ancient 'moulins'. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* (ed. 2) 28 It often happens that the sick room is made a ventilating shaft for the rest of the house. 1912 *World* 25 June 1005/2 The second floor [of the burning house] seemed a furnace, and the shaft of the lift acted as a chimney.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *shaft ladder, mouth, work*, etc.; *shaft sinking* vbl. sb.

1844 F. W. SIMMS (*title*) Practical tunnelling, explaining in detail..shaft sinking, and heading driving. 1862 *Times* 21 Jan., Mr. Coulson..has had vast experience in shaft work. *c* 1868 C. WARREN *Recov. Jerus.* (1871) 128 The shaft mouth is on the south side of the Sanctuary wall. 1909 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Apr. 239 They started to descend the shaft-ladders.

b. *Comb.*: **shaft-drill**, 'a rotary drilling-machine, armed with diamond points, for boring vertical shafts' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shaft-grave** *Archæol.*, applied to ancient interments in a 'shaft'; **shaft-house**, 'the heavy framework for the pulleys and landing-place at the top of a mining shaft, sometimes enclosed for protection from the weather' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **shaftman**, a man employed to keep the shaft in repair (*Northumbld. Gloss.*); also, a workman employed to sink shafts (cf. SHAFTSMAN); **shaft-rent** (see quot.); **shaft-riding**, ascending by means of a lift or cage in a shaft; **shaft-tackle** = POPPET-HEAD 2; **shaft tomb** = *shaft-grave.*

1910 D. G. HOGARTH in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 248/1 The *shaft graves in the Mycenae circle are also a late type. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 332, I cannot see the need or use of a *shaft-house of such a shape and only 10 feet in diameter. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 84 Tin miner..*Shaftman. *Ibid.* 85 Lead miner..shaftman. 1893 W. C. BORLASE *Age Saints* Introd. 21 Many a first-rate Cornish miner—a 'shaftman', that is to say—belongs to it [the German type]. 1849 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durham* (1851) 42 **Shaft rent*, for the privilege of drawing up the shaft the coal worked from another royalty by outstroke. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 57 In those days the miners who worked the coalfields on the estate of Blawearie were but rarely allowed to indulge in the luxury of '*shaft riding'. 1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 81 The cost of preparing and fixing this *shaft-tackle should not exceed 25*s.* or 30*s.* for timber, iron work, and labour. 1895 W. LEAF *Iliad* I. Introd. 15 The '*shaft tombs' discovered by Dr. Schliemann in the Acropolis of Mykenai.

† **Shaft**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* Of the sun: ? To set.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1467 He rechated, & r[ode] þur3 ronez ful þyk, Suande þis wy[ld]e swyn til þe sunne schafted.

Shaft (ʃaft), *v.*[2] [f. SHAFT *sb.*2]

1. *trans.* To fit (an arrow-head, a weapon or tool) with a shaft.

1611 FLORIO, *Alberáre*,..Also to shaft or stave any weapon as a holbard. *a* 1775 *Hobie Noble* xvi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 3/1 Gar warn the bows o' Hartlie-burn See they shaft their arrows on the wa'! 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 256 Many of our modern authors live by..new shafting and feathering old arrow heads.

2. *Shaft out*: to shoot as an arrow or shaft.

1862 THORNBURY *Turner* II. 88 There was the storm rolling ..and shafting out its lightning over the Yorkshire hills.

3. To propel (a barge, etc.) with a pole.

1869 A. DAVIS *Velocipede* 5 Like unto the method of punting or shafting vessels. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 10/5 Sometimes a boat is 'shafted' through [a tunnel] with a pole.

Shafted (ʃɑ·ftĕd), *a.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Having or furnished with a shaft or shafts.

a. *Her.* Of a spear, arrow, or similar weapon: Having the shaft of a specified tincture.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 221 Tomyris, Queene of Scythia: did beare Iupiters thunder-bolt Or: shafted and winged Argent. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* I. iv. 50 Jupiters Thunderbolt in pale or,..shafted saltirewayes argent.

b. Furnished with a shaft or handle. Chiefly in parasynthetic derivatives, as *long-shafted*.

1641 *D. Fergusson's Sc. Prov.* (1785) 14 He should hae a long shafted spoon that sups kail wi' the devil. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* App. (1905) 273 Fourteen Examples of Shafted Weapons. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 46 He crept along, Poising a spear, thick shafted, strong, In his right hand. 1879 *Echo* 21 Mar. 2/5 Those [assegais]..are thrown by the hand..and are less strongly shafted than the charging weapon.

c. *Arch.* Ornamented with or resting upon shafts.

1801 A. RANKEN *Hist. France* I. I. v. 452 Hence proceeded the pointed arches, the shafted columns [etc.]. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* II. i, When the broken arches are black in night, And each shafted oriel glimmers white. 1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* iii. 29 These imposts are divided into two classes, which may be called Shafted and Banded. In shafted archways the horizontal section of the upright is different from that of the arch taken immediately above the impost, and generally much plainer. 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) 279 Even when the exterior is shafted the inner splay often comes close to the face of the recessed order. 1882 *Archæol. Cant.* XIV. 364 Seven-foiled lights, with shafted mullions of Decorated character.

d. *Ornith.* In comb. with prefixed word: Having the shafts (of feathers) of a specified character or number.

1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 496 Six-shafted Paradise-bird. 1831 Red-shafted [see RED *a.* 14 b].

†**Shaft-eel.** *Obs.* [? SHAFT *sb.*2, referring to the shape.] A kind of eel. Cf. SHAFFLIN.

1411 *Cal. Let. Bks. Hen. IV*, I. 102 [*printed* shastele]. 15.. in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1655) I. 81/2 Schafte eles to bake for the covent on shere thursday. 1545 *Rates Custom Ho.* b j b, Elis called shaft kyue or dele elis. 1583 *Ibid.* B vij b, Shaft, kine or dole Eeles. [So in later schedules.]

Shafter (ʃɑ·ftəɹ). [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -ER 1.] A shaft-horse.

1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. x. 137 A London brewer's shafter wouldn't make the smallest part of a circumstance to him. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Shafther*, the horse, where there are more than one, which is placed between the shafts of a cart. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* June 824/2 The cook alternately crooned and swore at the old shafter.

Shaftesburian (ʃaftsbiū·riăn), *a.* Also **Shaftsburean, -ian.** [f. *Shaftesbury* (see below) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to the moral philosophy or literary style of Anthony Ashley Cooper, third Earl of Shaftesbury (1671–1713), author of 'Characteristicks of Men' (1711).

1752 *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 10 (1756) I. 68 Mr. Plastic is a compleat Shaftesburian Philosopher. *Ibid.* 69 This with him is the Test of Truth which he opposes..to the Shaftesburian Rule. 1755 MISS TALBOT in Pennington *Life Mrs. Carter* (1808) I. 196 Shaftsburian Heathens [will read this book] because Epictetus was an honour to Heathenism. 1828 D. IRVING *Elem. Composition* (ed. 8) 243 That parade of language which distinguishes the Shaftesburean manner.

†**Shaftesbury.** *slang. Obs. rare*—0. [The name of a town in Dorset.] (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shaftsbury*, a Gallon-pot full of Wine, with a Cock.

Shafting 1 (ʃɑ·ftiŋ). [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -ING 1.]

1. A system of connected shafts for communicating motion from the prime mover to the machinery. Also, material from which to cut lengths of shafts.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* Descr. Frontisp. 16 The rotary motion which the crank has received from the engine is imparted to the shafting. 1845 I. FARRELL *Archimedean Railway* 5, I have therefore made several experiments on different lengths of shafting. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XII. 2 The motion of the handle on deck is transmitted ..by means of a series of shaftings and tooth-wheels. 1889 F. COLVER *Public Instit.* 192 The Shafting must be 2½ inches diameter, and the pulleys of suitable sizes to the machines they have to drive. 1895 *Daily News* 3 June 7/3 The demand for marine shafting in the city has been fairly good for nine months. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/3 Bolts, shaftings, and miscellaneous products.

attrib. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 99 Factory Labourer...Shafting Oiler. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 148/1 A Shafting Lathe. Describes a lathe..intended both for general lathe work and for turning shafting.

2. Shafts or ornamental columns.

1868 *Morn. Star* 25 June, A large quantity of shafting belonging to the north piers of the chancel..had been smashed with a hammer.

3. *U.S.* 'A darkening of the shaft, or quill of a feather, as in some breeds of poultry' (*Cent. Suppl.*).

1896 *Yearbk. U. S. Departm. Agric.* 462 (Cent. Suppl.), Shafting on the back will also help the black stripe in the saddles.

Shafting 2. [f. SHAFT *sb.*3 + -ING 1.] The sinking of a shaft; also, the shafts of a mine collectively.

1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 297 Aggregate of shafting over 5,000 feet. 1877 *Ibid.* 273 About 1,000 feet of shafting and drifting well represent the amount of work done.

Shaftless (ʃɑ·ftlĕs), *a.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -LESS.] Without or lacking a shaft (in any sense of the sb.).

1811 BYRON *Curse of Min.* vii, The broken lance Seem'd weak and shaftless. 1812 — *Ch. Har.* II. xc, The flying Mede, his shaftless broken bow. 1881 PALGRAVE *Vis. Eng.* 116 One high gracious curve Of shaftless windows frames the limpid blue. 1881 MAYNE REID *Free Lances* I. xvii. 189 His irony was shaftless, being understood. 1895 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 5/5 The doctors went to look for the Lefebvre light carts but found them shaftless.

Shaftlet. *nonce-wd.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -LET.] A small shaft or column.

1890 *Murray's Handbk. Lincolnsh.* 148 The font is E.E., with two crosses on each face, and shaftlets round the stem.

†**Shaftling.** *Obs.* [Perh. f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -LING, with allusion to the shape. Cf. SHAFFLIN.] The stickleback.

1558 *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. 896 De Pungitio...Angli Scharplyng uel Shaftlyng nominant. 1572 HULOET (ed. Higins), Shaftling, sharplinge, stickling, sticklebanke, or banstickle, *aculeatus pisciculus, Pungitius, Centriscus.* 1598 FLORIO, *Spinarolo*, a sharpling, or shaftlin fish [1611 Shaftin-fish].

Shaftment 1. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 sceaftmund, 4 schaftmonde, 5 schafftmon, schaftemonde, schaft-mun, shaftmone, -mon(d, -mount, chaftmonde, 5–6 shafmond, 6 shaftman, shaftemente, (shafts-man *Florio*), 7 shaftmont, -men, -met, shafman, (*corruptly* shafnet), 7, 9 shafment, 9 shaffment, 6–9 shaftment (see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); 8–9 *Sc.* shathmont. [OE. *sceaftmund* (only once), f. *sceaft* SHAFT *sb.*2 + *mund* hand, handbreadth. (Probably *sceaft* was intended to denote the extended thumb.)] The distance from the end of the extended thumb to the opposite side of the hand, used as a measure = about 6 inches.

c 910–*c* 1060 *Pax* in Liebermann *Gesetze Agx.* 390 Ðus feor sceal beon ðæs cinges grið fram his burhȝeate,..III. mila & .III. furlang, and .III. æcera bræde, and .IX. fota, and .IX. sceaftamunda [? *read* sceaftmunda], and .IX. berecorna. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3843 He schare hyme one the schorte rybbys a schaftmonde large! *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6658 He hadde a strok a schafftmon long. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xli, Thro his shild and his shildur a schaftmun [*Douce MS.* shaftmone] he share. 1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 399, iij schafmond and a half a-bout and a yerde of lenthe. *a* 1483 in W. G. Benham *Red Paper Bk. Colchester* (1902) 19 His fagot of wode shall be a yard of length and iij shaftmonds and an half abowte. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 49 The Deane of the Chapell hathe all the offerings of wax..when the tapers be consumed into a shaftmount. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 57/2 Chaftmonde. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 112 Therfore lette youre bowe haue good byg bend, a shaftemente and .ii. fyngers at the least. 1558 *Cranmer's Confut. Verities* O iv b, A lytle young prety babe, about a shaftmond long. 1598 FLORIO, *Quattraggio*, a certaine rate of cloth that is giuen aboue measure, as we say a shaft man or a handfull. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Hemp-seed* (1623) 13 Once heaue the Lead againe and sound abaff, A shafnet lesse, seauen all. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 Fadome by the marke, 3 od and a shaftment left. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 486 This Scabious hath a thicke whitish stemme next the ground for a shaftmont high. 1647 HEXHAM I, A Shaftmen, *Een mate van een halven voet.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Shafment*, is a kinde of measure used in some parts of England, and is the breadth of a mans hand, and the length of the thumb. 1674 *Ibid.* (ed. 4), *Shaftmet*, or *Shaftment.* 1762 [W. YOUNG] *Treat. Weights & Meas.* 19 A shaftment, which is the length from the bottom of the wrist to the end of the thumb when the hand is extended, is reckoned 6 inches. *a* 1769 *Wee wee man* ii. in Child *Ballads* I. 330/1 His legs were scarce a shathmont's length. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* viii, Not a step, not a pace, not an inch, not a shathmont, as I may say; the meaning of which word has puzzled many that think themselves antiquaries.

Shaftment 2 (ʃɑ·ftmĕnt). *rare.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 + -MENT. (Perh. suggested by misunderstanding of prec.)] †a. An arrow. *Obs.* b. The feathered part of an arrow.

1634 WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xiii, Let fly their winged shaftments without eyther feare or wit. 1802 T. ROBERTS *Engl. Bowman* 293 *Shaftment*, that part of the arrow occupied by the feathers. 1903 *Amer. Anthropologist* Jan.–Mar. 60 (Cent. Suppl.) The dice were originally made of canes, being the shaftments of arrows, painted or burned with marks corresponding with those used to designate the arrows of the four world-quarters.

Shaftsman (ʃɑ·ftsmăn). *Mining.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*3 + MAN *sb.*1 after CRAFTSMAN, etc. Cf. *shaftman*, SHAFT *sb.*3 4 b.] A man employed in sinking shafts.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 84 Coal Miner..Shaftsman. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Mar. 7/3 Walking from eight to ten miles a day before and after his underground work (much of it as a shaftsman).

Shafty (ʃɑ·fti), *a.* [f. SHAFT *sb.*2 (sense 9) + -Y.] Of wool: 'having a close, compact, free, long, and strong staple' (Webster 1911).

1891 *Times* 3 Oct. 13/1 Good shafty wools, both merinos and cross-breds. 1895 *Argus* (Melbourne) 4 Oct., At the London wool sales yesterday..deep shafty and scoured merinoes sold at 20 per cent. [above previous prices]. 1911 A. F. BARKER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 806/2 A long but fine wool technically termed a long and shafty 60's to 64's quality.

Shag (ʃæg), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 sceacga, 6–7 shage, 7 shagge, 7–9 shagg, 7– shag. [OE. *sceacga* wk. masc. :—prehistoric **skaggon-*, cogn. w. ON. *skegg* neut., beard (:—**skagjo-m*), OE. *sceaga* wk. masc., coppice, SHAW (formally = ON. *skage* wk. masc., promontory :—**skagon-*), ON. *skaga* to project; the ON. *skóg-r*, a wood, shows a different ablaut-grade of the root. Cf. OHG. *scahho* wk. masc., promontory (:—**skakon-*), which may be more distantly related.

The OE. word occurs once (in a gloss), and the derivative *sceacgede* SHAGGED *a.* twice. Otherwise neither the sb. nor any of its derivatives has been found before the latter part of the 16th c.]

1. Rough matted hair, wool, etc. *rare* or *arch.*

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 379/41 *Coma*, feax, sceacga. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. XXXIII. I. 214 Of the same kind is the Goat hart, and differing onely in the beard and long shag about the shoulders. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 410 Many Prickles interspersed among the Hairy Shag that covered the sides. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. v. 69 A Bear of shagg and manners rough, At climbing trees expert enough. 1771 tr. *Pernety's Voy. Malouine Isl.* (1773) 289 They have a sort of buskins or half-boots, made of the same skins, with the shag on the inside. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* v. vii. (1820) 343 A rugged mop of hair, not a little resembling the shag of a Newfoundland dog. 1869 BUSHNELL *Woman Suffrage* iii. 50 The base in his voice and the shag on his face. 1898 C. F. LUMMIS *Awak. Nation* 104 It is a purely leonine type—not by bulk or shag, but by look and port.

b. A mass of matted hair; also shreds (of bark).

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 626 For that [wool] which was rough and thicke in ancient time, was vsed for this purpose, and also to make garments, hauing the shags thereof hanging by it like rugs. 1610 GUILLIM *Her.* III. XV. (1660) 180 The King of Judah was then like a Sleeping Lyon, which did not shew his rage with his erected shag. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* May 870/1 Nuts which have been packed away and wedged beneath the loose shags of bark.

c. The nap (esp. long and coarse) of cloth.

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* II. Notes (1673) 25 Then their *Galbana rasa*, white smoothn sarcenet without hair or shag; ..of this our Women now wear hoods. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 47 Fine Witney Broad-Cloath with it's Shag unshorn. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 201 The face [of velvet] has a short shag, or 'pile', occasioned by the insertion of short pieces of silk thread doubled under the shoot. 1852–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 329/1 *Plush*, a textile fabric, with a sort of velvet nap or shag on one side.

d. *transf.* Applied to thick down on plants.

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 365 The shag [Fr. *la pluche*], or inner part of these flowers. 1854 PAPPE *Silvæ Capensis* (1862) 18 Twigs, petioles, calyces and underside of leaves densely coated with brown shag. *Ibid.* 19 Petioles and veins clothed with a dense rusty shag.

e. A (tangled) mass of shrubs, trees, foliage, etc.

1836 STRUTHERS *Dyckmont* i. Poet. Wks. (1850) II. 50 Were thy broomy shag but shorn, Thou might'st be made to wave with corn. 1855 BROWNING *Up at Villa* iii, Stuck like the horn of a bull just on a mountain's edge as bare as the creature's skull, Save a mere shag of a bush with hardly a leaf to pull! 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* iii. III. 190 Dark shags of ling, and podded spurs of broom. 1905 MARY E. WILKINS *Debtor* 60 He could see the gleam of the current through the shag of young trees which found root in the unpromising soil. *Ibid.* 396 Only the oak-leaves, a brownish-red shag mostly on the lower branches, were left on the trees.

f. *fig.* Roughness, brutality of manner.

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 693 As if, like him of fabulous renown [*i. e.* Orpheus], They had indeed ability to smooth The shag of savage nature. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. xiii. (Rtldg.) 308 This metamorphose into the shag of a savage is not perceptible to myself.

2. A cloth having a velvet nap on one side, usually of worsted, but sometimes of silk. Also, a kind or variety of this.

1592 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) II. 211 Three quarters of blacke shage, 12s. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 71 Chiorze, where Buls as big As Elephants are clad in silken shag. 1612 [F. BRAUMONT] *Masque Inner Temple* D i b, The high Priest a cap of white silke shagge close to his head, with two labels at the eares [etc.]. 1623 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 86, I..gaue him ordre to bring for me..crymson shagg and Spangled Lace for winter Clothes for my Children. 1769 DE FOE, etc. *Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 280 The Woollen Manufacture called Half-thicks, Frizes, and Shags. ? 1725 *Sadberge* (*Durham*) *Par. Reg.*, A..cushion of red shagg. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 72 The Indians make a most elegant cloathing..as fine as a silk shag. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 277 The blanket manufacture at Witney, and that of worsted shaggs at Banbury. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xvii, A cap of rough shag. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 179 Engine Shag and Poldavey 1,119 yards. 1887 *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 294 The King, says Petion, wore a coat of dark shag, and his linen was not clean.

3. †a. A garment, rug, or mat of shaggy material.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 97 At the end sate the Potshaugh or great King..his seat hauing two or three white silke shags vpon the Carpets. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 50 A [magnified] Sage Leaf looks like a white Rugge, or Shagge, full of Knots, tassel'd all with white silver Thrums. 1681 T. JORDAN *London's Joy* 9 St. Patric..a gray Mantle with a thick shag about his Neck of large green Silk and Gold fringes.

1738 [G. Smith] *Cur. Relat.* II. 361 Twelve Royal travelling Coaches..; one Set of Shags. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 229 The Regiments-Quartermaster..embaled in a long woollen shag. 1854 R. S. Surtees *Handley Cross* xiv, His hunting clothes, consisting of a roomy scarlet coat,.. drab shags, and mahogany-coloured tops.

b. *Westminster School slang.* (See quot. 1902.)

1902 R. Airy *Westminster* 108 Any coat other than an 'Eton or 'tails' is a 'shag'.

4. (In full *shag tobacco.*) A strong tobacco cut into fine shreds.

1789 *Act* 29 *Geo. III*, c. 68 § 127 Upon the exportation of any short cut tobacco, shag tobacco, roll tobacco, and carrot tobacco. 1823 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 527 Porter and pop, mirth-moving max, and fragrant shag. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A constant and agreeable odour of shag tobacco. 1862 *Cornh. Mag.* VI. 607 One pipe..of Virginian tobacco in the shape of bird's-eye or shag. 1876 J. Dunning *Tobacco* 17 'Shag' is the generic name of all those varieties of leaf which have passed through the cutting machine.

¶ **5.** ? Used for *snag.* [Cf. Shagged *a.* 2 c; but perh. a misprint.]

1649 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Wand. West* 6 At a stile I had a great disaster, for a shagge or splinter of the stile tooke hold of my one and onely breeches.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *shag edging, manufactory, manufacture*; **shag boy,** *dial.* = next (*b*); **shag foal,** *dial.*, (*a*) 'a foal with its first year's coat on' (*N.W. Linc. Gloss.* 1877), (*b*) a hobgoblin (see quots. 1847, 1856); †**shag sponge,** a 'muricate' sponge.

1882 M. G. Watkins *In Country* (1883) 210 Fairies and *shag-boys! lasses are often skeart at them, but I never saw none. 1884 G. S. Streatfeild *Linc. & Danes* 357 *Shag-boy* also *Shag-foal*, a ghost. 1888 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXVI. p. x, The ingenious Implement..for cutting *Shag Edgings. 1847 Halliwell, **Shag-foal*, a sort of ghost or spectre, which under this appearance is thought by the common people to haunt different parts of the county. *Linc.* 1856 P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 722 *Shag-foal*, a hobgoblin in the shape of a small rough horse. *Ibid.* 736. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 278 Bandon was once the seat of the stuff, camblet, and *shag manufacture. 1794 R. Davis *Agric. Oxford* 26 The *shag manufactory at Banbury. *a* 1776 J. Ellis *Zoophytes* (1786) 185 *Spongia muricata.* *Shagg Sponge.

b. passing into *adj.*, composed or made of 'shag' (sense 2).

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* II. i. D 1 b, I am going to buy a shag ruffe. 1621 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 426 For 17 yards of fyne doble shagg bayes, for Gilbert's murning cloake [etc.]. 1706 in C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* (1894) 493 Striped shag breeches, lined with linen. 1836 Marryat *Japhet* xxxix, He was dressed in highlow boots, ..a shag waistcoat, and a blue frock overall. 1911 B. Capes *Loaves & Fishes* 181 Wandering unsociable in a shag coat.

Shag (ʃæg), *sb.*2 Forms: 6 **schagge,** 7 **shagge,** 7–9 **shagg,** 7– **shag.** [Perh. a use of Shag *sb.*1 or Shag *a.*, with reference to the 'shaggy' crest.] A cormorant, esp. the crested cormorant, *Phalacrocorax graculus*, which in the breeding season has a crest of long curly plumes.

Also with defining name, applied to several varieties of the cormorant, and sometimes erroneously to the common shag at different periods of its age, under the idea that it is a different variety.

1566 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 15 § 2 For euery head of..Busarde, Schagge, Carmeraunt, or Ryngtayle, two pence. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* I. 35 Curlewes, Teale, Widgeon, Burranets, Shags, Duck and Mallard. *a* 1672 Willughby *Ornith.* (1676) 249 *Corvus aquaticus minor sive Graculus palmipes.* The Shag. 1729 J. Wood *Voy.* 85 An island which is much frequented by a sort of Fowl which are called Shaggs, that live mostly upon fish. 1769 Cook *1st Voy.* in Hawkesworth *Voy.* (1773) II. 339 Plenty of wild fowl, principally shags, ducks, curlieus, and the sea-pie. 1785 Latham *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. ii. 600 Crested Shag. *Pelecanus cristatus. Ibid.*, Violet Shag. *Ibid.* 601 Red-faced Shag. *Ibid.* 602 Spotted Shag. *Ibid.* 603 Carunculated Shag. *Ibid.* 604 Magellanic Shag. *Ibid.* 605 Pied Shag. *Ibid.* 606 Tufted Shag. *Ibid.*, African Shag. *Ibid.* 607 Dwarf Shag. 1824 — *Gen. Hist. Birds* X. 423 Chinese Shag. *Ibid.* 425 Brown-necked Shag. *Ibid.* 431 New Holland shag. 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* I. 288 Cormorants, or shaggs, as they are more commonly termed. 1841 Selby in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. IX. 255 The common cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), and the crested shag (*P. cristatus*), are permanent residents. 1861 Coues in *Proc. Philad. Acad.* 241 Both this [*Graculus dilophus*] and the *G. carbo* are universally known as 'Shags'. 1879 Beerbohm *Patagonia* ii. 12 We startled a large covey of shag, which, to judge by the accumulation of guano, appeared to roost there habitually. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 191 New Zealand is especially rich in shags,..having not less than thirteen species, amongst these the curiously colored spotted shag (*Phalacrocorax punctatus*). *Ibid.*, Flock after flock of violet-green shags (*P. pelagicus*) came up to the steamer.

Phrase. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* xx, I'm as wet as a shag, and as cold as charity. 1841 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 197 Came home in the middle of the day 'as wet as a shag', it having come on to pour.

c. *attrib.* **shag cormorant,** †**pelican,** the shag; **shag-like** *adv.*, in the manner of a shag.

1826 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIII. i. 82 *Shag cormorant (*Phalacrocorax Graculus*). 1896 T. E. Brown *Lett.* (1900) II. 165 Indications (stage-directions, hints like yours) send one skimming *shag-like over the water. 1785 Pennant *Arctic Zool.* II. 581 *Shag Pelecan.

Shag, *sb.*3 In 6 **shagge.** [f. Shag *v.*1] †**a.** A shake. *Obs.* **b.** *dial.* The refuse of barley, corn, oats, etc. Cf. Shack *sb.*1 2.

1581 Rich *Farew.* (1846) 166 When she sawe she waked not, she laied her hand upon her, and givyng her a shagge, she said withall, Mistres, awake! my maister calleth for you. 1822 *Edin. Caled. Mercury* 9 Dec. (Jam.), Mr. Robert Meiklejohn, brewer, Alloa, sowed a quantity of shag, from English barley,..being the skimmings of his malt cisterns. 1823 *Ibid.* 13 Nov. (Jam.), Oats have about ten times the quantity of shag they had last year. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725 (Provincialisms.) *Shagg*, (Stirlings.), tail corn.

Shag, *sb.*4 In 7 **shagge.** [? var. of Shack *sb.*2 Cf. Shag-rag.] A low, rascally fellow.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 170 *Shagge*, a terme of reproach semes to come of *Shog, Shagag*, or *Shag heb.* to do vnadvisedlie [etc.]. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Shag*, or *Shack*, a blackguard. Suffolk. 1801 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 352 Was now under the hard necessity of becoming shag, fag, skip, or whatever the boys in the higher forms chose to insist upon.

Shag, *sb.*5, variant of Shack *sb.*4

Shag (ʃæg), *a.* Now *rare* or *arch.* Also 6 **shagg,** 7 **shagge.** [From attrib. use of Shag *sb.*1]

1. Having shaggy hair.

Formerly sometimes hyphened, as *shag-dog.*

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 295 Round hooft, short ioynted, fetlocks shag, and long. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 201 Black—long—shag—curld heads. 1638 Ford *Lady's Trial* III. i, A' has chang'd Haire with a shagge dogge. 1642 (*title*) An exact Description of a Roundhead and a long-headed Shag-Poll. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* IV. xxxiii. (1892) II. 612 The Shag-dog was so well bred, that his Master us'd to send him by himself to Smithfield Shambles. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 199 He..had a curl'd shag-pate, was squinteyd and purblind. 1760 *Impostors Detected* III. viii. II. 77 Two hundred of these creatures [monkeys], mounted on shag dogs came first. 1883 A. Dobson *Old World Ballads* 181 Huddling they came, with shag sides caked of mire, With hoofs fresh sullied from the troughs o'erturned. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-r. Ballads* 97 The picketed ponies, shag and wild, Strained at their ropes.

†**2.** Of hair, a mane, etc.: Long and rough, shaggy. *Obs.*

c 1596 *Sir T. More* III. ii. 111 How long Hath this shagg fleece hung dangling on thy head? *Ibid.* 118 When were you last at barbars? how longe time Have you vppon your head woorne this shagg haire? 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xxii. I. 532 Sheepe..with their shag-coats. 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* II. F 2, The Gentleman took the dog in shaggehaire to be some Watch-man in a rugge gowne. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 314 Clip away the long shag haire from about the pasternes. 1647 Hexham I, Shagge haire, *Ruygh hayr.*

3. Comb., as *shag-bearded, -eared, -faced, -footed, -woolled,* etc.

1907 H. Trench *New Poems* 10 *Shag-bearded pines, All gnarled, loom down. 1907 *Black Cat* June 26 Dogged at every step by the sinister, velvet-footed march of *shag-coated wolves. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. ii. 83 Thou ly'st thou *shagge-ear'd [*mod. edd.* shag-haired] Villaine. *Mur.* What you Egge? 1884 *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. IX. 133/2, I have frequently heard a Shetland pony called 'shag-ear'd just like a moke'. 1716 R. Arbuthnot in *Stuart Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1904) II. 218 Macdonald..is a *shag-faced, thin fellow. 1901 Jane Barlow *Land of Shamrock* 222 Gulls..swooping about among the *shag-footed, tramping plough-horses. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, Half a score of *shag-headed Irish kernes. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xiii. 139 Flocks of *shag-woolled Sheepe.

†**Shag,** *v.*1 *Obs. rare.* Also 4–5 **schagge.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Shake *v.*, Shog *v.*] **a.** *trans.* To toss about. **b.** *intr.* To shake, waggle. Hence †**Sha·gging** *vbl. sb.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 374 And þe boot, amydde þe water, was shaggid [*v.r.* schoggyd; 1388 — *Bible* Matt. xiv. 24 schoggid; Vulg. *jactabatur*] wiþ wawis. *a* 1400 *Pistil of Susan* 106 Þe chouwet, þe cheuerol, þat schaggen on niht. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Schaggynge, schoggynge, or waveryngе, *vacillacio.* 1572 Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* v. (1592) 28 But alwayes take good heede to the binding of your heds that they waxe slack, or shagge, neyther on the one side or other, but remaine fast vpon the clay.

Shag (ʃæg), *v.*2 [f. Shag *sb.*1]

†**1.** *intr.* To be shaggy; to hang down in a shaggy manner. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 10 Long curld locks, that downe his shoulders shagged. 1801 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 90 But here are vines planted on hills, and shagging like copse-wood in England.

2. *trans.* To render rough or shaggy, *esp.* the surface of the earth, a hill-side, a rock, etc. (*with* a growth of trees or the like). Chiefly in pa. pple.

1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* II. vi. (1634) 121 His neather parts of a Goate declare the inequality of the earth being rough and shagged as it were with trees, plants, hils, &c. 1634 Milton *Comus* 429 Caverns shag'd with horrid shades. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 281 The Swain..sees other hills ascend, Of unknown joyless brow; and other scenes, Of horrid prospect, shag the trackless plain. 1806 R. Mant *Poems* I. 32 Where seas extend of everlasting ice, And horror shaggs the unsunn'd precipice. 1873 Howells *Chance Acquaintance* iii. 74 The woods that hitherto have shagged the hills with a stunted and meager growth,..now assume a stately size. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 196 The fringe of the dominant black weed, like heavy brows, shagging the outlook. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems, Ode Setting Sun* 113 Who lit the furnace of the mammoth's heart? Who shagged him like Pilatus' ribbèd flanks?

†**b.** To make a long or rough nap or pile on (a cloth or other material). *Obs. rare.*

1671 E. Blood in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 1 A rich silk shagg..made of a silke wast..and shagged by tezell or rowing cardes, like as English bayes, rowed fustians, or dimatyes.

†**Sha·gamuffin.** *Obs. rare*–1. [Alteration of Ragamuffin, after Shag *sb.*4] A term of abuse.

1642 *Compl. to Ho. Commons* B 2 b, Debauched Shaggamuffins whose words no wise man will regard.

Shaganappi (ʃægănæ·pi), *sb.* and *a.* *U.S.* Also **shaganappy, shagginappi, -eppi,** etc. [Name in one of the western dialects of Ojibwa.] **a.** *sb.* Thread, cord, or thong made from raw hide, raw hide cut into strips. Also a rough pony. **b.** *adj.* 'Tough, rough' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1873 G. M. Grant *Ocean to Ocean* v. 122 When any part broke before, a thong of Shaganappi had united the pieces. Shaganappi, in this part of the world does all that leather, cloth, rope, nails, glue, straps, cord, tape..[etc.] are used for elsewhere. 1892 J. Robertson in C. W. Gordon *Life* (1908) 338 In the old days..every one had his pocket full of shaganappi. 1908 *Outlook* 5 Sept. 302/2 The women..hanging on their shaganappies (native ponies).

Sha·g-bag, *sb.* and *a.* *colloq.* [A jingling alteration of Shake-bag; cf. Shake-bag, Shag-rag, Shag *sb.*4] **a.** *sb.* A shabby or worthless fellow. **b.** *adj.* Shabby and worthless; poor in quality.

a. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shag-bag*, a poor, shabby Fellow. 1865 W. S. Banks *Prov. Words Wakefield* 62 *Sheg-beg*,..a loosely (baggily) and raggedly drest, or worthless man.

b. 1888 *Star* 17 Apr. 4/5 A particularly shag-bag field started for this event. 1892 Ld. Bramwell in *Times* 10 May 10/1, I was sitting in my chambers when there came a shagbag attorney with a brief.

Shagbark (ʃæ·gbāɹk). *West Indian* and *U.S.* [f. Shag *a.* + Bark *sb.*1

So called on account of the rough and shaggy appearance of the bark when the tree is old.]

1. *West Indian.* = Savonette b.

1692–6 Plukenet *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 III. 373 *Shagbarke* Barbadensibus dicta, eo quod in hac Arbore cortex scabritie valde asperatus est. 1864 Grisebach *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 Shag-bark: *Pithecolobium micradenium.*

2. *U.S.* A variety of Hickory; also the wood or the nut of this tree. Also *attrib.* or *adj.* as a designation of this tree.

1751 J. Bartram *Observ.* 67 A great hill, cloathed with large Magnolia,..shagbark-hickery, chesnut and chesnut oak. 1788 J. May *Jrnl.* 20 June, My men employed in planting shagbarks, which out here [at Marietta, Ohio] are the largest one can conceive of. 1827 J. Q. Adams *Mem.* 12 Aug., Two more of my shagbark walnut-trees have come up. 1856 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 304 There were the same high-heaped shagbark trees. 1860 Worcester, *Shagbark*,..the nut of the tree *Carya alba.* 1866 Whittier *Snow-bound* 348 From the shagbark overhead The grizzled squirrel dropped his shell. 1878 Mrs. Stowe *Poganuc P.* xx. 179 For the frost ripened the shag-bark walnuts. 1902 Greenough & Kittredge *Words* 340 In some parts of America the name walnut is given to the 'shagbark', a kind of hickory nut, and the true walnut is known as the 'English walnut'.

So †**Shag-barked** *a.*

1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist., Arrangemt.* 35 Walnut tree,..Black American, or hickory,..Shag barked.

Shagbot(e, -bush, -but, obs. ff. Sackbut1.

Shaggamitie, obs. form of Sagamité.

Shaggareen, -in : see Shagreen, Chagrin *a.*

Shagged (ʃægd, ʃæ·gėd), *a.* Now *rare.* Forms: 1 **sceacgede** (**sceagode**), 6 **shagd,** 7 **shag'd,** 7, 9 **shagg'd,** 6– **shagged.** [OE. *sceacgede,* f. *sceacga* Shag *sb.*1: see -ed 2.]

1. Having or covered with shaggy hair; rough with hair. Chiefly said of animals.

Shagged foal=shag-foal s. v. Shag *sb.*1 5.

a 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 206/9 *Comosus*, sceagode. *c* 1050 *Ibid.* 380/14 *Comosus*, sceacgede. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VI. 184 A Gotes shagg'd forme she bore. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xi. 109 Of whose shagg'd Siluans shee Hath in the Rockes been woo'd, their Paramour to bee. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. vii. § 4 (1712) 104 A shagged Dog with great eyes. *a* 1720 W. Gibson *Diet Horses* vii. (ed. 3) 95 Otherwise in cold Weather the finest Horses will look shagged, if they are not kept cloathed. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 23 A shagged foal would fright the early-rising swain. 1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* 114 The shagged god [*sc.* Pan]..called her gently to him. 1825 Scott *Talism.* iii, I will strike thy shagged head from thy meagre shoulders. 1848 Lytton *Harold* VI. i, Round them grazed the rough shagged ponies which they had used for their journey.

†**b.** *transf.* (Said, e.g., of a comet.) *Obs.*

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Farewell to Sack*, And like to those Comets we see by night; whose shagg'd portents Fore-tell the comming of some dire events. 1679 Ecclestone *Noah's Fl.* II. 18 I'le shake off all these shagged shades of Night, And will adorn my self with Robes of Light.

†**c.** ? Unkempt; ? ill-clad, ragged. *Obs.*

1622 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Water-Cormorant* C 2, Attended fitly..With two shag'd Ruffians, and a pyde coat Page. 1711 E. Ward *Don Quix.* I. 7 Yet look'd so shagged and forlorn.

†**2.** Of textile fabrics, garments: Having a rough or long nap. *Obs.*

1649 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Wandering* 8 My chamber-pot seemed to be lined within with crimson plush, or shag'd scarlet bayes. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 3 A very course piece of shag'd cloth. 1679 T. Jordan *Lond. in Luster* 7 An old Woman clad all in white Flannel, with a white shag'd Irish Mantle. 1679 A. Lovell *Indic. Univ.* 65 Shagged or high-napped cloth. 1691 *Bragadocio* v. ii. 63 *Stage-direct.*, Enter the Quack in a Fur Cap, and shag'd Gown.

b. *transf.* Of a hill-side, etc.: Covered with scrub, trees, or some rough or shaggy growth.

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Rip* I. 69 He looked down into a deep mountain glen, wild, lonely, and shagged. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* XV, Constance..pointed admiringly to the blue course of the waters as they wound through their shagged banks.

c. Jagged; having a rough, uneven surface.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 156 Teeth euen and not shagged. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 116 The bark..is rough and shagged. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. XXV. 80 His crop [of 'coleseed'] will receive great damage by the stumps being left very shagged and torn. 1858 G. P. SCROPE *Geol. Central France* (ed. 2) 64 Replacing the rivulet that flowed there with a black and shagged current of lava.

3. Of hair, etc.: Long and rough; shaggy.

1587 HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* II. Argt., A man..with blacke long shagged haire downe to his shoulders. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXV. iii. 270 His beard, which was shagged and rough. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 120 His long black lockes hang shagg'd adowne his shoulder. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) III. 318 And like him made a noble Shield of She-goat's shagged Coat. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 7 Skins of buffalo calves, with the wintery shagged wool inward. *c* 1800 R. CUMBERLAND *John De Lancaster* (1809) I. 71 Monstrous white bulls with shagged manes and hairy foreheads. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. XXV, Eyebrows shagg'd and grey.

b. *transf.* Of plants, etc.: Having a rough or shaggy appearance.

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Autumn* 45 Some warm slope with shagged moss o'erspread. 1830 SCOTT *Auchindrane* II. i, Rough with..shagged sea-weed.

†4. *Comb.* **shagged-ragged** *a.* (cf. SHAG-RAG), shaggy and ragged. *Obs.*

1612 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Harts* 13 Rose Hat-bands, with the shagged-ragged-Ruffe.

Hence **Sha·ggedness.**

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* IV. ix. 121 The colour, shaggedness and other qualities of the Dog.

Shaggily (ʃæ·gili), *adv. rare.* [-LY 2.] In a shaggy manner; so as to be shaggy.

1891 *Century Dict.* s.v., Shaggily pilose.

Shagginess (ʃæ·ginės). [f. SHAGGY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being shaggy.

1778 COOK *3rd Voy.* IV. v. (1784) II. 377 From the colour and shagginess of the hair..we judged it might probably be that of the large male ursine seal, or sea-bear. 1881 V. SHAW *Bk. Dog* ix. 82 General appearance, tail, strength, and shagginess without too much length of coat, should be taken into consideration.

Shaggreen, Shaggrin: see SHAGREEN, CHAGRIN.

Shaggy (ʃæ·gi), *a.* Also 6–7 **shaggie**, 8 **shagy.** [f. SHAG *sb.*1 + -Y.

The altered form *shackie*, SHACKY *a.*, appears in our quots. somewhat earlier.]

1. Covered with or having long coarse or bushy hair. Of persons: Unkempt.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. 1858 He sent a shaggy totter'd staring slaue. 1607 N. FIELD *Woman a Weathercock* II. i. (1612) D 3, Wilde Virginia, Blacke Affricke, or the shaggy Scithia, Must send it ouer as a Merchandize Ere thou shew any heere. *a* 1612 B. JONSON *Masque Oberon* Wks. (1616) 978 Trap our shaggie thighs with bels. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 42 Some black shaggy dog. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 55 Shaggy forms o'er ice-built mountains roam. 1755 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 169, 2 two-year-old she cattle and a shagy bull. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, Shaggy, uncombed ruffians, whose enormous mustaches were turned back over their ears. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii, He was a strong, loose, round-shouldered, shuffling shaggy fellow. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* I. 151 A mounted shepherd on his wild and shaggy horse.

b. Of a skin, or garment, etc.: Covered with coarse bushy hair.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 282 Ioues huge and each-where shaggie shield. 1705 J. PHILIPS *Blenheim* 408 While Volga's Stream Sends Opposite, in shaggy Armor clad, Her Borderers. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* XVII. 107 Tunic and shaggy mantle. 1816 GALT *Life B. West* 94 A peasant dressed in shaggy skins.

c. Of a textile material: Having a long, rough nap; rough or coarse in texture.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 11 Nov., Put on my new shaggy purple gown with gold buttons and loop lace. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 135 A shaggy tap'stry, worthy to be spread On Codrus' old, or Dunton's modern bed. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ii, A surcoat composed of strong shaggy silk, so woven as to exhibit, at a little distance, no inaccurate representation of a bear's hide. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 113 (*Carpet-Weaver*), But in Wilton, or other carpets that are required to be 'shaggy', the wires are made thin, and sharp at one end.

d. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Having or covered with rough or stiff hairs (hirsute) or long soft hairs (villous). Also in renderings of specific names, as *shaggy maple, spunk.*

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 Shaggy (*hirsutus*), rough with stiff hairs. *Ibid.* II. 218 Blossom shaggy. 1802 WILLICH *Dom. Encycl.* IV. 455 The Shaggy Spunk, or *Boletus hirsutus*, a species of Mushroom. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 78/2 *Acer villosum*, the shaggy maple. 1840 LOUDON tr. *Kollar's Treat. Insects* 363 This beetle is somewhat shaggy and black. 1854 PAPPE *Silva Capensis* (1862) 6 Flowers terminal on short, shaggy peduncles. *Ibid.* 14 Drupe shaggy.

e. *Phys., Path.*, etc. Bristling with hair-like processes.

Shaggy chorion, that part of the chorion which develops long villous processes, and thus enters into the formation of the placenta, the rest of the chorion remaining smooth.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 2 Upon maceration in water for a certain time, it put on the usual shaggy appearance formed by the tubuli seminiferi. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 780/1 An epidermic layer..covering a thick and shaggy membrane. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstet. Med.* 62 And imbed themselves in the semi-fluid deciduous secretion, like roots in the soil, these have been called the shaggy chorion. 1888 W. H. DICKINSON in *Lancet* 24 Mar. 565/1 The Furred or Shaggy Tongue. *Ibid.*, When there is great projection of the papillæ, so that these stand out distinctly, the term furred or shaggy represents this condition. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 739 It's [i. e. the inflamed pericardium's] surface is covered with floating shaggy processes.

f. *transf.* Of the earth, a hillside, etc.: Covered with a rough, tangled growth. Also of a comet: 'Hairy'.

1591 SYLVESTER tr. *Du Bartas* I. ii. 407 And liberally the shaggy Earth [He will] adorn With Woods, and Buds of fruits, of flowers and corn. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 524 Those fallow Deere, and huge-hancht Stags that graz'd Vpon her shaggy Heaths. 1653 RAMESEY *Astrol. Rest.* IV. vi. 319 [Other comets] become shaggy and compassed as it were with hair or frindge round about. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 224 A River Through the shaggie hill Pass'd underneath ingulft. 1780 G. CUMBERLAND *Landscapes* (1793) 8 Nor less I joy, at parting day, to trace The sun-gilt forms of Enfield's shaggy chace. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. xiii, The little flower-beds looked shaggy, grass-grown, and uncared for.

g. Having a rough surface. *Shaggy metal*: in the Cheshire salt mines, 'porous clay in the side of the shaft, which admits the ingress of fresh water' (*Cheshire Gloss.* 1886).

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 83 Some by growing Soft first, as many Pears do,..others by growing Dry and Shaggy, as most Musc-Pears do; all which are different ways Conducing to Rotteness and Destruction. 1811 H. HOLLAND in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* I. 50 Where this [porous] structure of the clay occurs it goes by the name of the shaggy metal. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. viii, A mantle long and loose he wore, Shaggy with ice, and stain'd with gore. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xiii. 332 Chocolate-coloured porphyres..highly shaggy and amygdaloidal. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 402 Fruit globular, its husk very thick: bark of old trunk shaggy, exfoliating in strips or plates.

2. Of hair, etc.: Rough, coarse, tangled.

1638 BP. MOUNTAGUE *Art. Eng. Norwich* B 1 b, Doth he [your Minister] weare long shaggy haire? 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 2) II. 78 Moss growing on Trees is of several sorts, cold and moist Ground produces a long shaggy, moist and dry Ground a short thick Moss. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 256 Thy shaggy Mane. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiv, The bushy red hair and shaggy beard. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* iv, Eyebrows sage and shaggy. 1868 C. GIBBON *R. Gray* xxii, His short shaggy hair was shaggier than usual. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xiv. 141 Her dress is of long shaggy fibre.

b. Bot. *Shaggy hairs*: see quots. Cf. SHAG *sb.*1

1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 55 Shaggy hairs are thread-like bodies, consisting of two or many layers or rows of cells. *Ibid.* 56 The multiseriate shaggy hairs of the Melastomeæ.

c. *transf.* Of a wood, trees, etc.: Resembling a rough growth of hair.

1789 GILPIN *Wye* 38 A woody hill..rudely hung with shaggy furniture. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 303 The rocks and shaggy wood that fringe that river. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. ii, Land of brown heath and shaggy wood, Land of the mountain and the flood. 1890 A. J. C. HARE *Story Life* XXVI. (1900) VI. 193 A poor town hanging shaggy on the hillside.

3. Comb., as *shaggy-bearded, -bodied, -fleeced, -footed, -haired* adjs.; **shaggy-mane**, an edible fungus, *Copinius comatus* (Cent. Dict. Suppl.).

a 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & L.* i. 114 Wretched Ixions shaggie footed race. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 173 A grizly shaggy-bodied deuill. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* II. xlvi, Foolish Sheapheards, that wear woont esteem, Your God all rough, and shaggy-hair'd to bee. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 128 Shaggy-leaved Toad Flax. 1840 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) I. 190 A fine..shaggy-headed man is Alfred [Tennyson]. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 68 They were a..shaggy-bearded set. 1879 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 15 May, The black-faced shaggy-fleeced sheep.

Shagh, obs. form of SHAH.

†**Shag-hair,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. SHAG *a.* + HAIR *sb.*] **a.** *adj.* = next. **b.** *sb.* A 'shag-haired' dog.

1584 LYLY *Sapho* IV. iv. 33 *Vulcan.* My shag-haire Cyclops, come, lets ply Our Lemnion hammers lustily. 1598 FLORIO, *Lacno*, a dogs name, as we say a shag-haire or ruffian. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xvi. 54 Shag hair dogs.

Shag-haired, *a. arch.* [f. SHAG *a.* + HAIRED *a.* Cf. SHACK-HAIRED *a.*] Having shaggy hair.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 154 The Mastie..his breast great, and shaghaird. *Ibid.* IV. 182 Some of them be shaghearde, and ill coloured. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. vi. 381 They were called Nazarites, as who should say, longe locked, or shagge haired people. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 367 Like a shag-hayr'd craftie Kerne. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinarie* B 3, Infection..was saide to skip into wollen cloathes, and lie smothring in a shag-hayrde Rugge. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxiv, The Shaghaired Argives..vowed to carry never any hair on their Heads, till [etc.]. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 18 And the shag-hair'd guard, with a mock, laid spears in their passage house Athwart. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* III. i. 358 Every horse in the country was saddled and manned by some shag-haired Hepburn.

Shag·let, *nonce-wd.* [f. SHAG *sb.*2 + -LET.] A young shag or cormorant.

1898 E. STEP in *Good Words* Sept. 622, I..put the uncomplaining shaglet into my empty lunch-bag.

†**Shag·gling,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin. ? Cf. SHACKLING *ppl. a.* and SHAG *sb.*1] **a.** A designation at Oxford for persons permitted to lecture, but having no official status; also for the lectures given by them. **b.** Used (? through misapprehension) by Davies for: Feeble, ineffective.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 18 Lynacre..was incorporated Doctor of Physick in this University read a shagling Lecture in that faculty etc.]. *Ibid.* 90 Robert Warde..became a shagling Lecturer in Philosophy before the University in the publick Schools. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 245 Yet 'tis from the same confus'd and confounding Magazine of artful Sandius, that our Modern Arians borrow all their Shagling Weapons and Sophistical Quivers. *Ibid.* III. *Diss. Author Lat. Drama* 27 That University..permitted him to read a shagling Lecture in that Faculty.

Sha·g-rag, *a.* and *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [A jingling alteration of SHAKE-RAG. Cf. SHAG *sb.*4, SHACK-RAG, SHAB-RAG, SHAG-BAG.]

A. *adj.* Of a person: Ragged, rascally.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. 1913 To haue a shagrag knaue to come [etc.]. 1615 *Band, Ruffe & Cuffe* (Halliw.) 9 A scurvie shag-ragge gentleman new come out of the North, a punie, a freshman come up hither to learn fashions, and seeke to expell me?

transf. 1693 *Bacchanalian Sessions* 6 Upon which, in clean Vessel, not tatter'd and shagrag, Appears Rhenish, Hock, Old and Young, Moselle, and Backrag.

b. Shaggy, unkempt.

1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* V. 389 An old bruised and battered year-by-year..With shag-rag beard and doleful doublet.

B. *sb.* A ragged, disreputable person; a low rascally fellow.

1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* Plays 1873 II. 340 I'de hire some shag-ragge or other for half a chickeene to cut's throat. 1611 COTGR., *Guerluset*, (Somewhat like our Shagrag;) a by-word for a beggerlie souldior. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 69 Your poore Shag-rags, and silly snakes, that steale from the Armie to returne home. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 327 Sharks, Shagrags, Shatter-brains, Panders. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2). 1881 *Cumberld. Gloss.* etc.

b. *Shag rag and bobtail* = tag rag and bobtail.

1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xxxiii, It will swallow us all, Ships and Men, Shag, Rag, and Bobtail, like a dose of Pills. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i. 5 There was a good farcical house, large enough to hold..them, *shag rag and bob-tail*, male and female, all together. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* II. 113 Shag-rag and bobtail.

Shagreen (ʃăgrī·n). Also 7–8 **shagrin, shaggreen,** 8 **shaggareen,** 7–9 CHAGRIN. [Var. CHAGRIN *sb.*]

1. A species of untanned leather with a rough granular surface, prepared from the skin of the horse, ass, etc., or of the shark, seal, etc., and frequently dyed green. Also, an imitation of this.

1677 [see 3]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 264 Hides and Leather from Bulgaria, Turky, and of their own dressing, which excels that we call..Shagreen for Durableness. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 A Bible bound in Shagreen. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 239 His [the shark's] skin..being that substance which covers instrument cases, called shagreen. 1777 COOK *3rd Voy.* III. ix. (1784) II. 174 The men of Mataia..cover..their bodies with a sort of shagreen, being skin of fishes. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 443 The genuine oriental shagreen is not a true leather, but a skin prepared by drying. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 327 A thin oval case covered with dark shagreen. 1907 GALSWORTHY *Country House* I. i. 2 A tall man..whose tall wife carried a small bag of silver and shagreen.

b. The skin of various sharks, rays, etc., which is covered with close-set calcified papillæ, forming a hard rough surface: used for polishing, etc.

1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* lviii. (1875) 434 The so-called 'shagreen' of the Dog-fishes and sharks is composed of very small and close-set tooth-like processes. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* iii. 126 Very commonly it [the integument of sharks, etc.] is developed into papillæ, which become calcified, and give rise to toothlike structures; these, when they are very small and close-set, constitute what is called shagreen. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 277 These [calcifications] may be quite small and thickly distributed all over the body. A skin so furnished is called shagreen.

c. *transf.* in *Ironfounding.* (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Shagreen*, hard, colored, metallic spots found on the surface of iron castings.

†**2.** A silk fabric. *Obs. rare.*

1702 LADY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (1911) 197 For 5¾ ells black shagrin..18 9 0. 1728 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 177, I..bought eighteen yards of very pretty white silk for Trott, something in the nature of shagreen, but a better colour than they ever are. 1741 *Anti-Pamela*; *Mem. Mr. Y. Parry* 129 Nicholas advised him..to have the suit lined with white Shagreen.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.* passing into adj., made of shagreen, as *shagreen case, cover, skin.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shagreen*,..a sort of rough, green Leather; as *A *Shagreen Case.* 1730 *Inventory D. Bond's Goods* (1732) 34 A Shaggareen Case for Bottles. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. vii, She held out the black shagreen-case. *c* 1696 PRIOR *Cupid & Gan.* 19 Two Table-Books in *Shagreen Covers. 1677 J. P. tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. iv. 21 [They] wear Boots or Shooes of *Shagrin-Leather. *Ibid.*, *Shagrin-Skins. 1782–3 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 42 In this country are also manufactures of ..shagreen skins and other leather.

b. (Sense 1 b.) *shagreen-granule, point, scale*; **shagreen-ray, -skate,** *Raiia fullonica.*

1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 82 In the majority of instances, the fossils [of sharks] consist merely of detached spines, *shagreen-granules, teeth, or pieces of cartilage. 1857 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* ii. 58 An external armature, consisting of plates, spines, and *shagreen points of solid bone. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 77 *Shagreen Ray. I met with this species at Scarborough, where it is called the French Ray. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* vii. 138 The fish-remains are chiefly those of the minute *Shagreen scales. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish New South Wales* 191 *Shagreen-skate. *Raiia fullonica.* Britain.

c. *Comb.*: *shagreen-covered, -like* adjs.

1857 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* i. 62 The dorsal spines and *shagreen covered skin of the common dog fish. 1864 SALA *Quite Alone* I. viii. 131 Limp, green, shagreen-covered

registers to keep the accounts in. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 317 Others [of the subgenus *Pimelodes*] have the head oval, and a kind of helmet of *shagreen-like bones.

Shagreened (ʃăgrī'nd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED 2.] 1. Having a roughened consistence or appearance like 'shagreen' or shark-skin.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 74 Its Skin is Shagreen'd, like that of the Dog-Fish. 1801 PENNANT *Journ. Lond. to I. Wight* II. 73 The back and tail shagreened. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 301 With a rough and shagreened surface in the soft tortoises. 1841 E. NEWMAN *Hist. Insects* 28 The microscope shews the case of the egg to be shagreened in squares. 1866 E. C. RYE *Brit. Beetles* 47 Their elytra are shagreened in texture. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 595 These patches [of neurotic lichen], which have a shagreened aspect, spread quickly.

2. Covered with shagreen.

1847 WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Shah (ʃā). Forms: 6 shawgh, 6–7 shaugh, xa, 6–9 shaw, 7 sa(a, saha, scha, shawe, shagh, 7–8 s(c)hach, schah, sha, 9 shauh, 7– shah. [a. Pers. شاه *shāh*, shortened from OPers. *xšāyaθiya* king, prob. orig. an adj. = 'mighty'. allied to Skr. *kšatra* dominion, Gr. κτᾶσθαι to acquire, get, κεκτῆσθαι to possess.] A Persian title equivalent to 'king'; in Europe the usual designation of the monarch of Persia, the PADISHAH.

1566 A. EDWARDS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 378 A noble man..in great fauour with the Shaugh. *c*1575 DUCKET *Ibid.* 422 The king of Persia...is called the Shawgh. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. II. i. 32 Ismael the Persian Xa, or Sophi. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 250 The Kings of Persia were not called Schachs, as they are now. 1664 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 146 The Shagh of Persia? 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 449/1 Advices from Ispahan confirm the death of the late Schah. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xv. III. 396 Punkah'd by Ranees and salamed by Shaws. 1828 [MORIER] *Hajji Baba in Eng.* I. xiv. 158 The shah's throne, on which he sits to administer justice. 1897 L. J. TROTTER *Life J. Nicholson* ii. (1908) 30 Calcutta had heard of the Shah's triumphant return to the Bala Hissar.

b. followed or preceded by a proper name.

1564 A. JENKINSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 370, I was sent for to come before the sayd Sophie, otherwise called Shaw Thamas. 1566 A. EDWARDS *Ibid.* 378 Thomas the Shaugh. 1601 HAKLUYT *Galvano's Discov. World* 49 Shaugh Ismael king of Persia. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 110 Ismael is vsually called Ismael Schah, Shah, or Shach. 1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 87 Buglagotte, a place where Shaw Susa [*i.e.* Shujā'] fought a great battle with his brother, ye present Emperour Aureng Zeeb. 1685 *Ibid.* 211, I went to see ye King of Persia, Sha Soliman, ride abroad to take ye aire. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 171 His Grandfather was a Man in Esteem under Nisham Shaw. 1738 [G. SMITH] *Cur. Relat.* II. 570 Shach Sefi caused not many Years ago one Side of the Wall to be lined with Marble Slabs. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 104 His voice and manner strongly resembled Shauh Shujah's. 1841 — *Hist. Ind.* XII. i. II. 567 The death of Bahádur Sháh [at Lahor] was followed by the usual struggle among his sons.

Shahdom (ʃā'dǝm). *rare.* [f. SHAH + -DOM.] The position, dignity, or territory of the Shah.

1884 MARVIN *Region Eternal Fire* xix. 334 Desert or mountain-severed provinces, susceptible of being easily broken off the Shahdom in detail. 1895 *Athenæum* 9 Mar. 314/1 The difficult task of tutoring Shahdom.

Shahee, variant or obs. form of SHAHI.

‖ **Shaheen** (ʃahī'n). Also shahin. [Urdū, a. Pers. شاهين *shāhīn*, lit. royal (bird), f. *shāh* SHAH.] An Indian falcon, *Falco peregrinator* and other species.

1839 JERDON in *Madras Jrnl. Lit. & Sci.* X. 81 The shaheen is a native of India, and breeds pretty generally among rocky mountains. 1851 J. GOULD *Birds Asia* III. Pl. 2, *Falco peregrinator*. Shaheen Falcon. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* ii. 13 The Bahri..and her tiercel, here vulgarly called the Shahin, are found in some parts of the province [Scinde]. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 366/1 (Falconry), In India there are used..the black shaheen, *Falco peregrinator*; the red-naped shaheen, *Falco babylonicus* [etc.].

Shahgoest, variant of SYAGUSH.

‖ **Shahi** (ʃā'i). Forms: α. 6 shaugh, 7 scahy, -i, shawhee, schai, 8 s(h)ahie, chaye, 7–9 shahee, 9– shahi; β. *erron.* 7 shehide, shaet, schaied. [Pers. شاهي *shāhī* royal, f. شاه *shāh*: see SHAH.

It has been suggested that the erroneous β forms are due to confusion (by Europeans) with the word *shāhid* martyr.]

Formerly, a small silver coin of Persia varying between 4*d.* and 10*d.*; now, a copper coin of Persia worth about ½*d.*

α. 1566 A. EDWARDS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 378, 200 shaughes is a tumen, reckoning euery shaugh for 6. pence Russe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 293 Eight aspers at Cyprus made one scahy (a Turkish money which the Italians call Seya) being esteemed at little more then sixe pence English, and fifteene scahy made a zechine. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) 140 Two shahees maketh a ma[hmudi]. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 151 Their [Persian] Coines..Larrees..are worth ten pence, Shawhees four pence. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 89 The Piastres are commonly worth there thirteen Schais. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiv. 292 Shahie, or sahie. 1882 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. xxiv. 400 Small copper coins called pools and shahis.

β. *c*1583 NEWBERY in Purchas *Pilgrims* II. IX. iii. 1418 The cariage of a Mule from Arzerum to Arsingam, costeth twelue Shehides. 1677 J. P. tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* I. I. xii. 51 There are four several pieces of Silver Coyn [in Persia]; Abassi's, Mamoudi's, Shaet's, and Bisti's. *Ibid.*, Two Shayet's make a Mamoudi. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 32 At Aleppo..the Schaied is worth five Aspres, sixteen Schaieds go for a Piastre.

Shahmanism, variant of SHAMANISM.

Shahstah, obs. form of SHASTER.

‖ **Shahzadah** (ʃāzā'dă). Forms: 7 shawhzawdeh, 9 shahzadeh, shazada, shah zadeh, shahzada, 8– shahzadah. [Pers. شاه‌زاده *shāhzādah*, f. شاه SHAH + زاده *zādah* son.] The son of the SHAH; a king's son.

1662 PHILLIPS (ed. 2), *Shawh-zawdeh*, the Grand-Signior's son; the word signifieth in Persian tongue, a King's son. 1800 WELLINGTON in *Suppl. Desp.* (1858) I. 461 You have heard of the conspiracy here [Seringapatam] to..carry off the Shah-zadahs. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. v. 172 The Shazada (such was the title by which the eldest son of the Mogul was then distinguished in Bengal). 1840 J. B. FRASER *Trav. Koordistan*, etc. I. iii. 56 Thus, however, the Beglerbeggee becomes regarded nearly in the light and rank of a Shah Zadeh, and maintains the state of one. 1859 *Hodson's Twelve Yrs. India* 310 *note*, The three Princes [*footn.* called Shahzadahs]..were in a tomb six miles off.

Shaik, variant of SHEIKH.

† **Shail**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Also shayle. [Cf. SHEWEL.] A scarecrow.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxiii, The good husbande..setteth up cloughtes or thredes, whiche some call shailes [1557 shayles], ..to feare away birdes.

Shail, *sb.*[2] *dial. rare.* In 6 shayle. [f. SHAIL *v.*[2]] A crooked gait; a shuffling, awkward manner of walking. First in **a-shayle** *adv.*, moving or walking in a shuffling, awkward manner.

1530 PALSGR. 831/1 A shayle with the knees togyther, and the fete outwarde, *a eschays*. 1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xi. 202 Fancy..her bounding walk becoming the regular Hintock shail-and-wamble.

† **Shail**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [An alteration of SKAIL *v.* (perh. a scribal error; the MS. elsewhere has *skail.*)] *intr.* = SKAIL *v.* 9.

*c*1375 *Cursor M.* 18836 (Fairf.), His hare..bi his eres shailande sumdele [*a* 1300 *Cott.* skailand].

Shail (ʃēl), *v.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4–5 schayle, 5 scheyle, (6 shoyle, scayle), 6, 9 shayl, 6–7, 9 shale, (7 ? shael), 7–shail. [Possibly a metathetic derivative of OE. *sceolh* oblique.]

1. *intr.* To stumble, to walk or move in a shuffling, shambling manner.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1098 Schovelle-fotede was þat schalke, and schaylande hyme semyde, With schankez unschaply, schowande to-gedyrs. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Schaylyn, or scheylyn. (*Disgredior.*) 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 332/1 To Schayle (*v.r.* Schaylle), *degradi* & *degredi*. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 85 Our Thomasen she doth trip, our Ienet she doth shayle. 1530 PALSGR. 700/1, I shayle with the fete, *jentretaille des pieds*. I never sawe man have a worse pace, se how he shaylleth. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1567) 17 The Waine for want of weight ..Did hoyse aloft and scayle and reele, as though it empty were. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* lv. 155 They [wild swine] set not their hinderfoote within their forefoote, and their gards fall straight vpon the ground and neuer shoyle or leane outwards. 1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 82 Other, which were well legde, shaled with their feete, or were splafooted. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXXI. 193 Child [a young crab], (says the Mother) You must Use your self to Walk Streight, without Skewing, and Shailing so Every step you set. 1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xi. 202 She may shail; but she'll never wamble.

b. *fig.* To blunder, be wrong.

a 1529 SKELTON '*Womanhood, wanton*' 19 Good mastres Anne, there ye do shayle. — *Col. Cloute* 401 What, Colyne, there thou shales! — *Replyc.* 172 Ye shayle *inter enigmata* And *inter paradigmata*.

2. ? To blink. *rare*—[1]. (See SHAILING *vbl. sb.*)

3. *dial.* a. *intr.* To glide or move in a slanting direction. b. *trans.* To throw (a flat missile) with a gliding motion. [Possibly a distinct word.]

a. 1895 A. PATTERSON *Man & Nat. on Broads* 78 High over-head some great grey gulls are 'shayling' in erratic flight, making seaward.

b. 1832 tr. *Tour Germ. Prince* III. v. 127 It is also no rarity for some one to throw the fragments of his 'goute'..on the heads of the people in the pit, or to shail them with singular dexterity into the boxes. 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. Forby, Shail*, to throw a flat missile, as a tile or an oyster shell.

Hence **Shai'ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Shai'ler**, one who shambles in his gait.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xii. (Tollemache MS.), þe scrabbe is schaylynge beste [1495 a sheylynge, 1535 shelynge, 1582 shelling beest] and gooþ bakwarde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schaylare. *Ibid.*, Schaylynge (or scheylynge, *lorìpedacio*). *c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winch. MS.) 395 Schey, or skey, or horsys or schyttyl scheylere, idem quod schaylare, supra. 1530 PALSGR. 266/1 Schayler that gothe a wrie with his fete, *boyteux*. 1611 COTGR., *Fauquet*,..a shaling wry-legd fellow. 1653 BULWER *Anthropomet.* VI. 106 The word..was *Hippos*, which signifies a perpetuall shaeling of the Eyes. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. VI. II. 237 This is too narrow a path, for many shaleing professours to walk in now adays.

Shair(d, obs. Sc. forms of SHARE *v.*, SHEED.

[**Shairl**, spurious word: see SHAWL (*-goat*).]

Shairman, Shairn, Sc. ff. SHEARMAN, SHARN.

‖ **Shaitan** (ʃaitā'n). Forms: 7 shitan, sceithan, 7, 9 sheitan, 9– shaitan. [Arab. شيطان *shaiṭān*, corruptly a. Heb. *sāṭān* SATAN.]

1. The Devil, Satan; an evil spirit.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 241 Ozman in his parody assures them, The Devil (Shitan they call him) ever diets so. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 233 But as soon as they were gone, Sceithan, that is to say, the Devil, presented himself to Hagar. 1698 A. BRAND *Emb. Muscovy into China* 41, I could not meet with any thing worth taking notice of all over the Hall but their Sheitan, or (as they themselves call'd it) their God. 1863 YULE *Friar Jordanus' Mirabilia* (Hakl. Soc.) 37 *note*, Certain mysterious footsteps, more than thirty or forty paces asunder, which the natives alleged to be Shaitan's.

2. *transf.* An evil-disposed or vicious person or animal.

1834 MORIER *Ayesha* I. i. 18 Cara Bey! oof! he is a Sheitan, he is Satan, he is a black Yezidi, a worshipper of the devil! 1849 LAYARD *Nineveh* I. ix. 287 *note*, The term Sheitan (equivalent to Satan) is usually applied in the East to a clever, cunning, or daring fellow. 1884 F. BOYLE *On Borderland* 377 Ranjit Singh, that Shaitan, turned it into a magazine. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 21 The shaitan [*i.e.* a tiger] has slain my man and my son. *Ibid.* 230 But Zālim Sing had no such excuse—he is a shaitan, the son of a she ass.

3. A dust-storm.

1900 *Daily News* 17 Apr. 5/5 In India and the East a dust storm rejoices in the name Shaïtan, otherwise Satan. ..To-day thousands of sightseers were the playthings of a Shaïtan in the Champ-de-Mars. 1911 in WEBSTER.

Shakal, obs. variant of JACKAL.

Shakbott, -but(t, obs. forms of SACKBUT.

1519 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, III. II. 1533 To the shakbutts, 50*s.* 1593 G. PEELE *Hon. Garter* B 1 b, Therewith I heard the Clarions and the Shalmes, The Shakbuts.

Shake (ʃēk), *sb.*[1] Also 4 schak, 5 schakke, 8–9 shack. [f. SHAKE *v.*]

† I. 1. a. With prefixed adj., as advb. cognate obj. to *shake* vb., or other vbs. of motion, *a good, great*, etc. *shake*: quickly, with headlong speed.

13.. *K. Alis.* 232 Away he rod from heom god schak. 13.. *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXI. 84/72 And aftur þei schoken a ful gret schak. ? *c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 96 Thei wente a nobull schakke.

† b. A charge (of men in battle), onrush. (Cf. SHOCK *sb.*) *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2663 So þat þe furste schak was ouercome of hure enymys. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1759 The Bretons..Schokkes in with a schakke, and schontez no langere.

II. The action or an act of shaking.

2. An act of shaking a person or thing.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 72 And as down leaped he, His gay and gorgeous armor rich so sounded in the shake. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 2 The dogge..pinch'd him in the eye, with so terrible a shake, that the Lion..was constrained to forsake himselfe. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 172 Sometimes it happens that by a Shake..the Metal may spill. 1715 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 1 ¶ 5 Blossoms, that would fall away with every shake of wind. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 138 Give them a shake together before you lie in your eggs. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Amicus Rediv.*, It seemed to have given a shake to memory, calling up notice after notice of [etc.]. 1845 POE *Purloined Let.* Tales 206 We turned over every leaf in each volume, not contenting ourselves with a mere shake.

b. (Usually in full *a shake of the hand.*) An act of shaking hands or a person's hand, a handshake. (See SHAKE *v.*)

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 ¶ 5 Our Salutations..consisting of many kind Shakes of the Hand. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 40 I. 315 The shake [was] as close, as long, and as rejoicing, as if the semi-unknown was a friend come home from the Desarts. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vii. 75 Jim Sinclair gave her hand a very British shake.

c. *Shake of the head*: see SHAKE *v.* 6 b.

1713 J. HUGHES in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1772) I. 74, I may have called a man a knave by a shake of the head and a shrug of the shoulders. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* III. i, *Puff.* Why, by that shake of the head, he [Ld. Burleigh] gave you to understand that [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, Captain Cuttle observed with a shake of his head, that Jack Bunsby himself hadn't made it out. 1889 PARNELL in R. B. O'Brien *Life* (1898) II. 228 Is there any one of them who..sitting in his place, by a shake of the head, or a nod, or a word, will venture to say that [etc.]?

d. An act of shaking oneself. Also *fig.*

1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 15 Now lap-dogs give themselves the rousing shake. 1726 W. PENN *Tracts* Wks. I. 490 Having given my self a loose shake of the Calumnies of his first Section. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 596 That long shake [of a dog] that bedrizzled the sunshine. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, The speaker got up from a bench on which he had been lying unobserved, and gave himself a shake.

e. *dial.* The shaking out of corn from the ear. Also in Comb. *shake-time.* Cf. SHACK *sb.*[1]

1668 WORLIDGE *Dict. Rust.*, *Shake-time*, the season of the year that Mast and such Fruits fall from Trees. 1786 *Har'st Rig* vi, And aye they tell, that 'a green shear Is an ill shake.' 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss.* s. v. *Shear*, A green shear's as bad as a shak.

f. *Paper-making.*

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/1 He..then gives the mould the 'shake', a gentle shake both along and across the mould. 1890 A. WATT *Paper-making* xii. 131 He gives the mould a gentle shake from his chest forward and back again, which is called the fore-right shake; this shake takes place across the wires...He next gives a shake from right to left, and back again.

g. *dial.* A raffle.

1877 E. LEIGH *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Shake*, a raffle. 'My mon won the picture in a shake.'

h. *colloq.* or *slang.* Used as the type of instantaneous action, esp. in the phrases *in a shake, in a brace* or *couple of shakes.*

1816 G. MUIR *Clydesdale Minstrelsy* 98 (E.D.D.) In the shake

of a hand I received my sight. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Aloys*, He'll be up at the church in a couple of shakes. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. xvi. 283 I'll just..run whome wi' un, and be back agin in a brace of shakes. 1883 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* xiii, 'Well, if I speak back, pikes will be going in two shakes. 1904 E. NESBIT *Phœnix & Carpet* vii. 145 Wait a shake, and I'll undo the side gate.

3. Irregular vibratory or tremulous movement, esp. as the result of impact or disturbance of equilibrium; irregular lateral movement (of something revolving or moving in a line). *Naut.* A fluttering or shivering (of a sail).

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 12 The cause of fluidness..I conceive to be nothing else but a certain pulse or shake of heat. 1690 BOYLE *Effects of Motion* iii. 18 The Shake is first communicated by the Cannon to the earth or floor on which they play. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* 48 The bush must embrace the spindle quite close, to prevent any shake in the motion. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 663/2 A square box made to slide along this wooden trunk without shake. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 529 The earth must be struck with a rammer, and if found to shake, must be bored, to ascertain whether the shake be local or general. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 320 Diagonal braces..to resist the shake from the action of the wheel upon the pinion. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 223 The sail will come in without a shake. 1883 *Science* I. 101/1 Care should be taken..that there is no 'shake' or lateral motion in the adjustments for focus. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 328/2 See that the cannon pinion does not confine the shake of the centre wheel.

b. The shock of an earthquake. Now only *U.S.*

1622 W. BURTON *Leicestersh.* 270 The bell in the Townehall at Denbigh knowled with the violence of the shake [of an earthquake]. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 224 In that and some following Days they had no less than 50 Shakes. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Introd. 3 It has been destroyed by the shake of an earthquake. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 3/2 That earthquake at San Francisco—the 'shake', as the local papers lightheartedly called it within a fortnight.

4. A shivering or trembling of the body or limbs; also, a state of tremor. *The shakes*, nervous agitation caused by fear or horror.

1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* IV. i, I must stand to it stoutly, And show no shake of fear. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* I. x, She was pale and agitated, or, as she expressed it, 'had a terrible fit of the shakes'. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xvi, Her nerves were in a shake.

b. An attack of a shaking disease. *The shakes*, a name popularly applied to any disease characterized by a trembling of the muscles and limbs.

Dumb shakes, (*U.S.*)? masked intermittent fever. *Hatters' shakes*, a disease incident to some workers in hat-making.

1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 28 Dec., A man who has had two shakes of the palsy! 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 220/2 When 'the shakes' have taken possession of their unhappy victim [of mercury-poisoning]. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 355 Even in the midst of a severe 'shake', they would generally insist that they were 'well enough to dive'. 1867 H. LATHAM *Black & White* 109 The Dismal Swamp is a first-rate place for concealment, if you are not afraid of shakes and agues. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. ii. 640 The 'dumb shakes' of the Wabash Valley. 1884 *Cornhill Mag.* June 616 An attack of delirium tremens, or, as she and her neighbours style it, a 'fit of the shakes'. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 378 Muscular tremors ('hatters' shakes') are most often observed in those engaged in dusty post-carotting processes.

c. A tremor (in the voice).

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* liv, If I'd have detected one line in your face, or one shake in your voice, like treachery.

5. *Mus.* (See quot. 1881.)

† *Close, open shake* (see quot. 1674). *Obs.*

1659 [see *shaking stop*, SHAKING *vbl. sb.*]. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 47 Trill, or plain shake. *Ibid.* 53 The Trill, or Shake of the Voice, being the most usual Grace. *Ibid.* II. 104 The close Shake is when you stop with your first Finger on the first Fret, and shake with your second Finger as close to it as you can; the open Shake is when you stop with your first Finger on the first Fret, and shake with your third Finger on the third Fret. 1711 [see QUAVER *sb.* 2]. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* Nov. (1889) II. 98 She has a very pretty shake, and sings very chastly, not with vile graces and trills. 1825 SOUTHEY *Paraguay* III. xl, And sometimes high the note was raised, and long Produced, with shake and effort sensible. 1881 F. TAYLOR in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 479 *Shake* or *Trill*..consists of the regular and rapid alternation of a given note with the note above,..continuing for the full duration of the written note... Immediately before the final note of a shake a new subsidiary note is introduced, one degree *below* the principal note. This and the concluding principal note together form what is called the *turn* of the shake.

6. A concussion or blow which impairs the stability of something; often *fig.* a damaging blow (e.g. to an institution, a state of things, a person's health); a shock (to the mind or nerves).

1565 W. ALLEN *Def. Purgatory* xvii. 283 One of these ouerthrowers frameth..his negatiue argument, to the more sure shake of oure faithe herein after this sorte. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 35 The States-General..consisted of about Eight Hundred Persons, whose meeting..gave too great a Shake to the whole Body of the Union. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts xxiv. 8–9 This is a great shake to the credit of most History. 1704 SWIFT *Tale Tub* ix. 168 His Brain hath undergone an unlucky Shake. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 13 Being thought..a great shake to the security of men's lives and fortunes. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. i. § 5 (1875) 18 The rude shakes which Science has given to many of their cherished convictions. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 44 He was the life of us before he had that shake, but it's only nerves.

7. *To be no great (some great, considerable,* etc.) *shakes*: to be nothing (something, etc.) extraordinary in ability or importance.

[Perh. alluding to shaking of dice.]

[1816 LD. BROUGHTON *Recoll.* (1865) II. 2 W. said that a piece of sculpture there was '*nullae magnae quassationes*', and the others laughed heartily.] 1819 MOORE *Tom Crib's Memor.* (ed. 3) 41 Though no great shakes at learned chat. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 89 Ten years ago, the young Whig was 'non sordidus auctor', considerable shakes; but now they are all asses. 1820 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 28 Sept. (1875) 733, I had my hands full, and my head too, just then [when he wrote 'Marino Faliero']; so it can be no great shakes. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1850) II. 222 No great shakes at metre. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto, Shop* xi, This article, no such great shakes, Fizzes like wild fire? 1894 *Cornhill Mag.* June 564 Bannock can't hit a haystack at fifty yards, and I'm no great shakes.

8. In combination with adv. (subst. use of phrases: of SHAKE *v.*: see also SHAKE-DOWN). **a.** *Shake out* (Stock Exchange): a crisis in which the weaker speculators are driven out of the market.

1895 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 2/2 The 'shake-out' in speculative accounts..has strengthened the Stock markets...The recent 'shake out' of weak holders, referred to above. 1910 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 10/1 All traces of last week's Rubber 'shake out' have vanished.

b. *Shake up*: a rousing or stirring up to activity.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. ii, Tom gave the prisoner a shake-up, took away his list, and stood him up on the floor. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 7/1 The Board has had a healthy 'shake-up'. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 654 Indictments and bills in equity became the order of the day, and 'probings' and 'shake-ups' the common talk of business men.

III. Something produced by shaking.

9. A natural cleft or fissure produced during growth or formation. **a.** in timber.

For *cup, heart, star, wind shake*: see those words.

1651 J. WHITE *Rich Cabinet* (1677) 29 Get a streight piece of wood.., let it be free from knots, or shakes, then plain it. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Shakes*,..the cracks or rents in a plank, occasioned by the sun or weather. 1851 *Rural Cycl.* IV. 178 *Shake*, a disease in trees, consisting of long splits up the stem. 1894 *Times* 31 Aug. 3/5 Yellow pine, without a single knot, shake, or other blemish in its whole surface.

b. in rock, mineral strata, etc.

Water shake, one in which a stream empties itself.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* L 2, The Shaft was Sunk in a great and loose Shack of Chirts. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 41 That same want of stability..like a shake in marble, runs thro' the whole block. 1802 J. MAWE *Mineral. Derbysh.* iii. 38 In this limestone stratum are frequently found openings or caverns, which are commonly called shakes, or swallows. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 305 They..were as compact as when first moved by the plough, without even the appearance of a water shake or fissure. 1856 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVII. II. 373 The more feeble springs that empty themselves..through some loose or porous soil, shakes in the rocks, or otherwise. 1893–4 *Northumberld. Gloss.*, *Shake*, a thickening or 'belly' in a vein of lead ore..or the cavity sometimes found in such places.

10. *U.S.* pl. **a.** A set of barrel staves = SHOOK *sb.*

1820 SCORESBY *Arct. Regions* I. 207 *note*, Empty casks are.. taken to pieces, and the staves closely packed up in a cylindrical form, constituting what are called shakes or packs. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 122 *Shakes*, the staves of hogsheads taken apart.

b. Pieces of split timber, a kind of shingles.

1845 C. MATHEWS *Writ.* I. 164 in R. H. Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s. v., A..house, shingled with what they call 'shakes' all over the West and Southwest. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 16 Mar., By and by..shakes can be split for a roof, and fastened on.

11. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.*, *Shake*, a slur on a printed sheet through some defect in the impression.

12. (See quot.)

1911 *Webster's Dict.*, *Shake*...Short for *milk shake* or *egg shake*, etc., beverages of milk, or milk and egg, flavored and shaken thoroughly. *Colloq., U.S.*

IV. 13. *Comb.*: **shake-bog**, a bog which shakes or quakes when trodden upon; **shake culture**, a CULTURE (3 c) in which the organisms are distributed through the medium by a gentle shake; **shake-hole** (see quots.); **shake willey, willow**, a machine used in the preparation of cotton and wool (see quot.).

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 599 That kind of bog called the *shake-bog. 1894 E. KLEIN in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Oct. 799/1 It does not form gas bubbles in gelatine *shake cultures. 1823 BUCKLAND *Relig. Diluv.* 6 *note*, Open fissures, locally called *shake-holes, or swallow-holes, from their swallowing up the streams that cross the limestone districts. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Shack-hole*, a hollow in the ground, resembling a funnel, which receives the surface water. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shake-willy* (Cotton-manufacture), a willy or willowing machine for cleaning cotton, preparatory to carding. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 181 In order..to shake loose any matted pieces, the wool is usually passed through a shake willey or willow.

Shake (ʃēk), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [Short for SHAKE-RAG. (Cf. SHACK *sb.*[2])] A disreputable person.

1859 *Holten's Slang Dict.*, *Shake*, a disreputable man or woman. *North.*

Shake (ʃēk), *v.* Pa. t. **shook** (ʃuk); pa. pple. **shaken** (ʃē·k'n). Forms: *Inf.* 1 **sceacan, scacan**, 3 **sceki, sceky, sake, scheken, schek**(e, 3–4 **scake, ssake, schak**(e, **sshake**, (4 **schac, scha**(a)**k, s**(c)**haken**, 5 **schakyn**), 4–6 **schake**, 6 *Sc.* **scha**(i)**k**, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* **shack**, 4– **shake**. *Pa. t. a.* 1 **sceóc, scóc**, 3 **scoc, scok**(e, **ssoc, ssok**, 3–4 **schok, choke**, 4–5 **schook**, 4–6 **schoke**, *Sc.* **schuk**(e, 4–7 (9 *dial.*) **shoke**, (4 **shok, shuke**), 6–7 **shooke**, (6 **showke**, *Sc.* **schuik**, 6, 9 **sheuk**), 9 *dial.* **shu**(o)**k**, *north.* **shuik**, 5– **shook**. *β.* 4 **shakid**, 5 **shakyd**, 6 **schaked, shakte**, 6–7 **shakt, shak't**, 9 *dial.* **shacked, sha**(o)**kt, shakked**, *Sc.* and *north.* **shaket, -it**, 5–9 **shaked**, 6–9 **shak'd**. *γ.* 3 **scæken** (*pl.*). *Pa. pple. a.* 1 **sceacen, scacen, scæcen**, 4 **schaken, (yshaken)**, s(c)**hakun, schake**, 4–6 **shake**, 5 **i-sake**, 5–6 *Sc.* **schakyn**, 6–7 *Sc.* **scha**(i)**kin**, 6 *Sc.* **shaikne, shacken, shakken**, 5– **shaken**. *β.* 5 **schacked**, 6–7 **shak'd, shakt**, 6 **shakte**, 7 **shak't**, 9 *dial.* **shacked, shakked, shak't**, 6– **shaked**. *γ.* (6 **shooken**), 7 **shooke**, 9 *dial.* **shock, shooken, shookt, shu**(o)**k**, **-en**, *Sc.* **sheuken, shooken**, 7– **shook**. [OE. *scacan* str. vb. (*scóc, scacen*) corresponds to OS. *skakan* to depart (once only, in pa. t. *skôk*), mod.Fris. dialects (Sylt) *skaake*, (Föhr) *skaaki* to push, displace. LG. *schacken* to shake, ON. *skaka* (*skók, skekinn*) to shake (Sw. *skaka*) :—OTeut. **skakan*. (Not found in Goth. or in HG.; the OHG. gloss '*untschachondes*, fluctivagi' seems to prove the existence of a derivative vb. **scachôn* to wander.) Outside Teut. the only probable cognate is Skr. *khaj* to agitate, churn (*khaja, khajā* a churn).]

† **I. 1.** *intr.* A poetical word for: To go, pass, move, journey; to flee, depart. Said of persons and things, and both in physical and non-physical senses. Also with *away, forth, down. Obs.*

It is not clear that the notion of rapidity of movement, which may be found in some of the examples, is other than merely contextual.

Beowulf 1803 (Gr.) Þa com beorht leoma scacan ofer scadu. *Ibid.* 3118 Þonne stræla storm..scoc ofer scildweall. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1594 (Gr.) [Hi] gewiton mid þy wæge in forwyrd sceacan under eorþan grund. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 992, Þa sceoc he on niht fram þære fyrde him sylfum to mycclum bismore. *a* 1220 *Bestiary* 264 Þe mire ..suneð it and sakeð forð, so it same were. *Ibid.* 660. *a* 1300 *Childhood Jesus* 1387 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 46 Þo Josep was fram him i-schake. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21228 Quider-ward sum-euer he scok. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7084 Out of his abite he hym schok. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 217 Symoun did doun schake [to the king's side]. *Ibid.* 323 With þam away þei schoke. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 928 Duke Rolant saw hymen awayward schake. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 18/315 (E.E.T.S.) Clerkes & comens of contrees aboute, Wer schacked to þat cite. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2744 Grete diches we scholen here make, wherthorwgh this water schal forth Schake. *c* 1450 — *Holy Grail* xiv. 282 And whanne Of his Swowneng tho he Awook, Anon there Into A Sadel he Schook. ? *c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 66 To the town the husbond wentt, As fast as he myght schake. 15.. *Wedding of Syr Gawene* 741 in *Syr Gawayne* (Bannatyne Club) 298 Syr Gawen rose, and in his hand he toke His fayr lady, and to the dore he shoke.

II. To vibrate irregularly, tremble.

2. Of things having more or less freedom of movement: To move irregularly and quickly to and fro, up and down, or from side to side; to quiver, quake, vibrate, waver.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 7 Huæt eada ge in uoestern ȝesea ȝerd from uinde sceæcende. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 605 The slakke skyn aboute his nekke shaketh. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schakyn or qwakyn.., *tremo*. Schakyn or waveryn, *vacillo*. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* II. v. Wks. 1910 II. 127 Her Majestie came by a close Arbor,.. and whiles Silvanus pointed to the same, the principall bush shaked. 1684 R. WALLER *Ess. Nat. Exper.* 62 Her Wings..upon the Ingress of the air shoke very much. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 129 The full concerto swells upon your ear; All elbows shake. 1800 WORDSW. *Pet Lamb* 10 His tail with pleasure shook. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 3 The long light shakes across the lakes. 1860 LONGF. *Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* II. xiv, While the rifted Streamers o'er him shook and shifted. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 65 The mighty pine-forests which shake In the wind.

b. *Naut.* Of a sail: To shiver, vibrate, flutter.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Shivering*, the state of a sail when it shakes or flutters in the wind. 1846 CODRINGTON in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* VII. 154 *note*, She kept her starboard and lee studding-sails set and shaking. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., To shake in the wind.

† **c.** Of a person or animal: To throw oneself or one's limbs about. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Succusso*, to shake as a horse doth whan he trotteth. 1611 COTGR., *Iacter*,..to swing, tosse, tumble, or shake vp and downe.

3. Of things normally stable or still: To vibrate irregularly, tremble, either as a whole or in its parts, as the result of impact or disturbance of equilibrium. Hence, to totter, lose stability, become weakened.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4241 Al þe hul mid þe vallinge ssoc. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19211 And in þat erth-din þar scok, þe haligast eft-sith þai tok. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 217 The trompettes..sowned soo sore that the chambre where as he laye shoke of it. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1508 The starry heuyn, me thought, shoke with the showte. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* (1534) B iv, And therwithall I fet a sygh such one As made the forme shake which we both sat on. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* III. i. 24 Now, Spaine, sit firme; ile make thy towers shake. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 797. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars*, He ended; and the kebars sheuk Aboon the chorus roar. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, The postern gate shakes,..it crashes—

it is splintered by his blows. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Sir Rupert*, From base to turret the castle shook. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 459 So..that a man far-off might well perceive..The hard earth shake. 1864 — *Voyage* ii, We felt the good ship shake and reel.

b. *fig.* Of a person: To lose firmness. ? *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 116 Make oure herten ueste and stedeuest þet hi ne ssake uor none uondynge þet to hare comþ.

c. Of a band of persons: To become unsteady, to reel, give way.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 380 And in the stour sa hardyly Hé ruschyt, that all the semble schuk. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 26 b, The great bodie of them beginning to shake, and stagger. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 611 The pikes of the rebel battalions began to shake; the ranks broke.

4. Of a person, his body, limbs, etc.: To quake or tremble with physical infirmity or disease; to quiver with emotion; to shiver with cold, to quake with fear.

To shake in one's shoes: to tremble with fear.

[*a* 1100 *Aldh. Gl.* in Napier *OE. Glosses* I. 4160 *Exhorruit*, ofscoc.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3565 Quen þat sua bicums ald..þe heued biginnes for to scak. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVII. clxxxv. (1495) 726 The dronklew mannys honde tremblyth and shakyth. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 161 He shoke all for angre. *Ibid.* xxiv. 528 He shoke all for fere. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* x. 183 He stoode so tremblingly, That one full wel might heare his teeth togither so to shake. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 641 Why shak'st thou so? Feare not (man). 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 31 And about midnight..my frend came home againe, shaking every joint of hym. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* iv. 279, I sweat, I fly, And shake all o'er, like a discover'd spy. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 333 He shakes with cold. 1818 COBBETT *Polit. Reg.* XXXIII. 497 This is quite enough to make Corruption and all her tribe shake in their shoes. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, Was that she? He began to shake at the mere possibility. 1873 *Punch* 15 Mar. 107/2 It had set the whole Liberal party 'shaking in its shoes'. 1909 MRS. H. WARD *Daphne* iv. 90 Her small frame shook with weeping.

b. To be convulsed with laughter. Cf. 11 c.

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 22 Whether thou choose Cervantes' serious air, Or laugh and shake in Rab'lais' easy chair. 1748 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 61 How wouldst thou [Democritus] shake at Britain's modish tribe. 1905 F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* II. ii, If the whole of France is shaking with the antics of Venus, the whole heavens are shaking with laughter.

III. To cause to vibrate, agitate.

5. *trans.* To brandish or flourish threateningly (a weapon or something used as a weapon); †to wield. Also, to flourish, wave (something) in ostentation or triumph.

c 1000 *MS. Bodl.* 577 lf. 63 b, Macheram stricto mucrone uibrabat, *gloss* sceoc. *c* 1205 LAY. 26481 Heo scæken on heore honden speren swiðe stronge. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 885 Schaftes þai gun schake. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxi. 321 He shoke the swerd to the kynge. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 185 A picture of woode, that wulde shake a speare, and rolle the eyes. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. v. 96 Go thou toward home, where I wil neuer come, Whilst I can shake my sword. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 489 And over them triumphant Death his Dart Shook, but delaid to strike. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 382 P 1 The Prince..shaked a Cane at the Officer. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. ii, Conscience..calls her furies forth, to shake The sounding scourge and hissing snake. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XX, 'Take heed, Oliver! take heed!' said the old man, shaking his right hand before him in a warning manner. 1862 W. COLLINS *Basil* III. vi, He has no marriage-certificate to shake over our heads, at any rate. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlvii, And the people passing by Stop to shake their fists and curse.

b. *fig.* Chiefly in phrases. † *To shake boast*: to boast, swagger. † *To shake the feather*: see FEATHER *sb.* 8 b.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3645 After hym folwede & schoke bost xxx^ti þowsant on an host. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 45 Thou shakest boast [*jactas*] oft of her foly in vayne. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. viii. 21 A reckless star Seemed shaking over him malific powers.

6. To move to and fro irregularly or tremulously, agitate (some part of the body); (of an animal) to 'wag' (its tail) (? *obs.*); (of a bird) to flap, flutter (its wings) esp. as preparing to fly. Also said of a thing personified. Also with *down, wide.*

[*a* 1000 *Phœnix* 144 Þonne..he..þriwa ascæceþ feþre flyhthwate.] 1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 38 Thei schulen schake lockis, as the whelpis of liouns. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5018 Þan schogs hire þe son-tree & schoke hire schire leues. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C viij b, She..drawith booth her wyngys ouer the myddys of her boeke..and softely shakyth them. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iv. 15 [Furor] Shakt his long lockes..And bit his tawny beard to shew his raging ire. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. xiv, On Libanon at first his foote he set, And shooke his wings with roarie maydewes wet. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 66 The Tawnie Lion..Rampant shakes his Brinded main. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept. 1658, Rattlesnakes..swiftly vibrating and shaking their tailes. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Frenchm. T.* (1799) I. 192 Dorsain shook his grey locks—'That's as much as to say our dancing days are past!' added Antoine, observing it. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* V, Shaking down a profusion of sable ringlets. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 66 Shaking wide thy yellow hair. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, He steps proudly along, ..and shakes his black *chevelure*, or lion's-mane. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. i, His cruel goddess had shaken her wings and fled. 1909 J. G. FRAZER *Psyche's Task* iv. 38 The sun-scorched stocks of the fruitless Indian corn shook their rustling leaves in the wind.

b. *To shake one's head*: to turn the head slightly to one side and the other in sorrow or scorn, or to express disapproval, dissent or doubt.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24503 On him mi hefd i scock, and said, 'Vngretli, leif sun, er þou graid!' *c* 1320 *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1069 '*Par fai*, dame', he saide, 'no!' And schok his heved vpon the quen. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2344 And pitously he wep & shok his hed. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3164 So cherlishly his heed he shook. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 71 And as he was thus saying, he shaked his heade, and made a wrie mouth. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. ii. 25 Let's shake our heads, and say..We haue seene better dayes. shake our heads, and say..We haue seene better dayes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 819 The Learned Leaches in Despair depart: And shake their Heads, desponding of their Art. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 10 The Captain shook his Head, and said, Carpenter! that is not the Reason. 1808 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XIII. 161 It is he who now nods *yes*, or shakes *no*, while the ministers are speaking. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I. xi. 134 'No, I shan't!' said Molly, shaking her head. 1897 MAX PEMBERTON *Queen of Jesters* IV. 176 The Corsican shook his head, implying that he doubted.

c. *To shake one's ears*: lit. of an animal, hence *fig.* of a person likened to an animal, (*a*) to wake up, bestir oneself; (*b*) to show indifference or dislike, pleasure in freedom, mirth, etc.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 35 Euphues..began to shake his eares, and was soone apparailed. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* i. 34–40 When Gods threatenings are vttered vnto vs, a great many of vs do but shake our eares at them. *Ibid.* viii. 1–4. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 924 [Hounds] Shaking their scratch'd ears, bleeding as they go. 1601 — *Jul. C.* IV. i. 26 Then take we downe his Load, And turne him off (Like to the empty Asse) to shake his eares, And graze in Commons. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 134. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 42 Thriftie villagers Have long since shak'd their Ears. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 220 The Mountebanck shak'd his ears, (as if he drank base wine). 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to H. S. Conway* 8 June, How merry my ghost will be, and shake its ears to hear itself quoted as a person of consummate prudence!

d. To wave (the hand) in farewell.

1569 W. HUBBARD *Ceyx & Alcyone* A v, She sawe him becking with his hand: And she likewise her hands did shake [Ovid: *concussaque manu dantem sibi signa maritum prima videt, redditque notas*]. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcyone* 77 [She] first her Husband on the Poop espies Shaking his Hand..; She took the Sign; and shook her Hand again. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, Amelia..acknowledged her presence..by kissing and shaking her fingers playfully in the direction of the vehicle.

e. *To shake one's elbow*: to gamble with dice.

1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law Case* II. i, This comes of your ..Shaking your elbow at the Taule-boord. 1705, 1826 [see ELBOW 4 e]. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 10. 47 A famous gamester..was elected Margaret-professor of divinity: so great, it seems, is the analogy between dusting of cushions, and shaking of elbows.

f. *To shake a foot, leg* (see LEG *sb.* 2 b), *toe, one's bones, feet, heels, hough* (Sc.), *shanks*, also † *to shake it* = to dance.

1661 *Thrac. Wonder* II. C 4, Son, set down thy Hook, and shake it lustily. 1667 DRYDEN *Tempest* IV. iii, Now wou'd I lay greatness aside, and shake my heels, if I had but Musick. 1828 J. RUDDIMAN *Tales & Sk.* 62 When he shakes his bowed houghs to the sound o' Rab Murray's creaking catgut. 1830 BUCKSTONE *Wreck Ashore* II. i, Dance with? with me, to be sure; though I hav'n't shaken a toe these twenty years. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XVII, They hav'nt a lilt to shake their bones to. 1850 THACKERAY *Mr. Malony's Acc. Ball* x, in *Punch* Aug. XIX. 53 And I'd like to hear the pipers blow, And shake a fut with Fanny there! 1884 D. GRANT *Lays & Leg. North* 99 Resolved to shak' their heels,..In jigs and Highland reels.

† *transf.* 1595 A. B. *Noblen. Asse* D 3, Whereupon, he caused him with the rest, to be hanged by the neckes, and (as the common prouerbe is) sent them to shake their heeles against the winde. 1611 CHAPMAN *May-Day* I. 10 Let her shake her heeles..I would make her shake her heeles too, afore I would shake mine thus.

g. *refl.* Of a person or animal: To give a shake to his or its body (e.g. in order to throw off wet, snow, dust, etc., or to remove the stiffness caused by repose); *fig.* to bestir oneself, arouse oneself to activity. Also with complement, *to shake oneself free, loose, awake, sober*, and with const. *from.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 75 Into an Egle he gan transforme after that himself he schok. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 497 He [Bayard] shaked hymselfe for to make falle the water from hym. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lii. 2 Shake the [1611 shake thy selfe] from the dust, arise & stonde vp, o Ierusalem. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* V. Wks. 1851 II. 55 The regent saw the danger of allowing the duke to shake himself loose, in this manner, from his engagements. 1845 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* i, 'What's the matter?' asked the watchman..surlily shaking himself. 1859 FARRAR *Jul. Home* xvii. 222 A large and fierce mastiff also shook himself from sleep. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* iii, Just shake yourself sober and listen, will you? 1888 STOKES *Celtic Ch.* 153 The Roman Church determined at last to shake itself free from this thraldom. 1899 B. MARIE DIX *Hugh Gwyeth* xvi. 261 ''Twill be sunrise soon', Hugh said, and shook himself awake.

h. *intr.* for *refl.*

1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 255 They shake clear from one surrounding group merely to ally themselves with another.

7. *trans.* To cause to move irregularly to and fro by external force; to make to flutter or quiver; to agitate. *Naut.* To cause (a sail) to flutter in the wind. Also with adv., as *about, abroad.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 176 (Gr.) Guðweard gumena.. wælhlencan sceoc. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 406 With many a tempest hadde his berd been shake. 14.. *Beryn* 1762 Who so shoke a rynge, Ther no man is within, þe rynging to answere. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 25 Whan thy medowes be mowed,..if the grasse be very thycke, it wolde be shaken with handes, or with a shorte pykforke. 1534 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 7 Went ye out to se a rede shaken with the wynde? *c* 1570 *Buggbears* I. ii. 134 Ther they shaked Iron chaynes. 1648 T. HILL *Strength Saints* 5 It is clean water indeed, that when the glasse is shaked, there is no filth appeares. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Demetrius* (Rtldg.) 615/2 Bocchoris..ordered the man to tell the gold that she demanded into a bason, and shake it about before her, that she might enjoy the sight of it. 1797 COLMAN *Br. Grins, Night-gown & Slippers* (1804) 30 When taken, To be well shaken. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* I. 205 The Queen Shaking the beamy reins Bade them [the coursers of the air] pursue their way. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* XXVII, Genvil slowly unrolled the pennon—then shook it abroad. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 32 The glass of Time..Every moment, lightly shaken, ran itself in golden sands. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 175 At which we shook the sword within the sheath Like heroes. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 41 Keeping the ship close to the wind without shaking the sails.

slang. 1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 2), To shake a cloth in the wind; to be hanged in chains.

b. With additional notion of a purpose of dislodging or discharging something adhering or contained.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 922 She gan the hous to dighte, ..Preyynge the chambreres..To hasten hem, and faste swepe and shake. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Esdras* [*Neh.*] v. 13 Y schook [1382 shakide out] my bosum, and Y seide, So God schake awei [1382 shake out] ech man, that fillith not this word. 1530 PALSGR. 700/1 Shake the table clothe or you laye it on agayne. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iii. 7 And ere our comming see thou shake the bags Of hoording Abbots. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 238 You may..shake for Food the long-abandon'd Oak. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 499 Society, grown weary of the load, Shakes her encumber'd lap. 1847 *Act* 10 & 11 *Vict.* c. 89 § 28 Every Person who beats or shakes any Carpet, Rug, or Mat.

8. To grasp or seize and move (a person) roughly to and fro; esp. (*a*) as a punishment or in a struggle; also in phr. *to shake by the beard* or *ears.*

To shake a fall (Wrestling): see FALL *sb.*1 13.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7509 And i..scok þam [*sc.* a bear and a lion] by þe berdes sua. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1823 [The wrestlers'] brestes to-gyder met;..Ilk oþer pulled, ilk oþer schok. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 253 And so they shoke and lugged eche other, but finably hercules cast theseus. 1565 J. PHILLIPS *Patient Grissell* 541 (Malone Soc.), Jacke sauce I shake you by the eares. 1611 BIBLE *Job* XVI. 12 He hath also taken me by my necke, and shaken me to pieces. 1665 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 237 P. J...gript him and shakt him and tould him tythes should quickly be putt downe. 1795 BURNS *To Collector Mitchell* Postscr., Grim loon! he [Death] got me by the fecket, And sair me sheuk. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* VI, Oliver..shook him, in the violence of his rage, till his teeth chattered in his head. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. VI. 390 Dr. May stepped towards her, almost as if he could have shaken her.

(*b*) for the purpose of arousing him. Also *transf.* of an inanimate agency: To rouse or startle (a person *from* sleep).

1530 PALSGR. 706/1, I shake one that is aslepe tho [*sic*] wake him, *je sace*. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 319, I heard a humming,..which did awake me: I shak'd you Sir, and cride. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 1024 Sudden he starts, Shook from his tender trance. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiv, Though he shake thee something roughly by the shoulders to awake thee. 1872 J. G. HOLLAND *Marble Prophecy* 84 Silence thy strong pulse repeating Wakes me—shakes me—from my rest.

b. Of an animal: To worry (its antagonist or prey).

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Excutio*, A lamme shaken in pieces. 1589 L. WRIGHT *Hunt. Antichrist* 11 John Wicklif an eger bloudhound..so hunted and shaked that venemous Dragon in his time, as the woundes he gave him, coulde neuer yet be cured. 1611 COTGR., *Goussepiller*, to shake, or tug, as a Dog doth a Cat, &c. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 272 A mad dog..met two men, both of whom he shook and bit. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Shack*, a word used in encouraging a curr-dog to worry a fox; 'shack him!' is the cry.

c. To rouse up (an animal) to activity; to 'shake up' a horse (see 21 c), also *absol.*

1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* xi, This is the time to shake to the front, and cut down three of the best riders England can produce. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Shake* 5 A farmer buying a horse said, 'Shack him over the stones, let's see if he's got a thistle in 'is toe.'

9. To clasp and move to and fro (another person's hand) as a customary salutation or an expression of friendly feeling. a. *To shake hands* (said of two persons mutually saluting thus); also (of one person) *to shake hands with* (another):

(*a*) as a greeting, sign of friendship or goodwill, confirmation of a promise, bargain, etc.; (of combatants) as a sign of the absence of ill-feeling.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* xii. 12 Whervpon they shoke hondes [Gr. λαβόντες δεξιάς], and so they departed to their tentes. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L ij b, That they maye shake handes with me. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 But bothe [combatants] be contented and shake handes. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 52 And coming near together, they [*sc.* wrestlers] shake hands, and embrace one another with a cheerful look. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 357 They shook Hands, and swore to one another that they would be reveng'd. 1826 COLERIDGE *Six Months W. Ind.* 287, I would rather shake hands with a highwayman than with a gentleman who [etc.]. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* iv, Let me see you shake hands, and let us have no more of this nonsense. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, 'Sit down, sir', said Mr. Boffin, shaking hands with him. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 48 Now we have shaken hands on the bargain.

fig. 1565 W. ALLEN *Def. Cath. Ch. Doctr.* Pref. 20, I feare

me they haue indented with deathe, and shaked handes withe helle. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, I. iv. 102. 1659 D. PELL *Impr. Sea* 588 *note*, Resolve, that the Orient shall sooner shake hands with the West. 1797 T. HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* II. lx. (ed. 2) 367 Thus do..harvest and the..spring shake hands together. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x. (Rtldg.) 372 Here it was..that I first shook hands with sensuality. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii. 12 Application and I, having once shaken hands, became very good acquaintance. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Culture* 21 That famous son of Philip of Macedon, who with his conquering hosts caused the language of Socrates and Plato to shake hands with the sacred dialect [etc.].

(*b*) as a farewell.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 37 We shoke handes, and parted. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 128. 1826 COLERIDGE *Six Months W. Ind.* 74 Having shaken hands with kind Antonio ..we mounted our horses. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XL. 29 But thou and I have shaken hands, Till growing winters lay me low.

fig. 1577-87 HARRISON *England* II. xi. 186/2 in *Holinshed*, It is the custome of the more idle sort hauing once serued,.. to shake hand with labour, for euer. 1674 S. VINCENT *Yng. Gallants Acad.* 99 His word and his meaning are quadrate, and never shake hands and part. 1742 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 386, I have long since shook hands with the world. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXXII, A lonely woman, who has shaken hands with every earthly hope.

b. *To shake* (a person's) *hand, to shake* (a person) *by the hand* = to shake hands with.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L ij b, That they maye.. shake me by the fyste. *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1908) F j, Let vs agree like friends, and shake eche other by the fist. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 231 With that he..shuik our handis twa. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 75 Let me shake thy hand, I neuer hated thee. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 329 ¶ 15 He shook him by the Hand at parting. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, He shook Silas earnestly by the hand. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 357 The Dean gave me his first and second fingers to shake at our parting.

c. absol. *To shake* = to shake hands. Now only *U.S. slang* (chiefly *imper.*).

[1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 185 Let each man render me his bloody hand. First Marcus Brutus will I shake with you.] 1891 J. NEWMAN *Scamping Tricks* vii. 59 Shake. That's right. 1903 F. NORRIS *Deal in Wheat* iv, 'Sold ! Sold !' shouted Hornung...Billy, shake on it.

10. To put into a quaking, quivering, or vibrating motion (a thing normally firm or fixed); to cause (a structure) to totter; hence, to impair the stability of, to weaken; occas. †to loosen (something rooted). *To shake down*: to cause to totter and fall.

c 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 320 Þe þænne swyðlice þa heannyssa þæs roderes sceoð mid his þodenum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7259 Þe post þat al þat huse vpbare Wit bath his handes he it scok. *c* 1400 MAUNDV. (Roxb.) v. 17 He tuke þe post in his armes and schoke doune all þe hous apon þam. 1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* III. xi. 123 And with his great artillary [he] sore battered and shaked the Walles. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxi. 146 With y^e^ other shot past, they had somwhat shaken their yron works. 1610 *Gaultier's Rodomont.* E 2, A Bullet..fel into my mouth, shook two of my formost teeth, without iniury or offence vnto mee. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VI*, 64 The Regent..by secret mining and violent Batteries so shooke the Walls, that they agreed to yeild it up. 1690 BOYLE *Ess. Effects of Motion* iii. 17 The tremulous motion of the Air..has been able sensibly to shake..the glass-windows of houses. 1715 POPE *Iliad* XV. 119 Jove..Shakes all the thrones of heaven. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxviii, Age shakes Athena's tower, but spares gray Marathon. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* XC. 19 Not less the yet-loved sire would..shake The pillars of domestic peace. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ix. 63 A peal like that of thunder shook the air. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 58 Parts of two monasteries had been shaken down by earthquakes.

b. *fig.* (*a*) with object a person (in faith, resolution, etc.) or his faith, purpose, testimony, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXI. (*Eugenia*) 159 He..fel in disputacion with ane erretike, þat richt wise wes in clergy at dewyse, þat sa wele schoke þe abbot, til [etc.]. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 47 That no compunctious visitings of Nature Shake my fell purpose. 1625 DONNE *Serm.* 3 Apr. 6 The righteous is bolde as a Lyon, not easily shaked. 1646 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 18 The confidence her Majesty had formerly in mee was ever after much shaken. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Twelve Serm.* viii. (1730) 241 Our Religion, which no Arguments can shake. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXIII, These attentions were intended to shake him in his religious profession. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 798 *note*, It may almost be thought impertinent to endeavour to shake their testimony. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xl, Adam had not been shaken in his belief that Hetty was innocent. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 48 Let nothing shake your trust in her.

(*b*) with object (the health or strength of) a person, his body or mind.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iii. 17 It comes from old Andronicus, Shaken with sorrowes in vngratefull Rome. 1651 R. WITTIE tr. *J. Primrose's Pop. Err. Physic* II. ix. 109 The body is shaked, and weakened by the violence of diseases. 1783 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) II. 75 Shook as his frame has been, his mind has lost, as yet, none of its energy. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXX, Her health also began to be shaken. 1846 *Edin. Rev.* LXXXIV. 176 If your nerves are apt to be shaken by the click of a knife in the dark passage of a hostelry. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXIV, Too much shaken in mind and body to compose a letter.

(*c*) with object a person, institution, etc., with regard to his or its stability of position.

1545 *Primer of Hen. VIII* (1546) D d iij b, We haue now suffered much punishment, being..shaken with so many fluddes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 48 It is onely the preaching of Gods word, that shaketh theyr [*sc.* the Papists'] power and dignitie. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. 10 Now God vouchsafe..to confute them which go about to shake downe his doctrine. 1625 DONNE *Serm.* 3 Apr. 17 That great Storme, that shaked the State, and the Church. 1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 104 Her blows not shook but riveted his Throne. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 457 A great part of the property of the Nation..was shaken by the prospect. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* (1772) II. 17 Such a conduct would have shook him on the throne. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, Such reflections on government..as tend to..shake the solid foundations of civil society. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 224 An attempt was made to shake the dominion which he had established over Wessex. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 145 The Thirty Years' War..hardly shook a single society out of existence. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. v. 14 With wrongs would they redub the wrongs they felt, Shake down the state, and furiously be freed.

11. Of physical infirmity, emotion, etc.: To cause (a person, his frame, etc.) to quiver or tremble; to agitate, convulse.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* viii. 14 He say his wyues moder liggynge, and shakun with feueris. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 146 Bot if this Fievere a womman take, Sche schal be wel mor harde schake. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 124 Hee is so shak'd of a burning quotidian Tertian, that it is most lamentable to behold. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 119 A sudden fit of ague shook him. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Frenchm. T.* (1799) I. 287 Extreme emotion..seemed to shake his whole frame. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 27 And she turn'd—her bosom shaken with a sudden storm of sighs. 1895 P. HEMINGWAY *Out of Egypt* I. xi. 112 The memory of his loss shook him with sobs.

b. To move or stir the feelings of; to disturb, upset.

1567 DRANT *Horace Ep.* I. x. D viij, Who so was to much rauished..In flow of wealth, him chaunge of flow yea to much shall yshake. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 217 Vpon a mistaking, that the euennesse of his Maiesties disposition might be shaked by this insinuation. 1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Grey* I. i, The genius of our isle is shook with sorrow. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 166 Enjoyment..in the thoughts that shake mankind. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XV, She will be shaken when she first hears the news. 1891 HARDY *Tess* XXXVI, The unexpected quality of this confession..shook him indescribably.

c. To cause (a person, his sides) to quiver with laughter or mirth. Also of a person, *to shake one's sides*, to be convulsed with laughter.

? 1593 DRAYTON *Eglog* vi. Poems (1619) 454 The Man alone, Which once with laughter shook'st the Shepheards Boord. 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* s.v., She shaked her sides with laughter. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 548 It shakes the sides of splenetic disdain. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* i. 197 A sight to shake The midriff of despair with laughter. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiv, [To] shake his honest sides with many an old half-forgotten tale of fun.

d. Austral. slang. *To be shook on*: have an infatuation for.

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* II. 46 He was awful shook on Mad; but she wouldn't look at him. *Ibid.* II. 291, I must have a dance; blest if I don't !..I'm regular shook on the polka.

12. With adv. or phrase: To reduce by shaking (sense 7) to a specified condition. *To shake down*: to cause to settle or subside by shaking. *To shake together*: to shake so as to ensure intimate mixture or subsidence into smaller compass.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* vi. 38 A good measure, and wel fillid, and shakun to gidere. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 191 [They] dare not shake the snow from off their Cassockes, least they shake themselues to peeces. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Voiturer*, Throughly to digest, (or, as we say, to shake downe) his meat by..exercise. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 127 Some [of the dancers] there were so ragged, that a swift Galliard would almost have shaked them into nakedness. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 280 Heav'n..Shakes all together, and produces—You. 1747 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Bute* 24 July (1893) II. 153 The land so stony, I was almost shook to pieces. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 792 Shake the mixture well together. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 117/2 She was shaking her match out, as women do [after lighting the gas]. 1898 G. B. SHAW *You never can tell* Plays II. 209 She shakes her dress into order..and goes to the window.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* (*a*) *To shake down*: to find temporary accommodation, esp. with reference to sleeping, to occupy a 'shake-down'.

1858-9 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary India* (1860) I. iii. 40 An eligible apartment in which some five or six of us 'shook down' for the night. 1869 *Punch* 24 July 31/1, I have often professed myself able to shake down anywhere and rough it. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* xi, She was led off to the cabin occupied by the captain and his wife.., the captain shaking down where he could.

(*b*) *To shake down into*: to settle *into*, to accommodate oneself to (circumstances, a condition, position, etc.). *To shake together*: (of a company of persons) to mix, get on friendly terms with each other.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I. i, I spent a day or two..before I got shaken down into my place here. *Ibid.* I. xi, The rest of the men had shaken together well, and seemed to enjoy themselves. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* I. x. 107 'We shall shake down into uniformity before long..,' said he [referring to his second marriage]. 1889 *Cornhill Mag.* June 561 We have scarcely had time to shake down into the usual routine of a well-ordered household.

13. *trans.* To dislodge or get rid of (something, a person's hold, etc.) by shaking one's body, limbs, clothes, etc. Const. *from, off*; also with adv., *away, aside, down*. (For *shake off* see 19.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20962 (Gött.), Bot of his hand..He schok and in þe fire it kest. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvii. 40 And tyme schal come whanne thou schalt shake awei..his ȝok fro thi nollis. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 473 Sho..bear hym..vnto þe galous, & evyn vndernethe þe galows sho shuke hym down. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 261 Vile thing let loose, Or I will shake thee from me like a serpent. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 112, I haue shak't that Vermine from off my fingers ends. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 365 He was obliged..to shake the sand from his cloaths. 1791 COWPER *Judgem. Poets* 11 [She would] shake with fury, to the ground, The garland that she wore. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 137 She shook aside The hand that play'd the patron with her curls. 1848 JAMES *Beauchamp* II. ix. 195 If the gentleman..seizes our hands, we can often shake him away.

fig. 1340 *Ayenb.* 4 Vor to ssake a-way heuinesse an drede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 291 Vnderstond, ȝe kyngis; and schaak of ȝou rudenesse. 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 155 Iohne Kmnox..schuke louse all the actis of Paipis..maid be continual success of tyme. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 40 And 'tis our fast intent, To shake all Cares and Businesse from our Age. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *My First Play*, I never pass it without shaking some forty years from off my shoulders. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 3 He could not wholly shake from his mind the influences of the age in which he lived.

b. *To shake the dust from* or *off one's feet*: lit. in the Gospel passages (see also *shake off*, 19 a); hence *allusively*, to take one's departure from an uncongenial place.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 11 Sceacas..þæt asca of ..fotum iurum, *excutite pulueren de pedibus uestris*. 1382 WYCLIF *ibid.*, Shake awey the powdre fro ȝoure feet. 1672 tr. *J. de Luna's Pursuit Lazarillo* vii. O 7, I shaked upon them the dust off [1622 of] my shoes. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. i, I then paid off my lodgings, and 'shaking the dust from my feet', bid a long adieu to London. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. vi, At length the pilgrim shook the dust off his feet at Heidelberg.

c. *U.S.* To get rid of, cast off (a person); to give up (a habit).

1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 24 But she should shake you, Kernel, thet she should just shake you—is what gits me. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 779/1 Then Ruth shook me. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 13/2 You'll have to shake the drink; that goes without saying.

14. To dislodge or eject by shaking the receptacle or support: a. const. *from*, etc., or with adv. *down, off*, etc. (For *shake out* see 20.)

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 3 The levys are doun schakyn with the schouris. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 198 Than Elynour taketh The mashe bolle, and shaketh The hennes donge away. 1545 in Leadam *Court Requests* (Selden Soc.) 187 He..lyked theym nott whervpon he showke theym forthe of hys bagg. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 179 Hence rotten thing, or I shall shake thy bones Out of thy garments. *Ibid.* IV. vi. 99 As Hercules did shake downe Mellow Fruite. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, 'The first jolt had like to have shaken me out of my hammock. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 31 Shake this earth away from the roots. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v. *Shack*, I'll goä shack sum cherries doon.

†b. *simply.* To cast down, scatter (fruit, blossom, corn, etc.) by shaking; = *shake down* above. Also, to turn out (a fox) from a bag (cf. 20 a, quot. 1856).

1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joye* Wks. 1910 II. 535 The weakest wynde, can shake their bravest bloomes. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T ij, The wallnut tree wel bet when his nuts are shaken, beareth more fruit the yeare ensuing. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 140 It..Confounds thy fame, as whirlewinds shake faire budds. 1605 — *Mach.* IV. iii. 238 Macbeth Is ripe for shaking. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* III. i, A sweet young blossome shak'd before the time. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 185 On Thursday the 2d instant, a fox was shook near Mr. Markey's.

Proverbial phr. 1557 EDGEWORTH *Serm.* CCXXX. C 1, All this wynde shoke no corne, all this moued him not. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 1 All this wind shakes none of my Corne, quoth Perceuall. 1629 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Wit & Mirth* Wks. 1630 II. 200/2 Wel quoth Sara, all this winde shakes no corne.

c. *intr.* Of fruit, blossom, corn: To fall, scatter. Now *dial.*

1725 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 130 Being again timely ripe, it mixes and shakes before any other Grain. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 350 To *Shack* (that is, to shake); to shed, as corn at harvest. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 155 These [kinds of oats] are apt to shed the grain or shake, if allowed to be fully ripe before they are cut down. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. IV. *Comm.* 6 The fine seeds of southernwood..slightly shook. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Shake*, This corn shacks out wi' t' wind.

15. To distribute with a shake, to scatter, sprinkle. Also with *forth, down*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy*. 2206, I graunt thee þe gouernaunse of þis gret mode, And shake it on þi shulders. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 14 The perly droppis schake [*pa.pple.*] in silvir schouris. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 595 Wheron stode a lybbard,.. And with his forme foote he shoke forthe this wrytyng. 1620 *Hist. Frier Rush* (1810) 32 With his forke he shaked the straw abroad. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 711 Satan..like a Comet burn'd, That..from his horrid hair Shakes Pestilence and Warr. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 318 The Winter keen Shook forth his waste of snows. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ii. 25 Shake a little Flour over it. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi, 'Shake down plenty of straw in the great barn,' said the Laird. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 11 When shaken over a sheet of paper they [the spores] are scarcely visible to the naked eye.

b. To cast (dice) usually with a preliminary shake; hence to gamble *away* (an estate); also with personal object, to 'throw' against (a person) *for* whatever is staked.

1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* 47 Dice are shakte. 1693

Humours Town 25 To shake away an Estate to known Rooks that live by the Dice. 1875 Wood & Lapham *Waiting for Mail* 79 I'll shake you for drinks.

16. †**a.** *To shake* (a person) *out of* (property): to rob, plunder. *Obs.* **b.** *slang.* To steal (goods); to rob (a person). Now *Austral.*

*c*1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4514 He þat schakith Men out of hire good. 1538 Elyot *Dict.* Add., *Excutere aliquem*, to robbe one, to shake oone out of his clothes. 1567 Harman *Caveat* xix. (1869) 67 When these [walking morts] get ought..as money or apparell, they are quickly shaken out of all by the vpright men. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Shake*, to draw any thing from the pocket. He shook the swell of his fogle; he robbed the gentleman of his silk handkerchief. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Shake*, to steal or rob; as I *shook* a chest of *slop*, I stole a chest of tea; I've been *shook* of my *skin*, I have been robbed of my purse. 1859 H. Kingsley *G. Hamlyn* xix. II. 22, I shook a nag, and got bowled out and lagged. 1903 W. Craig *Adv. Austral. Goldf.* 191 The man..wondered if 'he' was worth 'shaking'.

17. a. *refl.* and *intr.* Of timber: To split or crack. Also *refl.*

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 149 The Boards will Tear or Shake, which is in vulgar English, Split or Crack. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purch.* 136 The..Boards are set..under some cover'd Shed...For if..the Sun shine fiercely upon 'em..they will tear or shake 'em,..that is, in plain English, split or crack. 1844 W. Barnes *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss., *Shook*, split, as wood by shrinking.

b. *trans.* To separate the staves of (a cask). Cf. Shake *sb.* 10 a.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., *To shake a cask*, to take it to pieces, and pack up the parts. 1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 95.

18. *Mus.* To accompany or execute with a shake; also *absol.* or *intr.* to execute a shake (see Shake *sb.* 5).

1621 Cotgr., *Gringoter*, to warble quauer, shake with the voice. 1632 Sherwood *s.v.*, To shake the voice (in singing), *gringoter*. 1659 C. Simpson *Division-Violist* I. 9 Open [-shake] is, when a Finger is shaked in that distance from when it was removed, or is to be set down. *Ibid.*, Wider then that [*sc.* an interval of a tone] we never shake. 1676 T. Mace *Musick's Monum.* 104 The Back-fall may be either Plain, or Shaked. 1746 Tansur *New Mus. Gram.* 23 A Shake, or Trilloe..is, to shake, tremble, or warble your Voice, or Instrument. 1828 *Examiner* 664/1 She..absolutely introduced two consecutive fifths by shaking on F instead of descending to D.

19. Shake off. a. To cast off or get rid of with a shake or an effort. *lit.* and *fig.*

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. vii. 13 Repente þe,..And shryf þe sharpliche and shak of alle pruyde. 1535 Coverdale *Mark* vi. 11 Shake of the duste from your feet. 1611 Bible *ibid.* 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 42 b, Through the onely..eating hereof, they shake off many sicknesses. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 243 A withered Hermite fiuescore winters worne, Might shake off fiftie, looking in her eye. 1642 J. Eaton *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 366 Having shaken off our sinne (as Sampson had shaked off his new ropes). 1671 Milton *Samson* 409, I Might easily have shook off all her snares. 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Jan., I walked lustily in the Park by moonshine till eight, to shake off my dinner and wine. 1719 Ozell tr. *Misson's Mem. Trav. Eng.* 26 Then the Bull bellows and bounds, and kicks about to shake off the Dog. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 365 The most industrious shake off their old garments about eight o'clock. 1827 N. P. Willis *Widow of Nain* 18 The sentinel Shook off his slumber. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xvii. (1875) 305 Poland, once tributary, had shaken off the yoke. 1888 Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* III. xlvii. 223, I know from experience how difficult it is to shake off old associations.

b. To get rid of (a person); to draw away from (a competitor in a race).

1530 Palsgr. 700/2, I shake of, as one shaketh of or awaye from hym a person or mater that he wolde be rydde of. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxix. 34 Quhen he listis, he schaks hir of be diuorce or hir wirreis. 1608 Tarlton *Cobler Canterb.* (1844) 117, I shakt him off as well as I could, but he would haue no nay at all. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Sept., I am glad I have wholly shaken off that family. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* vi, Exerting his strength, he suddenly shook off both the finishers of the law. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* xiii. 324 'You thought to shake me off, did you?' roared Mr. T. as they landed together in a large grass field. 1878 Tennyson *The Revenge* viii, And a dozen times we shook 'em off as a dog that shakes his ears.

†**c.** To let off (a shot). *Obs. rare*[−1].

1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* iv. 32 a, Either parte shooke of their shotte, and coupled them selues tegether in a braue Skirmishe.

d. Of a plant: To shed (leaves, fruit).

1388 Wyclif *Isa.* xxiv. 13 If a fewe fruitis of olyue trees that ben left ben schakun of fro the olyue tre. 1575 Gascoigne *Kenelworth* II. v. Wks. 1910 II. 123 The Trees shooke off their leaves.

e. *Naut.* To unfasten (a sail).

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* v. 22 When we shake off a Bonnet. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., To *shake*, to cast off fastenings, as..To shake off a bonnet of a fore-and-aft sail.

20. Shake out. a. To cast out or remove with a shake. *lit.* and *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 þe scorpiunes cundel þet heo bret in hire boseme, schek hit ut mid schrifte. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14682 Luytel notes þey toke, & holede þem, þe kerneles out schoke. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 368 Mynyster of the sextry schal..haue oute the tapettes.. and the duste schake oute. 1576 Gascoigne *Droomme of Doomes day* I. Wks. 1910 II. 238 You shall never shake a brybe out of your hand, unlesse you shut covetousnesse out of your brest. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, This they dextrously turning, shake out like a pancake. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 449 We shook the plants out, and shortened their roots..and repotted them. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. II. v. 135 A bag-fox being shaken out before hounds by the keeper.

b. *nonce-uses.* To bring about by 'wagging'; to produce by shaking.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iv. 24 Many a mans tongue shakes out his masters vndoing. 1608 Middleton *Trick to catch Old One* v. ii, Chiefly dice, those true outlanders, That shake out beggars, thieves, and panders.

†**c.** To cast out the contents of; to empty. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Esdras* [*Neh.*] v. 13, I shakide out my bosum. 1639 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 213 Harie Rollock, by his sermons, moved them to shake out their purses.

d. To unfasten or unfurl and let out with a shake (a flag, sail); to straighten out by shaking (something crumpled or folded).

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Schaik out the flag on the top mast. 1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 394, I dare not shake the reefs out of the sail. 1849 Lever *Confess. Con Cregan* I. xiv, Old Ben Crosseley, of the 'Lively Biddy', that wouldn't stand being ordered to shake out his canvas. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xx. (1856) 153 We had shaken out our reefs, and were driving before the wind. 1902 Snaith *Wayfarers* xvii, He..produced a fresh wig..and having shook it out, discarded the modest wig he was wearing.

e. *intr.* To show visible signs of trembling.

1843 Sir T. Watson *Lect. Physic* I. xl. 709 [In] the dumb ague, or the dead ague; the patient is said not to shake out.

21. Shake up. †**a.** To rattle (a chain). *Obs.*

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 356 þey..shoken vp þe cheynes þer sterten vp þe swannes; Eche on chese to his.

b. To shake together for the purpose of combining or mixing; to shake (a liquid) so as to stir up the sediment.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Eye*, [The mixture is to be] thoroughly shook up every time it is to be used. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiii, Mr. Weller, shaking up the ale, by describing small circles with the pot, preparatory to drinking. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 84 If we shake up a mixture of liquids of different densities.

c. To rouse up with or as with a shake.

1850 Allingham *Poems, Morning* i, The wind shakes up the sleepy clouds. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iv, Bob..hollers to his 'osses, and shakes 'em up, and away we goes. 1896 *Daily News* 30 Apr. 3/4 The favourite always had his race well won,..although..Loates had to shake him up.

d. To loosen (bedding, etc.) by shaking.

1833 W. H. Maxwell *Field Bk.* s.v. *Training*, After he [the horse] has had his food, the litter is to be shook up. 1857 Anne Marsh *Rose of Ashurst* vi, [He] had..shook up and arranged my pillows, in a way most comfortable to me.

e. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) II. E e e 2, Shake her up in the wind, let the sails touch! the order to the helmsman to steer the ship so as to let the sails shake with their edges to the wind.

†**f.** To rate soundly, abuse violently. (Very common in 16–17th c.) Also, to harass, afflict.

a 1553 Udall *Roister D.* II. ii. (Arb.) 33, I was nere so shoke vp afore since I was borne. 1576 Pettie *Petite Pallace* 53 b, The king..sent for my youth Iphis, shooke him vp with sharpe threatninges, and charged him..neuer after to be seene at the Court. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 30. 1620 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 145 What was Eliah to Ahab?.. that he durst..shake him up roundly for..his bloody abominable oppressions? 1637 Heylin *Antid. Lincoln* iii. 9 Your next vagarie is upon the Doctor...The Doctor thus shaked up, you goe on againe unto the point of Iurisdiction.

g. To upset the nerves of, agitate, confuse.

1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* ii. 31 'Well, you was shook up and silly', said Dan.

IV. 22. The verb-stem in combination: †**shake-brained** *a.*, of unsound mind, crazy, crack-brained; †**shake breast** = Wave-*breast* (cf. *Geneva Bible* 1560, *Lev.* x. 15 shakē breast, *Num.* vi. 20 shaken breast); †**shake-day-sheaf** = Wave-*sheaf*; **shake-hands**, an act of shaking hands with another person; hence *shake-hand* attrib.; **shake-lurk** *slang*, a sham official document falsely declaring that the bearer has suffered shipwreck; †**shake offering**, a Wave *offering*; †**shake rotten** *a.*, a term of abuse; †**shake-sheaf** = *shake-day-sheaf*; **shake-tail** *a.*, of a woman, loose.

1793 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 126 A..*shake-brained fellow. 1647 *Husbandm. Plea agst. Tithes* 38 Then the custome is (in some Parishes) for the Parson to have a tenth joynt, a heave shoulder, or a *shake breast. *c* 1659 Br. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. xxi. 278 God, saith Gregory, requires not only *pectus fidei*..the shake-breast of faith, but [etc.]. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Levit.* xxiii. 11 This *shake-daie-sheaf was a pregnant type of Christ's rising again. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* I. 491 Not a little provoked at the *shake-hand salutation her son had accorded him. 1811 *Ora & Julet* I. 235 After..a hearty *shake-hands with Brewster. 1889 D. C. Murray *Dangerous Catspaw* 33 He..executed a hearty shake-hands. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 219 Armed with these [sham official documents], the patterer becomes a 'lurker'...Shipwreck is called a '*shake lurk'. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 574 The *shake offering was shaken to and fro. 1595 Peele *Old Wives T.* D, This *shake rotten parish that will not burie lack. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Levit.* xxiii. 17 The *shake-sheaf..of their barlie-harvest. 1782 Eliz. Blower *Geo. Bateman* II. 120 A couple of *shake-tail jabbering wenches.

Shake·able (ʃēˑkăbˈl), *a.* [f. Shake *v.* + -able.] That may be shaken.

1869 Ruskin *Q. of Air* § 54 Anything you can find in the universe that is shakeable.

Sha·ke-bag. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. Shake *v.*]

1. *Cock-fighting.* (See quots. 1688, 1709). Cf. Shackbag 2.

1663 *State-Scuffle* 3 And when two shake-bags are thrown out, To try the Battel yet in doubt, When weary still they wheele about More eager. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 252/1 A Shake-bag, is a Cock turned out of the Bag to fight another Cock, unsight, unseen, or unmatched; a Battle at a venture. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2328/4, 40 Cocks on each side will be shewn...And every Battel 5*l.* each side, and 50*l.* the odd Battel, and four Shake Bags for 10*l.* each Cock. 1709 R. H. *Roy. Pastime Cock-fighting* iv. 19 Yet are these Birds commonly reduced into two sorts only,..the great Game Cock, or Shake-bag, and the little Match, or Battle-Cock. 1777 [T. Swift] *Gamblers* I. 829 The Pit shall roar, fierce Shake-bag flap the wing. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.*, *Shakebag*, a game-cock of the largest size.

transf. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* I. 65 *Wit.*..Will you go to a Cock-match? *Sir Wil.* With a Wench, Tony? Is she a shake-bag Sirrah? 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 30 Apr., I would pit her..against the best shake-bag of the whole main.

2. A rogue, scoundrel. Also (see quots. 1796 and 1823 in 3). Cf. Shackbag 1.

[Cf. the following: 1592 *Arden of Feversham* (title-p.), His ..wife, who..hyred two desperate ruffins Blackwill and Shakbag, to kill him. (See also quot. 1595 Shake *v.* 7 b.)]

1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 104 Being estimated..by the blacklegs, rooks and shakebags as a complete knowing one. 1796 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Shag-bag*, or *Shake-bag*, a poor sneaking fellow, a man of no spirit: a term borrowed from the cock-pit.

3. *attrib.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. xi. 252 *Shake-back* [sic] *Battle*, is a fight between two Cocks unmatched, unsight, unseen. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf, Shake-bag match*—in cocking; the fighting adventitiously, or guessing at weights and pairing, while the fowls are still in their respective bags. 'A Shake-bag fellow', if he be no pick-pocket, is at least a seedy cove.

†**Sha·kebuckler.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Shake *v.* + Buckler *sb.* Cf. *swashbuckler.*] Only in *Sim Shakebuckler*, a nickname for a serving man.

1550 Becon *Gov. Virtue* Wks. 1564 I. 257 That a poore mayde and a simple Sym Shakebuckelare, made him [Peter] both to denye [etc.]. 1560 — *Catech.* VI. ibid. 523 Nor [suffer their children] to be of the nomber of suche simme shakebucklers, as in theyr yong yeares fal vnto seruing.

Shakebut(t, obs. forms of Sackbut.

1593 G. Peele *Hon. Garter* D 1, Then Shalmes and Shakebutts sounded in the ayre. 1628 P. Smart *Serm.* (*Ps.* xxxi. 7) 22 With Shakebuts, and..all kinde of Musicke.

†**Shaked,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. Shake *v.* + -ed[1].] **a.** Shaken. **b.** *Mus.* Trilled.

1625 Milton *Ode Death Fair Infant* 44 Wert thou some Starr which from the ruin'd roofe Of shak't Olympus by mischance didst fall. 1659 C. Simpson *Division-Violist* I. 9 Graces done with the Fingers are of two sorts: viz. smooth and shaked. *Ibid.*, Shaked Graces.

Sha·ke-down. [f. vbl. phrase *shake down*: see Shake *v.* 12.]

1. A bed made upon straw loosely disposed upon the floor or ground; hence, any makeshift bed, esp. one made up on the floor.

c 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) I. 107 The same Blanket ..is made a Part of their Bedding at Night, which is generally spread upon the Floor; this I think they call a Shake-down. *a* 1820 A. Young *Autobiog.* iv. (1898) 72 A 'shake-down' when I was in Ireland [1776–8] meant some clean straw spread upon the floor, with blankets and sheets. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* vii, You can give him a shake-down here to-night, can't you? 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 77 When the party broke up there was no leaving at so late an hour, and shake-downs were improvised for at least forty.. guests.

attrib. 1891 *Catholic News* 29 Aug. 8/4 Shake-down straw beds with a rug or two for covering.

2. An act of shaking down: see Shake *v.* 12.

1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* VI. iv, Now gie the bed a shake down. We've put in seventy pound of best feathers.

Sha·kefork. Also **shackfork.** [f. Shake *v.*] A wooden fork with two tines or prongs used by threshers to shake and remove the straw from the grain; also, a pitchfork. Now *dial.*

1338 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 200 It. 8 rastra cum schakforkes, pr. 12*d.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 332/2 A Schake forke, *pastinalum*. 1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* III. vii. 66 So slender wast with such an Abbots loyne,..Like a broad shak-forke with a slender steale. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* v. 15 You shall take a shakeforke..and with it you shall shake vp..all the horses dung, and wet litter. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 350 Shack-fork (that is, shake-fork); a wooden fork,..generally made of a forked ozier; the tines or branches about two feet long, and one foot wide at the points. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 297 The swaths are gathered into shocks with a shack-fork. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Shackfork*, a wooden fork for lifting the thrashed straw...'His clothes look as if they were flung on to his back with a shackfork.'

b. *Sc. Her.* (See quots.)

1680 G. Mackenzie *Sci. Her.* xi. 33 This is called a Shak-fork with us, and should not touch the corners of the Escutcheon. 1780 J. Edmondson *Her.* II. Gloss., *Shakefork*, is in form like the Pall, but doth not touch the top of the shield, and is pointed at each end. 1894 J. Macintosh *Ayrsh. Nights' Entert.* xv. 286 [Stewarton Ch.] Over the ..doorway..is a rather long window-like compartment, in which the shake-fork forms, as it were, the mullion.

Shaken (ʃēˑkn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Shake *v.*]

1. Put into a quick or violent alternating motion; agitated; (of seed, etc.) sprinkled.

1725 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 130 If..no Care has been taken to Till the Ground over the shaken Seed. 1849 M. Arnold *Strayed Reveller* 189 A Chief, With shout and shaken spear, Stands at the prow. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, For the moment she felt like a shaken child.

2. Moved abruptly or violently with a blow or shock; hence, weakened in structure.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* II. 68 And bands of foot come follow on, This shaken bridge goe set vpon. 1822 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* II. 136 And through the ruins of the shaken mountain The airs hiss and howl. 1858 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 58 The shaken area [of an earthquake].

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 87 This our shaken Monarchy, that now lies labouring under her throwes. 1890 GALL *Mod. Tactics* (ed. 2) 131 Against shaken troops the opportunities will possibly be as great..in the future. 1896 F. MATHEW *Wood of Brambles* IX. 176 He is a shaken irritable kindly lean little man.

3. Of a cask: Taken to pieces and bound up in a compact form for transport. (Cf. SHAKE *sb.* 10 a, SHOOK *sb.*)

1557 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 300 We haue laden in these ships..94. tunnes shaken Caske and 46. tunnes whole. 1575 *Ibid.* 414 There must be..800 empty shaken hogsheds. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 41 In 1787 were exported Shaken hogsheads 4,775.

4. Of timber: Cracked or split defectively.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 132 (1882) 84 If it be noo tymbre tree but a shaken tree or a hedge-rote full of knottes. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 172 Such Stuff as is crackt either with the heat of the Sun or the droughth of the wind, is called Shaken Stuff. 1680 *Ibid.* XII. 206 If your Stuff prove shaken, or otherwise unsound. 1852 FINCHAM *Ship Building* II. (ed. 3) 32 The refuse of the other planking through its being shaken, or otherwise defective.

5. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1747 HOOSON *Miners Dict.* U 4, *Swallow*, a loose and shaken place in a Vein. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 965 Troubles in coal-fields are..3. Shaken coal. It resembles the rubbish of an old waste.

Sha·kenly, *adv. rare.* [-LY 2.] In a shaken manner.

1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 545/1 'You do not trust me,' he said, low and shakenly.

Shaker (ʃē·kəɹ). Also 5 **schakare, -ere,** 6 *Sc.* **schakar,** (**-car**), **schekkar.** [f. SHAKE *v.* + -ER1.]

1. One who or something which shakes (in the transitive senses of the verb).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Schakare, *excussor.* 1500–20, *a* 1605, 1785, 1816 [see HALLAN-SHAKER]. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 35 Who were..cunning shakers of the staffe to hit their foe a farre. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 104 Thou mightie shaker of the earth, thou Lord of all the seas. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 711 Strangers .. scarsely in twentie daies, with great care, can shake off this Shaker [*sc.* ague]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., The Marquis was no shaker of hands. 1852 TENNYSON *Death Wellington,* O shaker of the Baltic and the Nile. 1901 F. H. SKRINE *Life Sir W. W. Hunter* XXI. 452 The fortune made in India by the Thackerays and other shakers of the pagoda-tree.

b. *Shaker off*: cf. SHAKE *v.* 19.

1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Wom. Hogsdon* IV. G 4 b, *Harring.* Hee what art thou; *Sencer.* A hanger on, if it please you. *Harring.* And I a shaker off,..You shall not hang on mee. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. XXV. 82 There are two men, called shakers off, that immediately follow the threshers; the first of them throws the coleseed straw up; the other strikes it as it rises, which helps to knock out what seed may be left.

2. One who or something which shakes, trembles, vibrates, etc. †Also, a boaster, swaggerer.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Schakare, or craker, or booste maker, *jactator.* 1573 BARET *Alv.* Sh. 265 Such a shaker or trotter. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 701 The pluckless shakers at his authority.

†3. ? A person of loose life. *Obs.*

? *a* 1500 *Nominale MS.* in Halliwell s v. *Shake* (5), *Lascivus,* Anglice a schakere. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. Pantagr. Prognost. v, Those whom Venus is said to Rule, as.. Wenchers, Leachers, Shakers [etc.].

4. † a. In the 17th c. applied to various sectaries whose devotional exercises were accompanied by 'shaking' or convulsions; often used as equivalent to QUAKER. *Obs.*

1648 *Scottish Mist Dispel'd* 17 If the Lord in mercy doe not afford us more liberty..in things Civill and Religious,.. we may be quickly reckoned amongst the new Sect of Shakers: you would make us tremble under your hands. 1654 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 5) 136 The Shaker or Quaker. 1694 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. i. 378 The other sort of Anabaptists are called Quakers or Shakers, from the Trembling and Quaking, caused in them by Vapours in their Ecstatick Fits.

b. One of an American religious sect (calling itself 'The Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing'), which exists in the form of mixed communities of men and women living in celibacy.

The first of these communities was founded by Ann Lee or Stanley, who emigrated from England in 1774.

1784 J. BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 21 A man from Saco whose wife had run away with the Shakers. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1836) II. 18 The Essenians for several ages subsisted by adoption: we shall see if the Shakers continue so long. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* XV, These people are called Shakers from their peculiar form of adoration, which consists of a dance, performed by the men and women of all ages, who arrange themselves for that purpose in opposite parties.

attrib. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 55, I visited two Shaker communities in Massachusetts. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 525/1 A bonnet, hey?..It looks like a Shaker cap. *Ibid.,* The Shaker sisters don't wear crimps.

c. A member of a community in the New Forest, formed in 1864 by Mrs. Mary Ann Girling, who claimed to be an incarnation of God. (The name was popularly given to the sect from some resemblance to the Shaker communities of the U.S.)

1878 *Irish Monthly* Oct. 556 Hordle, where what are usually called the New Forest Shakers reside. *Ibid.* 559 The first Shaker I met.

5. The fan-tail pigeon. More fully *shaker pigeon.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 77 *Tremulæ*... Quakers or Shakers. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornithol.* II. xv. § 2 (1676) 131 Columbæ tremulæ laticaudæ; Anglicè Broad-taild Shakers. *Ibid.* 132 Columbæ tremulæ angusticaudæ..Narrow-tail'd Shakers. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornithol.* II. xv. § 2. 181 Broad-tail'd Shakers, called Shakers because they do almost constantly shake or wag their Heads and Necks up and down...Narrow-tail'd Shakers...This kind we have not as yet seen. 1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 54. 1854 MEALL *Moubray's Poultry* 252–3, 11. Fantail, or Shaker...12. Narrow-tailed Shaker.

†6. *pl. Sc.* An ornamentation or trimming for the dress composed of thin plates of metal which vibrate with the movements of the wearer; also *transf.,* vibrating drops of dew. *Obs.*

1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 313 Item, for xv goldin skinnis to stomois for thaim, and schakaris and bordouris to the tailes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. vii. 18 And all his heid Of goldin schacaris and rois garlandis reid Buskit full weill. *Ibid.* XII. Prol., And syluer schakaris gan fra levis hyng. *a* 1568 *Tayis Bank* 21 (Bannatyne MS.) With schakeris of the schene dew schour, Schynnyng my courtenis schew. *c* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* (Evergreen) 49 Floras fragrant flouris, Quhairon Apollos paramouris Had trinklit mony a teir; The quhilk lyke silvir schaikers shynd, Embroydering Bewties bed.

7. pl. *dial.* The QUAKING-GRASS, *Briza media*; also *hayshakers* and Sc. *silver shakers.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lvii. 80 Shakers, or quaking grasse. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. Kirkcudbr. 68 Shaking grass (the silver shaker'). 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss., Shakers.*

8. An implement, machine, etc. used for shaking.

a. A contrivance for shaking straw or hay.

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 90 An ingeniously-devised shaker..for clearing all the loose grain from among the straw. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 966 (*Thrashing machine*) The straw, being taken off by the shakers..drops on the slide.

b. *Dyeing.* (See quot.)

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. ii. 159 The silk is stretched out on a moveable pole, called a Shaker—kept continually in motion. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades, Dyer* (1842) 191.

c. A riddle or sieve (see quot).

1906 J. PATERSON *Wamphray* ii. 61 *note,* [A riddle] exactly like shakers used by masons at the present day to riddle lime.

d. A utensil used in mixing American drinks.

1889 J. G. WOOLLEY *Seed Number One hard* (1893) 96 The bartender..makes the bits of ice, the spoon, the shaker, the strainer, the glasses, fairly play a tune.

e. A machine for mechanically agitating fluids.

1897 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 Mar. 776/2 The residue [was] extracted with water. This was accomplished in twenty-four hours and was assisted by an electrically-driven 'shaker'.

Hence **Sha·kerdom,** the Shakers as a class. **Sha·keress,** a female Shaker. **Sha·kerism,** the principles and practice of the Shakers.

1822 MARY M. DYER (*title*) A Portraiture of Shakerism. 1861 J. G. HOLLAND *Lessons in Life* vi. 87, I object to their style of life and piety, and to everything outside of Shakerdom. 1860 *Reynolds's Misc.* 15 Sept. XXV. 180/2 Two comely Shakeresses wait upon you. 1868 *Morn. Star* 8 June, The Owenite experiments in England and America have failed, but Shakerism is a living and triumphant fact. 1870 D. MACRAE *Amer. at Home* II. XXX. 358 We followed the Shakeress..within doors.

Sha·ke-rag. [f. SHAKE *v.* + RAG *sb.*] A ragged disreputable person; also *attrib.* or *adj.,* beggarly. Cf. SHACK-RAG, SHAG-RAG.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 13. 259 It is no maruell that shakerags [orig. *sordidos homines*] (which haue no regarde of honestie) did..raile with out shame. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VII. xi. 269 Pecunia,..one of the shake-rag goddesses in our forth booke. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* III. (1652) H 4 b, Do you talk Shake-rag: Heart yond's more of 'em. I shall be Beggar-mawl'd if I stay. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXVI, 'He was a shake-rag like fellow', he said, 'and..had gipsy blood in his veins'.

Hence †**Shake-ragged** *a.*

1560 BECON *Fortress of Faithful* Wks. II. 129 Who wyll be troubled..with suche a sorte of shake ragged slaues in a towne, whyche do nothynge but..fyll the towne full of beggers braules?

Shakescene (ʃē·kseːn). *arch. rare.* [f. SHAKE *v.* + SCENE *sb.*: in allusion to the name *Shakspere.*

Cf. B. Jonson *To Memory of Author* in *Shaks. Wks.* (1623), I would..call forth..Æschilus..To life againe, to heare thy Buskin tread, And shake a Stage.]

(Of uncertain or vague meaning: used by Greene in his attack on Shakspere.)

a 1592 GREENE *Groatsw. Wit* (1874) 30 He..is in his owne conceit the onely Shake-scene in a countrie.

Sha·ke-spear, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SHAKE *v.*] That brandishes a spear (tr. Gr. δορυσσόος).

1853 M. J. CHAPMAN tr. *Theocritus* Idyll XXII. xvii, Castor ..The brass-mailed, shake-spear knight.

Shakespear-: see SHAKSPERIAN, etc.

Shakily (ʃē·kili), *adv.* [f. SHAKY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a shaky manner, unsteadily.

1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* I. 36 On the ground, the Orang always goes laboriously and shakily, on all fours. 1877 BOX *Eng. Game of Cricket* 337 The 'glorious Tennent' next appeared [as batsman], and began very shakily indeed. 1912 *Engl. Review* Feb. 461 Frances laughed shakily.

Shakiness (ʃē·kinės). [f. SHAKY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being shaky.

1862 *Cornhill Mag.* VI. 613 Shakiness of the hand [is] a sign of poisoning. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* I. The shakiness of current doctrines..on religion and policy.

Shaking (ʃē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb SHAKE, in any sense.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Eng. Wks.* III. 313 Bi here newe dampnacion þat þei maden at London in þe erþe schakyng. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* XXIV. 98 All þe toknes [of the fever] wer come, as schakyng, akyng of þe hed and swech oþir. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* II. ii. Wks. 1910 II. 113 It was the shaking of some leafe. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 326 Few there are, who, in great overthwarts and shakings of fortune, have harts sufficiently staied to practise..that which they commend. 1685 tr. *St. Evremond's Mixt Ess.* 24 With their warblings and shakings, they [the Spaniards] seem to mind nothing in their singing, but to contend with Nightingales. 1782 J. ADAMS *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 404 But shaking on horseback guards pretty well against it. 1891 EARL LYTTON *Lett.* (1906) II. 430 The shaking I got on my way from London to Paris made last Sunday a terribly painful one to me. 1899 R. WHITEING *No. 5 John St.* 157 The great need of the age is a good sound shaking, to get the nonsense out.

† b. The gathering, harvesting, falling or shedding (of fruit or grain). *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 237 These fellowes are growne ripe; I hope wee shall have the shakinge of them. 1637 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.,* Payd for shakinge of our frute 02 0. 1658 [see *shaking-time* in 4]. *c* 1750 *MS. relating to Suffolk Manors,* No person shall in the time of Shaking..keep any drove cattle in the fields.

c. With advs.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schakynge a-wey, *excussio.* 1613 HIERON *Back-parts Jehovah* Serm. (1614) 180 A shaking off of that due obedience we owe vnto him. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XII. xix. 172 The Break made by the Shaking out of the Mettal. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* II. vii, A good shaking-up is just the thing for you, after being so long indoors. 1897 H. A. JONES *Case Rebell. Susan* I. 19, I allow every married couple twelve months for what I call the shaking-down process.

† d. *The shaking of the sheets*: the name of a dance (in the 16–17th c. very often used jocularly for sexual intercourse). *Obs.*

? *c* 1570 *Misogonus* II. iv. 272 To that daunce of all other I see he is bent. *S.* Faythe no I had rather haue shakinge oth shetes. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. 1902 III. 411 O tis his best daunce next shaking of the sheetes. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* III. i, Thee and I shall dance the shaking of the sheetes together. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. vii. 25 He knew not what a dance the Don would lead him, before he return'd to the shaking of the sheets, with his Joan Gutierez.

transf. 16.. *Ballad, Doleful Dance & Song of Death* i, Can you dance the shaking of the Sheets, a Dance that every one must do?..Make ready then your winding sheet. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinarie* C 3, But this youngster daunced the shaking of one sheet [*i. e.* died] within fewe dayes after.

2. A disease in sheep and swine (see quot. *a* 1722). Also the ague. Chiefly in plural.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xi. 401 Being good Physick for the sheep to keep them from the Shakings. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 339 Some years the sheep will be apt to be taken with a disease they call the shaking..: it is a weakness which seizes their hinder quarters, so that they cannot rise up when they are down. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* s.v. *Tremour,* The tremour or shaking in Swine. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Shakkins,* the ague. 'Thoo dodhers as if thoo'd getten shakkins.'

3. *concr.* That which is shaken off, out, down, etc. *Naut.* (see quots. 1867–86). Also with advs. *down, off, out.* Chiefly in plural.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xvii. 6 As the shaking out of the oile berie. 1388 *Ibid.,* As the schakyng doun of the fruyt of olyue tre. 1682 *J. Houghton's Coll. Lett. Husb.* etc. No. 7 I. 70 The Shakings of the Cloth. 1754 P. H. *Hibernia* iv. 29 Luxuriant Congreve (the..Shakings-off of whose Pen, would invigorate twenty of our late spiritless miscall'd Comedies). 1839 *Nautical Mag.* 726 [Heading of miscellaneous items of news.] Shakings. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Shakings,* refuse of cordage, canvas, &c., used for making oakum, paper, &c. 1886 *Tinsley's Mag.* Sept. 287 Shakings are the sweepings of the deck gathered together after the day's work is done. *Ibid.,* 'Mere shakings' is a term used by seamen to express worthless men.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *shaking time*; also in the names of machines used for agitating materials, as *shaking barrel,* also *shaking frame, table* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shaking cure, machine** (see quots.); **shaking stop,** the tremolo organ stop.

1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 2/4 Boot-rivet Machines, Spring Punches, *Shaking Barrel. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.,* **Shaking cure,* the treatment of certain nervous diseases, such as paralysis agitans, by means of a vibrating arm-chair. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1090 Rumble or *Shaking Machine. This is a contrivance sometimes used for polishing small articles principally by their attrition against each other. 1659 C. SIMPSON *Division-Violist* I. 9 Some also affect a kind of Shake or Tremble with the Bow, like the *shaking Stop of an Organ. 1665 in Hopkins *Organ* (1845) *Hist.* 52 One Shaking Stopp. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14 XII. II. 284 Away they runne with their enjoyments,..like hogges in *shaking time. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shacking-time,* the Season when Mast is ripe.

Shaking (ʃē·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHAKE *v.* + -ING 2.] In the senses of the verb. Of a bog, morass, etc.: Quaking. *Shaking stone,* a rocking stone.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 [Lechery] mid schekinde word ȝined speres wunden. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 210 Þei..suffre pore men haue nakid sidis & schakynge lippis & hondis for cold. 1578 J. DERRICKE *Image Irel.* (1581) D iij b, And

brought from Boggs to champion ground,..Yet doe thei loke to shaking boggs. 1660 R. MAY *Accompl. Cook* (1665) 180 To make a Shaking Pudding. 1662 RAY *Itin.* iii. Sel. Rem. (1760) 240 Here lies a Stone, called the shaking Stone. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* I. 137 Mr. Eliot's contrivance to drain a piece of shaking meadow, as he calls it. 1773 GOLDSM. *She stoops to conq.* II, Item..a Florentine, a shaking pudding. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxiii, The cat made for a shaking bog—the loneliest place in the whole country. 1889 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Idyls* 133 Holding their shaking sides.

b. Of a disease: Characterized by a tremulous agitation of the head or limbs.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Yij, White pepper is holsome for a shakynge feuer. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 401 The disease called Tremor, or the shaking palsie. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 406/1 He had a shaking chill followed by a sweat.

transf. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 228 Bulletts wrapt in fire To make a shaking feuer in your walles.

c. *Shaking Quaker* = SHAKER 4 b.

1784 *Mass. Spy* 1 Jan., in R. H. Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* (1912), The people in the Western part of this State, who stile themselves Shaking Quakers. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 114, I had intended to..proceed from thence to New Lebanon to visit the Shaking Quakers.

d. quasi-*adv.*

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 240 What a lot of rattling bullocks, shaking fat too.

Hence **Sha·kingly** *adv.*

1889 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 438 'Tell her, please, Bryan', I say, shakingly.

Shako (jæ·kou). Also **schakos, schako**; and see CHACO. [a. Magyar *csákó*, short for *csákó süveg*, more correctly *csákos süveg* peaked cap (*csákos* being an adj. f. *csák* peak, believed by native scholars to be a G. *zacken* point, spike).

The word has been adopted into several European langs.; the F. *schako* may be the proximate source. While the shako was still worn in the British army, the pronunciation was (jæ·kou) among officers, but (ʃākū·) in the ranks.]

A military cap in the shape of a truncated cone, with a peak and either a plume or a ball or 'pom-pom'. (Not now worn by British soldiers.)

1815 SCOTT *Paul's Lett.* xiii. (1816) 317 [The French guide] puts on the *schakos*, which he has hitherto held in his hand. 1852 LIEUT.-COL. J. LUARD *Dress Brit. Soldier* 158 We have introduced the large-topped, overweighted shako from the French. 1868 *Queen's Regul. Army* ¶ 67 Officers in uniform are not to take off their shakos or forage Caps in Saluting. 1903 J. CONRAD & F. M. HUEFFER *Romance* II. ii. 60 The little worsted balls on the infantry shakos.

Shak-shak, variant of CHAC-CHAC.

1905 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 510 An African revivalist..who should attempt to arouse the ecstasies of a West Indian meeting with no more elaborate orchestra than a bull-roarer and a shak-shak.

Shaksperian (ʃækspī·riăn), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also **Shak(e)spearian, -ean, Shaksperean.** [f. *Shaksper* + -IAN.

The forms in *-ian* are alone correct according to the relevant analogies. The other variations follow the diversities of spelling of the poet's name. The spelling *Shaksper*, adopted in this Dictionary, was advocated by Sir F. Madden on the ground of the signature in Shaksper's copy of Florio's *Montaigne*, and accepted by Dr. Furnivall and the New Shakspere Society; the commonest form is perh. *Shakespeare*.]

a. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, or having the characteristics of William Shakspere (1564–1616) or his dramatic and poetical productions. **b.** *sb.* An authority on or student of the writings of Shakspere; a Shaksperian scholar. Hence **Shaksperianism,** (*a*) a form of expression peculiar to or imitated from Shakspere (*Cent. Dict.* 1891, and in later Dicts.); (*b*) the imitation of Shakspere, or the effects of his influence generally.

1817 KEATS *Wks.* (1889) III. 10 The acting of Kean is Shakespearian. 1820 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1836) I. 49 The almost Shakespearian old witch-wives at the funeral [in Scott's *Bride of Lammermoor*]. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. viii. 294 She was, however, about as devout a Shakspearian as her nephew. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xxxiv. (ed. 3) 304 The Princess's Theatre, in the days of Charles Kean famous for its Shakespearian revivals. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 250, I think that the spirit of modern Shakspearianism, among readers, critics, and actors, is quite false to Shakspeare himself. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 5/1 But Shakespeareanism is not dead yet a while.

Similarly **Shaksperia·na** (see -ANA). **Sha·ksperism** = *Shaksperianism* (*a*). **Sha·ksperize** *v.*, *trans.* to imbue with the spirit or ideas of Shakspere; *intr.* to imitate Shakspere. **Shakspero·later,** a worshipper of Shakspere. **Shakspero·latry,** worship of Shakspere. **Shakspero·logy,** the branch of study concerned with the works and life of Shakspere.

1718 C. GILDON *Compl. Art Poetry* I. 305 Shakespeariana: or Select Moral Reflections, Topicks, Similies, and Descriptions from Shakespear. 1823 LAMB *Lett.* (1888) II. 79 In the same collection I find several Shakspearisms. 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 178 The English dramatic poets have Shakespearized now for two hundred years. 1847 — *Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 359 Now, literature, philosophy, and thought are Shakespearized. 1862 *Daily Tel.* 20 Jan., The most commendable act performed of late years in Shakespeareology. 1864 *Realm* 9 Mar. 6 In these days of Shakspearolatry. 1875 L. TOLLEMACHE in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 335 The strained efforts of the Shakespearolaters to find dramatic propriety in the most inappropriate passages.

‖ **Shakudo** (ʃæ·kudō). [a. Japanese *shakŭ dō*, ad. an older form of Chinese *ch'ih t'ung* red copper.] A Japanese alloy of copper and gold.

It is often subjected to a chemical process, which produces a blue patina.

1878 *Jrnl. Applied Sci.* Apr. IX. 61/2 The dark blue colour..is that of the Shakudo, composed of copper, and three or four per cent. of gold.

Shaky (ʃē·ki), *a.* Also **shakey.** [f. SHAKE *v.* or *sb.*1 + -Y.]

1. Of timber: Fissured = SHAKEN 4.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purch.* 241 Such Stuff as is crack'd, either with the Heat of the Sun, or the Drought of the Wind, is call'd shaky, or shaken Stuff. 1851 *Palace of Industry* 18 If found to be shaky, they [*sc.* sash-bars] are rejected as unfit to be used. 1868 *Harper's Mag.* XXXVI. 418 Some of the pines were short and scraggy, some were shaky.

2. Of a structure: Given to shaking by the looseness of its parts; liable to break down or give way; unsound. Of ground: Not firm or solid.

1850 OGILVIE, *Shaky*, a. loosely put together; ready to come to pieces. *Familiar.* 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 182 The bridge was so frail and shaky at the place of junction. 1871 *Punch* 2 Dec. 228/2 The chair..so shaky in the legs. 1894 *Bookseller's Catal.*, Binding shaky.

3. Of a person or his limbs: Trembling with age, infirmity, apprehension or fear.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxx, The old fellow's hand was very cold and shaky. 1871 O. W. HOLMES *Smiling Listener* 46 Well, Time with..his shaky old fingers will soon snuff us out.

b. Of writing: Tremulous.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxviii, All he did was to sign the circulars..and direct them in a shaky, clerk-like hand. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 92 At this point the writing began to grow very shaky and weak.

4. Characterized by or causing shaking or jolting.

1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 290 It is rather a shaky business..riding over those roads in a cart. 1883 C. HOWARD *Roads Eng. & Wales* (ed. 3) 138 The surface is rather shaky for quick riding.

5. In immaterial sense.

a. Of a person's position, credit, securities, etc.: Insecure, liable to fail or be upset, unreliable.

1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, Our director was—what is not to be found in Johnson's *Dictionary*—rather shaky. Three of his companies had broken, four more were in a notoriously insolvent state. 1853 WILBERFORCE 3 Nov., *Life* (1881) II. 225 Lord Aberdeen now growing to look upon Gladstone as his successor...Cabinet shaky. 1865 Miss BRADDON *Sir Jasper's Tenant* I. xiv. 302 With a view to raising money on very shaky security. 1884 *Law Times* 1 Nov. LXXVIII. 10/2 The manufacturer, whose credit is so shaky. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 130/2 His seat in Parliament was shaky.

b. Unsettled in allegiance or belief.

1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XI. xvii, Well,..I must be off presently to see those three shaky voters in Fish Lane. 1857 LADY CANNING in A. J. C. Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) II. 202 The shaky regiment, the 37th, had tried to tamper with the Seiks. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 141 A work..calculated to render persons who are shaky in their belief in religion..more shaky still.

c. Not completely sound in health.

1844 DICKENS *Let.* 26 Feb. *Lett.* (1880) I. 100, I am rather shaky just now, but shall pull up. 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* 26 If his legs are shaky, he [the racehorse] is trained 'through the muzzle', as a forlorn hope.

d. Of knowledge, or persons with reference to this: Uncertain, doubtfully adequate, not to be depended on.

1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, *Shaky*, said..at the University, of one not likely to pass his examination. 1881 *Century Mag.* XXIII. 934/2 In shaky but intelligible Spanish he asked..to see her father. 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Gondoliers* II, He is shaky in his spelling, so we help him if we can.

Shalche: see SHALL *v.* A. 6 a.

†Sha·lder, *sb.*1 ? *Obs. rare*—1. [related to SHALDER *v.*] ? A flake, split-off piece of stone.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. xv. [ix.] 114 b, Ye flint and chalke, the shalder and the peble.

Shalder (ʃō·ldəɹ), *sb.*2 Also 9 **chalder, shelder, schalder, shaalder.** [Of obscure origin. Cf. SCOLDER2, SCALEDRAKE, SHELDIN, SHELDRAKE.] The oyster-catcher, *Hæmatopus ostralegus.*

1828 FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 115 *Hæmatopus Ostralegus.* Common Oyster-catcher...*N.*, Chalder, Skeldrake. 1866 T. EDMONSTON *Shetl. & Orkney Gloss.*, Schalder. S. 1877 G. STEWART *Shetl. Fireside T.* ix. 68 The scream of the frighted shelder.

Shalder (ʃō·ldəɹ), *sb.*3 *dial.* Also **shelder.** [Of unknown origin.] A rush or sedge growing in ditches, esp. the yellow iris, *Iris Pseudacorus.*

1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 66 *Shalder*, a kind of broad flat rush, growing in ditches. 1873 W. P. WILLIAMS & W. A. JONES *Somerset. Gloss.* 32 *Shalder.*

†Sha·lder, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 8 **shelder.** [? Cogn. w. SHALE *sb.* Cf. SHALDER *sb.*1, SHADDER *v.*] *intr.* To crumble.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. iii. [I. xv.] 69 b, Till such time as two hils betwixt which it ran, did shalder & so choke vp his [the river's] course. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 75 Rising in gross Clods at the first breaking up of the Plough, and sheldring with the Frost. *Ibid.* II. 200 If you dig them often, the Sun, Rain, and Frosts will mellow them, so as to cause them to shelder into Dust.

Shale (ʃēl), *sb.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (in various senses see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Forms: 1 **scealu, scalu,** 3–5, 7, 9 *dial.* **schale,** 4 **schal,** 5 *pl.* **shalus,** 6 **shaell,** (7 *erron.* **shalt**), 4 **shale.** [OE. *sc(e)alu* str. fem. :—OTeut. **skalō*, ablaut-variant of **skēlō*, represented by ON. *skál* SCALE *sb.*1, q.v. for the Teut. cognates.]

†1. A dish; a cup or goblet := SCALE *sb.*1 1. *Obs.*

c 1075 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 275, .VI. mæsene sceala. *a* 1225 [see SCALE *sb.*1 1 β]. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 120 Seruanz war at this bridale, That birled win in cupp and schal.

†2. A shell, husk, esp. the shell or outer covering of a nut, which encloses the kernel; also the pod of peas or beans, etc. *Obs.*

[Also in †*nutshale*, examples of which (*c* 1205–1577) are given under NUTSHELL, where see the equivalent forms in continental Teut.]

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 462 *Glumula*, scalu. [*c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 371/1 *Cittis*, uilmenum, æpelscealum ymb ða cyrnlu. *a* 1100 in Napier *OE. Glosses* i. 608 *Quisquiliarum*, æswæpe, beanscalu.] *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1281, I saugh him carien a wind-melle Under a walsh-note shale. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Letabundus* 227 in *Minor P.* (1911) 56 The husk is falle, brokyn is the shale, The noote kernel, Closyd in scripturys..Al openly shewith his swetnesse. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 644/2 From the tone [sacrament] take they the swete carnel within, the blessed body of Christ, and leaue the people the shales. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Argt. C j, He releued his hunger with peskod shales, or the huskes of other graynes. 1584 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1585) Ep. Ded. *ij b, There is found wheate among tares,.. a kearnell within the shale [1663 shaell], marrow within the bone. 1659 ROBOTHAM *Gate Lang. Unlocked* xi. § 121 He that hath a minde to get out the kernel..must put away the husk [*marg.* Peel, coat, shalt]. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vi. § 1. 171 Cod, Husk, Pod, Shell, shale, siliquous.

fig. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 18 Doe but behold yond poore and starued Band, And your faire shew shall suck away their Soules, Leauing them but the shales and huskes of men. 1617 tr. *A. de Dominis' Serm.* (*Rom.* xiii. 12) 52 They stuffe them vp with swines meat, the huskes, and shales of these superfluous, and superstitious deuotions.

†b. As an example of something without value.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7234 So wonderly the wynd it blewe, That alle here tentis ouerthrewe; Al ȝede to grounde bothe tent and hale, Here ropes vayled not of a schale.

†c. The shell of an egg or a shell-fish. *rare.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 11 b, Beat egges shales to pouder. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 99 Periwincles .. are alwaies clothed with one and the same shale.

†d. The refuse of hemp: = SHEAVE *sb.*2

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 39 b, Of Hempe..the Shales or Stalkes serue for the heating of Ouens.

3. A scale (of a fish, of metal, of a scaly disease, etc.). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxix. (Tollemache MS.), Fische þat ben bred in þe see haue harde shales and þikke,.. and ryuer fische haueþ sotel schales. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4601, & dame Alfyne woke of hurre slepe þo after anone: And mony shalus he syȝe falle from hurre heyȝe þo,—þen myȝt he syȝe wel:e, & alle hurre sekenesse was agone. 1611 COTGR., *Finsfreluches*, shales, or scales, or scalie excrements; as dandriffe, &c. 1655 W. F. *Observ. Fulke's Bk. Meteors* 170 Iron..purged in the fire,..in such sort as that which is earthy, doth at last turn to schales and dross. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.*, *Shale*, a scale of a fish; a flake.

†b. Comb., *shale-fish* = shell-fish. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 41 Ostiris, Buckies, and vthiris schal fishe.

4. A mesh of a net. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 37 Some..breake the shales of the net. 1855 ANNA GURNEY *Norf. Words* in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* 36 *Shale*, the mesh of a net.

5. *dial.* 'Loose substance from a mine or quarry; loose ore' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); see also quots.

[Cf. OE. *stánscalu*, ? a rocky stratum denuded of soil, whence *stánscylig* stony (ground).]

1793 A. YOUNG *Agric. Sussex* 16 The various sorts of lime-stone..with the thickness and shale of each different sort. 1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Cornw.* 21 *Scal*, a shale or portion of earth, rock &c., which separates and falls from the main body. 1882 JAGO *Cornw. Gloss.* 256 *Schale*, a scale, as a 'schale of earth', or earth slide in an excavation.

Shale (ʃēl), *sb.*2 [Perh. a use of SHALE *sb.*1, or a derivative of SHALE *v.* (sense 5).

There is no sufficient reason for the common view that it is a. G. *schale* (=SHALE *sb.*1), which is not used in this sense (the G. equivalent being *schieferthon* 'slate clay'); *schale* however occurs for a thin layer of ore or stone, and the *Deutsches Wbuch.* has *schalstein* a laminated limestone, *schalgebirge*, explained as 'a layer of stone in a stratified range of mountains'.]

1. An argillaceous fissile rock, the laminæ of which are usually fragile and uneven, and mostly parallel to the bedding; often overlying a coal formation. Also with qualifying word as *bituminous shale*, etc.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Liv b, Strong Beds, Shale, or Chists. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 182 Slate Clay, Shale. 1811 J. FAREV *Derbyshire* I. 443 It is not uncommon with colliers to call any Argillaceous Stratum in very thin lamina by the name of Shale. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 334 The conversion of clay into shale, and of sand into sandstone, may, in many cases, be attributed to simple pressure. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 3/2 A ring of shale, part of a large ribbed bead of delf.

b. A variety or specimen of this rock.

1830 [see BITUMINOUS *a.* b]. 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 315 Shales, grits, &c. 1873 C. ROBINSON *N. S. Wales* 52 Deposits of brown cannel oil coals and oil shales. 1878 A. H. GREEN etc., *Coal* i. 25 Tasmanite is a shale containing from 26 to 30 per cent. of combustible matter. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 245/2 Next in order above the sandstones..occur the black shales.

c. *spec.* = ALUM-*shale. dial.*

1825–80 JAMIESON, *Shale*, a name given to alum ore. 1847

HALLIWELL, *Shale*,..alum ore. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Shale*, the gray alum rock of this quarter.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *shale distillation*, *limestone*, *mine*, *miner*; instrumental, as *shale-sprinkled* adj.

1842 SEDGWICK in *Hudson's Guide Lakes* (1843) 209 *Third Group, or Shale Limestone.*—This group forms the upper part of the calcareous zone on the north side of the Cumbrian mountains. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 3/2 Beyond.. turning up a large, ornamental shale ring, nothing could be done. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Sept. 11/2 The shale miners of Scotland. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 5/3 Mr. Robert Beil ..was the first to manufacture oil from shale distillation in Scotland. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* xiv. 358 They held the shale-sprinkled grass for an hour.

b. Special comb.: **shale-naphtha, -oil**, naphtha and oil obtained by the destructive distillation of bituminous shale; **†shale-shiver**, laminated shale; **shale-stone** *dial.*, slate; **shale-tar**, tar derived from bituminous shale.

1855 *Q. Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* VII. 106 The existence in *shale naphtha of the isomer of cumidine. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. 580 (heading) *Shale oils. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Dec. 4/1 The Midland has begun to burn shale oil in the lamps hung in its suburban trains. 1794 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. *Catal. Anim.*, etc. 46 *Shale Shiver. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.*, *Shale-stone, Shilstone*, slate. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. 580 *Shale tar is particularly rich in basic substances.

Shale (ʃēl), *v.*[1] *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5 **schale**, 6 **shaell**, (7 **shalle**, 9 **shail**). [f. SHALE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To free from the shell or husk; to remove, take *off* (the shell or husk) from a nut, bean, fruit, etc.; to decorticate (hemp). ? *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. liii. (1495) 812 Amptes shale the greynes that they done togyders for they sholde not growe ayen and wexe grene corn. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 25 Take smalle notes, schale not [? out] kurnele, As þou dose of almondes, fayre and wele. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* xl. 13 Take grete Oystrys, an schale hem. *c* 1518 *Kal. Sheph.* i. A v, Yet may they syt and shaell peson. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 41 Hempe haruest..The Male..is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled [orig. *confringenda, decorticataque repurganda*] in Winter euenynges. 1607 TOPSELL *Four f. Beasts* 643 Parched barley which hath bene well shaled. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv. 97 A little Lad set on a bancke to shale The ripen'd Nuts pluck'd in a woody Vale. 1622 SIR R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxiv. 55 They haue hudds, as our Beanes, which shaled off, the kernell parteth it selfe in two. 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xviii. 145 The Bean is not seen till..its swad..be shaled.

fig. *a* 1680 T. GOODWIN *Blessed State* x. Wks. 1703 V. III. 64 This Abundancy of Life, that is in God, instantly shales off, Works out all that Filth, Frailty, Misery.

†b. *intr.* To allow of being shelled. *rare.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxv. 581 The vttermost pilling of common walnuts, whether it shale willingly or no may be distilled in the moneth of September.

2. Of grain, seed, etc.: To drop out.

[1578 ? Implied in SHALING *ppl. a.*] 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 616 Suffer it to shale and fall to the ground for lack of reaping. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xxv. 80 Coleseed is a seed that will shed or shale very greatly, if it is not reaped in proper time. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Shail*..to drop out.

†3. *trans.* To shed (a tooth). *Obs. rare.*

1685–7 AUBREY *Rem. Gentilisme* (1881) 11 When Children shaled their Teeth. *Ibid.* 27 When children did shalle a tooth they rubbed salt upon it, and then threw it into the fire.

4. *intr.* Of water: To form an incrustation. *rare*—[1].

1844 H. HUTCHINSON *Treat. Pract. Drainage Land* 160 In some drains water will shale or form an incrustation upon the flat tile.

5. To cleave, as stones in being raised.

1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 129 Rammel, a Stone unfit for Building, because in the raising it cleaves or shales into many small uneaven Pieces. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Gloss.* 93.

†6. *To shale out*: ? to strip (a tree). *Obs.*

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Garden* xiii. (1623) 45 The Bul-finch is a deuourer of your Fruit in the bud, I haue had whole trees shald out with them in Winter-time.

Shale (ʃēl), *v.*[2] *rare.* [app. echoic: see quot. 1834.] *intr.* Of water: To make the sound characteristic of tidal movement near the shore.

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xvi. (1842) 299 The water in the bay..again rushed in with a loud *shaling* noise,—I coin the word for the sound—in *bores* nearly ten feet high. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* ix, A gentle *shaling* noise of waters broken by the passage of the vessel. 1897 — *Last Entry* 57 The stream of tide softly shaled along the bends of the schooner.

Shale, variant of SHAIL *v.*[2]

†Shaled, *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SHALE *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]]

1. a. Encased as in a shell.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 766 His [*sc.* a dragon's] scoulders ware schalyde alle in clene syluere, Schreede ouer alle the schrympe with schrinkande poyntez.

b. Consisting of a shell.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 77 Plinie vsed this Latine worde *Cancer*, for a generall or common name for all such as haue, & weare shaled garments.

c. Having a 'shale', shell, or pod.

c 1575 DUCKET in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 397 Hasell nuts, ..as good and thin shaled as are our Filberds. 1622 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 19 The fruits of the earth bring grains; those which are eared in ears,..those which are shal'd in shales [*siliquatæ in siliquis*].

2. *Schalyd hed*: app. = SCALD HEAD 2.

1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 100 To bolen a schalyd hed.

3. Peeled or stript of shell, shelled.

1598 FLORIO, *Snocciolato*, crackt nuts, shaled nuts. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 110 Tosted and shaled Barly.

Shalemuse, obs. form of SHAWM.

† Sha·ler. *Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. SHALE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who 'shales' or shells.

1611 COTGR., *Escailleur*, a..piller, shaler of. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een scheller*, A Peeler, a Rinder, or a Shaler.

† Shaleur. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. F. *chaleur* heat.] = HEAT *sb.* 13.

1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* ix. (1517) C ij b, Some hath recours vnto vyces lyke as an olde dogge hath after a bytche that is in shaleur.

‖ **Shalgram** (ʃa·lgrām). Also **salgram.** [Hindī *çālgrām*, repr. Skr. *çālagrāma* the name of a village where this stone was found.] An ammonite or other fossil, sacred to Vishnu.

1784 F. GLADWIN tr. *Ayeen Akbery* II. 29 Salgram, is a black stone which the hindoos hold sacred. 1905 MACPHAIL *Kenneth S. Macdonald* x. 133 The Shalgram, from the geological point of view, is an ammonite fossil. *Ibid.*, The Shalgram, he explained, was one of the three things essential to daily worship in an orthodox Hindu house.

Sha·ling, *vbl. sb.* ? *Obs.* [f. SHALE *v.*[1] + -ING 1.] The action of removing the outer shell or husk; also pl. the shell or husks removed.

1611 COTGR., *Chaloppes*, the huskes, parings, or shalings, of a nut, or nut-kernell. *Ibid.*, *Escaillement*, a..pilling, shaling of. *Ibid.* s.v. *Fabal, Le fa*: *de febues*, the chaffe, hulls, or shalings of beanes. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 170 These are..used..chiefly for Rye, Barley, and Mault, or for shaling of Oates.

† Sha·ling, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SHALE *v.*[1] + -ING 2.] ? Falling from the husk as ripe.

1578 *Procter's Gorg. Gallery Gallant Invent.* G ij b, The shaling nuts and mast, that falleth from the tree, Should serue for my repast.

Shalk. *poet. Obs.* Forms: 1–3 **scealc**, 3 **scalk, scalc, scælk**, 4–5 **skalke, schalke**, 4–6 **schalk**, 5 **shalk(e.** [Com. Teut.: OE. *sc(e)alc* masc. = OFris., OS. *skalk*, OHG. *scalc, scalh* servant (MHG. *schalk* servant, mod.G. *schalk* rogue, wag), ON. *skalk-r* (Icel. *skálk-r* rogue, Sw., Da. *skalk*), Goth. *skalk-s* servant:—OTeut. **skalko-z.* No cognates outside Teut. have been found; the word forms the second element in **marho-skalko-z* -' horse-servant', MARSHAL *sb.*] Originally, a servant; in alliterative poetry one of the common synonyms for 'man'. (In the last example used contemptuously.)

Beowulf 939 Nu scealc [Beowulf] hafað..dæd ȝefremede, ðe we ealle ær ne meahton snyttrum besyrwan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxv. 2 Hæl þinne scealc [*salvum fac servum tuum*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 4219 Heo wenden bi þen scelden þat hit heore scalkes weoren. *Ibid.* 19126 Þer wes moni bald scalc. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 476 Þe schyre sunne hade hem schent, er euer þe schalk wyst. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1391 Archars with arows of atter envemonde Schotis vp scharply at shalkis [*Dubl. MS.* salkez] on þe wallis. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 2 Ȝe schappely schalkes and schene for to schawe, I charge ȝou as ȝour chiftan þat [etc.]. *c* 1450 *Golagros & Gaw.* 891 Sexty schalkis full schene, Cled in armour sa clene. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 105 Quhen schaiffyn is that ald schalk with a sharp rasiour, He schowis on me his schewill mouth.

Shalke, obs. form of CHALK *sb.*

Shall (ʃæl), *sb.* [f. SHALL *v.*]

1. An utterance of the word 'shall'; a command, promise, or determination (such as is expressed by means of 'shall').

It is doubtful whether quots. 1553 and 1608 belong to this word or to SHALE *sb.*[1] Quots. 1566 and 1593 imply the existence of a punning phrase *to feed* or *serve with shalls* (*shales*).

1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) III. iii. 90 *Adul.* Ye shall prove att length by theffecte yᵗ shall ensue. *Peop.* Nai, and we shall alwaie bee served but with shales, than chil beleve een still yᵗ vaire woordes beeth but tales. 1566 ASCHAM *Let.* in Harington *Nugæ Antig.* (1804) I. 101 As now another man shall enjoye the sweet kirnell of this hard and chardgeable nutt, which I have bene so long in cracking; and nothing left unto me but shells and shalls to feed me with all. 1593 CHURCHYARD *Challenge* 153 Y 2, You shall haue Nuts, they say when ploms are ripe. Thus all with shalls or shalles ye shal be fed, And gape for gold, and want both Gold and lead. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 90 Marke you His absolute Shall? 1608 *Merry Devil Edmonton* II. ii. 2 What? hast thou fed me all this while with shalles. And com'st to tell me now, thou lik'st it not? 1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* I. xiii. 103 These *wills* and *shalls* of wicked Men, are for the most part God's interpretation of their Acts and Carriage. 1870 M. ARNOLD *St. Paul & Protestantism* (1875) 85 The external *shalls* and *shall nots* of the law.

2. The word 'shall' as idiomatically used in contradistinction to 'will'.

1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1843) II. 408 Not one Londoner in a million ever misplaces his *will* and *shall*. 1861 Jos. ANGUS *Handbk. Engl. Tongue* 219 These 'Shalls' are sometimes wrongly emphasized. 1882 A. J. ELLIS *Presid. Addr.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 23 These *shalls* and *wills* are still shibboleths. 1891 *Daily News* 26 June 5/2 Perhaps no Scot ever yet mastered his 'shalls' and 'wills'.

Shall (ʃæl, *unstressed* ʃəl, ʃ'l). Pa. t. **should** (ʃud, ʃəd). Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. preterite-present strong verb: OE. *sceal, sculon, sc(e)olde* = OFris. *skil* (*skel, scol*), *skilun* (*skalun*, etc.), *skolde* (*sculde*, etc.), OS. *skal, skulun, skolda*, OLow Frankish *sal, sulum, solde* (MDu. *sal, sullen, solde*, mod.Du. *zal, zullen, zou*), OHG. *scal, sculun, scolta*, also *sal* (*sol*), *sulun, solta* (MHG. *schal* and *schol, schulen, scholte*, also *sal* and *sol, sulen, solte*; mod.G. *soll, sollen, sollte*), ON. *skal, skulu, skylda* (Sw. *skall*, pa. t. *skulle*; Da. *skal*, pa. t. *skulde*), Goth. *skal, skulum, skulda.* The Teut. root (**skel-*:) **skal-* : **skul-* to owe (:—pre-Teut. **skel-* : **skol-* : **sk'l*) is represented by Goth. *skula*, OHG., OS. *scolo*, OE. *gescola* wk. masc., debtor, OHG. *sculd, sculda* (mod.G. *schuld*), OS. *sculd*, OE. *scyld* fem., debt, guilt. Outside Teut. the only certain cognates are Lith. *skelěti* to be guilty, *skìlti* to get into debt, *skolà* debt, guilt, OPrussian *skallisnan* (acc.) duty, *skellânts* guilty, *po-skulit* to admonish.

The northern English dialects (including Sc.) have a form *sal*, pa. t. *suld*, with initial *s* instead of *sh.* This does not occur in the remains of ONorthumbrian, but first appears in the 13th c. It is remarkable that a similar form, with *s* irregularly representing OTeut. *sk*, existed as a dialectal variant in OHG. (*sal, sol, sulun*) and OFris. (*sal, sel*), and has ousted the regular form in Ger. (*soll, sollen*) and Du. (*zal, zou*). Some scholars regard the *s* form as representing an OTeut. variant, originating from the euphonic dropping of *k* in inflexional forms like the subjunctive **skli-*. It seems more probable that it was independently developed in the different dialects at an early period, while the *sk*-retained its original pronunciation; in stressless position the *k* might naturally be dropped, and the simplified initial afterwards extended by analogy to the stressed use.

In Eng. the vb. has no inf. or pples. (the evidence of an OE. inf. *sculan, sceolan*, is doubtful). Some of the other Teut. langs. have an infinitive: OHG. *scolan, solan* (MHG., mod.G. *sollen*), MDu. *sullen* (Du. *zullen*), ON. *skulu* (pa. t. inf. *skyldu*); Goth. has the pres. pple. *skuland-s* and the pa. pple. *skuld-s*; OHG. has the pres. pple. *scolanti* (mod.G. *sollend*), and early mod.G. the pa. pple. *gesollt*; ON. has a ppl. adj. *skyld-r* bound by duty.]

A. Inflexional Forms.

I. Present tense.

1. *1st and 3rd pers. sing.* **a.** 1 **sceall, scell, scyl**, 1–3 **sc(e)al, scel, scæl**, 3 **scall**, *erron.* **swal**, 3–4 **ssal**, 3–6 **schal**, 3–7 **shal**, 4 **schel, ssel**, 4–5 **schalle, xal**, 4–6 **schall**, 5 **shalle, schawl(l, schaul, chall, schel(e, schill**, 5–6 **xalle**, 5–7 **shale**, 3– **shall.**

Beowulf 438 (Gr.) Ic mid grape sceal fon wið feonde. *c* 831 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 445 Hwet man elce ȝere.. aȝiaban scel. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 5 Hu hit ȝeweorðan sceall ær ær hit ȝeweorðe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 8 *marg.*, Biscop scæl cunneȝe..ðone preost. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1483 (Gr.) Þæt scell æȝlæwra mann..findan on ferðe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 37 ðyt scyl beon ȝefylled þæt be me awriten is. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 For wan hi beoð þuss iȝeweðe me scel sigge, an oðre stowe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17684 All þatt follc þatt æfre wass & all þatt ȝet shall wurrþenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 5435 Eow swal beon þe betere. *Ibid.* 32140 No scal hit eou reouwe nauere. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1195 Ich wot hwo schal [*v.r.* sal] beon anhonge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 138 Her after..me ssal ihere al þis. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1312 Ischal þe to hewe [*v.r.* ich schal]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 2 (*heading*), Hou me ssel knawe guod and kuead. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 155 Me self schel dobbe þe to knist. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 357 Be my helpe whils I shal lyue. 1382 Shall [see B. 7 c]. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 54 He xal paye ye rytes of ye hows at his entre, viij.*d.* 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 10, I schal say ȝou the soth, that wel schul ȝe wyt. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 586 in *Macro Plays* 22, I xall goo ronde in hys ere. 1463 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 143, I trowe it shall apeyer. 1525 SAMPSON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 261 A synnar..nevyr..schall..deserve such a singulier goodnesse. 1535 COVERDALE *Amos* ix. 11, I shal repayre it. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 126, I thynke longe to know wherto I xall hold me. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 24 § 15 Who doth or shall tap out such Beere. 1663 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 164 This Shal be your warrant.

β. 3 **sel, scel**, 3–4 **sale**, 4–5 **salle**, (5 **sill**, 6 **sell**), 3– **sal**, 4– **sall.**

From 14th c. onwards only *north.* In the early southern and midland examples (Layamon, etc.) the initial *s* represents (ʃ).

c 1205 LAY. 8904 Þi mon he sæl bi-cumen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 25 Sal he neure luken ðe lides of hise eȝen. *c* 1275 LAY. 701 Þe bet ȝou sel worþe. *a* 1300 *Sarmun* xxx. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 4 Þe erþe þe watir þan sal sprede. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B* 520 lf. 28 b, Ase ofte as þe tressepas multipliez so sal þe torment wexen of þe peine.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 119, I sal yow schew..Brefli of aiþere testament. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 5 Dede him toke ..als it salle do vs. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3194 Quat sall I dreȝe. *c* 1461 in *Yarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 246 He sall knawe hyme by yir takynis. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 14 For the quhilk he sal ansuer to the compt. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit wemen* 372 Ane otir sall the worschip haif. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 112, I sall represent the necessitie of it the best way I can. 1784 BURNS *Addr. Illegit. Child* v, If thou..tak' the counsel I sall gie thee. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* 89 Unemphatic Form *Sall* (sŭl, sl).

γ. 3 **sol, shol**, 3–4 **schul(l**, 4 **sul**, 5 **scholl, shul**, 6 **schol**, 9 *dial.* **sholl, shull**, etc.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1025 (Cott.) Wat sol ich þar mid mine songe? *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 32, I schul hire winnen in pleyn batayle. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 287 No maner of man ne woman scholl lad no corne. 1526 J. TAYLOR in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 333 At whos commyng I schol wryte more at large.

2. *2nd pres.* **a.** 1–2 **scealt**, 2–3 **scalt**, 3 **scælt, scelt, sælt, sschalt, shallt, schald, sald, scald**, 3–5 **schalt**, (also 9 *dial.*) **salt**, 4 **schelt, sselt, shelt, shult**, 5 **schild, xalt**, 5–6, *dial.* 8–9 **shat**, 4– **shalt.**

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, An þing ðu scealt nede þæran

witan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 21 Ðu scealt habba ge-strion in heofne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 þu scalt biwepen þine sunne. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 38 Tekenn mare inoh þu shallt tæronne findenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 11492 þu scælt habben wurhscipe muchele. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1613 þu schalt stihen biforen me to drihtin in heouene. *c* 1250 *Hymn* 31 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 256 þu sschalt us in to heouene lede. *c* 1250 *O. E. Misc.* 156/22 þenne þu schalt wel do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26406 Par-of salt þou þe vmlok. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3737 þou shalt haue charge of þo boþe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 100 þis zuete word vader..þe sseaweþ þet þou sselt yleue. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 113 To clergie shult þow neuere come. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. iv. 77 þow salt chawnge. *c* 1440 *Stac. Rome* 281 in *Polit. Rel. & L. Poems* 152 þou shat haue gret mede. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xxi. 277 In pes ne Reste Schat thow neuer be. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 37 Thou xalt be ded. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2166 What shalt thou now don? *c* 1560 *Trag. Rich. II* (1870) 55, I com ouer them for ther blancke charters, shat heere else. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 330 Inevitably thou shalt dye. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. v, Shat ha un, d—n me, shat ha un. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.* p. lxxi, Thou sha't, or sha'st be.

β. 3–4 salle, 3–5 sale, schal, 4–5 shal, 5 schall(e, shal(l)e, 7–8 *dial.* shall, 3– (now *dial.*) sal(l. (Cf. note on 1 *β.*)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1815 Ðu sal ben hoten israel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1252 Toward þe est end of þis dale Find a grene gate þou sale. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 659 Feill anoyis thoill ȝhe sall. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxxv, Kyndely hunger whiche thou shal nedelynges fele. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 688 þou sall..se þe same with þine eȝen. *c* 1485 *Mary Magd.* 1176 in *Digby Myst.* 100 Stryppys on þi ars þou xall have. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. viii. 97 Nor thou sall nevir repent the sickirlie. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. iii, *Eust.*..I'll see her whom the world admires so much...*Sir Bar.* Be gad, and sall both see and talk with her. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.* s. v. *Sal*, Thou sal du it.

3. *pl. a.* 1 sculon, sceolon, sciolon, -un, scilon, sceulon, scolan, scylun, 2 sceolen, 2–3 sculen, sul(l)en, 3 scullen, sceollen, shulenn, scholen, sollen, sulin, sullen, 3–5 schullen, schulen, 4 ssollen, sshullen, schollen, shullon, ssulin, sullen, solen, 4–5 shul(l)en, schulyn, 5 shullan, -yn, -on, schulun.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 4 Hwæt sculon we nu don? *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 46 ðie sciolun habba, *habebitis. Ibid.* xx. 18 We stiȝes *vel* we scilon stiȝe, *ascendimus. a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1902 (Gr.) Ne sceolon unc betweonan teonan weaxan. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* an. 870 (MS. F) Oððe þas preostas scolan munecas beon, oððe [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 þet we sulen habben ure heorte..to ure drihten. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 For hire we sculen alle deað polien. *c* 1200 [see B. 10 b]. *c* 1205 LAY. 8780 To-gaderen wit scullen [*c* 1275 sollen] libben. *Ibid.* 9518 Faren wit swullen to-somne. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 16 in *O. E. Misc.* 103 Whu we ȝure lif lede sulin. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 621 We sholen þe wel fede. 1435 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 181 Poor chapmen..shullon be gretely hyndered. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiii. 223 Thei schulen no longer so erre.

β. contracted. 4 schulne, shuln, 4–5 schun, schin, schyn, 5 schyn(n)e, shyn, schone, 9 *dial.* shan, sun, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 1810 Þose þat seme arn & swete schyn se his face. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 237 Godis word witnessiþ we shuln ȝiue & dele oure enemys. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 67 They schun holdyn..foure dayes of spekyngges tokedere. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 34 Þer bene bestes þat schyne be rost. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Cecilia* 408 Fynd we shuln a ful cruel fal. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 590 in *Babees Bk.*, Baylys, and parker, Schone come to acountes euery ȝere. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* 89 Emphatic Form..Wey shaan..Unemphatic Form..Wey sŭn, sn.

γ. 1 (*Northumb.*) scilo, 2–3 scule, 2–4 sculle, 3 shul(l)e, solle, schule, sul,l)e, ssulle, sul, 3–4 ssolle, schole, 4 schoulle, ssolle, schol, sschulle, scolle, chul, sul, 4–5 scholle, shulle, schul(e, schulle, shul, 5 shule, shole, chull, schil(l, xul.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 19 Huæt ȝespreca scilo, *quid loquamini. c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Ne scule ȝe neure god don unforgolden. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8655 Siþenn shule witt anan Off hunngerr deȝenn baþe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 303 For adam sul ðus and his wif In blisse ðus leden lesteful lif. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1262 (Laud MS.), To day we schole hem keche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 186 Wel ssolle we habbe reuþe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3339 Redli chul ȝe spede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 38 Pes and acord awey schol wende. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 227 Ye schill to Cardyffe to the kynge. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 5 ȝe schul have grace. 14..*Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 277 In tyme quan we xul dey. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 203 ȝe chull come þat day to holy chyrch. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 44 What shulle we now doo thynke ye. *c* 1500 *Melusine* I. 16 Al thoo that shal demande the without cesse,..shul be putt from theire prosperytees.

δ. 3 scul(l)eð, sulleð, ssuleþ, s(s)olleþ, 3–4 schul(l)eþ, 4 shulleþ, scholleþ.

c 1205 LAY. 27376 Heo sculleð beon islaȝene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 724 Þine sostren ssolleþ abbe al. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 451 Þey schulleþ [MS. γ scholleþ] goo out at þe worldes ende. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 53 For mede we shulleþ synȝe. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 10 To do and to preye as othere Reclus..Shulleth don and preye.

ε. 2 scale, 3–4 sal(e, 3–6 sall, 4 sschal, salle, shal(le, 4–5 schal(l, 5 shalle, shal, xal(l, (etc. as in 1) 4– shall.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Hwan we scale festen. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1206 Ic wot if smithes sale vuele clenche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11450 To hend and fete we sal him fall. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2405 We schal yow wel acorde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 141 Þei shal not see him. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 44 Remembrance Of that thei schall hierafter rede. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 149/232 All that lyuen.. Shall dye. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 358 in *Macro Plays* 14 We xall bargen with yow. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6242 Quhen the Childryng of God..Sall do appeir. 1660 CHAS. II, in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VI. 39 Yu shale find yᵗ hearafter I will do all I can. 1664 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 220 We shal easily provide els-where.

4. *Subjunctive.* 1 scule, sceole, sciele, scile, scyle, (*pl.* 1 scylen, -un, sceulen), 3 sculle, shul(l)e, sule, schulle, schille, 3–5 schule.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 7 Ne scyle [*v.r.* sceal] nan mon siocne monnan..swencan. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 40 Hu hie self-scylen fulfremedeste weorðan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* v. 2 Hwæt ys se drihten, þæt ic hym hiran scile? *c* 1200 ORMIN 3546 þatt illc mann shule cumenn ham. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 þet heo muwe & schule þuruh ham þe betere beon iboruwen. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1683 (Cott.) Schille [*Jesus* schulle] ich an utest uppen ow grede, ich shal swo stronge ferde lede [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 144 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 þeyh ich to þe deþe schulle myd þe go. *c* 1450 MYRC 587 ȝef hyt schule in greyþe fare.

5. Reduced enclitic forms (all persons and numbers). *α.* 6 -sh, -s, 7 -ce, 6– -se, 7– s'; *mis-written* 7–9 's, 8–9 'se.

Very frequent in the north, in the expressions *Ise uphaud, Ise warrant*: see *Uphold, Warrant* in Eng. Dial. Dict.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* Prol. ii, For Dialogs (quod I) weis get anew. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* Wks. 1843 I. p. lviii, In gewd faith, saith the Kendallman, do see, and Ise bay for your skott to London. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. v. 39 Youth beare the blame for mee. 1575 *Ibid.* III. iii. 44 Thouse pay for al. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. ii, Yuse haue a blew one soone. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 63 *Ils neir cair*, for *I sall neuer cair. a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV* Ind., Ays gar thee recon me nene of thay friend. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 246 Ice try whither your Costard, or my Ballow be the harder. 1647 CHAS. I *Let. to Dk. York* 15 July, Where I s'have the contentment of seeing you. *c* 1780 in Child *Ballads* III. 489/1 Thy dinner's be dressd in Annan Holme. 1825 JAMIESON s. v. *Ise*, In Lanarks. and other counties, *ye'se, he'se, she'se, we'se, they'se, that'se*, are also used... *Thou'se* also for *thou shalt. a* 1864 in R. A. Arnold *Cotton Famine* 303 Aw feel better neaw. We's be reet enough to-morn, lass.

β. 6–9 -st; *mis-written* 'st. *dial.*

a 1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* (Shaks. Soc.) 8, I promise the, before these folke, Thoust neuer cost me grote. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIBBER *Provok'd Husb.* I. 27 We'st ta' the best care we can of 'um.

6. *a.* With pronouns affixed: *sing.* 1*st pers.* 6 shalche. *2nd pers.* 1 scealtu, 3 s(c)haltu, saltu, 3–4 shaltou, 3–5 shaltow, 4 schal(s)tow, saltou, -ow(e, schaltou, scheltou. *3rd pers.* 6 shalla. *pl.* 1*st pers.* 7 shalles, shals, shal's (= *shall us*). *2nd pers.* 3 sollie (= *soll ye*).

1553 *Respublica* v. vii. 1609 And what shalche zai to om? *a* 1000 *Andreas* 220 (Gr.) Scealtu..mid ærdæge..ceol gestixan. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2094 Ne schaltu nower neh se lihtliche esterten. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1322 Alle þe castles þat aren þer-inne Shal-tow..winne. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 325 þat alle þi frendes fordedes faire schalstow quite. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 25 Say now,..how saltou fare? *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1436 To Egremoygne-ward scheltou fare. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7467 But shaltow never of apparence Seene conclude good consequence In none argument.

1556 PHAER *Æneid* IV. L ij, And shalla go? Indeede? and shalla flowte me thus?

1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* (1901) II. i. 50 Prince Balthezer, shalles meete? 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii, Shals to the field. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. i. 3 What shal's doe with our selues?

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Comeþ to srifte.. þanne sollie habbe þo helþe of heuene.

b. With *not* (*na*) affixed: 7–9 (now *dial.*) shan-not, shan'not, sha'not; *Sc.* and *north.* 8 sha'na, 8–9 shanna (shinna, etc.); 7 shann't, sha'nt, 7– sha'n't, shan't (9 *dial.* sant, etc.).

1664 S. CROSSMAN in Palmer *Bk. Praise* (1865) 167 My Life and I sha'nt part. 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. ii, By this leg but you shan'not. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 48 Nay but I wonnot, so I wonnot, Nor you shan't keep me, no you shannot. 1677 RAVENSCROFT *Scaramouch* I. 10 It cannot be, it must not, it sha'not. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 29 Doctors, Proctors, Paritors together Shann't leave upon thy Naked back one Feather. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (ed. 3) I. 121, I shan't stir from this House. 17..RAMSAY *O'er Bogie* ii, We shanna part For siller or for land. 1792 BURNS *Bonie Lesley* v, Misfortune sha'na steer thee. 1819 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 55 Tou sant git a kiss! 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 67 *Shatt'n*, shalt not. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 148 The same shinna befa' the year. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* iii, Shan't I have a fine time of it! 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xii, He sha'n't marry Violet. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss., Sallant, Sal n't, Skan't, Sannat, Sanna*, shall not.

c. Written continuously with an infin. (esp. *be*).

c 1400 *Pety Job* 7 in *26 Pol. Poems* 121, I shalbe wormes ware. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 189 The tyme salcum that thare salbe bot a pastour and a schepe faulde. 1458–9 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 300 Ther selbe no ladyng of corn. 1502 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 92 Ther where it xalbe moste nedefull. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxxviii. 214 b, Let vs assemble togyder, and so we shabe the stronger. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. vi. § 4 Every person or persons..wsh shalbee..auctorised. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1599, (1890) 304/1 The..personis quha salhappin to be querellit. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 560 He shalbe able to avoyd any sinne.

II. Past tense.

7. *α.* 1–2 sceolde, 1–3 scolde, sculde, (1 sc(e)alde, 3 shollde, scholte, seolde, *erron.* swulde), 3–4 ssolde, 3–5 schulde, scholde, 3–6 shulde, (4 sschulde, shullde, chold), 4–6 sholde, schold, shuld, 4–7 shold, 5–6 shoulde, xuld(e, (5 schulld, shoolde, xwld, sculd, schud(e, 6 shalld, 7 shoo'd, sho'd, shu'd, 8 shou'd) 6– should.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. § 1 Se Job..licette þæt he sceolde bion se hehsta god. *a* 900 *Martyrol.* in *O. E. Texts* 178 Dæt ða wildan hors scealden iornan on hearde wegas. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 24 An seþe scalde ten þusende. *Ibid.* xx. 10 Þa ærestu wendon þæt hie mare sculdon onfoon. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Xpist ne wolde ðæt he sculde lange rixan. *c* 1205 LAY. 4267 þenne and auere mare heo swulden habben are. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 906 Wiþ wronge Scholte [*Laud MS.* Scholde] inc hit vnderfonge. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* 1057 (W.) Who sschulde him biyete but the king? 13.. in Ritson *Anc. Songs & Ball.* (1877) 62 That such a knight ssold falle. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2014 Sche chold sone be bi-schet here-selue al-one. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* ii. 15 That it shuld be fulfillid. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 154 þe fyngeres þat folde sholden. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 14 For he shullde hem serue of þe same after. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/1 That the said William Gascoigne shoolde treete bitwen the forsayd Lord..and hym. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vii. 176 Which pilgrimage..he wolde that no Cristen man schude do. 1461 C. PASTON in *P. Lett.* 26 June, The mony that I xwld have. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 14 þt he shold not suffre hyt. *Ibid.* 37 That ..they shuld go to þe ryuage of the see. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 19 That I chuld goo and comon with the woman. 1515 BARCLAY *Eglogues* V. (1570) D ij, A man on his cloke should not espye a heare. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* 1387 (Pollard), What ye mene..I wold ye shuld opynly tell. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 39 As that I should erect a Tabernacle. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp., To Dean-bourn*, I never sho'd behold. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 154 All are troubled that they shoulde make an Order and I should not obey it. 1697 CIBBER *Woman's Wit* I. 2 D'ee believe it impossible you shu'd ever Love? 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 387 These considerations shou'd make us the more attentive. 1785 BURNS *To Rev. J. M'Math* viii, I'm no' the thing I shou'd be.

β. 3 sol(l)de, sulde, soolde; *Sc.* and *north.* 4–9 sulde, soulde, 4–8 sould, (4 salde, suuld, sold, 4, 8 sud, 5 sald, 6 sowld, 8 soud), 3– suld.

c 1200 ORMIN 7239 Þær Messyass..To manne cumenn sollde. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 149 He fleð fro him als he fro fir sulde. *c* 1275 LAY. 3485 So man his fader solde. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B 520* lf. 62 Ilke lond..wuche soolde retournen to þilke R. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 146 þe law..þe quilk the Iuus in suld life. 13.. *Ibid.* 6106 (Gött.), [Moyses] for-bed þat þai Sould vte of hous cum. *Ibid.* 16464, Þar was na soygne, bot his lauerd sud dei. *a* 1375 *Ibid.* 1197 (Fairf.), Our lorde..bad he salde wiþ his wyf dele hit sulde him turne to myche wele. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 357 The gallory quhilk he suld mak. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 8 That sowld haif ay thair God afoir thair ene. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 5 That euer I sould byde to se that day! *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1870) 18 Quhither quho, quhen, quhat, etc. sould be symbolized with q or w. 1725 RAMSAY *Cock Laird* v, We maun hae braw things, Abeit they soud break. 1785 BURNS *To W. S*****n* ii, I sud be laith to think ye hinted Ironic satire. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, That I suld have held up my hand to my brow. *a* 1862 in C. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 213 Ah wur sorely fläad 'at ah sud sāay my text wreng.

8. *2nd pres. sing. α.* 1 sceoldes, 3–4 suldes, 5 shuldes, xulddes; 1 sceoldest, 2–3 scoldest, sculdest, 3–5 schuldest, 5–6 shuldest, (3 ssholdest, 4 ssoldest, scholdest, 5 sholdest, 6 souldest), shouldest, shouldst.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Eac þæt wæs swiðe micel pleoh þæt ðu swa wenan sceoldes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3984 Her suldes ðu nu wurðen slaȝen. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 106 (Laud MS.) þat micte so bi falle þou suldes slen us alle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 2986 (Trin.) þat þou shuldes not synne in me. *c* 1485 *Mary Magd.* 1163 in *Digby Myst.* 99 And þou xuldes ryde.

Beowulf 2056 (Gr.) Þone þe ðu mid rihte rædan sceoldest. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, All a dæis fare sculdest thu neure finden man in tune sittende. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 þat ilke uuel þe ic dude þe þu scoldest don me. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 170 As þou shuldist mete of a myst. *c* 1400 *Pilg. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxiv. 70 Yf thou haddest..entended to this scole duely as thou sholdest. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 259 That to trespassours thou sholdist pardon..graunte. 1573 J. SANFORD *Hours Recr.* (1576) 109 That thou shuldest buye that which thou must occupie. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* ii. 198 Speciallie that thou shouldest not despaire. 1667 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 263 Thou shouldest take parte with the opressed. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xx, Shouldst thou point out to me..an enemy more worthy of my resentment. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 97 He shall teach thee that thou shouldest not dream.

β. contracted. 3 s(s)ost, 4 s(c)host, schust, 4–5 shust.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8974 Ich clupede þe ek up þat þou it ssost ise [*v. rr.* (14*th* c.) shost, schost, scholdest, schuldest]. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (A.) 195 Lord crist,..þou schust com to helle pine. 13.. *Medit.* 714 þou shust pray for hem þat þy foos be. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6824 Rather than thow shust forsake Thy skryppe.

γ. 4–5 shuld(e, 4–6 suld(e, 6 should.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12088 Til oþer thues þou suld him won. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 244 How þou shulde praye, I wold þou wyst. 1411 *26 Pol. Poems* 46/207 For þou shuld ȝeue, god dede þe sende. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 28 Thow sulde it tell with all the circumstance.

9. *a.* With pronouns affixed: 1*st pers. sing.* 3 schuldich. *2nd pers. sing.* 4 shuldestou, 5 schuldestow.

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 163 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 63 What shuldich ine the worlde go? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 97 Þinge that al þe worlde wote wherfore shuldestow spare To reden it? *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 9611 (Trin.) þenne shuldestou be douted nouȝt.

b. With *not* (Sc. and dial. *na*) affixed.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2147 How..Sathanas Dude hurre þere lette wt alle his myȝt, þat he shulnot haue come to þat ioyfulle place. *a* 1796 BURNS *'Dear —, I'll gie ye some advice'*, You shouldna paint at angels mair. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Perhaps I was a fool, Becky, but you should'nt say so. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxxii, I shouldna wonder if he's come about that man [etc.].

B. Signification and uses.

†**I. 1.** *trans.* **a.** To owe (money). *Obs.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 28 Seþe sculde him undred denera. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvi. 5 Hu mycel sċealt þu minum hlaforde? *c* 1290 *Beket* 820 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Þar-of þritti þousent pound þov me schalt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 Ich ne habbe huer-of maki þe yeldinge: uoryef me þet ich þe ssel. *Ibid.* 145 Þise dette ssel ech to obren and huo mest his yelt mest he ssel. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Rom. xiii. 7 ȝelde ȝe to alle men ȝoure dettes: to hym þat ȝe schuleþ trybut, trybut. *c* 1425 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxiii. 695 The leeste ferthyng þat y men shal.

†**b.** To owe (allegiance). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy Soc.) xxxiv, Be the fayth ic schal to God. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1649 And by that feyth I shal to god and yow. [*c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 131 By the feith I shall to god.]

II. Followed by an infinitive (without *to*).

Except for a few instances of *shall will*, *shall may* (*mowe*), *shall conne* in the 15th c., the infinitive after *shall* is always either that of a principal verb or of *have* or *be*.

* *The present tense* **shall.**

†**2.** In general statements of what is right or becoming: = 'ought'. *Obs.* (Superseded by the pa. subjunctive *should*: see sense 18.)

In OE. the subjunctive present sometimes occurs in this use (e.g. *c* 828 in A. 4).

Beowulf 20 (Gr.) Swa sċeal ȝeong guma gode ȝewyrċean ..þæt [etc.]. *c* 700 CÆDMON *Hymn* 1 Nu scylun herȝan hefænricæs uard. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. § 3 Hwy sċeall þonne æniȝ mon bion idel, þæt he ne wyrce? *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 259 Se sċadwis ȝerefa sċeal æȝðær witan ȝe hlafordes landriht ȝe folces ȝerihtu. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Al þet þe licome luueð þet þa saule heteð..Nu sculle we for-lete þes licome lust for-þon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 Ancren schulen brihtluker. uor hore blindfallunge her, iseon ant understonden þer Godes derne runes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2419 Mine knihtes, hwat do ye? Shule ye þus-gate fro me fle? 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 Þe hestes ten þet loki ssolle alle men. *Ibid.* 136 Ase moche ase he ssel and may do wyþ-oute misdo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20538 (Gött.) Inogh þai did me vilete, þat wid right min aune sul be. *c* 1420 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 242 Alle cristen pepill glad xal bene þat crist is boþe king and prest. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 29 Pekokys, and pertrikys perboylyd schyn be. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 The kynge shall often tymes sende..his juges, to..punysh riatours and risers. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 149 Whether are Roundells of all suche coloures, as ye haue spoken of here before? or shall they be named Roundelles of those coloures?

†**3.** In OE. and occas. in ME. used to express necessity of various kinds (for the many shades of meaning in OE. see Bosworth-Toller): = 'must', 'must needs', 'have to', 'am compelled to', etc.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 3 Þonne sċealt þu nede ȝelefan þæt sum anwald sie maȝa þonne his. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* iii. 34 On ðæm ȝeswincum he sċeal hine selfne ȝeðencean, ðeah he nylle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 308 We ðe ben fro heuene driuen, sulen ðusse one in sorwe liuen. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 159 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 If ich hine schal drynke iworþe þine wille. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5422, I wold it were þi wille wiþ vs forto lenge, hit forþinkes me sore þat we schul de-parte. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 369 Tweyne þat beeþ i-wedded a man and a womman schal nedes be outlawed out of þat contray. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvi. 18, I am fairer of face..(Þe soth yf I saie sall)..þan glorius gulles.

†**b.** In stating a necessary condition: = 'will have to', 'must' (if something else is to happen).

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* v. 26 Ȝif þu nu wilnast..þæt soðe leoht sweotole oncnawan..þu forlætan sċealt idle ofersælða. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 116 You shall seeke all day ere you finde them, & when you haue them they are not worth the search. 1605 — *Lear* v. iii. 22 He that parts vs, shall bring a Brand from Heauen. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, He shall hide himself in a bean-hole, if he remains on Scottish ground without my finding him.

†**c.** In hypothetical clause, accompanying the statement of a necessary condition: = 'is to'.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* lxv. 48 Right so muste hym chastes his flessh with fastyng if he sal be savid. 1612 BACON *Ess., Greatn. Kingd.* (Arb.) 482 Neither must they be too much broken of it, if they shall be preserued in vigor.

†**4.** Indicating what is appointed or settled to take place = the mod. 'is to', 'am to', etc. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxiv. (Z.) 136 *Lecturus sum cras*, ic sċeal rædan to meriȝen, *lecturus es*, þu sċealt rædan, *lecturus est*, he sċeal rædan. *Ibid.* xli. 248 *Osculandus*, se ðe sċeal beon ȝecyssed. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 565, Nu sċeal beon æfre on Ii abbod næs bisceop, & þam sculon beon under þædde ealle Scotta biscopes. *c* 1205 LAY. 5964 Belin. hit [*sc.* Rome] bi-tæcheð Brenne þe sċæl bi-læuen here. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 56 We ssulleþ her after in þise boc telle of al þis wo. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vii. 19 Arte thou he that shall come..? 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iv. 89 What is he that shall buy his flocke and pasture? 1625 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 199 Tomorrow His Majesty will be present..to begin the Parliament which is thought shall be removed to Oxford.

5. In commands or instructions. **a.** In the second person, equivalent to an imperative.

Chiefly in Biblical language, of Divine commandments, rendering the jussive future of the Heb. and Vulgate. (In OE. the imperative is used in the ten commandments.)

a 1000 *Andreas* 950 (Gr.) Nu ðu, Andreas, sċealt edre ȝeneðan in gramra gripe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) civ. 13 Ne sceolon ȝe mine þa halȝan hrinan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 Þe uerste heste þet god made..is þis: þou ne sselt habbe uele godes. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xx. 7 Thow shalt not tak the name of the Lord thi God in veyn. [So Coverdale, etc.] 1405 *Lay-Folks Mass Bk.* 64 Ȝe sal mak your prayers specially..for the state and the stabilnes of al halykirk. 1533 GAU *Richt Way* 8 Thou sal haif na oder strenge godis. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 8 Thou sall not slay, in na kin wyse. 1604 *Bidding Prayer* (still in use), Ye shall pray for Christ's Holy Catholic Church.

†(*b*) In expositions: *You shall understand*, etc. (that). *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Nu ic eou habbe þet godspel iseid anfaldeliche, nu scule ȝe understonden twafaldeliche þet hit bi-tacnet. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10663 A Frysoun ȝe shul vndyrstande To a marchaunde of Fryslande. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 73 Ȝee schulle undirstonde, that it stont fulle faire betwene Hilles. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxviii, Thou sall wele knawe and witt, Thou may thy hert[e] ground on suich a wise [etc.]. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 313 Ye shall also understond the Duke of Suthffolke..goyth ouer in all goodlye hast [whit]her I know not.

†(*c*) In the formula *You shall excuse* (*pardon*) *me*. *Obs.* (now *must*.)

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 78 Your Grace shall pardon me, I will not backe. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 191 You shall excuse me, for I eat no flesh on Fridayes.

b. In the third person.

a 900 *Durham Admon.* in *O. E. Texts* 176 [Ðis mon] scal reda ofer ða feta ðe ful infalleð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 24 Þenne schal siggen, hwo se con, 'Domine labia mea aperies'. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B 520* lf. 32 b, Ȝif þe lord ne mai noȝt suffisen to uellen þe vnder wode, þe contreie him sal helpe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 794 Ech of yow, to shorte with your weye, In this viage, shal telle tales tweye. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 206 The said Abbesse and her successours whan they ben resonably somoned shul send thedir their certayn steward. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 246 b, It shall be free for every man to joyne hym selfe unto thys league. 1623–4 *Act 21 Jas. I*, c. 28 § 7 No Sanctuarie..shalbe hereafter admitted. 1645 *Ordin. Lords & Comm.* 5 Scandalous persons shal be kept from the Sacrament. 1744 in Atkyns *Chanc. Cases* (1782) III. 166 The words *shall and may* in general acts of parliament, or in private constitutions, are to be construed imperatively, they *must* remove them.

6. In the second and third persons, expressing the speaker's determination to bring about (or, with negative, to prevent) some action, event, or state of things in the future, or (occasionally) to refrain from hindering what is otherwise certain to take place, or is intended by another person.

a. In the second person.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 909 (Gr.) Þu sċealt greot etan þine lifdaȝas. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Ȝif þu þanne þis litle bebod to breċst, þu sċealt deaðe sweltan. *c* 1205 LAY. 26587 Abuggen ȝe scullen þa dede. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 316 in *O. E. Misc.* 82 To day ye schuleþ..vnder-fo lupre mede. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2257 Þe soþe, felawes, ful sone ȝe schol it wite. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys, Cecilia* 591 Ye shul hens pace, Or ellys, certeynly, ye shule deye. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xviii. 240 And syker assuraunce and borowes ye shal haue. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i, Followe me no further; I say thou shalt not haue them. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VI. lxxvii, To morrow shall ye feast in pastures new. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* v. ii. ad fin., Well, 'fore George, you shan't say I do things by halves. 1777 — *Sch. Scandal* II. ii, Positively you shall not be so severe. 1833 TENNYSON *Death of Old Year*, Old year, you must not go;..Old year, you shall not go. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xi, If you would rather not stay then, you shall go down to South Kensington Square then.

b. In the third person.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xviii. 10 Þin wif Sarra sċeal habban sunu. 1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 603 We wolleþ ous wel awreke, up him sulve it schal go. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 167 By goddes herte he sal nat scape us bathe. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 37 With goddes grace my comynge ageyn Shal nat be longe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 129 Verona shall not hold thee. 1604 — *Oth.* v. ii. 334 If there be any cunning Cruelties, That can torment him much,..It shall be his. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* I. ii, Though your ill-conduct may disturb my peace of mind, it shall never break my heart, I promise you. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Feb., Others, whose names may be found in the Blue Book, but shan't, out of modesty, be mentioned here. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed 3) 174 The occasion of mentioning this gentleman's name shall be taken as an opportunity of describing his..form of the constant battery. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xiv, 'Oh, yes, sir, she shall come back,' said the nurse. 'I'll take care of that.' 'I will come back,' said Vere.

7. In special interrogative uses related to senses 5 and 6.

a. In the first person, used in questions to which the expected answer is a command, direction, or counsel, or a resolve on the speaker's own part.

(*a*) in questions introduced by an interrogative pronoun (in oblique case), adverb, or adverbial phrase.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxv, Cwæð he: Hwæt sċeal ic singan? Cwæð he: Sing me frumsceaft. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 Hwæt sċeal ic ðonne ma secgean fram Sancte Iohanne ..buton þæt [etc.]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9289 Whatt shule we nu forrþwarrd don? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3358 'Louered', quad he, 'quat sal ic don? He sulen me werpen stones on'. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11205 Quat schal [*Trin., Laud*, shulde] i tell yow, less or mare, Bot ihesu crist hir barn sco bar? *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 342 Frowhens schule we trowe this came, that so manye..false Apostlis..weren in the chirche. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 69 Quhom sall I blame in this breth, a bysyn that I be? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 38 Bot, O thou virgine, quham sall I call the? 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VIII. lxix, What shall we doe? shall we be gouern'd still, By this false hand? 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, How shall we devise To hold intelligence? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxii, 'It's rather slow work', said he, 'down here; what *shall* we do?' 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxiii, Where shall we stow the mare?

(*b*) in categorical questions.

Often expressing indignant reprobation of a suggested course of action, the implication being that only a negative (or, with negative question an affirmative) answer is conceivable.

1600 [see (*a*)]. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 83 Shall I draw the Curtaine? 1622 WITHER *Philarete* (1633) I 7 Shall I wasting in Dispaire, Dye because a Womans faire? ? *a* 1700 D'URFEY *Pills* (1719) V. 113 Shall you and I Lady, Among the Grass lye down a. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* II. iii, What! shall I forget..when I was at his years myself? 1802 WORDSW. *To the Cuckoo* i, O Cuckoo! shall I call thee Bird, Or but a wandering Voice? 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. i. 22, I am bound to France; Shall I take word from you to any one? 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xiii, 'Are you driving, or shall I call you a cab?' 'Oh, no; I'm driving, thanks'.

¶ (*c*) In ironical affirmative in exclamatory sentence, equivalent to the above interrogative use. (Cf. Ger. *soll.*) *rare.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1742) III. 89 A pretty thing truly! Here I, a poor helpless Girl, raised from Poverty and Distress,..shall put on Lady-airs to a Gentlewoman born.

†(*d*) *To stand shall I, shall I* (later *shill I, shall I*: see SHILLY-SHALLY), *to be at shall I, shall I* (*not*): to be vacillating, to shilly-shally. *Obs.*

1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 85 Such Medicines.. that will not stand shall I? shall I? but will fall to work on the Disease presently. *c* 1689 *Popish Pol. Unmaskt* 34 in *Third Coll. Poems* (1689) 23 Who follows him that standeth, shall I, shall I? 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s. v., To be at shall-I shall-I, (to be at a stand, or in suspence).

b. Similarly in the third person, where the subject represents or includes the speaker, or when the speaker is placing himself at another's point of view.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 22 Hast thou (which art but aire) a touch, a feeling Of their afflictions, and shall not my selfe, One of their kinde,..be kindlier mou'd then thou art? 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxx. 6 O where now shall a man trust?

c. In the second and third person, where the expected answer is a decision on the part of the speaker or of some person other than the subject.

As in **a**, the question often serves as an impassioned repudiation of a suggestion that something shall be permitted.

c 1205 LAY. 13531 Wha sċal an hirede beon ure lauerd Nu Vortiger is iuaren? 13.. in *Ayenb.* (1866) Descr. MS., Þe kyng Alesandre acsede hwan ssal þat be. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xii. 3 Hou longe shall ben enhaunsid myn enemy vp on me? *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 14 'What shalbe his name?' 'I will', quod she, 'that it haue name after my fader.' *c* 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* liv. 2 Vhase praise, Apollo, sal my pen proclame? 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. ii. 11 What shall he haue that kild the Deare? 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* I. i. 97 And say, to which shall our applause belong, This new Court jargon, or the good old song? 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xviii, Shall a wife complain? 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lvi. 8 And he, shall he, Man,..Be blown about the desert dust, Or seal'd within the iron hills?

d. In indirect question.

In quot. 1470–85 irregularly in pres. tense when the principal clause is in pa. t.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Þæt ic þonan onȝietan mæȝe hwonon ic þin tilize scyle & hu. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 19 Nallaþ ȝe ȝeðence huu vel huæt ȝe spreca scilo [*quomodo aut quid loquamini*]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 638 Ne þenche ȝe neauer hwet ne hu ȝe schulen seggen. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 147 Þei stryuen not who schal be most meke. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiii. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 32 He taught..vs in what manere þis vertue of mekenesse schal be goten. 1450 W. LOMNER in *Paston Lett.* 5 May, The shreve of Kent..sent his under shreve to the juges to wete what to doo, and also to the Kenge whatte shalbe doo. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xiii. 91 On the morne they fond letters of gold wryten how syr Gaweyn shalle reuenge his faders deth. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 181 That ye counseille me how I shall maye avenge me. *a* 1500 *Tretyce of Husb.* in *W. Henley*, etc. (R. Hist. Soc. 1890) 41 The vj chapitur tellithe nowe howe you shall lay youre lande at seede tyme. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 495 Harke what thou else shalt do mee. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 185, I beg to know..who I shall inform him inquired so kindly after him. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* III. i, Let our future Contest be, who shall be most obliging. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* x, Let her say what shall be done with it.

8. As a mere auxiliary, forming (with present infinitive) the future, and (with perfect infinitive) the future perfect tense.

In OE. the notion of the future tense was ordinarily expressed by the present tense. To prevent ambiguity, *wile* (will) was not unfrequently used as a future auxiliary, sometimes retaining no trace of its original sense. On the other hand, *sceal* (shall) even when rendering a Latin future, can hardly be said to have been ever a mere tense-sign in OE.; it always expressed something of its original notion of obligation or necessity. In ME. the present early ceased to be commonly employed in futural sense, and the future was expressed by either *shall* or *will*, the former being much more common. The usage as to the choice between the two auxiliaries has varied from time to time; since the middle of the 17th c. the general rule (subject to various exceptions) has been that mere futurity is expressed in the first person by *shall*, in the second and third by *will*. In indirectly reported speech, usage permits either the retention of the auxiliary used by the original speaker or the substitution of that which is appropriate to the point of view of the person reporting.

a. In OE. *sceal*, while retaining its primary sense, served as a tense-sign in announcing a future event as fated or divinely decreed. Hence *shall* has

always been the auxiliary used, in all persons, for prophetic or oracular announcements of the future, and for solemn assertions of the certainty of a future event.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1030 Sceal þonne anra gehwylc fore Cristes cyme cwic arisan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 5 Alle gelic gie sciolon losiga, *omnes similiter peribitis.* *c* 1200 ORMIN 211 Fra þiss da33 þu shallt ben dumb. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4039 Of ðe sal risen sterre bri3t. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5133 Hii ssolleþ 3ut keuery moche lond þat hii abbeþ y lore. *c* 1400 *Brut* lxix. 64 3e shul bigete a dou3ter þat shal be quene of Irland. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2168 Thy contre shalt se put in exile all, Distroed, robbed. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 43 That shalbe, shalbe. 1577 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 110 The queene neither ever was, nor is, nor ever shall be the head of the Church of England. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 262 Now do I Prophesie..A Curse shall light vpon the limbes of men. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Rest.* 273 It signifies men shall be scoffers and jeerers one of another. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 26 No Prince so great, so wise, Hath ever risen, or shall ever rise. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Death Wellington* 191 Whatever record leap to light He never shall be shamed. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 181 A General Council, truly such, never did, never shall err in a matter of faith. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 46 So it may be, so it shall be,—Oh, take the prophecy from me!

b. In the first person, *shall* has, from the early ME. period, been the normal auxiliary for expressing mere futurity, without any adventitious notion. (*a*) Of events conceived as independent of the speaker's volition. (To use *will* in these cases is now a mark of Scottish, Irish, provincial, or extra-British idiom.)

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 143, I shall hafenn forr min swinnc God læn..3iff þatt I..Hemm hafe itt inntill Ennglissh wennd. *c* 1205 LAY. 8371 Nu we sulleð for heore beone bliðe iwurðen. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1406 (Laud MS.) Þis lond we schollen winne And sle al þat þere ben inne. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xx. 67, I shalle dye a shameful deth. 1595 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 357 My frend, yow and I shall play no more at Tables now. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. i. 1 When shall we three meet againe? 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 44 Then wee shall haue 'em, Talke vs to silence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 737, I..shall soon..rid heav'n of these rebell'd. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* II. i, So—carry him off!..We shall have him into a fever by-and-by. 1781 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 402 You cannot suppose that we shall rise with a diseased body. 1806 WORDSW. *Addr. to a Child* 39 He may work his own will, and what shall we care? 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, i. 40 My travel's done,—Before the whirlwind wakes I shall have found My inn of lasting rest. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii, 'But what if you don't hit?' 'I *shall* hit', said George coolly. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vi, Our personal characters will be attacked, we shall be impeached with foul actions.

(*b*) Of voluntary action or its intended result. Here *I* (*we*) *shall* is always admissible exc. where the notion of a present (as distinguished from a previous) decision or consent is to be expressed (in which case *will* must be used). Further, *I shall* often expresses a determination insisted on in spite of opposition, and *I shall not* (colloq. *I shan't*) a peremptory refusal.

In the 16th c. and earlier, *I shall* often occurs where *I will* would now be used.

c 1200 ORMIN 11557 Icc shall beon a33 occ a33 wiþþ 3uw Whil þatt tiss weorelld lasstepþ. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 396 We schulen bringen to ende þat we bigunnen habbeð. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 833 Ischal..Wiþ mi sword wel eþe Bringe hem þre to deþe. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 621 Cherl! go oway, Oþer y schal þe smite. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* XX. 19 Spek thow to vs, and we shulen here. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1466 A schafte salle I one hym sett, And I salle fonde firste to hitt. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 91 This now shall I alway kepe surely in memorye. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 27 Informe him So 'tis our will he should.—I shall my liege. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 91, I shall begin my Discourse of this Russelet-pear by telling you [etc.]. 1779 *Mirror* No. 25, I..shall let my wife and daughters know, that I will be master of my own house. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* V. iii. 86 Say what ye will. I shall deny no more. 1833 [see SHAM *v.* 5]. 1885 RUSKIN *On Old Road* II. 57 *note*, Henceforward..I shall continue to spell 'Ryme' without our wrongly added *h*.

c. In the second person, *shall* as a mere future auxiliary appears never to have been usual in affirmative or negative senses (exc. in the uses treated under 9 b and 11); but in categorical questions it is normal: e. g. '*Shall* you miss your train? I am afraid you will.'

d. In the third person. *Obs.* (superseded by *will*) exc. when another's statement or expectation respecting himself is reported in the third person, e. g. 'He says he shall not have time to write.' (Even in this case *will* is still not uncommon, but in some contexts leads to ambiguity; it is therefore preferable to use *he shall* as the indirect rendering of *I shall*.)

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 79 Þe33 shulenn lætenn hæþeli3 Off unnkerr swinnc. *a* 1300 *Thrush & Night.* 128 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 55 Come thou beuere in here londe, Hy shulen don the in prisoun stronge. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 56 Traist quhen thow will, For I trow and it be nocht swa, sum part salbe thyne. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 19 Paraventure in aduersite my power shal lak. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sounes of Aymon* ii. 64 Yf your fader come agayn from the courte, he shall wyll yelde you to the kynge Charlemayne. 1581 E. CAMPION in *Conf.* II. (1584) L iv, It shalbe he reported that I sayd this and that, and my wordes shalbe depraued. *c* 1656 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 492 'Tis very like they shall be sent, soon after, to relieve you. 17.. RAMSAY *Some of the Contents* ix, Montgomery's quatorsimes sall evir pleis. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 362 The effect of the statute labour..has always been, now is, and probably shall continue to be, less productive than it might. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1843) II. 406 That method leads the clown to the conclusion that if he sows barley he shall not reap wheat. 1850–8 MILL *Ess., Util. Relig.* (1874) 92 People do not really believe that..they shall be punished by God, any more than by man.

¶ **e.** Down to the 18th c., *shall*, the auxiliary appropriate to the first person, was sometimes used when a person wrote of himself in the third person.

Cf. the formula: 'And your petitioner shall ever pray.'

1531 in *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 33 And your seid Orator shall dayly pray to Ihesu for the preseruacion of your most ryall grace. 1642 *Chas. I's Wks.* (1662) I. 203 (Though His Majesty shall be deeply..sensible of their sufferings) He shall wash His hands..from the least imputation of slackness. 1798 KEMBLE *Let.* in *Pearson's Catal.* (1900) 45 Mr. Kemble presents his respectful compliments to the Proprietors of the 'Monthly Mirror', and shall have great pleasure at being at all able to aid them.

†**f.** In negative (or virtually negative) and interrogative use, *shall* often = 'will be able to'. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Guthlac* 337 (Gr.) Hu sceal min cuman gæst to geoce, nemne ic gode sylle hyrsumne hiże? *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 104 Let breken hem a-two and bren hem al to pouder, Schaltou neuer gete grace þorw3 none suche goddes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 318 Ye shul nat plese hir fully yeres three, This is to seyn, to doon hir ful plesaunce. 1565–6 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 263 If I draw forward, and others draw backwards, what shall it avail? *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Soun.* lxv, How with this rage shall beautie hold a plea. 1652 BLITH *Eng. Improver Impr.* II. xxviii. (1653) 192 He shall never make a Plough to go with ease by his rules. 1773 [T. DAY] *Dying Negro* 2 How shall I soothe thy grief, my destin'd bride!

g. Used (after a hypothetical clause or an imperative sentence) in statements of a result to be expected from some action or occurrence. Now (exc. in the first person) usually replaced by *will*; but *shall* survives in literary use.

c 1205 LAY. 8018 3if þu ileuest ælcne mon selde þu sælt wel don. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 406 Weop for his sunnen. Þus þu schalt, seið Salomon, rukelen on his heaued bearninde gleden. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xcii. (1495) 840 Yf that matter towchyth a mannys body the heere shal fall. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 189 3if ony thing falle in to that Lake, it schalle nevere comen up agen. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiii. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 31 3yfe we woleth hier take good entent we schull mowe see þat [etc.]. 1534 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xiv. 9 When ye speake with tonges..how shall it be vnderstonde what is spoken? For ye shall but speake in the ayer. 1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* (Arb.) 22 Who tutcheth pitch, with pitch shalbe defiled. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 144 You shall..show too bold malice Against the..Person of my Master, Stocking his Messenger. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 118 ₱ 1, I shall disoblige Multitudes of my Correspondents, if I do not take Notice of them. 1851 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 140 Visit Rome and you shall find him [the Pope] mere carrion. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 12 Make yourself noble, and you shall be. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 24/2 Examine the bookshelves, and you shall find the novelist's favorite authors.

h. In clause expressing the object of a promise, or of an expectation accompanied by hope or fear. Now only where *shall* is the ordinary future auxiliary; but down to the 19th c. *shall* was often preferred to *will* in the second and third persons. Cf. sense 11.

1475 J. PASTON 22 Feb. in *P. Lett.*, Iff the markett be nott goode yit, I hope it shall be better. *c* 1475 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 318 Ye schall swere that ye schall well and truelly byhaue you. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 111, I tak on me ane pair of Lowthiane hippis Sall fairar Inglis mak,..Than thow can blabbar with thy Carrik lippis. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 20 We are sure they schal bryng vs to our saluatyon. 1628 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 266 He is confident that the blood of Christ shall wash away..his.. sins. 1643 in Mrs. A. Hope *Franciscan Martyrs* xiv. (ed. 3) 195, I hope nobody shall have any harme by anything I have saide, and for myself the worst they can doe to mee is the best and most desired. 1654 E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) II. 142, I hope neither your Cosen Wat. Montagu nor..Walsingham shall be permitted to discourse..with.. the D. of Glocester. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XV. iii, I hope his visits shall not be intruded upon me. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* (ed. 2) I. 70, I trust in God your labour shall not be in vain.

†**i.** In impersonal phrases, *it shall be well, needful*, etc. (to do so and so). *Obs.* (now *will*).

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xviii. F b, It shalbe needfull at the time of your measuring to haue ground at libertie on the one side. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 90 It shall not be impertinent nor out of my purpose, if I do speak..of the kitchin of the great Turke. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* Ad Lect. A 4 b, It shall not be amisse (for him that will read) first to beholde this short Comedy of Errors.

†**j.** *Shall be*, added to a future date in clauses measuring time. Cf. *was* in BE *v.* 20. *Obs.*

1617 SIR T. WENTWORTH in *Fortescue Papers* 25 To which purpose my late Lord Chancelour gave his direction about the 3. of Decembre shallbe-two-yeares.

9. In the idiomatic use of the future to denote what ordinarily or occasionally occurs under specified conditions, *shall* was formerly the usual auxiliary. In the second and third persons, this is now somewhat formal or rhetorical; ordinary language substitutes *will* or *may*. Often in antithetic statements coupled by an adversative conjunction or by *and* with adversative force.

a. in the first person.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 326 ₱ 2 In spite of all my Care, I shall every now and then have a saucy Rascal ride by reconnoitring..under my Windows.

b. in the second person.

c 1200 ORMIN 423 Full cweme wærenn baþe..& tu shallt findenn swillke nu Bitwenenn uss well fæwe. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 119 Thou schalt not fynde expresseli in Holi Scripture that the Newe Testament schulde be write in Englisch tunge to lay men. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 5 Sa plentifull is the ground, that mekle esier ȝe sall expone quhat it not beiris, than quhat it beiris. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., You shall not finde one side in all the booke without some grosse errour or other. 1625 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 333 You shall haue Atheists striue to get Disciples, as it fareth with other Sects. 1760 *Impostors Detected* I. iv. I. 26 He was as handsome a man, as you shall see on a summer's day. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iii, A man so learn'd you shall but seldom see, Nor one so honour'd. 1852–4 SPENCER *Ess.* (1858) 414 After knowing him for years, you shall suddenly discover that your friend's nose is slightly awry. 1909 *Sat. Rev.* 29 May 692/1 You shall meet ten thousand men every day in the year between the Bank and the Mansion House..who are as poor as Church mice.

c. in the third person.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 236 Be þære frecnan cobe þe se mon his utgang þurh done muð..sceal aspiwan. He sceal oft bealcettan. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 271 Quan a chyld to scole xal set be, A bok hym is browt. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 39 If a father haue foure sonnes, three..well formed..the fourth..deformed, his choice shalbe, to put the worst to learning. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 234 Here-by the Printer, in one day shall rid More Books, then yerst a thousand Writers did. 1652 FELTHAM *Low Countries* 18 Your man shall be..saucy, and you must not strike him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 23 ₱ 5 There is indeed something very..inhuman in the ordinary Scriblers of Lampoons. An Innocent young Lady shall be exposed, for an unhappy Feature. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-On* (1794) III. 179 One man shall approve..the same thing that another man shall condemn. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *My Relations*, He has some speculative notions against laughter, ..when peradventure the next moment his lungs shall crow like Chanticleer. 1870 M. ARNOLD *St. Paul & Prot.* 2 It may well happen that a man who lives and thrives under a monarchy shall yet theoretically disapprove the principle of monarchy. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 175 That which one shall hide away..another shall make an offensive challenge to the self-satisfaction of all his hearers.

10. In hypothetical, relative, and temporal clauses denoting a future contingency, the future auxiliary is *shall* for all persons alike. (Where no ambiguity results, however, the present tense is commonly used for the future, and the perfect for the future-perfect; the use of *shall*, when not required for clearness, is apt to sound pedantic.)

† Formerly sometimes used to express the sense of a present subjunctive.

a. In hypothetical clauses.

(†*Shall I* = 'if I shall'. *rare.*)

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1683 Schille [*v.r.* schulle] ich an utest uppen ow grede, ich shal swo stronge ferde lede, þ aur proude shal aualle. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1782 Shol ich casten þe dore open, Summe of you shal ich drepen! 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxiii. 13 If he shul bigile the brother, the gilte of hym vpon hym shal be. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 115 If I schal algate be beten anon, Cristes curs mot thou have but thou be that oon! 1588 [see c]. 1590 in C. S. *Right Relig.* A ij b, If your Worship shall read with patience and with great aduise see into the work. 1680 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 388 If any Christian..shall speak contemptuously of the Holy Scriptures,..such person..shall be punished. 1885 TENNYSON *The Fleet* 1 If you shall fail to understand, What England is..On you will come the curse of all the land.

b. In relative clauses (where the antecedent denotes an as yet undetermined person or thing).

c 1200 ORMIN 1205 Forrþi sinndenn alle þa þatt shulenn inntill helle Effnedd wiþþ gæt. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 305 Alle ðo, ðe of hem sule cumen, sulen ermor in blisse wunen. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* x. 8 In to what euere citee ȝe schulen entre, and thei schulen receyue ȝou, ete ȝe tho thingis that ben put to ȝou. 1417–18 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 38 Eny goude þat schele be solde, yt ys my wyll þat Wyllyam Aluowe haue it. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 33, I go thider as thei shullen lede me. 1502 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 92, I will..vj s. viij d. to be delte in bedred men..ther where it xalbe moste nedefull. 1576 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 26 To consent to sic uther thingis as selbe thocht expedient. 1665 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 244 Mr. Mayor is desired to.. pay the fees that shalbe due to the officers. 1718 ROWE *Lucan* III. 171 With humble Votes obedient they agree, To what their mighty Subject shall Decree. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xliii, I will lay all the spirits that shall attack me in the Red Sea. 1811 SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 16 Feb. The minister who shall first become a believer in that book..will obtain a higher reputation than ever statesman did before him. 1874 R. CONGREVE *Ess.* 417 We extend our sympathies..to the unborn generations which..shall follow us on this earth.

c. In temporal clauses.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xi. 26 How ofte euere ȝe schulen ete this breed,..ȝe schulen schewe the deeth of the Lord, til he come. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 9 Whan y schal schewen myn schrift schent mote y worþen. *c* 1421 *26 Pol. Poems* III/117 Whenne þou al þe world shal deme, Dampne me noȝt after my dede. 1480 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 67 And this to be doon as ofte as such case xall require. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 33 If this way shall be thought good, when there shalbe some aduice taken vpon it. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 313 When you shall licence mee, I shall bee free. *a* 1763 W. KING *Pol. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 159 The seat of happy souls; who, after they shall have continued in it the space of 10,000 years, will be removed to a more glorious orb. 1830 *Laws of Cricket* in Nyren *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* (1902) 20 If in striking, or at any other time, while the ball shall be in play, both his feet be over the

popping-crease. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxi, Pray St. Etheldreda to be with us when the day shall come. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. iv, When War's loud shuttle shall have woven peace.

11. In clauses expressing the purposed result of some action, or the object of a desire, intention, command, or request. (Often admitting of being replaced by *may*; in OE., and occas. as late as the 17th c., the pres. subj. was used as in Latin.)

a. in final clause usually introduced by *that*.

In this use mod. idiom prefers *should* (22 a): see quot. 1611 below, and the appended remarks.

c 1200 ORMIN 7640, I þiss child iss borenn her to þann þatt fele shulenn fallenn, & fele shulenn risenn upp. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 445 Bit me þat ich shulle singe vor hire luue one skentinge. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 156, I sall do swa thow sall be king. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 213 Thei gon under proteccioun, That love and his affeccioun Ne schal noght take hem be the slieve. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 289, I wil..schew ȝow what þis sacrament is, þat ȝe schullon in tyme comyng drede God þe more. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xv. 633 What wille ye that I shalle doo sayd Galahad. 1558 in J. M. Stone *Hist. Mary I*, App. 518 My mynd and will ys, that the said Codicell shall be accepted. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xviii. 41 What wilt thou that I shall doe vnto thee? [So in *Matt.* xx. 32; 'should' in *Mark* x. 51; 1881 (Revised) has 'should' in all three passages. Coverdale (1535) has 'shal' in *Matt.*, in the other gospels 'that I do'.] *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 139 Were it not better you shall cast away a few words, than I lose my life? 1698 in J. O. Payne *Rec. Engl. Cath. 1715* (1889) 111 To the intent they shall see my will executed. 1829 MACAULAY *Mill on Govt.* in *Edin. Rev.* Mar. 177 Mr. Mill recommends that all males of mature age..shall have votes. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, We shall have the first of the fight, sir; and depend on it Boney will take care that it shall be a hard one. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* xiii. 167 At the age of nine and twenty, Milton has already determined that this lifework shall be.. an epic poem.

b. in relative clause.

1545 RAYNALD *Eyrth Mankynde* Prol. (1552) B iij, The foundation & grounde, by the perceauerance wherof, your ..vnderstanding shal be illuminat. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 40 As Gardeners doe with Ordure hide those Roots That shall first spring. *a* 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 35 To know those vertues require some Judgement in him which shall discerne. 1769 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) I. 399 I'll take you five children from London, who shall cuff five Highland children. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* Ser. I. 287 To hit off that delicate mean between the fanciful and the prosaic which shall satisfy his taste.

** *The past tense* should *with temporal function.*

†**12.** Expressing a former obligation or necessity: = 'was bound to', 'had to'. *Obs.*

Beowulf 10 (Gr.) He..weox under wolcnum..oð þæt him æȝhwylc þara ymbsittendra ofer hronrade hyran scolde. *Ibid.* 704 Sceotend swæfon, þa þæt hornreced healdan scoldon. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 14 Þa sceolde he ðær bidan ryhtnorþanwindes, for ðæm þæt land beaȝ þær suþryhte. *c* 1205 LAY. 4301 Þer fore his mon he bicom & hærdsumnesse him solde don. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1326 Ysaac was leid ðat auter on, So men sulden holocaust don. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I 77 In þe olde lawe weren þei wont to offre a lombe wiþouten wem, þe whiche shulde be of o ȝere. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 481 Arthour, as he scholde done, Sende lucyes oody to Rome.

†**13.** In statements of what was formerly intended or settled to take place; = 'was to', or (contextually) 'was about to' *Obs.*

Beowulf 1443 (Gr.) Syrede hine Beowulf eorlȝewædum.. scolde herebyrne hondum ȝebroden..sund cunnian. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1132 (Gr.) Hæfdon æglæcan sæcce ȝesohte, sceolde sweordes ecg..feorh acsiȝan. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1000, His scipu wendon ut abuton Lexceastre and sceoldan cumon onȝean hine, ac hi ne mihton. *c* 1205 LAY. 10322 Heo makeden enne hehne cniht heore here-toȝe..he heom scolde læden. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 532 in *O. E. Misc.* 52 Seþþe hi dude heore sel vpe þene ston Lutel hi wiste wrecches hw hit sculde gon. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 1412 þe schup bigan to blenche, His lemman scholde adrenche. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 58 Whanne Abraham schulde have offrid Isaac..he hadde a greet ooþ to God. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lix, Quo schuld his stede to stabulle haue? Knyȝte, squier, ȝoman, ne knaue, Nauthir with him he broȝte. 14.. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 273 Mary hys moder went þe weye To caluery þer he xuld deye. 14.. *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 78 The Egill on Poulis stepell was take downe.., but whan hit shulde be set up a yene he that shulde have set it up fell downe and was dede. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xlii. 24 The same friday that the batell shulde haue ben the french kynge..was sore dyspleased, bycause he departed without batayle. 1537 *Matthew's Bible, Luke* vii. 19 Arte thou he yᵗ shulde come: or shall we loke for another? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 b, When he shoulde die [orig. *moriturus*]. *Ibid.* 433 The common assemble of thempire yᵗ shuld be holden at Auspurge. 1622 S. WARD *Life of Faith* (1627) 12 When hee should haue been tyed to the stake, he required to stand vntyed.

14. Used in indirect reported utterances, or other statements relating to past time, where *shall* would be used if the time referred to were present.

a. corresponding to *shall* in sense 5, 6, or 7.

Beowulf 691 (Gr.) Nænix heora þohte, þæt he þanon scolde eft eardlufan æfre ȝesecean. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 284 We cwædon ær ðæt se sceolde lytel sawan, se þe him ðone wind ondrede. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 40 *Ignorabant quid responderent ei*, ne wiston huæd scealdon ondueardra him. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Þæt land folc comen him ongean & griðedon wið hine, wændon þæt he sceolde þet land ofer gan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Vre drihten cweð to moyses þet he scolde wissien his folc. *c* 1205 LAY. 2079 He hehte þat luue scolde liðen heom bitweonen. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1937 A begger þer com in ..; Þai seyd, he schuld nouȝt haue, Bot strokes & bismare. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 781 Ȝe ben soþli þe same of wham þei so tolde, þat scholde lenge aftur lif in lastinge paine. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 57 The lawe of the Iewes was þen suche þat a woman þat was delyuerde of a man-chyld scould be holden vnclene. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lvii. 511 Yet wold not sire Launcelot telle me certeynte of you where I shold fynde yow. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* iii. 19 He charched and commaunded, that the ouen shulde be made seuen tymes hoter. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 74 His Pypers were ready too rounde him in the eare, what he should speake. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 129 'Tis commanded I should do so. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 732 What shou'd He do, who twice had lost his Love? 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 249 He answer'd..That he would make Conditions with them..That they should be absolutely under my Leading. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 497 The husband and wife covenanted to levy a fine, which was thereby declared should be to the use of the cognizees and their heirs. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, So long as his friend was enjoying himself, how should he be discontented? *Ibid.* xxi, Old Osborne thought she would be a great match, too, for his son. He should leave the army; he should go into Parliament. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 575 James was declared a mortal..enemy...No treaty should be made with him. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxiv, After all, what had he done? Gone a little too far, perhaps,..but..no harm could come—no harm *should* come. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxv, Where were Sweyn and his Danes? Whither should they go till he came?

b. corresponding to *shall* in sense 8.

Here *should* is the auxiliary of the 'anterior future' or 'future in the past' tense. With perf. inf. it forms the 'anterior future perfect' or 'future perfect in the past'.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Heo wisten..þet he sculde cumen to þisse middeleard for ure neode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 245 Wane he wolde iwite ȝwat man þe child ssolde be þat he adde bi ȝete. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 109 Venand þat he suld at his weding þare-thru hafe doublyt al his thing. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 1 We ne trowed not that eny man myght be bore of woman, but that he sholde ben oures. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxxiii. 266, I made promyse vnto your lady that I shold yelde me vnto yow. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 694 He was sure that with the Erle of Warwike, he should haue no peace. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 255 b, She tolde him, that he should doo well to do so. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 11 He feared he was, or should be a cuckold. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met., Acis*, etc. 39 The Prophet Telemus..Foretold the Cyclops, that Ulysses hand In his broad eye shou'd thrust a flaming Brand. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 199 The French did thus set on the war between the English and the Dutch, hoping that our Fleets should mutually weaken one another so much, that [etc.]. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 114 Sectarians..would make a monopoly of the Saviour; they should shut him up into a conventicle. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* II. 240 Joseph in the dungeon knew not that he should be the lord of Egypt. 1846 MRS. KIRKLAND *West. Clearings* 129, I thought I never should have got out. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 279 He had expected that he should be able to push forward without a moment's pause. 1893 'SARAH GRAND' *Heav. Twins* (1894) 134 They never doubted but that they should discover him hard at work.

c. in hypothetical, temporal, and final clauses, and relative clauses with hypothetical or final implication. (Cf. 10.)

Beowulf 965 (Gr.) Ic hine..heardan clammum..wriþan þohte, þæt he..scolde licgean lifbysig. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 175 He made on werlde al erue tame, ðe sulde him her..to fode, and srud. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 410 Hymself þan gaf us sample þare, þat we suld hald it euer mare. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 108 For þat enchesoun god ches oþur chef kinguus, þat scholde maistrus be maad ouur mene peple. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 14 The tresor of the benefice, Wherof the povere schulden clothe And ete and drinke. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xiv. (Gibbs MS.) 34 Shewynge vs þe trewe wey wher by we schuld mowe come þer to. 1510 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 73 They wer bound..to reentre the seid prison when the seid Priour shulde commaunde them. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 47 Witheris thocht that..he sould haue had sic men about him at his command as suld haue suppressed all oppressioun. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Udolpho* xxv, Emily..determined to attempt the outer door of the turret as soon as Barnardine should withdraw. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, He..resolved ..to retire..until the tolling of the great castle-bell should announce the arrival of Elizabeth. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 31 Clancarty was pardoned on condition that he should leave the kingdom. 1902 J. K. MANN *Hist. Popes* I. I. 35 They offered to submit their case to the emperor himself as soon as the Lombards should be overcome.

d. In noun-clause dependent on expressions of willing, desiring, commanding, requesting, etc. (in the pa. t.). (Cf. 11 and 22 a.)

a 1000 *Guthlac* 636 (Gr.) Wendun ȝe & woldun..þæt ȝe scyppende sceoldan ȝelice wesan in wuldre. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 310 God bebead Moyse,..þæt he and eall Israhela folc sceoldon offrian..an lamb anes ȝeares. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101, On þa ȝerad..þet se eorl Rotbert..sceolde..þreo þusend marc seolfres habban. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1439 Het eft þe keiser þat me schulde Katerine bringen biforen him. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 381 þe thrid day þat drightin..bad a dri sted suld be. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 53 He cumand þan þat men suld fare Till Ingland. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 19 He sente hem word by lettres they schulden hye blyve. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 71 He comandyd that thou sholdest be put to deth. 1594 ASHLEY tr. *Loys Le Roy* 42 Aristotle did write vnto Calisthenes..that..he should diligently inquire of the antiquitie of the Chaldees. 1665 *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 245 His sweet highnes would not haue giuen it to your honour but that he intended you should doe good in it. 1780 *Mirror* No. 96 My parents..were determined I should have a good education. 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll Grange* xxxii, He had wished that the doctor should inquire into the cause of his trouble. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xii, Blackwood had a not unreasonable desire that such an event should not come about.

e. In statements of a former likelihood, unlikelihood, expectation, hope, fear, etc.

In present usage the rules for the choice of the auxiliary are the same as apply to the future tense (see 8). Until the middle of the 19th c., however, *should* was common in this use in the second and third persons, where *would* is now normal.

1340 *Ayenb.* 12 Alle þon þet..storue..ine hope þet hi ssolden by y-borȝe be him uor þe zenne of the uerste manne. *c* 1489 [see FEAR *v.* 4 b]. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 94 We could not reasonably hope he should outlive this day. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Cong. China* xvi. 312 [They] expected it should have defended it self better. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. ix, He thought it most likely that some of his servants should be acquainted with the same secret. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* III. 94 From his age and infirmities it was not likely Lord Belford should live long. 1820 SHELLEY *Ess.* (1852) II. 232 There was no danger that it should become a model to the age of that false taste. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 428 It was not to be expected that men who would not help themselves should help each other. 1867 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 118 You had reason to expect that I should have returned the enclosed papers before now.

f. In statements of what habitually occurred. (Cf. sense 9.) Now *rare* (? *dial.*).

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* 23 Every now and then dropping asleep, I should dream that my money was lost. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 314 Sometimes we should have seven Fathom on one Side.

15. Forming with the inf. a substitute for the pa. t. indic. (or, with perf. inf., for the pluperf.) in the oblique report of another's statement in order to imply that the speaker does not commit himself to the truth of the alleged fact. (The perf. inf. was often substituted for the pres. inf. merely in order to express the notion of past time more unambiguously. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

The corresponding use of *shall* (= G. *soll*, 'is said to') is not evidenced in Eng., the OE. instances alleged by Bosw.-Toller having apparently a different meaning.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 4 Ic wat þæt ðu ȝeherdest oft reccan on ealdum leasum spellum þætte Iob Saturnes sunu..sceolde ricsian on heofenum. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xviii. 197 Fundon ða lease ȝewitan þe forluȝon naboð þæt he sceolde wyriȝan wælhreowlice god. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1098, Ðises ȝeares..æt Finchamstæde an mere blod weoll, swa swa manize trywe men sædan þe hit ȝeseon sceoldan. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6918 In edwite it worþ þe adrawe, Swiche a man þou schust haue slawe. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 7 In othir bokes..is told that Adam schuld a sent Seth onto the gates of Paradyse for the oyle of mercy. 1472 SIR J. PASTON 4 Nov. in *P. Lett.*, Thys daye rennyth a tale that the Duke of Bretayne sholde be ded. I beleeff it not. 1506 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 52 Oon Bartrame Dawson of the citie of York..is senysterly defamed that he shulde be a Scottysshman borne. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 137 They harde one Thomas Wynwyck say that he shuld here John Sucklyng say that [etc.]. 1561 in Froude *Engl. Seamen* (1895) 26 When I was arraigned I was charged that I should say our mass was as good as theirs. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 174 It was alledgit that my lord of Arrane in his mirienes sould oppin this consperacie. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 51 To the second [*sc.* imputation]..that they should be the principall lyars; I aunswere..that of all Writers vnder the sunne, the Poet is the least lier. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 182 But didst thou heare without wondering, how thy name should be..carued vpon these trees? 1663 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 92 There are some rumors that the conspirators should have taken some other places. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 134 My neighbour,..being told that I should say I would do for them, charged me with destroying them. 18.. *Let.* in Sir J. T. Coleridge *Mem. Keble* (1869) 64 Some one raised a report that he should say that herring and potatoes were good enough for anyone. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xv, They had a braw sport in the presence last Friday, how ye suld have routed a young shopkeeper. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v. *Should*, I zeed Mr. Jones, and he zaid how you should zay I told ee that there zeed come vrom he.

¶ **b.** with omission of the *have* of the perf. inf.

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 63 The peple..demed that it sholde betokened sum harm sone aftirward. *a* 1566 *Hist. Estate Scot.* (Wodrow Soc. Misc.) 71 It appeared that they should matched.

16. In indirect question relating to a past matter of fact. *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

Present usage prefers the pa. t. or perf.; when the notion of uncertainty is emphasized, *might* or *could* is used instead of the earlier *should*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4931 þe folk asked quat þai suld be, 'Iheues,' coth Ioseph. *Ibid.* 21579 And quatkin tre it suld ha bene His eldres tald him all be-dene. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 84 (Harl. MS.), Þere was no man cowde discryve wheþer of hem shulde be Emperour. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. Hebr.* Wks. (1573) 56/1 About this epistle hath euer ben much doubting..who should be the authour thereof. 1534 — *Mark* ix. 10 They..demaunded one of a nother, what the rysinge from deeth agayne shuld meane. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 122 Who should be the mother I find not mentioned by M. Vincent. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 19 The Assembly were wondring what should be the meaning of it. 1851 KEBLE *Occas. Papers* (1877) 238 Some..may have wondered what this 'present distress' should mean.

17. In questions introduced by *who, whom, what*, and followed by *but*, serving to express the unexpectedness of some past occurrence.

1626 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XXI. v, Whiles his hart is taken vp with these thoughts, who should come ruffling by him, but..Haman. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen* iv, As I came up the valley whom think ye should I see, But Robin? 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* iv, Just as he said this, what should hap At the chamber door but a gentle tap?

*** *The past tense* should *with modal function.*

As with other auxiliaries, the pa. t. (orig. subjunctive) of *shall* is often used to express, not a reference to past time, but a modal qualification of the notion expressed by the present tense. Where in addition the notion of past time is to be expressed, this can often be effected by the use of the perf. instead of the pres. inf. (though sometimes this produces ambiguity); the temporal notion may however be merely contextually implied, and in that case the pa. t. has the appearance of having both functions (temporal and modal) at once.

18. In statements of duty, obligation, or propriety (originally, as applicable to hypothetical conditions not regarded as real).

This conditional form of expression was from an early period substituted for the unconditional *shall* in sense 2, and in mod. Eng. the pres. tense in this use is obs., and *should* = ought to.

Beowulf 2708 (Gr.) Swylc sceolde secg wesan, þegn æt ðearfe. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* iv. 36 Ðonne mon forlet ðone eȝe..þe he mid ryhte on him innan habban sceolde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 We scolden halden his heste us bitwenan. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 472 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Þu ne schuldest nouht þi wryt habben iwryte so. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM i. 749 He despyseþ ihesu cryst, Wanne he hym scholde herye. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3685 Whi make ȝe þis sorwe? ȝe schuld now make ȝow merie. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 He knoweth wel that..he ne hath noght born hym as he sholde hav doon. ?*c* 1570 *Misogonus* III. i. 189 (Brandl) Thoughe I sait and shoulde not sait. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Counsel* (Arb.) 318 Neither is it necessarye, that he that consulteth what he should doe, should declare what he will doe. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 214 Some men should have been women, and he, I think, is one. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, Conquest, lady, should soften the heart. 1845 POE *Tales, Gold Bug*, I draw tolerably—*should* do it at least—have had good masters. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 616/2 He should have looked up and down the line before he ventured to cross it.

Proverbial phrase. 1764 MRS. SHERIDAN *Journ. to Bath* i. i, That same Lord Stewkly is no better than he should be, (between ourselves). 1780 *Mirror* No. 104 Every woman who passed much of her time in town, he made no scruple to say, was no better than she should be.

¶ with omission of *have* in perf. inf.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 106 Regarded ye should your lord.. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 23 And they that should assisted, I wote not how they were brysted. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* xv, Scho fand all wrang that sould been richt.

b. *Should be* : ought according to appearances to be, presumably is. ? *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. iii. 45 You should be Women, And yet your Beards forbid me to interprete That you are so. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maide West* iv. i, Pursue the Ruffin,..He should be Captain of those bloody theevs, That haunts our mountains. 1661 COSIN *Corr.* (Surtees) II. 36, I saw a letter to-day which tells us that the great Presbyterian preacher in London is silenced; but the letter names him not. I guesse it should be Mr. Baxter.

c. *You should hear, see* = I wish you could hear, if only you could hear, etc.

1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 63 You should have seen him wince As from a venomous thing. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, Ah! but you should just have seen the fight between Slogger Williams and Tom Brown!

19. In the apodosis of a hypothetical proposition (expressed or implied), indicating that the supposition, and therefore its consequence, is unreal.

a. Where *shall* (in sense 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9) would be used if the hypothesis were accepted.

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, Wel þu myhtes faren all a dæis fare sculdest þu neure finden man in tune sittende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 ȝif ure Louerd demde him al efter rihtwisnesse ..wo scholde him iwurðen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 194 Hadde he wel loked him wiþ skil, Ilc beste sulde don his wil. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 347 Þanne scholde wiþuten oþe Þe kyng maken vs wroþe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 47 Pacience.. venquysseth..Thynges þat rigour sholde neuere atteyne. 1408–9 *26 Pol. Poems* (1904) 32 And it were soþ þat clerkis telle, ffewe folkes shulde come in heuene. 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 384 If one deadly sin were found in their soules, they shuld incontinent be throwen into the darke dungeon of hell. 1581 in Allen *Martyrd. Campion* (1908) 35, I will not belie myself, for so should I condemne my owne soule. 1601 B. JONSON *Poet.* III. i. 183 You shoo'd see mee [*sc.* dance], were it not i' the street. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 62 If she lost it, ..my Fathers eye Should hold her loathed. 1718 EARL COWPER in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) I. 198 You and your horse should have been very welcome. 1779 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 308 We should have robbed the Scotch, if they had had any thing of which we could have robbed them. 1790 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 8 Mar., I should be unreasonable indeed not to be highly gratified by it. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 404 Cross-examination..a term for which..one should have expected to have found an equivalent in every language. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, I often think we should all be better without it. 1878 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* 37 He knew that he should not have been satisfied with himself, if he had not made it. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Open Verd.* vi, After this, I shouldn't be at all surprised at his going over to Rome. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, B. de Mandeville* iv, So should wrong merely peep abroad to meet Wrong's due quietus.

interrogatively. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* v. iii. 84 But where should one finish if one were to speak of the 'lauda Sion' [etc.].

b. When the pres. tense of the principal vb. would be used if the hypothesis were accepted. (Where the pa. t. or the perf. would be used, *should* is followed by the perf. inf.)

In this use the combination of *should* with inf. forms a periphrastic past subjunctive: thus 'I should be' = the archaic 'I were'. Similarly with perf. inf.: 'Then I should have been' = 'then had I been'.

The choice between *should* and *would* follows the same rules as that between *shall* and *will* as future auxiliaries, except that *should* must sometimes be avoided on account of liability to be misinterpreted as = 'ought to' (sense 18). In present Eng. *should* occurs mainly in the first person; in the other persons it follows the rule for *shall* in 8 c, d.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 45 Bete alle to-gederys as þikke as þou schuldyst make oþer bature in fleyssche tyme. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 337 Thei scholde haue writen more circumspectely, if they hade seide [etc.]. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1534 Nyne oxen of that loud Shold not drawe the tre. 1467 MARG. PASTON 11 July in *P. Lett.*, Thei set not be a woman as thei shuld set be a man. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 35, I haue so grette scatte and good of syluer.. that seuen waynes shold not conne carye it away. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 377 Yf it had be at our wyll ye sholde haue had goode peas wyth the kyng charlemagn. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 91 At the Confiteor.. I should advise the Assistants to an humble Confession of their Sins to God. 1882 'L. KEITH' *Alasnam's Lady* III. 284, I shouldn't know how to begin. 1908 BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 42, I should say that Aunt Jane..is perfectly right in regarding me..as an intruder.

¶ with omission of *have* in perf. inf.

1585 NORDEN *Sinful Mans Solace* 25 b, Then should not thus my silly soule Bene wrapt in irkesome woe.

c. With verbs of liking, preference, etc., *should* in the first person (and interrogatively in the second) is regarded as more correct than *would*, though this is often used.

In the third person *should* is used only in indirect speech (when *he* represents *I*); uses like quot. 1862 are abnormal.

The forms *I should have liked to* (*see*) and *I should like to have* (*seen*) are alternative ways of adding the temporal notion to the modal sense of *should*. Another form, sometimes met with, but certainly faulty, is *I should have liked to have* (*seen*).

1779 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1904) II. 308 Should you not like to see Dublin, Sir? 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* III. 81 Should you like any thing up stairs, or would you prefer it in the kitchen? 1838 MACAULAY *Ess., Sir W. Temple* (1843) III. 98 Corneille was said to unite the merits of Æschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. We should like to see a Prometheus after Corneille's fashion. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* i. § 21, I should like the reader to be very clear about this. 1862 G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 418 One should like to know what it was that they numbered. 1869 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life* (1895) I. 427, I should like to have stayed longer at Noyon.

erroneous use. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* I. 8, I should much preferred to have seen you there.

d. The original conditional notion is obscured in the phrases *It should seem* (see SEEM *v.* 7 f); *one should think* (now somewhat *arch.* and perh. sometimes interpreted in the sense of 18). Similarly *I should think* (*suppose*, etc.) = 'I am inclined to think (suppose, etc.)'; also *colloq.* as a strong affirmation in reply to a tentative suggestion, e. g. 'I should (rather) think he *did* object'.

In the last phrase (as used idiomatically), *would* is never substituted; in the second person the phrase is used only in questions, and in the third person only in oblique narration.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 79 Hit scholde seme to a man beholdenge the fundacion of hit that werke to be rather of the labor of..Romanes, then of Britones. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit Ps.* i. Wks. (1876) 15 It sholde seme that he was create of god but in vayne. 1577 AYLMER in H. N. Birt *Elis. Relig. Settlem.* (1908) x. 465 *note*, He hath divers *Agnus Dei* [etc.]...It should appear that he hath bestowed many, and these be the refuses. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 195, I should thinke, that these old ornaments are taken away. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 249 It should seeme that nature herselfe hath armed this people, in giving them the Iron Mines of Biskay, Guipuscoa, and Medina. 1741 C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) III. 324 So vast a stock of vivacity..one should think, could only proceed from a head and heart entirely at ease. 1775 C. JOHNSTON *Pilgrim* 105, I should rather think he has a mind to finger its finances. 1835 MACAULAY *Ess., Sir Jas. Mackintosh* (1843) II. 261 It might, one should think, have crossed the mind of a man of fifty, who had seen a great deal of the world. 1856 — *Johnson* Misc. Writ. (1882) 321/2 It should seem that a full half of Johnson's life, during about sixteen years, was passed under the roof of the Thrales. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* vi, 'You remember when first Mr. Lammeter's father came into these parts, don't you, Mr. Macey?'..'I should think I did.' 1889 SWINBURNE *Study B. Jonson* 4 That singing power..was not, it should seem, a natural gift of this great writer's.

†e. *Should have been* = 'would have had to be': see 3 b. (In quot. with omission of *have*.)

15.. *Christ's Kirk* xvii, He suld bene swift that gat him Throw speid.

f. *I should* (*do* so and so) : orig. with expressed or understood protasis 'if I were you', but in mod. colloquial language often used loosely = 'I would advise you to (do, etc.)'.

1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* iii. 19, I should get her back as soon as you can, otherwise perhaps the painter will marry her!

20. In a hypothetical clause expressing a rejected supposition. †a. Where *should* has notional force = 'were obliged to', 'must', 'were about to'. Often with ellipsis of *if* after *as*. *Obs.*

With the use as in quot. 1530 cf. the modern 'as if his heart *would* break'.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4306 Devels aftir sal bere hym.. In-til þe ayre als he suld stey to heven. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 132 No dedly sunne to do dyȝe þauȝ þou scholdest. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10795 Þai drepit in dole, as þai degh shuld. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvi. 35 Yff I shulde dye with the [Gr. κἂν δέῃ με σὺν σοὶ ἀποθανεῖν] yet wyll I not denye the. 1529 MORE in Scoones *Four Cent. Eng. Lett.* (1893) 12 If I shold not leave myself a spone, there shall no poore neighbour of mine bere no losse by any chance happened in my house. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 The poore boye sobbed, as his herte shulde brust. 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 34 Na pedderis pak scho will ressaif, Althocht hir travell scho sowld tyne.

b. Where the future tense (or the present with future import) would be used if the supposition were entertained. (With pa. t. subjunctive, usually *should* or *would*, also *could*, *might*, arch. *were*, etc., in the apodosis. Cf. 21.) Now somewhat *rare*, mod. usage preferring *were to*.

c 1520 *Everyman* 146 (Pollard) Yf I sholde this pylgrymage take,..Shewe me,..Sholde I not come agayne shortly? 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 237 Me thinkes there would be no period to the iest, should he not be publikely sham'd. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 53 If he should forbear to go She might conclude h'had broke his Vow. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 176 If any Misfortune should attend the Vessel, ..we should be put very hard to it for a Subsistence. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* ix. i. (1882) II. 298 Should I think, sir, to eternity,..I could never conjecture what you mean! 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. i, And no flower, not The sun himself, should he be changed to one, Could shine away the darkness of that gap.

†c. With reference to the past (e. g. 'if he should have done' = if he had done). *Obs.*

1576 KNEWSTUB *Confut.* etc. (1579) R 7 The gift had beene exceeding great, if wee should haue had no more at his hands, then [etc.]. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. i. 8 If you Should haue tane vengeance on my faults, I neuer Had liu'd to put on this.

d. In relative clause with hypothetical import.

1800 C. BUTLER *Life Alban Butler* xvi, A person would deserve well of the English Catholics who should translate it into English. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess., Addison* (1853) III. 420 Pope writing dialogue resembled..a wolf, which, instead of biting, should take to kicking. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* xxxii, The bank was perfectly solvent. He who should have said otherwise..would have been made to eat his libellous talk [etc.].

e. *As who should say* [cf. F. *comme qui dirait*] = as much as to say. *arch.* Also †*as if he should say* (*should have said*).

1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1580) 70 It is asmuche as who should saie: He that made thee, without thee, can not saue thee without thee. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 251 Then one of them behelde another, as who should say, who is he that dare go foorth to cary this message. 1600 C. SUTTON *Disce Mori* (1607) x. 168 He declared as thus, his integrity of life: Behold here I am, beare record of mee...As if hee should haue sayd, Giue me my Quietus est at parting. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 112 Some conceive the Apostle to use that phrase by way of excellency, (as if he should haue said), though I were of the most excellent elocution. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* I. 150 As who should say; 'tis e'en a Mercy that we have not had All our Throats Cut. 1883 SHERER *At Home & in India* 110 Rameshur bowed his head, following the action by two or three affirmative nods, as who should say, 'Yes, yes' [etc.].

21. In a hypothetical clause relating to the future, *should* takes the place of *shall* (indicative or subjunctive), or of the equivalent use of the present tense, when the supposition, though entertained as possible, is viewed as less likely or less welcome than some alternative. (With future, future perf., or imperative in the apodosis.)

1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 247, I shall swell this Volume into too great a bulk, should I give you patterns of Letters for all occasions. 1791 COWPER *Let.* 13 June, Should I thunder ever so loud, no efforts of that sort will avail me now. 1842 TENNYSON *Lady Clare* xii, 'And he shall have it', the lady replied, 'Tho' I should die to-night.' 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 50 Should any soluble salt remain it will be soda. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. iii, And, should the looked for shock be on us soon, I must be there!

b. Similarly, with perf. inf., in a hypothetical clause relating to what may have happened in the past.

1794 WINDHAM in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1912) 714 Let me recall to your recollection the business of Mr. Burke, in case it should not have been mentioned to you by Mr. Dundas.

22. In a noun-clause (normally introduced by *that*).

a. In dependence on expressions of will, desire, command, advice, request.

Where the verb of the governing clause is in the pa. t., this use is indistinguishable from that treated in 14 d.

The substitution of *should* for the earlier *shall* (itself a periphrastic substitute for the more primitive use of the pres. subjunctive: see 11 a) may have arisen from instances in which the governing vb. was in the modal pa. t. (as in quots. *c* 1200, 1340).

c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 133, I wollde bliþeliȝ þatt all Ennglisshe lede Wiþþ ære shollde lisstenn itt. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 420 Manie gon nakede and bidde þat sum man heom scholde biweue. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1625 Þai luf swa þis worldes vanyté þat þai wald never other lyfe suld be. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 94 My emer & I be agreed that I schold have xi li. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* III. ix. § 3 Their iudgment is..that the Church of Christ should admit no Law-makers but the Euangelists. 1611 [see 11 a]. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. ix. 12 'What's your will with me?' —'That one of your profound discerning Should know me'. 1819 in Moore *Mem.* (1853) III. 77 Chantrey..wishes I should sit to Bartolini. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. ix, 'I would much rather she did not come', said Fanny...'I would rather she *should* come', said the squire. 1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 25 Aug., It is suggested that the black bass..should be acclimatized in these waters. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* 42, I found it to contain a request..that I should repair.. to the Horse Guards.

b. In statements relating to the necessity, justice,

propriety, etc. of something contemplated as future, or as an abstract supposition.

1527 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1830) I. 195, I think convenient..Your Grace shuld handle her both gently and doulcely. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 133 It is aganes the lawis of haly kirk that thow souldest be ane preist and marie ane wyff. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 65 It is most just, that all their faults should be imputed to yee. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xx, Quhats proper we suld know. 1780 *Mirror* No. 75, It is of high national importance that the very earliest notice should be given of the near appearance of a figure-dancer. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 326 We are now to consider the time at which it is requisite a contingent remainder should vest in interest. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* III. iii, It is time..That old hysterical mock-disease should die.

c. In expressions of surprise or its absence, approval or disapproval, of some present or past fact.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6803 Woleway..Þat ich euer schuld sen Þus miche rewþe on erþe ben! *c* 1440 *Generydes* 35 Gret pite that she..Shuld sette hyr wurchippe atte so litill prise. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 91 Gud Maister Walter Kennedy,..lyis veraly, Gret reuth it wer that so suld be. 1580 R. PARSONS *Brief Disc.* 1 b, So was it no meane comforte..to consider..that their should be fownde in Ingland so many gentlemen..so precyse [etc.]. 1650 ELIZ. CROMWELL 27 Dec. in Carlyle *Cromwell*, I wonder you should blame me for writing no oftener, when I have sent three for one. 1780 *Mirror* No. 92 That folly and ugliness should thrust themselves forward to public notice, might be matter of surprise. 1817 KEATS *I stood tip-toe* 44 It may haply mourn That such fair clusters should be rudely torn From their fresh beds. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 199 It is somewhat remarkable, that Wesley should have said nothing of their customs respecting matrimony. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxi, The coachman, who grumbled that his 'osses should be brought out.

¶ with omission of *have* in the perf. inf.

1537 *Wriothesley's Chron.* I. 119 Which was great pitie that so good a ladie as she is should so sone lost her great joy.

d. In clause dependent on sentence (negative, interrogative, or hypothetical) expressing possibility, probability, or expectation.

Cf. 'Is it possible that he should do this?' with 'It is possible that he may do this'. Similarly, 'It is unlikely that he should have been there', but 'It is likely that he was (or may have been) there'.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VIII. lxxix, Perchance you look I should entreaties bring. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xv, The Reader may, perhaps, expect..that..she should immediately have interposed in his Behalf. 1780 *Mirror* No. 104 It is..vain to expect, that persons in that rank of life should be able to withstand the attractions of a court. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 187 The popes..were under no apprehension that the new religion should itself be subverted. 1850 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) I. 198, I think it is quite impossible that I should not at least have looked into it enough to remember having seen it.

e. In clause (now almost always with *lest*) expressing the object of fear or precaution.

1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. of Cupid* vii, They [*sc.* women] graunte hem grace..for that men shulde nat for her sake dey. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 107 Þou leuyst almesse-dede fro þe poore for dreed þat þou schuldyst after fallyn in pouert. 1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* I. i, She is mewed vp..least she should by some roisting courtier be stollen away. 1686 PARR *Life Usher* 81 Which he..was much concerned at, for fear he should have neglected his duty. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 117 In such Cases 'tis much to be feared, lest their Self-love should biass their Judgment. 1777 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 202 The subject is melancholy, and I am afraid it should give you the vapours. 1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* xl, However, lest conversation should lag, I'll give it you. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 5 Others shall fear lest, heavened thus long, Thou should'st forget thy native song.

23. In special interrogative uses. **a.** In questions introduced by *why* (or equivalent word), implying the speaker's inability to conceive any reason or justification for something actual or contemplated, or any ground for believing something to be fact.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 69 To hwon sceolde þeos smyrenes þus beon to lore ȝedon? *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 461 Qui suld I him seruis yeild? *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, I conne notte say the ther-tille, Hit is atte the quene wille, Qwi schuld I layne? 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* I. xxvii. (1529) G vj b/2 Yf we fell at dyuers oppynions, why shuld thae tone parte more beleue the tother, than be beleuyd of the tother. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* H ij, Why then shouldest not thou aswell deceyue me as others? *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* li, From where thou art, why should I hast me thence. 1779 *Mirror* No. 21 They tell us, 'that men have one common original, and why should relations quarrel?' 1791 COWPER *Let. to W. Bagot* 5 Dec., Why should you suppose that I did not admire the poem you showed me? I did admire it. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* Introd. Addr. P 38 Why should not the same triumph be repeated now? 1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mile. Ixe* i, 'I do hope she will not be dull', said Evelyn...'Why should she be dull?'

b. In questions introduced by *how*, implying that the speaker regards something as impossible or inadmissible.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 65 Hu scolde godd, oðer ani of his halȝen,..hauen rewðe..of ðe, seoðen ðu ðe seluen ne hafst nu hier none of ðe seluen? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 732 How shulde y þan be meke to 3ow? *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 83 Hou scholde I gon with childe with-oute felauschupe of mon? *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 46 (MS. P.), Þei wold enchaunte þat child; how shold she eschewe? 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxiv. 34 How sould ony gentill hart indure To se this sycht on ony creature! *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 570 How suld it be said? 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. x, How *should* you understand what is so little intelligible? 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliv, If a tinge of the world's pride..may mix with an expression so lovely, how should we chide that which is of earth for bearing some colour of its original?

† **c.** In questions relating to meaning, cause, or reason, the form with *should* was formerly often substituted for an indicative tense. *Obs.*

1532 HERVET *Xenoph. Househ.* 9 What shulde be the cause of it, gentil Socrates, but that [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 237 b, What should signifie, that dumpishenes of mynde, and inward sighyng? 1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 128 What should be the cause hereof? 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 5 What should be the reason of this diversity?

III. Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses.

24. With ellipsis of verb of motion: = 'shall go'. Now *arch.*

[The use is common in OHG. and OS., and in later HG., LG., and Du. In the mod. Scandinavian langs. it is also common, and instances occur in MSw.]

Present tense. Beowulf 1179 (Gr.), Þonne ðu forð scyle metodsceaft seon! *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxxiii. 86 Loca nu þin fæder sceal mid me to mynstre. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 811 Schome ow is to..schunien þat ȝe schulen to. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7213 Þe ssephurdes & þe ssep al so ssolleþ to þe pine of helle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 75 Of þe devel þey come, and to þe devel þey schulleþ. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xi, Þe same man stand in study wheithir he schal to þe good wey or nowt. 1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 91 If thy boke be nat sure of rekenynge Thou shalt to hell. *a* 1596 *Sir T. More* IV. iii. 48 He shall straite to courte. 1621 GIBBES *Expos. 3rd Chap. Philipp.* (1619) 237 The decree of God is, that to dust wee must, as all the rest of our fellow Saints and servants shall. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Cov.* (1629) 324, I will plant my Law in thy heart, it shall neuer out againe. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 117 They..say, with a sort of flutter that they shall to Vauxhall and Ranelagh, but do not seem to enjoy it when there. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxix, Thou shalt with me to Iona.

Past tense. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. v. § 4 Þonne andydan hie þa duru þe on þa healfe open wæs, þæt hie be þæm wiston hwider hie sceoldon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 225 Þæt hit ða rihte wære þæt he of ðisse worlde sceolde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7375 Willam & alle his þat into þis bataile mid him ssolde. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2484 Wheber he wulde, or he ne wulde, he toke hym vp, and furþe he shulde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 13 One without tonge and teeth tolde me whyder I shulde. 1462 MARG. PASTON 18 May in *P. Lett.*, Sche seithe her brother and other of her frendes thynke that she schulde up to London. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 37 That with our small coniunction we should on. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. v. 14 If the bottome were as deepe as hell, I shold down.

† **25.** In questions, *What shall* = 'what shall (it) profit', 'what good shall (I) do'. *Obs.* (*rare* after OE.).

Present tense. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 663 (Gr.), Hwæt scal þe swa laðlic strid wið þines hearran bodan? *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1025 (Cott.), Wat sol ich [*Jesus MS.* schold ich] þar mid mine songe, Ne sunge ich hom neuer so longe?

Past tense. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. v. § 4 He ascade, hwæt sceolde æt swa lytlum weorode mara fultum. *c* 1250 [see above].

† **26.** With the sense 'is due', 'is proper', 'is to be given or applied'. *Obs.* [Cf. G. *soll.*]

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 1 *Rubric*, Þys [*sc.* godspel] sceal on twelftan dæȝ. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) xli, He wol aske half a pownd To bygge with spiserye: The eyȝt shillyngs schul up To wyn and to ale. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1724 (Fairf.), Sir noe..hew þe timbre þat sulde þerto.

27. With ellipsis of active infinitive to be supplied from the context.

Present tense. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2390 Leste ȝe eft wepen echeliche in helle,..as ȝe schullen alle, buten ȝef [etc.]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4092 Vorto anhansy vre king as we ssolle on alle wyse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19071 'Þat i mai giue', he [*sc.* St. Peter, *Acts* iii. 6] said, 'i sale'. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 203 Loue we as leue bretheren shal. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxix. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 86, I haue ouercome þe world Alse who seyth And so schulle ȝe. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* viii. 25 Who shall seperate vs from goddes love? shall tribulacion? *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, Ind., *Ober.* That would I fain see. *Bok.* Why, thou shalt. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 20 *Ar.*..If you now beheld them, your affections Would become tender. *Pro.* Dost thou thinke so, Spirit? *Ar.* Mine would, Sir, were I humane. *Pro.* And mine shall. 1633 FORD 'Tis Pity v. vi, *Soran.*..Bring the strumpet forth. *Vas.* I shall Sir. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Oct., This would vex me, but it shall not. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* IV. i, You shall have your choice...*Miss Hoyd.* Shall I? 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems* Ser. II. *Compl. Lisa* 49 Ah, but, forgetting all things, shall I thee? 1892 MRS. H. WARD *David Grieve* IV. ii, 'No, indeed, I havn't got all I want', said Lucy...'I never shall, neither'.

Past tense. Beowulf 2585 (Gr.) Guðbill ȝeswac nacod æt niðe, swa hyt no sceolde. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* ii. (1883) 13 Þæt hi næfdon to gode naðer ne lufe ne eȝe, swa swa hy scoldan. *c* 1120 *Ranks* in *Gesetze der Angels.* (Liebermann) 456 Se moste..his onspæce ȝeræcan mid rihte, swa hwær swa he sceolde. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 60 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 163 Vfel we doð al to muchel and god lesse þenne we sculden. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3810 þat þei hent swiche herte as hardi men schuld. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 49 Bot þou do bette And lyue as þow shulde. 1458 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* (1859) III. 42 For his fadir soule and his frendes he dyd as he scholde. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* 71 Blame it blynde dryuyll; by the lawe so thou sholde And nat therat to gyggyll. 1583 in W. Kelly *Notices illustr. Drama* (1865) 213 The..playours ..crawed lycense ageyne to play at there Inn, & he told them they shold not. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 9 It is not pleasure to doe what we list, but never to stray from what we should. 1735 PEGGE *Kenticisms* Introd. Let. (E.D.S.) 11, I wou'd remind you, and indeed it is altogether a necessary I shou'd, that [etc.]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxi, I knew he would come. I prayed so that he should. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 81, I knew ..That she was uttering what she shouldn't.

b. Phrase, *if I shall* (see quots.). Now *dial.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 96 Doun knelende on mi kne I take leve, and if I schal, I kisse hire. *Ibid.*, I wolde kisse hire efusones if I scholde. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Engl. Tongue* 203 The familiar proposal to carry a basket,..*I will if I shall*, that is, I am willing if you will command me; I will if so required. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., I'll warn our Tom 'll do it vor ee, nif he shall—i. e. if you wish.

† **c.** With generalized ellipsis in proverbial phrase: *Needs must that needs shall* = 'he must whom fate compels'. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 Bot nede he mot that nede schal. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, Ind., Then needs must, needs sall.

† **28.** With ellipsis of *do* (not occurring in the context). *Obs. rare.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* v. 370 He axode þone casere hu he embe hi sceolde. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* in Ashm. (1652) 5 O King that shall These Workes!

b. The place of the inf. is sometimes supplied by *that* or *so* placed at the beginning of the sentence.

The construction may be regarded as an ellipsis of *do*. It is distinct from the use (belonging to 27) in which *so* has the sense of 'thus', 'likewise', or 'also'; in the latter there is usually inversion, as *so shall I*.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2735 'Rightfulliche thou him awreke'. Th' Emperour saide, 'So ich schal'. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lvii. 510 That shall I not said sir Dynadan. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, 'His Mastership will do well to look to himself'. 'That he should', re-echoed Craigengelt. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* iv, 'I should like to see her now she's grown up'. 'So you shall'.

† **29.** With ellipsis of *be* or passive inf., or with *so* in place of this (where the preceding context has *is, was*, etc.). *Obs.*

Present tense. a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 895 (Gr.) Ða wæs þam folce on ferhðsefan ingemynde, swa him a scyle. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 719 Þe castel lihteþ al abouten, And is raddore þen euere eny rose schal. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 4284 Then dreme of thing that never was ne shal. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1631 Þus haþ it ben, & ay schal, I bileue. *c* 1560 *Misogonus* III. iii. 153 Yf thou best askt as I know thou shalt. 1566 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxliii. 12 For I thy seruant am and shal. 1615 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 362 He is not yet executed, nor I hear not when he shall.

Past tense. c 1300 *K. Horn* 326 (Harl.) Þah horn were vnder molde & oþer elle[s] wher he sholde. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 269 3if þis epistle of Poule were fulli executid as it shulde. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2155 That ye be shorn as ye sholde As chose shepe of Crystys folde. ?1515.. *K. Estmere* vii. in Child *Ballads* II. 521 Manya man throughe fals messengers is deceived, And I feare lest soe shold wee. 1654 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 285 When I was not satisfied with it myself, I had no reason to hope that anybody else should. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVI. i, The Sentiments in all these are very little varied, nor is it possible they should.

Shallal (ʃæ·lˌlæ·l). *dial.* [Echoic.] 'A serenade of kettles and pans given to a notorious wedding couple' (Eng. Dial. Dict.); 'rough music'.

1864 *West. Morn. News* 17 June 4 It has been the custom in this town (S. Ives, Cornwall) for some years, on the occasion of a marriage, for a number of young men in disguise to go to the house of the newly-married pair on the night of the wedding and make a 'shallall', that is [etc.]. 1892 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Three Ships* vii. 120 'Twill be time enough to talk of shal-lals when the weddin'-day's fixed.

† **Shalle.** *Obs.* [App. shortened from *shallemuse* or some other form of SHAWM.] = SHAWM.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 5590 Ther wer trumpes and trumpetes, Lowde shallys and doucetes. 1420-2 — *Thebes* 4298 And in Thebes loud as any shalle The Cry aroos. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14305 Thys flloutys ek, with sotyl musys, And thys shallys loude crye.

† **Shallen.** *Obs. rare*—1. [Perh. a variant of CHALON; but the quot. is obscure.]

1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 178 Shallen wever couerletts.

Shallon, shallun (ʃæ·lən). [Prob. related in some way to SALAL, the native form of which is given by Lewis & Clark (II. 731) as *shelwel, shellwell.*] = SALAL.

1806 LEWIS & CLARK *Exped.* (1893) II. 791 An evergreen called shallun, resembling the laurel. 1866 [see SALAL].

Shalloon[1] (ʃəlū·n). Forms: 7–9 shaloon, 8 saloon, 7– shalloon. [a. F. *chalon*, which had been earlier adopted as CHALON, q.v. Cf. MHG. *schalûne*, mod.G. *schalaune.*]

1. A closely woven woollen material chiefly used for linings.

[1270–1 *Pipe Roll* 55 Hen. III m. 1 *d*, Pro..xxxvij chalonibus de Reyns.] 1678 *Ancient Trades Decayed* 16 (Stant.), And instead of a Perpetuana or a Shalloon to Lyne Mens Coats with, is used sometimes a Glazened Calico. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3701/4 All sorts of Mercery Goods, viz... Shaloons,..Silk Shags, Chenies,..which will be sold by Auction. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* (1707) II. 1. 18 Her Honour's Petticoat and Gown, Were nicely made of blew Saloon. 1721 SWIFT *Epil. Benefit-play* 21 In blue shalloon shall Hannibal be clad. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cnt. Fathom* xxix, The mummy of an Egyptian king, most curiously rolled up in bandages of rich figured gold shalloon. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Monstre Balloon* 6 The netting had burst—the silk—the shalloon. 1877 J. W. HAYES *Draper & Haberdasher* (ed. 4) 104 Shalloons, a very loosely made stuff, used by tailors for lining coats, &c. A similar article is also made and used for dresses.

b. A wig-tie made of shalloon.

a 1845 BARHAM *Cousin Nicholas* xxiv, The end of his pigtail..contrasts well with the sable shalloon that unites it to his occiput. *a* 1845 — *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Wedding-day*, And bright the shalloon of his little quill'd *queue.*

† c. *transf.*

1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxviii. (1783) III. 84, I was so disgusted..at the baseness of this shred of shalloon, that..the only business I had..was to mortify, disgrace, and punish the scoundrel who had injured you.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Made of shalloon.

1665 Wood *Life* 24 Apr. (O. H. S.) II. 35, I bought a black shaloone suit. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 298 The red shalloon lining of his coat.

3. *Comb.*, as *shalloon-maker, -manufacturer.*

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6221/2 Joseph Alford and John Alford,..Shalloon-makers. 1857 *P. O. Directory Yorksh.* 1052 Shalloon Manufacturers.

† Shalloo·n [2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 shaloon(e, shallown. (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 345/2 A Shaloone..is a kind of Diminutive Coach, which runneth upon two Wheels, and holdeth two people; it is drawn with one Horse. *Ibid.* III. 449/2 A Shallown.

Shallop (ʃæ·ləp), *sb.*, **† shalloop.** Forms: *α.* 6 schalop, (6–7 *erron.* scallop, skallop), 7 sallop, shallupp, shawlopp, 7–9 shalop; *β.* 7 shalupe, shaloup, 8 shalloup, shalloop. See also Chaloupe. [a. F. *chaloupe*, prob. either a. Du. *sloep* (see Sloop) or the source of that word. Cf. Sp. *chalupa*, It. *scialuppa*, G. *schaluppe*. The *β* forms may be viewed either as a re-adoption of the Fr. word, or as an assimilation of the Eng. word to its original; the spellings suggest final stress, but the only verse quot. has *sha·loup*.

The form *scallop, skallop*, in Florio 1598–1611 s.v. *Schifetto, Schiffo*, and Minsheu 1617, is due to erroneous identification with Scallop *sb.*]

1. A large, heavy boat, fitted with one or more masts and carrying fore-and-aft or lug sails and sometimes furnished with guns; a sloop.

α 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 278 Ane schip with ane schalop to keip the narrow vatteris fra thame of blaknes. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 Shee was in some harde fight with two pinnesses and a shallop of the Frenchmen. 1626 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 143 The comanders sent their shallupps to chase fisher boats. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 29/1 A double Shallop, well mann'd, with two guns. 1740 Johnson *Life Drake* Wks. 1787 IV. 408 Were surprized with the sight of seven Spanish shallops. 1783 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) IV. p. iv, The Albemarle and Pandora recaptured a Shallop, and on the 12th they recaptured a Sloop laden with wine. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* I. ii. 31 One shallop was commanded by Alonso de Castillo and Andres Dorantes, another by Cabeza de Vaca.

2. A boat, propelled by oars or by a sail, for use in shallow waters or as a means of effecting communication between, or landings from, vessels of a large size, a dinghy.

α. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vii. 27 Into the same she leapt, and with the ore Did thrust the shallop from the floting strand. 1619 W. Phillip tr. *Schouten's Wonderf. Voy.* 60 We sent out our Shalop to sound the depth. *a* 1645 Waller *On Danger His Majesty escaped* 93 Our Hero, set In a small shallop. 1832 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* I. iii, The shallop flitteth silken-sail'd Skimming down to Camelot. 1889 P. H. Emerson *Eng. Idyls* 37 Fain would I have slumbered in my frail shallop.

β. 1646 Sir P. Osborne in Tupper *Hist. Guernsey* (1876) 281 It is a shore full of rocks..insomuch that all must be done with shalupes. 1692 Tate *Poem H. M. Voy. to Holland* 6 A distant Fleet, and open Shaloup nigh. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 394, 25 shalloops are ordered to be built with oares, and wells for fresh water. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 31 Upon this we fell to tricking up our selves, painting our Long-Boat and Shalloop, and making our Ship very fine. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 344 Coasting from one Island to another, sometimes with the Ship, sometimes with the French Man's Shalloup. 1772 *Ann. Reg. 1771*, 99/2 The Gaillard..sent her shalloop with 40 men to carry provisions and refreshments on board.

3. *Comb.*

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 104 The shawlopp men were kept within. 1905 Holman Hunt *Pre-Raph.* II. 64 Over this floated shallop-shaped clouds.

Sha·llop, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Shallop *sb.*] *intr.* To sail or row in a shallop.

1736–7 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 13–20 Jan., Shalloping up and down the bay to Egg Harbour.

Shallot, shalot (ʃăl·ŏt). Also 7 shelot, 9 shalott, 'schalot. [aphetic f. Eschalot. Cf. LG. *schalotten, scharlotten* (Brem. Wb.).

The spelling *shallot*, though inferior to *shalot* because it suggests a wrong pronunciation, is now the more common.]

1. A small onion, *Allium Ascalonicum*, native in Syria and cultivated for use as a flavouring ingredient for salads, sauces, etc.

1664 S. Blake *Compl. Gard. Pract.* 121 Shalot. Or Spanish Garlick. 1670 L. Meager *Eng. Gardener* 188 Shelot. *Ibid.* 189, 213. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Shalot,...*echalote.* 1693 Evelyn *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. vi. 146 Shalots or Eschalots. *Ibid.* 201 *Shallots*, otherwise Rocamboles, or Spanish Garlick. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 358 Plant Garlick, Shallots, Rocambole. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ii. 35 Take five or six Shalots peel'd. 1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Diss. upon Roast Pig*, Steep your whole hogs in shalots, if you wish. 1838 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Witches' Frolic* xliv, And they wound up the meal with rumpsteaks and 'schalots. 1882 *Garden* 11 Feb. 106/2 Shallots often become mildewed.

attrib. 1747 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* ii. 35 Shalot-Sauce for roasted Fowls. 1842 Merle *Domestic Dict.* 255 *Shalot Vinegar.* Same as garlic vinegar.

† 2. [After F. *échalote.*] A name for the metal 'reed' in some kinds of organ-pipes. *Obs.*

1727 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Organ*, A Reed-pipe consists of a Foot..which carries the Wind into the Shalot, or Reed.., which is a hollow Demi-cylinder, fitted [etc.]. 1746 Tansur *New Mus. Gram.* 65 The Shallot or Reed.

† Sha·llow, *sb.*[1] *Sc. Obs.* In 6 schallaw, schallow. [a. Gael. *sealbh.*] A drove, a flock.

1550 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 102 Ilk schallow of scheip xii d. to be pait to the pundoris..and it salbe lesum to the takaris to pund the haill guiddis or ane best of the schallaw.

Shallow (ʃæ·lou), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [OE. *scealga, scylga* wk. masc., perh. f. **scealig* scaly, f. *scealu* Shale *sb.*[1], scale.] A freshwater fish, the Rudd.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 180 *Rocea*, scylga. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* ibid. 319 *Rocea*, scealga. 1712 J. Morton *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 419 The Fish here called a Shallow, found in..our Rivers,..a Scaly Fish, in shape betwixt a Roache and a Breame. 1880–4 F. Day *Brit. Fishes* II. 184 *Leuciscus erythrophthalmus*..Rudd,.. Shallow (East).

Shallow (ʃæ·lou), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[3] Forms: 4–5 schalowe, 5–7 shalow, 6 *Sc.* schallow, 6–7 shallowe, 6– shallow. [Early 15th c. *schalowe*, prob. related in some way to the synonymous *schald* (OE. *sceald*): see Shoal *a.*

There may have been an OE. **scealu* (:—**skalwo-*) or **scealg* (:—**skalgo-*), f. the root of *sceald* (**skaldo-*) with a different suffix; but no such formation is known in Eng., and the cognate langs. afford no light. It is unlikely that *schalowe* is a compound f. *schald* Shoal *a.* + Low *a.*]

A. *adj.*

1. Not deep, having little extension in a downward direction: said e. g. of water, of a dish or tray, of a depression or excavation in the ground.

14.. *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) III. 131 [Camb. MS.] Þanne þe kyng..made his auowe þat he wolde make þat greet ryuer so schalowe [*Cotton MS. a* 1400 schoolt] þat þe water schulde nouȝt reche to women kneen þat wolde wade ouer. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 739 The Shippe was grete he myght not passe For the water so shalow was. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schold, or schalowe, nozte depe, as water or oþer lyke. 1577 B. Googe tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 22 If it [*sc.* the furrow] be shallowe in one place, and deepe in another, it declares the grounde to be euill handled in the plowing. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 739 When the River in Summer time is very ebbe and shallow. 1717 Berkeley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 543 Port shallow, not admitting ships of any burden. 1865 Metevard *Wedgwood* I. iii. 98 Their [*sc.* pot-works] vicinity marked by shallow excavations for clay. 1907 J. A. Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 27 The various manipulations..are usually carried out in shallow dishes, or trays.

b. Of the soil of agricultural land: Forming only a thin stratum over rock.

1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xx. (Dublin ed.) 290 If the Soil be shallow, it may be broke up with a narrow Furrow. 1760 Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 63 On poor light shallow land some sow a small white pea. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. 22 Shallow soil is like superficial character.

c. *absol.* in superlative = shallowest part.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 271/2 The same snow was found in London to lie two foot deepe in the shallowest.

d. *transf.* Of actions, etc.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 626 Experienced agriculturists..upon the whole advise shallow ploughings. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog.* (Low) ix. 234 Now compare the shallow soundings in these lakes with the great depths of the arctic ocean.

2. Extending only a short distance inward from the surface or from the front towards the back. Of a lens: Having slight convexity or concavity.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 127 The nocke of the shafte is dyuersly made, for some be greate and full..some depe, some shalowe. *Ibid.*, The shalow, and rownde nocke is best for our purpose in prickyng for cleane delyuerance of a shoote. 1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* vii. 130 Or you may make the Rooms next the Front deeper, or shallower, and leave the remainder for the Back Room. 1764 G. Williams in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 320, I wish you would let me trouble you to buy two pair of point-ruffles,..and pray let them be shallow. 1837 Goring & Pritchard *Microgr.* 60 If you use the focus of a very deep lens to measure that of a shallow one, then [etc.]. 1849 Parker *Introd. Gothic Archit.* ii. 49 If the sculpture is early it is very rude, and the work is shallow. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* II. 619 A shallow bow-window. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 842 The ulcer is shallow.

† 3. Placed not far below the surface. *Obs. rare.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 798 The lab'ring Swain Scratch'd with a Rake, a Furrow for his Grain; And cover'd, with his Hand, the shallow Seed again.

† 4. Of sound: Lacking resonance, 'thin'. *Obs.*

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 223 If a Virginall were made with a double Concaue..as the Harpe hath; It must needs make the Sound perfecter, and not so Shallow and Iarring.

5. Of respiration: Slight, 'diaphragmatic'.

1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 435 The respiration progressively rendered slower and shallower by a direct action upon the centre.

6. *fig.* **a.** Of thought, reasoning, observation, knowledge, or feeling: Lacking depth, superficial.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xcii. ii, What witt can.. deeply sound thy shallow'st thought? 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* I. i. 21 That's on some shallow Storie of deepe loue, How yong Leander crost the Hellespont. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 13 July (1815) 237 That were but shallow policy; it would only serve to make the satire more cutting and severe. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xxv, He..turn'd a nation's shallow joy to gloom. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 269 The term 'sensational' is rightly used to express what is shallow in thought and feeling.

b. Qualifying an agent-noun, or said of a person with reference to knowledge, exposition, etc. Also † not deeply versed *in.*

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. iii. 45 *Clo.*..I hope to haue friends for my wiues sake. *Cou.* Such friends are thine enemies knaue. *Clo.* Y'are shallow Madam in great friends, for the knaues come to doe that for me which I am a wearie of. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 544 Beholders rude, and shallow to descerne Half what in thee is fair. 1771 Wesley *Jrnl.* 25 Aug. (1827) III. 428 O how hard it is to be shallow enough for a polite audience! 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 58 Shallow, indeed, must be those observers, who regard the predictions of Paine as having been falsified. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 484 Thus a shallow observer may be led to give the assurance that there is no cause for further anxiety.

c. Of persons and their attributes: Wanting in depth of mind, feeling, or character.

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1016 Out, idle words, servants to shallow fools! 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterr.* (1868) Pref. 7 Not merely kept the shallow and impetuous Sir Everard steady, but [etc]. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 504 ₱ 4 Shallow fops, who are governed by the eye, and admire every thing that struts in vogue. 1870 Newman *Gram. Assent* I. iii. 32 To apprehend notionally is to have breadth of mind but to be shallow.

d. Indicative of shallowness.

1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. ii. (1869) 36 To be deceived by shallow boasting. 1829 Southey *Ep. to Allan Cunningham* 185 The..shallow laugh Of one who would [etc.].

7. quasi-*adv.* To or at a slight depth.

1662 Evelyn *Sculptura* II. v. (1906) 27 Grave your vernished plate with a very fine poynt..and eate it but shallow with your Aqua Fortis. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* xvi. 334 They should be sow'd but shallow, an Inch or an Inch and a half being deep enough. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincolnsh.* 71 It includes a scarificator, with a bush of thorns, and cuts deeper or shallower at pleasure. 1857 F. Francis *Angling* iv. (1880) 107 It is sometimes necessary to..fish shallow. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 269 The notches.. had better be filed very shallow at first.

8. *Comb.* **a.** Parasynthetic derivatives, as *shallow-conceited, -footed, -forded, -headed, -hearted, -hulled, -minded,* † *-mored, -rooted, -sighted, -soiled, -thoughted, -toothed, witted* adjs.

a 1674 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 339 These self, but *shallow-conceited ranters. 1592 Nashe *Strange Newes* H 4, Some superficial slime of poison hast thou driueld from thy pen in thy *shallow footed sliding through my Supplication. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* iv. i, But I am made a *shallow-forded Stream, Seen to the bottom. 1647 Trapp 1 *Cor.* iv. 10 These Corinthians undervalued and depressed Paul under their silly *shallow-headed verbalists. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A* iv. ii. 97 What, what, ye sanguine *shallow harted Boyes. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 39 O my cousin, shallow-hearted! O my Amy, mine no more! 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 454/1 *Shallow-hulled vessels are particularly liable to this defect. 1817 Lady Morgan *France* III. (1818) I. 272 *note*, Mad. de Pompadour has left behind her, in France, the character of an ignorant, *shallow-minded, and vindictive woman. 1757 Lisle *Husb.* 452 In treading on such barley as was *shallow-mored it would stick to their shoes. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 31 Now 'tis the Spring, and Weeds are *shallow-rooted. 1705 Cibber *Perolla* III. 35 Poor *shallow-sighted Man! 1827 Pollok *Course T.* IV. (1860) 95 These, like ephemera, sprang in a day From lean and *shallow soiled brains of sand. 1858 Spencer *Ess.* I. 145 Men who..prove themselves *shallow-thoughted and cold-hearted. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 43 [Pinnules] *shallow-toothed. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxiv. (1674) 92 They were..held for.. *shallow-witted people.

b. Attributive use of phrases, as † *shallow-bay, -draught, -level, -sea, -water.*

1795 Phillips *Hist. Inland Navig.* 319 No vessel drawing above six feet and a half can navigate it, unless the practice of shipping in *shallow-bay harbours be adopted. 1894 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 2/5 A contract..for the immediate construction of two *shallow-draft stern-wheel gunboats. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 2 Dec. 6/5 The report of the..Commission, which pronounced strongly in favour of the 'shallow-level 'tube'. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 82 Deep-sea or *shallow-sea deposits. 1880 A. R. Wallace *Isl. Life* 90 They are all comparatively *shallow-water forms.

c. Adverbial with pres. and pa. pples., as *shallow-reading, -rooting, -searching* adjs.; complementary, as † *shallow-ebbed* adj.

1600 S. Nicholson *Acolastus* (1876) 17 Perchance thou seest my *shallow-ebd estate. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* v, The Art of being deep-learned and *shallow-read. 1887 *Daily News* 16 July 3/8 The *shallow-rooting turnip plants were going through a struggle for life in the parched surface soil. *a* 1645 Milton *Arcades* 41 And lead ye where ye may more neer behold What *shallow-searching Fame hath left untold.

B *sb.*

1. A shallow part of a piece of water, of the sea, of a lake or river; shallow water; a shallow place.

1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 18 § 5 The Shyriffes..shall..cause..the saide newe Cut..to be suffyciently clensed of all the Shelfes and Shallowes. 1596 *Edw. III*, III. iii. 2 By whose cunning guide We found the shalow of this Riuer Some. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 121 Jarsey..is environed with Rocks and dangerous Shallowes. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. 37 Ours who well knew thir own advantages, and expertly us'd them, now in the shallows, now on the Sand. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* IV. (1778) I. 376 Two men can carry them, wherever shallows or cataracts obstruct the navigation. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxxi, And the bittern sound his drum, Booming from the sedgy shallow. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 556 A place where it was protected by rocks and shallows. 1874 O'Shaughnessy *Music & Moonlight* 21, I have gleaned them from tide And cavern and shallow.

b. *fig.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 221 There is a Tide in the affayres of men, Which taken at the Flood, leades on to Fortune; Omitted, all the voyage of their life, Is bound in Shallowes, and in Miseries. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXX, She sounded every deep and shallow of her daughter's soul. 1890 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poet. Wks.* (1904) 280/2 Thy will Chose love not in the shallows but the deep.

†2. A kind of hat. *Obs.*

Shaking in the Shallow: ? some game in which a hat of this kind was used as a dice-box or the like.

1795 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 139 They went into a back parlour to play at Shaking in the Shallow. 1812 VAUX *Flash Dict., Shallow*, a hat. 1823 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 421 A great flaming bunch of blood-red ribbons pinned upon his battered whitey-brown shallow. 1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 190 The tightly-laced dandy, with his fan-tailed shallow smartly stuck on one side of his bison-head.

3. a. A flat basket used by costermongers and street-hawkers.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 29 Baskets of various kinds; as..the square and oval 'shallow', fastened in front of the fruit-woman with a strap round the waist. 1889 *Standard* 20 Sept., The common flowers they hawk in their hand-barrows and 'shallows'.

b. A costermonger's cart.

1849 SALA *Tov. round Clock* (1861) 33 There is a cobweb of wheeled vehicles of all sorts, from a cab to a hybrid construction something between a wheel-barrow and a costermonger's shallow. 1896 MORISON *Child Jago* 33 A donkey employed to drag a cranky shallow, stored with glass bottles.

4. *Astr.* (See quot.)

1801 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 267 Shallows are extensive and level depressions of the luminous solar clouds, generally surrounding the openings to a considerable distance. *Ibid.* 270, Jan. 4, 1801. There is a large opening much past the centre of the sun, with a shallow about it.

Hence **Sha·llowist** *nonce-wd.*, †**Sha·llowling**, a shallow, superficial person; **Sha·llowish** *a.*, somewhat shallow.

1616 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 346 Can wee suppose, that any Shallowling Can find much Good in oft Tobacconing? 1799 COLERIDGE *Lett.* 16 Sept. (1895) 306 Kendall, a poet, who really looks like a man of genius pale and gnostic, has the merit of being a Jacobin or so, but is a shallowist. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 69 A slight dip, which gradually deepened into a shallowish valley.

Sha·llow, *a.*[2] *slang.* [Perh. suggested by *shall-I-go-naked*, used *dial.* as adj. applied to scanty clothing.] Used in *shallow cove, dodge, mort, screever*: see quots.

1842 *Edin. Rev.* July 484 'Shallow Coves' are impostors begging through the country as shipwrecked sailors. They generally choose winter, and always go nearly naked. *Ibid.*, 'Shallow Motts' are females who, like the Shallow Coves, go nearly naked. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Shallow screever*, a man who sketches and draws on the pavement. 1869 GREENWOOD *Seven Curses of Lond.* 245 The 'shaller' or more properly 'shallow' dodge, is for a beggar to make capital of his rags and a disgusting condition of semi-nudity.

Shallow (ʃæ·lōu), *v.* [f. SHALLOW *a.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To make shallow.

1510 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) I. 74 The seid Priour..by subtill and crafty meanes by his Fisshegarthes so ebbeth and shalloweth the same porte. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* (1684) 190 The Silt and Sands shall so choak and shallow the Sea in and about it. 1870 ORTON *Andes & Amazon* II. xli. (1876) 563 The great equatorial lake, already shallowed by sediment, was drained. 1879 BODDAM-WHETHAM *Roraima* 141 The long drought had shallowed the river.

b. *fig.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 785 That thought alone thy state impairs, Thy *lofty* sinks, and shallows thy *profound*. 1821 R. POLLOK in D. Pollok *Life* 117 This, instead of shallowing or enfeebling the current of language, deepens and invigorates it. 1872 BUSHNELL *Serm. Liv. Subj.* 16 These sayings..are not vaporized and shallowed by much talk.

c. *transf.* To pass from a greater to a less depth of.

1793 RENNELL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 189 In effect, in running 120 miles, we shallowed the water only nine fathoms.

2. *intr.* To become shallow, to diminish in depth.

1770 COOK 1*st Voy.* III. iv. in Hawkesw. *Voy.* (1773) III. 504 The deepest water on that side is seven fathom, shallowing to five a good way up. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fishery* 342 The sea shallows considerably on approaching the West Land. 1883 FENN *Middy & Ensign* xli. 247 The water,..as the river shallowed, came only to his waist.

†**Sha·llow-brained.** *Obs.* [f. SHALLOW *a.*[1]] Having shallow brains; having no depth of intellect.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 88 To this effect, the pollicie of Playes is verie necessary, howsoeuer some shallow-braind censurers..mightily oppugne them. *a* 1634 ? CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* I. i. 7 No, Englishman, thou art..Too shallow-brain'd to undermine my throne. 1667 SOUTH *Serm.* (*Prov.* x. 9) (1697) II. 43 Lewd Shallow-brain'd Huffs making Atheism and Contempt of Religion the sole Badge and Character of Wit. 1810 LOVEDEN *2 Reports Thames Navig.* (1811) 5 He must be very shallow-brained indeed, who cannot perceive [etc.].

†**Sha·llow-brains.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Formed after prec.] A shallow-brained person.

1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* I. (1715) 102, I am no more a Visionary, said he, nor a jealous Shallow-brains than another.

Shallowed (ʃæ·lōud), *ppl. a.* [f. SHALLOW *v.* + -ED[1].] Lessened in depth.

1832 S. FERGUSON *Forging of Anchor* 57 Where 'mid Norwegian isles He lies, a lubber anchorage for sudden shallow'd miles. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 488 The primary incision for each iridectomy was by transfixion with a Graefe's knife, which, in crossing the shallowed anterior chamber of the left eye, became entangled in the iris.

Shallowing (ʃæ·lōuiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of SHALLOW *v.*; a making or becoming shallow.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxxii. 392 Within 50 Paces of the Bank are sixteen Fathoms Water, which sudden Shallowings make it the more dangerous. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 555 *note*, The increasing roll of the sea showed the gradual shallowing of the water. 1891 STALKER *Preacher & Models* i. 27 Such a shallowing of the general mind as will render it [etc.].

Shallowing (ʃæ·lōuiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHALLOW *v.* + -ING[2].] That shallows; that becomes shallow.

1858 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poet. Wks.* (1904) 205/2 They.. count the creep Of time, and sound the shallowing deep, Till we in port shall also sleep. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* 323 We were running quietly through smooth and shallowing water.

Shallowly (ʃæ·lōuli), *adv.* [f. SHALLOW *a.*[1] + -LY[2].] In a shallow manner.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 89 What dullards and block-heads are wee, that hearing these tearmes of hell and eternall, so often sounded in our eares, sound them so shallowly..? 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii, Shallow of Judgment, and judging shallowly. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-Flora* 112 Margins broadly and shallowly crenate.

Shallowness (ʃæ·lōunės). [f. SHALLOW *a.*[1] + -NESS.] The quality of being shallow:

a. in physical senses.

1552 HULOET, Shallownes or sholenes in water, *uadum.* 1555 EDEN *Decades* I. III. (Arb.) 77 The keeles of the shippes often tymes rased the sandes for shalownes of the water. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 512 The cause of greater tides he thinketh to be the shallownesse, and narrower shoares. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xiii. 284 It may prove very commodious to place the Bed of the Cart under the Axle-tree at such a distance as the depth or shallowness of the Ways or Waters you are to go thro' requires. 1849 PARKER *Introd. Gothic Archit.* (1874) I. iii. 45 The wide-jointing of the masonry and the shallowness of the carving distinguish the old work from the new. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 17 The extreme shallowness of the Thames basin. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 891 An increasing shallowness of breathing down to absolute cessation.

b. Want of depth of character, thought, knowledge, etc.; superficiality.

1590 GREENWOOD *Answ. to Gifford* 25 This bewrayeth your shallownes. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 8 What a shallownesse it would be, to require that of a Generall, which if he granted, his enterprise should be quite ouerthrowne. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vi. 317 There are other persons without this shallowness of temper, persons of deeper sense as to what is invisible and future. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. II. (1873) 445 Some persons give one the notion of an abyss of shallowness. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. i. (1875) II. 91, I was a fool: My shallowness I now must ridicule.

Sha·llow-pate [f. SHALLOW *a.*[1] + PATE *sb.*] A person of shallow intellect.

1600 *Garzoni's Hosp. Incur. Fooles* A 3 b, Shallow-pates and ninnie-hammers. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shallow-pate*, a foolish, silly, empty Fellow. [*c* 1730 YOUNG *Ep. to Pope* 65 Each shallow pate, that cannot read your name, Can read your life, and will be proud to blame.]

So **Sha·llow-pated,** *a.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 37 This age such shallow pated men affords. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* LXXV, The Prince was a shallow-pated coxcomb.

Shallowy (ʃæ·lōui), *a.* [f. SHALLOW *sb.*[3] + -Y[1].] Characterized by shallows.

1890 *Murray's Mag.* June 738 Nyanza's shallowy silver flood.

†**Sha·lly.** Anglicized var. of CHALLIS. *Obs.*

1840 T. HOOK *Fitzherbert* I. vii. 72 An elegant shally wrapper trimmed with Mechlin lace.

Shalm(e, -ewe, -eye, -ie, -oyse: see SHAWM.

Shalop, obs. form of SHALLOP.

Shalot, variant of SHALLOT.

Shalt (ʃalt, ʃolt), *sb. Sc. dial.* Also 9 **shault,** shawlt. [See SHELTIE.] A small horse, a pony.

1813 W. BEATTIE *Tales* 29 (Jam.), He made a halt, And lighted there, and left the shalt. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* (1874) 31 The minister's shault's got lowse frae his tether.

†**Sha·ltree.** *Obs.* In 4 **schaltrow, skaltre, skaltrow,** *pl.* **scaltreen,** 5 **scaltre, scalter, shaltre.** [Partial translation of MHG. *schaltbaum* (or MLG. *schaldbôm*) pole used as an oar or a rudder, f. *schalten* (MLG. *schalden*) to push, shove + *baum* (see BEAM *sb.*); the Ger. word was also adopted in the 14th c. as *scheltbeme* SHELTBEAM. (Some of the spellings in the examples below may however represent G. *schalter*, used in the same sense.)] A pole (? used for propelling vessels).

1307–8 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* Bd. 14 No. 14 (P.R.O.), In .viij. paribus de schaltrowes emptis..pro dicta bargia. 1336 in Nicolas *Hist. Navy* (1847) II. 472 [For 24 spars ('spres') bought to make 24] 'skaltres' [with]. 13.. *Domesday de Sippewyz* in *Black Bk. Admiralty* (Rolls) II. 195 De chescune nefe ovesqes scaltreen qe vyent a la vyle [*transl.* (15th c.) Of eche ship with scaltreen that comyn to the toun]. 1419 *Liber Albus* III. iii. (Rolls) 344 Item, de navi cum shaltre, quantum dabit.

Shaly (ʃē·li), *a.* [f. SHALE *sb.*[2] + -Y[1].] Composed of, or having a resemblance to shale.

1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 41 A shaly Earth,..from the crown With a continual motion mouldring down. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 345 The soil was..in parts rather inclining to a shaly structure. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 354 The Saxifraga hirculus, like a golden star, sprinkled the shaley slopes. 1886 FENN *Patience Wins* 51 Along the short rough turf and over the shaly paths.

Sham (ʃæm), *sb.*[1] and *a.* Also 7 **shamm(e.** [Of obscure origin; the word first appears as slang, together with the related verb, about 1677, and immediately came into very frequent use.

Commonly explained as in some way connected with *sham*, north. dial. form of SHAME *sb.* and *v.* This is not impossible, on the supposition that the slang word arose from some once well-known anecdote or incident in a play. The following quot. may possibly contain a genuine tradition, but the alleged origin does not seem to account satisfactorily for the sense in the early examples. (North says that the word was introduced into general use, in the phrase 'sham plot', by Dangerfield; but it was already common some years before 1680, the date to which this statement refers.)

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 1 (1740) 231 The word *Sham* is true Cant of the Newmarket Breed. It is contracted of *ashamed*. The native Signification is a Town Lady of Diversion, in Country Maid's Cloaths, who to make good her Disguise, pretends to be so *sham'd*! Thence it became proverbial, when a maimed Lover was laid up, or looked meager, to say he had met with a *Sham*.]

A. *sb.*

†1. A trick, hoax, fraud, imposture; something devised to impose upon, delude, or disappoint expectation; a 'sell'. *To put a sham upon*: to hoax, defraud. *To cut a sham*: 'to play a Rogue's trick' (B.E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, a* 1700). *Obs.*

1677 [see SHAM *v.*[1]]. 1678 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 53 A letter to the Secretary.. some feare.., that tis rather a sham to prevent stricter scherch. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* I. i, The Sham won't pass upon me, Sir, it won't look you. 1680 *Refl. Late Libel on Curse-ye-Meroz* 19 'Tis but a Tale, and a Story of his own making, like all the rest of the Sham's he would gladly put upon the Author. 1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 66 Some scruple not to think this a shamm, and only an accusation to draw in others. 1688 *Eng. Prot. Mem. to Pr. & P'cess Orange* 19 They thought it an easie sham to say women misreckoned very often. *a* 1696 AUBREY *Lives, Chaloner* (1898) I. 160 He [Chaloner] wrote..an anonymous pamphlett, 8vo, scil. An account of the Discovery of Moyses's Tombe..'T'was a pretty while before the shamme was detected. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* viii. 141 He..seem'd to laugh that she should first put such a Sham upon him, and then to tell such a formal Story to make it good. 1751 *Affect. Narr. of Wager* 31, I own, I ever look'd upon the whole Affair as a Sham. 1821 PRAED *Gog* I. 191 You think I'm playing off a sham.

† b. In generalized sense: Trickery, hoaxing.

1682 OLDHAM *Sat. Imit. Juv.* III. Wks. (1703) 429 Let the Plot-mongers stay behind, whose Art Can Truth to Sham, and Sham to Truth convert. 1713 M. HENRY *Folly of Despising our own Souls* Wks. 1855 I. 160 A man justly reckons himself affronted and resents it accordingly, who is imposed upon by sham and banter.

† c. *Upon the sham*: fraudulently, with deceitful purpose. *Obs.*

1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 87 They negotiate upon the square, frankly, and without artifice, or double dealing, not disguised, or upon the sham. *c* 1691 *Virgin's Compl.* 25 in *Bagford Ballads* (1878) 931 Robin came upon the Sham, Told me many [a] Lye and Flam.

† d. One who tries to delude, a humbug. *Obs.*

1677 OLDHAM *Dithyr.* Wks. (1703) 451 Hence holy Sham! ..To some raw ent'ring Sinner cant and whine, Who never knew the worth of Drunkenness and Wine.

2. [Prob. developed from the adjectival or attributive uses.] Something that is intended to be mistaken for something else, or that is not really what it purports to be; a spurious imitation, a counterfeit.

1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. List of Subscribers, By retaining such a number of Names tho' Shams I might have showed away pompously. 1822 W. FOWLER in *Corr.* 437 One window wanted in west front as sham. 1835 CAMPBELL *Epist. Algiers* ix, For the pain of my thirst is no sham. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 237 That direst wolf shall seem like sweetest lamb Beneath the constant sham. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 524 To see whether the promised reduction of the naval and military forces of France is to be a reality or a sham. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 215 As dishonest a sham as the stucco stone 'orders' of modern Regent Street. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 244 She will have no shams, no imitations if she knows it. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 312 The hollow shams of life with their mincing conventions had departed.

b. Applied to a person. Cf. 1 d.

1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 15 The greatest sham, I have always thought, is he that would destroy shams. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xxiv. 214 Who can undertake to say that he is not a sham in anything?

c. in generalized sense.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* I. v. 36 The laws of Sham and Semblance, which are called the Devil's Laws. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ix, It's all sham—he's only afraid to fight it out.

3. *spec.* † a. A false shirt-front or 'dicky'; also see quot. 1785. b. (See quot.). c. A pillow-sham, see PILLOW *sb.* 6. d. (? *U.S.*) A strip of fine linen put under the upper edge of the bed-clothes and turned over, as if forming the upper end of the sheet (*Cent. Dict.*, 1891).

a. 1721 STEELE *Conscious Lover* I. i, Wearing shams to make linen last clean a fortnight. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 67 A silk handkerchief round their necks,..half shirts or shams of coarse linen. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Sham*, Shams, false sleeves to put on over a dirty shirt, or false sleeves with ruffles to put over a plain one.

b. 1863 R. B. GIRDLESTONE *Anat. Scepticism* 68 He fills up the rest of his shop with shams (i. e. boxes supposed to be filled with everything that can be required).

c. 1893 *Scott. Leader* 12 June 1 Beautifully embroidered ..tray cloths, tea cloths, pillow cases, shams and sheets.

d. 1891 *Century Dict.* 1906 WILLIAMSON *Lady Betty Across the Water* 280 There are stiff square 'shams' to hide the pillows and turn down over the top of the sheet.

B. *attrib.* and *adj.* (Sometimes with hyphen.)

1. Of immaterial things: Pretended, feigned, false, counterfeit; not genuine or true. *Sham fight*: a mimic battle between two divisions of a military or naval force, either for exercise or display.

1681 *Relig. Clerici* To Rdr., Let Sham-truths be drawn as severally as mens fancies and humours please (yet) she [*sc.* Truth] her self hath nevertheless one regular, uniform, eternal Face. 1682 OTWAY *Prol. to Mrs. Behn's City Heiress*, Who..Wou'd lay sweet Money out in Sham-Thanksgivings? Sham-Plots you may have paid for o'er and o'er: But who ere paid for a Sham-Treat before? 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 91 Thus these sham fights began and ended, to the no small entertainment of the little Duke and his boys. 1699 E. S—CY *Country Gentl. Vade M.* 98 After a little Sham-squabble between the two Cheats, says the first, If [etc.]. 1708* *Deplor. St. New Eng.* 22 in *Sewall's Diary* (1879) II. 118* As soon as the Sham-Vote..was Gained, the Governour draws the Council in. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5238/4 Known by the Sham Title of the Lady Rich. 1724 WELTON *18 Disc.* 70 We find our Blessed Saviour upbraiding those puritanick Jews..with a conscious hypocrisy and sham zeal. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 90 Perchance, some sham-marriage may be designed, on purpose to ruin me. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* II. Wks. 1799 II. 71 Demurrers, sham-pleas, writs of error.., and imparlance. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxvi. (1788) 195, I do not refer to the sham prosecution which you affected to carry on against him. 1839 LEVER *H. Lorrequer* i. 11 A sham-battle in the Fifteen Acres. 1846 O. W. HOLMES *Urania* 24 And these..Are all impatience till the opening pun Proclaims the witty shamfight is begun.

2. Of a person: That pretends or is falsely represented to be (what is denoted by the sb.).

Now only as a transferred use of sense 3; hence several of the examples below are not quite in accord with present usage.

1683 *Roxb. Ballads* (1884) V. 251 When zealous Sham-Sheriffs the City oppose. 1690 WOOD *Life* 4 Oct. (O.H.S.) III. 341 The discovery of the sham Prince of Wales is said to be very manifest. 1697 [J. DRAKE] (*title*) The Sham Lawyer: or the Lucky Extravagant. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* 123 Not venturing to go myself, I sent several sham Messengers. 1727 — *Syst. Magic* II. ii. 278 The witch of Endor raised a sham Samuel in the room of the true prophet Samuel. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Art P.* [433] (1826) II. 351 So the sham-admirer is always more affected, than he that praises with sincerity. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 319 Dost thou forget, sham Monarch of the Waves, Thy scalding in the seas? 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, He had his foot upon the breast of their sham deliverer. 1841 THACKERAY *Shrove Tuesday in Paris* Wks. 1900 XIII. 567 As the sham-fiends do in Don Juan. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 13 The Kings were Sham-Kings, playacting as at Drury-Lane;—and what were the people withal that took them for real?

3. Of material things or substances: Made in imitation of something else; made to appear to be something which it is not; made of inferior or base materials.

Now always implying reprobation; but in the earlier part of the 19th c. often used in tradesmen's price-lists, etc. as equivalent to 'imitation'.

1699 E. S—CY *Country Gentl. Vade M.* 99 One of the other two conveys a Sham-bill under the Table, which [etc.]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Masons-mason'd*, a Sham-sore above the Elbow, to counterfeit a broken Arm, by a fall from a Scaffold. 1708 SWIFT *Hist. Vanbrugh's Ho.* 26 And so [he] resolved a house to build: A real house...Not a sham thing of clay or cards. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* 239 She kept a sham Gold Watch..in her Pocket. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* May 212 Behind the doors..is discovered a beautiful sham front of an organ. 1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 9 June, Send me a line by the diligence...Charlotte.. will make it into a sham parcel. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 24 Mar. 2/3 A very handsome..light airy chariot, with sham joints. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxv, The sham coat of arms which Osborne had assumed from the Peerage. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xvii. 149 Not one of the girls dared to wear a bit of sham jewellery. 1898 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Cath.* 28 Decorated and Perpendicular windows have..been replaced by sham Norman ones.

†**4.** False, deceptive. *Obs. rare.*

a 1721 PRIOR *Ess. Opinion* Wks. (1907) II. 194 Another.. likes to see the Butcher of the West really wounded at the Bear-Garden, not content with the sham red that glows upon the Skirt of Banco's Ghost. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 49 If they could have amused the king with any sham answer,..they would certainly have done it

5. *Comb.* Prefixed to other adjs. as *sham-ancient, -serious*; also with sbs. forming compounds used attributively, as *sham-twist*. Also †**sham-legged** *a.*, ? wooden-legged (but perh. error for *shamble-legged*).

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2339/4 One James Caulket,..a Dyer ..sham leg'd, goes somewhat foundered. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* V. (1841) 303 He who has once seen into this, has seen the difference of the True from the Sham-True. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* I. v. 42 It is not governed by the wisest it has..but by the sham-wisest. 1850 — *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. 26 My Christian friends, and indeed my Sham-Christian and Anti-Christian, and all manner of men, are invited to reflect on this. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles* IX. (1857) 69 A suite of sham-ancient steam-carved furniture. 1880 E. MAITLAND in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 279/2 A sham-twist [gun-] barrel..[which] has all the appearance of a genuine twisted barrel. 1889 'F. ANSTEY' *Pariah* III. viii, The shabby little sham-marble mantle-piece was draped with embroidered cloth. 1909 *Nation* May 153/2 To this agitation we apply the term sham-serious.

Sham, *sb.*[2] *slang.* Short for CHAMPAGNE.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* iv, A bottle of sherry, a bottle of sham, a bottle of port and a shass caffy, it ain't so bad hay, Pen? 1870 M. COLLINS *Vivian* III. xii. 240 Late hours and lots of hiced sham makes a man nervous.

Sham (ʃæm), *v.* [See SHAM *b.*[1]]

†**1.** *trans.* To cheat, trick, deceive, delude with false pretences; to impose upon, take in, hoax. *Obs.*

1677 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i. 44 *Lau.* Why, I'm sure you jok'd upon me, and shamm'd me all night long. *Man.* ..Shamming! What does he mean by't Freeman? *Free.* Shamming, is telling you an insipid, dull Lye, with a dull Face, which the slie Wag the Author only laughs at himself; and making himself believe 'tis a good Jest, puts the Sham only upon himself. 1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* II. Wks. 1720 IV. 42 Sirrah! most audacious rogue! do you sham me? do you think you have your uncle to deal with? 1693 *Humours Town* 69 Their highest Excellence is, to banter the Vintner, to bilk their Lodgings, to sham their Bookseller. 1821 BYRON *To Mr. Murray* IV, So, if *you will, I* shan't be shamm'd.

†**b.** To bring *into, out of* a condition, etc., or to deprive *of* something by 'shamming' or deception. *Obs.*

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 31 (1713) I. 201 These true Protestant Juries have the best luck at Shamming their Friends into Halters, that ever I knew in my Life. 1682 *New News fr. Bedlam* 9 Those Youths, who lately came..To sham us of our Lives and Liberty. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cclii. 220 When they find themselves Fool'd and Shamm'd (as we say) into a Conviction. *a* 1733 J. DUNTON *Life & Err.* (1818) I. iii. 44, I fell into my first amour like a Knight Errant, being purely shammed into it.

†**c.** To put off, 'fob off' with something deceptive or worthless; to get rid of (a person) by some paltry excuse. Also with *off*. *Obs.*

1682 *Tory Plot, or Discov. Design carried on by Addressers* 9 William..was advanced to the Crown, and his Eldest Brother Robert shamm'd off with a Dukedom. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 53 Princes..miss the advantage of being told the truth, and are shamm'd off by a parcel of insinuating Courtiers. 1712 BETTERTON in *Misc. Poems* 248 For Priests with empty thanks are never shamm'd. 1726 M. HENRY *Wks.* (Fullarton) I. 142 Men may be shammed with a frivolous excuse. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) Pref. 21 Seeing then you have thus shammed us off with Counterfeit Coin.

d. ? To make to appear a sham; to rid oneself of (an accusation) by deceit. Also with *off*.

1681 *Trial of S. Colledge* 57 If they can make me a Traytor, they will try it upon others, and so hope to sham off their own Treasons. *Ibid.* 76 They talk up and down the Town as if I did intend to sham the Popish Plot, and to make a Protestant Plot. *Ibid.* 131 When he was told of this, he began to put it off, and to use his own words, had a great mind to sham off the business. 1691 *Providences of God* 124 Edward Ivy had often Conference with Mrs. Collier, and the Popish Priests in Newgate, and had received Money to Sham the Popish Plot and to swear to a Protestant one.

e. To make *up* deceitfully, to 'fake' *up*.

1679 'TOM TICKLEFOOT' *Obs. Trials of Wakeman*, etc. 8 But by all that's good, it was my Old Master Clodpate's disease,..alwayes to Sham up an Evidence when any body had bin with him the Morning before.

†**2.** To impose or attempt to pass off (something) *upon* (a person) by deceit; to palm *off*. *Obs.*

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 68 (1713) II. 174 Then he Shams upon us, that the great Poets could not give Johnson his due Praise. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* Prol. 15 Are Texts, and such exploded Trifles fit T'impose, and sham upon a Jesuit? 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. to Dissenter* 48 To say nothing how Artificially the Writer of that Letter has Shamm'd upon the People his Majesties Act of Grace in favour of the Dissenters, for a Matter Concerted betwixt Them, and the Papists. 1692 — *Fables* clxii. 136 Not..to Sham Fallacyes upon the World for Current Reason. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* 44 Don't go to sham your Stories off upon me. 1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 90 Franciscan Fryars, who never fail to sham them [Hysteric Fits] upon the World for Divine Ecstasies.

†**3.** *intr.* To practise deception or deceit. *Obs.*

1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* III. i. 26 *Malag.* Oh, hang money Sir, your Father was an Alderman. *Sir Nob.* Well, get thee gone for an Arch-wagg—I do but sham all this while. 1682 OLDHAM *Sat. Imit. Juv.* III. Wks. (1703) 434 Tho we say the same, He is believ'd, and we are thought to sham. 1689 PRIOR *Ep. F. Shephard* 171 All your Wits, that flear and sham.

4. *trans.* **a.** To be or to produce a deceptive imitation of; †to pretend falsely to be (a person of a certain rank or character). †*To sham one's glass*: to make a pretence of drinking.

1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* IV. ii, A compound of practical rake and speculative gentleman, who..shams the beau and squire with a whore or chambermaid. *a* 1704 T. BROWN tr. *Æneas Sylvius' Lett.* xlv. Wks. 1709 III. II. 74 Paint and fine Washes sham a complexion, which is none of their own. 1754 CHESTERF. *World* No. 90 ¶ 7 He keeps up his spirits bravely, and never shams his glass. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. i, Why does your master pass only for an ensign?—Now if he had shammed general indeed—. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. x. 190 Tawdry frescoes shamming stonework.

b. To assume the appearance of, counterfeit (a specified condition, action, etc.).

1775 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 44 Shamming a little confusion, I confessed I knew not where it was. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 Read all thy spells, and I will hear, And fold my claws, and sham a tear. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v, Shamming death, '*faisant le mort!*' 1843 F. E. PAGET *Warden of Berkingholt* 246 She held the candle to my face while I was shamming sleep till I began to suspect she was up to me. 1869 'W. M. COOPER' *Flagellation* xxii. 205 Persons shamming an epileptic fit.

c. To 'scamp' (work). *rare.*

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 538 There is great room for the workmen to sham their work, without its being observable in appearance.

5. *intr.* To make false pretences; to pretend to be, do, etc. what one is not, does not, does not mean, etc.; to feign.

a. Followed by an adj. complement.

1787 *Generous Attachment* IV. 155, I preferred this scheme to that of shamming sick, as I looked so well. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. ii, If I had shammed sorry when I heard of old Alexander Marc Antony Anderson's death, I should have been as great a hypocrite as—I shan't say who. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xviii, What did you sham dead for? 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* XXXV. (1889) 352 If you want me for a friend you must not sham stupid.

b. *simply.*

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 169 Wondering within himself whether those who lectured him were such fools as they professed to be, or were only shamming. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* x. 407 He was canting and shamming.

6. Phrase *To sham Abra(ha)m* (orig. *Naut. slang*), to feign sickness: see ABRAHAM-MAN.

1752 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 140/2 As he [capt. Lowry] went along some sailors cry'd out..that He must not sham Abram (a cant sea phrase when a sailor is unwilling to work on pretence of sickness, and used by the captain when Hossack was almost expiring under his blows). 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. World* cxix, The boatswain..swore..that I shammed Abraham merely to be idle. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* vi, It's good enough, and too good, for a set of lubbers, that lie shamming Abraham. 1860 [see ABRAHAM-MAN]. 1863 READE *Hard C.* xxxi. (1868) 265 He's shamming Abraham.

b. Hence *sham-Abra(ha)m* quasi-*sb.*, malingering, deception. Also quasi-*adj.*, hypocritical.

1828 [J. P. COLLIER] *Punch & Judy* 87 None of your sham-Abram. 1840 T. HOOK in *New Monthly Mag.* LVIII. 442 She is all shamabram and humbug before me.

1837 HOOD *Ode to Rae Wilson* 62, I..treat sham Abr'am saints with wicked banters.

Hence † **Shammed** *ppl. a.*, **Sha'mming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

? *c* 1677 *Obscure Prince* in *Roxb. Ballads* (1883) IV. 625 Call't the shamm'd Story of the blackened Box. 1677 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* IV. ii. 66 You noble Wits are so full of shamming, and droling, one knows not where to have you, seriously. 1682 MRS. BEHN *City Heiress* V. i. 50 A Shamming Rogue; the right Sneer and Grin of a dissembling Whig. 1682 *London's Joy & Loyalty* in *Roxb. Ballads* (1883) IV. 632 Now the loud threat'ning Tempest is dispers'd, And all their shamming Plots are quite revers'd. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 11 What glavering shamming toads the rest are.

‖ **Shama**[1] (ʃā'mā). [Hindī *çāmā*.] A cereal cultivated in India, *Panicum frumentaceum* (*colonum*), yielding a millet-like grain used as food. Also *shama millet*.

[*a* 1815 ROXBURGH *Flora Ind.* (1820) I. 307 *Panicum frumentaceum*. R...*Beng.* Shama. *Teling.* Bonta-shama; shamaloo, the grain.] 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Shama*, a species of *Mesembryanthemum*, the seeds of which are used as food by the desert Arabs. 1886 A. H. CHURCH *Food-Grains India* 50 Shama Millet...This millet, sometimes called 'Wild Rice' or 'Jungle Rice', is a poor food.

‖ **Shama**[2] (ʃā'mā). Also **shamah.** [Hindī *çāmā*.] An Indian song-bird, *Cittocincla tricolor*.

1839 JERDON in *Madras Jrnl. Lit. & Sci.* X. 252 *Petrocincla Pandoo*..Indian Rock Thrush—*Shamah*, H. *Ibid.*, The *Shamah* is a rare bird in the southern part of the Peninsula. 1894 *Times* 5 Feb. 4/6 One or two mynahs and shamahs, and a piping crow. 1895 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 5/3 Indian 'shamas' are also in great demand in Germany.

Shamade, obs. form of CHAMADE.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shamade*, a beat of Drum for a Parley. See *Chamade*.

‖ **Shamal** (ʃāmā'l). Also 7 **shemaul.** [Arab. شمال *shamāl* left (hand), north, north wind. (Sometimes confused with SAMIEL.] (See quots.)

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 226 The Periodical and stated Winds of the Gulph are the North-west, by the Inhabitants termed Shemauls, which begin when the Cowshees or South-East leave off. 1901 *Scotsman* 13 Sept. 5/2 The bay suffers only from a swell when the nor'wester known as the Shamal blows.

‖ **Shamalo** (ʃæ'mălō). Also **shamaloo, shamoola.** [Telinga.] = SHAMA[1]. Also *Shamalo-grass*.

[*a* 1815: see SHAMA[1].] 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 113 Panicum frumentaceum, called Shamoola, in the Deccan. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Shamalo-grass*.

Shaman (ʃā'mān, ʃæ'mān), *sb.* (and *a.*). Also 8 **schamane,** 8–9 **schaman,** 9 **shuman.** [a. G. *schamane*, Russian шаманъ *shama'n*, a. Tungusian *samân* (Castren *Tung. Sprachl.*). Cf. F. *chaman*.

The Persian *shemen*, idol, idol temple, sometimes cited as the source, is unconnected. Evidence seems to be wanting for the plausible suggestion that the Mongolian word is an adoption of Chinese *sha mên*, an ordained member of a Buddhist fraternity, a. Skr. *çramaṇa*, Pali *samana* Buddhist monk or mendicant.]

A. *sb.* A priest or priest-doctor among various northern tribes of Asia. Hence applied by extension to similar personages in other parts, esp. a medicine-man of some of the north-western American aborigines. †Formerly *occas.* in wider sense: An adherent of Shamanism.

1698 A. BRAND *Emb. Muscovy into China* 50 If five or six of these Tonguese Families happen to live near one another ..they maintain betwixt them a Shaman, which signifies as much as Sorcerer or Priest. 1706 tr. *Evert Ides' Trav.* vii. 29 Several Tunguzians, amongst which is also their famed Schaman or diabolical artist. 1780 TOOKE *Russia* III. 245

Among all the Schamanes, women are looked upon as beings vastly inferior to men. 1848 S. W. WILLIAMS *Middle Kingdom* II. xviii. 258 The ritual of the Shamans..has been translated by Neumann, a German sinologue. 1868 F. WHYMPER *Trav. Alaska* 255 The Schaman, pronounced exactly like our word showman. 1900 T. ADNEY in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 495 A former chief and medicine-doctor, or shuman. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* x. 199 If the corpse was that of a woman it was prepared for interment by a female shaman. 1910 HADDON *Races of Man* 62 After a death they [the Veddas of Ceylon] perform certain dances and rites through a shaman to the recently departed spirit.

B. *adj.* (or *attrib.*) Of or pertaining to a shaman or to Shamanism.

1780 TOOKE *Russia* III. 243 The Schamane religion is undoubtedly one of the most antient that exists. 1882 LANSDELL *Through Siberia* xxx. (1883) 374 The Russian missionaries..find the conversion of the Shaman Buriats tolerably easy. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 95 The necessary spiritual gifts entitling to the Shaman-office often are bestowed.

Hence †**Shama'nian** *sb.*, a Shamanist; **Shama'nic** *a*, akin to Shamanism.

1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog., Russ. Emp. in Asia* ii. II. 47 The Schamanians even believe that the Burchans, or gods themselves, arose from the general mass of matter and spirit. 1899 *Athenæum* 11 Mar. 303/2 The mental attitude of the composers is shamanic and archaic.

Shamanism (ʃā'mănĭz'm, ʃæ'mănĭz'm). Also 8 schamanism, 9 shahmanism. [f. SHAMAN + -ISM.] The primitive religion of the Ural-Altaic peoples of Siberia, in which all the good and evil of life are thought to be brought about by spirits who can be influenced only by shamans (see prec.); hence applied to similar religions, esp. of North-West American Indians.

1780 TOOKE *Russia* III. 243 Of Schamanism. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 38/2 They [Samoyedes] are heathens, and profess the religion called Shamanism. 1848 S. W. WILLIAMS *Middle Kingd.* II. xviii. 258 The form of Budhism prevailing among the Mongols and Tibetans differs more in its state and power than in its doctrines; it is called Shamanism, or *Hwang kiau*, the Yellow doctrine, from the color of the priestly robes. 1870 DALL *Alaska & Resources* 88 The belief in shamánism is universal among the natives of Alaska, Eskimo as well as Indians. 1875 SAYCE in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 192/2 The earliest religion of Accad was a Shamanism resembling that of the Siberian or Samoyed tribes of to-day. 1906 PETRIE *Relig. Anc. Egypt* i. 3 Others, as the Turanians,..do not adopt the worship of great gods, but deal with a host of animistic spirits, ghosts, devils, or whatever we may call them; and Shamanism or witchcraft is their system for conciliating such adversaries.

So **Sha'manist**, a believer in Shamanism; also *attrib.* or *adj.* **Shamani'stic** *a.*, pertaining to Shamanism. **Sha'manite** = SHAMANIST. **Sha'manize** *v.*, *intr.* [= G. *schamanieren*] to perform the incantations proper to a shaman; *trans.* to imbue with Shamanistic beliefs.

1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* xxi. (1845) 223 The Kamtschatkans..are Shamanists. 1854 LATHAM *Native Races Russ. Emp.* 103 A name which we expect amongst Jews and Mahometans rather than amongst shamanistic Voguls. 1871 MATEER *Travancore* 191 The Shamanites acknowledge the existence of a supreme God but offer him no worship. 1882 LANSDELL *Through Siberia* xxxii. (1883) 405 The people worship the spirits of the mountains, a superstition of the Shamanist Buriats. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 87 Old Russian settlers in those far-off regions have to a high degree become 'Shamanized'. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 522 A Lama disguised as a Shamanist dancer. 1912 *Man* XII. 171 The shamanistic ceremonies of the races occupying the northern parts of the Eurasian continent.

‖ **Shamba** (ʃæ'mbă). *East African.* [Swahili.] A cultivated plot of ground.

1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* ii. 51 But the highest ambition of a Mgwana [freeman of Zanzibar] is to have a house and shamba or garden of his own. 1901 *Geog. Jrnl.* Nov. 551 The greater number of whom [manumitted slaves in East Africa] have settled on 'shambas' upon conditions entered into with the Arab cultivators.

Shambe, obs. form of SHAWM *sb.*

Shamble (ʃæ'mb'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 scomul, -el, scoemel, sceamel, -ol, -ul, scæmol, scamul, -ol, 1–2 scamel, 2 scæmel, 3 scheomel, schamel, 4 schamil, shamyll, 4–5 shamel, 5 schamel, -ylle, sh(e)amle, schamylle, shaumelle, 5–6 shamell, 6 (9 *dial.*) shammel, shamil, shamwelle, shammoulle. *β.* 5 sheamble, 5–6 schambylle, 6 *pl.* sh-, chambulles, shambylles, 7 shambel, 6– shamble. [OE. *sc(e)amel* masc., = OS. (*fôt*) *skamel* (MLG. *schemel*, MDu. *schamel*, *schemel*, mod.Fris. *skammel*), OHG. (*fuog*) *scamel*, *-il* (MHG. *schamel*, *schemel*, mod.G. *schemel*); a Com. WGer. adoption of L. *scamellum* dim. of *scamnum* bench. From LG. is prob. ON. *skemill* (Da. *skammel*), whence SCAMBLE *sb.*]

†**1.** A stool, footstool. Chiefly in fig. context.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cix. 1 Oð ðæt ic sette feond ðine scomul [*scabellum*] fota ðinra. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 166 Vor þi alle þe halewen makeden of al þe worlde ase ane stol [*MS. Cleopatra* scheomel; *MS. Titus* schamel] to hore uet, uorto arechen þe heouene. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcviii. 5 Heghis þe lord oure god, and loutis þe shamyll of his fete: for it is haly. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/1 A Schamylle (*MS. Addit.* Schambylle), vbi A stule (*MS. Addit.* Macellum).

2. †**a.** In OE., a table or counter for exposing goods for sale, counting money, etc. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 He þa ineode on hæt halize Salemannes templ, & þa ut awearp þa sceomolas para cypemanna. 1289 in *Wood's MS. C.* 1. lf. 36 Shopa cum sponda quae dicitur schamel [in the Bucherow].

b. *spec.* A table or stall for the sale of meat.

α. c 1305 *Of Men Lif*, etc. xv, in *E. E. P.* (1862) 155 Hail be ȝe potters [? bochers] wiþ ȝur bole ax..ȝe stondiþ at þe schamil [*printed* sthamil in *Rel. Ant.* II. 176], brod ferlich berne. 1548 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 191 [John Spiringe and Peter Leighe hold a] shamell [there, and render per ann. xxiiij s.]. *Ibid.* 201 [John Kape holds a meat] shamell [in Fore strete].

β. 1577 V. LEIGH *Surv.* D iij b, And in like maner of profites of Bothes, standinges, shambles and tolles or other profits of a wekely market..kept within. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* 346 *Shambles*, Butchers' benches or stalls. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* i. 11 The form that served The world for signs of beauty, parcell'd out A carcase on the shambles. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Shambles*, portable covered stalls, set up in a market-place for the sale of meat. Not applied to the market itself. Precisely the same erection for the sale of any other article would be a 'standing'.

fig. 1830 J. MILNE *Widow & Son* ii. (1851) 155, I mean to give a short preamble Because it tallies with the common run Of tales laid on the literary shamble.

3. *pl.* A place where meat (or occas. fish) is sold, a flesh- or meat-market. ? Now *local.*

a 1410– [see FLESH-SHAMBLES]. 1484 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 229 The twychell betwix þe Shaumelles and þe Draperie. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 170 In vico de Worshyp-strete alias shamellys sive bocherye. *Ibid.*, In vico vocato le shamelys. 1554 *Roll of Totnes Guild Merchants*, Received ffor the fishe shamells at the hands of James Pelliton, beeyng lett unto hym at ferme, liij[s] viij[d]. 1574 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 424 To send ther fleash..to the fleash shammoulles ther to be sold.

β. 1477 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 312 If ony man..sill fleshe within the citie..till it come to the Kyngs sheambles. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 55 Sent Martyns at the chambulles end, sent Nicolas in the chambulles, and sent Ewyns. *Ibid.* 58 The viij. day of March [1549] a bucher of sent Nicolas shambulles was put on the pyllery. *Ibid.* 77 Item the xvij. day of May [1553] the market in Newgate market was removyd unto..the shambylles where sent Nicolas church sometyme was. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Carnarium*, a lardar: the shambles: flesh meate. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 251 (Brandl), In S. Nicholas shambles, ther is inough. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 10 They haue Shambles of men and womens flesh, ioynted and cut in seuerall Morsels. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxiv. 137 This City hath an hundred and three score Butchers shambles, and in each of them an hundred stalls. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 292/2 At the Shambles, where they [*sc.* Butchers] sell their meat. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. 1. 31 Dogs and Cats are killed purposely for the Shambles. 1725 WATTS *Logic* (1736) 319 Raw Meat is bought in the Shambles. 1835 *Munic. Corp. Rep.* IV. 2627 (Chester), The Shambles are let weekly upon the market day, in standings.

b. Construed as a singular; also in sing. form.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 18/31 V[e] shamble, *macellum*. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 87 There is the Pallace of a Gentleman, who proving a Traytor, the State..turned the same into a shambles, and some upper chambers to places of judgement. The fish market lies by this shambles. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. i, I stink like a stal-fish shambles. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 64 He was called of many Macellinus, of the Latine word *Macellum* a shambles, or butchery.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1608 [see FLESH-SHAMBLES b]. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* Pref. C 2, As..he would make in this Kingdome a spirituall shambles of your soules, by corrupt doctrines: so..he labours to make a Temporall shambles and market of your bodies, by selling you for nothing, and thrusting you vpon the Ciuill sword. 1843 WHITTIER *Massach. to Virginia* 50 Watching round the shambles where human flesh is sold.

4. *pl.* The place where animals are killed for meat; a slaughter-house.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* x. 1–5 They bee called to their foode, and not to the fleshe shambles to be killed. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, I..fat no beasts, To feede the shambles. 1726 SWIFT *It cannot rain but it pours*, A Flock of Sheep, that were driving to the Shambles. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxi, He was felled like an ox in the butcher's shambles. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* I. ii. (1876) 65 Savage though the custom, it smells not so foully of the shambles.

b. Construed as a singular; also in sing. form.

1696 BP. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* xxx. (1697) 598 The vast number of Beasts that were slain..at the Sanctuary..would have made it smell like a Shambles. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xv, Like the disgusting refuse of a shambles. 1885 M. BRIDGES *Pop. Mod. Hist.* 433 Nobles, priests and women were slaughtered like sheep in a shamble.

5. *transf.* and *fig.* A place of carnage or wholesale slaughter; a scene of blood. Chiefly *pl.* construed as *sing.*; rarely in sing. form.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 12 b, The Infidell-Romaines.. shall inuade thee, and make thy Citty..a shambles of dead bodies. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* v. iv. 34 If I scape Monsieur's 'pothecary shops, Foutre for Guise's shambles! 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 170 The Bodies of Common-wealths are already turned into Skeletons, the Cities into Sepulchres, the Fields into Schambles. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* 1. 48 That it may appeare indeed, what bloud-hounds the Papists are, what a Shambles their Church is, consult a grand Witnesse of their own. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* (1711) 33/2 Earth turns an hideous Shamble, a Lake of Blood. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* xviii. Wks. (1813) 139 When a person or his opinion is made the jest of the mob or his back the shambles of the executioner. 1794 COLERIDGE *Robespierre* I. i. 79 I've fear'd him, since his iron heart endured To make of Lyons one vast human shambles. 1868 FARRAR *Seekers* I. iii. 51 A brutal..barbarity..often turned a house into the shambles of an executioner. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* ix. (1902) 177 What a shambles the deep valley between Inkweloane and Spitz Kop would have been!

6. *Mining.* See quot. 1819. Also SHAMMEL *sb.*

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2102 A Tin-shaft..which we sink down about a fathom, and then leave a little long square place, termed a Shamble, and so continue sinking from cast to cast. 1819 *T. Mortimer's Commerc. Dict., Shambles*, among miners, a sort of niches or landing-places, left at such distances in the adits of mines, that the shovel-men may conveniently throw up the ore from shamble to shamble, till it comes to the top of the mine. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Shambles*, shelves or benches, from one to the other of which successively ore is thrown in raising it to the level above, or to the surface.

7. *dial. pl.* 'The frame of wood that hangs over a shaft-horse in a cart' (Halliwell 1847).

[1596: see *shamble-stave* in 9]. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 257 Having also a head of boards, and shambles over the thills. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 219.

8. ? A shoal. Perh. only *pl.* the name of a shoal off Portland Bill (hence Cook's use in quot. 1769).

1769 COOK *Jrnl. 1st Voy.* (1771) 70 About three miles N.E. from Portland [in the Pacific] are several shoals, which we called the Shambles. 1774 J. HUTCHINS *Dorset* I. 587 The Shambles, called by Hollingshed the *Skingles*, is a bank of sand, lying about four miles E. by S. from the Bill [Portland]. 1800 C. STURT in *Naval Chron.* (1801) IV. 394 Carrying me dead upon the Shambles [off Portland], where the sea was running tremendously high.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shamble door*, *-fly*, *-house*, *-oozing*, *warden*, also *shambles-blood*, *shambles keeping*; *shamble-seeking*, *-smelling* adjs.; †**shamble-hook**, a hook for hanging meat upon; **shamble(s)-meat**, butcher's meat; **shamble-stave**, one of the bars forming 'shambles' (sense 7).

1803 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* I. 325 A compost made of *shambles-blood and saw-dust. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Cleopatra* II. vii, No lamb skipping at the *shamble doors can be more innocent of its doom than is Queen Cleopatra. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, Those *Shamble flies Which Butchers boyes snap betweene sleepe and waking. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 313/2 A *Shamble Hook. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. xviii, [These] left the murderer leisure..to render the insurances on the life of the latter less open to suspicion than if effected immediately on her entrance into that *shamble-house. 1559 FECKNAM in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. ix. 26 There was no open Flesh eatinge, nor *Shambles kepeinge, in the Lent and Daies prohibitid. 1618 *Licence to eat Flesh* in *Penny Mag.* (1836) V. 259 Forbidding them all manner of *shamble-meates whatsoever. 1736 DRAKE *Ebor.* I. vi. 219 This city is as well supplied with all sorts of shambles-meat as most markets in England. 1891 *Reports Provinc.* (E. D. D.), I mind the time when old people [in Devonshire] said, 'It's more'n a month since we had any shammel-mate'. 1894 LEE-HAMILTON *Sonn. Wingless Hours* 102 A Paris gutter of the good old times, Black and putrescent in its stagnant bed, Save where the *shamble oozings fringe it red. 1638 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* i. 122 You.. might..Scorne These *Shamble-seeking birds. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yeare* B 4, In *shamble-smelling roomes. 1596 MASCALL *Bk. Cattle* II. 120 Preparing the cart...Al the *shamble staues to be made of good dry and tough ash, which are to beare a burthen from the thyller. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1095 (Axbridge), The *Shamble Wardens have the inspection of meat, fish and butter. *Ibid.* 1370 (Wells), Two officers, named Shamble Wardens are appointed..to inspect the meat.

Shamble (ʃæ'mb'l), *sb.*[2] [f. SHAMBLE *v.*[2]]

1. A shambling gait.

1828 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iii, His coronation pace degenerated into a strut, and then into a shamble. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 9 The shamble of the elephant. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iii. 34 His once firm and stately stride had given place to what he called 'a species of half-pay shamble'. 1887 MARY E. WILKINS *Humble Rom., Old Lady Pingree* 53 She..went across the room with a long shamble.

†**2.** *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Shamble-legg'd*, *Shake your Shambles*, haste, begon.

Sha'mble, *a. rare.* [Prob. an attributive use of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]; the expression *shamble legs* prob. meant originally 'legs straddling like those of the trestles of a shamble' (SHAMBLE *sb.*[1] 2 b). Cf. WFris. *skammels* (pl. of *skammel* shamble, board on trestles) used in the sense 'legs, esp. when badly formed' (Dijkstra *Fries. Woordenboek*).] Shambling, ungainly, awkward; ill-shaped, wry, distorted; also *Comb.*

1607 G. WILKINS *Mis. Inforced Marr.* II. B 4 b, A leane fellowe, with sunke eyes, and shamble legges. 1639 [J. TAYLOR (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 100 He had a cleane Legge and a handsome Foote; but thou hast neither, a very shamble-shinne, and hast a foote of the slovings Last. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Shamble-Legg'd*, one that goes wide, and shuffles his Feet about. 1709 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Man's Bewitched* III, Death, you shamble-ham'd Dog! I'll beat your head off. 1785 R. FORBES *Ulysses Answ.* 24 Thersites, Wha for's ill-scrappit tongue, An' shamble chafts, got on his back Puss wi' the nine tails hung. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xii, Butchers' ponies, and rough-coated, shamble-kneed cobs, just up from grass. 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws* xxvii. 303 'Haud up, ye shammel-shankit brute,' he continued, as his horse stumbled forward.

Shamble (ʃæ'mb'l), *v.*[1] *rare.* [f. SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To cut up or slaughter as in the shambles. †*To shamble forth*: to cut up and dispose of (a corpse). Also **Sha'mbled** *ppl. a.*

1601 R. YARINGTON *Two Trag.* II. vi. E 2 b, [*Stage direction*] Merry begins to cut the body...*Enter* Truth. Ye glorious beames [of the moon]..Why doost thou lend assistance to this wretch, To shamble forth with bolde audacitie His lims, that beares thy makers semblance! 17.. *Remonstr. Prot. agst. Papists* in *Somers Tracts* (1748) II. 248 (*bis*), As if their Intention were to convert the World, and not to Kill the King, Garble the Parliament, Shamble all good

and sober Protestants of every Party. 1869 Ld. Lytton *Orval* v. ii. 249 It was a desperate sortie. *The Count.* Desperate? ay, They shambled us like sheep. 1900 *Daily News* 26 May 3/3 To..slaughter the British soldiers like shambled deer.

Shamble (ʃæ·mb'l), *v.*2 [Prob. f. Shamble *a.* Cf. Fris. *skammelje*, 'to walk irregularly, esp. with badly-formed legs' (Dijkstra).] *intr.* To go with an awkward ungainly gait, to walk awkwardly or unsteadily, usually with adv. as *to shamble along*

1681 [see Shambling *vbl. sb.*]. 1690– [see Shambling *ppl. a.*]. 1717 Garth *Ovid's Met.* xiv. *Vertumnus & Pomona* 36 The heedless lout comes shambling on. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* II. i. 233 Dossennus slip-shod shambles o'er the Scene. 1764 Gray *Jemmy Twitcher* 9 He shambles and straddles so oddly. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiv, Jinks..shambled to a seat, and proceeded to write it down. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* xlix. II. 54 Every morning he shambled across from the deanery to the Cathedral. 1902 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 83 He turned and shambled down the passage.

b. of an animal.

1859 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXVI. 244/2 The bears of the north have scented their quarry—they come near you and nearer, shambling and rolling their bulk. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* xxi 439 Each [camel] grunting and grumbling as he shambles along.

c. quasi-*trans.* To make (one's way) or move (one's feet) shamblingly.

1847 Lytton *Lucretia* II. vii, The sweep..let himself out, and shambled his way to his crossing. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 250 Another shambles his feet along the pavement.

Shamble, obs. form of Shawm.

Shambling (ʃæ·mblin), *vbl. sb. rare.* [f. Shamble *v.*2 + -ing 1.] An awkward motion in walking or progression.

1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* I. ii, By that shambling in his walk, it should be my rich old banker Gomez. 1862 F. W. Robinson *Owen* IV. ix, Presently he heard the rustling of her dress, and the shambling of her feet across the narrow landing-place. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* iv. 116 Think of the weary shambling through the mud and rain.

Shambling (ʃæ·mblin), *ppl. a.* [f. Shamble *v.*2 + -ing 2.]

1. That shambles or is characterized by an awkward, irregular gait or motion.

1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* II. i, One pair of shambling legs, with two splay feet. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* v. v. 67 A long, loose, shambling sort of a Horse. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 15 July (1815) 249 Mounted on a tall, meagre, raw-boned, shambling grey gelding. 1798 M. Pilkington *Dict. Painters* (new ed.) 791 [Francis Heyman is] easily distinguishable by the large noses and shambling legs of his figures. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xx, A shambling pot-boy. 1838 — *Nich. Nick.* xxxiv. Who..made a great many shambling bows. 1880 A. H. Huth *Buckle* II. 72 His gait was stooping, and his walk rather shambling.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Often of metre and style, etc.

1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Rosanna* iii, Upon the profits of this place, Simon contrived to live in a shambling sort of way. 1875 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* 283 The slippery style and shambling license which we pardon in Decker. 1882 Stevenson in *Longman's Mag.* I. 78 He crams all this matter, tail foremost, into a single shambling sentence. 1887 Saintsbury *Elizab. Lit.* iv. 151 A third [characteristic]..makes them.. tedious reading, independently of their shambling metre.

2. Of jointed tools: Rickety in action.

1829 Hogg *Sheph. Cal.* I. 45 A pair o' shambling shears. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 204 The brass articles [tongs]..are liable to get loose and shambling.

Hence **Sha·mblingly** *adv.*

1872 *Daily News* 2 Oct. 5 A grimy miner..slouched shamblingly homeward. 1894 Sala *London up to date* vi. 73 On rare occasions I do contrive to crawl shamblingly through the streets for half an hour or so.

†**Sha·mbo.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 8 **shamboe,** 9 **shambeau.** [? Corruption of Chamois.] *Attrib.* in *shambo leather,* chamois leather (Chamois 2). Also in *shambo skin.*

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 310 Gloves of shambo lether the dozen pair xlviii s. *a* 1706 in *J. Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* I. 28 No windy flowrish'd flying Feathers, No sweet permusted shambo Leathers. 1755 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 154, 5 large Shamboe skins for lyning breeches and pockets 7*s* 6*d*. 1807 J. Hall *Trav. Scot.* II. 516 The miniature figure of a man made of stuffed shambeau leather.

Shambo, -ok, obs. forms of Sjambok.

1810 *Barrington's Voy. N. S. Wales* I. 186 These sort of whips, which they call shambos, are most horrid instruments.

†**Shambrier.** *Obs.* Also 6 **shambriere,** 9 **shammbrie.** [a. F. *chambrière,* etc.] A long lash used by the master of a manège.

1667 W. Cavendish *Meth. Dressing Horses* 182 The Shambriere is too Dull a thing; and so are all Whips, Hand-whips, and all. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Rope,* When they begin to..teach him to flee from the Shambrer [*later edd. corrected* shambrier], and not to gallop fastly or incompactly. 1852–63 Burn *Technol. Dict.* (ed. 4), *Shambrier,* (long leathern thong), *chambrière.* 1891 Flügel *Eng.-Germ. Dict.* (ed. 4), *Shammbrie.*

Shambrogue, obs. form of Shamrock.

†**Shambrough.** *Her. Obs.*—° (See quots.)

1780 Edmondson *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Shambroughs,* a kind of shoe. [But the engraving represents a ship.] 1828–40 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Shambroughs,* a kind of ship. 1847 *Gloss. Heraldry.*

Shambuc, obs. form of Sjambok.

1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 141 The cow-skin,..of the West Indies, or the shambuc of the Cape.

Shambulle, -ylle, obs. forms of Shamble *sb.*1

Sha·m-da·mn, *a.* [f. Sham *sb.*1 + Damn *v.*] The distinctive epithet of an inferior kind of scrap-iron, used for making gun-barrels. Hence of fire-arms: Of wretched quality, 'shoddy'.

1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 197 Sham damn iron is similar in nature to brass, a metal with fibres certainly, but they are like the fibres of willow compared to oak... All slave gun-barrels are made of it. 1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1866) I. 818/1 These [pieces of scrap-iron] are sorted and used in preparing iron of various qualities, known as wire-twist,.. twopenny, or Wednesbury-skelp, sham-damn-skelp. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 63/2 A cheap, sham-dam arm should not be given to a boy, for it may prove his executioner.

Shame (ʃēim), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 scamu, sceamu, 1–4 scame, 2–3 same, 3 seame, 3–4 scam, ssame, 3–5, 6 *Sc.* scham, 3–5, 6–7 *Sc.* schame, (4 chame), *Sc.* schaym(e, 4, 6 sham, 6 *Sc.* schamme, scheyme, (schaheme), 3– shame. *β.* 1 scomu, scomo, sceomu, 2–3 scome, 3 sceome, some, 3–4 scheome, schom, 3–5 schome, shome. [Com. Teut.: OE. *sc(e)amu, sc(e)ɵmu,* corresponds to OFris. *scome,* OS. *skama,* MDu. *schame* (mod.Du. *schaam-* in compounds), OHG. *scama* (MHG., mod.G. *scham*), ON. *skɵmm* with unexplained gemination (Sw., Da. *skam*), Goth. **skāma* (inferred from the derivative *skaman* refl. to be ashamed):—OTeut. **skamō.*

From the Teut. root **skam-* are also OHG. *scant* ashamed (:—**skamdo-*), Goth. *skanda,* OHG. *scanda* (G. *schande*) fem., disgrace, OE. *scand* masc., infamous man, *scand* fem., infamous woman, disgrace, *scyndan* (:—**skamdjan*) Shend *v.*

Outside Teut. no root of corresponding form and sense has been found, but many scholars assume a pre-Teut. **skem-,* variant of **kem-* to cover (Teut. **hem-*: *ham-* as in Hame1), 'covering oneself' being the natural expression of shame.]

I. 1. The painful emotion arising from the consciousness of something dishonouring, ridiculous, or indecorous in one's own conduct or circumstances (or in those of others whose honour or disgrace one regards as one's own), or of being in a situation which offends one's sense of modesty or decency.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P. 844 *Pudor,* scomo. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 9 Ðu inginnas mið sceoma [*cum rubore*] þæt hlæstmesto stoue gehalda. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 7 Ah þe schulde scheomien..3ef þu scheome cuðest þat þulli mot haldest wið a 3ung meiden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 349 Flesses fremeðe and safte same boðen he felten on here lichame. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 240 Alle shame and vergoyne redowblith in me. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 114 You will but make it blush, And glow with shame of your proceedings, Hubert. 1623 Fletcher & Rowley *Maid in Mill* I. iii, But for my part (in all humility And with no little shame) I ask your pardons. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 114 ¶ 4 Shame of Poverty makes Laertes lanch into unnecessary Equipage. 1842 Tennyson *Ld. of Burleigh* 63 As it were with shame she blushes. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 240 Shame at the evil which sin is, works repentance.

Personified. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 22 Lamenting Sorrow did in darknesse lye, And Shame his vgly face did hide from liuing eye. 1742 Gray *Eton* 64 Pallid Fear, And Shame, that sculks behind.

b. *pl.*

1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* viii. 152 Being free from many of the usual small shames, petty ends, trivial vanities.

c. *Sense of shame*: the consciousness of this emotion, guilty feeling; also, the right perception of what is improper or disgraceful (cf. 2).

1647 C. Harvey *Schola Cordis* xv. 29 Untill (the sense of shame Makes me contemne my self-dishonour'd name. 1700 Dryden *Cinyras & Myrrha* 307 Another, and another Night she came; For frequent Sin had left no Sense of Shame. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. i. 11 All but those who.. have..lost their sense of shame. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* IV. 330 And full of cowardice and guilty shame, I grant in her some sense of shame, she flies. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xiii. 321 Under a keen sense of shame, there is a strong desire for concealment.

d. *Past shame, dead to shame,* no longer capable of feeling shame, grown callous to shame.

1509 [see Past *prep.* 3]. 1647 Hexham I. s. v., He is past shame. 1780 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 325 His wife and her sister are not great enough or little enough to be dead to shame.

2. Fear of offence against propriety or decency, operating as a restraint on behaviour; modesty, shamefastness. *Without shame,* shameless(ly.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 342 In habit maad with chastitee and shame Ye wommen shul apparaille yow. 1576 Gascoigne *Grief of Joye* IV. xxxv. Wks. 1910 II. 555 The darksome nyght, sharpe enemye to shame, By candles light, betrayethe many a dame. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 285 Haue you no modesty, no maiden shame, No touch of bashfulnesse? 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 131 Discouering those parts which shame bids vs hide. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* IV. viii. (1733) 97 A Debtor that hath neither the Shame nor the Conscience to restore what he borrowed. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xii. § 10 Where robberies are frequent and unpunished robberies are committed without shame. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 45 To infuse into them that divine fear, which we call shame. *Mod.* I am not surprised at his request; he is quite without shame.

Personified. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3058 And grauntid hir.. That Shame, bicause she is honest, Shal keper of the roser be. 1754 Gray *Poesy* 64 Her track, where'er the Goddess roves, Glory pursue, and generous Shame.

3. Disgrace, ignominy, loss of esteem or reputation.

a 990 Cynewulf *Crist* 1274 Hi þær scoma mæste dreoxað. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 To..kepen us from hearm and scome. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 327 Schame mote þu fonge & on hiȝe rode anhonge. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. iv. 28 For to sauen hemself from schome and from harme. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1028 Thour out the worl oure shame is kid so wyde. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xvi. 52 Therfore beare thine owne shame. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 70 Free from these slanders, and this open shame. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 14 Men, to avoid the shame of one villainy, are sometimes guilty of a greater. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 199 By once inflicting shame on a criminal, we for ever remove that fear of it, which is one very strong preservative against doing evil. 1845 Sarah Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 194 After such high-raised expectations, the result was shame and ignominy. 1859 Tennyson *Enid* 101 Far better were I laid in the dark earth..Than that my lord thro' me should suffer shame.

b An instance or piece of disgrace.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 8 (Bodley MS.) Teonen þolien, & gromen & scheomen. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 589 So fil it as fortune hym aughte a schame. *a* 1470 Hardyng *Chron.* cxiv. xviii, Thus synnes olde make shames come full newe. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 99 Though..euery death were followed with a thousand shames. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 72 Let his shames quickely Driue him to Rome. 1633 Ld. Brooke *Poems, Treat. Warres* vii. 71 So be the Shames of Peace, the Pride of Warre. 1880 M'Carthy *Own Times* IV. 32 The calamities and shames of 1865 might have been avoided. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* i, The name of her sister Drusilla had been already stained with a thousand shames.

c. *spec.* Violation of a woman's honour, loss of chastity. †*To do* (*a*) *shame,* to offer violence (to). *Child, son of shame,* a child born out of wedlock.

c 1205 Lay. 12101 Melga nom Oriene..& scome hire bihedde & ladde heo to his bedde. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 488 That al here lyf ne don nat but asayen How manye wemen they may don a schame. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. v. 13 After that foster fowle he fiercely rid, To bene auenged of the shame, he did To that faire Damzell. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 140 Is't not a kinde of Incest, to take life From thine owne sisters shame? 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 2 My nurse..bred me up very carefully with her own son, and with another son of shame like me. 1813 Byron *Giaour* 421 And every woe a tear can claim, Except an erring sister's shame. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dan.* ii, A child of shame, deserted by its father and mother. 1833 Tennyson *Sisters* 8 She mix'd her ancient blood with shame. 1864—*Aylmer's Field* 687 The poor child of shame.

†d. *Shames death* (*deid, dede,* etc.), a shameful death. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1619 He suar his ath þat þai suld all thole schammes deid. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 1133 God yeve yow bothe on shames deeth to dyen! *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1823 God gyf the schames dedd. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7829 þai had aftir an yuel spede, Shames deed or outelawde. 16.. *Sir John Butler* iv. in Child *Ballads* III. 330/1 A shames death may hee dye!

†e. Infliction of disgrace, injurious language or conduct. (Cf. the phrases in 11.) *Obs.*

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark xii. 4 Mið scomum miclum to-ȝiwoihtun [*contumeliis affecerunt*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 108 In his earen he hefde,..al þe schorn, & alle þe schoemen þet earen muhte iheren. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 300 b, Than began all the multytude with moost shame and abhomynacyon..to spyt in thy blessed face.

†**4.** What is morally disgraceful or dishonourable; baseness in conduct or behaviour. *To do shame,* to do something disgraceful or wicked.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25407 Ken us lauerd, for þi nam, Forsak bat sin and scam. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 295 Men may wel often fynde A lordes sone do shame and vileynye. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13704 He cast hym by course.. To venge of his vilany & his vile schame. *a* 1520 Dunbar *'Be ȝe ane luvar'* 6 Be layth alway to do amiss or schame. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 17 If that degenerous vice possess thee, hide thyself in the shadow of thy shame, and pollute not noble society.

5. Used predicatively (without article) for: A fact or circumstance which brings disgrace or discredit (*to* a person, etc.); matter for severe reproach or reprobation. Now *poet.*

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 100 Micel hynd and sceamu [*uerecundia*] hyt is menn nelle wesan þæt þæt he ys. *c* 1200 Ormin 11956 Forr þatt wass, alls he wisste itt wel, Hiss aȝhenn shame & shande. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 72 It is schame to written it but more to done it in dede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 505 And shame it is, if a preest take keep, A shiten shepherde and a clene sheep. *c* 1475 *Ranf Coilȝear* 87 For first to lofe and syne to lak, Peter! it is schame. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 125 Thys ys not only grete hurte to the commyn wele, but also grete schame and dyshonowre to our cuntrey. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II,* II. i. 238 Now afore heauen, 'tis shame such wrongs are borne In him a royall Prince. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 78 Truths..That 'tis our shame and mis'ry not to learn. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xl, It were shame to our profession were we to suffer it. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xlviii. 11 She..holds it sin and shame to draw The deepest measure from the chords. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* v, Some lads there are, 'tis shame to say, That only court to thieve.

b. Similarly *a shame, a great shame.* Now common in colloq. use.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 28 Which were a schame unto his trowthe. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 27 Hit was a gret schame to all hom þat werne gret clerkes. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 16 b, If it be a shame for..a pleadar of causes to be ignorant of the lawe wherein he dealeth, a greater shame is it for a professor of husbandry, to be vnskilful in the ground whereon his whole trade lyeth. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 36 'Tis a foul shame that you should be last in returning to a sence of your duty. 1662–3 Pepys *Diary* 19 Jan., They..pay fifteen or twenty sometimes per cent. for their money which is a most horrid shame. 1799 Ht. Lee *Canterb. T., Frenchman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 199 What a shame yon pretty cot should be suffered to go to ruin! 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. v, It was a burning shame to see such a waste of provisions. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxix, I envy you the concatenation, Colonel—it is a shame to me not to have drawn the same conclusion. 1858 S. Brooks *Gord. Knot* xvi. 119 'It's a —— shame', jerked out Mr. Spenser. 1866

GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxii, It's a sin and a shame. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 166 George said it was a wicked shame of Mrs. G.

c. Occas. in non-predicative use: A disgraceful thing, something to be ashamed of. *poet.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxi. 7 Into my deeds to prye, To find out shames and idle houres in me. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* li. 7 Shall he for whose applause I strove..See with clear eye some hidden shame And I be lessen'd in his love? 1855 — *Maud* III. iv, A peace that was full of wrongs and shames.

6. A person or thing that is a cause or source of disgrace. Const. *to*, *of*, †*on*.

a 1585 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 99 That only I..should become a plague to my selfe and a shame to womankind. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iv. 31 You Shames of Rome. 1675 J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* xiii. (1732) 165 It may be this Day you had been a Terror to your selves, a Shame to your Relations. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 76 Environ'd round with Natures shames and Ills, Black Heaths, wild Rocks, bleak Crags, and naked Hills. 1709–11 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 694 Erasmus, that great injur'd name, (The glory of the Priesthood, and the shame!). 1757 GRAY *Bard* 87 Ye towers of Julius, London's lasting shame. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 113 Colleges of Agriculture, reared in those Wastes which are now a shame on their Country. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 287 Nature casts him off, who is her shame.

b. *colloq.* A thing which is shockingly ugly or indecent, or of disgracefully bad quality.

1764 GRAY *Jemmy Twitcher* 8 His nose is a shame,—and his eyes are so lewd! 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, Luckie Finniston sent up three [hens] that were a shame to be seen. 1880 TENNYSON *Village Wife* vii, An' 'e bowt little statutes all-naïkt an' which was a shaame to be seen.

7. *concr.* The privy members or 'parts of shame'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 942 (Gr.), Het heora sceome þeccan frea frumhrægle. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 470/23 *Prepitia*, scama, þa wæpenlican limo. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 351 Đo gunen he same sriden, And limes in leues hiden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2026 His midelst þat hight cam, Bihild, and sagh his fader schame. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 86 Other [women] cast vp their clothes, & openly discouer and bewray their shame. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 3 Then fig-tree fannes uppon their shame they wore. 1611 BIBLE *Rev.* xvi. 15 Least hee walke naked, and they see his shame. [1795 tr. *Thunberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. 78 The Hottentots universally wore a bag just before the parts of shame.]

II. Phrases.

8. *To have shame*: to be ashamed, feel ashamed. Const. *of*, inf., *that*. Now *poet.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. § 1 Hi habbaþ sceame þæs welan ȝif hi ne beoð swa æþele on ȝebyrdum swa hi woldon. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 And þere mide hine aleseð of scome þe he habben sculde ȝif he heo ne ȝef. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 535 Sic schent and schame at hart had he. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1014 Alswa had he schame to tell quhy [etc.]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xii. 133 Sche had gret schame, that sche hadde a Child. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 30 þat tay haue shame of þair faute. 1842 TENNYSON *Vision of Sin* iv. vi, Sit thee down, and have no shame, Cheek by jowl, and knee by knee.

9. *To think shame*, to be ashamed. (Occas. *to think it shame.*) Const. *of*, *for*, inf., or *that*. . .

†a. The early examples belong to the impersonal THINK *v.*, const. *dative* (*him* etc. *thinketh shame*). *Obs.* b. In the 15th c. this construction gave place to that in which the verb is the personal THINK *v.*[2] Now somewhat *arch.*

a. *c* 1205 LAY. 28850 For mucchel scome heom þuhte þat wepmen heom ne rohte. *a* 1300 [see THINK *v.*[1] B. 2 a]. *a* 1400 *St. Alexius* 5 (Vernon MS.), To seruen god þhuȝte him no schome.

b. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 517 And for hys wrang reyff othir he sall think schame Or de tharfor. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. cxi, And then eleven great Stars thought it no shame To couch before me who admired them. 1724–7 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* xv, I trow the man thocht mekle schame. 1791 [see THINK *v.*[2] B. 1 c]. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix, Thinkna ye shame o' yoursells, to come here..to frighten a lone widow woman? 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 187 Men thought it shame to dwell at such a time under the shadow of a house.

10. *To take shame.* †a. To be disgraced, incur disgrace (*obs.*). b. To conceive shame, feel ashamed; to accept blame or disgrace as merited; to acknowledge that one is in fault. More fully *to take shame to* (*unto*, *upon*) *oneself.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810 323 Grete pite it was, þat þe hede of Cristendam Suld for any trespas take so foule a scham. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxii. (Percy Soc.) 156, I was not proude, I toke of him no shame. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 36, I doe repent me, as it is an euill, And take the shame with ioy. 1607 B. BARNES *Divils Charter* I. iii. B 2, Take to thee Gismond both the skorne and shame. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 P 3, I take shame upon myself for this Crime. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s. v., I take shame to my self, that, *J'avoue à ma honte, que.* 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, I take shame to say, that [etc.]. 1869 GOULBOURN *Purs. Holiness* x. 91 So long as they take shame to themselves for the evil which is in them.

†11. *To do* (a person) *shame*: to inflict injury or dishonour, offer reproach or obloquy (see also 3 c). Also *to say* or *speak* (one) *shame*; *to say* or *speak shame of*, *on*, *by*. Also with *a* and pl. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 45 *Nobis contumeliam facis* us sceoma þu does. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 51 Alle ðe scames and ðe bismeres ðe hie arrer him hadde idon. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 349 Ah gað ȝet & seggeð scheome bi ure undeadliche godes. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 363 Yet þu me seyst an oþer schome þat ich an on Myn eye lome. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3239 Hii þoȝte to do þis lond ssame. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 467 Ne a trewe louere may me nat blame Thaw that I speke a fals louere sum schame. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xxvii. 457 The letter spak shame by her and by sir launcelot. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* xi. 18 A prynce shal stoppe him, to do him a shame. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 97 If thou..teach thy hastie spleene to do me shame. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. i. 81 Why giue you me this shame? 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xx. 34 Hee was grieued for Dauid, because his father had done him shame.

12. *To put to shame*: to bring into disgrace, bring disgrace upon; also *fig.* to outshine, eclipse. Similarly, *to bring*, †*shape*, †*turn to shame.* Also †*to go to shame*, to be ruined or spoilt.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 522 Hwenne þu hauest ido þi gome þi stefne goþ anon to schome [*Cotton MS.* shome]. *c* 1290 *Sancta Crux* 398 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 12 Cristine men þat he mişte i-finde Alle he brouȝte to schame. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 521 He schupe þam all to schame, þat euir trowit in cristis name. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 127 He sey, 'Alle 3oode to schome!' And went one hys wey. 1445 tr. *Claudian* in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 With her also thou puttist to shame her loothsom norice ambicion. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 1004 The Roman [buikis] at than was in Scotland, He gart be brocht to scham, quhar thai thaim fand. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 67 A Slaue, that still an end turnes me to shame. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* vi. 6 They crucifie to themselues the Sonne of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. 1752 'SIR H. BEAUMONT' tr. *Attiret's Acc. Emp. China's Gard.* 29 If any one of them is caught in the Fact [i. e. Thieving] he is brought to Shame. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 245 Has time worn out, or fashion put to shame, Good sense, good health, good conscience, and good fame? 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xli, No young woman of this year has come near her: those of the past seasons she has distanced, and utterly put to shame. 1865 F. PARKMAN *Huguenots* i. (1875) 5 Every ship from the New World came freighted with marvels which put the fictions of chivalry to shame.

13. *For shame*: from a sense of shame, because one feels shame; also, for fear of shame, in order to avoid shame; so †*for shame of*, in order not to bring shame upon. Also *for shame's sake.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiv. (1899) 482 Þonne aras he for scome from þæm symble. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16971 Forrþi þatt he ne mihhte nohht O daȝȝ forr shame lerneinn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 24 Save that the name of soveraynetee, That wolde he have for shame of his degree. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 36 He red for shame, but frosty in desire. 1592 MORYSON *Let.* 21 Oct. in *Itin.* (1617) I. 38 When I looked my face in a glasse, I could not for shame take this course. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxiii, I will grant you as fair terms as for very shame's sake you ought to ask in my present condition. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 548 The shame that cannot be explain'd for shame.

b. esp. in adjuration or remonstrance. Hence often as an int. = 'shame on you!' 'you should be ashamed'; also *fie for shame!* (see FIE *int.* 1).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2794 For scam ne dos þam na males. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 272 Mi swete fo, whi do ye so, for shame. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1057 For shame! why makest þou al this wo? 1575 *Gammer Gurton's Needle* IV. ii. 42 Canst thou for shame deny it? 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 379 'For shame', he cries, 'let go, and let me go'. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Fragm. Aurea*, '*Why so pale and wan*', Quit, quit for shame. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. ii, *Lucy.* For shame now! here is some one coming. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* v, At which remark.. Miss Caroline very properly said 'For shame, Becky!' 1850 MISS WARNER *Wide World* xxx, 'Oh, William!—William!—for shame! for shame!' said Ellen again.

†14. *In shame of*: in order to put to shame. *Obs.* 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 101 To put a gluue vpon the poynte of ane speir in exprobratione and schame of him quha crakit his creddence. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 41 The Gods do this in shame of Cowardice.

15. *To one's shame*, so as to cause one shame, in a way that brings one discredit. Also parenthetically, with ellipsis of 'be it spoken'. In early use also †*to* or †*for* (one) *to shame.*

c 1205 LAY. 21008 Heore ȝelp & heore gome ilomp heom seoluen to scame. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* vi. 5, I seie to ȝoure schame. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 30 And yit for Demephon to schame Into this dai it berth the name. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 His credytours claymeth dette of hym to his payne & great shame. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 93 For my part, I may speake it to my shame, I haue a Truant beene to Chiualry. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, It is greatly to the shame of our young lover's apprehension, that [etc.]. 1835 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) I. 444, I read some of his Dialogues of the Dead when I was thirteen; and to my shame, I never..read a line of him since.

16. a. In ejaculatory formulae of imprecation or indignant disapproval, as (*a*) *shame* (or † *a shame*) *betide* (*take*, etc.). . .*!*; (*b*) *shame to or on . . !* (*c*) (*the*) *more shame for . .*; (*d*) *shame!* simply. Also *for shame!* (see 13 b).

(*a*) *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) ii. 12 Schame bityde þe Skottes for þai er full of gile. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4267 God yeve him shame! 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 968 Shame come to him that is the cause thereof. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 307 Nay, then a shame take all.

(*b*) 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 167 Now shame vpon you where she does or no. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* I. 113 Now (shame to Fortune!) an ill Run at Play Blank'd his bold visage. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 60 Shame on these tears! 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xv, It can't be expected, and no shame to them!

(*c*) 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 138 The more shame for him, that he sends it me. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 16 Did they not? the more shame for them: and if they did, the more shame for this great Rabbi thus to belie them. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, 'Ah! true! more shame for him,' thought Walter.

(*d*) 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 66 Shame it selfe, Why do you make such faces? 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 21 P 13 The whole Town cries out, Shame! That one of his Coat should be such an Atheist? 1834–51 MARY HOWITT *Sk. Nat. Hist.*, *Wolf* ii. 82 Oh, shame, that ever it hath been said, That bloody war is a glorious trade! 1848 *Times* 14 Nov. 5/2 A great many voices cried out 'Shame! shame!' 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Jan. 5/1 Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's proposal..elicited cries of 'Shame!' from the Irish benches.

b. *To cry shame on, upon,* †*of*: to express vigorous reprobation of.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 123 Why doth not euery earthly thing Cry shame vpon her? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 155 Don Jean..commended highly the valour of our men, and cried shame upon the cowardise of his owne. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 255 The people cried shame of them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 360 The pavement was detestable: all foreigners cried shame upon it.

III. 17. *Comb..* as *shame-burnt*, *-eaten*, *-proof*, *-shrunk*, *-sick*, *-stricken*, *-swollen* adjs.; †**shamefish** = *pinile fish* (see PINTLE 3); **shameworthy** *a.*, of which one ought to be ashamed.

1849 HELPS *Friends in C.* II. ii. (1854) 287 The shrinking, downcast, *shame-burnt woman. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* viii, His diversion only irritated and confused our *shame-eaten youth. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xviii. 174 Yards or *shamefishes (*Colybdænæ*). 1672 JOSSELYN *New-Eng. Rarities* 32 Yardfish, Asses Prick or Shamefish. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 513 We are *shame-proofe my Lord. 1631 QUARLES *Samson* Med. xvi. 97 Wee can trample Vpon our *shame shrunke cloakes, by your example. 15.. G. ELLIS *Lament. Lost Sheepe* in FARR *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) 410 With *shame-sick Adam haue I hid my head. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, Heart-stained, and *shame-stricken, he stood at the bed's foot. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. 1904 I. 197 Would you..gesse it were possible for any *shame-swolne toad to haue the spet-proofe face to out liue this disgrace? 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xvi. 4 And with lynnen breches he shal hile the *shame worthi [1388 shamefast] membres. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxiv. 855 If they begin once to shame at that which is not shameworthy. 1802 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 24 Sept., If I should have formed a diabolical resolution..of not admitting any spirituous liquors into my house, will you be my guest on such shameworthy terms?

Shame (ʃēm), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shamed** (ʃēmd). Forms: *a.* 1–2 **sceamian**, **scamiȝan**, 2–3 **scamien**, 3 **shamien**, **samie**, **schamie**, **ssame**, **scam**, 3–6 **schame**, 4 **ssamie**, **scham**, 5 **schamyn**, 6 *Sc.* **schaam**, **scheyme**, 8 *dial.* **sheame**, **sham**, 3– **shame**; *β.* 1 **scomian**, **sceomian**, 3 **scomien**, **sceomien**, **scheomen**, **schomye**, **scomye**, **scumi**, 3–4 **schome**. [OE. *sc(e)amian*, *sc(e)ȝmian*, f. *sc(e)amu*, *sc(e ȝmu* SHAME *sb.*

The verb corresponds formally to OS. *skamon*, OHG. *scamôn* (MHG. *schamen*), mod. NFris. *skaame*, *skômi*; an older Teut. formation is represented by Goth. *skaman*, OHG. *scamên*; and a third type by MHG. *schemen* (mod G. *schämen*), ON. *skemma* (Sw. *skemma*, Da. *skjæmme* to disgrace, injure); ON. had also *skamma* (Da. *skamme* refl. to be ashamed).]

1. *intr.* To feel or conceive shame; to become or be ashamed. Const. *of*, *at*, *with*, *for*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

(In OE. with genit. of cause, also of refl. pron. = to be ashamed of oneself.)

Beowulf 1026 (Gr.) No he þære feohȝyfte for sceotendum scamiȝan ðorfte. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lii. 409 Đios sæ cwiđ ðæt ðu ðin scamiȝe, Sidon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Nolde þe kniht beon sori & scheomen ful sore? *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 185 Þe sunne..leoseþ here liht and scomeþ aȝein þi brihte leor of hir þesturnesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17429 Wit þis word scomed þan þe Iuus. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7159 Þai salle swa scame ay of þair syn. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 120 Som þat shamyd with þer syn, went & shrafe þaim clene þerof. 1534 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 49 He hath a brasyn forehed, which shameth at nothing. ?*a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxii. (1887) 50, I thank my God I shame not of my shap. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) E 3, And yet Dorastus, shame not at thy shepheards weede. 1606 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forgeries* 52 The brazen face of the whore of Babylon, who shames with no sinne. 1651 JANE *Image Unbr.* 95 They..shame not at such assertions of falshood as common States blush to be detected of.

b. With clause expressing the reason. *arch.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* x. 62 ȝif we ðonne scomiað þæt we to uncuðum monnum swelc sprecen. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 491 Schamys thow nocht, that thow neuir ȝeit did gud? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1143 Thou sing'st not in the day, As shaming any eye should thee behold. 1847 MRS. NORTON *Fisher's Drawing Room Scrap-bk.* 28, I shame that a creature so light, should bid me thus quiver and bleed.

c. Const. *to* (or †*for to*) and inf. Now *rare.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 436 Ȝhe aucht to shame..For to schut at me on fer! *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXb.) xx. 89 Men and wymmen..schamez noȝt for to schew þam as Godd made þam. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 328 Elyzabeth.. shamyd not, for Crystis sake, to wesshe yᵉ sorys & bylis of lazars. *a* 1541 WYATT *Compl. upon Love* in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 48 Now shames he not on me for to complain. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. v. (1616) 28 Art thou a man? and sham'st thou not to beg? 1659 MILTON *Hirelings* Pref, Clergie who shame not..to maintain..their Popish and oft refuted positions. 1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. of Flirt* xv, A folly I shamed to confess. 1862 MISS MULOCK *Dom. Stories* 210, I shame to say that [etc.].

2. *trans. impers.*, as in (*it*) *shames me* = I am ashamed. Const. *to* (or *for to*) and inf., a clause, or *for*; in OE. also genit. of cause. In later use only with *it.* Now *rare.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Oððe hwa bið ȝescended, ðæt me forðæm ne scamiȝe? *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 25 Hi wæron þa butu nacode..and him þæs ne sceamode. *c* 1205 LAY. 4851 Him swiðe scomede þat he swa i-scend wes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 22 Delve may Y not, and me shameþ for to begge. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 3 To asken help thee shameth in thyn

herte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 332 Me shamed att that tyme to haue more a doo with you.

1577 *St. Augustine's Man.* 17 It shameth and irketh me to abide such thyngs as this world doth. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 77 It shamed that noble Nation to pay Tribute, who were wont to command it. 1847 LYTTON *Word to Public* 10 Omitting it from the list of those [writings] it does not shame me to acknowledge.

3. *trans.* To feel shame in regard to (a person or thing); to hold in awe or reverence; to dread or shun through shame. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 6 For by hap thei schulen schame my sone [*gloss* or drede with reuerence, Vulg. *reverebuntur*]. — *Heb.* xi. 27 Not schamynge [*gloss* or dredynge, Vulg. *non veritus*], the hardnesse of the kyng. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, v. vi, My maister sad—(for why he shames the Court) Is fled away. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* May xxviii, And when at night her love flew to his place More than afore she shamed his fond embrace.

4. To make ashamed, fill with shame, cause to feel shame.

1530 PALSGR. 701/1 I shame one,..I make one chaunge coloures. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 120 To tell thee whence thou cam'st, of whom deriu'd, Were shame enough to shame thee, Wert thou not shamelesse. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* IV. v. 43 Then, Sir, she is so modest... The least Obscene word shames her. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* I. 89 Who shames a Scribbler? break one cobweb thro', He spins the slight, self-pleasing thread anew. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 132, I wish I were Some mighty poetess, I would shame you then, That love to keep us children! 1859 — *Elaine* 207 Nay, father, .. shame me not Before this noble knight. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xviii. 166 The love Leeby bore for Jamie was such that in their younger days it shamed him.

† **b.** *refl.* To be ashamed. Const. *of*, *for*, or inf.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 161 (Jesus MS.) Schomye [*Cott.* Schamie] þe vor þine vnrede. *c* 1375 *Cato* 573 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 603 þat þou ne const, schome þe not Of obere to ben I-tauht. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 64 And so he shameth hymselfe. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxxi, 'Rise, rise, De Lacy; and shame thee of thy petition,' said the King.

c. *pass.* To be ashamed. Const. *of*, *at*, *for*, *with*, †*upon*, inf., or subord. clause. Now *poet.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 636 (Gött.) Naked war þai bath tway, þai were noght schamed par ma fay. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1727 For sory of his frendes sorwe he is, And shamed, for his nece hath doon a-mis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8250 Than shamet was the shalke for the shene ladies. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 469 So was scho schamed of þe schont þat hire þe schalk made. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 31 The flowers pull'd in their heads as being sham'd Their beauties by the others were desam'd. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, He's sair shamed o' himsell. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 35 Pardon, I am shamed That I must needs repeat for my excuse What looks so little graceful. 1877 BROWNING *Agamemnon* 119 The opposite to say I shall not shamed be.

d. *To tell* (*say*, *speak*) *the truth and shame the devil*: to tell the truth boldly in defiance of temptation to the contrary.

1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh* iii. (1562) 85 b, There is a common saying amongst vs, Say the truthe and shame the diuel. 1562 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 76 b, Saie on beast, and shame the deuil. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 58–9. 1598 — *Merry W.* IV. ii. 124 Now shall the diuel be sham'd. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* i. 7 Compell him..to shame the divell, and eate his owne words. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 93 Come, tell Truth, and shame the Devil. 1893 G. ALLEN *Scallywag* I. 151 'Because he's so much richer', Paul answered, boldly shaming the devil.

5. To inflict or bring disgrace upon; to disgrace, dishonour; to be a cause of disgrace to.

c 1200 ORMIN 18284 Hefiȝlike he shamebþ þe & shendeþþ & unnwurrþeþþ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15209 þey wyþ tailles þe godeman schamed. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Franklt. T.* 837 Heer may I nat dwelle, And shamen al my kinrede in this place. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. xii. (1495) 492 Yf it happe that thou be ouercome thenne arte thou shamyd for euermore. 1530 PALSGR. 701/1, I was of good name and fame afore he shamed me by this yvell reporte. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 64 b, This John..shamed the Churche of Rome wonderfully wᵗʰ his lyuing. 1644 NYE *Gunnery* (1670) 28 When Gunpowder is moist..it shameth the Gunner which useth it. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 461 Where he fell flat, and sham'd his Worshipers. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 807 Rusting there..What wonder if, discharg'd into the world, They shame their shooters with a random flight. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. ii, *Doge*...Let us go worthy of our sires and selves. *Ber. F.* I shall not shame you, uncle. 1900 *Daily Tel.* 18 Oct. 11/1 We tortured no prisoners,..we shamed no women.

b. with a thing as object.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* xiii. 10 þe counsaile of þe helples ȝe shamed. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 1124 S. Paule saith, yᵗ euery man which prayeth or precheth wᵗʰ couered head, shameth his head. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 427 He..prostitutes and shames His noble office. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. viii, If..there be A land of souls beyond that sable shore, To shame the doctrine of the Sadducee. 1842 TENNYSON *Lady Clare* 66 O Lady Clare, you shame your worth! 1885 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* I. v. (1866) 71 The losses..that shame His saving work.

6. To confound or put to shame by superior excellence; to outrival.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (prose) 47 Bot we..þat er..of febil lif, þis gude lif schamis vs, and confundis. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 732 Wherein she framed thee in high heaven's despite, To shame the sun by day and her by night. 1611 *Second Maiden's Trag.* 1741 (Malone Soc.) How pittie strikes een throughe inscensible thinges and makes them shame our dullnes. 1741 SHENSTONE *Judgm. Hercules* 82 Her blushing cheeks, that sham'd the purple morn. 1841–44 EMERSON *Ess., Nature* Wks. (Bohn) I. 224 Here [in the forest] is sanctity which shames our religions. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, She'll shame 'em with her good looks, yet.

7. With complementary adv. or advb. phr.: To drive *away* (etc.) through shame.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 61 And Ile be sworne, I haue power to shame him hence. *c* 1644 CLEVELAND *Rebel Scot* Poems (1659) 53 Hyperbolus by suffering did traduce The Ostracism, and sham'd it out of use. 1682 D'URFEY *Butler's Ghost* 36 My Head's not such a thing of no worth, 'Tis to be sham'd away, and so forth. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 53 You would have shamed despotism from the earth. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 52 The turbulent state of the country ..leaving, when bloodshed was shamed back, the same deadly hatred.

b. To drive (one) *out of*, *into* (a state, course of action, etc.) through shame or fear of shame.

1679 J. GOODMAN *Penitent Pardoned* III. iv. (1713) 330 Raillery may go about to shame him out of his course. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 545 When the practice of others..shames you into a compliance with them. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* Epil., Shamed into sense,..Our beaux from gallantry would soon be wise. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlvi. VI. 81 Philip..shamed his son out of his suspicions by an indignant expostulation. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 284 The considerable armament, which the news of Hannibal's triumphant progress through Italy had at last shamed the Carthaginians into raising for him.

Hence **Shamed** *ppl. a.*

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 549 Defamyt, blamyt, schamyt, Primas Paganorum. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 319 No, shamed Musidorus, worthie for nothing, but to keepe sheepe. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 125 In the shamed and the ruined love's stead. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 275 With..secret aim, which he nursed like a shamed mother of an infant.

Shame, obs. form of SHAWM.

Shameanah, variant of SHAMIANA(H.

Sha·medly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. SHAMED *a.* + -LY ².] In an ashamed manner, with shame.

1890 *Murray's Mag.* May 692 'No, sir', the young man said, shamedly.

Shameeana, variant of SHAMIANA(H.

Shameface (ʃēi·mfēis). *rare.* [f. SHAME *sb.* + FACE *sb.* (After *shamefaced* adj.)] **a.** A bashful aspect. **b.** *nonce-use.* A shamefaced person.

1636–41 *Politick Maid* ii. in Child *Ballads* II. 491 But it seemd he had a shame-face, He did not court and play. 1691 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 4 Being told at home that a shame Face too, Was a great sign he had some Grace too. 1892 W. BESANT in *Critic* 12 Sept. 143/2 One could see all the way across the Atlantic her cheeks blush; one could observe the shameface. 1898 M. HEWLETT *Forest Lovers* xvi. (1911) 138 You mean that I may not venture into a lady's chamber, Shameface?

Shamefaced (ʃēi·mfēist), *a.* [f. SHAME *sb.* + FACE *sb.* + -ED ²; originally an etymological misinterpretation of SHAMEFAST *a.*]

1. Modest; bashful, shy.

1555 [implied in SHAMEFACEDNESS]. 1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 19 Cordeil being euer modestly and maydenly shamefaced. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xi, A Globe of circular light, That with long beams the shame-fac't night array'd. 1634 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. v. Song, Her blush doth shed All o'r the bed Clean shamefac'd beames. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 458 ¶ 5 Our Excess of Modesty makes us shamefaced in all the Exercises of Piety and Devotion. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxiv, The flush of shame-faced joy to hide The hounds, the hawk, her cares divide. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 218 He felt shamefaced as a schoolboy before the great world.

b. *absol.* (See quot.)

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 625 There quakes the plant, which in Pudefetan Is call'd The shame-fac'd [orig. *L'arbre en Pudefetan Vergongneux appellé*], for asham'd of man, If toward it one doe approch too much It shrinkes his boughes to shunne our hatefull tuch.

2. Ashamed, abashed.

1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 70 That unwritten chapter of their lives which even the most candid persons keep privately locked up in shamefaced recollection. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Kate Carnegie* 237 The minister..hears the shamefaced confession of some lassie whom love has led astray.

Shamefacedly (ʃēi·mfēistli), *adv.* [-LY ².] In a shamefaced manner, modestly, bashfully.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlix. 327 She, with her eyes fixt vpon the earth, most shamefac'dly answered [etc.]. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* iii. (1879) 31 He had shamefacedly essayed it. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* i, 'Oh yes', says the boy, shamefacedly, 'that's all right'.

Shamefacedness (ʃēi·mfēistnés). [-NESS.] The state or quality of being shamefaced.

1. Modesty, bashfulness, shyness.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 181 A couering of honeste shamefacednesse. 1608 *Pennyless Parl.* § 3 in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 176 Some Maidens shall blush more for Shame, than for Shame-facedness. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1626) 74 He blusht for shame; Not knowing loue: whom shamefac'tnesse became. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 135. 167 There is often in People, especially Children, a clownish shamefac'dness before Strangers. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 131 My poor grateful heart was like a too full river, which overflows its banks; and it carried away my fear and my shamefacedness. 1803 WORDSW. *To Highland Girl* 31 The embarrassed look of shy distress, And maidenly shamefacedness. 1888 SPURGEON *Serm.* in *Voice* (N.Y.) 31 May, A woman of few words and much shamefacedness.

2. The state of being ashamed, ashamedness.

1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* x. 365 Shee [*sc.* the soule] stands off in a sinful shamefac'dnesse. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, 20 A certain Shamefacedness to be thought curious or changeable. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* i. 8 The boy ..stood looking round him with a dark shamefacedness.

¶ **3.** Misused for: Shamelessness. Cf. SHAMEFASTNESS 3.

1827 LONGF. *Life* (1891) I. vii. 101 The French ministry is..

Shamefast (ʃēi·mfast), *a. arch.* Forms: see SHAME *sb.* [OE. *sc(e)amfæst*, f. *sc(e)amu* SHAME *sb.* + *fæst* FAST *a.*

The etymological sense appears to be 'restrained by shame'; but *-fæst* was a common element in OE. adj. compounds, in some of which it has hardly any definable meaning.]

1. Bashful, modest. In a good or neutral sense: Modest or virtuous in behaviour and character. In a depreciatory sense: Shy, awkward in the company of others, 'sheepish'. Also *absol.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 204 On oðre wisan sint to læronne ða scamleasan, on oðre ða scamfæstan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2175 Þho wass wiss wiþþ alle Shammfasst, & daffte, & sedefull. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3201 Wimmen beþ schamfast in dede And namliche maidenes. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1535 Ther nas no lak, but that he was agast To loue, & for to speke shamefast. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 229 Tho that haue the face sumwhate ruddy bene schamefaste. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 731 Demene you liche a maid with shamefast dred. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxvi. 10 Vf thy daughter be not shamefast, holde her straitly. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 27 With chaunge of cheare the seeming simple maid Let fall her eyen, as shamefast to the earth. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 119 So humble was the prelate, as to please The shamefast maid, he oft fell on his knees. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 185 A neck leaning to the right hand for shamefast; to the left hand for shamelesse. *transf.* 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 15 Kaman the stone may well be called a turncote, for that it is now blacke, now white, now shamefast and blushing.

b. Of actions, behaviour, appearance: Characterized by or indicating modesty or bashfulness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 985 The firste is þat confession moste be shamefast. 1505 HEN. VII *Instruct. to Ambass.* vi. (1761) 10 The said quyn ys..not lizght nor boldehardy in speche but with a demewre womanly shamefast contenance. 1611 MURE *Misc. Poems* ii. 9 Hir shamefast, blusching smyles. *a* 1835 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 124 The rose with its sweet shamefast look. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par., Doom of K. Acrisius* 264 The damsel's shamefast blood Made all her face red to the golden hair.

† **2.** Ashamed, abashed, full of shame. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Sinners beware!* 80 in *O. E. Misc.* 240 And þeos gedelynges summe. Hwenne heo to schrifte come. Heo beoþ schomeuaste. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxxiv. 26 Be thei clad with confusioun and shamefast drede. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 111 The quene was shamefaste, and discouerid to hym the very trouthe, how the childe was be-geten the same nyght that the Duke was slain. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* xxxiv. 80 They had an eye: full bent in hym, and so they lightened were: A shamefast face not one of them, from that tyme forth dyd beare. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 130 With their hands couer their shamefast faces.

† **3.** = SHAMEFUL 4. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xvi. 4 He schal hide the schamefast membris with pryuy lynnun clothis. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 165 The ashes made of the rinds of the Gourds, and strawed on the vlcers of shamefast places,..bringeth them vnto a scarre. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 110 b, Hauing a desease in some shamefast parte of their body.

Shamefastly (ʃēi·mfastli), *adv.* [f. SHAMEFAST *a.* + -LY ².] In a 'shamefast' manner.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxxix. 15 Be thei confoundid and shamefastli drede thei togidere; that sechen my soule, that they do it awei. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefryde* 2 She..a lytyll cast down shamefastly her chere. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. 119 b, Shee calld a servant shamefastly. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 482/2 He..confessed, rather shamefastly, that he had never killed anybody at any time.

Shamefastness (ʃēi·mfastnés). *arch.* [f. SHAMEFAST *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Modesty, sobriety of behaviour, decency, propriety; bashfulness, shyness. Also, † a feeling of shame, ashamedness.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Min shamfestnesse is togenes me. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 193 Wymmen ..in convenable abite, wiþ schamefastnesse and sobirnesse ournynge hem. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 840 And ye, sire clerk, lat be your shamefastnesse, Ne studieth noght. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 120 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 84 To syng also, by force he wasse constrayned, ffor no plesaunce, but verrey schamfastnesse. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 144 The Kinge..kissed..the Ladye Katherine,.. wᶜʰ was not done wᵗʰout some shamefastnes of that virgin. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 141 And in stede of the feruente desyre, which prouoketh a chylde to be better than hys felowe, lette a man be as much stirred vp with shamefastnes to be worse than all other. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 324 Others out of bashfulnesse and shamefastnesse, loath to be troublesome. 1646 W. PRICE *Mans Deling.* 11 Even Nature (saith Tertullian) hath cast a shamefastnesse on all sinfull evill. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* a 6, Out of Niaiserie and Shamefastness says at every turn (I think, or perhaps this is true, or may be true). 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. iii. 360 Blanche..almost cried with indignant 'shamefastness'. 1882 SWINBURNE *Tristram* iii. 69 She looked on him and loved him; but being young Made shamefastness a seal upon her tongue.

† **b.** *personified.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxii. (1845) 159 And first she led me to the upper ward, Where Shamefastnes did us well regarde, For he was gayler. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 50 And next to her sate goodly Shamefastnesse, Ne euer durst her eyes from ground vpreare.

† **2.** Misused for: Shamelessness. *Obs.*

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurditie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 26 It seemes that law is turned to libertie, and honest ciuilitie into impudent shamefastnes.

Shameferon, shamfron, var. ff. CHAMFRAIN, CHAMFRON.

1537 *North Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 148 One paier of greate pottes pounced with Talbottes and shameferons. *Ibid.*, Shamfron.

Shameful (ʃēˑmfŭl), *a.* Forms: see SHAME *sb.* Also 5 shem(e)ful. [f. SHAME *sb.* + -FUL.]

†**1.** Modest, shamefaced. *Obs.*

a 950 *Durh. Ritual* (Surtees) 108 Sceomfull [glosses L. *pudica*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Ich am woware scheomeful. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3367 And þof sco scamful was, i-wiss, Sco tint na contenance wit þis. *c* 1425 *St. Eliz. of Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 109/46 A merueilous onest and schameful gladnesse of cheer, caused of goostly ioye. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Q. Corinth* IV. i, For certain Sir, his bashfulness undo's him, For from his Cradle h'had a shameful face.

†**b.** *transf.* (See quot.)

1659 R. LOVELL *Herbal* 542 Shamefull-shrub, *Pinahuihuiztlis, Herba verecunda.*

†**2.** Permeated with a feeling or appearance of shame, full of shame, ashamed. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 359 So schamfull that he vencust wes, That..He gaf vp thar his vardanry. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 191 When he hard þis he wex ferd & shamefull. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* I. 22 Vnder a Tyrant see our bastard harts Lye idely sighing, while our shamefull soules Endure a million of base controls. 1702 MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. IV. vii. 231 With what shameful Reflections on all our past Behaviours. 1713 in Keble *Life Bp. Wilson* (1863) 215 She is one of the most penitent and shamefull offenders that hath been for many years. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 1 The house-tops began to be cleared with a shameful caution.

3. That brings to shame; that causes or ought to cause shame; disgraceful, scandalous, degrading.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1157 (Kölbing) Sore he worþ adrad, ywis, Of schameful deþ to haue of þe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 117 Vor þet were a fole bezechinge and ssamuol. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. i. (1883) 161 And shamefull pouerte is the more greuous whan hit cometh by nature of an hyhe and noble burth or hous. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* ii. 20 Let vs condemne him with the most shamefull death. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 179 Take vantage heauie eyes, not to behold This shamefull lodging. 1635 CRANLEY *Amanda* 41 And as thou shamelesse of all shame dost live, So death to thee a shamefull end will give. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 715 The shameful close of all his mispent years. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 140 There once old Salem's haughty fane..in the blushing face of day Exposed its shameful glory. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* VII. vii. Shameful! Three against one! 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxvii. 41 Many a shameful time I heard her stealthy profession.

†**4.** *Shameful parts*: the secret parts, organs of sex. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxii. 10 Fadris vnhilliden in thee more shameful thingis. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 180 Their said breeches are so close, as they expose to view, not onely the noble but also the shamefull parts. 1693 DRYDEN *Sat. Persius* iv. 94 Not all thy Pincers, nor unmanly Arts, Can smooth the roughness of thy shameful parts.

†**5.** Applied to language: Casting shame, opprobrious, vituperative. *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 12 Judas..Tuke blissit Jesu ..And schot him furth, with mony ane schow, With shamefull wourdis of dishonour. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 729 Reprouing and reuiling him with such yll wordes, and so shamefull termes, that all the hearers abhorred it. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 187/9 Shameful, *contumeliosus.*

†**6.** Shaming, affording shame *to*. *Obs. rare*—1.

1572 *Lam. Lady Scot.* 107 in *Satir. P. Reform.* (S.T.S.) I. 230, I grant I had ane Douchter was ane Quene,..Lusty, gude lyke, to all men fauourabill; Schamefull to euill, baith honest, meik and law.

Shamefully (ʃēˑmfŭli), *adv.* [f. SHAMEFUL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a manner that causes shame or disgrace; with indignity; disgracefully.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28735 Qua mar tas þan he bere might obere he sal leue it wit-alle or schamfulli þar vnder stand. 1340 *Ayenb.* 181 His [*sc.* Samson's] yuo þet him deden grinde ate querne ssamuolliche. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. iii. (1869) 138, I shal make thee shamefullich and vileynesliche dye. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 79 He vas schamefully chaissit furtht of France. 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Boldness* (Arb.) 519 They haue promised great Matters and failed most shamefully. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 401 ¶ 6 The World has seen me shamefully lose that Time to please a fickle Woman. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 160 The allies whom he had shamefully abandoned were accused of persecuting him without a cause. 1879 R. MORRIS *Blickl. Hom.* Pref. 8 The leaves have been shamefully clipped, I suppose by the binders. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/7 Ordinary license of speech has seldom been more shamefully exceeded.

2. Shamefacedly, modestly, bashfully, ashamedly. Now *rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 106 Nocht for-þi scho come eftir þame schamfully, & gat in handis cristis fete. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 33 The whiche trybute your sone asked hym shamfully. *c* 1525 SIR T. MORE in More *Life* (1626) 183 You aske monye, deare Megg, too shamefully & fearefully of your father. ? 1595–6 CAREW *Excell. Eng. Tongue* in *Camden's Rem.* (1614) 40 We borrow (and that not shamefully [*Cott. MS.* shamfully]) from the Dutch, the Britaine, the Romane [etc.]. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* XXXV, Shamefully..they told what he had to do, and then his vacant face became suddenly charged with passion.

Shamefulness (ʃēˑmfŭlnĕs). [f. SHAMEFUL *a.* + -NESS.]

†**1.** Sense of shame or disgrace. Also, bashfulness, modesty. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* lxxxii. 18 Fulfil þaire faces of shamefulnes. ? *a* 1487 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 45 Bot euir with dreid and schamfulnes Scho suld draw to the lawast plass. 1552 LYNDESAY *Compl.* 59 Allace! my sleuth and schamefulnes Debarrit fra me all gredynes. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 103 It is fit we should endue children with shamfulnesse and desire of glorie.

2. Disgracefulness, scandalousness. Also, disgraceful conduct.

1564 RASTELL *Confut. Jewell's Serm.* 101 b, No absurditie or shamefulnes shall euer be concluded of them. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* II. v. 59 The whole kinred.. would blush, and bee ashamed at her shamefulnesse. 1862 TENNYSON *Coming of Arthur* 238 While the King debated with himself If Arthur were the child of shamefulness, Or born the son of Gorloïs, after death. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 243/1 An enterprise whose shamefulness was obvious now to himself.

†**3.** 'Shame,' secret parts. *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* (1634) Table Script. Quot., None shall come neere any of the next of his bloude that he should reveale there shamefulnesse [*sa vergongne*].

Shamel(l, obs. forms of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]

Shameless (ʃēˑmlĕs), *a.* Forms: see SHAME *sb.* Also 7 *superl.* shamelest. [OE. *sc(e)amléas, sc(e)omléas*: see SHAME *sb.* and -LESS.]

1. Lacking shame, destitute of feelings of modesty; impudent, audacious, immodest; insensible to disgrace.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* ix. 60 Se læce bið micles to bald & to scomleas þe gæð æfter oðerra monna husum lacniende, & hæfð on his aznum nebbe opene wunde unlacnode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 170 Schomeleas is þe mon oðer þeo wummon þet deð eni untoweschipe, oðer seið, biuoren ancren. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 20 To þe schamlese schalk schewden hur lettres. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3508 Fy! schamëles vnworthy gouernour! 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 45 Scoffe on vile Fiend, and shamelesse Curtizan. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XV. viii. (1622) 232 Vatinius was one of the shamelest monsters of his [Nero's] court. 1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 63 Though these men are so shameless as to deny it. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 358 But there remain, ye guilty, in my pow'r, 'Till Jove refunds his shameless daughter's dow'r. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 100 Lo the shameless ones who take Their pastime now the trustful King is gone! 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* ix. 65 A man of refined culture..but the most cynically shameless liver and talker even in Rome.

absol. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 204 On oðre wi-san sint to læronne ða scamleasan, on oðre ða scamfæstan. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xv, 'Peace, shameless!' said the King.

2. Indicating or characterized by absence of shame or modesty. Of actions: Indicating absence of shame on the part of the agent, impudent.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) l. 3 Of þysse scamleasan scylde geclænsa me. 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1829) 156 Then fall they to a shameless boldness & let not to deny the Scripture & all. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. ix. 200 This is the same shameless self-contradicting Accusation, and needs no other Answer. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxiv. § xi. 145 It was found practicable to convict the delinquent of shameless falshood. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 472 He [James] degraded the nobility by a shameless sale of peerages.

absol. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 206 Forðæm he spræc ðas word þe he wolde ðara scamleasena scylda tælende geopenian.

†**3.** Suffering no shame, free from disgrace. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 151 For hou so that the cause wende, The trouthe is schameles ate ende, Bot what thing that is troutheles, It mai noght wel be schameles. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 144 Lorde Jesu! delyuer me & safe me shamcles of þis Iewis at þis tyme.

†**4.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1552 UDALL tr. *Geminus' Anat.* B vij b, The bone of the foreheade,..of some other it is called the shameles bone [orig. *os inuerecundum*], or the bone of the common senses.

5. quasi-*adv.*

a 1541 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 311/2 Open whoredome, & abhominable and detestable vncleannes, that is now vsed shamelesse in the worlde. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 202 Beyond imagination is the wrong That she this day hath shamelesse throwne on me.

6. *Comb.*

1555 RIDLEY in Coverdale *Godly Lett.* (1564) 87 The abhominable desolacion..of proude Senacherib, of the shameles faced kyng & of the Babilonical beaste.

Shamelessly (ʃēˑmlĕsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a shameless manner, without shame.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 144 Hie..swiðe scamleasliche zilpað ðisses hwilendlican onwaldes. 1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 28 Ther vycyous lyvyng shamelesly encreasseth and augmentith. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Sam.* vi. 20 As one of the vaine fellowes shamelessely vncouereth himselfe! 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iv. Wks. 1874 I. 79 There are men.. who shamelessly avow..their mere will and pleasure, to be their law of life. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Aug. 3/1 Those bounds of reticence which have been so shamelessly disregarded by some contemporary writers.

Shamelessness (ʃēˑmlĕsnĕs). [f. SHAMELESS *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being destitute of shame or modesty; impudence.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Prol. Bij b, But I here whyspernynges amongest you, I wote not what, of a new shamelesnesse. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 713 There sate a peece of shamelessnesse, whose flaring Attires and looks, did show a monstrous daring. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 85 Here's Shamelessness for you! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, Both were abashed by the lad's utter shamelessness.

2. In a good or neutral sense: Freedom from shame, unashamedness.

1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. vi. (1713) 191 That is very consequentially done, Euistor, to that simple shamelessness of being stark naked. 1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* iii. Wks. (1686) 49 Let Wine..train him to a well-bred Shamelessness.

1901 *Edin. Rev.* July 68 The splendid shamelessness of the early Greeks.

Shameliche, obs. form of SHAMELY *adv.*

†**Sha·mely**, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: see SHAME *sb.* [f. SHAME *sb.* + -LY 1 and 2.] **A.** *adj.*

1. Shamefaced, modest; abashed. *rare.*

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 3671 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 97/2 *Pudibunda*, .i. *pudica*..sceamlic. *Ibid.* 144/2 *Pudibunda*, .i. *erubescens*, scamlic. *c* 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* (1870) ▸ 12 The Turkes wyth loe chiere and halfe shamely contenaunce, departed from theym.

2. Shameful, disgraceful.

c 1205 LAY. 20462 Þenne were his cun iscend mid scomeliche witen. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 556, & þat were a schamly schenchip to schende me euer. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2051 in *Macro Plays* 138 Mankynde for to schylde & schete fro dedly synne & schamely schot.

B. *adv.* Disgracefully, shamefully.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Shameliche hem oigredeð and fule shendeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 310 A mon þet were idemed uor a luðer murðre to beon forberrnd al cwic, oðer scheomeliche anhonged. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 128 Bot, I trow, ful tyd, ouer-tan þat he were, So þat schomely to schort he schote of his ame. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 27 My..husbond..will schamely put me to deth yf y accomplyssh not..his comaundement. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 66 Who shamely doth, of long will not be raced.

†**Sha·meness.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 4 ssamnesse. [f. SHAME *sb.* + -NESS.] Shamefacedness, modesty.

1340 *Ayenb.* 142 Þous biginþ þe zaule to louie onhede and stillehede and þanne him wext ine herte ane holy ssamnesse þet is one of þe uariste doþter of mildenesse.

Sha·mer. *rare.* [f. SHAME *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or something which shames.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* I. iii, My means and my conditions are no shamers Of him that owes 'em. 1832 S. FERGUSON *Forging of Anchor* 68 But shamer of our little sports! forgive the name I gave.

Shameuse, obs. form of CHAMOIS.

†**Sha·mevous,** *a. Obs.* [f. SHAME *sb.* after *bountevous, plentevous.* Cf. SHAMOUSLY *adv.*] Shameful, disgraceful.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3407 Aforn all will declare the Auenture, hou Gaffray hym put to shameuous oppressure. *Ibid.* 3444 He wold make hym ende, And shameuous deth dight! *Ibid.* 5135 Which that he hath lost by dedes shameuous.

Shamewe, variant of SHEMEWE *Obs.*

Shamfering, obs. variant of CHAMFERING.

1728 R. MORRIS *Anc. Archit.* 81 Shamfering.

Shamfron, obs. form of CHAMFRAIN, -FRON.

‖Shamiana·h (ʃæ-, ʃămiā·nă). *Indian.* Forms: 7 semijane, semane, semian(e, symmeane, semeano, 9 shamyana, shameenah, shameeana, shimiana, 9– shamiana(h. [Urdu, Pers. شامیانه, شمیانه, *shāmiyāna.*] 'An awning or flat tent-roof without sides' (Yule); a flat awning or canopy. †Also (quots. 1609, 1613), a material used for such awnings, a striped calico.

1609 in Danvers *Lett. E. Ind. Comp.* (1896) I. 29 A sort of Calico here called Semijanes are also in abundance. *c* 1610 W. FINCH in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. IV. iv. 432 Another open Chounter of stone to sit in, couered with rich Semianes. 1616 F. FETTIPLACE in Danvers & Foster *Lett. E. Ind. Comp.* (1900) IV. 239 Semanes, whereof they gave us order from Suratt to buy for one-third of our stock. 1616 *Ibid.* 239 Symmeanes. 1616 SIR T. ROE in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. IV. xvi. 543 There is erected a throne foure foote from the ground, in the Durbar Court, from the backe whereof, to the place where the King comes out a square of fiftie sixe paces long, and fortie three broad was rayled in, and couered with faire Semianes or Canopies of Cloth of Gold, Silke, or Veluet ioyned together, and sustained with Canes so couered. 1622 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 287 Fyne Semian chowters and white baftas are good for presentes. 1676 in Forrest *Bombay Lett.* Home Ser. (1887) I. 89 We desire you to furnish him with bridle and sadle, semeanoes, canatts [etc.]. 1814 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* II. 455 To pitch my tent or erect my summiniana, or shamyana. 1857 M. THORNHILL *Personal Adv. Ind. Mutiny* (1884) 14 Our beds were arranged under large canopies, open on all sides, and which are termed..'Shameanahs'. 1902 *Times* 13 Aug. 4/1 On the lawn, a shamiana with silver uprights had been erected.

Shamil, obs. form of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]

Shaming (ʃēˑmiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHAME *v.* + -ING 1.] The action or fact of putting to shame.

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* (1901) 534 Þou mistest procure wiþ such prouyng To þi-self newe schamyng. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xliii. 272 Beatryx, wyth-oute schamyng of here susterys, was schreuyn priuely. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 5/1 Thei serued of nought but to the shaming of such other folke as wer in very science much better lerned, and in those trifles ignorant. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 212 Calling it..Nehustan..for the shameing of such as had so doted upon it. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* lxxii, I..trod them down with words of shaming.

Sha·ming, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SHAME *v.* + -ING 2.] That shames or puts to shame.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 407 For convincing me, in so kind, yet so shaming a manner, how wrong I was. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Span. Gypsy* I. 111 An added Present, sketching still In hope unchecked by shaming memories.

Shamle, Shamly: see SHAMBLE *sb.*[1], SHAMELY.

†**Shammade,** *v. Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [app. a blundered adoption of F. *chamarrer.*] *trans.* To ornament with lace.

1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 359 Cloathed in a scarlet cloake richly shammaded with golden lace.

†**Sha·mmatize,** *v. Obs.* Also 7 samatize, schamatize. [a. mod.L. *samatizāre* (1583 in

Drusius *Quæst.* I. 16), **schamatizāre*, f. Jewish Aramaic שְׁמַתָּא *sh'mattā* excommunication, whence the denom. vb. שַׁמֵּת *shammēth* to excommunicate.

According to Levy *sh'mattā* (:—**sh'madtā*) is a derivative of שׁמד, in causative conjugations to destroy, curse. Modern scholars believe the word to have been a general term for excommunication; the statement of Elias Levita that there were three degrees of excommunication, of which *sh'mattā* was the most severe, appears to be destitute of authority.]

trans. In mediæval Judaism: To excommunicate.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 113 If they did not amend, they were excommunicated with a greater curse, or Anathema: and if they persisted obstinate, they did Samatize them. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Irenicon* I. viii. § 5. 147 A most dreadful sentence of excommunication..whereby they do Schamatize, curse and devote the persons against whom it is pronounced. 1684 tr. *Lightfoot's Horæ Hebr.* Wks. II. 538 [They] anathematiz'd, shammatiz'd, excommunicated the Samaritans.

Shammbrie, variant of SHAMBRIER.

Shammel (ʃæ·m'l), *sb. Mining.* See also SHAMBLE *sb.*[1] 6. [Dialect form of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]] (See quots.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 142 The Miners prefer a Shammel, which is a stage of boards, for the more light and easy use of their shovels. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 201 The product was raised by being thrown upon successive platforms (called *shammels*). 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metallif. Min.* 420 *Shammel*, a stage for shovelling ore upon, or for raising water.

attrib. 1803 POLWHELE *Hist. Cornw.* I. 175 The shammel-working indeed, which appears in several places between Bovey and Dartmoor,..may be considered as relics of the Romans. *Ibid.* III. 9 In the mean time the shammel-works must, I think, have been almost superseded by shafts.

Hence **Sha·mmel** *v. intr.*, to work a mine by the use of a series of 'shammels'.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 142 The custom of Shammeling both above and under-ground at this time. 1850 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Cornw.* 22 *Shammel*, when ore or water is lifted part of the required height by one machine or person and part by another.

Shammel, obs. form of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]

Shammer (ʃæ·mər). [f. SHAM *v.* + -ER[1].] One who shams.

†a. One who deceives or tricks with false pretences. *Obs.*

1677 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* III. i. 45, I shou'd make the worst Shammer in England. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE (*title*), The Shammer Shamm'd. *a* 1696 AUBREY *Lives, Sir H. Blount* (1898) I. 110 He was heretofore a great shammer, i. e. one that tells falsities not to doe any body any injury, but to impose on their understanding.

b. One who shams illness, death, etc.

1861 *All Year Round* 13 July 371 Mutiny shall be punished. Skulkers and shammers shall get their deserts. 1870 *Daily News* 24 Dec., Many of them are genuine invalids, but many are mere shammers. 1875 HOUGHTON *Sk. Brit. Insects* 143 Like the Skip-jacks, these Death-watch-beetles are great shammers.

†**Sha·mmish**, *a. Obs.* [f. SHAM *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Of the nature of 'a sham', hoax, or fraud.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 128 (1740) 100 The Overture was very shammish.

Shammock (ʃæ·mək), *sb. dial.* Also **shammocks, shommacks, shammick(s** (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [? f. SHAMMOCK *v.* Cf. dial. *slammock(s, slammick(s* of similar meaning.] Used as a term of depreciation, with many varieties of meaning; a lazy, slovenly person; a starved, miserable-looking person or animal.

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* II. 113 He's a sad shammocks. 1891 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Noughts & Crosses* 97 If These-an'-That, there, wasn' but a poor ha'f-baked shammick, he'd ha' killed that wife o' his afore this. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 213 So the poor old chief worried himself to a shammock.

Shammock (ʃæ·mək), *v. dial.* Forms: (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Cf. SHAMBLE *v.*; also *slammock* vb., widely used dial. in similar senses.] *intr.* To walk with a shambling or unsteady gait; to slouch; to dawdle; to idle about.

1857 SCHOLES *Tim Ganwattle* 6 (E.D.D.) As aw wur shammokin alung shore.

Hence **Sha·mmocking** *ppl. a.*, awkward, clumsy; slovenly, untidy; idle, worthless. **Sha·mmocky** *a.* = prec.; also, shaky, infirm.

1702 T. BROWN, etc. *Lett. Dead to Living* II. (1707) 73 Pox take you both for a couple of shammocking Rascals. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* 564 *Shomacky*, slovenly, awkward in gait. 1852 *Tait's Mag.* XIX. 42 An idle, boozing, and shammocking scamp weds an industrious girl. 1891 DOYLE *White Company* xiv, You shammocking yaping over-long good-for-nought! 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xix. (1905) 241 But ye poor, shammocky sheep-drivers think there's nowt save ewes an' tups i' th' world.

†**Shammoe**, *v. Obs.*[-o] [Of obscure origin: is it a misprint for *shammoc* SHAMMOCK *v.*?]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 427/2 Shammoe, to cast the toes outward in going.

Shammoulle, obs. form of SHAMBLE *sb.*[1]

Shammoy, obs. form of CHAMOIS.

Shammy[1] (ʃæ·mi). Also 7 **shammie**, 8 **shamy, shammey**. [A phonetic spelling of CHAMOIS.]

1. In full *shammy-leather*: a kind of soft, pliable leather. Cf. CHAMOIS 2. Also a piece of this, a wash-leather.

1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 142 Goat-Skins and Sheep-Skins drest ..in Imitation of Shammy. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 364 They are more capable of labour, than if they wore shammy, or dog-skin. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 93 Cover it with a piece of buff or shammy leather. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 443/2 The wash-leathers, sometimes called 'shammys' (chamois), now sold extensively in the streets, are for the most part the half of a sheep-skin, or of a larger lamb-skin. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 367/1 The process of manufacturing 'chamois' or 'shammy' leather is thus described.

2. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* a. Composed or made of 'shammy' or chamois leather.

1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 7 Some make them [*sc.* May-flies] with a shammie [eds. 1653, 1659 shammy] body. 1673 SHADWELL *Epsom Wells* I. 17 A couple of Gentlemen in Buff Belts, Red Coats, and Shammey Breeches. 1706 *Sir W. Calverley's Note-bk.* (Surtees) 112 A pair of good shamy gloves. 1766 H. WALPOLE *Let. to H. S. Conway* 12 Jan., I have got my cravat and shammy shoes. 1874 G. WALCH *Head over Heels* 83 Here it is—in this old Shammy bag.

†b. Of the colour of this leather; yellowish brown or light fawn. *Obs.*

1661 *Peacham's Compl. Gent.* xiv. 156 Shammy colour, a smoakie, or rain colour, which is a kind of yellow.

3. *Australia.* 'A bag of chamois leather in which miners keep their gold dust' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

[1874: cf. 2 a.]

Shammy[2] (ʃæ·mi). ? *nonce-wd.* [f. SHAM *a.* + -Y, after *dummy*.] A spurious imitation.

1822 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 214 This may be the case with horses' tails—real ones may be deliberately cut off, and some celebrated professor's shammies annexed to the beast's back in their stead.

Shamois, variant of CHAMOIS.

†**Sha·mously**, *adv. Obs.* Also **shamesly.** [f. **shamous* (f. SHAME *sb.* + -OUS: cf. SHAMEVOUS) + -LY[2].] Shamefully.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 143 Shamously my selfe þus schente I So sone for to sente to his slayng. 14.. *Wars Alex.* 739[v] (Dubl. MS.) Þus shamesly of hys awne childe hym chevyd such end.

Shamoy (ʃæ·moi), *v.* Also **shammoy, shammy.** [f. *shamoy* sb., var. CHAMOIS 2.] *trans.* To prepare (leather) by working oil or grease into the skin. Hence **Shamoyed** *ppl. a.*, **Shamoying** *vbl. sb.*

1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 67 Any subsequent operation, of tawing, or dyeing, oil-dressing, or shammoying. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 40/2 The process by which it is made is called shamoying or shammying... When whole skins are shamoyed, the grain surface is removed by scraping or rubbing with pumice-stone. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* III. 675 Shamoying consists in working into the skin a quantity of oil, which supplies the place of the vegetable astringent..in the processes of tanning and tawing. *Ibid.*, A large portion of shamoyed leather forms what is known as wash-leather. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* s. v. *Leather* 1195/2 Deer and antelope [skins] are usually *shamoyed*, or dressed in oil. 1882 PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 380/2 Shamoyed leather, consisting of skins combined with oils or fatty substances.

Shamoy(es, etc. : see CHAMOIS.

Shampany, obs. variant of CHAMPANY.

Shampin(n)ion, obs. forms of CHAMPIGNON.

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 7 To pickle Shampinnions. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shampinion*, a Mushroom.

Shampoo (ʃæmpū·), *sb.* [f. SHAMPOO *v.*] The act or operation of shampooing; also a 'wash' used for shampooing. Also *attrib.*

1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xii, Prince Shleek, will you have one shampoo? said she. A shampoo? said I; to be sure I will. 1866 COOLEY *Toilet* 477 The 'Shampoo Liquid' often used by the hairdressers, after cutting the hair. 1880 WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 May 14/1 The shampoo room and the general swimming tank..are the same size. 1897 *Times* 9 Aug. 10/3 The vessel was labelled 'Antiseptic shampoo'.

Shampoo (ʃæmpū·), *v.* Also 8–9 **shampo, 9 champo(e, champoo, champou, shampoe.** [Prob. a. Hindī *čāmpo*, imper. of *čāmpnā* to press. Cf. CHAMPING *vbl. sb.*[2] (from 1698).]

1. *trans.* To subject (a person, his limbs) to massage. Now *rare* or *Obs.*, exc. as designating a part of the process of a Turkish bath.

1762 [? NOBLE] *Voy. E. Indies*, etc. 226 Had I not seen several China merchants shampooed before me, I should have been apprehensive of danger. 1780 J. CAPPER *Let. in Observ. Passage India* (1785) 26 Some people have their nails cut and also are Shampoed. 1800 BEATSON *View War with Tippoo* 159 The Sultaun generally rose at break of day: after being champoed, and rubbed, he washed himself. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* II. 52 She [a Mahratta wife] first champoes her husband, and fans him to repose; she then champoes the horse. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, Miss Pankey was shampooed every morning. 1898 JEAN A. OWEN *Hawaii* iii. 65 In Tahiti, too, a traveller, on entering a house, is always given a mat to lie on, and his weary limbs are shampooed whilst food is prepared for him.

absol. 1823 *Mirror* I. 424/1 A man and his wife who profess to Shampoo, according to the Indian manner.

†b. *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, The other shampoo'd Mr. Winkle with a heavy clothes brush. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xii, So our diplomatists shampoo the English, and put 'em to sleep. How beautiful they shampoo'd them in the fishery story. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvii, Pinching the bed-curtains, poking into the feathers, shampooing the mattresses.

2. (The ordinary modern sense.) To subject (the scalp) to washing and rubbing with some cleansing agent, as soap and water, shampoo powder, etc.

1860 WORCESTER. 1881 *Times* 6 Jan. 4/3 The patient should have..the hair cut and shampooed, and the whole body well cleansed with carbolic soap.

Hence **Shampooed** (-pūˑd) *ppl. a.*

1821 SIR R. K. PORTER *Trav.* I. 232 This over, the shampooed body..is rubbed all over with a preparation of soap confined in a bag, till he is one mass of lather.

Shampooer (ʃæmpū·ər). [-ER[1].] One who shampoos, in either sense of the verb.

1829 LYTTON *Disowned* iv, The stranger's horse..being by no means in a good humour with the clumsy manœuvres of his Shampooer, the ostler. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. 144 It [a rough hair shirt] acts the part of a shampooer, and with its perpetual friction soothes the surface of the skin [etc.]. 1884 BRACHET *Aix-les-bains* I. 95 At Aix are found thoroughly trained shampooers. 1885 E. GREEY *Bakin's Captive of Love* iii. (1904) 21 At that moment two blind shampooers came along the road. 1906 BEGBIE *Priest* viii. 156 His reddish hair fresh from the shampooer's hand.

Shampoo·ing, *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action or operation of SHAMPOO *v.*

1762 [? NOBLE] *Voy. E. Indies*, etc. 226 Shampooing is an operation not known in Europe and is peculiar to the Chinese. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 114 We had long ago seen negroes employed in percussion upon their Barbadean masters, by whom it is termed 'Champooing'. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 350 To these [remedies] should be added a series of friction, and especially of shampooing or manipulation applied down the whole course of the spine. 1829 *Health & Longevity* 235 In the East Indies, friction with the hand, or what is called champouing, is generally practised. 1869 M. WILKS *Hist. Sk. S. India* (ed. 2) I. xii. 276 *note*, Shampooing may be compared to a gentle kneading of the whole person. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 778 In all these [remedies] the shampooing necessary for their thorough application plays an important part in the treatment.

attrib. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 213, I set up a sort of shampooing scheme for the cure of the lumbago. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 313 A shampooing or vapour bath. *a* 1881 R. W. PROCTER *Barber's Shop* xvii. (1883) 160 Brilliant with gas, and redolent of rich perfume, are the modern shampooing saloons.

Shamrock (ʃæ·mrǫk). Forms: α. 6 **shamrote**, 7 **shamroot**; β. 6 **shamrocke, sham-roke**, 7 **schamrock, shamrook**, 7 **shamocke**, 8 **shammock, shamroque**, 6– **shamrock**; γ. 7 **shamrogh, -rogth, shamerag, shamrug, -rogue, (chamroch)**, 7–8 **shamrog(e**, 8 **shamrogge, (shambrogue, -brogh)**. [a. Irish *seamróg* (= Gael. *seamrag*), dim. of *seamar* clover.]

1. A plant with trifoliate leaves, used (according to a late tradition) by St. Patrick to illustrate the doctrine of the Trinity, and hence adopted as the national emblem of Ireland; a spray or leaf of this plant.

The 'shamrock' of the legend has been conjecturally identified with many different plants, e. g. the white clover *Trifolium repens*, the red clover, *T. pratense*, the black medic, *Medicago lupulina*, the wood-sorrel, *Oxalis Acetosella*, and the water-cress. The name is now most commonly applied to the lesser yellow trefoil, *Trifolium minus*, which is the plant most frequently worn as an emblem on St. Patrick's Day.

α. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* I. vi. (1633) 18 Shamrotes, Water-cresses, Rootes, and other hearbes they feede upon. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 147 They feed willingly upon..Mushromes, Shamroots and rootes. 1613 WITHER *Abuses Stript* I. viii. Juvenilia (1633) 61 In no more cloathing than a mantle goe; And feed on Sham-rootes as the Irish doe.

β. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* viii. 28/1 in *Holinshed*, Water cresses, which they terme shamrocks, rootes and other herbes they feede vpon. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 654/2 Yf they founde a plotte of water-cresses or sham-rokes, there they flocked as to a feast for the time. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclxxvii. 1018 Medow Trefoile is called..in Irish Shamrockes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 163 They willingly eate the hearb Schamrock. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Armado* C 1 b, Their fare being many times shamrookes, oaten-bread, beanes and butter-milke. 1630 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* III. i. E 2 b, Worse then damnation, a wild Kerne,..Longed you for Shamocke? 1682 PIERS *Descr. West-Meath* (1770) 121 Butter, new cheese, and curds and shamrocks, are the food of the meaner sort all this season. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* I. i, I put a great shammock in his hat this morning. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 28 He marked our young hero on the left breast with a shamroque. 1813 T. MOORE *Oh the Shamrock!* 16 Chosen leaf Of Bard and Chief, Old Erin's native Shamrock! 1856 O. W. HOLMES *For Meeting Burns Club* 52 We drink a triple health,—the Rose, The Shamrock, and the Thistle! 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 5/7 Covent Garden sent King Edward a four-leaved shamrock on Saturday.

γ. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* IV. i. 138/2 Feeding vpon water-cresses, rootes, mushromes, shamrogh, butter tempered with oate-meale. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Sir Greg. Nonsence* Wks. 1630 II. 4/2 Whilst all the Hibernian Kernes in multitudes Did feast with Shamerags stew'd in Vsquebagh. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* I. i. 4 *margin*, Cresses.. of which the Irish Shamrogth are a kinde. 1643 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Preter-pluperfect* 4 Some Bookes also of Irish Rebellion were devoured as they had been Shamrogs [*misprinted* Shamroys]. 1681 DINELEY in *Jrnl. Kilkenny Archæol. Soc.* (1858) I. 183 The 17th day of March yeerly is S[t] Patricks, an immoveable feast, when .. the vulgar superstitiously wear shamroges, 3 leav'd grass. 1699 E. LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* (1712) XXVII. 506 Their Shamrug is the common Clover. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 455 P 2 The Scotch Thistle, the Irish Shambrogue. 1741 *Gentl. Mag.* XI. 438/1 Go little Shamrogge, and adorn My pretty Flavia's breast this morn.

b. *To drown the shamrock*: to drink, or go drinking, in honour of the shamrock, on St. Patrick's day.

[1726 THRELKELD *Syn. Stirpium Hibern.* s. v. *Trifolium*,

This Plant is worn by the People..upon..St. Patrick's Day. It being a current Tradition, that by this Three Leafed Grass, he emblematically set forth to them the Mystery of the Holy Trinity. However that be, when they wet their *Seamar-oge*, they often commit Excess in Liquor, which is not a right keeping of a Day to the Lord.] 1888 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. (Farmer), An Irishman..on Saturday last resolved to drown the shamrock in the orthodox fashion. 1901 *Ibid.* 18 Mar. 10/6 The opportunities for 'drowning the shamrock' were commendably abbreviated by the law.

2. Applied with defining word to some other plants (see quots.).

1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 124/2 Shamrock, Blue-flowered. *Parochetus communis*...Shamrock, Indian. *Trillium latifolium*. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants* 143 *Trigonella suavissima*..is the 'Australian shamrock' of Mitchell. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng., Shamrock, Native*, a forage plant, *Lotus australis*.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **shamrock pea**, *Parochetus communis* (Miller, *Plant-n.* 1884); † **Shamrock-shire**, a jocular name for Ireland.

1581 DERRICKE *Image of Irelande* (1883) 8 My soule dooeth detest their wilde shamrocke manners. 1689 *Irish Hudibras* 80 Which..Makes Wit so scarce in Shamrogeshire. 1724 MOFFET *Hesperi-neso-gr.* (1755) 3 Priests in Shambroghshire, they say, Can women kiss, as well as pray. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Apr. 5/6 The same shamrock-embroidered bonnet.

Shamscrit, obs. form of SANSKRIT.

‖ **Shamsheer.** Also 7 **chemchir**, 9 **shumsheer**. [Pers. شمشیر *shamshīr* (see SCIMITAR). The form *shumsheer* is Anglo-Ind.] = SCIMITAR 1.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 111 Three Cozel-bashawes standing by, in an instant whipt off all their heads, with their slicing Shamsheers or Semiters. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 41 The third Piece was a Chemchir, or sword. 1834 *Baboo* I. viii. 128 (Stanf.) With my shumsheer's point I directed the march towards the fort.

Shamshue, obs. variant of SAMSHOO.

1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 217 They have another strong Liquor besides Shamshue. [*Ibid.* 155 Samshue.]

† **Sha·mster**, ? *nonce-wd.* [f. SHAM *v.* + -STER.] A shammer, impostor.

1716 *Coll. State Songs, Poems*, etc. 40 They swore the lov'd Shamster [*i.e.* the Pretender] to Britain they'd bring.

Shamulle(r, obs. forms of SHAWM, SHAWMER.

Shamway, obs. form of CHAMOIS.

Shamwelle, obs. form of SHAMBLE *sb.*1

Shamy, obs. form of SHAMMY *sb.*1

Shamyana, variant of SHAMIANA(H.

Shamyll, obs. form of SHAMBLE *sb.*1

Shan (Jæn), *sb.*1 [Of obscure origin.] The SHANNY.

1713 JAGO in Ray *Synopsis Pisc.* 164 *Cataphractus lævis, Cornubiensis.* Smooth Shan. 1851 GOSSE *Nat. Hist., Fishes* 168 The most common of our Blennies is the Shanny (*Blennius pholis*, Linn.), sometimes called the Smooth Shan, an epithet probably alluding to the absence of those fringed appendages to the head with which all our other true Blennies are furnished.

Shan, *sb.*2 *slang.* ? *Obs.* Also **shand.** [Cf. SHAN *a.*] Counterfeit or base coin. Also *fig.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Shan*, counterfeit money in general. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxii, I doubt Glossin will prove but shand after a'..; but this is a gude half-crown ony way. [*Note*, Cant expression for base coin.]

Shan (Jæn), *sb.*3 *Naut.* [Of obscure origin; the Norwegian *skaan* hard crust (ON. *skán* thin membrane, film) has been compared.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Shan*, a defect in spars, most commonly from bad collared knots; an injurious compression of fibres in timber: the turning out of the cortical layers when the plank has been sawed obliquely to the central axis of the tree.

Shan, *a. Sc.* and *north.* ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Pitiful, silly; poor, mean, paltry, shabby.

1714 RAMSAY *Elegy on John Cowper* xiii, Of umquhile John to lie or bann, Shaws but ill will, and looks right shan. 1719 — *To Hamilton, 1st Answ.* vi, Ye're never rugget, shan, nor kittle. 1776 HERD *Sc. Songs* II. 264 Gloss. 1906 A. MCCORMICK *Tinkler-Gypsies Galloway* iii. 128 A flat-fitted or shan-winklered (bad-eyed) body.

Shanachie, -y, variant forms of SENNACHIE.

1898 J. MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 53 Shanachy.

‖ **Shanavest** (Jæ·nävest). *Irish.* Also *erron.* **Shanavat.** [According to Dr. P. W. Joyce, f. Irish *sean* old + VEST *sb.* (The opposing faction were called *caravats* = 'cravats').] *pl.* The name of one of the fighting factions into which the peasantry of the South of Ireland were formerly divided.

1811 J. JEBB in C. Forster *Corr. betw. J. & Knox* (1834) II. 41 The Archbishop..promises to insure you against caravats, shanavests, and all such marauders. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 518 Whiteboys, Shanavats,..and Captain Rock. 1862 BORROW *Wales* c. III. 380 My father..was the best fighting man with a stick that the Shanavests ever had.

Shancre, obs. form of CHANCRE.

† **Shand,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* In 5 **schand.** ? Beautiful, handsome.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 84 The plesant Pacock..schand in his schap. *Ibid.* 112 That ȝe wald cry apon Crist..To schape me [*sc.* an Owl] a schand bird.

Shand, var. f. SHAN *sb.*2

Shandaradan, obs. form of SHANDRYDAN.

Shande, variant of SHOND *Obs.*, disgrace.

Shandean (Jæ·ndiăn, Jændī·ăn), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 8 **Shandeyan**, 9 **Shandyan** (*sb.*), **Shandeian.** [f. (*Tristram*) *Shandy*, the title of a novel (1759–67) by Sterne + -AN.] Pertaining to *Tristram Shandy*, or the Shandy family there portrayed.

1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xvii, I write a careless kind of a civil, nonsensical, good-humoured Shandean book, which will do all your hearts good. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. Pref. 8 A couple of Shandean duodecimos. 1769 CHATTERTON *Jrnl. Sixth* Poet. Wks. (1886) 153 But Hudibrastics may be found To tire ye with repeated sound, So changing for a Shandeyan style, I ask your favour and your smile. 1782 T. JEFFERSON *Notes State of Virginia* (1787) 234 His stile is easy and familiar, except when he affects a Shandean fabrication of words. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* (1891) 107 Scott's delightful Shandean jest on him. 1909 SICHEL *Sheridan* I. 3 [Sheridan's] inner texture is Shandeian.

Comb. 1762a STERNE *Let.* 9 July, Wks. 1885 IV. 496, I had hired a chaise and horse.., but, Shandeanlike, did not take notice that the horse was almost dead when I took him.

b. *sb.* One who has the 'Shandean' spirit.

1856 P. FITZGERALD *Lamb* (ed. 2) 187 Another point of resemblance between these two great Shandyans [*sc.* Sterne and Lamb] was their both writing little quaint autobiographies.

So also † **Shanda·ic** *a.* **Sha·ndeism** (**Sha·ndyism**), the style or the philosophy of the novel *Tristram Shandy*. **Sha·ndy** *v.* quasi-trans., *to Shandy it*, to play a Shandean part; *trans.* to bandy in Shandean fashion. † **Sha·ndyize** *v.* = prec.

a 1761 J. GILBERT *Let. to Sterne*, Shandyise. 1761 STERNE *Let.* ? Aug., Wks. 1885 IV. 479 If God..had not poured forth the spirit of Shandeism into me, which will not suffer me to think two moments upon any grave subject. 1762 — *Let.* 19 Mar., *Ibid.* 485, I Shandy it away fifty times more than I was ever wont, talk more nonsense than ever you heard me talk in your days. 1766 — *Let.* 25 Nov., *Ibid.* 542, I am going to lie in of another child of the Shandaick procreation, in town. 1831 *Mirror* XVII. 234/2 The book is altogether *Shandean*, and the satire *shandied* to and fro with great vivacity. 1891 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 6/1, I.. imbibed Shandyism from him [Sterne] to the dregs. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* May 712 He invented a Shandeism perfectly consistent with his own age and his own taste.

Shandeller, obs. variant of CHANDLER.

1547 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 313 Twa silver shandellers.

Shanderadan, -erydan, obs. ff. SHANDRYDAN.

Shandigaff, variant of SHANDYGAFF.

Shandry (Jæ·ndri). *North-west dial.* Also **shanderee, shandray.** [Perh. shortened from next, which however is later in our quots.] A light cart or trap on springs. Also *shandry cart.*

1802 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* iv. 95 Dud the cusen keep a horse an a shanderee? 18.. J. BRIGGS *Rem.* (1825) 93 (E.D.D.), We hired a shandry to carry us to Little Langdale. 1836 SIR G. HEAD *Home Tour* 427, I saw this happy couple drive away from the inn together, in a light shandry cart. 1859 DICKENS *Haunted Ho.* VII. 45 I'll drive yo' in the shandry. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Sexton's Hero* in *Cousin Phillis*, etc. 280 We borrowed a shandry, and harnessed my old grey mare. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss., Shandray*, a one-horse carriage. 1888 *Bury Times* 1 Sept. 6 Damages to a milk shandry.

Shandrydan (Jæ·ndridæn). Also **shandry-dan, shandridan, -redan, -radan, shan-dra-dam; shandaradan, -ery-dan, -eradan; shat-terydan shattaradan.** [Of obscure origin: in some way related to prec.] A kind of chaise with a hood. In later use, a jocular designation for any rickety old-fashioned vehicle.

1820 HOGG in *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 391 Dr. Morris wheeling..yon furious shandrydan. 1823 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 277 [A parody of Moore's *Loves of the Angels.*] When in Hyde Park we grac'd the ride In the old royal shandaradan. 1829 A. SEDGWICK in Clark & Hughes *Life & Lett.* (1890) I. 353 A machine with two seats, but in every other respects like a Dent's shandery-dan. 1830 MRS. ELIZ. HOLMES *Scenes in our Parish* 276 To be sure Haynes the cobler has a curious shandridan, sometimes open and sometimes covered. 1838 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 235 One of those cabs (or shanderadans, as they call them). 1849 J. COLQUHOUN *Rocks & Rivers* 15 Now, landlord, out with the shan-dra-dam. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxii. 134 Having got the last shandry-dan deposited under the hay-house, he had just time [etc.]. 1860 H. MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* Introd. 3 The only private carriage that appears in the streets is the Princess's shandredan. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads* 75 When..gigs and shandradans of every grade would be bespoken by special retainers. 1873 R. A. FITZGERALD *Wickets in West* 70 Shatterydans of various kinds conveyed them to the Russell House [Ottawa]. 1900 ELIN. GLYN *Visits of Eliz.* 158 A few of the really odd kinds of shandrydans that one sees coming to country garden parties in England.

Shandy (Jæ·ndi), *sb.* Short for SHANDYGAFF.

1888 *Daily News* 4 June 3/1 Sparkling hop, shandy, and other new-fangled drinks. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Oct. 5/2 The witness..supplied him with some bitter-shandy.

Shandy (Jæ·ndi), *a. dial.* Also **shanny.** [Of obscure origin; connexion with OE. *sceand* masc., buffoon, charlatan, *sceand* fem., disgrace (see SHOND) is unlikely.] Wild, boisterous; also visionary, empty-headed, half-crazy. See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 62 *Shandy*, wild. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 351 *Shandy*, a little crack-brained; somewhat crazy. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Shanny*, shatter-brained. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Shandy*, crack-brained, shallow, crazy. 'He's quite shandy.' Also, slender in person. 'A spare shandy sort of a figure.' 1884 TROLLOPE *Old Man's Love* I. 107 Could there be anything more moonstruck, more shandy, more wretchedly listless, than for a girl..to indulge in dreams of an impossible lover. 1895 A. PATTERSON *Man & Nat. on Broads* 27 Master'll wonder if I'm clean gone tu sleep or if I'm shanny.

Comb. **Shandy-pated** *a.*, giddy, thoughtless.

1806 BLOOMFIELD *Wild Flowers, Horkey* 47 A shanny-pated crew. 1863 TROLLOPE *Rachel Ray* I. 250 Mrs. Ray..was so inconsequent in her mental workings, so shandy-pated if I may say so, that [etc.]. 1867 — *Chron. Barset* I. xxxii. 276, I am in such matters so shandy-pated, that I can trust myself to be sure of nothing.

Shandygaff (Jæ·ndigæf). Also **shandigaff.** [Of unknown origin.] A drink composed of a mixture of beer and ginger-beer.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verd. Green* I. xii, He taught me..to make shandy-gaff and sherry-cobbler. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xv, With a large pewter, foaming with shandygaff, in each hand. 1881 J. PAYN *Grape from a Thorn* II, A glass of 'shandigaff'. 1903 F. MARKHAM *Recoll. Town Boy Westminster* 135 What with the charge for the [racquet-] court, our luncheon, and frequent shandy-gaffs, our money only just lasted out.

Shane, Sc. f. SANE *v.*; obs. pa. t. of SHINE *v.*

† **Shangan,** *Sc. Obs.* Also **shangin, shanjan.** [a. Gael. *seangan*, ? f. *seang* slender, narrow.] 'A stick cleft at one end for putting on a dog's tail' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Cf. SHANGY *sb.*

1786 BURNS *Ordination* ii, He'll clap a shangan on her tail, An' set the bairns to daud her Wi' dirt this day. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Thoughts on Seasons* 20 And Gibby skelp'd before the fae, Like Colly wi' a shangin. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 425.

Shanghai (Jæŋhaĭ·), *sb.* Also **Shanghae, -hay.** [f. *Shanghai* or *Shanghae*, the name of one of the chief seaports of China.]

1. A long-legged, large breed of domestic fowls, with feathered shanks, reputed to have been introduced from Shanghai; now developed into the brahmas and cochins.

1853 TEGETMEIER *Profit. Poultry* 19 Cochins or Shanghaes. 1853 FORTUNE in Wingfield & Johnson *Poultry Bk.* 3 The Shanghae breed. *Ibid.*, Some of the Shanghae fowls' eggs have double yolks. 1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U.S.* I. 164 Varieties..such as the Shanghae fowl, for instance.

2. *Australian.* A catapult.

1863 *Leader* 24 Oct. 17/1 (Morris), Turn, turn thy shanghay dread aside, Nor touch that little bird. 1875 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 15 May 22/1 The lads had with them a couple of pistols, powder, shot, bullets, and a shanghai. 1901 DYSON *Gold-stealers* viii. 81 The plan brought Dicky, 'shanghai' in hand, under the tree where Hardy sat.

3. *U.S.* (see quot.).

1880 *Scribner's Monthly* Jan. 365/1 The 'shanghai' is the glaring daub required by some frame-makers for cheap auctions. They are turned out at so much by the day's labor, or at from $12 to $24 a dozen, by the piece.

4. *Shanghai oil*: an oil extracted from the seeds of *Brassica chinensis*. 1867 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 453.

Shanghai', *v.* [Formed as prec.]

1. trans. *Naut. slang.* (orig. *U.S.*) To drug or otherwise render insensible, and ship on board a vessel wanting hands.

1871 *N. Y. Tribune* 1 Mar. (Schele de Vere *Americanisms*, p. 347), And before that time they would have been drugged, shanghaied, and taken away from all means of making complaint 1887 S. SAMUELS *Forecastle to Cabin* 46 To be carried or forced on board of a ship in this manner is what is termed in sailor parlance being shanghaied. *transf.* 1909 *Chamb. Jrnl.* July 440/2, I have got the Grand Duke pretty well shanghaied.

2. *Australian.* [See prec. sb. 2.] 'To shoot with a shanghai' (*Webster's Suppl.* 1902).

Shangy (Jæ·ŋi), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Also **shangie.** [? Altered form of SHANGAN.]

1. A shackle; *pl.* handcuffs.

1808 JAMIESON, *Shangie*, a shackle that runs on the stake to which a cow is bound in the byre. 1839 *Dundee Advertiser* 12 Apr., As he remained obstreperous, the policeman put on the shangies. 1864 LATTO *Tammas Bodkin* x. 89 Clappin' the shangies on my wrists.

2 = SHANGAN.

1825 JAMIESON, Shangan, Shanjan, Shanjie..It is pronounced *shangie*, ROXB. 1843 M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Hist. Table Bk.*, Legend. Div. I. 117 Tom..sneaket off like a tyke wi' a shangy on his tail.

Shank (Jæŋk), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 **sceanca, scanca, scance**, 2–3 **scanke**, 3 (*Ormin*) **shankk**, 3–7 **schank(e, shanke**, 4 **sschanke**, 4–5 **schanke**, 6 **shainke, shanke, sanke, shaunck**, 6–7 **shanck(e**, 5– **shank.** β. 1 **sconca, sconc**, 3 **sconke, shonke, (soncke)**, 3–4 **schonke.** [OE. *sc(e,anca* wk. masc. corresponds to LG. *schanke* leg, thigh, Flem. *schank* bone (Sw., Da. *skank*, Norw. *skonk* thigh, prob. from LG.):—WGer. **skankan-*; also, with difference of declension, to MLG. *schenke*, Du. *schenk* leg-bone (:—**skanki-*); a derivative from the same grade of the root is MLG., MHG., mod.G. *schenkel* thigh (WGer. **skankila-*). From other grades of the root (**skink-*: **skank-*: **skunk-*) are OS. *scinka*, gl. L. 'basis', 'tibia' (MLG. *schinke* thigh, ham), OHG. *scinko* masc., *scinka* fem., leg-bone, thigh (MHG. *schinke* masc., thigh, ham, mod.G. *schinken* masc., ham); OFris. *skunka, sconck* (mod.Fris. *skonk, schunk*), LG. (Koolman) *schunke* thigh, ham, Du. *schonk* bone. The OE. str. form *sconc* neut. (see 1 e) may belong to either the *a* or the *u* grade.

The root agrees formally, and may be identical, with that of ON. *skakk-r* wry, distorted (:—OTeut **skanko-*), which is prob. cogn. w. Gr. σκάζειν (:—pre-Hellenic **sq'ngy-*) to limp. Even assuming the identity of the root, however, the etymological meaning of the Teut. sbs. remains obscure.]

1. That part of the leg which extends from the knee to the ankle; the tibia or shin-bone. Also (now *jocularly*) the leg as a whole; chiefly *pl.* one's legs.

a. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xix. 33 þa hi to þam hælende comon & gesawon þæt he dead wæs ne bræcon hi na his sceancan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 160/15 *Crus*, scance; *crura*, sceanca. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4775 Brest, & wambe, & þes, & cnes, & fet, & shannkess. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14064 And sco hir vnttement me broght And smerd has me fote and schank. *Ibid.* 28002 If þou..has bituix hir scankes gan or tirid or tut or skirt vptan. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 81 Men ballokes hyngez doune to þaire schankes. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 326 Thenne thei styrte vp on hy with staloworth shankes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Parastata*, also one of the bones in the shanke of the legge. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 25 Sundry flowring bankes, To sit and rest the walkers wearie shankes. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 131 Come, stir your shanks nimbly or Ile hough you. 1674 SCHEFFER *Lapland* v. 12 Slender wasts, spindle shanks, and swift of foot. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 16 With eye askance I view the muscular proportion'd limb Transform'd to a lean shank. 1888 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xiv, My stockings..were quite worn through, so that my shanks went naked. 1890 H. G. DAKYNS tr. *Xenophon's Anab.* III. ii. Wks. I. 156 In fact we, on our stout shanks, are better mounted than those cavalry fellows.

β. a 900 *Kent. Glosses* 58 in *O.E. Texts* 173 *Tibiis*, sconcum. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 101 (Gr.), Læteð flint brecan scines sconcan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 Ar plesze þih and shonkes and fet oppieð, wombe gosshieð, and shuldres wrenchieð. *c* 1205 LAY. 5863 Lihteð of eowre blanken and stondeð on eowre sconken. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Þeo ilke reouðfulle garcen of þe luðere skurgen, nout one in his [Christ's] schonken, auh ȝeond al his leofliche licome. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 48 Ich habbe i-blend men ant ibroken ham þe schonken & te schuldren baðen. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 780 Wrynge þou not wyth þy schonkes.

b. *Shanks'* (or *Shanks's*) *mare, pony*, etc.: one's own legs as a means of conveyance.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 333 And auld shanks-naig wad tire, I dread, To pace to Berwick. *a* 1795 S. BISHOP *Poet. Wks.* (1796) I. 204 I'd rather..ride on Shanks's Mare. 1823 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 11 Feb. (1894) II. xix. 167, I found shanksnaigie..the only way of moving by which I could get out to dinner. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* XII. iii, I'll start for Carnarvon on Shanks's pony.

c. The lower part of the foreleg of some animals, *spec.* of a horse, that part between the so-called knee and the fetlock, corresponding to the metacarpus. Also, the tarsus of a bird; the tibia or fourth joint of the leg of an insect.

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 362 Nim blæces hundes deades þone swyþran fotsceancan.] *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 310 (Gr.), Sindon þa scancan [of the Phœnix] scyllum biweaxen, fealwe fotas. 1545 T. SCALON *Treat. Astron.* (MS. Ashm. 391) lf. 1 In Tauro..the schank or sperlure. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 82 b, Making him [Pan] to haue the head and shankes of a goate. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 147 The marrow of the shanks [of the Crane] is used in ophthalmick unguents. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 194 The Bees by their pale coloured Shanks at their return home, shew whence they have their Store. *a* 1777 GOLDSM. *Epil. Harlequin* 31 'The deuce confound,' he [the stag] cries, 'these drumstick shanks.' 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxii. (1818) II. 286 These legs..vary in larvæ of the different orders: but they seem in most to have joints answering to the hip (*coxa*); trochanter; ..shank (*tibia*). *a* 1843 J. F. SOUTH *Zool.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 284/1 The legs [of insects] are divided into five parts,—the hip, trochanter, thigh, shank, and foot. 1881 ROMANES in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 751 The so-called knee of the horse is really the wrist or ankle, and the so-called shank, the middle toe or finger very much enlarged.

d. As part of a joint of meat, e.g. in a ham, a leg of mutton, etc.

1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 180 Good broth, made of shank of beef, or veal and mutton. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 279 A ham without its shank. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 60 He brings in triumph a basket out of which sticks the shank of a huge leg of mutton. 1908 C. H. SENN *Pocket Dict. Foods & Culinary Encyclopædia* 132 *Shank Jelly*, a kind of savoury jelly, lightly seasoned, recommended to weak people.

†2. *pl.* A kind of fur obtained from the legs of animals, esp. kids, goats or sheep, used for trimming outer garments. *Obs.*

1480 *Wardrobe Acc. Edw. IV* in *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York*, etc. (1830) 116 A furre of blac bogy shanks. 1502 *North Country Wills* (Surtees) 268 My gowne of tawney furred with shankles [*sic*]. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 43 A nolde gowne of blake furryd with blake sankes. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 330 One gowne faced with Shanks. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Furre*, Shankes be the skin of the shanke or legge of a kind of kid which beareth the furre that we call Budge.

3. *Sc.* A stocking, or that part of it which covers the leg; esp. a stocking in process of being knitted. Also *U.S. pl.* leggings.

c 1546 P. VAUS in Agnew *Hered. Sheriffs Galloway* (1893) I. 362, I pray yow vat ye vaild send me sum mo schankis, for them that I haine vill be schone doine. 1603 *Philotus* XXX, 3our schankis of silk 3our veluot schone. 1611 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 142 Twa pair of schanks wt ane hatt [etc.]. 1644-5 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 164 Item, two pair wovin whyt shankis to him, at threttie shillings ye pair, 3 lib. *a* 1867 W. ANDERSON in *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. II. (1882) 235 Jean scrapit a livin' wi' weavin' at shanks. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 213 The lang evenin's 's drawin' on noo, an' it's tiresome nae to hae a bit shank to tak' i' yer han' files. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 510/1 Four or five pairs of heavy woollen socks cover his feet, and over them is placed a pair of caribou shanks.

4. *transf.* **†a.** Each of the 'legs' of a pair of compasses. Also each of the 'legs' of a triangle. *Obs.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vii. 87 In the drawing of a Circle, the one shanke of the Compasses is set fast in some place, and the other shanke is caried round about. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. xxxix. § 5. 344 All men [have]..the shank of their Compasse so set in a center that the Circle of their lines are [etc.]. 1679 A. LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 159 The Isocele, or Triangle of equal Shanks.

b. Each of the two portions of a pair of scissors between the bow and the joint.

1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 40 Ladies' and fancy scissors, the shanks of which have been composed of rich open work. 1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmonger's Catal.* 63 Scissors..Bent Blade and Shank.

c. *Arch. pl.* The plane spaces between the grooves of the Doric triglyph.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 593 Shanks; the interstitial spaces between the channels of the trigliph, in the Doric frieze; sometimes called Legs. 1836-50 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5).

d. Each of the two cheeks or side-pieces of a spur. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

5. The stem or straight part of anything. Cf. SHAFT *sb.*2 **a.** The stem of a goblet, glass, etc.

1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods York*, etc. (Surtees) 168 The foote, shancke, and knoppe of the challaice. 1583-4 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. 420 Oone sault, the foote, shainke, and cover of lapis-lazule. 1625 in Rymer *Fœdera* XVIII. 238/1 One Salte of Goulde..haveing uppon the Shanke three great course Saphires. 1825 GALT *Last of Lairds* iii. 28 He had the shank o' the very glass in his hand he had held to his old frien's lips.

b. The straight part of a nail or pin, between the head and the taper of the point. Also of a drill or borer.

1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 12 § 2 No Merchant Stranger.. shall bring into this Realm..Latten Nails with Iron Shanks. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 Pinnes..such as shal.. haue the heads soudered fast to the shanke. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 7 An hole..to set the blunt end of the shank of the Drill in. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Shoeing Horses*, The Shanks of the Nails should be somewhat flat, and the Points sharp. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 20 A shank or small mandrel..with a square hole..at the end of it, into which drill bits of various sizes can be alternately inserted. 1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* I. 174 The coral animal is..not much larger than a pin's shank.

c. The stem of a plant (†*Sc.* also the trunk of a tree); the pedicel or footstalk of a flower; the footstalk or connecting part of any organ in a plant.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. viii. 70 And like as quhen the anciant aik tre, With his byg schank, be north wynd oft we se Is vmbeset. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 413 Ane penny..havand on the one syde ane palmetre crownit, ane schell padocke crepand up the schank of the samyn. 1617 MARKHAM *Country Housew. Garden* ix. (1648) 96 Set slips without shankes any time, except [etc.]. [*a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 109 One Apple of the short-shank Pepin-kind.] 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Schank*, And Scot. the stalk of any herb or plant is called the shank. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 211 Its long tubular shank is finely rayed, the inside with purple-bluish veins. 1751 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Clove*, Cloves must be chosen dry,..and if possible, with the shank on. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xiv. (1813) 197 Earth up the shanks [of cucumber plants] with dry mould. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 56 And the dock, and henbane, and hemlock dank, Stretched out its long and hollow shank. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 235 They are connected..by means of shanks or diverging limbs, which are attached to the neighbouring bundles on either side.

†d. The tunnel of a chimney. *Obs.*

c 1525 *Contract* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 42 The schanck of the chymnies. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Fumarium*,..also the shanke or tonell of a chymneye. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey).

e. The shaft or stem of an anchor, connecting the arms and the stock.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 Than thai maid fast the schank of the ankyr. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 The Anchor hath a stocke, a ring, a shanke, a flouke. *a* 1779 COOK *3rd Voy. Pacific* III. viii. (1784) II. 129 The ring, with part of the shank, and the two palms [of the anchor] were now wanting. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 165 The shank lying athwartships under the boat. 1905 GEIL *Yankee in Pigmy Land* XXV. 375 Had the steering gear of the 'Flandre' broken, we should have gone over the cataracts in spite of the shanks being ready to cast.

†f. The stem of a candlestick. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. (1592) 347 So then Christ is the shanke or shaft of the candlestick. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 244 Hard by this Altar are two very rich candlestickes..; the whole shanke betwixt the base and the socket being about eight foot high. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shank*,..the Stem of a Candle-stick.

g. The straight part of a fish-hook, to which the line is attached.

a 1613 DENNIS *Secrets Angling* I. xviii, His Shank should neither be to short nor long, His point not ouersharpe, nor yet too dull. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 331 Lay your Line on the Inside of the Shank. 1910 H. T. SHERINGHAM in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/2 (*Angling*), A leaded hook round the shank of which is twisted bright-coloured wool.

†h. The neck of a still or alembic. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. lxxvi. 608, C Is the shanke, which must be a foote long at the least, and is otherwise called the neck of the stillitorie.

i. The cylindrical portion of a stop-cock.

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 11 There was soder'd on to the shank of the Cock..a Plate of Tin. 1797 CURR *Coal Viewer* 55 Injection Cocks. To be made of brass with square shanks.

j. *Typog.* The body of a type, as distinguished from the shoulder, face, and foot.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 390 The square Mettle the Face of a Letter stands on, is called the Shank of a Letter. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 219/2 Low spaces and quads must all be raised to the level of the height of the shanks of the letters prior to moulding.

k. The stem of a key, between the bow and the bit.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 6 The shank of a Key also, or some such long hole, the Punch cannot strike. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2132/4 Lost.., a large Key with a Coronet and fluted Shank filed cross.

l. The stem of a tobacco-pipe.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 271/2 Long shanks [of a Tobacco-pipe]..Short shanks or ends. *Ibid.* 272/1 A Shanking toole..to rub and polish and make smooth the shanks of the pipes. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 404 Keep stirring the mixture with the shank of a tobacco-pipe. 1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 46 He ran a straw down the shank of his pipe.

m. The slender part between the flattened handle and the bowl of a spoon; the narrow part of a spoon-handle. Also, the handle of a ladle.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 6/1 Spoons are made plaine, but with wrought shanks, and heads with diuerse deuises. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 585 By lifting it [the glass] out in flat copper ladles with iron shanks.

n. The blank part of a screw, or screw-bolt, between the thread and the head.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 28 You must make wide holes, big enough to receive the shank of the Screw. *Ibid.* 29 The shank of the Screw..must be Forged square near the Head. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 300 The shanks of these Screws are made so long as to reach through the Head and through the Cap: at the upper-end of these shanks is made male-screws. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 217 The narrow part of slot slips down over shank of screw, and the head holds the shelf firmly in its place.

o. *Arch.* The shaft of a column.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 652/2 It [Pompey's Column] is made up of three Pieces, of which the Chapiter is one, the Shank and three Feet of the Basis forms the second, and the Basis compose the third.

p. *Sc.* The shaft of a pit or mine.

1790 A. WILSON *Poems* 265 (Jam.) Nine score o' fathoms shanks down lead, To let the hammerin' core in. 1887 SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* xxi. 138 This lowsing the stanes in the shank, so chirted oot the bratticing that at last [etc.].

q. The tang of a knife, chisel, etc. or part which is inserted in the handle; the continuation of the tang of a tool or instrument.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 388/1 The Shank [of a chisel]. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 346 Strong bayonets, with short firm shanks Protruded from their tubes.

r. (*a*) The part of a harpoon between the 'socket' and the 'mouth'. (*b*) The tapering part of an oar between the handle and the blade. (*c*) *dial.* The handle of a broom, rake, spade, etc.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

(*a*) 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 223.
(*b*) 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Comp.* '*Oarsman's Guide*' 30 The oar or scull [consists] of handle, loom, shank, and blade. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 297/2 (Rowing) *Oar*...Its chief parts are—the *blade*, broad and thin, which is dipped in the water, the *loom* or *shank*, and the *handle*, which the oarsman grips.

s. The stylet of a trocar.

1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 393 The surgeon..then plunges in the trocart by a sharp quick blow. ..He instantly withdraws the shank, supporting with his left hand the canula.

t. The fang of a tooth. *rare.*

1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* iii. § 5. 245 The germ of the coronal portion of the tooth was first secreted, and the entire crown completed before the formation of the shank or fang commenced.

u. The narrow part of a boot or shoe which connects the sole with the heel; the waist.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shank-cutter*, a machine or tool for cutting shanks for boots and shoes. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 830.

v. That part of an ax-head which is between the edge and the back, which in some old forms is drawn out long and thin. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

w. The straight piece of tubing in a trumpet. 1892 A. J. HIPKINS *Let. to Editor.*

6. A part or appendage by which something is attached. (Cf. 6 c, 'footstalk'.)

a. That part of a ring which encircles the finger.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 91/1 (Jewellers' terms.) Shank, is that part as compasseth the Finger, the Ring part. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4691/4 A large enamelled Ring set like a Lozenge, with 18 Diamonds about the Stone and Shank.

b. A lug, stud, or ear, projecting from an object, by which it is held, or which affords a bearing or point of attachment.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 28 This spring is..fixed at the bottom of the Main-plate, by two small shanks proceeding from that edge of the spring that lies against the Main-plate ..: These shanks are to be rivetted..on the other side of the Main-plate.

c. (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 462/1 The Shank [of the Clapper of a Bell], the length of it to the Ball.

d. The wire loop by which some kinds of buttons are attached.

1790 H. CLAY *Patent* in *Repertory of Arts* (1800) XII. 242 If a shank of metal is wanted or preferred,..the shank is to be put into or through a single piece or pieces of slate or slit stone,..leaving a metal stud, or other ornament, on the top of the button. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 86 (*Button-maker*), To this plate is soldered the eye or 'shank' made of wire. 1904 QUILLER-COUCH *Fort Amity* XV. 180

She..began with her embroidery scissors to snip at the shanks of its breast-buttons.

7. In names of various tools and implements.

†a. A bone pin for slating. *Obs.*

1716 *Ford* (Northumbld.) *Ch.-bks.* (MS.), Paid for three pecks of shanks, from Newcastle, 3s. 8d.

b. *Founding.* A clay-lined ladle having long handles, one of them T-shaped, in which to carry molten metal from the furnace to the mould.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 369 A double hand-ladle, or a shank. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shank,* a double hand-ladle, capable of holding 2 to 4 cwt. of melted metal, carried in foundries by from three to five men.

c. *pl.* (See quot.)

1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1265 The lenses..are brought to the circular form with flat pliers called shanks, the jaws of which are made of soft iron that they may more readily..take a firm hold.

d. A short rope or chain (*spec.* = †short for *shank-painter*); 'a tie-strap of a halter; the loose end of a rope or chain' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shank,* or *shank-Painter,* (in Sea-Affairs) a short Chain [etc.]. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Shank,* a rope by which a horse is tied up in the stall.

8. *Sc.* and *north.* 'The projecting part of a hill, or the narrow ridge, which, like a stem, joins the mass to the level ground' (*Northumbld. Gloss.* 1894).

1602 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 485/2 The south schank of ane hill callit the peithill. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 201, I thought I heard a queer unearthly greet coming down the shank, and wizing ay nearer, and nearer to the byre door. 1887 *Scotsman* 19 Mar., The long 'shanks' and the abounding waterfalls.

9. *dial.* and *U.S.* The latter end or part of anything: the remainder or last part of a thing.

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* II. 113 'The shank of the evening', twilight. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 220 The shank of the day. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log of Cowboy* xviii. 280 Miller made him knock off along in the shank of the evening.

10. a. Some unidentified plant (quot. 1657). b. 'A name applied to plants of the genus *Bryonia*' (Worcester 1860 citing *Johnson*).

1657 BECK *Universal Charac.* K 8, Shanke herb.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shank-end*; †**shank-hook**, a hook to secure the shank of an anchor when it is being drawn up to the ship's side; **shank-jelly** (see quot.); †**shank-main**, the pastern (of a horse); **shank-net**, a trawl-net used in shrimping; **shank-painter** = PAINTER[2] 1; **shank-piece** (see quot.); †**shank-pillion**, a pommel.

1837 A. BYWATER *Sheffield Dial.* (1839) 170 Nah, mo lads, we'n get'n tot *shank end at year ageean. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 197/1 Put one [file] in a vice and knock the shank end off. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 38 Catte hokes with tree..v, *Shanke hokes..iij. 1824 *New Syst. Cookery* 372 *Shank Jelly. Soak twelve shanks of mutton four hours ..Pour three quarts of water to them [etc.]. 1898 SENN *Culin. Encycl.* 86 Shank Jelly. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Paturon de cheval,* the *shanke-maine of a horse. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 14 *Shank Net or Shrimp Net, to be used from a Boat. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 258 *Shankpayntours feble ..ij, Bowpayntours for destrelles feble..j, Shankpayntors for destrelles worne & feble..ij. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 31 The Shank-painter is a short chaine fastend vnder the fore masts shrouds with a bolt to the ships sides, and at the other end a rope to make fast the Anchor to the Bow. 1642 H. BOND *Boat Swains Art* 17, 4 Shank Panters of 3½ inches. 1 Shank Panter for the Streame Anchor 3 inches. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 37 To have Bolts for the Top-tackles, standing Parts of the Sheets, Shank-painter Chains. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 57 The shank painter is then passed. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 280/1 The sole in a machine-made shoe would mean a sole, an inner sole, *shank piece [etc.]. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 639/2 The furniture of his horse, ..his *shaunckpillion without stirrops.

Shank, variant of CHANK (*-shell*).

1861 P. P. CARPENTER *Mollusca* 33 (Cent.) The shank-shell is carved by the Cingalese; when found reversed it is considered sacred.

Shank (ʃæŋk), *v.* [f. SHANK *sb.*]

1. *dial.* a. *intr.* To walk, to travel on foot; also with const. *away.* Often *to shank it.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, King's Birthday* 83 If baudrins slip but to the door,..I fear, She'll no lang shank upon all four This time o' year. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 186 Them that canna ride, maun shank it. 1894 P. H. HUNTER *James Inwick* ii. 29 He was michty weel pleased to..shank awa hame to Lempockshaws. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. Green Shutters* 198 Let him shank it! We're in no hurry to have him home.

b. *trans.* To cause to walk *off*, to march (a person) *off*; *refl.* to take oneself *away.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, Then shank yourself awa to the double folk, or single folk. *Ibid.* xxxvi, Ye should baith be shankit aff till Edinburgh Castle. 1856 J. BALLANTINE *Poems* 55 He shankit the snab hame to cobble his shoon. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin* iv. 47 And now shank yourself awa before I put hand till ye.

2. *intr.* Of a plant or fruit: To decay at the stem or footstalk; to be affected with shanking; usually *to shank off.* Also *pass.* Cf. SHANKING 1.

1848 TURNER in *Beck's Florist* I. 24 Entire beds [of pansies] have been known to shank off during a very hot summer. 1863 DARWIN in *Jrnl. Proc. Linnean Soc., Bot.* VII. 70 Only four capsules [of a *Linum*] shanked off. 1892 *Garden* Aug. 193/3 The first season..the Grapes shanked badly.

fig. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* v. 223 How often alas, is it true of the believer, that his fruit is shanked, remaining sour when it should become sweet and palatable!

3. a. *trans. Sc.* To sink (a shaft). Also *absol.* b. *intr. dial.* To knit stockings. c. *trans.* in lens-making (see SHANKING *vbl. sb.* 2).

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* vi. 64 Three new coal-heughs were shanked. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., To shank for coals.

1825 JAMIESON, *To Shank,*..to knit stockings. 1900 C. MURRAY *Hamewith* 79 The auld wife's eident wheel gaes birr, The thrifty lasses shank wi' virr.

Shank-bone. The tibia of an animal.

a 1330 *Otuel* 796 Wiþ þe fal þe steede a noon, To-barst þat o sschanke bon. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) V. 65 A broken Shank Bone of a Horse. 1659 *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unlocked* Foundation T, They also played on flutes made of the shank-bones of Cranes. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 24 Take off the Skin..and the Shank Bone with it at the End [of a shoulder of mutton]. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* ix. (1872) 150, I took a good drink through my gazelle shank-bone.

Shanked (ʃæŋkt), *a.* [f. SHANK *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.] a. Furnished with, or having a shank or shanks (in any sense).

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 74 His art [was] shanked like a lath. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xxviii. 486 The best of all the rest, is the short shanked apple. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1057/4 Lost.., one single Rose Diamond set in a Ring close shankt. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 7 To large Paper he chuses Short Shanked Points, and to small Paper Long Shanked Points. 1904 H. G. WELLS *Food of Gods* I. ii. 53 Industrious research discovered..three shanked buttons entire.

b. [f. SHANK *v.* 2.] Affected with shanking.

1882 *Garden* 3 June 388/3, I completely got rid of shanked berries. 1901 *Gard. Chron.* 16 Mar. 175/2 We could never get a crop of Black Hamburgh Grapes without some shanked bunches.

Shanker (ʃæ·ŋkəɹ). [f. SHANK *sb.* and *v.* + -ER[1].]

†1. *nonce-use.* A shank-bone. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 148 It was my hap to meet with the shanke-bone [orig. Sp. *canilla*] of a Heyfer..and presently..I had lapt vp my Shanker [orig. Sp. *cancarron*] in the Paste that remained.

2. *Sc.* One who 'shanks' or knits stockings.

1636 *List Inhab. Aberdeen* in *Scot. N. & Q.* July (1893) 21 Elspet Torrie. Shanker. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S. P.* IV. Gloss., *Schankers,* the women who knit them [stockings].

3. One who makes, forms or finishes the shanks of nails, buttons, etc.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 76 Button maker... Shanker. *Ibid.* 91 Nail manufacture...Wrought nail: Maker. Shanker...Header. Pointer.

4. *Sc.* One who sinks shafts.

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Shanker,*..a sinker of shafts; as, 'a well-shanker, a pit-shanker,' West of S[cotland]. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 46 Some shankers, who had been engaged sinking the sump at the bottom of the shaft a little deeper.

Shanker, obs. form of CHANCRE.

Shanking (ʃæ·ŋkiŋ), *vbl sb.* [f. SHANK *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. (See quot. 1846. Cf. SHANK *v.* 2.)

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 462 That shanking (shrivelling) may not be induced in the berries. 1846 G. W. JOHNSON *Dict. Mod. Gard.* 593 *Shanking* is the technical term for a gangrene which attacks the footstalks of grapes and the stems of cabbages which have vegetated through the winter.

2. The action or process of using the pliers called shanks: see SHANK *sb.* 7 c.

1850 [see NIBBLING *vbl. sb.* 2].

3. The process of making tobacco-pipe-shanks. In quots. *attrib.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 271/2 A Shanking or smoothing board..is that on which their clay is rolled to the length of their shankes. *Ibid.* 272/1 A Shanking Wyer ..is onely a plaine smooth wyer, by which the hole is made through the pipe Shank. *Ibid.,* A Pen knife, or a Shanking knife. *Ibid.,* The third is a Shanking toole.

Shannachie, variant of SENNACHIE.

Shannon (ʃæ·nən). An artificial salmon fly used on the river Shannon in Ireland. In full *Shannon fly.*

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* xii. 357 The large heavy-water Shannon flies are very showy affairs. 1872 *Ibid.* xiii. (ed. 3) 393 The Shannon...Tag, gold tinsel and lemon-yellow floss.

Shanny (ʃæ·ni), *sb.* Also (in Dicts.) **shaning.** [Related to the synonymous SHAN.] The smooth blenny, *Blennius pholis.* Also applied to several fishes of the genus *Chasmodes* of Eastern North America.

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 230 The Shanny or Smooth Shan. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes East N. Amer.* 20 *Chasmodes Bosc ianus...*Bosc's shanny. *Chasmodes quadrifasciatus...*Four-banded shanny. *Chasmodes novemlineatus.* ..Nine-lined shanny. 1878 T. CORNISH in *Zoologist* Ser. III. II. 423 Smooth Shanny.

Shanny (ʃæ·ni), *a. dial.* Bashful, shy.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 32 Downcast eye, and blush of shanny lass. 1890 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Dec. 23 All sweethearts are shanny.

Shanny, variant of SHANDY *a. dial.*

Shanscrit(t)a, obs. forms of SANSKRIT.

Shant (ʃænt). *slang.* [Cf. SHANTY *sb.*3] A quart, a pot; a pot of drink.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 218 They have a 'shant of gatter' (pot of beer) at the nearest 'boozing ken'. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 225 *Shant,* a pot or quart. 'Shant of bivy' a quart of beer. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *Signor Lippo* v. 13 To show you mean it stand a couple of shants of bevarly to square the boys.

Shan't, sha'n't (ʃânt). A colloq. contraction of *shall not*: see SHALL *v.* A. 6 b. Also used *subst.*

1850 SMEDLEY *Frank Fairlegh* vi, A sulky, half-muttered 'shan't was the only reply. 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xxxiii, 'Hoity toity!' exclaimed Madam. 'No cant's and shan'ts with me. What I have settled shall be.'

Shantrews (ʃantrū·z). *Sc.* Also 9 **shawintrewse, shantreus.** [? Gael. *sean-triubhas,* old trousers.] The name of a Highland tune and dance.

1807 TANNAHILL *Poems, Kebbuckston Wedding* (1846) 139 Sauney M'Nab..Has hecht to..gi'e us three wallops of merry shan trews, With the true Highland fling of Macrimmon the piper. 1881 *Autobiog. J. Younger* viii. 71, I was then allowed..to skip over the old barn floor at shantrews.

Shantung (ʃæntʊ·ŋ). [f. the name of a province of North-east China where it is manufactured.] A soft undressed Chinese silk (formerly undyed, since 1907 dyed to any shade of colour).

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 445 *Shantung Pongee Silk*..is a soft undyed, and undressed Chinese washing silk, and much resembles the Indian goods of the same character; but is somewhat duller in colour. 1895 *Stores' Price List* 15 Sept. 1095/1 Coloured silks...Shantung Pongee, in pieces of about 19 yards. 1908 *Daily Graphic* 21 Mar. 13/1 The hat..might be made of Shantung to match the mantelet.

Shanty (ʃæ·nti), *sb.*[1] Also **shantie, shantee.** [Prob. corruptly a. F. *chantier* (see CHANTIER) used in Canada in the senses: 'an establishment regularly organized in the forests in winter for the felling of trees; the head-quarters at which the woodcutters assemble after their day's work' (Clapin, *Dict. Canad.-Fr.,* 1894).

See 1 c below; it is uncertain whether this is a survival of the original sense, or a late specific application suggested by the Fr. word. It may be further remarked that *shantyman,* a lumberman, is precisely synonymous with *homme de chantier* (Dunn, *Gloss. Franco-Canad.,* 1880, p. 38.]

1. Chiefly *U.S.* and *Canada.* A small, mean, roughly constructed dwelling; a cabin, a hut.

1820 Z. HAWLEY *Tour* (1822) 31 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), [These people (in Ohio)] lived in what is here called a shanty. This is a hovel of about 10 feet by 8, made somewhat in the form of an ordinary cow-house. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. xvi. 256, I offer you, as my side of the business, one half of my shanty. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. ii. I. 191 Our shanty was completed in good time before the evening. [The scene is Canadian.] 1832 [MRS. TRAILL] *Backwoods of Canada* vi. (1836) 93 The shanty is a sort of primitive hut in Canadian architecture, and is nothing more than a shed built of logs. 1836 *Crockett's Exploits in Texas* i. (1837) 4 When we entered the shantee, Job was busy dealing out his rum..,and I called for a quart of the best. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* I. 173 Not a few lounged around the wide door of a temporary building or 'shanty', as we say, erected for the refreshment of the guests. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxvii. (1856) 224 And driving, like the shanty on a raft, before a howling gale. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 254 They pass the temples,..and then village after village of poor-looking bamboo shanties. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lunley* i, It's on the Essex coast just a rambling old farm-house standing rather high..; it's just in fact, a picturesque shanty.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1841-44 EMERSON *Ess., Nature* Wks. (Bohn) I. 226 He has delineated estates of romance, compared with which their actual possessions are shanties and paddocks. 1851 H. MELVILLE in J. Hawthorne *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) I. 399, I have been building some shanties of houses..and likewise some shanties of chapters and essays.

attrib. 1888 DK. ARGYLL *New Brit. Constit.* 98 One of the group of men who have been building a shanty-constitution for us to replace the spacious palaces of our ancient laws.

c. = Canadian Fr. *chantier* (see the etymology). See the comb. *shanty-gang, -team, shantyman* (3 below).

1876 D. WILSON in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 774/1 Lumber shanties are constructed capable of accommodating from 25 to 50 men.

2. *Australia.* A public-house, esp. unlicensed; a 'sly-grog shop'.

1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 52 The Keepers of the stores and shanties grieve. 1902 H. LAWSON *Childr. of Bush* 209 They got up a darnse at Peter Anderson's shanty acrost the ridges.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *shanty-cook, hovel*; (sense 1 c.) *shanty-gang, -team*; (sense 2) *shanty-bar, -keeper, liquor*; **shanty-boat,** a kind of house-boat used by lumbermen; **shanty-cake,** a cake baked on or in hot ashes; **shantyman,** a lumberman.

1902 H. LAWSON *Childr. of Bush* 240 What damned fools we'd been throwing away our money over *shanty bars. 1880 N. H. BISHOP *Four Months in Sneak-Box* iv. 58 *Shanty-boats..are sometimes called, and justly too, family boats. *Ibid.* 59 The *shanty-boatman looks to the river not only for his life, but also for the means of making that life pleasant. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 368/1 We were joined by a very small boy from a shanty-boat. 1847 *Knickerb. Mag.* XXXI. 223 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), The backwoodsman [must have] his 'chicken-fixins' and '*shanty-cake'. 1876 D. WILSON in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 774/1 (*Canada*), The *shanty-cook is an important member of the little community. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 94/2 We came along just as a *shanty gang had turned a drive of square timber out of the branch [of the river]. 1862 DICEY *Federal St.* (1863) II. 46 Miserable wooden *shanty hovels. 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 45 Mrs. Smith was a *shanty-keeper's wife. 1886 H. C. KENDALL *Poems* 209 He'll..swig at *shanty liquors. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, *Shantyman,* a lumberer or wood cutter; one who lives in a shanty. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 702/2 The typical

shantyman works only fitfully in summer. 1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 6 Apr., The last of the *shanty-teams of the season have about gone through here on their way home.

Shanty (ʃæ·nti), *sb.*[2] Also **chant(e)y**. [Said to be a corruption of F. *chantez* imper. of *chanter* to sing.] A sailor's song, esp. one sung during heavy work.

1869 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 11 Dec. 794 (*Article*) Sailors' Shanties and Sea-Songs. 1883 CLARK RUSSELL *Sailors' Lang.* Pref. 11 So the same 'chantey', as the windlass or halliard chorus is called, furnishes the music to as many various indignant remonstrances as Jack can find injuries to sing about. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 93 He began to try singing shanties. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Last Chantey* 40 May we lift a Deepsea Chantey such as seamen use at sea?

attrib. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Winter on Nile* xi. 153 The 'shanty man' the English sailors call their leader from the French *chanter.* 1890 HENLEY *Views & Rev., Lit.* 153 The melancholy song of the chanty-men.

Sha·nty, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 7 **shante, shauntee,** 9 **shantee, shaunty, shawnty,** 8– **shanty.** [a. F. *gentil* (ʒɑ̃ti): see GENTEEL, JAUNTY *adjs.*] Showy, smart.

1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* Epil., Each Shante Spark, that can the Fashion hit. *c* 1730 J. HAYNES *Dorset Voc.* in *N. & Q.* Ser. VI. VIII. 45/1 *Shanty-man,* genteel man. 1737 R. DRURY *Rival Milliners* II. xiii, Where is the gay, engaging, shanty Mien? *a* 1800 J. WARTON *Fashion* 79 'Tis thine for sleeves to teach the shantiest cuts. 1811 WILLAN *Words W. Riding Yorksh.* in *Archæologia* XVII. 157 *Shantee,* or *Shanty,* gay, showy. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shanty,* smart, flanting. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Shaunty,* showy, flashy, affecting to be tasteful in apparel or ornament.

Shanty (ʃæ·nti), *v.* [f. SHANTY *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To live in a shanty or temporary log hut. Hence **Sha·ntying** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. *attrib.*)

1840 C. F. HOFFMAN *Greyslaer* I. v. 97 You see..the comfort to a man—who shanties out as much as I do—of having a home all fixed and ready for you. 1857 S. H. HAMMOND *Wild Northern Sc.* 197 (Bartlett 1860), Mark Shuff and a friend of his, who were trapping, shantied on the outlet, just at the foot of Tupper's Lake. *Ibid.* 212 (ibid.), When we got back to our shantying ground we were tuckered out, as you may believe.

2. *Austral.* 'To visit a grog-shanty habitually; drink frequently or habitually at a public-house' (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.* 1909).

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* iii, I was put out at his laying it down so about the Dalys and us shantying and gaffing.

Shap (ʃæp). [a. F. *chape* in the same sense (Littré *Suppl.*).] (See quot. 1904.)

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 445 *Shap-faced,* a term employed to denote that the plush or velvet cloth is faced with the short ends of waste silk. 1904 *N. & Q.* Ser. x. I. 307/2 Foulard is not made of silk proper, but of a certain refuse-part of the cocoon known as 'shap'.

Shap, obs. Sc. form of SHOP.

Shapable, variant of SHAPEABLE.

† **Sha·pand.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. Also 4 **schaphand.** [pres. pple. of SHAPE *v.*; cf. SHEPPEND.] One who 'shapes' or predetermines: said of the Fates.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 572 Syf þou trowest..þat þre sustren ben shapandys [*v. r.* schaphandys], And comen þere þe chylde ys bore, And shapyn hyt wele or euel before.

Shape (ʃēip). *sb.* Forms: 1 **ʒescap, ʒesceap, sceap,** 2–6 **schap,** 3 **scap(p, scape, scheap,** 3 (*Ormin*), 5 **shapp,** 3–6 **schape,** 3–7, 9 *dial.* **shap,** 4–6 **schapp(e,** 4–7 **shappe,** (5 **chap**), 5–7 **schaip, schaep,** 3– **shape.** [repr. OE. *ʒesceap* neut., creation, creature; make, structure, natural character; form, figure, configuration; pudendum (in this sense also *sceap* neut.); also decree, destiny; f. Teut. root **skap-*: see SHAPE *v.* Cf. OS. *giskap,* only pl. *giskapu* creatures, also ordinances, decrees (of God), ON. *skap* neut., state, condition; pl. fate, destiny, also, with suffixed article *skǫp-in* the genitals.

The OE. word is normally represented by the dial. form *shap*; the form *shape* (with lengthened vowel due to the influence of SHAPE *v.*) did not become common till the 15th c., though occasional examples, perh. due to inflexion, are found early in the 13th c.]

1. External form or contour; that quality of a material object (or geometrical figure) which depends on constant relations of position and proportionate distance among all the points composing its outline or its external surface; a particular variety of this quality.

c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 179/26 *Volubile scema,* sinewealt ʒesceap. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Ac on þe holi fleis bileueð þe shap and hiu, and smul of ouelete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 370 Al scaples was [þe matere] noght for-þi þat it o scap ne had parti. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1031 Round was the shap, in manere of compass. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. (1910) 9 'Siringa' is an holow instrument by þe middez, and it ow to be made of the shappe as it is peynted here. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 An Appell of Golde, representynge the shape of the rounde worlde. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 309, I know the shape of's Legge. 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 145 A Glass of the common Shape. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxii. 346 By pressure ice can be moulded to any shape. 1896 WELLS *Wheels of Chance* xxxvii. 284 The clerical person on the tricycle assumed the shape of a note of interrogation. *Mod.* All circles have the same shape; ellipses have different shapes.

b. *To keep in shape*: to secure from change of shape. *Out of shape*: changed from its proper shape.

1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 6 English Canvas.. will not retch, nor let Stays out of shape. 1834 J. FORBES *Lænnec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 5 A cylinder of paper, formed of three quires, compactly rolled together, and kept in shape by paste.

c. The contour or outlines of the trunk of the body.

c 1393 CHAUCER *Scogan* 31 On alle hem that ben hore and round of schap. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 68, I se be my schadowe my schape has the wyte. 1702 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* 102 It's said that he was a Man of large Shape. 1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 53 You may meet a Lady To-day with an elegant Shape, fine by Degrees and delicately less. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XX. 114 That other, round the loins So slender of his shape, was Michael Scot. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. 29 Maud could be gracious too, no doubt To a lord, a captain, a padded shape.

d. Impressed or represented form; a picture, image. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) viii. 96 There schewethe the schapp of his left Foot, in the Ston. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 252 Quhair ye sall find the schap of the kingis schipe and hir pictour. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxiv, Mine eyes haue drawne thy shape. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 218 An ill Painter by writing on the shapeless Picture which he hath drawn, is fain to tell passengers what shape it is.

† **e.** In certain Biblical expressions, used for *form* (= L. *forma,* Gr. *μορφή*). Also, used for *form* in philosophical sense. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 32 Bote Mon is him Most lyk of Marke and of schap. ? 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 943 His lord þat is his maker and made hym thorwe his kendnesse lyk to hym-self in schap. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xii. 2 But be ye chaunged in youre shape [*μεταμορφοῦσθε*], by the renuynge of youre wittes. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* II. L vij, Whan the shappe or fourme is made: theffect or thyng doen may folow: take awaie the shape, & the vse also is taken awaye. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* viii. 111 In asmuch as the essentiall shape of man [orig. *la forme essentielle de l'homme*] is to acknowledge a certeine Godhead [etc.].

† **2.** The make or cut of a garment. [Cf. SHAPE *v.*] *Obs.* as specific sense.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Hore weaden beon of swuche scheape, & alle hore aturn swuch þet hit beo eðcene hwarto heo beoð i-turnde. 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 1221 Ne worschipe not men for here fayre clobes, ne for here qweynte schappis, þat sum men usen. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 364 Lo, here a shrowde for a shrewe, and of shene shappe!

† **b.** Fashion of dress. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Brut* II. 296 þey ordeyned and chaungyd ham euery ʒere diuers schappis of disgy[se]ngez of cloþing. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. xii. 548 Oon schap of outward habit (namelich such a schap which is rather foul than gay).

† **3.** The manner in which a thing is fashioned (by nature or art); make, structure, arrangement of parts; visible aspect. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23659 Efter þat þe dome be giuen þe werld..sal haue a scape al neu. 1340 HAMPOLE *Fr. Consc.* 4893 þe shappe of þe world sal for-done be. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvi. 269 Sum men seyn, that thei han the Body upward as an Egle, and benethe as a Lyoun: and treuly thei seyn sothe, that thei ben of that schapp. *a* 1500 *Adrian & Epotys* 138 in *Brome-bk.* 29 On the Fryday god made Adam After hys chap he ʒaffe hym name. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Aug. 1666, The shape of what stood was very meane.

† **b.** Form, order and arrangement (of words, etc.); course, order (of a story). *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1160 But schortly for to telle þe schap of þis tale, þe duk hade þe douʒtiere men. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 284 Ane is right saying and shap of wordes That him augh to sai, that gyffes this sacrement.

† **4.** The appearance of a human or animal body or its parts, (often, of the general form as distinguished from the face) considered as beautiful or the contrary. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 503 (Gr.) þin lichoma leohtra micle, þin ʒesceapu scenra. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 20 As he biheold ant iseh..hire leofliche schape He sikede as þing þat sare were iwundet. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7312 þe kyng byheld þyse bachelers Were faire of schap, & face clers. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 373 A formele egle of shap the gentilleste. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 542 Palamydes..was of ryght fayr shapp. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 1927 (Malone Soc.) Her comly shape Nature hath framd aright. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxii. 50, I thank my God I shame not of my shap. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 49 Hither come the Country Gentlemen to shew their Shapes. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) II. 245 His daughter who was of a majestic shape.

† **b.** Excellence of form; beauty: = L. *forma.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* liii. 3 Ther is not shap to hym, ne fairnesse. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1888) 144 Beutee and shappe with out deformytee. *a* 1535 MORE *Fortune* 43 in *Songs, Carols,* etc. (1907) 73 Thow þat arte prowde of honour, shape or kyne.

c. colloq. or slang. *Show your shapes*: come into view. See also quots. *a* 1700 and 1785.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Show your Shapes,* turn about, march off. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s. v., To shew one's shapes; to be stript, or made peel at the whipping post. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, Step forward, I say, and show us thy shapes, man.

d. *slang.* (See quots.) ? *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shapes,* said (often) to an ill-made Man. 1735 DYCHE & PARDON *Dict., Shapes,* a Cant Name for a nice finikin Lass that goes extream tightly laced; also of an ill-made, irregular Lump of Flesh, &c.

† **e.** An empty fop, a dandy. *Obs.*

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* IV. i, The most silly beau and shape about the town.

5. The visible form or appearance characteristic of a particular person or thing, or of a particular species of animate or supernatural beings.

a 1000 in Cockayne *Narratiunculæ* (1861) 36 Hi beoð oð ðene nafolan on menniscum ʒeseape. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17915 (Gött.), I sau apon his licam light In schap of douue þe haligast. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 382 The feynde..þe schape of a ʒung man tuk. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6320 For Protheus that cowde hym chaunge In euery shap homely and straunge. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 76 In the forme & shappe of a man holdynge in his ryght hande [etc.]. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* iv. 36, I was restored to the honoure of my kingdome, to my dignite, and to myne owne shappe agayne. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iv. 43 Thou com'st in such a questionable shape That I will speake to thee. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* i. (1840) 9 So even in Paradise the Devil assumed a shape. 1833–42 TENNYSON *To —* 19 Not for this Was common clay..temper'd with the tears Of angels to the perfect shape of man. 1910 HIRTH in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 191/2 The heroes of their accounts appear in shapes somewhat resembling human beings rather than as gods and demigods.

fig. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 111 No wonder if his scholars hate the Muses, being presented unto them in the shapes of fiends and furies.

† **b.** Species, kind (of animate beings). *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) Prol. 4 Where dwellen many dyverse Folkes..and of dyverse Schappes of Men. *c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 38 Jac of the Bregge and Wylle of the Gappe, Thei have dogges of thei olde schappe.

6. *concr.* † **a.** A creature. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Elene* 789 (Gr.) Swa ic þe, weroda weard..þurʒ þæt beorhte ʒesceap biddan wille þæt [etc.]. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8050 Y ne wiste neuere, ne y ne herde, What maner wyght [*Petyt MS.* schap] wyþ me so ferde.

b. A person's body considered with regard to its appearance.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i. 13 You both haue vertues, shining through your shapes. 1617 MURE *Misc. Poems* xviii. 1 Thou, thou, quhose lovelie schaip, of all admyr'de, In robs most rich a richer spreit attyrd. 1812 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* xxiv, A statesman passed—alone to him, The Devil dare his whole shape uncover. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. vi. iii, Shapes rawboned, in high sabots.

c. An imaginary, spectral, or ethereal form; a phantom. Now *rare.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 131 To worship shadowes, and adore false shapes. 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, He..diues into my fancy, and there giues me shapes that kneele and doe me seruice, crie me king. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 649 Before the Gates there sat On either side a formidable shape. 1798 COLERIDGE *Wand. Cain* 110 And the Shape shrieked, and turned round, and Cain beheld him. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. i. 51 Awful shape, what art thou? Speak! 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xlii, And lately by the Tavern Door agape, Came stealing through the Dusk an Angel Shape.

fig. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Juv.* (1789) 150 Minds released from flesh..may smile at some of the fooleries and airy shapes of reason which we hug and embrace. *c* 1806 WORDSW. *Poems Sentim., Charac. Happy Warrior* 72 Whom neither shape of danger can dismay, Nor thought of tender happiness betray.

d. A figure dimly or uncertainly perceived.

1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 477 He hears quick footsteps—a shape flits by. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxxvii, That narrow front-door was unclosing, and some shape was about to issue from the grange.

7. Assumed appearance, guise, disguise.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* II. ii. 27 Ah! that Deceit should steale such gentle shape. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. iii. 18 My cossen has knowne These gallants in these shapes. *Eve.* T'haue don strange things, Sir. One as the Lady, the other as the Squire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 495 The brute Serpent in whose shape Man I deceav'd. 1726 W. PENN in *Life* Wks. I. 138 There are but Goats and Sheep at last, whatever Shapes we wear here. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 117 A devil named Sakhr, came to her in the shape of Solomon.

8. *Theatr.* † **a.** A part, a character impersonated; the make-up and costume suited to a particular part. *Obs.* **b.** A stage dress or suit of clothes.

1603 DEKKER *Magnif. Enterl. K. Jas.* (1604) H 4, The foure Elements, in proper shapes, (artificially and aptly expressing their qualities). 1623 MASSINGER *Bondman* v. iii, Consider This Persian shape laid by, and she appearing In a Greekish dresse,..If she resemble not Pisanders sister? 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Jan., Kinaston, the boy, had the good turn to appear in three shapes: first as a poor woman in ordinary clothes..; then [etc.]. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 July 2/1 Some want money to bring them up to town; some borrow to supply the *addenda* to a wardrobe—such as shapes, shoes, and wigs.

9. One of the forms or diversities of appearance, structure, or properties, in which a thing may exist.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 467 Death thou hast seen In his first shape on man. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 69 The new magic coming thus in play, let us see..in what shapes it began to appear. 1771–2 COWPER *Olney Hymns* III. xviii, Dangers of ev'ry shape and name Attend the followers of the Lamb. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 324 An atony of the uterus, or an irregularity of contraction of the muscular fibres, assuming various shapes. 1842 T. J. ARNOLD *Schiller's Lied von der Glocke* (1846) Pref. 5 The following translation, in its original shape, was published in Germany. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 51 They were familiar with the thing in all manner of shapes.

b. The phrase *In any (no) shape (or form)* is often loosely used for: In any (no) manner, (not) at all.

1751 HOLLIS in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 381 If you will please to inform me how I may be useful to you in any shape. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, The Lord Keeper resolved that he would do nothing to commit himself, either in one shape

or other. 1825 — *Betrothed* xxviii, I am in no shape worthy of your farther care.

10. *In the shape of*: **a.** Represented by, embodied in (a person or thing).

1750 GRAY *Long Story* 41 Fame, in the shape of Mr. Purt, ..Had told, that [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. ii, We there saw Military Rule, in the shape of poor Besenval.

b. Of the nature of.

1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 23 May, There is nothing else in the shape of news but small-pox and miliary fevers. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 90, I had nothing in the shape of food. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) ii. 67, I love everything in the shape of a mountain.

c. In the form of, existing or presenting itself as.

[1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Thoughts on Books*, I can read anything which I call *a book*. There are things in that shape which I cannot allow for such.] 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xii, I pique not myself upon managing steel in any other shape than that of a razor. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* I *note*, To gain admission even into this place, it was necessary for the anapæst to present itself in an unbroken form, or..in the shape of a preposition with its case immediately following. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 272, I made an earnest appeal for recognition of his services in the shape of a small pension.

11. Definite, regular or proper form; orderly arrangement. Phr. *to take shape*; *to put into shape*.

1633 FORD *Loves Sacrif.* III. ii, I am so busie with his friuolous proiect, and can bring it to no shape, that it almost confounds my capacity. 1756 EARL OF HOLDERNESSE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 390 Things begin to take a shape. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch of Atlas* iv, Since in that cave a dewy splendour hidden Took shape and motion. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 220 He was quite as much a talker as a writer, and beat out his thoughts into shape in talking. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 26/1 It is high time that this branch of the law should be thrown into statutory shape.

†**12.** An attitude (in the manege, dancing, etc.).

1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* IV. xxxix. Wks. 1910 II. 555 Nor he that vaults, or gambolds best in shape, Can coome abowt (yet) nymbly lyke an Ape. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 90, I in forgery of shapes and trickes, Come short of what he did. *punningly.* 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* II. iii, [A tailor says:] For fashioning of shapes, and cutting a crosse-caper turne me off to my trade againe.

13. *Sporting*. Condition with respect to efficiency; 'form.'

1901 *Scotsman* 4 Sept. 7/5 She [a yacht] seems in a worse shape than at the beginning of the season.

14. *concr.* in technical uses. **a.** *Cookery*. A mould for forming jelly, blanc-mange, etc., into a particular shape; a portion of jelly, blanc-mange, etc. moulded into an ornamental shape.

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 201 You must not put the shapes on the jelly till you are going to send it to the table. 1850 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lix. (1853) 340 She had just stolen a shape of blanc-mange. 1889 BARING-GOULD *Arminell* xliv, The puddings were ground rice mould, 'shape' Mrs. Welsh called it, rice milk [etc.].

b. *Millinery*. The body of a straw bonnet or woman's hat or cap previous to trimming.

1881 *Milliner & Dressmaker* Feb. 15/1 First-class milliners prefer to cover their own shapes with plush.

c. A portion of material cut or moulded so as to have a particular shape; *spec.* a piece of rolled or hammered iron of cross-section differing from that of merchant bar; also (see quot. 1875).

1845 MRS. M. J. HOWELL *Hand-bk. Dress-making* 71 Before the velvet is cut out in shapes, a thin paper should be gummed at the back. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shape*, a piece of metal roughed out as nearly as may be to the shape it will assume when finally forged and finished.

d. *Naut.* A cone, ball, or drum of metal or canvas used in signalling.

1879 in Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 100 Three black balls or shapes, each two feet in diameter.

†**II. 15.** What is decreed. *Obs.*

Beowulf 3084 (Gr.) Wicum wunian oð woruldende, healdon heah ȝesceap. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl. 24 (Gr.) Long is to secganne, hu hyre ealdorȝesceaft æfter gongeð, woh wyrda ȝesceapu. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 101 Of Godes ordinance he forsoke þe schap. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 180 Sen it is sett to be soo & slipe it ne may, Ne schewid to be na noþire schap.

III. 16. The sexual organs; the distinctive organ of either sex. Now *dial.* in narrower sense, 'the private parts of a female' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

a 1000 in *Anglia* (1888) XI. 2 Þær he on his sceape locode & his to bismere hloh. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Et þe schape þe douel smuȝeð in derneliche hwenne hit bið ȝaru to galiche deden. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 Þi shape dide þat hit ne sholde. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 423 Allas! somme of hem shewen the boce of hir shap. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 35 But as sone as þay haden synned, þay seen hor schappe, and wern aschamet þerof, and hydden hit wyth leues of fygge-tre. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 507 Couer thy shap Wyth some flyp-flap. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 8 Let him cast the cold water upon her shape.

IV. 17. *Comb.*, as (sense 5) *shape-shifter*, *-shifting* adj. and sb., *-changing* adj.; (sense 14 b) *shape-coverer*; †**shape-like** *a.*, comely, fitting; †**shape mistress** (see quot.); †**shape-smith**, *jocular*, a corset-maker.

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 21 Blew Gods the billowes crown'd, *Shape-changing Proteus, Triton shrill. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 6 May 9/4 *Shape Coverer wanted for net work. 1672 WISEMAN *Treat. Wounds* I. 15 Be sure in your stitching, you bring the Artery and Vein to his wounded fellow, so shall you the likelyer secure your self, and make the work more *shape-like. 1820 J. CAULFIELD *Portraits* IV. 70 Mrs. Sarah Mapp..was called the bone-setter, or *shape mistress. 1887 A. LANG *Myth, Rit. & Relig.* II. 19 He was also, like Odin, a '*shape-shifter'. *Ibid.* I. 50 Belief in..Metamorphosis or '*shape shifting'. 1895 A. NUTT in Kuno Meyer *Voy. Bran* I. 211 We obtain a glimpse of the shape-shifting self-concealing powers of Tuatha De Danann. 1715 GARTH *Claremont* 98 Not yet..broad eyebrows were reduc'd by paste: No *shape-smith set up shop, and drove a trade To mend the work wise Providence had made.

Shape (ʃēp), *v.* Pa. t. **shaped** (ʃēpt); pa. pple. **shaped** (ʃēpt), *arch.* **shapen** (ʃēˑpn). Forms: *Inf.* and *pres.-stem*: *a.* 1 sceppan, scyppan, 4 schippe; *3rd pers. sing.* 3 shuppieð, (for-) schuppeð, 4 schepped, ssepþ. *β.* 3 ssape (*3rd pers. sing.* schepieð), 4–5 shappe, 3– shape. *Pa. t. a. strong* 1 sc(e)óp, 3 shop, 4 shoop, 6 shoope, schope, 4–6 shope, *Sc.* schupe, 6 showpe; 4 schep; *β.* 3 scupte, scopte, sipte, 3–4 schupte; *γ.* 4 schapit (*Sc.*), shapte, schapide, 6– **shaped**. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 sceapen, scepen, 3 shapenn (*Orm.*), isceapen, yssape, 4 shape, ischape, shappen, 4– shapen. *β.* 3 (for-) schupped, 4– schept. *γ.* 3 ischeaped, 4 yschaped, 4– shaped. [A Com. Teut. str. verb, the original conjugation of which is found unaltered only in OE., OFris., OS., and Gothic, while in the other Teut. langs., and in Middle and Modern English, the primitive flexional forms have been more or less completely replaced by analogical new formations. OE. *scieppan, scóp, scapen* corresponds to OFris. **skeppa, skōp, eskepen* (WFris. *skeppe, skoep, skepen*), OS. **gisceppian, -scōp* (*scuop*), **-scapan*, Goth. *gaskapjan, -skōþ, -skapan*: the sense in all these langs. is 'to create', occas. 'to fashion'. In early ME. a new pres.-stem *shape* was formed on the analogy of the pa. pple., and after the 14th c. completely took the place of the older *sheppe, shippe*. The str. pa. t. survived into the 14th c. (in Sc. still later), but in ME. two different weak formations are also found: *shupte* (ü) from the original present-stem, and *shapide* from the altered form *shape*. In the pa. pple. ME. similarly developed two distinct weak forms, of the types *schept* and *shaped*. From the 16th c. onwards, *shape* has been a 'regular' weak verb (pa. t. and pa. pple. *shaped*), though the pa. pple. *shapen* still survives in archaizing use. The verb has been influenced in sense-development by SHAPE *sb.*, of which it is apprehended as a derivative.

In continental Teut. the changes in conjugation were similar to those that took place in ME.; in addition, a cognate verb repr. an OTeut. type **skapōjan* became in some dialects coincident in form with the verb represented by the OE. and Gothic forms above. Further, German and Du. have from their earliest known periods had a verb meaning 'to draw water', identical in form (and perhaps in etymology) with the verb meaning 'to create'; in the older stages of those langs. all the conjugational varieties occur with both meanings, but subsequently the verb meaning 'to create' and that meaning 'to draw water' came to be distinguished throughout by difference of inflexion. The forms are as follows:—OFris. **skeppa, skōp, eskepen* to create, OS. *giscōp* pa. t., created, *skeppian* wk., to draw water; Du. *scheppen, schiep, geschapen* to create, *scheppen, schepte, geschept* to draw water; OHG. *scephen, scuof, giscaffan*, also *scaffan, scafta, gaskeft* to create, to draw water, also *scaffōn* wk., to form; MHG. *schepfen, schepfte, geschepft*, also *schaffen, schuof, geschaffen*, and occas. *schaffen, schaffte, geschafft* to create, to do, to draw water; mod.G. *schöpfen, schöpfte, geschöpft* to draw water, earlier also to create (cf. *schöpfer* creator); *schaffen, schuf, geschaffen* to create; *schaffen, schaffte, geschafft* to do, procure; ON. *skepja, skōp* and *skapða, skapt-r*, also *skapa, skapaða, skapað-r* to shape, make, ordain; Sw. *skapa*, Da. *skabe* to create, make, shape.

The ultimate etymology is obscure. Some scholars have suggested that the original sense is 'to draw (water) from a source', and that the senses 'to create', 'to ordain' are developed from this. Others regard **skapjan* to draw water (which is related to OTeut. **skapo-*, OS. *scaf*, OHG. *scaf*, mod.G. *schaff*, vessel, bucket) as a distinct word from **skapjan* to create, ordain. For other derivatives of the Teut. root **skap-* see SHAFT *sb.*[1], -SHIP; outside Teut. no cognates are known, unless the root **skap-* be an altered form of **skað-* (:—pre-Teut. **skabh-*): see SHAVE *v.*]

I. To create, fashion, form.

†**1.** *trans.* To create; in later use, to form, fashion (said of God or Nature).

From the beginning of the 14th c. there are indications that the verb in this use was sometimes apprehended as meaning 'to form, fashion, give shape to', and in the 16th c. the verb, though still used of God, would prob. have been regarded as corresponding to *formare*. In the 17th c. it was felt to be an inappropriate word to apply to God: cf. 'God makes, and the Tailor shapes' (Bulwer *Anthropom.* 256).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1278 (Gr.) Þa he Adam sceop. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11505, & sawle iss shapenn all off nohht, & hafe þ þrinne mahhtess. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 His hwas dohter þu art, his þat wrahte and walt þat ischapen [203 ischeapen] is. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 196 (Harl. MS.) Habraham..þou seidest..þat mi leue moder wes boren & shaped of þi fleyhs. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 847 Hir fader.. Curseth the day and tyme that nature Shoop him to been a lyves creature. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 174 God that shope both erth and heuen, I pray to the thou here my steven. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* li. 5, I was shapen in wickednesse. 1557 TURNER *Bathes* (1562) Pref. A iij b, [These] byrdes..beynge taught of their nature, whiche almighty God grafted in them, when he shope them and made them to do so.

†**b.** In *pa. pple.*: Naturally fitted or likely (to do something). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 206 The douchty lord Dowglass Best schapen for that travell was. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 151 That man is able and shappen for to subdue & putte vndre hym all the world. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccvi. 264 b, Ladyes..were nat shapen nor made to endure such payne.

2. To make, fashion out of pre-existing materials. In later use, to make by alteration of shape (as by moulding or carving) *out of* something else; to make in a definite shape.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxviii. (Z.) 174 *Fingo*, ic hiwixe oððe scyppe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16573 Þe rode þai scop þan as þai wald,..O cedre, cipres, and o pine. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 357 (Tanner MS.) The temple..That shapyn was as ye shall aftyr here. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 113 He shapis him of shire wax litill schipis many. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vi. 698 And whan these thre spyndels were shapen, she made hem to be fastned vpon the selar of the bedde. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 240 Come, to the Forge with it, then shape it. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 154 She does begin to Geometrize,..shaping..plane regular figures, as triangles..cubes, &c. 1802 LEYDEN *Lord Soulis* lxii, The ropes..Shaped of the sifted sand you see. 1893 D. J. RANKIN *Zambesi Basin* xiv. 240 A large wooden mortar shaped out of a log.

b. Of the organs of speech: To form, frame, produce (sounds).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 Tunge and teð and lippe word shuppieð muð sent ut þe stefne. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), To schape þe voice aier is ifonge in þe leues of þe lungen.

c. To frame, fashion (an immaterial thing); to make conformable *with* (a pattern).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28073 Laud men mai sumquat lere, to scape þair scrift wit þis samplere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 72 Cornelius..translated it into latyn..but he shope it so short þat [etc.]. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 299 The statue does not represent more truly the artistic imagination of its sculptor than does the word the mind that shaped it.

d. *To shape out*: to form, produce by giving shape to material.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 29 At the very mouth or out-let, dispersing it selfe into two branches, it shapeth out a great island. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. (1826) II. 293 You may shape out any thing with such moist clay. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 312 Currents..and tides, cannot..shape out or silt up estuaries..without [etc.].

e. *To shape over* (U.S.): to refashion. Cf. *make over*, MAKE *v.* 92 d.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 53 The same influence helped ..to shape over certain prononinal elements into the personal endings *anti, masi*, and *ti*.

3. *passive.* To have a certain shape.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Sweet *Sel. Hom.* iii. 7 Þa wæs bæs teoþan werodes hafes ealdor swiþe fæger and wlitiz ȝesceapen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6465 Folke heo buth ful eovel yschapen. Heore mouth is from that on ere to that othir [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 126 How faire & how fetis it was & freliche schapen. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xlviii, Lyke to ane hert schapin verily. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 209 b, The cloth was so shapen, that it covered also the other partes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 739 Shaped in forme, as one would say, of an egge. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* I. 215 Receptacle very long, shaped like a style. 1884 MRS. WALFORD *Baby's Grandm.* I. 262 The head was well shapen.

†**4.** To cut out or fashion (clothing). *Obs.* as specific sense.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Hu se euer hire kurtel beo ischeaped oðer iseouwed, heo [etc.]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 269 Sche cam into þe bisshop his chambre, oon caas for to schape þe chamberlay his lynnen clopes. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* M ij, It is not hard for the Tayler to shape a fitte garment for a straight bodie. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 24 Therefore it is as hard a task to shape a coat for Schismaticks, as for the Moon, which changeth its shape euery day. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* V, I was thinking of her poor mother when I shaped them [gloves]. *absol. c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 473 The taillours, trow I, moot heer-after soone Shape in þe feeld. 1568 CHARTERIS *Pref. to Lyndesay's Wks.* (1871) 4* The King ..sayis to him: 'Qhairto wald thow be my tailȝeour? thow can nouther schaip nor sew?' 1728 RAMSAY *Widow* 2 The Widow can shape, and the Widow can shew. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xiv, Thimblethwaite let no one but himself shape for glorious John, and he had a slashing hand at a sleeve.

†**5.** To fashion an image of, portray. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3214 Swete sire, ȝe me saye what signe is þe leuest to haue schape in þi scheld. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 1587 Apon his tayles ende þer was schaped a grysly hed. *a* 1650 *Old Robin of Portingale* xxxii. in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 240 He shope the crosse in his right sholder of the white flesh & the redd.

†**b.** To present, set (an example). *Obs.*

c 1610 *Women Saints* 185 You women doe not leaue this example vnimitated, which she hath shaped you.

†**c.** *To shape out*: to depict, describe. *Obs.*

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* III. v. F 3, I am sure she shapt me out to bee the ridiculousest old asse in Europe.

d. *To shape forth*: to picture to view; to give an outline of.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 29 b, That course which the sonne of God by his example shaped forth vnto them. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vii, The lone Seer.. Shaped forth a disembodied World. 1831 — *Ct. Robt.* xiii, 'My humble understanding,' said Agelastes, 'had been infinitely inferior to the management of so..sagacious a scheme, had it not been shaped forth and suggested by the inimitable wisdom of your..Imperial Highness.'

†**6.** To produce, cause, bring about. Also with clause as obj. *Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 111 And glorie Hit scheppeþ, ȝef man deyþe, And schilt fram purgatorie. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B.

xx. 138 He made lele matrimonye Departen ar deth cam & deuors shupte. *? a 1500 Chester Pl., Temptation* (Shaks. Soc.) 204 For I shall shape honour for thee. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xxxiii, Nor is there an opportunity of acquiring honour which I can shape for thee, to which, as it occurs, I will not gladly prefer thee.

†7. To transform or turn *into, to. Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 54 Summe schopen hem to hermytes heore ese to haue. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* iv. xiv. 138 She shope her self hors and man by enchauntement vnto a grete marbyl stone. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 12 Yet from a rich covetous Merchant did it shape him to a Courtier in pleasures.

†b. To put *into* clothing. Also *intr.* for refl.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 2, I schop me in-to a schroud. ?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 165 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 275 In a clothyng ye schalle be schape. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* vii. (Ingilby MS.), Þe schene briddes in Þe schawe Þei schappyn in schrowde.

†c. To cause to assume an alien shape or appearance. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 723 And Þey [*sc.* fiends] han bothe strengthe & myȝt, After man to schapen here body. 1613 Heywood *Silver Age* II. i, Enter at one dore.. at the other Iupiter shapt like Amphitrio.

†8. To prescribe a form to. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 209 Þeruore ous tekȝ oure guode mayster Iesu crist uor to asci wysliche and ous ssepp oure ascinge Þo he zede.

†9. a. *intr.* To attain maturity of form and proportions. b. *trans.* Of a tree: To bring (its fruit) to maturity. *Obs.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 4. 24 b, Young men, when they knit and shape perfectly, doe seldome grow to a further stature. 1618 Lawson *New Orch. & Garden* vii. (1623) 16, I haue knowne a tree..for want of strength could neuer shape his fruit.

10. To trim, cut, or mould to a particular shape; to adapt in shape *to*.

1457 Hardyng *Chron.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1912) 750 The lawe is lyke vnto a Walshmannes hose, To eche mannes legge that shapen is and mete. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* 1 Apr. (1887) I. 175 They generally shape their eyebrows. 1861 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Apr. 30/2 Some [sleeves] are shaped to the elbow, and have cuffs. 1891 Kinns *Graven in Rock* viii. 300 The sarcophagus is slightly shaped to the body.

11. To give definite form to; to put *into* a certain form, to embody in words. †Also with *out*.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 22 That oracles were foretold at the Delphian Caue, but were shapte out and finished in the Counsell house. 1796 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XX. 535 We knew into how complete and fascinating a whole the selecting taste of Wieland had shapen the enterprise of Huen of Bourdeaux. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 3 And there I shaped The city's ancient legend into this. 1875 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* (1885) III. 258 The trivial questions I want to put could hardly be shapen in a letter.

b. *refl.* To assume a definite form or structure; to develop from vagueness or confusion *into* something coherent.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. ii, This multitudinous French People..begins heaping and shaping itself into organic groups. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 37 The valleys.. shape themselves..into a succession of graceful curves.

12. To give a direction and character to (one's life, conduct, etc.).

1823 Keble *Serm.* iv. (1848) 85 Every one shapes his conduct, in regard to his worldly interests, upon the notion that sin and wickedness abound. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* (1880) I. Introd. 2 The great river-courses which have shaped the lives of men have hardly changed. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 562/2 It would be absurd to say that his life was shaped for him by the force of circumstances.

II. To devise, plan, prepare.

13. To devise (a plan, a remedy.)

c 1382 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 502, I can shappe herof a remedie. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* lxix, Bot venus, of hir grace, Will schape remede. *c* 1530 *Hyckescorner* 355 But at the last God shope a remedy. 1584 Lodge *Alarum agst. Usurers* 10 According as I finde your aunswere, I will shape your deliueraunce. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxiv, Can I shape no means for myself when I am deserted by these cravens?

†14. To take measures for, contrive, endeavour to bring about. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4565 Þat schopen hym [Caesar] yuel & outrage, Þey diden hym fewte & homage. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3267* And had he shapyn Ay to shalkez shendship & illys. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 257 And soo for he schapput a fowle deth to oþer, hit fell apon hymselfe.

† b. With inf. or clause as obj. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. B.* 762 I schal schape no more Þo schalkkez to helpe. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skt.) 148 Thilke governour..shoop to have letted thilke eleccion, and have made a newe. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 318 Herowde the kyng has malise ment, And shappis with shame yow for to shende. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 61 A fedrem on he tuke, And schupe in Turky for to fle. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 142 Send vs support and coufortíng, Aganis our fais that byssie is, That schapis till stroy, baith auld and zung. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 261 Bot ay the mair I schape [? *read* schupe] to smorit The baulder it brak out.

†c. *absol.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 201 Þanked God & him so wele for him had schaped. *c* 1456 Pecock *Bk. Faith* (1909) 155 Therfore God so schope that the feith schulde bi a notable tyme be preched.

†15. *refl.* To set oneself, prepare. Const. *to* with inf., or *for*. *Obs.* Very common in Chaucer.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 21 And I se þat uery lorel shapiþ hym to fynde oute newe fraudes. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 429 'Certes', quod he, 'þat is soth' and shope hym for to walken. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 774 As ye goon by the weye, Ye shapen yow to talen and to pleye. 1462 in *Extracts Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 20 That no nychbour schaip thame to by ony vittuallis or to bid ony price thairfoir befoir the entrie. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 78 Schaip the no moir with ws to stryve. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 95 Gif ȝour fais tryumphis ouer ȝow to stand, Schaip ȝow for deid.

† b. Of the sky: To prepare (to rain). *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troilus* III. 551 Right sone vpon the chaunging of the mone Whan..that the welken shoop him for to reyne.

†16. To direct the course of; to equip, send forth. Also, of a motive: To prompt, induce. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12050 Arthur.. schop his host to Southaumptone. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 69 Bidders and Beggers Beoþ not in Þe Bulle, Bote Þe suggestion be soþ Þat schapeþ hem to Begge. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's T.* 155 Bisshopes ben shapen with hir for to wende. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 403 Throuch auld malice he wox ner wod for teyn; Apon the Scottis schup thaim all with gret mavn.

†b. *refl.* To direct one's course. Also *intr.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1144 He will..shape hym to our shippes with his shene knightes. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* X. 408 Feyll Sotheroun than to Wallace fast can schaip. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* xiii. b j b, At the last he [Leir] shope hym to the see and passed ouer in to fraunce.

†c. *To shape* (a person's) *way*: to assist one in a course of action. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 17 We wolen wysen Þe kyng and þi wey schapen. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 237 Whereas Empson and Dudley..did not giue way onely..but shape him way to those Extremities, for which himselfe was touched with remorse at his Death.

d. *To shape one's course*: Naut., to steer *for, to* a place. Also *transf.* and *fig.* (occas. *to shape one's passage, way*, etc.).

1593 Peele *Hon. Garter* C 4 b, And Sheffeilde, shape thy course no otherwise, Then loyaltie..Directs. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 56 Shape your course as he doth to meet him at the neerest angle you can. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 16 Sept. 1644, Minding now to shape my course so as I might winter in Italy. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Love & Hon.* 325 To the cloister's pensive scene Elvira shap'd her solitary way. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* i. (1818) 9 We now shaped a course for the west end of Madeira. 1877 'H. A. Page' *De Quincey* I. iv. 80 Two considerations caused him to shape his course differently.

17. †a. To direct, address (speech); to aim (a blow). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1626 He schewez hem Þe scheldez, & schapes hem Þe tale. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 270 He wald..prevene the strakis, and geve him the dedely straikis first that he schapis till him. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. v. 39 Which speaches she applying to the scope Of her intent, this further purpose to him shope.

b. Phrase, *to shape an answer*. In early use const. *to* or *dative*. (Now with mixture of sense 11.)

c 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 160 Wherefore thow Eolus, without more delay Shape vs an answer to thyne accusement. 1528 More *Dyalogue* III. i. (1529) 67 b/2 That shall I gladly here quod I, and shape you such answere as my pore wytte wyll serue me. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* IX. 171 Achilles thus an answere shapes. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 441 It is a good Point of Cunning, for a Man, to shape the Answer he would haue, in his owne Words, and Propositions. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* IV. 151 Well perceaving which way the King enclin'd, every one thereafter shap'd his reply. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* vi. 28 To thy first question thus I shape mine answer.

18. *intr.* †a. To turn out, take a course. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 301 For him & us alle myght it better schape. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8415 Iff happe so with me schape That thow may no wyse askape Fro me. *c* 1440 *Wars Alex.* (prose) 69 (E.E.T.S.), And when Alexander saw it schope thus..he commanded þat all men schulde wende armed.

†b. To arise, come to pass. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 160, & al to lyȝten Þat lome, ȝif leþe wolde schape. *c* 1420 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* xxii. 332 And on a nyght vnhappyly shoop it, Left was the Erles Chambre dore vnstoken. *c* 1430 — *New Cant. Tale* 15/29 (E.E.T.S.) It shoop so Þat this man had a yong sone.

†c. To be conducive, tend. *Obs.*

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 346 Their deere losse, The more of you 'twas felt, the more it shap'd Vnto my end of stealing them.

†d. Of a coast-line: to trend. *Obs.*

1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 7 The sea-coast..from thence ..shapes nearly south by east half east.

19. To appear promising (chiefly *Sc.* and *dial.*: see Eng. Dial. Dict.). Often with reference to physical exercises, as drill, rowing, etc.: To show signs of becoming efficient.

1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. viii. V. 264 How their Grand Army of the Netherlands shaped to prosper. *Ibid.* XVIII. vii. VII. 211 Your Brother does not the least shape towards giving in. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* 205 They [the cadet company] shape well—extremely well they shape. 1913 *Daily Chron.* 22 Feb. 7/4 No. 7 rowed light, but the other men in the stern and right down to 4 shaped finely.

b. *Cricket.* Of a batsman: To get into the proper attitude and position for dealing with the particular kind of ball delivered by the bowler.

1884 I. Bligh in *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 4 Davis and Powell shaping well.

c. Of a horse: To exhibit capabilities; to develop *into*.

1887 *Daily News* 16 May 3/4 Mr. C. Clark's son of Outfit, who gives promise of shaping into a grand weight-carrier.

1891 Gould *Double Event* xvii. 123, I am very anxious to see how my horse shapes.

20. *Pugilism.* To 'square' for fighting.

1878 *Athletic World* 31 May 99/2 Bassano..without the least attempt at shaping, hit him sharply on the nose.

III. To appoint, decree, determine.

†21. *trans.* a. Of God, fate, fortune, etc.: To destine, decree. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2913 Wæs sio wroht scepen heard wiþ Huȝas. *a* 1000 *Be manna wyrdum* 95 (Gr.) Weoroda god ȝeond middanȝeard monnes cræftas sceop & scyrede. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Werpeð Þat gilt uppen ure drihten and seiþ ..ne was me no bet shapen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4391 Ac euere vouȝte as hom nere deþ issape non. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 247 A wylde walterande whal, as wyrde Þen schaped, Þat was beten fro Þe abyme. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's Prol.* 21 'Allas!' she seith, 'that ever I was shape To wedde a milksop'. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xxiv, Fortune It schupe non othir wayis to be. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* 1257 (Rawl. MS.) ȝet is Þer to ȝow schape a hyer chaunce. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. 153 To whom that fate was shapte, whom Phebus wold.

†b. *gen.* To decree, determine. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4364 When alle were set in ylka bataille, & schept ho scholde formest assaille, Toward Þe Romayns faste Þey nomen. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 742, & quat if faurty be fre & fauty Þyse oþer Schalt Þow schortly al schende & schape non oþer. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 419 Siþ no cause is of Þis almes, Þei seyen Þat god shoop Þis wiþ-oute cause.

†22. To give (a name) to a person or thing. *Obs.*

Beowulf 78 Scop him Heort naman. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 478 Rice menn sceopon heora bearnum naman Þe him sylfum. *c* 1205 Lay. 14232 Þa Þe burh wel [*read* wes] al ȝare Þa scop he hire nome. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 277 In Þe same manere kynges sones of Engelond hadde names i-schape by hir fadir names. 1555 Phaer *Æneid* III. 22 And of my name their name I shoope, and Eneads them call.

†23. To deliver (a judgement), appoint (a penalty); condemn (a person) to punishment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9714 Til an behoues al assent And siþen schap Þe iugement. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 809 To bale were ȝe Þanne bore for bannede werkus, Þat schullen schamly be schent & schapen to paine. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. I. 159 Riȝt so is loue a ledere and Þe lawe shapeth. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1828 in *Macro Plays* 131, I schape Þese schrewys to mekyl schame.

Shape, obs. form of Chape *sb.*

1540 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 114 Paid for gylting of the handle of the swarde and for the shape ijs.

Shape, obs. form of Scape *v.*[1]

Shapeable, shapable (ʃē·păb'l), *a.* [f. Shape *v.* and *sb.* + -able.]

1. Capable of being shaped, plastic.

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 35 My task is to sit and study how shapeable the Independent way will be to the body of England. 1832 Carlyle in Froude *Remin.* (1881) I. 19 What strange shapeable creatures we are! 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* (1862) 71 Soft, and shapeable into love-syllables.

2. Shapely, characterized by shapeliness.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 146 With a Wheel..I made Things round and shapable, which before were filthy Things ..to look on. 1889 H. B. Wheatley *How to Catalogue* iii. 71 As it forms a more shapable and better-looking volume.

Shapeau, obs. form of Chapeau.

Shaped (ʃēipt), *ppl. a.* [f. Shape *v.* and *sb.* + -ed. Cf. Shapen *ppl. a.*]

1. In senses of the verb. Often with prefixed adv.

1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* III. iii. P iv b, That hurtful or noysom yll which..did cast away our first formed or shaped fathers. 1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. XIII. 340 Caius Julius Cæsar..was the best shap'd Man of his Time. 1845 Mrs. M. J. Howell *Hand-bk. Dress-making* 53 For cambrics, or muslins, this shaped body is most eligible. 1857 Dickens *Dorrit* xv, That fair ship began to steer steadily on a shaped course. 1862 H. B. Wheatley *Anagrams* 18 Shaped verses are instances of the most egregious folly. It was the fashion among the minor poets to compose poems formed in the shape of every conceivable thing. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 387 Shaped bones and chipped flints lay in the same deposit. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 33/2 The curiously shaped rhinoceros beetle.

2. In parasynthetic derivatives of adj. + *shape* sb., as *many-shaped* adj.

1593 Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* II. pr. i. 20, I vnderstand the many shaped [*multiformes*] deceites of her wonder. 1866 *Field* 6 Jan. 10/2 The first-named..being as fine a shaped hound as ever I saw.

Shapeful (ʃē·pfŭl), *a.* [f. Shape *sb.* + -ful.]

†1. Having or taking (any) shape. *nonce-use.*

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XVII. 648 The Gods Haue often visited these rich abods..since their pow'rs (Being alwayes [? = all ways] shapefull) glide through Townes and Tow'rs.

2. Shapely.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1626) 73 But now in her owne Fountayne bathes her faire And shapefull lims. 1842 J. Sterling *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 437 The..struggle for power and riches absorbs the energies that would otherwise exert themselves in shapeful melody. 1867 G. Macdonald *Disciple*, etc., *Somnium Myst.* xi, Their floral speech, Their lovely silences of shapeful lore.

Shapeless (ʃē·plĕs), *a.* [f. Shape *sb.* + -less.]

1. Without shape or form; having no definite or regular shape.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 350 Þat es Þe elementes to sai, Þat first scapless al samen lay. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* vii. 103 The sayd Chaos was as a shapelesse Child [*vn Embryon*].. scarce set together in the moothers wombe. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 415 Who weares a garment shapelesse and vnfinisht? 1636 Earl Manch. *Contempl. Mortis & Immort.* 33 But what is this soule that so delights in futures? Though it be shapelesse and immateriall, yet [etc.]. 1698 Froger

Voy. Ded., I cou'd not forbear, how shapeless soever the same [*sc.* this Relation] may be, to present it to Your Honour. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 158 Some objects please our eyes ... The shapeless rock, or hanging precipice. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 47 Sunk are thy bowers in shapeless ruin all. 1799 SIR J. MACKINTOSH *Disc. Law Nat.* 17 A shapeless compilation, in which reason lies buried under a mass of authorities and quotations. 1821 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 36 And shapeless sights come wandering by, The ghastly people of the realm of dream. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xlix. 157 The statue had been fused and disfigured into a mass of shapeless metal.

2. Destitute of beauty or elegance of form, unshapely.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 303 Let vs complaine to them what fooles were heare, Disguis'd like Muscouites in shapelesse geare. 1590 — *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 20 He is deformed, crooked, old, and sere, Ill-fac'd, worse bodied, shapelesse euery where. *a* 1651 HOLYDAY tr. *Juvenal* Sat. x. (1673) 191 A shape-less Lad no Tyrant e're did make His dear Court-Eunuch. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 79 Some frail memorial still erected nigh, With uncouth rhimes and shapeless sculpture deck'd. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xv, In shapeless characters of yore, The gate this stern inscription bore. 1858 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, The old women at Smyrna are like sacks. You've not got clumsy and shapeless.

3. Without guidance or direction, aimless. *rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 8 To..Weare out thy youth with shapelesse idlenesse. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 133 The drunkard's nerveless, hopeless, shapeless life in death.

Hence **Sha·pelessness.**

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vii. 102 A proper imagination surely,..to father his so orderly essence vppon the shapelessenesse of a Chaos. 1872 *Echo* 3 Oct. 3 The incoherence and shapelessness which Sir George Jessel vaunts as the perfection of human contrivance.

Shapeliness (ʃē·plinės). [f. SHAPELY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being shapely.

1388 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* v. 15 His schapplinesse [1382 fairnesse] is as of the Liban. — *Ps.* xliv. 5 Biholde thou in thi schaplynesse. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 294 The shapeliness of the lime and horse-chesnut. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. i. 23 True, a goodly man. What shapeliness and state he hath. 1884 J. R. SEELEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 497 When we speak of Goethe as having created the literature of Germany, do we mean that he brought it back from wildness to Greek shapeliness and decorum?

†Sha·peling. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SHAPE *sb.* + -LING 2.] A small form or embryo.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 35 The shaplings or tiny keeles of the great Malpighiuses eggs.

Shapely (ʃē·pli), *a.* Also 4–5 **shaply**, (4 **schapliche**, **schap(p)li**, **schap(p)ely**, *comparative* **schaploker**), 4–6 **schaply.** [f. SHAPE *sb.* + -LY^{1}. (OE. had *gesceaplice* adv., fitly.)]

†1. Fit, likely, suitable; also like (*to* something).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1452 Tho sleyghtes yet þat I haue herd yow stere Ful shaply ben to fayllen alle y-fere. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 372 Euerich for the wisdom þat he kan Was shaply for to been an Alderman. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 264 Envie..is noght schaply forto wyve In Erthe among the wommen hiere. *c* 1435 *Chron. London* (ed. Kingsford 1905) 53 For Sorowe and Remoors, that he ys shaply to make with Inne this Rewme. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xxviii, Thyse that god knewe before sholde be made shapely to the ymage of his sone.

2. Of good or elegant shape, well-formed.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* ii. 2 [She] bar a child, and, seynge hym shaply [Vulg. *elegantem*], hydde hym thre monethis. 1388 — *Gen.* xxxix. 6 Forsothe Joseph was fair in face, and schapli in siȝt [Vulg. *decorus aspectu*]. *a* 1400 *Pistil of Susan* 118 (Vernon MS.) Als þis schaply þing ȝede in hire ȝarde. *Ibid.* 194 Hire scholdres schaply and schire. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 30 þe þridde [profit is], þat þe makynge of lymes were þe more schaploker. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 139 Children deere, þat so goodly so shaply were, and feir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. xv. 38 A sembly springald, a fayr ȝowng galland, Rycht schaply maid. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 237 The Ambassadour.. had the end of his Nose, part of the upper and under Lip cut off, but was otherwise a shapely Man. 1785 COWPER *Task* II. 76 Rude fragments now Lie scatter'd where the shapely column stood. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 613 In physique, they are taller, slighter, more lithe, shapelier, than their congeners at home.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* ii. 11 My culuer, my shapli [Vulg. *Formosa mea*]. — *Isa.* lxiii. 1 Who is this..? this shapli in his stole. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* III. ii. 225 An inward Eye distinguishes, and sees the Fair and Shapely. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Academy* 15 Aug. (1885) 104/2 The distinct Perception of a Whole arising out of a distinct simultaneous perception of the Parts, in the relations of all to each, and of each to each and to all, constitutes —the Shapely.

b. Having definite form. *rare.*

1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* lxxix, She..spies blurr'd images obscurely drawn,..But her true grief grows shapely by degrees, A perish'd creature lying on her knees. 1863 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 502 The plastic power of the imagination, taking up and using the existing data, forms them into a shapely conception.

†3. Pertaining to form. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 177 þe makere of alle þinges þat haþ wiþ him schapliche resouns, of al manere resouns and þinges [orig. *ideales rerum rationes*].

Shapen (ʃē·pn), *ppl. a.* [Strong pa. pple. of SHAPE *v.* (OE. had *earmsceapen* wretched.) Cf. SHAPED *ppl. a.*]

1. Having a shape (of the kind specified by the qualifying word). *Obs.* exc. in *well shapen* (somewhat *arch.*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8076 þat sagh man neuer for-wit þat hore, Sua fraward scapen creature. *a* 1425 tr. *Ardorne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. (1910) 6 Haue the leche also clene handes and wele shapen nailez. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. ii. 341 The knyȝt with the euylle shapen cote. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxiii. 235 His fayre and wel shappen body. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. ✠✠ iij, That the righte shapen workes abyde not behynde, but accompanye fayithe. 1603 STOW *Surv.* (ed. 3) 197 An vglie shapen sight appeared to them, comming in at the south Window. 1625 BACON *Ess., Innovations*, The Births of Liuing Creatures, at first, are ill shapen. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purch.* 85 A well shapen Man. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* vi, She was a good-looking woman.., well shapen.

2. Furnished with a definite shape; fashioned, shaped.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/1 Schapyne, *aptus, aptatus, adplasmatus.* 1558 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 88, I bequith all my shappen apparell as jacketts, dubletts and others unto my children. *Ibid.* 141, 200. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XII. 75 And withal on the topmost tomb we set the shapen oar. 1891 — *Poems by Way* (1896) 214 Yet on he went until he heard The cry become a shapen word.

Shapen (ʃē·p'n), *v. rare.* [f. SHAPE *sb.* + -EN^{5}; cf. SHAPEN *ppl. a.*] *trans.* To shape, impart a shape to.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* XXVIII. 14 He sayde: How is he shapened? She sayde: There commeth vp an olde man, and is clothed with a longe garment. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vii. 90 Seeing this Chaos could not receiue either shape or order but by the said Soule,..how met they together,..the one to shape, and the other to be shapned? 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. XXIV. 65 Their speciall charge was first to shapen his limmes and bodie, goodly, and healthie. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* vii. (1623) 20 When it [*sc.* the sap]..shapens his buds for next yeeres fruit. 1819 CRABBE *Tales of Hall* I. 235 The minor portions of his creed hung loose, For time to shapen and an whole produce. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Aug. 1/3 Wait..until the creature has.. shapened itself into the form of a cottage loaf.

Hence **Sha·pening** *vbl. sb.*

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. I. ix, This is the nourishing Of all; but spermall form, the certain shapening. *Ibid.* II. iii. I. xix, The soul doth imitate and bring The eye to such a temper in her shapening.

Shaper (ʃē·pəɹ). Forms: 3 scaper, 4–5 shapere, 5 schaper, schapare, 4– shaper. Also (in sense 1) 4 **shapper**(e, **schappere.** [f. SHAPE *v.* + -ER^{1}; the form *s(c)happere* is influenced by the doublet SHEPPER.]

†1. The Creator or Maker (of the universe). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12899 þe scaper þat wroght al thing. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 579, 581 þer nys no shapper [*v. rr.* shaper, schappere] but god almyȝt... He ys shapper of al þyng. *Ibid.* 585, 9663, 9668. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxxii. 18 Thow..hast forȝet the Lord thi shaper. — *Isa.* xliii. 15, li. 13. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 88 Schappere of alle þynges god þat fourmedest me. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xi. 42/2 God..is..shaper & sauer of all creatures.

2. One who or something which makes (a thing) in the required shape; one who fashions (material).

c 1425 *Noah's Ark* 87 in *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* 22 [*Noah log.*] Christ be the shaper of this ship, For a ship need make I must. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Schapare, *aptator, formator.* 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 182 b, That auncient Serpente the shaper of such Gods. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 14 Another..wil be none otherwise termde then a shaper of garments. 1831 CARLYLE *Surv. German Poetry* in *Misc. Ess.* (1888) III. 250 Mind is the creator and shaper of matter. 1867 O. W. HOLMES *Guardian Angel* II. 10 He was by nature an artist; a shaper with the pencil or the chisel. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 51, I..made them shapers Of mine own moods.

b. *spec.* in various trades as the designation of an operative. Also *shaper up.*

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 42, 45, 74, 97. 1890 *North Lindsey Star* 19 July 5/1 A shaper at the Britannia Iron Works. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2146. 380 [Hat-making.] Curlers including 'shapers'. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 10/7 Carver and Shaper-up..for shaped blocks.

3. quasi-*arch.* A poet. *rare.* (Cf. MAKER 5.)

Suggested by OE. SCOP, fancied to be cogn. w. SHAPE *v.*

1816 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* LXXXI. 518 In this hall, we are told, a shaper, or poet, sang the lay of the creation. 1892 S. A. BROOKE *Eng. Lit.* I. iv. 103 If we want to feel whether *Beowulf* is good poetry or not, let us place ourselves in the hall..filled with warriors and seamen,..— and then hear the Shaper strike the harp.

4. A machine or tool for shaping material, spec. a shaping-machine (see SHAPING *vbl. sb.* 4).

1853 *Pract. Mechanic's Jrnl.* VI. 230/2 The shaper..is capable of working out differentially-curved..figures. 1893 *Sci. Amer.* 25 Nov. 344/1 Among notable exhibits..was an improved shaper.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 466 By the use of figured guides, cams, or shaper-plates, by which the motion is constrained. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Shaper Vise*, one adapted to hold work to a planer, at any horizontal angle. 1901 *Feilden's Mag.* IV. 480/1 The form of the shaper tool would have to exactly coincide with the tooth space of the wheel to be cut.

Shaperne, -ed: see CHAPOURN *Her. Obs.*

†Shapet. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. ? variant of SERPET.

a 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* lx. (1659) 116 Mr. R. left a Shapet of Turkey-Carpets and Hangings, which in all probability he designed..at Lighorn.

Shaping (ʃē·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see the verb. [f. SHAPE *v.* + -ING^{1}.]

1. The action of SHAPE *v.*: an instance of this.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 38 'Thah y swore by treuthe ant othe, that God hath shaped me y-nou at luppe'. 'Mid shupping ne mey hit me ashunche.' *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Schapynge, *aptura, formacio.* 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xiii, [A tayller] whiche surmounted alle the othes in shapynge or sewynge. 1568 CHARTERIS *Pref. to Lyndesay's Wks.* (1871) 4 Seing teiching and preiching is na les requisite to thair vocatioun, than schaiping & sewing is to ane tailȝeouris. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 124 We come to the like shaping of the remaining part of the Logg. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. 361 Canst thou remember, Maid, what vision first Seem'd more than fancy's shaping? 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xiv, It was the housekeeper who did teach her those unprofitable exercises of hemming and shaping. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* ciii. 36 As one would sing the death of war,..And one the shaping of a star.

2. Something shaped, fashioned, or created; a creature, form, shape; a creation (of the mind or fancy).

1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Oþer huanne me zuereþ be þe sseppinges, ase me zayþ; be þe zonne þet ssinþ [etc.]. *Ibid.* 158 þe dyeuel sseweþ to þe goste zuiche sseppinges and zuiche figures ase he wyle. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 136 Oh blot not out the louely Image of God; in faining, and framing so vaine a shaping to your selues! 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 338 Pale Fear Haunted by ghastlier shapings than surround Moon-blasted Madness when he yells at midnight! 1795 — *Lines at Shurton Bars* 85 How oft, my Love! with shapings sweet I paint the moment, we shall meet! 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 86 This shaping of the stock is a very moulded form of pistol grip.

3. *Sc.* (See quot. 1825–80.)

1814 W. NICHOLSON *Tales, Peacock* 91 Decamp [tailor loon], or by my bloody weapons, I'll cut thy buckram soul to shapin's! 1825–80 JAMIESON, *Shapings*, the small bits of cloth that are cut off with the scissors in shaping any piece of dress, S.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **a.** simple attrib. as *shaping machinery*; *shaping implement, mould, process* (1869 C. Knight *Mechanician* 77–8). b. Special comb., as **†shaping apparel, clothes** *Sc.*, outer garments; **†shaping board**, a board on which a tailor or shoemaker shapes his materials; **shaping engine**, an early name for the *shaping machine* (*b*); **†shaping knife**, a shoemakers' knife; **shaping machine**, (*a*) a machine for shaping metal pieces and parts of machinery; also *attrib.*; (*b*) a machine for shaping ship's blocks; (*c*) a finishing blocking machine for hats (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **shaping-shop**, that building in a shipwright's yard in which the steel framework, plates, etc. are shaped.

1564 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 170 His *shappinge apparell. A yowlowe sattane dublet and a payre of housse. 1442 *Court-Roll Gt. Waltham Manor, Essex* 11 July, [Proceedings against Joan, widow of William 'Taillor', who] asportavit unam tabulam vocat. a *shepping-bord nuper fixam infra tenementum suum. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/1 A Schapynge burde, *scalpatorium, scrdecelila.* 1541 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 176 Item, ane shaiping knyf, ane schawing irne,..ane schaiping buird. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxiii, "'Deed, Jen,' said Lady Grizel,..' I wad hae gien a' my *shapin' claes to sit there.' 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXII. B 2/1 [Brunel's machinery for making ships' blocks.] The outside surfaces of the blocks are next formed to their true figure by the three *shaping engines. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 553 *Trenket et subiloun* *Shappyngknyf and al. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Schapynge knyfe, *scalprum.* Schapynge knyfe of sowtarys, *ansorium.* 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3139 How cal thay ȝou, sir, with the schaiping knife? Ane sowtar, sir. 1541 [see *shaping board* above]. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1816) 84 The *shaping machine-room [at the Mint]. *a* 1849 BRUNEL in Beamish *Mem.* (1862) iii. 38 The shaping machine I conceived while [etc.]. 1867 *Rep. Paris Univ. Exhib.* (1868) IV. 373 The same firm also show a milling, or, as it is frequently termed in England, a shaping machine, in which circular cutters are employed. 1911 J. G. HORNER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 29/2 The shaping machine does for comparatively small pieces that which the planer does for long ones. 1872 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Machines* 263 *Shaping machinery. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 63 The *shaping-shop.

Shaping (ʃē·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHAPE *v.* + -ING^{2}.] That shapes, in the senses of the verb.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xii. (1495) 196 In the male ben vertues formale and shapynge and werkynge and in the female materyal suffringe and passyf. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 133 In like manner, another man whose plastick, shaping, or enkindling powers, are fraught with more of manhood,..may [etc.]. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vi. (1857) 88 Our creative shaping intellect projected its own fantasies on him. 1897 DOWDEN *Fr. Lit.* v. iv. 409 He had..the artist's shaping hand.

†Shapio(u)n. *Sc. Obs.* In 6 sch-. [Of obscure formation; related to F. *chapeau* hat.] Some kind of head-dress.

1504–6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 90 Item, for vj schapiois [? *read* schapionis] and quhit hattis..iiij *li.* iiij*s.* 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 205 Item..to James Bassindin for ane schapioun and ane bever..v *li.*

Shapman, -mann, obs. forms of CHAPMAN.

‖ Shapoo (ʃā·pu). Also **shapu, sharpoo**; shortened **SHA.** [Tibetan *sha-pho* 'wild sheep' (Jaeschke).] A kind of sheep (*Ovis vignei*) found in Ládák (Kashmír) and Tibet.

1858 A. L. ADAMS in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 526 *Caprovis vignei* (Blyth)...3. Shapoo of Ladakh and Tibet. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 8 The Oorial and the Shapoo are bearded Sheep...The Shapoo is brownish-grey, white below, with a short brown beard. 1902 RONALDSHAY *Sport under Eastern Sky* v. 88 One of the men..had returned, having seen some sharpoo.

Shapournet, obs. f. CHAPOURNET *Her. Obs.*

Shapparoon, shapperoon, obs. f. CHAPERON.

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Whore B* 8, Her Shapperoones,

her Perriwigs and tires. 1640 — *Praise Needle* A 1 b, No shadowes, Shapparoones, Caules, Bands, Ruffs.

Shappeau, shappo, obs. ff. CHAPEAU.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shappeau*, or *Shappo*, for *Chappeau*, a Hat, the newest Cant, *Nab* being very old, and grown too common. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*

Shappester, -yster, variant ff. SHEPSTER.

Shaps (ʃæps), *sb. pl. U. S.* Also **chaps.** [Shortened from Mexican Sp. *chaparejos*.] Leather riding breeches.

1885 T. ROOSEVELT *Hunting Trips* 8 (Cent.) The spurs, bit, and revolver silver-mounted, the shaps of sealskin, etc. 1904 E. ROBINS *Magnetic North* x. 181 A fellow who went about in 'shaps', as his California cousins called chaparejos.

Shapsister, variant of SHEPSTER.

Shar, obs. f. SHARE; obs. pa. t. SHEAR *v.*

Sharan, dial. variant of SHARN.

‖ **Sharawaggi.** *Obs.* Also **sharawadgi.** [Of unknown origin; Chinese scholars agree that it cannot belong to that language. Temple speaks as if he had himself heard it from travellers.] (See quot. 1685.) Also *attrib.*

1685 Sir W. TEMPLE *Gard. Epicurus* Misc. II. ii. (1690) 58 The Chineses..have a particular Word to express it [*sc.* the beauty of studied irregularity]; and where they find it hit their Eye at first sight, they say the *Sharawadgi* is fine or is admirable. 1724 POPE *Let. Digby* 12 Aug., For as to the hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Paradise of Cyrus, and the Sharawaggi's of China, I have little or no Idea's of 'em. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 25 Feb., I am almost as fond of the Sharawaggi, or Chinese want of symmetry, in buildings, as in grounds or gardens. 1781 — *Let. to Earl Strafford* 13 June, Though he was the founder of the Sharawadgi taste in England, I preached so effectually that his every pagoda took the veil.

Shard, sherd (ʃɑːd, ʃɜːd), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **sceard,** 4 **shord,** 4–5 **schcord,** (5 **schorde, schourde**), 4–6 **scherd**(e, 5–6 **sherde,** (6 **shered**), 6 **sharde,** 6–7 **sheard**(e, 7–8 *Sc.* **shaird,** 8 *dial.* **shoard,** 9 **shord, sheard,** 4– **sherd,** 5– **shard.** [OE. *sceard* neut., cogn. w. OFris. *skerd* (? neut.) cut, notch (WFris. *skird*, NFris. *skârd, schaard, scherd*), MDu. *schaerde* fem., *schart* (*schard-*) masc., flaw, fragment (mod.Du. *schaard* fem.), MLG. *schart* neut., crack, chink, mod.LG. *schaard* potsherd, also breach, gap (e. g. in an embankment), MHG., mod.G. *scharte* fem., notch, gap, ON. *skarð* neut. (Da. *skaar* chink, potsherd, MSw. *skardh* neut., gap, chink, *skardher* masc., potsherd); subst. uses of the adj. OE. *sceard*, OS. *skard*, OFris. *skerde*, OHG. (*lida-*)*scart* (MHG. *schart*), ON. *skarð-r* :—OTeut. **skardo-* cut, notched, diminished, a ppl. formation on the root **skar-* (:—**sker-* : **skur-*): see SHEAR *v.*]

I. A cleft, gap.

1. A gap in an enclosure, esp. in a hedge or bank. Now chiefly *dial.*

a 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1848) VI. 220 Swa on ðæt lytle sceard ðæt is on burhhlinceas. [*a* 1100 *Gereſa* xiii. in *Anglia* IX. 262 Diesceard betan.] *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 114 The other twayen was elle aferd, They sparyd nethe stylle ne sherd. 1471 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 107 For makyng a schorde at the wyte croste ij*d*. 1488 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 493 And be cause the dyche of that lane was faste, they brake a shard and put men over the dyche. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 141 If he..fynde a gap, or a sherde in his hedge. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 454 But here was one sharde left open which must needes be stopt up with some brambles and Bryars. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Glocester* I. 331 *Shard*, a gap in a hedge; the common term. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) III. i. 111 His practised eye soon showed him a fit 'shard' or break in the scarped face of the bank. *fig.* 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 63 b, Now for asmuch as you have stopt up a fewe shardes in these your last tedious Commentaries,..I thought good to reply.

† **2.** Used by Spenser for: ? A dividing water.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 38 Vpon that shore he spied Atin stand, There by his maister left, when late he far'd In Phædrias fleet barke ouer that perlous shard.

3. A gap or notch in the blade of a tool. *dial.*

1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Shard*, a gap or notch. This knife has a great shard. Glouc.

II. 4. A fragment of broken earthenware. Phrase. *To break*, etc. *into sherds*: to reduce to fragments, break beyond repair.

Cf. POTSHERD and OE. *crocsceard.*

c 1000 *Gl. Prud.* in *Germania* (N.S.) XI. 398/257 *Testarum*, scearda. 13.. *Childh. Jesus* 340 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 331 His pechere he brake..And Ihesu gadirde þe skarthes [*v. r.* scherdys]. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* ii. 8 Job.. with a sherd [1388 schelle] scrapide awei the quyture. — *Ps.* xxi. 16 My vertue driede as a shord [1388 tiyl stoon]. — *Ecclus.* xxii. 7 Who techeth a fool, as that glueth togidere a sherd. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 151 Hayle stones i-medled with scherdes. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1197 Thogh that a pot be broke smal On sherdys & on pecys ek. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Scherde, or schoord, of a broke vesselle (*P.* schourde of broken vessel), *testula, testa.* 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 208 b/2 He put not away he wodenes of his flessh with a sherde or shelle. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 254 Shardes, Flints, and Peebles. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. v. (1612) K 2 b, There will be, perhaps, something, about the scraping of the Shardes, Will cure the tch. 1656 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 715 And scarce ought now f that vast Citie's found But shards and rubbish. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Drain*, a small Passage made for Vater to run Under-ground, with dry Shards at Bottom. 796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xx. 114 Several of the poor rebel negroes..had only the shards of Spa-water cans, instead of flints. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. v, Mirabeau's treason: wherefore his Bust..is instantly broken to sherds. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 217 The mutilation of the priests of Cybele was done with a sherd of Samian ware. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xix. 531 Fragments of black, red, and yellowish pottery, like the shards of Elephantine and Philæ. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* iv, He took up a shord..and went down to the river, with that for his cup. *Proverbs.* 1641 *D. Ferguson's Sc. Prov.* (1785) 34 Where the pig's broken let the sherds lie. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 351 When Tom's pitcher's broken I shall have the sheards (*i. e.* kindness after others have done with it).

b. *fig.* and in figurative context.

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D 5 b, Which makes hym esteeme himselfe as the iron pot, and vs as the earthen crock, with whom..he weens he can dash vs into shards at hys pleasure. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* xiv. 31 I'll breake it [*sc.* my heart] all In pieces small; Sinne shall not finde a shearde without a flaw Wherein [etc.]. 1847 LONGF. *Evang.* II. i. 67 Thus did that poor soul wander..Bleeding, barefooted, over the shards and thorns of existence. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Joseph's Coat* xxvii, Love's idol..was long since broken, and the worshipper was still sorely wounded by the shards.

c. *transf.* A fragment (of other material).

1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 39 b, If the rubbel or shardes of the stone [*i.e.* calculus] do put the to payn. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Assula*..a sharde of marble, or other stone. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 147 All [glasses] go one waie, that is, to shards at the last. *a* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 297 The hip of Anchisiades..which all in sherds it droue. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) s. v., Many of the common people, in the lower parts of Newcastle, used to resort to the Quayside..,where they gathered up coals with the half of a wooden dish, called a shard. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 132 What were I nigher this altho' we dash'd Your cities into shards with catapults. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. xx. I. 268 Suddenly with huge jingle, the glass-door of his room went to sherds. 1877–8 HENLEY in *Ballades & Rondeaus* (Canterb. Poets) 77 A melon's dripping sherds. 1910 *Spectator* 11 June 968/1 The bark was blown clean off the stem; there were great shards and slices of bark lying twenty and thirty yards away.

d. *Sc.* A remnant (of something worn or decayed).

1785 BURNS *Ep. W. Simpson* Postscr. xii, An' when the auld Moon's gaun to lea'e them, The hindmost shaird, they'll fetch it wi' them, Just i' their pouch. 1866 CARLYLE in Froude *Remin.* (1881) II. 164 Badams..was living..in a big old rambling sherd of a house among waste gardens. 1883 A. LANG in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 846 Everything he carried was more or less broken and outworn...His tomahawk was a mere shard of rusted steel.

† **5.** A scale (in quot. of a dragon). *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Cf. OHG. *scartifedar*, shell fish or tortoise.]

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 58 Sche sih, hir thoghte, a dragoun tho, Whos scherdes schynen as the Sonne.

Shard (ʃɑːd), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In 6 **sharde.** [app. cogn. w. SHARN.] A patch of cow-dung. (Cf. COW-SHARD.)

1545 ELYOT *Dict.* s. v. *Bonasus*, In his runnynge [he] flyngeth, and shoteth furth his sharde and dunge thre furlonge from hym. 1576 PETTIE *Petite Pallace* 82 b, The Humblebee..at nyght taketh no scorne to lodge in a Cowes foule sharde. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. ii. 19 They are his Shards, and he their Beetle. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & Panther* I. 321 Such souls as Shards produce, such beetle things As only buz to heaven with ev'ning wings. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sharn, Shard, Sharra*, or *Skarn*, cow's dung.

b. Comb.: **shard-beetle,** a beetle of the family *Geotrupidæ*, found under dung, a dor-beetle.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 188 Shard-Beetles (Geotrupidæ).

Shard (ʃɑːd), *sb.*[3] Variant of CHARD[2].

1685 DRYDEN tr. *Hor. Epode* ii. 81 More pleasing morsels.. Than Shards [L. *herba lapathi*] or Mallows for the pot. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 25 With furs and woollens layer upon layer inside, like the shards of an artichoke.

Shard (ʃɑːd), *sb.*[4] [Evolved from a misunderstanding of Shakspere's use in SHARD-BORN: see also quot. 1606 s.v. SHARD *sb.*[2]] The elytron or wing-case of a coleopterous insect.

[1755 JOHNSON s. v. *Shardborn*, Perhaps shard in Shakespeare may signify the sheaths of the wings of insects.] 1811 R. WILLAN *List Words W. R. Yorks.* in *Archæologia* XVII. 157 *Shard*, the shell or hard outward covering of the tribe of insects denominated *Coleoptera*. 1842 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XII. 182 The shining shards of beetles. 1884 *Mag. Art* Jan. 116 The glittering shards of insects.

Shard, obs. form of CHAR *sb.*[3]

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 155 *Trutta Minor*..a Shard. 1755 JOHNSON, *Shard*..4. A sort of fish.

Shard (ʃɑːd), *v. rare.* Also **sherd.** [f. SHARD *sb.*[1]]

1. a. *trans.* To break into fragments. Also with *off*. **b.** *intr.* Of a tree: To shed its bark in 'shards'. Hence **Sha'rding** *ppl. a.*

1582 [implied in SHARDED *ppl. a.*[1]]. 1891 NISBET *Colonial Tramp* I. 4 Dead, white branches and sharding trunks. 1900 CONAN DOYLE *Gt. Boer War* xvi. 269 The artillery fire ..was then turned..upon..the isolated Vaalkranz..The hillside was sharded off in great flakes. 1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 339 The veils and filaments of queens are torn aside, their bracelets sherded on their wrists.

2. *trans.* To notch the edge of (a tool). *dial.*

1879 *Exmoor Scolding & Courtship* (E.D.S.) Gloss. *s. v.*, Thee's a shorded my knife. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v. *Shord*, Zee how he've a-bin and a-shorded my plane ire.

Sha'rd-born, -borne, *a.* [f. SHARD *sb.*[2] + BORN *a.*] **a.** Of a beetle: Born in dung; *spec.* applied to the *shard-beetle* (see SHARD *sb.*[2] b). **b.** Used with the meaning (due to misinterpretation of Shaks.): Borne on shards (SHARD *sb.*[4]).

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 42 Ere to black Heccats summons The shard-borne Beetle, with his drowsie hums, Hath rung Nights yawning Peale. 1830 SCOTT *Doom of Devorgoil* I. i, This was a shard-born beetle, heavy, drossy. 1843 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* xii. 443 The Dung or Shard-borne Beetle. 1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 23 The advancing twilight's shard-born trumpeter.

Sharded (ʃɑːdɛd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SHARD *sb.*[1] and *v.* + -ED[1].] † **a.** Of a serpent: Scaly (*obs.*). **b.** Reduced to shards or fragments; of the moon, reduced to a crescent.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 251 That Serpent..was so scherded al aboute, It hield all eggetol withoute, He was so ruide and hard of skin, Ther mihte nothing go therin. 1582 STANYHURST *Conceits* in *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 137 With rent rocks chamferye sharded. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 120 The sharded moon.

† **Sha'rded,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. SHARD *sb.*[2] + -ED[2].] Of a beetle: Living in dung.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iii. 20 And often to our comfort, shall we finde The sharded-Beetle, in a safer hold Then is the full-wing'd Eagle.

Shardy (ʃɑːdi), *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SHARD *sb.*[4] + -Y.] Having shards or wing-cases.

1819 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* vii, Tied to the hornet's shardy wings.

Share (ʃɛə[1]), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **scær,** scear, sceer, 3 **ssare,** 4 **schar, shaar,** (*pl.* **scharres, -is, sharris**), 4, 6 **shar,** 4–6 **schare,** (7 **shere, sheare,** 8 **sharr**), 4– **share.** [OE. *scear, scær* (masc. or neut.) = OFris. *skere, schere*, MLG. *schar* neut., *schare* fem. (Da. *skær* from LG.), OHG. *scar, scaro* masc., *scara* fem. (MHG. *schar* masc., fem., neut, mod.G. *schar* fem., f. Teut. root **skar-*; **sker-*: see SHEAR *v.*]

1. The iron blade in a plough which cuts the ground at the bottom of the furrow; a ploughshare.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) 8 *Uomer*, scær. *c* 1000 [see COULTER 1]. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxxii. (1889) 124 Scer tungan ure [L. *vomer linguæ nostræ*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6890 Lat nime foure yrene ssares [*v. r.* scharres] vor hire sulue al a fure. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 294 Hit is no leue in oure lawe þat we land erie Wiþ no scharpede schar to schape þe forwes. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xiii. 21 Thanne al Yrael descendide to Philistiym, that echon sharpe his shaar [1388 schar]..for eggys of the sharis [1388 scharris] ..weren blunt. *c* 1386 [see COULTER 1]. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 130/1 Whan he toke the share to make clene hys cultre hyt cleuyd to hys hond. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The share is a pece of yren, sharpe before and brode behynde, a fote longe, made with a socket. 1594 *Selimus* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XIV. 204 The earth knew not the share, nor seas the barke. 1604–5 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 160, ij sheres to plow with, iiij*s* viij*d*. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 161 If a Workman should forge out a sheare of this for a plough, it is so brittle [that etc.]. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 187 As stubborn steers..Alike disdain with servile necks to bear Th' unwonted weight, or drag the crooked share. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 21 Great Clots, that will not yield to the Coulter's Cut, nor the Sharr's Break. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 279 As the bright share carved out the furrow clean. 1880 JEFFERIES *Greene Ferne Farm* 111 An upturned plough with rusty share.

fig. 1815 BYRON *Parisina* xx Those furrows which the burning share Of sorrow ploughs untimely there. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 238 In whom the very foundations of belief have been ploughed up by the share of authority.

b. The analogous part of a seed-drill, or similar implement.

1731 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxii. (Dublin 1733) 351 But I soon contrived a Plow with four Iron Shares, to make Channels [for seed] in any Ground. *Ibid.* xxiii. 352 This [Drill-] Plow makes its Channels by three Sheats, and their Shares and Trunks. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxi. 346 After sowing, it will be proper to plow the ground, where the lucern grows, with a drill-plow, with a round share. 1861 *Times* 11 July, The same implement frame..serves for ploughing, scarifying, trenching, digging, ridging, &c., according as it is fitted with shares for these various operations.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, *share-fin, -point*; † **share acre,** an acre charged with supply of a ploughshare yearly to the manor; so *share acre rent*; **share-beam,** in a plough of the ancient type, the beam which carries the share; **share-head,** the share-beam.

1641 *Surv. Pleshebury Manor, Essex* (MS.) fol. 6 b, For 1 acre of land called a *share acre..12*d. *Ibid.* fol. 4 b, For rents that the saide Smyth receiveth of diverse other persons, called Share acre rents, payeth to this manor yearely. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 196/28 *Brigacus*, *scearbeam. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The sharbeame is the tre vnderneth, where-vpon the share is set. 1884 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 403 The 'hardy rustic' [in Tuscany] still goes into the woods and seeks for an elm..for the share-beams with double backs, called 'dentale a due dorsi'. 1653 *Share-fin (phin) [see FIN *sb.* 3 b]. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg.*, Terms Husb. 355 The share-beam or *share-head: a piece of wood ..to which the share was fitted. 1665 D. DUDLEY *Metallum Martis* (1855) 31 The Ploughman often breaks his *Share point off if it be made of coloshare Iron. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 40 Just before the Sharr Point. 1852 C. W. H[OSKYNS] *Talpa* i. 3 The plough comes to a standstill, just revealing, at the share-point, the bruised side of a quartz pebble.

† **Share** (ʃɛə[1]), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **scaru,** 4 **shzare,** 4–5 **schar**(e, **schore, shaar,** 6 **shaare, shayre,** 8–9 **shear**(-bone), 5– **share**; *β.* 3 **scher,** 3–4 **sheer,** 3–6 **schere,** 4–5 **shere,** 6 *Sc.* **scheir.** [The same word as next.] The division or fork of the body; the pubic region, groin.

a. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 232 Læge ofer þa scare oþ þone

nafolan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 356/22 *Aluus*, mannes scaru. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 148 *Le penul*, the schore [*v. r.* shzare]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lv. (1495) 268 The ache is abowte the shaar and the twyste bytwene the genytours. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6242 But he smot him a3eyn so sore, That fro his heued doun to his schore He cleue him doun by the chyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schore, privy parte of a mann, *pubes*. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* I. iv. (1552) 7 From the mydryffe to the flankes or share. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xxi. 44 If the Share and parts thereabouts be anointed therewith. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 22 These Bones, viz. the Share or Pubes.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 Heo þuruhstihten Isboset adun into [þe] schere. *a* 1290 *Pains of Hell* (MS. Digby 86) 102 He þat wes owre [= whore] oþer kopiner þat stondeþ in to hoere sheer. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* ii. 23 Thanne Abner.. smoot hym in the sheer [1388 schar]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9679 Some is cloven In-to the shere, Some has lorn bothe cheke & ere. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 750/25 *Hec pubes*, schere. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* XII. viii, This Edrik..straik hym throw the scheir in his bowellis.

b. *Comb.*: **share-artery**, the pubic artery; **share-bone** = PUBIS 1; †**sharewort**, a plant (Gerarde's drawing, according to Britten and Holland, represents *Pallenis spinosa*).

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* I. xiv. (1552) 38 Thee *shares artyres. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* I iv, These two bones..ioyneth to y^e^ share before, and therfore are they called the *share bones. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 935 The bone without a name..hath three parts; the Hip, the Hanches and the Sharebones. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 423 A sensation of Weight in the Lower Belly under the Shear-Bone. 1827 *Lancet* 6 Oct. 7/1 Vernacular terms...The pubis, the shear bone. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxiv. 36 *Aster Atticus*...This herbe is called..in English *Sharewurte or Sterrewurte :..in high Douch..Scartenkraut, and Sternkraut. *Ibid.*, Layd to the botches..about the share or priuie members [it] preuayleth much against the same. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVI. ix. II. 256 Inguinaria, which some name Argemony. [*Margin.*] Some call it Sharewort or Codwort.

Share (ʃēə1), *sb.*3 Forms: 5 **schar, chare**, 6 **schare, shaire**, 4, 6– **share**. See also SKAIR. [ME. *share, schar*:—OE. *scearu* str. fem., cutting, division (recorded in the senses 'tonsure' and 'division or fork of the body', SHARE *sb.*1; also in comb. *landscearu* land, boundary, *folc-, lēodscearu* division of people, nation, *hearmscearu* penalty), corresponding formally to OS. *scara* share in a common field, troop (Gallée), also in comb. as *harm-scara* penalty, MLG. *schare* troop, share, OFris. *-skere* (in *hermskere* penance), Du. *schaar* fem., troop, multitude, OHG. *scara* troop, share of forced labour (MHG., mod.G. *schar* troop, multitude), OTeut. **skarō*, f. root **sker-* to cut, divide: see SHEAR *v.*]

1. The part or portion (*of* something) which is allotted or belongs to an individual, when distribution is made among a number; also, the portion or quota which is contributed by an individual.

In the earliest instances used for: (*a*) a custom paid by fishing-boats; (*b*) the portion of prize-money due to each of the officers and men of a ship.

1372 *For. Acc.* 6, A (P. R. O.), Custuma navium batellorum piscentium super mare ibidem [Winchelsea] vocat' shares. 1375 in *Black Bk. Admiralty* (Rolls) I. 172 Item, de prendre et saisir pour ladmiral les shares a lui dues doffice de toutes maneres de biens pris ou gaignez sur la mer. *c* 1400 *Ibid.* 400 Ladmiral aura un share del entierte. 1411 *Exch. Acc. Q. R.* Bundle 67 No. 18 (P. R. O.), Et ibidem cepit unum schar de Thos Ise magistro unius ballenger. 1481 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 80 My Lord paid John Petman ix. li. x. s. For xxxviij. chares; that is the maister ij. chares, and him self ij. chares and xxxiiij persones, that is xxxiiij. chares. 1530 PALSGR. 266/1 Schare of a man of a prise of warre tyme, *butin.* 1544 in *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 141 All suche maryners as wyll not sail in the said shippe for their shaires. 1562 *Mirr. Mag., Shore's Wife* lii, When almes was delt I had a hungry share. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes* Wks. 1907 I. 454 Antonius who conquered prowde Egipt.. Chose Cleopatra for his love...He snapt but hir for his owne share. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 94 Thus hath one Poet, three crownes to his share. 1653 *Descr. & Plat Sea-coasts Eng.* A 3, As to the Shares in Prizes. *a* 1657 COWLEY *Ess., Agric.*, '*Happy the Man*' 21 Of which large shares, on the glad sacred daies He gives to Friends. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 July 1646, Taking our turns to row, of which I reckon my share came to little less than 20 leagues. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 77 Lord Somerville, the late President, comes in for a share of the general thrashing. 1809 BYRON *Let.* 11 Aug. in R. C. Dallas *Corr.* (1825) I. 90 She offered a share of her apartment, which my *virtue* induced me to decline. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 307 They insisted upon their shares, and refused to fight unless they obtained a portion of the spoil. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 79 We could have wished that he had been a little more liberal with his share of the plunder. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., There is gold here, my friend, and we must get our share of it.

b. In pregnant sense = One's due, proper, or fair share; one's full share (of something enjoyed or suffered in common with others).

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. lxv. 102 One who by this recluse passive condition hath his share of this hideous storm. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 356 Lazy Drones, without their Share of Pain, In Winter Quarters free, devour the Gain. 1745 SIR C. H. WILLIAMS in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 65 Lady Lucy indeed was very plentifully abused, and Mr. Hobart had his share. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* (1862) II. iv. 141 It cannot be denied that the lower animals have their share of whatever evil exists in the universe. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* 10 Whole generations that might have produced their share of skilful and intrepid mariners.

c. The measure or degree *of* a quality, condition, etc. which is allotted to an individual by nature or Providence.

1722 DE FOE *Hist. Plague* (1756) 285 Those Physicians, who had the least Share of Religion in them, were oblig'd to acknowledge that it was all supernatural. 1742 M. WHITEWAY in *Earl Orrery's Rem. Swift* xi. (1752) 90 Mr. Nichols thought it possible he might return to a share of understanding. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 258 When it contains less than its natural share [of electric fluid], it is said to be negative, or electrified minus. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xliii, Exerting that youthful agility of which he possessed an uncommon share. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii, Her mamma and sister..regarded her with that amiable pity, of which your really superior woman always has such a share to give away.

2. *Comm.* A definite portion of a property owned by a number in common; *spec.* each of the equal parts into which the capital of a joint-stock company or corporation is divided.

Deferred, preference (or *preferred*) *shares*: see DEFERRED, PREFERENCE 8. *Ordinary shares*, the shares which form the common stock and are without 'preference'.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv. 373 Commend me to seuen-shares and a halfe. 1629 SHERLEY & HATHERLEY in Bradford *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 259, I thinke it conscionable and reasonable y^t^ you should beare your shares and proporcion of y^e^ stock. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 4 The ship, wherein my Father had halfe share. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 July 1667, He was endeavouring to bring me into the project, and proffered me a share. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4484/3 All Persons that have any Demands.., on account of their Old Additional Stock, commonly called the Shares, are desired..to repair to Skinner's Hall. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 58 A share in the New River water is held to be real property, as also a share in the navigation of the river Avon. *Ibid.* II. 515 The last mode by which an estate in joint tenancy may be destroyed, is by the devolving of all the shares on one of the joint tenants, by survivorship. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 228 He was a buyer and seller of those fractional and volatile interests in trading adventures, which go by the name of 'shares'. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 68/2 The company had been most successful..paying a very large dividend on the ordinary shares. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 305/2 If she wished to be sure of her income she should of all things avoid dabbling in the shares of new companies.

3. A part taken *in* (an action, experience, etc.). Chiefly in phr. *to have, take, bear a* (*one's*, etc.) *share in*, to have or take part in, participate in.

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. ii. 125 Hieronimo, it greatly pleaseth vs That in our victorie thou haue a share. 1687 BURNET *Contn. Reply to Varillas* 103 Somerset came again into a Share in the Government. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 267 Our ship had also some share in the danger. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 93, I had no share in the business of Donawert. 1779 *Mirror* No. 60 The philosopher..took little share in the conversation. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 362 *note*, He is extolled as having borne a principal share in the emancipation of the press. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 105 We may fully acquit William of any personal share in the evil deeds of Odo and his fellow viceroy. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 89 He who has no share in the administration of justice, appears to himself to have no share in the state.

†**b.** *To take share of*: to share (something) *with* another. *Obs.*

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 127, I took Share of a Beef-stake and Two Muggs of Ale with my Chapman.

†**4.** *gen.* A part, piece, or portion (*of* anything).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 881 Our gude angel Al our warkes to god wil tel, Al be it neuer so litil a schar. 1664 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 214, I intend ..to have them..out of y^e^ custody of our Kendall gaoler who is a great share of a Fanatick himselfe. 1751 T. SHARP in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 377 No small share of their time was taken up with a trust they were engaged in. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 116 My friends..have engaged to spend a share of to-morrow in a party of pleasure upon the Thames.

b. One of several parts into which anything is divided; a section or division. Now *dial.*

1598 STOW *Surv.* 156 Where turning south, and breaking it selfe into many small shares, rilles or streames, it left the name of Share borne lane. 1793–1813 *Reports Agric.* 76 (E.D.D.) In a dry [seed time] the barley sown on the sand land frequently comes up in two shares, and ripens unequally. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The skate fish is usually dressed for sale and cut into slices or *shares*.

†**c.** *spec.* One of the portions into which land or territory is divided; a portion of land assigned to a particular holder, a lot. *Obs.*

[1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 20 Alfred..diuided the whole Realme into certein parts, or Sections.., whiche ..he termed shires, or (as we yet speake) shares, and portions.] 1643 BAKER *Chron., Jas I*, 158 So as now they began to divide the Country [Bermuda] into Tribes and the Tribes into Shares. 1682 PIERS *Descr. W. Meath* (1770) 116 Of these they make so many lots or equal shares, as there are ploughs in the town. *Ibid.*, To each plow they reckon a certain number of acres, which by a general name is called a share; each share hath particularly such and such half acres or stangs assigned to it by name to make up the given number.

d. In a salmon-weir: see quot.

1842 *Act* 5 & 6 *Vict.* c. 106 § 41 A free Gap or Queen's Share shall be left or formed in the deepest Part of such River.

†**e.** With etymological reference to *shear*: A piece hewn out, or cut or torn away. (Cf. *potshare* var. POTSHERD.) *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 18 Therewith vpon his crest With rigour so outrageous he smitt, That a large share it hewd out of the rest. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vii, No wonder then in..the fierce encounter of truth and falshood together, if, as it were, the splinters and shares of so violent a jousting, there fall [etc.]. 17.. *Clerk Colvil* vii. in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) I. 161 Frae her sark he cut a share.

5. Phrases. (See also 3.) **a.** *Share and share alike* (earlier †*share and share like*), with equal shares, having each a like share. Also *to go share and share alike* († *like*).

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1908) G j b, Let vs into the Courte to parte the spoyle, share and share like. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Gov. Eng.* vii. 68 Edward the Third..promiseth them [the Flemings] share and share like with his own People. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* vii. 6 Every one to go share and share-like in what they took. 1702 YALDEN *Æsop at Court* II. 10 The Articles were these: Share and share like whate'er they got. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. ii. 30 He declar'd he had reserv'd nothing from the Men, and went Share and Share alike with them in every Bit they eat. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xiv. 218 Their representatives..shared the inheritance *per capita*, that is, share and share alike. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxxi, I bequeath to my nephews and nieces.. the whole of my..personal effects, *share and share alike*. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lviii, She fondly hoped that he might be inclined to go share and share alike with Twin junior. 1886 LAING-MEASON *Sir William's Specul.* 75 All costs, charges, and similar payments should be share and share alike.

b. *To fall to one's share*: to be assigned as one's portion; hence, to fall to one's lot (*to do*, etc.).

1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 169 Had it fallen to the common people of Romes share to give their vote. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Dec. 1658, It fell to my share to be confin'd to a roome in the house. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxiii, And oh! when Passion rules, how rare The hours that fall to Virtue's share! 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 387 They divided the field of work between them...To Kotschy's share fell the flowering plants.

c. *For my share*, for my part, as regards my part in the matter. Now *rare*.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 24 And verily, for my share, I cannot see why [etc.]. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 114 For my share, misfortunes come so thick upon me, that [etc.]. 1799 H. MITCHELL *Scoticisms* 76 For my share I scorn a sycophant; Sc.—For my part. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. v, Busy sits Carnot,..busy, for his share, in 'organizing victory'.

d. *On shares.* Applied to a system whereby two or more persons participate in the risks and profits of an undertaking; as *to go on shares* (*with*); *to work*, etc. *on shares*.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 216 Men can always be had to go on shares, which is by far the most profitable method, both to the employers and the fishermen. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. v. (1849) 55 He had proposed to me to send a venture by the same ship or go on shares with him. 1878 J. S. CAMPION *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 6 The Captain resided in a good house on his own farm,..which was worked for him on shares by a smart Yankee. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 345/2 It all came out of his own pocket, for he was sailing the vessel on shares.

e. *To go shares with* (another or others) *in* (a possession, enterprise, etc.): to enjoy a part in, participate in, contribute towards. Also *to run shares, to club shares*. *Shares!* an exclamation demanding to be allowed to 'go shares' in something found, stolen, etc. by another person; hence *to cry shares*.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, Bubbleburgh is only one of a set of five boroughs which club their shares for a member of parliament. 1821 SHELLEY *Let. to L. Hunt* 26 Aug., Go shares with him and me in a periodical work. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 182/1 The two scoundrels..have run shares in this imposition. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 841 Why touch the thing myself When I could see you hunt and then cry 'Shares! Quarter the carcass or we quarrel'. 1879 SALA *Paris Herself Again* II. xi. 153, I went shares with a friend in the purchase of..a whole ticket. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* iv, If you find the treasure we will go shares.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 2) **share broker, -certificate, -list, -market, -warrant**; †**share-book**, a book brought out by a number of booksellers or publishers with a collective imprint; **share-fisherman** = *shareman*; **shareman**, a fisherman who shares with the owner of the vessel in the profits in lieu of wages; **sharesman**, †(*a*) one who has his share *of* something; (*b*) = *shareman*. Also SHAREHOLDER, -HOLDING.

1851 BOHN in *De Lolme's Constit. Eng.* (1853) 4 In 1781 the work was bought of De Lolme by the trade, and was thereafter published under their mutual protection as what is technically called a *share book. 1909 GROWOLL *Three Cent. Eng. Booktrade Bibliogr.* 23 The books that were thus issued under a collective imprint were first known as 'Share-books'; later they were called 'Chapter-books'. 1851 (*title*) Ralph's Stock & *Share Brokers' Directory. 1888 *Act* 51 *Vict.* c. 8 § 12 The holder of any Foreign or Colonial *Share Certificate. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Sept. 8/5 The Grimsby owners and the *share fishermen last night arrived at a final settlement of all outstanding questions between them. 1846 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 5/5 *Leeds Exchange.*—Notice was given on the *share list of Monday that [etc.]. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 4/3 The *sharemen, as the skippers and the mates of the trawlers are called —for the reason that they have never been paid a wage, but shared with the owners the profits of their voyages to the fishing-grounds. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vii, Our great men in the *share-market. 1640 MUIR *Counter-Buff* 245 Yea, though he should undo them, He's *sharesman of the harme. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 20/1

'Sharesmen'..are credited with a certain share of what they catch, a third to a half usually going to the planter. 1867 *Act* 30 & 31 *Vict.* c. 131 § 28 A 'Share Warrant shall entitle the Bearer of such Warrant to the Shares or Stock specified in it.

† **Share,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 7 **shayre.** [A variant of SHEAR *v.* (cf. *bare* var. of BEAR *v.*); in some uses associated with SHARE *sb.*[1] (For other senses see SHEAR *v.*)] *trans.* To cut into parts; to cut off.

1553 [cf. SHARING *vbl. sb.*[1]]. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 1149 (Malone Soc.), I will share with sword, the Infants corpes by force. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 17 Like two mad mastiffes each on other flew, And shields did share, and mailes did rash, and helmes did hew. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 232 Where now the cultor shares the soyle, And plough-men daily eare and toyle. *Ibid.* 237 That lumpe.. Which on a young colts forhead breeds,..Before the louing damme do share It with her teeth, and make it bare. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 326 The sword..deep entring shar'd All his right side. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 139, I would rather run y^e hazard of shayring a point of my Orders. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 210 When ev'ry Art has fail'd the captive Fox Has shar'd the wounded Joint, and with a Limb Compounded for his Life.

b. with adv. or advb. phrase.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 120 Some vse to geue them [horses] aples shared in peces. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. v. 9 For with his trenchant blade at the next blow Halfe of her shield he shared quite away. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 28 While they share them asunder, they are stung or bitten by the serpent. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 124 Pieces of Rose or other Leaves which she [the Bee] shares off with her mouth.

Hence † **Shared** *ppl. a.*, cut, divided, cloven.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. ii. 69 If perchance thou..with thine elbow shad'st thy shared meat. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VII. 301 We do not seeke that they should burne In parted flames and shared vrne [orig. *Petimus non singula busta. Discretosque rogos*]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 1019 Scalp, Face, and Shoulders, the keen Steel divides; And the shar'd Visage hangs on equal sides.

Share (ʃēə[1]), *v.*[2] Also 6 **shaire, shayre,** 7 *Sc.* **shair.** [f. SHARE *sb.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To divide and apportion in shares between two or more recipients. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 28 In his crowne he counted her no haire, But twixt the other twaine his kingdome whole did shaire. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. ii. 23 Good Fellowes all, The latest of my wealth Ile share among'st you. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 641 He..shared the Country among his companions. 1624 QUARLES *Job Milit.* Med. ix. 43 To Good and Bad, both Fortunes Heauen doth share, That both, an after-change, may hope, and feare. 1708 SWIFT *Let. conc. Sacram. Test* ¶ 19 Misc. (1711) 340 Suppose I share my Fortune equally between my own Children and a Stranger, whom I take into my Protection; will that be a Method to unite them? 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 48 The But Ends, which are shared with as much Indifferency as possible, that every Part of the Ship may be of equal Strength. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 160 We shar'd all the Provisions among the Company. 1837–9 HALLAM *Lit. Europe* III. v § 7 Their parental love forbids all preference, and an impartial law of gavelkind shares their page among all the offspring of their brain. 1863 NEALE *Med. Hymns* (ed. 2) 197 Midst his people thus the Clerk Scripture nurture shareth.

b. Now chiefly with *out.*

1644–52 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VII. iv. (1821) 347 Those immortal inheritances which he shares out amongst his spiritual sons and subjects in heaven. 1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 52 The Senate shares that Service out among the several Governments. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xiii. 314 The landed property was gradually shared out into more hands. *Ibid.* III. liii. 135 Worldly glory had been shared out to them with a sparing hand. 1898 BRABROOK *Provid. Societies* 57 The funds..diminish so rapidly that the old men share out what there is and close the society. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xxiii. 242 When there is 'flesh kind' for the carriers, it is given to the head-man, who shares it out most carefully.

c. To apportion to an individual as his share. Also with *out. arch.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LVIII. iv, There is a God that shares to each his own. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 5 And euery day, for guerdon of her song, He part of his small feast to her would share. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 13 In Wastrell, it is lawfull for any man to make triall of his fortune that way, prouided, that hee acknowledge the Lordes right, by sharing out vnto him a certaine part, which they call toll. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VI. xxxi, He all in all..Does share to each his due, and equall dole impart. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* vi. 62 And here I am with my foot in the stirrup again and some of the responsibility shared into my hand of prosecuting King George's enemies.

d. To divide (what one has or receives) into portions, and give shares to others as well as one's self. Const. *with.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. i. 35 Were it not that I see more company comming down the hill, I would be fellowes with you once more, and share Crownes with you to. 1636 [FREEMAN] tr. *Seneca's Shortn. Life* (1663) 4 To share his money no man can abide; Their lives 'twixt many all men will divide. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 149 These had a power of sharing their grants to inferior tenants. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 538 *Cyclops.* Should I not share this liquor with my brothers? *Ulysses.* Keep it yourself, and be more honoured so. 1901 HALL & OSBORNE *Sunshine & Surf* xxiii. 297 The natives had only brought enough [water] for themselves..which, however, they generously shared with us.

e. To divide *into* parts or shares. *rare.*

1591–5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 138 First into many parts his streame he shar'd. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 311, I shar'd the Island into Parts with 'em. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* V. I. 74 A thin oaten cake, shared into fragments. *Ibid.* xxi, Take one day; share it into sections: to each section apportion its task.

† f. *refl.* To divide one's service, devotion, etc. between (two different objects). *Obs.*

1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 164 Solomon had been sharing himself betwixt God and idols.

2. Of two or more persons: To divide into shares and take each a portion. Also *absol.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 159 You wrangling Pyrates, that fall out, In sharing that which you haue pill'd from me. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 104 Come my Masters, let vs share, and then to horsse. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. *Epicurus* I. (1687) 836/1 The Two thousand Citizens, whom the Athenians sent to Samus to share the Land by Lots.

3. To grant or give another or others a share in. Also const. *with.*

1662 DRYDEN *To Ld. Chanc.* 44 Well may he then to you his Cares impart And share his Burden where he shares his Heart. 1717 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 49–50 Then share thy pain, allow that sad relief; Ah, more than share it, give me all thy grief. 1818 SHELLEY *Marenghi* xii, There was set A penalty of blood on all who shared So much of water with him as might wet His lips. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 235 Now had you got a friend of your own age, Now could you share your thought. 1860 E. WASHBURN *Amer. Law Real Property* I. 364 (Funk) A mode of letting lands..where the tenant is to cultivate them, and share the crops with his landlord. *Mod.* I will share my room with you for to-night if you cannot get a bed anywhere else.

¶ b. *nonce-use.* To cause (one thing) to share its place *with* another.

1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. viii, A scorching clime, And toil, had done the work of time,..And sable hairs with silver shared.

4. To receive, possess, or occupy together with others.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 93 So shall you share all that he doth possesse. *c* 1600 *Histriomastix* VI. i. (1610) H 1 b, *Cun*[*stable*]. Soft sirs, I must talke with you for taxe mony, To releeue the poore, not a penny paid yet. *Post.* Sir, at few words we shar'd but XV. pence last weeke. *a* 1640 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 75 Looke ing downe I might perceive a white mowse and a blacke mowse shareinge the roote of the tree. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 698 Longing the common Light again to share. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* XV, He was born to share the bounties of heaven, but he has monopolized them. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 35 He shares the frugal meal with those he loves. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 283 She quitted the sofa she had been unwillingly sharing with the self-pleased beau.

b. *fig.* (with a thing as subject.)

c 1652 MILTON *Sonn. Fairfax* 14 In vain doth Valour bleed While Avarice, and Rapine share the land. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 17 We wear the chains of pleasure, and of pride; These share the man; and these distract him too.

† c. To receive or possess (a portion allotted to one); to take or receive as one's share. *poet. Obs.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. iii. 268 But if I thriue, the gaine of my attempt, The least of you shall share his part thereof. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xlvii, An other time mine eye is my hearts guest, And in his thoughts of loue doth share a part. 1618 ROWLANDS *Sacred Mem. Miracles* (1876) 37 Who seeing now her sorrowes cause to liue, Had such a fulnesse of a ioyfull heart, That neuer woman sharde a greater part.

† d. *To share from*: to gain at the expense of.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 32, I would not loose so great an Honor, As one man more me thinkes would share from me, For the best hope I haue. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 367 What glory our Achilles shares from Hector.

¶ e. *To share alone*: incorrectly, to possess unshared.

1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* V. ii, You shall not share alone The glorie of a deed that will endure To all posteritie.

5. To participate in (an action, activity, opinion, feeling, or condition); to perform, enjoy, or suffer in common with others; to possess (a quality) which other persons or things also have. Const. *with.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 198 Is all the counsell that we two haue shar'd, The sister vowes,..O, is all forgot? 1604 — *Oth.* III. iv. 95 A man that all his time Hath..Shar'd dangers with you. 1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* V. ii. (1668) 62, I am content in Death to share your Fate. 1761 GRAY *Fatal Sisters* 27 Where our Friends the conflict share. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XVI, That love of admiration which all pretty women share less or more. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXIX, How could we, with our means, live at all, but for a friend to share expenses? *Ibid.* XLII, His dinner, which he and his daughter took in silence..or which they shared..with a party of dismal friends. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 267 The bribery was equally shared between both parties. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XVIII. 131 Their willingness to share my fate whatever that might be. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 3. 177 He [Edward I] shared to the full his people's love of hard fighting. 1885 EAGLES *Constr. Geom. Plane Curves* 99 The ellipse shares with the hyperbola the property of satisfying five geometrical conditions. 1895 *Law Times* C. 4/1 Lord Macnaghten's satisfaction with things as they are will not be shared by anyone.

6. *intr.* To have a share (*in* something); to participate *in*, to take part *in.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 14 Didst not thou share? hadst thou not fifteene pence? 1605 — *Mach.* IV. i. 40, I commend your paines, And euery one shall share i'th' gaines. 1669 N. MORTON *New England's Mem.* (1910) 35 In which sickness the seamen shared also deeply, and many died. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* § 91 (1692) 91 A Right of Inheritance gave every one..a Title to share in the Goods of his Father. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 686 Good-breeding..if in masculine debate he shar'd, Ensur'd him mute attention and regard. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 156 Was it not enough..that he shared, with the rest of the nation, in the blessings of that mild government of which he had long been the foe? 1912 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 53 The king would not share in the expense of raising opposition to the candidature of the electoral prince of Saxony.

b. To participate *with* (a person) *in* something. (? *Obs.*) *rare.*

1594 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, V. iv. 64, I am the Prince of Wales, and thinke not Percy, To share with me in glory any more. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 831 Adam shall share with me in bliss or woe. 1709 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Luke x. 32) (1726) II. 244 We cannot, surely, think it beneath us, to share with those glorious Beings, in such an Administration! 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 281 They had shared with him in all his former dangers and distresses.

† c. To partake *of. Obs. rare.*

1649 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 6 The one and the other shares of servitude. 1720 *Humourist* 71 Those deplorable Wretches, who, as they share of our Likeness and Nature, ought to share of our Compassion. 1736 WELSTED *Wks.* (1787) 472 Any other people..must have shared, more or less, of the same frailty.

† d. To be equal with. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 73 Succeed thy father In manners as in shape: thy blood and vertue Contend for Empire in thee, and thy goodnesse Share with thy birthright.

e. Used in reduplicated form *share and share* (*alike*, etc.): the phrase in SHARE *sb.*[3] being misapprehended grammatically.

1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvii, They say, that a' men share and share equals-aquals in the creature's ulzie. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. vi, And a pretty boy is always a help in a linen-draper's shop. He shall share and share with my own young folks. 1841 MACAULAY *Lit. Copyright* Sp. (1853) I. 286 In Kent the sons share and share alike. 1906 MARIE CORELLI *Treas. Heaven* x, I've no money—we all share and share alike in camp.

7. *Comb.*: **share-out** [subst. use of the vbl. phrase in 1 b], the act of distributing in shares. Chiefly *attrib.* in *share-out club* or *society.*

1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Jan. 7/1 A share-out club. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 10/1 There was disappointment for a very large number of members of the Church Institute Slate Club..when it was found that the expected 'share-out' would not take place. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 17 Dec. 1/3 'Share-out night' is a very big event..in the Sick and Provident Club.

Hence **Shared** *ppl. a.*

1884 *Lit. World* (Boston U.S.) 19 Apr. 134/2 Hopes and plans for a shared life, a household which should be his own. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 June 1/3 The boy is a shared property: he has to serve two masters.

Share-bone: see SHARE *sb.*[2] b.

Shareef, variant of SHEREEF.

Share-grass, variant of SHEAR-GRASS.

Shareholder (ʃēəˑɹhoʊldəɹ). [f. SHARE *sb.*[3] + HOLDER [1].] One who owns or holds a share or shares in a joint-stock company, or other joint fund or property.

18.. *Med. Repos.* (Webster 1828–32), One of the proprietors of the mine..was a principal shareholder in the company. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vi, Are you insured as a shareholder in the West Diddlesex? 1872 R. B. SMYTH *Min. & Min. Statist.* 55 The company consisted of ten working shareholders. 1876 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* iii. 70 The shareholders of the..Midland Railway Company. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 18/5 The preference shareholders would be entitled to half the profits after payment of the preferential dividend.

Hence **Sha·reholdership,** the fact or condition of being a shareholder. **Sha·reholding** *ppl. a.*, that possesses shares. **Sha·reholding** *vbl. sb.*, the possession of shares; also *pl.*, the shares held by a person in various undertakings.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xli. 331 Our scheme is a great shareholding company. 1866 *Standard* 27 Aug. 4/7 Other ..matters..must be brought before the shareholding body. 1902 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Mar. 4/3 A syndicate..has been privately formed for..taking over the whole of Mr. Rhodes's shareholdings. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 348 The right to participate in this wealth—shareholdership, in fact, in this joint-stock concern, the commerce of Venice—was strictly defined and limited.

Share-line. *rare*[−0]. [Cf. SHEAR *sb.*[2] 4, SHEAR *v.* 8 b.] 'The summit line of elevated ground' (Ogilvie 1850).

Shareman, Sharen: see SHEARMAN, SHARN.

† **Share-penny.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHARE *v.*[1]] One who would shear a penny, a miser.

1606 *Wily Beguiled* B 1, Ile goe neere to cosen olde father share-penny of his daughter.

Sharer (ʃēəˑɹəɹ). [f. SHARE *v.*[2] + -ER [1].]

1. One who shares something (const. *of*) or shares *in* something (see the senses of the verb). Also const. *with* (a person).

† *To go sharers*: = 'to go shares': see SHARE *sb.*[2]

1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 114 A fourth sharer likewise (these winding-sheete-weauers) deserues to haue my penne giue his lippes a Iewes letter. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. iv, Most it seem'd the French King to import, As sharer in his daughters iniurie. 1622 ROWLANDS *Gd. Newes & B.* 13 That had beene sharers long and many a day Of what they got vpon the common way. 1627 MAY *Lucan* I. (1631) 4 Rule brookes no sharers. 1631 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 87 These men..were plotters, they were sharers, they gave the tooles. 1643 FALKLAND in *Chas. I's Wks.* (1662) II. 282 Those dangerous Distractions which the interest of any Sharers with Him would have infallibly produced. 1733 *Oxford Act* II. 19 If we can write an Answer, I fancy we shall get something by it, and so, Sir, we will go Sharers. 1755 WARBURTON *Serm.* (Luke xiii. 1, 2) Wks. 1788 V. 293 The old Manichean impiety,..which makes an evil Principle, a sharer with him [God] in the direction of the Universe. 1782 J. BROWN *View Nat. & Revealed Relig.* IV. ii. (1796) 302 Till Jesus have..made me

an effectual sharer in the virtue of his intercession. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxv, I have made her sharer of my bed and of my fortunes. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, The sharer of all his cares and troubles followed him. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xi. 7 Already a sharer in some sort in the honours of royalty. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. ix. 301 He excited little attention..except amongst the sharers of his own religious persuasions. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Dec. 5/3 To make them sharers with ourselves in all the reforms which are necessary to good government.

†**2.** *spec.* A member of a company of players, who paid the expenses, and received the profits, and employed the 'journeymen' members of the company. *Obs.*

(Quot. 1589 is perh. a forgery by Collier.)

1589[?] in J. P. Collier *Shaks.* (1844) I. Life p. cviii. *note*, Her Majesty's poore Playeres..being all of them sharers in the blacke Fryers playehouse, have [etc.]. *c* 1600 *Histriomastix* v. (1610) F 2 b, You that are maister-sharers Must prouide you vpon your own purses. *Ibid.* G 1, *Soul*[*diers*]. Come on Players, now we are the Sharers And you the hired men. 1601 B. JONSON *Poet.* IV. iv. 8 *Hist*[*rio*]...They directed a letter to me, and my fellow-sharers. *Lupv.* Speake lower, you are not now i' your theater, Stager. 1604 T. M. *Ant & Nightingale* C 1, Whilst the Ant began to stalke like a three Quarter sharer. *c* 1613 in Greg *Henslowe Papers* (1907) 23 Fower or fiive Sharers of the saide Company. 1699 J. WRIGHT *Hist. Histrion.* 11 For several Years next after the Restauration, every whole Sharer in Mr. Hart's Company, got 1000 *l.* per an. 1704 *Royal Order* 17 Jan. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3985/1 The Managers, Sharers and Actors of the said Companies.

†**b.** A shareholder, one who owns a share in a joint concern. (In quot. 1664 *fig.*) *Obs.*

1664 COWLEY *On Death Kath. Philips* iii, The Trade of Glory mannag'd by the Pen..Does bring in but small profit to us Men; 'Tis by the number of the sharers drown'd. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5348/9 They hereby require, That all the Sharers do pay..two Guineas per Share. 1740 W. DOUGLASS *Disc.* 12 They who take up this Loan Money are called Sharers. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Horace in Lond.* 102 But fire, alas! to smoak will turn, And sharers, though no houses burn, Are sure to burn their fingers.

Sharewort: see SHARE *sb.*[2] b.

Sharg. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* In 7 **scharge.** [a. Gael. *searg.*] = next.

1623 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* II. 538 Hir bairne that wes ane scharge. 1825 in JAMIESON.

Shargar (ʃāˑrgər). *Sc.* Also **sharger.** [Altered form of prec.] A lean, thin, stunted person or animal; a weakly child. Also *attrib.*

1742 R. FORBES *Ajax, Shop Bill* (1755) 39 Far wary-draggle, an' sharger elf. 1820 G. BEATTIE in M'Cyrus *Life* (1863) 284 We'll put the sharger down—The wee, wee German lairdie O. 1874 G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* xxv, Maist mithers, gien there be a shargar..ane' their bairns, mak mair o' that ane nor o' a' the lave putten thegither. 1912 C. MURRAY in *The Odd Vol.* 20 A wee sharger collie was a' that she had To cuddle at e'en.

Sharge, obs. form of SERGE.

Shargoss, variant of SYAGUSH.

Shargras(s)**e,** obs. forms of SHEAR-GRASS.

Shariffe, -iff, variants of SHEREEF, SHERIFI.

†**Sha·ring,** *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. SHARE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of SHARE *v.*[1]; *concr.* that which is shorn or cut off.

1553 *Respublica* I. i. 94 The paringes, The baggage, the trashe, the fragmentes, the sharinges.

Sharing (ʃēəˑriŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SHARE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action or an act of SHARE *v.*[2]

1625 BACON *Ess., Riches* (Arb.) 237 Sharings, doe greatly Enrich, if the Hands be well chosen, that are trusted. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xiii. (1840) 228 Further sharing of profits. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* 20 Another form of the disloyal attempt to be independent of the common lot, and to live without a sharing of pain. 1903 A. J. BUTLER *Arab Conq. Egypt* 201 Mohammed answered, 'Verily the profession of Islâm and the sharing of the Flight cancel all the past.'

b. *attrib.*

1640 NABBES *Bride* III. ii, As if the enterteinment of constables on a sharing day were not chargeable enough, but you must complement away wine and sweet meats. 1871 *2nd Rep. Comm. Friendly Soc.* II. (1872) 37/2 The sharing out clubs..mostly exist from year to year. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 156 He was ready to keep on with us for a week or two longer upon sharing terms. 1910 *Stage Year Bk.* 49 Sharing terms, as understood in England, are rarely arranged for in Australia.

†**Sha·ring,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SHARE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That 'shares' or shears.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A skuttle or skreine,..and sharing sheares readie for sheepe to be shorne.

Shark (ʃāk), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 **sharke.** [Of obscure origin.

The word seems to have been introduced by the sailors of Captain (afterwards Sir John) Hawkins's expedition, who brought home a specimen which was exhibited in London in 1569. The source from which they obtained the word has not been ascertained. Cf. Ger. dial. (Austrian) *schirk* sturgeon: see SHIRK *sb.*[2]

The conjecture of Skeat that the name of the fish is derived from SHARK *v.*[1] is untenable the earliest example of the *vb.* is *c* 1596, and the passage alludes to the fish.]

1. A selachian fish of the sub-order *Squali* of the order *Plagiostomi*; in popular language chiefly applied to the large voracious fishes of this sub-order, as the genera *Carcharodon, Carcharias*, etc.

1569 in *B. L. Ballads & Broadsides* (1867) 147 Ther is no proper name for it [a 'marueilous straunge Fishe'] that I knowne, but that sertayne men of Captayne Haukinses doth call it a sharke. 1589 SPARKE *Sir J. Hawkins' 2nd Voy.* [landed home 1565] in Hakluyt *Voy.* 528 Many sharks or Tuberons..came about the ships. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Observ. Voy. S. Sea* xix. 43 The Sharke, or Tiberune, is a Fish like vnto those which wee call Dogge-fishes, but that he is farre greater. 1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* 8 The Shark hath not this name for nothing, for he will make a morsell of any thing he can catch, master, and devour. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 79 We caught several great Sharks. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 240 The shark is the dread of sailors in all hot climates. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. xi, So darts the dolphin from the shark. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* vi. 158 Sharks, whose mouths are paved with flat teeth for crushing shells. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 460 The True Sharks, or Carchariadæ, form a family most numerous in species, which are to be found in all seas. *Ibid.* 464 This shark [the Australian Saw Fish, *Pristiophorus cirratus*] is said to attain a length of about twelve feet. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 381 There is no dearth of shark and scar-fish.

b. With defining word, as **Angel-shark,** the monk-fish, *Squatina angelus*; **Gangetic shark,** *Carcharias gangeticus*, inhabiting some rivers; **Greenland shark,** the North Atlantic shark *Læmargus borealis*; **Grey shark,** the sand-shark *Carcharinus americanus*; **Hammer-headed shark,** the *Zygæna malleus*; †**Long-tailed shark,** the Fox-shark; **Sea-shark,** a shark of the high seas, esp. 'a large shark of the family *Lamnidæ*' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **Spine shark,** the Picked Dogfish, *Acanthias*; **Spinous shark,** a shark of the genus *Echinorhinus*, as *E. spinosus*; **White shark,** a man-eating shark, *Carcharodon rondeleti.*

(See also BASKING *ppl. a.* 2, BLUE *a.* 12, COW *sb.*[1] 8, FOX *sb.* 16 b, HOUND *sb.*[1] 7 b, MACKEREL[1] 4, ROCK *sb.*[1] 9 d, SAND *sb.*[2] 10 b, TIGER *sb.* 13, WHALE, etc.)

1655 TERRY *Voy. E. India* 8 This Sea-shark is a Fish as bad in eating as he is in quality. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) Tab. B. 8 The blew Sharke *Galeus glaucus* Rond. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Sea Fishes* 98 White Sharks. 1752 [see HAMMER-HEADED]. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 78 The Basking Shark...This species has been long known to the inhabitants of the south and west of Ireland. 1776 *Ibid.* III. 86 Angel Shark. *Ibid.* 97 Long-tailed Shark. *Ibid.* 104 Beaumaris Shark. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 334 Spotted shark. *Ibid.* 339 Dusky shark. *Ibid.* 346 Grey shark. 1823 BYRON *Island* IV. ix, His..mates..Or deem'd him mad, or prey to the blue shark. 1828 J. FLEMING *Brit. Anim.* 166 *Scymnus borealis.* Greenland Shark. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 290 The common Dog-Fish, or Spine Shark (Spinax Acanthias, CUV.). 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes East N. Amer.* 35 *Reniceps tiburo*...Shovel-head shark. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 460 The Gangetic Shark (*Carcharias gangeticus*). *Ibid.* 464 The Spinous Shark (*Echinorhinus spinosus*) is a rare British fish. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 31 The Grey Shark is sometimes eleven or twelve feet long. 1886 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 776/2 Hammerheaded Sharks (*Zygæna*) are sharks in which the anterior portion of the head is produced into a lobe on each side, the extremity of which is occupied by the eye.

c. *transf.* **Fresh-water shark,** a jocular name for the pike, alluding to its voracity.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 267 The audacity and voraciousness of this fish [the pike] justly entitle him to the name which he has acquired of the fresh-water shark. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 16 Dec. 8/4 Several fine pike have been captured lately, the heaviest..coming from a lake at Redhill, the 'freshwater shark' scaling 21lb. 2oz.

2. *fig.* (Cf. SHARK *sb.*[2]) Applied to persons, with allusion to the predatory habits and voracity of the shark; one who enriches himself by taking advantage of the necessities of others; a rapacious usurer, an extortionate landlord or letter of lodgings, etc., a financial swindler.

1713 *Guardian* No. 73 The sharks, who prey upon the inadvertency of young heirs. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 249 The slopsellers, and other sharks, at this port. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 385 Our guide, a genuine shark, did his best to defraud his brethren, and thereby secure the entire fee. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* I. iii. 58 He expected to pay £200 a year for his board and lodging, which he thought might as well go to his niece as to some shark, who would probably starve him. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xix. (ed. 3) 187 Brighton is less plagued with 'sharks' than seaside resorts usually are. 1904 SHUDDICK *How to arrange with Creditors* 31 Another gentleman who is to be avoided at creditors' meetings is the shark accountant.

†**b.** *spec.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 242 A meer Shark or Pick-pocket. 1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Shark*, Sharks; the first order of pick-pockets. Bow-street term, A. D. 1785.

c. A customs officer; also *pl.* the press-gang.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Shark*...Also a custom house officer, or tide waiter. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 52 The loss you had sustained from the sharks of the custom-house. 1828 D. JERROLD *Ambrose Gwinett* I. iii, *Gil.* A word with you—the sharks are out to-night. *Label.* The sharks? *Gil.* Ay, the blue-jackets—the press-gang. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 384/1 They..look mysteriously around to see if there be any of 'them ere Custom-house sharks afloat'.

d. *Naut.* A lawyer.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxvii, I'm what the sailors call a shark, that is, I'm a lawyer.

3. *Ent.* Any moth of the genus *Cucullia* (formerly *Noctua*); there are several varieties as camomile, tansy, lettuce, mugwort shark.

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 418 *Noctua umbratica*...The large Pale Shark. *Ibid.* 419 *N. Tanaceti.* The Tansy Shark. *N. Lactucæ.* The Lettuce Shark. *N. Lucifuga.* The large Dark Shark. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 436. 1890 POULTON *Colours Anim.* IV. 58 The appearance of splinters of wood is also often suggested by moths such as the 'Sharks' (*Cucullia*).

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Obvious comb., as *shark-bite, genus, -hook, kind,* (*-liver*) *oil, -steak, trap*; *shark-fishing*; *shark-like, -mouthed* adjs.

1888 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 5/2 Death by *shark-bite. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 89 *Shark-fishing is merely the best sport to be had in New South Wales. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 6 The squalus, or *shark genus. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* viii. (1856) 74, I hauled up the *shark-hook from astern. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 265 Of the *shark kind..we have the sea-fox, *Vulpecula* or *Simia marina* of authors. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. in Jungle* xxii. 257 A very strange..*shark-like fish. 1868 ROYLE & HEADLAND *Mat. Med.* (ed. 5) 745 *note*, *Shark-liver Oil has been lately imported into Liverpool. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IV. i, Should you chance to have a wish for what is in the baskets or barrows of these *shark-mouthed bawlers. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 11 And we bought 40 gants of *shark oyle for the junk. 1888 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* 310 Shark oil, prepared from the livers of various species of the shark. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 209 The pilot..telling me ..what excellent things *shark-steaks were. 1896 A. J. BUTLER tr. *Ratzel's Hist. Mankind* I. 254 Fig., *Shark-trap with wooden float, from Fiji.

b. Special comb.: **shark-barrow,** 'the egg-case of a shark; a sea-purse' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **shark-charmer,** one professing to protect the pearl-divers in Ceylon from sharks by incantations; **shark-fin,** the fin of a shark, considered a table delicacy by the Chinese; **shark's head** *nonce-word*, a jocular name for the elongated prow of a grab; **shark-headed** *a.*, the designation of a kind of screw, so **shark-header,** a screw of this kind; **shark-louse,** a parasitic crustacean infesting sharks; **shark-moth** = sense 3; **shark's mouth** *Naut.* (see quot.); also 'the opening for the breeching in the cascabel of a cannon' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **shark-ray,** the angel-fish, also a rhinobatid or beaked ray; **shark-skin,** the skin of sharks used for making shagreen, and also used for polishing, etc.; **shark-sucker,** 'any remora that adheres to sharks,' esp. *Echeneis naucrates*; **shark's tooth, shark-tooth,** the tooth of a shark, also †= GLOSSOPETRA; also *attrib.* quasi-*adj.* in similative use; also in *shark's teeth sword, weapon*, a weapon armed with shark's teeth, in use among some uncivilized peoples; **shark-toothed** *a.*, applied to a tooth ornament suggesting shark's teeth.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* XIV. 169 The *shark-charmer..is considered so indispensable to the fishery that he is paid by Government. 1793 J. TRAPP *Rochon's Voy. Madagascar*, etc. 390 The Chinese pay likewise a liberal price for *shark-fins. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 178 Knock the *shark's head off her, and ship a bowsprit in its place. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xv, A gross or two of *shark-headed screws for general use. *Ibid.*, And *shark-headers is open to misrepresentations. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 122 *Dinemoura alata.* Winged *Shark-louse. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 250 *Noctua Tanaceti* (*shark moths). 1881 HAMERSLY *Naval Encycl., Awning*, the *shark's mouth is an opening to accommodate the masts and stays abaft. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 408 The Angel-fish..is also called *Shark-Ray, from its partaking of the characters of both Shark and Ray. 1851 GOSSE *Nat. Hist., Fishes* 314 *Rhinobatina.* The Shark-rays. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes East N. Amer.* 35 *Squatina Dumerili*...Angel-fish; shark-ray. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xv. 74 His account books bound in superior old *shark-skin. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Marquis of Lossie* xlv, What the final touches of the shark-skin are to the marble..that only can [etc.]. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 124 *Anthosoma Smithii*, Bud-like *Shark-Sucker. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1693) 162, I might have added *Sharks-teeth or Glossopetræ. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. in Jungle* xxii. 257 They certainly are more like shark-teeth than spines. 1845 C. H. SMITH in Kitto *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s. v. *Arms* Fig. 99 Sharks-teeth Sword. 1853 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vi, Jagged shark's-tooth rock. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 216 The singular armour made of cocoanut fibre, worn by the natives [of Micronesia] as a protection against the shark's teeth weapons. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Pap., Lazy Idle Boy* (1876) 3 The sacristan..espies the traveller eyeing..the old *shark-toothed arch of his cathedral.

†**Shark,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also **sharke.** Cf. SHIRK *sb.* [Of uncertain etymology.

It is noteworthy that SHIRK occurs with the same meaning frequently from 1639 down to the beginning of the 18th c., and that the G. *schurke* (now in wider sense, scoundrel, villain) had in the 16th c. precisely the same sense. Words with meanings of this character were *c* 1600 often adopted from Ger., and it is not unlikely that this word represents an adoption of G. *schurke* (earlier *schurk, schorck*), assimilated in form to SHARK *sb.*[1], of which it seems often to have been felt as a figurative use.]

A worthless and impecunious person who gains a precarious living by sponging on others, by executing disreputable commissions, cheating at play, and petty swindling; a parasite; a sharper. In later use influenced by SHARK *sb.*[1] **2.**

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of H.* Charac., Shift. A Thredbare Sharke. One that neuer was Soldior, yet liues vpon lendings. His profession is skeldring and odling, his Banke Poules, and his Ware-house Pict-hatch. *c* 1600 *Distr. Emperor* I. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 166 To give attendance on the full-fedd gueste, Not on the hungry sharke. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv. 200 Doe not weserue a notable sharke? 1609 — *Silent Wom.* IV. iv, *Laf.* A very sharke, he set me i' the nicke t'other night at primero. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.*, *Sharke* (Arb.) 35 A Sharke. One whome all other meanes haue fayl'd, and hee now liues of himselfe. 1678 SOUTH *Serm.* (1 *Sam.* XXV. 32, 33) (1697) II. 427 And thus David's Messengers are sent back to him, like so many Sharks, and Runnagates. 1684 WOOD *Life* 4 Sept. (O.H.S.) III. 108 Wright Croke..was posted up for a shark and coward in Day's coffey house. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 July 1664, The master of it [the lottery],..was, in truth, a meer shark.

b. *Comb.* **Shark-gull**, ? one who is both knave and dupe.

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* C 4, Alas, poore Skark-Gull [*sic*], that put off is idle.

† **Shark**, *sb.*3 *Obs.* [f. SHARK *v.*1] The action or an act of 'sharking'. *To live upon the shark*: to live by sharking.

c 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) II. vi. 253 Wretches who live upon the Shark, and other men's Sins,..getting their very Bread by the Damnation of Souls.

Shark (ʃāːk), *v.*1 Also 7 **sharke**; and see SHIRK *v.* [Of uncertain origin.

It seems likely that two different words have been more or less confused from the time of the earliest examples: the one (which has the variants *sherke*, *shirk(e*: see SHIRK *v.*) SHARK *sb.*2, and the other f. SHARK *sb.*1 The senses naturally resulting from these derivations respectively are so nearly allied, and the use with mixed notions is so frequent, that the two verbs cannot be distinguished.

Skeat conjectured that *shark* vb.1 (which he regarded as the source, not the derivative, of the two sbs.) was a. north-eastern Fr. *cherquier* = F. *chercher* to seek, orig. to go about to find. He refers to the phrase '*cercher le broust*, to hunt after feasts, to play the parasite or smell-feast' (Cotgr.), and to the similar It. '*cercare del pane*, to shift for how to live' (Torriano). In view of the senses of this verb and those of SHARK *sb.*2 (parasite, one who lives by shifts), the citation of these phrases gives striking plausibility to Skeat's hypothesis, which would also account for the divergent forms *shark*, *sherk*, *shirk*. But the sense in which the Fr. verb is assumed to have been adopted is merely contextual in the phrase quoted; further, the importation of the Fr. word in a dialectal form at the end of the 16th c. would be surprising, and if (which is unlikely) the adoption took place early the initial sound would normally be *ch*, not *sh*.]

1. *intr.* †**a.** *To shark on* or *upon*: to prey like a shark upon; to victimize, sponge upon, swindle; to oppress by extortion. *Obs.*

c 1596 *Sir T. More* II. iv. 106 For other ruffians, as their fancies wrought,..Woold shark on you, and men lyke rauenous fishes Woold feed on on another. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 895 Then citizens were sharkt, and prey'd upon. *a* 1652 BROME *New Acad.* II. i. (1658) 28 This woman..is vertuous And too discreet for him to shark upon. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Plots* Wks. (1673) 304 Who sharkt on the People much more then the Crown.

b. To depend on or practise fraud or the arts of a 'shark', parasite, or sharper; to live by shifts and stratagems. Often to *shark for* (something).

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* v. i, I name it gently to you; I term it neither pilfer, cheat, nor shark. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, 'Slid, proue to day, who shall sharke best. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Reuenge* Wks. 1630 II. 144/1 Couldst thou find no other way, To Sharke, or Shift, or Cony-catch for mony, But to make me thy Asse, thy Foole, thy Cony? 1616 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* 33 Who would..by relating newes of others actions, sharke here or there for a dinner or supper? 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* III. xxiv. 326 Hee had not a morsell of bread..but what he begged, or else sharked for. 1635 L. FOXE *N.-W. Fox* 107 He see him doe nothing but sharke up and downe. 1641 TRAPP *Theol. Theol.* 365 To shift and sharke in every bie-corner for comfort. *c* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 167 Others that..had no money were forced to shark and live as opportunity served. *Ibid.* 179 To row hastily from it [the little devil], and leave it to shark for it self. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXLI. 210 It was Nature that taught This Boy to Shark. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 27 Sept. (O. H. S.) II. 269 He sneaks and sharks about at Bathe. 1765 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1783) IV. 124 It is only slipping a puffer or two of quality at them, enough of whom come sharking to every sale for that purpose only. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. ii. (1820) 359 Those vagabond cosmopolites who shark about the world, as if they had no right or business in it. 1837 CARLYLE *Diam. Neckl.* Misc. Ess. 1888 V. 160 Thou must hawk and shark to and fro, from anteroom to anteroom.

2. *trans.* **a.** *To shark up*: to collect hastily (a body of persons, etc.) without regard to selection. Now *arch.*, as an echo of the Shakspere passage.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 98 Young Fortinbras,..Hath in the skirts of Norway, heere and there, Shark'd vp a List of Landlesse Resolutes. 1827 GIFFORD *Ford's Wks.*, *'Tis Pity* II. iii. *note*, What a detestable set of characters has Ford here sharked up for the exercise of his fine talents! 1900 *Edin. Rev.* July 209 The hard fisted ruffian first of all sharks up the crew out of hospitals and gambling-dens.

b. To steal, pilfer, or obtain by underhand or cheating means. Usually const. *from, out of*, also with adv. *away, out*. Now *arch.*

1612 T. ADAMS *Heav. & Earth reconc.* (1613) 6 If to digge they are too lazie,..to cheate want witte, and to liue, meanes, then thrust in for a roome in the Church; and once crope in at the window, make haste to sharke out a liuing. 1650 MILTON *Eikon.* I. (ed. 2) 15 Having sharkd them [*sc.* prayers] from the mouth of a Heathen worshipper. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Vers. Wars* I. 30 John was irksome to all the world,..sharking all kind of booty. 1665 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 49 He..pretended to joke and play the rogue; and at length shark away a cloak, coat, or something else, when mass was done. 1896 A. DOBSON *18th Cent. Vignettes* Ser. III. viii. 166 His classical quotations were not..sharked out of Burton's 'Anatomy'.

†**c.** To swindle (a person). *Obs. rare*—1.

a 1650 MAY *Old Couple* V. (1658) 42 But think not..that I sharke, Or cheat him in it.

3. *dial.* (See quot.). Cf. SHIRK *v.*

1828-32 WEBSTER, s. v., *To shark out*, to slip out or escape by low artifices (Vulgar). 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss., *Shark* or *Shurk off*, to sneak off softly from shame or an apprehension of danger.

† **Shark**, *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [Perh. f. SHARK *sb.*1; less probably, an extended form of SHARE *v.*1, SHEAR *v.* (cf. *lur-k*, *tal-k*).] *trans.* To cut or tear.

1611 COTGR., *Coigniaux*, a kind of small, and bright-greene vermine, which sharke off, and cut in peeces, the tendrels and grapes, of Vines. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VII. 303 Neither could they [the birds] so sharke and share The flesh, whereby the bones were bare.

Shark, *v.*3 *U. S. local.* [f. SHARK *sb.*1] *intr.* To fish for sharks (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Sharking*, fishing for sharks. A favorite sport in the waters of Narragansett Bay.

Sharke, obs. variant of CHARQUI.

1791 *Ann. Reg., Charac. Peasantry Norway* 75 As a luxury the peasants eat sharke; or thin slices of meat, sprinkled with salt and dried in the wind like hung-beef.

† **Sha·rker**1. *Obs.* Also 7 **sharkor**. [f. SHARK *v.*1 + -ER 1.

Some early examples suggest the possibility of a confusion with Du. *schaker* robber.]

One who 'sharks' or lives by cheating and dishonesty; a cheat, thief, swindler.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Nt.* Wks. 1904 I. 379 Next a companie of lusty sailers (euerie one a sharker or a swaggerer at the least). 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1127 His baggage..was assailed and taken by the Haiducks and such other sharkers enured to prey. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) A 8, And passing Smithfield..The owle-eyd Sharkers spied him. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xiii. § 1. 168 To kicke them, as we use to doe with discovered Cheators, and Sharkors, as meere deluders, and Impostors. 1663 *Recr. for Ingen. Head-pieces* A 5, Epigrams..12. Of Shift the Sharker. 1672 *Reliq. Wotton* Life, etc. f 1, A hungry Renegado, a dirty Sharker about the Romish Court.

Sharker2 (ʃāːrkəɹ). [f. SHARK *sb.*1 or *v.*3 + -ER 1.] One who fishes for sharks.

1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 182 The sharkers had not been idle.

† **Sha·rking**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SHARK *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of SHARK *v.*1

1602 LYLY *Entert. at Harefield* Wks. 1902 I. 499 If euer I be brought to answere my sinnes, God forgiue me my sharking, and lay vsurie to my charge. I am a Mariner. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.*, *Poor Man* (Arb.) 101 His best seruices [are] suspected as handsome sharking, and tricks to get money. 1674 STAVELEY *Rom. Horseleech* vii. 51 All immaginable shifts, sharking, and tricks were used.

Sharking (ʃāːrkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHARK *v.*1 + -ING 2.]

1. That 'sharks'; †that oppresses by extortion (*obs.*); that cheats, steals, cadges, or sponges.

1608 DAY *Hum. out of Br.* III. i, Lend me this iewell. *Flo.* Iewell? away you sharking companion. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 150 That..Harbours the sharking Lawyer for his pence. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 157 This Hicks..was a sharking and indigent Fellow. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* I. iv. I. 22 Making my fortune a prey to every sharking proiector who flattered my vanity with promises of success. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* lxvii, Some sharking priest who has come over to proselytise and plunder. 1856 MASSON *Ess.* iii. 78 Nothing to be seen under the sun but hypocritical priests, sharking attorneys [etc.].

b. Of a condition, quality, or manner, etc.

1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. 160 Præsaging that rude and sharking life, whereunto this wilde slippes progenie was ordained. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 373 The procurator..hath received his reward, being slaine by our hands, for his barbarous sharking Cruelty. 1676 SOUTH *Serm.* (1 *Cor.* iii. 19) (1692) 433 We are degenerated into a mean, sharking, fallacious, undermining Way of Converse. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* xxxi. (1742) II. 364 Those miserable and sharking shifts which the foolish virgins were driven to, of begging or borrowing, or buying oil. 1705 DUNTON *Life & Errors* (1818) I. vii. 289 They [Parents] should not put their Children on any sharking tricks to supply their wants. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. ii. (1820) 360 His hair..added not a little to his sharking demeanour.

†**2.** Behaving like a shark (the fish). *nonce-use.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. XV. (1614) 917 By their Dogges at Land they worried them: and in their Pearle-fishing exposed them to the rauening Sharkes, themselues more dogged and sharking than the bruite creatures.

Hence † **Sha·rkingly** *adv.*

1659 TORRIANO, *Alla-scrocca*, sharkingly, shiftingly. 1665 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 49 He..looked sharkingly, having a reddish-blew nose and cheeks of the same colour. 1670 R. COKE *Disc. Trade* 67 From hence it is that the Trade of England is managed..sharkingly by the Traders.

Sharkish (ʃāːrkiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. SHARK *sb.*1 and 2 + -ISH.] **a.** Of the nature of a 'shark' (*sb.*2) or cheat. **b.** Of the nature of, resembling, or characteristic of, a shark (*sb.*1).

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 682 Our Father..got the better of Satan..and pitched him head-foremost out of heaven..; and his whole sharkish band of retainers after him. 1880 SENIOR *Trav. & Trout in Antipodes* 70 A strong objection to showing mercy to anything of a sharkish nature.

Sharklet (ʃāːrklĕt). *rare.* [f. SHARK *sb.*1 + -LET.] A young shark.

1898 in *Daily News* 2 Nov. 6/4 Some sharks are viviparous, bearing fifteen sharklets at once. 1904 F. T. BULLEN *Creatures of Sea* x. 105 Next morning..sees her lying quietly upon the waves..surrounded by sixteen sharklets.

Sharkling (ʃāːrkliŋ). *rare.* [f. SHARK *sb.*1 + -LING 1.] = prec.

1900 F. T. BULLEN *Idylls of Sea* 14 Fourteen sharklings were now restlessly darting in and out of their cosy cave at the far end of her capacious throat.

Sha·rkship. *rare.* [f. SHARK *sb.*1 and 2 + -SHIP.] (*His*) *sharkship*: a mock-title for a shark.

1791 A. WILSON *Poet. Wks.* (1876) II. 60 And 'Rump the petticoats and spots' His Sharkship roared wi' Vigour. 1894 R. H. SAVAGE *Flying Halcyon* IX. 141 We will bring a couple of rifles and shoot his sharkship.

Sharky (ʃāːrki), *a. rare.* Also **sharkey**. [f. SHARK *sb.*1 + -Y.] Abounding in, infested with, or characterized by the presence of sharks.

1854 BADHAM *Prose Halieut.* 425 *note*, When they bathed in sharky localities. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 653 The way those Kruboys..hauled their 'Massa' out from among the sharkey foam every time he went into it, on the lifeboat upsetting.

Sharling, obs. form of SHEARLING *sb.*

Sharm, obs. form of CHARM *sb.*2

1674 FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 64 An harshness in these things not being so harmless as the cutting of Cork, whereby, though you saw and wring the ears with the sharm, yet still 'tis but a light business you have to deal with.

Sharm, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 **shalm**, **shawm**. [Cf. CHARM *v.*2] *intr.* = CHIRM. Hence **Sha·rming** *vbl. sb.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.*, *Killing of Child.* 142 Though thei sharme and crye, I care not a myght. 1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words* 339 What a sharmin them there children dew keep. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* II. 295 *Shalm*, *Sharm*, *Shawm*, to scream shrilly and vociferously.

Sharman, obs. form of SHEARMAN.

Sharn (ʃārn). *dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 1 **scearn**, **scern**, 4 **ssarn**, **scharne**, 4–5 **sheren**, **scherne**, 5, 7 **sharne**, 6–7 **shearne**, 6–9 **shorn**, 7 **sherne**, **shurn**, 8 **shern**, 9 **shearn**, **scharn**, **shurne**, **shairn**, **sharen**, **-an**, **-on**, **shairin**, 6– **sharn**. [OE. *scearn* neut. corresp. to OFris. *skern* (mod. WFris. *skern*, NFris. *sjaarn*, *sjuarn*), MLG. *scharn*, ON. *skarn* (Sw., Da. *skarn*):—OTeut. **skarno-m*, a pass. ppl. formation on the root **sker-* : *skar-* to separate (cf. SHARE *sb.*, SHEAR *v.*).

Northern dialects have the form *scarn* (a. ON. *skarn*).]

Dung, esp. dung of cattle.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxxii. 11 Forwiurdun ȝewordne werun swe swe scearn eorðan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiii. (Z.) 83 *Fimus* scern. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 92 Gose scearn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxiv. (1495) 918 The Lapwynge layeth and syteeth on broode on dyrte sheren and vnclene thynges. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 406 They fand the shit all beshitten in his awne shearne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. x. I. 509 They should be well soked or infused in soft beast shearne or thin dung. *Ibid.* XVII. xiv. 518 Mixed togither with oxe or cow shearn. 1645 *Shetl. Witch Trial* in Hibbert *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* (1822) 595 Quhilk stinked and tasted of sharn a long tyme. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/1 Shorn is the Dung of Oxen and Cows. 1728 RAMSAY *Daft Bargain* 26 Frae this tale, confed'rate states may learn To save their cow, and yet no eat her sharn. *a* 1774 D. GRAHAM *Hist. Reb.* x. Writ. 1883 I. 171 A poor palace without a door, A bed of state, all wet with shern. 1811 SIR A. BOSWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1872) 150 Tho' he's coupit i' the shearn 'Troth I ken nought ill about him. 1824 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1886) II. 286 Shouting, jostling, cursing in the midst of rain and shairn and braying discord. 1893 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 30 But oor minister..hae garred anither thrawn stick o' a farmer body lift his een abune the nowt an' the shairn.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *sharn-smeared* adj.; **sharn-fly**, a fly used by anglers as bait.

1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 115 The **Shorn-Fly*. Comes on about the same time as the Canon-fly...They are generally found in mowing grass. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* VI. (1880) 230 Shorn Fly, Hazel Fly, Marlow, by all of which names this little beetle is known. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* (1560) B j b, The execrable cytezens of Gomorra with their *shorne smered captaines wyll sturre about them.

† **Sha·rnbud.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **scearnbudda**, 4 **ssarnbodde**, **scharnebode**, 4–5 **scherne-bodde**, 5 **scharnebodde**, 7 **shorn-bud**, 6–7 **sharnbud**. [OE. *scearnbudda* masc.; see SHARN and BUDDE beetle.] A dung-beetle.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* (Z.) 308 *Scarabeus* scernwibba [*MS. W* scearnbudda]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Þet byeþ þe ssarnboddes þet beuleþ þe floures and louieþ þet dong. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 173 Lich to the Scharnebudes kinde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. iv. (Tollemache MS.), Scherne-boddes beþ gendrid of careynes of horses. *a* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 60 Now sharnebodde encumberith the bee; Pursue on hym that slayn anoon he be. [*c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 767/28 *Hic stabo*, a scarbude.] 1596 MASCALL *Bk. Cattle* I. 57 A bettle fly, cald of some a shumbarb [*sic* mispr.], which creepeth commonly on horse dung, or other dung. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* IV. § 25 (1689) 56 A young Beetle, or Sharn-bud, which is found in a Cow-turd. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 213/1 The Sweet Scented Beetle, or Shorn-Bud.

Sha·rn-bug. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also **shorn-**. [f. SHARN + BUG *sb.*] = prec.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 180 The meat of Frogges..are greene Hearbes, and Humble-Bees, or shorne-bugs. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 46 *Pilularius*..the Dung-Beetle, or Shurn-bugg. 1887 *Kent Gloss.*, *Shorn bug*, *sharn bug*, the stag beetle.

†Sharn-penny. *Obs.* In 2 sor-peni, schar-, schornpenny. [f. SHARN + PENNY.] A payment of a penny yearly for each cow, which was due from the burgesses of Bury St. Edmunds to the Abbey as lord of the manor, in lieu of the profit which the Abbey would have obtained from the dung by observance of the manorial custom of folding the tenant's cattle on the lord's land.

? *c* 1200 *Deed of Abbot Sampson* (*Cart. S. Edm.*, MS. f. 247) in Kennett *Cowel's Interpr.*, Facta est compositio..quod Præpositus ejusdem villæ dabit singulis annis..denarios pro faldagio vaccarum ipsius villæ quos nominabant scharpenny. 12.. *Cart. S. Edm.* MS. f. 31, *ibid.*, Burgensibus villæ S. Edmundi data est quitantia cujusdam consuetudinis quæ dicitur *Schorn-penny*..Solebat enim Cellerarius accipere unum denarium per annum de qualibet vacca hominum villæ pro exitu. 1200 *Chron. Joc. de Brakelonda* (Camden) 73 Data eis alia quietantia cujusdam consuetudinis que dicitur sor-peni, pro iiij solidis.

Sharny (ʃäːrni), *a. dial.* chiefly *Sc.* [f. SHARN + -Y.] Bedaubed with dung. So *sharny-faced* adj.; **sharny-peat** (see quot. 1808).

a 1625 F. SEMPILL *Blythsum Bridal* v. in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 25 Flea-lugged sharney-fac'd Lawrie. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 125 Ye shine like the sunny side of a sharney weght. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sharny-peat*, a cake consisting of cows' dung mixed with coal-dross, dried in the sun, and used by the poor for fuel in some places. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, Nane of your sharney peats, but good aik timber. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* x. 77 Gyaun in owre's bed wi's sharnie beets on. 1896 CROCKETT *Cleg Kelly* xliv. 291 Ye sufferin', shairny blastie o' the byres.

b. as *sb.* (see quot. 1825).

1825–82 JAMIESON, *Sharnie*, a name given to the person who cleans a cow-house. 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws of Marches* xviii. 207 Hout! you auld sharnie...Gae round to the byre and see till the kye.

Sharon, dial. variant of SHARN.

Sharoot, obs. form of CHEROOT.

Sharp (ʃäːp), *a.* and *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–2 scearp, 2–3 scærp, 3 sc(h)erp, scarp, ssarp, *Orm.* sharrp, 3–4 sarp, 3–6 scharp, 4, 6 sharppe, 4–7 sharpe, 5 sherpe, sarpe, scarpe, 5–6 scharpe, scharp, 6 sharpp, *Sc.* schairp, scherpe, schirpe, 3– sharp. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *scearp* corresponds to OFris. *skarp*, *skerp*, OS. *skarp*, MLG., MDu. *scharp*, *scherp* (modDu. *scherp*), OHG. *scarpf*, *scarf* (MHG. *scharpf*, *scharf*, *scherpfe*, *scherf(e*, mod.G. *scharf*), ON. *skarp-r* (Sw., Da. *skarp*) :—OTeut. **skarpo-*.

The Teut. root **skerp-* : *skarp-* : *skurp-* appears also in OHG. *scurfan*, MHG. *schürfen* to cut open (mod.G. to poke a fire), OE. *scearpe* scarification, *scearpian* to scarify. The Teut. root **skrep-* : *skrap-* (see SCRAPE *v.*) appears to be related; no cognates outside Teut. are known. The OHG. and MHG. *sarpf* (early mod.Du. *sarp*) sharp is prob. unconnected.]

A. *adj.*

1. Well adapted for cutting or piercing; having a keen edge or point: opposed to *blunt*. **a.** Having a keen cutting edge. Also said of the edge.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* li. 4 Swe swe scersæx scearp. *Sic ut novacula acuta.* *c* 1205 LAY. 2310 Mid scearpe mire eaxe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2266 Streche forð þine swire scharp sweord to underfonne. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 758/38 Deþþ draweth his sarpe knif. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 42 in *Babees-bk.*, Fyrste loke.. bat þy knyf be sharpe & kene. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 105 Quhen schaiffyn is that ald schalk with a scharp rasiour. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 110, I know, his Sword Hath a sharpe edge. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 207 They make their wooden Swords so sharp..that they will cut off Heads even with them. 1822 SHELLEY *Faust* ii. 399 A single blood-red line, Not broader than the sharp edge of a knife. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 106 A good sharp penknife may be used.

trans. and *fig.* *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 254 My woord from hens forthe, is scharp and bytynge as a Sword. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 99 Fra thame that hes thair tungis scharp & ground. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 597 He laughs, whatever weapon truth may draw, And deems her sharp artillery mere straw. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 268 The sharp edge..of public curiosity.

b. Having a tapering end brought to a fine point so as to be used for piercing. Said also of the point itself.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xliv. 6 Strele ðine scearpe, *Sagittae tuae acutae.* *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Introd., Þa ge namon þa Walas & adrifon sumre ea ford ealne mid scearpum pilum greatum innan þam wetere. *c* 1205 LAY. 30752 Swe scarp wes þe pic. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 He..pleieð mid sweordes, & bereð ham bi þe scherpe orde uppen his tunge. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 114 A gay daggere, Harnessed wel, and sharp as point of spere. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. xv, A busshe full of sharp thornes. 1513 *Life Henry V* (1911) 55 The Kinge had geuen commaundement..that euerie man shoulde prouide him a stake sharpe at both endes. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 91 He dies vpon my Semitars sharpe point. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 324/2 [An instrument] with a sharp point, called a Lancer. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 307 Three very sharp teeth. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xli, Deep and sharp rowels. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* I. 104 Then she took the mighty spear, headed and sharp with brass.

trans. and *fig.* *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacram.* C j, And wyth sharper prickes can we not be pricked, than in that he compelleth vs (as it were) to see with oure eies [etc.]. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vi. 23 But he rides well, And his great Loue (sharpe as his Spurre) hath holp him. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. i. 192 As the sharp stars pierce winter's crystal air. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* viii. (1878) 130 Hope was a sharp goad to my resolution.

c. As complement, esp. with pa. pples.

c 1350 *Ipomadon* 8413 (Kölbing), Wythe sperys, that were sharpe grovnde. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1014, I hadde of Hector swiche a mortal wounde, With a quarel sharpe whet & grounde. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 111 Dredefull arowis grundyn scharp and square.

d. In similative phrases, *sharp as a razor, as a needle*, etc. (often *transf.* and *fig.* in senses 3–9).

a 1000 *Soul's Address* 120 Ȝifer hatte se wyrm, þe þa eaȝlas beoð nædle scearpran. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iii. 19 To looke vpon him, till the diminution Of space, had pointed him sharpe as my Needle. *a* 1732 GAY *New Song of Similes* 51 Sharp as a needle are her words. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, Epigrams that were as sharp as razors. 1851 MEREDITH *Love in Valley* xv, Sharp as a sickle is the edge of shade and shine. 1858 [see 4 j]. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i. I. 46 Denner..had a mind as sharp as a needle.

†**e.** *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 314 Ȝenim þæs scearpan þistles moran. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, [Hi] diden an scærp iren abuton þa mannes throte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6794 Þe rose springþ of þe brer þat ssarp & kene is. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16616 A crun apon his heued þai sett o scarpe tre þai wroght. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccix, Men sette vppon her Heuedes chapelettes of sharpe netles. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 180 Tooth'd briars, sharpe firzes, pricking gosse, & thorns. 1611 BIBLE *Micah* vii. 4 The most vpright is sharper then a thorne hedge.

f. Of sand, gravel, etc.: Composed of materials having sharp points; hard, angular, gritty. Now *technical.*

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* xiii. (1623) 46 Sift the earth with coale ashes an inch or two thicknesse, and that is a plague to them [worms], so is sharpe grauell. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 244 They make use of the sharpest Sand they can get (that being the best) for Morter. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 69 The soil of the arable part is thin and sharp, but very fertile. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 26 Add to it an eighth part of clean but coarse sharp sand. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 96 Sharp slag, 8 cwts.

†**2.** Rough, rugged. *Obs.*

Chiefly as a rendering of L. *asper.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Orosius* I. i. § 7 Swiþe scearpe weȝas & stanihte. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 29 Thei dredinge lest we schulden falle into scharp places. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xvi. (1910) 86 Wrecchid mete, scharp cloth, þis wold he þei schuld haue. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueviara's Fam. Epist.* (1577) 173 He commaunded to be made in the moste sharp mounteines of Argos a most solemne Oracle. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 9 The montane Grampius, and vtheris ruch, scharpe and hard hillis.

fig. and *absol.* *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) 54 Thow hade þe sharpe, & we the smothe.

3. Acute or penetrating in intellect or perception.

a. Of persons or their faculties: †(*a*) Intellectually acute, keen witted, discerning, sagacious (*obs.*). (*b*) Now in less dignified use: Quick-witted, clever (said esp. of children).

Cf. the dialectal 'not right sharp' = half-witted, imbecile.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. 4 Buton he hæbbe swa scearp andȝit swaðær fyr. *c* 1000 *Christ's Desc. Hell* 76 Eala Gabrihel! hu þu eart gleaw & scearp. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 23 þat ðu understande mid scarpe witte hwat hie bien. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 670 For þu ȝongare is þane I, scharpare of wyt & mare mychtty. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 131 Wherof cometh forgetenes of his mynde and destruction of alle quyk and sharp reson. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2885 In his consell wonder scharp and wys. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 49 He had a sharpe foresight, and working wit. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 161 What was more ingenious and sharp of witt than she. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 337 Raja Laut is a very sharp man. 1705 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Jan., Dr. King, a sharp ready man in politics. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. vii, Sharp Guadet transfixes you with cross-questions. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 147 A very sharp lad

b. Of reasoning or discourse: †Acute, sagacious (*obs.*). In later use, of remarks: Pointed, apt, witty.

1580 *Three Familiar Lett.* in *Spenser's Poet. Wks.* (Oxf. 1912) 616 Master H[arvey]s short, but sharpe, and learned Iudgement of Earthquakes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 14 He..alleadged Many sharpe reasons to defeat the Law. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 152 Your Gentlemen that speak sharp and witty Things. 1851 WILLMOTT *Pleas. Lit.* xxi. (1857) 126 It was thus that..the sharp, quick sentence flashed from the lips of Buonarotti.

c. Of sight, hearing, the eyes or ears: Acute, keen. Often in figurative expressions.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 30 Sio syn biþ þy scearpre. *c* 1382 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 331 The royal egle..That with his sharpe look perceth the sonne. 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* Introd. iii, When their Reason's Eye was sharp and clear. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 8 The grey eye..is sharpest of sight. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxi, The Queen's sharp eye soon distinguished Raleigh amongst them. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 77 My ears are pretty sharp..and I heard you muttering.

d. Hence of observation, an observer: Vigilant. Phrase, *to keep a sharp look-out.*

1535 COVERDALE *Lam.* iv. 18 They laye so sharpe waite for vs, that we can not go safe vpon the stretes. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XIII. xxiii. 265 The sharpest lookers on will saie it is in your other hand. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 333 As the majority of mankind have a stronger appetite for censure than for praise of those above them, he will naturally keep a sharp look-out with that view. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iii. 158 The bishop kept a sharp look-out upon them.

e. Keen-witted and alert in practical matters, businesslike, smart; often with unfavourable implication, quick to take unfair advantage of others. (Cf. SHARP PRACTICE.)

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 228 They found that the Don had been too sharp for them. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 4 He was..sharp as a street-bred boy must be. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vii, They got a sharp Newcastle attorney. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlv. 252 Among youths of his own age he was reckoned rather a sharp hand. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiii, I have seen so much business done on sharp principles that..I am tired of them. 1859 LEVER *Davenport Dunn* iii, All of them ready to do a sharp thing. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iv. 94 He..was accordingly pretty sharp at making a bargain with a publisher.

4. Eager, impetuous, violent. †**a.** Of warriors: Eager for battle. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 61/244 Ac ða þa hi ne dydon nane dædbote, þa sende him god to þone scearpan here Romaniscre leode. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 69 in *O. E. Misc.* 95 Hwer is..Ector wiþ his scharpe meyne. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 246 That men of armes shold haue no wyues to thende that they myght be more sharpe & fiers in the warre.

†**b.** Of feelings: Keen, ardent. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 501 Rycht sa manis deuocione þat quhile fra contemplacione Is drawyne, sal þe scharpar be. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1780 Then he shope hym to ship in a sharp haste. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1605) Z 3, Time-servers, who..follow Christ vpon a sharpe deuotion, but to his bread, not to his doctrine.

c. Of conflict, warfare, an attack: Carried on with vigour, fierce, keen.

13.. *Cursor M.* 7753 (Gött.) Ful scharp [*Cott.* snaip] it was, þat stour and snell, All fiedd þe folk of israell. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 2 Thassay so hard, so sharp the conquering. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. viii. (Cott.) 1982 Betweyn þis Rollande of Galoway And Kylkpatrik a batel fel Was don, bath sar, scharpe and snel. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 170 Thair scharp assayes mycht do no dures To me. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 27 Then began the fight to grow most sharpe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 816 The fight continued sharpe and hot on both parts. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxvii. 131 Huntley.. after a sharp conflict, put to flight the left wing of the English. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 4 The contest between good and evil becomes sharp and deadly. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, Though the discussion will be sharp, it will be short.

d. Of a storm, a shower, †waves, etc.: Heavy, violent.

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 716/33 Scharpe wawes þat Schip has sayled. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 409 'After sharpe shoures', quod pees 'moste shene is þe sonne', *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 556 Whan deeth, as tempest sharp & violent, With woful trouble hem shal vexe & trauaill. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xii. 46 A sharpe showre of rayne, whiche contynued vntyll the morning.

e. Of an attack of disease: Acute, violent. †Also = ACUTE *a.* 2.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 341 Of diseases, some be called long, and some sharpe and short.

f. (*a*) Of a hawk: Eager for prey; hungry. (*b*) †Of persons (sometimes with allusion to the hawking sense): Hungry, 'sharp-set' (*obs.*). (*c*) Of the appetite: Keen. Of the stomach: Craving for food.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* c viij b, Also she may be calde an aspare hawke of sharpenesse or hir corage..she is moost asper and sharpe in all thyngs that belong vnto hir of any other hawkys. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 133 Then set hir sharpe against an evening and go out to seeke some game. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 95, I am come with a sharpe stomacke, let me not goe awaye fastyng. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 193 My Faulcon now is sharpe, and passing emptie. 1642 FULLER *Holy St.* III. xxv. 231 Nowadayes, does not wealth make them lazy, and poverty keep them painfull? like Hawks they flie best when sharp. 1678 L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Morals* II. xxiv. 317 When we have fasted our selves Sharp, and Hungry. 1707 [E. WARD] *Barbacue Feast* 7 Their Stomacks were a little too sharp to admit of time enough to crave a Blessing on their Food, but all fell to. 1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 5 Though my stomach was sharp, I could scarce help regretting, To spoil such a delicate picture by eating.

g. Quick or active in bodily movement. Of movements, esp. a run, gallop, etc., also of action of any kind: Brisk, energetic.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Scharp, or delyuer, *asper, velox.* 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xvi, Setting my two little ones to box, to make them sharp, as he called it. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 23 But endeavour to pull quick the instant you see the gun cover the object; you cannot be too sharp. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xvii. § 9 (ed. 3) 557 A sharp gallop. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* I. 3 A rapid succession of little sharp blows. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 192 After a sharp run, several hunting men baited their horses at the Three Crowns.

(*b*) *Proverbial phr.* (Used as an injunction to promptitude; for another use see quot. 1788.)

1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* III. i, Are you thereabouts, i'faith? Then sharp's the word. 1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Sharp*, Sharp's the word and quick's the motion with him; said of any one very attentive to his own interest, and apt to take all advantages. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* ii, Be alive, my fine fellow!..sharp's the word and quick's the motion, eh? 1875 'PATHFINDER' *Breaking & Training Dogs* 44 'Come into heel, sir!' and sharp is the word.

h. Of a stream: Rapid. Now *rare.*

1655 WALTON *Angler* vi. (1661) 132 All Fish that live in clear or sharp streams. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 36 From that time they delight to be in sharp streams, and such as are very swift. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 32/2 (art. *Angling*) A deep eddy off some sharp stream.

i. Of the pulse.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 261 Pulse 120, sharp; slightly dicrotous. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 621 The pulse becomes small, sharp, wiry or thready.

j. Of winter, wintry weather, frost, wind, air: Cuttingly cold, keen.

c 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 2 This same yere was a Riht Sharpe Wynter. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 197 In the most sharpe time of winter. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 254 Thou..thinkst it much..To run vpon the sharpe winde of the North. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1884) 13 With sharp tho' moderate Winds. 1762 Sterne *Let. to Mrs. Sterne* 15 Mar., There has been no snow here, but the weather has been sharp. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 44 Keen and cutting air, sharp as a razor. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* v. viii, Though the air was sharp, he had been carrying his cloak over his arm.

5. Severe, strict, harsh. a. †Of persons: Severe or harsh in temper or mood (*obs.*). Of temper, etc.: Irritable, irascible.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 162 He bið scarp & biter & swiðe wær on his wordum. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3577 So wurð he wroð, o mode sarp, His tables brokun dun he is warp. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) 147 He was verie sharpe in manners, sterne of nature, exceading crewell. 1638 R. Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 84 Whether hee bee of these sharpe and soure ones that would take from heaven its starres, and from the earth its flowers. *a* 1668 Lassels *Italy* II. (1698) 96 The Eccho in the well, which answers you indeed, but like a sharp scold, too quick and short.

b. Of persons and their utterances: Cutting in rebuke, invective, or satire; harsh and peremptory in command. Also of looks, tones, etc.: Indicating anger or rebuke.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Sweord & knif eiðer beoð scherpe & keoruinde wordes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 14 Lo! which a sharp word for the nones..Iesus..Spak in repreve of the Samaritan. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 654 Eneas.. answered to the kynge wordes sharpe and poynaunt ynowhe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 984 King Henry wrote to him an aunswere with verie sharpe and grieuous wordes reprouing his vntruth. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 76 Skelton a sharpe Satirist. 1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VIII. (1629) 728 The Cardinall of Loraine also wrote a sharpe letter to the Pope. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Prol. 1st Sat. Juv.* Wks. 1730 I. 52 Nor sharp Juvenal's stronger verse Perverted into doggrel farce. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. II. 139 Yet they were not for using sharp language against such teachers. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* I. iv, He thought of that sharp look, mother, I gave him yesterday. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. App. 677 Tostig has sharp words with his brother.

c. Of punishment, persecution, laws, etc., also of a judge, lawgiver, etc.: Severe, merciless.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 25 To punysch him in sharp & bittire pyne. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 9103 (Fairf.) Sa sare and sharpe martiring was neuer sene on siche a king. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 85 Supposz thow may richtuslie be ane scherp iuge apone wsz. 1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* xcvi. Wks. 1910 II. 192 But in hir minde a sharpe revenge, She fully did reserve. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxx. (1687) 365 This sluggish temper must be banished by a rigorous and sharp penance. 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. Pref. 16 Who will ere long fall under a sharper persecution. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* vi. 96 Those we have lived with are the sharpest judges of our conduct.

d. *To be sharp upon*: to be hard or severe upon (now only, by way of censure or criticism).

1561 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIX. 475 The said Thomas not to be scharp vpoun the said Alexander for payment of the said soum. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 161 He was so scharpe vpon his abuses. 1678 Rymer *Trag. last Age* 32 Polynices seems ill treated, and his Brother is much too sharp upon him. 1713 Addison *Guardian* No. 109 ¶ 5 One of those Untucker'd Ladies whom you were so sharp upon. 1833 Lytton *Godolphin* iv, You are sharp on me, young Sir.

e. Of pain, suffering, grief, etc.: Keen, acute, intense. Of experiences: Intensely painful.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 206 þonne bið þæt sar scearpre þonne þæs welmes sar þe on þære lifre selfre beoð. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, & syððan com se scearpa hungor. *c* 1205 Lay. 21944 Heo weoren swiðe iharmede mid scærpen þan hungre. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2989 Gnattes.. smale to sen, and sarp on bite. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6563 þe ferthe [payne of helle] es hunger sharpe and strang. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 130 This sorwe..shal been hevy and grevous, and ful sharpe and poinant in herte. *c* 1477 Caxton *Jason* 115 b, A sorowe moche aygre and sharp. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, St. Andrew's Day, Collect*, The sharp and painful death of the crosse. 1565 J. Phillips *Patient Grissell* 331 (Malone Soc.) The bitter pangs of death, Whose gripes most sharp semd to close my breath. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 41 Sharpe miserie had worne him to the bones. *a* 1627 Sir J. Beaumont *Bosworth F.* 74 The sharp Conclusion of a sad success. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 803 The nightly Wolf..now plots not on the Fold; Tam'd with a sharper Pain. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* ix. 216 Such injoyments..are followed many times by sharp reflections and bitter penances in the rear. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 340 Sharp, lancinating pains were felt most frequently in the knee. 1898 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* xi. iii, A pang at my heart as sharp as though there had been a reasonable hope till now.

†f. *transf.* Said of a scourge: = Smart *a.* 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5876 And qua ne dos noght yur bidding, Wit scarp scurges yee þam suing. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 44 To 3eue hym dyscyplyn apon his bare backe wyth a scharpe 3erde.

†g. Of a mode of life: Austere. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 165 þe oþer del is zuo þet hi makeþ..þet lyf þet zuo moche sseweþ ssarp an dreduol to chiese. 1577 tr. *Luther's Comm. Galat.* v. 19 (1580) 270 b, The Carthusians or Charterhouse monkes, whose order..is of all other the straitest & sharpest. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 254 They were certaine religious men who liued in common, a sharpe and asper life. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. iii. 31 Hap'ly this life is best, (If quiet life be best) sweeter to you That haue a sharper knowne.

6. Pungent in taste; also, having strong acid, alkaline, or caustic properties. †Of wine: Sour.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Nim gate tord meng wið scearpum ecede. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 304 Shrifte shope sharpe salue and made men do penaunce For her mysdedes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 352 Wo was his cook, but if his sauce were Poynaunt and sharp. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 73 As Sharpe tast, Unctuous, and Sower. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 46 This medicine thus ministred is sharpe and colde. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 187 b, The like quantitie of manna kneaded togither, and giuen them in sharpe wine. 1584 Veron *Lat.-Eng. Dict., Pallacana*, a sharpe onion causing the eies to water. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 252 Pomegranates, Olives, Bread, and sharpe Wine. 1639 [J. Taylor (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 167, I can weepe no more, unlesse I get a good sharpe Onion in my handkerchiefe. 1641 Murrel *Cookerie* (ed. 5) 21 To boyle a Chine of Mutton or Veale, in sharp broth. 1661 Boyle *Scept. Chem.* IV. 254 As soon as I found the Lixivium sufficiently sharp upon the tongue, I reserv'd it for use. 1709 Felton *Diss. Classics* (1718) 106 Every body can tell Sweet from Bitter, what is Sharp, or Sour, or Vapid, or Nauseous. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 262 What renders the Blood acrimonious or sharp. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 429 Arsenic acid..has a sharp caustic taste. 1853 Soyer *Pantropheon* 71 If you prefer a sharper sauce, mix well some green mint with rue.

b. *fig.*

1604 in Challoner *Missionary Priests* (1803) II. 21 Although I shall have a sharp dinner, yet I trust in Jesus Christ I shall have a most sweet supper. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandm. Calling* vi. (1672) 152 Drudging at the harrow, that's sharp; but sweeping down the wheat, that's sweet. 1886 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Paston Carew* xxxii, That sharp sauce which carries costs and awards damages.

c. Of water: (*a*) ? Charged with carbonic acid. †(*b*) Hot, scalding (*rare*$^{-1}$).

1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 18 The water was sharp and hard. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 Sept. 1644, A fountaine of sharp water which they report wholesome against the stone. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 28 Water lukewarm put over at first with the Bowl, but soon after sharp or boiling Water.

d. In various technical collocations, as *sharp lime*, ? unslaked lime; *sharp vat* (Dyeing), a vat containing a considerable excess of lime (Ure *Dict. Arts* 1839, p. 674); *sharp gas* (see quot. 1886).

1772 T. Simpson *Vermin Killer* 15 If you sow sharp lime with the grain. 1886 *Times* 12 Apr. 9/3 Miners had..discovered that some outbursts of gas are what they call 'sharp', and are capable of forming a dangerous mixture with much less warning than is usually given. The experiments of the Commissioners show that the 'sharp' gas of the miners contains a larger proportion of marsh gas.

7. Of sound: Penetrating, shrill, high-pitched.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 90 Nou scharpe notes and nou softe. 1420–2 Lydg. *Thebes* I. 205 Be vertue only of the werbles sharpe That he made in Mercuries harpe. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xxix. 418 A flute of earth, having a very sharpe sound. 1687 Dryden *Song St. Cecilia's Day* 37 Sharp Violins proclaim Their jealous Pangs, and Desperation. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 9 Their voice is not so sharp as the note of some other animals. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. x, A sharp and shrieking echo gave, Coir-Uriskin, thy goblin cave! 1866 Whittier *Maids of Attitash* 20 The wood-bird's plaintive cry, The locust's sharp reply. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 262 A sharp shrill tinkle.

†b. Of an accent: = Acute *a.* Also of a syllable: Bearing the acute accent. *Obs. rare.*

1589 [see Accent *sb.* 1, 6]. 1611 Cotgr., *Accent aigu*, a sharpe accent marked thus, ', & much vsed. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1615) 46 b, Euery Nowne Substantiue common, increasing sharp or long in the Genitiue case, is the feminine Gender.

c. *Phonetics.* (*a*) Used to express the acoustic quality of the high-front vowels; (*b*) a designation for unvoiced consonants. *Obs.* in technical use.

(*a*) *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 899 Ye shal pronounce..your *i*, as sharpe as can be. 1871 *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 9 § 12, I [is] the thin sharp palatal.

(*b*) 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* i. 104 Concerning the Mutes we may predicate that one half of them is Flat, and the other half Sharp. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 450 The voiceless group containing the sharp consonants.

8. *Mus.* a. Of a note: Relatively high in pitch. b. Of a note, singing, an instrument: Above the regular or true pitch; too high. c. *A, C, D* etc. *sharp*: the sound which is a semitone higher than A, C, D, etc. Also the key or other contrivance in a musical instrument for producing such a note. d. Of an interval, †key, or †scale: = Major. e. Of a key: Having sharps in the signature. †f. *B sharp*: the early name for the sign ♮, used to counteract a flat.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 3 The ♭ cliefe which is common to euery part, is made thus ♭ or thus ♮ the one signifying the halfe note and flatt singing: the other signifying the whole note or sharpe singing. 1662 Playford *Skill Mus.* I. i. (1674) 5, B duralis or B sharp. 1694 W. Holder *Harmony* (1731) 151 The Differences of those we call Flat, or Sharp Keys; the Sharp, which take the Greater Intervals within Diapason, as Thirds, Sixths, and Sevenths Major, are more brisk and airy. 1746 Tansur *New Mus. Gram.* 73 Observe, to Tune all Sharp-Thirds, as sharp as the Ear will admit. 1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Mus.* 36 If that Concord was a Major, or a Sharp, as the Third and the Sixth may be. *Ibid.* 107 Chromatick may be practised in sharp Keys, upon the sharp Third to a Governing-note. 1782 Mrs. H. Cowley *Bold Stroke for Husb.* II. iii, Trying a semibreve in G sharp, has made me as flat as double F. 1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 318 *note*, The Chord of the extreme Sharp Sixth. 1848 Rimbault *Pianoforte* 19 The black key which lies Between C and D, is called C-sharp or D-flat.

quasi-*adv.* 1880 *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 96/2 There was on Saturday a tendency to sing sharp, which was at times unpleasantly noticeable.

9. With reference to form only (without implication of cutting or piercing).

a. Tapering to a (relatively) fine point.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 820 Hys nese, at þe poynt, es sharp and smalle. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 23 [Tokens of death.] When..the nose waxeth sharpe. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 16 His Nose was as sharpe as a Pen. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* IV. xiii. (1614) 473 Long and sharpe chins. 1712 J. Morton *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 106 Turbinated Shells.., some with a broader, others with a narrower and sharper Spire. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 157 Travel nature up To the sharp peak of her sublimest height. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvii, A perpetual blush, which occupied rather the sharp nose than the thin cheek of this personage.

†b. Ending in an angle, pointed, peaked. *Sharp moon*: the crescent moon. *Crooked and sharp* (Her.): angular zigzag. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Two Cookery Bks.* 38 Take blaunchid Almaundys, & kerf hem long, smal, & scharpe. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* d vii, He berith pale crokyt and sharpe of Sable and Sylver. 1530 Palsgr. 266/1 Scharpe ende of the moone, *corne*. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 142 With a long visage and a little sharpe beard upon the chin. 1686 Wood *Life* 6 July (O. H. S.) III. 191 Tuesday, between 11 and 12 a sharp or new moone was seene in the skies. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 85 A heap sharp at the top like a Sugar-Loaf.

c. Of an angle: †(*a*) Less than a right angle: = Acute *a.* (*Obs.*: common in the 16th c.). (*b*) Relatively small or acute. (*c*) Abrupt, not rounded off or blunted; involving sudden change of direction; so *sharp turn*.

(*a*) *c* 1537 De Benese *Meas. Lande* A iiij, The last is a sharpe angle, lyke to one of the angles of a tryangle. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* I. (1597) 57 b, For the one [angle] is right, and the other sharpe. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 376/2 A sharp angle or corner, being less than a square Angle.

(*b*) 1589 Ive *Pract. Fortif.* 2 The angles that do happen in it, may be made the flatter or sharper.

(*c*) 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 537 Knocking off the sharp angles with the thick end of a tool called a scabling hammer. 1877 Miss A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xx. 574 A sharp turn to the right. 1910 Hirth in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 191/1 Lines drawn through the eyes of one of the oldest Chinese hieroglyphics cross each other at a sharp angle.

d. Of an ascent or descent, a rise or fall (*lit.* or *fig.*): Abrupt.

1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 257 We had gone up upon a sharp ascent. 1785 Cowper *Task* I. 326 Hence the declivity is sharp and short, And such the re-ascent. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* xviii. 313 A very sharp rise leads from the Pacific to the range of the Andes.

e. *Naut.* Of the shape of a vessel: Having a narrow and wedge-shaped bottom.

1709 Dampier *Voy.* III. II. 47, I would have..hal'd my Ship ashore..but my Ship being sharp, I did not dare to do it. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 115 Ships, more especially such as are sharp and built for Sailing. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Sharp-Bottom*, is synonymous with a sharp floor, and used in contradistinction to a flat floor. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 821/1 This tendency on the part of a sharp ship..by her wedge-shaped form in the fore and after bodies, is great.

f. Of features: Emaciated, peaked, thin.

[1561, 1599: see a.] 1833 Tennyson *Death Old Year* 46 His face is growing sharp and thin. 1865 Whittier *Changeling* 29 My face grows sharp with the torment.

†**10.** *Naut.* Of the wind: ? Almost dead ahead. (Cf. Sharp *adv.* 2.) *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 The Wind is sharp, hawl forward the main Bowline.

11. Having the angles or edges not rounded off or flattened; hence, clear or distinct in outline or contour. Often in immaterial sense, of contrasts, distinctions, etc.: Not shaded off, abrupt, strongly marked.

1675 A. Browne *App. Art of Limning* 8 The Complexions of Virgins and Fair Young Women are not so much different from the other in the Colouring: as in the Sharpness of the Work, those few and sharp Muscles in the Body [etc.]. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 809 The plaster ..hardens in a few minutes, and takes a very sharp impression. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 207 The chiselled margins of the pillars and cornices of the latter, are still as sharp as when first carved. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 133 Those who..are brought into the sharpest geographical contrast. 1895 Saintsbury *Corr. Impr.* 38 The very musical poets are too apt to let the sharp and crisp definition of their picture be washed away in floods of sound. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 921 With regard to the first three forms [of drug eruption] no sharp lines can be drawn.

B. *sb.*

1. A sharp weapon; *spec.* a small sword (in 18th cent. part of a civilian's attire); a rapier used for duelling as opposed to a 'blunt' or buttoned weapon. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 424 þe scharp of þe schalk schyndered þe bones. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 513 Mony swoughinge lay þorw schindringe of scharpe. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* 67 Through blunts to sharpes, through surcingles to the garters and Zones of Amazones. 1723 Mrs. Centlivre *Beau's Duel* III. i, I think a Gentleman ought to wear a sharp for a terror to the Vulgar, and because 'tis the fashion. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* IV. i, But for your curst sharps and snaps, I never knew any good come of 'em.

†b. Phr. *To fight, play*, etc. *at the sharp, at sharp(s*: to fight with unbated swords, to fight in earnest, in contradistinction to fencing. *To go* or *come to the sharp*: to come to bloodshed. *Obs.*

1579–80 North *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 26 A combate

of fensers (called *Gladiatores*) fighting at the sharpe. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xl. 344 As for that other furniture, it was rather a good bootie than armour of proofe; faire and resplendent, before men come to the sharp, but foule and unseemely amongst bloudie wounds. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 297 One goodly Amphitheater..where Fencers at sharpe succeeded the actors. 1694 JER. COLLIER *Misc., Of Duelling* 37 If Butchers had but the Manners to go to Sharps, Gentlemen would be contented with a Rubber at Cuffs. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xii, He would even fight captain Weazel at sharps; but it should be with such sharps as Strap was best acquainted with, namely razors. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xviii, There is daylight enough now for a game at sharps.

c. *fig.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 4 b, Put a whole million of *Iohannes Mabusiusses* of them together, and they shall not handle their matters at sharpe so handsomly as I [*marg.* Painters sharp handling]. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § vii. 156 The Devill that did but buffet Saint Paul, playes mee thinkes at sharpe with me. 1720 SHADWELL *Epsom W.* I, Since they were so much too hard for us at Blunts, we were fools to go to Sharps with them.

†**2.** A sharp edge; *spec.* the edge of a sword. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1593 For þe mon merkkez hym wel as þay mette fyrst, Set sadly þe scharp in þe slot euen. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xxvii. (1869) 19 Bi the flatte of the sword j vnderstonde good and trewe avisement...With the flatte ye shulden vsen to smite whan ye seen youre subiectes erre...And if ye mown so haue hem it is bettere than to smite with the sharpe. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* IV. 1596 The Captaine commanded that they should be put to the sharpe of the sword.

b. *fig.*

1602 DANIEL *Musophilus* lxxii, They present, with the sharp of envy, strain To wound them with reproaches and despite. 1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* Prol. 26 'Tis pointed Satyr, and the sharps of Wit For such a prize are th' only Weapons fit. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 96 (1740) 82 At present I haue to do only with the Matter of a Treaty (which the Rebels expected) and not with the Sharps, which to their great Surprise and Confusion fell upon them.

c. *The sharp of the hand*: the edge of the hand.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxx. 108 An old salt, pointing with the sharp of his hand to leeward. 1896 CLARK RUSSELL *Tale of Ten* III. 272 Six men..standing up, staring under the sharp of their hands.

†**3.** The termination of anything which is pointed or which tapers to a point. *Obs. rare.*

1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1892) I. 108 The cloath sute, the skirts wrought in Pickendell, with two sharps on the hoase. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 248 The decent slendernesse of her fingers, ending in a beautiful sharpe. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 553 Those poles where the sharp has not been broken off are likely to break when put up and loaded with bine.

4. *Mus.* **a.** A high-pitched note. (*rare.*) **b.** A note raised half a tone above the natural pitch. **c.** In musical notation, the sign ♯ which indicates this raising of the note; †also the sign ♮ (see quot. 1653 and cf. A. 8 f). *Double sharp*: the sign × indicating that a note must be raised two semitones. **d.** *Sharps and flats*: see FLAT *sb.*[3] 14.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* IV. xix. Wks. 1910 II. 551 Whiles I searcht, the semyquaver toyes, The glauncing sharpes, the halfe notes for the nones. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 28 It is the Larke that sings so out of tune, Straining harsh Discords, and vnpleasing Sharpes. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XIII. 55 The throstle with shrill sharps, as purposely he song T' awake the lustlesse sun. 1653 LD. BROUNCKER tr. *Des Cartes' Compend. Mus.* 37 Finally, the voyce ♮, is called a Quadrate, or Sharp, because it is the most Acute, and the opposite to ♭ Soft or Flat. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Art of Poetry* 474 In vain his tuneful Hand the Master tries, He asks a Flat, and hears a Sharp arise. 1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* v. 58 The Double Sharp is sometimes marked with a single Cross. 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* ii, Shrieking and squeaking In fifty different sharps and flats. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 40, I chatter over stony ways, In little sharps and trebles.

e. *allusively.*

1599 in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 382 Let all your sharps Bee feares of faithfull harts; And all your flats The death of your desarts.

†**5.** A shoal in a river-bed. *Obs. rare.*

1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 56 Shoals or Sharps in navigable Rivers.

†**6.** Some kind of fish. Cf. SHARPLING. *Obs.*

a 1636 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* (1845) 39 Fish...Shott. Seal. Sharpe. Sturgeon.

7. Each of the two raised ledges forming the sides of the mould upon which sheet-lead is cast. Usually in plural.

1703 NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* (1736) s.v. *Lead*, This Mold..consists of..Boards..nail'd down fast, and upon these, at a due Distance..the Sharps are fixed...At each end [of the strike] is cut a Notch..; so that when the Strike is us'd, it rides upon the Sharps with those Notches... [Settle the sand] by lifting up one end of the Strike, letting the other rest upon the other Sharp. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 360.

8. a. = SHARPER.

1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 277 The sharps have queered me. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Sharp*, a gambler, or person, professed in all the arts of play; a cheat, or swindler. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* ii. 25 The successful sharp..must have unbounded self-confidence if his wiles are to be of any avail.

b. *colloq.* An expert, connoisseur, a wise man or one professing to be so.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 11 Sept. 10/1 The long list of 'sharps' who advertise their 'tips' in the sporting journals. *a* 1872 B. HARTE *Poems, Cicely* 44, I never saw such a star, And I thought of them sharps in the Bible, and I went for it then and thar. 1880 ASA GRAY *Lett.* II. 702 You know I am no picture sharp. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. in Jungle* i. 5 Unless he is a scientific sharp, the chances are he cannot name a living species..which cannot be found represented there.

9. *pl.* The finer particles of the husk and the coarser particles of the flour of wheat and other cereals (separated from the bran and the fine flour in the process of milling); the 'middlings' between bran and flour.

The *Lutterworth Advertiser* of 3 Feb., 1912, reports a case heard at Petty Sessions in which the plaintiff, supported by the County Analyst, maintained that the term was applied to the 'middlings' of wheat only, while the defendant and trade witnesses asserted that 'sharps might contain rice, oats, tapioca; it was a general name for mill offals'.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 215 These sharps were ground a second time, and boulted a third time, and the produce was 46 lb. of second flour of barley. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Sharps*, coarse ground flour with a portion of bran. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 352 The sharps, or that portion which consists of the heart of the grain, and which is broken and escapes from between the millstones. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. i, None o' your sharps nor dog-bran, but real Earl's barley-meal.

10. *pl.* One of three grades of needles, including those of greatest length and most acutely pointed.

1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* v, If I do not like the sizes, he offers to exchange them for others, either sharps or betweens. 1862 MORRALL *Needle-making* 38 The Sharps are those usually called 'Sewing needles'. 1892 'F. ANSTEY' *Voces Pop.* (1907) 241, I want..two packets of egg-eyed sharps.

11. = SHARPIE.

1891 *Century Dict., Sharp.* A kind of boat used by oystermen. Also *sharpie, sharpy.*

12. (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict., Sharp.* In *diamond-cutting*, the edge of the quadrant when an octahedral diamond is cleft into four parts.

C. *Comb.*

1. In parasynthetic adjs., as *sharp-angled, -beaked, -bellied, -bottomed, -breasted, -clawed,* †*-copped, -cornered, -eared, -faced,* †*-haired,* †*-headed, -keeled, -leaved,* †*-nebbed,* †*-piled,* †*-quilled, -ridged, -snouted,* †*-staked,* -†*tailed, -tasted, -tempered, -toed,* †*-visaged, -winged.*

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 143 The *Sharp Angled Peacock. 1611 COTGR. *Belenne*, a certaine little,..small-mouthed, and *sharp-beaked, fish. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal, Sat.* V. (1673) 77 By sharp-beak'd Ships. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 76 *Sharp-bellied Salmon. 1792 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Navig.* (1795) 319 Busses, and other unavoidably *sharp-bottomed vessels. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 262 Deformities .., as Hunch Back'd, Pot Belly'd, *Sharp Breasted. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Birds & Fl., House-sparrow* 8 You find.. everywhere the *sharp-clawed and the bigger still pressing on the lesser and forlorn! 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xxiii. § 281 Such as have *sharp-coppid crowns, are very subject to fall mad. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 597 They are sprinkled with small projecting pebbles, and *sharp-corner'd flints. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 211 There was..no danger of the *sharp-eared blacks' dogs giving tongue in time to warn them. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 32 A timid maiden, driven by a hard and *sharp-faced matron. 1706 J. STEVENS *Span. Dict., Peliagudo*, *sharp-hair'd, so they call the Kid, Calf, and Rabbet. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. II. III. XV. 71, I would not have you touch these ragoo'd rabbits, because they are a sharp-haired food [orig. Sp. *manjar peliagudo*]. 1420–2 LYDG. *Thebes* 4223 On..with a quarel *sharpe heded for his sake, Markede hym with a bowe of brake. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 73 A sharpe heeded shafte. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 126 The Colt, that for a Stallion is design'd,..Sharp headed, Barrel belly'd, broadly back'd. *c* 1600 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 186 [The ships are to be] *sharpe-kielled not flatt-bottomed. 1667 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* clvii, In shipping such as this, the Irish Kern, And untaught Indian, on the Stream did glide: Ere sharp-keel'd Boats to stem the Floud did learn. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 306 Red *sharp-leav'd Mint. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 206 The *sharp-nebd Hecco stabbing at his braine. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XX. 201 And then the Prince ..Tooke to his hand his *sharp-pil'd Lance. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 363 A *sharpe-quill'd Porpentine. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 48 The tarsus of the vast majority of land birds is seen..to be *sharp-ridged behind. 1611 COTGR., *Raye au long bec*, the..*sharp-snowted Ray. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 91 Sharp-snouted Salmon. 1815 MILMAN *Fasio* (1821) 23 The broad and *sharp-staked trenches of the law. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. xvi[i.] (1494) m iv, And vnder that falshede Hony shed oute *sharpe tayled lyke a bee. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 175 *Sharp tasted Citrons Median Climes produce. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xix, Thin Moselle wine, so light and sharp-tasted, that [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iii, Our *sharp-tempered Arthur has been 'pestered for some days past', by shot. 1804 *European Mag.* XLV. 20/1 *Sharp-toed shoes. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. (1677) 200 The Welsh that inhabit the Mountains [are] commonly *sharp-visaged. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2250/4 A tall lean Man with curl'd short Hair, small Eyes, and sharp visag'd. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 28 A small blacke Bird long and *sharp-winged. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 26 The Sharp Winged Hawk..appears in July.

2. Special combinations and collocations, as †**sharp artery** [L. *arteria aspera*: see ARTERY I and TRACHEA], the wind-pipe; †**sharp bone**, the breast-bone of a bird; **sharp-cone** *Math.* (see quot.); **sharp-eyed** *a.*, keen of sight; *transf.* observant, penetrating; **sharp-fanged** *a.*, having a sharp tooth; *fig.* biting (in speech), caustic, sarcastic; **sharp featured** *a.*, peaked, thin; **sharp-fin**, 'an acanthopterygian fish' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **sharp-heeled** *a.*, (of a cock) spurred, wearing spurs; **sharp-iron** *Naut.*, a caulkers' reeming-iron; **sharp land** *north.*, soil containing a large proportion of gritty matter; **sharp-nail**, 'a nail with a forged point, used in some trades' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **sharp-nails** *dial.*, in *Jack Sharpnails*, the stickleback; †**sharp-new** *a.*, a term applied to the appearance of the crescent moon; †**sharp-nose**, a mean person; **sharp-shinned** *a.*, slender shanked; *spec.* as the distinctive epithet of a hawk, *Accipiter fuscus*, common in N. America; **sharp-tailed** *a.*, having a tapering tail or pointed tail-feathers; *spec.* in names of birds and animals having this characteristic; **sharp-tongued** *a.*, bitter of speech; **sharp-toothed** *a.*, keen of tooth; *transf.* rending, tearing; **sharp-Tuesday** *dial.*, Shrove Tuesday; **sharp-ware**, edged tools (in quot. attrib.); **sharp-whites** (see quot.).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lxxx. 544 The..*sharpe Arterie or wind pipe. *a* 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 29 Cut the goose down both sides of the breast, half an inch from the *sharp bone. 1872 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1895) VIII. 102 The special forms of (quadri-)cones; these are: 1° The *sharp-cone, or plane-pair; that is, a pair of two planes, intersecting in a line called the axis, the vertex being in this case an indeterminate point on the axis. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* II. i, To *sharp-eyed reason this would seem untrue. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXXII, He knew it not, he saw it not—but I was sharper-eyed. 1843 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 46/1 The coarse-coated, sharp-eyed, snarling terrier. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. B 8 b, What power will'th desist? Or dares to stop a *sharpe fangd Satyrist? 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlvii. 1 How potent that quick-sighted and sharp-fanged malignity is. 1887 MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 39 'Twixt her and sharp-fanged nature Honour first did plant the fence. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I. 239 Mr. Beck..was a little, insignificant, perking, *sharp-featured man. ?*c* 1660 R. WILDE *Poems* (1870) 51 The skilful judges of the play Brought forth their *sharp-heeled warriors. 1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recr.* II. 277/2 That Cock is said to be sharp Heel'd. 1887 RÖHRIG *Technol. Wörterbuch* I, *Scharfeisen*,.. (Schiffb.) *Sharp iron. 1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1808 W. H. MARSHALL *Rev. Northern Rep. Agric.* I. 6 The soil appears to be pretty uniformly of a sandy or gravelly nature, what in Scotland is termed '*sharp land'. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 293 CC of *Sharpe nayle price of euery C—ij[s] iiij[d]..D sharpenayle price the hundred ij. 1734 *Builder's Dict.*, s.v. *Nail*, Sharp Nails..are made with sharp Points and flat Shanks. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, **Jack-sharp-nails*, a prickle-back, called also in Middlesex, a strickle-back. Derb. 1635 PERSON *Varieties* I. iii. 10 [The Moon] hath a glimps of light indeed of her selfe, but that is dimme and obscure; as may be seene in the *sharp-new (as we say). 1611 COTGR., *Visage de rebec*, a sneake-bill, *sharp-nose, chittiface. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4034/4 A short Negro Man,..*sharp Shin'd, long Heel'd. 1826 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIII. II. 31 Sharp-shinned Hawk. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 621/1 The sharp-shinned is our most abundant hawk. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 364 The *sharp-tail'd Island Duck of Wormius. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 306 Sharp-tailed Grous. 1793 *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* VI. 461 The Sharp-tailed Goatsucker. 1834 J. J. AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* II. 281 The Sharp-tailed Finch. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* I. 172 The *sharp-tongu'd rival's whetted teeth. 1875 MCLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. iv. 75 The questions of a sharp-tongued servant-maid. 1604 HIERON *Preachers Plea* To Rdr. A 3 Let the most professed and *sharpe-toothed carper say what he please. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 137 She hath tied Sharpe-tooth'd vnkindnesse, like a vulture heere. 1858 *N. & Q.* Ser. II. V. 209 The curious custom existing in that town [Crewkerne] 'of throwing stones against people's doors on what the boys called "*Sharp Tuesday"'. 1874 WHITCOMBE *Bygone Days Devon & Cornw.* 187 Shrove Tuesday is known by the boys as 'Sharp Tuesday'. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 3/1 The badge of the company of *Sharp-ware men, such as make all sorts of edge tooles. 1820 ACCUM *Adulterat. Food* 14 *Sharp whites (a term given to flour contaminated with..alum).

b. In names of birds, as **sharp-bill** = OXYRHYNCHUS 2; **sharp-tail** *U.S.*, (*a*) the sharp-tailed grouse, *Pediœcetes phasianellus*; (*b*) any bird of the sub-family *Synallaxinæ*.

1826 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIV. I. 199 *Oxyrhynchus*, Sharpbill. 1867 T. R. JONES *Nat. Hist. Birds* 119 Synallaxinæ. The Sharptails.

c. In names of plants. (*a*) With reference to the pointed or prickly nature of their foliage, as †**sharp-bind** = *sharp smilax*; **sharp cedar** [= F. *cèdre piquant*], a tree, *Juniperus oxycedrus*; **sharp club-rush**, *Scirpus pungens* (Miss Pratt, *Brit. Grasses* 1859); **sharp-pry-grass** *dial.*, *Carex glauca*; **sharp rush**, *Juncus acutus*; †**sharp smilax**, *Smilax aspera*; **sharp thistle** (see quot.). (*b*) With reference to the acid properties of the plant, as **sharp dock** (see DOCK *sb.*[1] 1 b); †**sharp-herb**, ? = *sharp dock.*

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 75 Smilax aspera. ..It maye be called in englishe Pryckewynde or *Sharpbynde. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Sharp Cedar. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 464/1 *Oxylapatium*, sio *scearpe docce. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. VI. 193 Sharp Dock, or Dock-Sorrell. 1659 R. LOVELL *Herbal* 544 *Sharp-herb *Cocoxihuitl, Herba acris.* 1803 HUNTER *Georgical Studies* III. 88 (E.D.D.), I pared and burnt some *sharp-pry-grass ings that had not been ploughed in the memory of man. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxiii. 31 The *sharpe Rush. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 141 The *sharpe smilax hath leaues lyke vnto wodbinde. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.* p. xix, *Cnicus arvensis*, *Sharp thistle.

3. Quasi-advb. as complement with ppl. adjs., as †*sharp-built, -cut,* †*-grinded,* †*-ground, -looking, -whetted.*

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 256 If it be desired to insure a *sharp-built Ship or Vessel [etc.]. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 240 They then seizing the *sharp-cut stake. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 513 The Turney is allow'd but one Career, Of the tough Ash with the *sharp-grinded Spear. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21437 *Scarp grunden knijf in hand he bar. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 44 Had'st thou..no sharpe ground knife. 1590 — *Com. Err.* v. i. 240 A needy-hollow-eyed-*sharpe-looking-wretch. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* x. 535 Thou shalt sit with thy sword *sharp-whetted drawn from thy thigh.

Sharp (ʃɑːp), *sb.*[2] *dial.* [? Corruption of SHAFT *sb.*[2]] A shaft of a cart. Usually *pl.*

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxiii. 363 Part of the Limbers, which are also called Shafts, Sharps, and Thills. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss., *Sharps,* the shafts of a cart or other carriage.

Sharp (ʃɑːp), *adv.* Forms: 1 **scearpe,** 4 **charpe,** 4–6 **sharpe, scharpe,** 6 *Sc.* **scherp, scharp,** 6– **sharp.** [OE. *scearpe,* f. *scearp* SHARP *a.*]

1. In a sharp manner, = SHARPLY in various senses; †shrilly; †niggardly, stingily.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xciii. 9 And him eaȝena ȝesyhð eallum sealde, and he scearpe ne mæȝe ȝesceawian? *c* 1000 *Hexam. St. Basil* viii, Ða fugelas..ðe be flæsce lybbað syndon clyferfete and scearpe ȝebilode. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1010 [*v.r.*] So scharpe þei com. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 39 Al her courte on hym cryde crucifye sharpe. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 774 For whan a pipe is blowen sharpe The aire ys twist with violence. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 42 Knyvis that scherp cowd scheir. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV, *Pil.* Farewell Fidler: One letter more to the Iew. *Curt.* Prethe, sweet loue, one more, and write it sharp. 1607 *Lingua* I. vi. B 3, How princely do I speake, how sharpe I threaten. 1635 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* I. iii. (ed. 2) 11 If Flies and small Gnats bite sharpe and sore. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 182, I hunted and hunted as sharp as if it had been for one of my own minikens. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* vii, What makes you ride so sharp this morning? 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Is.* I. 55 Loud howls the wind, sharp patters the rain.

b. Abruptly, suddenly.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxv, He turns sharp round to the left, and pauses before another gate. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlvi, The odds are, he'd pull me up pretty sharp for doing so without his authority. 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 42 The horse..turns sharp round and stands stock still. 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 961/1 The Government ..have this week been pulled up sharp.

c. In an invitation or appointment: Punctually, precisely (at the hour specified).

1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, They should dine that day at three o'clock sharp. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scot.* x. (1855) 101 Dinner had been ordered at 'sharp five'. 1893 G. ALLEN *Scallywag* I. 35 At ten sharp the first arrivals began to greet one another.

d. Phrases. *Look sharp*: see LOOK *v.* 5. *Look sharp after*: see LOOK *v.* 5 and cf. 12 e and f. *Look out sharp*: see LOOK *v.* 40 c.

2. *Naut.* As near fore and aft as possible, trimmed as near as possible to the wind.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 Thus have you all the Sails trimm'd sharp. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Bouter le Lof,* to trim all sharp; to spring the luff. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney) s. v. *Sharp, To Brace up Sharp,* is to turn the yards to the most oblique direction possible, so as that the ship may lie well up to the wind. 1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* ii. (1850) 24 In a moment more the frigate braced sharp up. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 215 Away we went, braced sharp up on the starboard tack to the north-westward.

3. *Comb.* Qualifying a ppl. adj. used attrib., and commonly hyphened.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 184 Where shooteth this sharpe shootyng archer? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 52 Bent hollow beetle browes, sharpe staring eyes, That mad or foolish seem'd. 1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 Sharp cutting spade, for the deuiding of mow. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* v. 621 Nor here the sun's meridian rays had pow'r, Nor wind sharp-piercing. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte D'Arthur* 190 Juts of slippery crag that rang Sharp-smitten with the dint of armed heels. 1876 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* I. i. 4 The forger of mighty shields and sharp-biting swords. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* iii. 30 The sharp-smelling wood-smoke.

Sharp (ʃɑːp), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 **scyrpan,** 1–2 **scerpan,** 5 **schyrpe,** 6 **scherp,** 6, 9 *dial.* **sherp,** 9 *dial.* **shirp**; *β.* 3–6 **scharp,** 4–5 **scharpe,** 4–7 **sharpe,** 5 **shaarp,** 6 *Sc.* **schairp,** 4– **sharp.** [OE. **scierpan, scęrpan, scyrpan,* = OS. (*gi*)*scerpian* (L.G., Du. *scherpen*), MHG. *scherpfen* (mod.G. *schärfen*), Icel. *skerpa,* Sw. *skärpa,* Da. *skærpe* (perh. from LG.):—OTeut. type **skarpjan-,* f. **skarpo-* SHARP *a.* In later Eng. this formation probably blends with a new formation on the adj.]

1. *trans.* = SHARPEN *v.* 1. Now only *dial.*

a. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565/48 *Ascio,* to thwyte or schyrpe. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 121 Syne crownit scho the Egle King of Fowlis, And as steill dertis scherpit scho his pennis. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 7 Sherpeinge the harrove pennes ij[d]. 1883 *Berks. Gloss.,* Sherp this knife vor I, 'ooll 'e.

β. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter, Song of Moses* 60 If .i. had sharpid as leuynynge my sweord. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 839 [He] fand a tre, and it scha[r]pit [L. *exacuit*] With his teht. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1905 Sharpe thi penne, and write on lustily. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. ii. 127 The cristit foule..For to resist hir sa scharpand hir byll [etc.]. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 255 And therewithall he sharpes the rocks. 1626 BRETON *Fantast.* (Grosart) 6/2 Now Cupid begins to nocke his Arrowes and sharpe their heads. 1684 HAN. WOOLLEY *Queen-like Closet* Suppl. 92 Pieces of Wire sharped at one end. 1815 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xxiv, Let Ettrick's archers sharp their darts. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* iv. (1870) 82 He's sharping his teeth.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a. c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxix. 4 Scerptun tungan heara. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) *Ibid.* [*Trin. MS.*], Scyrptun.

β. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxxix. 3 Þai sharpid þaire tunges as neddirs. 1411 *26 Pol. Poems* 45 To sharpe my wreche ywole bygynne, Take vengeance for his trespas. *a* 1542 WYATT *Ps.* vi. 51 See how my soul doth freat it to the bones: Inward remorse so sharp'th it like a knife. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. lxii, Disdaine her ire new sharpt and kindled hath.

†**2.** *intr.* = SHARPEN *v.* 7. *Obs.*

a. a 1200 *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) 5 Him scerpeþ þe neose him scrinckeþ þa lippen.

β. c 1325 *Old Age* ii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149 Eld me awarpeþ, þat mi schuldern scharpiþ, and ȝouþe me haþ let. *a* 1400 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 253, & his nese shal sharpen. *a* 1536 *Proverbs* in *Songs, Carols,* etc. (1907) 128 Sone hit sharpith, that thorn will be.

†**3.** *trans.* = SHARPEN *v.* 2. *Obs.*

a. a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 260 Symle he sceal his hyrmen scyrpan mid manunge to hlafordes neode. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* G j, The same water put in the iyen in the mornyng..sherpeth the syght.

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 52 But Crist sharpide þes mennis bileve. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xxxvii. 69 It..makys þe sight clerer, shaarpys þe wittes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q., Dedic. Sonn., To Ladies in Crt.* 7 Much more me needs..To sharpe my sence with sundry beauties vew. 1633 B. JONSON *King's Entert. Welbeck* (1640) 274 Whom the Whetstone sharpes to eat, And cry Milstones are good meat.

†**4.** = SHARPEN *v.* 3. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 25 Þe synful sharpid [L. *exacerbavit*] god. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 121 [He] schewed hem þe juse of grapes..forto scharpe hem to þe bataille [L. *ad acuendum eos in prælium*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Scharpyn, or steryn to hastynesse, *exaspero.*

5. To make sharp (in various transferred senses of the adj.). †**a.** = SHARPEN *v.* 2 b.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. 58 When blode is aduste it is scharped. 1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 39 Let euery one of them..vse the regiment of diet to driyng, sharped with vineger or tart thynges.

†**b.** To roughen (the sea). *Obs. rare*—[1].

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 2 Frosty wynter scharpit [L. *asperat*] the watter cleir With cald blastis.

†**c.** *Mus.* = SHARPEN *v.* 4. *Obs.*

1662 PLAYFORD *Introd. Skill Mus.* I. vi. 21 Mi and Fa do serve for the flatting or sharping the ordinary Notes in the Scale. 1746 TANSUR *New Mus. Gram.* 93 Where E is sharp'd and becomes Mi.

†**d.** = ROUGH *v.*[1] 1 d, SHARPEN *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1841 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Later Life* (1882) II. 145 Finding the roads dangerously slippery for our horses, which were not sharped,..we dismounted.

†**e.** To brighten (a colour). *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xvii. (1495) 874 In olde tyme men vsyd to sharpe [L. *acuere*] this colour Minius wyth the blode of a certayne worme.

†**6.** *To sharp up*: to admonish sharply. *Obs.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxiii. 33. 539 See how our Saviour sharps up these Heresiarchs, that, if possible, they might be made sound in the faith.

†**7.** *intr.* To play the sharper. *Obs.*

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) II. 255 To sharp, deceive, and run into Debt. 1785 COWPER *Task* III. 86 Then he that sharp'd, And pocketted a prize by fraud obtain'd, Was mark'd and shunn'd as odious.

8. *trans.* **a.** To cheat, swindle, trick (a person).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Clear,* The Fellow is.. Drunk, let's Sharp him. 1720 *Lett. Lond. Jrnl.* (1721) 39 Throngs of Setters and Cullies, sharping and cheating one another. 1882 *Daily News* 19 Jan., A gang of men (probably the same as those who would have sharped me) try the same trick.

b. To obtain by swindling, to steal.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 13 Should a half starv'd Sailor sharp a Pair of old Shoes from him. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Suppl. Diss. Drama* 31 Those must be only Popish Amusements, for to sharp a little Popish Subsistance-Money.

Sharpe, obs. form of SHRAPE.

Sharped (ʃɑːpt), *ppl. a.* [f. SHARP *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. = SHARPENED *ppl. a.* 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 294 Wiþ no scharpede schar to schape þe forwes. 1557 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 145 He [Cupid] shot his sharped fiery dart. 1591 SPENSER *Ruines of Rome* 16 Her haughtie walls..And sharped steeples high shot vp in ayre.

2. *Mus.* Of a note: Raised in pitch, *spec.* raised a semitone by a sharp.

1746 TANSUR *New Mus. Gram.* 23 All descending sharp'd Notes.

Sharp-edged, *a.* Having a sharp edge or sharp edges.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 92 God..het þæt he name scearpecgedne flint. 1548 COOPER *Elyot's Dict., Acutus,* sharpe edged or pointed. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 54 They brandish weapons sharp edgde. 1647 HEXHAM I, A sharpe edged sword. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* (ed. 2) 282 A sharp-edged crook. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 55 A conchoidal, sharp-edged fracture. 1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 4 Jaws, which were a yard in length, sharp-edged and pointed. *fig.* 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. viii. 151 There are other precise angular persons, and these sharp-edged persons wound each other terribly. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* viii, Sharp-edged words have sharp edges to wound me.

Sharpen (ʃɑːp'n), *v.* Also 5 **scharpen.** [f. SHARP *a.* + -EN [5].]

1. *trans.* To put a sharp edge or point upon, to whet; to furnish (a weapon, implement, etc.) with a cutting edge or fine point.

1530 PALSGR. 701/1, I sharpen a knyfe or an edge toole to cutte the better, *je agwyse.* 1535 COVERDALE *Eccles.* x. 10 When an yron is blont, and y[e] poynt not sharpened, it must be whett againe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 357 Let him ..sharpen Stakes, or head the Forks. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 59 The biggest End being..sharpen'd on the Top. 1880 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* liv. (1898) 352 He sat and sharpened a small pen knife. 1890 S. R. GARDINER *Student's Hist. Eng.* (1896) I. 1 Flints sharpened by chipping.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 75 *Cres.* I prythee Diomed visite me no more. *Ther.* Now she sharpens; well said Whetstone. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 44 P 3 He was only sharpening Darts for his own Destruction. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. xxxi. 8 When the cold moon sharpens her silver horn Under the sea. 1876 J. PARKER *Paraclete* I. xi. 169 When life is sharpened into a crisis, and the whole world seems to have become our assailant.

2. To make sharp or sharper (in various transferred and figurative senses of the adj.). **a.** To render more acute (a person's wits, sight, appetite, zeal, etc.); to intensify (hostile feeling).

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 173 Þen forto scharpen ȝoure beleue þe better, I telle ȝou þis example. *c* 1570 W. WAGER *The Longer thou livest* 1417 (Brandl) You shall neuer want a witty page, To sharpen your intelligence. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. i. 25 Epicurean Cookes, Sharpen with cloylesse sawce his Appetite. 1779 *Mirror* No. 59 The military genius is sharpened by exercise. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xix, My hearing..has been sharpened by my blindness. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* x. vi, He had never confided but he had been betrayed; he had never forgiven but to sharpen enmity. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Art* Wks. (Bohn) III. 21 A study of admirable works of art sharpens our perceptions of the beauty of Nature.

b. To give an acid flavour or quality to, to make (a liquid) sour or bitter.

1675 E. W[ILSON] *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 55 Spring-water, sharpened with Spirit of Sulphur. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 90 Drink very largely of Water sharpened with Spirit of Vitriol. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 203/1 s. v. *Soap,* Potash lyes are, however, principally sharpened or causticized by the soap boiler himself from potash carbonate.

c. To increase the severity of (a law, a punishment). Cf. G. *schärfen.*

1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxvi. 278 A Law was past for sharpening Laws against Papists. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. viii. 111 It was found necessary to sharpen and strengthen these laws. 1888 *Times* 6 Sept. 3/2 [Referring to Austria.] He will be lucky if he escapes with six months, 'sharpened' by one fast day a month.

†**d.** To embitter, exacerbate (persons, their temper). *Obs.*

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 381 He was much sharpened against Popery. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 5 (Calais) What is there in this world's goods which should sharpen our spirits. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 35 Their enemies will be more and more sharpened against them by frequent conflicts.

e. To render more painful, to aggravate (pain or suffering).

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 196 (Dwarf) An injury sharpened by an insult. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvi. 305 Her grief is..sharpened by the peculiar horror of the Hebrew women at a childless death.

f. To make (the features) sharp or thin.

1835 W. IRVING *Tour on Prairies* iii. 22 His features were ..not unlike those of Napoleon, but sharpened up, with high Indian cheek-bones. 1849 T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, My Lady in Death* xvi, Her beauty by degrees Sank, sharpened from disease.

†**3.** To render eager for attack; to goad *on. Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/2 To scharpyn, *instigare.* 1587 HUGHES, etc. *Misfort. Arthur* III. Chorus 27 The name of peace doth edge our mindes, And sharpeneth on our furie till we fight. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 555 Whereby..the spirits of people [were] sharpened for war.

4. *Mus.* To raise the pitch of a note sounded upon a musical instrument. In quot. 1824 *absol.*

1824 *Mirror* III. 105/2 Flattening and sharpening and rosining bows. 1881 *Nature* 18 Aug. 358/2 If two stopped organ-pipes are brought to unison, and then one of them is sharpened by gradually pushing in its stopper [etc.].

5. = ROUGH *v.*[1] 1 d, SHARP *v.* 5 d.

1897 *Leeds Mercury Suppl.* 15 May (E.D.D.), Hes ta getten t'horse sharpened this morning?

6. *Naut.* To brace sharp up.

1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* ix. 47 When the tack is well down, sharpen the yard up again by the brace.

†**7.** *intr.* **a.** To become sharp, to taper to a point; to grow thin. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Cone,* a Cone..or any figure, that is broad, and round below, and sharpens toward the top. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met., Acis, Pol. & Gal.* 48 A Promontory, sharp'ning by degrees, Ends in a Wedge. 1804 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* I. 504 The features of the dead are said to be clung when they sharpen and lose their roundness of contour. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* ix. 85 His face.. sharpened like the face of a sick man.

b. To light *up* with a gleam of intelligence.

1828 LYTTON *Pelham* II. xii, The blunt blue eyes of Mr. Gordon sharpened up in an instant.

c. Of faculties: To grow more acute.

1811 tr. *Zimmerman's Solitude* (ed. 8) I. ii. 55 The faculties sharpen; the mind becomes more clear [etc.].

d. To grow more shrill.

1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* IV. 327 A shout of promise,

sharpening into cries That seemed to plead despairingly with Death.

Sharpened (ʃɑ·ɪp'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHARPEN *v.* + -ED[1].] In senses of the verb.

1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xlv. (Grosart) 94 Your wanny face & sharpened nose Shew plaine, your mind some thing mislikes. 1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* II. 36 The sharpned Reed That with the fluxure of the waue is fed. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 195 By driving a sharpened Stick into every such Hill. 1730 *Treat. Harmony* 19 That would have no Sharpned or Flatned Notes. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXV. 121 He, on the earth who lay, meanwhile extends His sharpen'd visage. 1819 SHELLEY *Mask of Anarchy* lxxiv, Be your strong and simple words Keen to wound as sharpened swords. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xiii. 733 With..sharpened intellect, he returned to the great field of history. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 229 The face gets sharpened.

Sharpener (ʃɑ·ɪp'nəɪ). [f. SHARPEN *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or something which sharpens.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* viii. 58 They are the sharpners and..the Whetstones of Vertue. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvi. (1824) 289 That marvellous sharpener of the wits, a salt-water voyage. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 193 The water-bearers throw the guilt upon the sharpener of the axe and knife. 1867 MILL *Inaug. Addr. St. Andrews* 66 There never was any sharpener of the intellectual faculties superior to the Berkeleian controversy. 1876 GOODE *Classif. Collect. Anim. Resources U. S.* 27 Arrow-head sharpeners.

Sharpening (ʃɑ·ɪp'nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of making sharp.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Agũsement*, sharpening. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 195 The Hooks when they want sharpening cannot be ground as the Gouges and Chissels are. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 235 The asperities produced in the edge of the knife by sharpening. 1893 W. H. HUDSON *Idle Days in Patagonia* xi. 184 The sharpening of its sense of smell has dimmed the armadillo's eyes. 1900 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* 72 It is a continual sharpening of wits.

Comb. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 426/1 Some of these sharpening tools are rubbed upon the oil-stone. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xv, Sharpening-stones lying about.

Sharpening (ʃɑ·ɪp'nɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That sharpens; becoming or making sharp.

1834 WORDSW. *Redbreast* 1 Driven in by Autumn's sharpening air. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* XXXV, Two or three hours of the sharpening air would screw his human nature to the pitch.

Sharper[1] (ʃɑ·ɪpəɪ). [f. SHARP *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who or something which 'sharps' or sharpens.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 42 The Latine worde [sc. *fæniculum*: cf. It. *finocchio*] signifieth, that it should be sharper of the eiesight. 1611 FLORIO, *Aguzzatore*, a grinder..of any weapon. Also a sharper. *a* 1891 *Elect. Rev.* (Amer.) XV. vii. 10 (Cent.) Upright drills, milling machines, sharpers, etc.

2. A cheat, swindler, rogue; one who lives by his wits and by taking advantage of the simplicity of others; esp. a fraudulent gamester. Cf. SHARK *sb.*[2]

1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 99 Many of them sharpers about town. 1709 PRIOR *Cupid & Ganymede* 45 A Sharper, that with Box and Dice Draws in young Deities to Vice. 1742 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Montagu* 22 Mar. (1893) II. 102, I hear he [*sc.* her son] avoided coming near the sharpers, and is grown a good manager of his money. 1819 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) IV. ix. 301 The resort of black-legs and sharpers. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* iv. 72 [He] falls an easy prey to the sharper.

†**3.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 334 A bird, acquainted with the nets, is by the birdcatchers termed a sharper.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 2).

1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* xciv, With a hook nose and a hawk's eye, which gave A smart and sharper-looking sort of grace. 1842 MRS. GORE *Fascination* 22 Where is your master, pray?—Your sharper marquis.

Sharper[2]. *U.S.* [f. SHARP *a.* + -ER[1].] An oyster having the end of the shell unusually sharp.

1881 INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industr.* (Hist. Fish. Industr. U.S.) 248 *Sharpers*, elongated, protruding, sharp-ended oysters, dangerous to the feet in moving about the reefs (Gulf coast). 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U. S.* v. II. 548.

Sharpie (ʃɑ·ɪpi). *U.S.* [app. f. SHARP *a.*] = SHARP *sb.*[1] II. (See quots.)

1864 WEBSTER, *Sharpie*, a long, sharp, flat-bottomed sail-boat. (*Local U.S.*) 1876 GOODE *Classif. Collect. Anim. Resources U. S.* 43 Dorys, sharpies, and dingies. 1882 H. HALL *Rep. Ship-build. Industry U.S.* (1884) 22 A large fleet of small flat-bottomed fishing boats are employed, called 'sharpies', which have a family resemblance to the dory.

attrib. 1886 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Sept. 1/8 Orders for five sharpie yachts. 1895 *Outing* XXX. 488/1 A balance-lug sail,..subsequently replaced by a sharpie sail and jib.

Sharping (ʃɑ·ɪpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHARP *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SHARP.

1. = SHARPENING *vbl. sb.* in various senses.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xvii. 874 In olde tyme men vsed to sharpe this colour Minius wyth the blode of a certayne worme:..and for suche sharpyng that red was callyd Vermiculus. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 71/499 Þei..Þat hedden tonges of scharpynge And [?*read* As] sword Þat keruеþ Mayle. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 33 Late the case be taken for a new lerning, and to the sharping of goode corages. 1575 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 256 For horse showing, sharping of irons, and ale, xj[s]. 1662 PLAYFORD *Introd. Skill Mus.* I. ii. 9 The Flatting and Sharping of Notes. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* E 2 b, This sort [chirtt] will wear a new Steel'd Pick off, in three or four times Sharping.

b. *Comb.*: †**sharping-corn**, an annual grant of corn formerly made to a blacksmith in return for sharpening farm implements; **sharping-stone** *Sc.*, a whetstone.

1681 *Rec. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 89, 15 sheaves of shairping corne. 1714 LADY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 254, 2 sharping stones 3s. 1905 'H. HALIBURTON' *Excurs.* i. 9 The Bruce stood aimlessly with his sharping-stone in one hand.

2. The action of a sharper, swindling, roguery.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxiv. 33 Cheating and Sharping, one Half of the Year, and Starving, the Other. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* lviii, Sharping and other infamous practises. 1870 W. R. GREG *Polit. Probl.* 275 Shameless jobbery, cruel swindling and sharping.

Sharping (ʃɑ·ɪpɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHARP *v.* + -ING[2].] That acts as a sharper, fraudulent, swindling, cheating, knavish.

1692 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* Prol. 38 A sharping Sett. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Hedge-Tavern*,..a Jilting, Sharping Tavern. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 47 A sharping attorney. 1829 W. IRVING *Granada* I. xxvi. 237 All wandering minstrels, sharping pedlars,..and other camp trumpery..were drummed out of the gates of Alhama. 1880 W. HOOE (*title*) Sharping London,..a book for honest people.

Sharpish (ʃɑ·ɪpɪʃ), *a.* [f. SHARP *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat sharp.

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 39 Sowre and sharpish iuces. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 87 A water somewhat sharpish. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Service*, An acid or sharpish Liquor. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 208 The pontons, should be..sharpish fore and aft. 1880 R. B. WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XV. 118 A minute, sharpish spiral thread.

Sharpling (ʃɑ·ɪplɪŋ). Also 6 **shapling**. [f. SHARP *a.* + -LING[1].]

†**1.** ? A kind of nail. *Obs.*

1415 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 447 Sharplings. 1456 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 67, cc sharplynges. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 201 Item, for a quarter of sharpenge [*sic*; ? an error] for the rother, iiijd. 1526 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 100 Pro vij c. sharpling, 4s. 8d. 1538 *Ibid.* 109 Pro vj. m. shaplyng 4s.:..c shaplinges 8d.

2. *dial.* The Stickleback. Cf. SHAFTLING.

1558 *Gesner's Hist. Anim.* IV. 10 De Piscivlo Acvleato ..Anglicum eius nomen Scharplyng. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 341 A Stickleback, Banstickle, or Sharpling. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* I. xxx. 67 The Stickleback or Sharpling. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 76 The Rough-tailed Stickleback. Banstickle, Sharplin. *Scotland.*

Sharply (ʃɑ·ɪplɪ), *adv.* [f. SHARP *a.* + -LY[2].] In a sharp manner.

1. Severely, sternly, harshly. **a.** Of punishment, discipline, etc. Now *rare.*

c 900 *Bede Glosses* in *O. E. Texts* 181/47 *Acerbatim*, scearplice. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 67 In tokene þat he scharpliest schal ponysche hem þat don symonye. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 278 Yee heretikes.. I doute it nat, your wages shal be payed sharply, but yee correct your trespas. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 82 b, The body must be entreated sharpely, that it waxe not wanton and wylde. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* xxii. 6 And the remnant toke his seruantes, and intreated them sharpely. 1677 J. LEVERETT in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) July 134 [The Lord] was pleased to lay his hand so sharply upon me by fits of the stone in a time of great business.

b. Of speech, rebuke, command: Sternly, severely, harshly, peremptorily; in cutting terms; in stern or angry tones.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3450 When þou spekes sharppely til þe pure, þat sum gode askes at þi dore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 583 Whan a man is sharply amonested in his shrift to leve his sinne. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 269 Repreve scharply. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 971 The king wrote sharpely to him to accomplish y[t] which appertayned to his duety. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. iv. § 4. 61 Though he be sharply censured by Strabo. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxv, 'By Saint George, never!' answered the Duke, sharply and shortly. 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 169 'He hates the game', replies Miss Blessington, rather sharplier than is her wont.

2. With sharp or painful effect; keenly, smartly.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxix. (1883) 141 Se deofol..cwæð ..'stingað hine scearplice on þone muð'. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ii. 6 It was of iunkes of the see, þat ware whyte and prikked scharpely as thornes. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 930 Sa woundir scharply he schair, The berne that the brand bair. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. 2162, I wish thee store of gall, Sharpely to wound the guilty world withall. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6240/5 It froze..sharply. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xx, Her own well aimed, but feeble shaft, wounded him [the boar] sharply. 1851 GLADSTONE in Lathbury *Corr. Ch. & Relig.* (1910) I. 358 Such griefs..must be sacred to me, even did they not touch me sharply with a reflected sorrow. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. i, A fever..which attacked him that night pretty sharply. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ii, An arrow struck him sharply in the back.

3. †**a.** With intellectual acuteness; acutely, sagaciously, shrewdly. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 68 Ða þe meahton smealice & scearplice mid hiera ondgiete ryhtgesion. 1382 WYCLIF *Prol.* 58 Men mişten expoune..the bible in English, ..myche sharpliere and groundliere than manie late postillatouris. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 268 Mony allegiance leile, in leid nocht to layne it, Off Arestotill and ald men, scharplie thai schewe. 1621 S. WARD *Happiness of Practice* (1627) 10 His scope sure was not to make trial of the wits of men, who could sharpliest conceiue. 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 497 Who can deny now, but this is sharply observ'd?

b. Attentively, with penetration and keen observation; vigilantly, closely.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 309, & hawa swyðe scearplice hwær sy .xii. kl' aprelis. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiii. 6 Þe sharpliere þat þai thynke, þe mare þai faile fra sothfastnes. *c* 1420 *Wars Alex.* (prose) (E.E.T.S.) 40 Alexander..biheld þe Phisician in þe vesage riȝte scharpely.

Sharpness (ʃɑ·ɪpnės). [f. SHARP *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sharp.

1. Keenness or fineness of edge or point.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 117 *Acumen ferri*, ecg *uel* scearpnis. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 317 Þe scharpnes of þe schellis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Scharpnesse, of egge, *acucies*. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 293 b, The vnfaythfull armour yeelding to the swoordes strong-guided sharpenesse. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XX. 387 My lance as well as thine Hath point and sharpenesse. 1787 *Hist. Jack & Giants* 13 Taking with him the cap of knowledge, sword of sharpness [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. v, Herein has Sansculottism fashioned for itself a Sword of Sharpness. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Aug. 5/2 A bar of steel..of wonderful temper and sharpness.

2. a. Intellectual acuteness, shrewdness.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 99 Swæðeah for ðære sceawunge ðara ungesewenlicra þinga ðeah he upaðened wære on his modes scearpnesse. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. xx. (1495) 47 The euyll angellis haue thre maner of sharpenesse [orig. *Triplici acumine vigent demones*]. 1532 SIR B. TUKE *Chaucer's Wks.* Pref. A ij b, Suche sharpnesse or quycknesse in conclusyon. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 55 Nor let them want sharpnesse to discerne, nor courage to execute what should be done in such exigencies. 1814 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. Churches* IV. 486 Wickliff..possessed a sharpness of wit. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 547/1 An articled clerk of average sharpness may rely upon getting through with three months' coaching.

b. Acuteness of the senses or organs of sense.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 8 Ne heora scearpnesse nauht ȝebetað to þære sceawunga þære soðan ȝesælðe. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 105 So loath will they be, to bee thought inferiour to their fellowes..in.. sharpnesse of sight. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* § 80 Wks. 1871 I. 73 No exquisite formation of the eye, no peculiar sharpness of sight. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* ii, The hearing of those whose safety often depends upon the sharpness of their ears.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 32 Æneas..thee towne top sharplye beholding. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Dec., This Committee of Accounts will enquire sharply into our office. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 191 A salutary hint as to..the benefit of being tolerably sharply on the look out. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 144 Their business was to listen sharply.

4. Briskly, swiftly, quickly.

a 1000 *Voc.* in WR.-Wülcker 226/33 *Efficaciter*, i. *uelociter*, caflice, scearplice. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 244 To Wales he went his way fulle scharply, & fulle brim. *c* 1400 *Brut* (1906) 283 Þe Scottis..come fast and sharpely a3eynes evesong tyme. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 426 The Englishe men shot so closely and so sharpely together, that the Flemynges and footemen began to flie. 1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 121 They Ride pretty sharply. 1741 SHORT *Ibid.* XLI. 628 It went all over this Country from North to South, pretty sharply, but nothing near so quick as a Glade of Lightning. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xix, [He] drew in his head, and shut the window sharply against the guest. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 196 Geraint..Made sharply to the dwarf, and ask'd it of him. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/6 Prices soon recovered and advanced sharply in the afternoon.

b. Of conflict or attack: Eagerly, vigorously.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 724 Al so scharply þes men of mayn þan smyte to-gadre a3y. 1535 COVERDALE *Lam.* iii. 52 Myne enemies hunted me out sharpely like a byrde. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. § 82. 478/2 Solyman..sharply besieged and assaulted Vienna. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIV. xv. § 12 He pursued them sharply, and killed them.

c. Abruptly.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii, Some of them [*sc.* the blows] lighted upon Jezabel, who, turning sharply round, laid her rider upon the moor. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* i. 9 'Which, by the by, isn't his right name', remarks de Verney, sharply closing his speech.

5. With a sharp edge or point; at or with an acute angle.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1723 He took an arowe ful sharply whet. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 47 b, It is like that figure which the Geometricians call Pyramis, we may say sharpely topped. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 543 Leaves egg-shaped, streaked, sharply toothed. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvi. (1842) 424 It is to be bent, not sharply, but obtusely and roundly. 1860 L. REEVE *Elem. Conchol.* I. 149 Shell.., apex rather sharply acuminated.

6. With a sharp sound.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 29 Oon of þe goldene calues..lowede ful scharpliche. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxii, Deep need that day that every string By wet unharmed should sharply ring. 1825 — *Talism.* v, A shrill whistle.. was heard to ring sharply through the vaulted chapel.

7. Definitely, distinctly.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* II. 156 In no system is the distinction between the individual and God..more sharply drawn than in that of Spinoza. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 127 Sharply and well carved decoration. 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. x. 198 This election [Peel v. Inglis] divided men sharply throughout Oxford. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 123 The image having been sharply focussed.

8. Comb. With ppples., forming adjs., as *sharply-bitted, -chiselled, -defined, -discerning, -focussed*; †**sharply-conceived**, having a keen, ready wit.

1844 H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Horace* I. viii, Why now no more..Does he..with the *sharply bitted rein His Gallic courser's mouth restrain? 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens*, etc. 54 These bold, *sharply-chiselled, expressive faces. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 56 The Italian is more courteous..*Sharply conceived, of fresh memory. 1865 VISCT. MILTON & W. B. CHEADLE *N.-W. Passage by Land* viii. (1867) 116 The clear, *sharply-defined track of the active mink. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 601 A sharply-defined ulcer. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, A quick, choleric, *sharply discerning, stubbornly endeavouring man. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 265 A *sharply focussed representation of a distant object.

Sharpness (ʃɑ·ɪpnės). [f. SHARP *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sharp.

1. Keenness or fineness of edge or point.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 117 *Acumen ferri*, ecg *uel* scearpnis. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 317 Þe scharpnes of þe schellis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/1 Scharpnesse, of egge, *acucies*. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 293 b, The vnfaythfull armour yeelding to the swoordes strong-guided sharpenesse. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XX. 387 My lance as well as thine Hath point and sharpenesse. 1787 *Hist. Jack & Giants* 13 Taking with him the cap of knowledge, sword of sharpness [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. v, Herein has Sansculottism fashioned for itself a Sword of Sharpness. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Aug. 5/2 A bar of steel..of wonderful temper and sharpness.

2. a. Intellectual acuteness, shrewdness.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 99 Swæðeah for ðære sceawunge ðara ungesewenlicra þinga ðeah he upaðened wære on his modes scearpnesse. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. xx. (1495) 47 The euyll angellis haue thre maner of sharpenesse [orig. *Triplici acumine vigent demones*]. 1532 SIR B. TUKE *Chaucer's Wks.* Pref. A ij b, Suche sharpnesse or quycknesse in conclusyon. 1646 H. P. *Medit. Seige* 55 Nor let them want sharpnesse to discerne, nor courage to execute what should be done in such exigencies. 1814 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. Churches* IV. 486 Wickliff..possessed a sharpness of wit. 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 547/1 An articled clerk of average sharpness may rely upon getting through with three months' coaching.

b. Acuteness of the senses or organs of sense.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 8 Ne heora scearpnesse nauht ȝebetað to þære sceawunga þære soðan ȝesælðe. 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 105 So loath will they be, to bee thought inferiour to their fellowes..in.. sharpnesse of sight. 1709 BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* § 80 Wks. 1871 I. 73 No exquisite formation of the eye, no peculiar sharpness of sight. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* ii, The hearing of those whose safety often depends upon the sharpness of their ears.

c. Keenness (of observation).

1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xiii, The utmost sharpness of attention which Julian applied, could not discover if Bridgenorth spoke seriously or ironically to the above purpose.

3. Pungency to the taste; acidity, sourness, tartness.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 224/22 Pæs ecedes afre scearpnes. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* v. (1883) 35 Pæs sealtes scearpnesse. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 59 Emoroidez ar caused of scharpnes of blode and ouer mych hete brennyng þe blode. 1555 EDEN *Decades* II. (Arb.) 110 These apples.. haue a certeyne sweetnes myxt with a gentell sharpnes. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 155 The Sulphur.. infects the whole mass of liquor with Sharpness or Acidity. 1701 G. STANHOPE *Anselm's Medit.* xvii. (1720) 348 Make me sometimes taste the sharpness of thy Vinegar. 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND in Griswold *Prose Writers Amer.* (1847) 464 Her vinegar is..the *ne plus ultra* of sharpness.

4. Severity, harshness in punishment; censure, rebuke, etc.; asperity in behaviour.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* ii. 9 Þou schalt gouernen hem in Scharpnes. *c* 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 25 A certeyne bocheyr, Goderyke by name, A man of grete sharpnesse more than semyd hym. *a* 1558 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xv. (1585) 262 The sharpenesse of his correction. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iii. 38 Thou must not take my former sharpenesse ill. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* 1753 I. 75 Some did our follies with just sharpness blame. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* i, An eye of much sharpness and severity of expression. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* lxvii. II. 245 In spite of the sharpness of her tongue.

†b. Austerity, asceticism. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 187 Vele men makeþ to god sacrefices of uestinges, of peregrinages, of ssarpnesses of bodye. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 10 Þou louedyst no scharpenesse of penaunce. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 83 Penaunce..ys done in sorowe of harte and sharpenesse of body.

†c. Acrimony, exasperated condition. *Obs.*

1673 TEMPLE *United Prov.* v. 181 All the violence and sharpness, which accompanies the differences of Religion in other Countreys, seems to be appeased or softned here. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 217 He expressed a very Christian temper, without sharpness or resentment. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 601 Such was the sharpness of men's spirits on both sides.

†d. Severity (of weather), keenness, intensity (of heat, cold, etc.). *Obs.*

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 94 And yette yam constrayned ful sore to sofyr the scarpnes of colde. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 33 At whiche tyme ye sharpenes of winter exceadeth with them. 1662 *Gusman's Ephemeris* B, It will not be common this Month [January] to see Women go with naked shoulders by reason of the Sharpnesse of the Air. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4971/1 The badness of the Roads, and the sharpness of the Season, have hindered the march. 1778 COOK *3rd Voy.* IV. ix. (1784) II. 455 The sharpness of the air ..seemed to indicate some sudden change.

e. Severity, acuteness (of pain or sorrow); painfulness, hardship.

a 1400 *Prymer, Te Deum* (1895) 7 Whanne þou haddist ouercome þe scharpnesse of deeþ [L. *mortis aculeo*]. *c* 1410 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lx. (1484) i v, For sharpenes of the sodayn smerte The chylde gan wepe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de. W. 1531) 204 b, He suffred the sharpnes and smart of payne, ye suche as neuer was suffred. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* II. § 24. 166 What need is it to shew the sharpnesse of this famine by things that want life? 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4521/2 Our Loss has been very great, the Action having been so severe, and the sharpness of the whole having lain upon our Ship.

†5. Shrillness, high pitch (of voice). *Obs. rare*—1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), It is seide þat cause of scharpenes and of chaunging of voice is by chaungeing of age.

†6. Craving (of the stomach) for food. *Obs.*

1582 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 15 When we had eate somewhat to satisfie the sharpnesse of our stomackes. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 67 The sharpness of my Stomach shall never make me feed uncleanly.

†7. Steepness. *Obs. rare*—1.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. i. 1 The height and sharpnesse of the mount Rhodope. *Ibid.* IV. xxiii. 139 A mount of great highnesse and sharpnesse.

†8. Prickling sensation, smarting. *Obs.*

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 82/1 Inflammations, Pains, and Sharpness of the Eyes.

9. Distinctness of outline or impression.

1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 475 Three gold coins of Philip, which have all the sharpness of new money fresh from the mint. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 82 A picture whose sharpness and clearness is a maximum. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 444/2 That word which still retains the sharpness of its stamp and milling. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 20 This question of definition, or sharpness of image.

Sharp-nosed, *a.*

1. Having a pointed nose.

1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1053/4 A Pied Dog,..shap't like a Lurcher, sharp Nosed. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 64 The Sharp-nosed Ray. 1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Boreali-Amer.* I. 126 Sharp-nosed Meadow-Mouse. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, An important-looking sharp-nosed, mysterious-spoken personage. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 140 The Sharp-nosed Eel. *Anguilla vulgaris.*

†2. Having a keen 'scent'; *fig.* quick at fault-finding, captious. *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 19 Now let come foorth al these sharpnosed fault finders. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 891/1 That wee bee not sharpe nosed to striue against the doctrine of God.

Sharp-pointed, *a.*

1. Tapering or tapered to a point.

1530 PALSGR. 323/1 Sharpe poynted, *pointu.* 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. ii, The sharp-pointed nose of bitter-biting Eurus. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xi. 365 A sharp-pointed rod. 1890 S. L. GWYNNE *Musset's Comedies* 123 Dame Pluche, repulsing them on either side with her sharp-pointed elbows.

b. *Bot.* Acuminate, mucronate.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Mucronata folia*, sharpe poynted leaues. 1653 RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 54 All such herbs ..as have sharp-pointed leaves. 1828 SIR J. E. SMITH *Engl. Flora* II. 16 Leaves ovate, sharp-pointed. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 130 *Linaria Elatine* (Sharp-pointed Fluellin or Toad-flax).

2. Having a fine point adapted for purposes of piercing or stabbing.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 175 Loe heere I lend thee this sharpe-pointed Sword. *c* 1614 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Madrigals & Epigr., The Rose*, This sharpe pointed Thorne. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 189 A sharp pointed Stick. 1875 R. WILSON tr. *Figuier's Hum. Race, Brown Race* iii. 441 The oars are sharp-pointed, and can be used, in case of need, as weapons against an unforeseen attack.

fig. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 5/1 Certain sharp-pointed reports had reached her of where her husband's evenings were spent.

3. Having irregular sharp projections.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 315 The bottom..is full of sharp-pointed coral rocks. 1861 NOBLE *Icebergs* 148 Back slid the Candle, followed by a charge of sharp-pointed baggage.

Sharp practice.

1. Work that demands brisk activity. *rare.*

In some debating societies, applied to a debate intended for practice in readiness of speech, the rule being that each member must speak when called upon, on a subject proposed at the moment.

1847 J. PAGET in *Mem.* (1901) 157, I..see from 180 to 220 patients on each of my days—sharp practice for a beginner.

2. a. Hard bargaining; relentless pursuit of advantage. b. Now in more unfavourable sense: Dishonourable taking of advantage, trickery. (Cf. SHARP *a.* 3 e.)

1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. viii. 142 The sharp practice of the world drives some logic into the most vague of men: women are not so schooled. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 306 Their fondness for trickery and sharp practice.

Sharp-set, *a.* [f. SHARP *a.* (as compl.) + SET *ppl. a.*

See SET *ppl. a.* 75 b. The hawking use (1 b) may be the original: cf. *to set sharp*, SHARP *a.* 4 f (quot. 1575).]

1. Eager or keen for food, very hungry. Also said of the stomach.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. M ij, My mynd is al redy in the platters or dishes .i. I am sharpe set. 1586 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 19/2 in *Holinshed*, If anie were so sharpe set ..as to eat fried flies, butterd bees, stued snailes. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* clxxv. 146 A Fox that was Sharp-set, Surpriz'd a Crab,..and carry'd him away. 1725 LADY HERVEY in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 192 My stomach is so much sharper set than my wit, that I fancy it will be as well for us both to conclude. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. v, I asked..if there was any eating-house in the neighbourhood.., and went thither sharp set. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii. 17 'Are ye sharp-set?' he asked...'Ye can eat that drop parritch'.

b. Of a hawk, hound, etc.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 116 If shee bee very sharpe set and do plume eagerly. 1781 BECKFORD *Hunting* 48 Hounds, I think, should be sharp-set before hunting: they run the better for it. 1852 BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* iii. 31 Unfortunately..for the hawk..she had not been 'sharp set' that morning. 1883 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falconry Brit. Isles* Gloss. 152 *Sharp set*, very hungry.

2. *transf.* Keen, eager; having desire fixed *upon*, craving *after*.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 388 Euphues seeing such speedye retourne of an other aunswere, thought Philautus to be very sharp set. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xvi. (Sommer) 175 b, She being sharp-set vpon the fulfilling of a shrewde office, in ouer-looking Philoclea. 1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 222 Although the House be sharpe set upon finding out..things..yet neither are other publick matters neglected. 1711 CROMWELL *Let. to Pope* 7 Dec., The town is sharp-set on new plays. 1860 *Times* 5 Oct., The public comes back from glacier and moor and breezy sea-coast perfectly sharpset for more oratory. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* 54, I did not feel particularly sharp set on elephants at the moment.

†b. Having a craving for sexual indulgence.

1597–1626 DELONEY *Jack of Newbery* Wks. (1912) 14 Sir (said shee) because you are so sharpe set, I would wish you as soon as you can to wed. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* v. iv. 1691 *Comedy, Win Her & Take Her* I. iii. 8. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* III. ix. 1794 *Har'st Rig* liv, Some lown as sharp set as a knife Wi' her they fand.

†c. Eager to attack. Const. *on. Obs. rare*—1.

a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 98 The Pharisees..who were too sharpe set on his Disciples, for not Fasting with them, at that present time.

†3. Set with sharp thorns. (Cf. *quick-set.*) *Obs.*

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* A 5, Within the sharp-set thickets.

4. Of eyes: ? Having a set eager look.

1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 34 Do you know that lord With sharp-set eyes?

Hence **Sharpse·tness.** *rare.*

1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 261 Lest this race [*sc.* capons] be totally extinguish'd by the sharpsetness of the Presbyterians.

Sharpshin (ʃɑ·rpʃin). *U.S.* [Prob. a back-formation from *sharp-shinned* (*hawk*); ? in jocular allusion to the eagle on the coin.] App. orig. a name for some coin of very small value; later, used as a type of what has little value.

1804 *Lancaster* (Pa.) *Jrnl.* 14 July (R. H. Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), Three Sharpshins Reward [offered for a runaway apprentice]. 1832 J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* x. (1872) 93 This inconsiderable claim—for it is not of the value of a sharpshin. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxx, Four sharp shins to a pictareen. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 631 *Sharpshin*, a slang term, denoting the smallest quantity.

†**Sha·rpship.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 3 **scharpschipe.** [f. SHARP *a.* + -SHIP.] Hardship, rigour.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 380 Þet te best of helle, hwon he snakereð toward ou uorto biten on ou, hurte him oðe herdschipe [*MSS. T. C.* scharpschipe], & schunche aȝeinwardes.

Sharpshooter (ʃɑ·rpˌʃūtəɹ). [f. SHARP *a.* + SHOOTER. (So G. *schärfschütze*(*, scharfer schütze.*)] A marksman of accurate aim; *spec.* in naval and military use, a member of a division engaged in skirmishing and outpost work.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Tirolians*, a body of sharp shooters in the Austrian service. 1803 SCOTT *Let.* 27 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 389 Armies of Reserve, and Militia, and Pikemen, and Sharpshooters, who are to descend from Ettrick Forest to the confusion of all invaders. 1805 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 224 Lord Nelson was wounded by a French Sharpshooter. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) IV. 331 On the 11th the enemy tried their usual manœuvres with their sharpshooters in the woods. 1897 *Century Mag.* Jan. 352 [He] had been struck by a sharp-shooter and killed.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 695 Hundreds of black-letter sharp-shooters spring up. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. p. x, A fusillade of questions from a class of sharp-shooters.

Hence **Sha·rpshooting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 311 The system of sharp-shooting practised by the enemy. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* vi, Mrs. S. attacked the punch with some sharp-shooting, and fierce charges of vulgarity. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xliv, After some little sharp-shooting on both sides, Mr. Pecksniff became grave. 1863 in *Advance* (Chicago) (1892) 28 Jan., On Tuesday he..kept his men busy sharp-shooting across the river. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxii, I am too old a campaigner to take much harm by woman's sharpshooting, at fifteen score yards off. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 215/1 He was out sharp-shooting in the Crimea. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 3/2 Artillery would be put out of action by sharp-shooting riflemen.

†**Sharp-shot.** *Obs.* [f. SHARP *a.* + SHOT *sb.* (in the sense of shooting). (So G. *scharfschuss.*)] Firing with shot (as opposed to blank cartridge).

1725 *Wodrow's Corr.* (1843) III. 217 Captain Bushel, unprovoked, and without reading the proclamation,..shot sharp-shot, without the least care, to disgrace a poor contemptible mob. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. ix, The Torch Procession is met with sharp shot.

Sharpsighted (ʃɑ·rpˌsəi·tĕd), *a.* [f. SHARP *a.* + SIGHTED *a.*]

1. Having acute or quick sight.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* Ep. Ded. 2 Though he were otherwise as sharpsighted as Argus. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* (1904) 156 Sharp-sighted as the Eagles eye. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1859) II. 445 He often trembled lest some future explorer of manuscripts might be found as sharpsighted as himself. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* v. 62 So sharpsighted and timid are these birds. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* xiv. 209 The Welshman is by no means sharp-sighted when his cattle are enjoying themselves in a neighbour's field.

2. *fig.* Having acuteness of mental vision.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* ix. 49 Because we be not sharpesighted ynough to spie out the thinges that God perceiueth. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* i. (1841) I. 6 For want of this knowledge, he is liable to be imposed upon..by the sharp-sighted World. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. xiv. (1878) 82 [She] was sharpsighted and clear-witted.

Hence **Sharpsi·ghtedness.**

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxiv. 28. 553 Eagles the Saints are called,..for their sharp-sightednesse. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxvii, She had never felt so satisfied with her own sharp-sightedness as she did that day.

Sharp-witted (ʃɑ·rpˌwitĕd), *a.* [f. SHARP *a.* + WIT *sb.* + -ED 2.] Sagacious, intelligent.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xii. (1912) 81 O Lord (saide Musidorus) how sharp-witted you are to hurt your selfe? 1623 COCKERAM II, Sharp witted. *Acute, sagax.* 1756 C. SMART tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iii. (1826) II. 27 To bear the sharp-witted sneers of these men. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 538 It was beyond the power of the great King to prevent his..sharpwitted courtiers from whispering to each other. 1854 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* Ser. I. (1872) 45 The sharp-witted provincial of Greece or Asia Minor.

Hence **Sharpwi·ttedness.**

1647 HEXHAM I, Sharpwittednesse, *Vernuftigheyt, scherpsinnigheyt.* 1858–61 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* vi. (1870) 194 The sharp-wittedness of the knave.

Sharrag, -ig, -og, dial. forms of SHEAR-HOG.

S'hart (= God's heart!): see HEART *sb.* 53.

Shartfort, variant of SHORTFORD *Obs.*

Sharute, obs. form of CHEROOT.

Shas, shash, obs. ff. SASH *sb.*1 and *sb.*2

Shashoon, -une, shasoon, obs. ff. SASHOON.

Shass(e, obs. forms of SASH *sb.*1

Shaster (ʃæ·stəɹ), ‖**Shastra** (ʃɑ·strə). Forms: 7 **shastram,** -um, 7–9 **shaster,** 8 **shahstah,** 8–9 **shastah,** 9 **sastra, shastra, shastru.** [a. Hindī *çāstr*, Skr. *çāstra* (nom. sing. *çāstram*).] Any one of the sacred writings of the Hindus.

1630 LORD *Banians* 40 This Booke by them called the Shaster. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 275 The *Shastram* being to them what the Bible is to Christians. 1763 SCRAFTON *Indostan* (1770) 4 A comment thereon [i.e. on the Vedas], called the Shahstah. 1838 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 198 They know that the Bible is our Shaster, and suppose it to be as good for *us*, as their own Shasters are for *them*. 1872 SHERRING *Hindu Tribes* I. 3 The Brahman ..possesses..the holy canon—Vedas, Shástras, and Puránas. 1887 W. J. WILKINS *Mod. Hinduism* 127 The position of the Brāhman as taught by the Sāstras.

‖ **Shastri** (ʃäˑstrī). Also 7 **shastre**, 9 **shastree**. [Hindī *çāstrī*, Skr. *çāstrin*, nom. sing. *çāstrī*, f. *çāstra* SHASTER.] One who is learned in, or teaches, the shasters.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* Suppl. xiv. (1892) 662 As they who have conversed with Shastres and Turbants doe well know. 1826 J. G. DUFF *Hist. Mahrattas* I. 23 *note*, Bramins learned in the Shasters have the title of Shastree. 1855 H. H. WILSON *Gloss. Judic.* etc. *Terms India* 470 *Sástrí*, vulgarly *Shastree*.

Shastyse, obs. form of CHASTISE.

† **Shat** [1]. *Obs.* [Ir. *séad*, lit. jewel.] Used as a term of endearment in addressing an Irish person.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. i, Come hither shat, are you an Irish mon?

† **Shat** [2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. Mentioned as a colloq. or slang term for a tattler.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 71 ¶ 7 Bambouzling is exploded; a Shat is a Tatler.

Shate, obs. pa. t. of SHOOT.

Shathmont, *Sc.* variant of SHAFTMENT [1].

Shattaradan: see SHANDRYDAN.

Shatter (ʃæˑtəɹ), *sb.* [f. SHATTER *v.*]

1. *pl.* Fragments into which a thing is broken, rent, or torn. Chiefly in phrases (*to break*, etc.) *into* or *to shatters*, (*to be*) *in shatters*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1640 FENNER *Serm.* xvii. Wks. (1657) 225 If ever the heart come to be sensible of its blow, it will break all to shatters. 1692 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 35 His..Gown.. hangs about his Legs in shatters. 1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 38 A sea which dashed the ship to shatters against the rock. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 19 Nov., For the Ministry, it is all in shatters. *a* 1814 *Last Act* II. v. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 398, I..run my chaise so effectually against theirs, that smash both went all to shatters. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 93 The proudest triumph art conceives..Grey-bearded time in shatters leaves. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.*, *Shatters*, sherds of pottery, etc.

2. A shattered state of nerves. *rare.*

1777 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 166 You can have no idea what a shatter every new comer gave me. 1849 CARLYLE in *Century Mag.* (1882) May 23/2 If the nerves are to be continually in a shatter with want of sleep.

† **3.** 'Shattery' or friable stone. *dial. Obs.*

1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 123 [Strata] 2. Stiff Clay almost four Foot. 3. Shatter, as they there call it, that is a shattering Stone, two Foot.

4. Something scattered or shed; a crop (of hops); a shower (of rain). *dial.* Cf. SCATTER *sb.* 2.

1875 PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, There's a tidy shatter of hops this year. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, We've had quite a nice little shatter of rain.

Shatter (ʃæˑtəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4–5 **schater**, **-ir**, 6 **shater**, **shattar**, 6– **shatter**. [Of obscure origin: see SCATTER *v.*]

1. *trans.* To scatter, disperse, throw about in all directions; to cause (seed, leaves, etc.) to fall or be shed. Also with *out*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 553 (Kölbing) Ac þo þai come hider eft, Her werk was al vp aleft & yschatred here & þere. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 81 3e schal mak counseil and it schal be schaterid [Vulg. *Isa.* viii. 10 *dissipabitur*]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 32 Least the whot weather shatter the seedes. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 5, I com to pluck your Berries harsh and crude, And with forc'd fingers rude Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 131 The skin cleaves and at length falls off..and leaves the seed Case to ripen, and by degrees, to shatter out its seed at a place underneath this cap. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* ii. 13 If the young Cions be..a little sheltered..by shattering a little Straw, Brake, or Hawm lightly over them. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 329 They sow almost all Manner of Grain, but Oats and Lentils; but these are..apt to be shatter'd before Harvest. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rur. Life* (1848) 178 Nanny..tore the bag wher she'd a-put Her share, an' shatter'd ev'ry nut. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.* Add. 201.

absol. 1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* D iiij, You haue lost your iugling stick, your conueighance is such, that you shatter, and carrie not halfe so cleane as your freends would haue you.

2. To break in pieces by a sudden blow or concussion; to dash into fragments, disrupt into parts.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiii. 734 Here helmes he to-Clef A-two, Here Scheldis he Alto-schatered Also. 1564 STOW *Mem.* in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 130 Yᵉ backar partes of yᵉ same howsys wer all to blewne and shattard in pecis. 1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* II. 49 The slates fall shatt'red from the roofe aboue. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 799 Till all thy magick structures rear'd so high Were shatter'd into heaps o're thy false head. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxii. 166 Those light and subtle Fumes..into which the Fire it self shatters dry Bodies. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 124 The bottles twain behind his back Were shatter'd at a blow. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 228 In this experiment the glasses are often shattered to pieces. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 89 A thin glass vessel may easily be shattered by sucking the air from its interior. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 946/2 The light.., striking against a series of..prisms, fell shattered and scintillating into a thousand..beams.

b. To damage ruinously (a structure, a living organism, a fighting force, etc.) by battery or violent concussion; to damage or destroy by fracture of the parts.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxxix. (1516) 104/1 He repayred Cyties, townes & Castelles that by the sayd Danys were shatered and broken. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 95 He rais'd a sigh, so pittious and profound, That it did seeme to shatter all his bulke. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Feb. 1662, I return'd home to repaire my house, miserably shatter'd by the late tempest. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* v. 37 The General had already one Arm broken, and his Knee shatter'd with a Musket-shot. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 167 These Spanish ships..had been greatly shattered by a storm. 1854 TENNYSON *Charge Light Brigade* iv, Cossack and Russian Reel'd from the sabre-stroke Shatter'd and sunder'd. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* viii. 329 His face was shattered with shot about the upper jaw, nose, and eyes.

c. *fig.*, or with immaterial object. Also, to damage or destroy the fortunes of (a person or body of persons).

1683–4 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* (Job xxiii. 15) (1707) 343 No consideration in the World doth so break in pieces and confound and shatter the Spirit of a Man. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. xi. § 147 (1698) 143 When any Monarchy was shatter'd to pieces, and divided amongst revolted Subjects. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Considerations* Wks. (Bohn) II. 417 The war or revolution..that shatters a rotten system. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 1. 457 The truth against which ecclesiastical dogmatism..must always shatter itself. 1906 PINCHES *Relig. Babyl. & Assyria* iii. 37 An irresistible weapon, which should shatter all his enemies.

d. To wreck (a person's constitution, nerves, etc.) by sickness, hardship, or the like. Also, to wreck the health, strength, or spirits of (a person).

1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 14 Dec., Everything shatters her dear feeble frame. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 212 Her constitution, shattered by the frequent attacks it endured, could not long hold out. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lxi, Shattered in mind, and perilously sick in body. 1887 *Pall Mall Budget* 21 Apr. 2/2 Continual riding to and fro in the steppes will in time shatter the wiriest constitution.

e. To cause (earth) to crumble. ? *dial.*

1891 MALDEN *Tillage* 58 This land must be stirred in frosts as much as possible; if it once gets baked into a harsh condition, it will have to be allowed to get thoroughly dry, when a rain will 'shatter' it.

3. *intr.* To become scattered or dispersed; to be shed or strewn about. Of grain, etc.: To drop out of the husk from over-ripeness. Of a flower: To drop its petals. Also with *out*.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 36 b, All Pulse..are speedily to be geathered when they be ripe, for they suddaynely shatter. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 150 To gather them [*sc.* hops] before they shatter. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xv. 202 The first Crop they let stand till some of the Seed shatter'd. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., Those oats are beginning to shatter out. *Kent.*

4. To become broken suddenly or violently into fragments or separate parts; to fly in pieces or asunder. Also with *up*.

1567, 1578 [see SHATTERING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 841 Some Fragile Bodies breake but where the Force is; Some shatter and fly in many Peeces. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 108 A very hard, irregular, lumpish Stone, that does not hew well, but shatters with the Tool. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 149 To hear that chorus, as it pours round the fir-stems, rings against the roof above, shatters up into a hundred echoes. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xvi, Promises, which shatter like crystal under the hammer of the first temptation. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* iv, Wake: the vaulted shadow shatters.

b. Of a body of men: To suffer disruption.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. v. § 2 (1622) 31 Religion [is] the foundation of euery Citie, both gathering men, and holding them vnanimously together; who else would quickly shatter cleane asunder. 1687 tr. *Sallust, Jug.* (1692) 132 His Army, compos'd of several Nations, having lost their Leader, ..shatter'd into several Parties.

c. Of earth: To fall or crumble in pieces. Also with *down*. ? *dial.* (Cf. 2 e.)

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 234 It being a black, fat Mould,..will by the Frosts, Rains, and Winds,.. shatter, crumble, and become hollow. 1891 MALDEN *Tillage* 49 Any pens which have been extra trodden in wet weather should be picked out, and ploughed while frosted, so that they may 'shatter' down on thawing. *Ibid.* Gloss. s. v., Clods shatter into flakes or meal-like particles, when they fall to pieces from the effect of the weather.

5. To dash or strike noisily against some hard object; to produce sharp sudden sounds by shaking or concussion; to clatter, rattle. *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2083 Brokez byled, & breke, bi bonkkez aboute, Schyre schaterande on schorez, þer þay doun schowued. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 90 Thus they hyw on helmes hye, And schatered on wyþ scheldes. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 238/1 The casements shatter, tatter and clatter. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 196 Windows stood shattering with the Wind in empty Houses, for want of People to shut them. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Shatter*, to rattle as the windows of a carriage. *Caithness.* 1912 M. HEWLETT in *Eng. Rev.* Apr. 12 Slantwise comes the rain And shatters at the window-pane To wake the hind.

† **b.** Of the teeth: To chatter. *Obs.*

1682 CREECH *Lucretius* v. 162 His Teeth all shatter, Limbs all shake with Cold. 1782 [T. VAUGHAN] *Fashionable Follies* I. lxiv. 109 His teeth shattered, his hair stood upright on his head.

c. Of birds: To chirp, chatter. *dial. rare.*

17.. *Bonnie Nancy* i. in Maidment *Ballads* (1844) 13 Nancy's to the Greenwood gain To hear the gowdspink shattering.

6. *trans.* and *intr.* To shake, wave, move to and fro. *rare.*

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Wether* 513 (Brandl) The wynde is so weyke it..skantely can shatter the shyttyn sayle That hangeth shatterynge at a womans tayle. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i. (1656) 61 Ist possible these gowty legs danc't lately, And shattered in a Galliard?

7. *Comb.*: **shatter-pate**, **-wit** = SHATTER-BRAIN; **shatter-pated**, **-witted** *adjs.* = SHATTER-BRAINED. (In Dicts.)

1775 ASH, **Shatterpate*, a shatterbrain. 1727 *Shatter-pated [see SHATTER-BRAINED]. 1901 *Scotsman* 17 Nov. 9/2 The shatter-pated pulpiteers. 1775 ASH, **Shatterwit*, a shatterbrain, an inattentive young fellow, a giddy girl. *Ibid.*, **Shatterwitted*, inattentive, careless, giddy.

Sha·tter-brain. [See SHATTER *v.* 7. Cf. SCATTER-BRAIN.] A person of 'cracked' brain or wandering wits; a giddy, thoughtless person.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 327 Sharks, Shagrags, Shatterbrains. 1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 448 A petit-maitre,.. or a shatter-brain of any kind. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1883) I. 459 However, she has undoubtedly a mother's love for this poor shatterbrain.

attrib. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* 11 A shatter-brain boy who did not know a violet from a nettle. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Introd. p. cxii, A sort of shatterbrain commingling of right and wrong in his intellect.

So **Sha·tter-brained** *a.*, crazy, light-witted; giddy, thoughtless. (Cf. SCATTER-BRAINED.)

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Shatter-brain'd*, *Shatter-pated*, scarce *Compos Mentis*, crazy-headed, hare-brain'd, confused, acting without Thought, &c. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* I. (1754) 7 St. Ignatius Loyola, that errant shatter-brain'd visionary Fanatic. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 483 The old, shatterbrained hag who is endeavouring to frighten and murder the people of England. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxv, This shatter-brained peer was, in other respects, a handsome, accomplished man.

Shattered (ʃæˑtəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHATTER *v.* + -ED.] In the senses of the verb.

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lxv, His shatter'd Sails with Rigging to restore. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. x. 101 You must make way to these wounds by removing the shattered flesh. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 71 To recruit his shatter'd Cavalry. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IX. xi, Her shattered nerves could not bear the interview. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1866) 182 The languor of shattered health. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 283 Paul returned from this journey a shattered man.

† **b.** Scattered, not concentrated. *Obs.*

1687 NORRIS *Misc.*, *Of Seriousness* 171 A man of a loose, volatile and shatter'd humour.

Sha·tterer. *rare.* [-ER [1].] One who shatters. With the quot. cf. De Quincey *Coleridge* Wks. 1863 II. 58 He was called, by one who weighed him well [*sc.* by M. Mendelssohn], the *alles-zermalmender*, the world-shattering Kant.

1867 J. H. STIRLING in *Fortn. Rev.* Oct. 381 The *Alles-zermalmender*, the shatterer of the world [*i. e.* Kant].

† **Shatter-headed**, *a. Obs. rare.* = SHATTER-BRAINED. (Cf. SCATTER-HEADED.)

c 1686 in *Brasenose Coll. Quatern. Monogr.* (O.H.S.) II. I. xii. 23 A shatter-headed Fellow of Brasen-nose College. 1713 C'TESS WINCHILSEA *Misc. Poems* 226 Prithee, shatter-headed Fop.

Shattering (ʃæˑtəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].] The action of the verb SHATTER; an instance of this. Also *concr.*, a shattered piece or fragment.

1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* II. xxviii. 191 The bone was not black, all kept together, no shatterings nor splinters in it. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 100 The violence of the storms, the shattering of our sails and rigging. 1863 *Reader* 31 Oct. 512 Mr. Coxwell's balloon was made by himself.., and he has repaired all the shatterings it has received in the cause of science. 1886 *Athenæum* 6 Feb. 197/1 The sudden shattering of his belief in a miraculous apparition.

Sha·ttering, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That shatters.

1. That is broken up suddenly or forcibly; falling in pieces or asunder.

1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* (1890) III. 431 The foundation ..planted in shattring Soyle. 1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery, Sonnet agst. Detraction* iv. D iv, In weltring waues my ship is tost, My shattering sayles away bee shorne.

2. Ruinously destructive; that breaks or destroys by a sudden blow or concussion. Also *fig.*

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.*, *Trifles* 27, I shield from shatteryng showers the house. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. ix. 65 Till one, or both, Dash'd down the shattering precipice, should feed The mountain eagle! 1847 DE QUINCEY *Joan of Arc* Wks. III. 235 Her answer to this was as shattering as it was rapid. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* VI. v. II. 343 Mr. Gladstone's description of a marvellous and shattering hour.

b. Of sound: rending the air, ear-splitting.

1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 5 The shattering trumpet shrilleth high.

Hence **Sha·tteringly** *adv.*

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* xi. 49 True he..But raised the hopes of men—as eaglets fly With tortoises aloft into the sky—To dash them down again more shatteringly!

Shatterment (ʃæˑtəɹmĕnt). *rare.* [-MENT.] The act of shattering, the result of being shattered.

1841 CARLYLE in T. W. Reid *Life Ld. Houghton* (1890) I. 256 It is above all a new kind of shatterment that I suffer.

Shattery (ʃæˑtəɹi), *a.* [f. SHATTER *v.* + -Y.]

1. Of rock, stone or soil: Apt to break in pieces or crumble, friable.

1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* 7 A brittle Shattery sort of Spar. 1813 BOYS *Agric. Kent* 65 In loose shattery soils. 1884 *Nature* 13 Nov. 34/2 The thin band of shattery quartzite.

2. Of furniture, etc.: Loose, rickety. *dial.*

1844 TUPPER *Crock of Gold* ii. 12 Each room has its shattery casement. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 221 The chairs are very shattery.

3. Shatter-brained, giddy. *dial.*

1820 WILBRAHAM *Cheshire Gloss.*

Hence **Sha·tteryness.**

1851–9 MALLET in *Man. Sci. Eng.* 360 The degree of shatteryness or compactness of the rock formations.

Shatterydan: see SHANDRYDAN.

Shattow, obs. form of CHATEAU.

1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Adv.* 186 Then General Webb took two Regiments..and marched them along in order to beat the French out of a Shattow.

Shattuck, obs. form of SHADDOCK.

Shau, obs. form of SHAW, SHOW.

Shauchle (ʃɔ̄·χ'l), *v. Sc.* Also 8 **shochel**, 9 **shochle, shachle**, (**shackle**), **shaughle**. See also SHAFFLE *v.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SHAIL *v.*

The Eng. dial. words *shuckle* (Kent) to shuffle along, or slink along in walking, *shockle* to shuffle, to shake, joggle (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), and the G. *schaukel* a swing, *schaukeln* (= MDu. *schockelen*) to swing, rock, in spite of their similarity in form and meaning, appear to be unconnected with this word; they app. belong to the root of SHOCK *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shuffle the feet.

1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 142 Had you such a Shoe on every Foot, you would shochel. *c* 1820 HOGG *Sheph. Wedding* i. Tales & Sk. (1837) II. 152 Off comes Geordie, shaughle shaughlin' wi' a' his pith. *a* 1895 R. MCL. CALDER in *Berwicksh. Bard* (1897) 221 Hoo often we'd..shauchle alang without object or aim.

2. *trans.* To put out of shape, distort; to shuffle out (shoes).

1805 JAMIESON, To *Shachle*, to use any thing so as to distort it from its proper shape or direction, S. *He has shachlit aw his schoon*, he has put his shoes quite out of shape [by shuffling]. 1875 G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* I. xiv. 169 'A' heelan' fowk's some kittle aboot their legs'. 'Deil shochle them!' exclaimed the Partaness; 'what care I for 's legs!'

Shauchled (ʃɔ̄·χ'ld), *a. Sc.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Twisted out of shape. (Said chiefly of shoes or the feet.)

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1797) 100 Ye shape shoon by your ain shachled feet. 1795 BURNS *Braw Wooer* vii, I spier'd for my cousin..And how her new shoon fit her auld shachl't feet. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxviii, Bucklaw was welcome to the wearing of Ravenswood's shaughled shoes. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin* xi, Richt soon We'se find wha's glinked our scogie-lass, And gar him fill his shackled shoon.

Shauchling (ʃɔ̄·χlin), *ppl. a. Sc.* [f. SHAUCHLE *v.* + ING 2.] Shuffling in gait; infirm, unsteady; *fig.* shuffling, prevaricating, unreliable.

1755 RAMSAY *To Jas. Clerk* 64 Debts I abhor, and plan to be Frae shochling trade and danger free. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 186 Chiels that would..look prouder, when taking their forenoon's airing alang Princes Street, on a bit schachlin ewe-necked powney..than Saladin. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *Weir of Hermiston* iii. (1896) 74 And I would send no man to be a servant to the King..that has proved such a shauchling son to his own faither.

Shauchly (ʃɔ̄·χli), *a. Sc.* Also **-ley**. [f. SHAUCHLE *v.* + -Y.] Infirm, rickety, shaky. Of a person: Unsteady in gait. (Cf. SHACKLY *a.*)

1830 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 70, I think I see him..wi' that wee shauchly body the Marquis o' Winchester, and that great big muckle John Bull, Sir William Curtis. 1896 D. S. MELDRUM *Grey Mantle* 272 Hey! for another ride in a shauchly gig, down the pitch-black roads!

Hence **Shau·chliness**, unsteadiness.

1887 WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* xxi. 162 They had a limp shauchleyness aboot their legs that suggestit [etc.].

Shaugh: see SHAHI, SHAW, SHEUGH, SHOCH.

Shaugh, shauh: see SHAH.

Shaul (ʃɔ̄l). *dial.* Forms: 6 **shawlde, showle**, 7–8 **shawlé**, 9 **shaul**. [Perh. subst. use of *shalde*, obs. var. of SHOAL *a.*, shallow.]

1. A wooden scoop used for winnowing corn.

1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 16/2 A trey or shawlde to wynowe or wymble corne with, *ventilabrum, pala.* 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 A *Shawle*: a shovel to winnow withall, *Suss.* 1766 *Complete Farmer, Shawle*, a shovel used in winnowing corn. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept. (Advt.), Variety of tools, bushel, shaul, shovel [etc.]. 1908 *Essex Rev.* XVII. 23 The flail has been displaced by a steam threshing-machine, the barn-fan and the shaul by a winnowing-machine.

2. A wooden tub with sloping sides used for kneading bread or for washing.

1600 in W. F. Shaw *Memorials of Eastry* (1870) 226 Ite. in the buntting house one Bunting hutch, Two kneding showles. 1887 *Kentish Gloss., Shaul, Showle*, a wooden tub with sloping sides.

Shaul(d, Shauling: see SHOAL, SHOALING.

Shaulm(e, obs. forms of SHAWM.

Shault, obs. variant of SHOLT, cur.

Shault, variant of SHALT *Sc. dial.* (pony).

Shaume, -melle: see SHAWM, SHAMBLE *sb.*1

Shauneen, variant of SHONEEN.

Shauntee, obs. form of SHANTY *a.* (JAUNTY *a.*).

Shaup, shawp (ʃɔ̄p). *Sc.* [Prob. cogn. w. ON. *skálp-r* scabbard, Du. *schelp, schulp* shell.]

1. A pea-pod; a case, wrapper.

1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. xxv. 228 But naebody can tell what's in the shawp till it's shelt. 1850 J. STRUTHERS *Poet. Wks.* I. Autobiog. 101 Whether it was sold to be read..[or] cut..into squares to be shaups for sweeties, he knoweth not.

2. *fig.* An empty person.

1728 RAMSAY *Archers diverting themselves* 78 Proud shaups, dull coofs, and gabbling gowks.

Shauwe, obs. form of SHOW *v.*

† Shavaldour. *Obs.* Also **shavaldwre, schaveldore,-dowr(e, schawa(l)dour,-atour, schalldour.** [Of obscure origin; the form is app. AF. In the *Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland* III. 127 the word is quoted as *schavaldurs* from a document of 1319.] A gentleman brigand of the Scottish border; a border-rider.

The word occurs, chiefly in Latinized forms, in 14th c. chronicles as the appellation of certain marauders in the bishopric of Durham in the reign of Edw. II, some of whom were hanged for plundering two cardinals on their way to Scotland in 1317. Probably on account of the notoriety of this incident, the word seems to have obtained some currency in England in the 15th c.

[*c* 1330 TROKELOWE *Annales* an. 1317 (Rolls) 99 Quidam fatui de Northumbria, qui dicebantur 'Savaldores'. *c* 1335 R. DE GRAYSTANES *Hist. Dunelm.* xxxv. (Surtees) 94 (Bp. Rich. Kellowe, 1310–1316) Schavaldos insurgentes in episcopatu fortiter compescuit...Quidam..qui portabat robas Episcopi..occidit quendam schavaldum vel prædonem, Johannem de Wandel nomine, sed Regi familiarem. *a* 1347 MURIMUTH *Contin. Chron.* an. 1317 (Rolls) 27 Et per suos schaveldarios marchiae inter Angliam et Scociam nec voluit R. le Bruys permittere quod ipsi cardinales regnum Scociae intrarent. *c* 1366 KNIGHTON *Chron.* an. 1318 (Rolls) I. 413 Cumque in partes Scotiæ [cardinales] venissent, insultavit eos dominus Gilbertus de Mydelton miles cum aliis elegantibus shavaldres, et eos..spoliaverunt. *a* 1369 SIR T. GRAY *Scalacronica* (Maitland Club) 147 Les maufesurs estoint appellez schaualdours.]

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 205 A knycht..Said it wes to gret perell, So neir the schavaldwris to ga. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 210 To ȝeue costly clopis & manye to riche men & mynstralis or shaualdours for worldly name. *Ibid.* 249 Ydel schaueldowris. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 675 Shamefull shakerles, soleyn shaueldores, Oppressours of pepyll. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxvi. 4363 [He] gat til hym a company, þat as schawadouris [*v. rr.* schawaldouris, schawatouris] war walkande In til þe wail of Anande. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schaveldowre, *discursor, vacabundus*. *c* 1440–50 *Brit. Mus. Addit. MS.* 6716 lf. 23 Revera generosi inter nos dicuntur tales Schalldours Ryflours. Tales enim frangunt thalamos magnorum, asportant bona,..et spoliant religiosos.

Hence † **Shavaldry** (schauadry, cheualdre), ? plundering, lawless exaction.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3371 þat he [*sc.* a king] schape to na schauadry [*Dubl. MS.* cheualdre] þat shend suld his fame.

Shave (ʃēv), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **sceafa, sceaba, scafa**, 4–5 **schave**, 7 **shaffe**, 4– **shave**. [OE. *sceafa* wk. masc., corresponding to MDu. *schave* (Du. *schaaf*) fem., OHG. *scaba* (MHG., mod.G. *schabe* fem.), Icel. *skafa* fem.:—OTeut. **skabon-*, f. root **skab-*: see SHAVE *v.* Cf. SHAVE-HOOK.] A name applied to various tools adapted for scraping, paring, or removing the surface of material in very thin slices; a drawing or paring knife; also short for SPOKESHAVE, *hoop-shave*, etc.

Frequently with distinguishing epithet as *cooper's, mast, round shave*, etc.

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 853 *Runcina*, locær *vel* sceaba. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 Æcse, adsan, bil, byrse, scafan. 1352 *Exch. Acc. Q. R.* Bundle 20 No. 27 Pro vi. instrumentis vocatis *Shaues* pro nave praedicta mundanda. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 20 Super officio scutellarie,..pro j hausak, et j schaue. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 127 Euene the brynkis [of a hole cut in the brain-pan] with schauynge. ..þis schaue schal kutte on þe side þat foldiþ ynward. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 397 Item in custodia Plumbarii..2 schaves, cum maliotis, rakis [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schave, or schavynge knyfe, *scalpellum*, C.F. *scalprum*. 1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* III. x. 78 b, The Squire, the Line, the Shaue, the Pricker or Punche were deuised by Theodor a Samian. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. viii. 351/1 A kind of a small half round Plain, of which the Fletchers have two sorts; the first is termed a Ripper;..the next is the Shaffe, or Hollow Shaffe, it worketh the same smooth and round, and fit to be made up into an Arrow. *Ibid.* III. xx. (Roxb.) 249/1 He beareth sable, a Smooth Shave, Argent,..which some call a smooth shaveing Knife. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Curriers shaves*, or *Paring-knives*. 1842 *Penny Mag.* 12 Nov. 447/1 The skains are thin ribands of willow, produced by passing the splits through a kind of shave or plane. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* 65 In the manufacture of chip-hats.. young branches [of the White Willow] are taken and cut into thin slices by an instrument called a shave. 1875 *Carpentry & Joinery* 13 We now come to the two handed shave or draw knife as it is often called.

b. *Comb.*: **shave-iron**, the blade of a shave or drawing-knife. 1872 *Spon's Dict. Engin.* v. 2814.

Shave (ʃēv), *sb.*2 [f. SHAVE *v.*]

1. Something shaved off; a shaving, paring, thin slice; † *fig.* a sample, specimen.

Cf. SHIVE *sb.* with which, however, it is not etymologically connected.

1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* F j b, You shall not sticke Benedick, to giue a shaue of your Office [of cut-purse] at Powles Crosse in the Sermon time. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Bannocks and a shave of cheese Will make a breakfast. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 63 A shave o' cheese. 1875 SEATON *Fret Cutting* vi. 56 Try and take off the smallest possible shaves. 1890 J. SERVICE *Thir Notandums* xi, I got the lassock to fetch me..a saft bile't egg on a shave o' laif.

b. '*Theatr. slang.* The proportion of the receipts paid to a travelling company by a local manager' (Farmer *Slang* 1902.)

2. An act of shaving the beard.

1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cliii. V. 203 And if the daily shavings of one year..could be put into one shave, the operation ..would be more than flesh and blood could bear. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxix, Being here, I may as well have a shave, and get trimmed close. 1887 TUER & FAGAN *First Year Silken Reign* v. 74 Barbers' shops, where a penny shave had been the staple trade.

3. An act of swindling or extortion. *Clean shave* (*fig.* of sense 1): a complete swindle. Cf. SHAVE *v.* 7.

1863 *Once a Week* 7 Feb. 179/1 We doubt if any lady is aware of the very clean shave she is constantly undergoing. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 492/2 The benches [on Brighton beach] are in one sense a shave...No sooner is a seat taken than a beach-man..demands a penny.

b. '*U.S. cant.* (*a*) An exorbitant discount on a note. (*b*) A premium paid for an extension of the time of delivery or payment, or for the right to vary a stock contract in any particular' (Webster 1864–96).

4. *Mil. slang.* An unauthenticated report.

1813 CAPT. R. M. CAIRNES *Let. to Col. W. Cuppage* 11 June (MS.), The shave of the day is that Burgos is evacuated and destroyed: but this cannot surely be. 1898 SIR G. S. ROBERTSON *Chitral* 322 In every camp in war time, there are curious rumours called 'shaves', which originate no one knows how, and are disseminated with equal mystery. They are sometimes fantastic, but often curiously accurate.

5. A slight or grazing touch; hence, a narrow escape from touching, more emphatically *a close, near shave* and the like. *lit.* and *fig.*

1838 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* 23 Nov. (1838) I. 381, I seem to myself to have had a shave, if indeed I have weathered the point yet. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. vii. 73 We passed clear; but it was a close shave. 1866 DICKENS & HALLIDAY *Mugby Junction* (*All Year Round* Christm. No.) 27/1 The next instant the hind coach passed my engine by a shave. It was the nearest touch I ever saw. 1892 HUXLEY in L. Huxley *Life* (1900) II. xix. 329, I had a narrow shave to get down to Osborne. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 77 Accomplishing the distance..with equally remarkable near shaves of a collision.

b. *Univ. slang.*

1840 T. HOOK *Fitzherbert* II. ix. 239 Collegians glorying in a 'pass' (which the Oxford world called a 'shave'). 1840 J. T. J. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* xvi, Getting through his great-go by a shave. 1860 [see SHAVE *v.* 10 c].

Shave (ʃēv), *v.* Forms: *Inf.* 1 **scaeban, sceafan, scafan, scæfan**, (3 *3rd pres.* **scaft, scæft**), 4–5 **schaf(e, schave**, 4 *Sc.* **shawe**, 5 **schavin, schaffe**, *Sc.* **schaiff**, 5–6 **scheve**, 6 **shawe**, 7 **schaive**, 4– **shave**. *Pa. t.* 1 **sc6f**, 4–5 **schove**, s(c)hoof(e, (4 **shoove**, *Sc.* **schufe**), 5 **shufe, schof(e**, (**schave, shoef**), 5–6 **shove**, (6 *Sc.* **schuif**); *weak forms* 4 **schaved(e, schavyde**, 6– **shaved**. *Pa. pple.* 1 **sceafen, scafen**, 4–5 **schaven, -yn, shavyn, schave, shave**, (4 **schavun**, 5 **shavon**, 5–6 **schavin**, 6 *Sc.* **schaven, schaiffyn**, 7 *Sc.* **schevin**, 8 *Sc.* **schawin**, 3– **shaven**; also 3 **ischaven**, 3–4 **i-schave**, 4 **y-shave**; *weak forms* 4– **shaved**, (6 *Sc.* **schavit**). [A Com. Teut. verb (originally strong): OE. *sceafan* str. corresponds to OS. (**scaban*) *scavan* (glossing *planare, scalpere*), LG., Du. *schaven*, OHG. *scaban, scapan* (MHG. *schabun, schuop, geschaben*, mod G. *schaben* wk.), ON. *skafa, skóf, skafenn* (Sw. *skafva*, Da. *skave*), Goth. *skaban*, f. Teut. root **skab-*.

It is doubtful whether the pre-Teut. form is **skabh-* (= root of L. *scabère* to scratch, *scabiēs* itch) or **skap-* (= root of Gr. σκάπτειν to dig, σκαπάνη spade).]

1. *trans.* To scrape, to scrape away the surface of, to cut down or pare away with a sharp tool, thereby removing very thin portions of the surface. Also with *off*. † *To shave on*: to put on by shaving or grating.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P 539 *Poleo*, sceabe. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 30 Man scof þara boca leaf þe of Hibernia coman, & þa sceafþan dyde on wæter. *c* 1205 LAY. 22293 Sum scæft horn, sum scaft ban. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1134 Polysed als playn as parchemen schauen. *c* 1366 *Rom. Rose* 941 But they [arrows] were shaven wel and dight. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 84 Euery day I schoue þe bare bone with instrument preparate ber-to. *a* 1450 MYRC 1822 And schaf hyt after, þat ys be-bled, And do þe schauynge for to brenne. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 Pinnes..shalbe..wel smethed, the shanke wel shauen. 1584 LYLY *Campaspe* Prol. at Crt., The Persian kings sometimes shaued stickes. *a* 1655 SIR T. MAYERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* No. 16 (1658) 8 When they are baked, shave on a little sugar. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 235/2 The Scalpra or Scraping Toole; it is to scrape or shave bones with all. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 585 A monitor is wood—plank shaven thin. We wear it at our backs. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* vi. 395 In the woods I saw a negro..shaving shingles. 1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 2 Jan. 6/2 The shaver, with a few long sweeps of this implement, quickly shaves down his raw material into supple hoops.

b. To scrape or pare (a skin, hide, etc.). *spec.* in *Currying*, To pare away the inequalities of and thin down (leather).

1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 396 Also, that no Sadeler, Bochor, Baker, ne Glover..shave flesh, skynnes, or huydes, but above the Brugge. 1530 PALSGR. 717/1, I shave, as a tanner dothe his leather, *je planie*. Nowe that his hydes be tanned, se howe easely he shaveth them. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 378 The currier..next applies the cleaners..to remove or thin down all inequalities. After the leather is shaved, it is thrown once more into water. *Ibid.* 379 Hides intended for covering coaches are shaved nearly as thin as shoe hides.

c. *Hat-manuf.* To smooth with pounce, sand-paper, etc. (cf. POUNCE *v.*3 1).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pouncing Machine*, a machine for shaving or rubbing the surface of a hat or hat-body to rid it of shaggy fibres. 1902 [see LURING *vbl. sb.*2].

2. To remove by scraping or paring; to cut off in thin slices or shavings; also *to shave off*.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxvi. 4 And I shal shaue [Vulg. *radam*] the dust of it [*sc.* Tyre] from it. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Gold i-schaue of seyntes schrynes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xvii. (1495) 874 Yf a man purposyth to shaue other to wasshe the colour Minius out of the perchemyn. 1635–8 *Archdeaconry of Essex* (MS.) Minutes 243 b, The officers found him..in a barne where he is vehemently sus-

pected to be shaving of barke. 1639 O. Wood *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 46 Take Iuniper thinne shaved, and the Berries bruised. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 221 Its sharp Edge scrapes or shaves off the little roughness the grosser Tools left upon the Work.

3. To cut off (hair, esp. the beard) close to the skin with or as with a razor. Also with *away, off.*

c 1320 *R. Brunne's Medit.* 966 Whan Iewes had dampned hym deþ for to haue, Shamely berde and hede gun þey shaue. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xiv. 8 He shal shaue alle the heeres of the bodi. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipm. T.* 309 With crowne and berde all fressh and newe y-shaue. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. i. (1544) 3 Goddes angell shoue away his berde. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 And the other ought to shaue berdes and kembe the heeris. 1530 Palsgr. 701/2 He hath shavyn away all the heare on his heed. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* x. 4 Then toke Hanun the seruauntes of Dauid, and shoue of the one halue of their beerdes. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 88 In what house soeuer there dies a cat, all of the same family shaue their eyebrowes. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 8 Were I the wearer of Anthonio's Beard, I would not shaue't to day. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xix. (1787) II. 140 The ceremony of shaving his beard,.. when he first exchanged the cloak of a Greek philosopher for the military habit of a Roman prince. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 86, I immediately order the hair to be shaved off. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxii, Take my counsel, and shave off them mustachios, or they'll bring you into mischief. *Ibid.* xxxiv, Mr. Bowls's young man..brought him his hot water to shave that beard which he was so anxiously expecting. 1901 Alldridge *Sherbro* xx. 197, I observed other women with the wool shaved off just above the forehead.

† b. fig. *To shave* (a person's) *beard*, to bring to discomfiture. *Obs.*

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4340 Hir berdes shaued he right smothe & clene. 1418 *Man, beware!* 53 in *26 Pol. Poems* 62 Er drede and repref þy berde shaue.

4. To cut off the beard, whiskers, or moustache from (a person, his chin, upper lip, etc.) with a razor.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2120 Ioseph was sone in prisun ȝo hoȝt, And shauen, & clad, & to him broȝt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 582 He kisseth hire..With thilke brustles of his berd vnsofte..ffor he was shaue al newe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 305 Ther was..a passand curios barbur, and for euer-ilk man þat he shufe he tuke a peny. 1522 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 400 No man shalbe made fre unlesse he..shave his upper lipe wicklye. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xli. 14 And he shaued himselfe, and changed his raiment. 1618 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* C 1 b, This Gentleman..sent to me his Barber, Who lau'd, and shau'd me. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 125 Shaving the Chin is justly to be accounted a note of effeminacie. *a* 1722 Fountainhall *Decis.* (1759) I. 10 As in barbers shops he who is first wet is first shaven. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* viii, Stepping into a barber's shop to be shaved. 1838 J. H. Merivale *Poems* I. 93 Who, were the razor ne'er so bright and keen, Would never think it shaved him clean. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* I. xvi, To be shaved was a fashion of Florentine respectability. 1872 J. Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 72 The practise of shaving the chin was commenced in the days of Alexander the Great.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1589 Nashe *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 128 And Sprignols man told me (as he trimd me the other day) that there is a new Barber in London, about to shaue the Bible. 1799 Holcroft *Mem.* (1816) III. 229 A stiff breeze..described by a sailor, who swore that it shaved him. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. in Flor.* v, The church's..face set full for the sun to shave. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 519/1 [Beaver hat making.] The coarse hairs or kemps which may be in the fur are cut off by shaving the surface with a razor.

5. To remove the hair from (the head, crown, etc.) with a razor. Also (now *rarely*) with the person as object (= to shave the head of).

Shaving the head is often jocularly referred to as a remedial operation for maniacal excitement.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 (MS. C) [ȝe schulen beon] ȝef ȝe wulleð i-schauen, hwase wule ieveset. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter, Song Moses* 522 þe whilk [prisoners] was wont to be shauyn þe heuyd, & so solde. *c* 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 53 Thou art a fole, seyde the aungelle, Thou schalt be schavyn ovyr ylke a dele. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxiv. (1890) 88 And thenne came out the olde witche of charmouse magyque,..alle her hed shauen. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. A 3, There is a..Doctor of late very pittifully growen bald, and thereupon is to be shauen immediately, to trie if that will helpe him. 1600 J. Hamilton *Facile Traict.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 235 Wemen with barne..to be set vp in ane opin place with the half of thair haid schevin. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 187. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts xxi. 22 They [Nazarites] are to shave themselves ceremoniously in the Temple. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* I. 5 (*Theseus*) He shaved, however, only the fore part of his head. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell* VI. iv, Another [said]—'Let him shave his head! Where's Dr. Willis?' 1886 F. W. Robinson *Courting Mary Smith* II. II. xviii. 72, I believe I am nearly off, and they'll be glad to shave my head in a day or two. 1906 W. H. R. Rivers *Todas* xxviii. 663 The Melgarsol again resemble the Teivaliol in not shaving the head after a funeral.

b. *esp.* To tonsure as a cleric. †Frequently with complement, *to shave* (a person) *a monk, canon, priest, friar*; also, to make (a 'crown') by shaving.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 121 He..Clede him all as a clerke & his croune shauys. *c* 1400 *The Brut* lxvii. 63 This traitoure ..put oppon him an habite of religioun and lete shaue him a brode crone. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xix. (1554) 289 b, Constance..forthwith anon Was shaue a Monke. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 18 Were ye amonke or an abbot he that shoef your crowne hath nyped of your eeris. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 200 He past to the abbay of Sanct Andros, and schuif him thair ane chanoun. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 164 Calsa Same was.. to goe to a church neare Miaco..to be shaved a prist. *a* 1691 D. North in R. North *Lives* (1826) II. 312 Who will, may shave himself a friar. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. IV. viii. 395 Irene..seized, scourged and shaved into ecclesiastics the chief of her son's adherents.

†c. *To shave* (a person's) *crown*: to cut off or gash the head (with jocular reference to clerical tonsure). *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 4568 Every Sarezen that they mette..by the schuldren they schoof the crown. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3651 Þou hast a croun schauen to þe bon. 14.. *Beues* 1870 (MS. N), I schaue [*MS. S* schofe] him a kroune of red blode. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 51 *Glost.*..Now by Gods Mother, Priest, Ile shaue your Crowne for this.

d. *Proverb.*

1626 T. H[awkins] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* I. ix. 77 For if Enuy (according to the prouerbe) will offer to shaue an eg, she will mow in a meadow. [orig. *Car si l'enuie tond sur vn œuf, que ne fera elle sur vn pré.*] 1791 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Odes to Kien Long* II. Wks. 1792 III. 299 Curst with an av'rice, some would shave an egg.

6. a. *absol.* Of a barber.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 1020 His barboure tald hym til, gyf he wald haf don þer wil, he had schorne his hals in twa, to schaf þat quhen he suld ga. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 140 Wel koude he laten blood and clippe and shaue. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 90 He made hys doughters to lerne shaue and kembe. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2483/4 He shaves and makes Periwigs. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 95. 283 A poor Barber who shaves for Two-pence.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To shave oneself.

a 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 219 He was quickly dressed, but would lose no time in shaving. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dau.* ii, I have seen the Doctor with a langer beard himself, when he has not had leisure to shave. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxvi, Even archbishops shave, or must be shaved, on a Sunday.

7. *trans.* To strip (a person) clean of money or possessions (? *obs.*); †to treat stingily (*obs.*); to practise exaction or extortion upon; to fleece. Also *absol.* Now *colloq.* or *slang.*

† More emphatically *to shave to the quick* (see also Quick *sb.*[1] 4 b, quot. 1552).

c 1399 Chaucer *Purse* 19 Now purse..Oute of this tovne helpe me..Syn that ye wole nat bene my tresorere, for I am shave as nye as is a Frere. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iv. M iv, He shall be pollyd and shauen by vs, tyll he shal not haue a halfepennye lefte. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 143 The religious..were charged with greate sommes of money to the kyng, and now this sodain visitacion or predacion, cleane shaued them. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* vi. (Arb.) 40 Then haue you Brokers yat shaue poore men by most iewish interest. *a* 1610 Healey *Theophrastus* (1636) 48 Hee measureth miserably to his servants; shaving, and pinching them to a grain. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* IV, We should never travel without—a case of good razors...But no matter, I believe we shall be pretty well shaved by the way. 1830 D. Booth *Analyt. Dict.* 220 To Shave, in low language, is to strip a person of his property by unfair means. 1861 Mrs. H. Wood *East Lynne* xlix, I bought this rig-out yesterday, second-hand. Two pounds for the lot! I think they shaved me. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (1865) s. v., 'To shave a customer', to charge him more for an article than the marked price. Used in the drapery trade. When the master sees an opportunity of doing this, he strokes his chin, as a signal to his assistant.

b. *absol.*

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 75 b, This..shavinge..of the heare..is to them a remembraunce to shere and shave, to hepe benefice apon benfice [etc.]. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. iii. 50 Thus then the civill Magistrat looking only upon the outward man...Sometimes he shaves by penalty, or mulct...Otherwiles he seres,..and finally..cuts off. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, He shaves close*, he gripes, squeezes, or extorts very severely. 1826 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. i. 7 Economy is the order of the day, and I assure you they are shaving properly close.

†**8.** To steal. *slang. Obs.*

1585 Fleetwood in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 303 *Shave* is to ffylche a clooke, a sword, a sylver sponne or such like, that is negligentlie looked unto. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 105 The Maidens had shav'd his Breeches.

9. To cut off cleanly or closely. Also with *off.*

† *To shave out one's way*: to get out by cutting down obstacles.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. i. 584 He..Shaves with keen Sythe, the glory and delight Of motly Medowes. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* x. 447 She..from his corps his head did shaue. 1665 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 437 Brave Smith in the *Mary* did shave out his way As Reapers do Wheat, or as Mowers do Hay. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 193 The peak [of his cap] was shaved off close to his temple by a ball. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxii, They are afeard to show their noses..lest they should be shaved off by our shots. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 164 The Fans, who are very slowly shaving the trees from the top of the hill.

b. To cut off closely the growth of (ground, a lawn, etc.); also *transf.* of artillery fire.

1764 Dodsley *Descr. Leasowes* in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1793) I. 48 Ground..that before is kept close shaven. 1788 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1861) II. 98 Our lawn is shaved so close by the goats. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* xlviii, Like a meadow which no scythe has shaven. 1892 Bierce *In Midst of Life* 56 An artillery fire that will shave the ground the moment they break from cover.

10. To touch lightly in passing, to graze; hence, barely to escape touching.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. i. 137, I am God Tibris.. Quhilk..Bettis thir brayis, schawand the bankis doun [L. *stringentem ripas*]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 634 Som times He [Satan] scours the right hand coast,..Now shaves with level wing the Deep, then soares Up to the fiery concave. 1777 [T. Swift] *Gamblers* I. 213 There [at Tennis] Tomkyns shaves the Line; or flying sends The whizzing Globe. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 168/1 An attempt of Evelyn's which just shaved the bar. 1888 Barrie *When a Man's Single* xi. 181 Three hansoms shaved him by an inch. 1890 'Rolf Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 128 As we turned one corner we hung nearly over the cliff, just shaved it.

b. intr. *To shave through*: to get through only by grazing (that which has to be passed); *fig.* to scrape *through*, barely pass (an examination).

1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) s. v., At Cambridge, 'just shaving through', or 'making a shave', is just escaping a 'pluck' by coming out at the bottom of the list. 1882 Freeman in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 256 Another who had barely shaved through his matriculation. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 45 It would be too late for the straits. You can only shave through at half-tide.

11. trans. *U.S. slang.* To discount (a promissory note) at an exorbitant rate of interest; also *to shave paper.* (Cf. Shaver 2 b.)

1832 Webster s. v., *To shave a note*, to purchase it at a great discount, a discount much beyond the legal rate of interest. (*A low phrase.*) 1833 [S. Smith] *Lett. J. Downing* xv. (1835) 92 He says..he is makin a good livin in shavin drafts from ¼ to 1½ per cent., which the U. S. Bank used to take and collect for nothin. 1834 'J. Downing' *Andrew Jackson* 29 The Pontius Pilates who shave notes and receive niggurs in pawn. 1890 Gildersleeve *Ess. & Stud.* 225 He could not have made both ends meet by 'shaving paper' at thirty-six per cent.

Shaved (ʃēvd), *ppl. a.* [f. Shave *v.* + -ed[1].] In the senses of the verb. Cf. Shaven *ppl. a.*

1. a. Cut off in very thin slices or shavings. Also, trimmed or polished by shaving.

1688 Clayton in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 134 She gave him *Oriental Bezoar* shaved. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) 96 Half a Pound of fresh shaved Lignum Guiacum. 1855 *Imperial Gazetteer* I. 261/2 He wears..ornaments of shaved sticks in his hair.

b. Having the hair, beard, etc. cut closely with a razor. Of the head: Tonsured.

1786 *Pogonologia* 34 A shaved chin was always a sign of slavery, infamy, or debauchery. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. ii, Jurant and Dissident, with their shaved crowns, argue frothing everywhere. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxvi, Gentlemen in shaved heads and yellow jackets. 1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. ii, A clean shaved chin.

c. Of a beaver hat: Having the fur cut close.

1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 214 Crowning himself with a shaved white hat. 1861 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* ii. 15 The way in which he wore his shaved hat and stuck his hands into the pockets of his wide-skirted grey riding-coat.

d. *Leather-trade.* Of a hide: Pared with a shaving-knife.

1892 *Daily News* 23 Mar. 2/6 The stocks of some articles are short, especially of..shaved hides

2. U.S. slang. *Half shaved*, partly intoxicated.

1834 *Atlantic Club-book* I. 138 (Farmer) When I met him, he was about—yes—just about half shaved. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxii, When he was about half shaved he thought every body drunk but himself.

Shavee (ʃēvī·). *jocular.* [f. Shave *v.* + -ee.] One who undergoes shaving by a barber.

1826 Miss Mitford *Village* II. 187 His chin covered with lather, he having been the identical customer—the very shavee, whose beard happened to be under discussion. 1838 Southey *Doctor* cliii. V. 204 Whether he were..a self-shaver..or merely a shavee.

Shavegrass (ʃē·vgɹɑs). Also 5 schave-, 6 schavi-, 7 sheav-. [f. Shave *v.* + Grass *sb.* Cf. Shave-rush, Shavewort.] A plant of the genus *Equisetum* (see Horse-tail 2); esp. *E. hyemale.*

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 37 *Cauda equina, cauda caballina idem est. angl.* schauegres. 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* (1881) 64 Polygonum femina is called in Englishe thycke Shauegrasse, or short Shaue grasse. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. ccccxlii. 956 This small or naked Shaue grasse, wherewith Fletchers and Combemakers doe..polish their worke, riseth out of the ground like..Asparagus. 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. li. 408 It is more..hurtful than.. the Sheavgrass to the Mowers of Hay. 1773 *Hawkesworth's Acc. Voy.* III. 644 [It] bites upon wood almost as keenly as the shave-grass of Europe. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 613 Rubbing with horse's tail (shave-grass) the parts to be yellowed. *Ibid.*, Rubbing the whole work with shave-grass, to remove any granular appearance. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 386 Rough Horsetail, Shave-grass, Dutch Rush.

Shave-hook. [f. Shave *v.* + Hook *sb.*] A plumbers' tool consisting of a blade, commonly triangular, set transversely in a handle, used for scraping metal preparatory to soldering.

1432 *Muniments Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) II Item, j ledknyff;..j shaff-hoke. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 40 Shaffe hokes xviij. 1486 *Ibid.* 46 Shave hokes..xviij. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 307/1 He beareth Sable, a Cross Staff in Fess, between a Plummers shave Hook, and a Leaden Plummet, proper. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 445 The parts intended to receive the solder are scraped quite clean with the shave-hook.

Shaveling (ʃē·vliŋ), *sb.* (and *a.*). Forms: see Shave *v.*; also *Sc.* 6 scheavelyng, schavel(l)ing, schevel-, schaifl-, schewell-, sc(h)awe-, 7 shaweling, shavelling. [f. Shave *v.* + -ling[1].]

A. *sb.* **1.** A contemptuous epithet for a tonsured ecclesiastic. (Very common in 16th and 17th c.)

1529 Frith *Antithesis* 96 The Pope sayeth..I excommunicate all them that aske eny toll or trybute of me and my shavelinges. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 385 Monkis and freiris witht all the rest of scawelingis. 1647 Trapp *Comm.* 1 Tim. v. 1 Ierk him not as ..the Bishops and their shavelings did Henry the 2. of England, till the bloud followed. 1824 Byron *Deformed Transf.* II. iii, Cleave yon bald-pated shaveling to the chine! 1884 Tennyson *Becket* I. iii, And that too, perjured prelate—and that, turncoat shaveling! 1911 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 492 Counting up the number of shavelings still in France.

b. *gen.* A person with shaven head. *rare.*
1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* iii. 532 Lycurgus would haue the Spartans weare their hair long..: for slaues were shauelings for the most part.

2. A youth, young 'shaver'. *rare.*
1854 Whyte Melville *Gen. Bounce* xiv, The very youngest of the shavelings who aspire to dandyism. 1894 Wyman *Man in Black* viii, 'He is a runaway!' the voice said. ..'Rouse up the little shaveling, will you?'

B. *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a tonsured ecclesiastic.
1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1581) 24 *margin*, The shauelyng generation. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 281 Wheresoever that shavelyng marke of the Romish Prelate is emprinted. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* iv, But they were only honest canons with wives at home, and not shaveling monks.

2. Shaven, having the hair cut off.
1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 283 Those shaueling and short haired Stallions.

Shaven (ʃē·v'n), *ppl. a.* Forms: see the verb. [Strong pa. pple. of Shave *v.*]
1. = Shaved *ppl. a.* 1 b. Chiefly of the head, crown, or of a person; often = tonsured.
c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16704 Peres of Langtofte, a chanoun Schauen y þe hous of Brydlyngtoun. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 89 Wil þu hast habit and schauin croun. *a* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvi. 28 Quhill preistis come in with bair schevin nekkis. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 60 *margin*, The shaven nacion hath put christ out of his rowme. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 397 His wiues in blacke, with shauen heads, continually mourne. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 1 Cor.* i. (1656) 662 Hence it grew to a proverb in times of Popery, That hell was paved with Priests shaven crowns. *a* 1774 R. Fergusson *Poems* (1807) 240 Wi' powder'd pow and shaven beard. 1782 Cowper *Charity* 55 Their prince..Died, by the sentence of a shaven priest. 1888 Kipling *Departm. Ditties* (ed. 3) 24 And red and ever redder grew the General's shaven gill. 1909 J. McCabe *Decay Ch. Rome* i. 2 Processions of shaven monks.
absol. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 79 *margin*, The spirte perteyneth vnto the shaven only.
b. *Comb.*
1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* xi, Yee shamelesse shauen-crowne! 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxix, Which had been called Coffin Lane ever since the days of the old abbey, and the time of the shaven-headed monks. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 960 The intestine presents the well-known shaven-beard appearance. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Shaven-beard appearance*, a peculiar appearance of the enlarged intestinal glands in typhoid fever.

2. Of turf, grass: Closely cut.
1632 Milton *Penseroso* 66, I walk unseen On the dry smooth-shaven Green. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Ep. to Ld. B—t* 15 in Dodsley *Poems* (1748) I. 115 The shaven turf presents a lively green. 1853 Whyte Melville *Digby Grand* xix, Three short turns on the general's shaven lawn. 1886 Corbett *Fall Asgard* I. 144 The silvery Gula winding peacefully between the shaven meadows.

3. Trimmed or polished by shaving.
1660, 1812 Shaven latten [see Latten 1 b]. 1788 Cowper *Death Mrs. Throckm. Bullfinch* 23 On props of smoothest-shaven wood. 1793 — *Tale*, '*In Scotland's realm*', 'Twas shaven deal. 1802 Wordsw. *Resolution & Indep.* xi. 72 Himself he prest..Upon a long grey staff of shaven wood.

Shaver (ʃē·vəɹ). [f. Shave *v.* + -er[1].]
1. One who shaves with a razor.
c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 652/9 *Hic rasor*, shawere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/2 A Schaver, *tonsor, barbitonsor* (vbi Barbwre A.). 1592 [implied: see 3 below]. 1628 Ford *Lovers Mel.* II. ii, Shall I fetch a Barbour..? He..has not been vnder the Shauers hand almost these foure yeeres. 1777 Johnson in *Boswell* (1904) II. 125 Sir, of a thousand shavers, two do not shave so much alike as not to be distinguished. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xix, The bird-fancier was an easy shaver also, and a fashionable hair-dresser also. 1906 B. Capes *Loaves & Fishes* 165 And any shaver [will tell you], that his razor, after maltreating..one side of his face, will repent.
fig. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. Concl. 64 If they [the Prelatry, likened to Delilah] be such clippers of regal power and shavers of the Laws.

2. † a. One who pillages or plunders; an extortioner. *Cunning shaver*: a swindler, sharper.
1534 Whitinton *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 144, I wyll not speke of murderers,..theues, pollers and shauers in this place. 1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* vi. (Arb.) 39 A shauer of yong Gentlemen, before euer a haire peepe out of their chinnes: and these are Vsurers. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VI. 111 This bred a suspition..that they were some cunning Shavers that intended to surprise them. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Shaver*, a *Cunning Shaver*, a subtil, smart Fellow. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* (1822) 272 The Devil is a cunning shaver. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Shaver*, a cunning shaver, a subtle fellow, one who trims close, an acute cheat. 1800 Weems *Washington* i. (1877) 6 A shaver of farthings from the poor six-penny pay of his own brave soldiers! 1825 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 242 Those scribes for collectors close shavers. 1823 'Jon Bee' *Dict. Turf* s.v., 'He's a shaver'; said of one who charges high for his goods.
b. *U.S.* (See quot. 1860.)
1813 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 199 This..the States have..alienated to swindlers and shavers, under the cover of private banks. 1819 H. McMurtrie *Sk. Louisville* 124 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), [The operation of discounting] affords fine sport to shavers. 1849 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.*, *Mr. Higginbotham* 71 As he's a real shaver, I'll have the minister..for an indorser. 1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Shaver*...This word, in the United States, is applied to money brokers, who purchase notes at more than legal interest. Banks, when they resort to any means to obtain a large discount, are also called shavers, or shaving banks.
3. = 'Fellow', 'chap'; also, a humorous fellow, joker, wag. Now commonly of a youth, with the epithet *young*, *little*; the wider application seems to be now only *dial.*
1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* II. iii. E, *Itha*...I can cut and shaue. *Bar.* Let me see, sirra, are you not an old shauer? *Ith.* Alas, Sir, I am a very youth. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 264 Locke and Hudson, sleepe you quiet shauers, among the shauings of the presse. 1602 Rowlands *Greenes Ghost* 39 Such iollie shauers..haue I knowne..to sit vp all night,..quaffing and swilling at the Tauerne. 1635 Cranley *Amanda* 37 Thou art..not coy..To try the courage of so young a shaver. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* v. iii. 144 Say'st thou so, old shaver? 1698 Farquhar *Love & Bottle* III. i, Who would imagine now, that this young shaver could dream of a woman so soon. 1786 Burns *Dream* xi, There, Him at Agincourt wha shone, Few better were or braver; And yet, wi' funny, queer Sir John, He was an unco shaver For monie a day. 1854 Marion Harland *Alone* ix, I have known him since I was a shaver. 1887 Besant *The World Went* ii, Forty-five years ago I was just such a little shaver as this. 1899 J. Lumsden *Edinb. Poems* 25 Grahame, Campbell, Pollok, Burns, and Tannahill Are worth ten shiploads o' sich shavers still!
transf. 1892 Sarah Hewett *Peas. Sp. Devon* Pref. 9 A North Devon Colonel of Militia, on seeing a hare jump up.., exclaimed: 'There 'e go'th, bwoys! a lashing gert shaver!'
† b. *Mad shaver*: a roysterer. *Obs.*
1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Enfant*, *Enfant de la mate*, a ruffin, backster, swash-buckler, swaggerer, mad shauer. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* II. iv, *Leo* [old soldier]. Here's a mad Shaver, He fights his share I am sure...*Lieu.* I learnt it of my Betters. 1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv.* 63 Erasmus going abroad somewhat early one morning, was met in a narrow lane by a company of madde shavers. 1664 Cotton *Virg. Trav.* 62 My mother's a mad Shaver, no man alive knows where to have her.
4. One who shaves hoops; more fully *hoop shaver.*
1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 2 Jan. 6/1 The chief shaver whistles as he brings his blade down a strip of hazel with a hiss.
† 5. A shaving instrument or tool. *Obs.*
1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 114 b, Fynally, with the saied shaver, or sharp yron, make the sayed pypes or conduites holowe. 1592 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 252, ij cheshels and a shaver. 1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* xiii. 12 As when a carpenter cuts downe a tree,..He pareth all the barke most cunningly, With the sharp shauer of his knives abuse. 1648 Hexham II., *Een Schae, hen*, a small Shaver, or a chiping Axe. *Ibid.*, *Een schrabber*, a Rasour, or a Shaver.
b. A shaving machine.
1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* xvii. 255 With this improved cutter cylinder the Rood shaver is able to shave the best quality skins.

Shaver, obs. form of Shiver *v.*

Shave-rush. *U.S. rare.* [f. Shave *v.* + Rush *sb.* Cf. G. *schaberausch.*] = Shave-grass.
1821 T. Nuttall *Trav. Arkansas* 53 *Equisetum hiemale* or Shave-rush.

Shavery (ʃē·vəri). *nonce-wd.* [Jocularly formed on Shave *v.* + *-ery*, after *slavery.*] Subjection to the necessity of being shaved (*lit.* and *fig.*).
Quot. 1549 refers to the avaricious oppression of tenants.
1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, D iiij b, All suche procedynges..do intend plainly, to make the yomanry slauery, & the Cleargye shauery. 1838 Southey *Doctor* cliii, Oh pitiable condition of human kind! One colour is born to slavery abroad, and one sex to shavery at home!

Shaves, obs. pl. form of Sheaf.

† **Sha·vester.** *nonce-wd.* [f. Shave *v.* + -ster.] A barber.
1620 Shelton *Quixote* II. i. 7 Well; is this the Tale, Mr. Barber (quoth Don Quixote)..? Ah, goodman Shauester, goodman Shauester [orig. *A Señor rapista, Señor rapista!*]

† **Shave-weed.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Shave *v.* + Weed *sb.*] = Shave-grass, Shave-rush.
1691 Aubrey *Let.* 5 Aug. in Ray *Corr.* (Ray Soc.) 237 Shave-weed used by artists (which they have from Holland).

† **Sha·vewort.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Shave *v.* + Wort *sb.*] = Shave-grass.
c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 82 *Hircina*, ..*cauda equina* ..schafwort.

Shavie (ʃē·vi). *Sc.* [f. Shave *sb.*[2]] A trick.
1767 W. Meston *Poems* 129 And so to fortune I must leave ye, I wish she play not you a shavie. 1785 Burns *Jolly Beggars*, But hurchin Cupid shot a shaft That play'd a dame a shavie. 1785 — *and Ep. to Davie*, The warl' may play you mony a shavie; But for the Muse, she'll never leave ye. 1884 D. Grant *Lays & Leg. North* 97 It played her sic a shavie, Knocked o'er a sauce-pot in her lap.

Shaving (ʃē·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shave *v.* + -ing[1].]
1. The action of scraping or cutting off a thin slice from a surface; an abrasion.
1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 22 Pro hedynge iiij doliorum pro floure imponendo, et pro hopes et schauyng dictorum doliorum. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 84 þe schauyng of þe bone profited noþing. 1595 Duncan *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Intertrigo*, galling, or shauing. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 87/1 In the Curriers Art. Shaveing, is the taking down of the thickness of the Leather.
2. The action of removing the hair from the head or face with a razor; an instance of this.
1381 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 147 Antecrist makiþ hise [priests] knowen by crowne & berdes schauynge. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 306 When I tuke bod a peny for a shavyng, I couthe wele spar som syluer euer-ilk day. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 73 *margin*, Shavinge is borowed of the hethen and oylinge of the Jewes. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 62 Their Priests vsed shauings of the head and beard. 1823 Byron *Juan* xiv. xxiii, Men for their sins Have shaving too entail'd upon their chins. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, The operation of shaving, dressing, and coffee-imbibing was soon performed. 1892 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* xxxvii, His arrival at full manhood, as marked by the shaving of his beard.
† b. = Tonsure *sb.* 2. *Obs.* (? *nonce-use.*)
1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Gov. Eng.* I. viii. 25 Theodore Archbishop of Canterbury..placed Bishops over each [diocese], every one of them being of the right Roman stampe, as himselfe was of the right Roman shaving.
3. *concr.* A thin slice taken off the surface of anything with a sharp tool; esp. a thin slice of wood cut off with a plane. Chiefly *pl.*
c 1385 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. T.* 686 What, deuel of helle! shulde it ellis be? Shauyng of siluer siluer is, parde. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 46 Puttyng in þe shauyng of lard wiþ þe iuse of porres. *Ibid.* 50 Chauyng of lard. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schavyngys, of boordys or treys, *rasure.* 1575 Turbery. *Faulconrie* 169 You shall not give them.. the shaving of a hasell wande. 1592 Nashe *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. 1904 I. 271 These..might haue beene buried with his bookes in the bottome of a drie-fatte,..amongst the shauings of the Presse. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Devon* (1662) I. 248 We call the Shavings of Fish (which are little worth) Gubbings. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 212 [It] is only capable to cut a narrow Shaving off of the Work. 1760 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 68 All shavings of horns ..is good manure for land. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 151 When the ivory hollows are thin..the material would be turned entirely into shavings. 1859 Geo. Eliot *Adam Bede* I. i, The slanting sunbeams shone through the transparent shavings that flew before the steady plane. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 361, I worked with a carpenter until I could take an even shaving six feet long off a board.
attrib. 1865 J. Hannett *Bibliopegia* (ed. 6) 379 The shaving tub, over which is placed the cutting press..is a frame of wood for holding the shavings, &c., from the cutting of the edges. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 45 The magazine or shavings room should be arranged to allow the dust to pass off at the top.
b. (See quot.)
a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Shavings*, the Clippings of Money.
c. *transf.* and *fig.*
1677 Horneck *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1704) 298 Is the King immortal..to be put off with the chips and shavings of devotion? 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* II. iii. Wks. 1718 I. 228 And all the Stock of Learning, they pretend to, is a few shavings of Wit, gathered out of Plays and Romances. 1912 *Engl. Rev.* Sept. 234 Small gleams, shavings and suffusions of light, were escaping from seams in the ship.
d. Phrase. *To a shaving*, completely, exactly.
1804 *R. Anderson's Cumbld. Ball.* (1808) 90 She'll suit thee till a shavin. 1828 [Carr] *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Shaving*, a tittle, a nicety. 'It fits to a shaving.' 1843 J. Ballantine *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 24 The farmer applauded this song..exclaiming, 'od man, ye hae hit aff Peter till a shavin'.
4. *slang.* The action or process of defrauding.
1606 Dekker *Seven Deadly Sins* vi. (Arb.) 40 Then haue you the Shauing of Fatherlesse children,..and thats done by Executors. The Shauing of poore Clients especially by the Atturneyes. 1841 C. E. Lester *Glory & Shame Eng.* I. 38, I have been very much astonished to find the system of petty shaving so extensively carried on in England.
b. *U.S.* The discounting of bills at an exorbitant rate of interest.
1834 *Niles' Register* (Baltimore) 5 Apr. 85/2 These rates of shaving.
5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shaving-basin*, *-cup*, *customer*, *-day*, *-glass*, *hand*, † *-house*, *-jug*, *-machine*, *-mug*, *-paper*, *-paste*, *-pot*, *-powder*, *-shears*, *-shop*, *soap*, *-strop*, *-tackle*, *-thing*, *-tin*, *utensil*, *water*, *whittle*; **shaving-board** (see quot.); **shaving-box**, a small round box containing a piece of soap and a lathering brush; **shaving-brush**, (*a*) a brush used to put on the lather before shaving; (*b*) (see quot. 1884); **shaving-cloth**, †(*a*) ? emery cloth for shaving wood, etc.; (*b*) a cloth to cover a person's chest when being shaved; † **shaving-grass** = Shave-grass; † **shaving hat**, ? a hat made of shavings; in quot. *attrib.*; **shaving-horse** (see quot.); † **shaving-iron**, (*a*) a razor; (*b*) a plumbers' Shaving-hook; (*c*) a shoemakers' paring knife; † **shaving-knife**, (*a*) a paring tool, *spec.* a shoemakers' knife; (*b*) a razor; † **shaving-linen** = *shaving-cloth* (*a*); † **shaving-mill**, *U.S.*, a small privateer used during the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812; **shaving muscle** (see quot.); **shavings room** (see 3); **shaving-tool** (see quot.); **shaving tub** (see 3).
1488–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 282 Pro sowdyng de le *schavyng bassynnys, 6*d*. 1597–8 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 180 One deepe shaving bason and cover. 1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 2 Jan. 6/1 The rude yet sufficient engines upon which hoops are shaved. Each of these consists of a small slanted beam, the '*shaving board'. 1775 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 27 July 325/2 Brushes, *shaving-boxes and black-ball of the best quality. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* i, It was about the size of the lid of a shaving-box. 1838 Southey *Doctor* cliv. V. 210 He shaves..*sans* *shaving-brush,..*sans* everything except a razor. 1884 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.* 427 Shaving-brush. *Centaurea nigra*, L. 1427 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 476/2 *Shaving cloth. 1 ell../6. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 333/2 A Schavynge clathe, *ralla.* 1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. II. 107 Item to Cornelis Hays, that gave a shaving cloth wroght with gold vjs viijd. 1558 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 150 Tenne shavinge clothes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Shaving-cup*, a cup with compartments for hot water and soap, for convenience in shaving. 1840 Thackeray *Barber Cox* Nov., Did you not make over your house,..and nine-and-twenty *shaving customers, to me? 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Sept., I am rising to go to Jervas to finish my picture, and 'tis *shaving-day, so

good-morrow MD. 1839 [Miss Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 265, I fear it will all end in buying *shaving-glasses and penny prints to stick up in his house. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Hippuris*, *Shavynge gyrs. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 37 Take y* lesse Shauing girss, called also Cattes tayle and Earth yuy of eche two handfull. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 177 One barber can haue but one *shauyng hande. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6192/11 Elizabeth Robinson,..*Shaving Hatmaker. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Shaving-horse*, a narrow bench or trestle on which the workman sits astride while shaving down work with the drawing-knife or spokeshave. 1401–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 300 Sol. pro vitriacione cujusdam fenestre in le *Shavynghous, 12*d*. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 424/1 Rastyr howse, or schavyng howse,..*barbitondium*. 1352 *Wynnere & Wastoure* 185 in Gollancz *Parl. 3 Ages* (Roxb.) 96 And alle the lethire..Schynethe alle for scharpynynge of the *schauynge iren. 1541 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 176 The steill to scherp the [shoemakers'] schawing irne. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Shaving jug*. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/18 *Ansorium*, a *shavynge knyf, or a trenket. 1530–1 *MSS. Duke Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 269 For shavinge knyves bought for my Lorde, vjs. viijd. 1647 Hexham I, A shaving knife, *een scheer-mes*. 1512 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 483 *Shaving linen..ells. @ /5. 1897 C. T. Davis *Manuf. Leather* xvii. 254 *Shaving machine..for shaving the alum, acid and combination tannages. 1781 *Independent Chron.* (Boston, U.S.A.) 19 July 3/3 in *Trans. Col. Soc. Mass.* (1910) XI. 223 A small boat, one of the noted *Shaving-Mills, which continually infest our bay. 1813 *Salem Gaz.* 12 Oct. 4/1 (ibid. 224) The Fairhaven shaving mill..has sailed from Boston on a cruise. 1895 *Stores' List*, *Shaving Mugs. 1912 Keith *Human Body* xii. 188 The skin over the chin has a curious muscle which acts on it, sometimes named the '*shaving' muscle, as it is employed to steady the skin of the chin against the razor. 1839 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* liv, A few bank notes for *shaving paper. 1808 *Times* 5 Nov., *Shaving Paste, newly invented. 1537 *North Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 148 A *shavinge potte, a shavinge bason. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* vii, A man..brought me a silver shaving-pot of hot water. 1768 Goldsm. *Good-n. Man* iv, We should never travel without—a case of good razors, and a box of *shaving-powder. 1855 Browning *Holy-Cross Day* ii, Shame, man! greedy beyond your years To handsel the bishop's *shaving-shears? 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxvi, Sweedlepipe's easy *shaving-shop. *Ibid.*, [It] could not remove the smell of *shaving-soap. 1909 H. G. Wells *Tono-Bungay* iii. i. § 2. 269 With the name on the..*shaving-strop. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxv, I don't see his *shaving tackle. Nor his brushes, Captain. 1797 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) I. viii. 262 A case with *shaving-things, combs, and a knife, fork, and spoon. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 624 The *shaving-tool is used for getting the slates to a smooth face for skirtings, floors of balconies, &c. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxvi, That last remark upon the *shaving utensils. 1853 Whyte Melville *Digby Grand* xxiii, *Shaving-water at seven, breakfast at eight.

Shaving (ʃēˑviŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Shave *v.* + -ing 2.] That shaves, in the senses of the verb.

1611 Cotgr., *Frerot*, a shauing, or shifting, fellow. 1860 [see Shaver 2 b]. 1897 Meredith *Amazing Marriage* xxxvi, A shaving Northeaster.

Shaw (ʃō), *sb.*1 Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 sceaga, scaga, 2 scauhe, scawe, 3–7 shawe, 4 schaȝe, 4–6 schawe, 4–6, 8–9 schaw, 5 scha(ghe, 6 *Sc. pl.* shauis, 8 shave, 9 (Kingsley) shaugh, 5– shaw. [OE. *sc(e)aga* wk. masc., corresp. to NFris. *skage* farthest edge of cultivated land (Outzen), ON. *skage* wk. masc., promontory (cf. sense 3 below), *skaga* to project; related to OE. *sceacga* Shag *sb.*1, and (by ablaut) to ON. *skóg-r* wood, Scogh.]

1. A thicket, a small wood, copse or grove.

755–7 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 258 Terra illa juxta silvam quam dicunt Tocca sceaga. 987 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1845) III. 229 Ðis syndon ða landzæmæro to Westwuda..of ðære hlywan suð onbutan færs scaȝan on ða dic [etc.]. *a* 1200 *Newminster Chartul.* (1878) 75 Per has devisas, a rivulo propinquiore le Hangande-scauhe versus septentrionem. *Ibid.*, Usque ad rivulum primo nominatum propinquiorem ab Hangandescawe. *a* 1300 *Thrush & Night.* xxi. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 244 Hy beth briȝttore ounder shawe, Then the day, wenne hit dawe. *c* 1325 *Orpheo* 242 In somer he lyveth by hawys, That on hauthorne growth by schawys. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2161 At a schaȝe syde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Cook's T.* 3 Gaillard he was as Goldfynch in the shawe. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 333 Hou he to love untrewe was..And tok his lust under the schawe Ayein love and ayein his lawe. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* vi, Þei..suwene to þe souerayne within schaghes schene [*v.rr.* undur the scha schene, in cleues so clene]. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1504 Tymely as the day can dawe, He led her thorow a feyre schawe. *c* 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab.*, *Cock & Fox* 411 Ane lytill fra this foirsaid Wedowis hous, Ane thornie schaw thair wes of greit defence, Quheirin ane Foxe..Maid his repair. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 516 Berdis schoutit in schaw, with thair schill notis. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 127 In the shawe there lurkes an ilfavorid padd. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 15 Paslay quhilke is situat amang cnowis, grene woodis, schawis, and forrest fair. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Eagle & Robin* 57 Straicht to the schaw he spred his wing. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 159 In a Shave belonging to the Estate of Sir John Hales. 1787 Burns *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, A new-blawn plumrose in a hazle shaw. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xliii, Saddle the gentleman's horse, and lead him..ahint the thorny shaw. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* xvi. 131 The wet cloggy footpaths through the shaws and copses.

collective. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* ii, Compared with which European parks..are but paltry scrub and shaugh.

transf. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 21 O'er shaws of coral and the pearly sands.

b. In the same sense, *shaw of wood* (arch.); also *greenwood shaw*. Cf. Woodshaw (common in ME. verse).

a 1400 *Octouian* 355 As he rood be a wodes schawe. 1462 in *Finchale Priory Charters*, etc. (Surtees) 95 An othir parcell o wod also cald the lewod on the estsid, and buttes atte northend apon a shaw o wod of the said William Tillyall, and atte estend apon the more. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 334/1 A Schawe of wod, *virgultum*. 1562 Phaer *Æneid* VIII. Xiiij, Among the rootes on ground in greenewood shawe A Sowe of syse vnseene..they sawe. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VIII. lii, Under the greene wood shaw. 1837 R. Nicoll *Poems* (1842) 86 Through yonder greenwood shaw. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* xxix. 346 One night in Scotland in a shaw of wood by Silvermills.

2. *spec.* A strip of wood or underwood forming the border of a field. Cf. Shaw *v.*1

1577 V. Leigh *Surv.* I ij, What shawes, or good hedge-rowes of wood be about euery fence. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 331 A *Shaw*, a Wood that encompasses a Close. 1736 J. Lewis *Isle of Tenet* (ed. 2) 38 *Shave*, a small Copse of Wood by a Field Side. 1798 J. Middleton *Agric. Middlesex* 136 Divided into small inclosures by high hedges and broad shaws. 1842 Darwin in F. Darwin *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 320 A country..possessing a certain charm in the shaws, or straggling strips of wood, capping the chalky banks. 1859 Luard in *Archæol. Cant.* II. 6 There had been a shaw partly covering the place where we were digging. 1860 H. Ainsworth *Ovingdean Gr.* 8 A large close, encompassed by a shaw, or fence of low trees.

3. (See quot.)

1813 J. Hogg *Queen's Wake* Notes 353 *Shaw*..likewise.. denotes the snout, or brow of a hill; but the part so denominated is always understood to be..broad at the base, and contracted to a point above.

Shaw (ʃō), *sb.*2 *Sc.* [Of obscure origin; perh. a use of *shaw* Show *sb.* with the sense 'what shows above ground'.] The stalks and leaves of certain plants, esp. potatoes and turnips.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 412, I..made trials as to the effects of cutting the haum, or shaw, as it is commonly called in Scotland, at different stages of its growth. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 258 The shaws or tops of the plants being removed. 1813 J. Hogg *Queen's Wake* 68 But mine was made of ane humloke schaw, And a stout stallion was he. 1851 *Rural Cycl.* IV. 178 *Shaw*, the haulm of potatoes, beans, and similar plants. 1887 Annie S. Swan *Gates of Eden* xv. 202 The potato fields, with only heaps of sodden shaws and the long, newly-filled pits to tell of what had been.

Shaw, *sb.*3 *Sc.* [? var. of Show *sb.*] (See quot.)

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 163 The fore legs [of oxen] are usually farther apart than the hind, but the hind at times, when the *shaw* or *cod* is large and fat, is as much and even more apart.

† **Shaw,** *v.*1 *Obs.* [f. Shaw *sb.*1] *trans.* To fence or border (a field) with a Shaw (*sb.*1 2).

1610 Folkingham *Art of Survey* II. ii. 49 Collaterage Actiue, as siding, furrowing, balking,..hedging or shawing, immounding, impayling [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Compound Contiguall Boundage is more significant, as side-haying, head-shawing, &c.

Shaw (ʃō), *v.*2 *Sc.* [f. Shaw *sb.*2] *trans.* To cut off the tops of (potatoes, turnips, etc.).

1882 Jas. Walker *Sc. Poems* 86 She maun shaw the frosty neeps. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* lvi, I heard the horrible crunch as of one that shaws frosty cabbages with a blunt knife. 1895 W. C. Fraser *Whaups of Durley* iv. 43 All were busy..shawing turnips.

Shaw, obs. form of Shah, Show *v.*

‖ **Shawanese** (ʃōwănīˑz), *a.* [A variant of the name Shawnee, a tribe of North American Indians.] *Shawanese-salad*, the edible leaves of *Hydrophyllum virginicum*.

1829 Loudon *Encycl. Plants* 133 Hydrophyllum virginicum is used as a salad, under the name of Shawanese salad in North America. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Hydrophyllum*.

Shawder, obs. form of Shadder *v.*

1582 in *Trans. Jewish Hist. Soc. Eng.* (1903) IV. 94 The Charges of gettinge, shawdring and carrieing the ure [*sc.* Copper ore].

Shawe, obs. form of Shah, Shave *v.*

Shaweling, obs form of Shaveling.

† **Shaw-fowl.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *shaw* (of obscure origin) + Fowl *sb.*

It is improbable that the first element is *shaw*, the northern form of Show *v.* Cf. WFlem. *schauw*, scarecrow, but it is not easy to see how this can be formally connected.]

A scarecrow, also *fig.* Also an artificial bird set up as a mark for shooting at.

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 323 As Shaw-Fowles are in a Corne-Field, which skarre away the Crowes and Birds at first erecting. 1624 — *Gagg* To Rdr. 2 Terrible Shawe-fowles to skarre poore Soules. *Ibid.* II. 13 You set up a Shaw foule for a mark and shoot your bolt at it yourselfe alone. 1624 — *Immed. Addr.* 131 If they vrge Angelicall Reuelation, then that vnanswerable Argument of the Controuerser is but as a Shaw foule, in a Corne field. 1625 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 45, I feare not those shaw-foules of convention. 1654 Tuckney *Death Disarmed* 78 Such shaw-fowls do not scare me. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Shawfowl*, an artificial Bird made on purpose for Fowlers to shoot at.

Shawfron, variant of Shaffron.

Shawgh, obs. form of Shah.

Shawhee, obs. form of Shahi.

Shawl (ʃōl), *sb.* Forms: 7 **schal, scial, chal,** 8 **shaul,** 8– **shawl.** [a. Pers. ﺷﺎﻝ *shāl*; the word has been adopted in Urdū and other Indian langs., and hence into all the European langs.: F. *châle* († *schall*), Sp. *chal*, Pg. *chale*, It. *scialle*, G. *shawl* (from Eng.), Du. *sjaal*, Sw. *schal, sjal*, Icel. *sjal*, Da. *shawl* (from Eng.), Russ. шаль *shal'*.

The spurious word *shairl* (also in comb. *shairl-goat* = shawl-goat; see below) which is found in many recent Dicts., is due to a misprint in E. P. Wright *Animal Life* (1879) 165; the index has correctly *shawl* and *shawl-goat*.]

1. An article of dress worn by Orientals (commonly as a scarf, turban, or girdle), consisting of an oblong piece of a material manufactured in Kashmir from the hair of the Tibetan 'shawl-goat' (see 3 b).

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* VI. 316 The richer sort have..another rich Skarf which they call Schal, made of a very fine stuff, brought by the Indians into Persia. 1666 Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 123 They had such colour'd clothes as in Persia they call Scial, and use for girdles, but the Indians wear them cross the shoulders. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 37 At all times when they go abroad, they were a Chal which is a kind of toilet of very fine Wool made at Cachmir. 1727 A. Hamilton *New. Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxvi. 50 And when they go abroad, they [women] wear a Shaul folded up, or a Piece of white cotton Cloth lying loose on the Top of their Heads. 1792 tr. *Rochon's Madagascar* in Pinkerton *Voy.* (1814) XVI. 760 There are few oriental travellers who are not acquainted with those fine woollen stuffs known in Bengal by the name of shawls, which the Mahometans use for turbans. 1903 Sir A. H. Layard *Autobiog.* I. iii. 145 A thick shawl in endless folds round their waists.

2. As the name of an article of clothing worn in Europe and the West, chiefly by women as a covering for the shoulders or, sometimes, for the head; originally applied to the imported 'Cashmere shawl' (= sense 1 above: see Cashmere), but in later use extended to denote an oblong or square piece of any textile or netted fabric, whether of wool, silk, cotton, or mixtures of these.

The imported 'Cashmere shawls' had usually elaborate patterns, in which a prominent feature was a peculiar ornament shaped something like a pear, with the narrow end continued into a curve. These patterns are often imitated in 'shawls' of European manufacture.

The use of the shawl as an outdoor garment is now confined to the poorer classes.

1767 Sterne *Let. to Eliza* x, I dreamt..that thou camest into the room with a shaul in thy hand..you folded the shaul about my waist. 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 485 The Shauls all come from Cassemire..[their] material the produce of a Thibet sheep. 1782 *European Mag.* II. 68 Many a lady shrouded in a Shrawl [?*read* Shawl]. 1782–3 W. F. Martyn *Geog. Mag.* I. 44 Those fashionable handkerchiefs, which the English ladies have of late years worn under the name of shauls. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.* II. 544 The servants..were unfolding for her notice a rich, and remarkable Indian shawl. 1817 Byron *Beppo* lxxxv, The Count was at her elbow with her shawl. 1834 McCulloch *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) s.v., The finest Edinburgh and Paisley shawls. 1840 Malcom *Trav.* 9/1 The thin cotton shawls covering not only the whole person but the head, are lent them every morning to wear in school, and kept beautifully white. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii. (1878) 552 Miss Oldcastle appeared in her bonnet and shawl. 1902 Alice Terton *Lights & Shadows Hosp.* ix. 139, I just wropped the baby up in a shawl.

b. Worn round the neck as a protection from cold.

1834 *Baboo* I. xii. 208 (Stanf.) Fold your shawl close round your throat. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ix, Emma, give Pickwick a shawl to tie round his neck. 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* vii. 85 A gentleman with a very shiny hat, a very long shawl, and an indefinite quantity of thick great-coats.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *shawl-cloth, counterpane, girdle, goods, kind, -pin, stuff, turban, -weaver, -work, wrap*; *shawl girt, -shaped* adjs.; *shawlwise* adv.

1841 Moorcroft *Trav.* II. 169 A strong *shawl-cloth called Patu. 1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1792) X. 196 A *Shawl Counterpane, four yards square. 1844 E. Warburton *Crescent & Cross* (1846) II. xvii. 251 The [Turkish] smugglers gathered round the door of the tent, their *shawl girdles stuck full of pistols and yataghans. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lviii, The wild Albanian kirtled to his knee, With *shawl-girt head, and ornamented gun. 1783 G. Forster *Journ. Bengal to Eng.* xiii. (1798) II. 19 A portion of the revenue of Kashmire is transmitted to the Afghan capital in *shaul goods. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. ii/1 The fronts are trimmed with a lappel of the *shawl kind, of black velvet or silk. 1860 Worcester, **Shawl-pin*, a pin for fastening a shawl. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown* 10 Her shawl pin and a soiled cuff. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Apr. 6/5 The *shawl-shaped capes. 1841 Moorcroft *Trav.* II. 186 An immense variety of articles of *shawl-stuff are manufactured in Kashmir, besides the shawls themselves. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. Introd. 31 He wore the Persian dress, with a cap and a *shawl turban over it. 1842 Vigne *Trav. Kashmir* II. 121 A first-rate *shawl-weaver will occasionally earn one small rupi a day. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 223 When they wear anything on their heads it is a handkerchief folded *shawlwise. 1909 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Oct. 640/2 These stitches originally were used for *shawl-work. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 23 You should have your *shawl wraps and rug handy for use on deck when it is chilly.

b. Special comb.: **shawl-dance,** a dance originating in the East, in which a shawl or scarf is waved; so **shawl-dancing**; **shawl dressing-gown,** a dressing-gown having a shawl-like pattern; **shawl-goat,** a goat of Tibet (*Capra lanigera*) which furnishes the wool for making the Indian shawls; **shawl-handkerchief,** a handkerchief resembling a shawl; **shawl-loom,** a loom for weaving shawls; also, 'a figure-weaving loom' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shawl-material** (see quot. 1882); **shawl-pattern,** a pattern resembling or characteristic of that of an oriental shawl; also *attrib.*; **shawl-reticule,**

? a reticule made of cashmere bearing a shawl pattern; †**shawl-room**, the room for depositing shawls at a place of assembly; **shawl-strap**, a pair of leather straps joined to a transverse handle, for carrying shawls, etc.; **shawl-waistcoat**, a waistcoat having a pattern resembling that of an oriental shawl; **shawl-wool**, the wool of the shawl goat; also *attrib.*

1813 *Examiner* 15 Mar. 171/1 A conversation.., which naturally concludes with a *shawl-dance. 1897 'Ouida' *Massarenes* xxi, She had danced her shawl dance on the brink of exposure and bankruptcy. 1813 *Examiner* 15 Mar. 171/1 There is a lady, whose character is..marked by her skill in *shawl-dancing. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xli, The broken-down spendthrift in his *shawl dressing-gown. 1793 T. Baird *Agric. Middlesex* 39 A *shawl-goat from the East Indies. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 107 The long-haired shawl goat of Tibet. 1838 Lytton *Alice* VII. iv, The rest of the party..unmuffled themselves of cloaks and *shawl-handkerchiefs. 1783 G. Forster *Journ. Bengal to Eng.* xiii. (1798) II. 20 The Kashmirians say, that during their subjection to the Mogul dominion, the province contained forty thousand *shaul looms. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 445 **Shawl materials.* These are a mixture of silk and wool,..employed for the partial making and trimming of dresses. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxii, A coarse, staring, *shawl-pattern waistcoat. 1908 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 376 A few words may be said about the patterns of Cashmere shawls... The most characteristic feature..is what has been usually called the 'cone' or 'pine cone'... Sometimes it is simply called the shawl pattern. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xii. III. 291 An imitation *shawl reticule, as large as a moderate *sac de nuit*, and containing..pocket-handkerchiefs for the party, hung upon her arm. 1838 Lytton *Alice* VIII. ii, The ladies were waiting their carriage in the *shawl-room. 1873 'Susan Coolidge' *What Katy Did at Sch.* iii. 42 Tucking the railway guide into a *shawl-strap, and closing her bag with a snap. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* viii, He had a *shawl-waistcoat of many colours. 1774 W. Hastings in C. R. Markham *Mission of Bogle* (1876) 8 The animals called tús, which produce the *shawl wool. 1879 *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* I. 449 The export of shawl-wool (*pashm*) to India [from Tibet] has fallen off. 1841 Moorcroft *Trav.* I. 311 The *shawl-wool goat.

Shawl (ʃɔl), *v.* [f. Shawl *sb.*] *trans.* To cover with a shawl, put a shawl on (a person).

1812 Miss Edgeworth *Absentee* iii, Her son assisted Grace Nugent most carefully in shawling the young heiress. 1820 Byron *Juan* v. cxlvii, His Highness was..Shawl'd to the nose. 1840 Lady C. Bury *Hist. Flirt* vi, We retired to cloak and shawl ourselves. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxvii, George had meanwhile very carefully shawled his wife. 1880 Mrs. L. B. Walford *Troublesome Dau.* I. i. 18 Evelyn beheld a slight feminine form, shawled and wrapped to the chin. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 329/1 She shawled her head and her baby in her sea-blue cloak.

Shawl, obs. Sc. form of Shoal *a.*

Shawlde, shawle, var. ff. Shaul *dial.*

Shawled (ʃɔld), *ppl. a.* [f. Shawl *sb.* (or *v.*) + -ed.] Wearing or covered with a shawl.

1834 Ht. Martineau *Farrers* ii. 20 Then, while Jane settled herself, aproned, shawled, and mittened, at her desk. 1847 Disraeli *Tancred* IV. ii, Their arms and shawled heads glistened in the silver blaze of the moon. 1876 Whyte Melville *Katerfelto* iii. 27 With a shawled robe of scarlet and orange reaching to her naked ankles. 1902 E. B. Ottley in C. E. Osborne *Father Dolling* iv. (1905) 37 The shawled and hatless East End girls.

Shawling (ʃɔ̈·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shawl *v.* and *sb.* + -ing 1.]

1. The action of covering with, putting on, or wearing a shawl.

1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxix, I should look on his compliments, his bowings, his cloakings, his shawlings, and his handings, with some little suspicion. 1822 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 144 His cloakings and shawlings are worse than any cold. 1824 — *Village* I. 252 The shawlings, the cloakings, the cloggings! the cautions against cold, or heat, or rain, or sun! 1861 Sala *Tw. round Clock* 237 Nor during..the dancing, the supper, the shawling, the departure, and the drive home to his chambers.

2. The material of a shawl.

c 1806 Mrs. Sherwood in *Life* xx. (1847) 346 A skull-cap of rich shawling, or embroidered silk.

Shawlless (ʃɔ̈·llés), *a.* [f. Shawl *sb.* + -less.] Without or not wearing a shawl.

1847 Emily Bronte *Wuthering Heights* ix. (1850) 73 Cathy..standing bonnetless and shawlless. 1871 Miss Mulock *Fair France* i. 8 What decent English maid-servant would choose to saunter bonnetless, shawlless [etc.]? 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 469 Mrs. Brown went shawlless.

Shawm (ʃɔm), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **schallemele, 6 shamulle, shamble.** *β. pl.* 4–5 **schalmeis, s(c)halmys, shalemeyes, chalemyes.** *γ. pl.* 5 **shalmuse, shalemuse, schalmeuis,** 6 **shalmewes**; *sing.* 5 **sc(h)almuse,** 6 **schalmesse**; *pl.* 5 **s(c)halmuses, schalmoyses.** *δ.* 5–7 **schalme,** 6 **shaulm(e,** 6–7 **shalme,** 6–9 **shalm**; *pl.* 6 **shalmz, schallmes.** *ε. pl.* 6 **shambes, s(c)hames, schammes.** *ζ.* 6 **shaume,** *pl.* **schawmys,** 6–7 **shawme,** (7 *pl.* **shawn(e)s**), 7– **shawm.** [The ME. *schallemelle* (whence the other *α* forms) is a. OF. *chalemel* (mod.F. *chalumeau*) :—vulgar L. **calamellus*, dim. of L. *calamus* reed. The *β* forms (with which cf. MHG. *schalmîe*, MDu. *schalmeye, schalmeide*, MLG. *schalmeie*, mod.G. and Du. *schalmei*) are a. OF. *chalemie*, an unexplained derivative of L. *calamus*. The *γ* forms are a. OF. *chalemeaux*, pl. of *chalemel*, the form of the last syllable being prob. influenced by association with Muse *sb.*3, bagpipe; the pl. was in Eng. early mistaken for a sing., and a new plural *schalmuses* was formed. The reduction of the word to a monosyllable was prob. due to misapprehension of pl. forms like *schalmys*. See also Shalle.]

1. A mediæval musical instrument of the oboe class, having a double reed enclosed in a globular mouthpiece.

Coverdale, followed by the Prayer-book Psalter, uses *shawmes* in Ps. xcviii. 7 where the original and the ancient versions have 'trumpet' or 'horn'.

α. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 358 With Cornemuse and Schallemele [*rhyme* hele]. 1524 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 209 And furthwith the trompettes and shamulles did sounde and blewe up moost pleasauntely. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 46 One of them singeth with voice, another with shamble [*Isid.* XI. iii. 59 b, Vna voce, altera tibiis].

β. c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1864 Trompes, hornes, schalmeis [*v. rr.* schalmys, schalmes, schalmuses] Before þe hiȝe deis He herd. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1218 That maden lowde menstralcies In cornemuse and shalmyes [*v. rr.* chalemyes, shalemeyes] And many other maner pipe. *γ. c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. iii. (1869) 117 Reedes and floytes and shalmuses. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1086 With trompe and with nakere, And the scalmuse clere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schalmuse, pype, *sambuca*. 1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XII. xvi, Gheterns, lutes, shalemuse, recordours. 1481–*c* *Reynard* xli. (Arb.) 112 They blewe up trompettis and pyped wyth shalymoyses. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 48 Whereof sume use trumpettes, sume shalmuse and small pipes. 1503 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 91 Item to the Kinges mynstrelles with the shalmewes xl s. 1530 Palsgr. 266/1 Schalmesse a pype, *chalmeau*.

δ. c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 762 The dulset, the dulsacordis, the schalme of assay. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 1689 Trumpettes blewe vp shalmes and claryons. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* II. xxxiii. (1541) 51 The entrayles..be exercised by blowyng, eyther by constrainte, or plaiynge on shaulmes or sackbottes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 223 b, Blowyng on a bagpipe, or a shalme, or on some other facioned pipe. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 45 Trumpettis and schalmis wt a schowt Playid or the rink began. 1563–83 Foxe *A. & M.* I. 242/2 A noyse of trumpets and shalmes. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Auletes*,..he that plaieth on the flute or shaulme: a pyper. 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 7 This Pageaunt waz clozd vp with a delectable harmony of Hautboiz, Shalmz, Cornets, and such oother looud muzik. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 379 The denner quhair thair was great mirth schallmes draught trumpattis and weir trumpatis. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. liv. 514 This kinde [of reed] dyd serue to make tongues for pipes, shaulmes, or trumpettes. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 144 The douting conscience soundeth heavily like a shalme. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* v. (Stage dir.), A flowrish of Shalms. 1705 Motteux *Quix.* (1733) III. 238 The Moors ..only use Kettle-Drums, and a kind of Shaulms like our Waits or Hautboys. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* VI. vi, From the lofty balcony, Rung trumpet, shalm, and psaltery. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. v, Paris..claps hands, as the Avengers, with their shrilling drums and shalms tramp by.

ε. 1533 Cranmer in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 317 Tromppets, shambes, and other dyverse instrumentes. 1537 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XII. I. 11 Before yᵉ Scotysh gent. Shamis & dyvers oder instrumentes. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 A great noyse of cimbals, drumslades, timbrelles, shames, pipes, flutes. 1555 in *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 220 James Dromond and his marrowis quha playit befoir Sanct Geill on Sanct Geillis day on the schammes. *c* 1650 *Scottish Field* 320 in *Percy Folio MS.* I. 228 Many shames [15.. *Ibid.* 450 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II., shalmes] in that showe: with theire shrill pipes.

ζ. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. x. 67 Wyth tympanis, tawbronis, ȝe war wont to heyr, And bos schawmys of turnyt buschboun tre. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xcvii. 7 With trompettes also & shawmes. 1567 Drant *Horace de Arte P.* A vij, The shawme [L. *tibia*] was not as it is nowe with copper wrythed in In trumpet wyse but [etc.]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xii. 13 With shaumes, and trompets, and with clarions sweet. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burning Pestle* Prol., *Cit.* What stately Musick have you? You have Shawnes. *Pro.* Shawns? no. *Cit.* No?..Ralph plaies a stately part, And he must needs have Shawns. 1675 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 211 Their [Turkish] pipe is much the same with our trebble shawme [*printed* shaurne] or Hooboy. 1685 Otway *Windsor Castle* 193 The Cornet, Flute and Shawme. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 30 With the noise of Drum, Shawm, and Fife. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* II. iv. 270 *note*, Shawm in old English is a clarinet of low pitch. 1830 Tennyson *Dying Swan* iii, As when a mighty people rejoice With shawms, and with cymbals, and harps of gold. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 240 Of these [musical instruments] the most noisy is a kind of shawm, a straight tube of wood bound with palm fibre and opening like a clarionet. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., St. Dorothy* 403 Fair-clothed men that play on shawms and lutes.

b. *fig.*

1637 N. Whiting *Albino & Bellama, Vind. Poesie* H 3, I knew the Roscians feature, not his name, Yet tis engraven on the Shaulme of Fame.

c. *transf.* An organ-stop resembling the shawm in quality of sound.

1852 Seidel *Organ* 84 The organ in St. Elizabeth's, Breslau, contains a shalm.

†**2.** A player on the shawm. *Obs. rare.*

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 207 The same day, my Lord gaff to my Lord Glossetyres schalmevis vj.s. viij.d. 1522 *Ord. King's Ho.* in *Gentl. Mag.* (1834) CIV. I. 48 When it shall please him to have any Schames, Ministrells, or any such other, to come to his presence.

3. *Comb.*, as *shawm-blower, -player, -playing* (adj.).

1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 260 Scrapers of rebecks, *shawm-blowers, and vagabond pipers. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* II. iii. M ij b, Any trompettours or *shaulme players. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* V. i. 172 These shawm-players That walk before strange women and make songs! 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* II. (1895) 60 A lordly, godlike, *shawm-playing, cymbal-banging hero.

Shawm (ʃɔm), *v.*1 *rare.* In 5 **shalemoyse.** [f. Shawm *sb.*] *intr.* To play on the shawm.

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XI. iv, There satte Pan..holdynge a floyte of a rosier, in whiche he shalemoysed & pyped a strange note. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 96 All our talented performers had tuned their instruments, scraped, fluted, twanged, jingled, and shawmed to their hearts' content.

Shawm (ʃɔm), *v.*2 *north. dial.* Also **shaum.** [Cf. Scaum *v.*] *intr.* (See quots. 1855, 1877.) Also *trans.*

1824 J. Hodgson in J. Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 49 Keep on our hats and shawm our shins, and be like other Laplanders happy at home. 1855 *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Shawm*, to warm the knees and toes by sitting with them close to the fire. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Shawm*, to sit in front of the fire, with upraised petticoats, to impart warmth to the legs.

†**Shawmer.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **schawmir, shalmewer, shamuller.** [f. Shawm *sb.* + -er 1.] One who plays on the shawm.

1505 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 152 Item, to ane schawmir in Air, xiiij s. 1511 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, II. II. 1451 [At Greenwich, to Piers Thoulouse], a minstrel shalmewer, 4*l.* 1527 Whitinton *Vulgaria* 16 b, Mynstrelles dwelle here and there: as harpers, luters, fydlers, shamullers.

Shawnee (ʃɔ̈·nī). [The name of a tribe of Algonquin Indians. Cf. Shawanese.] Used *attrib.* in **Shawnee-haw,** the larger withe-rod, *Viburnum nudum*; **Shawnee-wood,** the western catalpa or catawba-tree, *Catalpa speciosa.*

1909 in *Century Dict. Suppl.* 1911 in Webster.

†**Shaw-net.** *Obs.* [? f. Shaw + Net *sb.*] ? A fowling-net for use in a 'shaw' or coppice.

1648 Hexham II, *Vlowe*, Shaw-nets for Wood-cocks.

Shawp, variant of Shaup *Sc.*

Shawy (ʃɔ̈·i), *a. rare.* [f. Shaw *sb.*1 + -y.] Abounding in shaws; woody.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 186 Through rocky cleugh and shawy glen. *Ibid.* 187, I..seek some shawy burn. *Ibid.* 317 They wander..up the shawy braes.

Shay (ʃē). [A back-formation from Chaise (ʃēz) mistaken for a plural. Also Chay.] = Chaise.

1717 S. Sewall *Diary* 20 Sept., The Governour went through Charlestown .. carrying Madam Paul Dudley in his shay. 1735 in Corey *Malden* 666 Bought a shay £27 10s. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* XX. (ed. 3) II. 237 Or who'd swelter and stoop Over linen and soap, While each tax-cart and shay To the Fair jolts away? 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* I. 71 Some in shays, and others on horseback. 1867 O. W. Holmes *Guardian Angel* xiv. (1891) 170 It is n't everybody that can ride to heaven in a C-spring shay, as my poor husband used to say. 1873 Ld. Lytton in Lady B. Balfour *Lett.* (1906) I. 298 The Bois.. was full of..one-horse shays.

b. *attrib.*, as *shay boy, cart.*

1840 J. T. Hewlett *P. Priggins* xiv, He gives the coachman or *shayboy twice as much as is usual. 1823 C. M. Westmacott *Points of Misery* 30 [She] puts him in a light *shay cart. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, Cabs, hackney-coaches, 'shay' carts.

‖ **Shaya,** variant of Chay.

Shay-brained, *a. dial.* Foolish, silly.

1806 Bloomfield *Wild Fl., Abner* 15 While I take this shay-brained course And like a fool run to and fro.

Shayl, Shayr: see Shail *v.*, Share *v.*

†**Shayth.** *Sc.* [? a. Gael. *seadh.*] Reason, what is reasonable; also, (a person's) rights.

1542 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 72 Angnes Stone vrangit in the saying to Necoll Moressone that shayth war it to gadder ane dussane of quyins and gar lesch him quhill tha var ane inch of him togidder. 1546 *Ibid.* 88 Thomas Beyn for the wrangus slaying of ane zoung swyn out of his shayth pertenying to Johne Crokatt..sall pay to the said Johne four sillingis.

She (ʃi, ʃɪ), *pers. pron., 3rd sing. fem. nom.* Forms: *α.* 2 **scæ,** 3 **sse,** 3–7 **sche,** 4 **shae,** 4–5 **se,** 4–6 **che,** 4–7, (8) **shee,** 9 *dial.* **zhe(e, sheea, sheh, shey, sha,** etc., 3– **she**; 3 **sȝe.** *β.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* 3 **sso,** 3–5 **sco,** 3–7, 9 *dial.* **scho,** 4, 6 **schoe,** 4–5 **schow,** 4–7, 9 *dial.* **sho,** 5 **shoy,** 6 **schew, schw,** 5, 9 *dial.* **shoo,** 6–7, 9 *dial.* **shoe,** 9 *dial.* **shou, shu, su,** etc. *γ.* 4–5 **scheo,** 4–6 **sheo.** *δ.* Combined with a following verb, as 4 **shere** = she were; 5 **shalighte** = she alight; 6 **shase,** 7 **sh'has,** 8 **sh'as** = she has; 6 **schois,** 7 **shees** = she is; 7 **sh'ad** = she had; 7 **sheele, shele** = she will. See also Sh', Sh-. [Of difficult etymology; but prob. an altered form of the OE. fem. dem. pron. *sío, séo, síe*: see The *dem. pron.* A. I b.

It would appear that in some dialects of late OE. the diphthong in this word underwent a change of stress, the older pronunciations (*sīo*) and (*sīe*) being replaced by (*syō*) and (*syē*). The latter of these variants is represented by the spelling *sȝe* of the 13th c.; and the phonetic development so far is exactly parallel to that of the OE. fem. pers. pron. *hīo, hēo, hīe* (see Heo), which in the 13th c. was pronounced in some dialects (*hyō, hyē*), as is shown by the written forms *ȝho, ȝhe*. As the combination (sy) is acoustically close to (ʃ), and more difficult (according to English habits of articulation) to produce, it is not surprising that (*syē, syō*) became (*ʃē, ʃō*), these being the pronunciations expressed by the written forms *scæ* (midland, *c* 1150) and *sco, scho* (northern, *α* 1300).

It has been objected to this view that in ONorthumbrian the fem. sing. of the demonstrative was not *sio, seo*, but *ðeo, ðiu*. Instances of *seo, sio* are, however, found in the Lindisfarne Gospels and the glosses to the Durham Ritual and

Hymnarium; and the extant remains of the dialect represent a very small portion of the Northumbrian territory.

With regard to the substitution of the demonstrative pronoun for the original pers. pron., it may be remarked that the phonetic development of various dialects had in the 12th and 13th c. rendered the pronouns *he* (masc.) and *heo* (fem.) almost or wholly indistinguishable in pronunciation. There was therefore where these dialects were spoken a strong motive for using the unambiguous feminine demonstrative instead of the feminine personal pronoun. Further, the districts in which *she* or *sho* first appears in the place of *heo* are marked by the abundance of Scandinavian elements in the dialect and place-names; and in Old Norse the dem. pron. (of all genders) is often used as a personal pron. It is also noteworthy that in OS. and OHG. the fem. pers. pron. nom. sing. was *siu* (mod.G. *sie*, Du. *zij*), corresponding to OE. *sío* (the oblique cases, and the masc. and neut. in the sing., being f. the stems *hi-*, *i-*); and in OFris. *se* 'she' occurs beside *hiu*.

The conjecture that *she* represents the ON. *sjá* this (nom. sing. masc. and fem.) is untenable: the initial (ʃ) is sufficiently accounted for otherwise, and the vowels do not agree. It is however possible that the change from the falling to the rising diphthong in the development both of *hío* and *sío* may be due to Scandinavian influence, as in ON. the Germanic *eu* and *iu* became rising diphthongs.

Some scholars have maintained that *she* and its dialectal variants descend directly from the pronunciations (hyé, hyō) of Heo (referred to above); the contention being that (hy) might naturally develop into (ʃ). This development has occurred in some Norwegian dialects, and it is illustrated by the proper names *Sheiland* and *Shapinshay* from ON. *Hjaltland* and *Hjalpandisøy*. But no instance of it has been pointed out in English of any period, and unless this can be done, the proposed etymology does not appear to have a claim to consideration.

The α type (to which the mod. literary form belongs) is in origin East Midland, while the β type is originally northern.]

I. As proper feminine pronoun of the third person, nominative case.

1. The female being in question, or last mentioned. **a.** Used of persons of the female sex.

a. 1154 *OE. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, And te Lundenissce folc hire wolde tæcen & scæ fleh. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1444 Sȝe ne bi-spac him neuere a del. *Ibid.* 1447 Sȝe bar him siðen sex sunen. *Ibid.* 1698 For rachel non birðe ne nam Sȝe bi-taȝte iacob balaam. *Ibid.* 1925 She [see 5]. *Ibid.* 2619 Sche forð-ran. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 709 ȝwan sse wolde imaried be. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1721 In al denemark nis wimman So fayr so sche, bi seint iohan! *c* 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 843 Se wende þey wulde so serue here sone. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Cant. 523 In synguler ioy shae was glad in cryst. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2317 Ac soþli as che had seide..þei herd an huge route of horse. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 376 Patronesse of plesaunce, be namyd well se myght. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* x. 158 A, hyr body is grete and she with childe! 1567 *Trial Treas.* (1850) 14 Che can make curchy well enowe. 1569 J. Rogers *Glasse Godly Love* in *Tell-trothes N. Yr's. Gift*, etc. (1876) 180 Aboue all thinges, shee is glad and willinge to suffer for Christes sake. 1611 Bible *Gen.* ii. 23 She shalbe called woman, because shee was taken out of man. *a* 1699 Lady A. Halkett *Autobiog.* (Camden) 4 When she came to my sisters house. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xx, Yonder be 's her, mon,—yonder be 's her—Zhe will buy changes an zhe loikes stuffs. 1893 F. Thompson *Poems* 23 Hers is the face whence all should copied be, Did God make replicas of such as she.

β. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 615 So þat sso [þe quene] hadde sone gret poer an honde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 75 Hir luue sco haldes lele ilike. *Ibid.* 20209 Vntil hir chamber scho it bare. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 112 A mayden..þat was so yung þat sho ne coupe Gon on fote, ne speke wit moupe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2732–2 (Göttt.) Scho said, 'for-soth ne smile i noght'; And if schoe [*Cott.* sco..sco] did it, hir ouerthoght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 64 Quhen men lede hyre to þe stede, quhar schow suld be put to dede, Petir [etc.]. 1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 498/1 When itt was asked of hir by ye Prist, if shoo wolde agree her to have the said William Pulle to husbond, and sho saide, nay never by hir wille. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 But when þis come to þe qwhene, sco went ny3 wode wro}. 1472 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 23 As oft as shoy his fone defectyffe. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 39 And yat schw hayd na payne or trowbel in hir birth as al oder vemen hesz bot schw buir hir sone with Ioi and blythnes. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxiii. 17 For nowdir wald schew rew, Nor beir me at disdane. 1628 in R. M. Fergusson *Alex. Hume* (1899) 274 Margaret Donaldsoune confessed that shoe gave her the sark. *c* 1634 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 12 And sho dieing, the work of Reformation prospered. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* iv, Gudeman, quod scho, content am I. 1824 [Carr] *Craven Gloss., Shoe*, she. 1847 Emily Bronte *Wuthering Heights* ix. (1850) 75 And Miss Nelly, shoo's a fine lass! shoo sits watching for ye i' t' kitchen.

γ. 13.. *K. Alis.* 151 Kyng Phelippes quene scheo is, Theo fairest woman lyvyng y-wis. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2133, & þan wente sheo þe burde briȝt & tok hem vp anone. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* iii. (Gibbs MS.), þowe mayste vnderstond [þe] furst ioye þatt scheo hadde. 1440 J. Shirley *Dethe K. James* 15 Sheo is bot a womane.

δ. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1250 For she wende she were bi-swike That shere yeuen unkyndelike. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 189 From hir hors she alighte [*Harl. MS.* shalighte]. 1575, etc. [see Sh-, Sh']. 1607 Sharpham *Fleire* iv. (1610) G 3 b, Yet in the morning, sheele haue none of them all. 1631 Knevet *Rhodon & Iris* iii. i. E 3, Then to her hips shele have her garments fall. 1637 N. W[hiting] *Albino & Bellama* 4 For having pow're to conquer, being faire, Sh'ad pow're not to be conquerd, being chaste. 1675 Shadwell *Psyche* iii. Wks. 1720 II. 37 To Psyche I haue offer'd my whole heart, Sh'has for no other left me the least part. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* v. ii, Sure there's divinity about her, and sh'as dispensed some portion on't to me. 1724 Ramsay *Evergreen* (1761) II. 17 Schois fairest payd that gets her Will.

† **b.** With adjective prefixed. *Obs. rare.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 66 Till proud she repent. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1674 Which speechless woe of his poor she attendeth.

c. Used of animals of the female sex. Also (esp. in rustic use) of certain animals (e.g. the cat, the hare) the names of which have a quasi-grammatical feminine gender exc. when a male is specifically referred to.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 409 And euere in oon she [the falcon] cryde alwey and shrighte, And with hir beek hir seluen so she prighte, That [etc.]. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, An hare shall dure well iiij. myle or more or lasse, and she be an olde hare mascle. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* c viii, She puttithouer when she Euoidith hir meete owte of hir goorge in to hir bowillis. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* lix. 162 Of the subtilties of an Hare, when she is runne and hunted. 1653 Walton *Angler* vii[i]. 147 The Melter hovers over her all that time that she [the female pike] is casting her Spawn. 1665 J. North in *Extr. S. P. rel. Friends* iii. (1912) 234 Tennants and vassalls..who dare not say the Crow is blacke if they say shees white. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* vii, She [a leopard] was chained to the huntsman. 1891 [D. Jordan] ('Son of Marshes') *On Surrey Hills* ii. (1892) 44 He [the sparrow-hawk], or 'she', as they say, will fly at anything.

¶ **d.** The misuse of *she* for *I* (also for *you* and *he*) is common in literary representations of Highland English. Cf. Nainsell, Her *pers. pron.* 2 b, Herself 3 c.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 797 A bard owt of Irland..Said.. 'Raike hir a rug of the rost, or scho sall ryiue the'. *c* 1707 in *Scot. Antiquary* (1898) XII. 105 She sall Confin Her nane Speak to te Salt, an te Excise, whilk she far sees will touch Her nane sell Mickle. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxix, She'll speak her mind and fear naebody—She doesna value a Cawmil mair as a Cowan, and ye may tell MacCallum More that Allan Iverach said sae. 1819 — *Leg. Montrose* iv, What the deil, man,..can she no drink after her ain master without washing the cup. *Ibid.*, 'And here she comes,' said Donald, as Captain Dalgetty entered the hall.

2. Used (instead of *it*) of things to which female sex is conventionally attributed. **a.** Of a ship or boat. Also (now chiefly in colloquial and dialect use), often said of a carriage, a cannon or gun, a tool or utensil of any kind; occas. of other things.

In quots. *c* 1380 and *c* 1475 the grammatical gender of the Fr. words rendered may have influenced the translators.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 626 And thar schip thai lychtyt sone..And scho, that swa wes maid lycht, Raykyt slidand throw the se. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2182, & þo3 þe dore were strong & huge, wiþ þe strok sche fleȝ. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 4495 A chambre..full fair wroght & well...She myght in no wise..more fairer be. 1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 142 Oon Thursday..cam forth a passonger from Dower to Calles ward and sche was chasyd with Frensche men. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 299 Item, to the men that brocht the clos cart furth of the water, quhen scho stude in the watir all nycht. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 14 b, Roste a rape upon the fyre till she be all black, and eate her warm. 1594 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* V. 195 Haveing brocht in thair ship to ane place thair quhair thay thocht sho micht maist conveniently ly. 1672 J. Roberts *Compl. Canonier* 36 To cool a Piece of Ordnance, when she is grown hot with over-much fireing. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. (ed. 4) 212 She ..was a fine roomy ship. 1822 Scott *Pirate* viii, I'll give you my fowlingpiece; she will put a hundred swan-shot through a Dutchman's cap at eighty paces. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* iii. vii, Mr. Venus..adjusting the kettle on the fire, remarked to himself..'She'll bile in a couple of minutes'. 1869 *St. James' Mag.* III. 309 The certainty of Oriel's bumping Balliol, if she can only hold up as far as the Gut. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., The feminine pronouns *she* and *her* are used for many things, as an oven, a 'stee', a pianoforte, a 'suff', and a church-bell. 1888 Lees & Clutterbuck *B. C. 1887* xxxiv. (1892) 372 A sleeping-car was being prepared here for attachment to the train when she should arrive.

b. Of abstractions, etc. personified as feminine; also of the soul, a city, the church, a country, † an army, etc.

c 1421 26 *Pol. Poems* xx. 173 She [the soul] is ashamed, now she is wys; Sche lyued in vowtrye so many a day. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 136 Whan the cyte vnderstode this, she began to be sore moeved. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiii. 14 b, [He] told the Ambassadour, that the Turkes army was at Malta, and that she had saccaged the towne. *Ibid.* I. xvi. 17 Shee is inhabited & peopled with a great number of..Merchants. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 21 Phantasie on the contrary doth take in hand also what shee hath not seene. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* III. *Misc. Ess.* 203 With all the pompous titles.. bestowed upon France, she is not more than half so powerful as she might be. 1827 Scott *Surg. Dau.* i, Nature must not be hurried, and she avenges herself of every attempt to do so. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 10 The Church cannot be said to have created pilgrimages, or even to have encouraged them—she suffered them. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* i. (1876) 22 South Carolina:..if that state went out of the world today, she would not have done so much for the world as Socrates. 1900 G. C. Brodrick *Mem. & Impressions* 252 Stanley had been ridiculing the habit of personifying the Church as a woman, and speaking of it tenderly as *she*.

† **c.** *rarely* of an immaterial thing without personification.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2359 To morwe we wolleþ..by-gynne þe sege..& fro þat time she ys by-gunne ne schal heo neuere be laft Til þe tour aȝen be wonne.

d. Of natural objects considered as feminine, as the moon, or the planets that are named after goddesses; also of a river (now *rare*), formerly of the sea, a tree, etc.

The two examples (quots. 1483, 1588 [1]) of *she* used of the sun may possibly be due to misprint; survival of the OE. grammatical gender can hardly be supposed, but Caxton may have been influenced by the fact that the sun is fem. in Flemish.

1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 112 b/2 The sonne..that day ascended as hye as she is on saynt Iohns day at none. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 340 They sayle alwayes towards the west, following the sunne when as she departeth from our hemispherie. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* I vj, Conferring..hir [*sc.* the moon's] rising and setting with ye rysing and setting of ye sone..it salbe easie to knaw how longe scho do schyne. 1614 A. Roberts *Sacred Septenarie* 169 The Moone cannot shine except shee receiue light from the Sunne. 1657 Ligon *Barbados* 77, I have seen a Negre with two short ropes clyme the tree and gather the fruit, about this time she is 80 foot high. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* I. viii. (1687) 73 Demosthenes.. strengthened his voice by declaiming near the sea side when she roared. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxv, She [*sc.* the harvest moon] shed her yellow influence over rich and deep pastures. 1903 A. Adams *Log of Cowboy* ix. 121 The driftwood..indicated what might be expected when she [the river] became sportive or angry.

3. Used pleonastically. **a.** In apposition with a *sb.* in the nominative case. Now only *arch.* (*poet.*) and in uneducated use.

a 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 110 Upon the morowe the maydyn smalle, Sche wente before hur fadur in halle, Amonge hur byrdys bryght. 1576 *Common Conditions* 243 (Brandl) My sister, she the Juell is. ? *a* 1600 *Beggar's Dau. Bednall-Green* I. xvi. in *Percy Folio MS.* II. 282 Then Besseye shee sighed, & thus shee did say. 1806 Jamieson *Sir Ouf* 44 The bride she cam' wi' the bridal train. 1892 Kipling *Barrack-room Ballads* 21 My wife she cries on the barrack-gate, my kid in the barrack-yard. 1896 — *Seven Seas* 86 The Liner she's a lady by the paint upon 'er face.

† **b.** In apposition with a sb. in the objective case. *Obs.*

1576 *Common Conditions* 265 (Brandl) Who can but smile and laugh to see the state of Fortune, shee? 1599 *Sir Clyom.* in *Peele's Wks.* (Rtldg.) 501/2 But shall I frame, then, mine excuse by serving Venus she. *Ibid.* 511/1 Yet though unto Neronis she I may not show my mind.

4. Used for *her*, as object or governed by a preposition. **a.** in literary use. Now *rare.*

c 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* lxxxi. (1814) 380, I haue no mo chyldren but she. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 469 The Ladies did change Fauours; and then we Following the signes, woo'd but the signe of she. 1592 Daniel *Delia* xi, '*Tears, vows & prayers*', Yet will I weepe, vowe, pray to cruell Shee. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. ii. 3 You haue seene Cassio, and she together. 1610 — *Temp.* iii. ii. 109, I neuer saw a woman But onely Sycorax my Dam, and she. 1881 Olive Schreiner *Story African Farm* ii. xiii. (1889) 284, I want no angel, only she.

b. *vulgarly*, as an emphatic objective case.

1752 Foote *Taste* I. (1781) 14 The fat Cook..fell out at the Tail of the Waggon; so we left she behind. 1762 Bickerstaffe *Love in Village* iii. iv, I have got rid of she. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* x, 'I hope—our presence did not inconvenience—the young lady?' 'Bless your heart, sir! nothing ever inconveniences she'.

II. As antecedent pronoun, followed by relative, etc.: cf. He II.

5. The or that woman, or person of the female sex (*that* or *who* . . .).

Formerly sometimes instead of *her* (objective): cf. 3 b.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1925 Hu mai ðis sen..ðat ðine brebere, and ic, and she ðat ðe bar, sulen luten ðe? 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 46 Sche that is the Source and Welle Of wel or wo. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 26 And so þat gas vt of þe wuke, and so þat cumis in, sal recaiue þe benichun at morne at matins. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* 186 Goo ayen to Tormaday to see the noble lande of that lady, she of whom thou arte amorouse soo moche. *a* 1540 Barnes *Wks.* (1573) 361/2 Faith is shee, whiche by prayer, obtaineth that thing, that the law commaundeth. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* iii, For where is she so faire whose vn-eard wombe Disdaines the tillage of thy husbandry? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 252 Praise him that got thee, she that gaue thee sucke. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* iii. 244 There is nothing upon earth More miserable than she that has a son And sees him err. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lviii. 2 That bright Lesbia,..she than whom Catullus Self nor family more devoutly cherish'd.

III. As demonstrative pronoun.

6. † **a.** *She and she, she and he*, etc.: this and that, the one and the other, both. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 1747 And though ye wolde han after merye dayes, Than dar ye nought, and why? for she, and she Spak swich a word. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xviii. 18 Than will thay say, baith scho and hie, That I am jaipit lait and air. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 317 He or scho Quha takis me nocht, go quhar thai haue ado. 1562 *Aberd. Kirk Sess. Rec.* (Spalding Club) 7 Quhasumeuer within this toun, he or sche, iniuris..their nychtbour with infamous ..wordis.

b. Followed by a prepositional phrase.

1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xliv, The Church gave her full solemnities, graced with all the splendour which she of Rome knows how to apply with such brilliant effect. 18.. H. G. Bell *Poem, Mary Q. Scots* 29 And there walks she of Medici,..the haughty Catherine! *a* 1849 Poe *The Assignation*, 'Ha!' said he thoughtfully,..'the Venus of the Medici?—she of the diminutive head and the gilded hair?'

IV. As *sb.* (not changing in the objective).

7. A female; a woman or girl; a lady-love. (With pl. *shes, she's*, †*shees.*)

1538 Bale *Three Lawes* 422 What! sumtyme thu wert an he? Yea but now ych am a she. 1547 Salesbury *Dict. Welsh, Banyw*, a she. 1575 [see He 7 b]. 1590 Greene *Never too late* I. (1600) D 3 b, Bright she was, for twas a she That trac'd her steps towards me. *a* 1592 — *Jas. IV*, I. iii. 679 Her vertues may compare With the proudest she that waits vpon your Queen. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxx. 14 And yet by heauen I thinke my loue as rare, As any she beli'd with false compare. 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 360, I was wont To load my Shee with knackes. 1648 Crashaw *Delights of Muses* Poems (1904) 160 Who ere she be, That not impossible she That shall command my heart and me. 1671 *Westminster Drollery* II. (1875) 80 For every he Has

got him a she. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* (1736) II. 228 The lovely She grew calm and tender. 1752 Fielding *Amelia* x. ii, The domino began to make very fervent love to the she. *a* 1814 *Forgery* IV. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 472 The very she who took the bracelets from me. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. clxxv, The freest she that ever gaz'd on glass. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* i, I would not change my condition—no, not to be..the luckiest she in England. 1881 'Rita' *My Lady Coquette* xviii, 'She's a friend of yours naturally?' 'How do you know it's a "she"?' 1894 Fenn *Real Gold* 40 Those are not shes—they're both men.

b. A female animal. [So G. *sie*, Fris. *sy*.]

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* G 3, So the moste parte of the sheos [Fr. *des femelles*], aswell of the birdes as of the beastes, will be praide. 1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Eagle & Body* (1609) B 2, A Prey to the Eagles of the Epicene gender, both Hees and Shees. 1604 R. C. *Table Alph.* (1613), *Female*, the shee in mankinde, or other creatures. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumph.* 78 Five hundred yoke of Oxen did hee owe, Five hundred Asse-shees, Camels six times so. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 852 He-Lions are Hirsute, and haue great Maines; the She's are smooth like Cats. 1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The he-goats had battels for the she's, and every one had his own wives. 1677 Mrs. Behn *Adelazer* I. i, He.. Had better snatch the She from the fierce side Of a young amorous lion, and 'twere safer. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* IV. v. 177 The She [= tigress] brings forth but once in Twelve Years. 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 39 Especially the shees which are with kid. 1875 [see He 7 b].

8. Opposed to *he*: Female.

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Noah's Flood* 124 Of cleane fowles seaven alose, the hee and shee together. 1567 [see He 7]. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 25 Any That had a head to hit, either young or old, He or shee, Cuckold or Cuckold-maker. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 24 These and the Date tree thrive not, except the male and female be united, and have copulation: the she is only fruitfull. 1649 Lovelace *A Lady with Falcon* vi, For y'are in Falcons Monarchy, And in that just Dominion bred, In which the Nobler is the Shee. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 467/1 Any not a poet, whether he or she, might toil [etc.].

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

9. Female. Applied to animals, as in *she-ass*, *-bear*, *-wolf*, etc.; **she-dog**, chiefly *transf.* = Bitch 2; **she-dragon**, a female dragon; also *transf.* (cf. Dragon[1] 6); **she-lion** *slang*, a punning distortion of 'shilling'.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xv. 9 A she gehet of thre 3eer. — *Lev.* xxii. 28 Shee oxe other shee sheep. — *Zech.* ix. 9 Thi kyng shal cume to thee..sytinge vpon a she asse, and vpon a fole, sone of the she asse. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 424 A shee ape. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxv. 27 Him meit sall in the air ane scho dragoun. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 259 Generit betuix ane sche beir and a deill. 1587 A. Day *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 6 The sucke it receiued from one of his shee-goates. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 50 The hie Salmonte haueng castne the meltis, and the sche salmonte the Rounis. *c* 1640 J. Smyth *Hund. Berkeley* (1885) 319 The Conger alias the conger eele, beinge the hee-fish, and the Shee fish is called a quaver. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2733/4 A..She-Ass, with a light coloured She-Foal. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* (1906) 100 A chase between a she-lion, or lioness, and a large deer. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *She-Lion*, a shilling. 1821 Lamb in *Coleridge's Lett.*, etc. (1858) 117 'Yet', said Lamb, 'Letitia was only just tinted; she was not what the she-dogs now call an intellectual woman'. 1838 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxiv, She-dragons in the business conducting themselves like professional gentlemen. 1843 Marryat *M. Violet* xl, The she-panther lay dead. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 702 The she-pigs are treated in a different manner. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 392 A stout Esquimaux..fired at a she-bear. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* v. 119 Great she-whales slain beside their young.

10. Female. Applied to persons (now somewhat contemptuous). a. Prefixed to sbs. which are otherwise 'common', as in *she-cousin*, *dancer*, *thief*, etc.; † **she-friend**, a female friend, often in bad sense, a mistress; **she-saint**, a female saint; also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 918/3 A she thefe, *laronesse*. 1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. Convoc.* ii. C j b, They swere by al he sayntes and she sayntes to. 1579 Fulke *Conf. Sanders* 615 S. Vncoulber a she Saint. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Amoureuse*, a shee louer. *a* 1586 Sir H. Sidney *Let. to Sir P. Sidney* in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) App. 25 There is nothing more irksom than a She-Fool. *a* 1592 Greene *Thieves falling out* (1615) A 3, A Disputation betweene a Hee-Foyst, and a Shee-Foyst. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiv. (1596) 241 There haue been.. many she Greeks..specially seen in the Sciences. 1607 Dekker & Marston *Westvv. Hoe* II. ii. C 3, She..is such an intycing shee witch. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* II. ii. (1620) D 2, And for that cause [she will] goe liue with her she-friend, or Cosen at the Colledge. 1623 Middleton & Rowley *Sp. Gipsy* IV. ii. (1653) G 3, This young shee Gipsie. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* VI. 303 One Pharsalia, a Thessalian shee-dancer. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* II. ii, He.. Commends his soule to his she-saint and exit. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 9 Sept., My two she-cozen Joyces. 1668 Sedley *Mulb. Gard.* II. ii, And then a Bottle of Wine or two, and a She-Friend is an approv'd Remedy. 1682 Mrs. Behn *City Heiress* I. i. 4, I have an assignation here at Church with the dearest she-saint, and I hope sinner. 1727 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Mar* Apr. (1893) I. 504 Which naturally attracts all the she and he fools in London. 1754 *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 91 (1756) II. 248 She [*i. e.* Elizabeth] had no She-Friends in her Cabinet-Council. 1808 Cobbett *Polit. Reg.* 25 June XIII. 1001, I trust, that mothers and wives and sisters and she-cousins..will have very little to do in the appointing of generals and other officers. 1823 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, Your indigent she-relative is hopeless. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk. Bk.* Wks. 1900 V. 87 All the he and she scoundrels of the capital.. rush by you. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.*, *Lay St. Odille* Moral, Then let's act like Count Otto, and while one survives, Succumb to our She-Saints—videlicet wives.

b. Prefixed to sbs. which naturally or usually denote a male person.

1530 Palsgr. 266/2 Sche devyll, *diablesse*. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Boulengière*, a she baker. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faust.* iv. 408 There was a hee diuell, and a shee diuell. 1607 R. Wilkinson *Merchant Royall* 17 Christ did call no she Apostles. *a* 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 45 At first both sexes were in Man combinde, Man, She-Man did with his body breed. *c* 1622 Ford, etc. *Witch Edmonton* IV. ii, [Enter Winnifrede as a page]..*Frank*...Ah, my She-Page! *a* 1628 F. Greville *Life Sidney* (1652) 188 This She-David [Q. Eliz.] of ours ventured to undertake the great Goliath among the Philistins abroad, I mean Spain and the Pope. 1633 Massinger *Guardian* III. vi, Would I were a she-Priapus, Stuck up in a garden to fright away the Crows. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk round Lond., Quaker's Meet.* Wks. 1709 III. III. 22 [She] makes a compleat She-Preacher, fit to denounce Hell and the Devil. *c* 1766 Gray *Impromptu*, Mrs. Keene the she Bishop of Chester [*i. e.* the bishop's wife]. 1816 *Monthly Mag.* XLII. 202 This she pope. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* ii, I don't think I ever saw such a she-devil. 1874 Lisle Carr *Jud. Gwynne* I. iii. 73 A flirtation with a she-costermonger or other female. 1892 *Ch. Q. Rev.* July 354 A Salvationist she-captain. 1900 Elworthy *Horns of Honour* ii. 91 Cecco d'Ascoli was burnt in 1327..for having had illicit intercourse with a succuba, or she-devil.

c. Prefixed to masculine nouns in place of the (frequently later) feminine noun in *-ess*. *rare.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Sacerdotissa*, a shee priest. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 231 A French God, whose shee-priestes, vowing perpetuall virginity, are said to be nine in number. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxii. (1674) 22 [They] admitted the chief She-Poets, or Poetesses, into Parnassus. 1674 Brevint *Saul Endor* vii. 161 They took her for their Patroness, and consequently for their she God. *a* 1679 Earl Orrery *Herod Gt.* Prol., Rare Scenes like Opera's, nay, She-Actors too. 1712 W. Rogers *Voy.* (1718) 279 The other She-Negro (call'd Daphne). 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* IV. s. v. *Cithæron*, It was sacred to Bacchus, and here his she priests were wont to keep their revels. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. iv. ¶ 8 The she-adventurer who had played the part of Camilla.

d. Prefixed, with the sense 'that is a woman', to sbs. used *fig.* (chiefly in disparaging use). Now *rare.*

1582 T. Watson *Centurie of Love* ix, So shuts or sprouts my ioy, as doth this flow're, When my Sheesunne doth either laugh or lowre. 1591 Lodge *Catharos* 4 b, A filbert is better than a faggot, except it be an Athenian she handfull. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 81 Almost euery common soldior carrying with him his she-baggage, besides his bag and other furniture. 1624 Heywood *Captives* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Shipp all your goods With these shee-chatteyles. 1638 Ford *Lady's Trial* I. ii, And him have we beleagred to accost This shee-peece, under a pretence of being Grandee of Spain. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xxi, His Office was to cast anew those She-pieces of Antiquity. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* vi. 4 Some she-malady, some unhealthy wanton, Fires thee verily. 1904 Dowden *R. Browning* 246 The love she-sparrow of the house-top [*i. e.* a poor girl in a garret].

e. with names of plants. Cf. He 8 b. See also She-oak.

1575 Gascoigne *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 127 Mary there are two kinds of Holly, that is to say, he Holly, and she Holly. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 114/1 *Abrotonum mas.* The hee Southernwood. *A. femina.* The shee Southernwood. 1626 [see He 8 b]. 1705 Beverley *Hist. Virginia* (1722) 127 The other..looks shrivell'd, with a Dent on the Back of the Grain, as if it had never come to Perfection; and this they call She-Corn. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 362 The she-plants throw out their flowers separate. 1884 Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 210 *Abies Fraseri*, Lindley...Balsam. She balsam. 1898 E. E. Morris *Austral Engl.* s. v. *Beech*, She Beech, *Cryptocarya obovata. Ibid.* s. v. *She-Oak*, The prefix *she* is used in Australia to indicate an inferiority of timber in respect of texture, colour, or other character; e. g. *She-beech*, *She-pine.*

f. with names of things = Female *a.* II.

1816 [see He 8 c]. 1876 Papworth in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 472/2 The joint joggles made as at *a*..is called by workmen a *he*, and that at *b* a *she* joggle.

11. With the sense 'effeminate'. *nonce-use.*

1821 Byron *Sardanap.* II. i. 48 The she-king, That less than woman, is even now upon The waters with his female mates.

12. Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, a woman or women.

1602 *How Choose Gd. Wife* III. ii. E 3, And since I sware, ..To trust no she tongue, that can name a man. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Wife for Month* I. Wks. 1907 V. 13 There's no such cure for the she-falling sickness As the powder of a dryed Bawds Skin. 1633 Ford *Broken H.* II. i, But this is but she-newes, I had it from a midwife. *c* 1648–50 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 33 Furnish'd with their spritely weapons, She-fiesh feeles clarks are no capons. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. 297 Nunneries also were good shee-schools, wherein the Girles, and Maids of the Neighbourhood, were taught to read and work. *Ibid. marg.*, Conveniency of Shee-Colledges. 1713 Rowe *Jane Shore* Epil., The Poets frequently might move Compassion, And with She Tragedies o'er-run the Nation. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* III. i. 220 Lydian Omphale's She-garb. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. 277 He is as self-willed and obstinate as the she-kind are. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* Prol. 158 He long'd ..for she-society. 1892 *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 3/1 What someone contemptuously phrased as 'she-poetry'.

13. *Comb.*: **she bible**, the second of the two issues of the Bible printed in 1611 (see quot.); †**she-calends** [tr. L. *feminæ kalendæ*], the calends of March (when the Matronalia were celebrated); † **she-Dunkirk**, a privateer; † **she-flattery**, the act of flattering females; **she-house** *slang* (see quot.); † **she-retailing** *a.*, trading in women.

1878 H. Stevens *Bibles Caxton Exhib.* 109 This pair.. we shall distinguish by calling the first the Great He Bible, and the other the Great *She Bible, from their respective renderings of Ruth iii. 15. *Ibid.* 111 This [1613–11 ed.] is generally a mixture of the sheets of the He and the She Bible. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* IX. (1673) 177 A trimme creature, to whom thou might'st send guifts forsooth, such as at the *she-calends they send to women. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* III. ii, As he came From a close fight at Sea vnder the Hatches, With a *she Dunckerke. 1637 Nabbes *Microcosmus* IV. E 2 b, Melancholy hath been some neglected Courtier; hee's perfect in *she-flattery. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **She House*, a house where the wife rules, or, as the term is, wears the breeches. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 77 b, These *shee retayling bodie-traffiquers.

VI. As adjective.

14. Female, feminine. *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 619 þe bestes all, bath sco and he, War broght forwit him to see. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 50 He had so little of the woman in him that he could resemble nothing She.

‖ **Shea** (ʃī, ʃī·ă). [Mandingo (Bambara and other dialects) *si*, *se*, *sye*, the tree or its fruit. The current English spelling is due to Park.] A sapotaceous tree of tropical Africa, *Bassia Parkii*, from the kernels of which is obtained *shea butter* (also called *galam butter*), a substance resembling butter, used as food by the natives and in Europe for the manufacture of soap, etc. Also *shea tree*, *shea-butter tree.*

1799 Park *Trav. Africa* xvi. (ed. 2) 202 The people were every where employed in collecting the fruit of the Shea trees. *Ibid.* 203 In clearing wood land for cultivation, every tree is cut down but the Shea. 1846 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* II. 90 The Shea Butter-Tree. 1846 *J. Bell's Syst. Geog., Guinea* I. IV. 28 The *shea* or butter-tree. 1847 Mrs. R. Lee *Afr. Wand.* xiv. (1854) 232 Anointed with vegetable or shea butter. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Aug. 450 Shea butter..is employed for rheumatism [etc.].

Sheac(k, var. forms of She-oak.

Sheading (ʃī·diŋ). Also 6 **shedding**, 8 **sheeding**. [var. f. Shedding *vbl. sb.*] Each of the six administrative subdivisions (three to each 'district') of the Isle of Man.

? 1577 in Mills *Stat. Laws I. of Man* (1821) 12, vj Men of every Shedding of Mann. *Ibid.* 15 In your six Courts of your six Sheadings. 1653 Chaloner *I. of Man* (1656) 17, 6 Coroners or Sheriffs of the 6 Sheadings, into which the Isle is divided. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* 315 The Coroner of the premier sheading began to recite the same titles in Manx.

attrib. 1577 in Mills *Stat. Laws I. of Man* (1821) 60 Hereafter follows the Fencing of the Sheading Courts. 1653 Chaloner *I. of Man* (1656) 19 A Jury of six, which is called a Sheading Jury.

Sheaf (ʃīf), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 scéaf, 4–5 **shef**, schef, scheef, 4–6 shefe, sheef, 5 sheeffe, (chyfe), 5–6 schefe, scheff(e, sheff, 5–7 sheffe, 6 sheaffe, schiefe, *Sc.* scheiff, (teind-)cheif, 6–7 sheafe, 7 sheave, sheive, 8 *Sc.* sheaff, 6– sheaf. *Pl.* 1 scéafas, (scéabas, scébas), 3 sheve, (*Orm.*) shæfess, 4 schewes, (szevis, cheves), 4–5 schefes, 4–6 scheves, -is, -ys, sheves, -is, -ys, 5 shefys, shef(f)s, 5–7 sheeves, 6 sheffes, sheiffes, sheafes, 7 sheaffes, shefes, 6– sheaves, 7– sheafs. *β. chiefly north.* and *Sc.* 4 schaf, (shafth), 4–5 shafe, 5 schafe, schaffe, 5–6 shaffe, shayff, 6 schaif, schayffe, 5 shave, 9 shaf(f. *Pl.* 4 scaves, schaffes, 4–5 schaves, 5 schaiffis, shaffis, 5–6 schawis, 6 shayffs, 7 schavis, schawes, shaves. *γ.* 5 schof(e, schoof, 9 *dial.* shoaf, shofe, shoof. *Pl.* 5 schovys, 9 *dial.* shoves, shoofs, etc. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *scéaf* masc. = NFris. *skêf*, WFris. *skeaf*, OS. *skôf*? sheaf (Gallée), MLG., MDu. *schôf* (mod.Du. *schoof* fem., sheaf), OHG. *scoub* sheaf, bundle or wisp of straw (MHG. *schoup*, mod.G. *schaub* masc., also *schaube* fem., wisp of straw), ON. *skauf* neut., fox's brush:—OTeut. **skaubo-*, app. f. the root **skaub-*: *skeub-*: *skub-*: see Shove *v.* From the wk. grade of the root are OHG. *scob*, MHG. *schop*, mod.G. dial. *schob* masc., *schobe* fem., bundle, OHG. *scobar*, MHG., mod.G. *schober* masc., heap of hay, corn, etc.

With the *β* forms cf. *chapt(-man)* beside *cheap*, OE. *céap*. The *γ* forms are difficult to account for. They may represent an ablaut variant (OE. **scofa* or **scofe*), or they may be due to the influence of continental LG. or Du.; another possible explanation is that locally the original falling diphthong *éa* may have undergone change of stress; but none of these conjectures is quite satisfactory.]

1. One of the large bundles in which it is usual to bind cereal plants after reaping. Also, a similar bundle of the stalks or blooms of other plants.

a. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) G 15 *Garbas*, sceabas. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxvii. 7 Me þuhte, þæt we bundon sceafas on æcere and þæt min sceaf arise and stode uprihte ǒmiddan eowrum sceafum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 216 Rudan sceafas þry ʒedo on wine croccan. *c* 1200 Ormin 1481 þu þresshest tine shæfess, & sibþenn winndwesst tu þin corn. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 455 Hwanne mon howieþ of his sheue. 1485 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 291 Clane whete as it cometh from the shefe. *a* 1490 Botoner *Itin.* (Nasmith, 1778) 288 Et populi portant anglice shevys de reede segge ad luminandam aulam. 1553 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 433 Brynyng with every pecke two shevis of fyrris. 1621 Quarles *Hadassa* Introd. B 2, Here lies a new-falne ranke, and there a sheaue. 1717 Berkeley *Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 546 Corn reaped and standing in

sheaves. 1797 T. Holcroft tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxxi. (ed. 2) 290 We..saw barley in sheaf. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1053 By practice, he can ascertain by the eye whether sheaves are of the proper size, which is 1 foot of diameter across the band. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 317 It is usual for landlords to pay for the drawing of the reed by the hundred sheaves. 1862 Miall *Title-deeds Ch. Eng.* 39 *note*, Beans were usually tithed in the sheaf or shock.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4061 Hijs breþer schaues [*Göttweih* scheuis, *Fairf.* sheuys] he sagh lutand Til his allan þat was standand. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 725/40 *Hec garba*, a schaffe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 14 Of vickit grane quhow sall gud schaif be schorn? 1532–3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 166 Item 1 stuk et 16 shayffs ordii. 1565 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 384 Cum..10 garbis vulgo schawis straminum. 1639 Mure *Ps.* cxxvi. 23 Charg'd with shaves.

γ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Scheffe, or scheef (*S.* schefe or schofe, *K.* schof), *garba, gelima. Ibid.* 447/2 Schoof or scheef. *Ibid.* Schokkyn schovys, *tasso, congelimo.* 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 35 In these 'reaps',—shoves or open sheaves,—it [*sc.* rape] lies until..the ripest is ready to open its pods. 1865 W. White *East. Eng.* I. vii. 101 Then we has to lay 'em [the reeds] straight, and tie 'em up into shoofs. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Shoves.

Proverbs. c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 2140 For alle mote oute, other late or rathe, Alle the sheves in the lathe. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 2579 The whiche child of hire natyuyte To alle thewis goode I-born was she, As likede to the goddis er she was born, That of the shef she shal be the corn. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 161, I will take as falth in the sheafe.

† **b.** *Tenth, ninth, third*, etc. *sheaf*: a specified proportionate part of the annual crop paid to the lord or to the church. Also (in the s.w. counties) *the sheaf* = the tenth sheaf, tithe of grain. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6807 Giue gladli tend And þin offrand, þe formast scaues of your corn. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 335 And þe nynþe scheef [*v. r.* schef] everich glebe of Engelond he ordeyned for his owne iourneys. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 24 Alle þo þat 3euyn þe tythe scheef to þe reperys for here hyre,..& 3euyn þe xj. sheef for þe tythe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 351 The churche of wygynton takyth all shevis, and halfe of all oper tythys. *a* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xii. (1885) 140 When the reaume gaff to thair kyng..the ix^th^ ffiese off thair wolles, and also the ix^th^ shefe off þer graynes. 1472 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 162 Wiljam sal pay 3erly for the teynd schafe of standand teyndis..20 bollis of vitale 1552 Lyndesay *Tragedy* 299 Ye wyll not want teind cheif nor offrandis. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 309 (1810) 318 The shefe of this place, Walter Stapledon gave to the hospital. 1641 *Will of T. Isaacs* (Somerset Ho.), Whereas the sheaf of sherverton belongs to me. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* i. (1691) 34 If the Rent of the Land..be the third Sheaf. 17.. in J. Hammond *Cornish Parish* (1897) 81 The proprietors of the Sheaf [—that is, of the Rectorial tithes—were abated 13*s.* 4*d.*]

c. *fig.* in various obvious uses. Also † *To put on the sheaf*, to crown the feast, add the finishing touch (*Sc.*).

1600 in *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy Soc.) 102 Of others take a sheafe, of mee a graine. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xii. § 12 In the Knowledge of Bodies, we must be content to glean what we can from particular Experiments, since we cannot from a Discovery of their real Essences, grasp at a time whole Sheaves; and in bundles, comprehend the Nature and Properties of whole Species together. 1715 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xx, A kebbuck syn..pat on the sheaf. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* P 21 Yet the harvest is so abundant that the negligent search of a straggling gleaner may be rewarded with a sheaf. 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* xvi, Marriage with a holy man is a sheaf of blessing.

d. Applied to a cluster of flowers, leaves, etc.

1845 Browning *Home-thoughts from Abroad* i, The lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf. 1882 *Garden* 1 July 12/1 The plant shown bore quite a sheaf of large blooms.

e. A cluster of jets of fire or water darting up together. (Cf. F. *gerbe.*)

1811 Pinkerton *Petral.* II. 535 A thousand sheaves of fire blew up into the air, where, breaking and dispersing, they fell like a shower of stars. 1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* 125 A shining liquid column, or rather a sheaf of columns wreathed in robes of vapour, sprung into the air.

2. † **a.** A bundle of iron or steel containing a definite number of gads (see quots. 1577, 1597).

[Cf. med.L. *garba*, a bundle of 30 pieces of steel; also MHG. *ein schoup isens.*]

1309–10 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 7 In 3 schaffes aceris emp., 12*d.* 1377–8 *Ibid.* 387 In uno shafth calibis pro reparacione securium, 8*d.* 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 150 Payed..for ij Sheffs of Stelle price the Sheff vij^s^. 1515–16 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 96, iiij sheiffes de calabe. 1577 Harrison *England* III. xviii[xi], in *Holinshed*, Our steele..is not so good for edge toole as that of Cullen, and yet the one is often solde for the other, and lyke tale vsed in both, that is to say thirtie gaddes to the shiefe [1587 sheffe] and sixe shiefes [twelue sheffes] to the burden. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Schaffa*, Ane schiefe of irone containes sexteene gades, ane schiefe of steile containes fourteene gades.

† **b.** ? A certain quantity of timber. *Obs.*

1534 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 5 Rych. my son v shefe of tymbre.

† **c.** A certain number of plates of glass. *Obs.*

[Cf. LG. *schoff*, a bundle of six plates of glass (Schiller & Lübben, s.v. *schöf.*]

1402–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 394, 7*s.* 8*d.* pro j pare de lyas et j shafe vitri venditis. *Ibid.* 397 Item de novo vitro colorato 2 scheff. 1476–7 in J. Raine *Auckland Castle* (1852) 54 [For 20] shefs [of new glass for repairing the windows of the manor-house, 13*s.* 4*d.*]. 1482–3 in *Finchale Priory Acc.* (Surtees) p. cclx, Pro ix shaffis vitri. 1487 *Churchw. Acc. Wigtoft Lincs.* (Nicholls 1797) 83 Paide for a shefe of glass 8^d^. 1488–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 99 Pro 5 shaff' vitri empt., 3*s.* 4*d.* 1532–3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 170 Et in 8 shayff brymmys glasse emptis.

3. A bundle or quiverful of 24 arrows.

1318 *Act Robt. I* c. xxvii, Unum bonum arcum cum uno schapho sagittarum. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 324 Half a shef of arwes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 104 A sheef of pecok arwes brighte and kene Vnder his belt he bar ful thriftily. 1475 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 200 Bowis and schawis. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 58 For a sheffe and an half of brode arrowes at ij d. the sheffe vj s. and for a sheef of brode heddes at ij d. the hedde iiij s. 1519 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1864) Apr. 501/1 A boue & a shaffe of arrows, ij^s^. 1590 Sir J. Smythe *Disc. Weapons* 20 b, To drawe their arrowes out of their cases and sheafes. 1643 Baker *Chron., Edw. IV*, 94 The Northern men..plyed their bowes, till all their Sheaves were empty. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* ix, The soldiers..discharged several sheaves of arrows upon such fugitives, as..approached too near the castle.

fig. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 224 [They] shoten a3ein with shotte many a shef of othes, And brode hoked arwes, goddes herte & his nayles.

4. A representation of a sheaf (of corn, arrows, etc.). (In *Her.* the sheaf of corn is called Garb.)

c 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 291 Ceres..in a garment Of sak clothe..Embrowderyd with sheues and sykelys bent. *a* 1631 Donne *Poems, To Mr. G. Herbert*, A Sheafe of Snakes used heretofore to be My Seal, The Crest of our poore Family. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* IV. viii, And hence, in fair remembrance worn, Yon sheaf of spears his crest has borne. 1868 Cussans *Handbk. Her.* vii. (1893) 108 A bundle of Arrows bound together in the centre is termed a Sheaf, and consists of three: one in pale, and two in saltire.

5. *gen.* A cluster or bundle of things tied up together; a quantity of things set thick together.

a 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 78 A Mineral..composed of several Sheafs of grey Filaments. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xlviii, A great palette, and a sheaf of painting-brushes. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* II. xxii, The sheaves of banners were unfurled at the angles of the Baptistery. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. v, He took a sheaf of telegraph-forms from the stand in front of him.

b. Emphatically in pl.: A large number, mass, or quantity.

1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XX. vi. IX. 108 He has sheaves of Letters daily. 1888 Henley *Bk. Verses* 123 It falls, in very sheaves, The weary, dreary rain.

6. *Physics* and *Math.* A bundle of rays, lines, etc. all passing through a given point.

1863 Tyndall *Heat* ix. § 359. 302 A sheaf of calorific rays. 1885 Leudesdorf *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 22 A *sheaf* (*sheaf of planes, sheaf of lines*) is a figure made up of planes or straight lines, all of which pass through a given point (the *centre* of the sheaf). 1890 Eagles *Descript. Geom.* 303 Sheafs of rays which in the case of a source of light..form a cone of which that source is the vortex.

7. *Comb.*, as *sheaf-like* adj.; † **sheaf-arrow**, an arrow of the kind which was carried in a sheaf (see 3) for warfare; **sheaf-binder**, one who binds sheaves, a machine which does this; **sheaf-corn**, corn in sheaves; † **sheaf-iron**, ? iron in sheaves or bundles of rods; **sheaf-ripe** *a.* (*poet.*), ripe for harvest.

1474 in Rymer *Fœdera* XI. 838 Sagittas vocatas *Shefe Arowes. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 126 As concerning sheaffe Arrouse for war. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt* 20 A French man back into the Towne doth fall, With a sheafe Arrow shot into the head. 1866 Blackie *Homer & Iliad* I. 163 Sowers and reapers and *sheaf-binders. 1880 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 2/4 For many years, the only description of sheaf-binder which was found to work was one which tied with wire. 1785 W. H. Marshall *Midl. Counties* (1790) II. 167 *Sheaf corn lies straighter in the cutting box. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1835) 364, iiij houndreth lb of *sheff yron j^l^ xij^s^. 1880–1 Saville Kent *Man. Infusoria* I. 249 A *sheaf-like fascicle of rod-like trichocysts. 1879 Browning *Ned Bratts* 3 Corn stood *sheaf-ripe already.

Sheaf (ʃif), *v.* [f. Sheaf *sb.* Cf. Sheave *v.*]

1. *trans.* To bind into a sheaf or sheaves; also with *up*. Also *absol.*

1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 18 To laboure in haruest..To repe and shefe. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 113 They that reap must sheafe and binde. 1611 Florio, *Affasciare*,..to sheafe vp corne. 1620 Markham *Farew. Husb.* xiii. 103 Hauing reapt your corne so full of grasse and weeds, you shal by no meanes sheafe it. 1651 W. Durham *Maranatha* (1652) 14 Should the tares overlook the wheat here, and hereafter be sheafed up into the barn. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. viii. 30 When the crop is fully ripe and clear of weeds, 'tis proper to mow inwards, and sheaf it immediately. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 327 Last harvest Mr. Hudson sheafed part of his barley. 1874 Hardy *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxxiii, Maryann..with some other women was tying the bundles (oats being always sheafed on this farm).

fig. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 438 It would be absurd to waste its scholarship and unrivalled opportunities in sheafing up and binding together a puny list of unregistered words. 1891 F. Mary Wilson *Browning Primer* 239 Some..seem more specially sheafed than others by the binding threads of the *Prologue* and *Epilogue.*

2. To furnish with a sheaf. *rare.*

1636 R. James *Iter Lancastr.* (1845) 3/69 Who doe bent bowes on their left showlders hould, Their girdle sheaft with arrowes.

Sheaf, erroneous form of Sheath *sb.*

1697 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 94 These Swords being so long, that they cannot be drawn out, unless a Man has the Arms of a Giant; the Sheaf therefore flies open in laying the finger on a little Spring. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Vegetation*, The lateral roots also break forth..from the gaping sheaf which adheres closely to the plant.

Sheaf, variant of Sheave *sb.*

Sheafage (ʃī·fēdʒ). *rare*^−1^. [f. Sheaf *sb.* + -age.] Sheaves in the aggregate.

1885 A. Dobson *At Sign of Lyre, Masque of Months* viii, Now in wains the sheafage yellow 'Twixt the hedges slow is borne.

Sheafy (ʃī·fi), *a.* [f. Sheaf *sb.* + -y^1^.] Consisting of or resembling a sheaf or sheaves.

1712 Gay *Ovid's Met.* VI. *Arachne* 190 Ceres,..Whose golden locks a sheafy garland bear. 1887 Blackmore *Springhaven* III. xv. 203 The sun had been ripening his harvest-field of sheafy gold and awny cloud.

Sheah, Sheak, var. ff. Shiah, She-oak.

Sheakle, dial. form of Shackle *sb.*^1^

Sheal: see Sheel *v.*, Shiel *sb.* and *v.*, Shill *v.*

Shealing: see Sheeling, Shieling, Shilling.

Sheamble, sheamle, obs. ff. Shamble *sb.*^1^

Shea-oak, variant of She-oak.

Shear (ʃīəɹ), *sb.*^1^ Forms: *sing.* 1 scéar, 3–6 schere, 4 scheere, 4–6 shere, sheere, 6 share, 6–7 sheir, *Sc.* scheir, 7–9 sheer, 8– shear; *pl.* 1 scérero, scéruru, scéroro, scéara, 3 særes, 3–6 scheris, 4 sherys, 4–5 scheres, schersy, sheeris, 4–6 sheris, 4–7 sheres, 5 s(c)herez, schers, shereis, shires, 6 sheires, 6–7 sheyres, sheeres, sheares, 6–9 sheers, 7 shares, 7 shears. [Prob. two formations: (1) OE. *scérero* pl.:—OTeut. type **skēriz̄ō*:—pre-Teut. **skēresā*, f. root **sker-*: see Shear *v.* (2) OE. *scéar* fem. = MDu. *schaer*, OHG. *scâra* (:—**skērō*), f. the same root. Another declensional variant is represented by OHG. *skâr*, pl. *skâri* (whence the later sing. form MHG. *schære*, mod.G. *schere* fem.), ON. *skæri* neut. pl. (Norw. dial. *skjæra* fem., *skjære* masc.).]

1. Originally (and still *Sc.* and *dial.*) = Scissors. In later use commonly applied to scissors of large size, and to other cutting instruments which similarly operate by the simultaneous action of two blades on opposite sides of the material to be cut.

The various kinds of shears fall into two principal classes: those which are worked in the manner of scissors, and those in which (as in ordinary sheep-shears) the bringing together of the blades is effected by pressure on their stems between the blades and the arched spring by which the stems are connected. Shears of the latter class have now sometimes three or more blades instead of two.

Often with defining word indicating the purpose for which the instrument is intended or some peculiarity of its construction, as *bar-shears, clipping shears*, etc. q. v. under the first element; also Sheep-shears.

a. in pl. form, with plural construction, either in sing. or plural sense. When qualification by a numeral or an indefinite article is required, *pair of shears* is used.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) F. 263 *Forfices*, scerero. *Ibid.* 279 *Forfex*, isern, sceruru. *c* 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 138 Ðætte ða sacerdas ne sceoldon no hiera heafdu scieran mid scearseaxum..ac hie sceoldon hie efsian mid scearum. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 399/19 *Forficis*, sceara. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal..habban..horscamb and sceara. *c* 1205 Lay. 14215 Whætte his særes alse he schæren wolde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 857 He tok þe sh[e]res of þe nayl And made him a couel of þe sayl. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 722 How Sampson loste his heres, Slepynge, his lemman kitte it with hir sheres. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 318 And out he clippeth also faste Hire tunge with a peire scheres. 1473 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) 27 b/1 It is..enacted, that noo wullen cloth..be shorne.. but yf it be fully wet opon peine of forfetur of the said cloth. ..The sherar therof shal lese his shereis and pay xx. s' for euery pece cloth. 1527 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 21 Oon pair of sheris and iiij shepe. 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 246 Grynding of Sheeres to clypp the Assedue. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 278 The sheares also were at hand to behead the silke. 1628 [P. Fletcher] *Brittain's Ida* I. ii, His Nimph-like face ne're felt the nimble sheeres. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 380 Admitting of formation by the Gardiner's sheers. 1783 Burns *Death of Mailie* 40 So may they [sheep], like their great forbears, For monie a year come thro' the sheers. 1855 Delamer *Kitchen Garden* 17 A pair of shears, for clipping box-edging and quickset hedges. 1902 Marshall *Metal Tools* 44 For cutting thin sheet metal and wire, a pair of hand-shears.

¶ In tavern signs.

1600 *Sir John Oldcastle* V. v. 12 Yonder at the sheeres. 1826 *Hone's Every-d. Bk.* I. II. 1230 The 'Hand and Shears', a public house [in Cloth-fair].

b. in sing. form, = a pair of shears. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7240 Quils sampson slepped, sco laght a schere, His hare sco kerf. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 66 Ne on his heed com rasour noon ne schere. 1455 in Anstey *Munim. Acad.* (Rolls) II. 664, j. shere to snoffe candels. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 396 Thow yeid with elwand, scheir and thymmill, Full mony a day seikand thy craft. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Misc. Abbotsf. Club* (1837) I. 184 Laid ane woll scheir on the coggis mouth. 1662 Petty in T. Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 64 Then the sheer works rank, that is, takes off a deep flock. *Ibid.*, So few men can set and grind a shear exactly.

¶ **c.** in *pl.* form construed as *sing.*

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cclxvii, One Shears must cutt them both. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 141 A shears fixed at the extremity of a long handle, and which clips and holds fast at the same time.

d. As used for purposes of divination. Commonly *sieve and shears.*

1549 in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 334 Sir Robert Brian.. conjureth with a syve and a pair of sheeres. 1570 [see Riddle *sb.* 1 b]. 1602–1843 [see Sieve 2b].

† **e.** In proverbial use. *There goes but a pair of shears between them*, they match each other as if cut from the same cloth; they are 'of a piece'

(very common in 16–17th c.). *Chalk is not shears* (Sc.), chalking the cloth is not cutting it. *Obs.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* Wks. 1902 I. 195 The *Sympathia* of affections and as it were but a payre of sheeres to goe betweene theire natures. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 28. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 98 There went but a paire of sheeres between a Papist and a Protestant, and not a pinne to choose of what religion a man is. 1643 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 314, I feir me they sall be long in concluding, as we say in the comon proverbe 'Calke is no sheyres'.

f. *fig.*, esp. as attributed to the Fates.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 348 O sisters three, come, come to mee, With hands as pale as Milke, Lay them in gore, since you haue shore With sheeres, his thred of silke. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 75 Comes the blind Fury with th'abhorred shears, And slits the thin spun life. 1795 SOUTHEY *Vis. Maid of Orleans* I. 309 Observe how soon..they change Their snowy hue,..Till Atropos relentless shuts the sheers. 1886 CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN *Sp.* 13 May in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* Ser. III. CCCV. 939 The shears of destiny in the hands of Mr. Jesse Collings were ready.

g. *Mech.* In modern use, applied to various machines for cutting metals, more or less analogous to shears in manner of operation.

1834–6 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* § 876 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 615 Cut up into narrow slips..by means of a pair of circular shears. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. K 1, These shears are so arranged that the long plates can be cut in two or more divisions. *Ibid.* K 6, Fig. 2 is an end view of carriage, showing side views of punch and shear, and front view of drill.

h. *Cloth-manuf.* The cutting apparatus of a cloth cropping machine composed of a series of spiral blades on a revolving cylinder which cut against a ledger blade; also each of these blades.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1323 This wire..being hardened is intended to constitute one edge of the shear or cutter. *Ibid.* 1326 A straight blade of steel..forms the leger blade, or lower fixed edge of the shears. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 913 Revolving shears or 'perpetual shears' are used for shearing off the loose fibres from the face of woollen cloths.

i. One of the blades of a pair of shears.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exper. Philos.* III. xxxi. 235 The upper shear is riveted to a couple of strong standards. 1884 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 19/1 Immediately after the cut of the shear commences the iron must be divided completely across.

¶ **2.** Misused for: (*a*) a knife; (*b*) a scythe.

1382 WYCLIF 3 *Kings* xviii. 28 Thei cuttiden hem self..with sheeris and litil launcis [Vulg. *cultris et lanceolis*]. 1887 MRS. LAFFAN *Song of Jubilee* 58 We could hear The whetstone grate upon the mower's shear.

† **3.** *pl.* Something having the shape of a pair of shears. **a.** ? The clavicles; **b.** = *Shear-battle* (see 7); **c.** A pair of wings; **d.** The pincer-like claws of a crustacean. *Obs.*

1506 *Kal. Sheph.* K 8 b, By the necke betwene the head & the sholders ben .ii. bones named the sheres. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiers* iv. 7 b, The Sheeres are made with twoo Triangels ioyned togethers for to receiue betwen them the said battell. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 5 Two sharpe winged sheares, Decked with diuerse plumes, like painted Iayes, Were fixed at his backe, to cut his ayerie wayes. 1682 K. DIGBY *Chym. Secr.* II. 195 The black ends of the shares of Crabs. 1714 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xiii. (ed. 2) 234 *note*, Two toothy Cheeks, somewhat like the Sheers of Lobsters.

4. *pl.* (Often construed as sing.) A device used upon ships, and in dockyards and mines, for raising and fixing masts, boilers and other heavy gear, consisting of two (or sometimes more) poles steadied (in a sloping position) by guys and fastened together at the top, from which the hoisting tackle depends, and with their lower ends separated as a base and secured to the deck or platform. Often spelt **sheers**. [Cf. G. *scherenkran.*]

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) Sheeres. 1644 [see SHEEPSHANKS 2]. 1739 C. LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 36 The Sheers and Crab made use of in lifting the Stone. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xlvii, Then the shears were seen forward. 1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss., Cornw.* (ed. 2) 22 Shears..for the convenience of lifting out or lowering into the shaft, timber, or other things of great length. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 130 The legs or spars for sheers. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* x. 107, I..improvised a shears made of a couple of thirty-foot rails.

5. *pl.* A collector's name for any of several moths of the genus *Hadena* (Schrank), esp. *H. plebeia*; also *H. glauca*, the glaucous shears, *H. leucostigma*, the white-spot shears, *H. ochracea*, the tawny shears.

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 67. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 415.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Simple attrib., as *shear-blade, -handle, -lever, -machine, rivet, slide, -smith,* (sense 4) *shear-derrick, -pole*; objective, as *shear-grinder, -grinding, -maker*; similative, as *shear-shaped* adj.

1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. K 1, With *shear blades long enough to shear a plate at one cut. 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 268/1 For the purpose of hoisting the stone to the *shear dericks at the top. 1688 *Rec. Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 178 John Gray *shear-grinder. 1875 KNIGHT *Mech. Dict.*, *Shear-grinding Machine. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 348/1 He beareth Azure, a pair of Clothiers Shears, Argent; and the *Shear handle Or. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. K 8, The *shear lever. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 720 Two pairs of *shear-machines. 1797 *J. Robinson's Directory of Sheffield* 172 *Shear Makers. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxv, We were obliged to go aloft upon the ropes and *shearpoles. 1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 63 With *Shear Rivets. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 297 The *shearshaped palps are twice as long as the body. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. K 6, *Shear slide. 1623–4 *Act 21 Jas. I*, c. 31 § 6 The Occupacion of a Cutler Scissorsmith *Shearsmith or Sicklesmith within..Hallamshire. 1756 PENNECUIK *Hist. Blue Blanket* 42 Shear-smiths.

7. Special comb.: †**shear-battle** *Mil.*, a tactical arrangement of forces into two wedge-shaped formations acting in parallel directions toward the same objective; **shear-bill** [tr. F. *bec-en-ciseaux* (Buffon)], the Scissor-bill; **shear board**, a padded board over which the cloth was stretched for cropping with hand-shears; also *attrib.*; **shear-frame** (see quot.); **shear mark**, a mark upon a hide or fleece made when clipping an animal; also *fig.*; also **shear-marked** *a.*; **shear-mast** (see quot.); **shear-tail**, (*a*) *dial.*, a name for the Common Tern (*Sterna fluviatilis*); (*b*) a Peruvian bird (*Thaumastura cora*).

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 80 Loe here the *sheere battell framed of 4 battallions. 1793 tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* VIII. 412 The *Shearbill. 1562 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 156 In the shoppe, shears, *shearborde, and wyrkingere, xjs. *Ibid.* 153 Shearborde handills. 1733 [P. LINDSAY] *Interest Scot.* 110 The cutting on the Shear-board. 1880 F. PEEL *Luddites* 9 While the pair of cropping shears were working across the length of the two pieces fixed and prepared on the shear boards. *Ibid.*, The *shear-frame was one by means of which the two hand-shears could be worked at one and the same time instead of one by the hand cropper. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii. § 4 (1912) 321 [They returned home] most of them with *share-marks of their folly. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 866 The shear-marks are seen to run in parallel bands round the carcass. 1892 *Berwick Advertiser* 16 Sept. 1/6 A Red and White Stirk; one shear mark on near hind quarter. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3245/4 A Chesnut Mare about 13 hands high,..*shear marked on the top of the Buttock E. B. 1867 SMYTH *Sailors' Word-bk.*, **Sheer-mast*, the peculiar rig of the rafts on the Guayaquil river..having a pair of sheers (instead of a single mast) within which the fore-and-aft mainsail works. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 203 *Shear tail. 1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* vi. 438 The 'Peruvian Shear-tail' is golden-green, with crimson throat shading into blue, and white under surface.

Shear (ʃɪəɹ), *sb.*2 Now chiefly *dial.* Forms: 6 **sheere**, 6–7 **share, sheare, shere**, *Sc.* **scheir**, 7 **sheer, sheir**, 6– **shear.** [f. SHEAR *v.*]

I. Action or result of shearing.

1. a. A mowing of grass or corn, a crop.

1794 *Har'st Rig* vi, And ay they tell, That, 'a green shear Is an ill shake'. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 224 Let the shear or swarth be what it may, the average price of mowing is stated..at 2*s.* 4*d.* per acre. 1882 *Cornish Telegraph* 29 June 5 The shear of hay will be a splendid one.

b. A shearing (of wool), a fleece.

1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 579 By subdividing multifariously the sorts of wool to which the growers are to attend, the number of competitors in each line of shear will become very small.

c. *transf.* A shorn animal.

1659 *Rec. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 16 Ilke sheir without a hird 4d. for ilke fault.

d. Used in stating the age of sheep with reference to the number of times the fleece has been shorn. *One shear, two shear*: one, two years old. Also *attrib.* as *two-shear ram.*

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* III. xxx. 80 If you will know the age of your Sheepe, looke in his mouth, and when hee is one sheare hee will haue two broad teeth afore. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* I. 398, I have seen wedders, of only two shear (two to three years old) so loaded with fat, as [etc.]. *Ibid.*, A loin of mutton of a sheep (ten shear) of twenty-six pounds a quarter, weighed [etc.]. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 309 He has some shearling tups, and two shear that are good. 1911 *Midl. Counties Herald* 29 June 4/2 Two shear ram.

2. The action of shearing or cutting. *Sc.*

17.. *Jacobite Song, Wee German Lairdie* iv, And we've the trenching blades o' weir, Wad..pass ye 'neath the claymore's sheer, Thou feckless German lairdie! 1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 58, I know not but I may come back: To..help to gie your corn a shear.

3. A cut edge.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1038 Moss-sods..laid perfectly close, the shear of each fitted to the other.

4. A division, parting. (Cf. SHEAR *v.* 8 b.)

1876 SKENE *Celtic Scot.* Introd. I. 10 The great wind and water shear which separates the eastern from the western districts.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shear-day, -time*; **shear-darg** *Sc.*, a day's work at reaping or shearing; †**shear-mill**, ? = *shear-shop*; **shear-sheep**, a sheep that has passed its first shearing and so more than one year old; †**shear-shop**, a place in which the manufacture of cloth is conducted; **shear wether hog** (see SHEARHOG); †**shear-wool** (see quot.).

1600 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1605, 594/2 Lie *scheirdarg. 1689 VISCT. DUNDEE *Sp.* in J. Drummond of Balhaldy *Mem. Lochiel* (1842) 264, I beg leave of yow, however, to allow me to give one 'Shear-darg' to the King, my master, that I may have ane opportunity of convincing the brave Clans that [etc.]. 1717 *Select. Scott. Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) Introd. 30 Shear-Dirgs..4 at 5d. each. 1565 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1581, 58/1, 4 lie *scheir-day-wrokis. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 319 Barn-room enough to house my sheep the evening before shear-day. 1607 NORDEN *Survey. Dial.* III. 108 Paper-mill, Sawing-mil, *Shere-mil, or any other kind of Mill. 1503 *Maldon* (Essex) *Crt. Rolls* Bundle 62 no. iv, Defendens conduxit pasturam..pro centum ovibus vocat. *share shepe a festo sancti Michaelis archangeli. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 176/2 A share sheep, at two years old. 1688 *Rec. Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 178 Whearas Mr. Debnams *shearshope is not lairge enowgh for his shearmen to dress ther work in, therfor [etc.]. 1518 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 658 The next *Shear tyme. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 260 Wether hogs, chilver hogs, from thence [about Christmas] till shear-time. 1537 in *North Country Wills* (Surtees) 103, I geve unto..John half a hundreth of *share wedder hogges or ewe hogges at his pleasure. 1585 HIGINS *Nomenclator* 173/1 *Tomentum.* *Sheerewooll: flocks, such as clothworkers make in sheering.

II. In scientific uses.

6. a. *Physics* and *Mech.* (*a*) A kind of strain consisting in a movement of planes of a body that are parallel to a particular plane in a direction parallel to a line in that plane through distances proportional to their distances from that plane. (*b*) The stress called into play in a body which undergoes this kind of strain.

1850 [see SHEAR *v.* 9]. 1858 RANKINE *Man. Appl. Mechanics* § 103. 87 Planes of Equal Shear, or Tangential Stress. 1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Philos.* I. § 171 This kind of strain is called a simple shear. 1869 H. MOSELEY in *Lond.* etc. *Philos. Jrnl.* XXXVII. 230 The unit of shear being the pressure in lbs. necessary to overcome the resistance to shearing of one square inch. 1883 LODGE in *Nature* XXVII. 328 The bound ether inside a conductor has no rigidity; it cannot resist shear. 1885 GLAZEBROOK & SHAW *Pract. Physics* 139 The body is said to undergo a simple shear. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.* s. v. *Shear*, A bar is said to be in shear when it is subject to shearing stress. 1894 TODHUNTER & PEARSON *Hist. Th. Elasticity* II. II. 386 The authors [Thomson & Tait] term it a simple shear. This is unfortunate, for that word was introduced by George Stephenson to denote the transverse stress in rivets, and has been consistently used in this sense of stress by Rankine and the majority of engineers since. Its present confused use partly for stress and partly for strain has been avoided in our own work by the introduction of the term slide for shearing strain. 1906 LOVE *Math. Th. Elasticity* (ed. 2) 532 The word 'shear' has been used in the sense attached to it in the text by Kelvin and Tait. Rankine proposed to use it for what has been called 'tangential traction'.

b. *Geom.* The transformation produced in a plane figure by motion in which all the points of the figure describe paths parallel to a fixed axis and proportional in length to their distance from it. (See quot.)

1885 O. HENRICI *Projection* in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 797/2 Such a transformation of a plane figure is produced by a shearing stress in any section of a homogeneous elastic solid. For this reason Sir William Thomson has given it the name of shear.

7. *Geol.* Applied to the operation of transverse compression on a mass of rock, resulting in alteration of structure or breach of continuity. Also Comb. *shear-plane, -zone* (see quots.).

1888 TEALL *Brit. Petrogr.* 447 *Shearing*, differential movement in a rock-mass. When the movement is concentrated along a plane, this plane is said to be a shear-plane. 1889 O. FISHER *Physics Earth's Crust* xx. (ed. 2) 268 The same amount of shear, which at one locality produces crumpling, may in another..produce schistosity. 1903 E. W. CLAYPOLE in *Amer. Geol.* Aug. 81 (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.), Some [strata] are completely concealed by others that have been forced over them along shear-planes developed by the enormous pressures to which they have been subjected. 1911 J. F. KEMP *Min. Deposits* in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 507/2 Sometimes..strains of compression have been eased by local crushing along comparatively narrow belts without appreciable..displacement of the sides such as would be required by a pronounced fault. The word shear-zone has become quite widely used in recent years as..applicable to these cases.

Shear (ʃɪəɹ), *sb.*3 Also **sheer.** [Of uncertain origin; not easily identified with SHEAR *sb.*1 or *sb.*2] The bar, or one of the two parallel bars forming the bed of a lathe, on which the poppets slide. Also *attrib.*

1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 364 The bed [of a foot lathe] consists of two parallel parts, called by some shears. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. N 1, Two cast iron end standards..upon which is laid the long massive cast iron shear-piece. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 160 The shear, or lathe frame..can be made of wood. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1262 The *bar-lathe* has a single beam or shear, generally of a triangular shape. *Ibid.*, The *bed-lathe* is the usual form, and has two parallel shears. *Ibid.*, The bed, sheers, cheeks, sides, on which the puppets slide.

Shear (ʃɪəɹ), *v.* Pa. t. **sheared** (ʃɪəɹd), **shore** (ʃōəɹ); pa. pple. **sheared, shorn** (ʃōəɹn). Forms: 1 **sciran, scieran, scyran, scearan, sceoran, sceran**, 3 **scer, scire, schær, sere, ssere**, 3–5 **scere**, 3–6 **schere**, 3–7 **shere**, 4–6 **scher**, 5 **sher**, 5–7 **scheir**, 6 **scheer, cheir, shire**, (? **shore**), 6–7 **share, sheare, sheere**, 7 **sheire**, 6–9 **sheer**, 5– **shear.** *Pa. t., str.* 1 *pl.* **scéron**, *subj. sing.* **scéare**, 3 **sar, scar**(e, **scher**, 3–6 **schare**, 4 **schaar**, 4–5 **shar, schar, shere, schere**, 4–6 **schair, schure**, 5 **share, schayr**, 5–6 **schewre**, 8 *Sc.* **shure**, 6– **shore.** *wk.* 4 **scherde**, 5 **scharde, scharid, scherid**, 6 **sheard**, 9 **sheered**, 7– **sheared.** *Pa. pple., str.* 1 **scoren**, 3 **soren**, 3–4 **schoren**, 3–5 **scorn, schorn**, 4 **shorun, schorin, sheren**, 4–6 **schorne**, 4–7 **shorne**, 5 **shor**, 4–7 **shore**, 6 **shoren, -on**, 4– **shorn**; also 5 **y-schorn**(e, **y-shore, y-schore**, 5, 7 **y-**

shorne. *wk.* 4 **schurd**, 4–5 **schard**, 6 **chard**, 7– **sheared.** [A Com. Teut. verb, originally strong: OE. *sceran*, pa. t. **scear*, *scéron*, pa. pple. *scoren*, corresponds to OFris. *skera*, *schera*, OS. (*bi*)*sceran* (Gallée), LG. *scheren*, MDu., Du. *scheren*, pa. t. *schoor*, pa. pple. *geschoren*, OHG. *sceran*, pa. t. *scar*, pa. pple. *giscoran* (MHG. *scheren*, *schar*, *geschoren*, mod.G. *scheren*, *schor*, *geschoren*), ON. *skera*, pa. t. *skar*, pa. pple. *skorenn* (Sw. *skära*, *skar*, *skuren*, Da. *skjære*, *skar*, *skaaret*):—OTeut. **sker-*, *skar-*, *skēr-*, *skur-* to cut, divide, shear, shave. For Teut. cognates see SHARE *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], SHEAR *sb.*[1], SHARD, SCORE, SHORE. Outside Teut. the root appears to be found in Gr. *κείρειν* to shave, Lith. *skirti* to separate, Irish *scaraim*, I separate.]

1. *trans.* To cut (something) with a sharp instrument. Often with adv. or advb. phrase, as *asunder*, *in pieces*, *in two*. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* †Also *occas.* to pierce, thrust through.

Beowulf 1287 (Gr.) Sweord..swin ofer helme ecgum dyhtig andweard scireð. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 1181 Lætað wæpnes spor, iren ecgheard, ea[l]dorȝeard sceoran. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 22 Ant tet scharpe sweord..scher hire bi þe schuldren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8875 Wit ax he wald haf scorn it [þe tre] þan. *Ibid.* 16554 In tua þis tre þai scare. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 474 Tristrem schare þe brest. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter*, *Cant. Exech.* 5 Bifore shorne is as of þe wefand my life whils ȝit .i. bigan he sheris me down. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3001 Ther was many gentyl heved, Quykly fro the body wevед; Scheldes many schorn in twoo. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1856 They scherde in the schiltrone scheldyde knyghttez. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 1093 And hawberkes sone in schredis were schorne. 14.. *Erasmus* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 202 Sheryng his flesshe with cikels. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2200 Þe roche away he share. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Collingbourne* xviii, His grashyng tuskes my tender grystels shore. *a* 1568 *Christ's Kirk Gr.* 68 Throwch baith the cheikis he thocht to cheir him, Or throw the erss haif chard him. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 31 Cymochles sword..nigh one quarter sheard away. *a* 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. iv, For this will Dido..sheere ye all asunder with her hands. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 90 At the first straik..it wolde scheir a man in twa. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 311 As bright as if shorn by a file. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg.*, *Ghost of Fadon* xxxix, His sword shore empty air. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* x. 127, I sheared the hawser of my ship.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* Now chiefly, To cut *through* (an obstacle) with the aid of a weapon. †Also with cognate obj., to cut (one's way, passage).

c 1205 LAY. 14216 Whætte his særes alse he schæren wolde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 213 As wel schapen to schere as scharp rasores. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 968 Sa wondir scharply he schare throu his schene schroud. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 326 Ane small arrow, that scharpe as rasour schair. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* VIII. Z 4 Through y^e tydes they [the dolphins] shering glaunst. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 42 Then all the rest into their coches clim, And through the brackish waues their passage sheare. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lxxviii, So thick, our Navy scarce could sheer their way. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* II. ii, By a back stroke of his own cimeter shore through the cuirass. 1898 STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 273 Through the swordsmen they [*sc.* the Lancers] shore without checking.

[1]**†c.** *trans.* To circumcise. (Also with *about.*)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1200 Đe ęstende dai..Circumcised he was, a-buten schoren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2695 Him self and ismael he scare.

†d. To cut for the stone. Const. *of*. *Sc. Obs.*

a 1557 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Club) 77 Henrie bischope of Ross was schorne of the stane. 1572 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 529/1 James..hes bene twyis schorne of the stane.

†e. To cut up, to chop (a substance) fine, to mince. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 11 Shere Oynonys, an frye hem in oyle. 1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Clothing* v. 29 Flox..which they can sheare as small as dust. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* II. i, Small are they shorn.

†f. To carve (meat) at table. Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 602 Bifor him scheres þe mes, þe king. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 92 Iames off Dowglas, that ayquhar All-wayis befor the byschop schar. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 801 All the met that she schare.

†g. To gnaw through, cut in pieces with the teeth. Also *intr.* const. *through*. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 702/1 Take hede on hym [a hounde], for he wyl sheare his lyme. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. iv. 225/2 in *Holinshed*, The beuer..will..shere thorough a dubble billet in a night. 1631 MARKHAM *Country Content.* I. x. (ed. 4) 72 They defend the line from shearing or cutting in pieces with the teeth of the Pike.

†h. To make (a hole, a wound) by cutting. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Noah's Ark* 57 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 21 Look that..in her side a door thou shear. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlii. 161 Fele the wound þe spere did schere riȝt in his syde. 1617 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* x. (1623) 22 Mice..will in eyther at the mouth [of the hive], or sheere themselues an hole.

†i. To rend, tear. Also *intr.* for *refl. Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1888) 93 Jacob..share his clothis vtward. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 1067 The wale full sone [haly] intwa it schure. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 105 He schewre his feddreme..And slippit owt of it full clene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. xii. 70 Wyth mantell rent and schorne men micht hir se.

j. To cut (glass, tin-plate, etc.) with shears. Also, to cut (iron or steel bars, etc.) with shears (see SHEAR *sb.*[1] 1 g).

1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 774 Shearing the Bars.—This rough bar is..put between the jaws of a pair of shears..and cut into lengths of about a foot each. 1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* II. 665 The storing away of the plates..as they were sheared and punched. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. K 1, Shear blades long enough to shear a plate at one cut. 1883 H. J. POWELL *Princ. Glass-making* 63 The workman heats the severed edge, shears it even, and smooths and rounds it by melting. 1884 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 19/1 A bar of wrought iron one square inch in section is required to be sheared across.

2. To remove (a part) from a body by cutting with a sharp instrument. Chiefly with *adv.* to cut *off*, *out*, *away*.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1485 His tong haþ he..schorn of bi þe rote. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1337 Þen scher þay out þe schulderez with her scharp knyuez. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 214/1 Kenelme kyng barn lyeth under a thorn his hede of shorn. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 78 His right hande at a blow his falchon off did shere. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 222 He..with his blade sheares off their wrists. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 58 With its sharpen'd Edge Shear'd both his Ears. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXI, The plume was partly shorn away. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iv, The guillotine-axe, which sheers away thy vainly whimpering head! 1852 KINGSLEY *Androm.* 306 As the vine-hook shears off the vine-bough. 1902 E. PHILLPOTTS *River* 322 He shore off the crust of the heath.

†b. *fig.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXVIII 36 Make my herte meke and lufand,..þat auarice be quytly shorne fra me. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 11 And scere o-way [L. *amputare*] al þe langing of yure fleis. *Ibid.* 36 And for þi þat it es vice of propirte, sal it be scorn als þifte.

†c. To fashion by cutting out of a sheet of metal. *Obs.*

1706 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* XXVI. 79 The Moniers, who are some to sheer the Money, some to forge it [etc.].

3. To remove (the hair or beard) by means of some sharp instrument (also with *off*, *away*); to shave (the head or face); to cut (the hair) close or short; to cut or shave the hair or beard of (a person). Now *rare* exc. in pa. pple. *shorn.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 138 Swiðe ryhtlice wæs ðæm sacerde forboden ðæt he his heafod sceare. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* xix. 27 Ne ȝe eow ne efesion ne beard ne sciron! *c* 1205 LAY. 17663 He scar [*c* 1275 sar] his crune ufenen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3160 His berd he let ssere verst. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7211 War mi hare schorn [*Göttweih* schorin, *Fairf.* shorne], i war noght þan Stranger þan a-noþer man. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 169 Metridas his secounde wyf schaar hir heed for love of here housbonde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 92 She share of and cut awey the heres of his hede. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* XVIII. 18 He had schorne his heed in Cenchrea. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 34 Shagged heare, The which he neuer wont to combe, or comely sheare. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 25 His hayre, the one side was long, the other shore close. 1786 *Pogonologia* 97 The preacher drew out a pair of scissars, and sheared the prince's chin. 1821 SOUTHEY *Exped. Orsua* 98 Their hair was sheared in circles. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Lam. for Adonis* VII, They have shorn their bright curls off to cast on Adonis. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* XV, But I am no monk. I have shorn many a crown, but I have kept my own hair as yet, you see.

†b. To give the tonsure to. Usually in passive, *To be shorn a monk*; also occas. *refl.* Also *To be shorn in*, to be initiated to the religious life by the reception of the tonsure. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 950 *Guthlac* (Prose) VII. (1909) 138 Ða gelamp hit sume dæge þæt se ylca preost com to þam eadigan were, þæt he hine wolde scyran. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 7 He ..was i-schore monk in an abbay. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 165 Being shoren in, he went into a secret cell which the abbot had prouided for him. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 372 The King was shorne into an Abbie, and made a Monke. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 35 Some are put into Abbeyes, and shire themselves friers by pretence of a vowe. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius*, *Pers. Wars* II. xxii. 68 When John was shorne a Priest.

4. In passive, *to be shorn*: to be deprived *of* some part or appurtenance by or as by cutting. Chiefly *transf.* and *fig.* in certain collocations originally alluding to sense 3, e.g. (of a luminary) *to be shorn of its beams*; *to be shorn of one's strength* (? in allusion to the story of Samson), *of one's authority*, *privileges*, etc.

1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 87 The tall Oak,..shorn of his leafy shade. 1778 JOHNSON *Let.* 3 July in *Boswell*, He cannot bear the thought of living at — in a state of diminution; and of appearing among the gentlemen of the neighbourhood shorn of his beams. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* XVII. III. 23 A law, by which the Areopagus was shorn of its authority. *a* 1849 POE *Annie* Poems (1859) 116 Sadly I know I am shorn of my strength. 1875 SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 8 It is shorn of its former proportions.

b. rarely active (in compound tenses with *shorn*).

1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 79 The misgovernment of domestic tyrants had shorn it of much of its grandeur.

5. To cut the fleece from (an animal); also, to cut off (the fleece, wool, etc.).

900 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1887) II. 241 And hi sculan waxan sceap and sciran on hiora aȝenre hwile. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxi. 19 Laban ȝede to schere scheep. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 141 Lyke schepe þat were scharid A-way schall ȝe schake. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* § 81 (1878) 231 In June washe thy shepe,..Then share them. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 37 So many yeares, ere I shall sheere the Fleece. 1615 SWETNAM *Arraign. Lewd Women* ii. 29 Is not..the sheepe sheared for his fliece? 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 81 In some countries they shear their geese. 1867 G. MACDONALD *Poems* 283 He gathered the hemp, and he shore the wool.

Proverb. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 And so his hyghnes shall haue þeroff, but as hadd þe man þat sherid is hogge, muche crye and litil woll. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. v. 17 The Wooll we shall have is as much as the Devill (God blesse us) got when he shore a hog. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 24 Feb., It was much cry and little woo', as the deil said when he shore the sow.

absol. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 32/14 He oweth to shere. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 53 As long as we shore clean..the overseer didn't trouble his head much about our doings.

†b. *Phr. To shear against the wool* (fig.): ? to treat roughly. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 30 What should your face thus agayne the woll be shorne? *c* 1550 *Song*, '*Back & Syde*' in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) I. p. vii, I shall looke lyke one by swete sainte Johnn were shoron agaynste the woole.

c. *fig.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 87, I wald sum man wald scheir ȝow clene. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 62 Employing no instruments among the people, but such as devise to sheer them with taxes. 1797 J. LAWRENCE in *Monthly Mag.* (1818) XLVI. 396 It mattered little to them, whether the flock were led by the nose and sheared by a convocation of bishops, or an assembly of divines.

Proverb. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiii, He who goes forth to seek such wool should come back shorn.

d. To yield (a fleece), to produce by being shorn. †Also *absol.* or *intr.* to be shorn (?).

1587 D. FENNER *Song of Songs* iv. 1 Those same goates which doe vpon The mount of Gilhad sheare. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. I. 228 The tegs..shear a fleece varying from 5 to 7 lbs.

6. To cut off (the superfluous nap of woollen cloth) in the process of manufacture; also, in hat-making, to remove (nap) by singeing or scouring.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 388 Homme drap retounde M. scleruth [*read* scheruth] clothe. 1442 *Eton Coll. Acc.* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 382 Robert Falowefeld for the shering of the seid ix yerdes of Ray. 1510 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 394 The said cotteners shall shore a dosen for eight pence of brod cloth. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 24 The Clothier also to sheare it very lowe. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 95 From hence they [*sc.* the cloths]..are delivered to the shearer into the shop, who sheareth them being spread upon a table with shears. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cyc.* s.v. *Cloth*, The Cloth..is returned to the Sheerman, who sheers it a second time. *Ibid.*, s.v. *Sheering*, Some use the phrase Sheering of Hats, for the passing of Hats made of Wooll, over the Flame of a clear Fire..to take off the long Hairs. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 105 The nap of the cloth ..is 'cut', or 'cropped', or 'sheared'. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 369 For fine printing, it is by some considered needful to shear the nap of the cloth instead of singeing it.

absol. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 Hit appertayneth to them to cutte cloth shere dighte and dye. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. v. 91 Enjoin upon him..To most exactly measure, sew and shear.

7. To cut down, to reap (grass, crops, etc.) with a sickle (†formerly also, with a scythe). Now *dial.*

In north midland dialects to *shear* is to cut with a sickle or hook, while to *mow* means to cut with a scythe. In Scotland also to *shear* implies the use of a sickle or hook; for reaping with a scythe the general term *cut* is used.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1919 His handful stod riȝt up soren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4057 Him thoght his fader þaier corn schare. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 261 Manye [herbs] with a knyf sche scherth. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 118 When he had shorn it [the corn]. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 26 In the later ende of July..is tyme to shere Rye...And in somme places they mowe it. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* IV. i. 9 Lyke cocks of Hay when Iuly sheares the field. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XVI. 48 Where now the sharp-edg'd sithe sheeres vp the spyring grasse. 1745 C. J. HAMILTON in *Academy* 18 Nov. (1893) 440/3 Y^e french Put grape shot into their cannon and cut them down just as if they were sheering corn. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. 440 *note*, In the north of England they call reaping wheat shearing it.

fig. 1563 WINJET *Bk. Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 59 We mot also scheir the fruit of the docrine of quheit.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To cut standing crops; to use a sickle.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2347 Two ȝer ben nu ðat derke [*read* derðe] is cumen, ȝet sulen .v. fulle ben numen, ðat men ne sulen sowen ne sheren. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXVIII. 6 Of þe whilk he shal not fille his hand þat shal shere. *c* 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Verse) 1853 Vnto þe tyme of euynsang, To scher or bind. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. XXV. 26 Wist thou that I schere [*Wycl.* repe] quhare I sew nocht. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 260 Husbandis to saw and scheir. 1616 SURFLET & MARKHAM *Country Farm* V. xiv. 545 In other countries they vse to sheare after the Sunne is risen. 1789 BURNS (*title of song*) Robin shure in hairst. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 647 Some years ago cottagers here and there had to 'shear' for their cottage, i.e. to work during harvest time in exchange for a free cottage.

fig. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5873 ȝour polit payntit flatterye, ȝour dissimulat Ypocrasye, That day thay sall be cleirlye knawin, Quhen ȝe sall scheir as ȝe haue sawin.

c. *transf.* (*trans.*) To nibble close.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Dan.* iv. 13 Annot., He..did eate grasse as an oxe, putting his mouth to the ground, to shere and swalowe it. 1615 WITHER *Sheph. Hunt.* V. H 1, Our sheepe the short sweet grasse do shear. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 986 This not only tasts of corn or shears it, but breaks and grinds stalk and all.

d. To clip, cut, or trim (a tree or bush, a lawn); †to cut off (a branch).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11713 Iesus..said, 'þou palme, i comand þe þat o þi branches an be scorn'. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (Tollemache MS.), Tren and herbes of gardenes schulde be wilde, but þey beþ kepte parid and schurde. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 73 Let lop be shorne that hindreth corne. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 165 We shear our Palisade's the second time.

1802 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* I. 450 A sort of yew-hedge, tangled with luxuriance and sheared into spruceness. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Lond. Suburb*, The garden..had been levelled, carefully shorn, and converted into a bowling-green.

8. To cleave divide; said esp. of ships, birds, etc.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxviii. 7 Þe voice of lord sherand Þe flaume of fire. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. i. 5 His navy with north wind scherand the seyis. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 5 Her shallow ship away did slide, More swift, then swallow sheres the liquid skie. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 286 Ingots, for to be deliuered to the moneyers to sheire the same by weight into small peeces. 1706 J. PHILIPS *Cerealia* 27 Fame to high Olympus flew, Shearing th'expanse of heaven with active plume. 1864 TENNYSON *Voy.* ii, The Lady's-head upon the prow Caught the shrill salt, and sheer'd the gale. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxix, Like a plough that shears the heavy land.

b. *intr.* for refl. *Where* (or *as*) *wind and weather* (or *water*) *shears*: on the ridge of a hill, on the highest ground.

1556 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 245/2 Keipand the heid of the Innerhill in propirtie, quhill it cum to the meting of the tua gaittis as wynd and wodder scheris. 1601 *Ibid.* 395/2 Ascendand up to the hill or month heidis thairof as wind and wedder scheirris. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, On the tap o' the hill where the wind and water shears.

9. *Physics* (also *Mech.*, *Geol.*, etc.). To subject to a shearing stress; to distort or fracture by shear.

1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* I. 389 Examples of this kind of strain occur in the rivet which unites the two blades of a pair of scissors, or the rivet on which the blade rotates in an ordinary pocket-knife. In the former..the evident tendency of the strain is to shear the rivet in one place only, and this is called a single shear; but in the knife the rivet must be sheared in two places before the blade can escape. *Ibid.* II. 517 It is evident that immediate strain from the weight of the structure, close to the piers on which it is supported, will tend to shear off the end of the tube in a vertical line. 1881 O. FISHER *Physics Earth's Crust* x. 120 Yet we may arrive at some conclusion as to whether the material at any given level within the crust will on the average be sheared upwards or downwards by the compression. 1883 LODGE in *Nature* XXVII. 328 The ether may be sheared by electromotive forces into positive and negative electricity. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 669/2 (*Lighting*) The filament after a time breaks up into sections which become curiously sheared with respect to each other.

Shear: see SHEER.

Shear, obs. f. SERE *a.*2, several.

15.. *Chevy Chase* 12 (Ashm. MS.) Then the wyld thorowe the woodes went on euery syde shear. *Ibid.* 16 On sydis shear.

Shear, erron. f. *sear*, variant of CERE *v.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 496/1 First after his departure his body was well sheared and chested, then wrapped in Lead.

Sheared (ʃiəd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHEAR *v.* + -ED 1.] That has undergone the operation of shearing; shorn. †Of a coin: Clipped.

1616 *Orkney Witch Trial* in C. Rogers *Soc. Life Scot.* (1886) III. 299 Haveing aft and dyvers tymes desyreit the len of ane scheret sheilling fra James Hunton. 1845 JUDD *Margaret* II. xi. (1874) 334 One greased pole to climb, two sheared pigs to catch, and a silver punch-bowl the prize. 1905 GRIL *Yankee in Pigmy Land* xii. 175 He presented a sheared sheep.

Shearer (ʃiərəɹ). [f. SHEAR *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or something which shears.

1. A reaper of standing crops.

1318–9 in *Shropsh. Arch. Soc. Trans.* Ser. III. (1903) III. 51 Rogerus mendepas sherar. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687/11 *Hic messor*, a scherer. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. xiii. 30 In the tyme of ripe corn I sal say to the scheraris [etc.]. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 43 Both shearers and binders have neede to be armed with gloves. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 138 An', hint a' the shearers, wi' Peggy, I bindet the buttles o' grain. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1066 Gloves of sheep-skin made on purpose, called shearer's gloves.

fig. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxviii. 6 Aungels are sherers Þat gedurs gode frute til god.

Proverb. 1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 6 An ill shearer gat never a good hook.

2. One who removes the fleece from an animal.

1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xxv. 11 The fleischis of beestis, whiche Y haue slayn to my schereris. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 Take hede of the sherers, for touchynge the shepe with the sheres. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 44 Shee hath made me four and twenty Nose-gayes for the shearers. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 117. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 817 A good shearer shears seventy or eighty sheep in a day.

fig. 1654 M. COKER (*title*) A whip of Small Cords to scourge Antichrist..Whereunto is added, The Sheerer sheer'd and Casheer'd, the Shaver shav'd, and the Grinder ground. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iv, Being Shepherd of this indigent People, not Shearer merely.

†**3.** One who removes the nap of cloth by the process of shearing. *Obs.*

1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 17 To Sandy Balfoure the scherare, for certane clath schorne be him. 1679 JORDAN *Lond. in Luster* 17 Wool-combers, Sheerers, Dressers [etc.].

†**4.** = INCISOR. *Obs.*

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xxvi. 260 The vpper teeth, which are the shearers in the vpper chappe. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* v. vi. (1686) 211 The Shearers or Fore-teeth.

5. = SHEARMAN 3.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 93 Wrought Iron Manufacture..Shearer or Shearman.

6. A machine designed to cut metal, etc.

1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 60 Drilling-machines, punchers, squeezers, shearers, all of mighty size.

Shear-grass (ʃiəgrɑs). Forms: 5 scher-, 6 sheere-, sher-, 7 sheare-, 8 shar(e-, 9 shere-. [f. SHEAR *v.*] A name popularly applied to several kinds of sharp-edged grass or sedge, which are apt to cut the mouths of grazing animals or the hands of a person gathering them. Now only *dial.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 335/1 A Schergrysse (*A.* Scheregresse), *carex*. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. H v, An herbe, whiche we cal in english segge, or shergresse. 1589 A. FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* III. 44 Fed with rough greene leaues, And sheere-grasse sharpe or sedge. 1631 CAPT. SMITH *Advt. Planters* xii. 27 You may have harsh sheare-grasse enough to make hay of. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* II. 442 Sharegrass, *carix hirta*; a species of sedge. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 168 It makes a soil produce a crop of hay, which naturally would only feed rabbits by shar grass. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 57/2 Shear or Shere Grass. *Cladium Mariscus*; also some species of *Carex*.

Shear-head. [f. SHEAR *sb.*1 and *sb.*2]

1. The upper part of the apparatus for hoisting known as 'shears' (see SHEAR *sb.*1).

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s. v. *Hulk*, The tackles which extend from the head of the mast to the sheer-heads. 1847 KEY *Recov. H. M. Gorgon* 24 A guy was taken from the sheerhead to the shore.

†**2.** *Mining.* ? A 'fault'. *Obs.*

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 56 It no where partakes of the regular dip..of the stratum,..but is broken and interrupted with what the miners call shear-heads and saddles.

Shear-hog (ʃiəɹhɒg). *dial.* Also 6 sharroge, 8 sherrug, 8–9 shar-hog, 9 sharrag. [f. SHEAR *sb.*2 + HOG *sb.*1] A name given to a lamb after the first shearing and until the second.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 53 The ewes by theym selfe, the share hogges and theyues by them selfe, the lambes by theym selfe. 1558 *Will of Oliv. Leder*, Huntingdon (Somerset Ho.), Ewes or sharrogs. 1736 W. ELLIS *New Exper.* 52 (E.D.S.) The third year a sherrug. 1784 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* (1790) II. 27 Fifty 'sharhogs' of the new Leicestershire breed. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Sc. Clerical Life, Mr. Gilfil's Love Story* i, He thought it a mere frustration of the purposes of language to talk of 'shear-hogs' and 'ewes' to men who habitually said 'sharrags' and 'yowes'.

†**Shear-hook.** *Naut. Obs.* [f. SHEAR *v.* + HOOK *sb.*] A sickle-shaped hook intended to destroy the enemy's rigging.

1338 in Nicolas *Hist. Navy* (1847) II. 475, ii. seilyngne-deles, un dyall, un sherhok, un mykehok. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 39 Sherhokes for the yerde armes. 1558 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 124 The shippe fell aboorde of vs and with her sheare hookes cut our maine saile. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 68 They should be fitted with 'sheere hooks', etc., to keepe off bording. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 289 Sheer hooks are great Hooks of iron about the bigness and in the form of a sickle and they are let into the main-yard-arms. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 80.

Shear-hulk: see SHEER-HULK.

Shearing (ʃiərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHEAR *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action or an act of cutting, clipping, or shaving with shears or some other sharp instrument.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1416 Þat hys in holy cherche y-cleped wel Þe furste scherynge Of clerke. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2624 Sharpe schudering of schote, schering [*Dubl. MS.* sheryng] of mailes. 1490 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 138 Item, for the schereing of xxxiij elne j quartar of clayth. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 51 Beware, that thou put not to many shepe in a penne at one tyme..at the sheryng. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 77 Grace, and Remembrance be to you both, And welcome to our Shearing. 1704 POPE *Summer* 64 When swains from shearing seek their nightly bow'rs. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Cloth*, The Sheerman takes it, and gives it its first cut, or sheering. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 92 The Cutting of Wheat is termed Shearing. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Shearing*,..cutting up steel for the crucible. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 122 With spring came all the bustle of washing and shearing. 1891 MORRIS *Poems by Way* (1896) 191 It was Goldilocks woke up in the morn At the first of the shearing of the corn.

†**2.** Cleavage, parting, division. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* I. 502 This hede and taill ar for to say A myddle scheryng in Þe way Of a cercle Þat turnys in hevene.

3. Something which is cut off with shears or some other sharp implement. Now only *pl.*

1536 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 56 To..my shepherde fyve sheipe sheringes. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 90 A pounde of the shearinge of Scarlet. 1673 F. KIRKMAN *Unlucky Cit.* 287 It was like the shearing of the Hogs, all Bristles. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 295 ₱ 10 He would..have presented her once in three Years with the Sheerings of his Sheep for her Under-Petticoats. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 145 Put the shearings of scarlet cloth upon the coals. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* VI. 55 A certain quantity of the shearings of fine woollen cloth.

4. *dial.* A designation for a sheep after the first shearing, a shearling.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 2 After they are once shorne, they are called gimmer shearinges. 1782 HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 95 *Shearing*, a sheep a year old, or once shorn. 1786 CULLEY *Live Stock* (1807) Introd. p. xviii, Then they take the name of shearing, shearling, shear-hog.

5. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shearing*,..the making of vertical cuts at the ends of a portion of an undercut seam of coal. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Shearing.* I. The vertical side-cutting which, together with holing or horizontal undercutting, constitutes the attack upon a face of coal.

6. *Physics*, etc. See SHEAR *v.* 9.

1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* I. 389 Under these circumstances failure takes place solely from the vertical shearing of the material in a transverse direction. 1858 RANKINE *Man. Appl. Mechanics* § 279. 299 The resistance of timber to shearing is in each case that which acts between contiguous layers of fibres. 1869 *Lond.* etc. *Philos. Trnl.* XXXVIII. 71 On the Fracture of Brittle and Viscous Solids by 'Shearing'. By Sir William Thomson, F.R.S. 1876 F. JENKIN *Bridges* § 3 in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 285/2 There are three kinds of stress, due to tension, compression, and shearing. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* III. I. iv. § 4 (1903) 428 The planes of sedimentation, or those of cleavage or shearing where these have been developed, being naturally those along which water passes most easily.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shearing-day, -feast, -rent, -season*, †*-time*; *shearing-house, -shed*; esp. in names of tools, weapons, etc. used in the process of shearing, as *shearing-board, -knife, -machine*, †*-shaft*, †*-shears*, †*-sword, -table*.

1661 PETTY in T. Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 64 The lower chap [of the sheer] is kept close down to the *sheering-board with weights of lead. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvii, The shearing board would be deserted. 1860 *Indenture* 30 July, *Shearing days fines or *shearing rents and other dues. 1596 SPENSER *Astrophel* 32 Emongst the shepheards in their *shearing feast. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* vi, Thou shalt have a necklace of jet at next shearing-feast. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* iii. D 4, Or consuming fire Brent his *shearing-house. 1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* (1807) II. 145 A very large and commodious shearing-house. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss., **Shearen-knife*, a thatcher's tool for shearing the roof. 1834–6 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* § 1025 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 729 *Shearing or cropping machines have now very commonly superseded the hand shearing. 1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* II. 665 A steam-engine, with the necessary shafting, for driving the punching and shearing machines. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 817/1 Organized *shearing bands, with captains, that go from ranch to ranch in the *shearing season. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 87 Iuno..was wounded sore.. By triple headed *sheering shafte. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 *Sharing sheares readie for sheepe to be shorne. 1910 N. MUNRO *Fancy Farm* xiii. 126 The dipping-fold or the *shearing-shed. 1707 SIR. W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* vii. 200 A good light *Sheering-Sword. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shearing-table*, a bench for holding sheep while being sheared. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.* Matt. xiii. 30 Suffir ye thaim bathe to grow into *schering-tyme. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 284.

8. Special comb.: **shearing-darg** *Sc.*, a day's-work performed by a shearer; †**shearing-hook** = SHEAR-HOOK; †**shearing-ram**, a ram past its first shearing and therefore about one year old.

1550 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1593, 794/2 Lie *schering-dargis. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 641 (Fairf.) In gooth the grapenel so ful of crokes Amonge the ropes and the *sheryng hokes. 1586 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 32 Makynge of towe sherynge houkes x*d*. 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X. 123 The use of some of his *shearing rams..for fifty guineas each.

b. in scientific terms (see sense 6 and SHEAR *v.* 9): **shearing plane** *Geol.* = *shear-plane* (SHEAR *sb.*2 7); **shearing strain**, a strain of the nature of a shear (SHEAR *sb.*2 6 a; **shearing strength**, power of resistance to shearing; **shearing stress**, a stress tending to produce or resist a shear.

1889 O. FISHER *Physics Earth's Crust* xx. (ed. 2) 263 The throw, that in faulting occurs along a single *shearing plane, the 'fault-' or 'thrust-plane'. 1850 E. CLARK *Britannia & Conway Bridges* II. 517 The strain called by Mr. Stephenson 'the *shearing strain', which rendered thick plates necessary at the extremities of the tubes. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinematics* 134 A shearing strain. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuilding* xvii. 333 The *shearing strengths of rivets are proportional to the sectional Areas. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Millwork* 497 The ultimate shearing strength..is..equal, or nearly equal, to the tenacity. *Ibid.* 496 Every *shearing stress is equivalent to a pair of direct stresses of the same intensity, one tensile and the other compressive, exerted in directions making angles of 45° with the shearing stress. 1910 LOVE in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 143/1 A state of stress in which there is purely tangential traction on a plane, and no normal traction on any perpendicular plane, is described as a state of 'shearing stress'.

Shearing (ʃiərin), *ppl. a.* [f. SHEAR *v.* + -ING 2.] That shears, in various senses of the verb.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 455 Thai seruit thame in sa gret wayne With scherand swerdis and with knyvis. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxiii. 18 The sheirand shaft soon slippit to my hairt. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 113 As a sheering wind it kills all in the bud. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Nov. 24 Like twin sharks.. showing 'bove the water blue Their shearing fins.

Shear-legs. [SHEAR *sb.*1] A device consisting of three poles of wood or iron bolted together at their upper ends and extended below, carrying tackle for raising heavy weights for machinery; cf. SHEAR *sb.*1 4.

1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss., Newcastle Terms* (ed. 2) 62 *Shear-legs*. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 49 The boring tools are sometimes worked simply by a rope passed over a shearlegs or triangle. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 675 At the Chicago yard there is a steel sheer-legs 100 feet high and of 100 tons capacity.

Shearling (ʃiərliŋ). Forms: 4, 6 scherling, 5, 7 sherling, 6 sharling, scharlyng, shyrlyng, 8 sheerling, 9 shearling. [f. SHEAR *v.* + -LING.]

1. A sheep that has been once shorn.

1378–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 587 In 30 pell. de Scherlings empt. de Celer. pro pistrina, 5*s*. 1532–3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 207 Oves..vocatæ sharlyngs. 1786 CULLEY *Live Stock* (1807) Introd. p. xx, They are not called shearlings until once clipped, which is understood to be the same as one year old. 1833 *Wauldby Farm Rep.* 114 in *Libr. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III, Making up the number by an addition of the finest gimmer shearlings. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* iii, I am whiter than yonder shearling.

†**2.** The fleece of such a sheep. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 117, xxij. dousen of scherlinges, and iij. skynnes, prise the dousen xx. d. 1531–2 *Durham Housek. Bk.* (Surtees) 109 Pelles vocati sharlyngs. 1597 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 119 Of the glover, for viij shyrlynges, which was kylled before October last, ix^{s} iiij^{d}. 1680 in Ferguson & Manson *Munic. Rec. Carlisle* (1887) 220 Lamb skins sherlings calfe-skins.

3. *attrib.*, as *shearling-ewe, -ram, -tup, -wether.*

1861 *Times* 27 Sept., Regular ram-breeders..let *shearling rams by private contract. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 38 A dinmont or *shearling-tup. 1782 W. H. Marshall *Norfolk* (1795) II. 321 Several pens of *sheerling-wedders.

Shearman (ʃī·ɹmăn). Forms: 3 sermon, 3–6 scher-, 4–7 shere-, 5–6 s(c)har-, 5–7 sher-, (6 shier-), 6–7 sheare-, 6–8 sheer-, (7 sheere-, share-), 6– shearman. [f. Shear *v.* + Man *sb.*]

1. One who shears woollen cloth. Now *Hist.*

c 1275 in *Shropsh. Archæol. Soc. Trans.* Ser. III. (1901) I. 130 Rogerius le sermon. 1297 *Placita coram Rege* m. 13 (1897) 83 Adam le Scherman. 1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 25 Johannes Wykir & Agnes vx. ejus, Shereman. 1415 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 98 Willelmus, filius Thomae Sherman, de Notyngham,..sherman. 1530 in *Archæologia* XXV. 503 The sharman of Snettsham. 1551 T. Wilson *Logic* V iv, His cote somwhat araied..was dressed at the Shermans [1580 Shiermans], not past two or thre dayes before. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 141 Villaine, thy Father was a Playsterer, And thou thy selfe a Sheareman, art thou not? 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2224/4 A Sheerman by Trade. 1798 W. Hutton *Family of Huiton* 97 My great grandfather, was a shearman.

Comb. 1463 *Cal. City Lond. Let.-bk.* L. 27 That now person enfraunchesed..take vpon hym to grynde any mennes sheres except Sheremen sherys. 1894 R. S. Ferguson *Hist. Westmorland* 165 The shearmen-dyers.

2. One who conducts the process of shearing metal.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 93 Wrought Iron Manufacture..Shearer or Shearman. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Shear men*, men who put iron or steel into the shears ..and square it and cut it into the required lengths.

Shearn(e, variant forms of Sharn *sb.*

Shears *pl.*: see Shear *sb.*[1]

Shear-shorie, variant of Searchery *Sc. Obs.*

1707 W. Black *Privil. Roy. Burrows* App. N 2 b, In.. 1632, a Signature of Foreign Shear-shorie, in favours of Robert Borthwick..being past in Exchequer [etc.].

Shear steel. [f. Shear *sb.*[1]: see quot. 1837.] Blister steel improved in quality by heating, rolling and tilting.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 13 The steel which contains the smallest proportion of carbon, for example, shear steel, is the most easily welded. 1837 Hebert *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 788 Shear Steel.—This name was given to a steel that was first made by Crowley, of Newcastle, about sixty years ago...Crowley.. stamped his production with the figure of a pair of shears, to indicate its suitable application...Various qualities of shear steel are made, distinguished by the terms half-shear, single-shear, and double-shear, according to the number of times it has been cut, piled, welded, and drawn out. 1857 Scoffern, etc. *Useful Metals* 345 Bar-steel from the converting-furnace is made into single shear-steel and double shear-steel, which will differ in quality and value with the quality of the bar-steel from which it is made, and the judgment and care of the person who selects the steel. This name was given to it because it was the kind used for the blades of shears, formerly employed for cropping woollen cloths. Single shear-steel is distinguished by a single representation of a pair of those shears, and double shear by two. 1861 Sir W. Fairbairn *Iron* 175 Double Shear Steel is single shear steel a second time cut up, piled, heated, and tilted. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 293/2 Round the part which is to form the bearing a thick ring of shear-steel must be welded.

†**'Sheart.** *Obs.* Also written 6 **shart**, 7 **s'harte**, **'s'heart**, 8 *erron.* **'sdheart.** A euphemistic shortening of *God's heart* (see God *sb.* 14), used as an oath or asseveration.

c 1596 *Sir T. More* III. ii. 276 Shart, if my haire stand not an end [etc.]. 1604 Dekker *1st Pt. Honest Wh.* C 3, *Flu.*.. Sblood why doe you attach vs? *Cast.* Sheart! attach vs! *c* 1615 W. Goddard *Mastiff Whelp* E 4 b, What crying? s'harte this is ex'lent fine. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. vii, 'S'heart, what shou'd he do with distinguishing Taste? 1706 Betterton *Amorous Widow* II. 18 *Visc.* 'Sdheart, 'tis impossible!

Shear Thursday: see Sheer Thursday.

Shearwater (ʃī·ɹwɔ̄təɹ). Also 7 shere-, 8 shire-, 8–9 *erron.* sheer-. [f. Shear *v.* + Water *sb.*]

1. A bird of the genus *Puffinus*, esp. *P. anglorum*, the Manx Shearwater (see Manx *a.*), and *P. major*, the Greater Shearwater.

c 1671 Sir T. Browne *Norf. Birds* Wks. 1835 IV. 316 A sea-fowl called a sherewater. 1674 Ray *Coll. Words* To Rdr. A 8, Among some Pictures of Birds which I have received from..Sr. Thomas Brown..I find..A shear-water inscribed *Larus niger*. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 93 We saw no Fowl but Shear-waters. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Pembrokeshire*, The harry-bird [is] the shirewater of Sir Thomas Brown. 1821 Scott *Pirate* iv, The very sheerwaters and bonxies are making to the cliffs for shelter. 1870 Gillmore tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 288 Under the name of Shearwaters..those species of Petrels are included which have bills as long, and sometimes longer, than their heads.

2. *U.S.* The Black Skimmer, *Rhynchops nigra.*

1794 Morse *Amer. Geog.* 167 Shear Water or Razor Bill. 1850 F. Mason *Burmah* 300 The sheer-water, or scissors-bill. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 652/2 The black skimmer, or shear-water.

†**Shea·ry**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Shear *v.* + -y.] Having a hard sharp edge.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. xv. 16 Cyperus Wood grasse hath many sheary grassie leaues.

Sheat, *sb. dial.* Also 6 *pl.* **shettes**, 7–9 **sheet**, 8 scheat, 9 shet. [Cogn. w. the synonymous Shoat[2]; the relation between the two forms is obscure.] A pig under a year old.

1534 *Inv.* in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, LXXXIII. lf. 118 (P.R.O.) Yong hogges called Shettes. 1572 in *Pegge's Kenticisms* (E.D.S.) s. v., One sow, two sheetes. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 661 In English we call a young swine a Pigge, A weaning Pigge, a sheate, a Yealke, and so foorth. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxxvii, Three hundred barrow-pigs or sheats. 1736 J. Lewis *Isle of Tenet* (ed. 2) 38 *Scheat*, a little Pig spay'd. 1852 in *N. & Q.* Ser. I. VI. 339/1 They [Kentish men] defined 'sheets' to be 'pigs between the age of six and ten months'. 1875 *Sussex Gloss.*, *Sheat*, a young hog of the first year.

†**Sheat**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. ? Trim, neat.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* vii. (1630) 25 Neat, sheat and fine, As brisk as a cup of wine.

Sheat, Sheat(e, obs. ff. Sheath[2], Sheet.

Sheath[1] (ʃīp). Forms: *α.* 1 sceæð, scéað, 1–3 scéð, 2–3 scaþ, 3 shæþ, seaþ, sseþe, 3, (5) seth, 4–6 s(c)hethe, 4–7, (8–9 *dial.*) sheth, 5 scheth, (seeth), 5–6 sheethe, *Sc.* scheith, 6 scheethe, sheeth, 6–7 sheathe, (7 ? *mispr.* skeath, 8 shearth), 6– sheath. *β.* 4–5 schede, 5 shede, 5–6 schete. [OE. *scéþ*, *scéaþ* str. fem. = OS. *skēdia*, MDu. *schēde* (mod.Du. *scheede*, *schee*), OHG. *sceida* (MHG., mod.G. *scheide*), ON. *skeiðir* pl., scabbard (Da. *skede*):—OTeut. **skaiþjō*.

The word app. belongs to the Teut. root *skaiþ-*, *skaid-*, to separate, divide (see Shred *v.*). The primary notion may have been that of a stick split to receive the blade: cf. the ablaut-variant MSw. *skiþa*, mod.Sw. *skida* a sheath, which appears to be the same word as ON. *skiða* a billet of wood, faggot (see Shide *sb.*). The ON. *skauðir* pl., 'sheath' of a horse (see 2 a below) is commonly regarded as cognate, although belonging to a different vowel-series; probably, however, the resemblance in form and sense with the present word is accidental.]

1. A case or covering into which a blade is thrust when not in use; usually close-fitting and conforming to the shape of the blade, esp. of a sword, dagger, knife, etc. Cf. Scabbard.

α. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 11 Send suord in sceæð.. *mitte gladium in vaginam. a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1992 Handum bruȝdon hæleð of sceðum hringmæled sweord. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 482 He awende his swurd into ðære sceaðe. *c* 1200 Ormin 14675 Abraham..droh hiss sword off shæþe. *c* 1205 Lay. 23211 Luken vt of scaþe [*c* 1275 seaþe] sweordes longe. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 15795 (Fairf.) Þat dint now gif þou nane In-to þe shepe [*c* 1425 *Trin.* sheepe, *earlier texts* forel] þou putt þi squorde. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 259 Wypyng his blody swerde, and put hit vp ynto his schepe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 706 Schort suerdis of scheith smertly thay dreuch. 1530 Palsgr. 266/2 Sheth of a meate knyfe, *gayne.* 1555 Eden *Decades* 224 He had a longe dager with a hafte of golde, and the shethe of a fayre kynde of carued woodde. 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 A new sheth for my M^{r} daggar. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forf.* 2 Blades, Handles, Scabbards, Sheaths for Knives. 1715 Pope *Iliad* III. 125 Your shining Swords within the Sheath restrain. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 195 The lever and cutting blade separated from the handle and sheath. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 11 Before drawing the sword from the sheath. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 29 A bronze sword in a wooden sheath.

β. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 888 (MS. Gg.) Tysbe..saw hire wympil & hise emty schede And ek his swerd that hym hath don to dede. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (Percy Soc.) 2584 And drew a knyf out of hire schete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schede, or schethe, *vagina*. 14.. *Songs & Carols 15th C.* (Warton Club) lxi, Myn baselard haȝt a schede of red, And a clene loket of led. *c* 1500 *Melusine* lix. 359 He putte his swerd vp in the shede. 1518 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Vagina*, a shete [1500 a shethe].

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2864 Were he mowe þe luþer vortiger witie fram þe deþe þat ich in is Ineward mid suerd make a sseþe. *c* 1393 Chaucer *Scogan* 39 Ne þynke I neuere of slep to wake myn muse þat rustyþ in myn schede [*Fairf. & Pepys* shethe] stylle in pes. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 170 (Qo. 1599) O happy dagger This is thy sheath, there rust and let me dye. 1615 Hieron *Three Serm. Necess. Advts.* 14 Some one who is a meere hypocrite, and but as it were the sheath and shadow of a Christian. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* viii, Women..are occasion for many a blade's exchanging a sheath of neat's leather for one of flesh and blood. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 323 Liberation of the will from the sheaths and clogs of organization..is the end and aim of this world.

†c. *By my sheath*, a petty oath. *Obs.*

a 1530 Heywood *Love* 1370 (Brandl), The hole faute in fortune by my sheth. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 595/2 Yes by my shethe.

†d. *Painted sheath*: showy exterior. *Obs.*

[Cf. Fr. '*Dans vne gaine d'or vn cousteau de plomb*': Prov. A leaden sword in a golden sheath; a godlesse heart in a goodly bodie' (Cotgr.).]

1542 Becon *Pathw. Prayer* ii. Siv, Let vs not flatter oure selues nor make to much of our painted shethe, as they saye. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 22 She maie not beare a fether, but she must breath, She maketh so much of hir peynted sheath. 1576 Gascoigne *Steel Glas* Wks. 1910 II. 156 One Which stands so much, upon his paynted sheath.. That he accompts, no Soldiour but himselfe. 1613 Hieron *Abridg. Gosp.* II. iii. Wks. 1614 I. 159 Thou pridest thy selfe..in thy painted sheath and gay clothing.

2. A sheath-like covering. Applied to various animal and vegetable structures.

a. The tubular fold of skin into which the penis is retracted, in many animals, as the horse, bull, dog, etc. Also † = Prepuce.

1555 Eden *Decades* I. viii. 38 The men of this countrey inclose theyr priuie members in a gourde...In other places of that tract, they thrust the synew within the sheethe therof [orig. *intra vaginam mentulavem neruum reducunt*]. 1607 Markham *Cavel.* I. 70 If, after your foales bee gelt, their cods and sheathes happen to swell exceeding much. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. ii. (1738) 15 Its outer cover, or Sheath, is nothing else but a production of the Scarfskin Hide and fleshy Pannicle. *c* 1800 J. Cundall *Sch. Arts* 34 The Cure. First throw him [the bull], and draw his pizzle out of his sheath.

b. *Bot.* A tubular or enrolled part or organ of a plant; the part of an expanded organ that is rolled round a stem or other body, as the spathe of a flower, the lower part of the leaves of grasses, etc.

1671 Grew *Anat. Pl.* I. i. (1682) 10 The Plume in Corn is trussed up within a membranous Sheath. 1720 P. Blair *Bot. Ess.* i. 28 Sometimes they are covered with a Vagina or Sheath at the top, which appears blackish in the middle of the Flourish, until it is fully blown, and then the Sheath falls off, and the two Portions separate. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 *Sheath* (spatha), a species of Calyx, exemplified in the Crocus, the Iris, and the Daffodil. 1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 95 Occasionally the petiole embraces the branch from which it springs, and in such case is said to be sheathing; and is even called a sheath, or vagina, as in grasses. 1847 Tennyson *Princess* v. 28, I was ..More crumpled than a poppy from the sheath. 1847 Mrs. R. Lee *Afr. Wand.* vii. (1854) 100 He found a large spatha, or sheath, full of cocoa-nuts. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* xiii. 180 The maize-ears full and shining gleamed from bursting sheaths of verdure. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 174 This sheath in all true Grasses terminates above in a membranous appendage. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xx. II. 11 The cheap clothing that moulding itself on her feet seemed an adornment as choice as the sheaths of buds. 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 220 Cells forming a filament (*Trichome*) usually included in a tubular homogenous or lamellate sheath (*vagina*).

c. *Bot.* 'A limiting layer of surrounding cellular tissue' (B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, 1900). Also 'the lower, longer portion of the cell-wall in division in Oedogonium' (*Ibid.* Add.). *Bundle-sheath*: see Bundle *sb.* 4.

1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 6 When a layer (simple or compound) surrounds a tissue, which differs from it, it is termed relatively to the latter a sheath. 1897 tr. *Strasburger's Text-bk. Bot.* (1903) 203 The glucose which is thus produced in the leaves passes out of the mesophyll cells into the elongated cells of the vascular bundle-sheaths. The glucose and maltose are transferred in these conducting sheaths through the leaf-stalks into the stem.

d. *Anat.* The connective tissue covering which closely invests a part or elongated organ, and binds it together and holds it in place. Cf. Fascia 3.

1805 J. F. D. Jones *Treat. Suppress. Hemorrhage* (1810) 54 A coagulum then, formed at the mouth of the artery, and within its sheath. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxx. 404 There was..no inflammation of it's [i. e. the spinal cord's] membranes or effusion into its sheath. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* i. 10 The sheath is continued at each end into a tendon. 1873 J. Angell *Elem. Anim. Physiol.* v. 70 Each primitive fibre is invested with a delicate sheath of fine, tough, elastic, transparent, structureless membrane, termed the *sarcolemma* or *myolemma*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 819 The outermost of the three layers [of the intussuscepted bowel] is known as the intussuscipient, the sheath, or the receiving layer.

e. A tube-like case, covering, or protection, e. g. a hair-follicle, the covering of the sting, etc. of an insect.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 68 The sheath sometimes sticks so fast in the wound, that the animal is obliged to leave it behind; by which the bee soon after dies. 1801 tr. *Haller's First Lines Physiol.* 205 The hair, with both its cylindrical sheaths, arrives at a cutaneous pore, goes out through it, and forces the epidermis into a similar sheath. 1820 Shelley *Witch of Atlas* xv, And there lay Visions.. Each in its thin sheath, like a chrysalis. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 320 Sheath of the sucker [in *Membranaceæ*] with only two or three apparent joints. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 399 The sheath of this apparatus [the 'sucker' of Hemipterous insects] is at these times frequently bent into an angle. 1885 Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 369 The softening or destruction of the hair-sheaths either by lime or by putrefaction.

f. The covering of certain shell-fish, e. g. the razor-shell.

1815 S. Brookes *Conchol.* 156 Sheath. Solen Vagina and Siliqua. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 174 Bivalve shells, contained in a tubular sheath distinct from the valves. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 114 Sheath tapering,..the valves of the shell elongated.

g. The lorica of certain protozoans, etc.

1841 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* 34 The Tubiporidæ are enclosed in a calcareous or coriaceous sheath or tube. 1859 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* vii. 61, Fig. 14 showing animal [*Vaginicola valvata*] contracted within its sheath. 1878 F. Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 121 Where the proliferating Polyps are provided with a sheath, the generative buds are always enclosed by the same test as the Polyps themselves.

h. 'The horny covering of the bill or feet of a bird; esp. a sort of false cere of some birds, as the sheathbills, jägers, etc.' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1781 Pennant *Genera of Birds* 43 Upper of the upper mandible lodged in a corneous sheath. 1886 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 782/1 *note*, A strange fallacy arose early ..that this case or sheath [of the sheathbill] was movable.

i. The elytron or outer hard wing-case of a coleopterous insect.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 368 There are some beetles that have neither wings nor sheath. 1854 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* II. 62/2 From this character of having the wings in

a sheath, the term *Coleoptera* was applied...The superior wings, which form the sheath, are generally called elytra. 1910 D. W. Thompson tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* I. 5 Some are coleopterous or sheath-winged, for they have their wings in a sheath or shard.

j. The fold of skin into which the claws of a feline animal are retracted.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. 200 The cat kind are.. remarkable for the sharpness..of their claws, which thrust forth from their sheath when they seize their prey.

3. *Photogr.* (See quots.)

1890 Woodbury *Encycl. Photogr.* 630 *Sheath*, an arrangement for holding the dry plate in detective cameras so that they are protected from the light and can be conveniently changed at will. They are usually made of darkened metal. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 316 The lens and finders are uncovered by sliding sheaths or covers of the same leather.

†**4.** The razor-fish or solen. [Cf. 2 f.] *Obs.*

1722 Diaper tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 482 Here slender Sheaths, and juicy Oysters hide.

5. *Sc.* and *dial.* = Knitting-*sheath*.

1893 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 378 Their straw sheaths tucked into the bands of their tousers [aprons], they clicked merrily away with their needles as they walked along the road.

6. A structure or banking of loose stones to prevent the overflow of a river.

1850 in Ogilvie, and in later Dicts.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib. often passing into adj. (applied to dress), as *sheath gown, model, skirt*, etc.; also *sheath-like, -maker*; **sheath-knife**, a dagger-like knife encased in a sheath; **sheath-piling** = *sheet-piling* (Sheet *sb.*[1] 12 b).

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 5/1 They were what are called *sheath gowns or skirts *à fourreau*. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. i, She purchases a large *sheath-knife in the Palais Royal. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* viii. 165 The leather belt with the sheath-knife at the back. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 15 Flowers with *sheath-like bracts. 1899 *Outlook* 7 Jan. 725/2 The skirts cut in a sheath-like scantiness. 1530 Palsgr. 266/2 *Sheth maker, *gaignier*. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 357 The third sort were sheath-makers for swords. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 437/2 This can be accomplished..by careful *sheath-piling to retain the sides of the excavation. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Jan. 8/4 *Sheath-skirts..will still enjoy popularity.

b. *Nat. Hist.*, as *sheath-edge, -leaf*; **sheath bill**, a sea-bird of the genus *Chionis*, having the basal part of the bill ensheathed in a horny case; **sheathclaw**, a lizard of the genus *Thecodactylus*; **sheath-horned** *a.*, having hollow horns enclosing a horn-core; **sheath (razor-) shell**, the razor-shell; †**sheath-scale** *Bot.* (see quot.); †**sheath-stone** (see quot.); †**sheath-wing** = 2 i; **sheath-winged**, having the wings encased in elytra, coleopterous, vaginipennate. See also Sheath-fish.

1781 Pennant *Genera of Birds* 43 *Sheath-bill. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 47 Sheathbills (Chionidæ). 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 208 A mother penguin cannot leave her egg for a moment but what a sheath-bill, Chionis, dashes its beak into it. 1850 P. H. Gosse *Nat. Hist., Reptiles* 90 The Smooth *Sheath-claw..is a native of Jamaica. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 411 Carex Buxbaumii..*sheath-edges filamentous. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. xii. (1890) 357 A bull, goat, or other *sheath-horned ruminant. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Vegetation* 7 S 2/2 Above there is a mark of the *sheath-leaf, which was pulled [off the stalk]. 1893 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 821 The spirally twisted sheath-leaves are noticeable when the ear is beginning to form. 1819 Turton *Conchol. Dict.* 159 *Solen Vagina*. *Sheath Razor-shell. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 **Sheath-scale*, a membrane found at the top of the sheathes which surround the stem of Grasses, just where the sheath ends, and the proper leaf begins. 1712 *Mus. Thoresby*. (1713) 444 The *Sheath-Shell, as it is commonly called, because of its Form. 1815 Burrow *Elem. Conchol.* 194 Solen. Razor or Sheath Shell. 1681 Grew *Museum* III. § i. i. 265 The *Sheath-Stone. *Solenites*. Like the petrify'd shell of the Sheath-Fish. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 199 A circular projection..on which the *sheath-teeth are formed. 1704 Petiver *Gazophyl.* II. Tab. xvii, Its Shoulders are yellower than the *Sheath Wings. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 141 All vaginipennous or *sheathwinged insects, as Beetles and Dorrs. 1910 D. W. Thompson tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* I. 5 Some are coleopterous or sheath-winged.

†**Sheath**[2]. *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 **schethe**, 6 **sheth**(e, 7 (?*misprint*) **skeath**, 7–8 **sheath**, 9 **seath**; *β.* 8 **sheat**, **sheet**. [Prob. the same word as Sheth. The specific sense below is in WFlem. *scheeberd, scheidberd* (*berd* = board). It is also one of the meanings of Norw. *skeid*; the form *sheath*, if not a misprint, is prob. Scandinavian.] In ploughs of an old type, the bar connecting the beam and sole in front.

a. 1356–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 384 It. in 24 schethes et 24 moldebred cum jugis spakes, 3*s.* 6*d.* 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 3 The sheldbrede is a brode pece of wodde, fast pinned to the ryghte syde of the shethe in the ferther ende. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandm.* I. Former Pt. iii. B 2, The skeath..is a peece of woode of two foote and a halfe in length, and of eight inches in breadth, and two inches in thicknesse; it is driuen extreamly hard into the Plough-beame, slopewise. 1616 Surflet & Markham *Country Farm* VII. xvi. 662 Of it [the Ash] also is made all manner of Plow and Cart-timber whatsoeuer, as Beames, Heads, Skeathes [etc.]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 333/2 The Sheath [of a Plow] is that which holds the Beam and Throck together. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 164 According to the position of the sheath, the earth of the furrow is turned over more suddenly. *a* 1817 W. Muir *Poems* (1818) 8 (*Elegy on old plough*), The very pettle, riest an' seath, Are pil'd up for a fiery death.

β. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. 301 The Plow-Tail consists of..the Share P., and the Sheat Q. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. 6 T 1/2 The sheat, or as it is sometimes called the fore-sheat, there being another piece of timber behind it called the hinder sheat, should be..fastened to the beam by a retch. 1791 J. Townsend *Journ. Spain* (1792) I. 229 An English mechanic will not readily conceive how a plough can be made..without any sheets to support the handle and the share.

Sheath, variant of Seath *Obs.*, brine-pit.

1610 Holland *Camden' Brit.* I. 609 (Cheshire) There be two wells of salt water...Sheathes they call them. *c* 1682 J. Collins *Salt & Fishery* 2 At Middlewich there are seven Pits or Bryne sheaths, which yield most rich Bryne.

Sheath-anchor, obs. form of Sheet-anchor.

Sheathe (ʃīð), *v.* Also *techn.* **sheath** (ʃīþ). Forms: 5 **schethe**, 5–6 **shethe**, (7 **sheate**), 6–9 **sheath**, 6– **sheathe**. [f. Sheath[1].]

†**1.** *trans.* To fit or furnish (a sword, etc.) with a sheath. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3853 He schokkes owtte a schorte knyfe schethede with silvere. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 138 Walters dagger was not come from sheathing.

2. To put (a sword, dagger, etc.) into a sheath or scabbard. *To sheathe the sword* (fig.): to cease hostilities, to put an end to war or enmity.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xxxii. (1869) 20, I bithouht me what j shulde do..with pilke swerd yshethed, seled, wrapped. 1530 Palsgr. 702/1, I shethe a knyfe or a sworde, I put them in to their shethe...Shethe your sworde, you be man good ynoughe. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 52 Mars come thundring downe, And neuer sheathe thy swift reuenging sword. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 213 Still allowing to Kings and their Senates, and Counsailes, right of drawing or sheathing the sword. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 273 The Confederate Catholicks of Ireland were iointly and seuerally sworne,..neuer to sheate theire sworde untill they see the lustre of religion florish in Ireland. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 140 In Days of Ease, when now the weary Sword Was sheath'd, and Luxury with Charles restor'd. 1749 Smollett tr. *Gil Blas* VII. i. (1782) III. 7 Enough (said I to him, sheathing my sword) I am not a brute, to refuse to hear reason. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxii, Those scarfs of blood-red shall be redder before The sabre is sheathed and the battle is o'er. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* IX. i. II. 263 He restrained himself sufficiently to sheath his sword. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 575 The sword should not be sheathed till he had been brought to condign punishment as a traitor. 1891 Morris *Poems by Way* (1896) 210 And then the ancient blade he sheathed.

†**b.** with *up*. Also *transf. Obs.*

1607 R. Turner *Nosce Te* C 3 b, Being soundly bangde he sheathde his dagger vp. 1615 Hieron *Dign. Preaching* 9 May I..like Salomons sluggard, sheathe vp my hands into my bosome and renounce husbandrie? 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. x. 35 But perceiving no body to appear, he presently sheathed up his sword. 1738 Wesley *Hymns*, '*Long have I view'd*' vi, I will not..beg Thee to sheath up thy Sword.

c. *transf.* To bury (a sword) as in a sheath (e.g. *in* an enemy's body). Also with obj. an animal's tusk, claw, etc.

1584 A. Munday *Fedele & Fortunio* 1255 in *Arch. Stud. neu. Spr.* CXXIII. 72 Attilia tolde me, that her mistresse had made a request, To Crack-stone, to sheathe his sworde in your brest. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 617 A churlish swine..Whose tushes neuer sheathd, he whetteth still. *Ibid.* 1116 The..swine Sheath'd..the tuske in his soft groine. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, v. v. 70 Dispatch me heere: Here sheath thy Sword, Ile pardon thee my death. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* I. 37 Within his [a bull's] throat they sheath'd the knife. 1667 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* IV. iv, 'Tis in my breast she sheaths her Dagger now. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVI. x, He beat down his guard, and sheathed one half of his sword in the body of the said gentleman. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* xxi. 270 The hand of his foe..still grasped the hilt of the dagger sheathed in the wound.

d. *fig.* To lay aside, cause to be laid aside (hostility, malice). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. iii. 88 Sheath thy impatience: throw cold water on thy Choller. 1752 Young *Brothers* I. i, Sheath your resentments in your father's peace. 1773 J. Allen *Serm. S. Mary's Oxf.* 16 This ought to sheath plebeian malignity.

e. To retract or draw in (the claws).

1681 Grew *Museum* I. 12 The Leopard..always keeps the Claws of his fore-feet turned up from the ground, and sheath'd as it were in the Skin of his Toes. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 270 He sheathes his paws, uncurls his angry mane. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* IX. xviii, With tranquil eyes and talons sheathed, The ounce expects his liberty. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 126 His [the lion's] claws are sheathed.

3. To cover or encase (esp. a person or part of the body) *in* (something, usually protective).

1632 Massinger *City Madam* IV. ii, Thy procurer Shall be sheath'd in Velvet. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 140 The [petrifying] spring..sheaths everything with stony cases. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 453 In meet Array, Sheath'd in refulgent Arms, a noble Band Advance. 1816 Byron *Siege of Corinth* xxiii. 9 Many a bosom, sheathed in brass, Strew'd the earth like broken glass. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* i, Warriors sheathed in complete steel. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lvi, She started impulsively to her full height, sheathed in her white shawl.

transf. and *fig.* 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 311 People seem sheathed in their tough organization. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 850/1 Plumpness sheathes the nerves and gives an impression of good humour.

b. To cover from view. *rare.*

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 397 Her eyes like Marigolds had sheath'd their light.

†**c.** To *sheathe up*: to envelop so as to confine or obstruct. *Obs. rare.*

1661 Boyle *Cert. Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 146 Those active parts of a body which are of differing Natures, when they are as it were Sheath'd up, or Wedg'd in amongst others in the texture of a Concrete. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xiii. 64 The rich fat wort sheathes up the pores of the hop, and, as it were, embalms the leaves.

4. †**a.** *Med.* To mitigate the acridity or pungency of (a drug) by the use of an emollient vehicle. *Obs.*

1731 Arbuthnot *Aliments* v. (1735) 130 Other Substances ..opposite to..Acrimony which are call'd demulcent or mild, because they blunt or sheath those sharp Salts..such as Pease, Beans [etc.]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Wine*, It had a pleasing softness that sheathed the acrimony of the spirit, and covered the bitter taste of the hop. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 546 Its acrimony requires to be sheathed with some bland powder, as starch.

b. *gen.* To mitigate the painfulness of.

1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 77 The barb of misfortune is sheathed in the mildness of the writer's temperament. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 18 The innumerous Sweet songs which for this Italy outrang From older singers' lips, who sang..with pang Sheathed into music, touched the heart of us So finely, that the pity scarcely pained!

5. (Often *sheath.*) **a.** To cover (a ship, a door, roof, etc.) with a sheathing of metal.

1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 62 We..brought her agrownd before the English howse to sheath her [the ship]. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 13 Barnacles..will eat thorow all the Plankes if she be not sheathed, which is as casing the Hull vnder water with Tar, and Haire, close couered ouer with thin boords fast nailed to the Hull. *a* 1642 Sir W. Monson *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 346/2 They Sheath Ships with Lead. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xxviii, There was no occasion for a good while to sheath any of the Kings Ships. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 332 His majesty's frigate the Alarm..was sheathed with copper, by way of trial. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* I. iii. 233 At the more solemn festivals, the high Altar in the richer churches, was sheathed in a gold or silver frontal, studded with precious stones. 1885 Clark Russell *Strange Voy.* I. ii. 21 The ship..had been newly sheathed, and the yellow metal.. gleamed dully, like old gold. 1883 P. H. Hunter *Story Dan.* ix. 161 The exterior of the dome is sheathed with burnished copper. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 346/2 The doors [of the temple] are sheathed in silver.

b. To cover (a tree-trunk) with a '**sheathing**'.

1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 431 Sheathing the stems of standard trees..should not be neglected.

c. To cover a telegraph cable with a protective envelope.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 17 Apr. 11/2 These wire-sheathing machines..will sheath fifty miles of cables in a day.

d. To place (a photographic plate) in a sheath.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 263 With regard to sheaths for the plates—these may be used,..but in the course of several years..no plate has ever been sheathed.

6. *Nat. Hist.* To surround with a '**sheath**' or covering.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 36 Those black filaments.. which are sheathed in her [the snail's] horns. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 215 Leaves rather longer than the joints of the stem, not at all sheathing it. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 154 Leaves alternate, slightly sheathing at the base. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 109 Stem..sheathed below by obtuse leafless stipules. 1872 Huxley *Physiol.* i. 10 A mass of red flesh, sheathed in connective tissue. 1882–4 Cooke *Brit. Fresh-w. Algæ* I. 195 A hyaline bristle, which is sheathed at its base.

Sheathe, bad spelling of Scythe.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 125.

Sheathed (ʃīðd), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. Sheath[1] + -ed[2].] Having or surrounded by a sheath; put in or capable of being withdrawn into a sheath.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 16 Mites in Cheese..are sheath'd and crustaceous Animals (as Scarabees and such like Insects are). 1771 J. R. Forster *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 4 *Panicum clandestin.* Panic grass, sheathed. Pensylva. Kalm. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 *Sheathed Fruit-stalk* (spadix), one that is furnished with a sheath. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 238 The sheathed polype.

Comb. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 2. 127 Sheathed winged Insects, commonly called Beetles or Scarabs. 1863 Wood *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 460 Coleoptera, a word of Greek origin, signifying sheathed-winged animals.

Sheathed (ʃīðd; *techn.* ʃīþt), *ppl. a.* [f. Sheathe *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. Of a sword, etc.: Put into or encased in a sheath.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. iii, With sheathed broad-sword in his hand. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v. III. 25 A pair of sheathed scissors. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xlii, Softly laying his velvet hand, as a cat might have laid its sheathed claws, on Mr. Dombey's arm. 1903 Sir A. H. Layard *Autobiog.* I. iii. 144 His silver-sheathed yataghan.

2. Of a ship: Having the bottom covered with sheathing. [Sheathe *v.* 5.]

1889 Welch *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* viii. 105 Passing now to the sheathed ships, the butts of the flat keel plate are double chain riveted.

Sheather[1] (ʃī·ðəɪ). Also 4–6 **shether**, 5 **schedare, schethare.** [f. Sheath[1] + -er[1].] A sheath-maker.

1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* VI. 43 Johannes de Breres, Shether vjd. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 654 Botelmakers et Shethers jurati ad regulandum Misterum suum. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schedare, or schethare, *vaginarius*. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 9 Whyte tanners, galyors, and shethers. 1583 *Streat Bk.*, John Cutler, sheather, for riding his mare through the corne, 6d.

Sheather[2] (ʃī·ðəɪ). [f. Sheathe *v.* + -er[1].] One who or that which sheathes.

1761 *Ann. Reg.* IV. *Usef. Proj.* 123 When the salts above described have lost their points, in the absorbing sheather.

Sheathery (ʃī·þəri). [f. SHEATH [1] + -ERY.] Sheaths and similar articles collectively.

1857 *P. O. Directory Yorksh.* 1052 Sheathery Manufacturers.

Sheath-fish [1] (ʃī·þfiʃ), **sheat-fish** (ʃī·t-). Also sheet-. [The earlier form *sheath-fish* is prob. f. SHEATH [1], after the G. *schaid(e, scheid(e* masc. (now *scheiden* masc.; OHG. had *sceida* fem.), which Gesner *De Piscibus* (1558) regarded as cogn. w. *scheide* fem. SHEATH *sb.*, supposing that the fish was named from some resemblance in shape to a cavalry scabbard. The later *sheat-fish* seems to be ad. G. *scheidfisch* (f. *scheid*: see above), though that compound appears in Grimm only with a reference to Frisch (1741). The etymology of G. *scheid(e, scheiden* is unknown.] A large fresh-water fish, *Silurus glanis*, common in the Danube and other rivers of eastern Europe.

a. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1723 A sheath fish, or whale of the river, *stella*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. li. I. 266 The male sheath-fish or riuer-whale Silurus. 1815 ANNE PLUMPTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. S. Africa* II. 343 A species nearly allied to our *silurus glanis*, or sheath-fish, which in the *systema naturæ* is given as an inhabitant of the Nile.

β. 1611 COTGR., *Silure*, the rauening sheat fish, or whall of the riuer. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 128 Silurus Rondeletii...The Sheat-fish. 1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 26 At Aleppo, the gall of the sheet fish, Silurus Glanis..was in particular request. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* x, A mighty sheat-fish smokes upon the festive board. 1881 ELLEN FREWER tr. *Holub's 7 Yrs. S. Africa* II. i. 30, I succeeded in hooking three large sheatfish.

b. In extended use, as a name for the order *Siluridæ* or for a subdivision of it which includes the genus *Silurus*. (See quots.)

a. 1881 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 649/2 The electric sheath-fish of tropical Africa (*Malapterurus*).

β. 1851 GOSSE *Nat. Hist., Fishes* 227 *Siluridæ*. (Sheat-fishes.) 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 106 Mailed Sheat-Fishes (Loricariidæ). *Ibid.*, Naked Sheat-Fishes (Pimelodidæ). *Ibid.* 107 True Sheat-Fishes (Siluridæ) [etc.]. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 31 Of the sheat-fish, or scaleless siluroids, we have twenty-six genera.

† **Sheath-fish** [2]. *Obs.* [f. SHEATH [1] + FISH *sb.*] The razor-fish.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 32 The Sheath, or Rasor-fish, resembles in length and bignesse a mans finger. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokesh.* (1892) 126 Sheth or haft fishe. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5022 A Sheath-fish, which is very plentiful in New-England; a delicate fish, cover'd with a thin shell and of the colour of a Musle. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § vi. ii. 143 The Sheath-Fish, commonly so called from its similitude to the sheath of a Knife. *Solen. Vnguis.*

† **Sheath-fish** [3]. *Obs.*: see SAITHE.

Sheathing (ʃī·þiŋ, ʃī·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 5 **schedynge**, 7 **shething**. [f. SHEATHE *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. **a.** The action of putting into a sheath.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 (Pynson) Schedynge, *vaginatio*. 1596 [see SHEATHE *v.* 1].

b. The action of putting on a protective layer to a ship's bottom; also, †the method or manner in which this is done.

1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 310 Dockes for the sheathinge or carreeninge of theire shipps. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 346/2 Another Sheathing is with double Planks. 1676 J. WOOD *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 153 Mr. John Sish took no ordinary Care in Strengthening her, and in her Shething, which was as well performed as in any Ship that ever sailed on the Sea. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. vii. 367 Having by that time compleated the new sheathing of the first course..they continued the paying and sheathing the bottom. 1849 LONGF. *Building of Ship* 191 The..seething Caldron, that ..overflowed With the black tar, heated for the sheathing.

2. A protective layer or covering laid on the outside of the bottom of a wooden ship, to protect the planks from the borings of marine animals. Formerly of boards, etc., now usually of thin plates of metal (copper). Also a wooden covering sometimes used to protect the submerged parts of iron ships from corrosion by the water.

1587 in J. S. Corbett *Pap. rel. Sp. War* (1898) 226 Decayed timbers..under the sheathing [*MS.* Shething]. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 32 We saw some of the sheathing swim by vs. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xx, She had her sheathing strip'd at seven Years end to repair the Plank, but not for any defect in the Sheathing it self. 1728 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 155 A new method for preserving the plank and sheathing of Ships. 1784 J. KING *Cook's 3rd Voy.* VI. v. III. 289 The carpenters..proceeded to rip off the sheathing that had been injured by the ice, from the starboard side. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* ix. (1856) 99 A fathom or two from the bright copper of her sheathing along the water-line. 1886 SIR N. BARNABY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 819/1 The plank, or skin, or sheathing of a ship, both external and internal, is of various thicknesses.

b. *gen.* A covering or envelope in which something is encased for protection or ornament; material prepared for use as an envelope or casing. Chiefly in technical applications: e. g. a covering of boards, plates of metal, or other material, fitted to the surface of a wall, roof, or other part of a building, a piece of machinery, or the like.

1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. 132 A loose covering is both more comfortable and more healthy than a tight sheathing of cloth [*i. e.* tight trousers]. 1867 W. H. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 116 Upon the upper one the plates or segments of tubbing are built up, sheathing of pitch pine, ⅜ or ½ inch thick, being inserted between all the contact surfaces, and the vertical joints broken, as in stone work. 1868 *Art Jrnl.* 1 Feb. 35/2 Mural sheathings imitative of the finest Persian patterns. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Sheathing*, a close partition or covering of planks. 1909 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Oct. 687/2 The sea-cow..is..skinned—for the back sheathing is thick and hard in texture, rendering it useful for many purposes.

c. Sheathing paper.

1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* 81 *Sheathing*, a large thick brown paper, used for ships' bottoms, usually made to order.

3. A banking of loose stones to prevent overflowing of a river. Cf. SHEATH [1] 6; also *camp-sheathing*, var. of CAMPSHEDDING.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* viii. 246 Working his bait..behind piles, and under the apron or sheathing [of the weir].

4. *attrib.* (sense 2, 2 b), as *sheathing board, copper, felt, lead, paper*; **sheathing-nail** (see quot.).

1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 251 Planck, *sheathinge boards, laths. 1773 *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. iii. in Hawkesw. *Voy.* III. 546 We saw by the light of the moon the sheathing boards from the bottom of the vessel floating away all round her. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 20 Sept. 2/1 Small cordage, sheathing paper, *sheathing copper, and ships stores. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxii. 124 Sheets of sheathing-copper. 1834–6 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* § 1064 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 763/1 *Sheathing felt is applied in coppered ships immediately below the copper. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 83 The Goodness of *Sheathing-Lead to line the Bread-rooms. 1611 COTGR., *Clou d'estoupe*, a speake, or *sheathing nayle; vsed in ships. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navv.* (Weale) 134 *Sheathing nails* are used to fasten wood sheathing on the ship's bottom, to preserve the plank and prevent the filling nails from tearing it too much. *Sheathing nails*, for nailing copper sheathing, are of metal cast in moulds, about 1¼ inch long. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 214 Writing and printing paper, *sheathing and wrapping paper. 1861 J. SPENCE *Amer. Union* v. 182 Paper is under a prohibitory duty of 30 per cent., but sheathing paper pays only 10 per cent.

Sheathing (ʃī·þiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHEATHE *v.* + -ING [2].] That sheathes.

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 39 And transient in a trice From what was left of faded woman-slough To sheathing splendours and the golden scale Of harness. 1908 *Smithsonian Misc. Collect.* LII. 16 A sheathing projection on occiput, and one above opercle.

b. *Bot.*

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) II. 1297/1 *Vaginans*, [of a leaf] sheathing, or with its base forming a cylindrical tube investing the stem. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 25 This long purplish substance which stands upright within the sheathing conical Calyx. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 209 The sheathing bases of the leaves. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* I. (ed. 4) 40 The attachment of the leaves of parallel-veined plants is often what is called *sheathing*, as we see in the grasses,..in which the leaf springs from a sheath..which embraces the stem. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 141 Membranous sheathing layers of a granular substance.

c. *Anat.* (See quot.)

1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Canal*, Sheathing canal (*canalis vaginalis*), the communication of the cavity of the tunica vaginalis testis with the general peritoneal cavity of the abdomen.

Sheathless (ʃī·þlės), *a.* [f. SHEATH [1] + -LESS.]

1. Of a sword, etc.: Not encased in a sheath.

1717 EUSDEN *Ovid's Met.* IV. *Pyramus & Thisbe* 142 She ..saw his sheathless sword. 1816 BYRON *Parisina* x. 12 A thousand swords had sheathless shone. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiv, Francis took up his sheathless sword.

2. *Nat. Hist.* Having no sheath.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 192 Tentacles laminated, non-retractile, sheathless. 1910 D. W. THOMPSON tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* I. 5 Some are coleopterous or sheath-winged,..others are sheathless.

† **Shea·thy**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SHEATH [1] + -Y.] Of the nature of a sheath.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. 175 Hee that..shall with a needle put aside the short and sheathie cases on their [the earwigs'] backe, may extend and draw forth two winges. 1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1017 Under their sheathy wings..lye hid their membranous wings.

Shea-tree: see SHEA.

Sheave (ʃīv), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4 **schive**, 5 **s(c)hyve**, 6 **shife, shyfe**, 5–6 *Sc.* pl. **schyffis, schiffis**; *β.* 4, 8–9 **sheeve**, 5 **shefe**, 5–6 **sheve**, 6 *Sc.* pl. **s(c)hawis**, 7–8 **shaff**, 8 **shieve, sheff**, 9 **sheaf**, 8– **sheave**. [Cogn. w. OS. *scīva* fem. (glossing *sphera*), MLG., mod.LG., MDu. *schīve* (mod.Du. *schijf*), OHG. *scība*, MHG. *schîbe*, mod.G. *scheibe*; also (? from LG.) Icel. *skífa*, Sw. *skifva*, Da. *skive*.

In continental Teut. these words have the senses disk, quoit, wheel, sheave or pulley, pane of glass, flat plate, slice of bread, etc.; their formal equivalent in Eng. is SHIVE (ʃəiv), which has had most of the senses here enumerated. The etymological relation between the present word and *shive* is hard to determine; the most probable view is that *sheave* represents (with vowel-change as in *week, weevil*, etc.) an OE. **scīfe* or **scīfa*, from the weak grade of the root of *scīfe* SHIVE. In some of the *a* forms the quantity of the *i* is doubtful; if it be long, the examples belong strictly to SHIVE *sb.*]

1. = SHIVE *sb.*1, slice of bread.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodera*) 31 For les þane a schefe of brede. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 772/31, 32 *Hec lesca, Hec colirida*, a schefe of brede. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1553) F iij b, Take a sheaue of bread..toste it, and wete it [etc.]. 1552 HULOET, Cantel or shief of bread, *minutal*. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. (1592) 85 A Sheeue of bread as browne as Nut. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 57 He cald for shieves of bread to eat.

2. A wheel having a groove in the circumference to receive a cord passing over it, a pulley; esp. one of the pulleys connected in a block; *U.S.* also, 'the pulley of a window or door-hanger' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*). Also, a wheel having a groove in the circumference to enable it to run on a rail or bar.

a. 1336 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 4 Schiuis et trussis. 1399 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 18 Item j par de pulees cum vj shives. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 358 Tua schyffis with xiij puleis. *a* 1515 *Build. Louth Steeple* in *Archæologia* X. 76 Paid to..John Harrison, smith, for one pully shife of brass, 16*d*.

β. 1338 in Nicolas *Royal Navy* (1847) II. 171 Sheeues. [Other terms cited as occurring are 'swivels', 'hawsers for warping'.] 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 Sheves of brasse iiij grete & xviij small...Grete sheves of Iren..j. 1511–12 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 278 Paid for shevys of Brasse to hange þe lampe & þe pascall, the on peyre cost xij d, the oþer peire viij d. 1554–5 in *Extracts Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 308 Twa faddome and ane half of cords to fessin the shawis to the rufe of the tolbuith, to rais the greit brandrauth togidder. *Ibid.* 311 Thre schawis of brass to the cran, ilk schewe weyand xx pund wecht. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* vi. (1679) 42 Ash..serves..for..the best blocks for Pullys and Sheffs, as Seamen name them. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Sheave*, a solid cylindrical wheel, fixed in a channel, and moveable about an axis,..used to.. increase the mechanical powers applied to remove any body. The sheaves are either fixed in blocks, or in channels cut through the masts, caps, cat-heads, or sides of a ship. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 207 A rope passing over the sheave of a notch block. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 425 The manner in which the rope goes round, and grasps the sheeves, and occasions their contrary motion. 1841 R. WILLIS *Princ. Mechanism* § 211 In each mortise is a friction-pully or sheave, having a groove in its circumference round which the string or cord passes. 1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Electr. & Magn.* 288 Suspension and insulation of telegraph wires. Non-conducting sheaves or rollers are fixed to the posts [etc.]. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. O 2, The barrel and the sheave of the lower block have grooves for the chain to work in. 1888 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 This eye or mail is placed in the heddle half-way between an upper and a lower wooden sheaf. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* 205 And the derricks clack and grate, as the tackle hooks the crate, And the fall-rope whines through the sheave.

b. An eccentric or its disk.

1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 47 The eccentric is a particular form of crank...In the eccentric what corresponds to the crank-pin is called the sheave or pulley.

c. *attrib.*, as *sheave-block, -hole*, etc.

1588 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael, Oxf.*, Item for makinge a *shereband [? *read* sheaveband] for the seconde bell. 1590 *Ibid.*, Item for peecing the Shereband [? *read* sheveband] and stirrops to the same bell. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 246/2 Using either a simple sling, or *sheave-blocks, for placing the stones, according to their dimensions and weight. 1894 *Times* 26 Feb. 3/6 A sheaf-block to raise up the chain-block. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Trous d'écoutes*, the *sheave-holes,..cut obliquely through a ship's side, wherein the main and fore-sheets are reeved. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 148 That third sheavehole..is for the skys'le-halliards. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 206 *Sheave-roller bushing. Lug-roller bushing. Improved lug-roller...Improved trawl roller.

3. A layer of a coiled rope.

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 198 It is coiled, continuously, in two tubs, and in neat and compact horizontal layers, or 'sheaves'.

4. 'A sliding scutcheon for covering a keyhole' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Sheave (ʃīv), *sb.*[2] Now only *dial.* Also 6 **sheve**. [Variant of SHIVE *sb.*[2] (ʃiv), with vowel-lengthening: cf. prec. The word corresponds in form and sense to MDu. *scheve* (Du. *scheef*, dial. *schееft*), G. *schebe*, Da. dial. *skiæv(e.*]

1. A fragment, splinter; a particle of chaff; a bit of fluff sticking up on the surface of cloth, etc.; a particle of any hard substance in wool, etc.

c 1558 BECON *Gov. Virtue* Wks. 1564 I. 272 Lyke an arthen potte whyche..breaketh so sore that a man shall not fynde a sheue of it to fetche fyre in. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 8 Hamborogh Dowlas..this last wears well, but with these faults, which they never fail of, it wears with prickles or sheaves and never wears perfectly white.

2. The woody part of flax or hemp.

1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 121 The offal [after 'breaking'] is called hemp Sheaves, makes good fuel, and sells at two-pence a stone.

Sheave (ʃīv), *v.*[1] [f. SHEAF *sb.*, with regular change of *f* into *v.*] *trans.* To bring together, collect, gather or put up (corn, etc.) into a sheaf or sheaves. Hence **Shea·ving** *vbl. sb.*

1579 [implied in SHEAVED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1598 FLORIO, *Affasciare*,..to sheaue. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 180 There is no need to let wheat lie out in gripp before it is sheaved. 1785 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* (1790) II. 167 Many oats..have this year been 'sheaved': namely, mown outward, gathered from the swaths, bound, and shucked. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett.*, etc. (1858) 85 The main portion of my harvest is still on the ground, ripe indeed, and only waiting, a few for the sickle, but a large part only for the sheaving, and carting, and housing. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 43 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Peas are not sheaved, but left loose, and frequently turned. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 517 While our corn was being sheaved For his own granaries. 1881 DU CHAILLU *Land of Midn. Sun* I. 193 Women and men sheaving the barley. 1893 *Times* 20 May 11/5 Thatching,..fence-building, mowing and sheaving are, we are assured, becoming lost arts.

intr. *c* 1600 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* Wks. (1881) 78, I sawe a little world of people at worke, Some moweinge, some sheaveinge..some shockeinge, some loadeinge.

fig. 1652 ASHMOLE *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* Proleg. 13 As for the whole Worke it selfe, it is sheav'd up from a few gleanings in part of our English Fields. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 105 From ev'ry Star Our Maker chose the brightest Beams by far; Which sheav'd up in one Orb, the Sun produce.

Sheave (ʃīv), *v.*2 Forms: 7 (-9) shieve, 9 sheave. [Perh. repr. ME. *schēve*, OE. *scéofan* var. of *scúfan* SHOVE *v.*] *intr.* or *absol.* To back a boat, to work the oars backwards.

1611 COTGR., *Sier en arriere: C'est aller le derriere devant*, to shieue, or fall a-sterne, (a tearme of Nauigation). 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To Shieve, or fall a-stern (a Term of Navigation), *sier.* 1894 R. C. LESLIE *Waterboag.* v. 102 Conant was to take charge of the tiller with one hand and the after-oar in the other, which he used standing in the stern-sheets, and 'sheaving' or shoving with it facing the boat's bow, gondolier fashion. 1895 *Dial. Notes* (Amer. Dial. Soc.) I. 381 (N. Brunswick, etc. word-list) *Sheave*, to hold water with the oar to stop the boat or turn more quickly. (Nfld.) 1911 S. REYNOLDS in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 190/2 One man was sheaving—standing up with bent back and rowing forwards—whilst the other man pulled in the ordinary manner.

Sheave, obs. form of SHEAF *sb.*

Sheaved, *a. rare.* [f. SHEAVE *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Having or containing a (thin, etc.) sheave.

1800 *Naval Chron.* III. 474 Thin sheaved blocks.

Sheaved (ʃīvd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHEAVE *v.*1 + -ED 1.]

1. Of corn, etc., also of arrows: Put up or gathered into a sheaf or sheaves.

1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* vi. (1872) E viij, The fertile soyle that foyson bringes of goodly sheaued graine. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1260/4 Lost.., A pair of large Silver Candlesticks.., a Crest upon each Candlestick; at one corner, the Flying-Dragon with a sheaved Arrow in his Claw. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., St. Dorothy* 268 Growth of sheaved wheat. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* 157 Mingled arrows each one sheaved.

†**2.** ? Made of straw. *Obs. rare*−1.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 31 Her sheu'd hat. [Cf. line 8 Vpon her head a plattid hiue of straw.]

3. 'Finished around the top with a flare, like that of a sheaf' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1867 *Rep. Artisans Paris Univ. Exhib.* II. 134 Time was, when a well sheaved wine glass could be made only in England. *Ibid.*, Wine glasses..with tops as well sheaved as the best work on the English stalls.

Sheavy (ʃīvi), *a. dial.* In 9 **sheivy.** [f. SHEAVE *sb.*2 + -Y.] Full of 'sheaves' or 'shivs'. Cf. *shivvy* in the same sense (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 389/1 (Paper making.) There is a considerable difference in the quality and appearance, the rags being thicker and sheivier as the quality deteriorates.

Sheaw, Shebandar, obs. ff. SHOW, SHABUNDER.

Shebang (ʃibæ·ŋ). *U.S. slang.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. A hut, shed; one's dwelling, quarters.

1867 W. L. Goss *Soldier's Story* viii. 153 By common consent, if any one had complaints to make, he carried them to the 'shebang' of Big Peter. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* ii. in *Roughing It*, etc. (1882) 270 We've got a shebang fixed up for you to stand behind in No. I's house. 1890 N. P. LANGFORD *Vigilante Days* I. 83 Towards the close of the summer of 1862, the band organized by Plummer [an outlaw] having increased in numbers, he selected two points of rendezvous, as bases for their operations. These were called 'shebangs'.

b. Applied to a vehicle.

1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* i. in *Roughing It*, etc. (1882) 263 You're welcome to ride here as long as you please, but this shebang's chartered. 1899 BINSTEAD *Houndsditch Day by Day* 198 In a four-wheeled fever-box you must take your beaver on your knees or get it hopelessly ruffled against the roof of the old shebang.

2. 'More widely, almost any matter of present concern; thing; business; as, tired of the whole shebang' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

Shebat, variant of SEBAT (Hebrew month).

Sheben (ʃibē·n). Also **shebean, shibbeen.** [Orig. Anglo-Irish; of obscure origin.

The ending is Irish *-ín* as in *caubeen, colleen*, etc.; an improbable conjecture is that the word is f. Irish *seapa* ad. Eng. SHOP *sb.* In recent Irish dictionaries it is given as Irish, with the spelling *sibín.*]

Chiefly in Ireland and Scotland: A shop or house where excisable liquors are sold without a licence (see quot. 1903); any low wayside public-house.

c 1787 *Kilmainham Minit* in *Sk. Irel. 60 Yrs. Ago* (1847) 88 With de stuff to a shebeen we hied. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 382 The hovel, which proved to be a house of entertainment, such as in Ireland we call a shebeen. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxvi, The money your honour gave me that I spint at the shebeen upon the 'lecthors. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 12. 285 Here we came to a shibbeen, and for the third time the young doctor got down and called for whisky. 1892 *Rev. Reviews* V. 272/1 Twelve hundred shebeens in Cardiff! 1903 *Act* 3 *Edw. VII*, c. 25 § 107 The word 'shebeen' shall mean and include every house, shop, room, premises or place in which excisable liquors are trafficked in, by retail, without a certificate and excise licence in that behalf.

b. *attrib.*

1798 Jos. HOLT *Mem.* (1838) I. 5, I struck off the road to a shebeen house or cabin in which whiskey is sold without a license. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Castle Rackrent* Wks. 1848 IV. 53 His Honour..sent for more spirits from a shebeen-house [*note*] *Shebean-house*, a hedge alehouse. Shebean properly means weak small-beer, taplash. *c* 1825 *Song*, 'Oh, *St. Patrick was a Gentleman*' v, His mother kept a shebeen shop In the town of Enniskillen. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 29 Every mile or two has some establishment of the kind, ranging between the hotel and the shebeen house.

Hence **Shebee·ner,** one who keeps or frequents a shebeen. **Shebee·ning,** the keeping of a shebeen; the illegal selling of liquor.

1870 *Figaro* 14 Dec. (Farmer), Three extensive captures of shebeeners were made in Glasgow on Sunday. One hundred and twenty persons were found in the dens. 1873 *Scotsman* 15 Feb. (ibid.), Grocers, Shebeeners, and others who sell liquors which are consumed on their Premises, and who hold no Licence to do so. 1887 *Scot. Leader* 15 Dec. 4 'Shebeening' by an Edinburgh Publican. 1906 *Daily Mail* 17 Aug. 3/7 A Sheffield barber was fined..for shebeening.

Shecarry, obs. form of SHIKAREE.

†**Shechanize,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Heb. שכן *shākan*, to dwell (the root of SHEKINAH.] *intr.* To dwell as God in a temple.

1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1699) V. 225 The Word incarnate, or tabernacled in our flesh, did shechanize, or perform the part of his Father's supreme representative among us full of grace and truth. *Ibid.*, For this is plainly implied in his shechanizing or tabernacling.

Shechinah, variant form of SHEKINAH.

Sheck, obs. form of SHEIKH.

Shecklaton, variant of CICLATOUN *Obs.*

Sheckle: see SHACKLE, SHEKEL, SHOCKLE.

Shed (ʃed), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 (3e)scéad, 1–2 scád, 3 schad, *Orm.* shæd, 4–6 schede, shede, 4–7 sched, 5 sced, schade, 5, 8, 9 *dial.* sheed, 6 schedde, sheyde, 6–7 shead(e, shedde, *Sc.* schad, 7, 9 *dial.* shade, 4– shed. [OE. (*ge*)*scēad*, altered form of (*ge*)*sceád* neut. :—OTeut. type **(ga)skaidō-m*, f. root **skaid-* to divide: see SHED *v.*, where the phonology is explained. Cf. OHG. *sceit*, (MHG. *scheit*) division. In sense 2 the word may represent the cognate OE. *sc*(*e*)*áda* (see SHODE) in the altered form *scēada.*]

†**1.** Distinction, discrimination, separation (of one thing from another). *Obs.*

In OE. also in phr. *scád* (*ð*)*gyldan*, to give account.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xii. 51 *Separationem*, þæt ȝescead. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 36 Ælc idel word þe menn specað hi aȝyldaþ ȝescead [*c* 1160 scad] be þam on domes dæȝe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6229 Forr ȝunnc birrþ witenn swiþe wel,..þatt niss bitwenen ȝunnc & hemm Nan shæd i manness kinde. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 217 Off god and yuel shed to make. *Ibid.* 721 And shed to make in eueri dede Bitwene sopnesse and falshede. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* III. vi. Wks. 1910 II. 59 The Shed is great, and greater then the show, Which seemes to be, betweene the good and bad. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 40 No *Shed*: No difference between things. 1703 THORESBY in Ray *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 336 'No Sheds', no difference.

†**b.** The faculty of discerning or distinguishing.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 176/24 ȝe habbað ȝescead æȝðer ȝe godes ȝe yfeles. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5534 Þe fifte ȝife iss shæd & skill I weorelldlike þingess. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 238 þat schafte of mon þat he schop & ȝef schad ba of god & of uuel. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 255 Warschipe þe haueð wit ant schad bituhhe god and uuel.

2. The parting made in the hair by combing along the top of the head; also, the part of the head thus indicated, the top of the crown. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Cf. SHODE.

13.. *Cursor M.* 18837 (Gött.) In heued he had a sched [*Cott.* a clift) biforn. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 78/1 The shed, *la greve*. *a* 1380 *Virg. Antioch* 291 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 30 Set myn hat vppon þyn hed, To huide þin her and eke þi sched. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3023 The shede þurghe the shyre here shone as þe lilly. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 674/5 *Hoc discrimen*, the schade of the hede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xi. 7 For lo! the top of litle Ascanius heid,..fro the sched of his croun, Schane all of lycht wnto the grond adoun. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 25 The shede of the heare goeth vp to the toppe, deuydynge the molde. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Diuiduus, Coma diuidua*, heare diuided at the sheade. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* IV. (1608) 65 Her wav'ring haire disparpling flew apart In seemely shed. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 464/2 Women wear Hair..in shades, when it lieth plain and streight on each side the forehead. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Shade*, the parting or division of the hair on one's head.

†**b.** Proverb. *Shame is past the shed of* (*his*) *hair* (or *head*), i.e. (he) has lost all sense of shame.

1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 252 We ben so ful of synne and slouthe, The schame is passed the sched of hede. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 37 Schame is past the sched of thair hair, as weill we knaw. 1691 *Contin. Hist. Relat. Gen. Assembly Scot.* 15 But as the Scots Proverb is, Shame is passed the shed of their hair.

c. A parting made in the wool of sheep in order to grease or anoint the skin.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 44 Make wyde sheydes in the woll of the shepe, and anoynt them with it. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 69 In greasinge they beginne usually on the belly, and soe goe rownde aboute by sheddes. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 321 Leaving about an inch betwixt every shed of the wool. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1118 Tar-salve..may be..spread along the shed, and worked amongst the wool.

†**3.** A piece cut or broken off, a slice, fragment. (Cf. SHIDE.) Also a clot (of blood). *Obs.* (Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*)

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxix. (Douce MS.), Shaftes in shide wode þei shindre in shedes [*rimes* stedes, ledes, bledis]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. viii. 97 And scheddis of bluid furth spittand throw his lippis [*crassumque cruorem ore iectantem*]. 1739 A. NICOL *Nature without Art* 74 Asunder I shall hack it [a cheese] In Sheeds this day. 1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s. v. *Acid* (*Muriatic*), Tinmen's sheds, or old iron, may be employed instead of chalk.

4. *Sc.* 'A portion of land, as distinguished from that which is adjacent' (Jam.); a division of land larger than the 'rig'. ? *Obs.* (Cf. SHETH.)

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 171 Tha sal pairt the toun in twa, gif it ma be, and gif it ma nocht, it salbe partyt in scheddis. 1588 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 790/1 Acram terre arabilis continentem 4 *lie lang-riggis* contigue in uno *lie sched.* 1670 LAMONT *Diary* 30 May (Maitland Club) 220 [A great storm of thunder and lightning] att night; it did scorch and spoile some sheads of corne at Lawderdaill.

5. A ridge of high ground dividing two valleys or tracts of lower country; a 'divide'. Cf. WATERSHED. (The meaning in quot. 1530 is obscure.)

1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Schedde of an hyll, *tertre.* 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* I. 25 The Styrian mountains seem to form a shed between the areas of German and Italian influences. 1891 *Century Dict., Shed.* 3. The slope of land or of a hill: as, which way is the *shed*?

Comb. 1850 OGILVIE, *Shed-line*, the summit line of elevated ground; [1882 adds] the line of the watershed.

6. *Weaving.* The opening made between the threads of the warp by the motion of the heddles for the shuttle to pass through.

1792 A. ADAM *Rom. Antiq.* (1801) 523 Which, being alternately raised and depressed by the motion of the feet on the Treadles, raises or depresses the warp, and makes the *shed* for transmitting the shuttle with the weft. 1851 *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. vii**/2 The heralds..are situated at the left end, for the purpose of effecting the cross shed. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 Treadle number two is next depressed and thereby a new shed is formed.

Shed (ʃed), *sb.*2 Forms: 5–6 shadde, 6–7 shad, 7 shedde, 8 sheed, 7–9 *dial.* shade, 6– shed. [app. var. SHADE *sb.*, where cf. the forms OE. *sced*, ME. (Ayenb.) *ssed*(*e*, 15th c. *shad*(*de.* The development of the senses explained below was prob. more or less due to association with SHUD (now *dial.*, synonymous with this word).]

1. A slight structure built for shelter or storage, or for use as a workshop, either attached as a lean-to to a permanent building or separate; often with open front or sides. The special purpose is indicated by a defining word prefixed, as *cow-, cart-, goat-, tool-shed.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* v. (Arb.) 10 A yerde..In whiche was a shadde [Du. *een vaste schuere*] where in were six grete dogges. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 72 All thoo in the said cite..that ocupye houses not inhabited as shoppis celars shaddys. 1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* § 88 (1878) 232 For Tumbrels and cartes, haue a shed redy dight. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 51 A Fisherman of Yarmouth..hung the residue [of his draught of herrings]..in the sooty roofe of his shad a drying. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IX. 314 Sheds [Gr. σηκοί] stuft with Lambs and Goates, distinctly kept. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 72 In such a season born when scarce a Shed Could be obtain'd to shelter him or me From the bleak air. 1701 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 517 Three small sheds built against the towne wall. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6146/8 The Shops and Sheds in and about Lincoln's-Inn. 1731 *N. Riding Rec.* VIII. 193 The building of a sheed in the Castle of York for the High Sheriffe's coach. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 30 June 1/1 On the north side stands a work-house and a shade. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 223 The milch cows are generally fed in the house or in a shade. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiii, They withdrew to the stable, or shed, in order to accommodate their horses. 1870 *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 68 [Employed] in the power-loom shades..as a thrower. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 7/1 Behind this is a shed..where the cattle are kept before being slaughtered.

b. A similar structure, but large and strongly built; often consisting of a roof supported on columns. Also *Austral.* short for WOOLSHED (q.v.).

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* s. v., Some sheds, as those connected with railway-termini, wharfs, &c., are most substantial structures. 1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 254 The passenger-depôt..—it is known as the 'Car-shed' in Atlantese. *c* 1888 KIPLING *Among Railway Folk* i. Wks. 1900 XVII. 165 On the fourth [side] it is bounded by what are locally known as the 'sheds'; in other words, the station, offices, and workshops of the Company. 1913 *Times* 3 May 8/2 Last night a disastrous fire broke out at the Trafalgar shed of the Midland Railway Company at Bradford.

2. a. *poet.* A hut, cottage, poor dwelling.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. lviii, The first Aletes, borne in lowly shed, Of parents base. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 323 Courtesie, Which oft is sooner found in lowly sheds With smoaky rafters, then in tapstry Halls. 1700 DRYDEN *Baucis & Philemon* 30 At last an hospitable House they found, A homely Shed. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 18 The swallow twitt'ring from the straw-built shed. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 180 He.. Sees no contiguous palace rear its head To shame the meanness of his humble shed. 1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 60 Can poets soothe you, when you pine for bread, By winding myrtles round your ruin'd shed?

b. *gen.* A structure that affords shelter or covering; the hiding-place, lair or nest of an animal.

1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 122 We had greate canes of the China Capt. to make an arbor or shed for a vyne. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 40, I here doe lye, Without a shed scorch'd with a swelt'ring skye. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* Epil., For still in every Storm, they all run hither, As to a Shed that shields 'em from the Weather. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 121 The fields and meadow grass Will gladly hide their [the peewits'] careless shed. *Ibid.* 196 The scouting rabbit seeks her shed.

3. A covering; cf. SHADE *sb.* II. †**a.** ? A lid.

1612 in *Antiquary* (1906) XLII. 29/1 Item in the lofte nexte the gatehouse a Troughe, a Tubbe with a Shed, a boultinge hutche [etc.].

b. In a telegraph-line insulator, a covering in the form of an inverted cup, a 'petticoat'.

1859 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Electr. & Magn.* 236 No sheds or bell coverings are applied, but the wire is varnished [etc.]. 1910 *N. Hawkins' Electr. Dict., Shed of Insulator*, the petticoat of a line wire insulator.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shed-smithy*; *shed-fashion, -wise* advs.; *shed-like* adj.; in sense 'kept, employed, done in a shed', as *shed-cow, -feeding, -man*; **shed roof**, a roof with only one slope (as in a lean-to shed); hence *shed-roofed* adj.

1898 *Yrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* June 415 When an outbreak occurs among a herd of *shed-cows. 1807 P. Gass *Yrnl.* 61 The roofs were made *shed-fashion, rising from the inner side. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 841/1 In some trials of *shed-feeding. 1835 R. Willis *Archit. Mid. Ages* ix. 140 A long, low, *shed-like porch. 1899 Rider Haggard *Farmer's Yr.* 352 The kirk..is a very plain building, white-washed and shed-like in appearance. 1857 *Househ. Words* 27 June 605/1 At large stations they [the porters] form two distinct bodies, called technically yardmen and *shedmen. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 61 It is probably the best and cheapest method to make them with *shed-roofs. 1907 M. C. F. Morris *Nunburnholme* 76 The chancel itself had a shed-roof of mean description. 1836 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 432 The body of a church is span-roofed and its aisles *shed-roofed. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. vi, There, in their two-hundred and fifty *shed smithies,.. let them forge gun-barrels. 1650 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* XXIV. 280 The said cottage and stable is built *Shedwise against the Castle wall of Tymber and Mudd walles.

Shed (ʃed), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. Shed *v.*[1]] Something that is or has been shed: e.g. a silkworm's cocoon; a light fall of snow; the cast shell of a crab.

1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *Fairie Temple* 137 And then he dons the Silk-worms shed (Like a Turks Turbant on his head). 1876 Blackmore *Cripps* vii, A little powdery shed of flakes had come at noon that very day. 1911 Webster, *Shed*..5. That which is or has been shed, as the molted shell of a crab or other crustacean. *Colloq.*

Shed (ʃed), *sb.*[4] *local.* [Cf. Scad[5] and *shad salmon* 'small salmon of from five pounds' to eight pounds' weight' (*Shropshire Word-bk.* 1879).] A young salmon from one to two years old.

1861 *Act* 24 & 25 *Vict.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names..gravelling, shed, scad,..or by any other local name. 1882 [see Skegger].

†**Shed,** *sb.*[5] *Obs.* Also shede, sheade. Variants of Schede, a written paper.

1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Cij b, *Scheda*, a shede. 1590 *Calepini Dict.* (1594) II. 531 *Scheda*..Angl. A sheet or shed of paper. *a* 1593 H. Barrow *Brief Discov.* To Rdr. p. iij, Where such was the rage of the enimie, as he [the author] might not keepe one sheade by him, whiles he was writinge of an other.

Shed, sched, Sc. forms of Shade *sb.*

c 1591 *Rob Stene's Dream* (Maitland Club) 3 A sched, but substance, and no moir. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Vision* xxviii, And all as saft and gay appeird As ane Elysion shed.

Shed (ʃed), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple **shed.** Forms: 1 sc(e)ádan, scédan, 2–5 shode(n, -scheode(n, 3 scheade(n; 2–3 *Ormin* shædenn, 2–6 shede(n, 3 ssede, 3–5 schede(n, 4–7, 8–9 *dial.* sheed(e, sched, 5 scheed, 5–6 schedde, 6 *Sc.* schad, scheid, 6–7 shedd(e, 6–8, 9 *dial.* shead, 8 *dial.* shade, 4– shed; 3 *sing. pres. ind.* (occas. contracted forms) 1 -scét, -scát, -sceát, 2 schet, 2–3 shat. *Pa. t.* 1 -scéd, -scēad, 3 sad, 3–6 sched; 1 sc(e)ádde (? scēadde), 2–3 scedde, 2–5 schedde, shadde, 3 scede, chadde, 3–4 ssedde, 3–5 shed(d)e, schadde, 4 scade, 4–5 schad, shad, 5–6 schede, shadd, 6 *Sc.* s(c)hedd, schaid, 6–7 shead, 7 (9 *dial.*) shodd, shod, 4– shed; 1 -sceádade, 4 schedide, 4–5 scheded, 5 schedet, 5–6 scheddit, 9 *dial.* shedded, sheaded. *Pa. pple.* 1 sceáden (? scēaden), 2 -sceden, 3 scheden, scede, 4–5 schede, shede; 3 sced(d, i-sced, sad(d, 3 (*Ormin*), 5 shadd, 4–5 shad (4 yshad), 4 i-schod, y-ssed, 4–5 schad, yshed, yschad, 5 xad; 4–6 sched (3–5 schedd, isched, 4 isedd, yssed, 4–5 shadde, 5–6 shedde, 6 *Sc.* scheid, 4, 6 *Sc.* schedde (4 yschedde), 9 *dial.* shod, shud, 4– shed; 1 ʒesceádad, 5–6 shedded, 6 sheeded. [A Com. Teut. verb (wanting in Scandinavian), originally str. (redupl.): OE. *sc(e)ádan, scēadan*, pa. t. *sc(e)ád, scēad*, pa. pple. *sc(e)ádden* (? *scēaden*), corresponds, either directly or with consonant-ablaut, to OFris. *skēda, skētha* wk. (mod.Fris. *skiede, schēde*, NFris. *skêr, skial, skias*), OS. *skēdan, skēthan*, pa. pple. *giskēthan*, MLG. *schēden, scheiden*, MDu. *schēden, scheiden, schēen, scheien* (mod.Du. *scheiden*, pa. t. *scheidde*, pa. pple. *geschieden*), OHG. *sceidan*, pa. t. *sciad, scied*, pa. pple. *gisceidan* (MHG. *scheiden*, pa. t. *schiet*, pa. pple. *gescheiden*; mod.G. *scheiden*, pa. t. *schied*, pa. pple. *geschieden*), Goth. *skaidan*, pa. pple. *skaidan-s*; the vb. in all these langs. has the sense to separate, divide; the forms represent two distinct types of the Teut. root, **skaip-* (: **skīþ-*) and **skaid-* (: **skīd-*); for cognates in Teut. see Sheath *sb.*, Shide *sb.* The pre-Teut. **skeit-* : **skoit-* : **skīt-*, from which both the Teut. types descend (with difference due to consonant-ablaut), is not directly represented outside Teut., but is prob. related to the widespread Indogermanic root **sk(h)eid-* : **sk(h)oid-* : **sk(h)id-*, occurring, e. g., in Skr. *chid-* to split, Lith. *skėdžù* I make thin, separate, divide, *skėda* chip of wood, Gr. σχίζειν to split, σχίζα billet of wood, L. *scindĕre* to cut, cleave.

The original OE. *sc(e)ádan* would normally yield (midland and southern) ME. and mod.E. *shode*, which is occas. found in writings from the 12th to the 15th c. It would appear that by the side of the original form OE. had (presumably in certain districts, but evidence is lacking for localization) an altered form *scēadan*, with change of rising into falling diphthong; from this the modern *shed* (ʃed) descends by a development parallel to that of *bread, dead*, from OE. *brēad, dēad*.

The OE. verb retained its strong conjugation in WS., but in Northumbrian occurs only as weak (usually with forms *-scēadade, -scēadad* on the analogy of the *ō* stems; rarely contracted *scēadde*). In early ME. there were forms like *sched* pa. t., *scheden* pa. pple., representing the original strong conjugation; forms like *schedīd*, representing the wk. forms of OE.; and forms like *schēdde, schēdd*, prob. not repr. ONorthumb. *scēadde*, but new formations due to the analogy of vbs. like *rede* (read), *lede* (lead), etc. The mod. pa. t. and pa. pple. *shed* are prob. to be regarded as representing the last type of conjugation, which was by far the most frequent in ME.]

1. *trans.* To separate, divide. Now only *dial.*, chiefly in farming uses: To separate (lambs) from the ewes, or (calves) from the cows; to separate (cattle, sheep) from the herd or flock. †*To shed the shanks* (Sc.): to set the legs apart.

c 1000 *Sonl's Addr.* 148 (Gr.) Þonne sceadene beoþ þa synfullan & þa soðfæstan on þam mæran dæge. *c* 1200 Ormin 16865, & forrþi wass þatt name hemm [*sc.* the Pharisees] sett, Forr þatt teȝȝ wærenn shadde, Swa summ hemm þuhhte, fra þe follc þurrh haliȝ lif & lare. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 Ure louerd ihesu crist..shodeð þe gode fro þe iuele. Et statuet oues a dextris..and shodeð þe rihtwise an his rihthalue. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 270 Þe ȝeteward..ouh forto winden hweate, & scheaden þe eilen & tet chef urom þe clene cornes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 266 Quan al man-kinde ..Sal ben fro dede to liue broȝt, And seli sad fro ðe forwroȝt. *c* 1315 Shoreham III. 63 þat doþ þat manye yschoded [*altered to* y-schodred] ben Fram heuene-ryche festes. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 174 He salle sched vs o sonder, fro Acres salle we go. *Ibid.* 305 Þer scheltron sone was shad [Langt. *sevré*] with Inglis þat were gode. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 136 Logique hath eke in his degre Betwen the trouthe and the falshode The pleine wordes forto schode, So that nothing schal go biside. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces* (E.E.T.S.) 61 The sonne to schede þe day fra þe nyght. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 77 Wallace mycht nocht a graith straik on him gett: ȝhett schede he thaim, a full royd slope was maid. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 15 Schulderis wer schorne and sched the bodie fra. 1550 Lyndesay *Sgr. Meldrum* 994 Iudge ȝe gif he hir schankis sned. *c* 1553 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xi. 28 God..mydeth now to..shede out the Gootes from the Shepe. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems, Ballad Want. Wemen* 30 For conȝie ȝe may chaweht hir To sched hir schankis in twane. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 60 The mighty river Gyndes being in this sort shed and derived into .360. brookes. 1600 Holland *Livy* VI. xxv. 234 In the view and account taken of the captives there were some of them known to be Tusculanes, who were shed apart from the rest. 1677 W. Nicolson in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit.* (1870) 318 [Cumberl. and Westm.] *Shed*, to part asunder. 1791 Learmont *Poems* 276 I've lambs to shed, and sheep a clipping too. 1824 Macfaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 425 *Shed*, to separate; to separate the calves from the cows, we *shed* them. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 87 The sheep selected for market are the best conditioned at the time, and to ascertain this it is necessary to handle the whole lot and shed the fattest from the rest.

absol. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 618 Those shepherds who dog, force, and shed much about a march, I consider them as bad herds for their masters as for the neighbouring farmer.

†b. To set apart, draft off *from* a community. *Obs.*

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 54 They ioyned felowship with other their countreymen which before tyme were shed from the city to inhabite that place.

†c. *refl.* To separate oneself, part *from*; to come apart. Also (of troops) to scatter *asunder.*

c 1200 Ormin 3200 Forrþrihht anan he..shadde himm all þweorrt ut fra menn. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7764 He schet aboute him fer & ner..The Gregeis offte In-sunder hem scheded. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 90 The new wark zeid frome the auld and sched the self.

†d. *intr.* for *refl.* To separate, divide, come apart; to part company; to depart; to part *with* a possession. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 116 Þonne dæȝ & niht scade, drince þonne þone drenc. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (Rolls) 991 Þe Gregeys schadden sone asonder. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 411 Þow wost wel when þy perle con schede, I was ful ȝong & tender of age. 1572 Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* 37 Ye shall binde it so, till the fruites or cliftes be couered.. with your sayde hempe, except the oylet and his tayle, the which ye must not couer, for that tayle will shed apart, if the shielde doe take. 1576 Gascoigne *Grief of Joy* IV. iii. Wks. 1910 II. 548 Thou showldest foresee, that fagott sticks do hold, Together fast, and seldome list to shedd. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 45 Such was the loue, and reuerence they her bure, Ilk day whill euen, ay whill they shedd at night. 1603 *Philotus* lxxxix, Be Christ I sall thy nurture nip, Richt scharply or wee sched. 1659 W. Guthrie *Chr. Gt. Interest* II. (1724) 214 If thou hast a Desire after Jesus Christ,..and cannot think of parting with his blessed Company for ever, or, if thou must shed with him, yet dost wish well to him [etc.].

2. *trans.* **a.** To part, or divide (the hair; also the hair or wool of an animal). Also *refl.* of the person. Now *Sc.* and *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18848 Metli har was on his chin, And als his hefd was scheud [*Gött.* sched] in tuin. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 369 þey used to schere of þe heere of hir heed from þe molde to þe nolle, but to fore þey hadde lokkes i-schod [*B.* ysched; L. *discriminatam*] hongynge doun to þe mouth. 1388 Wyclif *Judith* x. 3 Sche schedide [1382 platte] the heer of hir heed. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 101 Bot with no craft of combes brode Thei myhte hire hore lockes schode. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxxiv. (1869) 103, I loue better..to keembe myn hed, to shode me [Fr. *grauer mon chef*]. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 42 Than take hym, and shede the woll with thy fyngers, there as the scab is, and with thy fynger laye a lyttell terre thervpon. 1530 Palsgr. 717/1 Shede your heare that hangeth so yvell favouredly aboute your eares. 1548 Patten *Exped. Scot.* C viij b, A fellowe lyke a man..red hedded, curld rounde about & shedded afore. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 411 Make a salue thereof, and with your finger annoint all the sore places, sheading the haire as you go. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* IV. vii. (1632) 296 The Combe is.. of most vse with women for shedding and trimming their haire and head-tires. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 111 Her haire She forthwith sheds. 1822 A. Cunningham *Tradit. Tales, Mother's Dream* (1887) 123 He shed back his long and moistened locks from a burning and bewildered brow. 1832 Motherwell *Poems* 41 Let me shed by your hair. 1844 A. Rodger in *Songs for Nursery* 44 Let me shed your shining hair. 1888 Doughty *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 595 He was of goodly great stature, with.. hair shed..and hanging down from the midst in tresses.

intr. for *refl.* 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1690 Faxe fyltered ..þat schad fro his schulderes to his schyre wykes.

b. *Weaving.* To divide (the warp-threads), to make a 'shed' in (a web). Cf. Shed *sb.*[1] 6.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1285 The weaver..thus sheds the warp, by lifting and depressing each alternate thread. 1863 J. Watson *Weaving* 196 It has been explained how a common Web is shedded, and a few words will show the difference for the shedding in this loom.

†**3.** To cleave, divide (something) with a knife, weapon, etc. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 2772 Ac, ar the gate weore y-loke, Mony ponne was to-broke;..And mony brayn was y-schad. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 425 Þe scharp of þe schalk..scade hit in twynne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 604 Ane schene scheild and ane schaft, that scharply was sched.

†b. *transf.* Of birds, fishes: To 'cleave' (the air, the water) in flight or swimming. *Obs.*

c 1480 Henryson *Mor. Fab., Preiching of Swallow* vii, The foullis..Scheddand the air with pennis greit and small. 1599 Alex. Hume *Hymn* ii. 184 The little friand fish in flude, and dentie volatil, Quhilks shedds the waters, & the winds, he traps them at his wil.

†**4.** To scatter, sprinkle; in later use only, to sow (seed). *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Wiþ wyrmum on eaȝum ȝenim beolonan sæd scead on gleda. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. i. (1868) 4 Heeres hore ben schad [orig. *funduntur*] ouertymelyche vpon myne heued. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxviii. 9 He..shede the seed into the erthe. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 535 The seede which was shed the former yeere. 1633 P. Fletcher *Pisc. Eclogues* v. ii, That primrose there Which 'mongst those violets sheds his golden hair, Seems the sunnes little sonne, fixt in his azure spheare. *c* 1770 Hunter in Winter *Syst. Husb.* (1797) 173 The drill plow.. which by..shedding the seed and covering it, leave[s] the land stocked with plants.

fig. 1414 *26 Pol. Poems* (1904) 58 Þan god wil..Drede and stryf among hem shede.

†b. To disperse, scatter; to rout, put to flight.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 672 Þat folc is wide on londe sad. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 493 Þere sche bode here knyȝtes þat were al i-sched. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cress.* (Charteris) 18 The Northin wind had purifyit the Air, And sched the mistie cloudis fra the sky. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* XII. lxv, His tail, whose folds were wont the starres to shed, Now stretcht at length, close to his belly clings.

c. *dial.* To rake out (a fire).

1873 Murdoch *Doric Lyre* 26 (E.D.D.), I had shed my fire An' hame was ettlin' to retire.

d. To throw off, repel (rain, sunlight, etc.). Now chiefly *dial.*

c 1400 *Antors of Arth.* ii. (Douce MS.), Schurde in a short cloke, þat þe rayne shedes. 1616 Surflet & Markham *Country Farm* II. lxii. 318 Neither must they be made as some are flat at the top, and shallow, but ascending pyramid wise, smaller and smaller till it come to the top, for thereby it..shedderh off the raine much better. 1778 [W. H. Marshall.] *Minutes Agric.* 30 Aug. 1774, The elevation would shed off the rain, and prevent its lodging in the ears. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, But it sheds the sun weel aff. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 796/2 As a shaggy dog sheds water from his coat. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 99 The straw has finally to be raked down on the outside, so as to shed rain well.

†e. *refl.* and *intr.* To be dispersed, scatter. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 62 The bataill of Pompee began to sched and till irk, and toke the flicht. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 429 Lyke ony scheip tha schudrit all and sched, Quhair euir tha come befoir his face tha fled. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 35 Sike prayse is smoke, that sheddeth in the skye. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* A iiij, The great Empire of..Alexander, like a flame of fire in a heape of flaxe, when it was at the highest, did shed it selfe suddainlie in the ayre. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. v. xviii. 173 That the Pillar of Smoak which ascended from the sacrifice, curled only upwards in direct wreaths to heaven, without any scattering, or shedding it self abroad.

5. To spill (liquids), let fall (crumbs, etc.). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Of alle kudde & kuðe sunnen, ase of prude..of sum uals word..of schorn leihtre, of scheden crumen oðer ale, oðer leten þinges muwlen oðer rusten.

*c*1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2296 Schad was al þe wyn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 47 The vessell can not holde yᵉ wyne, but anone it breketh, & so shedeth the wyne. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 455 By carrying water in a siue, not shedding one drop from Tiber to the Temple of Vesta. 16.. *Boy & Mantle* 181 in *Percy Fol. MS.* II. 311 He said, 'there was noe Cuckolde shall drinke of my horne, But he shold itt sheede, either behind or beforne.' 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 315 In pulling forth my Handkerchiefe, I had shed all my money. 1785 Trusler *Mod. Times* II. 83 A bag of tea..was burst, and a good deal of the tea shed. 1839 Sterling *Alfred the Harper* xviii. Poems 136 Grim sat the chiefs;..His iron mace was grasped by one, By one his wine was shed. 1847 *Ockley's Hist. Saracens* (ed. 4) 216 *note*, The crafty Harmozanda shed the vase to the ground. 1866 Waugh *Ben an th' Bantam* iv. 73 His jackass..broke her pitcher, an' sheeded th' milk. *Ibid.* 74 Are yo noan beawn to pay for th' milk 'at wur shed, then?

absol. *c*1430 *Stans Puer* 60 in *Babees Bk.*, Fille not þi spoon lest in þe cariage It scheede bi side.

† b. *intr.* Of a liquid: To spill *over*. *Obs.*

1601 Dolman *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. (1618) 769 If one put neuer so little water into a vessell already brimmefull, the vppermost part thereof will shedde ouer.

6. *trans.* To pour, pour out. (The ordinary rendering of L. *fundere, effundere*, etc.)

† a. Of a personal agent: To pour (water, etc.). Also with *out*. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 320 'Effunde sicut aquam cor tuum'. 'Sched ut', he seiõ, Ieremie, 'ase water þine heorte'. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxiv. 6 And so Moyses took the half parti of the blood, and putte it into chalices: and that. other party he shedde [Vulg. *fudit*] vpon the auteer. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxxvi. (1495) 879 Cerusa is gendryd and comyth of vapour of stronge vynegre effusyd and shedde on thynne plates of leed. 1483 Caxton *Golden Leg.* 247/2 He shadde water on his hede and baptysed hym in the name of Jhesu Crist. 1530 Palsgr. 701/2, I shedde out lycoure out of a vessel. 1595 *Locrine* III. Prol. 11 A subtill Adder..Priuily shead his poison through his bones. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* I. 37 Then doth he take a faire large bull..And twixt his hornes pure wine he sheads. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 42 Banefull poyson; which she sheads Into her bones, and through her liuer spreads.

b. Of a vessel, receptacle, a fountain, etc.: To pour forth (its contents).

1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xii[i]. (1494) D j, Which lyke a conducte vpon euery syde Shad out water as any cristall clere. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvii. 47 They are..Veins and Arteries..which end at the Heads of the Caruncles, into which they shed their wheyish humor. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* XVI. 4 As when a fountain sheds Dark waters streaming down a precipice.

† c. *refl.* Of a river, etc.: To discharge itself. Also, to overflow *over* its banks. *Obs.*

1555 Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. iii. 34 Gently sheadyng hymself ouer his bancques, he [Nilus] leaueth in the countrie a merueilous fertilitie. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 696 Coc making no long course sheadeth himselfe into Wherf. *c* 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 28 (1810) 34 The riveret Sid shedding itself into the sea.

† d. *fig.* To 'pour out' (one's heart, feelings, prayers, etc.). *Obs.*

*c*1420 *Prymer* (1895) 67 [*Ps.* xlii. 4], I biþouȝte of þese þingis, & y schedde out in me my soule. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 137 Ronne to our lorde, & shede forth your herte before hym. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 111 And throuch thair prayers, quhilkes ydenly wᵗ al diligence thay sched for thair cuntrey, appeir to mitigat the ire of God.

e. To emit, give forth, pour out (spawn, eggs, †seminal fluid, etc.).

*c*1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* 503 Vnkyndely synne by which man or womman shedeth hire nature in manere or place ther as [etc.]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. xxvi. (1495) 458 Ryuer fysshe and fresshe of marreys sheden more theyr pesen and ofter than other fysshe. *a* 1450 Myrc 1046 Take also wel in mynde, 3ef þou haue sched þyn owne kynde, Slepynge or wakynge nyȝt or day. 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* II. B vj b, I was with Onan not vnacquaynted, Whan he on the grounde hys increase shed. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 93 These male fishe as they passe still onwarde shed theyr seede by the way. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 154 There is a Fountaine, or a statua of a woman..and this statua shed water from all the haires of the head. 1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 66 Roaches do then shed their Spawn. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 440 From their Groins they shed A slimy Juice, by false Conception bred. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 534 [Polypi] which, if they discharge any thing, shed blood. 1855 Browning *An Epistle* 24, I have shed sweat enough, left flesh and bone On many a flinty furlong of this land. 1864 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 1189/1 This was fresh spawn just shed. 1880 *Times* 21 Dec. 6/4 The large number of salmon just ready to shed their eggs.

7. To cause (blood) to flow from the body by cutting or wounding; to let fall (a person's blood) on the ground, etc.

c 1205 Lay. 5187 Heo smiten to-gædere..redde blod scede; rinkas feollen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 402 Þis blod, for ou i-sched upo þe herde two treon, schal makien ou Sarepciens. *c* 1290 *Beket* 2185 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 169 Forto gaderi of þe blode þat i-sched was on þe grounde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1129 His blod on erth sced lijs. *Ibid.* 4151 Þat na blod o him be schedd. *c*1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 920 Cubert hem broute al bonder He schedde of here blode And makede hem al wode. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B. 520* lf. 50 *Blodwite*, þat is quite of amerciaments for blod isedde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 376 Ger wipe myn blud of 3on stede, quhare I for þe gert it be schede! 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 429 þe blood reed, þat þe mayde Wynefrede Schadde at þat putte. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxxi. 307 In that Cytee is no man so hardy, to schede Blode of no man. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7929 My body hath þou brisit, & my blode shed. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 275 3e xal drynk myn blood with gret devocyon, Wheche xal be xad ffor mannys love. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 256 b, After that all his blode was shed. 1705 Addison *Italy* 3 Ulysses here the Blood of Victims shed. 1847 Mrs. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 128 Their attendants had already come to blows, and did not separate until blood had been shed.

b. With pregnant sense. (*a*) *To shed the blood of* (another person or persons): to kill in a manner involving effusion of blood; often *loosely*, to kill by violent means (whether blood is literally shed or not). So *to shed blood*: to destroy human life by violent means. *To shed much, little blood*: to destroy many, few lives. (*b*) *To shed* (one's own) *blood*: to undergo wounds or violent death in battle, martyrdom, or the like (*for* some person or cause, one's country, etc.).

(*a*) ? *a* 1100 *Ags. Ps.* xiii. 6 (Spelman) Hrade fot heora to aȝeotenne [*Trin. Coll. MS.* to scedende] blod. *c* 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 346 in *O. E. Misc.* 47 Þe gywes were ful bysie to scheden his blod. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 73 He mid vnriȝhte hadde i-sched mani ane mannes blod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11805 Hu had he hert to sced þair blod þat neuer did til him bot godd? 1340 *Ayenb.* 239 Moche uolk weren ysslaȝe and moche blod þer y-ssed. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cv. 38 And thei shadden [1388 schedden] out the innocent blod. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. x[i]v. (1494) D iij b, And where he rode cristen blode he shadde. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 156 Many ther were that her blood was shedde on the lande. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxii. 43 His saikles blude agane thai sched. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Ps. li.* 58 Lord God, deliuer me, and gyd Frome schedding blude, and homicyd. 1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* etc. Q ij, Bloud shall be shedde for bloud, and life shall pay for lyfe. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 27 That day in that feild was sched mekle scotis blude. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VIII. 65 Relentless Love the cruel Mother led The Blood of her unhappy Babes to shed. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 235 The Thoughts of shedding humane Blood for my Deliverance, were very terrible to me. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxv, He is a man of holy church—we may not shed his blood. 1838 James *Robber* ii, I will shed no blood, except in our own defence. 1847 C. Bronte *Jane Eyre* vi, They shed blood they had no right to shed.

(*b*) 12.. *Song. Virg.* 15 in *O. E. Misc.* 194 Bi-sek him.. Þat for ous alle sad is blod. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1616 For heom ich chadde mi blod. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 83 To wesschen ous cryst schedde his blod And water out of hys wonde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 1009 Þat haly nowmir to fulfil, þat sched þare blud for cristis sak. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 624, I my self haue shedde moche of my blood. 1535 Fisher *Ways Perf. Relig.* Wks. (1876) 385 Men and women for his loue haue shead theyr blood. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 103 This monarch [Alexander] sustaining infinite labor, and cheerefully sheading his blood. 1707 Freind *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 173 My Subjects are in a disposition to shed the last drop of their Blood for me. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 63 This spot, where our Saviour shed his blood to save all mankind from everlasting death.

8. To emit and let fall in drops.

a. With *tears* as obj.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Swiche teres scedde M. Magdalene þa heo wosch ure drihtenes fet. 1423 Jas. I. *Kingis Q.* cxvii, And of my cristall teris that bene schede, The hony flouris growen vp and sprede. 1575 Gascoigne *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 128 Marke what teares they shed. *c* 1610 *Lives of Women Saints* 102/9 Who can recounte what plentie of teares she shodd for her owne sinnes, and the necessities of gods church. 1705 Addison *Italy, Pavia* 37 A Tear that our Saviour shed over Lazarus. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxxv, He could only shed childish tears of despair and terror. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 45 One[child] was sobbing and shedding tears.

slang. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Shed a tear*, to take a dram or glass of neat spirits...'Now then, old fellow, come and shed a tear!'

† b. *absol.* To shed tears. *Obs. rare*—¹.

16.. ? Webster & Rowley *Cure for Cuckold* II. iii. (1661) C 4 b, O Urse, give me leave to shed!

c. With obj. rain, dew, etc.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 24 And, when she spake, Sweet words like dropping honny she did shed. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 520 Rising Cynthia sheds her Silver Dews. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Masque* 106 And cease, black clouds, to shed, or wet, or snaw. 1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* III. 293 When evening sheds her dew.

† d. *intr.* Of rain, snow, etc.: To fall. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 506 Schyre schedez þe rayn in schowrez ful warme. *Ibid.* 956 Hir brest..Schon schyrer þen snawe, þat scheder [*read* schedez] on hillez. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 843 But swich a reyn doun fro the welkne shadde That slow the fyr. 1616 Surflet & Markham *Country Farm* II. lxii. 319 If anie raine happen to fall thereupon, yet it may by no meanes sinke into the Hiue, but rather fall off, and shed vpon the earth.

9. *trans.* To send forth as an emanation.

a. To throw (light) *upon* something. *lit.* and *fig.*

In the figurative use of the phrase *shed* is in our quots. not found before the 19th c.; earlier *throw* or *cast* was used.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Þis edie maiden seinte marie of hire holie licame shedeð þat soðe liht þe lihteð alle brihte þinges on eorðe and ec on heuene. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17883 (Gött.) Þat light es nu apon vs schede Þar we sitte in þe schadu of dede. *c* 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 3 And Phebus gan to shede his stremes shene Amid the Bole. 1599 Sir J. Davies *Nosce Teipsum* Ded. iv, In euery place as Cynthia sheds her beames. 1775 R. Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* viii. (1825) I. 30 The stars shone in a clear blue sky, shedding a calm serene light. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* xiv. 279 O capacious Soul! Placed on this earth to love and understand, And from thy presence shed the light of love. 1853 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xxi. (1876) 272 He has been shedding a glory round human life. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xix, A lamp of strange form hung from the ceiling, and shed a dim and lurid light. 1860 [see Light *sb.* 6a]. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. vi, You come like I don't know what ..shedding a halo all around you. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 7/3 The statement..sheds little light upon a situation still enveloped in mystery.

† b. With inverted construction: To suffuse *with* light. *Obs.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* I. 2771 Sche..sawe..þat þe ferþe parte Of þe mone was schad with newe liȝt.

c. To give forth, diffuse (fragrance, sound, heat, etc.); to pour out, impart (influence, blessings, qualities, etc.). Also with advs., *abroad*, †*forth*, †*out*.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xliv. 3 Grace is shadde in þy lippes. 1412–20 Lydg. *Troy Bk.* I. 2612 And holsomm bawme is schad among þe grene. *c* 1500 *Melusine* iv. 22 This might not be perfightly knowen, yf thou shadd nat vpon the men somwhat of thy full & deuyne grace. 1525 Tindale *N. T.* Prol., Tyll Christ have..powred into him that selfe good thynge whych he shedeth forth afterwarde on other. 1526 — *Rom.* v. 5 For the love that god hath vnto vs is sheed abrod [Gr. ἐκκέχυται] in oure hertes [so later versions] by the holy gost, which is geven vnto vs. 1535 Coverdale *Acts* x. 45 The gifte of yᵉ holy goost was shed out also vpon the Heythen. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* Pref. (ad fin.), Now God vouchsafe to shead out his blessing vpon this worke. *Ibid.* iv. 47 The heate which the Sunne sheadeth into vs from aboue. 1642–7 H. More *Song of Soul* III. i. v, Wakend by piercing trump, that farre doth shed Its searching sound. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 130 ¶ 11 All the Prosperity and Success which Heaven ever shed on a Mortal. 1716 Gay *Trivia* II. 443 Now, heaven-born Charity! thy blessings shed. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1808) I. 155 For him the stars shine and shed influences upon earth. 1769 Gray *Ode for Music* 73 Bid it round heaven's altars shed The fragrance of it's blushing head. 1807 Moore *Ir. Melodies*, '*Harp that once*' 2 The harp that once through Tara's halls, The soul of music shed. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* IV. 115 Whose lively words Still shed new heat and vigour through My soul. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. vi, The waving of it shed terror through the souls of men. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, Your piety sheds respectability on us. 1877 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 19 An infinite power shed abroad in the world.

absol. 1525 Tindale *N. T.* Prol., Be faith we receave of god, and be love we shed oute agayne.

10. To cast off by natural process.

a. To cast off as exuviæ; to undergo the falling of (hair, etc.).

1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C vj b, *Depennesco*, to multe, or to shede fethers. 1530 Palsgr. 701/2 I shede my heare, my heare falleth. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. i. 36 Venus Swannes shall shed their siluer downe. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 91 The Stag and some other sorts of Deer are subject to shedding and renewing their Horns annually. 1732 A. Monro *Anatomy* (ed. 2) 170 Some more of those [teeth]..are shedded. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxi, A broken and soiled white feather, intersected with one which had been shed from the train of a peacock. 1833 *Hunter's Catal. Physiol. Ser. Comp. Anat. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 100 [Elephants] do not shed their teeth as other animals do that have more than one. 1845 Judd *Margaret* II. xi. (1874) 346 When hens are shedding their feathers they don't lay eggs. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 537 It is very common for the whole of the nails to be shed in the attack. *Ibid.* 809 The epidermis becoming shed.

transf. and *fig.*

1776 Foote *Capuchin* II. (1778) 116 When the sun and summer of plenty returns, I shall shed my coat like a colt. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xvi. (1856) 121 The floes..now shed off dusty wreaths of snow. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* v. i. 175 The day comes when a woman sheds her sin As a bird moults. 1910 *Spectator* 20 Aug. 269/1 He sheds his bad reputation as a snake its skin.

b. Of trees, plants: To lose, cast off (leaves, flowers, bark, etc.).

1598 Barnfield *Poems, Compl. Poetrie* xv, The Trees (for sorrowe) shead their fading Leaues. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 893 From his slack hand the Garland wreath'd for Eve Down drop'd, and all the faded Roses shed. 1798 Sophia Lee *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.* II. 295 The myrtles.. [were] shedding their uncherished blossoms over the perishing works of man. 1819 Shelley *Ode to West Wind* 16 Thou on whose stream, mid the steep sky's commotion, Loose clouds like earth's decaying leaves are shed. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xxiii. 462 Some of the bushes and trees are green; others are shedding their leaves.

† c. To cause the shedding of (leaves). *Obs.*

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 558 When Storms have shed From Vines, the hairy Honours of their Head.

d. Of plants: To let fall, cast (seed) out of the receptacle.

1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 35 In some countreys..they do fan theyr corne, the whiche is..a great saueguarde for shedynge of the corne. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 128 Hops dried in loft, aske tendance oft, And shed their seedes, much more than needes. 1720 P. Blair *Bot. Ess.* Pref. 6 The Apices..are ready to shed the Dust when it [the Flower is expanded. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 634 As it is apt to shed its seed when ripe, it is advisable to cut it with the dew upon it. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xx. (ed. 2) 476 Owing to a bad habit of leaving the crops till over-ripe, large quantities are shed on the fields.

e. *colloq.* To drop, let go; to give away (something of no particular value).

1855 Dickens *Dorrit* I. xxi, Whether it had occurred to his good friend, that Society might not unreasonably hope that one so blest in his undertakings,..would shed a little money in the direction of a mission or so to Africa? 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 391, I shed a box of lucifer matches on her,..knowing that one of the great charms of a white man to a black is this habit of shedding things.

11. *intr.* for *refl.*

† a. Of the hair: To fall off. *Obs.*

1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 110 Myllettes..causeth the heare to sheede. 1530 Palsgr. 701/2 Your heares shede, you

wyll waxe balde. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 487 The same also being mingled with a certaine oyle and warmed together, and anointed vpon the head of any one, whose hair doth shed,..doth immediatly helpe and cure the same. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I 4 b, His haire sheds off. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxvii. § 4. 326 We see the haire of women with childe, is apt to shedde. 1755 H. BAKER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. I. 22 When I saw this man, in the month of September last, they [wart-like growths] were shedding off in several places.

b. Of grain: To fall from the ear. Also of leaves or flowers: To drop off.

1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* § 96 The corne, being ripe doe but shead as it stande. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xlix. 57 Artichokes..[are] thought to make euill iuice, especially when the flowers begin to shed. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 319 The seeded Pride That hath to this maturity blowne vp In ranke Achilles, must or now be cropt, Or shedding breed a Nursery of like euill To ouerbulke vs all. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 103 All Disguises pass away, and shed like Flowers. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 355 The broad leaved Lime..bears a very fine broad Leaf, only it is apt to shed too soon. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 81 White oats are apt to shed most as they lie, and black as they stand. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* II. 442 To *Shade*, to shed, as corn. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 284 The wheat..sheds very easily, that is, the corn or grain falls very readily out of the husk.

12. To slope. Now *dial.*

1530 PALSGR. 702/1, I shedde, as an hyll dothe slopewyse downwardes to the valley...It is a pleasaunt syght to se howe the hylles shedde on eache syde in to the medowes. 1688, 1747 [see SHEDDING *ppl. a.*1 3]. 1826 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.* (ed. 2), To *Shead* is also to slope down ground regularly.

13. The verb-stem in combination: †*shed-fork*, app. = pitchfork; †*shed-spade*, ? a dungfork or graip.

1559 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 134, ij° shede forks, ij° shed spaids. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonick Lady* IV. iv. (1707) 57 All my Rigging hangs as if 'twas zhaked on with a Zhed Vork, as the old Zaying is.

Shed (ʃed), *v.*2 [f. SHED *sb.*2 I.] *trans.* †**a.** To roof over. *Obs.* **b.** To place in a shed.

1546 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 175 The 15th daie of September the forreine buchers beganne to keepe their markett in Leeden Hall, which was sheeded rounde aboute for them to stand dry. 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 419, I have left off shedding my own sheep. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Mar. 2/1 As to hay feeding and shedding during the winter, that is quite impracticable.

Shed (ʃed), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHED *v.*1]

†**1.** Separated; ? in several ownership. *Obs.*

1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 107 No man with comyn herd ne with sched herd com on the wold after gresse be mowen to it [be] maked and led away. *Ibid.* 108 Nother comyn herd ne sched herd com' in the qwyte corn feld to the korn [be l]ad awey.

2. Fallen; discarded, cast off.

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 119 Of sadde leues of þe wode wrowȝte he hem wedes. 1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* viii. (1857) 318 It is not credible that all the solid shed antlers of such a species of deer could be carried by the same cause to such a distance. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 43 The shed bark hanging over its branches and clinging to its trunk like a sheeted ghost.

3. Of blood, tears (see SHED *v.*1 7, 8). Also *dial.* of liquids: Spilt.

1824 MRS. CAMERON *Pink Tippet* III. 17 'There is no use in crying for shed milk,' answered Betty. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 155 Clots formed in shed blood.

4. (See SHED *v.*1 2 b.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1285 The weaver..drives the fly-shuttle swiftly from one side of the loom to the other, between the shed warp yarns.

†**She·ddable,** *a. Obs. rare*−°. [f. SHED *v.*1 + -ABLE.] That can be shed or poured out.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 2/17 Shedable, *fusilis.*

Shedded (ʃe·dėd), *ppl. a.*1 [f. SHED *v.*1 + -ED 1. Cf. SHED *ppl. a.*]

†**1.** Cleft, divided. *Obs. rare*−1.

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 612 The scheddit scheilds.

2. Cast off, fallen. *rare*−1.

1818 KEATS *Endymion* IV. 769 Its hazle cirque of shedded leaves.

3. Of hair, wool: Parted, separated, divided.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1111 The bath thus made is administered by means of a tin-flask..provided with a long spout, by which to pour it along the shedded wool of the sheep.

Shedded (ʃe·dėd), *ppl. a.*2 [f. SHED *v.*2 + -ED 2.] Placed in a shed.

1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 419 The shedded lot [of sheep] did..best in January, and the folded lot in March.

Shedder (ʃe·dəɹ). [f. SHED *v.*1 + -ER 1.]

1. One who sheds, in various senses of the verb.

c 1388 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 474 Leste Crist dampne ȝowe for traytouris and monquellers and scheders of his blode. 1555 EDEN *Decades* I. VII. (Arb.) 91 Cruel enemies and sheaders of the Spanyshe bludde. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* IV. iii, But your parts in all dues to crying blood For vengeance in the shedder, are much greater. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 273 The seventh Inca, whose Name signifies, Shedder of bloody Tears. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xiii, He was never a shedder of blood.

2. *spec.* **a.** A female fish of the *Salmonidæ* after spawning.

1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. iv. 450 If any person..haue taken there any Salmons or Trouts, out of season, that is, being kippers, or shedders. 1848 [see KIPPER *sb.* 1].

b. A name for a crab during the period when it is casting its covering integument or shell.

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 390.

3. *Comb.* (sense 2), as *shedder-crab, -salmon, trout.*

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), **Shedder-crab*, a crab which has recently cast his shell, also called a Soft Crab. 1884 E. P. ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* V. in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 733/2, I was still..fishing,..and fastened on my hook a peeled shedder crab. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 1 That no person.. shall..take and kyll any..*shedder Salmons, or *shedder Trowtes. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 139 Any kepper or shedder salmon.

Shedding (ʃe·diŋ), *sb.* [f. SHED *sb.*1 + -ING 1.] Sheds collectively; a collection of sheds.

1883 *Times* 26 July 7/5 Shedding of large capacity will be provided. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. E. Thring* 152 These were ..scheming new bonfires. Whose barns or sheddings were safe? 1898 *Field* 14 May 741/1 Long rows of shedding.

Shedding (ʃe·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 7 schiding. [f. SHED *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action or an act of the verb SHED in various senses.

1. Separation, parting, division. Also *concr.* = SHED *sb.*1 Now only *dial.* Cf. SHEADING.

c 1200 ORMIN 16863 Forr Farisew bitacneþþ uss Shædinng onn Ennglissh spæche. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12418 'Dymynucyon'..ys to mene also anoþer þyng, Of þy synne to make shedyng. *c* 1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. XXXVI, And this is the yefte of loue that makyth shedynge atwyx chosen soules & reproued. 1598 FLORIO, *Scriminatura*, the shedding or diuiding of a womans haires of a head. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Greve, La greve des cheveux* (&, *les cheveux departis en greve*), the shedding, or shading of the haire; the parting thereof on the forehead (after the old fashion). 1768 Ross *Helenore* 103 Gin he look'd blyth, the lassie looked mair, For shame was past the shedding o' her hair. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxix, Then we got out to that 'shedding' of the roads, which marks the junction of the highways coming down from Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Comb. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* iii. 20 Our Lord shal take away..the sheading combes.

b. *dial.* (*concr.* in *pl.*). See quot.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 39 The lambs, dinmonts, or wethers, that are drafted out of the fat stock, are called the sheddings or tails.

c. *Weaving.* The division of the warp threads in such a manner as to permit of the passage between them of a shuttle containing the weft. Also *attrib.*

1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* 84 The sheding being repeated two times over. 1876 BARLOW *Weaving* 111 Shedding motions may be classed into about six varieties. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 466/1 The three principal motions, shedding, picking and beating up, are of course the same in both [looms]. *Ibid.*, The treadles called the shedding tappets.

2. Effusion, pouring out; esp. of blood, tears, †secretions.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 Ne bringð no synful man quemere loc þenne teares sheding. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 262 Ȝet nabbe ȝe nout wiðstonden uorte þet þe schedunge of ower blode. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 465 b, They could not kepe them from sheding of teares. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ii. 5 It helpeth..the shedding of the gall. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 38 Their persons were rendered sacred..by unction, or the shedding of hallowed oil upon them. 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 200 Base sheddings of base blood.

†**b.** Infusion, diffusion. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. ix. (1495) 55 By vertue of spredynge and of shedynge of the spyryte of felynge in to all the synewes, all the makynge of the body is founde able to moeue. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xix. (1869) 185 In whiche we hadden putte fillinge of þe grete tresores of Paradys, þat was the sweete shedinge of oure grace.

†**c.** *Shedding of nature*: gonorrhœa. *Obs.*

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xlii. 52 A verie good medicine for the shedding of nature.

3. Dropping, scattering or letting fall, or parting with something.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 9 Summe schul souwe sakkes for schedyng of Whete. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 35 [Some] do fan theyr corne, the whiche is..a great saueguarde for shedynge of the corne. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* I. 38 Unnaturall shedding of haire. 1732 A. MONRO *Anatomy* (ed. 2) 170 This Shedding of the Teeth is of good Use. 1863 A. EWING in A. J. Ross *Mem.* (1877) 356 Our life has far more in it than is suggested by the growing and shedding of leaves.

b. *concr.* in *pl.* Shed leaves, etc.

1803 WORDSW. *Poems Imag., Yew-trees* 22 Upon whose grassless floor of red brown hue, By sheddings from the pining umbrage tinged Perennially. 1856 AIRD *Poet. Wks.* 294 She trode the dun-brown sheddings of the pine.

c. The letting fall of seeds.

1721 POPE *Let. to E. Blount* 21 Oct., Old Fletcher of Saltoune said one day to me. '..I am like a Tree without a Prop, and without young Trees of my own shedding, to grow round me, for Company and Defence.'

Shedding (ʃe·diŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHED *v.*1 + -ING 2.] That sheds, in various senses of the verb.

1. †**a.** Of liquids: Self-diffusing. *Obs.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* XV. 272 The bodie is in the Soule, as..a sheading or liquid thing in a thing that is not liquid [orig. *comme..le coulant en ce qui ne coule point*].

b. Dropping or casting leaves or petals.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 439 The shedding trees began the ground to strow With yellow leaves. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 261 And green slopes redden with the shedding rose.

c. (See quot.)

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 Shedding (caducus) continuing but a short time. *Ibid.* 262 Cup 4 leaves, leafits egg-shaped, coloured, shedding.

d. *Shedding tooth*: any of the primary or milk teeth, which fall out and are replaced by the permanent teeth.

1799 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 258 A view of the grinding surface of a shedding tooth. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 47 The permanent teeth have separate sockets of their own; and..do not lie immediately under the corresponding shedding teeth. 1833 *Hunter's Catal. Physiol. Ser. Comp. Anat. Mus. Coll. Surg.* I. 100 The shedding tooth falls some time before the succeeding tooth can supply its uses.

e. *fig.* Of divisions of time: Passing.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* III. 134 The glass that told the shedding hours.

†**2.** Dividing, parting, separating. *Obs. rare.*

a 1674 BUNYAN *Reprob. Asserted* i. (1696) 2 These words were shedding words, they sever between Men and Men.

†**3.** Sloping. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 73/1 A Barn with a sheeding Ridg. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Q 1 b, If a Rock appears to the Day,..where it seems to cut off, and more especially on Sheeding ground.

Shedding, Shede, obs. ff. SHEADING, SHEATH.

Sheder (ʃī·dəɹ). *dial.* Forms: 6–7 **shidder,** 7 **shether,** 8 **sheeder,** 9 **sheder.** [f. SHE + ? DEER: cf. HEDER.] A female sheep; spec. a lamb from eight or nine months old to her first shearing.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 211 For, had his wesand bene a little widder, He would haue deuoured both hidder and shidder [*Gloss* He and she. Male and Female]. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 169 As appeares by hether, and shether, *i.* male, and female. 1633 J. FISHER *Fuimus Troes* III. ix. Chorus, Hidder, eke and shidder. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 325 They are forced to sell their heeders, and joist their sheeders in the spring. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 341 The 'heder' hogs being grazed on the seeds, and the 'sheders' on grass.

Shee, Sheeah, Sheed(e: see SHE, SHIAH, SHED.

Sheeding, Sheef(fe: see SHEADING, SHEAF *sb.*

Sheeite, Sheek: see SHIITE, SHEIKH.

Sheel (ʃīl), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 5 **schel,** 6 **scheill,** 7 **s(c)heele, scheil,** 7–9 **sheal,** 8–9 **shiel,** 9 **sheil,** 8– **sheel**; *β.* 5 **schylle,** 6 **shyll,** 6– **shill.** [Related to SHALE *sb.*1; the early history is obscure.

The *α* forms possibly repr. OE. **scielian* (in *ásciylian* 'enucleare'), f. *scealu* SHALE *sb.*1 The *β* forms, exc. in the northern examples, perh. belong to a distinct though synonymous word, a derivative of SHELL *sb.*]

trans. To shell; to take off the husk or outer covering of. Hence **Sheeled** *ppl. a.*

α. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 182 Payand.. ix chalder of vitale of the kyngis met, half beir half meil, the meil twise schelit. 1508, 1583–4 [implied in SHEELING *vbl. sb.*]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 219 That's a sheal'd Pescod. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* II. (1637) 116 *Rosetta*..perhaps deriued of *Ros*, which signifieth *Rice*, and so named for the abundance that it vttereth; (they here shealing monethly three hundred quarters). 1612 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (N. S.) III. (1893) 155 That the Milner..doe neither sheele nor grinde any Skillinge of any Mans dwelling in another Lordshipp. 1681 *Ibid.* 159 No e Tennant or Farmer ..Shall grinde or Scheele any Wheate, Bigg, Barley, Pease ..att any other Mill. 1709 LADY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 79, 10 stone twist shield meall. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 457 After sheeling, the seed should be well cleansed from bad seeds. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 214 It was first shealed on the barley mill. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xvii, We took their swords and pistols as easily as ye wad shiel peacods. *a* 1824 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* etc. (1826) 83 She mussels sheel'd, an' wan her bread. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 105 Barley was shealed by pounding the grains with water in the hollow of a stone until by that means the husks were rubbed off. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 101 He would need to be twice sheeled and ance grund that deals wi' you.

β. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schyllyn owte, of coddys, *exsi(li)quo*. Schyllyn, or schylle notys, *enuclio. Ibid.* 446/2 Schyllyn oysterys, and thyngys closyd yn schellys, *excortico.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 336/1 Schylled pyse.., *pise exilique.* 1508 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1510, 747/1, 4 bollas..albe et bone farrine vulgariter nuncupat. twise schillit mele. *c* 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 108 Or pescoddes they may shyll. 1702 LADY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 66 For Shild pies..2 peck out of 5 p. 1703 THORESBY in Ray *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 336 To *Shill*, as Pease to take them out of the Swads. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 163 When the barley is twice shilled, i. e. put twice through the mill, on purpose to take off the rind more compleatly, and then grinded small. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* Gloss. s. v. *Shill*, 'Shillin' peis'; 'shillin' beins'—unshelling peas and beans.

Sheel(l, Sheeld(e: see SHIEL, SHIELD.

Shee·ling, shi·ling, *vbl. sb.* Forms: *α.* see SHEEL *v.* *β.* 6 **shillinge,** 6–7 **schilling,** 6, 8–9 **shilling,** 8–9 **shillen,** 9 **shillin.** [f. SHEEL *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of SHEEL *v.*

α. 1583–4 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 320 That thai diligentlie awaitt vpoun the scheilling of the quheitt pertening to the said nichtbouris of the baxteris. 1606 in *Sel. Rec. Kirk Sess.* etc. *Aberd.* (1846) 198 The haill millers..to absteine from millinge, grindinge or scheilinge on the Sabboth day in tymes cumminge. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 214 It [common barley] produced nearly 21 pecks and a half..of common barley-flour,..4 lb. of husks from the shealing, and [etc.]. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 350 The protuberances of the rootlets and woolly ends should not have been rubbed off by any process, such as sheeling.

β. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/2 Schyllynge, of notys. 1906 WOODRUFFE-PEACOCK *Ideal Thoroughbred Stud* 14 'The dry shilling so prevalent in the spring months, which is so serious a throw-back to both plant and animal growth.

2. The grain removed from the husk, also the husks of oats, wheat, etc.

α. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 173 And than the

said mylne..grund efter hir auld forme, and made gude meill and scheiling. 1667 *Rec. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 46 It is..ordained that the owner of the corne mak their awn sheilling in all tyme cuming. 1844 J. BALLANTINE *Miller of Deanhaugh* x. 177 Rank an' station! bran an' sheelings! exclaimed the miller. 1902 *Ardrossan Herald* 31 Jan. 2/3 The multure is a quantity of grain, sometimes in kind, as wheat, oats, pease, and sometimes manufactured as flour, meal, sheeling.

β. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 147 Thow and thy quene, as gredy gleddis, ȝe gang With polkis to mylne, and beggis baith meill and schilling. *Ibid.* 243 Chitterlilling, ruch rilling, lik schilling in the milhouse. 1546 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 7/2 Cum una firlota de lie thirl beir et una firlota de lie ring schilling. 1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege London Derry* 39/1 There was Oats, Shilling, and Malt in Town, which could not be used for want of Mills. 1681 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1881) II. 286 A stroke of shilling standing on the table. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 85 Sent son Thomas towards Preston with a load of shilling to sell. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. 117 *Shillen*, i. e. shealing, or hulter corn, is measured by the tacksman of the mill, and is paid, not in shealing, but in meal. 1910 G. HENDERSON *Norse Infl. Celtic Scot.* v. 117 In Lowland Scots *shillin*, unhusked grain.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sheeling cylinder, groats, machine, time*, etc.; **sheeling-hill**, a hill or eminence where grain was winnowed by the wind, so **sheeling-mound**; **sheeling-seeds**, the husks of corn, esp. oats, also the grain that has been freed from the husk; **sheeling-stone** (see quot. 1880).

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 351 The first process which wheat undergoes in grinding is in being put through the *sheeling cylinder. 1585–6 *Shuttleworths Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 91 A peke of *shillynge grotes. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 174 The *schilling hill of the Mylne of Fedderet. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, Instead of..waiting patiently for whatever dispensation of wind Providence was pleased to send upon the sheeling-hill. 1840 J. HODGSON *Hist. Northumbld.* II. III. 118 *note*, A shilling-hill, as a place to deet or winnow the groats of oats from the husks that had been shilled off them, before machinery was invented for the purpose, was not an uncommon appendage to a mill. 1911 E. BEVERIDGE *North Uist* i. 11 At a *shieling-mound close to the southern base of Marrival is Tobar Chuithairidh. 1715 PENNECUIK *Whs.* (1815) 87 (E.D.D.) The husks or *shilling seeds are again separated by the farmers. *a* 1867 W. ANDERSON in *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. II. (1881) 238 A cushion stuff't wi' sheelin' seeds. 1563 in *Rates Exeter Canal* in *Archæologia* XXVIIII. 18 For everye boate loadinge with beare, *shillingstones, lyme, wood, cole [etc.] iiij.*d.* 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Shilling stones*, the pair of stones in a corn mill which are used for taking the husks off oats. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL *Dk. of Britain* xix. 281 It is his custom to go frequently up during the *sheiling-time.

† **Shee·ling**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SHEEL *v.* + -ING².] That is in process of peeling off.

1708 tr. *Cowley's Plants* I. C.'s Wks. III. 288 All thy shealing Scabs rub off again.

Sheen (ʃīn), *sb.*¹ Forms: 6 *Sc.* scheyne, 6–7 sheene, 7– sheen. [f. SHEEN *a.*, assumed to be connected with SHINE *v.* (The sb. is virtually a verbal noun to *shine*.) Cf. SHEEN *v.*]

1. Shining, brightness. In recent use chiefly, gleaming, lustre, radiance as of a body reflecting light; a gleam. *rare* before the 19th c.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 167 And thirtie dozen Moones with borrowed sheene, About the World haue times twelue thirties been. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 240 And modest Cynthias siluer hue Vnto a pallid colour grew...As if the earth had bene betweene To barre her of her brothers sheene. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xv, Thron'd in Celestiall sheen. 1634 — *Comus* 893 The azurn sheen Of Turkis blew. *Ibid.* 1003 Far above in spangled sheen Celestial Cupid her fam'd son advanc't. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. xxii, The southern Sun diffus'd his dazzling shene. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. xiv, And through the drifts the snowy clifts Did send a dismal sheen. 1815 BYRON *Destr. Sennacherib* i, The sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea. 1830 TENNYSON *Song*, '*The Lintwhite*' 28 Thy locks are all of sunny sheen. 1881 J. HATTON *New Ceylon* ii. 51 [A pearl] of a peculiarly brilliant sheen. 1879 BLACK *Macleod of D.* I. 178 The beautiful blue sheen on its scales. 1888 ANNIE S. SWAN *Doris Cheyne* ii. 30 Her hair..had a sheen like gold upon it. 1906 WILLIAMSON *Lady Betty across Water* 288 The green of the waving trees seemed to be reflected in their complexions in little sheens and shimmers.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1828 COLERIDGE *Gard. Boccaccio* 47 And last, a matron now, of sober mien Yet radiant still and with no earthly sheen. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* III. iii, Ever in the dullest existence there is a sheen either of Inspiration or of Madness. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* vi. 114 No sheen of official position would ever lead us.

c. Gorgeous or bright attire.

[1631 MILTON *Marchioness of Winchester* 73 With thee there clad in radiant sheen, No Marchioness, but now a Queen.] 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. (1826) II. 348 They saw plainly enough knights, esquires and pages..in all their splendour; and lady-aunts and lady-cousins in the galleries, in all their sheen and joyance. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxiv, In costly sheen and gaudy cloak array'd. 1898 NEWBOLT *Isl. Race* 94 Stepped she not with a grace entrancing, Slenderly girt in silken sheen?

2. The pupil of the eye. *Sc.* (? *Obs.*)

c 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 581 For as I writtin into Doctouris fand, He wes mair tender [into] his body, Than is þe scheyne into a mannis e. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sheen* of the eye, the pupil of the eye.

Sheen (ʃīn), *sb.*² *slang*. [Of obscure origin: cf. SHAN.] Base coin. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 226 *Sheen*, bad money. 1888 PAYNE *Eavesdropper* II. ii. 80 'Can you smash a thick un for me?' inquired one, handing his friend a sovereign. 'You're sure it ain't sheen?' returned the other, with a diabolical grin. 1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, *Sheen* (Scotch), bad money. Probably alluding to the 'glitter', or possibly from German *schein*, a bank-bill.

Sheen (ʃīn), *a.* Now *poet.* Forms: 1 scíene, scéne, scéone, scíone, scýne, scíne, 2–4 seene, 3 sceone, sschene, 3–4 scen, (? schine), 3–6 schene, 3–6, (8–9) shene, 4 schen, (sene), 5 schenne, sshene, 6 shen, 4–7 sheene, 5 scheene; 3 scone, *Sc.* 4–6 scheyne, 5 sheyn, 6 schein(e, schane; 6– sheen. *compar.* 1 scénra, 3 schenre, schennure, 4 schenure. [OE. *sciene* = OFris. *skêne* (mod.Fris. *skjin*), OS. *scôni* (MLG. *schône*, *schôn*; Sw. *skön*, Da. *skjøn*, prob. from LG.), MDu. *schôn(e* (mod.Du. *schoon*), OHG. *scôni*, earlier *scaoni* (MHG. *schæne*, *schœn*, mod.G. *schön*), Goth. *skaun-s* :—OTeut. **skauni-*, **skauniō-* f. root **skau-* to behold: see SHOW *v.*

The Gothic *ibnaskauns* like-formed, *gupaskaunei* likeness of God, suggest that the word may originally have meant 'having (a certain) appearance'. For the development of the eulogistic sense, cf. *sightly, shapely*, L. *forma* form, beauty, *formosus* beautiful.

In English (and app. to some extent in OHG. and OS. where it glosses *lucidus, splendidus* etc.) the sense was influenced by association with the root of SHINE *v.* In early examples it is often difficult to determine whether the sense is merely 'beautiful', or whether there is some added notion of 'shining, bright'.

The form *scone* in Ormin, which implies the pronunciation (skōnə), is unexplained. The identically written form in Layamon, however, seems to be merely an instance of the practice, common in 12–13th c. texts, of writing *o* for *eo*.]

1. Beautiful. **a.** Of persons (esp. women), their appearance, features, etc.

Beowulf 3017 Mæg̃ð scyne. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1387 Ic ðe swa scienne ȝesceapen hæfde. *c* 1000 *Genesis* 265 Cwæð, þæt his lic wære leohte & scene. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 Nis ðar non swo god leiȝe se teares: hie makieð scene ansiene. *c* 1205 LAY. 15331, & he haueð to quene mine dohter þa is scone. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 And Absalones schene wlite. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24080 His face þat forwit was sa scene [*v.rr.* schen, shene]. *Ibid.* 28505 Gernand i haf oft ben Desird o þire wymmen scen. *c* 1300 *Sir Orfeo* 356 Al þe utmast wal Was clere and schine [*v.rr.* schone, gan schyne] as cristal. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3296 So schene he was to se in his semli armes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 446 Graunte vs, lady shene Eche of vs, of thy grace a bone. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3070 Shulders full shaply, shenest of hewe, Full plesaund & playn. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2612 The mayde was full shene to shewe. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) 10 Hayle be thou Mary, maydyn shen. *a* 1586 ? MONTGOMERIE *Banks of Helicon* 6 Declair, ȝe bankis of Helicon,..Gif ony of ȝour Muses all, Or nymphes may be peregall Vnto my lady schein? 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 43, I saw a little one, A bonny prety one, As bright buxsome and as sheene As was shee. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 10 Her daintie corse so faire and sheene. 1747 MASON *Musæus* 104 Belinda far surpast my beauties sheen.

† **b.** (*The*) *sheen*: used after a woman's name.

c 1205 LAY. 3098 þe duc of Cornwaile scal habbe Gornoille & þe Scottene king Regau þat scone [*c* 1275 þe scene]. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 756 Slawe was rouland þan And ded blaunche þe schene. *a* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 210 The fresshe Emelye the sheene.

c. Of animals, inanimate objects, places, etc.

c 1000 *Phœnix* 591 Him folgiað fuglas scyne. *c* 1000 *Panther* 19 (Gr.) Deor wundrum scyne. *c* 1205 LAY. 19767 Vt heo drozen sone amppullen scone [*c* 1275 six ampulles] ifulled mid attere weten alre bitterest. 12.. *Moral Ode* 340 (Egerton MS.) in *Lamb. Hom.* 179 Go we þene narewe wei and þene wei grene þer forð-fareð lutel folc ac it is feir and scene. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 337 (Jesus MS.) in *O. E. Misc.* 70 Go we þene narewe wey þen wey so schene. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 125 (Cott. Galba MS.) Þaire armes set on schaftes schene [*Harl. MS.* sene]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3411 Many a schene scheld scheuered al to peces. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 2 In schawes ful schene. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 118 Carrikes, Galeis and shippes shene, vij hundred were gadered al in fere. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3713 By hir atyre so bright and shene, Men might perceyve..She was not of religioun. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 330 With shotes of shire wode shene to beholde. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcv, His long[e] ȝalow lokkis schene. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 487 Abowght a facon schene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 370 Thar I was born amang the schawis scheyne. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXLII. App. XXX. iv, Four and twentie myles to Lamarke so shene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vii. 63 Rowmyng about the large temple schene. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 17 Amang fair forrests and schawis schene. 1785 BURNS *Vision* I. 67 Down flow'd her robe, a tartan sheen, Till half a leg was scrimply seen. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 374 Narcissus will I twine, and lilies sheen.

† **d.** *absol.* (quasi-*sb.*) A fair one; a beautiful woman. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 965 þat schene sayde, þat god wyl schylde, 'þou may not enter with-inne hys tor'. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8144 Than the bysshop to his barne barely onswart, And shend to þat schene all in short wordes. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xl, Thay so a schene vndur schild, Come prekand fast aure the filde, On a fayre stede. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. R iij, A kisse, my lyght.i. my hart of golde, or my bryght and sheene, this is sweter then honye. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 627 Beseik that schene with hummill reuerence The to ressaif.

† **e.** In non-material senses: Beautiful, attractive; noble, illustrious; pure, clean (*from* sin). *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 24326 To þan..þer com þe king Angel king of Scotlonde mid sceone his folke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18535 þis hight [*i.e.* promise] þat was sa scene [*v.rr.* schene, schene], Suld tid þam thoru a maiden clene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 600, I will shunt for no shame of my shene fader, Ne no hede to my heale, þat I thee helpe shall. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 18 Þi passioun make us brigt & schene In wil, in worde, in dede & þouȝt! 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 254 Fro seuene synnes þou make me schene.

2. Bright, shining, resplendent.

In early use this sense may have been merely contextual, the adj. being applied in the sense 'beautiful' to objects (e. g. heavenly bodies, jewels, metals) the beauty of which is dependent on their brightness. In later use, owing to association with SHINE *v.*, SHEEN *sb.*¹, the sense 'shining' is felt as primary.

900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 695 Hwæt sindan þa ȝimmas swa scyne buton god sylfa? *c* 1200 ORMIN 3431 He sette a steorrne upp o þe lifft Full brad, & brihht, & shene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 362 In þe ariste of domesdeie, hwon ure vlesches schal blikien schenre þen þe sunne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1145, I loked among his meyny schene. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1512 He thoughte of thilke water shene To drinke and fresshe him wel withalle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 409 'After sharpe showres', quod pees 'moste shene is þe sonne'. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 3 In May, whan..Phebus gan to schede his stremes shene Amid the Bole. 1412–20 — *Troy Bk.* I. 623 þe schene sonne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iv. 40 O thou brycht son, with thy schene bemis glaid. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 105 And cled thame all..In silk and syper, and in siluer schene. *a* 1542 WYATT *Compl. Absence His Love* 39 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 74 Those shene lightes: that wonted for to clere My darked panges of cloudy thoughts. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 28 By fountaine cleere, or spangled star light sheene. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1066 That he might be seene Of the wilde beasts in his new glory sheene. 1591 R. W[ILMOT] *Tancred & Gism.* III. iii. (1592) D 3, But why doth he that sprung from Ioues high head? And Phœbus sister shene, despise thy power? 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* 147 To see the Sunne and Moone..in their sheene glory. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. vi, Like rubies sheen. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. iii, Glittering Streamlets..hurled every-where their Waters sheen. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* V. vi, The upper air burst into life! And a hundred fire-flags sheen, To and fro they were hurried about. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* V. viii, His vest of changeful satin sheen. 1817 SHELLEY *Marianne's Dr.* 10 The veiny lids, whose fringe is thrown Over thine eyes so dark and sheen. 1838 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Witches' Frolic*, And fairer, I ween, The ivy sheen That thy mouldering turret binds, Than the Alderman's house. 1839 LONGF. *Voices of Night, Prelude* i. 5 Where, the long drooping boughs between Shadows dark and sunlight sheen Alternate come and go.

b. Of a day, the sky, etc.

1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* xiv. 296 A daye of gladnes bryght and shene. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 95 Quhilk hes na craft to knaw the wynter weit, Suppois that sommer schane dois thame reskew. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Hist. Eng.* II. ii. 8/2 Thou that maist passe aloft in airie skies so sheene. 1599 *Warn. Faire Wom.* II. 341 It is my love. O how the dusky night Is by her coming forth made sheen and bright! 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week, Monday* 3 No chirping lark the welkin sheen invokes. 1839 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt Page* XXX, 'Look up—there is a small bright cloud..' The page looked up—the cloud was sheen. 1891 F. THOMPSON *Sister-Songs* (1895) 16 There she sat amid her ladies, Where the shade is Sheen as Enna mead ere Hades' Gloom fell thwart Persephone.

† **c.** Bright-coloured. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2314 þe schene blod ouer his schulderes schot to þe erþe. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. XXXIV. 425 Iulius Cæsar..In his Warres..was accustomed to weare a verie rich garment and of a sheene and garish colour. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xii, If pall and vair no more I wear, Nor thou the crimson sheen.

† **d.** absol. *The sheen*: the bright weapon; also, the bright sun. *nonce-uses.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2268 þat oþer schalk wyth a schunt þe schene wyth-haldez. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 440 For to schylde fro the schene, oþer any schade kest.

e. quasi-*adv.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246 A muchel wind alið mid a lutel rein & te sunne þer efter schineð þe schennure. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11251 Clopes of golde þat schon so schene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1649 The windowes..[were] shapyn full shene all of shyre stones. 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale Poems* ii. 194 My Ien blynde, that whylom shoone so sheene. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. xi, The moonlight stole soft and sheen. 1872 HOLLAND *Marble Prophecy* 31 They flash and shine among the flowers While dripping sheen in golden showers.

Sheen (ʃīn), *v.* Forms: 4 schen, 4–6 s(c)hene, 6 scheine, *Sc.* scheyne, 6– sheen. [f. SHEEN *a.*]

1. *intr.* **a.** = SHINE *v. lit.* and *fig.* Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* (in Sc. the ordinary word.)

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* V. (*Johannes*) 256 Far palacis þat sal leste euirmare, schenand with gemmys oure-alquhare. *Ibid.* XXV. (*Julian*) 54 Fore he wae þane schenand in til halynes. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 329 (Douce MS.) Þene vnclosed þe cloudes, þe sone con shene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 119 The sone was rysyne our landis schenand brycht. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1358 Luna that so brycht doth shene. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 81 No saphir ind, no rube..There lakked than..That may the castell maken for to shene. *a* 1542 WYATT *Ps.* XXXVII. 97, I have well seene the wycked sheene lyke goolde lustie and grene as Lawrell lasting aye. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 69 Abowte Ester was sene..three sonnes shenynge at one tyme in the eyer. 1562 in *Sel. Rec. Kirk Sess.* etc. *Aberd.* (1846) 4 That gud lyfe, conversatioun, and maneris may scheyne. *a* 1565 SIR T. CHALLONER tr. *Boeth.* I. met. iii. 15 All sodeynly the Sonne..sheens the worlde over. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 9 Our lord Iesus thairfor sittis one the rycht hand of the pouer of god,..scheinand brychtlie with maiestie altogither diuin. 1819 GALL *Poems* 126 Thy ee will wake nae mair, That sheened sae fu' o' glee.

b. *poet.* To cast a gleam, glisten.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xvii, This town, That, sheening far, celestial seems to be. 1856 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat*

(1887) 1 The illusion of rivers sheening on the sands to travellers gasping with thirst.

2. *trans.* To cast a sheen upon. *rare.*

1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 31 Who is this woman.. With sun-red hair, entangled as with flight Sheening the knees up to her bosom drawn?

Hence **Shee·ning** *ppl. a.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 293 At þe ȝat now com þai in, petir and paule, in clathis shenand. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1201 His schenand schoys, that burnyst was full beyn. 1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 146 The iyes that is blacke as Iete and in the myddes clere and shenynge. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* I. x, A great salt sheening sea bending into the land like a bow.

Sheende, obs. form of SHEND *v.*

Sheene, obs. form of SEINE *sb.*[1]

1611 FLORIO, *Riuale*, ..a kind of net that reacheth from one side of a riuer to the other called of Fishermen a Sheene-net [1659 Torriano *reads* a Sheere or Shore-net].

Sheenless (ʃī·nlés), *a. rare.* [f. SHEEN *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without sheen.

1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 18 The sheenless rays which have lost their power in the struggle through smoke and fumes.

Sheenly (ʃī·nli), *adv. rare.* [f. SHEEN *a.*[1] + -LY[2].] Brightly.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 631 Seuin sterres..Hee showes forthe scheenely shynand bright. 1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 719 All sheenly barbed, and gaily garbed, With plume and flashing spear.

Sheeny (ʃī·ni), *sb.*[1] *slang.* Also **shen(e)y, sheeney, -ie.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Russ. ЖИДЪ, Pol., Czech *žid* (pronounced *zhid*) a Jew.] A Jew.

1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 85 Orange Battery among the Sheenes [*? read* Sheenies]. Sketches at Bow-Street.—No. V. 1828 EGAN *Boxiana* Ser. II. I. 632 A good day's play among the Sheenies. 1893 FOREMAN *Trip to Spain* 34 A Portuguese Jew (a 'sheeny', as he is termed by the sailors).

attrib. 1888 KIPLING *Soldiers Three, In Matter of a Private*, You lie, you man-sticker. You sneakin' Sheeny butcher, you lie.

Sheeny (ʃī·ni), *sb.*[2] [App. a. F. *chiné* ppl. a., woven of threads of different colours.] In full *Pompadour sheeny*: a silk fabric.

1902 *Bladud* (Bath) 26 Mar. 6/3 A very lovely one [dinner jacket]..was of Pompadour sheeny. *Ibid.* 7/1 Our parasols are to be of sheeny with coloured sticks.

Sheeny (ʃī·ni), *a.* [f. SHEEN *a.* + -Y.] Covered with sheen, full of sheen; having a bright, shiny surface.

1625 MILTON *Death Fair Infant* 48 Or did of late earths Sonnes besiege the wall Of sheenie Heav'n. 1717 FENTON *Odyss.* XI. Poems 103 The sheeny form of Epicaste. 1749 COLLINS *Ode Superst. Highl.* 153 Wreath'd with sheeny gold. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ii, His sheeny and crescent-formed sabre. 1830 TENNYSON *Madeline* ii, The silken sheeny woof. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. i, The eagle ..Droops all his sheeny, brown, deep-feather'd neck. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. 152 A soft gray sheeny silk. 1893 *Times* 8 July 12/1 A sheeny background of white satin.

Comb. 1897 SIR H. JOHNSTON *Brit. Central Africa* 3 Darters with sheeny plumaged bodies of greenish-black.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* II. ix, So in the night Of ages ..riseth some lofty sage The depth of darkness with his sheeny wit Piercing. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 149/1 Its sheeny vanes of rhetoric.

Sheep (ʃīp), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 scéap, scǽp, scép, 2 sceæp, 2–3 sceap, 2–4 scep, (3 se(e)p, seop), 3–4 scepe, 3–5 (6 in comb.) schep, shep, 3–6 schepe, (4 ssep, schiep), 4–5 scheep, chepe, 4–6 shepe, (5 sheppe, *Sc.* scheipe, 6 sheip(pe, shiepe), 6–7 sheepe, *Sc.* scheip, (7 in comb. shepp), 4–sheep. *β.* 1 *Northumb.* scíp, 4 schipe, 4–6 schip, 5 schype, 6 shyp(p)e, schyp, shipe, 6–7 shippe, 5, 6–9 *dial.* ship. [OE. (WS.) *scéap*, earlier *scǽp*, (Anglian) *scép* str. n. = OFris. *skêp*, *schêp* (NFris. *skêp*, *skêap*, *sjip*, *sjapp*, WFris. *skiep*, EFris. *schâip*), OS. *scâp* (MLG. *schâp*, LG. *schaap*), MDu. *schaep* (Du. *schaap*), OHG. *scâf* (MHG. *schâf*, G. *schaf*):—OTeut. **skǽpo-m* (wanting in Gothic and Scand.).

Outside Teut. no certain affinities are known. The prehistoric pl. **skǽpu* normally lost its final vowel in OE., so that nom. and acc. sing. and pl. became identical. (ONorthumbrian, however, had a pl. form *sctpo* beside *sctp*.)

The pronunciation (ʃip) is specially characteristic of midl. (esp. west-midl.) dialects, but is widely current elsewhere in England, exc. in the north-west.]

1. Any animal of the ruminant genus *Ovis* (sometimes horned), closely allied to the goats; esp. of the widely domesticated species *Ovis aries*, of which there are many varieties, and which is reared for its flesh, fleece, and skin.

The male of the sheep is a ram, the female a ewe, the young a lamb. The flesh of the adult sheep is mutton. The fleece yields wool, the skin is made into leather or parchment, and the intestines are used for the strings of musical instruments (see CATGUT).

a. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxiii. 6 *Velut agniouium*, swe swelomberu scepa. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 122 Dæt sceap ðær scancforad wæs. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 91 On forewerdne morzen ic drife sceap mine to heora læse. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Þet oref þe þis deor waneð beð shep and reðeren, and Get, and swin. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12662 Shepess lamb uss ȝifeþþ millc, & flæsh & blod & wulle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 940 A net, and a got, and a sep. *c* 1275 *O. E. Misc.* 41 Beo þe seopheorde aquold..þenne scule sone his seop alle beon to-dreued. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3178 Þe angel..bade him þar biside him tak A scepe [*Fairf.* shepe, *Gött.* schep, *Trin.* sheep] his sacrifice to mak. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iv. 2 Abel was a sheepherd of sheep. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 237 Ther was a Schiep,..The which his flees bar al of gold. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* lviii. 221 An hare and a sheppe bene ful gastefull. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiii. 225 Whanne Moyses kepte the schep of Ietro. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 97 Thys inclosyng of pasturys for..schepe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 137 b, The champion countrey, breedeth a large and a great sheepe. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. 69 If a sheepe be sound.., his eye will be bright. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* viii, Perhaps their loves, or els their sheep, Was all that did their silly thoughts so busie keep. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 79 Verdant grass, the sweet food of the sheep. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 66 The thick-fleeced sheep from wattled folds. 1859 ALLEN *Amer. Farm-bk.* 399 The sheep is sometimes employed..at the tread-mill or horizontal wheel, to pump the water, churn the milk, or perform other light domestic work. 1889 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 34 Certain mountain varieties of sheep will starve out other mountain varieties.

β. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 14 Bebycgendo exin & scipo [*Rushw.* scip] & culufro. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 39 Hir norice hir sende ofte adai wiþ hire schip afelde. *c* 1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 136 Þe vairest scep [*v.r.* scip] þat miȝte be. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6156 (Gött.) Left þai nathing þat þar was, Schip, ne kow, or ox, ne as. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 127 Pastur for xl schip. *Ibid.*, Pastur for a c schype. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 395 Scabbyd schyppe, *apica*. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 75 Oxyn, kyne, and shippe. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 266 The cattell and schip pertening to thair enimyes. 1602 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 143, iiij wemen for clippinge the shippe xvj[d]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, 'What ship was it, Horrocks..?' 'One of the black-faced Scotch, Sir Pitt.'

pl. with -s. 1521 in *Visit. Southwell* (Camden) 119, I will that my sheips be soulde. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 219 Two hot Sheepes marie: And wherefore not Ships. 1658 *Topsell's Four-f. Beasts* 504 The skins of other Sheeps [*ed.* 1607 sheep] newly plucked from their backs. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* s.v. *Ship*, Poor grass when ships cannot grase. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Ship*, sheep..Also *pl.* Ships.

b. With qualifying word denoting the species as *African, broad-tailed, Rocky Mountain, wild* (see ARGALI, MOUFFLON, MUSMON). Also applied to other genera, as †*Indian* or *Peruvian sheep*, the llama or vicuña; †*mountain sheep*, the ibex.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xxi. 70 Indian sheepe, the which..do serve them as Asses to beare their burthens. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 102 An Indian Sheepe, out of the region of Peru. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. viii. 158/1 The Arabian broad tailed Sheep. 1748 [see PERUVIAN]. 1759 [see GO-CART 3]. 1804, 1818 [see ROCKY *a.*[1] 1 b]. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 143 The Ibex or mountain sheep. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Ovea*, The moufflon, or wild sheep of Sardinia and Corsica, and the argali, or wild sheep of India and Siberia. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 102/1 The Rocky Mountain sheep or goat (*Haplocerus laniger*),..is closely related to the chamois of Europe. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 161 The Yellow Sheep of Mongolia (*Procapra gutturosa*). 1881 *Scribner's Monthly* May 1/1 The American big horn, or Rocky Mountain sheep (*Ovis montana* Cuv.).

c. *Vegetable sheep*: see quot.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 959/1 The name of Vegetable sheep (!) is given by the settlers in New Zealand to *R[aoulia] eximia*, because, from its growing in large white tufts on elevated sheep-runs, it may be readily mistaken for the sheep.

2. Similative (often passing into figurative) uses.

a. In allusions to:

(*a*) The sheep's timidity, defencelessness, inoffensiveness, tendency to stray and get lost: chiefly in echoes of biblical passages, and sometimes with allusion to sense 4. (*b*) The fabled assumption by a wolf (or other beast of prey) of the skin of a slaughtered sheep. (*c*) The division into 'sheep' and 'goats' (saved and lost) at the Last Judgement. (*d*) The infection of the whole flock by one sheep. (*e*) The shearing of sheep; with suggestion of 'fleecing' or robbing.

(*a*) *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxviii. 176 Ic duolude swe swe scep ðæt forwearð. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 Vre drihten was iled to sleȝe al swa me dede a scep. *c* 1205 LAY. 1546 Swa þe rimie wulf þan he wule on scheapen [*c* 1275 sceep] scaðe werc wrchen. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 37 Al volk wes to dreued so schep beoþ in þe wolde. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13897 As þe wolf chaseþ þe schep, He dide þe Romayns by-fore hym ley. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. viii. (1867) 16 Subtilly lyke a sheepe thought I, I shall Cut my cote after my cloth. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* Conf., We have erred and strayed from thy wayes, lyke lost shepe. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 737 The Duke..deliuered the Erle to the Ambassadors,..not thinking that he deliuered the shepe to the woolfe. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 67 The rout of soldjers of that regiment presst all of a heape like sheep. 1843 H. BONAR *Hymn*, I was a wandering sheep, I did not love the fold. 1850 DICKENS *David Copp.* xvi, Outside his own domain, and unprotected, he was a very sheep for the shearers. 1862 F. W. FABER *Hymn*, Souls of men! why will ye scatter like a crowd of frighten'd sheep?

(*b*) *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 15 Ðaðe cymes to Iuh.. in wedum scipa Inna-ueard uutedlice sint uulfes..ferende. 1573 *Tyrie's Refut.* in *Cath. Tractates* 7 Nocht to trow hastelie, that thairbie other thay be lyon or scheip, quhobeit thay weare thair skinnes. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 157 They [wolves] gang in more secrete wise, And with sheepes clothing doen hem disguise. 1592 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 55 Thou Wolfe in Sheepes array.

(*c*) *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 33 He setteð ða scip ..to suiðrum his. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6136 By þe shepe understand we may þe gude men þat sal be saved þat day. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 169 Schepe þat schal be savid schal be on hys riȝt honde. [1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 371 How the Ebenezerites would stare to find the Socinians and themselves in one flock on the sheep-side of the judgment-seat]. 1849 W. J. IRONS *Day of Wrath*, With Thy favour'd sheep O place me.

(*d*) *c* 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Ben.* XXVIII. (1885) 53 ðif se ȝetreowleasa ȝewite, he ȝewite, þylæs þe an adlig sceap ealle heorde besmite. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 23 A wicke shep may spille al þe flok. *c* 1450, 1798 [see SCABBED 1 d]. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) 129 On skabbid shepe infectith all the folde. 1894 [see SCABBY 1 b].

(*e*) 1422. LYDG. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 491 What is the sheepe to blame in your sight Whan she is shoorn? *c* 1500 *God Spede the Plough* 35 Thus be we shepe shorne, we may not chese. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (1888) 104 Ye blynd giders and pastors quhilk sekis bot the mylk and ye wow of the scheip. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 130 If I make not this Cheat bring out another, and the sheerers proue sheepe. 1611 J. DAVIES *Sco. Folly* 164 Hee is as rich as a new-shorne sheepe. 1806 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) II. iii. 89, I will not.. be flayed like a sheep for the benefit of some pettifogging lawyer or attorney. 1900 R. H. SAVAGE *Brought to Bay* vi, A couple of California mine manipulators going over to London to shear those fat-witted sheep, the British investors.

b. *Lost sheep*: one who has strayed from the right way. (Cf. 2 a (*a*) and see LOST 2.)

1611 BIBLE *Jer.* l. 6 My people hath bene lost sheepe. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xviii. 106 These fiue (lost sheepe) the children of perdition,..who lay lurking in desart ..places. 1648 T. VANE (*title*) A Lost Sheep returned home: or, the Motives of the conversion to the Catholike Faith, of Thomas Vane. 1851 RUSKIN *Sheepfolds* 12 There are certain signs by which Christ's sheep may be guessed at. Not by their being in any definite Fold—for many are lost sheep at times: but by their sheep-like behaviour. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiii. 13 Ye sexless eunuchs,..Lost sheep that err rebellious to the lady Dindymene.

c. *Black sheep*: a bad character. Cf. 3.

Prov. *There is a black sheep in every flock.*

1792 MACKLIN *Man of World* v. i, O, ye villain! you—you—you are a black sheep; and I'll mark you. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXV, The curates..know best the black sheep of the flock. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. iii, To pick out of the whole mass of English clergy one or two, or one or two and twenty black sheep. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* xiii, Kate, the 'black sheep' of the family.

3. Proverbial phrases.

To lose the sheep for a ha'porth of tar: see HALFPENNYWORTH b.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 58 He loueth well sheeps flesh, that wets his bred in the wul. *c* 1550 *Six Ballads* (Percy Soc.) 4 The blacke shepe is a perylous beast. *a* 1584 T. PROCTOR in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 400 As soone for to be sold To market cums the yonge sheepe as the olde. 1598 BASTARD *Chrestoleros* IV. xx. 90 Till now I thought the prouerbe did but iest, Which said a blacke sheepe was a biting beast. 1620, 1748 [see LAMB *sb.* 1 b]. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlvii, 'Just as good for a sheep as a lamb', as the proverb says.

b. *To keep sheep by moonlight*: see quot.

1898 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* ix, [Lads] That shepherded the moonlit sheep A hundred years ago. [*Note*] Hanging in chains was called keeping sheep by moonlight.

c. *To return to our sheep* [after F. *revenons à nos moutons*]: to return to the matter in hand. (Cf. MUTTON 7.)

1586 B. HARTE *My Otherself* in *Fiddletown*, etc. (1873) 118 Let us go back to our sheep, which are not all black, thank goodness! 1871 *Athenæum* 12 Aug. 199 'Balaustion's Adventure,'—that we may get to our sheep at last,—is the amber in which Mr. Browning has embalmed the 'Alcestis'. 1890 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. X. 431/2 But to return to my sheep.

4. *fig.* In biblical and religious language, applied (as collective plural) to persons, in expressed or implied correlation with *shepherd*. With varying specific reference: said, e.g., of Israel, the Church, or mankind generally, viewed as under the guidance and protection of God, and as owing obedience to Him; of those who are led by Christ as the Good Shepherd (John x. 1–16); and of those who are under the charge of a spiritual pastor, or who are viewed as needing to be spiritually fed or directed. Hence occas. in *sing.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxviii. 13 We soðlice folc ðin & scep eowdes ðines. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John x. 16 Oðro scip ic hafo ða ne sint from ðissum plette. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 24 Ne eom ic asend buton to þam sceapum þe forwurdon of israhela huse. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3760 Forr þatt he wollde sammnenn An flocc off menn till Crisstenndom,..þatt sholldenn wurrþenn hise shep. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 49 He is hirde, we ben sep. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27451 Sere biscop, ta god kepe, þe wolf es cummen amang þi scepe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 32 No curat owiþ to leue his schepe vnkept among þe wolues of helle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 508 Wel oghte a preest ensample for to yeue, by his clennesse, how þat his sheepe sholde lyue. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 22 On alle maner sal þabbes entirmete hir Al maner of sentence at muster til hir sep, þat nan be tint. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) i. 94 Christis sillie scheip and sobir flok. 1655 MILTON *Sonn.* XV. 6 In thy book record their groanes Who were thy Sheep. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 891 All pastors are alike To wand'ring sheep, resolv'd to follow none. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* li, It would ill become me, for the sake of lucre, to leave my sheep in the wilderness. 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* II. ad. fin., I..found myself..in Zion Chapel Meeting,..Which, calling its flock to their special clover, Found all assembled and one sheep over.

5. A person who is as stupid, timid, or poor-spirited as a sheep.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. 109 Those persones, who wer sely poore solles..wer euen then..by a commen prouerbe called sheepes heddes, or sheepe. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 105, I know he would not be a Wolfe, But that he sees the Romans are but Sheepe. 1698 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* i. 15 You..That understand so many Languages, turn over so many Volumes, and yet are but a sheep when all

is done. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xx. (1869) 169 They've got a man for mate of that ship, and not a bloody sheep about decks!

† b. *Sheep* and *shrew* are contrasted as types of wives of opposite characters (see quots.).

1573–80 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 157 Now be she lambe or be she eaw, Giue me the sheepe, take thou the shreaw. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Govt.* III. i. Wks. 1910 II. 44 It is an olde saying, one shrew is worth two sheep. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 472 They noted, that although the virgin were somwhat shrewishe at the first, yet in time she myght become a sheepe. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 110 It is better to marry a Shrew then a Sheep; for though silence be the dumb Orator of beuty,..yet a Phlegmatic dull Wife is fulsom and fastidious. 1661 *Tom Tyler & his Wife* 26 To marrie a sheep, to marrie a shrow.

c. A semi at Aberdeen university.

1865 G. Macdonald *Alec Forbes* xxxiii. II. 5 A certain semi (second-classman, or more popularly sheep).

6. *ellipt.* (For *sheep leather*; cf. *calf*, *kid*.) Leather made from the skin of the sheep: used in bookbinding.

The term has gone out of use in the bookbinding trade, the material being known under other names, e. g. *roan*, *basil*.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4187/4 Price bound in Sheep 18d. 1727 Swift *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. i. 156 As to the report of my poor husband's stealing o' calf, it is really groundless, for he always binds in sheep. 1836 *J. R. Smith's Catal. Bks.* Feb. 9/1 Fernandez's Spanish Grammar, 8vo. sheep, 2s. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 90 Sheep may be had white and of all colours. 1911 *Tregaskis' Catal. Bks.* No. 708. 53 One volume in old sheep, the other in calf.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. appositive, as *sheep-cattle*, *-hog*.

1552 Huloet, *Shepe cattell, pecus.* 1596 Mascall *Cattle, Sheep* 205 There be two sortes of Sheepe cattell, the better sort is those of the soft wooll. 1558 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 317, vj *shepe hogges. 1605 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 14 Four sheep called sheep hogges, value 20*s*. 1793 *Carlop Green* II. vii, Mass John, Like sow, or sheep-hog, fat.

b. = Of, belonging to, produced by, or concerned with sheep, as *sheep-dung*, *-fair*, *-fell* (Fell *sb.*[1]), etc.

1649 Blith *Engl. Improver* xx. 121 The most proper soyle for Gardens are your *Sheep-dung, your Hen muck. 1906 C. A. Sherring *West. Tibet* xiv. 276 Cow-dung and sheep-dung fires. 1473 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 386 That no man occupie their *shepe feyre but between the Gosford yate and the White-frere lane. 1822 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 150 The 11th of October is the Sheep-fair. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 791 Medee sayde to Iason than: ..'I wolde make the that *schepe-fel Wynne to-morwe with-outen perel'. 1562 in *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1891) II. 23 That no bowcher. shall sell any of ther shepfell. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* xx. 3 Vnder him, an Oxe-hide newly flead; Aboue him Sheep fels store. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. i. (Bodl. MS.), Swyne flesche and *schepe flesche is better rosted þan sode. 1808 in Shirreff *Agric. Shetl. Isl.* (1814) 56 A common shepherd in each parish..would tend..to increase the *sheep flocks. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 182 If population was lessened by a general introduction of the *sheep-husbandry in the Highlands. 1846 Dickens *Pict. Italy, Genoa* 49 Cocks' combs and *sheep-kidney, chopped up with mutton-chops and liver. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3000/4 A pair of *Sheep Leather Breeches. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 43 The use of ensilage overcomes many difficulties in *sheep management. 1779 *Mirror* No. 37 A green hill..seamed with a winding *sheep-path. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. i, The sheep-paths running along their sides like ruled lines. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Sheep-pelts*, the skins of sheep, fresh or salted, intended for leather. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 45 If ever, among the continually changing modes of fashionable follies, *sheep races should happen to become the rage. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 183 Whether all the present diversities of the sheep race are descended from one original pair or not. 1782 W. H. Marshall *Norfolk* (1795) II. 320 Cawston *Sheepshow. *Ibid.* 323 The greatest 'sheep-show' in the country. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 309 *Sheep-stocks have been found more profitable than goats. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 44 Take two pounde of *shepe suet molten. 15.. *Scheip tawcht [see Tallow *sb.* 1 a]. 1772 Graves *Spir. Quix.* (1820) II. 183 Jerry then looked about and found a *sheep-track. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xv, A path, or rather a sheep-track. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 92 *Sheep-trotters, and other offal. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* I. xv. (1782) I. 84 A huge fricassee of sheep-trotters.

c. = Having to do with the rearing, keeping, or feeding of sheep, for the use of sheep, as *sheep-barn*, *-boy*, *-common*, etc.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 42 The remaining twenty-four..were put in the *sheep-barn. 1842 S. C. Hall *Ireland* II. 81 The *sheep-boy saw him go in. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xix, Pipe, happy sheep-boy, Love! 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 277 He advised the turning of the Wash of a *Sheep-common to the Roots of the Trees. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 31/2 Ten thousand acres of first-class *sheep country. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 108 The inclosures on *sheep downs. *Ibid.* II. 777 Where the weld does not succeed, a portion of *sheep-feed may be afforded for winter and spring use. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 18 Thou shalte not nede to bye any hurdels nor *shepe flekes. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 39 The field may be effectually subdivided by sheep-flakes, or hurdles. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 350 Intended either for a crop of seed, or for *sheep-food. 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. fol. xv, What *shepe ground scapeth these Caterpyllers of the commune weale? 1743 *Sel. Trans. Improvers Agric.* 148 The Sheep Ground abounds with many Springs of good Water. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 273 The minute eggs may..exist in the stagnant atmosphere of the sheep-ground. 1830 *Cumbld. Farm Rep.* 55 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Hay, in *sheep-haicks or cribs, is given along with turnips. 1417–18 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 302 Pro staures emptis pro *shepehekkys apud le Holme. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 28 Lands ..brought into cultivation for the production of *sheep-keep. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 339 The *sheep-land at Appleford..is subject to the staggers. 1606 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 281 To reduce the *shepe markett thither to a place certayne. 1611 Bible *John* v. 2 There is at Hierusalem by the sheep market, a poole. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 37 That man, that hath the best *shepe pasture for wynter. 1782 Crevecœur *Lett.* 127 Several hundred of sheep-pasture titles have since been divided on those different tracks. *c* 1830 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. i. 22 When the land was in poor sheep-pasture. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* i. 13 The dull *sheep-ponds scattered here and there. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 142 The Gospel testifies of a *Sheep-Pool [John v. 2]. 1845 Browning *Flight of Duchess* ii, Where..*sheep-range leads to cattle-tract. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 150 The land is divided as follows: Tilled land,..roads, pasture, and sheep range. 1600 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 48 For *shepe salve the third of December, iiij d. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 351 *Sheep-salve*, tar-and-grease for dressing sheep with. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 411 A *sheep-station in the interior [of Australia]. 1733 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* x. 103 Five Pound each (which is but a Third of the Weight of the large size of *Sheep-Turneps). 1809 J. Lawrence *Treat. Cattle* 294 To every farm yard ought to be attached a *sheep yard, or home fold, completely fenced in. 1842 Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* II. 387, I will only add my testimony in favour of sheep-yard dung. 1634 W. Wood *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 54 In an ill *sheepe-yeare I have knowne Mutton as deere in Old-England.

d. objective and objective genitive, as *sheep-breeder*, *-clipper*, *-grazier*, *-grazing*, etc.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 356/2 This is an important consideration with the *sheep-breeder. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxv. 7, I haue herde saye that thou hast *shepe clyppers. 1875 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. XI. 103 *Sheep-clipping is another part of the piece-work system at Knettishall. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 30 The Kentish *sheep-graziers of Romney Marsh. 1795 in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 531 The *sheep-holders were persuaded to make a trial of a larger boned stronger sheep. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Sheep-holder*, a cradle or table to hold a sheep while being shorn. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 309 That practice..is common among the *sheep-jobbers. 1688 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1817) LXXXVII. ii. 603 Our *sheep-jobing trade. 1604 Babington *Comf. Notes Exod.* iii. 11 Jethro his *Sheepe-keeper. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 282 Thocht he var nocht leirned..mair nor he that new come fra the *schip keiping. 1819 Rees *Cycl.*, *Sheep-Lamber*,..the person who has the..management of the ewe-flocks, which are under the state of lambing. *c* 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 21 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The dung..made in the *sheep-lambing fold. 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. fol. xv, Howe do the rych men, and specially suche as be *shepemongers oppresse the kynges lyege people by deuouryng theyr commune pastures wyth theyr shepe? 1707 J. Shirley *Triumph of Wit* 205 A *Sheep-napper, whose Trade is so deep, If he's caught in the Corn, he's mark'd for a Sheep. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 365/1 This is a view of the case which should never be forgotten by the *sheep-owner. 1865 E. Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 112 The largest *sheep-raiser in England. 1832 *Encycl. Amer.* XI. 352 *Sheep-Raising. 1880 *Victorian Rev.* I. 660 Had not the soil been well adapted to sheep-raising of the highest order. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 805 An old *Sheepe-whistling Rogue. 1681 in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) II. 111 They are no more to be reclaimed than a *Sheep-Worrier. 1873 G. C. Davies *Mount. & Mere* x. 72 A fierce and savage dog, a confirmed sheep-worrier. 1903 R. Bridges *Wintry Delights* 122 That *Sheep-worry of Europe, when pigmy Napoleon enter'd Her sovereign chambers. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 417 They hang down their heads like dogs convicted of *sheep-worrying.

e. instrumental and adverbial, as *sheep-browsed*, *sheep-white*, etc.

1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 5 The *sheep-browsed slopes. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 331 Up the round hill, *sheep-dotted, was his way. 1808 Batchelor *Agric. Bedford* 450 The other part [*sc.* of a field]..was sown down upon *sheep-fed rye in June. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* III. ii, Kelly-laws *sheep-nibbled top. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* II. 147 He went out for a stroll on a *sheep-trimmed down. 1828 Hood *Town & Country* xv, No *sheep-white hill my dwelling flanks.

8. Special comb.: **sheep-back** = *roche moutonnée* (see Moutonnée); **† sheep bar**, a kind of hurdle on which sheep are laid to be clipped; **sheep-bell**, a bell hung on a sheep's neck (see Bell-wether); **sheep-berry**, the North American tree, *Viburnum Lentago*, or its fruit, which is fancied to resemble sheep-droppings; **sheep-book**, a book of accounts in which are entered the particulars relating to flocks of sheep; **sheep-bot (fly)**, the bot-fly *Œstrus ovis*; **† sheep-brand** = Sheep-mark 1; **sheep-bug**, one of the genus *Argas* of mites, infesting sheep; **† sheep-counter**, a counter or token used in counting sheep (cf. Shaks. *Wint. Tale* IV. iii. 38); **† sheep-crook**, a shepherd's crook; **sheep-dip**, (*a*) = Sheep-wash 2; (*b*) a place where sheep are washed; so **sheep-dipping**; **sheep-dog**, (*a*) a dog that tends sheep; *spec.* one or other of the varieties trained for this purpose, as the Scotch collie, and the bob-tailed English sheep-dog; cf. *shepherd's dog*; (*b*) *fig.* a chaperon; **sheep drain**, an open drain cut in grass-land about 18 inches wide by 18 inches deep; **† sheep-drunk** *a.* (see quot. and cf. note s. v. Liondrunk); **sheep-fag** (see Fag *sb.*[3]); **sheep-farm**, a tract of land devoted to sheep-rearing; so **sheep-farm** *v.*, **sheep-farmer**, **-farming**; **sheep-fly**, (*a*) = Sheep-tick; (*b*) a fly, *Lucilia sericata*, infesting live sheep; **sheep-fodder plant**, a South African plant, *Pentzia virgata* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **sheep-foil** *Hunting*, a foiling (see Foil *v.*[1] 2) of the track by sheep; **† sheep-furred** *a.*, trimmed with sheep's wool; **sheep gad-fly**, *Œstrus ovis*; **† sheep-garth**, a sheepfold; **sheep-gate**, (*a*) [Gate *sb.*[2] 8] pasturage, or the right of pasturage, for sheep (or a sheep); (*b*) [Gate *sb.*[1]] a gate for the passage of sheep; a hurdle for enclosing sheep; **sheep glue piece** (see quot.); **sheep-head**, a sheep-walk; **sheep-herder** *U.S.*, one who herds sheep in large numbers in unfenced country; **† sheep-hound** = *sheep-dog*; **sheep-kill** = *sheep-laurel*; **† sheep-killing pennygrass**, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*; **sheep-laurel**, a North American shrub, *Kalmia angustifolia*, supposed to be very poisonous to sheep; cf. *lamb-kill*; **sheep-lease** *dial.*, a sheepwalk; **sheep-meat** *Western U.S.*, mutton (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1860); **sheep-money** = *sheep-silver*; **sheep-net**, a net for confining sheep upon turnips; **† sheep-nose-worm**, the larva of the sheep-bot; **sheep-penny** = *sheep-money*; **sheep-pest**, (*a*) a common Australian weed, *Acæna ovina*, the hooked spines of which catch in the wool of sheep (Morris *Austral Eng.* 1898); (*b*) = Sheep-tick (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898); **sheep-plant** = *vegetable sheep* (sense 1 c); **sheep-pock**, **-pox**, a form of smallpox to which sheep are subject; **sheep-poison**, (*a*) = *sheep-laurel*; (*b*) *Lupinus densiflorus* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **sheep-rack**, (*a*) a rack from which sheep feed; (*b*) a sheep-house; (*c*) the starling; **sheep-rake**, a sheep-walk or sheep-track; **sheep-ree**, a permanent sheepfold; **† sheep-reeve**, a chief shepherd; **sheep-rot**, (*a*) the rot in sheep, caused by the presence of flukes in the liver; (*b*) a name for plants supposed to cause disease in sheep, as butterwort and marsh pennywort; **sheep-run** orig. *Austral.*, = Sheep-walk; **sheep-scab**, a skin-disease of sheep due to an acarus; **sheep-seaweed** (see quot.); **sheep-sick** *a.* (see quot.); **sheep-silver** (see quots.); **sheep-sleight** [Sleight *sb.*[3]] = *sheep-gate* (*a*); **sheep-smearing**, the smearing of sheep with tar to kill vermin; also, a kind of tar used for this purpose; **sheep-sorrel** = *sheep's sorrel* (see 9); **† sheep-stead**, **-steading** *Sc.*, a sheep-farm; **sheep-stray**, liberty of sheep to graze on a tract of land; **sheep wagtail**, a bird of the genus *Budytes*; **† sheep-ward**, a shepherd; **† sheep-water** = Sheep-wash 2; **† sheep-weald**, sheep-pasture; **sheep-weed**, soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis* (Syd. Soc. Lex.); **sheep-wool** = *sheep's wool* (see 9).

1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* x. 162 The flat-domed hummocks of rock produced in this way are termed *sheep-backs or *roches moutonnées*. 1557 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 101, ij. axletrees, withe other *shepe barres and hustlement. 1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. *shepebell, jd. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxiv, The faint tinkling of a sheep-bell, and..the bleat of flocks. 1872 Ellacombe *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* ix. 261 [He] was in the habit of tuning, to exact musical scale, the sheep bells of many of his agricultural friends. 1814 Pursh *Flora Amer. Septentr.* II. 709 *Sheep-berry. *Viburnum prunifolium.* 1847 Darlington *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 162 *Viburnum Lentago*...Sweet Viburnum. Sheep-berry. 1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 84 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The waste-books, consisting of a corn-book, cash-book, *sheep-book. 1819 *Sheep bot-fly [see Bot 3]. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 871/2 In the larva of the sheep-bot..there are thirteen segments. 1862 T. W. Harris *Insects injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 624 The sheep bot-fly (*Cephalemyia ovis*) lays its eggs in the nostrils of sheep. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 241 If they be not.. agreeing with the conformity..of Blazon..they may vse them as *sheepbrands. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 1 John* ii. 18 Children may be easily cozened, and made to take a *sheep-counter for an angel, because broader and brighter. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 327 A* shepe-crook in hys hand he sparyd for no pryde. 1600 Surflet *Country Farm* I. xxv. 158 He must whoop and whistle after them, threatning them with his sheepe-crooke. 1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* 70 Who shall now the royal sheep-crook hold,.. who now secure the fold? 1865 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. I. 51 An 'extract of tobacco', manufactured..for the making of '*sheep-dips'. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* s. v. *Sheep-wash*, The place where the sheep are washed, also called the 'sheep-dip'. 1852 *Trans. Highl. Soc.* 418 *Sheep-dipping apparatus. 1887 J. Coleman *Cattle*, etc. *Gt. Brit.* 281 The value of sheep dipping, both as affecting health, removing vermin, and favouring wool growth. *a* 1774 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1777) III. i. 200 The faithful *sheep-dog assists in tending our flocks. 1844 W. C. Spooner *Sheep* 295 The sheep-owner should never keep a savage sheep-dog. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxvii, A sheep-dog—a companion! Becky Sharp with a companion! 1897 Violet Hunt *Unkist, Unkind!* ix, Philip's sister couldn't manage to get away from Buxton just now, so here I am, without any sheep-dog at all. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 497 When the grass is smooth and the soil pretty deep, this is an economical mode of making such drains, which have received the appellation of *sheep drains. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 82 The fourth [kind of drunkard] is *Sheepe drunke, wise in his own conceipt, when he cannot bring forth a right word. 1789 A. Young in *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) XVII. 348/2 The *hippobosca ovina*, called in Lincolnshire *sheep fagg. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 172 The *sheep-farms in the higher districts. 1861 *Times* 27 Sept., English farmers who come expressly to till and *sheep-farm. 1809 J. Lawrence

Treat. Cattle 314 The least enlightened *sheep farmers of France. *Ibid.*, The various plans of *sheep-farming. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* I. xi. 934 The Tick or *Sheep-fly. 1902 *Nature* 7 Aug. 352 The life-history of the sheep-fly (*Lucilia sericata*). 1842 APPERLEY *Life of Sportsman* xiv, For a moment a *sheep-foil now baffles the scent. 1597 BRETON *Wit's Trenchmour* (Grosart) 17/1 His *sheepefurd short gowne. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Zool.* (1813) III. 308 The *sheep gad-fly. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 34/17 Y^e *Sheepgarth, *ouile*. 1537–8 *Cartul. Abb. de Rievalle* (Surtees) 352 Two messes..with all the *shepe-gates and common of pasture. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdr.* [*Neh.*] iii. 1 Eliasib the hye prest..buylded the Shepegate. 1569 T. WILSON *Disc. Usury* (1584) 97 For tillage, [they] vse sheepegates, where no men are maintained. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 109 What is a Cowe, Oxe, Horse, or sheepe-gate woorth by the yeere, or by the weeke. *c* 1882 Jos. LUCAS *Stud. Nidderdale* iii. 7 'Sheep-gates'..are let..with each farm. 1883 J. Y. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-pickers* 47 A lodging for hoppers .. constructed by means of sheep-gates thatched with straw. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Sheep-glue Pieces* and *Fleshings*, cuttings of sheep skins saved for making glue. 1844 *Min. Evid. Sel. Comm. Commons' Inclosure* 26 The want of accurate knowledge as to the right of stinting in the *sheep-heafs. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 210 *Sheepherder. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 25 One melting drift has revealed the body of a frozen sheep-herder. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 244 *Sheep-herding is supposed by those who have never followed it to be an easy, idle, lazy way of procuring a livelihood. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea-Voy.* IV. i, They hang their most dejected heads, Like fearful *sheephounds. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XXV. 38 Y^e base Almaignes do call it Penninckcruyt: in English *Sheepe killing Pennygrasse. [1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxliii. 424 Water Pennywoort..Sheepes killing Penny-grasse, Penny rot,..White rot.] 1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 296 *Kalmia ovata*..,known by the name of *Sheep Laurel, being considered very poisonous when fed upon by sheep. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 324, I am told, that in Dorsetshire the aim of the farmers is, to fold on their *sheep-leases in the middle of July. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 55 There was nothing new, neither head money, nor *sheepe money, nor escuage. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 321 They pay the ox and sheep money that was granted as a compliment to the Earl of Bothwell. 1794 J. WILSON *Agric. Surv. Renfr.* (1812) 147 (Jam.), [He] has fed annually about 300 or 400 Highland sheep on his turnip fields by using *sheep-nets for folding. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 72 Sheep-nets run about 50 yards in length, when set, and weigh about 14 lb. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Sheep-nose-worms..a species of fly-worm, found in the noses of sheep, goats, and stags. 1774 G. Low *Tour Orkney & Shetl.* (1879) 75 [The Schetlanders] tell us they are subjected to..the *Sheep-penny, the tax on Sheep. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 461 Whether the cow-pock will preserve sheep from the *sheep-pock is yet undecided. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 374 *Kalmia angustifolia*. Narrow-leaved Laurel. *Sheep-poison. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) II. 497 The *sheep-pox so closely resembles the scab, that it is not known in this country as a separate disease. 1594 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. (1907) I. 266, I suffered..my servant to carrie a *sheeperacke to the pasture on the Sabboth daie. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. XXV. 153 Setting it [*sc.* the sheephouse] round about with mangers or sheepe-racks of a low pitch for to fodder them in. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 18 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A salt-trough, and a sheep-rack for hay, should be found with every flock. 1653 *N. Riding Rec.* V. 139 For unjustly takeinge and driving away fiftie sheep of the Common *sheep-rak of Great Crakeall. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 213 It is a very poor country..being only mosses and sheep rakes. 1793 *Carlop Green* (1817) 174 The found o' a *sheep-ree. 1824 [see REE *sb.*[3]]. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xli, To be penned like one of a score of hogs in a granite sheep-ree. 1450 (20 Dec.) FASTOLF in *Paston Lett.*, The wrong takyng..my shepe..for declaracioun in whate wyse he dyd it, John Bele my *sheperefe can enforme you best. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lii. 1 Doeg, who was the Kinges sheepreeve [1 Sam. xxi. 7]. 1641 J. DAY *Parl. Bees* XI. G 3, Keeper of King Obrons Groves, Sheepreeve of his flocks and Droves. 1552 HULOET, *Shepe rot, *Iues ouilis*. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sheep-rot*, butterwort or Yorkshire sanicle. 1844 W. C. SPOONER *Sheep* 401 We cannot limit the cause of rot to eating the sheep-rot weed. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1024 In the sheep *D[istomum] *hepaticum* gives rise to the important epizootic known as 'sheep-rot'. 1826 GOLDIE in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 157 [The land near Circular Head] is..a good *sheep run. 1862 COLENSO *Pentateuch* I. 59 In Australia, some sheep-runs are estimated to carry one sheep to an acre. 1894 *Act* 57 & 58 *Vict.* c. 57 § 59 Foot-and-mouth disease, sheep-pox, *sheep-scab, or swine-fever. 1895 M. C. POTTER tr. *Warming's Syst. Bot.* 84 *Rhodymenia palmata*..is also used as food for sheep and hence is termed '*Sheep-seaweed'. 1895 *Leader* 3 Aug. 6/1 (Morris *Austral Eng.*), That certain country in which severe losses have occurred in recent years has been too long carrying sheep, and that the land has become what is termed '*sheep sick'. ?1*a*.. *Reg. Alb. Bur.* (MS.) 53 in Kennett *Cowel's Interpr.*, De *Schepsilver sc. pro vi. ovibus 1*d*. 1675 SIR W. JONES *Reports* 280 Sheepsilver..is a service now turned into money, which is paid, in respect that anciently the tenants used to wash their lords sheep. 1809 R. KERR *Agric. Berw.* XV. 414 A yearly allowance in money..from 30*s*. to 40*s*. each, in name of sheep-silver, being a commutation of an ancient permission of keeping a few sheep upon the farm. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 198 The compliment of an ox and twelve sheep from every parish had..been granted to the Earl of Bothwell. It was..converted into a perpetual tribute, under the name of ox and sheep silver. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 328 If they would..send them abroad for a month..into the vale-lands..and would fold on their *sheep-slates. 1813, 1854 [see SLEIGHT *sb.*[3]]. 1851 *Dorset Gloss.*, *Sheep-slite*, sheep's pasture or walk. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Rinner*,..butter melted with tar, for *sheep-smearing. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. xi. 408 His hands..bore most legible marks of a recent sheep-smearing. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 517 Tar, produced by burning the dead wood and most resinous parts of the long-leaved pine in covered kilns, is graded as follows: 'Rope yellow'..—the highest grade..; 'Roany', or 'Ship smearing'—the next running of the kiln. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 225 The dicœcious flowers of *Sheep-sorrel (*Rumex Acetosella* and *R. Acetosa*). 1581 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1888) 83/2 Lympottis et lie *Scheipsteidis. 1612 *Ibid.* (1892) 239/2 Lie scheipsteidis, pasturas, predia et privilegia pasturarum. 1566–7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 501 The twa *scheip stedingis pertening and adjacent thairto. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 10 The tenant is privileged to enjoy the liberty of free *sheep-stray. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* II. 290 The Velvet-headed or *Sheep Wagtail (*Budytes melanocephalus*). 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* xvii, Saul knew not David, being perhaps in a *shepwards habite. 1650 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* 1. *Mount of Olives* ii, What need The sheep bleat thee a silly Lay, That heard'st both reed And sheepward play? *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 344 The *sheep-water to kill the scab. 1634 in *Rutland Mag.* (1905) II. 71 For *sheep wealde in fforest of Lee xs. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* III. 490/1 Black and blue broad coating, *sheep-wool face, alpaca-wool back. 1883 ADDERLEY *Fisheries Bahamas* 7 The sheep-wool sponge brings quite as high a price in markets as the Turkish variety of same. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 6/3 The strong odour of sheep-wool tells you of the flocks grazing..on its hills and plains.

9. Combinations with *sheep's*, †*sheeps*(-) (often varying with combs. of *sheep*, see 7 and 8), as *sheep's bell*, *-belly*, *-dung*, *-gather* (see GATHER *sb.*[2]), *-pelt*, *-pluck* (PLUCK *sb.*[1] 6), *sleight*, *-tallow*, *-trotters*; **sheep's bane**, marsh pennywort, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, in the West Indies *H. umbellata*; **sheep's beard**, the genus *Urospermum* (*Arnopogon*); **sheep's bit** (scabious) = *sheep's scabious*; †**sheep's-colour**, the colour of unbleached sheep's wool; †**sheep's course**, a sheep-walk; †**sheep's feet** *Naut.*, a kind of stay; **sheep's fescue** (grass), see FESCUE *sb.* 4; **sheep's foot**, (*a*) the foot of a sheep; †(*b*) a kind of claw-hammer; **sheep's gut**(*s* = CATGUT; **sheep's heart**, put symbolically for 'a timid person'; †**sheep's herd** = SHEPHERD; †**sheep's leather**, leather made from sheepskin; **sheep's parsley**, ? hedge parsley; †**sheep's pellet**, sheep's dung; †**sheep's russet**, russet such as was worn by shepherds; **sheep's scabious**, *Jasione montana*; †**sheep's silver**, mica; †**sheep's snout**, a variety of apple; **sheep's sorrel**, *Rumex Acetosella*; **sheep's tongue**, (*a*) the tongue of a sheep used for food; (*b*) a kind of bugloss; **sheep's-wool**, (*a*) wool from the fleece of a sheep; (*b*) a West Indian sponge, *Spongia equina*, var. *gossypina*; (*c*) *sheep's-wool fat*, lanoline (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898). For *sheep's louse*, *sheepsman*, *sheep's skin*, *sheep's tick*, see SHEEP-LOUSE, etc.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxliii. 425 A kinde of Nauelwoort, ..which is called of the husbandman *Sheepesbane. 1861 MRS. LANKESTER *Wild Fl.* 61 Marsh Pennywort..known as Pennygrass, White-rot, Fluke-wort, and Sheep's-bane. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 666 *Arnopogon*. *Sheep's Beard. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* XXX, Distant and faint tinkling, less loud than that of a *sheep's bell at a mile's distance. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. vii. 132/2 *Sheeps Belly, or Intrels, the puddings called strings, or Rope. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* II. 248 [Iasione montana] Hairy Sheeps Scabious. ..Scabious *Sheepsbit. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 124/2 Sheep's-bit-Scabious. *Jasione montana.* 1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 23 Anye other color..then..watchett *shepes color lyon color. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1885) 89 The King being in his doublet and hosen only,..all of sheep's colour cloth. 1623 T. SCOT *Highways of God* 76 Euery Farme, euery trade, euery *Sheepes-course is his. 1552 HULOET, *Shepes dunge or tyrdles, *rudus*. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 67 Sheeps-dung is very excellent being dissolved wholly..to steep Grain therein. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 *Schepes fete, *pied de mouton*. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 Sheeps feet is a stay in setling a top mast, and a guie in staying the tackles when they are charged with goods. 1759 B. STILLINGFLEET *Misc. Tracts* (1791) 390 Hills where the purple and *sheep's fescue,..and the silver hair grasses abound. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 20 The *Sheeps-Foot is..of Iron, with a Hammer-head at one end, to drive the Ball-Nails into the Ball-Stocks, and a Claw at the other end, to draw the Ball-Nails out. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Sheep's-foot Trimmer*, a pair of shears or cutting-pinchers to trim the excessive growth of the hoof. 1888 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* 266 Sheep's-foot oil is obtained ..from the feet of sheep. It resembles neat's-foot oil. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Corée, ou fressure*, a *sheepes gather. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 61 Is it not strange that *sheepes guts should hale soules out of mens bodies? 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s. v. *Viol d'amour*, a viol, or violin, furnished with six brass or steel wires, instead of sheep's-gut. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. i. 444 And this way wil I take vpon mee to wash your Liuer as cleane as a sound *sheepes heart. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, I tell thee, man, fear nothing,..Why, thou sheep's heart, how do ye ken but we may can pick up some speerings of your valise? *c* 1200 ORMIN 3595 Dauipp..þa wass he *shepess hirde. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 401 No maner of lether but *Shepis lether, Gettes lether. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 58 A headstall of sheepes leather. 1896 'J. O. HOBBES' *Herb-Moon* 1 *Sheep's-parsley—with its long green stems and white delicate flowers. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 *Schepys pylett.., *molestra*. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Schepes pellet or dong, *fient a brebis*. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Heb.* xi. 35 Stretched upon the rack, as a *sheepes-pelt is upon a drum-head. 1611 COTGR., *Fressure*, ..A *sheepes plucke. 1761 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 5 May, As if she had just bought a sheep's-pluck in St. James's market. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Percevall* 12, I am no Ape Carrier, I pray you defile not my *sheeps russet Coate, with your dirtie shoes yet. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1632) 446 All..the richest silkes..are as lawfull for vs, as .. sheepes-russet. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 263 They were clothed in sheeps-russet. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxiii. 109 The third [kind of scabious] is called in English *Sheepes Scabious: in French *Scabieuse de brebis*. 1814 JAMIESON *Illustr. Northern Antiq.* 401 The walls and roof, which were..incrusted with *sheeps-silver and spar. 1847 HALLIWELL, **Sheep's-slite*, sheep's pasture, or walk. *Dorset*. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Aug. 72 The Seaming Apple, Cushion Apple,..*Sheeps-snout. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. ix. 558 *Sheepes Sorrel loueth dry soyles. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxx. 320 *Oxalis tenuifolia*, Sheepes Sorrell. 1745 *Season. Advice Prot.* (ed. 2) 18 Nothing now appears but loose Stones and Sheeps Sorrel. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* xi. 242 Among the marshes, I found..both the common and sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosa* and *R. acetosella*). *c* 1400 *Schepis talow [see TALLOW *sb.* 1 β]. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Fistula* 92 Þan ow þou for to putte with þe oile as war þrid parte of schepez talow. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 77 Do þer to þe jus of synygrene and shepes tarowe [*read* talowe]. 1552 HULOET, *Shepes tongue herbe, *agniglossa*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. iii. 7 The fifth [kind of Bugloss] is the wilde Buglosse, or Sheepes tongue. 1641 MURREL *Cookerie* (ed. 5) 23 A made dish of Sheepes tongues. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s. v. *Tongue*, Pigs'-tongues, sheep's tongues, calves'-tongues. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 139 *Sheepes trotters, porknells, and butterd rootes. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 May (1815) 82 Paunceford once resided in a garret; where he subsisted upon sheep's-trotters and cow-heel. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 11 May 15/1, 3d. worth of sheep's trotters. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* App. 297 The bodies..wrap'd up..in *sheeps-wool. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Industr. U. S. A.* 53 The finest quality of American Sponge is the Sheepswool.

10. Passing into *adj.* **a.** (in early use also *sheep's*; cf. SHEEP'S EYE.) Sheep-like, sheepish.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vi. (1869) 70 Hither will he repaire with a sheepes looke full grim. 1807 SIR R. WILSON 13 May in *Life* (1862) II. 212 With a sheep face and faltering voice.

b. In parasynthetic formations (and their derivatives), chiefly with reference to the timidity or stupidity of the sheep, as *sheep-faced*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-spirited*, *-witted* adjs.; also † *sheep-hued* adj., of the colour of a sheep's fleece.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1070 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv, A scheip hewit clock to cover his cleathis. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* B 6 b, Those simple Sheepeheaded fooles. 1629 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. ii, Sheepe-spirited Boy, although he had not married me, He might haue proferd kindnesse in a corner. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. i, A vile sheep-hearted blockhead! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXVII, The most modest, silent, sheep-faced and meek of little men. 1852 C. W. HOSKYNS *Talpa* 44 The extraordinary sheep-sightedness of spade-and-mattock-wielding humanity. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* II. vii, General sheepfacedness ensued. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee Crt. K. Arth.* viii, The sheep-witted earl who could claim long descent from a King's leman.

Sheep, *v. local.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To weed or to dung (land) by pasturing sheep upon it.

1808 BATCHELOR *Agric. Bedford* 403 Beans..are generally *sheeped*, as it is termed, or weeded by the folding flock. 1856 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVII. I. 136 It [a field] had been sheeped all the summer, but not dunged from the fold. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Yr.* (1899) 101 The best chance of turning it into a really sound pasture is to sheep it heavily.

Shee·p-bi·ter. [Cf. WFris. *skieppebiter* in sense 1.]

1. A dog that bites or worries sheep. (Also *attrib.*) ? *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* M viij b, Lyke shepe byter curres to snach vp and it wear but a sory lambe for their prey. 1575 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 25 Not shepherds, but sheepebyters & woolues which spare not the Lords flocke. 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* (Grosart) 9/2 No slouen, sluggard, nor sheep-biter dogge. 1664 *Homer A la Mode* 39 Their eares like sheep-biters they hang'd. 1831 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 418 The public..are running in upon them as at the last hour of a parish sheep-biter.

†**2.** *fig.* **a.** ? A malicious or censorious fellow. **b.** A shifty, sneaking, or thievish fellow. (Cf. SHEEP-BITING *ppl. a.* below.) *Obs.*

1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* 17 b, What say you to that zealous sheepebyter of your owne edition in Cambridge. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 6 Wouldst thou not be glad to haue the niggardly Rascally sheepe-biter, come by some notable shame? 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 40, I was fain sometimes to put on a little impudence, that I might avoid the suspicion of a gelding or a sheep-biter. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCCXXX. 288 There are Political Sheep-biters as well as Pastoral; Betrayers of Publique Trusts, as well as of Private. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sheep-biter*, a poor, sorry, sneaking, ill-lookt Fellow. 1778 SHERIDAN *Camp* I. i, I'll throttle you, you sheep-biter.

†**3.** A great mutton-eater. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 37 Then the sly sheepe-biter issued into the midst. 1640 *Wandering Jew* 38 The Character of the Glutton..a tormenter of Poultry,..a terrible Sheep-biter; a horrible Mutton-monger.

†**4.** One who runs after 'mutton'; a woman-hunter, whoremonger. *Obs.*

1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* III. i, I wish all such old sheepebiters might alwaies dippe their fingers in such sauce to their mutton. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 56 You shall see an old sheep-biter..with a slavering lip, a bleare-eye.., courting of a comely Lady. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 345 You that are plying for Sheepbiters here, And hope to sell your Mutton Loyns so dear.

So **Shee·p-bi·ting** *vbl. sb.* (*rare*); †*ppl. a.*, given to biting or worrying sheep; *fig.* thieving, sneaking (in Scott an echo of Shaks.).

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i, 359 Show your sheepebiting face, and be hang'd an houre. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. ii. (1630) 22 Sheepe-biting Mungrels. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* V. iv, How like a sheep-biting Rogue taken i'th' manner, And ready for the halter dost

thou look now! 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 209 To cure a Dog of Sheep-biting. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxix, That pitiful sheep-biting visage of thine.

Sheepcot (ʃī·pkɒt). Forms: see SHEEP *sb.* and COT *sb.*[1] = next.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 734/1 *Hec barcaria*, i. *ovile*, a schepcott. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 There faldis, scheip cottis and ludgens. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. cii, That Sheep-cot,..I rather would my Palace wish to bee, Then any roofe, of proudest Maiestie. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 61 The utility of sheep-cots on a store-farm. 1872 JENKINSON *Engl. Lake District* 74 A sheepcot at the head of the glen.

Sheepcote (ʃī·pkōut). [f. SHEEP *sb.* + COTE *sb.*[1]] A slight building for sheltering sheep; a sheep-house.

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 60/2 None housynge left stondynge ther on, but gif it were a Shepecote. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 48 Make clene your shepcote. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Howe the douty Duke of Albany*, etc. 266 As it were a gote In a shepe cote. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 72 Wher hath byn many housys and churchys,..now you schal fynd no thyng but schypcotys and stabullys. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 201 To pen them up in a Barn or large Sheep-coat. 1785 BURNS *Winter Night* v, The blood-stain'd roost, and sheep-cote spoil'd. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses on Var. Occas.* (1868) 281 The last are first, the first are last,..These from the sheep-cote sternly cast, Those welcomed to the fold.

† **Sheeped**, *ppl. a. Obs.*—[1] [f. SHEEP *sb.* + -ED.] ? Made spiritless as a sheep.

1626 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* xx. ix. *Hezekiah & Sennach.*, With shame and grief enough, is that sheeped tyrant returned to his Nineveh; having left behind him all the pride..of Assyria, for compost to the Jewish fields.

Sheepfold (ʃī·pfōuld). [f. SHEEP + FOLD *sb.*[2]]

1. A pen or enclosure for sheep.

[*c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 1 Se þe ne gæð æt þam gete into sceapa falde]. *a* 1430 *Wyclif's Bible, Num.* xxxii. 16 (MS. C.C.C.) Sheep foldis. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 130 þer doggis at kepid þer shepefald. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 18 It is tyme to set out the shepefolde in May. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* v. 16 Why abodest thou among the sheepefolds, to heare the bleatings of the flocks? 1668 COWLEY *Several Disc.* iv. *Hor. Ep.* 52 To pin the sheepfold. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 290 The sheep-fold here Pours out its fleecy tenants o'er the glebe. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 142 Sowing barley on a recently-ploughed sheepfold.

attrib. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xxxviii, A sheep-fold bleat.

b. *fig.*, esp. in a spiritual sense.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Ep. Ded. *ij b, Many lying seers,..vnder Lambes skinnes, craftely crept into the sheepfold. 1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 75 The scheipfald of Christ. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 136 The Prince of all Shepheards whose sheepefold is the world. 1851 RUSKIN (*title*) Notes on the construction of Sheepfolds [*i.e.* churches]. 1868 E. YATES *Rock Ahead* II. iv, The man who had dared..to invade the sanctity of her sheepfold and carry off one of her pet lambs.

† **2.** A flock of sheep; = FOLD *sb.*[2] I c. *Obs.*

1590 T. WATSON *Eglogue* fin., Poems (Arb.) 175 Lets hence, and shut our sheepfolds in their coat.

Hence † **Sheepfold** *v.*, † **Sheepfolding** *vbl. sb.*

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ix. 21 If they be therewithall Sheepe-folded and ground-fedde with ruminant Cattell. *Ibid.* x. 23 The sheepe-folding and foddering.

Sheephead, obs. var. SHEEP'S-HEAD.

Sheephe(a)rd, obs. var. SHEPHERD.

Shee·p-hook. Now *rare.* [See HOOK *sb.* 6.] A shepherd's crook.

Also *fig.* with reference to a spiritual shepherd; and symbolically (often opposed to *scepire*) of the shepherd's calling or the office of a bishop.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 562/28 *Agulus*, shephoke. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 41 A shepeherde shoulde not go without ..his shepe hoke. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxii. 4 Thy staffe & thy shepehoke comforte me. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 103 Dametas..was teching him how with his sheephooke to catch a wanton Lambe. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 431 Thou a Scepters heire, That thus affects a sheepe-hooke? 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 78 The Pastorly Rod, and Sheep-hooke of Christ. 1679 *Establ. Test.* 16 They who were grown so hardened in Mischief, to attempt ..upon the Scepter, would never..have scrupled at the Sheephook. 1715 GAY *What D'ye Call It* II. viii, Churns, sheep-hooks, seas of milk, and honey mountains. 1828 S. ROGERS *Italy* II. *A Char.* 29 Inherit they a sheep-hook or a sceptre. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sheep-hook*, a shepherd's crook for catching sheep by the legs.

Shee·p-house. Now *rare.* [Cf. MDu. *schaep(s)-huus*, OHG. *scâfhûs* (G. *schafhaus*).] A covered pen for the housing of sheep.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 105/12 *Ouile*, sceapahus.] *c* 1410 *MS. Douce* 335 fo. 72 b, Ony house, that ony beest vseth out or go oute at.., that is to say swynhouse, nethous, shephous. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 670/29 *Hec barcaria*, schepehouse. ?1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xx. F j b, A shepehouse and .ij. or .iij. shepardes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 141, I haue seene some sheep houses so framed, as they haue had theyr gates toward the South, and towarde the Easte. 1614 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Nipping Abuses* F 1, Sheapheard swaines to sheephouse driues their sheep. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 100 Where you cannot fold Sheep, to have a Sheep-house to feed them in. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 71 The whole have hay.. in the sheep-house, on wet..nights. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 63 Och, it's only a wee bit of a sheephouse.

Shee·pified, *pa. pple.* Made sheep-like.

1812 COLERIDGE *Let. to his Wife* 24 Apr., His legs and hoofs are more than half sheepified.

† **Shee·piness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SHEEPY *a.* + -NESS.] Meanspiritedness.

1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xi. (1665) 68 Humility then you see is not sheepiness, but loftiness of mind.

Sheepish (ʃī·piʃ), *a.* (*adv.*). Also 3 **shepiss(h)e**, 4 **schep-**, 4–6 **shepishe**, 6 **sheppeshe**, etc. [f. SHEEP *sb.* + -ISH. Cf. MDu. *schaepsch* (Du. *schaapsch*), G. *schäfisch*.]

1. † **a.** Of, pertaining to, or concerned with sheep; ovine. *Obs.* **b.** Resembling sheep or their characteristics. Now *rare.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Sume men..goð eche dai to chirche alse shep to uolde..and beð cleped shepisse men. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 763/2 For al their shepishe semblaunce outwardly, righte rauenous wolues are they within. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 114 Soche greate ones..in time paste, like bell-wethers, had led the sheppeshe flockes of England against their prince. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 1 b, Some [shepherds were] setting a bell for an ensigne of a sheepish squadron. 1611 STAFFORD *Niobe* II. 218 How to chuse the best tarre: ..how to excell in sheepish surgery. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. ii. 31 It is not a sheepish tendency, but an independent resolve growing out of our nature.

† **2. a.** Meek, innocent. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 6654 Niss he nohht hinnderrȝæp ne pratt..Acc iss shepisshe & bilewhit.

† **b.** Simple, silly. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 212 Queynte sleiȝtis to disceyue schepische men of worldly goodis. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 19 b, I haue reade ouer thy Sheepish discourse of the Lambe of God and his enemies, and entreated my patience to bee good to thee whilst I read it. 1613 MARSTON *Insat. C'tess* I. i. 10 Zounds what a sheepish beginning is here?..thou art a simple louer. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* vii. 169 Would not the English do you a kindness in that, you sheepish Fellow, you?

† **c.** Excessively meek or submissive, fearful or timorous; mean-spirited. *Obs.* exc. as implied in 3.

c 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) F v, While thou would behaue thee demure and pacient, Beware, be not remisse nor sheepish in no wise. 1659 MILTON *Free Commw.* 17 Monarchs..whose aim is to make the people, wealthy indeed perhaps and wel-fleec't..but..not only in fleece, but in minde also sheepishest. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* I. 93 We are happily tam'd and render'd thus mild and sheepish. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 13 ¶ 3 If the former was too furious, this was too sheepish, for his Part.

3. Bashful or awkward in the presence of others, esp. in society to which one is unaccustomed; embarrassed or out of countenance from an excess of shyness or diffidence.

1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 68 Being used constantly to the same Faces, and little Company, will, when he comes abroad, be a sheepish or conceited Creature. 1773 GOLDSM. *She Stoops* I. i, Sensible, good-natured; I like all that. But then reserved and sheepish; that's much against him. *a* 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 124 Bring an unlicked cub into company, and you will find him shy and sheepish;..uneasy in all situations. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxix, All the sheepish bashfulness common to those who have lived little in respectable society. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 369 Sheepish lads from the Universities. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* ix. (ed. 4) 170 And away she went, leaving Edward looking rather sheepish.

4. quasi-*adv.* and *adv.* = SHEEPISHLY.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1888) 187 It maketh him to shepish bashfull. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 629 Sheepish he doffs his hat.

Sheepishly (ʃī·piʃli), *adv.* [-LY[2].] In a sheepish manner; †like sheep; †meekly, timorously, or submissively to an excessive degree; with a bashful or embarrassed look or appearance.

1528 MORE *Dyalogue* IV. Wks. 281/2 We be sure ynough that wolues they be in dede, howe shepishlye soeuer they looke. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1598) 414 When the rest (who as sheepe had but followed their fellowes) so sheepishly had submitted themselues. 1612 W. MARTYN *Youths Instr.* 69 Not to bee foolishly desperate, nor sheepishly feareful. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxvii. (1665) 497 Those that are sheepishly led whither confident men will have them. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 102 Not that men are bound to look as sheepishly as they can, for fear of an imputation. 1714 POPE *Wife of Bath* 183 Billy, my dear, how sheepishly you look. Approach, my spouse, and let me kiss thy cheek. 1830 *Forrester* II. 147 The usual bows were exchanged, stiffly on the part of the peer, and sheepishly by Frederick. 1870 'A. R. HOPE' *My Schoolboy Fr.* xii, I hung about him, feeling sheepishly grateful.

Sheepishness (ʃī·piʃnės). [-NESS.] † Simplicity, stupidity; † timorousness; excessive bashfulness or diffidence.

1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* 62 To speake something with too much simplicitie..is a sheepishnesse. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* I. ii. 145 Your forged sheepishnes. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* xvi, Thy Gentrie bleats, as if thy native cloth Transfus'd a sheepishnesse into thy storie. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* xi. 3 Simplicity: the world cals it sillinesse, sheepishnesse. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 484 ¶ 5 Under the notion of modesty, men have indulged themselves in a spiritless sheepishness. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, A natural and rustic grace, with nothing of the sheepishness of an ordinary peasant. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* vi. 153 He is bashful, even to sheepishness.

Shee·pless, *a.* [-LESS.] Without sheep.

1868 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 217 The country was full of blossom, hedgeless, sheepless.

Shee·p-like, *a.* and *adv.* [-LIKE.]

A. *adj.* Resembling a sheep or that of a sheep; *esp.* in an unfavourable sense.

1596 NORDEN *Progr. Piety* (1847) 123 He did foresee hypocrisy Should lurk in godly weed, And wolvish guiles in sheep-like tire to lie. *a* 1633 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* iii. 6 Believers are subject to wrongs..for their sheep-like and dove-like disposition. 1851 RUSKIN *Sheepfolds* 12 Christ's sheep may be guessed at..by their sheep-like behaviour. 1871 BESANT & RICE *Ready-money Mort.* xiii, Men possess largely themselves the sheep-like propensity of following where one leads. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lx, The youth refused to kill himself with the sheeplike docility of so many of his contemporaries.

B. *adv.* Meekly, submissively, pusillanimously.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. 84 Shal I dy sheepe lyke, not taking kindlye reuengment? 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. ii. 3751 See now ye slaues, my children stoops your pride And leads your glories sheep-like to the sword.

Shee·pling. [-LING.] A young sheep. Also *fig.*

1654 [J. SPARROW] tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* xxviii. § 63 If the sheepling [orig. *Schäfflein*] shall offer to stir, and shew more then a sheepling of Christ. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xviii, Innocent flocks of more innocent sheeplings.

Shee·p-louse. Also † **sheep's louse**: see SHEEP *sb.* 9. [Cf. G. *schaflaus*, Du. *schaapsluis.*] A louse, *Trichodectes sphærocephalus*, which infests the wool of sheep. Also = SHEEP-TICK.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schepys lowce, *pego, askarida.* 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Schepes louce, *pov de mouton.* 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 706/29 *Hec ascarida*, a schep-lows. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 44 Bromesalue..shal..kyll the shepe lyce, and it shall not hurte the woll. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 190/1 Insects...Such as have no Wings, but eight Feet, as..Sheep Louse. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxiv. III. 473 *Melophagus*, the sheep-louse. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 152 Both these vermin are destroyed by the same means as the sheep-louse.

Shee·pman. Also 6 **sheepesman**, see SHEEP *sb.* 9. [f. SHEEP *sb.* + MAN *sb.*]

1. † A shepherd (*obs.*); *U.S.* a sheep-breeder or -owner; in Canada, a sheep-tender.

1591 A. FRAUNCE *C'tess Pembr. Iuychurch*, etc. L 3 b, Pan is good to the sheepe, and Pan is good to the sheepesman. 1620 QUARLES *Feast of Wormes* (1638) 7 In stead of Staffe, he tooke a Sheepmans weede. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 28 It is an especiall thinge to bee regarded of a sheepman to keepe goode tuppes. 1883 *American* VI. 382 For the small sheepmen, the shepherds, and above all, the herders, it is a terrible life. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 165 The sheep-men of Great Britain. 1890 HAYDON *Riders of Plains* (1910) 168 This fire is supposed to have been started by sheepmen in the hills.

2. ? A sheepstealer, rogue.

1640 BALFOUR *Sc. Ball.* 13 What change for valiant Cavilers of old To court with sheep-men, rogues, and swinzeours bold.

Shee·p-mark.

1. The mark used by a sheep-owner to distinguish his sheep, and app. formerly by illiterate persons as a substitute for their signature. Also *fig.*

1534 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 291, I have caused one of my secretaries to subscribe for such persons, and made them to write their shepe mark, or some other mark, as they can..scribble. 1632 BROME *North. Lass* II. i, A thumb-Ring with his Grandsirs Sheep-mark, or Grannams butter-print on't. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Orac.* ii. (1646) 22 Then brand them with a Crosse, Our Masters Sheepmarke. 1653 BAXTER *Christ. Concord* 98 Have you forgotten your Masters sheep-mark? 1693 O. HEYWOOD *Best Entail* iv, Children of believers are baptized, ..and thus have God's sheep-mark set upon them betimes. 1875 *Archæol. Cambrensis* Ser. IV. VI. 94 Sheep-Marks. I. *Bwlch plyg* (folded notch).—This is produced by folding a certain part of the ear, and cutting off with the shears the part thus folded. 1887 *Archæologia* L. 373 *note*, When the commons were unenclosed, it was necessary for every one who had a right of pasture to have a sheep-mark that could be easily distinguished from those of his neighbours.

† **2.** A marking-tool for sheep. *Obs.*

1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 38 [Husbandlie furniture.] A sheepe marke, a tar kettle.

Shee·p-master. [Cf. G. *schafmeister.*] A sheep-owner.

a 1520 *Vox Populi* 66 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 270 Withe to many shepemasters, That of erable grounde make pastures. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* iii. 4 Mesha king of Moab was a sheepemaster. 1652 in *Harlib's Legacy* (1655) 167 The great Sheep-Masters usually chuse their Sheeps-Walks, or Pastures, on high dry Lands. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* xxxvii. (1841) II. 91 The sheepmaster shears and sells the fleece. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 540 Mercurial ointment..in frequent use among sheep-masters as a cure for the scab. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 357/1 Since the British sheep-master has begun..to look more to the profit to be derived from the carcase.

† **Shee·pness.** *Obs.* [-NESS.] Pusillanimity.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 387 Vertues ben transposid to vices; as mekenes is cowardise,..and myldenesse is shepenesse.

Shee·p-pen. [f. SHEEP *sb.* + PEN *sb.*[1]; ? partly intended as an analysis of SHIPPON.] A pen in which to keep sheep.

1649 BLITH *Engl. Improver* xxiii. 139 Hay-Stacks, or Sheep-Pens, or places of Shade. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 335 Sir Ambrose Philipps's sheep-pen. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* vii, I inquired for the butcher, whom I found sitting in the sheep-pen with the sheep. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* iii, Many a valley-thief Caught in the sheep-pens.

Sheep-pick: see SHEPPECK.

Sheep's eye(s. (Also 7 **sheep-eyes.**) [Cf. WFris. *skiepseach*, Du. *schaapsoog*, G. *schafsauge.*]

1. Phr. **a.** *To cast* (or *throw*) *a sheep's-eye at* or *upon*, now usually *to cast* (occas. *to make*) *sheep's-eyes at*: to look lovingly, amorously, or longingly at.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 54 When ye kyst a shepys ie,..[At] mastres Andelby. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 107 Mopsa throwing a great number of sheepe eyes vpon me. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* V. iv, Hero.. seeing Leanders naked legge, and goodly calfe, Cast at him, from the boat, a Sheepes eye, and a halfe. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* 247 Don Manuel cast many a Sheep's Eye at my

Wife, and his good Lady at me. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 20, I have often seen him cast a Sheep's Eye out of a Calf's Head at you. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. iv. (Rtldg.) 9, I could not help casting a sheep's eye at the gold and silver plate peeping out of the different cupboards. 1811 COLMAN *Br. Grins* (ed. 5) 57 He, the beast! was casting sheeps-eyes at her, Out of his bullock head. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvii, The horrud old Coionel,..was making sheep's eyes at a half-caste girl there. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. xix. 262 Local leaders cast sheep's eyes at the seat.

†**b.** *To have a sheep's eye*: (*a*) to be timorous; (*b*) see quot. 1711. *Obs.*

1598 GOSSON *Trump. Warre* D 5 b, Espialles were sent out to discouer the land of Promise, some of them hadde a sheepes eye :..Caleb had a Lions eye. [See *Numbers* xiii. 30, 31.] 1711 *Spect.* No. 250 ₱ 5 We say such an one has a Sheep's Eye, not so much to denote the Innocence as the simple Slyness of the Cast.

2. An amorous glance.

1604 W. TERILO *Fr. Bacon's Proph.* 283 If a couple kindly kisse, The third thinkes somewhat is amisse. Now sheepes-eies are so watcht, That Lambes can hardly sleepe. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ii, Tom's all ram's horns, and the widow is all sheep's eyes.

So **Shee·p's-eye** *v. trans.*, to cast sheep's eyes at.

1801 COLERIDGE *Let. to R. Southey* 22 July, I should begin to look the damsel Hope full in the face, instead of sheep's-eyeing her.

Sheepshank (ʃī·pʃæŋk), *sb.*

1. The shank or leg of a sheep.

1675 COTTON *Planters Man.* 64 The third way [of making pallisados], which is done with Sheep-shancks fastned in the Walls, is doubtless the best..; but the bones must be set so near together, as [etc.]. In mod. Dicts.

b. *Nae sheepshank* (Sc.): a person or thing of no small importance.

1785 (Apr. 21) BURNS *Ep. to J. Lapraik* xii, The paughty, feudal Thane,..Wha thinks himsel nae sheep-shank bane, But lordly stalks. *c* 1787 — *Brigs of Ayr* 91, I doubt na, frien', ye'll think ye're nae sheep-shank. 1806 TANNAHILL *Ep. Jas. Buchanan* 11 Mony a puir, doilt, servile bodie Will..think himsel nae sma sheepshank.

2. *Naut.* In full †*sheepshank(s) knot*: A knot cast on a rope for temporarily shortening it without cutting it or unfastening the ends.

Formed by doubling the rope in three parts and taking a hitch over the bight at each end with the other rope (Voyle).

₱ By a printer's or clerical error in Manwayring's *Seaman's Dictionary* (1644), the explanation of *Sheep-shanck* and the heading of the following article *Sheeres* were omitted. Hence Randle Holme *Armoury* III. 166/1 erroneously explains *Sheepshank* as 'two Poles set across where a Block is hung' etc. (= SHEAR *sb.*[1] 4).

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 26 Sheepshanks Knot. The last is the Shepshanke, which is a knot they cast upon a Runner or Tackle when it is too long to take in the goods, and by this knot they can shorten a rope without cutting it. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Sheep-shank*, a sort of knot or hitch [etc.]. 1788 *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Knot*, The sheep-shank-knot. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* vi, Pass that brace through the bull's eye, and take the sheepshank out before you come down. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 246 When both ends of the rope are fast, the 'sheep-shank' or, as it is sometimes called, the dogshank shortening is used.

Hence **Shee·pshank** *v. trans.*, to shorten (a rope) by means of a sheepshank.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., The runner of the tackle is sheep-shanked. 1886 J. M. CAULFEILD *Seamanship Notes* 4 Shorten up buoy-rope..; this is done by sheep-shanking it.

Sheep's head. Also *Sc.* **sheep-head.** [Cf. Du. *schaapshoofd*, G. *schafshaupt*, also WFris. *skieppekop*, LG. *schaapskopp*, Du. *schaapskop*, G. *schafskopf* = simpleton.]

1. The head of a sheep; the dish consisting of this.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* v. (1870) 240 Nowe to sende for breade, and by-and-by to sende for a shepes-heade. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 260 in *Dunbar's Poems* 294 Sowsit nolt fute, and scheipheid. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 18 July Let. i. (1815) 257 The servants had been informed..that there was nothing to eat in Scotland but oatmeal and sheep's-heads. *c* 1790 BURNS *Ep. Col. De Peyster* 38 Like a sheep-head on a tangs. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Apr., I was..set, as is the custom in our trade, to practise on a sheep's-head.. before I was allowed to venture on the human countenance. *attrib.* 1737 *Ochtertyre House Bk.* (S.H.S.) 102 Sheephead broth. 1817 *Lintoun Green* ix. viii, He'd singed the sheep's heads to the fell, Tæ mak' the sheep-head kale. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* v, Sheep-head broth and haggis. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 26 Jan. 5/1 Sheep's-head-pie..and other substantial Scotch dishes.

2. A fool, simpleton. †Also as *adj.*, stupid.

1542 [see SHEEP *sb.* 5]. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i, Kisse her you sheepes-head. 1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* App. 108, I suppose..[he] hath better deuices then this simple sheepes-head inuention. 1780 *Mirror* No. 98 What a powdered sheep's-head have we got here? 1878 J. PAYNE tr. *Villon's Poems* (1881) 74 My poor orphans..Are grown in age, and wit likewise. No sheepsheads are they.

3. a. A large and much esteemed food fish, *Archosargus* or *Diplodus probatocephalus* (*Sargus ovis*), abundant on the coasts of the United States.

So called from a supposed resemblance of its head to a sheep's.

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 624 In the Rivers are great plenty and variety of delicate Fish; one kind whereof is by the English called a Sheepshead. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 156 The Americans..have given the appellation of sheepshead to the most esteemed fish of their coast. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 220/2 The sheep's-head and channel bass abounded.

b. A freshwater fish resembling the drumfish, *Haplodinotus grunniens* or *Corvina oscula*, of the Mississippi and the Great Lakes; also locally in N. America applied to various other fishes.

1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 65 *Scisena* (*Corvina*) *Richardsonii*. The Malashegane inhabits Lake Huron...It is called 'Sheep's-head' by the Anglo-Canadians. 1888 [see PORGY]. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 435/2 The 'sheeps-head' (freshwater drum), a good-looking, silvery fish.

4. Short for *sheep's-head clock.*

1887 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. III. 285 The square-faced [clocks] were 'sheep's head', and the round-faced 'wag o' th' wall'.

5. *Comb.*, as **sheep's-head clock**, a clock having the works exposed to view; **sheep's-head fish** = 3 a; **sheep's-head gull**, the great tern; **sheep's-head porgy** (see PORGY); †**sheephead sword**, a basket-hilted sword; so *sheep-head hilt.*

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 9/1 An old Dutch clock, of the kind known as a '*Sheep's-head' clock. 1846 OWEN *Lect. Anat. Vertebrate Anim.* I. *Fishes* 220 The *Sheep's-head Fish (*Sargus*). 1808–13 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 153 The..great tern..by many..is called the *sheep's-head gull. 1707 W. HOPE *Fencing* v. 158 [Swords] with good, closs, or as they are more commonly termed by the Vulgar, Shell or *Sheep-head Hilts. 1817 *Lintoun Green* 12 A *sheephead sword.

Hence **Shee·pshead** *v.*, *U.S.* to fish for sheeps-head; **Sheepshea·dism** *nonce-wd.*, the practice of eating sheep's-head.

1841 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 711 Cannibalism in the South Seas, and sheepsheadism in Scotland.

†**Shee·p-shear,** *sb. Obs.* [Back-formation f. SHEEP-SHEARING. OE. had *scéapscaru* (*scaru* act of shearing: see SHARE *sb.*[3]).] Sheep-shearing.

1616 *Rich Cabinet* 54 So is he, neither at season, sheep-sheere, or haruest, beholding to any man. *a* 1635 T. RANDOLPH *Poems* (1668) 76 To morrow morning..Pan's Cornet's blown, and the great Sheep-shear's kept.

Shee·p-shear, *v. rare.* In 7 **-share.** [Back-formation f. SHEEP-SHEARING.] **a.** *intr.* To shear sheep. †**b.** *trans.* To 'fleece', swindle.

1618 *Owles Almanacke* 45 A cozoning nip shall sheepshare a cunny of his coyne. 1909 *Essex Rev.* XVIII. 170 My poor old father larned many lads to ship-shear in his day.

Shee·p-shea:rer.

1. One who shears sheep.

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Gen.* xxxviii. 12 Iudas..went vnto hys shepe sherers to Tymnath. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 176/2 Sheep shearers. 1853 MILBURN *Sheep & Shepherding* 39 The obtaining of servants for shepherds and sheep-shearers. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* xvii. 387 First of all there was the sower's feast,..then came the sheep-shearer's feast.

b. A machine for shearing sheep.

1908 *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 380/1.

†**2.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Sheep-shearers*, Cheats.

Shee·p-shea:ring, *vbl. sb.*

1. The act or practice of shearing sheep.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 623 In auncient times there were great feastes at their sheepe-shearings. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Brebis*, Sheepe-shearing is not euer in season. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 319 Two or three days before my sheep-shearing. 1809 J. LAWRENCE *Treat. Cattle* 312 Sheep shearing is performed twice a year in some..countries. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 56 The shears used in sheep-shearing.

†**b.** *fig.* Fleecing. *Obs.*

1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* I. i, His sheepe sheering, nay shaving to the quicke.

2. The season for shearing sheep.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 176/2 Sheep shearing, is that time wherein the Wooll is cut off them, which..was ever accounted days of Mirth and Feasting. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* III. Wks. 1799 II. 230 *Poul.* That must be a good forty years since. *Flint.* Come sheep-shearing next. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* ii. 34 The sheep-shearing was the season of peculiar rejoicing.

3. The feast held at the shearing-season.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 125, I must go buy Spices for our sheepe-shearing. 1611 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 194 Twoe hinder quarters of veale, for provicion against sheepe shearinge. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1687) 108/1, I took a Lute and bid him Sing the Ship-shearing of Simonides. 1797 A. YOUNG in *Autobiogr.* (1898) 276, I went to the Duke of Bedford's sheep-shearing. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 223/2 Cumbrian peasantry have various festive meetings, called the kirn, or harvest-home, sheep-shearing, merry nights, and upshots. 1846 BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. xxvii, The sheep-shearing of Woburn or Holkham, in the last century, where nobles, gentlemen, and labourers met together.

4. *attrib.* esp. in *sheep-shearing feast.*

1586 FERNE *Blazon Gentrie* I. 71 If you come, to our sheep-shering veast..yous taste of our cheese cake. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 39. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 12 It being merry-making time,..like vintage, or sheep-shearing time. 1847 T. MILLER *Pict. Country Life* 58 An old practical farmer, one who..has his sheep-shearing feast and harvest-home. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 141 A steam sheep-shearing machine.

Shee·p-shears, *pl.* [f. SHEEP + SHEAR[1]. Cf. NFris. *sjappsjur*, MDu. *schaepschare* (Du. *schaap-schaar*), G. *schafschere.*] Shears for shearing sheep.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 176/2 Sheep shares, or Wooll shares. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* I. 108 It [lightning] melted an old copper skillet, a pair of sheepshears. 1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 397 Small shears, like the modern sheep-shears. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* III. 2140 A sheep-shears with a six-fingered comb and a revolving bladed disk.

Comb. 1797 *J. Robinson's Directory of Sheffield* 116 Edge-tool and sheep sheer maker.

Shee·pskin. Also **sheep's skin.** [Cf. NFris. *sjappskænn.*]

1. The skin of a sheep; *esp.* one used as a garment or in the making of a garment.

c 1200 ORMIN 3210 Hiss girrdell wass off shepess skinn. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 214 þise schepysskynnes wyth whiche I am wryed were scheep þat I took wrongfully of a wydewe. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Shepe & G.* 365 Ther is also made of sheepis skyn, Pilchis & glovis. *c* 1500 *Cocke Lorelles Bote* 2 A shepes skyne of a wether. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 37 Other..walked vppe and doune in shepes skynnes [*Rheims, A. V.* sheep-skinnes]. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* K 1, One time shee slept in a sheepes skinne all night. 1738 *Ochtertyre House Bk.* (S.H.S.) 122 For a sheeps skine for the mill. 0 0 7.

1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. shepskyn, jd. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xvii. 62 He was al be furred in black shepe skynnes. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 22 § 1 To..take away the Wooll of any Shepe skinne or Lambe skinne. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 123 Is not Parchment made of Sheep-skinnes? 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. iii. 91 Sheepskins to make Spunges. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 149 They promiscuously slept on the ground, purhaps on a sheep-skin. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* xviii. (1853) 81 Garb of coarse woollen patched with sheepskin. 1896 BARRIE *Sentim. Tommy* ii, The floor was bare save for a sheepskin beside the bed.

b. in military use.

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Skin*, Sheep skins are made use of to cover the mortars or howitzers between firing. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 106 Draw back the sheepskin and shabraque. 1871 *Daily News* 7 Sept., The artillery..were the first to lay their sheepskins aside.

2. The skin of sheep used for parchment, for the making of drumheads, in bookbinding, etc.

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Betere may ech man rede þe ilke zenne, and þe opre ine þe boc of his inwyt þanne ine ane ssepes scinne. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1014 We stowpe and stare vp-on þe sheepes skyn, And keepe muste our song and wordes in.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 176 He had to sell..Remissioun of sinnis, in auld scheip skinnis. 1596 *Raigne K. Edw. III*, II. ii. 50 Poore shipskin, how it braules with him that beateth it! *c* 1613 MIDDLETON *No Wit like Woman's* IV. ii, When did you e'er see a gentleman set his hand to anything, unless it were to a sheep-skin, and receive a hundred pound for his pains? 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 June Let. i, I will find a slip of sheep-skin that will do his business. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxii, Where some wise..conveyancer yet toils for the entanglement of real estate in meshes of sheepskin, in the average ratio of about a dozen of sheep to an acre of land. 1870 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 5 The music of the sheepskin and the trumpets.

b. *U.S. slang.* A parchment diploma received on taking a degree; the holder of such a diploma.

1843 R. CARLTON *New Purchase* (Hall *College Words*), This apostle of ourn never rubbed his back agin a college, nor toted about no sheepskins. *Ibid.*, I can say as well as the best on them sheepskins, if you don't get religion..you'll be lost, teetotally. 1887 *Lippincott's Mag.* Aug. 209 He has won his sheep-skin; he has, perchance, gained signal honors in his university course.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sheepskin-clad. -gatherer.*

c 1645 in *Archæologia* LII. 141 A fell monger or Sheepe skin gatherer. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan* Dram. Idyls 63 About him, watched the work his neighbours sheepskin-clad.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Made or consisting of sheepskin or parchment; written on parchment.

1602 DEKKER *Satirom.* F 3 b, This ship-skin-cap shall be put off. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. i, Wolves that in sheep-skin bands Prey on the hearts to join th' unwilling hands. 1624 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pastorall* C 3 b, So doth a sheepe-skin Bond make money breed. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 83 Purifying crude mercury..by passing it through sheep-skin..leather. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* i, A couple of sheep-skin bags, full of parchment and papers. 1833 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxi, To put the sheepskin mat on the stern gratings of my gig. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. v, A sheepskin drum! 1850 — *Latter-day Pamph.* vi. 26 A sheepskin Act of Parliament.

Hence **Shee·pskinned** *a.*, clothed in sheepskin (in quot. 1628 with reference to Matt. vii. 15).

1628 PRYNNE *Brief Surv.* 2 That some should..watch against deuout and sheepe-skind Wolues. 1879 H. S. EDWARDS *Russ. at Home* I. 202 Their sheep-skinned persons. 1889 'F. ANSTEY' *Pariah* I. i, Whenever one of the fly-horses..shook his long-suffering and sheepskinned head.

Sheep-steal, *v.* [Back-formation f. next.] *intr.* To be a sheep-stealer.

1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xlix, Those Who swindle, house-break, sheep-steal, and shop-lift.

Shee·p-stealer. One who steals sheep.

1634 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 286 How unequal a thing is it,..that a sacrilegious church-robber should make a mittimus for a poor sheep-stealer? 1778 JOHNSON *Let.* 13 Oct., in *Boswell*, Pray how many sheep-stealers did you convict? 1829 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* II. x. 325 A notorious sheep-stealer in the county of Mid-Lothian.

So **Shee·p-stealing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 133 For no scheip steilling nor wrangous geir. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 6 Their trade of Sheep-stealing will..decay. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 7 One Sheepstealing Rogue will spoil all the rest. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 70 We shall be taken up for sheep-stealing presently ourselves.

†**Sheepsy-wolvsy,** *a. Obs.* A nonsense-compound based on LINSEY-WOOLSEY (q. v. 3 b) to suggest 'wolves in sheep's clothing'.

1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. 252 Linsie woolsie, sheepsie woolvsie prophets.

Shee·p-tick, †**sheep's tick.** [See TICK *sb.*[1] and cf. WFris. *skieppetyk*, G. *schafzecke, schafstieke.*] A horny, bristly, wingless fly, *Melo-*

phagus ovinus, which infests sheep, embedding its head in the skin and extracting the blood. Also = SHEEP-LOUSE.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 642/37 *Hec amittena*, schep-tyke. 1598 *Mucedorus* II. iv. 68 *Ama.* The shepheards force would haue saued thousands more. *Clo.* Aye, shipstickes, nothing else. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 49 *Reduvius*, the Sheeps Teek. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 544 The sheep-tick.. propagates with much rapidity, although not to be compared with the sheep-louse. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1109 Sheep are affected by a troublesome insect, the keb or ked, or sheep-tick.

Shee'p-walk. A tract of grass-land used for pasturing sheep.

1586 HARRISON *England* II. xix. I. 205/2 Townes pulled downe for sheepe-walks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 431 A field, Part arable and tilth,..the other part sheep-walks and foulds. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 111 Sheep-walks populous with bleating lambs. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxviii, The dales..Are now one sheep-walk, waste and wide. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 122 A study of the botany and geology of a sheep-walk is one of the first steps to successful herding.

Hence **Shee'p-walker** *Austral.*, a sheep-master.

1885 *Daily Tel.* 20 Nov. (Cass.), The sheep-walkers of Taranaki will find it to their interest to dispose of their produce by way of Auckland.

Shee'p-wash, *sb.*

1. The washing of sheep before shearing; the place where sheep are washed.

749 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 257 Of þam stane on sceapwæscan. 764–75 *Ibid.* 291 Juxta fluvium qui dicitur Stur ad vadum nomine Scepesuuasce. 1640 BRATHWAIT *Two Lancs. Lovers* 19 (Halliw.) A seed-cake at fastens; and a lusty cheese-cake at our sheepe-wash. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Sheep-wesh*, a place in a stream or pond where sheep are washed. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 9 Aug. 4/2 They would start shearing in three weeks. He would..get me booked for a good billet in the sheepwash. 1898 TRASK *Norton-sub-Hamdon* 189 The sheepwash was for the use of all who kept sheep.

2. A preparation used in washing sheep, sheep-dip.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sheep-wash*,..a mixture of arsenious acid and soft soap in water, in which sheep are dipped. 1882 D. WOOD *Sheep-dipping* (1885) 16 It has ..been customary to employ tobacco-water as a sheep-wash.

Hence **Shee'pwash** *v.*, **Shee'pwasher, Shee'p-washing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Saxon* x, He can't dig or *sheep-wash or plough there. 1890 — *Col. Reformer* (1891) 122 Men..were employed as *sheepwashers. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 174 The murmurs o' the *sheepwashing Yarrow. 1866 *Frnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. II. 371 A sheep-washing day on the Wye. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 929 Workmen exposed to the use of arsenical pigments..as in sheep-washing.

Sheepy (ʃĭ·pi), *a. rare.* [f. SHEEP + Y 1.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling sheep.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 161 It greveth me to remembre these dyvers sentences, in janglinge of these shepy people. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* CXLIV. viii, The sheepy prease, The streetes shall scantly hold. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 7 The '*La Allâh il Allâh*'..is of all human sounds the most like bleating. It is sheep-ier than monotonous; it is absolutely mutton-ous. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Cong.* I. viii. 131 He called the social English the most sheepy of sheep.

Sheer (ʃĭə1), *sb.*1 *Naut.* Also 7, 9 **shear,** 8 **shere.** [f. SHEER *v.*2]

1. An abrupt divergence or deviation of a vessel from the line of her course; a swerve.

1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 61, I was in danger of running the Ship against steep Rocks..she taking a shear with the Tide. 1725 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 425 A Ship before the Wind will deviate from her true Course, sometimes one Way, sometimes another, in her Yaws and Sheers. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. xvi. 254 Just give the boat a sheer towards yonder low, sandy point. 1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* i. (1850) 14 The steersman was directed to put the helm up, in order to give her a sheer out of the way. 1897 *Times* 25 Feb. 11 The heavy sheers which such a [rudderless] vessel would take in being towed.

b. *Sheer-off*: an act of sheering off (see SHEER *v.*2 1).

1808 *Naval Chron.* XX. 450 This caused such great confusion among them that they got their grapplings unhooked, and took a broad sheer-off.

2. An oblique position given to or taken by a vessel when under way or when riding at single anchor.

To break her sheer: of a vessel, to be forced by change of wind or current out of the position of sheer in which she was placed.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 247* To break her sheer. *a* 1797 H. TAYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 370/2 If laying in the aforesaid position, and she breaks her sheer.. [and] recovers.., let the main-yard be again braced about; but if she comes to a sheer the other way..brace the fore-yard to. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 465 To prevent this, an able master will endeavour to make his vessel 'lie with a sheer'. *Ibid.*, Great care is required in watching the vessel in this position, lest it should fall off or 'break its sheer'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v.

3. *Comb.*: **sheer-boom** *Lumbering*, a boom to catch floating logs and turn them in the desired direction; **sheer-line,** in military bridges, the stretched hawser of a flying bridge along which the boat passes.

1816 H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* 44 A cable, or sheer line, is stretched across the river. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Sheer-boom. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 1 Oct., A row of piers to which they have attached a sheer-boom 2,500 feet long.

Sheer (ʃĭə1), *sb.*2 *Naut.* Also 8 **shere,** 9 **shear.** [Perh. a use of SHEAR *sb.*2, or new formation on SHEAR *v.* It is noteworthy that the Fr. synonym is *tonture* (in Fournier *Hydrogr.* ed. 2, 1667), app. identical with *tonture* shearing, clipping.]

1. The fore-and-aft upward curvature or rise of the deck or bulwarks of a vessel; the curve of the upper line of a vessel as shown in vertical section.

Straight or *little sheer*, a hardly noticeable rise at the bow and stern. *Quick, high,* or *great sheer*: a sheer with small radius of curvature.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 121 The section of..the whole Ship..included between the Plank-sheering, and the Keels, the upper line of which section is called the Sheer of the Ship. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 50 The quicker the Sheer is the more it contributes to the strength of the ship. 1779 BARNARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 101, I found her perfectly upright, and her shere (or side appearance) the same as when first built. 1833 T. RICHARDSON *Merc. Mar. Archit.* I They likewise should have more sheer in proportion to their length than larger vessels. 1878 W. H. BISHOP *Voy. Paper Canoe* 105 Her great sheer, full bow, and smoothness of hull..kept her from swamping. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Sept. 2/1 Boats with a high sheer at each end. 1889 WELCH *Text-bk. Naval Archit.* ii. 41 The considerable sheer (or curve upwards) given to their ends.

2. = *sheer-strake* (see 3).

1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 123 *Sheer* or *Sheer-strake.* 1889 R. DOWLING *Isle Surrey* II. xii. 235 His heels, driven by the force of the tide on the sheer of the boat.

3. *Comb.*: **sheer-batten,** (*a*) see quot.; (*b*) in ship-building, 'a strip nailed to the ribs to indicate the position of the wales or bends preparatory to those planks being bolted on' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **sheer-built** *a.*, built with (little, great, etc.) sheer; **sheer-draught** (**-draft**), the sheer-plan; **sheer-line,** the line of elevation of a ship's deck; **sheer-mould** (see also quot. 1846); **sheer-plan, -rail** (see quots.); **sheer-strake,** the uppermost strake of the side planking or plating of a vessel, also *attrib.*; **sheer-wale** = *sheer-strake.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sheer-batten,* a batten stretched horizontally along the shrouds, and seized firmly above each of their dead-eyes, serving to prevent the dead-eyes from turning at that part. 1883 JONCAS *Fish. Canada* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 11 The boats..are very *sheer built, and the clinker work is usually of cedar. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) C 2 b, The whole length of the ship is represented according to a side view, perpendicular to the keel, and is termed the plane of elevation, or *sheer-draught. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlix, The dimensions..I knew by the sheer-draught. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 383/2 When it is in its proper position, the line WF will be in the same plane with the *sheer line. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 245 *Ram-line*,..a small rope..for forming the sheer of the ship:..adjusted on the ship's side by means of a long thin plank, called the *sheer-mould. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sheer-mould*, synonymous with ram-line. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 377/2 The **sheer plan* or *draught*, otherwise called the *plan of elevation*, is that section of the ship which is made by a vertical plane passing through the keel. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 575/1 (Yachting) The 'sheer plan' or longitudinal elevation, showing the lines of length from stem to stern, that is to say, the sheer-line, water-lines, line of keel, and lines of height from keel to gunwale. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Rails*..are likewise nailed upon several planks along the side; one in particular is called the *sheer-rail, which limits the height of the side from the forecastle to the quarter-deck, and runs aft to the stern, and forward to the cat-head. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.*, *Sheer-rails*, a name for the mouldings round a vessel's top sides. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 130 **Sheer-strake.* 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 102 Sheer strakes are the strakes of the plating (generally outer) which are adjacent to the principal decks. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, A vessel whose sheer-strake plate is half above and half below the line of main-deck beams. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 130 **Sheer-wales* or *Middle-wales*, those strakes of thick stuff in the topside of three-decked ships which are wrought between the middle and lower deck ports.

Sheer (ʃĭə1), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 3 **scere,** 3, 5 **schere,** 4 **schiere,** 6–7 **shere, sheere, sheare,** (? 6 *Sc.* **schare**), 7 **shier, sheir,** 6– **sheer.** [ME. *schēre* :— ? OE. **scēre* = ON. *skær-r* (Sw. *skär*, Da. *skjær*) :—OTeut. type **skairjo-*, related to the synonymous **skīro-*, SHIRE *a.* It is possible that the ME. word is an adoption from ON., the initial (sk) being modified to (ʃ) by the influence of the related native adj.] **A.** *adj.*

†1. Exempt, free (from service or fealty); clear, acquitted (from guilt or crime). *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 12752 Heo..habbeð iqueðen us scere nu & auere mare. 14.. T. CHESTRE *Lawfal* 429 Fyfty delyverede prysouns, And made ham quyt and schere.

†2. Of the wind: ? Blowing steadily in one direction. (Cf. 9.) *Obs.*

c 1290 *St. Michael* 25 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 300 Nov was þat a wonder Arewe, and wonder wei heo sou3te..A wonder schere-wynd heo was on.

†3. Of hair: Thin, sparse. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 252 Alle the Tartarienes han smale Eyen and litille of Berd, and not thikke hered, but schiere.

†4. Of light: Bright, shining. Of water, crystal, etc.: Clear and pure; translucent. *Obs.*

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. 47 b, The water was so pure and shere a man might well haue seene And numbred all the grauell stones that in the bottome beene. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 728 Phebus..Vnto the eist schutand his shaftis schare. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Dd iij b, The Chrisolites & gems whereof did geue a sheere and shining light. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. 274 The Soule is either a sheere body and of the nature of the Skye [orig. *vn corps luisant et æthere*], ..or els a bodilesse substance. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIV. xxxiii. 1191 Afterward they began to yeeld sheere and cleere water in great aboundance. 1871 ROSSETTI *My Sister's Sleep* iv, Without, there was a cold moon up, Of winter radiance sheer and thin.

†5. Of an article of food: Thin, not containing much substance. Of an animal: Lean. *Obs.*

1632 *Guillim's Heraldry* III. xxiii. (ed. 2) 241 The Moone is the naturall and secondary cause, that the crabbes of the Sea are either full and plumme, or else sheare and (after a sort) empty. 1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 39 The Dutch Tumbler is much of the same make, but larger,..not unlike a very sheer Dragoon. 1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 342 The skimmed milk is very thin and sheer.

6. Of textile fabrics, etc.: Thin, fine, diaphanous. Now *U.S.* [Cf. G. *schier* sb., 'cobweb lawn'.]

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1567) 49 b, And yet with shere and velume wings [L. *perlucentibus alis*] they houer from the ground. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 106 Cocke-webbe-lawne, or tiffeny, is the sheirest and cheapest lawne of all. 1706 in Halliwell *Acc. Collect. Bills*, etc. (1852) 31 Shear muslins fit for head dresses and neckcloths. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xi. 125 They manufacture..in Calicoes coarse and fine, sheer and close wrought. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Sheer*,..applied..to fabrics of cotton or silk; as, *sheer muslin*; meaning very thin, clear, or transparent. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Apr. 8/1 So fine (the American girl would say 'sheer') is the batiste or lawn used that a slip lining is necessary.

7. Of a material substance: Unmixed or unaccompanied with other matter. Esp. of strong drink: (*a*) Undiluted with water; (*b*) taken alone without solid food.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Ind. ii. 25 If she say I am not xiiii. d. on the score for sheere Ale. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVII. iv. II. 273 Wherof they drinke..the weight of two drams in mead, wine, or sheere water [orig. *aqua pura*]. *c* 1618 FLETCHER *Double Marr.* v, Shall I have no sheere wine then? 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. ii, Thou neuer hadst in thy house to stay mens stomackes A peece of Suffolke cheese, or Gammon of Bacon, Or any esculent,..but sheere drinke only. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 548, 2 or 3 spoonfuls of shier water. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 18 Of pure and sheere-Sand, there's white, black, blewish [etc.]. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 53. 317 She has the gout in her constitution, and whenever she feels a twitch of it, the only thing is sheer Brandy to keep it from her head. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. 463 Sheer and slight sands. 1802 HEBERDEN *On Gout* in Beddoes *Hygëia* VIII. 154 It has been thought that a large quantity of sheer wine is good for arthritics. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXIX, Sheer ale supports him under every thing. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xi. 141 Nothing save sheer till covers the underlying rocks.

¶ Of steel (? misapprehension of SHEAR-STEEL).

1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* I. 29 This breast-plate..Had it not been of sheer steel, the forgotten bones of Miles Standish Would at this moment be mould.

b. Of an immaterial thing: Taken or existing by itself, ... alone. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman's d'Alf.* II. 351 When he saw all his former malice could not..doe mee any harme, with sheere money hee went about to purchase out his reuenge vpon mee. *a* 1646 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* i. (1652) 16 That what he shall deliver may be nothing but the word of God in him, sheer word of God, without any mixture of his own. 1836 I. TAYLOR *Phys. Theory Another Life* ii. 22 An unembodied spirit, or sheer mind, is *no where.*

8. With a descriptive sb., or one denoting a quality, condition, circumstance, etc.: Neither more nor less than (what is expressed by the sb.); that and nothing else; unmitigated, unqualified; downright, absolute, pure. Cf. MERE *a.* 4.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* D iij, Which wil be no lesse then sheere beggery. *a* 1680 T. GOODWIN *Expos. Eph.* xxix. Wks. 1681 I. 388 To go out of himself, and by naked and sheer Faith to go to Jesus Christ alone. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxiii. 324 Out of sheer love and kindness to Lord Chatham. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *France & It.* I. 99 *note*, I was always a sheer dunce for my own part. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xxiii. 269 The conspirators were not strong enough to carry their point by sheer force. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii, Cazalès..said, in a moment of passion, 'the Patriots were sheer Brigands'. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxxii. 449 Both Peterson and myself..fell asleep through sheer exhaustion. 1879 S. C. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* vi. 145 The railway was closely skirted on the north by a sheer desert. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Jan. 5/4 It was a sheer mistake on the part of the driver.

†b. *Sheer wit*: a fashionable term for some particular form of humour. *Obs.*

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. i. (Arb.) 67 This Scene will make you die with laughing, if it be well acted: it is a Scene of sheer Wit, without any mixture in the world, I gad. [Cf. 71 *infra* is not this pure Wit?] 1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 269 That silly thing men call sheer Wit avoid, With which our Age so nauseously is cloy'd. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 206/2 The whole Strength of pretended Patriotism lies in Puns, Sheerwit, and a Horse Laugh.

9. Of a descent or ascent, the face of a wall, cliff, etc.: Continued perpendicularly or very steeply down or up without break or halting-place.

1800 WORDSW. *Hart-Leap Well* 50 And climbing up the hill—(it was at least Four roods of sheer ascent). 1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xvi, This lake,..whose barriers drear Are precipices sharp and sheer. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 181 A pedestal of rock..surmounted by a sheer cliff. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* XXXVII. (1878) 298

The great rapids whirling by at our very feet towards the sudden and sheer descent. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 25 The precipice, which to our left was quite sheer.

b. with *-down* affixed.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. v. (1872) VII. 47 It has cut for itself that mountain gullet, or sheerdown chasm.

c. Of a fall or drop: Occurring straight down, happening from top to bottom (of a given height).

1859 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xviii, Look over the parapet and see what a sheer tumble there might still be for a traitor.

10. Of a blow (or the like): Delivered with full force; (hit or hitting) straight and hard. *poet.*

1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1295 And charging with sheer tusk he drove, and smote Hyleus. 1876 — *Erechtheus* 450 The lord Whose wheels make lightnings of the foam-flowered sea Here on this rock..one sheer blow Struck.

B. *adv.*

1. Completely, absolutely, altogether, quite. Used chiefly to qualify an adv. or prep., or with vbs. expressing removal, separation, cleavage, etc. (Cf. *right, clean.*)

a 1600 I. T. *Grim the Collier* IV. (1662) 52 A wily Priest ..Intends to bear her shere away from all. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* v. i, I..had my feather shot sheere away. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Cur.* III. i, The prerogative of your crowns will carry the matter, Carry it sheere. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 742 Thrown by angry Jove Sheer o're the Chrystal Battlements. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sheer*, altogether, quite; as This Fancy is Sheer new. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 81 Cautious he crept, and with his crooked Bill Cut sheer the frail Support. 1791 COWPER *Odyss* VII. 113 Sheer from the threshold to the inner house [ἐς μυχὸν ἐξ οὐδοῦ διαμπερές]. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. ix, I ain't agoing to be 'quivocal but to speak sheer to the point. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, She vaulted sheer over the turbid current. 1854–5 LONGF. *Hiawatha* vii, Down the trunk, from top to bottom, Sheer he cleft the bark asunder. 1863 MRS. OLIPHANT *Salem Chapel* xvi, She went sheer forward when the door was open. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 324 In climbing over a stile, Miriam blundered, and fell sheer into the arms of John.

†b. Qualifying a numeral: Fully, no less than.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. iii. 45 That it must fly six hundred thousand sheere Of Germane miles.

2. Perpendicularly or very steeply up or down; straight up or down without break or halting-place.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* i, A platform of rock..from the farther side of which a precipice sunk sheer down. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii, It rose sheer up above the contiguous roofs. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxvi, The leaden-coloured lake lying sheer below you. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 681 A lofty cliff, and goes down sheer into the deep sea. 1892 BIERCE *In the Midst of Life* 16 A stone dropped from its outer edge would have fallen sheer downward one thousand feet.

†Sheer, *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 3–4 schere. [f. SHEER *a.*; cf. SKERE *v.*, SHIRE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To clear, free, acquit from blame. In quot. *refl.*: cf. SKERE *v.* 2.

c 1250 *Lutel Soth Sermun* 85 (Cott. MS.) in *O. E. Misc.* 190 Euer heo wile hire schere [*Jesus Coll. MS.* skere] ne com hire nomon neh.

2. To make bright or pure.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 165 As glysnande golde þat man con schere.

3. *intr.* ? Of water: To run bright and clear.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 107, I wan to a water by schore þat scherez.

Sheer (ʃīəɹ), *v.*[2] *Naut.* Forms: 7–8 shear, 7 shear(e, share, 7– sheer. [Perh. a use of SHEAR *v.*; but the development of the sense is obscure.

In MLG. and mod.LG., MHG. and mod.Ger., mod.Du. (but not MDu.) the vb. *scheren* (etymologically identical with SHEAR *v.*) often occurs intr. and refl. with the sense to withdraw, depart, 'be off' (coincident with sense 1c below). This sense is commonly regarded by lexicographers as developed from the sense 'to divide'. The word in continental Teut. does not seem ever to have been in use as a nautical term, so that the common view that the Eng. vb. is of LG. or Du. origin is not convincing. The correspondence between the senses below and the Ger. and Du. senses above-mentioned is not sufficiently exact to warrant the assumption that the course of development has been parallel.]

1. *intr.* Of a ship: To turn aside, alter its direction, swerve to either side of its course, in obedience to the helm. Chiefly with advs., as *off, out, away.*

To sheer alongside, to, up, to bear up obliquely towards a vessel or other point.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 19 Lash fast your graplins and sheare off. 1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 104 All ships, if friends, when they meet upon the sea, share up to one another. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 234 The others as they sheared by us, saw no Man above Deck. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3318/3 They both sheered out a-stern of us. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4329/5 She ply'd em so warmly, that they were forc'd to sheer off. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 83 Our guns..obliged two of them to sheer away again. 1834–5 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* i. (1836) 6 They sheered-to with an intent to speak him. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 267 The second boat of each column is to sheer twenty feet out of the wake of her leader. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. ii. 39 The boat then sheered alongside. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 103/1 Suddenly changing her course, and sheering back to the south. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 218 She sheered in towards us.

b. To swerve to either side irregularly or unsteadily, not in obedience to the helm. Also with *round.*

c 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 289 When a Ship in her Sailing is not steddily steered She is said to go Sheering: Also when a Tide-gate runneth very swift, it will cause a Ship to go in and out, and so not straight forward; and this is called Sheering. 1769 [see SHEERING *vbl. sb.* below]. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 474 The Esk..continued sheering from side to side to the utmost extent that the rope, by which she was towed, would allow. 1848 *Notes of Cases* (1849) VI. 7 The brig was sheering, not drudging. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 180 The ship then sheered to her starboard anchor.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Chiefly with *off*: To change one's course; to depart, go away; to go off in a new direction or on the other 'tack'.

In quot. 1865 with irreg. pa.t. *shore* (by confusion with the vb. *shear*).

a 1704 T. BROWN *Volunteer's Sp. to Colonel* Wks. 1711 IV. 227, I resolv'd then to shere into the City, to try what luck I could find there. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 14. 2/2 [She] has pickt 15 Guineas out of my Pocket, and shear'd off with it. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 2 May 1776, Letting the points of the coulters hang two or three inches below the shares, to prevent their sheering from side to side. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 30 They..were obliged to sheer off the ground. 1883 HOFFMAN *Winter Far West* (1835) I. 167 Wheeling my horse suddenly from the trail towards a thicket of dwarf oaks,..he sheered from the bush, and I was thrown upon the spot. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. v. V. 509 His captains lagged or shore off. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 165 The history of our English, as compared with the Low-German dialects from which it sheered off in the fifth and sixth centuries. 1876 GREEN *Stray Stud.* 118 An age when the interests of popular liberty and of intellectual freedom had sheered off from the church. 1879 JEFFERIES *Amateur Poacher* xii. (1889) 235 The sheep..now sheered out from the hedge, and allowed me to go by.

2. *trans.* To cause (a vessel) to sheer; to direct (a vessel) obliquely towards a given point. Also with advs., as *off.*

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 83 Shering the Ship, night and day,..amongst the dispersi Ice that came athwart of vs. *Ibid.* 94 We..stood all on the decks to watch the Ices, sheering of the Ship (to and againe), to auoyd it. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 20 We will sheer off our Ship, and hoise out our Shallop. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Anchor* To sheer the ship to her *Anchor*, is to steer the ship's head towards the place where the anchor lies when they are heaving the cable into the ship. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 130 The helmsman sheered our ship as close..as it was possible to go. 1816 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* IV. 98 Let the boat be sheered off from the bank..by a cable. *Ibid.*, Whenever a current is so strong as to render it unsafe to sheer a boat across with cables.

transf. 1880 FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 456 Here is a good Warwickshire word—'I sheered my Eyes round the room'. So good that it explains itself.

†b. *To sheer home the anchor*: to drag the anchor by swerving. *Obs.*

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* s.v. *Shearing*, Where a tide-gate runs very swift, the ship will shere in and out, and so much in some places, that they are faine..to steere her upon the tide, for feare she should shere-home her Anchors (that is, draw them home).

Hence **Shee·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 58 Shearing off will teare it in peeces if the rope and anchor bold. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Sheering*, in navigation, the act of deviating or straying from the line of the course, either to the right or left, so as to form a crooked and irregular path through the water. It is commonly occasioned by the ship's being difficult to steer, but very often from the negligence or incapacity of the helmsman. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 8 We have strawed our best..To the shark and the sheering gull.

Sheer (ʃīəɹ), *v.*[3] [f. SHEER *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To give (a ship) a particular sheer or rise.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 49 The Shaping of any Ship upwards, termed Sheering of her. 1909 *Century Dict.* Suppl., *To sheer up* [*aft* or *forward*], to raise the sheer of a vessel.

Sheer (ʃīəɹ), *v.*[4] *rare.* [f. SHEER *a.*] *intr.* Of a rock-face: To rise or descend vertically or very steeply; in quot. with *up*. Hence **Shee·ring** *ppl. a.*

1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* XXVI. 117 Smoothly sheering precipices below gave Hope no ledge to grasp in falling. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 134 The rock sheered up some hundred feet above our heads.

Sheer, obs. f. SHIAH. **Sheer(e:** see SHEAR, SHIRE.

Sheeraz, variant of SHIRAZ (wine).

Sheer cloath, erron. form of CERECLOTH.

1711 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 152.

Sheered (ʃīəɹd), *a. Naut.* [f. SHEER *sb.*[2] + -ED [2].] Of a ship: Built with a (particular kind of) sheer. Usually with defining word as *moon-, straight-sheered.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Vaisseau qui a le côté foible*, a straight-sheered ship. 1852–63 BURN *Nav. & Milit. Techn. Dict.* (ed. 4) II, Sheered, *tonturé*; moon—, *fort enhuché*; round—, *gondolé, fort tonturé, de côté fort*; straight—, low-built ship, *vaisseau ras*, m.; straight—upper works, *accastillage ras*, m.

Sheeregrasse, obs. form of SHEAR-GRASS.

Sheer-hulk, shear-hulk. [f. *sheer*, SHEAR *sb.*[1] 4 + HULK *sb.*[2] 3.

The etymologically preferable spelling *shear-hulk* is little used. In the popular figurative use of the word, derived from nautical songs, the first element is often misunderstood as *sheer* adj., and the compound written as two words.]

The hulk or body of an old disused ship fitted with shears, etc., for hoisting purposes; also a vessel specially built and fitted with shears.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 139 When the Fame Man of War was driven from her mooring in Hamoaze; together with the sheer-hulk on the rocks. 1799 CAPT. PORTLOCK in *Naval Chron.* III. 71 She had been built for a sheer-hulk. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 385 The S. Raphael ..being too bad for a sheer-hulk was purchased by Mr. Hawker of Plymouth. 1860 WORCESTER, *Sheer-hulk*..written also *shear-hulk*. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XII. 22 Double sheer hulk for raising sunken vessels.

fig. 1790 C. DIBDIN *Song, Poor Tom*, Here, a sheer hulk, lies poor Tom Bowling. 1886 SIR P. WALLIS in Brighton *Life* (1892) 213 Then a young lieutenant, but now a worn-out sheer hulk.

†Sheering nail, ? mistake for *sheathing nail.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 161 Sheering nailes for ships having broad heads and short shanks.

Sheerly (ʃī·ɹli), *adv.* Also 5 *Sc.* scheirly, 6 sheerely. [f. SHEER *a.* + -LY [2].]

†1. Brightly, clearly. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 477 With gold and goulis in greyne, Schynand scheirly and scheyne.

2. Completely, entirely, wholly; thoroughly; purely, simply. (Cf. SHEER *adv.*)

1601 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. iii. 343 This libel of Cambridge..will sell sheerely vnderhand. *c* 1618 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* v, H'as out-done all, Outstript 'em sheerly. 1786 BURNS *Ep. Major Logan* ix, Eve's bonie squad, priests wyte them sheerly For our grand fa'. 1810 in Dk. Buckingham *Court & Cab. Geo. III* (1855) IV. 430 The cause of the Ministerial majority is..attributed..sheerly to their having the better of the argument. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 313 A man is neither a brute, nor a god,..but simply and sheerly a Man. 1880 BERTHA THOMAS *Violin-Player* I. i. 11 He sheerly frightened the wits out of her comrade.

3. Sharply; with sharp cleavage or division.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxiii, Through gullet and through spinal bone, The trenchant blade had sheerly gone. 1823 — *Quentin D.* ii, Snares and traps, armed with scythe-blades, which shred off the unwary passenger's limb as sheerly as a hedge-bill lops off a hawthorn-sprig. 1866 W. R. ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* II. 70 When he feels the poor atom, self, sheerly contrasted with the vast cold mass of all humanity beside.

4. With vertical or very steep ascent or descent.

1879 STEVENSON *Ess. Trav., Amateur Emigrant* (1905) 23 In the centre the companion ladder plunged down sheerly like an open pit.

Sheerman, obs. form of SHEARMAN.

Shee·rness. *rare.* [f. SHEER *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being sheer (see the adj.).

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iv. 53 Like as the light of the Sunne hath diuers effects through the disposition of mens eyes, and of the sheerenesse of things. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 407 There is something of that quality of *sheerness* in this tale of peasant life..which we find in..'A Village Tragedy'...But it is not so grim.

†Sheer-point. *Obs. rare.* (Origin and meaning obscure.)

Cf. Lisle's expressions on pp. 433–4: 'a hard thunder-shower, which went to the roots of the corn'; 'a moderate rain.., enough to go to the roots of the corn'; 'one moderate shower..which went not to the roots of the corn'.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 435 March the 10th, or thereabouts, fell a rain that might possibly go to the sheer-point.

Sheer Thursday. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 3–6 schere, 3–6, 8–9 shere, 4 scer-, scere, 5 scher, chere, 5–6 sher, 5, 7 shear, 6 chare, 7 sheere, 5, 9– sheer. *β.* 4 shir, 4–5 schire, 5 schyre, schyr-, schir-, 6 shyre, shire, shier; 6 *Sc.* chyris. *γ.* 5 schordordai, s(c)hor-, 5–6 shore, 6 shorpthursday. Often written as one word. [The *α* and *β* types correspond respectively to the two Scandinavian forms which are directly represented in Eng. by *Skere Thursday* (SKERE *a.* 4) and SKIRE THURSDAY. The two cognate and synonymous adjs. (ON. *skírr* SKERE, SHEER, and *skírr* SKIRE, SHIRE) appear to have been applied to Maundy Thursday with allusion to the purification of the soul by confession (cf. *Shrove Thursday*, F. *jeudi absolu*), and perh. also to the practice of washing the altars on that day. The *γ* forms are corruptions due to the association with words of somewhat similar sound.

Another name for Maundy Thursday, app. of similar meaning, was Du. *witte Donderdag* ('white Thursday'), recorded from the 13th c.; so G. *weisser Donnerstag.*]

The Thursday in Holy Week, Maundy Thursday.

α. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 Gif we bien cumen on bicumeliche wise a shereðursdai to absoluciun. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 89 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 At þe schere þursday. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 360 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 229 A-schere þores-day [(1310 ed. Bälz) scere þorsday, *v.rr. c* 1300 scerþursday, *c* 1400 scher þursday, 14.. schire þoresday, schordordai, etc.] huy comen þudere in gret trauaile inou3. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxi. (1495) 367 The daye of Cene that we calle Shere-thursdaye. *c* 1425 *Processional Nuns Chester* (1899) 6 On sherthursday at the washyng of the auters. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 253 On sheerthursday. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 125 Scher þursday; for, in old fadrys dayes, men wold þat day make scher hom honest, and dodde hor heddys, and clyp hor berdys, and so make hom onest azeynes Astyr-day. *Ibid.* 169 Chere þursday. 1534 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Pref. B biij b, Y⁹ maundye of Chryste wyth hys apostles vpon shere thursday. 1621 in *Dewsbury Parish Reg.*, Alice daughter of Willm Speight elder baptised the xxix day being Shear Thursdaye.

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 325 Joon restide on Shir þursdaie in þe soper on Cristis brest. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 435 In Cene þorsday, þat som men clepeþ Schire-þorsday [1432–50 Schere thursday]. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 346 A Schirthursday the sustres shal say the seuen psalmes. 1520 *Perth Hammermen Bk.* (1889) 13 For can-

dill upon Chyris Thuirsday in the kirk, iiij d. *c* 1541 in J. Collier *Eccl. Hist.* (1714) II. 197 Shier-Thursday, as we call it.
γ. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 389, I wold ye wold take avise and counsel of the Preest that had you so long under hand on Shorthursday. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 372 Item quolibet shore-thursday, voluit lavare pedes eorum. 1533 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2978 Shorpthursday. 1537 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (1875) I. 62 The 29 daye of March, beinge Shore Thursdaye.

Sheeshum, variant of SHISHAM.

Sheet (ʃit), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1 scīete, scēte, scȳte, scīte, (3 sciet, sced, ssete, 4 schet), 3–6 schete, 4–5 scheete, 4–6 shete, (5 sshete, chete, schet(t, chitte, 6 sheate, shett(e, schett, *north.* scheit, sheyt(t, shite), 5–8 *north.* sheit, 6–7 sheete, 6–8 *north.* sheitt, 7 sheett, 7–9 *dial.* shit, 6– sheet. [OE. *scīete* wk. fem., Anglian *scēte*, later *scȳte* :–prehistoric **skautjōn-*, f. root **skaut-* (: *skeut* : *skut-* : see SHOOT *v.*, SHOT *sb.*[1]), of which one of the senses was to project.

To the root *skaut-* belong the foll. forms: (1) of the strong declension, OE. *scēat* masc. (which may be partly the source of the mod.Eng. *sheet*) corner, quarter, region, lap, bosom, bay, skirt, cloth, OFris. *skāt*, *schāt* skirt, lappet (NFris. *skuat*, *skut*, etc. lap, sail-rope), MLG. *schōt*, (M)Du. *schoot* masc. and fem., lap, sail-rope, OHG. (masc., fem., and neut.) *scōz* (MHG. *schōz*, G. *schoss*) skirt, lappet, lap, ON. *skaut* neut., corner of cloth, quarter (of earth, heaven), skirt, bosom, sail-rope (MSw. *skōt* lower corner of a sail, fold in clothing, bosom, lap, Da. *skjød* lap, skirt), Goth. *skaut-s* masc. or *skaut* neut. κράσπεδον, hem of a garment; (2) of the weak declension, OE. *scēata* masc. (see SHEET *sb.*[2]), OHG. *scōza* (MHG. *schōze*) fem., (M)LG. *schōte* sail-rope, ON. *skauta* masc., kerchief (Sw. *skōte* bosom, lap, Da. *skjøde* sail-rope).]

1. †**a.** A napkin, cloth, or towel. *Obs.* **b.** A broad piece of linen or cotton stuff, canvas, or the like, for covering, swathing, protecting from injury, etc. (Now felt as a transf. use of 3.) *Obs.*

Also with qualifying word, as *dusting-*, *winnowing-sheet.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 57 *Sandalium*, scete, loca. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. vii. (1890) 180 Heo..hire feax gerædde, & heo mid scytan [*v.r.* scitan] biswęop. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 51 Sum iungling him fyligde mid anre scytan bewæfed nacod & hi namon hine. *a* 1200 *Voc. in* Wr.-Wülcker 427/42 *In sabanis*, on scetum. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 267 (Egerton MS.) Ne scal þer beo sced [*v.r.* sciet, scete] ne scrud. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8962 Þis gode mold..gurde aboute hire middel a uair linne ssete & wess þe meseles vet. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 236 Schetis that war sum-deill braid Thai festnyt in steid of baneris Apon lang treis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 536 The cristen folk..With sheetes han the blood ful faire yhent. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 216 Oure lady her hede sche schette in a schete. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 96, Y bequethe a shete to the..Chirche, to be peynted at the persons coste.., forto hange to-fore ij auteres. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 219 [He] sys3 an angyl wyth a whyt schete of selke wepe þe sydys of Saynt Laurens. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 122 Set a stole.. nygh vnto the swarme & lay a clene wasshen shete vpon the stole. 15.. *Wowing of Jok & Jynny* 26 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 388 Ane blanket, and ane wecht also, Ane schule, ane scheit, and ane lang flail. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 40 b, The Wayne or Cart must be lyned with sheetes, iest..the seede fall thorowe. 1649 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 102 Ane new sheitt of tyking to ye lard's horss. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Sheet*, in the manege. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXII, Meddle with your horse-sheets, and leave shawls alone. 1842 ABDY *Water Cure* 61 When the whole skin was thoroughly warm, the sheet was changed for another wet one. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sheets*, a name given by railway companies to wagon covers, of oiled canvas, made of different qualities and sizes, from 23 to 42 square yards. 1888 *Mrs. Beeton's Househ. Managem.* § 3279 She should..cover up every article of furniture that is likely to spoil with large dusting-sheets.

b. In phr. referring to performing penance in a sheet (orig. for fornication).

Cf. 1556, 1797 s.v. PENANCE *sb.* 2, and SHEETEN *a.*

1587 HARRISON *England* II. xi. 185/1 in *Holinshed*, Harlots and their mates by..dooing of open penance in sheets, in churches and market steeds are..put to rebuke. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* v. 546 An honest man that nere did stande in sheete. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* IV. iv, I can describe how often a man may lie with another man's wife before 'a come to the white sheet. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 104 The standing in a sheet (A punnishment for thy offence moste meet). 1902 W. J. FORD *Hist. Camb. Univ. C. C.* Pref. 11, I am willing to do penance of sheet and candle if I have wounded any one's feelings.

2. = WINDING-SHEET (q. v.). Also †*burying-sheet*, †*shrouding-sheet.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 260 Hi bewundon his lic mid linenre scytan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+192 Peter come after & in he went..And sage þe schetez spred. 13.. *Medit.* 955 Þys body was leyde vpp on a shete. 1450 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 181 My wrecched body to be beryd in a chitte with owte any kiste. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 42 A beryng shett with a seme. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 56 Quhen thay ar prickit in a scheit Than lost is all thair ryaltie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* V. iii. 97 Tybalt, ly'st thou there in thy bloudy sheet? 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* 24 Wee come into the world with a sheete about vs, no sooner borne, but going to bee buried. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 6 All that you'll get will be a Kist, and a Sheet after all. 1816 C. WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* iii, Not in sheet nor in shroud we bound him.

3. A large oblong piece of linen, cotton (or, formerly, hempen) cloth, used as an article of bedding, one being placed immediately above and one below the person. *The sheets*, the pair of sheets belonging to a bed; *between the sheets* (colloq.), in bed.

c 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 310 in *O. E. Misc.* 120 Schene vnder schete, and þeyh heo is schendful. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 45 No down of fetheres ne no bleched shete Was kyd to hem. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 233 Whan he sreyneth hym to streche þe strawe is his schetes. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 56, I wull he haue..to ilk of þe too beddis too peyre schetys goode. 1462 in Anstey *Munim. Acad.* (Rolls) II. 698 A peyr of schets. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 42 A payre of shettes of holond. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. ii. 16 Cytherea, How brauely thou becom'st thy Bed; fresh Lilly, And whiter then the Sheetes. 1622 BEAUM. & FL. *Beggar's Bush* III. iii, To steal from the hedge, both the shirt and the sheets. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 P 7, I was laid very decently between a Pair of Sheets. 1790 BURNS *Taylor fell thro' bed* i, The blankets were thin and the sheets they were sma'. 1842 TENNYSON *Vision of Sin* 68 Bitter barmaid, waning fast! See that sheets are on my bed. 1865 MRS. RIDDELL *Max. Drewitt* xxix, When induced to go to bed,..retiring from view between the sheets in his boots, coat, waistcoat, and trousers.

b. *pl.* in phrases with reference to sexual intercourse, e. g. *between the sheets*, *lawful sheets.* Also, with allusion to 'the shaking of the sheets' (see SHAKING *vbl. sb.* 1 d), *to dance* (*a dance*) *between a pair of sheets.*

[1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 144 O when she had writ it, & was reading it ouer, she found Benedicke and Beatrice betweene the sheete.] 1604 — *Oth.* II. iii. 29 Happinesse to their Sheetes. 1605 — *Lear* IV. vi. 118 My Daughters got 'tweene the lawfull sheets. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* I. ii, *Tom.*..How her honour..entertained him in very familiar manner. *Ars.* Nay more, that he had alreadie possest her sheetes. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, The delight to meet in the old dance Between a pair of sheets; my Grandame call'd it The peopling of the world. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 627 The moderate use of lawful Sheets. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Alsop's State Conform.* Wks. 1711 IV. 120 You and I can never dance betwixt one pair of Sheets. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* II. i, Must I then..Lead to his nuptial sheets the blushing maid? 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxvii. 30 Truly a noble father..Thus in a son's kind sheets lewdly to puddle.

4. A sail. Chiefly *poet.*

Not a nautical use; prob. originating as a misuse of SHEET *sb.*[2]

1637 HEYWOOD *Pleas. Dial.* 210 A deeper Sea I now perforce must saile, And lay my sheats ope to a freer gale. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lvi, Their folded Sheets dismiss the useless Air. 1712 PARNELL *Spect.* No. 501 P 3 The Boat was push'd off, the Sheet was spread. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 465 With speed the mast they rear, with speed unbind The spacious sheet, and stretch it to the wind.

5. An oblong or square piece of paper or parchment, *esp.* for writing or printing; *spec.* one of the pieces of definite size (varying according to the kind) in which paper is made, 24 (formerly also 25) going to a quire. (The 'sheet' of writing-paper is usually once folded, so as to form two 'leaves'.)

See also BROADSHEET; also *balance-*, *score-*, *time-sheet.*

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C ij b, *Philura*, a shete. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Shete of paper, *foyllet de papier.* 1538 LONDON in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 227 A multitude of small bonys [etc.]..wiche wolde occupie iiij. schetes of papyr to make particularly an inventary of every part thereof. ?1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* ix. C iij b, For writting one syde of a shete of paper..he will haue ij. grotes. 1613 TAPP *Pathw. Knowl.* 62 A Bale containes Reames 10 Quires 200 Sheets 5000. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Hemp-seed* 24 Foure and twenty Sheets doe make a Quire. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Nov. 1655, He told me of an inke that would give a dozen copies, moist sheets of paper being press'd on it. 1743 JOHNSON *Let. to Mr. Cave* in *Boswell*, I believe I am going to write a long letter, and have therefore taken a whole sheet of paper. 1775 — *Let.* 27 May *ibid.*, I have returned Lord Hailes's entertaining sheets. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvi, She..writes six sheets a-week to a female correspondent. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 224 The supply of blank paper, laid upon a table, from whence the sheets are drawn..by the boy standing upon the platform. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, He had..managed to fill two sides of a sheet of letter-paper. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. vii, Pete went out to buy a sheet of notepaper and an envelope. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 26/2 Plans..should not be large folded sheets, but single page plans of small districts. *allusively.* 1691 *Comedy, Win Her & Take Her* II. i. 19 She's a sheet of Rivell'd parchment, on which is Imprest a perpetual Almanack.

b. *In sheets*: lying flat or expanded, not folded. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

c. A piece of paper on which objects are fixed and arranged in order for sale and use.

1706 in Halliwell *Acc. Collect. Bills*, etc. (1852) 28 One sheet of pines 4[d]. *Mod.* Several sheets of botanical specimens.

d. A piece of paper (or card) which is divided by means of perforations or the like into sections which may be torn or cut away as required.

1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 2 Mar. 110/2 A Sheet of Continental Money,..containing sixteen bills, being numbered 38019, and 38032. 1852 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Postage Label Stamps* 94 That a sheet of perforated stamps might be charged a penny more than the unperforated one. 1901 *Whitaker's Alm.* (*Postal Guide*), Uncut sheets of half-penny wrappers, 14 on each sheet.

6. In printing and bookbinding, such a piece of paper printed and folded so as to form pages of a required size (folio, quarto, etc.). Also, a quantity of printed matter equal to that contained in a sheet.

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* B iij, All his works bound close, are at least sixe sheetes in quarto, and he calls them the first tome of his familiar Epistle. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* vi. 92 When the sheet is past the Correctors hand, and is Printed off. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 218 If it be the First Page of the first Sheet of a Book the Signature is A. 1689 *Gazophyl. Angl.* Pref. A 4 Lest the Book should exceed the quantity of Sheets design'd. 1751 *Chambers' Cycl.* Advt. conc. 2nd ed., A considerable part of the copy was prepared, and upwards of twenty sheets actually printed in that method. 1808 SCOTT *Let. to C. K. Sharpe* 30 Dec. in *Lockhart*, The fee is ten guineas a sheet. 1824 JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. *2 Two Sheets in Folio, Quired, or lying one in another. 1844 DICKENS *Let.* 3 Apr. A Magazine sheet is sixteen pages. 1885 LOCK in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 228/1 By 'binding' a book is meant the arrangement of the 'sheets' composing it..in proper sequence, within a pair of covers.

b. *In sheets*: (of books) not bound.

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2854/4 Numbers of the Books..have been..stolen out of Thomas Basset's Warehouse.., all in Sheets. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* II. Wks. 1799 I. 215 Four hundred of News from the invisible world, in sheets.

c. *pl.* With qualifying demonstrative or its equivalent: Pages or leaves of a book; esp. *these sheets*, *the following sheets* = the book now before the reader. Now *rare.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 122 In sacred sheets of either Testament 'Tis hard to find an higher Argument. 1676 W. ALLEN *Addr. Nonconf.* 114 What is said..by J. O. in some Sheets intituled, Two Questions [etc.]. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* Ded., Having of late Discovered the Short and Easy Method of Fencing, contained in the following Sheets. 1710 WHEATLY *Bk. Com. Prayer* xv. (1729) 540 It is easy for the Readers to turn to and observe them, without my swelling these Sheets with them here. 1829 SCOTT *Guy M.* Introd., In changing his plan,.. which was done in the course of printing, the early sheets retained the vestiges of the original tenor of the story. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 4 The following sheets assume that the English nation [etc.].

†**d.** A pamphlet. *Obs.*

c 1684 in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) V. 348 It is not my Presumption, in this Sheet, to write the Life of this great Statesman. 1726 *Life W. Penn* in *P.'s Wks.* (1782) I. p. cli, About this time [1702]..he wrote a sheet entitled, 'Considerations upon the Bill against Occasional Conformity.'

e. A newspaper. Now *rare.*

1749 FOOTE *Knights* I. (?1780) 6 Quires of news-papers! now, I reckon, you read a matter of eight sheets every day. *a* 1796 BURNS *To Mr. Peter Stuart*, Your sheet, man, (Though glad I'm to see't, man,) I get it no' ae day in ten. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, He tried to..read his paper as usual...He chuckled and swore to himself behind the sheet. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 5/3 The insinuations of the *Temps* are only taken up by a very few boulevard sheets.

7. A continuous extent or 'sweep' of something conceived as hanging, falling, or moving in a certain direction. **a.** Of light, lightning.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 46 Such sheets of Fire, such bursts of horrid Thunder. 1795 COLERIDGE *Lines written at Shurton Bars* 58 When a second sheet of light Flashed o'er the blackness of the night. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* x. Wks. 1853 III. 21 A broad sheet of lightning, which, through the darkness of evening, revealed the boat. 1857 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 268 There was a broad sheet of daylight in the west. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* viii, The sky was a sheet of lightning.

b. Of rain, mist, fog.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 437 Oft whole sheets descend of slucy Rain. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 327 A sheet of vapour rising from the sea. 1844 DICKENS *Let. to T. Mitton* 5 Nov., The water has been falling down in one continual sheet. 1894 *Yachting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 377 A heavy squall with sheets of rain. 1897 G. ALLEN *Type-writer Girl* I, As one beholds the Paps of Jura on a day of sea-fog through swaying sheets of white cloud.

transf. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 89 Our fellows.. sent broad sheets of bullets against the blazing crest of the offending works.

c. In an organ, the current (*of* wind) directed through the wind-way against the upper lip of a pipe.

1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* xvii. 135 Any movement of the languid would..alter the direction of the sheet of wind

8. A broad expanse or stretch of something lying out flat, presenting a white or glistening surface, or forming a relatively thin covering or layer.

a. of water. (In quot. 1593 ? *collect.*)

1593 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 219 Eighte shete of the fishinge water of Southe Yarowe. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 83 There you have the Canal and Sheets of Water in the same manner as in the other. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 193 A Long as well as Large ffountaine or pond w[ch] is Called a sheete of water. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 594 An azure sheet it rushes broad. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 106 The light and smoky mist That in its fall the liquid sheet throws wide. 1845 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. I. 35/1 The vast plain..during the greater part of the year..is a sheet of water. 1896 M. M'L. HARPER *Rambles in Galloway* I. 23 The loch is a lovely sheet of water.

b. of ice, foam.

1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 172 If it be calm Weather..they stay in the Sea, and fasten themselves to a sheet of Ice, and so they drive along with the Stream. 1807 WILKINSON in Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. App. 29 The ice had commenced drifting in large sheets. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* 13 A slumbrous sheet of foam below. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* IV. 78 The interior of that tract of country is covered with one wide sheet of snow and ice. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXVI, The surf was..tossing sheets of foam around the stone piers.

c. of vegetation, flowers.

1791 BURNS *Lament Mary Q. Scots* I, Now Nature.. spreads her sheets o' daisies white Out o'er the grassy lea. 1857 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 316 Broad sheets of ivy here and there mantle the headlong rock. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinev.* 387 Sheets of hyacinth That seem'd the heavens upbreaking thro' the earth.

d. of sediment, gravel, rock, lava, etc.; *spec.* in *Geol.* and *Metal-mining* (see quots.).

1815 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxxii, O'er sheets of granite,

dark and broad...lay the road. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* I, A mountain, whose sides were covered with heather and sheets of loose shingle. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 203 Sheets of lava are found in the north-eastern part of Ireland. 1880 D. C. DAVIES *Metalif. Min.* 421 *Sheet* [Australian], a solid body of pure ore filling a crevice. 1897 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 17 June 422 A now denuded gravel sheet which once covered the district. 1898 S. H. COX *Prospecting for Min.* 113 Cave Deposits..might be subdivided into chambers or pockets, flats or sheets, and pipe veins. 1905 TARR *New Phys. Geog.* 34 A mass of lava thrust between strata forms an intruded sheet or sill.

e. *Anat.* and *Path.* of tissue.

1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 30 There are four muscular sheets thus arising placed beneath one another and distinct from each other. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 504 The new epidermis is thrown off..either in sheets or in scales.

9. A relatively thin piece of considerable breadth *of* a malleable, ductile, or pliable substance.

1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 132 Lay the Meat round the Dish, on a sheet of Paste. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1666. Where a sheet of lead covering a great space.. was totally mealted. 1796 *Mrs. Glasse's Cookery* viii. 143 Lay a sheet of puff-paste at the bottom of your dish. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiv. (1842) 311 A still higher heat may be gained by fanning the upper part of the fire with a sheet of pasteboard. 1856 H. CHANCE in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 226/2 (Glassmaking), The sheets, when annealed, are drawn from the kiln. 1893 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* xv. 100 A sheet of plate glass. 1904 HOWITT *Native Tribes S. E. Austr.* viii. 462 A sheet of bark is rolled round him.

b. A flat piece of tin, used for baking cakes, etc.

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 140 Flower some Sheets of Tin, and drop your Biskets of what Bigness you please. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 274 Grease your tin sheets, and drop them [:he jumbles] in the shape of a macaroon. 1846 SOYER *Gastron. Regen.* p. xxiii, Baking-sheets of various sizes.

c. Rubber prepared in thin pieces.

1900 BRANNT *India Rubber* ii. 103 The manufacture of fine cut sheet was invented by Charles Macintosh. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 16/3 Vallambrosa smoked sheet realized 4s. 7¾d. and first latex crepe 4s. 4¾d. per lb.

d. Sheet iron or steel; a length of this.

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* x. 211 It is usual to describe all plates of a thickness below No. 4 B. W. G. (Birmingham Wire Gauge)—·238 inch—as 'sheets'. 1897 *Daily News* 12 Apr. 2/5 Sheets of 24 gauge. 1899 *Ibid.* 23 Jan. 8/6 Galvanised corrugated sheets.

10. A more or less extensive piece (of a wall). *rare.* (Cf. F. *pan de mur.*)

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 21 Sept. 4/1 Every shot knocking down whole sheets of a wall.

11. *Geom.* A portion of a surface analogous to the branch of a curve.

1827 H. P. HAMILTON *Anal. Geom.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 730 The conical surface will be composed of two similar portions, one above, and the other below the vertex; each portion is called a sheet. 1859 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 117 An algebraic cone consists..of a closed sheet or sheets.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sheet-cloth, -hem, -leaf, -lettering, -maker, -stealer*; *sheet-like, -white* adjs.

1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 256 A *sheite cloithe of my lynne webbe. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 14 The width of a *sheet hem is very different from that on a pocket-handkerchief. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* I. Wks. 1873 III. 354 The foul Fiend took him napping with his nose Betwixt the *sheet-leaves of his conjuring Book. 1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1044 An expanding comb guides the even and *sheet-like threads on to the weavers' beam. 1883 MOLONEY *W. African Fisheries* 19 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), A loose sheet-like body-covering wrapper. 1611 COTGR. s. v., *Adventurier, Vn Adventurier vagabond*, ..a hedge-creeper, hennekiller, *sheet-stealer. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 270 The closed door of a *sheet-white cottage.

b. Special comb.: **sheet-calender** (see quot.); **sheet-card**, a kind of card used in cotton manufacture (see quot.); **sheet-cow**, *dial.*, a cow having a broad white band round the body [cf. SHEETED 3]; **sheet-delivery** (see quot.); **sheet-filled** *a.*, having the sails filled out by the wind; **sheet-glass**, (*a*) cylinder glass; also *attrib.*; (*b*) a vessel made of this glass; **sheet-lightning**, lightning in a sheet-like form due to reflection by the clouds; **sheet-pile** (see quot. 1862); hence **sheet-pile** *v. trans.*, to protect with sheet-piles; **sheet-piling**, a continuous wall of sheet-piles; **sheet pointing machine** (see quot.); †**sheet-shaking** *Sc.*, remains of meal, etc. shaken from the bottom of a sheet; cf. *poke-shaking* s. v. POKE *sb.*[1] 7; **sheet-ways**, in single sheets written only on one side; **sheet-wise**, in the form or manner of sheet-work; **sheet-work** (see quot.).

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sheet Calender*, a machine for pressing paper, rubber, etc., into sheets and giving it surface. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 380 Cards are formed in two ways; the one called *sheet-card, is made about four inches wide, and 18 inches long, or of a length corresponding with the width of the main cylinder, which they have to cover; the other, called fillet-card. 1772 in *Mrs. Delany's Autobiogr.* Ser. II. I. 476 This comes hoping that the *sheet cow will come walking..into the charming domaines of Bulstrode on Wensday next. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sheet Delivery*, delivering the printed sheet from the form to the fly. 1652 BENLOWES *Theophila* IX. xxxix, The Poet's Pharos be that sets forth sail, While he steers *sheet-fill'd with a holy gale. 1805 *Act* 45 *Geo. III*, c. 30 Sched., All other Window Glass..commonly called..by the Name of Crown Glass, or German *Sheet Glass. 1846 MACCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 745 Sheet glass furnaces. 1887 *Month* LXI. 162 The reliquary, consisting of two round sheet glasses. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 472 Lightning of this sort, denominated *sheet lightning, is mostly to be seen in the hot sultry evenings of summer or autumn, and is generally unaccompanied with thunder. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 726 When it seem'd he saw No pale sheet-lightnings from afar, but fork'd Of the near storm. 1841 BREES *Gloss. Civ. Engin.* s. v. *Foundation*, To drive a row of *sheet [*printed* sheep] piles next the foundations of walls adjoining the sea, or rivers. 1862 RANKINE *Man. Civ. Engin.* § 404. 603 Sheet Piles are flat piles, which, being driven successively edge to edge, form a vertical or nearly vertical sheet, for the purpose of preventing the materials of a foundation from spreading. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 58/2 *Sheet-pile it a short space from the wall of the hole. 1789 W. JESSOP *Rep. Thames & Isis* (1791) 23 With some short *sheet piling underneath it at the foot. 1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 12/2 The foot of the river wall will be protected by sheet piling of whole timbers 8 feet long. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Sheet Pointing Machine*, a machine for preparing printing sheets for cutting. 1543 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 191 The vittell byaris of the merkat scattis thame grytlie in taking of sampillis, *scheytschakkingis, and sic oder ewill vsit custum. 1561 *Ibid.* 335 Nor na skaiffry, sic as sampill and scheit schakin, to be tane thairof. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 262 That each Sheet of an Extract, written *Sheet-ways, consist of forty nine Lines,..and, if wrote Book-ways, that it consist of two Pages, and of thirty six Lines in each Page. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, **Sheet work*, applied to works or jobs printed both sides—the reverse of half-sheet or 'work and turn'.

13. quasi-*adj.* a. Rolled out in a sheet; esp. of metals, as *sheet iron* (also freq. attrib.), *lead, steel.*

1582 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 358 Sheete lead to make A spowte. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 75 The Carpenters-sheet-lead. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 21 The Lye-Trough..is Leaded with Sheet-Lead. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 11 Beil-springs are rarely made of any thing else than sheet iron thus managed. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* vii. (1842) 209 Sheet caoutchouc, which is about the tenth or twelfth of an inch thick. *Ibid.* iv. 132 A piece of sheet copper. *Ibid.* xxiii. 584 Plates of sheet zinc are often required for the precipitation of metals. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 290/2 A thin plate of sheet brass. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 323 There are three sizes of the sheet-iron hand-barrow. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi, We..sent for the sheet-iron men, and had the stove taken up-stairs. 1869 R. MURRAY *Mar. Engines* 35 Sheet-flue Boilers. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 239 The piece of sheet percha that is held in the hand. 1883 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 9 A Bunsen's burner..provided with a small chimney of sheet-iron.

b. Hence, pertaining to the manufacture of sheet iron or steel, as *sheet-mill.* Also in objective comb., as *sheet-maker, -worker.*

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* xvi. 334 The sheet mills of Birmingham and of South Wales. 1885 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 2/5 Certain of the sheet makers are declining to accept further orders...Orders in the sheet trade are very irregularly distributed. 1886 *Ibid.* 20 Sept. 2/5 Sheet prices are without change. 1892 *Labour Comm.* Gloss., *Sheet Makers*, manufacturers who work *sheet mills*, as distinguished from plates and strip mills.

c. Of water, etc.: Spread out in a sheet.

1896 *Idler* Mar. 175/1 At this time it was a sheet-calm. A floating soup-plate would not have filled. 1899 W. M. DAVIS *Phys. Geog.* 314 The water finds no channels; it spreads out in a shallow sheet, called a sheetflood, which gains a breadth of a mile or more, but a depth of only one or two feet. 1904 *Mission Field* June 436 The land is sub-irrigated by what is called 'sheetwater'.

d. = Printed on a single sheet or broadside (see sense 5), esp. *sheet-almanac.*

1683 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 187, I writ to your Lordship for a dozen of your sheet Almanacks for this yeer. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 83 There has been lately published a sheet list of changes, said to have happened during the present reign. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 129 She examines the sheet almanack pasted up behind the door, to see what holiday it might be. 1881 CROWEST *Phases Mus. Eng.* 146 The pricing of Songs and of Sheet-music generally. 1901 D. B. HALL & LD. A. OSBORNE *Sunshine & Surf* ii. 17 We had a big sheet almanac hanging at one end of the cabin.

Sheet (ʃit), *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 scéata, 4 chete, 4–6 s(c)hete, 5 shet, 6 shit, *Sc.* scheit, 6–7 sheate, 6–8 sheat, 7– sheet. [OE. *scéata* wk. masc., having the meanings of OE. *scéat* (see SHEET *sb.*[1]), also = lower corner of a sail, 'pes veli'; in comb. *scéatline* 'propes' (see Wr.-Wülcker 183/26 and 288/24) = MLG. *schötline*, in which sense the simple word is recorded from the 14th c. For the cognate forms and their meanings see SHEET *sb.*[1]; cf. SHOOT *sb.*[2]]

1. A rope (or chain) attached to either of the lower corners of a square sail (or the after lower corner of a fore-and-aft sail), and used to extend the sail or to alter its direction. *False sheet*: see quot. 1644 in sense 4.

See also FORE-SHEET 1, *jib-sheet* (JIB *sb.*[1] 3), MAIN-SHEET 1.

1336 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 19/31 m. 4 In xxx. petris cordis de canabo..pro duobus schetes inde faciendis. 1352 *Excheq. Acc. Q. R.* 20 no. 27 (P.R.O.) Pro ij. cables novis, ij. chetis, j. hauser et quodam bowelyne. 1373 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 370 [One sail with] 2 shettes, 2 thurghwalis. *c* 1460 *Pilgrim's Sea-Voy.* 25 Hale the bowelyne! now, vere the shete! 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 23 A payre of takkes & a payr of shets weying dccxlj lb. 1522 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, III. II. 975 Vyere the shit. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 40 Hail eftir the foir sail scheit. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 15 The boulespret hath no bow lines, and the misen sheats, are called the starne sheats. 1627—*Seaman's Gram.* v. 23 The Sheats..in top sailes..serue to hale them home, that is, to bring the clew close to the yards arme. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 293 Vere, vere, more Sheet. 1722 DIAPER tr. *Oppian's Halieut.* I. 367 Let fly the Sheets. 1796 P. HOARE *Song, The Arethusa* 18 Not a sheet, or a Tack, Or a brace did she slack. 1805 E. BERRY 13 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 118 *note*, The main-top-gallant sheet was carried away. I then let fly the top gallant sheets. 1837 G. B. GOODE, etc. *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 571 Enough 'sheet' to allow a slow headway. 1891 C. H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 160 With boom sails sheets are used for controlling the boom.

b. †*Betwixt a pair of sheets* or *both sheets aft*: said of a ship sailing right before the wind.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 A flowne sheat is when shee goes before the wind, or betwixt a paire of sheats, or all sailes drawing. *Ibid.* 42 Well Master the Channell is broad enough; Yet you cannot steare betwixt a paire of sheats; Those are words of mockery betwixt the Cunner and the Stearesman. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 328 Each bulging sayle..begins to swell, betweene two sheetes. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Both sheets aft* (*entre deux écoutes*, Fr.), the situation of a ship that sails right afore the wind.

2. *Three sheets in the wind*: very drunk.

A sheet in the wind (or *wind's eye*) is used occas. = half drunk.

1821 EGAN *Real Life* I. xviii. 385 Old Wax and Bristles is about three sheets in the wind. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xx, He..seldom went up to the town without coming down 'three sheets in the wind'. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* lvii, A thought tipsy—a sheet or so in the wind, as folks say. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xx, Maybe you think we were all a sheet in the wind's eye.

3. See quots. and FORE-SHEET 2, STERN-SHEET.

1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 92 Those plancks under water, which come along the Run of the ship, and are closed to the Sterne-post, are called Sheates, and that part within boord, abaft, in the Run of the ship, is called the sterne-sheates. 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 29 The flooring abaft the stateroom [sitter's seat] is called the *after-sheet*, the forward one the *forward-sheet*, and the next to it (if there be two forward), the *waist-sheet*. *Ibid.* 31 Sheets are the boards used fore and aft, as a floor to the boat, in the same way as the burthens amidships. 1891 C. H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 160 *Sheets*, the spaces in a rowing boat forward and abaft the thwarts, and named respectively *fore-sheets* and *stern-sheets*. 1898 A. ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms* s. v., *Head-sheets, stern-sheets* (in open boats), the floor-boards covering the space either at the head or the stern of the boat.

4. *attrib.*, as *sheet-bend* (BEND *sb.*[1] 3), *-bitt, -block* (BLOCK *sb.* 5), *-clip, -pendant* (PENDANT *sb.* 7), *-pennant* (PENNANT[1] 1), *-rope, -slip* (see SLIP *sb.*[3] 3 e), *-stopper*: see quots.

1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 56 Take your tack under the yard and bend it by a *sheet-bend to the outer clew. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sheet-bend*, a sort of double hitch, made by passing the end of one rope through the bight of another, round both parts of the other, and under its own part. 1891 C. H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 160 **Sheet Bitts*, bitts near the mast to which the topsail sheets are belayed. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 92 We use to bind an other roape to the clew of the saile above the *Sheate-block, to succour and ease the Sheate, and that roape we call a false Sheate. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 225 Sheet-block straps in the lift with a splice. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* ix. 47 In which case the heavy tack and sheet-blocks may be unhooked. 1898 A. ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms*, **Sheet clip* (or **sheet slip*), an instrument, the principal agent in which is a sort of drop pawl, by which sheets may be held, while necessary, and instantly released. 1908 *Paasch's Dict. Naval Terms* 422 **Sheet-pendant*, a strong piece of rope attached by one end to the clew of a stay-sail or jib. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* ix. 53 Having the *sheet pennant hauled amidships. *a* 1642 SUCKLING *Lett.* (1646) 89 Which, like the pulling of a *sheat-rope at Sea, slackens the sail. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 226 Sheet-rope splices into the clue of the sail. *Ibid.* 176 Fore-tack, and *Sheet, Stoppers, are for securing the tacks and sheets, till belayed.

Sheet (ʃit), *v.*[1] [f. SHEET *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To wrap or fold in or as in a sheet (*lit.* and *fig.*); now *spec.* to cover with a protecting sheet of canvas, tarpaulin, etc.

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 163 You haue in sleepe the image of death, wherein you are sheeted and wrapped vp euery night. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse-Shoe Robinson* iv, The pale moon that now sheeted with its light her whole figure. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. xii, Trees there are all sheeted with variegated fire. *Ibid.* III. IV. i, A fair young creature, sheeted in red smock of Murderess. 1857 *Househ. Words* 27 June 605/2 The truck being now sheeted and ticketted. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* iii, [A racehorse] Clothed and hooded, littered to the hocks, and sheeted to the tail.

2. To spread a sheet or layer of some substance upon (a surface); to cover with a sheet (e.g. of snow or ice). (Also with *down, up.*)

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 65 When Snow the Pasture sheets. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 368 The sky-borne waters..Veil the dark deep and sheet the mountain's side. 1863 W. LANCASTER *Praeterita* 85 The amber daffodils, Sheeting the floors of April. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* II. 106 The flakes were large...The whole city was sheeted up. 1888 — *Black Arrow* IV. i, The snow was falling,..the whole world was blotted out and sheeted down below that silent inundation. 1912 MASEFIELD *Dauber* v. xli, Is it cold? We're sheeted up, I tell you, inches thick.

b. Const. *with* (the substance of which the layer consists).

1802 MOLLARD *Art of Cookery* (1836) 168 Sheet a mould with paste. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 218 The river was sheeted with ice. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 17 Its roof was sheeted, like St. Peter's, with copper.

1893 *Times* 14 July 3/1 The country is green as a meadow and sheeted with flowers.

†3. To furnish (a bed) with sheets; usually *pass.* *Obs.*

1714 Mrs. Manley *Adv. Rivella* 119 A Bed nicely sheeted and strow'd with Roses. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 5 A bed ready sheeted and warmed. 1820 in Southey *Wesley* I. 457 One of the maids, who went up to sheet a bed.

†4. *pass.* and *intr.* To bed *with*. *Obs.*

1637 Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 72 To be sheeted by Bellama's side. *Ibid.* 90 To sheet with maidens.

5. *intr.* To spread or flow in a sheet.

1847 Le Fanu *T. O'Brien* 324 High sheets the water round him in glittering spray. 1871 G. MacDonald *Wks. of Fancy* II. 203 Cataracts sheet..through the air.

6. *trans. To sheet up* (see quot.).

1883 R. Haldane in *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 141/1 To Sheet-up.—To rub dry with sheets.

Sheet (ʃīt), *v.*[2] [f. Sheet *sb.*2] *trans. To sheet home*: to extend the sheets of (the topsails) to the outer extremities of the yards so that the clews are close to the sheet-blocks. Also *absol.* (and in extended sense, see quot. 1867).

1797 S. James *Narr. Voy.* 227 They sheeted home the topsails. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xi. (1859) 265 The topsails were let fall and sheeted home. 1837 E. Howard *Old Commodore* iv, Let us shake out our reefs, sheet home, and away. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Sheet home!*.. Also, when driving anything home, as a blow, &c. 1890 Morris *Glitt. Plain* xix, He stepped the mast and hoisted sail, and sheeted home.

Hence **Shee·ted** *ppl. a.*

1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Wallace* xliii, As sheeted sails, torn by the blast, Flap round some vessel's rocking mast.

Sheet: see Sheath, Shoot *v.*, Shut.

Sheet-anchor (ʃī·tæŋkəɹ). Forms: *α.* 5 shut(t)e, 6 shut, showte, shoute, shote, 6–7 shoot(e, shot, 7 shott. *β.* 7 sheath, shed, 7 sheate, 7–8 sheat, 9– sheet. [Origin uncertain.

Perhaps f. ME. *shote*, Shot *sb.*[2] = cable of two ropes spliced together, but the difference of form (*shott* and *shute*) in quot. 1497 makes this doubtful. The *α*-forms are parallel with those of Shoot *sb.*[2], and the substitution of forms of the synonymous Sheet *sb.*[2] in the 17th c. points to association with that word, but the connexion in sense is not obvious.

With regard to the generally accepted derivation from Shoot *v.* ('an anchor that is shot out'), the formation would be abnormal, it is not supported by the majority of the *α*-forms, nor is it clear why any anchor in particular should be so designated.]

A large anchor, formerly always the largest of a ship's anchors, used only in an emergency.

α. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 192 Ankers called Shutte. 1497 *Ibid.* 184 For a Newe Shott of Cables..to the use of the seid Ship for the Shute ankers. 1514 in Oppenheim *Admin. Royal Navy* (1896) I. 378 Ankers called.. Shot ankers j, Caggers j. 1536 *Rem. Sedition* iij, He castethe the shote anker, when he wyll, and not when they bydde hym, that are in his shyp. 1586 J. Davis in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 786 The cable of our shut anker brake. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 38 Our shoote-Anker was downe.

β. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 The greatest in euery ship is called the sheat Anchor. *a* 1647 Petie in *Archæologia* XII. 275 We broke our best bower, and were forced to let go our sheet anchor. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 292 His shed-anchor to hold fast his floating ship. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 10 Our Master order'd out the Sheet Anchor. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 404 At 4 A.M. found ship drove, veered to a whole cable;..and got sheet anchor overside. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., To a sheet anchor a stout hempen cable is generally bent. 1889 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 5/7 The Howe..went gradually to leeward until she brought herself up with her sheet anchor.

b. *fig.* That on which one places one's reliance when everything else has failed.

α. 1524 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) IV. 228 The next Parlament, which in maner shalbe the shoote anker for thexpedicion of our purpoos. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 498/1 Ye shall se what aunswere he maketh, & what he bringeth for the shote ancre of al his shifte. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* I. i. (Arb.) 11 Of all men he is my chiefe banker Both for meate and money, and my chiefe shoot-anker. 1562 Turner *Of Bathes* 15 Then shall it be high tyme to go to the bathes as to the shot ancre. 1616 Champney *Voc. Bps.* 252 M. Mason cometh now to cast his shott anker, and saith. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 62 Wherein yet Christ is the Shoot-anker of salvation.

β. 1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. xviii. § 2 Casting out his sheat anchour [*ed.* 1669 sheath-anchor] of hope. 1676 Molloy *De Jure Marit.* III. vii. (1688) 416 It is Foreign Trade that is the main Sheet-Anchor of us Islanders. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 8 May, The great sheet-anchor, upon which we are to depend in our voyage through life. 1838 Lytton *Alice* v. ii, The landed interest..is the great stay of this country—the sheet-anchor I may say. 1870 Miss Bridgman *Robt. Lynne* II. iv. 88 Bertie was.. the sheet-anchor of her life. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 821 Bleeding is our 'sheet anchor' in this disease.

attrib. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxv, As soon as he had his old sheet-anchor friend to hold on to.

Sheet-cable. *Naut.* [f. *sheet-* in Sheet-anchor.] The cable belonging to the sheet-anchor.

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Maistre, Vn maistre cable, ou chable*, a sheat-cable. 1642 H. Bond *Boat Swain's Art* 18 Your sheat Cable is commonly so many halfe inches about as your ship is bredth in feete at the midship Beame. 1742 in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 100 Cutting the sheet cable at the windlass, with great difficulty we wore the ship. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* III. 115/2 The sheet cable parted about half after four o'clock.

Sheeted (ʃī·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Sheet *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. Wrapped in a sheet, *esp.* a winding-sheet: applied to the dead and ghosts.

1604 Shaks. *Ham.* I. i. 115 (Qo. 2) The sheeted dead Did squeake and gibber in the Roman streets. 1630 H. Lord *Relig. Persees* 50 Shrowded and sheeted carkeyses. 1786 S. Rogers *Ode Superst.* I. ii. 9 The sheeted spectre, rising from the tomb. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 88 Churchyard tales of sheeted ghosts. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* lv, He saw Gwendolen..pale as one of the sheeted dead.

b. Enveloped in a sheet or sheets for protection against injury, cold, etc.

1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 104, 1 sheeted box containing books. 1840 Haliburton *Letter Bag* i. 7 Sheeted, blanketed, and quilted, I remain enveloped in the drapery of my bed. 1884 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 610 A string of some thirty sheeted horses are walking round and round. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 277 The paltry gas-jets on the stage..were just sufficient to show the sheeted boxes and a few of the front rows of stalls.

2. In the form of a sheet; expanded or spread out like a sheet: chiefly of rain, snow, lightning.

1796 *New Ann. Reg.* 164 Thro' plashy glade Where crackles, at each step, the sheeted ice. 1798 Coleridge *Wand. Cain* Wks. (1907) 345 The sheeted lightning. 1811 Scott *Don Roderick* II. xxxvi, Then sheeted rain burst down. 1847 Longf. *Evang.* I. v. 100 The sheeted smoke with flashes of flame intermingled. 1851 Ht. Martineau *Introd. Hist. Peace* II. i, The two armies lay down amidst the sheeted snow. 1904 R. Bridges *Demeter* 551 The useless poppy in sheeted scarlet.

3. Of cattle: Having a broad band of white round the body. (Cf. *sheet-cow*, Sheet *sb.*[1] 12 b.)

1834 Youatt *Cattle* (L. U. K.) 28 They are called *sheeted* oxen. The head, the neck, the shoulders, and the hind parts appear as if they were uncovered, while there is a sheet fairly and perfectly thrown over the barrel. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* v, That sheeted heifer of Prowse's. 1858 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIX. II. 389 In colour usually 'sheeted' black and white.

4. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.*, *Sheeted*, this expression is used when heavily printed work has to be placed sheet by sheet between other sheets to prevent off-set of ink.

†**Shee·ten**, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. Sheet *sb.*[1] + -en 4.] Consisting of a sheet (see Sheet *sb.*[1] 1 b).

a 1618 J. Davies *Scourge Paper-persec.* (1624) 11 If.. wanton Rig, or letcher dissolute Doe stand at Pauls-Crosse in a Sheeten Sute.

Shee·ter. [f. Sheet *v.*[1] + -er 1.] (See quot.)

1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 985 The machine for forming the wool into sheets of a nearly uniform thickness, technically known as the 'sheeter'.

Sheeter, obs. form of Shooter.

Sheet-fish, variant of Sheath-fish[1].

Sheetful (ʃī·tful). [f. Sheet *sb.*[1] + -ful.] As much as a sheet will contain.

1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 44 Take a shete ful of brome croppes. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 1 ¶ 7, I shall publish a Sheet-full of Thoughts every Morning. 1812 *Examiner* 31 Aug. 545/2 A second writes a long uneasy sheet-full of irony. 1825 J. T. Coleridge in Ld. Coleridge *Story Devonsh. House* (1906) 287 An hour's talk would be of more help to him than a sheetful of writing.

Sheeth(e, obs. forms of Sheath *sb.*

Sheeting (ʃī·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Sheet *sb.*[1] + -ing 1.]

1. Stout cloth of linen or cotton, such as is used for bed linen, etc.

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4847/3 Irish Sheeting and Ticking. 1796 *Mrs. Glasse's Cookery* xviii. 291 Roll it up tight, bind it round with sheeting, and boil it four hours. 1844 *Ladies' Hand-bk. Haberdashery* 26 Sheeting. This is a strong woven cotton, and is frequently used as a substitute for linen. 1848 Kingsley *'Bad Squire'* xv, By dealing out flannel and sheeting A little below cost price. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 770 Sheetings and towellings. 1877 J. W. Hayes *Draper & Haberdasher* (ed. 4) 96 Sheetings are a stout article, made in Wigans, Croydons, and Double Warps from two or three yards wide. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 277/1 *Sheeting* has two meanings in the cotton trade: (1) the ordinary bed sheeting, usually a stout cloth of anything from 45 in. to 120 in. wide..; (2) a grey calico, heavier than a shirting..usually 36 in. by 40 yd.

2. A lining or covering of timber or metal, laid on a surface as a protection.

1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 32 The sheeting nailed on the Piles. 1870 *Milit. Engin.* I. II. 101 The wooden linings are of two descriptions, viz., cases, or frames and sheeting.

b. A layer (of soil or stones).

1891 *Scott. Leader* 6 Nov., Laying down sheetings of stones in certain districts. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 236/2 Rocks, which, having lost their thin sheeting of soil.

c. A form of batting (Knight *Dict. Mech.*). (See Batting *vbl. sb.* 2.)

3. The action or process of making (lead) into sheets; the action of covering with sheets or laying in sheets.

1778 *Engl. Gazetteer* s. v. *Mendip*, The lead is..not so proper for sheeting, because, when melted, it runs into knots. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Sheeting*, (*Tobacco*), laying the leaves flat to be piled in books. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 31 May, 5/1 Clerkage, checking, and weighing, as well as sheeting.

4. *attrib.*, as (sense 2) *sheeting deal, plank*; **sheeting-machine** (see quots.); **sheeting-pile** = *sheet-pile* (see Sheet *sb.*[1] 13).

1837 J. T. Smith tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 77 *note*, The space on which the foundation is to rest, is first surrounded by sheeting piles. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 203/1 The 'sheeting' planks, or (in Lancashire phrase) the 'lagging'. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 972 This sheeting deal is always applied in pieces laid endwise. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Sheeting-machine*, a wool-combing machine for bringing the fiber into an even sheet. *Ibid., Sheeting-machine*, a machine for smoothing tobacco-leaves.

Shee·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. Sheet *v.*[1] + -ing 2.] Swathing, enfolding.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* 1081 Sheeting darkness overhangs the earth.

Shee·tless, *a.* [f. Sheet *sb.*[1]] Without sheets.

1756 *Demi-Rep* 26 Where stand the sheetless bed, the broken chair.

Shee·tling. *rare.* [Sheet *sb.*[1]] A little sheet.

1817 W. Wilberforce in *Life* (1838) IV. 310 You would have received a good long letter instead of this sheetling.

Sheet-shot. *Naut.* [f. *sheet-* in Sheet-anchor + Shot *sb.*] = Sheet-cable. Also *attrib.*

1750 Blanckley *Naval Expos.* s. v. *Cables*, Cables Allowed for Channel Service, are distributed in this Manner, two being spliced together are called the Sheat-shot; three the Best-bower; one the Small-bower, and one Spare. 1847 Muller *Polygl. Naut.* 28 Sheet shot cable.

Sheety (ʃī·ti), *a.* [f. Sheet *sb.*[1] + -y 1.] Spreading in a broad sheet: chiefly of a stretch of water.

1748 Collins *Ode to Evening* 29 in Dodsley *Coll.* I. 332. Then lead, calm Vot'ress, where some sheety lake Cheers the lone heath. 1794 Gisborne *Walks in Forest* vi. (1796) 98 Streams..down the hills Spread sheety o'er the slopes. *c* 1816 Fuseli *Lect. on Art* viii. (1848) 511 Oil, which rounds and conglutinates, spreads less than the sheety medium of fresco. *a* 1834 S. T. Coleridge in *Cottle's Early Recoll.* (1837) II. 255 The sheety burst Of lightning o'er the awaken'd midnight clouds.

Sheeve, obs. form of Sheaf, Sheave.

Sheever, obs. form of Shiver.

Sheew, obs. f. Show *v.* **Shef**, obs. pa. t. of Shove *v.*

Shefe, Sheff(e, obs. forms of Sheaf, Sheave.

Sheffield (ʃe·fĭld), the name of a manufacturing city of Yorkshire, famous for cutlery, used *attrib.* as *Sheffield knife, ware, whittle*; **Sheffield plate**, plate made of copper coated with silver by a special process brought to perfection in Sheffield (but now disused).

c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 13 A Sheffield [*v. rr.* scheffeld, sheffeld] thwitel baar he in his hose. 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 38 A payr of capped Sheffeld kniuez. 1623 Dekker *Witch of Edmonton* II. ii, The Bridegroom and Bride comes; the new pair of Sheffeild-Knives fitted both to one sheath. 1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 52 Buttons, Knives, Scissars, and other Sheffield Ware. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxvii, But thou art sharper than a Sheffield whittle! 1856 Gore in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 42 Old worn-out articles formed of 'Sheffield plate'. 1878 Dowden *Stud. Lit.* 37 If a song is to be at all a sword, it must be of finer temper than even the finest Sheffield cutlery.

† b. Used predicatively as *adj.* *Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. 1910 III. 178 Tell me if our English sconses be not right Sheffield or no.

Sheffonier, rare var. Chiffonier, representing the common pronunciation (ʃefənī·əɹ).

1808 Mrs. M. T. Kemble *Day after Wedding* 3 Furnished with Sofa, Footstools, Sheffoniers.

Shefte, obs. f. Shift. **Shefure**, obs. f. Shiver. **Shegger**, misprint for Skegger.

1758 Binnell *Descr. Thames* 175 Little Trout, called a Samlet or Shegger-Trout.

Shegh, error for *sege*, Siege *sb.* (q.v. 2 c).

1688 Holme *Armoury* II. xiii. 311/1 A Shegh of Herons.

Shehide, obs. erron. form of Shahi.

Sheick, obs. variant of Saic.

1775 Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 13 The captain.. made a signal for a scheick or wherry to come along side.

‖ **Sheikh** (ʃēk, ʃīk). Forms: 6 siech, 7 sceich, shech, shich, sheicke, shiek, 7–8 sheck, 8 schec(h, shiech, shaik, sheek, 7–9 sheich, scheik, sheick, 9 schiek, shaikh, shaykh, sheykh, 7– sheik, 8– sheikh; 7 cheq, cheke, 8 check, cheik, chiek, 8–9 chaik, 9 cheick; 7–8 xeque. [Arabic شيخ *shaikh* properly 'old man', f. *shākha* to grow or be old. Cf. OF. *esceque, seic*, F. *cheik, scheik*, Sp. *jeque*, Pg. *xeque*.]

1. The chief of an Arab family or tribe; the headman of an Arabian village; an Arab chief; †an Eastern governor, prince, king. Now also used among Arabs as a general title of respect.

1577 *Eden's Hist. Trav.* 331 b, The kyng of Persia is called Siech Ismael, whom the Italians call Gualizador, or Sophi. 1615 W. Bedwell tr. *Moham. Impost.* I. § 3 The peace of God..be vpon thee my Sheich. 1671 Charente *Lett. conc. Customs Tafilleta* 5 The cheif of each Tribe, who take upon them the Title of Xeque, which is equivalent to Captain. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 160 He sent thither an Arab Scheik with many Arabs. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. iv. 36 He has the Title of Xeriff given him, to distinguish his Eminency from other Sheeks. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* I. iii. 32 One of the Numidian petty Princes, called by Greek Authors Philarchs, and by the Arabs, &c. Sheikhs. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 507 Mutavali, the chiek or governor of Mesched. 1788 *Tully's Narr. Resid. Tripoli* (1817) 175 Shaik Alieff, an Arab chief. 1841 Kinnear *Cairo*, etc. 169 One of the Fellah sheichs. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* I. 457 Abraham..left his home in Ur of the Chaldees to wander as a nomad Sheikh. 1908 Mockler-Ferryman *Golden Girdle* iii, I knew that the Jelas tribe still existed, and though Sheik Feyzul was dead, his son Faris reigned in his stead. 1908 *Times* 8 July 19/2 As regards the Shaykh's competency as an Arabic scholar, there can be but one opinion.

2. The head of a religious order or community; a great religious doctor or preacher; now *esp.* a saint having a local cultus.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 276 A Nation..which be

calleth Hhassissin, which..followed a peculiar Prophet... They called him Sheich [*printed* Hheich] al Hhassissin. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 46 The Devotions.. done at the Sepulchre of Schich Sefi at Ardebit. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* II. 199 A Book..written by a Cheke, or Doctor of Grand Cairo. 1753 R. CLAYTON *Jrnl. Cairo to Mt. Sinai* 12 Sept. 1722, As we were passing by a mosch, where a certain shiech Salah was buried,..several of our guides..went thither to receive a benediction. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 674 A convent.., the scheik, or superior of which was a friend of the steward. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 201 A sheikh's tomb with a tiled roof. 1908 S. A. COOK *Relig. Anc. Palestine* vi. 68 Saints and holy sheikhs of the modern shrines.

b. *Sheikh-ul-Islam* (properly *Sheikhu 'l Islam*): the supreme authority in matters relating to religion and sacred law; in Turkey, the mufti. Hence *Sheikh-ul-Islamate.*

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 261 The Sheikelislam, who is the chief Civil Judge. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. li. 231 The kaziæskar is judge of the army, and the sheichulislam is reputed of equal rank with him. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 26 Apr. 5/4 She went to the Sheikh-ul-Islamate. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Sept. 3/2 No political act of the Sultan has any validity without the fetwa of the Sheikh-ul-Islam.

3. In India, one of a dissenting sect of Mohammedans; now, a general term for Hindu converts to Islam. (Usually *shekh, shaikh.*)

[1697 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* III. i. 93 All Musselmen ..are distinguished, some according to the Consanguinity they claim with Mahomet...A Shiek is a Cousin..at a distance, into which Relation they admit all new Proselytes.] 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 185/2 (*Madras*) The Shaikhs number 511,112, the Sayyids 89,219, the Pathans 70,943 [etc.]. 1903 *India Census, 1901* I. I. 451 The converts who call themselves Sheikh. 1905 MACPHAIL *K. S. Macdonald* xvi. 243 A Bengali Shekh may be almost anything.

Hence **Shei·khdom, -ship,** the status or office of a sheikh; the territory ruled by a sheikh; **Shei·khly** *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of a sheikh.

1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* II. 254 The Sheikdom is..hereditary in most cases. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* xiv. 237 The Touareg do not appear to have any subdivided sheikdoms like the Arabs. 1878 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 144 The chief sheikhship is hereditary. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Des.* I. 98 Of sheykhly blood and noble easy countenance. 1907 EWING *Arab & Druze* iii. 36 He proved to be the son of the sheikhly ruler of Dama.

Sheil(l, -ing, Sheip, Sheir, Sheire, Sheit: see SHIEL, SHIELING, SHEEP, SHEER, SHIRE, SHEET.

Shekar, -ee, var. forms of SHIKAR, SHIKAREE.

Shekel (ʃe·kĕl). Also 6–7 **shekle, shekell, 7 sheicle, sheckle.** [a. Heb. שֶׁקֶל *sheqel*, f. *shāqal* to weigh. (The word was adopted in the form SICLE through French and Latin.)]

1. a. An ancient unit of weight of the Babylonians, and hence of the Phœnicians, Hebrews, and others, equal to one-sixtieth of a mina (see MINA[1] 1). b. A coin of this weight; *esp.* the chief silver coin of the Hebrews.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Exod.* XXX. 13 This shal euerie man giue, that goeth into the nombre, half a shekel, after the shekel of the Sanctuarie. [*But* 1 *Macc.* x. 42 sicles.] 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxix. 243 Two thousand and foure hundred shekels of Siluer, an hundred and twentie shekels of Gold, euery shekell waighing halfe an ounce. 1611 COTGR., *Cicle*, a Sheicle. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. § 2. 297 The waight of gold in the incense-Cups[amounted] to 120 sheckles of Gold. 1647 GREAVES *Roman Foot* 76 The Hebrew or Samaritane shekel. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Some are of Opinion, that the Hebrews had two kinds of Shekels. The Common, or Prophane Shekel, call'd Didrachma; and the Shekel of the Sanctuary, which last they will have double the former. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxviii. (1862) 376 *note*, Before the Babylonian exile, the shekel was only a certain weight of silver, not a coined money.

attrib. 1886 CONDER *Syrian Stone-Lore* iv. (1896) 152 In the tenth year of Darius, shekel pieces..are mentioned on inscribed tablets. 1899 *Expositor* Nov. 392 When a shekel ingot was first stamped with a mark of quality or value, it was still called a shekel.

2. *fig.* (*pl.*) Coin; money. *colloq.*

[1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xv, No land of Canaan, full of milk and honey, Nor (save in paper shekels ready money] 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* v, Though he was so rich, he never talked about money except in a vague way as 'lots of shekels', or 'piles of tin'.

Shekel, dial. f. SHACKLE *sb.*[1]

Shekinah, shechinah (ʃĭkəi·nă). Also 7 **shecinah,** 8 **schecina, -chinah,** 9 **shekina.** [a. late Heb. שְׁכִינָה *shᵉkīnāh*, f. שָׁכַן *shākan* to rest, dwell.] The visible manifestation of the Divine Majesty, esp. when resting between the cherubim over the mercy-seat or in the temple of Solomon; a glory or refulgent light symbolizing the Divine Presence.

In the Targums the word is used as a periphrasis to designate God when He is said to dwell among the cherubim, etc., so as to avoid any approach to anthropomorphic expression.

1663 J. STILLINGFLEET (*title*) Shecinah: or a Demonstration of the Divine Presence in the places of Religious Worship. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 530 That fiery Shechinah, or visible Glory of the Lord, in which he descended on Mount Sinai. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 101. 1/2 This Light, which in part compos'd the Schechinah is suppos'd to have been Accompanied with a Numerous Retinue of Attending Angels. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (1801) 381 The Schecina, or bright glory, which is a symbol of God's presence. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 13. 4 They murmuring and rebelling with the Shechinah before their eyes. 1858 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Mr. Gilfil* vii, The golden sunlight beamed through the dripping boughs like a Shechinah, or visible divine presence.

b. *transf.* (*spec.* applied to Jesus Christ.)

1682 HICKES (*title*) The Moral Schechinah: Or a Discourse of Gods Glory. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Serm.* (1 *Cor.* i. 30) Sel. Wks. 1823 I. 483 The Shechinah, the habitation of the Majesty, is Jesus Christ; there he dwells as between the cherubim over the mercy-seat. 1739 C. WESLEY *Hymn, 'Arise, my Soul, arise'* vi, Our Eyes on Earth survey The Dazling Shechinah! Bright in endless Glory bright Now in Flesh He stoops to dwell. 1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* I. xvii. 22 Truth indeed is veiled, But with a Schekinah of dazzling light.

Shekyl, obs. form of SHACKLE *sb.*[1]

Shekyr, obs. form of CHEQUER *sb.*[1]

1518 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 653 The bokes of ij leetes euer next afore shall remayn in the counsell howse..on the shekyr.

Shel, obs. form of SHELL, SHIELD.

Shelaly, obs. form of SHILLELAGH.

Shelboard. *dial.* [? f. SHELF *sb.*[1] + BOARD *sb.*: cf. SHELVING *sb.*] An additional framework fixed to the sides of a cart to increase its capacity.

1569 in T. Phillipps *Wills* (*c* 1830) 84 All my ploughe tymber, and cart tymber, except shelbordes. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* VII. xvi. 662 All manner of Plow and Cart-timber whatsoeuer, as Beames, Heads, Skeathes, Hales, Spyndles, Shelboords, Cart or Wayne bodies, rings for Wheeles. 1852 C. W. HOSKYNS *Talpa* xvi. (1854) 137 A sack or two of Wheat that lay not very safely on the near-side shel'-board.

Shelboard, -brede, obs. ff. SHIELD-BOARD.

Shelburne (ʃe·lbɜ·n). (See quot. 1889.)

1889 DK. BEAUFORT *Driving* 385 Those [landaus] with angular lines are known as 'Shelburne' landaus, from the late Earl of Shelburne, who had the first of that pattern built. 1905 SIR W. GILBEY *Mod. Carriages* 45.

Sheld (ʃeld), *a. dial.* Also 6 **schell,** 9 **shell, shelled.** [ad. or cogn. with MDu. *schillede* variegated (oftener in comb., as *rootschillede*), = WFlem. *schilde*, f. *schillen* (in mod.Du. *verschillen*) to make different. The existence of the Eng. word at an earlier date is probably implied in SHELDRAKE.] Particoloured, pied, piebald.

1507 *Will of Crisall* (Somerset Ho.), ij kyne garle & schell. *a* 1672 [see SHELDEN]. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 *Shelt*, flecked: party-coloured. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Shelled*, pied; party-coloured. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* s. v. *Shell*, Shell (or sheld) is pied, of two colours; flecker'd is gay, of more than two. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shelled*, pie-bald.

Sheld, obs. form of SHIELD.

She·ld-apple, she·ll-apple. *dial.* Also **sheldafle, shillaple,** etc. [Usually taken to be f. SHELD *a.* + DAPPLE *a.*, but perhaps a metathetic form of **sheldalp*, f. SHELD *a.* + ALP[2] (dial. *alf*), bullfinch.] Applied to two birds remarkable for their variegated plumage.

1. The chaffinch, *Fringilla cœlebs.*

1544 W. TURNER *Avium Præcip.* D 6, De Fringilla,.. Anglicè a chaffinche, a sheld appel, a spink. 1611 COTGR., *Berée*, a spinke, sheldaple, chaffinch. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1805) 21, I mind, when he cross'd the deep watter, To get me the shilapple's eet. 1813 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl., Shelly or Shell-apple. 1880 C. H. POOLE *Gloss. Staff.*, *Shell* or *Sheld-apple*, the chaffinch.

2. The crossbill, *Loxia curvirostra.*

1666 MERRETT *Pinax* 172 *Loxias*, the Shell-Apple. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 69 *Loxia*..the Cross-beak, or Shell-aple. 1674 RAY *Engl. Birds* 88. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 279. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.*, Shell, or Sheld-apple. Vide Crossbill.

Sheldbreath, -brede, obs. ff. SHIELD-BOARD.

Sheld-duck, shell-duck (ʃe·ldʊk). Also **shieldduck, shield-duck.** [f. SHELDRAKE, by substitution of *duck* for *drake*.] = SHELDRAKE.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 259 If you would preserve wild Ducks, Teal, Widgeon, Shell-ducks, &c. you should have a place walled in with a Pond in it. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 86 Swallow Tailed Shieldduck. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ix, The sleeping shell-ducks at the sound arise. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 19 *Tadorna Casarca.* The Ruddy Shieldduck. 1908 *Zoologist* Apr. 124 Sheld-Duck seen at Fritton by Mr. Buxton.

So **Sheld-fowl** (also s(c)hell-, shield-), the sheldrake.

? 1593 DRAYTON *Man in Moon* Poems (1619) 480 The greedie Shell-fowle, from whose rape doth flye Th'vnnumbred sholes. 1674 RAY *S. & E.C. Words* 76 *Sheld*..inde Sheldrake & sheld fowle, Suss. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 626 Cormorants, Brants, Shield-fowl. 1890 BORLAND *Farrow* 119 Speckled schell-fowl hovering nigh.

Shelde, obs. f. SHELLED *ppl. a.*, SHIELD, SHOAL.

† **She·lden.** *Obs.* Also **-in.** [app. f. SHELD *a.* (? + ENDE).] The golden-eye, *Clangula glaucion.*

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1678) 28 This was sent us from Cambridge by the title of Shelden, I suppose so denominated from its being particoloured of black and white, that is Sheld. 1674 DENT in *Ray's Philos. Lett.* (1718) 21 Some Water Fowl, *viz.* a Pocker, a Smew, three Sheldins.

Shelder, variant of SHALDER *v.*

Sheldrake (ʃe·ldrāk). Forms: 4 **sheldedrake, selddrake, shelledrake,** 5 **scheldrak,** 5–6 **-drake,** 7–9 **shell(-)drake,** 8 **shel-drake, sheldrach,** 8–9 **shieldrake,** (9 **shield-drake**), 6– **sheldrake.** [prob. f. SHELD *a.* + DRAKE[2]. A northern form *skeldraik* (see SCALEDRAKE) is recorded from 1600. Connexion with SHIELD *sb.* is improbable, since 'spot of colour' is not an established sense of this word, as it is of the cognate G. *schild* and ON. *skjoldr* (cf. *skjoldóttr* dappled). The commonly cited ON. *skjoldungr*, occurring in a late alliterative list of bird-names, is not identifiable (the Icel. names of the sheldrake are *brandgás* and *andakóngur*). The form *scheldrack* given by Gesner (Anim. III. 131) is app. from Eng.]

A bird of the genus *Tadorna* of the duck tribe, frequenting sandy coasts in Europe, North Africa, and Asia, and remarkable for its bright and variegated colouring.

† Occas. applied to the North American canvas-back.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 164 La herle [*glossed* the selddrake, *v.r.* sheldedrake]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 802 *Herle*, schelledrake. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 762/39 *Hic umnis*, a scheldrak. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Scheldrake a byrde. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. i, All those Teales, Curres, Sheldrakes, and peckled Fowles, which come hether in winter. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 96 *Mergus Harle*..the Shell-drake. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1678) 28 The Sheldrake, or Borough-Duck: Tadorna Bellonii. *Ibid.* 364 The Swallow-tail'd Sheldrake of Mr. Johnson. 1782 T. JEFFERSON *Notes State Virginia* (1787) 118 Sheldrach, or Canvas back. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The shelldrake seems, through the mist, as large as the scart. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* vii. 217 Charley shot the sheldrake of Port Essington (Tadorna Rajah). 1855 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* V. 137 Ruddy Shieldrake...Collared Duck. *Tadorna rutila.* 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 229 The Shieldrake is the most remarkable of all the Duck tribe, not only from its size, but from its beauty and the elegant variations of its plumage.

Sheldrun, var. SHELTRON[1]. **Sheldur,** obs. f. SHOULDER *sb.* **Shele,** obs. f. SHIEL. **Shelela,** obs. f. SHILLELAGH.

Shelf (ʃelf), *sb.*[1] Pl. **shelves** (ʃelvz). Forms: 5 **schelf(f)e,** 5–7 **shelfe,** 7 **shealfe,** 5– **shelf;** *pl.* 4– **shelves,** (5 **schelves, -ys,** 6 **sylwes**); 5 **schelfes,** 5–7 **shelfes,** 5–8 **shelfs.** [app. ad. (M)LG. *schelf* shelf, set of shelves (whence also the northern SKELF), cogn. w. OE. *scylfe* (of uncertain meaning) ? partition or compartment, MDu. *schelve*, (and mod.Du.) *schelf* stack, rick (of hay, etc.), and OE. *scylf* (also *stán-scylf*) rugged rock, crag, pinnacle; ? f. root *skelf-* to split.]

I. 1. A slab of wood (or other material) fixed in a horizontal position to a wall, or in a frame, to hold books, vessels, ornaments, etc.; one of the transverse boards in a bookcase, cabinet, or the like.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 25 His Augrym stones layen faire a part On shelues [*v.r.* schelfes] couched at his beddes heed. 1422 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 16 Yat the lede pype and the shelfs be the wyfe's of Symond of Stele. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 28 In the Bottrye iiij schelves. 1505 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 327 Yn the spence a tabell plance and ij sylwes. 1566 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 65 A shelf for to set dishes on. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IX. 313 Shelues [*ταφοὶ*] with cheeses heapt. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 135, I was full two and forty Days making me a Board for a long Shelf. 1727 SWIFT *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 161 Have not I clothed you in double-royal, lodged you handsomely on decent shelves? 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl.* 252 Here is the famed surgeon's shop: no doubt his shelfs are planted with pots, vials, and boxes full of useful medicine. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 142 She left the novel half-uncut Upon the rosewood shelf. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 4 A dry airy shelf is a good place for keeping them [*sc.* bulbs]. 1898 G. B. SHAW *You never can tell* III. Stage direct., The bamboo tea table, with folding shelves.

b. The gradine of an altar.

1496–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 30 A frontell for the schelffe standyng on the alter.

c. *transf.* A shelf with reference to its contents; the contents of a shelf (*esp.* of books).

1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 24 You may confute a whole shelf of schoolmen. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 287 This performance cannot be placed on the same shelf with that of Barthelemy. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxi, His works had no place on David Deans's shelf of divinity. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1897) 2 A few more days, and this essay will follow the *Defensio Populi* to the dust and silence of the upper shelf. 1876 LOWELL *Ode 4th July* IV. ii, Herein they were great Beyond the incredulous lawgivers of yore, And wiser than the wisdom of the shelf.

d. fig. phrases. *On the shelf*: (*a*) On one side, out of the way, in a position or state of inactivity or uselessness; esp. *to lay* (*put*, etc.) *on the shelf*, also †*to set on shelf.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 120 Jove in heaven would smile to see Diana set on shelfe. 1815 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XII. 379 Alava would then be laid upon the shelf, if he had not his situation here to return to. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VIII. 8 He's ever since been on the shelf. 1831 CROKER in *Boswell's Johnson* an. 1740 *note*, His friend General Oglethorpe, who, after acquittal by a court-martial, was (to use a vulgar but expressive phrase) put upon the shelf. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. vi. 170 The question of Parliamentary Reform could not be perpetually kept upon the shelf. 1893 BEATRICE HARRADEN *Ships that pass* I. vii, Because your career has been checked, and because you have been put on the shelf.

(*b*) Of women: Without prospects of marrying. 1839 HOOD *I'm not a single Man* v, Mamma, who praises her own self, Instead of Jane or Ann, And lays 'her girls' upon the shelf. 1847 HALLIWELL, *On the shelf*, said of ladies when too old to get married. 1893 *Academy* 25 Nov. 460/3 A worn-out flirt who has run through her chances in the matrimonial market and who is..on the shelf.

(*c*) *slang.* In pawn.

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., On the shelf*, pawned.

†**2.** A cupboard or cabinet. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schelfe, *epiaster, epilocarium, armarium.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 58/16 A shelfe, *cortinale.*

3. a. *Printing.* = Till *sb.*[1] 3.

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Shelf*, ..the Till of a Printing-Press. 1808 Stower *Printer's Gram.* 328 The Till or Shelf. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 774 The third bar D, called the shelf or till, is intended to guide and keep steady ..the hose, which contains the spindle and screw.

b. *Shipbuilding.* A timber on the inner side of the frame to support the deck-beams.

1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 396/2 Under the beams of the deck, perpendicularly over the bulge-strake, was fixed on its edge a strake of fir along the whole length of the vessel six inches thick, with a score one inch deep for the beams, to which it was bolted, and was called the longitudinal shelf. 1874 Thearle *Naval Archit.* 35 The several pieces composing the shelf are connected with vertical flat scarphs.

c. The charging-bed of a furnace.

1879 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* I. 290 The hopper in which the charge of sulphate, coal, and chalk is contained, is built into the arch over the centre of the 'shelf'.

II. Senses influenced by Shelf *sb.*[2]

4. A ledge, platform, or terrace of land, rock, etc.

1809 J. Barlow *Columb.* III. 170 Torrents of molten rocks ..Lead o'er the shelves of ice their fiery tide. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* I, A huge fragment of stone, which, having fallen from the cliffs above, had..jammed so as to serve for a sloping roof to the farther part of the broad shelf or platform on which they stood. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 131 These roads or shelves occur in a valley six or seven miles wide. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxiv, Scrambling up shelves of loose earth and slate.

b. *Continental shelf*, the relatively shallow belt of sea-bottom bordering a continental mass, the outer edge of which sinks rapidly to the deep ocean-floor.

1892 H. R. Mill *Realm of Nat.* xi. 201 In many cases it is possible that the continental shelf is the end of a low plain submerged by subsidence; in others a low plain may be an upheaved continental shelf. 1905 *Times* 29 Mar. 10/6 The coast platform and Continental shelf lying off the Norwegian coast.

5. *Mining* and *Geol.* Bed-rock: see quots.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2096 The uppermost surface of Mineral Veins or hoads..which is termed by the Miners, the Shelf, Fast Countrey or Ground that was never moved in the Flood. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xiii. 398 We find these pebbles at the base of the whole, resting upon the subjacent rock, commonly termed the shelf. 1852 Nicolay in *Man. Geog. Sci.* I. 420 Low rocks lying horizontally, especially when laminated, are called Shelves. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metallif. Min.* 421 *Shelf*, the uppermost broken surface of the rock under driftal matter.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*shelf-board, -bracket, -occupant, -press, -room*; **shelf-catalogue, -list,** a short-title catalogue of the books in a library arranged according to their location on the shelves and consequently according to their class or subject; **shelf-mark** = Press-mark; hence **shelf-mark** *v.*, **shelf-marking**; **shelf-piece** = sense 3 b; **shelf-plate,** an iron shelf below the water-line of an armoured ship to support the armour-plate and its backing.

1548 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, In the kechynne a *shelf bourde. 1859 F. S. Cooper *Ironmongers' Catal.* 10 *Shelf Brackets. 1882 H. Bradshaw in *Trans. Libr. Assoc.* (1884) 233 He enters the title briefly in the *shelf-catalogue (or class-catalogue as we call it in Cambridge). 1842 *Row's Hist. Kirk* (Maitl. Cl.) Introd. Notice 56 A very carefully written MS...Old *shelf mark, W, 6, 30. 1889 H. B. Wheatley *How to Catalogue* 233 Printed books are moved and change their shelf-marks. 1897 Macray in Burnet *Own Time* Pref. 9 Two folio volumes, now *shelf-marked as 'Bodl. Add. D. 18, 19'. 1842 *Row's Hist. Kirk* (Maitl. Cl.) Introd. Notice 59 Another MS...The old *shelf-marking A. 6, 7. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* I. lvi, That and my other rare *shelf-occupants. 1830 Hedderwick *Mar. Archit.* 286 A stringer or *shelf-piece bolted edgeways to the clamp. 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 69 What do the beams rest upon? The shelf pieces, which extend all round the ship. 1869 E. J. Reed *Shipbuild.* ii. 20 Armour *shelf-plates like those of the 'Warrior', which are immense angle-irons, in fact. 1898 Crockett *Stand. Bearer* v, The little *shelf-press rudely constructed in the wall of four blocks of stone split into faces. 1882 H. Bradshaw in *Trans. Libr. Assoc.* (1884) 237 They [sc. volumes of periodical publications] await better times, when we can afford them proper *shelf-room. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* s. v. *Kittiwake*, It seems never to breed but on the side of a cliff, and there shelf-room is all it needs.

Shelf (ʃelf), *sb.*[2] [Of obscure origin.

The identity of sense with Shelf[1] (recorded a century earlier) suggests that the two words may be in some way etymologically connected. The unexplained variation between *p* and *f* seems to have a parallel in the OE. *scylf* and *scylp*, both used to gloss *scopulus* and *murex* sharp rock, and in Scalp *sb.*[2] bed of oysters (cf. 2 below), which has the variants *scalfe, scalph.* It is not impossible that the word may descend from the OE. *scylf, scylp*, in some unrecorded sense. Some of the later uses show influence from Shelf *sb.*[1]

1. A sandbank in the sea or river rendering the water shallow and dangerous. Also loosely applied to a submerged ledge of rock.

Very common till *c* 1750. See also **Shelve** *sb.*[1]

1545 Elyot *Dict., Syrtes*, quycke sandes or shelfes [*ed.* 1538 shelpes] in the water made by the dryfte of sande or gratell. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 18 § 5 The Shyriffes..shall.. after that the said newe Cut shalbe made..cause the same.. to be..clensed of all the Shelfes and Shallowes. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1129/1 A place by the sea side, all of hard stone and pibble, called in those parts [*sc.* Suffolk] a shelfe. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 138 Before the Rode of Margat lie the dangerous shelfes or flats of sand, whereof the greatest is called Goodwin sand. 1651 Davenant *Gondibert* Pref. 19 Coasting Mapps, where the Shelves and Rocks are describ'd as well as the safe Channell. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. liv, Deepening the River of Thames, and removing Shelfes therein. 1762 Falconer *Shipwr.* III. 329 A shore where shelves and hidden rocks abound. 1791 *Selby Bridge Act* 3 To remove any shelves, or other obstructions, in the said river. 1802 *Brooke's Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s. v. *Ladnga*, Quicksands, which..cause several shelves which often prove fatal to the flat-bottomed vessels of the Russians. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 34 The every way external stream that now through shoal and shelf Floats it onward.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 4 b, Whan I somtime doubted, & sticked fast on the rockes & shelves. 1574 Hellowes *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 186 There is in loue after it is begon, infinite shelues, immeasurable sloughes, daungerous rockes. 1604 Earl Stirling *Croesus* II. ii, This self-conceit is a most dangerous shelfe. 1612 Sir W. Alexander *Elegie Death Pr. Henrie* 9 Though generall be the losse, one shelfe confounding quyte, The King's chiefe joy, the kingdomes hope, and all the worlds delight. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 43 Till i'th'end his pelfe Shipwracks his soule vpon hels rocky shelfe. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* Pref., To divert thee therefore from such Shelves of indiscreet Vice. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 269 Yes—ye are conscious; and on all the shelves Your pupils strike upon, have struck yourselves.

†**2.** *Shelves of margarites, of oysters.* (Cf. Scalp *sb.*[2])

1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* (1630) 2 Her teeth are shelues of precious Margarites, Richly enclosed with ruddie curroll cl.ues. 1594 — & Lodge *Looking Gl.* I. i. 100 I'll fetch from Albia shelves of margarites. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* G 2 b, Great glaring eyes that had whole shelues of Kentish oysters in them.

3. *Comb.* †**shelf-spoiled,** rendered dangerous by shoals.

1627 May *Lucan, Pharsalia* IX. Q 8, A shelfe-spoil'd sea.

Shelf, *sb.*[3] *dial.* (Devon and Cornwall.) Also **shilf.** [? a use of Shelf *sb.*[1] (cf. sense 5).] (See quots.)

[1602–1778: ? Implied in Shelfy *a.*[2]] 1849 *Ecclesiologist* IX. 288 *note*, Shilf means broken slate, in small pieces, such as is used for mending roads in parts of Cornwall. 1891 *Hartland Gloss., Shelf*, soft slaty rock.

Shelf (ʃelf), *v.*[1] *Obs.*[–1] [Origin and meaning obscure; cf. OE. *scelfan* to shake; also next vb. (Perh. an arbitrary formation for rhyme: cf. Shelve *v.*)] *trans.* ? To ruin.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1070 in *Macro Plays*, Euery man þou schalt schende & schelfe, & holde no man betyr þanne þi selfe.

†**Shelf,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Shelf *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To cast on a shelf or sandbank.

1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* I. lxxx, Such Saints high Tides n'ere ebbe so low, to shelf Them on the Quicksand of their self.

Shelf (ʃelf), *v.*[3] [f. Shelf *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To lay on the shelf, shelve.

1814 Scott *Drama* (1874) 225 He is too often retained for the mere purpose of being laid aside, or shelfed, as it is technically called. 1832 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) II. 285 Trills.., and bravuras, will be shelfed with Mandane's hoop and Alexander's wig. 1863 Kingsley *Water Babies* vii. 301 Blind brigadiers shelfed as principals of colleges.

Shelfa, variant form of Shilfa.

She·lf-ful. [-ful.] A quantity sufficient to fill a shelf; the contents of a shelf.

1876 G. O. Trevelyan *Life & Lett. Macaulay* (1878) II. xii. 267 A shelf-full of Irish novels. 1912 *Blackw. Mag.* May 700/2 The quarrel of Byron with his wife has furnished forth a shelfful of books.

Shelfy (ʃe·lfi), *a.*[1] [f. Shelf *sb.*[2] + -y. Cf. Shelvy.] Abounding in sandbanks lying near the surface of the water.

1576 Sir H. Gilbert *Disc. Pass. Cataia* vi, Because all Seas..are maintained by the abundance of the water, waxing more shallow and shelffie towards the ende. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 99 We had a shelfie shoare. *Ibid.* v. 228 With dreadfull snares Begirded round, in shelfie gulfes of wracke. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* v. 1125 A shelfy coast, Long infamous for ships and sailors lost. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 257 Among a savage race, whose shelfy bounds With ceaseless roar the foaming deep surrounds.

Shelfy (ʃe·lfi), *a.*[2] [f. Shelf *sb.*[1] + -y.] Having ledges or terraces.

1767 Fawkes *Idyll. Theocr.* XXI. 53 Methought I sat upon a shelfy steep. 1887 Blackmore *Cripps* xxxvi, A mighty hedge of beetling brows, and over-hanging shagginess, and shelfy curves, and brambly depths.

Shelfy, *a.*[3] *dial.* (Devon and Cornwall.) [f. Shelf *sb.*[3] + -y.] Full of 'shelf' or slaty rock.

The sense 'full of strata of rock' in Webster 1864, to which Ogilvie 1882 adds 'having rocky ledges cropping up' is based on quot. 1602.

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 20 The tillable fields are in some places..so shelfie that the Corne hath much adoe to fasten his roote. 1674 Flavel *Husb. Spiritualized* vii. 70 Sometimes this plow thin shelfy ground doth turn. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Sea-sand*, It is sometimes composed of shelly matter alone; but sometimes it is made up partly of this, and partly of broken stones: in this last case it is called shelfy sand. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 74 The Slate, or Shelfy-stone, is always uppermost next the loamy soil.

Sheling, obs. form of Shilling.

†**Sheliscad.** *Obs.* (See quot.)

c 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* (1714) II. 394 Shots and Sheliscads, a Fish not unlike the Trout, and said to be peculiar to Devonshire and Cornwall.

Shell (ʃel), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 sciell, scel(l, scill, scyll, 4 schele, scell, chelle, s(c)hill, (schyl-), 4–5 schelle, schylle, 4–6 schell, shelle, (schel-), 4–7 shel, 5 shylle, schull(e, 7 shul, 9 *dial.* shill, shull, 4– shell. [OE. *sciell, scill*, Anglian *scell* fem. = WFris. *skyl* peel, rind, egg-shell, NFris. *skel, skal* sea-shell, (M)LG. *schelle, schille* pod, rind, fish-scale, eggshell, MDu. *schelle, schille* shell, pod, bark, rind, pl. scurf (Du. *schel, schil*), ON. *skel* sea-shell (Norw. *skjæl*), Goth. *skalja* tile:—OTeut. **skaljō*, f. **skal-*, for other derivatives of which see Scale *sb.*[1], *sb.*[2], Shale *sb.*[1] Cf. Skell, from ON.]

I. The hard outside covering of an animal, a fruit, etc.

1. The calcareous or chitinous outer covering of crustaceans, molluscs, and other invertebrates.

See also Cockle-shell, Mussel-shell, Oyster-shell, Scallop-shell.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 863 *Conca*, musclan scel. *a* 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 447 (Napier 13/2) *Conca*, musclan scille. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 518 3et wes lewit hym [*sc.* Job] a schele to schrape his scabbis rycht snel. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 78 A muskel, in a blewe shel. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 24 Pyke owt þe Muskele of þe schulle. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 765/27 *Hec testa*, a schylle. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) v. 33 Mussillis in schellis. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. v. 27 Can'st tell how an Oyster makes his shell? *a* 1631 Donne *Poems* (1654) 38 Let others freez with angling reeds, And cut their legs, with shels and weeds. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 112 ¶ 3 They used to gather up Shells on the Sea-Shore. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4510/7 About 14000 Oysters in the Shells. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* II. (1729) I. 24 Two Nautiloides, or Bodies form'd in Shells of the Nautilus. 1833–4 J. Phillips *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 684/2 The small bivalve crustaceous shells of cypris. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 272 All the Brachiopoda are invested with bivalve shells, fixed and immoveable. *Ibid.* 468 The..Sea-Urchins..have the body invested by a shell or calcareous crust. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 47 The thickness of the Gasteropodous shell diminishes from its free rim upwards. 1895 Kernahan *God & Ant* Apol. (ed. 4) 10 As the grain of sand, which has found its way into his shell, vexes and irks the oyster.

b. Allusive uses, with reference to:

(*a*) The formation of pearls within the shells of molluscs. (*b*) The association of a shell with persons of classical mythology (e g. Venus Anadyomene). (*c*) The sound of the sea heard when a round-lipped shell is placed with the mouth to one's ear.

(*a*) 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 346 He hath noght elles, No-mor the perles than the schelles. [1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 2 A margerye perle aftyr the phylosophyr Growyth on a shelle of lytyl pryhs.] 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* I. i. Chorus, Her Women weare The spoiles of Nations, in an eare, Chang'd for the treasure of a shell. [1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xxvi, See these pearls,..These were tears by Naiads wept..Tritons in the silver shell Treasured them.] 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lii, Thy wealth is gather'd in, When Time hath sunder'd shell from pearl.

(*b*) 1634 Milton *Comus* 231 Sweet Echo, sweetest Nymph that liv'st unseen Within thy airy shell. 1685 Dryden *Albion* I. 8 Venus in her shell. 1823 Byron *Island* II. vii, A form like Aphrodite's in her shell.

(*c*) 1814 Wordsworth *Excurs.* IV. 1141 Even such a shell the universe itself Is to the ear of Faith.

2. A shell of this kind (or a vessel resembling one) used for a specific purpose.

a. = Scallop *sb.* 1 c. **b.** Used as a target. *Sc.*, chiefly with indecent allusion (cf. L. *concha* = cunnus). **c.** *pl.* Sea-shells used as money. (Cf. *cowry.*) † **d.** A drinking vessel. **e.** A mussel-shell containing pigment to be used by mixing with gum. **f.** = Conch 3.

a. 1362 Langland *P. Pl.* A. VI. 12 Signes of Synay and Schelles of Galys. 1507 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 64, iij schellys of Seynt Iame.

b. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* I. 360 Item, to the king, to schut at the schell..xvj*d.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxi. 13 He that..schuttis syne at ane vncow schell,..He wirkis sorrow to him sell. 1536 Lyndesay *Answ. Kingis Flyting* 45 Tholand 30w rin schutand frome schell to schell. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 392 Few honour wynnis in to that innys For schutting at the schellis.

c. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 288 In matters of smal value they use certaine shels brought hither out of the Kingdome of Persia, fower hundred of which shels are worth a ducate. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. VII. 65 An office of exchange to receive the shells of foreign savages.

d. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. X. 243 Some menne there are, which..swallowe..deintie hearbe brothes,..not out of a cup, but out of a shell. 1773 Boswell *Tour Hebr.* 5 Oct., Whiskey was served round in a shell, according to the ancient Highland custom.

e. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Concha, Conchæ*, shelles wherin peynters putte theyr colours. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 75 Those several colours they lay on their Shels or Palads. 1666 Spurstowe *Wiles of Satan* 12 As a Painter doth his many Colours, that lye..before him in their several Shells. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc.* Price List 668 Colours for Illuminating...Tube of Enamel White, Gold Shell, Aluminium Shell.

f. 1634 Milton *Comus* 873 By scaly Tritons winding shell. [1699 Potter *Antiq. Greece* III. ix. 86 Shells of Fishes ..which they sounded in the manner of Trumpets.] 1823 Byron *Island* II. ii, Ere Fiji blew the shell of war.

3. As a rendering of Gr. *ὄστρακον*, the potsherd or tile used in the Ostracism of the ancient Greeks.

The *ὄστρακον* has been freq. taken by mod. writers for an oyster-shell.

[1538 Elyot *Dict., Ostracismus*,..whyche exyle was doone by delyuerynge of oyster shelles.] 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Ostracismus*, a kinde of banishment amonge the Athenians for .x. yeres space, whiche was done by deliuerynge of

shelles with the names of the persons condemned wryten in them. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 353 At a certaine day appointed, euery citizen caried a great shell in his hande, whereupon he wrote the name of him he would haue banished. 1711 POPE *Temple of Fame* 173 He [*sc.* Aristides] whom ungrateful Athens could expell, At all times just, but when he sign'd the Shell. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Nicias* III. 389 The shell was not designed for such wretches as he. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* IX. 365/1 If the name of any person was found to be written on six thousand tiles or shells [etc.].

4. *pl.* Burnt limestone before it is slaked. †*In shells*: unslaked.

1743 in R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric.* 191 Shells will weigh about 25 Stone-weight the Boll. [1763: see LIME *sb.*[1] 5]. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 282 The farmers endeavour to carry it in shells, while the water is dissipated and the lime light. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 178 [He] brings his lime from the kiln, lays it in small heaps, about a firlot of shells in each heap. 1884 F. J. LLOYD *Sci. Agric.* 113 The lumps of burnt and unslaked limestone are known as shells.

5. Used as the second element of the name of a particular shellfish, as *acorn-shell, razor-shell*; hence (chiefly *pl.*) = shellfish, in referring to classificatory groups.

1751 *Chambers' Cycl., Balani*... They are commonly called in English, centre-shells. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 386 The Balanus or Acorn-Shells. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Mollusca*, Conchifera, or ordinary bivalve shells, which breathe by two pairs of gills.

6. The hard outer calcareous envelope of a bird's egg. (†*In the shell*, of an egg, boiled.) Also, the similar integument of the eggs of other creatures. Cf. EGG-SHELL.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 18 Mar. 40 Se rodor ymbfehð.. sæ & eorðan, swa seo scell utan ymbfehð þæt æg. 13.. *K. Alis.* 571 An ay he laide, so he fleygh,..That to-brak, Y yow telle: A dragon crep out of the schelle. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. i. (Bodl. MS.), The chikenes comeþ forþe of þe schelle alyue and fulle schape. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 41 Take Eyroun, & blow owt þat ys with-ynne..þan waysshe þe schulle clene. 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 99 When the shell is broke, out comes a chick. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xlii, When her food begins once to appear she [the silkworm] comes forth of her shel. 1692 TRYON *Good House-wife* x. 83 Eggs boyled in the Shells. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 99 The Turtle's Eggs, which I roasted in the Ashes, and eat, as we call it, in the Shell. 1864 *Englishw. in India* 173 Beat the whites of the eggs in a basin...Crush the shells and add them with the wine.

b. *In the shell*: (of an egg or a bird, etc.) unhatched; also *fig.*, in embryo.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 34 Thinke him as a Serpents egge,..And kill him in the shell. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 148 If you loue an addle egge as well as you loue an idle head, you would eate chickens i' th' shell. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. ii. § 101. 91 Some yet are Embrio's, yet hatching, and in the shell; as the Popes infallibility. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Ad Sec. xvi. 179 Corn for ever in the blade, egges alwaies in the shell. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* Wks. (1673) 278 By the heat of Religion many Vertues are hatched, and more Vices stifled in the shell. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 71 Embryo poets and artists in the shell. 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 25 Feb. 242/1 As a writer he is full grown..but as an evolutionist he is still in the shell.

c. In fig. phr. referring to emergence into life; *esp.* in *out of one's shell* (with a negative).

1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1580) 58 b, In this worlde a childe shall scant be out of his shell, but he shall be sure to one, or other. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. 1910 II. 86 My young nouice..not yet crept out of the shell. *Ibid.* 122 If at the first peeping out of the shell a young Student sets not a graue face on it. 1599 *Broughton's Lett.* 27 Those the.. Archbishop..vnfolded..at Cambridge, before thou wert crept out of thy Alphabeticall shell. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 4 The pride of those that run with the shell on their head into the Ministry. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., *You're scarcely out of the shell yet*; a phrase applied to young persons, to those especially who affect something beyond their years. 1837 BROWNING *Strafford* II. i, *Puritan.* His fruit shall be a fiery flying serpent. *Fiennes.* 'Shall be'? It chips the shell, man,—peeps abroad.

7. = NUTSHELL.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14683 Luytel notes þey toke, & holede þem, þe kerneles out schoke; þey dide y þe schelles fyr & tunder. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cviii. (Bodl. MS.), Aschelle oþer aschale þt waxiþ harder & harder & þer wtin is þe notte curnel. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7117 As moche as..The sunne sourmounteth the mone, ..And the note kernelle the shelle. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 342 The halfe shelles of almonds. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 178 Almonds of a tender Shell. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. I. 152 About 100 Nutmegs, which had the Shells on as they grew on the Trees.

Prov. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23828 (Fairf.) Þaire speche is noȝt worþ a shelle [*Cott.* noght a nute-scell]. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* I iij b, I see the prouerbe is true: who wil the curnell of the nut must breake the shell. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Coque, Nulle noix sans coque*, no nut without a shell.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context. (See also SHALL *sb.*)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XI. 252 After þat bitter barke (be be shelle aweye), Is a kirnelle of conforte. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 5 Translation it is..that breaketh the shell, that we may eat the kernel. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 490 All are vaine-glorious, and seeke rather the shell then the kernell, the shew then the substance of holinesse. 1621 LAUD *Diary* 3 June, He [the King] was pleased to say, he had given me nothing but [the Deanery of] Gloucester, which he well knew was a shell without a kernel. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 22 Forms are more contended for, then power,..shel more then kernel.

c. The fibre-covered envelope of a coco-nut.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 29 The Coco..is cover'd with a thick rynd,..the shell is like the skull of man. 1768 Cocoa nut-shell [see Coco[1] 4 d]. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Rom. Ganges* iv, Of shell of coco carven, Each little boat is made. 1891 CODRINGTON *Melanesians* xvi. 316 The cream squeezed out from grated cocoa-nut was often cooked over the embers in the shells.

8. The outer covering of a seed, etc.; a husk, pod (e. g. *pea-shell*); †rind (of pomegranates, etc.); putamen, pericarp.

1562 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 26 Take the wood of Berberis, fyll the upper shell wyth the leaves from it. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 33 If lentilles be sodden with theyr shelles untaken of. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 389 The powder of vnripe Pomgranat shels. 1611 COTGR., *Calicules*,.. the rough shells of Chestnuts. 1624 [see GOURD[1] 4]. 1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 24 It may be softened by quenching in juyce of beane shuls or mallowes. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xcix, Within which fruit [gourd], lie.. many seeds, having smooth hard wooddy shells. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 144 The Scarlet-Bean which has a red Husk, and is not the best to eat in the Shell, as Kidney-Beans are usually eaten. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. 233 They fill the shell [of coloquintida] with milk, and let it stand some time. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 66 *Legumen*, or shell; a seed-vessel of two valves. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 301 A strong shell surrounding the seed, called the *putamen*. 1887 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) 20 The shell or *pericarp*. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* ii. 15 A great deal of shell [on palm kernels], which of course is useless.

9. The hard covering or 'house' of a snail: cf. SNAIL-SHELL.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 96 Þer er..so grete snyles þat in þaire schelles three men or foure may be herberd. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Schell of a snayle, *cocquille*. 1611 COTGR., *Caguerolles*, the shels of Snayles, Periwincles, and such like. 1766 [ANSTEY] *New Bath Guide* vi. (1807) 42 As snug as a hodmandod rides in his shell. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 23 In proportion as it grows, the shell encreases in the number of its circles. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 373 The covering or opercle with which they [*sc.* snails] close up their shell in winter.

b. In fig. phrases, referring to avoidance of society or to a forbidding and an uncommunicative manner.

1853 EARL LYTTON *Let. to Browning* 26 July, I have long ago crept into my shell for good. 1889 C. F. M. BELL *From Pharaoh to Fellah* xiii. 111 Under the soothing influence of coffee and tobacco, he came out of his shell. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. vii. 137 [He] rarely spoke unless personally appealed to, and speedily retired into his shell again.

10. The hard covering of a tortoise or turtle; the material of which this is composed: cf. TORTOISESHELL.

1545 ELYOT *Dict., Chelonium*, the shell of a torteyse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxiv. I. 134 The Chelonophagi, *i.* such as feed upon the flesh of Tortoises, and the shels of them serve for roufes. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 25 The Sea Tortoise is not much differing from those at land, her house or shell is only flatter. 1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* 21 They had nothing to pay me for it, but the Turtle, Oil, and Shell which they had made here. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. 353 A tortoise, which is safe only so long as it keeps within its shell.

† b. *poet.* [after L. *testudo*.] A lyre (in allusion to the legend that the first lyre was a tortoise shell stringed); occas. (cf. LYRE[1] 1 b) put for 'lyric poetry'. *Obs.*

[1687 DRYDEN *Song St. Cecilia's Day* ii, When Jubal struck the corded Shell.] 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Pity* vii, Till, Virgin, Thou again delight To hear a British Shell! 1769 GRAY *Ode for Music* 23 'Twas Milton struck the deep-toned shell. 1821 BYRON *Diary* Wks. (1846) 423/1 My brethren of the shell. 1821 — *Sardanap.* III. i. 66 Hast thou thy shell in order? Sing me a song.

11. The integument of an armadillo, glyptodon, ostraciont, etc.; the elytron of an insect; the cast skin of a pupa.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 112 This animal [*sc.* the armadillo] being covered, like a tortoise, with a shell, or rather a number of shells. 1840 SWAINSON & SHUCKARD *Insects* § 70. 81 An immense assemblage of insects, having.. four wings, but of which two are converted into cases or shells (*elytra*). 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1370 The two elytra-like prolongations of the shell of the third segment of the body [of the Dinematuræ].

II. A shell-shaped object; something concave or hollow.

12. Applied *gen.* to a hollow spherical, hemispherical, or dome-shaped object.

1599 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 276 Whatsoever shall..misforten about the clock, viz., shelles or nutes or such like thinges. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, That [jetto] which rises over the greate shell of lead, from whence it glides silently down a channel. 1753 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 5) I. 157 There rises above the Roof a semicircular Dome, which has two Shells,..the outward Shell is Carpentry, covered with Lead. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 2 June, As they were sitting in the shell on my terrace. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XII. 4630 The boat was one curved shell of hollow pearl. 1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* iv. (1862) 34 The whole vast shell of the firmament. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones of Venice* I. xi. § 1 An arch..is a curved shell of firm materials, on whose back a burden is to be laid of loose materials.

13. a. A scale of a balance. *Sc.*

15.. *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), A pair of schellis. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 143 Our Lord (who hath all you the Nobles lying in the shell of his ballance). *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Twa Cats & Cheese* 22 He..ca's for the scales..He puts ilk haff in either shell.

† b. The bowl (of a chalice). *Obs.*

1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 134 A chalice, the shelle of silver and gilt, waing iiij ounces.

14. The semicircular guard of a sword, often elaborately worked.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2050/4 A Rapier Sword, the Hilt of which was made with a whole Shell. 1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing Master* 3 The Shell is that part of the Hilt next to the Blade. 1707 — *New Meth. Fencing* iv. § 3. 60 The Hilt hath its Pomel, Handle, Shell, and Cross-Barrs. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* lix, I seized his shell, which was close to my breast, before he could disintangle his point. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xix, The shell of my rapier struck against his ribs. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* ix. 178 This weapon [the rapier] generally has a kind of small basket or shell.

15. The apsidal end of the school-room at Westminster School, so called from its conch-like shape. Hence, the name of the form (intermediate between the fifth and sixth) which originally tenanted the 'shell' at Westminster School, and *transf.* of forms (intermediate between forms designated by numbers) in other public schools: see quots.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 679 /2 Near these [forms] y^e shell's high concave walls appear. 1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* CCXXVIII, Observe..what the best scholars in the Form immediately above you do, and so on, till you get into the shell yourself. 1825 SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1849) I. 151 He was floated up to the Shell, beyond which the tide carried no one. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, The lower fifth, shell, and all the junior forms in order [at Rugby]. 1877 LD. W. P. LENNOX *Celebr. I have known* I. 43 The noise grew louder and louder, until the birch was safely deposited in a small room behind the 'shell',—so the upper end of the room was called from its shape [Westminster]. 1884 FORSHALL *Westm. Sch.* 3 The Headmaster faced all the boys excepting the tenants of the 'Shell'. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* June 742/2 The third 'shell', a form within measurable distance of the lowest in the school [Harrow].

16. The bottom part of a turnip remaining after the root has been scooped out by sheep.

1802 WILLICH *Dom. Encycl.* IV. 60/2 The shells of turnips which have been suffered to lie on the ground for some time. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 49 An active man will, with the assistance of a boy or woman at picking shells, manage 600 full-mouthed sheep.

17. The outer ear; = CONCHA 4 a.

1847 YOUATT *Horse* vi. 122 This cartilage, the conch or shell, is attached to the head by ligaments. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 21 The whole external shell of the ear.

18. *U.S.* A light, narrow, racing-boat.

1873 B. HARTE *What B. Harte Saw* in *Fiddletown*, etc. 98 A shell with its exercising crew. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 69/2 The first month of rowing in the shell is taken up in coaxing the fractious creature to be steady on its bottom.

b. The floating part of a racing boat; the dug-out portion of a West Indian canoe.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 3/1 After the skin and the ribs, which really constitute the shell of the boat, are finished, we fix the seats and stretchers. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 18 Mar. 7/4 The greater distance between the men necessitated by the slides also involved a longer shell. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* vii. 136 The thickness of the shell varies with the size of the vessel, the small [dug-out] canoes being about an inch.

19. Miscellaneous technical uses.

e. g.: in casting, the outer wall of the mould; a pump bucket or clack before it is grathed; a concave grinding tool; a thin film of copper forming the face of an electrotype, which is backed with type-metal; see also quots.

1819 REVELEY *Let. to Shelley* 12 Nov., So that the melted metal..may..fill up the..space left between the core and the shell, in order to form the desired cylinders. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 168 A fluted cylinder called the roller-bowl, encased at its lower and back part within a segment of a hollow cylinder called the shell. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 311/1 The shells or buckets are fitted with valves opening upwards. *Ibid.* VII. 370 Two 'shells' are to be provided, or what is technically termed the moulding box. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 699 A concave rough grinding tool of cast iron called a shell. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shell* (*Weaving*), the upper and under shells are the bars of the lay, which are grooved to receive the reed. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 77 An insulated spherical shell concentric with the globe. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Shell*, a Russian tool for turning insides of hollow projectiles. 1885 LOCK in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 215/1 A substantial electrotype or shell should be obtained in 10–15 hours. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Shells*, a term for tinted spectacles for protecting the eyes from bright light.

III. An exterior or enclosing cover or case

20. a. A covering (of earth, stone, etc.).

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 4 Coal-mines which are covered with a shell of stone about a fathom or more thick. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. 98 Arched over with an exterior Crust or Shell of Earth.

b. The crust of the earth.

a 1704 LOCKE *Elem. Nat. Philos.* viii. (1754) 32 Whatever we fetch from under ground is only what is lodg'd in the shell of the earth. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 35 The separation of the land from the waters, mentioned in Genesis: during which operation some places of the shell of the earth were forced outwards. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* xii. 331 The inner as well as the outer surface of the earth's crust or shell must be spheroidal.

21. A case of metal, etc. in which powder and shot is made up, esp. for use as a hand-grenade.

1644 NYE *Gunnery* II. (1647) 73 First of all fill these small shels [*i. e.* granadoes for the hand] with fine Gunpowder. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xiii. 85 To Load them, fill these small Shells with Gun-Powder. [*marg.*] The Shells are made of Glass, or nelld Clay, or Paper. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xvii. 127 How much Powder will fill that Shell? 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Cc 3 b, The shell is a great hollow ball, filled with powder. 1884 *Milit. Engin.* (ed. 3) I. II. 101 Weight of Shell loaded for service.

b. Hence, an explosive projectile or bomb for use in a cannon or mortar. Also *collect. sing.*

164. *Thomasson Tracts* (Brit. Mus.) CCCCXCII. No. 27. :10 They swear they will never fight more against guns that ihoot twice, meaning the two cracks, the mortar and the ihell. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 452, 13 mortars were tryed.. and approved of, each of them throwing a shell a mile and half. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* ii. 181 The bomb-ship..plied the French with her shells. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 45 The Thunder..began to throw shells. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 391 A single shell bursting, was seen to put an effectual stop to their whole cavalry in a charge. 1854 TENNYSON *Lt. Brigade* iii, Storm'd at with shot and shell.

c. A cartridge case of paper or metal.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 18 Pour it in the paper shells. 1890 LEFFINGWELL *Wild Fowl Shooting* 122 You can get shells at the gunsmith's loaded, or, if you prefer, load them yourself. 1892 GREENER *Breech Loader* 171 In America good paper cases, or 'shells', are dearer than in England.

d. *Pyrotechny.* (See quot.)

1878 T. KENTISH *Pyrotechn. Treas.* 117 Shells are hollow paper globes, fired vertically, from mortars, or iron tubes.

22. A wooden coffin, *esp.* a rough or temporary one. Also a thin coffin of lead or other material to be enclosed in a more substantial one.

1788 *Gentl. Mag.* II. 1045 Great abundance of human bones have been unavoidably dug up, most of which have been put into shells. 1799 SOUTHEY *Engl. Ecl.* Poet. Wks. III. 43 To slave while there is strength, in age the workhouse, A parish shell at last. 1837 RICHARDSON *Brit. Legion* (ed. 2) viii. 212 Their [Spanish criminals] bodies..were then taken down by the executioner.., and placed in shells. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lv, Look rather at the living audience standing round the shell;—the deep grief on Barnes Newcome's fine countenance. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shell,* a rough coffin to be enclosed in another. 1892 *Times* 4 Feb. 12/2 The leaden shell in which the body..is laid was sealed down and this enclosed in a beautiful olivewood coffin.

23. Miscellaneous uses.

a. *Naut.* The outer casing of a pulley-block; a thimble dead-eye block used to join the ends of two ropes. **b.** See quots. 1802, 1853 and cf. *shell-jacket* (sense 39). **c.** The outer plating of a boiler. **d.** *Bridge-building.* (See quot. 1876.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Shell of a block,* the outer frame or case, wherein the sheave or wheel is contained. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 149 The shell is made of elm or ash. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Shell,* a short jacket without arms, which was worn by light dragoons. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 114 The chief parts of a boiler are the shell, the flues, the furnaces and the steam chest. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* viii. 44 A made block consists of..the shell..; the sheave..; the pin..; and the strap. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl., Shell,* a short jacket without tails. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 326 *Concrete in a shell* is a name which might be applied to all the methods of founding a pier which depend on the..property which strong hydraulic concrete possesses of setting into a solid mass under water. The required space is enclosed by a wooden or iron shell. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 36 Topmast rigging is sometimes spliced round the shell of the dead eye. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 22 Dec. 6/1 He had been measured for..tunics and shells and messing-jackets.

IV. A mere exterior or framework.

24. The external part, exterior, or outward aspect, the externals (of something immaterial).

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* I. 10 We must not think we have then attained to the right knowledge of truth, when we have broken through the outward shell of words..that house it up. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iv. § 2 It seems somewhat strange that God should take so great care about the shell and outside of his worship. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 204 Cullies, that Judge only by the Shell, and Appearance. 1774 *Earnest Addr. Methodists* (ed. 8) 5 The outward form and shell of religion. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* ii, The old Jewish blood still beat true, under all its affected shell of Neo-Platonist nonchalance. 1875 EARL LYTTON *Lett.* (1906) I. 335 Words are the shells of ideas. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* i, Among so many there were some whose piety was a shell for their ambition.

25. An empty or hollow thing; mere externality without substance.

1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 123 All the superstructure..a shell Stands now, and semblance only of itself! 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 426 Nothing but the shell of what was intended for the lasting support of a family of honour. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 270 Mere effigies and shells of men. 1846 *New Monthly Mag.* Dec. 410 He piously kissed that shell of a departed being. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Hall bef. Rome* 184 How shall the spirit be loyal To the shell of a spiritless thing?

26. a. The outer part of an edifice or fabric, the interior of which has been removed or destroyed.

1657 *Docum. St. Paul's* (Camden) 155 The roofe and floore of the west howse is fallen downe to the grownd, and lyeth in a heape within the shell thereof. 1705 JOS. TAYLOR *Journ. Edenb.* (1903) 65 The Shell of Cliffords Tower which was blown up in 1684. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* III. 6 Sept., Hard by is the shell of a..Gothick palace. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 34 The red shell of Tantallon speaks to you of the might of the Douglases. 1866 YOUNG *Fires* 59 Nothing remained but the red-hot skeleton or shell of the building. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. ii. 288 [She] built herself a stately mansion which was only reduced to a shell in 1794.

b. The skeleton or carcass of a building or a ship.

1705 ADDISON *Italy, Naples* 202 The Shell of a House, which he had not time to finish. 1761 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 29 July (1827) III. 68, I preached..in the shell of the new house. 1814 T. LANE *Guide Linc. Inn* 82 The shells or walls of the several chambers..are insured from fire by the society. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 580 When the shell of a building is finished, that is, previous to the floors being laid, or the ceilings lathed. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xxii. (ed. 3) 295 The shell of the house, of brick, is old; but stone frontages, enlargements, and decorations, were afterwards made. 1900 G. C. BRODRICK *Mem. & Impr.* 53, I was shown the *Great Britain,* then a mere shell on the docks, one of the first iron ships ever built.

c. *U.S.* A rough, wooden structure, without decoration or furniture.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxii. 293 They were mere rude shells, destitute of any species of furniture. 1882 HOWELLS in *Longman's Mag.* I. 48 The edifice was what we call a shell; it was not plastered. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xiii, It [the eating palace] was a shell of wood, painted with golden emblems.

V. A scale or scale-like object.

27. A scale of a fish or reptile; a hard epidermal excrescence. *rare.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. viii. 174 Þonne hie mon slog oþþe sceat, þonne glad hit on þæm scyllum, swelce hit wære smeðe isen. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xlvii. 360 Ælces fisces sciell bið to oðerre gefeged. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* xi. 9 Ne ete ge nanne fisc buton þa þe habbað finnas and scilla. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xl. 94 [Lagartos] their bodies are couered ouer with shels. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 184 The leggs..were all of them cover'd with a strong hairy scale or shel.

28. a. A scale or lamina (of stone, etc.).

13.. *Guy Warw.* xciii. (1891) 454 Nas neuer wepen þat euer was make þat o schel mist þerof take, Na more þan of þe flint. 1645 *Docum. St. Paul's* (Camden) 144 Whit marble in block and shels 140 fo[ot]. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 592/1 Such flagstones..are much liable to scale off in irregular 'shells'.

† **b.** A lamina (of bone). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 86 Neuere þe lattere kynde wole afterward don awey a schelle of þilke same boon, nouȝt aȝenstondynge þi schauynge. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physic* 171 A Contusion when the bone is pressed down; yet so, that it is not broken into many shells.

† **29.** *pl.* Scurf; = SCALE *sb.*[2] 2. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 189 Furfurea ben a maner of squamis .i. schellis þat comeþ of brennyng þat is in þe skyn. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* C iv b, The hede often enointed with the same..withdryveth the shelles from the hede.

30. Any of the thin pieces of metal composing scale-armour; = SCALE *sb.*[2] 7 a.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. iii. 115 b, They had..vppon their bodies curates of shelles of diuers colours. 1849 JAS. GRANT *Mem. Sir W. Kirkaldy* ix. 85 They wore the most splendid armour of the age, with surcoats or hoquetons covered with shells of silver gilt.

† **31.** *Cant.* (*pl.*) Money. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* I. C 2 The purse, the bong, The monie, the Shels. *Ibid.* II. D j b, The farmer..mist his purse, searcht for it, but lining and shels & all was gone. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* v. i. L j b, 'Tis a question whether there bee any siluer shels amongst them, for all their sattin outsides.

† **32.** *pl.* Fragments. *Obs. rare.*

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 54 The Falcon..russillit & rang hir bellis, Almaist scho had al schakin þame in schellis.

33. An epaulette; = SCALE *sb.*[2] 9.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvii, The Captain, with shells on his frock-coat.

VI. Attributive uses and Combinations.

34. In sense **1**: **a.** Simple attrib., as *shell-colour, -covering, -layer,* etc.

1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 67 Bright pink, the *shell-colour. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 179/1 The evolution of the shell-colour. 1612 DABORNE *Christian turn'd Turke* I. ii. C 2 Poore fishers brat, that neuer didst aspire Aboue a musle boate,..That..didst smell Worse then thy *shell commodity at midsummer. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 318 The external *shell-layer consists of fusiform cells. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 562/2 The various examples of *shell-membrane. 1835–6 *Ibid.* I. 548/2 The inner sides of the *shell-muscles. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 252 *Shell Net. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 193 In Lamellibrachs the *shell-outline is not the same on each side of the beak. 1857 J. G. WOOD *Comm. Obj. Seashore* 24 Upon this leathery mantle are placed eight *shell-plates, which overlap each other. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 287 The *shell-wall is removed by weathering.

b. Objective and objective genitive, as *shell-cleaner, -eater, -ealing, -monger,* etc.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade,* **Shell-cleaner,* a person who makes a business of cleansing and scouring shells. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 17 Our most exact and industrious *shell-collectors. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* v. 77 Such species as are especially *shell-eaters. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xiv. 252 Clouds of a black *shell-eating bird, called linongolo. 1850 *British Museum* (Chambers) 192 *Shell-engraving, however, under the name of *Conchylie,* is now carried on..in Italy. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 6 Dec., The..tribes of insect-mongers, *shell-mongers, and pursuers and driers of butterflies.

c. Parasynthetic, instrumental, etc., as *shell-borne, -burred, -housed, -wrought,* etc. adjs.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 237 O *shell-borne Neptune. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Deep-Sea Cables,* The great grey level plains of ooze where the *shell-burred cables creep. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 549/1 The *shell-clad Nautilus. 1883 *Good Words* 113 Gorgeous articles of native dress, feather-tasseled, *shell-fringed, coral-beaded. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 506 The *shell-housde snaile. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* (1717) 395 In roughest tides his *shell-prepared brest Untoucht with danger, finds a haven of rest. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 3 Now with his hands..The Swaine attempts to get the *shell strewd shores. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* vi. (1858) 261 The *shell-strewn beach. 1741 BOYSE *Patience* 182 Sweet was each *shell-wrought bowl. 1747 MASON *Ode to Water Nymph* 38 Yon shell-wrought terras.

d. Similative, as *shell-curved, -formed, -red,* etc.; also *shell-like* adj. and adv., *-wise* adv.

1902 LADY DILKE *Fr. Furnit. 18th Cent.* 48 The *shell-curved lines which maintain their decorative value in the Salle à manger. *c* 1800 LEYDEN *Mermaid* liv, The *shell-formed lyres of ocean ring. 1692 RAY *Disc.* 132 There are found not only *shell-like stones, but real shells. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 46 Of the..Rooms..the lesser ones are arch'd shell-like. 1827 HOOD *Bianca's Dream* 242 Her small and shell-like ear. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 917 Shell-like plates of varying size with scalloped margins. 1887 *Daily News* 19 May 5/6 Lined with *shell-pink satin. 1891 'O. THANET' *Otto the Knt.,* etc. 311 Shades of gray and purple and *shell-red. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. v. 34 The three *shell-shaped squares in the centre of the city. 1552 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 88 Makinge the same [feathers] into greate plumes, to stand *shell-wise overthwarte the hed peces of the worthyes of the Greekes.

35. In various senses of branch I, passing into *adj.*

a. Of an animal, fruit, etc.: Having a shell; see also SHELL-FISH, -SNAIL.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/2 Schale notys, and oþer schelle frute. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Shell-fish,* Bonetus observes, That Shell Animals have no Diversity of Sex. 1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Introd. p. cxviii, The pots containing the seeds or shell-fruits. 1859–62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 353 The genus *Testacellus* or Shell-slug. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvii, Their shell-fauna is of a Mexican and Central American type.

b. Of geological formations or deposits: Consisting wholly or largely of (sea)shells (esp. in a triturated or powdery state, *shell-marl, -sand*).

(Cf. *shale marl,* 1682, s. v. MARL *sb.*[1] 1 b.)

1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 43 The shell stones (that lie in arable landes..) first burnt, and then beaten into fine powder. 1692 A. SYMSON *Descr. Galloway* (1823) 94 As for lime they are supplyed from the Shell-bank of Kirkinner. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Shell-sand,* a name given by the farmers, in some parts of England, to the fragments of shells found on the sea-shores, and ground to a sort of powder, so that they resemble sand. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. viii. 29 This author seems never to have seen shell-marle. 1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 25 Dec. (1766) 7 This shell-bluff is 300 yards more or less along the river's bank. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 138 The coarse shell-limestone, which immediately covers the chalk strata in the neighbourhood of Paris. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. Gloss., *Shell marl,* a deposit of clay, peat, and silt, mixed with shells, which collects at the bottom of fresh water lakes. 1850 DANA *Min.* 208 Fine marble or lumachelle is a dark brown shell marble. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 589 Shell-beds are formed of dead and drifted shells, heaped together by tides and currents. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Perseus* IV, Shell-drifts bleaching in the sunshine.

c. Of an artificial structure, vessel, etc.: Consisting or formed of a shell or shells; made from a shell or shells; ornamented with shells; (of a road, *U.S.*), having a bed or layer of shells.

1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. Q 8 b, Whose shrill shell-trumpett seas and shores doo heare. 1637 NABBES *Microcosmus* IV. F j b, From a rock That weeps a running christall she [*sc.* Temperance] doth fill Her shell cup. 1699 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. ix. 87 Triton's Shell-trumpet is famous in Poetical Story. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Shell,* The effects of this shell-manure. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 153 The gardens are of great extent, with..shell grottos. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 17 There are but two drives in the neighbourhood of New Orleans—the old and new 'Shell Roads'...They are ..thickly covered..with small sea shells. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* xiii. 169 Bone or shell ear-rings. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 46 The makers of shell-cameos avail themselves of this difference [of colour] to produce white or rose-coloured figures on a dark ground. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 55 Two or three highly-colored prints, a shell workbox, a ghastly winter bouquet of skeleton leaves and mosses. 1888 MRS. CUSTER *Tenting on Plains* ix, The shell drive along the ocean. 1904 WINSTON CHURCHILL *Crossing* III. v, A white shell walk divided the garden.

d. Of an implement: Hollow, or having a concave part.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 254 The Taper-shell-bit is used for widening holes. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 179 The first tool used is an auger; the shell part ..four inches in diameter. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 31 For rough work..the shell augur alone is used.

e. Of the shape of a shell; (of material, trimming, etc.) having a shell pattern.

1774 in *Amer. Hist. Rev.* (1899) V. 311 She is drest in a neat shell Callico Gown. 1840 MRS. GAUGAIN *Lady's Assist. Knitting* 142 Shell pattern, or half square for a quilt or counterpane. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* V, Shell-trimmings and flutings. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 92 Shell Couching, a Flat Couching, in which the securing stitches are arranged in half curves, and bear some resemblance to the shape of a scallop shell. 1885 W. J. E. CRANE *Bookbinding* xiii. 101 The pattern called large brown French, or shell pattern. 1894 *Daily News* 26 Apr. 9/1 'The shell chair', which is like a scallop shell.

f. Made of tortoise-shell. ? *U.S.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shell-comb,* a lady's comb for the hair, or a toilet comb, made of tortoiseshell. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Shell-piece,* one of the shields of tortoise-shell or horn, used with spring eye-glasses which clasp the nose. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 808/1 She replaced the dagger with a shell pin from her own hair.

36. In sense **21**: **a.** Simple attrib., as *shell-fire, fougasse, -gun, -room, -shop,* etc.; **b.** objective, as *shell-filling,* etc.; **c.** advb., as *shell-proof -stricken* adjs.

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munit. War* 31 The carrier-block moves the *shell-drawer and causes it to draw out the discharged shell from the chamber. 1884 *Milit. Engin.* (ed. 3) I. II. 101 A *shell-filling room. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 132 *Shell firing was next tried at a distance of 1,500 yards. 1834 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* 207 *Shell Fougasses. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shell-gage* (*Ordnance*), an instrument for verifying the thickness of hollow projectiles. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 135 The accurate and long-range firing of such rifled *shell-guns. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xii. 132 The *shell hoist..is provided with a cowl

1864 WEBSTER, *Shell-proof*, capable of resisting bomb shells. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 130 *Shell-rooms*, a compartment in a bomb-vessel, fitted up with shelves to receive bomb-shells when charged. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 16 The *shell-shop, where they [shells] are taken in and finished. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* iii. (1902) 40 The most *shell-stricken kopje in South Africa. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* ii, A clump of *shell-torn bodies. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 29 Now that steel is used instead of iron the *shell-wall is much thinner.

37. In sense 15.

1833 *Quart. Jrnl. Educ.* V. 40 Fifth Form...Shell Form... Sixth Form. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, It was the prescribed quantity of Homer for a shell lesson. 1867 W. L. COLLINS *Public Sch., Westm.* viii. 178 At the end of this room [the schoolroom] there is a kind of semicircular apse, in which the 'shell' form were formerly taught.

38. In sense 18: Of boats of a light racing form; hence of a race rowed by such boats.

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* vii, A 'skeleton' or 'shell' race-boat. 1873 *Forest & Stream* 25 Sept. 108/1 A new four-oared shell boat. *Ibid.*, A four-oared shell race.

39. Special comb.: **shell-back**, (*a*) *jocular*, a sailor, *esp.* a hardened or experienced one; (*b*) a marine turtle; **shell-bake** *v.*, to overheat an egg that is being incubated so as to kill (the bird); **shell-bearing** *a.*, = CONCHIFEROUS 1 and 2; **shell-blow**, a call blown on a horn made of a large species of shell (e. g. a conch-shell); so **shell-blowing**; † **shell-bread**, a kind of bread or biscuit baked in large mussel-shells; **shell-breaker**, an instrument used in lithotomy; **shell button** (see quots.); † **shell-cap**, ? a lace cap of shell pattern; **shell-fire** *dial.*, phosphorescence or lambent fire seen enveloping or issuing from bodies (see quots.); **shell-flowers**, 'ornaments made with small shells, plain or coloured' (1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*); **shell-game** *U.S.*, a sleight-of-hand swindling game in which a small object is concealed under a walnut shell or the like, and bets are made as to which shell the object is under; **shell-gland**, (*a*) an excretory organ beneath the shell in the lower crustaceans; (*b*) the shell-secreting gland of a mollusc; **shell-gold** [see sense 2 e], gold for painting or writing, laid in a mussel-shell; **shell-heap**, a mound of domestic remains consisting mainly of refuse shells accumulated by aborigines who subsisted on shell-fish; **shell-hearing**, in 'psychical research', the induction of hallucinatory voices by listening with the ear to the aperture of a shell; † **shell-house**, a grotto; **shell-jacket**, an undress tight-fitting military jacket, short in the back; **shell-keep**, a form of Norman keep built on a mound (usually the site of an older fortress); **shell-lime**, lime made by burning sea-shells; **shell-man** *U.S.*, a swindler who plays the shell-game; †**shell-meat**, edible shell-fish; † **shell-mine** (see quot.); **shell-money** = WAMPUM; **shell-mound** = *shell-heap*; †**shell-naked** *a.*, ? as bare as an eggshell; **shell-paste**, thin paste for lining a pie-dish, etc.; **shell-plate**, one of the plates forming the outer shell of a vessel, boiler, etc.; so **shell-plating**; **shell-pump** = *sand-pump* (see SAND *sb.*[2] 10); **shell-roll** (see quot.); **shell-sac** = *shell-gland* (b); **shell-sickness**, a disease in sheep characterized by shell-like thickenings in the intestines; †**shell-silver**, silver for painting, etc. in the same form as shell-gold; **shell-stick**, a stick with a shell on the end used as a weapon by some Australian aborigines; **shell-suit**, a suit of clothes consisting of tight-fitting trousers buttoning on to a tunic; †**shell-tooth**, any of the teeth of a horse which bear the mark; also *adj.* = †**shell-toothed** *a.* (see quots.).

1883 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Jack's Courtship* i, It takes a sailor a long time to..get quit of the bold sheer that earns him the name of *shell-back. 1891–4 STEVENSON in G. Balfour *Life* (1911) 249 The arrival of strange old shell-back guests out of every quarter of the island world. 1905 A. I. SHAND *Days of Past* iii. 38 The shellbacks from the Caribbean Sea or Ascension floating in the tanks. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 54 The silk hens are the best for the act of incubation, the heat of the common hens being apt to *shellbake the birds in the eggs. 1844 *Athenæum* 5 Oct. 902/3 A species of *shell-bearing annelid, the Ditrupa. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* 168 Shell-bearing gravels. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 50 This mode of working continued till *shell-blow at half past one by the sun-dial. 1861 G. BLYTH *Remin. Miss. Life* ii. 54 At noon or, as it was called, the shellblow time. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 178 All sounds of *shell-blowing had ceased. 1655 R. MAY *Accomplisht Cook* (ed. 2) 274 To make *Shell Bread. 1830 S. COOPER *Dict. Pract. Surg.* (ed. 6) 815 For small stones..the '*shell-breaker' only is used. 1834–6 BARLOW *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 608 *Shell buttons are those which consist of a back made of bone without any shank but corded with catgut. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) I. 263/1 Buttons in which the convex front is closed in behind with another piece of metal, also convex on the outer surface, but less so than the front. These are called shell buttons. 1794 MRS. PIOZZI *Brit. Synon.* I. 359 She gained about 350l. 'tis said, and laid out two hundred of the money instantly in a *shell-cap. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 138 A bright flame was always considered as a fortunate omen, whether it were a real one issuing from an altar, or a seeming one (what we call *shell-fire) from the head of a living person. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* Suppl., *Fairy-sparks*, or *Shel-fire*, electric sparks, often seen on clothes at night. Kent. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shell-fire*, the phosphorescence sometimes exhibited in farm-yards, &c., from decayed straw, &c. or touchwood. 1738–9 MRS. DELANY *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 37, I wish you could safely send me the antique shell nosegay; I am going to fill a glass case with *shell-flowers. 1899 *Philistine* IX. 157 All the people who work the filological *shell-game. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 268 At the sides of the latter [carapace], two coiled tubes with clear contents, the so-called *shell-glands, are seen. 1883 E. RAY LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 639/2 The embryonic shell-sac or shell-gland. 1573 *Art of Limning* fo. iiij, If you will buye at the Potecaries *shell golde or shell silver, with the which (being tempered with gumme water) you may verye well write with a pen. 1675 A. BROWNE *App. Art of Limning* 25 Cover over the Rais'd Work with the finest Shell Gold. 1758 DOSSIE *Handmaid Arts* 391 When the gold powders are used along with paintings in water colours, it is previously formed into shell gold...This shell gold is prepared by tempering the gold powder with very weak gum water. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 803 When great brilliancy is not wanted, shell-gold may be used instead of gold leaf, to gild upon the size. 1882 E. A. BARBER in *Amer. Antig.* IV. 201 Mr. Tooker informs me further that he has found perfect clay pipes on *shell heaps and on the sites of aboriginal villages. 1893 *Tablet* 22 July 126 Miss X who is understood to be very gifted.. in crystal vision and in *shell-hearing. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, A grotto, or *shell house. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) I. 46 The operation required in a shell-house. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. iv. 114 As travellers, unprovided with our traps, we appeared there in *shell jackets. 1868 *Queen's Regul. Army* § 608 The 'surplus kit'..being carried in the squad bags,..viz.: 1 shell jacket, 1 pair socks, 1 shirt, 1 towell [etc.]. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 197 The true castle of Montgomery..no square donjon, but a vast *shell-keep on a mighty mound. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 189 *Shell Lime, that is, Cockle or other shells burnt. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 39 The antiquity of this very thick old wall is seen from its stones having been run together with hot shell-lime. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 Sept. 5/2 The *shell-man whom she hired was the success of the evening, and gallantly handed back the bills of large denominations which the guests passed over to him in making their bets, 'just for fun.' 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xi. 402 Sacraments, like to *shelmeats, may be eaten after fowl hands, without any harm. 1645–52 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 106 The Mine hath the name of.. *Shell-mine for the following reason: for this stuff or Oar being neither loose..as earth.., neither firm..as stone, is of a middle substance..composed of shells or scales. 1851 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Notes N. Amer.* II. 465 From the purple interior of this shell the *wampum* or *shell-money of the Indians was prepared. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. i. (1863) 36 Ancient *shell-mounds, the supposed kitchen refuse of the aborigines. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 185 'Shell-mound' axes. 1879 — *Sci. Lect.* v. 156 The dog is the only domestic animal found in the shell-mounds. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 33 A Goose..Which out of Peaks-Arse..was seen *Shell-naked sally, rifled of her plume. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 86 Make a little *shell-paste, and line your tins. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* xix. 422 The sides of the poop and forecastle to be one third lighter than the *shell plates amidships. 1899 *Daily Tel.* 18 Jan. 6/6 Shell-plate boilers improve as time goes on. 1894 W. H. WHITE *Man. Naval Arch.* (ed. 3) 333 Iron or steel ships have comparatively thin *shell-plating stiffened by transverse and longitudinal frames. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shell-pump*, a tube with a clack-valve at its foot, used for removing the detritus from a bored shaft. 1892 NASMITH *Students' Cotton Spinning* 164 The top rollers are almost universally made for the front line of a drawing frame of the Leigh loose boss type. This is called in America the '*shell roll'. 1883 E. RAY LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 639 In very few instances..the primitive *shell-sac is retained and enlarged as the permanent shell-forming area. *c* 1794 in Shirreff *Agric. Shetl. Isl.* (1814) App. 47 The water, or *shell sickness, is a disease peculiar to those sheep who feed on the hilly pastures at a distance from the sea shores. 1573 *Shell-silver [see *shell-gold* above]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Silver*, Shell-Silver, is made of the Shreads of Silver Leaves, or of the Leaves themselves: Used in Painting and Silvering certain Works. 1790 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* 194 A convict..met a party of the natives..by whom he was beaten, and also slightly wounded with the *shell-stick used in throwing their spears. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. ii. 33 The Clapham pedagogue was a great stickler for corporal punishment in the case of small boys, and to the administration of this the *shell suits then worn lent themselves admirably. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4249/4 A very strong well-limb'd Punch, ..6 years old, and *Shell-Tooth. 1826–7 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVIII. 599/2 As in the centre they [*sc.* corner teeth of a horse] are hollowed like a shell, and contain a kind of fleshy substance, called the mark, they are sometimes called shell teeth. 1726 *Dict. Rusticum* (ed. 3) s. v. *Horse's-age*, A horse is said to be *Shell-toothed, when he has long Teeth, and yet black specks in them. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Shell-toothed*,..an appellation given to a horse that from five years old to old age naturally, and without any artifice, bears mark in all his fore teeth, and there still keeps that hollow place with the black mark.

b. In names of animals and plants: **shell-bark**, short for *shell-bark hickory* (occas. *s. walnut*), a North American tree, *Carya* (formerly *Juglans*) *alba*, having a rough shaggy bark consisting of long narrow plates loosely adhering by the middle; also *C. sulcata* (Thick Shell-bark); **shell-binder**, *Terebella conchilega*, the tube of which is composed of sand and fragments of shells; **shell-eater**, an African bird, *Anastomus lamelligerus* (cf. OPEN-BILL); **shell-flower**, *Molucella lævis*, the genus *Chelone*, and some species of *Alpinia*; **shell-fly**, a kind of fly; an angler's artificial fly (see quots.); **shell-grinder**, **shell-ibis** (see quots.); **shell-insect**, (*a*) see quot.; (*b*) a name for crustaceans of the group *Entomostraca*; **shell-lettuce** (see quot.); **shell parrakeet**, the Australian species *Melopsittacus undulatus* (Cassell); †**shell-pear** = AVOCADO; †**shell-toad**, nonce-translation of Du. *schildpad* (see SHELLPAD); **shell-worm**, †(*a*) a kind of shell-fish; (*b*) a tubicolous annelid; (*c*) a mollusc of the family *Dentaliidæ*.

1805 ALEX. WILSON *Foresters* Poems & Lit. Prose (1876) II. 131 In deep glens are groves of *Shellbarks found. 1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* II. 637 *Juglans sulcata*..is called Thick Shell-bark Hickory, Springfield or Glocester Nut. *Ibid.*, *Juglans alba*..is known by the name of Shell-bark Hickory, Shag-bark and Scaly-bark Hickory. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 489 Shell-bark Walnut Tree. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 133 *Carya sulcata*,..Big Shell-bark. Bottom Shell-bark. 1863 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* III. 701 The *Shell-binder is very plentiful on some of our coasts. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 75 The African Clapper-bill, or *Shell-eater. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 129 *Molucella lævis*, *shell-flower. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 285 *Chelone glabra*,..called..Shell-flower, Balmony. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 124/2 Shell-flower... Brush. *Alpinia* (*Hellenia*) *cærulea*. Indian. *Alpinia nutans*. 1653 WALTON *Angler* v. 97 There are as many sorts of Flies as there be of Fruits:..as the dun flie,..the *shei flie, the cloudy or blackish flie. 1655 *Ibid* v. (1661) 107 The shell-fly, good in mid July, the body made of greenish wool, lapt about with the herle of a Peacocks tail; and the wings made of the wings of the Buzzard. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 334 The Shell Fly, termed also the Green Fly. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 The following list, which are well known to the expert angler: viz. barm fly,..sand fly, shell fly. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 174/1 (*Queensland*), The *shell-grinder, *Cestracion*, is similar to a shark found as fossil in Europe. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 655 *note*, Others [*sc.* names given to birds of the genus *Anastomus*].. are Shell-eater, *Shell-Ibis, and Snail-eater. 1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* IV. 97 *Anastomus* is called the 'Shell-Ibis' from its cleverness in extracting *Unio* and other molluscs from their shells. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Shell-gall-insect*, an insect of the gall-insect class, somewhat resembling those which are called the boat-fashioned ones. ..It has its name of *shell-insect, from the resemblance it bears to a muscle-shell. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 148 The *Shell Lettice, so called from the roundness of its Leaf, almost like a Shell, is the first that will Cabbage at the going out of the Winter; otherwise called Winter Lettice. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physit.* 41, I never heard it called by any other name than the Spanish Pear, or by some the *Shell-Pear. 1691–6 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 III. 39 Shell-Pear (i. e.) *Pyrus corticosus & testaceus*. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2307/2 He was called Shildpad: that is to say, *Sheltode: for that he beyng a short grundy and of litle stature, did ryde commonly with a great broad hat. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Escaramugos*, a kind of *shell worm breeding on rockes, and on the sides of ships.

Shell (ʃel), *v.* [f. SHELL *sb.* Cf. MLG. *schellen* to peel; also SHALE *v.*, SHEEL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To remove (a seed) from its shell, husk, or pod. Also with *out*.

Shelling peas is put (colloq.) for a type of a simple easy process.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 33 Thyrtye granes of Lentilles shelled. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play House* I. i, What, Shelling of Beans? 'tis a proper work For the Long Vacation. 1725 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 129 Three Bolls of unshell'd or unhusk'd Oats only yield one Boll of what is shell'd or husk'd. 1796 *Mrs. Glasse's Cookery* iii. 32 Shell your pease just before you want them. 1803 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 125 In bad weather, shell out your corn. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xli, I never..shelled a pea in my life. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxii, Shelling peas into a dish. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *To Shell corn*, to remove the grains of Indian corn from the cob. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* v, Engaged in shelling some seed-beans.

b. *Med.* To extrude, expel (a growth).

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 41 The capsule of the glands was opened, and most of them were shelled out without much difficulty. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 384 An elastic moveable tumour..which was easily shelled after a slight dissection.

c. (See quots.)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *To Shell*, (*Vet.*) is said of a horse that has the teeth completely bare and uncovered, which happens about the fifteenth or sixteenth year. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., Animals and children are always said to shell their teeth—that is, to shed or cast the milk teeth.

d. *intr.* Of grain, seed, etc.: To drop out of the shell or husk.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Shell*..3. To be disengaged from the husk; as, wheat or rye shells in reaping. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. i. 71 The oats that shell out on the land at harvest time.

2. *trans.* To remove the shell, husk, etc. of.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Prol. A 3 They shall shell [orig. *esgoussera*] the Shrub's delicious Fruit, Whose Flow'r they in the Spring so much had fear'd. 1705 in Agnew *Hered. Sheriffs Galloway* (1893) II. xi. 207 That they shell their oats sufficientlie for the first time, and winnow the shelling. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 139 The oats are dried at home.. they are then sent to a mill to be shelled. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 228 Some shrimps shelled. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 72 Coarse millstones for shelling clover. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* 293 The women who shell almonds in the south of France. 1894 *Century Mag.* XLVII. 851, I remembered that my Lake George neighbors 'shell' out their nuts when they take the 'shucks' off them.

b. To bring forth as from a shell. *rare.*
1890 [Mrs. A. Macleod] *Austral. Girl* xvi, Creatures that are shelled into life in weltering heaps.

3. *intr.* To come away or fall off as a shell, crust, or outer coat; to come *off* in thin pieces, peel or scale *off*.
1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* iv. iv. 287 By this very method the rottenness of the Bone soon shell'd off. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 38 There is nothing..that appears either tarnished or shel'd off [orig. *écaillé*] in any part. 1760 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 636 It did..damage to the column..by causing its surface to shell off. 1883 R. Haldane in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 254/2 (*Whitewashing*) This [mixture] will not shell off.

4. *trans.* To enclose in, or as in, a shell; to encase. (See Shelled *a.* 1.)
1637 N. Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 9 His body shelled in a Satten skin Of azure dye. *Ibid.* 53 Cupid..disdaines to dwell In loftie pallace, but does shell Himselfe in straw-thatcht roofe. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, lxxiv, They did returne Vnto the King; who Shells himselfe, to see Within himselfe, the Object of this Scorne. 1666 [Marvell] *Third Advice to Painter* 18 Even they (though shell'd in trebble Oak) Will prove an Addle-egg with double Yoalk. 1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* xix. (1869) 68 Shell thee with steel or brass,..Death from the casque will pull thy cautious head. *c* 1822 Beddoes *Poems, Pygmalion* 69 Like a dim mist Shelling a god, it rolled. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xviii, Their faces seemed full of speech, as if their minds had been shelled after the manner of horse-chesnuts.

† b. *pass.* (app.) To be fixed close, as a mollusc to its shell.
1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccxxvi, A Man soe Shell'd in Blood vnto his Beast.

5. a. To furnish with shells for collecting spat.
1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 110 Spawning oysters are frequently put down in the spring, two months before the ground is shelled. 1891 W. K. Brooks *Oyster* 108 Of this vast area a large portion has been cleaned up and shelled.

b. To spread oyster-shells on (ground) as a fertilizer; to make up (a road) with shells; *intr.* to deal in or use oyster-shells.
In U.S. Dicts.

6. To bombard with shells (also *absol.*); to drive *out of* a place by shelling.
1856 W. H. Russell *War* xxiii. 227 The Russians now shell vigorously. 1870 *Standard* 16 Nov., A battery was planted, and the chateau was about to be shelled. 1895 *Times* 4 Feb. 5/1 Every gun in the fort had been silenced, and the Japanese were fairly shelled out of it.
transf. 1897 'H. S. Merriman' *In Kedar's Tents* xx, The other soldier was chasing his opponent up the hill, shelling him, as he rode away, with oaths and stones.
fig. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* i, My quondam doer had ensconced himself chin-deep among legal trenches..but my two protectors shelled him out of his defences. 1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 45 From these..he was speedily driven, or one might say shelled out, by a concerted assault of my sister Mary's.

7. **Shell out.** *colloq.* (*fig.* from sense 1).
a. *trans.* To disburse, pay up, hand over. Also (rarely) *to shell down.*
1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Forester, The Bank-Notes,* One of you..must shell out your corianders [see Coriander 3]. 1815 — *Love & Law* I. i, To shell out for me the price of a daacent horse. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* vii, The gold is shelled down when ye command, as fast as I have seen the ash-keys fall in a frosty morning. 1819 Moore *Tom Crib's Memor.* (ed. 3) 27 Who knows but, if coax'd, he may shell out the shiners? 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 299 Shell oot yor goold, my collier lad.
b. *intr.* To pay up.
1821 Egan *Life in London* (1869) x. 265 If you are too scaly to tip for it, I'll shell out and shame you. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. vi, I've got a tick at Sally's,..but then I hate running it high..towards the end of the half, 'cause one has to shell out for it all directly one comes back. 1889 H. O'Reilly *50 Yrs. on Trail* 254, I had to 'shell out' pretty freely..it cost me 250 dollars.
c. *trans.* To let out, declare. *rare.*
1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Channings* i, Come, Miss Channing, just shell out what you know.

Shell, obs. Anglo-Irish form of Sell *v.*
a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 173 A Judas an Apostat merchant shellinge the same for money. *Ibid.* II. 137 To shell the lives of his abetters.

Shellac (ʃĕlæ·k, ʃe·læk). Also 8 **shellack, shel-lack, shell-lake, shell lack,** 8–9 **shell-lac, shell lac.** [transl. F. *laque en écailles* lac (see Lac[1]) in thin plates. (Cf. G. *schalenlack*, beside *schellack* from English.)] Lac melted and run into thin plates.
1713 *Mercator* No. 93/4, 1370 l. Shellack. 1716 *Gt. Brit. Weekly Pacquet* No. 17 Gum Shell Lack, Ditto Seed Lack, Ditto Stick Lack. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1787) II. 79 Lacks, such as shel-lack, stick lack, &c. 1734–5 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 20 A Cake of Shell-Lake. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 476 Varnished with a solution of shell lac in strong alcohol. 1873 Spon in *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 23/1 Shellac is the only cement used by jewellers for jet articles.
attrib. 1816 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 792 Shell-lac varnish is rather softer than seed-lac varnish. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 12 Carbolised shellac plaster.
Hence **Shellacked** (-ăcĕd) *pa. pple.*, coated, varnished, or fastened with shellac; **Shellacking** (-ăcing), a coating of shellac.
1882 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 688 The bedrooms are shellacked and some are stained of a deep tint. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 88 A piece of sapphire which is..shellaced to a brass handle. *Ibid.* 104 It..saves time when used instead of waxing or shellacing. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 419 The shellacked cotton, oil, and other materials with which the transformer circuits are insulated.

Shellam, variant of Schelm *Obs.*
c 1619 *Barnawelt* II. i. in Bullen *O. P.* II. 229 The proude Shellams [*printed* Shellains] are paid too well.

Shell-apple, -drake, -duck: see Sheld-apple, Sheldrake, Shelduck.

Shelled (ʃeld), *a.* [f. Shell *sb.* + -ed[2].]
1. Of animals, fruits, etc.: Having a shell.
Shelled insects, the crustacean group *Entomostraca*: cf. *shell-insect* s. v. Shell *sb.* 39 b.
1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 102 Those fruites that are shelde, as Nuttes. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xiv. 29 They are like shelled fish, singing loudest when their house is on fire about their ears. 1730 Southall *Treat. Bugs* 19 A Bugg's Body is shaped and shelled, and the Shell as transparent..as the most beautiful..Turtle. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 510 The juices of shell'd fish. 1812 D'Israeli *Calam. Auth.* (1867) 140 Authors must not be thin-skinned, but shelled like the rhinoceros. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* iv, He's shelled like a partan. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 370 Shelled-Astacians (*Epizoxidiidæ*). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1009 The contained eggs, or rather shelled embryos, are minute.
b. With prefixed adj.: Having a shell (of a certain kind).
1611 [see Hard-shelled, Soft-shelled]. 1649 Thick-shell'd [see Thick *a.* 12]. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 626 The corn here is thinner shelled than that which grows in a fatter soil. 1845 Gosse *Ocean* i. (1849) 58 Some little shelled Mollusk. 1904 P. Fountain *Gt. North-West* xxi. 249 The eggs..are very small and delicate shelled.
2. Of a beach: Covered with shells.
1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 Feb. 11/2 A generous expanse of shelled and sandy beach.
3. Of ammunition: Contained in shells.
1900 *Daily News* 13 June 7/6 Our artillery now poured in common shelled lyddite.

Shelled (ʃeld), *ppl. a.* [f. Shell *v.* + -ed[1].] Deprived of the shell; from which the shell has been removed or shed. Cf. Sheeled.
1725 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 129 It is of this shell'd Oats that they make the Grotts. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* ii, A shelled pea-cod. 1887 *Daily News* 18 July 2/5 Peas..8d. to 1s per shelled pint.

Shelled, variant of Sheld *a.*

Sheller (ʃe·ləɹ). [f. Shell *v.* + -er[1].]
1. One who shells peas, etc.; *spec.* one whose occupation it is to open bivalves.
1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Prol. A 7, Clever Shellers of Beans. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 10 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, For these long oats, the 'shellers', who buy the largest quantities to convert into oatmeal, will give as much per stone, as they will for the short ones. 1859 Sala *Twice round Clock* (1861) 43 Some fastidious persons might perhaps object that the fingers of the shellers [of the peas] are somewhat coarse. 1887 Goode, etc., *Fisheries U. S.* v. II. 593 The clams are thoroughly washed before they are given over to the knives of the 'shellers', or 'openers'.
b. A machine for rasping or rubbing the grain from the cob. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*
2. A contrivance for providing an object with a shell or coating.
1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Sept. 12/1 After this it has only to go into the sheller, where it gets its last coat in the shape of a plaster of Paris shell.

She·llery. *nonce-word.* [f. Shell *sb.*[1] + -ery.] A depreciatory name for: A grotto.
1737 in Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr.* (1861) I. 608, I have been to see Lady Walpole's shellery (for *grotto* I will *not* call it).

Shellet, etc.: see Shillet.

Shelleyan (ʃe·li,ăn), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also *rarely* **Shellyan, Shelleian.** [f. the name *Shelley* (see def.) + -an.] Pertaining or relating to, or characteristic of Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792–1822) or his poetry, or the ideas expressed in his works. As *sb.*, an admirer of Shelley.
a 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 544 The Shellyan abandon and the Tennysonian poetic sense. 1880 Todhunter *Shelley* v. 157 A bit of the Shelleyan philosophy. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Mar. 374/2 Mr. Wise's reprint of *Adonais* for the Shelley Society is..quite worthy of the attention of Shelleyans. 1886 Dowden *Shelley* I. xii. 523 Why Mary was 'Pecksie' must remain a Shelleyan mystery.
So **She·lleyism,** thought or action characteristic of Shelley; **She·lleyite,** an admirer or follower of Shelley; **Shelleyo·later,** a worshipper of Shelley; so **Shelleyo·latry.**
1822 Lamb *Lett.* (1888) II. 48 To award his Heaven and his Hell in the presumptuous manner he does, was a piece of immodesty as bad as *Shelleyism. 1881 *Athenæum* 5 Mar. 329/1 Another sect of devotees..the *Shelleyites. 1898 W. Graham *Last Links* xiii, The infuriated Shelleyan, or rather let me say *Shelleyolater. 1892 W. Watson in *Bookman* Oct. 23/2 Many a reader, not impeachable on the ground of *Shelleyolatry.

Shell-fish (ʃe·lfiʃ). [OE. *scilfisc* = ON. *skelfiskr.*] Any animal living in water whose outer covering is a shell, whether testaceous, as an oyster, or crustaceous, as a crab.
c 888 Ælfred *Boeth.* xli. § 5 Manize sint cwucera gesceafta unstirende, swa swa nu scylfiscas sint. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* II. met. v. (1868) 50 Þe blode of a manar shelfysshe þat men fynden in tyrie, wiþ whiche blode men deien purper. *Ibid.* v. pr. v. 21 Oystres and muscles and oþer swiche shelle fysshe of þe see. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 69 Schel fische and scalid fisch. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 705/26 *Hoc conchile,* alle maner schelfyche. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 22 The shelle fyshe called the Tortoyse of the sea. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* v. vi. 204 Crabs..and all shel-fishes. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 179 The Clacas, which is absolutely the very best Shell-fish in the World. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet in Aliments,* etc. 255 Shell-fish are nourishing. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Shell-fish,* the term is chiefly applied in commerce to crabs, lobsters, and cray-fish, oysters, mussels, periwinkles, and whelks, in which a large trade is carried on.
Comb. 1837 Thackeray *Professor* Wks. 1899 XIII. 496 The father of Miss Adeliza Grampus was a shell-fishmonger. 1896 J. Lamb *Ann. Ayrshire Parish* I. 21 A happy hunting-ground for shell-fish gatherers.
b. *fig.* of a person.
1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XII. v. (Rtldg.) 430 Open-mouthed and impenetrable shell-fish.
Hence **She·ll-fi·shery, Shell-fi·shing.**
1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 108/1 The cultivation of oysters and other shell-fisheries. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 12/1 The shell-fishing..has been wonderfully successful.

She·llful. *rare.* [f. Shell *sb.* + -ful.] A quantity sufficient to fill a shell; *fig.* a small quantity.
c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 66 Þe juce of cynchen þre schelfulle. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 63 Thay will..gar 30w traistly trow Quhilk is not worth ane schelfull of credence. 1650 Baxter *Saint's R.* I. viii. 135 Onely a shell full of Dust, animated with an invisible rational soul.

Shelliness (ʃe·linĕs). *rare.* [f. Shelly *a.* + -ness.] a. The condition of being covered with shells. b. Tendency to retire 'into one's shell'.
1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xvii, All I have to suggest for myself is simply a certain shyness...I daresay, likewise, that the natural shelliness of the English had something to do with it. 1876 *Macm. Mag.* XXXIV. 336 There are limpid pools..where you may wash your feet free from shelliness.

Shelling (ʃe·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shell *v.* + -ing[1].]
1. The action of Shell *v.*; removal of the shell of peas, nuts, etc. Cf. Sheeling 1.
1725 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 129 The Pains of husking or shelling of it [*sc.* Naked Oats] (as 'tis usually call'd) in a Water Mill. 1892 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 338/2 A clandestine shelling of peas.
2. *concr.* Cf. Sheeling 2. a. Husks or chaff.
1598 Florio, *Mondiglia,* cleansings, purifyings, sweepings, parings, shellings. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 78 Thair was sevin thrave and ane halff quhairoff he got nothing bot shellings. 1722 P. Blair *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 131 They winnow or fan off the Husk [of oats], call'd in some Places the Shellings. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 151 A quantity of wet shellings of oats had been put on the fire. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 43 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, No oats are sold; they are converted into meal for the sake of getting the dust and shelling. 1851 J. F. W. Johnston *Notes N. Amer.* II. 128 The shellings or outer husk of this grain are sent down the stream by the millers.
b. Grain, etc. from which the husk has been removed.
1705 [see Shell *v.* 2]. 1763 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 107 Kemp..brought a peck of shelling to the mill to have it ground. 1815 *Pocklington Canal Act* 52 Flour, shelling, and pearl barley. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Shelling,* a commercial name for groats, the grain of oats when the shudes are removed.
3. a. Manuring with shells. b, c. (See quots.)
1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 122 Parts by shelling advanced, from 5s. to 25s. an acre. 1796 — *Ann. Agric.* XXVII. 189 (E.D.S.) The snow lodging among the tops of the wool, and freezing like an incrustation around [the sheep is called] shelling. 1881 Ingersoll *Oyster-Industr.* 248 *Shelling,* the spreading of shells upon the bottom to catch spawn.
4. The firing of shells, bombardment with shells.
1860 W. H. Russell *Diary in India* II. 288 We should knock down a few of these fellows' forts, and give them a good shelling. 1870 *Daily News* 29 Aug. 5 After some two hours' shelling the French fire grew slacker.
5. The collecting of sea-shells.
1861 C. P. Hodgson *Resid. Japan* 35 Captain Page..lent me his gig and crew of seven men for a day's shelling. 1876 Moresby (*title*) New Guinea and Polynesia. Discoveries..in New Guinea,..a Cruise in Polynesia and Visits to the Pearl-Shelling Stations in Torres Straits.
6. (See quot.)
1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 341/2 *Kicking,* the old term for the custom of guards to ask travellers for a tip or special fee. Also called *Shelling.*
7. *attrib.*, as (= for use in shelling grain) *shelling machine, mill*; (= pertaining to shell-collecting) *shelling craft, ground, industry*; (= consisting of shelled grain, etc., cf. Sheeling) *shelling beans, seeds.*
1795 Phillips *Hist. Inland Nav.* Addenda 47 Wheat, rye, *shelling beans, pease. 1887 Mrs. Daly *Digging & Squatting* 349 Some of the *shelling craft were raising as much as a ton a month. 1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 356/2 *Shelling ground is usually of coral structure. 1889 H. H. Romilly *Verandah in N. Guinea* x. 225 The *shelling industry has very considerably increased. 1803 M. Cutler in *Life,* etc. (1888) II. 137 Patent for *shelling machine. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 179 There being few *shelling-mills, and little or no oatmeal manufactured in the country. 1842 J. Aiton *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 241 Cover all with six or eight inches of the *shelling-seeds.

She·ll-less, *a.* Also **shelless.** [f. Shell *sb.* + -less.] Without a shell or shells.
1777 G. White *Selborne, Let. to Barrington* 20 May, Myriads of small shell-less snails. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 486/2 In the Frog-tribe the ova..are shelless [*sic*], and generally laid in the water. 1843 *Ibid.* XXVII. 272/2 Shell-less mollusks. 1859–62 Sir J. Richardson, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 358 *Gymnosomata* (Shell-less Pteropods).

She·ll-out. *Billiards.* [f. phr. *shell out* : see SHELL *v.* 7.] (See quot. 1884.)

1866 'CAPT. CRAWLEY' *Billiard Bk.* xii. 200. **1882** MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* x, Jessie joined the revellers at pool or shell-out. **1884** W. COOK *Billiards* 169 Shell out is a game played with the pyramid balls by a number of players. There is a small stake on each ball, and whenever a player pockets a ball he receives one stake from every other player.

† **She·llpad.** *Obs.* Also 6 schell-, 6–7 shel-, 8 shellpot. [f. SHELL *sb.* + PAD *sb.*[1] after (M)LG. *schildpadde*, MDu. *schiltpadde* (Du. *schildpad*), lit. 'shield-toad'.] A tortoise.

1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 9 b/1 A tortes or shell padde, *testudo.* **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 8/8 A shelpad, *testudo.* **1790** *Massachusetts Spy* 24 June (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), A small turtle..known [in Virginia] by the name of shellpot.

Hence † **Shell-paddock** *Sc.*

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 413 Ane penny..havand on the one syde ane palmetre crownit, ane schell padocke crepand up the schank of the samyn. *c* 1600 in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1709) II. 54 Shell-padock, ill shapen Shit, Kid-bearded jennet, all alike grit. **1673** WEDDERBURN *Vocab.* 15 (Jam.) *Testudo*, a shel-paddock.

She·ll-snail. A snail having a shell.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xii. 58 A cataplasme..made of the muscilage of shell snailes. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. xiii. II. 395 Certaine shell-snailes that creepe in troupes together for to devour the young spring and greene leaves of plants. **1691** RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 102 A Hodmandod, a Shell-snail. **1699** JAS. BARRY *Reviving Cordial* (1802) 23 Some speckled shell-snails. **1843** *Zoologist* I. 97 Small spiral-shaped shell-snails. **1890** *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 239/1 The big shell snails.. which lurk, during the day, in crevices of the walls.

b. *fig.* A retiring or shy person.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., What (think we) may be obiected against those shelsnailes?

She·ll-work.

1. Work consisting of an arrangement of shells in patterns for ornamentation; shells lining the walls of an artificial grotto.

1611 COTGR. s.v., *Coquillage*, shell-worke; worke made of, or trimd with, shells. **1675** HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 10 All works wrought with a Needle, all Transparent works, Shell-work, Moss-work. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, A large..grotto of shell-worke. **1728** GARDINER *Rapin, Gardens* (ed. 3) III. 131 Some Artists will their grotts..Of Pumice..build; The splendid Roof with shining Shell-work grace. **1773** JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) III. 12 She knows French, musick, and drawing, sews neatly, makes shell-work. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. ix. P 5 A rude front built of pebbles and shell-work. **1836** *Penny Cycl.* VI. 432/1 The delicate petals arranged with the most artificial symmetry, so as to resemble curious shell-work. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi, A reticulated shellwork of pale blue was fastened by threads of glass to the opalescent vase within.

† 2. Shells adhering to a ship's bottom. *rare.*

1698 FROGER *Voy.* 170 Our Ships being too foul, too full of Herbs and Shell-work, to think of gaining upon Vessels newly careened.

She·lly, *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. SHELL *sb.* + -Y.] A shell.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burning Pestle* IV. ad. fin., Sluggish snails, that erst were mute, do creep out of their shelles [*rime* bellies].

Shelly (ʃe·li), *a.* [f. SHELL *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Abounding in (sea)shells; of a geological formation, consisting wholly or mainly of shells.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 380 Vpon the coast of Barberie ..there is xv. fadome and good shelly grounde and sande amonge. **1650** S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 172 Amidst the shelly rocks of the sea. **1662** J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 207 We observ'd all along the Caspian Sea, many of these shelly Mountains. **1718** POPE *Odyss.* IV. 555 The shelly shore. **1751** J. BARTRAM *Observ.* 17 The rock consisted of a dark coloured shelly stone. **1766** — *Frnl.* 1 Jan. 18 Landed at a high shelly bluff. **1824** G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. III. iii. 221 Marle of the shelly kind. **1832** DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 245 A coarse shelly and sandy limestone. **1877** LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 153 Mollusca which..leave their dead shells..and thus form sometimes pure shelly deposits.

2. Consisting or of the nature of a shell; forming a covering resembling a shell; shell-like.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1034 As the snaile..Shrinks backward in his shellie caue with paine. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXII. viii. II. 441 The shellie skin of the sea Vrchin. **1662** *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 27 The slow-pac'd cockle [snail] carryeth about with it its shelly lodge. **1681** GREW *Musæum* I. § ii. i. 18 The fore-part of his Tail is encompass'd with shelly Rings. **1778** MILNE *Bot. Dict.* (ed. 2) 145 The shelly or husky outside incloses a white bitter pulp. **1815** S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 96 A subcylindrical shelly or bony body. **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, The very winkle of your country in his shelly lair. **1872** NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 201 In the typical Terebratulæ, the internal skeleton which supports the arms is a short shelly hoop.

b. Of coal: see quot.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Shelly*, the condition of coal which has been so much faulted and twisted that it is not massive, but easily breaks into conchoidal pieces.

c. *fig.* Hollow-sounding, empty.

1648 SYMMONS *Vind.* 132 What they intend by cajol'd, and whom by cabalistical Adversaries, I stand not to argue, for the words are shelly.

d. Of a thin, bony, and lanky build.

1865 SLEIGH *Derbysh. Gloss.* in *Reliquary* VI. 167 *Shelly*, said of a beast which does not carry flesh. **1884** *Live Stock Frnl.* 1 Aug. 106/3 Darlington Dog Show...Glendale ..is rather inclined to be shelly, with drooping quarters. **1893** *Kennel Gazette* Aug. 213/2 Her kennel companion.. is too shelly all through.

Comb. **1901** *Scotsman* 12 Nov. 8/3 A man of Mr. Maxwell's build cannot get his arms away so freely as a shelly-built player.

3. Of an animal: Having a shell; shell-.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 71 b, In theyr hollowe Caues.. shelly Snayles shall keepe house. **1611** COTGR., *Nautile*, the shellie Pourcountreil. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 65 Of all animals of the shelly tribe, the Pholades are the most wonderful.

4. Formed of a (sea)shell; consisting of (sea) shells or shell-fish.

1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 186 Be sure observe where brown Ostrea stands, Who boasts her shelly Ware from Wallfleet Sands. **1721** D'URFEY *Ariadne* II. i, And loud with quavering Sounds on shelly Hautboys, Tritons shall sing. **1733** BUDGELL *Bee* IV. 400 A pointed Bulrush ev'ry Heroe bears, And ev'ry Head a Shelly Helmet wears. **1753** *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Shells*, The great good these shelly fragments do to the lands they are used on. **1759** GRAINGER *Sulpicia* I. 25 Whatever Gems the swarthy Indians boast, Their shelly Treasures [etc.].

Shelly-coat. *Sc.* Also 8 shellicoat. [f. SHELLY *a.* + COAT *sb.*]

1. A water sprite wearing sea-shells which make a clattering noise. Also *attrib.*

1720 PENNECUIK *Streams from Helicon* 65 No Shellicoat Goblin, or Elf on the Green. **1802** SCOTT *Minstrelsy* I. Introd. 84 Shellycoat, a spirit who resides in the waters, and has given his name to many a rock and stone upon the Scotish coast. **1803** ALEX. BOSWELL *Spirit of Tintoc* To Rdr., Nor Kelpy, nor Shellycoat, nor any of the spirits of the deep. *a* 1869 C. SPENCE *From Braes of Carse* (1898) 90 All the sea and river imps With shelly coats and scaly jimps.

2. 'A sheriff's messenger, or bum-bailiff, denominated perhaps from the badges of office on his coat' (Jam.).

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1807) 304, I dinna care a single jot; Tho' summon'd by a shelly-coat.

So **Shelly-coated** *a.* (see 1 above).

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, She fled as frae a shelly-coated cow [= goblin; see Cow *sb.*[2]].

Shelm, variant of SCHELM.

† **Shelp**[1]. [app. representing OE. *scylp* glossing 'scopulus', 'murex'. Cf. SCALP *sb.*[2]] A sand-bank in a river or the sea; = SHELF *sb.*[2]

1430–31 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 381/2 Il y ad si graunde noumbre des schelpes deinz le Ryver de Ley. *c* 1500 *Lib. Rub.* fo. 114 b in *Wells MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 145 The water was so lowe and so many shelpes and bayes in the ryver. **1535–6** *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 18 § 3 Sande gravell or any other rubbysshe..lieng..uppon any Shelppe or Shelppes within the said ryver of Thamyse. **1538** ELYOT *Dict., Syrtes*, quycke sandes or shelpes [1545 shelfes] in the water made by the dryfte of sande or grauel. **1630** *Lex Londinensis* (1680) 210 At Woolwich shelp two [trinckes], and no more;..At Dagnam shelp six.

† **Shelp**[2]. *Obs.* The ribbon-fish.

1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 8 b/1 A shelpe, *tenia.* **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 58/34 A shelp, fish, *tenia.*

S'help : = so help (cf. S'ELP).

1904 H. HAWKINS *Remin.* II. xlviii. 76 'S'help me!' said the man..'I'd sooner see the devil.' **1904** E. ROBINS *Magnetic North* vii. 120 A vow that, s'help him, Heaven! it should never happen again.

Shelpit, variant of SHILPIT *a. Sc.*

Shelta (ʃe·ltä). Also **shelter.** [Of obscure origin: for the forms of the name that are used in the 'language' itself, see quot. 1891.

Prof. Kuno Meyer conjectured (*Frnl. Gypsy Lore Soc.* II. 259) that the form *sheldrū* represents the Old Irish *béire* (mod. *béarla*) language, with arbitrary substitution of initial *sh* for *b*.]

A cryptic jargon used by tinkers, composed partly of Irish or Gaelic words, mostly disguised by inversion or by arbitrary alteration of initial consonants.

1876 in Leland *Gypsies* (1882) 355 Now Romanes is genteel. ..But as for this other jib, its wery hard to talk. It is most all Old Irish, and they calls it Shelter. **1882** LELAND *Ibid.* 354 Shelta, the tinkers' talk. *Ibid.* 360 Our informant could give only a single specimen of the Shelta literature. **1891** SAMPSON in *Frnl. Gypsy Lore Soc.* II. 206 Like all true citizens of the road, the tinkers protect themselves by the use of a secret language, variously known as Shelta, Sheldrū, Shildru, Shelter, and Shelteroχ, 'Bog Latin', 'Tinkers' Cant', or 'the Ould Thing'.

† **She·ltbeam.** *Obs.* In 4 scheltbeme. [Partial transl. of MHG. *schaltbaum* (or MLG. *schaldbôm*) pole used as an oar and a rudder, f. *schalten* (MLG. *schalden*) to push, shove + *baum* (see BEAM *sb.*). Cf. SHALTREE.] A pole or beam. Also *attrib.* as *sheltbeam nail.*

1336 in Nicolas *Hist. Navy* (1847) II. 470 Timber called scheltbemes. *Ibid.*, Scheltbemnayles. **1366** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 19/31 m. 1 (P.R.O.), Item in iij lignis vocatis Scheltbemes emptis in grosso de eodem Humfrido viij. s.

Shelter (ʃe·ltəɹ), *sb.* Also 6 shealter, 7 shelture. [Of obscure origin; possibly f. *sheld* SHIELD *v.* + -TURE in imitation of words like *jointure.*

The common view that the word is an altered form of SHELTRON seems untenable. *Sheltron* became obsolete in the 15th c., and *shelter* has not been found earlier than 1585. Cf., however, the line, addressed to the Virgin Mary, 'Heyle scheltrun schouris to shelde' (SHELTRON 1 *fig.*), which appears to allude to the roof of locked shields implied in the original sense of *sheltron.*]

1. A structure affording protection from rain, wind, or sun; in wider sense, anything serving as a screen or a place of refuge from the weather.

Now often applied to a small slight building (commonly of wood or iron) erected in a park or other public place to serve as a refuge from the weather.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 181 *Artegiæ* [sic]..., thatcht sheds or shelters. **1590** GREENE *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 14 A hat of straw like a swaine, Shealter for the sonne and raine. **1620** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 40 Alas, the storme is come againe: my best way is to creepe vnder his Gaberdine: there is no other shelter hereabout. **1611** COTGR., *Abri*, a couert, shrowd, shelter, or shadie place. *Ibid.*, *Begude*, a Cote, Cottage, thatched shed, or shelter. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 333 Their tent was a sufficient shelter from the rain. **1775** JOHNSON *West Isl.* 162 (Ulinish), They were probably the shelters of the keepers. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xxviii, A tent, which..differed little from that of the ordinary shelter of the common Curdman or Arab. **1865** Rock-shelter: see ROCK *sb.*[1] 6. **1877** GEIKIE *Christ* xxix. (1879) 341 The people of Tiberias are glad to sleep in shelters of straw or leaves on their roofs, during the hot months. **1881** *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 388/2 Copies may be seen occasionally in cabmen's shelters. **1894** *Daily News* 25 July 7/5 The erection of band stands, cricket shelters, refreshment houses, park lodges, and seated shelters.

b. Something which affords a refuge from danger, attack, pursuit, or observation; a place of safety; *Mil.* a wall or bank behind which persons can obtain safety from gunshot.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 285 The Gods to their deere shelter take thee Maid. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 8 Spurre through Media, Mesapotamia, and the shelters, whether The routed flie. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* VI. 843 [They] wish'd the Mountains now might be again Thrown on them as a shelter from his ire. **1724** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 23 As for the wood, it was a good shelter to save one's life. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. vi, The Bouillé vanguard..sweeps Mutiny..into shelters and cellars. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 159 She made her way to the old shelter in Flanders, and found a home at Saint Omer. **1906** *Times Hist. War S. Africa* IV. 581 The Colonel had some difficulty in persuading the garrison and townspeople to use the shelters against gun-fire.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. iv. 22 His fained extasies Shall be no shelter to these outrages. **1597** — 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 42 And thou shalt proue a shelter to thy friends. **1611** BIBLE *Ps.* lxi. 3 For thou hast bene a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. **1618** *Owles Almanacke* 42 He that roofes not his wife vnder one of your [haberdasher's] shelters on his marriage day, shall be trust vp. *a* 1650 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1678) 811 The Government of Prelats is a shelter for damnable Sects. **1855** T. T. LYNCH *Lett. to the Scattered* vi. (1872) 84 The storms of the law may drive men to the shelter of the gospel.

d. Protection from the weather; trees, walls, or the like, which afford such protection.

1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* I. Former Pt. ii. A 4, [Choose a situation] inuironed..with rowes of greater timber, ..the shelter will be most excellent to keepe off the bleaknesse of the..tempests in winter. **1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 59 Covering them [seeds] with sheets and shelter. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) 292, I shall advise the planting of shelter on the West and South West. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 418 The trees..when they grow large..produce an injurious degree of shelter and shade. **1888** *Law Times* LXXXV. 132/2 If the timber adds beauty or shelter to the mansion-house, the tenant for life must leave it intact.

e. A covering to protect an object from injury, 'spec. a box, cage or hut used for the proper exposure of meteorological instruments' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Nov. 1644, A temporary shelter of boards over the most stupendous..Torso of Amphion and Dirces. **1817** J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 175 Cover it [*sc.* a trap] with a thin board that the fowls may not spring it in going to roost, then take the board or shelter away. **1827** FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 299 The pressure of the fuel upon the crucible..may be prevented by hanging a shelter over it.

f. A place of temporary lodging for the homeless poor.

1895 *Brit. Med. Frnl.* 22 June 1399/2 Philanthropic Shelters. The establishment of shelters for the class of poor wanderers in the metropolis is in itself praiseworthy. *Ibid.*, A Salvation Army shelter.

2. The state of being sheltered; the state of being protected from the elements; security from attack. Chiefly in *to seek, find, take*, etc. *shelter. In, under, shelter. Under the shelter of* = protected by.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 264 We..seeke no shelter to auoid the storme. **1593** — 3 *Hen. VI*, V. ii. 12 The Cedar.. Whose Armes gaue shelter to the Princely Eagle. **1597** BP. HALL *Sat.* II. vii. D 3, Some breer-bush shewing shelter from the showre, Vnto the hopefull sheepe...The ruth-lesse breere..Layes hold vpon the fleece..of the carelesse pray, That thought she in securer shelter lay. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXIV. i. 241 A..tempestuous wind..had.. made such confusion among their places of harbour and shelture. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* x. 33 Under the shelter of certain packs of Cotton..they one morning assaulted the principal Fortress. **1726** SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 68 Where, perhaps, a ship might find good shelter. **1845** DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. vi, Had I needed shelter there was another roof which has long awaited me. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 225 The sons of Harold had ..found shelter with the same prince who had once sheltered their father. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* I. i, We took shelter under a pend at the head of a close or alley. **1900** DOYLE *Gt. Boer War* xi. 192 Once more it was shown how weak an arm is artillery against an enemy who lies in shelter.

b. *fig.*

1630 CAPT. SMITH *True Trav.* Ded., The shadow of your most noble vertues..under which I hope to have shelter, against all stormes that dare threaten. **1639** S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 46 The way..to set my conscience at rest, and my honour at shelter. **1693** LOCKE *Educ.* § 200. 257 Thus under the Shelter and Pretence of a Governour, thinking themselves excused from standing upon their own Legs. **1822** LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Modern Gallantry*

He [Joseph Paice] took me under his shelter at an early age, and bestowed some pains upon me. 1835 MACAULAY *Ess., Mackintosh* (1854) I. 342/2 The tribunals ought to be sacred places of refuge, where..the innocent of all parties may find shelter. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 345 Scientific theology lost the shelter of the mitre.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shelter barrack, belt* (of trees), *-camp, -house, -shed*; objective, as *shelter-seeker, -seeking* (adj.); **shelter-deck**, in a passenger vessel, a light deck more or less closed at the sides but open at the ends; also *attrib.*, as *shelter-deck vessel*; **shelterman**, an attendant at a (cab) shelter; **shelter-pit** *Mil.* (see quot.); **shelter-tent**, a small ridged tent; a dog-tent; **shelter-tree, -trench** *Mil.* (see quots.).

1906 DK. ARGYLL *Autobiog.* I. vi. 144 A *shelter barrack [for the workmen on Skerryvore Lighthouse] was an absolute necessity. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 197 For a "shelter belt..this [*sc.* maple] will be found suitable. 1910 MRS. H. WARD *Canadian Born* 335 Epil., The thin background of a few taller trees,—the 'shelter-belt' of the farm. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 880/1 The ship is called an awning decked, spar decked, *shelter decked or three decked vessel—according to the details of her construction. 1892*a Daily News* 28 July 6/1 Seated in a small *shelter-house protecting us against the glacier winds. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 2/3 To accommodate these families vestries have established shelter houses. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 30 Jan. 3/5 Cab pensioners and *sheltermen. 1870 *Instr. Milit. Engin.* § 513 It may be necessary [for men skirmishing] to dig small pits, which may be called *shelter pits in contradistinction to the larger pits..called rifle pits. Each shelter pit should be for one man only. 1864 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* xxiii, A most complete..drenching to both the *shelter-seekers. 1765 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 162 There .. The *shelter-seeking peasant builds his shed. 1851 STEPHENS & BURN *Farm-Buildings* § 1376 We give the plan of a *shelter-shed to be placed at the corner of four fields. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2534/1 *Shelter-tent. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 183/1 But the humblest tent made—the *tente d'abri* or shelter tent of the French army—is also ridged in form. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 124/2 *Adenostephanus organensis.* Organ Mountain *Shelter-tree. 1870 *Instr. Milit. Engin.* § 512 Artificial cover..can be best obtained by means of small trenches called *shelter trenches.

Shelter (ʃe·ltəɹ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To be or provide a shelter for.

a. To screen or protect from rain, wind, cold, the sun, etc. Chiefly of a thing; *rarely* of a personal agent.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 30 A still And calmy bay, on th'one side sheltered With the brode shadow of an hoarie hill. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 50 The Weeds that his broad-spreading Leaues did shelter..Are pull'd vp. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 73 Scarce a Shed Could be obtain'd to shelter him or me From the bleak air. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xvi. 367, I should advise the planting of other Trees round them to shelter them. 1797 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Frenchm. T.* (1799) I. 244 Sheltering the light with her hand, she descended the..stairs. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 111 A wall of rock..sheltered us from the north wind.

b. To screen from pursuit, attack, blows, etc.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 167 We fled amain, pursu'd..With Heav'ns afflicting Thunder, and besought The Deep to shelter us. *Ibid.* XI. 820 Hee with them of Man and Beast Select for life shall in the Ark be lodg'd, And shelterd round. 1783 WATSON *Philip III*, I. (1839) 51 They were sheltered from the fire of the besiegers, by a dyke. 1862 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xx. 396 Harbours and ports, which may shelter the navy in the operations of war.

c. *fig.* To screen from punishment, censure, etc.

1594 [see SHELTERED *ppl. a.*]. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. cxliii, Why was not I deform'd, that shelter'd in Sure neglect, I might have scap'd this sin! 1711 PRIOR *Celia to Damon* 10 In vain I strove to .. shelter Passion under Friendship's Name. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 51 The vendor, who had made use of the act for sheltering fraud. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind* 505 Friend, he was sheltered by the grave, And therefore dared to be a liar! 1884 BOSANQUET tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 444 Many..will make use of his expressions in order to shelter under a great name their favourite doctrine.

d. 'To succour with refuge, to harbour' (J.); to take under one's protection. Of a place: To be a secure home or refuge for.

1663 DRYDEN *Ep. Charleton* 53 These Ruines [Stonehenge] sheltered once His Sacred Head, Then when from Wor'ster's fatal Field He fled. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, And do others beside your master shelter him? 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 105 His children and his wife, whom he is bound To love and shelter. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxi, Amid the same scenes which had sheltered her infancy and childhood. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cii. 4 The roofs, that heard our earliest cry, Will shelter one of stranger race. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. vii. 143 The King, instead of bringing them to justice, was sheltering them. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 147/1 When he [Champlain] died in the city which had sheltered him for many years.

†**2.** To ward off. *Obs. rare.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 337 A place, Rockey, and hilley, nothing but Heath, and some small shrubs to shelter rayne, Sunne, or any thing from one.

3. *refl.* To take shelter; to take refuge from pursuit or attack.

1611 COTGR., *se Taudir*, to couer, shrowd, shelter, hide himselfe. 1663 *Act* 15 *Chas. II*, c. 2 Preamb., Great Townes where..such idle and lewd persons doe shelter themselves. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* Ded., To Sir C. Hedges, The only Defence I have, is by sheltring my self in the Crowd.

b. *fig.* Chiefly, to protect oneself from punishment or censure. *To shelter oneself under, behind* — = to use the protection afforded by (what is specified).

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 24 Let there come a tempest of prouocation, I will shelter mee heere. 1675 *Essex Papers* (1890) I. 295 My L^d Newport shelters himselfe under D. M. interest. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxxv. (1820) 165 You may shelter yourself under the forms of a parliament. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xix, If it is meant..that I have any purpose of sheltering myself behind the Prelate's authority. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxii. IV. 225 They..thought it better to purchase the silence of the informer—unless they could shelter themselves by such an expedient.

4. *intr.* for *refl.* To take shelter; to find a refuge. *lit.* and *fig.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, Pigmie cares Can shelter vnder patience shield. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 223 Hee alone, To finde where Adam shelterd, took his way. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meroe* Wks. 1716 I. 244 This objection, under which all..opposition of Authority does lurk and shelter to this day. 1727 [E. DORRINGTON] *Philip Quaril* (1816) 14 A company of buccaniers..shelter here. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 124 The humane gentry about the country, who permitted their little troops [*sc.* gypsies] to shelter in the villages. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* II. xix. 192 She fled from him and sheltered with the old woman who's dead. 1882 GEIKIE *Geol. Sk.* 110 We sheltered for a little under the lower basalt. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 79 She also reported our second-class cruiser..out of action and sheltering—I believe in Killery Bay.

Shelterage (ʃe·ltərédʒ). Also 7 **sheltridge.** [f. SHELTER *sb.* + -AGE.]

†**1.** Sheltering. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* i. 3 Neither was the Contrivement lesse beneficiall, respecting the three walls sheltridge from the foure winds.

2. A place of shelter.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 273 The remanents of that house.. is turned ouer for a shelterage for sheepe. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 447 His household goods were now removed to more auspicious shelterage.

Sheltered (ʃe·ltəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHELTER *v.* + -ED ¹.] In the senses of the verb.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. v. 33 Well, well, he was the couerist sheltred Traytor That euer liu'd. 1671 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 406 Whose branching arms..might shield From dews and damps of night his shelter'd head. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1049 There let me sit beneath the sheltered slopes. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* vi. 85 A garden seat in a sheltered nook. 1890 KIPLING *Plain Tales, Thrown away* 14 To rear a boy under what parents call the 'sheltered life system' is..not wise. 1912 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Oct. 742/1 The contrast between the sheltered and the shelterless.

Shelterer (ʃe·ltərəɹ). [f. SHELTER *v.* + -ER ¹.]

1. One who takes shelter.

1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6346/4 For Relief of distressed Shelterers in the Mint. 1856 MISS MULOCK *John Halifax* i, Shivering shelterers from the rain.

2. One who shelters another.

1822 BYRON *Werner* III. iv. 79 In leaving thus His shelterer's asylum to the risk Of a discovery. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxii, She..was liable to punishment herself, and they to punishment also, as her shelterers and accomplices.

Sheltering (ʃe·ltərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHELTER *v.* + -ING ¹.] The action of the verb. Also *concr.*, a place of shelter (*rare*).

1674 (*title*) Learn to lye Warm, or, An apology for that Proverb. Tis good sheltring under an old Hedge. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* xvi. 367 The sheltring of them with some Litter may do well. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xlvi, It's better sheltering under an auld hedge than under a new-planted wood. 1901 MEREDITH *Reading of Life* 115 So those numerous tribes from their ships and their shelterings poured forth On that plain of Scamander.

Sheltering (ʃe·ltərin), *ppl. a.* [f. SHELTER *v.* + -ING ².] That shelters, in the senses of the verb.

1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) F 6, A ridiculous Mouse For feare of Cats leauing her sheltring house. 1773 [T. DAV] *Dying Negro* 18 And death extends his shelt'ring arms in vain. 1817 SHELLEY *To W. Shelley* 41 Less cruel than the savage slaves Who hunt us o'er these sheltering waves. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. ix, They can..stick their heads ostrich-like into what sheltering Fallacy is nearest. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* I. 14 'Twas at this sheltering hour he nightly came.

Shelteringly (ʃe·ltərinli), *adv.* [-LY ².] In a sheltering position or manner; so as to shelter.

1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 311/2 The glen lies before you, with its bosky braes and grassy leas shelteringly. 1886 R. A. KING *Shadowed Life* II. i. 8 With one child in her lap, and her arm shelteringly round another.

Shelterless (ʃe·ltəɹlés), *a.* [f. SHELTER *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Without a shelter or covering; unprotected from the elements.

1714 ROWE *Jane Shore* v. i, Now sad and shelterless, perhaps, she lyes, Where piercing Winds blow sharp. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iv. 54 The unseasonable seasons drove..Their shelterless, pale tribes to mountain caves. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. iv, Fainting and shelterless Upon the mountain it were death to bide.

2. That affords no shelter; not furnished with a sheltering structure.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 113 We were compelled to take up with this shelterless hovel. 1814 [see SHADELESS *a.* 1]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 347/2 At the time of the cession..Malta was almost a shelterless rock. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* iii, Even Daphne..blinked a little as she crossed the shelterless promenade.

Hence **Shelterlessness.**

c 1878–9 in W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life T. N. Burke* (1885) II. 298 The houselessness and shelterlessness of our Saviour.

Sheltery (ʃe·ltəri), *a.* Also 8 **shelty.** [f. SHELTER *sb.* + -Y.] Affording shelter.

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. 155 No sheltry Trees invite the Wand'rer's Eye. 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 29 Oct., They spend their winters under the warm and sheltery shores of Gibraltar and Barbary. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 3 Sheltery groves.

Sheltie, shelty (ʃe·lti). *Sc.* Also 7 *pl.* **shalties,** 8 *pl.* **schelties, sheltys,** 9 *Sc. dial.* **shaltie, -y, shawltie.** [Prob. repr. the Orkney or Caithness pronunciation of ON. *Hjalti* Shetlander.]

1. A Shetland pony; now, any small pony. (In early quots. more fully †*shelty horse.*)

1650 in J. C. Lees *Hist. Inverness* vi. (1897) 73 Montrose sat upon a little shelty horse without a saddle. 1654 BLAEU *Atlas* v. (*Scotia*) 144/1 Sunt & eis Equulei (*Shalties* vulgo vocant) specie quidem contemptibiles, sed ad omnes usus, supra quam credi potest, strenui. *a* 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 13 Their Horses are but little, Yet strong.., most of which they get from Zetland, and are called Shelties. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) II. xvii. 52 Those Sheltys, being never shod. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 294 [In Shetland] They have Plenty of little Horses, which they call Schelties. 1793 SYME in *Burns' Wks.* (1800) I. 206, I got Burns a grey Highland shelty to ride on. 1828 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) IX. 273 My smart hack has dwindled into a Zetland shelty. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss Hags* xxvi, My Galloway sheltie..took me bravely over the moss-hags.

2. A Shetlander. *nonce-use.*

1888 EDMONDSTON & SAXBY *Home of Naturalist* 180, I make the acquaintance of other Shelties in the same way.

Sheltopusik (ʃe·ltopū·zik). Also **sch-.** [a. Russ. желтопузикъ (*zheltopūzik*).] A lizard of the genus *Pseudopus* (*P. pallasii*).

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 25/2 Scheltopusik or Sheltopusik, the ordinary name for a genus of *Reptiles, Pseudopus* of Merrem. *Ibid.* 72/2 The Scheltopusiks. 1882 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 735/1 The Glass-Snake (*Pseudopus pallasii*) or *Sheltopusik* (Russ.) is common in Dalmatia, Hungary, southern Russia, and..Central Asia.

†**She·ltron** ¹. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **scyld-, scildtruma, scyl-, sceltruma,** 3 **sceld-trome, -trume, soltrome, -trume,** 4 **schiltron, -trum, -trun, -t(e)roun, (childrome), scheltroun, (cheltroun), s(c)heltrome, -trun, -trum, scheld(es)-trome, (schetrome), sheltrone, shil-, shyltroun, shultrom, scholtrom, -trum,** 4–5 **scheltrom, -tron, sheltron, schiltrom,** 5 **sheltroun, shiltron, shildryme, shyltron, sheldrun,** 5–6 **scheltrone,** (5 **cheltrone,** 6 **seltron**), 6 *Hist.* **schiltron.** [OE. *scieldtruma,* f. *scield* SHIELD *sb.* + *truma* troop.

The original sense is that of a body of men protected by their shields locked so as to form a roof and wall; = TESTUDO 3 b. Cf. the synonymous or nearly synonymous OE. *scieldburg* (= ON. *skjaldborg*), *scieldhréoþa, scieldweall.*]

1. A close, compact body of troops; troops drawn up in battle array; a phalanx.

The word became obsolete in the 15th c.; all subsequent examples are echoes from early chronicles.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlvii. (Z.) 274 *Subter densa testudine* under ðiccum scyldtruman oððe randbeaxe. *c* 1000 in Napier *OE. Glosses* i. 2959 *Testudine,* of scyltruman. *c* 1205 LAY. 16371 He nom his eorles..& his holdeste men..& makede his sceld-trume [*c* 1275 one soltrome]. *Ibid.* 27506 Heo comen to þere uerde..& þene sceld-trume [*c* 1275 sultrome] breken. *c* 1325 *Coer de L.* 5577 They made scheltroun and bataylyde. *Ibid.* 5744 He brak asunder the scheltrome. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3512 þey bere þe launces vp and doun, On þe manere of a scheltroun [*Petyt MS.* cheltroun]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 429 For all thair battalis sammyn wer In a schiltrum [*Camb. MS.* childrome]. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xiv. 8 And thei dressiden ayens hem sheltrun in the wodi valey. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 61 þe Romayns wyfes..wente..bytwene þe scheltroms, and cryde pees. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 294 [They] sheteþ out shot ynowh hus shultrom to blende. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxxi. 174 Haniball..ordaynyd his shildrymes, steryn battaill he yaue. *c* 1440 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (Rawl. MS.) 31 Thay brakyn har sheldrun, and wentyn aftyr. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 326 A-gein hem myght endure noon harneys, ne no kynge, ne warde, ne sheltron, were it neuer so clos. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CCXVII. (1516) 137/1 (Battle of Hastings.) Than the Seltrons smote togyder with a great noyse and crye, and faught sore. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Scheltrone of a batayle. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 307/2 The Scots [at Falkirk, 1298] were diuided in foure schiltrons, as they termed them, or as we may saie, round battels.

fig. ? 14.. *Salutation Our Lady* 19 in *MS. Cantab. Ff.* 2. 38, fo. 31 b, Heyle, scheltrun schouris to shelde! *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* ii. in *Anglia* X. 343/39 þe best prevede knihtes sette in þe cheltrone of Criste.

2. *transf.* Applied to a compact body of ships.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3239 The sheltrun togedur, þat fild were with folke.., Sesit vp þere sailes. *Ibid.* 6033.

¶ The word *jeltron, geltron* in the following quot., commonly cited as a form of *sheltron*, is prob. a misprint for **jestron, gestron*: see GESTERON.

? 1510 *Hickscorner* (W. de W.) A ij b, No armure so stronge in no dystresse Habergyon helme ne yet no Ieltron [*ed. Waley* (*a* 1586) geltron].

†**She·ltron** ². *Obs. rare*—¹. In 4 **scheltroun, sheltrom, -trun, shyltroun.** [? A corruption of some form of SCANTILLON.

Perh. only a misreading on the part of a scribe; the word *sheltron* in its proper use occurs in the poem.]

A standard, gauge.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 81 For-þi mesure we vs wel and make owre faithe owre scheltroun [*v.rr.* as above].

Shelty. *rare*—². [Prob. some error: cf. *shelter, shanty, shieling.*] Used for: A hut, shed.

1834 R. Curzon *Monast. Levant* iii. xviii. (1849) 263 We found ourselves at another wretched shelty dignified with the name of khan. 1871 A. R. Wallace *Nat. Select.* vi. (ed. 2) 212 The Highland stone shelty.

Shelty: see Sheltie.

Shelve (ʃelv), *sb.*[1] [A new sing. evolved from *shelves* pl. of Shelf *sb.*[2]] = Shelf *sb.*[2] Also Comb. † *shelveflat*.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* i. (Arb.) 35 Then sootherne swashruter huffling Flundge vs on high shelueflats, to the rocks vs he buffeted after. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxiv. § 210. 861 Guidelesse she droue with the tyde vpon a shelue in the shoare of Callis. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 122 There lies a Shelve a League in length..at the mouth of the Riuer, which at low water holds not above five or six foot water. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 78. 2/1 The Shelve which stop'd up Sandwich Haven. 1831 Scott *Pirate* Introd., The wild cape, or formidable shelve, which requires to be marked by a lighthouse.

fig. 1697 C. Leslie *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 120 That desperate Shelve upon which both our Church and State have suffer'd miserable Shipwreck. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xx, This plan was wrecked upon the ordinary shelve, to wit, the difficulty of finding performers.

Shelve (ʃelv), *sb.*[2] [f. Shelve *v.*[1] (sense 1).] A ledge or shelf of rock, or mountain.

a 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* 28 Mar. (1703) 76 On the left side of it is shewn the Prophet's Bed, being a shelve on the Rock. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 416 We find the valley or shelve, between the third and the highest mountain,..covered with a species of oak. 1808 Forsyth *Beauties Scot.* V. 290 The rapidity and rumbling of the rivers, falling from shelve to shelve. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* iii. xvi, Precipices..Yielding no track for goat or deer, Save the black shelves we tread. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* ii. 64 Above her, on a crag's uneasy shelve, Upon his elbow rais'd, all prostrate else, Shadow'd Enceladus.

† **Shelve,** *v.*[1] *Obs.*[—1] [perh. an arbitrary alteration of *shelde* Shield *v.* for the sake of rhyme. Cf. Shelf *v.*[1]] *trans.* ? To shield, defend.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2576 in *Macro Plays* (1904) 154 Whyl he held hym in his halle, fro dedly synne we did hym schelue [*rhyme-word* delue].

Shelve (ʃelv), *v.*[2] [f. *shelves* pl. of Shelf *sb.*[1]]

† 1. *intr.* To project like a shelf, overhang. *Obs.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 115 Her chamber is aloft.. And built so shelu'ing, that one cannot climbe it.

2. *trans.* To provide with shelves, esp. to furnish (a library, etc.) with bookshelves.

1598 in H. Bradshaw *Coll. Papers* 169 Item a studdye desked and shelved rounde. 1727 [E. Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 52 His barrack..he shelved round with platted twigs after the manner of his table. 1861 L. L. Noble *After Icebergs* 181 You would be delighted, though, with the little vales, notched and shelved with craggy terraces. 1886 *18th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec. Irel.* 9 Six bays have been shelved with galvanized iron, instead of..wooden fittings.

3. To place on a shelf or shelves; *esp.* to place or arrange (books) upon shelves.

1655 Fuller *Cambridge* 79 The..Libraries..are bestowed upon Cambridge, and are beautifully shelved. 1801 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 648/1 This..long expected work, will of course be shelved with eagerness in the libraries of scholars. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 1 July, I employed myself..entering all the books..into a temporary catalogue, so as to have them shelved and marked. 1864 *Reader* 21 May 652/1 To have each book, as it is brought in, registered, shelved, and catalogued.

b. *transf.*

1832 J. H. Newman *Lett.* (1891) I. 288 You knock your head, you bruise your arms, all the while being shelved in a cupboard five feet from the floor. 1847 H. Miller *First Impress. Eng.* iv. 58 We find it [the bone-bed] shelved high, if I may so speak, in the first storey of the [Upper Silurian] system.

4. *fig.* To lay aside as on a shelf, to put away or up as done with. a. To remove (a person) from active service. Also *refl.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 131 Defeat, which would tend to annihilate their fame, and what is technically termed shelve them. 1838 Lytton *Alice* ix. i, [He] being shelved with a plausible excuse of tender compassion for his infirmities. 1850 Ld. Stanley in *Croker Papers* (1884) 18 Aug., Some of the present Government..will be shelved. 1876 Mrs. Oliphant *Curate in Charge* viii, To shelve himself in an obscure place like Brentburn. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 5/1 To be shelved in a safe place is not what Lord R. Churchill wants.

b. To put aside (a question, etc.) from consideration.

1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 July 27/1 In order that the opera should not be shelved. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* I. x, The Circumlocution Office, being reminded that my lords had arrived at no decision, shelved the business. 1877 E. R. Conder *Bas. Faith* ii. 62 In deliberative assemblies, an expedient is sometimes resorted to for shelving the matter in debate by raising what is termed 'the previous question'. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Mar. 433/2 It was evident..that the more ambitious part of the original programme would be shelved by common consent.

Shelve (ʃelv), *v.*[3] [Of obscure origin: formation from Shelf *sb.*[1] or *sb.*[2] seems unlikely on account of the sense. Cf. WFris. *skelf* adj., somewhat oblique, not quite straight or level.]

1. *intr.* Of a surface: To slope gradually. Also with *away, in, off,* etc.

1624 Gorges *Lucan* iii. 106 Whose hollow pent-house shelu'ing steepe Did them from blowes and danger keepe. *Ibid.* vii. 215 That long stretching Malean straine That shelues so farre into the maine. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* I. (ed. 2) 129 A loose warme soyle is accompted best if it be shelving upon the sunne. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 402 The bank shelves away very fast from the Northern shore. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 122 The first [fish-pond]..was made with no great nicety; it shelved in from all sides. 1823 F. Cissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* II A precipitous declivity, which shelved down, upon our right, in one plane of smooth rock, to the depth of 1000 feet. 1860 tr. *Hartwig's Sea & Wonders* i. 7 The valley of the Atlantic deepens in mid-ocean.., gradually shelving up towards both continents. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 129 Precipitous banks of wood, which shelved downwards from our feet. 1885-94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* May iii, A little hill, whose base Shelved off into the valley all around.

† 2. To have an inclined position. *Obs.*

1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xix. § 1. 166 If you hold a sticke in running water, shelu'ing against the streame. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* IV. 351 The shoots [of the vine] should be fastened so as that, when they grow beyond the frame, they may go shelving from it, and not hang by their binding.

3. *trans.* To tilt or tip up (a cart). *dial.*

1587 [implied in Shelver[1] and Shelving *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1853 W. D. Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Shelve*, to turn manure, &c., from a cart, by raising its front part and causing it to lie obliquely. E[astern]. 2875 W. D. Parish *Sussex Gloss.*

Shelvement (ʃe·lvmĕnt). *dial.* Also **shelment, shilment, -mont.** [f. Shelve *v.*[2] + -ment.] = Shelving *vbl. sb.*[1] 3.

1808 Jamieson, *Shilmonts.* 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1088 When the corn is on a level with the frame or shilments of the cart, the sheaves are then laid across the body of the cart in a row along both sides of the frame. *Ibid.* 1172 Three oak standards..tenoned..at top into the top rails, or shelvements.

Shelver[1] (ʃe·lvəɹ). [f. Shelve *v.*[3] + -er[1].]

1. A workman employed to tilt carts.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1544/2 Eight shelu'ers, which pulled downe the courts as they came to the place where it was needfull to vnlode. *Ibid.* 1545/1 When the taile of the court was turned to the water side, the shelu'er plucked downe the load.

2. (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict.*, *Shelver*, a wagon or truck shelving or sloping toward the back.

Shelver[2] (ʃe·lvəɹ). *rare.* [f. Shelve *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who shelves or puts aside.

1881 *Times* 26 Mar. 13/4 The treaty..was shelved with the avowed intention on the part of the shelvers to get rid of it altogether.

Shelving (ʃe·lviŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Also *dial.* (in sense 3) **shilvin, shilbin, selvin, silvin**: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [f. Shelve *v.*[2] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb Shelve[2].

1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 The Shelving of all Roomes vnwainscotted and vnpannelled with Seates and brackets. 1665 Brathwait *Comm. Chaucer* (Chaucer Soc.) 9 From whence he descendeth to the too accurate disposing or shelving of his Books, his Augur stones [etc.]. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 279 Whilst on the subject of shelving, let us remark that the Scottish..Bills have shared a similar fate.

2. Shelves collectively, also material for shelves.

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 214 The best shelving for a milk-house is marble. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 18 The counter was high..and the shelving, sparsely filled with ..bottles.

3. *pl.* See quot. 1788. Also *rarely* in *sing.*

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 16 Lay them in 4 severall rowes, crosse over the shelvinges of the waine. 1788 W. H. Marshall *E. Yorks.* II. 351 *Shelvings*, moveable side-rails of a waggon or cart; put on for a top-load, and taken off for a body-load. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 38 By the addition of shelvings..the different crops can be carried with great facility. 1867 *Gainsburgh News* 23 Mar. in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v. *Sideboard*, 1 waggon with shelvings and sideboards. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* i, Heely, heely, Tam, ye glaiket stirk—ye hinna on the hin' shelvin' o' the cairt.

Shelving (ʃe·lviŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Shelve *v.*[3] + -ing[1].]

1. The tilting or tipping up of carts to deposit the load.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1544/2 Eight men called vntingers, to loose and vndoo the tackle of euerie court immediatlie before the vnloding or shelu'ing thereof.

2. The fact or condition of sloping; the degree of sloping; a sloping surface; a shelve.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 87 In some places they make a little shelving, that the rain-Water may run off [from the terrace] into wooden Spouts. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 2) II. 192 To be..raised a Foot or more higher than the South-side, that by a little shelving the Cover may the better carry off the Rain. 1853 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxix. 170 The great inclination of the shelvings, the smallness of the island,..may be considered as..causes of the want of rivers.

Shelving (ʃe·lviŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Shelve *v.*[3] + -ing[2].] That shelves or slopes.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* III. 192 In the midst of the shelu'ing roofe, another vpright aspireth. 1621 — *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 182 A Lake there is, which shelu'ing margents bound. 1662 Gerbier *Principles* 34 Its usual standing place being so much shelving, accustomes the Horse..to be more light ..in his Gate. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* v. 564 Where to the seas the shelving shore declin'd And form'd a bay. 1762 Colman *Mus. Lady* II. 24 A couple of vile shelving garrets, where I could scarce stand upright. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 128 Innumerable arrows glanced without effect from the compact and shelving order of their bucklers. 1839 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* lxii, The room..had a shelving roof; high in one part, and at another descending almost to the floor. 1884 J. Colborne *Hicks Pasha* 51 We descend a shelving gravelly plain into Berber.

b. quasi-*adv.*

1649 Blith *Eng. Improv.* iii. 20 If your Lands lye more shelving or descending towards the River. 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* xvi. 105 Peeces of Wood..set shelving, or leaning towards the North. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* iii. 20 The Case standing shelving downwards towards them, the Letters..tend towards the hither side. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1776) II. s.v. *Talus, Couper en Talus*, to hew a plank shelving, or with a slanting edge.

Hence **She·lvingly** *adv.*, **She·lvingness.**

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* iv. 46 One [Beast] appeared just in the midst before the Throne, and the spectacle being exhibited to him shelvingly, another appeared beyond the Throne in the same line. 1727 Bover *Fr.-Eng. Dict., Penchant*, steepness, declivity, bending, shelvingness, bias.

Shelvy (ʃe·lvi), *a.*[1] [f. Shelve *sb.*[1] + -y.] Of a shore: Having shelves or dangerous sand-banks. † Of a brook: Full of sand-banks.

Perh. used by some writers with sense derived from Shelve *v.*[3]: Sloping down.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. 15, I had beene drown'd, but that the shore was shelvy and shallow. 1609 Armin *Ital. Taylor* C 4 b, Through sheluie Brooks (by sedgy bancks The shallow and the deepe). 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 26 The Leeward part of the Iland being rather shelvie then rockie, they seldome or never are cast away. 1746 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) I. 202 The Ship would be certainly wrecked on the shelvy Coast of Holland. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 84 As well..On Idra's cliffs as Arno's shelvy side. 1804 Scott *Bard's Incant.* 8 The waves..dash against the shelvy strand. 1872 Blackie *Lays Highl.* 2 Uncouth people fishing on a shelvy shore. 1885 A. Munro *Siren Casket* 5 He breasts the main And gains, much-spent, a shelvy reef.

Shelvy (ʃe·lvi), *a.*[2] *rare.* [f. Shelve *sb.*[2] + -y.] Projecting like a shelf; overhanging.

1831 Jane Porter *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* I. 148, I deposited the spade under a shelvy rock. 1862 Borrow *Wild Wales* II. xii. 131 The shelvy side of Snowdon rose above me on the left.

Shelynge, obs. form of Shilling.

† **Shem.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Cheshire pronunciation of Seam *sb.*[1]] = Seam *sb.*[1] 6.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 92/1 A Shem, is when two edges [of lead] are turned one over the other. *Ibid.* 325/2 By these Pincers two Skirts of Lead are turned one over the other, without cutting or bruising the Lead; this kind of Rolling of Lead one within another, is termed a Shem.

So **She·ming** *a.*, that forms a 'shem'.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 326/1 The Sheming Mallet. *Ibid.* 325/2 A Plummers Pincers or Sheming Pincers.

Shemaul, Sheme, obs. ff. Shamal, Seam *sb.*[2]

Shemeful, obs. forms of Shameful.

Shemer, obs. form of Chimere, Shimmer *v.*

Shemerand, obs. var. Shimmering *ppl. a.*

† **Shemewe.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **shamewe, shemew, chemew.** [Perh. orig. a misreading of some form of Chimer[1].] = Chimer[1].

1517 in Planche *Cycl. Costume* (1876) I. 450 A 'cote or shamewe'. 1535 *Wardr. Acc. Hen. VIII* in *Archæologia* IX. 245 A shamewe of blacke printed satten. 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 65 A new fassion garment, called a Shemew, which was in effect a gowne cut in the middle. *Ibid.* 77, I..perceiued thabilliment royall of the Frenche kynge, his garment was a chemew.

Shemite (ʃe·məit), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *Shem* (Heb. שֵׁם, Gr. Σήμ, L. *Sem*), name of the eldest son of Noah (cf. Gen. vi. 10) + -ite.] = Semite *a.* and *sb.*

1659 Gell *Ess. Amend. Eng. Transl. Bible* 103 The fear, faith, hope, love of God, if we be true Shemites, must inform our whole life. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* ii. I. 76 The Shemites in the lapse of ages, passing over to America. 1844 Prichard *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 3) IV. 549 Nations of Shemite origin. 1877 R. S. Poole in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 722/2 The generous qualities of the Shemite are being perpetually perverted by the inferior impulses of the Nigritian.

Hence **Shemi·tic** *a.* and *sb.* = Semitic *a.* and *sb.* **Shemi·ticize** *v.* = Semiticize *v.* **Shemi·tish** *a.*, having Shemitic characteristics. **She·mitism,** the attributes characteristic of the Shemitic peoples.

1828 Webster Introd. p. xvi/2 The real original sense of this Shemitic verb is to remove. 1845 Kitto *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s.v. *Harlot*, By a common association of ideas in the Shemitish dialects. *Ibid.* s.v. *Philistines*, The Shemitics gave place to the Hellenics—a change which dates from the time of Minos. 1850 W. Irving *Mahomet* I. 22 The intellectual attributes of the Shemitic race. 1863 R. S. Poole in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1815/2 The Egyptian words occurring in Hebrew are few, and the forms of some of them evidently Shemiticized. 1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 251 A true Shemitic mania for making money. 1882-3 Schaff *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 665 Far outside of Shemitism one finds serpent-worship.

† **Shench,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1, 3 **scenc,** 2-3 **scenche, (senche),** 3, 5 **schench,** 4 **sscench.** [OE. *scenc* masc.:—prehistoric **skankiz*-, related to *scencan* Shench *v.*] A cupful, drink (of liquor). Cf. *noneschenche* Nuncheon.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 42 Cælc vel scenc [L. *calicem*] wætres caldes. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 128 Syle drincan on wine, twezan scenceas oððe ðry. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 331 (Egerton MS.) Þes worlð us wule for-drenche Mest alle men he ȝuied drinke, of one deofles scenche [*Trin. MS.* of on euele senche]. *c* 1205 Lay. 9692 Þus seide þe King..Þer he sæt mid his scenche An his kine-benche. *Ibid.* 13461 He lette heom bringen schenches of feole cunne drenches. 13.. *Sevyn Sag.* (Weber) 562 He made ther-under a grene bench, And drank ther-under mane a sscench.

† **Shench, shenk,** *v. Obs.* Forms: α. 1-2 **scencan, scænc(e)an, scencean,** 3 **scenche, scencohe,** (**ssenche,** 3-4 **senche**), 3-5 **schenche,** 4 **shenche**; β. 2-3 *Orm.* **shennkenn,** 3 **senken,** 5 **schenkyn.** [OE. *scenc(e)an* = OFris. *skenka*,

OS. *skenkian* (MLG. *schenken*, whence ON. *skenkja*, Da. *skænke*, Sw. *skänka*), MDu., mod. Du. *schenken*, OHG. *scenken* (MHG., mod.G. *schenken*) :—OTeut. **skaŋkjan*. Cf. SKINK *v.*

For conjectures as to the ulterior etymology see Kluge and Falk & Torp.]

trans. To pour out (liquor); to give (a person) drink.

a. Beowulf 496 Þegn nytte beheold se þe on handa bær hroden ealowæge scencte scir wered. *a* 1050 *Lamb. Ps.* xxxv. 9 Hig beoþ zedrencte..of burnan þinre wynsumnysse & þu scænest [L. *potabis*] hig. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxviii. (1889) 106 Þæt nys coss ræccean ac scencean [L. *propinare*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 8124 I-scængte mid beore. *Ibid.* 20375 He sæiδ mid his ȝelpe þenne me him win scencceδ. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2526 þe drinke vor to ssenche [*v.r.* schenche, swenche]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7581 (Laud MS.) He was..ysette on heiȝe benche, And wyne & pyement gynneþ shenche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 263 Envie ..halt taverne forto schenche That drink which makth the herte brenne.

β. c 1200 ORMIN 15403 & tu, lef Laferrd Jesu Crist, Ne shennkesst nohht tatt wise. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 322 He..senkede hire hure aldre bale. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schenkyn drynke, *propino*.

Hence † **She·nker.**

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 51/1 Bryllare of drynke, or schenkare, (drinkshanker, *P.*), *propinator, propinatrix*.

Shenchipp, obs. form of SHENDSHIP.

† **Shend,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. SHEND *v.* Cf. SHOND.] Disgrace, ruin.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7304 We ligge here in stormes and schende. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1664 The squyer than was done to shende. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 284 For ille werk bryngeth a man to evele ende And in to synne & synneres schende.

Shend (ʃend), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* and *arch.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shent** (ʃent). Forms: 1 (ȝe-) **scendan,** (ȝesciendan, -scyndan), 2 **sceandan,** 3 **scanden, scenden, sceind, schiende,** s(s)ende, (*Ormin*) **shennd,** 3–5 **schend,** 3–7 **shende,** 4 **shind, shynde, scheend, scheind,** 4–5 **schind, schynde, sheende,** 4–6 *Sc.* **schent,** 5 **sheynd, (schente,** 6–7 **shent),** 2– **shend**; 3 *pers. sing. Pres. Ind.* 1 (ȝ-) **scent, (sciend, ȝesciend, -scind, seynt),** 3–4 **schent,** 4 **shent**; *Pa. t.* 1, 3 (ȝe-) **scent, scende, ssende,** 3–4 **schende,** 3–5 **schente,** 3–6 **schent,** 4 **shende, shente,** 5 **shend,** 4–6, 9 **shent**; 3 (*Ormin*) **shendedd**; *Pa. pple.* 1 ȝe- **scend, -scynd,** (**-sciend**), 3 **schent, scent,** (*Ormin*) **shennd, y-scend, (y-)ssent,** 3–5 **schente, y-schend, -ssend,** 3–7 **schent,** 4 **scheint, (chent),** 4–5 **y-schent,** (**-chend**), (**y-**)**schende,** 5 **y-shent**(e, (**e-chent**), **schend, scheent,** 5–6 **shend,** 5–7 **shente,** 3– **shent**; 1 **ȝescended,** (**-sci(e)nded**), 5 **shendit,** 9 **shended.** [OE. *scendan* (also *gescendan*), corresp. to OLow Frankish *scendian* (MDu., mod.Du. *schenden*), MLG., LG. *schenden*, OHG. *scentan* (MHG., mod.G. *schänden*) :—OTeut. type **skandjan*, f. **skando-* : see SHOND *sb.*

After the 15th c. the word occurs in literary use almost exclusively in the pa. pple. *shent*, and even this form seems already to have been felt as archaic in the latter part of the 16th c. After the pres.-stem had become rare, some writers occas. used *shent* as a present.]

1. *trans.* To put to shame or confusion; to confound, disgrace.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxviii. 31 Nyl mec ȝescendan [Vulg. *noli me confundere*]. *a* 1050 *Lamb. Ps.* xxiv. 3 Ealle þa.. anbidiaþ þe ne beon ȝescynde. *c* 1205 LAY. 3090 For nauer ich ne wende Þæt þu me woldes þus scanden [1275 sende]. *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 362 in *O.E. Misc.* 222 Lest ȝe be chamyd and schend. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16690 'Ihesus nazaren, o Iuus King', þar-ou þai wrate,..al for to scend [13.. (Gött.) schind] his state. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3289 Þe wraiers þat weren in halle, Schamly were þai schende. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 27 Ellys with chenchip and with chame thai wyll be e-chent. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 To shende the olde Englisshe fames. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 21 Than, Father slaine, Mother was schent. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXIX. iii, Terror shall your mindes amate, Blush and shame your faces shend. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 35 Debatefull strife, and cruell enmitie, The famous name of knighthood fowly shend. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* v. 198 This serves deepely to shent and shame us for our first brutish ignorance. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 599 He'll be shent..When he shall hear the wedding lutes a playing.

† **b.** To put to shame by superiority. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *Prothal.* 121 These twaine, that did excell The rest, so far, as Cynthia doth shend The lesser starres.

2. To blame, reproach, reprove; to revile, scold. In later use the passive often = to suffer for one's deeds, be punished (cf. sense 3).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxi. 207 Done scamleasan mon mæȝ ðy bet ȝebetan ðe hine mon sniδur δreað & sciend [*Cotton MS.* scent]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1992 Þatt þho na were shamedd her, Ne shennd off unnclænnesse. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Bodley) 454 Chit te & cheoweδ þe, & schemeliche schent te. *c* 1290 *Beket* 975 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 134 'Louerdinges', he seide, 'here ȝe i-seoz hov þis man me schent'. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 9 Whan y schal schewen myn schrift schent mote y worþen. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 104 Goddis name in ydil take þou not, For if þou do þou schalt be scheent. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. CCCXXI. (1869) 69, I mihte not endure hem longe swiche without e sheendinge myself. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCLXXVIII. 416 Sir Robert Canoll gate in the..voyage..aboue the somme of a hundred thousande frankes, wherof afterwarde he was shente. 1543 in Strype *Cranmer* (1694) App. 66 The Councel said.. that the Justices of every shire should be shent, that such things should be. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxii. 35–38 Seyng that Peter was shent because that he drewe his sweorde. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. iii, I must in againe, lest perhaps I be shent, For I asked no body licence, when I went. 1600 MARKHAM *Tears of Beloved* (Grosart) 61 This monstrous sinne, for which I thus am shent. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 112 Alas sir be patient. What say you sir, I am shent for speaking to you. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Camb.* (1662) I. 153 Yet was his Loyalty shent, but not sham'd. 1700 DRYDEN *Cock & Fox* 110 Much I fear my Body will be shent. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* (Imit. Spenser) 18 They ..For unkempt hair, or task unconn'd, are sorely shent. 1855 BROWNING *Master Hugues* x, Masters being lauded and sciolists shent.

Proverb. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 683/12 Hos seiþ þe so þe, he schal be schent. *a* 1400 in *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy Soc.) 44 Who seyt trowthe is shent. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 26 Soo he that wyll saye the trouthe he shall be shente.

3. To destroy, ruin, bring to destruction. Also, in milder sense, to injure, damage, spoil.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1548 Se deopa seað..mid wita fela..folcum scendeδ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Her is ane reowlic bone to biddene bute we inwarliche imilcien and forȝeuen þan monne þe us wreδeδ and sceandet. *c* 1205 LAY. 25692 Þe scaδe..þa scendeþ [1275 sendes] þas leode. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Harl. MS.) 130 Þou shalt neuer out wende monkunne forte shende. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 450 Mani hauberk was torent & mani þurch þe bodi schent. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 95 To ben Clerkes of þe kynges Benche þe Cuntre to schende. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 523 Þe Sarasyn sayd til him þanne 'Þyn heȝ herte wil þee schynde'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 347 His navey was nyh [al] adreynt, and his oost i-schend wiþ colde and wiþ honger [L. *fame et frigore contabuit*]. *Ibid.* VIII. 181 [In a hail-storm] men were i-schent [*contriti*], and foules were i-seie flee in þe ayre. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxi. 120 (Harl. MS.) The Oynement, that shendithe the tethe of þe lioune, is almis-dede. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xii. 432 They wold not for no good that sire Dagonet were shente, for Kyng Arthur loued hym passynge wel. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 360 The knightes swelt, for lack of shade ny shent. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* lxxiii. 5 And free from all aduersitie, when other men be shent. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. iv, But we must yeeld, whom hunger soone will shend. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* II. v. 163 If Physitians should now imitate the Hippocraticall course of dieting, they should be utterly shent. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 621 Tho' shent their Leaves, and shatter'd are their Arms; Yet Heav'n their various Plants for use designs. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xvii, No personage of high or mean degree Doth care for cleanness of surtout or shirt; Though shent with Egypt's plague. 1906 DOYLE *Sir Nigel* v. 52 My papers have been shended and rended and cast to the wind.

absol. a 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 648 Quhithir scho schent or scho saif, I am hir serwand.

† **b.** To disfigure, spoil; to corrupt, infect; to defile, soil. *Obs.*

a 950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 121/40 Giþyll scendende *aura corrumpens*. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 204 Rise & go þi ways, For þou has wette þi breke, schent is þi hernays. 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Vor þe leme uorroted ssolde ssende þe hole. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 854 Who so toucheth warm pych it shent hise fyngres. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 15 Heraclius deide in þe dropesie, and was i-schend [L. *depravatus*] with þat heresy of þe Iacobytes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 25 She had her nose croked, the whiche shent and dysfigured her uisage. 1530 PALSGR. 717/2 Syt hence, or you shall shende your clothes. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs of Kelig.* 145 So with gore they shent His silvery locks.

c. In *pa. pple.*: Overcome with fatigue; bewildered, stupefied.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* CIV. 105 He cryed after him and sayde, 'abide me, I am negh shent of goynge.' 1828 CARLYLE *Goethe's Helena* Misc. 1840 I. 229 Boots not; for amaze hath shent me. 1905 *Outlook* 11 Feb. 194/2, I stood utterly shent and powerless.

† **4.** To discomfit (in battle or dispute). *Obs.*

In ME. confession was often said to 'shend' the devil.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. x. § 1 Xersis wæs þa æt twam cirrum on ðæm londe swa ȝescend [*bis victus in terra*]. *a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 Þu scalt gan to scrifte and pinian þine licome þe hit þe makeδ don, and scenden þene deofel. *a* 1225 *Aucr. R.* 298 Schrift schent þene deouel & hacked of his heaued, & to-dreaueδ his ferde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4666 Hengist þoru wan þis lond verst was yssent. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXII. (*Justin*) 241, & þan ware þai fullely schent, & fore rednes fra hyre went. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 652 Tyl at the laste..Antonye is schent & put hym to the flyght. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IX. 2191 The foxe, quhen that he saw the wolf was schent, Said to him self, 'thir hering salbe myne.' 1643 WITHER *Campo-Musæ* 5 He that armes himselfe to this intent Shall ne're be shamed, though he may be shent. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IX. xxiii, The Deed is null,..A wicked instrument,..Not to be pleaded in the Courts..Sir Fiend, thy cause is shent!

† **5.** *intr.* = 'to be shent'. *Obs.*

a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1400 And ful of grene leues sytte That sonne myght there none discende Lest the tender grasses shende. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 283 in *Macro Plays* 85 For schame I stonde & schende. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXXIII. 11 Quhen body, honor, and substance schentis, And saule in perrell.

† **6.** In the *Destruction of Troy* the phrase *to shend of* is app. equivalent to the transitive uses, to dishonour, to destroy, injure. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2544 For to shunt vs of shame, shend of our foos. *Ibid.* 5249 He shot thurgh the sheltrons & shent of hor knightes. *Ibid.* 13699 Þen Orestes..schamyt with þe schalke, that schent of his wife, And so dernely hym did dere & dispit.

† **Shend,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [App. a corruption of SHIELD *v.*, arising from confusion with prec. or association with FEND *v.* or DEFEND *v.*] *trans.* To shield, defend. Also *absol., God shend* = 'God shield'.

1530 PALSGR. 717/2, I shall shende hym agaynst all men so longe as I lyve. *Ibid.*, I shende, I forbyd. This verbe they use onely in the potencial,..'Saye you so Marye God shende'. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxix. 76 So from all ill me shend. *a* 1597 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* (1599) D iij b, Let Dauids Harpe..sing his praise that shendeth Dauids fame. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* V. iii. 73 Vpreare A brazen wall to shend thy land from feare. 1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 23 To defend and shend them against all adversaries whatsoeuer. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. B 2 b, These my harmlesse flocke of sheepe. And through all the day I tend them, And from Wolues & Foxes shend them. 1625 LISLE *Du Bartas* 132 Thou op'nest wide thy lap to shend thy sonne from harm.

† **She·nded,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [f. SHEND *v.*[1] + -ED[1]. Cf. SHENT *ppl. a.*] Ruined, injured.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 246 Of þat schended schyp men schowued hym sone.

† **She·ndful,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **schendful,** 3–5 **schenful,** 4 **schende-, schent-, schind-, shynful, schentful**(e, **ssendvol,** 4–5 **shenful,** 5 **schent-, schendfol, send-, shendvol,** 5–6 **shendful,** 6 **shendefull.** [f. SHEND *v.*[1] + -FUL.] Infamous, disgraceful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Þe uormest is Cheaste, oðer Strif, þe oðer is Wodschipe, þe þridde is Schenful [*v.r.* schendful] Upbrud. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 366 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 57 Bote hire ending schindful were. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 259 (MS.) If she se any grete lynage Be brought to nought in shynful wise. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1973 Þys day ne wol y on myn halle drynke whit wyn ne red, Til y [haue] seen þe glotouns alle on schentfule deþe be ded. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 3401 Thou schalt dye on schentfol deth. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* VI. D v b, That shendful shame through worde or fame did never me oppresse.

† **She·ndfully,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SHENDFUL *a.* + -LY[2].] Ignominiously, disgracefully, infamously.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Spec hire scheome schendfuliche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6343 Þus senduolliche he him slou. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 261 God sende to seye þat [Saul] schulde dye, And al his seed for þat Sunne schendfulliche ende. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* XCII. e 6 b, Edelf..bethought howe that he myȝt..marie hir to a knaue of his kychen.. and to hym he thought hir shendfully haue maried for to haue had hir land afterward. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V. LXXIX. (1533) 32 The enymyes of the lande were shendfully chasyd and vtterly confounded.

† **She·ndfulness.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHENDFUL *a.* + -NESS.] Vileness.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Ich chulle..trussen al þi schendfulnesse o þine owune necke.

† **She·nding,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [-ING[1].] The action of SHEND *v.*[1]; confusion, disgrace.

a 1220 *Bestiary* 441 Deuel geld swilk billing wiδ same and wiδ sending. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2266 For-þi þat tour hatt babilone, þat schending es wit-outen soyne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9954 Suche maystry, That the schal lede..In foule schendyng, Al thi lyff to thyn endyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schendynge, or blamynge, *culpacio*...Schendynge, or fulle vndoynge, *confusio*. *c* 1520 NISBET *Epist. Ald Test.* XXXIX, Thi pepile ar in schenting to almen [Vulg. *in opprobrium sunt omnibus*] be our cumpas.

† **She·ndlac.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 **schendlac.** [f. SHEND *v.*[1] : see -LAIK.] Disgrace, infamy.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1285 ȝef fifti wimmen..hefden mid wordes ower an awarpen, nere hit schendlac inoh..to alle þæt ȝelpeδ of lare? *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 188 Þencheδ euer inwardliche up o Godes þinen,—..uor his þrelles, þolien swuche schendlakes & hokeres.

† **She·ndly,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. In 3 **sindlice.** [Alteration of SHONDLY by association with the vb. SHEND.] Disgraceful, infamous.

c 1275 LAY. 2274 Ne sal þe no man silde fram sindlice deaþe.

† **She·ndness.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **ȝescendnys**(s, **ȝesceandnys, ȝescyndnys,** 3 **schend-, ssendnesse,** 4 **schindnisse, schen**(d)**nes, (shens**); *β.* 4 **schindisse, -esse.** [OE. *ȝescendnyss*, f. *ȝescend*, pa. pple. of *scendan* SHEND *v.*[1]: see -NESS.] The condition of being 'shent'; disgrace, ruin.

a. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 66 Done deofol þe ða synfullan..ȝelæt to ȝescyndnysse. Babilonia seo Chaldeisca burh, is ȝereht 'ȝescyndnys'. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) XXXIV. 30 Syn ȝescrydde mid ȝescendnysse [L. *confusione*]. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 275 in *O. E. Misc.* 45 Muchele schendnesse hi duden vre dryhte. *a* 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7030 Astrangled he was riȝt þer & deide atte borde al stif wiþ ssendnesse ynou. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2175 He put himselue on a cas whar-for agat a schour, þat turnd him..to schennes & dolour. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 245 Þis man was i-bore to schame and schendnes of nacions.

β. c 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 66 To bring al the land to schindisse and holi churche to spille. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 103 Chus weþer þu wold mid schindisse to deþe beon ibrogt. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 363 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 57 Þis liþere quene deide siþþe in schindisse ynou3.

† **She·ndship.** *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **s**(**c**)**hend-, s**(**c**)**hent-,** (5 **scend-**); 4–5 **s**(**c**)**hen-,** sen- (4 **scen, schin-**); see also -SHIP. [ME. *schendschipe*, f. *schende*, pa. pple. of *schende* SHEND *v.*[1] + -SHIP.] Disgrace, ignominy; an instance of this. Also, something that is a cause of disgrace.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17470 Bot wat yll þar-wit quat þai wan Scencip and scam o mani man. *Ibid.* 18172 Wi quat ert þou þat es sa wight Vr scenscep for to scau to dright? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8250 þat name Ys our shenshyp and oure shame. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3294 And now he me wil sle wiþ schenschipe. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7877 Bot now will I specialy shew yhow mare Of seven maners of blysses bare, And of seven schenschepes in helle alle-swa. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 556 þat were a schamly schenchip to

schende me euer. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* l. (*Katerine*) 306 & at scho mycht sic defence ma þat it war senschepe till hir fa. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 199 To muchel am I peyned for the thynges that I neuere deserued, and to muche defouled for shendshipe that man is worthy to haue. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* xlv. 114 To-day he wold do the wyrshype, to-morow he wold the reue to do shendshype [*c* 1440 shenshipp]. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 5 He wold here selle that he had boȝt, And schenschypus here that he hath soȝt. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4486 For thing þat meke men oft amendes, God to schrewes to senschipe sends. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XII. xiii. 609 God saue yow this day from senshyp and shame. 1493 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) IV. i. 161/1 His childern sholde be shame & shenshyp to hym.

b. = SHAME *sb. rare*—1.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xx. 11 He that slepith with his stepdam, and opneth the shenship [Vulg. *ignominiam*] of his fader, thurȝ deth dien thei bothe.

† **She·ndshipful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SHENDSHIP + -FUL.] Disgraceful, ignominious.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xxiv. 24 In to Joas also thei enhauntiden schenschipful domys.

Hence † **She·ndshipfully** *adv.* [-LY 2.]

1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxxviii. 52 Whiche thin enemyes, Lord, diden schenschipfuli, for thei dispisiden the chaungyng of thi crist.

Shene, *v. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 scēnan, 3 scaenen, scenen, scænen; see also TO-SHENE *v.* [OE. *scēnan* :—prehist. **skainjan.*

Possibly due to an erroneous analysis of *tōscēnan* (TO-SHENE *v.*) :—**tus-hainjan* causative of **tus-hīnan* [MHG. *zer-, zehīnan*] to burst asunder.]

trans. To break.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 260 Þa comon ðā cempan, .. and sona ðæra sceaðena sceancan tobræcon. .. Hi gemetton Crist middanearde deadne, and his halzan sceancan scænan ne dorston. *c* 1205 LAY. 5186 Bordes þer scænden. *Ibid.* 19554 Helmes þer scenden. *Ibid.* 26807 Sceldes scenen. *Ibid.* 28552 Sceldes gonnen scanen.

Shene, obs. rare pa. pple. of SEE *v.*, SHOW *v.*

Shene, var. SHEEN *a.*; obs. form of SHEEN *v.*

Shengle, -yll, obs. forms of SHINGLE *sb.*

Shenkbeer (ʃe·nkbīəɹ). *U.S.* [a. G. *schenkbier* draught beer, f. *schenken* to pour, fill (SHENCH *v.*) + *bier* BEER.] A very weak and insipid beer.

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 142 *Shenkbeer*, the *Schenkbier* of Germany, is so called because it has to be put on draught (*schenken*) as soon as it is made, for fear of turning sour if not immediately consumed.

Shenshep(e, -ip(e, etc. : see SHENDSHIP.

† **Shent,** *sb. Sc. Obs. rare.* In 4–5 schent. [var. of SHEND *sb.*] Disgrace.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Petrus*) 535 Sic schent and schame at hart had he. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1077 The sege that schrenkis for na schame, the schent might hym schend.

† **Shent,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure origin.] Free, exempt.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8119 þi worship is went & wastid for euer, Of shame & shenship shent bes þou neuer.

Shent (ʃent), *ppl. a.* Now *arch.* Also 5 schent. [pa. pple. of SHEND *v.*1] Disgraced, lost, ruined; stupefied.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10348 And shamfully a shent mon he shope to the dethe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schent, or blamyd, *culpatus, vituperatus.* Schent, ful lost, *confusus, destructus.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 66/21 Shent, *perditus.* 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 44 Arcadia poore and shent. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 91 Till, starting up in wild bewilderment, I do become so shent That I go forth, lest folk misdoubt of it.

† **Shent,** *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SHUNT *v.* and SHEND *v.*] *intr.* To hesitate.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 481 As maner is of maydons . . : Shentyng for shame to shew furth þere ernd.

Shent, obs. form of SHEND *v.*

She-oak. *Austral.* Forms: α. 8– she-oak, 9 sheoak; β. 9 shea-oak; γ. quasi-native name 9 sheac(k, shia(c)k, sheak. [See SHE 10 e; cf. *he-oak*, HE 8 b.

There is no foundation for the allegation that the word is a corruption of a native Australian or Tasmanian name. Another assertion, that it is a corruption of the name of an American tree, is also baseless.]

1. A tree of the genus *Casuarina.*

α. 1792 G. THOMPSON *Slavery & Famine* (1794) 18 There are two kinds of oak, called the he and the she oak, but not to be compared with English oak. 1818 OXLEY *Jrnl. Two Exped. N. S. Wales* (1820) 292 That species of casuarina called the beef wood (or she oak) was also seen to-day for the first time. 1875 *Zoologist* Ser. II. X. 4619 Sandal wood, mulga, she oak, all are devoured with apparent relish. 1892 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at Home* 123 Its banks fringed with the dark sheoak and the bending willow.

β. 1842 [see γ]. 1902 'BESSIE MARCHANT' (Mrs. J. A. Comfort) *Brave Little Cousin* xxiv. 187 Under the shelter of a great Shea oak.

γ. [1835 J. ROSS *Hobart-town Almanack* 75 *Casuarina torulosa*? She-oak. *C. stricta*? He-oak. *C. tenuissima*? Marsh-oak. The name of the first of these is said to be a corruption of Sheac, the name of an American tree, producing the beef wood, like our She-oak. 1842 *Western Australia* v. 80 The Shea-oak (a corruption of sheāk, the native name for this, or a similar tree, in Van Diemen's Land) is used chiefly for shingles.] 1852 S. SIDNEY *Three Colonies of Australia* xxiv. 347 The lowlands . . present a dull scene, sprinkled with funereal shiak or 'she-oak trees'. 1857 W. HOWITT *Tallangetta* I. i. 24 Trees of a peculiar character—the Casuarinas or Shiacks. 1862 G. T. LLOYD *33 Yrs. Tasmania* iii. 32 The 'Sheac' (perverted into she oak) or beef-wood tree, is very abundant. 1892 [see b].

b. *attrib.*

1852 She-oak tree [see above]. 1874 WALCH *Adamanta* I. ii. 16 She-oak Shavings. *a* 1880 D. S. STEWART in Fison & Howitt *Kamilaroi* 168 Sheoak trees. 1892 F. ADAMS *John Webb's End* 223 A few stunted sheak trees.

2. Slang name for colonial beer.

1888 *Cassell's Picturesque Australia* (1890) III. 83 Their drivers had completed their regulation half-score of 'long-sleevers' of 'she-oak'. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 282 Hastily finishing his pint of 'sheoak'.

‖ **Sheol** (ʃī·oul, ʃī·ɡl). [Heb. שְׁאוֹל *she'ōl.*] The underworld; the abode of the dead or departed spirits, conceived by the Hebrews as a subterranean region clothed in thick darkness, return from which is impossible. (Very common in the Revised Version of the O.T., where in the A.V. it was translated 'hell', 'grave', or 'pit'.)

P In recent slang sometimes jocularly substituted for 'hell'.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* xiii. 45 *Sheol*, at the best, either is not Heauen, . . or else there is a third place besides Heauen and Hell called *Sheol* for the Saints to rest in. 1642 *Of Article of Creed 'Christ descended to Hades'* 2 Christs soule did *descendere ad Inferos*, or goe to Sheol or Hades. 1822 R. SCOTT *Script. Claims of Devil* 499 We cannot . . interpret the term Sheol, as referring to a Hell of eternal torments. 1873 F. C. COOK in *Speaker's Comm.* IV. 63/1 Nor is the state of the just in Sheol ever represented as one of suffering. 1890 J. FYFE (*title*) The Hereafter: Sheol, Hades, and Hell.

attrib. 1910 J. ORR in *Expositor* Nov. 398 Ghostly survival in some Sheol-like condition of semi-existence.

Shep (ʃep). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4–5 schep, chep. [Short for SHEPHERD.

It is commonly supposed that this word occurs in the second line of *Piers Plowman*, 'I shope me into shroudes as I a *sheep* were'. The author's meaning, however, seems to be that the assumption of a hermit's dress by one who was 'unholy of works' was a disguising of himself 'in sheep's clothing'. The sense 'shepherd' seems to be irrelevant; moreover, even if it be intended here, the word with the long vowel indicated by the MS. readings cannot well be of identical formation with the *sheep* of the examples below.]

A shepherd.

c 1381 *Slaughter Abp. Sudbury* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 230 Jak Chep [*v. r.* Schep], Tronche, Jon Wrau, Thom Myllere . . Isti ductores in plebe fuere priores. 14 . . LYDG. *Chorl & Bird* xlviii. in Ashmole *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 223 A Chepys Croke to the ys better than a Launce. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Shep*, a shepherd. 'Cook was shep to Mr. Sorsby then, but he's left now'. 1899 H. D. RAWNSLEY *Life & Nat. Engl. Lakes* 171 Waiting for the late arrival of this or that 'shep', with his contribution of strayed sheep from the fold.

Shep, obs. form of SHEEP, SHIP.

Shepard(e, obs. forms of SHEPHERD.

Shepe, obs. f. SHEEP, SHIP; var. SHIPE *sb. Obs.*

Shepen(e, obs. forms of SHIPPON.

Shepherd (ʃe·pəɹd), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 scēaphirde, scēap-, scēphyrde, 2–3 (*Ormin*) shephirde, 3 seopheorde, 4 schepeherde, shepehurde, 4–5 sheepherde, scheephirde, 5 shephirde, (sheepperde), 5–6 schepehirde, 6 scheephird, shepeheard, *Sc.* scheiphirde, -hird, sheephirde, 7 sheep(e)heard, sheepherd, (8 sheaperd). β. 4–5 schipherd, 5 schiphirde, 6 schiphird(e, shipheard; 4 schipard(e, 5 schippart, 7 shippard. γ. 3–6 schepherde, 4 shephurde, 4–6 shepherde, 5 s(c)hepherde, schepphirde, schephord, chepherd, 6 schephird(e, 7 shepphерd; 3 ssepurde, 3–5 scheperd, 4–5 scheperde, -ard(e, 4–6 shep(p)arde, shepherde, 5 sheppard, 5–7 sheperd, 6 shepperd, 6–8 shepard; 5 schepheerde, 6 schepheird, 6–7 shepheard(e, 7 shepheard; 5 schepeerde; 6– shepherd. [OE. *scēaphirde*: see SHEEP and HERD *sb.*2 Cf. MLG., MDu. *schāphirde* (mod. Du. has *schaapherder*), MHG. *schāfhirte*, mod.G. dial. *schafhirt.*

The shortened vowel of the first syllable is normal in compounds.]

1. A man who guards, tends, and herds a flock of sheep (grazing at large); usually one so employed for hire; or one of a pastoral people who herds (his own) sheep, goats, etc.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* lv. (1883) 288 Swa swa sceaphyrde tosceat sceap fram gatum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3587 Crist iss all se Daviþþ wass Shephirde, & king, & kemmpe. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 133 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Beo þe seopheorde aqueld and of lyue bireued þenne scule sone his seop alle beon todreued. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7210 Ssepurdes hii beþ luþere vor hii ne witeþ noȝt Her ssep fram þe wolues. 1315 SHOREHAM *5 Joys of Virg.* 135 Out com an aungel wyþ great leem In-to þe feld of bedleem, Amonges þe schepherden, Te telle þat cryst was y-bore. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 22 Þay . . speken godely and louyngly to pore schephordes þat kepten hor schepe yn þe contre by. 1459 *Inventory* in *Paston Lett.* I. 479 Inprimis, j. clothe of arras, clyped the Schipherds clothe. *Ibid.* 482 Item, j. clothe of arras, of the Schipherds. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. i. 5 The good sheppard exposeth his lyf for his sheep. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 46 Sum schippart slayis the lordis sheip, and sais he is a sant. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 30 Rude sheepeheardes olde and decrepite. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 87 A foreste-like Cuntrie, wheare we saw nether towne nor villidge, but somtime a shipheardes Hoote. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 77 If the sunne of thy beauty doe not white me like a shippards holland, I am a Iewe to my Creator. 1657 *Penit. Conf.* ix. 283 The next denomination is of a sheepherd and flock. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 97 The greater part of the tribe is composed of shepherds. 1891 *Spectator* 28 Feb., Every one hastened to turn shepherd, and cultivate wool and mutton.

b. Applied to the rustic personages of pastoral poetry. Hence, in poetry more or less adopting the pastoral convention, formerly often used to designate the writer and his friends or fellow-poets.

1591 SPENSER *Daphn.* 526 And ye faire Damsels, Shepheards dere delights, That with your loues do their rude hearts possesse. *a* 1599 ? RALEIGH in *Pass. Pilgr.* xix. *Loue's Answ.*, If that the World and Loue were young, And truth in euery shepheards toung. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 82 Dead Shepheard, now I find thy saw of might. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xviii. 2 Near Avon's bank, . . A tuneful shepherd [*note*, Mr. Somerville] charm'd the list'ning wave.

† **c.** = SHEPHERDESS. *Obs. rare.*

1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 274 The maide with the garland on her heade was Fawnia, the faire shepheard.

d. A representation (in china, etc.) of a youthful shepherd; cf. SHEPHERDESS.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 358 Like a Dresden shepherd and shepherdess.

e. Fr. Hist. *The Shepherds* [= Fr. *les Pastoureaux*]: the name applied to those who took part in the peasant insurrections of 1251 ff. and 1320.

1759 *Universal Hist., Mod.* XIII. 308 The irruption of a band of enthusiastick shepherds, who pretended to work miracles. [*note*] The origin of these shepherds is variously related. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 710/1 *marg.*, [1251] The Crusade of Shepherds. 1874 G. W. COX *Crusades* xv. 215 The outbreak of the Pastoureaux, or Shepherds (so called from their supposed simplicity), . . took place . . while Louis IX. was a captive in Egypt.

2. *fig.* **a.** A spiritual guardian or pastor of a 'flock'; = PASTOR *sb.* 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28278 Quare i was scheperd hade sauls to kepe To reckelesly i geit my schepe. 1382 WYCLIF *Ephes.* iv. 11 He ȝaf summe sotheli apostlis, . . othere forsoth schepherdis [so Tindale and Coverdale; 1611 pastors] and techeris. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) 81 The cheff sheperd in this world þat ys, Shuld be the pope. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 7 Appointed to be pastors and shepheards to feed others. 1693 PRIOR *To Dr. Sherlock* 68 'Midst thy own Flock, great Shepherd, be receiv'd. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXI. 121 Modern Shepherds need Those who on either hand may prop and lead them.

¶ In comic fiction, represented as an official title of the 'pastor' or 'minister' of a sect.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, 'The kiss of peace', says the shepherd; and then he kissed the women all round. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 52 Then the shepherd read, and supposed that he was explaining a portion of Scripture.

b. In Biblical use, applied to God in relation to Israel or the Church; also to Christ (esp. with reference to John x. 12).

1382 WYCLIF *John* x. 12, I am a good schepherde; a good schepherde ȝyueth his soule, that is, his lyf, for his scheep. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxix. 1 Heare o thou shepherde of Israel, thou yᵗ ledest Iacob like a flocke of shepe. 1655 EVELYN *Let. to Jer. Taylor* 18 Mar., The shepheards are smitten, and the sheepe must of necessity be scattered, unless the greate Shepheard of Soules oppose. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXX. i, Shepherd of Souls, the Great, the Good. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXXVII, I have not given to the wolf any of the stray lambs whom the Great Shepherd of souls had intrusted to my charge.

c. Applied to temporal rulers. Cf. Gr. ποιμὴν λαῶν (Homer) 'shepherd of the peoples', and similar uses in the Old Testament.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 113 b, Poets., oftentimes call kings and princes by the names of shepheardes, and feeders of the people. Yea the Lorde of the whole worlde doth call himselfe a shephearde. 1780 J. BROWN *Lett. Toleration* i. (1803) 23 Political shepherds ought never to overdrive their flocks. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. i, The shepherd of the people has . . been put to bed in his own Château of Versailles.

3. (With initial capital.) = SHEPHERD KING 1.

1813 PRITCHARD *Phys. Hist. Man* viii. § 2. 428 Manetho reckons eighteen years between Sethosis and the exit of the Shepherds from Egypt. The dynasty of Shepherds consists of six monarchs. 1860 R. S. POOLE in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* I. 509/2 (*Egypt*) There can be no question that he [Pharaoh of Joseph's time] was, if the dates be correct, a Shepherd of the xvth dynasty.

4. *Austral.* A miner who holds a claim but does not work it.

1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 30 Shame, vagrant shepherds! cast your coat of sloth; other miners . . have ris'n to rule the State, and so may you. 188. *Argus* in E. E. Morris *Austral Eng.* s. v., Dr. Quick retorted with a declaration that the Grand Junction Company were all 'shepherds', and that 'shepherds' are the worse of the two classes.

† **5.** The shepherd-spider. *Obs. rare.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 271 This kind of Spyder . . delighting in the company of Sheepe: and for this cause I take it, that we Englishmen do call her a Shepheard. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 944 These are called in English *Shepherds*, in Latine *Opiliones*, because they are most often seen where sheep use to feed. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 238 Those long-legged ones [spiders] we call Shepherds, which never spin any thred.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib., as (appositive) *shepherd-band, -boy, folk, -girl, -poet*, etc.; (pertaining to a shepherd or shepherds) *shepherd-care, haunt, life, staff*, etc.

1902 L. HOUSMAN *Bethlehem* 53 Back to their folds have gone the *shepherd-band. 1802 WORDSW. *To Young Lady* 7 There, healthy as a *shepherd boy. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi. As a shepherd boy flourishes his light crook. 1845

G. Murray *Islaford* 17 How lamb-like in his *shepherd-care he was. 1900 H. Sutcliffe *Shameless Wayne* xix. (1905) 241 Loose-limbed *shepherd folk. 1757 Collins *Or. Eclogues* I. 56 Here make thy court amidst our rural scene, And *shepherd-girls shall own thee for their queen. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* VII. v, Swaines and *shepherd groomes. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* I. 11 What sprinklings of blithe company! Of lasses and of shepherd grooms. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 154 The Prophet's first thought..was towards his own *shepherd-haunts. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 254 Put I nocht sylence to the, *schiphird knaif. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* I. vii, The *shepherd lads on every side 'ill come from far away. 1591 Spenser *Daphn.* 316 But now ye *Shepheard lasses, who shall lead Your wandring troupes, or sing your virelayes? 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 150 The *shepherd-life of Amos. 1807 Wordsw. *Song at Feast of Brougham Castle* 107 The *Shepherd-lord was honoured more and more. 1825 J. Wilson *Poems* II. 310 Quietly slumber *shepherd-men In the silence of some inland glen. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* XI. xliii, In vain the keeper calls his *shepherd peers. 1835 Wordsw. *Extemp. Effus. Death J. Hogg* 12 And death upon the braes of Yarrow Has closed the *Shepherd-poet's eyes. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) ix. 20 None letes him be way to wende whore he will: Bot with *schipherd staues fand he his fill. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/9 *Angivs*, a shepardstaf. 1867 Hawker *Pr. Wks.* (1893) 110 A damsel in the bloom of youth stood leaning on her shepherd-staff. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. vi. 15 The gentle *shepheard swaynes. 1775 Mickle *Camoens' Lusiad* IV. 163 To the Massylian *shepherd-tents she flies. 1798 Sotheby tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 43 Our knight opprest Begs from some *shepherd-wife her simple fare.

b. *Egypt. Hist.* [sense 3], as *Shepherd-invasion, -period, -prince*, etc.; see also **Shepherd king.**

1854 W. Osburn *Mon. Hist. Egypt* II. v. 208 The Shepherd invasion. *Ibid.* 209 When Amosis first attacked the Shepherd kingdom. 1860 R. S. Poole in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* I. 509/1 (*Egypt*) The period of Egyptian history to which the Shepherd-invasion should be assigned is a point of dispute. 1863 *Ibid.* III. s. v. *Zoan*, Remains of the Shepherd-period. 1877 J. E. Carpenter *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 53 The Arab Shepherd-Princes (the Hyksos).

c. Similative, as *shepherd-hearted*; also *shepherd-like* adj. and adv.

1853 T. T. Lynch *Self-Improv.* ii. 31 A *shepherd-hearted and royal youth like David. 1591 Spenser *Ruins of Rome* 251 Peters successor..Who, *shepheardlike,..doth shew, that all things turne to their first being. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 520 Showing now defiled His hireling hands, a better help's achieved Than if they blessed us shepherd-like and mild.

d. Special comb.: **shepherd-bird** = **Pastor** *sb.* 4; **shepherd-check** = *shepherd's check*; **shepherd-dog** = shepherd's dog (see 7 b); † **shepherd fly** (see quot.); **shepherd land**, *Sc.* (see quot.); **shepherd spider**, the harvest-spider (also *shepherd's*: see 7 b); † **shepherd silver**, ? a tax paid for the keeping of shepherds; **shepherd tartan** = *shepherd's tartan.*

1859 T. R. Jones *Cassell's Bk. of Birds* I. 227 The Rose Starling, or *Shepherd-bird (*Pastor roseus*). 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3980, Cloakings, coatings, livery Valencias, *shepherd checks, trouserings, &c. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 699/17 *Hic aggregarius*, a *scheperd dog. 1846 E. J. Lewis *Youatt's Dog* iii. (1858) 105 The descendants of the Spanish shepherd dog, so highly prized in protecting the Merino flocks from the wolves. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 The *Shepherd-fiye or Spinster-flye, which Muffet calls *Opilionum Muscam*. 1892 C. Patrick *Mediæval Scot.* ii. 20 '*Shepherd land' seems to have been generally hill pasturage, to which the sheep were sent at suitable seasons. *a* 1377 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 40 Item pro hidagio xijd. Item pro *schepersulfer ijd. q^{a}. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 198 The Carter, *Shepherd Spider, or long-legg'd spider. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 278 Shepherd-Spiders (*Phalangidæ*). 1865 D. C. Boyd in Blaikie *Livingstone* xviii. (1881) 362 He wore..*shepherd-tartan trousers.

7. Combinations with *shepherd's* (sometimes varying with combs. of *shepherd*, see 6). **a.** Obvious combs. denoting a thing such as is used by or is characteristic of shepherds, as *shepherd's crook, horn, life, staff*, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 Schepeerdys croke, *pedum. *Ibid.*, Schyperdys logge, or cory, *magalis, mapale*. 1530 Palsgr. 266/2 Schepherdes bagge, *pannetiere*. *Ibid.*, Schepherdes staffe, *houlette*. 1538 Elyot *Dict.*, *Bardocucullum*, a thrummed hatte, or a shepardes cloke. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 11 And how like you this shepherds life M^{r} Touchstone? 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2383/4 Lost..Three Mares, one black, a Shepherds-hook on the near Hip behind. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xiii, Is not that a shepherd's horn sounding at a distance?

b. Special comb.: **shepherd's calendar**, a calendar containing weather predictions and seasonable instructions for the use of shepherds (app. proverbially referred to as an unreliable source of information); hence adopted as the title of certain pastoral poems; **shepherd's chess**, a game, perh. nine-men's morris; **shepherd's club**, two varieties of moth (see quot.); **shepherd's companion** (see quots.); **shepherd's crown** = **Shepherd's purse 2**; **shepherd's dog**, a large variety of dog employed by shepherds to control and protect flocks of sheep (cf. *sheep-dog*); † **shepherd's fly** = *shepherd-fly* (6 d); † **shepherd's harp** (see quot.); † **shepherd's hour**, the lover's opportunity (tr. F. *l'heure du berger*); **shepherd's knot** (see quot.); **shepherd's lamp** *dial.*, the evening star; † **shepherd's mastie** = *shepherd's dog*; **shepherd's pie**, a pie consisting of chopped meat and potatoes, covered with a crust of mashed potatoes browned; **shepherd's pipe** (see quot. 1881); † **shepherd's spider** = *shepherd-spider* (6 d).

1506 *Kal. Shepherdes* (Sommer) 8 These be the contentis of this present Boke of the *Shepeherdes kalender. 1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* XVI. vi. 552 His Reader woulde also longe to know..in what Chronicle..thei were recorded. Otherwise he wil suspecte, M. Hardinge founde it in the Shepeheardes Calendare. 1579 Spenser (*title*) The Shepheardes Calender. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* XXXVII, They were.. playing at push-pin, or *shepherd's chess, or basset; or some trivial game of that sort. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 90 The *Shepherd's Club (*Cucullia Thapsiphaga*..) appears in June. *Ibid.* 100 The Shepherd's Club (*Euclidia glyphica*). 1844 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* iii. (1847) 80 We also observed..the *shepherd's companion, or fan-tailed fly-catcher (Rhipidura). 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 11/1 The Shepherd's Companion is a curious little bird, which much resembles a wagtail in its habits. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss.*, **Shepherds'-crown*, fossil Echini [see also Shepherd's purse 2]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 *Scheperdys dogge, *gregarius*. 1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rural Sports* § 1415 The shepherd's dog. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. ix. 190/2 *Shepherds fly. *Ibid.* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 76/2 An Instrument of Musick, termed a *shepards harpe; it is no other then a Board cut Bevile on both sides, with wyer or bowell strings fastned there on with pins and pegs. 1690 Dryden *Amphitryon* IV. *Pastoral Dial.*, Fair Iris and her swain Were in a shady Bow'r, Where Thyrsis long in vain Had sought the *shepherd's hour. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 33 These ropes are wound round the stakes [of a net enclosing sheep] by a peculiar sort of knot called the '*shepherd's knot'. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 111 The *Shepherd's Lamp, which even children know. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 154 b, *marg.*, The *shepheardes Mastie. 1896 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 8/5 *Shepherd's pie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/1 *Scheperdys pype, *barbita*. 1881 W. H. Stone in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 486 Shepherd's Pipe, a name given to the pastoral oboe or musette. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. x. 215/2 The long legged Spider of the Garden, or Field,..is called the *Shephards-Spider, because they are generally in the grounds where sheepe pasture.

c. In certain names of textile fabrics: **shepherd's check, plaid, tartan**, a woollen cloth with a black-and-white check pattern; † **shepherd's cloth**, † **shepherd's velvet** = **Fearnought**; † **shepherd's grey**, grey cloth worn by shepherds.

c 1640 A. Townshend *Poems & Masks* (1912) 27 And cast thy purple roabes away, To take a scrip and sheaphards grey. 1791 E. Nairne *Poems* 76 A bran new coat Of shepherd's velvet. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 193 The wadding..is made of the cloth called fear-naught or shepherd's cloth. 1834 Dickens *Sk. Bos, Boarding Ho.* ii, He wore shepherd's-plaid inexpressibles. 1885 'Mrs. Alexander' *Valerie's Fate* i, A large soft shawl of shepherd's plaid. 1896 'L. Keith' *Indian Uncle* xvi. 253 Let himself be instantly 'happet' in the sheriff's shepherd-check plaid. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 4/2 Shepherd's check tartan. *Ibid.*, These shepherd's check gowns.

d. In the names of plants, chiefly *dial.*: † **shepherd's bag** = **Shepherd's purse 1**; **shepherd's beard** = *sheep's beard* s.v. **Sheep** *sb.* 9; **shepherd's bedstraw**, *Asperula cynanchica* (Britten & Holland 1886); † **shepherd's bodkin** (see quot.); **shepherd's calendar**, the scarlet pimpernel; **shepherd's clock**, (*a*) = prec.; (*b*) the goatsbeard, *Tragopogon pratensis* (B. & H.); **shepherd's club**, the common mullein, *Verbascum Thapsus*; **shepherd's comb**, *Scandix Pecten* (B. & H.); **shepherd's cress**, the dwarf cruciferous plant, *Teesdalia nudicaulis*; **shepherd's delight, dial, glass**, the scarlet pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*; **shepherd's gourd**, the common mullein; **shepherd's hour-glass**, the yellow pimpernel, *Lysimachia nemorum*; **shepherd's joy** (see quot.); **shepherd's knot** = **Tormentil**; **shepherd's myrtle**, *Ruscus aculeatus*; **shepherd's needle**, † (*a*) *Geranium*, (*b*) *Scandix Pecten*; **shepherd's pedler, pouch** = **Shepherd's purse 1**; **shepherd's rod**, *Dipsacus pilosus*; **shepherd's root** = **Tormentil** (B. & H.); **shepherd's rose**, ? some species of rose growing in hedges; **shepherd's scrip** = **Shepherd's purse 1**; **shepherd's staff**, (*a*) = *shepherd's rod*; (*b*) the common mullein; **shepherd's sun-dial** = *shepherd's dial* above; **shepherd's thyme**, (*a*) the wild thyme, *Thymus Serpyllum*; (*b*) the chalk milkwort; **shepherd's warning, watch**, the scarlet pimpernel (B. & H.); **shepherd's weatherglass**, (*a*) the scarlet pimpernel; (*b*) *Stellaria Holostea* (B. & H.).

1548 Turner *Names of Herbs* (E.D.S.) 83 Bursa pastoris is also called in englishe of many Bursa pastoris and of other *Shepherdes bag or Shepherdes purse. 1840 Paxton *Bot. Dict.*, *Shepherd's Beard, see *Arnopogon*. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), **Shepherds-Bodkin*, a sort of Herb. 1832 Mrs. Bray *Tamar & Tavy* xviii. (1836) I. 318 We have.. the *shepherd's calendar, and the one o'clock, the very dial of poetry. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 86 We..Read the '*shepherd's clock'. 1790 Alex. Wilson *Morning* Poet. Wks. (?1846) 3 *Shepherds clubs hang nodding o'er the steep. *Ibid. Monkey & Bee* 41 O'ertopt with stately shepherds clubs. *c* 1710 Petiver *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. 50 *Shepherd's-cress. 1863 *Sowerby's Eng. Bot.* (ed. 3) I. 209 *Teesdalia nudicaulis*..Shepherd's Cress. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 34 The scarlet pimpernel, from its susceptibility to the changes of the weather, is his [the peasant's] '*shepherd's dial'. 1886 Britten & Holland *Dict. Plant-n.*, *Shepherd's glass. *Anagallis arvensis*. 1896 *Garden Work* 4 Mar. 112/1 A young man..called the plant Verbascum Thapsus '*Shepherd's Gourd'. 1909 *Essex Rev.* XVIII. 77 The *Shepherd's Hour-glass. 1884 W. Miller *Plant-n.* 124/2 *Shepherd's-joy, Australian. The genus *Geitonoplesium*. *Ibid.* 125/1 *Shepherd's-knot. *Tormentilla officinalis*. *c* 1840 W. A. Bromfield *Flora Vectensis* (1856) 508 *Shepherd's Myrtle. 1562 Bullein *Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* (1579) 42 b, What is the vertue of *Geranium*, called *Shepherdes needell? 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccc. 884 *Pecten Veneris, siue Scandix*. Shepheards Needle, or Venus conibe. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 564 The *scandix pecten veneris* of botanists, and what is often known to agricultors by the names of Shepherd's needle, Beggar's needle, &c. 1811 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* 267 *Crowpeck*, Shepherd's purse, or *shepherd's pedler. 1568 Turner *Herbal* III. 14 Bursa pastoris is called in some places of England *shepherdes pouche. 1633 T. Johnson *Gerarde's Herbal* II. 1168 *Dipsacus minor, sive Virga pastoris*. *Shepheards-rod. 1735 Keogh *Bot. Univ. Hibern.* 122 Wild Teasel, great Shepherds Rod, venus Bason, or carde Thistle. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 182 Shepherd's Rod. Shepherd's Staff. Small Teasel. 1817–8 Cobbett *Resid. Amer.* (1822) 43 No *shepherd's rose, no honeysuckle, none of that endless variety of beauties that decorate the hedges and the meadows in England. 1578 *Shepherds scrip [see Shepherd's purse 1]. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 *Shepherd's Staff, *Dipsacus*. 1882 *Trans. Cumb. Assoc. Lit. & Sci.* VII. 142 *Verbascum thapsus*..the 'Shepherd's Staff' of the rustic population. 1823 Moor *Suffolk Words*, *Shepherd's Sun-dial. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 168 *Thymus Serpyllum*..*Shepherd's Thyme. 1878 Hardy *Ret. Native* VI. ii. (1890) 395 On the green turf and shepherd's-thyme. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss.*, Shepherds'-Thyme, *Polygala calcarea*,..chalk Milkwort. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 47 Pimpernel, dreading nights and showers, Oft call'd 'the *Shepherd's Weather-glass'. 1872 Chr. Rossetti *Sing Song* 86 Scarlet shepherd's-weatherglass Spreads wide open at her feet.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **She·pherddom**, the state of shepherds; **She·pherdhood** (in quot.), the personality of a shepherd.

1905 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 319 The attributes of shepherddom, milk-jar, crook, pipes [etc.]. 1596 W. Smith *Chloris* (1877) 30 But that it pleased thy graue shepherdhood The Patron of my maiden verse to bee.

Shepherd (ʃe·pəɪd), *v.* [f. **Shepherd** *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To tend, guard and watch (sheep) as a shepherd. Also rarely to keep or breed (sheep).

1790 [implied in **Shepherding** *vbl. sb.*]. *a* 1852 Ruskin *Unto this Last* 43 He must..shepherd his own flocks. 1881 *Cheq. Career* 36 In Australia, sheep..are shepherded and yarded every night. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Apr. xiii, Talos..who shepherded the sea-goats on the coast. *absol.* 18.. *Househ. Words* XXXV. 11 (Flügel) When he used to go shepherding with me on his rough pony. 1884 *Kendal Mercury* 26 Sept. 2/6 Two farmers..were out shepherding, when they were overtaken by an awful storm. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Oct. 3/1 The Virgin is said to have appeared to two children..who were shepherding up there in the mountains.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To tend, watch over, or guide as a shepherd does his sheep.

1820 Shelley *Arethusa* 6 Arethusa arose From her couch of snows..Shepherding her bright fountains. *a* 1851 *Edin. Rev.* in *Arch. Stud. neu. Spr.* VIII. 276 Shepherding a lady. 1862 H. H. Dixon *Scott & Sebright* (1895) 380 He would put out twenty couple of puppies for him, and go round twice a week to shepherd them. 1868 Lowell *Dara* 19 So Dara shepherded a province wide, Nor in his viceroy's sceptre took more pride Than in his crook before. 1885 M. Arnold *Poor Matthias*, French canary-merchant old Shepherding his flock of gold In a low dim-lighted pen. 1898 G. B. Shaw *You never can tell* II. Stage Dir., The waiter shepherds his assistants along with him into the hotel by the kitchen entrance.

3. *Austral.* To watch over or guard (a mining claim) by working on it superficially (esp. by digging small pits) so as to retain legal rights.

1861 T. M'Combie *Australian Sk.* 135 Few of their claims, however, are actually 'bottomed', for the owners merely watch their more active contemporaries. *Footnote*, This is termed 'shepherding' a claim. 1880 D. C. Davies *Metallif. Min.* 421 *Shepherding*, Aus., keeping possession of a mining claim by doing the least quantity of work on it allowed by law.

intr. 1863 *Once a Week* VIII. 507 (Farmer), Having sunk their holes, each about a foot, and placed in them a pick or shovel as a sign of ownership, they devoted themselves to the laborious occupation of shepherding.

4. *colloq.* or *slang.* To watch over, to follow closely and watchfully; chiefly *slang*, see quot. 1890; also *Austral. slang*, to follow a person so as to get something out of him or to cheat him.

1885 *Times* 13 Apr. 5/3 Admiral Dowell is reported to be closely shepherding the Russian vessels in these seas. 1890 Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* s. v., Adversaries opposite each other at football are said to *shepherd* or watch each other. A man may *shepherd* a rich uncle or rich heiress, a detective *shepherds* a criminal whom he suspects of planning a felony. A man *shepherds* one of his own side at football by keeping off adversaries while he is running or kicking. 1893 Kipling *Many Invent., Lost Legion*, You must know that all along the north-west frontier of India there is spread a force of some thirty thousand foot and horse, whose duty it is to quietly and unostentatiously shepherd the tribes in front of them. 1899 Shearman, etc. *Football* 313 Off goes the ball again; a player seizes it, bouncing it as he goes, 'shepherded' along the way by his friends. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 10 June 761 He..should have shepherded at an earlier date the Russian fleet out of French waters.

b. *Mil. slang.* To force (a body of the enemy) into an unfavourable position.

1900 *Daily Tel.* 2 Apr. (Ware *Passing Engl.*), Cronje was shepherded with his army into the bed of the Modder by a turning movement.

Hence **She·pherded** *ppl. a.*, protected, guarded.

1884 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xcvi. 306 To be kept from its evil in shepherded peace.

Shepherdess (ʃe·pəɹdés). Also 6 *erron.* **shepheardize**. [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -ESS.] A female shepherd; a woman or girl who tends sheep; also *fig.* Also in pastoral poetry (see SHEPHERD 1 b).

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) I. 86 For me liste.. of al myne a Shepherdesse to be cleped. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* II. Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 216 Consider with your selfe faire Shepheardize, that poore men feele paine as well as Princes. 1591–5 SPENSER *Astrophel* 212 The gentlest shepheardesse that liues this day. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Mrs. Eliz. Wheeler*, Tell me, said I, in deep distresse, Where I may find my Shepardesse. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 71 ¶ 13 He ..wondered that he had not seen the shepherdesses dancing. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 608 Percivale..Then paced for coolness in the chapel-yard; Where one of Satan's shepherdesses caught And meant to stamp him with her master's mark. 1885 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* 137 St. Margaret of Antioch was a shepherdess. 1902 MRS. A. MEYNELL *Later Poems* 9 She walks..A shepherdess of sheep.

b. A representation (in painting, etc.; esp. china or earthenware) of a shepherdess.

1771 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1782) IV. 73 Watteau's shepherdesses, nay, his very sheep, are coquet. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 91 Little lacquered earthen shepherdesses. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* vi, Her dress is as the dress of a china shepherdess: so dainty in its colours.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4115, Woollen shawls and cloakings, in clan, shepherdess, and fancy patterns. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxvi, Her little wild rose-wreathed shepherdess hat.

Shepherding (ʃe·pəɹdiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHEPHERD *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of tending or guiding (sheep) as a shepherd; an instance of this.

1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* I. 446 In the shepherding of sheep, in this country, a few circumstances may be mentioned with propriety. 1856 CARLYLE in Froude *Remin.* (1881) II. 143 The rustic natives..and their shepherdings, huntings (brock and fox) and solitary fishings. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* xi. 309 For all His shepherdings were ended. 1905 SIR A. LYALL *Life Dufferin* I. ii. 23 Under Cookesley's shepherding the flock might stray at will.

†**She·pherdish,** *a. Obs.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -ISH.] Pertaining to or like shepherds; pastoral.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 10 b, He would also haue drawne her eldest sister..in her shepheardish attire. *Ibid.* 36 The courte could not be visited, prohibited to all men, but to certaine sheapheardish people. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* I. xxii. (1636) 64 That wildnesse which they retained of their shepheardish originall breathed forth somewhat still. 1800 G. CHALMERS *Life A. Ramsay* Wks. 1851 I. 30 A propitious moment for shepherdish poetry.

Shepherdize (ʃe·pəɹdəiz), *v. rare.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To act the part of the shepherd (or shepherdess); to pretend to lead the pastoral life.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. vi. 60 Though this life of Shepheardizing be out of fashion. 1773 H. WALPOLE *Let. to C'tess Upper Ossory* 11 June, In the midst of this new prospect must I keep up the tone of the world, go shepherdizing with Maccaronies, sit up at loo with my Lady Hertford [etc.]. 1822 *Examiner* 233/1 Sir W—m C—rt—s, despising the citizens, retreated into the forest, to shepherdize. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LIX. 313 [They] sit alone, knit, shepherdise, and stare.

b. *trans.* To tend or guide as a shepherd.

1899 S. LAW WILSON *Theol. Mod. Lit.* 140 The mass of mankind are not just so many sheep which will tamely submit to be shepherdised by him, and coerced into the way chalked out for their feet.

Shepherd king.

1. *pl.* [transl. of Gr. *βασιλεῖς ποιμένες*, Manetho's rendering of the Egyptian designation which he transliterates as Ὑκσως (Hyksōs).

The name has not been found in the monuments, but modern scholars give the probable Egyptian form as *hig-Shaâsu*, king of the Bedouins or robbers, Manetho's rendering being due to a mistake.]

The designation of a succession of kings of Egypt (forming the 15th and 16th dynasties of Manetho), belonging to some foreign people, the ethnic affinities of which are still undetermined. (By historians often called *Hyksos.*)

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxvi. 465 Manethon the Historiographer of Egipt setteth vs downe their originall, and their comming downe into Egipt, terming them in his language, Shepherd-kings. 1821 LAMB *Elia, Old & New Schoolm.*, I make the wildest conjectures concerning Egypt, and her shepherd kings. 1874 BIRCH *1st & 2nd Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 7 The monuments of the Shepherd kings.

2. *gen.* A king who is a shepherd. (In various nonce-uses: see quots.)

1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 402 One, chief, in gracious dignity enthron'd, Shines o'er the rest, the pastoral queen, and rays Her smiles, sweet-beaming, on her shepherd king. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *He Walked with God*, A shepherd-king on Eastern plains. 1856 READE *Never too late* xxxvii, Nomades, shepherd-kings—fellows with a thousand head of horned cattle, and sheep like white pebbles by the sea.

Shepherdless (ʃe·pəɹdlés), *a.* [-LESS.] Without a shepherd; having no shepherds.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Herderloose schapen*, Sheepheardlesse, or sheepe without a Sheep-heard. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 101 He..found a straggling, shepherdless Flock in his own or his neighbour's fields. 1906 G. G. COULTON *St. Francis to Dante* 329 But in fact they [the Middle Ages] felt themselves as shepherdless as we.

†**She·pherdling.** *poet. Obs.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -LING.] A young or little shepherd.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handy-crafts* 666 Another valiant Shepheardling [i.e. David], That for a Canon takes his silly sling. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To his Muse*, There on a Hillock thou may'st sing Unto a handsome Shephardling, Or to a Girle (that keeps the Neat).

Shepherdly (ʃe·pəɹdli), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -LY¹.] Pertaining to or befitting a shepherd (*lit.* and *fig.*); that has the characteristics of a shepherd; †that is a shepherd.

1559 [P. H. PHAYER] *Bk. Presidentes* 5 b, And with a shepherdly reward wytsaue ye hym to fauour. *Ibid.* 6 Other thinges..which to your shepherdly office in this behalf belong. 1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. v. 167 a, That shepheardlie founder of the citie of Rome. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 340. 95 In some places the shepherdly multitude do also carry about their cottages in waines. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* v. iii. (1852) 277 To leave their off-spring under the shepherdly government of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1877 S. A. TIPPLE *Echoes of Spoken Words* 22 The truly high position..is that which enables us to minister richly to our fellows, to shield them, guide them, relieve them and be shepherdly toward them. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 46 A man with a great shepherdly heart.

† b. Pastoral, rural, rustic. *Obs.*

1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. cxiv. 304 This is not only a poetical, but also a shepheardly speech. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xi. (Arb.) 41 Their poems were named Eglogues or shepheardly talke. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 20 The primitive plainness and shepherdly simplicity of those times. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 14 Apr., I hate the country: I am past the shepherdly age of groves and streams.

She·pherdry. *rare.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -RY.] The business of a shepherd. Cf. SHEPHERDY.

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 28 Pasturage, grasing, and shepheardrie, were before husbandrie and tillage.

b. The affairs of 'the Order of Ancient Shepherds', a benefit society. (After FORESTRY.)

1900 *Dundee Advert.* 19 July 5 Shepherdry.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of the Maisondieu Lodge of Ancient Shepherds..the balance-sheet..was submitted.

She·pherdship. *rare.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or position of a shepherd.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 25–29. 90 His shepherdship leat an other bodye take. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 233 While he [Moses] past his sacred Prentiship (In wildernesse) of th' Hebrews Shepheardship. 1874 ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. 388 It's the Buckles that ruin the Colonial Church...Men taking Shepherdships for Buckles and Loops.

Shepherd's purse. [Cf. med.L. *bursa pastoris*, F. *bourse-à-pasteur*, *bourse-de-berger*, G. *hirtentasche*, Du. *herdertasch.*]

1. A common cruciferous weed, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*, bearing pouch-like pods.

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 172 Shepherdys purs. [*a* 1500 *Gl. Sloane* in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 331 Herdys purse.] *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* G vij b, Hold thy handful of sheparders [*sic*] purse. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lv. 81 *Bursa pastoris* ..[is called] in English Shepherds purse, Scrippe, or Pouche. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxii. 215 Shepheardes purse staieth bleeding in any part of the bodie. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* xxxv. 71 In English it is called Shepheards purse or Scrip, from the likenesse the Seed hath with that kind of leatherne bag, wherein Shepherds carry their Victualls into the field. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. 49 Ragged Sheaperds-purse. 1882 G. ALLEN *Colour of Flowers* I. 15 The petals of shepherd's-purse (*Capsella bursa-pastoris*) have been observed antheriferous.

2. *dial.* The fossil echinus found in the chalk.

1893 *Surrey Gloss.*, *Shepherd's crown* or *Shepherd's purse*, the fossil Echinus, from the chalk. 1900 A. HARSTON *Let. to Editor*, 'Shepherd's Purse', the common name in some parts of the Country (e. g. Kent) for the Fossil Sea Urchins found in the Chalk formation.

†**She·pherdy.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SHEPHERD *sb.* + -Y.] The profession, practice, or occupation of a shepherd. Cf. SHEPHERDRY.

a 1622 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* Gen. iv. 2 (1639) 21 Abel in shepherdy, as in sacrificing and martyrdome, was a figure of Christ. 1659 GELL *Amendm. Bible* 733 He had his rise, unto the Kingdom, even from keeping sheep, which yet was a kinde of introduction unto a like shepherdie. 1680 J. WOODE (*title*), Shepherdy Spiritualiz'd: or, the improvement of a Shepherd's Life to Soul-advantage. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. App. (1852) 221 On the one side of David's coin were to be seen his old pouch and crook, the instrument of shepherdy.

Shepman, Shepne, obs. ff. SHIPMAN, SHIPPON.

Shepp, Sheppard(e, obs. ff. SHIP, SHEPHERD.

Sheppeck, -ick (ʃe·pək). *dial.* Also 7 **shep-pik, -ick, sheep-pick,** 9 **shuppick, -u(o)k, schoppek.** [? For **sheaf-pick*, f. SHEAF *sb.* + PICK *sb.*¹ 4. Cf. WFlem. *schoofvorke.*] A pitchfork.

1602 *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 102 One save, twoe sheppikes [etc.]. *Ibid.* 104 One sheppick and other od stuffe. *Ibid.* 106 One bill, one spade, and two sheppickes. 1676 *Acc. Exam. Joan Perry* 10 Some..met him..with a Sheep-pick in his hand. 1851 *Glouc. Gloss.*, *Sheppeck*, a fork for lifting hay. *Ibid.*, *Shuppick*, a hay-fork.

†**She·ppend.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **scippend, scieppend, sceppend, scæpend,** 1–2 **scyppend, sceoppend,** 2 **sceoppind, sceappind, scuppend,** 2–3 **she-, shu-, suppende, shippend,** 3 **seppande, schuppent, -inde, suppen, suppinde.** [OE. *scieppend*, related to *scieppende*, pa. pple. of *scieppan* to create: see SHAPE *v.*

Hence AF. *sepande*, used by Marie de France as a fem. with the sense 'puissance surhumaine, créateur' (Godefr.).]

The Creator.

Beowulf 106 Siþðan him scyppend forscrifen hæfde. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Hare sceappinde. *Ibid.*, [Lucifer] cweð an his herto þat he wolde and eaðe mihte bien his sceoppende 3elic. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Ic bileue on god, þene almihti fader, suppende and wealdende of heuene and of eorð. *Ibid.* 133 Ure helend is sheppende and wealdende of alle shafte. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 456 Seftes sop ure seppande, sene is on werlde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 366 Heo buheð to him as schafte to his schuppent. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 260 þe heouenliche schuppinde. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 20 in *O. E. Misc.* 72 If we vre suppen herye. [*Ibid.* MS. Digby 86 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* 505 suppinde.]

†**She·pper.** *Obs.* Forms: 2–4 **schuppare,** 3 **sshipper,** 4 **shuppare, schepere, ssep(p)ere, shepper.** [Early ME. *schuppare* (ü), *shepper*, f. *schuppen, sheppen* to create, SHAPE *v.*: see -ER 1. Cf. OHG. *skephari* (MHG. *schephære*, mod.G. *schöpfer*), (M)LG., (M)Du. *schepper.*] = prec. Also (*rarely*) one who has control *over.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Ich bileue on god feder al-mihti, schuppare of heouene and of eorðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Hire schuppare. *a* 1300 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 57, I bileve in God fadir almichty, sshipper of hevene and of eorþe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 To servi þine ssepere. 13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 256 þis time man is mad knizth And shuppare ouer alle þinge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 167 So is þe fader a ful god formeour and shepper.

Shepperd(e, obs. forms of SHEPHERD *sb.*

Sheppey. *rare*⁻¹. (? quasi-*arch.*) [Perh. some error: cf. SHIPPEN.] A shed for sheep.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna Doone* xlii, I went straight home to the upper sheppey, and set them [the sheep] inside.

Sheppyng, obs. form of SHIPPING *sb.*

Shepstare (ʃe·pstəɹ). *dial.* Also 6, 9 **sheep-stare,** 7, 9 **shepster,** 9 **shepstey, shepsterd, -ert, shipster, chepster, -stow.** [f. SHEEP + STARE *sb.*¹ The name is said to refer to the bird's habit of perching on the backs of sheep to feed on the ticks.] The starling.

1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* vi. (Arb.) 54 Sometime I wold betraye the Byrds, that lyght on lymed tree, Especially in Shepstare tyme, when thicke in flockes they flye. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* clxiii. 135 The Stare or Shepstare. 1660 W. BLUNDELL *Cavalier's Note Bk.* (1880) 296 Observe a flock of stares (or shepsters) when they are ready to lodge themselves in a dovecote. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxiv. § 14 (1689) 190 Wings of shepstares, stares or starlings. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s. v. *Stare*, In the north of England it is called Chepster, or Chep-Starling. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2290 The starling [is called in Yorkshire] a 'shepstey' or 'shepster'. 1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 225 A pair of shepstares. 1884 A. DOHERTY *Nathan Barlow* 32 The youngling chepstows creaking in the eaves. 1887 E. F. BYRNE *Heir without Heritage* I. viii. 136 They took wing like a flock of shepsters from a field.

Shepster. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 **shappe-ster, shuppester, shippestere, schipster,** 5 **shipster, shyppestere,** *pl.* **shappystrys,** 6 **schep-starre** (9 *dial.* **shapster**). [ME. *shepster* (? OE. **scieppestre* wk. fem.) fem. agent-noun to *shippen* (OE. *scieppan*) SHAPE *v.*]

1. A female cutter-out of material; a dressmaker.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 331 Auenge me fele tymes other frete my-selue Wyth-inne, as a shepster shere. 1380 *Poll Tax* in Rogers *Oxf. City Docum.* (1891) 13 De Alicia la Shuppester xij*d.* *Ibid.*, De Johanna Shippestere xij*d.* 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 269 A schipster [*muliercula*] of þat citee. 14.. *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 616/42 *Tonstrix*, a Shyppestere. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 5 Gogle eyed tomson shepster of lyn. 1517–18 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 311 To dyuerse shepsters for makyng of iij smockes for the seid quene. 1530 PALSGR. 266/2 Schepstarre, *lingiere.* *Ibid.*, Sheres for shepsters, *forces.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Sarcinatrix*, a shepster, or seamester. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 167 *Shapster*, ..a cutter out of apparel. A dress-maker.

†**2.** A female 'shaper' of destinies. *Obs. rare.*

14.. *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 573/34–5 *Cloto*, on of thre shapsisterys *vel* shappystrys (*vel* an^e destynyes).

Shepward: see *Sheep-ward* s. v. SHEEP *sb* 8.

Shepyng, Sher: see SHIPPING *sb.*, SHIRE.

Sherad, obs. form of SHRADDHA.

Sheradom, obs. Sc. f. SHERIFFDOM.

Sheraff(e, obs. forms of SHROFF.

‖ **Sheranino.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. A kind of wine.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 15 The..wine that is drunke in Rome, is..Albano, Muscatello, Sheranino.

‖ **Sherant.** *Obs. rare.* Also **sherrant.** [Prob. identical with SCHERAND.] A kind of wine.

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Farew. Tower-Bottles* A 4 b, With Hollocke, Sherant, Malliga, Canara, I stuft your sides vp with a sursarara. 1623 — *Praise Hemp-seed* 6 No Gascoyne, Orleance, or the Chrystall Sherrant, Nor Rhenish, from the Rheine would be apparant.

Sherardia. [Mod.L., named by Dillenius 1719 after W. *Sherard* (1659–1728), an English botanist.] A genus of gamopetalous rubiaceous plants, comprising one species, *S. arvensis*, the field-madder; a plant of this genus.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XV. (1794) 164 Sherardia and Woodroof have funnel-shaped corollas.

Sherardize (ʃe·ɹɑɹdəiz), *v.* [From the name of *Sherard* Cowper-Coles.] *trans.* To coat (iron articles) with zinc by a particular process.

1904 *Athenæum* 21 May 658/3 At Burlington House last Friday week..Mr. Sherard Cowper-Coles..explained..the process which is to be commercially applied under the name of 'Sherardizing'. 1909 in *Century Dict. Suppl.*

Sherash, obs. form of SHIRAZ (wine).

Sheraton (ʃe·ɹətən), *a.* [f. the name of Thomas

Sheraton (1751–1806), a furniture maker and designer.] Designating a severe style of furniture developed in England towards the end of the 18th cent., chiefly by Thomas Sheraton. Also *absol.*

1883 *Mag. of Art* VI. 190 A Sheraton knife-box. *Ibid.* 192 A Sheraton sideboard. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* I. iii. 33 Sheraton chairs. 1900 'SARAH GRAND' *Babs* xiii, The lovely Chippendale and Sheraton with which it was furnished.

Sheraz, obs. form of SHIRAZ (wine).

‖ **Sherbaff.** *Obs.* Also 7 serebaffe, seribaff, serebast, 8 sherbaffe, sherbassee. [Prob. Persian, f. شیر *shīr* lion (used to denote excellence of quality) + باف *bāf* stem of *bāftan* to weave. Cf. BAFT.] A kind of silk of Persia. Also *sherbaff silk.*

1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* 63 Serebaffes. 1624 *Ibid.* 11 Seribaffs. 1629 *Ibid.* 350 Serebasts. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4472/4 At the Marine Coffee-house .. will be expos'd to Sale..9 Bales Sherbaffe Silk. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* I. 157 They cannot purchase less..than 22 great Pounds of Sherbassee (or Persia fine Raw Silk). 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiii. 289 The first is called Sherbaff, or weavers silk, because the weavers..are supposed to use the best they can procure. *Ibid.* lxix. 314 In regard to the Sherbaff silk, which was bought..in Ghilan,..it was found to be two shillings in a pound better than the Persian Sherbaff imported from Turkey.

Sherbet (ʃəːbĕt). Also 7 zer-, cer-, sar-, serbet, servet, shurbet, shirbet(t, sherbett(e, -bert, -becke, -pet, 9 sherbat, sharbut. [a. Turkish and Persian شربت *sherbet*, a. Arab. شربة *sharba*ʰ, f. شرب *shariba* to drink. Cf. SORBET.]

1. a. A cooling drink of the East, made of fruit juice and water sweetened, often cooled with snow. **b.** An European imitation of this; now esp. an effervescing drink made of sherbet powder (see 2).

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 833 The guests..dranke ..water prepared with sugar, which kind of drink they call Zerbet. *Ibid.* 1203 A beverage, which they call Cerbet, made of the juice of lymons water and sugar. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 12 Not much inferiour in relish to the costly Shurbets of Constantinople. *Ibid.* 65 Yet have they sundry sherbets..some made of sugar and lemons, some of violets, and the like. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 705 They haue in Turkey and the East, certaine Confections which they call Seruetts. 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* xiii. 25 [The Turks'] best drink is Coffa..and Sherbecke which is only honey and water. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 151 Their common drinke is Sherpet. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 222/1 The Grand Seignior..had sent his Mother a Sherbette. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 239 We..were severall times treated with sherbert of lemmons. 1685 tr. *Gracian's Courtier's Man.* 189 More precious than Chocolate, Coffee or Sarbet. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxxiii. 151 There were..plates of comfits, several china basons of sherbets. 1813 BYRON *Bride Abydos* II. viii, A cup too on the board was set That did not seem to hold sherbet. 1817 MOORE *Lallæ R., Fire-worshippers* III, The violet sherbets were hastily handed round. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Ld. of Thoulouse*, To bring in sherbet, ginger-pop, lemonade. 1845 COOLEY *Cycl. Pract. Receipts* (ed. 2) 550 *Lemonade.* Syn. Lemon Sherbet, King's Cup. *Ibid.*, Orangeade or Orange Sherbet, for Icing, is made in the same way from oranges. 1845 BREGION & MILLER *Pract. Cook* 336 Indian Sharbut. 1866 LIVINGSTONE in Blaikie *Life* xviii. (1881) 368 After coffee and sherbet we came away.

fig. 1728 VANBR. & CIBBER *Provok'd Husb.* III. i, A smart Repartee, with a Zest of Recrimination at the Head of it, makes the prettiest Sherbet!

2. In full *sherbet powder*: A preparation of bicarbonate of soda, tartaric acid, sugar, etc., variously flavoured, for making an effervescing drink.

1856 COOLEY *Cycl. Pract. Receipts* (ed. 3) 1066 *Powders* (Sherbet). These are made of the same materials as *lemonade powders*, the flavouring ingredient being varied to suit the particular case. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, Sherbet. Per doz. 1 lb. tins, 7/2. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 83 The tin of pink sherbet.

3. *transf.* **a.** A variously flavoured water-ice (*Cent. Dict.* 1891: and in later Dicts.). **b.** *slang.* (See quot.)

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Sherbet* (popular), a glass of any warm alcoholic liquor, as grog, &c. A misapplication.

4. *attrib.*

1615 SANDYS *Trav.* I. 74 Cookes, sherbet-men (who make the foresaid beurage). 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 263 Your little sherbert cups and coffee dishes are made often times of the same earth. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 446/1 Exquisite little sherbet doilies.

Sherd: see SHARD *sb.*[1]

† **Sherdoon.** Anglicized spelling of *chardoon*, CARDOON β.

1661 RABISHA *Cookery Dissected* 4 To pickle stalks of Thessell or Sherdowns. *Ibid.* 143 To make a Sherdoon Pye in the Spring...Put in your Sherdoons [etc.].

† **Shere.** *Coining. Obs.* Also 6 shiare, 7 sheere. [Prob. a use of SHEAR *sb.*[2] = REMEDY *sb.* 4; TOLERANCE 4 a.

1566 *Acc. Exch. K. R.*, Bundle 305 No. 18 (7) Sylver of xj.oz. ij.d. w[t] fyne marked w[t] the portculles rlb. w[t] founde at the sheare .lx.s...At the assaye Standerd, viz. xj.oz. ij.d. w[t] fyne. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 280 The Mint-Master gave account before the Queene's Examiners for the money they coyned, as well by the tale (or number of the pieces) as by the sheere. For the coyning of gold, a certaine proportion of some eight graines in the ounce, was allowed to the Mint-Master in this account by the sheere. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 482/1 The deviation from the standard weight [of coins] permitted by law, now called the 'remedy', and anciently called the 'shere'. *Ibid. note*, Two notable instances are recorded of the use that has been made at various times of the shere, or remedy, as a means of profit.

Shere, obs. form of SHEAR, SHEER, SHIRE.

‖ **Shereef** (ʃərīf). Forms: 6 sherife, xarifo, xerifo, serif(f)o, 7 seriph, -iff, zeriff(e, xeriff(e, ceriffe, sheriffe, shreeve, 7–8 sharif, scherif, 7, 9 sherif(f, 7–9 cheriff, 8 shirreff, -eef, cherif(fe, cheref, shariff, xarif, 9 sherriff(e, -eef, sharife, 9– shareef; *pl.* 9 shorfa. [Arab. شريف *sharīf* noble, glorious, f. *sharafa* to be exalted.]

1. A descendant of Mohammed through his daughter Fatima. In some of the early quots. taken *spec.* for a Mohammedan priest.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 104 Wee..tooke a Pangaia of the Moores, which had a priest of theirs in it, which in their language they call a Sherife. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 50 A Seriffo or Mahumetan priest. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 As for the Kindred of Mahomet, whom they call Scherifs, they wear a green Turban. 1704 PITTS *Relig. & Mann. Mohammetans* vii. 90 The Sultaun of Mecca..is a Shirreeff, *i.e.* one of the Race of Mohammet. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. IV. ii. 102 *note*, The Cheriffs, successors of Mahommed. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 309/2 Among them are many sheriffs, or pretended descendants of Mohammed. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Naturalist Austral.* 443 The mosque of El Haibee..contains the tomb of the founder, and from his being a sherriff, is covered with a green silk pall.

2. Hence used as the title of certain Arab princes.

a. The sovereign of Morocco; also, the ruler of any of the districts of Morocco.

1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* To Rdr. 4 The *Xarifo* [*marg.* Or Xerifo, or Serifo] otherwise called the *Miramonin*, or the king of Maroco Sus and Fez. *Ibid.* II. 81, I my selfe was present at this faire in the companie of my Lord the Seriffo for the space of fifteene daies. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *War* F iiij, The Seriph in Barbarie. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 367 Their chiefe Seriff, or Vicegerent, being sent from Morocco. *c* 1685 DK. OF BUCKINGHAM *Conf.* Wks. 1705 II. 36 Sultans of Babylon, Caliphs of Ægypt,..and Xeriffs of Morocco. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Cheref*, a title assumed by the emperors of Morocco. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 420/1 The shorfa, or shereefs, had been content to live a pastoral life amongst their flocks and herds...Probably simplicity was the principal feature of the early Shorfa of Wazan.

b. The ruler of various other places; esp. the chief magistrate, or local governor of Mecca.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 5 And with him [the Sultan] sent the Seriph, a man of great place among the Mahumetans, his Embassador vnto the Emperour. 1622 H. CROSBY *Jrnl.* 10 Mar. in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 2 [At Mohilla] the shreeve that was with him had some of the spice and the chinna trenchers. The King and the shreeve and the Kings two sonns stayed. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. III. xi. 257 The Sheriffe of Mecca. *Ibid.* IV. xvi. 539 Euery night at Sun-set they stand or kneele all towards the Sunne and pray, the Xeriff [of Socatra] throwing water on their heads. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xvii. 300 Others, keeping up their Wives: jayled, and confined to their Prison, as the Zeriffes of Persia, that none see them. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2997/2 The Ceriffe, or King of Mecca, ..had revolted against the Ottoman Government. 1704 PITTS *Relig. & Mann. Mohammetans* vii. 91 The Sultan Shirreef of Mecca. 1734 SALE *Koran* Prelim. Disc. § I. 4 The prince or Sharif has a garden well planted at his castle of Marbaa. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. i. II. P 7 The authority of an Arabian scherif is very great; that of a Tartar khan altogether despotical. 1805 *Amer. St. Papers* (1832) II. 723 This morning came in two deserters from the enemy's camp, both Levant Turks,..a choux and a cheriff, corresponding with the rank of aid-de-camp and ensign [Tripoli]. 1848 CURZON *Monast. Levant* I. iii. (1897) 22 On entering the tent we found the Cadi; the son of the sheriff of Mecca. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 348 With the overshadowing Turkish Sultans a dynasty of Shareefs could not well be on amicable terms.

‖ **Shereefa.** Also sherifa, shareefa. [Arab. شريفة *sharīfa*ʰ, fem. of *sharīf*, see prec.] The wife of a Moroccan Shereef.

1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 2/1 [Morocco] The Sherifa is an Englishwoman. 1911 (*title*) My Life Story. By Emily, Shareefa of Wazan.

Shereefee, variant of SHEERIFI.

Shereefian (ʃərīfiăn), *a.* [f. SHEEREEF + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to the Shereef of Morocco.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Oct. 1/2 Sultan Muley Hassan.. came to the Shereefian throne fourteen years ago. 1890 *Athenæum* 3 May 560/1 Montefiore made his way to Morocco, and obtained from the Sheriffian Sultan the release of the prisoners. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 354 The Shareefian dynasty.

Sheref, -efe, -eff, obs. forms of SHERIFF.

Shereful, variant of CHEREFUL *a. Obs.*

c 1475 *Partenay* 829 My ryght doubted and shereful lady.

Sheregrig. ? *Obs.* [repr. African pronunciation of Arab. شرقراق *shiriqrāq*.] A green woodpecker or similar bird of Abyssinia.

1790 BRUCE *Abyssinia* V. 182 Sheregrig. This bird is one of those called Rollier in French. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Compl. Epist. to Bruce* 363 Weasels and polecats, sheregrigs, carrion-crows.

Sheren, Shere(y)ve, obs. ff. SHARN, SHERIFF.

Sherge, obs. form of CIERGE.

a 1400 *Hom. in Vernon MS.* xii. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 256/1 Hou vr lady gaf a good wyf a sherge.

Sherie, obs. form of SHERRY.

Sherif: see SHEREEF, SHERIFI.

Sherifalty: see SHERIFFALTY.

Sheriff (ʃe·rif). Forms: α. 1 scīrgerēfa, 2 scyrreve, *pl.* scirerevan, sirrefan, 2–3 scirreve, syrreve, 3 schyrreve, 3–5 schir(r)eve, 3–5, (7) shireve, 4–5 schyreve, shirreve, shyr(r)eve, schirrive, schyrryve, (5 *pl.* shirris), 6 shyreeve. β. 3 s(s)erreve, 3–5 scherreve, 4 sschereve, shereyve, 4–5 schereve, sher(r)eve, 5 s(c)heryve, sherreive, shurreve, 7 shearive, 7–8 sherive. γ. 3–6 schirref(f, 4–5 schirrif, schyr(r)eff, 4–6 shiref, shyref, 4–7 schiref(f, 5 schyriffe, shyryf(e, -yffe, shi-, shyrryf, shiriff, -efe, shirrieffe, *Sc.* schirrayf, 5–6 schir(r)effe, shirref, -if, -ef(f)e, 6 schyrriff(e, shyreff(e, shir-, shyreyffe, shirief(f e, shyrryf(e, -efe, *Sc.* syreff, 6–7 shireff(e, shirif(e, -iffe, shirreff, 7 shierife, shirriff. δ. 4–5 scherref, sherref, -if, -yf, *Sc.* serefe, 4–6 sherref, 4–7 sheref(f, -if, 5 sherefe, 5–6 schereff(e, -yf(e, sherief(e, -yf(e, 5–7 sherife, scheref, shereffe, 6 scherif, s(c)heryffe, sherrife, 6–7 sheriffe, sherriff(e, 7– sheriff. ε. 4–5 schreve, 5 sherve, schryve, 5–6 shryve, shreve, 6 schreyve, 6–7 shrive, 7–8 shreeve, 5–9 shrieve; ζ. 5 shirffe, 5–6 shreffe, scref(f)e, shryef, 5–7 shrief(e, 6 s(c)hrefe, shreef, shreyfe, shryffe, 6–7 shrife, 7 shrieff, sh'riff, 8 shreif. η. *Sc.* 4–5 schyrray, 5 schirrawe, schirra, schirraye, schyrray, pl. schirrais, 8–9 sherra, 9 shirra, sherry. [OE. *scīrgerēfa*, f. *scīr* SHIRE + *gerēfa* REEVE. The etymological form *shire-reeve* (q.v. under SHIRE) has occasionally been used by legal antiquaries from the 16th c. downwards.

As the OE. *scīr* had, in addition to its specific sense, the general sense of 'district under a person's administration, province', *scīrgerēfa* had also a wider meaning, e.g. when the bishop is called 'Christ's *scīrgerēfa*'. (Cf. sense 3 below.)

1. a. *England* (and *Wales*). In England before the Norman Conquest, the *scīrgerēfa* (also called *scīrman*) was a high officer, the representative of the royal authority in a shire, who presided in the shire-moot, and was responsible for the administration of the royal demesne and the execution of the law. After the Conquest, the office of sheriff was continued, that title being retained in English documents, while in Latin and French the usual term was *vice-comes*, *viscounte*, which had been applied to similar functionaries in Normandy.

The functions of the sheriffs of counties have been greatly restricted by successive changes. At the present time the sheriff (more fully called *high sheriff*), appointed for one year by royal patent, is nominally responsible for the keeping of prisoners in safe custody, preparing the panel of jurors for assizes, the execution of writs and of the sentence of death. In addition to these duties, which are discharged by the under-sheriff, the high sheriff acts as presiding officer at parliamentary elections for the county, and is required to attend (with the ceremonial state demanded by custom) on the judges at assizes.

Those boroughs and cities that are counties of themselves, and also the city of Oxford, have a sheriff (or in some instances two) chosen annually by the corporation; the office is now mainly honorary, the specific duties attached to it varying in different towns. The City of London elects annually two sheriffs, who are also Sheriffs of Middlesex.

In some counties the office of sheriff was formerly hereditary. The last surviving instance of this was in Westmorland; the hereditary shrievalty of that county was abolished in 1850 by the Act 13 & 14 Vict. c. 30.

α. *c* 1034 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 54 An scīrgemot sæt æt Ægelnoðes stane...Dær wæs Bryning scīrgerefa. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Ic gīfe þone tun..swa freolice þæt ne king ne biscop ne eorl ne sc[y]reue ne haue þær nane hæse. *c* 1155 in *Anglia* VII. 220 Ealle mine eorlas & ealle mine scirereuan. ? *a* 1200 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 192 Eadward king gret..all mine heued men and mine þeines and mine sirrefan. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 50 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 221 Ne mai hit us binime no king ne no syrreue [*other MSS.* scirreue, schirreue, serreue]. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 52 b, Þe king hath igraunted to his poeple þat heo habben election of hoere schirreue þere ase schirreue nis noȝt þoru feo. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 359 A shirreue hadde he been and [a] Countour. *c* 1460 *Brut* 522 Þe yong men of þe mercerie ..held þe Mair & Shyreves stil in Chepe. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. xii. 52 Shyreeve. 1629 COKE *On Litt.* 168 Shireue.

β. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11061 A freinss knīȝt was at gloucetre þe sserreue þoru þe king. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 215 Justicis and schereves and stiwardis and bailifis. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447/1 Retourned by the Shereve of the Shire. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 38 Gylbert, þat was scheryue of London. 1493–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 204 Item, payd to þe mayre and to þe ij sheryves. 1619 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) II. 219 Paid the Shearives of Bristoll for the Costome dew to them. 1687

th *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O.H.S., 102 Whether the Bp. of Oxford was to be put in the presidents Office and yt being a Freehold by any but the sherive.

γ. 1375, *c* 1425 [see b]. *c* 1400 *Brut* 218 Sir Symond Ward ..þat þo was shirryf of 3ork. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. p. xxxiv, Ye Mair and ye shireſs of yis Citee. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 654 The shyryf of Oxenford-shyre. 1551 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 797 The Shireyffes of the Citie for the tyme beinge. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Northumb.* xviii, The shirif therof, Rafe Rekesby. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 29 Shirereue, vulgerly the Shiriffe. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 226 Shirifes.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 965 Syne come þe sereſe to the ton, &, to hald þe law, set done. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 602 (Sloane MS.), Here cometh the Sherryf [*Petw.* sheref] and wil haue oure heedes. 1522 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 680 All Comeners within this Cytte vndur the degre of a Scheryffe. 1554 YAXLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 314 Her Maiestie hath addressed forth her lettres to the Sheriefes of the Sheres. 1676 in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 132 Saterday last wase yᵉ day for choosing sheriffs in yᵉ city and in yᵉ Hall. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* an. 1634, My Father was appointed Sheriff for Surrey and Sussex before they were disjoyned. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Sherive* or *Sheriff*. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 178 The county court is a court held every month or oftener by the sheriff. 1769 *Junius' Lett.* xi. (1788) 71 It is admitted, that the sheriffs obeyed the laws, and performed their duty [in returning Mr. Wilkes]. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 209/2 An order was issued..to the sherives of most of the English counties. 1835 *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* II. 1165 (Bristol), The two Sheriffs are elected by the common council..for a year. *Ibid.* IV. 2460 (Norwich), Two Sheriffs are chosen yearly; one, who is called the Court Sheriff, by the mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen; and the other by the freemen. 1846 MᶜCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 129 Petitions from the city of London..are brought at once to the bar of the House by the sheriffs. 1871 W. M. FAWCETT *Law Landlord & Tenant* 182 The sheriff must first levy for the rent and then for the execution. 1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 50 § 170 The council of every borough being a county of itself, and of the city of Oxford, shall on the ninth of November in every year appoint a fit person to execute the office of sheriff.

ε. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 28 And sente side sondis to schreuys aboute, To chese swiche cheualleris as þe charge wold. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 28 The Shreve ys in a dought whedyr he shall make a newe eleccion of knyghts of the shyre. 1463 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 197 That thoo which were wrongfully hurt when I was Sherve may be recompensid. 1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 195 Sir John Russell, schreyve of Wisitor schere. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jack Cade* xv, James Cromer shrive of Kent. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* III. ii. 122 Shreeue, take your prisoner. [1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 14 Like Alderman, or Monster-Sheriffs, With Canvas backs, and velvet sleeves.] 1682 OLDHAM *Imit. 3rd Sat. Juvenal* Poems (1684) 192 For Shrieve how oft he has been known to fine. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. xliii. 252 After condemnation..all will be the king's or the shreeve's. 1796 J. ANSTEY *Pleader's Guide* (1803) 62 But let the Plaintiff, ere he sue In debt or case for money due, Swear to the sum, the writ indorse, And let the Shrieve said writ enforce.

ζ. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCV. vii, In Yorkeshyre so the Rokeby with them mette, Shrief of the shyre. 1481 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 495 To þe Maire & shirffes. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 142 William Dale one of the Shreffes of the Towne of Bristowe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 61 b, The Mayre and Shrifes were there present. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* C 3, Thus I..Was giu'n from Mayor to Shrieſe, from Shrieſe to Iaylor. 1691 *New Disc. Old Intreague* xxviii, Nor Shrieffs, nor Mayor, nor Common Halls excus'd. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of Bath* I. (1778) 19 The suit his honour made up twenty years ago comes next Lent, when he was shreif for the county.

b. *Scotland.* In early times (from the 12th c.) a high officer of a county with functions more or less analogous to those of the English sheriff of the same period, together with a civil and criminal jurisdiction of very wide extent. The office was commonly held by a noble, and was often hereditary; its judicial duties were performed by the *sheriff-depute*, who was necessarily a lawyer. The act 20 Geo. II. c. 43 (1747) abolished heritable sheriffships, and in consequence of its provisions the office of sheriff, in the older sense, practically became extinct. The title of sheriff is now given to the sheriff-depute, who is the chief local judge in a Scottish county, and popularly to the sheriff-substitute, who usually hears cases in the first instance, subject to an appeal to the sheriff-depute. Both offices are now held for life, and the appointment rests with the crown

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 190 Schyrreffys and bailȝheys maid he then. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. XXVI. 4110 Schirrayf [*w.r.* Schirref] of Bute and of Cowalle. *Ibid.* 4389 Schir Gotheray þe Rose was..schirrawe of Ayr. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 791 Schirrais he maid that cruell was to ken. *Ibid.* XI. 1391 A schyrray gart this clerk son fra him pass. *a* 1567 MURE *Ho. Rowallane* 249 The Schereffe of Aire. 1712 FOUNTAINHALL *Decisions* (1761) II. 739 The brewers in and about Edinburgh, conceiving that the Sheriffs of Mid-Lothian had struck the fiars of victual too high. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XX, The shirra sent for his clerk. 1818 — *Rob Roy* XXIX, I desire to be carried before some civil magistrate,..the sherra or the judge of the bounds. 1870 W. R. GREG *Polit. Problems* 114 The then Sheriff of Lanarkshire.

c. *Ireland.* A high officer in an Irish county, whose status and functions are now closely similar to those of the English high sheriff. There are also sheriffs in certain Irish cities and boroughs: cf. a. 1542 *Ir. Act* 34 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 (1621) 238 The said Sherife of the said Shire [of Meath] for the time being. 1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 140 In each of these Counties Palatines, there were two Sheriffes:..As in Meth we find a Sheriffe of the Liberty, and a Sheriffe of the Crosse: And so in Vlster, & so in wexford. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 309 All is forfited and taken up by the Shiriffe or Senescall. *a* 1687 PETTY *Polit. Anat.* (1691) 36 The Sheriffs of Counties, and of Cities and Counties in Ireland are 40. *Ibid.* 41 [see *sheriff's peer* in 4]. 1817 *Act* 57 *Geo. III*, c. 68 Whereas it is expedient that the laws relating to Sheriffs in Ireland should be amended.

d. *U.S.* (See quot. 1828–32.)

1662 *Laws of Virginia* xliv. 26 The Sheriffs of James-City..shall be left to the Governour's free choice. 1788 *Massachusetts Spy* 8 May 3/3 The Mayor, the Sheriff, and some other persons interfered and rescued them, by lodging them in gaol. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., The sheriff, by himself or his deputies, executes civil and criminal process throughout the county, has charge of the jail and prisoners, attends courts and keeps the peace. *a* 1842 in *Dickens' Amer. Notes* xvii. (1868) 141 A man was suspected, and the Sheriff most probably has possession of him by this time. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xi, The Sheriff was confident that he [the murderer] would be captured before night. *Ibid.* xxiv, Then the judge arrived, and the sheriff proclaimed the opening of the court.

2. With defining word, as *deputy sheriff, under-sheriff, vice-sheriff*; *high sheriff*, the sheriff (in England and Wales, and in some Irish cities) as distinguished from a deputy or subordinate.

1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 125 The shreve of Kent..sent his under shreve to the juges to wete what to doo. *a* 1455 *Lett. Marg. Anjou & Bp. Beckington* (Camden) 158 Th' occupacion of under sherreive in the countie of Midd. *a* 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* XV. in Child *Ballads* III. 57 The hye sherif of Notyingham. 1532 MORE *Epitaph* Wks. 1421/1 Thomas More..being one of the vnder shrieſes of London. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* L ij, Then must the hyghe Shrife be his frende. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. vii. 106 The proverbe is, Twise an Under Sherife, euer a knaue. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IX. § 9 Colonel Long, the high shrief of the county. 1716 *Act* 3 *Geo. I*, c. 15 § 10 It shall not be lawful..for any Person..to buy, sell, let, or take to Farm, the Office of Under-sheriff, Deputy-sheriff,..or any other Office..pertaining to the Office of High-sheriff of any County or Shire. 1830 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Office High Sheriff* 3 High Sheriffs are nominated by The King in Council, who, with His own hand, according to ancient custom, pricks the person appointed. *Ibid.* 5 The appointment of competent persons as permanent Under Sheriffs, throughout the several counties of England and Wales. 1835 *Tomlins' Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s. v., The under-sheriff usually performs all the duties of the office, a very few only excepted, where the personal presence of the high-sheriff is necessary. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1896) III. xx. 435 In 1319 Matthew of Crauthorn, who had been elected..to be Knight of the shire for Devon, petitioned the council against the undue return made by the vice-sheriff, who had substituted another name.

b. Scotland. *Sheriff depute, substitute*: see 1 b. *Sheriff major, principal*: designations formerly given to the sheriff (in the original sense) to distinguish him from the sheriff depute; in mod. use, the sheriff-depute is sometimes called *sheriff-principal* in contradistinction to the sheriff-substitute. †*Sheriff wardator*: see WARDATOR.

†*Sheriff in that part*: a person appointed to supply the place of the sheriff for executing process.

1446 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 244 Sir Alexander of Forbes..scheref depute of Aberdene. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 45 To Adam Bachillur, passande with the Kingis lettres, xvᵗᵒ Octobris, as schiref in that part for the inbringing of Schire William of Rendis gudis. 1489 *Ibid.* 109 The Schirra deput and bailȝeis of Hadington. 1501 *Ibid.* II. 115 Lord Erskin, schiref principale of Selkyrk. 1532 *Ibid.* VI. 116 The Shereffis Deputis of Edinburgh. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 45 Conflict betwix The Sherrife of Perth and Johne Gormak the Shireff maior. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 176 Mr. Thomas Leslye, syreff deput of Abirdene. 1672 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1872) IV. 276 Tuo of the baillies..to goe to the Earle Marshell, shirreff-principal. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 249 The said Lords Reverse the foresaid Sentence of the said Sheriff-substitute. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* x, The Sheriff-depute of the county arrived at Ellangowan next morning at day-break. *Ibid.* xii, A very decent man, sir; the Sheriff-substitute of the county. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 442/2, 30 Sheriff-Deputeships, varying from £300 to £800 a-year. 48 Sheriff-Substituteships in the gift of the Sheriffs-depute..varying from £150 to £600. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 247 There are two orders of sheriffs—the sheriff-substitutes, who reside each in the locality to which he has been appointed, and the sheriff-deputes (or 'sheriffs' simply), who hold courts at intervals. 1894 *Act* 57 & 58 *Vict.* c. 40 § 7 The expression 'Sheriff' shall not include Sheriff Substitute.

†**3.** *transf.* Applied to officers (in foreign countries) with functions analogous to those of the sheriff; a governor of a district or city. *Obs.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 2 Olibrius hehte schirreue of þat lond. *c* 1290 *St. Leonard* 103 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 459 Þe schirreue of leouns feteres made strongue. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2286 In al Denemark ne was no knith, Ne conestable, ne shireue,.. Þat he ne com biforn sire Ubbe. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2564 Hit was a knight, a riche scherreue. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* XXIII. 8 Iosua yᵉ shreue of the cite. 1535 — 1 *Esdr.* IV. 47 Then Darius..wrote a letter vnto all the debytes and shreues. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* ii. C viij b, Daniel and hys felowes were sought of Arioch the shryue to be slayne. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 51 There was a certayn sherif in Egypt which tooke ij. naughty murtheryng robbers [etc.].

4. *Comb.*: **sheriff's clerk**, *Sc.* **sheriff clerk**, the clerk of the sheriff's court; hence *sheriffclerkship*; **sheriff's court**, *Sc.* **sheriff court**, a court in which the sheriff or his deputy administers justice; **sheriff fee** *Sc.*, a payment due to the sheriff; **sheriff fiars** *pl. Sc.* (see FIARS); †**sheriff('s geld** (*gild, yeld*), the payment made by the sheriff for the 'ferm' (FARM *sb.* 3) of his shire; †**sheriff('s gloves** *Sc.*, a perquisite of the sheriff levied at a fair; †**sheriff('s house**, ? the official residence of a sheriff (or of a similar official in foreign countries); **sheriff('s mair** *Sc.* [MAYOR 3] = *sheriff's officer*; †**sheriff-man** *Dublin* = *sheriff's peer*; †**sheriff's man** = *sheriff's officer*; also *Shropshire dial.* the goldfinch (see quot. 1796); **sheriff's officer** (*Sc.* also *sheriff officer*), an official employed to execute the sheriff's writs, to distrain and arrest, etc.; †**sheriff's peer**, one of a class of members of the corporation of Dublin (before 1840) ranking next to the aldermen, and including all ex-sheriffs; †**sheriff roll** *Sc.*, the roll on which the proceedings of the sheriff's court were recorded; †**sheriff silver** = *sheriff geld*; **sheriff('s tourn** (*turn, tourney*); see TOURN, TOURNEY *sb.*[2]

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IV. 168 A *schireues clerke. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 274 James Makbrok of Campsy, allegit heretabill Sherefclerk of the said Sherefdome. 1579 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 144 All Shirriff-clarks to bring in their registers of hornings to be marked by the clark of register. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 290/1 The counted and rejected papers..are..transmitted by the returning officer to the clerk of the Crown in Chancery in England, or the sheriff-clerk in Scotland. 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 274 The office of *Sherefclerkschip of the said Sherifdome. *Ibid.* 275 To deliver to the said James Drummond the *Sherefcourt bukis. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) App. 264 That no Person shall be obliged to appear before the Sheriff-court, unless he be cited upon a proper Summons. 1835 *Tomlins' Law Dict.* (ed. 4) s. v. *London*, The Sheriffs' Court, holden before their steward or judge. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/1 With all uther custumes, *schireff feis, dewteis and exactiones in and about the said burgh. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. iv. § 38 Sheriffs were also intitled to the twentieth part of the sums contained in every decree, in name of sheriff-fee. 1689 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 55/2 pt the pryce of victwall payable furth of the shyre of fyfe to the Exchequer for cropt 1688 be payed conforme to the present *shirref fiars of the said shyre. 1301 *Yorksh. Inquisitions* (Yks. Rec. Soc.) III. 145 Rendering annually to the said heiress for Castelward and *Schirefgeld 6*d*. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 348/2 Une Rente q'est appelle Shereveyeld q amounte a xiiiiℓi. xixs. *id.* par an, provenantz des ditz deux Rapes. 1385 *Ibid.* III. 211/2 Shereves-yeld. 1543 *Mem. Fountains* (Surtees) 407 Paid to the exchetor..for the Sherifgylde, ijs. 1528 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 3 That na *shereff gluiffes be tayne..fra na maner of persoun fra this present fair. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 514/1 Lie schireff-gluiffis. 1641 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 104 Thrie frie faires..togidder with the sheref fie, shereffis glowes, tolles [etc.]. *a* 1505 *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 262 Sir William Capell, after his prisonment in the Countour, and *Shryvishouse was..commaundid to the Tower. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 6 b, In witnesse whereof, the saied Deputies to this present Treatie haue sette to their handes, in the Sherief house of Gant. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* II. XXXIII, Sheriffs learn'd, and unlearn'd *Sheriff-mairs, and messengers-at-arms. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 583 It ben the *schirreſes men, that hider ben i-come. *a* 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* clIII, in Child *Ballads* III. 63 Now is Litell John the sherifes man. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Wise Sp.* 226 When he [Sir T. More] was to mount the scaffold, hee saide to one of the Shiriffes men, I pray thee helpe mee vp, as for comming downe I take no care. 1667 DRYDEN *Epil. Tempest* 13 He sends me only like a Sh'riffs man here To let you know the Malefactor's neer. 1796 REV. F. LEIGHTON *MS. Let.* to *Boucher* 10 May, I am promised some gleanings of Shropshire words. As to *Sheriff's man* for Goldfinch..the Corbets..were often Sheriffs of the County; their livery was black and yellow, the colour of the goldfinch's penfeathers. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Ant.* 562 *Sheriff's Man*, the seven coloured linnet, *Carduelis* of Linnæus. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk., Sheriff's-man*, the Goldfinch. 1703 FOUNTAINHALL *Decisions* (1761) II. 196 Here the *sheriff-officers were only brought *pro more*. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, The warrant's awa to Liberton wi' twa sheriff officers seeking ye. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XI, Giving Mr. Pickwick a friendly tap on the shoulder, the sheriff's officer (for such he was) threw his card on the counterpane. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 70 The sheriff's-officers proceeded to take him into custody. *a* 1687 PETTY *Polit. Anat.* (1691) 41 There are in the City of Dublin a Lord-Mayor, 2 Sheriffs, 24 Aldermen, 48 Sheriffs Peers, and 96 of the Common-Council. 1534 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XVI. 584 Quhilk charter is registrat on the bak of *schiref roll of this instant yer. 1324 in *Registr. Monast. de Winchelcumba* (1892) 351 Faciendo insuper annis singulis *Schirreveselver et alia servicia forinseca. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 403/2 Defautes for noun comyng unto ye *Shirrefs tourn. 1451 *Ibid.* V. 217/2 Sheref Tournes. 1536 in *Hexham Priory* (Surtees) App. p. CXXXIX, The sade Sir Ingram..as shiref of Northumbeland..kept shiref-turnes at Alnwik. 1648 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1895) App. 47 To the Sherifturne Jurie o 4 8.

b. In trivial and slang phrases: †**sheriff's basket, tub**, a basket or tub placed outside a prison to receive charitable doles for the prisoners; †**sheriff's posts**, two painted posts, set up at the sheriff's door, to which proclamations were affixed (cf. POST *sb.*[1] 2 b). (See also later quots.)

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. iii. (1600) K j b, How long should I be ere I should put off To the Lord Chancelors tombe, or the Shriues posts? 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 1678 Wks. 1905 III. 286 That's as plentifull almes for the plagne as the sheriffes tub to them of Newgate. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i. (1658) 5 Did our charitie redeem thee out of prison,..When the Sheriffs basket, and his broken meat Were your Festivall exceedings? 17.. in Grose *Olio* (1792) 232 Dancing on nothing at the Sheriff's ball. *Foot-note*, Sheriff's ball, an

execution. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sheriff's Bracelets*, handcuffs. *Ibid., Sheriff's Hotel*, a prison. *Ibid., Sheriff's Picture Frame*, the gallows.

Sheriff: see SHEREEF, SHERIFI.

Sheriffalty (ʃe·rifálti). Also 6 **shirevalty, sheryaltie, 7 sheralltie, sherivalty, -ifalty, shirevealty, shirifalty.** [f. SHERIFF + -AL + -TY, after words like *royalty*.] = SHRIEVALTY.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 162 The seid Office of Sheryaltie. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xx[i]x. 57/2 The Office of Execution and custody of this County [Huntingdon] is the Sheralfty [?*read* Sherfalty], of old inheritable. 1617 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 227 The patent of my M^rs^ office of y^e^ sheralltie. 1648 *Persecutio Undecima* 57 Alderman Pennington [chosen] for his knowne zeale by his keeping a fasting Sabboth throughout his Shirifalty. 1682 *Eng. Elect. Sheriffs* 29 The Sherifalty of London. *Ibid.* 41 Sherivalty. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. viii. 35 Sir Rowland Meredith, knighted in his Sheriffalty. 1870 FOSS *Biog. Dict. Judges of Eng.* 54 The Michaelmas solemnities of the sheriffalty of London.

fig. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Socrif.* III. v. 269 Sending out the rugged sheriffalty of law and penal enforcement.

Sheriffdom (ʃe·rifdəm). Forms: see SHERIFF; also *Sc.* 4 **shera-**, 5 **sera-, schirra-, schirre-, serraf-**, 6 **syrefdom(e.** [-DOM.]

1. A district or territory under the jurisdiction of a sheriff. *Sc.*

1385 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 410/1 In the sheradom of Perth. 1453 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 340 Landis..lyand in þe Regalite of Dunfermlyn and the serrafdome of fyff. 1457 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 25/1 Quhilke assise [was]..chosin be þar avise of foure seradomes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. 103 In the schiresdome of gallowa. 1662 *Acts of Sederunt* (1790) 84 Lands lyeing in several shirriffdoms. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 296 The Isle of Arran, which with Bute makes up one Sheriffdom. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 91 § 37 The sheriff of the sheriffdom in which the offence shall have been committed. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 52 The Hill.. had borne the gallows of the sheriffdom on its crest. 1894 *Times* 19 Dec. 8/2 To officiate also as Sheriff-Substitute of the Sheriffdom of Argyll.

transf. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 270 The sheriffdom of Altorf.

2. The office of sheriff.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 127 This office na vthirwyse dependes than of heritage quhairthrouch vnto thame selfes thay ascriue schirrefdomes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 578 This Sherifedome was..translated hereditarily into the family of the Beauchamps. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 552 A Couple..that had the Sheriffsdome Of London that sad yeare. 1806 SCOTT *Let. to Ellis* 25 Jan. in *Lockhart* xv, The situation is..£800 a-year, besides being consistent with holding my sheriffdom. 1819 *Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 5 It was thus that the hereditary sheriffdom of the county of Westmoreland came to the family of Tufton. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* II. iii. 31 David bestowed on him the government of the castle, and the sheriffdom of Teviotdale. 1885 H. B. WHEATLEY in *Antiquary* Feb. 48/1 He was afterwards deprived of his sheriffdom and of his aldermanic gown.

3. *jocularly.* The realm or order of sheriffs.

1904 SIR H. HAWKINS *Remin.* II. xliii. 47 All the pomp and splendour, in fact, that Sheriffdom was capable of.

Sheriffe, obs. f. SHEREEF, SHERIFF, SHROFF.

† **She·riffess.** *Obs. rare.* [-ESS.] A woman who held the office of sheriff (when hereditary).

c 1659 *Inscr. Barden Tower* in *Howitt's Vis. Remark. Places* (1840) 217 Ladie Anne Clifford..High Sheriffesse by inheritance of the Countie of Westmerland. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westmerld.* (1662) III. 141, I find Elizabeth the Widdow of Thomas Lord Clifford,..Sheriffess (as I may say) in the sixteenth of Richard the second, till the last of K. Henry the fourth. 1819 *Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 5 Sir Roger de Clifford was killed in battle..about the year 1280. After his death, his widow sat in person, as sheriffess of the county of Westmoreland,..with the judges.

† **She·riffhood.** *Obs.* Forms: see SHERIFF. [*-hode*, -HOOD.] The office of sheriff.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 70 In-to witnes of þis þinge þe seele of þe foresaid shreuehode was put þer-to. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 77 He [Edw. II] grauntyd that sherevehodys sholde goo to ferme for CCC li be yere. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* B iv b, [Charter of London 1384.] We haue graunted..to the Citezens of London the Shorefhode [*read* Sherefhode] of London and of Middelsex. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 14 John Briane was drowned in hys shrefehode. 1629 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 11 Here Sir Walter Long was brought this day into the Star Chamber, for having at the last election which was made for the parliament left the sheriffhood, which was then in his hands, to become a burgess of the said parliament.

Sheriffian, variant of SHEREEFIAN.

She·riffing, *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The holding of the office of sheriff, and discharge of its duties.

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 66 (1713) II. 163 The several Plots and Projects of Exclusion, Association, Sheriffing, Feasting, &c. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 812/2 'You may think this here sheriffing is mighty funny,' he confided one day to a friend, 'but you ought to try it once, and see the dishonest whelps you have to deal with.'

She·riffry. *rare.* [-RY.] = SHRIEVALTY.

1610 in *Cal. St. Pap., Irel.* 1608–10, 413 [He..had the] shrifery [of the county bestowed upon him]. 1836 GALT in *Tait's Mag.* III. 511 After my sheriffry.

She·riffship. [-SHIP.] The office of sheriff.

1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 46 The office of schiresship of Striueling. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 184 My lord lyndesay tuik possessioun of the Schiresfschip of fyffe. 1649 ? EVELYN in *E.'s Diary*, etc. (1852) III. 42 The Scots..have..taken away the hereditary shriefships from the nobility. 1747 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 43 § 1 All Sheriffships and Deputy Sheriffships of Districts, being Parts only of Shires. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Nov. 5/3 It will be exceedingly hard if Mr. M. should be compelled to choose between his fat sheriffship and his political ambition. 1893 AGNEW *Hered. Sheriffs of Galloway* II. 120 The sheriff..was ordered to grant deputations of sheriffship to Grierson of Lagg, Claverhouse, and Earlshall, as his colleagues.

† **Sheriff's tooth.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 **schirrefstuthe**, 4 **shirrevestothe**, 5 **sheriffs-tooth**, (8 **sheriff-tooth**). [Cf. phrase 'for one's own tooth' in TOOTH *sb.* 3.] An annual impost (complained of in 1327–77 by Derbyshire tenants as a wrongful exaction) levied by the sheriff on each bovate of land within his county.

1298 *Yorksh. Inquisitions* (Yks. Rec. Soc.) III. 84, 2*s.* for Waytemete and Schirrefstuthe. 1327–77 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 401/2 Une torcenouse prise q'est chescun an leve sur eux par Baillifs le Roy q'il appelent Shirrevestothe, c'est assavoir de chescune bove de terre sys deners. 1402 in Leycester *Hist. Antiq.* (1673) 207, & *reddendo per annum de Stothe, alias dictum* Sheriffs-Tooth, *septem Denarios.* 1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett) s. v., *Per Sherif-tooth* seems a tenure by the service or duty of providing Entertainment for the Sheriff at his County Turns or Courts.

Sheriffwick (ʃe·rifwik). Forms: see SHERIFF and -WICK; also 6 **shyrrywyke, 7 shirrewicke.**

1. The office of sheriff.

1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 225/1 The offices and occupations of Mairalte, Shirrefwyke, Chamberleynship. 1520 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 667 Touchyng the office of Shyrrywyke of the Citie. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 22 Theyre saide office of Shiriefewike. 1601 MUNDAY *Downf. Earl Huntington* II. C 1 b, Master Warman, here's your Patent seald, For the high Sheriffewick of Notingham. 1604 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 221 There is £500 more unpaide, which they lye in wayte untill I be oute of the Shirrewicke to have of me. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 224 Thomas was..discharged of his Shreevewick of Gloucester^re^. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 26 Extraordinary services done by Sheriffes in the time of their Sheriffwicke. 1884 *Law List* 1299 *note*, The Sheriffwick of London is in the Corporation of London.

2. The district over which a sheriff has jurisdiction.

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 18 Every misruled and suspecte personne within thir Shireffwik. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 217 Within the Sheriffwick of the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorland* 95 The bailiwick of Westmorland in the sheriffwick or shrievalty, of the whole county of Westmorland.

‖ **Sherif** (ʃərī·f). Forms: 7 **shariffe, scherif, sherif**, 7, 9 **scherif**, 8 **sher(r)iff.** Also (in Dicts.) 9 **shereefee.** [Arab. شَرِيفِيّ *sharīfīy* (Dozy), f. *sharīf* (see SHEREEF). Cf. SERAPH[2], SERAPHIN.] A gold coin formerly current in the Levant of the value of 9*s.* 4*d.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* II. 108 Three millions of Shariffes. 1647 GREAVES *Roman Foot* 121 The Turkish sultani, or Ægyptian sherif. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 262 The Turkish Chequin, which they call Scherif, is worth seventy Maidins, and the Venetian, seventy five. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xix. (1705) 240 His Ransom..was fix'd at 100 Turkish Pieces of Gold, commonly call'd Scherifi, worth 2½ Piasters each. 1785 *Arab. Nts.* II. 203 The necklace was valued at two thousand sherriffs. 1802 *Arab. Nts.* (1813) II. 63, I paid only two scherifs a month for the use of it.

Sherish, obs. form of CHERISH *v.*

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (1859) II. 188.

‖ **Sheristadar** (ʃeristădā·r). *Anglo-Ind.* Also 9 **serrishtehdar, ser-, sherishtadar.** [Urdū (a. Pers.) سرشتہ دار *sarishte dār*, f. *sarishte* (properly *sar-rishta*) office, employment + *dār* holder, possessor.] The head clerk or registrar of an Indian court of justice: see quot. 1872.

1775 in *Min. Evid. Trial W. Hastings* (1788) I. 1033 The Sheristadars have delivered me an Account. 1834 [PRINSEP] *Baboo* I. vii. 110 (Stanf.) The Serishtadar commenced business by informing me that this wretch was a Goreyt. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life in India* vii. 284 The sherishtadar cross-examined witnesses, droned out the proceedings when they were recorded, prompted the decision, and placed the completed case before the judge for signature. 1909 *Ch. Miss. Rev.* Sept. 515 It is not the Englishman who really governs India, but the Brahman sheristadar or deputy collector and the large army of Brahman officials.

Sherivalty: see SHERIFFALTY.

Sherive, Sherk, obs. ff. SHERIFF, SHIRK.

Sherl, obs. form of SCHORL.

1777 FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. v. II. 26 The rocks.. contained volcanic productions, or different kinds of lava, some of which are full of white and greenish sherls.

Sherman, Shern(e, obs. ff. SHEARMAN, SHARN.

Sheroot, obs. form of CHEROOT.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xv. (end), I will light my sheroot.

Sherp, obs. and dial. form of SHARP *v.*

† **Sherpe.** *Obs. rare*[-1]. Also 5 **shyrpe.** [a. OF. *escherpe*, var. of *escrepe* SCRIP *sb.*[1]] = SCRIP *sb.*[1]

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5372 Thys bred, pylgrymes euerychon,..In ther sherpe they shold yt bere. *Ibid.* 6220 Shyrpe.

Sherpet, Sherrafe, obs. ff. SHERBET, SHROFF.

Sherrant, variant of SHERANT *Obs.*

Sherref(f, -eive, -eve, -if(f, etc.: see SHERIFF.

Sherrif(e, variant ff. of SHEREEF, SHERIFI.

Sherris (ʃe·ris). *arch.* Also 6–8 **sherries, 7 ceres.** [a. Sp. (*vino de*) *Xeres* wine of Xeres (see SHERRY *sb.*[1]). The Sp. *x*, now coincident in sound with *j* (= χ), was formerly pronounced (ʃ).

The name of the town appears in the 17th c. as *Sherries*: e. g. 1626 R. PEEKE (*title*) Three to One: Being an English Spanish Combat, performed..at Sherries in Spain.]

= SHERRY *sb.*[1] 1.

[1540–1 *Will of R. Sowethewarke* (Somerset Ho.), Twenty buttes of sakes of Sherries.] 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 111 The second propertie of your excellent Sherris, is, the warming of the Blood:..the Sherris warmes it, and makes it course from the inwards, to the parts extremes. 1876 BROWNING *At the 'Mermaid'* ii, The sherris mantling Still about each mouth. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shakespeare* xxiv, Lord, Jack, what a sherris that was!

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **sherris-sack,** 'sack' imported from Xeres: see SACK *sb.*[3] 1 b.

1876 BROWNING *At the 'Mermaid'* xviii, Back then to our *sherris-brewage! 1597 *Sherris sack [see SACK *sb.*[2] 1 b]. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VII. (1617) 36 A pinte of very good Ceres sacke. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* clxviii, Xeres..is famous for..what we call, *sherries wine.

Sherrivallеys, variant of SHERRYVALLIES.

Sherrug, obs. form of SHEAR-HOG.

Sherry (ʃe·ri), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **shirry, zerry, shery, sherie**, 8 **sherree.** [A sing. form evolved from SHERRIS, mistaken for a plural.]

1. Originally, the still white wine made near Xeres (now *Jerez de la Frontera*, a town in Andalusia, near Cadiz); in modern use, extended to a class of Spanish white wines of similar character, and (usually with prefixed word, as *Californian, Cape sherry*) to wines made elsewhere in imitation of Spanish sherry. Also, a wine of this kind.

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* v. H 1, Some Shirry for my Lords players there. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* v. iv, *Cok.* Sack? you said but e'en now it should be Sherry. *Pup. Io.* Why so it is; sherry, sherry, sherry. 1617 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 224 One other rundlett of shery. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) II. 350 Those kinds that our Merchants carry over, are those onely that grow upon the Sea-side as Malagas, Sheries, Tents. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 203 They sell decayed Xeres, vulgarly Sherry, for Lusenna wine. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 35 Excellent Wines, especially red Muscatels (which we call Luke Sherry). *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 221 He drunk a little tea and some sherry. 1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* 331 Some Sherree. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Public Dinners*, Waiters..are placing decanters of sherrry down the tables. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxviii, Most celebrated growths of ports, sherries, and claret wines. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xxxv, Some rare old sherry. 1897 'MERRIMAN' *In Kedar's Tents* xiii. 145 The Colonel had an English friend who spoke so—one engaged in the sherry in Xeres.

fig. 1619 *Pasquils Palinodia* title-p., A pleasant pynte of Poeticall Sherry.

b. In the names of mixed drinks, *sherry-and-seltzer, sherry-and-bitters.*

1881 H. SMART *Race for Wife* I, Men are congregating about the refreshment buffet for another sherry-and-seltzer. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zéro* iii, Will you come in and have a sherry and bitters.

2. 'A small wine-glass of the size and form commonly used for sherry and similar wines' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple *attrib.*, as *sherry-bottle, -butt, -case, -glass, sherry-wine*, also *sherry-wine colour*; *sherry-drinker, -grower.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, The *sherry-bottle. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 9 June 688/1 The juice as it runs out is caught and transferred to tubs, sherry hogsheads and *sherry butts. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 27 With a formidable-looking *sherry-case, in the shape of a horn, at his saddle. 1887 J. R. P. BERKELEY in Knapp *Geo. Borrow* (1899) II. 101 Among his peculiarities was his dislike.. of *Sherry drinkers. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 26 There was only one *sherry-glass broken. 1900 SPIELMANN *Ruskin* 17 Peter Domecq, the great *sherry-grower of Xerez. 1785 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 160 Good *Sherry-wine. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxiv, You may have seen the Xerez or sherry wine. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 124 Light sherry-wine color.

b. With reference to colour.

1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* 301 Mr. Stirling Craufurd's *sherry-bay horse, The Shaver. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 147 A vinous liquid, having a golden *sherry colour. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* xiii. 90 Enough to give a sherry colour to the collodion. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Pract. Biol.* App. (1877) 270 A dark *sherry-coloured solution. 1894 *Season* X. 47/2 Flecked with sherry and rose-coloured strands. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ii. 65 From dark brown to *sherry-red. 1813 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 102 Boots with *sherry-yellow-tassels.

c. In names of drinks: **sherry-negus,** see NEGUS[2]; † **sherry sack,** see SACK *sb.*[3] 1 b, cf. SHERRIS; also *fig.* See also SHERRY-COBBLER.

1619 *Pasquils Palinodia* A 3, My Muse..weares a Corslet of old Sherry Sacke. 1677 LADY HATTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 148 All the sherie sack. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 3/3 Who drank sherry-negus.

† **Sherry,** *sb.*[2] *slang.* In quot. **shirry.** [Cf. SHERRY *v.*[1]] A scurry.

1821 HAGGART *Life* 37 The shirry became general—I was run to my full speed.

† **She·rry,** *a. Obs. rare*[-1]. [f. SHERRY *sb.*[1]] Under the influence of sherry; drunk.

1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 559/1 To express the Condition of an Honest Fellow, and no Flincher, under the Effects of good Fellowship, it is said that he is..Sherry.

She·rry, *v.*[1] *dial.* Also 9 **shirry.** [Perh. a variant of SHEER *v.*] *intr.* To scurry, to run away; retreat hastily. Also with *off.*

1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 2), *To Sherry*, to run away: sherry off. 1821 HAGGART *Life* 36 He went into an entry, as I shirry'd past him. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Words Lincolnsh.* 180 You've been long enough, sherry. *c*1874 R. E. LEADER in *Sheffield Gloss.* (1890) s. v., Now, my lad, sherry. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Sherry-off*, to run off, or retreat hastily.

She·rry, *v.*[2] *nonce-wd.* [f. SHERRY *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To supply with sherry, to give sherry to.

1909 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *True Tilda* xxi. 294 Nursed by a careful butler..a single bottle will sherry twelve guests.

She·rry-cobbler. *colloq.* [f. SHERRY *sb.*[1]] A cobbler made with sherry. See COBBLER 3.

1809 [see COBBLER 3]. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ix, The bowls of mint-julep and sherry-cobbler. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* II. 312 He suck in his drink like sherry-cobbler through a straw. 1882 'OUIDA' *Under Two Flags* (1890) 82 He paused to listen till he let the ice in his sherry-cobbler melt away.

Sherryvallies (ʃerivæ·liz), *sb. pl. U.S.* Also 9 **shorrevals, sherrivalleys.** [The proximate history is obscure, but the word must be an adoption of some one of the many forms of a widely diffused word of oriental origin, signifying a kind of trousers: cf. Arab. سروال *sirwāl*, now commonly شروال *sharwāl* (pl. *sarāwīl*, *sharāwīl*), whence Sp. *zaragüelles* pl., Pg. *ceroulas* pl.), Russian шаравары *sharavary*, Polish *szarawary*, Gr. σαράβαρα, late and med.L. *sarabara, saraballa, sarabala, saravara*, etc. (see Du Cange), Syriac ܣܪܒܠܐ *sharbālā*; the ultimate source is by some scholars supposed to be the Persian *shalwār* (see SHULWAR) of the same meaning. The Biblical Aramaic סרבלין *sarbālīn* pl., which in Dan. iii. 21, 27 is rendered by the like-sounding words in Syr., Gr., and Latin, has been regarded as identical (Eng. Bible 1611 'coats', *margin* 'mantles', 1884 Revised 'hosen'), but this is very doubtful.

Our first quot. might suggest Polish as the probable proximate source for the U. S. word. Gen. C. Lee had been aide-de-camp to the king of Poland.]

(See quot. 1848.)

1778 GEN. C. LEE *Let.* 20 Dec. in *Mem.* (1792) 430 If you find them to be green breeches patched with leather, and not actually legitimate sherry vallies, such as his Majesty of Poland wears,..I will submit in silence to all the scurrility which [etc.] 1825 *Springfield Tailor's advt.* in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colon. Times* (1894) 217 Shorrevals and Overalls And Pantaloons he'll make. 1833 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in Far West* (1835) I. 105 Raising his blue cotton frock to thrust his hand into the fob of his sherrivalleys. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Sherryvallies*, pantaloons made of thick velvet or leather, buttoned on the outside of each leg, and generally worn over other pantaloons. They are now chiefly worn by teamsters. Many years ago, when ..journeys were made on horseback, *sherryvallies* were indispensable to the traveller.

Shert, obs. form of SHORT *adv.*

Shert(e, sherth, obs. forms of SHIRT *sb.*

Sherve, obs. form of SHERIFF.

Sherville, obs. form of CHERVIL.

1689 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spalding Club) 353, 4 drop sherville.

Shervon, obs. f. *shriven*, pa. pple. of SHRIVE *v.*

‖ **She·rwal.** *rare.* [Arab. شروال *sharwāl*: see SHERRYVALLIES.] A kind of loose trousers worn in various Asiatic countries.

1844 tr. *Maria T. Asmar's Mem. Babyl. Princess* I. 44 My sherwals, or trowsers, were of crimson silk. *Ibid.* II. 148 Arraying myself in..a sadrieh, or jacket, of golden tissue, rose-coloured sherwals, a turban [etc.].

† **She·rwood.** *Obs.* Also 6 **shirwood.** [Perh. from the proper name *Sherwood* in the Robin Hood ballads, taken as a poetic synonym for *greenwood.*] A grove; also, greenwood.

1562 PHAER *Æneid* VIII. Y iij b, The shirwood great [L. *lucum ingentem*], where saulf defence, and free resort, Duke Romulus vptooke. 1652 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* I. 167 He saw on his right hand near the river side a grove of Sherwood.

Sheshum, variant of SHISHAM.

Shet, dial. var. SHEAT *sb.*[1] (young hog); obs. f. SHEET *sb.*[2], SHUT; obs. pa. t. of SHOOT.

Shete, obs. form of SHEET, SHOOT, SHUT.

Sheter, obs. form of SHOOTER.

Sheth (ʃeþ). *dial.* and *techn.* Forms: 5 **scheth,** (9 **sheath**), 8– **sheth.** [Cogn. w. WFlem. *schet, schette* rail, bar of a gate, palisade, etc.; f. the Teut. root **skaiþ-* to divide, split: see SHED *v.*, SHEATH. Cf. also WFlem. *schee* cross-bar, rung of a ladder, one of the laths forming the bottom of a wheelbarrow, etc. See also SHEATH 2.

The etymological sense would be split piece of wood (cf. the cognate SHIDE). The OE. form cannot be inferred from the data, but may possibly be represented by ONorth. *scæþþa, sceaþa* (if the vowel in that word be long), which occurs in the Lindisfarne and Rushworth Gospels John xx. 25 in the sense of nail, and as the second element of *horn-sceaþ-* 'pinnaculum (templi)' in Matt. iv. 5 (Lind.); a MDu. *schede* fem., metal pin or peg, appears to correspond to this.]

1. A bar or lath, esp. one of a number placed alongside each other so as to form a framework. *spec.* in various applications.

a. One of the bars or 'ribs' forming the framework for the bottom or sides of a wagon, railway-coach, etc.

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 281 Item..to Will Walkar of Leith, for xxiiij schort treis to be schethis to the cartis,..xxiiij s. 1764 J. BUDDLE in *B. Martin's Gen. Mag.* June 285 The body of the waggon is in form of an inverted prismoid..having strong pieces of oak or ash wood at the bottom called Soals, at the corners and sides called Sheths. 1838 N. WOOD *Railroads* (ed. 3) 208 Upright sheths are placed upon the side frames, and cross sheths as shown in the figures. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 47 *Sheths*, the ribs of a chaldron waggon. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., 'Waggon sheth', the group of ribs forming the framework. 'Tram sheth', the cross ties in a tram which connect the soles or main framework.

b. In a ladder: Each of 'the broader steps, introduced at intervals, between the rungs, to bind the structure together' (*Northumbld. Gloss.* 1894).

c. In a harrow: see quot. 1894. Also *collect.*

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 276/1 The bulls are connected by four sheths. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., 'Harrow sheth', the cross bars of a harrow, intersecting the 'bulls' or longitudinal bars.

2. 'A group of parallel rows which stand at right angles to similar and adjoining or intersecting rows' (*Northumbld. Gloss.* 1894).

a. *Agriculture.* (See quot. 1894.)

1431 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 524 Sexten akris of land togithir lyand in þe samyn scheth of land west fra þe said saynte mary rig. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sheth*, a portion of a field, which is divided so as to drain off the water by the direction of the ploughings, called *sheths*; i. e. a separated part. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., In the unenclosed town fields a group of parallel strips of ploughed land, which adjoined a similar group lying at right angles, formed a *sheth.*

b. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1812 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 95 Till it [the air] traversed the newly-formed sheth or set of workings. 1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) *Newcastle* 63 *Sheth of bords*, a district of workings 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., 'Sheth of boards', a group of cross workings in a coal pit...When a panel or division of a colliery is referred to, the group of parallel excavations which have been driven at right angles to the cleavage of the coal (the boards) are spoken of as a 'sheth of boards'.

attrib. 1812 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 95 The walls which have stoppings in them are called sheth-walls, and those which are open loose-walls. 1816 J. H. H. HOLMES *Coal Mines Durh. & Northumb.* 247 Sheth, Sheth-door, Sheth-stoppings &c.—different means used for regulating the passage of the air through the boards, headways, &c.

Sheth(e, Shether: see SHEATH, SHEDER.

Shethite, variant of SETHITE.

Shetland (ʃe·tlănd). [The name of a group of islands to the north-north-east of the mainland of Scotland.] Used *attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*).

a. *Shetland pony, horse*, etc. = SHELTIE 1.

1801 J. ANDERSON *Recreat. Agric.* IV. Index, Shetland pony. 1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 531 The Shetland horses are well known. 1830 LE KEUX *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 34 The Shetland ponies are exceedingly diminutive. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvii, On this little black Shetland pigmy young Rawdon's great father was pleased to mount the boy.

absol. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, Tom rode his little Shetland into the cottage.

b. As the designation of a breed of sheep.

1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 39 The Cheviot sheep are very well made. By crossing the breed of them with the Shetland,..both the quality of the wool and of the mutton will be improved. 1796 *Ibid.* XVII. 586 Neither the Spanish nor the Shetland sheep has, as yet, been found to thrive here. 1830 LE KEUX *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 139 Shetland Sheep. This breed was formerly a native of the higher parts of Aberdeenshire.

c. Applied to a variety of wool, spun in the Shetland Isles, hence to things made of this wool.

1790 (*title*) Report of the Committee of the Highland Society of Scotland, to whom the subject of Shetland Wool was referred. 1856 MRS. PULLAN *Lady's Dict. Needlework* 48 Wools...Shetland. A very fine wool, used for veils, scarfs, shawls, &c. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 833/1 Genuine Shetland hose. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 446 Shetland Point Lace..is a Needlemade lace, composed of Shetland wool..of sufficiently coarse texture to form babies' shawls [etc.]. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Listener's Lure* 183 Get a Shetland shawl for Mrs. Ring.

Hence **Shetla·ndic** *a.*, pertaining to Shetland.

1882 K. BLIND in *Genil. Mag.* Mar. 353 (art.) New finds in Shetlandic and Welsh. *Ibid.* 356 This Shetlandic word.

She·tlander (ʃe·tlăndəɹ), [f. *Shetland* (see prec.) + -ER[1].]

1. An inhabitant of the Shetland Isles.

1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 616 All the labour of the poor Shetlander is under the controul of the landholder. 1882 MISS GORDON-CUMMING in *19th Cent.* Apr. 573 The Shetlanders have a..singularly descriptive word to express it.

2. A Shetland pony.

1875 S. SIDNEY *Bk. Horse* iv. 85 The best Shetlanders come from Unst. 1885 *Mem. D. King* ii. 11 His uncle gave him a pony—a small jet black Shetlander.

Shetle, obs. variant of SHITTLE *a.*

Shett(e, obs. ff. SHEET *sb.*[1], SHOOT *v.*, SHUT *v.*

Shettle, obs. form of SHITTLE *a.*, SHUTTLE.

Shetton, Shetyll, obs. ff. SHITTEN, SHUTTLE.

Sheu, obs. pa. t. of SHOW *v.*

Sheue, obs. form of SHOW *v.*

Sheugh (ʃuχ), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: α. 6 **sewch, seuche,** 6–7, 9 **seuch,** 8– **seugh;** β. 7 **shouch,** 8–9 **shough,** (9 **shooch, shaugh, shuch, shugh,** see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), 9 **sheuch,** 8– **sheugh.** [Northern variant of SOUGH *sb.*[2]]

1. A furrow, trench, ditch, drain, etc.

α. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. iv, Ane terribill sewch birnand in flammis reid,..All full of brintstane, pick, and bulling leid. 1513 — *Æneis* v. xii. 168 Eneas with a pleuch The cetie circuilt, and merkit be a seuch. 1520 NISBET *Matt.* xv. 14 Gif a blindman leid a blindman, bathe falle doun into the seucht. 16.. N. BURNE *Leader-Haughs* x. in Ramsay *Tea-Table Misc.* (1762) II. 181 O'er dub and dyke, o'er seugh and syke. 1818 HOGG *Brownie* II. *Woolgatherer* 147 A deep dry seuch at the back of the garden. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Seugh*, a wet ditch;.. any watery or boggy place—a *sough.*

β. 1665 J. FRASER *Chron. Frasers* (S.H.S.) 164 Riding down the narrow shouch of Corbet Bray. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Jockey & Maggy's Crtshp.* III. Writ. 1883 II. 24 West the hags, an' o'er by Whitehill shough. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 30 He was a gash an' faithfu' tyke, As ever lap a sheugh or dyke. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliv, And a' the bonny engines, and wheels, and the coves, and sheughs, doun at Glenwithershins yonder, what's to come o' them? 1830 W. CARLETON *Traits Ir. Peas.* (1843) I. 62 Sometimes one in crossing a stile or ditch would drop into the shough. 1894 T. WATSON *Kirkintilloch* 199 Huge open gutters or 'sheuchs' on either side of the street, received all the sewage.

2. A furrow made for the temporary reception of plants: see SHEUGH *v.* 2.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 373 The plants are taken from the *sheughs* when wanted.

Sheugh (ʃuχ), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: α. **seuch, sewch** (in pr. pple. **sewchquhand**), 7 **seugh;** β. 8–9 **shugh,** 9 **shough,** 9– **sheuch,** 8– **sheugh.** [f. SHEUGH *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To plough, make furrows in (also *fig.*); to dig *up*; (see also quot. 1882).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iii. 76 Thai seuch the fludis. *Ibid.* 102 Now glyde thai baith togiddir furth in front, Sewchquhand salt fame with thair lang kelis blont. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 31 With shod-shooles to seugh up the sanctuary ground. *a* 1878 H. AINSLIE *Pilgr. Land Burns*, etc. (1892) 334 They're..sheughin' hill an' howe. 1882 JAMIESON, *To Sheuch, Shugh*, to make a ditch or drain; also, to work in a ditch or peat-pit, as *to sheugh peats*, i. e., to cut them from the *sheuch* or pit, West of S[cotland].

2. To lay plants temporarily in the earth in order to keep them fresh; also *to sheugh in.*

17.. *Jacobite Song, Wee German Lairdie* i, He was delving in his kail-yairdie: Sheughing kail an' laying leeks. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 703 In the nurseries, we have great experience of lifting and shoughing immense quantities of deciduous plants. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 373 The bundles..should be immediately loosened out on their arrival from the nursery, and *sheughed in*, that is, spread out upright in trenches..and dry earth well heaped against them. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Sheugh*, to 'lay'..trees or plants temporarily in a hastily dug hole.

b. *transf.* To cover slightly, bury.

1742 R. FORBES *Ajax* (1755) 3 Ajax..fase targe was shught In seven fald o' hide. 1832–53 D. WEBSTER in *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 101 The bodies in Mauchlin Wish Meg in her kist, an' as deep sheugh'd as Lauchlan. *a* 1880 in Sir W. Fraser *Red Bk. Menteith* I. 403 His followers daurna tak his body so far east as Dundurn..so they just shoughed it at the point of Coilmore, whence it was exhumed and placed afterwards in the old chapel.

Sheuk, obs. Sc. f. *shook* pa. t. of SHAKE *v.*

‖ **Sheva** (ʃəvā·). [a. Rabbinic Heb. שְׁוָא *shewā'*, app. an arbitrary alteration of שָׁוְא *shāw'*, emptiness, vanity. (In German books spelt *schwa.*)]

1. *Hebrew Grammar.* a. The sign ◌ְ placed under a consonant letter to express (what Jewish grammarians regard as) the absence of a following vowel sound. In certain positions the sheva (called *quiescent sheva*) has really no sound; but in others it is sounded as the neutral vowel (ə) or (ɘ), and is then called *movable* (or *vocal*) *sheva. Compound sheva*: any of the signs ◌ֱ, ◌ֲ, ◌ֳ, which represent the neutral vowel with a colouring of *ĕ, ă, ŏ* respectively. b. The sound of 'movable sheva'.

1827 S. LEE *Hebr. Gram.* 19 On *Sheva* and its Substitutes. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 3 When no vowel is expressed, then as in the Hebrew, a Sheva..will be implied and read accordingly. 1853 J. R. WOLF *Pract. Hebr. Gram.* 10 Hence, when Sheva is placed under such a consonant at the beginning of a syllable, it is sounded like a short *e*, and is called movable Sheva. *Ibid.*, When two Shevas stand in the middle of a word, the first is a resting, and the second a movable.

2. *Phonetics.* The neutral vowel-sound; *esp.* in comparative grammar, the obscure vowel resulting (in primitive Indogermanic) from an original *ā, ē,* or *ō*, by loss of accent.

1888 J. B. BURY in *Class. Rev.* Oct. 251/2 The *π* by labiation for *q*, and the second *ă* a sheva. [1895 P. GILES *Compar. Philol.* 134 Indo-G. ə 'schwa' or the neutral vowel.]

Sheve, obs. form of SHEAF *sb.*, SHEAVE *sb.*

She·vel, *a. Sc.* In 6 **schewill.** [Related to SHEVEL *v.*] Distorted, twisted. Also Comb. *shevel-gabbit, -mouthed* adjs., having a wry mouth.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 106 He schowis on me his schewill mouth, and schedis my lippis. *c* 1785 *Y. Thompson's Man* 14 Chandler-chafted, sheavel-gabbed,

left-handed. 1866 W. GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Shaivle-moot*, having the mouth distorted.

Shevel (ʃe·v'l), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Also 8 **sheavle**, 9 **shavel, shaivle, sheevil, sheule.** (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [App. cogn. w. SHAIL *v.*; a variant common in Sc. dialects is *showl, shool.*] *trans.* and *intr.* To distort, or become distorted. Hence *sheveling-gabbit* adj. = *shevel-gabbit* (see prec.); *sheveling-heeled* adj., (of a shoe) having a twisted or downtrodden heel.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, Ye shevelling-gabbit brock! *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Jockey & Maggy's Courtship* VI. Writ. 1883 II. 43 An' how think ye the like o' me can wak straight wi' sic auld shevelin heel'd shune as mine. *a* 1779 — *John Cheap* I. Ibid. II. 92 The deil's on the tap o' the mou', sheavling his mouth at me. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Shevel*, to distort... *To shevel*, to walk in an unsteady and oblique way. 1823 GALT *Gilhaize* iii, That auld shavling-gabbit hielander. 1869 J. P. MORRIS *Furness Gloss., Sheule*, to walk with a shuffling gait.

Shevelled (ʃe·vẽld), *ppl. a. rare* and *arch.* Also 7 **shevuled, shieveld.** [Aphetic form of DISHEVELLED *ppl. a.*] Dishevelled. Also *transf.*

1613 *Uncasing of Machiav.* 22 While the poore man.. May..wipe his blubbered cheeks with sheualed heares. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 5. 592 A shieveld threed is hardly got thorow the needles-eye. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* I. xviii. 219 He bowed his tall white head into my shevelled hair. 1886 — *Springhaven* (1887) I. x. 81 Sandhills shevelled with long rush disarm the western fury.

Shever(e, obs. forms of SHIVER.

† **She·veret.** *Sc. Obs.* [Origin and meaning obscure: cf. CHEVERIL.] Some material used for curtains.

1716 Lady G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 45 For 3 yd. yellow sheveret for a curtine to the Coach o. 9. o.

Shevys (= *sheuys*), obs. pl. SHOE *sb.*

Shew, Sc. f. SEW *v.*[1]; var. SEW *v.*[2] *Obs.*

Shew, variant of SHOW *sb.* and *v.*

† **Shewage.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *shew*, SHOW *v.* + -AGE.] An etymologizing alteration of SCAVAGE *sb.*, due to the lawyers of the 15–16th c.

1500 in *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) I. 73 All maner of toll & Shewage oderwise called Skawage amonges oder thynges. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 8 Dyvers Meires ..have..taken of theym a certeyn Costome called Skavage, oderwyse called Shewage. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* (1659) 245 b, Scauage or shewage. 1800 [see SCAVAGE *sb.* 1].

Shewbread (ʃō·ubred). *Jewish Antiq.* Also 6 **schew-, shewe-** (9 *Dicts.* **show-**); see also BREAD. [f. *shew*, SHOW *sb.*, after G. *schaubrot* (Luther); the compound seems correctly to represent the sense of the Heb. לֶחֶם פָּנִים *le·xem pānīm*, LXX ἄρτοι ἐνάντιοι, Vulg. *panes propositionis.*] The twelve loaves that were placed every Sabbath 'before the Lord' on a table beside the altar of incense, and at the end of the week were eaten by the priests alone.

In 16th c. writers sometimes in pl., after the LXX and the Vulgate; the Geneva Bible (1557) has *shewe loues.*

1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxv. 30 Thou shalt sett apon the table shewbred before me allwaye. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xii. 4 Haue ye not red..How he [David]..ate the shew breds. 1563 WINJET *Bk. Quest.* lvi. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 111 Achimelech wold nocht geue the schewbreid to Dauid. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Temple* 69 Upon this fetuous board doth stand Something for shew-bread. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* vii. 117 The Shew-bread was to be before the Lord continually. In the original it is called The Bread of Faces. The mystery of it was, to shew, that Christ was to be the great Mediator, who should be always in the presence of God, behold his face [etc.]. 1895 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* (Note S) 413 [tr. St. Ephrem.] The shewbread figures the mystery of our sacrifices which are offered through Christ by the Ministers of the Church.

attrib. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Chron.* xxix. 18 We haue cleansed ..the shew-bread table.

Shewe, aphetic form of ESCHEW.

1502 *Ord. Cryston Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 34 He ought to put out of us all euyl thoughtes and euyll operacyons to shewe all occasyon the whiche myght stere us unto yll. 1548 H. HART (*title*), A goodly new short Treatyse instructing euery Parson howe they shulde trade theyr Lyues in y^e Imytacyon of Vertu, and the shewyng of Vice.

Shewe, obs. form of SHOW; ? obs. form of SUE *v.*

Shew·el. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 3 **schawles, s(c)heules, shueles,** 5 **shewelys**; *β.* 3, 7 **sewell,** 6 **sewelle, sewel, shewelle,** 9 **shewell,** 7–9 **shewel.** Also SEWIN 2. [Early ME. *scheules*, perh. repr. OE. **scēwels* = MLG. *schūwelse*, MHG. *schūsel* (mod.G. *scheusal*), a derivative of the vb. which appears as OHG. *sciuhan* (MHG. *schiuhen, schiuwen*, mod.G. *scheuen*) to scare. Cf. SHY *v.*] A scarecrow. Also *Hunting*, something hung up or set up to keep a deer from entering a particular place, or from going in a particular direction. Also *fig.*

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1648 Þu seist þat gromes þe i-foȝ.. an summe of þe schawles [*v.r.* scheules] make). *Ibid.* 1128 Ac þu art shueles [*v.r.* sheules] supe god. 1286 in *Select Pleas Forest* (Selden Soc.) 130 Intrare warennam cum retibus et sewell' et capere volatilia. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13889 A shewelys enarmyd in the ffeld..Wych ys but A ded fygure. 1535 LAYTON in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 71 Getheryng up part of the saide bowke leiffes ..therwith to make him sewelles or blawnsherres to kepe the dere within the woode, therby to have the better cry with his howndes. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* xxxvii. 98 Any thing that is hung vp, is called a Sewel. And those are vsed most commonly to amaze a Deare, and to make him refuse to passe wher they are hanged vp. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. x. ¶ 4 So are these bugbeares of opinions brought by great Clearkes into the world, to serve as shewelles to keepe them from those faults, whereto [etc.]. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Sewell*, a Paper, clout, or any thing hanged vp to keep a Deere from entring into a place. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxv. 325 He knows both with what baites to incite them, and with what shewels to drive into the Net and Toyle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 187/1 Bleinchers, and Sewels, are papers and stick laid cross a Fox-hole, to fear him and make him believe some Gin is set there. 1888 *Berks. Gloss., Shewell*, a scarecrow.

Hence **Shewelling** *sb.*, setting up shewels.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie*, Terms 242 When they hang vppe any paper, clout, or other marke, then it is to be called Sewelling. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Armado* D 2, Dew-clawes and Dowlcets, drawing the Couerte, Blemishes, Sewelling, Auant-laye, Allaye, Relaye [etc.]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 188/2 Sewels or S[e]welling, is the setting up of clouts or papers, or the like, for marks, and to fear Deer away from a place. 1902 *Gamekeeper* Dec. 65/1 Sewelling in a piece of cord with rags and feathers fixed at every six inches..at a reasonable distance in front of the guns will ensure good flying birds.

Shewemaker, obs. form of SHOEMAKER.

Shewer(e, obs. f. SEWER *sb.*[2, 3]; SHOWER.

Shewet, obs. form of SUET.

Shewid, obs. pa. t. of SHOVE *v.*

Shewin, Shewmake: see SEWIN 1, SUMACH.

Shewre, obs. form of SHOWER *sb.*

Shewt: see SHOOT *sb.*[3]

Shewtage: see SHOOTAGE *Obs.*

Shewter, Sheyde, obs. ff. SUITOR, SHED *sb.*[1]

Sheykh, Sheyld: see SHEIKH, SHIEL.

Sheynd, Sheyt(t, obs. ff. SHEND, SHEET *sb.*[1]

Shiack, variant form of SHE-OAK.

‖ **Shiah** (ʃī·ă). Forms: *α.* 7 **Seaw, Chias,** 8 **Schia**(h, **Shiyah,** 9 **Shiya, Shya,** 8–9 **Shia,** 9 **She**(**e**)**ah, Sheer,** 8– **Shiah**; *β.* 7 **Schiai,** 7–8 **Shii,** 8 **Shiay.** [Arab. شِيعَة *shīʿah* sect, f. root *shāʿa*, in the third conjugation to follow.

The *β* forms, strictly speaking, represent a distinct word, Arab. شِيعِيّ *shiyaʿīy* a member of the Shiah sect, a Shiite.]

1. a. Properly (but in Eng. somewhat rarely) used as a collective name for that one of the two great Mohammedan sects (chiefly represented by the Persians) which differs from the Sunnites or orthodox Mohammedans chiefly in maintaining that Ali (Mohammed's cousin and son-in-law) was the true successor of the prophet, the three first caliphs of the Sunnites being regarded as usurpers.

b. Commonly, an adherent of this sect, a Shiite.

1626 METHOLD in Purchas *Pilgrimage* (ed. 4) 995 He is by Religion a Mahumetan, discended from Persian Ancestors, and retayneth their opinions, which differing in many points from the Turkes, are distinguished in their Sects by tearmes of *Seaw* and *Sunnee*. 1668 RYCAUT *Pres. St. Ottoman Emp.* II. xi. 127 The Shii are opposed by the Subjects of the whole Ottoman Empire, as the most heretical of any of the rest. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 107 The Persians call themselves Schiai, because they think it enough to follow the commands of their Law. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. IV. ii. 106 The sect of Schias includes the Persians and some princes of the Indies, who are followers of Ali, who are also distinguished by the name of Adeliah. 1759 *Universal Hist., Mod.* VI. 34 The two chief sects, named *Sunni* and *Shiay*, into which the Mohammedans are divided. 1798 G. FORSTER *Journ. Bengal to Eng.* II. 129 In contradistinction to the Soonis, who in their prayers cross their hands on the lower part of the breast, the Schiahs drop their arms in straight lines. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 269 The Sheeahs are more discountenanced than any other religious sect. 1827 BUCKINGHAM *Trav. Mesopot.* II. 483 The mosque of the Imam Hossein, so highly reverenced by the Shiahs. 1830 MEYRICK *Ant. Arms & Armour* II. Pl. 141 He was a Sheer, a religious sect violently opposed to the Sunnis. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* App. 305 The earth is held in superstitious veneration by the Muhammadans, especially the 'Sheahs'. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 593/1 The Shí'a were divided into several sects.

2. *attrib.* and *adj.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* I. iv. 29 His Substitute here is a Chias Moor. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* VII. iv. II. 159 The enthusiasm of the nation for the Shía religion. 1903 SIR A. H. LAYARD *Autobiog.* I. viii. 337 Being of the Shiah sect of Islam.

Shibboleth (ʃi·bŏleþ). Forms: 4 **s**(**h**)**ebo-leth, 6, 7 schiboleth, 7 schibboleth, 7–9 shiboleth, 7– shibboleth.** [a. Heb. שִׁבֹּלֶת *shibbō·leth*; in the Vulgate transliterated *sciboleth.*

The word occurs with the senses 'ear of corn' and 'stream in flood'; in the passage now referred to the LXX and Vulgate give the former rendering; mod. commentators prefer the latter, on the ground that on this view the selection of the word is naturally accounted for, as the slaughter took place 'at the fords of Jordan'. Cf. SIBBOLETH *v.*]

1. The Hebrew word used by Jephthah as a test-word by which to distinguish the fleeing Ephraimites (who could not pronounce the *sh*) from his own men the Gileadites (Judges xii. 4–6).

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xii. 6 Thei askiden hym, Seye thanne Sebolech [1535 COVERDALE Schiboleth, 1611 Shibboleth].. the which answerde, Shebolech [1388 Thebolech, 1535 Siboleth, 1611 Sibboleth]. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 289 In that sore battel when so many dy'd Without Reprieve adjudg'd to death, For want of well pronouncing Shibboleth. 1844 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* II. 73 As some endeavoured to conceal their character, recourse was had to a test like the Jewish Shiboleth.

2. *transf.* **a.** A word or sound which a person is unable to pronounce correctly; a word used as a test for detecting foreigners, or persons from another district, by their pronunciation.

1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampant* 36 They had a Shibboleth to discover them, he who pronounced *Brot* and *Cawse* for *Bread* and *Cheese* had his head lopt off. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* xxxviii. 62 It [the word *trespasses*] is a shiboleth to a child's tongue, wherein there is a confluence of hard consonants together. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Essex* (1662) I. 335, *R.* was Shiboleth unto him, which he could not easily pronounce. 1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* i, In attempting to teach his companion to utter, with true precision, the shibboleth *Lhu*, which is the Gaelic for a calf. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Consular Exper.* I. 44 The best shibboleth I ever hit upon lay in the pronunciation of the word 'been'. 1873 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 138 (ed. 2) 139 The TH with its twofold value is one of the most characteristic features of our language, and more than any other the Shibboleth of foreigners.

b. A peculiarity of pronunciation or accent indicative of a person's origin.

1663 [J. HEATH] *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* 123 There were slain [at Worcester] in Field and in Town,..and in pursuit some 3000, and some 8000. taken prisoners in several places, most of the English escaping by their Shiboleth. 1701 DE FOE *Trueborn Engl.* I. 136 The Customs, Sirnames, Languages, and Manners, Of all these Nations..Whose Relicks..ha' left a Shiboleth upon our Tongue; By which ..you may distinguish Your Roman-Saxon-Danish-Norman English. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 112/1 The commonalty [of Northumberland] are..remarkably distinguished by a kind of *shibboleth* or *whurle*, being a particular way of pronouncing the letter *R*.

c. *loosely.* A custom, habit, mode of dress, or the like, which distinguishes a particular class or set of persons.

1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 2) 192 Custard and apple-pie is the Shibboleth by which an Alderman may be known. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* I. iv. (1862) 40 The sportsman's shooting-dress is a shibboleth, which introduces him alike to his superiors, to his fellows, and his inferiors. 1885 DODGE *Patroclus & Penelope* 10 The newly fledged equestrian who makes them [the English hunting-rig and crop] his shibboleth, and who discards as 'bad form' any deviation upon the road from what is eminently in place after hounds. 1902 GOSSE in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXXIII. 819/2 *Joseph and his Brethren* became a kind of shibboleth—a rite of initiation into the true poetic culture.

3. *fig.* A catchword or formula adopted by a party or sect, by which their adherents or followers may be discerned, or those not their followers may be excluded.

1638 E. NORICE *New Gospel* 3 His followers sequestring themselves to such as were their own way,..gave themselves to mirth and jollity,..as if it were the only Shibboleth whereby to be discerned from the miserable Legalists that held mourning and sorrow for sinne. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* IV. 1076 For them..Their Foes a deadly Shibboleth devise: By which unrighteously it was decreed, That none to Trust, or Profit should succeed, Who would not swallow first a poysonous wicked Weed. 1771 WESLEY *Serm.* xliv. Wks. 1829 VI. 63 But here is the shibboleth: Is man by nature filled with all manner of evil?..Allow this, and you are so far a Christian. Deny it, and you are but a Heathen still. 1784 COWPER *Let. to Newton* 21 Feb., The mere shibboleth of a party. 1809 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. v. 146 Knaves and fools invent catch-words and shibboleths to keep them ['honest' persons] from coming to a just understanding. 1862 J. SKELTON *Nugæ Crit.* ix. 424 The age.. strives to emancipate itself from the fetters of party shibboleths. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* vi. § 3. 394 Christians were ready to insist upon the insensate Shibboleth, 'Except ye be circumcised..ye cannot be saved'.

b. The mode of speech distinctive of a profession, class, etc.

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 231 She has assumed the garb and even the shibboleth of the sect. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 400 To that sanctimonious jargon, which was his shibboleth, was opposed another jargon not less absurd. 1884 *Graphic* 25 Oct. 437/3 Not given to talk stable, as is too often the case with racing men, but putting off the shibboleth of the turf with his race-glasses.

Shibol, obs. form of CHIBOL.

1546–7 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 416 No persons hensforthe shall syll..shibols, by Sainct Michels churche.

Shibouk, variant of CHIBOUK.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiv. 303, I soon found the absurdity of asking an Oriental to abandon his shibouk.

Shicer (ʃəi·səɹ). Also **schicer, shiser.** [a. G. *scheisser* 'cacator, peditor'; hence = 1 below.]

1. *slang.* A worthless person. Also *Austral.* (? transf. from 2) a welsher, defaulter.

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 227 *Shicer*, a mean man, a humbug—a person who is either worthless, or will not work. 1887 'HOPEFUL' *Taken in* 135 [New Zealand] If a man isn't 'up to the mark', he is called 'a regular shicer'. 1896 in E. E. MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s.v., Don't take his bet, he's a regular shicer. 1906 OLIVE C. MALVERY *Soul Market* xvii. 290 A racecourse swindler or welsher is spoken of as a 'shiser'.

2. *Austral.* An unproductive claim or mine.

1855 *Argus* (Melbourne) 19 Jan. 6/1, 220 feet digging is no plaything just now, with the prospect of a schicer at such depths. 1859 K. CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 219 We bought a hole..which those who originally sunk it had determined upon abandoning as a shicer. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD'

Miner's Right xxxiv, The shaft..was an old shicer and pretty deep.

Shickle, altered f. SHITTLE *a. Obs.*, unstable.

Shick-shack (ʃi·kˌʃæk). *dial.* Also shic(k)-sack, shitsack, shig-shag, sic-sac, shuck-shack, shiff-shack, etc. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Perh. a corruption of *shitsack*, an 'opprobrious appellation by which the Nonconformists were vulgarly distinguished' (Granger *Biogr. Hist. Eng.* 1769, II. 224 and index).] App. originally used as a term of abuse for persons who were found not wearing the customary oak-apple or sprig of oak on the morning of Royal-oak day (29 May) which is hence called *Shick-shack Day*. In some places *shick-shack* appears to have become a name for the oak-apple or sprig of oak itself.

[1834 G. ROBERTS *Hist. & Antiq. Lyme Regis* 257 The boys continue to gild their oak apples and apply an opprobrious name to those who have not an oak leaf displayed, or wear it after twelve o'clock.] 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shick-shack-day*, a term for the 29th of May, or Royal Oak Day. *Surrey. Ibid.*, *Shitsac*, an oak-apple. *Wilts.* 1855 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. XII. 100 *Shig-shag Day*. The working men of Basingstoke, and other towns in Hampshire, arise early on May 29, to gather slips of oak with the galls on: these they put in their hats, or anywhere about their persons...After breakfast these men go round to such houses for beer, &c. Should they not receive anything, the following verses should be said: 'Shig-shag, penny a rag (Bang his head in Crommell's bag), All up in a bundle.' 1891 *Church Times* 13 Feb. 150/2 (E.D.D.) Anybody not decorated was bonnetted, or pinched, and called a 'Shuck-shack'. 1892 MISS YONGE *Old Woman's Outlook* May 105 The 29th..is called in Hampshire and Sussex, Shik Shak Day. 1896 DITCHFIELD *Old Eng. Customs* 120 In Wilts it is known as Shitsack or Shick-sack Day, when the children carry shitsack, or sprigs of young oak.

†**Shidder.** *Obs. rare.*

1737 HOPPUS *Salmon's Country Build. Estim.* (ed. 2) 104 The general Sorts [of nails] are..Shidder Hobbs, Thick Hobbs, Clasp Hobbs.

Shidder, obs. form of SHEDDER.

Shide (ʃəid), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1–3 scid, 3 sid, 4 szhide, (chide), 4–6 schide, schyde, 5 schyd(d, (schudde, chyde), 5–6 shyde, shyyd, 6 shyd, (shede), 6, 7 shid, 4– shide. [OE. *scíd* (? neut.) = OFris. *skîd*, mod. Flem. dial. *schijd*, OHG. *scît* neut. (MHG. *schît*, mod.G. *scheit*), ON. *skíð* neut. (Norw. *ski*: see SKI):—OTeut. **skīdo-m*, f. root **skīd-* to divide: see SHED *v.*] A piece of wood split off from timber, esp. such a piece used in building a fire, a block, billet; a board, plank, beam. As a quantity: Half a cubic foot of timber (see quot. for *shide measure* in b).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1817 *Scindulis*: scidum. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 943. *c* 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 943. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 266/33 *Incipit de Igne..Scindula*, scid. *c* 1300 *Hæveloh* 917 Ful wel kan ich cleuen shides. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6421 Mouth they haveth gret, and wide, And a tonge as a schyde. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 170 Les hasteles [*glossed* the chides, szhides] fetez alumer. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 160 And com to Noe Anon And bad him not lette Swiþe to schapen A schup of schides and Bordes. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Orig. Cron.* III. v. 776 A bale fyre off gret schyddys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schyyd, or astelle (*v.rr.* schyd of a astel, schyde wode), *teda*. 1446 *Churchw. Acc. Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 86 To I. Parker vor goyng to Thurbbewyll to helpe hewwe the schudde. *Ibid.* 88 Vor vyllyng of a chyde. 1470–73 in *Rec. Andover* 16 Paid for caryng a shide xij^{d}. *c* 1512 *Regul. Northumbld. Househ.* (1770) 72 The shedes to be maid of the said Hardwode to be in leinth a Yerde and in thikenes a Spanne. 1533 HEN. VIII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 31 Item, every mornyng at our Woodeyarde, foure tall shyds and twoo fagotts. 1561 S. WYTHERS tr. *Calvin's Treat. Relics* C ij, And in som places ther are good great shydes [of the Cross]. 1657 LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 56 If the fire-man throw great shides of wood in the mouths of the Furnaces. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 262 Cutting every shid of tall wood four foot long beside the kerf, and the billet three foot four inches. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 241 *Shides*. The same as *Shingles*. 1793 *Trnls. Ho. Comm.* 28 Mar. 516/2 A Quantity of Pollard Trees sufficient to make 1,200 Shides of Cleft Wood, containing Half a Foot each.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shide-wood, -yard*; **shide-measure** (see quot.); **shide-wall,** a rampart composed of piles.

1600 HOPTON *Baculum Geod.* VI. XXXVII. 213 *Shide measure sheweth how many shides of timber is contained in each foote of length: for..a shide of timber is halfe a foote of timber. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 146/28 *Uallum*, *scidwealles eorðbyri. *c* 1205 LAY. 10354 Þe vfenen he makede scid wal. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* XXXIX, Schaftis in *shide wode thay shindre in schides. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* (1911) 422 The which lieth in *shideyerd in Oxenford.

†**Shide,** *v. Obs. rare.* Pa. pple. 4 ischyt. [f. SHIDE *sb.*] *trans.* To cleave, split.

c 1315 SHOREHAM (E.E.T.S.) iv. 178 Þys manere senne nys nauȝt ones, Ac hys ischyt in þry, In þoust, in speche, in dede amys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iii. 48 With wegis schidit gan the birkis sound.

†**Shi·der,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SHIDE *sb.*] *trans.* To shatter, splinter.

a 1529 SKELTON *Vppon Deedmans Hed* 13 With synnews wyderyd, With bonys shyderyd.

Shie, Shieoh, obs. ff. SHY *a.* and *v.*, SHEIKH.

Shiel (ʃēl). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: α. 3 sciale, shale, 4–6 schele, 5–6 scheill, 5, 7 schell(e, 6 shele, shile, 7 sheale, sheel(l, 7–9 sheal, 9 shill, (scheul, schule), 8– shiel; β. 6–7 scheild, 7 sheyld, sheald, 8–9 shield. [Northern ME. *shāle, schēle*, of obscure origin.

Prob. connected in some way with the synonymous ON. *skále* wk. masc. (whence SCALE *sb.*[4]). The formal equivalent of this in ONorthumbrian would be **scéla* (= WS. **scéala*), which would yield ME. *schēle* and the later forms. The 13th c. form *shāle* may be an adoption of the ON. form with substitution of initial (ʃ) for (sk), or it may be an alteration of the native word through association with the ON. form. The β forms arose from confusion with SHIELD *sb.*]

1. A temporary building, usually of boards; a shepherd's summer hut; a shanty, shed, SHIELING.

The 'shiels' in quot. 1291 are those from which the town of Shields is named. The place is called 'the shiles by Tinmouth castle' in Bulleyn *Bk. Simples* (1562) 75 b.

α. 1291 in W. S. Gibson *Tynemouth Priory* (1846) II. App. 68 Non fuerunt ibi nisi tres sciales tantum. *Ibid.* 70 Ante prædictum tempus..non fuerunt ibi nisi prædict' tres shales. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4049 Þar þai schewid him in schurrys to schellis & to caues. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. ix. (S.T.S.) I. 282 To bring his govne fra þe somer schele quhare he duelt. *Ibid.* v. i. II. 142 To mak wynter schelis to defend þame fra wynter stormys. 1562 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1585, 257/1 To big scheillis and lawis on the hauchis of the saidis landis..for resaweing of the fisch. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 433 What to doe have the ministring spirits of the Lord with things done in such a contemptible and stinking sheell? *a* 1722 in *W. Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 36 They..ther live grassing their cattle in litle houses which they build upon ther coming and throwes doun when they come away called sheels. *a* 1756 COLLINS *Ode Superst. Highl.* 48 Whether sitting in the shepherds shiel, Thou hear'st some sounding tale of war's alarms. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. *Berwick* 159 An alarm is instantly given to the men at the shiel or house where the fishermen lodge.

β. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 36/2 Coats, Sheapards Shealds, or Hovells. 1726 P. WALKER *Life Peden* (1827) 63 He preached in a Shield or Sheep-house, in a desert Place. 1823 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 9 The floors of a great many shields or circular huts; which had been in it, were rudely paved. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. cxlviii. § 47 To remove from every Fishery, Fishing Shield, and Fishing Ground..all Boats, Oars [etc.].

2. A small house, cottage, hovel.

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 201 Item, idem Elem. [osinarius] adquisivit illam schele in Rokehop que aliquando fuit Roberti de Brandon pro 8 *li.* 1557 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 239 Takkand to erd our scheillis and housis. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Surnames* 102 Sheal, a cottage or shelter. 1616 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 339 And the third voult to be bot ane schell athort the haill hous for the jayllouris duelling. 1728 RAMSAY *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 127 Come to my shiel, there let's forget our care. 1792 BURNS *Song, Bess & Spinning Wheel* 23 The craik amang the clover hay, The paitrick whirrin' o'er the ley, The swallow jinkin' round my shiel, Amuse me at my spinning-wheel. 1838 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 379 In the churches they were better sheltered than in their own shiels. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 62 We stopped at a very picturesque place, surrounded by woods and hills and little shiels. *transf.* *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) vi, It was ane sober wane..Ane sillie scheill vnder ane steidfast stane.

†**3.** A piece of pasture ground having a shepherd's hut upon it; a summer pasturage. *Obs.*

1532 LD. DACRE in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) IV. 608 The common brute and voice was to have made a roode upon the Debatable grounde and Liddisdale men, nowe being at the sheles frome their winter houses. 1620 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 781/2 Lie insches et shealis super dicta aqua. 1715 PENNECUIK *Tweeddale* 18 Then follows a little Shiel called the Frosthol. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 144 This place, called the Sheals of Dalquhirn, belongs to Macpherson of Breakachie. 1843 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 59 *note*, A *shiel* or *shieling* is a shepherd's summer hut, as well as a summer pasturage for flocks. 1857 JEFFREY *Roxburgh.* I. 269 The schules or scheuls, afterwards written Shiels were applied to describe mountain pasture with the huts of the herdsmen.

†**4.** *Comb.*: **shiel-house** = sense 2; **shiel-town** = sense 3.

1606 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 627/1 Lie scheiltounes. 1623 *Ibid.* 151/1 Lie scheildhous. 1804 *Anderson's Cumbld. Ball.* 80 She lives in a shill-house, burns dried sticks, And there has dealins wi' the de'il.

Shield (ʃēld), *sb.* Forms: 1 scild, scyld, sceld, 3–4 s(s)eld, 3–5 sheld, (cheld), 3–6 scheld, 4 sceild, scheeld, (cheeld, schuld), 4–5 scelde, schild(e, schylde, shilde, 4–6 s(c)helde, sheeld, 4, 6 schield, (childe), 4–8 scheild, 5 scheelde, scheyld, shyld, (shulde), 5–6 shild, shylde, sheelde, 6 shielde, 7 sheild, 6– shield. [Com. Teut.: OE. (**scield*) *sceld* masc. = OFris. *skeld, schild*, OS. *scild* (MLG. *schild* masc., neut.), MDu. *schilt, schild-* masc. (mod.Du. *schild* neut.), OHG. *scild* masc. (MHG. *schilt, schild-* masc., G. *schild* masc., neut.), ON. *skjold-r* (Sw. *sköld*, Da. *skjold*), Goth. *skildu-s*:—OTeut. **skeldu-z*.]

I. 1. In ancient and mediæval warfare, and still in that of uncivilized peoples, an article of defensive armour carried in the hand or attached by a strap to the left arm of a soldier, as a protection from the weapons of the enemy. Sometimes applied *spec.* to an article of this kind larger than the BUCKLER, which was usually carried in the hand, and smaller than the PAVIS, which was held by an attendant in front of a knight or archer.

Shields have been made of various materials, as metal, wood, wickerwork covered with skins or leather, etc. The form has varied greatly in different periods and countries; the principal types are (1) the circular shield, usually convex in front, with a boss in the centre; (2) the oblong shield, either flat, or, more commonly, having the form of a portion of a cylinder; and (3) the shield with curved sides tapering to a point at the lower end, which was the prevailing form in Europe during the Middle Ages.

In the Middle Ages the 'armorial bearings' of a knight were depicted on his shield, and decorated shields, made for display and not for warlike use, were often hung on walls in churches or other buildings as a memorial of a knight or noble. Hence sense 3.

Beowulf 325 Setton sæmeþe side scyldas,..wiþ þæs recedes weal. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxv. 4 Ðer ȝebræc hornas bogan sceld sweord & ȝefeht. 1205 LAY. 23777 Ane scelde gode [1275 sceald]. *Ibid.* 4212 Heo nomen þa seeldes. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1713 For mony mon myd speres orde haueþ lutle strengþe & mid his schelde [*Cott.* chelde], Ah [etc.]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3840 Ȝif he nadde wiþ þe sseld somdel þe dunt yhent Siker he im adde aslawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2497 On helme and sceild [*v.rr.* shilde, schild, sheeld]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 693 (Laud MS.) An horne in þe forehede amydward þat wolde perce a shelde hard. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 1264 And somme woln haue a Pruce sheeld or a targe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 97 Scipio sigh ones a childe gayliche arrayed, and seide, 'I wondre nouȝt þat he arrayeþ well his childe [L. *scutum*], for [etc.].' *c* 1418 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 244 Hem nedethe nether spere ne shulde. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxiv, Take thi schild and thi spere. 1508 DUNBAR *Golden Targe* 151 Than come, Resoun, with schelde of gold so clere. *c* 1550 N. SMYTH tr. *Herodian* II. 22 Lyftynge theyr shyldes and Targettes ouer theyr heades. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 5 His mightie sheld Vpon his many arme. 16.. *Funeral in Popish Times* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 34 The helme, Childe [*elsewhere* shild], sword, the Cote of Armes, to bee layd vppon ye bere in dew order. 1699 TEMPLE *Introd. Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1720 II. 531 Their common Arms were small Shields, but very large Swords. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 331 Its skin is thick, and covered with brown hair, and the natives make shields of it. 1867 *Rep. Paris Univ. Exhib.* (1868) II. 489 Two shields, one in iron and one in steel, are the most remarkable of their works.

†**b.** *Phr. Under shield*: in battle or combat. *With spear and shield*: in battle array; by force of arms. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 53 Hy smyten vnder schelde [*Laud* selde, *Harl.* sheld]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3096, vi hundred knistes ..þat wele couþe juste in feld wiþ stef launce vnder scheld. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 50 Our King and his men held þe felde Stalworthy, with spere and schelde. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 2951 Partonope thatt day vnder hys schelde [*v.r.* sheelde] xx hethen he hathe slayn yn the fylde. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* liv, Quhai for hir saik, with speir and scheld, Preiffis maist mychtelye in the feld. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. viii. 111 Of Hetruria the ostis vnder scheild Wyth that word stoppit in the samin feild. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 129 Baith pairties..cum to Dunfreis, thair tha diuyde it with speir and scheild. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* XXXV, They met, as was the phrase of the time, 'manful under shield'. *Ibid.* XXXVI, We bear no malice for what is done in fair fight under shield.

c. In allusion to the custom of suspending a warrior's shield as a memorial of him.

1817 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 9 Seize, then, my soul! from Freedom's trophied dome The Harp which hangeth high between the Shields Of Brutus and Leonidas!

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Something serving as a defence against attack or injury. Often in echoes of Biblical language referring to metaphorical armour, as *Ephes.* vi. 16.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Habbeð..hope to helme, and soðe luue to shelde, and godes word to swerde. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 161 Ðis neddre siðen he nede sal, makeð seld of his bodi and sildeð bis heued. *a* 1225 *Ancren R.* 52 Heo to þe ȝunge ȝiueð vuel uorbisne, & scheld to werien ham mide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9972 It [a castle]..standes vs for sceild and targe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Ich bidde þe hit [þin holy blod] by my sseld auoreye þe wycked uend. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 132 For hys passyon is suffycyent shylde to vs. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 107 His trew promeis is thy scheild. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 102 b, What shield [shall I find] against the violent passions of Gynecia? 1771 *Junius Lett.* lix. 305 The favour of his country constitutes the shield which defends him. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 69 Again the watery shield was interposed. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* ii. (1856) 20 Strips of heavy sheet-iron..as a shield against the cutting action of the new ice. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* XV. *The 'Times'*, No dignity or wealth is a shield from its assault.

b. Applied (as a Biblical Hebraism: see, e.g. Ps. xxxiii. 20, lxxxiv. 11) to a personal defender or protector (esp. to God).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 29 Þe englas beoþ aa halȝum mannum on fultume swa swa scyld. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 463 Þam biþ dryhten scyld. *c* 1275 *Five Joys Virg.* 13 in *O. E. Misc.* 87 Beo vre scheld from vre iro. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 592 Thow be my sheld for þy benignite. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 155 Þus lordis ben made schildis of synne for a litel money or worldly seruyce of wickid curatis. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3 His Sone, our Saniour, scheild in necessitie. 1738 WESLEY *Psalms & Hymns, Ps.* iii, But Thou art a Shield for me. *a* 1833 SIR R. GRANT *Hymn*, '*O worship the King*', Our shield and defender, The Ancient of days.

†**c.** Government, sway (of a country). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 8 Þe lond lese þe armes, changed is þe scheld. *Ibid.* 69 Harald, þorgh comon assent, Was coroned nobly, & for kyng þei him helde, Bot þe duke of Normundie to William felle þe schelde.

†**d.** Shelter, protection (in physical sense). *Obs.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 202 Where being benighted, [he] tooke no other shield, To lodge him and his ware then th'open field. 1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* II. 331 But then, betake thee, to the shade that lies, In shield of Rocks.

3. *Her.* = ESCUTCHEON.

Shield-of-arms: an escutcheon with armorial bearings. *Shield of pretence* = *Escutcheon of pretence* (ESCUTCHEON 1 c), cf. INESCUTCHEON.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* (A) 1322 Tirri on Beues be-held And se3 þe boiste wiþ a scheld. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 153 L'eskou de gules [*glossed* a reed cheeld] ad porté. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 48 Item, a lyttell shelde of golde Innamyled with whyt and grene. 1540 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 463 Concessit dicto W. et heredibus tallie unum duplex lie tressour auri in eorum lie schield circa eorum arma. *a* 1552 LELAND *Collect.* (1715) I. 234 Syr Maurice bare in a Grene Shild thre Bores of Golde. 1562 LEGH *Armory* 38 b, The fift [worthy] was Iudas Machabeus, whose Shielde was Or, ii. Rauens in Pale proper... The viii. was Charlemaine, & he bare the Ierusalem Shielde. Impaled with the imperiall Cote. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* 5 July (O.H.S.) II. 24 Persons regard Dr. Woodward's Shield as 'a banter'. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 110/1 Our author's [Beaumont's] shield.. may be seen in any *Baronetage*. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* i. (ed. 3) 4 Such is the origin of Shields-of-Arms. 1868 CUSSANS *Handbk. Her.* iv. (1893) 69 The Inescutcheon, or Shield of Pretence, is [etc.]. 1905 C. DAVENPORT *Jewellery* viii. 142 The three legs in the shield-of-arms of the Isle of Man.

4. An ornamental piece of plate (more or less in the form of a shield) offered for competition in an athletic or other contest.

1868 *Wimbledon Annual* 23 The 'Elcho' Challenge Shield. 1898 *Field* 23 Apr. 625/3 It has now been decided that the clubs shall jointly hold the shield during the ensuing twelve months.

II. A protective covering or shelter.

5. Applied to certain parts of animal bodies. [= G. *schild*, shield of a boar, a tortoise, etc.]

a. The thick, tough skin upon the sides and flanks of the boar; *spec.* an article of food (in full, *shield of brawn*), made by placing a piece of this skin round the inside of a cylindrical mould and filling up with meat, and cooking until soft and tender. (Cf. BRAWN *sb.* 3.)

[1337 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 32 Festum Sci. Cuthberti in Sept., In 2 scutis de Braune pro festo empt. a diversis.] 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 58 Wyth scheldez of wylde swyn. *c* 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v, Þei haue herd skynne and stronge flessh; and specially vpon þe shoulder, þat is called þe shelde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hunting* f ii b, The sheldys on the sholderis: therof shall ii. be. *a* 1552 LELAND *Collect.* (1715) I. 231 By eating of a sheelde of a wilde bore he got an appetite. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, Did you not deuoure this morning, A shield of Brawne, and a barrell of Colchester oysters? 1641 MURREL *Cookerie* (ed. 5) 5 A Shield or Collar of Brawne. 1705 *Poor Robin* Observ. Feb., They then look like a Shield of Brawn at Shrovetide out of Date. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* vii, Wamba..opposed to the beard of the Jew a shield of brawn, which he plucked from beneath his cloak. 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll Grange* xxxii, You will always find a piece of cold roast beef and a tankard of good ale; and just now a shield of brawn.

allusive uses. 1607 *Lingua* II. i. C 4, If they would vse no other Bucklers in warre, but sheilds of Brawne. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiv. 135 The shield of a Boare.. is a good Buckler against that cruell Enemy called Hunger.

b. *Zool.* A protective plate covering a part; a scute, a carapace, a plastron, or the like.

1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 1627 These were the Shields of the Cochineel Flies. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 352 The shield of the breast [of the mole-cricket] is of a firm texture. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 65 Shell a conical shield, with the summit inclined. 1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U. S.* I. 255 [In Turtles] The dorsal shield, usually called by the French name 'carapace', is connected by a bridge with another shield, commonly called 'plastron'. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 234 *Pleurobranchus* has a thin, flat horny shield. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* i. 24 The great shield or carapace is very easily separated from the thorax and abdomen.

†6. The seat of a privy; hence, a privy. *Sc. Obs.* [Cf., for the sense, F. *garde-robe*.]

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 658 This fals tratour wnder the schield wes set, Quhilk to his cuming tuke gude tent and cuir, With ane lang speit..Amang the bowellis vpwart in the breist Straik him to deid. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 65 Quhen he passit to the scheild to purge his wame. 1556 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) III. 222 That all personis that hes scheildis clenge the samin or euer thai be full, sua that thai brek nocht furth and rin in the streit. 1582 *Ibid.* (1882) IV. 259 Middingis, scheildes, furrouris [etc.].

7. A framework erected for the protection of workmen engaged in boring or tunnelling and pushed forward as the work progresses; also, a watertight case used in submarine tunnelling to keep back quicksands and inrushes of water.

1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 805 The work [Thames tunnel] was commenced in 1825...To give security to the men in excavating, Mr. Brunel invented a cast-iron shield or frame...This shield [etc.] 1838 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 290/1 Two rows of close whole timber piles should be driven..with space sufficient for the shield to travel. 1895 *Daily News* 5 June 7/3 A circular shield with a cutting edge is driven by sheer hydraulic pushing through the soil.

8. A protective device attached to a field-gun in order to shelter the gunners from rifle-fire.

1898 E. S. MAY *Field Artillery* 313 Personally I do not believe in shields; if really bullet proof, they are so heavy as to hamper mobility. *Ibid.*, Even without shields men working quick-firing guns would be slightly less exposed than they are at present.

9. The lower front part of a ploughshare.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 415 The share proper, consisting of the shield, terminating in the point *c*, and of.. the feather or cutter. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

III. Applied to things shaped like a shield.

†10. Used to render OF. *escu* as the name of a coin: see ÉCU. Cf. SCUTE *sb.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 278 Wel koude he in eschaunge sheeldes selle. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 45 The florens in Chaucers tyme..was of the valewe of thre shillinges, foure pence..or at the leaste, of two shillinges tenne pence farthinge..some of them beinge called 'florens de scuto', or of the valewe of the 'shelde', or frenche crowne.

11. *Horticulture.* = ESCUTCHEON 3 d, SCUTCHEON *sb.*[1] 4 c.

1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* 22 All other maner of trees aforesayde, doe take verye well to be graffed wyth Cyons, and also in the shielde. 1606 RAM *Little Dodeon* D 8, To graffe in the Shield, is to be done in Iune or Iuly, with the rynde. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 262 Sharpen that end of the Bark below the Bud, like a Shield or Escutcheon. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 306 The shield being inserted in the usual manner, another with an orifice in it, to admit the bud of the first, is laid over it.

12. *Bot.* a. (See quot. 1806.)

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 75 [A Lichen found] about the bodies of old oak..trees near Holsworthy, Devonshire, abundantly with innumerable shields. 1806 TURTON tr. *Linn. Nat. Syst.* VII. Expl. Terms, *Shield*, the saucer-like fructification of lichens. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* III. 352/1 The species of the genus *Lecanora* are crustaceous lichens, with a flat uniform thallus, and unstalked shields.

b. (See quot.)

1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Shield*, a broad table-like process in the flowers of *Stapelia*.

c. One of the cells forming the covering to the male organs of *Characeæ*.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 284 Each of these cells forms a segment of the shell of the ball, and they are hence called Shields.

13. *Embryology.* (See quot.)

1913 J. W. JENKINSON *Vertebrate Embryology* 135 There is distinguishable in the blastoderm at the close of segmentation a circular or oval area placed excentrically towards the posterior end; this area is the embryonic shield.

†14. ? A sheet of ice. *Obs.*

1624 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Deeds* Bundle 108 *fol.* 9 Payd to Willyam Brand and Symon Crauford for breaking the sheilds of ice in the ryver..this last winter.

15. a. A keyhole plate. ? *Obs.* [= G. *schild*.] Cf. ESCUTCHEON 3 c, SCUTCHEON *sb.*[1] 4 e.

1649 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 103 For ane lock and sheild to ye new chalmer dore of Cauldwell 3 2 0.

b. *Cutlery.* A small metal (usually 'German silver') plate fixed on the handle of a penknife or pocket-knife, for ornament or to be engraved with the owner's name.

1876 CALLIS *Cutlery* (Brit. Manuf. Industr.) 163 About 1730 engraving of the shields and bolsters of pen and pocket knives..was commenced.

c. (See quot.)

1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 369 The flat piece of metal which is sometimes affixed to the bottom of the hilt is called a shield.

16. *gen.* A flat or slightly convex surface more or less resembling a shield in shape.

1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* ii. § 21. 53 The shield of stone which, usually supported by a central pillar, occupied the head of early windows. 1873 MISS THACKERAY *Old Kensington* xii. 100 A faded Italian shield of looking-glass.

17. A fancy breed of pigeons, of various colours.

1858 TEGETMEIER *Pigeons* xxi. 174 The Shields are so termed from bearing on their wings a coloured mark like a shield, on a white ground. 1874–6 *Fulton's Bk. Pigeons* 352 Shields. The colours of these are Black, Red, Yellow, Blue, and Silver. They are invariably plain-headed birds.

IV. Combinations.

18. Obvious combinations: a. simple attributive, as *shield-boss*; denoting a person armed with or carrying a shield, as *shield-boy*, *-man*.

1910 G. HENDERSON *Norse Infl. Celtic Scot.* ii. 42 Sword-axe, *shield-boss and cauldron. 1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* IV. viii. 306 Torch-bearers and *shield-boys. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xxv. 210 Close up, *shield-men—close up!

b. objective, as *shield-maker*; *shield-bearing*, *-losing* adjs.; also *shield-breaking* adj. and sb.

1824 SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agamem.* 64 Many proud *shield-bearing men. 1867 TENNYSON *Passing of Arthur* 109 *Shield-breakings, and the clash of brands. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* xxi. 485 Shield-breaking Mars began the assault. 1848 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph. Clouds* I. iv, When they saw the *shield-losing Cleonymus. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 686/19 *Hic scutarius*, a *scheldmaker. 1908 RIDER HAGGARD *Ghost Kings* xviii. 260, I have sold the hides to the shield-makers.

c. similative, as *shield-form*, *-formed*, *-like*, *-shaped* adjs.; parasynthetic, as *shield-backed*, *-gilled*, *-headed* adjs.

1895 COMSTOCK *Study Insects* 115 The *Shield-backed Grasshoppers. *Ibid.* 146 The Shield-backed Bugs. 1784 tr. *Spallanzani's Diss. Nat. Hist.* II. 275 The pumpion with *shield-form fruit. 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 640/2 Of the three [laminae] between the eyes, the central is shield-form. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 108 *Clipeus*. Round, *shield-formed...*Scutum. Angular or ovate shield-formed. 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 640/1 The central lamina of the three between the edges shield-formed and acuminate. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit. 1860*, 211 Order *Scutibranchiata*. (*Shield-gilled Crawlers). 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 307 *Shield-headed Fish-Parasites (*Peltocephala*). 1552 UDALL tr. *Geminus' Anat.* C j, The patyll or the kne bone, called of some men the *shyldelyke bone. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 227 Flat shield-like processes. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Martyrs* C 8 b, If euer *sheild-shapt Comet was portent Of Criticke day, foule and pernitious. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 448 Shield-shaped (*clypeatus*). 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) Gloss.

19. Special comb.: **shield-arm**, the left arm (cf. *shield-hand*); †**shield-bone**, a shoulder-blade; **shield-bud**, a bud and a portion of the bark surrounding it used in grafting; hence **shield-budding**, the operation of grafting such a bud; **shield-cartilage**, **-gristle** = THYROID I a; **shield-cell** *Bot.*, one of the component cells of the reproductive organ in *Characeæ*; **shield-guard**, a form of trigger-guard used by some continental manufacturers of shot guns and rifles; **shield-hand**, an alleged ancient designation for the left hand (cf. *shield-arm*); **shield-hedge** = *shield-wall*; †**shield-knave** (= G. *schildknabe*) = SHIELD-BEARER; **shield-leaved** *a.* (*rare*), having peltate leaves; **shield-lion** *nonce-wd.*, a lion emblazoned upon a heraldic shield; **shield-maid**, **-maiden** = SHIELD-MAY; **shield-money** = SCUTAGE; **shield-pin**, a safety-pin; **shield-plate** *Zool.*, ? = SCUTE *sb.* 4; **shield-ring** = *shield-wall*; **shield-ship** (see quot.); **shield-wall** *arch.* [OE. *scildweall*], the interlocked shields of a body of men fighting on foot; †**shield-work**, embroidery in the form of shields.

1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* III. xv. 58 A great gash in his *shield arm. *c* 1600 *Leg. Guy Warw.* xxiv, One of his *sheeld-bones to this day Hangs in the citye of Coventrye. 1891 L. H. BAILEY *Nursery-bk.* (1896) 95 This [style of budding] is known as shield-budding ..A *shield-bud is shown natural size. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 301 All the different modes of budding may be reduced to two:—*shield-budding..and flute-budding. 1881 BEHNKE *Mechanism Human Voice* (ed. 2) 51 *Shield (Thyroid) Cartilage. 1881 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 391 The *globule*..consists of eight valves, or, as they have been termed, *shield-cells. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 636 The first is called in Greeke θυροειδὴς the *Shield-Gristle. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 84 The *shield-guard, or horn before guard. 1891 SIR D. WILSON *Right Hand* 202 The recognition of the *shield-hand..has already been referred to as one familiar to the ancient Greek and Roman. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xxv. 210 Straight at the *shield-hedge drove Umslopogaas. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 165 *Shieldknave or armour bearer to Charles the Great. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. vi. iii. 11 An outer spray of any *shield-leaved tree. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth* 1186 Sir Lancelot, having swum the river-loops—His blue *shield-lions cover'd—softly drew Behind the twain. 1851 THORPE *North. Mythol.* I. 156 The Valkyriur..are also called..Skialdmeyiar (*shield-maids). 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Myth.* 192 Shield-maids (amazons) occupy the position which in the original was held by giantesses. 1849 KEMBLE *Sax. Eng.* I. xii. I. 402 The Anglosaxon belief in the *Shield-maidens. 1870 MORRIS *Story of Volsungs* ix, A great company of shield-maidens. 1877 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* I. 164 To commute their service for sums payable to the royal treasury under the name of 'scutage' or *shield-money. 1883 H. P. SPOFFORD in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 576/2 They are.. *shield-pins, and couldn't prick her if they tried. 1855 GOSSE *Mar. Zool.* I. 99 Cephalana. Segments equally provided with appendages; no *shield-plates. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xxv. 210 The *shield-ring wheels in upon itself. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shield-ship*, one carrying movable shields to protect the heavy guns except at the moment of firing. *Beowulf* 3118 þonne stræla storm, strengum gebæded, scoc ofer *scildweall. 1880 TENNYSON *Brunanburh* i, He with his brother..Brake the shield-wall. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 22 His gown is all *Shield-work on azure [L. *cærulea indutus scutulata*].

b. In book-names (chiefly translations from mod. Latin) of animals, birds and insects, with reference to shield-like markings, or to the shield-like character or form of the scute or carapace.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 371 *Shield-Animalcules (Aspidiscidæ). 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. 410 *Cassida nebulosa*. The Clouded *Shield-Beetle. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 196 Shield-Beetles (Cossyphidæ). 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 104 Scutata, or *Shield Bugs. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 303 Cochineal..was proved by the observations of Lewenhoeck to be..the female of that species of *shield-louse, or coccus, discovered in Mexico, so long ago as 1518. 1855 J. E. GRAY (*title*) Catalogue of the *Shield Reptiles in..the British Museum. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 84 *Apus cancriformis*. *Shield-Shrimp. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xxxiv. (1875) 253 The *Shield-slaters (*Cassidina*). 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 70 The Philippine *Shield-tail (*Uropeltis Philippinus*). 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 331 *Shield-Urchins (*Scutellidæ*). 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 138 Shield-urchins or *Clypeastridæ*.

c. In book-names of plants, as **shield-fern**, various forms of the genus *Aspidium*; **shield-flower**, any plant of the genus *Aspidistra*.

1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* II. 709 *Shield-fern. *Aspidium*. 1817 PURTON *Brit. Plants* II. 506 *Aspidium filix mas*. Common Hedge Shield-fern. *Ibid.* 508 *Aspidium Thelypteris*. Marsh Shield-fern. *Ibid.*, *Aspidium Oreopteris*. Heath Shield-fern. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXV. 46/2 Male shield fern. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 125/1 *Shield-flower. The genus *Aspidistra*.

Shield (ʃild), *v.* Forms: 1–2 **scildan**, (3e-scildan), 1 **sceldan**, **sceoldan**, **scyldan**, (2 **sculdan**), 3 **scilden**, **shilden**, **sschild**, **ssilde**, (**schuld**), 3–4 **shild**, **sschilde**, 3–5 **silde**, **schild(e**, **scheld**, (**ssulde**), 3–6 **shelde**, 4 **ssylde**, **sceild**, 4–5 **scild**, **shilde**, **schylde**, **s(c)held(e**, (**schulde**), 4–6 **shylde**, 5 **sheelde**, (**scholde**), 5–6 **sheild**, **shielde**, 7 **sheeld**, 6– **shield**. [OE.

scildan, gescildan, f. *scild* SHIELD *sb.* Cf. G. *schilden*, ON. *skjalda*, to provide with a shield.]

1. *trans.* To protect (a person or object) by the interposition of some means of defence; to afford shelter to; to protect (an accused person, etc.) by authority or influence. Const. *from*, †*of*, also (OE. and early ME.) †*with*.

Often used in precatory formulas: cf. 5.

Beowulf 1658 Ætrihte wæs guð getwæfed, nymðe mec gode scylde. *c*825 *Vesp. Ps.* xc. 14 Ic..gescildu hine [Vulg. *protegam eum*]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 238 Scilde hine wiþ cyle. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þe feder and þe sune and þe halie gast iscilde us þer wið and wið alle sunnen. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 23 Þe ðie muzen scilden fram ðese zewerzede gaste(s). 12.. *Moral Ode* 299 (Egerton MS.) Sculde him elc man þe wile he mai, of þos helle þine. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 559 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 235 Seint Brendan seide, þoruȝ godes grace we schullen schilde þe. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7355 Mercurius, þat vs saues & schildes, Haþ vs brought vnto þys yldes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 197 God shilde his cors fro shonde. *c* 1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 259 And shilde us fro the Cukkow and his lore. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 1638 (Malone Soc.) Besechinge God to sheild thee from all in conuenience. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* I. v. Wks. 1910 II. 26 So must the father shylde His youthfull Sonnes, that they be not beguylde, By wicked world. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 63 Thow shalt bee shielded with my protection alway. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastward Hoe* I. A 2 b, And as for my rising by other mens fall; God shield me. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 34 If the kinder Pow'rs Preserve our Plains, and shield the Mantuan Tow'rs. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* 254 O shield her! shield sweet Christabel! 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 140 For there was a power in the gracious skies To shield their saints from ill. 1861 O. W. HOLMES *Agnes* v. 10 The love that won her girlish charms Must shield her matron fame. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 406 The sky shade attached, to shield the lens from the sun's rays.

2. *absol.* To offer a defence, to act as a shield.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 4 Ac siððan he his hispinge gehered hæfde, þa scylde he ongean swe þyldelice. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 440 þer he busked hym a bour, þe best þat he myȝt..For to schylde fro the schene, oþer any schade kest. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. cvi, The truly brave, When they behold the brave oppress'd with odds, Are touched with a desire to shield and save. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xxi. (1866) 348 A desire to shield from pain.

†3. To arm with a shield. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 4727 Brenne wes swiðe wrað & bannede is ferde scheldede his scalken. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 333 Whan sir Tristram was..wel sheldedand swerded. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* II. ii. 126 But neither riding Pegasus for speed, Nor with the Gorgon shielded at his need. *fig.* 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome of Doomesday, Let. Bittern. Death* Wks. 1910 II. 440 Armed with Fayth, shylded with Hope, strengthned with Charitie.

†4. To ward off, to keep away. (With material or immaterial object.) Also with *off*. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. 259 God schop me a scheld, schame to schilde. 1595 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 631/1 They brought with them theyr usuall weedes, fitt to sheild the cold. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 253 Whose favours Peireskius made use of only in deprecating and shielding of, the dangers and discommodities of his friends. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 259 He saw only one method of shielding off the miseries that threatened the state. 1788 *Massachusetts Spy* 23 Oct. 2/1 The reason why the poison did not prove fatal,..is supposed to be owing to her being bit through the cloth, which shielded much of the poison from her hand. 1822 'B. CORNWALL' *Poet. Wks., Lysander & Ione* i, As though A spirit of goodness peep'd from out the earth To shield decay.

†5. In deprecatory phr. *God shield*, usually with a clause or sentence as direct object, rarely with addition of an indirect object; also *absol.* as an exclamation: = God forbid. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1347 Þat he in þine bendes come god it ssilde me. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1776 'God schylde', quod þe schalk, 'þat schal not be falle!' *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 20 God shilde that it sholde so bifalle. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3521 But me to do slike a dede, dritin it schilde! 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 9 Ah God shield, man, that I should clime. 1589 *Almond for Parrat* E 3, Bishops were the smallest bugs that were aimed at in this extraordinary beneuolence, God shield the court haue escapt their collections. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxi. (1612) 296 No Clarke will so expound that Text, God shield they should, say I. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4).

Shie·ld-bea:rer. An attendant who carries the shield of a warrior.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 427 His [Epaminondas'] esquire or shield-bearer had received a good piece of money for the ransome of a prisoner. 1761 *London & Environs* I. 45 Chaucer..was employed as a shield-bearer to the King. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxx. X. 479 He first inquired whether his shield was safe and his shield-bearer answering in the affirmative produced it before his eyes. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* II. 477 Now shield-bearer Automedon and all the Scyrian host Closed on the walls.

fig. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *United States* 165 Jefferson's successor was his shield-bearer, Madison.

b. (See quot.)

1911 *Century Dict. Suppl., Shield-bearer*, any one of the small elachistid moths of the genus *Coptodisca* (formerly *Aspidisca*), as the resplendent shield-bearer.

Shi·eld-board. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 cheld-brede, scheldbrede, 6 shel(d)brede, (scheldbredth), 7 shelboard, 7– shield-board, (9 *dial.* shell-board). [f. SHIELD *sb.* + BRED *sb.*, afterwards replaced by the cogn. and synon. BOARD *sb.* (Cf. SHILBOARD.) (MHG. had *schiltbret* for wooden shield.)]

1. The mould-board of a plough.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 169 L'eschuchoun [*glossed* the cheld-brede, *v.r.* (Rel. Ant.) *sheldebred*]. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 856 *Vomer et escochoun* Schare and scheldbrede. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Kente they haue other maner of plowes,..some wyll tourne the sheldbredth at euery landes ende, and plowe all one waye. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* I. Introd. B 3 b, The eighth part is called the shelboard. 1652 BLITHE *Engl. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 190 And the Shield-board, some call Breast-board, or Earth-board, or Furrow-board, I shall retaine the Shield board. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Plough*, The names of the particular parts of a plough are these..Breast board, throw board, Shield board &c.

2. *Antiq.* A wooden shield.

1872 *Archæol. Cant.* VIII. 223 Piles of shieldboards were found lying one above another..; bundles of arrows [etc.].

Shielded (ʃī·ldéd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHIELD *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

1. Bearing a shield.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Twezen englas..zesceldode and zesperode. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* XXXVIII. 5 Men..alle sheeldid and helmyd. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* VIII. 269 Crowded close with steeds and shielded men. *a* 1875 R. S. HAWKER in Byles *Life* (1905) 136 The charm'd and shielded Men.

transf. 1830 TENNYSON *Grass-hopper* Poems 109 Clap thy shielded sides and carol. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. v. 12 And through the seas the hidden isles they hunt In shielded vessels.

b. *Nat. Hist.* In names of various animals characterized by a hard shield-like carapace or scute.

1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 42 The shielded tortoise. 1834 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 244 Shielded-Bugs (Scutelleridæ). *Ibid.* 265 Shielded-Centipedes (Cermatiidæ). *Ibid.* 289 Shielded-Crabs (Dorippidæ). 1855 J. E. GRAY *Catal. Shield Reptiles Brit. Mus.* Introd., Shielded Reptiles (*Cataphracta*).

2. Furnished or hung with shields.

1805 SCOTT *Hellvellyn* 27 With scutcheons of silver the coffin is shielded. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* III. (1910) 274 And thence forth to..the high-built shielded bale. 1892 BROOKE *E. E. Lit.* iv. 113 The shielded hall of Valhalla.

¶ 3. ? Emblazoned. *nonce-use.*

1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xxiv, And in the midst..A shielded scutcheon blush'd with blood of queens and kings.

4. *techn.* Protected by a 'shield'.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 247 With regard to the relative value of the different safety lamps that have been introduced, the shielded Davy may be said still to keep its place. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Oct. 12/1 Extremely fast ships,..mounting shielded guns of very great power.

Shielder (ʃī·ldəɹ). [f. SHIELD *v.* + -ER 1.] One who shields or protects another.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* XXX. 5 Þou salt lede me fra þat snare whilk þai Hid to me, for schilder artou ai. 1902 S. SMITH *Life Work* xiii. 134 He was..a shielder of criminal anarchy.

Shielding (ʃī·ldiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb SHIELD; an instance of this.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 3 Whereby [Phœbus] appeasd, some shielding we may haue. 1846 DICKENS *Pict. Italy, Milan* 133 A reforming Pope would need a little shielding, even now. 1883 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 535/1 The most practical authority on military iron shielding in the United Kingdom. *Comb.* 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* XII. 491 Æneas stayed, and gathered him behind his shielding-gear.

Shielding (ʃī·ldiŋ), *ppl. a* [f. SHIELD *v.* + -ING 2.] That shields or protects.

1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xxii. 103 In the tropics, the great tree is a great god. Far outspreading shielding arms, he folds his worshippers from the burning sun. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. ii. 23 And crept for shelter to my shielding arms.

Shieldless (ʃī·ldlés), *a.* [-LESS.] Having no shield, unprotected by a shield.

a 1400 *Octouian* 1131 Now hy beþ scheldles boþ tweyn þese champyouns. 1796 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* X. 576 The Frenchman's battle-axe Drove unresisted thro the shieldless mail. 1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* III. ii. 108 A thing like thee..Would cast a shieldless soldier forth to death.

Shi·eldling. *nonce-wd.* [f. SHIELD *v.* + -LING 1.] A protected person.

1885 MEREDITH *Diana* II. xiii. 325 A young actress, like Miss Courtney—Mrs. Warwick's latest shieldling.

Shieldmay (ʃī·ldmæ). *Teut. Myth.* [f. SHIELD *sb.*1 + MAY *sb.*1, after ON. *skjaldmé-r.*] A maiden warrior, an Amazon. (By some Eng. writers used as equivalent to VALKYRIE.)

1849 KEMBLE *Sax. Eng.* I. xii. I. 393 The Wælcyrian or Shieldmays were the choosers of the slain. 1870 MORRIS *Story of Volsungs* xxiv. Brynhild answered, '..I am a shield-may, and wear helm on head even as the kings of war'.

Shieldrake, obs. form of SHELDRAKE.

†**Shie·ldy,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. SHIELD *sb.* + -Y.] Having the form of 'shields' or scales: transl. of mod. L. *scutellaris.*

1682 GREW *Museum* II. § iii. iv. 236 The Shieldy Tree Mosse. *Muscus arboreus scutellaris.*

Shieling, shealing (ʃī·liŋ). *Sc.* Forms: 6 schæling, schealling, schilling, (scheilding), 6–7 scheilling, 6, 9 scheeling, 7 schel(l)ing, 7–8 shealling, 8 sheelin, 9 sheeling, sheilin(g, shielin, shilling, 7– shealing, 8– shieling. [f. SHIEL + -ING 1.

In the vernacular form the word has not been found earlier than the latter half of the 16th c.; but 13th c. documents show a latinized *scalinga*, which represents either this word (cf. *schale* early var. of SHIEL) or an etymologically equivalent **skā·ling* (f. SCALE *sb.*4, ON. *skála*).

1225 *Registrum Monast. Passelet* (Maitland Club) 212 Cum libertate siccandi retia sua et faciendi domos et scalingas piscatoribus suis. *c* 1230–68 *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 259 Versus aquilonem infra scalingam quæ fuit Candelani et scalingam quam Ricardus..tenuit.]

1. A piece of pasture to which cattle may be driven for grazing.

1568 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1575*, 628/1 Lie schaelingis, in baroniis de Drumcardny et Bewfort. 1590 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 612/1 Cum communi pasturagio lie scheilding infra lie Glen de Glengorf. 1594 *Ibid.* 48/1 Lie outseattis et scheallingis. 1596 *Ibid.* 132/1 Cum communiae et communi pastura ac lie schilling in Glenalmond consueta. 1602 *Ibid.* 481/1 Cum ..lacubus, lie scheillingis, montibus [etc.]. 1711 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 138 Shellings grasings woods pasturages. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 288 The parish..has been twice inundated by water-spouts, one of which carried off a whole shealing or grazing, with the family and cattle. 1843 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 59 *note*, A shiel or shieling is..a summer pasturage for flocks. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 62 Opposite to this, on a place called Ruidh Reinnich, or the 'ferny shieling', a fire was kindled.

2. A hut of rough construction erected on or near such a piece of pasture: = SHIEL *sb.* 1.

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* (Tullib.) 201 In stoir of lambes and lang taillit wedders..In scheilling, tyit fast in tedderis. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 806 Little cottages here and there, which they call Sheales or Shealings. 1673 *Rec. Dingwall Presbyt.* (S.H.S.) 330 [The] Popishe Dishaunters were not cited in reguard that they were dwelling at their sheallings, and therefore [etc.]. 1771 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* I. (1774) 109 We refreshed ourselves with some goats' whey, at a Sheelin. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1773 (1831) II. 373 Little summer huts, called shielings. *c* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 100 So merrily we'll sing, As the storm rattles o'er us, 'Till the dear sheeling ring Wi' the light lilting chorus. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* VIII, Ye may stable your stirks in the shealings at Dernecleugh. 1819 — *Leg. Montrose* xviii, Montrose..was laid down to sleep in a miserable shieling. 1860 G. H. KINGSLEY in Galton *Vac. Tourists* (1861) 163 The lassies used to live in sheilings. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv. 405 Lonely sheilings perched far up on the hills. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xlii. 298 It seemed a hundred miles to the shieling on the hill.

3. *attrib.*

1607 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 710/1 Scheillinge-plaices. 1639 *Ibid.* 322/1 Sitting or eating of the scheilling grasse. 1849 WHITTIER *Kathleen* 19 And nightly round the shealing-fires Of her the gleeman sung. 1884 *Spectator* 17 May 642 The shealing feast is a very simple one, each housewife producing a cheese of last year's produce. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Nov. 8/2 Little has been recorded of shieling life in historical books.

Shier, variant of SHYER.

Shier, Shiere, obs. ff. SHEER *a.*, SHIRE *sb.*

Shierifewike, obs. form of SHERIFFWICK.

Shieve, obs. form of SHEAVE *sb.*1, SHIVE.

Shife, Shifer, obs. ff. SHEAVE *sb.*1, SHIVER.

†**Shiffer.** *Obs.* [ad. G. †*schiffer*, now *schiefer* slate. Cf. SHIVER *sb.*1 3.] Slate.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Minor* II. i. 100 The fair Gold that is found..in..a Blew shiffer [orig. Ger. *Schiffer*] streamy and yellow iron.

Shiffer, obs. form of SHIVER.

Shiffle-shuffle. *rare.* [Formed by reduplication from SHUFFLE. Cf. SHILLY-SHALLY.] An attempted shuffle or evasion.

a 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Paradox* (1872) 271 Two or three additional shiffle-shuffles towards defence of saying the Athanasian curse in church and unsaying it out of church, are hardly noticed.

Shifle, obs. form of SHUFFLE *v.*

Shift (ʃift), *sb.* Forms: 3 scift, 4–5 (6–7 *Sc.*) schift, 5–6 shyft, 5–7 shifte, 6 shyfte, schyfte (schiffte, sheft, *Sc.* scheift), 6– shift. [ME. *schift*, related to SHIFT *v.* Cf. ON. *skipti* neut., division, exchange (see SKIFT *sb.*1), MSw. *skipt* fem., division of property, *skipte* neut. (? and fem.) division, portion, change (mod.Sw. *skift* neut., spell of work, relay of workmen, *skifte* neut., division of property, change, rotation of crops, spell of work, relay of workmen), NFris. *skeft* division, stratum, *skaft* one of successive parties of workmen.

Many of these senses belong also to MHG., MLG. *schichte*, mod.G. *schicht* division of property, stratum, layer, one of several sets of persons or things, period of working time (in mining), one of several successive parties of miners working together for a fixed period of hours. It seems probable that the Ger. word is identical with the Eng. and Scandinavian words, the substitution of (ʃt) for (ft) being found in other words introduced into standard German from LG. (cf. e. g. G. *sacht* = Eng. *soft*).]

I. †1. A movement to do something, a beginning. [The form *scift*, however, may possibly represent SKIFT *sb.*1, which is recorded from *c* 1400.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10480 And þus to prai sco gaf a scift.

†b. *At one shift*: at one time. *Obs.* [Cf. Icel. *eitt skipti* once (Vigf.).]

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 26 The faurtend day at a schift Sal bathe brin bathe erthe and lift.

II. †2. A share, a portion assigned on division. *Obs.* [Cf. MSw. *skipt*, G. *schicht* (Law) 'divisio bonorum'.]

1461 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 The mesuring of salte and corne that sholde long to the shifte of the communes. 1574 *Ibid.* 334 The Maior hath but an Aldermans shift saving onely of every shippe of wyne. 1627 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Pittance to help make vpp on of our Shiftes of monye xij d.

III. 3. An expedient, an ingenious device for effecting some purpose.

1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Schyfte chevesaunce, *cheuesance.* 1559

Mirr. Mag., Cambridge iv, I sought a shift their tenures to vndo. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 7 Ile finde a thousand shifts to get away. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* viii. 5 My Dove, whom daily dangers teach new shifts. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 44 ¶ 8 The innumerable Shifts that small Wits put in practice to raise a Laugh. 1725 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* (1732) I. iii. 28 The brickmakers all about London do mix sea-coal-ashes..with their clay..and by that shift save eight chaldron of coals out of eleven. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 118 A single man..can at any time try all the shifts, from taking land down to breaking stones within the high walls of the county jail. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* xix. 373 Other anecdotes illustrate the thousand shifts and devices of which Hannibal was a master.

b. Available means of effecting an end. Often in phrase (*to have*) *no other shift*. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxiv. 293 We knowe all the shyfte in the countre [*nous scauons tous les refuges*] and so do nat they. *c*1600 ? MONTGOMERIE *Banks Helicon* 105, I have no schift bot to resing All power into hir handis. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Iustine* XIII. 60 Which pretense when Eumenes had espied, he had no other shift, but to try the matter against the traitor by the sword. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 74 This old man having no more shift to veile what he had hitherto endeavoured to conceale, declared unto his children that she was his wife.

†**c.** An entertaining or humorous device; a jest. *Obs.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelw. Castle* II. iv. Wks. 1910 II. 117 Delight, and pleasures gallant shifts Haue fed your minde with many a Princely sport. 1579 LYLY *Euphues, Anat. W.* 82 Me thinkes that you smile at some pleasaunt shift. 1626 (*title*) The first and best parts of Scoggin's Iests: full of witty Mirth and pleasant Shifts.

d. Faculty of contrivance, resourcefulness. *rare.* Cf. SHIFTLESS.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 106 And in Menander also.. the housbandes reuile their wiues, calling theim, bliteas, of so small shifte or helpe, that thei wer as good to haue wiues of beetes. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 92 Hang them, say I, that has no Shift. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. v. (1872) VI. 19 Friedrich's budget is a sore problem upon him; needing endless shift and ingenuity.

†**e.** Manner of livelihood. *To make an honest shift*, to gain one's living honestly. *Sc. Obs.*

1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 133 Except thay have of thair awin, or sum honest and lauchfull schift quhairupoun to leif. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 116 The 3oungest ar put to sum honest schift. 1798 D. CRAWFORD *Poems* 57 (E.D.D.) Will ye compare me to a rogue, I always mak ane honest shift.

4. A fraudulent or evasive device, a stratagem; a piece of sophistry, an evasion, subterfuge.

1545 *Act 37 Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Concerninge Usury shiftes corrupt bargaynes and chevysaunces. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 24 If the Papistes haue any shame, let them no more vse this shift [Fr. *qu'ils n'vsent plus d'oresenauant de ces subterfuges*] to say that images are lay mennes bokes. *c*1596 *Sir T. More* (Malone Soc.) 757, I conceiue your Lordship, and haue learnde your shift so well, that I must needes be apprehensiue. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xi. 63 Now I must..dodge And palter in the shifts of lownes, who With halfe the bulke o' th' world plaid as I pleas'd, Making, and marring Fortunes. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 133 This the Queene of Scots delegates rejected as a frivolous shift. 1681 *Trial of S. Colledge* 104 He is a man lives by his Shifts. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 207 How many subsist upon begging, borrowing, and other shifts. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 37 A nobleman, who was not to be put off with ministerial shifts. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. xii. (1869) 253 Their whole life is a succession of shifts, excuses, and expedients. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* VIII. 116 Ulysses, man of subtle shifts,..whither dost thou flee?

†**b.** *alliterative phrases. Obs.*

1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 111 Those goods that are gotten by shift, are for the most part lost with shame. 1600 A. BOURCHER in R. Edwards *Parad. Dainty Dev.* C iv b, Got with shifts are spent with shame. 1601 MUNDAY *Downf. Earl Huntington* II. D 3 b, You..as yee liu'd by shifts, shall die with shame.

5. An expedient necessitated by stress of circumstances; a forced measure.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 102 Cottington..being Chancellor of the Exchequer..had his hand in many hard shifts for money. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxix. 168 Such dammage, or shifts, are all Common-wealths forced to. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 ¶ 9 It were endless to recount the shifts to which I have been reduced. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 20 Being reduced to very extraordinary shifts for supplying the place of bread. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xlv, Many of them had shared the wants, and shifts, and frolics of his exile. 1858 J. G. HOLLAND *Titcomb's Lett.* i. 17 That pride of personal independence..that resorts to desperate shifts rather than incur an obligation.

†**b.** *For* (*a*) *shift*: as a makeshift; for want of something better. *Obs.*

1523 HEN. VIII in *St. Papers* (1836) IV. 47 We suppose that many of your souldeours shalbe founden hable to stande in stede of gunners, metely well for a shyfte. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 80 Ha, no, no faith, thou singst well enough for a shift. 1683 in *Phil. Trans.* (1693) XVII. 629 For a shift, common or Sterling Silver will serve the turn.

c. *By the shift*: by way of makeshift; 'at a pinch' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). So *on a shift*. Now *dial.*

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Nov., I..had a good bedd by the shift, of Wyndham's. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 127 Dinners made up on a shift of bread and cheese, and the like, are always the most expensive. 1897 *Leeds Mercury Suppl.* 29 May (E.D.D.), Ah can eyt a pund bi t'shift.

d. *One's* (or *the*) *last* (or †*utter*) *shift*: the last resource. *To be at* (†*under*) *one's last shifts*: to be at the last extremity, in the greatest difficulty; so to *put, drive, reduce*, etc. *to the last shifts.*

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 109 You see me..now extremely driven to my utter shifts. 1638 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 15 The consideration of thes dangers, and not beeing abill longer to satisfie them with words drause me to my last shifts. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 276 Whoever makes use of Chalk for a Dressing, I think, is under the last Shift. 1796 NELSON 18 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 216 They are at their last shifts.

e. *To put* or *drive* (*one*) *to one's shifts*, *to put* or *drive to a* (or †*the*) *shift* or *shifts* (often with adj. as *hard, miserable*, etc.): to bring to extremity. †*To leave* (a person) *to his shifts*: to leave him to help himself.

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* I. B iv b, He was driuen to so narrowe shifte, that to furnishe hym selfe of money, he became a Pyrat. 1581 W. S. *Compend.* 15 You draue him to his shiftes. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Golden Mirr.* (1851) 18 Except that Tullie were thy name, Thy pen were put to shiftes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 195 These knightes..were much driven to their shiftes, to get money for that journey. 1636 EARL MANCHESTER *Contempl. Mortis* 91 Weake faith lookes for means, and is put to shifts when she sees them fail. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Of Solitude* ¶ 3 (1906) 393 It is a deplorable condition, this, and drives a man sometimes to pittiful shifts in seeking how to avoid Himself. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasmus on Folly* 125 They are reduc'd to hard shifts, must grapple with poverty [etc.]. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 328 He knew this to be the Elephant, that had put him so hard to his shifts. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1897) I. 403 Many..who were put to hard shifts to live. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 72 The gunner being thus driven to his shifts, made down to the shore. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* v. i, The dear delicious shifts I used to be put to, to gain half a minute's conversation. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 173 Two or three bad harvests, a murrain, or a blight, for example might put you sadly to your shifts. 1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) I. 110 When gentlemen resort to such arguments, it shows that they must be sorely put to their shifts. 1849 *Ainsworth's Mag.* XVI. 524 A man likely to be put to the shift in these days would be a fool indeed to marry without it [money]. 1856 MACAULAY *Biog., Goldsm.* (1860) 60 He was still often reduced to pitiable shifts. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* i, He was put to strange shifts to make out a living.

6. *To make* (*a*) *shift.*

a. To make efforts, bestir oneself, try all means. Now *dial.* Also †*to make busy, good, hard shift.*

*c*1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 285 Bot yit I must make better shyft, And it be right. *c*1535 LD. J. BUTLER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 51 But God willing I woll make bessye shifte to send the said mony in haste unto him. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 291 They made eache man the best shift for himselfe, that they could. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. x. 50 Euerie man made shift for himselfe. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* XVII. 411 And to come hither thence, I made hard shift. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* ii, I'd make a shift, and fend indoor and out, to give you more liberty. 1882 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portr.* xi. (1887) 175 What they have endured unbroken, we also..will make a shift to bear.

b. To attain one's end by contrivance or effort; to succeed; to manage *to do* something. †*To make shift of*: to manage to secure (some result).

1504 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 184, I have sent it you with John Walker at this tyme; the which I shall shew you how I mayd schift of, at your comminge. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* I. 87 A Ship vnrig'd Can make no shift to combat with the Sea. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* F 1, If I could meete my enemies one by one thus, I might make pretty shift with 'em in time. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* ix. 128 The Horse..made the best shift of all. 1895 'Q.' (Quiller-Couch) *Wandering Heath* 8 He made shift pretty well till he got to Lowland, and then had to drop upon his hands and knees and crawl.

c. To succeed with difficulty, to manage with effort *to do* something. So †*to make a hard shift.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 194 Thei war not abill to make schiffte to paye for my costis. 1627–8 LAUD *Diary* 5 Feb.–17 Mar., I made a shift to go and christen my Lord Duke's son. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. iii. (1640) 171 Sixty yeares almost did the Latines make a hard shift to hold Constantinople. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 104 Most of the Foot made a shift to conceal themselves. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 ¶ 5, I..can make a shift to command my Attention at a Puppet-Show or an Opera. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* IV. ii, Booth made a shift to support his lovely burden. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* I. 13 Every year less and less came up, and that which did make a shift to grow yielded less and less meal. 1847 CHARL. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xi, When she first came here she could speak no English; now she can make shift to talk it a little.

d. To do one's best *with* (inferior means), to be content *with*, put up *with.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 32 The bread is very drye..but the common people remedying that with Larde or Oyle, doo make a shift with it as wel as they can. 1629 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. i, Thou must make shift with it; pride feels no pain. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 When they have no Spoons, they make an easie shift without them. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 202 Turners seldom use them, but make shift with either of the other [tools]. 1733 SWIFT *Let. to Mrs. Cæsar* 30 July, I cannot make shift nor bear fatigue as I used to do. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 319 The Press-Stone should be marble, though sometimes Master Printers make shift with purbeck. 1842 J. H. NEWMAN *Paroch. Serm.* V. 71 Act then as persons who are in a dwelling not their own;..who accordingly, make shift and put up with any thing that comes to hand. 1885 *Bookseller* July 650/2 We cannot afford to employ.. efficient assistants but have to make shift with cheap labour.

IV. Change, substitution, succession.

†**7.** Change or substitution of one thing for another of the same kind. *Obs.*

1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 86 Poore cattle craue some shift to haue. 1625 WOTTON *Let. to N. Pey* in L. P. Smith *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 288 My going to Oxford was not merely for shift of air.

†**8.** A plurality of things of the same kind that are or may be used successively. *Obs.*

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* (1579) 30 Let bothe Pease and Beanes bee..tenderly sodden in shifte of waters, before you doe eate theim. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 633 It is fit for a Pope to haue shift of mindes. 1592 GREENE *Groatsw. Wit* (1874) 25 He had shift of lodgings, where in euery place his Hostesse writ vp the wofull remembrance of him. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. vi, He hath shift of names, sir: some call him Apple John and some Signior Whiffe. 1611 *Second Maiden's Tragedy* 936 (Malone Soc.) She has her shifte of frendes.

†**b.** A set or suit (of sails, scenes). *Obs.*

1592 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 845 Being prouided onely of one shift of sailes all worne. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 17 A shift of sayles. 1754 A. DRUMMOND *Trav.* I. 15 They had three or four shifts of very good scenes.

9. Change (of clothing); *concr.* one of several suits of clothing, or of several garments of the same kind belonging to one person. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

*c*1570 W. WAGER *The Longer thou livest* 1104 (Brandl) Of rayment he shall haue shiftes twentie. 1600 G. BEST in Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 83 Hee that had fiue or sixe shifts of apparell had scarce one drie threed to his backe. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 13 Some passengers of the ship, who had no great store of linnen for shift, desired leave to go ashoare. 1833 *Sel. Comm. Cinque-port Pilots* 11 The men have not a shift of clothes. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.*

†**b.** A player's dressing-room in a theatre.

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Oct., She took us up..to the women's shift, where Nell was dressing herself. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com., Play-Ho.* Wks. 1709 III. 1. 42 If She goes to her Shift, 'tis Ten to One but he follows her.

10. A body-garment of linen, cotton, or the like; in early use applied indifferently to men's and women's underclothing; subsequently, a woman's 'smock' or chemise. Now *rare.*

In the 17th c. *smock* began to be displaced by *shift* as a more 'delicate' expression; in the 19th c. the latter has, from the same motive, given place to *chemise.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, I haue knowne some of them, that haue..at length bene glad for a shift (though no cleane shift) to lye a whole winter in halfe a sheete. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 4 Is the University Pim'd, and therefore must change shifts, or are men turnd out..for being scabby? 1691 *D'Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* 96 They are stript stark Naked in another [room], without suffering them so much as to keep on their Shifts. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 367 ¶ 5 A Lady's Shift may be metamorphosed into Billet-doux. 1756 FRANCES BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 34. 204 But remember that Julia and Rosara..fail not to bring with them checqu'd shifts to appear in at church. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* III. 114 Work was lost—even the new shifts of the Vicar's lady. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* x, A..negress dressed in true negro fashion, in a snow-white cotton shift, a scarlet cotton petticoat, and a bright yellow turban. 1890 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 216 A handsome girl, who was swimming, clothed with a white shift and a short petticoat.

11. Each of the successive crops in a course of rotation.

1715 PENNECUIK *Wks.* (1815) 92 (E.D.D.) The adoption in this country of the common course of four shifts, before pasture. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) I. 131 An East Norfolk farmer divides his farm into what he calls 'six shifts', to receive his principal crops in rotation. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. Add. 19 By the frequent ploughings given to the turnip break or shift, the land is made perfectly clean. 1880 CHARL. M. MASON *Forty Shires* 222 Sometimes a four-shift, sometimes a five-shift rotation is employed.

12. A relay or change of workmen or †of horses.

1708 J. C. *Compleat Collier* (1845) 33 [The] Pit will require..4 shifts of Horses..and indeed you shou'd have a spare Shift, or two Horses more ready. 1812 J. HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 97 Two shifts or sets of men were constantly employed. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 9 Working day and night with separate shifts of workmen. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Feb. 5/2 He would have in all mines which are worked on the double-shift system a fresh examination of the workings..before the second shift goes down. 1912 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 326/1 The night shifts receive so much higher pay for their labour.

b. The length of time during which such a set of men work.

1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 132 Like miners, faith, we'll try a shift, An' work by turns. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 329 It is usual..to divide the men into two classes, one class to relieve the other every 12 hours: these periods are called shifts. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 47 The payment for off-hand work, .., is 3s. per shift of 8 hours. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 25 They worked together for about two years, by twelve-hour shifts. 1913 *Times* 14 May 8/1 An eight hours day, with a standard rate of 5s. a shift.

transf. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* i. 17 These men..have often, during the busy season of Parliament, worked 'double shift', almost day and night.

c. A quantity (of ore) removed at a time.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 752 The richness of the ore varies from 2 to 20 bings of galena per shift of ore; the shift corresponding to 8 waggons load.

13. A change (of wind).

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VII. xxxi. (1636) 702 At every shift of winde. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. ii. 144 Well experienced in Judgment, in estimating the Ship's Way in her Course upon every shift of Wind. 1782 *Ann. Reg.* 91 The season was far advanced for military operations, the shift of the monsoon being at hand. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 288 The Dundee of London..was suddenly stopped by a shift of wind. 1876 R. H. SCOTT *Weather Charts* 72 In every case it will be seen that

the shift from 1 to 3 is *veering*, and from 1′ to 3′ is *backing*, whatever the first direction of the wind may have been.

V. Change of position, removal.

14. A shifting, removal; a change of position or attitude; *dial.* a change of residence or employment.

1831 A. SEDGWICK in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1836) Ser. II. IV. 53 If there be any shift of position among the mineral masses in their strike across the valley, it must be of comparatively small extent. 1858 GLENNY *Everyday Bk.* 233/2 Examine every plant as it comes in, to see if the drainage be clear, and whether it wants a shift. 1867 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 150 A suffering which runs always in one groove, without relief or shift. 1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 194 A small furnished house should be rented, and a shift made thither.

b. in immaterial sense, e.g. a shifting or transfer of responsibility, etc.

1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* v. II. 31 There can be no shift in policy or in power, much less a revolution in them,..without a terrible struggle. 1844 *Min. Evid. Sel. Comm. Commons Inclosure* 27 Many of these commonable meadows have their own peculiar customs as to the shift of the severalty ownership. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 54 There has been no general shift of the place of the accent as compared with Latin.

15. *Mus.* In violin-playing, a change of the position of the hand on the finger-board.

When the first or ordinary position is quitted, the player is said to be 'on the shift'; the second position is called the half shift', the third the 'whole shift', and the fourth the 'double shift'. (Grove *Dict. Mus.* s. v.)

1771 BURNEY tr. *Tartini* in G. Hart *Violin* (1875) 342 The taking a Violin part..and playing it upon the half-shift, that is, with the first finger upon G on the first string, and constantly keeping upon this shift. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. x, I..skipped with flying fingers, like Timotheus, from shift to shift. 1884 HOE *Dict. Fiddle.*

16. *Ship-building.* (See quots.)

1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 131 *Shift*, a term applied to disposing the butts of the planks, &c. so that they may over launch each other without reducing the length..The planks of the bottom, in British-built ships of war, have a six-feet shift with three planks between each butt...In the bottoms of merchant ships they have a six-feet shift with only two planks between each butt. *Ibid.* 234 The scarphs give shift to the scarphs of the keel and fasten thereto with treenails. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XX. 275/2 *Shift.* This, in its general sense, refers to a certain arrangement among the component parts of a ship. Thus we speak of a shift of plank, a shift of dead-wood, meaning thereby the disposition of the buts of the timber or plank, both with respect to strength and economy. In a more limited sense, 'shift' means the distance apart of two neighbouring buts or scarphs. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 154 *String*, one or two planks.., giving shift to the scarphs of the sheer-strake. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* viii. 103 The proper shift of the butts [of the plates] is a question of importance.

17. *Mining.* A slight 'fault' or dislocation in a seam or stratum.

1802 PLAYFAIR *Hutton. Theory* 48 Of this nature are the slips or shifts, that so often perplex the miner in his subterraneous journey. 1830 CARLYLE *Richter again* Misc. 1840 II. 324 What miners call a shift or trouble occurred in it. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 418 Along the line of this shift, or 'fault' as it would be termed technically by miners, the walls were found to adhere firmly to each other. 1909 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 490 The shift or throw as in the Irwell Valley fault near Manchester.

VI. 18. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *shift-boss, -man, -work* (sense 12); *shift-sleeve* (sense 10); †*shift-got* adj. (sense 4); *shiftmaker* (sense 6).

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 166 Foremen, per day..*Shift-bosses, per day. 1881 — *Mining Gloss., Shift-boss*, the foreman in charge of a shift of men. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. v. 39 The ding-thrift heyre, his *shift-got summe mispent, Comes drouping like a pennylesse penitent. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* IV, The shifts we were obliged to have recourse to were..amusing, to all but the *shiftmakers. 1880 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 6/1 A survivor (..a *shiftman) gives the following narrative. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Shifter, Shift-man*, a man who prepares the working places at night in a colliery for the men who come in at next shift. ^1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, Their sleeves are made exceeding wide, under which their *shift sleeves as wide. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 175 ¶ 2 She came in Shift-Sleeves, and dress'd at the Window. 1708 J. C. *Compleat Collier* (1845) 36 It is most usual to agree with your Hewers of Coals or Miners, by the Score of Corves...and not by the Day, or *Shift Work. 1888 W. E. NICHOLSON *Gloss. Terms Coal Trade Northumbld. & Durh.* (E.D.D.).

Shift (ʃift), *v.* Forms: 1 sciftan, scyftan, 2 scyfton, 4 schiften, scift, schifte, schyft, schefte, 4–6 schyfte, schift. 4–7 shifte, 5 scifte, schyftyn, 5–6 shyfte, 6 shyft, schyffte, 4– shift *Pa. t.* 1 scifte, 1–2 scyfte, 3 shiftede, 4 schift, 4–5 shifte, 5 schifte, shift, chefte, 6 shyfted, 6– shifted. *Pa. pple.* 1 scift, 2 scyft, 2–3 iscift, 3 scift, 4 ischyft, shift, scheft, schifted, 4–5 schift, 5 schufte, shyfte, scyftyd, schiffted, 6 scheftyd, shyfted, -yd, 6– shifted. [OE. *sciftan* wk. vb. corresponds to OFris. *skifta* to determine (WFris. *skifte, skiftsje* to separate, NFris. *skeft* to divide, change), MLG., LG., Du. *schiften* to divide, separate, MHG. (MG.) *schihten* (mod.G. *schichten*) to divide, classify, arrange in order, ON. *skipta* (whence SKIFT *v.*!) to share, divide, change (Sw., Norw. *skifta*, Da. *skifte*) :— OTeut. **skiftjan*, f. Teut. root **skip-* in ON. *skipa* to arrange, assign, etc.]

I. To put in order, arrange.

†**1.** *trans.* To appoint, ordain, arrange, assign, dispose in order. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Secular Laws Edgar* § 7 (Liebermann) 204/3 Scifte [*v.rr.* sceawie, sceapize] man of ðam gemote ða ðe him toridan. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxxvii. (1883) 176 Moyses ..be godes agenum dihte rihte lage scyfte. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1046, þa scyfte man Harold [*read* Beorn] eorl up þæs cynges scipe þe Harold eorl ær steorde. *c* 1200 ORMIN 470 Forr prestess þanne & dæcness ec shifftedenn henim bitwenenn Whillc here shollde serrfenn firrst. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6714 (Laud MS.), þe messagers agein he shiftes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *2nd Nun's T.* 278 Witnes Tyburces and Valerians shrifte, To whiche god of his bountee wolde shifte Corones two of floures. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 323 For thou benymst me thilke yifte, Which lith noght in thi miht to schifte. *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2456 Thane the schalkes scharpelye scheftys theire horsez. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8715 And thus haue thei her armes schiffted, Ther baneres are wel hye lyffted.

2. To apportion, distribute; to separate into shares, divide; *rarely* to divide or partition *off from*.

c 1000 *Secular Laws Cnut* § 78 (Liebermann) 364/3 For þa yrfenuman to lande & to æhtan, & scyftan hit swiðe rihte. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Ac þief ȝe habbeð understande þat we þiu er sede eter gate me his scyft and þer me hi to ȝesceodeð. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 37 Si recte offers, et non recte diuidis, peccasti, 'ȝif ðu right offrest and noht riht ne scifst, ðu senesest mare ðan ðu god do'. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 178 Þys manere senne nys naust ones, Ac hys ischy[f]t in þry. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1482 A gret schode Of grauel & erþe al so, þat hem hadde schifted ato. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 294 Al freliche of his oghne yifte His whete, among hem forto schifte. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 108 in *Macro Plays* 80 To putte his good in gouernaunce..he wolde þat it were scyfftyd a-mongis his ny kynne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schyftyn, or partyn, or delyn, *divido, partior.* 1483 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 317 To take..the same hervest corne so boght and to shyfte ond distribute it upon the commynes. 1529 S. FISH *Suppl. Beggars* (Arb.) 5 Nowe let vs then compare the nombre of this vnkind idell sort vnto the nombre of the laye people and we shall se whether it be indifferently shifted or not that they shuld haue half. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 477 They of this our Kentish countrie, do yet call their partition of lande (shifting) even by the very same woord that the lawe of Canutus many yeeres since termed it. 1703 NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 229 A little square corner of a Room, shifted off from the rest of the Room by the Wainscot. 1735–6 PEGGE *Kenticisms.*

absol. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2194 King Ban hadde..be cite of Beuoit & Bohort hadde þe cite of Gaines..& þus þai hadde schift alvo.

†**3.** *To shift one's hand, one's words*: to act or speak in a particular manner. Also *refl. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23390 Als suith mai þou cum þider, Al at þi wil or elles quider. Nu at þe erth nu at þe lift, Or hu sumeuer þou will e scift. *Ibid.* 23703 And þus-gat sal he schift his hand, þe werld [*read with Gött. MS.* lauerd] þat es ai lastand. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 166 And elde hent good hope and hastilich he shifte [*v.r.* chifte] hym. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 136 And loke wel that he ne schifte Hise wordes to no wicked use. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M.) 502 And he sye, it was no better paye, But shifte hym in the beste way. 1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment Sea* (1577) Introd. 7 b, And to haue capacitie howe for to handle or shift himselfe in foule weather or stormes.

†**4.** *intr.* To manage matters; to deal, bargain, make arrangements *with*; to make provision *for*. *To let* (persons) *shift* [= F. *laisser faire*]: to let (them) take their own course, not to interiere. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4440 He ferd ai wit so mikel thrift þat al was don als he wald scift. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2704 With these meyne moste we shifte, To haue parte of here vitailes her. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 274, I holpe theym not nor I was not agenst theym but wythdrewe me aside & lete the other shyfte [Fr. *laissay faire les autres*] wyth theym and I stode styll. *Ibid.* xii. 301 Lete theym shyfte [Fr. *laissez les faire*] hardely, they two togyder. *Ibid.* xix. 403 Let hym shyfte with the kynge as he wyl. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxxix. 129 He lete theym shyfte, & fought tyll that the enyn departed theym. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1283) 39 And shyfte whoso would with thys busynes afterwarde: for he neuer entended more to moue her in that matter. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 271 Because they lacked money, they shyfted with the staple of Caleys for xviii. thousande pounde. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 42 Caterpillers destroy the fruit, an hurtfull thing and well shifted for, by a diligent overseer.

†**b.** ? To bestir oneself. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3847 And so they schyfte and schove, be schotte to the erthe. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2792 So he shifte And smote here And ther so faste, That the yren dore persed at the laste.

†**c.** *To shift in the world*, also quasi-trans. *to shift the world*: to face the chances of life. *Obs.*

1536 LADY ROCHEFORD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 68 And I not assuryd of no more..then one hundreth Marke; whyche ys veary hard for me to schyffte the worldd wythall. 1555 W. WATKEMAN *Fardle Facions* I. i. 24 They were banysshed that enhabitaunce of pleasure [Paradise] and driuen to shift the world. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 386 Chaunge this your perillous purpose, and determine otherwise to shifte in the worlde.

5. To manage to effect one's purposes, or to make a living, by one's own devices; to succeed, get on (well or ill). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 940 To shyfte, *cheuir.* 1562 BP. PILKINGTON *Abdias* Pref. Aa iv b, Many fishes be raueners, yet the yong fish encreases: the Hawkes be gredy yet shifts the littell byrds. 1568 C. WLATSON] *Politeus* 62 The inhabitants hauing repaired their walles, shifted well wyth this their lingering off. 1592 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 660 So well they shifted, that the Ape anon Himselfe had cloathed like a Gentleman. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. 24 She that hath wit, may shift any-where. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 226 Here we can do no otherwise, replied he, but in the city we may better shift. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 281, I had some Inclination to give them their lives, if they thought they could shift on Shore. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl., Coriatachan* 118 The rider then dismounts and all shift as they can.

quasi-*trans.* 1836 CARLYLE *Let.* 16 May in *Atlantic Monthly* (1898) Sept. 295, I have no doubt Robert will shift his way with all dexterity..thro' that Cotton Babylon.

b. 'To act or live though with difficulty' (J.); to manage *with* something inferior or *without* something desirable; to make shift.

1673 TEMPLE *Adv. Trade Irel.* Wks. 1720 I. 116 Common Garrans shift upon Grass the Year round. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 128 The first [hard work] I had been an utter stranger to, the last [hard fare] I could shift well enough with. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Introd. 6 After the public had shifted with having the fire below for the term of ten years. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* viii, She is left in Mrs. Goddard's hands to shift as she can. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 513 Might not the colonists shift for the present with the southern island? 1900 *Pilot* 7 July 16/2 Congregations were deprived of their pastors, and had to shift as they best could without them.

6. To employ shifts or evasions; to practise or use indirect methods; to practise or live by fraud, or temporary expedients.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 35 If I be in Crete, I can lye, if in Greece I can shift, if in Italy I can court it. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 20 There be those that will iustifie that by such meanes yᵘ doe shift now and then very cunningly. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Revenge* Wks. 1630 II. 144/1 To Sharke or Shift, or Cony-catch for mony. 1634 LEVETT *Ordering of Bees* 42 They are composed for the most part of yong Bees, who know not how to shift and rob as the old ones do. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Shift*,.. to double or dodge, as wild Beasts do when hunted. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xxix, To Whitby's convent fled the maid, The hated match to shun. 'Ho! shifts she thus?' King Henry cried.

7. *To shift for oneself*: to provide for one's own safety, interests, or livelihood (implying either absence of aid, or, sometimes, want of concern for others); to depend on one's own efforts.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* V. CXXVIII. (1811) 110 The firste was of laufull age, soo that he myght helpe & shyfte for hym selfe. 1529 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 183 He putt the poore man in jepardy of his lyff yff he had nott shyftyd the better for hym self. 1593 *Tell-troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 6 The birdes bringe upp the yong untill they can shift for themselves. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Rich. III*, 131 His complices shifted for themselves. 1709 SWIFT *Advancem. Relig.* 32 As if the Physicians should..leave their Patients to shift for themselves. 1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) I. i. 5 This occasioned a quarrel between him and his father, who left him to shift for himself. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. x. 123 All..forsook him to shift for themselves.

b. *transf.* of inanimate or immaterial things.

1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let.* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 248 For the Truth certainly would do well enough, if she were once left to shift for herself. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 210, I concluded to let my papers shift for themselves. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ii. 16 [Sewage] deposited on the pavement, where it is left to shift for itself.

c. *To shift for one's own safety*, etc.

1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 60 Euery man to shyfte for his escape as Almyghty God wolde yeue theym grace. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 12 Our Fleet lay a hull..each shifting for its owne safetie. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 17 They were obliged to shift as they could for their own security.

II. To change.

8. *trans.* To change, to replace by another of the kind. With plural object: To quit one and take another of (the things indicated). *Obs.* exc. (somewhat *arch.*) with obj. a quality or appearance, as *to shift shapes*.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1732 Ten sibes ðus binnen .vi. ȝer, Shiftede iacob hirdenesse her. 1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII* c. 9, § 5 The wares..so bargayned, solde, eschaunged or shifted. 1618 CHAPMAN *Hesiod's Georg.* II. 517 The shamelesse Man shifts friends still with his place. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Oct., There staid..till he shifted his horses. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 639 Having shifted ev'ry Form to scape, Convinc'd of Conquest, he resum'd his Shape. 1760 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* II. 212 How many times did..the clergy ..change or shift their opinions? 1864 TENNYSON *Voyage* V, The peaky islet shifted shapes.

b. *Cookery.* To change (the water in which something is steeped). Also, to change the water for, to transfer to another water. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 125 Then steep the [Calves-]Head in fair water warm five hours, in that time shift it twice or thrice. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xi. 122 Shift the Water two or three times. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 169 Shift the peel into clean water twice in the boiling.

†**c.** Phrases. *To shift a mind*: to change one's mind. *To shift hands*: = 'to change hands'; also, to change one's ground in argument. *Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* E 1, But steepe vpon this once more sir, you may chance shift a minde to morrow. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 85 His affections all shifting hands as it were, and changing objects with one another. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* Pref. 14 Crafty Turn-coat! Are you not asham'd to shift hands thus in things that are Sacred? 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 296 This being the Point he promised to prove, he presently shifts hands, and changes the Question.

†**d.** To change (places). Also *intr.* to change places *with*. *Obs.*

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1704) 150 That they should thus shift places, is very convenient for them. 1785 BURNS *Ep. J.*

Lapraik 21 Apr. xiii, Wi' cits nor lairds I wadna shift, In a their pride !

† **e.** *Shipbuilding.* (*a*) To replace (old timbers, etc.) with new. (*b*) [? From SHIFT *sb.* 16.] To adjust the 'shift' of (planks, etc.) in building a vessel.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 76 She shifted none of her said Rudder-Irons. 1721 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 47 A Ship's Bottom..wherein are shewed the Shifting, Scarfing or Over-launching the Planks. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 85 *note*, The term shifting a timber in Shipwrightry signifies in general the substitution of a piece of new timber in the place of a piece of old. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 201 The Wales must be wrought of such lengths, and the butts shifted, so as to give the strongest shift to the ports and each other. 1852 FINCHAM *Ship Building* II. (ed. 3) 39 The butts are properly placed, or what is technically called properly shifted, when they are suitably disposed in relation to the ports and to each other.

f. *intr.* To undergo transmutation; to change.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. ii, But I come not here, to discourse of that matter,..Or his telling how Elements shift. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. ii. 24 Let Proteus shift in ocean From shape to shape that eludes.

9. *trans.* To change (one's own or another's clothing). Now chiefly *dial.* Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 36 Tuinne paire clabis sal ilkain haue for to scifte and for to waisse; yef þai haue mare, it sal be scorn. 1530 PALSGR. 703/1 I shyfte garmentes, *je change.* 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 26 Would'st thou have us sluts, and never shift the vestur of our thoughts? 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. ii, But I Would aske, how of late, thou hast suffered translation, And shifted thy coat, in these dayes of Reformation? 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 82, I went immediately to shift my clothes. 1844-48 W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* 185 Poll an' Nan runn'd off up stairs, To shift ther dings.

† **b.** To change (a person's) clothes; to dress in fresh underclothing. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 26 They bothe discended to the highe altare and were shifted from their robes. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Marcus Cato* (1595) 382 His wife did vnswadeil the young boy to wash and shift him. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 611 Neyther may she speake, but by those *Magitæ* is shifted and gallantly adorned. 1754-64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 204 She must then be shifted with a clean, warm, half shift, linen-skirt and bed-gown.

c. *refl.* To change one's clothing; to put on fresh clothing, esp. undergarments. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* † Formerly const. *into, out of, from,* etc. (clothes).

1530 PALSGR. 703/1 In the sommer season I love to shyfte me often. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 64 He shifted hymself into a robe of a Cardinall. 1558 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 185 He hath not left hym a shert there to shyft hym with all. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1908) II. 125 Nott leavinge one ragge to shift us. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 53, I was wet, had no Cloaths to shift me. 1839 *Heref. Gloss.* s. v., A man who changes his clothes is said 'to shift himself'.

d. *intr.* for *refl.* † Const. *into.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii 186 [It] taught me to shift Into a madmans rags. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* VI. 42 She begs you just would turn you, while she shifts. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xx. (1836) II. 304 We..shifted, breakfasted, and..returned to Ballywindle. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 30 After getting shifted I turned in and was soon asleep.

10. *trans.* To change (the scene): see SCENE 4.

1599, 1611 [see SCENE 4]. 1692 *Scarronides* II. Pref. 3 The Scenes in our publick Theatres are not shifted so often as our thoughts. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 363 'Tis time, high time, to shift this dismal scene. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 127 The scene of the negociation was again changed. Having been shifted from France to England, it was shifted from England to Holland.

b. *intr.* Of a scene: To change. Const. *to.*

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* i, Gazing on the scene before me as if I had been afraid it would shift like those in a theatre before [etc.]. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus, Eumen.* (ed. 2) Introd., The scene shifts to the latter place.

† **11.** *trans.* To cause (a set of workmen) to change places with another set. Also said of a gang of workmen: To replace (another gang or set) as a relief; also *intr.* for *refl.*

1673 *Haddock Corr.* 28 in *Camden Miscell.* VIII, I went on bord the R. Charles to shift the men. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 123 The companies at this time shifted there. *Ibid.* § 232 Jessop and company went out to shift Richardson.

III. To change the place of, to remove.

* *transitive uses.*

12. To transfer from one place to another; to remove; to alter the position of. Const. *from, out of, to*; also often with adv. or advb. phrase.

a. with obj. a person. † Also *refl.* to withdraw.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 24807 (Fairf.) Vn-til ship sone was he shift. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9822 And thus this goode knight thei shift Euen to the Citie of Damas. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Hemetes the Heremyte* Wks. 1910 II. 482 Being shifted from y^e sighte of y^t I sought above all thinges in the world. 1825 J. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi. III. 53 He was shifted to a more commodious apartment.

refl. 1555 J. PROCTOR *Wyat's Rebell.* 39 [They] consideringe..their chiefe strength thus tourned vppon them, ..shifted them selues awaye. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Eliz.* 7 He came all in a sweat to the Sheriff Smith's house, who shifteth himself forth at a back door.

b. With obj. a material thing. In *Gardening*, to transplant.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2850 in *Macro Plays* 162, I may not onys myn hod up schyfte. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 141 Howe he wolde haue..his cattel shifted out of one pasture into an other. 1588 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington* (Surtees) 27 Item given for bread & drinke when the fonte was shifted, xvj d. 1593 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 2 *Ser.* Where's Potpan, that he helpes not to take away? He shift a Trencher? he scrape a Trencher? 1680 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 232 Tother day, in shifting of a cabinet. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 1 July (1815) 214 He re-ascends into the apartment by the steps, which had been shifted for that purpose. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. iii, He showed me how to shift the plants. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 209 It is the land and not the sea that has shifted its level. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxii. 386 Cæsar had shifted his camp continually.

c. With immaterial object. Often with reference to a metaphorical burden: To transfer (blame, responsibility, etc.) *from* (a person, oneself) *to* or *upon* another.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 196 This answer gave he, as myght appear, to schift ower the argument upon the Freare, as that he did. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 54 Every man shifting the fault from himself. 1774 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc. R. A.* 10 Dec. (1778) 204 The name of Genius then shifted its application. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. vi. 498 A feeling of this inconsistency led several later writers to shift the story to a later time. 1879 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 252 The license which is admitted in shifting the accent for purposes of scansion and rhyme. 1885 DUNCKLEY in *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Feb. 5/5 The burden of taxation has been shifted from articles of necessary consumption to luxuries.

† **d.** To palm off (something) *on* a person; to get rid of by handing *over* (something undesirable) *to* another. *Obs.*

1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 289 Some merchants who..will show the buyer a little that is good, and by this means cunningly shift all the rest upon him. 1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 290 The proclamation declaring M. Gen. Egerton, &c., rebells and traytours came..to a petty constable of this towne, who shifted it over to another well-affected constable.

13. *Naut.* a. To change or alter the position of (a sail, spar, the helm, etc.).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 515 As when a Ship..where the Wind Veres oft, as oft so steers, and shifts her Saile. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 Shift the Mizen tack, hawl bout fore Bowline. 1795 NELSON 13 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 14 Employed shifting our topsails and splicing our rigging. 1825 H. B. GASCOIGNE *Path to Naval Fame* 50 The angl'd Jib with speed they hoist away, Then Shift the Helm to make her cast right way. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 150 *Shift the Helm!* to put it from starboard to port, or the reverse.

† **b.** To record the variations of (the tide), the positions of the sun and moon. *Obs.*

a 1592 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Gl.* (1598) E 1 b, Lets see the proudest scholler stir his course Or shift his tides as Silly sailers do. 1594 J. DAVIS *Seamans Secr.* (1607) 11 The necessary instrument for the yong practising seamans use, named an Horizontall tyde Table, whereby he may shift his Sun and Moone (as they terme it).

c. Of a ship or a navigator: To undergo displacement of (cargo or ballast).

1854 G. B. RICHARDSON *Univ. Code* V. (ed. 12) 803, I have shifted my ballast. 1880 *Times* 17 Dec. 5/6 The Isabel,.. laden with oats, arrived..with cargo shifted.

14. To alter the direction of.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 3 He not being so often called upon to shift his Course, or hand his Sails. 1781 COWPER *Table T.* 387 Th' inestimable estimate of Brown Rose like a paper-kite, and charm'd the town; But measures, plann'd and executed well, Sh.fted the wind that rais'd it, and it fell. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. iii. 149 As when the winds are shifted Shine snowy sails.

15. To change or alter (one's or its position, place); to change (one's lodging, abode, etc.). † Phrase, *to shift place(s.*

In early examples really a contextual application of sense 8.

1563-83 FOXE *A. & M.* 54/2 Many times he [Origen] was compelled to shift places and houses. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xix. 205/2 They must needs shift soile, and seeke vnto other countries. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. lxix, Happy confiners you of other landes That shift your soile and oft scape tyrants hands. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 May, At his coming to town again, [he] had shifted his lodgings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 133 The fiery Courser, when he hears from far..the Shouts of War, Shifts Place. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 268 As quails and wood-cocks shift their habitations in winter, so also does the cuckoo. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 18 Advancing and retreating as the spray shifted its position.

16. To get (a person) out of the way. In early use chiefly with *away* (see also 12 a). In later use without adv.: To get rid of (an enemy or rival). Now *slang* or *colloq.*, to dislodge (a body of the enemy); (of a horse) to throw (the rider); also *euphemistically*, to 'put out of the way', murder.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 79 Whil'st you were heere, o're-whelmed with your griefe. Cassio came hither. I shifted him away. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 19 He will be shifted out of his government or kingdom. 1703 DK. QUEENSB. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 238 In a short time the Duke of Queensberry was to be shifted out, so as he was to be sole Secretary. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 180 Although the wicked little beast did his utmost to shift me, I managed to frustrate his efforts. 1898 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 3/2 [The enemy] were four to our one, but we shifted them. *Ibid.* 10 Oct. 5/1 That would-be criminals ..do sometimes cast about for safe means of 'shifting' inconvenient relatives, or enemies, there is, we fear, little doubt.

b. *colloq.* or *slang.* To 'put away', 'dispose of', consume (a quantity of food or drink).

1896 P. A. GRAHAM *Red Scaur* xvii. 263 Did you ever see her..shiftin' a curran' dumplin'? 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* xxii, Lord, but he can shift his liquor!

† **17.** To avoid, elude, escape. *Obs.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. lxxvii, He..now strikes againe, Then nimbly shiftes a thrust, then lendes a wound. 1667 J. GUTHRIE in *Union Mag.* Oct. (1902) 463 It [a cross] is an affliction man cannot shift except he shift duty. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1875) 70 These Beasts range in the night for their prey, and if they should meet with me in the dark, how should I shift them! 1724 A. SHIELDS *Life Renwick* (1827) 60 Whereby they were..convinced of the Evil of these Courses they had taken, to shirt and shun Suffering. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, 'Hush! hush!' said Jenny, whose interest lay particularly in shifting further enquiry.

† **b.** To decline, shirk (a duty). *Obs.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 233 This motion, Glaucus shifted not, but (without words) obeyd.

† **c.** To pass, get through (a period of time; to 'kill' time. Also, to put off, defer. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

c 1562 E. UNDERHILL in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 149 Ther was..no better place to shifte the Easter tyme in then quene Maryes courte. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* 5 When she now faun, That death nae langer wad be shifted, She thus began. 1730 T. BOSTON *View this & other World* (1799) 389 It will be dear-bought ease that is got by shifting to make ready. *Ibid.* 390 These thoughts are shifted, till they force in themselves by death at the door. *a* 1732 — *Acc. My Life* (1908) 81 It was suggested..that Langton minded to shift it till Michaelmas was past. 1766 A. NICOL *Poems* I (E.D.D.) Cast wholly on the care of Heav'n I shifted time, toss'd by hard fortune, Till I was near the age of fourteen.

† **d.** To quit or leave (a place). *Obs. rare.*

a 1642 SUCKLING *Goblins* I. Wks. 1874 II. 11 Shift, shift the place, the wood is dangerous: As you love safety, follow me. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* viii, They say he goes to shift the country.

† **18.** To rid *of.* Often *refl.* and *passive.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xiii. E iij, If that my booke be burthenouse shift the of it be tyme. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 346, I did what I could to be shifted of the said Commission. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Hon. Man's Fort.* IV. i, Shift your house, Lady of 'em, for I know 'em, They come to steal Napkins, and your Spoons. 1657 C. HOOLE *Corderius's School-Colloq.* (1688) 102 He says that he by God's blessing, is now quite shift of his fever.

19. Shift off. † **a.** To put off, remove (a covering, a garment); *fig.* to remove from oneself or another (a burden). *Obs.*

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* Ded. (1898) I. 3 Old, not in yeares, wich the most parte cold be content to shyfte of and forgo. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 157 Deadora..hastily shifted off her gowne. 1673 R. LEIGH *Transp. Reh.* 61 The bishop..would haue declin'd the office, and shifted it off to one of his chaplains. 1786-1805 TOOKE *Purley* Introd. 6 To take upon my shoulders a burthen which you seem desirous to shift off upon me.

† **b.** *colloq.* To get rid of the effects of (drink).

1660 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Aug., I saw Mr. Creed show many of the strangest emotions to shift off his drink I ever saw in my life.

c. To evade, turn aside (an argument); to evade fulfilment of (a duty, a promise).

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. iii. 133 Let vs not lye, nor goe about with subtiltie to shifte off the othe that once we haue made. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 39 The calling of a Councel had been shifted off by Leo the X. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) I. iii. 59 Many of them..shift off the Subject, as well and as soon as they can. 1774 REID *Aristotle's Logic* IV. § 7 Conceiving that he intended to shift off his second payment.

d. To put (a person) off with an excuse or a subterfuge; to get rid of (a person).

c 1585 *Faire Em* II. iii, Here commeth Valingford; Shift him off now, as thou hast done the other. 1607 *Lingua* I. vii. B 3 b, Where shall I run? how shall I shift him of? 1748 [? NOBLE] *Voy. E. Indies* (1762) 31 The poor planter..was shifted off with a trifling answer. 1779 JOHNSON *Lives Poets, Denham* ¶ 42 Now and then the reader is shifted off with what he can get.

** *intransitive uses.*

20. To move from one place to another; esp. to change one's lodging.

1530 PALSGR. 703/1 You can never thrive, you use to shift so often. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogges* I. (1880) 6 To and fro runne they, from place to place shift they, vntil they haue attained to that plot of grounde where they passed ouer. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1149/1 After that he shifted to one James Mower a shipmaster, who dwelt at Milton shore. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* 4 July, Her life passes with boarding in some country town as cheap as she can, and when she runs out, shifting to some cheaper place. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. iii, On the 20th of March 1815, the family had to shift.

21. To move about, to move from one position to another, to move slightly. Also with *advs.*

1595 *Saviolo's Practise* I. E 2, But when the scholler shall giue the mandritta, the maister must shifte a little with his bodye. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxviii. 67 A Natural Levity that puts us upon Shifting and Changing. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 598 The nodes shift backwards about 19½° in the ecliptic every year. 1833 TENNYSON *Goose* vii, She shifted in her elbow-chair. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 180 Its [the sea's] level is constantly shifting up and down.

b. of immaterial things.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. lii. (1612) 234 Our Thoughts be shifting to and fro. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Pres. Health* II. 244 Happiness..that from stage to stage Invites us still, but shifts as we pursue.

c. *Naut.* Of cargo, ballast: To move from its proper position, so as to disturb the equilibrium of the vessel.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 377/1 They would have little or no occasion for ballast, and if any was used, could incur less danger from its shifting. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 20/5 There is always the risk that a grain cargo may shift.

d. Of the wind: To change its direction. Const. *to.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) II. 659 The wind..begins to

sift [*sic*] already. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 14 The wind..shifted to and agen from East to North. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xiii. III. 311 The wind shifted a point or two to the northward of east. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Sept. 5/5 The wind has shifted round to due west.

e. In playing the violin or other instrument of the viol class, to move the left hand from one position to another on the neck of the instrument. 1891 Latarche *Violin Student's Man.* 7 Shifting...To shift from the fifth to the higher positions, before moving the hand, throw back the thumb until the neck rests on the first joint.

22. To move away, withdraw, depart; esp. to slip off unobserved. Now only with *away*.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* v. 168 Oh Mistris, Mistris, shift and saue your selfe. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1104 No obiect but her passions strength renewes: And as one shiftes another straight insewes. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon* 72 He shifted away by night, leauing his sonne behinde him. 1629 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Life* (1733) 808 He put himself into a Disguise..and so shifted away till he came to a certain Village of his own. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xxii, The eyes that had been looking at his shifted away as he spoke.

b. *Law.* Of an estate: To pass *away* from one owner to another. 1844 J. Williams *Real Prop.* (1877) 292 The lands will shift away from him, and vest in the person next entitled in remainder.

Shiftable (ʃi·ftăb'l), *a.* [f. Shift *v.* + -able.] **1.** Capable of being shifted, removable. 1742 Bailey (ed. 10), cites *Shaks.* [erroneously]. 1903 J. C. Smith in *R. Wallace: Life & Last Leaves* 121 To him Gladstone's 'well of truth' seemed to have many shiftable bottoms.

2. Able to shift for himself. ? *nonce-use.* 1851 W. B. Brooke *Out with Garibaldi* xvi. 292 The old soldiers..smoking their pipes quietly, or..helping their less shiftable comrades.

Shifted (ʃi·ftéd), *ppl. a.* [f. Shift *v.* + -ed 1.] In senses of the verb. †Of a snake: That has changed its skin. Of a ship's ballast or cargo (see quot. 1760). 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 23 Like a shifted winde vnto a saile, It makes the course of thoughts to fetch about. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 67 The roome is hung with the blew skin Of shifted snake. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Pythag. Philos.* 389 All Things are alter'd, nothing is destroy'd, The shifted Scene, for some new Show employ'd. 1760 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Shifted*, the state of a ship's ballast or cargo when it is shaken from one side to the other. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 132 Even with the shifted Poise and footing of my thought.

Shiften (ʃi·ftən), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* (*E. Anglian*). [f. Shift *v.* + -en 5.] *trans.* To remove (a thing) from one place to another; to change (one's clothes or garments). Also in knitting (see quot. *a* 1825). 1544 Phaer *Pestilence* (1553) N viij, It is good for him to shiften his bedde out of one chamber into another. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Shiften.* 1. To change linen. 2. To shift stitches from one pin to another in knitting.

Hence **Shi·ftening** *vbl. sb.*, a change of linen. 1676 in G. N. Godwin *Bits about Bergholt* (1874) 115 Linnen to make shiftnings for the poor. 1691 *Ibid.*, That the shiftnings be cut out at Mr. Robert Woodgate's. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* II. 297 A poor woman begs of the overseer, to give her boy, who is going out to service 'only a shiftening, two of each sort, one on and one off'.

Shifter (ʃi·ftəɹ). [f. Shift *v.* + -er 1.] **1.** One who shifts something (in any sense of the vb.); *spec.* a scene-shifter. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 4 All..other Doynges whatsoever for Gayne..whereuppon is not reserved..to the Lender Contracter Shyfter Forbearer or Deliverer above the Summe of Tenne Poundes for the Loane or Forbearinge of a Hundred Poundes for one yere. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, He is no great shifter; once a yeare his Apparel is ready to reuolt. 1680 *Reflections on late Libel on Curse-ye-Meroz* 28 The Author had (in all probability) been Lecturer there at this day, (for he is no Starter, nor Shifter, nor Swapper of Livings). 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 42 ¶ 3 Two or three shifters of scenes, with the two candle-snuffers, make up a compleat body of Guards upon the English stage. 1761 Churchill *Rosciad* 206 Then came drum, trumpet, hautboy, fiddle, flute, Next, snuffer, sweeper, shifter, soldier, mute. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Oct. 6/1 The cords..by which the scenes were raised and lowered were so crossed and entangled that the shifters could not find those belonging to [etc.].

†**2.** *Shifter away*: one who eludes, or sets aside. 1555 Ridley in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1451/1 This is a greuous contumely, that you call me a shifter away of the Scriptures, and of the Doctours.

†**3.** One who resorts to petty shifts or tricks, or who practises artifice; an idle, thriftless fellow; a trickster, cozener, etc. Also with *for*. *Obs.* *c* 1562 E. Underhill in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 158 Another spitefull enemy att Stepeney, callede Banbery, a shifter, a dycer, a hore-hunter. 1561 Awdelay *Frat. Vocab.* (1869) 3 The company of Cousoners and Shifters. 1584 G. Whetstone *Mirr. Mag. Cities* 26 These expert Shifters, by false Dice, slipperie castynge, or some other nice Sleight:..wyll make their Purses as emptie of Money, as the Catte the Mouses headde of Braynes. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* iv. 40 The great abuse by som shifters, who go vnder the name of Scriueners. 1670 Milton *Hist. Brit.* III. 130 In worldly matters, practis'd and cunning Shifters.

punningly. (Cf. 1.) 1619 Fletcher *Bloody Bro.* IV. ii, They have so little [clothes] As well may free them from the name of shifters.

b. One who uses evasive reasoning. 1567-9 Jewel *Def. Apol.* II. v. (1611) 141 It were hard to say, that Christ, his Apostles, the Prophets and holy Fathers were shifters, and Heretikes. 1648 Jenkyn *Blind Guide* iii. 36 Poore shifter!..it seemes the novice hath..driven you to another shift. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Dec. 3/2 Shiftings and wrigglings which have made the shifters and wrigglers contemptible in the eyes of all sensible people.

†**4.** *Naut.* (See quots.) *Obs.* 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Shifters*, certain Men aboard a Man of War who are employed by the Cooks to shift or change the Water in which the Flesh or Fish is put and laid for some time, in order to fit it for the Kettle. 1750 Blanckley *Nav. Expositor.* 1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* ii, I have..served all offices on board from cook's shifter to the command of a vessel. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Shifter*, a person appointed to assist the ship's cook, particularly in..steeping, and shifting the salt provisions.

5. *Mining.* (See quots. 1894, 1906.) 1830 T. Wilson *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 57 Aw gat at furst a shifter's place, And then a deputy was myed. 1880 *Leeds Mercury* 16 Sept. 8 William Hartley, a master shifter said that he worked in No. 2 Hutton or Harvey seam. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Shifter, Shift-man*, a man who prepares the working places at night in a colliery for the men who come in at next shift...*Shifters* work by the day or shift, as distinct from hewers, who work by the ton or yard. 1906 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 7/1 A shifter..is a man whose chief duties are to keep the tunnels clear of falls of coal, and to shore up unsafe places.

6. *Mech.* A contrivance used for shifting. In many applications, e.g. a kind of clutch serving to transfer a belt from one pulley to another; also (see quot. 1875). 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. I 5, This shaft actuates a vertical rock shaft,..imparting the required motion to the belt shifter on the top of the machine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Shifter* (knitting-machine), one of the beardless needles..which..operate to disengage the outer loops of the course and put them on the next inner or the next outer needles for narrowing or widening.

Shifeful (ʃi·ftfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. Shift *sb.* + -ful.] Full of shifts or devices. 1615 Sylvester *Batt. Vury* 333 The most he fears, is least Some's shift-full feare,..finde out..Som Flat, som Foord,.. To passe the Eure. 1881 Gardiner *Introd. Eng. Hist.* I. iii. 44 If William had not had something more than mere shiftful contrivance in reserve. 1887 Fowler *Princ. Morals* 219 The general admiration for the wily and shiftful Odysseus.

Hence **Shi·ftfulness.** 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* I, That hero of 'Arrah', who proved, by his valour, pertinacity, and shiftfulness, not unworthy of his great ancestor Hereward.

Shiftily (ʃi·ftili), *adv.* [f. Shifty *a.* + -ly 2.] In a shifty manner. 1878 P. Bayne *Purit. Rev.* ii. 49 Williams had intrigued boldly and shiftily. 1887 R. W. Dixon *Lyrical Poems* 22 When the cloud grows luminous and shiftily riven.

Shiftiness (ʃi·ftinés). [f. Shifty *a.* + -ness.] The character or quality of being shifty in any sense. 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* v. 135 Shiftiness..is a kind of thing that fancies itself..to be talent. 1893 *Times* 11 May 9/4 The shiftiness of the present Government.

Shifting (ʃi·ftiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shift *v.* + -ing 1. Cf. ON. *skipting* division, change.]

†**1.** Used for: A 'course' of the Jewish priesthood. *Obs.* *c* 1200 Ormin 467 He wass i þatt shiftinng sett þatt nemmneid wass Abya [cf. Vulgate: *de vice Abia*].

2. The action of the verb Shift in various senses.

a. Changing, moving. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schyftynge, or chaungynge, *mutacio, commutacio, permutacio.* Schyftynge, or removynge, *amocio.* 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 116, I..woont to frame my pype, Vnto the shifting of the shepheards foote. 1611 Hobbes tr. *Thucyd.* (1822) 8 After the Trojan war the Grecians continued still their shiftings and transplantations. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxii, The strange shifting of Tides in this River. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4819/2 The sudden..Shiftings of the Weather. 1780 Burke *Sp. Bristol* Wks. III. 374 Of no use but to indicate the shiftings of every fashionable gale. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, As in some sudden shifting of the Earth's axis. 1885 Baggallay in *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 439 The shifting of the capital of Italy from Florence to Rome. 1901 'Linesman' *Words by Eyewitness* vii. (1902) 155 With their sidelong glances and uneasy shiftings.

with adverbs. 1562 [Bp. Cooper] *Answ. Def. Truth* iii. 18 b, It weare but the shiftinge backe of one winge of the battayle. 1575–85 Abp. Sandys *Serm.* xii. 197 Delatories and shiftings off weare out many a iust cause. 1834–6 P. Barlow *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 736/1 The shifting back of the heddles.

b. The action or practice of devising expedients, or of using evasions; a device, expedient; an evasion, shift. Often in *pl.* ? *Obs.* or *dial.* 1559 Bercher *Nobil. Women* (Roxb. 1904) 124/2 Ye cannot, for all your shyftinge, denye but man hath the better case. 1616 *Rich Cabinet* 137 b, Shifting is a very poore and troublesome trade, if a man haue no other meanes, to get his liuing. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 177 Men of brave Spirits..have made no scruple to use these shiftings to save themselves or their Friends.

c. *Boxing* and *Fencing.* (See quots.) *c* 1800 *Mod. Art Boxing* 31 *Shifting*, running from your adversary whenever he attempts to hit you, or to come near you, or when you have struck him. 1821 Egan *Boxiana* (1830) I. 98 Tom, finding he was over-matched, was obliged..to have recourse to shifting to prevent his being beat straight forward. 1828 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XIX. 851/1 (Fencing), *Cavating, changing, Disengaging*, or *Shifting*, slipping off your adversary's blade to the opposite side, when you feel him endeavouring to *Bind* your own.

d. *Ship-building*: (see quots.). Cf. Shift *v.* 8 e and *sb.* 16. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 131 *Shifting*, the art of setting off the length of the planks of the bottom, topside, &c. that the butts may over-run each other, in order to make a good shift. Replacing old stuff with new is also called *shifting*. 1830 Hedderwick *Mar. Archit.* 272 The first futtock requires to be very long, to make a proper shifting past the floor-head, and extend down to the side of the keel.

†**3.** *concr.* A change of clothes. *Obs. rare*—1. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 88. 349 Plagues oft arise..from noisome savours, from want of cleane shiftings, from unwholsome food.

4. *Comb*: **shifting-boards** (see quot. 1846); †**shifting day**, the day for changing one's clothes or undergarments; **shifting-movement** *Organ-building* (see quot.); †**shifting-room**, an actor's dressing-room. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.*, **Shifting-boards*, one or more wooden partitions put up fore-and-aft in a vessel's hold..for the purpose of preventing the shifting of a cargo. 1697 Vanbrugh *Relapse* III. iii, And if it was not *shifting Day, let her put on a clean Tucker, quick! 1876 Hiles *Catech. Organ* viii. (1878) 56 A *shifting-movement is an old contrivance for shutting off the loud stops [of an organ] by means of a pedal: it..is now superseded by the composition pedals. 1740 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 272, I haul'd him by the sleeve into my *shifting-room.

Shifting (ʃi·ftiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Shift *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. That shifts or changes position or direction. 1479 *Office Mayor Bristol* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 425 The shyftyng daies of the woke, specially the Wensdaies and Satirdaies, the Maire hath be vsid to walke in the morenynges to the Brewers howses. 1644 Milton *Divorce* (ed. 2) To Parl. A 4 b, Let him bethink him withall how he will soder up the shifting flaws of his ungirt permissions, his venial and unvenial dispences. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 70 Nor less the shifting Cur avoid, that breaks Illusive from the Pack. 1791 Burke *Let. Memb. Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 12 The shifting tides of fear and hope. 1824 Scott *Diary* 31 July in *Lockhart* (1837) III. iv. 140 A whole parish was swallowed up by the shifting sands. 1859 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* II. App. 99 In a shifting gale the seaman will do many things, which are the last he would have done an hour before. 1871 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. viii. 239 The shifting relations between France and Normandy during the tenth and eleventh centuries.

b. Special collocations: **shifting backstays, ballast** (see quots.); **shifting bar** *Printing*, 'a cross-bar removably dovetailed into a *chase*' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shifting centre** = Metacentre; **shifting use** *Law*, a use properly created for the benefit of one person, but so as to pass from him upon a specified contingency and vest wholly or in part in another. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Shifting backstays*,..those which can be changed from one side of a shift to the other, as the occasion demands. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Shifting Ballast*, a term used by sailors, to signify soldiers, passengers, or any landsmen on board. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Shifting ballast*, pig- of iron, bags of sand, &c., used for ballast, and capable of being moved to trim the vessel. Also, a term applied to messengers, soldiers, and live-stock. 1794 *Shifting-centre [see Metacentre]. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 211 *Meta-centre*, sometimes called the *Shifting Centre.* 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 335 This is sometimes called a secondary, sometimes a *shifting, use. 1844 J. Williams *Real Prop.* (1877) 293 The establishment of shifting and contingent uses occasioned great difficulties to the early lawyers.

2. That uses shifts, tricks, deceit, expedients, subterfuges, or evasions. 1581 A. Hall *Iliad* I. 7 Among the Kings a coward vile, a slouthful shifting Oxe. 1587 Harrison *England* II. xi. 186/1 Yoong shifting gentlemen, which oftentimes doo beare more port than they are able to mainteine. 1659 Milton *Civil Power in Eccl. Causes* 54 Opposing truth to error, no unequal match; truth the strong to error the weak though slie and shifting. 1737 *Gen'l. Mag.* VII. 570/1 Nor winged flight, nor shifting wiles, Cou'd save 'em from his deadly toils. 1795 Windham *Sp.* 5 Jan. (1812) I. 261 What course of candour and fair reasoning is a match for this shifting subtlety?

Hence **Shi·ftingly** *adv.*, **Shi·ftingness.** 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 17 To hate to liue in infamie, through craft, and liuing shiftingly. 1613 Sir E. Hoby *Counter-sn. Ishmael Rabshacheh* 14 Thus doth he..thinke shiftingly to hide that, which he dares not doctrinally defend. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 109 And this is..when they speake mystically or shiftingly, as hee speaketh. 1866 *Spectator* 8 Dec. 1353 The wonderful variety and shiftingness of the grounds taken by their advocates.

Shiftless (ʃi·ftlés), *a.* [f. Shift *sb.* + -less.]

†**1.** Helpless for self-defence; void of cunning or artifice. *Obs.* 1562 Bp. Pilkington *Abdias* Pref. Aa iv b, Wylde beastes be cruel, yet god defends the shiftles sheepe. 1577 Kendall *Flowers of Epigr., Trifles* 24 b, I neuer would haue thought The selie simple shiftlesse Bee could haue suche mischief wrought. 1616 R. Hill *Pathw. Prayer, Direct. to live well* 65 Because of my selfe I am shiftlesse to auoid them [occasions of sinne]. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 122 A Sea-Tortoise..being taken and turned on its back is shiftless.

2. Lacking in resource; incapable of shifting for oneself; hence, lazy, inefficient. 1584 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) I. 407 Having been either popish Priests or shiftless men, thrust in upon the Ministry. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Lives, Wenceslaus Hollar* (1813) II. 402 He was a very friendly good-natured man as could be, but shiftlesse as to the world, and dyed not rich. *a* 1692 Wood *Fasti Oxon.* I. 871 Joh. Pell..was a shiftless man as to worldly affairs. 17.. Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1808) 118, I hope this shiftless friend of mine was not the very thief that stole

your Tasso. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iv, Poor M. de Gouvion is shiftless in this extremity. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. x, Mr. Wrayburn..all idle and shiftless, stood by her bench looking on. 1891 HARDY *Tess* iii, Going to hunt up her shiftless husband at the inn.

b. Of actions: Indicating shiftlessness; ineffective, futile.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. vi. (1614) 33 Forcing him to his manifold shifts, and shiftlesse remouings. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. iii. 65 How poor and shiftlesse this shift is we have already demonstrated. *a* 1862 THOREAU *Yankee in Canada* ii. (1866) 27 This looked very shiftless, especially in a country abounding in water-power.

† **3.** Not shifted or changed; unvarying. *Obs.*

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. xci. (1612) 370 When Canons, Rubrick, Liturgie, and Discipline throughout One shiftlesse Practise had, not to Indifferencie a flout.

4. Without a shift or shirt. *rare.*

1680 OTWAY *Marius* II. ii, He threaten'd me to banish me his house, Naked and shiftless to the world. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* XXXVIII. (1865) IV. 336 Actaeon, who had startled the shiftless Diana.

Hence **Shi·ftlessly** *adv.*, **Shi·ftlessness.**

1681 FLAVEL *Righteous Man's Ref.* 265 The misery and shiftlessness of their condition. 1837 EMERSON *Address, Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 183 In the long period of his [the scholar's] preparation, he must betray often an ignorance and shiftlessness in popular arts. 1847 WEBSTER, *Shiftlessly.* 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. cxii. 608 The larger cities ..where recent emigrants, with the shiftlessness of Europe still clinging round them, are huddled together in squalor.

Shi·ftning, var. SHIFTENING *vbl. sb.*

Shifty (ʃi·fti), *a.* [f. SHIFT *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Full of shifts or expedients; well able to shift for oneself.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* III/21 Shifty, *astutus, providus.* 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Resources* Wks. (Bohn) III. 197 What a plastic little creature he [man] is! so shifty, so adaptive! 1859 KINGSLEY *Water-supply Lond.* Misc. II. 218 The canny, shifty, far-seeing Scot, with that mingled daring and caution of his. 1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* XXIII, She was in many ways a shifty and business-like young person, who had early acquired a sense of responsibility.

† b. Of a device: Effective, serviceable. *Obs.*

1585 GREENE *Planetom.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 119 Seeing his troubled minde coulde finde out no shiftie deuise.

2. Fond of indirect or dishonest methods; addicted to evasion or artifice; not straightforward, not to be depended on.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, A Stanislas Maillard,.. one of the shiftiest of men. 1841 KINNAIR *Cairo,* etc. 305 A most shifty old fox he [*sc.* Mehemet Ali] is. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 554 Their Jewish teachers said that Paul was shifty and complaisant.

b. Of a person's attributes, actions, etc.

1864 THACKERAY *D. Duval* ii. (1869) 10 A handsome, tall, sallow-faced man, with a shifty eye. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. vi, I scorn your shifty evasions. 1884 *American* VII. 213 His political methods have been shifty and not straightforward.

3 Changeable or changeful; wavering. *rare.*

1882 H. S. HOLLAND *Logic & Life* (1885) 294 Principles grow vague, and shifty, and indecisive. 1884 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Sept. 5/4 People of fashion and taste..are so shifty that they do not know their own minds from day to day. 1904 R. BRIDGES *Demeter* 630 Until his shifty mind Became to pity inclined.

4. Changing or shifting in position. *rare.*

1884 LADY BRASSEY in *Good Words* Mar. 165/1 The wind was shifty, though light and fair. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* XXVIII, A South-easterly wind blew the waters to shifty gold-leaf prints of brilliance under the sun.

Shig (ʃig), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial. rare.* In 5 schyg(ge. [App. related to SHOG *v.*, with difference of vowel symbolic of lighter movement.]

† **1.** *intr.* To jig, trot. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 345 He come schygynge ayene.

2. *trans.* To shake.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schygge clothys or oþer thyngys, *excucio. Ibid.*, Schyggynge, *excussio.* 1893 *Broad Norfolk* (ed. Cozens-Hardy) 27 *Shug* (also *Shig*), shake.

‖ **Shigram** (ʃi·grăm). *Bombay.* [Derived from Hindī *çighr* (Skr. *çighra*) quick.] A kind of hack gharry, or palankin-carriage.

1841 H. MILLER in W. W. Peyton *Life* IV. (1883) 57. 1852 *Life in Bombay* 36 The humble shigram, a strange clumsy-looking article, which bears a striking family-likeness to an English bathing-machine. 1878 G. SMITH *Life J. Wilson* VI. (1879) 105.

Shig-shag, variant of SHICK-SHACK.

Shiism (ʃi·iz'm). [f. *Shi-* in SHIAH or SHIITE + -ISM.] The doctrines or principles of the Shiahs. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 592/2.

Shiite (ʃi·əit). Also 8 Sciaite, 9 Sheeite. [f. *shi-* in SHIAH + -ITE. (The 18th c. form *Sciaite* seems to be f. Arab. شيعي *shiyaʿīy* a Shiite).] A member of the Shiah sect. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Sonna,* There are also Sectaries among the Mahometans, called *Sciaites,* who reject the Traditions of the *Sonnites.* 1759 *Universal Hist., Mod.* II. 42 The Sonnites make use of the word *Shiites,* or *Shii,* and apply it to their adversaries, as a term of reproach. 1812 T. MOORE *Intercepted Lett.* vi. 24 You know our Sunnites, hateful dogs! Whom every pious Shiite flogs Or longs to flog. 1817 C. MILLS *Muhammedanism* 369 Down to the fifteenth century, the Persians fluctuated between the Sonnite and Shiite sects. 1825 HEBER *Jrnl.* 25 Feb., A furious attack on the Sheeite heresy from the pulpit. 1911 *19th Cent.* Mar. 517 A province which then and for centuries afterward was a stronghold of Yemenite or Shiite.

Hence **Shii·tic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Shiites.

1884 H. ETHÉ in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 238/1 Purely Shi'itic or Isma'ilitic ideas.

Shikar (ʃikā·r), *sb. Anglo-Ind.* Also 7 sikar, 8 shekar. [Urdū (from Persian) شکار *shikār.*] Hunting; sport (shooting and hunting); game.

a 1613 W. FINCH in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 430 Whatsoeuer is taken in this inclosure, is called the Kings Sikar or game, whether men or beasts. 1800 WELLINGTON *Let. to T. Munro* 2 Mar. in Gurwood *Disp.* (1834) I. 42 These [horsemen] divided into two or three small parties..would give a proper shekar; and I strongly advise you not to let the Marhatta boundary stop you in the pursuit of your game when you shall once have started it. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 181 They talked.. Of divers local matters, acting, racing, and shikar. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties,* etc. *To Unknown Goddess* 2 A victim of crafty and cautious shikar.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1872 E. BRADDON *Life India* V. 181 He is free to spend his days in the saddle or on the shikar ground. 1883 LD. SALTOUN *Scraps* II. 175 A pair of light cord or dungaree breeches, and long yellow sambur-skin boots, complete the shikar costume. *Ibid.* 241 Followed by my shikar-cart. 1896 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village T.* 4 About a dozen shikar parties have been got up for his destruction. *Ibid.* 72 You may have the shikar camel.

Shikar (ʃikā·r), *v.* [f. prec.]

a. *intr.* To hunt animals for sport.

1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 155 You may divert your mind with much shikarring. 1905 GLASFURD *Rifle in Ind. Jungle* 344 The more or less hilly country in which the writer has shikar'd.

b. *trans.* To hunt (an animal). Also *transf.*

1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 58 My camel was very 'musty', and I involuntarily 'shikarred' three unfortunate individuals whom we met on the road, to their great terror. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 22 Dec. 808/2 A pretty green lizard used to come every forenoon, shikarring ants and other insects.

Shikaree (ʃikā·rī). *Anglo-Ind.* Also shecarrie, shikkaree, -ie, shikarry, -i e, shikari(e, shickaree, shekary, shekarree, -y. [Urdū (from Pers.) شکاری *shikāri,* f. *shikār*: see SHIKAR *sb.*] A hunter or sportsman. a. 'A native expert, who either brings in game on his own account, or accompanies European sportsmen as guide or aid' (Yule).

1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 25 Shecarries are generally Hindoos of a low cast. 1832 MUNDY *Pen & Pencil Sk.* I. 119 We got information from some shikkaree (native hunters). 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Naturalist India* 233 My servants and shickaree were employed in stretching bear-skins. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 101 The shikari and I entered the jungle in pursuit.

b. Applied to a European sportsman.

1860 (*title*), The Spear and the Rifle; or, Recollections of Sport in India. By an Old Shekarree [H. A. Leveson]. 1892 H. M. CHICHESTER in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXIX. 116/1 His [Jacob's] prowess as a shikarry is perpetuated in native verse. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* App. I. 330 The whole country abounds in game, and there cannot be lack of sport and trophies for the keen shikari.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1887 FIFE-COOKSON *Tiger Shooting* 17 A native merchant in Dehra had a good shikarie or hunting-elephant. 1900 *Absent-minded War* 168 There is a colour known to Indian sportsmen as shikarri mixture, a sort of greenish-grey, which is practically invisible in the jungle or when working among trees.

‖ **Shikho** (ʃi·kou), *sb.* Also shiko. [Burmese *shi-hko.*] The posture of prostration with joined hands and bowed head assumed by a Burmese in presence of a superior, or before an object of reverence or worship.

1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s. v., The envoy and his party sat on a carpet, but the attitude had no analogy whatever to that of *shikho.*

‖ **Shikho,** *v.* Also shekho, shiko. [f. prec.] *intr.* To assume the posture of 'shikho'.

1858 YULE *Narr. Mission to Ava* IV. 82 They..dropt on their knees and *shikhoed* towards the palace. 1882 'SHWAYOE' *Burman* II. 206 Another ceremony is that of shekhoing to the spire, the external emblem of the throne. 1890 *Times* 21 Jan. 4/3 The Burmese merely shikoed, by placing their hands on their foreheads and bending forward.

Shikkaree, -ie, -y, variant forms of SHIKAREE.

‖ **Shikra** (ʃi·kră). Also shikrah. [Urdū (from Pers.) شکرہ *shikra.*] A small Indian hawk, *Astur badius,* sometimes used in falconry.

1839 JERDON in *Madras Jrnl. Lit. & Sci.* X. 83 *Accipiter dukhunensis,* Sykes..*Chiquera* or *Shikra* H.; the male *chipka.*—Common sparrow-hawk. *Ibid.*, The Shikra is very commonly reclaimed. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* II. 15 The Shikrah and her tiercel the Chipak are our common English sparrow-hawks. 1899 A. H. EVANS *Birds* IV. 157 *Astur badius,* the Shikra,..is blue-grey [etc.].

Shilala, variant of SHILLELAGH.

† **Shi·lboard.** *Obs.* In 5 s(c)hilbord. [The first element is doubtful; cf. SHIELDBOARD.] Meaning uncertain: the conjecture in quot. 1837 seems unlikely, as a plural would be expected. Also in Comb. *shilboard-clog.*

1450–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 241 Rob. Sawer pro sarracione 1 shilbordelogge et aliarum bordarum pro molendino de Milneburne. 1476–7 in *Finchale Priory Acc.* (Surtees) p. cccxxxvii, Et sarratoribus pro le shilbord molendini de Coxhowe..xiij*. iij*. 1477–8 *Ibid.* p. cccxl, Et sarratoribus pro le schilbord et in aliis necessariis x*. [1837 G. JACKSON *Ibid.* Gloss., Shilboards are the boards or external radii fixed to the rim of an undershot water wheel. 1901 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) Gloss., *Shilbordclogge*... Perhaps a shilboard clog is a log of wood suitable for sawing up into shilboards.]

Shild(e, obs. forms of SHIELD.

Shildre, shildur, obs. forms of SHOULDER *sb.*

† **Shi·ldy,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 scyldiġ, 2 sceldiġ, sculdiġ, sculdi, 3 schuldi, (in comb.) -shildiġ. [OE. *scyldig* = OFris. *sheldech, -ich* (WFris. *skildich,* NFris. *skiljeg*), MDu. *sculdech* (Du. *schuldig*), OS. *skuldig* (MLG. *schuldich*), OHG. *skuldig, -ic* (MHG. *schuldic, -ig,* etc., G. *schuldig*), ON. *skyldug-r, skuldug-r* (Norw. *skuldug,* Sw., Da. *skyldig*), f. OTeut. **skuldi-, skuldō* fem. debt, guilt, represented by OE. *scyld,* OS. *sculd,* Du. *schuld,* OHG. *sculd, sculda* (MHG. *schult, schulde,* mod.G. *schuld*), ON. *skuld*: f. root **skal-*: **skul-* to owe: see SHALL *v.*] Guilty.

Beowulf 1683 Morðres scyldiġ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in *Lamb. Hom.* 301 Se biþ eall swa scyldiġ [*c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 sculdiġ] se þe yfel ġeþafaþ swa swa þe ðe hyt deð. [*c* 1200 ORMIN 18317 A mann Dæþshildiġ unnderr sinne.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Gulche hit ut ine schrifte, utterliche, ase heo hit dude, þeo þet iveleð hire schuldi. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2296 Þah þu beo schuldi þe ane of alle clane.

Shilela, -agh, -ah, var. ff. SHILLELAGH.

Shilfa (ʃi·lfa). *Sc.* Also 7 shoulfall, 9 shelfa, shilfy, etc. [Etymology unknown.] The chaffinch.

1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. II. 18 Fringilla, nostratibus *Snowfleck & Shoulfall.* 1792 in *Rutherfurd's Border Almanac 1878* 35 A shilfa's (or chaffinch) nest. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 47 The shelfa's short bright note.

Shill (ʃil), *a.* and *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 scyl, 3 sille, 3–5 schille, schulle, 4–5 shyl, shille, schyll(e, shylle, shulle, 4–6 schil(l, 5–6 shyll, shil, 4–7 shill. [ME. *schille* (2 syll.), app. repr. OE. **scielle,* a parallel form of **sciell* (late WS. *scyl,* occurring only once); corresp. to MHG. *schel, schelle* sonorous, quick in movement, luminous, early mod.Du. *schelle* (now *schel*) shrill, ON. *skjall-r* sonorous, resounding; f. OTeut. **skell-*: see SHILL *v.*1]

A. *adj.* Sonorous, resonant, shrill.

a 1000 *Riming Poem* 27 (Gr.) Scyl wæs hearpe, hlude hlynede. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 572 Mirie ȝe singeð ?is mere, and haueð manie stefnes, manie and sille. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 142 Heo song so lude & so scharpe, Ryht so me grulde schille harpe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6069 A schille horn þai gun blawe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun Pr. T.* 575 Certes, he lakke Straw, and his meynee Ne made neuere shoutes half so shille. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* diij, That thay [the hawk's bells] be sonowre and well sowndyng and shil. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 516 Berdis schoutit in schaw, with thair schill notis. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 46 So schill in sorrowe was hir sang, That throwe hir voce the roches rang. 1598 MERES *Pallad. Tam.* 276 As our breath doth make a shiller sound being sent through the narrow channell of a Trumpet then if it be diffused abroad into the open aire. 1885 W. H. SMITH *Walks in Weardale* (ed. 2) 165 *Shill,* shrill. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorks. Folk-Talk* 367 *Shill, Shilly* adj. This word is commonly applied to a high wind...Its meaning..is clearly 'noisy', 'shrill'.

B. *adv.* Sonorously, resonantly, shrilly.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1656 Heo..song so schille & so brihte, þat fur & neor me hit i-herde. *a* 1300 *Leg. Gregory* 879 Þe winde blewe schille and loude. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 46 Prout of my faire fetours and for ich songe shulle. *a* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 561 Þonder dyned shille. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schylle, and scharpe, *acute, aspere, sonore.* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XIV. 2 Ane ȝoung King I hard schoutand schill. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 64 The Men..speak ratling in the Throat, and gross; the Women shiller and lower. 1782 BURNS *My Nanie, O* ii, The westlin wind blaws loud an' shill.

Hence **Shi·lly** *adv.*, **Shi·llness.**

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 929 Þen schrikis schilli [*Dublin* shilly] all þe schalkis. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iij, Thay [Dutch bells] be..sonowre of Ryngyng in shilnes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Sonoritas,* a shyllenesse, or lowdenesse.

Shill, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 scyllan, 3–4 schill(e, shille, 4 schull(e, 9 shill. [OE. **sciellan* (late WS. *scyllan*), prob. a str. vb. = OHG. *scellan* to resound (MHG. *schellen*; mod.G. only in pa. pple. *verschollen* having ceased to resound, hence forgotten), ON. *skjalla* to rattle, f. OTeut. **skell-* (: *skall-* : *skull-*), whence OHG. *scella* fem. (mod.G. *schelle*) bell, OHG. *scal* masc. (mod.G. *schall*) loud sound; see also SHILL *a.*] *intr.* To resound; to sound loudly.

c 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker 215/15 *Crepitat, i. resonat,* scylþ, cyrmþ, ræscetteþ. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* (Laud MS.) 220 And þoruuth eche toune Horn him shilleþ soune. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 7286 He grad & ȝelled swiþe loude, þat it schilled into þe cloude. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 631 Hure strokes fulle so styþ & sare þay schulde so doþ þe ponder. 1898 BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char.,* etc. *N. Riding* 443 *Shill* v...3. [Of the wind] To make a noise something between a howl and a whistle.

Hence **Shi·lling** *ppl. a.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 19 'Cum', quoð þe culure wið schillinde stefne. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 331 He..despisede þe smokynge and schillynge speche of mysbyleved men. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 528 A schillande schout.

Shill (ʃil), *v.*2 Now *dial.* Forms: 1 scylian, 4 schille, 5 schyllyn, 7 shel, 7–9 sheal, shill. [OE. *scylian,* **scielian,* ad. or cogn. w. ON. *skilja,* whence SKILL *v.*

App. distinct from *shill* v. to shell, husk: see SHEEL *v.*]

†1. *trans.* To separate. *Obs.*

1049 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) On þyson ylcan ȝeare Eadwerd eing scylode .ix. scypa of male. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 152 Our king, That wic men fra god sal schille. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/1 Schyllyn owte, or cullyn owte fro sundyr, *segrego*. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 20 If there bee any sheepe that beginne to ragge..yow are to make the sheapheard shill them out. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. Gloss. s. v., To sever sheep is to shill them. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

2. To curdle (milk). Also *intr.*, to become curdled.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* s. v., To *Sheal* Milk is to curdle it, to separate the parts of it. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s. v. *Helowe-wall*, In the North to *shel* or *sheal* milk is to curdle it. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. Gloss. s. v., Turning a small quantity of milk into curds and whey is called shilling it. 1855 *Whitby Gloss., To Sheal or Shill*, to sour milk for curds by the usual process. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Shill*, v. a. and v. n. to curdle; to scum.

Shill, Sc. and north. variant of CHILL *a.*

1599 A. HUME *Hymnes* ii. 108 The shill and freesing frosts. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss., Shill*, a weather term—sharply cold.

Shillat, variant of SHILLET.

Shillelagh (ʃilē·lă, -ā·li). Forms: (7 Shelela), 8 shelaly, shillaley, 8–9 shillela, 6 shilala, shillala(h, shilela(h, -elagh, shillely, -aly, shilleəlah, 8– shillelah, 9– shillelagh. [The name of a barony and village in Co. Wicklow.] An Irish cudgel of blackthorn or oak.

[1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 39 The River Slane..with that noble great and good Wood called Shelela. 1773 *Batchelor* No. 27 (ed. 2) 183 Shillela's knotted cudgels fail.] 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 36 'By Jes-s, and that's mine!' exclaim'd I, grasping my shelaly. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Shillaley*, an oaken sapling, or cudgel, (Irish) from a wood of that name famous for its oaks. *c* 1800 ? LYSAGHT *Song*, '*The Sprig of Shillelah*', With his sprig of Shillelah and shamrock so green! 1827 SIR J. BARRINGTON *Pers. Sketches* I. 74 He bore a shillelagh, the growth of his own estate. 1834 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* Ser. II. 297 He bowlted into the cabin wid a murtherin' shillely in his fist. 1862 BORROW *Wales* II. ix. 91 His hat in one hand and his shillealah in the other.

Shi·llet. *s. w. dial.* Also **shillot, -at, shillett, shellet, -at, shilt.** [Perh. f. SHEEL *v.*; the word may go back to an OE. **scielet.*] = SHALE *sb.*[2] Also *attrib.*

1777 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, Shellet. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 11 Here the soil is of a good depth upon the shillot. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 359/2 The earthy slates ..were interspersed with blue shillat slates. 1859 MURCHISON *Siluria* xiii. (ed. 3) 344 The shillat of Cornwall. 1875 WHYTE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xxiii, Shilt and shingle glitter on the bare tops above. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Shillet*,..the disintegrated top layer of the Devonian clay slate so common in West Somerset and North Devon. 1892 H. HUTCHINSON *Fairway Isl.* 20 He..gathered from the road a handful of loose shillett.

Hence **Shi·llety** *a.* (also *shillotty, shellety*, etc.), consisting of shillet.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 24 A tender loam of a dark grey cast on a shillotty understratum. 1830 JAS. SAVAGE *Hist. Carhampton* 209 The soil is..a white rag, or as it is here called, a *shelley* soil. 1887 J. W. FORTESCUE *Staghunting Exmoor* 181 Our hind has taken advantage of the shillety ground to double about a good deal.

Shillibeer (ʃi·libī·ər). Also **shellibere, -beere.** [Named after George *Shillibeer*, coach-proprietor (1797–1866).] **a.** A name given to the omnibus for some time after its introduction into London by Shillibeer in 1829. **b.** A vehicle containing a mourning-carriage and hearse combined, patented by Shillibeer.

c 1835 *Song* in *Ludgate* (1897) Feb. 445 You can come to no harm in the safe Shillibeer. 1865 *Chamb. Encycl.* VII. 72/2 (s. v. *Omnibus*) Shillibeer's conveyances, which for some time afterwards were known as *shillibeers* (an epithet still in common use in New York), were of larger size than the French ones, carrying 22 passengers inside, and were drawn by three horses abreast. 1894 *Hereford Times* 28 July 5/3 Washington Cars and Shelliberes for Undertakers.

Shilling (ʃi·liŋ). Forms: 1 scilling, scylling, (-inge), 3 ssillinge, 3–6 schillinge, 4 ssyllyng, 4–5 schillyng(e, schelyng(e, shulleng(e, schullyng(e, 4–6 schiling, shill-, shyllyng(e, -inge, silling, 4–7 schilling, 5 schyllynge, shylynge, schilenge, silyn, 5–6 sheling, -yng(e, shellyng(e, 6 scheling(e, schillengge, shealinge, shyllyn, syllyng, 4– shilling. [Common Teut.: OE. *scilling* masc. = OFris. *skilling, skilleng, schilling*, MDu. *schellingh* (Du. *schelling*), OS. *scilling* (MLG. *schillink, schildink*, mod.LG. *schillink, schilling*), OHG. *scilling, skillink, schilling* (MHG., G. *schilling*), ON. *skilling·r* (Icel. also *skildingr*, Sw., Da. *skilling*), Goth. *skilliggs*:—OTeut. **skillingo-z.* Adopted in OSlav. as *skulęzŭ*, in Sp., Pr., Fr. as *escalin* (13th c. F. *eskallin*, mod.F. also *schelling*), It. *scellino.*

The Teut. word is referred by some etymologists to the root **skell-* to resound, ring (see SHILL *a.* and *v.*[1]). Others assign it to the root **skel-* to divide (whence SKILL *v.*, SHALE *sb.*, SHELL *sb.*, etc.); some have conjectured that the word originally denoted one of the segments of fixed weight into which an armlet of gold or silver was divided, so that they might be detached for use as money. In the bilingual documents of the 6th century, Goth. *skilliggs* corresponds to the L. SOLIDUS; in mediæval Germany the Teut. and the Latin word were commonly used to render each other, but in England the correspondence appears to have been only occasionally recognized until Norman times.

The value of the 'shilling' in continental Teut. countries has varied greatly; its relation to the penny and the pound has also varied, though a widely accepted scale was 1 pound or *libra* = 20 shillings or *solidi* = 240 pennies or *denarii*. See SCHELLING, SCHILLING, SKILLING[2].]

1. An English money of account, since the Norman Conquest of the value of 12 pence or $\frac{1}{20}$ of a pound sterling. Abbreviated s. (= L. *solidus*: see SOLIDUS[1]), formerly also sh., shil.; otherwise denoted by the sign /- after the numeral.

Before the Norman Conquest the value of the shilling varied in different times and places. It was 5 pence in Wessex and 4 pence in Mercia; the shilling of 12 pence mentioned in two passages *c* 1000 may refer to the continental *solidus*.

c 900 *Laws of Ine* § 2 (Liebermann) 90 Cild binnan ðritegum nihta sie ȝefulwad. Ȝif hit swa ne sie, xxx scill. ȝebete. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* 1 (Z.) 296 Fif penegas ȝemaciað æenne scylling. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7870 To eche chirche of þe lond vif ssillinges me ber. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 146 If any frere were founde here ich ȝif þe fyue shillynges. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xi. 34 That euery man þat were blinde, shuld haue an C^s. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 3/8 For to lerne rekene By poundes, by shelynges, by pens. 1556 in W. Kelly *Notices Illustr. Drama* (1865) 194 For ix yards of Clothe at iure shyllyns the yarde for the Weyts gownes xxxvj^s. 1613 TAPP *Pathw. Knowl.* 21 Then 3. shillings from 20. shil. leaues 17. shillings. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 27 May, Afterwards to ninepins, where I won a shilling. 1856 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 361/1 This would be all very well were he to get a shilling's worth for a shilling. 1881 CROWEST *Phases Mus. Eng.* 148 One tradesman could well afford to sell at one penny or so less in the shilling.

b. In Scotland, Ireland, America, etc.

Through gradual debasement of the coinage the shilling Scots, by the 17th c., was worth only 1d. English.

1462 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 313 They to les a honderyt schelynges. 1488–91 *Acc. L.d. High Treas. Scot.* I. 167 Hary nobillis gevin for thretty tua schillingis the pece. 1543 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 413 To the Kepere of the Tolsell cloke of Dublin [thirty] five sillings. 1550 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 450 Payand heirfor ȝeirlie allevin schelingis aucht penneis. 1712 *Mun. Thoresby.* (1713) 389 The Proportion betwixt the English and Scotch Pennies, Shillings and Pounds, was then (10 Eliz.) just as one to six, but before he [James I] came into England, it was just doubled; so that the English Penny was exactly the Scotch Shilling, our Twentypence their Pound. 1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., Reckoning by the shilling is still not uncommon in some parts of the United States, especially in rural New England.

c. *A shilling great, a shilling of groats*: see GREAT *a.* 8 e, GROAT 1.

1593 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 408 Tuentie schillingis greitt ilk barrell beir.

d. unchanged in plural. (Now *vulgar.*)

a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 126 (Camb. MS.) And for his nigtes gestinge He ȝaf his oste an hundred schillinge. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 141 The beggar..sald this corn igain him to, And toc thar for fif schilling. 14.. *Emare* 524 She ȝaf hym for þat tydynge A robe and fowrty shylynge. 1521–2 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 15 To gite four schilling yeirly..to the dekin of the maltmen. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 263 Item, for each Mile..there shall be paid to him a further Sum of six Shilling.

e. Used in emphatic or rhetorical statements, where one wishes to be understood as deliberately reckoning or accounting for every item, however small, of a given sum or expense.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 657/1 This exclusive Privilege cannot be taken from either of them, till every Shilling due to them by the Publick be paid off. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. i, He protested..he would pay away every shilling he was worth, rather than witness such injustice. 1815 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* (1838) XII. 453, I will not engage to pay one shilling more than the expenses really incurred by Hanover. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* i. 9 Every shilling spent in the house did its full twelve pennies' worth of work.

2. A silver coin of the value of 12 pence. First issued by Henry VII, in 1503.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1533) 233 In the forenamed parlyament [of 1504] was ordeyned a new coyne of syluer, as grotes, half grotes, & shyllynges with half faces. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 35 We haue nowe a prety litle shilling, in dede a very pretye one. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 39 Take so much of this as will lie on a shilling in Anniseed-water fasting. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 688 Still Amorous, and fond, and Billing, Like Philip and Mary on a Shilling. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 144 One quarter of a grain was sufficient to produce a good blister as large as a shilling. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, Two new shillings in his breeches-pockets.

b. With defining word indicating a particular coinage.

1699 NICOLSON *Eng. Hist. Libr.* III. 313 Elizabeth..caus'd indeed some Irish Shillings (call'd Harpers..) to be made of a baser kind than the English, so that they usually pass'd for Ninepence here. 1712 *Mus. Thoresby.* (1713) 365 The Portcluse Shilling [see PORTCULLIS *sb.* 3 b]. 1715 S. SEWALL *Diary* 12 Sept. (1882) III. 56 Gave Mr. Short's daughter a New-England Shilling. 1764 *Mus. Thoresby.* 13 [Lot] 201. Lord Baltimore's Shilling (a Proof Six-pence in Copper) and 3 New England Shillings. 1850 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Shilling*, the name given in the State of New York, to the Spanish real; in the neighbouring States it is frequently called a York shilling.

c. *Half-shilling, quarter-shilling*, Tudor coins of the value of 6d. and 3d. respectively.

1561 *Procl. Base Moneys* 15 Nov., There shalbe immediatly coyned in fine sterlyng moneys, halfe shyllynges of six pence, quarter shyllynges of three pence the peece, and a halfe peece thereof called three halfpence. 1695 LOWNDES *Ess. Amend. Silver Coins* 50 Half-shillings, Groats, Quarter-Shillings, Half-Groats.

d. *Little shilling*, COBBETT's name for a proposed silver shilling of considerably reduced intrinsic value. Hence used by Macaulay in reference to a similar proposal in 1695.

1826 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 7 Oct. 94/2 This city [Worcester], or this neighbourhood, at least, being the birthplace of what I have called, the 'Little-Shilling Project', and Messrs. Atwood and Spooner being the originators of the project. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 640 Montague, after defeating..those who were for the little shilling.

†3. **a.** Used, after L. *solidus*, as a denomination of weight = $\frac{1}{20}$ of a pound. (Cf. SOLID *sb.*[2]) **b.** *Sc.* The weight of twelve silver pennies. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 240 Ȝenim of ðysse wyrte petroseline swyþe smæl dust, anes scillinges ȝewihte. *a* 1400 in *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1844) I. 673 þe pund in King Dauidis dayis weyit xxv. schillingis. Now þe pund aw to wey in siluer xxvi schillingis and iij sterling penijs. 1543 tr. *Stat. Bread & Ale* 51 *Hen. III*, § 1 When a quarter of wheate is solde for .xii.d. then wastell bread of a ferthynge shall way .vi. li. and .xvi. s. [orig. *sex libras et sexdecim solidos*]. 1596 *Recorde's Ground of Arts* 319 Therefore here by a shilling you must vnderstand $\frac{1}{20}$ of a pound weight.

†4. Used to render or represent the names of various foreign moneys. *Obs.*

Double shilling, a Dutch florin or guilder.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 15 Ða ȝesetton him ðrittih scillinga [Vulg. *triginta argenteos*]. *Ibid.* Luke xv. 9 Forðon ic fand þæt scilling [Vulg. *dragmam*] ðæt ic forleas. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 32 Selle þam hlaforde þritiȝ scillinga seolfres [Vulg. *triginta siclos argenti domino dabit*]. *c* 1050 in Wr.-Wülcker 460/17 *Obelus*, scilling. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* ibid. 183/21 *Numisma*, scylling. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Two hundred sicles [*v.r.* schillinges] of seolure. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6722 Thritti schiling o siluer agan Sal man giue þe lord to mend [Exod. xxi. 32]. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life & Aav.* 140 Each [of the officers] gave me a double Shilling. 1753 [see SCHILLING]. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. iv. I. 32 The French sou or shilling appears upon different occasions to have contained five, twelve, twenty, forty, and forty-eight pennies.

5. In various proverbial expressions (see quots.).

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 54 He maketh his marts with marchantis likely, To bryng a shillyng to .ix. pens quickely. [Cf. NOBLE *sb.*[1] 2 b.] 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* I. vii. 32 Thus the Cardinal only changeth the Popes shilling into Twelve-pence. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. x, He will come back again, like the ill shilling—he is not the sort of gear that tynes. 1826 — *Woodstock* x, Hark ye, good fellow,..I will bestow on thee a shilling wet and a shilling dry if thou wilt go back with me.

b. *To cut off with a shilling*: see CUT *v.* 55 i.

1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* IV. iii. 43 When I die, I'll leave him the Fee-Simple of a Rope and a Shilling.

1762 COLMAN *Mus. Lady* II. 27 I'll disinherit him—I won't leave him a groat—I'll cut him off with a shilling.

c. *To take the shilling, the King's* or (in the reign of Victoria) *Queen's shilling*: to enlist as a soldier by accepting a shilling from a recruiting officer (a practice now disused).

1707 HEARNE *Collect.* 27 Mar. (O.H.S.) II. 2 He did take a shilling, but not with any intent of listing. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. v, One fellow was jilted by his mistress, and took the shilling in despair. 1886 FARJEON *Three Times Tried* I, I took the Queen's shilling, and became a soldier. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Mar. 8/1 A contingent of Volunteer Engineers was sworn in for service in South Africa. Each man was presented..with the King's shilling.

†**d.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, The *Shillings*. A phrase in familiar use among army brokers, to express a certain profit or per centage which they gain in the sale, purchase, and exchange of commissions.

6. *attrib.*, with the sense 'of the price or value of a shilling', 'for which a shilling is charged or is due', as *shilling gallery, ordinary, places, points* (in a game, hence *shilling whist*, etc.), *seats*; **shilling dreadful** or **shocker**, a short sensational novel, published at a shilling.

1885 *Athenæum* 14 Nov. 638/2 Mr. R. L. Stevenson is writing another '*shilling dreadful'. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. iii, I heard my varlet of a guide as loud with his blackguard jokes in the kitchen, as a footman in the *shilling gallery. 1780 *Mirror* No. 91 Their former dinners with him at a *shilling ordinary. 1857 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* III. xi, The *shilling places were packed in half an hour. 1854 GUNNING *Remin. Camb.* I. 22 We played *shilling points, and occasionally half-a-crown was betted on the rubber. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 July 6/2 Given plenty of sensational incident and a certain coherency of plot, and you have all that is necessary to make a '*shilling shocker'. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances back* I. v. 117 No shilling shockers..to amuse us..during our uncomfortable journey. 1760 MURPHY *Way to keep Him* I. (end), Nobody plays *shilling-whist now.

7. With prefixed numerals, forming adjectives of price or value. Also in phrases denoting rate of payment (as 'a shilling an hour'), used *attrib.*

In the attributive use the 's' of the plural is regularly dropped; for a contrary instance see quot. 1683.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscott) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 198 The xxx schiling peice. 1653 *Ordin. Contin. Excise* 17 Mar. 107 For every Barrel of six shilling Beer or Ale. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* xiii. 340 Let your Drink at Meals be no stronger than nine shillings Beer. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. i, A fellow that has but a groat in his pocket, may have a stomach capable of a ten-shilling ordinary. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth, Chron. Camong.* Introd., Prepared and sold..in five shilling and ten shilling bottles. 1853 *Punch* XXIV. 102/1 It did one good to hear him wither a 'super'; his manner of rolling his words at the poor trembling

shilling-a-night wretch. 1866 E. YATES *Land at Last* I. x. 192 A model..one of the usual shilling-an-hour victims.

Shillingless (ʃi·liŋlés), *a.* [-LESS.] Not having a shilling; being without (even) a shilling.

1797 COLERIDGE *Lett. to Estlin* 41 (*Philobiblon Soc. Misc.* XV), At present I am almost shillingless. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 342 He told us that the bill was not yet due...As I was almost shillingless, Mr. — now offered to cash it for me.

Shillingsworth (ʃi·liŋzwəɹþ). Formerly **shillingworth.** [WORTH *sb.* The form *shillingworth* (cf. *pennyworth*) is now rare. In the current form the *s* is the sign of the possessive (whether sing. or pl.).] An amount or quantity which is or may be bought for a shilling; as much as is worth a shilling or a (specified) number of shillings.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 31 b, Þat non ne sal ben i don ..in to ani Iurees Þat hath lasse Þan a Hundred sillingworth of londe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 612/37 *Solidatus*, a shyllyngworth. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 87/26, iiij. shillyngworth of Cakys [*quatiuor solidatas artocoporum*]. *Ibid.* 158, ij. shelynge worthe of rent..yerly to be payde att whytsontyde. 1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 2 Item componit..for the resignacione of a hundreth schilling worth of land callit the Stanly. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 528 For a shilling-worth of service a shilling-worth of gratitude is naturally paid. 1857 W. SMITH *Thorndale* IV. ii. 267 My Silver Shilling represents..all possible shillingworths of everything on earth.

1840 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 175 A few shillingsworth of damage to gear, etc. 1905 *Athenæum* 8 Apr. 432/3 'School-room Humour'..is a capital shillingsworth.

Shilloo (ʃiłū·). *Anglo-Irish.* A loud shouting or outcry. Hence **Shilloo·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ix, 'What are you shouting there for?' said the traveller; 'cawn't you wing'. 'Oh, they understand the *shilloo* as well, sir'. *Ibid.* XXXVI, There was a regular shilloo in the house when the thing was found out. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* xi. 91 They'll keep such a shillooing through the country about it.

Shillot, variant of SHILLET.

Shilly (ʃi·li). *north.* Also **shillow, shilla, shelly, shulla,** etc. [? Connected with SHILLET.

Manx has *shillee* 'a mass or assemblage of thin slate, or bits of thin stone' (Cregean), 'a gravelly beach' (Kelly); but the word may be an importation from dialectal English.] Gravel, shingle; (with *pl.*) a pebble, small stone.

1675 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 307 Every shipp which shall discharge any shilly or stone ballast southwards of the shilly path in this river shall forfeit ten shillings. 1837 THORNBER *Hist. Blackpool* 246 A beach of 'shingle or shulla', the principal portion of which falls from the cliffs. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Shilla*, the loose stones on the sea-beach, the stony sea-beach. 1873 T. E. BROWN *Betsy Lee* 24 A stream ran..down the glen, And soaked through the shilly, and out to the bay. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss., Shillies, Shilla, Shellies*, shore-gravel. 1901 THRODORA W. WILSON *T'Bacca Queen* XXVIII. 261 She turned from the lamp-lighted road on to the wide strand of shillow.

Shilly-shally (ʃi·liʃæ·li), *adv. phr., a., sb.* [At first written *shill I, shall I*, altered form of *shall I, shall I*: see SHALL *v.* B. 7 a (*d*). For the vowel-alteration cf. *dilly-dally, wishy-washy.*]

A. *To stand shill I, shall I*: to vacillate, to be irresolute or undecided. Also *to go shill-I shall-I, to stand at shilly-shally.*

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. XV. 47, I don't stand shill I, shall I, then; if I say't, I'll do't. 1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* III. (1705) 34 I'm for marrying her at once—Why should I stand shilly-shally, like a Country Bumpkin? 1709 W. KING *Eagle & Robin* 92 Bob did not shill-I shall-I go, Nor said one word of friend or foe; But flirting at him made a blow. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Fatal Marksman* Wks. 1859 XII. 199, I see no good that comes of standing shilly-shally. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. ii, Don't stand there shilly-shally. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 232 The simpleton who stands..At shilly-shally, may he knock or no At his own door.

B. *adj.* Vacillating, irresolute, undecided.

1734 CHESTERF. in *Lett. C'tess Suffolk* (1824) II. 95 We were mighty prudent and shilly shally whether to stay or go. 1743 MRS. DELANY *Autobiog. & Corr.* (1861) II. 208, I am shilly-shally about it in my own mind. 1792 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 470, I had heard him say that this constitution was a shilly-shally thing, of mere milk and water, which would not last. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. lxv. (1878) 363 I'm not going to be stopped by any shilly-shally nonsense. 1886 GOSCHEN in A. D. Elliot *Life* (1911) II. 9 If Gladstone is very shilly shally about the Legislative Union.

C. *sb.* **1.** Vacillation, irresolution.

1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 355 Mr. Muckworm..conceived marriages should be driven like bargains without shilly shally. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* v. Wks. 1854 III. 10 She lost not one of her forty-five minutes in picking and choosing. No shilly-shally in Kate. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. XXV. 212 What I wished to point out to you was, that there can be no shilly-shally now.

2. A vacillating, irresolute person. *rare.*

1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shakesp.* Wks. 1853 II. 271/1 Among the girls in the country there are many such shilly-shallys, who give themselves sore eyes and sharp eye-water. 1883 SAINTSBURY *Dryden's Wks.* VI. 401 The queen [in *The Spanish Friar*] being both bloodthirsty and inconsequent, and Torrismond a vacillating shilly-shally.

Shi·lly-sha·lly, *v.* [f. prec. adv. phr.]

1. *intr.* To vacillate, be irresolute or undecided.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, So I suppose he'll shilly-shally till somebody else will cry snap, and take her. 1842 THACKERAY *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* ix, This Bruce had been for a long time shilly-shallying as to the side he should take. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 441 To shilly-shally on the matter, to act in one way today and in a different way tomorrow.

2. *trans.* To show indecision in one's dealings with. ? *nonce-use.*

1864 BP. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1882) III. 152 If you go mystifying and shillyshallying them [*sc.* nonconformists].

¶ Occas. analysed into two verbs, 'shilly' and 'shally': see quots.

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. 203 It would be all idleness to go on shillying-shallying with her. 1891 *Daily News* 3 June 2/2 Sir William made the statement..that L. had shillied and shallied, and had then said 'I saw something'.

Hence **Shi·lly-sha·llying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1842 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle's Profess.* i, There shall be no shilly-shallying work here. 1843 — *Bluebeard's Ghost* in *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 424/2 Make up your mind what you will ask him, for ghosts will stand no shilly-shallying. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* I. 120 If it hadn't been for my wretched shilly-shallying ways, I shouldn't have to write to him at all.

Shi·lly-sha·llyer. [f. prec. vb. + -ER 1.] One who shilly-shallies.

1832 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 697 Silly shallow shilly-shallyers. 1835 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cv. (1848) 243 He was no shillishallier. 1848 THACKERAY *Contrib.* 'Punch' Wks. 1886 XXIV. 187 Shilly-shallyers are cowards.

Shilment, -mont: see SHELVEMENT.

Shilpit (ʃi·lpit), *a. Sc.* Also **shilpet, shelpit.** [Etymology unknown; cf. SHIRPIT.

Sc. dialects have also *shilpy* in the same sense, and *shilp* 'a pale sickly girl' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).]

1. Of persons: Pale and sickly-looking; weak, feeble, puny.

1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 79 (E.D.D.) There Care nae shilpit face can shaw. 1818 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xxiv, The Laird, as he peered at her over his spectacles, pronounced her to be but a shilpit thing. 1820 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 23 Apr., Abstemiousness has made my brain but a shilpit concern for a Scotch sitting 'inter pocula'. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* XXXIV. 230 My puir bit shilpit lassie.

2. Of liquor: Insipid, weak, thin.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xi, He pronounced the claret *shilpit*, and demanded brandy with great vociferation. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. XX, Sherry's but shilpit drink.

3. (See quot.)

1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725 *Shilpit* (Scot.), applied to ill-filled ears of corn.

Shilt, var. SHILLET. **Shily,** obs. var. SHYLY.

Shim (ʃim), *sb.*1 Also 7 **shimm(e.** [Represents formally OE. *scima* shadow, gloom.

Cognate forms are OS. *scimo* shade, WFris. *skim*, NFris. *skemm*, MLG. *schême* shade, twilight, ghost, MDu. *schem, schim, schême* shade, shadow, ghost, shimmer, shine (Du. *schim* shadow, phantom), MHG. *scheme* ghost (G. *schemen*), ON. *skime* or *skîme* gleam, *skîma* glimmer; also OE. *scîma* brightness, light, OS., OHG. *scîmo*, Goth. *skeima*; f. Teut. root *skî-*, for which see SHINE *v.*]

1. A streak of white on a horse's face. *dial.*

Cf. SHIMMED.

1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 23 Some commend the shimme or rase downe the face. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2459/4 A bright Chesnut Gelding,..a Shim [*printed* Shein] down his Face. 1705 *Ibid.* 4131/4 A Ring of white round each Ear, and a Shim down her Face. 1784 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* iii. 173.

2. A faint or transient appearance; a glimpse.

a 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose's Prov. Gloss., Shim*, appearance, West. A transient view or first sight. 1853 W. D. COOPER *Gloss. Prov. Sussex* 73, I can't be sure it was a partridge, but I saw the shim of something going over the hedge.

Shim (ʃim), *sb.*2 *local.* Also 8 **sheim.** [Origin unascertained. It is doubtful whether all the following senses belong to one word.]

1. A piece of iron attached to an agricultural implement for scraping the surface of the soil.

1723 LEWIS *Hist. Tenet* 9 The furrows..being either howed with a large how, or cleared of weeds and rubbish by what they call a *Shim*. This is a flat piece of Iron, fixed at the end of a slight little plough beam drawn by one horse, and so made that it may be raised up or let down, as occasion serves. [1736 (ed. 2) 13 *reads*, A Shim or Brake-plough. This is a Piece of Iron, at the Bottom of two Cheeks with Holes in them, which are put thro' a Frame of Timber drawn with one Horse, and with Iron Pins is let up or down as there is Occasion.] 1808 BATCHELOR *Agric. Bedford* 178 A shim, or scraper, might be inserted in the harrow-frame, for cutting thistles and other weeds.

2. In full *shim-plough*: A kind of horse-hoe or shallow plough, used in Kent and elsewhere, for hoeing up weeds between rows of beans, hops, etc.

[1736: see sense 1.] 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.), *Shim*, an horse-how. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* III. i. 56 (E.D.S.), The sheim or prong-plough. 1754 POCOCKE *Trav.* (Camden) II. 88 [In the Isle of Thanet] They have a particular way of cleaning the ground sown with beans, with a machine call'd a shim, with irons at such a distance, that two go between the rows, and turn up the earth on each side against the beans. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) III. 33 Horse-hoed the intervals with a Berk-shire shim, which cuts the surface, but turns no furrow. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 886 In the drill-sown lucern some recommend..the passing of a small shim between them. 1892 *Auctioneer's Catal. Farm Sale near Minster, Kent*, 148 Pop shim, 149 Iron single shim, 150 5 furrow corn shim.

3. A Dutch hoe.

1833 *Ridgemont Farm Rep.* 133 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III, The Dutch hoe, called in Holderness the 'shim'.

¶ 4. Used by confusion for SKIM *sb.* (2 b).

So *shim-coulter plough* in some Dicts.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 470 When the land is of a stiff and lumpy..nature, it may..be necessary to have recourse to *shims*, in order to break down and separate the particles. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* (L.U.K.) I. 348 The shim, or skim, has also been affixed as an additional coulter..to a plough much in use in Oxfordshire. 1837 *Ibid.* II. 18 The skim-plough—or shim, as it is in some places called.

5. A thin slip, usually of metal, used to fill up a space between parts subject to wear, to align or adjust the level of rails, etc.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shim..* (*Stone-working*). One of the plates in a jumper-hole to fill out a portion of the thickness not occupied by the wedges or feathers. 1885 WADDELL *Syst. Railroad Bridges Japan* 56 There are two different floor systems..: in the first of these the lower lateral rods pass through the wooden shims. 1887 J. ROSE *Key to Engines* 101 A Liner, Fit-Strip, Distance-Piece, or Shim..is a strip of metal placed between the joint faces of the brasses to hold them the proper distance apart.

6. *U.S.* An imperfect shingle of irregular thickness; also, an imperfect bucket-stave.

In recent U.S. Dicts.

† **Shim,** *a. Obs.* In 4 **schym.** [Related to OE. *scima, scíma*: see SHIM *sb.*1] Bright.

Cf. (Chesh., Shropsh.) *shim-white*, a clear bright white.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1077 Aboute Þat water arn tres ful schym, Þat twelue frytez of lyf con bere ful sone.

† **Shim,** *v.*1 *Obs.* [OE. *scímman*, ? also *scímian*, related to *scima* (see SHIM *sb.*1): cf. OHG. *scîman*, MHG. *schimmen*] *intr.* To shine.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 24 Scimande of heofnum, *coruscans de sub cælo*. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxiv. (Z.) 138 *Mico*, ic scimige [*v.r.* scine]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 55 (Bodl. MS.), Schiminde [*Royal MS.* schininde] hire nebscheaft schene as Þe sunne. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 19 Wið schimmende ant scharp sweord. *Ibid.* 44 Hire foster modres schep, Þe schimede ant schan. *a* 1240 [see SHIMMER *v.*1].

Shim, *v.*2 [f. SHIM *sb.*2]

1. a. *intr.* To use the shim for hoeing.

1792, etc. [see SHIMMING]. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) IV. 62 The last week in April, shimmed over the surface.

b. *trans.* To hoe (crops) with a shim.

1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 59 The Kentish method of shimming the stubbles of beans..is unknown in Suffolk. 1799 — *Agric. Linc.* 128 He..shims them with the expanding horse-hoe. 1833 *Ridgemont Farm Rep.* 138 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III. When the land is in good order, an able workman will shim nearly six roods a day.

2. 'To wedge up or fill out to a fair surface by inserting a thin wedge or piece of material' (*Century Dict.*). Cf. SHIMMER *sb.*2 and SHIMMING.

Shimiana, variant of SHAMIANA(H.

† **Shimmed,** *a. Obs.* In 5 **schymmid.** [app. f. SHIM *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Dapple-grey.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/2 Schymmid, as hors, *scutilatus*.

Shimmer (ʃi·məɹ), *sb.*1 [f. SHIMMER *v.*1 Cf. LG. *schemmer*, NFris. *skimer*, G. *schimmer*, Sw. *skimmer.*] A shimmering light or glow; a subdued tremulous light.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, Two silver lamps, fed with perfumed oil, diffused..a trembling twilight-seeming shimmer through the quiet apartment. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XXV, The strange, wraith-like apparel..which, at this evening hour..gave out..a most ghostly shimmer through the shadow of my apartment. 1853 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* i, The first shimmer of the moonlight was silvery on the water. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 590 The papules ..having a wax-like shimmer.

transf. and *fig.* 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. iii, A kind of childlike half-embarrassed shimmer of expression, on his fine vivid countenance. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.*, One man sees a spark or shimmer of the truth.

Shimmer (ʃi·məɹ), *sb.*2 *U.S.* [f. SHIM *v.*2 + -ER.] **a.** A workman who inserts shims in cabinet work, etc. **b.** = SHIM *sb.*2 5. (In recent U.S. Dicts.)

Shimmer (ʃi·məɹ), *v.*1 Forms: 1 **scymrian,** 3 **schimere,** 4 **schymere,** 4–5 **s(c)hemere,** 6 **shy-, shimer,** 6– **shimmer.** [late OE. *scymrian* = WFris. *skimerje*, NFris. *skimere* to shimmer, (M)LG., (M)Du. *schémeren* to be shaded or shadowy, to glimmer, glitter, G. *schimmern*, Sw. *skimra*; related to SHIM *v.*1 Cf. the northern SKIMMER.] *intr.* To shine with a tremulous or flickering light; to gleam faintly. In early use also, to shine brightly, glisten.

a 1100 *Chrodegang's Rule* 41 in Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lexic.* (1906) 16 Soðlice Þa se dægredleoma beorhte scymrode, Þa Drihten..of helle aras. *c* 1230 [see SHIMMERING *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 257 Al Þat hus schineð ant schimmeð [*v.r.* schimereð] of his leome. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 772 Hit [a castle] schemered & schon purȝ Þe schyre okez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4974 Frut..Þat shemert as shire as any shene stonys. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 5 b, The Chrusopasse is a Stone of Ethiope, which in the day light shimmereth not. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. 82 Thee next day foloing lustring Aurora lay shymring. Her saffrond mattresse leauing to her bedfelo Tithon. 1623, 1655 [see SHIMMERING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*].

1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. xvii, Twinkling faint, and distant far, Shimmers through mist each planet star. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* iv, Often your figure shimmers through my dreams. 1871 GREEN *Let. to W. B. Dawkins* 29 Jan., Blue sea..shimmering with colour. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xiii. 254 Distant islands shimmering in sun-litten haze. 1877 STOPFORD BROOKE *Fight of Faith* xxiv. 394 The [frozen] ponds..shimmer dark like polished steel.

Shi·mmer, *v.*2 [f. SHIMMER *sb.*2] = SHIM *v.*2 2.

1908 J. B. DAVIDSON & CHASE *Farm Mach.* 71 (Century Dict. Suppl.), A remedy for this [poor fitting of share and moldboard] is procured by shimmering the share up or down with small pieces of paste-board.

Shi·mmering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHIMMER *v.*[1] + -ING[1]. Cf. (M)LG. *schêmering*, MHG. *schemerung* twilight, G. *schimmerung* coruscation.] The action of the vb. SHIMMER.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 377 A litel shymeryng [*v.r.* schemeryng] of a light. 1623 BP. HALL *Gt. Impostor* Wks. (1625) 503 The..blinde man that thought he now saw a shimmering of the Sunne-beames. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* ix. (1856) 64 Looking toward the shore, I observed a sort of shimmering, as of the heated air above a stove. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* iii, Kissed into ripples by the shimmering of moonlight. 1883 W. S. DUGDALE *Dante's Purg.* I. 9, I discerned the shimmering of the sea.

fig. 1880 TODHUNTER *Shelley* vii. 199 It is a weak shimmering of forced fun.

Shi·mmering, *ppl. a.* That shimmers.

c 1000 *Gl. Prud.* in *Germania* (N.S.) XI. 401/10 Scymriendes wæles, *cerulei gurgitis*. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 þat eadi trume of schimerinde meidenes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 80 Wyth schymeryng schene ful schryle þay schynde. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1544 Shemerand shaftis of the shire son. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 69 My schewyng es schemerande and schynande. 1557 PHAER *Æneid* VI. Q 4 In shimring shadowe darck and thinne. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 219 If some little shimering light appeare at a little creuise. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 224 There is some shimmering light in all. 1840 ELIZA COOK *Poems* 151 The towering hill, the shimmering rill. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. vii. 124 The plain..basking in the hazy shimmering heat. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 345 The soft brilliancy of her toilet had the look of shimmering plumage.

fig. 1880 E. WHITE *Cert. Relig.* 34 The vague and shimmering atmosphere of local and chronological detail.

Shimmery (ʃi·məri), *a.*[1] [f. SHIMMER *v.* + -Y[1]. Cf. G. *schimmerig*, WFris. *skimerich*.] Giving out a shimmering light.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* May 904/2 Some wondrous shimmery cream of brocaded satin. 1890 J. HATTON *By Order of Czar* III. v, The city in the lagoons, with..her shimmery waters.

fig. 1893 *Athenæum* 9 Dec. 803/2 'Claudea's Island' has pretty, shimmery touches, natural and human.

Shi·mmery, *a.*[2] 'Shaky.' Also **shimmery-whimmery** *a.*

1859 MRS. STOWE *Minister's Wooing* XXX, 'How is Mrs. Marvyn?'..'Kinder thin and shimmery, but she is about.' 1894 FENN *Real Gold* xii, Didn't you ever have a set to at school..?..And didn't you feel shimmery-whimmery before you began?

Shi·mming, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHIM *v.*[2] + -ING[1].]

1. Hoeing with a shim.

1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) III. 33 The middle of August, repeated the shimming. 1833 *Ridgemont Farm Rep.* 141 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III, This 'shimming' is..repeated when the beans have advanced to six inches in height. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 557 Horse-hoeing, or what is locally called 'shiming'.

2. The insertion of shims; also, a shim, or shims collectively.

1884 *Car-Builder's Dict.* (Century Dict.), Shimming has been used in fitting on car-wheels when the wheel-seat of the axle was a little too small.

Shimmy (ʃi·mi). Also **shimmey.** *dial.* and *U.S.* corruption of CHEMISE.

1839 *Heref. Gloss.*, *Shimmy*, shift; now used by cottagers. 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* x. 176 Two shirts and a 'shimmy' is about the regulation package for a man and his wife.

Shi·mper, *v. local.* [app. corrupt f. SHIMMER *v.* with intrusive *p* (**shimpre*).] = SHIMMER *v.*

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words*, To *Shimper*, to shimmer or shine. *Suss.* Dial. 1703 *Art's Improvem.* I. 8 They..stick it full of small pieces of broken Glass, which..adds a Luster to it, Shimpering against the Sun-Beams. 1836 W. D. COOPER *Gloss. Prov. Sussex* s. v., How the carriage-wheels shimper in the sun.

Shi·m-sham. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Reduplication of SHAM *sb.* and *a.* (Cf. FLIM-FLAM.)

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 22 To make a parcel of shim-sham ghosts and coffins, and such like blasphemies. 1798 *Geraldina* I. 224 We were served upon plate: none of your shim-shams,..but the real thing. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 523 His Majesty's real birthday, and none of your George and the Dragon shim shams.

Shin (ʃin), *sb.* Forms: 1 scinu, 2 scine, scyne, 3–4 s(c)hine, 4–5 s(c)hyne, 5 schene, 5–6 schin, schyn(ne, shyn(ne, 6 shinne, 7 shinn, 6– shin. [OE. *scinu* str. fem. = WFris. *skine*, NFris. *skenn*, (M)LG., MDu. *schêne* (Du. *scheen*), OHG. *scina*, *scena*, *sciena* shin, needle (MHG. *schîn(ne*, G. *schiene* thin wooden or metal plate); MSw. *skena* shin, Sw. *skena* shin, Da. *skinne* splint, tire, rail, are from LG. or HG. The fundamental meaning appears to be 'thin or narrow piece'; OE. *scía* shin and MHG. *schîte* hedge-stake are app. related.]

1. The front part of the human leg between the knee and the ankle; the front or sharp edge of the shank-bone.

Occas. used of analogous parts of birds and insects.

a 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 216/3 *Cruscula*, scinu. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* Ibid. 307/27 *Tibia*, scyne, oððe scinban. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1060 Þu were ynume in one grune, Al hit abouhte þine schine [*Cott.* shine]. *c* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxlvi. 10 Ne in schines of man queming bes him tille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 421 The pure fetres of his shynes grete [*v.rr.* schenys, schinnes]. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2102 Thanne lefte He vpe His staf Anon and overthwert the Schenys smot him. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XIII. (*Frog & Mouse*) xxv, This litill mous, heir knit thus be the schin. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 494 She.. had broken her shyn At the threshold comyng in. 1600 ROWLANDS *Letting Humours Blood* iv. 64 To trie it out at foot-ball by the shinnes. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 10 A Spanish Don that burnt his shins by the fire. 1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* LXXV. 140 In..a great crowd ..people..disregard a little kick of the Shins. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* XXXI, O'Brien, who knew the tender part of a black, saluted Apollo with a kick on the shins. 1871 MEREDITH *Harry Richmond* XV, In mounting [the path] the knees and shins bore the brunt of it.

b. The lower part of a leg (of beef), the meat of which is lean and streaked.

1736 BAILEY *Dict. Domest.* s. v. *Beef*, Take a leg or shin of Beef, strip off the skin and fat. 1872 *Daily News* 5 Sept., An old English proverb says..'Of all joints commend me to the shin of beef, which contains marrow for the master, meat for the mistress, gristle for the servants, and bone for the dog'.

2. In fig. phr.: **a.** referring to striking a person over the shins (cf. *a rap over the knuckles*) or wounding his shins.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 20 Priuie nyps or casts ouertwart the shyns. 1589 ? NASHE *Pasqvill & Marforius* B 4, To come ouer our shinnes with the same rebuke that hee gaue to Phillip. 1590 — *1st Pt. Pasquil's Apol.* C 2, A wipe ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. ii. (1601) 47 It is able to breake the shinnes of any old mans patience in the world. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 199 He is ready..to throw the Catt at her shinns, to pick a quarrell. [1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. 1812 V. 26 The Author..ought not to have left us in the dark upon that subject, to break our shins over his hints and insinuations.] 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *All Fools' Day*, Remove those logical forms..that no gentleman break the tender shins of his apprehension stumbling across them. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 25 Apr. 7/1 Rubbing down everybody's shins with a brickbat.

† **b.** *To cut off by the shins*, to leave not a leg to stand on, undermine. *Obs.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* D [II. ii. 769], Cut him off by the shinnes, with a frowning looke of your crabed countenance. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* H I, Post-hast letters came to him..to return as speedily as he could possible..wherby his fame was quit cut off by the shins.

c. † *To cross shins*: see CROSS *v.* 5. *To set out the shin* (Sc.), to walk proudly. *To graze the shins of*, to come very near to.

1592 NASHE *Strange Neves* M I, I will crosse shinnes with him though euerie sentence of his were a thousande tunnes of discourses. 1645 [see CROSS *v.* 5]. 1719 RAMSAY *2nd Answ. to Hamilton* ix, Set out the burnt side of your shin, For pride in poets is nae sin. 1786 BURNS *On Dining with Lord Daer* iii, But wi' a Lord!—stand out my shin! A Lord—a Peer—an Earl's son! 1847 DE QUINCEY *Joan of Arc* Wks. 1854 III. 227 The mob of spectators might raise a scruple whether our friend the jackdaw upon the throne, and the dauphin himself, were not grazing the shins of treason.

d. *To break shins* (slang): to borrow money.

[1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* 45 Whereupon he praued or beat out of their shinnes 7000. rubbels for a mulct. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* I. (Arb.) 17 The Russians haue an excellent custome: they beate them on the shinnes, that haue mony, and will not pay their debts.]

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Breaking Shins*, borrowing of Money. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* 227. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 632 In financial slang, Americans use the verb *to shin* simply, where the English use *to break shins*, to denote a desperate effort to procure money in an emergency by running about to friends and acquaintances.

3. The sharp slope of a hill. *Sc.*

1817 *Edin. Mag.* Oct. 84 Sometimes on the shin, and sometimes in the hollow, of a hill. 1864 CARLYLE *Frederk. Gt.* XV. V. IV. 76 They have climbed the eastern shin of the Harz Range, where the Harz is capable of wheel-carriages.

4. Used, after G. *schiene*, for an iron plate or band.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* K 2, The Hack is not made straight but bending a little on either end from the Eye, upon that side the Haum is put in on, yet not too much into the Shins. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shin*,..a fish-plate.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shin-boot*, *-cover*, *-guard*, *-pad*, *-pride*, *-ridge*; † **shin-barker**, a little dog that barks at one's shins; **shin-leaf**, the North American ericaceous plant *Pyrola elliptica* (also *P. rotundifolia*); **shin-oak**, applied to dwarf varieties of oak which form thick low-growing underwood, e. g. *Quercus chinquapin*; **shin-plaster** *U.S.*, (*a*) a square piece of paper saturated with vinegar, etc., used as a plaster for sore legs; (*b*) a piece of paper money, esp. one of a low denomination, depreciated in value, or not sufficiently secured; also *attrib.*; **shin-rapper**, one who disables horses by striking the splint-bone; **shin-scraper**, (*a*) see quot. 1869; (*b*) a contemptuous name for a climber; **shin wood**, the Ground Hemlock, *Taxus canadensis* (see quot.).

1645 MILTON *Colast.* 26 Infested, sometimes at his face, with dorrs and horsflies, sometimes beneath, with bauling whippets, and *shin-barkers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shin-boot*,..a horse boot having a long leather shield to protect the shin of a horse. 1845 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* (1849) I. 228/1 They [sc. greaves] consisted of a pair of *shin-covers of brass. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Feb. 3/4 Legs cased in *shin-guards. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 151 *Pyrola*..*rotundifolia* (*shin-leaf, pear-leaf wintergreen). 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 260. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 693/2 *Quercus Chinquapin* or *prinoides*, a dwarf variety,..forms dense miniature thickets...; the tree is called by the hunters of the plains the '*shin-oak'. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 251/2 Neither *shin-pads nor canvas jackets were worn. 1824 *Microscope* (Albany) 15 May (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), We advise our friends to exchange their '*shin plasters' for 'solid charms' as soon as may be. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* XXVIII, I had taken the precaution in Louisiana of getting rid of my shin-plasters for hard specie. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 170 The 'more money' that is cried for, silver or shinplaster, is not the needed thing. 1613 SYLVESTER *Lachr. Lachr.* B 4, Stript..Of guiddie-Gaudes,..Of Face-pride, Case-pride, *Shin-pride, Shoo-pride. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 30 Sept. (Cassell), Every great stable in England had the fear of the poisoner, the *shin-rapper, and the nobbler constantly in view. 1889 *Ld. A. Campbell's Celtic Trad.* 87 The sharp *shin-ridge of the greaves. 1869 J. GREENWOOD *Seven Curses Lond.* vi. 87 The treadmill, *shin scraper (arising, it may be assumed, on account of the operator's liability, if he is not careful, to get his shins scraped by the ever-revolving wheel). 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Oct. 3/1 Although he may be described as a 'shin-scraper', he does not forget that he is first of all a mountaineer. 1778 CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* 505 *Shin Wood. This extraordinary shrub..runs near the ground for six or eight feet, and then takes root again;..this proves very troublesome to the hasty traveller, by striking against his shins, and entangling his legs.

Shin (ʃin), *v.* [f. SHIN *sb.*]

1. *intr.* (orig. *Naut.*) To climb by using the arms and legs without the help of steps, irons, etc.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, I myself saw him 'shinning' up by the topsail-tie. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXI, We had to..shin up and down single ropes caked with ice. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ix, Nothing for it but the tree; so Tom laid his bones to it, shinning up as fast as he could. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. iii, As he shinned vigorously down the trunk.

b. *trans.* To climb up.

1891 in *Century Dict.* 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 8/1 [He] reached the roof by shinning a water-pipe.

2. *U.S.* To 'use one's legs'; to move quickly; to run *round*.

1845 *N. Y. Com. Adv.* 13 Dec. (Bartlett 1860), The Senator was shinning around, to get gold for the rascally bank-rags which he was obliged to take. 1864 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 267 And then didn't I shin it along the bridge, pretty speedily! 1865 SALA *Diary in Amer.* II. 414, I guess you'll walk down town and show me the stores. I'm tired of shinning around alone. 1887 CONAN DOYLE *Study in Scarlet* II. iii, I guess we had best shin out of Utah.

3. To kick (a person) on the shins.

a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *House-warming*, There's a *pirouette*!..A ring!—give him room or he'll 'shin' you—stand clear! 1846 *Vale Banger* 10 Nov. (Hall *College Words*), We have been shinned, smoked, ducked. 1864 [HEMYNG] *Eton School Days* xiii, He could not go out of his tutor's..without some one..'shinning' him if he passed near enough.

4. *U.S.* To borrow money.

Cf. *break shins*, s.v. SHIN sb. 2 d.

1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Shin*, to borrow money. (American cant term.) 1872 [see SHIN *sb.* 2 d].

Shin, obs. Sc. pl. of SHOE.

† **Shinbawde.** *Obs.* In 5 **schynbawde, -baude, -balde.** [The first element is app. SHIN *sb.*, the second is obscure.] A greave (leg-armour).

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3847 The schadande blode..schewede one his schynbawde, þat was schire burneste! *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 395 His schene schynbandes [*read* -baudes, *v.r.* -bawdes], þat sharp were to shrede. 1423 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 73 Uno pare de schynbaldes, aliter vamplattes, pro tebiis virorum.

Shinbin (ʃi·nbin). Also **-been, -ban, -beam.** [Burmese *shin-byin*, f. *shin* to put together side by side + *pyin* plank.] In the teak trade, a thick plank split from a green tree. Cf. SHINLOG[2].

1791 *Madras Courier* 10 Nov. (Y.), Duggis. Shinbeens. Coma planks. 1821 H. COX *Jrnl. Resid. Burmhan Emp.* 425 Shinban planks.

Shin-bone (ʃi·nbōun). Forms: see SHIN *sb.*; also 3 **skin-**, 4 **chine-**, **shein-**. [OE. *scinbán* = NFris. *skenbiin*, *skennbian* (cf. WFris. *skynbonke*), MLG. *schênebein*, MDu. *schênebeen* (Du. *scheenbeen*), MHG. *schînebein* (G. *schienbein*); (Sw. *skenben*, Da. *skinneben*, from LG.): see SHIN *sb.* and BONE *sb.*[1]] The bone of the shin; the tibia.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 160/19 *Tibiae*, scina *uel* scinban. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 359 Oc leiseð his skinbon on oðres lendbon. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 148 Mes war le chanel [*glossed* the chine-bon, *Camb. MS.* shzin-bon] de blessure. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 47 In þe boon of þe thie & schene boonys. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* L ij b, It is good for olde sores on the legges upon the shynne bones. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 34/1 At three sundry times he tooke away allmost the whole shinne bone. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xxi. 231 The shin-bone exposed to all encounters, without any defence at all. 1713 CHESELDEN *Anat.* I. v. (1726) 40 The shin-bone is in its middle almost triangular. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* IX, The great lion was growling and snarling over the shin-bone of an ox, cracking it like a nut. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 86 He barked his shinbone.

Shineke, Anglo-Irish form of SINK.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 193 The foresaide Conaght armie..must now shincke or swime.

Shind, obs. form of SHEND *v.*

† **Shi·nder,** *v. Obs.* In 4 **schyndere, s(c)hindre.** [? Echoic. Cf. FLINDERS.] *trans.* and *intr.* To shiver or shatter in pieces.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 424 Þe scharp of þe schalk schyndered þe bones. *Ibid.* 1594 Þe mon..Hit hym vp to þe hult, þat þe hert schyndered. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 513 Mony swouȝninge lay þorw schindringe of scharpe. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 501 Shaftes in shide wode þei shindre in shedes [*v.r.* þay scheuerede in schides].

Shi·ndig. *U. S.* (See quots.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Shin-Dig*, a blow on the shins. Southern. 1892 *Kentucky Words* in *Amer. Dial.*

Notes I. 231 *Shindig*, a dance or party. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 8/3 The natives..in a number of instances have danced a kind of 'shindig' as soon as released from torture.

Shindle (ʃi·nd'l), *sb.* [local variant of SHINGLE *sb.*1 Cf. G. *schindel.*]

1. A wooden roofing-tile.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 211/1 *Scandulæ*,..oke laths: slates or shindles of wood. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. x. I. 461 The bourds or shindles of the wild Oke...The shindles are most easily rent or cloven out of all those trees which yeeld Rosin,..the housen in Rome were no otherwise covered over head but with shindles, untill the warre with K. Pyrrhus. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A *Shindle*, Vid. a Shingle. 1728 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 28 June 4 A..Brick House, cover'd with Shindles. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 542 In Pennsylvania the word [*shingle*] is often pronounced *Shindle*, partly, no doubt, under the influence of the numerous Germans in that State.

2. A splint.

1598 FLORIO, *Stecchette*,..shindles or boordes laid about broken legs or armes.

3. In full *shindle-stone*: Thin stone from which slates are cut.

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1009 Take the thin cleft stone, slat or shindle. 1725 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 4 A Parcel of Slate (or Shindle-Stones) for tyling or healing of Houses. 1847 in HALLIWELL. 1882 JAGO *Gloss.*, *Shell-stone*, a slate stone. In Devon, shindle-stone.

†**Shi·ndle**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. In 3 **schindle.** Origin and precise meaning unknown.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 Nis þet child fulitowen þet schrepeð [*v.rr.* schindleð, scratteð] agean, & bit upon þe gerde?

Shindy (ʃi·ndi). [? Alteration of SHINTY.]

1. = SHINTY 1. *local.*

1846 *Local Act 9 Vict.* c. 29 § 41 In case any Person or Persons shall on Shrove Tuesday..play at..Shindy, Football, or any other Game. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Shindy*,..The proper and more usual name is Bandy. 1882 *Lancs. Gloss.*

2. A spree, merrymaking. Also, 'a kind of dance among seamen' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867). *slang.*

1821 EGAN *Life in London* x. (1869) 248 The Jack Tar is quite pleased with his night's cruise, and is continually singing out, 'What a prime Shindy, my Messmates.' 1848 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 286 All in commotion with the expected grand 'shindy' on Monday. 1866 BALLANTYNE *Shifting Winds* XXV, I want a dance at a wedding, or a shindy of some sort, before setting sail.

3. A row, commotion, 'shine'. Phr. *to cut shindies* (U.S.), *to kick up a shindy.*

a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Hermann*, He..Joins ..in kicking up all sorts of shindies and bobberies. 1850 'DOW JR.' *Serm.* (Bartlett 1859), You..are..poor, and, therefore, ought to be careful how you cut shindies under the broadsword of justice. 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairlegh* i, A chair being the favourite projectile in the event of a shindy. 1882 B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* I. ix. 189 He and his wife have had no end of a shindy. 1889 [see KICK *v.*1 9 a]. 1910 MEREDITH in *Fortn. Rev.* June 1055 Irishmen ..never satisfied, thirsting for a shindy.

4. A liking, fancy. (Cf. SHINE *sb.*2 4.)

1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* xii, They all wondered how..Paddy had taken such a shindy to me.

Shine (ʃəin), *sb.*1 [f. SHINE *v.* Cf. SHEEN *sb.*1 WGer. had a synonymous form derived from the vb.: OS., OHG. *scîn* (Du. *schijn*, MHG. *schîn*, mod.G. *schein*); also OE. *scîn* spectre (if the vowel be long).]

1. Brightness or radiance shed by a luminary or an illuminant.

a 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 1174 Lyke Phebus beames shyne. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlii. 16 The sonne ouerloketh all thinges with his shine. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* I. i, When heauens bright shine is shadowed with a fogge. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xxii, And mooned Ashtaroth..Now sits not girt with Tapers holy shine. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 73 This Fire..sends forth a bright shine and wholsom smell. 1716–8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. xliii. 14 Sitting..with the windows open, enjoying the warm shine of the sun. 1844 BROWNING *Colombe's Birthday* IV, Day by day, while shimmering grows shine. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 460 Their red torches' shine. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* V. vii, [Her] bedroom was lighted up, and it was the shine from her window which had lighted the pole.

†**b.** A beam or ray; a halo. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 483 b, You may putt all your winninges in your eyes, and see never a shine the lesse. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii. Masque i, Her deuice within a Ring of clouds, a Heart with shine about it. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* iii, The under Corylets did catch the shines, To guild their leaves. 1654 OWEN *Saints' Persew.* i. 5 Such shines of Gods countenance upon them.

2. Lustre or sheen of an object reflecting light, as metal, water, silk. †*Of shine*: lustrous, glistening.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. v. (1601) L 3 b, Though we haue now put on no tyre of shine But mortall eyes vndazled may endure. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 22 He, and They Led by the shine of Snails. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. § 29 Dazled with the glittering shine of Gold. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* i. 7 This Spirit..loseth its pure Colour, or bright native Shine. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. ii, They..to each his blade assign, And careless eye the blood that dims its shine. 1869 'LEWIS CARROLL' *Phantasmagoria* 92 For it [the hat] had lost its shape and shine, And it had cost him four-and-nine. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 6 The lurid shine Of seas in the night-wind's whirl.

b. Coupled with *shade* (cf. SHINE *v.* 1 c).

1838 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* II, Death upon his face Is rather shine than shade. 1863 'C. BEDE' *Tour in Tartanland* 179 The mountain is..broken up into shine and shade.

c. *Painting* and *Photogr.* Shininess; a shiny patch.

1880 *Athenæum* 28 Feb. 287/2 [The 'spirit fresco' process] being free from shine, is admirably adapted for mural work on a large scale, which should be seen at any angle. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 37 [The daguerreotype] was full of shines. 1901 E. A. PRATT *Notable Masters of Men* 82 Without shine gold paint was of no value.

d. The polish given to a pair of boots by a bootblack; *transf.* a job of boot-blacking.

1871 *News* (Galveston) 4 May (Schele de Vere), As I left the cars, an imp with smutty face, Said: Shine? 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Writ. 1890 IV. 103 If Mr. Masson never heard a shoeblack in the street say, 'Shall I give you a shine, sir?' his experience has been singular. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 27 Dec. 456/1 A little boot-black, who..shivered in the March wind and waited for shines.

e. The pupil of the eye. *dial.* (Cf. SHEEN *sb.*1 2.)

1723 *Guardian* No. 58 ₱ 6 A Gallon of my October will do thee more good than all thou canst get by fine Sights at London, which I'll engage thou mayest put in the Shine of thine Eye. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*

3. Sunshine, *esp.* as opposed to *rain*; hence, fine weather. Also, moonlight.

1622 WITHER *Philarete* N 3, Or shine, or raine, or Blow, I, my Resolutions know. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* § 9 Heat and Cold, Shine and Rain. 1797 COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. II. 65 Ever and aye, by shine and shower. 1849 BULWER *Caxtons* x. iv, A ceremony which, every night, shine or dark, he insisted upon punctiliously performing. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 113 Come storm, come shine, whatever befall. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lv, And the youth at morning shine Makes the vow he will not keep.

4. *fig.* Brilliance, radiance, splendour, lustre. †Also [after G. *schein*], a specious appearance, a 'show'.

1530 *Proper Dyaloge* in Roy *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 131 Vyce cloked vnder shyne of vertuousnes. 1535 COVERDALE *Col.* ii. 23 Which thinges haue a shyne [Luther, *schein*; 1611 shew] of wyszdome. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 15 The bright shine, and worthines of his auncestors. *a* 1634 ? CHAPMAN *Rev. Hon.* II. i, The glorious shine of your illustrious vertues. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 9 Fair op'ning to some court's propitious shine. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 380 The delusive shine of a lively and pompous eloquence. 1867 LOWELL *Fitz Adam's Story* 342 No other face had such a wholesome shine. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 53 To bask ..in shine which kings and queens And baby-dauphins shed.

†**b.** Sunniness of disposition. *Obs. rare.*

1710 STEELE *Spect.* No. 75 ₱ 4 What can make a Man so much in constant Good-humour and Shine, as we call it?

c. A brilliant display, a 'dash'. Phr. *to cut* (*make*) *a shine.*

1819 *Metropolis* II. 165 His name was well calculated to cut a shine. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. xii, To celebrate the nuptials with due shine and demonstration. 1847 ROBB *Squatter Life* (Bartlett 1860), To make a shine with Sally, I took her a new parasol.

d. Colloq. phr. *To take the shine out of* (less freq. *from*, U.S. *off*): to deprive (a person or thing) of his or its brilliance or pre-eminence; to outshine, surpass.

1819 MOORE *Tom Crib* (ed. 3) 34 Shewing such a fist of mutton As..Would take the shine from Speaker Sutton. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & Porson* Wks. 1853 I. 73/1, I am inclined to take the shine out of him for it. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1854 IV. 33 The baker jumped up with surprising agility,..but the shine was now taken out of him. 1833 [SEBA SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* iii. (1835) 43, I am only sorry I didn't bring Seth Sprague along with me, with his pitch-pipe, jest to take the shine off of them 'ere singers. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, The cares of the world..takes the shine out of us.

Shine (ʃəin), *sb.*2 [perh. uses of prec. sb., but the senses are curiously parallel to those of SHINDY.]

1. A party, convivial gathering; usually *tea-shine*, a 'tea-fight'. *dial.*

1838 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 98 Two tea-shines went off with éclat. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Shine*, ..in a good sense the term is generally applied to a social gathering, especially when of a convivial kind, as a wedding..or a merry-making, which is called a grand or great shine.

2. A disturbance, row, fuss. *colloq.*

1832–53 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. III. 53 Siccan shines were there, Siccan noisy peltin'. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xi, Sich a shine and a nitty as I kicks up. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak House* lvii, There'd be a pretty shine made if I was to go a wisitin them. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* vi, What's one horse to make such a shine about?

3. *pl.* Capers, tricks. *U.S.* Cf. SHINE *sb.*1 4 c.

1830 N. DANA *Mariner's Sk.* 34 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), Has your skipper begun to cut any shines yet? 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv, 'I'll boun you pulled 'em out, some o' your shines,' said Aunt Chloe.

4. *To take a shine to* (U.S.): to take a fancy for.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. *A Letter*, My gracious! it's a scorpion thet's took a shine to play with't. 1908 W. CHURCHILL *Mr. Crewe's Career* x, He took a shine to you that night you saw him.

†**Shine,** *a. poet. Obs.* [alteration of SHEEN *a.* by assimilation to SHINE *v.*] Shining, bright.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* I. i. 34 Elegian Muse.. Girt my shine browe [Ovid *flaventia tempora*] with Seabanke Mirtle praise. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 3 These warlike Champions all in armour shine, Assembled were in field. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. 259 *Stellisque micantibus Æthera fixum*..the skies with shine-starres fixt to be.

Shine (ʃəin), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shone** (ʃɔn). Forms: *Inf.* and *Present stem.* 1 scinan, scynan, 2–3 scine(n, 2–4 schine(n, 3–5 scyne, 3–6 schine, 3–8 schyne, (3 sine, 4 schijne, ssine, ssyne, shyyne, 5 schone (?), 6 shynne), 4–6 shyne, 3– shine. *Pa. t.* 1 scán, sceán (*pl.* scinon), 2–3 sc(e)an, 3–5 schon, 4–5 shoon, s(c)hoen, 4–6 schone, (3 scæn, s(c)on, shan, 4 schoon, 4, 7 shon, 6 shoone), 5– shone; *north.* 4 sca(i)n, schan, 4–5 shane, 4–6 schane, 5 chane; *weak* 4 scynde, schyn(e)de, shynede, schinede, 4–6 shyned, 5 schynyd, -it, 6 schynet, schynnit, 6 schyned, 6–7 shinde, 6–8 shin'd, 7 shind, 6– (now chiefly *dial.* and *arch.*) shined. *Pa. pple.* 3 sinen; 4–6 shyned, 7 shin'd, 7–8 shined; 8 shon, 6– shone. [Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. *scînan* (pa. t. *scán*, *scinon*, pa. pple. **scinen*) = OFris. *skîna* (WFris. *skine*, NFris. *skiin*), OS. *skînan* (MLG., LG., MDu. *schînen*, Du. *schijnen*), OHG. *scînan* (MHG. *scînen*, *schînen*, G. *scheinen* to shine, to seem, appear), ON. *skîna* (Sw. *skina*), Goth. *skeinan*:—OTeut. **skînan*, f. root *skī* by means of the present-stem formative *n*, which was carried through into the past tense and pa. pple.

Affinities outside Teutonic are Skr. *chāyā* shade, shimmer, mod.Pers. *sāya*, Gr. σκιά, OSlav. *sěnĭ*, Albanian *hē* shade; for the sense cf. SHIM *sb.*1 and *v.*1, SHIMMER *v.*

The regular str. pa. pple. is rare in Eng., being unrecorded in OE. and appearing only once in ME. *sinen*; it was superseded by the weak form *shined*, which was in common use *c* 1300–1800; this was supplanted by the form of the str. pa. t., which first appears as pa. pple. in the second half of the 16th c. (Weak forms are found in some of the continental langs., e.g. (pa. t.) late WFris. *schynd*, MLG. *schynede*, OHG. *scînta*, early mod.G. *schein(e)te.*)]

1. *intr.* Of a heavenly body or an object that is alight: To shed beams of bright light; to give out light so as to illuminate; to be radiant. Also with *forth*, *out.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 801 *Ardebat*, scaan. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* ix, Þonne seo sunne on hadrum heofone beorhtost scineð, þonne aþeostriað ealle steorran. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* i. 15 Hiz scinon on þære heofenan fæstnysse and alihton þa eorðan. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 678, Her ateowede cometa se steorra..& scan .iii. monðas ælce morgen swilce sunnebeam. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 275 Neure sunne þer ne scinð. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 19 in *O. E. Misc.*, Ne stireð he nout of slepe Til ðe sunne hueð sinen. *c* 1290 *St. Bridget* 41 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 193 Þe sonne schon In at one hole. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 323 Hove out of mi Sonne, And let it schyne into mi Tonne. *Ibid.* II. 120 The nyht was derk, ther schon no Mone. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 513/5 So he wolde sytt all day to þe son shane on his face agayn. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 1 Lucina schynnyng in silence of the nicht. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* II. i, The aultars where the sacred flames haue shone. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 272 Well shone Moone. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 29 It is day: because the Sun shineth above the horizon. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* I. i, What Sun has shon that has not seen your Insolence. 1704 PRIOR *Celia to Damon* 20 Fires Eternal on Her Altars shine. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia*, Descr. iv. 64 When the Storm is over, the Sun Shines out as before. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXVII, It must surely have been a light in the hut of a forester, for it shone too steadily to be the glimmer of an *ignis fatuus.* 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XVIII. 133 The fog became thin, and the sun shone through it.

weak pa. t. c 1305 *Pop. Treat. Sci.* (1841) 133/66 The sonne..that..Maketh hire [the moon] so schyne aboute as heo schynde in crestal. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2194 No man she saw & ȝit shynede the mone. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lv. 131 Whan þy lanterne shyned upon his hede. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 229 The sone..schynnit bright wpoun the saillis. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 243 This night I saw a rainbow..at five in the morning, and the moone shined bright. 1776 CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* XLV. 201 The moon shined bright.

b. Of the day: To be sunny or bright; also, to dawn. Chiefly *poet.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* XXVIII. 1 In the euenyng of the saboth, ..that schyneth [Vulg. *lucescit*] in the firste day of the woke. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 95 As the goldin morning schynis bricht. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 397 Quhilk at last the daylyght begane to schyne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 108 We can..dismiss thee ere the Morning shine. 1742 GRAY *West* 1 In vain to me the smileing Mornings shine.

c. impers. *It shines*: it is sunny.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1317 Thow tokist noon hede whils it shoon hoot. 1577 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 43 At noone if it bloweth, at night if it shine. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Water-cormorant* A 4, According to his mood it raines or shines. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1883) I. 436 By and by the sun shone out, and it has continued to shine and shade every ten minutes ever since.

d. *To shine upon*: to look favourably upon, be favourable to, said of a star, or (in biblical language) of the face of God. *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Num.* vi. 25 The Lorde make his face to shyne vpon the. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 707 Notwithstanding, that fortune shone on hym in obteyning the victorie agaynst the Erle of Warwike. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 75 Heauen and our Lady gracious hath it pleas'd To shine on my contemptible estate. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 51 The Lord Mountjoy, like a good Planet, with a fortunate aspect began to shine thereon. 1648 CROMWELL *Let. to R. Hammond* 25 Nov., We are sure, the good-will of Him who dwelt in the Bush has shined upon us. 1791 BURNS *Lament Mary Q. of Scots* VI, May kinder stars Upon thy fortune shine!

2. Of a metallic, polished, smooth, or glossy object: To be bright or resplendent; to gleam, glisten, or glitter with reflected light.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xiv. 88 Swæ swæ on ðæm mæssehrægle scinð [*Hatton MS.* scienð] ongemang oðrum bleom ðæt twyðrawene twin. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 125 (Gr.) Scean scir werod, scyldas lixton. *c* 1205 LAY. 27361 Sceldes blikien burnen scinen. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 54 (Royal MS.) Hire nebscheft schininde [*Bodl. MS.* schiminde]

al as schene as þe sunne. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 Nis hit nower neh gold al þat ter schineð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8484 Stedfast stode þe marbel stan, On-ferr þe golden letters scan. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) I. 148 Of gold schone his coroun. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 80 Wyth schymeryng schene ful schrylle þay schynde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 198 His heed was balled, þat shoon as any glas. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 20 Thair baneris schane with the sone, of siluer and sabill. 1526 Tindale *Luke* ix. 29 His garment was whyte, and shoone. 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 73 His tongue did lispe, his visage shinde. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 246 O 'tis the Sunne that maketh all things shine. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 508 Thick with sparkling orient Gemmes The Portal shon. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 78 The whole House shined. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. Introd. 53 The huge hall-table's oaken face, Scrubb'd till it shone. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. i. 237 A rook's feather may be made to shine with magnificent iridescences. 1888 Henley *Bk. Verses* 118 Clear shine the hills.

indirect passive. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Hist.* IV. x. § 1 When they saw the riches of Rome..and found themselves shone round about..with silver and gold.

b. To be bright *with.*

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 45 Our Italy, Shines o're with ciuill Swords. 1733 *Revol. Politicks* V. 37 The Streets in the Evening every where shined very gloriously with Bonefires. 1883 R. W. Dixon *Mano* II. ii. 68 The altar shone With gold and silver.

3. To be radiant or brilliant with high colouring, rich array, or the like; to be effulgent with splendour or beauty; to make a brave show. Now *rare.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Seo hwitnes pære lilian scineþ on þe. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 23696 (Fairf.) Mani flouris..neuer-mare þe colour tine bot as paradis salle þai shine. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 106 (MS. I.) Þe chaumpet, þe cheuerell, þat schon opon heyght. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 132 Þes two woymen þat schynen passyng all oþyr, wer two comyn woymen. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vi. 163 Her nek schane like unto the roise in May. 1577 T. Kendall *Flowers of Epigr.* 84 b, In all thy body bewty shines, thy forhed shineth fair. *a* 1639 Carew *To A. L.* 64 When a fair lady's face is pined, And yellow spread where red once shined. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 70 [The pheasant] retreats..To the close copse..And shines without desiring to be seen. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxii, We are somewhat shorn of our train, .. but you, cousin, must shine out for us both. 1833 Tennyson *Œnone* 176 Her light foot Shone rosy-white. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, Some centennial Cactus-flower, which after a century of waiting shines out for hours! 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 199 In the golden meadows, where the cowslip and crowsfoot shone.

4. In various fig. applications (cf. 5 and 6), with retention of literal phraseology.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 43 Þonne scinað ða rihtwisan swa swa sunne on hyra fæder rice. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 246, & te soðe sunne, þet is Jesu Crist, schineð þerefter schennure to þe soule. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12574 Þe clernes self o godds light Schan on him. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* v. 16 So shyyne 3oure liȝt before men, that thei see 3oure good werkis. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5357 Whan Richesse shyneth bright, Love recovereth ageyn his light. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* xv, Ther schone, or ellis schyned, in þe soule of þese women a fayr beute of precious perles, of swech goostly richesse. 1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* iv. 6 It is god.. which hath shyned in oure hertes, for to geve the light of knowledge off the glorious god. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* ix. 2 As for them that dwel in the londe of the shadowe of death, vpon them shal the light shyne. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* II. i. 481 In whose stern faces shin'd the quenchles fire. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 476 The Radiant Cymbeline, Which shines heere in the West. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 212 A Virtue, greater than euer yet had shin'd on earth. 1700 Dryden *Fables* Pref. C 2, Chaucer ..is a rough Diamond, and must first be polish'd e'er he shines. 1773 R. Lowth *Serm. Rom. xii.* 11 p. 6 Their Learning..was such as could only have shined in dark times. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. II. viii, For we shall still find Hope shining..as a mild heavenly light it shone; as a red conflagration it shines. 1849 T. Woolner *My Beautiful Lady* xii, How beautiful she is! A glorious gem She shines above the summer diadem Of flowers!

5. Of persons: To be conspicuous or brilliant in ability, character, achievement, or position; to be eminent or distinguished, to excel.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xii. (1890) 44 Se nama ðære Romaniscan þeode, se ðe mid swa lange scean & bryhte. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 318 A man that schane of halynes. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 43 If we schyn in þeis vertues. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 69 Hit was better and more noble thynge to shyne in good maners than in vayssell. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 202 To shyne before theyr flock with honest examples of lyfe. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 131 He shined in the House of Peers. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 244 ¶ 1 An Ambition to excel, or, as the Term is, to shine, in Company. 1747 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 3 July, We shine at sea; two-and-forty sail of the Domingo fleet have fallen into our hands. 1805 T. Harral *Scenes of Life* I. 113 That cause in which British valour had so often shined triumphant. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. xxiii, If there's anything in which I shine, 'Tis in arranging all my friends' affairs. 1836 Thirlwall *Greece* xvii. III. 2 He..never shone as an orator. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiv. 349 The people who were stupidest before, suddenly shine out quite brilliantly. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 561/1 There was..a special reason which made me resolved to shine at this ball at whatever cost.

6. Of something immaterial: To appear with conspicuous clearness; to be brilliantly evident or visible; to stand out clearly.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* 12 In þis gyfte schynes contemplacyone. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 449 A noble soule schoon by virtues in þat litel body. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 6 His grete beautee schynit sa before all otheris. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 247 Alle good manyeres began to growe and shyne in hym. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 127 b, Then shined foorth indeede all loue among them. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. xi. § 9 The wisedom of God, which shineth in the bewtifull varietie of all things. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* IV. iv, The reverence and Majesty of Iuno Shinde in her lookes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 304 Princely counsel in his face yet shon. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 204 In all the youth his father's image shin'd. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* xx, What fun shone in his eyes as he recalled some of her fine speeches! 1888 'J. S. Winter' *Bootle's Childr.* vi, How the aged look faded off her worn face, and the sweet prettiness of former days began to shine out again.

b. To be clearly evident *through* an outward appearance.

1590 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. i. 40 These follies are within you, and shine through you like the water in an Vrinall. 1605 — *Mach.* III. i. 128 Your Spirits shine through you. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [I.] xlvii. 138 To see the Countenance, (through which perhaps there shin'd a louely Maiesty..). 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 31 The babe Jesus in her arm, with his Father shining through him. 1859 Tennyson *Marr. Geraint* 545 Yniol's rusted arms Were on his princely person, but thro' these Prince-like his bearing shone.

†**7.** *To shine through*: to be transparent. *Obs.*

1675 Alsop *Anti-Sozzo* III. ii. 207 This [reasoning] is very thin Stuff; it shines through.

8. *trans.* To shed light upon, illuminate. *rare.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvii. (1495) 325 The mone is alway halfe shyned of the sonne. *a* 1700 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 355 God shines his Son, the Son God's shine reflects.

9. To cause (light) to shine, emit (rays). Also *fig.*

1588 Greene *Perimedes* H 2 b, Her eyes shines fauour, courtesie, and grace. 1590 — *Never too late* (1600) E 3, Eyes that lighten and doe shine, Beames of loue that are diuine. 1647 Saltmarsh *Spark. Glory* 118 God..shines forth his wisdom..upon the world. 1661 Feltham *Resolves* II. xvi. 211 If it be but by reflection only, the beams are reverberated bright, as is the Sun that shines them. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. vii, She approached, shining smiles upon Esmond.

b. To show the light of (a lantern).

1895 P. H. Emerson *Birds*, etc. *Norfolk Broadland* xxxvi. 103 The sparrow-catcher comes of a night and shines his bright lantern, and the foolish birds fly at it like moths at a candle.

10. a. *To shine down*: to surpass in brilliance.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 20 The French..like Heathen Gods Shone downe the English. 1866 'Annie Thomas' *Walter Goring* xxxvii, 'Take it, Walter', she continued, 'give it to her; tell her she shines me down.'

b. To drive *away* by shining.

1884 Tennyson *Becket* III. i, Not The sun himself..Could shine away the darkness of that gap.

11. To cause to shine, put a polish on; *U.S.* (inflected *shined*) to black (boots).

1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Varnish*, shine, set a glosse vpon. 1872 Calverley *Arab* 27 And thou hintest withal that thou fain would'st shine..these bulgy old boots of mine. 1872 O. W. Holmes *Poet Breakf.-t.* xii, I wonder if they would find the seven-branched golden candlestick. ..I should like to..shine it up (excuse my colloquialisms). 1872 B. Harte *Heiress of Red Dog* (1879) 188 Shine your boots, sir? 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* ix, While his large boots have been very brightly shined by the boot-black.

12. *U.S.* (*Hunting.*) To throw the light of a lantern, etc. on (the eyes of an animal); to locate the position of (an animal) in this way.

1845 [W. T. Thompson] *Chron. Pineville* 169 (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1860) You see the way we does to shine the deer's eyes is this—we holds the pan of fire so, on the left shoulder, and carries the gun at a trail in the right hand. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 541 Daniel Boone, while fire-hunting, shined a pair of mild blue eyes which struck him as not belonging to the game he was seeking. 1910 Roosevelt *Afr. Game Trails* x. 226 We had discovered that the way to get this..nocturnal animal was by 'shining' it with a lantern at night.

Shi·neless, *a.* [f. Shine *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without brightness.

1882 G. Macdonald *Princess & Curdie* iii, A dull, shineless twilight filled the place.

Shiner (ʃəi·nəɹ). [f. Shine *v.* + -er[1].]

1. An object that shines.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvi. (1495) 322 The sonne is..shyner of heuen [L. *fulgor olympi*]. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Christmas* 29 Till I finde a sunne Shall stay, till we have done; A willing shiner. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* III. *Thalia Rediv.* 239 O blessed shiner, tell me whither Thou wilt be gone when night comes hither! 1765 J. Brown *Chr. Jrnl.* 140 Where will you glow-worms of carnal diversions,..yon shiners in the dark, be? 1844 Willis *Lady Jane* I. 326, I cannot shine—but I can see a star—Are there not worshippers as well as shiners? 1859 F. Mahony *Rel. Fr. Prout* 403 A small twinkling shiner ..in the wide canopy of heaven.

b. *pl.* Some Russian instrument of torture.

1630 [F. Constable] *Pathomachia* III. iv. 29 Vnlesse thou confesse, the Russian Shiners, the Scottish Bootes,..and Peare of Confession shall torment thee.

c. *pl.* Coin, money, *esp.* sovereigns or guineas; occas. *sing.*, a silver or gold coin. *slang.*

1760 Foote *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 251 To let a lord of lands want shiners; 'tis a shame. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 63 So I shows him a shiner. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xix, Is it worth fifty shiners extra, if it's safely done from the outside? 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunters* ix, I will bring you a mule-load of Mexican shiners. 1887 Hayter *My Christmas Adv.* 9 Within my purse and pocket scarce a shiner.

d. A mirror; *spec.* one used by cheaters at cards. *slang.*

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Shiner*, a looking-glass. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* (N. S.) IV. 230 He then asked me if I had bought shiners? which means glasses. 1909 *Tit-Bits* 14 Aug. 515/2 The 'shiner' is carried separately in the pocket until needed, while the gambler smokes the pipe.

e. *colloq.* A silk hat.

1867 F. Francis *Bk. Angling* vi. 154 A tall black hat, or one of the genus termed 'shiner'.

2. One who shines: **a.** One who excels or is eminent.

1810 *Splendia Follies* III. 106 He was never formed for a shiner through life. 1847 Halliwell, *Shiner*, a clever fellow. *North.*

b. *pl.* A nickname for the Northumberland Fusiliers, formerly the 5th Foot.

1891 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXV. 3/1 The 5th was..popularly known as the 'Shiners', from its smart appearance and attention to parade details.

c. A bootblack.

1912 *19th Cent.* Nov. 1018 An occasional white face may be seen even among the noisy shiner boys, and the little white shiner works continuously.

3. Applied to various small silvery fishes; the young of the mackerel; *U.S.* any of various small freshwater fishes, chiefly cyprinoids as the dace.

Golden shiner, a fish of the genus *Notemigonus.*

1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 124 The young Mackerel, which are called Shiners, are from four to six inches long by the end of August. 1836 J. Richardson *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 122 *Cyprinus* (*Leuciscus*) *chrysoleucas*...New York Shiner. 1839 Kirtland in *Bost. Jrnl. Nat. Hist.* III. 339 *Luxilus elongatus*...The Red-bellied Shiner. *Ibid.* 341 *L. dissimilis*...The Spotted Shiner. 1844 O. W. Holmes *Lines Berksh. Jubilee* 46 Oh, what are the prizes we perish to win To the first little 'shiner' we caught with a pin. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 99 The 'Sailor's Choice'..bears several other names..as the 'Porgy' and 'Shiner'. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 89/2 A golden shiner about five inches in length.

b. = Silver-fish 2. (In mod. Dicts.)

†**Shi·ness.** *Obs. north.* In 1 **scinisse,** 4 **schinnes.** [f. Shine *v.* + -ness.] Light, brightness.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiii. 24 Ðe mona ne seleð scinisse his [*splendorem suum*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23688 Þat scene schinnes [*Gött.* þe schene schining] o cristal.

Shiness, variant spelling of Shyness.

Shingle (ʃi·ŋg'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 **scincle,** 3–6 **shyngle,** 4 **schingel, schingle, schyngil, scingle, shyngel, -yl, singel,** 4–6 **schyngle, shingell,** 5 **chyngle, chyngyl,** 5–6 **schyngyl(l, shingil(l, shyngul(l,** 6 **s(c)hengle, shengyll, shyngyll(e, syngle,** 6–7 **single,** 7 **shingelle,** 4– **shingle.** [ME. *scincle, shyngle,* app. representing (? through an AF. modification) L. *scindula,* later form of *scandula,* commonly held to be due to the influence of Gr. *σχινδαλμός.*

L. *scindula* is represented in Germanic by OHG. *scindala, scintila,* MHG. *schintel,* (also mod.) *schindel,* MLG. *schindele,* MDu. *schindel*: cf. Shindle. L. *scandula* passed into Romanic as F. *échandole,* It. *scandola.*]

1. A thin piece of wood having parallel sides and one end thicker than the other, used as a house-tile.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 Ðe faste hope..is rof and wrikð alle ðe hire bieð beneðen mid ðe scincles of holie þohtes. *c* 1305 *Land Cokaygne* 57 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 157 þe scingles alle Of cherche cloister boure and halle. 1335–6 in Bayley *Tower Lond.* (1821) App. I. p. ij, Item in defectibus aulæ domini regis in coopertura, shyngles, coquinæ, pistrinæ. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxviii. (Bodl. MS.), The laþþe..is nailed þwarteouer to þe rafters and theron hongeþ sclattes, tile, and schingels. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 610/13 *Scindula,* a shyngul. 1510 Stanbridge *Vocabula* (W. de W.) B iv b, *Scandula,* a shyngylles [*sic*]. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 106 Shingles.. are to be cutte betwixte midde Winter, and the beginning of the Westerne Windes. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Rétia,* a lath, a single. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 214 Shingles are to be preferred before Thatch. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LV. II. 49 The houses are almost all of wood, covered with the same; the roof with shingles. 1817–8 Cobbett *Year's Resid. Amer.* (1822) 317 Your house..covered with cedar shingles. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 299 The Jura cottage..is covered with thin slit fine shingles.

(*b*) *collect. sing.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3874 Arthour smot on hem, saunfaile, So on þe singel dope þe haile. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 481 *Couert oue tiel ou cene,* Hilded with tile or with schyngle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. lxxv, Heled weel with shyngul, tile, or broom. 1552 in *Archæol. Cant.* (1872) VIII. 128 For makyng vj thowsen of schyngle & iiij honder xxix s. 1557 in *Shropsh. Par. Docum.* (1903) 58 Re'd of mr Vicar for olde Shengle vis. 1575 *Ibid.* 65 For on thowsand of shyngle xviiis. 1872 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 132 Their roofs of shingle or of thatch. 1899 Baring-Gould *Vicar of Morwenstow* ix, The roof was covered with oak shingle.

b. fig. phr. (orig. Australian colloq.). *A shingle short*: 'a tile loose': said of one who is mentally deficient.

1852 Mundy *Antipodes* III. i. 17 Let no man having, in colonian phrase, 'a shingle short' try this country. 1885 Mrs. C. Praed *Head Stat.* xviii. II. 6 I've been given to understand that poets are usually a shingle short.

c. *gen.* A piece of board. (Cf. *shingle-board.*)

1825 Scott *Betrothed* ii, A long low hall, built of rough wood lined with shingles. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 150 A piece of shingle, which he was pretending to whittle, after the fashion of your 'nait'ral born' Yankee. 1844 *Cath. Weekly Instr.* 114 The hut was low, built of shingles. 1894 Miss E. L. Banks *Campaigns Curios.* 143, I had neglected to provide myself with a shingle, with small holes, in which to place my flowers, to make them stand upright.

d. *U.S.* A small sign-board.

1847 J. M. FIELD *Drama in Pokerville* (Bartlett 1860), The 'No Admittance!' which frowned from a shingle over the door. 1865 HOLLAND *Plain Talk* iv. 131 When a boy changes his roundabout for a coat, he is ready to 'stick out his shingles'. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* i. 10 He studied law ..and hung out his shingle.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shingle-laden, -laying, -maker, -wise*; † **shingle-board** = sense 1, 1 c; **shingle-nail**, a nail used in fixing shingles in building; **shingle-oak**, (*a*) the laurel oak, *Quercus imbricaria*; (*b*) the she-oak; **shingle-weaver, -wood** (see quots.).

Several other compounds are given in Knight's *Dict. Mech.* and the recent U. S. dicts.

c 1300 in *Black Bk. Admiralty* (Rolls) II. 192 Menu bord qe lem appele baryl bord ou *shyngel-bord. 1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 286 The roofes..are couered with shingle boordes. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royall Ship* 13 Lined with shingle-boards, or wainscot-planks. 1881 *Chicago Times* 14 May, The vessel is *shingle-laden. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 279 *Shingle-laying is sometimes paid by the thousand. 1792 in E. G. Ingham *Sierra Leone* iii. (1894) 46 Bakers, 4...*Shingle Maker, 1. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. 1. iii, A shingle-maker's shed. 1303-4 *Acc. Chamberl. Chester* (1910) 42 Bord-nail, *schingelneil, latnail. 1554 in *Shropsh. Par. Docum.* (1903) 55 Half a m of syngle nayle. 1867 LOWELL *Fitz Adam's Story* 417 He had been known to cut a fig in two And change a board-nail for a shingle-nail. 1886 MORSE *Jap. Homes* 79 Bamboo pins..are used as shingle-nails. 1818 T. NUTTALL *Genera N. Amer. Plants* II. 214 *Quercus imbricaria* (*Shingle Oak). 1889 MAIDEN *Native Plants Austral.* 15 *Casuarina stricta*,..'Shingle Oak', 'Coast She-oak'. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), **Shingle-weaver*, a workman who dresses shingles. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 46 Scales..apt to be imbricated, or fixed *shingle-wise. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Islands* 787 *Shingle-wood: *Nectandra leucantha.*

b. passing into *adj.* = (*a*) consisting of, covered or built with, shingles, as *shingle house, roof*; (*b*) used in making shingles, as *shingle machine.*

1810 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 245 More pleasing in the sight of Heaven..than building a dozen shingle church steeples. 1819-20 — *Leg. Sleepy Hollow* Sk.-Bk. (1821) 299 The money invested in..shingle palaces in the wilderness. 1848-54 WEBSTER, *Shingle-roofed*, having a roof covered with shingles. *a* 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Runaway Slave* xi, When the shingle-roof rang sharp with the rains. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shingle-machine*, an American machine for riving, shaving, and jointing shingles, which is capable of making 30,000 per day. *Ibid.*, *Shingle-mill*, a saw-mill for cutting planks or logs into shingles. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 56 Board and shingle sugar-houses. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Vicar of Morwenstow* ix, A shingle roof he would have or none at all.

Shingle (ʃi·ŋg'l), *sb.*[2] Forms: α. 6– **chingle**, 6–7 *Sc.* **chyngill**. β. 6– **shingle**. [Of obscure origin; the forms with *ch-*, which are somewhat the earlier and are mainly Sc. and East Anglian, suggest an echoic origin (cf. *chink*). The change of *ch-* to *sh-* is paralleled in the history of SHIVER *v.*[2] The relation of this word to Norw. *singl* coarse sand, small stones, NFris. *singel* (large) gravel, is not clear.]

1. Small roundish stones; loose, waterworn pebbles such as are found collected upon the seashore. **a.** *collect. sing.*

α. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 556 Chingle and great stones being skorched in that fiery gulfe. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 517/2 Arenam et lie chyngill et lapides super ripas dicte aque. 1611 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 327 To caus the fyscher boits to be ballastet.. with chyngill onlie, and nocht with staynes. 1633 J. DONE tr. *Aristeas' Hist. Septuagint* 51 In the Superficies..was represented..the Flood Meander, ..in the Channell of which, one might see a Splendor of Precious Stones, representing his rowling waues, which Chingle was of Carbuncles [etc.]. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Provinc. Norfolk* (E.D.S.), *Chingle*, gravel, free from dirt. 1798 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XX. 27 The surface is not above a foot or 18 inches from the chingle. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 232 This stratum is not visible on the sea beach, being probably covered with chingle or stones.

β. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 627 The shores..are for the most part sandy, but only in some points there is some shingle cast up. 1717 S. SEWALL *Diary* 28 Sept., Not to fetch any more Shingle from the point, to mend the Causey. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), Ramsey, in the Isle of Man,..standing upon a beach of loose sand, or shingle. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 271 A violent and transient rush of waters which tore up the soil to a great depth, excavated valleys, gave rise to immense beds of shingle. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine*, etc. 239 In dashed the bay through the park-gates, sending the shingle flying up in small simoons. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. § 6. 155 In shingle the stones are coarser, ranging up to blocks as big as a man's head or larger. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 116 The swell broke upon a beach of shingle and sand.

b. *collect. pl.* (Locally the name of a pebbly beach or bank; cf. quot. 1577 in 2 β.)

1574 W. BOURNE *Regim. Sea* xxii. 60 At the comming from Portland you shall haue ,35. fadoms, and small shingles. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spirits* I. (1659) 115 The shingles, through the which the Spring runs. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shingles*, ..the Name of a Shelf, or Sand-bank in the Sea, about the Isle of Wight. 1803 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* I. 9 A neck of land chiefly composed of sand, shingles and drift wood. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xviii, The way..was a happy interchange of bog and shingles. 1842 SEDGWICK in *Hudson's Guide Lakes* (1843) 188 The overlying..beds of limestone are..separated from the..beds of slate, by masses of conglomerate or cemented shingles. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Just as the nymph..stepped out of the little caravan on to the shingles. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. iv. 79 The shingles here do not afford a landing-place.

2. A beach or other tract covered with loose roundish pebbles.

a. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. vi. 34 In the schald scho stoppis, and dyd stand Apon a dry chyngill or bed of sand. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Chingly*, abounding in small stones, etc., commonly applied to a newly repaired road. The loose pebbly beach is called the chingle or shingle.

β. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. ix. 22 b, in *Holinshed*, We meete with y^e^ fal of a water neere to S. Catherins chapple as we sailed by y^e^ Shingle. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 200 A world of Sea-stones on the shingle. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Com. Aristoph.* II. 182 He has robb'd the sea-shore, And has hived such a store As would give a large shingle its coating. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 34 The enchantments of barren shingle and rough weather.

3. *attrib.*, as *shingle-ballast, bank, beach, -bed, -stone, track, trap*; *shingle-covered, -formed* adjs.; **shingle-tramper** (see quot.).

1801 *Naval Chron.* V. 270 The many instances of injury arising from the use of *shingle ballast. 1888 F. COWPER *Cædwalla* i. 15 The scrub on the top of the *shingle bank. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxvi, Oh! with what joy did I first put my foot on the *shingle beach at Sallyport. 1881 *Rep. Geol. Explor. New Zealand* 123 The Dart flows along a wide *shingle-bed. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 51 A narrow, *shingle-covered opening in the cliffs. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 116 Masses of *shingle-formed conglomerate. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 25 Their haven [*viz.* Southwold, Suffolk] is..stopped vp with Beach and *Chingle-stone. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 31 One of the round shingle stones. 1886 KENDALL *Poems* 201 He camps by the side of a *shingle track. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Shingle-tramper*, a coast-guard man. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 85/2 Shingle has a decided tendency to drive eastward, and convert harbours lying in its course into what have been designated '*shingle traps'.

Shingle, *sb.*[3] Erron. f. SINGLE *sb.* 1 b.

1660 HOWELL *Parly of Beasts* 51 That lovely white Hinde (though she hath som black spots about her shingle)..she was once a Woman. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* I. vi. 81 [The tail] of the Hart is the Tail, and the Ro-buck or Deer the Shingle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. vii. 133/1.

Shingle (ʃi·ŋg'l), *v.*[1] [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cover, roof (a house, etc.) with shingles.

1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 42 b/2 *Scandulo*, to shyngle. 1577 V. LEIGH *Surv.* I ij, Whether..slated, shingled, or thatched. 1638 BP. MOUNTAGU *Art. Enq. Visit.* A 2, Is your Church leaded, tiled, slated, shingled, thatched with straw or reede. 1796 J. ADAMS *Diary* 27 July, I rode up to the barn, which Mr. Pratt has almost shingled. 1833 [SEBA SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* xxi. (1835) 124 He'll new shingle our old barn for nothin. 1865 'ARTEMUS WARD' *Trav.* II. xii, When the Lion House was ready to be shingled.

transf. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 533/1 The..walls and ..roof are shingled with slate. 1891 *Century Mag.* Nov. 61 We constructed a low châlet..,shingling it with swamp grass.

2. *U.S.* **a.** To cut (hair), properly so as to give the effect of overlapping shingles, by exposing the ends of hair all over the head; also *absol.*

1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* 232 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), I'm great on cutting hair. I don't suppose there's anybody in the settlement can shingle like me...By the way, don't you want your hair cut? I don't know how I'm going to get along, unless you do have it jest shingled. 1864 R. F. BURTON in *Anthropol. Rev.* II. 51 To 'shingle off' their hair as closely as possible. 1909 KATE WIGGIN *Susanna & Sue* xii, It's kind of pityish to have your hair shingled.

b. To cover like a shingled roof.

1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* 11 A somewhat more than middle-aged female, with a parchment forehead and a dry little 'frisette' shingling it.

c. (See quot.)

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *To shingle*, to chastise. A shingle applied *a posteriori* is a favorite New England mode of correcting a child.

Shingle, *v.*[2] *Iron-manuf.* [ad. F. *cingler*, ad. G. *zängeln*, f. *zange* tongs, pincers.] *trans.* To subject (the puddled ball) to pressure and blows from a hammer so as to expel impurities.

1674, etc. [see SHINGLING *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1784 in *Abridgm. Specif., Iron & Steel* (1858) 13 Shingling, welding, and manufacturing iron and steel into barrs, plates, rods, and otherwise. *Ibid.* 365 The slabe, having been shingled..to the sizes of the grooves in my rollers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 768 These loops are..brought to a white or welding heat, and then shingled into half-blooms or slabes. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 105 The old method of shingling the puddle balls..was to reduce them to shape by a heavy hammer called the forge-hammer or helve.

† **Shingle,** *v.*[3] [? f. CINGLE, girdle, with assimilation to SHINGLES.] *trans.* To girdle *round.*

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 35 Till the gout is in their knees, or the dropsie doth painefully shingle them round.

Shingled (ʃi·ŋg'ld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ED.]

1. Covered or tiled with shingles; in first quot., ? having the outer timbers overlapping like tiles, clinker-built.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 170 Eihte soules And of vche beest A Couple, þat in þe schynglede schup schullen ben I-saued. 1577 V. LEIGH *Surv.* I ij, Buildinges..whether.. Tyled, slated, shingled, or thatched. 1818 J. HASSELL *Rides & Walks* II. 107 The church has a shingled tower. 1881 *19th Cent.* Aug. 306 The prevalence of shingled spires in the wooded districts. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 216 To capture the rain-water from the shingled roof.

2. Arranged tile-wise, imbricated.

1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 94 Individual feathers of the notæum..smoothly shingled or imbricated.

Shingled, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[2] + -ED[2].] Covered with or consisting of shingle or rounded pebbles.

1802 BLOOMFIELD *Rural Tales* 53 May your days Glide on, as glides the Stream that never stays; Bright as whose shingled bed..May all your..Virtues shine! 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 156 The shingled shore.

Shingled, *ppl. a.*[3] See SHINGLE *v.*[2]

1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* xvi. 305 The shingled blooms will not be uniformly homogeneous if they are produced from different-sized puddled balls.

Shingler[1]. [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who shingles houses, etc.; also *U.S.* 'one who or a machine which cuts and prepares shingles' (Ogilvie 1882).

1445 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 528/1 Paid 2 shyngelers and a boy, mending the old rofe of the church 20*d.* 1554 in *Shropsh. Par. Docum.* (1903) 55 Paid to the syngler & his man iij^s^ viij^d^. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 23 Any Persone using or exercising Tharte or Occupation of a..Thatcher or Shingler. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ix. 394/2 There is four sorts of Trades, that formerly used to cover Houses,..*viz.* the Plumer, with Lead;..the Shingler with clift Wood [etc.]. 1865 P. B. ST. JOHN *Snow Ship* ix, Nothing is more necessary to a backwoods-man than to be a good shingler—that is to know how to select the right tree and how to cut it. 1886 MORSE *Jap. Homes* 79 The shingler takes a mouthful of these pegs.

Shingler[2]. *Iron-manuf.* [f. SHINGLE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who or a machine which shingles puddled iron.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iv, The shingler who hammers the balls of metals into an oblong form. 1864 WEBSTER, *Shingler*, ..a machine for shingling puddled iron, or making it into blooms. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shingler*, an eccentric..roller revolving within a concave and pressing the dross out of the loop. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 221 The puddler takes the bloom with a pair of tongs, runs with it to the tilt hammer and hands it over to the shingler.

Shingles (ʃi·ŋg'lz), *sb. pl.* Also 4 **schingles**, 5 **cingules, sengles**, 5–6 **shyngles**, 6 **chingles**. [Representing med.L. *cingulus* (MS. gloss in Du Cange), var. of *cingulum* girdle, used to render Gr. *ζώνη* or *ζωστήρ* in the medical sense.] An eruptive disease (*Herpes zoster*) often extending round the middle of the body like a girdle (whence the name); usually accompanied by violent neuralgic pain.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xciii. (Tollem. MS.), Aȝens icchynge and scabbes wett and drye and aȝens schingles [*Bodley MS.* cingules, *ed.* 1495 shyngles]. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 78 Ther ys an euel, þat men callen þe sengles. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* G ij, The onnatural hete named shynglesonthe bodye. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* Bb viij b, Our Englysshe women call it the fyre of Saynt Anthonye, or chingles. 1614 W. B. *Philos. Banquet* (ed. 2) 86 The oyle of Nuttes..helpes the shingles. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 May, The doctors said that they never saw anything so odd of the kind; they were not properly shingles, but *herpes miliaris*, and twenty other hard names. 1782 W. HEBERDEN *Comm.* xxiii. (1806) 126 The herpes, or shingles..consists of a heap of watery bladders. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 618 On hearing that it is the 'shingles' and that it is not catching.

b. A similar disease in horses.

1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 74 This disease is also called by some the shingles in a horse. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.*, St. Anthony's Fire, a Disease Horses are subject to,.. call'd by some the Shingles.

Shingling, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SHINGLE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] Tiling with shingles or cutting shingles. Also *attrib.*, as *shingling-hatchet*, etc.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 243 *Shingling*, the laying on of Shingles. 1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 157 Shingling Hatchets. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 32 An Indian tomahawk, which had too much the peaceful look of a shingling-hatchet. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shingling-bracket*, a device to enable a carpenter to stand on a roof while nailing on shingles. *Ibid.*, *Shingling-gage*,..for adjusting shingles in the proper position for nailing. 1910 LADY D. NEVILL *Under Five Reigns* iv, Shingling is a craft quite distinct from ordinary builder's or carpenter's work.

b. Arrangement in overlapping layers.

1903 *U. S. Geol. Surv.* Prof. Paper 13. 48 In numerous sections of these deposits the shingling of the gravels is well marked.

Shingling, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Iron-manuf.* [f. SHINGLE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of SHINGLE *v.*[2]

1674 RAY *Coll. Words* 128 This Loop they take out with their shingling tongs, and beat it with Iron sledges..that so it may..be in a capacity to be carried under the hammer. Under which they then removing it,..beat it with the hammer very gently, which forces cinder and dross out of the matter, afterwards..they beat it thicker and stronger till they bring it to a Bloom...This operation they call shingling the Loop. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 298/1 The roasting, smelting, refining, puddling, shingling, balling, and drawing-out. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 222 The loss in the puddling is about 15 per cent., in the shingling and rolling about 14 per cent. *attrib.* 1674 [see above]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 706 The shingling mill..consists of two sets of grooved cylinders. 1857 G. WILKIE *Iron Manuf.* 108 A 60-horse engine will drive a shingling-hammer [etc.]. 1873 *Iron* 5 Apr. 356/1 The shingling-forge fitted with a 5-ton wrought iron helve.

Shingling, *ppl. a.* [f. SHINGLE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] Used advb.: In a tile-wise arrangement.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, As to whether the hides should be stowed 'shingling' or 'back-to-back and flipper-to-flipper'.

Shingly (ʃi·ŋgli), *a.*[1] [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Covered with shingles or wooden tiles.

1857 WHITTIER *Last Walk in Autumn* xxi, The..shingly town-house, where The freeman's vote for Freedom falls.

Shingly (ʃi·ŋgli), *a.*[2] Also *Sc.* 8 **chinlie, chingily,** 9 **chingly**; 9 **shingley.** [f. SHINGLE *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Consisting of or covered with shingle; of the nature of shingle.

a. 1775 L. SHAW *Hist. Moray* 78 The hard chinlie beach. 1797 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIX. 5 In several parts it [*sc.* the soil] is gravellish or sandy, or chingily. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 281 For slight, sandy, or chingly soils.

β. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 91, I landed, within the sound, on a white shingly beach, the stones of which are all chert. 1802 W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* xxiii. (1824) 343 Shingly and gravelly soils. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. vii, Benharrow's shingly side. 1843 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 45/3 As they stood upon the shingley beach to see him start. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 291 The broad shingly bed of a river. 1870 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 211 Covered with gray shingly stones.

Shinily (ʃəi·nili), *adv.* [f. SHINY + -LY[2].] With a shiny surface or appearance. So **Shi·niness,** shiny condition.

1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's N.* § 154 What sort of shininess there is on the end of a terrier's nose. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 760 The utmost shininess that can be got out of it will not replace one-tenth part of the light. 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 138 His short hair clung shinily about his bullet head.

Shining (ʃəi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHINE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SHINE; emission or shedding of light; gleaming, beaming.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cix. 3 In schinenges of hallyhes bright [Vulg. *in splendoribus sanctorum*]. 13.. *K. Alis.* 641 (Bodl. MS.) Þe erþe shook, þe see bycom grene, Þe sonne wiþdrouȝ shynyng shene. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23688 (Götth.) Þe schene schining of cristal. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xli. (Tollem. MS.), Schinynge is out spryngynge and stremynge oute of þe substaunce of ly3te. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 919 For chynyng of the chene stone he shont with his hede. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 117 The moyn and starnes of shynyng blan. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 265 b, He..might spie sometimes..the shining of armour, like flashing of lightning. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 550 Grashoppers doe..come in such quantitie that they intercept the shining of the Sunne like a Cloud. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, I've seen with shining fair the morning rise. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. v, Harry could see the shining of a steel breastplate he had on. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Self-Depend.* vi, With joy the stars perform their shining. 1905 F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* II. viii, The cold, alert shining of her eyes.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. ii. (1868) 67 Yif that dignitees lesen hir shyninge by chaunginge of tymes. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. vii. (1544) 10 b, Whan his shining was waxt vp to yᵉ ful After the chaunge of fortunes lawe His glorye gan discrecen. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 127 Men of vertue suppressed, lest their shining should discouer the others filthines. *Ibid.* III. 249 Our trust is that you yet will not denie the shining of your eies vpon vs. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 129 All their Oratorious polishings and shinings are but false beames. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) II. 5 We are but as dark as we were before; for we were none of us the better for all your hypocritical shining. *a* 1778 TOPLADY in *Bk. Praise* (1866) 446 The shinings of His grace Soften my passage through the wilderness.

attrib. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 64 The time of Adversity is your Shining-time.

Shining (ʃəi·niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHINE *v.* + -ING[2].]

1. That shines; luminous, lustrous, gleaming, beaming; also, of bright or brilliant aspect or exterior; resplendent in dress or equipment.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 22 Nov. 208 Þa stod se engel biȝ hyre myd scynendum fyðerum. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 431/23 *Limpidis,* scinendum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 'Demonium meridianum', þet is, briht schininde deouel. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 18 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 In schynynde wede. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* iv. 7 Whitere is Nazareis than snoȝ, shynendere [1388 schynyngere] than myle. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 559 Bot I the knew, that is sa schynand. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxi. (S.T.S.) I. 215 Þai war iijᶜ and vj knichtis in schynyng armoure. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 40 The cleir schenand sonne. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 702, I nether haue faire Helins shape, nor comly shininge hew. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 352 Shining woods, being laid in a Dry Roome,..lose their Shining. 1664 SIR R. HOWARD & DRYDEN *Ind. Queen* II. i, Showres sometimes fall upon a shining day. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 401 Fish ..with thir Finns & shining Scales. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 559 Tiles..of a deep shining Black. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 377 A bag of shining leather filled with pearls. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 183 A bright shining house-maid. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s. v. *Egypt,* The climate is..exceedingly hot; the atmosphere clear and shining. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ix, On a shining chestnut horse. *Ibid.* II. iii, That busy, shining scene of the Thames swarming with boats and barges. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 21 All covered with shining snow.

b. as an epithet of coin. †*Shining clay,* gold.

1668 HOPKINS *Van. World* Wks. (1710) 5 What are Gold and Silver, but diversified Earth, hard and shining Clay? 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1704) 306 The tears I shed, for being deprived of a little shining clay. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iii. 203 From out his Bags he pours the shining Store.

c. *Nat. Hist.,* etc. (See quots.)

1792 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 399 Pileus brown, shining, glutinous. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Lucidum folium*..Bright, shining. 1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* III. (ed. 3) 471 Shining (*nitidus*); having a smooth, even, polished surface; as many leaves. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. § 310 The degrees of intensity [*sc.* of lustre] are denominated as follows:—..*Shining,* when an image is produced, but not a well-defined image. Ex., Calcareous spar, Celestine. 1871 W. A. LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 109 Lobes ascending, glabrous and shining.

d. Hence as specific name of animals and plants (rendering L. *lucidus, lucens, splendidus,* etc.).

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 475 The Shining Willow, which they call Swallow-Taile. 1771 J. R. FORSTER *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 7 Potamogeton lucens. Pondweed, shining. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 56 Shining Thrush, *Turdus nitens.* 1784 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* App. 232 Shining Dove's-foot cranesbill (*Geranium lucidum*) in hedges. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 372 Coppery-green shining Crow. 1865 *Intell. Obs.* VII. 102 The male Satin or Shining Bower Bird.

2. Phr. a. *Shining light* (after John v. 35): a person conspicuous for some excellence.

1526 [see LIGHT *sb.* 5 a]. 1563 WINJET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* ix. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 27 That schyning licht of al the sanctis, ..maist blissit Cypriane. *a* 1796 BURNS *Holy Willie's Prayer* ii, A burnin' an' a shinin' light To a' this place! 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew,* etc. xviii. (1878) 100 Her aunt was regarded as a shining light by very many good people in the county. 1887 *Field* 19 Nov. 790/1 In the opening part of the game, Stadden, Robertshaw. and Brooke had been the shining lights.

b. *To improve the shining hour* (after Watts, see quot. 1720): to make good use of time.

1720 WATTS *Div. Songs* xx, How doth the little busy bee improve each shining hour! 1866 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Walter Goring* ii, Though he had been seeming to improve the shining hours very much to his own satisfaction.

3. With reference to intellectual or moral qualities: Eminent, distinguished, brilliant. Now *rare.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xix. (1890) 210 Se wæs in wordum & dædum beorht & scinende. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xxxvii. 69 Þe vertu of by shynynge lyf shal be..gladyd þerby. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 101 Seint Ion Shynynge apostle & euangelist. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 7 The life and shyninge Acts of this most victorious Kinge. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 173 The siluer streaming fountaines of flowingest witt, and shiningest Art. *c* 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 31 Nor was his soul less shining in honour than in loue. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* i. 11 One that endeavoured rather to be agreeable, than shining in conversation. 1711 — *Spect.* No. 73 ¶ 4 Men of the greatest and the most shining Parts. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxix. 154 Charles duke of Bourbon..was a prince of the most shining merit. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 560 Anticipated rents, and bills unpaid, Force many a shining youth into the shade. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvii, [His] most shining quality was courage in the field of battle. 1881 M. RALEIGH *Alex. Raleigh* i. 7 [He] was regarded as a boy of good but not shining ability.

4. Of looks: Radiant, beaming.

1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *My relations,* A..shining sanguine face. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiii, Greeting him with one of her shining looks.

5. *Comb.*

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 464 Shining-black Snake. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 120 Shining-leaved Fig Wort. 1895 K. MEYER *Voy. Bran* I. 71 A red-eared shining-white cow.

Shi·ningly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a shining manner; with a shining appearance; brightly, brilliantly.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xvi. 19 Sum man was rich,..and he eet ech day schynyngli [L. *splendide*]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxvi. 305 (Harl. MS.), Þe myȝty men and riche men of þis wordle, þat hath golde, and goodis shynyngly. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xlii. 17 The show..Upon the ten flies parte showth more shininglie Then on the one spiders side. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. § 5 Let vs now behold his vertues as they are shiningly deduced into action. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 15 A God, shiningly appearing in Christ. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. II. iv. 181 His eye, which was ever shiningly intellectual. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 447 The silver spoons and forks were laid shiningly side by side in a varnished press. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 163 Her ladyship's own private bank is in a shiningly aristocratic street. 1891 'L. KEITH' *Lost Illus.* II. xix. 208 Shiningly, spotlessly, insolently new.

So **Shi·ningness,** brightness, brilliance.

1703 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1538 The shiningness being wholly occasioned by the reflexion of the Light from the polisht sides. 1752 'SIR H. BEAUMONT' *Crito* 41 *note,* The Epithets *marmoreus, eburneus,* and *candidus,* are all applied..to the Shiningness here spoken of. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 24 Albeit swaying so our thoughts In shiningness and motion.

Shinlog (ʃi·nlɒg), *sb.*[1] *Brickmaking.* (See quot. 1703.) Hence **Shinlog** *v.*, to close (the mouth of a kiln) with shinlog.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 48 They damm up the Mouth of the Kiln..with their Shinlog, as they call it (which is pieces of Bricks piled upon each other, with wet Brick Earth, instead of Mortar). This Shinlog they make so high, that there is but just room above it to thrust in a Faggot. *Ibid.,* The Mouth being thus Shinlog'd, they proceed to put in Faggots. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 534.

†**Shi·nlog,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [app. f. *shin* in SHINBIN (cf. the form *shinbeam*) + LOG *sb.*[1]] = SHINBIN.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 141/2 Pieces called 'shin-logs', and admirably adapted for ship-timbers.

Shinner (ʃi·nəɹ). [f. SHIN *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1].]

†1. A stocking. *Obs. rare*—⁰.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 167/1 *Caliga,*..an hose, a nether stocke, a shinner.

2. A blow or kick on the shin. *dial.*

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr., Moonshine,* I'll give you a *shinner* on your lower limb. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*

3. *U.S.* 'One who borrows money by the practice of shinning' (Bartlett).

1840 in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 305 Coxcombs and dandies, loafers and nibblers, Shavers and shinners.

4. *U.S.* One who 'shins round'; an active person.

1838 J. C. NEAL in Schele de Vere *Americanisms* (1872) 305 'Shin it, good man!' ejaculated a good-natured urchin, 'shin it as well as you know how!' The qualification was a good one, Berry not being well calculated for a shinner of the first class.

Shi·nning, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHIN *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. *Football.* The act of kicking an opponent on the shin.

1873 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 388 Mauling, hacking, kicking, shinning, collaring—such are among the terms and rules of the [Rugby] game. 1899 SHEARMAN, etc. *Football* 70 All charging is fair, but no..shinning or back shinning either of the ball or players is allowed.

2. *U.S.* (See quot. 1864.)

1864 WEBSTER. *Shinning,* a running about borrowing money temporarily to meet pressing demands. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 306 This process of *shinning* is resorted to whenever the merchant or banker is *short.*

Shinny (ʃi·ni), *sb.* Also shinney, shinnie. [? f. the cry used in the game *shin ye, shin you* (also *shin your side*), of obscure origin; cf. *hummie,* a dial. name for shinty, and the cry *hun you, shin you* (Sheffield Gloss.); see also SHINTY. Other dial. names of the game are *shinmins, shinnock, shinnup*; also *shinder* vb.] A (north-country and American) game similar to hockey, played with a ball and sticks curved at one end; also, the stick and the ball used in this game.

1672 in Maidment *Bk. Scotish Pasquils* (1868) 181 He..did transub Himself to ball, the Parliament to club, Which will him holl when right teased at ane blow, Or els Sir Patrick will be the shinnie goe. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 216 *Shinney,* a stick rounding at one end, to strike a small wooden ball with. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 532 Contending parties, in the northern counties of England, exert themselves to drive the shinney to its goal. 1860 J. F. CAMPBELL *Tales W. Highl.* (1890) I. 102 He..gets him to make an iron shinny. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 51 The nose of the [sturgeon] fish..being greatly coveted by us small boys wherewith to make a ball for 'shinny'.

attrib. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 216 *Shinney-hak,* a game so called. 1825 R. CHAMBERS *Trad. Edin.* II. 78 A group of little pensioners, who regularly annoyed him for a shinny ball, or some such article. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xxi. 206 Each of them had a walrus-rib for a..shinny-stick.

Shinny (ʃi·ni), *v. U.S.* [f. SHIN *sb.*] *intr.* To shin *up* a tree.

1888 T. STEVENS *Around the World* 307 The trees..are.. swarming with monkeys...Shinnying up the toddy-palms.

Shinto (ʃi·ntɒ). Also **Sin-to, Sintu, -oo.** [Japanese, f. Chinese *shin tao* way of the gods.]

1. The native religious system of Japan, the central belief of which is that the mikado is the direct descendant of the sun-goddess and that implicit obedience is due to him.

1727 tr. *Kæmpfer's Hist. Japan* I. 203 Sinto..is the Idolworship, as of old established in the Country. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 474/2 The first..Faith of the Japanese, is that of the *Sin-to.* 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 282 The abolition of Buddhism and the establishment of pure Shinto. 1906 *Athenæum* 19 May 602/3 Of pure Shinto ancestor-worship was no part, while phallism in a very pronounced form was intimately associated with it.

b. *attrib.*

1727 tr. *Kæmpfer's Hist. Japan* I. 207 The whole System of the Sintos Divinity. *Ibid.,* The Sintosju or adherents of the Sintos Religion. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 475/2 The Sin-syu, or maintainers of the Sin-to creed. 1880 E. J. REED *Japan* I. 47 The worship of the Shinto gods. 1888 L. OLIPHANT *Epis. in Adv.* 222 Two Buddhist or Sintoo shrines, perched upon pinnacles of rock.

c. *adj.* = SHINTOISTIC.

1904 SLADEN *Playing the Game* I. xii, The idea of the Kami..was Shinto rather than Buddhistic.

2. An adherent of Shinto beliefs.

1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 477/1 The Gods worshipped by the Sin-tos are principally..departed Spirits deified. 1887 RIPLEY & DANA *Amer. Cycl.* IX. 537 (Cass.) The Shintos believe in a past life, and they live in fear and reverence of the spirits of the dead.

Hence **Shi·nto,ism** = SHINTO 1; **Shi·nto,ist** = SHINTO 2; **Shinto,i·stic** *a.*, belonging to or characteristic of Shinto; **Shi·nto,ize** *v., trans.*, to render Shintoistic.

1727 tr. *Kæmpfer's Hist. Japan* I. 226 Orthodox Sintoists go in Pilgrimage to Isje once a year. 1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* xiv. 337 The prevailing religions of the Japanese are Buddhism and Sintooism. 1863 *Chamb. Encycl.* V. 686/2 The minor deities of Sintuism are very numerous. 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 296 Buddhism..and the bakufu were, in the eyes of a Shintoist, all one and the same. 1889 E. ARNOLD *Seas & Lands* xiv. (1895) 218 Pure Shintoism does not admit of any external decoration or images. 1893 in Barrows *World's Parl. Relig.* I. 453 A pilgrimage to various..Shintoistic and Buddhistic temples. 1895 GRIFFIS *Relig. Japan* vii. 212 Is Japanese Buddhism really Shintoized Buddhism, or Buddhaized Shinto?

Shinty (ʃi·nti). Also shintie. [Formation obscure; ? for *shin t'ye,* cf. *shin ye* (see SHINNY).]

1. = SHINNY.

1771 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* 167 The shinty, or the striking a ball of wood or of hair. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 72 On holidays, all the males of a district..met to play at football, but oftener at shinty. 1808 JAMIESON, *Shinty,* the club used in playing [shinty]. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 180 The rough but manly old game of 'shinty' has not yet quite fallen into desuetude. 1882 *Yeamieson's Sc. Dict., Shinty,* the ball or knot of wood is called Shintie.

attrib. 1863 N. MACLEOD *Remin. Highl. Par.* iii, Few games..demand more physical exertion than a good shinty match. 1865 *Morning Star* 1 Feb., Past your ear whizzes a shinty ball.

2. = SHINDY 3.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liv, There's a regular shinty

in the house; and everything at sixes and sevens. The andlord's come in and took possession.

Shiny (ʃəi·ni), *a.* Also 6 shynie, 6, 9 shiney. [f. SHINE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Full of light or brightness; luminous; having a bright or glistening surface.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 6 Vpon a Sommers shynie day. 1596 — *Hymn Heau. Beauty* 51 Affixe thine eye On that bright shynie round still moving Masse. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ix. 3 The night Is shiny. 1699 POMFRET *Dies Novis.* 50 Ere ruin blasted from the shiny sky. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 126 The evening being calm and shiny. 1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 298/1 Sir Silas looked red and shiny as a ripe strawberry on a Snitterfield tile. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* xlv, Umbrella, shiny boots, tall hat, go-to-meeting coat. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlvi. 229 The fattest, shiniest, spottiest trout I ever saw. 1881 C. WHITEHEAD *Hops* 52 The lower sides of the leaves are whitish and shiny.

b. *fig.* Beaming, radiant.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xlvi, He looked round with shiny gladness.

c. *Comb.* (parasynthetic).

1882 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 5/4 The shiny-hatted and seal-skin-clad rabble. 1898 R. KEARTON *Wild Life at Home* 23 Slugs..thin little black shiny-skinned..ones.

d. *advb.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vi. 20 Goldsmithes cunning could not vnderstand To frame such subtile wire, so shinie cleare. 1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* v. ii, His yellow jaws as shiny-shaven as of old.

B. *sb.* A shiny or bright object.

The shiny (slang), money.

1836 READE *Never too Late* i, We'll soon fill both pockets with the shiney in California. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 235 The silk and lace are done in these squares covered over with sacking—a thousand of Mechlin to a hundred of the shiny [i. e. the silk].

Ship (ʃip), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–5 scip, (1, 4 scipp, 1–3 scyp, 3 scip), 3–4 schup, ssip, 3–7 schip, 4–5 s(c)hyp, shipp, schype, schippe, (4 schypp, shup, scippe, shyppe, schepe, 5 chip(pe, schyppe, shep), 4–6 schipp, 4–7 shippe, 5–6 shyppe, s(c)hipe, shype, shepe, 5–7 shipp, (6 sheppe, *Sc.* scheip(e), 4– ship. [Com. Teut.: OE. *scip* str. neut. = OFris. *skip, schip* (NFris. *skapp, skep*, WFris. *skip*), OS. *skip*, MLG. *schip, schēp* (LG. *schipp*), MDu. *sc(h)ip, sc(h)eep*, Du. *schip* (oblique *scheepe*, comb. *scheeps-* beside *schip-*), WFlem. *scheep*, OHG. *scif, skef* (MHG. *schif, schef*, G. *schiff*), ON. *skip* (Sw. *skepp*, Da. *skib*), Goth. *skip*; the ultimate etymology is uncertain. The Germanic word appears in Romanic as F. *esquif*, It. *schifo*, etc., see SKIFF *sb.*[1]]

1. A large sea-going vessel (opposed to a *boat*); *spec.* (in modern times) a vessel having a bowsprit and three masts, each of which consists of a lower, top, and topgallant mast.

In OE. used also for small craft, as ON. *skip*.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 188 *Scaphum*, scip. *c* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* XXXVIII. § 1 Da se Aulixes..to þam ȝefohte for, þa hæfde he sume hundred scipa. *c* 1030 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1048, Eadward cining & þa eorlas foran after þam ut mid heora scypun. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 Hleated hwat ðe hlauerd seið, ðe ðat scip auh, to ðe stiere-mannen. *a* 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.) 32/12 þu leddest israeles folc þurh þe reade sea buten schip druifot. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 And so hi were in þo ssipe so a-ros a great tempeste of winde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13280 Petre and andreu..Wit a word þai left þair scipps tuin [*Gött.* schippis]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 160 A schup of schides and Bordes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 21 No ship yit karf the wawes grene and blewe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 370 Quhat schepe þat brokine ware a-pone þat coste. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 84 þat þey had suffrid hem priuelich to passe ouer þe see in her scheppys. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1423 Master of þe shepe, a word with the. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 149, I give to Mathue Wilson my shipe called Marie Janiea. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 355 The skiper of the scheipe. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 18 My Shippes come home a month before the daie. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 714 A stately Ship Of Tarsus, bound for th' Isles Of Javan or Gadier. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 84 There's near as much Stuff drops from his [a seacook's] Carcass every Day as would tallow the Ship's Bottom. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4380/3 One of the Rocks not being a Ships length to Leeward of her. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. vi, The ship was cheer'd, the harbour clear'd. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. *Elizabeth* iv, Ships that pass in the night, and speak each other in passing. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit.* viii. 102 The bottom and side plating of all ships is arranged in longitudinal layers or strakes. 1912 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 376/2 Ships with four and five masts were employed by several countries during the 19th century.

¶ Ships are now personified as feminine, but usage has varied (see the following quots.).

The use of the masc. pron. in the 17th and 18th cent. was prob. suggested by the application of *man* to a ship in *Dutchman, merchantman, man-of-war*. In instances before *c* 1650 *his* may mean 'its'.

1373, etc. [see SHE 2]. *c* 1426 *Poem on Agincourt* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1866) II. 97 Euery shyp wayed his anker.. They hoysed theyr sayles sayled a loffe. 1588 KYD *Housek. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 278 In a shyppe the Rudder ought to be no lesse then may suffise to direct hys course. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 93 The Shippe hoaring the Moone with her maine Mast. [1628 *Resp. Exchange* in Arb. *Eng. Garner* IV. 595 'A sail!' 'a sail!'; which, at last, was discovered to be another Man of War of Turks. For he made towards us. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. 59 A saile, how beares she or stands shee, to wind-ward or lee-ward, set him by the Compasse; he stands right ahead, or on the weather-Bow, or lee-Bow.] 1635 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (ed. 3) Argt., As a Ship which..cannot move beyond the length of his Cable. 1676 STREYNSHAM MASTER *Diaries* (1911) II. 93 Wee mett a great Dutch ship neare Nassapore point. He wore a Flagg. 1784 *New Spect.* XIII. 2/1 The last [ship was] drowned and swallowed up, within sight of his own shore.

b. Without article, chiefly in dependence on a prep. Also *to take ship* (see TAKE *v.* 24 c).

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. i. (1890) 256 Swa eode he in scip & ferde to Breotone. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1046, Hi..wurpon hine on þone bat..& reowan to scipe. *c* 1205 LAY. 1098 Brutus nom Ignogen & into scipe [*c* 1275 to sipe] lædde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1464 Þe emperour bigan to fle mid is folc atte laste To scipes. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5088 Partenedon passed to schepe & his puple after. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 354 Er þat he myghte brynge his wyf to shipe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 45 Guion fledd also in to affricque by shipp. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 29 He..went to Ship, setting aside all perils. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. (1611) 358 Finding him againe as soone as themselues by shippe were arriued on the contrary side. 1888 [see Ex 2]. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 20/3 Oats..American white, ex ship, 28s. 4½d.

c. In legal enactments often with greatly extended application, as in the following quot.:

1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 90 § 30 'Ship' shall include any description of boat, vessel, floating battery, or floating craft; also any description of boat, vessel, or other craft or battery, made to move either on the surface of or under water, or sometimes on the surface of and sometimes under water.

d. In rowing parlance, applied to the racing eight-oar boat; also used playfully of other craft.

1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 14 The barges is on shipboard —he is master in his own ship—he can land whenever he will. 1888 WOODGATE *Boating* 147 She..was once specially borrowed by Corpus (Oxon) during the summer eights, and was said by that crew to be a vast improvement on their own ship. 1896 ASHBY-STERRY *Tale of Thames* v, Here they leave their ship and quietly stroll up to the New Inn. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/7 The..steadiness of their ship.. helped the Oxford men very much.

e. *fig.* Applied to the state.

1675 *Machiavelli's Prince* ix. Wks. 212 But when times are tempestuous, and the ship of the State has need of the help..of the Subject. 1894 GLADSTONE *Odes of Horace* III. viii. 26 Though the State-ship somewhat heave. 1913 *19th Cent.* Feb. 303 The Ship of the State of China is still labouring in a storm-swept ocean.

2. With qualifying word or phrase indicating the kind or use:

King's ship (now Hist.), one of the fleet of ships provided and maintained out of the royal revenue; a ship of the royal navy; later, a ship-of-war equipped at the public expense (opp. to *privateer*); so †ship-royal. †Great ship, a ship-of-war.

For *flagship, hospital-ship, ice-ship, line-of-battle ship, long ship, merchant ship, post-ship, private ship, slave-ship, steamship, store-ship, troop-ship, warship*, etc. see the first elements; for *ship of burden, of countenance, of the line, of post, of state*, see these sbs.; also SHIP-OF-WAR.

[1350 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1825) III. i. 195 Johannes Wille, magister navis regis vocatus La Plente.]

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 65 Gales & grete schipis full of grym wapens. 1450 LOMNER *Let. to Y. Paston* 5 May, Yn the syght of all his men he was drawyn ought of the grete shippe. 1485–7 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 The Kings ship cald the Grace dieu. 1495 *Ibid.* 161 The costes of Kepyng the Kynges Ship Ryall called the Soueraigne. 1512 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1712) XIII. 328/2 All Prisoners, beyng Chieftens ..and one Shippe Royall being of the Portage of Two Hundred Tonnes or above..Reserved to our said Soveraign Lord. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 688 The Easterlynges.. approched the Englishe ship as nere as their great shippes could come at the lowe water. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* II. 31, I never did read..that ever Queen Elizabeth had any Ship-Royal, which..carried the Memorial of any particular Conquest she got. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 116 The Church here is a mighty Queen, a ship-royal. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 50 There escaped but one Kings-ship, and one Privateer. *Ibid.* 357 Captain Swan had his men as much under command as if he had been in a Kings Ship. 1752 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 45 The commander of the king's ship is obliged to make up his loss by pressing hands from the merchant ships. 1824 HOLT *Shipping & Navig. Laws* (ed. 2) Introd. 36 Foreign seamen, who shall have served in time of war three years on board a king's ship.

3. In fig. and allusive phrases, *esp.* where *ship* typifies the fortunes or affairs of a person, etc. or the person himself in regard to them.

To be in the same ship, cf. BOAT *sb.* 2 d; *to give up the ship, to burn one's ships*, see BURN *v.* 9 c. *When one's ship comes home* (or *in*), when one comes into one's fortune.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lx. 165 Thow mak my schip in blissit port to arryif, That sailis heir in stormis violent. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 27 Doubting not to bring his ship to the porte desired. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 209 Those who are conversant in the same danger, are said to be in the same Ship. 1680 *Debates Parl.* (1681) 117 Is not all England in danger to be lost? Let us secure the Ship, before we dispose of the Cabbins. 1816 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1899) X. 4 My exhortation would rather be 'not to give up the ship'. 1820 SHELLEY *Rel. Tyr.* I. i. 245, I drove her—afar!..From city to city, abandoned of pity, A ship without needle or star. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 175 One [customer] always says he'll give me a ton of taties when his ship comes home. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lxv, That Mr. Ratray who has just come out of the ship, and brought a hundred thousand pounds with him. 1880 CABLE *Grandissimes* liii, Nobody ever gives up the ship in parlour or veranda debate. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *Cynic Fortune* xii, The wealthy relative..proposed to supply him with an income of a hundred pounds per annum until the major's next expected ship should come in. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 816 It is well in the case of a new patient at any rate to postpone a final diagnosis till the ship is in calmer waters. 1900 MAHAN *War S. Africa* v, Not the courage that throws away the scabbard, much less that which burns its ships.

4. *transf.* Applied to various objects that are, or are conceived to be, navigated.

†a. Noah's ark. b. as in *airship* = dirigible balloon. c. *Ship of the desert, desert-ship*: the camel. d. *Ship of Guinea* = *Guinea ship* (b) s. v. GUINEA 1.

[*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9674 Noe..in þat scip allan was in.] 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* XXXVII. 193 In Noe's ship he and his wif, har thre sonys and har wiffis sawid were. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1351 In þe shep of noee. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* 12 b, Saynt Noe that made the shyppe. 1579 T. STEVENS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. II. 99 A thing swimming vpon the water like a cocks combe (which they call a ship of Guinea). [1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 138 Camels. These are the ships of Arabia, their seas are the deserts.] 1823 [see DESERT *sb.*[2] 1]. 1824 [see DESERT *sb.*[2] 5]. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* xxi. 439 Those ships of the desert, the long line of his camels.

5. A vessel, utensil, ornament, etc. shaped like a ship. Also (in first quot.), the noble coined under Edward III, which bore the image of a ship.

c 1410 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* xvii. 29, vj^e shippes grete, To yeue vs han yee grauntid & behight. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* v. 22 Cymphes..ben in maner of lityl bokettis, or lytyl shippes, of a strange stone. 1525 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 271 A ship of silver for the almes disshe. 1575–6 *New Yrs. Gifts* in Nichols *Progr. Eliz.* (1823) II. I A juell of golde, being a shippe, set with a table dyamonde of fyve sparcks of dyamondes.

b. An incense boat. Now *Hist.*

1422 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 14 Also iij sensers of siluer & gilt Also ij sheppis of seluere. 1472 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 5 A ship of silver in passel gilt without spone. 1546 S. FISH *Supplic. Poore Commons* 75 Torches, tapurs, shepe, sensoures. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees) 8 Two Shipps of silver, parcell gilt, for principall dayes. 1843 PUGIN *Apol. Rev. Chr. Arch.* 51 b, Two thuribles, with a ship for incense. 1898 J. WICKHAM LEGG in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jrnl.* XV. 132 *note*, A censer with coals, a ship with incense, and a spoon.

†c. The nave (see NAVE *sb.*[2]) of a church. *rare.*

1613 tr. *Mexio's Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* 713/1 One of his Prophets made a conuocation..of all the people, in the great Shippe of the great Church.

d. *Saltmaking.* The vessel into which the brine runs from the pits.

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1065 They fill their Panns again with new Brine out of the Ship, (so they call a great Cistern by their Panns sides, into which their Brine runs through the Woodden Gutters from the Pump, that stands in the Pitt). 1674 RAY *Coll. Words* 175. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*

e. *Astron.* The Argo Navis, a southern constellation extending between Canis major and Centaurus from the equator nearly to the pole.

1599 T. HILL *Sch. Skil* 23 The image named the Ship, hath 45. stars. 1822 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 508/1 [The milky way] traverses the constellations Cassiopeia,..Canis Major, and the Ship. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 334.

†6. A shipful, shipload. *Obs.*

1455–6 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 290 A shype of iryn that come yn befor Michalmas. *c* 1595 CAREW *Excell. Eng. Tongue* in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 292 When wee would be rid of one, wee vse to saye..by circumlocution ..another in your steede, a shipp of salte for you.

7. A ship's company or crew.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 170 Do dight & mak 30w bone, þe schip ere Sarazins alle. 1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 222 The twelue schipps that haue declared for the King doeth much startill ther former inclinations. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 157 It was not the most eligible place for a ship to refresh at.

b. *Old ship*, a jocular address to a sailor.

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* i, 'Come, old ship, give us a yarn!' said the younger forecastle-men to an old one. *Ibid* vi, 'What's the odds, Harry, old ship?' said Tom.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. Simple attrib. = of or for, pertaining to, or concerning a ship or ships, used or fitted for use on board ship, as *ship-accounts, -beak, -bell, -canal, -captain*, †*-dock*, †*-gun, life*, etc. (Cf. the compounds with *ship's*, 9 c.)

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xliii, *Ship-accounts and other papers. 1623 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* (1614) 9 Those *ship beakes called in Latine *Rostra*. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Musician's T.* IV. iv, When the dismal *ship-bell tolled. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 35 The *ship bow or loofe. 1847 *Niles' Reg.* 13 Nov. 165/2 A *ship canal wide and deep enough to float a first-rate man-of-war. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-captain*, the master and commander of a merchant-vessel. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 193 We fell in with a ship-captain. 1887 J. BALL *Natur. S. Amer.* 356 The passengers..were resting in their *ship-chairs. 1847 *Niles' Reg.* 2 Oct. 70/2 To construct a *ship channel, so to speak, to the St. Lawrence. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 15, I suspected..that the Animadverter had been some *Ship-Chaplain. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. 68 The Planters..were certain of a Hurricane, and warned the *Ship-Commanders to provide for it. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 398/1 *Nauale*, a *shipdocke, which is a place where ships are builded and repaired. 1659 KILBURNE *Kent* 73 [Deptford] famous for the Shipdock, Storehouse and Corporation there for the Navy. 1552 HULOET, *Shyp drudge,..*Misonauta*. *c* 1000 *Gl. Prud.* in *Germania* (N.S.) XI. 389/42 *Bellum classicum*, *scypgefeoht. 1647 HEXHAM I. A ship-fight, *een schip-vecht*. 1408 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) If. 226/1 *Schipfiattynge asketh to haue a loft see & nouȝt rowe see. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xvii. (1840) 289 The *ship firing is not at him. 1735 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5374/2 They placed two *Ship-Guns on the Bridge. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 7 Sept. 4/3 The thirty two pounder ship-gun. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's*

Dict. 14 *Bracketts.* Are certaine little peeces..which belong to the supporting of galleries, or *ship-heads. 1904 SLADEN *Playing the Game* II. ii, A pair of handcuffs and a pair of *ship-irons. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Ship-language*, the shibboleth of nautic diction, as *tau'sle, foh'sle*, for top-sail, forecastle. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* ix, It's nouther *ship-law nor shore-law..as houlds good on a bloody dazart! 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* 162 Familiar with *ship life. 1485 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 291 The *shippe lofe which is made of clane whete as it cometh from the shefe. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Nov. 1660, A curious *ship modell. 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* (1663) 42 A Harquebuss, a Crock, or *Ship-musquet. 1526 *Grete Herball* cccxliii. (1529) T iij, Pytche is of dyuers sortes for there is *shyppe pytche and pytche liquide or thynne, or tarre. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* B 5 Let Shyp Pytche Be dyssolued one whole nyghte in stronge Vyneger. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 17 As it were *ship-planks caught vp from a shipwracke. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 206 Ship-Plank of two or three Inches thick. 1857 PERLEY *Hand-bk. N. Brunswick* 11 For ship-planks and ship-timber. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. x. 94 The very Mariners..tooke heart to snatch vp the *Ship-poles, and to make resistance. 1662 GODOLPHIN *View Admir. Jurisd.* Introd. a 6 He may not sail with other *Ship-provisions then what is good and wholesome. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 47/2 A..breed of cattle..fed in Basse-Bretagne chiefly for ship-provisions. 1834–6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 285/2 A good *ship pump. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXIII. *Notes* end, The Naval-Course, or *Ship-Race. 1661 GODOLPHIN *View Admir. Jurisd.* 48 Invoyces, Bills of Lading, *Ship-Roll, with other Instruments and ship-papers. 1698 *Act* 10 *Will. III*, c. 14 § 1 For building..or repairing of Stages *Shiprooms Trainfats. 1780 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1853) I. 275 Great numbers of negroes..were left, either for the want of ship-room or through choice. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* III. iii. 212 The contract of passengers with the master is not for mere ship-room..on board. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 167/10 *Rudentes*, *sciprapas. 1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* (1677) 258 [He] shut the utter-gate, And with a ship-rope that lay by it ties. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 48 Other Ship ropes not vsed..about the masts. 1585 JAS. VI *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 39 Since that only wind my *shipsailles blew. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 263 The weaving of.. Ship-sailes. 1439 in *Archæologia* (1827) XXI. 37 Men of arms, feyghtyng upon the *shippe syde. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 112, I would you had beene by the ship side, to haue help'd her. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 11 Near the Ship Side. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* X. 172, I cast him adown by the ship-side. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 74 *Ship spayres..iiij. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1412 (Laud MS.) He comen out of *scyp sterne. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 27 The Boat rope, is that by which the boat is towed or tyed to the ship stern. 1661 GODOLPHIN *View Admir. Jurisd.* 47 Embezilments of *ship-tackle or furniture. 1647 HEXHAM I, *Ship-tackling, *scheeps-hoorden*. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 32 Two necessary Instruments used much about the ship tacklings. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* lvi, It was pronounced, for *ship-tailoring, excellent. 1717 *Petiveriana* III. 202 Ring-Oak or White-iron ..is esteemed the best for *Ship-use. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 370 An Oake, a Poplar, or a Pine, Hewne downe for *shipwood.

b. With reference to the Scandinavian custom of burying a ship in a grave-mound.

1847 in Madden *Shrines & Sepulchres* (1851) I. 334 Boats, and even large ships, being drawn on shore and turned keel uppermost, the bodies of the slain deposited under them, and stones and earth superimposed, thus forming what may appropriately be termed ship barrows. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 196 Mighty Mounds, olden Stone-rings, Ship-settings,..Grave-cumbels. 1889 DU CHAILLU *Viking Age* I. 335 *note*, Other ship-graves, such as that of Tune, Borre, &c., have been found with skeletons of horses. 1899 H. M. CHADWICK *Cult of Othin* 43 The ship-funeral..seems to be a distinctively Scandinavian custom.

c. objective and objective genitive, as *ship-bearing, -launch, -maker*, etc.

1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxvii. 312 Washt with the once *ship-bearing Ley. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 255 Brokers and *Ship-clearers, who would have Goods insured. 1663 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* Index E j b, A *Ship-destroying Engine. 1907 F. T. BULLEN *Advance Austral.* xix, It was a fine piece of *ship-handling. 1832 [MRS. TRAILL] *Backwoods of Canada* iv. (1836) 52 At Brockville we arrived..in time to enjoy..a *ship-launch. 1552 HULOET, *Ship letter to hyre, *nauicularius*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/1 A *Schyppe maker, *barcarius*. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-modeller*,..one who lays down the proposed lines of a vessel. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 101 Simon de Vlieger, an admired *ship-painter. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 253 James Brown, *ship-rigger. 1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* 8 Smuggling, *ship-scuttling, barratry, piracy. 1655 DAVENPORT *K. John & Matilda* v. i, From mine eyes, *ship-sincking Cataracts, Whold [*sic*] clouds of waters,..Shall fall into the Sea of my affliction. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-surveyor*, an examiner of the condition, fittings, and sea-worthiness of ships. 1806 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 299 Ship-brokers, or Ship-breakers, or *Ship-swabbers. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 86 A most dreadfull gulfe, and *shippe swalower.

d. adverbial, esp. instrumental, as *ship-beset, -borne, -dotted, -forsaken, -laden* adjs.; similative, as *ship-fashion* adv., *ship-like* adj.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 95 A yellow strand and *ship-beset green sea. *a* 1835 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 5 The *ship-borne warriors of the North. 1889 HISSEY *Tour Phaeton* 216 The far-reaching, *ship-dotted sea beyond. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 585/1 Pinks sail with three masts, *ship-fashion. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, The chief table was adorned by a salt ship-fashion, made of mother-of-pearl. 1735 THOMSON *Liberty* I. 282 The *Ship-forsaken Bay. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 6 The yellow, rushing, *ship-laden river. 1842 FABER *Styrian Lake* 239 The *shiplike clouds, which overwhelm The azure sky. 1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* XXIV. ii, With a steady will unswerving, Ship-like may we onward press. 1864 tr *Vambéry's Trav. Central Asia* 198 The camels, the shiplike movements of which I had formerly so much dreaded.

9. Special comb.: **†ship-agent**, a shipping agent; **†ship-bearer**, one who carries an incense-boat; **†ship-beer** [cf. MDu. *schipbier*, G. *schiffs-bier*], beer made for consumption on board ship; **ship('s) biscuit**, hard biscuit prepared for use on board ship, hard-tack; formerly called **ship('s) bread**; **†ship-bridge**, a pontoon bridge; **ship-broker**, a mercantile agent who transacts the business of a ship when it is in port, or is engaged in buying and selling ships, or in procuring insurance on them; **ship-brokerage**, the business performed by a ship-broker; **†ship-burden**, a ship-load; **ship-carver, -caulker** (see quots.); **†ship-chest, -coffer**, a chest used on board ship; **ship('s) company**, the crew of a ship; **ship-contractor, -deliverer** (see quots.); **†ship-fare**, (*a*) travelling by ship; (*b*) = *ship-hire*; **†ship-ferd**, a navy; **ship-fever**, a form of typhus fever, called also *gaol fever* and *hospital fever*; **ship float**, (*a*) a lighter; (*b*) the splashers of a paddle-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **†ship-fountain** (see quot.); **†ship-fraught, -freight** (see FRAUGHT *sb.* 1, FREIGHT *sb.* 1) = *ship-hire*; **†ship-governor** = SHIPMASTER; **†ship-gume** = SHIPMAN; **ship-hearth** (see quot.); **†ship-hire** [cf. MDu. *schip-huure*], the passage money for a sea-voyage; **ship-holder** = SHIP-OWNER (Webster 1828–32); **†ship-hook**, ? a grappling iron; **ship-joiner** (see quot. 1858); **ship-keeper**, a man who takes care of a ship when the crew is absent from it; **ship-ladder**, a ladder used in boarding or leaving a ship; also, a kind of embroidery stitch; **ship-lap**, a form of joint in carpentry made by halving (see quots. and HALVING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2 and cf. *half-lap* and *lap-joint* s. v. LAP *sb.*[3] 2 b and 6); so **ship-lapping** (also *attrib.*), and hence **ship-lap** *v.*, to furnish with joints of this kind; **ship-letter**, a letter carried by a private vessel and not by the ordinary mail boat; **†ship-lord** = SHIP-OWNER; **ship-mark**, a postmark on a letter carried by a mail ship; **ship-mate**, one who serves with another in the same ship; hence **shipmatish** *a.*; **†ship news**, (*a*) news conveyed by ship; (*b*) shipping news; **ship-papers**, now usually **ship's papers**, the documents (passport, muster-roll, charter-party, log-book, etc.) with which a ship is required by law to be provided; **ship-pendulum**, a pendulum with a graduated arc, used in the navy to ascertain the 'heel' of a vessel (Knight *Dict. Mech.*); **ship-plate**, an inferior grade of wrought iron plate; **†ship-privateer**, a privateer commanded by a captain (cf. *ship-sloop*); **†ship-rae** *Sc.* [see RA and cf. MDu. *schipra*], a sailyard; **ship-railway**, (*a*) an inclined railway running into the water over which a ship may be drawn out on land for repairs, etc.; (*b*) a railway for transporting ships overland; **†ship-rede** *Sc.* [see REID 1], a roadstead; **†ship ren**, a ship's course; **ship-rigged** *a.*, carrying square sails on all three masts; **†ship-road**, (*a*) a sea-voyage; (*b*) a roadstead; **†ship-scot** = SHIP-MONEY; **ship-scraper**, (*a*) see quot. 1875; (*b*) one whose occupation it is to scrape the keels and decks of ships; an instrument used for this purpose; **†ship sloop**, a sloop of war commanded by a captain, and therefore having the rating of a ship; **ship('s) smith** (see quot. 1858); **ship-spy**, a telescope used on the coast (Halliwell 1847); **ship('s) stores**, provisions and supplies for use on board ship; **ship-stuff**, (*a*) inferior wheat flour; (*b*) material for the woodwork of a ship; **ship('s) time**, the local mean time of the meridian where the ship is; **†ship-tire**, a head-dress shaped like a ship or having a ship-like ornament; **†ship('s) toll**, passage money, fare for a voyage; **†ship-war**, naval warfare; **shipway**, (*a*) a way or bed on which ships are built or laid for examination; (*b*) a ship-canal; **ship-work**, work at a ship or on board ship; **ship-building**, naval construction; **ship-worker**, one who employs labourers to unload ships; **†ship-writ**, a writ for ship-money.

1813 *Examiner* 8 Feb. 86/1 O. R. Read and Co...*ship-agents. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 337 In festys clepyd *Maius duplex* ther schal be two sensours at euensonge and matyns, and a *schypberer. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 85 If ever he [a sea-cook] prays, it's in a Morning fasting, and that is to some Tag-rag, to fetch him a little *Ship-Beer. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 6 Apr. 1/1 The business of a *ship-biscuit baker. 1823 ADAM CLARKE in *Life* (1840) xi. 407 Always carry with you some hard or ship biscuit. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 27 Twelve ordinary-sized ship's biscuits. 1598 FLORIO, *Pane biscotto*, bisket bread, *ship-bread. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 310 No ship's bread was expended. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xvi. 169 The ship-bread was powdered by beating it with a capstan-bar. 1663 *Brief Acc. Turks Late Exped.* 11 The River had torn their *Ship-bridges. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVII. 254 Mr. Wild, a *ship broker in the City. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* (ed. 2) 188 A ship broker is not within the various acts for the regulation and admission of brokers. 1886 *Daily Tel.* 11 Sept. (Cass.), The question of *ship-brokerage in France had formed the subject of frequent representations to the French government. 1646 J. HALL *Upon King's Gt. Porter* 22 Wee'l weigh thee by *Ship-burdens not by th' stone. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-carver*, one who carves figure-heads, and the work on the stern. *Ibid.*, **Ship-caulker*, one whose business it is to stop, with oakum and pitch, the seams of ships' sides and decks. 1494 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 322, I bequeith to my cousyn William Hill my best bras pott a *ship chest and ij mesers of Ode. 1529 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 178 A schip kist 20d. 1534 in *Archæol. Cant.* VII. 285, j olde shyppe cheste without locke. 1557 *Will* in Cullum *Hist. Hawsted* (1784) 126 One great *shipp cofer. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 2 When Ships meet,..they use to demand how they doe all fore and aft, the reason whereof is, for that the whole *Ships company is devided. 1661 in *Godolphin's View Admir. Jurisd.* App. 174 In the sight and presence of the Ship-Company. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 56 To purchase Wine Abroad for the Service of the Ship's Company. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Ship-contractor*, the charterer or freighter of a vessel. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-deliverer*, a person who contracts to unload a ship. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 926 Blipe was his bosking, And fair was his *schip fare. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 686 Till our-saile thaim in-to schipfair. *Ibid.* 692 Ankyrs, rapys..And all that nedyt to schipfar. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Schip-laon*,..ship-hire, Ship-fraught, or Ship-fare. 1661 in *Godolphin's View Admir. Jurisd.* App. 176 The Master..ought to shew them [the company] their Ship-fare, which he may weigh out to each of them. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999, Pæt man sceolde mid *scipfyrde & eac mid landfyrde him onzean faran. *c* 1205 LAY. 2156 Humber king & al his fleote & his muchele scip ferde. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 49 One man labouring under what is called the **Ship Fever*, or the *Goal Distemper*. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 721/1 Fleeing in despair, emigrants carried the germs of disease with them; and the so-called ship-fever which followed destroyed its thousands. 1626 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 355/2 Instrumentum quo aqua salsa dulcis effecta est, quod πγγονναυτικον vulgo **schip-fontane* appellatum est. *c* 1375 *Schip fraucht [see FRAUGHT *sb.* 1]. 1648 [see *ship-fare* above]. 1552 *Ship freight [see *ship-hire* below]. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xviii. 17 Every *shippe governer, and all they that occupied shippes. *c* 1205 LAY. 4560 Godlac sloh þa *scip-gumen [*c* 1275 sipmen]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-hearth Maker*, a manufacturer of the cooking galleys or stoves used on shipboard. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 265 For his *schip huyre his wyf he heolde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/2 Schyphyre, *naulum*. 1552 HULOET, Ship hire or freight, *naulum*. 1648 [see *ship-fare* above]. 1633 SIR J. BURROUGHS *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 114 With certaine *ship-hookes and other like Instruments [etc.]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship-joiner*,..a mechanic who does the neat or fine woodwork in ships and buildings, and is therefore distinguished from the shipwright and carpenter. 1897 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 7/3 The strike of the ship joiners of the River Thames. *c* 1517 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 310 Wages of *Shippekepers in the Thames. 1618 in J. Charnock *Hist. Mar. Arch.* (1801) II. 237 The rigging at the setting forth may bee performed by the ordinary shipp-keepers. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxvi, Not a soul was left on board the good ship Alert but the old ship-keeper. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 182/10 *Ponsis*, *sciphlædder. 1611 COTGR., *Transpontin*, a ship-ladder. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685). 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 187 To work Jacob or Ship Ladder. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Gloss. Northants.*, **Ship-lap*, a carpenter's term for a mode of uniting the end of one piece of wood to the side of another, at right angles, by a bevil-shaped bearing on the upper edge. 1887 *Home Missionary* (N.Y.) Mar. 432 It [our home] is '*ship-lapped' and partially plastered. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 278/1 The simplest joint is that known as *ship-lapping, in which each end is cut down through half its thickness, and the cut met by a cross-cut, and the piece removed. 1882 CHRISTY *Joints made by Builders* 103 Ship Lapping Joint. *c* 1675 in J. W. Hyde *Post in Grant* (1894) 326 *Ship letter. 1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 963 A letter..with the English ship-letter post-mark. 1829 *Parl. Papers* XI. 288 Ship-letter office. 1834 *Ibid.* XLIX. 501 Above 1200 ship-letter mails are forwarded via Liverpool in the course of a year. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xxxii, My mother handed Jane a ship-letter. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 182/21 *Nauclerus*, *sciphlaford. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schyplord,.. *nawarchus*. 1801 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T.* IV. 456 The letter had no *ship-mark: I examined that of the post; it was from Hull. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 329 Our Commander and *Shipmates. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiii, A handsome, hearty fellow, and a good shipmate. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* ii, 'You know an old shipmate, Bill, surely', said the stranger. 1893 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Emigr. Ship* II. 84, 'I respect your *shipmatish views', said I. 1712 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 723 This being only *ship news, little credit is given theretoo. 1761 *Lond. Chron.* July 2–4, 14/2 Ship News. Falmouth, June 29. Wind N. arrived the King George packet-boat, Bown, from Lisbon. 1662 GODOLPHIN *View Admir. Jurisd.* Introd. a 6 He may not carry counterfeit Cocquets or other Fictitious and Colourable *Ship-papers to involve the Goods of the Innocent with the Nocent. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Mar. 126/2 The ship-papers and depositions. 1853 MAUDE & POLLOCK *Law Merch. Shipping* iii. 63 The master is the proper person to have the custody of the ship's papers. 1873 R. WILSON *Steam Boilers* 32 The badly refined, coarse, brittle and uncertain material sometimes sold as *ship plate. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 93 Ship Plate Maker. 1709 *Naval Chron.* I. 529 A *ship privateer named La Zele, mounting 26 guns and 69 men. 1805 NELSON 23 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VI. 486 A Ship-Privateer of twenty-two Guns. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Antenna*, a *ship-rae. 1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar., *The Times* does not undertake to say that the *ship-railway scheme is impracticable. 1892 *19th Cent.* Mar. 386 No ship railway is at present in opera-

tion. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 127 Quha is ouir Haevinis and *schipredes thay cal Admiral. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 341 So þat toward þe west þe *ssipreine [*v.r.* schipreone] drou. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 189/2 The vessel was *ship-rigged. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) *Acts* xxvii. 10, I see þat wiþ iniurye ande myche harme..bigynnes oure *schiprode to be. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 422 To assume unto it the name of a ship-Rode, or Haven. 1640 [H. PARKER] *Case of Shipmony* 2 To introdnce the legality of the *Ship-scot, such a prerogative hath been maintained, as destroyes all other Law. 1643 *Oath of Pacification* 8 The Kingdome groaned .. under the oppression of the Shipscot. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Ship Scraper*, a triangular or square piece of steel, handled, and with sharpened edges for scraping the keels and decks of vessels. 1890 *Daily News* 12 June 6/1 The United Shipscrapers' Protection League. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Ship-sloop*, commanders were appointed to 24-gun sloops, but when the same sloops were commanded by captains, they were rated ships. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship's-smith*, an iron worker who fits the metal work, bolts, &c. in ships. 1897 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/2 All the shipsmiths on the north-east coast. 1798 *28th Rep. Sel. Comm. Finance* (1803) XIII. 356 Draught Carts for conveying old *Ship's Stores. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, Disposing of a great quantity of ship stores, claret, preserved meats, and great casks packed with soda-water. 1793 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XII. 382 The middlings and *ship stuff may be sold to answer the money calls which you will have upon you. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 511 Saw oak for shipstuff. 1891 PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 303 **Ship Time*, the solar time at the place of the ship—12 o'clock (noon) being made known by eight bells when the sun crosses the meridian. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 60 The right arched-beauty of the brow, that becomes the *Ship-tyre..or any Tire of Venetian admittance. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 182/13 *Naulum*, *sciptol. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 805/4 *Hoc naulum*, a schyppes tolle. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Schip-tol*, Ship-toll, or Custome. 1408 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 223/2 þe lawes or hestes of *schep werre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schyppe werre, *naumachia*. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 343 *note*, Constructing buildings for the accommodation of officers of the yards, in storehouses,..and *shipways. 1840 *Hull Docks Comm.* 189 Shipways, a platform of stone-work in the bed of the river, for the purpose of laying the ships on to examine their bottoms. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Aug. 4/8 The construction of a ship-way from Manchester to the sea. 1408-9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 224/1 To hewe tymbre as grete bemes for *schip werk. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 283 He gaif to Schir Alexander Makison, to furnis the schip werk, xx li. 1616 in *Compt bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 280, 12 peaceis oak for ship wark. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 3/4 He might be able to write a good text-book on ship-work. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 36 Dock Service :..*Shipworker. 1891 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 3/2 The shipworkers and quay foremen. 1640 *Act* 16 *Chas. I*, c. 14 § 1 Diverse Writs..commonly called *Shipwrits for the charging of the Ports Townes..of this Realme respectively to provide and furnish certain Ships for his Majesties Service. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 140 The Shipwrits having been issued out August the 11. 1635. *a* 1754 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 253 The council who had..just before the relation issued ship-writs to the inland.

b. In the names of animals: **ship-borer** = *shipworm*; †**ship-halter**, the sucking-fish = REMORA 1; so **ship-holder**; †**ship-nut** (see quot.); **ship-rat**, a variety of rat found on board ship; **ship-stayer**, a fish of the family *Echeneidide*; **ship-worm**, any of the worm-shaped mollusks of the genus *Teredo* and allied genera, esp. *T. navalis*.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 125 *Remora*..the Remora, or *Ship-halter. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* v. 111 Many fabulous stories have been told of the small '*Ship-holder', a sucking-fish often met with in the Mediterranean. 1729 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. i. 400 **Ship-Nuts*. Are hard Shells, which commonly adhere to Ships like the Barnacles. 1860 WYNTER *Curr. Civilits.* 132 The *ship-rat must not be confounded with the water-rat, which is an entirely different species. 1890 STEVENSON in G. Balfour *Life* (1911) 222 The ship-rats which infest the shores and invade the houses. 1778 DA COSTA *Brit. Conchol.* 21 S[erpula] Teredo. The *Ship Worm. 1763 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 149 The ship-worm is more apt to injure the vessel in this place than in other parts. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 362 *Teredidæ*, or Ship-worms.

c. Combinations with *ship's* (many of which have alternative forms in 8 a; see also 9), as *ship's anchor, apparel, †castle, cook, log, pump, timepiece*; **ship's articles**, the terms according to which seamen take service on board ship; **ship's cousin**, app. humorously modelled on *ship's husband*; **ship's days**, the days allowed for loading and unloading a ship (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **ship's husband** (see HUSBAND *sb.* 4 b); **ship's protest** (see PROTEST *sb.* 3); **ship's registry** (see quot.); **ship's time**, the local mean time of the meridian where the ship is.

1647 HEXHAM I, A ships anker, *Een schips anker*. 1788 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 278 The *Ship's Apparel, as Boats, Anchors, Sails, Cordage. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship's Articles*. 1875 KAY *Shipmasters & Seamen* 12. xvii. 704 Which by the special terms of his ship's articles was to cause a forfeiture of wages. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Ship's-block Maker*, a manufacturer of large blocks for ship's use. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 19 These [*sc.* a captain's servants], tho' just pick'd off from a Taylor's Shop-board, are rated able on his *Ship's Books. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 155 The *ships-castle behinde was most commonly adorned with the picture of one or other God. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 344 *Ship's Corporal. ..*Ship's Cook. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* viii, However useful and active you may be, you are but a mongrel,—a sort of afterguard and '*ship's cousin'. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 13 The wretched *Ship's Crew ..get scarce the very Husk, whilst he [the captain] runs away with the Flower of the Cargo. *Ibid.* 73 He cannot but pity the Surgeon's Simplicity, for calling himself the *Ship's Doctor, when all the World knows, that none but the Carpenter looks to her Wounds. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 405/1 Parts of *ship's furniture. 1835 *Tomlins' Law-Dict.* s. v. *Ship's Papers*, The Log Book, or *Ship's Journal. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 47 *Ship's Log Maker. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Jan. 5/2 That comparatively small but highly important section of our sailors generally described as '*ships' officers'. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 194 *Ship's protest, which should be compared with the log-book, and certified by the agent. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Ship's Pump*, a suction-pump for freeing a ship's hold from water. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 100 The standing part of the sheate, is that part which is made fast, by a clinch into a ring of the *ships-quarter. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Ship's registry and certificate*, an official record of a ship's size, the bills of lading, ownership, &c. *Ibid.*, **Ship's steward*, the person who manages the victualling or mess departments. In the navy, paymaster's steward. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 240 A *Ship's Time-piece has usually a lever escapement. 1891 PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 384 **Ship's Writer*,..is a first class petty officer, and his duty is to keep the names and rates of the ship's company. *Ibid.* 356 *Equipment Yeoman*, formerly called *ship's yeoman.

Ship, *sb.*2 *Printing.* A colloquial abbreviation of COMPANIONSHIP 3.

1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.* 18 The best 'ship' is kept going with work from the others, rather than be suffered to stand still. 1882 — *Pract. Printing* (1884) 221 The chief of the companionship or 'ship'..receives the copies from the overseer.

Ship (ʃip), *v.* Forms: 1 **scipian, scypian**, 3–5 **schype**, (3 **ssipe**), 4–5 **schipe, schepe**, 4–6 **schippe, schyppe**, 4–7 **shipe, shippe, shyppe**, (5 **shipp**), 6–7 **schip**, 6– **ship**. [late OE. *scipian*, f. *scip* SHIP *sb.*1; cf. MLG. *schêpen*, (M)Du. *schepen*, MHG., G. *schiffen*, ON. *skipa*. In the later senses a new formation directly f. SHIP *sb.*1]

†**1.** *pass.* To be furnished with a ship or ships.

c 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 893, Se micla here.. wurdon gescipode. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 298 Seeing himselfe at anchor, slightly shipt, Besieg'd, betraide by winde. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 47 *Mon.* Is he well ship'd? *Cassio.* His Barke is stoutly Timber'd. 1647 HEXHAM I, Shiped, *Gescheept*.

†**b.** *refl.* To provide oneself with a ship. *Obs.*—1

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xii. 55 Euery horseman cannot mount himself alike, neither euery Seaman ship himselfe as he would.

†**2.** To equip or launch (a vessel). *Obs.*

Cf. 1224–5 *Foreign Acc., L. T. R.* No. 1 Municione et Schippatione nauium et galiarum.

1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Þa let Eadward cyng scypian xl. snacca. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 118 He..made fourthwith a galyotte to be shipped redy. *Ibid.* 268 Go make a galyot to be shipped redy with ten oores.

3. To put or take (persons or things) on board ship; to cause (a person) to embark; to place (goods) in a ship for transportation.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6062 He schipeth heom in schipes cayvars, In dromondes, and in lumbars. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 276/1 The said Merchantz Englissh, that shippen, or shall shippe any Merchandise. 1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 93 To remember that Guton malt must be shipped at Blakeney. 1513 PACE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 179 An army.. whiche he affirmith to be nowe schippidde redy to passe the see. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 67 We shippyd our horses at Caleys. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. 11 Pigmalions riches was shipt. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 100 King Henry the fifth, was shipping his men for France. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2486/3 The Lord Hewit's Regiment of Horse will be shipped to morrow. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 271 He was shipped on board a vessel bound to Old Spain. 1818 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. 216, I rather fear that a quantity of game which was shipped awhile ago at Inverness for the Doctor, never reached him. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* vi. 139 Upon a cargo being shipped, bills of lading..are filled up with the name of the shipper. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 42 § 17 Any harbour or any works in or at which vessels can.. ship or unship goods or passengers.

fig. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 16 After long travaille through the Asian maine, I shipt my hopefull thoughts for Brittany.

absol. 1479 *Coly Papers* (Camden) 18, I wyll nat schepe tyll I have my money from in lecters of payment. 1482 *Ibid.* 104 Syr thay hawhe begwn to schype at London. 1530 PALSGR. 703/2 We can nat go hence yet, we have nat all shypped.

b. said of the ship.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xiii. 374 All vessels shall ship or take in all their cargoes..below the Canal at Blackwall. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* II, A little vessel was shipping grain.

†**4.** *a. pass.* Of a person: To have gone on board, to be embarked. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Prose Life St. Brandan* (Percy) 37 Whan they were all shypped, sodeynly this yonge man vanyshed away. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 387 Thei are schepped now eche a wyght. *a* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lvi. 114 Thilke same Nyht ..that In to the See I-scheped they were. 1592 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 73 Twenty to one then, he is ship'd already, *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. i, My royal father is both shipp'd and gone. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 203 We heard that all the Spaniards..were shipped. 1628 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 120 As soone as shipt; as soone as actine ores Had mou'd the surges.

Proverb.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 209 Least otherwise the Reader..might be shipped in the boats of this errour. 1578–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xix. 334 This is the way wherein Christ must bee followed by as manie as desire to be shipped with him, to bee of the number of his people. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* (1906) 8 He that is shipped with the devil must sail with the devil.

b. *refl.* To go on board ship, embark. Also with *off* (cf. 7 b). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1783 Antenor..Shippit hym full shortly & his shene folke. 1600 R. CARR tr. *Mahumetan Hist.* 62 b, Who..was commaunded to ship himselfe againe in a barque that was prepared. 1607 SHARPHAM *Fleire* II. (1610) E 1, Ile send you to Graues-end, Ile see you in the Tilt-boate, When you are there, ship your selues. *a* 1647 PETTE in *Archæologia* XII. 219, I was constrained to ship myself to sea upon a desperate voyage. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 505 They shipp'd themselves to serve in the Ship. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. lii. 129 The Puritans, restrained in England, shipped themselves off for America. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xx, It was thought that the waves had swallowed them when they shipped themselves from the west.

5. *intr.* To go on board ship, embark. Now *rare.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1091 Se eorl..on Wiht scipode & into Normandiz for. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 467/179 Huy schypeden in þe salte se. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 1013 (Laud MS.) Þe page was blybe And schepede wel swybe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 575 Then schippyt thai, for-owtyn mar. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 28 Þer er many hauens for to schippe at. *c* 1468 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 327 The Fryedaye next after the Nativite of Sainct John Baptist, she shippid at Margate. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 1, I shipped at Rye, in Sussex. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 378 Quhen at Leith tha had shipit in. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemakers Hol.* (1610) B 2 Tis his highnesse will, That presently your cosen shippe for France With all his powers. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* 2551/3 The 400 Horse..and many Foot..marched to Highlake, where, it's believed, they are Shipping this day. 1891 *Spectator* 17 Jan., People wishing to get from London to New York..ship at Liverpool.

†**6.** To go by ship *to, into*, or *from* a place. *Obs.*

13.. *Metr. Hom.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 265 Faste he drouh toward þe se For schipen he wolde to oþur þede. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xx. 6 We schipiden aftir dayes of therf looues fro Philippis. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 742 þay Schipped ouer at Vertely In to þe landes of lumbardy. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* I, I determyned me to take that voyage and shipped from Southampton. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xiv. 34 They shipped ouer, & came in to the londe of Genazereth. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 247 The Emperour, speedily shipped ouer into Asia. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 79 [They] have slipt away and shipt hence.

†**b.** To sail *about*. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 95 He hadde schipped aboute Est Engelonde [*circumnavigata Estanglia*]. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 260 As I was schyppyng yn þe see, I come to an yle.

7. *trans.* To send or transport by ship. †*To ship out*: to export.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 Saffron, quiksilver, .. Is into Fflaundres shypped fulle craftylye. 1495 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 12 Bocht in Handwarp and schepit in the Cristoffir of the Fer. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 27 § 1 Wolle felles..to be shipped owte of the seid Realme to the seid Staple at Cales. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. i. 30 The Sun no sooner shall the Mountaines touch, But we will ship him hence. 1656 TUCKER *Rep. Revenues Scot.* (Bannatyne Club) 26 South Barwick, where the Scots and English both did usually shippe out Skyns, Hides, Wooll. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 39 One half of the Produce being to himself, and the other to be shipp'd to England. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 419 Rude pirates seized, and shipped thee o'er the main. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. i, The third [son] was a Roué, and was shipped to the Colonies. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 127 To ship the silver to England. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* 53 Ship me somewheres east of Suez. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 15/4 Goods shipped in the mail vessels.

b. *esp.* with *off*.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeitures*, If any Wharfinger..shall..Ship off..any Wares..at any unlawful time. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4239/1 They Shipt off 900 of their sick and wounded Men. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v., The inhabitants ship off yearly..seven or eight thousand chaldrons of coal. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 195 He would himself send the recusant to prison, or ship him off for Flanders. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 38 Till their numbers became excessive and these were shipped off by the prudence of their rulers to found colonies.

c. *transf.* To transport (goods) by rail or other means of conveyance. *U.S.*

1881 *Chicago Times* 17 June, To ship their freight by rail. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 663/2 We..shipped our..collection of luggage to the hotel.

d. *fig.* To send *off*, send packing, get rid of, dismiss, expel.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 206 Andronicus, would thou were shipt to hell. 1826 in A. J. C. Hare *Gurneys of Earlham* (1895) II. 32 After a good deal of bustle, all were shipped off, except Aunt Cunningham. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xviii, Old Foolscap says he'll ship me the next time I'm absent half-an-hour without leave.

8. Of a vessel: To take in (water) over the side; to be submerged or flooded with (water) by waves breaking over it; esp. *to ship a sea*. Said also of the occupants of the vessel.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 13 In this Encounter we shipped many a perilous Sea. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 9 Our Ship rid Forecastle in, shipp'd several Seas. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 15 We shipt Seas over our Poop. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 342 Baling out the water which she accidentally ships. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xx. (1856) 133 Driving before the wind, shipping seas at every roll. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xvii, The rowing ceased, ..and all was so nicely contrived that we did not ship a drop.

9. To take or draw (an object) into the ship or boat to which it belongs. Also with *up*.

1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 65 No Fisherman.. shall at any Time hereafter ship their Draw-Nets (called Shipping a-stern) into their Boats, before such Time as they have laid forth all their whole Net. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 257/2 As we shipped up our rod the natives began to assemble. 1898 W. W. JACOBS *Sea Urchins* (1906) 213 The visitors went ashore, the gangway was shipped, and..the *Curlew* drifted slowly away from the quay.

b. To lift (an oar or scull) out of its rowlock, and (now, in sculling) to bring it into the boat (cf. BOAT *v.* 1 and UNSHIP *v.*). (See also quot. 1898.) Also *absol.* as a command = 'ship oars!'

For another sense of 'ship oars' see 10.

1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alc.* 92 The Sailors ship their Oars, and cease to row. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 470 And now they ship their oars, and crown with wine The holy goblet to the powers divine. 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Comp.* 'Oarsman's Guide' 32 To *ship* the oar or scull is to jerk it out of the row-lock, and to *boat* it, to bring it on board. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, The stranger came to the bank, shipped his sculls, and jumped out. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 14, I shipped the oars and lay back thinking. 1896 ASHBY-STERRY *Tale of Thames* xxi, 'Easy all!' says Auntie, following the command by 'Ship!' 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 297/2 (Rowing) *Ship*, to lift the handle of the oar when the blade is on the water, and then to allow it to float, with the motion of the boat, alongside.

10. orig. and esp. *Naut.* To put (an object) in position for performing its proper function; *spec.* to fix (an oar) in the rowlock, in readiness to row; hence, to put in position for any purpose.

1616 CHAPMAN *Musæus* 352 His faire Limbes of his weede, he strip't: Which, at his head, with both hands bound, he shipt. 17.. *Greenland Voy.* iii. in *Coll. Old Ballads* (1738) III. 173 Each Man ship his Oar, and leave nothing on Shoar That is needful the Voy'ge to advance. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v., To ship the oars, *i. e.* to fix them in their row-locks. To ship the swivel-guns, is to fix them in their sockets. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 53 He had a new rudder made upon his own deck, which was immediately shipped. 1833 STURT *Exped. S. Austral.* II. 166 Seven or eight [natives]..crept into the reeds, with their spears shipped to throw at us. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 33 Shipping a single oar in the stern, [he] began to scull out with all his might. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleyyow* xlvii, The skylight was shipped on again. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* vii. 71 Which mast and sail are..never shipped until required. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 195 No. 3..ships and unships the handspike. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., Ship capstan-bars. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., A hole big enough to ship the mainmast in.

b. *intr.* (for *pass.*). To admit of being placed in position; to have a certain position in a contrivance.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1169 The top-sides.. which are fitted to ship and unship as occasion may require.

11. To put on (clothing, etc.); also, to shoulder (a burden).

1829 MAW *Jrnl. Pass. Pacific* 16 Their regard for new and gay shoes, of which they 'ship' a new pair every Sunday morning. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* lxiv, He ..took off his white jacket, and shipped a blue one. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xli, I had shipped the swab...I'm lieutenant. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 758/2 The bearers fitted their shoulders under the straps and shipped their burden.

12. *trans.* To engage for service on a ship.

1643 *Decl. Commons* (*Reb. Ireland*) 50 He..was shipped ..to serve in the said Frigot. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 150, I was Shipt Mate of the Sloop that came from Malacca with us. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 15 It was my great Misfortune, that in all these Adventures I did not ship my self as a Sailor. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiv, Instead of shipping some hands to make our work easier.

b. *intr.* To engage to serve on a ship.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xxi, We never ask questions when a seaman ships for us. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* xi. 145 One of the Spaniards shipped on board as an ordinary seaman. 1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 27 As soon as the money's gone they'll ship, but not before.

Ship, shippe, var. ff. CHIP *sb.*2, share-beam.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 115 Next to the Share, is the Shippe. *Ibid.*, The Ship is not only that peece which holdeth the Share, but is placed beneath next the earth.

-ship *suffix* (Forms: 1 **-skiepe, -scipe, -scype,** *Anglian* **-scip, -sciop,** 2 **-scep,** 3 **-sip(e,** 3–4 **-scip(e,** 3–5 **-schipe,** 4 **-schupe,** 4–5 **-schippe, -shipe, -schyp, -schepe, -shep(e, -chipe, -chepe,** 4–6 **-schip, -shyp, -shippe,** 5 **-schuppe, -schepe, -chyp, -chep,** 5–6 **-shyppe,** 5–7 **-shipp,** 4– **-ship**), in OE. **-sciepe, -skiepe* (rare), *-scipe, -scype,* Anglian *-scip,* (occas. *-sciop*) str. masc. = OFris. *-skipi, -skip, -schip* (WFris. *-skip, -schip,* NFris. *-skep, -skap*), OS. *-scepi, -scipi,* MLG., MDu. *-sc(h)ip, -sc(h)epe, -sc(h)eep, -sc(h)ep,* WFlem. *-schip, -schepe* :—OTeut. **skapi-z,* f. *skap-* to create, ordain, appoint (see SHAPE *v.*). The *i* of the stem-syllable of OE. *-scipe* and the corresponding continental forms is apparently due to secondary influence of the umlaut, the change being probably favoured by the lack of stress. The related **skapo-z* masc., **skapō* fem., and **skapti-z* SHAFT *sb.*1, meaning 'creation, creature, constitution, condition', were used in Germanic as the second element of compounds and as such assumed the function and meaning of a suffix equivalent to **skapi-z*; these forms are represented by OS. *-skap* (MDu., Du. *-schap*), OHG. *-scaf* fem., later *-scaft* (MHG., G. *-schaft*), ON. *-skapr* (Da. *-skab*, Sw. *-skap*); the alleged OE. *landsceap* is an error due to misreading.

The abnormal forms of the suffix in Sc. *kussyskap, -skep, -skip* (see HOUSEWIFESHIP) may have a LG. or Du. origin.

In certain uses the suffix lends itself more or less freely to the formation of nonce-words; selected instances of these are given below under the divisions to which they belong.

1. Added to adjs. and pa. pples. to denote the state or condition of being so-and-so. Such compounds were numerous in OE., and many survived (or were re-coined) in ME., but few have a history extending beyond the 15th century; e.g. OE. *drodscipe* briskness, *dolscipe* folly, *druncenscipe* DRUNKENSHIP, DRUNKSHIP (ME.), *glædscipe* GLADSHIP, *gódscipe* GOODSHIP, *láþscipe* hardship, *prútscipe* pride, SHENDSHIP (ME.), *snelscipe* boldness, WILDSHIP (ME.), *wódscipe* madness. The only survivals of this formation now in common use are HARDSHIP (first in Ancren Riwle), and WORSHIP (OE. *weorþscipe*).

2. Added to sbs. to denote the state or condition of being what is expressed by the sb., e.g. OE. *féondscipe* hostility, FIENDSHIP, *fréondscipe* FRIENDSHIP, *þegnscipe* THEGNSHIP (cf. THANESHIP); *authorship, fellowship, †knightship, partnership, sonship, suretyship.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 89 Supposing that by Almighty power their Sunship and Moonship might be kept by them, without worldship. *a* 1828 *Bentham's Fragm. Govt.* Hist. Pref., Wks. 1843 I. 241 To assume and keep up the tone of juvenility and tyro-ship.

b. By extension, compounds of this kind, when the sb. is the designation of a class of human being, assume the sense of the qualities or character associated with, or the skill or power of accomplishment of, the person denoted by the sb.; e.g. OE. *eorlscipe* manliness, *hláfordscipe* domination, supremacy, LORDSHIP, *mannscipe* humanity; *craftsmanship, horsemanship, housewifeship, kingship, soldiership, workmanship.*

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* III. x. (1872) I. 198 His wars against the Turks, and his other Hectorships, I will forget. 1879 MORLEY *Burke* vii. 142 The ideas of adventurership.

3. Added to sbs. designating an official or person of rank to denote the office, position, dignity, or rank of the person designated, as OE. *gerédscipe* REEVESHIP; *ambassadorship, captainship, chaplainship, clerkship, headship, laureateship, professorship, sheriffship, stewardship.* In the case of *fellowship, scholarship, postmastership* and the like, the compound has come to connote not only the office or position itself but the emoluments, etc., pertaining to it.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 368/2 The Offices of Walstatship of Wydygada. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 350 John Fortham Bishop of Durham was discharged of the Treasorer-ship. 1625 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 262 By virtue of his Cust[os] Rotulorum-ship. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Apr. 5 There are now four A.R.A. ships vacant. 1895 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 718/2 The positions they fill are the 'judgeship', the 'searchership', the 'spankership', and general 'juryship'.

b. With poss. pron. prefixed, the compounds *ladyship, lordship, worship*, have passed into honorific designations of the persons who are entitled to the style of 'Lady', 'Lord', 'the Worshipful'. Hence the suffix has been freely employed to form mock titles or humorous styles of address, in which *-ship* is added to the ordinary designation of the person (or animal) or to a word expressing a quality which it is desired to emphasize for the nonce; this use has been extended even to adjs. (e.g. *his uglyship*) and adj. phr. (e.g. *his beyond-sea-ship*).

1573–80 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 94 Wich I knowe not howe your soveraineioyeservantshipp would take. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV, I never lov'd his beyond-sea-ship. 1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maj.* Ep. Ded., One of their Holiships. 1682 SHADWELL *Lanc. Witches* I. 2, I will..teach your Master of Artship. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 165 Thus his Grandship open'd. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 143 What a Chace has her Goddessship led me! 1807 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) I. 229, I am beginning to talk too sentimentally for your wag-ship. 1827 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 89 *Non constat*, as the lawyers say, that the voyagers venerated his monkeyship. 1829 T. C. CROKER *Leg. Lakes* I. 230 Down he and the marchioness walk to the kitchen, and her marchionesship sets herself by the fire-side. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xxi, 'Take that, your owlship', and I made a blow at him with the but-end. 1865 *Public Opinion* 21 Jan. 77/1, I have seen Dyticus rush upon a full-grown smooth newt, and no twistings and writhings of his eftship was of any avail. 1873 *Forest & Stream* I. 148/2 His Uglyship [viz. an alligator], all mouth and squirming tail. 1880 MISS MULOCK *Poems, Dead Czar* 42 You..may parade Your maggotship throughout the wondering world.

4. Added to sbs. to denote a state of life, occupation, or behaviour, relating to or connected with what is denoted by the sb., e.g. OE. *bórscipe* feast (lit. 'beer-ship'), *byrdscipe* child-bearing, *werscipe* married state. Compounds of this kind are rare in the later periods; COURTSHIP (first in Shaks.) is the chief instance; COUNTRYSHIP, if it is not merely a shortening of *countrymanship*, may belong here.

5. Added to sbs. forming compounds having a collective sense. These were numerous in OE., e.g. *burgscipe* municipality, *folcscipe* nation, *gieldscipe* guild, *þegnscipe* body of retainers, *þéodscipe* people, *wæterscipe* piece of water. TOWNSHIP (OE. *túnscipe* the inhabitants of a *tún*) is the one survival from the OE. period; the sense 'domain of...' which appears in LORDSHIP 2 is not of frequent occurrence.

The following is a nonce-formation after *township*:—

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 445, I took a jaunt to the Hottentots crawl-ships [= kraal-ships].

Shipboard (ʃi·pbōɔɹd). Also 3 **scipes,** 5 **shippus bord.** [f. SHIP *sb.*1 + BOARD *sb.*

Cf. WFris. *skipsboard*, MLG. *schêpesbord*, MDu. *schipbort, sceeps-, scipsbort* (Du. *scheepsboord*), G. *schiff(s)bord*, ON. *skip(s)borð* (Sw. *skeppsbord*, Da. *skibsbord*).]

†1. The side of a ship (see BOARD *sb.* 12); chiefly in phr.: *within shipboard* = on board ship; *over (the) shipboard* = OVERBOARD *adv.*; *to* or *from shipboard* = on to or off a ship. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Alle ðe wið-innen scipes borde wuniȝeð. *c* 1205 LAY. 1518 Ne cume ȝe neauer wid vten scipes bord. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 113 Þe children hi broȝte to stronde..In to schupes borde. *? a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1699 With-in chippe-burdez. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* 364 He..bad here lodesman at a word Should cast hem ouer the ship bord. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1796, I schall hyt hynge on a knagg, At the schypp borde ende. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. vi. 125 An C torches sette vpon alle the sydes of the shyp bordes. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 4 Any Person selling or buying by Water-measure within the Ship-board. 1498 in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 56 Borne..fra the Schipburd at the Key to ony part of this burghe. 1550 LYNDESAY *Sqr. Meldrum* 174 And euerie man to shipburd drew. 1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. IV. 123 Thay have ressavit within schipburde a grite quantite of victuallis. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 408 Shall I fetch your stuffe from shipbord? 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxii. 299 In saying which came Stafford in, and wils them to dispatch To ship-board. 1650 T. FROYSELL *Gale of Opport.* (1652) 31 The Marriners they cast him over Ship-board. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, His new patient, who had been consigned to shipboard by the Madras practitioner with very small hopes indeed.

b. *On shipboard*: on board ship. (See BOARD *sb.* 14.) Also **†***a shipboard* (frequent *c* 1620–1720).

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 856 A cruell cowntyr thar was on schipburd seyn. 1556 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 165 By reason of cold taken, I thinke, a shippeborde. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 686 Commaunding his men to go on shipborde. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 440 We..brought them a shippeboord. 1660–1 PEPYS *Diary* 14 Feb., The first time I ever carried my wife a-ship-board. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 18 A Liberty Ticket,..allowing him to follow his occupation unmolested, either on shore or on ship-board. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lx, Being then on shipboard, bound for Bengal. 1888 R. GARNETT *Life of Emerson* ii. 43 They were fellow passengers on ship-board back to Charleston.

c. Similarly *of shipboard.*

1841 LEVER *O'Malley* xxxvi. 198 The escape from the durance vile of shipboard. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 173 The life of shipboard.

d. *By shipboard*: by ship. *rare.*

1842 *P. Parley's Ann.* III. 250 My grandfather had a dog which he brought by ship-board to London.

†2. A plank of a ship. *Obs.*

1352 *Exch. Acc. Q. R.* bundle 20 no. 27 (P.R.O.), Bordis magnis et spissis vocatis 'shippebord' emptis pro confeccione navis predicte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/1 A Schyppe burde, *asser.* 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 15, vij Shipbordes..spent..in repayring..of the Cokke of the same Ship. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ezek.* xxvii. 5 Thei haue made all thy ship bordes of fyrre trees of Shenir.

3. *attrib.*

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 147 The innocuous cates which generally compose ship-board rations. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 123 To make mops for shipboard cleaning. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Marr. Sea* x, What will she have to say to a shipboard wedding?

Ship-boat. *? Obs.* Now (7–) **ship's boat.** [See BOAT *sb.*

Cf. MLG. *schêpesbôt*, Du. *scheepsboot* (whence G. *schiff(s)-boot*), ON. *skipsbátr* (Sw. *skeppsbåt*, Da. *skibsbaad*).]

The boat carried or towed by a ship.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/2 Schyppe bot.., *barca.* 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXVI. (1555) 189 When that they were come to us almoste, From their shyppe boate curiously counterfayte. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 111 The greatest vessels..conueighed al theyr vytailes..to lande with theyr shippe boates. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 10 The Boate belonging to a Ship, is either called the Ships-boate, or the Long-boate. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* 1666/3 Some Ship-boats have been staved and sunk.

Ship-bote, -boot. *pseudo-arch.* [See BOOT *sb.*1, BOTE.] Repair of ships.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 103 We have seen how for House-boot, and Ship-boot, Plow-boot, Hey-boot and Fire-boot, the Planting, and Propogation of Timber and Forest-trees is requisite.

Ship-boy. Also **ship's boy.** A boy who serves on board ship.

1552 HULOET, Shyp boye, *Misonauta.* 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 4 This Ship-boyes semblance hath disguis'd me quite. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 The aduentrous ship-boyes were in perill of those Sharkes. 1661 in *Godolphin's View Admir. Jurisd.* App. 168 The Master ought to set him on shore,..and..to spare him one of the Ship-boyes to look to him. 1839 S. ROGERS *Voy. Columbus* Poems 38 The very ship-boy on the dizzy mast Half breathed his orisons. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Ship-boy*, boys apprenticed to

learn their sea-duties, but generally appointed as servants. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* ix, 'Here, you ship's boy', he cried, 'out o' that!'

Ship-breaker (ʃi·pbrēkəɹ). [See BREAKER 1 1.] A person who buys old vessels to break them up for sale.

1819 *P. O. Lond. Directory* 84 Cristall, Joseph, Sail-maker, Ship-breaker, and Dealer in Ship-Stores. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iv, On Quilp's Wharf, Daniel Quilp was a ship-breaker. 1888 *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* XIII. 101/2 A ship-breaker, having yards at Rotherhithe, Penzance, and Fowey.

Shi·pbrea·king, *vbl. sb.* [See BREAKING *vbl. sb.* In sense 1 formed after SHIPBRECHE (cf. MLG., MDu. *schipbrekinge*).]

†**1.** = SHIPBRECHE. *Obs.*

13.. [see SHIP-BRECHING]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), 3if schippes falleþ þerein in anye wise, he scapeþ not þe perille of schipbrekinge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 446/2 Schyppbrekynge, *naufragium*. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 9 b, Saynt poule sayth I haue been..thre tymes in shyppe brekynge.

2. The breaking up of old ships; the occupation of a ship-breaker. Also *attrib.*

1897 *Daily News* 13 May 3/3 The Shipbreaking Company (Limited), of London, has recently purchased from the Admiralty the iron corvette Euryalus [etc.].

3. The crime of breaking into a ship for the purpose of committing a felony.

1901 *Scotsman* 7 Jan. 9/7 Shipbreaking at Aberdeen—..sent..to prison..for breaking into the steam line fishing boat.

†**Shipbreche.** *Obs.* Also 1 -bryce, 4 -bruche, -burch. [f. SHIP *sb.*[1] + BREACH, BRUCHE. Cf. WFris. *skipbrek*, MLG. *schipbroke*, MDu. *schipbroke*, *-breuke* (Du. *-breuk*), MHG., G. *schiffbruch*.] Shipwreck.

In late OE. recorded only in the sense 'right to claim what is cast up on the shore in a shipwreck'.

a 1067 *Charter* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1846) IV. 208 Ic habbe ġeġeofen Criste and sancte Marie..forestall and hamsocne, griðbryce and scipbryce, and ða sæ upwarp..æt Bramcæstre and æt Ringatyde. ?*a* 1100 *Charter* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1655) I. 237/2 Mundbriche, feardwite,..infongenthef, sypbriche, tol, & tem. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 369 Schipmen þat seilled in þe see in to shipbruche. *Ibid.*, And þerfore me seide þat þey brouȝte hem to shipbreche. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xii. (Bodl. MS.), Schipmen trowiþ þat it bodeþ goode ȝif þei mete swannes in perille of schipburch [*ed.* 1495 shippe breche]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 48 Penaunce is þe secunde table aftir Shipbreche.

So †**Ship-breching** (in quot. **-breging**, cf. *bryg* s.v. BREACH *sb.*), †**Ship-break** (in quot. -brek).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20973 Scipbreging [*Gött.* Schip-breking] he suffard thrise. 1520 NISBET *N. T.* 2 Cor. xi. 25 Thrijse I was at schipbrek [*Wyclif* shipbrecche].

Ship-broken (ʃi·pbrōᵊk'n), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Chiefly *Sc.*; now *rare*. Also 5 -broke. [f. SHIP *sb.*[1] + BROKEN, after SHIPBRECHE. Cf. MDu. *schipbroken*.] Shipwrecked; broken or destitute through shipwreck.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 314 A pore schip broken marinere. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 924 Thriis schipe-brokine in þe se. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 72 To iiij pure Franche men.., schipbrokin men,..iij li. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 92 Scillacium quhar schip brokin mony be. 1602 in *Extr. Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 139 Giff ony skipper be schipbrokin. 1623 in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 462 He died ship-broken upon the sea-coast of Ireland. 1662 in *Godolphin's View Admir. Jurisd.* App. 183 The Lord of that place..ought to be aiding..to the said distressed Merchants..in saving their Ship-broken-goods. 1876 HALL CAINE *Deemster* XXXIX, Six or seven poor ship-broken men. ..In the middle of the night they had come ashore on a raft.

Shi·pbuilder. One whose occupation is to design and construct ships; a naval architect.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Aug. 1662, He is esteem'd for the most skilfull ship-builder in the world. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 733/1 It will be very hard to prove, that the first Ship-Builders had ever seen that Ark to take a Patern from it. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xi, The best shipbuilders from Hull to Cadiz. 1864 *Morn. Star* 12 Jan., The shipbuilders of this country for above a century have built ships for almost every nation on the earth.

Shi·pbuilding, *vbl. sb.* The business or art of building ships; naval architecture.

1727 W. SUTHERLAND (*title*) Britain's Glory, or, Shipbuilding unveil'd. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) I. 101 The art of ship-building in the fifteenth century was extremely rude. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 510 His own yacht, the Peregrine, renowned as the masterpiece of shipbuilding.

attrib. 1846 (*title*) The present Ship-building Controversy. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shipbuilding-dock*, a chamber with a floor and walls of stone masonry, having an opening toward the adjoining harbor, which can be closed when required. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 5) IV. vii. 627 The decline of the ship-building trade on the Thames. 1883 *Queen's Printers Aids Bible* 52/2 Cypress, a good ship-building timber.

Shi·p-carpenter. Also **ship's.** A carpenter employed in the building or repairing of ships.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 22 § 1 An other Ship Carpynter called an Hewer by the day lijd, with mete and drinke. *a* 1583 in Halliwell *Rara Math.* (1841) 33 A litle Boke of Statick. Whiche Booke..hath..helpped the capacityes, bothe of some sea men, and allso shipp carpenters. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxi. 57 There is a way which some Ship-Carpenters in those Countries have us'd to bring their Tar into Pitch for any sudden use. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 200 A ship-carpenter in the yard at Portsmouth. 1798 *31st Rep. Sel. Comm. Finance* App. (1803) XIII. 494 Masters, Boatswains, &c...Ships Carpenters..Sailmakers. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 41 A most gallant vessel..made by the ablest ship-carpenters of Amsterdam. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iii, A ship-carpenter is kept constantly at work during good weather, on board vessels which are in..perfect sea order. 1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* vi, The ancient tools of the prehistoric ship-carpenter.

Hence **Shi·p-ca·rpentry,** the business, practice, or art of a ship-carpenter; also, the work turned out by him.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 127 Ship-Carpentry..is the Art..of composing a Ship, not out of one but several thousand pieces of Wood and Iron. 1862 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* vi, The ancient alluvium of the river Clyde has supplied an unusually rich store of illustrations of primitive ship-carpentry. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 251 You take ship-carpentry for pilotage.

Shi·p-cha·ndler. [See CHANDLER 3 b.] A dealer who supplies ships with necessary stores.

1642 *Two Orders Lds. & Comm.* 3 Dec. 4 Any Merchants, Ship-chandlers, Grocers. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 121 The Ship-Carpenters, Ship-Chandlers, and others that have worked at the Ships, or have delivered any Necessaries, Materials or Rigging, for the Use of them. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 336 Two charts..can..be purchased at any Ship-chandler's.

Hence **Shi·p-cha·ndlery,** the business of, or goods dealt in by a ship-chandler; also *attrib.*

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 12 Dec., One Abrahall, who strikes in for the serving of the King with ship-chandlery ware. 1798 *31st Rep. Sel. Comm. Finance* App. (1803) XIII. 493/1 Junk, old Rope, old Iron, Canvas, and other species of old Ship Chandlery Wares. 1849 FREESE *Comm. Class-bk.* 14 Trade in Naval Stores and Ship Chandlery. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 666 A..ship-chandlery store.

Shi·p-craft. [See CRAFT *sb.* 6. In late OE. *scipcræft* is recorded in the sense of 'strength in ships'.] The art of navigation or of ship-construction.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 46 Er I was war, I neyghed to a see-banke; and for ferde of the beestes 'shipcraft' I cryde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. XXXIV. (Tollem. MS.), Men þat seyleþ and haueþ schipcrafte [*scientiam navalem habentium*]. 1408–9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 224/2 þer nys non gretter peril in schipcraft þanne whenne þe grene tymbre makeþ þe schip to grenne & to gape. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 67 Of shippe-craft can I right noght, Of ther makyng haue I no merke.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 164 Laertes is a man who finds himself in a storm without knowledge of shipcraft. *a* 1890 R. W. CHURCH *Oxf. Movement* iii. (1891) 36 He..took interest in the niceties of seamanship and shipcraft.

†**Shipe,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 scipe, 4 ssepe, shepe, shipe. [OE. *scipe* str. masc. :—prehistoric **skipi-z*, app. something allotted (cf. ON. *skipa* to arrange, ordain, appoint).

The OE. sense of 'dignity, condition' did not survive.]

1. Wages; reward.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 114/34 *Stipendium*, scipe, *uel* bizleofa. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Huo þe seruiþ and naȝt uol-seruiþ his ssepe he lyest. *Ibid.* 146 Alle we abydeþ onlepi ssepe þet is þe blisse wiþ-oute ende. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 193 Leste that he were proude sheo held him lowe; þus seruiepe he withouten mete or shepe [*v.rr.* shep, sheepe]. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* 568 In withholdynge..of the shepe, or the hyre or of the wages of seruauntz.

2. *At one shipe*: at one and the same time.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3577 (Laud MS.), þe water quyklich hij passe At on shepe, more & lesse.

Hence †**Shipe** *v.*, to reward, pay wages to; †**Shiping,** wages, remuneration.

c 1205 LAY. 13656 Ne mihte ic of þan kinge habben scipinge. *Ibid.* 20012 He heom wolde..scipien heom mid londe mid seoluere & mid golde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11145 þe stalwardeste men þat me fond to him vaste he drou & of porchas of neiȝebores ssipede hom wel inou.

Shipentine (ʃi·pĕntīn). [f. SHIP *sb.*[1] after BARQUENTINE.] A four-masted vessel, having three square-rigged masts (like a ship) with an additional fore-and-aft rigged mast.

1895 *Even. Post* (N.Y.) 20 July 8 The New York *Marine Journal* suggested the name 'shipentine', on the principle that a barkentine has yards only on the foremast, similar to a brigantine, etc. This term was promptly endorsed by the Liverpool *Journal of Commerce*. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 878/2 The shipentine clipper 'Great Republic', built in 1853, is noteworthy as being the first ship fitted with double topsails.

Shipful (ʃi·pful), †occas. with pl. *ships full.* Also 3 scipful, sipfol, ssipuol, 6 *Sc.* schippill. [See -FUL.] As much or as many as a ship will hold.

c 1205 LAY. 23694 Don he hit nolde for a scip ful [*c* 1275 sipfol] of golde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 917 He mette in þe se þritti ssipuol [*v.r.* schipes fol] of men. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 507 Ther was not a schip-ful of men. 1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 306 Ane schippill of tymmer. 1515 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 97 If that had bought a shippful Irne. 1527 TINDALE *Par. Wicked Mammon* Wks. (1573) 62 A C. ton of holy water, a shipfull of pardones. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxviii. 68 The Lorde shal brynge the agayne in to Egipte by shippe fulles. 1611 CORGR. *Vne Nauée de*, a ship full of. [1669 GERBIER *Counsel* 109 Where ships full of lading, may be had besides large Timber.] 1852 H. NEWLAND *Lect. Tractar.* 151 When the people of Ireland by shipfulls go to America. 1856 E. A. BOND *Russia 20th Cent.* (Hakl. Soc.) Introd. 5 Arthur Edwards set out from Yaroslav with a shipful of goods in July 1568. 1910 D. HAY FLEMING *Reform. Scot.* xii. 466 A shipful of the tempest-tossed and starving Spaniards.

Shipless (ʃi·plĕs), *a.* [f. SHIP *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Unoccupied by ships.

1729 in Maidment *Scot. Ballads* (1868) I. 25 The Widowit Dame..May lang luke oure the schipless Seis Befoir her mate appears. 1786 S. ROGERS *Ode Superst.* I. iii, The shipless main. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 45 Its deserted Exchange, its idle quays, and shipless harbour. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* I. 79 Safe over shipless seas.

2. Possessing no ships; deprived of one's ship or ships.

1808 MOORE *Sceptic* vi, Let shipless Danes and whining Yankees dwell On naval rights, with Grotius and Vattel. 1819 BYRON *Ode on Venice* ii, The dashing of the spring-tide foam, That drives the sailor shipless to his home. 1904 *Pilot* 9 Apr. 324/1 The wounded and shipless crews of the *Variag* and the *Koriets*.

Hence **Shi·plessly** *adv.*, without the aid of a ship. 1865 S. EVANS *Br. Fabian's MS.* 118 Forth to the green-sodded Wilds of Ierne Shiplessly, steedlessly Takes he his journey.

Shiplet (ʃi·plĕt). [f. SHIP *sb.* + -LET.] A small ship.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 112 An Havenet, or Pere, whither Shippelettes sumtime resorte for socour. *Ibid.* (1769) III. 71 There was begon a fair Pere for Socour of Shippelettes at this Bereword.

So **Shi·pling** [see -LING].

1866 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Sept. 3 A shipling which has, or is said to have, crossed the Atlantic.

Shi·p-load. A load (of persons or things) carried or capable of being carried by a ship.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 85 He had rather have one Bottle of Brandy, than a Ship-Load of Stamford-Air at any Time. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 22 Half a dozen Shipload of Minute Philosophers might easily be spared upon so good a design. 1799 NELSON 27 Sept. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 31 He will endeavour to send to me two or three ship-loads of corn. 1875 ROBERTSON *Hist. Chr. Ch.* III. 35 He redeemed whole shiploads of captives—Romans, Gauls, Britons, Moors, and especially Saxons from Germany. 1910 D. HAY FLEMING *Reform. Scot.* x. 316 Printed books were sent abroad in shiploads.

So † **Ship-lading, -loading.**

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 274 The Emperour Constantine is said to have transported certaine ship-ladings of this sand unto Constantinople. 1641 HAKEWILL *Lib. Subj.* 15 A duty given..upon every shiploading of Wine brought into the kingdom by English Merchants. 1642 *Decl. Lds. & Comm.* 7 Jan. 3 Every ship-lading of Coles exported thence for the use of the City of London. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 50 A Ship-Loading of Gold.

Shipman (ʃi·pmĕn). Pl. **-men.** [f. SHIP *sb.* + MAN *sb.*[1]

OE. *scipman* = OFris. *skipman*, MLG., MDu. *schipman*, MHG. *schif-, schefman* (G. *schiffmann*, also *schiffs-*), ON. *skipamaðr*.]

1. A seaman or sailor. Now somewhat *arch.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiii. (1890) 200 þa ongunnon þa nedlingas & þa scipmen þa oncras upp teon. 1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Se cyng hæfde eac mycele landfyrde on his healfe to eacan his scypmannum. 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.), Pær æfter wæron feole scipmen on sæ & on wæter. *c* 1275 LAY. 1335 Brutus iheorde segge of his sipmannen of þan vuele ginne þat cuþe þe mereminne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 354 Shipmen and shepherdes þat with shipp & shepe wenten. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 238 So inly mirie syngith shee [the mermaid], þat the shipman ther-with fallith a sleepe. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 236, xviij shipmen as laborers laboryng..abought..the Kynges dokke. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idolatry* III. 004 Our Ladye, to whom shypmen synge *Aue maris stella*. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. ii. 172 The dreadfull spout, Which Shipmen doe the Hurricano call. 1623 R. CARPENTER *Consc. Christian* 65 A most ridiculous folly, like to the Shipmans continuall labouring at the pumpe, without any care to mend the leake. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XVI. ii. § 2 He was seen sailing by the shipmen most unexpectedly. 1791 NAIRNE *Poems* 82 But when the shipmen's boist'rous noise Jan heard, He cried, 'Dant gu no furder—I'm afeard'. 1876 LOWELL *Ode 4th July* IV. ii, They steered by stars the elder shipmen knew.

fig. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ***iij b, The wyse shipmen of our Churche haue spyed the rockes.

2. A master mariner; the master of a ship; a skipper. Also, a pilot.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 390 A Shipman was ther, wonynge fer by weste. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 359/2 No oyer shippman yat is bothe Possessour and Maister of any Shippe. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1395 Shep-man [*loq.*] stryke! skryke! lett fall an ankyr to growndl! *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 234/1 The Ship-man, or Pilot, that brings the Ship into harbour. 1912 MASEFIELD *Widow in Bye St.* II. XXXIX, The wise shipman puts his ship about Seeing the gathering of those waters wan.

3. *attrib.*: †*shipman-craft* = SHIPCRAFT; †**shipman-star,** the pole-star.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Vnder þe sterre þat hatte polus articus schyppman sterre. 1418 *26 Pol. Poems* XIV. 43 þe wyseman his sone forbed..shipman craft.

b. Possessive combinations: †**shipman's card,** the mariner's compass; also, a map of the sea; †**shipman's hose** (or **breeks**), a sailor's wide trousers; often *fig.* a statement of wide application that can be turned to fit any case; †**shipman's-stone,** the loadstone.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XIV. 161 The Ademand, that is the Schipmannes Ston, that drawethe the Nedle to him. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schypmannys stone, *calamita*. 1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Shypmans carde, *carte*. 1540 W. G. *Answ. Smyth* vii, Although a shypmans hose wyll serue all sortes of legges Yet Christes holy scrypture wyll serue no rotten dregges. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 234 Manye of those mappes which are commonly cauled the shipmans cardes, or cardes of the sea. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 52 Forgeing thair sermonis for the plesuir of euery auditour, efter the fassoun of schipmenis breiks, mete for euery leg. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 70 They make the lawes (as it were) shipmens hooses,..turning and wresting them

at their pleasure. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* L 3 The fourth letter of our Orators..is a shipmans hose that will serue any man as well as Green or mee. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 17 All the Quarters that they [*sc.* the winds] know, I'th' Ship-mans Card. [1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. xiv. (Rtldg.) 421 Shafts of malicious wit..were let fly from all the quarters in the shipman's card.]

Hence **Shi·pmanship**, the art of navigation.

1838 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag.* V. 159 He was respected equally for his seamanship and his shipmanship.

Shipmast (ʃi·pmast). Also **ship's mast.** [f. SHIP *sb.*[1] + MAST *sb.*[1]] The mast of a ship.

1611 ROWLANDS *Four Knaues* (Percy Soc.) 30 Name any weapon..May-pole, or ship-mast, for to run a tilt. 1612 SELDEN in *Drayton's Poly-olb.* To Rdr. A 2 b, I beleeue much in them as I do the finding of Hiero's Shipmast in our Mountaines. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* I. 244 The Dutch have made many a vain attempt to make the fir grow at the Cape of Good Hope, in order to find a supply of ships-masts. 1842 F. W. FABER *Styrian Lake* 307 The dark sky amid the shipmasts winking.

b. *attrib.*

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 158 Parelles to a shippes-mast sayle. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xvii, The hawks of ship-mast forests. 1837 BROWNING *Forest Thought* i, The builder gazes wistfully Such noble ship-mast wood to see. 1879 — *Ivan* Dram. Idyls 63 The carpenter, employed On a huge shipmast trunk.

Shi·pmaster. [f. SHIP *sb.*[1] + MASTER *sb.* Cf. MLG. *schipmêster*, MHG., G. *schiffmeister.*]

1. The master, captain, or commander of a ship; formerly also, a pilot, steersman.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 368 Ay wes þe schipmaster gowand a-pon þe laydy brycht of ble. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schypmayster, *nauclerus*. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 246 As þe schypmayster redyly sterith þe schyp whan he seeth nede. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 272 The shypmaister pursued vs with a great meyny of shypmen. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* vii. (1588) 80 When a great tempest ariseth in the sea, then doth it appeare whether the shipmaster be cunning in ruling the sterne or no. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 85 b, An Epitaphe, of an excellent Ship-master, or Pilote. 1642 VICARS *God in Mount* 76 The stout-hearted and well-minded Ship-masters and Marriners. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 24/2 His Ship-Masters had much more need of..some Knowledge of the Stars..than the Greeks. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 634 The shipmaster of a British ship must be a British subject. 1878 CUYLER *Pointed Papers* 240 In Great Britain no shipmaster is permitted to use an anchor which has not been tested and stamped with a government mark.

2. A man who owns the ship which he commands.

1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 6 Bottoms wherof..Straungers borne then bee Owners Shipmasters or Parte Owners. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* (N.S.) VI. 296/2 Rising to the command of a ship and a ship-master in his adopted city. 1909 GWATKIN *Early Ch. Hist.* II. 60 Marcion of Sinope..was a well-to-do shipmaster.

Hence † **Shi·pma·stery**, the art of navigation.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 5 Who were long enough after Noahs Arke..to haue some auncestors in shipmastry and many fellowes.

Shipment (ʃi·pmĕnt). [f. SHIP *v.* + -MENT.]

1. The act of shipping (goods or commodities) for transportation.

1802 ABBOTT *Law Merch. Ships* III. vii. 225 In this country it is not unusual to pay for goods shipped for the East or West Indies, at the time of the shipment. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* xii, I wish you could once witness a shipment for Liberia. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Where's that young spark of Dombey's who's been watching the shipment of them goods? 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 371 The road..winding..past numerous coffee plantations to their port of shipment at Mangalor.

2. That which is shipped; a consignment of goods for transportation.

1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) II. xvii. 559 A drawback was given them of the whole English duty, on shipments to the American plantations. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 11 Though the shipments are as yet small, they bid fair to improve rapidly. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 6 Shipments are also sent to Europe and to the United States.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (esp. in *Commerce* = intended for shipment).

1887 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 2/4 Shipment jute is easier. 1895 *Ibid.* 3 Oct. 3/3 The floating and forward shipment market. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 54 After a seven-days' tramp on the chain from an assize-town to the shipment port.

Shi·p-money. Now *Hist.* An ancient tax levied in time of war on the ports and maritime towns, cities, and counties of England to provide ships for the king's service. It was revived by Charles I (with an extended application to inland counties), but was finally abolished by statute in 1640.

1636 PRYNNE *Rem. agst. Shipmoney* 1 We most humbly represent to Your Excellent Majesty, that this Tax of Shipmoney, is directly contrary to the..Lawes and Liberties of this Your Realme of England. 1640 [H. PARKER] (*title*) The case of Shipmony briefly discoursed, according to the Grounds of Law, Policy, and Conscience. And most hvmbly presented to the Censure and Correction of the High Court of Parliament, Nov. 3, 1640. 1661 COWLEY *Cromwell* Wks. 1710 II. 66 This was done by those Men, who a few Years before had..openly oppos'd the King's regular and formal way of proceeding in the Trial of a little Ship-Mony. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Waller* (1868) 99 Waller..was considered ..as a man sufficiently trusty and acrimonious to be employed in managing the prosecution of Judge Crawley, for his opinion in favour of ship-money. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 90 Former princes..had raised ship-money only along the coasts; it was now exacted from the inland shires.

1870 T. ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* II. 105 The first writs for ship-money were issued in October of the same year [1634].

attrib. 1860 FORSTER *Gr. Remonstr.* 196 The great ship-money lawyer [Mr. Holborne]. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. ii. 602 Under ship-money writs..John Hampden was assessed twenty shillings towards providing a ship for his county.

Shi·p-of-wa·r. ? Now *rare.* A ship equipped for warfare; a man-of-war, warship.

1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19, I here saye ther schall goe schepys of war to the see. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 610 He was encountered with a shippe of warre, appertayning to the Duke of Excester. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 65 A Ship of War (which is called a man of War among Sea-men). 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* 107 Our Ships of War are undisputably the best in the World. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Ship*, Ships of war are properly equipped with artillery [etc.]. 1800 CHARNOCK *Mar. Archit.* I. Pref. xcv, The custom..of appointing land officers..to the command of ships of war. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxiv. 363 A larger ship-of-war from that station joined the expedition.

attrib. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 4 The thought of permanent ship-of-war construction in the private shipyards was seriously in contemplation.

Shi·p-ow·ner. One who owns, or has a share in, a ship or ships.

1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Schypowner, *patron dune nauiere.* 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 912 A ship-owner having chartered his ship to J. S. insured the ship and freight with different sets of underwriters. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 42 As soon as the French trade was again opened, it fell naturally into the hands of English ship-owners. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 55 Ship-owners and merchants, who had their offices and factories along the whole coasts of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean.

Hence **Shi·pow·nering** *vbl. sb.*; **Shi·p-ow·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1883 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Dec. 5/2 A practice of insuring with a view to wreck would not pay the shipowning community. 1889 STEVENSON *Let. to S. Colvin* Oct., The ship-ownering has rather petered out. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 18/6 In shipowning it is quite impossible to stand still.

Shi·ppable, *a. rare*–° [f. SHIP *v.* + -ABLE.] Navigable.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/1 Schypabylle, *nauiga[bi]lis.*

Shi·ppage. *rare.* [f. SHIP *v.* + -AGE.] Shipping, shipment.

1611 in *Essex Rev.* (1906) XV. 154 The Inhabitants..are muche Imployed in Shippage and Navigation. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1845) III. 82 The cutting and shippage would be articles of some little consequence!

Shippe, obs. form of SHEEP, SHIP.

Shippen, variant of SHIPPON.

Shipper (ʃi·pəɹ). Also 5 **scheper.** [late OE. *scipere* (= MLG., MDu. *schipper*, MHG., G. *schiffer*, ON. *skipari*), f. SHIP *sb.*[1] + -ER[1]. In sense 2, representing MLG., MDu. *schipper* (see SKIPPER *sb.*[2]). In sense 3, f. SHIP *v.* + -ER[1].]

† 1. A seaman. *Obs.*

c 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1075, Se cynge Malcolm.. hine & ealle his scyperan mid mycclan weorðscipe of his gryðe alædde. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1046, His sciperes ȝefengon hine & wurpon hine on þone bat. 1553 BALE *Vocacyon* Pref. 6 As great dyspycyons were among the Iewes at Rome concerning Paule, so were there afterwarde amonge the shyppers in our returne to their shippe concerning vs. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Shipper*, or *Scipper*, a Dutch Term, signifying the Master of a Ship. We also use the word for any common Seamen.

† 2. A skipper. *Obs.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 300 Dauid Gourlay, schippare of the bark callit the Mary. 1499 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 181 Paid to Rowll the scheper for 2 pety quatris of salt. 1564 *Brief Exam.* **iij b, A wyse shipper ..wyll not come nygh rockes and flattes. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1118 Yet deserueth not the Maior more grace for gouerning the citie then the Shipper for ruling the Ship. 1603–4 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 32 Of which payment the Master Owner and Shipper payinge the same. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iv. (1628) 109 Old shippers of the Netherlands. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 60, I agreed this day with Willm. Wrigtington, the Hull shipper, to carry all my goods to Hull.

3. One who ships goods for transportation. Also with prefixed sb., as *wine-shipper.*

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 129 Unless the Names of the Shipper [etc.] are expressed in the Policy. 1789 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 567, I would advise our shippers of oil always to get the certificate of the French consul. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii, He..had been in a shipper's counting-room in Boston. 1880 *Times* 26 July 9/5 Shippers of cargo.

b. *U.S.* One who transports goods by rail or other means of conveyance.

1903 H. C. EMERY in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* VII. 706 In the scramble for business the stronger shippers were favoured at the expense of the weaker.

c. A commodity that is shipped or is suitable for shipping; *spec.* (see quot. 1910).

1883 KILLEBREW in *Rep. 10th Census U. S.* III. III. 19 Export Tobacco...English shippers consist of leaf and strips. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 297/2 We reach..the..pen, where may be gathered one hundred head of choice 'shippers' [*sc.* cattle]. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 522/2 *Shippers*, sound, hard-burnt bricks of imperfect shape, obtain their name from being much used as ballast for ships.

4. *Mech.* A device for shifting a belt from one pulley to another. Also *attrib.*

1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. Q 1, This shaft carries a pair of driving pulleys, and is provided with a belt shipper. 1882a *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 889/1 The elevator was operated by means of a lever within the car...The lever took the place of the modern hand rope (or shipper rope).

Shipping (ʃi·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 3 **scipping,** 4–6 **schipp-, schypp-,** 5–6 **shypping, shepping,** (4 **schepynge, schippyne,** 5 **schuppynge, schipin, schypyng,** 7 **shiping**). [f. SHIP *v.* + -ING[1]. Cf. MLG. *schêpinge* sea voyage, fleet.]

1. A ship or ships for the use of accommodation of a person or a thing.

a. in phrases: † *To do, dight, put to shipping*, to put on board; *to take* (*one's*) *shipping* (now *arch.*), to embark; occas. pregnantly, to go abroad; also *to deliver to shipping* (? U.S.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24815 Elsis to scipping son him did. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 24828 (Fairf.) Þai dijt him to shipping sone. ?*a* 1400 *Arthur* 339 Eche man hath take his schuppynge. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4186 Anone thei putt ther horses to shippyng. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 153 Another partye peryshyd by swerd and that other toke shyppyng. 1535 BOORDE *Let.* in *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 56, I was in cathalonya when þe emprowre tok sheppyng in-to barbary. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 104 My Lord Chandos and myself resolved to take Shipping for the Low Countries. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2647/4 'Tis believed he will take Shipping. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, I..took shipping in the Downs on the 20th day of June, 1702. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 285 Taking shipping for Italy, he was once more wrecked. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. v, The troops all took shipping. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 48 It is delivered to shipping at Richmond, at fifteen cents a bushel.

† b. In general use (sometimes passing into abstract sense = accommodation on board ship, provision of a ship or ships); also *pl.* ships.

13.. *Cursor M.* 24807 (Gött.) Sone it was his schipping tift wid presand. 13.. *K. Alis.* 990 Gold and seolver, and othir thynges, They trussed to heore schepynges. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 400 He gat schippyne gud plente. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xx. 92 Bot for he..myght get schipping na ferrere, he turned agayne as he come. 14.. *Beues* 2669 Let vs haue shyppynge to, And we shal to that yle go. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 772 Bot gif he had shippyng wroght Whilk as nane wer sene beforne. *c* 1468 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 327 It plesid the kinge to follow aftir hir, and to see her shippinges. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* XXXIV, But..Their shipping is preparde. 1579 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 428 He would so bring the one halfe quarter or therd parte in any suche shipp or shippinges coming to Galway. 1620 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 119 Yt was agreed Mr. Ed. Sayer shall goe merchant in the shipp *Bull*, and Robt. Hawley and Ric. King..to goe in other shipping. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 100 This wheate is carryed by shippinge to Newe-Castle. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXIV, I will..seize on shipping, and embark for Flanders. 1829 — *Anne of G.* XXVIII, I will take care that Blackburn and his cousin-archers have no assistance of shipping from Flanders.

2. Ships collectively; the body of ships that belong to a person's or country's fleet, that frequent a particular port or harbour, or that are used for a certain purpose.

1591 Q. ELIZ. *Procl.* 16 Sept., No Corne nor other Victuall, nor any Ordonance, nor furniture for shipping. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 4 Five of the Queenes shippinge. 1601 HAKLUYT tr. *Galvano's Discov.* 90 From thence vpwards in small shipping he went along the coast of the Abassins and Ethiopia. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 27 b, Cornewall is stored with many sorts of shipping. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeitures* 1 Goods Imported..in Forreign Shipping. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1691) 99 There are employed in the Guinny and American Trade, above forty thousand Tun of Shipping *per annum.* 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 63 A river very commodious for shipping. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, He..ventured down toward the shipping, to see if the vessel had sailed. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 373 Cork Harbour and Bantry Bay are among the finest asylums for shipping in the world. 1897 HENTY *On Irrawaddy* viii, The British sick were sent away in the shipping to Mergy.

† 3. Navigation. *Obs.*

a 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Acts XXVII. 9 Whanne..was no forþer siker schippynge ande saylynge. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 37 They little reake for marine worke, and small for shipping care. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Gov. Eng.* I. iv. (1739) 9 Ireland was nigh, but we find nothing concerning their interest in shipping. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Feb. 1685, A lover of the sea, and skilfull in shipping.

† b. A voyage, a sailing. *Obs.*

God send you good shipping! was used proverbially in the 16th and 17th c. as a wish for success in any venture.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 183/2 He made a shyppyng into grete brytaygne. *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* IV. ii, God send you good shipping. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* B 4, Gone he is; God send him good shipping to Wapping. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* V. i. 43. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. XXIII. 246 If his said men be sent in two shippings, then he shall goe in the last. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* V. i, My master's in; heavens send him good shipping with his lie. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 236 He believed he should receive his answer by y^e^ first Shipping hether out of England.

4. The action of putting persons or things on board ship or transporting them by ship.

1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 144 Item Syr understond that schyppyng ys begon at London. 1499 *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 161 Paid for the schipin of my Lordis stan in Brugis ..24s. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 136 For pynour fee and schipping of the wyne, xiij s. and gunnis xij d. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 385 Of the paine in shipping, of the care in conueying your wares..home to your owne house. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeitures* 3 Goods are forfeited for Undue Shipping or Landing. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 410 A licence for the shipping of his stores and provisions. 1822 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 278 Unless the Wine be imported..directly from..the usual port or place of its first shipping. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* 15 Nov. 6/5 The shipping of her *recidivistes* to penal settlements.

† 5. A ship's company. *Obs. rare.*

14.. *Beues* 4286 He toke his leve at the kyng And at all his seli shyppyng.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shipping-centre, -clerk, -crane, -interest, -place, -point, -port, -trade, -yard.*

1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Oct. 300 *Shipping centers on navigable rivers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Shipping-clerk*, a merchant's clerk who attends to the shipment of goods. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 104 *Shipping crane with a Reysing gynne. 1824 HOLT *Shipping & Navig. Laws* (ed. 2) Introd. 24 This statute has conferred a most solid benefit upon the *shipping interest. 1766 STORK *Acc. E. Florida* 63 To carry it [*viz.* sugar]..a considerable distance to the *shipping-places. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 309 The town of Labran is the *shipping-point of the Cañon City coal. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Peas. Fireside* 114 One of the *shipping ports on the west coast of Scotland. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 128 The.. Advance of the *Shipping Trade. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 4 A noisy *shipping yard.

b. Special comb.: **shipping-agent**, a licensed agent who transacts a ship's business for the owner; **shipping-articles** = *ship's articles* (see SHIP *sb.* 10 c); **shipping-bill**, a bill of lading; **shipping-broker** = *ship-broker* (see SHIP *sb.* 10); **shipping-master**, an official who superintends the signing-on and discharging of seamen; † **shipping-money** = SHIP-MONEY; **shipping-note**, a note containing particulars of goods for shipment (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858); **shipping-office**, (*a*) an office where seamen sign on for a voyage; (*b*) 'an office where a shipping-agent receives goods for shipment' (Funk's Standard Dict.); **shipping-order** (see quot.); **shipping ore**, ore suitable for being shipped; **shipping-papers** = *ship's papers*; **shipping tobacco**, tobacco grown for export.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xiii, Various *shipping-agents in the city. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, He went to a shipping-office, where the *shipping articles of the California were open. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 52 § 71 The Person clearing such Goods for Shipment..shall..deliver a *Shipping Bill. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxvii, A worthy young merchant or *shipping-broker. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, He was told by the *shipping-master that she was bound to California. 1853 MAUDE & POLLOCK *Law Merch. Shipping* iv. 92 Shipping offices, superintended by persons called shipping masters. 1640 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 3/2 The *shipping money may be putt vigorously vppon collection. 1840 *Shipping-office [see *shipping articles* above]. 1844 FRANCIS *Dict. Trade*, etc., **Shipping Order*, is a written mandate directed by a merchant to his lighterman, ordering him to receive and put on board a certain ship the goods specified in the order. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 242 The ore-vein yields a large portion of '*shipping' or first-class ore. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, The *shipping-papers of the *Pilgrim*, from which my name had never been erased. 1883 KILLEBREW in *Rep. 10th Census U. S.* III. 194 Dark *Shipping tobacco is generally raised on rich lots.

† **Shi·ppish**, *a. Obs. rare*—⁰. [f. SHIP *sb.* + -ISH.] Nautical.

1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Shyppisshe belongyng to a shypman, *nautique*.

Shippon, -en (ʃi·pən). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 scypen, scipen, scepen, 4 shep(e)ne, s(c)hipne, schepon, 5 shepen, shipun, schepyn, -ene, schyppune, 6 shyppen, 9 shippin, -on, shuppen, -on, 6– shippen. [OE. *scypen* fem.:—OTeut. **skupinī*, f. *skup-*: see SHOP *sb.* and -EN.²] A cattle-shed, a cowhouse.

In quot. 1401 misused, from association with *sheep*.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 28 þær nænig mann for wintres cyle on sumera hęȝ ne mawęþ, ne scypene his neatum ne timbreþ. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 261 Scipena behweorfan and hlosan eac swa. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1076 Was neuer so blysful a bour as was a bos þeune Ne no schroude hous so schene as a schepon þare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 1142 The shepne brennynge with the blake smoke. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 76 3it makist thou to thi sheep a shepen, and to thi hors a stable. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 670/26 *Hoc boster*, schyppune. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 61/17 A shyppen, *bouile*. 1634 BERRETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 23 Here is a dainty fine shippen..and hay overhead. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 41, I gan o glent into th' Shipp'n. 1857 WAUGH *Lanc. Life* 193 When he had to go into the 'shippon' early on a winter's morning. 1859 DICKENS *Haunted House* VII. 44 Atkinson and me will take t'other chap..to th' shippon, and it 'll be one piece o' work for to mind them, and the cow. 1881 G. MACDONALD *Mary Marston* xv, The muffled low of a cow from a shippen. 1890 *Westmld. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 4/2 Small Residence and Pleasure Farm..consisting of convenient House, with Stable and Shippon.

attrib. 1788 *New Lond. Mag.* 553 Some men who forced the Shippon door by means of iron-crows. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xv, The..shippen door..stood open.

Shippound (ʃi·pˌpaund). Also 6 schip pund, 8 schippound, scheppund, 9 shippund. [ad. MLG. *schippunt* (see also SKIPPOUND) or MDu. *schippond*; whence ON. *skippund*, G. *schiffpfund*, etc.] A unit of weight used in the Baltic trade, varying from 300 to 400 pounds; = 20 lispounds.

1545 *Rates of Customs* d vj, In Spruce lande..xx. lispoundes facit a shyp pounde. 1560 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 75 For half schip pund irn. 1625 in *Compt bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 263, 6 schip pund naid Irone. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Jrnl. Swed. Amb.* (1772) II. 120, 200 shippownd of copper to be brought from the mines to Stockholme. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xl. 51 The quantity of the hemp is generally about forty thousand schippounds. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 49 The furnaces and forges [in Sweden] produce yearly 400000 scheppund. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* 423 The commercial weights [of Copenhagen] are, 16 pounds = 1 lispound; 20 lispound = 1 shippound. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 306, 19,000 ship pounds of iron exported from Gothenburg.

Shippy (ʃi·pi), *a. rare.* [f. SHIP *sb.*¹ + -Y.] † Suitable for ships (*obs.*); characteristic of ships.

1632 VICARS tr. *Virgil* I. 16 Some shippy havens contrive. 1898 *Century Mag.* Feb. 531/2 The sour, shippy..odor that hung about the steerages.

Ship-shape (ʃi·pˌʃēp), *a.* (*adv.*). Also 7 **-shapen**. [f. SHIP *sb.*¹ + SHAPEN (which was later reduced to *shape*).] Arranged properly, as things on board ship should be; trim, orderly: orig. *Naut.* but freq. in gen. use. Sometimes passing into *adv.*, in a seamanlike manner, in trim fashion.

1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 81 It [*sc.* the rake] being of no use for the Ship, but only for to make her Ship shapen, as they call it. *Ibid.* 113 *Wale-reared*, that is, when a ship is built right up, after she comes to her bearing, this is unsightly, and (as they terme it) not ship shapen. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Ship Shape*,..in the manner of an expert sailor; as, the mast is not rigged ship-shape; trim your sails ship-shape. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* xxiv, It would have been more ship-shape to lower the bight of a rope. 1839 *Nautical Mag.* 165 Neither ship-shape nor Bristol fashion. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxii, There was no foolish gilding and gingerbread work,.. but everything was 'ship-shape'. 1850 H. BRIDGE *Pers. Recoll. N. Hawthorne* (1893) 122 We..have done a great deal towards making the establishment 'ship-shape' and comfortable. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 220 Look to the babes, and till I come again, Keep everything shipshape, for I must go. 1889 H. O'REILLY *50 Yrs. on Trail* 249 In a week..we got shipshape and business commenced.

b. in attributive position.

1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* Wks. 1862 III. 72 She.. did it herself in a 'ship-shape', orthodox manner. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The shop..seemed almost to become a snug sea-going ship-shape concern. 1855 BROWNING *Bp. Blougram's Apol.* Poet. Wks. 1863 I. 379 Neat ship-shape fixings and contrivances.

So **Shi·p-shaped, Shi·p-sha·pely** *adjs.*

1842 W. IRVING *Let. to Mrs. Grinnell* 30 Sept., Tell him not to cast all his bread upon the water in the shape of ships, however shipshaped they may be. 1843 MRS. ROMER *Rhone* II. 305 A well-appointed yacht, where everything was ship-shapely. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* I. 8 To get the volume of displacement of a ship-shaped vessel when floating at a given water line.

Shi·p-ti·mber. Timber for shipbuilding.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. iv. (1495) 606 And of fer is good shyptymbre made. 1408–9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 224/1 Loke þat schip tymbre haue þe double tyme to drye. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 282 To the sawaris of the schip tymir. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* V ii. 332 The place being a vast Countrey, and without ship-timber. 1664 in Marshall *Edwinstow Reg.* (1891) 39 Hodgshon..was killed in the wood..with a peece of shipptimber. 1785 PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Nav.* 17 Decrease of ship-timber..is a very alarming circumstance to a people whose riches and power depend so greatly upon navigation. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 43 The larch..makes excellent ship-timber. 1878 BROWNING *Two Poets of Croisic* I. v, Our log is old ship-timber.

attrib. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4177 In a ship-timber yard, where he had a yacht building.

Shipton moth. A noctuid moth, *Euclidea mi.*

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* Index.

Shipun, obs. form of SHIPPON

Shi·pwards, *adv. rare.* [See -WARD.] To or towards the ship.

[*c* 1400 *Beryn* 1999 He set hym in ful purpose to his Shippis ward. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 87 b, To the shipwarde on they went.]

1845 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* I. 28 Conversing with some of the natives as I rode shipwards.

Shipwreck (ʃi·prek), *sb.* Also 2–3 wrec(h, 5–6 -wrak, 6 -wre(a)ke, 6–7 -wra(c)ke, 6–8 -wrack, 7 -rack; 6 **shipswrack**. [f. SHIP *sb.*¹ + WRECK *sb.*

For the form *shipwrack* (cf. also 1671 in SHIPWRECKING *ppl. a.*) see RACK *sb.*⁴].

1. What is cast up from a wreck; the remains of a wrecked vessel; wreckage. In later use chiefly *fig.*

† *a* 1100 *Charter* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1655) I. 237/1 Cum omni maris projectu, quod nos Anglicè Shipwrec appellamus. *Ibid.* 237/2 Quæcunque maris procellosis tempestatibus in aquam, vel in terram eorum ejecta fuerint, quod Anglicè Shipwrech promulgatum est onomate. 1248 *Libertates Regni Majoricar.* (Du Cange s. v. *Naufragium*), Navim fractam, quæ ad littus a mari ejicitur, quod Angli Shipwrech vocant, id est, wreccum de navibus. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* D 2 b, The Sea-monsters,..whom they haue suborned and inspyred to lye in wayte for Shipswrack. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* II. 23 Gentlemen indeed!..the spawn and shiprack of Taverns and Dicing Houses. 1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* II, Heav'n will drive the Shipwracks ashore to make us all rich. 1685 DRYDEN *Alb. & Alb.* Pref., Postscr., By gathering up the shipwrecks of the Athenian and Roman theatres.

2. Destruction or loss of a ship by its being sunk or broken up by the violence of the sea, or by its striking or stranding upon a rock or shoal. † *To make shipwreck* (cf. L. *naufragium facere*, F. *faire naufrage*): see MAKE *v.*¹ 64.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 70, I hane..pryse ben yn schipwrak on þe see. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* xi. 25, I suffred thryse shipwracke. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Naufragium*, *Pati naufragium*, to haue shipwrecke. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 144 If by any casualtie their shippes shall bee driuen on shoare in perill of shipwracke. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iv. I. i. 277 A ship that is voide of a Pilot, must needs impinge vpon the next rock or sands, and suffer shipwrack. 1694 E. PHILLIPS tr. *Milton's Lett. State* 72 Such Ships and Goods as shall be cast ashore by Shipwrack. *c* 1720 SWIFT *Hist. Eng.* an. 1135, Having..very narrowly escaped shipwreck in his passage from Normandy into England. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 572/1 The wants of sailors and others saved from shipwreck.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1611 COTGR., *Naufrageux*,..shipwrack-bringing. 1864 BROWNING *James Lee's Wife* II. i, Is all our fire of Shipwreck wood?

b. An instance of this.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 125 Where you say that you haue found landes I say those landes found you by shipwrekes of the sea. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Naufragus*, he that is scaped after a shippewreake. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* viii, All in a shipwrack shift their severall way. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccclxxvi. 449 In the Hurry of the Shipwreck,..Simonides was the only Man that appear'd Unconcern'd. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 15 A rough sailor's lad Made orphan by a winter shipwreck. 1891 FARRAR *Darkness & Dawn* lx, When some of his precious effects had been lost in a shipwreck, he told his friends that the fishes would bring them back to him.

† c. *transf.* of drowning. *Obs.*

1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Turkey* (1685) 354 Icaria.. remarkable for the Shipwrack of Icarus.

3. *fig.* Destruction, total loss or ruin: often with literal phraseology retained. † *To make shipwreck*: to come to destruction.

1526 TINDALE *1 Tim.* i. 19 Havynge fayth and good conscience, which some have put awaye from them, and as concernynge fayth have made shipwracke. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 47 After so manifold..shyp wrackes of religion,..wheras the ambitious..prelates.. ruleth the sterne [etc.]. 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewel* IV. 144 A generall shipwrake of the Popes uniuersall power. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. v. 8 So am I driuen by breath of her Renowne, Either to suffer Shipwracke, or arriue Where I may haue fruition of her Loue. 1620 GRANGER *Div. Logike* 41 This shipwracke, which Adam brought vpon himselfe, and chiefly his posterity. 1641 QUARLES *Enchir.* II. xxxii. (1654) I 2, Let the Shipwrack of his Understanding be a Sea-mark to thy Passion. 1655 JER. TAYLOR *Guide Devot.* (1719) 120 The only Plank left me in the Shipwrack of my Soul. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 503 The Shipwreck of our Fortunes. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* II. xi. 102 The..ability with which..he.. preserved the scarcely launched empire of Islam from perfect shipwreck. 1891 FARRAR *Darkness & Dawn* xxii, Agrippina was..maddened by the shipwreck of her ambition. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/1 Boys with an unsullied heart, and bright wits like his, have come miserably to shipwreck before now.

4. *To make shipwreck of* (arch.):

a. To suffer the loss of.

To make shipwreck of a good conscience (with allusion to 1 Tim. i. 19, see quot. 1526 in sense 3) was formerly freq.

1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discipline* (Arb.) 4 He shalbe molested, till..by your tyrannous dealing, hee haue made shipwrack of a good conscience. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 7 Such..Did..make shipwracke violent, Both of their life, and fame. 1631 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 14 When we have made shipwrack of our Consciences, we fall into the hands of God. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 60 They have thrown away their whole Estate, and made shipwrack of all they have. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 58 Forsaking thee, what shipwreck have we made Of honour, dignity, and fair renown! 1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 14 In the company of certain women of good fashion and no ill fame, he makes shipwreck of his religion. *c* 1800 H. K. WHITE *Rem.* (1837) 348 Lest I should make shipwreck of my hope. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiv. 284 He who..leaves this force out of account, cannot but make utter shipwreck of his whole linguistic philosophy.

b. To bring to destruction or total ruin.

1577–87 HARRISON *England* I. II. vi. 166 It was not long yer open shipwracke was made of this religious obseruation. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* viii, Worthy were I to die like a dog, did I proceed rashly..and make shipwreck of the weal of Christendom.

Shi·pwreck, *a. rare.* = SHIPWRECKED.

The phr. *to go shipwreck* is probably modelled on *to go bankrupt*.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 144 Ȝe wer bot schipwrak but reskew. 1598 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* 164 The shipwracke treasure. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. 262 Like a shipwracke ship-boy cast from Sease. 1912 D. CRAWFORD *Thinking Black* I. 5 All their colonies have gone shipwreck.

Shi·pwreck (ʃi·prek), *v.* [f. SHIPWRECK *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To cause (a person) to suffer shipwreck; chiefly *pass.* to suffer shipwreck; also, to cause the loss of (goods) by shipwreck.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (1616) 15 Samela is shipwracked. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. I. 3 Rockes that vnder water hidden lay, To shipwracke passengers. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) I. 224 Such a storme..hath..shipwrack'd our wares. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* 137, I have been shipwrackt, yet am not enemy with the Sea or Winds. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Shipwrack'd I floated on a driving Mast. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 367 Those.. thus voluntarily shipwrecked themselves rather than fall into our hands. 1823 WORDSW. *Misc. P., To Lady Fleming* 69 Compared With him who..shipwrecked, kindles on the coast False fires, that others may be lost.

b. To wreck (a vessel). Now *rare.*

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* VIII. 400 It is written of him.. that..he would..by his Inchantments raise stormes to shipwrecke the vessells of his enemies. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Resolved to be beloved* iv, Then may my Vessel torn and shipwrackt be, If it put forth again to Sea. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 198, I..Who like a foolish Pilot have shipwrack't, My Vessel trusted to me from above? 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 164 Our little Float was shipwreck'd.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Hymnes Astræa* xxii, No doubt our State will Ship-wrackt be. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 149 Where are now your Fortunes? Shipwrack'd vpon a

Kingdome, where..no Kindred weepe for me? 1631 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 14 When our good names are shipwrackt. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xi. § 8 To shipwrack the faith of these weak unstable souls. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* xxxi. 167 Men, who have ship-wreck'd their fortunes as well as their reputations upon this rock. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* liv, Those wandering isles of aëry dew, Which highest shoals of mountain shipwreck not. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiii, The peace which the excellent man desires for the land of his fathers will be shipwrecked. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 313 The next definition..is shipwrecked on a refined distinction between the state and the act.

2. *intr.* To suffer shipwreck. Also *fig.* *Obs.* or *arch.*

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* I. i, Wee shall shipwracke in our safest Port. *c* 1622 *Interpreter* in Arber *Engl. Garner* VI. 234 A Puritan is he, which grieves to think Religion should in France shipwreck and sink. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. § 34 Like the Apostles in a storme, we should awaken Christ and call to him for aide, least we shipwrack in so violent passions. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xiii, Your fortunes shall not shipwreck upon the same coast. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* lxv, All the married heiresses I have known have shipwrecked.

Shipwrecked (ʃi·prekt), *ppl. a.* [f. SHIPWRECK *v.* + -ED 1.] Having suffered shipwreck; destroyed or lost by shipwreck.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 115 Another ship..Gaue healthfull welcome to their ship-wrackt guests. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, I. iv, Unless the sea cast up his shipwrack'd body. 1662 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 124 His shipwracked vessel. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i, Th'approaching Storm may cast thy Shipwreck'd Wealth Back to thy Arms. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xv, Soothing the shipwreck'd sailor's heart. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 321 A Diving Company which undertook to bring up precious effects from shipwrecked vessels. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xix, A shipwrecked crew reduced to quarter-rations. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 573 The heroic and dangerous work of saving the shipwrecked.

b. *fig.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 2, Hauing found, by much shipwrackt experience, that no worke of his..would passe. 1643 DIGBY *Observ. upon Relig. Med.* (1909) 10 The losse of Livies shipwracked Decads. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. 45 That lost and shipwracked Kingdome. *a* 1703 PRIOR *Song, In vain You tell*, Thrown again upon the Coast, Where first my Shipwrackt Heart was lost. 1742 WESLEY '*O Love, I languish*' ii, Haven to take the shipwrecked in, My everlasting rest from sin! 1751 EARL ORRERY *Rem. Swift* (1752) 68 The small remains of the shipwreckt fortune. 1862 DICKENS *Let.* 7 Oct., Through those two harbours of a shipwrecked heart, I..believe..you will..find a peaceful resting-place.

Shipwrecking (ʃi·prekiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHIPWRECK *v.* + -ING 1.] A shipwreck.

1753 TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 2 Voyagers..who having happily escaped many Shipwreckings [etc.].

Shipwrecking (ʃi·prekiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHIPWRECK *v.* + -ING 2.] Causing shipwreck.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. ii. 26 Shipwracking Stormes, and direfull Thunders. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 141 Some Ship-racking rock. *a* 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. III. 134 Sailers frighted by Shipwrecking Wind. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 814 Shipwrecking reefs.

Shi·pwrecky, *a. rare. colloq.* 'Shaky', weak.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, Feeblish, not to say shipwrecky, about the knees.

Shipwright (ʃi·prəit). Forms: see SHIP *sb.*1 + WRIGHT *sb.*

1. A man employed in the construction of ships. The Company of Shipwrights was incorporated in 1605.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 112/5 *Nauicularius*, scipwyrhta. 1297 *Coram Rege Roll* m. 23 b, (1898) 149 Thomam le Shipwright. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3665 Hit denned, so ryght, As on nayl doth theo schipwryght. 1474–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 645 Thome Witwang, Shipwright, cum 2 famulis operantibus circa reparacionem medietatis de le Ferybote de Billyngham. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 14 Schipwrichtis hewand vpone the strand. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 156 As touchyng shypwryghtes, there be as good in England as in any other realme. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. vi. (1687) 184 To make a Helm, is the office of a Shipwright, but to use it rightly of a Pilot. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 June 1680, Old Mr. Shish, master shipwright of his Majesty's Yard here [Deptford]. 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 12 To draw a Shipwright's Arch. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* IX. 451 As when a shipwright with his wimble bores Tough oaken timber. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, The hammer of the shipwright shaping strong ribs for the horses of the sea. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* IV. 90 The ship-wrights are busy on new boats.

2. (See quot.)

1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* 306 Spotted ones [*sc.* lings] are taken off Mevagissey and termed shipwrights, having a resemblance to the spilt pitch on the clothes of these mechanics.

Hence **Shi·pwrighting, Shi·pwrightry,** the art or occupation of a shipwright; shipwright's work.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 22, I was concern'd that Shipwrightry should be utterly neglected. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 50 The whole of the building was.. a piece of Shipwrightry. 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 158 Carpentering, ship-wrighting, and engine-fitting.

Shipyard (ʃi·pyārd). [f. SHIP *sb.*1 + YARD.] A large enclosure, adjoining the sea or a river, in which ships are built or repaired.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Sept. 1685, After he had view'd the new fortifications and ship-yard. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 439 Blackwall is noted..for a considerable ship-yard. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 76 The antiquated labour system of the wooden era would not transplant nor take root in the iron shipyards. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 56 The Clyde..is a river of ship-yards.

Shir, obs. form of SIR, SHIRE *sb.* and *a.*

‖ Shiraz (ʃi·ræz). Forms: 7 **Sheraz, Shyraz, -as, Sherash, Schiras,** (**Scherah**), 8–9 **Schiraz,** 9 **Sheeraz, Shiraz.** The name of a city in Persia (formerly the capital); used *attrib.* a. as the designation of a wine made in the district; also *absol.* = Shiraz wine. b. as the designation of a kind of tobacco. c. in *Shiraz lamb*, the trade name of a quality of lamb fur obtained from Persia (1910 W. S. Parker in *Encycl. Brit.* art. *Furs*).

a. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 65 The name of Sheraz Wine is famous farre and neere. 1638 *Ibid.* 78, 20 Camels load of Shyraz [1677 Shyras] wine. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. v. 162 An Oriental friend having sent him a butt of sheeraz [etc.]. 1904 T. WRIGHT *Life E. FitzGerald* I. 217 He liked to sit in the Major's snug parlour and talk, over a glass of Shiraz wine, about India.

b. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 601 The principal kinds of Tobacco are the American,..the Shiraz or Persian [etc.].

Shirbet(t, obs. forms of SHERBET.

Shire (ʃəi·ər), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **scír,** (1 **sciir, scýr, -scíre,** 2 **-sir,** ? **scur,** 3 **ssire**), 3–7 **schire,** 4–7 **schyre,** (5 **schere, -shir, shyr, sher, chyer**), 5–6 **schyr,** (5–7 **sheere**), 5–9 **shyre,** (6 **schier, schyir, scyre, shyere, sheyre,** 6–7 **sh(i)ere, shyer, sheire,** 7, 9 *dial.* **sheer**), 4– **shire.** [OE. *scír* str. fem. = OHG. *scîra* care, official charge (only in two glosses, *scirono* negotiorum, *scira habat* procurat).

The OTeut. form may have been either **skīrō* or **skīzō*. It has been suggested that **skīzō* may represent a pre-Teut. **skeisā-*, related to OItalic **koisā-* in L. *cūra* care (:—*coiza*), Pælignian *coisatens* 'curaverunt'.

The OE. word occurs once (*a* 1030) with wk. declension, in the compound *gerefsciran* 'villicationis' (*Rule St. Benet* ed. Logeman, p. 107).]

†**1.** (*OE.* only.) Official charge; administrative office (e.g. that of a steward, bishop, governor etc.).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 692 *Dispensatio*, scir. *Ibid.* 1625 *Procuratio*, sciir. *c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. xxxi. 286 Þæt him leofre wæs se cristendom to beganne þonne his scira to habbanne. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 259 Hede se ðe scire healde þæt he friðize and forðize ælce be ðam ðe hit selest sy.

†**2.** A province or district under the rule of a governor; the see of a bishop, the province of an archbishop, or the like; in wider sense, a country, region, district. *Obs.*

In the later examples *transf.* from sense 3.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 19 Ohthere sæde þæt sio scir hatte Halzoland þe he on bude. 11.. *Fragm. Ælfric's Gloss.* (1838) 3 *Provincia vel pagus*, scur. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 334 And hu biseinte Sodome & Gomorre,..& alle þe nomecuðe buruhwes, al ane muchele schire, adun into helle grunde. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 299 The bisshop of Canterbire þerof payed was he, For him and alle his schire [Langtoft: *pur ly et sa province*] þis gift gaf fulle fre. *a* 1400 *Octovian* 227 The folk þo com fram eche a schyre Ryȝt ynto Rome. *c* 1440 *Chester Plays* (E.E.T.S.) 386 Goe, echon, to dyvers contray, and preach to Shyre and Citty The fayth. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 946 All Mydlame land thai brynt wp in a fyr, Brak parkis doun, distroyit all the schyr. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 19 Thyatira..is a Citie of Lydia which is a shyre of Asia the lesse. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 14 As two broad Beacons, set in open fields, Send forth their flames farre off to euery shyre. 1615 WITHER *Sheph. Hunt.* v. G 2 b, Art not thou hee, that but this other yeere Scard'st all the Wolues and Foxes in the sheere? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* v. xxix. I. 107 A third Seignorie or Shire there is that goeth to Apamia. 1824 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* LVII. 407 The dame..Was in all Britany the fairest woman, Though 'tis a shire renown'd for handsome ladies.

3. *spec.* In Old English times, an administrative district, consisting of a number of smaller districts ('hundreds' or 'wapentakes'), united for purposes of local government, and ruled jointly by an ealdorman and a sheriff, who presided in the SHIREMOOT. Under Norman rule, the division of England into shires was continued, the A.F. *counté*, Anglo-Latin *comitatus*, being adopted as the equivalent of the English term. At the present day *shire* is rare in official use, but is current as a literary synonym for *county* (chiefly restricted to those counties that have names ending in *-shire*). The counties of Wales, and most of those of Scotland, have *-shire* as the ending of their name, but the word is now rarely employed in speaking of them. The counties of Ireland were often called shires in the 16–17th c., but the use is now obsolete.

England. ? *a* 1000 *Laws Æthelstan, Lond.* x. (Liebermann) 181 Þæt ælc gerefa name þæt wedd on his agenre scire. *c* 1290 *St. Kenelm* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 346 Þe scbire of gloucestre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 62 Vine & pritti sniren hii made in engelonde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 103 If that thee happe to comen in oure shire Al shal be thyn right as thou wolt desire. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/1 In the shyre of Cambrigge. 1430 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 129, xls. to the collectours of the shire in money and in Costes. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 8 Thei gadred alle the comons of the schyre. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 32 How many suffer injurie, when one hundred of a Shiere is spoiled? 1598 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 305 Then hards by the Barre is one other lane called Shyre lane, because it deuideth the Citie from the Shire. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemakers Holiday* I. (1610) B 1 b, Those companies Mustred in London, and the shires about. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 41 The next we heard that in a neighb'ring Shire, That Day to Church he lead a blushing Bride.

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 189 The cry of agricultural distress rose from every shire in the kingdom. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 279 Lancaster..with taller houses than in the middle shires of England. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xxxvii, As through the wild green hills of Wyre The train ran, changing sky and shire.

Scotland. 1529 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 37 Na flescher within burgh, na within the schier, that bringis ony flecht to the said burgh to sell [etc.]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 99 Ȝe wer ay callit for ȝour tyrannie Strypis of the Schyre. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 247 The schires of Kincardin, Elgyne and Forres.

Ireland. *c* 1535 FINGLAS *Breviat* in W. Harris *Hibernica* (1757) 46 The Gentles of the Shires of Myeth and Dublyn. 1542 *Ir. Act* 34 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 (1621) 238 Forasmuch as the Shire of Methe is great and large in circuit..The said Sherife of the said Shire for the time being. 1600 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 458 The counties and shyers of the province. 1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 256 Next, in reducing the vnreformed partes of Vlster into seauen shires; namely Ardmagh, Monahan, Tirone, Coleraine, Deuegall [*sic*], Fermannagh and Cauan. 1626 [SIR E. CECIL] *Perrot's Govt. Irel.* 41 The Counties thus made in Vlster, were these, Ardmagh, Monahan, Tyrone [etc.]..These circuites thus deuided and setled into Shieres, the Deputy..appointed..Iustices of the Peace.

b. Put for: The inhabitants of the shire.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010, Ne furðon nan scir nolde oðre ȝelæstan æt nyxtan. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, You have more brains than half the shire.

† c. A shire-court. (Cf. SHIRE-MOTE.) *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Hit nis nout ine Godes kurt ase hit is iðe schire. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11068 Ac sir willam ssire huld in a monenday. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 715 Gamelyn came redy to þe next shire. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 169 He made þys relese & quite clayme in þe shyre of wynchestur. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 37, I wold a new dede and letter of atorne were mad owth,..and that the ded bere date nowth, and that it be selid at the next shire. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* P iij, [tr. Gt. Charter] No shire from hensforth shalbe holden in our reame but from moneth to moneth.

† d. *To be quit from shire and hundred*: to be exempted from taxation levied by the shire and hundred. *Obs.*

1293 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 115/1 Sint liberi et quieti ab omni Scotto, Geldo et de..Tallag', Lestagiis, Stallagiis, Schiris, Hundr' Warda, Wardepeny, Hauerpeny, Hundredespeny. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 670 And [that their] fre tenauntis ought ther to be quyet fro shire and hundred.

† e. *Proverb.* (See HUNDRED 5 c.) *Obs.*

†**4.** A city or town with its liberties to which has been granted a jurisdiction independent of that of the historical shire in which it is situated. *Obs.*

Since the 16th c. the term has been superseded by COUNTY 2 b. Cf. *Corporate county*, CORPORATE *ppl. a.* B. 4.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 425/2 In every Citee or Burgh in this your seide Roialme..beyng a Shire incorporate. 1485 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* 524 Henry by the grace of God Kyng of Englond and of Fraunce and lord of Irland to oure trusty and wel-beloued the Maire and Justices of our peas within the shire of oure Citie of Couentre..greting.

5. As the terminal element in names of counties (as Berkshire, Derbyshire) and of certain other districts (as Hallamshire, Bedlingtonshire, Islandshire, Norhamshire, Hexhamshire) which have from early times been regarded as separate unities. Pronounced (-ʃəɹ); in dialects often (-ʃiɹ).

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1064, Mid Snotingham scire & Deorbi scire & Lincolna scire. *c* 1155 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 45 Bellingtonesir. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 77 Bette þe Budul of Bokynghames schire. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 637 To here & to ende diuerse transgressions harmis greuis & excessis in wilton sher. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 503/1 The growyng of the Shires called Alderton Shire, and Richemond Shire, oonly except. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 261 The whole shire is expressly named Hanscyre. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 P 1 The first of our Society is a Gentleman of Worcestershire. 1893–4 *Northumberld. Gloss.* s. v., Norhamshire, Islandshire, and Bedlingtonshire, are detached portions of the patrimony of Saint Cuthbert.

6. The Shires. a. A term applied to other parts of England by the inhabitants of East Anglia, Kent, Sussex, Essex, and Surrey; also *gen.* applied to those counties the names of which end in *-shire*. Usually pronounced (ʃiɹz), being a re-stressed form of the unstressed ending (-ʃiəɹ).

1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 160 The Inhabitants of Kent, to express a person's coming from a great distance..will say, he comes a great way off, out of the shires. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Sheres*, pl., a general name for all the counties in England, but Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* II. 204 Which do ye like best, master, Essex or the sheres? 1909 A. MORRISON *Green Ginger* 154 'It do seem to me', he said, 'as you'd do better in the shires; I count you make a poor trade in Essex'.

b. *Foxhunting.* As the name of a hunting 'country': see quot. 1910.

1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* v. 52 'Excuse me, sir; take the liberty of asking whereabouts you generally hunt'. 'Hunt?' repeated the customer. 'Oh! Leicestershire—Northamptonshire—all about there'...A cloud gathered on the foreman's brow. 'The Shires!' he rejoined, with a perplexed air; 'that increases our difficulties very much indeed'. 1887 *Field* 12 Nov. 732/2 The fleetest pack [of hounds] in all the Shires. 1910 A. E. T. WATSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 948/2 The 'Shires' is a recognized term, but is nevertheless somewhat vague. The three counties included in the expression are Leicestershire, Rutlandshire and Northamptonshire. Several packs which hunt within these limits are not supposed, however, to belong to the 'Shires', whereas a district of the Belvoir country is in Lincolnshire, and to hunt with the Belvoir is certainly understood to be hunting in the 'Shires'.

7. Short for SHIRE HORSE.

1877 W. GILBEY in *Field* 24 Feb. 225/1 A discussion arose as to the best agricultural stallion to select for use in the district—a 'Clydesdale' or a 'Shire'. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 7 The Shire, as a distinct breed was not in existence.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *shire-administration, -system*; (sense 6) *shire-bred, -fattened* adjs.; (sense 7) *shire-breed, -class.*

1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. vi. 160 A uniform *shire-administration. 1881 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 3/1 In the hope of stimulating the production of *shire-bred horses. 1877 *Field* 17 Mar. 323/2 Good English mares of the '*shire' breed. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 18 Our own *shire-fattened kine. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 117 The general institution of a *shire-system for all England.

b. Special comb.: **shire-bishop** (*OE.* and *Hist.*), the bishop of a shire; **shire-borough** (see sense 4); †**shire-clerk** (see quot. 1706); †**shire-court** = COUNTY-COURT 1; †**shire-day**, the day upon which a meeting of the shire was appointed to be held; **shire-hall**, †**-house** = *county-hall*, COUNTY 8 b; **shire-jury** *Hist.*, the members of a shire-court; †**shire-knight**, = *knight of the shire*, KNIGHT *sb.* 4 c; **shire-member**, a representative of a shire in Parliament; **shire-oak**, an oak tree marking the boundary of a shire or a meeting place for a shire-court; **shire-reeve**, etymologizing form of SHERIFF; **shire-stone**, a stone serving as a boundary-mark of a shire (also in *three-, four-shire-stone*); **shire-town**, the chief town of a shire, a *county-town*, see COUNTY[1] 8 b; also *transf.*; †**shire-wyte**, ? a tax paid to a Sheriff for holding a shire-court. Also SHIRE-GROUND, SHIRE HORSE, SHIRE-LAND, SHIREMAN, SHIRE-MOOT, SHIREWICK.

a 1023 *Wulfstan* xxxvi. (1883) 173 Bete þæt, swa se *scir-biscoep and eal scirwitan..deman. 1880 W. H. JONES *Dioc. Hist. Selish.* 51 We must therefore suppose that occasionally shire-bishops may have been appointed. 1898 F. W. MAITLAND *Township & Borough* 10 One ancient *shire-borough, I mean Nottingham. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 15 § 2 Shirefs Undershirefs *Shire Clerkis or any other officers. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shire-Clerk*, an Under-Sheriff; sometimes it is taken for a Clerk in the County-Court, or Deputy to the Under-Sheriff. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 348/2 Une novele Court appelle *Shire-court a Arundell. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 24 The Shyre Courte for that Shyre shalbe holden & kepte one tyme at Chichestre aforseid, and the next tyme at the borowe of Lewes. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 58 The Countie or Shyre Courte of the Countie of Radnor. 1488 CAXTON *Policron.* VIII. xxi. in *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 565 Also at Bedford on a *shyreday were eyghten men murthred withoute stroke by fallynge doune of a steyr. 1796 MRS. INCHBALD *Nature & Art* xi. (1820) 135 The prisoners are demanded at the *shire-hall. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 30 Shire Hall Keeper. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 53 The Guild-hall, the Wool-hall, and the *Shire-house. 1822 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVI. 330 The *Shire-jury was considered as constituting the 'County' or County Court. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 32 And whanne it drowe to þe day of þe dede-doynge, þat souereynes were semblid and þe *schire-knyztis,..þey begynne to declare þe cause of her comynge. 1910 W. L. MATHIESON *Awak. Scot.* i. 8 *Shire members and burgh members had united to form a House of Commons. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Worksop*, Certain oaks, called *Shire-Oaks. 1879 GREEN *Readings Eng. Hist.* xxiii. 115 During the last half-hour the suiters had been gathering round the shire-oak. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* C. IV. 78 Boþe *shire-reues and sergauntes. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 350 Our Magistrat nowe called a Sherif, or (to speake more truely, Shyrereue). 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* Introd. § 4 I. 112 The sheriff, shrieve, or shire-reeve. 1863 H. Cox *Institt.* III. ix. 726 These reeves received in counties the appellation of shire-reeves. 1536 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 108 Fra the said croce linealliie east..to the *schearstane; fra the scheirsteane linealliie eist [etc.]. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* Map, Four shire stone..three shire stones. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Morton in the Marsh*, About one mile from hence, are the 4 shire-stones. 1822 *Gentl. Mag.* June 516 Upon Wreynose Hill are placed the Shire-stones. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 368/1 Make open Proclamation in the *Shire Toune of the same Shire or Shires. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* II. 3 Every man went in to his awne shyre toune, there to be taxed. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 356 Then Ouse saluteth Buckingham the Shire Towne. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. iii. 10 The Shire-Town is Derby. 1687 PERLEY *Hand-bk. N. Brunswick* 55 The shire town is Richibucto. 1425 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1695) 573 *Et in solutis pro quadam pensione vocata* *Schire-wyte *annuatim* iv. *sol.*

Shire (ʃəi·ɪ), *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 scir, 3 scir, sir, 3–4 shir, 3–5 schir, 4 scire, scirre, schire, (schyire), 4–5 schyr, 4–6 schire, schyre, 4–8 shyre, 4–9 shire. [Com. Teut.: OE. *scīr* = OFris. *skīre*, OS. *skīr*, *skīri* (MLG. *schīre*; hence MHG. *schīre*, *schīr*, mod.G. *schier*), ON. *skīrr* clear, bright, pure (Sw. *skir*), *skīrla* manifest, Goth. *skeirs* clear:—OTeut. **skīro-*, **skīrjo-*, f. root **skī-* to shine: see SHINE *v.* (Related by ablaut to SHEER *a.* See also SKIER, SKERE *adjs.*)] **A.** *adj.*

†**1.** Bright, shining. *Obs.*

In OE. also *fig.* illustrious, noble. In ME. allit. verse sometimes a vague epithet of praise (= beautiful, fine, 'sheen').

Beowulf 979 Dær abidan sceal mæza mane fah miclan domes, hu him scir metod scrifan wille. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxx. 9 Þeah hio [the sun] sie scir & beorht. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3848 Longe abuten munt seyr folzede hem ðat skie scir. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 588 She saw þer-inne a lith ful shir. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 317 Þe blod schot for scham in-to his shyre face & lere. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2454 Schalkis scott in-to shipis all in shire mailes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2373 In a shadow of shene tres & of shyre floures. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 537 To se that his schire weid be sicker of assay.

†**2.** Of liquids, crystal, etc.: Clear, translucent.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1282 Swa þæt scire glæs þæt mon yþæst mæg eall þurh-wlitan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 163/33 *Linpidus*, scir. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9936 Midward þe heist ture..springes of scire water o welle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6934 Als fyssches lyfes in water schyre. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* i. 119 in *Anglia* XVIII. 298 Hony, good & schyre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schyre, as water and oþer lycure, *perspicuus, clarus*. *a* 1450 *Ratis Raving* I. 1492 Scho berys with hire lycor schyr That slokins syne as vatter fyre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 48 The sesonable air pipis vp fair and schire. 1776 HERD *Sc. Songs* (ed. 2) II. Gloss. s. v., We call..clear liquor shire.

†**3.** Pure, unmixed. *Obs.*

Beowulf 496 Þegn..se þe on handa bær hroden ealowæge, scencte scir wered. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv, Nalles scir win hi ne druncan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15383 Forr siþþen iss all þe33re spell Shir atter & shir galle Till alle þa þatt herrcnenn itt. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Cant.* Psalter 516 Þat þa drynke þe shyrest blode of grape [*sanguinem uuae meracissimum*]. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 113 He shapis him of shire wax litill schipis many.

†**4.** Morally or spiritually clean; pure. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 1 Þeos riwle is cherite of schir heorte & cleane inwit. *Ibid.* 246 O muchel is..þe mihte of schir & of clene bone. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 518 Metodius, ali martyr, Adde in his herte sigh[ð]e sir. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26200 Scrift sal mak þi saul scirre. *a* 1400 *Rel. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 56 When Goddis seruandes hase depely thoghte with schire herte on Gode.

5. Complete, perfect, utter; = SHEER *a.* 8. Also (with a negative), mere, bare.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1286 Nere hit schendlac inoh, & schir scheome, to alle þæt þelpeð of lare? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3580 He..dede ðat calf melten in fir, And stired it al to dust sir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 78 This cuntre is full of Caynis kyne, And sic schyr schrewis. *c* 1520 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 466 They be wretchockes thou hast brought, They are shyre shakyng nought! 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. Lj, I wyll not gyue the sole .i. pure or shyre hope, but the thing. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 69 As if the outside of the earth were a shire flat or level. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s. v. *Schire*, Scot. we say, *a shire fool, a shire knave*, i. e. purus putus nebulo. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Grub Street nae Satire* 5 He's naething but a shire daft lick. 1836 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Daughter* 59 He was a shire and worthless smaik.

b. (See quot.)

1825 JAMIESON Suppl., *Shire, Skyre*, adj. Used in the sense of strait, or S. *scrimp*; as, *shire measure*, that sort of measurement which allows not a hair-breadth beyond what mere justice demands, Teviotdale.

6. Thin; tenuous, not dense; sparse, scanty. Of beer: Weak, 'small'.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXXI. (1495) 940 The more sadde a body is the more heuy it is; and the more shyre and thynne the more lyght it is founde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 101 Þe men of þat land has schyre [*Cotton text* (1839) 207 thynne] berdes with few hares in þam. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 188 He vanist far away.. in the schyre air [*in tenuem..auram*]. 1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Shyre nat thycke, *delie*. 1547 SALESBURY *Dict. Eng. & Welsh, Tenew*, Thynne, shyre. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymnes* iv. 14 My haires are schyre and gray. 1721 RAMSAY *To Earl Dalhousie* 34 He had rather live on cakes, And shyrest swats. 1776 HERD *Sc. Songs* (ed. 2) II. Gloss. s.v., We call thin cloth..shire. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Shire*, thin; scanty: said of crops.

†**Shire,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 scīran, scýran, 3 sciren, schire, shire, sire. [OE. *scīran* = MLG., mod. LG. *schiren* to make clear, clarify (whence G. dial. *schieren*), ON. *skīra* to purify, clear (from a charge), Goth. *gaskeirjan* to interpret, f. OTeut. **skīro-*: see SHIRE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To declare, make known; to tell, utter.

Beowulf 1939 Þæt hit sceadenmæl scyran moste, cwealm-bealu cyðan. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 198 Ac gif hie ðonne eallunga forberan ne mægen..ðæt hie hit ne sciren. *c* 1205 LAY. 16822 Nes þer nan swa hæh mon þat durste word sciren. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2036 Þe wite is hise, ðe riht is hire, God al-mistin ðe so[ð]e shire. [*a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1532 Wan he comeþ ham eft to his wiue, ne dar heo nost a word I-schire.]

2. To enlighten, purify (the mind or heart).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 384 Luue, þet schireð & brihteð þe heorte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 327 For is fruit sired mannes mood, To witen boðen iwel and good.

Shire (ʃəi·ər), *v.*[2] [f. SHIRE *sb.*] *trans.* To divide (a country) into shires.

1810 W. DAVIES *Agric. N. Wales* I. 2 It [North Wales] was shired by Henry the Eighth into six counties. 1867 *Cal. St. Papers, Irel.* 1574–85, 170 The Brenny and Annaly shired. 1885 BAGWELL *Irel. under Tudors* I. 60 Ulster and Connaught were not shired. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* July 215 When..he [Davies] effected the final shiring of Ulster.

†**Shire,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *scīre*, f. SHIRE *a.*]

1. Brightly; clearly.

a 1000 *Andreas* 815 Oð þæt dryhten forlet dæzcandelle scire scinan. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 916 [Ich kan] kindlen ful wel a fyr, And maken it to brennan shir. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 956 Hir brest & hir bryst prote bare displayed, Schon schyrer þen snawe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 610 The sone in the sky wes schynyng so schir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. v. 14 Quhen the takyng or the bail of fire Rais fro the kingis schip, wpbirnyng schire.

2. With main force, mightily; sheer or straight *down*.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 1141 Scire burstan muras and stanas. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3045 O morȝen, al swilc time al sir, Thunder, and hail, and leuenes fir, Cam wel vnghere. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 506 Schyre schedez þe rayn in schowrez ful warme. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 22 Kemmit was thair cleir hair, and curiouslie sched Attour thair schulderis doun schyre, schyning full bricht.

Shire, obs. form of SIRE *sb.*

Shire clothe, obs. form of CERECLOTH.

c 1450 *Brut* II. 430 Thanne was his body enbawmyd..and closid in shire clothe.

Shiref(e, obs. forms of SHERIFF.

Shi·re-ground. *Hist.* Country divided into shires; a tract of country subject to the control of the authorities of a shire.

1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 24 The said liberties shall continue and be used in every Lordshipp parcell of the said Duchie [of Lancaster] within the Dominion..of Wales, as the liberties of the said Duchie be used in Shire grounde and not Countie Palantyne within this Realme of England. 1536 BP. ROLAND LEE *Let. to Cromwell* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxvii. 183 The Proclamations as yet for the Shire grounds be not come: wherby Justice cannot be ministred in Wales. 1556 *Ir. Act* 3 & 4 *Ph. & Mary* c. 3 (1621) 251 Within sundry Townes, villages and other waste grounds of this Realme, being no shire grounds. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 181/1 in *Holinshed*, Sir John Perot..first thought it best to bring the whole land into shire grounds, whereby the laws of England might haue a through course and passage. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* ii. (1892) 31 And so he continued Earle vntill the xxvij[th] yeere of his Raigne that Wales was reduced to sheere ground. 1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 247 All this while, the Prouinces of Conaght and Vlster..were not reduced to Shire-Ground. 1846 MITCHEL *Aodh O'Neill* 226 On O'Neill's part the conditions were that he should..suffer his country to become 'shire-ground', and admit the functionaries of English government.

Shire horse. Also **shires horse.** [See quot. 1888; cf. SHIRE *sb.*] A horse of a heavy powerful breed, used for draught, chiefly bred in the midland counties of England. Also known as the Old English Black Horse.

1875 S. SIDNEY *Bk. Horse* xii. 268 The Shire Horse. 1877 *Field* 14 Apr. 447/3 The Shires or Old English Cart Horse. *Ibid.*, Influential breeders of the Shires horse should combine together and [etc.]. [1888 SIR W. GILBEY *Great Horse* (1899) 52 Arthur Young, in the latter part of the last century, ..mentions only two varieties of Cart Horse as deserving attention, namely, the Large Black Old English Horse, 'the produce principally of the Shire counties in the heart of England and the Sorrel-coloured Suffolk Punch'.] 1892 *Spectator* 7 Mar. 340/1 The show of 'Shire horses', as the old breed of the English cart-horse is now generally called.

attrib. 1877 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* 532 Those confined to the 'Shire' horse classes. 1887 *Leamington Spa Courier* 30 Apr. 1/6, 8 grand Shire Horse Colts and Fillies.

Shire-land. *rare.* [SHIRE *sb.*] **a.** = SHIRE-GROUND. **b.** *transf.* (? *nonce-use.*) A land under regular administration.

1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 19 Lands beyond the shire-land of New South Wales. 1910 *19th Cent.* Mar. 428 Queen Elizabeth turned the country into shireland.

†**Shi·rely,** *adv. Obs.* [f. SHIRE *a.* + -LY[2]. Cf. SHEERLY.] Brightly, clearly; purely.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 154 Ase ofte ase heo wolden þencchen schirliche of God, ant makien clene bonen. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1880 Þere he schrof hym schyrly, & schewed his mysdedez. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 22 Of siluer and saphir schirly thai schane.

Shi·reman. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (in sense 2). [OE. *scīrman, scīreman*: see SHIRE *sb.*, and MAN.]

1. *Old Eng. Law.* A sheriff. (Erroneously explained by Lambarde as = *ealdorman*).

In OE. the word had also the sense of 'holder of official charge', 'bailiff', 'steward' (rendering L. *præpositus*, etc.).

c 1020 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 9/29 Æðelwine scirman. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 343 Oure Elders before the conquest, had their trialles for title of land, and other controuersies in each shire, before a Iudge, then called Alderman, or Shyreman.

2. An inhabitant of the 'shires' (see SHIRE *sb.* 6).

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* II. 296 Aye, I knew he must be a *shere-man* by his tongue. 1874 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 494 To this day also, an East Anglian talks, not without a shade of contempt, of an inhabitant of another county as a *sheeres man. 1909 A. MORRISON *Green Ginger* 155 [Essex speaker] 'But a shire man allus was a fool'.

Shi·re-moot. *Hist.* [f. SHIRE *sb.* + MOOT *sb.*[1]; after OE. *scīrgemōt.*] The judicial assembly of the shire in Old English times.

[*a* 1036 in Thorpe *Diplom. Angl.* (1865) 336 Her swutelaþ on ðissum ȝewrite þæt an scirȝemot sæt æt Ægelnoðes stane be Cnutes dæȝe cinges.] 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 225 Amongst Knouts Collections, one is, that twise in the yeer, the Scyreȝemot, i. the Shiremote (that which is now called the Shirifes Turne) should be held, and that in it should sit the Bishop of the Diocesse, and the Ealdorman. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 78 The Shire-mote or County Court met twice a year. 1890 HOSMER *Anx. Freedom* 82 The time was coming when the broad suffrage of the shire-moots was also to be greatly curtailed.

†**Shi·reness.** *Obs.* [f. SHIRE *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Clearness, pureness.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 386 Schirnesse of heorte is Godes luue one. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* CXVIII. 130 Schirenes of þi speches lightes wit [*Declaratio sermonum tuorum illuminat*]. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 2 Sorow for his synn has reft him þe shyrnes of..fleschly lust, as druuynge does watere.

2. Thinness, tenuity.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXXI. (1495) 940 Also for shyrenesse of partyes in thynne matere ben many poores. 1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Shyrenesse thynnesse, *delicte*.

Shirevalty, obs. form of SHRIEVALTY.

Shireve, obs. form of SHERIFF.

†**Shi·rewick.** *Obs.* [f. SHIRE *sb.* + -WICK.] = SHERIFFWICK.

1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 382/2 Every Shirref, with the power and myght of his Shirwyk. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 327 In this .xi. yere of this Kynge Henry, the shyrewyke of London & of Myddlesex were lettyn to ferme. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* III. v. I. 57 The Shire-wick called Prefecture Claudia, or Foro Clodij. *Ibid.* v. xxix. 107 The free citie Alabanda, whereof that shierewicke or jurisdiction tooke name.

Shirgian, Snirif(e: see SURGEON, SHERIFF.

†**Shirk,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 7 **shirke, sherk, shurk.** [Perh. a. G. *schurke* (earlier *schork, schurk*) : see SHARK *sb.*[2]] A needy, disreputable parasite; one who makes a living by sponging on others, cheating at play, swindling, or the like; a sharper. = SHARK *sb.*[2] 1.

1639 [J. TAYLOR (Water P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 164 You are an Asse, a Shirke, a Rooke. 1667–8 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Mar., He is a shirke, who owns his owing me 10*l.* for his lady two or three years ago, and yet cannot provide to pay me. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Char. Sham Plotter* 2/1 When Shoals of these Shirks, these Tories and Sham-Plotters appear bare-fac't in any Land or Nation, they are as Fatal ..as Sword-Fishes, Sharks, and Whales, when thrown up in the Thames. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shurk,* a Sharper. 1710 *Medley* No. 12 Some..may be reckon'd tame Creatures, such as are those Shirks that ply about Great Tables. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Shirk,* a sharping Fellow that lies upon the Catch, as the Shark-fish.

Shirk (ʃɜ̄ik), *sb.*[2] [f. SHIRK *v.*]

1. One who shirks (work, obligations).

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 402 He..Reviled the Dutchers as Poltroons and shirks. 1883 JESSOPP *Arcady* iv, The shambling and scrofulous shirk whom you may find any night soaking at the pothouse.

2. An act or the practice of shirking. *rare.*

1877 FURNIVALL *Leopold Shaks.* Introd. 85 We saw the many shirks from doing his duty of which Hamlet was guilty. 1897 *Daily News* 3 June 5/7 Leisure—and shirk—have been the characteristics of the proceedings of this remarkable body.

†**Shirk,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Prob. a. Ger. dial. *schirk* (in Nemnich 1793).] The sturgeon.

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. ii. 27 For a Whale's Throat is narrower to my knowledge then a Fish (called a Shirk) but of two Yards long.

Shirk (ʃɜ̄ik), *v.* Also 7 **sherke, shurk, shirke,** 7–8 **sherk.** [Belongs to SHIRK *sb.*[1]; see SHARK *v.* 1.]

†1. *intr.* To practise fraud or trickery, esp. instead of working as a means of living; to prey or sponge upon others; *rarely* to pilfer (*from* another). *Obs.* Cf. SHARK *v.*[1] 1 b.

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* IV. i. G 3 b, Thou shalt follow the Court like a Baboone, when a thousand proper fellowes shall sherke for their ordinary. [1638: see SHIRKING *vbl. sb.*] 1640 HARBOTTLE GRIMSTONE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 18 Dec., He [*sc.* Abp. Laud] might have spent his time much better ..than thus sherking and raking in the Tobacco Shops. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* III. 74 How well he could practice the Lawes of pilfering, by sherking on his Disciples [orig. Fr. *fripponant sur ses disciples*], to feast his friends. 1699 E. S—CY *Country Gentl. Vade M.* 77, I utterly lose my Pitty, when I see one of these Wretches shirking about in Rags. 1709 W. REEVES tr. *Apol. Justin Martyr, Tertullian, & Min. Felix* (1716) I. 4 The Platonist Amelius,..upon reading the first Verses of his [S. John's] Gospel, cry'd out, *Per Jovem Barbarus iste cum Platone nostro sentit,* By Jove this Barbarian has been shirking from our Master Plato. 1850 C. MATHEWS *Moneypenny* xviii, He saves him from a house a-fire, and..he sends him off next morning to shirk for himself.

†b. *trans.* To obtain by cunning or by sponging. Also *to shirk up. Obs.* Cf. SHARK *v.*[1] 2.

1634 BP. RAINBOWE *Labour* 39 You that never heard the call of any Vocation..; that shirke living from others, but time from yourselves. 1672 EACHARD *Hobbs' St. Nat. Consid.* 34 Small matter that was shirk'd up in France from some of Cartes's acquaintance, and spoyled in the telling.

2. *intr.* To go evasively or slyly; to slink, to sneak *away, out,* etc. †*rarely* said of things.

1681 *Trial of S. Colledge* 25 *Mr. Dugd.*..You said Rowley was gone, the Rogue was afraid of himself, he was shirked away. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) IX. xl, Trying often to harpoon a floating pat of butter, which, as often, slips aside, or ducks and shirks under your knife. 1818 G. COLMAN *Two Parsons* Poet. Vagaries (ed. 3) 154 Polyglot Behind the bed-curtain had got, Shirking, and dodging From his Co-Partner. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxi, He and his comrades had been obliged to shirk on board at night, to escape from their wives. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up* xxxiii, Sometimes..I managed to shirk out by myself..and dawdle..about the park. 1874 BARING-GOULD *Yorksh. Oddities* I. 236, I..came shirking round towards t'back door i't' yard.

†b. To withdraw or draw *back* through lack of courage *from* one's word or *from* an engagement.

1778 CRISP *Let. to Miss Burney* 8 Dec., Don't imagine.. that I am retracting or shirking back from what I have said above. 1820 BYRON *Let.* 7 Sept. in Moore *Life* (1839) 453/2 One of the cities shirked from the league.

3. *trans.* To evade (a person, his conversation, acquaintance, etc.); to avoid meeting, to dodge, 'give the slip' to. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* June (1842) III. 378 They have all a really most undue dislike of her, and shirk her conversation, and fly to one another, to discourse on hunting and horses. 1800 MISS EDGEWORTH *Belinda* xvii, To punish her for shirking me, by the Lord, I'd [etc.]. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 393 See, see—he's going to shirk Lady Kitty—he pretends he don't see her coming up. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 121 Nor would I..throw the slightest obstacle in the way of the escape of any one of the slaves who may be about to shirk their masters. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 384/2 Us sailor chaps sometimes shirks the Custom-house lubbers, sharp as they are.

b. At Eton: To avoid meeting (a master, a sixth-form boy) when out of bounds. Also *absol.*

1821 R. DURNFORD *Rashleigh Letter-bag* vi, in *Etonian* (1823) III. 282, I..began to consider..if I could have offended him by not shirking him out of bounds. 1869 BLAKE-HUMFREY *Eton Boating Bk.* Introd. 1 The necessity of all but the Sixth Form being obliged to shirk the Masters, and of all the Lower Boys having to shirk the Sixth Form. 1910 GOLDW. SMITH *Remin.* iii. 38 If you met a master outside the nominal bounds you had to 'shirk', that is, to make a show of keeping out of sight.

4. To evade (one's duty, work, obligations, etc.).

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sherk,* to sherk, to evade; to sherk one's duty. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* xxxviii, Father says we may, if we do our duty, and I don't mean to shirk mine. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 377 They usually shirk the subject. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* ix, Let him.. shirk the resolute honest work that brings wages, and he will presently find himself [etc.]. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* v. 126 This trick..was intended..to shirk responsibility.

b. *U.S.* To shift (responsibility, etc.) *on to* or *upon* (another person). Also with *off.*

1845 LOWELL *Let. to C. F. Briggs* 21 Aug., Lett. 1894 I. 111, I would almost give half the rest of my life if I might shirk off upon somebody else all that is generally considered the pleasant result of a literary reputation. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* xvi. 368 Having shirked it on to the North.

c. *absol.* To practise evasion of work, one's duties, responsibilities, etc.

1853 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* iii. (1900) 518 He was shirking at the tavern. 1865 J. G. HOLLAND *Plain Talk* iv. 119 The disposition to shirk seems to be constitutional with the human race. 1886 W. H. LONG *Dict. I. Wight Dial.,* 'He's ben and shirked off wi'out dooen his work'. 'He's too windy by half, and he's sure to shirk out on't somehow or nother'.

Hence **Shi·rking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Shi·rker,** one who shirks (duty, work, etc.).

1634 BP. RAINBOWE *Labour* (1635) 40 Let this shirking generation be cast out. 1638 HOLLAND *1st Disc. Navy* (1896) 54 'Twere safer..to give them a certain competent fee, than by an uncertain reward to expose them to shirking [*Penn MS.* sharking]. 1668 ROLLE *Abridgment* 53 You are a sherking Attorney. 1736 *Disc. Witchcraft* 42 These kind of shirking People, a Generation of impudent Liars. 1799 GEO. [IV] in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 150, I can safely swear I never flinched one [glass],..& you well know I am not even upon indifferent occasions a Shirker. 1862 *Rep. Publ. Schools Comm.* (1864) III. 283 (Eton) Have you any opinion as to the system of shirking? 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 621 Against plain facts and probabilities we have nothing to set except the shirkings and twistings of Dudo's rhetoric. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I. v, 'Search him, some of you shirking lubbers', he cried. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 4/1 Lord Malmesbury..was no shirker of work. 1899 SHEARMAN, etc. *Football* 242 Any shirking..must be suppressed at once.

Shirky (ʃɜ̄·rki), *a. rare.* [f. SHIRK *v.* + -Y[1].] Characterized by or given to shirking.

1847 HALLIWELL s. v. *Shirk, Shirky,* deceitful. *South.* 1897 [see SCUFFLE *v.*[1] 6]. 1897 *Daily News* 3 June 5/7 Leisure—and shirk—have been the characteristics of the proceedings..and leisurely—and..shirky—they will continue.

†**Shirl,** *sb. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHIRL *a.*; cf. SKIRL *sb.*] A shrill cry.

1598 Q. ELIZ. tr. *Plutarch* iii. 21 Lest stranger..shirles might heare that maiden gaue for Skourge.

Shirl (ʃɜ̄l), *a.* and *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 **schirlle,** 5–6 **schyrle,** 6 **shirle, shyrle,** (*compar.* **shirler,** *superl.* **shirllest**), 6, 9 *dial.* **shirl.** [Metathetic form of SHRILL *a.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. = SHRILL *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1418–20 J. PAGE *Siege of Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 45 With that they crydealle 'Nowe welle', Al so schyrle as any belle. 1530 PALSGR. 726/1, I sowndc schyrle, as a mannes or womannes voice that crieth lowd, *je clicque. c* 1567 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* F iij b, Of which instruments some as the harpe were lowde and shirle. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 14 This salt giveth sound.., and without the sounde no mettall will ring in his shirle voyce. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* s. v. Her shirl voice rings i my ears. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Shirl,* shrill.

†2. Of the hair: Rough. *Obs. rare.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. 995 Hir heare was harsh and shirle [*Hirtus erat crinis*]. *Ibid.* XV. 235 With shirle thinne heare as whyght as snowe.

†B. *adv.* Shrilly. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Leg. Gregory* 415 Rede and sing schirlle. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* viii. 45/2 Gods voyce ought to sounde shirler noweadayes in the Gospell, than it did in the Lawe.

Shirl (ʃɜ̄l), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 7 **shurl,** 9 **sherl.** [app. an extended form of SHEAR *v.*: see -LE 3.] *trans.* To trim with shears, *spec.* (see quot. 1802–19). Hence **Shi·rling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Shirl** *sb.*, a trimming.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2323/4 Stolen..a bright bay Gelding.., his mane shirled half way. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 252/2 Shurling of a Cock, is to trim the ends of his band, or neck feathers. 1775 J. WATSON *Hist. Halifax* 546 [Vocab.] *Shirl,* to cut with shears. 1802–19 REES *Cycl., Sherling,* or *Shirling Lambs,* in Rural Economy, the practice of cutting or shearing the short woolly coats or coverings of these young animals in the summer season. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'To shirl a fleece of wool', to cut off the clotted ends before it be teazed or carded. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Shirlin's,* the fleeces of lambs. 1897 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 22 May (E.D.D.), Ah doan't want pollin' cloise; Ah nobbut want shirlin. *Ibid.,* Ah've nobbut hed a shirl this time.

Shirl (ʃɜ̄l), *v.*[2] *north.* In 8 **shurl.** [App. formed (with frequentative suffix : see -LE 3) on a vb. corresponding to G. dial. *schurren, schorren,* to slide on the ice.] *intr.* To slide (see also quot. 1826). Hence **Shi·rling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Shi·rler,** one who 'shirls'; **Shirl** *sb.*, a slide.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Shurl,* to shurl, to slide, as upon ice. North. 1826 SOUTHEY *Let.* 25 Jan., Lett. 1856 III. 525 My girls are good shirlers...Shirling is neither sliding nor skating, but a sort of intermediate motion, performed in the common clogs of this country [Cumberland]. 1898 *Lakeland Words* in *Penrith Observer* 17 May (E.D.D.), Ther's a grand shirl on t' pond.

Shirl, obs. form of SCHORL.

1776 G. EDWARDS *Elem. Fossilogy* 109 Basaltes, or shirl, or cockle. 1789 T. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* II. 178 Shirl is a hard and heavy substance, of a shining jet black.

Shirlcock (ʃɜ̄·lkɒk). *dial.* Also **shelcock, shircock, shrillcock.** [f. SHIRL *a.* + COCK *sb.*] The Missel Thrush, *Turdus viscivorus.*

a 1790 PEGGE *Derbicisms, Shirl cock,* a thrush. 1859 W. DICKINSON *Cumberld. Gloss., Shellcock,*..the missel thrush. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Shircock,* the missel-thrush. 1882 W. DICKINSON *Remin. W. Cumbld.* 21 (Cumbld. Gloss.), I heard a shelcock sing about nine o'clock.

Shirley. *Obs.* or *spurious.* [Cf. G. *schirley,* given by Nemnich as a name for the bird *Tanagra militaris.*] An alleged name for 'a bird by some called the greater bullfinch' (W.).

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl. Lex., Eng.* 891/1 *Shirley,* Tanagra. 1828–32 WEBSTER (citing '*Dict.*'). Hence in many later Dicts.

†**Shi·rling,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHIRL *a.* + -ING[2]. Cf. SKIRLING *ppl. a.*] Shrill-sounding.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 97 There cals A shirling horne, with sharp sownd eccoing.

†**Shirlly,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 **shyrly,** 6 **shirlely.** [f. SHIRL *a.* + -LY[2].] Shrilly.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xix. 759 Then she shryked shyrly and felle doune in a swoune. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1567) 49 b, Bewailing their despight By chirping shirlly to themselues. 1583 — *Calvin on Deut.,* To Cath. Ch. F iiij b, Albeeit that..the praises of God do ring shirlely to mens vnderstanding in the psalms and songs.

Shirmer (ʃɜ̄·rmər). *local.* (See quots.)

1823 T. BOND *E. & W. Looe* 77 The pilchards are seen.. playing on the surface of the water, and thereby rendering the spot of a darker colour...Such fish, so appearing, are called Shirmers. 1847 *Zoologist* V. 1645 As the summer advances, the stragglers [*sc.* pilchards] associate into small companies; these again unite into larger ones called 'shirmers'.

Shirp, *v. Sc.* [Perh. a use of *shirp* SHARP *v.*] *intr.* To wither, shrink, shrivel. Also with *away.*

1639 MURE *Ps.* cxxix, Be they As grasse vpon the howsses' top, Ere shott which shirps away. *c* 1680 M'WARD *Earnest Contendings for Faith* 146 (Jam.), Even professors sat-up, shirped away, and cryned into a shadow.

Hence **Shirpit** *a.*, 'pinched', wasted, shrivelled. [Cf. SHILPIT *a.*]

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xlvii, His nose was shirpit and sharp. 1896 H. JOHNSTON *Dr. Congalton's Legacy* i. 13 Yon shirpet body, the factor.

Shirp, obs. form of CHIRP *v.*

Shirr (ʃɜ̄), *sb. U.S.* Also **shir** (*Dicts.*). [Of obscure origin.]

1. Elastic webbing; also, the elastic thread used in its composition.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shirr,* an insertion of elastic cord between two pieces of cloth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Rubber-cutting Machine,*..for making threads of caoutchouc for shirrs. *Shirr,* (Fabric), an elastic cord inserted in cloth or between two pieces.

2. Gathered trimming, gathering. *Shirr-string* = shirring string.

1891 in *Century Dict.* 1895 SARAH M. H. GARDNER *Quaker Idyls* i, The stiff bonnets were relieved by silk shirrs of brown or gray. 1902 *Delineator* Dec. 623 A shirr-string, run through an underfacing, provides the means of closing.

Shirr (ʃɜ̄), *v. U.S.* Also **shir** (in Dicts.). [? Back-formation from SHIRRED *a.*]

1. *trans.* To gather or draw up (textile material) by means of parallel threads. = GAUGE *v.*[1] 8.

1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Sept. 1/3 A beautiful gown..of prelate purple velvet made in the loose blouse fashion, shirred into a yoke of gold and gem embroidery. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 223/2 Pretty shades may be made by simply taking a piece of crêpe paper..and shirring it several times, leaving sufficient at the top to form a full ruffle.

2. *Cookery.* 'To poach (eggs) in cream instead of water' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Shirred (ʃɜ̄d), *a. U.S.* [f. SHIRR *sb.* + -ED[2].]

1. Having elastic threads woven into the texture.

1847 WEBSTER, *Shirred,* a term applied to articles having lines or cords inserted between two pieces of cloth, as the lines of India rubber in shirred suspenders. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shirred Goods,* (Fabric), goods with elastic cords (shirrs) interwoven in suspenders, garters, etc. 1882 [see SHIRRING *vbl. sb.*].

2. Gathered; ornamented by or with SHIRRING.

1860 SUSAN WARNER *Say & Seal* lxxii, A simply plain shirred spring bonnet of blue and white silk. 1900 ELIZ. L. BANKS in *19th Cent.* XLVIII. 792 A perfectly-fitting gown ..with..ruffles and finely-shirred lace. 1907 KATE D. WIGGIN *Old Peabody Pew* v. 114 Dark-haired Nancy under the shadow of her shirred muslin hat.

3. *Cookery.* (See quot. 1892.)

1883 SALA *Amer. Revis.* I. xxii. 302 'That woman's shirred eggs and sugar-cured ham should immortalise her', the

sleeping-car 'Cap'n' gravely remarked. 1892 *Garrett's Encycl. Cookery* I. 566/2 *Shirred Eggs.*—Butter the inside of a deep plate, break into it as many Eggs as will cover the bottom, shake a little pepper and salt over them, place bits of butter all over, put them into a moderately hot oven.

Shirrel (ʃɪrəl). *Sc.* (Common in the 16th c.) Forms: 6 scherald, -et(t, -att, -ard, cheritt, scheirritt, 8 shirrel, 9 shirrot, shurral. [In 16th c. *scherald*, ? f. *scher-* SHEAR *v.*, to cut. (The final *-ld* developed divergently into *l* and *t*.)] A turf.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iii. 190 And he hym self the Troiane men fut bet On sonkis of gresy scheraldis hes doun set. 1554–5 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 360 Item, for scheratts and devatts ix^{s}. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 336 The fluir laid witht greine cherittis [*v.r.* scheirrittis]. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 143 Thow..keist a grene truff or scherard, and laid the new calffit calff theirvpon. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax, Jrnl. to Portsmouth* 29 Our..coach-man turned o'er our gallant cart amon a heap o' shirrels, an' peat-mow. *Ibid.* 50 *Shirrels*, turf. 1808 JAMIESON, *Shirrot*, a turf or divot, Banffs. 1826 D. ANDERSON *Poems* (ed. 2) 9 (E.D.D.) Hardly a shurral Even to rest a fire.

Shirring (ʃə·rɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHIRR *v.* (? and *sb.*) + -ING 1.] The action of SHIRR *v.*; also *concr.* (see quots.).

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 220 Gauging, which, following an objectionable Americanism, is also known as 'shirring', is pulled nearly tight from row to row of the runnings [etc.]. *Ibid.* 447 Shirrings are close Runnings, or cords inserted between two pieces of cloth, as the lines of indiarubber in Shirred Braces or Garters, or the drawing and puckering up any material. 1908 ELIZ. ROBINS *Come & Find Me* v, Miss Mar must have her things made plainer. No puffing, no shirring.

b. Comb.: **shirring string** (see quot.).

1891 *Century Dict., Shirring string*, a string or cord passed between the two thicknesses of a double shirred fabric, so as to make the small gathers closer or looser at pleasure.

Shirrot, variant of SHIRREL.

Shirrow, *north.* form of SHREW (mouse).

Shirry (ʃə·rɪ), *a.* [f. SHIRR *sb.* + -Y.] Shirred, puckered.

1904 *Elect. World & Engin.* 20 Feb. 374 (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl.) The blow of the lay becomes uneven..and 'shirry' cloth is the result.

Shirry, obs. f. SHERRY *sb.*1, var. SHERRY *sb.*2 and *v.*1

Shirt (ʃɜt), *sb.* Forms: 1 scyrte, 3 s(o)hurte, (schuyrte, scurte, sœorte), 4 schirte, sserte, 4–5 schert(e, schorte, 4–6 sherte, 5 schyrt, 5–6 shyrt(e, shurt(e, shirte, shorte, (5 shyrth, 6 shertt, sherth), 6– shirt. [OE. *scyrte* wk. fem. corresponds formally to MDu. *schorte* (mod.Du. *schort* fem.) apron, MLG., LG. *schört(e, schört, schorte* apron (locally also thin gown worn by women), G. *schürze* fem. apron (not found before late 17th c.), ON. *skyrta* shirt (Sw. *skjorta*, Da. *skjorte* shirt; from the ON., with unexplained difference of sense, is Eng. SKIRT *sb.*):—OTeut. type **skurtjōn-*, prob. f. **skurto-* SHORT *a.*, the various senses which the sb. has in the Teut. languages being probably diverse applications of the original sense 'short garment'. A cognate form **skurto-s* is represented by MHG., mod.G. *schurz* masc., apron.]

1. An undergarment for the upper part of the body, made of linen, calico, flannel, silk, or other washable material. Originally always worn next to the skin (cf. 2 e); now sometimes an undershirt or 'vest' is worn beneath it. Formerly a garment common to both sexes (cf. CHEMISE), but now an article of male attire with long sleeves (often terminating in wristbands or cuffs). Also, an infant's undergarment with short body and sleeves.

The meaning of the word in OE. is obscure, as the only instance of its occurrence is a gloss in which the meaning of the Latin word was probably not understood.

Boiled shirt (U.S.), a white linen shirt as distinguished from a coloured or flannel shirt. *Coloured shirt*, one made of a coloured material, as distinguished from a *white shirt*. *Day shirt*, a more emphatic name for the shirt worn during the day time as distinguished from a NIGHT-SHIRT. †*Historical shirt*, 'one adorned with worked or woven figures' (Fairholt). *Illustrated shirt*, jocularly used for coloured shirt. Also HAIR-SHIRT, HALF-SHIRT.

[*a* 1000 *Boulogne Glosses* 143 in *Germania* (N. S.) XI. 393 Scyrte *prætexta*, tunecan *togæ*.] *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 He turnde ut of þe burh into wilderne..and ches..stiue here to shurte and gret sac to curtle. *c* 1205 LAY. 23761 Warp he an his rugge..anne cheisil scurte [*c* 1275 scorte] & senne pallene curtel. 1340 *Ayenb.* 191 He yaf otte his kertel and his sserte to þe poure uor god. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 197 Where been thanne the gaye Robes and the smale shetes and the softe shertes? *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 871 Se that youre souerayne haue clene shurt & breche. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* L (1520) 7 b/1 Hercules..was betrayed by a sherte that Deyanira his wyfe sent hym empoysoned. 1509–10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 1 And that no manne undre the degree of a Knyght were any garded or pynshed Sherte. 1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Shirt for a man, *chemise*. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 81 Pale as his shirt, his knees knocking each other,..he comes before me. 1624 FLETCHER *Cust. Country* ii. i, Having a Mistris, sure you should not be Without a neate historicall shirt. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 5 (*Monaco*), We here saw several Persons, that in the midst of December had nothing over their Shoulders but their Shirts. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. ii. II. 483 A creditable day-labourer would be ashamed to appear in public without a linen shirt. 1799 H. MITCHELL *Scotticisms* 77 A *shirt* is a man's under garment; a *shift* is a woman's. Many of the Scotch use *shirt* for both. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 51/2 Coloured, or 'illustrated shirts', as they are called, are especially objected to by the men [costermongers]. 1854 MCCLURE *Rocky Mts.* 412 (Farmer) In order to attend the Governor's reception I borrowed a boiled shirt. 1859 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, Bradley Headstone in his..decent white shirt..looked a thoroughly decent young man. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lxii, They shook, they stared as white's their shirt.

¶ *Shirt of fire* (poet.): the *tunica molesta* (Juvenal *Sat.* viii. 235), a tunic 'smeared with inflammable materials' (Seneca *Ep.* xiv. 5) in which persons condemned to death by burning were enveloped.

1852 ALEX. SMITH *Life Drama* ii. 225 Like a pale martyr in his shirt of fire.

b. *Bloody shirt*: a blood-stained shirt exhibited as a symbol of murder or outrage. Also *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. vi. (Sommer) 25 b, People..hauing no banners, but bloudie shirtes hanged vpon long staues. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 266 The bloody shirt of the martyr was exposed in the mosch of Damascus. 1840 [L. CASS] *France* 44 (Cent.), [Foucher adds] It is by spreading out the miseries of the workmen, the bloody shirt of some victim,..that the people are excited to take arms. 1888 *New York Weekly Times* 21 Mar. (Farmer), It is reprehensible..for the Bourbons of the South to continue to play on the colour line—the Southern bloody shirt.

c. *Shirt of hair*: = HAIR-SHIRT.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. ix. 24 b, Shortes of heer were also layde asyde. *a* 1550 *Image Ipocr.* iv. 222 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 441/2 Some were shurtes of heres. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 81 In shirt of hair and weeds of canvass dress'd,.. See the sage hermit.

d. *Shirt of mail* [= F. *chemise de maille*].

1522 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 400 No kynde of armor, as shorte of mayll. 1592 STOW *Ann.* 1086, 400 harquebuts in shirts of maile with morins. 1611 COTGR., *Iacquemard*, a coat, or shirt of maile. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 356 How shall a maid's weak hand avail To make thee, my father, a shirt of mail?

e. With qualifying word indicating a garment for a specific purpose.

1756–7 *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 183 For once bathing one pays six *creutzers*, and five more for the use of a bathing shirt. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, Gentlemen's Lawn Tennis and Cricketing Shirts...Cotton Football Shirts.

f. Short for NIGHT-SHIRT.

1843 ABDY *Water Cure* 140 Shirts and sheets, colder than any unfrozen water can be, are safely worn and lain in by many persons, who, during a hard frost, neither warm their beds nor their shirts.

g. Applied to a loose garment resembling a shirt.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 22 Some [inhabitants of Bornei] weare shertes of gossampine cotton, some beastes skinnes. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *India* I. 313 *note*, The women wear a shirt like that of the men, but much longer. [*Footnote*] They call this shirt Cameess. 1848 CURZON *Monast. Levant* I. ii. (1897) 15 The boat returned with the local authorities, two old villagers, in long blue shirts.

2. Phrases. a. †*Into, †unto, to one's* (or *the*) *shirt*, so as to leave only one's shirt as a covering.

c 1290 *Sta. Crux* 489 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 15 His clopes he caste of euer-ech-on A-non to is schurte and to is briech. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1099 And of he rente vn-to his bare schirte. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 251 þen þys Emperoure..dyspoylut hym to his schorte. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xx. 25 b, The prease was so greate..some of them..were stripped into their shyrtes. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 226 [They] were all stript to the shirt as soon as they had been taken. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CXXVII. 118 A Prodigal Young Fellow that had sold his Cloths to his very Shirt.

b. *In one's shirt*: in one's night attire; without one's outer garments; without one's coat and waistcoat.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 96 Save of a doghtir þat y left alas Slepyng..Alas y ne had her broght in her shert. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxiv. 452 And there with al sir Lamorak lepte out of the bedde in his sherte. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 63 Then came in the poore younglinges..bounde in ropes..one after another in their shertes, & euery one a halter about his neck. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 704. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 57. 1592 *Soliman & Perseda* I. iii, Where in a shirt, but with my single Rapier, I combated a Romane. 1615 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xii, Bring me foorth in my shirt, and my gowne vnder myne arme. 1744 LOVE *Cricket* 4 The robust Cricketer, plays in his Shirt. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ii, The officer..escaped out of his bedroom window, and fled in his shirt. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iv, General Dumouriez..finds the street covered with 'four or five thousand citizens in their shirts'.

†c. *Since, ere*, etc. *shapen was my shirt*: since or before I was born, esp. with reference to something 'shapen' or decreed before one's birth.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2629 Syn fyrst that day that shapyn was myn sherte..So ny myn herte never thing me come As thou. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 1566 That shapen was my deeth erst than my sherte. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 489 Or I was born, my desteny was sponne By Parcas sustren..; For they my deth shopen or my sherte. *a* 1542 WYATT *Lover renounces* 2 Alas..the carefull chaunce, shapen afore my shert.

d. (To have) *not a shirt*, more emphatically (to have, be worth) *not a shirt to one's back*: no goods or possessions, not even the necessaries of life. (To give away) *the shirt off one's back*: all one's possessions.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 1186, I holde hym riche al hadde he nat a sherte. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (1901) 91 Admit he be not worth a Shirt to his back, he has Wealth enough, who holds himself content. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl., To Mrs. Gwyllim* 28 Apr. (1815) 51 He would give away the shirt off his back. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1787) III. xxxi. 202 *note*, Augustus had neither glass to his windows, nor a shirt to his back.

†e. *One's shirt*: used as a type of what is nearest to one's person. *Not to tell one's shirt*: to keep a matter strictly secret. *Near is my shirt but nearer is my skin*: a proverb meaning that one's own interests come before those of one's nearest friends. *Obs.*

1548 HALL *Chron.*, 3 *Hen. IV*, 20 The kyng began..to muse on this request, and not without a cause, for in dede it touched him as nere as his sherte, as you well may perceiue by the Genealogy. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 To have every on in continuall ielouzye, lest he sitt over neere there schirtes or have familiar insighte in ther commendable and discommendable qualityes. 1586 EARL LEICESTER *Let. to Walsingham* 7 June in *Corr.* (Camden) 291, I will warrant him hanged..but you must not tell your shirt of this yet. 1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 103 My shirt is neare me, my lord, but my skin is nearest. 1625 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* 155 Close sitteth my shirt, but closer sitteth my skinne. 1654 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 12 The designe is secrett, knowne to the designer onely, whoe saith if hee thought his shirt knew it hee would burne it.

f. slang. *To bet one's shirt, to put one's shirt on* (a horse) = to bet all one's money on. *To get* (a person's) *shirt out*, to cause him to lose his temper.

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v. *Shirty*, When one person makes another in an ill humour he is said to have 'got his shirt out'. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Mar. 6/2 Bet thee my shirt Aunty Jane wins. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* s. v., To put one's shirt on a horse.

3. A woman's blouse or loosely-fitting dress-body with a collar, front and cuffs, somewhat resembling a man's shirt; = *shirt-blouse* in 5 c.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Apr. 3/1 There is no need for a shirt to be hard and unfeminine because it is called a shirt. 1913 *Daily Graphic* 24 Mar. 13/2 If a more dressy morning shirt is desired, the chiffon moiré is the favoured fabric.

b. *Habit-shirt*, a kind of chemisette: see HABIT *sb.* 12.

1834: see HABIT *sb.* 12. 1844: see CHEMISETTE 2. 1912 ELIN. GLYN *Halcyone* ii. 16 Miss Roberta..had her thin bones covered with a habit shirt of tulle.

4. *transf.* An inner casing or covering. †a. = AMNION (*obs.*). b. *Comm.* and *Techn.* (See quots.) [Cf. F. *chemise.*]

1611 COTGR., *Agneliere*, th' inmost of the three membranes which enwrap a wombe-lodged infant; called by some Midwiues..the childs shirt. 1640 in *Court Min. E. India Co.* 12 Aug. (1909) 75 That the Company is much prejudiced by allowing sugars to be 'tared in the gunny' instead of the buyers taking them 'in their shirts'. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 211 The Messina package, which consists of three thicknesses, has its lining, or shirt, covered with a smooth oil cloth. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 16 The internal lining or shirt of the furnace. 1883 W. M. WILLIAMS in *Knowledge* 25 May 308/2 The fuel should be placed between these [iron bars], and thus form an upright cylindrical ring or shirt of fire, inclosed outside by the bricks.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple attrib., as *shirt-breast, -collar* (hence *-collared* adj.), *-cuff, -tail, -wrist*; *shirt-like* adj. b. objective, as *shirt-ironer, -knitter, -maker, -washer*; *shirt-making.*

1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. i, The diamond in his *shirt-breast. 1557 SEAGER *Sch. Virtue* 85 in *Babees Bk.*, Thy *shyrte coler fast to thy necke knyt. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iv, 'Poob, pooh, Miss Sharp,' said he, pulling up his shirt-collars. 1895 DU MAURIER *Trilby* VI. 280 *Shirt-collared within an inch of their lives. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* xxiii, Enormous *shirt-cuffs..called attention to the hands. 1891 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 7/1 An action brought by a *shirt-ironer. 1893 *Laundry Managem.* (ed. 2) 80 Some of the shirt ironers [*sc.* machines] have..a good-sized iron, heated by steam or gas. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 75 Hosiery Manufacture...*Shirt Knitter. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Shirt-maker*; a sempstress; a tradesman who employs females to make shirts. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xli. (ed. 3) 355 Hosiers, glovers, and shirt-makers. 1897 *19th Cent.* Aug. 203 Londonderry..[with] its *shirt-making industry. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-bk.* 47 Rushing madly about, their blue-and-white *shirt-tails waving in the wind. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 July 9/4 Laundry.—A good *shirt washer wanted. 1909 *Ibid.* 23 Jan. 8/3 Rotary Shirt Washer (Good secondhand, brass cylinder), wanted. 1815 LD. BROUGHTON (J. C. Hobhouse) *Recoll. Long Life* (1901) I. 268 He had long white *shirt-wrists.

c. Special comb.: **shirt-band** = BAND *sb.*2 4, also *dial.* the wrist-band of a shirt; **shirt-blouse, -bodice** = sense 3 above; **shirt-bosom** (now *U.S.*) = *shirt-front*; **shirt-button**, a small-sized button of mother of pearl or the like pierced with thread holes, used as a fastening for shirts; **shirt-buttons** (see quot. 1880); **shirt case**, a travelling case for shirts; **shirt cloth**, †(*a*) ? a piece of cloth for a shirt; (*b*) (see quot. 1910); **shirt-cutter**, one who cuts out shirts for the trade; **shirt-dresser** (see quot.); so **shirt-dressing** (in quot. *attrib.*); **shirt frame** *U.S.* (see quot.); **shirt-frill**, a frill formerly worn on the front and wrist-bands of a shirt; **shirt front** = FRONT *sb.* 9 d; also *transf.* a white patch on the chest (of a dog); **shirt gills** *jocular*, the projecting ends of a stand-up collar; **shirt gown** *Sc. dial.*, a bodice; **shirt-jacket**, a loose-fitting linen

jacket; **shirt-lap**, the tail of a shirt (*obs.* exc. *dial.*); **shirt-man**, a name applied to an American colonial rifleman in the war of Independence (see quot. 1788); **shirt-pin**, an ornamental pin used to fasten the shirt at the throat; **shirt ruffle** = *shirt-frill*; **shirt stud**, a stud for fastening a shirt; **shirt-stud-abscess** (see quot. 1898); **shirt-studded** *a.*, wearing (showy) shirt studs; **shirt-waist** *U.S.*, a shirt-blouse. Also SHIRT SLEEVE.

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 1 That no servyngman ..shall weare any shirte or *shirte bande..made or wrought with Silke Golde or Silver. 1659 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 236, 1 shirt, 1 shirtband. 1907 EDITH RICKERT *Golden Hawk* xx. 160 A gush of..milk..trickling in warm currents between his neck and his shirt-band. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 19 May 8/1 Each girl makes..a *shirt-blouse. 1907 E. M. SELLAR *Recoll. & Impr.* xii. 161 From Brussels I brought home for the little girls red and blue *shirt-bodices and skirts. 1856 MISS WARNER *Hills Shatemuc* xiii, If *shirt-bosoms gave out, the boys buttoned their coats over them. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s. v. *Shirt-front*, A dickey, or loose shirt bosom. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xvi. 204 The champagne..is shaken..over his diamonds on his shirt-bosom. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 437 *Shirt Buttons ..are disposed of in great quantities in the streets. 1880 *Monthly Packet* N. S. XXX. 409 Local names of plants... *Stellaria Holostea*—*Shirt-buttons, West Kent. 1895 *Stores' Price List*, *Shirt Case to hold 18 Shirts. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 118 To Thomas Dransfelde a *shirte cloithe, to John Coupe a shert clothe. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 277/1 *Shirt-cloth* is the term more commonly applied to what is actually used in the manufacture of shirts. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 75 *Shirt-cutter. 1909 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 7/1, I was a shirt-cutter by trade. 1867 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* (1892) Suppl., **Shirt Dresser*, a laundress who washes and prepares shirts for wear. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Shirt Frame*, a Guernsey, or shirt knitting machine. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 211 A laundress..unrivalled in flounces and *shirt-frills. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, His black coat, neatly relieved..by a white under-waistcoat, and a *shirt-front admirably plaited. 1873 *All Year Round* 28 June 203/1 But why is a shirt-front popularly called a dickey? 1893 *Kennel Gaz.* Aug. XIV. 213/3 A liver bitch with a large shirt front. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 58 One young man..came to pay his respects to me in..*shirt gills which absolutely ingulfed his black visage. 1889 A. J. ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* v. 725 A brave *shirt-gown. 1879 MRS. F. D. BRIDGES *Jrnl. Lady's Trav. round World* 20 Dec. (1883) 231 'Mynheer van Dunk'..appeared on deck..in 'pyjamas'..; a loose white *shirt-jacket..completed his costume. 13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1209 His *shurte lappe he gan take & wypede a wey þe foule blake. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life* ii, Tell the most impassioned orator, suddenly, that his wig is awry, or his shirt-lap hanging out,..and you would infallibly dry up the spring of his eloquence. 1775 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 2/3 The damn'd *shirtmen, as they are emphatically called by some of his [the loyal governor's] minions. 1788 W. GORDON *Hist. Independ. U. S.* II. 112 Colonel Woodford had not more than 300 shirtmen (as they call the riflemen, on account of their being dressed in their hunting shirts). 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xiv. III. 344 Presenting him with a *shirt-pin, made of jewellers' gold-wire. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, He was attracted by a handsome shirt-pin in a jeweller's window. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 735 Kneebreeches were abandoned, and the *shirtruffles were reduced. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 334/2 In some windows..shawl-pins, *shirt-studs, necklaces. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Shirt-stud abscess*, form of abscess having a superficial cavity connected with a deeper one by a sinus. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 265 Noisy, blustering, *shirt-studded fellows. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* x. 236 The summer-boarder girls in pink and blue *shirt-waists.

Shirt (ʃɜːt), *v.* [f. SHIRT *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To clothe with or as with a shirt.

1601 STOW *Ann.* 1291 Friers Capuchins..girt with hempen cordes, shirted with haire-cloth, and bare footed. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 329 The better sort..shirt their coleblack skins with a pure white cloth. 1691 DRYDEN *K. Arthur* II. i, Souls, as but this Morn' Were cloath'd with Flesh,..But naked now, or shirted but with Air. 1808 W. WILSON *Dissenting Churches* II. 581 One day shirting himself, he thoughtlessly put his studs between his lips. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. (1875) II. 206 Quite naked most, a few are only shirted.

2. (See quot.)

1862 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIII. 315 'To shirt' hay—that is, to wrap up an inferior quality in prime hay—is such a common practice in the neighbourhood of Paris.

Hence **Shi·rted** *ppl. a.*

1693 *d'Emillianne's Hist. Monast. Orders* vii. 34 The Congregation of St. John of Lateran..have a kind of a Surplice..having the form of a Shirt, for which they are now commonly called in Italy Shirted Fathers, or Fathers of the Shirt. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 178 Were we to hear all the roarings of the shirted Heracles.

Shirtee (ʃɜːtiˑ). *U.S.* [f. SHIRT *sb.* + -EE.] A shirt-front; a 'dickey'.

1818 *Lancaster* (Pa.) *Jrnl.* 5 Aug. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), A shirt, if you can afford it. But if you can't, then a shirtee, with pretty broad ruffles.

Shirting (ʃəˑrtiŋ). [f. SHIRT *sb.* + -ING 1.] Material for shirts; *spec.* a kind of piece-goods of stout cotton cloth suitable for shirts but also used for other garments.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Whore* IV. iii. (1635) H, *Cand.* Looke you, here's choice Cambrickes. *Cram.* No sir, some shirting. 1723 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 128 The Use of Indian Cotton-cloth has been often attempted for Shirting, but to no Purpose. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 49 White and checked shirtings. *a* 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Leaves fr. Notebk.* Ess. (1884) 357 His morbid passion for Manchester shirtings. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 447/2 *Shirtings*, these are otherwise called Fancy Cotton Shirtings...Dresses are sometimes made of the same..cloth, which has been sized and glazed...Women's cuffs and collars are made largely in these Shirting-cloths. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 277/1 *Shirting*..has long since ceased to refer exclusively to shirt cloths...Grey and white shirtings are exported to all the principal Eastern markets.

attrib. 1882 Shirting cloth [see above]. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 277/1 The export shirting trade.

b. The material of which a shirt is made. *rare.*

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem*, xlvi, A troop of..hatless boys with their galligaskins much worn and scant shirting to hang out.

Shirtless (ʃɜːtlés), *a.* [f. SHIRT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a shirt.

a 1613 OVERBURY *Wife*, etc. (1616) G 6, A shirtlesse fellow with a Cudgell vnder his arme. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* III. 116 Grave Mummers! sleeveless some, and shirtless others. 1830 LAMB *Let. to Wordsw.* Lett. 1837 II. 260, I would live in London shirtless, bookless.

transf. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxii, Away the simple [shorn] dam leaps, panting, over the board into the shirtless flock outside.

Hence **Shi·rtlessness.**

1829 *Westm. Rev.* X. 371 A timely recollection of the saying might have rescued Augustus from the ridicule of shirtlessness.

Shirt-sleeve. A sleeve of a shirt. Chiefly *pl.* Phr. *in one's shirt-sleeves*, with one's coat off.

c 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* xi. in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) I. p. lxv, The hostler was in hys ierkyn, and hys shirte sleues wer aboue his elbowes. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* viii. 27 [Bathers depicted as] surprized by the enemy, where you might see one putting his head into his shirt sleeue for hast. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 108 His shirt-sleeve, and the upper part of his waistcoat, were reduced to tinder. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. viii, In their shirt-sleeves, coat flung loosely round the neck. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* IV, He.. threw off his jacket, and began to roll up his shirt-sleeves again. 1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Fort. Republic* Wks. (Bohn) III. 394 Here is the human race poured out over the continent;..all mankind in its shirt-sleeves.

attrib. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., The people are going to elect shirt-sleeve aldermen that work all day. 1908 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Apr. 2/2 The Congressmen have a preference for what they picturesquely describe as 'Shirt-sleeve Ambassadors'—men who they think will labour for their country's interests and scorn social fascinations.

Hence **Shirt-sleeved** *a.*

1869 LOWELL *Poems, Cathedral* 600 This brown-fisted rough, this shirt-sleeved Cid. 1889 D. C. MURRAY *Dang. Catspaw* 30 Esden, sitting shirtsleeved in his apartments.

Shirty (ʃɜːˑrti), *a. slang.* Also **shirtey.** [f. SHIRT *sb.* (2 f) + -Y.] Ill-tempered. Hence **Shi·rtiness.**

1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Shirty*, ill tempered or cross. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 137 They knocked his back as they went over, and he got shirtey. Then came a row. 1892 *Punch* 20 Feb. 88/2 No end of a shirty letter from the Governor. 1899 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 5/1 With both peoples [French and German]..the whole duty of man includes the duty of getting 'shirty' on the slightest provocation. Till they recognize that 'shirtiness' itself is the real enemy of self-respect, they must infallibly go on boring holes in one another in this fatuous way.

Shish (ʃiʃ), *int.* Also **schisch.** Onomatopoeic representation of a prolonged or reiterated hissing sound. Hence also *sb.* and *vb.* Cf. SH *int.*

1881 MRS. RIDDELL *Alaric Spencely* II. 166 Which startled the wild fowl in Abbey Marsh, and caused them..to rend the silence of the night with the schisch and schurr of their wings. 1904 'E. NESBIT' *Phœnix & Carpet* xi. 211 Most of the people [in the theatre] hissed, or said 'Shish!' 1908 *Daily Chron.* 3 June 1/6 [He] was washing himself..and 'shishing' as he rubbed himself like an ostler with a horse.

‖ **Shisham** (ʃiʃám). Also **shishim, sheeshum.** Hindī *çiçam*, cogn. w. Skr. *çiṅçapā* of the same meaning.] = SISSOO.

1849 *Dry Leaves* 96, I found it was shisham, a wood of the most valuable kind. 1909 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 307/1 The wide avenue of the *jhil* road, with its shade of noble *shishams*. 1910 *Ibid.* Aug. 224/2 The 'sheeshum' (*Dalbergia sissoo*) affording excellent timber.

Shism, obs. form of SCHISM.

Shist, Shistose, Shistus: see SCH-.

Shit (ʃit), **shite** (ʃəit), *sb.* Not now in decent use. Forms: 1 scitte, 3 schit, 4 schyt, 6 *Sc.* schit, s(c)heitt(e, 6– shit, shite. [f. root of next. There are prob. two or three different formations: OE. **scite* dung (= MLG. *schite*), *scitte* diarrhœa; also mod.E. dial. *shite* f. the vb. (cf. ON. *skit-r*, MLG. *schit*).]

1. Excrement from the bowels, dung.

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 733 Fond flytten, shit shytter. *a* 1732 LD. BINNING *Jolly Hawk* viii. in *North Country Garland* (1824) 52 His s..te it stinks o' ling!

b. A contemptuous epithet applied to a person.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 496 [Thou art] A schit, but wit. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 85 Wanshapen shit. *Ibid.* 365. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Shit*, a term of contempt. (Very com.) He's a regular shit. Applied to men only. 1889 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

†**2.** Diarrhœa, esp. in cattle. *Obs.*

Cf. the mod. dial. *shoot* with the same meaning (but not etymologically connected).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 226 Wiþ þon þe men mete untela melte & ȝecirre on yfele wætan & scittan. *a* 1118 FLORENCE OF WORC. *Chron. ex Chronicis* an. 987 (Thorpe 1848) 148 Lues animalium, quæ Anglice Scitta vocatur, Latine autem fluxus interaneorum dici potest. [Copied by Higden *Polychron.* (Rolls) VII. 50 (with spelling *shitta*). Hence:] 1387 TREVISA *ibid.* 51 And bestes [had] þe schyt.

3. Comb.: **shit-house,** a privy; † **shit-word,** abuse.

1795 in G. MacGregor *Coll. Writings of Graham* (1883) II. 247 For honour of the Scots, we have his [Wallace's] effigy in the *shite-houses to this very day. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 286 ȝif ich mid chauling..Hom schende & mid fule worde So herdes doþ oþer mid *schit worde.

Shit (ʃit), **shite** (ʃəit), *v.* Not now in decent use. Forms: 4 schite, schete, 5 schyte, -yte, 4–6 shyte, 6 shyt, 4– shite, 7– shit; *Pa. t.* 4 schoot, schote, shyt, 5 shote, 9 shit; *Pa. pple.* 1 -sciten, 4 i-schete, schetun, 4–8 shitten, 9 shit. [The form *shite* represents OE. **scītan*, pa. t. **scāt*, pa. pple. *-sciten* (in *be-sciten*), corresponding to OFris. **skīta* (NFris. *skītj*, pa. t. *skād*, pa. pple. *skedden*), MLG. *schīten*, Du. *schijten*, OHG. *scīȝan* (MHG. *schīȝen*, mod.G. *scheissen*), ON. *skíta* (MSw. *skīta*, Da. *skide*), f. OTeut. root **skīt-*. The now more common form *shit* is influenced by the pa. pple. or the related sb.]

1. *intr.* To void excrement.

c 1308 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 176 Hail be ȝe, skinners, with ȝure drenche kive,..Whan that hit thonnerith, ȝe mote ther in schite. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 329 þey wolde.. make hem a pitte..whan þey wolde schite..; and whanne þey hadde i-schete þey wolde fille þe pitte aȝen. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 12 If he may not schite oones a day, helpe him þerto..with clisterie. *c* 1425 *Castle Persev.* 1969 in *Macro Plays* 136 Þei schul schytyn for fere. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. xv, The wulf..shote thryes by the waye for the grete fere that he had. 1538 BALE *Three Laws* IV. E v b, Whan ye haue hym in hys graue, Stampe hym downe tyll he shyte. ?1677 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Instalment* Wks. 1705 II. 88 You're such a scurvy..Knight, That when you speak a Man wou'd swear you S—te. *c* 1720 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xlvii. (1738) 159, I have known a hide-bound Horse shit often, and his excrement soft. 1787 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xix, Just sh— in a kail-blade, and send it.

2. *trans.* To void as excrement. *lit.* and *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5670 The addres shiteth preciouse stones. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 152 [He] sched out his bowels and his lyf wiþ þe dritt þat he schoot [*v.r.* schotel. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 264 þe wolf shiteþ woolle:..lupus lanam cacat. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 561 in *Macro Plays* 21 *Tityuillus*. Mankynde was besy in hys prayere..; I haue sent hym forth to schyte lesynges. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* X. xv, I dyde shyte thre grete toordes. 1527 L. ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distill. Waters* C iv b, An ounce for them that spetteth blode, pysseth blode, or shyteth blode. 1659 N. R. *Prov., Eng. Fr.* etc. 68 It is not all butter that the cow shites. 1691 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 5 But that the Devil shites Disasters. *c* 1730 *Round abt. Coal-Fire* 17 He was taken with a sharp griping Pain, which made him sh—t Pins and Needles as he thought.

3. To defile with excrement.

1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Shit your breetches*, common redshank; *Totanus calidris*. So called from the cry it makes.

4. Comb.: **shit-abed,** †(*a*) a term of abuse; (*b*) *dial.* a name for the dandelion (E.D.D.); **shit-breech,** an epithet of abuse applied to a person, also *attrib.*; hence *shit-breeched* adj.; **shit-fire,** a contemptuous epithet applied to a hot-tempered person; † **shite-rags, -sticks** (see quot. 1659); † **shit-sack,** an opprobrious name applied to non-conformists (see SHICK-SHACK).

1690 *Pagan Prince* x. 29 But the Arragonian Bakers.. also gave them ill Language, calling them Tooth-Gapers, Sherks, *Shittabeds, Slubber-degullions, [etc.]. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schijt-broeck*, a *Shit-brich. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 92 A Scurvy shit-breech Lad. *Ibid.* 130 Nay even me dost [thou] so enflame Who (Shit-breech) thy own Mother am. 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 383 He..did call the neoteriques s..t-breeches. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 97 But with a Bow the *Shit-breech'd elfe [Cupid] Would shoot like Robin-Hood himself. 1598 FLORIO, *Cacafuoco*, a hot violent fellow, a *shite-fire. 1659 TORRIANO, *Caca-fuoco*, a shite-fire, by Met. a hot-spur, a rash-headed fellow. 1704 E. WARD *Helter Shelter* 7, I say, Sir, you're a meer Shite-fire. 1598 FLORIO, *Cacastraccie*, a *shite-rags, an idle, lazie, loobie fellow. 1659 TORRIANO, *Caca-sodo, Caca-stecchi, Caca-stracci* [etc.], ..a shite-sticks, a shite-rags, that is to say, a miserable pinch-pennie. 1769 J. GRANGER *Biog. Hist. Eng.* Index, *Sh—t Sacks; the occasion of that appellation. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., S—t sack*, a dastardly fellow. 1598 FLORIO, *Cacastecchi*, a hard chuffe, a *shite-sticks.

Hence **Shi·tting, shiting** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.* Also **Shi·tter, shiter.**

1386 *Will R. Huberd* (Somerset Ho.), Meliorem patellam meam vocatum schetyngpanne. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (1495) 288 That the matere..may be ladde oute..by spewing other by shityngе, other by swete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schytynge, *stercoriacio*. Schyytynge, or kukkynge vesselle,..*lassarium*. *a* 1585 [see SHIT *sb.* 1]. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schijter*,..a Shiter. 1663 WOOD *Life* June (O.H.S.) I. 477 Sir Charles Sedley being fined 500 *li.* he made answer, that he thought he was the first man that paid for shiting. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* II. (1707) 68 Knocking a shiting Porter down..backwards into his own Sarreverence.

Shit: see SHEET *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], SHUT.

Shitan, Shite, obs. ff. SHAITAN, SHEET.

Shitepoke (ʃəiˑtpōuk). *U.S.* [f. *shite*, SHIT *v.* + POKE *sb.*] The small green heron of North America, *Butorides virescens*.

c 1850 'DOW JR.' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 48 Seagulls, shitepokes, cranes.

† **Shiterow.** *Obs.* In 4 schiterow, 9 *dial.* shederow. [f. SHITE *v.*; cf. prec. The latter part may be a corrupt form of HERON.] The heron.

¶ In the Sc. Acts of James VI the word occurs (in a list of game birds prob. repeated from some older enactment)

under various corrupt forms as *schidderems, schildernes, schiverines.*

13.. *Nominale* (Skeat) 824 *Un beuee de herouns* A hep of schiterowys. *a* 1827 J. POOLE *Gloss. Forth & Bargy, Wexford* (1867) 67 *Skederow*, the heron: a thin weakly person.

‖ **Shittah** (ʃi·tă). *rare*—1. [Heb. שִׁטָּה *shiṭṭāh*. The *ṭṭ* is for prehistoric *nt*; cf. Arab. *sant*, OEgyptian *sont*, acacia.]

Shittah tree: a tree belonging to some species of Acacia, from which SHITTIM wood was obtained.

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xli. 19, I will plant in the wildernes the Cedar, the Shittah tree [1884 (*Revised*) acacia tree].

Shitte, Shittell, obs. ff. SHUT, SHUTTLE.

Shitten (ʃi·t'n), *a.* [pa. pple. of SHIT *v.*] Defiled with excrement.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 504 And shame it is, if a prest take keepe A shiten [*v.rr.* schetyn, schiten] shepherde and a clene sheepe. 1557 *Welth & Helth* B iij b, I ran my way and let hym syt Smoke and shitten arse together. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* II. ii. 1 Fy, shytten knaue! and out vpon thee! 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xv. (1737) 58 A shitten Clout. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Wks. VI. 276 Why, Miss, you shine this Morning like a sh— Barn-Door. ?*1750 *Birth*, etc. *John Franks* 18 He came crying into the parlour in his shitten condition,..complaining..that he had beshit himself, and Mary Dover would not clean him.

Comb. a 1500 *Chester Plays, Innocents* 157 A vyllany it were, I-wisse for my fellow and me, to slay a shitten-arsed shrew. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. ix. 36 A little shitten-ars'd Girl.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Disgusting, contemptible.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 48 b, As though to be a kynge were a farre vyler..offyce, than to be a pylde shytten nonne. 1592 NASHE *Strange News* H 2, Thou grosse shifter for shitten tapsterly iests. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* cxxxiii. *On Famous Voy.*, And all his followers, that..in so shitten sort, so long had vs'd him. 1656 *Choyce Drollery* 34 'Twas shitten luck to perish so. 1702 *Mouse grown a Rat* 24 You and I are in a shitten Condition.

Hence † **Shi·ttenly** *adv.*

1598 FLORIO, *Cacatamente*,..shittenly.

Shittim (ʃi·tim). Forms: α. 4 **sychym, sichym, sechym,** 5 **oetyne,** 6 **sethin,** (**seathin**), 6–7 **sethim,** 7 *Dicts.* **setim, sittim.** β. **shittim.** [a Heb. שִׁטִּים *shiṭṭīm*, pl. of *shiṭṭāh*: see SHITTAH. The α forms are from the L. *setim* (Vulg.), appearing in many corrupt forms in the MSS.]

1. (More fully *Shittim wood.*) The wood of the shittah-tree, acacia wood.

Sometimes erroneously used for SHITTAH *tree.*

α. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxv. 5 And trees of Sychym [1388 Sechym]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cl. (1495) 704 Sechym is a name..of a tree that is lyke to white thorne in leuys. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxii. (Arb.) 84 The tree in whiche this glas stode..was named oetyne hit sholde endure euer er it wold rote. 1588 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) G 2 b, The Sethim wood wil neuer be eaten with wormes. 1626 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Sethim*, a kinde of tree like a white Thorne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sethim* or *Setim. Sittim. attrib.* 1592 LODGE *Euphues* B j b, Her tongue of a Sethin leafe, that neuer wagges but with a Southeast winde. 1592 GREENE *Philomela* (1615) F 3, As if he had..eaten of the seathin roote, that maketh a man to be as cruell in heart, as it is hard in the rynde. 1594 — *Friar Bacon* III. i, In Frigats bottomd with rich Sethin planks.

β. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxv. 5 And shittim wood. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 330 Near this Halls end a Shittim Table stood. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. 68 The shittim-wood of the Tabernacle. 1862 — *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. vii. 141 The Ark was of shittim, or acacia.

2. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 41 *Rhamnus Purshiana*,..Shittim wood. *Ibid.* 102 *Bumelia lanuginosa*,.. Shittim wood.

† **Shi·ttle,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 5 **schytylle, -ttyl, schityl,** 6 **shyttell, -ttle,** 6–7 **shittle, shet(t)le, shittel,** 7 **shiokle.** [App. repr. an OE. **scytel* :—prehist. **skutil*, f. **skut-* wk. grade of the root of SHOOT *v.*] a. Of persons and their faculties: Inconstant, variable, wavering; fickle, flighty.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schey, or skey, as hors, or stytyl (*S.* schyttyl, *P.* styrtyll). Schytylle, styrtyl, or hasty (*K.* schityl, on stabyl), *preceps.* 1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Shyttell nat constant, *variable.* 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Collingbourne* iii, We passe not what the people saye or thynke, Theyr shyttle hate maketh none but cowardes shrinke. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* II. ii. 97 All which do signify a shuttle wauering nature, & a mynde subiect to great mutability and vnconstancy. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cviii. 662 But our wits are so shettle that we be stil hearkening after this and that. 1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* D iiij, A lyer must haue no shetle memory. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 61 There be some that haue such wandring wittes and shittle heads, that neuer rest till they haue assaied all meanes. 1620 R. TOFTE *Honours Acad.* To Rdr. F 5 Who knowes not when ought well is, or amis, Of shallowe shickle Braine, a token is. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* III. i. 6 The dull brain, the shickle memory. 1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Wom.* III. i, To haue my shittle-wits runne a wooll-gathering already? 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* 79 Did your Sculler, or shittle Skull ever arrive at that Rock of Crystall you boast of?

b. Of things: Shaky, unstable.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xiv. I. 571 The stalke is very shittle in mowing, and therefore flyeth from the edge of the syth. *a* 1623 W. PEMBLE *Salomon's Repent.* (1627) 5 The Waters, a shuttle and running substance.

c. Comb.: **shittle-brained, -headed, -witted** *adjs.*

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 277 A light or *shuttle-brained fellow. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Volage*, a *shittle headed fellow, an inconstant man. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiii. 137 If wee goe this way to worke..we shall not be so shittleheaded as wee bee. 1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* IV. vii. G 3, Was euer mistris so plaugd with a shetle-headed seruant. 1448 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 69, I am aferd that Jon of Sparham is so *schyttyl wyttyd, that he wyl sett hys gode to morgage. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III. v. 330 They therfore are very fooles..or to vse a more gentle terme, they are shuttle witted. 1613 TAPP *Pathw. Knowl.* 36 See how shittle witted I am, for..I had forgotten it till now.

Hence † **Shi·ttleness.**

1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Shyttelnesse, *uariablete*. 1573 BARET *Alv.* S 321 The vaine Shittlenesse of an vnconstant head. 1647 HEXHAM I, Shittlenesse, *ongestadigheyt.*

Shittle, -cock: see SHUTTLE, -COCK.

Shivaism, -ite, var. ff. SIVAISM, SIVAITE.

Shivaree (ʃivărī·), *sb. U.S.* Also **shiveree.** Corrupt form of CHARIVARI.

1881 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* XXXII, She turned on all the horrors of the 'Battle of Prague', that venerable shivaree, and waded chin-deep in the blood of the slain. 1883 *Cassell's Sat. Jrnl.* I. 76 It was a shiveree—that is, the kind of serenade they give to a newly-married couple.

Hence **Shivaree** *v. trans.*, to greet or serenade with a 'shivaree'.

1879 G. W. CABLE *Old Creole Days* (1883) 132 'What is it you call this thing where an old man marries a young girl, and you come out with horns and—' '*Charivari?*' asked the Creoles. 'Yes, that's it. Why don't you shivaree him?' 1910 *Guide* July 139/1 A crowd of the more riff-raff and ignorant foreigners..started out to 'shivaree' (mob and din to madness) the dreaded old man.

Shive (ʃəiv), *sb.*1 Chiefly *dial.* Forms: 3 **schive,** 4–6 **shyve,** 5 **schyfe, schyve,** 4– **shive.** [ME. *schive* (? repr. OE. **sclfe* wk. fem.) = OFris. *skîve* (only in *knê-skîve* knee-cap) OS. *sciva* (glossing *sphera*), MLG., MDu. *schîve* (mod.Du. *schijf*) fem., OHG. *scîba* (MHG. *schîbe*, mod.G. *scheibe*); also (prob. from LG.) Sw. *skifva*, Da. *skive*, Icel. *skífa*. The senses in mod. continental Teut. are quoit, disk, knee-cap, pulley, window-pane, slice of bread, etc. Cf. the str. vb. MHG. *schîben* (early mod.G. *scheiben*) to roll, to spin on an axis; but this is prob. f. the sb. The weak grade **skîb-* of the root is represented by SHEAVE *sb.*1

Affinities outside Teut. are uncertain. The Gr. σκοῖπος (Hesych.) is often cited as cognate, but the alleged sense 'potter's wheel' is a mistake; the gloss appears to mean 'the projecting part of the beams supporting roof-tiles'.]

1. A slice (of bread; rarely of other edible).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 Gif heo mei sparien eni poure schreaden [MS. T. schiue], sende ham al derneliche ut of hire woanes. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 970 Bring me wid þe a shiue bred! *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 525 þe preste bad hym cut shyvis of bread and fyll a kyste þerwith and lokk it. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 23 The rootes [of Iris]..are cut in litle shiues or cakes. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* II. F ij, And with the same [stabbers] thei slashe me out, good God what preatie shiues. Not shiues of bread I meane..But gobbes of fleshe. 1607 T. D[EKKER ?] & WILKINS *Yests* 12 Michaelmas tearme you know is like a great houshold loafe, you may cut out a good many shiues, and yet feede vpon it well too. 1703 THORESBY in Ray *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 336 A Shive of Bread, cut off the Loaf. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 155 A mere wafer of fatless ham, between the finest shives of bread. 1851–62 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 227 Thick 'shives' of bread.

† 2. The knee-cap, patella. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12/3 The shive of the knee, Lat. *Patella.*

† 3. A pane of glass. [? After LG. *schîve.*] *Obs.*

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B j, The great rounde shyves of Venys glas.

4. A thin flat cork for stopping a wide-mouthed bottle; also a thin bung for a cask.

1869 W. MOLYNEUX *Burton-on-Trent* 247 [The cask] is then closed with a wooden 'shieve' or bung. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 275/2 Ales intended to be stored some months should have a porous vent peg placed in the shive.

attrib. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 10/6 Advt., Shive Turner wanted by a leading London brewery.

† 5. A piece (of wood) split off, a billet. [? Confused with SHIDE or SHIVER.] *Obs.*

1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chym.* VI. 401 The shavings..differing from those shives or thin and flexible pieces of wood that are obtain'd by Borers. 1786 COWPER *Odyss.* XIV. 518 Then lifting a huge shive [Gr. σχίζῃ δρυός] that lay beside The fire, he smote the boar, and dead he fell.

Shive (ʃəiv), *sb.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 **shiv.** See also SHEAVE *sb.*2 [= WFlem. *schîf* (for other cognates see SHEAVE *sb.*2), f. Teut. root **skîf-* to split, whence SHIVER *sb.*1] A particle of husk; a splinter; a piece of thread or fluff on the surface of cloth, etc.; *pl.* the refuse of hemp or flax.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/2 Schyfes (*A.* schyfies) of lyne, *stupa, napta.* 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. I. II. 4 What shall bee done with all the hard refuse [of the Flax], the long buns of the stalkes, the short shuds or shives. 1672 HOOLE *Comenius' Visible World* lix. 121 Where the Shives [*cortices*] fall down, then they are heckled with an Iron Heckle. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. (1723) 81 The Shiv's or Chaff of the *Fruit* of Trees and Shrubs. 1855 *Whitby Glost., Shive*, husks of grain and such like particles.

† **Shive,** *v.*1 *Obs.* [f. SHIVE *sb.*1 Cf. ON. *skîfa.*] *trans.* To cut (bread) into slices.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 132/39 To shiue, *dissecare.* 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 343 He shiues out his Bread by weight or measure.

† **Shive,** *v.*2 *Obs.*—[f. SHIVE *sb.*2] *trans.* To 'break' (hemp, flax).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/2 To schyfe, *extupare.*

Shive, variant of CHIVE *sb.*2 *Obs.*

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 58/2 Heerof thou shalt alwayes after meales eate a discided shive of Fennelle. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 92 Adding.. three shives of Saffron undried.

Shiver (ʃi·vəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 3 **scifre, scivre,** 4 **schivere,** 4–6 **shyver,** 5 **schyver(e, schevyre, schyvyr,** 5–6 **shever,** 6 **shyvere, shiever.** 6– **shiver.** [Early ME. *scifre*, cogn. w. OHG. *scivero* wk. masc., splinter (MHG. *schiver(e, schever(e* splinter, mod.G. *schiefer* slate, short for *schieferstein*), f. Teut. root **skîf-* to split, whence SHEAVE *sb.*2, SHIVE *sb.*2]

1. A fragment, chip, splinter. Now *rare* exc. in phrases: see b.

c 1205 LAY. 27784 Sceld a3ein scelden sciuren þer wunden. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3234 It was na wapen that man might welde Might get a shever out of thair shelde. 1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxxviii. 234 Syr Raynolde du Roy brake his spere in iiii. peces, and y^e^ sheuers flewe a grete hyght into y^e^ ayre. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* I. vii. 53 A splint or shyuer of a broken speare. 1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 119 They use no Candles, but long Shivers of Wood. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. iv, A heap of withered boughs was piled, Of juniper and rowan wild, Mingled with shivers from the oak. 1885 TENNYSON *Balin* 108 Thorns of the crown and shivers of the cross.

fig. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Ad. Sect. 16. 180 The Church gathering up..the shivers of the broken heart may reunite them.

b. Phrases. *In shivers*, broken, in small fragments (so *to break, burst*, etc. *in* or *into shivers*); (*all*) *to shivers*, into small fragments; † *to go shivers*, to be shattered to pieces.

c 1205 LAY. 4537 Scip ærne to-3en scip þa hit al to-wonde to sciiren. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 7213 Wiþ þe spere he him smot smertliche..þat alto schiueres it to-fleye. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. v. 82 The Iryssthe knyght smote Balyn on the sheld that alle wente sheuers of his spere. 1589 GREENE *Tullies Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 109 The boult rebounded and brake into a thousand shiuers. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 10 If you strike or pierce a Solid Body, that is brittle,..it breaketh not onely, wher the immediate force is; but breaketh all about into shiuers. 1769 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 18 Oct., The rocks at top deep-cloven perpendicularly, by the rains, hanging loose and nodding forwards, seem just starting from their base in shivers. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 443 The other ship..endeavouring to set his main-top-sail, it blew to shivers. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *Remin.* II. xxix. 303 The thunder crashed and tore itself into shivers overhead.

fig. 1658 CLEVELAND *Rust. Ramp.* 2 And had not Providence held back the hand, the blow had faln, the Government had broke into shivers then. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 135 Yet this faculty uniformly yields—goes into shivers in the encounter!

c. *spec.* A flake or splinter of stone (e.g. one knocked off in stone-dressing). Now *Sc.* and *dial.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlvi. 517 Put in the clefts some shiuers of hard stone. 1708 J. C. *Compleat Collier* (1845) 22 The Shivers or Splints of the Whin or hard Stone. 1861 STEPHENS & BURN *Farm-Buildings* 243 A ditcher's shovel is also useful to him in putting the shivers of the stones together into heaps.

† 2. ? A loose fibre or filament in undressed hemp. *Obs.* Cf. SHIVE *sb.*2

1440 *Wyclif's Bible, Josh.* ii. 6 [Forsothe sche made the men to stie in to the soler of hir hows, and hilide hem with stobil] or schyueres [of flex, that was there]. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* iii. 97 You shall beate out all the loose buns and shiuers that hang in the Hempe or Flaxe. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 56 *Shivers*, the foul particles taken from the hemp when hatchelling.

3. Any kind of stone of a slaty or schistous character. [Perh. a. G. *schiefer*; cf. SHIFFER.]

1729 WOODWARD *Attempt Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. I. 18 Shiver, of a dark Ash-Colour, near Black. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* II. 10 Some varieties of the schists or shivers are of the same colour and quality as the slates. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 46 Shale or shiver..A black laminated clay, much indurated. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Shiver.* 1. Shale; a hard argillaceous bed. 2. See *Sheave.*

attrib. 1804 JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 9 Slate spar, or shiver spar. [Ger.] Schieferspath.

Shiver (ʃi·vəɹ), *sb.*2 Forms: 4 **schivere, shyvere, schever,** 4–5 **schiver, schevere,** 5 **schevyr, schevre, schyver(e, shefure,** 5–6 **shyver,** 5–8 **shever,** 6 **shiffer,** 7 **shivar, shivor,** 7–9 **sheever,** 6– **shiver.** [ME. *schivere*, f. Teut. root **skîb-* of SHEAVE *sb.*1, SHIVE *sb.*1]

† 1. = SHIVE *sb.*1 1. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A) 1826 Now ich wolde 3eue hit [i.e. Arondel] kof For a schiuer of a lof! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 132 'Now dame' quod he,..'Haue I nat of a capon but the lyuere And of youre softe breed nat but a shyuere'. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Whan it is cold, larde it, & schere on schevres. 1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 209 An halpeny white loffe and a shiffer of chese. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 269 Rolls of bread taken out of the basket, or shivers cut out of the loaf. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Erle Robert's Mice* 50 Therein eke may Both be fed With Shiver of the Wheaten Bread. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 87 [It] left large spots..on that side whence the shivers were taken off.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 4 b, The Moncks and Abbots of my knowledge, cut large shivers of the loafe for which they neuer sweate, to make themselues strong in the peoples favour and opinion. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 55 His [*sc.* the Pope's] intolerable extortions; which, how great soever, were but a large shiver of that loaf, which he had given into the Kings hand.

2. A pulley: = SHEAVE *sb.*1 2.

1485 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 176 For brassyn schyver for the schype, xxiiij d. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 192 Snache poleyes with oon shever of brasse to y^e^ same. 1514 in Oppenheim *Adm. Royal Navy* (1896) I. 373 Ramehedes with ij shevers of Brasse. 1578 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 52 An ironmonger of smale made wares, *videlicet*, of nayles, horse shues, slyppes, shyuers, spade shoes [etc.]. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 94 To have had his advice about bras shivers. 1800 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVIII. 232 The pulleys, or shivers. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 147 Shivers to stand nearly athwartships.

†3. The breastplate of a plough. *Obs.*

1652 W. Blith *Eng. Improver Improved* II. xxviii. (1653) 192 [Parts of a Plough.] 1. The Share, 2 the Coulter, 3 the Shield or Breast-plate (as some call them) Shivers. *Ibid.* 194 A Shiver [*printed* Shiner] or Breast-plate.

Shiver (ʃi·vəɹ), *sb.*3 [f. Shiver *v.*2]

1. An act or a condition of shivering; a quivering or trembling, esp. of the body under the influence of cold, emotion, etc. Phrase, (*all*) *in a shiver*.

1727 [E. Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* 163 High Mountains of Ice, which echo'd with Shivers. 1835 *Comic Almanack* Jan. (1870) 4 When you first go to bathe, gentle Sir, in a river, If you dip in one foot, it will give you a shiver. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* viii, You are cold, and all in a shiver. 1863 Mrs. Oliphant *Salem Chapel* x. 161 Shivers of restrained emotion ran through the astonished audience. 1876 Hardy *Ethelberta* xliv, She closed her eyes in a white shiver.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1860 Motley *Netherl.* ii. I. 31 Germany was in a shiver at every breeze from East and West. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xxxix, With a sort of mental shiver.

2. (*The*) *shivers*: an attack of shivering; often spec. the ague.

1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* iii, I'll beat the shivers so far, I'll bet you. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* xxx, I only know that I get the shivers every time I sit in your drawing-room. 1888 *Century Mag.* May 28/2 It gives me the cold shivers when I think what might have become of me. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 658 The beginning [of hydroa gestationis] is sometimes marked by shivers, illness and fever.

Shiver (ʃi·vəɹ), *v.*1 Forms: *α.* 3 shivre, 4 schiver(e, 4–5 schyver, 5 shifer, 4–6 shyver, shiever, 6– shiver; *β.* 4–5 schever, 5 schevere, scheffer, (chever), 4–6 shever, 7 shevire, shaver. [f. Shiver *sb.*1 Cf. MDu. *scheveren*, MHG. *schiveren* (G. *schiefern*).]

1. *trans.* To break or split into small fragments or splinters.

α. c 1200 [see To-shiver *v.*]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3411 Mani a spere spacli on peces were to-broke, & many a schene scheld scheuered al to peces. *c* 1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 3539 Thair sheldes war shiferd and helms rifen. 1530 Palsgr. 704/1, I whyl shyver this blocke into small chyppes. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxvi. i, Their bow, and shaft, and shield, and sword he shivered. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* III. (1632) 82 What would haue..shiuered towres, doth giue no wound at all. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 32 P 2 How many impartial Looking-Glasses had been censured and calumniated, nay, and sometimes shivered into ten thousand Splinters. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 227 The glass, under this management, is generally shivered into small pieces. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. vii, Or rusty firelocks belch after him, shivering asunder his—hat. 1843 — *Past. & Pr.* iv. iv. 369 Ye have shivered mountains asunder. 1876 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Jan. 30 The mail cars were completely crushed and shivered.

β. a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1813 Schotte thorowe the schiltrouns, and scheverede launcez. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 105 b, The sonne of the Master gonner..fired the gonne, whiche brake & shevered y^e^ yron barres of the grate. 1598 *Mucedorus* Induct. 22 Ile thunder musicke shall appale the nimphes, And make them sheuer their clattering strings. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 113/2 A Lance broken, or shavered in the middle.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context. Also with *out*.

a 1593 Marlowe tr. *Lucan* I. 85 O Roome thy selfe art cause of all these euils, Thy selfe thus shiuered out to three mens shares. 1631 Lenton *Charact.* C 4 b, Diseases at last dry vp her marrow, and rottennesse so shiuers her, that shee drops asunder on a sudden, and wretchedly dyes without pitty. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. viii. (1640) 181 He found the Christians there shivered into severall factions. 1871 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. vii. 197 At last the might and the hopes of Charles were shivered beneath the halbert of the free Switzer.

c. *Shiver my timbers*: a mock oath attributed in comic fiction to sailors.

1835 Marryat *F. Faithful* ix, I won't thrash you Tom. Shiver my timbers if I do.

2. *intr.* To fly in pieces; to split.

α. c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13829 Þeir schaftes schiuered, & fleye in feld. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1747 Ther shyueren shaftes vpon sheeldes thikke. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 315 Þe speres..shyuereden to peces. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 34 b., Will at lenth bryng all his other buildyng to ruine, and cause it to shiever in peeces to the grounde. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 51 Had'st thou beene ought But Gozemore, Feathers, Ayre, (So many fathome downe precipitating) Thoud'st shiuer'd like an egge. 1768 Gray *Fatal Sisters* vi, Ere the ruddy sun be set Pikes must shiver, javelins sing. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. x, The panels shivering in, like potsherds. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxvi. 460 As he crossed the hall, his statue fell, and shivered on the stones.

β. c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Blk. Knt.* 46 So loude songe that al the wode ronge, Lyke as hyt sholde sheuer in pesis smale. 1523 Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxix. 282 The two knyghtes mette rudely togeyder, soo that their speares sheuered all to peaces.

fig. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 2 Since my works are as frail, and brittle as their pots, and are ready to shiver and break, upon the least dash of a stone. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 10 His eighth Argument shivers in the uttering.

†b. To send *down* (débris) by crumbling. *Obs.*

1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. 235 This Hill is almost perpetually shivering down Earth and great Stones.

3. *intr.* Of stone: To split along the natural line of cleavage. [? After G. *schiefern*.]

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Vein*, Veins, in stones, are often a defect, proceeding usually from an inequality..which makes the stone crack, and shiver in those parts. 1826 W. A. Miles *Deverel Barrow*, etc. 51 Its [*i. e.* Kimmeridge coal money's] great tendency to destructibility and of shivering laminally, would be a bar to its ever having been a coinage intended to pass from hand to hand.

Shiver (ʃi·vəɹ), *v.*2 Forms: *α.* 3–4 chivere, chievere, 5–6 chyver, chever; *β.* 5–6 shyver, shever, 6 shiever, 8 schiver, 6– shiver. [Early ME. *chivere*, of obscure etymology.

It may be doubtfully suggested that the word may originally have had reference to the chattering of the teeth from cold (cf. *to chevere with the chin*, quot. *c* 1475 below), and that (with the app. synonymous Chivel *v.*) it is connected with early ME. *cheovele*, *chefle* to wag the jaws, chatter (see Chavel *v.*), f. OE. *ceaft* jaw (see Jowl). The ending *-el* may have been assimilated to the suffix -er[5], common in verbs expressing tremulous movement; cf. however MHG. *kiver* (G. *kiefer*) beside *kivel* jaw. The change of *ch* to *sh* may have been due to the frequent association with *shake*.]

1. *intr.* To tremble, shake, quiver; esp. to tremble with cold or fear.

α. c 1250 *Death* 142 in *O. E. Misc.* 176 For ich schal bernen in fur, and chiuerin in ise. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 9 Thanne comth the blanche fievere With chele and makth me so to chievere. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 144 Þe temple walles gan chiuere and schake, Veiles in þe temple a-two þei sponne. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 96 My Gaist and I baith cheueris with the chin, So fell ane wedder feld I neuer. 1530 Palsgr. 483/2, I chever, as one dothe that is in an axes whan the colde cometh on hym.

β. c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Blk. Knt.* 230 With hote and colde my acces ys so meynt, That now I shyuer for defaute of hete. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 259 All his body shevered all sodenly for grete ioye. 1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Iuliet* 370 And now for feare she sheuereth, and now for loue she burnes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 1003 Why stand we longer shivering under feares That show no end but Death? 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* VII. i. (1782) III. 7 He drew his long rapier, which made me shiver. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Charmed Sea* i. 3 The pines are stooping and shivering on all the hills around. 1866 Geo. Eliot *Felix Holt* I. i. 44 Under the cold weight of these thoughts Mrs. Transome shivered. 1878 Susan Phillips *On Seaboard* 185 Where the sea-pinks grow, And the dry rushes shiver in the sand.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1649 Milton *Tenure Kings* 4 [They] begin to swerve and almost shiver at the majesty and grandeur of som noble deed, as if they were newly enter'd into a great sin. 1878 J. S. Campion *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 27 The air shivered with noise; the earth trembled under our feet.

2. *trans.* (causative.) †a. To give a sensation of chill to, to cause (a person or object) to shiver.

c 1200 [see Shivering *ppl. a.*2 1]. 1797–1805 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* I. 354 A waking dream of horrors, not unlike that which had disturbed his sleep, seemed to shiver his senses.

b. †To cause (one's jaws) to tremble (*obs.*); to pour out or give forth with a trembling motion.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xx. 167 Diddering and shivering his Chaps, as Apes use to do. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 167 Where tiny blossoms with a purple bell Shiver their beauties to the autumn-gale. *a* 1861 T. Woolner *My Beautiful Lady*, *Storm* ii, Quiet are the birds In ghostly trees that shiver not a sound.

3. *Naut.* a. *intr.* Of a sail: To flutter or shake (in the wind).

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Tack*, The head-sails are immediately made to shiver in the wind. 1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* liii, The sail..is shivering in the gale. 1891 *Patterson's Naut. Dict.* I. s. v., A vessel's sails are said to shiver when she is luffed so close that the wind is spilled out of them.

b. *trans.* To cause (a sail) to flutter or shake in the wind, to bring a sail edge-on to the wind.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* II. (1780), *Déventer les voiles*, to shiver the sails, or brace them so as to shiver in the wind. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* iii. (ed. 2) 59 Shiver the mizen topsail or brail up the spanker.

4. To quiver, to tremble with a shrinking movement.

c 1869 Adm. Paget *Autobiog.* (1896) 221 The gory head of a Greek just decapitated, the trunk still shivering. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 May 1147 Time and again, I have seen the skin 'shiver' at the touch of the knife.

Shivered, *a. rare*–1. [f. Shiver *sb.*2 + -ed 2.] Fitted with a shiver or pulley (of a specified size or kind).

1775 Falck *Day's Diving Vessel* 27 A single eight-inch shivered block was bound in a strong iron strop.

Shivered (ʃi·vəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. Shiver *v.*1 + -ed 1.] Broken, shattered.

a 1542 Wyatt *Poems*, '*The furious gun*' The furyous gonne..cracketh in sonder: and in the ayer doeth rore the shevered peces. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* V. (1626) 90 And through his flesh the shiuered bones arise. *c* 1764 Gray *Welsh Fragm., Conan* 8 As the thunder's fiery stroke, Glancing on the shiver'd oak. 1815 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xii, Where Coolin stoops him to the west, They saw upon his shiver'd crest The sun's arising gleam. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 221 Like shivered moonlight on long waters.

Shivereens (ʃivərĭ·nz), *sb. pl. dial.* [f. Shiver *sb.*1, after Smithereens.] Fragments, small pieces.

1855 *Sheffield Ann.* 6 (E.D.D.) Nock it to shivereens. 1893 Crockett *Stickit Min.* 291 Kelly could 'lick him into shivereens'.

Shiverer[1] (ʃi·vərəɹ). [f. Shiver *v.*1 + -er 1.] One who breaks (something) into small pieces.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 311 Chosen ground for the shiverers of lances and the lovers of courtly splendour.

Shiverer[2] (ʃi·vərəɹ). [f. Shiver *v.*2 + -er 1.] One who trembles or shakes.

1883 Meredith *Poems of Joy of Earth* 103 Ere you follow nature's lead, Of her powers in you have heed; Else a shiverer you will find You have challenged humankind.

b. *dial.* (See quots.)

1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Shiverer*, a horse which has a lameness in the loins. 1899 *Daily News* 13 Apr. 3/5 Another horse was sold..it fell down in the street the first time it was harnessed, and was proved to be a 'roarer and a shiverer' of long standing.

Shiverine. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 schiverone, shivering, 6–7 schiverene. [? Some kind of derivative of F. *chèvre* goat.] a. ? A goat-skin. b. *pl.* ? Goatskin or kid gloves (? or breeches).

15.. *Customs* in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 87 For ane hundreth lamb skinnis, x. d. For ane hundreth schiveronis, iiij d. 1598 in Beck *Gloves* (1883) 151 For each dozn shewing [? *read* shivering] shewed with silk, six shillings; each dozen shivering shewed with threed, five shillings. 1663 in *Maitland Club Misc.* (1840) II. 502 For a paire of shiverines to my Lord and drink money to the boy. 1664 *Ibid.* 508 A pair of schiverines.

Shivering, *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Shiver *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action or an act of Shiver *v.*1

c 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* (E.E.T.S.) 31/548 For schyueryng of sche[l]des, & schynyng of helmes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 146 b, By chaunce of shiueryng of the spere. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 574 Vpon the Breaking and Shiuering of a great State and Empire, you may be sure to haue Warres. 1647 Hexham I, A shivering, or a rieving, *Een klievinge, ofte een scheuringe.*

2. A fragment, splinter. *rare.*

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 1. 270 In stead of Occam they vse the shiuerings of the barke of the sayd trees.

Shivering (ʃi·vəriŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Shiver *v.*2 + -ing 1.] The action or an act of Shiver *v.*2

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxxix. (1495) 253 A feuer Terciane greuyth euery daye fyrste wyth sheueringe and thenne wyth heete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 75/1 Chymerynge or chyuerynge, or dyderynge, *frigutus*. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 17/3 Ther is a chillnes and shiveringe therwith associated. 1681 Belon *New Myst. Phys.* Introd. 1 A Tertian that comes with a cold Shivering. 1741 Wesley *Jrnl.* 25 Oct., About two in the afternoon just as I was set down to dinner, a shivering came upon me, and a little pain in my back. 1873 *Lancet* 27 Dec. 900/1 Every day she had shiverings, which came on after 4 o'clock P.M.

b. *Comb.*, as *shivering attack, fit.*

1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* vii, The poor goat stretched out her limbs with the twitches and shivering fit of the last agony. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxv. V. 305 Headaches and shivering fits returned on him almost daily. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 169 The patient frequently feels cold all over, and may have a sharp shivering attack.

Shivering (ʃi·vəriŋ), *ppl. a.*1 [f. Shiver *v.*1 + -ing 2.] That shivers (in various senses of the verb); shattering, breaking, splintering.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 789 Sone in scheuerand schidis schaftis ere brosten. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 771 Our schefferand harnes schot the blud so scheyn. 1775 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IX. 115 The shivering trumpets tear the still-voiced air. 1824 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* III. III. i. 221 The soft shivering argillaceous stone which easily yields to the weather.

Hence **Shi·veringly** *adv.*1 *rare*–1.

1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* IV. *Extent of God's Provid.* § 15. 400 The maine Summier of the other floore that fell was much stronger...Yet that also failed.., and that more shiveringly, and with a longer rent..then the other.

Shivering (ʃi·vəriŋ), *ppl. a.*2 [f. Shiver *v.*2 + -ing 2.]

1. That causes to shiver with cold, chilly.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 63 And ðu, earme saule, on ðe wallende brene of ðe hote fiere, and eft, embehwile, on ðe chiuerinde chele. 1786 *Har'st Rig* xc, Cold shiv'ring blasts do not dismay The Celtic race. 1830 G. Colman *Random Rec.* xli. II. 63 My companion's lower habiliments appear'd somewhat shivering for the season. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 238 It was truly a shivering and a shuddering night.

2. Trembling with cold, fear, etc.

1577 Grange *Golden Aphrod.* I iv b, The crampe ouertooke hir feeling, hyr sheuering nayles started. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 488 Their Camelots..shield the shiv'ring Mariner from Cold. 1754 Gray *Poesy* 57 To chear the shiv'ring Natives dull abode. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* III. 72 The shivering wretch turned up a narrow court in Holborn. 1891 Farrar *Darkn. & Dawn* I, The shivering throngs whom the flames had driven from their homes.

jocularly. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Det. Thoughts on Bks.*, A tithe of that good leather would comfortably reclothe my shivering folios.

b. of feelings, and the like.

1562 A. Brooke *Romeus & Iuliet* 907 Of shyuering care and dred I haue felt many a fit. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 23 Awaking with a shivering feare, caused by his imagination and passion. 1747 Mallet *Amynter & Theodora* III. 420 Thro shivering joy and doubt. 1898 Meredith *Odes, Napoleon* xiii, His nature with her shivering faith ran yoked.

c. *Shivering-Jemmy* (see quot.). Also a dial. name for *Briza media*, also known as *shivering-grass* (Britten and Holland).

1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict., Shivering-Jemmy*, the name given by street folk to any cadger who exposes himself half naked, on a cold day to obtain alms.

3. Of things: Trembling, shaking, fluttering.

1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 151 The shivering sails descend; the yards are square. 1849 Noad *Electricity* 290 Large extraordinary movements of the needle, in which it traverses frequently, with a shivering motion, an arc of several degrees on both sides of its usual position. 1865

SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. i. 103 Shivering soft eyelashes. 1870 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Epic of Women* 57 The swaying pine and shivering fir.

b. Of sound: Tremulous.

16.. tr. *Strada* in Flavel *Husb. Spirit.* (1669) 236 And closing up his layes, Like a full Quire, a shivering consort playes. 1891 *Spectator* 23 Mar., That wants nothing but the shivering music to make a grand sensation on any boards.

Hence **Shi·veringly** *adv.*[2]

1825 MRS. HEMANS *Forest Sanctuary* xlvi, Some like the leaf swept shiveringly along. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VI. 349 'Ah', he continued shiveringly, 'how very cold it is!' 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xx. 266 Vassilissa enters timidly, and gazes shiveringly at the head of secret police.

Shivery (ʃi·vəri), *a.*[1] [f. SHIVER *sb.*[1] + -Y [1].] Apt to split into flakes, brittle, flaky.

Shivery salt: ? a salt exhibiting a laminal texture.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 87 Cause a small Ballance to be forged out of the blade of an old Sword, that it may have ..nothing ruff or shivery [orig. Ger. *schifferig*]..on it. 1748 BROWNRIGG *Art of Making Salt* 72 In making a kind of salt called shivery salt they use yet more gentle fires. 1794 SCHMEISSER *Syst. Min.* I. 145 Its texture is rather shivery or fibrous. 1797 ROBISON in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 280/2 Shivery angular stones of the size of an egg. 1858 GEIKIE *Story Boulder* x. 198 This rock is worthless as a source of lime, nor from its irregular laminations and shivery structure has it much value in any other way.

Shivery (ʃi·vəri), *a.*[2] [f. SHIVER *v.*[2] + -Y.]

1. Characterized by a shaking, quivering motion, or appearance of motion.

1747 MALLET *Amynior & Theodora* III. 532 His frame with shivery horror shook. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 59 The shivery appearance his engravings convey, totally misrepresents the features of this extraordinary mass. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiv, The shivery canes, and the tall, dark cypress, hung with wreaths of dark, funereal moss, glow in the golden ray.

2. Inclined to shiver.

1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* xliii, I'm all wet and shivery. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 826 She turns a little shivery and pale, at times even ashy.

3. Causing a shivering feeling, chilly.

1839 HOOD *Ode for Ninth Nov.* 15 Was there no better day To fix on, than November Ninth so shivery? 1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highw. Derbysh.* iii. 44 It was a shivery place and gave her headaches.

Shivey (ʃi·vi), *a. dial.* Also **shivvy** (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*) and SHEAVY. [f. SHIVE *sb.*[2] + -Y [1].] (See quot.)

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 189 In the wool-sorting a good deal can be done, but when wool is full of burrs, seeds, etc., and is what is generally called 'shivey', sorting and shaking can do little.

Shloke, variant of SLOKE **2**.

1881 E. ARNOLD *Indian Poetry* a Dhoyi holds the listener still With his shlokes of subtle skill.

Sho: see SHE, SHOE, SHOO *int.*[1] and **2**.

Shoad, shode (ʃōəd). *local.* Forms: 7–9 shod, (8 shoald), 7– shoad, 8– shode; also 7 shadd, 7–8 shade. [Prob. a derivative of OE. *scēdan* to divide, separate: see SHED *v.* Cf. SHODE. The genuineness of the forms *shadd, shade* is doubtful.] Loose fragments of tin, lead, or copper ore mixed with earth, lying on or near the surface and indicating the proximity of a lode. Also (with pl.) one of these fragments.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 8 b, They discouer these workes, by certaine Tynne-stones, lying on the face of the ground, which they terme *Shoad.* 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 3 They [Metals] are discovered to us..by Moles which cast up their shade or glittering earth. *Ibid.* 79 [Quotes (from Holland's *Camden*) the passage of Carew given above (quot. 1602), but with *shadd* substituted for *shoad*]. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Preparing of Tin* 120 The Tinners find the Mine by the Shoad (or as they call it Squad) which is loose stones of Tin mixed with the Earth. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. § I. v. 306 A Shod. *Spuma Lupi.* The forerunner of the Load or Mother of the Tin-Ore. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 126 Copper and Lead Shodes are very seldom met with. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 406 The shoad of lead is always either coated or tarnished. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 230 Examining the shods, or loose stones, in search of minerals. 1825 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 200 This stream-tin is..met with..in separate stones called *shodes.*

b. *attrib.*, as *shade earth, shoad-ore, -stone.*

1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s. v. *China,* To Gild China. You must first grind some *shade-earth on a marble, with linseed-oil,..with which trace out your figures. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 362 There is a very material difference between float and *shoad ore, although they are both found upon the surface of the rock. Shoad ore..is always found in loose masses of all sizes, either in or under the upper soil. *a* 1798 WOODWARD *Fossils* I. (1799) I. 202 A *Shoad-stone, found near the Surface of the Earth...*Cornwall.*

Hence **Shoa·der** (see quot. 1882). **Shoa·ding,** the process of searching for shoad-ore by digging small pits (hence *shoading-heap, -pit*).

1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 124 Another and very ancient method of discovering Tin Lodes, is by what we call Shodeing, that is, tracing them home by loose Stones, fragments, or Shodes. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss., Shoading-heaps,* heaps from pits sunk in search of veins of metal. 1882 JAGO *Anc. Lang.* & *Dial. Cornwall* 263 *Shoaders,* miners engaged in shoading. *Ibid., Shoading pits,* pits dug in the search for a lode. 1893 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., To 'go a shoading' is to go prospecting for shoad-ore.

Shoal (ʃōəl), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4–5 shelde. β. (Chiefly *Sc.*) 4–6 schald, 5 schauld, 6 schalde, shaulde, (9 *dial.* shall, shad); 6 *pl.* shawllys. γ. 5–7 sholde, 6–7 shold, should(e, 7 showld, **shoald,** (9 *dial.* shod, shoad). δ. 6 shol, shoel(l, 6–7 shole, 7 shoule, (schoole), 7–8 shoale, 7– shoal. [Absolute use of SHOAL *a.*] A place where the water is of little depth; a shallow; a sand-bank or bar.

α. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2054 The mariners unneth it withhelde, That shyppe left in the shelde.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvii. (*Martha*) 113 Quhare þe body lay, to ryvine al castine one a schald. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 44 Bot ix or x he kest a gait befor, Langis the schauld, maid it bath dep and schor. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* Prol. (1811) 5 The passage [is] so strayte and daungerous that they must nedis come thorow many straytis and shawlys. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 161 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv, His schip come never on the schalde, But stak still on the ancker halde. *c* 1585 in *Early Naval Ballads* (Percy Soc.) 16 When shauldes and sandie bankes apears What pillot can direct his course?

γ. 1424 *26 Pol. Poems* xiii. 146 On see, on lond, on sholde, and depe. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* I. A ij b, And three the Easterne winde also..Out of the deepe into the sholdes and quicksands made to sinke. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc., Plancius' Map* (1597) 277 Deapthes, sands, showlds and rockes. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 24 This was nothing but shoalds to the land. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. i. 137 Knowledge of Depths and Shoulds.

δ. 1555 EDEN *Decades, 2nd Voy. Guiana* 351 The sholes of the ryuer cauled Rio Grande. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 24 b, She strake upon a shoel. 1589 BIGGES *Summarie Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 47 The shols appearing daungerous. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* VI. 215 A long and dangerous shoule of rocks and sand. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 21 We were cast vpon the shoales or flats of Mozambique. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 285 Wedg'd in the Rocky Sholes, and sticking fast. 1769 BANCROFT *Guiana* 357 On the east side is a sandy shoal. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 169 Among the shoals and eddies with which the Sutlej abounds. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. vi. 200 There is a dangerous shoal in the harbour.

b. *fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 6 Vpon this Banke and Schoole of time. 1613 — *Hen. VIII,* III. ii. 437 Wolsey, that once ..sounded all the Depths, and Shoales of Honor. 1815 BYRON *Stanzas for Music,* '*There's not a joy*' 6 Then the few whose spirits float above the wreck of happiness Are driven o'er the shoals of guilt or ocean of excess.

c. *attrib.*, as *shoal-bank, -ground, -rock*; **shoal-mark,** a buoy or other mark set to indicate a shoal.

1712 W. ROGERS *Voy. round World* 51 There are..some Shoal-Banks between them, but no Shoal-Ground before we come to this Cove. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life Mississippi* xi. 112 He..then began to work her warily into the next system of shoal marks.

Shoal (ʃōəl), *sb.*[2] Forms: 6–7 shoale, 6–8 shole, 7 shoole, showl, 9 shool, 7– shoal. [Late 16th c. *shole*; the earlier history is uncertain. The word is etymologically identical with OE. *scolu* str. fem., troop, division of an army = OS. *scola* multitude (MLG. *schole*), MDu. *schole* multitude, flock, shoal of fishes (Du. *school,* WFris. *skoal,* NFris. *skōl,* shoal of fishes) :–OTeut. type **skulō,* f. **skul-* wk. grade of **skel-* to divide (whence SHALE *sb.*, SHELL *sb.*, SKILL *sb.* and *v.*, etc.).

It is possible that the OE. word may have had the sense of shoal of fishes, and in this sense may have continued in nautical use ever since, though unrecorded in ME. and early mod.E. The simpler hypothesis is that the 16th c. *shole* was a re-adoption of the Du. form (see above) which in the 14–15th c. had been taken into English as *scole* (see SCHOOL *sb.*[3]). The initial (ʃ) may be an English sound-substitution for the Du. (sx), or it may come from one of the Flemish dialects in which *sch* is pronounced (ʃ).]

1. A large number of fish, porpoises, seals, whales, etc. swimming together; = SCHOOL *sb.*[2] 1. Phr. *in a shoal, in* or *by shoals.*

1579 [see 3]. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 69 Sholes of fish frisking and playing. 1653 MILTON *Ps.* viii. 22 Fish that through the wet Sea-paths in shoals do slide. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in 1772,* 333 Herrings offer themselves in shoals. 1835 MARRYAT *Y. Naithful* viii, The shoals of seals would follow the ship if you whistled. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 286 The ship..came upon a large shoal of whales. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. West* II. *Cornw.* xix. 314 As the season advances the shool, or shoal, comes nearer the shore. 1905 D. SMITH *Days of His Flesh* I. 515 Supposing..that the stranger had skill in fisher-craft and had perhaps observed indications of a shoal, they obeyed.

b. Hence occas. used of a number of aquatic animals or floating objects.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 31 b, The waters..bare the whole shole of them [sc. dead carcasses] before them. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxiv. 190 The bubbles ascended in this Liquor, as it were in sholes. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxvii. 26 A Whole Shoal of Frogs. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. VI. 198 A shoal of boats now came off from the harbours filled with people. 1840 *Ibid.* VII. 219 The scaly monsters of the Nile..flocked in shoals to the place.

†**2.** A flock of birds. *Obs.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Cicero* (1595) 935 From thence there came a great shole of crowes. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* XIII. XXX. (1886) 278 To make a shoale of goslings drawe a timber log. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* cvi. 15 He sent them whole sholes of quails. 1802 HUNTINGTON *God Guard. Poor* 98 Like a shoal of eagles.

3. *transf.* a. A large number of persons thronging together or classed together; a troop, crowd.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 20, I sawe a shole of shepheardes outgoe. 1579 E. K. *Gloss,* ibid., A shole, a multitude taken of fishe, whereof some going in great companies, are sayde to swimme in a shole. *c* 1610 G. HERBERT *Sonn. to his Mother,* Wherewith whole shoals of martyrs once did burn. 1625 BACON *Ess., Vicissitudes of Things* (Arb.) 574 When there be great Shoales of People, which goe on to populate. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VII. viii. (1782) III. 67 The actors and actresses..poured upon me in shoals. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1763, The shoals of Scotchmen who flocked about him. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ix, I see people going up and down the street in shoals all day. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* II. viii. 91 The adherents of the Government.. who sate for the counties were turned out by shoals. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Apr. 9/7 A shoal of injured people were brought for treatment to the Royal Infirmary.

b. A large number (of inanimate things).

1639 FULLER *Holy War* V. x. (1640) 246 Infinite are the sholes of miracles done by Christs Crosse in Jerusalem. 1688 *Clear Proof Certainty Protest. Faith* 7 We may expect Shoals of Texts. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. v. (1872) I. 42 Never-ending shoals of small troubles. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xii, Notes and telegrams, which came in by shoals from morning till night. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 12 A shoal of novelties in machinery.

4. *Comb.*: **shoal-cod** (see quot.; cf. *school-cod*); **shoal-net,** a net for catching seals; **shoal-wise** *adv.*, in shoals or crowds.

1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 241 *Gadus arenosus,* Shoal-cod, Smith. 1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* I. 181 The sealers put out two more shoal-nets, and another stopper. 18.. BLACKIE (Ogilvie 1882), When he goes abroad, as he does now shoalwise, John Bull finds a great host of innkeepers, etc.

†**Shoal,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [a. Du. *schol* in the same sense (earlier also clod, lump of metal) = MLG. *scholle, schulle* clod, sod, OHG. *scolla* fem., *scollo* masc. (MHG., mod.G. *scholle*) clod, mass of ice; perh. f. root **skul-*: see SHOAL *sb.*[2]] A mass of floating ice; an iceberg or floe.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schoole van ys,* a Shoole of yce. 1713 *Cal. Treas. Papers* 537 The great shoals of ice that came down in the winter often damaged it [Berwick bridge]. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* III. 67/1 Near 100 sail have been drove from their anchors and moorings by the shoals of ice.

Shoal (ʃōəl), *a.* (and *adv.*) Forms: α. 1 (in proper names) sceald, 4 schealde, 5 scheld(e. β. (Chiefly *Sc.*) 5–7 schald, 5 schalde, shald, schawlde, schaulde, 6 schauld, 7 shalde (9 *dial.* shald, etc.); 5 schawd, 6 schaud (9 *dial.* shawd, shoad, etc.); 6 schaule, 8 (and 9 *dial.*) shaul, shawl. γ. 4 schoold, schoolt, 5 schold(e, scold, 5–7 shold(e, shoald, 7 should. δ. 6–7 shoale, showle, 6–8 shole, 7 shoule, 7– shoal. [OE. *sceald*:–prehistoric **skalda-*; a parallel formation, differing only in the suffix, appears to be the synonymous SHALLOW α. :–OE. **scealu*:–**skalwa-*. The import and affinities of the base **skal-* of these formations are not easy to determine; possibly it may be 'thin layer' as in OTeut. **skalō* SHALE *sb.*; this supposition would fairly well account for the sense of the English adjs.

Some etymologists have compared G. *schal* insipid, vapid (of liquors; hence *fig.* of discourse, thoughts, etc.); but the sense has little real affinity. The LG. *schol* (Fris. *skol*) shows remarkable identity in sound and meaning with the Eng. adj. (*schol water* shallow water, *schol plögen* to plow shallow), but its etymology is dubious.]

1. Of water, etc.: Not deep; = SHALLOW *a.*[1] 1.

839 in Birch *Cartul. Saxon.* I. 593 Æt Scealdan fleote. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 65 3if þi scope of penaunce be to scheld, it takyth no water of sorwe.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 354 He spyit, and slely gert assay Quhar of the dik the schawdest [*v. r.* shaldest] was. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. v. 769 Than Trent and Temys war sa schawlde [*v.rr.* schaulde, schald]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xi. 56 Sa huge wilsum rolkis and schald [*Camb. MS.* schaud] sandis. *Ibid.* VII. xiii. 57 Inhabitand the schauld flude Vulturnus. 1577–95 *Descr. Isles Scot.* in Skene *Celtic Scot.* (1880) III. App. 429 Thair is na great waters nor rivers in this Ile [of Lewis], but small schaule burnis. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1544 The watter allso is sae schald We sall it pass, evin as we wald. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 28 Which the Lord has set on the shalde shoare, lyke beakens to warne. 1736 RAMSAY *Prov.* XXXI. (1750) 84 Shawl waters make maist din.

γ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 131 He wolde make þat greet ryuer so schalowe [*v. rr.* schoolt, schoold] þat þe water schulde nouȝt reche to women kneen. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schold, or schalowe, noȝte depe, as water or oþer lyke, *bassus. a* 1554 SIR H. WILLOUGHBY in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 269 After that we sounded againe, and found but 7 fadome, so shoalder and shoalder water. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* XXXI, Holes, sides and toppes, brode, narrow, depe and sholde. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 23 The shouldest water..was 7. fad[omes].

δ. *a* 1554 SIR H. WILLOUGHBY in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 269 The boat could not come to land the water was so shoale. 1589 IVES *Fortif.* 35 The ditches are narrow and showle. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 40 This Molanna, were she not so shole. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. 2 The second of July they fell with the coast of Florida in shoule water. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Aug., Our shipps running all a-ground, it being so shoal water. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 50 What the Shore was, whether Rock or Sand, whether Steep or Shoal we knew not. 1748 *Earthquake Peru* I. 23 Having fourteen Fathom Water in the sholest Part. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 1113, Q. What has been the effect of that extension upon the mud? A. It is much shoaler than it was before. 1858 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* vii. § 430 In the Straits..the depth across the shoalest section is not more than one hundred and sixty fathoms. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 203/2 The available waterway of the cut is.. greatly reduced in width by shoal water on the north.

b. The phr. *shoal water* used attrib.

1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* Introd. 15, I shall.. separate them into..deep-water and shoal-water varieties.

1888 CLODD *Story Creation* iv. 34 The fossils are shown to resemble present shoal water deposits.

2. *fig.* Of intellect, etc. (Cf. SHALLOW *a.*[1] 6.)

1728 RAMSAY *Gen. Mistake* 65 The sumphish mob of penetration shawl. 1785 BURNS *Twa Herds* x, There's Duncan, deep, and Peebles, shaul, But chiefly thou, apostle Auld, We trust in thee.

Comb. 1844 LOWELL *Columbus* 264 One day more These muttering shoalbrains leave the helm to me.

†**3.** *Naut.* Of a sail or a bonnet: Narrow, not wide. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 44/2 The Main saile showler, is the main saile made narrower or skant. *Ibid.* 45/1 A showler or shoule Bonnett, is to haue it shallow, or narrow.

4. *adv.* [ME. *schealde.*] To or at a slight depth. Also *fig.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* III. 116 Ac many man desceyued hys,..And weyneþ þat he be out of peryl, Oþer ine senne so schealde, þat hym ne douteþ of no breche Of godes hestes healde. 1817–8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 150, I went very shoal with the plough, because deep ploughing would have turned up the sods.

Hence † **Scheldhed** [-HEAD], shallowness.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 168 A skete also, sumdel in þe heuyd, is raysed & reryd on bothe sydes; for ellys it myȝt noȝt receyvin but lytel wose, for scheldehed, for to castyn it out.

Shoal, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6 shole, shool(e, shoule, 6–7 shoal(e, 7 sholl. [Of obscure origin.

Formally, it could represent an OE. **scālian* equivalent to ON. **skeila* suggested as a possible origin for SKAIL *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To separate. Usually with *out.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxviii. 26. 254 The hypocrites ..should bee sholed from the good and holy ones. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 43 In this exhortation John treateth of the difference between the good and the bad, and of the sholing of the one from the other by the rigor of Justice. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. v. (1602) 23 Labouring..to increase their iurisdictions, & to shoale out themselues from the ordinarie gouernment. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxvii. 164 In that he hath so shooled vs out from among the vnbeleeuers. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 358 With such caution and encouragement as shall both sholl out the dogs, and welcome the children, whose bread it is. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* Rev. ii. 24 Here Christ comes with his fan, shedding and shoaling out his own from others.

2. To divide into classes. ? *Obs.*

1805 *Ann. Reg.* 62 One of the reforms..was that of shoaling or classing the workmen...As to the practice of shoaling the shipwrights, as it had proved so advantageous in the merchants' yards, there was reason to conclude that it would prove equally so in those of his majesty.

3. *dial.* (See quot.)

1887 *Kent. Gloss., Shoal-in,* to pick sides at cricket or any game.

Shoal ([ʃōul), *v.*[2] Forms: 6 shald, should, 7 showlde, shoald, shold, showl(e, 7, 9 *dial.* shool, 8 shole, shaul, 7–shoal. [f. SHOAL *a.*]

I. *intr.*

1. Of water, a watercourse, harbour, sounding, etc.: To become shallow or more shallow.

1574 [implied in SHOALING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1584–5 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 21 The Haven of Orforde..is greatelie shoulded and decaied. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 19 Now the water begins to showlde. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 178 It shoals suddenly from ten to two fathoms. 1841 W. A. BROOKS *Treat. Navig. Rivers* 57 The soundings shoal gradually also up the Rio de la Plata. 1883 *Science* I. 368/1 The sea..had so far shoaled as to bring up the land within 65 feet of its present level. 1897 H. NEWBOLT *Admirals All* 6 He anchored them fast where the Texel shoaled.

b. With *out*: To become gradually more shallow until no water is to be seen.

1889 *Universal Rev.* Nov. 428 The limpid reedy thoroughfares shoal out To glinting silt-beds where the minnows lie. 1894 *Law Times Rep.* LXXI. 102/2 The water of the cut.. gradually shoals out until it reaches a mud bank.

†**2.** ? To slant, slope. *Obs.* Cf. SHORE *v.*[1] 3.

1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prev.* 18 Then for the vpper side of the Net, you shall place it slantwise shoaling against the water. *Ibid.* 21 They [the sticks] shall be prickt a little shoaling or slantwise.

II. *trans.*

3. *Naut.* To find (one's soundings) gradually more shallow; to pass from a greater into a less depth of (water), as shown by sounding.

1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 60 As I shoaled my soundings I had 22, and 18, and 16.. Fathoms. 1731 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 3 Jan., When we sholed the Water as per Logg. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 60 We..kept shoaling our water, till at length we came into twelve fathom. 1839 *Nautical Mag.* 237 The lead should be kept constantly going, and the Ship tacked to the eastward as soon as the water is shoaled to 22 or 20 fathoms. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* II. xxiii. (1862) 356 The alarm of the sailors was great when they perceived how rapidly they were shoaling the water.

b. *absol.* Of a ship: To come into shallow water. *rare.*

1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 100 He gained the beach, where Yeomen,..With Regulars in thousands, were enmassed to meet the Foeman Whose fleet had not yet shoaled.

4. To cause (a piece of water) to become shallow; also, to obstruct by shoals.

1864 G. P. MARSH *Man & Nat.* 430 The maritime approaches to river harbors frequented by the ships of Phenicia ..are shoaled to a considerable distance out to sea. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* III. xii, He pursued with the idea that the sea had been shoaled by the wind.

†**5.** To drive (a plough) less deeply in the soil.

1670 EVELYN in *Phil. Trans.* V. 1062 According to this proportion the husbandman must govern himself deepning or showling the Plough, as the condition of the land shall require.

6. *Otter-hunting.* (See quot.)

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583/2 *Shoal,* verb, to drive the otter down to the shallows.

Hence **Shoaled** *ppl. a.* (see quot. 1867). **Shoaling** *ppl. a.,* growing shallow.

1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1536 Where like a shoaling sea the lovely blue Play'd into green. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Shoaled-harbour,* that which is secured from the violence of the sea, by banks, bars, or shoals to seaward. 1892 STEVENSON *Vailima Lett.* xix. 181 The four..set off in the boat across that rapidly shoaling bay of the lagoon.

Shoal (ʃōul), *v.*[3] Also 7 shoole, shoal. [f. SHOAL *sb.*[2] Cf. Fris. *skoalje,* Du. *scholen.*]

1. *intr.* Of fish: To collect or swim together in a shoal or shoals.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 718 About Midsommer they [*sc.* herrings] shoole out of the deepe and vast Northen-sea to the coasts of Scotland. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXI. 191 The waue-sprung entrailes, about which, Fausens, and other fish, Did shole. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 279 Gesner even asserts..that he has seen them [*sc.* sturgeon] shoal together, at the notes of a trumpet. 1901 S. GWYNN *Mater Severa, Queen's Chron.* 28 The mackerel shoaling in each bay.

2. *transf.* Of persons, birds, things: To crowd together, assemble in swarms. Also with advs., as *together, in, up.*

a 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims* (1642) 21 Men of the same quality, tongue and condition, doe easily shole, and combine themselves together. 1638 WOTTON *Let. to Sir E. Bacon* 5 Dec. in *Reliq.* (1672) 472 Whereupon the Women..do flock to St. Maries in such troops..that the Masters of Art have no room to sit; so as the Vice-Chancellor and Heads of Houses were in deliberation to repress their shoaling thither. 1647 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 4) B iij b, You have power to keep these Hereticks..from..sholing together to infect one another. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 288. 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* XXX, The distracted multitude, who were shoaling in from all quarters. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 399 About him, on every side, were the white winged waterfowl..shoaling up in the van of the sea breeze. 1863 *Reader* 12 Sept. 284/1 In England there are none of those pamphlets and mediocre romances which shoal in France.

Hence **Shoaling** *vbl. sb.*

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* III. 148 When the shoaling of the beluga has ceased. 1884 *Publ. Opinion* 12 Sept. 330/1 When this has happened during a great shoaling, the herrings have in subsequent years refused to pass over the spot.

†**Shoal,** *v.*[4] *dial. Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SHALDER *v.*] *intr.* Of soil: ? To crumble, become disintegrated.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 237 These stiff, cold Grounds, being of the most surly Nature, will not shoal, shatter nor crumble. 1750 — *Mod. Husb.* V. iii. 7 (E.D.D.) The top of this land will shoal and run into a fine hollowness, even by very small frosts.

†**Shoa·len,** *v. Obs. Naut.* [f. SHOAL *a.* + -EN [5.] *trans.* = SHOAL *v.*[2] 4.

1731 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 2 Jan., When we sholened the water at 1, 2 and 3 this morning I judge wee were off of Fire Island. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Shoal,* A vessel is said to shoalen, or shoal her water, when she comes from a greater into a less depth.

Shoaler ([ōu·lə1). ? *U.S.* [f. SHOAL *sb.*[1] + -ER 1.] (See quot.)

1891 *Century Dict., Shoaler,* a sailor in the coast-trade; a coaster: in distinction from one who makes voyages to foreign ports. *Shoaler-draft,* light draft: used with reference to vessels.

Shoa·liness. *rare*—[1]. [f. SHOALY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being shoaly.

1670 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 122 He could not get higher with the Boat, by reason of the..shoaliness in the Water. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Sholiness,* Fulness of Flats in the Sea, &c. 1755 JOHNSON, *Shoaliness,* shallowness; frequency of shallow places. [Hence in mod. Dicts.]

Shoaling ([ōu·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOAL *v.*[2] + -ING [1.]

1. The process of becoming shallow or more shallow; an instance of this.

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 30 The shoalding of the Western shoare. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 276 The shoaling continued until the river water prevailed. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Dec. 1/1 As the shipowner is precluded from delivering his cargo by a blockade or a sudden shoaling up of the port of discharge.

2. *concr.* A place where the water becomes shallow.

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xxii. (1577) 61 Some sandes or daungers there be hauing fayre or good soundings or shaldings, that they may borrow of & on at their pleasure. 1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 94 When they say there is very good showleing, it is meant that the water doth grow shallower, by degrees, and not suddenly. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2456/4 All the Sands, Shoalings, and Depths of Water, upon the said Coasts. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* XXVI. 167 The ground swell among the shoalings before the storm comes to shore.

3. *Sc.* Spearing fish in shallow water.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 15 This [*sc.* spearing fish] is also called shauling; as it is generally practised, when the tide is almost spent, and the waters turned shallow.

Shoalness ([ōu·lnės). For forms see SHOAL *a.* [-NESS.] Shallowness (of water).

1552 HULOET, Shallownes or sholenes in water, *vadum.* 1588 HICKOCK tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 4 b, No great ships come thether, by reason of the sholdnes of the water thereabouts. *c* 1685 [see INTERCURRENT *a.* 1 a]. *c* 1725 *Torrington Mem.* (Camden) 104 In regard of the shoalness of the coast in that bay. 1862 DUPONT *Desp.* 4 Mar. in *Times* 27 Mar., The difficulties arising from the indirectness of the channel and from the shoalness of the bar.

Shoaly ([ōu·li), *a.* Also 7 sholy, 8–9 shoally. [f. SHOAL *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Full of shoals or shallows.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xv. 235 [The river] hasting to his fall, his sholy grauell scowr's. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 1130 The watchful Heroe felt the knocks: and found The tossing Vessel sail'd on shoaly Ground. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4378/3 The Place..being very narrow and shoally. 1820 *Q. Rev.* XXIII. 77 The basin is navigable, but shoally for about eight miles. 1892 *Cornhill Mag.* Dec. 570 To steer in a shoaly sea.

Shoar(e, obs. forms of SHORE.

Shoat[1]. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 shote, shoate, shoot, 7, 9 shott, 9 shot. [Prob. repr. OE. *sceota* trout (? f. root of *scēotan* to shoot, with reference to its swift movement).] A fish resembling the trout, but smaller, found in Devon and Cornwall. (See also quots. 1865 and 1894.)

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in WT.-Wülcker 94 *Tructos,* sceotan. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* I. 26 The Shote [is] in a maner peculiar to Deuon and Cornwall, in shape and colour he resembleth the Trowt: howbeit in bignesse and goodnesse, commeth farre behind him. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 23 The Shoates with whom is Tauie fraught. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 301 (1810) 312 This brook..aboundeth with shoots and sheliscads, a fish not unlike the trout, and said to be peculiar to Devonshire and Cornwall. *a* 1636 WESTCOTE *View Devonsh.* (1845) 39 Scad. Salmon. Shott. Seal. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 225 Common Trout. [Syn.] Shot. 1880–84 F. DAY *Brit. Fishes* II. 104 *Salmo fario.* Shot (Westmoreland). 1894 *Trans. Woolhope Nat. Field Club* 204 Mr. Matthews caught a good many 'shotts' [app. a local term for grayling] in the Monnow above Monmouth Cap.

Shoat[2] ([ōut). *dial.* and *U.S.* Forms: 5 schoyth, 6 schot, shoit(e, shoitte, shoyte, shoyite, 7 shott, shoate, 5–9 shote, 6–9 shot, 7– shoat; 6–7 shoote, 7–9 shoot; 7 shutt, 8 shute, 8–9 shut. [Cf. WFiem. *schote, schoteling,* a pig under one year old.]

1. A young weaned pig.

1413 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 54 In 1 porcell. de x^ma^, 4d. In 1 Schoyth empt., 22d. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 296 For vij. yonge shotes. v.s. 1509 in Stocks *Market Harb. Rec.* (1890) 230 A Boere Fedde v shots and A Sowe. 1567 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 203 Of old swyne xij. Two shoits, v piggs, iiiij^s^ viij^d^. 1611 COTGR., *Marson,* a shoat; a hog thats a yeare, or vnder a yeare, old. 1618 WEBSTER & ROWLEY *Cure for Cuckold* II. iii, You have a brave Boy of your own wifes; Oh tis a shot to this pig. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 155 Hoggs, porkets, shootes and piggs. 1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 54 The shots overgoes the old swine. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 331 *Sheat,* or *Shutt,* a young Hog. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 411 We killed a small Shote, or young Porker. 1707 [E. WARD] *Barbacue Feast* 5 A Hoggard coming by with a Drove of young Shoats. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 403 Spayed and gelt shutes. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Shots,* young store swine. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 260 Shoots, young pigs of three or four months old. 1904 G. H. LORIMER *Old Gorgon Graham* vi. 120 Like a six-months shoat at the trough.

2. *transf.* An idle worthless person.

1800 WEEMS *Life of Washington* vi. (1877) 40 The poorest shoat. 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. xi. 153, I am the poorest shot in the world. Poorest shote, said he, you mean, for you have no soul in you. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iii, Long'z you elect for Congressmen poor shotes thet want to go Coz they can't seem to git their grub no otherways than so.

Shoat-fish, error for SHEAT-FISH.

1705 S. DALE *Pharmacol.* Suppl. 341 De Siluro...The Shoat-Fish.

Shoch ([ρχ), *sb. Anglo-Irish.* Also shaugh, sheoch, shock, shough. [a. Irish *seach* 'a turn; *seach tobac,* a smoke of a pipe' (Dinneen).] A draw at a tobacco-pipe, a smoke.

1831 LOVER *Leg. & Stor. Irel.* Ser. I. 199 Afther gitten an air o' the fire and a shaugh o' the pipe. 1900 *19th Cent.* July 79 Now 'herself'—as the [Irish] husband calls her—rarely indulges in a *shock* of the pipe. 1901 W. BARRY *Wizard's Knot* 53 (E.D.D.) We'll..take the sheoch of a dudeen to clear our mouths of Davy Roche.

Shoch ([ρχ), *v. Anglo-Irish.* [f. prec.] *intr.* To draw at a tobacco-pipe, to smoke.

1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 107 An' himself an' the Playboy *shoughed* out o' the same pipe!

Shochel, obs. form of SHAUCHLE *v. Sc.*

‖ **Sho·chet.** *Judaism.* Pl. shochetim. [Heb. שׁוֹחֵט *shōḥēṭ,* pr. pple. of *shāḥaṭ* to slaughter.] A Jewish slaughterer, a person officially certified as competent to kill cattle and poultry in the manner prescribed by Jewish law.

1889 HALL CAINE *Scapegoat* v, Within the gate of the Mellah, a shochet was killing fowls and taking his tribute of copper coins. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 88, I don't believe the Shochetim kill the animals properly.

Shochle, var. SHAUCHLE, SHAUGHLE *v. Sc.*

Shock ([ρk), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* (4 ? schoke), 4–5 schock, shokk, 5 s(c)hokke, 6 schocke, shoke, 6–7 shocke, 4– shock. *β.* 8–9 *dial.* shuck, 9 shook. [Corresponds to OS. *scok* neut., some definite number of sheaves, MLG., LG. *schok* shock of corn, group of 60 units (see next), NFris. *shukke, skok* shock of corn, MDu. *schok* shock of corn, sixty (Mod.Du. only the latter), MHG. *schoc, schoch* heap, crowd, multitude, also sixty (mod.G. *schock* sixty), MSw. *skokk* crowd, flock (so Sw. *skock,* also sixty), Norw. *skok* flock, Da. dial. *skok* six sheaves.]

1. A group of sheaves of grain placed upright and supporting each other in order to permit the drying and ripening of the grain before carrying. Phrase, *In shock.*

a. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 154 Les javeles en garbes lieet, En tresseus [*glossed* in schekes; *read* schokes] les garbes mettet. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. Prol. 105 And al-though these noble repers,..han al drawe and bounde up in the sheves, and mad many shockes, yet [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schokke, of corne, *congelima.* 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 74 A shokke of whete or other corne. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 130 Corne tithed (sir Parson) to gather go get and cause it on shocks to be by and by set. 1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 170 The lightest sheafe in all the shocke,..good enough for God. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisdict.* (1653) 87 The Lord cannot distrain shocks of Corn. 1670 J Wightwick in *O. Sansom's Acc. Life* (1710) 79 We having reaped two Acres of Wheat, and set it up in Shock, Lodowick came and threw it all down. 1746 *Brit. Mag.* 109 He found Three hundred Shock of Corn in the Fields. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 192/2 They bind it [wheat] up in small sheaves, and place them in what they call shocks, ten together, five on each side. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 182 Whole fields of corn, both standing and in shock. 1891 Morris *Poems by Way* (1896) 192 So 'tis wellaway for Goldilocks, As he left the land of the wheaten shocks.

β. 1775 Johnson *West. Isl., Lough Ness* 68 A small spot of ground on which stood four shucks, containing each twelve sheaves of barley. 1784 W. H. Marshall *Midl. Counties* (1790) II. 15 In this country, 'sheaf corn' is universally 'hooded'—covered with two sheaves inverted,—as it is set up in 'shuck'. 1823 A. Small *Rom. Antig. Fife* 135 Any piece of ground..in which the stooks or shooks of corn stood thick after being reaped. 1892 P. H. Emerson *Son of Fens* xv. 146 As I pitched on the two shooves to make up the shuck—that be twenty shooves.

2. *transf.* A crowd (of persons); a heap, bunch, bundle (of things).

c 1430 Lydg. *Paternoster* 306 Lyk as a glenere on a large lond Among shokkys plentyvous of auctours. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1593) 154 Folke by heaps did flocke To Marsis sacred field, and there stood thronging in a shocke. 1806 Beresford *Mis. Hum. Life* (1826) xii, We have both been equally busy..in gleaning up such..tortures..as we had left behind at our general harvest. For my own share, I have cocked up a tolerable shock of 'em.

3. *Comb.* (See quots.)

1759 Brown *Compl. Farmer* 47 Those pigs that are reared on stubble, are call'd shock pigs. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725/3 *Shock-fork* (Suff.) a large three-tined fork, used in gathering barley and clover into heaps for the pitchers.

Shock (ʃɒk), *sb.*[2] *Comm.* Now only *Hist.* Forms: 4 schok, (sock), 4–6 shok, 7 shocke, 6– shock. [a. G. (LG., HG.) *schock*, Du. *schok*; prob. a special use of *schock* = Shock *sb.*[1]]

1. A lot of sixty pieces. (Used with reference to certain articles of merchandise originally imported from abroad.)

[1391 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 72 Et per manus eiusdem pro ij schok bykeres per ipsum emptis ibidem, xx scot.] 1583 *Rates of Custome ho.* F j, Trayes the shock [1545 flocke] containyng lx. x, s. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. Rates, s. v. Boxes, Sope boxes the Shocke containing three-score boxes. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 65 Many small Wares called Habberdashery..are sold by Dozens, Scores, Shocks. 1724 *Act* 11 *Geo. I*, c. 7 Addit. Bk. Rates, Platters of Wood, the Shock, containing sixty.

‖ b. A German money of account = 60 groschen.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 288 In Bohemia..Merchants reckoned two hallers for a pfenning, and six pfenning for a grosh, and sixty grosh for a shocke.

†**2.** A roll of cloth containing twenty-eight ells. *Obs. rare*[–1].

1612 *Sc. Bk. Customs* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 318 Poldaveis the shok contening xxviii elnis.

Shock (ʃɒk), *sb.*[3] Forms: *α.* 6–7 shocke (6 shocque), 7 shok, 7–8 shoke; *β.* 6 chok, choke, 7 choc, chock, chocke, 7–8 choque. [app. a. F. *choc*, noun of action f. *choquer*: see Shock *v.*[2]

First adopted as a military term; the wider use is partly due to development in Eng., and partly to the readoption of the Fr. word in specific applications.

The *β* forms present difficulties. The *choc, choque* of the late 17th and early 18th c. were obviously viewed by the writers as adoptions from French; but in some of the earlier instances there are three possibilities: (1) the word may have been adopted orally with (ʃ), but spelt *ch* after the Fr.; (2) the word may have been originally a graphic adoption, and the *ch* have been pronounced in Eng. fashion as (tʃ); (3) the Fr. word may have been confused with an etymologically unrelated word *chock*.

The following examples, where *chocke* has the sense 'light blow', 'chuck (under the chin)' probably represent a different word (cf. similar examples under Shock *v.*[3]):

1607 Markham *Caval.* II. v, 80 Glue him the euen stroke with both your spurres, & a good chocke in the mouth with your brydle hand. 1621 (see Chuck *sb.*[3] 2).]

1. *Mil.* The encounter of an armed force with the enemy in a charge or onset; also, the encounter of two mounted warriors or jousters charging one another.

a. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Collo militum*, the shocke. 1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 106 The saide Englishe Men abode the first Shocque or charge. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 93 This doubtfull shocke of Armes. 1621 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 462 Ye best men for y^e^ shock of y^e^ watt. 1634 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* xix. (ed. 2) 242 But the Pikes when they are to give or receive a shocke, are to be commanded [etc.]. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* 52 The Prussian infantry, which had often stood, and often given, so many terrible shocks. 1814 Southey *Roderick* xxv. 166 Anon the hosts met in the shock of battle. 1882 Bell tr. *C. von Schmidt's Instr. Training Cavalry* 129 We thus obtain the moral effect of surprise, in addition to the physical effect of the shock and sabre, &c. 1897 'O. Rhoscomyl' *White Rose Arno* 210 To retreat without coming to the shock.

β. 1584 Hudson *Du Bartas' Judith* v. (1608) 78 Scarsly they could keep them in their bound, Till pype, or Cymball, or the trumpets sound, Denounce the choke. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 17 Syne Phifers, Drummes, and Trumpets cleir do craue The pelmell chok.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a. 1638–56 Cowley *Davideis* III. Poems (1905) 341 Long had the patient Adriel humbly born The roughest Shocks of her imperious Scorn. 1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 87 It happens..that we either understand not, or mistake what is said in opposition to what we advance..; we think only on't when the shoke is past, that we could have easily return'd this or that answer. 1879 B. Taylor *Germ. Lit.* 285 The shock and encounter of thought.

β. 1665–6 Pepys *Diary* 14 Feb., Sir G. Carteret had prepared himself to answer a choque of Sir W. Coventry, by offering of himself to shew all he had paid, and what is unpaid [etc.].

2. A sudden and violent blow, impact, or collision, tending to overthrow or to produce internal oscillation in a body subjected to it; also, the disturbance of equilibrium or the internal oscillation resulting from this.

1614 Gorges *Lucan* VI. 219 The rams, the engines, and the slings,..Whose often shockes did make such wrack, That tower and rampart gins to crack. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. 81 He..running her on the starboard side gave her so terrible a shock that they sank both together. 1741 A. Monro *Anat.* (ed. 3) 302 To prevent too great a Shoke of the Fabrick of the Body in walking. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xxxix, Fierce and frequent were the shocks. 1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 74 With twelve great shocks of sound, the shameless noon Was clash'd and hammer'd from a hundred towers. 1865 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 66 Millions of shocks are received every second from the calorific waves. 1889 Sir E. Arnold *Seas & Lands* ii. (1895) 17 The colossal block [of consolidated snow] capsizes with a second shock, startling the ocean for leagues around.

β. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* I. xix. 32 Hast thou not seene ..one of his ancestors die miserably by the chocke of an hog [orig. *chocqué par un pourceau*]. 1684 Waller *Ess. Nat. Exper.* 59 As soon as ever the Bubbles rise above the Vinegar, and by the chock of the Air break, their Covering is curiously scattered about. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. iii, A sudden fall might endanger the bottom or under surface of the island, which..might happen to crack by too great a choque.

b. *spec.* (= *earthquake shock*). A sudden and more or less violent shake of a part of the earth's surface; a single movement of the series of movements constituting an earthquake.

1692 T. Robinson in Ray *Disc.* II. v. (1693) 211 Some Machines were..retarded by the Choc [of the Earthquake]. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 95 After I..found still no more Shocks of the Earthquake follow, I began to be more compos'd. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 67 They had felt thirty-six shocks of the earth. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* ix. 253 Vibrations in the land—suddenly excited and rapidly passing on, so as to be described as 'shocks'.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* A sudden and violent effect tending to impair the stability or permanence of something; a damaging blow (to a condition of things, a person's health or constitution, an institution, a belief, etc.).

1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 92 Griefe did not seize upon her reason..and it is fit then that joy should not now give a chock to mine. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. i. 21 The great shock and alteration, which we shall undergo by death. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* I, It gave a severe shock to his constitution. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Berkeley* I. viii. 152 The shock given to commercial credit. 1885 Temple *Relig. & Sci.* iv. 109 In spite of these shocks belief in revelation is strong still in men's souls.

†b. Opposition, clashing, conflict. (Cf. Shock *v.*[2] I c.) *Obs.*

1664 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. 1872–5 II. 172 Your Majesties Sovereign Power is free from all shock and competition.

4. A sudden and disturbing impression on the mind or feelings; usually, one produced by some unwelcome occurrence or perception, by pain, grief, or violent emotion (occas. joy), and tending to occasion lasting depression or loss of composure; in weaker sense, a thrill or start of surprise, or of suddenly excited feeling of any kind.

1705 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* III. *Pain* 12 He that can't stand the Shock of Pain..can never be firm in his Duty, nor true to his Engagements. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* x. x. (1882) II. 463 When Cecilia was a little recovered from the shock of the first interview. 1812 Crabbe *Tales, Arabella* 28 But (though her young companions felt the shock) She studied Berkeley, Bacon, Hobbes, and Locke. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxix, So Mrs. Bute, after the first shock of rage and disappointment, began to accommodate herself as best she could to her altered fortunes. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* x. 180 Invigorating shocks of laughter. 1883 'Mrs. Alexander' *At Bay* v, It gives me a kind of shock to think you are obliged to be on your guard in your own home.

b. Used for: An occurrence, discovery, etc. that occasions a shock.

1841 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* (1879) II. 28 The death of my Father was a great shock to me. 1902 R. Bagot *Donna Diana* xiv. 161 It had been somewhat of a shock to the Cardinal when Monsignor Tomei had frankly informed him that [etc.].

c. A feeling of being shocked (see Shock *v.*[2] 4); a pained sense of something offensive to morality or decorum.

1876 Trevelyan *Macaulay* I. iv. 159 He was still quite young when the concession of Catholic Emancipation gave a moral shock to the Tory party. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* v. § 2. 321 It occasioned no moral shock for Him to believe in the gospel of the kingdom.

5. *Med.* A sudden debilitating effect produced by over-stimulation of nerves, intense pain, violent emotion, or the like; the condition of nervous exhaustion resulting from this.

1804 Abernethy *Surg. Observ.* 218 The shock of the operation. 1867 E. Morris (*title*) A practical Treatise on Shock after Surgical Operations and Injuries. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 430 The condition known as 'shock', which is apt to supervene..to a greater or less degree, on serious injuries and on surgical operations. 1912 *Standard* 20 Sept. 8/4 She suffered severely from inflammation of the eyes and nervous shock.

6. A momentary stimulation of a nerve. Also, a stimulation of nerves with resulting contraction of muscles and feeling of concussion; *spec.* = *electric shock* (see Electric *a.* 2 b).

1818 Bostock *Galvanism* 24 Volta..found that forty pairs of the metallic disks, with the proper number of pieces of moistened card interposed, were sufficient to produce a shock, which was very distinctly felt in the hands and arms. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. iii, He..had made unto himself an electric machine from which it was his greatest pleasure and glory to administer small shocks to any small boys who were rash enough to venture into his study. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 828 The needles should not touch one another or shocks are produced, very harmful to young infants.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shock-like, -resisting, -seasoned* adjs.; **shock-absorber**, a device fitted to mechanically-propelled vehicles in order to absorb vibration, hence **shock-absorbing** *a.*; **shock-action** *Mil.*, a method of attack by a charge of cavalry, in which the force of the impact is principally relied upon; †**shock-bottle**, a humorous designation for an electric jar; **shock-tactics** *Mil.*, tactics in which shock-action forms a principal part.

1906 *Daily Chron.* 20 Oct. 2/7 It is this reactionary shock, of course, which..has brought into use the various forms of *shock-absorbers. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Mar. 4/2 The under-part of the aeroplane is fitted with wooden runners, independent of the *shock-absorbing suspension. 1884 M. H. Hayes *Man. Tactics* iv. 25 The distinguishing characteristics of cavalry are its great mobility and *shock action. 1827 in *Hone's Every-day Bk.* II. 1077 Taking from *Shock-bottles shocks. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 865 The muscular contractions differ from those which occur in ordinary chorea by being sudden and *shock-like. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 285/2 We have reduced the blow or *shock-resisting quality of the iron. 1863 Patmore *Angel in Ho.* II. i. ix, My lonely faith, like heart-of-oak, *Shock-season'd. 1895 Sir E. Wood *Cavalry Waterloo Camp.* i. (ed. 2) 2 The most successful 'Nation in Arms', believing thoroughly in the use of *shock tactics, has adopted the lance, not only for 'Medium', but also for 'Light' Cavalry.

†**Shock**, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [See Shough.] A dog having long shaggy hair, *spec.* a poodle. See also Shock-dog.

1638 Nabbes *Bride* v. i, My neighbour is very skilfull; he cured my little shock of the mange. 1685 Tate *Cuckolds-Haven* I. ii. 5 Dear delicate Madam, I am your little Paraquit, your Sparrow, your Shock, your Pugg, your Squirrel. 1709 Steele & Swift *Tatler* No. 70 P 15 The Bones are pick'd clean by a little French Shock that belongs to the Family. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 331 Neat Spanniel 'Squires and combing Shocks,..Were at her Leve early. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. 280 Maltese Dog...In some of its varieties the hair is extremely long, as in the Skock [?*read* Shock] and the Lion-Dog.

Shock (ʃɒk), *sb.*[5] [?Formed as next adj.] A thick mass (of hair).

1819 'R. Rabelais' *Abeillard & Heloisa* 70 Each Blood, who all day capers, At night puts up his shock in papers. 1847 Longf. *Evang.* I. iii. 3 Shocks of yellow hair, like the silken floss of the maize. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 140 He would toss back his shock of hair and laugh hoarsely. 1894 *Geog. Jrnl.* III. 479 They are beardless, and usually wear a shock of unkempt hair.

transf. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* I. vi, The pit was sandy and dry; a shock of brambles hung upon one edge.

Shock (ʃɒk), *a.* [? Back-formation from Shock-dog.] Having rough thick hair. Of hair: Rough and thick, shaggy. (See also Shock-head.)

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 255 A certain little shock Whig. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 253 The white shock Turky Rabbet. 1771 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 30, I reached through the water to his schock pate and drew him up. 1862 Borrow *Wales* xxv. I. 294 He was a fellow with red shock hair and very red features. 1865 Alex. Smith *Summer in Skye* II. 205 There were quick and nimble brains under the shock heads of the lads you saw.

b. *Comb.*, as *shock-bearded, -haired, -pated* adjs.

1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 408/2 *Shock-bearded peasants. 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 89 Bob the *shock-haired knifeboy. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. 282 A handy, good humoured, *shock-pated fellow.

†**Shock**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 5 schokke. [Before the 16th c. found only in *Morte Arthure*; cf. Shog *v.*, and MLG., MHG. *schocken* to swing, wag, quiver; also G. *schaukeln* to swing.]

1. *intr.* To go swiftly and suddenly; to dart, rush; to make a rapid or forced march. Chiefly with adv., *away, down, in, on.*

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1759 Thay..Schokkes in with a schaikke, and schontez no langere. *Ibid.* 4235 He..schokkes in scharpely in his schene wedys. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius*

IV. 104 They shocked away in divers companies. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 62 An enterprise it selfe presentes, whereto if so you shocke, Men shal thee cal the happiest this side the Ocean firre. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Louve C.* IV. 62 There came out..about thirtie horsemen, shockyng firste on towardes Eastwike Trenche, and anon towards Westwike. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 246 And so shocking downe towards the straits of Bosphorus, by his embassador concluded a league with Emanuell the Greeke Emperour.

2. *trans.* To move suddenly and swiftly.

? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3816 In he schokkes his schelde, schounties he no lengare. *Ibid.* 3852 He schokkes owtte a schorte knyfe schethede with siluere.

Shock (ʃɒk), *v.*[2] Forms: *α.* 6 **shok**, 6–7 **shocke**, 6– **shock**; *β.* 6 **chock**, 7 **chocke**, **chocque**, 8 **choak**. [app. a. F. *choquer* (13th c.) = Sp. *chocar*, of obscure origin.

Some regard the vb. as an adoption from Germanic, comparing OHG. *scoc* swing, MHG. *schocken* to swing. But an early OF. *ch* can hardly represent G. *sch*, and the affinity of sense is not close. Others suppose that the original sense is 'to stumble, knock against', the vb. being f. OF. *choque* tree-stump; cf. OF. *choper* to stumble, f. *chope* tree-stump. The senses below are all from Fr. *choquer*, and were introduced at different periods: see note to sense 4. The older SHOCK *v.*[1] appears to be unconnected.

P The form *chock* (prob. to be regarded as a distinct word) occurs (in the 16–17th c.) in various senses of Fr. *choquer*. *trans.* a. To knock about, buffet. b. To give a blow to; to 'chuck' under the chin. c. To knock one against the other, to jingle (coins).

a. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 128 Now, now the churlish chanell me doth chock, Now surging Seas conspire to breede my carke.

b. 1583 [see CHUCK *v.*[2]]. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* IV. vi. 29 The verie manner of bringing a horse vnto it, which is by chocking him in the mouth. *Ibid.* viii. 38 You shal neither chock him in the mouth, nor [etc.]. 1658 [see CHUCK *v.*[2] 1].

c. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 63 In the Tauerne, in his Cups doth rore, Chocking his Crownes.]

1. *intr.* To come into violent contact, to collide, clash *together*; esp. to encounter in the shock of battle. Now only *arch.* or as a Gallicism.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* xvii. 45 They beginne then both of them to vault, and to scrape the grounde with their feete, shocking and butting one against another. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* III. (1608) 46 Together soone they shock with hatefull yre. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* I. XXV. 116 One would have said, that four towres torn from their foundations, by so many whirlwinds, had shocked together. 1742 HUME *Ess., Parties* (1817) I. 54 Two men, travelling on the highway, the one east, the other west, can easily pass each other, if the way be broad enough: but two men, reasoning upon opposite principles of religion, cannot so easily pass, without shocking. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. 49 Two mountains shocked against each other, approaching and retiring with the most dreadful noise. 1832 TENNYSON *Love thou thy Land* 78 If New and Old, disastrous feud, Must ever shock, like armed foes. 1872 — *Gareth* 939 All at fiery speed the two Shock'd on the central bridge. 1888 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 6 Oct. 626/2 Carriage after carriage shocked fiercely against the engine and the compartments in front of it.

†**b.** *trans.* To collide with, jostle. *Obs.*

1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 151 It is necessary to fix them with several anchors, to prevent their shocking each other. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 268 The rudder is shocked by the water.

†**c.** To run counter to, to oppose. *Obs. rare.*

1667 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* I. ii, That Monarch sits not safely on his Throne, Who bears, within, a power that shocks his own. 1676 — *Aurengz.* II. i, Advise him not to shock a Father's Will.

†**2.** To assail with a sudden and violent attack, to charge (an enemy) with troops, etc. *Obs.*

1614 GORGES *Lucan* III. 110 But whosoever of the foes Did shocke their sides, or changed blowes With Brutus shippe, him grappling fast, He boords. 1699 *Relat. Sir T. Morgan's Progr. France* 7 Major-General Morgan demanded of his Excellency, whether he would Shock the whole Army at one dash, or try one Wing first? 1767 *Ann. Reg., Acc. Bks.* 276/1 The Christians rowed forwards..and shocked the enemy's gallies with the spurs or beaks of theirs.

†**3.** To throw (troops) into confusion by an onset or charge; to damage or weaken by impact or collision; to destroy the stability of. Also *fig.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 1364 The Countie Egmond.. recharged vpon them with all his forces together so terribly that he shokt all their battayle. 1674–5 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* 24 Feb., Wks. 1710 I. 215 They who could not be shocked by persecution were in danger of being overcome by flattery. 1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* 351 That Sea that shock'd the Vessel, was a Forerunner of a greater. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 770/1 It carried down trunks of trees.., which much shocked and weakened the pillars of his bridge.

†**b.** To shake (a building, etc.) with an earthquake shock. *Obs.*

1731 [see RAISE *v.* 4 a]. 1742 PLANT *Earthquakes* in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 34 It continued roaring, bursting, and shocking our Houses all that Night.

4. In early use, to wound the feelings of, offend, displease. In later use, with stronger sense: To affect with a painful feeling of intense aversion or disapproval; to scandalize, horrify; to outrage (a person's sentiments, prejudices, etc.). Often in passive, to be scandalized or horrified *at*.

The prevalent 17th c. spelling (see *β*) shows that the sense was then regarded as a use of the F. *choquer*.

α. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* v. xvii, Thy stubborn temper shocks me, and you knew it would. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 6 P 2 They are no more shocked at Vice and Folly, than Men of slower Capacities. 1767 LADY S. BUNBURY in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 178 I am shocked to death to see you must be back by the end of September. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, They durst not at once shock the universal prejudices of their age. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 188 Every moderate man was shocked by the insolence, cruelty, and perfidy with which the nonconformists were treated. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* x. (1880) 164 The priests who visited the slaves at the galleys were horribly shocked at the cruelties practised on them. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* vii. 175 Pope..was terribly shocked when he found himself accused of heterodoxy.

β. 1656 COWLEY *Odes, and Olympique* Introd., The Reader must not be chocqued to hear him speak so often of his own Muse. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoici* x. (1685) 97 To abrogate, by our practice, whatever chocks our present humor. 1708 SWIFT *Abol. Christianity* Misc. (1711) 174 The Gentlemen of Wit and Pleasure are apt to murmur, and be choqued at the sight of so many daggled-tail Parsons.

b. *absol.*

1820 BELZONI *Egypt & Nubia* I. 109 Those [customs] which shock at first sight, lose their effect on him.

5. To impart a physical shock to, to cause (a person or a part of the body) to suffer a nervous shock.

1733 BELLOSTE *Hosp. Surg.* ii. 17 Mercury produces its effect..by its shocking and disengaging the fibres. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 213 The corresponding parts of the medullary substance are so shocked, that the animal spirits there contained are more vigorously protruded into the nerves. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 271 The nervous system was so much shocked. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Feb. 257/2 The state of the patients, as to collapse, when first seen varied enormously..: some were absolutely 'shocked', others not at all so.

b. To give (a person) an electric shock.

1746 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 741 It remains now, that I endeavour to lay before you a Solution why our Bodies are so shocked in the Experiments with the electrified Water. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 196 The Torporific Eel, caught by a hook, violently shocks the person holding the line. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 260, I got severely shocked [by lightning] when sending my report.

Shock (ʃɒk), *v.*[3] Now *dial.* [f. SHOCK *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To arrange (sheaves) in a shock. Also with *up*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schokkyn schovys or oþer lyke, *tasso*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 23 After that he wedeth it, repeth it, bindeth it, and shocketh it, and at the last caryeth it home to his barne. 1584 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 10 § 2 Before..suche Corne and Graine shalbe shocked, cocked, hiled or copped. 1657 TRAPP *Comm.* Job v. 26 Corn when ripe is reaped, shockt up, and carried into the barn. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 107 Some shock their sheaves, setting them up in traves of six sheaves of a side, and two to cap them. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 188 The ripe corn is either shocked as beans..or the cobs pulled and braided on ropes. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Farmer's Yr.* 325 We finished cutting, tying, and shocking the wheat on Baker's.

absol. 1599 BRETON *Praise Virtuous Ladies* (Grosart) 59/1 If he can shocke, shee can binde sheafes.

†**b.** *transf.* and *fig. Obs.*

c 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 354 In sondry konnynges I Can Remembre noon,..But ye haue parcel of hem euerychoon, And shokkyd hem vp in Ordre by and by. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 19 Valantynys be put and shocked in a close vessell as is a cappe. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Pref. 6, I haue shocked theim [stories] vp together, as well those of aunciente tyme, as of later yeres.

†**2.** *refl.* and *intr.* To crowd together. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 252 And whan thei wil fighte, thei wille schokken hem to gidre in a plomp. [Fr. *ils sount si sarres ensemble que..*]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 33 Sodaynly the Frenchmen shocked to their standarde and fled. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* IV. viii. 151 He shall also see that when they march in Battalia, then they shocke close together and as it were ioyne Cush to Cush.

Shockable (ʃɒ·kăb'l), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SHOCK *v.*[2] + -ABLE.] Easily shocked.

1893 COLLINGWOOD *Ruskin* I. 27 His parents were not of the shockable sort.

Shockatory, variant of SHACKATORY *Obs.*

†**Shock-dog.** *Obs.* [f. SHOCK *sb.*[4]] = SHOCK *sb.*[4]

1673 SHADWELL *Epsom Wells* I. 9 We [women] are already so pester'd with gay Fools, that have no more sense than our Shock-dogs. 1780 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1782) IV. Advert. 13 Her shock dog, large as life, and only not alive, has a looseness and softness in the curls that seemed impossible to terra-cotta. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* iv. 104 The Shock-dog is traced by Buffon, but somewhat erroneously, to a mixture of the small Danish dog and the pug.

Shocked (ʃɒkt), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SHOCK *v.*[2] + -ED[1].]

1. Shaken violently.

1642 *Iacke Puffe* 16 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 315 The women did..quake, As did the people, in old Æsops time, At the shockt mount, whereforth a Mouse did clime. 1904 KIPLING *Things & the Man* 27 in *Times* 1 Aug. 7/6 The peace of shocked Foundations flew Before his ribald questionings.

2. Scandalized, horrified.

1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agam.* 1555 *note*, He..is with difficulty pacified by the more collected and shocked, if not now repentant Clytemnestra. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. 191 'She is making him [the Prince] shake hands with her!' says Sarah, in a shocked voice. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 692/1 Agnes put on a shocked face.

Hence **Sho·ckedness.**

1895 MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD *Flash of Summer* XXVI, 'Perhaps you will come into the dining-room, sir', Elizabeth said, with a little air of shockedness at Mr. Belcher's manner.

Shocked (ʃɒkt), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SHOCK *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] Of corn: Heaped in shocks.

1839 CLOUGH *Early Poems* III. 7 And glimmering grain Standing or shocked through the thick hedge espied. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 22 Aug. 14/2 Fields of shocked or stooked corn.

Shocker[1] (ʃɒ·kəɹ). [f. SHOCK *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] Something which shocks or excites; esp. a work of fiction of a sensational character. Also *attrib.*

1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shocker*, a person of infamous character. 1886 [see SHILLING 6]. 1890 *Athenæum* 7 June 734/3 'For so Little' has some of the qualities one looks for in the 'shocker'; but the greatest of these is brevity, and that it has not got. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 20 Nov. 3/4 The reader must often be in doubt whether he is being treated to genuine biography or mere 'shocker' fiction.

Shocker[2] (ʃɒ·kəɹ). [f. SHOCK *v.*[3] + -ER[1].] One who piles sheaves in shocks.

1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 71 Some o'er the rustling scythe go bending on; And shockers follow where their toils have gone. 1895 *Voice* (N. Y.) 28 Nov. 7/4 He rides a harvester, and rapidly tumbles his wheat sheaves..into convenient bunches for the one lone shocker to set up and cap.

Shock-head. [f. SHOCK *a.*] A head covered with a thick crop of hair.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxii, A shock-head of red hair.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* (in quot. *transf.*).

1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* v, The shock-headed willows.

So **Shock-headed** *a.*

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii, He was a wild shock-headed looking animal. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* I. xi, Two small shock-headed children were lying prone and resting on their elbows. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* Poems (1912) 353 Shock-headed Dandelion, That drank the fire of the sun.

Shocking (ʃɒ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SHOCK *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of SHOCK *v.*[2] in various senses.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Wars Jews* VI. xii. (1733) 754 Upon the Shocking of the two Bodies, it rais'd such a Dust and Clamour, that there was nothing distinctly to be seen or heard. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. IV. v. (1874) I. 529 'Tis absurd to imagine..That the shocking of two globular particles shou'd become a sensation of pain. 1828 [H. BEST] *Italy as it is* 89 Foot walkers, spreading over the whole, have not found the necessity for a rule to prevent shocking which we experience on our crowded trottoirs.

b. *attrib.* in *shocking-coil*, *-machine*, names of apparatus for giving electric shocks.

1882 *Knowledge* 17 Mar. 434/2 Would any reader give.. particulars for making a powerful shocking coil. 1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 90 The 'Shocking' Machine.

Shocking (ʃɒ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SHOCK *v.*[3] + -ING[1].] The action of piling sheaves in shocks.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cclxxxi, Concerning the gathering, shocking, threshing, watering..and spinning of Hemp. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lxxv. 249 Shocking, or stooking, is only a temporary preservative.

Shocking (ʃɒ·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 8 **shocquing**, **choquing**, **chocqueing**. [f. SHOCK *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That shocks, in various senses of the vb.

†**1.** Of troops: Meeting in the shock of battle.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 115 The shocking squadrons meet in mortal fight. 1716 POPE *Iliad* VIII. 75 And now with Shouts the shocking Armies clos'd.

2. That gives offence; offensive. Also, causing unpleasant surprise. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

[It is noteworthy that in the earliest quot. the Fr. spelling is used. A little earlier we find the actual Fr. word:

1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* IV. 392 This is the Drift of my Meaning,..than which I think nothing could be more innocent or inoffensive in it self, how choquant or distastful soever it may appear as our Reverend Author has been pleased to dress it up.]

1703 FLEETWOOD *17 Serm.* (1717) 359 Such different images would have crowded in upon the mind, as must have occasion'd a confusion, horrible and chocquing. 1709 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* IV. 534 This was the Choqueing Principle to the Jews. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 1 P 1 There is such a shocking familiarity both in his railleries and civilities. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 163, I could tell twenty pleasant stories; but my lady is too nice to hear them; and yet I hope, I should not be shocking neither. 1774 tr. *Chesterf. Let. to Son* 29 Oct. 1739, Nothing is more shocking and disgustful than presumption and impudence. 1782 COWPER *Alex. Selkirk* 16 They are so unacquainted with man, Their tameness is shocking to me. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 29 His rude doctrines were polished into a form somewhat less shocking to good sense and good taste.

3. In stronger sense: Revolting to the feelings; exciting intense horror or repugnance.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 57 The tale's too black and shocking to be told. 1749 POINTER *Oxon. Acad.* 70 Brazen-nose College..The fine, though shocking, Statue of Cain and Abel in the middle of the Quadrangle. 1769 *Junius Lett.* v. 28 The charge..is of so shocking a complexion that I sincerely wish you may be able to answer it. 1828 SCOTT *Aunt Marg. Mirror* ii, The shocking tidings were brought from Holland, which fulfilled even her worst expectations. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 418 A state shocking to humanity. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XXX, It is shocking enough to see noble beasts ruthlessly mangled.

b. *absol.*

1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 129 Even the Old Testament, with all its stores of the 'shocking', really does very little harm.

c. In colloquial use often *hyperbolical*: cf. 4 and SHOCKINGLY 2.

1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* iii, And as for our Corporation —shocking To think we buy gowns lined with ermine For dolts that [etc.].

4. 'Shockingly' bad, 'execrable'.

1798 FORESTER in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 115 Shocking Weather since you left. 1824 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xvii. § 2 (ed. 3) 496 His [Vespasian's] first care was to restore the discipline of the army, which he found in a shocking state of demoralization. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vii, The shocking way those boys spell.

b. quasi-*adv.* = SHOCKINGLY. *vulgar.*

1832 SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 36 *foot-note*, 'Vot

a shocking bad hat!'—the slang cockney phrase of 1831. 1833 [S. SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* xvii. (1835) 102 As soon as I saw what a shocking big place New York was. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, A shocking bad road.

Shockingly (ʃǫ'kiŋli), *adv.* [f. SHOCKING *ppl. a.* + -LY².] In a shocking manner or degree.

1. So as to shock the feelings; revoltingly.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 106 There is not one Character in it, but what is shockingly immoral. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 2) Pref. 68 We are shockingly treated by the Prussians. 1858 *Househ. Words* 28 Aug. 241/1 A shockingly rude article.

2. *colloq.* Often, in depreciatory sentences, without any special reference to the sensibilities, equivalent to 'very', 'extremely'.

1777 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary, Let.* 27 Mar., Dr. Johnson..is shockingly near-sighted. 1782 — *Cecilia* I. iv, To be sure she's shockingly dear, that I must own. 1840 HALIBURTON *Letter Bag* iv. 57, I feel so shockingly nervous. 1901 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xiii. 61 Two rather pretty, but shockingly badly-dressed girls.

b. = *Shockingly ill*; 'abominably'. † *To look shockingly*: to appear to be much out of health.

1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* 1, You look most shockingly today, my dear friend. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 59/2, I could perceive that his eyes looked quite shockingly. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* vii. II. 218 How shockingly he looks. 1881 W. G. MARSHALL *Through Amer.* i. 47 Many of the principal streets are shockingly paved.

3. So as to cause a shock of surprise.

1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* iv, This sudden noise startled us shockingly.

Shockingness (ʃǫ'kiŋnės). [f. SHOCKING *ppl. a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being shocking; † repulsiveness.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xix. 128 It softened the shockingness of his expression. 1885 *American* IX. 215 The shockingness of intrusion at such a time. 1900 MISS BROUGHTON *Foes in Law* xx, The phrase strikes her as crude, even to shockingness.

Shockle (ʃǫ'k'l). *Sc.* and *north.* Now *rare.* Forms: 6 schokle, (7 sheckle), 9 schochle, shoggle. [Shortened from *ice-shockle*, ICICLE.] A lump of ice; an icicle.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 46 First in thay ryde into this riuer..to thow the pypes and schokles of yce, frosin vpon thame. 1639 SIR R. GORDON *Hist. Earld. Sutherl.* (1813) 208 The ground wes ful of ronns, or sheckles of yce. *a* 1859 WATT in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. II. 54 The shochles, like crystal, hing clear frae the rocks. 1871 WADDELL *Ps.* lxxviii. 47 He dang doun their plane trees wi shoggles o' ice.

† **Sho·cky**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SHOCK *a.* + -Y.] Having a thick head of hair.

1698 TYSON *Opossum* in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 114 Nierembergius, in his Figure..represents him as Shocky, and, as it were, with Curly Hair.

Shod (ʃǫd), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* [f. SHOD *ppl. a.*]

1. A plate of iron fastened upon the heel of a shoe to protect it from wear; a heel-tip; more fully *heel-shod.*

c 1840 in A. Trotter *E. Galloway Sk.* (1901) 102/1 There's a' things in the Jangle Box, Brass, airn, and tin, and shods o' shoon. 1912 A. MCCORMICK *Words from Wild Wood* viii. 128 He had never seen heel shods like them.

2. A skid in the form of a shoe; = SHOE *sb.* 5 f.

1893 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 198 The great iron curved shods which the lorrymen used to stop their coal waggons on the steep streets.

Shod (ʃǫd), *ppl. a.* For forms see the vb. See also SHOED. [pa. pple. of SHOE *v.*]

1. Wearing shoes. Chiefly with qualifying adv., *well, neatly*, etc. Also DRY-SHOD, HIGH-SHOD, SLIPSHOD *adjs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xi. 15 So that thei passe thurȝ hym shod men [1388 schood men]. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 98 Dreme he barefote, dreme he shod [*Caxton, Thynne* shood]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7463 And alle frères, shodde and bare. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schod, as men, *calceatus.* Schod, as hors, *ferratus.* 1537 in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) I. 129 *note*, The Blake-Friers otherwise called the Shode Freers. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 82 But, finding soon a smoother road Beneath his well-shod feet. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* v, A pair of very imperfectly shod feet. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* 1, Neatly shod feet.

2. Of things: Furnished with a shoe of metal, etc.; tipped, edged, or sheathed with metal. † *Shod shovel*: see SHOVEL *sb.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Aeratus, Pila aerata*, shadde [*sic*] or poynted with brasse. 1578 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 134 A shod dunge forke. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 39 Where a man may bask and dream To the click of shod canoe-poles.

b. Of cart wheels: Furnished with tires. Hence of a cart: Having 'shod' wheels.

1481 *City Letter Bk. L.* 163 b, No shod cart laden be suffred to passe over the said Brigge. 1535 in *Archæol. Cant.* VII. 304, j pece of shoyd whelys, the other onshoyd. 1563 *Bottisford Manor Rec.* in *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, A shod-wayne or carte. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 516 Diuers great Nalles of Iron were there found, such as are vsed in the wheeles of shod carts. 1748 *Act* 1 *Geo. II.* Stat. II. c. 22 § 3 The Duty..on Shod Carts, payable to the said City [of Edinburgh]. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 157 Wheels, considerably increased in breadth on their shod surface,..are not uncommon.

Shod: see SHUD *dial.*, shed.

Shodden (ʃǫ'd'n), *a. rare.* [Badly f. SHOD *ppl. a.*, on the supposed analogy of *sod, sodden, trod, trodden*, etc.] = SHOD *ppl. a.*

The form also occurs for the pa. pple.: see SHOE *v.*

1844 R. M. MILNES *Palm Leaves* 20 The floor..unstained by touch of shodden feet. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xix, 'Black fellow', I said to myself; but no, those were shodden feet that swept along so wearily.

Shodder, obs. form of SHUDDER *v.*

Shoddy (ʃǫdi), *sb.* [Of obscure origin.

It is possible that sense 4 may be the original meaning; if so, the word may be a derivative of SHOAD *sb.*]

1. Woollen yarn obtained by tearing to shreds refuse woollen rags, which, with the addition of some new wool, is made into a kind of cloth (see 2).

1832 [see *shoddy-grinder* in 5]. 1836 G. HEAD *Home Tour* 146 The 'shoddy' as it is called may be, as occasion requires mixed with new wool in any proportion. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 138 Shoddy, or woollen rags torn up fibre from fibre. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 30/1 To this stuff [*sc.* cotton rags ground up] the name of 'shoddy' is given, but the real and orthodox 'shoddy' is a production of the woollen districts. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Shoddy*, waste from worsted spinning mills. 1904 *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 480/1 Shoddy: The fibres of wool of the softer makes of old cloth after it has been torn to pieces.

b. *Yorksh. dial.* (See quot.)

1857 C. B. ROBINSON *Best's Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 183 Gloss., *Scudde*, 95. The dirt and grease from a fleece when washed, called in the factories 'mouts'; the entire substance that falls on the floor being called 'shoddy' or 'food', and being sold at a high rate for top-dressing grass land.

2. A cloth composed of shoddy wool (see 1); more fully *shoddy cloth.* (See quot. 1911.)

1847 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Empire* (ed. 3) I. 661 Formerly, shoddy cloth was used only for padding and such like purposes; but now flushings, druggets,..&c., are either wholly or partly made of shoddy. 1865 J. G. HOLLAND *Plain Talk* iv. 128 He clothed our troops with shoddy. 1884 MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 187 Shoddy is the worked-up waste of soft woollen goods which have not been milled and felted. 1903 *Times* 12 Mar. 11/3 Berlin Textiles... Shoddies have been active and strong. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 992/2 The term 'shoddy' is sometimes applied to all fabrics made of such remanufactured materials,..but strictly it should be confined to a cloth produced from fabrics originally made from English and the longer cross-bred wools. ..Upon the whole the 'cheap and nasty' idea usually associated with the term 'shoddy'..is quite a mistake. Some most excellent cloths are produced.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* Worthless material made to look like what is of superior quality; what is worthless and pretentious in art, manufactures, ideas, etc.; the class of persons characterized by the endeavour to pass for something superior to what they really are, with respect to wealth, birth, culture, or refinement. Also (*U.S.*), a 'shoddy' person (see SHODDY *a.* 1).

1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. vi, 'You think thet's ellerkence,—I call it shoddy, A thing,' sez I, 'wun't cover soul nor body, I like the plain all-wool o' common-sense.' 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 10 June, Shoddy wears its sapphire, or its diamond, or its signet ring outside its glove. 1873 L. STEPHEN *Free Thinking* v. 156 He calmly retailed his lengths of theological shoddy,—old fragments of decaying systems woven into a web of the usual polish and flimsiness. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xi. 195 A syntactical shoddy of the cheapest sort. 1904 *Boston* (Mass.) *Sunday Her.* 29 June 8/5 They like the old families best, the families that have always had money and servants...To use the language of the girls themselves, they have 'no use for the shoddies'.

4. *dial.* a. 'The smaller stones at a quarry' (*Antrim & Down Gloss.*, 1880); also *pl.* stones of this kind. b. Inferior coal (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1893 *Building News* 10 Feb. 195 [The house] is built of shoddies quarried from the hill behind.

5. attrib. and Comb., as *shoddy dust, flock, merchant, metropolis, mill, trade*; *shoddy-wards* adv.; objective, as *shoddy dealer, grinder, manufacturer*; *shoddy-making* adj.; instrumental, as *shoddy-robed* adj.; **shoddy fever** (see quot. 1851); **shoddy-hole**, a place in which rubbish is deposited, a dust-hole; also *fig.*

1857 *P. O. Directory Yorksh.* 1053 *Shoddy Dealers... *Shoddy Merchants. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 32 You who breathe *shoddy dust. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 31/2 The disease popularly known as '*shoddy fever'..is a species of bronchitis, caused by the irritating effect of the..dust. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4040, *Shoddy flocks. 1832 THACKRAH *Effects of Arts*, etc. *on Health* (ed. 2) 67 *Shoddy-grinders..are persons employed..in picking and tearing woollen rags, and afterwards manufacturing them, with the addition of new wool..into yarn. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. iv, It's a pretty go this, that I should be toiling in a *shoddy-hole to pay the taxes for a gentleman what..stretches his legs on a Turkey carpet. 1895 M. MATHER *Lanc. Idylls* III. iii. 150 But durnd yo' think, doctor, thar..we's be turnin' th' Church into a shoddy holle? 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 30/2 The stuff which even the *shoddy-making devil rejects, is packed off to the agricultural districts for use as manure. *Ibid.*, The *shoddy manufacturer. 1868 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 338 Batley and its neighbourhood, in Yorkshire, the great *Shoddy metropolis. 1837 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Empire* II. 51 In the neighbourhood of Batley and Dewsbury are..*shoddy mills. 1886 POLLOCK *Oxf. Lect.* etc. iv. (1890) 107 You will refuse to fall down and worship the *shoddy-robed goddess Banausia. 1847 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Empire* (ed. 3) I. 661 Dewsbury is at the head of what is called the *shoddy trade. *a* 1882 A. TROLLOPE *Autobiogr.* (1883) II. 220 Their [*sc.* Carlyle and Ruskin's] lamentations ..over a world which is supposed to have gone altogether *shoddy-wards.

Hence **Sho·ddy** *v. trans.*, to convert into shoddy. **Sho·ddydom**, the shoddy class. **Sho·ddyism**, pretentious vulgarity of style. **Sho·ddyite**, one who deals in shoddy; also, one of the shoddy class.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 33 While woollen and even cotton goods can be 'shoddied'..no use is made of the refuse of silk...There is little doubt that silk, like cotton, could be shoddied. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 18 Apr. 5 This..will bring about a genuine prosperity, not the fictitious glare of contractors and shoddyites. 1868 M. H. SMITH *Sunshine & Shad. N. York* 61 A marble palace that would make all Shoddydom red with envy. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* (ed. 2) I. 269 The Russian merchant's love of ostentation is ..something entirely different from English snobbery and American shoddyism. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 820/2 Unfortunately no part of the world..is absolutely free from the shoddyite, the cockney, and the snob.

Shoddy (ʃǫdi), *a.* [attrib. use of SHODDY *sb.* 3.]

1. Of a person: That pretends to a superiority to which he has no just claim; said esp. of those who claim, on the ground of wealth, a social station or a degree of influence to which they are not entitled by character or breeding.

In the U.S. the word seems to have been first used with reference to those who made fortunes by army contracts at the time of the Civil War, it being alleged that the clothing supplied by the contractors consisted largely of shoddy.

1862 *Cong. Globe* 3164/1 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) The anxiety of the 'shoddy' politicians to assail that address. 1863 *Boston* (Mass.) *Sunday Her.* 15 Feb. 2/3 There are shoddy lawyers, shoddy doctors,..shoddy husbands and shoddy wives, and, worse than all, there are shoddy newspapers whose especial business it is to puff up all the shoddy in the world and endeavor to make the people believe that it is the genuine article. 1865 *Reader* 8 July 36 Those who have become rich by swindling the United States Government during the Civil War compose the 'shoddy' aristocracy. 1896 HOW & LEIGH *Hist. Rome* 434 That shoddy saviour of society, called L. Cornelius Cinna.

2. Of a thing: Having a delusive appearance of superior quality.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 27 Nov. 5 A fleet of ships, shoddier by a hundredfold than the shoddiest of those now afloat. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 16 When they built the shoddy cottages away down the hill—mere traps to catch rent.

3. Of, pertaining to or dealing in shoddy goods.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 26 Feb., Some shoddy upholsterer has here evidently had *carte blanche*, and the result is.. gaudy ugliness. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 197 Felting.. made by some shoddy contractor for the supply of army clothing. 1895 BARRETT *Surrey* viii. 194 Nor is the furniture unworthy of the room...There is no shoddy antique about this.

Hence **Sho·ddily** *adv.*, **Sho·ddiness.**

1886 J. R. REES *Divers. Book-worm* 122 We began by talking of the 'shoddiness' of the age. 1899 E. CALLOW *Old Lond. Taverns* I. 59 The foundations were so shoddily constructed that to prevent its falling down, it had to be pulled down.

† **Shode.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 scáda, 4 schod(e, schood, 4– shode. [OE. *scáda* wk. masc. :—prehistoric **skaidan-*, f. Teut. root **skaiđ-* to divide: see SHED *v.* From the same root (or the parallel form **skaiþ-*) are MDu. *scheide* (mod.Du. *schei*), OS. *scēthlo*, MDu. *scheidel* (mod.Du. *scheel*), OHG. *sceibila* (mod.G. *scheitel*) crown of the head.]

1. The crown of the head; the parting of the hair. Cf. SHED *sb.*¹ 2.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* lxvii. 21 Feaxes scadan [L. *verticem capilli*]. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 7229, & smot him in þe heued schod. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 144 La greve de moun cheef [*glossed* the schod of my eved]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1149 The nayl ydryuen in the shode [*v.rr.* schod, schood, schode] a nyght. 14.. *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 578/40 *Discrimen*, þe shode of the hed.

2. A dividing ridge.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1480 To stones þicke þai founde.. Hem bitven a gret schode. Of grauel & erþe al so, þat hem hadde schifted ato.

Shode, variant of SHOAD.

Shoder (ʃōu·dəɹ). *Gold-beating.* [ad. F. *chasderet, chaudret.*] The packet of skins into which the gold taken from the 'cutch' is placed and beaten out before its final beating in the 'mould'. Hence **Sho·dering** *vbl. sb.*, in *shodering-hammer.*

1763 W. LEWIS *Commerc. Philosophico-Techn.* 47 Three hammers are employed..: the first, called the cutch hammer..: the second, called the shodering hammer..: the third, called the gold hammer, or finishing hammer. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) I. 793/2 These [pieces of gold] are put between the leaves of another tool, called a shoder, made of gold-beater's skin. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 202/1 Each leaf is then..cut into four pieces, and put between the skins of a shoder..containing about 720 skins.

Shoder, obs. form of SHOULDER, SHUDDER.

† **Sho·ding**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* In 5 schodynge. [repr. OE. *sc(e)ádung*: see SHEDDING *vbl. sb.*] Separation; parting of the hair.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schodynge, or departynge, *separacio, divisio.* Schodynge, of the heede.., *discrimen.*

Shodur, obs. form of SHUDDER *v.*

Shoe (ʃū), *sb.* Pl. **shoes** (ʃūz); *dial., poet.*, and *arch.* **shoon** (ʃūn). Forms: *sing.* 1 scōh, scó, scoé, 2 sceoh, 2–6 sho, 3 sco, 4 sso, 3–6 scho, 4–6 schoo, 4–7 shoo, (4 show), 6 showe, shue, (shough), 6–7 shew, 6–8 shooe, 6– shoe. *pl.* α. 1 scós, 1–2 sceós, 4–7 shoos, 4 schos, 5 schos, schoys, schoes, schewis, 5–6 shoys, shewes, show(e)s, showys, shooys, shues, shuse, shuss, 6–8 shooes, 4– shoes. β. 3–5 schon, 3–6 schone,

(3 scheon, son, sson), 4–7 shon(e, 4–6 schoon(e, 4–8 shoone, (4 *Sc.* schoyne, 5 shoyn, *Sc.* schoune), 5–6 shoen, 6 schoun(e, (*Sc.* schwyne), 6–8 shune, shooen, (7 *Sc.* shin), 4– shoon. [Com. Teut.: OE. *scōh* masc. = OFris. *scō* (NFris. *skog, skuch*, WFris. *skoech*), OS. *scōh* (MLG. *scō*, LG. *schō*), MDu. *scoe* (mod.Du. *schoen*), OHG. *scuoh, scuah* (MHG. *schuoch, schuo*, mod.G. *schuh*), ON. *skó-r* (Sw., Da. *sko*), Goth. *skōh-s*:—OTeut. **skōho-z* or *skōhwo-z*.

Some scholars refer the word to the root **skōhw-*: **skēw-* to walk (Goth. *skēwjan* to take a walk, ON. *skéva* to stride. Others, on account of the alternation of vowel in ON. *skór* pl. *skúar*, assume a pre-Teut. **skōuko-s*, f. **skeu-* to cover.

In OE. the collective *gescý* was often used for the plural.]

1. An outer covering for the human foot, normally made of leather (but often of other materials) and consisting of a more or less stiff sole and a lighter upper part. Chiefly in more specific sense, distinguished from *boot*.

The original distinction was that the *boot* covered a part or the whole of the leg together with the foot, while the *shoe* covered the foot only. In the U. S. *boot* is still commonly applied only to an article of footgear reaching at least to the middle of the calf, one which ends at or below the ankle or just above it being called a *shoe*. In modern British use, the term *boot* is extended to include what were formerly called 'half-boots' or 'high shoes', i. e. 'shoes' (in the older sense) which cover the whole foot including the ankle; hence *shoe* is taken to mean specifically a 'low shoe', which leaves part of the foot covered only by the stocking; a shoe in this sense may either be fastened with laces, buttons, or the like, or (as in 'dancing shoes') it may differ from a slipper only in being suited for more ceremonious wear.

sing. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John i. 27 Dæs ic ne am wyrðe þætte ic undoe his ðuong scoes. *c* 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 283 *Calcarium*, scoh. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10438 Annd tiss dæþshildiȝ mann..Wass uss..3a þurrh þe sho 3a þurrh þe þwang bitacnedd. *c* 1250 *Long Life* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 156 Ac deþ luteþ in his scho, Him stilliche to for-do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 220 Zuiche fourme ase þe sso takþ ate ginnynge: he halt euremor ine þet stat. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoo, mannys fote hyllynge, *sotularis, calceus*. Schoo, for buschopys, *sandalium*. 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. 231 If he haue on him his scho, his slyue, his coot. 1535 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 402 If you be ashamed for a foule myrie shoo, and not of a foule stincking soule. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. iv. (1715) 18 A kind of Shooe that fitted both Feet. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 314 [The custom] of giving the shoe in witness of a covenant.

pl. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 10 *Calciamenta*, scoea [*c* 975 *Rushw.* scoas, *c* 1000 ȝe-scy]. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 322/19, & habbaþ eowre scos on eowrum fotum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 Do.. wrecche men sceos and cladeȝ. 12.. *Prayer to our Lady* 42 in *O. E. Misc.* 193 Inne wel sittende schon. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 362 Two þongede scheon. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2781 Moyses, moyses, do of ðin son. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 843 And shod he was with greet maistrye, With shoon decoped, and with laas. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 218 Proude prestes come with hym..In paltokes & pyked shoes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1201 Wallace can him aray, In his armour,..His schenand schoys, that burnyst was full beyn. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 79 The hunter therfore wyll laye a payre of shoon in his waye, and whan he perceyueth the hunter doynge on his shoos he wyll doo the same. 1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 4 b, With patche on patche like loutishe lob, he cobled oft his shues. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 288 With two Prouinciall Roses on my rac'd Shooes. *Ibid.* IV. v. 26 By his Cockle hat and staffe, and his Sandal shoone. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 635 The dull swayn Treads on it daily with his clouted shoon. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 14/2 Laced shooes, have the over Leathers and edges of the Shooe laced in orderly courses. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 317 ₱ 4 Put on my double-soaled Shoes. 1786 BURNS *To J. Smith* ii, Ye've cost me twenty pair o' shoon Just gaun to see you. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, Our immortal deliverer from papists and pretenders, and wooden shoes and warming pans. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 1058/1 In the 11th century the use of liturgical shoes and stockings was reserved for cardinals and bishops.

b. Explicitly distinguished from *boot*.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2264 Of shoon and botes, newe and faire Loke at the leest thou bave a paire. 1521 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 13 Ane pair of buttis and ane pair of schoun. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 165 They..delight to have their boots and shoos shine with blacking stuffe. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., His sedulous attachment to shoes and stockings, in contempt of half-boots and pantaloons. 1847 J. S. HALL *Bk. Feet* (ed. 2) 138 Shoes are now very little worn: boots of some kind or other being the general wear.

c. *High shoes*, boots with high uppers. Hence, one who wears high shoes: see HIGH-SHOE.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 369 þey usede hise schone unto þe kne, i-slitte to fore [L. *calcei usque ad poplites fissi*], and i-laced wiþ þwonges. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7260 But Beggers with..high shoos knopped with dagges,..Or bootes revellyng as a gype. 1553 LATIMER *Serm. Lincolnsh.* iii. (1562) 82 When a man shall goe to battaile..for the nether parte he hathe high shoen. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 44 The horson smooth-pates doe now weare nothing but high shoes. 1603 [see HIGH-SHOE 1].

d. as the lowest portion of one's attire.

1616 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, Whilst they.. mocke me all ouer, From my flat cap, vnto my shining shooes. *Proverbial phrase.* 1887 MRS. OLIPHANT *Son of Father* xiv. 242 [She] felt..her heart sink to her shoes.

e. *Shoes of swiftness*: the magic shoes of the giant in the tale of Jack the Giant-killer: occas. used allusively.

1787 *Hist. Jack & Giants* 12 Jack soon put on his coat of darkness, with his shoes of swiftness. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. v, Surely also Punishment, this day, hitches.. after Crime, with frightful shoes-of-swiftness!

2. Phrases and figurative uses.

a. *Old shoe*: a type of something discarded as worn out, useless or worthless. Also, *To cast, fling*, etc. *an old shoe after* (a person): *lit.* as a means of bringing good luck (e. g. at a wedding); also *fig.* to wish (a person) good luck. †*Go meddle with (thy) old shoes*: mind your own business.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 708 The clerk whan he is oold and may noght do Of Venus werkes worth his olde sho. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1670 What is that to the? go meddle thee with olde shone! 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. ix. (1562) C, Nowe for good lucke, caste an olde shoe after mee. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 25 Thou Traytor..meddle with thy Old shooes! ..Go about thy business, Goodman Fool! 1663 KILLIGREW *Parx. Wedding* IV. vii, *Pars.* I, with all my heart, there's an old shooe after you. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterproof* 216 And wheresoe'er thou move, good luck Shall fling her old shoe after.

b. *Another pair of shoes* (predicatively): quite a different matter or state of things.

1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xl, We'll show 'em another pair of shoes than that, Pip; won't us? 1865 [see PAIR *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1895 MRS. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 10 'Ah! and you'll find a tiger is quite another pair of shoes', I assured him impressively.

c. *In one's shoes, without shoes*, as a condition of measurement of stature. *In their shoes*: (of soldiers) fully equipped.

For *to shake in one's shoes*, see SHAKE *v.* 4.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6308/3 John Cockran,..5 Foot 10 Inches one quarter without Shooes. 1815 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XII. 323 We are getting on in strength, I have now 60,000 men in their shoes. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xlii, 'You're afraid of ghosts'. 'Belike I am when they're six foot two in their shoes'.

d. *To die in one's shoes*: to meet with a violent death, esp. to be hanged. Also allusively.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xlv. 174 Whoever refus'd to do this, should presently swing for't, and die in his Shoes. 1712 [see DIE *v.*[1] 3]. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Execution*, All come to see a man 'die in his shoes!'

e. *Over (the) shoes*: deeply immersed or sunk (*in* something). *lit.* and *fig.* See also OVER *prep.* 3 and OVER-SHOE. Similarly *up to the shoes*.

Over shoes, over boots: see BOOT *sb.*[3] 1 b.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 137 They.. thrust the same Antony ouer the showys in the myre. 1590 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 The countrey maides themselues fel in loue with this fair Nimph, and could not blame Menaphon for being ouer the shooes with such a beautifull creature. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 48. 1594 — *Rich. III*, v. iii. 326. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Jonah* xxvi. 541 Being in vp to the shooes he will on to the shoulders. 1601 [? MARSTON] *Jack Drums Entert.* I. B 2, *Enter Flawne. Kathe.* It seemes he can scarce carry himselfe. *Drum.* Hee's ouer the shooes, yet heele hold out water, for I haue liquor'd him soundly. 1615 V. ALSOP *Anti-sozzo* iii. 124, I find our Author over the shooes in Love.

f. *To know best where one's shoe pinches*: see PINCH *v.* 1 b. Also in many other similar phrases.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 309 But I woot best where wryngeth me my sho. — *Wife's Prol.* 492 He sat ful ofte and song Whan þat his shoo full bitterly hym wrong. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 54 Thow knawis best quhair bindis the thi scho. 1639 [J. TAYLOR (Water P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 96 No man can tell where his shooe wrings him, but hee that weares it. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VIII. vi. (1782) III. 161 He defrayed the expence of every body; so that there I did not feel where the shoe pinched. 1890 W. E. NORRIS *Misadventure* xlviii, Only after the deed has been done does the shoe really begin to pinch.

g. *To put the shoe on the right foot*: to put the blame on the real offender. (In mod. Dicts.)

h. *To kiss* (a person's) *shoe* (in token of servility or abject submission).

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* lii. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 317 A king shall kneele and kisse his shoe. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 47 *Pist.* The King's a Bawcock..: I kisse his durtie shooe. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* VII. vii, There was a bow of sleek devotion..; each motion Seemed a Lord's shoe to kiss.

†i. *To win one's shoes* (*on* or *upon* an adversary): to achieve renown by a victory. Cf. *to win one's spurs*. Common in the 15th century.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1595 Ther salle other dedis be done, And thou salle wynne thi schone Appone the sowdane. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 174 And other dedes of armes to done, Through whiche ye may wynne your shone.

j. *To waste one's shoes*: to wear out one's shoes to no purpose.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 85 Another on his fiste a Sparhawke..and so, wasting his shone, Before the aulters he to and fro doth wander.

k. *To be in* (another person's) *shoes*: to be in his position or place. Chiefly in negative form = in his unenviable condition or plight. *To place* (a person) *in the shoes of* (another person): to give (him) the position vacated by (another). *To step into the shoes of* (another person): to occupy the position vacated by him. *To wait for dead men's shoes*: to wait for the death of a person with the expectancy of succeeding to his possessions or office.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 37 Who waitth for dead men shoen, shall go long barefoote. 1609 *Old Meg of Herefordsh.* (1816) 12 It were no hoping after dead mens shooes, for both vpper-leather and soles would bee worne out to nothing. 1767 BEDINGFIELD in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 404, I would rather chuse to stand in his Sardinian Majesty's shoes than his; who [etc.]. 1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 29 June 325/2 Volunteers, with the rank of officers (who are impatiently waiting at 'the pool' for the death and old shoes of commissioned officers). 1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 304, I judge, I should put more to risk if I were in his shoes. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* x, But then, in order to secure the lender, he must come in the shoes of the creditor to whom he advances payment. 'Come in his shoes!' replied the Earl. ..'It is a law phrase, my lord'..said Heriot. 1842 SIR H. TAYLOR *Edwin the Fair* III. viii, Them that were placed by Edred in the shoes Of Seculars that by Edred were expulsed. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* i, Cornelis..stuck to the hearth, waiting for dead men's shoes. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. at Allington* xxviii, I must be the first to congratulate you on the acquisition of my old shoes. 1880 J. PAYN *Confid. Agent* III. 130, I wish I was in your shoes. 1908 *Times* 21 July 3/1 The respondents were interested in the success of Mme. Bovet..but that could never put them in her shoes in vindicating her rights against wrongdoers.

†l. *To tread (her) shoe awry* (rarely *amiss*): to make a lapse from virtue. *Obs.*

c 1422 HOCCLEVE *Minor P.* xxiv. 66 No womman..But swich oon as hath trode hir shoo amis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 187 Where the king had maried her for a mayde, he founde that she had troden her showe awrye. 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 241 His Wife did tread her Shooe awry. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Shoe*, 'To tread one's shoes straight', to behave with propriety, to be circumspect in our conduct.

m. Proverbial phrases.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1562) G iiij, Folke say of olde, the shoe will holde with the sole. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 78 To apply one generall Law to all particular cases, were to make all shooes by one last. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 163 As arrant a villaine, as euer trode vpon a shooe of leather. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, One Shoe will not fit all Feet*, Men are not all of a Size, nor all Conveniences of a Last. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* I. (1781) 9 Twenty as fine Babes as ever trod in Shoe of Leather. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v. *Old-Shoe*, As easy as an old shoe. 1887 *S. Chesh. Gloss.* s. v. *Shoe*, 'Too big for one's shoon', used of a person whose notions are too high for his station, a conceited person.

3. in the names of plants (see quots.).

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shoes and stockings*, the variety of primrose and polyanthus which has one flower sheathed within another. 1838 W. HOLLOWAY *Dict. Provinc.*, *Shoes and stockings*, [also] a wild flower of the cypripedium genus. 1878 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.* s. v. *Boots*, Boots and Shoes (1) *Lotus corniculatus*, L.—*Suss.* (2) *Aquilegia vulgaris*, L.— Corn. 1882 in FRIEND *Devonsh. Plant-n.*, Boots and shoes,..(2) *Cypripedium Calceolus*, L., often called 'Lady's-slipper'. 1893 *Rep. Provinc.* (E.D.D.), On seeing the *Linaria vulgaris* in blossom [she], Cornish by birth,..replied, 'We always call it "Shoes and Stockings"'.

4. A plate of metal, usually iron, nailed to the under-side of the hoof of a horse as a protection from injury: = HORSESHOE 1. Also occas. a similar plate nailed to the hoof of an ox or some other animal.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 127 He made..þe mule ..to be schodde uppon wiþ gold, forbedyng al his men þat when þe schone fel awey þat non schulde gadre þaym up. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VII. v. (1554) 169 b, This Nero..Made his mules be shod with siluer shone. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 6 Oxen..haue no shoes, as horses haue. *Ibid.* § 114 Lyttel stones, that goth in betwene the shough and the herte of the fote. 1540 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 745 [That] no Smyth within this Cetie shoo no horse with forest shoyes. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 101 [The smith observed] that he was sure that his four shoes had been made in four several counties. *a* 1720 W. GIBSON *Diet of Horses* viii. (1726) 135 Their Shooes should never be suffer'd to wear too smooth. 1828 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxx, You can never ride beyond the village but your horse will cast a shoe. 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Shoon*, 'To addle his shoon', is when a horse rolls on his back from one side to the other. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 697 The first shoes of a young horse should be light, with no heels.

b. See quot. (Cf. HORSESHOE 1 b.)

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. § 9. 60 Formerly..the rustics not having..quoits to play with, used horse-shoes and in many places the quoit itself..is called a shoe.

5. Something resembling a shoe (sense 1 or 4) in shape, position, or function.

†a. The iron blade or an iron cutting edge fastened upon the wooden blade (of a spade or shovel). *Obs.* †b. The piston (of a pump). *Obs. rare.* c. A metal rim, ferrule, casing or sheath, esp. for the end of a pile, pole, rod, or the like. d. The receptacle beneath the hopper of a mill. e. The short section which turns out the water at the foot of a water pipe. f. A kind of drag or skid for a wheel of a vehicle; also the concave part of a brake, which acts upon the wheel (more fully *brake shoe*). g. A strip of iron, steel, etc. fastened upon that part of a vehicle, machine, etc. which is liable to be worn out by friction. h. A socket for the reception of a bolt, pin, or the like. i. *Naut.* (See quot. 1769). j. A block, plate, etc. which serves as a socket or bearing for the foot of a pole, the legs of sheers, etc. to prevent slipping or sinking. k. An iron plate shaped to receive the end of one or more pieces of timber in roof-construction. l. (See quot. 1881.) m. That part of the breech which carries the breech block in a converted rifle. n. (See quot.) o. *Electr. traction.* A block attached to an electric car in such a position that it slides upon a conductor-wire or rail and collects the current for its propulsion. p. An ingot of precious metal, somewhat in the form of a Chinese shoe, but more like a boat, formerly current in the trade of the far East and still current in silver in China.

a. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxx. 193, I lykenyd satysfaccyoun to a schouele..I telde ȝou þat þe scho of þe schouell was almes-dede. 1578 [see SHIVER *sb.*[2] 2]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 331/1 He beareth Vert, a Spade Iron, Argent (some call it a shooe for a Spade). *Ibid.* III. 393/1 The Bottom, or Shooe of a Trenching Spade. It is all Iron and put on the Staffe..with a..Socket.

b. 1576 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael, Oxford* (MS.), Item payd to William Williams for a showe for the plumpe xvij[d].

1593 *Ibid.*, It'm payd to Oven for settinge a shooe & a staff in ye plompe xxij^{d}. 1599 *Acc. Balliol Coll., Oxford* (MS.), Imprimis, a shooe for the plumpe, xvi^{d}.

c. 1495 Pyles shone [see PILE *sb.*^{1} 5d]. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 320 The quhelis garnesit with schone and two virollis only. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone Lighthe.* § 81, I had a wooden measuring rod...this was shod with a rounded end or shoe of iron. 1837 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 33/1 All the piles are to be shod with proper wrought-iron shoes. 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 30 The boat-hook consists in the staff and shoe.

d. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 340/2 The parts of a Wind-Mill...The Shoo or Shough, the Corn by its shaking trops down into the Mill. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 749 Below the hopper there is a small bucket called a shoe, into which the ore is shaken down.

e. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 166 The bottoms of these pipes ..terminate with a shoe of lead. 1899 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 6/6 Water-pipes with heads and shoes.

f. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 377 The shoe or skid ought to be somewhat broader than the tire of the wheels. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shoe*, that part of a car-brake which is brought in contact with the wheel in the act of stopping a train. 1910 HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin., Brake shoe*, a cast-iron or wooden block which is pressed against the rim of a car wheel, or against the track rails..to retard the motion of the car.

g. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 805 Each division [of Brunel's tunnelling shield] was supported by two strong cast-iron plates, called shoes, and which rest upon gravel at the base. 1855 in *Harper's Mag.* (1884) Jan. 232/2 Her bow was raised out of the water three or four feet, her shoe taken off her keel, and her keel itself cut through. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 246/2 The lower part of the trawl-head..is straight and flat...It is called the 'shoe', and is the part which slides over the ground.

h. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 9 Shutter shoes with screws. 1878 DIXON KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 368 *Shoe* or *Shod*, iron plates rivetted to the ends of wire rigging to receive shackle bolts.

i. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.*, Shoe for an Anchor is made of a Piece of Baulk,..one End cut with a Hole for the Bill...and the other with a triangular Notch to receive the Stock. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Shoe of the anchor*, a small block of wood..having a small hole, sufficient to contain the point of the anchor-fluke...It is used to prevent the anchor from tearing..the planks..when ascending or descending. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

j. 1843 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 112 The frames stand upon legs resting upon capacious shoes. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 62 A shoe is a piece of wood about four feet long, two feet wide, and nine inches thick, with a hole in the centre for the sheer to step in. 1894 *Times* 26 Feb. 3/6 There were no 'shoes' to prevent poles from slipping.

k. 1842 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 249/2 The principals [rafters] are fitted into cast iron shoes resting on the walls. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 156 The straining pieces [of a truss]..at their lower end..are fitted with a wrought iron shoe. *Ibid.*, A cast-iron double shoe, or housing for the reception of the upper ends of the principals.

l. 1874 RAYMOND *6th Rep. Mines* 410 Every casting, such as a shoe or die, in the battery is full of flaws. 1881 — *Mining Gloss., Shoe.* A piece of iron or steel, attached to the bottom of a *stamp* or *muller*, for grinding ore. The shoe can be replaced when worn out.

m. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 348 It is now found more convenient to make the whole of the breech arrangement separately, and this 'shoe' is screwed into the back end of the barrel. 1881 GREENER *Gun* (1888) 141 The shoe of the breech carries within it the cylinder or breech-piece. *Ibid.* 142 An iron frame or shoe is screwed on to the barrel. The breech block is placed in this shoe.

n. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Shoes*, steel or iron guides fixed to the ends and sides of cages, to fit and run upon the conductors. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*

o. 1891 *Times* 28 Sept. 13/6 The pulley has been abandoned in America as being inferior to the trolley or sliding shoe.

p. 1702 in J. T. Wheeler *Madras in Olden Time* (1861) I. 397 One Hundred shoes of gold, or so many thousand Pagodas or Rupees. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Trade in India* v. 232 Gold-makers..cast all the Gold, that comes through their Hands, into Shoos of about 10 Tale weight, 12 oz. 2 dwt. 4 gr. 1911 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 705 A Chinese high official said..'I cannot obtain an audience at Court unless I send a number of 'shoes' of silver..to an Imperial Prince'.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. simple attrib., as (sense 1) *shoe-box, -clasp, heel,* †*-knot,* †*market* (Sc.), *ribbon, -rose* (ROSE *sb.* 15), *-shop, -sole, -store* (U.S.), *-strap, -thread, -tip, -top, -trade*; also in the names of shoemakers' tools, as *shoe nippers, pincers, pliers*; (sense 5) *shoe-piece, -seat.*

1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* viii. Wks. (Bohn) II. 439, I cry you mercy, good *shoe-box. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 12/1, I gathered a bunch large enough to nearly fill an ordinary shoe-box. 1797 *J. Robinson's Directory of Sheffield* 52 *Shoe-clasp, and seal maker. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5466/4 A middle sized Man..., Lame of his Left Leg, his Left Foot *Shoe-heel half a Quarter of a Yard high. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Shoeing* 6 U 4/2 Strong shoe-heels are an ease to the weak heels, and fetlocks of horses. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip to Scarboro* IV. i, That which they call pin-money, is to buy everything..., down to their very *shoe-knots. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Shoe-piece*, a board placed under the heel of a spar or other weighty mass, to save the deck. In some cases intended to slip with it. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* lxxxii. (1760) IV. 186 His *shoe ribbons are also embroidered. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xvii, The very *shoe-roses for Netherfield were got by proxy. 1844 *Civ. Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 112/1 The *'shoe sent' or base of the frame is more deeply imbedded in the wood than is usual. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 8 The fair nymph of the *shoe-shop. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 395 Nero..usede *scho soles of silver. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Introd. *The Courtin'*, For she felt sartin-sure he'd come Down to her very shoe-sole. 1813 *Boston* (Mass.) *Rec.* (1908) XXXVIII. 84 The old Town house adjoining his *shoe store. 1775 ASH, **Shoestrap*, a shoe string.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 123 Vse ton for thy spinning, leaue Mihel the tother, for *shoo thred. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* IV. ii, She has a peruke, that's like a pound of hempe, made vp in shoo-thrids. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shoe-thread Maker.* 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 64 From the bit of white ribbon twisted through her hair.. to the non-committal exposure of *shoe-tip. 1689 *Rector's Bk., Clayworth* (1910) 89 Y^{e} 27th o' March was a snow to y^{e} *shooe-tops. 1850 OGILVIE, **Shoe-trade*, the trade of making boots and shoes.

b. Objective and obj. genitive, as *shoe-clouter* (Sc.), *-factor, -rivetter, -stitcher, -vamper, -wearer, -worker*; *shoe-soling, -wearing*; also *shoe-embossing, -eyleting, -pegging, -sewing* (machines): see Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875–84.

1582 N. BURNE *Disput.* 188 Quhais fals prophetes ar maid of Tinklaris, *schoclouturis [etc.]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Shoe-factor*, a wholesale dealer in shoes. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Nov. 6/2 Boot and *shoe rivetters and finishers. 1842 A. RALEIGH *Rec. Life* iii. (1881) 19, I have had to pay a good deal in books, *shoe-soling, medicine, etc. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* iii. 26 Further, over the Huntingdonshire ground, where the *shoe-stitchers have extended. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvi, Here, the clothesman, the *shoe-vamper, and the rag-merchant, display their goods. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe & Let. Answ.* Ep. Rdr. A 3 b, Thou Histiæus wast the Shoemaker, but Aristagoras was the *Shoewearer. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 854/2 After a year of constant *shoe wearing, the gravel hurt her feet. 1888 *Philadelphia Ledger* 23 Nov. (Cent.), The *shoe-workers' strike and lock-out.

c. Special comb.: **shoe-beak, -bill** = *shoe-bird*; **shoe-bill**, a kind of nail used in shoemaking; **shoe-binder** (see quot. 1858); so *shoe-bindery, binding*; **shoe-bird**, a bird, *Balæniceps rex*, found in Central Africa; **shoe-block** (see quot.); **shoe-board**, (*a*) a shoe-cleaner's bench; (*b*) a pedal of a silk-winding machine; **shoe-boy**, a shoeblack; **shoe-brush**, a brush for cleaning and polishing shoes; **shoe buckle**, a fastening for a shoe, in the form of a buckle, also an ornamental buckle worn on the front of a shoe; **shoe-butt**, thick leather (see BUTT *sb.*^{11}) for making the soles of shoes; **shoe-case**, a saddle case in which one or more spare horseshoes are carried; **shoe-cleaner** = SHOE-BLACK; so **shoe-cleaning** *sb.* and *a.*; †**shoe clout**, a cloth for wiping shoes; **shoe-finder** *U.S.*, one who deals in shoemakers' tools and appliances; **shoe findings** *pl.*, tools and material for shoe-making; **shoe-flower** *Anglo-Indian*, the flower of the *Hibiscus Rosasinensis* (Yule); **shoe hairs** *pl.*, prepared bristles for shoemakers' use; **shoe-hammer**, a shoemakers' hammer with a broad convex face and wide thin peen; **shoe-hand**, a shoemaking operative; **shoe-knife**, a shoemakers' knife; **shoe-lace**, a lace used to fasten a shoe by passing it in and out through eyelet-holes; **shoe-last** = LAST *sb.*^{1} 2; **shoe-latch, -latchet** = LATCHET 1 c; **shoe-licker** *fig.*, an abject sycophant or toady; **shoe-lift** = SHOE-HORN *sb.* 1; **shoe-lifter** = prec.; hence *shoe-lifter-like* adj.; **shoe-man**, (*a*) see quot. 1841; (*b*) one who makes or deals in shoes; **shoe mercer**, one who deals in shoe mercery; **shoemercery**, laces, buttons, and other small wares of a boot and shoe dealer; **shoe-nail**, a nail used in fastening on the soles of shoes, also a projecting nail put in the soles of shoes to prevent slipping; **shoe-pack** *U.S.*, a shoe of tanned leather made without a separate sole after the manner of a moccasin; **shoe peg** = PEG *sb.*^{1} 2 d; **shoe pin** = prec.; **shoe-plate** (see quot.); †**shoe-pride**, ostentatious foot-wear (*nonce-use*); **shoe-rag** = *shoe-clout*; **shoe-scraper** = SCRAPER 5; **shoesmith**, a shoeing-smith (*obs.* or *arch.*); **shoe-stirrup**, a stirrup shaped like a shoe (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **shoe-stone** (see quot.); **shoe-stretcher** (see quot. 1875); **shoe-string**, a string or tie used to fasten or lace a shoe; †**shoe-thong**, a leathern shoe-latchet; **shoe-tie** = *shoe-string*; **shoe-tree** = *boot-tree* (see BOOT *sb.*^{3} 8); †**shoe-turner**, the workman who 'turns' or cuts to shape the soles of shoes; **shoe-valve** (see quot.); **shoe-ward** *adv.*, towards the shoe; *adj.* directed towards the shoe; **shoe whang** *dial.* = *shoe-thong*; **shoe-wiper**, a servant who cleans shoes. Also SHOE-BLACK, SHOE-HORN, SHOE LEATHER.

1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 59 The Whale-headed Stork, or *Shoe-beak (*Balæniceps rex*). 1874 tr. *Brehm's Bird-Life* 191 *Balæniceps Rex*, the Boot-bill, or *Shoe-bill, as the Arab tribes of East Soudan call it. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 91 Nail manufacture... Shoe Bill, Cutter. 1869 *Longworth's New York Directory* 227 *Shoebinder. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shoe-binder*, a female who attaches the leather or ribbon binding to a shoe. 1848 in *Amer. Industrial Soc.* (1910) VIII. 200 *Shoe-bindery. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Charac.* iv, Miss Evans.. had adopted in early life the useful pursuit of *shoe-binding. 1861 PETHERICK *Egypt*, etc. 475 Six *shoe-birds, so called by the Arabs, or royal balaeniceps. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 156 **Shoe-blocks* are two single blocks, cut in a solid piece, transversely to each other. 1845 *Glance at Interior of China* (Shanghae) 82 A couple of grooves, on which the *shoe-board is to rest. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. ix, Tom..sat down on the shoe-board, while the old man told his tale. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* vii. Wks. 1755 V. II. 137 If I employ a *shoe-boy, is it in view to his advantage, or to my own convenience? 1820 HOGG in *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 392 He makes your homebred coxcomb look a shoeboy. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 12 This was done..with water and a stiff *shoe-brush. 1482 in *York Myst.* Introd. 40 ['Those that] maketh fisshe-hukes or *shobakilles. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, A large pair of paste shoe-buckles. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Shoe-butts*, stout leather suited for soles. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cross* xxxii, A sandwich-case for one side, and a *shoe-case for t'other. 1725 DE FOE ['A. Moreton'] *Every-Body's Business* title-p., A Proposal..for clearing the Streets of those Vermin call'd *Shoe-Cleaners. 1716 GAY *Trivia* Index, *Shoe-cleaning Boys. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, That very cloak-brushing, shoe-cleaning fellow..my lord's lackey. *c* 1425 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1274 Syr ye do me wrong..to put thys creature..to be her ynderlowte, As hit were a castaway or a *shoo clowte. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iv. vii. (1852) 613 Some greasy dish-clout, or some dirty shoe-clout. 1909 *Boston* (Mass.) *Transcript* 19 July 14/5 The National Leather and *Shoe Finders' Association. 1836 in *Amer. Industrial Soc.* VI. 37 *Shoe findings. 1834 G. BENNETT *Wanderings* II. 203 The Malays use the flowers of this shrub for cleansing shoes...This is probably the cause of its being called the *shoe-flower. 1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 160 *Shoe Hairs...Shoe Knives. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., *Shoe-hammer.* 1859 *Shoe-knife [see *shoe hairs* above]. 1647 HEXHAM I, A *shoe-lace, *een schoe-lint, ofte schoe-riem. *Ibid.*, A *shoe-last, *een schoe-leest.* 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 102 An instrument..proposed for the purpose of making shoe-lasts. 1884 ANNIE S. SWAN *Carlowrie* i. 19 She was neat and smart, down to the very *shoe-latch. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* i. 7 Whos *shue latchett I am not worthy to stoupe doune and vnlose. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xiv. 27 A shue lachet. 1611 BIBLE *Ibid.* 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 192, I challenge all his *shoe-lickers, all the base worshippers of twenty thousand acres, to show me [etc.]. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 55 This golosh..is put on without the aid of a *shoe-lift. 1846 W. KING in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* XVIII. 86 In this species [of *Terebratula*] the condyle plates are attached to a process, which, to use a homely comparison, resembles a *shoe-lifter. 1850 — *Permian Fossils* 136 The shoe-lifter-like process. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 410/2 [Shoemaker's workmen:] The *shoeman or maker of the sole part of the shoe. 1899 HOWELLS *Ragged Lady* 59 The shoeman, turning with a pair of high-heeled bronze slippers in his hand from the wagon. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 76 *Shoe Mercer, Shoe Mercery Manufacturer. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 48 Elastic webs, and *shoe mercery. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 480 *Clausus caligaris* *scohnegl. 1860 WORCESTER, *Shoe-nail*, a nail used in making shoes. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 28 My guide first tried the slope alone; biting the ice with his shoe-nails. 1824 J. HALL *Sketches* (1835) I. 75 Gentlemen dressed in *shoepacks, mocassons, leather breeches [etc.]. 1854 GRACE GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 23 The Yankee having whittled a large lot of unsaleable *shoe-pegs into melon seeds. 1723 MANDEVILLE *Fable of Bees* (ed. 2) 275 A Cobler,..if he runs of Errands when he has no work, or makes but *Shoepins,..he deserves the Name of Industrious. 1904 A. C. HOLMS *Pract. Shipbuild.* I. viii. § 75. 79 In coasting vessels..the bottom of the keel gradually wears away...It is remedied by fitting *shoe plates, *i. e.* U-shaped plates embracing the keel. 1613 SYLVESTER *Lachr. Lachr.* B 4, Stript from Top to Toe, Of guiddie-Gaudes,..Of Face-pride,..*Shoo-pride. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 1, Taffatie..which serueth him..for a *shoo-rag. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 169 Portable *shoe-scrapers of cast-iron. 1625 *Nottingham Rec.* V. 103 Wee present Francis Levys, laborer, for vsinge the trade of a *shoesmithe..and nott being Apprentice. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. iii, Woodcraft and masonry, Shoesmith or wheelwright, all are one to him. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Shoe-stones*, sharpening or setting-stones..for the use of shoemakers, book-binders,..&c. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shoe-stretcher*, an expansible last for distending shoes. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 157 A peare silk garters, with gould fring, and *shewstring same. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* I. iv. iii. (1803) II. 40 She is not worthy to tie her majesty's shoe-strings. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Induct. (1600) B, But that a Rooke in wearing..A yarde of *shooe-tie, [etc.]..should affect a Humor, O, 'tis more than most rediculous. [1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 18 Then haue we heere..braue M^{r} Shootie the great Traueller.] 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 611 Gloue, Shooe-tye, Bracelet. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* I. ii. 29 [She] blushes from topknot to shoetie, one universal scarlet. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xxvii. 56 Boot and *shoe trees. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vii, A Plocke of *Shoturneris. 1858 *Skyring's Builders' Prices* 100 Long Spindle, or *Shoe Valves. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Shoe-valve*, a valve at the foot of a pump-stock, or at the bottom of a reservoir. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. 60 Assoone as any naile is driuen in, you shall turne the point backe againe, downe to the *shooeward. 1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 163 He looked submission with a shoeward eye. 1691 NICHOLSON *Gloss. Northanhymbr.* in Ray *Coll.* 148 *Shoe-whang, *corrigia.* 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Shoe-whang, shough-whaing*, a boot lace, a shoe tie. Usually called a whang or whaing simply. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 19 Every Thing at free Cost, from a Steward, down to a *Shoe-Wiper.

Shoe (ʃūː), *v.* Pa. t. and Pa. pple. **shod** (ʃɒd), *rarely* **shoed** (ʃūːd). Forms: *Inf.* 1 scōzan, scōzean, sceōzan, scōan, sceōn, sceōian, 3 scheo, 3, 6 sho, 4 schoye, 4–7 shoo, 5 scho, 5–6 show, (5 schoyn), 6–7 shoe, shoue, (6 shu, schoe, schue, sue, sew), 6– shoe. *Pa. t.* 1 scōde, 3 scoide, scoide, 4 schodde, 9 shoed, 6– shod. *Pa. pple.* 1 (ȝe)scōd, (ȝe)sceōd, 3 scod, sod, 1-schud, iscod, 4 ischod, 3–4 i-schod, 3–6 schod, 4–6 shodd(e, (4–5 shood, schood), 5 y-shood, y-schod, schodde, 5–6 shode, 6

shoode, showed, shoyd, 7 shoad, shoud, 7–9 shoed, (7, 9 *erron.* shodden), 4– shod. [OE. *scógan*, corresp. to MLG. *schoigen*, *schoien*, *schoen*, Du. *schoeien*, OHG. *scuohôn*, *scuohan* (MHG. *schuohen*, *schuon*, mod.G. *schuhen*), ON. *skúa* (MSw. *skoa*, Sw., Da. *sko*) :–OTeut. **skōhōjan*, f. **skōho-* Shoe *sb.*

The doubling of the *d* and the consequent shortening of the vowel in ME. *schodde* pa. t., *schodd* pa. pple. (whence the mod. *shod* pa. t. and pa. pple.) are anomalous. (An OE. example occurs in Wulfstan *Hom.* p. 173, Unsceoddum fotum.) Cf. MSw. *skodde* pa. t., and Sw. *skodd* pa. pple. The case is parallel to that of *fledde*, *fledd* from Flee *v.* (where Sw. also has the corresponding gemination).

1. *trans.* To put shoes on (one's feet); to put on (one's) shoes; to clothe or protect the feet with shoes; to provide (a person, oneself) with boots or shoes.

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 44 Sceoȝeað eowre fett. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gram.* xxvi. (Z.) 158 *Calceo* vel *calcio* ic scoȝe me. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* (Th.) II. 382 Se engel cwæð, Begyrd þe, and sceo þe, and fyliȝ me. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 16 þer efter scheoinde ou & cloðinde, siggeð Pater Noster & Credo. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1138, I ne may hire fede, ne cloþe, ne sho. *c* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 842 And shod he was.. With shoon decoped, and with laas. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 411 They..gooþ i-hosed and i-schod. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xcvi. (1495) 842 Ofte apes shoo themself wyth shoon that hunters leue in certen places slyly. 1530 Palsgr. 704/1, I shoo one, I put shoes upon his fete. 1599 Thynne *Animadv.* 13 [Chaucer's name] signyfynge one who shueth or hooseth a manne. 1794 C. Pigot *Female Jockey Club* 195 Government..cannot spare wherewithall to keep the poor fellows feet properly shoed. 1846 Mrs. Kirkland *West. Clearings* 10 The shoemaker..travels from house to house, shoeing the family. 1855 Longf. *Hiawatha* xv. 24 Shod with snow-shoes..Forth to hunt ..went Chibiabos. 1910 *Nation* 30 July 644/1 Women never learned to shoe themselves till they took to playing outdoor games with men.

Proverbial. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 32 But who is wurs shod, than the shoemakers wyfe. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 20 He ought to stop his eares..and to walke amongst them (as the saying is) shood amongest the thornes.

2. To provide (a horse, etc.) with a shoe or shoes. †Also with *up*. *Shod all round*: completely shod.

c 1205 Lay. 22291 Heo wipeden hors leoue..heo sceren heo scoiden [*c* 1275 and soide hire stedes]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 395 He..schodde his mules wiþ silver. 1435 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 185 The smythes..shall..show straungers horsies as-well on Sondais as on othur weke-days,..apon the payn of xld. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 142 Gyue thy horse meate, se he be showed well. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 188 It were a delicate stratagem to shoo A Troope of Horse with Felt. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 290 You may shooe him up, but drive no naile at that place. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1886) 205 He staid in the highway..until my horse was shoed. 1776 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 27 June 320/2 A Bay Mare,..a natural trotter, shod all round, remarkably bad to shoe behind. 1870 Thornbury *Tour rd. Eng.* II. xxiii. 139 The forge of the blacksmith who shoed Tyrrell's horse. 1889 F. E. Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 149 He shod her all round, and she never kicked once.

fig. 1731–8 Swift *Pol. Convers.* i. 95 *Lady Smart.* This is his Fourth Wife; then he has been shod round. 1788 Grose *Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Shod*, A parson who attends a funeral is said to be shod all round, when he receives a hat-band, gloves, and scarf.

b. Phrases. *To shoe the goose, gosling*: see those words; similarly *to shoe the gander*, †*the daw*. Also, † *To shoe the goose* (slang): to get drunk. *To shoe the wild mare*: see Mare[1] 2 b.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* I. ix. E iij, All the reaste mighte blow their nayles, or go to shough the dawe. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* C 2 b, Galen might goe shooe the Gander for any good he could doo. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Bertrand*, *Deschausser Bertrand*, to be drunke,..to whip the cat, shoo the goose.

3. To protect (the point, edge or face of a thing, esp. something made of timber) with a plate, rim, ferrule or sheath of metal, etc.

c 1205 Lay. 7831, & þa Bruttes..nomen longen ræftres.. mid stronge irene heo weoren i-scod. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 290 Item, for..irne to Johne Lam, to scho the quhelis..xxvjs. 1531 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 183 To John Locker for sewing moulddes with ireon for the brykmakers. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Aries*,..a great peece of timber shodde with brasse, in facion like a rammes heade. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, Bootes..shodde vnderneath with yron. 1602 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 134, ij speades shoud with iren, ij*s*. 1618 in Charnock *Mar. Archit.* (1801) II. 205 Shovells steele shodden. 1789 Burns *Capt. Grose's Peregr.* vii, A broom-stick o' the Witch of Endor, Weel shod wi' brass. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 303 The ends of the piles are cased or shoed with pointed iron. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 138 In the processes of hooping barrels, and shoeing wheels. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. P 21 These bars ..are shod at their lower cutting ends with serrated or notched steel faces for chipping the stone. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V*, c. 45 § 2 (4) The driving wheels of a locomotive.. shod with diagonal crossbars of not less than three inches in width.

b. Naut. *To shoe the anchor*: (see quot. 1644).

1644 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 3 The ground may be soft and ozie; In such places we use to shooe the Anchor, that is, to put boords to the flooke..and make it much broader. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789). 1867 in Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*

4. *transf.* To cover or protect as with a shoe or shoes.

1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xiii. (1640) 191 The shores there being not shod against the sea with huge high rocks. 1807 *Prize Ess. & Trans. Highl. Soc.* III. 448 The surface turfs are carefully laid aside, and after the peats are taken out, these turfs are brought back..and placed upon the part that was made bare. This operation is called shoeing the moss. 1837 Longf. *Frithiof's Homestead* 24 On a bear skin (the skin it was coal-black, Scarlet red was the throat, but the paws were shodden with silver), Thorsten sat.

Shoe, obs. form of Show *sb.* and *v.*, Sow *v.*

Shoeblack (ʃū·blæk). [f. Shoe *sb.* + Black *v.*] One who cleans boots and shoes for a livelihood.

1778 Foote *Trip to Calais* I. (1778) 21 As I live, a couple of shoe-blacks. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. ix, Will the whole Finance Ministers..of modern Europe undertake to make one Shoeblack happy?

attrib. 1862 G. H. Townsend *Man. of Dates* s. v. *Shoe-blacks*, The existing ragged school shoeblack brigade was founded in 1851.

b. *Shoe-black Plant* = *shoe-flower* (Shoe *sb.* 6 c).

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Shoe-black*,.. a name in Jamaica for the *Hibiscus rosa sinensis*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* I. 589/1 *Hibiscus Rosa sinensis*...These flowers..are used ..in Java for blacking shoes, whence the plant is frequently called the Shoe-black Plant.

So † **Shoe-blacker**, a shoeblack. **Shoe-blacking**, (*a*) = Blacking *vbl. sb.* 3 b; (*b*) the blacking and polishing of shoes.

1755 Johnson *Dict., Japanner*..2. A shoeblacker. 1843 M. A. Richardson *Local Hist. Table Bk., Hist.* II. Index, Shoe blacker. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 13 They were.. the only persons possessed of shoe-blacking. 1902 Alice Terton *Lights & Shadows in Hosp.* x. 166 His interest in the shoe-blacking soon waned.

Shoed (ʃūd), *ppl. a.* [f. Shoe *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.] Furnished or protected with a shoe or shoes; shod.

See also Slip-shoed *a.* and *high-shoed* var. of High-shod.

1602 *Will of W. Snawdon of Winterton, Lincs.*, One shoed waine with the furniture belonging to it. 1612 *Inv.* in *Antiquary* (1906) Jan. 28 A shoed shovel, a shoed spade. 1902 *Edin. Evening News* 14 July 2 [He] kicked her with his shoed feet.

Shoef, obs. pa. t. of Shave *v.*

Shoe-goose: see Stagush.

Shoe-horn (ʃū·hɔ̄ːn), *sb.* In 5, 6 *Sc.* schone-, shone-, ? -schune.

1. A curved instrument of horn, metal, etc. used to facilitate the slipping of one's heel into a shoe by placing it between shoe and heel; a shoeing-horn.

1589 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 540 Ane schone horne 30d. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 315 Shone hornes the dozen vis. 1874 Burnand *My time* xxiv. 213 Giving his back the graceful outward bend of a shoe-horn.

2. *fig.* = Shoeing-horn 2.

1630 Br. G. Græme *Let.* in *Miscellany S. H. S.* (1904) II. 255 Sone, cum not in such termis, for..I fear that if more be offered it will be takin. be warie, ye be no schurehorne [? *read* schunehorne]. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Shoe-horn*, a puffer at an auction. 1894 *Northumberld. Gloss., Shoe-horn*, a helper on. One employed to bid for the sellers at sales.

3. = Shoeing-horn 3.

1864 Atkinson *Prov. Names Birds, Shoe-horn.* Avocet —*Recurvirostra avocetta.* 1895 P. H. Emerson *Birds Norfolk Broadland* lxxxvi. 281 And you know 'tis an avocet, or 'shoe-horn', as the old Broadsmen call him.

Shoe-horn, *v.*

†**1.** *trans.* To cuckold. (Cf. Horn *v.* 2.) *Obs.*[—1]

c 1650 Braithwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. xvi. H 6, Venus swore it, She'd shooe-horn her Vulcans forehead.

2. To put or thrust (a thing) *upon* (a person) or (a person) *into* (a position) by means of an 'instrument' or 'tool' for the purpose.

1859 W. Chadwick *Life De Foe* v. 292 A penny trash, shoe-horned upon the public for buyers, by the addition of the Shortest Way with Daniel De Foe. 1901 *North Western Daily Mail* (Barrow) 6 Mar., A non-expert..who is shoehorned into a position like that of the War Secretary.

3. *intr.* To act as a 'shoe-horn' at a sale. *dial.* (Cf. Shoe-horn *sb.* 2.) 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Shoeing (ʃū·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 4–6 shoyng(e, (4 ssoinge), 4–7 shoing, 5 schoynge, schoing, 5–6 scho(w)yng, 6 showing, showyng(e, shouing, (schevyng, 7 schewing), 6–8 shooing, 7– shoeing. [f. Shoe *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of Shoe *v.*; the action of putting shoes on a person or animal, or of furnishing a pile, wheel, etc. with a shoe.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoynge, of menn, *calceacio*. Schoynge, of hors, *ferracio*. 1458 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 366 For vj. powls schoyng and þe powls ij*s*. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 32 Item..for..the schoyng of gun cartis..iij li. x*s*. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 109 Enterfyre is a sorance, and cometh of yll shoynge. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* cxii, Laid or bound to a Horses foot that is grievously pricked with shooing. 1707 Fleetwood *Chron. Prec.* v. 149 For Hay, Oats, Litter and Shooing. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* vii, My horse wants shoeing. 1883 'Annie Thomas' *Mod. Housewife* 67 The only broad rule that can be laid down for the successful shoeing of children is [etc.].

2. *concr.* a. Shoes collectively.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cvii. 10 In til ydumy I sall streke my shoynge. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* iii. 5 But lowse thow thi shoyng [*v. r.* schone] fro thi feyt. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 394 And..the forsald hugh shold lynde the forsaid Anneys..in vitaile clothyng and shoyng. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxxvi. 233 They were more lyche to tormentours and deuels in hir clothyng and shoyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/2 A schoynge, *ferramentum*. *Ibid.*, Schoynge of a byschope (*v. r.* schon of a bischoppe), *sandalia*. 1530 Palsgr. 267/1 Schowyng of an horse, *ferrure*.

b. The protective casing or covering with which a thing is shod.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 378 A strong lever, shod with iron, and having the iron shoeing bent a little upwards. 1806 Morison *Decis.* XXXIII. 14296 The shoeing or causewaying in the river..must be taken away. 1870 *2nd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Irel.* 20 The sides of the tray are fitted with a light shoeing of wood. 1892 R. C. Leslie *Sea-Boat* 162 *Shooing*, an iron band to protect the keel.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shoeing forge, -hammer, -shed, -stool, -trade*; **shoeing smith,** a smith who shoes horses.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* June 13/2 Outside the town you find the *shoeing forges. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Shoeing-hammer*. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 418 The *shoeing-shed ought to have rings in the walls for the..halters of the horses being shod, to be fastened to. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 41 Mr. Goodwin, *shoeing-smith. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* I. ix. 146 'Should you, Pip?' said Joe, drawing his *shoeing-stool near the forge. 1865 H. Kingsley *Hillyars* I. ii. 11 His business was..what we call a good *shoeing trade, principally with the omnibus horses.

Shoe·ing-horn. [Shoeing *vbl. sb.*]

1. = Shoe-horn *sb.* 1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoynge horne, *parcopollex*. 1523–34 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 142 Shoyng horne, boget, and shoes. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* II. ii, Oyly as the Kings constables Lampe and shining as his Shooing-horne. 1713 Swift *Elegy Death Partridge* Misc. (1727) 100 The Horned Moon, which heretofore Upon their Shoes the Romans wore..And whence we claim our Shoeing-Horns. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 250 A pair of pumps into which, with the assistance of..a shoeing-horn, the old gentleman had compressed his proper proportions. 1855 Dickens *Dorrit* xxii, A little instrument like a shoeing horn for serving it [snuff] out.

attrib. 1623 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* IV. i, Here's a shooing-horn Chain gilt over.

Proverbial. 1508 Stanbridge *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B v, His nose is lyke a shoynge horne. 1659 Howell *Lex., Prov.* 4/1 Every one cannot have a nose like a shooing-horn.

2. *fig.* a. An appetizer for food or drink.

1536 *Remedy for Sedition* 19 b, We haue to many sawces, to many showying hornes to drawe in meate. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. i, I..caught a slyp of bacon..Which..Shall serue for a shoinghorne to draw on two pots of ale. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 275 The hungry sauour of our porrige was a shooing-horne to draw downe the hardnesse of our bread. 1737 Ozell *Rabelais* I. 152 *note*, Thus we say, a Red Herring is a shoing-horn to a Pot of Ale. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxiv, This [conversation] served as a 'shoeing-horn' to draw on another cup of ale.

b. Something serving to facilitate a transaction, to bring on a condition, or to procure acceptance for something else.

1584 D. Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 71 This was nothing but a shoing-horne, to pull on a page or two more. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. vi. 115 Voluntary solitarinesse ..gently brings on as a Siren, a shooing-horne, or some Sphinx to this irrevocable gulfe [Melancholy]. 1759 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 198 It appeared..that a treaty and a purchase went on together, that the former was a shoeing-horn for the latter. 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* v, A long story, my lord,..is..the best shoeing-horn for drawing on a sound sleep. 1864 Sir T. Seaton *From Cadet to Colonel* xvii. 358 An occupation that was a certain shoeing horn for cholera.

attrib. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk round London, Tavern* Wks. 1709 III. iii. 6 As soon as that [his money] begins to fail, then her Shooing-horn Looks and Freedoms, are turn'd into moody Pouts.

c. A person used as a tool by another; esp. one who is employed as a decoy.

1602 *Narcissus* 441 O, that same youthe's the scummer of all skorne, Of surquedry the very shooing horne. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 61. 1692 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 494 Oliver had made him..his shooing horn, merely to serve his turn. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 536 P 5 Most of our fine young Ladies..retain in their Service..supernumerary and insignificant Fellows, which they..commonly call *Shoeing-Horns*. These are..designed..when a good Offer comes, to whet and spur him up to the Point. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. vii. IV. 335 D'Arnaud—once Friedrich's shoeing-horn and 'rising-sun' for Voltaire's behoof.

†**3.** The Avocet: = Shoe-horn *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1668 Sir T. Browne *Let.* Wks. 1836 I. 400 A shoeing-horn or barker, from the figure of the bill and barking note.

†**4.** A cuckold's horn: see Horn *sb.* 7. In quot. *attrib.* (Cf. Shoe-horn *v.* 1.)

1663 Killigrew *Pars. Wedding* v. iv, Fine y' faith, none but the small Levites brow to plant your shooing-horn-seed in? How now?

Hence † **Shoe·ing-horn** *v.* = Shoe-horn *v.* 2.

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 77 This House does not intend to trepan, or shoeing-horn, any body.

Shoe·kin, *nonce-wd.* [-kin.] A small shoe.

1844 Thackeray *Contrib. Punch, Wand. Fat Contrib.* ii. Wks. 1898 VI. 60 A Belgic child..in little wooden shoekins.

Shoel, obs. form of Shoal *sb.*[1]

Shoe-leather. Leather for the making of shoes; the leather of which (one's) shoes are made.

1660 Boyle *Spring of Air* 13 A sucker,..upon which is nail'd a good thick piece of tan'd shoe Leather. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 119 As good a lad as ever stepped in shoe-leather. 1828–32 Webster, *Shoe-leather*, leather for shoes. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 89 The poor man's loaf was..as tough as his shoe-leather.

b. put for the wear of shoes in walking.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 319 He counteth me..such a one as is altogether unworthy of a litle shoe leather, when he is sent for. 1675 V. Alsop *Anti-sozzo* iii. 114 No need to look out, if they had sufficient at Home, they might save Shooe leather. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* IV. xliv. 166 He walked to Ulverstone; spent nothing but shoe-leather on the road.

Shoeless (ʃūˑlės), *a.* [f. SHOE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without shoes.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 59 A shoolesse Souldier there a man might meete. 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Barbara S—*, And then came staring upon her the figures of her little stockingless and shoeless sisters. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 134 He found that the other animals were suitably furnished, but that man alone was naked and shoeless.

Hence **Shoe·lessness.**

1843 [G. P. R. JAMES] *Commissioner* xxxvi. 220 She had found her shoelessness not very pleasant.

Shoemack, -make, obs. forms of SUMACH.

Shoemaker (ʃūˑmēˑkəɹ). Forms: see SHOE *sb.* and MAKER; also 6 *north.* **shounemaker** (from the *plural*).

1. One whose trade it is to make shoes.

1381 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 112/2 Johannes Stotesbury, Childeshomakere. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 264 A philosophur.. þat bought a payr of shone on a tyme of a sho-maker. 1519 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 That the shounemaker sewe well thayre shown. 1621 in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 430 To y^e^ shoo maker for boots and shooes..4^li^. 3*s*. 1824 Miss MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 5 Our shoemaker..employs three journeymen. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, His expression and stoop are like those of a shoemaker.

b. in Latin proverb (cf. LAST *sb.*[1] 2 c).

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 155 The Shoomaker ought not to presume aboue the Pantople. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 173 Carrying the shoe-maker beyond his last, and encroaching upon the province of divines.

2. a. In the names of various fishes.

[1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 377/2 Table, Shoomaker fish 15 16. *Ibid.* II. xv. 350 The Hollanders call it [the Tench] a Schoemaker]. 1836 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* III. 120 *Cyprinus* (*Catastomus*) *nigricans.* (Le Sueur.)..This species is..an inhabitant of Lake Erie, where it is known to the fishermen by the names of 'Shoemaker', and 'Black Sucker'. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 326 The Threadfish, *Blepharis crinitus*.., also known as the 'Shoemaker-fish'. *Ibid.* 332 The Runner, *Elagatis pinnulatus*.., known..at Pensacola as..'Shoemaker', is ..abundant on the..coasts of Florida. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Coral*, Coral shoemaker, a fish of the family *Teuthididæ* and genus *Teuthis* or *Acanthurus*, living in the coral reefs of the Seychelles. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Shoemaker*, the lesser weever, *Trachinus vipera*; also in comb. *Master shoemaker.*

b. A name for the bird *Skua antarcticus.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Egmont*, or *Port Egmont Fowls*, the large Antarctic gulls with dark-brown plumage, called *shoemakers.*

3. *Comb.* † **shoemaker-loo** *U.S.*, some game at cards.

1813 R. B. THOMAS *Farmer's Alm.* (Boston, U. S.) Dec. in Kittredge *Old Farmer & Almanack* (1904) 95 Tom Teazer, well known at the grog shops for a dabster at shoemaker loo.

b. Combinations of possessive, as *shoemaker's craft*, but chiefly in the names of tools and appliances, as *shoemaker's awl, black* (BLACK *sb.* 1 b), *end* (END *sb.* 6 c), *hammer, knife, nippers, paste, rasp, thread, wax*; also **shoemaker's bark-tree** (see quot.); **shoemaker's holiday,** † (*a*) see quot. 1607; also applied to Monday (see Dekker *Shoemaker's Holiday* III. i); (*b*) used jocularly (after the title of Dekker's play, *a* 1600) for a day's holiday or 'outing' in the country; **shoemaker's spasm,** a synonym given to tetany because of the liability of shoemakers to be affected by it; † **shoe-maker's stocks** *slang*, shoes which pinch the feet.

1547 HEXHAM I, A *shoe-makers aule. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl., *Shoemaker's bark-tree, a Montserrat name for *Byrsonima spicata.* 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 91 The seedes..being mixed with *shomakers blacke, doth take away warts. 1530 PALSGR. 267/1 *Shoomakers crafte, *cordovanerie.* 1540 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* 158 Idem Andreas in arte sive occupacione de shomakerscrafte bene et fideliter serviret dictum Cornelium. 1598– *Shoemaker's end [see END *sb.* 6 c]. 1895 P. N. HASLUCK *Boot Making* 18 A *shoemaker's hammer, knife, nippers, glazing iron, and rasp. *Ibid.* 27 *Shoemaker's Rasp. 1607 *Christmas Prince* III. (1816) 47 *Tuesday* [loq.]..Bouzer I am not, but mild, sober Tuesday..if I light not on St. Hewsday. *Footnote.* The *Shoemakers holy-day. 1768 GOLDSM. in *European Mag.* (1793) Sept. 172/1 And now my dear boy, if you are not better engaged, I should be glad to enjoy a Shoe-maker's holliday with you. 1822 SCOTT *Let.* 23 June in *Lockhart* (1837) V. 189 Castle Street is bad enough, even with the privilege of a hop-step-and-jump to Abbotsford, by way of shoemakers' holiday. 1647 HEXHAM I, A *shoe-makers knife. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vii, [He] would have gladly stabbed me with his shoemaker's knife. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 349/2 These..*Shoomakers Nippers..having a sharp point in the end of one [shank]; and a slit in the other, to strain up a Tack. 1866 *Athenæum* Feb. 243/3 The paste to be used for all prints..should be *shoemakers' paste. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* (1910) VIII. 578 Of 399 cases [of Tetany]..174 occurred in shoemakers (*'shoemaker's spasm'), *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Shoemakers-stocks*, pincht with strait Shoes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 420 Fasten on each side of the hole, two ends of *Shoomakers thread. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yr.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 132 *Shoemakers waxe being laide to a byle. 1883 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* 221 Shoemakers' Wax..is composed generally of..pitch and resin, with 10 per cent. of tallow.

Hence **Shoe·makeress,** a female shoemaker. **Shoe·makerish** *a.*, resembling that of a shoemaker.

1860 *All Year Round* Sept. 523/2 They all bought their shoes of a woman who was called Mother Rousselle... The shoemakeress [etc.]. 1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* xiv. 204 With bead-black eyes and of a shoemakerish presence.

Shoemaking (ʃūˑmēˑkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOE *sb.* + MAKING *vbl. sb.*] The making of shoes.

1611 COTGR., *Cordouannerie*, Shoo-making. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. vi, The white head that bent low over the shoemaking. 1910 MRS. H. M. TIRARD *Bk. of Dead* I. 18 All the trades are also represented, shoe-making, boat-building, pottery-making [etc.].

Shoer (ʃūˑəɹ). Forms: 1 *scōere*, *scōehere*, 5 schoer, 6 shooer, 9– shoer. [OE. *scōere*: see SHOE *v.* and -ER[1].] One who shoes. In OE. a shoemaker; later usually, one who shoes horses, etc.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 696, *Sutrinator*, scoere. *a* 900 *Leiden Gloss.* 122 in *O. E. Texts* 115 *Sutrinator*, scoehere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/2 A Schoer, *ferrarius.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 159 We should haue as many goose shooers as geese. 1861 OLMSTED *Journ. Cotton Kingdom* I. 111 He tells Prior that if he can find a first rate shoer..not to lose him. 1902 *19th Cent.* Aug. 313 The mystic shoer Wayland Smith.

Shoerl, variant of SCHORL.

1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 81 Indurated clay and shoerl.

Shofar, variant of SHOPHAR.

Shof|e, shoff|e, obs. forms of SHOVE *v.*

Shoffle, Shofful, obs. ff. SHUFFLE, SHOVEL.

Shoful (ʃōˑful). *slang.* Also **showfull, shouful, schofell, shofle, schoful.** [a. G. *schofel* worthless stuff, rubbish (primarily Yiddish, and thence adopted in London slang, though it has long been in ordinary German use), subst. use of G. *schofel* base, mean, worthless, repr. the German-Jewish pronunciation of Heb. שִׁפָל *shāphēl* low.]

1. Counterfeit money. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*, counterfeit. *Comb.* **shoful-man, -pitcher,** one who passes counterfeit coin; so *shoful-pitching.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 24/1 [Costermonger's slang] Showfulls, Bad money. 1856 — *Gt. World London* 47 The '*shoful-men', or those who plunder by counterfeits; as coiners and forgers of checks, and notes, and wills. 1859 *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, **Showfull-pitcher*, a passer of counterfeit money. 1860 *Ibid.* (ed. 2), **Showfull-pullet*, a 'gay' woman. 1863 W. B. JERROLD *Signals of Distress* 106 The passers of base coin, shofulmen,..will be sensibly strengthened. 1891 CAREW *Autobiog. Gypsy* 417 Got down and heaved the sack-ful o' shoful into the water.

2. A hansom cab. Also (rarely) *shoful-cab.*

[Possibly a distinct word; the explanation in quot. 1851 does not seem altogether certain.]

1851–61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 488/2, I don't think those 'shofuls' (Hansoms) should be allowed. *Ibid.* III. 351/1 Hansom's..are always called 'showfulls' by the cabmen. 'Showfull', in slang, means counterfeit, and the 'showfull' cabs are an infringement on Hansom's patent. 1854 *Househ. Words* VIII. 76 A hackney cab is a shoful. 1862 *Offic. Catal. Internat. Exhib.* I. No. 1444 Original builders of the shofle or gentleman's Hansom. *Ibid.* No. 1367 New brougham 'shofle'. 1869 *St. James' Mag.* III. 285 There ought to be other conveyances beyond the 'Growler and Shofle'.

3. A low-class tavern. ? *rare.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 259/1 'A rackety place, sir,..one of the showfuls; a dicky one; a free-and-easy'.

Shog (ʃɒg), *sb.* Now only *dial.* and *arch.* Forms: 6 **schogg,** 7–8 **shogg,** 7– **shog.** [f. SHOG *v.*]

† **1.** A shaking condition. *Obs. rare.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 141 Gif thir tua landis he ma vanquis, Scotland, he thinkis, will be in a schogg. 1689 N. LEE *Princess of Cleve* IV. iii, I feel a gorgeing pain..A shog of Blood and Spirits.

2. A shake, jerk.

1611 COTGR., *Branle*,..a shake, shog, or shocke. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 68 Thrust in the Ladle, being full, give it a shog, then strike off the heaped Powder. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 P 2 My learned friend assured me further, that the earth had lately received a shogg from a comet. 1724 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VIII. 280 He warned her to hold by the ropes..that so she might not fall, if there happened any greater shog than ordinary.

transf. 1728 RAMSAY *Fox & Rat* 20 Thus thou, great King, hast by thy conqu'ring Paw, Gi'en Earth a Shog, and made thy Will a Law. 1785 BURNS *Address to Deil* xvi, Ye cam to Paradise incog,..An' gied the infant world a shog. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* Prol. 11 This will be a rare shog to poor Sir Oliver; he will turn paper-colour.

3. A shogging gait. Cf. SHOG *v.* 3.

1885 DODGE *Patroclus & Penelope* 25 In early days, horses were mainly ridden on a canter or a gallop. If perchance a trot, it was a mere shog.

Shog (ʃɒg), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* Forms: 4–7 **shogge,** (5 **shogke**), 5–6 **schog(ge,** 6 **shugge, (shougge),** 7–8 **shogg,** 8 **shogue, (shug),** 5– **shog.** [ME. *shogge*, prob. related to OHG. *scoc* (pl. *scogz*) oscillation, swinging, a swing, MHG. *schock, schocke* swing, see-saw, MDu., Du. *schok* shake, jolt, MLG., MDu., MHG. *schocker* to swing, oscillate, shake. The word was doubtless felt as phonetically symbolic of the character of the movement denoted; cf. JOG *v.* See also SHOCK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To shake or roll (something heavy) from side to side; to rock (a cradle); to shake, agitate (a liquid or the vessel containing it); to jolt or jar (some one or something).

1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiv. 24 The boot..was schoggid with wawis [Vulg. *iactabatur fluctibus*]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3075 þey houe, þey drawe, þey shogkeden hir [sc. the shrine] also. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 322 Of wynys soure is taught to make swete Wit barly floure... And oon doth dregge of swete wyn therto; Of gliricide [*read* glicride] a part he hath infuse Al drie, & longe yshogged it wol vse [L. *utuntur, cum diu vasorum commotione miscuerint*]. *c* 1550 *Droichis Part of Play* 38 in *Dunbar's Poems* 315 He, quhen he dansit, the warld wald schog. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1659 Now their [children's] Couch hangs in the Aire, within little Beds of coard, or little Chaires, where they shogge and rocke them. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 31 If care be taken that the tube in erecting be not shogged. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 To *Shug*, to shake; as hay, &c.

† **b.** To shake (a person) in order to cause pain or annoyance, or to rouse from sleep; to jog (a person) in order to attract attention. Also rarely *to shog upon* in the same sense. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xl. 100 They schogged hym and schotte hym his lymes all in sondir. *c* 1495 *Lyfitaste*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 389. I shogged him, I shaked him. 1530 PALSGR. 705/1 Shougge nat so upon him to wake hym out of his slepe. *Ibid.* 706/1 Shugge. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1189/2 Rudely and boystuously shogge hym & wake him. *c* 1613 MIDDLETON *No Wit like Woman's* II. ii. 107 *Philip.* May I crave one word, madam? [*stage-direction.*] Shogs his Mother. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) M 2, You onely mutter against the present disturbance, as one shogged while he dreams upon his pillow.

† **c.** *fig.* To 'shake' mentally; to upset, discompose; to irritate, annoy. *Obs.*

1639 CADE *Serm.* 50 The deadly arrow sticks in his flesh, and shogs and galls him. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instruct.* (1897) 47 His Brains have become so shogged, he cannot think in a fortnight. 1701 STEELE *Chr. Hero* (1711) 16 Cæsar..a little shogg'd with reiterated ill Omens.

2. † **a.** *refl.* (obs.) and **b.** *intr.* To jerk or jolt; to shake to and fro, to rock; † to be shaky or insecurely fixed, to get shaken *out.*

a. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5018 Þan schogs hire þe sontree & schoke hire schire leues.

b. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 174 As he hyet on his way..þe box schoget out of his bosome. 15.. in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 365 For amendyng of a chalys foote y^t^ schoggyd ij d. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XVI. x. 63 Neither was he seene so much as to give a nod with his head, when the wheele shogged. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Insects* 900 Let there be two handfuls distance between every Hive, that one shogging or shaking, the next may stand unmoved. 1841 R. CHAMBERS *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 337 Big it [the castle] in a bog Where 'twill neither shake nor shog.

† **c.** *intr.* Of troops: To waver, become unsteady.

1642–4 VICARS *God in Mount* 147 All the enemies Horse began to shogge a little.

3. To walk, ride or move with a succession of bumps or jerks; to jog along. Now usually, to advance at a steady easy pace, to travel steadily on.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11089 Restorit full stithly opon strong wise, Shot into sheltrons shoggond full þicke. 15.. *Scot. Field* 94 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, Shott into a sure shipp, and shoggeth over the water, Into Scotland. 1530 PALSGR. 704/1 The carte shogged so faste that I went ever I shulde have fallen downe. 1719 RAMSAY *Ep. Hamilton* Answ. iii. 20 Be blythe, and let the Warld e'en shog, as it thinks fit. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xxviii, They shog on side by side. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 12 Shogging steadily on..I at length reached the creek.

b. To go away, begone. Also with *off.* Obs. exc. *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 47 Will you shogge off? *Ibid.* II. iii. 48 Shall wee shogg? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Coxcomb* II. i, Come, prethee let's shogg off, and browze an hour or two.

† **4.** Of troops: To move gradually to one side. Also *trans.* of a commander, to cause (troops) to move gradually to one side. *Obs.*

1650 CROMWELL *Let.* 4 Sept. in *Carlyle* (1845) II. 45 The Enemy drew down to the right wing..; shogging also their foot and train much to the right. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 691, I gave strict order to all my Army to shog still toward the right hand.

Hence **Sho·gged** *ppl. a.*

1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 73 Nor shogged earth so euer bideth throwes, When bigge in wombe she doth the vapours close.

Shogging (ʃɒˑgiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of SHOG *v.*; a shaking, jolting, jerking, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoggynge,..*agitacio.* 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1402/1 Rogers..being found a slepe, scarse with much shogging could be awaked. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVII. xxix. 650 Scarce able to endure the shogging and shaking of the horselitter. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s. v. *Shoeing*, So as the Heads of the Nails may enter in, and fill the same, appearing somewhat above the Shoe, and then they will stand sure without shogging, and endure Danger.

b. *spec.* in *Lace manuf.* (See quots.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 732 One of these two combs, in the double bolt machine, has an occasional lateral movement called shogging. 1878 A. BARLOW *Hist. Weaving* 336 This motion of the comb-bar is technically called 'shogging', and by its means the diagonal arrangement is given to the threads. *Ibid.* 362 The 'shogging' motion of the combs.

Sho·gging, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That shogs.

1581 STUDLEY tr. *Seneca's Hippol.* 61 The shogging carte made crake with swagging sway. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s. v. *Shog*, A shogging horse. *a* 1881 J. CRAIG in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. II. 123 The mavis will sing to me,.. Aff the shoggin' boughs o' the sauchen tree. 1897 O. RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 272 A sort of shogging amble.

Shoggle (ʃɒˑg'l), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* Also 8 **schogle,** 9 **shoogle, shogle, shuggle.** [Frequentative f. SHOG *v.*: see -LE. Cf. G. *schockeln, schuckeln* to shake, jostle, walk unsteadily.]

1. *trans.* To shake, to cause to move; to shake (something or somebody) *off.*

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 159 b, You must in

no wise shake them, or shoggle them..: by shaking of the egges, the Chickins haue been hatched lame. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xxxiv, If, by ony mischance, she had been shooggled aff [the coach] whar would I hae been then? *a* 1844 W. MILLER in Whitelaw *Bk. Scott. Song* 6/2 Stravagin' wuns begin To shoggle and shake the window-brods. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Shoggle*, to joggle.

2. *intr.* To shake; to swing about, to dangle; to shake or settle *down*.

c 1730 RAMSAY *Vision* v, A braid-sword schogled at his thee. 1896 CROCKETT *Cleg Kelly* xxix, I'll juist lock them in and they'll [soon] hae shuggled doon as quaite as a session.

3. To walk unsteadily.

1884 *Reports Provinc.* (E.D.D.), The old cat was shuggling about in the hole. 1896 B. MITFORD *Sign of Spider* xxvii. 268 It stood for a moment in rigid immobility, then..it shoggled over the ridge. *Ibid.* 274 The fearful Thing.. shoggled away in the direction whence it had come.

Sho·ggy, *a.* [f. SHOG *sb.* + -Y.] Shaky, insecure.

1866 D. MITCHELL *Hist. Montrose* 22 Sandy Fullerton.. ascended to the narrow shoggy scaffold at the top of the spire.

‖ **Shogun** (ʃō·gun). Forms: 7 shongo, 8–9 seogun, (9 djogoun), s(h)iogoon, sjogun, 9 siogoon, 9– shogun. [Jap. *shōgun*, short for *sei-i-tai shōgun*, 'barbarian-subduing great general', bestowed on the first holder of the office in 1192. *Shōgun* is a Japanese sound-substitution for Chinese *chiang chün* (*chiang* to lead, *chün* army).] The hereditary commander-in-chief of the Japanese army, until 1867 the virtual ruler of Japan. Also called TYCOON.

By successive usurpations of power, the Shogun or Tycoon had become the real ruler of Japan, though nominally the subject of the Mikado, and acting in his name. This state of things was misunderstood by Europeans, and it was erroneously supposed that there were two emperors in Japan, the Mikado (who was the object of a loyalty of the nature of religious devotion) being called 'the spiritual emperor', and the Shogun 'the temporal emperor'. In 1867, with the abolition of the feudal system, the Mikado assumed the actual sovereignty, and the reign of the Shoguns came to an end.

1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 5 His wife is sent back to her father Shongo Samme, King of Edo and to succeed in the Empire. 1727 SCHEUCHZER tr. *Kæmpfer's Japan* App. I. 65 It was thought expedient, that the Seogun, or Crown-General, should be sent against them at the head of the imperial army. 1863 ALCOCK *Capital of Tycoon* II. 233 The Seogun, or Dai-Seogun. 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 281 The fall of the shogun's (tycoon's) government. 1879 AUDSLEY & BOWES *Keramic Art Japan* I. Pref., The difficulty which modern writers have found in deciding upon the correct mode of spelling the single word Shôgun; in the Japanese Government Reports we find it written Shogun; Mr. F. Ottwell Adams..writes it..Shôgun; Mr. Dickson, Shiogoon; Mr. Mossman, Siogoon; Mr. Mitford, Shogun; Dr. Siebold, Sjôgun; and Mr. Satow..Shôgun.

b. *attrib.* as designating fashions or art belonging to the Japanese feudal period.

1889 SIR E. ARNOLD *Seas & Lands* xiv. (1895) 226 A seated figure, which might have been taken at first for the chief triumph of the Shogun carvers' work. 1904 D. SLADEN *Playing the Game* I. vi, Tied in the elegant and fantastic Shogun knots which are the formal way of fastening up presents in Dai Nippon.

Hence **Sho·gunal** *a.*, pertaining to a shogun, the shoguns, or the shogunate; **Sho·gunate**, the office or dignity of a shogun or the shoguns; **Sho·gunite** (*rare*), a partisan of the shogunate; **Sho·gunship** = *Shogunate*.

1841 *Mann. & Cust. Japanese* 357 The Annals begin to tell..of rival heirs contending for the ziogoonship. 1873 MOSSMAN *New Japan* 333 The despotic rule of the Mikados before the Siogoonate was established. 1883 E. M. THOMPSON *R. Cocks' Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 5 *note*, Iyéyasu held the Shogunate only two years. 1890 SIR E. ARNOLD *Seas & Lands* xxii. (1895) 364 The rebels, or Shogunites, were defeated. 1899 C. J. HOLMES *Hokusai* 14 His artistic reputation had even spread to the Shogunal court.

Shoir, obs. form of SHORE *sb.* and *v.*

Shoit(e, shoitte, obs. forms of SHOAT.[2]

Shok, obs. f. SHOCK *sb.*; obs. pa. t. of SHAKE *v.*

Shoke, obs. f. SHOCK; obs. pa. t. of SHAKE *v.*

Shokinge, obs. pres. pple. of SUCK *v.*

Shokk(e, obs. forms of SHOCK *sb.*

‖ **Shola**[1] (ʃō·lă). [Hindī *sholā* (*colā*) = Bengalī *solā*.] = SOLA[1].

1836 FANNY PARKS *Wand. Pilgr.* (1850) II. 100 Each float was formed of eight pieces of sholā...When this light and spongy pith is wetted, it can be cut into thin layers, which, pasted together, are formed into hats. 1884 *Sunday at Home* June 373/2, I cannot but grieve to see the graceful shola disappearing fast before the planter's axe.

attrib. 1876 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 100/2 Æschynomene aspera (Shola plant, the Rice-paper plant of India). 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 726 They are not so durable as the Sola or Shola hats of Calcutta.

‖ **Shola**[2] (ʃōv·lă). Also sholah. [Tamil *colāi*.] A thicket or jungle, in Southern India.

1862 MARKHAM *Trav. Peru & India* xxiii. 38 A wooded ravine or *shola*. *Ibid.* 383 There are many *sholas* which will be found equally well adapted for the growth of the hardier chinchonas. 1863 SIR V. BROOKE in O. L. Stephen *Mem.* (1894) 109 She [the tigress] got weaker and weaker, let go the boar, and slunk off to the *sholah*.

Sholdarry, variant of SHOOLDARRY.

Shold(e, obs. forms of SHOAL.

Sholder(e, sholdre, obs. forms of SHOULDER.

Shole (ʃōl). *Naut.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. SHOE *sb.* 5 j.] (See quots.)

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 26 The Transoms ought to be level, but especially the Wing Transom, securing all very well with Shores, which ought to be plac'd on Timber Foundations, called Sholes. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 131 *Sholes*, pieces of oak or plank, placed under the soles of the standards; or under the heels of the shores, in docks or slips where there are no groundways, to enable them to sustain the weight required without sinking.

Shole, obs. form of SHOAL, SHOVEL.

Sholt. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 shault, 9 shoult (*E. Angl. Gloss.*, 1895). A cur.

1587 HARRISON *England* III. vii. 231/2 in *Holinshed*, Besides these also we haue sholts or curs dailie brought out of Iseland. 1592 GREENE *Conny-catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 65 The Boy..neuer saw a Dog nor Bitch, but a little prickeard Shault, that kept the Mil doore. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Sholt*, a cur.

Sholve, obs. var. SHOVEL *sb.*

Shomach, -acke, obs. forms of SUMACH.

Shomaker(e, obs. forms of SHOEMAKER.

† **Shome.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 schome. ? Some kind of adornment for horses. Hence (?) **Schom** *v. trans.*, to adorn with this.

a 1310 in Wright *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 239 Nou beth capel-claweres With shome to-shrude; Hue boskeþ huem with botouns, Ase hit were a brude. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxi. 3 Quhy sould not palfrayis thane be prowd, Quhen gillettis wilbe schomd and schroud.

Shome, obs. form of SHAME *sb.*

Shon, obs. form of SHUN.

† **Shond,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 sceand, sceond, scond, 1–2 scand, 2–3 *Ormin* shande, 3 scond(e, schond(e, ssonde, 3–5 schonde, 4 schounde, schond, 4–5 shonde, (5 shont). [Com. Teut.: OE. *scand*, *scond* fem. corresponds to OFris. *skonde*, (M)Du., (M)LG. *schande*, OHG. *scanta* (MHG., mod.G. *schande*), Goth. *skanda*:—OTeut. **skandō*, f. **skando-* ashamed (OHG. *scant*, OE. as subst. masc. *scand*: see next):—**skamdo-* pa. pple. of **skam-*: see SHAME *sb.*] Shame, disgrace, infamy, ignominy; scandal. *To do* (some one) *shond*, to treat with indignity; *to bring*, *make to shond*, to disgrace, ruin.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1274 Þonne is him oþer earfeþu swa some scyldgum to sconde. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1076, Sume ȝe tawod to scande. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11956 Forr þatt wass..Hiss aȝhenn shame & shande. *c* 1205 LAY. 7032 Þe ȝunge wifmen & þe ælde he makeden to sconde. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2714 Ðat ðuȝte moyses michel sond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1493 To spousy þe emperours doȝter hit nere him no ssonde. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM 7 *Deadly Sins* 45 Wyth schame and eke wyth schounde. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 88 And shelde hem fro pouerte and shonde. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 80 (Laud 463) Þou most þole shame & shonde, al for my sake. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiv. 28 With his AX he wrowhte hem Mochel schonde.

† **Shond,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*, Forms: 1 sceand, scond, 3 sconde. [OE. *scand*, *scond*: see prec.] An infamous person, a deceiver, charlatan, recreant.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 165 *Scurra*, scond. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints* xvii. 159 Ac þyllice sceandas sceolan siðian to helle. *c* 1205 LAY. 23668 Beon he in ælche londe iqueðe for ane sconde.

† **Shond,** *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. SHOND *sb.*[1] Cf. SHEND *v.*] *trans.* To harm, injure.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 226 Þe Sarazins do grete wreche, þe Cristen for to schond. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiii. 886 For Erthly Man was non leveng In londe That so moche he hated, ne wolde schonde.

† **Sho·ndful,** *a.* *Obs.* [OE. *sceandfull*, f. OE. *sceand* SHOND *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Shameful, disgraceful; infamous. Hence † **Sho·ndfully** *adv.*

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 29 Aug. 156 He [John Baptist] wæs heafde becorfen for scandfulra wifa bene, and for..scond-fulles ȝebeorscypes hleahtre. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Þis him wule þunche swiðe strong and swiðe scondful þet he [etc.]. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9198 Better is to sterue worþschipliche þan long to liuen schandfulliche.

† **Sho·ndly,** *a.* *Obs.* Forms: see SHOND *sb.*[1] Also 2 sandliee. [OE. *sceandlic*: see SHOND *sb.*[1] and -LY[1].] Shameful, disgraceful, vile.

888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. § 3 Ȝif hit ær scandlic wæs, ne bið hit no ðy fæzerre. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 239 Wat sceol se wrecce don þe bufon iseȝð his hlaford..him selfe bi sandlice senne beswapen. *c* 1205 LAY. 2274 Ne scal þe nan man scilden wið scondliche deaðe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4276 We no haue pouer Arthour oȝen..No for Merlin,..Þat can so michel schandliche werk.

Shone, pa. t. and pa. pple. of SHINE *v.*

Shone, obs. pl. of SHOE; obs. f. SHUN *v.*

Shoneen (ʃōnē·n). *Anglo-Irish.* Also shaun-neen. [f. mod. Irish *Seón*, ad. Eng. *John* + *-in* diminutive suffix.] (See quot. 1910.)

c 1840 KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 67 The likes of him, a bandy-legged shoneen. 1889 *Times* 30 Jan. 6/5, I hope to hear of ye shooting Hubert Davis..the shauneen of a landlord. 1909 *Ibid.* 21 Jan. 6/6 What difference did it make whether a man got a 'shoneen' education in Belfast or in Oxford so long as he was not educated an Irishman. 1910 P. W. JOYCE *English as we Speak it in Irel.* 321 *Shoneen*, a *gentleman* in a small way: a would-be gentleman who puts on superior airs. Always used contemptuously.

† **Shongable.** *Obs. rare.* [I. *shon* pl. of SHOE *sb.* + *-gable* in imitation of older compounds: see GAVEL *sb.*] A tax on the making of (a particular kind of) shoes.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* 359 Euerych sowtere þ[at] makeþ shon of newe roþes leþer, shal bote..twey pans, in name of shongable.

Shonie, obs. form of SHUN *v.*

† **Shonk,** *v.* *Sc. Obs. rare.* In 5 schonk. [Of obscure origin.] a. *trans.* To shatter. b. *intr.* To burst forth. Hence † **Sho·nkand** *ppl. a.* (*Sc.*)

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 619 Thair speris in splendris sprent, On scheldis schonkit and schent. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 147 The shafft to schonkit off the fruschand tre. *Ibid.* 156 Vpon the flouris schot the schonkan blude.

Shonke, Shonne, obs. ff. SHANK, SHUN.

Shont(t, obs. forms of SHUNT *v.*

Shoo (ʃū), *v.* Forms: 7 shough, 8–9 shue, 9 schue, sheugh, 8– shoo. [f. SHOO *int.*[1] Cf. It. *scioiare* (Florio).]

1. *trans.* To scare or drive away (fowls, etc.) by calling out 'shoo'. Also with *away*, *from*, *off*, *out* (*of*).

1622 BRETON *Strange News* (Grosart) 12/2 With that the Cock-master came in..and shought away the Hen. *c* 1798 T. BROWN *Awd Daisy* 40 Ah waved my hat an' shoo'd 'em all away. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* iii. (1827) 106 Think alswa How to rebut and schue awa Thir damnit faes. 1872 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy did* viii, 'Shue'-ing away the other children. 1912 CHESTERTON *Manalive* 161 'Get inside! get inside!' cried Moon hilariously, with the air of one shooing a company of cats.

2. *intr.* To cry out 'shoo' in order to frighten or drive away fowls, etc. Const. *at*.

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1806) 22 Still they kept shuing. 1881 MRS. MOLESWORTH *Adv. Herr Baby* 120 It was very funny to see the way the little footman went 'shoo-ing' at the poor cat.

3. To hasten away, as after being 'shooed at'.

1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Gloss.* 95 Lady lock, lady lock! shoo all the way home. *a* 1869 C. SPENCE *Fr. Braes of Carse* (1898) 192 The fairies..beat the beldames blank and hollow, And sent them sheughing down the Ballo'. 1882 P. ROBINSON *Under the Sun* III. v. 213 If the domestic says *shoo* to her [the cat] she shoos at once.

Hence **Shoo·er,** in comb. *bird-shooer*.

1849 HALLIWELL *Pop. Rhymes* 179 This is the universal bird-shooer's song in the midland counties.

Shoo (ʃū), *int.*[1] Forms: 5 schowe, ssou, 7 shooe, shooh, shue, shoogh, 7–8 shough, 9 shu(h, shue, sho (etc.: see Eng. Dial. Dict.), 9– shoo. [An instinctive exclamation; cf. LG. *schu*, MHG. *schu*, *schuo* (mod.G. *schu*), F. *shou*, It. *scioia*.] An exclamation used to frighten or drive away poultry, birds, or other intruders. Also *shoohoo*. Also as *sb.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/1 Schowe ssou, *jntercieccio est.* 1611 FLORIO, *Scioiare*, to cry shooe shooe, as women do to their hens. 1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* v. i, Shough, shough, up to your coop, Pea-Hen. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parœmiologia* 145 He cannot say shooh to a goose. 1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* XV. 139 An eagle..seis'd a great white tame goose grazing near: The standers-by shouted and cri'd, Shue! shue! But yet away the eagle bore him clear. 1682 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* IV. (1683) 49 Shoogh, shoogh, get you into a corner when I bid you, shoogh, shoogh, shoogh, what there already? 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph., Wasps* I. ii. II. 191 Shuh! shuh! foolish bird, must I stone 'ee? 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss.*, *Shoo*, the interjection used in frighting away birds from their prey. 1862 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, Shoohoo! Get out, you goblin! 1892 J. L. KIPLING *Beast & Man India* ii. 44 The servant shows the master a fowl standing on one leg. The master crows sho! and the fowl runs away with two. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxvii. 311 An owl flew by..and I heard him say, 'Shoo, you beast!' 1896 JANE BARLOW *Mrs. Martin's Comp.* 41 A..burly man, who says 'shoo-shoo' to a..cluster of tiny yellow ducks.

Shoo (ʃū, ʃu), **sho** (ʃō), *int.*[2] *dial.* and *U.S.* Also shuh, shah. [Instinctive: cf. prec.] An exclamation indicating impatient or contemptuous rejection of a statement. Cf. PSHAW.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xi, 'Sho! it's humans you are speaking of', replied Nimrod. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 722 *Shoo* or *Shah*. Pshaw! a peevish reply. 1883 J. C. HARRIS in *Century Mag.* May 139/2 Shoo! won't my ole 'oman holler! 1900 WEYMAN *Sophia* xiv, 'Sho!' Lady Betty cried contemptuously.

Shoo, obs. form of SHE, SHOE, SHOW *v.*

Shooba, shoobe, variant forms of SHUBA.

Shoooh, dial. variant of SHEUGH *sb.*

Shood, shude (ʃud). *dial.* Also 7 shud, 9 shewd. [Prob. cogn. w. MLG. *schode*, MHG. *schôte*, mod.G. *schote* husk, pod of peas or beans, f. **skeu-* to cover; the OE. form may have been **scéod* (*scéod*) corresponding formally to ON. *skjóð* fem., skin bag.] The husk of oats after threshing. Usually in *pl.* Also † = SHIVE *sb.*[2]

1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. i. II. 4 But what shall bee done with all the hard refuse [from the flax],..the short shuds or shives that are either driven from the rest in the knocking, or parted in the hetchelling. 1692 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 62 *Shoods*, Oat-hulls; *Darbish*. 1829 J. HUNTER *Hallamsh. Gloss.*, *Sherods*, the outer coat of oats, sometimes called *shiffs*. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Shoods*, husks of oats,—'this wutmill's full o' shoods'. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Shudes*, husks of oats, sifted from the meal. Bacon is often stowed away in a chest amongst shoods.

Shood, Shooe, obs. ff. SHOD *a.*, SHOE.

Shoof(e, obs. pa. t. of SHAVE *v.*, SHOVE *v.*

Shooffell, shoof(f)le, obs. ff. SHUFFLE *v.*

Shook (ʃuk), *sb.* Now chiefly *U.S.* [? f. SHOOK *ppl. a.* Cf. SHAKEN *cask*.] 'A set of staves and headings sufficient for one hogshead, barrel, or the

like, prepared for use and bound up in a compact form for convenience of transport. Boards for boxes prepared or fitted for use and packed in the same way bear the same name' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

[1768, 1794: see SHOOK *ppl. a.*] 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (ed. 3) I. 250 [Exports of U.S.] Shooks. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 120 Shooks are free of duty. 1894 *Times* 16 Aug. 6/5 Casks and barrels, empty, sugar-box shooks and packing boxes and packing box shooks, of wood.

b. 'Furniture made in parts and not set up, but shipped in packs' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Hence **Shook** *v. trans.*, to pack in shooks.

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Shook (ʃuk), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHAKE *v.*] = SHAKEN *ppl. a.*

1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arthur* III. (1696) 68 And the shook Sphears, with loud Hosannahs ring. 1768 *Massach. Gaz.* in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s. v., A few large shook hogsheads. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (ed. 2) 206 [Exports of U.S.] Wood..Shingles, Shook Casks, Casks, Laths. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 25 Reversing the shook banners of their song.

Shool (ʃūl), *v. dial.* and *slang.* Also 8–9 shule, 9 shoal. [Of obscure origin; hardly identical with *shool* var. of SHOVEL *v.* In Ireland it seems to have been associated with Irish *siubhail* to go, travel; *shooler* (see below) seems to correspond to Irish *siubhiach* vagrant.] *intr.* To go about begging; to sponge, to acquire some advantage by insidious means; also to skulk.

1736 J. LEWIS *Isle of Tenet* (ed. 2) 38 *Shooling*, begging, to go a Shooling. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xli, When they found my hold unstowed, they went all hands to shooling and begging. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Shoole*, to go skulking about. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxiv, 'Throth, you do me wrong', said the beggar, 'if you think I came shooling'. *a* 1876 M. & FR. COLLINS *Village Comedy* (1878) I. xxii. 297 As we watch these daring damsels starting to 'shool', we cannot help wishing them some lively adventures. 1899 'MARTELLO TOWER' *At School & Sea* 73 Hullo, Dil, at it again, shooling (that is, getting things) on the youngsters.

b. *trans.* To impose on (a person).

1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 158 One Day he met with an English Doctor, whom he shuled as a cast-away Seaman.

c. To carry as a pretence.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 125 Who takes delight To shool her knitting out at night.

Hence **Shoo·ler**, one who 'shools'.

1830 CARLETON *Traits Irish Peas.* (1843) I. 62 What tribes of beggars and shulers. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 722 *Shooler*, one who intrudes upon his neighbour, and forces an invitation to dinner, &c.

Shool, obs. and dial. form of SHOVEL.

‖ **Shooldarry** (ʃūldæ·ri). *Ind.* Also shoaldarree, shoaldarry. [Urdū شولداری *chholdārī*, of obscure origin.] 'A small tent with steep sloping roof, two poles and a ridge-piece, and with very low side walls' (Yule).

1808 ELPHINSTONE in Colebrooke *Life* (1884) I. 182, I have now a shoaldarree for myself, and a long paul for my people. 1902 T. W. WEBBER *Forests Upper India* v. 46 The baggage consisted of a small sholdarry tent, 6 feet square.

Shoole, obs. form of SHOAL *sb.*

Shoomack, -ak(e, obs. forms of SUMACH.

Shoon, pl. f. SHOE; obs. pa. t. of SHINE *v.*

Shoone, obs. f. pa. t. of SHINE *v.*

Shoop (ʃūp). *north.* Forms: 5 schowpe, 8–9 shoup, showp, 9– shoop. See also CHOOP. [The forms *shoop*, *choop* perh. represent aberrant pronunciations of ON. **hjúpa* (MSw. *hiupa*, Norw. dial. *hjupa*, Da. *hybe*) = OE. *héope* HIP *sb.*[2]]

The fruit of the rose; = HIP *sb.*[2]

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/1 A schowpe, *cornum*. A schowpe tre, *cornus*. 1721 *MS. Cook Book* in *Girl's Own Paper* (1886) VII. 729 How to Candy Shoups. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 95 *Shoup*, an hep. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 326/2 [Shaped] like a hip or a shoup on a rose-tree. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Choop*, *Shoop*, the fruit of the wild rose.

Shoop, obs. pa. t. of SHAPE *v.*

Shoope, Shoore, obs. ff. SHOP *sb.*, SHORE.

Shoot (ʃūt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6 s(c)hute, 6 schote, 5 schoyt, 6 shote, 6 showt, 6–7 shoote, 7 shout, 5– shoot. [f. SHOOT *v.*

In early examples it is sometimes difficult to distinguish this word from certain other derivatives of the same root. In the early 16th c. the spellings *shote* and *shoot(e* are both ambiguous, so that only the shade of meaning can determine whether the word is *shoot* (rhyming with *root*) f. the pres.-stem of the vb., or the older SHOTE (rhyming with *throat*). The 16th c. examples of the spelling *sc)hute* belong to the present word, but down to the 14th c. this spelling (with *u* = *d*) represents the OE. *scyte*: see SHUTE *sb.*]

1. An act of shooting (with fire-arms, a bow, etc.); a discharge of arrows, bullets, etc.: = SHOT *sb.* Now only *arch.*

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1157/2 This marke ..we shal nowe meate for the shoote and consider..how farre of your arrowes are from the prik. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 89 The strongest men, do not drawe alwayes the strongest shoote. *Ibid.* II. 107 For in a rayne and at no marke, a man may shote a faire shoote. 1546 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 250 Tomorrow..I must..ride to Tankerslay.. & mete my Lord of Shrewsburry, who will be theare tomorrow by ij of the clock, & se a showt at a stage [= stag]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Conficere*, He killed twelue at xii. shootes. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* R iv b, O that I mighte haue a shoote at one of the Deares in his Parke. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iv. 35 In 12 shootes more they strooke downe our maine Mast. 1676 SHOTTEREL & DURFEY *Archerie revivd* 78 If in measuring a Shoot, the Mark be stirred out of its place, he loseth the Shoot that removed it. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* lxvi. 65 As a Country Fellow was making a Shoot at a Pigeon. 1775 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 30 Nov. 551/1 The riflemen..declare that they can hit a man every shoot if within two hundred and fifty yards. 1801 T. ROBERTS *Engl. Bowman* 293 A *Shoot*, an arrow shot. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* Prol. 8 How many a rogue would give his two crop ears to have a shoot at either of us! *Ibid.* v. vi. 306, I have two score men at my whistle, and with one shoot of arrows I could answer for you all.

fig. 1590 *Cobler of Canterb.* 2 All men..saide, that he [Chaucer] shot a shoote which many haue aimed at but neuer reacht to. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* I. i, *Pol.* But one prime Article of our holy League, Is to preserve the King, his Power and Person. *Cur.* That must be said, you know, for Decency; A pretty Blind to make the Shoot secure.

† b. Range, distance or reach of a shot; shooting distance. *Obs.*

1530 SIR D. LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 941 They haue ane Boumbard..Within quhose schote there dar no Enimeis Approche thare place. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 33 There was nothing within his retche and shote. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Hon. Man's Fort.* IV. ii, Hence, and take the wings of thy black Infamy, to carry thee beyond the shoot of looks, Or sound of curses. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 64 Chartier brings the two Armies face to face within the shoote of a Culverin. 1676 *Acc. Exam. Joan Perry* 3 He went again with him about a Bows shoot into the Fields. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Apr. 1646, Nor could we any where see above a pistol shoote before us. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 236 So that I might come within shoot of them before I should be discover'd.

† c. Weapons for shooting, firearms. *Obs.*

1469 *Paston Lett.* III. 372 That, with ther gret multitude of gaunes [sic], with other shoot and ordynaunce, ther shall no man dar appere in the place.

† d. A charge (of powder). *Obs.*

1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 276 Their ammunition was so spent that the enemy gave the soldjer many shootes of powder to make the conditions good.

e. A game-shooting expedition; the result of such an expedition.

1852 VISCOUNTESS CANNING in Hare *Story Two Noble Lives* (1893) I. 360 The Prince is much pleased with his shoot this year. One day he killed five stags. 1877 'WILDFOWLER' *Shooting Trips* Ser. II. II. 99 We should arrive at Ford in time for a stroll and a 'shoot' along the river Arun. 1895 SIR W. W. HUNTER *Old Missionary* iii. 59 Their return ..was celebrated by a big shoot in the jungle.

f. A shooting party.

1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 446/1 At a big shoot in Warwickshire. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 69 Miss Dawson..gave big dinners and big shoots.

g. The right to shoot game in a given area; also the area itself.

1861 MRS. JENKIN *Who Breaks Pays* II. 93, I hear Sir Frederick a taken the shoot hisself, and bought Bill Fordham's black hunter. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 221 The sportsman whose shoot is small and the game..scarce and wild, will be unable to practise driving to any advantage. 1900 *Field* 29 Sept. Advt. p. vi/2 Wanted, a good rough shoot, commencing season 1901–1902, on Lease; plenty of rabbits essential; 2000 to 5000 acres.

h. A shooting match or contest; a round of shots in such a contest.

1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 102 Some men who attend second-rate pigeon shoots and do not take their own guns. 1892 *Times* 23 July 6/1 Volunteer Aggregate..One shoot at 200, one at 500, and three at 600 yards. Seven shots at each. 1894 *Daily News* 12 June 8/6 The full scores of the first 'shoot' for places in the 'English Twenty' at Bisley.

2. The action of shooting, sprouting, or growing; the amount of growth (also *concr.* the new wood, etc. produced) in a certain period. Also † the mounting or rising (of the sap).

1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 9 For to set the Pine tree, ye must set or plant them of Nuts, in March, or about the shoote of the sappe. 1661 BOYLE *Certain Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 92 Others content themselves to chuse a hazel rod (which some will have to be all of the same years shoot). 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Jan. (1679) 8 Cut off all the shoot of August, unless the nakedness of the place incline you to spare it. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 266 The Clover makes a quick Shoot, and will get a large second Head. 1832 *Boston Herald* 8 May 3/5 The shoot of Spring grass is also unusually late, and slow in vegetation. 1896 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 2/5 The crops presented at harvest what to agriculturists is known as 'two shoots', i. e., a crop composed of ripe and also unripe grain.

b. A young branch which shoots out from the main stock of a tree, plant, etc.

a 1450 *Fyrst yngge w. Angle* (1883) 8 Take a feyr schoyt of blake thorne. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. liv. 80 This plante [*Linaria*] hath diuers small shutes or scourges bearing small narrow leaues. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 296, I saw them under a green mantling vine..Plucking ripe clusters from the tender shoots. 1720 P. BLAIR *Bot. Ess.* I. 10 If it be put into a Pot, and all its Stolones or Shoots be taken off. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 82 Shoot (*surculus*) the branch of a Moss. 1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 6 The French in Canada eat the tender shoots in spring as Asparagus. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 407 Cut smooth the lower end of the shoot or cutting, and stick it into fine leaf or other rich mould about an inch deep. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* viii, The fresh shoots among the darker green of the oak. 1909 J. G. FRAZER *Psyche's Task* iv. 38 The shoots of the sweet potato had flowered and withered long ago.

c. *fig.* An offshoot; a growth or sprout from a main stock.

c 1610 *Women Saints* 71 Kinesburge and Kineswide were daughters to Penda, a Pagan thoughe king of Mercia, holie shootes of a dead stocke or truncke. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* XII. v. (1782) IV. 237 His excellency..immediately sent for his equivocal heir, and new shoot from the trunk of the Guzmans. 1833 LONGF. *Outre-Mer*, *Sexagenarian*, Monsieur d'Argenville was a shoot from a wealthy family of Nantes. 1882 CHILD *Eng. & Sc. Pop. Ball.* I. 51/1 The ballad we are dealing with is a wild shoot from the story of Judith and Holofernes. 1899 J. MATHEW *Eagle Hawk & Crow* ii. 9 Upon the aboriginal Australian stock there was grafted a strong Malayo-Dravidian shoot.

d. *transf.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 128 Thou want'st a rough pash & the shoots that I haue To be full, like me. 1671 GREW *Anat. Pl.* I. iv. (1682) 28 Those Fibrous Shoots which run along the Pith in the Root. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 531 It is better..to distinguish by the phrase polypous tumours, caruncles, or shoots, such adscititious productions as may have a resemblance to them [i. e. to nasal polypi] in other organs. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* III. i. (1862) II. 14 Ridges of barren land, that seemed like shoots of the adjacent Andes. 1851 S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 18 The oyster continues enlarging his shell by annual 'shoots' for four or five years. 1861 *The Oyster* 35 These [overlapping plates forming an oyster-shell] are technically termed 'shoots', and each of them marks a year's growth.

e. Applied to the forms of crystals? likened to those of a plant. Cf. SHOOT *v.*

a 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 158 Spar of a yellow Hue, shot into numerous trigonal pointed Shoots of various Sizes. *Ibid.*, Hexangular Sprigs or Shoots of Crystal of various Sizes. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 364 He tried Alum, which fully answered everything he proposed; for it restored the Salt to its natural cubical Shoot.

3. A motion or movement (of a thing) as though shooting or being shot in a particular direction; also the space or distance covered by such a motion or by a push. *spec.* (see quot. 1903).

c 1596 *Sir T. More* IV. iii. 20 Thence some slight shoote Being carried by the waues, our boate stood still Iust opposite the Tower. *a* 1658 LOVELACE *The Falcon* x, The Falcon charges at first view With her brigade of Talons; through Whose Shoots, the wary Heron beat, With a well counter-wheel'd retreat. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home, Up Thames* II. 130 [The journey by river is] far preferable to the brief, yet tiresome shoot along the railway track. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xxx, They have nearly completed the shoot to the Middlesex shore [in the University boat-race]. 1881 MACDONALD *Mary Marston* II. xiii. 223 Into those eyes she would call up her soul and there make it sit, flashing light, in gleams and sparkles, shoots and coruscations. 1894 *Times* 25 June 7/2 Both [yachts] had a long shoot up in the eye of the wind. 1903 EDWARDS-MOSS in A. E. T. Watson *Eng. Sport* 178 In order then to give the same shoot (*i. e.* pace between the strokes) when the oars are coming forward for the next stroke, there must be greatly increased power put into each stroke.

b. Of an immaterial thing: A sudden advance.

1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 200 P 4, I felt at his sudden shoot of success an honest and disinterested joy. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 125 The sciences..were enabled to make..considerable shoots. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. i, Many things too, especially all diseased things, grow by shoots and fits. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Europe* II. iv. § 16 We find it near the end of Elizabeth's reign, when our literature made its first strong shoot.

c. A sharp short twinge (of pain).

1756 FOOTE *Engl. fr. Paris* II. Wks. 1799 I. 122, I burn, I burn—Ah, there's a shoot. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 320 The lancinating shoots darted both downward ..and upward. 1892 SWINBURNE *Sisters* II. i. 36, I thought, Between the shoots and swoonings, off and on, How hard it was. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* X. 126 The shoots of pain were like those of an electric discharge.

† d. = THRUST *sb.* 3 (*a*). *Obs.*

1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 58 The weight of the pier ought ..to..exceed in effect the shoot of the arch. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 340.

e. A detachment and falling away or tumbling down (as of part of a cliff); a landslip.

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 104 Various heaps of broken ice denoted recent shoots of the seaward edge [*sc.* of an iceberg]. 1889 W. RYE *Cromer* 68 In 1832, there was so heavy a shoot of the cliff..that [etc.].

4. *Weaving.* One movement or throw of the shuttle between the threads of the warp; the length of thread thus placed; also, the weft.

1717 PARNELL *Homer's Battle of Frogs & Mice* II. 114 Along the Loom the purple Warp I spread, Cast the light Shoot, and crost the silver Thread. 1731 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 107 Wherefore they fasten a Loop or *Potlart* to as many of these simple Chords as there are Threads of the Warp to be pull'd up at every Shoot, or every Throw of the Shuttle; by which means the Shoot shews itself on the right Side, where the Warp is pulled up. 1736 *Act 9 Geo. II*, c. 37 § 7 The Shoot Yarn..shall be.. close struck with four Shoots of treble Threads at the Distance of every two Feet. 1810 J. T. in *Risdon's Surv. Devon* Introd. p. xxv, The other yarn, of a softer twist, is called the abb or shoot. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 231 The commoner sorts of ribands, are composed altogether, both warp and shoot, of Bengal silk. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 139/2 An improved method of preparing shoot or weft to be used in weaving woollen cloth. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 201 Plain silks, as well as most woven fabrics, consist of threads crossing each other at right angles; the 'long-threads' being technically called the warp, and the 'cross-threads' the shoot or weft. 1888 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 A new shed is formed, the last made pick or shoot being enwrapped between the intersecting warp sheds.

5. A heavy and sudden rush of water down a steep channel; a place in a river where this occurs, a rapid. (Confused with CHUTE I; cf. SHUTE.)

a 1613 DENNIS *Secrets Angling* II. xxvi, At the Tayles, of Mills and Arches small, Whereas the shoote is swift. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 287 Gulleys..where.. great shoots of water had been used to run. 1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* I. Gloss. p. xiv, *Shoot in a River*, a place where the stream, being confined by rocks which appear above water, is shot through the aperture with great force. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* l, A single shoot carried a considerable stream over the face of a black rock. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xlv, The 'shoot' as we called our little runnel of everlasting water, never known to freeze before. 1870 D. MACRAE *Amer. at Home* xli. II. 161 At these points it [the Mississippi] sooner or later makes a new channel for itself across the neck of land. This is called a shoot.

b. An artificial channel for conveying water by gravity to a low level; or for the escape of overflow water from a reservoir, etc.; also for forcing water into a railway engine in rapid motion.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 82 By maintaining of the leaden Shoot. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 32 The miller of an overshot mill..has shoots lying over every one of his wheels, stopped by flash-boards at their upper ends, against which the water lies bearing, always ready to drive the wheels whenever it can find a passage. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 320 Immediately below the weir, there is an outlet regulated by another flood-hatch, and conducted through a shoot, formed of oak-plank, from the leat. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 85 To paint the whole of the external wood-work, and the gutters, and shoots (spouts). 1843 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 90/1 A form of gully hole and shoot, constructed with radiated bricks, the shoot being half a brick in substance. 1865 *Morn. Star* 5 Apr., To make provision for draining the water from the surface, and having shoots on each side to carry it off. 1875 W. D. PARISH *Sussex Gloss.*, *Shoot*, a gutter round a roof for shooting off the water.

†c. ? The flow of water (from a hill). *Obs.*

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln.* 275 The catch-water drain runs all winter, taking the shoot from an extensive range of hills, and bringing in floods much of the finer and richer particles.

6. a. A sloping channel or conduit for letting down coal, ore, wheat, etc. into a lower receptacle.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 137 It is always desirable that the frame below should contain a *shoot* formed of light boarding, that will receive the broken cake from the rollers. 1862 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Apr. 216 [Mining] The shoots are iron gratings or screens, placed at a considerable incline, and as the coal runs down, the dust falls through on to heaps below. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. P 20, The bullet, now finished, is delivered through a shoot into a wooden box. 1884 SIR R. COUCH in *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 426 The *Westport*..made fast to the coalstaiths..with the forehatch under No. 1 shoot. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. West* II. xviii. 290 Above the door is a shoot for melted lead.

b. *U.S.* 'A passage-way on the side of a steep hill or mountain down which wood and timber are thrown or slid' (Bartlett 1848). Also SHUTE *sb.*

1881 [see CHUTE 2].

c. *U.S.* 'An enclosed steep passageway for animals to pass, as from one corral to another or to railway-cars' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1880 *Harper's Monthly* Jan. 203 (Funk) There were.. three corrals connected by 'shoots' or narrow passages.

d. A place where rubbish may be 'shot'; = TIP *sb.*[5] 4 b.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 286/2 Each particular district appears to have its own special 'shoot' for rubbish. 1894 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 5/3 It [the dust] is taken to 'shoots' on vacant land.

7. *Mining.* A considerable and somewhat regular body or mass of ore in a vein, usually elongated and vertical or inclined in position. Also 'a vein branching at a small angle from and reentering a main vein' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. Gloss., *Shoot* (in mining), a vein parallel [? *errors.*] to the stratification. 1880 H. R. NICHOLLS in *Victorian Rev.* I. 657 Gold is not distributed uniformly through the quartz, but exists in 'shoots' and bands. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 14 As a rule, as soon as the shoot of stone carrying gold runs out, the reef is abandoned. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 31 The rich shoot of gold he had come upon.

8. *The whole* (*entire*) *shoot*: the entire lot. *To go the whole shoot*: to risk all. *slang* and *colloq.*

1884 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 382 The Colonel responded by declaring his intention of paying for the whole shoot. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 380, I interviewed the entire shoot. They were all strangers to me. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 197 To mothers he never talked about 'pupils'; but called the whole shoot of us 'his lads'.

9. *dial.* A cross-bar connecting the parts of an old-fashioned plough; = SHEATH [2].

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 351 My Plow..being composed of four rough Pieces of Planks..held together by three shoots, or Pieces of Wood. 1821 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 263 Parts of a Plough... Fore-shoot, backward-shoot, two pieces of wood immediately behind the coulter.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shoot-bud*, †*-graft* (in quot. *fig.*), *-structure*; *shoot-producing* adj.; **shoot-board** = *shooting-board* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); †**shoot-serpent** = DART *sb.* 4; **shoot-thread** (see quot. and sense 4); †**shoot-tobacco** (see quot.); **shoot-trough**, a trough placed under a 'shoot' (sense 5 b); †**shoot-yarn** = *shoot-thread.*

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 142 To disbud or rub off the useless *shoot-buds of the year, now fast advancing. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 109 From hence it is, that the *shoot-grifts of iniquitie..sprout and put forth in our soile. 1909 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 446 Analogous to the case of the *shoot-producing plant is that of certain ascidians. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape Good Hope* II. 163 The Eye-Serpent..is likewise call'd the Dart- or *Shoot-Serpent, on Account of her darting her self very swiftly either at or from an Enemy. 1906 *5th Rep. Carnegie Trust Scot.* 18 William Macrae..—Correlation of *shoot-structure and root-structure in plants with relation to their environmental conditions. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 203 A *shoot-thread is thrown over the pile threads, and also over one-half of the warp-threads. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 191 It is called by some *Shoot-Tobacco, or Sucker-Tobacco, or Tobacco of the second cutting or growth. 1831 in Mrs. Bray *Descr. Tamar & Tavy* (1836) I. vii. 119 It is now used..as a *shoot-trough, in which they wash potatoes, &c. 1736 *Act* 9 *Geo. II*, c. 37 § 7 The Wharp and *Shoot Yarn.

†**Shoot**, *sb.*[2] *Naut. Obs.* Also 5 shutt, 6 shute, shoutt. [a. (M)LG. *schôte* or (M)Du. *schoot* (see SHEET *sb.*[1], etym. note), whence WFris. *skoat*, G. *schote*, Sw. *skot*, also AF. *escote* (whence 14th c. Eng. SCOTE *sb.*[1]), MF. *ecoucte* (mod.F. *écoute*, dial. *escôte*), †*scot(t)e* (Cotgr.), It. *scotta*, Sp., Pg. *escota.*] = SHEET *sb.*[2]

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 188 Mayne shuttes olde and feble..ij. 1514 in Oppenheim *Admin. Royal Navy* (1896) I. 375 Shutes with iiij shevers of Brasse. 1532 in J. Strutt *Mann. & Cust. Eng.* (1776) III. 53 A bonnet haulf worren, with shoutts, tacks, and bollyngs;..two top sayll shoutts;..foer sayll shoutts. 1582 LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxviii. 71 Other belying the shootes both great and small. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 30 We ouerlooked our Tacks and Shoots, with other Riggings of stresse.

Shoot, *sb.*[3] Forms: 6, (8–9) shewt, 8 shut, 9 shoote, shute, 9– shoot. [app. a special use of SHOOT *sb.*[1]] A species of colic or diarrhœa in cattle.

1587 MASCALL *Bk. Cattell* I. (1596) 44 To helpe the shewt of bloud in cattell. The shewt of bloud commonly is, to those beastes which haue bin euil kept. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.*, Shewt of Blood. *c* 1800 J. CUNDALL *Sch. Arts* 34 For Shut, or Flux in Calves. *Ibid.* 35 For a gut foundered, or Shut in Cows. 1834 YOUATT *Cattle* 356 A disease of this character [*i. e.* of inflammatory fever], but known by a number of strange yet not inexpressive terms, is occasionally prevalent, and exceedingly fatal among cattle in every district. It is termed black-quarter, quarter evil, joint murrain, blood-striking, shewt of blood, &c. 1839 *Compl. Grazier* (ed. 7) VI. ii. 309 The Shoote or Dysentery in calves. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Shute*,..diarrhœa in cattle.

Shoot (ʃūt), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shot** (ʃɒt). Forms: Present-stem. *α.* 1 scéote, 2–3 sceote, 3 sceate, 3–4 scheote, 3–5 schete, shete, 3 ssete, 4 sscete, 5 scheete, 4–5 sheete. *β.* 4–6 schote, shote, 4 schut(e, 4–6 schut, 5 schwt (*Sc.*), shutte, 6 shutt, 6–7 shut, 6–8 shute, 4 schout, 6–7 shoute, 6 *Sc.* schuit(e, shuit, schoit, 6–7 shoote. *γ.* [1–3 scotie, 3 scote,] 3–6 schott, 4 schot, 6 shot. *3rd sing. pres.* (contracted forms) 1 scíet, scíat, scýt(t, 3 scheot, 4 schut, schit, 4–5 schet. *Pa. t. α. sing.* 1 scéat, scæt, scét, 3 sceat, scæt, scheat, sset, set, 3–5 schet, 4–5 scheet, 4 ssat, 5 shate; *plur.* 1–2 scuton, 1 sceoton, 3 scuten, soten, 3–4 schoten, 3–5 shoten, 4–5 shotten, 4 schotten, 5 shotyn, shottyn, -on. *β.* 4–6 shotte, 4–5 schott, 5 schoote, shote, 7 shotted, 6 (9 *rare*) shooted, 4–6 schot, 4– shot. *Pa. pple. α.* 1 (3e)scoten, 3 (i-)scote(n, (hi-sote, i-scote, i-ssote), 3–4 i-schote, y-schote, 4 (y-)schoten, 4–5 (y-)shoten, -in, -on, 5 schottyn, 6–9 shotten, 7 shoote, 5 y-schott(e, y-schot, 4-shot. *β.* 5 *rare* schett. [A Com. Teut. strong verb: OE. *scéotan* (*scéat*, *scuton*, *scoten*) corresponds to OFris. *skiata* (WFris. *sjitte*, EFris. *sjôt*, *schjôte*, NFris. *sjit*, *skjit*, etc.), OS. (Gallée), OLowFrankish *skietan* (L.G., Du. *schieten*), OHG. *sciozzan* (MHG. *schiezen*, mod.G. *schiessen*), ON. *skjóta* (Sw. *skjuta*, Da. *skyde*), f. OTeut. **skeut-* : *skaut-* : *skut-*, for other derivatives of which see SHEET *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2], SHOT *sb.*, SHUT *v.* The affinities outside Teut. are doubtful.

The form-history in Eng. is to some extent parallel with that of CHOOSE *v.*, the only other surviving verb which has the series *éo*, *é* (*éa*), *u*, *o* preceded by a palatal consonant.

In the present-stem, the forms *shete*, *sheete*, etc., directly representing the OE. *scéot-*, became obsolete in the 15th c. (cf. *chese*, which survived into the 16th c.). The spelling *s(c)hote*, which, like the corresponding *chose*, occurs first in the 14th c., is phonetically ambiguous, and possibly represents two distinct formations: (1) ME. *shóte* with close *o*, the antecedent of the mod. *shoot*, and prob. descending from an OE. pronunciation with altered diphthongal stress, *scéot-*, *sc*ᵉ*ót-*; and (2) ME. *shŏte* with open *o* (the mod.Eng. form of which, if it had survived, would have been **shote* or **shoat*), descending from OE. *scottian* to shoot (chiefly, with arrows), a weak verb f. the ablaut-form *scot-* of the root (cf. *scot* SHOT *sb.*, *scota* shooter, archer). The form *s(c)hute*, prob. representing a pronunciation (ʃūt) or (ʃʉt), earlier perhaps (ʃŭt), is in chronology parallel with *chuse*; the vowel was probably in some dialects the regular phonetic descendant of OE. *éo* or *eó* when preceded by (j). It is noteworthy that Ben Jonson (*Gram.* xviii) says that to pronounce *chewse*, *shewt*, 'is Scottish-like'.

The OE. pa. t. *scéat* is normally represented by the 15th c. form *schet*; the contemporary forms *schat*, *shate* (14th c. *seat*) perh. had the vowel-shortening which is common before a final dental. The modern form *shot* is of uncertain and probably mixed origin. It may partly represent the 14th c. weak form *schotte*, which itself admits of a twofold explanation, as it may have been evolved from the originally strong pl. *schotten* (repr. OE. *scuton*), or it may descend from OE. *scotode*, pa. t. of *scotian*. The ME. *schŏt* (spelt *schote* in the 15th c.), with which cf. *chose*, pa. t. of *choose*, may descend from OE. *sceát*, and by vowel-shortening may be one of the sources of the modern form. Further, the influence of the pa. pple. may, as in many other vbs., have affected the form of the pa. t.

The pa. pple. *shotten* normally represents OE. *scoten* (for the short vowel cf. *gotten*); *shot* is prob. a shortening of this, though it may also be partly a weak form as in the pa. t. Rare weak forms are *schett* (15th c.) from pres.-stem *schete*, and *shooted* (16th c.).]

I. To go swiftly and suddenly.

1. *intr.* Of an inanimate thing (or of a living being moving involuntarily): To go or pass with a sudden swift movement through space; to rush, be precipitated; to fly as an arrow from a bow. Also with adv. expressing direction of movement, as *up*, *down*, *forward*, etc.

a 1000 *Ælfred's Blooms* in *Shrine* (1864) 201 þonne þa wolcnan sceotaþ betweon hyre [the sun] & þe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* ix. 21 On ða burnan ðe of ðam munt scytt [Vulg. *qui de monte descendit*]. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 71 [The boiling pitch] smat up aȝein þeo þe iȝarket hit hefden & for schaldede of ham as hit up scheat. *c* 1290 *St. Michael* 529 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 314 Liȝtinge..scheot þoruȝ þe cloude. *c* 1305 *Pilate* 255 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 118 And as an arewe schet of a bwe þat bodie [*i. e.* of Pilate] schet þerinne. Þe roche schet to-gadere anon þo þat bodie was wiþ-inne. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9159 Also picke þe arwe schoten, In sonne bem so doþ þe moten. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 170 Þe galeie þer þorght [*i.e.* through the enemy's ship] schete, &..þe schip þat was so grete, it dronkled in þe flode. 15.. *Scot. Field* 206 in *Chetham Soc. Misc.* II, The sonne shott up full sone, and shone over the hilles. 1569 T. PRESTON *Cambises* 1166 As I on horse back up did leap, my sword from scabard shot. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 16 Keen lightning shot Through the black bowels of the quaking ayre. 1632 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. i, And how the rising Morne, That shot from heav'n, did backe to heaven retourne. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1700 The lambent lightnings shoot Across the sky. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* xvii. 201 The water will shoot forwards within it. 1848 AYTOUN *Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (1849) 77 Thicker, thicker grew the swarm, And sharper shot the rain. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 12 The heavier masses..shoot forward like descending rockets. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 113 The Buthera shoots over a rock in a pretty cascade. 1864 TENNYSON *A Dedication* 4 As the rapid of life Shoots to the fall. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 82 The weary creature stumbled, and the rider came perilously near to shooting over its head. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 244 The blood at once shoots in from the arteries with great rapidity and distends the vessels.

b. Of a 'star' or meteor: To dart across the sky. Cf. SHOOTING STAR.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 517 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 314 Ase ȝe mowe.. I-seo a wonder siȝte, Scheote as þei it a steorre were bi þe lofte an heiȝ. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 153 Certaine starres shot madly from their Spheares, To heare the Sea maids musicke. 1609 B. JONSON *Masq. Queens* Wks. 1616 I. 954 Neuer a starre yet shot? 1630 DEKKER *and Pt. Hon. Wh.* II. i, A Starre may shoote, not fall. 1712 POPE *Rape of Lock* II. 82 The stars that shoot athwart the night. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XII. vii, Gone like..A star that shoots and falls, and then is seen no more.

c. Of light, etc.: To be emitted in rays, to dart. Also with advs., as *out*, *up*. Of a glance: To dart.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1726) p. v, I was as soon sensible as any Man of that Light, when it was but just shooting out, and beginning to travel upwards to the Meridian. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xviii, There shot no glance from Ellen's eye To give her steadfast speech the lie. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxii, When the very first level ray shot glimmering in dew along the surface of the desert. 1825 — *Betrothed* xvi, A gleam of anger shot along his features. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 175 Not a cloud tempers the fierce burning rays of the sun, which shoot directly on our heads. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xv. (1856) 111 From these, acicular rays shoot out in every direction. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 137 [The sun's] rays,..shot more and more deeply into the valley. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* iii. 27 From the north-eastern horizon broad streams of light were shooting up into the centre of the heavens.

d. *fig.* Of thoughts, etc.: To pass suddenly *into*, *across*, etc. a person's mind.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 307 He could none other but folowe every soodain guerie or pangue that shotte in his braine. 1792 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* V, A thousand apprehensions shot athwart her busy thought. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvii, It shot..across my mind, that [etc.]. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 400 It shot across me...that I was doing the very thing I described him as wishing not to be done. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXXVII, 'Am I to see nothing but the evidences of death's doing this night?' was the mental question which shot through Edward's overwrought brain. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 236 A ray of light had shot into his mind.

†e. Of fluids, tears, blood, etc.: To issue suddenly, stream out. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 156 The Scottis..With suerdis schar throuch habergeons full gude, Vpon the flouris schot [*ed.* 1570 schot out] the schonkan blude, Fra hors and men throw harnes burnyst beyne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 639 Schire teris schot fra schalkis. *Ibid.* 690 Fra schalkis schot schire blude our scheildis so schene.

f. Of a person's feet: To slip suddenly. Now only with phrase or adv.

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1547 Hys fote schett and he felle downe.

1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 153 At a specially slippery place all my mare's feet shot from under her.

g. Of a wall, cliff, etc. : To fall precipitately.

1589 IVE *Pract. Fortif.* 21 But the discommoditie a wall receiueth of that so greate scarpe, is, that oft times through the great waight of the top, it looseth it foote and shooteth. 1754 T. GARDNER *Hist. Dunwich* 93 The Serges playing against the Foot, easily undermines the Cliff, which shoots in abundance.

h. *Naut.* Of ballast: = SHIFT *v.* 21 c.

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) s. v., The ballast is said to shoot, when it runs from one side of the Ship to the other. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4), The Ballast shoots: That is, runs over from one Side to the other; for which Reason all kind of Grain is dangerous Lading, as being apt to shoot. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., The ballast shoots on one side.

i. Of a ball: To move with accelerated speed after its first impingement; esp. in *Cricket*. Of a bowled ball: To move rapidly close to the ground after pitching.

1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 29 When you see the ball shoot, play the bat back as near to the wicket as possible. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide Cricketers* 15 Try every manœuvre to make the ball twist and shoot after it touches the ground. 1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiards* 371 The effect of which ['side'] is to make it shoot..as soon as it touches the cushion. 1888 A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) 184 The ball which, after the pitch, never rises, but shoots along the surface of the ground..is commonly called a 'shooter'. 1901 R. H. LYTTELTON *Cricket & Golf* 31 A ball pitching on that spot would sometimes shoot, sometimes hang.

j. *To shoot on*: in immaterial sense, to make rapid progress.

1871 GREEN *Lett.* (1901) 281 My physical strength has shot on wonderfully.

2. Of a person or living thing: To pass swiftly and suddenly from one place to another; to precipitate oneself, rush, dart. Also with advs., esp. *out*.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xxi. 7 Petrus..scet [Vulg. *misit se*] innan sæ. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7455 His folc quicliche to þe bataile sscet [*v.rr.* schet, schette]. 13.. *Coer de L.* 7025 Kyng Richard..gan to crye: 'Turne arere Every man with his banere!' And many thousand before hym schete, With swerdes and with launses grete. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 387 Arayit weill in all his geir, [he] Schot in the dik. *Ibid.* XI. 596 For sum vald schut out of thar rout. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3962 Wyþ is riȝt hond þan blessede he hym, And þoȝ þe ryuere were styf & grym, Wyþ boþe hors in a schet. *a* 1400 *Sir Beues* (Sutherl. MS.) 2388 Iosian into þe caue gan shete. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5933 He.. Shot thurgh the sheltrons, shent of þe pepull. 14.. *Sir Beues* (Camb. MS.) 1811 Beues smot is hors, þat he can shete In to þe se. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4598 Into the thikkest anoon he shet Ful redilie with his swerd draw To make wey for his felow. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 552 Rycht stark he was, and in to souir ger, Bauldly he schott amang thai men of wer. 1615 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princ.* ii. (1635) 11 This Corke..will float till the hooke be fastned, and that the Fish beginneth to shut away with the bayte. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cviii, She [the eagle] stops, and listens, and shoots forth again. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 498 P 3 A lively young fellow in a fustian jacket shot by me. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 258 She shot to the stairs-head to receive him. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xx, The Scot shot back to the castle with the speed of the wind. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlv, Animated with a ray of hope, the child shot on before her grandfather. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* xvi, Captain Black judiciously lets him out for a few strides, and shoots forward some five or six lengths in front of his companions. 1872 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* v. (1894) 114 We shot out of the long tunnel.. and descended into the valley. 1877 MARY M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* ii, Finally they shot round a sharp corner.

† **b.** To rush *on* or *upon* (with intent to attack or devour). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Havelok* 1838 þey drowen ut swerdes, ful god won, And shoten on him, so don on bere Dogges, þat wolden him to-tere. *Ibid.* 2431 The Kinges men hwan he þat sawe, Scuten on hem, heye and lowe, And euerilk fot of hem slowe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3868 Þer miȝt men se þe baners roten, þe stedes forþ wel 3ern schoten. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 94 Opon þe rode he schete. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 390 He suld schute on hym sodanly.

c. To slide *down* a slope at full speed.

1738 GRAY *Tasso* 19 Swift shoots the Village-maid in rustic play..adown the shining way. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXVII. 216 Once, while shooting down a slope, he incautiously allowed a foot to get entangled.

3. Of a vessel (hence of its commander or crew): To move swiftly in a certain direction. *To shoot to*: to 'shoot' into the desired position. (Cf. sense 12 b.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6033 Thaire shippis in sheltrons shotton to lond. 1579 T. STEVENS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 161 Our Pilot..thinking himselfe to haue wind at will, shot so nigh the land, that [etc.]. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. 23, I concluded we had shot past Port Desier Harbour in the Fog. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 167 She downward glides, Lights in Fleet-ditch, and shoots beneath the tides. 1813 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, She fired three guns as a salute..and then shot away rapidly before the wind. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Mod. Sappho* 54 'Tis..the boat, shooting round by the trees! 1850 SCORESBY *Chaever's Whalem. Adv.* xii. (1859) 178 We shot past him like a meteor. 1856 MISS WARNER *Hills Shatemuc* viii, Again clearing the rocks the little boat..shot off down the stream. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U. S.* IV. 132 When speaking another vessel it is customary to pass by her stern and shoot to alongside of her.

b. *To shoot ahead*: of a vessel, to increase speed suddenly, so as to pass accompanying or competing vessels; hence *fig.* Also, to be carried forward by momentum.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 20 Brace too the Foretop-sail, that we may not shoot ahead. 1840 DICKENS *Sk. Yng. Couples* 29 We were suffered to shoot a-head, while the second boat followed ingloriously in our wake. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., A ship shoots ahead in stays.

4. *trans.* With obj. denoting what is passed through, over, or under by 'shooting': (*a*) To pass quickly under (a bridge) in a boat; (*b*) to descend (a rapid or cataract) swiftly in a boat or other vessel; so *to shoot a river*; (*c*) to 'coast' down (a hill) in cycling; (*d*) *nonce-use*, to pass swiftly over (a distance).

(*a*) 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2290/1 They could not shoote the Bridge. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 74 Having shot two or three small bridges..we came to the Village Lizzafusina. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. i. 179 To withdraw from Apparent Duty for fear of uncertain Danger is but like his, that would not shoot the Bridge, because it might fall on's Head. 1729 FIELDING *Author's Farce* III, When one day, among other frolics, our ship's-crew shooting the bridge, the boat overset. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* vi, In half an hour I had shot Putney Bridge. 1877 FOLEY *Rec. Eng. Province S. J.* I. 496 *note*, This was the old London Bridge..It was always a dangerous thing to 'shoot' the arches when it was running.

transf. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. IV. 3, I shot the Porch that bears the Name of good king Lud.

(*b*) 1613 R. HARCOURT *Voy. Guiana* 49 Wee turned downe the riuer, shooting the ouerfalles with more celerity then when wee came vp. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 141 The Boat..sometimes shoots the Cataract. 1703 *La Hontan's Voy. N. Amer.* I. 143 Another River..has six or seven Water-falls that we commonly shoot. 1776 C. CARROLL in Kate Rowland *Life* (1898) I. 393 All our batteaux which shoot the rapids and go down the Sorel to Chamblay. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 18 It must have been a grand sight to have seen them shoot the falls! 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, There were probably not three men..who would have dared to shoot the lasher in a skiff in its then state. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 104 The..voyageurs..prefer..shooting a river, that is to say, dashing over the rapids in the swift current. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxiv, You would have fancied that Bell had..spent her life in shooting rapids.

fig. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Cicero* Wks. 1858 VII. 226 A man might shoot a whole series of divorces, still refunding the last dowry, but still replacing it with a better.

(*c*) 1878 *Athletic World* 3 May 57/2 Mr. Godlee..having ..taken a header while shooting a hill with legs over the handles [of his cycle].

(*d*) 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 26 Who..Spurred a blood-mare immeasurably fleet To shoot the transient leagues in a passing wink.

b. *Naut.* To succeed in sailing through (a dangerous strait, passage, gulf, etc.). Hence *to shoot the gulf* (fig.): proverbially for any daring enterprise. (See GULF *sb.* 2 c.)

The fig. phrase appears to have originally had reference to sense 1 of GULF *sb.*, but prob. was often associated rather with sense 2 or 4.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xli. 95 Sir Francis Drake told me, that having shott the Straites, a storme tooke him first at North-west. 1628 GAULE *Pract. Theories* (1629) 319 So neither will I feare to shoot that great Gulfe. *c* 1645 [see GULF *sb.* 2 c]. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 28 We stood out to Sea, that we might shoot the Gulph of Londrin. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 173 Ships sometimes shoot that passage. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xi. (1884) I. 107, I never had one hour's rest together since I shot the gulf till this. 1773 *Cook's 1st Voy.* III. v. in Hawkesw. *Voy.* III. 606 While we were shooting this gulph, our soundings were from thirty to seven fathom.

† **c.** *To shoot the pit*: of a fighting cock, to rush out of the cockpit from cowardice. Often *fig. Obs.*

1675 [see PIT *sb.*[1] 5]. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 31 (1713) I. 204 Two or three more such stroaks will make them shoot the Pit. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. P 19 (1740) 327 Which made the whole Party shoot the Pit and retire, as not caring to be pointed at with ill-favoured Reflections.

d. *To shoot the moon*: to remove household goods by night in order to avoid seizure for rent. (Cf. the older phrase in SHOVE *v.* 10 c.)

1836 *Comic Almanack* Sept. (1870) 63 And lack-a-day! here's Quarter Day; It always comes too soon; So we by night must take our flight, For we must shoot the moon! 1844 ALB. SMITH *Mr. Ledbury* iii, Gradually moving all his things away, and shooting the moon to a friend's lodging. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* iv, I let his houses...I warned him when shooting of moons seemed likely.

e. *Racing.* To dash past (a competitor). *To be shot on the post*: see quot. 1897.

1868 *Field* 11 July 29/2 Cannon..just managed, after a fine specimen of riding between the two, to shoot Fordham by a head. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 62/1 (Athletics) A man is said to be 'shot on the post' when a competitor just dashes by him as he eases for the finish, or falls from exhaustion.

5. *intr.* Of a pain: To pass in a sudden paroxysm along the nerves; to dart. Hence of a part of the body, a wound, etc.: To have darting pains.

a 1000 [see SHOOTING *ppl. a.* 3]. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, I should want sense to feele The stings of anguish shoot through every vaine. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Misery* viii, These preachers make His head to shoot and ake. 1667 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Tempest* v. ii, Alas! I feel the cold air come to me; My wound shoots worse than ever. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 638 Pierc'd with Pain, That thrills my Arm and shoots thro' ev'ry Vein. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Nosologia* (ed. 3) 198 Pain in the region of the kidnies, often shooting along the course of the ureter. 1875 W. S. GILBERT *Tom Cobb* II, *O'Fl.* Ye wouldn't have a major-general with corns that couldn't shoot? 1895 R. W. CHAMBERS *King in Yellow* (1909) 148 Then again something struck my ankle, and a sharp pain shot through me. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 742 The pain may dart and shoot.

b. *fig.*

1611 *2nd Maiden's Trag.* (Malone Soc.) 860 His very name shootes like a feaver throughe me. 1786 BURNS *Vision* II. xvi, When youthful Love, warm-blushing, strong, Keen-shivering shot thy nerves along. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, A pang of hopeless love visibly shooting through him, and flashing out in his face. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. iii. 492 One brief spasm [of persecution] indeed..shot through the long afflicted Church of Asia Minor. 1895 R. W. CHAMBERS *King in Yellow* (1909) 238 A pang of homesickness shot through him.

6. Of a plant, bud, etc.: To emerge from the soil (also with *up*) or from the stem, etc.; to sprout, grow.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/2 To Schute as corne dose [*v.r.* Schott os corne dose], *spicare*. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 Let hym beware, that he trede not to moche vppon the corne, and specyallye after it is shotte. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* F ij b, The greene blade that shooteth too earely is soone bitt with a black frost. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 60 Others imagin'd they shooted out of trees. 1698 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 The Bough or Branch that shoots out of the Trunk of a Tree. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 7 A Wild, where weeds and flow'rs promiscuous shoot. 1779 *Mirror* No. 61 There they [plants] have room to shoot out at will. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 39 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Rib grass..puts out its foliage very early.., and as it is always shot before they can be admitted to pasture, it is rather injurious. 1834 YOUATT *Cattle* 566 Fungus shooted up. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 40/2 When the spring grass is beginning to shoot luxuriantly. 1866 SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 223 A thick and prodigious quantity of the common mustard plant shot up.

b. *fig.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xi. 26 That faire City, wherein make abode So many learned impes, that shoote abrode, And with their braunches spred all Britany. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xii. (1687) 74 All these grow upon this single root, or rather are but Love shooting forth in divers shapes. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 1149 Delightful task! to rear the tender thought, To teach the young idea how to shoot. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 166 P 12 When we find worth faintly shooting in the shades of obscurity, we may let in light and sunshine upon it. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 281 Charity, though shooting most vigorously from rational self-love, yet, when perfectly formed, has no tincture remaining of the parent root. 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Superann. Man* (end), They tell me, a certain *cum dignitate* air, which has been buried so long with my other good parts, has begun to shoot forth in my person.

c. Of parts of animal bodies, teeth, hair, morbid growths.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 403 The rift being closed in the top, draw him [the horse] betwixt the haire and the hooue with a hot yron ouerthwart that place, to the intent that the hooue may shoote al whole downeward. 1739 S. SHARP *Oper. Surg.* Introd. 31 When the Surface of the Ulcer begins to yield thick Matter, and little Granulations of red Flesh shoot up. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* XXV. 226 This last, applied early, will prevent a fungus, or proud flesh, from shooting out. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 206 Sea Cow tusks, which shoot from the upper jaw. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 189 From..the very first shooting of the teeth within the jaw. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 326 The hairs fall off, and when they grow again, they shoot in a wrong direction.

7. To put forth buds or shoots, as a plant; to germinate. † Formerly often with advs., *forth, out* (const. *with, into*); also *transf.* of an animal, to put out limbs.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) XXXV. 11 He sall haiff brute, as tre on rute Endlang the rever plantit; To burge and schute, and sall gif fruit In tyme, as God hes grantit. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 10 They neither shotte out right, nor hardly have any blowne blossoms. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xxi. 30 Behold the figge tree, and all the trees, When they now shoot foorth, [etc.]. 1647 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 303 When it sprang up *Proserpina, Nodolus* when it shut into a blade. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 439 Shooting out with Legs, and imp'd with Wings, The Grubs proceed to Bees with pointed Stings. 1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods* xiii. (1722) 53 The Cypress Tree..when cut down, never shoots again. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 156 P 6 The Corn that is laid up by Ants would shoot under Ground, if those Insects did not take care to prevent it. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 447 It is the property both of the walnut and olive-tree, that after a severe frost they shoot out with fresh vigour. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 398 As I could not directly contrive a total section of this large species [of Sea-Anemone], I tried it upon the young ones; and these shooted out again after the operation. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 212 Always cut close, not leaving any stump to shoot again. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 744/1 Plants stript of any of their leaves, cannot shoot vigorously. 1877 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* vi. (1890) 145 For although furze and fern soon shoot again, yet animal life is not so quickly repaired. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 362 They shoot, and bud, and their tendrils and branches reach far around.

b. *transf.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 16 P 2 The young People of both Sexes are so wonderfully apt to shoot out into long Swords, sweeping Trains, bushy Head-dresses. 1791 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 8 June, Bath shoots out into new crescents, circuses, squares every year.

8. To increase rapidly in growth (sometimes, with inclusion of sense 6, to sprout and grow rapidly); to advance to maturity. Now only with *up* or equivalent adv. or phrase: To grow quickly tall, 'spring up' to a height (said of plants, young persons, buildings, etc.; also of immaterial things).

1538 AUDLEY in *Lett. Supp. Monast.* (Camden) 246 He [the

infant prince] shotyth owt in length. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* L iij, Intermingled with all kinde of sweete and fragrant floures, the growth whereof shotte vp in heigth aboue the lower grasse..two foote. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* III. i, Great D'Ambois (Fortunes proud mushrome shot vp in a night). 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* I. iii, I am none of those that, when they shoot to ripeness, Do what they can to break the boughs they grew on. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 653 Such Trees..are (commonly) Trees that shoot vp much. 1654 J. SHEFFIELD *Rising Sun* 259 As there is in all dying or departed persons a great shooting in their stature observed; so is there in the soul much more. The least Infant shoots in the instant of Dissolution to that perfect knowledge of God. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 1 About ten Years ago it [ladies' head-dress] shot up to a very great Height. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 11 (1754) 51 The sumptuous edifices which of late years have shot up in Oxford. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 55 ¶ 11 Having, she said, never seen any body shoot up so much at my age. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 109/2 They ought not to tax Ireland as this country—she was shooting, and, if not oppressed, would come to maturity. 1818 Miss FERRIER *Marriage* II. iii, A perfect dwarf..till she took a shooting... But she'll shoot no more. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxiii, I have often ..seen a raw young fellow, shoot up after his first fight, from a dwarf into a giant-queller. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 39 Our commercial relations with the Baltic cities..soon shot up into one of our leading national objects. 1862 Miss BRADDON *Lady Audley* xv, Four or five bare and overgrown poplars, that had shot up too rapidly for their strength. 1880 Mrs. RIDDELL *Myst. Palace Gard.* ix, She had shot up into a woman all in a minute. 1905 L. WHIBLEY *Companion to Grk. Studies* ii. § 2. 70 Tragedy had not yet passed its prime when the old comedy shot up to maturity.

b. conjugated with *to be*. Also in pa. pple., (*well*) *shot in years* (rare), advanced in life.

1530 PALSGR. 705/1 Se howe this corne is shotte up within this senyght. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xi. 24–26 After he was shotte vp towardes mannes state. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. vi. 19 Well shot in yeares he seem'd. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 80 This happie branch of that vertuous stemme being shott vp beyond infancie, began to attempt workes of maturitie 1799 Ht. LEE *Canterb. T., Poet's T.* (ed. 2) I. 48 Little Henry was now shot up beyond his years. 1836 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 176 The Wazir of Bassorah, a man shot in years.

† c. *To shoot up* (with complement): To become by sudden growth. *Obs.*

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i. 4 Let me but live to shadow this young Plant, From Blites and Storms; He'll soon shoot up a Heroe.

9. Of a solution: To produce crystals. Also said of the crystals. Of a salt: To crystallize from solution or evaporation. [So G. *schiessen.*]

? *a* 1626 MEVEREL in *Bacon's Physiol. Rem.* Baconiana (1679) 126 If the Menstruum be overcharged,..the Metals will shoot into certain Crystals. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* Wks. 1772 III. 54 The exact and curious figures, in which vitriol and other salts are wont to shoot. 1670 W. CLARKE *Nat. Hist. Nitre* 7 Nitre shoots long in Needles, but Salt shoots in tesseras, or squares. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Surrey* (1718) IV. 57 There is also here a Boyling-House, where the Salt-Petre is made, and shoots. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 35 This Solution, when rich, shoots into a Vitriol by standing. 1789 A. CRAWFORD in *Med. Commun.* II. 355 A solution of the..salt shoots by evaporation into thin octagonal plates. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 272 Crystals again shoot as the solution cools.

b. *trans.* To form (crystals); of a solution, to deposit in the form of crystals. Also *refl.* and *pass.*, to crystallize; in wider sense, of a substance, to assume some definite form by internal movement.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* i. 5 Till you see it thicken, and shoot its salt. 1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 795 Parts of natural Rock shot in those Figures. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 172 'Tis usual to meet with the very same Metall or Mineral, naturally shot into quite different Figures. 1719 HAUKSBEE *Phys.-Mech. Exper.* (ed. 2) Suppl. 258 The various Forms the new made Ice had shot it self into. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 23 It shoots a Tartar by standing. It has a vinous Taste.

10. *intr.* To project, jut out; to extend in a particular direction. Often with advs., esp. *out.* † Of a road (O.E.): To go in a particular direction.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxiv. 62 Eode Isaac on þam weze, þe scytt to þam pytte. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 305 Þe ilond Corsica is cornered wiþ many forlondes schetynge [*Caxton* stretchyng] in to the see. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 56 b, The partition of the walles made by the intercourse of y^e^ riuer, shootes vppon the bankes on eyther syde. 1607 *B. N. C. Documents* (MS.) Bundle A 3. f. 19, 3 half acres of Errable land..shouting South and North. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 183 That Region [Cornwall]..shooteth out farthest into the West. *Ibid.* 542 The shore shutteth forth with a mighty swelling bent into the German Sea. 1679 in J. C. Blomfield *Heyford* (1892) 85 A land by Oxford way side shooting north and south. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. ix. 110 The Promontories and Capes shoot into the Sea. 1688 BUNYAN *Heavenly Footman* (1886) 155 Though the way to heaven be but one, yet there are many crooked Lines and by-paths shoot down upon it, as I may say. 1700 J. BROME *Trav. Eng.* 245 From hence the Shore, after several crooked flexures, shooteth forth into the Sea. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Tirol* 532 This long Valley of the Tirol lyes enclos'd on all Sides by the Alps, tho' its Dominions shoot out into several Branches that lye among the Breaks and Hollows of the Mountains. 1726 in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1875) 54 And one other land shooting into Oxford way. 1759 in *Q. Jrnl. Economics* (1907) Nov. 79 Where the furlong shoots up the brook to be mownded by the two outside hides. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 137 The next branch.. shoots out from the south-eastern side of Suffaid Coh. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxviii, Where the private gardens..shot down upon and were bounded by the glassy waters. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 58/1 The horns..first sweeping outwards and downwards, shot forward at the points.

b. With *up* or equivalent phrase: To extend vertically upwards; to tower, 'rise' into the air.

1648 HEXHAM II. s. v. *Schieten, In de locht Schieten,* To Shoote up into the Aire or Sky. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iii, One even regular plate of adamant, shooting up to the height of about two hundred yards. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* VII. 213 A promontory..Whose rocky brow..Shoots high into the air. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi, Many a rocky pyramid, Shooting abruptly from the dell. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* XXXV, Mountains, whose tops shot heavenward in fantastic forms and groupings. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iii. (1894) 79 We could see..the sharp pyramid of the Finsteraarhorn shooting upwards. 1878 SMILES *Robt. Dick* i. 3 It shoots up into a tall rocky point.

II. To send forth, esp. swiftly or by sudden impulse.

Some of the senses under this head are in modern use often coloured by the specific sense 21.

11. *trans.* To throw suddenly or with violence. Also with advs., *out, down,* etc. *Obs.* exc. as *transf.* from sense 21.

c 1075 *O. E. Chron.* (Cott. MS.) an. 1040, He let dragan up þæne deadan Harald & hine on fen sceotan. *c* 1205 LAY. 5081 He sceat [*c* 1275 caste] his riche sceld feor ut in þene feld. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21043 Þat Imperur wend [John] to mat In a tun was welland hat Fild of oyle he did him schott, But noper him harmd, hefd ne fott. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* cxxxv. 15 And he shot out pharao and his vertu in the reed see. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 981 Suddanly þai ware all deide, & schot in till gong stinkand. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1408 þe Grekes..Shottyn into shippes all þe shene godis. *c* 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 37/993 The sperehed lefft in hys brayn, And so schet hym ouer his hors on the pleynne Dede. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xxiii. (S.T.S.) II. 225 The gaule be his pride & Insolence schot in his swerde in þe leif of þe ballance. 1600 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* VI. 129 [They] maist dispitfullie expellit and schoit him oute of the said kirkyaird be the schoulderis. 1600 *Gowrie's Conspiracy* C 1 b, He tooke the said Maister Alexander by the shoulders, and shotte him down the staire; who was no sooner shotte out at the doore, but [etc.]. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 930 The liquid Air his moving Pinions wound, And, in the moment, shoot him on the ground. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Making a Nt. of it,* [They] found themselves shot with astonishing swiftness into the road [out of the theatre]. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ash Mamma* XXVI. 107 A more fractious horse..had finally shot him over his head.

b. To empty out (gold, grain, earth, etc.) by overturning or tilting the receptacle; to dump (rubbish); to send (goods, débris, etc.) down an inclined plane or 'shoot'. Also, to discharge the contents of, empty (a sack) by overturning. Often with adv., as *down, out.*

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2114 Percevelle..schott owte alle the golde. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4248 What doth þan þis fel man & right prudent, But out þis golde on a tippet hath shotte, That in þe bagges lefte þere no grotte. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* 22 There at the back gate [he] causeth him to vnloade, and, as they say, shoot the coles down. 1604 N. F. *Fruiterers Secrets* 13 Also haue a care, that they be poured or shot downe very gently, laying euery sort by themselues. *Ibid.* 18 Haue a great care also in shooting or pouring them out. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 511 ¶ 3 Upon opening the Sack, a little old Woman popped her Head out of it; at which the Adventurer was in so great a Rage, that he was going to shoot her out into the River. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 210 If the farmer has sold, so as to deliver soon, he shoots not the sacks. 1821 *Acc. Peculations Coal Trade* 11 He found the men shooting his coals in their master's warehouse. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, A tract of suburban Sahara, where..carpets were beat, rubbish was shot,..and dust was heaped by contractors. 1876 J. FERGUSSON *Hist. Ind. Archit.* IV. ii. 338 To chip away 50,000 yards of rock, and shoot it to spoil (to borrow a railway term) down a hill-side. 1885 *Law Times* 16 May LXXIX. 46/2 Bales were shot from the top to the bottom floors by means of zigzag inclined planes. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss *s. v.,* The flour is emptied down the shoot through the floor [of the flour loft]..into the troughs in which the dough is made. This operation is universally termed shooting flour.

transf. (*jocular.*) 1860 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary India* I. 135 After a..tedious journey..the train shot us out amid a heap of cinders, and a wooden station at its terminus.

† c. To throw or pull *down,* overthrow. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 254, & quhene he wend scho wod had bene, he schot hyre to þe erde in tene. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 126 Atour the dike thai geid on athir side, Schott doun the wall. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 154 Sum schot doun wyth thar hand The altaris markyt for the sacryfys.

d. *refl.* To throw or precipitate oneself; to rush. Also † *fig.* Now *rare.*

1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (ed. 2) III. 1259/2 A monstrous fish or whale of the sea did shoot himselfe on shore. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 73 Hee that flying from degenerate and traditionall corruption, feares to shoot himselfe too far into the meeting imbraces of a Divinely warranted Reformation, had better not have run at all. 1679 A. LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 28 A Serpent that casts and shoots himself on passengers. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. P 2, I have laugh'd sometimes..when I have reflected on those Men, who from time to time have shot themselves into the World. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 316 The Man shoots himself up to fetch breath. 1705 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* II. v. (1722) 133 The poor Fish is no sooner loosed from the Hawk's Talons, but the Eagle shoots himself, with wonderful Swiftness, after it, and catches it in the Air. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Pesaro* 158 This is the Gulf thro' which Virgil's Alecto shoots her self into Hell. 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 114 When the pig 'shoots' himself (as only a pig can do) over a mud wall, she follows.

e. To throw (rain, or running water) *from, off* (the surface); also with *off,* † *down* advs.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 111 Where houses be reeded..

The iuster ye driue it, the smoother and plaine, more handsome ye make it to shut off the raine. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. iv. 68 The latter [Badgers-skins] no doubt had the fur upon them, the lubricity of the hair thereof being excellent gutters and spouts to shoot down the rain thereby. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136 A great Cap for my Head, with the Hair on the Outside to shoot off the Rain. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 334 As it [straw used in thatching] is not bruised by the flail, it shoots off the wet better. 1814 T. HAYNES *Treat. Strawberry,* etc. (ed. 2) 100 Then reduce the embankment..by throwing away the earth, the more readily to shoot off all wet. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* XXV, 'The Lord has stood by me' panted he, as he shot the water from his ears. 1882 CHRISTY *Joints used by Builders* 76 It is..important that the pitch should not be so steep as to shoot off heavy rain with too much velocity for the gutters to properly discharge.

† f. *To shoot forth, out, away*: to drive out or away, to banish, expel. (Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13658 Wit þis þai scott him als a dog Right vte o þair synagog. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5968 Thou shalt there fynde kynges felouns,..That in Babiloyne made the toure,..That fele mylen in heighte stood, And thorough Goddes wreche sholen away, Into that vile countreye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 19 He tuke þe citee of Acoun and schotte oute of it all þe Cristen men þat ware þerin. *c* 1400 *Privity of the Passion* in *Hampole's Wks.* (Horstm.) I. 214 And here was it þat þey schot hym forthe so felly & so cruelly and spytte in his face, and garte hym hye so fast. *a* 1500 *Battle of Otterburn* XXXII. in Child *Ballads* III. 297/1 He lyghted dowyn vpon his foote, And schoote hys horsse clene awaye. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. vi. (S.T.S.) I. 148 He commandit ane large nowmer of bestial to be schot furth on þe nixt day at porte aquillye. *Ibid.* IV. xx. II. 125 3it he wan þe castell at þe first assalt, and schot furth all þame þat war fundin þareintill. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlii[i]. 2 Why hast thou shot me from the? 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* I. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Or of the schuiting of honeste men fra thair native roumes. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 97 Sicklyk was Sipio saiklesly schot furth. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. II. 144 He repudiat, forsuke, and frome him, as vnworthie, schoote [Lat. *repudiavit*] her [his wife] away. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. v, Now, is he gone; we had no other meanes, To shoote him hence, but this.

g. To separate (the worst animals) from a drove or flock. Cf. SHOT *sb.*[3]

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shoot* v. 2 To draw the worst cattle out of a drove. 'I'll gee ye ten apiece for thur hundreds yows, an you'l let me shoot ten'.

h. To put hurriedly and carelessly.

1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. iii. 27 He rose from his knee and shot his instrument into its case. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* vii, The dirty cups and saucers were shot away into the drawers, and the table turned outside the door.

† i. *To shoot* (something) *on fire*: to cause to burst into flame. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9509 The shippes on a shene fyre shot þai belyue, That the low vp lightly launchit aboute.

12. To launch (a vessel); to cast forth or let down (an anchor); to lower and place in position. (a fishing net). Also *absol.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 629 Than in schort tym men mycht thaim se Schute all thair galais to the se. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 1257 Shote anker, and lye at rode, And sayle not farre abrode, Tyll the cost be clere. 1552 in *Select Pleas Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) II. 21 That no person nor persons from hensfurthe doo shote any wyddenett within x fathom of his next felowe by estimacon in the day tyme... Thesterly man to begynne first and so every man to shote in order. 1583 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 225/2 To haill, schutt, peill and draw nettis on all pairtis usit and wont within the said boundis. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. xlv. 706 The ships were finished, rigged, armed, and furnished with all things, and shot into the water. 1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 65 No fisherman..shall shute any Draw-Net, Cord-Net, or other Net or Engine..after Holyrood Day is past. 1776 *Act* 16 *Geo. III,* c. 36 § 3 Unless the Boat..do in the mean Time shoot or cast out into the Water her..Seyne Net. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 71 § 14 Any person who shall shoot or work any seine or draft net for salmon in a river across the whole width. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii. 286 The nets were shot over the starboard quarter.

b. To cause (a vessel) to move forward suddenly or swiftly. *To shoot* (a vessel) *to*: to bring it by 'shooting' to a required position. † *To be shot*: of a vessel, to have advanced (a certain distance or to a certain point). Cf. sense 3.

1408 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 226/2 Þei scheten here schippes to gedre & casteth out planckes or brygges..& fiztteþ hand at hand. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 382 When yow reken yowre selfe as farre shotte as cape de las Palmas. 1574 W. BOURNE *Regim. Sea* XXII. (1577) 60 You..shall be well shotte towardes the banke of Silley. 1588 FENNER in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) I. 242 Being shot some ten leagues off South and by West of Ushant. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 137 A north-west wind would shoot the sloop clear of the house reef. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 316 Her sails tend to shoot her a-head. 1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* VI. (1850) 50 With a sweep of his paddle he turned the bow of his boat from us, and with a few vigorous strokes shot it ahead. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U. S.* IV. 132 Shooting to. This evolution is peculiar to fore and aft rigged vessels... To shoot a schooner to, it is only necessary, when sailing by the wind, to put the wheel part way down, and as she comes head to wind to keep her in that position by the management of the helm until her headway is stopped.

13. To push or slide (a bar or bolt of a door or the like) into or out of its fastenings. Also to force (a lock).

c 1000 *Gosp. Nicodemus* XXVII. 15 in Thwaites *Heptat.*

(1698), Belucab ða..ærenan gatu & toforan on sceotaþ þa ysenan scyttelsas. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 209 Thay schot na keyis to brek the coffiris than, Ane day of blythnes for the men of weir. *a* 1617 Bayne *On Eph.* (1658) 104, I have Power to shoot the bolt and lock it. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) 343, I know now..how to shut the lock & unbolt my welbeloved's door. 1696 Cibber *Love's last Shift* III, If you have lost it [the key] we must shoot the lock, I think. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, I fear we are betrayed; the second lock is shot. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* ix, One of the midshipmen shot the bolt of the door. 1886 J. Paton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 144/2 Safe bolts are shot not by the key, as in an ordinary lock, but by the door handle. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 92 Annie ran to the stable, shot the wooden bolt, and went in.

b. *intr.* Of a bolt: To slide *into* its fastenings; to admit of being shot.

1886 J. Paton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 144/2 The frame.. into which the bolts shoot is made of great strength. *Ibid.*, In all Chubb's safes bolts shoot both to front and back.

14. *trans.* a. *Weaving.* To pass (the shuttle, the weft) between the threads of the warp. Also in figurative context.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 337, I suppose that a weaver will say that his worke is to make a web,..and not to ..lay his warpe, shoot onfe, or [etc.]. 1612 Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* v. i, An honest Weaver, and as good a work-man as ere shot shuttle. 1839 Hallam *Lit. Eur.* iv. v. § 46 Lines of consummate excellence are frequently shot, like threads of gold, through the web. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. xxi. (1866) 351 The woof of life is dark..but..shot through a web of brightness. 1888 J. Paton in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 A clear way is thus provided for picking or shooting the shuttle. 1895 R. W. Frazer *Silent Gods* (1896) 58 The weaver still sang as he quickly shot the shuttle with the weft through the warp.

b. To variegate by admixture of different coloured threads in the woof. Hence, in wider sense, to variegate (an expanse of colour) by interspersing streaks or flecks of some other colour.

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 The same wollen clothes [shall)..be perfectly boyled grayned or maddered vppon the wodde and shotte, with good and sufficient corke or orchall. 1566 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's Canterb.* in *Archæol. Cant.* XVII. 120 One couerlyt shot wyth blew and red. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1944/4 A Petticoat of Musk coloured Silk, shot with Silver on the right side. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 116 ₱ 8 Carnation shot with white. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* xiii. (1860) 272 Mundig's stock are nearly all chesnuts, many of them shot with white hairs. 1860 Sala *Baddington Peerage* I. i. 26 His stiff, black hair a little shot with gray. 1863 B. Taylor *H. Thurston* xv. 192 The canes of maize shot the brown fields with points of shining green. 1882 *Garden* 7 Oct. 312/2 Of older flowers we have..Burgundy, rich dark puce, shot and suffused with light purple [etc.]. 1895 *Jrnl. R. Inst. Brit. Architects* 14 Mar. 347 The Saviour was dressed in a purple tunic shot with gold. *fig.* 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 244/2 Vague theory shot with technicalities. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. iv. 109 The texture of Disraeli's writings is..ingeniously shot with irony.

15. To send out, dispatch (persons). Now *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Also *to shoot* (a person) *about*: to hurry (him) from place to place.

1542 Becon *Pathw. Prayer* xxix. M vij, Therfore sayth Christ, praye vnto the Lorde of y^e^ Heruest, that he may shote forth workemen into his Heruest. 1895 Mrs. B. M. Croker *Village Tales* 71 You, as an officer's wife..are shot about from Colombo to Peshawar.

16. To emit swiftly and forcibly (rays, flames, etc.).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 157 Twa dragonyse, þat awful ware one to luke,..& blessis of fyre with brynstane at nese and mowthe þai schote owte. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. viii. 90 A maruellous gret Comet, quhilk toward the South schot fyrie stremes terrabillie. 1690 T. Burnet *Theory Earth* III. xii. 105 At the first opening of the Heavens, the brightness of his Person will scatter the dark Clouds, and shoot streams of light throughout all the Air. 1712–14 Pope *Rape of Lock* I. 13 Sol thro' white curtains shot a tim'rous ray. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1371 The sun has lost his rage: his downward orb shoots nothing now but animating warmth And vital lustre. 1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. (1801) 55 A cool, sequester'd grot, From its rich roof a sparry lustre shot. 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* III. 22 My sweet guide, who, smiling shot forth beams From her celestial eyes. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* iv, His keen eyes ..shot forth occasionally a quick and vivid ray. 1833 N. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 187 A ray..shot from *a* to the point *c*, in the surface of a piece of glass *g h*, would reach directly across to *o* and *b*. 1839 J. Sterling *Sexton's Dau.* I. xxxii, As if it were the cloven sky..Shot out its glory suddenly.

b. To put forth, utter (words, sounds); chiefly with adv., *out*, *forth*. Now only as *transf.* from sense 21.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 822 Scheoteð forð sum word, & let us onswerien. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 23 (Jesus MS.), Bet þuhte þe drem þat he were Of harpe & pipe þan he nere, Bet þuhte þat heo were i-shote Of harpe & pipe þan of prote. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) viii, He..Schot out his voce, full schill, and gaif a schout. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. iii. (1867) 48 But shoote out some woordes, if she be to whot. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* II. D 2 b, I would shoot some speach forth, to strike the time, With pleasing touch of amorous complement. 1657 J. Smith *Myst. Rhet.* 143 *Acclamo* to cry out or shoot forth the voice. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lx, Even Dobbin would shoot out a sudden peal [of laughter] at the boy's mimicry. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* iii, Shooting out whatever she had to say in one sentence, and in one breath, if possible. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iii, From time to time..he shot out one of his questions.

c. To cause (a pain, an emotion, etc.) to pass rapidly *through*.

1842 Tennyson *Godiva* 58 Her palfrey's footfall shot Light horrors thro' her pulses. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii, This question shot a gleam of joy and triumph through Tom's soul.

17. To thrust (one's hand, a limb, a weapon, etc.) *into* something. Also to thrust *out*, *forth*, *up*, etc.

c 1205 Lay. 1876 Heo scuten [*c* 1275 soten] heora sconken [in wrestling]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 117 With that ane othir gan him ta Be the lege, and his hand gan schute Betuix the sterap and his fute. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. vi. (S.T.S.) I. 151 He schot his hand in þe fire. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 81 Unles ȝe now sharplie shuit out ȝour handis. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. ix. 186 Ilk schuteng his rapper in vtheris bellie. 1648 Winyard *Midsummer-Moon* 1 His head is shot up, as if it would only converse with the Prince oth'aire. *c* 1730 Ramsay *Boy & Pig* 4 A greedy Callan..Shot his wee nive into the pot. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 174 They will be found to shoot forth their arms in every direction. *c* 1850 *Croodin Doo* in Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 53 O it shot out its feet and died.

b. *To shoot out*: To protrude (the tongue, the lips), usually as an expression of mockery.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xxii. 7 They shute out their lippes. 1688 Boyle *Final Causes* II. 69 The camelion..was to take his prey, by shooting out his tongue at the flies he was to live upon. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Ranke* (1851) II. 146 A sect laughing at the Scriptures, shooting out the tongue at the sacraments. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* i. 18 Away she would go with her lips shot out. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* II. i. 56 As at my Lord the Jews shot out their tongues. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* i. 12, 'I thoucht ye had been a lad of some kind o' sense', he began, shooting out his lips.

c. *To shoot one's eyes*: to gaze eagerly. *rare.*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* iv. i, I should not shoote mine eyes into the earth, Poring for mischiefe.

d. *To shoot one's linen* (colloq.): to pull one's shirt cuffs out so that they project beyond the cuffs of one's coat.

1878 Yates in *World* 16 Jan. (Farmer), Adjust your curls, your linen shoot, your coat wide open fling. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 104 He 'shot his linen' in style. 1889 'J. S. Winter' *Harvest* 168 Major Pottinger..shot his linen till the bystanders..wondered if it was a new kind of conjuring entertainment.

†**18.** To eject from the body. a. To eject (venom). Also of a spider: To eject (its thread).

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxi. 143 Þai er enermare gapand, redy for to schote þaire venym. 1775 G. White *Selborne*, *To Barrington* 8 June, Every day in fine weather..do I see those spiders shooting out their webs and mounting aloft. *Ibid.*, Those filmy threads, when first shot, might be entangled in the rising dew.

b. To discharge (excreta); also (see quot. 1688). Also *to shoot one's belly*, *bowels*. *Obs.*

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 160 So swelled Zadoch [with rage] and was readie to burst out of his skinne, and shoote his bowels like chaine-shot full at Zacharies face for bringing him suche balefull tidings. 1634–5 Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 179 My mare chanced to eat some green corn, which did occasion her to shoot her belly, and scour intolerably. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 252/1 Terms in feeding cocks..Shuting the Body, is to purge it from its groser dung. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 84 It is a Sign, if he shoot off his Food very fast, that he gets too little Corn.

c. *absol.* To have a looseness in the bowels.

1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 5 A weake lambe..will shoot and scowre allmost for the space of two dayes.

d. *trans.* Of a fish: To discharge (spawn). Also *absol.* (Cf. Shot *ppl. a.* 1, Shotten 3.)

1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 201 Fishes flocke..to this nooke of the Ocean, to breed and shut their spawne. 1884 Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* 409 The Sea-Bass, when they come into the pounds in the spring, are full of spawn, ready to shoot.

19. Of a plant: To put forth (buds, leaves, branches, etc.). Chiefly with *forth* or *out*. Also *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 109 To shote forth y^e^ braunches of murmure, grudge [etc.]. 1535 Coverdale *Luke* xxi. 30 Whan they now shute forth their buddes. 1611 Bible *Mark* iv. 32 It..shooteth out great branches. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* ex, Colts-foot shooteth up a slender stalk, with small yellowish Flowers. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxix. (1687) 349 Rosemary and Sweet-Brier,..which shoot flowers, and dart forth Musk. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 143 When a fine Fruit Branch shoots many others. *a* 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Turneþ* 7 P a/1 Apt to make the wheat shoot fresh ears. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gipsy* i, Nor let..the cropp'd grasses shoot another head. 1908 [Miss E. Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 20 The largest round Lavender bush, soon to shoot forth buds and blossoms generously.

b. *transf.* Chiefly of an animal, etc.: To put forth (limbs, etc.); also *fig.* of immaterial things. *To shoot the rad*: of a turkey-cock (see Red *sb.*1 1 d).

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. iv. 238 Quhen this Pelagian hæresie..appeired to schute out the hornes ay wyder and wyder. 1739 S. Sharp *Oper. Surg.* Introd. 31 The callous Edges softening, will, without any great Assistance, shoot out a Cicatrix. 1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Feb. 155 He throbs and tingles as the new wings shoot their feathers. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 875 These..masses of epithelium ..do not shoot downwards the root-like processes so characteristic of epithelioma of the malignant type.

c. To cause to grow or 'shoot'; to make to spring *up*. *rare.*

1610 Fletcher *Faithf. Sheph.* II. i, All the verdant grass The spring shot up, stands yet unbruised here Of any foot. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 107 The Power..Who rules the year, and shoots the spindling grain.

20. With reference to stationary position: To throw out as a projection or protuberance; *refl.* to stand out, protuberate in a particular direction. †Also in passive, to appear as if thrust down.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5953 He ne had noither nekke, ne throte, His heued was in his body y-shote. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xvii. (S.T.S.) I. 97 Throw quhilk þe wallis war schot out with mare magnificent boundis þan afore. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* I. (1891) 5 Carmarthenshere that waye shooteinge it selfe on the Northeast. 1635 Person *Varieties* I. 19 Where the mouth of a large valley endeth at the Sea.. shooting as it were it selfe forth into the said Sea..there it should be more shallow. 1784 Cowper *To Mem. Halibut* 17 Where Hibernia shoots Her wondrous causeway far into the main.

III. To send missiles from an engine.

(A Com. Teut. specialization of branch II.)

21. *trans.* To send forth, let fly (arrows, bolts, etc.) from a bow or other engine, or (bullets or shot) from a firearm. Const. *at*, †*against*, †*to*.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 15 Nov. 206 Hiȝ sceoton hyra strælas on twa healfa tosomne. *c* 1205 Lay. 6487 Þa his flæn weoren iscoten þæ iwærd his boge to-broken. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 317 Þer was mani arwe yschote. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 178 Oft tille our Inglis men was schewed a mervaile grete, A darte was schot to þem, bot non wist who it schete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ₱ 500 If a man, by caas or aventure, shete an arwe or caste a stoon with which he sleeth a man, he is homicyde. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xi. 167 Than he shette a-nothir bolte, and slowgh a malarde. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 94 Tho was drawen & shotte many an arowe. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 131 Siklyik ane preist of turque callit deruis schot ane bolt befoir the port of tempil contrar basit. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 6 The principal outlaw shot an arrow against my grandfather. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 396 A third [cannon ball]..said to have been shot into the wall at the siege of Padua. 1769 Pennant *Tour Scot.* (1774) 101 Elf-shots..are supposed to be weapons shot by fairies at cattle. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxi, The Templar's retreat was rendered perilous by the numbers of arrows shot off at him and his party.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context. *To have shot one's bolt*: to have done all that one can do. Proverb, *A fool's bolt is soon shot*: see Bolt *sb.*1 1.

a 1100 *Prudentius* in *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alterthum* (1876) VIII. 38 Ða wæpna..ðe þæt yrre sceet [*miserat*]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Erest heo [lechery] scheot þe earewen of þe liht eien, þet fleoð lichtliche uorð, ase earewe þet is iviðered, & stikeð iðe heorte. *Ibid.* 62 Sikerliche vre vo, þe weorreur of helle, he scheot..mo cwarreaus to one ancre þen to seouene & seouenti lefdies iðe worlde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1800 The thridde arowe he [the God of Love] gan to shete, ..Into myn herte he did avale. 1585 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* i. 11 in *Holinshed*, But if I may craue your patience till time you see me shoot my bolt. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vicillard* 89 Many others haue shot forth the like bolts and censures, whereof this is the totall summe and substance. 1652 Benlowes *Theophila* IX. iii. 127 Hope be thy Bowe, thy Hand Love, Faith the Shaft; Let Hope shoot Faith to God with Loves strong Draft. 1852 *Household Words* V. 577 [The winds] never cease to shoot at us their arrows barbed with the poison of rheum. 1901 *Daily Express* 28 Feb. 4/5 The home players had shot their bolt, and in thirty minutes the Birmingham team added two goals.

c. With cognate object, *to shoot a shot* (or †*a shoot*). Now *rare.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11103 An carpenter þat hii sede þat sset þe ssute [*MS. Add.* þane schote] hii nome. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxix. (1859) 61 But, soothly, they sheten neuer shotte. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 107 For in a rayne and at no marke, a man may shote a faire shoote. 1590 Barwick *Disc. Weapons* 17 *marg.*, The archer dooth require more time then dooth the firy weapon to shoot the first shoot. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. xiii. 208 All this while the Enemy shot not a shot. 1642–4 Vicars *God in Mount* 193 They forced all the Musketeers..to..shroud themselves within their pikes, not daring to shoot a shoot. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxii, May the hand be withered that shot the shot!

†d. To hurl or throw (a spear, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1100 *Prudentius* in *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alterthum* (1876) VIII. 38 Þæt yrre scyt his spere ongean þæt geðyld. *c* 1205 Lay. 5690 And þa oðere hem scuten [*c* 1275 sote] to scærpe gares. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxi. 50 '*Aue, rabbi*', quaþ þat riband and reodes shotte at hus eyen. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 Their weapons are three dartes or long Iauelins, whyche they..doe shoote and throw with wonderfull dexteritie.

e. *transf.* To discharge, send forth like an arrow or a shot. Also *fig.* with obj. a glance, question, etc.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* II. 69 When sharp Winter shoots her sleet and hardned hail. 1622 Massinger & Dekker *Virg. Martyr* IV. i, Doe thine eyes shoote daggers at that man That brings thee health? 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. i. 358 She hurts most with those glances which are shot from a down-cast eye. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Oct. 1658, A porcupine, of that kind that shoots its quills. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxiii, The sullen and indignant glances which they shot at them. 1881 *Scribner's Monthly* XXI. 268/2 She shot the question at him with a force which took away his breath. 1889 Conan Doyle *Micah Clarke* 229 A wild race of fishermen..who..shot some rough West-country jest at me as I passed.

22. *absol.* and *intr.* To send forth missiles from a bow, firearm, or similar engine. †Also with *forth*.

993 *Battle of Maldon* 270 Hwilon he on bord sceat, hwilon beorn tasde. *c* 1205 Lay. 12574, & Bruttes weoren igeredde & þene wal weoreden; heo scuten in, heo scuten ut, scalkes þer feollen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11218 Hii mette wiþ þis burgeis & bigonne to sseete vaste I wounded þer was manion. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 858 An herde of hertes sone þey met, Al a triste to schete, Brutus was set. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 91 Þey techiþ besilliche here children to ride and to schiete. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* cxi. 111 Ordeyne þy wenges, on þe right syde of hem þat stryken and assayllen, and of be left syde hem þat shoten. *c* 1422 Lydg. *Serpent of Division* (1911) 59 And somme with firye dartes and scharpe hokid arwis schetynge in þe eire. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 66 Than the archers of kynge saturne began to drawe & shoote. 1569 T. Preston *Cambises* 879 [Venus to Cupid] Shoot forth, my son; now is the time that thou must wound his hart. 1595 Shake.

John v. vi. 2 Whose there?..speake quickly, or I shoote. 1668 R. Steele *Husb. Calling* ix. (1672) 223 If a man stand on a tower and shoot downward, he that stands at the bottom of it and shoots upward, may fly above him. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 15 Oct. 1650, Sir Tho. Osborn..and Lord Stanhop shot for a wager of 5 Louis. 1753 Jago *Elegy on Blackbird* in *Adventurer* No 37 O! had he chose some other game, Or shot as he had used to do! 1899 T. M. Ellis *Three Cat's-eye Rings* 123 They turned round to shoot, and a bullet from one of their muskets shrieked past Clayside's ear. 1907 Galsworthy *Country Ho.* I. i 2 Foxleigh; he's no good... But can't he shoot just! That's why they ask him.

b. *intr.* To engage in archery (in mod. use occas. in rifle-practice, etc.) as a sport or contest. † *To shoot compass*: see Compass *adv.* 3 b. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 24698 Summe heo gunnen lepen summe heo gunnen sceoten [*c* 1275 sceate] summe heo wræstleden. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 651 No more I hadde set þerby or roght, A wif or mayde or nune to deffoule, Than scheete, or pleyen at þe bal or boule. 1589 *Hay any Work* A iij b, When the wether is foule, that men cannot go abroad to boules, or to shoote. 1801 T. Roberts *Engl. Bowman* 293 To shoot down the butts, to begin at the furthest, and end at the shortest butt.

c. *Well shot!* an applauding exclamation when a shooter hits the mark. Also *fig.*

1640 Sir E. Dering *Carmelite* (1641) 41 Your promise is of thoughts within, and your proof still of things done without. Well shot. Go to your Book again and study the point better. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VII. i. 425 One day being shooting at Butts,..He hit the very mark. The Duke of Northumberland, being present,..Well shot my Liege, quoth he.

d. Constructions. (*a*) *To shoot at* († also *after, against, on, unto, to*) the mark or object aimed at.

To shoot at rovers. see Rover[1] 1.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 474 Lamech..wurð bisne, and haued a man ðat ledde him..To scheten after ðe wilde der. *c* 1290 *St. Sebastian* 47 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 179 [The emperor] let archers to him scheote: ase it were to one marke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 An archer uor þet he hedde ylore ate geme: nom his boze and ssat an hez aye god. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 7779 To schote at him so was he prest. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 64 But euer de,e sewyth hym wyth his bow drawen and an arow þeryn redy to choton at hym. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 147 He entryd among tharchers of the troians that shotte thikke on hym. 1496 [see Prof *sb.*[1] 2 b]. 1497 [see Shell *sb.*[1] 2 b]. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 105 Euer as a marke to schote vnto. 1576 Gascoigne *Spoyle of Antwerp* Wks. 1910 II. App. 591 They of the Towne did not shote at the prince of Orenges Shippes. 1611 Bible *Gen.* xlix. 23 The archers haue sorely grieued him, and shot at him. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 97 They fought for his crown when they shot at his person. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 242 Van Gheudt..shot against Bruntisland without doing any mischief. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 96 They have stood to be shot at in flocks, without offering to move. 1816 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* ii, Willie of Winton whom you shot at? 1908 E. M. Gordon *Indian Folk Tales* ix. (1909) 85 A young man..asked me to shoot at an owl.

(*b*) *To shoot with* (also †*in*) a bow, gun, etc.; also rarely *with* an arrow.

[*c* 1205 Lay. 16555 Nu ich hine [Hengest] ȝiue þe..& þet þine hired-childeren..scotien mid heore flan & his cun scenden anon.] 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7735 He wolde ..ssete [*v.rr.* schute, schete] also mid bowe & arblaste. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schetyn yn a bowe (*v.r.* shotyn with bowes) *sagitto*. 1530 Palsgr. 704/2, I shote in any bowe, crosse bowe, or longe bowe. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* II. vi. (1867) 61 But many a man speaketh of Robyn hood, That neuer shot in his bowe. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 633 Sirnamed Strongbow, because hee shot in a bow of exceeding great bent. 1644 Nye *Gunnery* (1647) 35 It is as easie to shoot in a great Gun as in a Musket. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 22 He shot excellently in bows and guns, and much used them for his exercise. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* Sept. 1646, Here I first saw huge balistæ or crosse-bows shot in.

(*c*) *To shoot at* († *to*, etc.) an object *with* a bow, gun, etc.; also *with* an arrow.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 199 Þa ȝenam he his boxan..& ða mid ȝeættredum strǽle ongan sceotan wiþ þæs þe he ȝeseah þæt hryþer stondan. *c* 1290 *St. Cristopher* 204 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 377 With bouwe and Areblast þare schoter to him four hondret knyztes and mo. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xix. 335 (Addit. MS.) The knyght..shotte to [*Cambr. MS.* shot at] hym with an arowe, and slough hym. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 740 They shoot at the Fish with their darts. 1873 B. Harte *What B. Harte Saw* in *Fiddletown*, etc. 100 There was a mark at which a few credulous people shot with a toy rifle.

(*d*) With adv. or phrase, *To shoot beside, far from, near the mark*; *to shoot short, straight*, etc. Often *fig.*

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 256 Hercules and many other shotte at most strayt and next the marke. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 101 But to shoote wyde and far of the marke is a thynge possyble. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* I. vi. (1867) 12 Ye mary (quoth he) nowe ye shoote nie the pricke. 1577 Harrison *England* III. I. [II. vi.] 95 b in *Holinshed*, Wherein they [*sc.* foreign writers] haue shot so farre wyde as the quantity of ground was betweene themselues and their marke. 1585 Q. Eliz. *Let. to Jas. VI* (Camden) 17 Who seaketh two stringes to one bowe, he [*printed* the] may shute strong, but neuer strait. 1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 15. iii. 335 Man he lets flie against God (though against his will he shoots short) whole vollies of sinnes and impieties. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Ess. on Women* Wks. 1711 IV. 155 But alas! how far do you shoot from the mark? [in answer to a question]. 1862 F. G. Trafford *City & Suburb* iii. (1869) 22 He had shot wonderfully near the truth.

e. quasi-*trans. To shoot a match*: to engage in a shooting-match. Also *to shoot off a tie*: to decide a tie in a shooting-match by a supplementary contest.

1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 2763 Captain R. and Mr. S. then shot the tie off. *Ibid.*, Two matches were then shot by Capt. Ross and Mr. Osbaldeston. 1859 'Stonehenge' *Shot-gun* ii. 7 Lord Huntingfield,..and Mr. Bateson having repeatedly shot matches at Hornsey Wood House. 1861 *Temple Bar* III. 266 This target was chosen for shooting off the ties at the long distances.

f. *transf. intr.* To take a snapshot with a camera. Also *trans.* to take a snapshot of.

1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 3 Beside him is another sort of shutter operator with an ordinary camera and fairly good shutter...Does he shoot when his companion did? 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 51 We at first tried the other method, namely, looking at the object and shooting at the critical moment. 1896 *Punch* 30 May 264/2, I even bless the Kodak now With which, dear Nell, you 'shot' me.

23. *fig.* and in figurative context.

a. With reference to metaphorical arrows or darts, e. g. of love, temptation, affliction.

a 1000 *Minds of Men* 35 He..hyzegar leteð, scurum sceoteþ. *c* 1200 Ormin 3839, & 3iff he [the devil] seoþ þe mann forr-dredd, He wile himm skerren mare, & ræfenn himm his rihhte witt, & shetenn inn hiss heorrte. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 714 An ydel man is lyk to a place that hath no walles; deueles may entre on euery syde and sheten at hym at discouert, by temptacion on euery syde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1777 And whanne that love gan nyghe me nere, He..shette at me with all his myght. 1895 R. W. Chambers *King in Yellow* (1909) 255, I think..that he [Cupid] does shoot fairly—yes, and even gives one warning.

† b. *To shoot at*: to assail with censure or contempt. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* LII. vi, The just shall.. shoote at thee With scornfull glances. *c* 1640 H. Bell *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 113 The Turks and Jews do acknowledg God the Father, but it is the Son that they shoot at. 1643 Baker *Chron., Eliz.* 57 The Queen conceiving, that through the sides of the Prelates, she her self was shot at, suppressed them what she could. *c* 1660 South *Serm.* (1715) I. 28 If it is a Pleasure to be envyed and shot at, to be maligned standing,..then it is a Pleasure to be great.

c. *To shoot at* (with express or implied reference to a metaphorical mark or target): (*a*) to aim at, to seek to have or accomplish; to aspire to, strive after (now *arch.*); † (*b*) to 'drive at', mean, to have reference to; † (*c*) to aim at imitating, follow the example of.

(*a*) *c* 1407-10 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* (1892) 58 But myn herte is euere bent To sheete at yow good wil in soothfastnesse. 1528 Tindale *Par. Mammon* 30 The same is blynde and wotteth not what he dothe: erreth and shoteth at a wronge marke. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 127 Thou, that shotest at perfection in the Latin tong, think not thy selfe wiser than Tullie was. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 266 The Queene of Scots..easily understood that her destruction was shot at by this Association. 1647 Trapp *Mellif. Theol.* 652 Their evil dissembled ambitious desires plainly declared..that they both shot at one and the same mark. 1888 Stevenson *Black Arrow* III. iii. 163, I shoot at no advantage to myself.

(*b*) 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. ix. (1592) 84 For to this ende shoote all the exhortations of the Prophets and Apostles. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* viii. (1590) 331 An equalitie of commodities present is plainely shot at in this law. *Ibid.* 347, I might recite the lawes of God,..which directly shoote at the shame of this sinne. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Tri.* 307 The maine thing Vega shootes at in this chapter.

(*c*) 1515 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 15 Bycause the Deputye useyth the said wrongfull extortion, all the noble folke of the lande shotes at hym, folowyth his wayes in that behalf, asmuche as in them is.

† d. To have an aim or reference (*beyond* something mentioned). *Obs.*

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 66 This part of the Vision therefore shoots beyond the Pergamenian and Thyatirian Interval of the church, and begins with the Sardian.

† e. *To shoot over*: to overshoot the mark. *Obs.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 20. 96 b, And certaynelye, it is an errour frequent, for men to shoot ouer, and to suppose deeper ends, and more compasse reaches then are.

† f. in certain proverbial phrases. *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 704/2, I shote at all aduentures, or at the unhappyest, *Je tire a la volée*. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legeandarie* G iij b, Now in making warre against the Protestants, they shotte sundry wayes with owne selfe arrowe. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* v. iii, Neither can I Be woone to thinke, but if I should attempt it, I shoote against the Moone.

g. *U. S.* slang. *To shoot off one's mouth*: to talk indiscreetly or abusively.

1890 N. P. Langford *Vigilante Days* I. 295 Why, you fool; there you go, shooting off your mouth to me the first thing. Didn't I caution you not to tell any one? 1896 S. Crane *Maggie* xi. 86 Youse fellers er lookin' fer a scrap, an' its like yeh'll fin' one if yeh keeps on shootin' off yer mout's.

24. Of a bow, engine, or firearm: a. *trans.* To send forth (a missile).

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 989 That bowe semede wel to shete These arowis fyve. 1547 in *Archæologia* LI. 262 Brode fawcons shotinge iij shotte. 1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 3 *Catapulta*, was an ancient warlike Engine to shoot Darts.

b. *intr.* To send forth missiles; to 'carry' a certain distance. Also, of a gun, to be discharged, go off (e. g. in a salute).

a 1573 Gascoigne *Posies, Weedes* Wks. 1907 I. 374 A peece which shot so well, so gently and so streight. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 124 Quhan thir proclematiounis war endit..than the trumpattis and schalmes blew and so did the artelljerie schutt and bellis rang. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. ii. 34 This boy will carrie a letter twentie mile as easie, as a Canon will shoot point-blanke twelue score. 1685 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Invent.* § 67 To make Guns shoot. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 68 The Piece directed by her Metal, will shoot about twice as far as when..set by a Dispert. 1846 Greener *Sci. Gunnery* 406 We have seen American rifle-barrels, which were far from the straight..yet they shot well.

25. *trans.* To discharge (a bow, catapult, etc.), to fire (a gun or other firearm); also with *off, out*. Const. *at*, † *against*, etc. *spec.* in gun-making (see quot. 1886).

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 113 All the gonnes yn the colle warkys and abowte the marttes were schett for joye. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxi. 116 Oure galeyes..bygan of al partes to shutte theire gonnes. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 203 To the pynouris of Leith quhilk carying the irn gun to the sandis to schut hir thair before the King. 1530 Palsgr. 704/2 They have shotte fourscore peces agaynst this towre in lesse than halfe an houre. 1557 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 240 The counsall ordanis gif thair cum ony sodane fray to the toun..to James Frank to schoit ane goone. 1619 W. Phillip tr. *Schouten's Wonderf. Voy.* 11 We shot two peeces, an houre betweene each shot, to call her. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 69 Then you may shoot off a Pistol in the Stable. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xvii, The malignants shooting their wall-pieces at us. 1833 [Seba Smith] *Lett. J. Downing* iii. (1835) 42 Says he, 'Can you shoot a rifle, Major?' 'Pretty considerable,' says I. 1886 Walsingham & Payne-Gallwey *Shooting* I. 72 The gun is now stocked and screwed, and then in the rough state is sent to the ground to be shot and regulated. *Ibid.* 75 A high-class gunmaker will spend days in shooting a gun in order to get its pattern and force up to the mark he considers requisite to make it a perfect weapon.

transf. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* v. ii. But man..should make Examples; Which like a Warning-piece must be shot off, To fright the rest from Crimes.

26. To propel (a marble, pellet, etc.) as from the thumb and forefinger.

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 47 Rip Van Winkle.. taught them to fly kites and shoot marbles. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. v, Some of whom were..shooting pellets, or digging their forks through the tablecloth.

27. *Football.* To kick (the ball) at goal. In *Hockey* and *Lacrosse*: to hit or drive (the ball) at goal. Also with *goal* as object.

1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar., The last-named shot it [the football] between the posts. 1885 *Field* 24 Jan. 108/2 On restarting Marlow again shot the ball through the posts.

b. *intr.* To kick or drive the ball at goal. Also in *Croquet*, to aim *at* a ball from a long distance.

1874 J. D. Heath *Croquet-player* 65 But Yellow is confident of hitting, so he shoots at Blue, and roquets him. 1890 *Field* 1 Nov. 671/2 Hewitt soon after had a chance to equalise but shot over. 1900 H. C. Needham *Croquet* 50 When thinking of taking a bisque, instead of shooting hard, shoot so as to hit, if possible,..but to lie quite handy if you miss. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 8/1 Both sides being too excited to shoot straight.

IV. To assail, wound, or kill with a shot.

28. *trans.* To wound or kill with a missile from a bow or firearm (in early use, occas. with a spear or javelin). Const. *with*. † Also, to assail with arrows or gunshot: = *to shoot at* (see 22 d).

The simple verb is now often used where formerly the fuller expression 'to shoot dead' or 'to death' would have been preferred (see b); e. g. with reference to the infliction of death as a penalty.

c 893 Ælfred *Oros.* IV. vi. § 7 Ac þonne hie [the serpent] mon slog oþþe sceat. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 143 Ða he oþerne ofstlice sceat. *c* 1205 Lay. 313 He wende to sceoten [*c* 1275 sceote] þat hea der. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1121 If þu art i-worpe oþer i-scote [*Cott. MS.* i-shote], þenne þu myht erest to note. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 242 As he wolde ssete [*v.r.* scheten] an hert al ayen is wille, To de,e he sset [*v.r.* scheet] his owe fader. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6345 They buth archeris with the beste, And scheoteth [*Laud MS.* shoten] theo gryp in his neste. *a* 1340 Hampole *Ps.* x. 2 That thai shote in myrke the right of hert. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 213 He wolde schote with his spere Bestes and other gere. *c* 1460 *Frere & Boye* 84 in Ritson *Anc. Pop. Poetry* 38 Than sayd the boye..It is best that I haue a bowe, Byrdes for to shete. 1562 S. Wythers tr. *Calvin's Treat. Relics* H j, But they muste also make reliques of the arrowes wher with he was shotten. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 49 My Lord himselfe had his horse shot under him. 1650 Cromwell *Let.* 25 Sept. in *Carlyle*, They have done us no harm, except one soldier shot (but not to the danger of his life). 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § 15. 208 It should be unlawful to kill or shoot them, as it is to shoot or hunt other wild beasts. 1709 Lawson *Voy. Carolina* 151 The bald, or white Faces are a good Fowl. They cannot dive and are easily shotten. 1765 Ld. Holland in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) I. 382 But there is no use in the D. of Bolton's shooting himself. 1807 J. Hall *Trav. Scot.* II. 425 A variety of other beautiful birds which we shot with water, not to spoil their plumage. 1809-10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 211 Do you hesitate to shoot a mad dog? 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 482/1 The duke was inhumanly shot, 6 days after. 1842 Tennyson *Audley Court* 40 Oh! who would fight and march and countermarch, Be shot for sixpence in a battle-field. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlv, Mr. James, the Colonel, and Horn, the keeper, went and shot pheasants. 1873 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 20 Dec. 802/2 A man who was shot on leaving a ballroom told me that he could not guess who was his assailant. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* lvi, Fly I would, for who would not? 'Tis sure no pleasure to be shot.

b. Amplified with *dead* or *to death* added.

c 1205 Lay. 254 For his ahne sune seoþen hine sceat [*c* 1275 set] to deaþe. *c* 1290 *St. Christopher* 203 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 377 To a piler he let him binde faste and knyztes a-boute him go, For-to scheoten him to deþe with Mani a kene flo. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 3 Sum Invyand vthir with maist crewell feid with sword and dag to schut him to the deid. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 37 Condemning to be shot to death an Irish Lieutenant. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. 2 We gave out, that if any man faultred in the Journey over Land he must expect to be shot to death.

1719 Ozell tr. *Misson's Mem. & Observ.* 226 Deserters are shot to Death. 1836 J. Richardson *Jrnl. Brit. Legion* iv. 116 A priest..was publicly shot to death without the walls of that city. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* viii. 317, I shot him dead in two bullets. 1863 Twistleton in W. Smith *Dict. Bible* III. s. v. *Zidon*, He betrayed into the king's power one hundred of the most distinguished citizens of Sidon, who were all shot to death with javelins.

c. To hit or wound with a shot *in* (or †*into*) or *through* a part of the body.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7483 Þe ssetare donward al uor noȝt vaste slowe to gronde So þat harald þoru þen eie issote [*v.r.* shotte] was depes wounde. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 58 At the Castelle Gaylerde in Normandy he was schottyn thorowe the hedde. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. i. 3 (Harl. MS.) He hath y-schotte him selfe in þe lungen, and lyeth ded. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. iv. 250 The king passing furth to do his eise..in the heid he is schott. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 80 Hambden.. being shot into the shoulder with a brace of bullets. 1649 Heylin *Relat. & Observ.* II. 255 A party of Horse..shot an old Woman into the head. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* lxi. III. 323 Tromp..was shot through the heart with a musket ball. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 133 Harold..was shot into the brains by an arrow. 1816 Tuckey *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* iv. (1818) 141 He had been taken..by a slave catcher, who had shot him in the neck with a ball.

d. *To shoot flying*: to shoot (birds) on the wing. Now usually *absol.*, as denoting a sportsmanlike accomplishment.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. Ind. & P.* 291 Flocks of Water Fowl, which the Persians are skill'd..to shoot flying. 1707 Farquhar *Recruiting Officer* I. ii, I can do every thing with my father, but drink and shoot flying. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. xi, He had learned to ride, and to drink, and to shoot flying.

†e. To hit (a thing) with shot. *Obs.*

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 218 He also, with a Fire-lock, shot an Apple, which he had caus'd to be cast into the Air.

29. *intr.* To engage in or practise the sport of killing game with a gun (formerly with a bow or the like).

a 1300 *K. Horn* 939 Til o dai þat he ferde To wude for to schete. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 13 This Island, as all the rest of the Archipelago, being full of Game, we went a shore to shoot. 1766 Earl March in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 82 Cadogan and Thomond are gone into the country to shoot. 1820 J. W. Croker *Diary* 27 Jan. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. 156 Huskisson, Peel and I were to have gone to-day to shoot at Sudbourne with Lord Yarmouth. 1862 *Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 303 He also shot with a license for fifty years, which can be recorded of few sportsmen. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xviii. 225, I have read of your English country life—and of how the women ride and shoot.

30. *trans.* With advs. and advb. phrases.

a. With *away*, *off*, *out*: To remove or separate from its place or environment by shooting; to carry away, destroy, or break off by a shot. Also to *shoot to pieces*.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 277 A schaft with a scharp hed shet oute his yie. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 63 A Duch marener..had his hand shott offe and his face all batterd. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 62 We shot away their middle mast. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 73 He will..fix ye a Couple of new [Ship's] Knees, when the old ones are shot to the Devil. 1849 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* vii. (1850) 65 People had been shot all to pieces and survived. 1859 C. Knight *Pop. Hist. Eng.* V. xx. 309 His..equerry had his head shot off by a cannon ball. 1901 D. B. Hall & Ld. A. Osborne *Sunshine & Surf* v. 55 The man-of-war fired fifteen shots before they shot away the flagstaff.

b. *To shoot* (a person, thing) *through*: to pierce with a shot. *To shoot..through and through*: to riddle with shot; also †*fig.* to overwhelm with exactions.

1535 Coverdale *Exod.* xix. 13 There shal no hande touch it, but he shall either be stoned, or shot thorow. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. ii. 106 We..at last shooting her maine-yard through, she came to an anker and yeelded. *c* 1643 Ld. Herbert *Autobiog.* (1824) 19 The English shot her [the Spanish ship] through and through so often that she run herself aground. 1690 Wood *Life* 31 Dec. (O. H. S.) III. 348 Complayning..against the salaries and pensions paid to great persons, officers, etc. who pay no taxes,..while the country is shot thro and thro.

c. *To shoot* (a person) *down*: to kill by a shot. (Usually with suggestion of merciless cruelty or determination.)

1845 J. Coulter *Adv. in Pacific* xiii. 175, I have witnessed several of their battles, and it appears to be the first object to shoot down, or otherwise kill a man. 1897 Sir G. T. Goldie in *Times* 23 Jan. 13/1 It is more humane to shoot down promptly a few running carriers than to sacrifice the lives of some 2,000 men of a column.

d. Naut. *To be shot by the board*: of masts, etc. (see quot. 1706). *To be shot between wind and water*: of a vessel, to receive a shot causing a dangerous leak; also *slang* (see quot. *a* 1700).

1613 Beaum. & Fl.. *Philaster* IV. i. (1620) 40 The wench has shot him betweene wind and water, and I hope sprung a lake. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* III. ii, A she Dunckerke, that was shot before Betweene winde and weather. 1665 Marq. Worcester *Cent. Invent.* § 12 A Ship not possible to be sunk though shot an hundred times betwixt wind and water by Cannon. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 82 If a Ship lose her Masts in Fight, we say, *her Masts were shot by the Board*. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Shot 'twixt Wind and Water* Clapt, or Pox't. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Shot by the Board*, a Sea-Phrase, us'd when a Mast or Yard is broken by the Enemies Shot, in a Fight.

31. slang or vulgar. *I'll be shot* (occas. shortened to *shot!*) *if*—: used as a strong expression of denial or refusal. Similarly, *I'll see you shot first*.

1826 Buckstone *Luke the Labourer* III. i, *Bob.* He, he, he! I'll be shot if Lumnun temptation be onything to this. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* vii, I'll be shot if it ain't very curious how well I know that picture! 1860 F. W. Robinson *Grandmother's Money* II. iii, Shot, if I have not forgotten him too. 1894 'J. S. Winter' *Red Coats* 56 Then..let me tell you straight, I'll just see you shot first.

32. Transferred uses. a. To injure or kill by witchcraft. (Cf. Elf-shoot *v.*)

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 54 ðif ðu wære on fell scoten oððe wære on flæsc scoten, oððe wære on blod scoten, oððe wære on lið scoten. 1790 Burns *I am o' Shauter* 167 For mony a beast to dead she shot.

b. *fig.* Of Cupid, love, etc.

1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) 621 Than was Achilles shoten with the darte of loue. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. x, One poor gentleman, who had been shot by her young eyes two years before. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* Feb. xxvii, Whom gently Eros shooteth.

c. *To shoot the sun*: see quot.

1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Shoot the sun*, *To*, to take its meridional altitude; literally aiming at the reflected sun through the telescope of the instrument.

d. slang. *To shoot the cat*: To vomit. *Shot in the neck* (U.S.): drunk. *To shoot one's grandmother* (U.S.): see quot. 1855.

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Shoot the Cat*, to vomit from excess of liquor, called also catting. 1855 Haliburton *Nature & Hum. Nat.* xxii. II. 297 You showed her she had shot her grandmother. *Footnote.* Shooting one's granny, or grandmother, means fancying you have discovered what was well known before. 1855 *Brooklyn Jrnl.* 18 Apr. (Bartlett 1860), Mr. Schumacher defended his client by observing that some of the prisoner s attorneys got as often 'shot in the neck', as the Under-Sheriff in the head.

33. *intr. To shoot over* or *to* (a dog), to train by use on a shooting expedition. *To shoot over* (a cover, a tract of country), to kill game upon.

1868 *Field* 4 July 22/1 For Sale, a Brace of..Spaniels..; they..have been thoroughly broken and shot to by an experienced breaker. 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 671/2 This holiday he was about to spend in shooting over his two handsome young setters. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Jan. 58/1 During his stay the Belvoir covers were shot over.

b. *trans.* To go over (a piece of country) shooting game. *To shoot one's way*: to shoot game as one goes along. *To be shot out*: of a district, to have its supply of game exhausted through over-shooting.

1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. vi, As the [shooting-] party at Colonel Bradfield's were shooting their way home. 1857 G. A. Lawrence *Guy Livingstone* vi, We shoot an outlying cover after luncheon. 1865 Ld. Malmesbury *Mem.* (1884) II. 333 We shot the park, and the Miss Jolliffes accompanied us. 1900 Isabel Savory *Sportsw. India* 234 Gaggai was a sportsman's paradise, but it has been shot out. 1903 Sir M. G. Gerard *Leaves fr. Diaries* v. 107, I shot my way through the Bheel country, from Ahmedabad..to Mhow.

34. *Mining.* To blast.

1830–60 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* 23 (Cornwall terms). *c* 1870 *Scribner's Mag.* III. 576 (Cent.), They [explosives] are used in the petroleum industry to shoot the wells, so as to remove the paraffine which prevents the flow of oil. 1872 J. H. Collins *Mining & Quarrying* 112 *Shutting* or *Shooting*, blasting.

V. Senses of uncertain position.

†**35.** a. In OE.: To refer (a case) *to* a person or court; also *absol.* b. In early ME.: To trust, to submit oneself *to* a person's mercy. *Obs.*

a 1000 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 288 Ða nolde he, butan hit man sceote to scirezemote. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 306 Ðus wrat Hieronimus..gif hwa elles secge, we sceotað to him. *c* 1205 Lay. 977 ðif we sceoteð to heora mæðe þat bið ure imone deað.

†**36.** *trans.* (or const. *dative*). To fall to the lot of. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 19952 Forrþi þatt he Ne wollde nohht forr-buȝhenn To seggenn soþ biforr þe king, þohh þatt himm shollde shetenn To þoienn forr hiss soþe word Full grimme dæþess pine.

†**37.** To avoid, escape. *Sc. Obs.*

1543 Sadleyr in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 321 The misdemeanour and evill behaviour of the Wardens of Scotland on the Borders towardes thobservation of the peax, with their delayes of redresse, shoting their dayes of meating, and continuall rodes and forreys made into England. 1685 Peden *Let.* in P. Walker *Life* (1827) 98, I am confident, the safest Way to shoot the Shower, is, to hold out of God's Gate, and to keep within his Doors, until the Violence of the Storm begin to ebb.

b. *dial.* In passive, to be rid *of*. Cf. Shut *v.* 11.

1802 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 47 He'd gi'eaw his gear to get shot o' the gout. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxxii, Are you not glad to be fairly shot of him? 1837 Carlyle in Froude *Life Lond.* (1884) I. 95 One infallible truth, precious for us all, is that I am shot of it [a book just finished], and you are shot of it. 1866 *Morn. Star* 22 Dec. 3, I thought, when I came out, I would do this [murder], and so get shot of my life. 1891 Hardy *Tess* x, 'Jump up behind me', he whispered, 'and we'll get shot of the screaming cats in a jiffy!'

38. To splice (a rope); to mend (a bar); †to fit (boards) *together* by a mortise or the like (*obs.*); to weld (metals). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

Cf. Shut *v.* 6. In this use the vbs. *shut* and *shoot* seem to have been more or less confused.

1499 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 124 To Antony for schothyng the clapyr xiij*d*. 1545 *Luton Trinity Guild* (1906) 232 For shotynge of the tapers of the awtere ageynst relyk Sonday [o o] 2. 1548 *Ludlow Church-w. Acc.* (Camden) 33 For shottynge the belle rope ij tymes iiij d. 1569 *Ibid.* 134 For shutting and mending of the clapper of the santes bell, iiij d. 1573–4 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 116 For shootinge and mendinge certeyne barres to the glasse wyndowes, 4 d. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 605 These regals serued to shoot the boords together. *Ibid.*, One boord should have been shot within another. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Shoot*, to weld a piece of iron to the blade of a table knife. 1892 [see Shooting *vbl. sb.* 6].

39. *Carpentry* and *Joinery.* To plane accurately (the edge of a board), esp. with the aid of a shooting-board.

1667 Primatt *City & C. Builder* 61 For plaining the boards, and shooting them for a Square, two shillings. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 59 Two Pieces of Wood are Shot (that is Plained)...They are Shot or Pared..so exactly straight, that when they are set upon one another, light shall not be discern'd betwixt them. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 146 Slips of deal board..shot straight upon the edges by a plane. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 502 In squaring or shooting the edges of boards, the shooting board..is very much used. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 384. 167 The Amateur unless he has a trying-plane will use his jack-plane for shooting the edges of boards.

VI. 40. The verb stem in combination: **shoot-hole**, a hole through which to shoot; **shoot-rail** (see quot.); †**shoot-serpent** (see quot.). Also **shoot-off**, the subsequent competition between tied contestants in a shooting-match.

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 36/2 Having constructed a *shoot-hole..I took up my position for the night. 1856 P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 722 *Shottles*, *shoot-rails. Rails easily removed in a fence, to make an entrance into an inclosure, and then *shot* (thrust) back again into their places. 1731 Medley *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 163 She is likewise call'd the Dart- or *Shoot-serpent, on account of her darting herself very swiftly either at or from an enemy. 1892 W. W. Greener *Breech-Loader* 250 The tie was immediately shot off at 25 birds each, Captain Brewer killing all his birds while Mr. Fulford scored 24, leaving Mr. Brewer..the winner of the *shoot-off by a single bird. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 6/3 Three competitors tie with 34..the shoot-off takes place to-morrow.

Shoot, obs. f. Sheet *sb.*, Shout, Shut.

Shoot, variant of Shoat[1] and 2.

Shootable (ʃūˑtăbˈl), *a.* [f. Shoot *v.* + -able.] That may be shot; suitable for shooting.

1852 M. W. Savage *R. Medlicott* IV. iv, I rode everything rideable, shot everything shootable. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* July 108/2 The binoculars disclosed the three to be 'shootable' beasts.

Shootable, vulgar pronunciation of Suitable.

1831 Miss Ferrier *Destiny* xlviii, The lady's fortune is *shoo:able*; indeed, I may say, pretty handsome.

†**Shoo·tage.** *Obs.*—[1]. In 6 **shewtage.** [f. Shoot *v.* + -age.] The art of shooting.

1546–7 in Leland *Collect.* (1774) IV. 320 Take Bow and Shaft in Hand, learn Shewtage to frame.

Shoot-an(c)ker, obs. forms of Sheet-anchor.

Shoote, obs. form of Shout *sb.*

Shooted (ʃūˑtĕd), *a.* [f. Shoot *sb.*[1] + -ed [2].] Of a building: Supplied with 'shoots' or spouts.

1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 408 The farm buildings..are shooted to carry off the drip.

Shootee (ʃūˑtī). [f. Shoot *v.* + -ee.] The person shot, or shot at.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 205 The shooter very commonly expresses much regret to the shootee. 1867 Hales *Introd. to Rob. Hood Ball.* in *Percy Folio MS.* I. 9 He [Robin Hood] is as regularly represented as a shooter as St. Sebastian in the old pictures is as a shootee.

Shooter (ʃūˑtəɹ). Forms: *a.* 3 **ssetare**, 4 **ssyetere, schetor, scheotere, sheeter, shetere**, 5 **schetare, scheter(e, she·er**; *β.* 4 **schot(t)er**, 4–6 **shoter**, 5–6 **schuter**, *Sc.* **schutar**, 6 **shewter**, *Sc.* **schuiter, schutur**, 7 **shootter**, 6– **shooter.** [f. Shoot *v.* + -er [1].]

I. One who shoots.

1. One who shoots with a bow or with firearms; in early use, an archer; now chiefly applied to a sportsman who shoots game.

a. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7482 Þe ssetare [*v.rr.* ssetares, schetors, scheoteres, scheters, scheoteres] donward al uor noȝt vaste slowe to gronde. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* xi. 24 And the sheeters dresseden dartis to thi servauntis fro the wal above. *c* 1400 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schetare, or archare, *sagittarius*. 1450 *Gesta Rom.* I. 3 Whenne he sawe the sheter drawe his bowe.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3607 Þou ert schotter wit þe beist, Bath in feild and in forest. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. vi. (1495) 111 Shoters close the one eye fur to shote the more cuyn. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 506 The whiche was..the best shoter and drawer of a bowe. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XI. 394 Gif thare be..within..forestis.. schutaris. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* I. iii. G j b, As the archer or shoter in a crossebow directeth his eie towardes his marke. 1598–99 *Aberd. Acc.* in *Spalding Club Miscell.* V. 71 Appoyntit for calling and accusing of schuturis with gwnnis. 1611 Bible 1 *Sam.* xxxi. 3 The archers [*marg.* shooters, men with bows] hit him. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 101 He sends a shooter or footman to him. 1676 Shotterel & Dudley *Archerie revivd* 10 Mark what Grace Sits in each line of every Shooters Face. 1778 Johnson in *Boswell* 9 Apr., Where there are many shooters, some will hit. 1822 *Examiner* 105/1 A vigorous shooter of woodcocks. 1842 Lacy *Mod. Shooter* 113 Some shooters nearly always, others but seldom, kill their game in style. 1865

Cuthbert Bede ' *Rook's Garden*, etc. 232 The heads of the slaughtered sparrows would have to be produced..to the secretary, who would note their number, and record it against the name of the shooter. 1908 B. Mallet *Life Earl Northbrook* 276 Joining the shooters at lunch.

†b. *transf.* (apositively). *Obs.*

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 180 The saylynge fyr, the cipresse deth to pleyne, The shetere [*v.rr.* sheter, shoter, scheter] Ew, the Asp for shaftys pleyne.

†c. The constellation Sagittarius. *Obs.*

1386 *Almanack* 1 The Schoter es þe principal howce of Saturne. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* C ij b, Then From Scorpio, Saturne to the Shooter's straide.

†d. The guard of a coach. *Obs.*

The ' guard ', as the name implies, was originally armed for the protection of the passengers : see Guard *sb.* 7 b.

1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A nod for the 'shooter' or guard, and a bow for the dragsman. 1897 *Encycl. Sport.* I. 342/1 (Driving), *Shooter*, a name given to coach guards in the olden time.

2. The man who ' shoots ' a seine-net.

1855 Leifchild *Cornwall* 13 The men who cast this net are termed the ' shooters '.

II. Something that shoots or is used for shooting.

†3. A bolt. *Obs. rare*—1.

1632 Sherwood, The shooter of a locke, *verrouil.* 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* 1123 The shooter of a lock ; *obex seræ versatilis.*

†4. A shooting star. *Obs.*

1633 Herbert *Temple, Artillerie* iii, I have also starres and shooters too.

5. With qualifying adj. : A plant that shoots (vigorously, etc.).

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Espalier*, For vigorous Shooters, twenty Feet are little enough. *c* 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 32/2 Robust but moderate shooters.

6. ' A board placed between cheeses under a press ' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Also, in a cider press, a board laid flat on the top of the pile of must.

1586 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 29 Fyffe cheffates [*read* chesfats = *cheese-vats*]..and one shewter vj^{s} viij^{d}. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1316 [Cider-press], A square board, termed a shooter.

7. A contrivance for shooting or discharging the contents of sacks.

1880 J. W. Hill *Guide Agric. Implements* 469 An efficient Sack Lifter, Loader, Unloader, and Shooter.

8. a. With qualifying word : A gun, pistol, etc. that shoots (well or ill). Cf. Six-shooter. b. *colloq.* or *slang.* A shooting instrument, a gun or pistol, *esp.* a revolver.

1812 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 64 The barrel was a bad and weak shooter. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iv, We got our shooters in order. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xiii, Then Jack drew his shooter out and shot Billy Bill through the head.

9. *Cricket.* (See quot. 1897.)

1856 Hughes *Tom Brown* II. viii, The Captain stumped the next man off a leg-shooter. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 469 Lumpy's favourite achievement was to bowl 'shooters'. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 246/2 (Cricket) *Shooter*, a ball which on touching the ground keeps very close to the turf, often with an increase of pace.

Shootherly, obs. form of Southerly.

Shooting (*ʃū*·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms : see the vb. [ME. *scheotunge*, later *schoting*, f. *scheote*, *schote* Shoot *v.* + -ing^{1}. OE. had *scotung*, f. *scotian* to shoot : see etymological note under Shoot *v.*] The action of Shoot *v.*

1. The action or practice of discharging missiles from a bow or gun.

[*c* 1000 Ælfric *Saint's Lives* xxxii. 180 Þa wunda þe þa wælhreowan hæþenan mid ȝelomum scotungum on his lice macodon.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Also ase men weorreð mid þreo kunne wepnen, mid scheotunge, mid speres ord, & mid sweordes egge [etc.]. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 49 It semid with þaire schoting als it war snaw. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 11564 These kynges hadden beholden ful wel the schetyng of this cherl Every del. 1549 Latimer *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 161 The arte of shutynge hath ben in tymes past much estemed in this realme. 1572 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 141 Matches of showttyng. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 89 Shoting in peeces, crosbowes, longbowes &c. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 526 Much shooting with cannon and musquet was heard. 1727 [E. Dorrington] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 57 He daily practised shooting at a mark. 1880 Maitland *Gunmaking* in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 294/1 When this [windage] is considerable, it is a principal cause of error in shooting.

†b. Discharge (of a bow), firing (of a gun).

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12071 Yiff I koude wysly provyde..Fro shetyng off croos bowes. 1530 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 439 Throuch reakles schuttyng of one gret cannoun. 1625 *Peebles Charters*, etc. (1872) 414 Gewine to John Frank for schiwting of the tua goineis in the steippell. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 363 Shooting of canons.

c. The sport of killing game with the gun.

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. State* III. xiii. 183 Shooting.. provides food when men are hungry. 1740 Gray *Let. to Mother* 2 Apr., The two boys..go a-shooting almost every day. 1823 Syd. Smith *Game Laws* Wks. 1859 II. 28/2 There are certainly many valuable men brought into the country by a love of shooting. 1823 Byron *Juan* XIII. xlviii, But there's no shooting (save grouse) till September. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. ii, The Squire was invited to a day's shooting at Colonel Bradfield's. 1903 McNeill *Egregious English* xix. 174 Grouse-shooting, pheasant-shooting, pigeon-shooting, and even rabbit-shooting. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* I. 3 Every November the coverts at Cuthbertsheugh afforded four days' shooting.

¶ *Shooting flying* : used as noun of action to the vbl. phrase to *shoot flying* (28 d). ? *Obs.*

1727 Markland (*title*) Pteryplegia : or, the Art of Shooting Flying. 1766 Page (*title*) The Art of Shooting Flying. 1814 Dobson *Kunopædia* title-p., With Instructions for attaining the Art of Shooting Flying.

d. An exclusive right to shoot game on a particular estate or tract of country. Hence also, a tract of country on which a person has such an exclusive right. Often *collective plural.*

1848 Clough *Bothie* I. 64 Hither from lodge and bothie in all the adjoining shootings. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 91 § 42 The expression 'lands and heritages' shall..include..shootings, and deer forests, where such shootings or deer forests are actually let. 1879 *Daily News* 12 Aug. 5/1 The southern shootings are reported to be very poorly stocked with birds. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Aug. 4/1 The man who takes a shooting with the intent of enjoying sport upon it until he is snowed off the premises. 1896 Earl Selborne *Memor.* I. xv. 236 He rented, for two or three years, the shooting of Mixbury.

2. The feeling of a sudden pain ; a thrill or dart of pain.

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Reg.* E j, Mylke..doth mitigate the shotynge or prickynge of the longes. 1640 Habington *Castara* (Arb.) 107 The shootings of a wounded conscience. *c* 1702 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 375 It seemed to her she felt..most violent shewtings in her back. 1710 *True Acc. Tom Whigg* 1. (ed. 2) 12 The shooting of my Corn. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 152 He felt frequent Throbbings or Shootings in the Tumour. 1818 *Art Pres. Feet* 27 Some, on the approach of rain, experience what is called a shooting of the corns. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxx, I was but grieved with the shooting of an old wound.

3. Sprouting, beginning to grow (of plants, also of the teeth, etc.) ; sudden or rapid growth. Also *shooting up.*

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* Ep. Ded. *ij b, To shew that shootyngs vp and encrease of God's Church beyng but from a feeble and weake begynnyng [etc.]. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 344 The shooting of Stagges hornes which euery yeare fall and grow againe. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 227 Hot manures will bring on a speedy shooting. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Child.* II. 121 The shooting up of a soft fungus. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 569 That is what they call the shooting of the teeth. 1901 'Zack' *Dunstable Weir* 23 What wi' the shooting o' the crops, and birds calling one to t'other, there was a wonderful lot of nature about.

b. *concr.* A shoot or collection of shoots.

1653 Bellingham *Plat's Gard. Eden* 66 [Carrots.] You must pare off the shooting at the upper end of the root and then lay them in sand. 1790 A. Wilson *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 254 Beneath an old hedging for shelter he crawled And clung by a shooting of birch. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 100 A wild undergrowth of rank weeds and acacia-shootings.

4. The sending out of shoots or spicules in crystallization.

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 92 The shootings of Ice on the top of Water. *a* 1728 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. (1729) I. 114 Of the Stellar Shootings upon the Surface of the Regulus of Antimony. 1783 Blagden in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 134 The shooting of the ice. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 35 The shooting of salts intermixed with mineral particles.

5. *Football.* The kicking the ball at a goal.

1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 135/2 Any shooting that the centres attempted was very defective. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 8/1 The football was..except for poor shooting most enjoyable.

6. In various senses of the verb.

1464 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 374 For shotyng of the same spyndelle. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 530/1 Cum..privilegio lie haling, schutting, landing, peilling, drawing of nettis, [etc.]. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* a 1 b, The shooting of London bridge at an ebbe or low water. *Ibid.* 166 The shooting of starres. 1694 *Marten's Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 120 Some are propagated by the shooting of their Row. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 7 P 2, I have known the shooting of a Star spoil a Night's Rest. 1821 *Acc. Peculations Coal Trade* 17 Wall's-end coals, 47*s*...free of expence, except the trifling expence for metage and shooting. 1825 J. Nicholson *Oper. Mech.* 586 The operation of making the edge of a board straight is called shooting. 1846 Dickens *Pict. Italy, Rome* 173 Now and then, a swift shooting across some doorway or balcony, of a straggling stranger in a fancy dress. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 The ' picking ' or shooting of the weft. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Shooting*, the operation of emptying the sacks of coal into the consumer's cellars or stores. *Ibid.*, *Shooting*, the process by which the iron which is to form the ' bolster ' and ' tang ' in a genuine hand-forged table blade is welded to the steel of the blade.

7. *Shooting forth* : a. an outburst ; †b. *concr.* a projection, prominence.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. xxii. I. 88 The shooting forth of the Promontorie aforesaid some have reported to be 60 miles, others 90. 1722 Quincy *Lex. Phys.-Med.* (ed. 2) 16 *Ancon*, is the top of the Elbow, or the backward and greater Shooting-forth of the *Ulna*. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. i, The first grand fit and shooting forth of sansculottism.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as (sense 1 c) *shooting-party*, *-season* ; (sense 1 d) *shooting-place*, *-tenant*. Also designating clothing worn or equipment used by a person engaged in shooting, as *shooting-boot*, *-canoe*, *-coat*, *-gear*, *-horse*, *-jacket*, *-stocking*, *-suit*.

1855 ' C. Idle ' *Hints Shooting & Fishing* 34 To return from this digression on *shooting boots. 1842 Lacy *Mod. Shooter* 443 Going afloat in a *shooting-canoe for the first time. 1840 *John Bull* 3 Oct. 469/2 Advt., A superb Collection of *Shooting Coats. 1884 J. Hatton in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 337/1 An old velvet shooting coat. 1555 in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 106, I bequeth unto John Cawrew..all my husband's *shotyng gere. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 24 These drove their *shooting-horses loose behind the waggon. 1893 F. C. Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 16 A splendid shooting horse. 1831 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 28, I slipped on my *shooting jacket. 1776 Earl Carlisle in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 154, I was only absent two days from home on a *shooting-party. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxii, There were shooting-parties and battues. 1819 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. ix. 308 He really thought of getting some *shooting-place in Scotland. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xlviii, To spend the *shooting-season in Scotland. 1891 *Daily News* 9 Apr. 2/2 That objectionable person, the *shooting tenant.

b. Special comb. : **shooting-block, -board**, an appliance to facilitate the accurate planing of the edge of a board or stereotype plate, consisting of a board or block, upon which the material is laid, furnished with a rebate to guide the plane ; **shooting box**, a small country house in or adjacent to a shooting locality used as a residence while shooting ; **shooting-fish** = Archer 5 ; **shooting-gallery**, a long room, or a booth at a fair, fitted with a target and other appliances for the practice of shooting ; **shooting-glove** *Archery*, a glove worn to protect the hand in drawing a bow ; **shooting-ground**, (*a*) = sense 1 d ; (*b*) that part of a gun-factory where rifles, etc. are tested ; (*c*) a place where rubbish is shot ; **shooting-hole**, a pit made by a sportsman for purposes of concealment ; **shooting-iron**, a fire-arm, esp. a revolver ; **shooting-lodge** = *shooting-box* ; **shooting-match**, a competition testing skill in shooting ; **shooting-plane**, a plane used with a shooting-board for squaring or bevelling the edges of stuff (Knight *Mech. Dict.* 1875) ; **shooting-range**, a place used for the practice of shooting, having the various ranges or distances marked off between the respective firing points and the targets ; **shooting-stick** *Printing*, a piece of hard wood or metal which is struck by a mallet to loosen or tighten the quoins in a chase ; **shooting-tool** *Mining*, a tool or implement used in blasting.

1812 P. Nicholson *Mech. Exerc., Joinery* § 63 The *Shooting Block is two boards fixed together, the sides of which are lapped upon each other, so as to form a rebate for the purpose of making a short joint. 1885 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 217/1 [Electrotyping] A shooting-block must be made. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 502 In squaring or shooting the edges of boards, the *shooting board..is very much used. 1812 Sir R. T. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1861) I. 42 Rode to La Favorita, the king's private *shooting-box, about three miles from Palermo. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. xi. 350 John Ballantyne, who had at this time a shooting or hunting-box a few miles off in the vale of the Leader. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 34 The Beaked Chætodon or *Shooting-fish. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, The Pall-mall *shooting-gallery. 1897 Crockett *Sir Toady Lion* xix. 151 The Aunt-Sallies, the shooting-galleries, and the miscellaneous side-shows [at the fair]. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 107 Bracer, *shotyng-gloue, stryng, bowe & shafte. 1801 T. Roberts *Engl. Bowman* 294 *Shooting-glove*, a glove used on the *shaft-hand* in drawing the String. 1859–61 Ramsay *Remin.* vi. (1870) 187 A young Englishman had taken a Scottish *shooting-ground. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions War* 37 The shooting-grounds of the Woolwich Arsenal. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 May 11/1 Australia has been for too many years already the shooting ground of Europe's rubbish. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 21 At night I took up a position in an old *shooting-hole beside the vley. 1793–9 J. Gerrond *Advertisement* v. Wks. (1815) 109 Dear brother sportsmen, crack the springs Of these things I call *shooting-irons. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 149, I shall keep this shooting-iron tonight. 1859 Q. Victoria *Leaves Jrnl. Highl.* (1868) 127 Inchrory (a *shooting-lodge of Lord H. Bentinck's). 1750 *Acts Assembly Pennsylv.* (1762) II. 33 Horse races, *Shooting-matches, or other idle Sports. 1908 J. Wells *Stewart of Lovedale* vi. 41 One of his amusements was to practise at the *shooting-range. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* IX. § 2 The *Shooting-stick must be made of Box. 1882 Southward *Pract. Printing* (1884) 68 The shooting-stick..transmits the pressure from the mallet to the quoin. 1855 Leifchild *Cornwall* 112 The blasting or *shooting tools of the miner.

Shooting (*ʃū*·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Shoot *v.* + -ing^{2}.] That shoots.

1. Moving swiftly, darting.

1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xxx. 6 The waye that is ful of parell and trouble, because of the lyon and lyones, of the Cockatrice and shutynge dragon *c* 1710 J. Hughes *Ode to Creator* iv, The shooting flame obeys th' eternal will, Launch'd from his hand. 1798 Wordsw. *Poems Imag.*, ' *Five years have past* ' 118, I..read..My former pleasures in the shooting lights Of thy wild eyes. 1887 Meredith *Ballads & P.* 151 A pool of scum for shooting flies.

2. Sprouting, growing.

1702 Pope *Dryope* 47 The shooting leaves are seen to rise And shade her. 1798 W. Leslie *Surv. Moray* iii. 278 A luxuriantly shooting grove of different species of trees.

3. Of pain : Sharp and sudden, darting, lancinating. Also of a diseased part, a corn, etc. (see Shoot *v.* 5).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 324 Wiþ sceotendum wenne. 1710 Swift *Tatler* No. 238 P 3 A coming Show'r your shooting Corns presage. 1752 Berkeley *Tar-water* Wks. III. 497 The shooting pains that precede a cancer. 1698 P. Manson *Trop. Dis.* xxiii. 354 Among the sympathetic pains [in liver abscess] may be mentioned shooting pains radiating over the chest. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 618 Pain is usually present from the first, it is shooting in character.

4. *Cricket.* (See Shoot *v.* 1 L.)

1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 72 Bowling a wicket down with a shooting ball.

5. Addicted to the sport of shooting.

1891 L. B.WALFORD *Mischief of Monica* xiv. She was expecting guests from the North, 'shooting men'.

Shooting star. [SHOOTING *ppl. a.*; cf. G. *schiessender stern*.]

1. A meteor resembling a star, that darts across the sky. (Cf. FALLING STAR.)

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. iv. 19. 1607 *Lingua* II. vi, The shooting Starres Which in an eye-bright euening seem'd to fall. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 557 Thither came Uriel, gliding ..swift as a shooting Starr In Autumn thwarts the night. 1857 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 152 This instance, the rare one of an *ascending* shooting star. 1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* xi. 151 The November shooting-stars.

attrib. 1886 BALL *Story of Heavens* xviii. (1897) 378 The periodic shooting star shower known as the Leonids.

2. *U.S.* A Western name for the American Cowslip, *Dodecatheon Meadia*.

1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 272 *Dodecatheon Meadia*... In the West called Shooting-Star. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 324/2, I send you..two varieties of Dodecatheon. These 'Shooting Stars', as they are called, are very effective.

Shootist (ʃūˑtist). *slang.* [f. SHOOT *v.* + -IST.] One who shoots game, or who competes in a shooting-match; one skilled in shooting. Chiefly *jocular* or *disparaging*.

1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 657 The man whose rifle brought down the largest amount of game became known as a famous shootist. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* iv. 47 Unfortunately it would not be the shootist and his party who would suffer.

Shoo·tlet. [f. SHOOT *sb.* + -LET.] A small shoot.

1889 *Sunday Mag.* Mar. 208/1 We see the field that was all black or brown become green with little shootlets coming up.

† **Shoo·tress.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SHOOTER + -ESS.] A female shooter. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XI. xli.

Shoove, obs. pa. t. of SHAVE *v.*; obs. f. SHOVE.

Shoovelle, Shoowre, obs. ff. SHOVEL, SOUR.

Shop (ʃɒp), *sb.* Forms: 1 sceoppa, 3 ssoppe, 4–5 schopp, 4–6 schop(p)e, shope, 4–7 shoppe, 5–6 schop, 5–8 shopp, 6 schoop, shoope, 5– shop; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 shapp, 5–6 chope, 6 choipp, 8 shap, 9 chop. [ME. (*c* 1300) *schoppe* (*ssoppe*):—OE. *sceoppa* wk. masc., occurring only in *Agr. Gosp.* Luke xxi. 1 as rendering of *gazophylacium* treasury (of the temple):—prehist.**skuppan-*, cogn. w. OE. *scypen* SHIPPON (:—**skuppinjō*) and OHG. *scopf* masc., porch, vestibule (MHG. *schopf* str. masc., *schopfe* wk. masc., early and dial. mod.G. *schopf* porch, lean-to building, cart-shed, barn, etc.), MLG. *schoppe, schuppe* fem., also *schoppen, schuppen* masc. (adopted in mod.G.) shed. The Teut. word was adopted into OF. as *eschoppe, escope* (mod.F. *échoppe*), a lean-to booth, cobbler's stall.]

1. A house or building where goods are made or prepared for sale and sold.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11222 Þe bowiares ssoppe hii breke & þe bowes nome echon. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cook's T.* 52 He [a prentice] loued bet the Tauerne than the shoppe. 1420 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 21 William Oteley, wich kept a cart & horses for clensyng of the stretys, shuld haue quarterly of euery hall dorre jd., & euery schop ob. 1554 *Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 288 The cordineris choippis. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. i. 23 You are a gouldsmith and haue a lytle plate in your shoppe. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 315 Among the artizans whosoever is the first inventour of any new and ingenious devise is..carried..as it were in triumph from shop to shop. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 318 One man erects a shop, to which all the workmen and all the customers repair. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* lix, One Evening..In that old Potter's Shop I stood alone.

† b. *Banker's shop*: a bank. (Originally, the shop of a goldsmith or other tradesman who practised banking.) *Obs.*

1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 371 It would be..imprudent to give a prodigal son a credit in every banker's shop in London. 1796 [see BANKER² 1 c].

2. A building or room set apart for the sale of merchandize. *To keep shop*: to exercise the calling of a shopkeeper; also *occas.* to take charge of a shop in the shopkeeper's absence. *Shop!* an exclamation used to summon an attendant or shopkeeper.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 189 Marchaundes..Bi-souȝten him in heore schoppes to sullen heore ware. 1435 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 362 A nother comon graund with a draper chope on it. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 108 A yong man..went vnto a fayre; and when he had..sene many shappis & mekull chafir to sell, at be laste he come vnto a shop per ane old man [st]ude. 1575 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 96 Thewe..bought..all maner of merchandise..and kept ane oppin Schoopp for Retaillīng of the same. 1560–70 J. DAVIS in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 63, I have kept the at the gramer skoole a great while, and am minded to have you to keepe the shopp. 1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* I. A 2 b, Keepe thy shoppe, and thy shoppe will keepe thee. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 102 Their Shops are Dens, the Buyer is their Prey. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 405 That Spungy Ball..call'd..in the Shops *Bedeguar*. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 61 He first kept shop at the sign of our Lady of Piety. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. xii. 136 There are one or two other bookseller's shops..where books at least are sold. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, Rob was despatched for a coach, the visitors keeping shop meanwhile. 1898 *Punch* 4 June 255/2 Millionaire (who has been shown into fashionable Artist's studio, and has been kept waiting a few minutes). 'Shoo!'

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1450–1530 *Myrr Our Lady* 139 Sayntе Ambrose sayeth, that this psalme ys..a shoppe full of spyces of the holy gooste. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 63 The shop where Nature gets her art to showe, Where crimson Roses, sleepe in beds of snowe. 1630 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 94 Our England is the very shop of the World, and Magazine of Natures dainties. 1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* III. i. 6 Temptation is the Shop of Experience.

c. The contents of a shop. In quot. *humorously*.

1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xix, A fat Jewess with a jeweller's shop on her fingers.

d. Used to express the status or characteristics of a retail tradesman. (Cf. 8 b.)

1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* I. 125 Middle-class people ..not wholly Pure of the taint of the shop.

3. A building or room set apart and fitted up for the carrying on of some particular kind of handiwork or mechanical industry; a workshop. Now often, a building or room in a factory, appropriated to some particular department or stage of the work carried on there. *The shops*: the workshops of a factory, as distinguished from the counting-house, offices, etc.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 599/10 *Operarium*, a shoppe or a werkehous. 1587 HIGINS *Mirr. Mag., Author's Induct.* iii, I gate mee strayght the Printers shops unto. 1647 A. ROSS *Mystag. Poet.* xviii. (1675) 415 [Vulcanus] his shop was in Lemnos, where..he makes Jupiter's thunder. 1728 RAMSAY *Robt., Richy & Sandy* 68 He bad them..pap Their crazy heads into Tam Tinman's shap. 1869 KOHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 23 Extensive engineering and repairing shops are added to these works. *c* 1888 KIPLING *Among Railway Folk* ii. Wks. 1900 XVII. 177 Four-and-twenty engines in every stage of decomposition stand in one huge shop.

b. spec. *Shop of frames, looms*: a building or apartment fitted with frames or looms and rented by workers in the weaving industries.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 281/1 Other persons are renters of what is termed a 'shop of frames', containing eight or ten frames. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 142 There are in various parts of the town [Paisley] 'shops' of looms.

† c. *fig.* (Chiefly after L. *officina*.) A place where something is produced or elaborated, or where some operation is performed. Often said of the heart, liver, or other internal bodily organs.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* I. ix. (1552) 14 b, The lyuer (which is the bloud shop, wher the bloud is engendred). 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 83 The very worlde itselfe..was predestinate to be a schoolehowse and shopp of all villanyes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 43 Then gan softly feele Her feeble pulse,..Which when he felt to moue, he hoped faire To call backe life to her forsaken shop. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat., Man.* II. v. 320 That the fore-parts, the shops of generation..might be neer the great Artery. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* IV. iii. § 7 The sanctuary was now become..a shop of tyranny.

4. *colloq.* or *slang.* A place of business; the place where one's ordinary occupation is carried on. Also used jocularly for 'place'. *The Shop* (Army slang): the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, At the shop, as we called it (it wasn't a shop, but as splendid an office as any in Cornhill) he was always talking about Vestris and Miss Tree. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xxxiv, Senior Wrangler, indeed; that's at the other shop. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 199 They're goin' up for Sandhurst, or the Shop, in less than a year.

b. *Stage slang.* An engagement, a 'berth'.

1888 J. K. JEROME *On Stage* x. 91 Being just before Christmas, which is the busiest period of the theatrical year, there was no difficulty in getting another shop. 1892 *Cassell's Sat. Jrnl.* 28 Sept. 27/2 In the long summer months,..the artiste is frequently out of a 'shop', as he terms his engagement.

5. Matters pertaining to one's trade or profession; discourse on matters of this kind, esp. as introduced unseasonably into general conversation; chiefly in phrase *to talk shop* (see TALK *v.* 7).

a 1814 *Last Act* I. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 379 Come, Tom, no shop now. 1856 KINGSLEY *Let.* May (D.), Three hours useless (I fear) speechifying and shop. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 924 Nurses are given to talking 'shop'.., and the gruesomeness of their 'shop' makes it and them a terror to their friends.

6. *slang.* †a. A prison. *Obs.* b. The mouth. Hence phr. *Shut your shop*: be silent, hold your tongue.

a. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shop*, a prison.

b. 1858 J. HARTLEY *Budget* 32 (E.D.D.), Th' maister oppened sich a shop 'at aw thowt th' top ov his heead had come off.

7. *Stock Exchange.* The inside influences affecting or controlling a company by the exercise of special knowledge; also a name for the South African gold market.

1889 *Rialto* 23 May (Farmer), The latest name for the South African gold market is the Shop. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Nov. 15/2 The account..has not been barren of business in a good many of the departments of the House, although a good deal was of the speculative kind, engineered by the 'shops'.

8. *Phrases.* a. With sbs.: *Shop and job* (attrib.): ? formed by an association of permanent and temporary workers. *Shop to shop*: carried on from shop to shop in succession.

1891 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 3/3 A specially summoned 'shop and job' delegate meeting of carpenters and joiners was held last night. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 10/1 A general inquiry and shop-to-shop visit.

b. With verbs. †*To break up shop*: to become bankrupt. *To set up shop*: to start a business. *To shut up shop*: to close business premises; hence, to withdraw from or bring to a close any business. *To smell of the shop*: (*a*) to indicate the spirit characteristic of a shopkeeper; (*b*) of remarks or expressions, to savour unduly of the speaker's profession or calling. †*To stick to the shop*: to continue a business (in quot. with ref. to sense 4). *To come to the right* (or *wrong*) *shop*: to apply to the right (or wrong) person in order to obtain something.

c 1570 *Wyfe in Morrelles Skin* 596 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* IV. 204 He set vp his shop with haberdash ware. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemakers Holiday* v. ii. (1610) I 4, We may shut vp our shops, and make holiday. 1650 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Faith* 19 Stars shut up shop, mists pack away, And the Moon mourns. 1659 N. R. *Prov., Eng. Fr.* etc. 58 He that hath not his Craft let him shut up shop. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iv, And to have these Usurers transact my Debts at Coffee-Houses, and Ale-Houses, as if I were going to break-up Shop. 1826 J. BANNISTER *Let.* in *Sotheran's Catal.* No. 12 (1899) I, I shall 'stick to the shop' till I quit the stage of life. 1831 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry Milner* III. xvi. 320 Provided such double dealings did not smell too much of the shop, or indicate too much of the spirit of the common tradesman. 1837 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Drunkard's Death*, And what does he want?..money? meat? drink? He's come to the wrong shop for that, if he does. 1838 — *Nich. Nick.* iv, They have come to the right shop for morals. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. 95 The Royal Society might as well be invited to shut up shop, because Newton made huge discoveries. 1880 PAYN *Confid. Agent* II. 207 To use a vulgar image, it smells of the shop.

c. Adverbial phr. *All over the shop*: scattered about the place, spread out in every direction; following an erratic and undefined course.

1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 July 1/2 Formerly, the authorities associated with our fisheries were 'all over the shop', if a vulgarism of the day be permissible. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 109 To go sailing all over the shop never knowing where they'd fetch the land.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attributive with various notions. (*a*) Forming a part or an adjunct of a shop, as *shop-door, -front, -shutter,* †*-stall, -till* (also attrib. in fig. sense). (*b*) Used in a shop, as *shop-coat, -ledger,* †*-thread,* †*-tool.* (*c*) Sold or kept in a shop (†sometimes = 'officinal'), as *shop-goods,* †*preparation, wares.* (*d*) Performed or carried on in a shop; belonging to or connected with a shop; as †*shop-business, -club,* †*-craft,* †*-shift.* (*e*) Of persons: Belonging to a shop; employed in or about a shop; as *shop-boy, -folk, -girl,* †*-maid, -mate,* †*-merchant, -people, -wife, -woman.*

1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Furrers* iii. 39 Sam the *shop-boy. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* II. 157 No further *shop-business could be transacted that day. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 21 title, An Act to prohibit compulsory Membership of Unregistered *Shop Clubs or Thrift Funds. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, He stands at his door in his gray *shop-coat. 1691 *Siege & Surrender of Mons* III. iii. 25 O Priest-Craft, *Shop-Craft! how do ye Effeminate The Mind of Man. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 85 For a key to William Blases *shoppe door. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 176 Persons who have..taken the oxalic acid, under the appalling mistake of *shopfolk serving it for Epsom salts. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* v, A great many of the tenements had *shop-fronts. 1873 BROWNING *Red. Cott. Nt.-cap* 2 Bound for some shop-front in the Place Vendôme. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* II. vii. (1848) 152 A hint to all haberdashers who have pretty daughters for *shop-girls. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2147/4 Remnants of Cloth and Serges, seeming to be *Shop-Goods. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. i. (1882) II. 281 They know no more of reasoning and arguing than they do of a *shop ledger. 1659 BROME *Eng. Moor* III. iii, The streight spiny *Shop-maid of St. Martins. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 343/1 Two of my *shopmates were boys. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* Iv. 521 The Haberdasher of Hats (the *Shop-Merchant). 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* xi, The pretence that makes the vulgarity of *shop-people. 1723 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 12 Lavender Cotton is but seldom us'd in *Shop-Preparations. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. v. 4 There's a *shop-shift! plague on 'hem. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1853) 257 'Milksop!' roars Harry Fielding, clattering at the timid *shop-shutters. 1876 *Remin. Old Draper* 6, I used to take down the shop shutters and put them up at night. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World.* v. i. § 1. 312 The things performed ..by our common English Souldier, leauied in haste, from following the Cart, or sitting on the *shop-stall. 1635 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 141 Nay, if a Shoomaker me wed, his *Shop-Thread I can spin. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Prin. Theatres*, The sums extracted from the *shop-till. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemakers Holiday* III. i. (1610) D 2 b, Master, ile stay no longer, heres a vennentorie of my *shop tooles. 1661 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 249 All my shopp tooles and instruments belonging to my trade. 1877 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* I. § 12 These mighty gaseous illuminations by which Venice provides for your seeing her *shop-wares by night. 1863 J. THOMSON *Poems, Polish Insurgent* viii, These rich *shopwives who stare. 1753 *World* No. 4. 20 She enquired of the *shop-woman if she knew the gentleman. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 556 Plain men are quite right to do all they can for ragged boys and young shopwomen.

b. Objective and obj. genitive, as *shop-holder, -shutting*; locative, as *shop-bought* adj.

1894 BOTTONE *Electr. Instr.* 26 In *shop-bought instruments glass handles are generally seen. 14.. *Mercers' Oath*

in Blades *Caxton* (1882) 146 Vnto suche tyme as that ye have ben..for *shopholder amytted sworn and entred. 1880 A. M'Kay *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 247 He was a friend to the system of early *shop-shutting.

c. Special comb.: **shop-bill** = *shop-card*; **shop-book**, a shopkeeper's or mechanic's account book; *spec.* (U.S.) see quot. 1856; **shop-breaker**, a burglar who breaks into a shop; **shop-breaking**, the offence committed by a shop-breaker; †**shop-bulk** [BULK *sb.*²], a shop-front; **shop-card**, a written or printed advertisement of the contents of a shop; †**shop-cloth**, a cloth laid upon the boards of a butcher's stall; †**shop-conscience**, a venal conscience; †**shop-divine** *nonce-wd.*, a divine who keeps a stock of approved spiritual medicines; †**shop dust**, the refuse of a shop; †**shop-fellow**, an intimate; †**shop-light**, ? a fan-light, a window giving entrance to light from the top of a room or building; **shop-like** *a.*, †(*a*) venal, meretricious; (*b*) resembling a shop; **shop-list** = *shop-card*; †**shop-magistral** = *shop-medicine*; **shop-mark**, a private mark placed by a dealer upon his goods; †**shop-medicine**, an officinal medicine; †**shop-note**, a credit note exchangeable for goods at a shop; †**shop-pad** [PAD *sb.*² 3], a thief who steals from a shop; †**shop-price**, a wage paid to a permanently engaged worker in a factory or workshop; †**shop-purger**, see *shop-medicine*; †**shop-rid** *a.* [after *bed-rid*], worn out by lying in a shop; †**shop-slop**, used contemptuously for *shop-medicine*; **shop-soiled** *a.*, depreciated in value and appearance by being exposed for sale in a shop; **shop-talk**, see sense 5; **shop-thief**, † (*a*) a dealer who carries on his business dishonestly; (*b*) a thief who steals from a shop; **shop-ticket** = *shop-note*; **shop-walker**, an assistant exercising general supervision over a department of a shop; an attendant who directs customers to that part of the premises where the goods they wish to inspect or purchase are to be found; **shop-worn** *a.* = *shop-soiled*, also *fig.* See also SHOP-BOARD, etc.

1780 *Mirror* No. 89 Much of the employment a shop-keeper gets, is owing to the attraction of a happy-fancied sign, advertisement, or *shop-bill. 1890 *N. & Q.* Ser. VII. IX. 432 The late Mr. Anderson..had collected a great number of engraved shop-bills as specimens of the engraver's art. 1609–10 *Act 7 Jas. I*, c. 12 § 1 No Tradesman..shall.. be allowed..to give his *Shoppbooke in Evidence in any Accion for any Money due for Wares [etc.]. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1807) II. 251 My plumber has set me up a cistern, and his shop-book being burnt, he has no means of bringing in the charge. 1856 BOUVIER *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6), *Shop Book*, a book in which a merchant, mechanic, or other person, makes original entries of goods sold or work done. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 424 *Directarii* ..night-theeues: *shopbreakers: robbers by night. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 5/5 They found wounds upon his body corresponding with the blows delivered upon the shop breaker. 1906 *Ibid.* 23 Jan. 6/2 A charge of *shop-breaking. 1586 LUPTON *1000 Notable Things* (1675) 288 Dr. Butler..went close to the *shopbulks to keep himself drie. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 258/1 A song or sonnet on an upholsterer's *shop card. 1501 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 60 No. 4 b, Attachiatus est per xiiii pecias beff et mete precii xvii *d.* et 1 *shopcloth in custodia servientis. 1683 DRYDEN *Dk. Guise* I. i, *Shop-Consciences, of Proof against an Oath. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. (1673) 22 Some doubt there is that his *Shop-Divines have not the right Composition of that Medicine. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* A 4 b, Greedinesse..busies himselfe..in syuing of Muck-hills and *shop-dust. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* To Rdr. A 4, A good companion and a *shopfellowe. 1631 A. TOWNSHEND *Alb. Tri.* Poems & Masks (1912) 65 Is not your studdy backward? with a *shop-light in it, where one can see nothing but the skye? 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* (1640) 92 Some love any Strumpet (be shee never so *shoplike, or meritorious) in good clothes. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* I. 222 A church is built N. and S. merely for the sake of showing itself well, shoplike, from the street. 1780 *Mirror* No. 89, I..am resolved to bestow more than common pains in furnishing out as elegant a *shop-list as possible. 1665 NEDHAM *Med. Medicina* 312 Treacle-water, a few Syrups, and 1 or 2 *Shop-Magistrals. 1592 *Act* 35 *Eliz.* c. 10 § 1 That eche Weaver should weave his *Shopmarke in eche Dozen. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Pop. Tales, Contrast* Tales 1832 V. 120 His sisters unpacked them..to set shop-marks upon each article. 1756 LAW *Lett. Important Subj.* 170 If your physician be for your purpose, he will not load you with *shop-medicines. 1740 W. DOUGLASS *Disc.* 23 The Shopkeepers giving a great Advance in Consideration of a very long Credit, and to be drawn out in *Shop Notes. 1705 DUNTON *Life & Errors* (1818) I. vii. 261, I verily think, without restitution, such *shop-pads cannot be saved. 1838 in *Rep. Comm. Hand-loom Weavers* IV. (1840) 334 The few under-journeymen who..receive from them the full *shop-price for their labour. 1665 NEDHAM *Med. Medicina* 89 Nor is it thus only with the *Shop-purgers, but even by the ordinary Diet-Drinks used in Families. *c* 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* V. i, May their false lights..discover presses, holes, stains, and oldness in their Stuffs, and make them *shop-rid. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 267 Swallowing Bolus upon Bolus, together with a Scavengers Cart full of all their other *Shop-slops. 1898 *Cycling* II. In the fall of the year 'shop-soiled' machines are often to be bought for a couple of pounds or so less than at the beginning of the season. 1881 *Scribner's Monthly* XXII. 864/2 The continual *shop-talk of three passengers opposite. 1692 T. WATSON *Body Divin.* 377 The *Shop-Thief, he steals in selling [etc.]. 1913 *Everyman* 22 Feb. 582/2 The spies and detectives..watch not only for the shop-thief but seek to catch the poor assistant tripping. 1867 *Rep. Paris Univ. Exhib.* (1868) VI. 272 Are there any sources of profit besides the annual dividend? e. g. by *shop tickets or other advantages of a similar kind. 1861 SALA *Dutch Pict.* XV. 235 A sort of *shop-walker, whose duty it was to pace the galleries. 1896 WELLS *Wheels of Chance* ii. 13 The shop-walker brings up parallel to the counter. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 168 One can get *shop-worn kings for less. 1909 VACHELL *Paladin* 112 Peace with honour..has become slightly shop-worn.

Shop (ʃɒp), *v.* [f. SHOP *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To shut up (a person), to imprison. Of an informer, evidence, etc.: To cause to be imprisoned, to 'get (a person) into trouble'. Also with *up*. Now only *slang* or *dial.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 52 b, [They] onely shopped vp some of the Catholikes within their owne house. 1698 [? WINSTANLEY] *Four for a Penny* 8 A main part of his Office [a bum-bailiff's] is to swear and bluster at their trembling Prisoners, and cry, Confound us, why do we wait? Let's Shop him! 1701 SEDLEY *Grumbler* III. i, He talks like a fool, and was presently shopp'd up. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 11 June (1815) 182 He did not at all doubt but that they would find matter enough to shop the evidence himself before the next jail-delivery. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xvi, It was Bartlemy time when I was shopped. 1899 *Tit-Bits* 20 May 150/1 [He] volunteered for a fiver to 'shop' his pals. *refl.* 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* B viij, Thei had likewise shopt vp themselfes in y^e^ highest of their house.

†**2.** To instal in a shop as a merchant. *nonce-use.*

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* X. XX, Where Prideis coacht, Fraud shopt and Taverns drown the Soul.

3. To bring or take (an article) to a shop; to expose for sale in a shop.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 102/2 Shop the Candles, is to hang them by pounds, dozens, two or three on the two ends of a strong staff, and so a Man..brings them to the place where they are to be. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xviii. 206 When our Goods are in a Readiness, we send them to the accustomed Place to be shopt. 1890 *Charity Organis. Rev.* Jan. 14, I ask my man whether he will have.. 2s., when he 'shops' the boots [etc.].

4. *intr.* To visit a shop or shops for the purpose of making purchases, or examining the contents.

1764 ZEAL *Seasonable Alarm London* 13 *note*, Ladies are said to go a Shoping, when, in the Forenoon, sick of themselves, they order the Coach, and driving from Shop to Shop [etc.]. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 265 Venus and all the little loves, A shopping went for ring and gloves. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* VI. iv, I thought Joan was going with you, and that you would be shopping. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xxxii. (ed. 3) 290 Shopping, or making pretence to shop.

5. *trans.* To give (a person) a situation, to give (a person) work.

1855 [BURN] *Autobiog. Beggar-boy* 119, I travelled 1400 miles upon this occasion ere I could obtain work. At last I got shopped in Sherborne, in Dorsetshire. 1867 *All Year Round* 13 July 56/1 There are many men who would regard themselves as ingrates, were they not to celebrate their being 'shopped', after having been out of collar, by a 'spree'.

Shop, obs. form of CHOP *v.*[1]

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm. Edin.* i B 5, There are verie few that haue their heart free when the Lord shoppeth.

Sho·p-board. [f. SHOP *sb.* + BOARD *sb.*[1]]

1. A counter or table upon which a tradesman's business is transacted or upon which his goods are exposed for sale.

1524–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 328 Paid for a shopp borde in partriches shopp in Estchepe, vj s viij d. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. iii. 345 When all these bookes of Exhortations and Catechismes, lie moulding on thy shop-board. 1705 DUNTON *Life & Errors* (1818) I. vi. 72 He may starve behind his Shop-board, for want of subsistence. 1861 SALA *Dutch Pict.* XXI. 233 On every merchant's shopboard similar heaps..are tumbling out of similar sacks.

2. A table or raised platform upon which tailors sit when sewing.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 412 One seeing all sortes of his shreddes, would thinke he had robd a taylors shop boord. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemaker's Holiday* IV. ii. (1610) G 1 b, Enter Hodge at his shop boord, Rafe, Firke, Hans, and a boy at worke. 1762 FOOTE *Orators* II. (1780) 46 One day as I was sitting cross-legged on my shop-board,..I felt the spirit within me moving. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T., Toll-gatherer's Day*, A dashingly dressed gentleman..from a tailor's shop-board.

3. *attrib.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Puritan* iii, With Shop-board Breeding and Intrusion.

Shopful (ʃɒpful). [See -FUL.] As much or as many as a shop will hold.

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 231, I could wish you would bring me a shopfull. 1902 *Spectator* 12 Oct. 510/2 One 'shopful' of customers may complete their purchases..before another is admitted.

‖ **Shophar** (ʃōʊfäɪ). *Jewish ritual.* Also **shofar.** [Heb. שׁוֹפָר *shōphār.*] An ancient Hebrew musical instrument usually made of a curved ram's horn, still used in Jewish religious services.

1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 292 The Shophar is..the only Hebrew instrument which has been preserved to the present day in the religious services of the Jews. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 May 11/1 The trumpet—or shophar, as it is technically called—is used in the Jewish ritual on certain festivals 'to call the hearers to repentance'. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. vii, The minister refused to blow the Shofar three minutes too early.

Sho·pkeeper. [f. SHOP *sb.* + KEEPER.]

1. One who carries on business in a shop.

1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Schoppe kepar. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of News* I. iii. 44, I say 'tis nobly done, to cherish Shopkeepers, And pay their Bills, without examining thus. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 142 A shopkeeper will never thrive who despises small profits. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revis.* 3 An elderly London shop-keeper.

b. *A nation of shop-keepers*: applied disparagingly to a nation whose chief interest and concern lies in commerce (now often, to England).

Cf. quots. 1766, 1769 s.v. SHOPKEEPING *a.*

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. vii. (1828) III. 41 To found a great empire for the sole purpose of raising up a people of customers, may at first sight appear a project fit only for a nation of shopkeepers.

c. *attrib.*

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. vii. (1828) III. 43 A clause in the famous act of navigation established this truly shop-keeper proposal into a law.

2. *slang.* An article that has remained long in the shop unsold.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cccviii, Blunt Reason, as an vseless Toole they give; Old Shopkeeper, with rusted Conscience! 1764 *Low Life* 76 Petty Booksellers..looking out their imperfect and antient Shopkeepers, that they may expose them to Sale.

Hence **Sho·pkeeperess** *nonce-wd.*, a female shopkeeper. **Sho·pkeeperish** *a.*, having the nature of a shopkeeper. **Sho·pkeeperism,** the characteristics of shopkeepers as a class. **Sho·pkeepery,** the body of shopkeepers.

1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* III. 55 The whole farmerage and shopkeepery of the place. 1843 CARLYLE *Frnl.* in Froude *Life Lond.* (1884) I. 331 The boundless element of twaddle, dilettantism, shopkeeperism. 1858 *Chamb. Frnl.* X. 261 No tight, prim, pale, eager shopkeeperesses. 1858 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 120 Extremely shopkeeperish and merchantish.

Sho·pkeeping, *sb.* The keeping of a shop, the business of a shopkeeper.

1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 32 Little Skill, Art or Mystery, shall a man learne in Shop-keeping. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 374 2 If naturalized foreigners should set up shopkeeping. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. XXXII. IV. 268 He advised Cyrus..to enforce upon them..habits of playing on the harp and shopkeeping. 1912 *19th Cent.* Jan. 61 His Majesty will make his rule in India a real government and not shop-keeping on the largest scale.

Sho·pkeeping, *a.* [f. SHOP *sb.* + *keeping* pr. pple. of KEEP *v.*] Having the characteristics of a shop-keeper; pertaining to a shopkeeper's business.

1622 ROWLANDS *Good N. & Bad N.* 7 Her worship highly scorn'd shop-keeping trade. 1766 J. TUCKER *Four Tracts* III. (1774) 132 A Shop-keeper will never get the more Custom by beating his Customers: and what is true of a Shop-keeper, is true of a Shop-keeping Nation. 1769 FRANKLIN *Let.* 27 Apr., Wks. 1838 VII. 441 This handicraft, shopkeeping state will, for its own sake, learn to behave more civilly to its customers. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Oct. 461/2 Nothing less suited than they are to the shopkeeping mind can be imagined.

Sho·pless, *a.* [-LESS.] Destitute of shops.

1888 DRUMMOND *Trop. Africa* 5 This shopless..land.

Sho·plet. [-LET.] A little shop.

1872 S. BUTLER *Erewhon* vii. 54 Even on this ledge of human society there was a stunted growth of shoplets.

†**Shop-lift,** *sb. Obs.* [f. SHOP *sb.* + LIFT *sb.*[2] (sense 6).] = SHOPLIFTER.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 106 *Of the Shop lift.* She is commonly well clad. *Ibid.* 191 The tenth is a Shoplift that carries a Bob, When he ranges the City the Shops for to rob. 1692 *Scarronides* II. 1 How Grecian Shop-lifts.. Brake open honest Trojans doors. 1762 BRIDGES *Hom. Trav.* I. (1797) 297 Thus shoplifts see their brothers taken.

Sho·plifter. [f. SHOP *sb.* + LIFTER.] A person who steals from a shop, a shop-thief.

1680 [KIRKMAN] *Eng. Rogue* IV. xvii. 232 Towards Night these Houses are throng'd with People of all sorts..Shoplifters, Foilers, Bulkers. 1770 BARETTI *Frnl. Lond. to Genoa* II. XXXIV. 2 A shop-lifter was once hang'd in England. 1881 A. LANG *Library* 47 The papers call lady shoplifters 'Kleptomaniacs'.

Sho·plifting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOP *sb.* + LIFTING *vbl. sb.*] The action of stealing from a shop.

1698 *Act* 10 *Will. III*, c. 22 Preamble, The Crime of stealing Goods privately out of Shops and Warehouses, commonly called Shop-lifting. 1890 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* (1877) III. 136 A lady was convicted for shop-lifting.

Shopman (ʃɒpmĕn). [f. SHOP *sb.* + MAN *sb.*]

1. The owner of a shop. Now *rare.*

1591 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 74 Leaden Waits ar and have been used time out of mynd by all Shoppmen and Sellers of smaller Wares. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* IV. § 76 *note*, He [the consumer] pays, probably, an intermediate ship-owner, velvet merchant, and shopman. 1888 MEREDITH *Stave of Roving Tim* VI, The shopman piles a heap While I perhaps am fasting.

2. An assistant in a shop.

1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 15 P 2 My wife, though she could be of as much use as a shopman to me, if she would put her hand to it, is now only in my way. 1828 *Ann. Reg.* 370/2 William Noble, shopman with Mr. Rymer, Portsburgh, knew the prisoner Burke. 1892 [W. H. WHITE] *Mark Rutherford's Delive.* (ed. 5) 175 A shopman was at the counter. *Comb.* 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 193 Home I returned,..laden..with huge packages,..papered and packthreaded in shopmanlike style.

Shopocracy (ʃɒpɒ·krăsi). [f. SHOP *sb.*: see -CRACY.] Shopkeepers as a class aspiring to social importance; a wealthy or influential body of shopkeepers. So **Shopocrat** (ʃɒpŏkrăt) [-CRAT], a member of the shopocracy; also *attrib.*

1832 *Poor Man's Guardian* 9 June 429 'The Shopocracy' in the neighbourhood..were somewhat alarmed. *Ibid.* 29 Dec. 658/2 A shopocrat Parliament. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.*

L. 63 We have left behind the regions of the great merchants, and of the shopocrats. 1881 [see TERRITORIALISM 1].

Shopper (ʃǫ·pəɹ). [f. SHOP *v.* + -ER 1.] One who frequents a shop or shops for the purpose of inspecting or buying goods.

1862 *Guardian* 3 Sept. 847/2 It [Paris] is a city not only of pleasure seekers, but of keen and indefatigable shoppers. 1910 ANNIE THORNTON *Leaves Afghan Scrapbk.* 170 This was [Queen] Ulya Hazrat's messenger and chief shopper.

Shoppin, obs. f. CHOPINE.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 31 Some Venetian Ladies, must have their Shoppins to stand on.

Shoppiness (ʃǫ·pinés). [f. SHOPPY *a.* + -NESS.] 1. Tendency to talk 'shop'.

1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 492 The followers of literature should be less tainted with the vice of 'shoppiness' than the members of any other profession.

2. Abundance of shops.

1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xvi. 180 So delighted with Torquay, in its increased towniness and shoppiness.

Shopping (ʃǫ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOP *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of visiting a shop or shops for the purpose of making purchases or of examining the goods exposed for sale.

1764, 1799 (see SHOP *v.* 5). 1782 CHARL. BURNEY in *Mme. D'Arblay's Early Diary* (1889) II. 300 They spent at one shopping £20 in Gauzes two or three years ago! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, The delightful round of visits and shopping which forms the amusement, or the profession as you may call it, of the rich London lady. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 311 They also had done a little shopping.

attrib. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 249 She dressed herself to start upon a fashionable shopping-tour. 1885 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 184 He [the courier] invariably attended the ladies in their shopping expeditions.

Shoppish (ʃǫ·piʃ), *a.* [SHOP *sb.* + -ISH.] Characteristic of persons connected with a shop; also = SHOPPY *a.* 1.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 122 To use a shoppish simile. 1860 *Leader* 25 July, This piece of revenge was about as shoppish an act as ever any shopkeeper..could be capable of.

Hence **Sho·ppishness,** professionalism.

1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXV. 533 His profession stamped upon every movement, yet without the least nautical assumption or 'shoppishness'.

Sho·ppism. *nonce-wd.* [f. SHOP *sb.* + -ISM.] 'Shoppy' talk and behaviour; professionalism.

1872 J. H. NEWMAN in W. Ward *Life* (1912) II. 387, I have a great dislike of this shoppism personally.

Shoppy (ʃǫ·pi), *a.* [f. SHOP *sb.* + -Y 1.] 1. Of the nature of 'shop' or professional concerns or conversation.

1840 HALIBURTON *Letter Bag* i. 4 Still my attention was riveted (I fear that word is shoppy). 1900 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 222 A novel of clerical life written by a clergyman is apt to be what is vulgarly called shoppy.

2. Characterized by having a number of shops, forming a centre for business.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 292/1 Thoroughfares which are well-frequented, but which..are not so 'shoppy' as others. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Oct. 1/2 The innumerable shades of colour in all the drapers' windows make the 'shoppy' part of town more fascinating than usual.

3. Belonging to retail trade.

1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* ii, I don't like shoppy people. 1890 HATTON *By order of Czar* (1891) 388 Critics in the press..who characterize both his manner and his work [paintings] as commercial and shoppy.

Shop-window.

1. A window of a shop, in which goods are displayed for sale.

c 1447–8 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 85 Yn the whiche walle buth diverse shoppez wyndowes of olde tyme hadde. 1531–2 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 359 For xvj staples to the shope windowes ij s viij d. 1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 296 All Sorts of Shopp Windows that are made for ornament or beautie. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* vi, I saw the prettiest hat you can imagine, in a shop-window. 1863 J. MACGREGOR in Lady Fr. Balfour *Life* (1912) 132 As plainly as you see those men in some shop-windows in Glasgow go through the mysteries of hat-making.

b. *transf.* In the phrases: *To open* or *shut (one's) shop-window,* to begin or close the business of the day; also, to begin or give up business.

1477 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 304 Whereupon fell and folowed greate troubles and enemitie: for some were disfraunchised, some imprysoned, some theire shop windows shutt downe. 1529 *Barber-Surg. Draft Rules* § 13 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) 254 That no persone presume to opyn his Shoppe wyndowes before he hath presented hymself to & before the Maysters or Gouerners of the sayde Mystere for the tyme beyng. 1646–7 *Nottingham Rec.* V. 248 The shopp windowes of all persons that trade in this Towne whoe are not sworn burgesses shalbee forthwith shutt vpp. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 80 It never makes him sell his land, nor shut Shop-windows up.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A display of anything, resembling the display of goods by a tradesman, intended to catch the attention.

1905 *Times Lit Suppl.* 31 Mar., This..may surprise some who have seen the shop-window of American education, and have not looked behind it.

†**Sho·rage.** *Obs.* Also (in Dicts.) **shoreage.** [f. SHORE *sb.*1 + -AGE. (Perh. formed by Cotgrave as a rendering of *rivage.*)] (See quot. 1611.)

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Droict, Droict de Rivage,* Shorage, or Boatage; the Custome, or Toll for wine, or other wares, put vpon, or brought from, the water, by boats. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Shorage,* a Duty paid for Goods brought on Shore. [So in later Dicts.]

Shorde, obs. form of SWORD.

Shore (ʃōəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 4–7 **schore,** 5 **schor,** 5–7 *Sc.* **schoir,** 6 **shawre,** *Sc.* **schoyr,** 6–7 **shoare,** *Sc.* **shoir,** 6–8 **shoar,** (7 **shoore**), 5– **shore.** [ME. *schore* a. or cogn. w. MLG. *schore, schare* shore, late MDu. *schore, schor,* also *schaer* shore, sea-marsh, mod.Du. *schoor* masc., *schor, schorre* fem., land washed by the sea, sea-marsh.

Prob. f. the root of SHEAR *v.*, but the etymological notion is not easy to determine; it may perh. be 'division' (between land and water). The OE. *scoren clif* 'shorn cliff', precipice, commonly cited as illustrative of the etymology, seems hardly relevant, as the LG. and Du. equivalents of *shore* are applied only to low-lying shores.]

1. The land bordering on the sea or a large lake or river. Often in a restricted sense more or less coinciding with the legal definition (see b).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 230 On wyþer half water com doun þe schore. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2083 Brokez byled, & breke, bi bonkkez aboute, Schyre schaterande on schorez. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 797 Thai saylyt furth by part off Ingland schor. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxvi. 97 Where as the sayd mast and Blanchardyn vpon it was cast of the wawes vnto the shores. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 7 At the schoyr, vndir a gresy bank, Thair navy can thai ankir fast and hank. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xxvii. 39 They spied a certaine creeke that had a shore [Vulg. *littus*]. 1591 SPENSER *Vis. Worlds Vanitie* 29 Beside the fruitfull shore of muddie Nile. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lx. 1 Like as the waues towards the pibled shore. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. ii. 101 The troubled Tyber chafing with her Shores. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* VI. 272 Canute..caus'd his Royal Seat to be set on the shoar, while the Tide was coming in. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3955/4 A Piece of Ground of about 40 Acres in Fulham Parish, and lies upon a clean Gravelly Shore. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 349 The sharp promontories and rocky shores of Greece. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxv, As he entered the little bay, on the shore and almost on the beach of which the ruins are situated. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* ii. Wks. (Bohn) II. 14 There lay the green shore of Ireland, like some coast of plenty. 1876 *Nature* 7 Dec. 128/1 On the Swiss shore of the Rhine.

b. In *Law* usually defined as the tract lying between ordinary high and low water mark. But see quots.

1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 221, I then landed at the shore, which in definition containeth those grounds which extend from the lowest Ebb to the highest Flood. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. iv. (1787) 12 The shore is that ground that is between the ordinary high-water and low-water mark. This doth *primâ facie* and of common right belong to the king. *Ibid.* I. vi. 25 There seem to be three sorts of shoars, or *littora marina,* according to the various tides, viz. (1st.) The high spring tides...(2d.) The spring tides...(3d.) Ordinary tides or nepe tides. 1856 BOUVIER *Amer. Law Dict.* (ed. 6) s. v., Land on the side of the sea, a lake, or a river, is called the shore. Strictly speaking, however, when the water does not ebb and flow, in a river, there is no shore.

c. In vague or rhetorical use (*sing.* or *pl.*): A sea-coast or the country which it bounds.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 164 My best Traine I haue from your Sicilian Shores dismiss'd. 1691 TATE *Petty's Pol. Anat.* Ded., You have since accompanied our Royal Master to other Shores. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Univ. Geog.* II. 546 Their religion seems to forbid them [*sc.* Hindoos] to quit their own shores. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. lxxxvi. ii, The Scian and the Teian muse,..Have found the fame your shores refuse. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 97 Now on a distant shore, no kind mortality near him.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V,* IV. i. 282 The Tyde of Pompe, That beates vpon the high shore of this World. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 266, I haue labour'd for the poore Gentleman, to the extremest shore of my modestie. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* Introd. *Relig.* (1651) 317 But before I lanch from the shoars, let me resolve a main question which may be cast in my way. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 709 Thrice welcome Death! That..lands us safe On the long-wish'd for Shore. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 28 Deposited upon the silent shore Of memory. 1871 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 10 The full flood on which the race is borne to new shores.

†e. *Common shore*: app. = 'shore' simply. (Cf. SHORE *sb.*4) *Obs.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 152 As one caried in a small low vessell him selfe verie nie the common shore, not much vnlike the fisher men of Rye [etc.].

f. *dial.* The edge of a ditch.

1602 *Peramb. Great Park of Fastern* in *Wilts. Gloss.*, A Mearstone lyinge within the Shoore of the Dyche. 1879 JEFFERIES *Amateur Poacher* (1903) 235 A large hawthorne bush growing on the 'shore' of the ditch.

2. In prepositional phrases without article, as *on shore,* on the shore, ashore, on land (indicating either position or direction); *in shore,* near or nearer to the shore (from the water).

In the first quot. *upon shore* seems to be used for 'on the ground'.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2332 The habel heldet hym fro, & on his ax rested, Sette þe schaft vpon schore, & to þe scharp lened. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii, [We] returned on shore certaine vnfit eaters. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 153 If the winde blow any way from shore. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. iii. 66 One foote in Sea, and one on shore. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xiii. 48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore. — *Acts* xxvii. 40 They..made toward shore. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 23 Resolving to swim on Shore as soon as it was dark. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xi. 173 Part of the crew was sent on shore for exercise. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxxviii, Steer in shore of them.

3. *Sc.* A part of the sea-shore built up as a place for lading and landing; a landing-place.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 292 Item, to the said James, for kepin of the schoir of Dunde in the custumez, v li. 1603 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 104 The grete decay of thair shoir and heavin upon the watter of Forthe. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/1 Radum et stationem de Leyth, cum propugnaculis (the peiris, schoiris and bulwarkis) ejusdem. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 151 The..peir and shore of Leith. 1836 *Brit. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* II. 737/2 Any one who chose to go to the shore, meaning thereby the harbour of Crail.

b. *local.* A place at the side of a river built for a special purpose (see quot.).

1649 W. G. *Surv. Newcastle* 28 There is many Ballist shoares made below the water, on both sides of the river. *Ibid.* 29 Below East is many shores built for casting of Ballist out of Ships.

4. = *Shore wainscot*: see 5 b.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 87 The Shore (*Leucania littoralis,* Stephens) appears on the sea coast.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shore-cliff, -fishing, -ice, -sands, -water*; **shore-anchor** (see quot.); **shore-boat,** a small boat plying near the shore, or between the shore and large vessels farther out; †**shore-creeper,** one who sails close in to shore; **shore-due** *Sc.,* a toll paid for making use of a 'shore' or port; a harbour-due; **shore-end,** †(*a*) the end of a 'shore' or landing-place; (*b*) that end of a rope, net, etc., which is on the shore or nearest the shore; **shore-fast** *Naut.* (see quot.); **shore-fowler, -fowling** = *shore-shooter, -shooting*; **shore-grape** = SEA-GRAPE 4; **shore grass,** a grass, or grass-like plant, growing on the shore; *spec.* = *shore-weed*; **shore-gun,** a gun for shore-shooting; **shore-gunner, -gunning** = *shore-shooter, -shooting*; **shore-land,** land bordering on a shore; **shore-levy** *Sc.,* a duty on ships entering a harbour; **shore-line,** (*a*) the line where shore and water meet; (*b*) = *shore-rope*; † **shore-mail** *Sc.* = *shore-due* (see MAIL *sb.*2); **shore-master** *Sc.,* a harbour-master; **shore-oil,** the finest kind of cod-liver oil (see quot.); **shore-popper,** used contemptuously for *shore-shooter*; **shore-reef** = *fringing reef*: see FRINGING *ppl. a.*; **shore-rope,** a rope connecting a net with the shore; **shore-shooter,** one who shoots birds on the shore; **shore-shooting,** the sport of shooting birds on the shore (as distinguished from punt-shooting); † **shore-silver** *Sc.* = *shore-due*; **shore-weed,** a weed growing on the shore; spec. *Littorella lacustris*; **shore-whaling,** whale-fishing near the shore in open boats.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.,* **Shore-anchor,* that which lies between the shore and the ship when moored. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xi, No *shore-boat was near. 1886 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* ix, The last man or two came off in a shore-boat. 1838 LONGF. *Beowulf's Exped. Heort* 67 So that the sailors The land saw, The *shore-cliffs [*Beowulf* 222 brimcliffu] shining. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1013 The long shore-cliff's windy walls. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 29 Discrediting our countrymen for *shorecreepers, like these Colchester oystermen. 1692 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 565 *Shoar dewes at Leith 7,700 marks. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1224/1 At the blacke *shore end, before the said floud, no bote could passe further than the shore end. 1865 BERTRAM *Harvest of Sea* 160 The shore-end [of the cord] is generally anchored to a stone. 1900 *Law Rep.* App. Cases 415 At the point where the water is shallow, the shore-end of the net is generally a good way out, perhaps 300 to 400 yards. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.,* **Shore-fast,* a hawser carried out to secure a vessel to a quay, mole, or anchor buried on shore. 1865 WILCOCKS *Sea-Fisherman* 20 *Shore Fishing.—Fishing from shore with rod and line from the following spots. 1888 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler in Irel.* 348 *Shore-fowlers. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 263 They had gone down to *shore-fowling the night before. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xi, The *Shore-grapes with their green bunches of fruit. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.,* **Shore-grass,* or Shore-weed. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 796/1 Covered with the long pendent shore-grass. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 262 He should go and get Davy's *shore-gun. 1859 FOLKARD *Wild-Fowler* liv. 285 Punters have, generally, a great antipathy to *shore-gunners. *Ibid.* 287 He intended having a night's punting at Ted's expense, by way of change from *shore-gunning. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. vi. 56 The absence of *shore or land ice to the south in Baffin's Bay. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columbiad* II. 178 Migrant tribes these fruitful *shorelands hail. 1862 R. H. STORY *Life R. Story* iii. 61 The hill lying behind the level shorelands of Rosneath. 1593 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 406 The..supplicatioun ..for licence to haue ane impoist and *schoir leiwe within thair harbery..of all schippis arryueand to and fra the samyn. 1852 HENFREY *Veget. Europe* 187 The *shore-line along the edge of the hilly ridges. 1866 LOWELL *Seward-Johnson Reaction* Writ. 1090 V. 299 The levels and shore-lines of politics are no more stationary than those of continents. 1900 *Law Rep.* App. Cas. 409 When the coble has paid out the net in the usual way, it curves down the stream, and the Bermoney boat begins to haul down the shore-line. The man moves the boat down hand over hand. In that way the shore-rope is taken down. 1603 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 104 Tua penneis of *schoir maill [to be paid]. 1619 in *Compt Bk. D. Wedderburne,* etc. (S.H.S.) 302 Androw painter *schoir maister. 1833 CUNNINGHAM *Lives Painters* VI. 21 David Allan..was born ..at Alloa,..where his father held the situation of shore-master. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 407 In the manufacture of the so-called *shore oil, the only variety usually employed in medicine, the fish caught near land are brought at once to the shore, and the oil is obtained from the fresh livers. 1826 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 291 Spoiled by

some rascally *shore popper. 1886 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Shooting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 225 A shore-shooter—or 'shore-popper', as he is rather contemptuously called by the punter. 1842 DARWIN *Coral Reefs* iii. 51 Fringing reefs, or, as they have been called by some voyagers, *shore reefs. 1900 *Shore-rope (see *shore-line*). 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 613 The Ancients report of a Tree, by the Persian Sea, vpon the *Shore-Sands, which is nourished with the Salt-Water. 1880 'WILDFOWLER' *Mod. Wildfowling* 422 It must not be imagined that the *shore shooter bags only shore birds. 1876 — *Shooting & Fishing Trips* II. 259 *Shore-shooting, Fresh-water Angling, and Sea-fishing near Yarmouth. 1589 in *Extracts Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 299 Sic dewty of *schoir syluer sall..be vplifted att thair particular poirttis of sic gudes as salbe..transported furth thairof. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xiii. 134 They are still found in groups..disporting in the leads and *shore-water. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 195 *Littorella*..Plantain *Shoreweed. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 60 From amid shore-weeds [*ex alga*]. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* 104 What is called *shore-whaling, in contradistinction to deep sea-fishing.

b. with names of animals: **shore-beetle**, a beetle of the family *Pimeliidæ*; **shore-bird**, a bird that frequents the sea-shore or estuaries; *spec.* the sand-martin, *Cotile riparia*; **shore-crab**, the common small crab, *Carcinus mænas*; **shore finch** (see quot.); **shore-fish**, a general name for fish whose habitat is near the shore; **shore-hopper, -jumper**, a small crustacean of the genus *Orchestia*; **shore lark**, *Otocorys* (formerly *Alauda*) *alpestris*; **shore pipit**, the rock pipit, *Anthus obscurus*; **shore sandpiper**, the ruff, *Machetes pugnax*; **shore snipe**, (*a*) the common sandpiper, *Totanus hypoleucus* (Swainson *Names of Birds*); (*b*) *U.S.* the grey plover, *Squatarola helvetica*; **shore swallow**, the sand-martin, *Cotile riparia*; **shore wainscot**, a night-moth, *Leucania littoralis*, found among sandhills.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 195 Burrowing *Shore-Beetles (Pimeliidæ). *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ornith.* (1676) 156 *Hirundo riparia* Aldrov. The Sand-Martin or *Shore-bird. 1888 [see *shore-snipe*]. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 12 *Carcinus Mænas*. Common *Shore-Crab. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 184 The *Shore Finches (*Ammodromus*) are likewise included in the family of Bunting Finches. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) II. 243 [The raven] eats *shore-fish, and shell-fish. 1880 GÜNTHER *Study of Fishes* xix. 260 The Shore-fishes of the extremity of Africa. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 623 The *Shore-hopper (*Orchestia littorea*) is also plentiful on sandy coasts. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 48 *Orchestia littorea*. The common *Shore-Jumper. 1771 J. R. FORSTER *Catal. Anim. N. Amer.* 12 *Shore Lark. *Alauda alpestris*. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 512 The Shore-Lark is in Europe a native of only the extreme north. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 194 *Anthus aquaticus*. The *Shore Pipit. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 481 *Shore Sandpiper. *Tringa Littorea*. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 191 *note*, The term 'shore-birds' ..means such species as the curlews, plovers, sandpipers, &c.' ..On Long Island, and in its vicinity, 'bay snipe' and '*shore snipe'. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* II. 111 The Mountain or *Shore Swallows (*Cotyle*). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 263 The *Shore Wainscot (*Leucania littoralis*).

†**Shore,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 schor, schoyr(e, schoire, 4–6 schore, schoir, (7 showre). [Related to SHORE *v.*[2]] Menace, threatening.

c 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 621 The fif..Com vith gret schoyr and mannasyng. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. *Wolf & Lamb* vi, Swa thy father before Held me at bait, baith with boist and schore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. Prol. 105 Stand at defens, and schrenk nocht for a schore. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 10 This Victoryn thame manassit with grit schoir. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 60 For weill, for wo, for boist, or zit for schoir, Quhair I am set, I sall lufe euer moir. *c* 1650 *Eger & Grime* in *Percy Fol. MS.* (1867) I. 375 Alas, he may make great boast and showre.

Shore (ʃōəɹ), *sb.*[3] Forms: 5–6 schore, 6–7 shoare, 7–9 shoar, 9 *dial.* shoor, 5– shore. [Late ME. *schore*, a. or cogn. w. MLG., MDu. *schōre*, *schāre* (Du. *schoor* masc.) prop, stay; cf. ON. *skorða* (Norw. *skorda*, *skor*) of the same meaning. The ulterior etymology is obscure.]

1. A piece of timber or iron set obliquely against the side of a building, of a ship in dock, etc., as a support when it is in danger of falling or when undergoing alteration or repair; a prop or strut.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schore, undur settynge of a thynge þat wolde falle,..*suppositorium*. *c* 1450 *Brut* 577 And after, vndermynet þe walles and þe toures, and sette shores vndernethe, And after, sette þe same shores on fyre, and brent hem. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 175 Certayn shorys occupied abought the shoryng of the Soueraigne leing in the dokke. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1545/2 They were faine to susteine the tide thereof with shores. *a* 1647 PETTE in *Archæologia* XII. 242 To take the dimensions of the ship, to deface the works by striking aside the shores. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 75, I..got two Shores or Posts, pitch'd upright to the Top. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 341 The mast itself is supported by the shore and by the shrowd. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 593 *Shoar*, an oblique prop, acting as a brace upon the side of a building. 1848 ARNOULD *Mar. Insur.* III. ii. II. 798 The tide..knocked away the shores which supported the ship. 1882 C. H. STOCK *Shoring & Underpinning* 3 The ordinary use of raking shores.

b. *fig.* (Now *rare*; common in the 16th c.)

1534 JOYE (*title*) The subuersion of Moris false foundation; wher vpon he sweteth to set faste and shoue vnder his shamles shoris, to vnderproppe the popis chirche. 1580 FULKE *Dang. Rock* v. 214 Peter the Apostle is a rocke and a shoare of the Churche. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1127 The true shoares of the unstable wheele of fortune. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. i, He too stands on the adamantine basis of his Manhood, casting aside all props and shoars.

2. A prop or stake used for various purposes.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xxii. I. 530 As touching props and shores to support vines, the best..are those of the Oke or Olive tree. 1672 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* liii. 109 The Hunter hunteth wild-beasts, whilest he besetteth a Wood with Toyls, stretched out upon Shoars. 1808 JAMIESON, *Shore*, the prop or support used in constructing *flakes* for inclosing cattle. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shoars*, stakes set at a distance to shoar or bear up toils or nets in hunting. *Ibid.*, *Shore*, a post used with hurdles in folding sheep. *Dorset.*

†**3.** A slope. *Obs. rare.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. ii. (1867) 47 Ye leane (quoth he) to the wrong shore. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 61 Where once again the Roof does sloping rise In a steep craggy, and a lubrick shoar.

4. *attrib.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Shore-cleats*, heavy cleats bolted on to the sides of vessels to support the shore-head, and sustain the ship upright.

Shore (ʃōəɹ), *sb.*[4] Also 7 shower, shoare, 7–8 shoar. [Usually regarded as a variant of SEWER *sb.*[1], but probably a use of SHORE *sb.*[1]; 'the common shore' being originally the 'no-man's-land' by the water-side, where filth was allowed to be deposited for the tide to wash away. Cf. the use of *common shore* in SHORE *sb.*[1] 1 e; also SHORE *sb.*[1] 3 b.] = SEWER *sb.*[1] 2. Orig. in *common shore* = common sewer; see SEWER *sb.*[1] 2.

1598 FLORIO, *Fogna*,..a common shore iakes or sinke. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 186 Emptie olde receptacles, or common-shores of filthe. 1612 DABORNE *Christian turn'd Turke* F 4 b, Here's a vault leads to the common shower. *a* 1667 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671) s. v., The common Shore, *corruptum pro* common Sewer. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 558 Our sayling Ships like common shoars we use. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 196, I need not mention the old common-shore of Rome. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 25. 3/2 The Shores..stink..When foul Weather does come. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 262 What, in point of beauty, has London to do with the Thames..any more than with Fleet-ditch, buried as it is, a common shore? 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* May 202/1 Her Luckenbooths now choak the common shore. 1884 *Irish Times* 28 Nov., The fox..was..dug out..seventeen yards from the mouth of the shore.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1642 GATAKER *Bale* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 260 Lo, here the man that stirred Rome's common shore. 1692 SOUTH 12 *Serm.* (1697) I. 512 The Ungratefull person is a Monster which is all Throat and Belly; a kind of thoroughfare, or common-shore, for the good things of the world to pass into. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. v. 51 After the Pope had call'd her all to naught..the common shore of all Wickedness, and the sink of Perdition. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. vii. § 2 (1734) 186 Carries it into the Guts (the common Shore, to be thence carry'd out of the Habit).

c. *attrib.*, as *shore man, -worker.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 150/2 The persons who are in the habit of searching the sewers, call themselves 'shore-men' or 'shore-workers'. *Ibid.* 151/2 The shore-workers, when about to enter the sewers, provide themselves..with a canvas apron [etc.].

†**Shore,** *a.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 4, 5 schore, 6 schoir. [Possibly repr. OE. *scoren* (pa. pple. of *sceran* SHEAR *v.*) in *scoren clif* precipice. More prob. a derivative from the same root, corresp. to Du. *schor* (WFris. *skor*, *skoar*, NFris. *schōr*, *skor*) harsh, rough, steep; cf. also OHG. *scorro* (MHG. *schorre*) rugged rock.] Steep, precipitous; rugged.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 22 A schoir crag, hye ande hydvouss. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 16 The groundes on the southir side lyen ferr oute, and arne shore too, for ye may come no nere them than vii fadome. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iv. 15 In ane braid sownd..Flowis the schoir deip. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 314 The craig was high and schoir.

Shore (ʃōəɹ), *v.*[1] Also 4 ssore, schore, 7 shoar(e. [f. SHORE *sb.*[3] (which, however, is not recorded so early). Cf. (MLG., (M)Du. *schoren.*)]

1. *trans.* To prop, support with a prop. Also (now *rarely*) *fig.* Often with *up.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 207 Holy bene is wel mi[t]vol avoreye God, vor hi is yssored mid uour þinges ase mid uour posstes. [1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 47 Ne were hit vnder-shored certes hit sholde nat stande.] 1534 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Cc vij b, If that the house begin to falle, shore and staie it not with pieces of sclender tymbre. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 34 b, The Easterlynges..so strongly shored and fortefied them selves that they could not prevayle. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 142 Learning hath some strength to shore vp the person. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. xxxi, As when a hunted Stag, now welnigh tir'd, Shor'd by an oak, 'gins with his head to play. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 29 To shoare the middle part of the head of the Windowes. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 340 Christ might stand upon his own legs onely, and not be any longer shored up by the Baptist. 1773 BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 78 The second..would fall to pieces, unless shored up by sincere obedience. 1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* I. Gloss. p. xiv, *Shore up a Boat.* When a boat is placed upon the blocks, and set upright, several shores are placed on each side; to prevent its falling either to one side or the other. 1841 *Peter Parley's Ann.* II. 48 He would have..shored up the sea-wall as usual. 1884 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* (1892) 135 The old inn, long shored and trussed and buttressed.

†**2.** To lift up, raise (the eyes). *Obs.*

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 128 Wee may well bid him shore vp his eyes, & see. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. iii, Shore up your eyes, and lead the way to the goodliest people that ever turned up the white o' th' eye. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 421 Therfore shore vp your eyes, good Mr. Adioynder.

†**3.** *intr.* To lean, slope, shelve. *Obs.*

1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* Wks. 1876 323 The sonne [in winter] shooreth so lowe by the grounde that his bemes thanne sklaunteth vpon the grounde. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iii. 34 Afrike..is shorter than Europe, but broader toward the Occean, where it riseth into mounteigne. And shoryng toward the Weste, by litle and litle waxeth more streighte. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xlix. 293 The horse will..stand shoaring or leaning alwaies on that side that he is hurt. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* II. xiii. 121 That side of the Country vpward, that lieth shoaring vnto the top. 1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prevent.* 224 These Lime-roddes must bee prickt sloapewise and crosse, shoaring alongst the ground.

Shore, *v.*[2] *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4–6 schoir, 5–6 schore, 6– shore. [Belongs to SHORE *sb.*[2]; of obscure origin; perh. cogn. w. SHORE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To threaten. Also *absol.* or *intr.* to use threatenings.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 58 Syne vthir tyme þai wald hir schore vith visage bald. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 85 His forbeding to worschip hem is opunly found: & many veniaunces are schorid to her worschipars. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 733 Than the Coilȝear quoke..Quhen he hard the suith say how he the king schord. *a* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 36 This to correct, thay schoir with mony crakkis. 1516 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 53 Ye and your foresaidis..come furth..and wth greit manissing wordis, schoiring [*printed* schowing] ye said Johne and his servand ..for to slay them perforce. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xv. 65 Thy absence also shores To cut my breath. 1638 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) I. 51 The wives railed, and shord him with stones, and were some of them punished. *Ibid.* 76 A number of women waits on, and did shoare him with stroakes. ? 1721 RAMSAY *Robt. Richy & Sandy* 134 Yon sooty Cloud shores Rain. 1786 BURNS *To Gavin Hamilton* 3 May, Ye'll catechise him every quirk, An' shore him weel wi' hell. 1892 'H. HALIBURTON' *Ochil Idylls* 66 The freits that were begun To shore us ill.

2. To offer. (Cf. similar dialectal use of *threaten*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1787 BURNS *Petition Bruar Water* 22 A panegyric rhyme, ..Even as I was he shor'd me. 1832–53 *Whistle-binkie* Ser. III. 21 A compliment kindly and decently shored.

†**Shore,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* [App. a variant of SCOUR *v.*[2] If the source of *scour* be MDu. or MLG. *schūren*, the variation in the initial may be due to dialectal difference of pronunciation of the continental word. For the vowel cf. the form *score* under SCOUR *v.*[2]]

trans. To scour or cleanse by rubbing.

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 192 Glacyng, or shoryng of harneys, *pernitidacio*. 1531 *Luton Trinity Guild* (1906) 201 Payde to Edwarde Treket for shoryngе of the candylstykes. 1564 in *Brit. Mag.* (1834) VI. 148 It'm pd for shoreinge the egoll, vj[d].

Shore (ʃōəɹ), *v.*[4] [f. SHORE *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To go ashore. Of a vessel: To run aground.

a 1600 JANE in Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 848 The ship..shot past that rocke, where wee thought shee would have shored. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 43 They think they are sailing to heaven, and know nothing till they shore, sleeping in the land of death.

2. *trans.* To put ashore; to land (passengers or goods); to beach, run aground (a vessel).

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 869, I will bring these two Moales, these blind-ones, aboord him, if he thinke it fit to shoare them againe..let him [etc.]. 1611 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVI. 98 Set him where his heart would haue bene shor'd. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 18 Two pence per draft is paid for shoreing or landing the fish from the vessels. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetland Folk-Lore* 126 The boat was temporarily shored on the beach.

3. To border as a shore, be the shore of.

1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 2 A little garden..Just shored the river in its broomy pride. 1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* iv. 273 Clearing..the whole periodicity of its materialistic horror..its dread of being shored by a Nothingness.

4. *intr.* To sail *along* (a coast).

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 334 Shoaring along for foure hundred miles, the higher and lower Calabrian Coast,..we landed at Naples. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 169 They had been *shoring*, as they called it, that is to say, coasting along the shore, to see if they could find anything worth their labour.

†**b.** *trans.* To pass by the side of (a hill). *Obs.*

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Capital de Bus* 124 Shoring a hill, we plainly do appear By a little wood, and to our enimies neere.

Shore, obs. f. SHOWER *sb.*; pa. t. of SHEAR *v.*

Shored (ʃōəɹd), *ppl. a.*[1] *Sc.* [f. SHORE *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] Threatened.

1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 7 A shored Tree stands long. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxix, Shored folk live lang.

Shored (ʃōəɹd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SHORE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].] Propped up, supported by shores.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Somerset* xv, Shored houses can not long continue. *a* 1600 *Battle of Flodden* 510 Saint Andrew with his shored cross.

Shorefhode, obs. form of SHERIFFHOOD.

Sho're-going, *vbl. sb.* Going ashore (from the sea); living on shore. (Cf. SEA-GOING.)

1900 *Daily News* 13 June 8/4 Everything was ready for shore-going when it was discovered there were no boats.

attrib. 1895 *Times* 19 July 11/2 The half-rater in yachting should exactly fill the position which the gun, the rod,

and the hunter hold in shore-going sport. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* v. 53 When you sit on a man's bunk..with ..the shore-going walking sticks slung up overhead.

Sho're-going, *a.* Going, living, etc., on shore. (Opposed to *sea-going*.)

1833 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 248 This is a curious life for a regular shore-going person such as myself. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 67. 404 A shot came in and took off the truck (or, as a shore-going person would say, 'the wheel').

Shoreless (ʃōə·lĕs), *a.* [f. SHORE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no shore. **a.** Of a sea, or what is compared to a sea: Boundless.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. v. 10 One will haue him one that liues religiously, and will not reuell it in a shorelesse excesse. 1643 HERLE *Answ. to Ferne* 21 We shall be no longer lost upon that shorelesse Sea. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 275 Can she unappall'd,..The shoreless deluge stem? 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 53 So on the shoreless air the intrepid Gaul Launch'd the vast concave of his buoyant ball. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. vi, The crowd seems shoreless. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. Imag. i. (1874) 10 An atom in the shoreless infinite. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xi. (1900) 189 He was adrift on the shoreless tides of delirium.

b. *nonce-uses.* Of a vessel: Having no shore in sight. Of a coastline, etc.: Having no low ground adjacent to the sea; precipitous.

a 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Parting Word* 6 Ere this shining day grow dark, Skies shall gird my shoreless bark. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 9 The shoreless cliffs of Ossa. 1892 LORD LYTTON *King Poppy* iii. 306 A shoreless, steep, surf-beaten island rose.

Shoreman (ʃōə·rmăn). Also *U.S.* (sense 2) **shoresman.** [f. SHORE *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*]

1. A dweller on the seashore.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlix. 13 Shore-men are said to be *horridi, immanes*. 1783 *Ann. Reg.* 120 A little army was formed..composed of 80 American rangers,..of 500 shoremen, white and negroes, and 600 Musquito Indians. 1839 *Times* 2 Sept. 4/1 The enthusiasm of the Kentish shoremen spread rapidly into the adjacent districts.

2. One who is employed on shore in the business of a fishery: see quot. 1883.

See also quot. 1690; but it is doubtful whether the explanation there given is correct.

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 227 There being employed in that Trade two hundred and fifty Ships, which might carry about ten thousand seamen, fishermen and shoremen, as they usually call the younger persons, who were never before at Sea. 1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 188/2 Who are the chief people among the fishermen and shoremen, being the catchers and curers of fish. 1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* I. Gloss. p. xiv, *Shoremen*, the people who are employed on shore, to head, split, and salt the codfish. 1872 TALMAGE *Serm.* 56 Some plain shoresman in rough fishing smack..brings them ashore in safety. 1883 G. B. GOODE *Fish. Indust. U. S.* 22 (Fish. Exh. Publ.) To the class of 'shoresmen' belong (1) the capitalists who furnish supplies and apparatus for the use of the active fishermen; (2) the shopkeepers from whom they purchase provisions and clothing; and (3) the skilled labourers who manufacture for them articles of apparel [etc.].

3. One who makes his living by shooting on the shore; a shore-gunner.

1882 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler in Irel.* 348 Once offend the shoremen,..and your sport is spoilt in that locality for years to come.

4. A landsman.

1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* III. iv, We are not like shore-men, we old, tough tarry-Johns!

Shore-man: see SHORE *sb.*[4] c.

Shoren, obs. form of SHORN.

Shorer (ʃōə·rəɹ). Also 4–5 **shorier, shoryere.** [f. SHORE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A thing (rarely a person) that shores up; a shore, prop. Now only with *up*.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vii. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1532) 342 b, But if the shorers ben wel grounded, the helpes shullen slyden and suffre the charge to fal. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 20 Hit hadde shoriers to shoue hit vp, þre shides of o lengþe. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 473/2 Nowe thys shorer is so surely sette, that it is shortlye blowen downe quite, if a man saye no more but what than. *a* 1680 T. GOODWIN *Unreg. Man's Guilt.* v. iii. Wks. 1692 III. 207 God is the foundation, and prop, and shoarer up of all being in the World. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 113 Mõooi, Stretched Full length, gigantic shorer up of earth.

Shore-side. The edge of the shore; the part either of the land or sea adjacent to the shore.

1571 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1580, 11/1 Apud lie Schoirsyid de Almond. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 33 Fishes..swimming neere the shore side. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 5 It is a view of delight to stand or walke on the shoare side and to see a Shippe tossed with tempest upon the sea. 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. viii[i]. 155 And if you would have this ledger bait to keep at a fixt place, undisturbed by wind or other accidents, which may drive it to the shoare side [etc.]. 1667 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 270 Shee..left her 4 small Children weeping on the shoare side. 1869 LYNCH *Ch. & St.* 19 When a larger company was gathered by the hillside, or the shoreside, there was a Church. 1885 PATER *Marius* vi. I. 122 Every one walked down to the shore-side to witness the freighting and launching of the vessel.

attrib. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiii, The bow [of the boat] had struck among the shore-side trees.

Shore Thursday, obs. f. SHEER THURSDAY.

Shoreward (ʃōə·rwŏɹd), *adv.* and *a.* [f. SHORE *sb.*[1] + -WARD.]

A. 1. *adv. phrase. To (the) shoreward*: in the direction of the shore. + *From the shoreward*: from the direction of the shore.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 b, He retourned to shoreward againe, carrieng with him the Pilot of Monsambicke. 1592 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 845 But missing him towards night, we stood to the shoareward. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 11 The Galley slaves being eased by a little gale that blew from the shoreward. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 49 We..put an Anker to shoareward. 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. 80 Her head [lies] to the shoreward. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* I. 87 Huge waves under them roll to the shoreward.

2. *adv.* In the direction of or towards the shore.

a 1691 FLAVEL *Sea-Deliv.* Wks. 1716 II. 195 The Danger being equal on every Side, whether we stood Seaward, or Shoreward. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 736 That bids us ..shoreward steer. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* 2 This mounting wave will roll us shoreward soon. 1901 E. PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 259 Shoreward the crag was connected with..the cliffs by a narrow razor-edge of stone.

B. *adj.* Situated or directed towards the shore.

1804 GRAHAME *Sabbath* 519 Sweet sounds Came slowly floating on the shoreward wave. 1862 MEREDITH *Mod. Love, Cassandra* iv, The deep's long shoreward roll. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xix, The rear, or shoreward side, of the stockade.

Sho·rewards, *adv.* = SHOREWARD 2 *adv.*

1837 MACDOUGALL tr. *Graah's E. Coast Greenland* 114 There is a considerable suction, so to say, of this current shorewards. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 4 Now the great winds shorewards blow. 1889 C. EDWARDES *Sardinia* 349 It tends shorewards.

Shorfa, Arabic plural of SHEREEF.

Shorfftyd, obs. form of SHROVETIDE.

Shorge, Shorier, obs. ff. SCOURGE *v.*, SHORER.

Shoring (ʃōə·rĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SHORE *v.*[1] + -ING.]

1. **a.** The action or an act of propping up or supporting. Also *shoring up*. **b.** *concr.* The shores or props with which a building, vessel, etc. is held up.

1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 175 The shoryng of the Soueraigne leing in the dokke. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 324 Things ready to fall, need shoaring. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* Reliq. (1651) 316 Where young tender trees..would yet little want any after-underproppings and shoarings. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 254/1 He beareth Or, a plaine wall..with a Tower vpon it Battled, with chambers conioyned therevnto, after the maner of shourings. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 417 These our discerning artificer considers as shorings to sustain the upper story. 1828 *Examiner* 129/1 The Church wanted shoring up. 1832 *John Bull* 13 Feb. 56/1 The shoring up of the south-west wall of St. Alban's Abbey is being proceeded with. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 357 The miners are protected by immensely strong shorings. 1882 C. H. STOCK (*title*) A treatise on Shoring and Underpinning.

+**2.** A slope. *Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 187 And orderly he knits A rowe of feathers one by one..That on the shoring of a hill a man would think them growe. 1603 T. M. *True Narr. Entert. Jas. I*, D 1, A pleasant Castle..stands on the shoring of a hill.

Sho·ring, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Sc.* [f. SHORE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] Threatening.

1573 TYRIE *Refut.* To Rdr. (beg.), All the writtinges of those quha defendes ane euill caus..vsis to be stufit..with schoring and hedinfull saingis. 1582 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) III. 670 As the vaine and bloodie minassing, and shoring of his counsels in France and England did oft times testifie.

Shoring (ʃōə·rĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. SHORE *v.*[4] + -ING[1].] (See quot.)

1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 353 Several Mornings after it had blown something hard in the Night, the Sands were covered with Country People, running to and fro to see if the Sea had cast up anything of value. This the Seamen call *going a shoring*; and it seems they often find good Purchase.

Sho·ring, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SHORE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

1. Propping, supporting.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 145 There was also made a shoaring or underpropping Act for the Benevolence.

2. Sloping. Also quasi-*adv.*, awry.

a 1502 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 189 And than set your turfe or your erthe ayen the fyre, and set it shoring ayen the fyre. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1593) 140 The river..In very deepe and shoring banks to seaward runnes apace Through Phrygia. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VIII. *Terms Cosmogr.* (1597) 364 b, The Zodiake is a great, broade, and slope, or shoring Circle, carrying the 12 signes. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* IV. 37 This plate must from the very toe of the shoe forward, rise a little shoaring from the ground. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Shoring*, awry; aslant. From the oblique or slanting position of a shore or buttress.

Hence **Sho·ringness,** slantingness.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 202 A tilesherd made it even And tooke away the shoringnesse.

+**Sho·ring,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SHORE *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] Threatening.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iv. 13 First, do behald 3one schorand hewchis brow, Quhair all 3one craggy rochis hingis now.

Shoring (ʃōə·rĭŋ), *ppl. a.*[3] [f. SHORE *v.*[4] + -ING[2].] Forming a shore.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 72 Like as the waues within the sea,..Forst by some flaw, yeelds whushing noise and shoring banks do sweepe.

+**Sho·rling,** *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **shorlyng,** *Sc.* schorling, 6–7 *Sc.* schoirling, scorling, 6 shorelinge, -lynge, 9 **shortling,** 6–9 **shorling.** [f. *shor-*, SHORN *ppl. a.* + -LING.]

1. The skin of a sheep that has been recently shorn; the wool taken from such a skin.

1429 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 352/1 Wolle icalled Lambeswolle, shorlyng and scaldyng. 1435 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IV. 604 De custuma 1155 pellium qui dicuntur schorlingis. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 27 § 1 Ther wolles and wolle felles and felles called Shorlyng and Morlyng 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/1 All custumes paying of salt and schoirlingis, skaddyngis [etc.]. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 32 § 1 Any Woollfells Mortlings or Shorlings. 1688, 1833 [see MORLING].

b. (See quot.) *rare*—[o].

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v., In some parts of England, they understand by a shorling, a sheep whose fleece is shorn off.

2. A tonsured person, a shaveling. Also *attrib.*

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* v. F iv b, And now I perseuer, amonge y[e] ranke rable of papystes Teachyng ther shorlynges, to playe the Antichrystes. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Exhort. Cross* vi. 82 That is the prerogatyue of the pryestes and shauen shorelynges. 1560 BECON *Catech.* v. Wks. I. 454 b, Swarmes of smeared, spyritual shorlyng Sorcerers.

Shorn (ʃōən), *ppl. a.* Forms: see the verb. [Pa. pple. of SHEAR *v.*]

1. Shaven, tonsured.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 507/34 *Rassis* [*read* rasis], scorenum. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lxvi. (1495) 183 Heer shorne is callyd Cesaries, heer vnkytte is callyd Coma in Grewe. 1530 *Compend. Treat.* in Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 170 Many a shoren crowne. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 114 Bald pate Priests and shoren Friars. 1798 D. COLLINS *Acc. N. S. Wales* I. 583 With..scars upon their shorn heads.

absol. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Martiall* iv. 111 Therefore ye doe wrong to your shorne and annoynted, to forbyd them mariage.

+**2.** Of gold: Newly cut, so as to have a bright surface. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 213 As schorne golde schyr her fax þenne schon.

3. Of corn: Cut with a sickle. Of grass: Cut close.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schoryn, or repyd, *messus*. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 26 And also it [mown corn] wyll not kepe nor saue it selfe frome rayne or yll wether, whan it standeth in the couer, as the shorne corne wyll do. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 102 Smooth as Swallows skim The new-shorn Mead, and far more swift we fly. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxix, They are trampled down like the shorn grass. 1885 PATER *Marius* x. I. 172 There was still a glow along the road through the shorn cornfields.

4. Of sheep, etc.: Having undergone shearing.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 1 The nexte that came was a coryar..As ryche as a newe shorne shepe. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii. (1886) 132 And hauing lost their fleeces, [they] liue afterward like poore shorne sheepe. 1768 [see TEMPER *v.* 2]. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 18/6 While shorn skins and lambs are quoted ½d. higher.

5. *Sc.* †**a.** Carved (*obs.*). **b.** Chopped up.

1547 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 20 *note*, Ane Scottis comptar of aik, schorne werk, with the furmis of the samyn. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 115 Thow gawe him ane drink, mixt with certaine shorne herbis. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. vi, Plates containing each three grilled herrings, sprinkled with shorn onions. 1842 J. ARTON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 265 Hard eggs, chopped fine with crumbs of bread, or shorn nettles and oatmeal.

6. Lessened in extent, deprived of splendour, etc.: see SHEAR *v.* 4.

1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 894 For many a league The shorn and parcell'd Oxus strains along Through beds of sand and matted rushy isles. 1868 LOWELL *Pict. Appledore* vi, The great shorn sun as you see it now, Across eight miles of undulant gold That widens landward. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 July 5/1 Lord Lister has spoken with confidence of the King's ability to go through the shorn ceremonial at the end of next week.

Shorn, variant of SHARN.

+**Shorned,** erroneous form of SHORN *ppl. a.*

1600 BRETON *Pasquils Foolscap* (Grosart) 20/1 She that is neither noble, faire, nor wise, Nor scarce so rich as a newe shornèd Eawe.

Shorpthursday, obs. f. SHEER THURSDAY.

Short (ʃōɹt), *a.* *sb.* and *adv.* Forms: 1–3 **sceort,** (1 *compar.* **scyrtra,** *superl.* **scyrtest, scortost**), 1–5 **scort,** 3 **shorrt, scheort,** (*sort*), 3–4 **ssort,** 3–8 **schort,** (4 **schorth,** chort), 4–5 **s(c)hert,** 4–6 **shortt, schorte,** 4–7 **shorte,** (5 **schorthe, sorte**), 5–6 **schortt,** 3– **short.** [OE. *sc(e)ort* = OHG. *scurz*:—OTeut. type **skurto-* (compar. **skurtizon-*, OE. *scyrtra*), whence Du. *schorten*, ON. *skorta* to lack; for other derivatives see SHIRT, SKIRT *sbs.*

The Teut. adj. is commonly regarded as a popular L. **excurtus* (f. L. *ex-* + *curtus*). On this view it would be parallel in origin with the synonymous OFris., OS. *kurt*, Du. *kort*, OHG. (MHG., mod.G.) *kurz*, a WGer. adoption of L. *curtus*. The Rom. langs., however, afford no evidence of a popular Latin **excurtus*, and it is unlikely that such a form existed. It is possible that Teut. **skurto-* may be an altered adoption of L. *curtus*, with prefixed *s* either due to some Teut. analogy or attracted from the ending of a preceding word in some Latin context. Some scholars, however, regard **skurto-* as a native Teut. word, f. a root **skert-* (supposed to be evidenced in MHG. *scherze, scherzel* small piece):—pre-Teut. **sker̥d-*, an extension of **sker-* to cut (see SHEAR *v.*).]

I. With reference to spatial measurement.

1. Having small longitudinal extent; measuring little along its greatest dimension, or from end to end. Opposed to *long*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 3 Forþy hī habbaþ swa sceortne ymbhwyrft [etc.]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 252 Se winterlica mona..hæfð scyrtran sceade þonne seo sunne. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, An ceste þat was scort & nareu. *c* 1205 LAY. 28624 þat wes an sceort bat liðen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 9/284 Þo was it bi a fote to

schort. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1686 No man ther fore ..No maner shot polax ne short[e] knyf In to the lystes sende. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 Hire Necke is schort. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 864 Ilk ane schort knyfe braidit out sone. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 28 The corne commeth thinne vp: the eare is short, the grayne is small. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 45 b, Some do vse short Sythes. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 19 Thay beir verie schorte tailis, als schorte as the tail of ane hyne. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* ii. 11 Surrounded by his Courtiers who had each a Stick in his Hand, which is longer or shorter, according to the quality of the Person admitted into the King's Presence. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 81 Short (abbreviatus), a cup is said to be short, when it is shorter than the tube of the blossom. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 146, PF must be the shortest line which can be drawn from the point P to the line AB. 1871 FARJEON *Joshua Marvel* xlii. III. 263 George Marvel ..having by this time got used to the short clays..had just declared that he enjoyed a short pipe as well as a long one. 1895 A. J. C. HARE *Gurneys of Earlham* I. i. 7 A short staircase leading to an ante room.

b. of grass, wool, hair, down, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxxvi. (1495) 650 Herbes of mountaynes and of hye places ben thynner and shorter than herbes of valeyes and of meedys. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 25 Shorte hey, and leye-hey is good for shepe. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 603 The salt and short pasture. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 55 She felt by the short haire on his head, that it was the priest. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 95 The pyramidal Seed, crowned by the short down. 1823 IRBY & MANGLES *Trav.* viii. (1844) 149/2 The short woolly hair of the Africans. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* i. 114 Nothing..makes the face look so unlovely as a chin covered with short stubble. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* II. (1872) 200 The long silk staple of Georgia, and the short cottons of Egypt.

c. of a garment.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 93 Short was his gowne with sleues longe and wyde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schort or stukkyd garment, *nepticula*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 7 A certayne number of gentelmen..apparayled all in one sewte of shorte garmentes. 1607 [see PANED *ppl. a.*]. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvi, A close jerkin of scarlet velvet, looped with gold, with short breeches of the same. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iv. 168 Tight dresses and short waists. 1892 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* 225, I see no reason why a governess in a vicarage should not wear short petticoats if she has good legs. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 92, I was sixteen years of age and six feet high before I was allowed to leave off short jackets.

d. Const. *in*: Having a specified part short.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 425 Not peculiarly short in the neck. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Rather short in the waist, an't it,' said the stranger. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* v, But my coat was..very high in the waist and short in the sleeves.

e. Of distance: Not great. Of a journey, flight, etc., Extending over a short distance. †Hence of a passenger, a train: Travelling a short distance.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 10 The way which they take to the same Inne is somewhat more short but no whit more certaine. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxv. 305 Birdes..whose flight is shorte. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 283 Nor dare they stray,..Nor Forrage far, but short Excursions make. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 171 Their blood, without entering their lungs, takes a shorter passage through the very partition of the heart. 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* I. 30 'Tis true we get a shilling or two occasionally, by a short passenger, or for the carriage of a parcel that is not booked. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 288/1 To what are called short passengers, this delay is a most serious inconvenience. 1858 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Rlwy. Accid.* 72 First of all, there are short trains. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xx. (ed. 3) 201 A shorter and more economical trip would be to take the train at King's Cross for Muswell Hill. 1889 *Infantry Drill* 217 Firing distances with the rifle may be classified as follows:—Up to 400 yards, 'Short Distances'; From 400 to 800 yards, 'Medium Distances'; [etc.].

†**f.** *Short weapon*: ? a weapon for hand-to-hand fighting (or perh. a sword, dagger, etc. as opposed to a lance or pike). Also a soldier bearing such a weapon. *Obs.*

1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 32 The forelorn hope consisting of 40 shott and 20 shorte weapons. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, Retainers or followers, armed with short, or with long weapons.

g. *fig.* In Biblical expressions, said of a person's 'hand' or 'arm', implying inadequacy or limited range of power.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 75 Behold, the hand of the lorde is na scheortar nor it vas. [1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* I. ii. 12 Put forth thy hand, reach at the glorious Gold. What, is't too short? Ile lengthen it with mine.] 1611 BIBLE *Num.* xi. 23 And the Lord said vnto Moses, Is the Lords hand waxed short? 1656 BP. HALL *Solil.* 28 If thou hast given me but a private and short hand, yet give a large and public heart. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 10 They whose Hands are shortest, may yet have Hearts as large as the greatest Monarch upon Earth.

h. Of action, vision, etc.: Reaching but a little way. (See SHORT SIGHT.) Hence *fig.* of mental powers, ideas, etc.: Contracted in range.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 746 My wit is short ye may wel vnderstonde. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* IV. vi. (1848) 207 How short and dim a knowledge must they have of him, that have no other than these Corporal Instructers. 1708 ROWE *Ambit. Step-Mother* I. i. 174 Their own short understandings reach No farther than the present. 1714 YOUNG *Force of Relig.* I. 225 Oh! mortals, short of sight. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Diss. II. 319 Our short Views. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. ii, Cradled in hope and short vision.

i. As complement. *To cut, trim*, etc. *short*: to make short by cutting, trimming, etc.

This use is difficult to distinguish from the advb. use in *to cut short* (= F. *couper court*): see C. 9.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 109 The fingers [of a shooting glove] muste be cut short. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, Hair..cut short and straight upon his temples.

2. Of persons: Low in stature: opposed to *tall*. Phr. †*Shorter by the head*: beheaded.

Short by the knees (nonce-use): said of a person kneeling.

a 900 WÆRFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* 46 Swa sceort man & swa unfæger on ansyne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8532 Vor he was somdel ssort he clupede him courtehese. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 624, I..euere folwed myn appetit Al were he short or long or blak or whit. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 337/2 Schorthe, *argutus, vt corporis arguti surgit pigmeus*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 14 The Duke of Exceter.. was..there made shorter by the hed. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* I. i. 5 Her brother Rivers Ere this lies shorter by the head at Pomfret. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xii. 38 Short by the Knees [L. *genibus minor*] the haughty Parthian kneels. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xliii, A man..somewhat short of stature.

absol. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 243 Louely layke was it neuere bitwene þe longe and þe shorte.

†**b.** *rarely* of a hill. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 43 This is the last and hindmest hil in Scotland, and thairfor the schortest.

3. *Short dung, manure, muck*: manure containing short straw and in an advanced state of fermentation. (Cf. branch IV.)

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* ii. (1623) 3 Good short, hot, and tender mucke. 1778 W. MARSHALL *Minutes Agric.* Observ. 111 The ordinary distinction of Long-Dung and Short or Spit-Dung, have likewise been observed. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 199 In situations, where much alluvial compost, or short town manure, can be procured. 1830 *Cumb. Farm Rep.* 58 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Short dung is unquestionably most suitable for turnips. 1884 L. F. ALLEN *New Amer. Farm Bk.* 70 The comparative advantages of long and short manure (the fermented and unfermented).

4. Of the sea, etc.: Having short waves; choppy.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* XXVIII. (1857) 420 The sea rose tremendously—at once short, high, and irregular. 1838 FITZGERALD *Let. to Barton* Apr., *Lett.* (1889) I. 42 One labours through it [a book] as vessels do through what is called a short sea. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 40 Do you know the shallow Baltic where the seas are steep and short, Where the bluff, lee-boarded fishing-luggers ride?

II. With reference to duration or serial extent.

5. Of a period of time, of a process, state or action considered as extending over a period of time: Having little extent in duration, lasting but little time, brief. Also said of duration. *At short intervals*: at times separated by brief intervals.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Þu þe ðam winterdagum selest scorte tida & þæs sumeres dahum langran. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 306 Forþam he [*sc.* February] ys scyrtest ealra monþa. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Al swo we forlieseð ðis scorte lif ðurh unhersumness. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 38 Men be nowe of lesse wittis & schortere tyme & feblere of complexion. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 1 The lyf so short, the craft so long to lerne. *a*.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 318 The xij day of December ys the shortest day of the yere. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 112 That 3e wald cry apon Crist,..To schape me a schand bird in a schort space. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 213 The kinges maiestes will is that ye shal make the shortiest abode there ye can. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 181 Three yeeres is but short. 1684 NORRIS *Poems* 21 Like Angels visits, short and bright. 1696 WHISTON *Theory Earth* II. (1722) 209, I shall shew..that the Antediluvian Year was shorter than the present Year. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 589 Its Visits Like those of Angels short, and far between. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. ii. 17 The death of Isaac would be only a short sleep. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 3 Oct. (1806) VI. 341 The short intervals betwixt every heave he employed in crying for mercy. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 143 The fever is of shorter duration. 1842 MRS. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* II. 19 The short remainder of his stay at Mr. Hay's, saw him eat his meals like a Trappist. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiv. 348 Ices handed at short intervals throughout the evening. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, Is it possible that on so short an acquaintance you were so severely hit? 1895 *Law Times* XCIX. 499/2 Days are considerably shorter at this time of year [Oct.].

b. Occas. applied to conditions, qualities, etc. not usually described in terms of duration: Not lasting a long time, soon over, short-lived. Somewhat *arch.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* v. 65 Cuþlice þæt wuldor þysses middangeardes is sceort & gewitende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 And mid his shorte deaðe he lesde hem ut of eche deaðe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 81 Uayrhede..is þing uals ssort and ydel. 1570 T. NORTON *Nowell's Catech.* 17 Doest thou say, that vnaduised and sodeine desires, and short thoughtes that come vpon the very godly are sinnes? 1620 GRANGER *Div. Logike* 107 A short inclination, setling, or apt entrance to an habite. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 474 Where basking in the Sun-shine they may lye, And the short Remnants of his Heat enjoy. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 52 (*Remise Door*) The triumphs of a true feminine heart are short upon these discomfitures. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 34 Your attachment to your horse may be as short as you please.

c. *To make short work of* (occas. *with*): to deal summarily with, to dispose of quickly.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* I ij b, He desirous to make shorte worke thereof, sayd. 1686 W. HOPKINS tr. *Ratramnus* Dissert. v. (1688) 84, I might make short work of it, by alledging all those Authors who [etc.]. 1728 CIBBER & VANBR. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i. 63 This was making short Work on't. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 22. 12 When they made such short work with the Prayer-Book. 1885 CLODD *Myths* I. vii. 223 Criticism has made short work of the romancing chronicles which so long did duty for sober history.

†**d.** Qualifying *days* as collect. pl. = time. Also *short days* used advb. for 'in a short time'. *Sc.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. vi. (S.T.S.) I. 37 Schort dayis following king Tacius past to lavyne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 87 They war beguild withtin schort dayis.

e. *Short prescription* (Law): a prescription established by a short period of user.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 770 The object of the shorter prescriptions, in truth, is, generally speaking, to protect parties against the consequences of negligence in the preservation of vouchers. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 297/2 There are certain short prescriptions recognized by Scots law—corresponding to the limitations of English law... There are also other shorter prescriptions limiting rights of action in different matters.

f. Qualifying a sb. denoting a period of time, to indicate a pleased or regretful sense of its brevity. (Cf. 15 b.)

1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 357 One short month. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 953 A few short years...A few, still seeming shorter, and we hear [etc.]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, Seven short weeks of quiet. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. iv. iii, Ah Christ, that it were possible For one short hour to see The souls we loved.

g. *Short while*, used advb. (now only preceded by *a*) with the sense 'during a short time'. (In OE. as adverbial genitive.)

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* XXXVI. 255 Ðæt wæs to suiðe scortre hwile. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6683 Scort quile or lang. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 632 Whether he lyf lang or short while. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 161 The King (after having jeasted a short while with some of the Ladies). 1643 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Tears Death Moliades* 9 O short-while-lasting Ioy! Of Earth-borne Man. 1828 SCOTT *Aunt Marg. Mirror* Introd., The adventurous spirit of times short while since passed.

†**h.** *To make (it) short*: to lose no time, hasten.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XX. 73 Hie the, and make it shorte, mounte vpon the see, and tarye no lenger. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. XXV. 15/2 Within a certayn day lymitted, to auoyde out of his countrey the erle of Artoyse, & to make shorte.

i. Of a person's memory: Not long retaining anything.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 774 His mynde es short when he oght thynkes. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* I. i. 209 You call'd me lately D'Ambois; has your Worship So short a head? 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 32 Whose Memories may be too short. 1839 HALIBURTON *Letter Bag* Ded. (1840) p. vii, Great men are apt to have short memories.

6. Of an appointed date in the future: Allowing but a short time, early, near at hand. Chiefly in phrases *a short day* (Law), (a bill) *at short date* or *sight* (Comm.).

? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 213 Þu schalt be tawȝt at a schort day for to make suche aray. *c* 1450 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 117 Þe day þt þei askyd was to shorte. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 51/2 A corpus cum causa, retournable..at a certeyn short day to come. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CXV. 136 They wolde fayne haue had a short day, but it wolde not be. 1682a SCARLETT *Exchanges* 42 If the Bill be at short sight. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1864/8 As soon as the whole Sum is paid in, a short day will be appointed,..for the drawing thereof. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 441 They were bound..to commit the person so impeached, and then give a short day for his trial. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 311 You must not wonder that a short day is intended. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/4 Exchange on London, sight..Do., 60 days' sight..Do., Berlin, short sight.

b. Of notice: Given not long beforehand.

1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 23 Prepared..on the shortest notice. 1850 KINGSLEY *Cheap Clothes* 6 So that an order may be executed 'at the shortest possible notice', if requisite.

†**c.** Phrase. *At short hand*: for immediate needs only. *Obs.*

1825 T. JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 28 What matters it whether a landlord, employing ten laborers on his farm, gives them annually as much money as will buy them the necessaries of life, or gives them those necessaries at short hand?

†**7.** Quick, speedy, immediate. *Obs.*

1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 436 Yf the shorter remedy be not had therin, be liklihode it woll growe to gret Inconvenience. 1535 HARVEL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 75, I thinke to go shortely to Anc[a]. but I wil made shorte retorne by Godds grace. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 62 This sudand accis to heigh feliecietie sould haue ane schort decay. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 663/2 The shorte decaye of that governement. 1780 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 364 There is no short remedy for our disease.

8. Of a speech, sentence, book, word, etc.: Having a small extent from beginning to end; brief. Phrase, *to make a long story short*. †*In short words*: in few words, briefly.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* I. iv. 140 We hit sæcgaþ eow on þa scortostan wisan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 98 Þe bezechinge þet he ous made of his uayre yblessede moupe uayre guode ssorte an cleuiynde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 8 Hillarius, In schorth spech sayand þus [etc.]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 221 Jesus Crist made it [the Paternoster] and comaundid it in schorte wordis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 190 And forto make schorte tales, Ther cam [etc.]. 1411 *26 Pol. Poems* 40 At a sarmon wil bid a frere Make it short, or ellys be stylle. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* viii, Thre fables wel shorte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 A shorte recapitulacion. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* II. v. Wks. 1910 II. 40 Short tale to make, I [etc.]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 156 Fit names for Dogges. Their names that you geue them, must be short. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 182 When I consider how short were the Lawes of antient times. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. Pref. a 2 b, They are only not so full as they would have been, had the Author liued to decipher

the Short Notes. 1747 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 150 A full double of the said summons with a short copy on the foot thereof. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 32 The short and simple annals of the poor. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* ii, A short rent-roll. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Osborne's were short and soldier-like letters. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 262 When it is complete he makes a short copy. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* ii. 8 To make a long story short, certain loans [etc.]. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 275 Important letters or short notes.

b. *Short story*: a prose work of fiction, differing from a novel by being shorter and less elaborate; a novelette. Also *attrib.*

1898 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 6/2 Any really good short story writer.

c. Phrase. *Short and sweet*: brief and pleasant; now usually more or less ironically, of an expression that is brief and severe or decisive, or that is excessively or unusually brief.

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 68 The Englysh prouerbe is thus pronounced. Short and swete. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 272 Great princes..who haue little spare leisure to hearken, would haue speeches vsed to them such as be short and sweete. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* III. i. in Bullen *Old Plays* IV. 253 'Tis short and sweete, wryte this in your own hand. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xlix, Short and sweet, I pray you. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. viii, After a conversation short and sweet, I left the steward.

†**d.** ellipt. *To make short*: to cut one's speech short. Also as inf. phrase: 'to make a long story short'; to be brief. Const. *of. Obs.*

1556 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 246 Whereby the lord Williams cried, Make short, make short. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 9 And to make shorte,..this tower was made..for the garding and keeping of the fountayne. 1600 LYLY *Love's Metam.* IV. ii. 9 (Bond), To make short, a good wind caused him to goe I know not whither. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* viii. (1691) 109 To make short of this matter. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 142 But to make short of this Argument. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 640/1 To make short of my Story: In order [etc.]. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 200/1 To make short of the story, Celso..is put in possession.

e. Of a speaker: Brief, occupying little time. Now *rare*.

1515 DK. SUFFOLK in Mrs. M. A. E. Wood *Lett. Ladies* (1846) I. 201 The queen was in hand with me the first day [after], and said she must be short with me, and shew to me her pleasure and mind. 1631 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 30 My Lords,..I shall be shorte. 1713 ADDISON *Trial Count Tariff* 7 Goodman Fact was very Short but Pithy. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. Ind. Bill* Wks. 1842 I. 292, I will endeavour to be a little shorter upon the countries immediately under this charter-government. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 81 Be short in thy words. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxvi, To be short with you, then, it leads me to this. If the truth has come out [etc.].

9. Of style of writing or speaking, hence of a writer or speaker: Concise.

1487 CAXTON *Bk. Gd. Manners* IV. vii. (W. de W. *c* 1515) K j, The langage of a mayde oughte to be prudent attempred and ryght shorte without habondaunce of wordes. 1530 PALSGR. 323/2 Shorte compendyouse, *compendieux. Ibid.*, Shorte in communycacions, *succint. c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 898 In all workes one ought to be shorte. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxv, Let me pray you to be short and explicit in what you have to say.

†**b.** *To be short* (inf. phrase) = 'in short'.

1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* Ep. Ded. A vij, But nowe to be shorte, I take them beste englysshe men, which folowe Chaucer, and other olde wryters. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 2 To be short,..what thanks had he? 1784 P. WRIGHT *New Bk. Martyrs* 806/1 To be short, he has left the character, amongst his neighbours, of an honest man.

10. Of utterances (occasionally of gestures, etc.): Rudely, angrily, or sternly brief or curt. Of persons (chiefly predicative): Rudely or angrily curt in expression; returning short answers; snappish (const. *with* a person).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 308 Sche no merci on me leith Bot schorte wordes to me seith [etc.]. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 446 They gyven hem schort langage. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 102 Sorie for his short answere. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 409 You are very short with vs, But if we liue, weele be as sharpe with you. 1591 LYLY *Endim.* III. i. 8 What make you Tellus to bee so short? 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 33 No other answer but only a short *yes*. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* v. i. 56 *Flora.* She gave me a thousand short Words whilst I dress'd her this Morning, nothing wou'd please her. *a* 1726 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* IV. i. 45 You are very short, Sir. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xix, To-night he was quite—quite short with me. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 32, I got a trifle short with him.

†**b.** Not 'long-suffering'; prompt to condemn. *Obs. rare*—[1]. 1483 [see LONG *a.* 11 c].

c. Hasty in temper, easily provoked, irascible. Said also of the temper.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 73 But the deuill..had so blinded the eyes of his thought, that..at euery purpose that was spoken afore him, hee was short and might not dissemble. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 225 If Christ had..been as wilfull and short as I was, my faith had gone over the brae and broken it's neck. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, A wee bit short in the temper. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Mar. 5/3 Prince Bismarck's short temper.

11. Of breath, breathing: Coming in hurried gasps, impeded. Of a cough: Abrupt, checked; recurring abruptly at frequent intervals, dry, fast. Of a pulse: Making short beats, quick.

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 34 For schort onde. 1591 DELONEY *Maiden's Choice* 8 Wks. (1912) 363 Ages breath is short. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 208 Her breath being very short, she desired another pillow. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Poet's T.* (ed. 2) I. 185 The short and sudden cough..instantly recalled his reason. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* viii, Anxious her lips, her breathing quick and short. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 614 *Dyspnœa chronica.* Short breath. [1843 GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 173 The pulse ..changed its character from a short and small to a full soft stroke.] 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 316 A short dry cough. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, Mr. Jasper's breathing was so remarkably short. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 929 In regurgitation, on the contrary [we have] a short pulse not slowed.

12. Of a series or succession: Of small extent, having few members or terms. ? *Obs.*

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 817 In this short File Barzillai first appears. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* II. vi. 55 Out of a short collection of medals, he has given us an entire chronicle of the kings of Syria. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 9 A short edition.

b. *Short hour*: an hour indicated by a few strokes of the clock. (Cf. *small.*)

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, The short hours of night. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxvi, Soda-water and brandy, and cigars, into the short hours. 1865 KINGSLEY *Hereward* xxvi, The monks of Peterborough prayed in the minster till the long hours passed into the short.

c. *A short purse*: a purse soon exhausted; scanty resources. So *a short kennel*: a small pack of hounds.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 148 Kyng Reyner..for al his long stile had to short a purse, to sende his doughter honorably to the kyng her spouse. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 142 All gentlemen who have but a short kennel should look to the sort of hound they are to keep. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 46 *note*, A man with a long pedigree, and a very short purse.

13. *Phonetics* and *Prosody.* Applied to a vowel (less frequently to a consonant) when its utterance has the less of the two measures of duration recognized in the ordinary classification of speech-sounds. Also, in *Prosody*, of a syllable: Belonging to that one of the two classes which is supposed to be distinguished from the other by possessing a shorter time in utterance. *Short* † *accent, mark*: the mark (˘) placed over a vowel letter to indicate short quantity.

For various inaccurate uses see LONG *a.* 13 a.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 32 Seo forme ȝeendung is on scortne *a.* 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy-bk.* II. 184, I toke non hede noumber of schort nor long, But to þe troupe, and lefte coryouste Bope of makyng and of metre be. 1573 BARET *Alv.* To Rdr., The last sillable saue one is short. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* Pref. (Arb.) 55 Abone the heid of the shorte fute, I haue put this mark ∪. *c* 1620 HUME *Brit. Tongue* I. ii. § 17 If this argument reached as wel to i short as i lang. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Short-Accent*, in Grammar, shews that the time of Pronounciation ought to be short, and is marked thus (˘). 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 252 Vowels with the marks of Short and Long over them. 1827 TATE *Grk. Metres* in *Theat. Greeks* (ed. 2) 443 Which do not permit the short vowel precedent to form a short syllable. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 138 The short *u* continues to represent the Gothic *u*. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) 7 *agst. Thebes* 488 *note*, The vowel is properly long, but made short by position.

14. colloq. **a.** *Something short*: undiluted spirits. Perh. originally from having a short name: e. g. 'brandy', not 'brandy and water'.

[1823: see B 4 f.] 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlvi, If you'll order the waiter to deliver him anything short. 1844 HOOD *Anacreontic* iv, A drop of summut short. 1898 W. W. JACOBS *Sea Urchins, Money-changers* (1906) 224 I've got a bundle o' cigars an' a drop o' something short in my pocket.

b. *Comm.* (See quot.)

1841 G. ROBERTS *Terms Trade & Comm.* 43 Short; an expression of bankers when a cheque is cashed, not in small notes or gold, but by a short or ready method of giving one or more large notes. 1850 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v., Upon presenting a cheque, the clerk asks, 'how will you take it?' *i. e.* in gold or in notes? Should it be desired to receive it in as small a compass as possible, the answer is, 'short'.

III. Not reaching to some standard.

15. Of things: Not coming up to some standard of measure or amount; inadequate in quantity. *Short measure, weight*: defective quantity by measure or weight; also, a measuring rod, vessel, etc., or a scale-weight, which defrauds the purchaser. *Short commons*: see COMMONS; so *short allowance, rations*, etc.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 59 It were a schort beyete To winne chaf and lese whete. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 192 Suche a mon, throȝe rechelaschepe, Myȝth do the craft schert worschepe. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 47 We made but a short breakfast aboord the Galley in the morning. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 80 Short and simple food. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 12 Some cottons here grow; but short in worth to those of Smyrna. 1662 GREENHALGH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 282 Many short meals. 1668 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 72 We conceive the said certificate to be short and expect that the same in that point be supplied. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xi. 242 The Law accepts no short payment. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 273 Report is seldom short on the Reflecting Part. 1745 P. THOMAS *Voy. S. Seas* 3 We went to short Allowance of all Species. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 257 Our water being now very short. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Feb. 98/1 The money..was short by 3d. 1789 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xi. § 24 You have detected a baker in selling short weight. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 227 They had been long upon short allowance. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 16 Dec. 2/2 There was a very short attendance. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iv, A Baker who has been seized with short weights. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 301 An excellent method of securing a prisoner when cord is short. 1901 'L. MALET' *Sir R. Calmady* VI. vii, He's certain to take them home short money.

b. Qualifying a sb. denoting a period of time, distance, number, quantity, etc., to indicate an extent less than that expressed by the sb.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3773/2 Within a short Mile. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiv, A short league distant. 1913 *Times* 9 Aug. 19/2 Short tons.

c. Qualifying a noun of action. *Short delivery, shipment* (Comm.): delivery or shipment of goods less in quantity than agreed on or invoiced.

1884 *Weekly Notes* 9 Feb. 32/1 There was a counter claim for short delivery and defective packing. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 267 A certificate of short shipment from the searcher. 1901 *Scotsman* 13 Mar. 10/7 Loss ..sustained..in consequence of short delivery of a contract for coal.

d. Said of a book which has been cut down or cropped in the binding. (Cf. TALL *a.* 7 b.)

1864 *Reader* No. 88. 304/3 The folio..is quite perfect, but 'short'.

16. Of a throw, a missile, etc.: Travelling too short a distance, not reaching the mark. Chiefly in *Archery* and *Bowls*: see quots. 1801, 1897. In *Cricket*: see 26 d.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 36 Escheweing shorte, or gone, or eithersyde wide. 1659 N. R. *Prov., Eng. Fr.*, etc. 90 Short shooting loseth the game. 1801 T. ROBERTS *Engl. Bowman* 294 *Short arrow*, an arrow which falls short of the mark. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 129/2 (Bowls) *Short bowl*, one that does not reach the jack.

17. *Short of* or † *from* (in predicative use, also qualifying a preceding sb. or neuter indefinite pronoun): Not fully attaining or amounting to (some condition or degree); not equalling (some other person or thing); inferior to; less than (a specified number or quantity). Also, †inadequate to, not fully worthy of (*obs.*). Often with limiting adv. (*far, little, much, nothing*, etc.) or an expression of number or quantity used advb., indicating the extent of the deficiency.

In mod. use, the original adjectival character of *short* in this application is much obscured, *short of* tending to be felt as a preposition. Occasionally the word governed by *of* is an adj. (e. g. in quot. 1837); cf. the similar use of (*little, nothing*) *less than.*

1560 GRESHAM in Burgon *Life* (1839) I. 322 If it is discovered, there is nothing short of death with the searcher, and with him who enters it at the custom-house. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 125 A long saying..., but not so long in wordes, as short of his purpose. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 494 b, Having regard rather to make manifest ..how much you were short yet of a true and perfect knowledge in the true doctrine of Divinitye. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 172 b, Those immoderate praises, which the foolish Louer thinkes short of his Mistres, though they reach farre beyond the heauens. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 48 [Gombroon] was a dozen yeares agoe, so short from the title of a Citie, that it could not boast of twelue houses. 1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 163 Let my Reader ..see how far they are short from..even an Attempt of Evidence. 1693 C. MATHER *Wonders Invisible World* (1862) 16 It will be a thing little short of Miracle. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Apr. 1646, Cheese little short of the best Parmeggiano. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. 47 Disgust little short of affrightment. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 265 The Spaniards were not much short of two hundred. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* i. (1774) I. 30 Words are so far short of the eye in liveliness of impression. 1780 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 398 Phil. has been unlucky at Sudbury, as he was one short of Marriot. *a* 1792 SIR J. REYNOLDS in Malone *Wks.* (1797) I. p. xxxi, A refined taste, which could not acquiesce in any thing short of a high degree of excellence. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 81 A crop, one fourth short of an average. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* vi. (ed. 3) 102 Nothing short of a full gallop will save your time. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. lxii, Ladies..Prefer a spouse whose age is short of thirty. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iv, And such a Constitution, little short of miraculous. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xiv. 280 It could be compared to nothing short of the day when Israel passed through the desert. 1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xxix. II. 401 He had everything short of genius. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 194/1 Short of war, certain preliminary measures of hostility are recognized. 1892 *Law Times' Rep.* LXVII. 199/2 Nothing short of that will do.

b. In expressions like *little, nothing short of*, the adj. is occas. used *absol.*

1838 F. A. P[ALEY] tr. *Schömann's Assemb. Athen.* Introd. 7 The archons were invested with little short of kingly power. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 53 The colossal affectation of his career seems to us little short of idiocy. *Mod.* Little short of £1000 will be required.

18. In predicative use, chiefly of persons: **a.** Defaulting in payments.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1625) 7 Divers summes wherein you were short in reckoning. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v., A conductor of an omnibus, or any other servant is said, to be short when he does not give all the money he receives to his master.

†**b.** Lacking in performance. Of an author: Defective in information. *Obs.*

a 1697 SOUTH *Serm.* III. 306 Very large in Pretence and Promise, but short in Performance. 1653 RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 25, I have endeavoured to compare one Author with another..and where one hath been short, I have inlarged with another. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 20 June, I do perceive that I am very short in my business by not knowing many times the geographical part of my business.

†**c.** Below the truth in one's estimate or calculation. *Obs.*

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvii. 203 In two Voyages I differ but two Leagues, and that I was short.

d. Having an insufficient supply of money, food, or something else implied by the context; *spec.* not

having the means to meet one's engagements. *To go short*: to suffer privation, have less than enough.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 65, I am so short in cash, that I am not able to pay my workmen. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. ii, I have to settle for my coffee spec., and may be short. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, 'They kept me very short,' said the small servant. '..So I used to come out at night..and feel about in the dark for bits of biscuit.' 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 306 *Short*, that is, in want of the necessary means to comply with his obligations. 1894 G. W. APPLETON *Co-Respondent* I. 106 I'm always short..Would a loan of 100l. be of any service to you? 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 603 'So you goes short, Sarann?' 'I be used to 't', said Mrs. Bradley. 1901 *Essex Herald* 9 Apr. 5/5 Please cash the orders I enclose: ..don't go short when you want any.

e. *Short of*: having an insufficient quantity of. Also, not possessing, lacking (something necessary or desirable); in want of (something to complete the desired number).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 679 Their defenceless Limbs the Brambles tear; Short of their Wool, and naked from the Sheer. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* II. v, I am very short of Mony at present. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 33. 176 Young men, having been kept short of money at school. 1794 NELSON 8 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1844) I. 425 They will, from using as many again as is necessary, be soon short of that article, which probably cannot be supplied them. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxv, Allow me to take your hat—we are rather short of pegs. 1865 CRUMP *Banking* xi. 246 As it gives rise to the opinion that he is short of funds. 1897 FLOR. MARRYAT *Blood of Vampire* xii, No one in this 'ouse is kept short of food. 1905 ELIN. GLYN *Viciss. Evangeline* 93 He might be useful to us, if we are short of a gun. 1908 *Westmorld. Gaz.* 21 Nov. 3/2 They were short of bailiffs.

f. Preceded by a sb. or an expression of quantity, indicating what is lacking of the required number or amount.

1893 E. F. BENSON *Six Common Things* 217 We are a lady short. Shall I tell her to come down to dinner? *Mod.* The clerk was two pounds short in his cash.

19. *To run short*. a. Of persons, etc.: To become short *of*, 'run out' *of* (something). Also without const.

1752 in *Scots Mag.* (1753) Sept. 452/1 Being run short of money. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 189 In consequence of running short of water. 1884 C. READE in *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 603/1 I've purchased this cutlery in case she may run short. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* I. vii. 81 Coron was running short of supplies.

b. Of supplies: To become or prove insufficient in quantity; to become exhausted.

1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. I 143 Turnips sometimes run short. 1894 WOLSELEY *Marlborough* II. 99 There was a great dearth of arms..and the supply in the Tower soon ran short.

transf. 1890 IZA D. HARDY *New Othello* III. vi. 131 The time was running very short.

IV. Not tenacious in substance, friable, brittle.

[Prob. connected with branch I through the notion 'having little length of fibre': cf. sense 3.]

20. Of edible substances: Friable, easily crumbled. Phrase, *To eat short*: to break up or crumble in the mouth. a. of crust, pastry, etc. Cf. SHORTBREAD, SHORTCAKE.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 52 Þan take warme Berme, & putte al þes to-gederys, & bete hem togederys with þin hond tyl it be schort & þikke y-now. 1594 *Good Huswife's Handmaid* 17 b, To make short paste in Lent. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xv. 46 You may be as short as a Shrewsbury Cake, if you please. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* iv. 60 Make a short Crust, roll it thick. 1888 EDMONDSTON & SAXBY *Home Nat.* 99 A thick cake, which may be made of either flour or oatmeal, and may be rendered 'short' by the use of fat.

b. of fruit, meat, etc.

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 143 This is the Venison of America, whereof I have sometimes eaten, and found it white and short. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xix. 186 Salmons are of a fatty, tender, short and sweet flesh. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 57 The bigger Roots..should..eat short and quick. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. i. vii. 35 Its Pulp eats short, and its Juice is sugar'd. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 337 Vinegar makes the meat short, short meat being easy of digestion.

21. *gen.* Wanting in tenacity; friable, brittle. Phrase, *to work short*: to break or crumble when being worked. Of metals: cf. COLD-SHORT, RED-SHORT.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 57 Lest..it burne and drie vp their hoofes, making them short and brittle. 1682 GREW *Anat. Plants, Anat. Roots* 86 All Piths and more simple Parenchyma's, break short. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Corn-land*, Some mix it [dung] with Sand, which causes it to work short. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Mould* 5 P 4/1 And this will be the better yet, if it..does not stick obstinately, but is short, tolerably light, breaking into small clods. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 139 Bismuth..renders gold short and brittle. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 300 Pure clay ..affords a very short paste. 1859 *Stationers' Hand-bk.* (ed. 2) 105 *Short*, the technical term for the absence of strength in paper. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* s.v., Coal is 'short' when of a very friable or tender nature.

†22. Of liquids: Not viscous. (Cf. LONG *a.* 4.)

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xxii. (1634) 69 Let it be thoroughly dry, then take the glaire of egges, and straine it as short as water.

V. In Combination.

23. In concord with sbs., forming combinations used attributively or quasi-adj., as *short-arm*, *-distance*, *-hay*, *-hole*, *-leaf*, *-notice*, *-range*, *-stroke*, *-term*, *-time*, *-water*.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 May 8/6 As if he were going to do a *short-arm balance on the parallel bars. 1908 *Installation News* II. 45/2 Used for concealed work, in conjunction with a screwed shortarm bend or tee. 1898 *Daily News* 15 July 5/1 These *short-distance races are ruinous in their effect upon the breed of horses. 1843 A. R. WALLACE in *Life* (1905) I. xiv. 208 The '*short-hay meadows', as they are called [in South Wales]. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/6 A *short-hole golf course in the park. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 634/2 *Short-leaf pine. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xvii. (1893) 88 We are rather badly off for neighbours just here—at least for *short-notice neighbours. 1869 LOWELL *Let.* 16 July in Ogden *Life E. L. Godkin* (1907) II. 84 'Tis an honest old-fashioned piece of straight-forward *short-range notions and carries an ounce ball. 1900 *Daily News* 23 May 5/6 A desperate short-range fight followed. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 394/2 The *short stroke engines are propelling the boats.. faster than long stroke ones. 1901 *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 10/1 Mr. Gage has bought in New York 2,000,000 dols. worth of *short term bonds for the Sinking Fund. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 July 2/1 In the matter of remission of sentence the short-term prisoner has now been raised to an equality with the convict. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 130 In the army they have *short-time soldiers and long-time soldiers. 1898 *Daily News* 26 July 5/7 It was too large for such a short-time contract. 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames* 20 In *short-water Time, or dry Seasons.

24. Parasynthetic derivatives in -ED[2], unlimited in number, as *short-armed*, *-billed*, *-bodied*, etc.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 15 *Short-arm'd ignorance. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, CCXVIII, Now a nearer Thirst Rages, and Short-arm'd Struggles makes 'em feel't. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* (1902) 35 This is a puzzler to a short-armed batsman. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 20/2 The *Hydra viridis* or short-armed polype. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 159 The *Short-barred White (*Ditula scriptana*)..The Short-barred Grey (*D. semifasciana*). 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 148 The *short-beaked Purpura. 1891 MOULLIN *Surg.* 1248 An instrument shaped like a short-beaked lithotrite. 1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 292/1 The *shorter-billed birds. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 88 Short-billed Marsh Wren. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1257/4 A brown bay Gelding,..strong made, *short bodied. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 366 In the short-bodied *Læmodipoda*. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 22 *Short-breasted coats. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 425 *Botys cucullatalis*. The *Short-cloaked Moth. 1751 G. EDWARDS *Birds* IV. 248 The *Short-eared Bat. 1833 JARDINE *Humming-B.* 50 The short-eared owl. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Answ. Introd. Ep., The *short-faced president of the Spectator's Club. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1872) 15 Compare the English carrier Pigeon and the short-faced tumbler. 1622 T. STOUGHTON *Chr. Sacrif.* xii. 169 Of such *short haired Gentlewomen I find not one example either in Scripture or elsewhere. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 330 Carinated, short-hair'd stiff Pods. 1906 OLIVE C. MALVERY *Soul Market* viii. 140 A thick-set, short-haired man. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xii, A *short-hought man. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 295 This Horse..Round hooft, *short iointed, fetlocks shag, and long. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 260 Cuttings are taken from the most fruitful, well-ripened, short-jointed boughs in autumn. 1884 SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 200 *Short-leaved pine. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 28 A couple of *short-legg'd Hennes. 1886 DUFFERIN in Lyall *Life* (1905) II. 114 Our poor little short-legged Goorkhas. 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* x. 52 The *short-lin'dcircumference Of that three-corner'd figure. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 66 (*Remise Door*), She walk'd..with the slow, *short-measur'd step of thoughtfulness. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 42 Having with the same liquor filled other small crystalline viols, though *short-necked. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* ii. 33 In the act of seizing the hare the short-necked dog may lose the centre of gravity and fall. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 286 The sulphide is introduced into a short-necked Florence flask. 1693 TATE *Dryden's Juvenal* II. (1697) 38 In vain, O Rome! thou dost thy Conquest boast Beyond the Orcades *short-nighted Coast. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 59/2 Cammyd, or *schort nosyd, *simus*. *a* 1652 BROME *Queen & Concubine* II. iv. (1659) 31 Short-nos'd Dogs. 1681 GREW *Museæum* I. § vi. i. 128 The Short-Nos'd Snail. 1839 T. BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* Introd. (ed. 2) 7 A row of widely separated, *short-pointed, conical teeth. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2287/8 A bright bay, thick *short quartered. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 193 A pair of short-quartered high-heeled shoes. 1862 *Rem. Golf* 15 The Putter..is a *short-shafted, stiff club, with a large flattish head, and square face. 1681 GREW *Museæum* I. § vii. ii. 169 The *Short-Shell'd Beetle. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 24 To borrow a little of their [women's] loose-tongue Liberty, and mispend a word or two upon their long-wasted, but *short-skirted patience. 1901 C. HOLLAND *Mousmé* 40 My shortskirted, somewhat tomboy niece. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 157 When Rome was burn'd By *short-slop'd Gauls and the Senonian brood. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* vi. 14 The head..is more to be esteemed when it is long than when it is *short snowted. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* vi. (1818) I. 177 A short-snouted weevil. 1896 H. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 6 The Crocodiles..are divided into a *brevirostrine*, or short-snouted section [etc.]. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 7 *Short-spined Porcupine. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 60 Short-spined Cottus. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1768/4 A *short statured Man,..broke into a House near Basingstoke. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Travellers jogging past on little *short-stepped horses. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2946/4 Flat hoofed, very *short strunted. 1874 LUBBOCK *Wild Flowers* ii. 34 A *short-styled plant. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1910/4 A Dun coloured Mare..*short tailed. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 75 The short tailed field mouse. 1848 GOULD *Birds Austral.* VII. Pl. 39 Short-tailed Albatros. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 139, I was very *short-tempered. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii, A *short term'd tenancie. 1680 OTWAY *C. Marius* v. ii, The short-term'd Life Of one old Man. 1837 GOULD *Birds Europe* IV. Pl. 256 *Short-toed Ptarmigan. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 198 The Short-toed Lark. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Autour*, A *short-winged hauke. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 63 The short-winged Eagle. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 473 In fine, short-wing'd, unfit himself to fly, His fear foretold foul weather in the sky. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Hawking* (1828) 46 A short-winged hawk. 1869–73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 287 Short-winged Cursorial Birds. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 41 The *Short wristed, cut, and dissected, signifies Weakness of Body and Minde.

25. Combinations with participles in which *short* is used as a complement, as *short-bitten*, *-cropped*, *-drawn*, *-growing*, etc.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. Ecl. (1598) 84 *Short-bitten grasse. 1884 BIRCH *Kouyunjik Gallery Brit. Mus.* 89 The horse has a *short-cropped mane. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1561/4 A Sorrel Mare..her Foretop cut off, and *short Dock'd. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, She could discover by his *short-drawn sobs that it was a paroxysm of mental agony. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXV. 195/2 The Morello and many *short-growing varieties of similar habit. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 56 **Short-laid*, implies *short-twisted. 1859 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 212 Men with tails..are always *short-made and broad-shouldered. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1170/4 A *short-truss'd Nag.

26. Special collocations and combinations: **short bath** *Dyeing* (see quot.); †**short-board** (see BOARD *sb.* 15); **short-cloak**, a cloak coming down only to the elbows; **short-cross** (*a*) *Printing*, 'the shortest and also the broadest bar that divides a chase into quarters' (Savage *Dict. Printing*, 1841); (*b*) *Numism.*, a cross with arms extending only to the inner circle of the coin; also *attrib.*; **short end** (*a*) *pl.* odds and ends (cf. END *sb.* 6c); (*b*) see quot. 1844; †**short-ended** *a. Sc.*, [f. *end* var. of ANDE breath] short-winded; **short-eyed** *a.*, short-sighted (in quot. *fig.*); **short-frock**, a short garment usually worn in childhood, hence *fig.* in *pl.* habits, etc. associated with childhood; **short gown**, a dress with a very short skirt, worn by women engaged in house-work; also †a night-gown worn by a person of rank; also *attrib.*; **short-grass**, grass grown and trimmed as a lawn; **short-hairs** pl. *U.S. slang*, a name given to a branch of the Democratic Party in the Western States who show discontent with the administration; **short-head** *Anthropology*, a brachycephalic person; **short-headed** *a.*, having a short head, *spec.* in *Anthropology*, brachycephalic; hence *short-headedness*; **short heeled** *a.*, having a short heel; *fig.* wanton; hence **short-heels**, a wanton person; **short-line** *Rackets* (see quot.); **short linseed** ? a trade name for a kind of linseed-meal; **short-long** (*a*) *Med.* a technical name for a variety of Cardamom; (*b*) an iambic verse (*nonce-use*); **short-lunged** *a.* = SHORT-WINDED; in quot. *fig.*; **short measure**, an arrangement of the keyboard of a spinet in which advantage is taken of the 'short octave'; **short metre**, a form of stanza used in hymn-writing, consisting of four lines of which the first, second, and fourth are of six syllables and the third of eight, usually expressed by the symbol S.M.; also *vulgarly* as *adv. phr.* quickly, soon; **short octave** *Mus.* (see quot.); **Short Parliament**, the Parliament which sat from 13 April to 5 May, 1640; **short-pipe**, ? a kind of musket with a short barrel; **short-rest** *Billiards* = JIGGER *sb.*[1] 5 g; **short rib**, (*a*) a popular name for any of the lower ribs which do not attach to the sternum; also a piece of butcher's meat, esp. of pork, containing one or more of such ribs; (*b*) *Printing*, = CRAMP-IRON 3; † **short sail** (see quot.); **short-service**, military service limited to a prescribed short period; also *attrib.*; †**short shouldered** *a.*, thick-set; **short-silk**, cotton having a short staple; †**short speaking**, brevity in speech, 'brachylogy'; **short-spirited** *a.*, lacking forbearance or perseverance; **short-splice** (see quots.); **short-staff**, a short cudgel, also a contest between two persons armed with such cudgels; **short staple** *a.*, having a short fibre, a commercial term applied to cotton of an inferior grade, also known as 'upland cotton'; also *absol.*; **short-stapled** *a.*, having a short staple (= prec. adj.; said also of wool); **short stay** *a. Naut.*, in phr. *short stay apeek* (see quot. 1867); **short stepper**, a horse equally lame in all its legs; † **Short-thigh** *Hist.* = CURT-HOSE; †**short-thinker**, a person whose thought does not carry him far into a subject; **short-timer**, a child who is allowed to attend school for less than the full number of hours daily (cf. *half-timer*); **short title**, the abbreviated title by which an Act of Parliament is officially designated; **short turn** *a.*, (of a wagon) constructed so as to turn easily in a short space; **short-waisted** *a.* (of a person or a garment) short in the waist; also †*fig.*; **short-warp** (see quot.); †**shortwindiness** = SHORT-WINDEDNESS; **short-wise** *adv.*, in the shortest direction; **short-witted** *a.*, lacking intelligence.

1911 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 753/1 '*Short bath', *i. e.* a bath containing a minimum amount of dye liquor. 1644 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* 13 A *short-boord, is when you stand-off but little. 1772–84 [see BOARD *sb.* 15]. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, 'In his rustic farmer-clothes'; which he will wear always; careless of *short-cloaks and costumes. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* IX. § 6. 35 [The Chase] hath two Crosses belonging to it, viz., a *Short-Cross..and a Long-Cross. 1870 HENFREY *Eng. Coins* II. 23 Not many years ago there was much discussion whether these 'short-cross pennies', as they were called, belonged to the last coinage of Henry II, or the first issue of Henry III. 1904 STAINER *Oxf. Silver Pennies* (O.H.S.) 55 Short cross voided, each limb terminating in incurved segment of a circle. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 252 Certen ryche men..had packed up theyr *short endes, & were gonne out of the Citie. 1635 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. Ind. Comp.* (1907) 95 What Gosnell may have brought home in 'short ends' he knows not. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 489 Lengthening the plough-chains by short-ends, that is, short pieces of chain, which are hooked in a similar manner. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Anhelus*, pursie, or *short-ended. 1721 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* I. i, No, no, Arbanes, no; thou'rt *short-ey'd here. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 37 The literary *short-frocks of Jules Verne and Henty. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 13, j ℔ elne of blac to lyne a *schort gowne to the King. 1489 *Ibid.* 135 For xj elne of rede dammysk to lyne a lang gowne and the schorte gowne..xxiij li. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 34 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 283 Sa schamefully his schort goun set him. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, Her brown russet short-gown set off a shape, which time, perhaps, might be expected to render too robust. 1851 [see *long-short*, LONG *a.* 18]. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 132 Her bright young careless face, her tidy shortgown, and her dark eyes. 1886 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) II. 52 *Short-grass very neatly kept. 1886 *Chicago Tribune* in Barrère & Leland *Slang* (1890) s.v., They did not resign, as had been hoped by the *short-hairs. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. App. 642 Dudes and roughs, civil service reformers and office-holding bosses, short-hairs and college presidents. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* 36 Mayor Hopkins was elected by the silkstockings on the one hand and the shorthairs on the other. 1892 *Athenæum* 3 Dec. 781/3 The long-headed race kept up a desultory warfare with the *short-heads for many years. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 170 *Short-headed Toad. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 68 Short-headed Serpents. 1863 LYELL *Antig. Man* 26 It exhibits..a type..which is intermediate between the long-headed and short-headed form. 1883 *Academy* 17 Mar. 190/1 That Turanian admixture is the cause of relative *short-headedness must for the nonce be relegated to the background. 1591 ? NASHE *Wond. Strange Prognost.* B 1 b, Some shalbe so *short heeld & so quesie stomackt, that [etc.]. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xlix. 322 This kind of meate [apples of love] is good for such men as are inclyned to dallie with..short heeld huswiues. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Short heeled Wench*, a girl apt to fall on her back. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 188 Short-heeled Field Lark. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abington* (Percy Soc.) 35 Mistresse flurt, yon [sic] foule strumpet, Light a loue, *shorte heeles! 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 244/2 (Rackets) **Short-line*, the line on the floor at the distance of about 39 feet from the front wall and parallel to it. 1726 *Act* 13 *Geo. I*, c. 26 § 2 Any Lintseed commonly called or known by the Name of *Short Lintseed. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 333 Cardamoms are distinguished according to their lengths by the respective names of shorts, *short-longs, and longs. *a* 1881 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. Life* ix, The first two in iambics, or short-longs. *a* 1687 *AUSON 'On Elegy to Cleveland' 4 in *C.'s Wks.* 279 Elegiacks..too *short-lung'd to parallel thy Fame. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 562/1 Three and two-third octaves, E to C—which by the '*short measure' would be four octaves, C to C. 1718 *Short metre [see COMMON *a.* 19 b]. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ii, Ef it worn't fer wakin' snakes, I'd home agin short meter. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, **Short-Octaves*. An appellation given to some of the lower octaves of an organ, because from the omission of some of the intermediate notes, the extreme keys lie nearer to each other than those of the full octaves. 1653 CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 July in *Carlyle* (1845) II. 188 The state of affairs as they were before the *Short, that is the last, Parliament. 1884 GARDINER *Hist. Eng.* IX. xci. 117 The Short Parliament..had sat for three weeks. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 99 For *short-pipe *3d.* 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 935/2 The '*short rest' (or 'jigger'). 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* K 3 b, Joab..stabbed him under the *short ribbes, and killed him. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 242 A little below the short ribs. 1912 *Standard* 20 Sept. 8/7 Bacon, Short Rib Sides. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II., **Short Sails*, in a Man of War, are the same with the Fighting-sails, and are the Fore-sail, Main-sail, and Fore-topsail. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/3 A sufficient *short-service home army, and a really effective reserve force. 1905 ARNOLD-FORSTER in *Parl. Deb.* 29 Mar. 1582 If we were allowed to take the Militia and make them the short-service Army. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 549 He was *short sholdred, brood, a thikke knarre. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* II. (1872) 200 Cottons may be divided into the long silk and *short silk. *Ibid.*, The United States generally furnish the short silks in the greatest quantity. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 568/35 *Braciologia*, a *shortspekynge. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Epist., Marrow Gd. Authors* 672 If God should be as *short spirited, what would soon become of all? 1673 JANEWAY *Heav. Earth* (1847) 149 God is not like short-spirited man. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) N n 1, The *short-splice is made by untwisting the ends of two ropes, or the two ends of one rope, and, having placed each of the strands of one..in the interval between two strands of the other, to draw them close together; and then interweave the strands of one into the alternate strands of the other. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. i, A bout at boxing, quarter-staff, or *short-staff. 1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* s. v. *Cotton* 437/2 The 'Georgian', or '*short-staple', is [believed to be] the sea-island [variety of cotton] carried into the interior. *Ibid.* 438/1 The short staple cotton is more or less cultivated all the way from the southern borders of Virginia, to the southwestern streams of the Mississippi. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* s. v. *Cotton* (ed. 2) 436 [Cottons] are usually classed under the denominations of long and *short stapled. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 126 Short-stapled, or cloth-wool, is valued by the fineness.. and whiteness of its fibres. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleyyow* ix, *Short stay apeak was the anchor. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Apeek.* A ship drawn directly over the anchor is *apeek*: when the fore-stay and cable form a line, it is *short stay apeek*; when in a line with the mainstay, *long stay apeek.* 1836 HEAD *Home Tour* 101, I perceived him to be what is technically called 'a *short stepper'. 1596 DRAYTON (*title*) The Tragicall Legend of Robert Duke of Normandye surnamed *Short Thighe. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 302 They..being necessitated thus to become *Short-thinkers, are contented to go no further than they are led by those to whom..they apply themselves for Cure and Comfort. 1883 MRS. A. E. BARR in *Chr. Union* 22 Nov., A '*short-timer' is a child who works half the day at the mill. 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 42 § 1 *marg.*, *Short-title. This Act may be cited..as The Irish Church Act, 1869. 1892 *Act* 55 *Vict.* c. 10 § 2 The Short Titles Act, 1892. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2188/4 Lost.., a *short turn Waggon. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 46 Collars, light and *short wasted cuirasses and backes. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* M 1 b, This thy short-wasted Pamphlet. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. ii. (1826) II. 21 But..she is low-hipped, short-waisted [L. *brevi latere*], with a long nose, and a splay-foot. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* lx, The *short-warp—the rope which is immediately connected with the harpoon. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 116 The cough: and distillation of the heade: *short wyndynesse [etc.]. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 8 b, They are good..for shortwindines. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 22 Aug. 6/5 The bullocks' half of the square ..is divided *shortwise, by the wooden barriers to which I have alluded. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* vi. in Ashm. 93 All *short-witted Men and mutable. *a* 1656 HALES *Golden Rem.* (1688) 255 Piety doth not require at our hands, that we should be either short-witted or beggerly. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 9 The more pitiable asthma of a short-witted intellect.

b. In names of animals, as **short bill**, a Brazilian bird, *Phibalura flavirostris*; **short diodon**, a species of sunfish, *Cephalus brevis*; **short-hair**, one of a breed of short-haired cats; also *attrib.*; **short-head**, a name given by sailors to the young of the whale; **short-sheep**, a name given to a short-woolled sheep of the black-faced Scotch variety; **short-tail**, (*a*) a bird of the genus *Pitta*; (*b*) a name given to a small family of snakes, *Tortricidæ*, found in India and America; **short-wing**, a diving bird of the group *Brachypteri*.

1820–1 SWAINSON *Zool. Illustr.* I. Pl. 31 *Phibalura cristata*. Crested *Shortbill. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 115 *Short Diodon...Sun-fish, from Loo. 1903 *Ladies' Field* 7 Nov. 347/1 Woodkirk Prince was pronounced the best *short-hair in the [cat] show. 1903 F. SIMPSON *Bk. Cat* vii. 99 The ranks of *short-hair breeders. 1725 DUDLEY *Whales* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 257 At a Year old, when they are called *Short heads, they are very fat. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 155 The black-faced sheep are short-legged, [etc.]. Hence they are often called *short sheep, in contradiction to the Cheviot, which are much longer bodied. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, 'Aweel, aweel, maister,' said the attendant, 'short sheep had short rents, I'm thinking. 1792 tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 373 The *Short Tail. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 395 The Short-tails are a small family [*Tortricidæ*], the species of which are about six in number. 1839 JERDON in *Madras Jrnl. Lit. & Sci.* X. 250 Black-headed *short wing. 1865 T. R. JONES *Anim. Creation* 459 The Short-wings (*Brachypteres*) exhibit considerable relationship with the Water-hens.

c. In names of plants or vegetable products, as **† short-neck**, a variety of pear having a rounded form; **† short-shank, † -start**, a variety of apple having a short stalk (so *short-started* adj.); **short-top**, a kind of radish; also *attrib.*; (so *short-topped* adj.).

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 295 The Rosewater Pear, the *Shortneck, so called from the shortness of its Form and Tail. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Cour-pendu, Pomme de cour-pendu*, the *short-start, or *short-shanke; (an excellent apple). 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 294 The Short-start, the Chesnut Apple, and the Great Belly are in many Places Apples of esteem. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xii. 56 After the head beginneth to be ill, to eate one or two *short started apples, or some bitter almonds. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Dec. 335 Radishes.—sow a few early *short-tops. *Ibid.* Jan. 6 Radishes—sow early short-top kinds on warm borders, in open weather. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 653 The *short-topped scarlet [radish] is the best for a cottage garden.

d. In Cricket: **short ball**, a ball which pitches short of a length (see LENGTH *sb.* 10); **short hit**, a ball which when hit does not travel far from the wicket; **short leg** (see LEG *sb.* 6 c); **short notch** = *short run* (*b*); **short pitch**, the pitch of a short ball (q. v.); **short run** (*a*) a run made when the ball does not travel far enough to give time for an easy run; (*b*) a run which does not count by reason of a batsman not having technically completed the run; **short runner**, one skilled in making short runs (sense *a*); **short slip** (see SLIP *sb.*3 14). In Base-ball: **short fielder, short stop** (see quots.).

1911 *Encycl. Sport.* (Cricket) I. 495/2 **Short ball*, a ball which pitches too far from the batsman to be a good length. 1874 H. CHADWICK *Base Ball Man.* 27 The *Short Fielders. In the present position of the game there is but one '*short-stop', and he stands to the left of the in-field between the second and third base positions. Ultimately however, a 'right-short' will be introduced. 1833 NYREN *Young Cricketer's Tutor* (1902) 76–7 John Small..was the best *short-runner of his day, and indeed I believe him to have been the first who turned the *short hits to account. His decision was as prompt as his eye was accurate in calculating a short run. 1774 *Laws of Cricket* in Lillywhite *Scores & Biogr.* (1862) I. 17 If the strikers run a *short notch, the Umpire must call No Notch. 1877 BOX *Eng. Game Cricket* 457 **Short Pitch*, in this the ball has a greater parabola than the half volley. 1830 *Laws of Cricket* in Nyren *Young Cricketer's Tutor* (1902) 23 If the striker run a *short run, the umpire must call 'One short'. 1874 *Short-stop [see *short-fielder*]. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 406/2 Latterly [at Base-ball], an additional man has been introduced as right *short-stop. *Ibid.* 407/2 The catcher, pitcher, first and third basemen, and short-stop comprise the in-field; the remainder the out-field.

e. *Comm.*, as **short bill**, a bill having less than ten days to run; **short-exchange**, exchange having a short time (commonly thirty days or less) to run; also the rate for collecting short bills; **short-loan**, a loan repayable at an early date; **short-money**, money to borrow or to lend upon short-time loans; **short-paper**, short bills; **short-payment**, payment at any early date after the completion of a transaction; **short price**, a low price (in *Betting*, low odds).

1808 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. v. 175, I will get him a *short bill for the copy-money the moment Constable returns. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 86 The discount, which has to be deducted from the long bill before it can become equally available with the short bill. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 16/4 The Bank of England, which did a fairly large business in short bills at the official minimum. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* vii. 154 Between Paris and London the *short exchange is the most prominent. 1865 *Standard* 2 Sept. 2/1 The terms for *short loans in the early part of the day were 2½ to 3. *Ibid.*, A variety of parcels of *short money afloat. 1899 *Truth* 23 Feb. 477/2 Short money is quoted at from 1¼ to 2 per cent. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/5 Sterling exchange has ruled strong for *short paper at 20 to 35 points advance in posted rates. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 10 Oct. 13/2 Corn for long payments; bread for *short payments. 1638 COTTON *Tower Rec.* 15 Security of payment at a long day and a *short price. 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* viii. 126 He was a fine large horse..and was purchased as a yearling, for a short price. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 157/2 Although quoted at so short a price, Mineral Water [a greyhound] has not been backed by his owner.

B. Quasi-*sb.* and *sb.*

I. The neuter adj. used *absol.*

1. With prepositions, forming adverbial phrases.

a. *In short* (also Sc. †*at short*): briefly, concisely. From the 18th c. onwards used only as parenthetical phrase, introducing or accompanying a summary statement of what has been previously said. † *In short and plain*: briefly and plainly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 521 He tolde him point for point, in short and playn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. x. 79 Thus said he, and with sic wordis at schort Mesapus to the fycht he did exhort. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 266 Att schorte, ȝe daylie do aduert To serue ȝour God with faithfull hert. 1575 BADGER in *Gascoigne's Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 93 Though haste say on, let sute obtaine some stay,.. While that in short my state I doe display. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* Pref. (1714) 1, I shall here explain it to you in short. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. i, Upon philosophical Disquisitions or Experiments, or (in short) upon some such other thing as seems extrinsecal to the Doctrine that is according to Godliness. 1666 C'TESS OF WARWICK *Diary* 19 Aug., I overslept myself in the morning, and was fain only in short to recommend myself to God for that day. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 413, I shall not think much to tell you in short what I think. 1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 17 May, And, in short, [they] put themselves in every attitude but the right. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines & Pol.* iv. 61 These were, in short, the Orleans mob. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* ii, The Blind Girl..never knew that Tackleton was Tackleton, in short. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xi, Nothing in short was wanting to complete the beau ideal of domestic comfort. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 13 In short, my object is to instruct those who desire to become photographers.

† **b.** *In short* (? also Sc. *at short*): in a short time, quickly. *Obs.* (The Sc. example may belong to a.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 82 Quhen na hoipe of reskew at schort is, My purpose I left, obeyand destanye. *Ibid.* III. ix. 36 Gif that I perishe it is ȝit sum confort That I of mennis handis deis at schort. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 584 His kin and freindis, and Father but mercie Was put at schort till exterminioun. 1560 — *Seven Sages* 12 And sa at schort the barne delyuerit he. 1599 SIR J. HARINGTON *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 276 For want of th' artillerie, whiche coulde not arrive in shorte, the same beinge onlie drawen by the force of menne.

c. *For short*: as an abbreviation.

a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Blasphemer's Warning*, Father Dick—so they called him for short. 1870 J. WHITE *Sk. America* 284 He's Attorney-general for Colorado, and we call him 'general' for short. 1896 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Lonely Girl* i, Carrig Castle—The Castle, as it is called 'for short' by the peasantry.

2. *The short*: the total, the result, upshot; a brief summing up of something which has been previously explained in full. Now only *dial.* (Cf. *the long and the short*, LONG *sb.* 3). † *Short is*: 'to speak briefly', 'the short of the matter is'.

a 1586 *Answ. to Cartwright* 2 This is the short of M. Harrisons longer discourse. 1607 S. COLLINS *Serm.* (1608) 181 The short of it is, my deere brethren, though the Papists bee troublesome, yet the Puritans must not looke to goe vncontrolled. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccxliii, Short is: the Sheriffe of Yorkeshire by his Power Attach't the Earle if it may be exprest Soe, to his Office. 1674 *Gout. Tongue* viii. 147 The short is, wherever this game is plaied there is alwaies a fool in the case. 1694 NORRIS *Refl. Locke's*

Hum. Underst., etc. 51 The short of Mr. Lock's reasoning in that part is this [which follows]. *a* 1761 LAW *Comf. Weary Pilgrim* (1809) 75 The short is this: the kingdom of self is the fall of man. 1777 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XI. 398 The short of the matter is this. 1804 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 162 This is the short of the story. 1874 L. CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. v. 165 The short on it's this.

3. Phr. *To draw short and long*: to draw lots by means of straws, etc. of different lengths.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 287 We shared the spoil by drawing short and long.

II. *sb.*

4. Something that is short.

†a. *Mus.* A short note. *Short and long* (see quot. 1597). *Obs.*

1591 COCKAINE *Treat. Hunting* (Roxb.) D 3 b, To blow to seeke. Two windes: The first a long and a short, the second a long. *Ibid.* D 4 b, One short conteineth three quauers. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 78 The first is called short and long, when we make one note alone and then two of the same kinde bound togither, and then another alone.

†b. *Dancing.* A short step. *Obs.*

a 1652 BROME *City Wit* IV. i, Your traverses, Slidings, ..Closings, Openings, Shorts, Turns, Pacings, Gracings.

c. *Prosody.* A short syllable. *Longs and shorts*: see LONG *sb.* 5.

a 1795 S. BISHOP *Poet. Wks.* (1796) II. 194 With longs and with shorts all our heads are so full. 1837 C. P. BROWN *Sanscrit Prosody* 3 A foot of four shorts.

d. ? The narrow part (of a boat).

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 15 Nov. 4/3, I..tied them round the short of the boat.

e. *Electr.* = SHORT CIRCUIT. (Cf. SHORT *v.*2).

1906 *Daily News* 27 Jan. 7/5 In technical language, there was a 'short'. 1909 *Installation News* III. 80/1 Strange to say, it is a very rare thing for a dead short to occur on a good earthed pipe system.

f. Neat spirits: = 'something short' (see A. 14 a).

1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. Egan), *Short*, a dram unlengthened by water. 'I'll take a drop of short'. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 52 Saveloys, with a pint of beer, or a glass of 'short' (neat gin) is with them another common week-day dinner. 1898 HENLEY *Lond. Types, Bus-driver*, He arrogates a special taste in short.

g. A contraction of a name. ? *nonce-use.*

1885 *Athenæum* 31 Oct. 567/3 'Nuttie' may be a local contraction for 'Ursula', though we should hardly have supposed that the name was common enough..to have its own 'short'.

5. *Comm.* A broker who sells more stock than he has in his hands at the time of sale, intending to take advantage of a possible drop in prices to obtain the remainder.

1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, The May deal in white mixed [corn] is not yet settled, the shorts refusing to pay the closing price. 1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 27 Nov. 6/4 Some outside short was badly rattled. 1913 *Daily Mail* 31 Mar. 3/5 A sharp 'squeeze' of shorts in March contracts by spot houses.

6. In various uses of the *pl.*

a. A mixture of the bran and coarse part of meal.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 402 Neither grains (drains), peas, barley, gurgins (shorts),..grew thereon. 1793 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1891 XII. 389 Now, if the midlings, ship stuff, shorts and bran does not amount to this difference, all short of it is loss. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 722 *Shorts*, the finer sort of bran left in coarse flour. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 439 Poor pastures, poor meadows, hay, and a few shorts or cob-meal.

b. *Rope-making.* 'The toppings and tailings of hemp, which are dressed for bolt-ropes [etc.]... The term is also employed to denote the distinction between the long hemp, used in making staple-ropes and inferior hemp' (Crabb *Technol. Dict.* 1823).

c 1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 175/1 A large machine for spinning shorts or backens into candlewicks.

c. Short whist. (See WHIST *sb.*)

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 9 It was suggested that a rubber of shorts would be extremely seasonable. *a* 1874 *Pop. Author's Miseries* in *Casq. Lit.* V. 109/2 My father-in-law abhors me because I play shorts.

d. Knee-breeches, small-clothes. *Rowing shorts*: short drawers worn by oarsmen; similarly *football shorts.*

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iii. 7 Another..wanted to act the ghost, which he proposed doing in white shorts and a nightcap. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlvii, The gentleman who condescended to appear in plush shorts and cottons for a quarterly stipend. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii. 150 You may dress like a bargee, in shorts and grey stockings. 1865 P'CESS. ALICE *Mem.* 7 June (1884) 100 Uncle Louis received us in shorts! 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 520, I..stood outside in football 'shorts', nailed boots and sweater.

e. Short clothes.

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* iii, Six months passed in these innocent amusements, and then he [the baby] was put into shorts.

f. Cuttings of tobacco.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xv, Two penn'orth of pigtail and a paper of shorts. 1883 DODGE in *Rep. 10th Census U. S.* III. iv. 27 When a manufacturer desires to sell his shorts, clippings, [etc.]..to another manufacturer, he is required to apply to the collector..stating..the kind and quality of tobacco he wishes to sell.

g. What is 'short' or lacking. (*a*) *Printing.* 'The copies that have been or should be reprinted to make full a deficient edition' (*Cent. Dict.*). (*b*) That amount of stock which a broker who 'sells short' needs to cover his deficiency. (*c*) *Mining.* (See quot. 1886.)

1886 BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 60 *Shorts*, term applied to the amount that the sum of Lordships in one year is under the minimum or fixed rent payable. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 433 He could easily take in his shorts at seventy-five.

C. *adv.*

1. Of a manner of speaking: Briefly, concisely, curtly. Now *rare* in educated prose use.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8347 Bot elles scilwisli and scort he tald þat him lai apon hert. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 890 This, shorte and pleyne, þeffect of my message. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* I. i. Wks. 1910 II. 108 Then Engistes lande as Chronicles do write Now England short, a land of worthy fame. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 277 Bistleham, now called short, Bisham. 1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 96 Now to speak short and plain. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 328 He spoke short, but with life. 1729 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Oedip. Colon.* II. ii. II. 121 How short and seasonable thou speakest this? 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 882 Then if the maiden..spoke, he answer'd not, Or short or coldly.

†2. *To set short by, to tell short of*: to hold in low estimation. *Obs.*

1377 [see SET *v.* 91 e]. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 194 For wolde they..dryve out the dagges and all the Duche cotis, And sette hem a-side, and scorte of hem telle.

3. a. For a brief while. *Obs.* in the positive.

1611 MURE *Misc. Poems* i. 54 Lyk to a blooming meadow, Quhose pryd doth schort remaine. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* i, But schort the storm wald let him stay. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 307 Resinous woods, like the pine, last much shorter than the oak.

†b. In a brief space of time, soon. *Obs.*

1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 30 Thir kyngs yai ar bot kyngs of bane; And schort wyl heir yare tyme be gane. 1590 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xix. 47 With schot of gunne yai murdreist him fra hand, Schort ouer twa yeiris quhen he had rung in deid. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbots/ord Club Miscell.* I. 178 And shortefter, the said Annabell Murray contractit ane lingring disease.

4. In various uses relating to size or distance: With short garments, appendages, etc.; to a short distance.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4212/4 When he trots out he overslips, and is shod short before for it. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 8 On the words Step Short,..each recruit will step as far as the ball of his toe, and no farther. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 153 The..bolts are driven short. 1887 GUNTER *Mr. Barnes* xi. 76 A plain, round-faced girl..big enough to be sixteen, and dressed short enough to be eleven.

b. *To break, snap* (etc.) *short* (*off*): to break straight across, so as to leave nothing beyond the plane of fracture; to break *off* close to the point of attachment.

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vii. 124 It may cut or brake it short asunder. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 48 P 2, I..pretended that I had broken my Wooden-Leg..but I snap'd it short off on purpose. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 145 The Gloucester's..Fore-top-mast broke short. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1808 V. 401 This weapon will snap short. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xii. (1859) 178 His first effort broke it short at the lock. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 212 He broke almost every tooth short off upon this chain, in his furious efforts to bite it through. 1865 MILTON & CHEADLE *N.-W. Passage by Land* ii. (1867) 31 We..saw..great trees blown down, or trunks snapped short off. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 17 Her wheel stood in the corner with the thread snapped short in the heck.

5. Abruptly, suddenly: esp. in phrase *to turn short* (*round*).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 24 Dogs..drinke running [in the Nile] lest they bee snapte short for a pray too Crocodiles. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 83 Finding that I had almost overtook him, he turned short. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 55/4 The wind coming short upon them off of Scheveling, they were forced to put back. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 360 Such Waggons as seldom have occasion to turn short, as Carriers Waggons, and such like. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xli, Bertram turned short round upon Glossin at the distance of two yards only. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xl, 'You catch me up so very short.' 'You will be caught up much shorter, my good friend—infinitely shorter—one of these days.' 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. iv. 434 After a considerable pause, the Provost turned short round.

b. *To take* (a person) *short.* (*a*) To take by surprise, at a disadvantage; to come suddenly upon. *rarely* with *up.* Often *Naut.* of wind or bad weather.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1560) 100 He spent once a groate at good ale, being forced through companie, and taken short at his worde. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 77 b, They were suddenly surprised and taken short by a company of little dwarfes. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *2 Macc.* viii. 26 But they returned being taken short with the time. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2674/4 The Wind taking them short..they came to an Anchor in Torbay. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* II. i. ii. 10 [He] was taken short after dinner, and died in his chair! 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 302 Our Prince Regent has his chaplains..amounting to several scores in number; so that he can never be at a loss. He can never be taken short. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* IX. 113/1 They may have been taken short by the climate before reaching the Pacific. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lii, I was took up very short by this, Samivel. 1890 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s. v., *To be taken short* (colloq.), to be pressed with the need of evacuation of feces.

(*b*) To interrupt with a reply; not to allow to complete his speech or offer explanations. Often with *up.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 228 If M. Harding had not taken S. Ambrose vp so short, by the words that immediately follow, he might well haue knowen his meaning. 1586 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 17 in *Holinshed*, Sir, you take me verie short. *a* 1647 PETTE in *Archæologia* XII. 257 His majesty, taking it ill that my lord should [etc.]..took him short with a sharp reprehension. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 34 P 3 Sir Andrew Freeport took him up short. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxv, But, my dear sir, you take me so very short. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiii, 'But bless ye, my beauty!' cried Mrs. Boffin, taking him up short at this point.

†6. At close quarters, closely, tightly. *To fight short*: to engage in a hand to hand struggle. *To ride short*: to ride with a tight rein. *Obs.*

a 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* (Brandl) 487 Byr lady these knauys muste be tyed shorter. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. x. 255 A light footman's shield he takes unto him, and a Spanish blade by his side, as being more handsome to fight short and close. 1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 54 They undertook likewise to loosen his power, or tye it up short. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Jan. 1682, They [Moors] rid very short, and could stand upright at full speede.

†b. *To hold* or *keep* (a person) *short* [= F. *tenir court*]: to press (him) hard in a contest; to keep rigidly confined or under strict discipline; to keep *from* something; in later use, to keep (a horse) tightly reined in. *Obs.*

c 1425 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1307 'Kepe hym short', he seyde, 'tyll hys lust be spent.' 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxx. 385 And euer sir tristram held them passynge shorte, and euer sir Bleoberys was passynge besy vpon syre Tristram. 1530 PALSGR. 597/2 Lette men holde hym very shorte. ..If youth be nat kepte shorte it wyll be marred anone. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cohibeo*..to keepe shorte. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 12 The king helde them so short, that in processe of tyme they were faine to yelde. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Convers.* (1586) 131 b, They perswade themselues, that if they doe not keepe them [their wives] short, they keep them not as they ought to doe. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* Table, Girles must be kept short. 1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Luke vi. 25 The time shall come wherein ye shall bee held short of all worldly comforts. 1674 FLAVEL *Husb. Spirit.* iii. 216 Oxen for use are daily yoaked and kept short, whilst those that are designed for the shambles are let loose to feed at pleasure. 1792 OSBALDISTONE *Brit. Sportsm.* 416 When your horse attempts to be vicious..hold him very short.

7. On the hither side of the point aimed at or contemplated. Also, †lagging behind, in the rear (*of*). Const. *of.* † *To lie short*: to pass the night at a place short of one's journey's end.

c 1588 in *Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc.) I. 13 The next morning..there was a great galleon of the Spaniards short of her company to the southwards. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 67 Three miles short of the great Citie. 1644 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 49 The foot army lay short of the hill all night. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 14 Coming to the same Point and Degree where she [the moon] was in Conjunction with the Sun last, she is short of the Sun. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 24 Another Exposer.. would rather have turn'd out of the Road, and lay'd short all night somewhere by the way. 1684 NORRIS *Poems* 35 I'm flush'd with silent joy, and smile to see The Shafts of Fortune still drop short of me. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 130 He met me..in a Garden short of the Town. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 21 He came to an anchor short of us. 1751 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 309 He had lain the night before eight miles short of Sir Ralph's seat. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 180 Ford frequently hit short. 1862 *Chamb. Encycl.* III. 320/1 Misconception of this may lead to overthrowing the ball, or throwing it short. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xiv, There's not such a piece in London;..nor short of Calicut, where it came from. 1888 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 5/2 The trout has 'risen short'.

b. *To fall short* (*of*): see FALL *v.* 96, 97. Hence *falling short*, a failure in attainment, a deficiency.

a 1680 T. GOODWIN *Govt. Ch. Christ* VI. xii. Wks. 1697 IV. IV. 402 His Disciples..had..great fallings short. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* IX. Poet. Wks. (1904) 539/1 Shine out for two, Aurora, and fulfil My falling-short that must be!

c. *To stop short of*: not to go the length of (some extreme action).

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, I had but just stopped short of insulting the beautiful..being by whom it was proffered. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, But stop short of any compunction for the people who would lose the same.

8. To come short. †a. To arrive too late. *To come short of*: to arrive too late for, or later than.

1569 W. FORREST *Joseph* I. in *Grisild the Second* (Roxb.) 167 To aske their [sc. Gower and Chaucer's] counsaylles I came all to shorte. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 116 Remembring that this morning..I hied me out thinking that if I had staied for you, I should haue come short. 1646 SUCKLING *Aglaura* v. i, After't, like a man that's come too short o' th' ship And's left behind upon the land. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 177/1 If any [Monk] come short to Prayers or his Meat, he is to stand apart by himself.

†b. To be 'taken short', be taken by surprise.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 553 Lions..Rush out, and prey on sheepe, Steeres, Oxen; and destroy mens stals, so long that they come short, And by the Owners steele are slaine.

c. To be imperfect or inadequate.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* B i b, They will all comme to short in their reconing. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. ix. (Arb.) 169, I consider..how short the Latines come to expresse manie of the Greeke originals. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 176 Your reputation comes too short for my daughter, you are no husband for her. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 12. 23 In arts Mechanicall, the first deuiser coms shortest, and time addeth and perfecteth. 1677 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 414 To attaine The highth and depth of thy Eternal wayes All human thoughts come short, Supream of things. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Underst.* II. xi. § 11 A faculty which we see Beasts come short in. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 121 Even those who come short in other ways may justly plead the valour with which they have fought for their country.

d. *To come short of*: (*a*) to fail to reach (a standard); not to equal *in* some quality; to be

something less than, not to amount to; † (*b*) not to extend to (a place) (*obs.*); † (*c*) to fail to get; also, to lose. (*obs.*)

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 2 Surmountyng the imperfection of coniecture..; and commyng short of high intellectuall conception. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. i. 139/1 in *Holinshed*, Some bishops, &c. in our time doo come short of the ancient gluttonie & prodigaltie of their predecessors. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* iii. 23 For all haue sinned, and come short [Gr. ὑστεροῦνται, *Revised Version* fall short] of the glory of God. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. T.* To Rdr. 33 Giotto came far short of Dominico. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 30 Whatsoever beareth the similitude of any other thing, must of necessitie come short of the thing it doth resemble. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 346 He comes short of none for bravery. 1696 WHISTON *Theory Earth* II. (1722) 181 I cannot well perceive how this Proposition comes short of Physical Demonstration. 1745 PASCOE *Jrnl.* 196 The Chinese come far short of us in the Magnificence of their Houses. 1889 SWINBURNE *Study B. Jonson* i. 6 [They] came short of the triumph which might have been theirs.

(*b*) 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 217 The higher mountaines now comming short of the sea, do leaue a narrow leuel between.

(*c*) 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 420 Who Religiously feast upon the Corps of their aged Parents..for indeed the Wormes come short among the dead Tartars of their foode. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 412 My Master is like to come short of his wife.

†**e.** *To come short home*: to return from an expedition in reduced numbers or with loss of men. Hence, to be missing on the return of an expedition; to fail to return. *Obs.*

In the first quot. perh. = to reach home too late; cf. **a.**

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 175 b, The erle of Warwicke had come to short home, to tel these tidynges if the duke of Excester..might haue had his awne will. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* G iv, Fiue of them came short home, and the most doulte of all remained behinde. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) II. 93 Many of the young Men ..did, Sundry of them, come short Home. 1713 WARDER *True Amazons* 54 And will venture in, tho' they come short home. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 189 He had not always..success in these enterprises; for sometimes we came short home.

9. To cut short [= F. *couper court* (where *court* is uninflected as adv.); cf. A. I. i]: to put a sudden end to (a person's life or career, a course of events, an action, speech, etc.). Hence, to stop (a person) abruptly in a course of action or speech; to interrupt and not allow to proceed. Also *rarely* †to disappoint (a person) *of* something.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 12 Rather then bloody Warre shall cut them short. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 15 The Rule..cuts the work short and sharpe. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* viii. 163 The Chanters did Cut their Notes Short. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 534 ¶ 1, I love to ask Questions when I fall into such Conversation; but I am cut short with something or other about my bright Eyes. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 7 Wks. 1871 II. 179 To cut this matter short, I shall borrow an allusion to physic. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 48 We may cut them short of their desires. 1780 *Mirror* No. 88 It would be a pity to cut short a boy of my genius. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxiii, Wise Antonia cut him short. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. i, A malady which threatened to cut short his days. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lix, An exclamation..cut the lawyer short. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* II. xxx. 78 The young man cut her short with—'You may go'. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brandon* I. 114 His reverie was cut short by the castle clock striking a quarter to five.

10. *To breathe short*: to take short breaths.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iv, She looked pale and breathed short.

11. *To sell short*: to effect a sale of stock or goods which the seller does not at the time possess, but hopes to buy at a lower price before the time fixed for delivery.

1881 *Daily News* 1 Mar. 5/1 A speculator will sell bacon 'short'. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 329/1 When crude oil ..goes down to fifty cents, times are hard, and nobody wears a cheerful face save the speculators who have sold 'short'.

12. *Comb.*, with pples., as *short-breathing*, *-fetched*, *-lasting*, *-living* adjs.; with agent-n., as *short-liver*; also **short-manned**, insufficiently manned; **short-running**, (*a*) *Coursing*, of a hound or hare, running with short strides, slow in pace; (*b*) making short runs; **short-set**, of short build, stumpy; **short-shipped**, lacking from an intended shipment; **short-spoken**, laconic in speech; **short-weighting**, giving short weight; **short-working**, *Coursing*, of a greyhound = *short-running* (*a*).

1701 ROWE *Ambit. Step-mother* III. i, *Short breathing sighs heav'd in my panting breast. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* I. 493 Their *short-fetcht troubled breath a hollow noise doth make. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3283 The loye it is so *short-lasting. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Charac. Old P[riest]* Rem. (1684) 125 Par and John of the Times were *short-Livers to him. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 372 Ye know this world is but a shadow, a *short-living creature, under the law of time. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxii, Captain M— did not like to have the frigate *short manned. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 6 The people patronised the vans to such an extent that *short-running coaches were few. 1853 'STONEHENGE' *Greyhound* ix. 104 A good Wiltshire *short-running dog. *Ibid.* x. 211 A short-running, yet strong hare. 1883 *Good Cheer* 36, I remembered a *short-set young chap. 1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 306 The requirement for the return of *short shipped goods into bond. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxii, *Short-spoken, hard-headed, hard-swearing warriors. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iv, The official persons have to smuggle forth the *short-weighing Baker by back doors. 1853 'STONEHENGE' *Greyhound* ix. 198 A dog got by a racing sire out of a little *short-working dam.

†Short, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 sceortian, 1–2 scortian, 2–5 scort, 4–6 schort(e, 5 schortyn, shorte, shortt, scorte, (sorth), 4–7 short. [OE. *sc(e)ortian* to grow short, f. *sc(e)ort* SHORT *a.* Cf. Du. *schorten*, ON. *skorta* to be lacking. In the trans. sense OE. had the cognate (*ge*)*scyrtan*.]

1. *intr.* To grow short or shorter.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 250, & se dæg þonne sceortað, oð þæt seo sunne cymð eft suð to þam winterlican sunnstede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 185 In his elde þe stature boweþ..þe breþ schorteþ. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3298 Loke to þine ende, For die þe bose, quen all is done & ay þi day scortis. *c* 1450 *Brut* II. cccxxviii. 334 Wherefor.. his lyff shorted þe sonner. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxix. 46 3it, quhone the nycht begynnis to schort, It dois my spreit sum part confort. 15.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 44 So schortithe my brethe.

2. *trans.* To make short or shorter; to shorten.

a. To shorten the duration of (a person's life, a period of time, a condition); *occas.* to bring nearer (an appointed date). Also, *to short* (a person) *of* (life, suffering).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 þenne cumeð..þe deofel..and him scorteð his dages. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22214 For his derlinges..vr laued sal do scort þe dais, for if þe dais ne scorted were unnethes suld ani flexs be fere. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 49 þorgh Edrike's conseile, scho [quene Emme] scorted his life. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 401 We ne liȝthe noht our lif wiþ no luthur dede, Where-fore we scholde with schame be schorted of daies. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1549 þow hast leng ed my lif & my langour schortet. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 653 Wherfore swich sorwe shorteth ful ofte the lif of man. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) 119 Than saye I that no man may shorte ne lengthe the day ordayned of his dying. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* ix. 139 The foly company of women destrueth the body, sorthyth the lyuedayes [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 174 þi sorwe may be so gret & so parfyȝt, þat it schal don awey synne, & schortyn þe peyne, as it dyde þe theef on þe crosse. *a* 1500 *Abraham* 309 in *Brome Bk.* 63 Fader, I prey 3ow hartely, schorte me of my woo. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 60 To sende me in to strange countres to thentent to short my dayes. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* III. i. 1026 Then, Edward, short my life and end her loues. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* xv, Short, night, to-night, and length thyselfe to-morrow. *a* 1615 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* iii. 14 Sen conscience, love, and cheritie all laiks, Lord, short the season, for the chosens saiks.

b. To shorten (a discussion, narration, process, etc.); to curtail by omissions, abbreviate; to make an abridgement of (a literary work).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22305 The Iuus sal scort þam þair consail. *a* 1390 *Prol. Job* in *Wyclif's Bible* II. 670 Seuene hundrid almest or eiȝte hundrid vers failen; with the whiche the boc shortid..sheweth openli to the rederes his foule defaute. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 103 Many oþer meruailes..at þis tyme I speke noȝt of, by cause of schortyng of my buke. 1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Lady* 17 And therfor yt ys not semely that they [words & notes] shulde be shorted. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg., Justyn*, The which hystorye saint Justyn abreuyd or shorted. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* IV. Wks. 287/2 If I hadde seen so muche before, it had been likely to haue shorted much part of our long communicacion. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 147, I flait not to offend 3ow In sempill veirs, this Schedull that I send 3ow; Beseikand 3ow to schort it gif 3e may.

c. To reduce the length of (a material object, a journey); to cut short. *To short* (a person) *by the head* or *knees*: to decapitate or cut off the legs (cf. SHORT *a.* 2, SHORTEN *v.* 1 d).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), þe tunge is so schorted þat vnneþe it is idrawe oute or neuer. 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* III. 3017 With a stroke he rofe his nose a-two, And shortid it by þe haluendel. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 173 He shorted hym and smote of bothe his legges by the knees. *a* 1500 *Nutbrowne Maid* xx. in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) 76 b, To short my here, a bowe to bere. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxv. 426 Howbeit, their way was shorted, for..the frenchmen and they met togyder sodenly. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 117 With shorting and pikynge your bowes..[you] can neuer haue done vntyll they be starke nought. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* (1550) 3 His body was shorted, by the length of his hed.

fig. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* 227, I se now they be at to mych lyberte; we wyll short ther hornys.

3. To make to appear short, to beguile (the time, the way) with sport or stories. Hence *refl.* To amuse oneself (*Sc.*). (Cf. SHURT *v.*)

c 1400 [see SHORTING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 14/406 And thus with myry songys and talys, day be day, They schortyd the tyme with myrthe and with play. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. x. 37 Thai fall to wersling on the goldin sand, Assaying honest gemmis thaim to schort. *Ibid.* VIII. v. 75 With sindry sermondis schortis he the way. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 75 3it fure I furth..Towarte the see, to schorte me on the sandis. 1530 TINDALE *Gen.* To Rdr., As the maner is to prolonge the tale to shorte the tyme with all.

4. To cause to go short *of*.

1620 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Hemp-seed* (1623) 5 The Draper of his wealth would much be shorted.

5. To make of no effect. *nonce-use.* Cf. SHORTEN *v.* 3 b.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 200, I shall short my word By length'ning my returne.

6. *intr.* To come short in one's reckoning.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 141 Three years, which indeed should be five, or he shorts in his account.

7. *Naut.* = SHORTEN *v.* 5 b. *absol.*

c 1557 S. BURROUGH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 277 For as we shorted vpon yᵉ said warpe the anker came home.

Short, *v.*[2] *trans.* and *intr.* = SHORT-CIRCUIT *v.* (Cf. SHORT *sb.* 4 e.)

1907 *Daily Chron.* 27 July 9/2 The coil went wrong, and the accumulators 'shorted' internally. 1907 *Motor Boat* 4 July 440/2 The battery must be disconnected and the magneto 'shorted'.

Shortage (ʃō·ɹtĕdʒ). Orig. *U.S.* [f. SHORT *sb.* + -AGE.] Deficiency in quantity; the amount by which a sum of money, a supply of goods, or the like, is deficient. Also *attrib.*

1868 *Amer. Newsp.* Apr. The 'shortage war' [at Chicago] between the shippers of grain and the skippers who carry it, is practically over. 1873 *Wisconsin Rep.* XXIX, The plaintiff must recover damages for any shortage. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 184 When there was any shortage of the party funds..I posed as the friend round the corner. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Apr. 5/3 The actual shortage was £545,000.

Sho·rt-bread. [SHORT *a.* 20 a.] An article of food, in the form of flat (usually round) cakes, the essential ingredients of which are flour, butter, sugar, mixed in such proportions as to make the cake 'short' when baked.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 217 It can be used for biscuit, bunns, and particularly for short-bread. 1853 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 226 A decanter of wine..and a plateful of shortbread. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* (1892) 201 Two of those pans, that could be broken in the hands to-day like shortbread.

Short-breathed (ʃō·ɹtˌbrɛ þt), *a.* [f. SHORT *a.* + BREATH *sb.* + -ED².] Short of breath; suffering from difficulty of breathing, dyspnœic.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 333 Sir Lamorak was so sore brysed and shorte brethed that he tracyd and trauercyd somwhat abak. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. (1650) 100 It is very profitable for such as be asthmaticke or short-breathed. 1753 J. BARTLET *Genil. Farriery* ix. (1754) 89 The horse..turns short-breathed with the least exercise. 1805 J. WHITAKER in *Polwhele's Tradit.* (1826) II. 551 The air of London..is so loaded with suiphur..as to be almost pestilential to a short-breathed man. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. iii. (Rtldg.) 343 The deuce and all! stammered out my secretary, short-breathed with sudden admiration. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 306/2 Being short-breathed and unable to go up even a gentle hill without panting and puffing.

b. *fig.* (Cf. SHORT-WINDED.)

1845 MRS. BROWNING *Lett.* (1899) I. 255 One should not be grateful for kindness only while it lasts: that would be short-breathed gratitude.

Sho·rt-cake. [SHORT *a.* 20 a.] A cake made short or crisp with butter or lard.

The specific application varies according to locality; in some English districts the word means a cake of shortbread; elsewhere in England, and in the U.S., it is applied to a rich tea-cake, and to a cake of pastry enclosing a layer of fruit.

1594 *Good Huswife's Handmaid* 52 To make short Cakes. [1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 211 Booke of Riddles? why did you not lend it to Alice Short-cake vpon Allhallowmas last.] 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1850) 90 There wur snaps, yell, nuts, gingerbread, shwort-keakes, and brandy. 1820 IRVING *Leg. Sleepy Hollow* Sketch Bk. (1821) II. 286 Sweet cakes and short cakes. 1826 MRS. DODS *Cook & Housew. Man.* 316 Derby Short-Cakes. 1829 *Frugal Housew.* 61. 1884 'E. GARRETT' *At Any Cost* iii. 51 She had scarcely realized that there were so many jam-pots and tea-boxes and short-cakes to be seen together anywhere in the wide world. 1902 *Strand Mag.* Jan. 69/2 We are promised to-day a Strawberry Shortcake.

Short circuit, *sb. Electr.* A circuit made through a small resistance, esp. one that acts as a shunt to a circuit of comparatively large resistance.

1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 37 A cell is said to be on 'short circuit' when the plates are directly connected by means of a conductor. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict., Short Circuit*, a connection between two parts of a circuit, which connection is of low resistance compared to the intercepted portion. 1900 HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin.* I. 98/2 A short circuit occurs when connection takes place, generally through a fault, between two conductors..When the short circuit is one of extremely low resistance it is known as a dead short circuit.

Short-circuit, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *Electr.* (*trans.*) **a.** To connect by a short circuit; to establish a short circuit in (an electric system).

1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xiii. § 15. 203 If any two coils touch or are connected through the silk, they are, in technical language, said to be short-circuited. 1886 CUMMING *Electricity treated experimentally* 236 We find on short-circuiting the battery a deflection of 73°. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.*, To short circuit a lamp. 1896 FOSTER & ATKINSON *Electr. & Magnetism* § 345. 420 When the plug is placed at O, the galvanometer is 'short-circuited'.

b. Of a conducting body: To be traversed by (a current) by way of short circuit. Also *refl.* of a current: To make a short circuit.

1882 *Nature* 16 Nov. 59/1 If one of the machines drops in speed the currents from the other machines short-circuit themselves through the one. 1884 P. HIGGS *Magneto & Dynamo-Electric Mach.* 172 Care should be taken that these bed-plates do not short-circuit the magnetic lines of force from pole to pole of the field-magnets. 1908 *Athenæum* 28 Mar. 392/1 The patient..can be brought back to life, even after having 'short-circuited' a current of 2,000 volts.

c. To cut off the current from (part of an apparatus) by establishing a short circuit.

1882 *Nature* 27 July 289/2 Moreover, we doubt whether 'the happy idea of *filling up* the space between the lead plates used by Planté with red lead', would by any means produce the result of 'vastly increasing the usefulness of

that excellent apparatus: it would rather destroy it by short-circuiting it.

fig. 1899 *Educat. Rev.* Dec. 475 The omnibus-institutions are to short-circuit the college.

2. *Surg.* To form a direct communication between two portions of an intestine above and below an obstruction; to make a direct passage from (an organ) *into* some other part when the normal passage is obstructed; to avoid (an obstruction) or establish (circulation) by this means.

1897 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Mar. 645 As an alternative the gall-bladder may be short-circuited into the intestine. 1905 ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 259 The portal circulation through the liver is short-circuited. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 261 Wherever adhesions are very extensive and likely to recur it is better to short-circuit the obstruction.

Short cloth. A kind of cotton cloth or calico manufactured in short pieces. Also a length or piece of such cloth.

1545 [see LONG CLOTH]. 1641 HAKEWILL *Libertie Subj.* 93 The custom upon a short cloth was fourteene-pence, and ..a sack of Wool did commonly make foure short clothes. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxxi. 322 Cloth exported to Turkey the five preceding years..short cloths.

Short-coat, *sb.* [In sense 1, f. SHORT *a.* + COAT *sb.*; in sense 2 derived from SHORT-COAT *v.*]

1. A person wearing a short coat. Also *attrib.* in †**short-coat vicarage** (meaning obscure).

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv.* xii. 68 Where those great Impropriations are that devoure all the Profits, and have all to a short-coat Vicaridge. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. x, There was a strong feeling against the shortcoats [*i. e.* 'two tall footmen in short coats'].

2. *pl.* The garments in which an infant is clothed when the long clothes are laid aside.

Short-coat, *v.* [f. SHORT *adv.* + COAT *v.*

Cf. quot. 1650 under COAT *v.* 1.]

trans. To dress (an infant) in short clothes.

1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) III. 107 It will be adviseable, in order to inure infants to the air, that they be short-coated as early as the season of the year will permit. 1888 MAUDE BRADSHAW *Ind. Outfits* 32 It is best to short-coat babies in the Plains, after the first month. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 746 Infants when first short-coated often suffer in this way [from chill].

b. *fig.* in *passive.* To emerge from babyhood.

1890 *Athenæum* 22 Feb. 238/1 The North-West Territories are waiting to be shortcoated.

Hence **Short-coating** *vbl. sb.* used *collect.* for the various articles required when a child is short-coated. 1895 *Stores Price List.*

Short-coated, *a.* [f. SHORT *a.* + COAT *sb.* + -ED[2].]

a. Wearing a short coat. **b.** Of animals: Having a short coat as opposed to 'shaggy'.

1813 MOORE *Post Bag* vi. 12, I [*sc.* a Turk in London] saunter on—the admiration Of this short-coated population. 1890 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 2/3 One of Mr. Smith's short-coated prize-winners.

Short-comer. One who comes short of duty.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 410 The undevout shortcomer is quickened into new fervour. 1868 H. LAW *Beacons* (1869) 131 As sanctified, they are miserable shortcomers.

Short-coming, *vbl. sb.* [f. phrase *to come short*: see SHORT *adv.* 8 c, d.

In 1847 censured by De Quincey as a Scotticism (*Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 89).]

The condition or fact of coming short; an instance of this. **a.** Failure to come up to a standard of excellence or to fulfil a duty; a defect. (Chiefly in *plural*). **b.** Failure to reach the required or expected amount, a deficiency.

c 1680 M'WARD *Contendings* (1723) 222 (Jam.), A just sensibleness..of our unworthy shortcomings. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 441 A short-coming of the proprietor's rent. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. vi, He sounded..the note of Jacobinism, to hide past shortcomings. 1845 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 10 He had no eye for our faults and shortcomings. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, There were no shortcomings anywhere, in anything but money. 1860 — *Lett.* (1880) II. 113 The shortcomings of representative government. 1885 SWINBURNE *Victor Hugo* vi. (1886) 84 Such..shortcomings as will probably be detected in a work which at least lays no claim to completeness. 1889 *Standard* 17 Apr., How can this shortcoming be made good? 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* I. iv. 106 A confession of shortcoming.

So **Short-coming** *a.*, defective.

1889 BRYDALL *Art in Scot.* xii. 246 His works are carefully finished and drawn, but rather shortcoming in colour.

Short copy, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. *short copy*, SHORT *a.* 8.] *trans.* To make a short copy of.

1891 OLVER & O'REILLY *Imperial Tariff* 262 The landing books should be sent in..short copied as far as possible.

Short cut, *sb.*[1] [CUT *sb.*[2] 15.]

†**1.** A short passage or journey. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 151 In the short cut of a priuate letter..small shew of difference can appeare. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 198 If the winde sende him a short cut you shall in the second part heare what newes he bringeth. 1631 MAY tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 270 From thence is but a short cut to Swethland. 1673 *S' too him Bayes* 25 Both sayls and reason insufficient for so short a cut.

2. A path or a course taken between two places which is shorter than the ordinary road. Now often hyphened. (In early use almost exclusively *shorter* or *shortest cut.*)

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 169 Out-stripping the Enemy by shortest cuts [L. *occupatis compendiis*]. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxiv. 21 They should take a shorter cut to Dan and Bethel. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 279 [A ray of light] takes a shorter cut in passing through diamond than glass. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 309 The baronet..declared that if there was a short cut, they should not part company, for he could walk it himself. 1820 KEATS *Cap & Bells* xxiii, He 'knew the city', as we say, of yore, And for short cuts and turns, was nobody knew more. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 837 Those for making ocean short-cuts behind the backs of peninsulas and angles of land. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 126 By-tracks and short cuts, by..which the road was materially shortened.

b. *fig.* A compendious method of attaining some object.

1589 MARLOWE *Faustus* 287 Therefore the shortest cut for coniuring Is stoutly to abiure the Trinitie. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 208 He is the short cut (as we used to say) and the nearest way to an outgate of all your burdens. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 240 The degenerate fondness for tricking short-cuts, and little fallacious facilities, that has in so many parts of the world created governments with arbitrary powers. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 314 In England they..have made many short cuts to philosophy for the accommodation of ladies and gentlemen. 1873 SPENCER *Study Sociol.* (1882) 402 Between infancy and maturity there is no shortcut by which there may be avoided the tedious process of growth and development. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vii. (1900) 115 What will you give me if I tell you a sure short-cut to everything you want.

c. *attrib.*

1885 *Daily Tel.* 10 Sept. (Cass.), Men who have been to the University..have been known before now to take the short-cut road to their meaning which swearing unhappily supplies. 1903 *Critic* XLIII. 382/2 To make war the short-cut solution of the existing difficulties.

Short cut, *a.* and *sb.*[2] [CUT *pa. pple.*]

A. *adj.* Cut to a short length. (See SHORT *a.* I. i.)

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. B 1, Content..to trauerse the subtile distinctions twixt short cut and long taile. 1785 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 8 July 2/3 A grey Poney, with a short cut Tail, broken winded. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 83/2 The curls or knots [should be] formed by turning a short-cut hair pencil.

B. *sb.* (*ellipt.*)

1. A kind of tobacco.

1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* (*c* 1800) 140 Part swig'd barley swipes, As short-cut they were smoaking. 1839 'J. FUME' *Paper on Tobacco* 119 About forty years ago short cut was the favourite with those for whom the common shag was too strong.

2. A ham that is cut short or round.

1906 *Times* 2 June 12/6 A parcel of hams, 'short-cuts' called in the trade.

Short-da·ted, *a.* [f. SHORT *a.* + DATE *sb.* + -ED[2].]

†**1.** Lasting a short time. *Obs.*

1632 BP. H. KING *Poems, Elegy on Gust. Adolphus* (1843) 69 Who, clos'd in thy cold lead, Dost from thy self a mournful lecture read Of Mans short-dated glory. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 253 Clipped and short-dated crosses.

2. Of bills, notes of hand, etc.: Falling due at an early date.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* v, Duncan Robb, the grocer at Kipplet-ringan, who has aye a sum to make up, and either wants ready money, or a short-dated bill. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Jan. 9/1 It was thought the Government might have allotted shorter-dated paper now, seeing the unpropitious rates.

†**Sho·rted,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SHORT *v.* + -ED[1].] Shortened, cut short.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/1 Schortyd, *correptus, breuiatus.* 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. 208 The Roman General ..marched directly by the shorted road.

Shorten (ʃǫ·ɹt'n), *v.* [f. SHORT *a.* + -EN[5].]

1. *trans.* To make shorter, to diminish the length of, to abridge, curtail.

a. With reference to duration.

To shorten (a person's) *life*: in early use sometimes † to kill.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 6 The king his brother (whose life hee loked that euil dyete shoulde shorten). 1614 SIR H. SPELMAN *Law Terms* xvii. (1684) 44 Trinity-Term was altred and shortned by the Statute of 32 Hen. 8 chap. 21. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 420 When Autumn weighs The Year, and adds to Nights, and shortens Days. 1733 DUCHESS QUEENSBERRY *Let. to Swift* 21 Feb., As you cannot lengthen your friend's days, I must beg you, in your own words, not to shorten your own. 1824 Miss L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* II. 79 [They] could not make any excuse for shortening their stay at the castle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 665 She calmly disposed the straw about her in such a manner as to shorten her sufferings. 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 978/2 We may blame him for shortening a valuable life by inflicting needless hardships upon himself.

b. To make to appear shorter; to beguile (time, a journey, etc.) by conversation or pastime.

1579 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. P.* xlviii. 216 With *Pro* and *Contra*, so shortnit we the way. 1663 PATRICK *Parable Pilgrim* xxviii. (1687) 323 In such delightful and useful talk as this they beguiled the time, and shortned the length of the ways. 1733 FIELDING *Quix. Eng.* I. vii, When a lover suffers his mistress to come first to the place of appointment, he cannot blame any innocent amusement with which she would shorten his absence. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xii, The tale, which had shortened the way in so interesting a manner. 1867 *All Year Round* 13 July 56/2 Narrations of adventures met with on previous tramps..serve to shorten the road.

c. With reference to compositions, speeches, discussions, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 704/2 Shorten your mater, for it is to longe for this audyence. 1672–5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 35 But (as is done in our Common Prayer) he shortned it because of his weakness. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 107 ¶ 7 To shorten my Story, she was married to another. 1850 W. R. WILLIAMS *Relig. Progr.* iii. (1854) 50 The Jesuits ..who lengthened the creed and shortened the commandments. 1912 J. M. THOMSON *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1306–1424, Pref. 8 The custom grew up of shortening it [a list of witnesses] to *ut in aliis cartis* [etc.].

d. With reference to linear measurement. †*To shorten up*: to contract, draw together.

† *To shorten by the head*: to behead (cf. SHORT *a.* 2, SHORT *v.* 2 c).

1530 PALSGR. 704/2 A tall man may shorten hym selfe so mocke that he shall nat seme so hye as a childe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 273 They had shortened the course of the landes he had discouered. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 662 There his body was shortned, by the length of his hed. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 260 Goe, charge my Goblins that they..shorten vp their sinewes With aged Cramps. 1791 G. WALLIS *Motherby's Med. Dict.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Musculus*, A muscle..can contract itself so as to be shortened one third. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.* II. 106 The tour..they must now necessarily shorten. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 107 This we crossed in order to shorten our way. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 15 Oct. 5/7 To shorten the course of the river from London Bridge to Gravesend by 2½ miles. 1912 T. D. ATKINSON *Cathedr.* 179 Shortening the total length of the church by about 37 feet.

e. *fig.* In Biblical phrase, *To shorten the arm* or *hand of*: to limit the power of.

1535 COVERDALE *Num.* xi. 23 The Lorde sayde vnto Moses: Is the Lordes hande shortened then? 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 97 Doe they thinke that his arme is shortened, or his power weakened? 1645 HARWOOD *Loyal Subj. Retiring-room* 28 Why should we think his hand will be shortned towards any of us? 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xx. 3 God will shorten your hand of cruelty. 1833 LYTE *Hymn, 'When at thy Footstool,'* Thine arm can never shorten'd be.

f. To diminish in working length; to tighten (a rein), in quot. *fig.*; to hold (a weapon) nearer to the middle, in order to deal a more effective blow or thrust.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xliii. § 4 They shorten somewhat the reynes of their censure. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iv, He closed with him, shortening his own sword at the same time, with the purpose of despatching him. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ix, Shortening the rod in his hand, and preparing for battle. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. xii. 84 Villiers..shortened his stick to give her a blow on the head. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 298/1 (Rowing) *Shorten oars*, to draw the handle of the oar in-board, in order to avoid an obstacle in the river, or to pass through a narrow place such as a lock.

g. With reference to phonetic quantity.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xii[i]. (Arb.) 131 He that first shortned *ca*, in this word *cano*, and made long *tro*, in *troia*, and *o*, in *oris*, might haue aswell done the contrary. 1861 PALEY *Aeschylus* (ed. 2) *Eumen.* 996 *note*, Homer shortens the *a* in *δαΐδος*. 1871 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* I. II. xviii. § 583 The imperative-forms in Plautus and Terence often shortened the final vowel.

†**h.** To diminish in number or quantity. *Obs.*

1598 DALLINGTON *Method Trav.* L 2 b, The Nobilitie of France is exceedingly shortned in number. 1611 *Second Maiden's Tragedy* 2385 (Malone Soc.) Thy glories shalbe shortend.

i. *Hort.* To cut back in pruning. Also *to shorten in, back.*

1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. II. ii. 110 We..only shorten the young shoots. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 457 The short lateral shoots, which are shortened in at the winter pruning to two or three buds. *Ibid.* 475 The shoots on the upper or farther extended branches may be shortened back to half or one-third of their lengths.

j. To clip (coin).

1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* xli, My grandfather..sometimes shortened money, and at other times passed off what had been shortened by other gentry.

2. *intr.* To grow shorter. **a.** To diminish in length (either of duration or measurement).

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 369 Thus euer the time passed, and the dayes shortened. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 36 The third story of Columns would shorten so much. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 21, I am glad to see my labour shorten. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *New Yr.'s Eve*, In proportion as the years both lessen and shorten, I set more count upon their periods. 1850 MISS WARNER *Wide Wide World* xxxvi, Ellen's face shortened considerably. 1899 E. E. HALE *Lowell & Friends* ii. 17 As the days shortened, morning prayers came later.

†**b.** To become less diffuse. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1727 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 299 After this interruption, Mr Grant shortened.

†**c.** Of the breath: To become shorter.

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl.* 78 My breath shortens; my pulse beats high.

d. Of a price, odds: To be lowered or lessened.

1884 H. SMART *Post to Finish* xliv, The odds shortened rapidly. Still the fielders continued to lay the lessening price. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* xl. 302 The horse's price shortened. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* May 301 To use the bookmaker's parlance, the prices shorten somewhat.

3. *trans.* † **a.** To hold in check, restrain. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 663/2 They should not be able once to styrre or murmure, but that it shoulde be knowen, and they shortened according to theyr demerites. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Ded. B 2 b, Here, where the Subject is so fruitful..I am shorten'd by my Chain.

†**b.** To render (an intention) ineffectual. (Cf. SHORT *v.* 5.) *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 9 Yet to be knowne shortens my made intent.

c. To keep from the attainment *of.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. vii, Whereon the Parlement, shortened of its prey, would look with yellow despair. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 234 Of thy due honours shortened.

†**4.** To cause to go short, to supply insufficiently. Const. *of, in. Obs.*

1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 51 So shortened of money..he was rid of many occasions that hinder good proceedings. 1621 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 149, I knew they had..shortned thenglish in all they demanded, contrary to the kinges promis.

5. *Naut.* **a.** *To shorten sail(s*: to take in some of the sails of a vessel in order to slacken speed.

1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 44 As you approach the shore, shorten your sailes. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iv. 35 We shortned sail for her to come up with us. 1805 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. 107 The Ships of the Fleet are directed, particularly in the night, to shorten sail. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 25 Feb. 15/3 Sail is being shortened all round.

transf. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxx, 'You are a gay old gentleman!' said Jekyl, relaxing his pace; 'and if we must be fellow-travellers..I must even shorten sail for you.'

b. *To shorten in*: to heave in (the cable) so that a shorter length remains overboard. Also *absol.*

1854 G. B. Richardson *Univ. Code* v. (ed. 12) 1284 Shorten in cable. *Ibid.* 4981 Shorten in tow-lines. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., *Shorten in*, when alluding to the anchor, by heaving in cable.

6. To make 'short' or friable. Also (of manure) *intr.* for *refl.*

1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 24 The Chalk or Sand will shorten and crumble the Clay before the Plough. *Ibid.* 30 They as carefully take care to clamp up their Yard Dungs..in order to rot and shorten against the next Wheat or Barly Season. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 659/1 The crust being shortened with..suet.

7. To put (a child) into short clothes.

1871 *Punch* 9 Dec. 240/1 An authentic fragment of the blue sash he wore the day he was shortened. 1897 Hall Caine *Christian* I. i. 6 At the end of the first year she wrote: 'I have shortened our darling'.

Hence **Sho·rtened**, **Sho·rtening** *ppl. adjs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 252 Se sceortigenda dæg hæfð liðran ȝewederu þonne se langienda dæg. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 57/3 The dissease of a shortened tunge. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 194 Her shortning curles scarce hang beneath her eares. 1645 Milton *Passion* i, In Wintry solstice like the shorten'd light Soon swallow'd up in dark and long out living night. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 509 That none shall dare With shortned Sword to stab in closer War. 1785 Burns *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* ii, The short'ning winter-day is near a close. 1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 199 Shortened heavy-spar. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxii, His red and inflamed eye, his heated hand, and his shortened respiration. 1857 Kingsley *Two V. Ago* ii, Ships..driving fast to the eastward with shortened sail. 1874 Gladstone *Corr. Ch. & Relig.* (1910) I. 397 The Bills for Clerical Subscription..and the Shortened Services. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 263 In the shortening days of 1845. 1913 Chesterton *Victorian Age* 30 Tom Moore,..a shortened shadow of Lord Byron.

Sho·rtener. [-er 1.] One who or something which shortens (in various senses of the vb.).

1565 J. Phillip *Patient Grissell* 715 (Malone Soc.) Oh dyrfull daye, oh haples hap, oh shortner of my yeares. *a* 1636 G. Williams *Best Relig.* viii. 183 Sin is an epitomizer or shortner of every thing. *c* 1710 Swift *Inq. Behav. Queen's Last Ministry* ii, The gout, which is not usually reckoned a shortener of life. 1878 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* cix. 8. V. 183 Sin the great shortener of human life.

Shortening (ʃɔ·ɹtˈnin), *vbl. sb.* [-ing 1.]

1. The action or an act of the verb Shorten.

a 1542 Wyatt *Poems, Epitaph Sir T. Gravener* 12 No sickness could him from it let; Which was the shortening of his days. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 160 Hee should neuer seeke to attempt any thing to the shortning or hurt of his Grandfathers life or empire. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xii. (1813) 149 The rule for shortening is this: Consider the strength of the tree [etc.]. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 249 As in the case of shortening back to induce the growth of fruit spurs in the apple tree. 1886 Magee in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 15 Oaths of allegiance, supremacy and abjuration have shrunk, after many lengthenings and shortenings, into the brief and simple form [etc.].

2. *concr.* (See quot. 1823.)

1823 Moor *Suffolk Words, Shortning*, suet or butter, in cake, crust, or bread. 1854 Seba Smith *Way down East* 333 We have n't got a bit of shortnin' in the house. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Nov. 758/2 The very reason for boiling the 'shortening' with water is that by liquefying the fat a minimum quantity of water can be used.

Shorter (ʃɔ·ɹtəɹ). *slang.* [f. Short *v.* + -er 1.] A clipper of coin.

1857 Borrow *Rom. Rye* xli, My grandfather was a shorter, and my father was a smasher. 1864 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v., From a crown piece a shorter could gain 5*d.*

† **Sho·rtestness.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *shortest*, superl. of Short *a.* + -ness.] Minimal length.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 32 And though a point be the least of boak, and a nowt the shortest of time, yet they may speak everlastingness and allfillingness..for all their shortestness and leastness, as well as the longest or the biggest.

Sho·rt-fall. [From the phrase *to fall short*: see Fall *v.* 96.] A falling short; the amount by which a supply falls short, shortage, deficiency.

1895 *Johannesburg Standard* 23 Nov. 5/2 The best that could be expected this year from the harvest was an eight months' crop, and the shortfall would be some million-and-a-half bags of grain. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 793 From the very beginning the shortfall in the labour-supply had been the principal factor in the slow development of these colonies.

† **Sho·rtford.** *Law. Obs.* [Appears in med. L. and AF. documents as *sortfort, shortford, shartfort, shatford, scholford*; of obscure origin.

It is noteworthy that in the *Statutum de Gavelcto in London* (prob. 13th c.) a tenement forfeited to the lord 'for default of service' is said to be designated by a term which appears under the various forms *forshard, forshot, forthot, forsshott* (the early printed edd. have *forschoc, forchoc, forschoke*): see *Stat. of the Realm* (Record ed.) I. 222 and *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 63, 469. Some of these forms look like transpositions of the syllables of *shortford, shartfort*, etc.; but it is possible that they arose from progressive corruption of AF. *forclot* = *forclos* pa. pple. of *forclore* to Foreclose.]

An ancient process by which the lord could obtain possession of a tenement when the tenant had failed to render the services due, and there were no effects on which a distraint could be levied.

1291 in G. Oliver *Hist. Exeter* (1861) 309 Adjudicatum est ei sortfort. 1335 in Izacke *Antiq. Exeter* (1677) 48 Adjudicatum fuit Decano & Capitulo beati Petri Exoniensis quoddam Tenementum scituatum in vico Australi Civitatis Exoniensis secundum Consuetudinem Civitatis prædictæ & dicitur Shortford. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 186 Solonc le jugement appelle 'Shartfort' [*v.r.* Shatford (*Cowel's Law Dict.* 1727)] par custome de la cite suisdite. *? a* 1500 in G. Oliver *Hist. Exeter* (1861) 309 *note*, Schotford, quod gallicè dicitur forclot. 1701 *Cowel's Interpreter* (ed. Kennett) s. v. [cites Izacke].

Short-grained, *a.* [f. Short *a.*; cf. Grained *ppl. a.*²] Of wood: Having a short fibre rendering it liable to snap easily. Hence *transf.* of a bone.

1670–1 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 107 White Cedar and such like Wood..are very heavy and short-grained, and will break short. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 86 Bog Oak Timber is..dozed and short grained. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 441/1 The presence of..phosphate of lime rendered the bone short-grained.

Shorthand (ʃɔ·ɹthænd). Also short hand (*rare*), short-hand. [f. Short *a.* + Hand *sb.*] A method of speedy writing by means of the substitution of contractions or arbitrary signs or symbols for letters, words, etc., brachygraphy, stenography.

1636 *Jeffrey Hudson's New Yeeres Gift* title-p., With a Letter as it was penned in short-hand. 1639 Mayne *City Match* I. iii, Shall I not learn Arithmetic too, sir, and Short-hand. 1724 R. Falconer *Voy.* (1769) 98 His Journals were mostly taken in Short-Hand. 1864 *Soc. Sci. Rev.* 220 A species of shorthand was practised in the time of Cicero. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 1/3 The training includes Indexing, Shorthand, Type-writing, Stenotypy.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 126 Tis the Shorthand of the mind and crowds a great deal into a little space. 1801 Busby *Dict. Mus.* p. xxxii, These abbreviations form a musical Brachygraphy, or Short Hand. 1827 Hare *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 4 To address the prejudices of our hearers is to argue with them in short-hand. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 232 To save time the objects were drawn in shorthand—a couple of dashes for the limbs and one across, as in the Chinese for man. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* v. 124 The *We're Here* rang her bell thrice, using sea shorthand.

c. *attrib.* as in *shorthand clerk, minute, note, report, reporter, teacher, writer, writing*; † **short-hand-man,** a shorthand writer.

1647 J. Birkenhead *Assembly-Man* (1662–3) 17, I admire the *Short-hand-men, who have the patience to write from his Mouth. 1682 Owtram *Serm.* A 2 b, They were taken from the author by a Short-hand-man. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 420 Copying my *short-hand minutes of medical lectures. 1709 *Female Tatler* No. 4/2, I took *Short-hand-Notes. 1831 D. E. Williams *Sir T. Lawrence* I. 401 The following is the *short-hand report of his evidence. 1887 Ld. Rosebery in *Standard* 27 Sept. 2/4 The first authorised *shorthand reporter in a Court of Law. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 12 'Tis wisely done..of a *Short-hand teacher [to live next door] to a Meeting-house. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. viii. § 76 (1740) 642 The Party Men attended with their *Short-hand Writers at their Elbows, to take what might incautelously..slip from the Mouths of the Judges, for Matter of Accusation. 1904 Spencer *Autobiog.* II. 292 The amanuensis was a short-hand-writer. 1641 Wilkins *Mercury* xii. (1707) 52 This *Short-hand Writing is now so ordinary in Practice [etc.]. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* I. xii. 68 He is a complete master of shorthand writing.

d. quasi-*adj.* Of the nature of shorthand; compendious.

1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* (1823) II. 26 Every new short-hand mode of doing things. 1844 De Quincey *Logic Pol. Econ.* Pref. 8 A short-hand expression for the relation between the quantity offered for sale, and the quantity demanded. 1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* vii. (1890) 275 The recourse to dumb show..looks like a kind of short-hand indication of scenes that might have been worked out.

Hence † **Sho·rt-handed,** *a.*¹ competent to write shorthand; **Sho·rthander,** a writer of shorthand, a stenographer.

a 1658 Cleveland *Count. Com. Man* Poems (1677) 99 A new blew stockin'd Justice..with a short-handed Clerk, tack'd to the Rear of him to carry the Knapsack of his Understanding. 1738 Thyer *Byrom's Rem.* (1856) II. i. 198 We arrive at Hartley's where we accidentally find a party of shorthanders. 1898 L. Stephen *Stud. Biogr.* I. iii. 86 The meetings of the shorthanders naturally took place at taverns.

Short-handed, *a.*²

† **1.** ? Niggardly, mean; inefficient, ineffective.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 228 My Hostesse was not short, either handed, or witted. 1643 Tuckney *Balm of Gilead* 10 Our thoughts and hopes are too short sighted and handed to reach to all that salvation.

2. Lacking a full complement of 'hands', undermanned, understaffed.

1794 Nelson 29 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 461 He would be satisfied with an indifferent Carpenter, but he could not with propriety go to sea without one: that he would not ask for any one in lieu of the other, but he was very short-handed. 1802 C. James *Milit. Dict.* s. v. *Gun*, Ships that go to sea short-handed. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 202, I think the Ogowé Protestant mission sadly short-handed. 1912 Trevelyan *Geo. III & Fox* I. v. 143 Ships..in far superior condition to his own short-handed and woefully provided vessels.

Hence **Shortha·ndedness.**

1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Feb. 173 The combination [of offices] now, had Mr. Gladstone repeated it, would rather be forced on him by shorthandedness than taken of free-will.

† **Sho·rthead.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 4 ssorthede. [f. Short *a.* + -head.] Shortness, brevity.

1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Þis bene paseþ alle oþre ine þri þinges, ine dignete, in ssorthede, an ine guodnesse.

Shorthorn (ʃɔ·ɹtˌhɔ·ɹn). [f. Short *a.* + Horn *sb.*] One of a breed of cattle having short horns, originally bred in the north-eastern counties of England and now widely distributed over Great Britain and exported to other countries.

[1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 376 A Sockburn Shorthorns from Grassy-hook which should put the best bull of Basan out of the field.] 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 61/2 They have succumbed before the superiority of the shorthorns. 1911 B. Holland *Life Duke Devonshire* I. ix. 213 A famous breed of shorthorns.

b. *attrib.*

1862 Burton *Bk. Hunter* I. 24 The pedigrees and physical characteristics recorded in stud-books and short-horn books. 1877 *Field* 17 Feb. 191/2 A society similar to the Shorthorn Society. 1909 *Carlisle Jrnl.* 27 Apr. 3/4 The splendid selection of shorthorn stirks.

Sho·rt-horned, *a.* Having short horns.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 227 The long-legg'd, short-horn'd Cow of the Dutch-breed. 1854 A. Adams, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 254 Short-horned Flies.

Short-hose. **a.** A kind of stocking reaching only a short distance up the leg. † **b.** Used as a rendering of Curthose. *Obs.*

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxxii. 245 Robert, the eldest sone of Kynge Wyllyam, the whiche was surnamed Curthose, or Shorthose. 1530 Palsgr. 267/1 Schorte hose, *chausse courte.* 1880 J. Hay *Pike Co. Ballads* 61 Women that shorthose wore.

Shorthursday, obs. form of Sheer Thursday.

Sho·rting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Short *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Short in various senses.

a 1390 tr. *St. Jerome's Prol. Jer.* in *Wyclif's Bible* (1850) III. 342 But more riȝt it were, to the shorting of euel, to putte mesure to the wodnesse of them bi my silence. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 209 That euery man shuld, by the wey, with a tale glade Al the hole company in shorting of þe wey. 1490 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 1 § 1 If any Captain..give not them their full Wages without shorting as he shall receive of the King.

Shortish (ʃɔ·ɹtiʃ), *a.* [f. Short *a.* + -ish.] Rather short. Also in comb.

1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. 24 Shortish-tailed brown Baboon. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 253 He was a stout, shortish, compactly-made fellow. 1835 Hood *Poetry, Prose, & Worse* xxxvi, To tenants but shortish at present, When Michaelmas comes with its day. 1871 W. A. Leighton *Lichen-Flora* 146 Laciniæ shortish. 1882 Blackmore *Christowell* xxii, A shortish old man with hedger's gloves on.

Short-lived (ʃɔ·ɹtˌlɪvd; the stress is variable), *a.* Also **-lif'd.** [f. Short *a.* + *live*, Life + -ed 2. Often apprehended as f. *lived* pa. pple. of Live *v.* (cf. *smooth-spoken*) and pronounced (-livd).]

1. Having a short life.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 54 Such short liu'd wits do wither as they grow. *c* 1608 B. Jonson *Hymenæi* Wks. (1616) 911 So short-liu'd are the bodies of all things, in comparison of their soules. 1645 Quarles *Sol. Recast.* ii. 3 The short lif'd days of flesh and blood. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 336 The Plants indeed were short-liv'd, and continued no longer than the Heat of the Vessels lasted. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 591 The peach being a short-lived tree. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. vi. 168 Gymnasts are short lived. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* I. i. (1878) 13 The million species of organisms of which he [man] is the short-lived lord.

2. *transf.* Lasting only a short time, brief, ephemeral.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 15 O short liu'd pride. 1645 Waller *Poems, To Amoret* 60 Then smile on me, and I will prove Wonder is shorter liv'd then Love. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 256 ¶ 5 Admiration is a very short-liv'd Passion. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* liii, I was made a short-lived toy, and flung aside more cruelly and carelessly than even such things are. 1888 Burgon *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 18 He afforded a short-lived triumph to the enemies of Religion.

b. *Metallurgy.*

1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 22/1 Sulphur..makes molten iron 'short-lived'.

Hence **Shortli·vedness,** brief duration.

1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 69 In proportion to the short-livedness of the power, diminishes, both to purchasers, and thence to sellers, the venal value of it. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. i. 6 The shortlivedness of their organisations.

† **Short livy,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. In 3 sort leui (? error for *-liuz*). [f. Short + Life *sb.* + -y. Cf. OE. *langlíf* long-lived.] Short-lived.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 712 Aram bi-gat loth, and sarray, And melcham, and was sort leui In loud caldea.

† **Sho·rtly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Short *a.* + -ly 1.] Brief, not long (in time).

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* lxxx. (1889) 214 Se apostol sæde þæt soþlice þæt on andwerdum sceortlic oþþe hwilendlic [L. *momentaneum*] ys. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* i. 2 His wil is in godis lawe..and þat will is noght ydell na shortly, *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 664 When both hoosts were met within shortly space, such offers of a pease were proferid

by the Frenshe Kynge, that fynally both prynces agreed vpon a pease.

Shortly (ʃǒ·rtli), *adv.* [f. SHORT *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Briefly, concisely, in few words.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 5 Scortlice ic hæbbe nu ȝesæd ymb þa þrie dælas ealles þises middanȝeardes. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12788 Ta seȝȝde Filippe Shorrtlike till Natanaæl; Cum nu þe sellf, & loke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8520 For he þat mikel has for to tell þe scortliker he aght to spell. 1340 *Ayenb.* 252 þeruore ich paci þe ssortlaker. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 And schortly to descrive hire al, Sche hath no lith withoute a lak. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 71 He can telle yow more shortlyer then I shuld wryte. 1581 W. CHARKE in *Confer.* IV. (1584) E e j, Answere shortly. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* x. 136 It would require a iust volume to shew it, though but shortly. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 1 The instances thereof,..shall be only these two, which I shall but shortly touch. 1805 *East's Rep.* V. 254 The Attorney General was heard shortly in reply. 1886 *Act* 49 *Vict.* c. 22. § 4 (1) (a), An advertisement describing shortly the object for which the land is proposed to be taken.

†**b.** In short, 'to speak briefly'. Also more fully, *shortly* (*the sooth*) *to say*, *to say shortly*, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22203 Scortli to sai. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6007 And, shortly, ȝow for to telle, þys lady wulde nat hem selle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 30 And shortly ..I was of hir felaweship anon. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 836 And for to seye shortlych, in Room was noon hym lych. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* g v b, And shortly to say he lost alle that he had. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* ii. 8 (Shortly) I was greater in more worshipe, then all my predecessours in Ierusalem. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* § 14. 175 Shortly, resolve us but this one thing.

c. Abruptly, curtly, sharply.

c 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iv, 'I think very differently', answered Elizabeth, shortly. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, 'I won't sell a bit of him', answered Tom, shortly. 1872 H. KINGSLEY *Hornby Mills* I. 26, I am not the only person who ought to be taken up shortly. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iii, I wish I hadn't been obliged to send that cad Vincent to the right-about so shortly.

2. In a short time; not long after the present or the point reached in a narration; soon. †In early use also: With little delay, speedily, quickly: often in *compar.* or *superl.*

a 1050 *Lamb. Ps.* xxxvi. 10 & is nu ȝyt vel scortlice vel lytel fæc & ne byð se synfulla. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 527 *Maturius*, scortlicor. *a* 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 38 þo þe giwes i-somned were hi [hadde] schor[t]liche gret fere. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 519 For-by schal I neuer schende so schortly at ones. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 519 And shortly turned was al vp so doun Bothe habit and eek disposicioun Of hym this woful louere daun Arcite. 1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 138 Ze schall be payd be Easter and schortlyer. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1. § 1 Grete multitude of people can not shortly resort to put theym of at theire landyng. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxxviii. 344 The shortlyer y^t ye do it, the gretter thanke we shall gyue you. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 600 The drawe Bridge could not be shortly drawen vp. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 31, I shall grow iealous of you shortly Lancelet, if you thus get my wife into corners? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 448 A French ship..shortly bound for Alexandria. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Yng. Lady's T.* II. 84 [They] only invited her from knowing the consequence she would shortly have a right to. 1836 *Y. R. Smith's Catal. Bks.* Feb. 32 Shortly will be published, in one vol. 8vo..Bibliotheca Cantiana. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 34 Very shortly a treaty is on foot for a matrimonial alliance between the houses of Plantagenet and Hapsburg. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases Morals* i. 14 Socrates.., after saying a prayer to the sun, shortly retired.

†**b.** quasi-sb. *Odd shortly* = 'Odd-come-shortly': see ODD *Comb.* 2.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 26. 2/2 We'l give him as good as he brings one of these odd shortlies, I warrant him.

3. At a short time *after*, *before*, †*syne*.

1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII*, 158 And so ye viscount Rochforth retorned into England, and so did the bishop of Bathe shortly after. 1593 *Kuaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 198 Shortlie after my deathe. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 145 And so returning shortly after to his Excellency [I] related to him the success of my journey. 1752 *Scotland's Glory* 19 Some hundred of our ministers They shortly syne silenced. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 29 Shortly before, probably about the end of the fourth century, Jerome ..said [etc.]. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 162 On a given morning..shortly after noon. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* xxviii. 353 Perhaps you will..ask him to meet us here shortly before four o'clock.

4. For a short time. *rare.*

1809 CAMPBELL *Gertrude* II. vii, And see thee once again whom I too shortly saw! 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, He's been but shortly in office. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxi, A lady whom she knew but shortly.

5. In a small compass.

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 30 Dartis about him swyftlie could he fling, And rin ane rais and shortlie turne ane steid. 1833 DARWIN *Jrnl.* 15 Oct., It has the power of turning very shortly in the air.

6. At a short distance. *rare.*

1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 205 Shortly south of Donabyu the river Irrawaddy dissolves its main stream.

7. *Comb.* Qualifying an adj. with the sense 'having little length'. (Chiefly in *Botany.*)

1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Shortly-acuminated*,..*Shortly-bifid*, *Shortly-two-cleft.* 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* II. v. 558 More often the cotyledons remain thin like shortly stalked foliage-leaves of simple form.

Shortness (ʃǒ·rtnės). [f. SHORT *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality or fact of being short in duration, linear magnitude, serial extent, etc.; absence of length, brevity.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xliv. (Z.) 266 Maneȝa synd ȝyt *Contiunctiones*, þe we ne magon nu seczan on ðissere sceorinysse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 44 Wiþ schortnesse of sermon. 1496-7 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 The seid Statutes for shortnes of tyme syn the making of theym..as yet may not be perfitely knowen. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 378 Such as the shortnesse of the time can shape. 1660 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref., Mary* (1849) II. 222 [Mary's reign] was only commendable in the brevity or shortness of it. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 47 The shortness of the legs in the web-footed kinds. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. vi, The shortness of our acquaintance. 1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* II. vii. 136 The comparative shortness of Vowel *u*. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 295/2 The shortness of the title might not have been a sufficient objection.

†**b.** Brevity or conciseness in speech or writing.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 297 Withe a quyet shortenes, they schal say that is to be seyde. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 104 Therfore must I vse so much the more shortnesse at this present. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* IV. iv. 39 Your plainnesse and your shortnesse please me well.

c. *For shortness*: for the sake of brevity, to save time or distance. Now *rare.* †Also *for the sake of*, *because of shortness*, etc.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 931, I leeue þe prologe for shortnes. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 84 And many other were wounded, whose names be not rehearsed here, because of shortnesse. 1710 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 153 Under the reservations provisions and declarations above exprest (which are here holden as sett down for shortness sake). 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. iv. vii, Taking side-roads, for shortness, for safety.

†**d.** (*a*) A short period (of time). (*b*) Short stature. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. ii. 83 The time of life is short; To spend that shortnesse basely were too long. 1650 *Don Bellianis* x. 56 Don Bellianis, whose shortnesse reached not to the others middle. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. ii. (1699) 12 Most of those things..even during the shortness of Time which they last, have a thousand changes.

2. Defective reach (of vision, memory, etc.).

1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. 586 The Queene made answer with shortnesse of minde. 1661 COWLEY *Cromwell* Ess. etc. (1906) 361 A little mistake of the shortness of his sight. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iii. 74 Yet has the unhappy shortness of my Memory led me into an Error. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. iv, Their fatal shortness of vision. 1904 H. PAUL *Hist. Mod. Eng.* II. ix. 192 The extreme shortness of his sight would have interfered with his efficiency as a soldier.

†**3.** Defectiveness, imperfection; *pl.* defects, shortcomings. *Obs.*

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* 346 Since his raigne was but at the beginning of sciences, he could not chose but haue some defects and shortenesses. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. i. § 9. 10 Which..through the shortness of their own reason doth appear to them to be so. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 181 The shortness of our faculties.

4. *Shortness of breath*: a dyspnœic condition, breathlessness.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 190 The water thereof distilled and drunke..helpeth the cough, and shortnesse of breath. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 350 The dyspnœa of pleurisy without liquid effusion is chiefly shortness of breath.

5. The condition of being 'short *of*' something; deficiency, want (esp. of money, food, etc.); also, scantiness (of a supply, a crop, †a meal).

1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. 265 The meanness, and shortness of their Dinner. 1763 SCROPTON *Indostan* I. (1770) 20 The poor and middling sort are only curbed by the shortness of their finances. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 28 The shortness of the crop, will assist in reducing the price of lands still lower. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 174/2 The shortness of water in the boiler had the effect of over-heating the plates. 1882 MRS. J. H. RIDDELL *Prince's Garden-Party* 205 There was no shortness of money.

6. The quality of being 'short' in texture or substance; friability, brittleness.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 271 The Head of the Carp, the Tail of a Pike, and the Belly of a Bream are most esteemed, for their Tenderness, Shortness, and well relishing. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 363 The brittleness and shortness of Pig-iron. 1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 175 Metallic manganese has been used by Mr. Mushet to correct red shortness or cold shortness in steel.

Short sight. [SHORT *a.* 1 h.] The defect of sight by which only near objects are seen distinctly; myopia.

1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 211 *Paropsis propinqua.* Short sight. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vi. 79 Dr. Cohn, of Breslau,..found the percentage of short-sight increasing from year to year.

b. *fig.*

a 1888 H. D. RAWNSLEY in W. Knight *Shairp & Friends* 384 Invective against the modern shortsight of commercial utilitarianism.

Short-sighted, *a.* [Cf. prec. and SIGHTED *a.*]

1. Having short sight; having the focus of the eyes at less than the normal distance; unable to distinguish objects clearly at a distance; myopic.

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Jas. V* Wks. (1711) 105 The other, who was short-sighted, had broken his ponderous sword. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 5 Wks. 1871 I. 139 He who is short-sighted will be obliged to draw the object nearer. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 165 Two lenses of this kind, one for cylindrical and short-sighted eyes..and another for long-sighted eyes. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 238 A short-sighted person had been requested by some one to read small letters.

b. *absol.*

1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 181 The observations which we have made on spectacles for longsight, are, generally speaking, applicable to the shortsighted.

2. *fig.* Lacking in foresight or in extent of intellectual outlook.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 216 Those that are yong, are very short-sighted in your choyser sort of things. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 198 The giddy short-sighted Minds of young Men. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. 8 So short-sighted are politicians in power. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* xxx. 396 He..cursed himself for a short-sighted fool.

absol. 1648 DENHAM *Cato Major* iv. (1669) 50 The foolish and short-sighted die with fear, That they go no where, or they know not where. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 107 The march of circumstance has become too obvious to escape the attention of the most short-sighted.

3. Characterized by or proceeding from want of foresight or limited mental vision.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 314/2 [Discoverers] whose Geography was so weak, and so short-sighted, that [etc.]. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 92 The laws which we call shortsighted, against engrossers of grain. 1864 KINGSLEY *Roman & T.* i. (1875) 10 A shortsighted and suicidal policy. 1891 *Speaker* 11 July 36/1 The pitiable display of short-sighted greed over the Factory Bill.

Hence **Short-si'ghtedly,** *adv.*; **Short-si'ghtedness** *lit.* and *fig.*

1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. vii. 320 The short-sightedness of humane Wisdom. 1715 *Pope's Iliad* Notes IV. 503 The divine Boldnesses which in their very Nature provoke Ignorance and Short-sightedness to shew themselves. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verd. Green* I. xii, Verdant..was short-sightedly peering at the celebrated 'Charles the First' of Vandyck. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* iii. 63 The apparent shortsightedness of the policy. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 55 Rash and short-sightedly premature gatherings of crop.

Short-sword. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* A sword with a short blade.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 706 Schort suerdis of scheith smertly thay dreuch. 1865 INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* I. xviii. (1872) 295 A thousand men in iron helmets, round shields, and heavy short-swords. 1881 J. TAYLOR *Sc. Covenanters* 81 The old-fashioned Scottish short-sword.

Shortsyne, *adv. Sc.* [f. SHORT *adv.* + SYNE *adv.*] A short while ago, lately.

1768 Ross *Helenore* 62 Shortsyn unto our glen, Seeking a hership came you unko' men. 1832 RODGER *Poems* (1838) 298 She promis'd shortsyne she would soon be my ain.

Short-tongued, *a.* Having a short tongue; hence (now *dial.*) inarticulate, stammering, lisping. Also *occas.* taciturn, unready in speech.

c 1575 GELSON in *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 289 The said Sir Richard..wilbe some tyme mery and light with drink, and short tonged, but nott dronken. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. v, If I am a short-tongued fellow. 1874 LUBBOCK *Wild Flowers* iii. 68 The honey which is accessible even to beetles, and short-tongued flies.

Short-winded, *a.* [f. SHORT *a.* + WIND *sb.* + -ED 1.] Short of breath; suffering from or liable to difficulty of breathing; that soon becomes out of breath with any exertion.

c 1450 *Merlin* xv. 245 And whan thei saugh the saisnes well chased and short wynded, thei lete renne at hem. *c* 1593 JANE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 852 Captaine Cotton and my selfe swolne and short winded. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 81 Forestus often prescribeth to short-winded people in a Consumption. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Obesity* 101 Short-winded persons are very often corpulent. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* li, The short-winded locksmith had no chance against a man of Sim's youth and spare figure. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 166, I was wretchedly weak and short-winded, only being able to walk a few yards at a time.

b. *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 3 Finde we a time for frighted Peace to pant, And breath shortwinded accents of new broils To be commenc'd in Stronds a-farre remote. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* viii. 11 Their shortwinded wishes. 1688 BUNYAN *Heav. Footman* (1886) 165 They went to the work at first pretty willingly, but they were very short-winded, they were quickly out of breath, and in their hearts they turned back again into Egypt.

Hence **Short-wi'ndedness,** a state or condition of being short-winded, dyspnœa.

1614 T. ADAMS *Divells Banket* vi. 303 Balme taken fasting ..is very good against short-windednesse. 1753 TORRIANO *Non-Naturals* 52 It begets..pulmonary Humours, (especially Short-windedness,) and Death.

Short wool.

1. Wool having a short staple or fibre.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Woollen Manufactory*, A Pack, or 240 Pounds Weight of short Wool. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 358/2 In 1828 the number of packs of short wool had diminished to 2800. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 20/3 The finer varieties of short wools.

2. (Hyphened.) A sheep producing such a wool.

1837 YOUATT *Sheep* ix. 351 A few of the short-wools were left. 1844 W. C. SPOONER *Sheep* 72 [The South Down breed] ranks with the Leicester—the former first among the short-wools.

3. *attrib.*

1824 BANKS in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* (1842) II. 55 Any drawback so obtained must operate as a bounty to the English short-wool grower. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 358/1 Various breeds of short-wool sheep still prevail on the hills of Devonshire and Cornwall.

Hence **Short-woolled** *a.*

1787 *Young's Ann. Agric.* VIII. 199 The South Downs.. are, for that point, the best short-woolled sheep which I know in England. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 359/2 One other breed of short-woolled sheep must be mentioned.

†**Short-writing.** *Obs.* = SHORTHAND.

1620 W. FOLKINGHAM *Brachigr.* To Rdr. A 4, Applying my Letters to those formes of Short-writing, which intimate

regionarie Vowels by contiguitie of Consonants. 1650 SHELTON (*title*) Zeiglographia or A New art of Short-writing never before published. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 269 His most dextrous and incomparable faculty in short-writing. 1715 S. LANE (*title*) The Art of Short Writing made lineal and legible as the Common long Hand.

†Sho·ry, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SHORE *sb.*^{1} + -Y^{1}.] Of or pertaining to a shore.

1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 89 At the same time were made the shory rocks and mountains which are the bars and boundaries of the sea.

Shot (ʃɒt), *sb.*^{1} Forms: 1 sc(e)ot, ȝesc(e)ot, 2, 4–7 schot, 3 scott, 4–7 schott, shotte, (5 shet), 5–6 schotte, 5–7, (8) shott, (6 shutt, 6–7 shote), 5– shot. [OE. *sc(e)ot, gesc(e)ot* neut. (the prefix, as usual in sbs., fell away—in this instance not surviving beyond OE.—so that the forms with and without prefix fell together) = OFris. *skot* neut., OS. *-scot* in *sêlscot* 'balista', MLG. *scot, gescot*, OHG. *scoȝ* neut. (MHG. *schoȝ* masc., mod.G. *schoss* masc.), also *giscoȝ* neut. (MHG. *geschoȝ*, mod.G. *geschoss*), ON. *skot* neut. :—OTeut. **skuto-, *gaskuto-m*, f. root **skŭt-*: see SHOOT *v.*]

I. The action of shooting.

1. A rapid movement or motion; †a rush, dash or onset. *rare.*

a 1000 *Menologium* 272 Leax sceal on wæle mid sceote scriðan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 77 A gret schot till thame can thai mak. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxiii, 'You needn't to ask, sir—ye know', said the farmer, with a side shot of his head.

b. A sudden sharp pain; also *dial.* 'a sudden attack of illness or disease'. *rare.*

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 101 For þe schottes & þe prikkynges in sydes. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* C v, The hede enoynted with the same water..withdryveth the payne and shotte in the hede comynge of hete. 1899 *Cumberld. Gloss., Shot*, ..a sudden attack of illness or disease...A shot of rheumatics.

c. A rush (of colour) over a person's face, etc. *? nonce-use.*

1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xi. 123 A shot of colour swept over Henrietta.

†**d.** A rush of water. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3300 And þou drunkyn hade dewly as mony du sopis, As shottes of shire water has shot fro þin ene. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 8 In process of time..all the Hills and Mountains..would by Floods and Shots of Rain be quite washed away.

e. A sheet (of ice). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1650 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 248 The rain falling freezed so vehementlie, that the ground was like a shott of yce.

2. A discharge, flux or issue. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*3)

c 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 67 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scot.*, The kanker and the kattair, And never to be but schot of blude. 1842 DICK *Man. Vet. Science* (1862) 148 Cattle and sheep..after indulging in luxuriant pastures, take what is called a Shot of Blood. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 226 There is a complaint called a *shot of grease*, arising from a different cause from the common grease.

3. *Fisheries.* **a.** The spread or cast of a net; the throw and haul-in of a fishing-net.

1859 ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 322 A second shot of the net produced eleven more [mullet]. 1864 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 1188/1, I believe I got the second shot of trawled fish that was ever fished in this country. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 71 § 14 Within 100 yards from the nearest point in the line of shot of any other seine or draft net worked in like manner.

b. *Sc.* A place where nets are shot. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1452 in *Reg. Monast. Passelet* (Maitld. Club) 250 Tertiam partem totius piscarie de le Crukytshot. 1584 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 354/1 Beginnand at the schott of the fisching callit the Hoilschott. 1882 J. F. S. GORDON *Hist. Moray* III. 228 The proprietor of the Friars' Shott salmon fishings.

4. The shooting of a bolt.

1905 'H. HALIBURTON' *Excursions* i. 5 The shot of the lock caught the ear of Beenie.

5. A passage of the shuttle across the web; *concr.* 'one thread of each colour or kind of yarn' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1834–6 P. BARLOW *Manuf.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 739/1 If a shot of blue and a shot of white be thrown alternately, a corresponding check will be produced. 1864 T. BRUCE in *Poets of Ayrshire* (1910) 232 Sad and slow the shots he threw And slow he trod the treddles.

b. (See quot.)

1875 F. J. BIRD *Dyer's Hand-bk.* 90 When satins..or silks of any kind are found to contain shots—that is, warp and weft of different qualities—they must be prepared as follows.

6. The course of a plough.

1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. i. 34 It is usual to cut the drains directly across the shot, as we term the course of the plough.

7. The action of shooting with the bow, catapult, or firearms; the mechanical discharge of arrows or other projectiles as a means of attack; shots or discharges of missiles collectively. Now only *arch.* †Const. *of* (bows, guns, etc., also arrows or other projectiles).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 529 Whan thy worthy kyng Richard was slayn With shot. *c* 1471 *Arrig. K. Edw. IV*, (Camden) 29 Sore annoyed..as well with gonnes-shott, as with shot of arrows. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 279 The shot of the Scottes endured but a short space: But the shot of the Englishmen was long and fierce. 1639 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Consid. to Parlt.* Wks. (1711) 185 By shot of pistols. 1759 HUME *Hist. Eng., Tudor* I. 87 Their admiral lost an eye by the shot of an arrow. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXIV. At which a few archers might be stationed for defending the turret, and flanking with their shot the wall of the castle on that side. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, Which bark ..was taken without shot or slaughter.

fig. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XX. 224 And so seide sexty of þe same contreye, And shoten azein with shotte many a shef of othes. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.* etc. 12 The surest shielde Against the dreadfull shot of wordes that thousandes had beguilde. 1662 HIBBERT *Body of Div.* II. 29 We cannot be at peace with God, and therefore lie ever open to the shot of general dangers. 1718 T. GORDON *Cordial Low Spirits* 27, I must be obliged to stand the shot of his noise and nastiness for perhaps an hour or two together.

b. An act of shooting, an individual discharge of a bow, gun, etc. Phrases, *to fire*, also (now *arch.*) *to make, shoot a shot* (see SHOOT *v.* 21 c).

To fire a shot is used also in senses 13, 14 b, and 17.

c 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* (1900) 214 *Iactibus..uacuis*, mid idelum gescotum. *c* 1435 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 96 In this same yere..was slayn sir Thomas Movntagu ..thruh a shotte off a gonne. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 31 b, Notwithstanding wee had giuen them a shot of assurance, [they] began to prepare themselues to the fight, thinking we had bin Coursaries. 1629 *Capt. Smith's Trav. & Adv.* iii. 5 She stood to her defence, and made shot for shot. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 130 Several regiments..never..fired a shot. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* lii, They heard a shot. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 693 Prince Houssain..took his bow and made the first shot.

fig. 1576 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 416 He had directed his shot at the crowne of England.

†**c.** uninflected plural (with numeral). *Obs.*

1642–4 VICARS *God in Mount* 193 After many shot of Cannon, which did very little hurt among us.

d. Phrases. (*a*) *A shot between wind and water*, also *slang* (cf. SHOOT *v.* 30 d). (*b*) colloq. *Like a shot*: at once, with rapidity. Also, without hesitation, most willingly. (*c*) colloq. *A shot in the eye*: an ill turn.

(*a*) 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* III. xv. Ballad, And then he let fly at her, A shot 'twixt wind and water, That won this Fair Maids Heart. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* vii. (1708) 62 Sometimes his Captain, being disabl'd by some unlucky Shot 'twixt Wind and Water, repairs to him for a Refiment.

(*b*) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. P 6, I went off like a shot, in the direction of our inn. 1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* v. 156 The boy was off like a shot. 1894 W. E. NORRIS *St. Ann's* I. 72 If I could hear of any chance of employment elsewhere, I'd take it like a shot.

(*c*) 1897 *Pearson's Mag.* Sept. 254/1 He thought he saw the means of getting square with the millionaire who had done him such an unscrupulous 'shot in the eye'.

e. *transf.* (*a*) Naut. *slang.* A meridional altitude taken (cf. SHOOT *v.* 32 c). (*b*) A snapshot (cf. SHOOT *v.* 22 f).

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Shoot the sun*, 'Have you obtained a shot?' applied to altitudes of the meridian, as for time, lunar distances, &c. 1889 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XXXVI. 605/2, I developed some instantaneous shots. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 33/2, I must have a camera shot at this.

f. *Mining.* An explosion of a blasting charge. Cf. 17.

1881 RAYMOND *Gloss. Mining* s. v. *Shoot*, A *shot* is a single operation of *blasting*. 1900 *Daily News* 25 July 2/1 Every shot is improving the appearance of the ore chute.

8. The range of a shot, or distance to which a shot will go. *In, within, out of shot*: in, within, out of shooting distance. † *To have open shot*: to have unobstructed range of shooting.

1455 [see FLIGHT-SHOT 1.] *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 180, I bode behynde well the shotte of a bow. 1513 [see *Arrow-shot* s. v. ARROW *sb.* IV. 2]. 1513 *Life Hen. V*, (1911) 111 They of the Towne had from euery place open shott wth there gonns into the hoast. 1635 *Long Meg of Westminster* xii. (1816) 21 While the Dolphins army lay in view..there was a French-man that sundry times would as on a brauery come within shot and tosse his Pike, and so goe his way. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 3 The Ships ride in shot of Ordnance of the City. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 237 And that then I should be within half Shot of them. 1882 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler Irel.* 431 To find .that the pole has slipped just as you are getting well in shot, is no joke.

b. *transf.* Range or reach of anything likened to a shot. (Cf. EARSHOT.)

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 35 Keepe within the reare of your Affection; Out of the shot and danger of Desire. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 1 A man would thinke that Ciuilitie, holesome Lawes..should be as safe as a Sanctuary, and out of shot [*marg.* ἐξω βέλους], as they say, that no man would lift vp the heele..against the motioners of them. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, iv. 15 Beyond the shot of tyranny.

c. *To run into shot*: Of a sporting dog: to run into the line of fire.

1884 T. SPEEDY *Sport Highl.* iii. 25 The faults..of being gun shy, springing their game, running into shot [etc.].

9. An attempt to hit with a projectile discharged from a gun. Phrase, *to exchange shots*: said with reference to a skirmish or a duel.

1653 HANE *Jrnl.* (1896) 2 Wee made all the resistance wee could, changing some shotts with him for the space of halfe an houre. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 46 A good Shot may be made out of a bad Piece. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 25 You will be able to take shots at them, before they reach the high slope. 1820 *John Bull* 17 Dec. 5/2 A duel was fought on Saturday..when some shots were exchanged. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* v It was a good shot that you made. 1898 *Field* 2 Apr. 509/3 Seeing a large buck..I sat down, prepared to have a long shot at him. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* XXIX. 377 Six rabbits in six shots with my pea-rifle.

b. *fig.* A remark aimed at some one, esp. in order to wound. Sometimes with mixture of sense 14 b.

1841 THACKERAY *Ct. Hoggarty Diam.* ix, The shot told. Your aunt bounced up at once, and in ten minutes more was in my carriage, on our way back to London. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 27 This last shot was from the gentle Maria, who bit her lips as it glanced from the immovable man.

†**c.** *fig.* (A person's) *great shot*: chief aim. *Sc.*

1644 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 230 The great shott of Cromwell and Vane is to have a libertie for all religions. *a* 1658 DURHAM *Comm. Rev.* iv. III. (1660) 281 The Lords great shot in all this is to get praise to Himself.

d. Phrases: *Not... by a long shot*: Hopelessly out of reckoning. *A long shot*: a bold attempt or large undertaking.

1888 EGGLESTON *Graysons* i. 12 He didn' wear uz good close in them days 's 'e does now, by a long shot. 1897 A. R. MARSHALL *Pomes* 27 (Farmer) So Zippy went in for a long shot.

10. A random guess attempting to 'hit' the right answer. *To make a shot*: to attempt an answer by guessing.

1840 J. T. J. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* xvii, After waiting for a little while [in construing], Ninny..made a shot, and went so near the mark, that [etc.]. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* Prelude, 'Do you want a bed here to-night, Sir?' asked the waiter..making a shot at the sex of the blue serge bundle. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Aug. 4/3, I do not believe that yesterday when she was supposed to be doing 15 knots she was really running more than 13. This, however, is only a shot.

b. An attempt or try.

1756 W. DODD *Fasting* (ed. 2) 30 The random shots of second causes. 1878 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 422, I cannot understand why I have not yet taken to Hawthorne, ..I will have another Shot. 1912 *Throne* 7 Aug. 227/1 Pinks is going to have a shot at the Wingfield Sculls.

11. An aim or stroke, esp. in a game, as tennis, golf, billiards, etc.

1868 *Field* 8 Aug. 106/3 (Croquet) Mr. Whitmore distinguished himself by his long shots, one of which came off at thirty-six yards. 1902 W. W. JACOBS *Lady of Barge* 83 Wilfred Carr..taking a cue from the rack, bent over the board and practiced one or two favourite shots.

b. A throw of a ball, stone, or other thing aimed with the hand.

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. iv, Fling another shot [*i. e.* potato] at that carriage..and by the Lord I'll send my rapier through you! 1868 'S. DARYL' *Quoits & Bowls* 54 (Bowls) The game is thirty shots—ten Guarding, ten Riding, ten Drawing.

c. In *Football, Hockey, Lacrosse*: an attempt to drive the ball into goal.

1868 *Field* 28 Nov. 446/2 Several well intended, though badly misjudged, shots were fired at the School goal. 1912 *Oxford Mag.* 14 Nov. 75/1 Essex reduced the lead by means of a good shot from the inside left.

d. In *Boat-racing*: an attempt to 'bump' the boat in front. (Cf. BUMP *sb.*^{1} 2 and *v.*^{1} 3.)

1868 *Field* 28 Nov. 445/2 Owing to his pulling his wrong scull, he managed to miss his shot at him, and Lowe went away easily. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Apr. 501 Ah! they have made a shot in the Gut and missed.

e. In *Curling*: (see quots. 1835, 1897).

a 1772 GRAEME in Anderson *Poets* XI. 447 (Jam.) Of many a bonspeel gain'd, Against opposing parishes; and shots, To human likelihood secure, yet stormed. 1835 H. HARE-WOOD *Dict. Sports* s.v. *Curling*, When the stones on both sides have been all played, the one nearest the tee counts one; and if the second, third, fourth, &c. belong to the same side, all these count so many shots. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 264/2 (Curling), *Shot*, (1) the unit of scoring, each stone nearer to the tee than any opponent counting one. (2) The delivery of a stone.

†**12.** A result of shooting. **a.** A wound or pain in the body caused by witchcraft. (Cf. SHOOT *v.* 32 a, and ELF-SHOT.) **b.** A gunshot wound. *Obs.*

1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 131 Thow said..thow suld put ane schot in his syde, within xlviij houris, that suld do him gryter harme nor that schot did the;..immediatly thairefter, he contractis sic ane deidlie seiknes, be ane schot in his syde vnder his oxtar. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physiche* 329/1 Squirte heerof into the shot,..and thrust into the wounde a peece of Larde of a reasonable longitude.

II. That which is discharged in shooting.

†**13.** That which is discharged from a bow, an arrow or arrows; also in early use stone or other projectiles thrown by a catapult, or other engine; ammunition for such an engine. *Obs.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. ix. § 15 Þær forweard micel Alexandres heres for geæstredum gescotum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10036 Þe berbikans seuen þat es a-bute..wel tas kepe to þat castell, For aro, scott, and for quarel. 1387 TREVISA tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 239 Þe sonne is derked wiþ þe arwes and schot of Perses. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xiv. I. 199 Arrowes, quarrels, stones, bullets, and such like shot. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 856 The Law of Arms doth bar The use of venom'd shot in War.

†**b.** *fig.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 431 Ða dizlan gescotu [*jacula*] ðæs sweocolan feondes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 58 Pandarus,..Felte eek his part of loves shottes kene. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 145 And of his eyen the shot I knew anon Which federed was with right bumble requestes. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXIX. iv, The shott of piercing spight Bent at thee, on me doth light.

14. Projectiles (esp. balls or bullets, as distin-

guished from explosive 'shells') designed to be discharged from a firearm or cannon by the force of an explosive. Often with qualifying word as *bar-*, *chain-*, *grape-shot*, etc. See the first words. *Hollow shot*: 'empty shells, with metal screw plugs, sometimes used in the navy' (Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* 1866 s. v.).

1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 69 To bring again.. artilzery, powder, schot and sic thing. 1513 *Life Henry V*, (1911) 80 Masons to hewe stones for shott to breake walls. *Ibid.* 111 Then the Frenchmen, perceauinge there shott to be spent in vaine, imagined a newe manner of shott instead of stones; they shott great peeces of steele fire-hott. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 84 The Shot of great Mortar-Pieces are..one tenth part lower than the Bore. 1704 *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Shot*, all sorts of Bullets for whatsoever Fire-arms, from the Cannon to the Pistol. Those for Cannon are of Iron, those for Musket, Carabine, and Pistol, of Lead. 1854 Tennyson *Lt. Brigade* v, Storm'd at with shot and shell. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 23 Hollow shot are treated in a similar manner and then filled in the same manner as the ordinary spherical shells.

b. A cannon-ball. Also (with numerals) as *collect. sing.* or uninflected plural.

(*Not*) *a shot in the locker*: see Locker *sb.*[1] 5 b.

1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* xvii. 39 Not to suffer.. Pitch to be heate in the Ship, except it be with a shott heate in the fire, which cannot breed daunger. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 48 Diameter of the Shot 3⅛, weight of the Shot 4 pound 12 ounces. 1770 G. Farmer *Let.* 22 Sept. in *Ann. Reg.* (1772) 232/2 The Spanish frigate fired two shot, which dropt to leeward of the Favourite.

c. Hence, an iron globe like a cannon ball, used in the sport of 'putting the shot' (or 'weight'): see Put *v.*[1] 2. Also *occas.* the sport of putting the shot.

1881 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* (1886) 114 Putting the Weight. Sixteen pounds is the full-size shot for this feat. 1895 Manson *Sporting Dict., Putting the Shot.* 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 460/2 The list of events will include..high jump, broad jump, shot and hammer.

d. *Small shot*: †(*a*) musket bullets, in distinction from cannon-balls (*obs.*); (*b*) small pellets of lead (= sense 15), as distinguished from bullets. † *Great shot*: cannon-balls; also occas. bullets as distinguished from 'small shot' (*b*).

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 12 This Termagant.. fighteth not with..the small shott of contention, but with the maine ordinaunce of fury. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 61 A long and doubtfull fight, both with great and small shot. 1727 Bover *Dict. Royal* II, s. v. *Shot*, Small shot, used to shoot with a Birding-piece. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xli. 106 We gave them a Volley of great Shot in return of their Volley of small. 1803 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 390 A volley of small shot fired through the window.

attrib. 1834–6 P. Barlow *Manuf.* § 961 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 677/2 Small Shot Manufacture.

15. Lead in small pellets, of which a quantity is used for a single charge of a sporting gun. Also (less frequently), a single pellet, a shot-corn (plural *shot*, esp. with numerals; sometimes *shots*).

Shot is assorted by sizes distinguished by numbers (usually 1 to 10 or 12), or by letters (as *BB* called *double-B*), or by specific names (as *swan-shot*, etc.).

1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 185, I would not recommend shooting them..with shot smaller than common partridge shot, or No. 5. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* ii. (1842) 40 Besides sheet lead, shot of different sizes are often used for this purpose. 1833 J. Rennie *Alph. Angl.* 126 A strong silk-worm gut, with a shot or two on it. 1884 Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 361/2 The manufacture of shot is almost universally conducted in tall brick towers with iron frames. 1895 R. W. Chambers *King in Yellow* (1909) 265 He ornamented each line with four split shot, a small hook, and a brilliant quill float.

b. Used by horse-copers as a dose to give a horse a temporary appearance of sound-windedness.

1857 Dickens *Dorrit* xii, Taking into account the shot he [a gelding] had been made to swallow for the improvement of his form.

c. *transf.* in *Indian shot*, the plant *Canna indica* (see Indian *a.* 4). Also *Plantain, Flowering shot* applied to the same or other species of the genus.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Shot, Plaintain, *Canna.* 1884 W. Miller *Plant-n.* 47/2 Flowering Shot. The genus *Canna. Ibid.* 67/2 Indian Shot. The genus *Canna.*

†16. A charge (of powder); also a charge (of small shot) for discharge from a gun. *Obs.*

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4479/5 The Garrison is to march out ..with loaded Arms,..and are to have 12 Shots of Powder and Ball each. 1752 Maccoll in *Scots Mag.* (1753) Aug. 401/1 There was a shot of drops in it [the gun].

17. *Mining.* The charge of powder sufficient for a blast in a mine (esp. a coal-mine); also the bored hole into which the charge is put.

1851 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 47 *Shot.*—The cartridge or portion of gunpowder used in blasting...A pound of gunpowder will make five 6-inch shots. 1874 Dufferin in Lyall *Life* (1906) I. vii. 245 They had bored with a steam drill..some fifty or sixty 'Shots', as they are technically termed, i. e. deep holes in the rock, which are then filled with gunpowder and exploded. 1886 [see *shot-firer* in 30].

†18. A bolt or bar for securing a door, etc. (Cf. Shoot *v.* 13.) *Obs.*

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 196 The shottes of the gates opened she, And sett open the gates wide. 1595 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* (1913) X. 302 Closit wit ane key be ane shott.

19. = Whale-shot (spermaceti). In recent Dicts. [Spermaceti was supposed to be the spawn of the whale. Cf. Shoot *v.* 18 d.]

III. That which shoots.

†20. Weapons for shooting; firearms. *Obs.*

1579 *Proclam. agst. Dagges* etc. 26 July, The common carying of Dagges, Pistolles and such other short pieces of shot. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* Supply iii. (1614) 229 The people had planted shot against the castell. 1727 Bover *Dict. Royal* II. s. v. *Shot*, Great and small Shot (great Guns and Muskets), *le Canon* & *la Mousqueterie.*

†b. A shooting weapon, a cannon or musket.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 251, iiij[e] schott of small artaillzie. *Ibid.* II. 185 Quhilk schip.. had xx gret brassin schottis in hir. 1599 Minsheu *Span. Dict.*, What armes serue you with, a pike or shot? *con pica, o arcabúz.*

†21. a. *collect. sing.* Soldiers armed with muskets or other firearms (rarely with bows). *Small shot*: troops furnished with small arms as distinguished from artillerymen. *Obs.*

1572 Walsingham in D. Digges *Complete Ambass.* (1655) 314 To send under..the Marquis de Maine 1000 shot,..who shal land at a place called Aier. 1590 Sir W. Williams *Brief Disc. War* 46 To prooue Bow-men the worst shot vsed in these daies. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 118 His Lordship..had lodged in a trench some foure hundred shot, charging them not to shoot till the rebels approached neere. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey) s v. *Tower*, Hollow Tower.. where the Small-Shot are plac'd that they may not be too much expos'd to the Enemies View.

†b. A soldier armed with a firearm. *Obs. rare.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 294. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. ii. 71 Hee is but a foolish shot, that shooteth at ..light skirmishers. 1611 Cotgr., *Harquebusier*, an Arquebusier, or small shot.

22. One who shoots; an expert in shooting. Often with qualifying adj., *good, bad shot. Dead shot*: see Dead *a.* 31 b.

1780 *Mirror* No. 69 As I am a good shot, I spend great part of my time in shooting. 1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 367 A professed shot is, almost always, a very disagreeable brother sportsman. 1826 Disraeli *V. Grey* II. ix, No, I am no shot. 1882 Sir R. Temple in *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* N. S. IV. 460 He was taught to be a splendid shot with the gun and with the bow.

transf. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 420/2 (Assoc. Football) Half-backs should be good shots at goal, for they frequently have chances of scoring.

b. *Queer shot* (dial.): an 'odd customer'.

1900 'Sarah Grand' *Babs* xl, 'You're a queer shot, Tinney,' she remarked.

IV. Payment, share. [Cf. OE. *scéotan* (= Shoot *v.*) to pay, contribute.]

23. The charge, reckoning, amount due or to be paid, esp. at a tavern or for entertainment; a or one's share in such payment. Now only *colloq. To stand shot* [perh. with allusion to sense 7], to meet the expenses, pay the bill (for all).

c 1475 *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 94 On cast down her schott and went her wey. Gossip, quod Elenore, what dyd she paye? Not but a peny. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 84 The shot demanded must be paid without expostulation. 1732 *Tricks of Town* 3, I could stand it no longer, but paid my Shot.. and came away. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xix, Are you to stand shot to all this good liquor? 1891 Mrs. Riddell *Mad Tour* 107, I was to make enough to..'pay my own shot'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Also in fig. context.

a 1533 Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a viij b, She ..wil not be paied, but with the shotte of our lyfe. 1612 Day *Festivals* ii. (1615) 50 Our Saviour hath paid al the shot. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* II. 26 The Indians invited themselves to breakfast with him, making the poor Fellow pay the shot..with the loss of his life.

†c. *To have free shot*: to have gratuitous entertainment. *Obs. rare.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xviii. 104 [They] go roging alone..following the bathes, tauernes and assemblies, for to haue free shot and cheare.

†d. A levy or contribution of so much a head from the members of a company for some common purpose. Also, a banquet to which each guest contributes his share (tr. Gr. *ἔρανος*). *Obs.*

1519 Horman *Vulgaria* 283 Let vs gether or make a schotte or a stake for the mynstrels rewarde or wagis. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XI. 545 As when you see At any rich mans nuptials, shot, or feast, About his kitchin, white-tooth'd swine lie drest.

†e. *The whole shot*: the 'sum and substance'.

1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 151 These words..doe containe the whole shot, or generall summe that ariseth from all the precepts, belonging to this part of Logicke. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xx. 208 Ancient Fathers made the Creed *symbolum*, the shot and totall summe of Faith.

†f. A supply or amount of drink. *Obs.*

1676 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1882) I. 339 A company of fellows would needs drink 2*d* a peece..their vain way of drinking shots. 1691 Meeke *Diary* 23 Jan. (1874) 34 About noon we returned, had a shot of ale at Slathwaite.

†24. *Shot and lot* = *scot and lot*: see Scot *sb.*[2] 4.

1100 *Charter Hen. I* in *Liber Albus* (Rolls) 128 Item, quod cives Londoniarum sint quieti de Schot et Loth, et de Danegelde. 1459 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 301 They schall ber lot and schot with the citte to all maner workys. 1668 in Jeake *Chart. Cinque Ports* (1728) 168 Rationabil. & ratabil. taxationes, scott. shott. & lott. tallag. & rationabil. taxationes communiter vocat. common fines.

V. Senses of doubtful position.

25. A division of land.

a 1490 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 152 Englysh stonys et le rok vocat. Trogy, anglice le shotes. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 40 b, This medowe lyeth in dyuers shotes of length somtyme in two shotes of length somtyme in one & somtyme in thre.

1743 R. Maxwell *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 32 The Infield is divided into three Shots or Parts, much about eighteen Acres in all. *a* 1805 A. Carlyle *Autobiog.* iii. (1860) 138 That part of it [the plain] which belonged to Preston estate was divided into three shots, as they were called, or rigg lengths, the under shot, the middle, and the upper. 1822 Scott *Pirate* xxx, He claps down an enclosure in the middle of my bit shot of corn. 1854 J. M. Kemble *Surrey Provinc.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 84 *Shot*, a portion of land...'Will you let the upper shot be laid up for hay?' 1887 S. H. A. Hervey *Wednore Chron.* I. 181 (E.D.D.) [Somerset] Each of these fields was divided into shots or furlongs. 1907 *Times* 15 June 24/2 Nineteen Plots or 'Shots' of Freehold and copyhold land..in Bearfield and Hamfield.

26. *Shetland.* (Also *shott.*) A compartment in the stern of a boat (see quots.).

1834 G. & P. Anderson *Guide Highl.* 709 Another extricates the fish from the hooks, and throws them in a place near the stern, named the shot. 1899 J. Spence *Shetl. Folk-Lore* 127 The old *haf* boat..was divided into six compartments, viz., fore-head,..shott [etc.]...The shott..formed a sort of hold in which the fish were carried.

27. = Shot-window. *Sc.* ? *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Prol. 138 The schot [cf. *shot wyndo* above, line 129] I clossit and drew inwort in hy. 1638 R. Baillie *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 91 Some out of shotts cryed rebels on the readers. 1722 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* III. vii. II. 286 With Windows called Shots, or Shutters of Timber, and a few Inches of Glass above them.

28. A corpse disinterred by body-snatchers.

App. from the expression 'a good shot for the doctors'.

1828 *Ann. Reg* 377/2 Burke..asked witness to go down to his house, to see the shot he had got to take to the doctor's...Understood by the word shot that he was going to murder the woman. *Ibid.* 380/1 M'Dougal came and said to witness, there was a shot in the house. She did not say what she meant by a shot. 1867 *All Year Round* 16 Mar. 285/1 Burke..told him he had got an old woman off the street, who would be a good shot for the doctors (that was the phrase of these men for a person they had fixed on to murder). 1882 Sala *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 206 Servants..who, for the consideration of so many dollars per 'shot', or human body, undertake to supply subjects for dissection to the anatomical schools throughout the States.

VI. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

29. simple attributive, as *shot-belt* (also *attrib.*), so *shot-belted* adj., *-box*, *-cartridge*, *-gauge*, *-like* adj., *-mould*, *-proof* adj., *-range*, *-wound*, etc.; objective, as *shot-casting*, *-firer*, *-firing*, *-sorter*; instrumental, as *shot-shivered*, *-swept* adjs.

1805 *Times* in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1806) IX. 320 *Shot-belts, pouches, powder-flasks [etc.]. 1823 Syd. Smith *Game Laws* Wks. 1859 II. 30/1 A feeling not only among Reviewers, who never see nor eat game, but among the double-barrelled, *shot-belted members of the House of Commons. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* viii, Sitting on a *shot-box. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Shot-cartridge*, a round of ammunition for a shot-gun. 1907 J. H. Patterson *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* App. I. 319, 500 12-bore shot cartridges of, say, the 6 and 8 sizes. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 59 Granulating and *shot casting. 1886 J. Barrowman *Sc. Mining Terms* 60 **Shot firer*, the person appointed to fire shots in fiery workings. 1841 Totten (Webster 1847) *Shot-gauge. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 131 **Shot-lockers*, or *Garlands*, apartments built up in the hold to contain the shot. 1842–63 Burn *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict.* I, *Coquille à boulets*, *shot-mould consisting of two cubes of iron with a hemisphere hollowed in each. 1859 F. S. Cooper *Ironmongers' Catal.* 38 Bullet and Shot Moulds. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* V. x, Aretes fauour makes any one *shot-proofe against thee, Cvpid. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 84 A shot-proof screen of boards. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XII. 17 *Shot proofing for ships and batteries. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. vii, Were it not well to draw back out of *shot-range? 1636 Prynne *Rem. agst. Shipmoney* 10 To provide fourty, five and fourty, and fifty *shot round of powder and bullets, for every peece in the Ships set out. 1806 J. Grahame *Birds Scot.* 76 Then..flies To some *shot-shivered branch. 1842–63 Burn *Nav. & Mil. Techn. Dict.* I. s. v. *Coup*, [*Coup de feu*] shot, *shot-wound. 1854 Dk. Newcastle in J. Martineau *Life* (1908) 161 Sir George Brown's horse received no less than six shot-wounds.

30. Special comb.: **shot-borer**, a beetle, *Xyleborus dispar*, which bores small round holes in the bark of trees; **shot bort** (see quot.); **shot-corn**, a small shot, a grain of shot; **shot-drill**, an obsolete form of military punishment in which the soldier punished had to carry a cannon-ball; †**shot-flagon** *dial.* (see quot.); **shot-glass** [see 5] *Weaving*, a cloth-prover (Ogilvie, 1882); **shot-lighter**, the man who fires the 'shot' in a mine; **shot-mark** †(*a*) a mark to aim or shoot at, (*b*) a mark made by a shot; **shot-metal** (see quot. 1875); **shot-pepper**, (see quots.); **shot-plug**, a tapered cone of wood to stop a shot-hole in a vessel's side, to prevent leakage (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867); †**shot-pot**, ? = *shot-flagon*; **shot-prop** [? after Du. *geschutprop* = G. *schusspropfen*: cf. Prop *sb.*[2]] = *shot-plug* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shot-putter**, one who puts the shot in athletic sports, so *shot-putting*; **shot-rack** (see quot. 1867); † **shot-shark**, a tavern waiter; **shot soup** (see quot. 1847); **shot-tower**, a tall round tower in which small shot are made by dropping molten lead from the top into water; †**shot-whaip** *Sc.*, a variety of curlew; See also Shot-board, -bush, -clog, etc.

1890 Miss E. A. Ormerod *Injur. Insects* (ed. 2) 331, I found that the cause of the injury was the 'Shot-borer' Beetle. *Ibid.* 334 The Shot-borer frequents stumps or fallen

trees. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 276/2 The typical bort occurs in small spherical masses... These masses..are often called '*shot bort' or 'round bort'. *c* 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 39/1 A middling sized *shot-corn. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) II. 62 As large as shot-corns 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 385 The *shot-drill which military prisoners perform. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 62 The **Shot-flagon* or *Come again*; which the Host gives to his guests of [*sic*] if they drink above a Shilling, *Darbish.* 1832 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 84 Miners..*Shot-lighter. 1897 *L'pool Courier* 10 Mar. 3/8 A colliery shotlighter,..was summoned by his employers. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VIII. viii. 309 They beleeued that his [*sc.* man's] cheefe good must..therein subsist; as the finall end standing as the *shot-marke of all their actions. 1828 *Trial W. Dyon at York Assizes* 9 There were two shot marks on the left side. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shot-metal*, an alloy of lead, 56 parts; arsenic, 1. Used for making bird-shot. 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Pepper*, **shot-pepper*, the heavier kinds of Sumatra pepper. 1898 SENN *Culin. Encycl. 86 Shot Pepper.* This is mignonette pepper, which is made from white peppercorns. It is broken into grains or granulated about the size of mignonette seed. 1829 *Shot-plug [see SHOT-HOLE 1]. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. 111 Straight to the Wharff repairs the hot-shot, Without once calling for his *shot-pot. 1882 *Tales Mod. Oxford* 99 Lord, the *shot-putter. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 444/2 *Shot-putting had been his favourite game. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xi. I did contrive to crawl up the ladder to the main deck, where I sat down on the *shot-racks. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Shot-racks*, wooden frames fixed at convenient distances to contain shot. There are also, of recent introduction, iron rods so fitted as to confine the shot. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iv, Holla: where be these *shot-sharkes? 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* iii, What English seamen call '*shot soup'—great round peas, polishing themselves like pebbles by rolling about in tepid water. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 59 A shower of drops, which congeal in the course of their descent from the top of the *shot-towers into the water-cistern. 1639 SIR R. GORDON *Gen. Hist. Earld. Sutherld.* (1813) 3 Routs, whaips, *shot-whaips, wood-ok, larkes, [etc.].

† **Shot,** *sb.*[2] *Naut. Obs.* Forms: 4 shote, 5 shott, 7– shot. [Of uncertain origin; perh. a use of prec.; see SHOOT *v.* 38. But cf. SCOTE *sb.*[1]] Two cables spliced together.

1316 *Exch. Acc. Army* Bundle 15 No. 3 Vna cabula vocata shote. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 184 A shott of Newe Cables *a* 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) 72 Shot of Cabell. Two Cabells spliced together make a Shot. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 375/2 Never Ships..were better fitted with Ground Tackle, or whole Shots of Cables. 1750. 1847 [see SHEET-SHOT].

Shot, *sb.*[3] Also shott. [subst. use of SHOT *ppl. a.* (Cf. SHOOT *v.* 11 g.)] An ill-grown ewe; a refuse animal left after the best of the flock or herd have been selected.

1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVIII. 569 A few of the worst ewes called shotts, are likewise sold every year about Martinmas. 1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* II. 140 The inferior qualities [of ewes]—shots, as they are technically called—occupied a place by themselves.

attrib. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Shot sheep or cattle. Shots*, the refuse; the leavings; the worst. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 109, 62 Shot ewe and wedder lambs at 5/-.

Shot (ʃɒt), *sb.*[4] [SHOT *ppl. a.*, used ellipt.] A 'shot' silken or other fabric.

1883 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 7/5 The new Tissu for Costumes, 'Poil de Bison', in broché, in stripe, and in shot, all made to match. 1893 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Jan. 2/1 Shots and stripes will be in fashion.

Shot (ʃɒt), *v.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** *intr.* ? To participate or consort *with*. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 411 in *O. E. Misc.* 126 Ne gabbe þu ne schotte ne chid þu wyth none sotte.

2. *trans.* To load (a fire-arm) with shot.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 119 His order to me was, to see the top Chains put upon the Cables, and the Guns shotted. 1781 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. Add. p. iii, Firing twenty-six nine-pounders, and one eighteen-pounder, shotted at her. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* vi. 106 The guns are shotted to their lips.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxiv, It was the gracious custom of this commander to mix his words and oaths in nearly equal proportions, which he was wont to call *shotting* his discourse. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 163 A pudding of rice well shotted with raisins. 1884 SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* i. 20 Their every word was shotted with an oath.

3. To weight by attaching a shot or shots, so as to cause to sink in water.

1857 W. SMITH *Thorndale* III. iv. 230 With this in my pocket, I was shotted for a sailor's grave 1910 *Spectator* 23 Apr. 664 The line is shotted carefully so as to sink the bait to the right depth.

4. To supply with shot.

1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 21 Aug. 2/2 This other fleet—how differently armed, how differently shotted.

5. To wound or hit with shot.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 75 Who..fell Shotted with three times Cæsar's trickling wounds.

6. a. *slang.* To give (a horse) a dose of small shot so as to make it appear sound-winded. (Cf. SHOT *sb.*[1] 15 b.)

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* s. v. 1902 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang.*

b. To clean (bottles) by partially filling with shot and shaking. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

7. To variegate in weaving.

1847 TALFOURD *Vacation Rambles* I. 218 It was shotted, like wavy silk, with the pale violet crocus.

Shot (ʃɒt), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHOOT *v.*[1]]

1. Of a fish: having discharged its spawn. (Cf. SHOTTEN *ppl. a.* 3.)

1414 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 599 [All manner of fish called] shotfisshe [taken in the Thames]. 1618 BRAITHWAITE *Rem. Death* E. 7 b. Darted He runnes as swift as euer ran. Shot-herring made. 1865 J. SLEIGH *Derbysh. Gloss.* (E.D.D.), As lean as a shot-herring.

2. Of a stalk, blade, etc.: that has grown or sprouted. *Shot-blade*, that part of the corn-stalk which encloses the ear.

1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 726 (Jam.) The sunne..maketh..the cornes to come vp at the first with small green points, and after that to shoote vp to the shot bled, and after that to come to the seede. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 196 Weeds are taken from the oats and barley when they are in the shot blade. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep* 38 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. The only grass sown in this district is perennial rye grass, the very worst for pasture, as cattle reject its shot stalks.

3. Of a bullet, arrow, etc.: that is discharged. Also of a bolt: that has been pushed into or out of the lock.

1863 *Leisure Hour* Jan 2 The rusty sockets of a shot-bolt. 1908 *Edin Rev.* Oct. 364 The spiral ascent, the shot-arrow precipitation earthwards.

4. Hit, wounded or killed by a projectile discharged from a gun or bow.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr Rev* I. VII. x. Other women lift the corpse of shot Jerôme. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter in Air* 103 A shot hare will remain soft and limp for a day.

5. Of a textile fabric: Woven with warp-threads of one colour and weft-threads of another, so that the fabric (usually silk) changes in tint when viewed from different points. Also, applied to mixed fabrics (esp. of cotton and silk), dyed by a process which produces a variegated effect similar to that of 'shot silk'.

1763 CHURCHILL *Ghost* IV. 847 A slight shot silk. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 177/2 This produces the peculiar effect called shot patterns. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* I. vii. 117 A spread of shot orange and purple pelisses. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* Introd. i. 91 Shot, or, as they were then called, changeable silks, were fashionable in England during the sixteenth century. 1882 *Artist* 1 Feb. 55/1 Shot velvets are being worn for visiting dresses.

b. *Shot-silk*: used *attrib.* or *adj.* = made of or resembling shot silk.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxv, Feathers, and flowers, and trinkets, and a shot-silk dress, and a wonderful mantle. 1882 *Garden* 7 Jan. 7/2 The whole forming one of the finest 'shot silk' bed arrangements that can be conceived.

c. Of a colour, etc.: Changeable, variable, resembling that of 'shot silk'.

1824 HEBER *Jrnl.* 31 July. An ape..covered with long silky hair generally of a rusty lead colour, but on his breast a fine shot blue. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 519 The peculiar play of 'shot' colours, which pass like blushes over their [*sc.* Cephalopoda] surface, in the living state.

6. Of copper: Short for *bean-* or *feather-shot.*

1877 GEE *Silversmith's Handbk.* 68 We have recommended the employment of shot copper [cf. p. 44 bean-shot] in the manufacture of silver alloys.

7. Of metal: Welded. (Cf. SHOOT *v.* 38, SHUT *v.* 6.)

1810 *Table Blade Forger's Statem.* (Sheffield Gloss. 1888) Shot chicken carvers. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 38 Shot scissors;—consisting of steel blades, and iron shank and bows.

8. Comb: **shot-brae, -heuch** († *pl. -houis*), *Sc.* a landslip. See also SHOT-FARE, SHOT-NET, SHOT STAR.

1574 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 225 Fra the said stane downe throuch the schothouis direct north to the burne of Awchlansky. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 181/1 With every here and there the recent scar of some extensive 'shot brae', or 'avalanche', which had rushed into the flood below. 1825 JAMIESON Suppl., *Shot-heuch.*

Shot, variant of SHOAT[1] and 2.

Shot-anchor, obs. form of SHEET-ANCHOR.

† **Shot'board.** *Obs.* In 4 schote bord, 7 shot-boord. [? Cf. Du. *schot* partition.] ? A board of wainscot.

1310 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 75 [Four] schotebordes [value 8d.]. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 70, I made a shot-boord to be naild on it: and to be made as tight as might be.

Shot-bush, *U.S.* [SHOT *sb.*[1]; 'from its shot-like fruit' (*Cent. Dict.*).] A name for two species of *Aralia*: the small prickly tree Hercules' club, *A. spinosa*, and the Wild Sarsaparilla, *A. nudicaulis.*

1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 75/2 *Aralia..spinosa* (shot-bush, angelica tree). 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 414 In the South the *Tear-Coat* (Aralia spinosa), also humorously called *Shot-Bush*, rises almost to the dignity of a tree, its prickles being quite formidable to the hunting-shirts and Indian blankets.

† **Shot-clog.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] + CLOG *sb.* Cf. SHOT-LOG.] An unwelcome companion tolerated because he pays the shot for the rest.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vi, If you be out [of humour] keepe your distance, and bee not made a Shot-clog no more. 1601 — *Poetaster* I. ii. 1626 — *Staple of N.* IV. i. 47.

† **Shote.** *Obs.* Also 4–6 schote. [ME. *schote*, in the 14th c. disyllabic and rhymed with words with long open *o*, seems to point to an OE. **scotu*, **scole*, or **scota*, cognate and synonymous with *scot* SHOT *sb.*[1] In some or all of the later instances, the word may be a mere graphic or dialectal variant of SHOOT *sb.*[1] or SHOT *sb.*[1]]

1. A rush or rapid motion.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1738 Al holyke com þer flote In Dertemuthe, at o schote. *Ibid.* 15700 Cadwalyn was ofte on fflote Wyþ many fair[e] schip on schote, & wel þe wynd gan hym dryue

2. The action or an act of shooting with a bow, gun, etc., also the missiles discharged. Cf. SHOT *sb.*[1]

Phrase. *all at one shote*, in a volley, all at once.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 861 Wyþ þat schote his fiader he slow *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 7722 Al was of man bothe nese & throte, And fyngres als for his schote. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1957 in *Macro Plays* 135 Schete we all at a schote. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 273 Perrin hath a cest tul of schote for crosbowes. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 No person..shall..shote..with any handgunne..vpon peine for forfaite for euery such shote .x. li. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. (S.T.S.) I. 297 Sche subtilie, to flie the schotis of that lngine, slipis intil a nuik neir by.

3. A crick in the neck, ? a spasm of pain.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schote, or crykke, *tetanus.*

Shote, variant of SHOAT[1], 2.

Shoter, obs. form of SHOOTER, SHUDDER *v.*

Shot-fare. *dial.* Also 8 shotver. [Contracted from *shotnet fare*: see SHOT-NET.] A mackerel-fishing expedition (also *a. trib.*); the mackerel season.

1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.), *Shotver men*, the mackarel fishers at Dover. *a* 1798 PENNANT *Journ. I. of Wight* (1801) I. 137 The Shotfare season, or time of catching mackrel. 1887 *Kent. Gloss.*, *Shot-fare*, the mackerel season, which is the first of the two seasons of the home fishery.

Shot-free, *a.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] (sens.s 7 and 23) + FREE *a.* Cf. M.Du. *schotvrĭ* = sense 2 below; mod.Du. *schotvrij*, G. *schussfrei* = sense 1.]

† **1.** Safe from shot, shot-proof. *Obs.*

a 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xl. 19 Last, Reson rais, ay shotfrie vnder sheeld. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 184 What shot-free Corslet,..'Gainst th'angry Aspick could assure them safety? *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wilts* (1662) III. 157 Such Officers being commonly shot-free by their place, as not exposed to danger. 1778 *Arminian Mag.* I. 198 A receipt to make us shot-free, sword and pistol proof.

b. *fig.*

1602 B. JONSON *Poetaster* Apol. Dial. 25 Whilst I, at whom they shot, sit here shot-free, And as vn-hurt of enuy, as vnhit. 1736 J. SERCES *Popery an Enemy to Script.* 56 As long as our Adversaries level no other Arrows at our Heads we are Shot-free. 1820 W. TOOKE *Lucian* I. 317 Why are the Muses invulnerable to you and shot-free?

2. Free from payment of 'shot'; hence also, unpunished; = SCOT-FREE. Now *rare.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 30 Though I could scape shot-free at London, I fear the shot heere: here's no scoring, but vpon the pate. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* II. i, To come shot free [L. *asymbolum venire*] anointed and washed from the bathes. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Hemp-seed* (1623) 32 Bread, Beere, and Oysters is their meat, Which freely, friendly, shot-free all doe eat. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* 1, Shot free (unpuni-hed) *impune.* 1892 H. V. MILLS *Lake Country Romances* 169 Thou shalt not go shot-free this time.

† b. Of a meal: at which no payment is made.

1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* IV. xi. (1715) 288 A shot-free Banquet, or a Marriage-Feast, Not such as is by Contribution made.

Shot-garland.

† **1.** *Naut.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s. v. *Garland, Shot-Garland*, ..a piece of timber nailed horizontally along the ship's side from one gun-port to another, and used to contain the round-shot ready for charging the great guns in battle. For this purpose it is furnished with several semi-globular cavities, corresponding to the size of the cannon-balls which it is employed to contain.

2. 'In land-batteries, an iron or wooden stand on which shot and shell are piled in order to preserve them from deterioration' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Shot-gun, shot'gun. Originally *U.S.*

A smooth-bore gun (fowling-piece) used for firing small-shot, as distinguished from a rifle for firing a bullet.

1828 J. HALL *Lett. fr. West* 86 Luck's like a shot-gun, mighty uncertain. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xi. 86 The lads of the West holding 'shot-guns', as they call them, in great contempt, thinking..the rifle the only fire-arm worthy of a hunter. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 220 The sportsmanlike use of the shot-gun.

b. *attrib.* as *shotgun barrel*; also **shotgun prescription** *Medical slang*, a prescription containing a great number of drugs of various properties.

1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 8 The strain to which a *shot-gun barrel is ordinarily subjected. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Shotgun prescription. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1913 *Times* 13 Aug. 4/4 The old 'shotgun' prescriptions so justly condemned by modern physicians.

Shot-hole. [SHOT *sb.*[1]]

1. A hole made by the passage of a shot.

1801 NELSON 22 Apr. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. ccvii, The Infordestein..was desired to be sunk, which she soon was as no person stopped her shot-holes. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* v. 55 They had..induced one of their fellow workmen to make a few holes like shot holes in their backs.

b. *transf.* 'A hole made in wood by a boring insect' (Webster 1911).

2. *arch.* A small hole in a fortified wall through which to shoot. (Often in Scott.)

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, A small projecting window, or shot-hole, through which, in former days, the warders were wont to reconnoitre those who presented themselves before the gates. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 236 The whole having, in addition to shot-holes, embrasures, &c., an abundance of glazed windows.

3. *Mining.* A hole bored in the rock in which to insert a blasting-charge.

1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 58 Boring machines.. for the purpose of boring these 'shot-holes'.

Shotil, obs. form of SHUTTLE.

Sho·tless (ʃǫ·tlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without shot.

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Autumn* 197 Exert thy voice, and wield thy shotless gun.

† Shot-log. *Obs. rare*[−1]. = SHOT-CLOG.

1618 FIELD *Amends for Ladies* III. iv, For the reckoning there's some of their cloakes: I will be no shot-log to such.

Sho·tman, sho·tsman. [f. SHOT *sb.*[1]]

1. A shooter.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 1/3 No, 'tain't shotsmen; 'tis a nasty hedge creeper of a devil, with nets and ferrets. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* II. i. 117 The shotmen, the musketeers, and harquebusiers.

2. *Mining.* (See quot. 1905.)

1905 *Daily News* 29 July 5/2 The shotman, whose special duty is to charge the shot-hole ready for firing. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 6/7 A shotsman's assistant at the Llanbradach Colliery.

Shot-net. *dial.* [SHOT *ppl. a.* + NET *sb.*] A mackerel net. Also *attrib.* † shotnet-fare (see quots.).

1320 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xxiv. 611 [180 fathoms of] shotnet. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 577 Shotnet, Shof-net, et Kydels, sount defenduz. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticismus* (E. D. S.) *Shotver-men,* the mackarel fishers at Dover. Their nets are called *shot-nets.*

attrib. 1580 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1849) II. 43 [The fishermen proceeded to set down their ancient fishing customs under certain heads, called fares,..such as those used in] Tucknett Fare, Shotnett Fare, [etc.].

Shot-pouch.

1. A sportsman's pouch or bag, usually of leather, for carrying shot.

1732 *Inventory Sir R. Sutton's Goods* 6 Two Powder Flasks and four Shot-Pouches. 1842 LACY *Mod. Shooter* 89, I have already expressed my dislike of shot-belts; the fact is, I prefer shot-pouches.

2. *Local U.S.* The ruddy duck, *Erismatura rubida*: so called in allusion to the quantity of shot often required to kill it.

† Sho·tship. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] + -SHIP.] A party or assembly paying 'shot' or pecuniary contribution or reckoning.

a 1300 *Havelok* 2099 Betere i go miself, and se: Hweþer he sitten nou, and wesseylen, Or of ani shotshipe to-deyle.

Shotsman: see SHOTMAN.

Shot star. [f. SHOT *ppl. a.*]

1. A shooting star.

1633 T. BANCROFT *Gluttons Fever* C 1, (Like a shot starre,) from prides high turrets throwne To Stygian deepes. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 597 As shot stars fall, She fled ere I could groan for mercy.

2. The alga *Nostoc commune,* vulgarly supposed to be of meteoric origin.

1811 MCSKIMIN *Hist. Carrickfergus* 202 Common Heron.. is believed to disgorge that gelatinous substance called *Shot-star.*

‖ Shott (ʃǫt). Also shot, chott. [NAfrican Arab. شط *shaṭṭ* 'lac salé' (Belkassem *Dict. Arabe-fr.*).] A shallow brackish lake or marsh in Northern Africa, usually dry in the summer and covered with saline deposits.

1878 A. K. JOHNSTON *Africa* ii. 20 A long series of brackish lakes, here called *Sebkha* or *Shott.*

Shott, variant of SHOAT[1] and **2.**

Shotte, obs. form of SHOT.

Shotted (ʃǫ·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHOT *v.* and *sb.*[1] + -ED.]

1. Loaded with shot or ball as well as powder.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xii. 346 The firing of shotted guns. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 2/1 Substituting a shotted for a blank cartridge.

2. Weighted with 'shot'; having a shot attached; chiefly of a fishing-line or net, and of a corpse for burial at sea.

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* VI. iv, His [the sailor's] heavy-shotted hammock-shroud Drops in his vast and wandering grave. 1866 DICKENS, etc. *Mugby Junction, No. 5 Branch Line,* The serge cap and shotted chain of any galley-slave. 1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Line, Shotted line,* a fishing-line to which split shot are attached as sinkers. Shotted casting-lines are also used in special cases for fly-fishing.

3. Of metal: (see quot. 1796).

1796 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 422 *note,* By shotted copper is meant copper which has been poured when melted into cold water, by which it is divided into small globular pieces and grains. 1859 BESSEMER in *Min. Proceed. Inst. Civil Engin.* XVIII. 532 To pour the fluid steel into water and afterwards to remelt the shotted metal in a crucible.

Shotten (ʃǫ·t'n), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHOOT *v.* Cf. SHOT *ppl. a.*]

† 1. a. Of an arrow: Shot from a bow. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 73, & tet beali blencte & breid him aȝeinwart bihinden hare schuldren as for a schoten [*vr.* ischoten] arewe.

† b. Of a wound: Produced by gunshot. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 6/2 Commonlye, shotten woundes doe not enter right, or linially, into the bodye, but turninge.

† 2. Of tin: ? = SHOTTED **3.** *Obs.*

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 56/1 Diverses autres Marchantz ..achatent et envoyent Estayn founduz, appelle Shotentyn. 1429 *Ibid.* 359/1 No manere Wolle.., Lede, ne Tynne, hoole ne shoten.

† b. ? Crystallized. (Cf. SHOOT *v.*)

1766 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 38 The granulated surface, and shotten edge, of the metal, pronounce it..to be native tin.

3. Of a fish (esp. a herring): That has spawned. [Cf. Du. *schoten haringh* (1661 in Boekenoogen *Zaansch Volkstaal* s.v. *Ropziek*).]

1451 in T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* (1754) 148 Rec. of Thomas Comber 2500 full Heryns 200 schotyn. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 74 His conceit [was] as lank as a shotten herring. 1596 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 243 Prysez of Herynges Whyte ful v. for ijd.; shutten iij. for jd. *c* 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 154 The Shoal begins to be lean, shotten, and sick. 1863 *Rep. Sea Fisheries Comm.* (1865) II. 419/1 We have caught shotten fish one night, and the next they have been full of spawn. 1864 J. M. MITCHELL *Herring* 114 Full herrings..and..empty or shotten herrings.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* In *shotten herring,* applied to a person who is exhausted by sickness or destitute of strength or resources (*arch.*) Hence *gen.,* † Thin, emaciated; worthless, good-for-nothing.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV* II. iv. 143 If manhood, good manhood be not forgot vpon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten Herring. 1617 *Let.* 31 Jan. in *India Office Rec.* (MS.) O. C. No. 442 [The factories] ad to their rotten and shotten [goods] and demynish (or take away) such as is vendable. 1618 FLETCHER *Women Pleas'd* II. iv, What Penurio, My shotten friend, what winde blew you? 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 14 He looked shotten and wan, as one that had been sick. 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 2 Come and look at this poor, shotten-herring of a creature.

4. Blood-shot. quasi-*arch.* (Cf. BLOOD-SHOTTEN.)

c 1460 *Compl. Criste* 401 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 218 They [my eyes] been shotyn [*earlier text* blood-schoten] with ffleschely luste. 1858 KINGSLEY *Real King* 36 His eyne were shotten, as red as blood.

5. *dial.* Of milk: Sour, curdled.

a 1667 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671), Shotten milk, *nobis Lac vetustate Coagulatum.* 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Shotten-milk,* milk turned sour and curdled...Still understood here, but almost out of use.

Hence † **Shottenly** *adv.*

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Covetous Usurer* (1860) 73 But as shottenly as he looks, he's a notable crafty fox in his way.

† Sho·tter[1]. *Obs. rare.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] + -ER.[1]]

1. A missile weapon.

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* viii. (Arb.) 68 A shaft, a shotter, that our harts hes slane.

2. A large sea-fishing boat.

1580 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1849) II. 44 [Shotnett fare is applied to larger vessels] called shotters of diverse burthens between six and twenty-six tonn, going to sea from Aprill to June for macrell.

‖ Shotter[2] (ʃǫ·tər). *Geol.* [ad. G. *schotter.*] Pebbles and sand deposited in layers by a river.

1911 SOLLAS *Anc. Hunters* i. 19 To these deposits the Germans give the name of shotter (schotter), a term we shall find it convenient to adopt. The shotter have evidently been deposited by swiftly running water. *Ibid.* 20 A sheet of shotter, over a hundred feet in thickness.

† Sho·tterel. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 shotrel. [Of obscure origin: cf. SHOAT and *cockerel, pickerel* etc.] A young pike of the first year.

1566 GASCOIGNE *Supposes* II. iv, As though sixe mouthes.. bee not sufficient to eate an harlotrie shotterell, a pennieworth of cheese, and halfe a score spurlings. *c* 1620 LAWSON *Dennis' Secrets of Angling* (1885) 49 The Shotrell, 1 year, Pickerel, 2 year, Pike, 3 year, Luce, 4 year, are one.

Shottle, variant of SHUTTLE *sb.*[4]

Shotty (ʃǫ·ti), *a.* [f. SHOT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Resembling shot or pellets of lead; hard and round.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 185 Weathered barley has a dull and often a dirty appearance, quite distinct from the bright shotty character of good samples. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 248 These [points] soon increase in size, ultimately perhaps attaining the bulk of peas, and feeling hard and shotty between the fingers. 1880 *Tea Advt.,* This tea..is brisk,..shotty in leaf, and heavy.

Shot-window. Now only *Sc.* [Prob. f. SHOT *sb.*[1] The precise sense of the first element is difficult to determine. Some have thought that the word originally meant a window for shooting from; but there is no trace of this in the examples. Cf. MDu. *schotdore* sliding door, *schotpoorte* portcullis.] A window that can be opened and shut by turning on its hinges, like a door or shutter, a casement; a shutter with a few panes of glass at the top. (Cf. quot. 1722 s.v. SHOT *sb.*[1] 28.)

In quot. 1836 app. used for *outshot window.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 172 He..dressed hym vp by a shotwyndowe That was vp on the Carpenteris wal. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. Prol. 129 Ane schot wyndo vnschet a lytill on char. 15.. *Adam Bel* 85 in Hazl. *E. E. P.* II. 142 Alyce opened a shot wyndow, And loked all a bout. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiv, She hath jumped out of the shot-window of old Gaffer Thackham's grange. 1836 J. STRUTHERS *Dychmont* Poet. Wks. (1850) II. 64 Its braw shot window, where to th' e'e Shines Snuff, Tobacco, and Bohea.

Shou (ʃū). [Alleged Tibetan *ɕu* stag; according to Jäschke *Tibetan-Eng. Dict.* known only from 'Cunningham and other English authorities', and probably a blunder due to mishearing of *ɕaba.*] A Tibetan species of deer, *Cervus affinis.*

1850 HODGSON in *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Beng.* XIX. 466 On the Shou or Tibetan Stag. 1910 LYDEKKER *Deer* in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 923/1 Another Asiatic species is the great shou (*Cervus affinis*) of the Chumbi Valley.

Shou, dial. form of SHE.

Shouful, variant of SHOFUL.

† Shough. *Obs.* Also 6 shaugh, 7 showgh, shogh(e. [Perh. the same word as SHOCK *sb.*; but the relation between the two forms is obscure.] A kind of lap-dog, said to have been originally brought from Iceland.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 29 They are for Vltima Theule the north seas or Island, and thence yerke ouer..a trundletaile tike or shaugh or two. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 94 Spaniels, Curres, Showghes. *a* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Dog of War* B 1 b, No Mungrell Cur or Shogh. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 185/2 An Island Dog,..curled and rough all over...These Curs are much set by with Ladys, who..trim of all the hair of their hinder parts...Some call them Shoughs.

Shough, var. SHEUGH; obs. form of SHOO *int.*

† Shou·ghtering, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.*[−1] [Of obscure origin; perh. an error for **ploughtering* (see FLICHTER, FLAUCHTER *vbs.*] Flapping or agitation of the wings.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 628 A shoughturyng [*Colchester MS.* shuddering], a flusshyng, & a fray He [*sc.* the peacock] maketh then.

Should (ʃud), *sb. nonce-wd.* An utterance of the word *should.* Also, what 'should be'.

1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 123 (Qo. 2) And then this should is like a spend thrifts sigh, That hurts by easing. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* Wks. (Bohn) III. 151 All writings must be in a degree exoteric, written to a human *should* or *would,* instead of to the fatal *is.*

Should, pa. t. of SHALL *v.*; obs. f. SHOAL.

Shouldarye, obs. form of SUDARY.

Should-be (ʃu·dbi), *sb.* and *a. nonce-word.*

a. *sb.* What should be. **b.** *adj.* That should be.

1790 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 35 What says Prior, when he describes the should-be of artists' conduct to each other! 1887 *19th Cent.* Aug. 210 His should-be helpmate.

Shoulde, obs. form of SHOAL *sb.*[1]

Shoulder (ʃō·ldəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 sculdur, sculdor, sculder, scyldur, 3 sculder, (solder), scholdur, 3–4 shuldre, 3–5 schuldre, 3–6 scholder, 4–5 schuldur, -dyr, 3–8 sholder, 4–6 s(c)hulder, schuldir, schuldere, sholdre, 4 s(c)holdere, (soldre), 5 schuldire, -dyre, s(c)hildur, shuldur, shuder, (6 shoder, schodyr, showlder, *Sc.* schowder, 7 souldiour, *Sc.* sulder, shuldeir), 8–9 *Sc.* shouther, 6– shoulder. *Plural.* **a.** 1 sculdru, -o, -a, (*north.* dat. scyldrum), 3 shulldre (Ormin), 4 shuldre; **β.** sculderen, schuldren, ssoldren, 3–5 scholdren, shuldren, 6 shouldren; **γ.** 3 sculdres, 3–5 shuldres; 4 shuldris (chuldris, schylderez, *Sc.* schuldrys), 4–5 schuldris, shulderis, scholdres, 4–6 schulderis, sholdres, schulder(e)s, 5–6 schuldiris, 5 s(c)hildres, soldrys, 6 schouldiris, *Sc.* schildris; also 5– as sing. + -s. [OE. *sculdor* masc. corresponds (exc. in declension and gender, app. evidenced only in one passage) to OFris. *skulder, skolder* (WFris. *skouder,* Hindelopen *skoalder,* NFris. *skoller*), MLG. *schulder,* MDu. *schouder(e* masc. (mod.Du. *schouder* fem.), OHG. *scultarra, scultirra* fem. (MHG., mod.G. *schulter* fem.); not found in ON.; the MSw., Sw. *skuldra* fem., Da. *skulder,* are prob. early adoptions from LG. As the OE. pl. *sculdru* is anomalous for a masculine sb., it has been suggested that it may represent a dual. The ONorthumbrian *scyldr-* seems to represent the WGer. **skuldrja* fem. which is indicated by the OHG. forms.

The affinities of the WGer. word are disputed: see Heyne in Grimm *Deutsches Wb.* s. v. Some scholars (e. g. Kluge, Brugmann) hold that **skuldr-* is a dissimilated form of **skurdr-,* related by ablaut to **skard-* in OHG. *scarti* shoulder.]

1. Each of the two corresponding portions (right and left) of the human body, including the upper joint of the arm with its integuments and the portion of the trunk between this and the base of the neck; esp. the curved upper surface of this; in *pl.* often including the part of the back between the two. In quadrupeds, the upper part of the fore-limb and the adjacent part of the back.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 963 *Scapula,* sculdur. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Is þonne on westan medmycel duru þæt mannes heafod ȝe þa sculdro maȝan in. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 198 & of þære stowe ofer ealle þa sidan astihð..oþ ðone swiþran sculdor þæt sar. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4776 All samenn, brest & shuldre, & bacc, & side. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7449 Hou longe ssolle hor luþer heued aboue hor ssoldren be. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 386 Bot off lymmys he wes weill maid, With banys gret & schuldrys braid. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcvi, Venus..that had A mantill cast ouer hir schuldris quhite. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 57 If thou shalte bye fatte oxen..se that they be soft..behynde the shulder, and vpon the hindermost rybbe. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lviii. 161 You shall know him [a male hare] if you marke his shoulders well before he ryse, for they are redder than a female Hares be. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* P 3, I, euen from a childe..replide Scarlet, and made a mouth at him ouer his shoulder. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xvii. 6 And he had ..a target of brasse between his shoulders. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* II. 16 That braw blue stringing That's set your houghs and shuthers hinging. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Horse,* The part from the withers to the top joint

of the thigh, is called the shoulder. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* II. (1778) 37 Shoulders back, Toby; and chest a little more out! 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 58 A leopard skin Droop'd from his shoulder. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 84 A gnawing, aching pain, about the top of the shoulder. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 329/2 (Dogs) *Shoulder*, the top of the shoulder blade, the point from which the height of a dog is measured.

b. In fishes (*sing.* and *pl.*), the upper part of the trunk, adjoining the head.

Cod's head and shoulders: see COD'S HEAD 2.

1820 *Q. Rev.* May 277 Here's a cod's head and shoulders With soles for upholders. 1839–47 R. JONES *Pisces* in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 958/1 The anterior extremity or pectoral fin comprehends the shoulder, which is an osseous semicircle composed of many bones, suspended at the upper part to the cranium or spine. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 222 The shoulder is the best part [of a fish], and should be first helped.

c. The upper part of the wing or wing-case of a bird, beetle, butterfly, etc. adjoining the point of articulation; of a bird, *spec.* the carpal joint.

1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 49 The Chain does not come down so low to the Shoulders of the Wings. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s. v. *Scarabæus*, The reddish beetle with two spots on the shoulders. 1832 T. BROWN *Bk. Butterflies & M.* (1834) I. 174 The upper wings [of the butterfly] are.. marked with two acute triangular patches of crimson on the shoulders. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. vi. 316 In some Sphingidae there is the unusual condition of a highly-developed shoulder coexisting with a perfect frenulum and retinaculum.

d. = SHOULDER-JOINT *lit.* and *fig.*; chiefly in *to put one's shoulder out.*

1611 COTGR., *Espauler*, to burst a shoulder, to put a shoulder out of ioynt. 1847 HALLIWELL s. v., A young lady who has unfortunately listened to the persuasions of the other sex, is said to have a slip of the shoulder. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s. v. *Shoother*, 'To put one's shoulder out' is an idiom meaning to take offence.

2. Phrases. †**a.** *To be more, lower by the shoulders*: to be head and shoulders taller or shorter in stature. *Obs.* (Cf. HEAD *sb.* 47.)

a 1300 *Havelok* 982 Þan was hauelok bi þe shuldren more Þan þe meste þat þer kam. 1470 *Paston Lett.* II. 394 He is ..lower then my lytell Tom by the schorderys [*sic*].

b. *Over the shoulder*, †*over* (*the*) *shoulders*: †(*a*) indicating that what is said is meant ironically for the reverse; 'over the left'; (*b*) said of a remark aimed indirectly at some one.

(*a*) 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 2 b, By these complots ..Wolfe could not choose but bee a huge gainer, a hundred marke at least ouer the shoulder. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Espaule, Par dessus l'espaule*, ouer the shoulder,..and hence; *Riche, ou vertueux, par dessus l'espaule*; (signifies) a verie begger, or, an arrant knaue. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* x. § 1. 74 They prove not bread unto them, as they thought, but Huskes which they thought not: they gaine over shoulders by them, when all their Cards are cast. 1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* iii. 194, I think our Author has either lost money by his Discourse, or got it over the shoulders.

(*b*) 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. vii. 105 That which may be called criticism over the shoulder.

c. *To put an old head on young shoulders*; to make a young person as staid or experienced as an elderly one; similarly *to have an old head on young shoulders. To have a head upon one's shoulders*: to have good sense.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* i, 'They were daft callants,' she said,'..ye could not put an auld head upon young shouthers.' 1837 MARRYAT *Perc. Keene* xix, You appear to have an old head upon very young shoulders. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxxii, 'Well, that's so,' he said. 'You've a head upon your shoulders, John, and no mistake.'

d. *Shoulder to shoulder*: lit. of soldiers, so as to shoulder one another, in close conflict; also, in rank, in close formation; hence *fig.* of persons, with united effort, with mutual co-operation and support.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 293 So as both the horses & men met shoulder to shoulder. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 5 A Ranke..is a Row of men placed Pouldron to Pouldron, or Shoulder to Shoulder. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 32 The Scots..cloased and in a manner locked themselues together, shoulder to shoulder. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iii. 118 We are..strongest when we are labouring shoulder to shoulder for some common object. 1894 DONOVAN *With Wilson in Matabeleland* 301 That band of heroes who died shoulder to shoulder.

e. *Horsemanship.* (Cavalry.) *Shoulder forward! Right* (or *left*) *shoulders* (*in*)*!* orders given for a rider to 'bend' his horse so that he moves obliquely to the right or left for alteration of position or direction in marching; also, the performance of this order.

1796 *Instr. & Regul. Cavalry* (1813) 136 The officer..gives a word, *Shoulder* (the outward one) *forward!* on which the man next to himself gradually turns his horse so as to arrive in the new line perfectly square in his own person. 1833 *Ibid.* I. 80 When he is properly bent in 'Shoulder-in' his whole body from head to tail is curved, and he will move in two lines parallel to the sides of the manege. 1844 *Ibid.* 18 Bending Lesson. The Ride being in file..' Right Shoulder in.' The horses' heads to be brought into the school with the (inward) or right rein [etc.]. *Ibid.* 107 When the change [of direction] is to be made to the Pivot hand, the Leader of the Head of the Column..will give the word 'Right (or Left) shoulders'.

f. (*Straight*) *from the shoulder*: (of a blow) with the fist brought to the shoulder and then swiftly sent forward; (of pulling or other movements) with the arm kept straight, not 'from the elbow'.

1856 READE *Never too late* xv, No! give me a chap that hits out straight from the shoulder. 1859 *Lillywhite's Guide to Cricketers* (ed. 12) 17 Wriggling and twisting your body instead of letting your arms go from the shoulder. 1864 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 516 The stroke should be made freely from the shoulder, and not in a cramped manner from the elbow.

g. *To rub shoulders with*: see RUB *v.* 5 b.

3. As the part of the body on which burdens are carried; also, as the seat of muscular strength employed in carrying, pushing, etc.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 5, & miððy ȝemoetað hia on-settað on scyldrum his ȝefeande. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12033 Wit scholdur gaf he him a scou. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 343 The shee apes carrie their whelpes vpon their shoulders. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 800 He Yokes himself, and..With his own Shoulders draws the Waggon's Weight. 1697 — *Æneid* II. 659 Then all their Shoulders ply, 'Till from the Posts the brazen Hinges fly. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 164 Make broad thy shoulders to receive my weight, And bear me to the margin.

b. *transf.* Of things quasi-personified.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 56 Aboord, aboord for shame, The winde sits in the shoulder of your saile. 1849 LONGF. *By Seaside, Lighth.* xi, And steadily against its solid form Press the great shoulders of the hurricane. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* 33 So a swimmer is uplifted Horsed on a streaming shoulder of the Sea.

c. *fig.* and in fig. context.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 4 Hia ȝebindas uutedlice byrdenna hefiȝa..& settas in scyldrum *vel* bæccum monna. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* x. 27 And it shal be in that dai, shal be don awey his berthene fro thi shulder. 1533 TINDALE *Supper of the Lord* B vij, Syr ye..haue taken to great a burden vpon your weke shoulders. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 100 *Ed.* Euen as thou wilt sweet Warwicke, let it bee: For in thy shoulder do I builde my Seate. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 462 A Crown..Brings..sleepless nights To him.. When on his shoulders each mans burden lies. 1775 EARL CARLISLE in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 133 Thus this affair is off my shoulders for a little time. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, All the debts are put upon my shoulders, on account of my known wealth. 1860–70 STUBBS *Lect. Europ. Hist.* I. viii (1904) 97 Charles..was desirous.. to rid his own shoulders of the pressure of imperial business.

†**d.** Phrases (all *Obs.*). *To go to shoulder with*: to set about pushing. *To lend a shoulder, to put under one's shoulder*: to help to lift or carry something. *To set shoulder against, to set one's shoulder against*: to oppose strongly or forcibly. *Narrow in the shoulders*: incapable of bearing ridicule.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 10 An other is so narrow in [ed. 2, betwene] the sholders, that he can beare no iestes nor tawntes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* IV. viii. (1592) 725 That the doctrine of godlinesse should be spred thoroughout the whole worlde,..maugre the might of the whole worlde, setting shoulder against the same all in vaine. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xvi. 94 That hee..shoulde not forbeare..to put vnder his shoulder (as they say) to beare a peece of the burthen. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 330 (1810) 341 All such whose wives have the sovereignty, should go to shoulder with that stone. 1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 200 It may be..they will..lend a shoulder, yea, and sweat, to lift us up yet higher. *a* 1663 *Ibid.* 306 Though all the powers in earth and hell should..set to all their shoulders and strength against it.

e. *To put* (occas. *lay, set*) *one's shoulder to the wheel*: (literally) so as to extricate the vehicle from the mire; hence *fig.* to set to work vigorously. So also *to put, set one's shoulder to* (work, a task) etc.

1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* 39 If it had hitherto seemed to go up-hill, there was a greater cause to put the whole shoulder to it. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxlvi. 213 Lay your Shoulder to the Wheel, and Prick your Oxen. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* June, We must all put our shoulders to the work. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. ii. v, They.. instead of pushing on all shoulders at the wheel, will stand idle there.

f. *To open the shoulders*: to give free play to the muscles of the shoulders in making a stroke; to 'let out'.

1882 [see OPEN *v.* 3]. 1892 E. V. LUCAS *Songs of Bat* 7 But the batsman knows a finer joy When he opens his shoulders and drives!

4. The fore-leg and adjacent parts cut from the carcass of a deer, sheep or other animal; a joint consisting of this prepared for the table.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 497 Þe forster for his riȝtes Þe left schulder [of a hart] ȝaf he. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxix. 27 And thou shalt halwe..the shuldre that thow seuerdist fro the wether. 1428–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 71 Also payd for..a sholdere & a brist of moton iiij d ob. 1583–4 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 19 Vnto a mane wᵉⁿ broughte a shoulder of a stagge frome Lyme xij d. 1641 MURREL *Cookerie* (ed. 5) 6 A Shoulder of Mutton with Olives and Capers. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 122 I'll help myself to a Slice of this Shoulder of Veal. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, The knife-boy was caught stealing a cold shoulder of mutton. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 18/6 Bacon continued fair, ..Shoulders were sparingly offered at full prices.

b. *Cold shoulder*: see COLD SHOULDER *sb.* and *v.*

c. *Shoulder of mutton*, used †(*a*) proverbially. *As good, wholesome*, etc. as a *shoulder of mutton to a sick horse*: no good at all. *One shoulder of mutton draws down another*: eating induces eating. *A shoulder of mutton for a sheep's head*: something of worth *for* a substitute of comparatively little value. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 70 Thou art..As holsome a morsell for my comely cors As a shoulder of mutton for a sicke hors. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s. v. *Shoulder*, One Shoulder of Mutton draws down another, (Prov.) *en mangeant l'Appetit vient.* 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com., Marriage* Wks. 1709 III. i. 66 As two Shoulders of Mutton drive down one another, so two powerful Griefs destroy one another. 1725 BAILEY tr. *Colloq. Erasmus* (1878) I. 228 Ho! I find I was out in my Notion; to leave a Shoulder of Mutton for a Sheep's Head [orig. *Hem! pro thesauro carbones*].

(*b*) *attrib.* with similative notion. *Shoulder of mutton fist*: a large, heavy, fleshy fist; hence *shoulder-of-mutton fisted* adj. *Shoulder of mutton sail*: a triangular sail attached to a mast; hence *shoulder of mutton rig.*

1694 MOTTEUX tr. *Rabelais* IV. xv. 64 The crippled Bum had struck him such a horrid thump with his Shoulder-of-Mutton-Fist. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 232, I..made a Three-corner'd vgly Thing, like what we call in England, a Shoulder of Mutton Sail, to go with a Boom at Bottom. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 228 What sailors call, a shoulder-of-mutton rig, the larger part..being in the body of the boat. 1900 F. T. BULLEN *With Christ at Sea* x. 194 A great raw-boned, shoulder-of-mutton fisted fellow.

5. That part of a garment which covers the wearer's shoulder.

1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 25 Item..iij quarteris of blac for the Kingis gowne schulderis. 1696-7 *Act* 8 & 9 *Will. III*, c. 30 § 2 Upon the Shoulder of the right Sleeve of the uppermost Garment. 1855 LADY E. FINCH *Sampler* (ed. 2) 103 Gather the shoulders and the back.

b. *Leather trade.* The portion of a hide between the butt and the cheeks. Also, see quot. 1858.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shoulders*, a name in the leather trade for tanned or curried hides and kips, as well as for English and foreign offal. 1885 H. R. PROCTER *Text-bk. Tanning* viii. 155 A piece called a 'middle' is sometimes taken between the butt and the shoulder.

6. A projection or protuberance resembling the human shoulder in shape, position or function; that part of a thing where it widens or swells out to greater bulk from what may be viewed as its head or neck.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 137, I call that the shoulder in a heade [of an arrow] whyche a mans finger shall feele afore it come to the poynte. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1596) 157 A nayle well made should haue no shoulder at all, but still lesser and lesser toward the poynt. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xi. 197 The Rowler must also be so long between its Shoulders, that it may conveniently contain so many Diameters of String as shall be necessary. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 157 The pin..with a shoulder on the upper side. 1839 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* 39 [Plate] Shoulder of the Trunnion. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 79 The neck [of the amphora] is not cylindrical, but slopes upon the shoulders. 1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiards* 339 To make the hazard, play at the shoulder of the pocket. 1910 R. P. SPIERS in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 420 The lintel of the Greek doorway projected on either side beyond the dressings, constituting what are known as the shoulders or knees.

b. A sudden inward curvature in the outline of something, from which it tapers to a point.

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Garden* x. (1623) 27 The Graft is..with a sharpe knife fitted in the knot..with shoulders an ynch downeward, and so put into the stock. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 20/2 The end [of a pen] in which the slit is, is called the cheeks; and the shoulders is the highest cut. 1834 D. LOW *Elem. Pract. Agric.* iv. 150 [In ploughing] it is important that the ridge be formed with a uniform curvature, so that it shall not have what is technically termed a shoulder, or hollow part on each side of the crown. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* i. 3 Skirting the coast of the Dead Sea till they passed the shoulder of the Peninsula of the Lisan.

c. A rebate which serves as an abutment; a projection which serves as a support.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 83 Then turn a Foot thereto with a Shoulder to put the Trunk upon. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 272 The middle space is cut down ..and well cleaned out, so that it has..six inches of firm ground for shoulders on each side. On these shoulders or abutments sods..are laid. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 172 To form the tenon; cut the shoulders in with the drawing knife. 1857 COLQUHOUN *Comp. Oarsman's Guide* 30 Those timbers which come up to strengthen the row-locks are called shoulders.

d. *Fortif.* = EPAULE.

1672 A. TACQUETT *Milit. Archit.* iv. 7 The Bulwork will be very much straitned..and the Angle of the shoulders made so much the less.

e. The flat surface below the letter, etc. on the shank of a type.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 369 Beard of a Letter, is the outer angle of the Square Shoulder of the Shank. 1882 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* (1884) 12 Certain small capital letters..have nicks at the back of the stem near the shoulder.

f. The projection between the blade and the tang (of a knife, chisel, etc.) which abuts on the handle.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxi. P 4 A short piece of a Knife broken off about two Inches from the Sholder. 1810 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Shoulder*, the upper part of the blade of a sword is so called. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* 124 The tang,..the thin spike which projects from the shoulders or thickening of the blade.

†**g.** Each of the two stones adjacent to the key-stone of an arch. *Obs.*

a 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 198 To secure a Compass Arch, it was necessary by weight, or some other Means, to keep down the Shoulders, which, rising, let the Crown, or Key, fall in.

h. A comparatively gentle slope on the side of a hill and near the top.

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 84/2 Millar..brought his drove over the shoulder of Wallace's hill. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June xii, The road, Which from the mountain shoulder o'er the plain Led to the city.

i. *pl.* The broadest part (of a bunch of grapes).

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 357/1 A bunch [of grapes]..upwards of 21 inches in length, and 19 inches across the shoulders.

7. An arched piece of wood or metal, or a frame of metal rods, placed under the shoulders of a coat or cloak to be hung up in a wardrobe, a shop-window, etc.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 1/3 Clothes hung about on wooden 'shoulders'. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 23 Nov. 4/4 A 'shoulder', the technical term for the wooden frame upon which ladies' mantles are hung by linen drapers.

8. Short for *shoulder-moth* (see 9 c).

1803 HAWORTH *Lepidoptera Brit.* 226 *Noctua plecta* (the flame Shoulder).

9. *Combinations.*

a. simple attrib., 'pertaining to the shoulder' as *shoulder band, brooch, -fin, garment, hackle, plaid*; with the meaning 'having a shoulder' (sense 6), as *shoulder-block, bolt, screw, spike.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 97/2 [Seamsters terms] *Shoulder Band. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 156 *Shoulder-block is a large single block, left nearly square at the lower end, or arse of the block. *Ibid.*, Mast-making Plate, *Shoulder bolt. 1902 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* Suppl., **Shoulder brooch*, the large brooch worn in the Highland costume, fastening the plaid on the left shoulder. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § v. i. 97 The Scate, or Angel-Fish. His *Shoulder-Fins ..expanded. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 651 The ephod or *shoulder garment. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* x. 299 [In a salmon fly]..*g.* the *shoulder hackle. 1831 J. LOGAN *Scott. Gaël* I. 246 The *shoulder plaid is worn by the present Highlanders chiefly for ornament. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 223 The bar..must be fixt to the plate..by a *shoulder screw, allowing a little play between.

b. Objective, as *shoulder cutting*; *shoulder-shrugging* adj.; locative, as *shoulder galled* adj.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, **Shoulder Cutting* (South Staffordshire), cutting the sides of the upper lift of a working place in a Thick-coal colliery next the rib, preparatory to falling the coal. 1694 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3010/4 A strong grey Gelding..*Shoulder-gal'd. 1840 THACKERAY *Cruikshank* Wks. 1900 XIII. 293 A villainous race of *shoulder-shrugging mortals are his Frenchmen indeed.

c. Special comb.: **shoulder angle** *Fortif.* (see quot.); **shoulder belt** = BANDOLEER; **shoulder-brace** (see quot.); **shoulder-butt**, a pistol butt shaped for firing from the shoulder; **shoulder cap** (*a*) *Antiq.* a piece of armour covering the point of the shoulder (= EPAULET 3); (*b*) *Surg.* see quot. 1895; **shoulder-clapper**, an officer charged with the arrest of an offender, a bailiff, sheriff's officer; so *shoulder-clapped, -clapping* adjs.; **shoulder-cover** *Ent.* = PATAGIUM c (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **† shoulder-dash**, a sharper's trick of throwing his liquor over his shoulder instead of drinking it; **shoulder-girdle** *Anat.* (see GIRDLE *sb.*[1] 4); **shoulder-grafting** (see quot. 1842); **shoulder gun**, a gun which is fired from the shoulder, as distinguished from a stancheon or punt gun; **† shoulder-head** = SHOULDER STRAP 1, **shoulder-height** *adv.*, as high as one's shoulder; **shoulder-high** *adv.* = prec.; *adj.*, that is up to one's shoulder in height; **shoulder-hitter** *colloq. U.S.*, one who hits from the shoulder; hence a pugilist, a bully, rough; **† shoulder-knife**, a huntsman's knife used to take out the shoulder in cutting up a deer; **shoulder-lappet** *Ent.* (see quot.); **† shoulderlin**, *lit.* shoulder-linen, i.e. shoulder-piece (of the ephod); **shoulder-lyar** *Sc.*, a piece cut from the upper part of the fore-leg of a carcass of beef; **shoulder moth**, a collectors' name for certain moths of the family *Noctuidæ* (Cent. Dict.); **shoulder net**, a fishing-net with a long pole which slides over the shoulder of the user; **shoulder note** *Typogr.*, a marginal note inserted at the top corner of a page; **shoulder-pegged** *a.* (see quot.); **† shoulder pight** *a.* = *shoulder pitched*; **† shoulder-pinched, † pinching** (see quots.); **† shoulder pit** [after *arm-pit*], the hollow under the shoulder of a sheep; **† shoulder pitch** = ACROMION; **† shoulder pitched** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, (of animals) having the shoulder dislocated; **shoulder plate** = SHOULDER PIECE 1; **† shoulder point**, (*a*) the point of the shoulder; (*b*) a shoulder-knot (= AGLET 2 c); **shoulder-pole**, a pole, each end of which rests upon a carrier's shoulder, the load being slung from the centre; **shoulder-rest**, a rest for a rifle in experimental firing; **† shoulder-shake** *v. trans.*, to shake the shoulders of; **shoulder-shaken** *a.* (of a beast) strained in the shoulder; **shoulder shield**, a shield-shaped piece of armour used to protect the shoulder; **shoulder-shot** *sb.*, a shot fired into the shoulder (of an animal); **shoulder-shot, -shotten** *adjs.*, (of an animal) having a strained or dislocated shoulder (*arch.*); **shoulder sling** *dial.*, a yoke for carrying (milk) pails; **shoulder slip**, a strain or dislocation of the shoulder-joint; hence *shoulder slipped a.*; **† shoulder-splate, † -splating** *sbs.* = *shoulder-slip*; **† shoulder-splate, † splated, -splayed** *adjs.*, = *shoulder-shotten* adj.; **† shoulder-stick**, a coach passenger carried by the method called 'shouldering' (see SHOULDER *v.* 14); **shoulder-striker** *U.S.* = *shoulder-hitter*; **shoulder-stripe**, a collectors' name for a variety of moth; **shoulder-stripe, -striped** *adjs.*, having a stripe of colour on the shoulder (indicating a species of moth); **shoulder-tap**, the action (of a bailiff) of tapping a person on the shoulder; hence *shoulder-tapping*; **shoulder-tippet** *Ent.* = PATAGIUM c (*Cent. Dict.*); **† shoulder-torn** *a.* = *shoulder-shotten*; **shoulder-tuft** *Ent.* = *shoulder-lappet*; **shoulder-wedge** *Building* (see quot.); **shoulder-work**, carrying of burdens; also, continuously hard work; **shoulder-wrench** (see quot. 1898); **shoulder-yoke**, a yoke for carrying pails. Also SHOULDER-BLADE, -BONE, -JOINT, -KNOT, -PIECE, -STRAP.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 16/2 The angles formed by the faces and flanks which are denominated **shoulder angles.* 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 17 May, Up, and put on my new stuff-suit, with a *shoulder-belt according to the new fashion. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. viii. 85 Our track-lines and shoulder-belts replaced the warps. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shoulder-brace* (Surgical), an appliance for treating round shoulders or unconfirmed curvatures of the spine. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 273 A rifle pistol..furnished with a pistol *shoulder-but. 1830 SKELTON *Arms & Armour* I. Pl. xxii, Fig. 3. The gorget with *shoulder caps. 1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surgical Instrum.* 777 Shoulder Cap, moulded leather for the after treatment of dislocation. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 37 He's in Tartar limbo..: A back friend, a *shoulder-clapper [hath him]. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Praise Beggery* B 2, He's free from *shoulder-clapping Sergeants clawes. 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Shoulder Clapper*, a bailiff, or member of the catch club. **Shoulder-clapped*; arrested. 1711 PUCKLE *Club* 19 These brethren in iniquity using finger-shade, mouth-spirt, or *shoulder-dash, drank little 'till the company were mellow. 1868 W. K. PARKER (*title*), A Monograph on the structure and development of the *shoulder-girdle and sternum in the Vertebrata. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 108 The third way..that is made use of ..is *shoulder or Whip-grafting. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 291 Sometimes also the scion is prepared with a shoulder..and this mode is called shoulder-grafting. 1824 COL. HAWKER *Instr. Young Sportsm.* 298 *Shoulder duck-guns. 1842 LACY *Mod. Shooter* 103 A thin coat of olive oil is the best external application for a shoulder-gun. 1688 *Shoulder-head [see SHOULDER-STRAP 1]. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxiii, Many a fair knight would leap *shoulder-height for leave to look on you as free as the brook may! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. v, No crowds now to carry you, *shoulder-high, to the immortal gods. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* vi. 119 As I walk on through the now shoulder-high grass. 1856 J. HOLBROOK *Mail Bags* 27 *Shoulder-hitter, who strikes from the shoulder, ruffian. 1864 LOWELL *Rebell.* Writ. 1890 V. 126 We remember our own roughs and shoulder-hitters at the beginning of the war. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* xliii. (1908) 129 This beyng done, he shall first take out the right shoulder [of the deer] with his *shoulder knyfe. *Ibid.* xliii. 135. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. vi. 312 These appendages [the tegulae] are frequently erroneously called patagia, but have also been called scapulae,.. and shoulder-tufts, or *shoulder-lappets. *c* 1200 ORMIN 954 Off þatt preostess *shulldrelin, & off hiss breostlin bape. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (1855) II. 693/1 The *shoulder-lyar is a coarse piece, and fit only for boiling fresh to make into broth or beef-tea. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IX. 322 Salmon, grilse and sea trouts, are caught in the night time, by what they term the fishing with the *shoulder-nets. 1882 J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* (1884) 248 *Shoulder notes are placed at the top of a page. 1909 P. VIVIAN *Campion's Wks.* 373 The custom is fully explained in a shoulder-note. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Shoulder-pegged horses, called in French *chevillées*, are such as have their shoulders gourdy, stiff, and almost without motion. 1565-6 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. cxiii. (1580) 52 Of the *shoulder pight. That is when the shoulder point or pitch of the shoulder is displaced. 1728 BAILEY *Dict.* (ed. 4), **Shoulder Pincht*, a Disease in Horses. 1810 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), **Shoulder-pinching*, a misfortune which befals a horse by labouring or straining when too young. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 630 The greasie wooll which groweth in the *shoulder pits of sheepe. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 36/1 *Acromium*, .. the *shoulder pitch or point. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3081/4 One of her Coach Geldings..hath been *shoulder Pitch'd. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume* Gloss., *Epauliere, epaullets*, *shoulder-plates. 1847 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 257. 238 The splendid shoulder-plates of a suit of armour. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) A iij, *Hec scapula*, the *shoulder poynt. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* III. i, [He] has hir'd meer rogues..To beat the Soldier..for wearing Shoulder-points, With longer taggs than his. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* I. 316 Then with quick Wheel oblique, his Shoulder-point Beneath his Breast he fix'd. 1910 D'A. W. THOMPSON tr. *Aristotle's Hist. Anim.* I. 12 The part to the back of the neck is the epomis, or 'shoulder-point'. 1888 *Century Mag.* Nov. 35/1 A couple of fettered convicts carrying water in a large wooden bucket slung between them on a *shoulder-pole. 1868 *Rep. Munitions War* 44 That two rifles at a time should be shot for accuracy from two *shoulder-rests, one on the right, the other on the left of the shooting-stand. 1649 CLEVELAND *Chron. Decoll. Car.* iii, Charles our dread Sovereign's murdered !—tremble and View what Convulsions *shoulder-shake this Land. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 158 When the roads become very hard, they [beasts] are apt to become *shoulder-shaken. 1824 MEYRICK *Ant. Armour* I. Introd. p. xvi, Their [*sc.* the retiarii's] left arms were protected by padded linen.. out of which issued a *shoulder-shield high enough to guard the face. 1830 SKELTON *Arms & Armour* I. Pl. ix. Fig. 6. The shoulder shield which rendered unnecessary a grande-garde on the breast plate. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* vi. 212, I gave this [bison] the *shoulder-shot with the remaining barrel of my rifle. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xxiii. 126 Oxen..being either *shoulder-shot [orig. F. *espaulez*] or brused, .. are fatted. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 56 His horse hip'd..and *shoulder-shotten. 1894 K. GRAHAME *Pagan P.* 108 He [a horse] seems sorely shrunk and shoulder-shotten. 1813 ST. J. PRIEST *Agric. Bucks* 297 in Marshall *Rev. Rep. Board Agric.* (1814) IV. 545 [The milk is] carried home in pails hanging upon a wooden *shoulder sling (as it is called). 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* V. (1745) 71 The Horse will probably take so much Care of him self, as to come off with only a Strain or a *Shoulder-slip. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3100/4 Lost.., a black Nag above 13 hands,.. lately *shoulder slip'd. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 740 They shock'd, and Kay Fell shoulder slipt. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Motto* A 4 b, The necke-cricke, spauins, *shoulder-splat, and aches. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. lxvii. (1738) 222 It is called a Shoulder Splait. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 309 If your horse be *shoulder splat. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict., Soldiers Ointment*, an Ointment..for a Horse that is *Shoulder Splaited. 1708 KERSEY *Dict.*, **Shoulder-splaiting*. 1882 OGILVIE, **Shoulder-splayed*. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 324 'Why do they call the opposition [coach] the Regulator?' asked Joe Walton's *shoulder-stick one day. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* ix, No '*shoulder-striker' hits out straighter than a child with its logic. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 251 Genus *Leucania*... Sp. 1. *Phalæna comma* (*shoulder stripe wainscot). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 165 The *Shoulder Stripe (*Anticlea badiata*). *Ibid.* 264 The *Shoulder-striped Wainscot (*Leucania Comma*). 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* II. i, There was no street..where I did not fear..the unfriendly *shoulder-tap of a bailiff. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlv, If I could get on the press I'd quit the *shoulder-tapping profession. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lix. 311 Of splaying the shoulder, or of *shoulder torne. 1899 *Shoulder-tuft [see *shoulder-lappet*]. 1887 *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), **Shoulder wedge*..the block of wood secured to the upper side of the principal rafter of a roof truss, to sustain the purlin. 1660 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. 61 It is observed of the Levites, though much of their Ministry was only *Shoulder-work, that they had yet a very considerable Time for Preparation. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Shoother-wark* (shoulder-work), any work that is continuously hard. 1708 KERSEY *Dict.*, **Shoulder-wrench*, a Strain in a Horse's Shoulder. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Shoulder wrench*, a wrench, sprain, or dislocation of the shoulder. 1862 J. SAUNDERS *Abel Drake's Wife* x, He..adjusted the *shoulder-yoke, hooked on the pails, and rose.

Shoulder (ʃōu·ldəɹ), *v.* Forms: see the sb. [f. SHOULDER *sb.* Cf. Du. *schouderen*, LG. *schuldern*, G. *schultern* (dial. *schullern*).]

1. *trans.* To push against (a person or thing) with the shoulder; (of a crowd) to push shoulder against shoulder; hence, to push roughly, unceremoniously, or insolently; to thrust aside with the shoulder; to hustle, jostle. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1056 Þe chaunpiouns..Shuldreden he ilc oþer, and lowen. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12034 (Fairf.) Wiþ þat þer come a childe in hy and shulderred ihesu with grete enuy. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 259 If any schulder pusche or threten to smyte another. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxlii. 537 And in the passyng by, Bernarde sholdred sir Langurantes horse in suche wyse, that the lorde fell out of the sadell. *c* 1590 *Faire Em* II. ii. 35 *Sir Rob.* Lord Marques, you offerd me disgrace to shoulder me. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 115 So that both men and horse, Shouldring each other, with a double force Fell to the ground. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* V. i, Around her, numberless, the rabble flowed, Shouldering each other, crowding for a view. 1802 BLOOMFIELD *Rural Tales* 5 You shoulder'd me; then laugh'd to see Me and my Gotch spin down the Hill.

fig. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, C iiij, Thys byshoppe was a great man borne, and dyd beare suche a stroke, that he was able to shoulder the Lord Protectour. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xv. 64 Albeit the king hath been sometimes resisted and shouldered by Adoniah.

b. With adv. or advb. phrase expressing the result of the action.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13741 (Fairf.) Ne wiste þai neuer quat to say ilkan shuldered oþer a-way. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 50 Momus him self wil sooner be shouldrid out of heaven. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* viii. 48 Now for the rules of foule play [in horse-racing], as..the striking your adversaries horse thwart the face.., the shouldring him vp into vneuen pathes..whereby you may indanger to ouerthrowe him. 1624 T. SCOTT *Belg. Souldier* 31 They haue.. by maine force shouldred open the Castillian gates. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, The stranger divided the press, shouldering from him..both drunk and sober passengers. 1835 L. HUNT *Town* iii. (1848) 160 Here at all events he [Dr. Johnson] walked and talked and shouldered wondering porters out of the way. 1846 DICKENS *Pict. Italy, Rome* 171 Ecclesiastics..having their humility gratified to the utmost, by being shouldered about. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, 'Be off, you fools!' said this gentleman—shouldering off a great number of the crowd. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxviii, He skipped up by the speaker's side, and gently shouldered him down. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics & Football* 349 Trying to shoulder him round and send him staggering off the ball. 1889 F. E. GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 178 A French Marshal met an English Colonel in the street, and shouldered him off the causeway.

fig. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 6 b, For all his..shouldring out the sonne of God. 1617 tr. *M. A. de Dominis on Rom. xiii. 12*, 15, I conceiue not to what purpose Aristotle..troubled naturall Philosophie, by Shouldring in after Matter and Forme, Priuation for a third principle of naturall bodies. 1638 MEDE *Rem. Pass. Apocal.* iii. Wks. (1672) 586 A Probability stands in place of a Demonstration, till a greater Probability can be brought to shoulder it out. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 839 Custom and prejudice..That govern all things here, should ring aside The meek and modest truth. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. xxxii. 56 The..Briton began to monopolise the officers' posts every-

where. The natives were shouldered out of the high positions.

c. To 'rub shoulders' with, mix with. *rare.*

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* lvii, I had shouldered society .. enough to render me slightly sceptical of its sincerity.

2. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 21 The rolling billowes beate the ragged shore, As they the earth would shoulder from her seat. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. xxiv, Like to some low Brooke..By waste of Waters that is ouer-flow'd, Is sated, till it shouldreth downe the Mound. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog.* I. ii. (1635) 23 The Water being the most ponderous and waighty,..shoulders out the Aire. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 494 Shouldering all the Northerne shore of the Caspian, it runneth along..by the high looking walls of China. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xix. § 9. 175 The latter graines were shouldered of by others that already besieged the superficies. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 220 Neither could he conceal his indignation at the vile watch-house shouldering King William's statue. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (Bohn) 15 Walls of rock..shouldering back the billows. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* I. 19 From the equator to the poles the waves shoulder their fellows. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., When a seaman..gives his ship too little cable to ride by, she may be thrown across tide, lift or shoulder her anchor, and drift off.

3. Of troops: To push, force, drive back (an opposing force); to manœuvre or turn.

1581 STYWARD *Martial Discipl.* I. 21 This battaile [*i. e.* disposition of troops] is of great force to shoulder and beate downe the enimie. 1887 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 398/3 Thus rendering it possible two days later to shoulder the French off the direct road to Berlin.

4. *absol.* and *intr.* To push with the shoulder; to use the shoulders (in a struggle or contest). Const. *against, at.* Also *to shoulder it.*

a 1440 *Found. St. Barth. Hosp.* II. Prol. (1886) 77 And menne presydde hydder thykly for variawnte causys, and shuldrid to gider. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 128 And soch runners, as commonlie, they shoue and sholder to stand formost. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 82 They shoulder and crowd, and say, Pray give way,.. wherefore up and shoulder it, man; say: Stand away, devil. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* V, All tramped, kicked, plunged, shouldered, and jostled. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 403 Some working at his legs, and some shouldering at his loins. *fig.* 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 761/1 It is a sinne ..for a mortall man to..shoulder against God, and fight against his glorie. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 409 Not contented with such possessions..hee began to shoulder for more roome.

b. To make one's way by pushing with the shoulders; more fully *to shoulder one's way*; also *refl.* With various prepositions and advs. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 383 b, [He] lyke a false Prophet shouldreth forewardes. 1615 T. ADAMS *Black Devil* 27 Hee [Satan] shoulders to the barre, and pops in a forged evidence. 1720 AMHERST *Epist.* 9 On me they never cast an Eye, But take their Snuff and shoulder by. *c* 1800 H. K. WHITE *Rem.* (1837) 375 The design of shouldering himself into notice. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxix, As the ground was level, they [buffaloes] shouldered along with great speed. 1842 TENNYSON *Audley Court* 8 Then we shoulder'd thro' the swarm. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* III. 323 The Englishman..goes on trampling upon acuter sensibilities, but somehow shouldering his way successfully through the troubles of the universe. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 12 A couple of junks came shouldering through from the north.

c. To 'rud shoulders', stand shoulder to shoulder *with.* ? *Obs.*

1692 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* IV. i, What, shall the people know their godlike prince Headed a rabble, and profaned his person, Shoulder d with filth?

†**5.** Of a hare: To crouch in her form. *Obs.*

c 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij b, An haare in her forme shulderyng or leenyng.

†**6.** *a. trans.* To put (soldiers) shoulder to shoulder in close rank. Also *transf.* Also with *up.*

b. *intr.* To stand shoulder to shoulder. *Obs.*

1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Rome* 213 Like as ye see the wrathfull Sea from farre, In a great mountaine heap't..Eftsoones of thousand billowes shouldred narre. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 40 The which [files] being shouldred vp close together. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 200 The Christians..shouldering close together in their charge, would be like a rock of yron. 1604 DRAYTON *Moyses* III. 61 Which by the stroke of that commaunding wand, Shoulder the rough seas forcibly together. 1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 137 If guards, mechanically form'd in ranks,..Should'ring, and standing as if struck to stone.

7. *trans.* To support with, bear up or carry on the shoulder or shoulders; to take or place on one's shoulder to be carried.

1611 COTGR., *Espauler*,..to shoulder; to support with, or beare on the shoulders. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 180 They cut a whole Tree down, and..shoulder'd it with great Clamours. 1845 COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* viii. 93, I determined..to shoulder my gun, and walk right round the island. 1851 W. W. COLLINS *Rambles beyond Railways* vii. (1852) 122 We shouldered our knapsacks, and started for the Lizard. 1865 R. S. HAWKER in *All Year Round* XIII. 154/2 The people..gathered up fragments of the wreck for fuel, and shouldered them away. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxxii, Hearing no further sound, they shouldered the tools and set forth again.

b. *fig.* †To forward; to help or push on; to prop *up*; to second (*obs.*). Also to take upon oneself as a burden (expense, responsibility, etc.).

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 49 Thee Greeks assurraunce in Pallas whoalye remayned And with her assistaunce theyre wars were shouldered always. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 98/1 in *Holinshed*, She began to incline to hir wooer his request, to the end hir nephue should haue beene the better by his countenance shouldered. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. iii. § 15 II. 511 The yong Nephew..regarded only..the much monie that his grand-father had laied out in vaine, to shoulder vp a falling house. 1685 COTTON *Montaigne's Ess.* I. i. xli. 501 The greatest of Scipio's acts were in part due to Lelius, whose constant practice it was to advance and shoulder [orig. F. *seconder*] Scipio's grandeur and renown. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Nov. 2/2 The local Progressives are public-spirited enough to shoulder the expense.

†**c.** *transf.* Of a thing: To prop up. *fig.* Of the terms of an argument: To back up. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 99 And though the 'may be' in the Argument came starveling alone without any thing of proof to back it, yet the 'may not be' in the Answer shall be thus shoulder'd up. 1675 COTTON *Planters Man.* 16 It is good also to shoulder or clod up the Tree for three foot about, and some four foot high.

8. *Mil.* To place (a weapon, etc.) upon the shoulder. Also *absol.* †Also in *passive* of a soldier: To have his musket shouldered.

To shoulder one's or *a rifle* etc., is often used for: to join the ranks, to enlist as a soldier.

1595 SIR J. SMYTHE *Instr. Milit.* 5 They are then to say to the first ranke: Shoulder your piques and march; which is as much to say: Lay your piques vpon your right shoulders and march. 1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 24 Shoulder your Musquet, and carry your Rest in the right hand. 1635 W. BARRIFFE *Milit. Discipline* i. (1639) 4 Thus being armed, with Muskets shouldered, some account their Postures to begin from this place. *Ibid.* 5 Thus having charged some men will shoulder and so from thence make ready. 1672 VENN *Milit. Observ.* 37 The Musquetteer being shouldered Command..Unshoulder your Musquet, and Poyse. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 158 The broken soldier..shoulder'd his crutch. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. xi, They have shouldered, soldier-wise, their shovels and picks. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 40 *a*, Wait for the word of command of the officer to shoulder. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xiv. 234 Many a poor gentleman finds himself obliged to shoulder a musket.

b. *To shoulder arms* (esp. *imper.* as a word of command): to hold one's rifle in a nearly vertical position, the barrel resting against the shoulder and the butt in the hollow of the hand; hence *at shoulder arms*, at the position directed by this word of command.

1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 260 Shoulder Arms. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 30 Serjeants..will remain steady at *Shoulder Arms*. 1853 WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* vii, The brigade 'shoulder arms' preparatory to receiving..the time-honoured hero who is to inspect them.

†**9.** To cut up the carcass of (a lamb, kid, etc.). Cf. *shoulder-knife* (SHOULDER *sb.* 8 c). *Obs. rare.*

c 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vij b, [Termys..of breekyng or dressyng of dyverse beestis..] a Lambe shulderide, a Kidde shulderide.

b. (See quot. 1844 in SHOULDERING *vbl. sb.* 1).

†**10.** *pa. pple.* Strained or dislocated at the shoulder. *Obs.* [? after F. *épaulé.*]

1565-6 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. iii. (1580) 2 b, As when a Horse is shouldered by meanes of some outward cause, or his backe galled with the saddle.

11. To furnish (a thing) with a shoulder; to cut shoulders or a shoulder on; to fit *into* with a shoulder. Also with *down, up.*

1438 [see SHOULDERING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxiii. 355 The Tenon is also shoulder'd on each side. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 198 At Powis House .. they shouldered and keyed the Portico Arches with Pieces of Stone. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 9 May 1776, I shouldered the spikes,..leaving a small triangular shoulder at each angle of the square stump. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 206/1 The spokes are then shouldered down slightly taper-wise. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* 142 The Sword should be tightly mounted and well shouldered-up before and behind. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Builder, Scaffolding* 35 The staves must now be fitted..by shouldering them at the marks made.

b. *Slating.* (See quot.)

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1122 The roofs to be covered with the best dark blue slate.., to be well shouldered in haired lime (the upper part of each row bedded in lime).

12. *intr.* Of inanimate things: To form a shoulder, project as a shoulder, or spread out into a shoulder; also with *up.*

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Espaulette, Maçonnerie à espaulettes*,.. walls..left..shouldering, bearing, or standing out in one place more then in another. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 5 Because the Chaps [of the Square Nos'd Hand-Vice] do not stand shouldering in the way. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) I. 46 Farther off we could see blue hills, shouldering high above the intermediate ones. 1870 *Daily News* 12 Nov., The hill shoulders up very steeply for three-fourths its height.

13. *trans.* (*Horticulture.*) To tie out the 'shoulders' of (bunches of grapes).

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 461 Finished shouldering the Hamburgh, and thinning the Sweetwater and St. Peter's (neither of the two latter wants shouldering much).

14. *slang.* (See quots.)

1823 'JON BEE' *Slang* s. v. *Shouldering*, Among stage-coachmen, to shoulder, is to take up passengers on own account, without consulting the proprietors. 1865 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* (ed. 2), *Shoulder*, when a servant embezzles his master's money, he is said to shoulder his employer.

Shoulder-blade. [Cf. MLG. *schulderblat*, Du. *schouderblad*, MHG. *schulterblat* (mod. G. *-blatt*).] Each of the two flat triangular bones articulated with the humerus, and lying over the ribs in the upper part of the back in all mammals; the scapula.

a 1300 *Havelok* 2644 Bi þe shu[l]dre-blade þe sharpe swerd let [he] wade, þorw the brest unto þe herte. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 823 Baith cannell bayne and schuldir blaid in twa, Throuch the myd cost, the gud suerd gart he ga. 1572-3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 205 Stevin Urde..straik the said Jonet upoun hir schulder blaid with the kavill of ane myine. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 77 Oh good sir, softly, good sir: I feare (sir) my shoulder blade is out. 1763 'THEOPHILUS INSULANUS' *Second Sight* 77 There is another kind of divination, by looking in the shoulder-blade of a sheep, goat, &c. as in a book. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* ii. 101 Mahomet's followers found the Koran..as it had been written down at first promulgation; much of it, they say, on shoulder-blades of mutton. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 826/2 The Scapula, or Shoulder Blade..lies at the upper and back part of the wall of the chest, reaching from the second to the seventh rib.

b. *transf.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 65 [Bees] haue 4 wings..growing to their shoulder-blades. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 662, I propose calling these pieces by names. appropriated to the arm in the higher vertebrate animals: thus ..I call the whole fore-leg the *brachium* or arm, and..the trochanter [becomes] the *scapula* or shoulder-blade.

Shoulder-bone. = SHOULDER-BLADE.

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 4217 His riȝt arm & is scholder bon He made fle to gronde anon. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 146 Les espaules ount blasouns [*glossed* chuldel-bones; *v.rr.* the soldre-bon, scholder-bon]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Prol.* 22 Thanne haue [I] in laton a sholder boon Which that was of an hooly Iewes sheepe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 260 Godys son..hase not where apon his hede to rest Bot on his shuder bone. 1548-77 VICARY *Anat.* vii. (1888) 48 In the shoulder there be two bones,..the Shoulder bone, and the Cannel bone. 1691 R. KIRK *Secret Commw.* i. (1815) 17 The minor Seers prognosticat many future Events,..from the Shoulder-bone of a Sheep. 1858 W. ELLIS *Madagascar* v. 125 The sides..were edged..with the shoulder-bones of oxen stuck in the ground, the broad part upwards.

Shouldered (ʃō·ldəd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHOULDER *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

1. Having shoulders; furnished with shoulders. Chiefly with qualifying adv. or advb. phrase. Also ROUND-SHOULDERED.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4968 Another folk there is biside:..Ben y-shuldred as an fysshe, And clawed after hound, i-wisse. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 551 He was short sholdred, brood, a thikke knarre. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxxxiv. (1869) 70 It is nouht for that thou ne art sholdred ynowh, and boned. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 701 Take oxon yonge ..Yshildred wide is good. *a* 1533 [see CROOKED *a.* 5]. 1591 [see BROAD D. 1]. 1697 [see HIGH *a.* 22 b]. 1740 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* (1905) Apr. 303 [Recruits] must be straight, well limbd and shouldered. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. iii. 220 Thighed and shouldered like the billows.

2. Having a shoulder or projection; made with a shoulder or with shoulders.

1671 PHILLIPS (ed. 3), *Shouldred-head* (a term in Archery) the best made Heads of an Arrow..being..made with shoulders. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expos.* 81 That shouldered Part of all Masts over which the Shrouds are put. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xlviii, Fig. 1. Represents a shouldered turf-drain. 1847 MRS. J. W. LOUDON *Amateur Gard. Cal.* (1857) 152 When the upper branches of the bunch [of grapes] are large, and almost as strong as the main stem, it is said to be shouldered. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 214 In *Gibbula*.. the whirls are shouldered, and the pillar-lip is plain. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5169 Cardboard pill boxes;..plain and shouldered. 1882 CHRISTY *Joints* 103 Shouldered Joint occurs between two timbers when one is strengthened by being shouldered or thickened out to reinforce its abutting..powers.

b. Arch. *Shouldered arch*: a form of head for an opening (not properly an arch) somewhat resembling the outline of a man's shoulders and part of the neck.

1853 *Turner's Dom. Archit.* (ed. Parker) II. vi. 230 Several of the smaller doorways [of Bolton Castle] have the 'shouldered arches' of the Carnarvon form. *Note.* This name has been proposed by the duchess of Northumberland for this peculiar form... It is commonly called the square-headed trefoil arch. 1866 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* 20.

3. Placed and carried at, on or over the shoulder; spec. *Mil.* (see SHOULDER *v.* 7), *To stand shouldered*: to stand with shouldered arms.

1760 *Cautions & Adv. Officers of Army* 173 Be sure to make your Men march with shouldered Arms. 1811 *Regul. Army* 13 The Officer is..to make his Men stand shouldered. 1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 30 Their own Guards are to turn out with shouldered Arms, once a Day.

†**Shoulderer.** *Obs.* [-ER 1.] One who shoulders.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 49 Bot..on ȝour hienes follow is eik..Schulderaris, and schowaris, that..can non vthir craft nor curis Bot to mak thrang, Schir, in ȝour duris.

Shouldering (ʃō·ldəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOULDER *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb; an instance of this.

1438 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 11 Schuldering de le gystes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 47 Some thought to raise themselves to high degree..by close shouldring; some by flatteree. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 239 Care being taken that the point of the knife does not.. go between the shoulder-blade and the ribs. This error.. in slaughtering pigs..is called shouldering. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xvii. 208 There may have been something of discourtesy in the occasional shoulderings and hustlings. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 342/1 (Driving) *Shouldering*, of the horse, pushing sideways upon pole or partner.

b. Amount of 'shoulder' or projection.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. ¶ 4 The..Face thus finished, he considers what Sholdering the Shank of the Punch makes now with the Face, round about the Letter.

2. *concr.* Something which projects or supports as a shoulder. †Also = EPAULEMENT.

1388 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* vii. 30 And bi foure partis weren as litle schuldryngis [Vulg. *humeruli*] vndir the waischyng vessel, ..*Margin*, Schuldryngis; that is, schort pileris to susteyne the waschyng vessel. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 149 Therfore to drawe easely and vniformely..vntil you come to the rig or shouldring of ye head [of the sha[f], is best. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 108 Cut the Graff.. with a shouldring but not deep. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Shouldring*, in Fortification, is a Retrenchment opposed to the Enemies, or a Work cast up for a Defence on one side. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 583/1 When there is not a kerb there should be a 'shouldering' of sods..to keep the road materials in place.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **shouldering file**, a kind of file for shaping a shoulder; **† shouldering piece**, a corbel or a buttress.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 210 *Mutuli*..Corbeaux, modillons, peeces of timber in building called braggers, or shouldering peeces. 1611 COTGR., *Espaulette*,..a buttresse, shore post, or shouldering peece. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 825 French pivot and shouldering files which are small, stout, and have safe-edges.

Shouldering (ʃəʊ·ldərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHOULDER *v.* + -ING².] That shoulders.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 335 Thair raiss greit murmour..With sic ane schout, and sic ane schouder and [? *read* schouderand] schow, That euirilk one that tyme ȝeid other throw. [1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 23 Spring-headed Hydraes, and sea-shouldring Whales.] 1747 COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* iii. 16 This pillar'd earth..was push'd aside, And down the shoul'dring billows born. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* II. 233 The current is violently compressed between shouldering promontories. 1846 H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Horace* II. xiii, The shouldering crowd.

Shoulder-joint. The joint of the shoulder; the articulation by which the arm or foreleg is connected with the trunk.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 520 Ulysses..Soon..the wound repay'd; To the right shoulder-joint the spear apply'd. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 838/2 The Shoulder Joint is a ball-and-socket joint, the ball being the head of the humerus, the socket the glenoid fossa of the scapula.

Shoulder-knot.

1. A knot of ribbon or lace, sometimes enriched with jewels, worn on the shoulder by men of fashion in the 17th and 18th c.; also a knot, formerly of ribbons of the family colours, now of lace, worn on the shoulder by some livery servants; a knot or bow of ribbon worn at the shoulder by a woman or child; also *Mil.* = AGLET 2 c.

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1075/4 Went away from his Master ..in a cloth Sute..his Shoulder-knot and Hatband of Twelve-penny broad Ribon figured. 1700 FARQUHAR *Const. Couple* I. i. 7 *Clinch*...Sir, (to Wildair) I admire the mode of your Shoulder-knot. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3998/4 A light-grey Cloth Livery lined with yellow, a yellow Shoulder-knot. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 44 Better..Then grace the bony phantom..With the king's shoulder-knot and gay cockade. 1861 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* July 6/1 Three-quarter length sleeves, with ribbon shoulder-knots. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* May 17, I have seen..an officer with his shoulder-knots sewed on to a common plain frock-coat.

2. *attrib.*

1772 FORSTER *Hudson's Bay Birds* in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 393 Shoulder-knot Grous. 1819 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XI. 300 Shoulder-knot Heathcock. (*Bonasa Umbellus.*) 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, The Park Lane shoulder-knot aristocracy.

Hence **Shoulder-knotted** *a.*

1818 G. COLMAN *Two Parsons* Poet. Vagaries (ed. 3) 144 A shoulder-knotted Puppy..let him in. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Schiller* 1840 III. 4 Such valets as are too genuine, as are shoulder-knotted..in soul as well as in body.

Shoulder-piece.

1. a. *Antiq.* A piece of armour covering the shoulder.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong., La haute piece*, the shoulder peece of an harneis. 1611 COTGR., *Espauliere*, a showlder peece; the peece of armour, or apparell that serues for the shoulder. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* iv. 58 The shoulder-pieces [of the Roman cuirass] formed of four plates..pass over the shoulders like straps.

transf. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. § ii. i. 20 The Weesle-headed Armadillo...His Shoulder-piece consisteth of several Ranks or Rows of such like square pieces.

b. A piece or each of the pieces of material composing the shoulders of a garment.

1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxviii. 7 It shall haue the two shoulder pieces thereof, ioyned at the two edges thereof. 1632 MASSINGER *Fatal Dowry* IV. i, With a haire breadth's errour, ther's a shoulder piece cut [of a new suit of clothes]. 1861 *Engl. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 117 It was made with shoulder-pieces cut out in the shape of a pelerine...The shoulder-pieces were trimmed with brown ribbon.

† 2. = BUST *sb.*¹ 1. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 262 Before this play is a shoulder-piece of the author standing on a pedestall.

3. The piece forming the shoulder (of a tool, etc.).

1811 *Self Instructor* 28 The cheek or shoulder-piece [of a pen]. 1904 WINDLE *Rem. Prehist. Age* xi. 285 By the extension of the pin-trough, which is bent backwards towards the shoulder-piece.

b. A piece of the fore-hock (of bacon).

1888 *Leeds Mercury* 28 Feb. 5 Beautiful bread, and a large thick piece of shoulder-piece in addition to real coffee.

Shoulder-strap.

1. Each of the two short straps which go over the shoulders, connecting and supporting the fore and back parts of a garment.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 94/1 In a Woman's Gown..The Shoulder heads, or Shoulder straps; are two peeces that come over the Shulders. 1727 BOYER *Fr. Dict.* s. v. *Epaulette, Shoulder Strap*, a part of a Bodice or Stays. 1808 *Lady's Econ. Assist.* 23 Men's Shirts..Cut off ten inches and a half for the six pair of shoulder-straps. 1855 LADY E. FINCH *Sampler* (ed. 2) 95 Tack the shoulder-straps upon the shift.

b. *Antiq.* Each of the straps connecting the front and back parts of body armour.

1830 SKELTON *Arms & Armour* I. Pl. xxxix, Fig. 2. The back-plate with its shoulder straps guarded with steel. 1900 A. S. MURRAY *Catal. Sculpt. Parthen. in Brit. Mus.* 91 He wears a cuirass, of which the shoulder straps terminate in panther's heads.

2. Each of the narrow straps fastened upon the shoulders of a military tunic; esp. an ornamental strap distinguishing the corps and grade of an officer.

1840 *Addenda Gen. Regul. Army* 1 Approved Patterns of the Shoulder Straps, for the Staff Serjeants of Infantry..have been sealed. 1861 O. W. HOLMES *Sweet Little Man* 12 You with the waist made for sword-belts and sashes, Where are your shoulder-straps, sweet little man? 1864 *Regul. Dress Officers of Army* 45 First Life Guards..Aiguillette and Shoulder-Strap of twisted gold cord, with gilt engraved tags, worn on the right shoulder; a gold twist cord strap similar to that of the aiguillette worn on the left shoulder. 1895 R. W. CHAMBERS *King in Yellow* 49 He rattled on.., calling my attention to his captain's shoulder-straps, and the triple gold arabesque on his sleeve.

3. A strap to go over one shoulder across the body and under the other arm as a support for some article to be carried.

1870 W. M. BAKER *New Timothy* 203 (Cent.) He then mends the shoulder-strap of his powder-horn and pouches.

Shou·lderwise, *adv.* [See -WISE.] So as to form a shoulder.

1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Garden* x. (1623) 29 And first of incising, which is the cutting of the barke..of a tree ..shoulderwise with two gashes.

Shoule, obs. form of SHOAL.

Shouler, -erd: see SHOVELLER, SHOVELARD.

Shoulfall, obs. form of SHILFA.

Shoull, obs. f. SHOVEL. **Shoult,** var. SHOLT.

Shount, obs. f. SHUNT *v.*, to avoid, escape.

Shoup, var. SHOOP. **Shour(e,** obs. ff. SHOWER.

Shou·piltin, *Shetland.* ? *Obs.* Also 9 **shoupeltin, shoopiltee, -ie.** [Derivative of ON. **sjó-piltr*, f. *sjó-r* sea + *pilt-r* boy.] (See quots.)

1711 SIR R. SIBBALD *Descr. Orknay & Zetland* 9 Sometimes they catch with their Nets and Hooks Tritons, they call them *Shoupiltins* and Mermaids. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvi, The Tritons..called by Zetlanders of that time, Shoupeltins, were represented by young men grotesquely habited. 1822 S. HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 526 In Shetland, the same deity [Neptune], the Shoopiltee, assumes the form of a beautiful shelty, inviting some one to mount him, when he immediately runs into the sea and drowns his rider.

Shout (ʃaʊt), *sb.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (Lincs.): see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Forms: 4 s(c)houte, 4–5 **showte**, 4–5, 9 **shute**, 4, 9 **shout**; 7 **scuyt, scutte.** [ME. *schoute, shute*, prob. a. MDu. *schûte*: see SCHUIT, SCOUT *sb.*³] A flat-bottomed boat.

13.. *Coer de L.* 4785 Berges, schoutes, crayeres fele, That were chargyd with al weel. 14.. *Piers of Fullham* in Hartshorne *Metr. Tales* (1829) 120 Com there nat dayly out off ffiaunders Off ffat elys full many a showte? 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 569/2 Trowes, Botes, Cobles and Shutes. 1842 LACY *Mod. Shooter* 365 The Lynn and Boston gunboat, or shout.

Comb. 1395 *Acc. Manor Savoy* in *Archæologia* XXIV. 304 [Paid to divers mariners, called] shoutemen.

Shout (ʃaʊt), *sb.*² Forms: 4 **schoute**, 4–6 **shoute, schowte**, 4–7 **showt(e, schout**, 6 **schowt**, 7 **shoot(e**, 6– **shout.** [This and the related SHOUT *v.* first appear in the 14th c. The sb. corresponds formally to ON. *skúta, skúte*, a taunt: see SCOUT *v.*³; derivation from the root of SHOOT *v.* is probable.]

1. A loud, vehement cry expressing joy, grief or pain, fear, triumph, warning, encouragement, etc.; a loud cry to attract attention at a distance; a tumultuous uproar by a large body of people.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 158 With that all haill a schout thai [geve]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 223 Than a-roos the showte and the noyse of the saisnes. *c* 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 66/2 With this there was a great shout, crying kyng Richarde kyng Rychard. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* III. vii. 39 This generall applause, and chearefull showt, Argues your wisdome, and your loue to Richard. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 195 So great weare th' peoples shootes, y^t thearth it startes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 542 A shout that tore Hells Concave. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* VI. ix. § 5 The intire army of the Hebrews made a shout, and rushed upon them. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. viii. (Rtldg.) 358 An involuntary shout of laughter. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) vi. 143 We heard a faint shout.

† b. *Shout and hoyes* (= OYEZ), *shout and cry* = HUE AND CRY. *Sc. Obs.*

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* IV. xv. 69 b, Gif ane man steilles cattell, or anie moueable gudes, and the shout and cry of neighbours follow him [etc.]. 1609 *Ibid.* tr. *2 Stat. Robt. I*, xx. 32 b, They sall raise the schout, and hoyes vpon him. *Ibid.*, The Lord of the land or the creditour with schout, and hoyes, may follow him.

c. *transf.* Applied to any loud noise or cry forcing itself upon the attention.

In quot. 1660 'shout' may be a misspelling of SHOOT *sb.*

1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 183 All the birdis song with sic a schout, That I annone awoik. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 45 Trumpettis and schalmis w^t a schowt Playid or the rink began. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Apr. Great was the shout of guns from the castles and ships. 1802 WORDSW. *Cuckoo* ii, Thy twofold shout I hear. 1855 R. S. HAWKER in C. E. Byles *Life* (1905) 257 The shout of the trumpet.

2. *Colonial slang.* A call to a waiter to replenish the glasses of a company; hence, a turn in paying for a round of drinks. Also, a free drink given to all present by one of the company; a drinking party. *To go on the shout*: to drink immoderately. *To stand (a) shout*: to stand treat all round.

1863 H. SIMCOX *Outward Bound* (1864) 81 Many a 'shout' they're treated to. 1887 'HOPEFUL' *Taken in* 135 [New Zealand] There is a great deal of standing 'shout' in the Colonies. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads, Tyng. Brit. Soldier*, Don't go on the shout.

† 3. *Comb.*: **shoutcry**, a loud, piercing shout.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 28 Soom mayden coompany..Rearing with shoutcry soom boare.

Shout (ʃaʊt), *v.* Forms: 4 **schoute**, 4–6 **schowt, shoute, showte**, 4–8 **schout**, 5 (**schuot**), **schowte**, 6–7 **showt**, 4– **shout**; 4–5 **shote**, 7, 9 (*dial.*) **shoot.** [See SHOUT *sb.*²]

1. *intr.* To utter a loud call, to make a loud outcry expressive of joy, exultation, etc. or to raise an alarm, to incite to action, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 877 Naupeles þa3 hit schowted scharpe & ledden loude al-þa3 hit were A note ful nwe I herde hem warpe. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 635 And in the se it happede hem to mete—Vp goth the trompe—& for to schoute & schete. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. viii. 173 The batails approached and shoue and showted on bothe sydes. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 87 The word of Peace is render'd: hearke how they showt. 1611 BIBLE *Job* XXXVIII. 7 When the morning starres sang together, and all the sonnes of God shouted for ioy. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 236 The People..all shouted, and wished him a thousand Blessings. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i. 181, I called and shouted with the utmost strength of my voice. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 931 Shout in the jubilee of death! 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. i, He..shouted in her ear.

b. *To shout at*, † *on* (a person): to assail with shouts, *esp.* of derision or anger.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. F.* 1808 That euery wight gan on hem shout. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 57 The common people, as if they had never seene a stranger before shouted at mee after a barbarous fashion. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* xv, On hir to cry, on hir to schout. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 576 They ran and collected round him, hooting and shouting at him.

† c. To vote by acclamation *for* (a candidate for Parliament). (Cf. SHOUTING *vbl. sb.* 1 c.) *Obs.*

1679 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1881) II. 104 Rode to York.. found them shouting for knights of the Shire.

† d. Said of animals making loud cries. *Obs.*

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 570 Me thynkythe, I here my dragon schowt. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 661 The mirthfull maveiss mirriest Schill schowttit throw the schawis.

e. Of a place: To resound with shouts. Of an inanimate thing: To make a loud uproar. *rare.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. v. 67 Euery schaw Schouttis agane of thair clamour and dyn. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xx. 275 The valleys shouting with summer joy. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* x. 139 The fire shouted and roared within.

f. quasi-*trans.* (*refl.*) with complement.

1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* ii. 14 He waved his silk hat and shouted himself hoarse.

g. *U.S. slang.* Of things: To be unmistakably significant. Also in phrase *Now you're shouting* = 'now you are speaking to the purpose'.

1892 HOWELLS *Mercy* 420 Northwick said simply, 'Yes, I will go with you.' 'Well, now you're shouting,' said Pinney. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 25 July 3/1 Figures which, to use an Americanism, fairly 'shout'.

h. *Indirect passive.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. ii, Necker, for not being at the *Séance*, shall be shouted for.

2. *trans.* To utter (something) with a loud voice.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 112 Be he the correnoch had done schout. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 218 They threw their caps As they would hang them on the hornes a'th Moone, Shooting their Emulation. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 250 He..lov'd to hear the Vulgar shout his Name. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* I. 8 Industriously shouting the cry of a church, the more effectually to reduce the faith to a vague futility.

b. With clause or quoted words as object.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 614 With that gan al here meyne for to shoute 'A go we se, cast vp þe yates wyde'. 1595 SHAKS. *John* V. ii. 103 Haue I not heard these Islanders shout out *Vive le Roy*. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 97, I heard a voice, at my side, shout out, in once-loved accents, O, my dearest mamma. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. i, 'A canny morning, Mr. Christian', he shouted.

† 3. a. To insult with a clamorous outcry; = *to shout at* (see 1 b). b. To welcome with shouts, acclaim. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 366 Thai schowtit hym and scornyng maid. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 122 This still for bargan Sym abyddis, And schowttit Will to schame. 1706 I. WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* (1743) 76 While our Hosannas all along the Passage Shout the Redeemer. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 698 The statesman of the day..comes. Some shout him, and some hang upon his car.

4. *dial.* a. To call, summon (a person). b. To publish the banns of marriage of (persons): = CRY *v.* 5 d. c. To call *in* (assistance). † d. *To shout*

(a person) *up, out of bed*: to 'call' (a person) in the morning, to awaken (some one) from sleep by calling loudly. *Obs.* e. To urge *on* (an animal) to the attack by a vehement outcry.

1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 189 We therefore shouted the landlord out of bed. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 38 After a while, the servant girl, Hannah Evans, came up to him to shout him up. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. xii. I. 121 He stood obstinate siege from the Kaiser's people.., shouted-in Denmark to help. 1888 MRS. RIDDELL *Nun's Curse* I. vi. 106 He broke into a great laugh, and shouted the dogs on to her. 1895 *Longman's Mag.* Aug. 394 To goo an' get the lass shouted afore thou knowed if hoo were willin' to wed thee or not. *Mod.* (N.E Derbyshire) I've got to go home; my mother's shouting me.

5. *Australian slang.* a. *intr.* To stand drinks, to treat a crowd of persons to refreshments.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, So I shouted for him and he for me. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Lost Legion* iii, We've shouted on seven-ounce nuggets.

b. *trans.* To call for (refreshments, drinks, etc.) in order to treat the bystanders.

1867 A. L. GORDON *Sea-spray, Credat Judæus* 139 You may 'shout' some cheroots, if you like. 1881 *A Chequered Career* 205 He then 'shouted' champagne, and assumed the most pompous airs.

Hence **Shouted** *ppl. a.*

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* IV. 280 The gates swung backward at his shouted word. 1906 BELLOC *Hills & Sea* 113 We heard..the shouted order to mount.

†**Shouter**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [f. SHOUT *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] The master of a 'shout' or flat boat.

c 1325 in Grose *Antiq. Repert.* (1809) II. 407 Pour les Gages de ses vij Shouters.

Shouter[2] (ʃau·təɹ). [f. SHOUT *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who shouts or cries out loudly; one who acclaims or applauds.

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i, A peal of loud applause rang out, And thin'ed the Air, till even the Birds fell down Upon the Shouters Heads. 1820 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 15 Aug., The heroine passed..surrounded with shouters and vociferous admirers. 1908 *Academy* 13 June 878/1 The English labourers in the Papal vineyard..are silent, prayerful persons rather than shouters or sensation-mongers.

2. A name applied to some Methodist congregations in the north of Ireland who used to leap and shout in their ecstasies. (Cf. Hampson *Mem. Wesley*, 1791. II. 75.)

1820 POLWHELE *Lavington's Enthus. Methodists* Introd. p. cxii, Of a similar description with the Welsh Jumpers were the Irish Shouters.

3. *Australian.* One who stands drinks.

1885 SLADEN *In Cornwall*, etc. 156 (*title*) The sigh of the shouter.

Shouther, variant of SHOULDER.

Shouting (ʃau·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOUT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. SHOUT.

1. Loud crying, uproar, clamour; vociferous applause, acclamation; an instance of this.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2095 Ne how the grekes..Tries riden al the place aboute..with a loud shoutynge. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxix. 25 Ye noyse, the captaynes and the shoutinge. 1828 EGAN *Boxiana* I. 174 Cy..fell on him so heavily that the shoutings were—'He cannot come again.' 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, Dobbin..kept up a great shouting.

† b. Applied to the song of birds. *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 26 The skyes rang for schoutyng of the larkis.

† c. An election carried out by acclamation.

[1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 438 Not committing all to the noise and shouting of a rude Multitude, but permitting only those of them who are rightly qualifi'd, to nominate as many as they will.] 1679 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1881) II. 139 Captain Pockly fell ill at the shouting at York.

d. Phr. *It is all over but the shouting*: said when the result of a contest appears certain.

1842 APPERLEY *Life Sportsman* xvi. 332 It's all over but shouting..Antonio's as dead as a hammer.

2. Standing drinks, treating.

1883 *Longman's Mag.* June 180 *Shouting*, a colonial expression for standing treat to strangers, is a common form of hospitality.

Shouting (ʃau·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHOUT *v.* + -ING[2].] That shouts.

1600 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxx. (1631) 48 Patrone of the vulgar whose..shouting allowance hath such an operation with mans frailtie. 1716 POPE *Iliad* v. 627 And now the god..Produced Æneas to the shouting train. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 576 The hedges were lined with shouting spectators. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads, L'Envoi* ix, Where..the shouting seas drive by.

Hence **shoutingly** *adv.*, vociferously.

1827 POE *Tamerlane* 220 The dwindled hills, whence..Gush'd shoutingly a thousand rills. 1866 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 562/3 He seems to lift his voice shoutingly.

Shove (ʃøv), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. *north.* 3 scou, 4 chou, 5–6 schow; β. 5 shoffe, 6 shuffe, 6– shove. [f. SHOVE *v.*]

1. An act of shoving; a strong thrust or push to move a body away from the agent.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 12033 Wit scholdur gaf he him a scou [*Gött.* chou]. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 698 As he gat ben throw He gat mony greit schow. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 21 They labor stil with heaue and shoue. 1762 in T. Mortimer *Ev. Man own Broker* (ed. 5) 93 *note*, An united shove commences, by which others, as well as I, have measured their length in a very dirty place. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* II. xi, But Mr. Thing-um bob, the prompter man, Gave with his hand my chaise a shove. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* v, Mr. Rippenger added a spurning shove on my shoulder to his recommendation.

b. *fig.* In various uses: An impulse given to make a person or thing move or act more quickly; a 'push' or exertion of influence to get a person through a difficulty or further him in his career; in schoolboy phrase, a hint or prompting to one who is backward with an answer.

1724 CALAMY *Howe's Wks.* I. Life 7 Sir, said he [Fuller to Howe],..I am a pretty corpulent Man, and I am to go thro a Passage that is very strait, I beg you would be so kind as to give me a shove, and help me thro. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 210 With all the tricks That idleness has ever yet contriv'd..To..give time a shove. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. viii, Whose parsing and construing resisted the most well-meant shoves. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* vi, It would be such a fine thing for all the family: I could give all the boys such a shove.

† 2. An onset, attack. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 219 Thei threwe down CCC at the firste shoffe in theire comynge. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) iv, Thow can..mak ane suddane schow vpoun ane scheip.

† 3. Phr. *All at a shove*: by a single act. *Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 51 Their maner of ordres, is not to make seuerally, for euery Goddesse and God, a seuerall priest, but al at a shuffe, in generall for all.

4. *slang.* a. *A shove in the mouth*: a drink. b. *The shove*: dismissal from employment.

1821 EGAN *Life in London* x. (1870) 265, I vished to be a little nutty upon Dirty Suke..so I gov'd her 'a shove in the mouth'. 1899 R. WHITEING *5 John St.* x, Did you get the shove to-day? *Ibid.* xxi, If it warn't ready, he give the shove to the 'ole shoot.

5. *Canadian.* A forward movement of packed and piled ice in a thawing river.

1865 [see *Ice-shove*, ICE *sb.* 7 a]. 1890 *Montreal Witness* 19 Mar. 8/2 The shove may be expected every day.

Shove (ʃøv), *sb.*[2] [app. a corruption of *shiv*, SHIVE *sb.*[2], perh. assimilated to prec.] The woody core of flax or hemp. Also, a fragment of the stems of flax or hemp broken off when 'scutching'. Cf. SHEAVE *sb.*[2], SHIVE *sb.*[2], SHOW *sb.*[2]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 285/2 Both Flax and Hemp are first broken from the strong Stalks into large Shoves or Shivers. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 164 They scutch it to separate the heart or the shoves from the rest. 1855 ROYLE *Fibrous Pl. India* 129 A layer of wood-like matter, which in some plants is called boon, or shove. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 486/1 When it is found that the fibre [of flax] separates readily from the woody 'shove' or core.

Shove (ʃøv), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shoved** (ʃøvd). Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. (originally strong) verb: OE. *scúfan* (*scéaf, scufon, scofen*) corresponds to OFris. *skūva* (NFris. *skiūw, skōw*, WFris. *skouwe*), MDu. *schūven* (mod.Du. *schuiven*), MLG. *schūven* (mod.LG. *schuven*), OHG. *sciuban* (MHG., mod.G. *schieben*, early mod.G. also *schauben*), Goth. (*af*)*skiuban*; also with weak conjugation, ON. *skúfa*, more commonly *skýfa*; f. OTeut. root **skeub-* : *skaub-* : *skūb-*. As there are traces of a variant with *f* instead of *b* (see SHOVEL *sb.*), the pre-Teut. form is prob. **skeup-*.

The Gothic and HG. forms have the normal grade (*eu*) of the present-stem; the other forms have an 'aorist-present' with *ū* as the root-vowel. The occasional OE. *scéofan* is generally regarded not as a descendant of OTeut. **skeub-*, but as a late WS. phonetic development from *scúfan*; another possibility is that it resulted from the analogy of other verbs of the same conjugation; that it had a falling diphthong seems clear from its representation in later Eng. The phonetic development, OE. *scúfan*, mod.E. *shove* (ʃøv) may be compared with OE. *dúfe*, mod.E. *dove* (døv). In Sc. and north. dial. the OE. word regularly became in the 14–16th c. *showe*, and should be represented in mod.Sc. by *shoo* (cf. Sc. 14–16th c. *dowe*, mod. *doo*, dove), but this has not survived (unless it be in SHUE to swing), being superseded by the Eng. *shove*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Pres.-stem.* α. 1 sc(e)úfan (3 *sing. pres. ind.* scúfeð, -ið, scýfð, scifð, scýft), 3 sc(h)uven, (shufe), 3–4 schouve, (4 schowf, s(c)howve, schowe, shouwe), 4–5 schove, (5 showe, schowwyn, xowyn, schoffe, 5–7 shuff, 6 schow, sowe, 7 shoove), 5– shove; β. 1 scéofan, 3 seve, 4 scheve, 5 schyve; see also SHEAVE *v.*[2]

α. *a* 900 Scufan [see B. 1]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxiv. (Z.) 137 *Præcipito* ic sceufe. *c* 1205 Scuuen [see B. 2.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Schuueð hit ut. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. 5 Mi worth þai thoght to schouue awai. *c* 1320 *Beues* 2592 Whan þe beschop him scholde in schoue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 58 Leueful is with force force of showue. *c* 1403 Shove [see B. 7]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvi. 297 In Jesu side schoffe it þis tyde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 105/1 Showen [*later v.rr.* xowyn, shoue], *impello*. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 152/1 Hevyng and shuffyng of her Chaffare out and home. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 106 He schowis on me his schewill mouth. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* III. x. 93 To shoove it down.

β. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxviii (Z.) 171 *Trudo*, ic sceofe. *c* 1275 [see B 3 b]. *c* 1320 [see B. 7]. *c* 1440 *Wyclif's Bible, Judges* xvi. 19 To caste [*MS.* I., schyue] hym awei.

2. *Pa. t.* α. 1*st* and *3rd sing.* α. 1 scéaf, (3 scæf, sef, 3–4 schef, 4 shyf, scef), shoofe, shoif, s(c)hofe, shoff, schove, 4–5 s(c)hof, shoof, 5 shoef, shoove, (sheef, 6 schew); β. *weak* 4 shufte, schuft, schovede, 5 showved, showyt, schufte, shofed, showed, 6 shoffed, 5– shoved.

993 *Batt. Maldon* (Gr.) 136 He sceaf þa mid þam scylde. *c* 1205 LAY. 9366 He þa scipen vt scæf [*c* 1275 sef]. *c* 1275 [see B. 1 c]. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 412 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 231 After heore schip so swyþe he schef [*v.rr.* scef, schof, showved]. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 871 Hauelok shof dun nyne or ten. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3290 & schuft his scheld on is schulder. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 154 Til African my gyde Me hente and shofe [*v.rr.* shof, shoff, schofe, shoofe, shoif] yn at the gatys wyde. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1578 Floripe..shofed hire oute in to the flode. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 144 He showed hym oute att þe dure. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. ix. 624 Syr Bagdemagus..sheef hym thorou the ryght sholder. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiii. (Arb.) 95 How I shoef and stack. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 67/31 The bischope..schew out his toung.

b. *plur.* α. 1 scufun, sceufon, 1–2 scufon, -sceofon, 2–3 scufen, 3 scuven, (soven), ssove, 3–4 schoven, 4 shoven, schowen; etc. β. *weak* (see *sing.*).

Beowulf 215 [see B. 3 b]. *Ibid.* 3131 [see B. 2 b]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke iv. 29 Hiȝ arison & scufon [1160 *Hatton Gosp.* scufen] hine of ðære ceastre. *c* 1205 LAY. 7859 Heo scuuen [*c* 1275 souen] ut heore lof. *Ibid.* 20925 He scufen [*c* 1225 souen] from þan stronde scipen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3103 Hii..uaste ssone [*v.r.* schofe] & drowe.

3. *Pa. pple.* α. 1 sc(e)ofen, -scoben, *North.* -scyfen, 2 i-scoven, 3 i-schuven, 4 schoven, 4–5 y-)s(c)hove, 4– shoven; β. *weak* 4 s(c)hufte, schowved, 5 shuftyd, schowid, 5–6 shuffed, 7 shooved, 6 shoved.

α. *Beowulf* 918 (Gr.) Þa wæs morgenleoht scofen and scynded. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Heo weren iscouen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Hit is..iðe schrifte ischuuen ut. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 107 Watres ben her ðer-under suuen. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 726 Thus by report was hir name I-shoue [*v.rr.* y-shove, yshoue, y-schoue, shoue]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 202 He..Was schoven out of his empire. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. vii. 699 The shyp was anone shouen in the see. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 197 Here..The mouldy old Crust, Of Nell Batchelor lately was shoven. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Wallace & Edw. I*, Wks. 1853 I. 450/1 To be thrust and shoven.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 44 He schulde be..harde þer-oute schowued. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xliii. (Tollemache MS.) A lyȝt beme is broke oþer schufte [1582 shuft] aside. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4759 He wald haue schowid on þat schene. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xliv. 115 Þei ben shuftyd [*v.r.* shuffed] from oon to a noþer. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 1226/1 They shal bee pushed and shoued in by vyolence.

B. Signification. (Generally equivalent to *thrust, push*; but now less dignified in use, often suggesting some notion of rough, careless, or hasty action.)

1. *trans.* To thrust away with violence; to precipitate; to 'cast' (into prison, etc.). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

Beowulf 3131 Dracan ec scufun, wyrm ofer weallclif. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 692 (Gr.) Scufan scyldigne..in dryȝne seað. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 471/8 *Precipitate*, scufað. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1029 If any schalke to be schent wer schowued þer-inne. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1369 By þe legges lifte he þe schrewe þan & schef hur out ech del. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 1226/1 He that gathereth treasures shall be shoued into the grynnes of death. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 210 Suthle he will ye schow Vnto the grund. 1844 HOOD *Forge* II. xii, All at once he is seized and shoven..Headlong into the blazing oven.

† b. *To shove out*: to force oneself to utter.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Al so schal þe þet schriueð him, efter þe greate, schuuen ut þet smele.

† c. To thrust (a weapon, etc.) *into* or *through* a body. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 499 in *O. E. Misc.* 51 He schef hit myd strenkþe þat to his heorte hit com. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 451 He wrapped a cloþ aboute his hond, and schove it in [to] þe leon his mowþe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 288 He drew his knyfe & shewid it in his throte & kyllid hym. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xiii. (1591) A 4 b, In verde fieldes, Mars beares a golden Speare, Which through a bleeding heart, his point did shoue. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.*, Addit. to 2nd Bk. 166 Then Æneas..shoffed his Sworde through his [*sc.* Turnus'] Breaste.

† d. To reject, banish; to eject from an office or dignity, from a society, etc. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 53 He erneð here, þat ure louerd ihesu crist him shendeð and wile shufe fro him a domes dai. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxviii. 10 Fra þine bodes schouue [Vulg. *repellas*] noght me. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1740 þe medes schal be maysteres here, & þou of menske schowued. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4940 Chesith eke gode men; and awey shoue The wykked. *c* 1421 *Pol. Poems* 113 From worldis worschipe y am shoue. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 177 So some hasty man would be heaving and shoving out the wicked from the godly.

† e. To impart, communicate. ? *nonce-use.*

c 1626 W. BOSWORTH *Arcad. & Sepha* I. 544 Her lips that oft did shove Life to the hearts of those that saw them move.

2. To move (a heavy or resisting object) forward by the application of muscular strength from behind; to push along with effort.

c 1205 LAY. 17396 Þe mote..scuuen & hebben mid hæȝere strenðe treon græte & longe. *c* 1290 *St. Edward* 167 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 51 Huy schouen it [sc. a horse] faste forthþe-ward and drowen. 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 1846 Take to thin behoue Thyng that this bocher may not hale ne shoue, Take þou my soule. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 26 He shoof the table from hym. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II, The breast-plough, which a man shoves before him. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv. 404 He was the

first to shove the gangway on to the vessel. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 596 With hands and feet for ever against the stone did he [Sisyphus] strain Up o'er the bent to shove it.

fig. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 300 Their events seem to come in great masses, shoved along by the agency of many persons.

b. To force (a person, etc.) onwards by pushing. Also, to cause to fall *over* (a cliff, etc.) or *out of* (a place) by a push.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 89 Hunulphus..bete hym with his feest, and schuft [*v.rr.* schufte, schyf] hym, and putte hym forþ þorus þe myddel of þe citee anon to þe walles. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 27, I..shooue him forth so ferre that he fylle doun vpon the floer. 1579 *Rastell's Expos. Terms Lawes* s. v. *Manumission*, The Lorde.. therewith shewed [*edd.* 1592 ff. shoued] him forward out of his hands [= *& oue ceo il luy mise auant hors de ses maines*]. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* 196 Mr. Gough, turned round, and shoved Atkins over the bannister. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. x. (Rtldg.) 412, I should stand a very good chance of being shoved by the shoulders out of doors. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iii, My master shoved the fellow over after he had stabbed him.

c. To throw *down* with a push.

13.. *K. Alis.* (W.) 4250 He schof him quycly adoun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 165 Part of the bank he schof doun riht. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Relat. Ceylon* 22 It is their constant practice to shove down with their heads great Trees.

†**d.** Of winds or other natural forces: To drive, propel, impel. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. i. (1868) 32 Þou shalt be shouen not þider þat þou woldest: but whider þat þe wynde shoueþ þe. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 553 He knew ful wel how fer Alnath was shoue [*v. rr.* schoue, y-schoue, yshoue] Fro the heed of thilke fixe Aries aboue. 14.. tr. *Higden* App. (Rolls) VII. 525 There come a whirlewynde.. and schufte in the body anone to the ynner wal of the chirche. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* II. 66 Like as when whistling Southerne winde ..Shoouing the seas before his blast. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Pesaro* 168 [tr. Claudian], The Seas..shove the loaden Vessels into Port.

†**e.** *fig.* To bring into prominence. Also, to impel, urge *forward* in a course of action. *Obs.*

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1381 If that I live, thy name shal be shove In English, that thy sleighte shal be knowe! 1572 tr. *Buchanan's Detect. Mary Q. Scots* G ij, Causis.. sic as are able to shooue forwart and to push hedlang a hart for outrage nat able to gouerne it selfe.

f. To urge (a horse) to a leap.

1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xii, He shoved his horse at the rail.

3. *spec.* To propel (a boat or other vessel) either by pushing at the stern or with a pole worked from the inside. Also *absol.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 15 Hymself the cobil did with his bolm furth schow. 1649 OGILBY *Æneis* v. (1684) 222 Old Portunus with his mighty Hand Shov'd him along. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, The seamen towed, and I shoved. 1802–19 REES *Cycl.* XXXII, *Set*, a term used for a pole or shaft, used to shove boats along a canal, &c. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleyyow* ix, I shoved on shore.

b. With *out*, *off*, or const. *from*. (*a*) *trans.* To launch (a boat) by means of a steady push applied at the stern. (*b*) *absol.* To push one's vessel away from the bank. Also *transf.* of the boat.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 215 (Gr.) Guman ut scufon..wudu bundenne. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048, & ȝewende þa Godwine eorl & Swezen eorl to Bosenham & scufon ut heora scipu. *c* 1205 LAY. 21590 Heo wenden þa scipen stronge to sculuen [*read* scuuen; *c* 1275 seue] from þan londe. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 287 As we endeavoured with strength to shove her off, the vessel overturned. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xvii, The boats were shoved off.

(*b*) 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 95 He and he Inforcis of to schowin the schip to saif. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. iii. 1098 Others shove off from the wharfe. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvi, The boat was not ordered to shove off. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* v. 103 Into the boat he sprang, and in haste shoved off to his vessel.

4. Without the notion of difficulty. To push (something) so as to make it slide along a surface or in a groove or channel; also to move *up* or *down* by pushing.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xxvi, Six bands are set to stirre the moving tower: The first the proud band call'd, that lifts it higher; The next the humble band, that shoves it lower. 1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 123 The bread..was shoved along the table on platters. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 357 Lest when he Runs in his Second Pull, the Face of the Plattin rub upon the Tympan, and shoves the sheet upon the Face of the Letter. *c* 1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Wedding*, He did not once shove up his borrowed locks. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vii. (1851) 193 A sheet of blank paper is placed upon a frame and shoved forwards. 1902 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* xv, He shoved the paper away impatiently.

†**b.** To put surreptitiously or improperly: const. *in*, *on*, *under*, *out of*. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1026 Folk now..wolde a bushel venym al excusen For þat o greyn of loue is on it shoue. 1412–20 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* 2876 Doubilnes so slisly was in schoue, As þou3 he hadde sothly ben allied With trewe menyng. 1534 JOYE *Subv. More's False Found.* title-p., He sweteth to set faste and shoue vnder his shameles shoris, to vnderproppe the popis chirche. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 (1619) 93 He setteth himselfe in all ages to shove in, and hold in the Ministerie such persons as are too base for the dunghil. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 295 Which conceit of the man cleanly shoves the King out of the Parlament. 1773 J. BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 74 To shorten man's duty..by shoving a commandment out of Moses's tables.

c. (Chiefly *colloq.*) To put or thrust (carelessly or hastily) into a place or receptacle; also to thrust *aside*, *away*.

1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* iv, Dick Middlemas, on his appearance, shoved into his bosom a small packet. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, All the characteristics are shoved away into the background. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Sept. Felton* (1879) 78 My meditations are perhaps of a little too much importance to be shoved aside. 1911 MARETT *Anthropol.* vi. 156 You need never allow yourselves to be shoved away into such an inhospitable region.

d. To push *out of* a position, *away*, by gradual encroachment.

1629 *Leather: a Discourse* 11 As darknesse shoues away Light. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 645 Whoever bears this reflection in mind will not..be so apt..to complain of seeing the rising generation grow up to shove them out of the world. 1789 T. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 271 The gash vein..is frequently crossed and intersected by whin dykes or bars of hard stone, which generally shoves it a little to one side, off the true line of bearing. 1814 D'ISRAELI *Quarrels Auth.* (1867) 538 The wit gradually shoved the antiquary off the end of the bench. 1880 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* (Low) xvi. § 711 The land-wind..shoves away the calms which preceded it from the hills to the coast. 1870 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. (1877) 54 The most visibly flourishing and busy department shoves the others out of sight.

5. *absol.* and *intr.* To push, to apply force against an object in order to move it from its position.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 13 Dec. 218 Sume scufon, sume tuzon..and seo godes fæmne hwæðre stod. *c* 1290 *St. Lucy* 109 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 104 Huy schoue and drowe al þat huy mi3hte ake huy ne mi3hten hire anne fote i-winne. 13.. *K. Alis.* (W.) 5889 The kynges oost..broughtten gynnes to the walle, Houen, shouen, and drowen alle. ? *c* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 534 Ful long I shof, and knokkide eke,..Til that dore of thilk entre A mayden curteys openyde me. *c* 1425 *Sev. Sages* (P.) 1411 At hys dore he wolde inne, And hit was stoken with a pyne. He schof ther-onne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 199 He hitte Agrauayn with his spere so sore that it preced two folde thurgh his haubreke, and therto he shof ther-on so harde that Agravayn fill to the erthe.

b. *To shove at*: to push against (an object) in order to displace or overthrow; †*fig.* to apply one's energies to (a task); also, to make an attack on, try to overthrow (a person). (Also in *indirect passive.*) † *To shove at the cart* (fig.): to lend a helping hand (also *ironical*).

1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dialog* 617 Now, good freend shoue at the cart, I yow preye. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 15 Iff ye be cleer owt off Doctor Aleyn danger, kepe yow ther, and her affir ye maye schoffe as well at hys carte. 1542 PAGET in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 705 Lay your heddes all three to gidre, and shove at the treatye, that it may take effect. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* vi. 22/2 in *Holinshed*, This Erle now liuyng, as hys Auncesters before hym, haue beene shrewdly shooued at by his euill willers, saying that [etc.]. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. i, Tis a marualle thourt not turnd out yet! *Hip.* Faith I haue been shooud at. 1639 AINSWORTH *Ps.* lxii. 4 Ye shall be a bowed wall, as a fence that is shooved at.

†**c.** of inanimate agencies. *Obs.*

c 1400 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. A. 14 Whar so hit bifalle þat þe erþe is so fast þat þe wynd ne passez he schoueþ & þrast þat al þe erþe quakiȝeþ.

†**6.** *intr.* To push one's way forward or onward, to press on. Chiefly with adv., *on*, *along*, etc. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth. Met.* xiii. (1895) 298 Swa deð eac sio sunne þonne hio on sige weorþeð..merecondel scyfð on ofdæle. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 487 He shof ay on, he to and fro was sent. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11804 An Erne..Braid vp the bowels, & bere hom away, And showvet to the shippes of the shene grekes. 1520–30 CORNYSH in *Anglia* XII. 238 The dere shoffe on the mede. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 121 They..forwarde shoue. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 152 To supper let vs get vs nowe, sith night so farre on shoues. 1721 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 167 A Moose..shoves along side-ways.

†**b.** To make an attack with violence, to make a charge or onset. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1454 Schalkez to schote at hym schowen to þenne. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Knts. Garter* 36 In honour of his name Shoue on & putte his foos to the outraunce! 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 173 Thenne the batails approuched and shoue and showted on bothe sydes.

†**c.** *To shove down*: to fall with force. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2083 Schyre schaterande on schorez, þer þay doun schowued.

†**d.** *To shove and heave*: to move tumultuously.

The vbs. were commonly coupled also in other uses: see, e. g., quot. *c* 1205 in 2, 13.. in 5, 1449 in A. 1 a; and cf. quot. 1581 under SHOVE *sb.*[1] 1 and quot. 1568 under SHOVING *vbl. sb.*

1638 W. LISLE *Heliodorus* VII. 101 Diuers passions in her shoue and heaue. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* III. i, Thy little breasts, with soft compassion swelled, Shove up and down, and heave like dying birds.

e. *transf.* To protrude, project. *rare.*

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi. (1856) 157 The huge sharp green notched aloe-leaves and fern shoving here and there out of it [the water].

7. To push about or jostle in a crowd; to make one's way by jostling or elbowing.

c 1290 *Beket* 2217 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 Faste heo [wormes] schouen and cropen al-so ase ametene al a-boute. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 1407 So fast hii gonne aboute him scheue, As don ben aboute þe heue. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2161 Thenne gyrdez he to Gryngolet, & gederez þe rake, Schowtez in bi a schore, at a schaze syde. *c* 1403 LYDG. *Temple Glas* 534 Gret pres of folk,..To croude and shove—the tempil was so ful. 1530 PALSGR. 705/1 It is no good maner to shove in a dores a this facyon. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xxxvi, An hundred shapes that through flit ayers stray, Shove boldly in. 1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to W. Montagu* 24 Sept., There's a little door to get in, and a great crowd without, shoving and thrusting who shall be foremost. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiii. (1856) 127 Her want of actual headway making the Indiaman sag dead away to leeward, as she shoved into the force of the sea-stream. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gad-fly* (1904) 60/2 The crowd of holiday masqueraders, laughing and shoving.

b. *refl.* With adv. or phrase: To make one's way by shoving.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 515 Reynaude.. shoved himself among the thickest. 1671 tr. *Martin's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 105 They shove themselves along just like an Eel. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* viii, Biddy..had shoved herself well before the door.

8. *trans.* To push (a person) with one's body or elbows; to knock against, jostle.

1530 PALSGR. 705/1, I shove one, I pusshe hym, *je pousse.* I pray the, shove nat whyle I am writyng. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Sept., I did step back, and clap my breech to our pew-door, that she might be forced to shove me to come in. 1805 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Mme. de Fleury* I, I shoved Victoire, and she pushed at me again. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* iii, Laughing and shoving each other about.

†**9.** To prop *up*. *Obs. rare*[−1]. (The reading is doubtful.)

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XIX. 20 Hit hadde shoriers to shoue [MS. I. schyuyn; MS. T. schyue; MS. G. schule] hit vp.

10. *slang.* **a.** To pass (counterfeit money); also *to shove* (*the*) *queer.* †**b.** *To shove the tumbler* (see quot. *a* 1700). †**c.** *To shove the moon* (see quot. 1809). **d.** *intr.* (*U.S.*) To set out for home.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shove the Tumbler*, to be Whipt at the Cart's Tail. 1809 G. ANDREWES *Dict. Slang, Shoving the moon*, to steal your goods away without paying the rent. 1859 MATSELL *Rogue's Lex.* 79 *Shove queer*, pass counterfeit money. 1885 LELAND *Brand-new Ballads* (ed. 2) 35 The one [note] I shoved was never worth a continental dam.

11. *intr.* (*Canadian.*) Of river-ice: To move forward so as to become more compact. Cf. SHOVE *sb.*[1] 5.

1878 BOYD in *Bartlett's Dict. Amer.*, When the St. Lawrence at Montreal has frozen over, it is not safe to cross it until the ice has shoved.

12. *Comb.*: **shove-ha'fpenny** *slang*, a gambling game similar to shovel-board; †**shove-pike** [PIKE *sb.*[5]], ? a weapon used in fighting at close quarters; †**shove-up** *a.* in *shove-up socket*, a contrivance forming part of a candlestick and designed to allow a candle to be burnt out to the end.

1841 *Punch* 27 Nov. 232/2 The favourite game of *shove-halfpenny was kept up till a late hour. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *50 Yrs. Life* I. 50 The aristocratic and bewitching game of shove-halfpenny. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of Garrat* I. Wks. 1799 I. 167 We could get you a *shove-pike. 1751 RICHARDSON in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr* (1804) VI. 118 Her farthing candle blinking in its *shove-up socket.

Shove, dial. form of SHEAF *sb.*; obs. pa. t. of SHAVE *v.*

†**Shove-board.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SHOVE (after next) + BOARD *sb.*] = SHOVEL-BOARD.

1522 in F. A. Inderwick *Cal. Inner Temple Rec.* (1896) I. 63 [None of the society shall play at the game called] Shoffe boorde [or] slypgrote. 1532 *Ibid.* 100 Shobebord [? *read* shovebord]. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I. (ed. 2) M 1 b, Their idle houres..They spend at shoue-boord. 1623 in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. xlvii, To Hartopp 3 daies making the new shove bord table 00 02 06.

Shove-groat. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. stem of SHOVE *v.* + GROAT *sb.*] = SHOVEL-BOARD. (Cf. SLIDEGROAT, SLIP-*groat.*)

1488 in W. Kelly *Notices illustr. Drama* (1865) 181 [All persons were forbidden to play at]..checker-in-the-mire, or shove grote. 1541–2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Slydethrifte otherwise called shovegrote. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883–5) II. 363 The hours..spent..at bowles tenis Cockpit Shufgrote cards and dice. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. i. § 19. 225. 1855 KINGS. BY *Westw. Ho!* ii, Playing at shove-groat with Spanish doubloons.

b. *attrib.*, as *shove-groat table*; **shove-groat shilling,** a shilling used in the game.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 206 Quoit him downe (Bardolph) like a shoue-groat shilling. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. ii. [v], [They] made it runne as smooth of the toung, as a shoue-groat shilling. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 210 A Shove-groat table.

Hence **Sho·vegroating,** playing at shove-groat.

1601 HAKEWILL *Van. Eye* XXIX. (1615) 140 Bouling, shooting, coiting, shoufgrating, and the like.

Shovel (ʃʊ·v'l), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 scofl, -scobl, 3 ssofle, 3–5 schovele, 4–5 schovel, 5 schofylle, schovyl(le, schowulle, -elle, schoffil, showele, shovele, shoville, 5–6 schovell, shovill, 5–7 shovell, 6 schovyll, shoffell, choffell, shoovell, shovull, shovelle, showel, 6–7 showell, 7–8 shufle, 5– shovel; *β.* chiefly *north.* 3–6 schole, 4, 6 schule, 5 schoyll, schwll, 5–6 schowle, sholl, 5–6, 9 (*dial.*) shole, 5–7 schuill, 6 showll, schull, shoull, showle, 6–7 s(c)hoole, shoule, 6–9 shule, 8 shull, 8–9 (*dial.*) shool, shoo, 9 shoul, showl, shul; *γ.* 1 ?scolf, 6 chollve, 6, 9 (*dial.*) sholve. [OE. *scofl* fem. corresponds to NFris. *skofel* digging shovel, MLG., LG. *schuffel*, shovel, weeding hoe, MDu. *schofel*, *schoffel* shovel (mod.Du. *schoffel* weeding hoe, whence SCUFFLE *sb.*); the MSw. *skofl*, *skofvel* (Sw. *skofvel*), Da. *skovl*. Norw. *skufl*, are prob. from LG.; parallel forms with long root-vowel are OHG. *scâvala* fem. (MHG. *schûvel*, mod.G. *schaufel*)

shovel, early mod.Du. *schuivel*, dial. *schoefel* shovel; the OTeut. type **skuflō* is app. f. the root **skuf-*, **skūb-* of SHOVE *v.*]

1. A spade-like implement, consisting of a broad blade of metal or other material (more or less hollow and often with upturned sides), attached to a handle and used for raising and removing quantities of earth, grain, coal or other loose material. (In some dialects the word is applied to a spade.)

Baker's shovel = PEEL *sb.*² 2; *Coal-shovel*, see COAL *sb.*¹ 15; *Malt-shovel*, see MALT *sb.* 4 b; *Paring-shovel*, see PARING *vbl. sb.* 4; also FIRE-SHOVEL.

a. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 2051 *Trulla*: cruce, turl, scofl. *Ibid.* 2081 *Vatilla*: isern-scobl. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 1022 *Trulla*: scofl. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal habban spade, scofle, wad-pitel [etc.]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2197 Vor ȝe beþ men bet iteiȝt to ssofle [*v.rr.* schouele, shouell] & to spade..þan [etc.]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 192 An heep of heremites..wenten as werkemen with spades and with schoueles. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 189 A schouyl hath iij. thynges; a scho, an heued, & an handyl. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 37 A lityll fyer choffell. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. i. 110 Why doe's he suffer this rude knaue now to knocke him about the Sconce with a dirty Shouell. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *Kettlewell* I. xv. 107 The Apprentice-Boys would soon knock them on the Head with their paring Shovels. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, The cashier (whose benevolent occupation it is to..dispense sovereigns out of a copper shovel). 1906 PETRIE *Relig. Anc. Egypt* xiii. 84 The winnowing shovels and rakes stuck upright.

β. a 1300 *Holy Rood* 42 (Ashm. MS.) Þo nome hi spade and schole. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 519 *Trobile beche furche fymere* Schole spade mouke-forke. 1453–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 150, ij sholez ferro ligat. 1545 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 360 For ane dousan of schulis, xs. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 326 Schooles vngarnished the hundreth xli. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to J. Lapraik* xi, What sairs your grammars? Ye'd better taen up spades and shools. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxi, A beard like a baker's shool. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xv. 137 We made a grave..and I went for spades and shools.

γ. c 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 1022 *Trulla*: scolf. 1504–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 255 Payde for a chollve [*cf.* sholve *ibid.* 381] to pare the Chyrche iiij d. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 A..wheelebarrow, sholue and a spade. 1583 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees 1860) 78, j grape, and sholve, iij spades, and iiij irrone forkes 4s. 1858 SPURDENS *Suppl. to Forby*, *Sholve*, a shovel.

b. In fig. context.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 199 A skeet of contrycyoun, wyth a scauell of confessioun, wyth a schouyl of satysfaccyoun. *Ibid.* 203 Þe schouyl, I telde ȝou, was satysfaccyoun, þe scho þer-of is almes-dede, þe heuyd is preyere, þe handyll is restitucyoun.

† **c.** *Shod-shovel*: a shovel of wood edged or tipped with metal. *Obs.*

1465 in *Finchale Priory Acc.* (Surtees) p. ccxcix, j schoyd schoyll. 1526–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 339 For a Shodshovill for the Church iiijd. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk Buriall* (1833) 31 With shod-shooles to seugh up the sanctuary-ground.

d. Occas. used for: A shovelful.

1881 C. WHITEHEAD *Hops* 8 The plant centres being covered with a few shovels of earth.

e. *Phr. To be put to bed with a shovel*: to be buried (Grose *Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, 1785).

f. *transf.* The cue used in the game of SHOVEL-BOARD (sense 2).

2. ? = SHOVELLER ².

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Pale* or *cuellier*, a bird called shouell.

3. The flat portion of the horn of a moose-deer.

1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 230/1 The brows were very good indeed, and the shovels cupped and broad.

4. = SHOVEL HAT.

1841 J. B. MOZLEY *Let.* in Purcell *Life Manning* (1893) I. 194 The straight-cut coat and the gentlest shovel. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxv, She managed the hat shop... My uncle the Bishop had his shovels there.

5. A person using a shovel.

1834–7 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 54 Four shovels are placed on the berm,..and the remaining 4 shovels and rammers on the parapet. *c* 1890 *Engineer* LXVII. 344 (Cent.) In the early days after the Crimean War, the engineers in the Navy..were technically known as shovels.

6. *Mil.* A contrivance fitted to a field-gun to act as a brake to lessen the recoil.

1899 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 4/3 They intend that a 'shovel' shall be fixed to our field guns..This 'shovel', or break, was described to me by several officers.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *shovel hilt*, †*iron*; similative, as *shovel-beaked*, *-bea'd*, *-bladed*, *-ended*, *-footed*, *-handed*, *-headed*, *-mouthed*, *-shaped* adjs.; objective, as †*shovel-cheaper*, *-maker*.

1896 *Roy. Nat. Hist.* (ed. Lydekker) V. 516 *marg.* *Shovel-Beaked Sturgeons. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 26 Feb., Those bushy locks, that *shovel beard. 1901 *Ibid.* 18 Mar. 7/4 An Eton crew..with *shovel-bladed oars. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 *Schouyll chepers. 1841 PUGIN *Pres. St. Eccles. Archit.* (1843) 7 A *shovel-ended stole. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1098 *Schovelle-fotede was þat schalke. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. of Life* vii. *Consid.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 414 No *shovel-handed, narrow-brained, gin-drinking million stockingers. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 161 Their huge *shovel-headed spears. 1888 BURT *Stand. Timber Meas.* 279 *Shovel Hilts. 1395 *Cartular. Abb. de Whitby* (Surtees) 606 Pro ij *schole iryn, ij d. 1638 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (*MS.*), Elias Tonge of Charing, *shouell-maker. 1763 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 106/2 A *Shovel-mouthed or cow-bellied shark. 1879 E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* (1882) I. 324 Queer long *shovel-shaped oars.

b. Special comb.: **shovel-bill** = SHOVELLER ²; **shovel-cultivator** *U.S.* = *shovel-plough*; † **shovel dog-fish** ? = *shovel-fish*; **shovel-duck** *dial.* = SHOVELLER ²; **shovel-fish**, a fish of the genus *Scaphirhynchus*, esp. *S. platyrhynchus*; † **shovel-groat** = SHOVE-GROAT; **shovel head**, (*a*) = *shovel-fish*; (*b*) the bonnet-headed shark, *Reniceps tiburo* (also *attrib.*); **shovel-man**, a labourer who uses a shovel; **shovel-nose**, a nose having the shape of and fulfilling the functions of a shovel, also *attrib.* in the names of certain animals and fishes having this characteristic; hence *shovel-nosed* adj., also *transf.*; **shovel-penny** = SHOVEL-BOARD; **shovel-plough**, an implement for clearing corn-land of weeds; **shovel-stirrup**, a stirrup with a broad rest for the foot, extending behind the heel; **shovel-sturgeon** = *shovel-fish*; **shovel-tree** (see quot.); † **shovel-wood** = *shovel-tree*.

1864 ATKINSON *Prov. Names of Birds*, *Shovel-bill.. *Anas clypeata*. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 236 They are sometimes very expeditiously covered..with the mold-board or the *shovel cultivator. 1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* 13 A *Shovell Dogge fish. 1893 in Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norfolk* 47 *Shovel Duck. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 200 The two smaller figures represent the *Shovel-fish, so called from the curious form of its head. 1825 JAMIESON s. v., *Slide-thrift*. A species of draughts in which the winner is the one who first gets his men off the board; also called *Shovel-groat. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 45 The second genus called the *Shovel-head (*Scaphirhynchus*), is represented by a single species. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 25 Shovel-head Shark. 1559 in Boys *Hist. Sandwich* (1792) 738 Every spade and *shovell man muste have..iii laborers with wheale barrowes. 1898 H. KIRKE *25 Yrs. Brit. Guiana* iii. 37 The late Mr. W. R. once described him as 'a good shovel man spoiled'. 1709 LAWSON *Voy. Carolina* 153 One being called a Bottle-Nosed Whale, the other a *Shovel-Nose. 1768 SOLANDER in *Ann. Reg.* (1769) *Chron.* App. 288/2 Shovel nose sharks. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Synopsis Fishes N. Amer.* 88 Shovel-nose Sturgeon. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 180 The shark..running its shovel nose into the sand. 1707 FUNNELL *Voy.* v. 120 The *Shovel-nos'd-Shark. 1837 J. F. COOPER *England* (ed. 2) I. 185 A shovel-nosed hat and a wig. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Shovel-penny. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 209 An implement for cleaning corn land is also used, called the *shovel plough. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 96 Cast-metal rollers, and scrapers, or shovel-ploughs. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 33 Most of the party were mounted on horses with carpet housings and *shovel stirrups. *a* 1894 LAYARD *Autobiog.* (1903) II. 34 Heavy shovel stirrups which served for spurs. 1875 E. D. COPE *N. Amer. Batrachia & Rept.* 87 The *shovel-sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchops*). 1887 DARLINGTON *Folk Speech S. Chesh.*, **Shovel-tree*, the handle of a spade. *c* 1615 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for a *shoufell wood v d and setting of it ane [sic] viij d.

Shovel (ʃʊ·v'l), *v.*¹ Forms: see the sb. Also 9 (*dial.*) shulve. [f. SHOVEL *sb.* Cf. MLG. *schuffelen*, MHG. *schûveln*, *schûfeln* (mod.G. *schaufeln*), Sw. *skofla*, Da. *skovle*, Norw. *skufla*, *skovla*.]

1. *trans.* To take up and remove with a shovel. Chiefly with adv. or advb. phrase. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/2 Schovelyn, wythe a schowelle, *tribulo*. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 193, I lykened satysfaccyoun to a schouele to schouell out wyth þe crommys of þe wose of dedly synne. 1590 in Harwood *Lichfield* (1806) 527 Payd..for shollynge snowe off the Churche. 1626 A. SPEED *Adam out of Eden* xiv. (1659) 107 Shovelling the Corn from the sides of the roomes. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 24/2 The men that shovel the dirt out of the road. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv, Tak the shule a bit, and shule out the loose earth. 1891 SMILES *J. Murray* I. vii. 141 The labourers were at work shovelling away the snow.

† **b.** *To shovel down*: to destroy by shovelling away. *Obs.*

1563 WINJET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 5 To schuil doun thir wallis to the ground.

c. *transf.* (With adv.) To remove as rubbish; to move about roughly and without consideration.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv, I heena lived sae lang in the warld neither, to be shuled out o't that gate. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, In such sort are poor mortals swept and shovelled to and fro. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home*, *Recoll. Gifted Woman* I. 184 A great amount of rubbish, which any competent editor would have shovelled out of the way.

2. To excavate, dig up (the ground, etc.), dig (a hole, etc.) with a shovel.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xxxii, In the snaw he schuillit hes ane plane. *a* 1785 *Ulysses' Answ. Ajax* in *Poems Buchan Dial.* 37 The gutter's sheeled. 1857 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVIII. I. 105 A man will 'shool' about one-eighth of an acre per diem.

3. To throw (quantities of some material) *into* a receptacle, to cast (earth, dust, etc.) *on* or *upon* something or somebody.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 469 Some Hangman must.. lay me Where no Priest shouels-in dust. *c* 1800 '*Broom blooms bonnie*' x. in Child *Ballads* I. 184/2 It was nae wonder his heart was sair, When he shooled the mools on her yellow hair. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 98 The powder is shovelled into sacks. 1913 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 356/2 One of them..was shovelling tipsy cake into his ample mouth.

fig. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, Partridge likewise shovelled in his share of calumny. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* 269 Thousands..unshipped on the desert shore, shovelled as it were, into a strange land.

4. To gather (something) *up* in quantities as with a shovel.

1685 PENN *Further Acc. Pennsylv.* 9 Herring..swarm in such shoales..in little Creeks, they almost shovel them up in their tubs. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xi. Note *n* (1727) 187, I have seen..Ducks shovel them up as they swim along the Waters. 1879 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 6/2 Storekeepers..are simply shovelling up money.

5. *intr.* To use a shovel.

1685 TRAVESTIN *Acc. Siege of Newheusel* 30 No one offered to put out the fire, till the Duke of Lorrain came and began himself to shovel upon it. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xv. ii. V. 280 In relays, 3,000 of the Militia-men dig and shovel night and day.

transf. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvi, Is that all? thought Sampson, resuming his spoon, and shovelling away manfully. 1882 PAYNE-GALLWEY *Fowler in Irel.* 39 You can discern ..the rippling bills as they shovel greedily along the ooze.

6. *trans.* To turn (something) over with a shovel.

1775 W. WILLIAMSON *Trials at York* 29/2, I shoveled it [the earth] over, and threw it into that corner. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 425 The salt and lime were..mixed about three months before use and afterward shoveled over several times.

7. *To shovel out*: to distribute in shovelfuls. *fig.*

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* V. iii. (1865) II. 85 George I shovelling out his English subsidies as usual.

8. *trans.* and *intr.* To intrude. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L iij b, I wyll sowe me in i. I wyll thrust me in, or schole in [orig. *a tergo me hinc inserum*]. 1861 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 403 He'll shool in onnywhear, whear ther's owt to be gotten. 1876 *Mid. Yorks. Gloss.*, *Shool*, v.a. and slightly as a v.n. to intrude. *Shovel* is also in occasional *active* use with this meaning.

Shovel (ʃʊ·v'l), *v.*² Now *rare*. Also 5 **schovel**, 9 *dial.* **shool**, **shulve**. [app. a frequentative f. SHOVE *v.* Cf. SHUFFLE *v.* In mod. use app. associated with SHOVEL *v.*¹] *intr.* To make movements *with* the feet, without raising them from the ground; to walk languidly or lazily. (Cf. SHUFFLE *v.* 1.)

c 1430 *Wyclif's Bible* Job xi. 10 (MS. S.) Shoueling forth [*w. rr.* stumblynge, hirtynge, Vulg. *offendens*] with his feet. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 381 They schal euer haue warnes..that they schouel not withe ther fete up on the paiment, wherby the reder may the wers be herde. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 169 They hard hym quietly, with out any shouelynge of feete or walkynge vp and downe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 29 When I walk, that assignable ..part of my soul, which was in my leg, comes shoveling after me. 1824 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) I. 222 In walking he does not tread, but shovel and slide. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shool*, *Shulve*, to saunter, with such extreme laziness, as if the saunterer did not mean to walk, but to shovel up the dust with his feet.

† **Sho·velard.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **schovelerd**, **schevelard**, 6 **s(c)hovelarde**, 6–7 **shovelard**; *β.* 5 **scholard**, 6 **sholard**, 7 **shoulerd**. [f. SHOVEL *sb.* + -ARD; ? after MALLARD, POPARD; cf. the form *poplerd* = POPELER.] The SPOONBILL, *Platalea leucorodia*. (Cf. SHOVELLER.)

α. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schovelerd, or popler, byrd. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 § 4 For every egge of every byttour heroune or shovelard eight pence. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiv. 368 So have Cranes, Hernes, Storks, and Shovelards long necks.

β. 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 400 Scholarde, or poplerd, bryd: *populus*. *c* 1512 *Regul. Northumberld. Housek.* (1770) 106 Item Sholardes to be hadde for my Lordes owne Mees. 1626 BRETON *Fantasticks* (Grosart) 10/2 The yong Herne and the Shoulerd-are now fat for the great Feast.

Shovel-board (ʃʊ·v'l,bōəd), **shuffleboard.** Forms: *α.* 6 **shovillabourde**, **shovelaborde**, 7 **shovell a board**, **shouleaborde**, **shovelabord**, **showlibord**, **shovellabord**. *β.* 6–7 **shovelboord**, 7 **shovell-boord**, **sholven borde**, **shovell board**, **shuel board**, 7– **shovel-board**; *γ.* 6 **shoffle-**, **shoofle-**, 7 **shufle-**, 8 **shuffell-**. [The earliest form *shovill-*, *shovelabourd*, is an unexplained alteration of SHOVE-BOARD. There does not seem to be any connexion with *shovel* or *shuffle*.]

1. A game in which a coin or other disk is driven by a blow with the hand along a highly polished board, floor, or table (sometimes ten yards or more long) marked with transverse lines. The game is out of use in England, but is still played (with some modifications of form) in the U.S. Cf. SLIDE-GROAT, SHOVE-GROAT, SHOVE-BOARD.

The modern game as played in the U.S. is always called *shuffleboard*; in historical references to the older game the usual form is *shovel-board*.

α. 1532 *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VIII* (1827) 188 Paied to my lord Wylliam for that he wanne of the kinges grace at shovillaborde ix li. 1575 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 364 All unlawfull games, as..tables, bowls, shovelaborde. 1656 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 40 That you ..keep showlibord playing..on sondaies contrary to order. 1688 *Nottingham Rec.* V. 352 Wee present William Fiun for keeping men plaing att shouell-abord in his seller.

β. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Rev.* III. i, How haue you sped heere at home at shouelboord? 1672 SHADWELL *Miser* III. i. Wks. 1720 III. 47 He has already lost his Edward Shillings that he kept for Shovel-board. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. vii. (1710) 205 The Citizens and Peasants have..Cricket, Skittles, or Nine-Pins, Shovel-board, [etc.]. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 3 Before the introduction of Billiards the fashionable game on a board was shovel-board.

γ. 1577–86 STANYHURST *Chron. Irel., Hen. VIII*, 86/2 in *Holinshed*, Plaieng at slidegrote or shooflebord. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 178 The Marquis chose to sit up all

night at shuffleboard with four Suffolk malsters. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 235/2 Checkers and shuffle-board were in requisition.

† b. = *shovel-board shilling. Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 159 Seauen groates in mill-sixpences, and two Edward Shouelboords [Qo. 1602, Two faire shouell boord shillings].

c. The table upon which the game was played.

1603 *Inv.* in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 22 Itm, one long table for a sholven borde. *a* 1660 *Prince d'Amour*, etc. 163 A new shuel board whereon never stood food. 1666 WOOD *Life*, etc. (O.H.S.) II. 96 Dice, cards, sketells, shuffle-boards, billiard tables. 1724 J. MACKY *Journ. Eng. & Scot.* II. iii. 40 [In] the Hall..is a Marble Shuffleboard. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. iii, He was laughing loud with a knot of young men by the shovel-board.

2. *transf.* A game played on shipboard by pushing wooden or iron disks with a cue (called a *shovel*) so that they may rest on one of nine squares of a diagram chalked on the deck.

1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxviii. 224 There were rope quoits got out too; and the more energetic shovel-board. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log.* vi. 115 The long afternoon game of shuffle-board was interrupted by a break, in that clear sea-line to windward.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as † *shovel-board piece*, † *play*, † *room*, † *table*; † **shovel-board shilling**, a shilling (sometimes of Edw. VI; see 1 b) used in the game of shovel-board.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 145 He might ..strike me, like a *shovell-boord peece (being now a ledger) into the box. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1435/4 Six or eight Shovel board peices of Silver. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 19 The game called *Shovel-board play. 1631 *Minute-bk. Archd. Essex* 16 June, Others of the companye..ran into the *shovell board roome. 1653 ROWE *Tragi-Comœdia* * 3 b, A Shufle-board-roome. 1602 *Shovel board shilling [see 1 b]. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* K 2, Away slid I my man, like a shouell-board shilling. 1634 in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. lxvii, Mending the covers of the *shovleaborde Table. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* ix. 383 The Shuffle-board table tho' ten yards, 1 foot, and an inch long is made up of about 260 pieces. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 273 A new Shuffle-board-table. 1738 EARL OF OXFORD in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 176 A fine table of white marble of a great length, made use of for a shovel board table.

Shovelful (ʃʊ·v'lful). Also **-full.** [f. SHOVEL *sb.* + -FUL.] A quantity that fills a shovel; as much as a shovel can hold or take up at one time.

1533 J. HEYWOOD *Johan* (1903) 654 This shovyll full of colys. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 117 One shufle-full of earth. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 26 ¶ 3, I entertain'd my self with the digging of a Grave; and saw in every shovelful of it that was thrown up, the Fragment of a Bone or Skull. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. viii, He stood over her, counted her shovelsfull of tea, and watched the water into the tea-pot. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *50 Yrs. Life* I. 100 Shovelsful of sand and sawdust.

fig. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 256 Throwing out lies and scandals by shouell-fuls. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VII. iii. (1865) II. 263 Riddling or screening certain cartloads of heavy old German printed rubbish..we obtain the following shovelful of authentic particulars.

Shovel hat.

A stiff broad-brimmed hat, turned up at the sides and projecting with a shovel-like curve in front and behind, worn by some ecclesiastics.

1829 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 73 Does not the very sight of a shovel-hat in some degree indispose me to the wearer thereof? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, If he could have got a shovel-hat he would have worn it. 1871 *Fair France* ii. 58 The priest..in shovel hat and cassock appeared a pleasant gentleman enough. 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Gondoliers* II. 35 And Bishops in their shovel hats Were plentiful as tabby cats.

b. *transf.* A wearer of such a hat.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* lxvii, A regular don amongst the shovel-hats.

Hence **Shovel-ha'tted** *a.*, wearing a shovel hat; *transf.* of or pertaining to the ideas or opinions of a wearer of a shovel hat.

1832 CARLYLE *Misc., Boswell* (1857) III. 50 A cleanly, Shovel-hatted look. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, A tall, stately, jolly, shovel-hatted man.

Shoveller[1] (ʃʊ·v'ləɹ). Forms: *α.* 5 **schoveler**, 9 **shoveller** (*U.S.* **shoveler**); *β.* 9 **shooler.** [f. SHOVEL *v.* + -ER[1].] One who shovels.

α. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/2 Schoveler..*tribularius*. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* iv. 60 She..stood dripping with her load in the presence of the shoveller. 1884 *Milit. Engin.* I. II. 27 It is advisable to provide one shoveller to each two diggers in the third relief.

β. 1857 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVIII. I. 105 The labourer with the spade—or 'shooler', as he is called—commences his work by throwing out a furrow.

Shoveller[2] (ʃʊ·v'ləɹ). Forms: *α.* 5 **shovelere**, **schoveler**, 6 **schofler**, **shovelor**, (**shoovelar**), 6–7 **shovelar**, 7 **shovler**, 7–8 **shuffler**, 6– **shoveler**, **shoveller**; *β.* 7 **shouler.** [Alteration of SHOVELARD, with substitution of -ER[1] for -ARD. Cf. G. † *schuffler* (1582 in Gesner-Heusslin), *schauffler* (Nemnich).]

† 1. = SHOVELARD.

α. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 541 Also for bustard betowre & shovelere, gamelyn is in sesoun. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 408 The shouelar with his brode bek. 1577 V. LEIGH *Surveying* D j b, The like Rente, maie be and in some Mannours, is of Herneshawes, Shouelors, &c. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 131 The Shovler. 1612 PEACHAM *Genti. Exerc.* I. xvi. (1634) 54 Waterfowle, as the Mallard, Shoveller, Sheldrake. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 103 *Ardea Alba*..the white, and spoon-bill'd Heron, or Shoveler. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxviii. 343 The shoveler, or spoon-bill (which has some affinity to the cranes) is about the size of a goose.

β. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxv. 353 The Shouler which so shakes the ayre with saily wings.

b. ¶ Erroneously applied to the Pelican.

1552 COOPER *Elyot's Dict., Pelicanus*, a byrde called a pelicane, or shouelar.

2. 'From the latter half of the 17th century' (Newton *Dict. Birds* 841) applied to the Spoon-bill Duck, *Spatula* (or *Rhynchaspis*) *clypeata*, a bird with a broad shovel-like beak. Also *shoveller duck.*

1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Water Fowl* 96 The Shoveler: *Anas platyrynchos, sive clypeata. a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shuffler*, a Bird like, but not so big as a Duck, having a broader Bill. 1732 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 449 The Blue-wing'd Shoveler. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 467 Red Breasted Shoveler. 1838 J. J. AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* IV. 241 Shoveller Duck. *Anas clypeata*, Linn. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* vii. (1873) 184 The beak is thus very inferior as a sifter to that of the shoveller. 1878 *Proc. U.S. Nat. Museum* I. 446 *Spatula clypeata* (Linn.). Shoveller; Spoon-bill Duck.

3. *Her.* A representation of a 'shoveller'.

[1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* III. 25 Beareth to hys creste a shouelard Argente (*misprinted* a shouelar d'Argente).] 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Shoveller*, a species of water-fowl, somewhat like the duck.

† **Sho·veller**[3]. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. SHOVEL *sb.* + -ER[1].] ? The Shovel-head Shark.

1664 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* 13 Whole Fishes. A Shoveller or Blew Sharke.

Shovelling (ʃʊ·v'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOVEL *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action or an act of SHOVEL *v.*

a. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/2 Schovelynge, *tribulatus*. 1827 STEUART *Planter's Guide* (1828) 192 Two spits deep, with two intermediate shovellings. *a* 1832 S. WARREN *Diary Physic.* xvi, Shovelling *in* was surprisingly easier than shovelling *out*!

2. Something which is shovelled up. Usually *pl.*

a. 1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (ed. 3) 145 The shovelling of Streets and Yards, and Highwaies..is very good both, of it self, and compounded with other Soyl, Manure, Mud, or Straw. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 277 Parings of Turf, or Shovelings of Highways may be mix'd with Lime and Chalk. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 129 The shovelings from the ditches in road sides. *β.* 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 17 And if it [the dung] be medled with erthe, as sholynges and suche other, it wyll laste the longer.

Shove-net (ʃʊ·vnet). Forms: 5 **schofnet(t, shofnet**, 6 **shovenette, shuffnet**, 7– **shove-net.** [f. SHOVE *v.* + NET *sb.*] A fishing-net with a broad mouth expanded by means of a frame, worked by pushing along the bed of a river, etc., or through shallow sea-water.

1418 *Court Roll Gt. Waltham Manor*, Piscavit sine licencia cum diversis instrumentis videlicet spertes, lammes, et schofnetts et pisces cepit. 1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 577 Shotnet, Shofnet, et Kydels, sount defenduz. 1464 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 40 No. 7 Debet sibi xviii d. pro rethe vocato a schofnet. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 10 b, The lordes tenantes haue lybertie by custome to fysshe with shouenettes. 1539 in *Archæologia* XLIII. 212, iiij potyngers; and j shuffnet. 1611 COTGR., *Sauve*, a shoue-net to fish withall. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 327 They throw in a Net on a Hoop at the end of a Pole, the Pole going cross the Hoop, which, in some Places, they call a Shove Net. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 27 The use of the shove-net to entrap the prawns and shrimps. 1874 HOLDSWORTH *Deep-Sea Fishing* 218 Shrimps are fished for with the common hand or 'shove'-net.

attrib. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxvi, 'Tis only our shove-net traps as I wur a-telling you of.

Shover (ʃʊ·vəɹ). [f. SHOVE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or something which shoves, in senses of the vb.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 49 Schulderaris, and schowaris that hes no schame. 1893 *Cycl. Rev. Current Hist.* III. 287 A difference between the lumber shovers and the lumbermen. *Ibid.*, The lockout of the shovers continued. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 12 Dec. 6/3 The Cambridge forwards were 'shovers' and nothing else.

Comb. 1876 *Life Cheap Jack* (ed. Hindley) 232 A pair of the best brass candlesticks, with a patent shover-up and a good pusher-down.

b. *slang.* One who passes base coin.

1889 *Harper's Weekly* 21 Sept. 768/1 Eight persons, mostly 'shovers' or passers, were arrested in Russo's gang.

Shoveshim (ʃʊ·vʃim). *local.* [f. SHOVE *v.* + SHIM *sb.*[2]] (See quot.)

1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 591 The peas are cut by Dutch hoes or shoveshims.

Shoville, obs. form of SHOVEL *sb.*

Shoving (ʃʊ·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOVE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action or an act of SHOVE *v.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4313 Per was pultinge & ssouinge [*v.rr.* ssouyng, schuuing, schowynge, schowyng]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 53 Ther was greet showving bothe to and fro To lifte him up. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. ix. 23 The strengthe of shouing is at the lifte syde of men. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 382 There was great heaping and shouyng, and many people vp. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* III Antoninus..set his course against the State and Common-wealth, not (as they say) with spret nor oare, with shooving, or haling. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, However, after a little shoving and dragging, they at last went merrily on. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. v, Accelerated by ignominious shovings from sentry after sentry. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 214 In shoving off, when the ship is not head to wind, pull well clear of her before making sail. 1889 H. VASSALL *Rugby Football* 31 Turning now to the other great branch of forward play, namely, scrummage work, it must not for a moment be supposed that shoving is all that is wanted.

Show (ʃō), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 (in comb.) **shæw-**, 4 **sceu**, 4–5 **schewe**, 4–6 *north.* **schawe**, 6 **sheaw, sheow, shoe, shue**, *Sc.* **schaw**, s(c)hau, 6–7 **shewe, showe**, 7 **sho**, *Sc.* **schew, shaw**, 6–9 **shew**, 6– **show.** [f. SHOW *v.*: cf. MLG. MDu. *schowwe* fem. (mod.Du. *schouw*), OHG. *scou* fem. (MHG. *schou, schow(e* fem. and masc., mod.G. *schau* fem.) looking at, inspection.]

1. The action or an act of exhibiting to view or notice. Now *rare*, exc. in specific use or phrase (see 1 c, 1 d, 1 k).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28616 Lele script agh be thre-fald, Wit reuth of hert, wit sceu to preist, Betyng of sin þe thrid þer neist. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2253 Tristrem hir bar þat tide And on þe quen fel he Next her naked side, þat mani man miȝt y se San schewe. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 56 Some had..schewed ffor þe shire and here schew lost. 1530 PALSGR. 267/1 Shewe of a thyng to sale, *lustre.* 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 763 The Dukes themselues entended for the shewe of their diligence, to be the first that should attend that day vpon the kinges highnesse. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 7 Y^e^ next day then following (upon shew of himselfe to them) there came about the number of fifteene of his Countrey men. 1598 STOW *Surv. Lond.* 349 Two publique houses for the acting and shewe of Comedies, Tragedies, and Histories. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. ii. 2 A briefe show of that which shall more largely be described in that which followeth. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 412 ¶ 3 We are indeed so often..tired out with so many repeated Shows of the same Things, that whatever is new or uncommon contributes a little to vary human Life.

† b. The fact of being presented to view or displayed. *At the first show*: at first sight. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 364 Fyrst bryngynge it [gold] furth to the open shewe. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs, To W. Louelace* (Arb.) 24 The grosenes of my Style: whiche thus commytted to the gasynge shewe of euery eye shuld forth with disclose ye manifest foly of the Writer. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 58 God hath placed his church in the sight and shew of the worlde. 1574 A. L. *Calvin's 4 Serm.* I, These things at the first shew seeme very straunge.

c. A demonstration or display of military strength or of intention to take severe measures. † Also *transf.* a manifestation of divine power. Chiefly in phr. to *make a show.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 24 All the countrey of Arthois and Picardie, fortified their holdes and made shewes as the Englishe army passed, but thei durst not once assaile them. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXV. iv, Ægipts first borne in one night [God] overthrew: And yet not so his dreadfull showes he ceas'd, But did them still in Ægipts mid'st renew. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 412 They made no manner of show of their arms to us. 1853 DICKENS *Child's Hist.* XX. II. 115 [Henry IV.] began his reign by making a strong show against the followers of Wickliffe. *Ibid.* xxii. 169 Jack Cade..having made a show of his forces there.

d. Phr. † *To set in show, set to show*: to exhibit to view, display (*obs.*). *On show* (formerly † *in show*, † *upon a* or *the show*): in process of being shown or exhibited; on view.

a 1533 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G ij, To sell suche marchaundyse, sette it not in so yll a shewe. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Glas* (Arb.) 69 These things (my Lord) my glasse now sets to shew. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* II. ii. 748 On this condition shall thy Turkes be sold. Goe Officers and set them straight in shew. 1595 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* Ded. A 2, In signification of the will I haue to do vnto your Lordship any acceptable seruice, [I have] no other matter in shew, then a fresh renouation of the selfe same title by a second presentment. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 688 His joy conceal'd, he sets himself to show. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 255 ¶ 8 His Actions..lose their Lustre when they are drawn at large, and set to show by his own Hand. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 34 They generally buy Horses when upon a Shew (as it is called) in the Dealer's Hand, which is the Way to be deceived. *Ibid.* 35 As to his Spirit which appears upon the Shew, it is all forced. 1890 *Spectator* 22 Nov. 733/2 We proceed to look at the tables and chairs and other things on show.

† e. *To make* or *give show of*: to manifest, display, indicate. *Obs.*

1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 222, I haue seene his pourtraiture..the lineaments whereof made shew of an excellent wit. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 152 The good and aprouued hounds..when they haue found the Hare, make shew therof to the hunter. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. I. xx, Those parts the eye is near give not the shew Of any colour. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 288 Shaking their Lances at us, [they] made all the shew of hatred that they could invent.

† f. *In show of*: by way of indicating or expressing, in token of. *Obs.*

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xix. 68 Vailing their two top sails in shew of obedience.

g. *To give (one) a show of*: to let (one) see (and partake of). *Sc.*

1788 PICKEN *Poems* 58 Come tak' a seat, an' gies a shaw O' your snuff-horn.

h. *Show of hands*: the holding up the hand above the head, as a means by which the members of an assembly indicate their vote or judgement upon a proposition.

1789 SCOTT in J. Haggard *Rep. Consist. Crt.* (1822) I. 13 It often happens that on a shew of hands, the person has the majority, who on a poll is lost in a minority. 1837

DICKENS *Pickw.* xiii, There was a show of hands; the Mayor decided in favour of the honourable Samuel Slumkey ..Horatio Fizkin, Esquire..demanded a poll. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 18/5 At each of the meetings the scheme appeared to be approved on a show of hands.

2. The external aspect (of a person or thing). Now *rhet.* or *poet.* in this gen. sense.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 39 Dyuers peoples.. monstruous and of hugly shewe. 1566 DRANT *Hor. Sat.* II. vii. I ij b, His master, goes in sage attyre that geues a sober shue. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xlvii. (Grosart) 96 Say, 'twas her wit & modest shoe, That made you like and loue her so. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 85 But I haue that Within, which passeth show; These, but the Trappings, and the Suites of woe. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* iii. 9 The shew of their countenance doeth witnesse against them. *a* 1782 WATSON *Philip III*, III. (1793) I. 296 Under the simple show..of a citizen, he concealed all the qualities of a hero. 1799 WORDSW. *Poems Sentim., Poet's Epit.* 45 The outward shows of sky and earth, Of hill and valley, he has viewed. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1841) 136 Men worship the shows of great men; the most disbelieve that there is any reality of great men to worship.

b. *In show*, in appearance. Often with the idea that the reality behind is different (cf. 6, 7): In appearance only, ostensibly, seemingly. Also (rarely) *with show*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. ii. § 7 While hee was speaking, there came a boy in shew like a Merchants prentice. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 10 Otherwise they are but in shew opposite and not in truth. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxxv. 48 The small Flower de-luce of Dalmatia is in shew like to the precedent. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 187 With shew the Vrne the lots decides. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lviii. (1739) 108 The place of the Chief Justice was in shew but one Office. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. x. 365 She had let the council of state..subsist in shew. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. vi. i. 51 To have two governing bodies; the one real, the other only in show. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* xvii. (1876) IV. 54 The King by the edge of the sword changed himself in all outward show into a King according to the laws of England.

† **c.** *To the show*: to outward view or appearance, as far as appearance goes. *Obs.*

1556 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* I. (Arb.) 44 This iustice is more beautiful in appearaunce, and more florishynge to the shewe, then either iuste or profitable. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* vi. 13 She..shal be to the shew [Vulg. *in ostensionem*] as a terebinth, and as an oke.

d. *To have* (†*bear*, †*carry*) *a* (or *the*) *show of*: to wear the appearance of; to appear to be, appear to partake of; to look like, resemble. *arch.* or *Obs.*

1581 CAMPION in *Confer.* III. (1584) T iij, He gaue them that which had the name of wine, and had the shewe of it, but..was not in deede wine. 1581 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 9 § 2 Which Coulers..carrye a shewe of a good true and perfitte couler of woaded and mathered Blacke. 1611 BIBLE *Col.* ii. 23 Which things haue in deed a shew of wisedome. 1613 DAY *Festivals* v. (1615) 124 Even of those that beare the shew of the purest Professors amongst us. 1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* (Arb.) 510 Simulation and Dissimulation, commonly carry with them a Shew of Fearfulnesse.

† **e.** *For show*: to save appearances, 'for the look of the thing'. *Obs.*

a 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 637 The Kindred of the Slain forgive the Deed; But a short Exile must for Show precede. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1897) I. ix. 398 They were not to be surprised, if the Danes seemed at first to talk high: that was to be done for shew: but they would grow calmer when they should engage.

f. *Theol.* and *Philos.* Used occas. as an equivalent for 'accident', 'phenomenon', 'species'.

1560 JEWEL *Serm. at Paul's Cross* C viij, The accidents of the bread, (that is to say) the whitenes or roundenes, or other sutch outward fourmes or shewes of breade, as he seeth with his eye. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 5. 7 Intentional Species or Shews, propagated from the Objects to our Senses.

3. With qualifying word: A (fine, striking, etc.) appearance; an appearance which makes a strong impression on the beholder. Usu. in phr. *to make* (†*bear*, †*yield*) *a* (fine, etc.) *show*. Also without qualification, a fine or striking appearance, imposing display.

c 1550-80 *Robin Consc.* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 239 Bvt and I liue another yeer, I will haue a better showe; I will not goe thvs slvttishly, I trowe. 1592 BABINGTON *Notes Gen.* vii. 32 b, About the beginning of May, when all things flourished and yeelded show. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 277 Windesore beareth a goodly shew. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 263 And all to make a shew and dazle the world. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* ii. 34 They rather affected to exercise those gifts, which make a great shew. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* July, Their names made a famous show in the bills. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* I. 548 After Eusebius they [i. e. Western quotations] make no show in Greek theology. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xxi. 205 The furniture..made a sorry show of comfort in the huge rooms.

† **b.** *To have some show*: to present a specious or plausible appearance; to have weight with, or commend itself to, others; also, to appear likely, 'promise' (*to* do something). *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* XI. 151 b, At the fyrst, he covered his mynde craftely, that his writte myght have some shewe [*ut aliquam haberet speciem diplomat*]. 1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Answ.* III. ii. 143 The places of the 44. of Ezechiel haue some shew in them. 1606 KNOLLES tr. *Bodin's Commw.* I. v. 34 These arguments haue some good show to proue that seruitude is naturall, profitable, and honest.

c. (Now only *U.S.* and *Austral.*) An opportunity for displaying or exerting oneself; a chance, 'opening'. Phr. *to give* (a person) *a show*; *to have* or *stand a* (or *no*) *show*. Const. *for*, *to* (do something).

Continuity of the mod. use with that in quot. 1579 is hardly possible, but the notion seems to be closely similar.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 41 Education can haue no shewe, where the excellencye of Nature doth beare sway. *Ibid.* 62 Where loue beareth sway, friendship can haue no shewe. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 22 Aug., He stood no show of securing the nomination for the legislature. 1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Frnl.* 10 Dec. 2/3 Must we found an O'Brien dynasty to convince outsiders that men of Celtic blood have a fair show in Boston? 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 183 As he's a gentleman, he's bound to give you a show. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 70 He thought Caloola had a big show for the Sydney Derby.

d. *dial.* Applied to the display made by an animal when at its best; e. g. the plumage of a cock-bird at pairing-time, the udder of a cow.

1886 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 54/2 (*Ruff*), The cock-bird, when out of his nuptial attire, or, to use the fenman's expression, when he has not 'his show on'. 1886 *Sale-catalogue* in *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., Grand heifer, splendid show.

4. In generalized sense: Ostentatious display.

1713 ADDISON *Trial Count Tariff* 14 The Court..upon Examination found him a True Spaniard: Nothing but Show and Beggary. 1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ormond* i, Sir Ulick..loved shew and company. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 233 Yet it [the zither] is not calculated for large concerts: we English must have noise and show.

† **b.** *Of show*: suited for display; fine, splendid.

1573-80 TH. M. *To Kdr.* xi. in *Baret's Alv.* A vj/2 These floures of shewe..Are here in Hiue. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 119 They shewed me..curious saddles, harness, liveries of show embroidered with gold and silver. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 169 Wealth diffused makes all men comfortable, and leaves no man splendid... Objects of show are therefore unfrequent in England.

c. *For show*: for the sake of mere appearance or display, as opposed to utility.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. 1641 (Haarlem), A faire payre of organs, which I could not find they made use of in divine service,..but only for shewe. 1849 DK. RUTLAND in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. 195, I apprehend that for night use they [the pillows] were large, and were replaced by small ones for show during the day. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 184 My father..never would have paid the cost of an extra horse for show.

5. An appearance or display (*of* something, a quality, activity, sentiment, etc.) to which there is at least some degree of reality to correspond. Chiefly in negative contexts or with a limiting word (*some*, *some little*).

1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. v. (1602) 26 It hath some shew of question. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxvii. 408 In other things their customes and ceremonies have some shew of reason. 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* Pref. a 1 b, If this with any shew of reason may be defended. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, Whereupon, that gentleman, with some little show of alarm, told her that [etc.]. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xviii. 244 When she is in the house, I am treated with some show of attention.

b. An indication, sign or token *of* something; a trace or vestige *of*. Now only in negative contexts.

1563 *Homilies* II. *Inform.* II. Vvv j, Yet let vs not be scorners..for that is the vttermost token & shewe of a reprobate. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 394 Here are many mountaines that beare shewes of mettals, but they went not to see them. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xxv. 79 These markes and shewes of a deluge. 1611 SPED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. (1623) 810 Vexation of mind and distemperature of body carried apparant shewes in his face. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *Kettlewell* I. i. 2 It fell into Decay, and now hath no Shew of its ancient Grandeur. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, No show or sign of greeting passed between the Earls.

c. *U.S.* and *Austral.* An indication of the presence of metal in a mining ground, of oil in a well, etc.

[1600: cf. 5 b]. 1870 CONE & JOHNS *Petrolia* 144 (Cent.) The depth to which a well is drilled is..regulated..sometimes by the show, as it is called, of the oil in the well. 1876-7 VENNOR in *Geol. Survey of Canada* 304 The best *shows* of the mineral [apatite] occur on the first part of lot nineteen.

d. An appearance or 'promise' *of* or *for* something that is to come. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 90 The Indians comforted us with the shews of fair weather. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 133/1 The season seems critical and the shew for plenty not yet to be relied upon. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., There's a fine *show* for apples—*i. e.* prospect or appearance of a crop.

6. An unreal or illusory appearance (*of* something); an appearance with little or no reality behind it.

1547 *Homilies* I. *Good Whs.* I. C ij b, They be but shadowes & shewes of liuely and good thynges, & not good and liuely thynges in deede. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 8 There is a shew onely of good in these kinde of Pamphlets. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* I. i. 215 Disdain those shews of Danger. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 227 True: for it gives a show of seeming health; And shows are good, although there be no substance.

b. In generalized sense: Empty appearance without reality.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* C j b, They scatter the meate they haue in their mouthes, while they scratch for the shadowe which deludes them with shew. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* xiv. 139 'Ah!' she thought, 'if he knew how ill I behaved! It is all show and hollowness with me'.

7. An appearance (*of* some quality, feeling, activity, etc.) assumed with more or less intention to deceive; a feigned or misleading appearance; a simulation or pretence. Also, a half-hearted or inchoate attempt or 'offer' (*of* doing something). Formerly often *pl.*

c 1526 TINDALE *Introd. Ep. Rom.* a iij, Though their be.. never so glorious an outewarde shewe and apperance off honeste lyvynge. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg. Robt. Norm.* 473 To cloath Treason in a vertuous show. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xx. 47 Which deuoure widowes houses, and for a shew [προφάσει] make long prayers. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 966 Ill suits it with your shews of duteous zeal, From me the purpos'd voyage to conceal. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, Whether he purposed by a show of resistance, to provoke them to kill him on the spot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 267 [They] were heard, if not with approbation, yet with the show of acquiescence. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) I. vi. 449 His refusal was cloked under a show of feudal loyalty. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 7 May 5/3 It was instructive to witness Mr. John Hughes rise, and with great show of indignation, gibe at his leader.

b. *To make* (*a*) *show*, to assume an appearance which is more or less deceptive; to make a pretence or feint, pretend. Const. *of*, †*for*, †*to* with inf.; † also with *as though*, *as if* and clause. Also, to make a half-hearted beginning or attempt at doing something; const. *of* with n. of action.

1559 FECKNAM in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. II. App. ix. 25 Every Booke made a shewe to be set furthe accordinge to the syncere Word of God. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 340 Such as were wicked and maliciously mynded, would not depart, but made a shewe as though they would do somewhat. 1611 BIBLE *Gal.* vi. 12 As many as desire to make a faire shew in the flesh. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 268 Whatsoever he revealed, the Queene made shew as if she understood it all before. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. I. 195 Trasiclea..peradventure is not so much displeased, as she makes shew for. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* x. 30 They made shew as though they would be gone. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 3 The Ephthalites made shew to be much affraid. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XI. § 98 They made great shows of being mutually glad to see each other. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xv, The Lowland cavalry made a show of charging. 1863 DICKENS *Let. W. Collins* 24 Sept. in *Pall Mall Gaz.* (1891) 23 Oct. 3/1 Two little men, who did nothing, made a show of doing it all.

c. *By show of*, *under a show of*: under pretence or pretext of, by alleging as a pretext or authority.

1623 BACON *Ess., Judicature* P 1 And by Shew of [*ed.* 1612 by colour of] Antiquitie, to introduce Noueltie. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1119/2 Under a shew of friendship, *per simulationem amicitiæ*.

II. *concr.* Something shown or presented to view.

8. A person or thing exhibited or gazed at as an object of admiration, curiosity, mockery, or the like. *To make a show of*, to exhibit to public view; to expose to public contempt.

1535 COVERDALE *Col.* ii. 15 And hath spoyled rule and power, and hath made a shewe of them openly. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* x. 136 b, The kyng and his two fellowes were caried hither and thither vnto Prynces, for a shewe and mockery. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. viii. 24 Then yeeld thee Coward, And liue to be the shew, and gaze o' th' time. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. iii. (1636) 170 Theutobocchus, ..being apprehended..was single an whole shew himselfe. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* x. (1809) 109, I could have sold my horse for a hundred guineas, as a show. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ii. 97 That marble arch, our sexton's favourite show. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xviii, [Venice] Perchance even dearer in her day of woe, Than when she was a boast, a marvel, and a show. 1842 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Italy* 17/2 The *Armeria Regia*..is considered as one of the principal *shows* of Turin.

b. Something mechanically contrived or put together as an object for exhibition or display.

1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Sheep* (1596) 236 Others set vp shewes of dead Dogges heades, which is to feare any wilde beast in comming to the folde. 1590 E. WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 29 In which shew or Arke there was thirteene thousand seuerall peeces of fire worke.

c. *transf.* A person whose appearance is likely to attract notice for its oddity, etc.; a 'sight'; an object of contemptuous pity.

1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com., Lond.* 28 That Wheezing Sickly Shew..is the Devil's Broker. 1749 JOHNSON *Van. Hum. Wishes* 318 And Swift expires a Driv'ler and a Show.

† **9.** Something put forward or exhibited as a specimen or sample. *Obs.*

1572 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxix. 72 b, With this Caruel he sent a man of that Countrey for a shew, by what kinde of people the same was inhabited. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* A iiij, This booke is so little, that it is but a shew, which breeds a wish for an ampler piece.

10. *gen.* A sight, spectacle. Usually with qualifying word.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euagrius Schol.* II. xiii. 437 This lamentable destruction reached..from Constantines market vnto the market of Taurus, a pitiefull shewe and dredfull to behold. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* iii. (1702) 24 So neither are they presented to us as bare sights, Shews, and Spectacles. 1673-4 GREW *Anat. Plants* III. ii. (1682) 127 In the Leaves of Pine, they [the Pores] are likewise through a Glass a very Elegant Show. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 412 P 6 We no where meet with a more glorious or pleasing Show in Nature than what appears in the Heavens at the rising and setting of the Sun. 1806 WORDSW. *Addr. Child* 27 That one upright twig..Studded with apples, a beautiful show! 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 28 The golden Alyssum grows, a beautiful show in the spring.

b. *dial.* A picture or print in a book.

a 1837 MRS. PALMER *Dial. Devon. Dial.* I. (1839) 1, I.. was looking to zee if there be any shows [*footn.* prints or pictures] in en. 1901 F. E. TAYLOR *Folk-Sp. S. Lancs.* (E.D.D.), Aw loike a book wi' plenty o' shows in it.

11. A phantasmal appearance; an apparition.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 428 As I slept, me thought Great Iupiter vpon his Eagle back'd Appear'd to me, with other sprightly shewes Of mine owne Kindred. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* 117 What mean you by Visions? Their appearing..to the mind and inward senses, either in the night by dreams..or in the day by some strange shows, as they did to the Prophets. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Flower & Leaf* 481 What you saw, was all a Fairy Show.

12. A display on a large scale of objects for public inspection; esp. a temporary exhibition in a particular place and under special regulations of objects (e. g. flowers, cattle, motor-cars) arranged so as to facilitate inspection, comparison or purchase.

1837 YOUATT *Sheep* 317 From the 1st to the 8th of June the members shall not show their rams, except to one another. They shall begin their general show on the 8th of June. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. p. lviii, The show of live-stock [at the Oxford Meeting] was numerous. 1864 *Field* 2 July 8/2 Show of Horses at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. *Ibid.* 71/3 The aristocratic shows of the Royal Horticultural Society. 1913 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 Feb. 260/1 In previous years the Aero Show..has utterly failed to attract the general public.

b. A display *of* objects casually brought or found together.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. (1723) 295 July, and August..exhibit a still different Shew of Vegetables. 1885 *Field* 7 Feb. 147/3 The chief feature of the day was the fine show of foxes at Gumley.

13. A spectacle elaborately prepared or arranged in order to entertain a number of spectators; a pageant, masque, procession, or similar display on a large scale.

Often used, esp. in *pl.*, for the displays of the theatre and circus in ancient Rome (*spectacula, ludi*). Not applied to a regular dramatic performance (but see 15, and cf. DUMB SHOW). For *Lord Mayor's Show* see LORD MAYOR 1.

1561 [see DUMB SHOW]. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 1 Too bee prezent at any sheaw or spectacl. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. i. 118 The King would haue mee present the Princesse.. with some delightfull ostentation, or show, or pageant. 1629 HOBBES *Thucyd.* II. 90 All the dedicated vessels belonging to the Shewes and Games. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Sylla* (1879) I. 515/1 A few months after, he presented the people with a shew of gladiators. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 393 It is a shew, and a spectacle, not a play, that is exhibited. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 474 It is surely the height of absurdity to shut out the populace from a show of which the main object is to make an impression on the populace. 1911 T. S. HOLMES *Orig. Chr. Ch. Gaul* ii. 43 It was the last day of the shows.

b. In generalized sense: Pageantry.

1912 *Stage Year Bk.* 9 Without stage show Shakespeare would not be so popular.

14. In more trivial use: An exhibition of strange objects, wild beasts, dancers, acrobats, etc., held usually in a booth or portable building, with a small charge for admission. (A number of these are often set up side by side at a fair, or within the enclosure of a large 'exhibition'. Cf. SIDE-SHOW.)

Often with defining word: cf. PEEP-SHOW, PUPPET-SHOW, RAREE-SHOW.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) IV. 198 All were obliged to pay treble prices, on account of the unprecedented novelty of the shew [a lion and dog in one cage]. 1825 HONE *Every-Day Bk.* I. 1175 Atkin's Menagerie..one of the largest shows in the fair. *Ibid.* 1185 Another penny show: 'The Wonderful Children on the Tight Rope, and Dancing Horse'. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair,* The travelling menageries, or to speak more intelligibly, the 'Wild-beast shows'. 1855 BARNUM *Life* x. (Low) 252 We concluded to take a tour through the 'penny shows', the vans of which lined one side of the [race-]course. 1862 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk.* (1863) Note before title-p., At the Door of the Tent. Ladies and Gentlemen, the Show is about to commence. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Show,* an exhibition of any kind; a performance, whether circus, wild-beast show, wax-work, or theatricals.

b. The booth or building (with its contents).

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shp* xix, At his heels went Thomas Codlin, bearing the show as usual. *Ibid.,* Short was.. knocking the characters in the fury of the combat against the sides of the show. 1874 T. FROST *Old Showmen* 22 The practice of displaying in front of the shows large pictures of the wonderful feats, or curious natural objects, to be seen within.

15. Applied *colloq.* or *jocularly* to any kind of public display; e. g. an exhibition of pictures, a dramatic performance in a theatre, a fashionable ceremony or gathering, a speech-making, etc.

1863 SALA in *Temple Bar* VIII. 278 It has been my vocation to see shows. First nights of new pieces; private views of picture exhibitions;..royal marriages and funerals;.. layings of first stones; openings of railways. 1886 *Stage Gossip* 69 The theatre itself is invariably in slang parlance, alluded to as the 'show'. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* viii, 'I hate matinées', exclaimed Miss Asherton. 'Giving two shows in one day quite tires me out'.

16. *slang* (*fig.* use of senses 14, 15). A matter or affair, a 'concern'. Also, a body or collection of persons. *To boss* or *run the show*: to assume chief management or control. *To give the show away*: to blab; to betray the deficiencies, pretentiousness, etc. of an affair in which a number of persons are concerned.

1889 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/1 The U.B. endeavoured..to control the funds and operations of the League—to 'boss the show', as Sir Charles suggested, making use of a familiar American expression. 1898 DAVITT *Life & Progr. Australia* I. iv. 15 Compared with the working and machinery at 'Bayley's Reward' [a mine] the Lord Fingall concern appeared a very small show. 1899 DELANNOY *Nineteen Thous. Pounds* xxx, I didn't want to give the show away. 1901 *Essex Weekly Herald* 8 Mar. 3/3, I do not wish to be tried by this court, because I have never had any pity from this show.

III. Technical uses.

17. *Med.* A sanguino-serous discharge from the vagina prior to labour. Also, the first appearance of a menstrual flow. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

1753 R. RUSSELL *Diss. Sea Water* 385, I was called to a young Lady, who had a Shew of the Menses at twelve Years old. 1822–29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 40 The mucous fluid, secreted in the beginning of labour..and hence vulgarly denominated show, or appearance. 1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 30 Sept. 55 A lady aged 42 had never seen any vaginal 'show' for thirteen years.

18. *Piquet.* (See quot. 1889.)

1744 HOYLE *Piquet* i. 6 But if on the contrary you are to be younger-hand, and are eighty-six to fifty or sixty, never regard the losing two or three Points for the gaining of one, because that Point brings you within your Shew. 1889 H. JONES ('Cavendish') *Piquet* (ed. 6) 132 The *Show,* elder hand (when small cards are counted in play), is twenty-eight; younger hand is fourteen. That is, it is about an even chance the elder hand will score twenty-eight or more, and that the younger hand will score fourteen or more.

19. *Mining.* A lambent blue flame appearing above the ordinary flame of a candle or lamp when fire-damp is present.

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* s. v. 1872 J. H. COLLINS *Mining & Quarrying* 112.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

20. Simple attrib. (= of or belonging to a show or exhibition), as *show-bench, -keeper, -line, -world.*

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5329/3 Shew-keepers of Wild Beasts. 1865 'C. BEDE' *Rook's Gard.* 190 Much the same sort of thing existed in the Show world. 1888 *Times* 10 Oct. 5/5 Barnaby [a bloodhound] is better known on the show benches. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 567/1 Have you been in the show-line ever since you left home.

21. *attrib.* or quasi-*adj.* a. In sense 'characterized by show or display', 'fitted for display or striking effect', 'that is made a show or exhibition of', 'chosen or put forward as a choice or effective specimen'. Of animals and plants: Bred or grown for display or for 'points'.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 48 As he is marvelously given to be popular for a show matter. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. ii, A delicate show pig. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. i. 1 There is a show article or two for public exhibition. 1819 KEATS *Otho* I. ii. 167 For, without thee, this day I might have been A show-monster about the streets of Prague. 1826 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1880) I. 148 He [Sydney Smith] is not one of those show-talkers who reserve all their good things for special occasions. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 131 My horse and I became a shew-lion to the sober natives. 1849 *Bentley's Misc.* Dec. 583 The *Flâneur* gazed for the first time upon this famed show-stream of the Continent. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, This quadrangle is the show part of the college. 1862 [F. W. ROBINSON] *Owen* II. iv, Owen was the show-boy now when visitors came. 1885 [W. H. WHITE] *Mark Rutherford's Deliv.* i. (1892) 14 They evidently considered the prayer merely as an elocutionary show-piece. 1886 S. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 163 So long as the show sheep pay their own way they do very well. 1901 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 433 That tendency to display, fostered by the vanity of parents, which is the hall-mark of what has been, in late years, designated the show-child.

b. In sense 'merely spectacular', 'existing only in appearance', 'pretended', 'unreal'.

a 1734 NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 65 *marg.* He had a Shew-Audience before the Grand Signor. 1819 SHELLEY *Lett.* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 285 Hobhouse, Eustace, and Forsyth, will tell all the shew-knowledge about it. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. ix, It would be hollow, show-goodness.

22. Special comb.: **show-bill,** a bill or placard announcing a show, public sale, etc.; **show-board,** a sign-board; **show-bottle,** a large glass bottle containing coloured liquid, to make a show in a druggist's window; so **show-carboy; show-card,** a card containing a tradesman's advertisement of goods, etc.; also, a card on which patterns are exhibited in a shop; **show-cart,** a cart forming part of a travelling menagerie, etc.; **show-case,** a glass case for exhibiting delicate or valuable articles in a shop or museum; † **show-cloth,** a cloth hung up in front of a booth and painted with a highly-coloured representation of the show within; † **show-ern** [OE. *ærn* place, house], a show-house (an interpretation of 'Ephratah' in Micah v. 2); † **show-fellow,** a strolling player; **show-folk,** showmen and others connected with a show; † **show-hall,** a theatre; **show-shop,** (*a*) a contemptuous term for a show or exhibition; (*b*) a shop in which an attractive display is made, esp. of cheap goods; † **show-stone,** a crystal used as a magic mirror for gazing in; **Show-Sunday,** (*a*) the Sunday before the Oxford Commemoration, on the evening of which a kind of University parade used to be held in the Broad Walk of Christ Church; (*b*) among artists, the Sunday before 'sending-in day'; † **show-token,** a sign, portent; † **show-trade,** a trade in cheap and showy goods; **show-window** *U.S.,* a shop-window in which goods are displayed; **show-woman,** a woman who conducts a show (cf. SHOWMAN), or who is employed to display goods, etc.; † **show-worthy** *a.,* ? deserving of display, fine or splendid in appearance; **show-yard,** an enclosure in which live stock, machinery, and other large objects are exhibited; also *attrib.* See also SHOW-BOX, -GLASS, -HOUSE, SHOWMAN, SHOW-PLACE, -ROOM.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. vi. § 23 The following *show-bill [announcing an exhibition of sword-play]. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. xvi. 248 The immense showbill of a wandering caravan. 1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVII. 42 Lines painted on a *shewboard lately put up in Barrack-street in the city of Norwich. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5263 Show-boards of all kinds. 1848 *Mech. Mag.* May 454/2 Improvements in..*show-cards. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5289 Samples of coloured labels, show cards, &c. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1907) II. 181 Polito's (late Pidcock's) *show-carts. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXVIII. 12 Put up in inexpensive little *show-cases. 1758 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 24 Oct., I am a little sorry that my preface, like the *show-cloth to a sight, entertained you more than the bears that it invited you in to see. 1825 HONE *Every-Day Bk.* I. 1172, I..examined the promising show-cloths and inscriptions on each show. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7025 Effrata bitacneþþ uss *Shæwerrne onn Ennglissh spæche. 1756 *Life E. T. Bates* 38 Intimate with a vagabond *Shew-fellow. 1819 F. MOORE (*title*) The Age of Intellect, or, clerical *Showfolk and wonderful Layfolk. 1856 R. W. PROCTER *Barber's Shop* xviii. (1883) 177 Barnum, whose book of confessions is sufficient to make one doubt the veracity of all show-folk. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 51 The theues war brought into the great theatre or *shewhall agayn. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 431 How the fellow's *show-shop would be crowded! 1848 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* x, The public ran daily more and more to the cheap show-shops. 1850 BIGSBY *Shoe & Canoe* I. 109 Some of the show-shops [of Montreal] rival those of London in their plate-glass windows. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 6, I had..set the *shew-stone with the mystery in it on the Table. 1693 I. MATHER *Cases Consc.* 66 How often have they..been known..to shew in a Glass or in a Shew-stone persons absent? 1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. xii, In the evening they attended the customary '*Show Sunday' promenade in Christ Church Broad Walk. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xiv. (ed. 3) 128 'Show-Sunday' is the day on which artists who exhibit, or hope to exhibit, at the Royal Academy and elsewhere, receive their friends and friends' friends at their studios. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xii. 6 I haue made the a *shewtoken vnto the house of Israel. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* Pref. 7 Beinge suche a shew token to patrons of benefices. 1848 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* x, Our young employer intended to enlarge his establishment, for the purpose of commencing business in the '*show-trade'. 1880 CABLE *Grandissimes* xlviii, A nameless fellow in the throng..dropped two bricks through the glass of the *show-window. 1905 WHITMAN in *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 4/2 Dr. Japp's intellectual stock-in-trade would have gone far to fill up the mental show-window of half a dozen 'popular' reputations. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 181 Look at my Lady Frances, a *shew-woman—like Madam Catharina, with watchwork under her hoop! 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1194 It [the head] looked sufficiently terrific, when the lady show-woman put the candle in at the neck. 1898 *Daily News* 7 May 8/4 The beautiful girls who are secured as show-women by the West-end shops. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 283 b *marg.,* What triumphe is honourable and *shewe woorthie. 1840 *John Bull* 19 July 346/2 Nearly 1,500 l., it is said, were taken at the *Show-yard in the course of the day. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 July 27/2 The Race-course, which is set apart as a show-yard for the exhibition of prize-cattle. 1877 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* 533 His handsome chestnut colt ..seems to have a deal of Showyard mettle in him.

Show, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *dial.* Also **shoe, shough, shove,** etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [var. of SHOVE *sb.*[2]] = SHOVE *sb.*[2]

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 459 When the flax is sufficiently watered, it feels soft to the grip, and the harle parts easily with the boon or show. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 494 'Shows', as the refuse of a Flaxmill is usually called, in this part of the kingdom. 1900 *Scotsman* 23 Oct. (E.D.D.), The shows being now removed, the heckling process followed.

Show (ʃōu), *v.* Pa. t. **showed** (ʃōud). Pa. pple. **shown** (ʃōun). Forms: *α.* 1 *scéawian,* 2–3 **sceawen, sheawen,** 2–4 **sewe(n,** 2–6 **shewen,** 3 **scæwen, scewen, seawen, scheauwen,** (*imp.* **scheau**), *Ormin* **shæwenn,** 3–4 **scheawe(n, schewi, -y, scewi, ssewe, -i, -y, sceu,** (**cheu**), 3–5 **scheu, sheu(e,** 3–6 **schew(e,** (3–5 **-en,** 4–5 **-yn**), 3–8 **shewe,** 4 **sschewe, sseawe, -y, scewe,** (*imp.* **scheu3**), 5 **sheew,** 6 **sheaw, sew(e,** 4– **shew.** *β.* Chiefly *northern* and *Sc.* 2–4 **scawe(n,** 3–4 **scau, scawin, shauwe,** 3–6 **scaw, shawe, schaw(e,** (3–5 **-in**), 3–7 **schau,** (3–4 **-en,** 7 **schaue**), 5–6 **saw(e** (?), 5–7 **shau,** 3– **shaw.** *γ.* 3 **seowen, showen, ssow,** 3–4 **schowi,** 4–6 **schow(e,** 5 **schou-** 5, 7 **scho,** 5–7 **showe,** 6 **sho(e, sheowe,** 6, 9 *dial.* **shoo,** 5– **show.** *Pa. t. α.* In regular forms 1 **scéawede, -ode,** etc.; 3– **shewed,** 5– **showed**; also 2 **sceaude,** 2–3 **sheude,** 3–4 **schued,** 6 **schuyd, shoyd.** *β.* Strong forms *Sc.* 4–6 **schew, schew(e,** 6 **sheu, shewe,** 6– (also *Eng. dial.*) **shew** (ʃū). *Pa. pple.*

α. In regular forms 1 ȝescéawod, etc.; 4– shewed, 5– showed; also 5 shued, -yd. β. Strong forms 3 *Ormin* shawenn, 3–4 schaun, scaun, scawin, 4–6 shawen, -in, 5–6 schau-, schawen, -in, -yn, 6 shaune, s(c)hawne, (*erron.* schaw); 4–5 shene (?), 5–6 s(c)hewin, 6–7 shewen, 7– shewn; 6 schowin, shoun, 6–7 showen, showne, 7 schowne, 7– shown. [A common WGer. weak verb: OE. *sċeawian* = OFris. *skawia, skawia, schoia, skua* (WFris. *skoaije, skôgje, skouje*), OS. *skawon* (MLG. *schowen*), MDu. *scauwen, schauwen* (mod.Da. *schouwen*), OHG. *scauwôn, scouwôn* (MHG. *schouwen, schawen*, mod.G. *schauen*):—WGer. **skawwôjan*, f. OTeut. **skau-* to see, look, whence Goth. *skaun-s* beautiful (see SHEEN *a.*); other alleged cognates in Gothic are spurious. In all the continental WGer. langs., as in OE., the verb means 'to look at'; the sudden change in Eng. (*c* 1200) from this to the causative sense 'to cause to see, exhibit, manifest', is difficult to account for. (The existence of the causative sense in OE. is not really proved by the rare *ārе gesċeawian* to show mercy, *grið sċeawian* to grant a safe-conduct, as these uses may be explained as developed from the sense 'to look out, provide'.) From early ME. the verb has had a strong conjugation (after KNOW *v.*, etc.) by the side of the original weak conjugation; in the pa. t. this survives only in dialects; but for the pa. pple. *shown* is now the usual form; the older *showed* is still sometimes used in the perfect tenses active (chiefly with material object), but in the passive it is obs. exc. as a deliberate archaism. The spelling *shew*, prevalent in the 18th c. and not uncommon in the first half of the 19th c., is now obs. exc. in legal documents. It represents the obsolete pronunciation (indicated by rhymes like *view, true* down to *c* 1700) normally descending from the OE. *sċeaw-* with falling diphthong. The present pronunciation, to which the present spelling corresponds, represents an OE. (? dialectal) *sceāw-* with a rising diphthong.

The O Teut. root **skau-* represents an Indogermanic **skou-* found in Gr. θυο-σκό(*f*)ος 'one who attends to sacrifices', a priest; cognates without the initial *s* are Skr. *kavi* wise man, Gr. κοεῖν to feel, observe, L. *cavēre* to take precautions.]

† **I. 1.** *trans.* To look at, gaze upon, behold, view; to inspect, review; to reconnoitre, spy (a land, etc.); to look at mentally, consider, examine; to 'see', read, find (in a book). *Obs.*

Also (OE.) to look with favour upon, have respect to.

Beowulf 132 Syðþan hie þæs lāðan last sceawedon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 27 Sceawiaþ þa lilian hu hi wexað. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1086, Se cyng ferde to Winceastre & sceawode þæt madme hus. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7032, & sen & shæwenn þurrh innsihht..All þatt tatt erþliȝ mann maȝȝ sen þurrh clennsedd sawless eȝhe. *c* 1205 LAY. 4815 He scawede þa wuodes & þa wildernes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2136 Þe knithes þouth of hem god gamen, Hem forto shewe, and loken to.

† b. *intr.* To look or gaze *upon*. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2661 Quiles he seweden him up-on.

† c. (*For*) *to show* used epexegetically after an adj. = to look upon, to behold, to see. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 602 Þe fax on his faire hede was ferly to schawe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1550 þat were shene for to shew & of shap noble.

II. To cause or allow to be seen or looked at.

* Uses implying intentional action.

2. *trans.* To bring forward or display (an object) in order that it may be looked at; to expose or exhibit to view. Const. *to* or dative of person.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Hold hit [*sc.* the cross] up aȝean þe ueonde and scheau hit him witterliche. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 620 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 He schewede heom his honde and so he dude his fet. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19889 And quen þis wessel thris was scaun, Again it was til heuen draun. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 491 Whon he was schewed to þe siht. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1398/2 Sir John..sheweth the people the empty chalice. 1656 COWLEY *Mistress, Gazers* i, To shew such stores, and nothing grant, Is to enrage and vex my want. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 210 A partridge is shewn him, and he is then ordered to lie down. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. xii, Show me your tongue—let me feel your pulse. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* i, Taking the pups indoors..to show little missie.

† b. With advs. *To show forth*: to put forth or bring out to be seen. *To show up*: to hold up to view. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3097 þi finger forþ þou schawe. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lx. 209, I pray you shewe hym forth that ye speke of. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1938/2 Thirdly, that the Priest sheweth vp an Idoll at masse.

c. *refl.* To present oneself to a person or persons in order to be looked at. (Cf. sense 10.)

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 *Ite et ostendite uos sacerdotibus*..goð and shewed ȝiu ȝuwer prest. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 Efter his ariste, þo he com & scheawede him. 1340 *Ayenb.* 13 He aros uram dyaþe to line and sseawede him to his deciples. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Aug. 1695, The King went a progresse into the North, to shew himselfe to the people against the elections. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* v, Yesterday the new king shewed himself to his subjects.

d. With complement (rarely †acc. and inf.): To display in a (specified) condition or with a (specified) appearance. Also *refl.* †Also, to cause to appear or look (such and such).

c 1275 *Serving Christ* 13 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 I-seon vre louerd crist..Showen his wunden so blodi to-bleden. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 833 And sschewede his child hol and sound. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 73 þai schew þaim fere starkare & glad, þane quhen to presone he þaim had. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* (1906) 167 One ought not to coynte her body for to shewe it small and better shapen. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XIII. xxxiii. (1886) 282 Then ..he would shew you everie leafe to be painted with birds. 1882 *Century Mag.* I. 589 She showed herself much more lavishly..bugled and bangled than the Americans.

e. To hold up or place (a light) where it can be seen (as a signal, to point out the way in the dark, etc.). Also *fig.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 18196 (Gött.) And þu þaim scheus sua selcuth light? *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 212, I pray you..make no fyer, nor shewe no lyght. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 173 Schawand till vs thy perfite lycht. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxiii, The Prince of Otranto had orders to show certain lights..so as to indicate danger. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xliv, 'Light him down' said Sikes,..'show him a light'. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 623/1 Neither did Judges..stand by the line and show a light, as it was his duty to do.

f. To exhibit (a sign, token). *lit.* and *fig.* Hence, in Biblical language, to exhibit (a 'sign' or marvel), to work (a miracle); but cf. sense 3. †Also, to make (a dream or vision) appear to a person.

c 1200 ORMIN 15586 Whatt takenn shæwesst tu till uss þatt dost tuss þise dedess? [Cf. John ii. 18]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1573 Þe cwen..cleopede to hire Porphire,..& seide him a sweuen þet hire wes ischawet. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1349 On fele maners scho scheweid hem syngne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11791 Two meruellis on mold maynly were shewid. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxxxi. 246, I haue sayd nothynge but he shal shew tokens that my sayenge is trewe. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiii. 22 For falce christes shall aryse..And shall shewe [δώσουσι] myracles and wonders. 1526 — *Acts* vii. 36 Shewynge [ποιησας] wonders and signes in Egipte. 1535 COVERDALE *Neh.* ix. 10 And hast..shewed tokens and wonders [1611 And shewedst signes and wonders] vpon Pharao.

g. To display (goods, wares, for sale or in an exhibition).

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Þe vifte manere is, oþer þing zelle þanne me heþ y-sseawed beuore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1581 There were stallis by the strete..Werkmen into won, and þaire wares shewe. 1517 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 120 For his licens there to shewe his seid heryng & sparlyng to sell. 1884 *Stationers' & Booksellers' Jrnl.* 3/1 A goodly quantity of soft and silky curl-papers, neatly shown. *Mod. Advt.*, Messrs. A. B. are showing to-day a large stock of new fancy goods.

h. To display, hang out, unfurl (a banner, ensign, etc.) †Also with *out, up*.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 474 Ilka souerane his ensenye shewin has thair. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 108 The kings bluddie sark vp tha schawe for thair ansinȝie. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 157, I must show out a Flag and signe of Loue. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 36 The Colours the Fort shewed us, was St. George's Flag. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* x, The chase then shewed Hamburgh colours, and returned the fire.

i. To exhibit (a spectacle, some interesting object) for the amusement of the public; to make a show of; †Also (cf. sense 3), to perform (a stage-play, tricks, etc.).

? *a* 1500 *Mankind* 78 in *Macro Plays* 4 Xall I breke my neke to schow yow sporte? 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 238 My Lord Chamberlens players did show the history Phedrastus. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 95 At which time there wer fireworks shewed upon the water. 1619 in W. Kelly *Notices illustr. Drama* (1865) 254 Item, given to the Players that shewed Etalion Motion x^s. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 392 This Calenter..diverted us in our way, by..shewing tricks with a half-pike. 1701 EVELYN *Diary* Apr., A Dutch boy.. was carried about by his parents to shewe. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. ii, I was shown ten times a-day, to the wonder and satisfaction of all people. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvi, 'Good!' said the old man, shewing one of the puppets..'Are you going to shew 'em to-night?' 1862 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk.* (1865) 28, I showed my show in Uticky.

j. To exhibit threateningly. Hence *jocularly*, to make the slightest possible application of.

1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* I. 75 Great care must be taken not to press the horse too suddenly up to the snaffle by showing the whip. 1839 HOOD *Lost Heir* 67 As for hair, tho' it's red it's the most nicest hair when I've time to just show it the comb.

k. *To show one's hand*: to display one's cards face upwards; *fig.* to allow one's plans or intentions to be known.

1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxxvi, Her intrepid lead had shown her hand to the colonel. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* xiii, What are you driving at, Frank Muller? You don't show me your hand like this for nothing. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 23/1 He was perilously near showing his whole hand to the other side.

† **3.** To perform openly (a deed, feat, exploit); to put in overt act (something declared or purposed).

1382 WYCLIF *John* x. 32, I haue schewid to you manye goode werkis of my fadir. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. viii. (1883) 184 That thou darst not doo and shewe that thou saist. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 If thou wylt correcte eny man shewe it not by vyolence. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 92 Wherefore some worthy deede of Armes, it you behooues to shoe. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* I. iv. § 5 Alexander's mercenaries shewed the greatest exploits, both in soul and body.

4. To produce or submit for inspection (something in one's possession). a. To produce (a legal document, etc.) for official inspection; to exhibit (something) in proof that one possesses it.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl.* B. 520 lf. 64 Þe desturbour sal aperen bi fore Justises ant sewen his chartre. 1426 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 106, I neuer relesed ne made dede except oon shued afore all the seyd wurthy men. 1509 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) I. 199 They desire that the seid abbot may schow his charterys & Evidence. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 68 Wee rode a mile..to the village Treviso, where the Dutchmen shewed a pasport. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* (1911) Ser. II. 145 Hugh Tickell hauing the letter shown beleiues it to be the hand of John Dixon. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 91/1 (*Railways*) A call by the guard to 'shew tickets' previous to starting.

b. *To have* (something) *to show for* (one's labour, expenditure, etc.): to be able to exhibit as a result.

1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. vii, I have this watch and other visible marks of his favour to show for it. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 6 Sept., Here is a fine spate of work—a day diddled away, and nothing to show for it.

† c. To produce for inspection with a view to military service; to muster. In *Cock-fighting*, to make an array of (cocks) on either side. *Obs.*

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VIII. 39 The Queen priviledged them from shewing their Horses with the Laytie; yet so as they should muster them up for the defence of the Land under Captains of their own choosing. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5436/4 There will..be 31 Cocks shewed of a side. 1730 CHENY *Hist. List Horse-matches*, etc. 167 Mr. Ruston fought Mr. Newton showing 21 Cocks aside for 2 Guineas a Battle.

d. *fig.* (Often of things quasi-personified). To (be able to) present to (physical or mental) view.

1611 *Second Maiden's Tragedy* 623 (Malone Soc.) The only enemye that my life can showe me. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Nov. 1679, Such an hospitable costume and splendid magistrature dos no city in the world shew. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Monaca* 13 Perhaps there is no House in Europe that can show a longer Line of Heroes. 1802 WORDSW. *Misc. Sonn., Composed upon Westm. Bridge*, Earth has not anything to show more fair. 1805–6 CARY *Dante's Inf.* XXIX. 119 Sure not France herself Can show a tribe so frivolous and vain. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xxxi. (ed. 3) 288 White's can show a record of more than a century.

e. *To show up*: To hand up (a school-exercise, etc.) for inspection by a teacher or examiner.

1803 *Pic Nic* No. 14 (1806) II. 247 Shewing up our exercises to the Assistant of the form. 1912 MARG. F. MOORE *Two Sel. Bibliogr.* Pref. 16 Students are encouraged to show up exercises in the transcription and extension of facsimiles.

† **5.** To bring or put forward for some purpose or use; to present (an object) *to* a person in order that he may take it or use it. *To show water*: to produce a fee. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1461 Harpe he gan schewe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12405 To me þou scau þar-of þe tan ende for to drau And þou þe to þur. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 587 Scheuȝ me myn hache, and I schal note hit to-day. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 90 Þen sayde Crist: 'Schew me þy hond'; and toke hur hond, and put hit ynto hys syde. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Honour* I. i, If you have a suite, shew water, I am blinde else.

† b. To fire (a broadside). Const. *to*. *Obs.*

1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* v. viii, As a farewell they shewed a broad side to vs.

† c. Naut. *To show canvas*: to spread sail *to* the wind.

1874 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iv. 57. 12 [denotes] Hurricane To which she could show No canvas.

6. To let (a person) read or examine (a book, writing); to bring (it) to his notice.

1677 H. SAVILE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 43 The Grantham verses you sent me I shewd Sir Robert Carr, and asked him if he made them. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlv, I showed Lord Steyne your pamphlet on Malt. 1855 BROWNING *Gramm. Funeral* 48 'What's in the scroll', quoth he, 'thou keepest furled? Shew me their shaping, Theirs, who most studied man, the bard and sage.

7. To represent in sculpture or graphic art.

1660 BLOOME *Archit.* C j, 10 parts, shewed on the right side. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 105 This Picture does not shew them to Advantage. 1854 in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 254 The saltatorial modification of the..skeleton is here shewn in that of ...*Macropus elegans*. 1904 R. C. JEBB *Bacchylides* (Proc. Brit. Acad.) 6 Here is the ship..but the painter could not also show us Minos throwing the ring, or Theseus diving. 1905 L. WHIBLEY *Companion Grk. Studies* iv. § 3. 247 The western frieze shows the horsemen preparing.

8. To display deliberately or ostentatiously in order to attract notice or win admiration.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 221 Or to be sene, and to showe his gardyd cote. 1693 *Humours Town* 114 A Throng of Fools, of both Sexes, walking up and down to shew their new Cloaths. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, She curled her hair and showed her shoulders at him, as much as to say, Did ye ever see such jet ringlets and such a complexion? 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* v, Taking care to show the most lovely white heel and ankle.

b. *To show off*: to display ostentatiously.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Christmas Day*, He turned over the leaves..with something of a flourish; possibly to show off an enormous seal-ring. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* I, To show off before them his new wealth and splendour. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* 192 An opportunity for an author to show off his powers of writing.

** Uses in which the being seen is an unintended or incidental result.

9. To allow (a part of the body) to be seen.

a. *To show one's head, face,* etc.: to allow oneself to be seen, make an appearance. Also jocularly *to show one's nose.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Scheau þi neb to me. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 915 He..schawde us his nebscheft & weolc..bimong worldliche men. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 2 As 3ung Awrora..In orient schew hir visage paile. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1580) 49 This manne..durst not once for his life shewe his hedde. 1635 *Long Meg of Westminster* xviii. (1816) 30 He was ashamed to shew his face in the streetes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VI. clx, No Weed presum'd to shew its roitish face On this fair stage. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vii. 18 Where a clean slave would blush to show his face. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, My aunt had so frightened him, that he never once showed his nose in the place all the time we lived there. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. x, Jew and Christian creditors, pouncing on him..wherever he showed face. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* vii, Let him show his ugly mug anywhere hereabouts, and I'll grease all the steps that he may break 'is neck.

† **b.** To display (a countenance, looks, etc.) of a specified sort. *To show a red pair of cheeks*: to blush. *To show tears*: to weep. *Obs.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2098 In what disees þat he war stadd He shewed ay countenance gladd. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 57 Fortoune him schawit hyr fygowrt doubill face. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 249 Cæsar shewed a redde paire of chekes. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 17 Fewe.. spake of these two gentlemen, but thei shewed teares. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii, I alwaies shewed an assured countenance. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* II. (1600) O 3, She shewes thee kinde lookes.

c. *To show* (a person) *one's heels, a clean* or *fair pair of heels*: to flee (from him). (Cf. F. *montrer les talons.*) Also *transf.* of a ship. Similarly † *to show* (a person) *the back,* etc.

To show (one) *the cold shoulder*: see COLD SHOULDER *sb.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 928 Philip..Braidis on his blonke toward þe burȝe & þaim þe bak shewis. 1523 [see HEEL *sb.*1 3 c]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1867) 64 Except hir maide shewe a fayre paire of heeles. 1595 *Hasleton's Trav.* in Arb. *Garner* VIII. 394 Shewing them a clean pair of heels, [I] took my way over the mountains. 1675 *Machiavelli's Prince* (1883) 256 He should..show them a light pair of heels. 1863 SPEKE *Source Nile* xii. 334 Her majesty.. rose from her seat, and showing her broad stern to the company, walked straight away. 1887 FLOR. MARRYAT *Driven to Bay* xi, She..would have held her own with most ships, and shown her heels to not a few.

d. *To show the cloven foot* (*hoof*): to betray something diabolic or sinister in one's character or motives.

1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, It was especially about my wife's fortune that Mr. B. showed his cloven foot. 1885 [see HOOF *sb.* 1 b]. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 399 MRS. Mac showed me the cloven foot just now.

e. *To show foot*: ? to get ready *for. U.S.*

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 269 Carter..began to 'show foot' for another, and more active demonstration.

10. *refl.* To appear, make an appearance, allow oneself to be seen. Cf. 2 c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17039 þar scheud he him for mighti godd. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3429 Bathe Besan & Anabras.. baldly þam shawis. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 529 in *Dunbar's Poems* 302 And vnto ws thow schaw the oppinlie. 1589 BIGGES *Summarie Drake's W. Ind. Voy.* 37 Our men.. seeing no man of the Spaniards to shew them selues, aboorded the Spanish barkes. 1824 Miss L. M. HAWKINS *Mem.* II. 197 *note,* The Sovereign of Great Britain has only to show himself to be adored. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 240 They.. climb'd upon a fair and even ridge, And show'd themselves against the sky.

b. Of a thing: To be or become visible.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xl. 198 The flowers of those strange plantes doo shewe them selues commonly in June. 1856 Miss WARNER *Hills Shatemuc* iv, Here and there..the lighter green of an oak showed itself.

11. a. Of plants, the seasons, etc.: To bring forth to view, display (fruit, flower, etc.).

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1711 Floures schewen her boriour. *Ibid.* 8657 Mirie is June, þat scheweþ flour. 1820 *Trans. Hortic. Soc.* (1822) IV. 393 The suckers of inferior strength will not shew fruit in the same season. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 674 As soon as the plants have shown the third leaf.

b. Of animals or plants: To display (their colours, beauties, etc.).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 406 Part..sporting with quick glance Show to the Sun their wav'd coats dropt with Gold. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 29 Some shew their gayly-gilded trim Quick-glancing to the sun. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 55 How fine to range owre meadows wide, Whan flowers their charms are shawan!

c. Of a luminous body: To display (its light).

14.. LYDG. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 73 Charbunclys, rubeys..Shew in derknes lyght. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. cci. I vij b, The lyghte, and also..the false vmbrage whych the Moone doth shewe fourthe. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, Like a bold star, that shews its fires by day. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXXV. The sun..showed its broad disk above the eastern sea.

12. Of a thing: To be the means of displaying, revealing to sight, or allowing to be seen; to serve to exhibit or indicate.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* X. iv. (1495) 375 In shewynge of himself fyre sheweth other thynges that ben presente. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* IX. 386 Thy sight the Northstarre vndergoes, And Vrsa Maior to thee showes. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 126 Coffins stood round, like open presses, That shaw'd the dead in their last dresses. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* iv. 169 Very short petticoats, only not showing the knees. 1897 MAX PEMBERTON *Queen of Jesters* iii. 104 For one short instant a window showed him the city.

b. *To show off, out*: to display in relief or by contrast; to set off, enhance in appearance. *rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 470 For, as þei seyen, þer staat wolde perische but 3if siche richesse shewide it out. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 21, I like your silence, it the more shewes-off Your wonder. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 230 The very roughness of the embroidery.. shows out the intention of the design.

c. To be in such a state or position as to allow (something) to be seen. *To show up* (rare): to expose (something underneath). *To show daylight*: to have holes or openings through which light can be seen.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XX, His coat..was white at the seams, and his buttons showed the copper. 1850 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 199 The man who 'shows daylight' between himself and his saddle is a bad rider. 1871 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Jan. 49 While it [the material] is equally suitable for tropical wear, it does not show the traces of soil so soon. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* App. 289 Then cutting out certain parts of the pattern which showed up the copper as a ground. *Mod.* This colour shows the dirt more than the other.

13. To have visibly (some external feature or mark); to have (a part of itself) in a position exposed to view.

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 570 His shaven shoulders shawes the marks, no dout, Of teugh tarladders. 1611 COTGR., *Perpins*..stones made iust as thicke as a wall, and shewing their smoothed ends on either side thereof. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646, The Alps..shewing their aspiring tops. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 227 This shell, though round, shows five angles. 1883 BESANT *Captains' Room* ii, Her planks show signs of age. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 18 This run of stone..shows payable gold. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 101 Sometimes bromide prints..show stains.

b. Of a list, record, a recording instrument: To be found on inspection to indicate.

1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1874) I. 162 The barometers had shown no difference of level from about 1800 feet above the sea. 1883 *Stubbs' Merc. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 982/2 Grey shirtings show a falling-off of over 90,000 yards. 1910 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Pages fr. Jrnl.* (ed. 2) 329 His watch showed 7 30 p.m. *Mod.* The thermometer showed ten degrees below zero.

III. To guide another person's sight to (an object).

14. To enable a person to discover or identify (a visible object) by pointing to it, or by conducting him to a place where it can be seen. Also, to direct a person's observation to the various parts or features of (a country, town, building, or any complex object). † *To show with one's finger* (= L. *monstrare digito*): to point to.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 Seoddan he him sceaude an ouen on burninde fure. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12979 þ at warlau..bar him forth..A pon þe heist fell he faand, And þare he scaud him þe land. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 59 þanne þei caire wiþ þe king hur cauus to schewe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 289 His buriel is 3it i-schewed in þe est side of Kent. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 371 Nascien..seide '..lo, hym yonde..', and shewde hym with his fynger. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 10 Quhen he schewe with his fyngir the sone of God in figure of a lambe. 1569 UNDERDOWNE *Heliodorus* VII. 94 b, Therefore folowe this woman (shewing them Cibele). 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 b, The Pilot..did then foorthwith shew them the water. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V,* IV. ii. 11, I pray you shew my youth old Shylockes house. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 24 They shew me the Crub or Stall where he was borne. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Brescia* 60 A Stranger is always shown the Tomb of Pope Lucius. *a* 1734 R. NORTH *Autobiog.* Lives 1890 III. 171 I walked them all over the house to shew the rooms and buildings. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 221 Conscience.. Shows, with a pointing finger..A pale procession of past sinful joys. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 19 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) III. vi. 217 Mr. Anderson showed me the spot where the Norwegian monarch, Haco, moored his fleet. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, I can show you her room, Mum, and the press in the housekeeper's room.

b. *fig.*

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ii, The adage 'Shew me the man, and I will shew you the law', became as prevalent as it was scandalous. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxviii, Show me a cavalry chief like him now that Murat is gone. *a* 1869 M. ARNOLD *Urania* v, Yet show her once, ye heavenly Powers, One of some worthier race than ours!

c. With mixture of sense (cf. 22 c): To point out or indicate a place *where* (etc.).

c 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 371 We praye yow that ye will vs shewen where he is that we may hym knowen. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 58 Ah, shew them where in ambush stand To seize their prey the murth'rous band! 1877 TALMAGE *Serm.* 337 God shows them where to fall.

15. *To show* (one) *the way*: to guide a person in a required direction, by leading or accompanying him, or by giving him instructions; also *fig.* In *Racing* and *Hunting,* to lead; *to show the way from,* to draw away from, get before (in a race).

1530 PALSGR. 703/1, I shewe him the way. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 285 'O never mind shewing me the way'..and [he] sallied into the apartment. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 105 The captain..would send no one with us to show the road. 1869 M. ARNOLD *Culture & Anarchy* 192 So, too, one who wants to be a painter or a poet cannot help loving and admiring the great painters or poets who have gone before him and shown him the way. 1871 LEGRAND *Camb. Freshm.* 251 No time was lost about the start; Mr. Pokyr, Mr. Fitzfoodel, and several other high-flyers showing the way, which at first lay through a grass field. 1887 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 2/4 Merry Maiden, at a good pace, showed the way from Ballot Box and Great Paul. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xii, Show me the way upstairs.

b. *To show* (one) *the door*: to order (a person) to leave the room or house; to turn out of doors.

1778 Miss BURNEY *Evelina* xxi, I shall make bold to show you the door. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. v. (Rtldg.) 12 Don Rodrigo..showed the goddess of my devotions the outside of the door. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* V. iii, In your place, I should have shown him the door.

16. (With inverted const.) To guide or conduct (a person) *to, into* a particular place, room in a house, etc., *over* or *through* the rooms of a house.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4049 And þar þai schewid him in schurrys, to schellis & to caues. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. 1904 II. 309 Go, maid, shewe him to the farther chamber. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V,* IV. ii. 29 Come good sir, will you shew me to this house. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* li. (1760) II. 139 The grim janitor..shewed me into a parlour. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ii, You may be sure that she showed Rebecca over every room of the house. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 287 She was shown into Mr. Stutting's private room. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xiii, So as to be ready when Mrs. Hope should require showing to her carriage.

b. *To show up, upstairs*: to conduct (a person) upstairs. *To show out*: to take (a person) to the exit door; to turn out of doors. *To show in*: to bring (a person) into a house or room. *To show round*: to show (a person) over a place, show the 'sights'.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* II. iv, *Aram.* [to *Footman*] Be ready to shew 'em up. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. ii, Oh, gentlemen, I beg pardon for not showing you out. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 274 As there was no fire in the room below, they had to be shown up to the library. 1874 ALDRICH *Prudence Palfrey* XV. 287 Wants to see me?..Show him in, Fanny. *a* 1885 'H. CONWAY' *Living or Dead* xi, Now, sir, listen before I ring for you to be shown out. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 42 *M'Andrews' Hymn,* I showed him round last week.

IV. To exhibit or manifest by outward signs.

17. To exhibit, allow to be seen (some inward quality, feeling, condition, etc.) by one's outward appearance; occas. said of the appearance. Also with obj. clause. Also *to show a sign* or *signs* (*of, that*..).

c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 618 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 Vre louerd nom and et þer-of to-uore heom euervychone, And sewede þat he wes a-ryse myd fleysse and myd bone. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 265 My hew so furth schew so The dolour of my woundis. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 119 The Colt that for a Stallion is design'd, By sure Presages shows his generous Kind. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* XX, Douglas and De Walton..began to show some signs that their human bodies were feeling the effect of the dreadful exertion. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* X, He showed all the outward signs of a mind at ease. 1884 W. BLACK *Jud. Shakespeare* XXXIV, On the awakening she might show that the crisis was over.

18. To display (a quality, condition, feeling, etc.) by one's action or behaviour; to give proof of possessing. Also *to show a sign* or *signs* (*of*).

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 Þurh his mannisnesse, and ðurh ðare michele eadmodnesse ðe he mid hire sceawede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9318 Vor vre prowesse we mote nede ssewe to day ywis. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 367 The Bruyss folk full hardely Schawyt thar gret chewalry. *c* 1550 LYNDESAY *Tragedie* 80, I schew my Lordlye Lyberalitie, In Banketting, playng at cartis, and Dysse. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* 85 She shewed great skil, for tunes of unisone. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 60 A man's Wit is best shewed in his Answer. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 216 There was..a middle-sized squad fellow, who shew a vast strength in tossing about weights. 1751 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. i. 6 Every behaviour which shews inhumanity. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xi. 642 In the preliminary work of accumulating the facts, great energy was shown. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 337 A lady's maid will frequently show far better taste than her mistress. 1887 *Field* 5 Nov. 718/3 Rogers..showed a great turn of speed.

† **b.** with *forth. Obs.*

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 424 Shewe forth here nowe your crafte. 1565 J. PHILLIPS *Patient Grissell* 138 (Malone Soc.) Now Politicke perswasion shoe forth thy skyll.

c. With object-clause: To make it plain in regard to oneself (*that*).

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1036 In þis an þing he schawde..þet he wes soð godd. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 312 To.. schewe in dede þat þei seken more profit and savynge of Cristene soulis þanne here owene wynnynge or worschipe. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. P.* XXXIV. 6 Becaus no signe is shaune That ȝe held me ȝour aune. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 26 He would..shew he had one Ounce better Blood than his Leader. 1766 PITT *Sp.* in Walpole *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) II. 267, I have done all in my power to shew I hate distinctions. *Mod.* In both transactions he showed he was no fool.

† **d.** To make a fictitious show of. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 393 Forþi þatt teȝ forridell jelle..Shæwenn biforenn oþre menn Godnesse & rihhtwisnesse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6494 He..assailede edmond vaste Mid al þe strengþe þat he miȝte & ssewede more þer to.

19. *refl.* **a.** With compl. (adj. or sb., also with *for* prefixed) or inf.: To exhibit oneself in a (specified) light or character; to manifest or exemplify a (specified) quality, etc., in one's behaviour.

c 1200 ORMIN 16520, 16522 Forr Godd himm shæwebþ towarrd te Ass o þatt illke wise, þatt tu þe shæwesst towarrd himm I þohht, i word, i dede. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*,

Hen. VIII, 161 Shewe your selfe an aide, a defendour of the Church, and god shall reward you. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* II. iii. 797 Now will I shew my selfe to haue more of the Serpent Then the Doue. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 31 He shewed hym selfe a fermer frend to Zanzaber..then to me. *a* 1657 SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scot.* Hist. Wks. 1825 II. 170 By this acte of his he shew himselue to be a stoute souldier, rather then a wysse generall. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. vii, Anxious to show himself Patriot. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xix. 302 He had shown himself..inconsiderate to the verge of cruelty. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* xi, Mrs. Halliday had shown herself to possess a dainty taste.

† b. To profess (truly or falsely) to be... *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Oðer ic habbe ibien ðanne ic habbe me i-seawed. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 194 Al þay þat schoth hom holy to man syght, forto be praysyd of hom. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. ii, Euery body oughte to shewe hym self suche as he is.

c. Of a quality, condition, etc. To manifest itself; to become evident by signs or tokens.

1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þis zenne him sseaweþ ine uele maneres. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* ix. (1770) I. 214 To hinder any other Distemper..from shewing itself by its common Effects. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ix, The same bold and arrogant disposition showed itself in occasional quarrels with their unwilling hosts. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 242 The tendency was one which shewed itself in various.. directions.

20. To display (kindness, mercy, courtesy, malice, neglect, etc.) *to* a person by one's acts or behaviour; to accord or grant (favour, honour, grace; a courtesy, † pleasure, etc.). Const. *to, towards* († *till*, † *on*) or dative.

[*a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1581 Þær he freondlice on his ægenum fæder are ne wolde ʒeseeawian.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 1041 *Propitiari*, þatt maʒʒ onn Ennglissh nemmnedd ben Millcenn, & shæwenn are. *c* 1275 *Orison of our Lord* 52 in *O. E. Misc.* 140 Þe muchel þoleburne[sse]..þat þu schawedest mon-kunne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14303 Mikel luue he hir sceud þar. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 263 Merci nele he shewe non. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* v. (1885) 119 To shew rigoure þer as fauour awght to be shewid. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxiv. 27 Felix willynge to shewe the Iewes a pleasure. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* x. 10 And though the phisician shewe his helpe neuer so longe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 15 But to Duess' each one himselfe did paine All kindnesse and faire courtesie to shew [*rimes with* crew, knew]. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 5 That onely is pure gratitude, which is shewen to the dead. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Oct., He is troubled that my wife shows my sister no countenance. 1772 JOHNSON 21 Mar. in *Boswell*, Else we should have shewn his lady more civilities. 1799 NELSON 23 Sept. in Nicolas *Disp.* VII. p. cxcii, I feel much for the neglect showed him. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 20 The king shows favour to the Lollards.

† b. Similarly, *to show* (one) *a sign, token, semblance of.* Also, *to show the fruits of. Obs.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 76 She shewed hym..signes and semblauntz of fals loue. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 273 (Malone Soc.) Shewyng to you the fruites of true obedience.

† c. *occas.* To inflict (shame, a judgement).

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 311 And gar me schaw thy antecessouris schame. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Life Lucian* (1711) 16 To deter others from Satyrizing the new Dogma's of Christianity by the Judgment shown on Lucian.

† d. To set or offer (an example) in one's own person. Also of a thing. *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1027 Yhit þe bodys of þe world in þair kynde, Shewes us forbisens to haf in mynde, How we suld serve God in our kynde here, Als þai do þar. 1405 *Bidding Prayer* in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 64 So for to reuel the popil, and swilk ensaumpil for to tak or scheu thaim. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* iii, He that wylle teche other ought to shewe good ensample.

† **21.** To put forth, exert (one's power, strength). Also of things. Const *on, against. Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. ii. (1495) 385 Whan the wynde fyndyth obstacle and lette thenne he showuyth his myghte the stronger. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 47 The Romaynis..schew sik power agaynis thame that thai slewe thair king. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 106 Syr Bruse shewing a great power upon the land. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 14 That night the winde began to shew his force on us, drivinge us back againe to Palma.

b. To offer, attempt (resistance). *To show fight*: to display pugnacity or readiness to fight. (Properly of animals.)

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 185 The Ionas men..without cause beat the miserable Blacks that shewed no resistance. 1827 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 315 The..birds showed such fight against the dogs. 1863 [see FIGHT *sb.* 4]. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xvii. 189 The second rhino..showed considerable fight as we attempted to approach its fallen comrade.

V. To make known by statement or argument.

22. To point out, reveal, make known; to make evident or clear, explain, expound. In ME. to confess (one's sins). Also with *forth, out.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 And for þat gult he solde his sunnes at srifte sheawen. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11114 & nu icc wile shæwenn ʒuw All þatt whatt itt bitacneþþ. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 (Titus MS.) As þu scheawest forð al þat god þuncked, & helest al þat bitter bale þat ter liþ under. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6662 A tabernacle all for to dight, þarof he sceud þam þe slight. *Ibid.* 27293 [To] sceu his sinnes vte. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 212 (Wagner) Thy wykked thoughtes in thy breste Woldest þou never schewe to þe preste. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 32 Gif thow can nocht schaw furth thi synnes perqueir. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. i. 93 O let me liue, And all the secrets of our campe Ile shew. 1666 C'TESS OF WARWICK *Diary* 28 Aug., When I had showed before God all my trouble. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 363 The sovereign plant he drew,..And shew'd its nature, and its wond'rous pow'r. 1772 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (1794) 116 All traverses are worked in the manner shown above. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 141 No material difference can be shewn between them. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Pers.* 706 *note*, To show the syntax more clearly, Πέρσαις ὡς θεὸς has been marked off by commas.

indirect passive. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. XXX. 179 It is necessary they be shewed the evill consequences of false Judgment. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Gray* ¶ 4 In a short time many were content to be shown beauties which they could not see.

b. said of a thing.

c 1200 ORMIN 6645 Affterr þatt uss Latin boc þurrh haliʒ lare shæweþþ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1162 (Gött.) Caym sau his sinne was knaued, And þat þe erde had it schauede. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 566 The endentur till him gaf he, That soune schawyt the iniquite. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 223 b, The same beeyng unfolded & spred abrode shewed some high mysticall mater. *a* 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXVII. 6 The suythe sall schaw it selfe out to þair schame. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 June 1653, Monsieur Roupel sent me a small phial of his *aurum potabile*, with a letter shewing the way of administering it. *Ibid.* 20 May 1688, The consequences of which a little time will shew. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 15 Words are aggregated in a manner which fails to show their relation to one another.

c. With a relative pron. or adv. and clause. (Often with indirect obj. of the person informed.) Said also of a thing.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Nu we sculen heow sceawen hwile hit is heom for to heren [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2121 Ich schal schawin hu mi sweord bite i þi swire. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 32/104 To tweie Monekus at Ierusalem him-sulf he cam bi niȝhte And schewede heom ȝware is heued lay. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6437 Bot first I wille shew whare es helle. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* ix. 16, I schal schewe to him, how manye thingis it bihoueth him for to suffre for my name. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 296 The seconde booke, where shall be shewyd how troye was reedyfyed. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 38 He was then very busy shewing how he would have me build a ship. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 30 Reason does not at all shew us, in what state death naturally leaves us. 1779 *Mirror* No. 1 (1787) I. 4 Time alone can show whether I be qualified for the task I have undertaken. 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Jan., The following letter from mamma to a friend..will pretty well show you what a poor foolish creature she was. 1848 — *Van. Fair* vi, Suppose we had shown how Lord Joseph Sedley fell in love.

d. With indirect obj.: To inform, instruct, teach (a person) *how to* or † *to* (do something). Also with ellipsis of the inf.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 61 Thow lytill bill,..Thow schaw thame till Beleue in Christ. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. iv. 17 Ile shew you how t'obserue a strange euent. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 42 Those parts of Logic which..show men to distinguish betwixt truth and falsehood. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 78 She asked who shewed him? he said, Lewis. The princess ordered Mrs. Wanley to tell me not to shew him any more, as she intended to have him taught regularly.

† e. To teach (a lesson). [Cf. F. *montrer.*]

13.. *Cursor M.* 6861 (Gött.) Suilk was þe lessun and be lare..þat vr lauerd scheud to moysen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 36 Litel is he loued þat suche a lessoun scheweth. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droomme of Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 226 One night sheweth and teacheth carefulnesse to another.

† f. *To show one's mind*: to reveal one's thought or intention; to express one's opinion or judgement. Also with *forth. Obs.*

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1646 To shewe you my mynde I wolde haue the lesse fere. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 54 Now will I shew yow my mynde whych of all these myntes semeth unto me to be it. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 75 (Malone Soc.) Speake on my knightly knightes, eche one shewe forth your mind. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xxiv. 12 That the minde of the Lord might bee shewed them.

23. To communicate, announce, declare, narrate, state, tell (a fact, story, news, etc.); to describe, give an account of. † Also with *forth.* Now *arch.*

a 1300 *Ten Commandm.* 15 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 16 God commandid to ysay..hou he ssold þe folke tech and to ssow ham god-is defens: of þe .x. commandemens. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 30 That he suld schew him openly..Of his felaw state sum tithand. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7615 Lete we hem now at þis segeing & schewe werres & wo. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 81 And my mouthe shall shew thy praysynge. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 11 He send his Apostlis..to ger schawe the cristyn faith. 1530 PALSGR. 717/2, I shewe tydinges, or a message, *je annuonce.* 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* xiv. 13 Shewe forth hy ryddle, let vs heare it. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Mattins*, My mouthe shall shewe forth thy prayse. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1664) 224, I know ye desire news from my prison & I shall shew you news. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 86 Having shewed some profitable Instructions. 1723 RAMSAY *Fair Assembly* ix, These modest maids inspire the muse In flowing strains to shaw Their beauties. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. viii. 21 For friendship's sake I may not all declare, Nor more than fits the story shall be shown.

† b. with *that* or *as* and clause, or with complement. Also said of a book, writing, etc. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 699 Als scheus þe bok. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 608 And he wald-eȝed was, as þe writt schewys. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 14 We denounce & schewe acursyd..þat is to say, we schewe hem dampnyd..And we schewe hem to be takyn to þe powere of sathan. *c* 1505 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 31 He schewyd hus that he had spokyn wt John Cauthorn. 1529 MORE *Dyalege* III. Wks. 223/2 Frere Hierom..came to hym..shewing him that he wold cast of his abite. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 83 John Smith..shewing me that all the Officers..were in searching..for me.

c. To set forth, allege (in a legal document). Often in petitionary formulae.

1425 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 544 Schawand and pretendand þair rychtis and clamys on ilke syde. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV 289/1 Shewyn and besechyn full benignely, your trew humble Liegies the Comens of this present Parlement. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 443 These ben the compleyntes of the Iniuries & wronges don to Tho. Deram, ..shewed & deliuered be this present bill vnto Will. Shore, Mair of Couentre. 1531 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 184 Most humbly Shewen and Complayn vnto your good lordship your daily Oratours. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 64 The Peticion was read shewing that the Mr. of said ship deney'd to pay them their wages. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 118 ¶ 10 The humble petition of Penelope Prim, widow, Sheweth, That your petitioner was bred a clear-starcher and Sempstress.

d. To state, allege, plead (a cause, reason, etc.). Now chiefly in *Law*: see CAUSE *sb.* 3 b.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 112 Þe reisuns hwui beoð her efter sutelliche ischeawede. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1052 Þan wil I after shew..Skille why men a man world calles. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. ii. (1868) 114, I shal shewe þe more þikke and continuel resouns. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xx. 4 He..shal..shewe his cause before the Elders of the cite. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 707 Shee declared and shewed the cause, why she could not come to them in tyme. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1045 Hope and Curage did.. Schaw skild and pithie resouns quhy That Danger lap the dyke. 1625 GILL *Sacr. Philos.* 223 Thus have I very briefly showen not many reasons, but rather how many reasons may be showen for this Christian assertion.

† e. *To show law*: to plead (*for* a suitor). *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 53 He þat..spekeþ for þe pore ..Coueiteþ not his goodes, Bote for vr lordes loue lawe for him scheweþ. 1377 *Ibid.* B. II. 134 Ledeth hire to londoun, þere lawe is yshewed.

† f. *absol.* To tell, declare, expound; to speak as a representative *for*; to speak, tell, give an account *of.* With indirect obj.: To inform or apprise *of. Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Þis mihte is þat an þat i þis deadlich lif scheaweð in hire estat of þe blisse undeadlich i þat eadi lond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 119, I sal yow schew..Bre[fli] of aibere testament. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. iv. 145 Þe kyng.. rehersede þat Reson hedde Rihtfoliche I-schewet. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* IV. 30 To chese..cheualleris..To schewe ffor þe schire in company with þe grete. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 205 Of swilk sufferance god schewes til vs In his godspel. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 319 He schew thaim of hys deide. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 295 And shortly to shewe, he came & recountred hys brother. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 [He] was sent to shewe the Bascha of our comming.

† **24.** To decree, award, assign (*to* a person) in a legal or formal manner; to fix or appoint authoritatively; to declare, make an award (*that*). In later use *Sc. Obs.*

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048, Þa..sceawede him mann .v. nihta grið ut of lande to farenne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26196 On seke man agh na scrift be laid, Bot þus gat o þe preist be said, sli scrift sceuid þan sal þou driue if þou war couerd to liue. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 125 Þis William often tymes fauȝt wiþ þe kyng of Fraunce, nevere sodenly,..but þe day of batayle i schewed and assigned byfore. 1524 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland Club) I. 390 This court wardis and schawis for law that [etc.]. 1540 *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 171 The court wardis and schawis for law, and it wes gewine for dome, that [etc.].

25. To prove, demonstrate (a fact, statement) by argument, reasoning, allegation of evidence or instances, experiment, etc.

c 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 399 Þat is preued and ishewed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 264 And that..I schal be reson prove and schewe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 4 Unlesse they could first shewe his erroure, he coulde not chaunge his opinion. 1626 W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 200 It sufficeth to shew inualidity of the inference. 1793 BEDDOES *Math. Evid.* 105 What is shewn to us by anatomy, we are just as sure of, as of that which is shewn to us by geometry. 1880 DRIVER *Hebr. Tenses* App. III. (ed. 2) 260 This can be shewn inferentially from Hebrew itself.

b. With *that* and clause (or *as*..).

c 1200 ORMIN Pref. 30 Jesuss iss Amminadab, Swa summ icc hafe schæwedd. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6975 God aþ vaire issewed þat we gultelese beþ. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 But forto schew þat God suffrede hym specyaly, þus ensampull I tell. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 64 Every falling out must have an attonement againe..as I have shewed before. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 127 As hath been already shewn. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 303 Sir Edward Coke hath clearly shewn, that [etc.]. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 836 *note*, As Wilkinson shows from Aelian. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 238 Many arguments are used to show, that motion is the source of life. 1893 W. B. SMITH *Introd. Mod. Geom.* 120 Show that tangents from two points on a centre ray form a kite.

c. With complementary obj.: To prove, make out (a person or thing) to be (something). Also with accus. and inf.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 5 Gif the trew citienaris.. war reconncelit..be sik meanis as we scheu Nehemias to hef bene. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. xv. 48 But here to my intent it is not main In that concern to show him right or wrong. 1893 W. B. SMITH *Introd. Mod. Geom.* 262 The student may easily show it to be a rectangle.

26. Of a thing: To be a proof, evidence, sign or indication of.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1575 We seiȝen..her aboue Ouer ous a sky houe, þat ous schewed þe biȝate Of swiche a þing on erþe late. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 175 Her workes schewes þis wel, bowevere þei speke by syde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxlviii. (1869) 135 Bi which disioynct is ysawed þe onhede of bretherhed. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 181 You must needes learne, Lorde, to amend this fault: Though sometimes it shew Greatnesse, Courage, Blood. 1673 O.

WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 97 Huffing, and swaggering..commonly shews want of spirit. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 138 Her air and all her manners shew it. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, Having undergone such a process of blood-letting and calomel as showed the strength of his original constitution. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* xi. 314 Nothing showing worse taste than to load your plate. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 215 Misprints, showing..carelessness on the part of the corrector.

b. Const. clause with *that, as,* etc.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 450 Ah þi schene nebscheft & ti semliche schape schaweð wel þet tu art freo monne foster. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 70 Þat þe lond is þin, þi helm schewes it þe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 145 As here wickid lif scewiþ. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Misc., Match for Devil* Wks. 1711 IV. 147 His Habit, Cane, and formal Face, Shew'd he was of Geneva Race. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. vi. 98 All of it only goes to show how little we know of each other. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agam.* 1261 *note,* 'Go on faring as you now fare', viz. prosperously, as the context shows. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* vi. (1879) 234 That nebulæ are masses of glowing gas is shown by the fact that their light consists merely of a few bright lines.

c. Const. obj. with compl., or accus. and inf.

1560 *Ovid's Narcissus* D j, For who dothe count [*printed* couet] him selfe of wyser skole Then dedes him showe, doth proue him selfe a fole. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 77 Considerable Openings in the Joints shewed those Arches in some Danger. 1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy,* etc. 114 The walls of the city are now sufficiently entire to shew their extent to have been about three miles. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xlvi, Their maxims show them to direct all their acuteness upon obtaining quality for their money.

27. Show up. **a.** In school language: To report (a scholar) for punishment.

1845 *College & T. B. Life at Westm.* 25 Oct., I went into School not having done my Verses...I was therefore *Shown-up,* and..pleaded my first fault.

b. To disgrace or discredit by a thorough exposure; to exhibit as an impostor or an imposture; to expose (a person's faults, ignorance, misdeeds, etc.).

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 325/2 A long article in the Quarterly Theological Review has fairly *shown up* the Yankee divine. 1829 *Examiner* 476/1 He threatened to 'show up' my brother in the *Age.* 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 478 That mathematical mysticism, so mercilessly shown up by Berkeley. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 17 Oct. 3/1 The unpleasing process of 'showing-up' an unscrupulous adversary.

VI. *intr.* To be seen, be visible, appear.

28. To be or become visible; to make an appearance. Said of persons and things.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+254 Þis was þe first time þat iesus,..Schewed til anyman after his vp-risyng. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 159 Þe sonne som tyme for cloudes May nat shyne ne shewe on shawes on erthe. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* II. 52 Panne come'þ..Anoþer proud partriche..and houeth þe eyren..and ffostrith and ffodith, tille ffedris schewe. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iv. 23 Sche lyeth in an olde Castelle..and schewethe twyes or thryes in the 3eer. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 56 Than shewde the signe in the ayre that Merlin hadde seide. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVI. ii. 666 They sawe an hand sheuyng vnto the elbowe. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 92 Rowle after a deaw, when barlie doth sheaw. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 50 Til you can attaine wherwith to feed your guests when first they shew, Haste not their hatching. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 23 The fire i' th Flint Shewes not, till it be strooke. 1852 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. iv. (ed. 2) 61 One of the most dangerous rocks..only shows within two hours of low water. 1887 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* i, It dawns in Asia, tombstones show, And Shropshire names are read. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* vi, Where the lily-buds were just beginning to show. 1892 BIERCE *In Midst of Life* 97 He showed against the sky, he and his horse, sharply defined..as an equestrian statue.

b. Of a thing: To be seen (*through, over, under,* etc.) something that partly covers or conceals it. Also, to be visible as a fault or defect.

1842 BROWNING *Soliloquy Sp. Cloister* iv, Can't I see his dead eye glow..That is, if he 'd let it show! 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* xii, Few and broken paths showed through it. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Take care, don't spoil the looks of it! cut underneath, where it won't show. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Jan. 3/2 Were the paper a little better it would be perfect. As it is the type shows through the page. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 39 The walls and towers of Warkworth, barely showing above the woods surrounding them. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 88 Markings..which would show in the prints.

c. of immaterial things.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 31 Wherof the sothe schewe may, At Rome ferst if we beginne. *Ibid.* 308 Hate is a wrathþe noght schewende. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 29 The disposicion of a manne dooeth not shewe so clere in his face. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 158 b, True religion..began to shew and take root. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* ix, It was plain he meant more by the words than showed upon the face of them.

† **d.** *impers.* = (it) is seen or shown, appears, is plain. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ℙ 331 As sheweth here by the naddre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 63 It scheweth ek how he can werche Among tho wyde furred hodes. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 32 As shewith by the canoun of thi kalender. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 35 Unstable is your mynde: that shewes by your garment. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 78 As it shalle shoo after. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 101 As schawis weill be 3our Genalogie.

e. *To show forth*: to come forth to view. *To show ahead*: to take a position ahead (in a race).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 121 The pomp of pryde ay furth shawis. 1500 *Ortus Vocab., Compareo,* to shewe forth. 1884 *Cambr. Rev.* 10 Dec. 132 At the start, Bristowe's crew at once shewed ahead by about three feet.

29. To appear in public, make a display in public. In mod. use chiefly *colloq.* (cf. b): To appear in company or society; to make an appearance in an assembly, among guests, etc.

1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* Prol. for Stage 14 To know How many Coaches in Hide-parke did show last spring. 1671 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 22 All the troopes are to show in Hide Parke beefore the Prince of Orange.

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* I. 215 He *shows* in Park. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. x, The breakfast party did not assemble till noon, and then Lady Catherine did not 'show'. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* vii, Marian has a hump-back and doesn't show. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* II. v. 91 He'll be in presently. I believe he never shews till just before dinner. 1889 H. F. WOOD *Englishm. Rue Cain* ix, I'll show against him for any object of value. Sing? What do you think of this note..? 1898 JEAN A. OWEN *Hawaii* iii. 65 If the king was in the cabin of a vessel no subject might show on deck.

b. *Pugilism.* To enter the ring as a combatant.

1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 99 He *showed* with seeming reluctance about an hour after the appointed time. 1818 *Ibid.* (N. S.) II. 279 Johnson..first *showed* and threw his hat in the ring. 1828 EGAN *Boxiana* IV. 169 Turner..was far more likely to make his *exit,* than ever be made able to *show* again in the Prize Ring.

c. *colloq.* To exhibit oneself for money.

1898 *Daily News* 2 Apr. 6/1 He got a living by 'showing' in the various public-houses in the neighbourhood at entertainments got up for his benefit.

d. *Comm.* Of a commodity: To appear or be prominent in the market.

1913 *Times* 11 Dec. 10/2 In insurance phraseology, 'a good deal of radium has lately been showing.'

30. With complement (*adj.* or † *sb.*): To look, seem, appear. *arch.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne þo þet zelleþ be wyȝte purchaceþ and makeþ zuo moche þet þet ¦ ing þet me ssel weȝe sseweþ more heuy. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 368 Þe sonne þat so brizte schewed. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 22 All is not golde that outward shewith bright. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 267 That my Lord of Ely is and shal be bettyr lord to me then he hathe shewyd as yet. 1513 *Act 5 Hen. VIII,* c. 4. § 1 If the same Worsted..taketh any Wet, incontinent it will shew spotty and foul. 1572 in Bercher *Nobility Wom.* (1904) 31 Hitherto he hath shewid an Obstinate and a Fole. 1592 TIMME *Ten. Eng. Lepers* E 3 A Woolfe in a sheepes skinne sheweth a dead sheepe. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 82 The Pope to make his Jurisdiction to shew greater then it is, giveth many titles. 1671 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1694) 19 These Snow-Mountains show very strange to those that never saw them before. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 17 b, Lead..shews very handsome, and is not very expensive. 1747 DR. HOADLY *Suspicious Husb.* II. iv, Why, how dull and phlegmatick do you shew to me now? 1812 *Examiner* 11 May 292/1 Poor..soils..show..very thin. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* iv. 101 How daintily epicurean the fellow shows. 1893 *Oxford Mag.* 1 Nov. 40/2 The wood when cut showed sound as a bell.

b. With adv. or advb. phrase: To present an appearance (specified by the adv.); to make a (good, bad, etc.) show or display.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 645 Lowing in-to kine wel scheuis, þat is enhornit with gud thewis. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 27 They showe as well as if they were new. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* v. iii, The falling out, and in, Betweene the husband and the wife showes rarely. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosp.* 243 Great wealth shews ill without honours. 1764 REID *Inquiry* I. § 6 Wks. I. 103/1 It [a puppet] shews tolerably by candle light. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* viii, The lady-patronesses..contenting themselves with seeing the charity-children *show well* in procession to Church. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xi, Her imperfect and unequal gait, which shewed to peculiar disadvantage as she traversed this long gallery. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Catholics in Eng.* 19 Here, again, things would show very differently, if Catholics had the painting. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. iv. 48 Becket never showed to more advantage than in moments of personal danger. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 13/5 He [a prize dog] moved and showed well and deserved his honours.

c. To look *like. arch.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lii. 510 A white substance or pith, the whiche being drawen out, sheweth like long, white.. threds. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 265 This our Court infected with their manners Shewes like a riotous Inne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 805 Like a large Cluster of black Grapes they show. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 July 1675, Holmby House, which being demolish'd in the late civil warrs, shews like a Roman ruine. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men Greece* 137 We shall show like an army of crows marching against eagles.

† **d.** With *to* and inf.: To appear or seem (to be, to do something); to affect, profess, pretend; to be seen evidently (to be or do). *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ℙ 2386 Whan he sheweth to doon a thyng openly and werketh priuely the contrarie. 1402 *Friar Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 109 And 3it 3our sect susteynes wommen to seie massis, shewyng to trete a sacrament as preestes that thei were. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Hemetes* Wks. 1910 II. 481 Wth all semblaunt that mighte be, he shewed to sett by her but litle. *c* 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* IX. xi, Then the Lord in judgment showes to raign. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 334 There are many mountaines which shewe to haue mettals. 1632 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Matt.* xii. 33 Be good, and shew to be such by the fruits which ye beare. 1653 H. COGAN *Scarlet Gown* 60 The Pope..received him very graciously, and shewed to be glad of his recovered liberty.

† **e.** With *as though, as if*: To have an appearance which suggests that —. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 78 Pretendynge and shewynge outwardly as though it were of very mekenes. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 b, Skirmishing with their dartes, and showing as though they..wold defende the water. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Laruta's Pol. Disc.* 102 The Romans..in all their actions shewed as if they desired nothing but glory. 1670-1 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 67 The Wood shews in many places as if there were Plantations. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 214 It makes all the houses shew as if they were cover'd with snow. 1725 POPE *Shaks. Wks.* I. Pref. 12 Which shows as if the friendship had continued thro' life.

31. *To show for* —. † **a.** To claim to be, have, or do (something). *Obs.* **b.** To give promise of, portend, 'look like'. *dial.*

a. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* III **v.** (1592) 330 Let this labour of mine not seeme to any man to bee..lesse profitable than it sheweth for. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xxvi. 83 Hee would make vs beleeue, Divinity is much short of what it shewes for. 1680 FILMER *Patriarcha* ii. § 3. 36 As this Argument comes not home to our Point, so it is not able to prove that Title which it shews for.

b. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 2 Oct. 1776, The other evening shewed for rain. 1876 *Surrey Gloss., Show for,* to look like; e. g. 'It shows for rain uncommon'. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., The wind's up again, and I sim do show vor fine weather.

† **32. Show away** = *show off* (33 a). *Obs.*

1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. I ℙ 14 The French player..begins to show away by talking nonsense. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 38 He paraded and shewed away, at a vast rate, concerning the divinely inherent right of monarchs. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* III. ix, Lord B. shewed away in all his glory.

33. Show off. **a.** To act or talk for show; to make a deliberate or ostentatious display of one's abilities or accomplishments. *colloq.*

a 1793 G. WHITE *Nat. Cal., Observ. Birds* (1795) 79 A fern-owl this evening..showed off in a very unusual..manner. 1815 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 69 She puts me in mind of Miss Berry when she is showing off. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making Novelist* 201 He was tempted to swagger and 'show off' as children say.

b. *Pugilism.* ? To begin the attack, start a round.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 66 His antagonist shewed off at his head. 1821 EGAN *Boxiana* (1830) I. 261 Dan *showed off* in good style..and finished the round by knocking down his opponent.

34. Show out. **a.** ? To become visible, emerge from obscurity or concealment; *fig.* to exhibit one's true character.

1846 DE QUINCEY *Syst. Heavens* Wks. 1862 III. 179 Description of the nebula in Orion as forced to show out by Lord Rosse. 1859 — *Mackintosh* Wks. XIII. 75 Rarely has a false idea been more suddenly caused to founder and show out. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* vi, The horse held up his head and snorted as he came abreast of us, and we showed out.

b. *U.S.* = *show off* (33 a).

1889 MARY E. WILKINS *Far-away Melody,* etc. (1890) 258 See that old lady trailing her best black silk by...Ain't it ridiculous how she keeps on showing out?

35. Show up. **a.** To appear conspicuously or in relief.

1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 A brocade on which..yellow marguerites..showed up upon a ground of scarlet. 1891 BAX *Outlooks fr. New Standpoint* iii. 171 Most persons are afraid of something, but they, at times, show up brave on the background of persons who are afraid of something else.

b. To become prominent, to catch the eye.

1885 *Field* 31 Jan. 135/2 Some scrummaging took place at the half way till Ekin showed up with a good run, which brought the play to the North lines.

c. *colloq.* To put in an appearance; to be present or 'turn up' (at an appointed time or place).

1888 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 3 Feb. 4/1 Will Worden is expected to show up next week. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 167 Paul did not show up at the office next day. *c* 1895 *Thompson St. Poker Club* 131 The regular members showed up, however, in force.

VII. The verb-stem in combinations.

† **36. Show-away** *a.* (Cf. 32.) Given to display, ostentatious.

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* liii. (1783) II. 137 Those shew-away fellows are mere pick-pockets. 1795 HAN. MORE *Sheph. Salisb. Pl.* I. Wks. 1834 I. 265 A plain frugal man, who..was remarked to give away more than any of his show-away neighbours.

37. Show-down. In *Card-playing,* the act of laying down one's cards with their faces up; also, the name of a game similar to poker; *fig.* an open disclosure of plans, means, etc. Chiefly *U.S.*

1898 W. C. MORROW *Ape, Idiot,* etc. 159 Never disclose your hand except on a showdown. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xvi, Whatever hand he's been holdin' up, this is the showdown. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Feb. 14/1 It is usual to have a 'show down' unless at least a three by tricks declaration has been arrived at. 1909 *E. Suffolk Gaz.* 12 Jan. 7/5 When it comes to an academic show-down, we'll make some of those rivals of ours sit up.

38. Show-off. **a.** (Cf. 8 b.) A display, exhibition or exposure *of* (something).

1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 14 He allots to each of us such a share of fortune in our own hands as is sufficient to the display and shew-off of the natural disposition. 1783 — *Liberal Opin.* (ed. 3) Pref. 20 It appears to have been..the..effort of the author..to display the..inconsistencies of human opinion respecting Happiness; and, (after this shew off of folly, delusion, and absurdity) [etc.].

b. *Pugilism.* (Cf. 33 b.) A public display.

1828 EGAN *Boxiana* IV. 168 We believe it was the first *show-off* of the latter with the *mufflers.*

c. (Cf. 33 a.) An imposing or specious display; an opportunity for display. Also, in generalized sense, display, showiness.

1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* II. i, A bazaar—a field for her trumpery, and a show-off for all the young ladies. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* xxvi, In all the glitter and show off of fashionable acquirement poor Molly is the inferior. 1893 W. Walker *Three Churchmen* 173 He considered it an unreality and too much of a show-off. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xviii. 136 Our Colonial expansion..is not undertaken with any idea of show-off.

d. *attrib.* or *adj.* Given to display.

1837 [Miss Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 154 He was a conceited, show-off sort of person.

39. Show-up. (Cf. 27 b.) The act of 'showing up' or exposing to ridicule, censure, or the like.

1830 'Jon Bee' *Ess. Foote* p. lxxvii, (Cent.) Treading closely on the heels of a threatened show up. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 372 We cannot muster up impudence enough to continue our show-up of Wightwick's naughtiness. 1854 *Ibid.* L. 253 Mr. Disraeli was to make a show-up of Mr. Gladstone's finance.

Showable (ʃō·ăb'l), *a.* Also shew-. [f. Show *v.* + -able.]

†1. Demonstrative, able to prove. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 And þanne comes to him a strengh shewable, or Philosophable, þat byholdys shappys vndirstandable. *Ibid.* 103 þat he be knowynge..in arsmetyk, þat is ful soth and shewable.

2. Demonstrable, provable. *rare*—1.

1617 Hieron *Penance for Sin* iv. Wks. 1619 II. 103 This ..is shewable by Scripture.

3. That can be shown or presented to view.

1823 Lamb *Let. to J. H. Payne* 23 Jan., Mary..says you must write more *showable* letters about those matters. 1838 P'cess Elizabeth *Lett.* (1898) 347, I have so bad a swelled face I am not shewable.

Showance (ʃō·ăns). *rare.* [f. Show *sb.* + -ance.] Showing, display, appearance.

1898 Hardy *Wessex Poems* 3 Sole the showance those of my onward earth-track—never transcended. 1908 — *Dynasts* VII. ix. 346 My only course To make good showance to posterity Was to implant my line upon the throne.

Show-box. [Show *sb.*1] A box in which objects of curiosity are exhibited; esp. a box containing a peep-show.

1748 Lady Luxborough *Let. to Shenstone* 28 Apr. (1775) 19 But were you to present me with the Views of the Leasowes, I own I should not put them into my show-box without pain. 1779 Warner in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 312 A Savoyard with a show-box. 1842 Hawthorne *Twice-t. T.* Ser. II. *Seven Vagabonds* (1883) 125 Rescuing the showbox of such a couple from a mob of great double-fisted countrymen.

fig. 1789 Burns *Fragm. inscribed to C. J. Fox* 23 Mankind are his show box.

Showe, obs. form of Shoe, Shove *v.*

Showel(l, obs. forms of Shovel.

Shower (ʃau·ər, ʃau·əɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 scúr, sceór, scyur, 3 sur, shur, 3, 5 scur, 3–4 schur, 3–7 showre, 4 shor, 4–6 schour, 4–7 schoure, shour(e, 5 *pl.* scoures, shure, shwre, schowr, 5–6 schowre, 5–7 shewer, 6 schower, schouer, 6–7 shewre, 7 showr, shore, 5– shower. [OE. *scúr* str. masc. (also once *scúran* wk. pl.) corresponds to OS. *skûr* masc., OFris. *skûr* fit of illness (NFris. *skŷr* shower, caprice), MDu. *schuur* (mod.Du. *schoer* with dialectal vowel), OHG. *scûr* (MHG. *schûr*, mod.G. *schauer*), OTeut. **skūro-z*; also ON. *skúr* fem. (but in early texts sometimes masc.), Goth. *skūra* fem. storm:—**skūrō*. The suggested affinities are uncertain: see Uhlenbeck and Falk and Torp.]

1. A fall of rain, of short duration and (usually) comparatively light. Also, a similar fall of sleet or hail, rarely of snow. See also Hail-*shower*, Rain-shower, Snow-*shower*.

In various dialects the word may be applied to a continuous fall of rain lasting for many hours.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* xii. 54 Scyur [*Ruskw.* scur] cymeð. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 512 (Gr.) Þonne sceor cymeð. *a* 1000 *Lambeth Psalter* lxxvii. 44 Heora scuras [*imbres eorum*]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 Storm..werpeð þat water upward and arereð shures fele. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iv. 751 The teres from hir eyen two Doun fille, as shour in Aperill. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reason & Sens.* 6310 Holsom as the Aprile shour Fallyng on the erbes newe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 588/48 *Imber*, a shure. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* vii. 25 Vⁿᵉʳ fell a greet schower. 1576 Gascoigne *Droome of Doomes day* Wks. 1910 II. 248 The Lord God rayned from the Lorde, (even from him selfe) not shewers nor dewe, but fyre and brimstone. 1618 J. Taylor (Water-P.) *Pennyless Pilgr.* C 2 b, All the day long it rayned but one showre. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 21 May 1645, After a showre has fall'n. 1759 Johnson *Idler* No. 49 ₱ 5 A shower beating against his windows. 1817 G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) I. 42, I was overtaken by a shower. 1907 W. Ewing *Arab & Druze* v. 63 A light shower drifted down the valley.

fig. *c* 1580 Sidney *Ps.* VII. i, O, save me from this persecutions show'r. 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxx. (1687) 351 It pleased God so to order it, that this cloud [of indisposition] was cast about him without any showre. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* Prol. (1890) 19/2 We..knew the lot of all men should be ours, A chequered day of sunshine and of showers.

b. Followed by qualification *of rain, of hail*, etc.

a 1300 *Floriz. & Bl.* 272 He..gan Blauncheflur bimene Wib teres rive as a scur of rene. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1937 Of snowe was fallen aschour. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 15 With schouris Of hailstaines, snaw, and sleit! *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* 10 A shour of hael. 1678 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 412 A vast shore of raine. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 181 Some showers of snow fell in the course of the day. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* ix. III. 153 Strong gusts of wind, accompanied by fleeting showers of rain.

c. In extended use: A copious downfall of anything coming or supposed to come from the clouds or sky; in recent use often of meteors.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 227 So fro heuen to helle þat hatel schor laste.. 1562 Legh *Armorie* (1591) 16 b, Son of the high Ioue begotten vppon Danae shadowed in the golden shower. 1643 Baker *Chron., Hen. II*, 79 A showre of Blood Rained in the Isle of Wight two houres together. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 433 The sky was overcast at mid-day with clouds of ashes, the showers of which covered every thing to the depth of several inches. 1835, 1856 Meteoric showers [see Meteoric *a.* 3]. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 189 The solid materials are shot forth into the air and fall in showers around the mouth of the orifice.

2. *transf.* A copious fall or discharge of water or other liquid in drops. Often of tears; hence *poet.* a shower of *grief, sorrow*, etc. † *To make showers*: to weep.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2048 Sike scoures were of blude.. þat foles ferd in þe flosches to þe feterlakis. 1638 Heywood *Wise Wom.* IV. ii. G 2, Shall I the shower of all my griefe at once Power out before you? 1663 Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxvii. (1687) 302 It was not possible so to repress them [tears], but that all concluded in a plentiful showre. 1818 Shelley *Rosal.* 1271 Rosalind..wept A shower of burning tears, which fell upon His face. 1846 Mrs. Kirkland *West. Clearings* 25 This brought only another shower of tears. 1859 R. Hunt *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 233 This is effected by passing showers of water through the flue by which the [lead] fumes escape. 1874 Crookes *Dyeing & Calico-Printing* 655 Stuffs, previous to finishing, are moistened with an extremely fine shower, produced by allowing water to descend through a sieve of silk.

b. *poet.* Of light, sound, etc.

1781 Cowper *Retirem.* 350 The stars that, sprinkled o'er the vault of night, Seem drops descending in a show'r of light. 1820 Shelley *To Maria Gisborne* 70 When from the moist moon rains The inmost shower of its white fire. 1840 R. S. Hawker *Cornish Ballads*, etc. (1908) 73 What showers of gold the sunbeams rain!

c. Short for Shower-bath.

1889 Gunter *That Frenchman* iii. 24 You forgot to put the ice in the shower, François; it is hardly bracing enough.

d. *Pyrotechny.* A device for producing a shower of small slow-burning 'stars', which fall from a rocket.

1839 [see Golden *a.* 10]. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 35/2 Yellow stars and yellow showers are made of nitre [etc.].

3. *fig.* A copious or liberal supply bestowed.

13.. *K. Horn* 334 (Harl.) Shame þe mote by shoure ant euel hap to vnderfonge. *c* 1460 *Play of Sacrament* 664 in *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* 78 Of thy gret mercy lett vs receyue þe showre. 1616 Breton *Invect. agst. Treason* (Grosart) 3/2 Our gratious King, on whome yᵉ King of Grace, hath rayn'd a shewre of his eternall graces. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 18 Light golden Showers of Plenty o'er the Land. 1751 *Affect. Narr. of Wager* 39 The Sailors,.. poured upon them a very plenteous Shower of hard Names and Execrations. 1803 Wordsw. *To Highland Girl*, Sweet Highland Girl, a very shower Of beauty is thy earthly dower! 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* VI. i. III. 21 The revenues, from which so many showers of emolument fell. 1888 Burgon *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. iv. 405 Hawkins's election ..was the signal for a shower of interesting letters of hearty congratulation.

4. A copious fall or flight of solid objects, esp. of missiles. Also of blows.

a 1000 *Judith* 221 (Gr.) Hie ða fromlice leton forð fleoȝan flana scuras. *a* 1000 *Elene* 117. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIII. 43 The arrowis als so thik thai flaw,..That thai ane hydwiss schour can ma. 1508 Dunbar *Golden Targe* 195 The schour of arowis rappit on as rayn. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* 291 They..made it raine suche a shoure of clubbes and coulestaues vpon the Monks Copes, cowles, & Crownes, that [etc.]. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 283 We could hear showers of Bullets batter against the Ships sides. 1736 Gray *Statius* i. 18 Batter Cadmus' walls with stony showers. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* vi. (1842) 184 The breaking of the bubbles will throw up a shower of particles. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 115 They were received with a shower of stones. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii, A shower of blows. 1877 Mary M. Grant *Sun-Maid* viii, And the leaves were falling in a crimson and russet shower all over the ground.

†5. A conflict, combat, battle, assault, attack; Also, an attack of pain; a pang, throe. *Obs.*

Very common in ME.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 281 We sulen hunger hauen and harde sures. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6820 þer myghte men se on bope partys A scharp schour by-twyxten enemys. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 3939 In bataile ..Hym leuere is to suffre dethes schour, Than cowardly and schamefully flee. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 732 For he was lyke to endure that day A gret mortall shoure ..With Vyce. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 399 The Englisshmen susteyned many harde showres in Gascoyne & Guyan. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* (S.T.S.) 117 Se, hardest..To him has felt of deith the schouris. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1664) 257 It cost Christ and all his followers sharp showers and hot sweats, ere they won to the top of the mountain.

†b. *spec.* in *pl.* Labour-pains. *Obs.*

14.. *Athelston* 636 (Zupitza) Harde schourys þenne took her stronge Bope in bak and eek in wombe. *a* 1598 Rollock *Lect. Passion* xx. Wks. 1844 II. 230 It shall come upon them suddenly, even as the showres and dolor come on a woman who is travailing in birth. *a* 1800 *Fair Janet & Sweet Will.* iii. in Child *Ballads* II. 105/1 Till sharp, sharp showers fair Janet took, She grew sick and like to die.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *shower-cloak, -like, -producing, -proof*, †*-raised, -shedding*, †*-swelled* adjs.; shower-bouquet, 'a large bouquet from which many small bouquets depend by ribbons of various lengths' (Webster 1911); shower-cloud, a cumulo-nimbus cloud (see quot. 1910). See also Shower-bath.

1892 *Star* 25 Feb. 1/7 They carried *shower bouquets composed entirely of lilies of the valley. 1893 *Daily News* 29 June 6/1 Her grey *shower-cloak hid her dress. 1886 A. W. Clayden in *Q. Jrnl. R. Meteorol. Soc.* Apr. 102 On the Thickness of *Shower Clouds. 1910—in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 559/1 *Cumulo-nimbus* (Cu.-N.), The Thunder-cloud; Shower-cloud—Heavy masses of clouds, rising in the form of mountains, turrets, or anvils, generally having a sheet or screen of fibrous appearance above (false cirrus) and underneath a mass of cloud similar to nimbus. 1893 *Times* 8 May 10/5 Weather dull and *shower like. 1895 *Stores Price List*, *Shower proof cloaks. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 136 Men, if Fame say true, Here at the first from *shower-raysed mushrumps grew. 1800 Hurdis *Fav. Village* 122 The cloud immense, whose *shower-shedding folds Have all day dwelt upon a deluged world. 1627 May *Lucan* I. (1631) 8 The streame *showre-swell'd The marches ore.

Shower (ʃau·əɹ), *sb.*2 Forms: 1 scéawere, scéawre, (sceware), 2 scawere, 3 scheauware, 3–4 shewer, 4 *Kent.* sseawere, 4–5 schewer(e, 5– schewer, schoer, scewre, 6 *Sc.* scheware, (schawar), 4–9 shewer, 6– shower. [OE. *scéawere*, agent noun from *scéawian* to Show; cf. OHG. *scauwâri* (MHG. *schouwære*, mod.G. *schauer*) looker, spectator, watchman, etc. In later times formed afresh on Show *v.* + -er 1.]

†1. One who looks out, observes, or inspects; an observer; a scout or spy; a watchman. *OE.*

Beowulf 253 Lease sceaweras. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Episcopus is grekisc noma..and is on englisc scawere.

†2. A mirror. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Homily* in Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* 55 Nu we men geseoð swylce þurh sceawere & on rædelse [= 1 *Cor.* xiii. 12]. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 þe wimman bihalt hire sheawere and cumeð hire shadewe þaronne. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Se schulen, ase ine scheauware, iseon ure Lefdi mid hire meidenes. 13.. *Poem Times Edw. II*, xvi. (Percy Soc.) 8 He putteth in hys pawtener A keirchyf and a comb, A shewer, and a coyf.

3. One who shows, points out, or exhibits.

13.. *K. Alis.* 18 For Caton seith, thes gode techere Other monis lif is owre schewere [*Laud. MS.* shewer, Lat. *magistra*]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 60 Noyþer þe deposing of þe witnes, nor þe sentens 3euing of þe juge,.. makiþ not man synful, ne worþi to be dead; syn þei are but schewars & witnessars. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 187 God toke hom to hym yn ensampull to al oþer, and made hom as a schoer to al oþer synfull. 1484 *Certificate* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 41 Where trewth is..set oparte froym the scewres of right. 1511–2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10. § 1 The oder halfe to the taker fynder or shewer of the same. 1586 J. Melvill in *Calderwood's Hist. Kirk* (1843) IV. 522 The rebooker and shower thee of thy vice. 1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 333 It is the Angel that is the shower of the whole scene of this vision. 1810 Lamb *Let. to Hazlitt* 9 Aug., Perhaps they [*sc.* the pictures] are shown separately, to put another fee into the shower's pocket. 1859 Boyd *Recreat. Country Parson* ii. 61 In compassion for human weakness, the Great Director and Shower of events practises the Art of Putting Things. 1868 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. ii. 283 The breeders of Herefords have always been keen showers. 1899 *Daily News* 11 Apr. 6/3 Deceased ..was for some time a shower in the State apartments [at Windsor Castle].

b. *Scots Law.* One of the two men who are appointed by the court to accompany the jurors or viewers when a view of the property which the cause relates to is allowed.

1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Viewer*, The premises are pointed out to them by two persons, named by the Court, usually on the joint suggestion of the parties, and technically called shewers.

c. With *off.*

1823 Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 384 Mr. Buxton figured here, also Lord Suffield, who appear to have been the two principal actors, or showers-off.

†4. Something which shows; an indicator; an indicative symptom (of a disease). *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 153 (Rawl. MS.), It [the star] schon to [þe] schepherdes a schewer [1393 C. xv. 96 shewere] of blisse. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 383/2 He meaneth yᵗ..ye sacrament is no cause thereof..nor instrument therin, but only a bare signyfier and a shewer therof. 1561 Eden tr. *Cortes' Art Navig.* III. xi. 78 In the ioynte of the two halfe cyrcles..muste be a poynte (called the Index or shewer) whiche shall shewe..the degrees that the pole is raysed aboue the Horizon. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bathes Ayde* Ep. Ded. 3 Withall the signes shewers of the state of the sicke and whole. 1668 Culpeper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* IV. i. 160 The second [finger] is cal'd Index and Demonstrator, the shewer, or pointer.

5. An animal that 'shows' well or otherwise, that makes a (good or bad) display of its qualities.

1893 *Kennel Gaz.* Aug. 215/2 An indifferent shower. *Ibid.* 217/3 He is a smart shower, and a well-made dog.

Shower (ʃau·əɹ, ʃau·əɹ), *v.* Also 6 shoure, shewre, 6–7 showr(e, 7 shou'r. [f. Shower *sb.*1]

1. *intr.* To rain in a shower, or in showers. † Also with *out*. Chiefly *impers.*; occas. said †of a cloud.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 30 If great she [the moon] appereth, it showreth out, If small she appereth, it signifieth

drout. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 48 The cloudes..fiercely then begin to shoure. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 193 It continued showring by intervals, with great Thunder-Claps, till half an hour after six. 1891 STEVENSON *Vailima Lett.* (1895) 75 It showered all afternoon and poured heavy and loud all night.

2. To fall down in a shower or showers, or as a shower of rain. **a.** Of water (esp. tears), or other material things. Often with *down*, *on*, etc.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 108 At my tears showring dyd he sigh? dyd he winck with his eyelyd? 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E iiij, Teares from her eies did shower. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* ii. 12 Instead of having the Heavenly Mannah shower down at the Doors of their Tabernacles. 1717 BERKELEY *Vesuvius* in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 711 Ashes continually shower'd on us all the way from the Sea-Coast. 1830 TENNYSON *Sea-Fairies* 10 Down shower the gambolling waterfalls From wandering over the lea. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 155 The sparks showering off as if from a catherine-wheel. 1910 J. AITKEN in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 714/2 These [dust particles] when showering down as rain tend to wash the others out of the atmosphere.

b. *fig.* Of immaterial things.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. i. 47 It rain'd downe Fortune showring on your head. 1633 BROME *North. Lass* v. ii. K 3, Sir, all the accumulations of honour showre downe vpon you. 1732 BERKELEY *Serm. to S. P. G.* Wks. III. 249 The Divine grace will no longer shower down on our obdurate hearts. 1821 J. W. CROKER *Diary* (1884) 4 Aug., Visits and invitations shower upon one. 1912 *Standard* 20 Sept. 7/6 Thousands of congratulatory messages have showered upon the happy pair from all parts of the world.

3. *trans.* To pour down or discharge in a shower or showers; to send down or pour out in abundance and rapidly. Often with *down*, † *out*, etc.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 52, I..salt teares dolfulye showred. 1594 DANIEL *Cleopatra* I. ii. 73 And vp they hoise the swounding body there Of pale Antonius showring out his blood. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 147 Presume not thou to number what her eyes Showre forth in tears. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 43 The Clowds shower there continually an insalubrious moisture. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 198 A miraculous flight of birds, who showered down stones on the heads of the infidels. 1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 458 They would have hissed him, and showered rotten eggs at his head. 1832 TENNYSON *Godiva* 42 She shook her head and shower'd the rippled ringlets to her knee. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. x. 65 The clouds ..showered their liquid spheres down upon us. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 331 Sugar-plums..are showered..by friends over the bride. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 109 Does the crab-tree shower down Perfumed snow for treading?

b. *fig.* With immaterial obj: To bestow lavishly.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXIV, All blessing you accompany, From him in plenty showered. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iv. 63, I showre a welcome on yee: welcome all. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. v. (1801) 56 Let not little critics.. shower down their ill-nature upon him. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xl. V. 124 The royal bounty was largely showered upon him. 1889 GODKIN in Ogden *Life* (1907) II. 156 They all showered invitations upon me which, alas! I cannot accept.

† **c.** *absol.* To weep; to shed tears. Also to bestow gifts in abundance. *Obs. rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 131 What still in teares? Euermore showring..? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 637 Th' all bounteous King, who showrd With copious hand.

4. To water with or as with a shower; to wet copiously with rain or with water in drops or spray; *transf.* to cover or strew as with rain. also *fig.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 152 When God hath showrd the earth. *Ibid.* XI. 879 Or serve they as a flourie verge to binde The fluid skirts of that same watrie Cloud, Least it again dissolve and showr the Earth? 1819 KEATS *Otho* v. v. 89 Ladies..bright In silks, with spangles shower'd. 1891 *Century Dict.* s. v., To shower plants from a watering-pot; to shower one's head in bathing; to shower a convict as a punishment. 1895 R. W. CHAMBERS *King in Yellow* (1909) 128 The gorse scraped against my leggings..showering the brown earth with blossoms. 1900 A. BLACK *Even. & Morn.* iii. 60 In the midst of our hot and dusty world this garden stands and heaven itself showers it and fans it.

Hence **Showered** *ppl. a.*

1848 W. R. WILLIAMS *Lord's Prayer* iv. (1854) 251 Stephen praying for his murderers amid the showered stones that fall and bruise him.

Shower, obs. variant of SEWER *sb.*[2]

Shower-bath. A bath in which water from above is poured in a shower upon the person. Also an apparatus for producing a bath of this kind.

Also *U.S.* a form of punishment for convicts.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 209 A slight delirium..subsided immediately on the use of the shower bath. 1815 tr. *Duc de Leris' Eng. 19 Cent.* I. 211 They have invented a machine ..which is now very much in use; it is called a shower-bath. It is like a sentry-box. 1853 A. R. WALLACE *Amazon & Rio Negro* 30 In the morning, after a refreshing shower-bath under the mill-feeder, we shouldered our guns [etc.]. 1859 F. S. COOPER *Ironmongers' Catal.* 3 Hand Shower Baths. 1868 B. J. LOSSING *Hudson* 303 Severe punishments are becoming more and more rare, and the terrible Shower Bath..is now seldom used. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 380 Shower baths in the young, when they can be borne, are most efficacious.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* IV, He was soused with a deluge of water..[A threat] induced him to retreat in all haste from the repetition of this shower-bath. 1889 SWINBURNE *Study B. Jonson* 25 The character of Captain Pantilius Tucca, which seems to have brought down on its creator such a boiling shower-bath or torrent of professional indignation.

Showerer (ʃau·rəɹ). [f. SHOWER *v.* + -ER 1.] One who showers or pours down abundantly.

1882 G. RAWLINSON *Relig. Anc. World* IV. 129 Indra..is ..'the showerer of benefits'.

Showerful (ʃau·ɹfŭl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SHOWER *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Abounding in showers.

1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 2 Gareth, in a showerful spring Stared at the spate.

Showeriness (ʃau·rinės). *rare.* [f. SHOWERY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being showery.

1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 388 After a slight showeriness. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 361/1 A suspicion of April showeriness.

Showering (ʃau·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOWER *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of SHOWER *v.*; also *concr.*, that which is showered.

1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* vii, Led onward with hope of long assurance We neuer thinke of fortunes frowning, But high honors plant as if perdurance had promised continuall showring. 1653 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1836) II. 282 The dewings and showerings of Him that every moment watereth his vineyard. 1862 MEREDITH *Shemselnihar* Poet. Wks. (1912) 171 Like a rose by the fountain whose showering we hear.

Show·ering, *ppl. a.* [f. SHOWER *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That sends down in or as in showers.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 60 *note*, Xantippe, that thundring shouring Queen of shrews. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 12 With sad showring eyes, Cry to thy God. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 166 If the Spring be mild, calm, and showring, then is it good for Swarms. 1892 W. WATSON *Poems* Prel. 5 Not mine the rich and showering hand, that strews The facile largess of a stintless Muse.

2. That falls in or as in a shower or showers.

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Farew. Tower-Bottles* A 4 b, When showring hayleshot..Nor blustering Gusts..Could holde me backe. 1817 SHELLEY *Marianne's Dream* xiv, She Was borne towards the showering flame By the wild waves heaped tumultuously. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. CXXIV, Sweet is the vintage, when the showering grapes In Bacchanal profusion reel to earth. 1860 PATMORE *Faithf. for Ever* I. vii, For all the showering tears that soak This paper.

Hence † **Show·eringly** *adv.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 362 A Fountaine..out of which..the water came so..showringly,..as [etc.].

Show·erless, *a. rare.* [f. SHOWER *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without a shower or showers.

1744 ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* I. 257 Scarce in a showerless day the heavens indulge Our melting clime. 1801 COLERIDGE *Lett., To Southey* (1895) 357, I will be Supreme Bey of that showerless district.

Showery (ʃau·ri), *a.* [f. SHOWER *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Raining in showers; abounding with or characterized by frequent showers of rain.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Llouiznar*, to drizle, to be showry. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 548 In a Showry Season. 1652 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. 138 The Aire hereof is very shewery. 1773 COOK *2nd Voy.* II. xi. (1777) I. 317 On the 23d showery weather. 1854 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 140 It continued showery all day. 1885 H. FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia!* 173 The weather..had been, as they say in the west of Scotland, 'showery and rain atween whiles'.

b. *fig.* Tearful.

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 33 She fixt A showery glance upon her aunt.

2. Causing or producing showers; bringing showers. Said of a cloud, wind, constellation, etc.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 009 Like the Storm that flies From Westward, when the Show'ry Kids arise. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 200 The showery clouds that haunt a hill-country. 1872 R. ELLIS *Catullus* XXVI. 2 'Tis not showery south, nor airy wester.

3. Pertaining to, produced by or resembling a shower or showers.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 759 Inlaid with pure Amber, and colours of the showrie Arch. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. 70 Bright It collects the Beams, which, trembling All, Back from the God, a show'ry Radiance, fall. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 509 The waves..scatter far the show'ry spray. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* 17 Dew'd with showery drops, Up-clomb the shadowy pine above the woven copse. 1853 O. W. HOLMES *Poem Amer. Med. Assoc.* 78 The selfsame founts her chalice fill With showery sunlight running over.

4. Falling in showers.

1841–6 LONGF. *Rain in Summer* ix, Aquarius old..Scattering every where The showery rain.

Showful, variant of SHOFUL *slang.*

† **Show·fully,** *adv. Obs.*[−1] [f. SHOW *sb.*[1] + -FUL + -LY 2.] Gaudily, showily.

1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court* A 3, All showfully garnisht with seueral-hewd fethers.

Show·-glass. [SHOW *sb.*[1]]

1. A glass case for exhibiting valuable or delicate goods.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4574/4 Elizabeth Mechin..did.. feloniously break open several Locks of Drawers, Press-show-Glasses, and other places. 1733 *Read's Wkly. Jrnl.* 24 Nov. 3/2 Some Rogues carry'd away a Shew-Glass from the Shop of..a Goldsmith.., with Plate to the Value of 15*l.* 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4189 Confectioners' show-glasses. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 13 They are especially adapted for show-glasses..where safety and protection from dust are essential.

2. A glass in which something is seen; a mirror; a magic mirror.

1855 in OGILVIE Suppl. 1891 in *Century Dict.*

Show house. [SHOW *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** A shop or other building in which wares are displayed. *Obs.*

1527 in *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 107 All persons having shewehouses or packhouses. *c* 1600 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (1902) XVI. 35 No..Merchant Adventurer..shall.. keepe open shoppe or shewhouse.

2. A house conspicuous and celebrated for architectural beauty, splendid furniture, or the like; esp. one over which the public are at certain times admitted to be shown.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. xxviii, In seeing what is called a 'Shew-house',—keeping pace, whether you will or not, through all the rooms, with another party. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* ii, Fairview was not a grand house, or a show house.

Showily (ʃōu·ili), *adv.* [f. SHOWY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a showy manner; with display.

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 286 Trapped showily in various colours. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xviii, His garments, of various colours, and showily disposed, were none of the newest. 1870 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* 22 Wild young Cantabs. mounted showily from livery-stables.

Showiness (ʃōu·inės). [f. SHOWY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being showy.

1813 *Examiner* 18 Jan. 35/2 The sheviness of their [the soldier's] profession. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* App. 31 Which gave a sickly and hectic sheviness to the latter half of the last century. 1869 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xvi. Introd. I. 240 There is much showiness, and may be some solidity in the suggestions.

Showing (ʃōu·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHOW *v.* + -ING 1; in OE. *scéawung*, *scéawing*.]

1. The action of displaying, exhibiting, manifesting, etc.; the fact of being displayed, etc.; with *pl.*, an instance of this.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 40 Under sceawung longes gebeddes [*sub obtentu prolixae orationis*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26110 Scrift es opin scheuing o breist Laufulli mad be-for þe preist. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 29 Of this openlic schauing Hauis Godd schawed many taking. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 25 By the ostencyon or shewynge of grace. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 225 There were great embracynges and shewynges of frendship on both sydes. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 13 Mar. (O.H.S.) II. 176 Mr. Lhuyd..made what he could by Shewing. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 11 When you observe the hen to sweep her tail to the cock..which is termed shewing. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii, In one of those wheelings and showings of new front.

b. with adv., as *showing off.*

1874 GARROD in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 471 On the 'showing-off' of the Australian Bustard.

† **c.** *To make showing of*: to exhibit, display, reveal; to tell of, describe, relate. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22298 Þar sal he..sceuing make of his maistris. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7626 Of whom y made bifore scheweing. 1477 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 422 To make a clere shewing of the same before certen oure..Counsellours.

† **2.** A sight, spectacle. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 187 Neron..bead þæt eall þæt folc come to þisse sceawunga. *c* 1450 *Brut* 426 The meyre and aldremen..lete..make many diuerse shewyngis and sightis.

3. *Old English Law.* A duty or toll payable for the right of displaying goods for sale; = L. *ostensio.*

In spurious charters of Edward the Confessor and William I; see Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 213, 215, Thorpe *Diplom.* 359, 411.

? 1121 *Charter Hen. I* in *New Palæogr. Soc.* I. (1903) pl. 20(1) Cum saca et soca..et miskenninge et sceawinge. 12.. *Annales de Burton* in *Ann. Monast.* (Rolls) I. 247 Liberi sint ab omni scoto et geldo..et stallagio, schewinge, mischenninge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Schewynge, settynge forþ of marchaundise.

4. Manner of putting a case: in phrases *on this showing* (= if the facts be as thus represented), *on one's own showing*, etc.

[1408 tr. *Vegetius De re milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 183 b/2 After wyse mennys schewyng.] 1857 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. xii. § 7 (ed. 4) II. 70 On this showing, the notes at least of private banks are not money. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 502 The revolt could not be justified on any showing. 1869 LATHAM, s.v., This is proved even by your own showing. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 17 Oct. 5/2 The step which the United Kingdom Alliance wants Parliament to take is on their own showing a momentous one.

5. A statement or presentation of figures, accounts, or the like. Chiefly *U.S.*

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 51 This is a very meager showing, but an export of ten times the amount would be worse. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 453 We have been unable to obtain any data that justifies a showing so favorable. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 9/2 On the whole it is not at all a bad 'showing', and shareholders need not fidget.

6. *U.S.* An appearance or display of a specified kind. Phrases *to make a* (good or bad) *showing.*

1890 in Leffingwell *Upland Shooting* 459 [The greyhounds] made a very sorry showing in the public contests. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 240 Like all officers, I was intensely interested in the showing made by the different forces.

7. Outward appearance. † *Fair showing*, fair appearance or seeming; persuasiveness (of speech).

1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Huanne þet hi [corn and vines] byeþ of uaire ssewynge. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4041 Than, al abawid in shewing, Anoon spak Dreed. *c* 1412 LYDG. *Reas. & Sens.* 3917 [Apples] Delytable in shewyng, But wonder bitter in tastyng. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. ii. 728 The quene outward made no maner of sorowe in shewynge. 1903 R. KIPLING *Five Nations* 1 Who hath desired..His Sea in no showing the same—his Sea and the same 'neath each showing.

† **8.** Something that is shown or appears; a manifestation, revelation (*of*); a sign or token; a dream or vision. *Book of showing(s*: the Apocalypse.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Ase lease swefnes, & false scheauwinges. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20707 Þat he þam suld sli sceuing scau, þat þai moght wit sum taknyng knaa Quat þai suld do. *Ibid.* 21099 Þe bok o scheuing þer he wrat. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3401 Thow has a schewynge, sir kynge, take

kepe ȝif the lyke! 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 16 With meruaylous tokens and shewynges. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1621 A mervelows shewyng In ny slep I had.

† **b.** An appearance or indication *of* (something). *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* (Caxton) 50 Whether there be in hym ony sheweng of vainglory.

Show·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. SHOW *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That displays, exhibits, indicates, etc.

† *Showing finger*, the forefinger or index.

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 22 þan at first putte the leche þe schewyng fynger of his left hande..in-to þe lure of þe pacient. 1522 VAUS *Rudimenta* B 6 b (Jam.) *Indicatiue modo*, schawand mode. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1580) 27 b, The first called a demonstratiue, or shewyng reduction [=*reductio ostensiva*], is made by conuersion of the Propositions. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 125 It is written at the length, and in most shewyng maner, to their honour and worship.

† **2.** That appears; seeming; evident. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr i. (1868) 109 þe þinges þat þou hast seid me hider to ben to me so clere and so shewyng [*patuerunt*]..þat þei ne mowe nat ben ouercomen. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* A 2, Deceiued by theyr lusts to embrace a shewing and false good.

3. *Hort.* Of fruit: Beginning to appear.

1794 MCPHAIL *Treat. Cucumber* 155, I..picked off several of the showing and set fruit where they were too thick.

† **Show·ish**, *a. Obs.* (Very common in the 18th c.) [f. SHOW *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] = SHOWY *a.*

1675 J. DANCER *Agrippa* Ded. A ij b, This Play in it self is not at all calculated to the humour of the present times ..: nor is it (to speak Modishly) showish enough. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 393 This Age produces a set of idle shallow shewish Men. 1747 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 3 Apr., A showish binding attracts the eyes. *a* 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) II. 52 The outward Act being a Matter of great Form and Punctuality..they easily persuaded themselves..that a scrupulous Performance of such troublesome and shewish Duties would certainly be sufficient.

Showitt, obs. form of SUET.

Showl, showld(e, obs. forms of SHOAL.

Showle, obs. form of SHOAL, SHOVEL.

Show·ler. [Of obscure origin.] A local name for the DACE.

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* XX. § 1 (1689) 136 The Dace or Dare in some Places called a showler. 1816 BAINBRIDGE *Fly Fisher's Guide* 91 The Dace, Dare, or as it is sometimes called the Showler.

Showll, obs. form of SHOVEL.

Showman (ʃō·ŭmăn). [SHOW *sb.*[1]]

1. One who exhibits a show; the proprietor of a show.

a 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper Guilford* (1742) 280 An enormous Rhinoceros, to be sold to Shew-men for Profit. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 309 There are constant exhibitions from rope-dancers, mountebanks, jugglers, and show-men. 1833 LONGF. *Outre-Mer* Pr. Wks. 1886 I. 129 Staring in stupid wonder at the miracles of a showman's box. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XVI, Itinerant showmen—exhibitors of the freaks of Punch.

b. *gen.* and *transf.*

1774 COOK *2nd Voy.* II. xii. (1777) I. 324 He was conducted all over the ship...On this occasion Otoo was the principal shew-man. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 568 The showmen who hurry the..parties of visitors round the eastern chapels.

c. *attrib.*

1880 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 455 The garrulity and the showman proclamations of Thackeray and Trollope. 1899 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 11 Oct. 4/3 The shares of the 'showman' class exhibited their true nature.

† **2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1797 *Times* 23 Nov. in Ashton *Old Times* (1885) 336 It was the custom of Publicans, when they want to let their houses, to get a number of people together, whom they treat with beer. They call them show-men, and this is done for the purpose of deceiving the persons who come to view their house, and to make them suppose it has good custom.

Hence **Show·manism, Show·manry, Show·manship** (*nonce-wds.*).

1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* XVI. 178 One touch of showmanship makes the whole world kin. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 15 May 675/2 Charles Lamb would have delighted in one of their effects as he delighted in the showmanry of Elliston. 1886 PETRIE *Tanis* II. *Nebesheh* (1888) Pref. 6 To reject anything [from a museum] because it is not popularly attractive is a concession to mere showmanism.

Shown (ʃōun), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHOW *v.*] Exhibited, presented to view, etc.

1892 GREENER *Breech-loader* 135 The pattern is the *shown* shooting of a gun, the only visible proof of a gun's powers. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 37 Hidden stars by the shown stars' wings.

Show·-place. [Cf. G. *schauplatz* = sense 1.]

† **1.** A place for public shows or spectacles; a theatre. (Used to render *θέατρον*, *circus*, etc.)

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Antonius* (1595) 994 He assembled all the people in the shew place, where young men doe exercise themselues. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 96 Whither men flocke to heare, as at the Theaters and shew places. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* (1670) 49 Circus, the great show-place neer mount Aventine.

2. A place (*e.g.* a large mansion or estate) which is regularly exhibited to visitors; a place much visited for its beauty, antiquities, or the like.

1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Harrington* vi, Mamma..generally leaves her at the Priory, to take care of all the old trumpery, and show the place—you know it's a *show place*. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. v, They soon found a guide, one of those wonderful people to which show-places give birth. 1888 PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* xvii, 'A show-place'—as country mansions important enough for exhibition are called. 1893 MATHESON *About Holland* 44 Flushing is not a show place by any means.

Showrde, obs. form of SWORD.

Showroom (ʃōu·rūm). [f. SHOW *sb.*[1]]

1. A room used for the display of goods or merchandise.

1616 R. COCKS *Diary* 2 Jan. (Hakl. Soc.) 95 To keepe the shopp or shew rowme. 1617 *Ibid.* 23 July 283 We delivered divers sortes merchandiz to Jno. Japon to sell in the shopp or shew roome over the way. 1839 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* X, Madame Mantalini's showrooms were on the first floor. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* II. XXI, From the busy workshops into the great show-room.

fig. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc., Voltaire* (1840) II. 163 Voltaire's knowledge is not a mere show-room of curiosities, but truly a museum for purposes of teaching. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Biogr. Bor.* Introd. 6 It..is deposited in the shew-room of the memory.

† **2.** A room in which a show is exhibited. *Obs.*

c 1714 ARBUTHNOT etc. *Mem. M. Scribl.* I. XIV. (1741) 51 The Dwarf who kept the gates of the Show-room.

3. *pl.* The rooms in a large mansion which are regularly shown to visitors.

1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Near Oxford* II. 12 We were guided through the show-rooms [at Blenheim] by a very civil person.

Showse, obs. variant of CHOUSE *sb.*

Showt(e, obs. forms of SHOUT.

Showve, obs. form of SHOVE *v.*

Showy (ʃōu·i), *a.* [f. SHOW *sb.*[1] + -Y. Cf. the earlier SHOWISH *a.*] Characterized by show.

a. Of visible objects: Presenting an imposing or striking appearance; making a good display.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 434 ¶ 6 The Men would make a Present of every thing that was Rich and Showy to the Women whom they most admired. 1746 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 40 They do not always Weigh six Hundred Weight,..tho' large shewy Oxen. 1777 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 168 A very showy striped pink and white Manchester. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 8 Rather a showy than a pretty woman. 1826 P. POUNDEN *France & Italy* 186 Hung with chintz of a shewy pattern. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* XV. (ed. 3) 139 Inferior but showy watches are made at a cheap rate. 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Oct., A showy black-haired woman with one eye. 1882 *Garden* 15 July 41/1 One of the showiest of hardy border flowers. 1893 F. T. RICHARDS in Traill *Social Eng.* I. 23 Showy market places, and fine houses.

b. Of immaterial things, qualities, etc.: Brilliant, striking, 'effective'. Of persons: Displaying brilliant talents, etc.

1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. List Subscribers (*ad fin.*), Had I been fond of borrowed Plumes this List had been considerably more Showy than it is. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. VI, Forming friendships with every shewy adventurer that comes in your way. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* V, His manners, without being showy, were gentleman-like and pleasing. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* XXXII. (ed. 2) II. 448 The showy talents, in which the present age prides itself. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* II. (1876) 44 The progress of the military art is the most conspicuous, I was about to say the most *showy*, fact in human history. 1912 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 817 Dr. McGiffert is..inclined to let generalities—more or less showy—do duty for concrete statements of fact.

c. *Nat. Hist.* In names of plants and birds.

1817 *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. 466 Showy Tanager (*Tanagra ornata*). 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 460 *Lilium speciosum*, the Showy Lily, from Japan. 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Orchis*, The common American species is *O[rchis] spectabilis*, the showy orchis.

d. Comb.: *showy-dressed, -looking.*

1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* III. 80 A tall, plain, showy dressed, affected woman. 1821 HAZLITT *Table-t., Living to one's-self* (1869) 125 A showy-looking girl.

Showyll, obs. form of SHOVEL.

Showyng(e, obs. forms of SHOEING *vbl. sb.*

‖ **Shoya** (ʃō·yă). = SOY[1], SOYA.

1883 N. OKOSHI *Fisheries Japan* (Fish. Exhib.) 24 The sauce known here under the name of Japanese shoya, properly called shoyu.

Shoy-hoy, shoyhoy (ʃoi,hoi). [Imitative of the cry used for scaring birds.] One who scares away birds from a sown field. Also *transf.*

1819 COBBETT *Weekly Pol. Reg.* 14 Aug. 22 These bird-scarers, or, as we call them in Hampshire, *Shoy-hoys*. *Ibid.* 23 Look at the conduct of these shoy-hoys during this present session...The shoy-hoy Chamberlaine from Southampton; the shoy-hoy Palmer,...the two shoy-hoys from Nottingham. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 211 Waithman the pride of the senate became Waithman the empty shoyhoy; Hunt the patriot degenerated into Hunt the greatest of liars.

Shoy-hoy. App. jocularly used for HOY *sb.*[1]

1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 17 In the old shoy-hoy times I was once at sea three days and two nights between London and Ramsgate, now a certain passage of a few hours.

†**Shoyn(e.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. some error.] (See quot.)

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* I v b, Water of Cardes..is good agaynste the sore named the shoyne. *Ibid.* K ii b, Clothes wet in the same water and layd vpon the shoyne..is very good for the shoyn which commeth with hote brenyng blaynes.

‖ **Shrab** (ʃrɒb). *Anglo-Indian.* Also [7 **sharab, scherab**], 9 **shraub.** [Urdū a. (through Persian) Arab. شراب *sharāb* wine or any beverage, f. شرب *shariba* to drink. Cf. SHERBET, SHRUB *sb.*[2]] Wine, spirits, or a drink prepared with them.

[1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 6 To treat his friends with Schiras Sharab. 1662 — tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 175 A Bottle of Scherab or Persian Wine] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Shrab*, a vile drugged drink prepared for seamen who frequent the filthy purlieus of Calcutta.

1886 YULE & BURNELL *Hobson-Jobson* s. v. *Sherbet*, Portshraub, Sherry-shraub, Lall shraub, Brandy-shraub. Beer-shraub. 1888 *Nature* 19 July 269, I take brandy shrab, and get drunk like you.

Shradd, obs. form of SHRED *sb.*

‖ **Shraddha, sraddha** (ʃrā dă, sr-). Also 8 **sherad**, 9 **shraad, s(h)radh, s(h)radha.** [Skr. *çrāddha* (whence Hindī *çrāddh*, Urdū *shrāddh, srāddh*), f. *çraddhā* faith, trust.] A Hindu ceremony in honour and for the benefit of a deceased relative, at which water and food are offered; the offerings thus made.

1787 in Seton-Karr *Select. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 209 Nemoo Mullick, the rich Banker, is said to have spent lately three lacks of Rupees in the sherad or funeral ceremonies at his mother's death. 1832 H. H. WILSON in *Asiatic Res.* XVII. 276 *Srāddhas*, obsequial ceremonies at stated periods. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 215 He..performs the obsequies, or *shraad*, of his deceased ancestors. 1887 W. J. WILKINS *Mod. Hinduism* 463 At Shrādhas, Manu and other writers distinctly enjoin eating of flesh.

Shraep, obs. variant of SHRAPE *sb.*

Shraf, obs. pa. t. SHRIVE *v.*

Shraff, Shraffage, obs. var. SHROFF, SHROFFAGE.

Shraftyde, obs. form of SHROVETIDE.

Shrag (ʃræg), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **schragge**, 6–7 **shragge.** [A parallel form to SCRAG *sb.*[2] (see SCR-). Cf. SHRIG, SHROG.]

† **1.** A rag, tatter. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 [see SHRED *sb.* 3].

2. A twig; a branch lopped off; also, *occas.* a bush or low tree. *dial.*

1552 HULOET, Shragge of trees, *sarmenta.* 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* IX. 285 A kynd of breach or valey down a slope from the syde of a hill, where comonly shragges and trees do grow. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 23 Absolon is snatcht up by his long head locks, by a shrag of an oake. *Ibid.* 185 If they lose their hooke upon a shrag of triall and temptation. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Shrags*, the ends of sticks—of the bircben twigs in a broom; or of whins or furze...The clippings of live fences.

Shrag (ʃræg), *v.* Also 5 **schragge, schregge**, 6 **shragge**, 9 **shreg.** [f. SHRAG *sb.*] *trans.* To lop, trim, prune.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/2 Schredyn, or schragge trees, *sarculo.* 1552 HULOET, Twygges or boughes of trees cut of, or shragged, *sarmenta. Ibid.*, Shragge vnder so that the sunne maye come to the ground, *subluco.* 1647 HEXHAM I, To Shrag, *lubben ofte sniyden.* 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shreg*, to lop trees. *Somerset.*

Hence † **Shra·gger**, a trimmer or pruner of trees; **Shra·gging** *vbl. sb.*, that which is lopped off (also *attrib.*).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schreggare, *sarculator. Ibid.*, Schreggynge, *idem quod* schredynge [*putamen*]. *c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winch. MS.) 401 Schraggyng, *idem quod* schreggyng. 1900 *Oxf. Times* 1 Dec. 2/3, 1,500 shragging fagots.

Shrager: see SAGGAR.

† **Shragged**, *a. Obs.* In 4 **shragid.** [f. SHRAG *sb.* + -ED 2.] Having ragged or jagged edges.

13.. *MS. Arundel Coll. Arms* 27 f. 130, A red hod on hir heved, shragid al of shridis.

Shram (ʃræm), *v. dial.* Also **shramp, shramb.** [A parallel form to SCRAM *v.* (see SCR-). Cf. SHRIM, SHRIMPED.] *trans.* To benumb or paralyse with cold. Chiefly *pass.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Shram'd*, chilled. I am shram'd to death, I am dead with cold. W. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 15 Nov. 5/2 Being 'shrammed with cold', as they say in Wiltshire. 1873 *Gentl. Mag.* X. 326 A bitter..wind..'shramming' the loungers in Palace Yard. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Nov. 6/3 In the open yard amidst all the fog, where he should have been 'shramped' with cold. 1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 207 Half shrammed to death.

Hence **Shrammed** *ppl. a.*, numbed.

1874 LADY HERBERT *Hübner's Ramble* III. ii. (1878) 473 The sun has been pleased to unstiffen our shrammed bodies.

Shrame, variant of SHREAM *v. Obs.*

† **Shrank**, *a. Obs.* [Related to SHRINK *v.*] Of seed: Parched, shrivelled. Hence † **Shra·nkness.**

165x in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1658) 93 Then the Grain is purest and the perfectest, without Smut, Mildew, Shrankness, or other imperfections. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* IX. 347 That [seed] which is thin and shrank (as they [Staffordshire people] call it).

Shrape, *sb. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 **shraep**, 6–**shrap.** [A parallel form to SCRAPE *sb.*[2] (see SCR-).]

1. A bait of chaff or seed laid for birds; the place where such bait is laid. Hence *gen.* a snare.

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII.* c. 10 § 2 A Shrape made with Chaffe or other thing. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 8 Casting foorth silken shraps to catch Woodcocks. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 55 After you haue procured the pigeons to haunt a place, by making of a shrap. 1618 S. WARD *Jethro's Just. Peace* 48 The Diuell as well as the Briber laieth his hookes in this shrap. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* iii. 59 The most chaffie shrap that euer was set before the eyes of winged Fowle. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 197 They [sparrows] being so easily induced to come to a Shrape or Place baited for them. 1817 J. MAYER *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 160 To trap a fox in cover, make a shrape with some free moulds where the hares' paths meet. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss., Shrap or Scrap*, a bait of chaff laid in the winter season to attract sparrows, &c., which are then netted with a contrivance called a 'shrap net'.

† **2.** ? The enclosure in a cockpit, within which the cocks fight.

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* I. 99 Loe heer how soen, the strong becoms full weak And out of shraep, fly cocks and so crie creak. 1599 — *Fort. Farewel* A 2 A crauen cock.. Will run about, the shraep and daer not stand, When cocks of gaem, comes in to giue a bloe.

†Shrape, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 scrapian, 3 schreape, 3–4 schrape, 4–6 shrape. [OE. *scrapian* (see SCRAPE *v.*).] *trans.* and *intr.* To scratch, scrape (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 1000 in *Techmer's Internat. Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 124 Gyf þu ægera beþurfe, þonne scrapa þu mid þinum fingre up on þinne wynstran þuman. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Heo schulden schreapien eueriche deie þe eorðe up of hore putte þer heo schulden rotien ine. *Ibid.* 82 (MS. C.), Þeose beoð all ischrapede ut of ancre riule þæt swich fulðe spit ut. 13.. [see SHAB *sb.* 1]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 215 Penne was he a-schomed..and schraped his eren. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 27 Take 3e out litil foxis þat schrapen doun þe vines. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 184 Herly in the morowe to shrapyn in the vale, To fynde my dyner amonge the wormes smale. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* 24 Youth brought vp in lewdnes and in syn Shall skant it shrape so clene out of his mynde.

Shrapnel (ʃræ·pnĕl), *sb.* Also *erron.* **-ell.** [f. the name of Gen. H. *Shrapnel*, who invented this shell during the Peninsular War.] A hollow projectile containing bullets and a small bursting charge, which, when fired by the time fuse, bursts the shell and scatters the bullets in a shower.

The term *Shrapnel shell* was adopted officially (instead of *spherical case shot*) in accordance with the Report of a Select Committee at Woolwich dated 11 June, 1852.

(*a*) *Shrapnel's* or *Shrapnel shell, shot.*

1806 Capt. J. F. OGILVIE in Shrapnel *Petit. Ho. Lords* 14 The excellent effect of your Spherical Case (Shrapnel Shells). 1807 Sir R. WILSON in *Life* (1862) II. 148 If we had only some of Shrapnell's shot. 1812 LIEUT. BOUCHER in Shrapnel *Petit. Ho. Lords* 10 The French complained much of the 'Shrapnel Case Shot'. 1870 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 2 The new Indian gun..throwing a nine-pound shrapnel shell. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept., The efficiency of a projected shrapnel shell is materially altered by an increase in the velocity.

(*b*) *Shrapnel* (chiefly collect. sing.).

1812 LIEUT. H. HOUGH *Diary* 27 June (MS.), Our batteries cracking shrapnells over their ears. 1858 MAJ. SINGLETON in Shrapnel *Petit. Ho. Lords* 21, I ordered Shrapnel to be fired, which did great execution. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 384 A slight earthen parapet is sufficient to protect men from the effects of Shrapnel.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1854 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (ed. 6) 82 The Shrapnell fuze. 1909 DEHAN *Doþ Doctor* xxx, A dusty stretch of shrapnel-raked ground.

Hence (*rare*) **Shra·pnel** *v.*, to shell with shrapnel; **Shra·pnelize** *v.* (*transf.*).

1837 T. HOOK in *New Monthly Mag.* L. 156 They were sweeping up the mud, and spooning it into a cart with an almost inevitable certainty of Shrapnelizing the 'passing villagers'. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 7/1 Our guns shrapnelled their advance.

Shrave (ʃrēv). *local.* (See quots.) Hence **Shrav(e)y** *a.*

1793 A. YOUNG *Agric. Sussex* 12 This land is provincially called Shravey, stoney, or gravelly. 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. I. 81 Shravy land, flinty and gravelly. 1858 *Ibid.* XIX. I. 187 The subsoil varies from a stiff yellow clay to what is called shrave, which consists of innumerable fragments of flaky pieces of mixed clay and sand.

Shra·vel. *local.* Small refuse wood or faggots.

1732 in Cullum *Hist. Hawsted* (1784) 216 [In 1732 the tenant was allowed] shravel wood.

Shread head. *Archit.* [Cf. next.] = JERKIN-HEAD. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. 1032.

Shrea·dings, *sb. pl. Building.* ? *Obs.* Also 8 (*rare*) **shreedings,** 9 **shredding.** = FURRING 3 b.

1668 LEYBOURN *Platform for Purchasers* 133 Furrings or Shreadings [of a roof]. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 172 *Shreadings*,..the lower end of the Principal Rafters markt *rr* are called *Shreadings*, or *Furrings*. 1812 P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.* 88. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., Shreddings or Furrings. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit., Furrings*, or *Shreadings*, short pieces attached to the feet of the rafters of a roof, making a small angle outwards and downwards, for the purpose of carrying the eaves beyond the line of the wall.

† Shreake. *Obs.* Of obscure meaning and origin.

Perh. a misprint; cf. *streak* dial., strip.

1641 HERRICK *Oberon's Palace* 57 Ribands, and then some silken shreakes The virgins lost att barlye breakes.

Shreak, obs. variant of SHRIEK.

†Shream, *v. Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 **schreamen,** 6 **shrame,** 7 **shream(e.** [A parallel form to SCREAM *v.*] *intr.* To scream. Hence **†Shrea·mer,** a screamer; **Shrea·ming** *ppl. a.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 52 þet wif..þe iherեð, hwen ha kimeð in, hire bearn schreamen [*v. r.* screamen]. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 204 b, Clamorous cryers, shrekers, shramers, or yellers. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 91 They heard about them round Of tubbish timbrels perfectly a hoarse and jarring sound, With shraming shalms and gingling bels. 1567 *Ibid.* VIII. 184 She shraming cried out aloud. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Sin Man-catching* I. 16 The little Peacocks shreame [*ed. 2* shream] out and yawle amain.

Shreawd, obs. form of SHREWD.

Shred (ʃred), *sb.* Forms: 1 **scréade,** *pl.* **scréada,** -an, 3 **schreade, shrade,** 3–6 **shrede,** 4–5 **schrede,** 6 **shredd, shradde,** 6–7 **shredde,** 7, 9 **shreed,** 7–9 **shread,** (9 **shrid**), 6– **shred.** [OE. **scrēad* str. fem. (pl. *scrēada*), *scrēade* wk. fem. = OFris. *sc(h)rēd* hair-cutting, clipping of coin, MLG. *schrôt, schrôt* neut., cut, cut-off piece, width of linen, also *schrôde, schrûde* wk. masc. (LG. *schraad*), MDu. *schrôde* fem. (WFlem. *schroode, schroo* fem., Du. *schroot* neut., from G.), OHG. *scrôt* str. masc. (MHG. *schrôt*; G. *schrot* neut., in dial. masc.), f. OTeut. **skraud-* (: **skreud-, skrûd-*, to cut, for other derivatives of which see SHROUD, SHRIDE *v.*[1]). Cf. SCREED *sb.*

The OTeut. **skreud-* is commonly viewed as an extended form of **skreu-*, which is itself an extension of **sker-*: see SHEAR *v.*]

1. A fragment cut or broken off; a strip; a scrap. In late use apprehended as transf. from sense 3.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 151/20 *Praesegmina, praecisiones*, screadan. *Ibid.* 164/6 *Scedla*, screade. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 3if heo mei sparien enі poure schreaden [*MS. C* schraden, *T* schiue], sende ham al derneliche ut of h re woanes. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 99 Hauede he non so god brede, Ne on his bord non so god shrede. Þat he ne wolde þorwit fede Poure. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1540 Þe white [dragon] brent þan rede, Þat of him nas founden a schrede, Bot dust. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4455 Thei hadde ben hewen euery a schrede. 1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 102 There is a fletyng Island..Sume saied it was a shred of the bankes of Paradise. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 106 A small shred of ground twelve yards long, and one broad. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* iii, He munched a shred of toast. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 65 One of those little shreds which float in countless numbers on the surface of the water. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. x. 140 It would be well to set apart one small shred of ground.

b. = SHERD. *rare.*

1613–6 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. (1625) 17 Carrying my pot as Maids vse on their heads, I fell with it, and broke it all to shreads. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxx, He..sorted his pots, kept the whole ones, threw the shreds at the rabbits.

2. In OE., *pl.* Parings (of fruit, etc.); in mod. use, a narrow strip (of peel, vegetable, root, etc.) shaved so thin that it curls.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 118/1 *Quisquiliæ*, æppelscreada, *uel* cornæsceda. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 119 Put shreds of Lemon-peel into some of the Glasses. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, Three shreds of celery in a glass. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 307 The part of the stock which projects over the ring of the bark is next split into shreds. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 469 The root [horse-radish] scraped into shreds is the well-known accompaniment of 'the roast beef of Old England'.

† **b.** *pl.* Parings of leather or parchment. *Obs.*

1551–2 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI.* c. 15 § 3 Everie Girdler..maye ..sell their Neckes Wombes and Shreddes of tanned Leather, to anye person. 1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (1885) 19 Pd. for a bag of glover's shreds xij d. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2240/2 Glovers Clippings, Parchment Shreds.

3. A fragment or strip of textile material cut or torn off; one or more fibres torn from a piece of cloth; a small piece of cloth, a fragment of clothing; *pl.* scanty or ragged garments.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3473 Manye schredys and schragges at his skyrttes hynnges. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 2 God wole haue rekenyng,..Of men and cloth. the leste shrede. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6118 Generides than cut his shirt..And with the shredes hem he bond. *c* 1450 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 137 Nakede with outen clath or schrede. 1589 NASHE *Martin's Months minde* 45 The shreddes that fall into the Tailors hell, neuer come backe to couer your backe. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 56 Some of them going almost starke naked: others clothed in shreds of severall colours. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* (1675) 72 A fair suit of Arras, of which ..a shread may assure you of the fineness of the colours, and richness of the stuff. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 505 The very shreds shorn from woollen cloth. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvii, They have hung a shred of carpet out of an upstairs window. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* 324 Her clothes became ragged, and she mended them with shreds of any colour. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Christ will Return, Songs of Worker* 23 Clothed withal In shreds, the greatest beggar, yea in all The world.

b. *pl.* Strips of cloth used for nailing up plants or fruit trees.

1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xii. (1798) 136 The proper use of nails and shreds is necessary to the beauty of the tree. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xli, The old gentleman handed up the nails and shreds of cloth as he wanted them. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 353 Shreds will last two or three years.

c. *Of shreds* (*and patches*): made up of rags or scraps. Hence used *allusively.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 102 A King of shreds and patches [*1st Qo.* A king of clowts, of very shreads]. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II*, xxxiii, Led by a Rascall, made of shreds. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter* (1869) 4 That this thing of shreds and patches has been vamped together for sale only. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Mikado* I, A wand'ring minstrel I, a thing of shreds and patches.

† **d.** A cant term for a tailor. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv. Wks. (1616) 246 You slaue, you lift, you shreds. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* III. i, That poore shred Can bring more to the making vp of a man. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shred*, a Tailer.

e. *transf.* (of cloud, mist, etc.).

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xxiii, These fibres, or shreds of clouds. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxiv, The windy shreds of cloud. 1912 *Engl. Rev.* Nov. 514 Some shreds [of mist] are caught among the topmost trees.

f. (See quot. 1898.)

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 2 Membranous shreds are sometimes observed [in the saliva]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 923 Loose motions containing much mucus or 'shreds' or 'casts', or even blood. 1898 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Shreds*, patches of filmy material passed with the fæcal discharges in some cases of enteritis and diarrhœa.

4. A length or end of gold or silver thread or lace. *arch.*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2359 Launcelot and the quene were cledde In Robes of A Riche wede, Off Samyte white, with syluer shredde. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 39 Neuer so litle scraps or shreds or short ends of lace. 1765 GOLDSM. *Double Transform.* 36 Half the charms that decked her face Arose from powder, shreds, or lace. 1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* ii, His doublet..displayed a great number of ornamented buttons, and shreds of gold lace.

5. Phr. *In, into shreds*: in or into small fragments. *To tear to shreds* (also, *shred by shred*): to rend into small pieces; *fig.* to destroy, annihilate.

c 1400 *Melayne* 1093 Hawberkes sone in schredis were schorne. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 28 'Brail up the mizen quick!' the Master cries: 'Mann the clue-garnetts, let the main-sheet fly!' In thousand shiv'ring shreds it rends on high! 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. xvii, 'Give Oswald's letter'—Bertram read, And tore it fiercely, shred by shred. 1819 KEATS *Why did I laugh to-night?* 12 Yet would I..the world's gaudy ensigns see in shreds. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iii, A Townhall torn to shreds. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 61 Into shreds it went, Curtain and counterpane and coverlet. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. i. 25 Lewis tore to shreds the treaty he had signed. 1903 TALLENTYRE *Voltaire* xxxix. II. 217 It tore Vernet's reputation to shreds.

6. A fragment, small piece, little bit, scrap (of something immaterial).

c 1400 *Brut* CXCVII, Allas! Holonde me haþ bitraiede! Ay is in þe rede [? = red-haired man] of somme euel shrede. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 94 Suche shredis of sentence, strowed in the shop Of auncyent Aristippus. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 115 The dregges of common scurrilitie, the shreds of the theater. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 212 They said they were an hungry, sigh'd forth Prouerbes..: With these shreds They vented their Complainings. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 18 This was a shred in his common place-book. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 39 A despis'd Shred of mankind. 1742 R. BLAIR *Grave* 225 As if a slave was not a shred of nature. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 504 It is a shred torn off from the substance 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* viii. (1857) 105 Shreds of heretic sermons would be whispered over their ale. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* iv. 113, I must preserve a shred of independence in my inner self. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Oct. 2/2 Not a shred or shadow of truth.

† **7.** A twig. (Cf. SHRED *v.* 2.) *Obs.*

15.. *Guye of Gisborne* i. in Furniv. *Percy Folio* II. 227 When shales beeene [*sic*] sheene, and shradds full fayre, and leeues both Large and longe. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 72 To view vppon one birchen shredde Some hundred Clewes to hang like clustred peares.

Shred (ʃred), *v.* Forms: 1 **scréadian,** 3 **scradien,** *Ormin* **shrædenn,** 3–5 **schrede,** 4–5 **schredde,** 4–6 **shrede,** 5 **schred,** 6 **shreade, shrid,** 6–8 **shread,** 6– **shred.** *Pa. t.* 4 **s(c)hredde, schradde,** 4–5 **shradde,** 5 **schrede,** 6 **shrede,** 9 **shredded.** *Pa. pple.* 1 **ȝescréadod,** 4 **schrede, schradde,** 5 **yshrad, yschredyd, schrad,** 5–6 **shredd(e,** 6–8 **shreaded, shread,** 6– **shredded,** 4– **shred.** [OE. *scréadian* wk. vb. = OFris. **skrêda* (whence *skrêdere* clipper of coin). The other WGer. langs. have a redupl. str. vb. (later partly conjugated weak) of the same meaning: MLG. *schrôden, schrâden,* MDu. *schrôden* (mod.Du. *schrooien, schroeien*, W.Flem. *schrooden*), OHG. *scrôtan* (MHG. *schrôten*, G. *schroten*); f. OTeut. **skraud-*: see SHRED *sb.*]

† **1.** *trans.* To rid (a tree, vine, vineyard) of superfluous growth; to prune. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 74 Gif se wingeard..ne bið onriht ȝescreadod. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. XXX. (Bodl. MS.), In lente vynes and oþer treen beþ ikutte & pared, and ischred of superfluitees. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 26 Alle paryschenys þat..schredyn, or croppyn, ony treen in cherche-3erde. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* 42 b, If y^e^ haue any trees to shrede loppe or croppe for the fyre wode. *Ibid.* 43 It is the comun vse to begynne at the toppe of y^e^ tree whan he shall be shred or cropped. 1570 GOLDING *Justin* XLIII. 175 They lerned to shred their vynes. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Courts Leet* 119 Trees and hedges which hang over the kings high wajes must be cut and shredded. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 73 As for Timber-Trees, it is best not to head them at all, but to shred them up to one single Bough. 1762 in *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 13 Feb. 1792, 254/1 The Shreddings of all such Trees [that]..have heretofore been used to be lopped, cut, or shred.

absol. 1572 JEWEL *On 1 Thess.* (1611) 72 To plant, to weed, to graffe, to shrid.

† **b.** *fig.* To strip (a person) *of* his wealth or some possession; to fleece. (Cf. SHREDDED b.) *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* F ij, A good fellowe..that hath cum to a dycyng boord..and hath soon bene shred of al that euer he brought. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* ii. (1872) B vij, To shred him cleane from all his wealth. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xviii. 19 He that hid his talent, was soon shred of it.

† **2.** To lop *off* (branches), esp. in pruning. In first quot. *fig. Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 74 Buton ða lareowas screadian symle ða leahtras þurh heora lare awæg, ne bið þæt læwede folc wæstmbære. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 138 Hew doun this tree..And let of schreden every braunche. 1540 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 127 Yf the boughes be rotten or seare, the owner will shredde theim. 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* (1644) 124 The superfluous and wast sprigs of Vines, beeing cut and shreaded off. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 116 If thou shouldest deale with me as I deserue, thou shouldst not only shred my boughs, but cut downe my stocke. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 76 He loppeth (shreddeth) off the suckers. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 32 Though they will grow amongst other Wood provided you shred up the side Boughs. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wal-*

nut-Tree, You must by no means, in the Removal of them cut the Head, only shred up the side Branches.

†b. To cut or strip *off*; to cut (a piece) *from* or *out of*. *Obs.*

1580 T. M. *Baret's Alv.* To Rdr. A vj/2 And there with floures he stuffeth first his Hiue, From which he Honie from the best hath shred. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* F j b, Too much drought doth shred the leaues. 1591-5 BRYSKETT *Thestylis* 75 in Spenser *Astrophel*, Purple flowre, Which languisheth being shred by culter as it past. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* II. 52 One pares his eares from off his head, Another doth his nostrels shred. *Ibid.* III. 111 This maister with his brasse-beake head, Out of a Roman ship had shred A mighty planke. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, v, Th' vnguided Rage Of an Insultinge Conquerour, who shreds Maiesty like the mounting Poppie-Heads. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, Traps, armed with scythe-blades, which shred off the unwary passenger's limb.

fig. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVII. (1887) 148 The retained [religion] must pitch the defence of her truth, in some paucity of choice: seeing the liuinges are shred, which should serue the great number. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* S 2 b, I know what you are about to saye, but Ile shred you off three leaues at one blowe.

c. To cut off (a lock of hair).

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* III. xvii, They durst not, for their island, shred One golden ringlet from her head. 1856-9 *Novels & Tales fr. Household Wds.* (Tauchn.) I. 339 (Flügel) Where [a haircutter] had once shred their locks.

†3. To pare, peel. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 88 Þa het he him his seax æræcan to screadiȝenne ænne æppel. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8118 He badd himm brinngenn ænne cnif An appell forr to shrædenn. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Phys. Secrets* 197 Then shred off the inner bark of a white Bullas tree.

†b. *transf.* To cut away a part of, cut down, shave away. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 5856 Keruеð eowre spere longe, & makiet heom scorte..scradieð eower sceldes al of þe smal enden.

4. To cut into shreds or small thin strips or slices; esp. in *Cookery*, so that the shreds curl.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 227 Wortes or othere herbes.. The whiche she shredde and seeth. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* iv. 39 He gaderide therof gourdis of the feeld..and schredde in to the pot of potage. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 139 A pound and vncis sixe yshrad be do. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* l. (1636) 64 Take unset Leekes..shread them small and distill them. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* vi. 19 Had they beene but that night with the Indians, doubtlesse they had beene shred for their Suppers. 1656 MARNETTÉ *Perf. Cook* 115 Grate or shred fat Bacon or lard with a grater or knife. *a* 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 197 Shred very fine a pound of suet. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* x, We were employed by Fleta in shredding vegetables. 1884 F. BOYLE *Borderland* 371, I shredded some Spanish moss, bound up his wounds,..and set out for home. 1908 *Motor Boat* 5 Mar. 133/2 To shred up some best yellow soap and dissolve it in water.

b. To cut or tear (textile stuff) into shreds or narrow strips; to reduce to shreds; also, to tear (paper, etc.) into shreds.

1613 J. MAY *Decl. Estate Clothing* v. 24 The vse of short thrums is likewise so ordered, that they take and shred into short length, and then lay it in steepe. 1810 in Risdon *Surv. Devon* p. xxiii, The..Serges are shredded or cut up into small pieces. 1890 HOSIE *Three Yrs. W. China* 19 There is an entire absence of machinery for washing and shredding rags. 1906 CONAN DOYLE *Sir Nigel* v, With his own hands he had shredded those august documents.

†5. To cut or hack in pieces; to cut *down*. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 328 in *O. E. Misc.* 83 Þe feondes heom forþ ledeþ Boþe lychom and saule And beteþ heom and schredeþ. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2688 Thoffe my schouldire be schrede. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 293 Schyre scheldus they schrede. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2563 Than shall we oute vppon them Ryde And shredde them downe as shepe in folde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 59 b, The capitaines of Roan..cut doune trees, shrede the bushes, destroyed the vines. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 30 Another wafts his Blade about his head, And shewes them how their hamstrings he will shread. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* IV. iii, This sword shall shred thee as small unto the grave, As minced meat for a pye.

6. To divide *into* small portions.

1660 T. LYE in J. Nichols *Morn. Exerc.* (1845) V. 285, I shall not stand to shred the words into any unneccessary parts. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 145 Indivisibles, such as can't be shread. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, Hunger was shred into atomies in every farthing porringer of husky chips of potato.

b. *intr.* To be reduced to shreds; to become divided or scattered into small portions.

1646 J. HALL *Poems* I. 21 May these Roses here To palenesse shred, And Lilies stand disguised in new Red. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* xliii, At last it [smoke] began to shred away lazily. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* x, The forest began to shred out into scattered belts of trees.

7. *trans.* To cut in two, sever, as with scissors: chiefly with reference to severing the thread of life. Now *rare*.

1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 1887 Possesse thou myne while death deuide, & shred my File in twain. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Dan Barth.* Wks. 1907 I. 118 O sheare that shreadst the seemerent sheete of shame. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ii. 52 When ye shred with fatall knife His line. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* I. 4 When..Atrops knife Shall shred in twaine thy time of life.

b. To divide into two parts, cleave.

1765 *Museum Rust.* III. lxxxix. 371 [The shepherd] must shred or open the wool. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., To see the beautiful hull shredding the water.

Shred (ʃred), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of prec.] 1. = next.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 147 The stinging of shred Horshair. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 173 Put to 'em a little shred lemon-peel. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 85 As much..shred onion, as will lie upon a quarter guinea. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 470 Shred-up palm-leaves.

†2. Pruned. *Obs.*

c 1648-50 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* IV. (1818) 155 Sweet briers, shred vines, privet bushes.

Shredded (ʃre·dėd), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHRED *v.*] Divided, cut, or torn into shreds.

Shredded wheat: the grain of wheat cut by machinery into long filaments.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* IX. viii. 178 Others gnawing the small shreded tops of greene grasse..vsed them for foode. 1656 MARNETTÉ *Perf. Cook* 241 Adde your shredded herbs thereunto. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 305 The ordinary Forrage for Horses is..Rice mixt with shredded Straw. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 249 Ye shredded clouds that fall in Snow. 1864 R. A. ARNOLD *Cotton Famine* 514 The bleached waste of flax, or of shredded cotton-goods. 1891 MRS. MARSHALL *Cookery Bk.* s. v., Blanched and shredded pistachio nuts. 1911 GALSWORTHY *Patrician* II. iv. 199 A grape fruit, which, with a shredded wheat biscuit, constituted her first meal.

†b. Stripped of one's wealth, fleeced. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 38 Like a swearing shredded gamester, that looseth at one set all that euer he is worth.

†**Shre·dden,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SHRED *sb.* + -EN 4.] Made of shreds; patchwork.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 433 b, I do shuffle together a number of raggs of auncient writers scraped together, to make upp a poore shredden coverlett, to cover the nakednes of their Idolatry.

Shredder (ʃre·dəɹ). [f. SHRED *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. O Fris. *shrêdere* clipper of coin, MLG. *schrôder, schrôder* (LG. *schröder*) pruner, etc., also tailor (whence Da. *skrædder*, Sw. *skräddare*), MHG. *schrôtære* (mod.G. *schröter*) now chiefly in sense 'stag-beetle'.]

†1. A lopper or pruner of trees. *Obs.*

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Ecl.* i. *note* i, The lopper or shredder of trees. 1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 69 A lopper or shredder seates and putteth young graffs, sciences, shootes and twigges to a seed plot.

†2. One who utters 'scraps'. *Obs.*

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* K 1 b, The short shredder out of sandy sentences without lime.

3. An instrument for shredding; †a pruning-knife; a machine for reducing a substance to shreds.

1572 in *Midland Counties Hist. Coll.* II. 363 Item two billes & a shredder iiij^{d}. 1887 *American* XIV. 24 The use of a shredder for reducing the canes to a pulp.

†4. A front tooth, an incisor. *Obs.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 138 The Fore-teeth or Shredders. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* v. vi. (1686) 210 The *Incisores*, Cutters or Shredders.

Shredding (ʃre·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 5 s(o)hredyng(e, 6-9 shridding, 7 shreading. [OE. *scrâdung*: see SHRED *v.* and -ING 1.]

†1. Pruning or lopping of trees. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 149/11 *Putatio*, screadung. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 264 Scredynge of trees. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/2 Schredynge, of trees and oþer lyke, *sarmentacio, sarculacio*. 1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 255 Felling and shredyng of wode. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Records* (1891) 172 In shreddinge of busshes, heathe or fearne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xxiii. I. 538 In lopping and shredding of trees. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 114 It may take root, and hasten..to a sudden Tree; especially, if seasonable shreading be appli'd.

2. *concr.* a. A fragment; a shred. Now *rare*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 20 Tuoelf ceawlas vel soðer screadunga fullo, *duodecim cophinos fragmentorum plenos*. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxvii. (1611) 241 It [the Common Prayer] hath a number of short cuts or shreddings which may bee better called wishes then prayers. 1672 EACHARD *Let. to B. D.* (1705) 15, I knew of no better instance to represent the vanity of such kind of idle shreddings. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 112 The cloak and hat..worn to shreddings. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* III. iii. 136 An artistical pottage composed of nymphs, cupids, and satyrs, with shreddings of heads, and paws of..beasts, and nondescript vegetables. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VII. 183 She..cast therein Shreddings of many herbs.

†b. *pl.* or *collect. sing.* Prunings or loppings (of trees). *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cii. (1495) 667 The Arabees makith fyre of shredynge of the mirtus tree. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schredynge, or schrub.., *putamen*. 1529 in J. H. Glover *Kingsthorpiana* (1883) 70 Almaner of laufull loppe and schreddyng of trees. 1553 *Respublica* 102 The windefalles, the shriddinges, the fiycinges. 1649 in T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1774) 178 Any shredings, lops, crops, under woods, and other woods. 1768 in *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 13 Feb. 1792, 255/1 A competent Quantity of Browsing of the Shredding of the Trees.

†3. ? Trimming with shreds of gold lace. *Obs.*

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iv, I do not know whether such flouncing and shredding is becoming even in the rich.

4. *attrib.*, as *shredding-hook, -knife, -scythe*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 106/15 *Surculus*, wingeardes screadungisen. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. John* xv. 97 An unprofitable braunche, when it is cut of with a shreadyng hooke. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.*, etc. S iij b, Come Atropos therefore in haste On me to vse thy shredding knyfe. 1586 in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) I. 209 Time attendes with shredding sithe for all. 1615 MARKHAM *Engl. Housew.* II. 40 Take a good quantity of blaunch't Almonds, and with your shredding knife cut them grosly. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Shriddin' Bill or Hook*, a tool used for cutting out grass, briars, etc., from a ditch.

Shredding (ʃre·diŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SHRED *v.* + -ING 2.] Breaking up into shreds.

1904 DOWDEN *Browning* 304 These change like the shifting and shredding clouds before our eyes.

Shreddings, variant of SHREADINGS.

Shreddy (ʃre·di), *a.* [f. SHRED *sb.* + -Y 1.] Consisting of or resembling shreds; hanging in shreds, ragged.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 61/2 An ash-coloured, fetid, semifluid pulp, mixed with shreddy filaments. 1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* III. 49 His vest..sombre-hued and shreddy with long service. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 142 [The hepatic substance] is found projecting in shreddy masses into the pus.

Shredless (ʃre·dlės), *a.* [-LESS.] Of which not a shred remains.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xlvii, Those [Banners] which waved are shredless dust ere now.

Shredlet (ʃre·dlėt). [-LET.] A small shred.

1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 183 We'll 'bide by its tatter'd shredlets, While leaf or breath remains.

†**Shre·dling.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 7 shread-. [-LING.] A minute portion.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 105 That puzling Question, Whether a bulky Being be made up of a throng of cleaveless shreadlings?

Shred-pie. *Hist.* Also shrid-. [prob. f. SHRED *ppl. a.* (cf. MINCED-PIE).] A mince-pie.

1580 TUSSER *Husb.* XXXI. iii, Shred pies of the best,..and turkey well drest. 1651 S. SHEPPARD *Epigr.* 121 Christmasse Day. No matter for Plomb-porridge, or Shrid-pies. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 182 How King Henry the sixth ..sent this Arch-Bishop, for a New-years-gift, a shred-pie indeed, as containing pieces of cloath and stuff, of several sorts and colours, in jeer. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* viii, A shred pie, which is a coarse north country edition of the pie abhorred by puritans. 1884 BESANT *Dorothy Forster* xiii, The tables were covered with Yule-cakes..not to speak of goose-pies, shrid or mince pies.

Shreechowl : see SHRITCH-OWL.

Shreed, Shreek, obs. ff. SHRED *sb.*, SHRIEK.

Shreevalty, obs. f. SHRIEVALTY. **Shreeve,** obs. f. SHERIFF, SHRIVE *v.* **Shref,** obs. pa. t. SHRIVE *v.* **Shrefe,** obs. f. SHERIFF.

†**Shreitch.** *Obs. rare.* [?Representing dialectally OE *scrîc, scrêc* 'turdus': see SHRIKE *sb.*^{2}] The missel-thrush, SHRITE.

Cf. the local names *holm-screech, screech-thrush, shrike-cock.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 83 *Turdus Viscivorus*..the Misletoe-Thrush, or Shreitch.

Shreitch : see SHRITCH. **Shreive,** obs. f. SHERIFF. **Shrelle,** obs. f. SHRILL *v.*

†**Shrench,** *v.*^{1} *Obs.* Also 2-3 screnche, 3 schrenche, *Ormin* scr-, skrennkenn, 4 chrenche. [OE. *screncan* = (M)LG. *schrenken* to place crosswise, MDu. *schrencken* to ensnare, hinder, deceive, OHG. *screnchan, screnken* to lay crosswise, deceive (MHG. *schrenken*, G. *schränken*) :— prehistoric **skrankjan*.

From the root *skrank-* oblique, awry, are also MLG. *schrank* neut., barrier, hedge, OHG., MHG. *schranc* masc., bar, barrier, limit, enclosed space, deception, also MHG. *schranke* fem., G. *schrank, schranke*; MLG. *schranken* to shamble, stutter, MDu. *schranken* to sit cross-legged, waver, totter, OHG. *scrunchôn*, MHG. *schranken* to be crossed, waver, stagger.]

trans. To put a stumbling-block in the way of; to overthrow; to entrap; to deceive.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* ix. 59 Healden hie ꝑæt hie ..ða ne screncen ða ðe gað on ryhtne weg toweard ðæs heforrices. *Ibid.* lix. 453 Ne screnc ðu ðone blindan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Splm.) xvii. 41 Þu ȝescrenctyst on arisende on me, *supplantasti insurgentes in me*. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 209 Ute we..bidden god ꝑat he us..shilde ꝑer-wiþ ꝑat he us ne shrenche. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2618 Þe deofell, ꝑatt..stanndeþþ inn To scrennkenn ure sawless. *Ibid.* 11467 ꝑatt te deofell næfre Ne blinneþþ off to skrennkenn þa ꝑatt haffdenn himm forrworrpenn. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1189 He bicherde þene feont, & schrenchte þen alde deouel. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 34 Þat weneð me to schrenchen ant schunchen of þe weie. 13.. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 348 He hatied wommen..he seyde hit weren paunceris [*read* paunteris] mannus soule to chrenche.

†**Shrench,** *v.*^{2} *Obs.* [OE. *screncan*, causative of *scrincan* to SHRINK.] *trans.* To cause to shrink or shrivel with heat.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 6 Weron ȝescrencde, *aruerunt*. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 316/589 Men I-seoth ofte liȝtingue brenne hous and schrenche. 13.. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXII. 342 Brondis me dedin to his sydus his fel for to schrenche.

Shren(c)k, obs. form of SHRINK *v.*

Shrene, obs. form of SHRINE *sb.*

†**Shrepe,** *v. Obs.* [app. repr. OE. *screpan* str. vb.: see SCREPE *v.*] *intr.* To scratch.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 186 And nis þet child fulitowen þet schrepeð [*v.rr.* schindleð, scratteð] aȝean, & bit upon þe ȝerde?

Shreud(e, obs. f. SHREWD. **Shrevalty, Shreve,** obs. ff. SHRIEVALTY, SHERIFF.

Shrew (ʃrū), *sb.*^{1} Forms: α. 1 screuua, screauua, scræua, 6 shreaw, 6-7 shrewe, 6- shrew. β. 6 shrowe, schro, 8 shrow. γ. 6 shyrewe, 9 *dial.* shirrow, sheroo, shorrow. [OE. *scréawa, scréwa*, not found elsewhere in Teut.

Some scholars refer the word to the OTeut. **skrew-* cut (see SHRED *sb.*), comparing, for the sense, MHG. *schermûs* 'sorex', 'glio', 'talpa' (mod.G. *schermaus* mole, also a kind of mouse), OE. *scirfemûs* 'sorex' (related to *sceorfan* to cut). See, however, SHREW *sb.*^{2} With the β forms cf. *strow* STREW *v.* It is possible that in the γ forms there may

be some mixture of the (? synonymous) OE. *scirfe(mēs)*: cf. the dial. *sarrow* = SERVE *v.*

The absence of evidence for the word between the OE. period and the 16th century is remarkable; its place may have been supplied locally in ME. by *erdshrew* (i. e. earth-shrew), though this, with its apparent corruptions *hard-shrew*, HARDISHREW, *harvest-shrew*, *nossro*, *nursrow* (with prefixed N 3), is not recorded before the 17th century.]

1. Any of the small insectivorous mammals, belonging to the genus *Sorex* or the family *Soricidæ*, much resembling mice but having a long sharp snout; a SHREW-MOUSE.

The common European shrew is *Sorex vulgaris*. For *elephant, house, jumping, marsh, mole, musk, otter, pygmy, rat-tailed, river, tree, water shrew*, see the qualifying words; also HARDISHREW. The shrew was popularly held to be venomous and otherwise injurious; cf. *shrew ash, -bitten, -run* below.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* M 336 *Musiranus*, screauua. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 649 *Musiranus*, screuua. *a* 900 *Leiden Gloss.* 226 *Musiranus*, scraeua. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Scytala*, a lytel beaste callyd a shyrewe. 1545 *Ibid.*, *Mus Araneus*, a kynde of myse called a shrew, whyche yf it goo ouer a beastes backe, he shall be lame in the chyne 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 169 The poyson of..the feld mouse called a shrew. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 622 The poison of the Scorpion and Shrowe and such like venemous beastes. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Sorex*, a rotton, a schro. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 195 The shrew by her biting of the horse maketh him oftentimes to die. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 610 The tucan, or Mexican shrew. 1813 J. C. PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man* iii. 92 The proper Shrews, of which there are ten species. 1825 JAMIESON *Dict.* Suppl., *Shirrow*,..the shrew, Roxb. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. 414 The external similarity of a mouse to a shrew. 1904 J. G. MILLAIS *Mammals Gt. Brit.* I. 145 In still summer evenings, when lying in the woods waiting for rabbits to come out, I occasionally catch a momentary glimpse, of the restless, excitable Common Shrew.

Proverb. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 41 When all shrews haue dind, Chaunge from foule weather to faire is oft enclind. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 73 It does likely hold up, as we say, by that time the Shrews have dined. 1849 *Literary Gaz.* Apr. 266 It will be fair weather when the shrews have dined.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shrew-bitten, -like*; **shrew-afflicted** = *shrew-struck*; **shrew-ash** (see quot. 1776); **shrew-mole**, a mole of either of the genera *Scalops* and *Scapanus*; **shrew-run**, paralysed (as was supposed) as the result of being overrun by a shrew-mouse; so † **shrew-running** (see quot.); **shrew-stroke**, the fact or condition of being shrew-struck; **shrew-struck** = *shrew-run*.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 263 If a person or animal, thus *shrew-afflicted, was passed through the arch of a bramble [etc.]. 1776 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Barrington*, 8 Jan., A *shrew ash is an ash whose twigs or branches, when gently applied to the limbs of cattle, will immediately relieve the pains which a beast suffers from the running of a shrew-mouse over the part affected...A shrew-ash was made thus:—Into the body of the tree a deep hole was bored with an auger, and a poor devoted shrew-mouse was thrust in alive, and plugged in, no doubt, with several quaint incantations. *a* 1845 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* xiii, So long as I hold in my hand this wand of shrew ash there is nothing to fear. You are safe from the spirit in this chamber. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb., Bull*, etc. xxxix. 61 Of being shrew runne, or *shrew bitten. A Shrew Mouse..is a venemous thing [etc.]. 1898 *Guide Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 108 The *shrew-like *Tarsipes*. 1823 GODMAN *Amer. Nat. Hist.* (1836) I. 61 The *shrew-mole is found abundantly in North America, from Canada to Virginia. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. 86 If your horse be *shrew-runne, you shall looke for a briere which growes at both endes, and draw your horse thorow it and he will be well. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xvi. (1722) 61 Many of the Country People..when they see a Horse or a Bullock have his Limbs suddenly taken from him,..believe him to be either Planet-struck or Shrow-run. 1726 *Dict. Rusticum, Planet-Struck*, or **Shrew-Running*; (in Horses) is a deprivation of Feeling or Motion. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 131 The curative power which alone could heal the *Shrew-stroke lay in the branches of a Shrew-ash. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxi, When my vather's cows was *shrew-struck, she made un be draed under a brimble as growed together at the both ends.

Shrew (ʃrū), *sb.*[2] and *a.* Forms: *α.* 3–4 screwe, ssrewe, shreu, (4 schreawe, srewe), 4–6 shrewe, schrew, (6 shreaw, 7 shreue), 4– shrew. *β.* 4 *Sc.* schraw, 6 shrowe, shroe, srow, 6–7 shrow. *γ.* 4 sherewe, s(s)cherewe. [Generally held to be a figurative use of SHREW *sb.*[1], the transference of meaning being accounted for by the superstitions as to the malignant influence of the animal: see e. g. quot. 1545 under SHREW *sb.*[1] 1. This appears possible; on the other hand, SHREW *sb.*[1] may be a specific application of this word in the sense 'malignant being'; cf. MHG. *schrōtwel* devil.]

† **1.** A wicked, evil-disposed, or malignant man; a mischievous or vexatious person; a rascal, villain. Sometimes emphasized by *cursed, false*.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 287 Ne lust me wit þe screwen chide. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1917 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 161 Þe foure þat mest schrewes weren biþouȝten hem of guyle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3020 Þe ssrewen dude seþþe to þis lond suiþe moche wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14825 Þan come þai to þe phariseus, Of all þai war þe maister schreus. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 321 That schrewe Pilatus. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 353 For o schrewe which he spareth A thousand goode men he grieveth. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12547 All a company is cumbrit for a cursed shrewe. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 230 While þou were a ȝong boy a moche schrewe þou were. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud MS.) 572 For þat tyme were þe folk of Rome þe mest shrewen of cristendome. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 4 These fals shrewes that are of an opynyon contrary to the Kyng. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 525 Who deleth with shrewes hath nede to loke aboute. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Serm. Regat. Wk.* II. Qqqq j, Now are they taken from me by euil chaunces, and false shrewes, by naughty wretches. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xvi. in *Holinshed* I. 199/2 These are some of the policies of such shrewes or close booted gentlemen. 1609 DEKKER *Rauens Alm.* Wks. 1873 IV. 264 Such as were shrewes to their wiues. *a* 1650 *Merline* 1571 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 471 Then said Merlyn thoe, 'hee was a shrew that told you soe'.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 459 Al þai schrawis euire-ilkane. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 36 To trye a true friend from a shrow. *a* 1650 *Merline* 1221 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 460 Thou cursed srow, thou goe vs froe!

γ. 13.. *Beues* (A.) 1211 Hii lowe, þe scherewes, þat him gan wreie. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 232 Dauid seith blisful is that man þat hath nat folwed the conseilyng of sherewes.

† **b.** Applied to the Devil. *Obs.*

[*c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 470 Þas god soffrede such a schreawe Al for to spylle.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 209 Þei don vuele and þe deuel plesen, And aftur heore deþ day schul dwelle wiþ þe schrewe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 364 Though þat the feend noght in oure sighte hym shewe I trowe he with vs be þat ilke shrewe. 15.. *New Notbrowne Mayd* 13 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 2 Yet yf that shrewe To hym pursue That clepyd is Sathan.

† **c.** Applied to a malignant planet. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 4 Þat he be nat retrograd ne combust, ne ioigned with no shrewe in the same signe.

† **d.** Used as a term of abuse: Wretch, villain.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 143 To Pers þe plouh Mon one profrede his gloue,..And bad go pisse him with his plouh, pillede screwe [*v.rr.* s(c)hrewe]! *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 221 Shrew, Iape! Thus late as thou goys, what wyll men suppos? 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 110 That auld schrew, schame him betide!

e. *pseudo-arch.* In a weakened use, to express playful reprobation.

1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. i, Take me this old shrew softly to the nearest elm, and hang him tenderly by the neck. *Ibid.*, Our poor shrew of a parson is, by some mad soul, accused of slaying him.

† **2.** A thing of evil nature or influence; something troublesome or vexatious. *Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 207 And ase god dyȝt þeawes In alle gode men, þe feend a-rayeþ þe schreawes In wykken þer a-ȝen. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 629 That this his ȝifte shold not fro that tyme be reuoked by ony machynacion or shrew. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 568 Than seide Dodinell the sauage that it were a shrewe to go, for in this foreste is noon rescettes. *a* 1500 *Brome Bk.* (1886) 12 Take iij schrewys. [A waspe, a wesill, a woman.] 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* XXXI. 12 Remembre, that an euell eye is a shrew. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVII. (1888) 166 If to great a multitude making to great a state do not proue a shrew, then am I deceyued. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 223 Enmitie, hatred, and ill will is a shrew.

3. A person, *esp.* (now only) a woman given to railing or scolding or other perverse or malignant behaviour; freq. a scolding or turbulent wife.

For the proverbial collocation of *sheep* and *shrew* see SHEEP *sb.* 5 b.

α. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 547/380 He þat his tonge con not holde, In cumpaygnye a schrewe is tolde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* Epil. 10 But of hir tonge a lobbyng shrewe is she. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1282 For now, I am in certen, I have a Stepmodir: They been shrewis som. *a* 1450 MYRC 59 Wymmenes speche that ben schrewes, Turne ofte a-way gode thewes. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 251, I schaw ȝow, Sisteris in schrift, I wes a schrew euir. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vi. (1867) 61 Euery man can rule a shrewe, saue he that hath her. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 299 To be a shrewe in the kitchin, a saint in the Church. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* I. (1623) C j, They [bees] are like vnto incorrigible shrews: there is no dealing with them but by patience. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. III. 200 His wife who was a wicked shrew. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 59 Those men are most ..conciliating abroad, who are under the discipline of shrews at home. 1839 — *Wolfert's Roost* (1855) 183 He brought home with him a wife, who seemed to be a shrew, and to have the upper hand of him.

β. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 12 Iuno Dame that shrowe. 1584 PEELE *Arraignm. Paris* IV. iii, *Vul.* A harletrie I warrant her. *Bac.* a peeuish ehuish shroe [*rime* so]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* V. ii. 193 Now goe thy wayes, thou hast tam'd a curst Shrow. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. x. (1632) 575 Happy he..[that] Pan and old Sylvan knowes, And all the sister shrowes. 1608 [TOFTE] *Ariosto's Sat.* IV. (1611) 51 Silence cuts a shrow worse then a sword. 1659 *Lady Alimony* V. iii. K j, He that will practise the art of swinging in a Halter, either to please or cross a Shrows humour. *fig.* 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 83 Marriage is honourable, but House-keeping is a Shrew. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 356 To love, and hate, The same vain world; to censure, and espouse, This painted shrew of life.

† **b.** *jocularly* for: A wife. *Obs. rare.*

a 1626 BRETON *Post with Packet of mad Letters* (Grosart) 40/1 With commendations to your kind Son, your selfe, and your good Shrew.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shrew-tamer, -wife*; † **shrew-shake**(n *a.* ? cured of shrewishness.

c 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 210 Þe wyff was sumwhat shrew shake. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* O vj b, To be obedient, to be shrewshaken, to bring vp her children well [etc.]. 1808 MRS. M. T. KEMBLE *Day after Wedding* 8 Accomplish that, and I'll acknowledge you the Prince of Shrew-tamers. 1911 *Chamb. Jrnl.* Dec. 774/2 The snappish utterances of his shrew-wife.

B. *adj.* = SHREWD (in various senses); wicked, evil-disposed; bad; shrewish, ill-tempered.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2092, & so þei ssrewe robeours abbe hor wille. *Ibid.* 6718 A ssrewe & luþer dom. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 202 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 53 Þis quene..schrewe leuedi bicom ynou3. 13.. *Beues* (A.) 398 Go hom, truant!..Scherewe houre sone. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 44/27 Pieryne his doughter Is the shrewest [F. *la pieure*] ghyrle That I knowe on this side the see 1638 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) I. 76 He of Liberton does us a very shreue turne.

† **Shrew,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 shrewe, schrew(e, 7 'shrew, 5– shrew. *β.* 4 schrowe, 6 shrow, *Sc.* schir(r)o, 6–7 *Sc.* schro. [app. f. SHREW *sb.*[2], q. v.; cf. BESHREW *v.*]

1. *trans.* To curse; = BESHREW 3. Chiefly in imprecations *I shrew*... (occas. with *I* omitted).

α. c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun Pr. T.* 606, I shrewe vs bothe two And first I shrewe my self bothe blood and bones If thou bigyle me. *c* 1386 — *Sompn. T.* 519 O vile proude cherl I shrewe his face. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 75, [I] Venged me fele tymes..and shrewede myn emcristyne. *c* 1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 250, I shrewe al hem that been of love untrewe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 341 Here will I lig thise fourty dayes And I shrew hym that me fyrst rayse. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 21, I shrew them that say nay, and that shall not be I. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 269, I wait nocht gif thir lawis be gud, I schrew thame first thame fand. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 281 'Shrew my heart. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 147.

β. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 236, I schrowe alle þer maners, þat lufes þer partie. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* IV. 127 To know thy selfe yf thow lake grace, Lerne or be lewde, I shrow thy face. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 377 Ye hurt me now, schirro your fais. 15.. *Wowing of Jok & Jynny* 15 in *Ibid.* 388, I schro the, lyar, full leis me yow. 1668 R. B. *Adagia Scot.* 48 Shro the ghuest the house is the war of.

2. To deprave; = BESHREW 1. *rare*[−o].

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrewyn, *pravo*.

3. To treat shrewishly; to scold. *rare.*

a 1687 COTTON *Joys of Marriage* 31 If too wary, then she'll shrew thee. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Golden Calf* xx, She shrewed me so abominably..that my pride was roused.

† **Shrew·ard.** *Obs.* Also 3 ssreward, 4 schrew-, -art, scherewarde. [f. SHREW + -ARD.] A scoundrel.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5441 Vor pur hate aȝen is broþer held as a ssreward. *a* 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 134 The fusttart, the pollart, His hei nome is srewart. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 262 In Wales is a schreward to werre risen on.

Shrewd (ʃrūd), *a.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 schrewid(e, shrewid, schrewd(e, 4–6 schrewed(e, 4–7 shrewed(e, shrewde, shreude, 5–6 schrewyd, (4 schreuyt, 6 shreawd, schrewit), 5–8 shreud, 6–8 shrew'd, 5– shrewd. *β.* 5 schrod, 5–6 schrode, 5–7 shrode, 6 schroyd, 6–7 shroud, shrowd(e, shrow'd, shroad, 9 *dial.* srode. *γ.* 4 scherewed, 5 sherewd. [ME. *schrewed-e*, etc., prob. orig. f. SHREW *sb.*[2] (? or *sb.*[1]) + -ED.[2] Cf. *crabbed, dogged, wicked* (all early ME.); the two former suggest the possibility that the animal (*sb.*[1]) is alluded to. This formation coincided with the pa. pple. of SHREW *v.*, which may be the source of some of the senses; cf. the similar use of *cursed*.]

1. Of persons, their qualities, actions, etc.: Depraved, wicked; evil-disposed, malignant. Passing into a weaker sense: Malicious, mischievous. *dial.*

α. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4904 Ryche men hane shrewed sonys,—Shrewys yn dede and yn sawe. 13.. *Lay Folks Catech.* (MS. L) 139 Envye to oure neyȝbore with oþer schrewde castys. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 349 Sclaundris and oþir shrewid wordis. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1079 Fawnus..Was set oppon a purpose to make his sone leue All his shrewde tacchis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7330 Þe schrewed sonn of þe fende. *Ibid.* 7742 A schrewyd counsaile toke þai þan. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xviii. 366 Whan he dyd ony shrewd dede they weld bete hym with roddes. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 35/1 Thenemye the fende with his angellis cursed and shrewd. *c* 1490 — *Rule St. Benet* 122 Kepe euer your tongue from euyll and shrewde langage, & speke lytyll & well. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 165 Our owne euyl workes and shrewed wylles. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xviii. 62 Schrewit is that seruice ȝe haif schawin to ȝour King. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 33 That shrew'd and knauish spirit Call'd Robin Good-fellow. 1612 DAY *Festivals* iii. (1615) 29 How do they pule & cry? nay, how will they shew a shrewd stomach or ever they can go or speake? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 846 All urchin blasts, and ill luck signes That the shrewd medling Elfe delights to make. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Shrewd.* (s'roa'd),.. (shr'oa'd),..badly-disposed; wicked; vicious. "E's gwun a despert srŏde lad.'

β. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cccxxix, Beware of anger, for it is a shrode hert that maketh al the body fare the worse. 1606 DEKKER *Seuen Deadly Sinnes* iii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 48 Drunkards, Vnthriftes and shrode Husbonds.

γ. 13.. *Beues* (A.) 4498 þar was a Lombard in þe toun, þat was scherewed & feloun. 14.. *Chaucer's H. Fame* 275 (Caxton), Ther may be vnder goodlyhede Couerd many a sherewd vyce.

† **b.** Of children: Naughty. *Obs.*

[1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 91 b, These ben called ..capytall vyces, bycause other shrewde children ryseth of them.] *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 9 Experience teacheth, that..of a shrende boye, proueth a good man. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cii. 89, I haue knowen..many a shreude boye for the desire of Apples, to haue broken into other folkes orchardes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 12 He (Cupid) hath beene fiue thousand yeeres a Boy. *Kath.* I and a shrewd vnhappy gallowes too. 1645 BP. HALL *Treat. Content.* 77 The best of us are but shrewd children.

† **c.** Of animals: Of evil disposition, bad-tempered; vicious, fierce; = CURSED 4 b. *Obs.*

1509 WATSON *Ship of Fools* VI. (1517) B vij, Oftentymes a mylde bytche bryngeth forth shrewed whelpes. ? *a* 1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* (1829) 242 And may be

likened to a shrewd cow, which, when she hath given a large mess of milk, turneth it down with her heel. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 22 God sendth the shrewd coow short hornes. 1547–50 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* IV. Q iv, As to a shrewde horse belongeth a sharpe brydle: so oughte a shrewde wyfe to be sharpely handeled. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. 96 The practice of some Horse-men..to tie a shrewd Cat to a Poale, with her heade and feete at libertie, and so thrusting it vnder the horses bellye,..to make her..clawe him. 1630 DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* 319 [They] together sat By the shrewd Muncky, Babian, and the Ape.

†2. Of material things (*esp.* animals): Mischievous, hurtful; dangerous, injurious. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4431 An Axe had he þan an honde, A shrewedere wepene for to fonde Was neuere non yfounde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 335 Wel schrewed mys [*mures nocentissimos*]. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Blaynes..comeþ of schrewed and corrupt humours. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 20 þoru busschis and bromes þis beste..Secheth and sercheth þo schrewed wormes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 46 Egipt is a strong Contree: for it hathe manye schrewede Havenes, because of the grete Roches. *c* 1450 *Robyn & Gandeleyn* vi. (Child *Ball.*), There cam a schrewde arwe out of þe west. 1493 FESTYVALL 31 b, They wyll slee theym with a shrewed knyfe. That is with the euyll and cursed tonge. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 59 To lift shrewd Steele against our Golden Crowne. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Of Wisdome for a Mans selfe* (Arb.) 182 An Ant..is a shrewd thing, in an Orchard, or a garden. 1621 DONNE *Serm.* XV. (1640) 148 The Buls of Babylon, the shrewdest Buls of all, in temporall, in spirituall persecutions.

†3. Of things (chiefly immaterial): Of evil nature, character, or influence; ill-conditioned, bad, vile. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* iii. 5 Schrewide thingis [*prava*] schulen be in to dressid thingis. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) I. 72 Right so he is a shrewe, on whom shreude thinges and badde han most werchinge. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 2613 They have a custom, a shrewid for the nonys, Yf [etc.]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 94 At thi shrewed ws thow wenys me to leid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 57 The eddir, with schrewit herbis fed. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (ed. Pollard) 438 Though he loke never so well, I promyse you he hath a shrewde smell. *c* 1535 *Frere & Boy* 283 The good wyffe sayd, wer hast thou be? In schrewyd plas as thynkys me. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 16 There are shrewd books, with dangerous Frontispices set to sale. 1678 in *Lauderdale Papers* (1885) III. 140 His Maj^ty did highly signify his displeasure against Sir William Lowther...The shreud effects whereof he has since tasted.

†b. Of reputation, opinion, meaning: Evil, bad, unfavourable. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1619, Y graunte yow That ye shal haue a shrewde fame And wikkyd loos. 1527 in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1881) I. 523 *note*, Some of them, as Master Dean hath known a long time, hath had a shrewd name. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Commode*, To be ill reported of: to haue a shrewde name. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 232 Shee enlargeth her mirth so farre, that there is shrewd construction made of her. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 82 Many men..giue good things a shrewd vnhappie, and wrong name. 1664 H. MORE *Apology* 491 That spirit is not of God, but in some shreud sense or other is the spirit of Antichrist.

†c. Poor, unsatisfactory. *Obs.*

α. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21126 Thow hast..Mad a shrewde marchaundyse. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xxiv. 375 There is shrewde herberowe,..lodge where ye will, for I will not lodge there. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. viii. 17 They will make a shrewde marchaundyce for vs. ?1537 *Thersytes* 146 (Pollard) He that should medle with me shall have shrewde rest! 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Coenare malum...*, to suppe with sorow and shrewde rest. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (Sommer) 26 b, The Helots..would haue giuen a shrewd welcome to the [invading] Arcadians.

β. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 8 You might haue tooke better heede, and It was your owne fault, are two shrode plasters for a greene wound. 1616 *Marlowe's Faustus* (ed. Brooke) 990 By Lady sir, you haue had a shroud iourney of it.

†d. In bad physical condition (the precise meaning varying with the application); in bad order; ugly; tough. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxvi. (1869) 123, I can with good vynture enoynte a shrewede wheel that cryeth. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* (E. E. T. S.) 1155 With a shrewde face *utilis imago*. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 26 A shrewd knot must haue a shrewd wedge [*malo nolo quærendum esse malum cuneum*]. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 34 The young tree will stoup, when the old shrewd cannot bend.

†4. Of events, affairs, conditions: Fraught or attended with evil or misfortune; having injurious or dangerous consequences; vexatious, irksome, hard; (of a task) difficult, dangerous. *Obs.*

α. 1508 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B vj, It is shrewed to lape with naked swerdes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. ix. 64 The feirfull spa men therof pronosticate Schrewit chancis to betyde. 1531 FRITH *Judgm. upon Tracy* Wks. (1572) 79 Those holy fathers were in shreud cause, which continuing in long penurie, scant lefte at theyr departing, a halfe pennie. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 1936/2, I aduise thee beware of the fire, it is a shrewd matter to burne. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. v. 14 Ah fowle, shrew'd newes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 711 Strangers haue more shrewd entertainment, and scarsely in twentie daies..can shake off this Shaker [ague]. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* III. ii, By'r Lady a shrewd business, and a dangerous. 1627 DONNE *Serm.* xxii. (1640) 222 The King, that comes after a good Predecessour, hath a shrewd burthen upon him. 1632 ROWLEY *New Wonder* III. i. E 3, Sir, 'tis a shrewd taske. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Lady G. B.* liv, The times are shrewd, my treasures spent.

β. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 108 Wee fere here that ther well be schrode passage to thys Balling martt. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 355, I promes you I am in a schroyd case, oneles the Kinges highe Majestie..do see redresse in suche causes. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 79 Yf the yeomanry of Englond were not, in tyme of warre we schold be in schrode case. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 11 This singulariti in philosophi is like to grow to a shrode matter.

5. *Shrewd turn*: a. a mischievous or malicious act (*arch.*); †b. a piece of misfortune, an accident (*obs.*).

1464 *Paston Lett.* 29 Feb., He wold do Debenham a shrewd turne and he coud. 1530 PALSGR. 712/2, I provoke..him to do a shreude tourne. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Fero, Infortunium ferre,..* to haue a shrewde turne. 1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 76 As a dogge doth that is crept into a hole, hauing done a shroude turne. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 9 They are..sent to the schoole to keepe them.. from danger, and shrewd turnes. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 282 The nurses eie attends the feeble infant, for feare of shrewd turnes. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. i. rule 5 § 3 They can doe a good turne or a shrewd. 1702 *Engl. Theophrastus* 204 No enemy is so despicable but some time or other he may do a body a shrewd turn. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 211 That town owed us a shrewd turn for having handled them coarsely.

6. As an intensive, qualifying a word denoting something in itself bad, irksome, or undesirable: Grievous, serious, 'sore'.

†a. of injury, loss, disease, etc. *Obs.*

α. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 357 Þe evel þat hatte ficus, þat is a schrewed evel. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 4 Ther was shrewd rewle toward in this cuntre. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. 132 b, He gaue a shrewd checke to yᵉ vnmeasurable praiser. 1592 *Soliman & P.* 426 A shrewd losse, by my faith, sir. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 41 Humfrey, Duke of Gloster, scarce himselfe, That beares so shrewd a mayme. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gent. Usher* II. i. 25, I have been hanted..with a shrewd fever. 1609 G. ARCHER in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) IV. 1734 Some three or foure dayes after her, came in the Swallow,..and had a shrewd leake. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of News* I. Interm. 73 O, but the poore man had got a shrewd mischance, one day. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. x. 248 A Wound closed up, where a piece of the vein is yet unhealed,..will cause shrewd Imposthumes. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 180 Meeting with a shrew'd mischance. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi, That is a shrewd loss.

β. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 112 Hytt woll be a shrode losse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 441 With shrowde fines eftsoones redoubled, if not answered. 1612 N. FIELD *Woman is a Weathercock* II. i, *Mrs. Wag*... Haulke, hauke. [Coughs and spits.] *Page*. Shee has a shrowde reach, I see that. 1623 BRADFORD *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 150 His father suffered a shrowd check.

†b. of temptation. *Obs.*

1601 *Death Rob. Earl Hunt.* IV. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 297, I know thou shalt be offer'd wealth, Which is a shrewd enticement in sad want. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. II. xii. 437 A shroud bait to tempt his hungry souldiers to sacriledge. 1696 WHISTON *Theory Earth* 61 They were under a shrewd Temptation of thinking very meanly of the Bible it self.

†c. Qualifying an agent-noun. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 171 *marg.*, Timorousnesse a shrewd hinderer of enterprises. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. ii. 123 These women are shrewd tempters with their tongues.

¶d. 'Hard to beat', formidable. *rare*⁻¹.

1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xii, I was now a shrewd walker, thanks to constant practice.

†e. As a vague intensive. *Obs.*

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. i, *Caster*. He threw twice twelve. *Credulous*. By'r lady, a shrewd many!

†7. Of persons and their actions: Severe, harsh, stern. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 379 Oure men beeþ schrewed and angry inow to hem self, but in Goddes seruauntes þey leye neuere no hond. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1424 The captane than a schrewed ansuer him gaiff. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xvi, She being sharp-set vpon the fulfilling of a shrewde office in over-looking Philoclea. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVII. xxxiv. 654 The hard and shrewd dealings of a mans countrie. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* vi. 133 The Bishop..gave him..such a shrew'd remembrance, partly with words, and partly with his crosier staffe.

8. Severe, sharp, hard. a. Of a blow, wound. *arch.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 27 They..gauen hym many a shrewde stroke. *a* 1500 *Brut* 593 This shal be þe shrewdest bofet þat euer thow yovyst. 1596 LODGE *Wit's Misery* (1879) 92 Hee [the devil] will giue a shroud wound with his tongue. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 228 Me thought hee made a shrewd thrust at your Belly. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. 39 Many..were drowned, or forced on shore with shrewd hurts, and bruises. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Hist. Life* (1714) 237 He struck her with the Stick, a shrewd Blow over the Breast. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 9/1 The shrewd thrusts, the flashing fire, with which the hated Voltaire pushed on his work of 'crushing the Infamous'. 1885 V. L. CAMERON *across Africa* xvi. (ed. 2) 224 One or two got some shrewd knocks.

†b. Of conflict or effort. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 43 To abide other bitter bruntes and shrewde skirmishes of aduersitie. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 111 Foure thousand men would have made a shrewd adventure to have taken his Indies from him. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 412 Many a shrewd brush did some of the Townsmen meet with from them. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 21 They adventure with better force, and in shrewder Battels.

9. Sharp, piercing, keen. a. Of a weapon or the like; also of pain. *arch.* (After Shaks.: see quot. 1593 in 2.)

1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 195 A sting of shrewdest pain Ran shrivelling thro' me. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxxxiii. 5 A shrewder stimulus arms her, Anger. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 107 Sharpest shrewdest steel that ever stabbed To death Imposture.

b. Of the air, wind, weather.

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 96 There comes a shrewd right winde, and gets into the hollow of the tree. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 581 All plants..that can endure The winter's frown, if screen'd from his shrewd bite. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 23 The night was shrewd and windy. 1849 ROSSETTI *Ruggiero & Angelica* 9 The sky is harsh, and the sea shrewd and salt. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 337 That shrewd Yorkshire atmosphere. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xviii, The air was shrewd as it breathed from the north.

advb. 1603 SHAKS. *Ham.* (Qo.) 400 The ayre bites shrewd [Qo. 1604 shroudly]; it is an eager and An nipping winde.

c. Of sound: Harsh. *rare.*

1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 10 The song-notes of our fear, Shrewd notes and shrill, not clear or joyful-sounding.

†10. Of a sign, token, etc.: Of ill omen, ominous; hence, strongly indicative (of something unfavourable).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 177 Be sure to marke them well..whether they go all out or no: for if they doe, it is a shrewde signe they will away. 1619 T. TAYLOR *Titus* ii. 8 Bitternesse [is] a shrewd signe of a bad cause. 1630 DONNE *Serm.* xiii. (1640) 135 If our own heart..condemne us, this is shrewd evidence, saies S. Iohn. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 186 'Tis a shrewd Symptom of an ill habit of Body. 1692 BP. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 262 We hear not a word of Fathers to countenance this Doctrine, which is a shrow'd sign it is so far from being Ancient, that they speak directly against it. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 17 When a man is against reason, it is a shrewd sign reason is against him.

†b. Of probability, etc. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. 149 A good plain maner of knowelage geuyng it was & a shrewd likelyhood. 1629 SCLATER *Expos.* 1 *Thess.* v. 554 To array our selues..aboue our Calling [is] no lesse then Pride; at least a shrewd species and appearance of it. 1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* II. 52 If Pain be Ill..we have..a shrewd Chance on the ill side, but none at all on the better.

11. Of a piece of evidence: Hard to get over, 'awkward', damaging. *arch.*

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 4 If his Questour or Treasurer had beene condemned, it would haue beene a shrewde precedent for his conviction also in the same cause. 1633 LAUD in *Strafford Lett.* (1739) I. 213, I am afraid that many of them will be found Guilty: You give me one shrewd Instance in the Bishop of Waterford. 1692 *Vindiciæ Carol.* ii. 31 The pinching Article against him [Strafford] was the Twenty third...A shrewd Article no doubt, and sufficiently evidences their Crime. 1849 H. MILLER *Foot'pr. Creator* xv. 310 A shrewd fact, which they who expect most from the future of this world would do well to consider.

†12. Given to railing or scolding; shrewish. *Obs.*

α. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 285 Tweie schrewed [*ligitiosissimas*] wifes þat wolde alway chide and stryve. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* D vij b, The tale and matere of the euylle and shrewde wyues. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xv, His [Socrates'] curst and shrewd wife. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 20 Thou wilt neuer get thee a husband, if thou be so shrewd of thy tongue. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 250 Somewhat shrewd to her Seruants. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Shropsh.* (1662) 2 The Poets faining Juno, chaste and thrifty, qualities which commonly attend a shrewd nature.

β. *a* 1500 *Brome Ek.* 11 The properte of a schrod qwen ys to have hyr wyll. ?*c* 1530 in *Pol. Rel. & Love Poems*, etc. (1903) 58 Thowe shalte bettyr chastise a shrode wyfe with myrthe, then with strokes or smytyng. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 70 As old as Sibell, and as curst and shrow'd As Socrates Zentippe.

†b. Of words, language: Scolding, railing, abusive. *Obs.*

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 128 If ye had..sowght fully to instructe me in the matier, then thus to desire to conquer me by shrowde wordes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Confero, Maledicta in aliquem*, to rayle at one; to geue shrewde woordes. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 191 She had reviled him & given him shrewd words. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 488 With shrew'd Acerbious speech, you Anathematize. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, London* (1662) 197 Shrewd words are sometimes improved into smart blows betwixt them.

13. In early use: †Cunning, artful (*obs.*). Now only in favourable sense: Clever or keen-witted in practical affairs; astute or sagacious in action or speech. (The chief current sense.)

α. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 60 Seeming to be sheep, and serpently shrewd. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xxi. (Arb.) 257 Least with their shrewd wits, when they were maried they might become a little too phantasticall wiues. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 47 By acting sharpe old men, shrewd servants,..and all such parts as did require some noise and stirre. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 June 1675, His lady had ben very handsome, and seem'd a shrewd understanding woman. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 331 The Men of the World are abundantly more shrewd in the Business of it, than even Good Men are in the Management of their great and eternal Concern. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 228 A shrewd old gentleman, who stood listening by with a mischievously equivocal look. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* ii. (1880) 25 Palissy was..by nature a shrewd observer and an independent thinker. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iv. 102 A woman of shrewd intellect and masculine character. 1884 TENNYSON *Falc.* I. i. 468 Lady, I find you a shrewd bargainer.

absol. 1867 LOWELL *Fitz Adam's Story* 360 Hard-headed and soft-hearted, you'd scarce meet A kinder mixture of the shrewd and sweet.

β. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* B 4 b, They told the King he was a foole, and that some shrowd head had knauishly wrought on him. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* IV. i. H 2, *Rinal.* Y'aue gotten a learned Notarie Signior Cornelio. *Corn.* Hees a shroad fellow indeed. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 206 He has a shrow'd wit.

b. Of action, speech: †Cunning, artful (*obs.*); characterized by penetration or practical sagacity.

1589? NASHE *Pasquill & Marforius* B 1, Whereuppon they

presume to make a shrewde scruple of their obedience. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvi. 502 The shrewdest and the cunningest obloquie that can be thrown upon thir actions. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxvii. 120 Empson made a shrewd apology for himself. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 205 The cause..may yet elude Conjecture and remark, however shrewd. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 259 An eminent man, who had waxed wealthy by driving shrewd bargains with the Indians. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 113 Taking shrewd advantage of the Lord Chancellor's unlucky mistake. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* iii. 59 He liked to observe, to generalise in shrewd and sometimes cynical epigrams.

c. Of the face or look.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* i, A shrewd and penetrating eye. 1877 MRS FORRESTER *Mignon* i, Fred Conyngham..has a plain, shrewd face. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* iii, The shaggy, dark brown eyebrows gave shadow and intensity to the shrewd and piercing grey eyes.

14. Of a suspicion or guess: Coming 'dangerously' near to the truth of the matter. (? Partly arising from sense 10.)

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 127, I denie not but the wisest ..politiques may..giue a shrewd gesse, and go neare the marke. 1599 *Warn. Faire Women* II. 1025 Should you be guilty of this fact, As this your flight hath given shrewde suspition. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 429 'Tis a shrew'd doubt, though it be but a Dreame. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xii. § 3 It is a shrewd presumption that he doth lie with them indeed. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, I have a shrewd idea that it is a humbug.

15. *Comb.*, as *shrewd-headed*, †*-hearted*, *-looking*, *-pated*, *-tongued*, †*-wit*, *-working* adjs.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrewyd hertyd, *pravicors.* 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 47 The priest Calchas was broght by the shrewdwyt Vlisses. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 197 A shrewd-tongued woman. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* IV. ii, A shrewd-brained Whorson; there's pith In his vntoward plainenesse. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 199 A notable shrewd-pated Fellow. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xvi, She was a pretty, fair, shrewd-looking person. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, The..shrewdest-headed..Berserker in the North Seas.

Shrewd, obs. form of SHROUD *v.*

†**Shrew·dhead.** *Obs.* [f. SHREWD + -HEAD.] Wickedness, depravity.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 510 For his scherewdhed sir Berard þemperour haþ made him his steward. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII 574 Ryȝt deuelen so for screawed-hede Euer mo forse schulle brede. 14.. *R. Glouc. Chron.* 5676 (MS. γ), His schrewedhede [see quot. 1297 s. v. SHREWHEAD].

Shrewdish (ʃrūˑdiʃ), *a.* [f. SHREWD + -ISH.] Somewhat or fairly shrewd.

1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 485 We have a shrewdish suspicion. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Veldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 33 Lieutenant Rudge was a shrewdish lad, Not easy to be cajoled. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 162 Some shrewdish forecasting of events.

Shrewdly (ʃrūˑdli), *adv.* Forms: see SHREWD *a.*; also 6 scrodely, 6–7 shrodly. [f. SHREWD *a.* + -LY 2.]

†**1.** Evilly, ill; wickedly; maliciously. *Obs.*

13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 326 He bithenketh him hu he may shrewedelichest worche. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2860 Alle wiþ herte grete, & shrewed-liche þai dede hym kulle. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* i. 16 Resteth to do shreudely, lerneth to do wel. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 324 He was ful ignorant wilfulli & shrewdeli. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 313 To dye as cowardes shrewdely oon with-oute a-nother. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 620 Fals flaterers that..speke fayre before the and shrewdly behynde. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 528/2 They may seme repentaunt openlye, and yet thinke in their heartes ful shrewdly.

†**2.** Of wounding, hurting, cutting: Sharply, severely. Often in fig. context. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlviii. (*Juliana*) 80 Quhene we do nocht all his wil, he gerris dynge ws schreuytly. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 431 He..was shrewidlie wowndid with waspis & fleis. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Glas* Wks. 1910 II. 147 My battred braynes, (which now be shrewdly brusde. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. 224 Deepe debts are sharpe goads, and prick shreawdly. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iv. 1 The Ayre bites shrewdly: is it very cold? 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 228, I see my reputation is at stake. My fame is shrowdly gored. 1613 W. B. tr. *Michaelis' Hist. Magic.* 337 A stone..fell vpon his head, and did shrewdly cut him. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. ix. 244 A Gentleman had a fall with his horse, was shrewdly bruised on his left side. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 99, I knew one shrewdly gor'd by a Bull.

†**3.** Sharply, severely, harshly. *Obs.* **a.** Of speech.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 530 Lo yet how shrewedly Vn-to my confessour to day he spak. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg Princ.* 3514 A man..to Iulius Cesar ones Crabbidly seid, and schrewdly [etc.]. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 134/3 The mynysters answerden thou spakest shrewdly to yᵉ wymen. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 134 Oft and richt schrewitly wald scho clepe and cry. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., This word Mummianiz'd in the beginning of my first Epistle is shrewdly called in question. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 16 Sir Roger..urged it [falsehood] shrewdly against the Person, who in that place, first revived the Aspersion.

b. Of treatment.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 257 He was a ferde lest he sholde be yet more shreudely handlyd. 1589 GREENE *Tullies Loue* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 203 If I write sharpely, blame me not that am vsed so shrowdlie. 1602 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 244 Some of Gods children..are shrewdly handled.. and brought very low, euen vnto deaths doore. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. ix. (1715) 46 Being of Opinion, that he had been shrewdly handled by the Divine Vengeance.

†**4.** Badly, ill, poorly. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xviii. (1869) 82 Thei..passen the gospel that j haue herd seyd in oure toun, and keepen it shrewedeliche. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1210 Shroudly it doth accorde, To pyke out honesty of suche a potshorde. 1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 658 Ordre must be taken in tyme for the payment of the workmen, or elles they shal worke but shrewdly.

5. Qualifying a word or phrase expressive of a painful or adverse condition, menacing or disquieting action, violent or oppressive treatment; passing into a mere intensive: Grievously, intensely, seriously.

a. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 245 Most florishing and wealthie peoples beyng some of them shrewedely shaken. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iv, Then Truepenny's fire-fork will him shrewdly fray. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 91 He's shrewdly vext at something. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 57 A greate number of birds alighting in her fields of corne, and deuouring it shrewdlie. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. F 2 A Famine, which shrewdly raged among the Commons. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* (1675) 220 To be shrewdly tempted to be a partial relator of them. 1687 *Good Advice* 43 Shrewdly against the will of the high Church-men. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 133 Yet seem'd she not to winch, though shrewdly pain'd. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Soliloquy* III. § 2. 146 Shrewdly disappointed. 1848 C. C. CLIFFORD *Aristophanes, Frogs* 4 My shoulder acheth shrewdly. 1856 BOKER *Anne Boleyn* I. i, We shall be shrewdly cuffed. 1863 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Gladiators* xliv, The attack of yesterday..must have shaken them shrewdly. *β. c* 1533 SIR W. FITZWILLIAM in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 284 Which happenyng shulde shrowdly discomfort her. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O 4 b, I haue brought him lowe, and shrowdly broken him. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vii. 163 These English are shrowdly out of Beefe. *c* 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. ii. (1881) 83 He's shrowdly frighted by this violence. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 57 Hee threatned us shrodly. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 78 The Ice did driue against the Ship, and shake her shrowdly. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. 56 Shroudly shrubbing their branches. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 73 Otherwise he would be shrowdly disappointed.

†**b.** Intensely, immensely. *Obs.*

1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedding* IV. i, I like her shrewdly; I hate a wench that is all whore and no company.

6. See SHREWD *a.* 14 and 10 b.

a. qualifying *suspect, suspicious, guess, fear, mistrust.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Warwick* vi, This made the French king shrewdly to suspecte. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 273, I mistrust yᵉ present case of Democritus so shrewdly. 1588 J. UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 22 He gesseth shrewdlie.. our intent. 1662a STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 1 Which may make it shrewdly suspitious that their intent is only to impose on our understandings. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 73 'Tis shrewdly to be mistrusted, that something a great deal further off..has some kind of tamperings here. 1757 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccxxiii, I shrewdly suspect that his Royal Highness has been the dupe of that sentiment. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. x, 'Tis shrewdly guess'd That Redmond rules the damsel's breast. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xiii, She coined pretexts to go downstairs, in order, as I shrewdly suspected, to visit the library.

†**b.** qualifying *probable. Obs.*

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. i. 120 It is shreudly probable, that fluid perceptive Matter will not fail to find the colours tinctured from one another. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 72 Is it not shrewdly probable, that..Colours are nothing else but a various modification of this motion?

7. With keen insight or perception; with shrewd intelligence or discrimination; astutely, sagaciously.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 84 Cosin you apprehend passing shrewdly. 1719 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* xxi. 310 The..Author observes, very shrowdly, that..it is to Him a Mystery. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Rev. Relig.* I. ii. 35 The Spartans held theft to be innocent, if it was but shrewdly committed. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ix, 'Shrewdly replied', said the monarch. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 110 He shrewdly propounded a dilemma which silenced Pomponne and Torcy. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 258 Shrewdly he kept the secret to himself.

b. Cleverly, skilfully. *rare.*

1851 T. T. LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* (1872) 194 Many a rough stone..will take a fine polish..if it be shrewdly cut and carefully rubbed.

Shrewdness (ʃrūˑdnės). Forms: see SHREWD *a.*; also 5 schredenes. [f. SHREWD *a.* + -NESS.]

†**1.** Wickedness, depravity; evil disposition, ill nature; malignity; maliciousness. *Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 376 He [*sc.* Lucifer] hys heaued of schrewednesse, As god hys cheaf of alle godnesse. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1853 As gret a fame han shrewes..for shrewdenesse, As good folke han for godenesse. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* xl. 199 He passet in shrewetnesse and malice al the Paganesse and mysbelewynge men. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 646 That hys graunt shold not by ony shrewdnes be destroyde, he confirmyd hyt with hys seele. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auian* vi, The shrewdness and malyce of the dogge. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxxvi. Wks. 902/2, I purpose to purchace suche a proteccion for them, that I wyl leaue my selfe lesse then the fourth part, euen of shrewdnes rather then euer I wyl pay them. 1535 *Goodly Primer, Prime & Hours* Ps. cxxv, Them that swerve from the right way unto shrewdness. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1541) 79 If the housbande were yll, yet oughtest thou to suffer hym, nor stryue with him by shrewdenes.

†**b.** An instance of this. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. (1868) 124 Þat þei (shrewes) ben constreyned by þre vnselynesses þat wolen and mowen and performen felonyes and shrewednesses. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* 442 In hire houses been iniquitees and shrewednesses. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D, The shrewdenes and cruelties, that Domician did to the virgins Vestales.

†**c.** Naughtiness, mischievousness. *Obs.*

1567–9 HARDING in Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 344 They..be subiect to all shrewdnesse of the boies of the streets, who vse commonly to mocke and reuile them. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 9 If they bee apt much before fiue yeeres of age, to learne shrewdnesse.

†**d.** A pretended term for a 'company' of apes.

c 1452 *Termys of venery, &c.* (Egerton MS 1995) in J. Hodgkin *Proper Terms* (1909) 52 A Schrewdenys of Apys. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vi b, A Shrewdenes of Apis. [Hence in various later works.]

2. Sagacity or keenness of mental perception or discrimination; astuteness in practical affairs.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 69 Her Garboiles..Made out of her impatience: which not wanted Shrodenesse of policie to. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 126 Shrewdness in inventing and discovering, is a particular gift of God. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch, Agis* & *P* 10 With his shrewdness and capacity he had a proper mixture of spirit. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iv, Some..requested advice upon other matters, which he delivered with an oracular shrewdness. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 250 Not being bred To barter, nor compensating the want by shrewdness. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 120 Natural shrewdness was the guide of the people in the business of exchanges.

†**Shrew·dom.** *Obs.* [f. SHREW *sb.*² + -DOM.] Wickedness.

13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 340 That shrewedom that regneth in the lond.

†**Shrew·dship.** *Obs.* [f. SHREWD *a.* + -SHIP.] = prec.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 580 Þat schamez for no schrewedschyp schent mot he worthe! *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 1737 [Scho] bythout hire al by the way Vppon a schrewydschyp or tway.

†**Shrew·head.** *Obs.* In 3–4 schrewe-, ssrew-, schreuhede, schr-, ssrewede. [f. SHREW *sb.*² + -HEAD.] = prec.

c 1290 *St. Lawrence* 4 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 340 Decius þe Aumperour..And is Iustise Valerian þat to alle schrewehede drov3. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5676 Ȝut for alle ssrewede [*v. rr.* schrewede, schrewehede, schrewedhede]..is soule com in to blis. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 638 [He] dede hym in an addre wede, þat best was of mest schreuhede.

Shrewing (ʃrūˑiŋ), *vbl. sb. rare*⁻¹. [f. SHREW *sb.*² + -ING 1.] ? A scolding.

1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 1 If I had waited patiently.. I might have spared you a shrewing.

†**Shrew·ing,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 4 shrewende. Used to render L. *refrenantem.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* ix. 14 The Lord shal scatere fro Irael the hed and the tail, the inbowende and the shrewende [? *error for* peschewende (ESCHEW *v.*); 1388 bischrewyngne].

Shrewish (ʃrūˑiʃ), *a.* [f. SHREW *sb.*² + -ISH.]

†**1.** Wicked, ill-disposed, malignant. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 262 Þat name [*sc. Iupa*] gaynyt hyr til, for scho wes schrewis, feloun & Il. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiv. d j b, That one shal happen to be wyse and discrete & that other folissh or shrewyssh. 1482 — *Reynard* (Arb.) 23 Thowgh my eme were twyes so bad and shrewessh.

2. Of a woman: Pertaining to or resembling a shrew; having the character or disposition of a shrew; given to or characterized by scolding.

1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 1619 Therbe a nomber liuinge that Grissills haue to name, But yet very shrewishe by naturall dispocisyon. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. R iij, A shrewishe tongue. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* G 4, Shee was a shrewish snappish bawd, that wold bite off a mans nose with an answere. 1603 DEKKER *Batch. Banquet* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 195 Not caring to prouide ought for his supper, but contrariwise taunts him with sharp and shrewish speeches. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 225 The Mistris is a good Huswife, but of shrewish condition. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, 'Good woman', said the magistrate to this shrewish supplicant,—'tell us what it is you want, and do not interrupt the court.' 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 42 My wife became more and more shrewish and tormenting the more I wanted comfort. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* vii, Slender and shrewish,..and though not absolutely ill-looking, of a sharp and acid visage. 1891 *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 447/3 Her vigorous, if somewhat shrewish dismissal of the Council's envoys.

b. In wider sense: Ill-natured, ill-tempered; of a sharp or cross-grained nature.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* E 3, *Scelarata sinapis*, shrewish snappish mustard, as Plautus calls it. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xix, He threw his coral and bells at my head for refusing him a bit of sugar—and you have too much sense to mind such a shrewish boy. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 194 His little dog Viper,..sleek, sharp, and shrewish. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. i, Y'are the shrewishest old dolt in Tunstall Forest.

transf. 1863 R. F. BURTON *W. Africa* I. 1 The shrewish gusts tore to pieces the very strongest showers. 1882 HOWELLS in *Longman's Mag.* I. 43 It was a shrewish afternoon late in April...The season was very dry.

Hence **Shrew·ishly** *adv.*, **Shrew·ishness.**

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 301, I was neuer curst: I haue no gift at all in shrewishnesse. 1602 — *Twel. N.* I. v. 170 He is verie well-fauour'd, and he speakes verie shrewishly. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Shropsh.* (1662) 2 How much shrewishness may be allowed in a Wife? 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 268 Elvira we chose for her especial gift in scolding, her natural shrewishness. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* VI. i. (1866) 779 These and similar sins of omission and commission were sharply and shrewishly set forth in the Queen's epistle. 1884 H. S. WILSON *Stud. Hist.* 169 The hair red, the face rather pointedly oval, with an expression of some shrewishness.

Shrewly (ʃrūˑli), *adv.* [f. SHREW *a.* + -LY 2.] = SHREWDLY (for which, in some instances, it may be a misprint).

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 439 Ryn God, rynne Devyll! yet the date of ower Lord And the date of the Devyll dothe shrewlye accord. *a* 1652 BROME *Queenes Exch.* II. i, Your Lady wants The furious sharpnesse of the nose, which here

My Queen has very shrewly. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* III. iii. 83 One is shrewly out, but neither was Pope: therefore both fallible. 1706–7 North *Lei. Mrs. Foley* 13 Jan. in *Lives* (1890) III. App. 256, I am both inclined and shrewly solicited, which is a civil word for commanded, by one of no small authority here [*viz.* his wife]. 1858 *Times* 30 Mar. 6/1 The north wind which whistles shrewly at night.

Shrewmouse (ʃrū·maus). (Also with hyphen and as two words.) Pl. **-mice**. Also 6–7 shroue-, 8–9 shrove-. [f. Shrew *sb.*[1] + Mouse *sb.*] Any of the small insectivores of the genus *Sorex* or family *Soricidæ*; = Shrew *sb.*[1]

1572 Hulot, Shrewmous, *mus araneus*, *Mus cæcus*. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 74 The shroue-mouse is an ill beast, and doth trouble and hurt mens cattell. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 535 This Shrew mouse is a little and light creature, which like a Spider climeth vp vpon any small threed, or vpon the edge of a sword. *Ibid.* 536 The places where the Shrew-mice hanteth. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb., Bull*, etc. xxxix. 61 A Shrew Mouse, which is a Mouse with short vneven legges, and a long head, like a Swines, is a venemous thing. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* I. 113 The shrew mouse inhabits old walls, heaps of stones, or holes in the earth. 1835 Browning *Paracelsus* v. 433 Strangling rushes,..Where the shrew-mouse with pale throat Burrows. 1849 [Dinsdale] *Teesdale Gloss., Shrove-mouse*, the field mouse. 1872 Calverley *Sad Mem.* 7 The shrewmouse eyes me shudderingly, then flees;..why was I born a cat?

† **Shrew·ness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Shrew *a.* + -ness.] Wickedness.

c 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 1739 And anoon in the stude A great schrewnes he dude.

Shrewsbury (ʃrū·z-, ʃrōu·zbəri). The name of the county town of Shropshire, used as the specific appellation of articles manufactured there. *Shrewsbury cake*: a flat round crisp biscuit-like cake. *Shrewsbury simnel*: see Simnel 1 b.

1728 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* 129 To make Shrewsbury-Cakes. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 7 Oct. 4/4 Gingerbread buttons and Shrewsbury cakes. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Bloudie Jacke* xxxii, She has given him..a Shrewsbury cake, Of Pailin's own make. 1844 *Ladies' Hand-bk. Haberdashery* 45 White or broad Reel-thread, Scotch Thread, Shrewsbury Thread. 1883 C. S. Burne *Shropsh. Folk-L.* 325 'Shrewsbury Simnels'..are eaten by many who do not heed the pious habit of 'mothering' which they were intended to celebrate.

Shrewyd, obs. form of Shrewd.

Shriche, variant of Shritch.

Shrick(e)-owle: see Shriek-owl.

Shrid, obs. form of Shred.

† **Shride**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 scrýdan, scridan, scrédan, 2–3 scrude(n, 3 shridenn, screde(n, scride(n, 3–4 s(c)hrude(n, 4 schride, scruyde, schrede, ssrede, shride; 3*rd sing. pres. ind.* (contracted) 1 scrýt(t, 2 scred, 3 shrut. *Pa. t.* 1 scrýdde, 2 scridde, scredde, 3 schrudde, srid, sredde, 4 shrudde, schredde, schred(e, schridde. *Pa. pple.* 2 ȝescrid, 2–3 iscrud, 3 ischrud, shrid(d, 3–4 schred, 4 ischrid, yshred, yssred, shred, shrud. [OE. *scrýdan* = ON. *skrýða*:—OTeut. **skrūdjan*, f. **skrūd-* (see Shroud *sb.*[1]).]

1. *trans.* To clothe, provide with clothes.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* xviii. 213 He wolde..earme frefran..& nacode scrydan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 36 Ic wæs nacud & ge me scrydden [*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* scredden]. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Hi were mid þon fellen ȝescridde. *Ibid.* 233 He us fett and scred. *c* 1200 Ormin 137 Shridd wiþþ haliȝ shrud ȝede he till Godess alitenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Monie cumeð to ou ischrud mid lombes fleose, & beoð wode wulues. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 379 Dor-wið he ben nu boðen srid. ?*a* 1300 *R. Alis.* 6803 (Bodl. MS.) In a lyouns skyn he was yshred. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 322 Þis mayde bright of hew Fro foot to heed þay schredde han al newe. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 565 (Laud 463) Þat liche bei let wake & shride, wiþ pal & wiþ oþer pride.

refl. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Deut.* xxii. 5 Ne scride ban wif hiz mid wæpmannes reafe ne wæpman mid wifmannes reafe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Mid þes wapnes dauid schrude him. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Þis was bitocned þuruh þet Iudit schrudde hire mid helidawene weaden. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 840 Cutberd, ros of bedde Wiþ armes he him schredde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 258 Þe queade riche þet zuo ofte ham ssredeþ. *a* 1400 *Laursfal* 416 Launfal yn purpure gan hym schrede.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 28 Ðyf god scrytt [*c* 1160 *Hatton* scrit] þat hiġ..swa mycele ma god scryt eow. *c* 1200 Ormin 3673 He þat all þiss middellærd Onn alle wise shridebþ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 23 Til god sriđ him in manliched. *Ibid.* 1878 Salamon findin is [*viz.* idols and gold rings] sal And his temple sriden wiđ-al. 13.. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 269 Wite blisse in heuene I schal þe scruyde.

2. ? To ward off.

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 20 (Thornton MS.) Schruedede in a schorte cloke, þat the rayne schrydes.

Hence † **Shri·ding** *vbl. sb.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 258 O moche is he fol..bet of his ssredinge is proud. *Ibid.*, Þe ssredinge of his bodye.

† **Shride**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4–5 schride, schryde. [? repr. OE. **scrýdan* (:—**scrūdjan*), f. **scrūd* Shroud *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To lop or prune (trees). Chiefly in *vbl. sb.*, *concr.* = prunings, loppings. Cf. Shroud *v.*[2]

1388 Wyclif *Song of Sol.* ii. 12 Flouris apperiden in oure lond, the tyme of schridyng is comun. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 442/1 Hooke to hewe wode, or schwydynge. 1450 *Vation Churchau. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 90 Schrydyng of treyes yn church hay j[d]. 1457 *Ibid.* 99 To the chorchemen for schryde wode yn the chorchehay, j[d]. 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 248 *b*, [Gifts] of shriding of trees, and of al manner of vnderwoode. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Shride*, to cut off wood from the sides of trees; to cut off wood from trees generally.

† **Shridels.** *Obs.* In 4 schrydeles. [app. f. Shride *v.*[2] + -els. Cf. MLG. *schratele* piece cut off, LG. *schradels*, *schrodels* bruised corn for cattle, G. *schrotel* shreds, parings.] Loppings of trees.

1399–1400 in Worth *Tavistock Par. Rec.* (1887) 5 [Bought] de la schrydeles [to the said timber belonging ij[d.]].

Shrief(e, shrieff, obs. forms of Sheriff.

Shriek (ʃrīk), *sb.* Also 6–7 shreek(e, shreik, (6 *Sc.* shraich, 7 schrick, 7 shrieck, shrieke, 8 shreak). [f. Shriek *v.* Parallel to Screak *sb.*; cf. Shrike *sb.*] An act of shrieking; a shrill, piercing, or wild cry expressive of terror or pain. Also, an utterance of loud high-pitched laughter.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 6 The pitteous maiden..Does throw out thrilling shriekes, and shrieking cryes. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* 144 Whose mournfull cryes and shreekes to heaven ascend. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 4 In Stygian Cave forlorn 'Mongst horrid shapes, and shreiks, and sights unholy. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xviii. 332 They..lift up a panick schrick which pierced the skies. 1757 Gray *Bard* 55 The shrieks of death, thro' Berkley's roofs that ring, Shrieks of an agonizing King! 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxii, The shrieks of the conquer'd, the conqueror's yell. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. II. iv, One shriek of indignation and astonishment. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 513 It will prove a great attraction and provoke shrieks of laughter.

b. Applied to the wild cry of birds, etc.

1765 J. Brown *Chr. Frnl.* (1792) 301 The shrieks of the owl. 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 97 The sea-bird's harrowing shriek. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 579 The myriad shriek of wheeling ocean-fowl.

c. The loud high-pitched piercing sound produced by an instrument of music, the whistle of a locomotive, etc.

1599 Alex. Hume *Hymns & Sacred Songs* 59 The shraichs of deadly clarions. 1847 *Literary Gaz.* 28 Aug. 631/1 An apparatus to produce..a scale or gamut of whistle shrieks. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 244 The low whine which the ice gives out when we cut it at right angles with a sharp knife, rising sometimes into a shriek. 1865 Swinburne *Chastelard* III. i. 98 The shriek of slipping swords. 1882 O. W. Holmes *In Twilight* 35 A locomotive's shriek.

d. *fig.* A hysterical exclamation.

c 1853 Kingsley *Misc.* I. 47 One of the stock-charges..at which all biographers..break into virtuous shrieks of 'flattery', 'meanness';..and so forth.

e. *colloq.* A note of exclamation (!).

1864 Alford *Queen's Eng.* § 128. 93 A note of admiration consists..of a point with an upright line suspended over it. ..These shrieks, as they have been called, are scattered up and down the page by the compositors without mercy.

Shriek (ʃrīk), *v.* Also 6 shreak, shreke (*pa. t.* shrekt), 6–7 schrick, shrieke, shreek(e, 7 schreek, shreik, 8 schriek. [Parallel to Screak *v.*; cf. Shrike *v.*]

1. *intr.* To utter a loud sharp shrill cry. a. of a human being in pain or terror; also, said of loud high-pitched laughter.

1577 T. Kendall *Flowers of Epigr., Trifles* 31 *b*, The Prince, the peeres, the people shreke, in Death to see thee sleepe. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 24 Ghosts did shrieke and squeale about the streets. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 423 Infernal Ghosts, and Hellish Furies,..some howl'd, some yell'd, some shriek'd. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* IV. i, *Gon.* Why did you shriek out, Gentlewoman? *Elvi.* 'Twas for Joy at your Return. 1798 Coleridge *Anc. Mar.* VII. xi, The Pilot shrieked And fell down in a fit. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxix, Mrs. Major O'D., taking the compliment to herself, returned the salute with a gracious smile, which sent that unfortunate Dobbin shrieking out of the box again. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* x, She used to shriek with rage when Dick stared at her between half-closed eyes.

b. of the characteristic cry of certain animals, *spec.* of the badger in rutting-time (cf. Shrike *v.*).

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 94 A certaine Shrickowle or Owlet which when she crieth, she shricketh. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 307 Night wandring weezels shreek to see him there. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 44 The Owle shriek'd at thy birth. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Shrieketh*, the Noise a Badger makes at Rutting Time. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 242 The bat shrill shrieking woo'd his flickering mate. 1830 Tennyson *Mariana* 64 The mouse behind the mouldering wainscot shriek'd.

c. of inanimate things.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. viii. 46 Then gan the bagpypes and the hornes to..shrieke aloud. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlv, [Engines] shrieking in their rapid whirl..as though in torment unendurable. 1848 *New Monthly Mag.* LXXXIII. 472 The whistle shrieked, and Pemberton was whirled rapidly along the rail. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* V. VI. 82 The winter wind, which shrieks through the bare branches. 1879 *Organ. Voicing* 18 The upper notes of..all mutation stops, have..a tendency to shriek.

d. *fig.*

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. III. vii, Moralities not a few must shriek condemnatory over this Mirabeau. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 344 Montaigne..never shrieks, or protests, or prays.

2. *trans.* To utter (a shriek); to utter (words) with a shriek or shrieks.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 531 The owle (nights herald) shreeks, tis verie late. 1597 — *Lover's Compl.* 18 Often reading what contents it bears; As often shrieking undistinguish'd woe. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* V. xii, Berckley,..Let thy faire buildings shrecke a deadly sound. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 321 Nor earth had hid his carcase from the skies, Nor Grecian virgins shriek'd his obsequies. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxvii, The coronach was again..shrieked, as the body was carried into the interior of the church. 1864 Tennyson *En. Ard.* 33 Then would Philip..Shriek out 'I hate you, Enoch'. 1885 W. S. Gilbert *Mikado* II. Trio, O never shall I Forget the cry Or the shriek that shrieked he.

3. To bring (oneself) into a certain condition by shrieking.

1642 Denham *Sophy* I. ii, In a dreadful dream I saw my Lord so near destruction,..Then shriekt my self awake. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. i, Much less shalt shriek thyself hoarse, cursing it. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 29 Apr. 593/2 Liberals shrieked themselves hoarse with impious horror.

Shrie·ker (ʃrī·kəɹ). Also 8 schrieker. [f. Shriek *v.* + -er[1].] One who shrieks or utters a shriek.

1708 Ozell tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 42 Fruitful of evil Fate the Schrieker cries. 1819 Crabbe *T. of Hall* VII. 141 The shriekers lack a friend. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii, To seize the first shriekers and ring-leaders. 1882 *American* V. 135 The 'revenue only' shriekers.

b. The black-tailed godwit, *Limosa limosa*.

1855 F. O. Morris *Brit. Birds* IV. 233.

Shrie·kery. *nonce-wd.* [f. Shriek *v.* + -ery.] Shrieking, shrieking noise.

1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. VI. 491 Mendacious shriekeries from an ill-informed Public. 1866 — *Remin.* (1881) II. 289 As I journeyed and tumbled along amid the shriekeries and miseries.

Shrie·kily, *adv.* [f. Shrieky + -ly[2].] In shrieky tones. So **Shrie·kiness.**

1881 *Sci. Amer.* XLIV. 288 The *Western Rural*..demands as shrikily the overturning of the patent system. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXII. 150 He had become a common scold;..gone all to shriekiness and dyspepsia.

Shrieking (ʃrī·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shriek *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Shriek.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. ii, The nymphs, with shreekings, doe the region fill. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 3 Sept. 1666, The shreiking of women and children. 1845 J. H. Newman in W. Ward *Life* (1912) I. 105 The shrieking and screaming of the keyhole and casements. 1901 W. R. H. Trowbridge *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxi. 100 Mrs. Dorking said she stuffed her handkerchief into her mouth to keep from shrieking.

Shrieking (ʃrī·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Shriek *v.* + -ing[2].] That shrieks or utters shrieks; accompanied by shrieks.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. Ecl. i. (1633) 93 Out shreaking Pipe, made of some witched tree. 1590 [see Shriek *sb.* 1]. 1596 Drayton *Mortimeriados* N 2, The vgly shreeking Owles. 1604 — *Moyses* III. 81 The shrill screame the shrieking people gaue. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *St. Peter* 9 Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 214 The shrieking Bird that courtes the Night. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. x, A sharp and shrieking echo. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. VI. viii, The shrieking rush of the wainscot mouse. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/2 The high road, with its shrieking steam-tram.

Hence **Shrie·kingly** *adv.*, with a shriek or shrieks.

1641 Brathwait *Engl. Gentlew.* 278 The needy cry, and shreekingly complaine unto us. 1877 Browning *Agamemnon* 29 The old men..Shriekingly wail the death-doom of their dearest. 1888 Meredith *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 367 Shriekingly the timber cracks.

† **Shriek-owl.** *Obs.* Also 6 schrick-, 7 scrick-, 7 shreike-. [f. Shriek *v.* + Owl *sb.* Cf. Screech-owl, Shritch-owl.] The screech-owl.

1567 [see Shriek *v.* 1 b]. 1591 Spenser *Teares Muses* 283 Fowle Goblins and Shriekowles, With fearfull howling do all places fill. 1616 T. Scot *Philomythie* II. B 4 *b*, The Rauen and Shreikeowle there did build their neasts. 1623 Wodroephe *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 399/2 Wee are with Men our Brothers, and not with Stockes, Wood, Wolues and Scrick-Ooles. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Progr. Envy* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 145 Shriek-owls and ravens, whose fell croaking bodes Approaching death to miserable wight. 1913 Sir R. Ross in *Engl. Rev.* Sept. 168 No sound; Save haply the shriek-owl cryes. *attrib.* 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* VI. 383 Thou liftest up thy shriek-owl note.

Shrieky (ʃrī·ki), *a.* [f. Shriek *sb.* or *v.* + -y.] Characterized by a shriek or shrieks; of a loud sharp shrill pitch; *fig.* hysterical.

1858 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 132 The four days of June I dare say you have heard spoken of in a somewhat shrieky account. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. vii. IV. 355 Be judicial,..not shrieky, mobbish, and flying off into the Infinite! 1871 — in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 328 Reciting or reading in a high shrieky tone.

Shrieval (ʃrī·vāl), *a.* [f. *shrieve*, obs. var. Sheriff + -al.] Of or belonging to a sheriff.

1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 618 Chaste were his Cellars; and his Shrieval Board The Grossness of a City Feast abhor'd. *a* 1734 North *Life Dudley North* (1744) 157 When all the Forms of this shrieval Instalment were over. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* (1839) II. 18x The Lord Lieutenant of Selkirkshire complained of Scott's military zeal as interfering sometimes with the discharge of his shrieval functions. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Feb. 5/3 The City Remembrancer has always by no means an easy task in inducing members to accept the shrieval hospitality.

Hence **Shrie·valdom, Shrie·valry** = next.

1679 in *Spirit of Popery* 72 When the Ancient Nobility..cannot enjoy their Royalties, their Shrievaldoms, and their Stewardaries. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) I. 592 During his Shrievalry in London.

Shrievalty (ʃrīvälti). Also 6 shreav-, shreev-, (shrevaltry), 6–7 shrev-, 7 shrief(f)-, shriv-, shreiv-. [f. *shrieve* (see prec.) + *-alty*, representing OF. *-alte* (F. *-auté*):—L. *-alitātem*, as in *admiralty*, *principality*.] The office or dignity of sheriff; a sheriff's jurisdiction or term of office.

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) p. xlii, This yere Robert

Johnnson was dismissyd of his shrevaltee. 1596 *Sir T. More* (Malone Soc.) Add. ii. 165 Shall we heare shreef moor speake. *Doll.* Letts heare him a keepes a plentyfull shrevaltry. 1633 Heywood *Engl. Trav.* iv. i, In time Sir, you may keepe your Shrevaltie; And I be one oth' Seriants. 1663 Pepys *Diary* 28 Sept., Sir R. Ford beginning his shrievalty to-day. *c* 1683 T. Hunt *Def. Charter Lond.* 38 The Shriefalties had not been before granted in Fee. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 590 Sir Thomas Cook has laid by 10,000*l.* to spend in his shreivalty. 1771 *Junius Lett.* I. 259 Your next appearance in office is marked with his election to the shrievalty. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. (1873) 52 The shrievalty of the county of Cork. 1887 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 215/2 The vacancy of the shrievalty by reason of the decease of the sheriff.

attrib. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 124 In the shrievalty year 1807–8.

Shrieve: see Sheriff, Shrive.

Shrife, obs. form of Shrive *v.*

Shrift (ſrift), *sb.* Now *arch.* or *Hist.* Forms: 1–5 scrift, 2–5 scrifte, 3–6 schrift, (2 scrifft, 3 srift, shrifft, scryf?, 4 shreft, shruft, ssrifþe, ssryft(e, ssrifte, 4–5 scrif?, 5 scheryft), 4–5 schrifte, shryfte, schryft(e, 4–6 shryft, shrifte, 3– shrift. [OE. *scrift* m., corresp. to OFris. *skrift* m. and f., MDu. *schrift* (*schricht*) f. and n., (Du. *schrift*), OHG. *scrift* f. (MHG., G. *schrift*), ON. *skript*, *skrift* f. (Sw., Da. *skrift*), vbl. n. f. Shrive *v.*

The meanings 'penance', 'confession' are confined to English and Scandinavian, arising app. from an original meaning of 'prescribed penalty'. The other languages have only the senses 'writing', 'graphic art', 'scripture', 'written character'.]

†**1.** Penance imposed by the priest after confession; chiefly in phr. as *to take, nim shrift*; *to do shrift*; *to give shrift. Obs.*

c 1030 *Laws Cnut* II. lxviii. (Liebermann) 354 Æȝþer man sceal ȝe on godcundan scriftan ȝe on woruldcundan doman þas þingc tosceadan. *c* 1030–50 *Eccl. Compensations* iii, Twa pund to bote mid godcundan scrifte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Þet þu scalt gan to bote and niman scrift þer of al swa þe proest þe techet. *Ibid.* 9 ȝif hwa is swa sunful.. þet nulle for his ouermoð..his scrift ihalden. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 Wandeð to me,..and nemeð and doð scrift. *c* 1200 Ormin 9262 To wurrþenn fullhtnedd att hiss hannd, & forr to takenn shriffte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9090 Sin i haf serued to haue þe scam, Gis me mi scrift. *Ibid.* 26194 On seke man agh na scrift be laid. *Ibid.* 28300, I brake my scrifte vmquile mai falle. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 21 Lauerd giue vs sua vre scrifte at do, þat we may hys rengne cum to. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 23297 (Trin.) For þei wolde no shrifte take And at her ende amendes make.

2. The imposition of penance implying absolution, *shrift* came to be apprehended in certain contexts as = absolution.

a 900 *Poenitentiale Ecgberti* I. iii. in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 172 ȝif he ȝewitnysse hæfð..þæt he scriftes ȝyrnde & husles. *c* 1030–60 *Laws Northumb. Priests* viii, ȝif preost fulluhtes oððe scriftes forwyrne. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8661 He..deide wiþoute speche Wiþoute ssrift & hosel. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1829 [Havelok] smot him sone ageyn the brest, That hauede he neuere schrifte of prest. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 6 Scrif sal he do on þaim, þare sinnis for to les. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 223, I will giue him a present shrift, and aduise him for a better place. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* II. 1684, I leave it to the shrift Of their owne consciences. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* III. x. 161, I need no other shrift Than mine owne conscience. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* iii, Father Francis the Dominican, from whom she had her shrift to-day. 1867 *Monih* VI. 21 When the words of shrift had been uttered.

†**3.** A confessor. *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 105 He ðonne ondette ælce costunge þe him on becume ðæm mode his scriftes beforan ðæm temple. *a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 1307 Ne mæȝ þurh þæt flæsc se scrift ȝeseon on þære sawle. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Þu scalt hit ibeten al swa þin scrifte þe tachet. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 416 Ne mid breres ne ne biblodge hire sulf wiðuten schriftes leaue. 1638 *New Litany* in *Bk. Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 57 From bussie Bishops without orders, As master shrifts in ther borders [etc.]. [1860 Hook *Lives Abps.* I. vii. 407 If a man will..confess his sins to the shrift.]

4. *To go, come to shrift*: to resort to confession, seek the ministry of a priest in the sacrament of penance. Also † *to seek to shrift.*

1008 *Laws Æthelred* v. xxii, ȝyme his Cristendomes ȝeorne & ȝewunize ȝelomlice to scrifte. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxxix. (1883) 181 Ga man to scrifte. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Ic wulle gan to scrifte for scome alswa doð oðer men. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Comeþ to srifte, forleted yure sennen, and þer of bieþ a-soiled. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 948 Wanne he ne may to schryfte come. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 988 To be swift Eftir our sin to seke to schrift. 1583 Fulke *Def. Tr. Script.* vi. 192 To make the ignorant beleeue that the people went to auricular shrift. 1590 *Tarlton's Newes Purgatory* 13 The next time Lisetta came to shrift, after she had made her confession, and had receiued absolution. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 192 Bid her deuise some meanes to come to shrift this afternoone. 1630 Dekker *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* I. i. K 4, Let the Gentlewoman alone, she's going to shrift. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 259 In the Church of Rome to go to Shrift Is but to put the Soul on a clean Shift. 1880 T. E. Webb *Goethe's Faust* III. vii, [He] goes To shrift with nothing to disclose.

5. Confession to a priest; auricular confession; also, the sacrament of penance.

More explicitly, † *shrift of mouth.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us benne neod..sod scrift. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 73 Drede letteð þe mannes shrifte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25749 He..mak to preist his costes cuth, Wit reuth of hert and scrifte o mouth. *Ibid.* 27444 It es als vnder sel o scrift him sceud al to consail. 1340 *Ayenb.* 14 Cristninge, confermynge, þe sacrement of þe wyefde, ordre, spoushod, þe holy ssrifte, and the laste anoylinge. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1114 Me thynketh ye haue suche a chaunce As shryfte wythoute repentaunce. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 279 Apon scheryft wyth mowthe and satysfaccyon yn dede. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 96 b, Shrifte in the eare is verely a worke of sathan. 1567 Allen *Def. Priesthood* 215 Priuate shrifte, which they call nowe auricular confession. 1603 Drayton *Heroic. Ep.* III. 92 As I should joy t'absolve thee after Shrift. 1652 Gataker *Antinom.* 40 Some Popish Priest, pressing men to shrift. 1662 Petty *Taxes* 6 When every particular sheep was..drest and shorn three or four times per annum by Shrift. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 54 Shrift was no part of her system. Yet she gently invited the dying penitent to confess his sins to a divine.

b. Phrases.

† (*a*) *Under* or *in shrift*: in a state of penitence.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 ȝef we beod under sod scrifte. *c* 1200 Ormin 10473, & tær [uss clennseþþ] þatt fir ȝiff þatt we rihht Her endenn unnderr shriffte. *c* 1205 Lay. 18435 Ælc mon forð rihte dude hine vnder scrifte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 422 An hundred ȝer after is dead Adam fro eue in srifte abead. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 4 Þat here liuis in clene scrift ..þai sall haue part wid him.

† (*b*) *At, in shrift*: at, in confession.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Hwet wule mon et scrifte bute he wulle forleten his misdede? *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 46 Scheaweð ofte ine scrifte ower ȝemeleaste her abuten. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warewyke* 796 Þat þu hit nilt in shrifte seie. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 58 When we in shrift reherce oure synnes. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* 28 Dost thou not laugh Liuia, to see my ghostly father keepe me heere so long at shrifte? *c* 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* III. ad fin., 'Twas told me in shrift, Thou know'st 'tis death and if it be reueal'd. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Love's Pilgr.* I. ii, I have called my conscience to confession, And every sillable that might offend I have had in shrift. 1793 *Minstrel* II. 144 Crimes so enormous that they dared not confess them in shrift.

† (*c*) *transf.*

1596 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxix. (1602) 291 Let this be spoken in Shrift, so was it spoke to me.

† (*d*) *Shrift's even*: Shrove Tuesday.

15.. *Colkelbie Sow* 943 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 1048 At schriftis evin sum wes so battalouss That [etc.].

6. An instance of this; a confession on a particular occasion.

Phr. *to make one's shrift, to hear a shrift.*

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 549 in *O. E. Misc.* 52 Þat we mote at vre scrift þane veond schende. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27490 Ar he [a priest] ga to scriftes here þat he may þus first his praier. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*De Sancto Andrea*) 896 Til hym þi schrift þu ma! *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 745 With a sown as softe as ony shryfte. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1183/2 When it came to the penance geuing, the Foxe found yᵗ the most weighty synne in all hys shryft was glotony. 1622 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1672) 314 He took occasion at the next shrift, to confer certain doubts with his Confessor. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* ii, For the purpose of making their several shrifts in the confessionals. 1839 J. P. Kennedy *Rob of Bowl* xxxiii, In this temper he had made his shrift, and abjured the lawless life..into which his passions had plunged him. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* iii, He said..that..your shrift should be as short and as clean as David's.

†**b.** A thing confessed. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxix. (1602) 292 Blab'd be our Shrifts to women, of simplicitie, or spight.

†**c.** A place of confession, confessional. *rare.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 24 My Lord shall neuer rest... His Bed shall seeme a Schoole, his Boord a Shrift.

7. In a wider sense: Confession (*of* sin or wrong); admission (*of* guilt); revelation (*of* something private or secret).

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 18 Þis shrift is noght of synne, bot of rightwisnes of god. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 173 Upon the schrifte of thi matiere. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 251, I schaw ȝow, Sisteris in schrift, I wes a schrew euir. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, Ile studie.. To call my sonne vnto a happier shrift. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* III. F 3, His Vnkle..Will hinder all, and call his Couze to shrift. 1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 133 If this Gallant were taken to shrift. 1678 — *Seneca's Mor.* I. To Rdr., etc. 39 Then do I Recollect all that I have said, or done that day, and take my self to shrift. *Ibid.* II. vi. 80 Our Vices will abate of themselves, if they be brought every day to the Shrift. 1865 S. Evans *Br. Fabian's MS.* 88 A dread Grew up between them such as those may tell Who have made shrift of love.

†**8.** Rendering *confessio* of the Vulgate: Acknowledgement of the power and glory of God. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xli. 5 In steuen of gladschip and ofe schrifte. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 71 Þis song of þes children, where we maken an opin schrift þat God is passingli blessid. 1382 — 3 *Esdras* ix. 8 And now ȝiueth shrifte, and gret doing to the Lord God of oure fadris. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 23 Entrith his ȝatis in schrift.

9. *Short shrift*: orig. a brief space of time allowed for a criminal to make his confession before execution; hence, a brief respite; *to give short shrift to*, to make short work of.

[1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. iv. 97 Make a short Shrift, he longs to see your Head.] 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* v. xxxii, Short were his shrift in that debate... If Lorn encounter'd Bruce! 1823 — *Quentin D.* viii, They are like to meet short shrift and a tight cord. 1879 W. H. Dixon *Windsor* II. xxxi. 315 Short trial, shorter shrift, had been given to the chief criminals. 1887 *Times* 15 Feb. 4/3 Every argument..tells with still greater force against the present measure, and it is to be hoped that the House of Commons will give it short shrift to-night. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 82 If he were brought to his trial he would have a short shrift and no favour.

10. *attrib.*: †**shrift child**, one who goes to confession to a certain priest, a penitent; **shrift-district** *Hist.* = *shrift-shire*; †**Shrift Monday** = *Shrove Monday*; **shrift-shire** *Hist.* [representing OE. *scriftscír*], the district in which a priest exercised his functions; †**shrift-silver**, a fee paid on receiving priestly absolution; **shrift-time** *pseudo-arch.*, Lent; †**Shrift Tuesday** = *Shrove Tuesday.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 580 By those confessions the confessours coulde cunningly..robbe theyr *shrift-children ..of theyr substaunce. 1625 tr. *Gonsalvius' Sp. Inquis.* 125 That anie other ghostly Father had dealt in anie such like sort with anie of his shrift children. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 196 The secular priest..was not expelled from his '*shrift-district'. 1587 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 133, I came on *Shrift Munday last to Mr. Pawlet of Heryote. 1838 Soames *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (ed. 2) 262 *note*, Right is it that no priest do any of those things that belong to another, either to his minster, or in his *shrift-shire. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 144 *note* 2, These districts allotted to priests were called priestshires, shriftshires, and kirkshires. 1402 *Reply of Friar Daw Topias* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 46 Thi paroche preest, Jacke,..that nyl not.. assoilen hem of her synne withouten *schrift silver. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. xii. 223 All through *shrift-time or Lent. 1542 *Will of S. Dowdynge of Cauuington* (MS.), On *Shryfte Twesdaye.

Shrift, *v. rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To shrive.

1611 Coryat *Crudities* 33, I saw a gray Frier shrift a faire Gentlewoman, which I..mention because it was the first shrifting that euer I saw. *a* 1683 Oldham *Wks.* (1686) 129 Thus I have made my shrifted Muse confess. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Fables* II. vii, A New-marry'd Couple had a Toy took them in their Heads,..to Shrift one another before they came together. 1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 461 The soul might wing its flight for its doom before God, shrifted, assoiled, aneled, and houseled.

Shrift-father. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 4 **schrefvader**, 5 **schryffader.** [f. Shrift *sb.* + Father *sb.* (sense 6 a). Cf. ON. *skriptafaðer.*] A confessor.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 316 Inouh hit is to siggen so þet þe schrift feder witterliche understonde hwat tu wulle menen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 38 Hi ssollen do be þe rede of holy cherche oþer be hire ssrifte-uaderes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 457 Kyng Edredus..sente to his schriftfader [*MS.* y schrefvader] Donstan. *c* 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 229 To do such penaunce..As þi schrift-fadir þee councellis. *a* 1450 Myrc 233 How and where he doth þat synne, To hys schryfader he mote þat mynne. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (1888) 3 Quhou thay sal rekkine al thair sinnis to thair schrift fader. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XI. ix, In close and priuate cell, Where (but shrift fathers) neuer mankinde treades. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. xi. 19 The penitential, a book which only shrift-fathers..might read. 1882 F. J. Child *Ballads* I. 26/1 Louise ther tries her shrift-father.

†**Shri·ftness.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. Shrift *sb.* + -ness.] Confession.

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* 401/1 (Winch. MS.) Schryftnesse, *confessio.*

Shrig (ſrig), *v. dial.* [Cf. Shrag.] *trans.* To lop off (branches), strip off (leaves); to strip (a tree, root, etc.) of its branches or foliage; *fig.* to strip (a person) *of* his possessions.

1601 Holland *Pliny* XVII. xii. I. 514 If the braunches thereof, or of any tree within-forth be shrigged. *Ibid.* XIX. vi. II. 21 Having their uppermost leaves lightly shrigged off. *Ibid.* XXVII. vi. 275 The same root..staieth a laske, in case it be first shrigged from the hairie strings thereof. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* XIX. x. 137 If all men were shrigged of their goods. 1873 W. P. Williams & W. A. Jones *Gloss. Prov. Som., Shrig*, to shroud or trim a tree.

†**Shright,** *sb. Obs.* [Corresponding to Scright = OFris. *skrichte*, MLG. *schrichte*(*e*; but perhaps (in the 16th c.) suggested by some passage like the following, where *forshright* = wearied with shrieking:—

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1147 (Harl. MS.), With brokyn vois al hois [*v. r.* hors] for shright [*v. r.* forshright] Criseyde To Troilus thise ilke wordes seyde].

Shrieking; a shriek.

1556 Phaer *Æneid* IX. K j, And mountaynes hie they fill with shright. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vii. 57 With their pitteous cryes, and yelling shrights. 1596 *Ibid.* VI. iv. 2 Drawne with that Ladies loud and piteous shright.

†**Shright,** *v. Obs.* [Either f. prec., or the pa. t. of Shritch taken as inf.] To shriek.

a 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 38 And ye so ready sighes, to make me shright, Then are ye slacke, when that ye should outstart.

Shrike, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* or *dial.* [t. Shrike *v.* Cf. Scrike *sb.*] = Shriek *sb.* (In first quot., a shrill note.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 346 Small briddes..With shrikes full shrille in the shire bowes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 25 Whi made the childe this shrike? wilt thow slen it? *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. (1557) C j b, The palace within confounded was.. with ruful shrikes and cryes. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 47 Loathsome smels, And shrikes like Mandrakes torne out of the earth. 1613 Heywood *Silver Age* II. i, Acrisius heares their clamours and their shrikes [*rhyme* strikes]. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* II. ix. 109 The air became full of shrikes of the desolate mothers of Bethlehem for their dying Babes.

Shrike (ſraik), *sb.*² Also 6–7 **shreek**(e. [app. representing OE. *scríc, scréc* (glossing L. 'turdus'), which was perhaps used generally for birds having shrill cries; *shrike* and *shrike-cock* are dial. names for the missel-thrush. Cf. Shreitch, Shrite.

ON. *skríkhjá*, which has been compared, means 'snow-bunting', not 'shrike'.]

Any of the birds of the numerous species of the

family *Laniidæ*, characterized by a strong hooked and toothed beak; the majority of them are insectivorous, but several species, as the (Great or European) Grey Shrike, *Lanius excubitor*, prey upon mice and small birds; = BUTCHER-BIRD. **b.** Applied to similar birds of other families (e.g. *Prionopidæ*), e.g. CUCKOO, DRONGO, SWALLOW *s.*

Red-back(ed Shrike, *Lanius collurio.*

1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* F 8, De Mollicipite..Anglicè a shrike, a nyn murder. 1598 FLORIO, *Gazza sparuiera*, a kind of lanaret hauke called a shreeke, or nine murther. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 87 Of the Europæan Rapacious birds it is the least..In English it is called a Shrike. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 604 The Flusher, or red back Shrike, and the great Shrike, breeds with us. 1851 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* I. 229 Great Shrike. [Syn.] Grey Shrike. Great Grey Shrike. Ash-coloured Shrike. Greater Butcher bird. Murdering Pie. Shrike. Shreek. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. IV. iv, The Mayfly is torn by the swallow, the sparrow spear'd by the shrike. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Natur. Austral.* 283 The Australian Shrike or Butcher-bird, also called Rain-bird by the colonists (*Vanga destructor*). 1883 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 29 The Helmeted Wood Shrikes (*Prionops*).

Shrike, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4–5 **schrike, schryke,** 4–6 **shryke.** [Parallel to SCRIKE *v.* (see SCR-); perhaps representing an OE. **scrícan* (cf. SHRIKE *sb.*[2]) = Norw. *skrika*, Da. *skrige.*] = SHRIEK *v.* †Of birds: To pipe.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Elch wimman..þan hie beð mid childe bistonden..shrikeþ and reuliche biginneð. *c* 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 158 Heo biginneth to shryke, ant scremeth anon. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12973 Shene briddes in shawes shriked full lowde. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 485 The ladies..shryked and cryed dolorously. 1530 PALSGR. 705/2 She shriked so loude that a man myght her her tenne houses of. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 238 [At rutting time] a Badgerd shriketh. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich II*, III. iii. 183 Night-Owls shrike. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 283 To shrinke and shrike, at euery push and pricke. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* XXI. 15 Grievous 'twas to hear them groan and shrike. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1895 *Lakeland Gloss.*

Hence † **Shri·king** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 382 As Rauenes qualm or shrykyng [*v.r.* schrychynge] of þese owlys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrykynge. 1530 PALSGR. 267/2 Schrikyng or roring out, *escry.* 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* May 54 Piteous outcryes, and dreadfull shriking. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 14 Christ..dooth crie vppon vs with shriking sounde. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 89 Judging every cry, every howling & shriking as an alarm to my death. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 70 Shrikings, and howlings, with horrid curses.

Shrikelet (ʃrəi·klĕt). [f. SHRIKE *sb.*[2] + -LET.] A bird of the genus *Vireolanius.*

1866 P. L. SCLATER & SALVIN *Exotic Ornith.* 13 *Vireolanius melitophrys* (Honey-browed Shrikelet).

Shrill (ʃril), *sb.* [f. SHRILL *v.* Cf. SHIRL *sb.*] A shrill sound, cry, whistle, etc.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 531, I heard a voyce, which loudly to me called, That with the sudden shrill I was appalled. 1833 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. 179 The wiry shrill of the Jew's harp. 1893 *Month* Sept. 19 The ceaseless shrill of the Cicala. 1904 MACNAUGHTAN *Gift* I. vi, The Gillie-Callum ended with a final shrill of the pipes.

b. Comb.: **shrill-vein** = *shrilling-organ.*

1880 SWINTON *Insect Variety* 163 In *Odontura Fischeri* ..the shrill-vein [is] simply bowed instead of S-shaped.

Shrill (ʃril), *a.* and *adv.* Also 4 **shrille,** 4–5 **schrylle,** 5 **shrille, shrylle, scrylle,** 6 **shryll,** *superl.* **shrilst,** 6–7 **shril,** 7 **schril.** (See also SHIRL *a.*) [ME. *shrille*, related to LG. *schrell* of sharp tone or taste, G. *schrill* (late 18th cent.). Cf. SHRILL *v.*] **A.** *adj.*

1. Of voice, sound: Of a sharp high-pitched piercing tone.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun Pr. T.* 575 (Hengwrt MS.), Ne made he neuere showtes half so shrille [*MSS. Ellesm. & Lansd.* s(c)hill(e)] When þat they wolden any flemyng kille. *c* 1400 [see SHRIKE *sb.*[1]]. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (1904) 15 All voyces, great and small, base & shril, weke or softe. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Ind. ii. 48 Thy hounds shall..fetch shrill ecchoes from the hollow earth. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge, That [*sc.* the noise] of the bee is humming, but it's shrill in the grassehopper. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 7 The shrill Matin Song Of Birds. 1742 COLLINS *Ecl.* IV. 72 Loud along the vale was heard A shriller shriek. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 229 The shrill chirruping of innumerable insects. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* i, A sweet, slightly shrill soprano.

2. Emitting or producing a sound of this kind: of persons or animals, their throats, etc.

1508 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) B v b, My brest is shryll. *Vox mea est sonora.* 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 16, I heare a Tongue shriller then all the Musicke Cry, Cæsar. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* III. i, Weele be as shrill as you: strike a latum, drum. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* cxlvii. x, Let the shrill Birds his Honours raise. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 569 The first larum of the cock's shrill throat. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii, Shrill women cry shame on us. 1866 *Mysteries of Isis* 207 Churl and noble, fair lady and shrill fish-wife. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 447/1 One of his colleagues became shrill on the subject.

b. of an instrument or other inanimate object.

1567 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B ij b, Whose vertue, the shrill trump of fame so farre hath blowne. 1603 E. FAIRFAX *Ecl.* iv, Ambling along the meads and rivers shrill. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 351 Farewell the neighing Steed, and the shrill Trumpe. 1704 POPE *Windsor Forest* 96 Wind the shrill horn. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXX, The blast of a shrill bugle. 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithful* XXXVIII, The shrill whistles of the boatswain and his mates piping all hands to unmoor.

3. Characterized or accompanied by sharp high-pitched sounds.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 1013 Shrill ecstasies of joy. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiii. iv, Let winds be shrill, let waves roll high. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. vi, A shrill scene, but a brief one. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, In a shrill and busy hotel. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, The night was black and shrill. 1893 PATER *Plato* 209 A single day of somewhat shrill gaiety, between two days of significant mourning.

4. In various transf. applications: Keen; sharp; pungent; poignant.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 57 A shrill and quicke sence of hearing. 1650 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* Admission, How shrill are silent tears! 1864 TENNYSON *Voyage* 12 The Lady's-head upon the prow Caught the shrill salt. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. viii, The Court went thither [*i. e.* to St. Andrews] with various great affairs in train, whose conduct throve in that shrill air.

5. *Comb.*, as *shrill-accented, -mouthed, -toned, -tongued, -voiced* adjs.; †**shrill-bated,** with a shrill sound as of voices in strife; †**shrill-breasted,** †-**gorged,** shrill-voiced, shrill-throated.

1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 162 Inopportune, *shrill-accented, The acrid Asiatic mirth. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. 13 Gates with the metal dooe creake in *shrilbated harshing. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* H 2 b, As many sortes of *shrill breasted birdes as the Summer hath allowed for singing men in hir siluane chappels. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. I. iv, The *shrill-edged shriek of a mother. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 58 The *shrill-gorg'd Larke. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 953 It maketh a *shril-like noise as the other kindes of Gnats do. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 84 The *shrill-mouth'd Musick. 1813 WALKER *Poems* 90 (Jod.) Thro' night's dim arch the *shrillton'd Ezzan rings. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liv, The shrill-toned bell of the..clock. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 849 Like *shrill-tongu'd Tapsters answering euerie call. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 532 The shrill-tongu'd Shrew. 1879 MORLEY *Burke* viii. 176 The eager, bustling, shrill-tongued crowd of the Voltairean age. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 37 The gawdy hunts-man winds his *shrill-tun'd horn. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. iii. 75 What *shrill-voic'd Suppliant, makes this eager cry? 1628 R. H. *Owen's Epigrams* IV. No. 156. 33 The World's so full of shrill-voyc'd iangling. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 590 The lark, Shrill-voiced and loud. 1895 MRS. WILSON *5 Yrs. India* 271 'My husband' is the shrill-voiced reply.

B. *adv.*

1. With a shrill voice or tone; shrilly. Now *rare.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 3999 For scorne he gan to lawghe schrylle. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1376 'Mercy!' she cryed loude and shrylle. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 14 The bote swayne blewe his whystell full shryll. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 287 The blood of the iust Abel cried most shrill in the eares of the righteous God. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 56 Through the high wood echoing shrill. 1742 COLLINS *Ecl.* II. 10 Shrill roar'd the winds. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXV, Men laughed loud, and maidens giggled shrill. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xii, I promise you the wind blew shrill.

b. Qualifying a ppl. adj. used attrib. (often hyphened).

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 152 A shryll whystlyng wenche. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 35 Your shrill-shriking Daughters. 1602 — *Ham.* I. i. 151 The Cocke..with his lofty and shrill-sounding [Qo. 1603 shrill crowing] Throate. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. lxii, Shall Larks with shrill-chirpt Mattens rouze from Bed..Sols orient Head? 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 298 While the harp-string and shrill-piping reed Still sounded. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 105 The shrill-blown trumpets.

†**2.** Clearly, brightly. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 80 Wyth schymerynge schene ful schrylle þay schynde.

Shrill (ʃril), *v.* Also 4 **schrille,** 4–6 **shrille,** 5 **shrelle, [skrille],** 6–7 **shril.** [f. SHRILL *a.* Cf. G. *schrillen.*]

1. *intr.* Of a voice, cry: To sound shrilly. Hence of noises, the wind, or the like, or a place echoing with sound.

13.. *K. Alis.* 777 Bulsifal neied so loude, That hit schrillith into the cloude! 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. 35 The inner lodgins dyd shrille with clamorus howting. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 518 Their mightie strokes so shrild, As the great clap of thunder. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. iii, Its tearing noise so terribly did shrill, That it the heavens did shake. 1782 MICKLE *Proph. Q. Emma* iv, When the female scream ascended, Shrilling o'er the crowded lawn. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* II. xix, First shrill'd an unrepeated female shriek! 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 201 A wind, that shrills All night in a waste land. 1884 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* IV. iv. 166 His voice shrilled with passion.

2. To speak, cry, or sing with a shrill voice; to make a shrill noise.

a. Of persons or animals.

[*c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xlviii, Þene his lemmane one loft skrilles and skrikes.] *c* 1440 *Florix & Bl.* (MS. T) 756 Þe mayde, al for drede, Bygan to shrelle [*earlier MSS.* crie, schrichen] and to grede. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 82 The Ouzell shrills, the Ruddock warbles soft. 1598 FLORIO, *Querulare*..to shril, to..chirp. 1639 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* v. 12 To showt, shrill, or cry aloud for sorrow. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. vi. (1872) 81 The Tribune drones, ..the whole Hall shrilling up round it into pretty frequent wrath and provocation. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* I. ii, The misselthrush That shrilled so gleefully.

b. Of an instrument of music, whistle, etc.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 71 Breake we our pypes, that shrild as lowde as Larke. 1590 — *F. Q.* II. iii. 20 A horne, that shrilled cleare Throughout the wood. 1710 PHILIPS *Pastorals* iv. 56 Thro' all the Wood his Pipe is heard to shrill. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 5 The shattering trumpet shrilleth high. 1879 E. GOSSE *New Poems* 100 The first sharp snow is shrilling through the trees. 1903 KIPLING *5 Nations* 114 The whistle shrills to the picket.

3. *trans.* To utter, give forth (a sound, cry, words) in shrill tones; to exclaim or proclaim with a shrill voice.

1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 129 Harke, how the Minstrels gin to shrill aloud Their merry Musick. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iii. 84 Harke..How poore Andromache shrils her dolour forth. 1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. i, Through all th' Abysse, I haue shril'd thy daughters losse. 1613 — *Brazen Age* II. ii, What better can describe his shape and terror Then all the pittious clamours shrild through Greece?

1801 *Lusignan* I. 173 The terror of the feathered tribe, shrilled in the omens of an approaching tempest. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxi. (1882) 205 Gnats, beetles, wasps,..may shrill their tiny pipes..unchastised and unnoticed. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. V. ii, 'Messieurs', shrills de Brézé. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. vii, Lethington likened her to Diana on Taygetus shrilling havoc.

4. To render shrill. *rare*—[1].

1772 FOOTE *Nabob* Prol. Wks. 1799 II. 285 If age contracts my muscles, shrills my tone.

5. To summon with a shrill sound. *rare*—[1].

1859 MASSON *Brit. Novelists* iii. 204 The pibroch shrills them to the work they do.

Shrilled (ʃrild), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SHRILL *v.* and *a.* + -ED.] **a.** Sounded shrilly. **b.** Made shrill.

?1598 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. vi. 6 For long shrild trumpets let your notes resound. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 446 Look at my wrinkled face..listen to my shrilled voice.

Shri·lling, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRILL *v.* + -ING [1].] The utterance of shrill sounds, shrill crying, whistling, chirping, etc.

1639 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* xlvii. 2 Shout triumphantly to God with voice of shrilling. 1777 MOUNTAIN *Poet. Reveries* (ed. 2) 27 Th' excursive shrillings of some Eunuch's throat. 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne* xlvi. (1789) 252 The shrilling of the field-cricket. 1887 D. C. MURRAY & HERMAN *Trav. Returns* xvii. 254 The maidens..fled..with clamorous shrillings. 1892 TENNYSON *Death of Œnone* 21 A wailing cry..Thin as the batlike shrillings of the Dead. 1901 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ship's Adv.* v, The shrilling of the fife.

b. *Comb.* **shrilling-organ,** the sound-producing organ of a male cicada (Webster Suppl. 1902).

Shri·lling, *ppl. a.* [f. SHRILL *v.* + -ING [2].] Uttering or producing shrill sounds; sounding shrill, stridulous.

1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* xxii. 46 Shrilling Zephyrus. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 6 A shrilling trompett. *Ibid.* III. viii. 29 With shrilling shriekes. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* I. ii, The lads, Whose shrilling pipe, or voice the seaborn maiden glads. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Friday 102 Shrilling crickets in the chimney cried. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxii, No sounds were heard but of the shrilling cock, and the deep-mouthed watch-dog. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. xxvi, The horses' tramp and tingling clank,..And charger's shrilling neigh. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 259 The soul with shrilling cry, passed like smoke beneath the earth. 1908 *Academy* 23 May 809/1 The thorn-bushes began to rustle before a shrilling wind.

Shrillish (ʃri·liʃ), *a.* [f. SHRILL *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat shrill.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* 141 Crie rather vp to heauen with shrillish shrike. 1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hippod.* (1878) 68 With shrillish notes I would ne stay nor stent of warbuling. 1863 READE in *All Year Round* 12 Dec. 163 'Come in', said a shrillish voice. 1886 MRS. C. PRAED *Miss Jacobsen* vii, Miss Croyle's shrillish tones crossed the lawn.

Shri·llness. [f. SHRILL *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being shrill.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 58 b, Those of Piemount, who with the shrilnesse of their wordes goe thorow ones eares. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 239 The shrilness and asperity of the noise they make. 1709 *Tatler* No. 157 ¶ 6 The Shrilness and Sharpness of the Sound. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. vi, This shrillness getting ever shriller. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vii. 69 'Twang, twang!' came a second report. I knew it was the whale-line by the shrillness of the sing. 1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* VI. v. II. 339 Cardwell adding with a certain shrillness that [etc.].

Shrilly (ʃri·li), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. SHRILL *a.* + -Y.] = SHRILL *a.*

1594 R. C[AREW] *Tasso* (1881) 93 So spake he, and with him his fellowes all, Concording iangle in a shrilly sound. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 126 The trumpet's shrilly clangor sounds alarms. 1826 HOOD *Mermaid of Margate* XXVII, The wild bird about him flew, With a shrilly scream. 1847 BRONTË *Jane Eyre* XX, A sharp, a shrilly sound that ran from end to end of Thornfield-Hall. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XII. 408 There came upon us at last The shrilly west loud piping with the rush of a mighty blast.

Shrilly (ʃri·li), *adv.* [f. SHRILL *a.* + -LY [2].] With a shrill sound or utterance; in shrill tones.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. 23 Thee vauts haulf shrillye rebounded With clush clash buzing. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 17 A dolefull noyse, Of one that in the groue full shrilly cryde. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 155 That he may neuer more..sound his Quillets shrilly. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii, III. xl, Mount up aloft, my Muse, and now more shrilly sing. 1799 COLERIDGE *Lines in Concert-Room* vi, The gust pelting on the out-house shed Makes the cock shrilly in the rainstorm crow. 1818 KEATS *Teignmouth* ii, The pipes go shrilly, the libation flows. 1910 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 103 His enemies were shrilly protesting.

Shrim (ʃrim), *v.* Now *dial.* [OE. *scrimman* (only once); cf. SHRAM, SCRIMP *a.* and *v.*] *intr.* and *pass.* To shrink or shrivel; now chiefly in *pa. pple.*, chilled, benumbed.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 6 Sif monnes fot to hommum scrimme & scrince. 1846 [W. SANDYS] *Spec. Cornish Dial.* 18 He squinnied, tell I were nigh shrimmed with his look. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Shrimmed*, chilled. Corn. 1890 *Glouc.*

Gloss., *Shrim* or *Srim*, to shiver; shrink or shrivel up with cold or fright; also of shrinkage in cooking.

Shrimp (ʃrimp). Forms: 4–5 **schrympe**, 4–6 **schrimpe**, **shrympe**, 4–7 **shrimpe**, 5 **schrymp**, **scrymppe**, **srympe**, **shyrympe**, 6 **schriemp**, 6– **shrimp**. [Prob. cogn. w. MHG. (MG.) *schrimpen* str. vb., to shrink up: see SCRIMP *a.* and *v.*; cf. also prec.

Sense 2 is prob. directly from the etymological sense 'shrunken creature', but is now felt as *transf.* from 1.]

1. Any of the slender, long-tailed, long-legged (chiefly marine) crustaceans of the genus *Crangon* and allied genera, closely related to the prawns; esp. *C. vulgaris*, the common shrimp, which inhabits the sand on the coasts of Great Britain and is a common article of food.

Also, in a wider sense, applied to various similar crustaceans, as the families *Mysidæ* and *Gammaridæ*; see *brine*, *fairy*, *opossum shrimp*, etc.

1327 *Wardrobe Acc. 20 Edw. II*, 31/18 Shrimpis, 3d. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 42 Take þe Luce, an þe Perche, & þe Schrympe, & sepe hem. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrymp, fysche, *stingus*. *c* 1450 *Brut* 447 Grete Scrymppys. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 646 in *Babees Bk.*, Shrympes welle pyked þe scales awey ye cast. 1553 BELON *De Aquatilibus* 273 Anglorum..pisces ex Tamesi & aliis Britanniæ fluminibus..Roches, Daces, Tenche, Ruff, Schriemp, Prans. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxv. 190 The Periwincle, Prawne, the Cockle, and the Shrimpe, For wanton womens tasts, or for weake stomacks bought. 1674 FLATMAN *Belly God* 97 An ore-charg'd Stomack roasted shrimps will ease. 1770 PITTMAN *Europ. Settlem.* 5 Shrimps are found in the Mississippi as far as Natches. 1802 BINGLEY *Zool.* (1813) III. 389 The Shrimp is much smaller than the Prawn, and is by no means so much esteemed as food. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, She partook of shrimps and porter. 1850 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 280/1 The phantom shrimp (*Caprella linearis*) of S. Australia.

collect. sing. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* viii, The boy ..whose sublimest idea of heaven consists in the hope that its blessed sea of glass is brimming with golden shrimp.

†**b.** Applied to a scaly monster. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 767 His scoulders ware schalyde alle in clene syluere, Schreede ouer alle the schrympe with schrinkande poyntez.

2. A diminutive or puny person (*rarely* thing). Chiefly *contemptuous*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 67 We borel men been shrympes. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 384 b, He would have been a notorious Goliath over these little moathes, and simple shrimpes. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. 61 On a suddeyn we behold a windbeaten hard shrimp, With lanck wan visadge. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 594 When he [*sc.* Hercules] was a babe, a childe, a shrimpe, Thus did he strangle Serpents. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 167 Thou art my mother, I thy sonne, thy shrimpe. 1615 *Exchange Ware Second Hand* (ed. 2) C 1 b, Alas poore shrimpe, thou art nothing in my hands. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. 142, I wondered how such a shrimp as you could dragg about such a great carcass as mine. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Aunt Fanny*, And all for a 'Shrimp' not as high as my hat—A little contemptible 'Shaver' like that !! 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home*, *Near Oxford* II. 35 Poor little shrimp that he was [*sc.* Pope]. 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Viciss. Evangeline* 85 He did look such a teeny shrimp climbing after me!

fig. 1634 S. R[OWLEY] *Noble Soldier* III. ii, The small ones [*sc.* poets] are but shrimpes of Poesie.

b. *A shrimp of a*: a diminutive, a very minute or tiny..

a 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 574 By continual ruminating upon this shrimp of a possibility. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxiv, If it bears me, it will not condescend to bend at your shrimp of a carcass. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 258 A little shrimp of a fellow named Fisher.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1611 COTGR., *Escruoëlle*, a little Shrimp-resembling worme. 1736 BAILEY *Dict. Domest.*, A Shrimp Pye. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 61 To make Shrimp Sauce. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 7 The shrimp-sauce not so good as Mr. H. ..and I used to eat. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 191 The Shrimp-girl, a head, by Bartolozzi. 1791 HUDDESFORD *Salmag.* 111 Shrimpscalders and bugkillers, taylors and tylers. 1828 DAVY *Salmonia* 62 Small shrimp-like aurelia. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xiii, A butter-boat of shrimp sauce. 1883 [see SHRIMPING *attrib.*]. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Sept. 11/2 She was dressed in a shrimp pink. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 192 They are sometimes taken by hook and line, with shrimp-bait.

b. shrimp-fixer, -louse (see quot. 1850); **shrimp-hearted** *a.*, pusillanimous.

1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* II. 187 You shrimp-hearted lubber. 1850 A. WHITE *List Specim. Crustacea Brit. Mus.* 81 *Ione thoracicus*. Mud shrimp-louse. *Ibid.* 82 *Bopyrus squillarum*. Shrimp-fixer.

Shrimped (ʃrimpt), *pa. pple.* Now *dial.* [f. **shrimp*, parallel form to SCRIMP *a.* or *v.* + -ED.] Shrivelled, withered, shrunk; huddled *up* with cold.

1638 ROUS *Diary* (Camden) 85 His hands were both shrimped and lame. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 36 Such things as these go for Wit so long as they continue in Latin; but what dismally shrimp'd things would they appear, if turn'd into English. 1837 MRS. PALMER *Devon. Dial.* I. 19 Seeing Batt a shrimp'd up, her nadded and mean'd to en, that a shud come by the vire.

Shrimper (ʃri·mpəɹ). [f. SHRIMP + -ER 1.] One who catches shrimps; also, a vessel engaged in shrimping.

1851 W. COLLINS *Rambles bey. Railways* II. (1852) 14 We ..found ourselves in a small room, filled with shrimpers, sailors. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 11 Aug., A shrimper stranded. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1884) 34 Has she wedded some gigantic shrimper, That sweet mite with whom I loved to play? 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 265/1 Leigh is the headquarters of the Thames shrimpers.

†**Shri·mpet.** *Obs.* [f. SHRIMP + -ET.] (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. xiv. 344/2 A Sea Prane, or Sea Shrimpet, or Shrimplet. It is somthing bigger then those of the river or fresh waters.

Shri·mping, *gerund* and *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRIMP + -ING 1.] Catching shrimps.

1848 MAUNDER *Treas. Nat. Hist.* 617 Shrimp-catching, or Shrimping, as it is termed. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. vi. 128 Shrimping is carried on by many of the women. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iii, The women..who go shrimping or oyster-hunting on fashionable sea-shores.

attrib. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 14 Model Shrimping Boat, showing how four shrimp nets are worked. 1886 FENN *Master Cerem.* xxi, Fisherman Dick did his work with a shrimping net.

Shrimpish (ʃri·mpiʃ), *a.* [f. SHRIMP + -ISH.] Diminutive, puny, insignificant.

1549 CHALONER *Erasmus on Folly* D iv, What will suche shrimpyssbe bodies doe..whan it cometh to handstrokes? 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. (1575) 161 b, Those same shrimpish armes of his. 1655–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* vi. 330 How shrimpish he is and unfit to fill this place. 1664 *Comenius' Janua Ling.* 278 Slender, shrimpish, lean. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* II. ix. 145 A shrimpish sprig of nobility.

Hence **Shri·mpishness**, insignificance.

1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 255 The shrimpishnesse of the second part of Eugenius his Answer.

Shri·mplet. [-LET.] A little shrimp.

1688 [see SHRIMPET]. 1884 *Jaunt in Junk* xv. 252 Some annoyingly nimble shrimplet.

Shrimpy (ʃri·mpi), *a.* [f. SHRIMP + -Y.] Abounding in shrimps.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 58 Margate the shrimpy, Ramsgate the asinine, Canterbury the ecclesiastical. 1875 MISS BRADDON *Hostages Fort.* III. ii. 42 Margate's crowded jetty or Pegwell's shrimpy bay.

Shrinal (ʃrəi·näl), *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Containing or forming a shrine.

1884 *N. & Q.* 29 Mar. 251/1 The four daughters..of whom one has left her name, St. Sidwell, in a shrinal church on the blood-stained spot.

Shrine (ʃrəin), *sb.* Forms: 1–2 **scrin**, **scryn**, 3 **s(c)hrin**, **ssrin**, **ssryn**, 4–5 **shryn**, 4–6 **schrine**, **schryne**, 4–7 **shryne**, 5 **schryn**, **schrene**, **shrene**, 6 **shreene**, 6– **shrine**. [OE. *scrîn* str. n., corresp. to OFris. *skrîn* (WFris. *skryn* chest, *skrine* coffin), MLG. *schrîn*, MDu. and WFlem. *schrîne* f., Du. *schrijn* n., OHG. *scrîni*, *scrîne* n. (MHG. *schrîn* n. and m., G. *schrein* m.), ON. *skrîn* n. (Sw., Da. *skrin*); ad. L. *scrînium* case or chest for books or papers.

Unexplained variants with *e* occur in OFris. *skrên*, MLG., MDu. *schrein*, LG. *schrên*, WFlem. *schrêne*.

L. *scrînium* is represented in Romanic by OF. *escrin* (see SCRINE), F. *écrin*, Pr. *escrin*, It. *scrigno*, Sp., Pg. *escrinio*, and in OSl. *skriniya*, *skrina*, Lith. *skrine*, Russ. *skrin*.]

†**1.** A box, coffer; a cabinet, chest. (Cf. SCRINE.)

In OE. and ME. applied to the ark of the covenant.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* iii. 8 Þa sacerdas, þa þe bæt scrin [Vulg. *arcam*] berað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 6 Forþam þe he wæs þeof & hæfde scrin [Vulg. *loculos*]. *c* 1150 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 546/29 *Archa*, scrin. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 109 þe schryne of þe testament [*arcam testamenti*]. 1398 —*Barth. de P. R.* XIII. ix. (Tollem. MS.), þe schryne of oure lorde [*ed.* 1582, the Arke]. 1516 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 161 Item, in the compertas of Craufurdis ane standand bed, and ane schryne. 1560 *Stirling Burgh Rec.* (1887) I. 75 Ane schryne but the lid. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Shrine*, a chest or cabinet.

2. The box, casket, or other repository in which the relics of a saint are preserved. Also, a tomb-like erection of rich workmanship, enclosing the relics of a saint.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xi. 275 Þa ȝebrohte se biscеop ealle þa halgan ban on ȝelimplicum scrynum. *c* 1000 — *Hom.* (Th.) II. 426 Þa wolde se casere wyrcan him eallum ȝyldene scryn. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Hi namen þære twa gildene scrines & .ix. seolferne. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 37/125 Þulke daye is bodi was in-to schrine i-bore. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9851 Þulke ȝer al so Seint egwine at euesham in ssrine was verst ido. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 48, I nolde fonge a ferþing for seynt Thomas schrine. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5592 Of schene schemerand gold as it a schrine ware. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4265 Byfore hurre shrene mekeliche he knelede doune. *c* 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* XXXVIII, þe schrine..is..born a-boute on þe schulderis of princes and lordis. 1551 SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompte* (Abbotsf. Club) 1 The defacinge and takinge downe of shrynes. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 63 A blinde man at Saint Albones Shrine,..hath receiu'd his sight. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 677 The Miracles at the Shrines and Sepulchres of the holy Martyrs. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlv. IV. 455 The shrines of the apostles were guarded by miracles and invisible terrors. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 217 The exhibition of the relics took place..and as each shrine was elevated, every knee touched the earth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 24 It was a national as well as a religious feeling that drew great multitudes to the shrine of Becket.

Prov. phr. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 553 Fare-wel shryne of whom þe seynt is oute.

b. In extended application: A receptacle containing an object of religious veneration; occas. a niche for sacred images.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xix. 24 A goldsmyth, which made silver schrynes [Gr. ναούς, Vulg. *ædes*; *Wyclif* housis] for Diana. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 58 On certain days of the year this crucifix is..exposed to public view;..seven persons having in their custody as many different keys of the shrine in which it is kept. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* vi, She passed several shrines and images half hid among the shrubs and the cliffs. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 43 The bell of any famous saint..was enclosed in a shrine, made in its own form.

†**c.** *fig.* An object of veneration. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1114 So excellent of bewte, þat she myȝt be shryne To all othir vymmen.

d. The part of a church in which a shrine stands. Cf. FERETORY 3.

1833 RAINE *Brief Acc. Durham Cath.* 50 Let us now enter the shrine. 1850 *Parker's Gloss. Terms Archit.* I. 427 Modern writers often erroneously apply the word shrine to the chapel or church in which the real shrine is deposited.

3. A case or casket for a dead body; also, a tomb or cenotaph of an elaborate kind.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 672 Sche..made hire subtyl werkemen make a schryne Of alle the rubyis & the stonis fyne..that sche coude espie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* (1614) 660 They cast their dead into the Riuer, others reserued them at home in glasse shrines. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.*, *Shrine*, a remembrance for the dead. 1720 POPE *Epit. Harcourt* 1 To this sad shrine, whoe'er thou art! draw near. 1824 W. FOWLER *List Subj. Engravings*, The Percy Shrine (Beverley). 1829 SCOTT *Old Mort.* Introd., This peculiar shrine of the Whig martyrs is very much honoured by their descendants.

4. *transf.* That which encloses, enshrines, or screens, or in which something dwells.

a 1400 CHAUCER *To Rosemounde* 1 Madame, ye ben of al beaute shryne As fer as cercled is the mapamounde. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 172 You living powres enclosed in stately shrine Of growing trees. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. III*, Wks. (1711) 60 Favourites are shrines to shadow princes from their people. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 360 Of Light by farr the greater part he [*sc.* God] took, Transplanted from her [*sc.* moon's] cloudie Shrine, and plac'd In the Suns Orb. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 106 Clime of the unforgotten brave!..Shrine of the mighty! 1874 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight* 127 The heart was a shrine For that memory to dwell in divine.

†**b.** Used for: An enclosing membrane. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. XXXVI. (Bodl. MS.), Aboute þe herte is a maneie cloþing þat hatte thee schryne and þe cooler of þe herte.

5. A place where worship is offered or devotions are paid to a saint or deity; a temple, church.

1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xix, Apollo from his shrine Can no more divine. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 43 This tusky Boar Young Mycon offers, Delia, to thy Shrine. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 78 Seva Gi was departed thence to Purtaabgur, to visit the Shrine of Bowany. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* I. 2 Before the Goddess' shrine we too, love's vot'ries, bend. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 163 The pilgrims [distinguished] by bearing some symbol of the god to whose shrine they are going. 1880 L. OLIPHANT *Land of Gilead* iii. 80 In the East it is a common thing for the same shrine to serve the purpose of many succeeding religions. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* I, Behind this temple was the shrine of Vesta. 1905 BYLES *Life R. S. Hawker* V. 42 The position of the Church, like that of all ancient Shrines in England, was chosen and fixed on certain principles.

¶**b.** In the following quots. commonly explained as 'an image (of a saint or god)'. The passages seem, however, to be merely somewhat strained figurative applications of sense 5. Cf. 2 c.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 194 Offer pure incense to so pure a shrine. 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. vii. 40 From the foure corners of the earth they come To kisse this shrine, this mortall breathing Saint. 1611 — *Cymb.* V. v. 164 For Feature, laming The Shrine of Venus, or straight-pight Minerua.

6. *fig.* in contexts referring to the veneration or idolizing of some person or thing.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 109 It can not be that such a Saint to see Can long in shrine her seemely selfe so shroude. 1595 *Caxton's Blanchardyn* liv. 210 The neighboring Princes, which long had bent their deuotions to the sweet Saint which kept her shrine in Tormaday. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, Good morning to the day; and, next, my gold: Open the shrine, that I may see my saint. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess.* II. *Poetry* I, The Two common Shrines, to which most Men offer up the Application of their Thoughts and their Lives, are Profit and Pleasure. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 105 Honour forbid! at whose unrivall'd shrine Ease, pleasure, virtue, all our sex resign. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 71 To..heap the Shrine of Luxury and Pride With incense kindled at the Muse's flame. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch.* II. 57 He was too conscientious to sacrifice his principles at the shrine of worldly advantage or emolument. 1853 'DOW JR.' in Jerdan *Yankee Humour* 88 Ye grey-haired worshippers at the shrine of Mammon! 1904 PAUL *Mod. Eng.* I. Introd. 13 He [*sc.* Mill] kept the lamp burning in the Benthamite shrine.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. 13 Hee throngs in shryne clowd [*infert se sæptus nebula*]. *Ibid.* IV. 67 The slip Ascanius (for sainct thee shrinecase adoring) Shee cols for the father. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 240 If these [*e.g.* crowns] Be wanting, a less Shrine-robber will seize On a gilt Hercules his thigh. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 572 'Such was its virtue!' twangs the Sacristan, Holding the shrine-box up. 1876 J. S. BREWER *Engl. Studies* (1881) 107 The exquisite tracery of their screens and shrine-work.

Shrine (ʃrəin), *v.* Forms: 3 **ssryne**, **ssrine**, 3–4 **schrine**, 4–5 **schryne**, 4–6 **shryne**, 7 **chrine**, 6– **shrine**. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To enclose (relics) in a shrine; to provide (a saint or deity) with a shrine or sanctuary. Now *rare*.

c 1290 *Beket* 376 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 117 In þulke ȝere seint thomas schrinede seint edward At westmunstre. *Ibid.* 275/2406 Seint thomas..onder eorþe he lay, Are þat he i-schrined were, wel mani a long day. *c* 1385 CHAUCER

Pard. T. 627, I wolde I hadde thy coillons in myn hond In stide of Relikes... They shul be shryned in an hogges toord. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 69 þe fame þerof come vnto þe monasterie þer Saynt Austyn was shrynyd. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* 49 Theyr two bodyes were ioyned bothe togyder, & so shryned at rome by myracle. 1550 BALE *Engl. Votaryes* II. L ij b, Saint Wyllyam of Norwyche, a martyr, whych was ther shryned in Christes church abbeye. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* III. (1636) 93 To take up the body of Edith..and to shrine it. 1702 POPE *Dryope* 87 Believe a Goddess shrin'd in ev'ry tree. 1803 SOUTHEY *Queen Orraca* 60 Our brother Pedro brings them here, In Coimbra to be shrined.

†b. phr. *To shrine* (a person) *for a saint*: to venerate or proclaim him as a saint. Also *fig.*

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* C vij, Shryninge them alwaye for sayntes which purchased them preuileges or fought for their libertyes. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* v. iii, You must nowe tell who Eumenides shrineth for his Saint. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 27 Setting forth Lady Ignorance for a great Sainct..and shrining her unto them for the true mother of Devotion.

†c. To canonize (*fig.*). *Obs.*

a 1400 CHAUCER *Agst. Women Unconst.* 15 Ye might be shryned, for your brotelnesse, Bet than Dalyda, Creseide, or Candace. 1878 W. C. SMITH *Hilda among Broken Gods* II. 177 What, if heaven should be wroth at my shrining and sainting a man, Sinful and mortal as I?

†d. To set up as a sacred offering. *Obs.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. ad fin., Poore Dolons spoiles Vlysses had; who shrin'd them on his sterne.

†2. To entomb. *Obs.*

1567 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) D j b, Shrine me in clay aliue, some good man stop mine eye. 1567–8 *Gismond of Salerne* v. iii. 40 (Cunliffe), And in one tombe our bodies bothe to shrine. 1570–1 in *B. L. Ball. & Broadsides* (1867) 35 The Nortons' bones should be so shrynd That now hanges wauering in the wynd. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 703 His ashes..were carried to Rome and shrined there in the monument of the Antonines.

3. To enclose, envelop, engird, as a shrine or sanctuary does the body or the image of a saint.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* F iv, Ye Muses nine With grace deuine My wittes to shrine Giue not consent. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ded. A ij, Thee pyth, that is shrind vp wythin thee barck and bodye of so exquisit..a discourse. 1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat., Defiance to Envie* 21 Nor earthen pot wont secret death to shrine. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* Wks. (1904) 140 So sweet the Temple was that shrin'd The Sacred sweetnesse of his mind. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 672 Th' Almightie Father where he sits Shrin'd in his Sanctuarie of Heav'n secure. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 263 Booth in his cloudy tabernacle shrin'd [as Harlequin]. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 190 Thus loaded with a feast the tables stood, Each shrining in the midst the image of a God. *a* 1851 MOIR *Poems* (1852) II. 363 A patch of sky..shrining a star Magnificent. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 286 Tempe, shrined around in shadowy woods o'erhanging. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Portrait* iii, In painting her I shrined her face Mid mystic trees.

b. To enclose, shut *up* (an object) in a case; †hence, to treasure.

1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 82 What auaileth it to shrine so much this vaine beautie, which..is euery day in danger? 1662 HIBBERT *Body of Div.* I. 115 A liveless peece of earth [*viz.* money] is his master, yea his God, which he shrines up in his chest. 1886 CONDER *Syrian Stone-Lore* iv. (1896) 166 The oldest [copy of the Pentateuch], shrined in its silver case and bound in green.

†c. To enfold, embrace. *Obs. rare.*

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* III. 17 Ist possible that I..Should shrine within mine armes so bright a goddesse?

†d. *refl.* To conceal oneself. *Obs. rare.*

1570 T. PRESTON in *Old Ballads* (Percy Soc.) 71 Loth was I [a fly] to go out, And shrind my selfe under a brome.

†e. ? To cover with rich ornament. *Obs. rare.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis*, etc. 95 An armoure..With gould ritchlye shrined [Aen. VIII. 436 *arma..auroque polibant*].

†f. To bury (a sword) in a person's body.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* VII. 276 If any should his kinsman finde, And in his breast his sword hath shrin'd.

4. To enshrine in one's heart or thoughts.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* 32, I haue shrined thee in my heart for a trustie friende. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 15 b, The idoll that was shrinde within his brest. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* vi. (1630) C 4 Loue..straight diued into my heart, And there did shrine the Idea of your selfe. 1607 B. BARNES *Diuils Charter* III. ii. F 1 He that aliue was shrined in my brest, Now dead liues yet intombed in my thoughts. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. xxiv, When that majestic theme Shrined in her heart found utterance. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* I. iv. 88 The man of real genius..has the feeling of truth already shrined in his own breast. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xi, It was waste of time and life to keep her shrined in the dearest sanctuary of his being.

†5. *refl.* and *intr.* To dwell as in a shrine; to be 'tabernacled'. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Langland's P. Pl.* A. I. 162 (Univ. Coll. MS.), Chastite wipouten charite wurþ schryned in helle. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. vi, The soule, that shoulde be shrinde in heauen. 1602 *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* V. v, My soule is shrinde with heauens celestiall couer. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* IX. 387 Fild with grace diuine, That in his secret soule did shrine [*tacita quem mente gerebat*].

Shrined (ʃrəind), *a.* [f. SHRINE *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Containing a shrine or shrines.

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* IV. 76 Reare vp..foure altars..Neere to the shrined temples of the goddesses.

2. Contained in a shrine.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 395 He swore upon the shrined relics of their common patron saint.

Shri·neless, *a.* [-LESS.] Having no shrine.

1892 MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 382 Showing her shrineless, not a temple, bare. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter-Quarters* 55 And through your shrineless pilgrimage you make Unending moan.

Shri·nelet. [-LET.] A little shrine.

1884 M. M. MACMILLAN *Lett.* (1893) 102 The panels of St. Laurence's Vatican shrinelet.

Shri·ning, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRINE *v.* + -ING¹.] Enclosing in or as in a shrine; enshrining, encasing.

1574 tr. *Josselin's Life 70 Abp.* To Rdr. E 2 b, Their deathes, entermentes, entombinges, translations, and shryninges. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXVIII. (1888) 181 If she be an honest woman..were she not worth the wishing, and worthy the shryning? 1622 WITHER *Philarete* F 4 b, Tis found, that costly shrining Did but hinder tothers shining.

Shri·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. SHRINE *v.* + -ING².] Embracing, enveloping.

1826 A. A. WATTS *Love's Wealth* I, Whilst my shrining arms enfold, love,..a prize like thee.

Shrink, *sb.* [f. SHRINK *v.*] An act of shrinking, flinching, cowering, etc.; †a shrug.

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 23 b, After the first shrinck at the entring of the bullett. 1594 DANIEL *Cleopatra* (Bang) 1729 Not a yeilding shrinke, or touch of feare Consents now to bewray least sence of paine. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Let. to Capt. T. P.* 1 Aug. 1622, He [the Spaniard] never speaks of her [Queen Elizabeth] but he fetcheth a shrink in the shoulder. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. Introd. 11, I saw a visible shrink in all Orders of Men among us, from that Greatness..which was in the first Grain, that our God brought from Three sifted Kingdoms, into this Land. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. I. 230 A Shrink, or Contraction, in the Body since 'twas first form'd. 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 179, I..almost wish with sudden shrink, That I had less to praise. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 178 The shiver and shrink with which the sitter caught sight of him.

Shrink (ʃriŋk), *v.* Pa. t. **shrank** (ʃræŋk), pa. pple. **shrunk** (ʃrʊŋk). Forms: 1 scrincan, 2–3 scrinke(n, 3–5 schrinke, 4–6 schrynke, shrynke, 5–6 s(c)hrynk, schrenk(e, (4 scrynke, schryngke, scherenke, shrynge, 6 shren(c)k(e, shryng, shrinck, schrink, scrincke), 6–7 shrinke, 6– shrink. *Pa. t.* 1 scranc (*pl.* scruncon), 4 schrank, 5 schranke, 6–7 shranke, 7– shrank; 4 schronk, 5–7 shronke, 6 shroncke, shroonke, shrounke, 6–7 shronk, shrun(c)ke, 7– shrunk; *wk.* 6 *Sc.* schrinket, -it, 6– (now *dial.*) shrinked. *Pa. pple.* 1 (ze)scruncen, (-scrungen), 2 scrunken, 4 schrunken, 4–5 shronken, 7 shruncken, 6– shrunken; 5–6 shronke, 6 shroonke, shruncke, 6–7 shroncke, shrunke, 6– shrunk; *wk.* 6 *Sc.* schrenkit. [OE. *scrincan* (pa. t. *scranc, scruncon*, pa. pple. *gescruncen*) = MDu. *schrinken* (only in Kilian as obs. Flem.; ?from Eng.), Sw. *skrynka* to wrinkle (MSw. *skrunkin* pa. pple. shrivelled, wrinkled), Norw. *skrekka, skrøkka* (pa. t. *skrakk, skrokk*, pa. pple. *skrokken, skrokket*). The causative is SHRENCH *v.*]

The pa. t. originally had vowel change *I shrank, we shrunk(en*, but, as early as the 14th c., the properly plural form is found with a singular subject, and *shronk, shrunk* becomes frequent in the 15th c.; *shrunk* is the normal pa. t. in the 18th c., and still survives. The pa. pple. *shrunken* is now rarely employed in conjugation with the vb. 'to have'; see also SHRUNK, SHRUNKEN.]

I. Intransitive senses.

†1. To wither or shrivel through withdrawal of vital fluid or failure of strength. *Obs.*

[*c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. ix. § 3 ƿa for þæm ciele him gescruncan ealle þa ædra.] *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 204 Hy [male and female pennyroyal] blowaþ ðonne nealice oþre wyrta scrincaþ & weorniað. *Ibid.* III. 48 Seonuwa fortogene & ða tan scrinceð up. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 411 Panne his senewes gonne to schrynke [*MS.* y schryngke]. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 497 His synewis shronke and withdrewe them. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H ij, My chekes that hanged syde downe, do shrynke aweye. 1573–80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 40 Fruit gathred too timely..wil shrink. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXXII. 32 The children of Israel eate not of the sinewe which shranke.

†b. To pine away. *Obs. rare.*

c 1205 LAY. 2278 Per fore þu scalt scrinkin [*c* 1275 dejen]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XL. vii, Though I in want be shrinking, Yet God on me is thinking.

2. To become reduced in size, volume, or extent; *esp.* to contract through heat, cold, or moisture. Also with *up, away*.

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 245 in *O. E. Misc.* 80 Heo schule in helle Euer schrinke and swelle. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 If..the lethir..were of such kinde that it wolde daili schrinke. 1530 PALSGR. 705/2 If these bordes shrinke, all my purpose is marred. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 143 The grownd on the W. side our new gadong did shrink with the extreme rayne. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CCLXVI, We..shrink like parchment in consuming flame. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. ii. 19 After these waters had rag'd for some time on the Earth, they began to lessen and shrink. 1742 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1768) II. 10 Those [polypuses] which are recent will sometimes shrink and disappear by repeated Punctuation. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 337 The pyrometric pieces of clay..the more they are heated, the more they shrink in all their dimensions. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* VI. (1858) 270 The modern town has very much shrunk within its ancient limits. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 151 When a body of water is cooled, it shrinks in bulk. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* XI, Sometime a house had stood there, but..it had shrunken in some settlement of the ground.

b. Of a textile fabric: To contract when wetted. Phr. *To shrink in the wetting* (chiefly pass.): app. orig. said proverbially of cloth manufactured in some northern counties; hence allusively and fig. of anything that is damaged or depreciated in value.

1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 8 *Preamble*, Whiche Clothes so shorn er they be wett..most of werrey necessite shrynk. 1511–2 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Cloth..which when it shalbe full wette shall shrynke more than oon yerd in all the lenght. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. vi. U iv, It is peryshed .i. it is shrunk in the wetynge. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. v. 158 in *Holinshed*, Their..ambitious titles are now decaied and worthilie shroonke in the wetting. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* R ij b, To perswade you not to shrinke in the wetting, but like a Kentish cloth..stande inuiolated. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* D 1 Three of his sonnes universally ridiculouslie reputed of..The fourth is shrunke in the wetting, or else the Print shoulde haue heard of him. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 63 The first is merry drunk,..although his braines be somewhat shrunk I' th' wetting. 1653 R. CARPENTER (*title*), The Anabaptist washt and washt, and shrunk in the washing. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. 28 'Tis York-shire Cloath, you know, that shrinks i' th' wetting! 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* s. v., A Stuff that shrinks. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 292/1 Patent flannel, which does not shrink in washing.

3. To draw the limbs together, bring the body into a small compass; to cower, huddle *together*; (of the body) to contract as with pain or cold; (of a plant) to shrivel or curl *up* under a blasting or withering influence.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 436 Þa wearð se cyning [*viz.* Belshazzar] to ðan swiðe afyrht, þæt he eal scranc. *c* 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 158 Heo cometh by modered ase a mor-hen, Ant scrynketh for shome. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrynkyn, *rigeo*. 1530 PALSGR. 705/2 Be nat a frayde, I shall shrinke so lowe that he shall nat spye me. *c* 1572 GASCOIGNE *Hearbes* Wks. 1869 I. 382 The tender plant..In winter shrinks and shrowdes from euery blast. 1592 BRETON *Pilgr. Parad.* xiv, An vnwildy trunke..With weight whereof, their shoulders often shrunke [*printed* thruncke]. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 9 Till I shrinke with cold. 1601 W. LEIGH *Soules Solace* (1617) 18 At last shrinking downe againe, he [the sick man] gaue a sigh. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 29 Distressed Atlas shoulders shrinke with payne. 1680 *Revenge* IV. ad. fin., I'll make him shrink with fear, ere I have done. 1782 COWPER *Poet, Oyster, & Sens. Plant* 35 When I bend, retire, and shrink. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXIII, Isaac shrunk together, and was silent. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (1871) 115 If..any point of its surface be rudely touched, the whole animal does not immediately shrink. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 444 Her small goodman Shrinks in his arm-chair. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* XIV, Bessie remained in his arms shrinking.

4. In immaterial sense: To be contracted or reduced in extent; to be drawn together *into* certain limits.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 Bicause that thilk lijflode wolde continueli schrinke. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* II. i, When disdayne is shrunke or sette asyde. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 150 Are all thy Conquests, Glories, Triumphes, Spoiles, Shrunke to this little Measure? 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* I. ii, When, after all his Eagerness of two Minutes before, he shrinks into a faint Kiss, and a cold Compliment. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 223 All her Plumes Fall flat and shrink into a trivial toy. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 728 Each Earth-born Joy grows vile, or disappears, Shrunk to a Thing of Nought. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I, To make England, inclined to shrink into her narrow self, the arbitress of Europe. 1856 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 36 How the poor soul would shrink back into nothing before that lion eye. 1911 T. S. HOLMES *Chr. Ch. Gaul* iii. 66 This influence increased as the extent of the imperial authority in Gaul steadily shrank.

†b. To fail. *Obs. rare.*

1608 WOTTON in *Cal. St. Papers, Irel.* 655 He has done well to bring her to Rome, in case all other means should shrink.

5. To move *backward*, retire, or retreat *into* a cavity, shelter, or place of refuge; to draw oneself or itself *in*. In first quot. app. †to sink deep.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2313 Þe scharp schrank to þe flesche þur3 þe schyre grece. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1837 Lych hornys of a lytell snayl, Wych..for a lytel strawh wyl shrynke. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 48 Another let flee at the lorde Standley, which shronke at the stroke.. as shortely as he shranke yet ranne the blood aboute hys eares. 1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* ii. Wks. (1876) 323 The trees whan they be wydred and theyr leues shaken from them and all the moystour shronke in to the rote. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 325 This done our Lady shranke againe into her shrine. 1606 MARSTON *Parasit.* IV. G 4 b, Her sometimes enuious lips, now shrink in, and giue her nose and her chin leaue to kisse each other. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 710 A twigge..growing vp to a yong tree: which when they offered to pluck vp, it shrunke downe into the ground. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* III. i. 37 Shrinke in while I buckle it, that you may bee gaunt and fine in the wast. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 682 Teach me..Why flowing Tides prevail upon the Main, And in what dark Recess they shrink again. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* I, Till I shrink into my cell again for terror of the sound. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 330 The eye then shrinks into the orbit. 1830 TENNYSON *Poet's Mind* 37 It [a fountain] would shrink to the earth if you came in.

fig. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* LXXVII, Jorian from that moment shrunk in and became impenetrable as a hedgehog.

†b. To fall or come away *from*. *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 355/2 The side of a Timber House shrunk from its Mortesses.

6. To withdraw *from* a place or position, esp. in a secret or furtive manner; to turn *aside, away, back*, etc. furtively or nimbly; to slip or slink *away*. Now *rare*.

14.. *Sir Beues* (Sutherld. MS.) 1857 Fro þe 3ates he wyl not shrynke, Tyl he haue both mete and drynke. 1530 PALSGR.

705/2 He craked afore we came hyther that he wolde do marvaylles, but nowe he is shronke asyde no man can tell whyther. 1582 *N. T.* (Rhem.) John v. 13 Iesvs shronke aside from the multitude. 1587 Underdowne tr. *Heliodorus* (1895) 202 When shee had thus done, shee woulde have shrunke away. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turkes* 1038 The Hungarians were almost all shrunk home. 1605 Chapman *All Fooles* I. i, *Gost.* Who was that Shrunke at my entry here? ..*Rym.* He shrunke not, sir, his busines call'd him hence. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 255 They took it, and shrunk away so in the throng, I could never hear more of it. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* ii, He shrunk from the hall to the seclusion of his own convent. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. v, Mayor Bailly..gladly shrinks within doors. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlvii, After she had borne a couple of sons, [she] shrank away into a life of devout seclusion.

† **b.** *To shrink out of the collar*: to back out, esp. of an enterprise. *Obs.*

1636 Brathwait *Rom. Emp.* 383 Some powerfull Protestant commanders..who shrunk out of the coller of obedience. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 7 May, Sir W. Pen, like a false rogue, shrinking out of the collar,..so that the whole odium must fall on me.

† **c.** *Naut.* Of the wind: ? To blow fitfully or in gusts. *Obs.*

1627 Capt. Smith *Sea Gram.* ix. 39 The wind shrinkes, that is, when you must take in the Spretsaile, and get the tacks aboord. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 10 The Winds shrank upon us from off the Coast of Ginea. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 When the Gale of Good Fortune shrinks he alters his course. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 36 The Wind shrinking, and blowing off the Island in Squals.

7. To draw *back* or give way so as to avoid physical contact or conflict; to recoil through physical weakness or lack of courage or with abhorrence *from*.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. viii. 115 Pallas, nocht schrynkand for the mortale dynt. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 160 Notwithstandyng that the Romaynes shot great ordinaunces,..yet the Imperiall persones neuer shranke, but manly entered the Bulwarke. 1656 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 265 He put out his tongue very willingly, but shrinked a little when the iron came upon his forehead. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* v. 237 It is shamefull for a King to boast at Table, and shrink in fight. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 49 Shrinking from the spoiler's hand, Far, far away, thy children leave the land. 1794 Mary Wollstonecr. *View Fr. Rev.* I. 133 Is it then surprising, that a very desirable woman, with a sanguine constitution, should shrink abhorrent from his embraces? 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VI. viii, Wherever he went, the enemy shrank before him. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* iv, She shrunk back from his grasp. 1862 Calverley *Verses & Transl.* (1894) 64 Streets, which foot of traveller shrinks from, As on hot plates shrinks the bear. 1892 Gardiner *Student's Hist. Eng.* 14 The soldiers were terrified and shrunk back.

† **b.** To give way; to collapse. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 10 He..nicely trode, as thornes lay in his way, Or that the flore to shrinke he did auyse; And on a broken reed he still did stay His feeble steps, which shrunke, when hard theron he lay. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iv. 20 The ground shrinkes before his Treading. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 194 Reason being conquered by the excesse of sorrowe shruncke. 1616 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 128 Our new wall..shronk soe it was this day.. puld downe.

8. To refuse or hesitate to act in the face of anything irksome, grievous, horrible, or distasteful; to recoil mentally or morally.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1077 The sege that schrenkis for na schame, the schent might hym schend. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvii. 29 The telzouris hairt a littill schrenkit. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxii. 8 His herte is stablished, he wil not shrencke. 1576 Gascoigne *Grief of Joy* Ded., I will then shrinke for no paynes untill I have..touched all the common places of mans perylous pleasures. *a* 1628 Preston *New Cov.* (1634) 300 A man perhaps will beare many things for Religion, but if it come to death, there he shrinkes. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 513 Fancy shrinks..at the thought Of such a gulph as he design'd his grave. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* liii, Why linger, why turn back, why shrink, my Heart? 1858 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 515 There was much which might make good men shrink and hesitate.

b. freq. const. *from* (often governing a gerund).

1565 J. Phillip *Patient Grissell* 859 No Tarquins knight, ne Appian now, shall cause mee shrinke from duetie due. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 311/30 To cause him suerue or schrink fre ony pairt of his faithit in Christ Jessus. 1741–2 Gray *Agrip.* 48 Then was the time To shrink from danger. 1813 *Sk. Char.* (ed. 2) i, I am convinced there are many, who would shrink from coming out in the manner you have described. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* Prol., Who hath cumbered the world with his devices, but shrunken from the responsibility thereof. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. 115 There was no sacrifice from which French policy so instinctively shrank. 1892 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 285 Opinions, which he never shrunk from expressing. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 7/4 The policy of exclusion from which the Board of Agriculture has shrunk.

c. const. *at*.

1576 Gascoigne *Droome Doomesday* Wks. 1910 II. 431 If thou perceyve any man to shrynke at death when it commeth. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* I. i, I have seen him do such things, belief would shrink at. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 229 What happier natures shrink at with affright. 1780 *Mirror* No. 71 That delicacy which made him..shrink at the idea of asking a pecuniary favour. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xiv, The abbot would not shrink at inflicting upon me the death due to an apostate nun. 1839 Hood *John Day* xiv, At last he made a vow To break his being's link; For he was so reduced in size At nothing he could shrink.

d. const. inf.

1544 Betham *Precepts War* II. lxxiii. L viij b, For the encrease of his renowme, they wyll not shrynke: to bestowe and spende theyr lyfe. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* 43 Nor shrynke ye to take paynes. 1602 Heywood *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* v. i, He would not shrinke to spend a thousand pound, To giue the Mountfords name so deepe a wound. 1869 F. W. Newman *Misc.* 107 Novelists do not shrink to tell the form of a hero or heroine's features. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 23 Would I shrink to learn my life-time's limit—days, weeks, months or years?

† **9.** To be a deserter or rebel; to fall *away from* duty or allegiance, or *from* a person. *Obs.*

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 62 Your Sister would not dooe her duetie, but shranke awaie. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 123 They can not forsake nor shrynke from the true doctrine. *Ibid.* 276 b, Whan he was gone, the fellowes of that conspiracie, shranke away immediatly. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 118 Such as shrinked were to be vpholden and cured. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 222 Ile play the Ease-dropper, To heare if any meane to shrinke from me.

II. Transitive (mainly causative) senses.

10. To cause to contract or be reduced in size, volume, or extent; to cause to contract by moisture, heat, or cold; to cause (a limb, sinew, plant) to wither or (the skin) to wrinkle. Also with *up*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xv. cxxxv. (1495) 538 An herbe namyd Apium risus: that drawe and shrynke jawes of men. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 62 Eliez walld þai schrenk þe stomake. *a* 1530 J. Heywood *Wether* 978 (Brandl), I loue no launders that shrynke my gere in wettynge. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 156 To shrinke mine Arme vp like a wither'd Shrub. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burning Pestle* III. 12 Let them..Start at a shadow, and shrink up their bloud. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 133 Return Alpheus, the dread voice is past, That shrunk thy streams. 1646 Crashaw *Sospetto d'Herode* xxii, That the Great Angell-blinding light should shrinke His blaze, to shine in a poore Shepherds eye. 1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 155 If the Rain wet them, instead of shrinking them, it will swell them. 1680 C. Nesse *Ch. Hist.* 172 God shrank his sinews, and makes him stand like an antick statue. 1712–14 Pope *Rape Lock* II. 132 Alum styptics with contracting pow'r Shrink his thin essence like a rivel'd flow'r. 1832 Tennyson *Mariana in South* v, The steady glare Shrank one sick olive sere and small. 1866 Redgrave *Cent. Painters* II. 602 The moisture of the paste shrinks the spot of canvas to which it is applied. 1875 F. T. Buckland *Log-bk.* 57 A human head which has by some process or other been shrunk to about the size of a large orange.

b. *spec.* To treat (a textile material) with water so that it may not shrink after it is made up.

1886 [see Shrinking *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1883 'Sylvia' *Lady's Guide Dressmaking* 122 Braid is the best trimming for.. frocks. It should always be 'shrunk' before being put on the dress.

c. *Mech.* To cause (a piece, e. g. the tire of a wheel, the jacket of a cannon) to be fixed tightly *on* (*to*) another (which it is intended to fit) by heating it, slipping it into place when sufficiently expanded, and then rapidly cooling it. Also with *on* (adv.) and occas. *absol.*

1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 449/1 To make the wheel in the usual way and then shrink the railway tire.. upon it. 1861 Russell in *Times* 26 Oct., A simple..piece of artillery, with a thick iron band shrunk on over the breach. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 25 June 2/1 Krupp began with solid guns and found himself obliged to come to the English system of building up guns by the shrinking on of hoops. At the present time France, Germany, Italy, and Russia shrink as we do.

d. *transf.* To reduce in number. *rare.*

1832 Goodridge *Voy. S. Seas* 65 We endeavoured to shrink them [*sc.* mice] by destroying immense quantities.

11. To draw (the body, the limbs, oneself) into a smaller compass.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 5 Sche constreynede and schronk hir seluen lyche to þe comune mesure of men. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Trophein* 1081 Her Alabastrine well-shapt Limbs shee shrinks. 1649 Davenant *Love & Hon.* II. ii, The chaste Indian plant, That shrinks and curles his bashfull leaves at the Approach of man. 1705 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1709) 100 A modest Man, if he was somewhat Taller than his Neighbours, would chuse to shrink himself into the Dimensions of the Company. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 303 ¶ 13 The Multitude and Rabble of Spirits immediately shrunk themselves into a small Compass. 1875 Morris *Æneid* XII. 861 Her body huge she shrank.

12. In immaterial sense: To reduce to smaller limits or compass.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. vii. 16 'Tis the sawcie seruant, that causes the Lord to shrinke his descending fauours. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 176 That were a phrase to shrink the glorious omnipresence of God speaking, into a kind of circumscriptive absence. 1812 Cary *Dante, Purg.* IX. 44 Thy strength Shrink not, but rise dilated. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* VIII. ii, Logical cobwebbery shrinks itself together. 1891 J. Martineau *Ess. & Addr.* IV. Pref., If to the dwarfed and altered thought I had tried to shrink the grand old language.

† **13.** To cause to withdraw or disappear; to draw *in* (the horns, the claws); also with *back, up*. Hence in allusive phr. signifying withdrawal from a position of prominence, from an undertaking, etc.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 300 And þough he erst hadde poured vp and doun, He was þo glad his hornes yn to shrynke. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 2199 Cometh Schame anoon..And causeth Loue hornys for to schrynke. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i, The cheerefull Cock..Doth sing to see how Cynthia shrinks her horne. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. i. 138, I will make you shrinke your snaile hornes! 1608 D. T[uvill.] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 57 b, The Lyon is a Lyon, though he shrink vp his clawes. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativ.* xxii, The Libyc Hammon shrinks his horn. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 24 My wretched..soule may provoke thee to shrinke in thy graces. 1642–4 Vicars *God in Mount* 76 The rest (who more wisely shrunk-in their heads, and recanted their former oversight). 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* III. ii, The Devil..puts out his Horns to doe a mischief, and then shrinks 'em back for safety, like a Snail into her shell. 1713 Young *Last Day* II. 301 To make the Sun shrink in his beam.

14. To draw (the head, the hand, etc.) *aside, back*, or *away* in a furtive, ashamed, or retiring manner. Now *rare*.

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 257 Whan bayard sawe Mawgis, he began to shrynke his eeres [orig. *etreinutre les oreilles*]. 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 65 To sitte a side and shrinke His harbraind head with out dame dainties dore. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 166 b, He had shrunke his head out of the coller of those insupportable paines. 1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii. ad fin., The River..Shrunke his graue head, beneath his siluer waues. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XX. 455 Thus snatcht he..a Neats foot, And threw it at Vlysses: who, his head Shrunke quietly aside. *c* 1620 Fletcher, etc. *Lover's Progr.* I. i, We made them shun us, And shrink their rugged heads. 1880 Meredith *Tragic Com.* (1881) 64 She shrank her hand back.

† **b.** *To shrink in the neck*: to flinch, recoil.

1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 124 One of them asked him what she was: who poore man shrinking in his neck, said he knew her not. 1705 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* III. 13 When did they refuse to lay their Throat fair, or shrink in their Neck at the dispatching blow?

† **c.** = Shrug *v.* *To shrink up* (occas. *in*) *one's shoulders*: to shrug one's shoulders; *fig.* (with *at*) to regard with displeasure, aversion, or indifference.

1605 Wotton in *Life & Lett.* (1907) I. 336 They shrink up the shoulder, as if it were a greater matter than we are aware of. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1754) 115 Among others that shrink in the Shoulders at it. 1676 *Packet Adv. Men Shaftesb.* 76 If ye talk of State-Commodities, they shrink the shoulder, and say nothing. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 543 He shrunk up his Shoulders at it. 1720 — *Capt. Singleton* IV. (1840) 62 They shrunk up their shoulders, as Frenchmen do.

† **15.** To shun, avoid. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 62 The schipman schrenkis the schour, and settis to schore. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. 34 In this last byckring I shrunck no danger or hazard. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 392 Gratianus..as yet but a stripling..shrunke not five souldiors. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 118/2 A man resolued to abide the utmost hazard of Battle, and not to shrink his aduersary.

† **b.** *To shrink collar*: = 6 b. *Obs. rare.*

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 907 He began..to rowse himselfe, and to lift vp his head: but he shrunke choller againe soone after.

† **16.** To quit. *Obs. rare.*

1594 Lyly *Mother Bombie* IV. ii, Thou knowest wee are towne borne children, and wil not shrinke the citie.

17. *Comb.* **shrink-ring**, a ring of metal that is shrunk on; a ring in a structure that bears the strain of expansion and shrinkage.

1902–3 *Jrnl. Inst. Electr. Engin.* XXXII. 419 Well-made shrink-ring jointed cast-steel flywheels. *Ibid.* 410 To cast the boss in sections and have two very heavy shrink rings round the boss.

Shri·nkable, *a.* [f. prec. + -able.] Capable of being shrunk, liable to shrink.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Shrinkage (ʃri·ŋkédʒ). [f. Shrink *v.* + -age.]

1. The act or fact of shrinking; reduction in the size or volume of a substance or material due to contraction such as is caused by heat, cold, or wet.

1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* ii. 76 Deficiencies of goods far beyond what can arise from natural waste or shrinkage. 1852 *Nicholson's Encycl. Archit.* I. 74 All timber is liable to shrinkage by the evaporation of the moisture which is always present. 1853 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. xiv. (ed. 9) I. 327 The mud..solidifies, and becomes traversed by cracks, caused by shrinkage. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* July 62 The shrinkage of the lakes has permitted systematic excavations to be made in their former beds. 1889 Rider Haggard *Cleopatra* Introd., Notwithstanding..the shrinkage of the flesh, I think the face was one of the most imposing and beautiful that I ever saw.

2. The amount of such contraction or loss in bulk, volume, or measurement.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 27 Various specimens of clays..made up into squares to show their relative shrinkages. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2169/1 Brass contracts rather more [than cast iron], 5/16 inch shrinkage to the foot being allowed. 1884 *Sci. Amer.* Suppl. XVIII. 7197 All substances that tend to decrease the refractory character of the basic brick increase their shrinkage.

b. *Gun-making.* In shrinking on hoops or tubes, the difference between the inner diameter of the outer cylinder and the outer diameter of the inner cylinder.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 *Times* 31 Aug. 6/1 The complicated calculations connected with the 'shrinkage' and tensions of the various parts of built-up guns.

3. Of immaterial things: Diminution or reduction in quantity, amount, or size; depreciation or decrease in value; the amount of such diminution.

1879 H. James jun. *Hawthorne* 129 The shrinkage and extinction of a family. 1879 *Standard* 21 May 2/1 The failure is attributed to bad debts, shrinkage in the value of goods, and the withdrawal of capital. 1880 Jefferies *Hodge* II. 266 There has been proceeding a general shrinkage, as it were, of speculative investment. 1891 *Times* 9 Oct. 9/6 The total shrinkage was £40,000.

4. *attrib.*: **shrinkage-crack** *Geol.*, a crack formed on the surface of a bed of rock and due to shrinkage caused by exposure to sun and air:

shrinkage fit, a fit made by shrinking one cylindrical piece on to another; **shrinkage rule** = *contraction rule* (see CONTRACTION 9).

1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* xviii. 437 In the Gaspé sandstones casts of shrinkage-cracks are very common. 1872 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XXIX. 59 These nodules..are highly mineralized; for they exhibit wide shrinkage-cracks.

Shrinker (ʃri·ŋkəɹ). [f. SHRINK *v.* + -ER 1.] One who shrinks or recoils from the truth, from duty, danger, or the like; in the 16th cent. one who shrinks *from* the faith of the Gospel or its obligations. (Cf. SHRINKING *ppl. a.* 2 a.)

1554 KNOX *Godly Let.* C viij, Too fearfull shrinkers from the truthe, for feare of worldly troble. 1563–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2103/2 Richard Denton, a shrinker from the Gospell. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ******ij, You shal not neede to terme your betters..to be enemies or shrinkers. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xiv. 239 Another is a shrinker, another halfe a papist. 1611 COTGR., *Tergiversateur*, a flincher, shrinker, starter. *c* 1635 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 433 We are no cowardly shrinkers, but English-men true bred. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 62 A good Ale drinker; He never was a Shrinker.

Shri·nking, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRINK *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. Contraction and reduction in size or volume through the action of heat, cold, or moisture; the drawing *up* or withering (of sinews, etc.).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* v. xii. (Tollem. MS.), By reuelynge and scherenkynge..of þe synew of felynge. *Ibid.* XVIII. xxxix. (1495) 801 Shryngynge of synewes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schrynkynge, *rigiditas*. 1670 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2046 The Bladder, whose regular Intumescencies and shrinkings sufficiently manifested, that the vessel..did not leak. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. xxxiii. 231 That shrinking up of all my sinnews. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* Introd. 22 We must allow for shrinking in the Silk-grograin Phrase of Rhetoricians. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 110 Except what it [corn] loseth in the first Year's shrinking, and loss of Weight. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 324 The regular shrinking of clay by heat. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 635 Coldness and shrinking of the extremities. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 264 Successive shrinkings [of a glacier]..have occurred at intervals of centuries.

b. (See SHRINK *v.* 10 b.)

1856 MISS WARNER *Hills Shatemuc* xii, They [socks] wouldn't want shrinking.

2. Physical, mental, or moral recoiling *from* a burden, danger, etc.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Affaissement*..a shrinking vnder a great burthen. 1611 COTGR., *Tergiversation*,.. a flinching..or shrinking backe. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 234 A kind of prodigious shrinking of the Eye of Heaven from the view of so black a wickedness. 1782 COWPER *Poet. etc.* 66 His censure reach'd them as he dealt it, And each by shrinking show'd he felt it. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxv, [She] never mentioned her name but with a shrinking and terror. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 509 Not without some craven shrinkings. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 137 There was no shrinking here from a full declaration of the Royal Supremacy.

attrib. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvii, One shrinking motion, one stifled scream.

† **3.** Shrugging (of the shoulders). *Obs.*

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 293 The shrinking up of the shoulders..is a gesture belonging to a base, servile, and craftie knave.

4. Estrangement. (Cf. next 2 a.)

1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1843) 13 The sins of the heathen world..began in a shrinking of the heart from God.

Shri·nking, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2] **1.** That shrinks, contracts, is reduced in size or volume, or is withered or shrivelled. Also *fig.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1857 Schalkes they schotte thrughe schrenkande maylez. 1583 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 277 Yorkschyre clayth, cairsayes, and all sort of schrynking clayth. 1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 31 *Pandus Asellus*..The shrinking or crooked little asse. 1805 CARY *Dante, Inf.* xxv. 57 Thus up the shrinking paper, ere it burns, A brown tint glides. 1883 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 2/5 Reports of shrinking prices in China.

2. † **a.** Rebelling (against God); backsliding.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxx. 1 Wo be to those shrenkinge children..which seke councel, but not at me. 1535 — *Jer.* ix. 2 They be all aduoutrers and a shrenckinge sorte. *Ibid.* xxxi. 22 How longe wilt thou go astraie, o thou shrenkinge [1560 *Geneva* rebellious] doughter? 1564 *Brief Exam.* ** iij b, The shrinking & refusing Ministers of London. [1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 63 Adulterers because they be And eke a shrynkyng sorte.]

b. Recoiling physically, mentally, or morally from what is difficult or distasteful; retiring.

1742 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, '*Come, O thou Traveller unknown*', What though my shrinking flesh complain. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XIV. xiv, The flames, which..seem'd to dart Their hungry tongues toward their shrinking prey. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, She..made a shrinking, but amicable, salutation to Major Dobbin. 1875 MANNING *Miss. Holy Ghost* x. 263 If the will be soft, shrinking, inconstant, and cowardly. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xxx, Her mother's shrinking distaste from any such hectic themes as this.

† **c.** *Shrinking shrub*: the sensitive plant.

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1618, *Stirpanimans seu Frutex impatiens*, The shrinking shrubbe. 1659 R. LOVELL *Herbal* 524 Shrinking shrub, *Herba impatiens*.

† **3.** Shivering, shuddering. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. iv. 30 The shrinking Slaues of Winter.

Hence **Shri·nkingly** *adv.*, in a shrinking manner, with a shrinking look, in a manner expressive of unwillingness, dislike, shyness, etc.; **Shri·nkingness** (*rare*).

1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* II. 235 Her left hand, as shrinkingly she stood, Held a small lute. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horseshoe Robinson* liii. (1850) 549 That feminine reserve and shrinkingness which we are wont to praise. 1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xxxv. 176 There was no light..except what curious daylight stole shrinkingly in at the low door. 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 47 When I peep shrinkingly from my study-windows. 1884 *Liverpool Merc.* 18 Feb. 5/2 Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote appeal shrinkingly and indirectly for the reversion of the trust.

† **Shri·nkling**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* In 6 -eling. [Cf. Sw. *skrynkla* to wrinkle, shrivel.] Contraction or drawing *together* (of the body).

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 94 Yf she be..taken among in the laboryng with conuulsyon or shrinkeling together.

† **Shrip**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 schrippe, 4 shrippe, 5 s(c)hryppe; sherpe, shyrpe. [Parallel form to SCRIP *sb.*1; but the existence of the two forms is difficult to account for. Cf., however, Merovingian L. *schirpa, scirpa*, and *schrippa*, beside *scrippum*, OF. *escherpe, eschirpe*.] = SCRIP *sb.*1

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 41/259 A coppe of seluer stilleliche þis lubere Man gan bringue And dude in heore schrippe softeliche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 26 Sauh I neuer Palmere with pyk ne with schrippe [*v.r.* scrip] Such a seint seche bote now in þis place. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 2123 (Fairf.), Pilgrimes With shrippes bret ful of lesenges. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1357 Pyk and palm, schryppe and slaueyn He dyghte hym as palmer, queynt of gyn. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6220 Towchyng shyrpe & bordoun. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 14 A shepehardes pouch or shrippe.

Shrip (ʃrip), *v.* Now *dial.* Also shirp. [App. f. root **skrep-*: see SCREPE, SCRAPE, SHRAPE *vbs.* Cf. OE. (*ge*)*sceorpan* str. vb., to shave, shred (whence perh. the form *shirp*); also G. *schripfen, schrepfen, schrupfen*, dial. to cut off the tips of a growing plant.] *trans.* To shave, shred; to clip, lop, prune, trim.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* K 5 b, Put a brimstone-match in the one end beeing slit, and the other end beeing shript sticke into the side of the hoale. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 20 Being suffered to dry in the Sun upon the Branches, and the spray shrip'd off about the decrease in August. *Ibid.* 103 Brush-wood which is shripped off from the branches of Copse-wood. *Ibid.* (1776) 155 Such as they reserve for spears in Spain, they keep shriped up close to the stem. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss., Shrip*, to clip a hedge, or cut hair close. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Shirp*, or *Shrip*, (1) 'to shirp off', to shred or cut off a little of anything; (2) 'to shrip up', to shroud up the lower boughs of roadside trees, to cut off the side twigs of a hedge or bush.

Hence **Shripping** *vbl. sb.*

1634 WITHER *Embl.* IV. ix, I have seene such twiggs, afford them shade, By whom they were the meanest shrippings made, Of all the Wood. 1910 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 619/1 His [*sc.* a hedger's] work in some shires is known as 'shripping'.

† **Shritch**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 shryche, schryche, 6 shrich(e, 7 schriche. *β.* 7 shreech, shreitch. [f. SHRITCH *v.*; cf. SCRITCH, SCREECH *sbs.*]

1. A screech, shriek.

α. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xii. 745 Sir Lauayn.. gaf a grete shryche and a merueillous gryfely grone. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 383 Giuing a pitifull but sweet shrich. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 145 Letting the light fall out of her hand for feare, shee gaue withall a great schriche. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 30 With howlings and unusuall schriches.

β. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iv. 18 Whose eares those shrieches shrill..did thrill. 1650 S. SHEPPARD *Candido* 21 With a loud shreitch she leaped out of the bed 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 104/2 With their fearful shreeches affrighting Passengers.

2. = SHRITCH-OWL.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 763/3 *Hic strix*, a schryche.

Shritch, *v. Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 3 schirche, 4 schriche, schryche, 6 shryche, shri(t)ch, 6, 9 schrich. *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4 schirȝt-e, shirt, 4–5 s(c)hriȝt-e, s(c)hright-e, s(c)hriht-e, -y-, sright-e; 4 schrichid, 5 shryched. [Parallel form to SCRITCH *v.*]

1. *intr.* To shriek, screech.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 223 Þu schirchest & ȝollest to þine fere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5738 By Porus conseil hogges hy took, And beten hem so they shrighte. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4739 Þe folk schirsten [*read* schirȝten] so heiȝe & loude þat it schilled in to þe cloude. *Ibid.* 6403 Þe paiens schirt & made dol. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 320 The owle..Hath after me shright [*v.rr.* schriht, sright, shryght] alle þis nyghtes two. *c* 1386 — *Nun Pr. T.* 580 (Camb. MS.), And ther-with all thei schrichid & schoutid. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. v. 850 The quenes and ladyes wepte and shryched that hit was pyte to here. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 238 And to the Gods and to the skies they shright. *a* 1575 GASCOIGNE *Posies, Flowers* 58, I..schrich to ease my morning minde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. viii. 32 Downe in her lap she hid her face, and loudly shright. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* 564 Schriching as soon as ivir yo touchen him.

2. *trans.* To utter with shrieking.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1261/1 That hideous howling that those hel houndes shold shryche.

Hence † **Shritching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 382 As rauenes qualm or schrychynge of thise owlis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxxvii. (1495) 436 Ulula is a foule that hathe that name of shrichynge and cryeng. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* 22 The Throstle she, which makes the wood to ring With shryching lowde.

† **Shritch-owl.** *Obs.* 6 shryche-, shritch-, shriech-, schreech-, 6–7 shriche-, 7 shreach, 8 schrich-. [f. SHRITCH *v.* + OWL *sb.* Cf. SCRITCH-OWL.] = SHRIEK-OWL.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Striges*, shryche oules. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1605) 157 Casting forth as pitifull cries as any shrich-owle. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 345 Let not the shriech Oule, nor the Storke be heard. 1596 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 56 That fatall Schreechowle. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* v. xlii. 112 Vnder his eaue th buzzing shreechowle sings. 1761 ELIZ. CARTER in *Mem.* (1808) I. 230 We wanted..to have the ground planted with yew and cypress,..and restore the schrich owls and ravens.

† **Shrite.** *Obs.* Also 7 shreight. [Of obscure origin: cf. SHREITCH and SHRIKE *sb.*2 (*dial.* = missel-thrush).] The missel-thrush.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 3. 149 Missle-Bird, Shreight. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 187 The Missel-bird or Shrite; Turdus viscivorus major. [1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 114.]

Shrivalty, obs. form of SHRIEVALTY.

Shrive, *sb. rare.* [f. next.] Used for SHRIFT *sb.* 9.

1867 'OUIDA' *Idalia* viii, When they met again, he swore it should be for shorter shrive and deadlier work.

Shrive (ʃrəiv), *v. arch.* Pa. t. shrove (ʃrōuv), Pa. pple. shriven (ʃri·v'n). Forms: 1 scrifan, 2–6 scrive, (3 ssriwe), 3–4 ssrive, -y-, screve, sc(h)rif, 3–6 schrive, -y-, 4 shrif(e, shryf(f)e, schreve, 4–5 schryf, 4–6 shryve, (5 schrywe, shrevy, 6 schriffe, *Sc.* schryif, schirryve, 6, 8–9 *pseudo-arch.* shrieve, 7 shreeve), 4– shrive. Pa. t. 1 -scráf, 3–4 ssrof, 4–5 schro(o)f, (4 shroof, schroff, shref (?), 5 shroff, shrofe, shroef, scherof, shrow), 4– shrove; *north.* 3–4 scraf, 4 s(c)hraf, 4–5 schrafe, 5 shraiff, shrafe, shrave, 6 schrave; *wk.* 4–5 s(c)hryved, 7–9 shrived. *Pa. pple.* 1 ȝescrifen, 2 iscrifen, 3 ischrive(n, 3–4 i-, ys(s)rive, 4–5 i-, ys(c)hryve(n; 3 shrifen, 3–4 scriven, 4 schrive(n, scryven, -wen, schrif(f)yne, schryfyne, 4–5 shrive, schreve, -yn, 4–6 s(c)hryve, -en, (5 schrifen, schryvin, shrivin, shrevyn, schrywe, screffe), 5–6 shreve(n, (6 shreven, -in, shereven, shervon, shryff); *wk.* 6 shriev'd, shriv'd, 9 shrived. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *scrifan* (*-scrǽf, scrifon, ge-scrifen*), to allot, assign, decree, adjudge, impose as a sentence, impose penance, regard, care for, corresp. to OFris. *scrîva* (*skref, skreven*), to write, impose penance (WFris. *skriuwe, skreau, skreaun*, NFris. *skriiw, skreew, skrewen*, EFris. *schriuwe* to write), OS. *skrîban* to write, (M)LG. *schrîven, schreev, schrêven*, MDu. *schrîven, screef, ghescrêven* to write, paint, describe (Du. *schrijven, schreef, geschreven*), OHG. *scrîban*, MHG. *schriben, schreip, geschriben* to write, draw, paint, describe, appoint, prescribe (G. *schreiben, schrieb, geschrieben*), ON. and Icel. (weak and with short *i*) *skrifa, -aða, -að*r to paint, write, MSw. *skriva, -adhe, -adhu*, (strong) *skref, skrivin*, Sw. *skrifva, skref, skrifven*, Da. *skrive, skrev, skreven* (locally also weak); ad. L. *scribere* to write.]

1. *trans.* In OE. (const. dat.) To impose penance upon (a person); hence, to administer absolution to; to hear the confession of.

a 776 *Poenit. Egberti* II. xvi. in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 188 Ne hire nan preost scrifan ne mot ær heo þone sinscipe forlæte. *a* 975 *Canons of Edgar* lxv. ibid. 258 We lærað þæt ælc preosta scrife & dædbote tæce þam þe him andette. 1027–34 *Laws Cnut* II. lxviii. § 1 A man sceal þam unstrangan men..liþelicor deman & scrifon þonne þam strangan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 ȝif ic forlete þe preost walde eskien on ester dei hwa me scriue. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15253 þatt lærede genge, þatt iss ȝuw sett abufenn..To spellenn ȝuw off Crisstenndom, To shrifenn ȝuw & huslenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 18392 Ælc mon scriuen oðer swulc hit weoren his broðer. 1398 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 265 Be war that no frer ham shryfe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* XXI. x. 855 He.. prayed the bysshop to shryue hym and assoyle hym. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* iii. (1872) C vij, Wyse man you are no doubt..the Vicar of saint Fooles Go shriue you. 1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* II. E, Giue me leaue To shriue her; lest shee should dye vn-absolu'd. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. xiv, O shrieve me, shrieve me, holy man! 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxi, He shall shrieve penitent no more. 1841 JAMES *Corse de Leon* ii, 'I will go with you..to shrive the dying', said the priest. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 436 He found that none of her chaplains knew English or French enough to shrive the king. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* v. 219 There was none to shrive them.

const. *of* (the sin).

c 1205 LAY. 32074 He þe scal scriuen of þine weorld liften þat þine sunen alle scullen þe from falle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23151 Vnnethes sal man find an in lede þat wel will scriue þam o þis sake. 1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) IV. 419 To schriffe or absolve yaim of thaire synnys.

b. with extended application.

1607 T. D[EKKER?] & WILKINS *Jests* 18 Three waiting gentlewomen sitting vp late one euening began to shriue one another, and to know what manner of Louers each other had. 1829 POE *Tamerlane* Poems (1859) 206 Earth may shrive me of the sin Unearthly pride hath revelled in. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of Worker* 17 To tell the folk of love, of love to ease The burdens of their labour and their heart, Of love to shrive them of their sin. 1912 *Engl. Rev.* Dec. 144 Europe has become for the first time a Christian civilisation, shriven at last by the unChristian materialism of Bismarckian blood and iron.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To perform the office of a confessor; to exercise the ministry of ausolution; to hear confessions. *rare.*

c 1000–50 *De Off. Episc.* xi, Ofer ealle þa scire þe he on scrife. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 302 Conscience called a leche þat coude wel shryue. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schryvyn, or here schryftys, *audire confessiones.* 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 55 A holly eue..When holly fathers wont to shrieue. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 90 Priests were praying, preaching, shriving, holding up the host and the cup.

2. *pass.* To 'take shrift' (see Shrift *sb.* 1); to be confessed; to make one's confession and receive absolution and penance. Const. †*of, by,* †*at,* †*with,* or †*to* the confessor.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* xii. 291 Eow ȝebyraȝ þæt ge beon ȝescrifene on ðissere wucan oðþe huru on ðære oðre. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 ȝif he bið wel iscrifen and godfurht. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Ase ofte ase ich am ischriuen euer me þuncheð me unschriuen. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 176 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 64 Were thou i-sriue, And sunnen heuedest al forsake. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2489 Hwan..he was wit þe prestes shriue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*De Sancto Andrea*) 898 To na man will I schriffyne be bot anerly to ȝow. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sompn. T.* 387, I haue be shryuen [*v.rr.* schryue, schreue] this day at my curat. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* 195 Wat man..For his sinnus sori and schereuen be. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 550 in *Macro Plays* 93 Þanne schal he deye, & not be schrywe. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 159 *note,* Yff thowe be screffe. 1470–85 Malory *Arth.* Table of Contents 26 How he was shryuen to an heremyte. *c* 1530 Ld. Dorset in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 148 It were petie he shuld be hanged tyll he had ben well shereven. 1555 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 94 To be shryff and fast iij days in on wyke. *c* 1570 *Durham Depositions* (Surtees) 160 Elizabeth Watson..hard no preiching, nor was shervon. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 209 You ought first to bee shriven of one of the Monkes. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* v. ii, Since Diccon hath confession made & is so cleane shreue. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 194 She shall at Frier Lawrence Cell Be shriu'd and married. 1596 Drayton *Legends* iv. 861 So he were shriev'd, what need he care a pin? 1848 Lytton *Harold* i, He died but shriven and absolved. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* i, Straightway would he go to the church and be shriven.

const. *of,* rarely *from* (the sin).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 59 We agen alle to ben shrifene of ure synnes her we biginnen to fasten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26401 O þaa Sinnes þou was of scriuen a. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 338 Euery sonenday houseld he was, And shryuen also of vche trespas. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 25 Yf I were shryuen of my synnes, my soule shold be the clerer. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Columbus* iii, Souls..from trespass shriven.

3. *refl.* To make one's confession, go to confession, confess.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Sum uniseli, hwon heo seide þet heo schrof hire, haueð ischriuen hire al to wundre. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26398 Þan behouis him screue him halli. *c* 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 61 Tell forth my Sone, and schrif the clene. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 59 Þai say Godd bad neuer þat a man schuld schryfe him till anoþer man. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 13 And so she shroue her and was sethe of holy lyff. 1530 Palsgr. 706/1, I wyll shrive me this lente at the Augustyne fryres, for there is pardon. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* To Rdr. 3 Quhow men and vemen sal scriue thayme and quhou thay sal rekkine al thair sinnis to thair schrift fader. 1577 Vautrouillier *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 237, I was wont to shriue my selfe with great deuotion. 1641 Prynne *Antipathie* 40 King Iohn..was poysoned..by a Monke of that House; who went to the Abbot and shrived himselfe. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1094 Bid call the ghostly man Hither, and let me shrive me clean, and die.

const. *of* (the sin).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 Schrif þe þerof to morwen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26408 Þof þou scraf þe o þi dede. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 106 Priuee synnes of whiche they shryue hem priuely. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 178 Þe chanoun..schroof hym to þe bysschop of þat synne. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 16 The veniall synnis that commounly men schryvis thame of here.

†**b.** with extended application. Also const. *of* (Sc.): To renounce. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 440 Here I me shryue and seye That wikkedly ye don vs boþe deye. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 9 To The, my sweit Saluiour, I me schirryve. *Ibid.* 137, I schryve me of all cursit cumpany. *a* 1529 Skelton *Bouge of Court* 215 To you oonly, me thynke, I durste shryue me For now am I..dysposed To shewe you thynges that may not be disclosed. *a* 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 92 Ryse with thi ransoner fro deid, And the of all thy synnys schryse. 1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos.* i. 4 [Zeus] that shreeves himselfe to his wife Iuno for all his slipperie prancks.

4. *intr.* To confess one's sins, go to confession.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26600 And for þe scam man thinc scriuand, It sal for part o penance stand. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 317 We ben sett to schryve of love. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 130 The wolf spake to hym, and shroue [*c* 1440 *Rawl. MS.* confeste hyr] to þe preste. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1625 He wald..of his synnes to him schryue þat he synned in all his lyue. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1069 The preest [in the mass]..fyrst shrivyng to us. 1802 Scott *Gray Brother* xxx, And who art thou, thou Gray Brother, That I should shrive to thee? 1832 Hawker *Cornish Ball.* (1908) 19 'Tis not to pray—'tis not to shrive—Therefore, what does she there? 1847 Mrs. Browning *Brown Rosary* I. x, A nun..Who mocked at the priest when he called her to shrive.

†**b.** Rendering L. *confiteri* of the Vulgate: To ascribe praise and glory *to* God. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 18, I sal schrive to Laverd after his rightwisnes. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xxix. 4 Syngeþ to our Lord..and shryueþ to þe mynde of his holinesse. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vi. 5 He is noght..in hell wha sall shrife til þe. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 71, I schal schryue to thee lord in al myn herte.

†**5.** *trans.* To confess (sins). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27105 To preist his sinnes scriue. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 330 [Ps. xxxii. 6], I seide, i shulde shryue my synnes a3ens me to þee, lord. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7081 And all þe case to him he shraue.

†**b.** *transf.* To reveal, disclose. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 579 Now haue I plat to yow myn herte schryuen. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 2026 C.'s Wks. (1598) 365 b, Al my secre to you I plaine, and shriue. 1818 Keats *Isabella* viii, I cannot live Another night, and not my passion shrive.

6. To forgive, pardon (a sin). *rare.*

The first quot. is doubtful.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 588 Ȝyf þou trowyst synne shal be forȝeue withoute repentaunce & shryue [*v.r.* repente here & be clene schreuyn]. 1837 Hood *Desert-Born* 126 'Nay then', cried I—(heav'n shrive the lie!) 'to tell the secret truth.'

†**7. a.** To question, examine (a person). *Obs.*

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* G 2, Beleeue me, thou shriuest me very neere in this latter demaund. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. xii. 26 She gan him soft to shrieue. 1610 G. Fletcher *Christ's Vict. Earth* xxxvii, Gently our Saviour shee began to shrive, Whither he wear the Sonne of God, or no.

†**b.** ? To inquire into (a matter). *Obs.*

1651 Cleveland *Poems* 37 Shrive but their Titles, and their money poize, A laird & twenty pound pronounc'd with noise, When construed, but for a plain Yeoman go, And a good sober two-pence.

8. a. To relieve (one) *of* a burden; †to rob.

1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 169, I am here for shriuing those two fooles of their sinfull packe. 1899 R. Bridges *Poems, Fair Brass* 21 A..tomb: Such as to look on shrives The heart of half its care.

b. To remove, lift (a burden) *from. rare.*

[1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 236 To shreeve the purses of unconfessing and unmortify'd sinners]. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* II. lxxviii, To shrive from man his weight of mortal sin.

†**9.** *pass.* ? To be bound in an obligation. *Obs.*

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1725) 138 The barons & þe clergie in on wer alle schryuen, Vnto kyng Henrie ageyn William suld be gyuen.

†**10.** *trans.* To reconcile (a person) *to* a course of action. *Obs.*

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1325/2 To reconcile, shriue, & win hir maiesties subiects to their diuelish intent. 1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* D 1 Much wonder I how treason and murder dispense with the darknes of the night, how they can shriue themselues to it.

†**11.** Const. gen. in OE., *of* in ME.: To reck of, care for. *Obs.*

c 897 Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xliv. 322 Ne he ne scrife ðæs hlisan buton hu he ryhtost wyrce. *Ibid.* lv, Hi ne scrifon hwæðer hit wære ðe dæȝ ðe niht ðonne ðonne hi syngodon. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* x. 29 Deað þæs ne scrifeð. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3884 (Bodl. MS.), Alisaunder nouȝth of hym shroof [*Linc. Inn MS.* gaf] Ac perciens to fore hym droof.

Shrive, obs. form of Sheriff.

Shri·vel, *sb.* Also 6 **shrevel.** [f. Shrivel *v.*] Something shrivelled up; †*pl.* wrinkles in the skin; a shrivelled skin; a contracted word.

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* II. lviii. (1557) Cj, Rvge is the latin woorde. In Englishe it is named shreuels whiche is a runninge together of the skyn in a mans face and necke. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 153 We caught an eel, which we skinned, and wore the shrivel for many a day round our ankle. 1873 F. Hall *Mod. Engl.* 163 Nor is any regard for rule or regularity to be seen..in our decurtate *cab, cent, chap*..or in such shrivels as *aid, alms.*

Shrivel (ʃri·v'l), *v.* Also 7 **shriule.** [Origin unknown. (Cf. Sw. dial. *skryvla* to wrinkle.)]

1. *intr.* To become contracted and wrinkled or curled up, as from great heat or cold. Also with *up, away.*

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 13 That shortly the heauens themselues shall shriule away like a scrowle. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Shrivel,* to Wrinkle, to run up in Wrinkles or Scrolls. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 312 When the Stalks begin to shrivel at the part next the Branch. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 171 This elegant little Agaric is seldom found in full perfection, as it soon shrivels and loses its brilliant colours. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* VI. xxxi, When, shriveling like a parched scroll, The flaming heavens together roll. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 585 The incipient bunches twist and shrivel up just before coming into bloom. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* 392 Two..ulcers which speedily scabbed, shrunk and shrivelled away. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 457 It forms a papilla..at the apex which shrivels when the spore ripens. *pass.* 1588 Greene *Perimedes* 11 Hir face shriueled, and parched with the Sunne. 1604 N. F. *Fruiterers Secrets* 27 When Pippins, and other long lasting fruite, begin to be shrieled. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* iv. 110 That his nose might be shrivelled with cold. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v, The lamb was shrivelled up to a cinder. 1885 Clodd *Myths & Dr.* I. iii. 22 So scorched was it..that it was shrivelled to the smallest of creatures.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To be reduced to an inanimate or inefficient condition; (of a person) to shrink physically or mentally.

1680 H. More *Apocal. Apoc.* 60 This Pagan Hierarchy shrivelled up with all the false Deities, and Priests therein. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xx, I swore that my rage and revenge should pursue his enemies, until they shrivelled before me like that scorched-up symbol of annihilation. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* v. v, I felt his soul shrivel at my gaze. 1875 Farrar *Silence & Voices* ii. 37 All life shrivelled into a miserable 'if' and an empty 'might have been'. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* iii. 70 Undeveloped faculties that shrivel for want of using.

2. *trans.* To cause to be contracted or shrunk into wrinkles. Often with *up.*

1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. iv. 9 A fire from heaven came and shrivell'd up Their bodies. 1682 Grew *Anat. Pl.* 10 Lest its new access into the Ayr, should shrivel it. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* cv, Crabtree shrivelling up his face like an autumn leaf. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 5 This ..covers the trunk, serving to shrivel the skin, in order to drive off insects. 1856 Mrs. Stowe *Dred* xxxiv, That fearful collapse, which..shrivels the most healthy countenance..to the shrunken..image of decrepit old age. 1877 Thomson *Voy. Challenger* I. i. 17 In the tropics a saturated solution is much too strong, and shrivels up delicate tissues.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To reduce to inanition, helplessness, or ineffectualness.

1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* viii. (1687) 30 This is ever the fruit of hard and penurious thoughts of God, that they shrivel up mens hearts too. 1683 Howe *Union Prot.* Wks. 1862 IV. 266 The want of such a diffusive love shuts up and shrivels the destitute parts. 1824–9 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 68 Milton..shrivelled up the lips of his revilers by the austerity of his scorn. 1844 Dickens *Chimes* iii, Wither me and shrivel me, and free me from the dreadful thoughts that tempt me in my youth! 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* ix. 284 How the very thought must have shrivelled her up. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 7/4 A passage which the House listened to very closely, fully realising how it finally shrivelled up malignant gossip.

Shri·veldy, *a.* [f. Shrivelled + -y.] Withered.

1840 Mrs. Trollope *M. Armstrong* iii, A poor rickety, shriveldy sort of a child.

†**Shri·veling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Shrive *v.* + -ling.] Contemptuous term for: One under spiritual direction.

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 104 He comforts his holy shriuelings, his ghostly good children, telling them..[etc.].

Shrivelled (ʃri·v'ld), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **shryveled,** 7–8 **shrivel'd,** 7– (now *U.S.*) **shriveled.** [f. Shrivel *v.* + -ed 1.] Drawn together or contracted so as to have or form wrinkles and to appear as if dried up.

1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 173 The vayne and soyle of that grounde is not shryueled nor fleaten, but grene and full of grasse. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Flower* ii, Who would have thought my shrivel'd heart Could have recover'd greenesse? 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 26 The Mannatee..her face is like a shriveled Buffolo or Cow. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 158 When..shrivell'd Herbs on with'ring Stems decay. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 88 These lean shrivelled limbs unnerved with age. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 304 A poor shriveled-up..carcase of a bird. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxix, Pushing him back from her with her trembling hand and shrivelled arm. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 91 Malt that is shrivelled is not of the best quality. 1882 W. Ballantine *Exper.* vi. 63, I never saw him without thinking of a shrivelled crab apple.

b. Of persons whose skin is wrinkled or whose limbs are withered or 'dried up'.

1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. i, Your shrivell'd sallad-eating artizans. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. 114 A shrivelled old lady, with a face of parchment. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Engl. Char.* (1852) 100 The name of French Cook conveys to the popular mind the image of a lean and shrivelled individual in a white nightcap and apron. 1877 Tennyson *Harold* III. i, I, old shrivell'd Stigand.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Contracted, reduced to small proportions.

1628 Donne *Serm.* (1660) III. iii. 37 That shiver'd, and shrivel'd, and ravel'd, and ruin'd soule. 1685 *Reflect. on Baxter* 11 Such a shriveled account as R. B. gives of this Chapter. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 115 A repulsive countenance..indicative of a naturally shrivelled heart and contracted soul.

d. *Comb.*

1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* vii. 147 An extremely ancient and shrivelled-looking Bushman. 1859 Boyd *Recreat. Country Parson* Ser. I. viii. 303 Some utilitarian old hunks, sharp-nosed, shrivelled-faced.

Shrivelling (ʃri·v'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Shrivel *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Shrivel.

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* (1649) II. xv. 126 A shriveling of my flesh with superstitious and meritorious fastings. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 454 Some shriveling of the outward skin of the Bark. 1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 441 Ventilation by continual currents of air..acts in the same way as light, in producing shrivelling. 1883 *Sunday Mag.* July 435/2 The shrivelling of the Eastern Roman empire. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 600 If the sclerotic shrivelling be well-marked.

Shri·velling, *ppl. a.* [f. Shrivel *v.* + -ing 2.] That shrivels; *Bot.* = Marcescent.

1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem. Veget.* 258 Stitchwort. ..Petals..flat; oblong; shrivelling. 1816 A. Boswell *Sheldon Haughs* (1830) 167 Stealin change o' shriv'lin time Had quench'd the vigour o' his prime. 1849 De Quincey *Engl. Mail Coach* Wks. 1854 IV. 345 Like a shrivelling scroll from before the wrath of fire! 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I. 33 Oh, spring! spring! with all your searching east winds, with your late shrivelling frost.

Shriven (ʃri·v'n), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of Shrive *v.*] Confessed, absolved.

1846 Dickens *Pict. Italy, Ital. Dream,* I had my foot upon the spot, where..the shriven prisoner was strangled. 1896 A. Austin *England's Darling* II. iii, As every shriven soul must answer Him Whose Sceptre doth not pass.

Shriver (ʃrəi·vəɹ). [f. Shrive *v.* + -er 1.] One who shrives, a confessor.

1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Þe ssrifte ssel by yhol, nast todeld ine vele ssriveres. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. I. 64 Holy churche & charite choppe a doun swich shryuers. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/2 A schryfer, *confessor.* 1593 Shaks. *3 Hen. VI,* III. ii. 108 When hee was made a Shriuer, 'twas for shift. 1637 N. Whiting *Albino & Bellama* 83 The shreevers to their Lords returne with smiles. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Char., Temporizer* (1860) 51 Turne shrivers in nunneries.

Shri·ving, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRIVE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb SHRIVE, shrift: **a.** Confession; **b.** the hearing of confessions.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 Lease swefnes, & false scheauwinges [*MS. T* schriuinges]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26101 To quam we sal vr scriuing mak. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6448 Who so hath in his felyng The consequence of such shryuyng. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 543 Better a short tale, than a bad long shriuing. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xxi. 81 Those that by this Shriving of persons know much of their Interest or disinterest. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xlix. 192 As for shriving,..there can be no great harm in't. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. i, To the Priest they send her she gives thanks; but needs not any shriving. 1875 J. C. Cox *Churches Derbysh.* I. 171 After shriving had gone out of fashion the ringing of the bell [on Shrove Tuesday] was continued.

c. *attrib.* as *shriving time*; **† shriving cloth,** sackcloth worn by penitents; **† shriving pew, seat, stool,** a confessional.

1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 130 For naylles for þe schryvyng peawe. 1505 in H. J. Feasey *Holy Wk. Cerem.* (1897) 97 vj yernes perteynyng to the shryvyng stole for Lenton. 1534 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 204 An altar cloth made of shryvyngе clothes. 1545 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* (MS.) For mendyng of ye Chyrche and makyng of ye schrewyng sett xiiijd. 1589–90 in J. C. Cox *Churchw. Acc.* (1913) 193 Payd for mendinge of a pewe called the shrivinge pewe 1s. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 47 He should the bearers put to sodaine death, Not shriuing time allowed.

Shroad, obs. f. SHREWD. **Shrob(be,** obs. ff. SHRUB. **Shrode,** obs. f. SHREWD, SHROUD. **Shroe,** obs. f. SHREW *sb.*

Shroff (ʃrɒf), *sb.* Also 7 **sheroff, -affe, -iffe, sharoffe, sherrafe, shraff, shrofe, 7–8 sheraff.** [Anglo-Indian corruption of SARAF.] A banker or money-changer in the East; in the Far East, a native expert employed to detect bad coin.

1618 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 8 The sheraffs are poore and begerly. 1621 *Ibid.* 265 Wee cannot put of oure ryalls but as that onely sharoffe please to take them. *Ibid.* 352 Shrofes. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1431 Twelve Sheriffes that is men to buy and sell Pearles, Diamonds, and other pretious Stones, and to exchange Gold and Silver. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 52 Amongst whom were Shroffs, or Money-changers. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 22/2 It is the custom of Shroffs to get the body of the bond wrote by their Gomastahs, and they sign it with their own hands. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 18 The breakfast soon dispatch'd, they're off, To borrow money from a shroff. 1888 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* (ed. 3) 81 Deeply indebted to the village shroff. 1904 *North-China Herald* 27 May 1121/3 A shroff employed by Messrs. Musterberg & Co.

attrib. 1882 '*Fan Kwae*' *at Canton* 58, I have heard of as much as fifty taels (about $70) being paid to an important Shroff-shop for such a transaction.

Hence **Shroff** *v. trans.*, to examine (coin) in order to separate the genuine from the base; also *absol.*; whence **Shroffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; *shroffing school*, a school in which the art of detecting false coin is taught.

1757 CLIVE in Beveridge *Hist. India* (1862) I. 592 [In vain did Clive represent that] the money could not be divided till it was shroffed. 1860 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll Grange* xviii, Two stock-jobbing Jews, and a shroffing Parsee. 1878 H. A. GILES *Gloss. Ref.* 129 (Yule) Shroffing schools are common in Canton, where teachers of the art keep bad dollars for the purpose of exercising their pupils. 1882 '*Fan Kwae*' *at Canton* 55 The process of shroffing which it [money] underwent before being deposited in the treasury. 1906 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Apr. 451/1 The potential revenues of China are immense, but they are 'shroffed'..by every hand through which they pass.

Shroffage (ʃrɒ·fédʒ). Also 7 **shraffage, sherofferage.** [f. prec. + -AGE. Cf. 16th cent. It. *xarafaggio*, Sp. *cerafagio.*] The commission charged for shroffing coin.

1629 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 35 Shraffage is halfe a riall per every thousand rialls. 1676 STREYNSHAM MASTER *Diaries* (1911) I. 394 The Councell doe know that there is a Sherofferage..allowed in all these parts. 1766 T. BROOKS *Coins E. Indies* 49 Brokerage 1½ per Cent. Shroffage 1 per Thousand. 1817 *By-Laws Levant Co.* 24 Commission and shroffage on cash remitted from one part of the dominions of the Grand Signior to another..1 per cent.

Shroffe, obs. variant of SHRUFF 2.

Shroftide, Shroft Tuesday, obs. ff. SHROVETIDE, SHROVE TUESDAY.

Shrog. *north. dial.* [Parallel to SCROG; see SOR-.] A bush; also *pl.* underwood.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 455, I hane soght with my dogys All horbery shrogys. 15.. *Robyn Hood & Guy of Gisborne* 113 They cutt them down two summer shroggs, That grew both under a breere. 1601 MUNDAY *Downf. Earl Huntingdon* III. ii. E 4 b, From Barnsdale shrogs, to Nottinghams red cliffes. 1703 THORESBY in Ray *Philos. Lett.* (1718) 336 *Shrogs*, a company of Bushes, of Hazel, Thorns, briers. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shrogs*, bushes or underwood.

Shroge, obs. form of SHRUG.

Shropshire (ʃrɒ·pʃəɹ). The name (in OE. *Scrobscīr*, *Scrobbesbyrigscīr*) of a west-midland county of England, used as the distinguishing epithet of things coming from or associated with the county, as *Shropshire cheese, damson, pie.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 147 b, In England, the best Cheese is the Chesshyre, and the Shropshyre, then the Banbury Cheese. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 73 A Shropshire Pye. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 208/2 (*Damson*) Much the finest variety..is that called the Shropshire damson.

b. (*a*) An old breed of horned sheep peculiar to Shropshire; (*b*) a modern breed of black-faced hornless sheep obtained by crossing with the Southdown. Also, an old breed of long-horn cattle, and of swine.

1768 A. YOUNG *Tour Southern Counties* (1769) 139 That fine breed of hogs which at Barnet market are called the Shropshires. 1803 PLYMLEY *Agric. Shropsh.* 241 The old Shropshire ox was remarkable for a large dewlap. *Ibid.* 260 The old Shropshire sheep..have black or mottled faces and legs. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 358/2 Varieties of the short or middle-woolled breeds of sheep, and among them were the old Shropshires. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 12 For quality of mutton, the Shropshire, by universal opinion, comes next to the Southdown.

Shroub, obs. form of SHRUB.

Shroud (ʃraud), *sb.*1 Forms: 1–3 **scrud,** (1 **s..ruud,** 3 **srud, srut**), 3–4 **schrud,** 3–6 **shrud,** 4–5 **schrowde,** 4–6 **schroud(e,** 4–7 **shroude,** (4 **ssroud, shrout(e,** 5 **shrude, shrowed,** 6 **schrowd, shrow'd, shrowdde,** 7 **sroude**), 5–7 **shrowde,** 5–9 **shrowd,** 4– **shroud.** [OE. *scrúd* str. neut. = ON. *skrúð* neut. (also *skrúða* wk. masc.), fittings, furniture, ornament, also, some kind of textile fabric (Norw. *skrud* ornament, attire, MSw. *skruper* masc., state clothing, ornaments, Sw. *skrud* masc., attire); f. OTeut. **skrūð-*, long-wk.-grade of **skreud-* to cut (see SHRED *sb.*).]

†1. A garment; an article of clothing; *sing.* and *pl.* (one's) clothes, clothing, habiliments. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 151/6 *Habitus*, scruud. *c* 1000 — *Gen.* xlv. 22 And [he] sealde hira ælcum twa scrud. *c* 1200 ORMIN 137 All ane shridd wiþþ haliȝ shrud ȝede he till Godess allterr. *c* 1205 LAY. 5362 Þeos eorles heom gerden mid godliche scruden [*c* 1275 scrude]. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 19 Feirlec ant strencðe beoð his schrudes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 47 Þus schal he be schent for his schrowde feble. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 2, I schop me in-to a schroud [B. in shroudes] A scheep as I were. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 364 Lo, here a shrowde for a shrewe. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 599 Schaip the evin to the schalk, in thi schroud schene. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua maryit wemen* 252, I wes schene in my schrowd. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 34 Thair semelie schroud likeas siluer scheue. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. iii, My princely robes..are layd aside, Whose glittering pompe Dianas shrowdes supplies. 1638 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* xxxviii, Swadled, as new-borne, in sable shrouds.

†b. In generalized use: Clothing, vesture.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Swa manega gersumas on sceat & on scrud [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 Gif.. to þe flesce scrud and claþ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 176 Al erue ..ðe sulde him her,..to fode, and srud, to helpen ðe lif. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3250 Bath gold and stan for maiden scrude.

† c. *transf.* and *fig.*, esp. the 'vesture' in which the world or the things of nature are 'clothed'; also, the 'veil' of the flesh. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ho hine bireueden of þere muchele mihte þet crist him hafde iȝefen of al þer orþe scrude, of þe uisces iþe wetere and fuȝeles iþe lufte. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 Wel him ðe..haſð ðat faire scrud of charite all besett mid ȝimstanes of gode werkes. *c* 1200 ORMIN 17591 & tohh iss þe33re babre [*sc.* man and the world] shrud þurrh Cossmos wel bitacnedd. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 914 Þus he schrudde & hudde him,..mid ure fleschliche schrud. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9380 Til alkin thing he gafe, þair kind scrud al for to hane. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 64 And then bicometh the ground so proud That it wol have a newe shroud.

† d. Plumage. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 85 þer schene briddes in schawe schewen heore schroude. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 914 So fair is my fetherem I haf no falowe; My schrowde and my schere weid schir to be schawin.

2. The white cloth or sheet in which a corpse is laid out for burial; a winding-sheet.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 217/2 A shroude, *amiculum funerale.* 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 479 Die when you will, a smocke shall be your shrowd. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 71 The shroud wherin our Sauiours blessed body was wrapped. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* III. iii, Let her make love to a sexton, and steale shrowds. 1702 STEELE *Funeral* I. i, I carried home to your house the shroud the gentleman was buried in last night. 1790 COWPER *Stanzas for Year 1790*, 16 Soon the grave must be your home, And your only suit a shroud. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 287 His remains, rolled in their bloody shroud. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* II. iii, If England needs defenders when I and Godwin are in our shrouds.

¶ By association with the black of mourning, *shroud* has received the epithet *sable.*

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 22 And as he passes turn, And bid fair peace be to my sable shrowd. 1724 D. MALLET *Will. & Marg.* ii, Clay-cold was her lilly hand, That held her sable shroud. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. xxiii, Each Baron, for a sable shroud, Sheath'd in his iron panoply. 1887 W. S. GILBERT *Ruddigore* II, Inky clouds, Like funeral shrouds.

b. In fig., allusive, and symbolic uses.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 809 How swift the shuttle flies, that weaves thy shroud! 1820 SHELLEY *Autumn* 4 The Year On the earth her death-bed, in a shroud of leaves dead, Is lying. *c* 1860 BRYANT *New & Old* ii. Poet. Wks. (1891) 283 These gay idlers, the butterflies, Broke, to-day, from their winter shroud. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* II. § 92, I do not wonder at the sensualist's life, with the shroud wrapped about his feet. 1869 J. H. NEWMAN in W. Ward *Life* (1912) II. 281 Dress me up, and you will soon have to make my shrowd.

c. *dial.* The charred sooty piece at the top of a burning wick which requires snuffing. (Supposed to betoken a death.)

1877 *Manley & Corringham Gloss.* 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 142 The guttering..candles..melted from their blackened..wicks, all unheeded and shroud-environed.

†3. A place or dwelling which affords shelter; a retreat; a shelter, esp. one of a slight or temporary kind, as a tent or shed. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2416 Þe þef..fond hure þer..liggyng vnder shroute. *Ibid.* 3358 Ameral atte is soper he of-say sittynge vnder shrout. *c* 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxvii. (1484) k iij b, [The sun] To shewe his light in euery shroude & shade. 1552 B. GILPIN *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1630) 33 As for turning poore men out of their holdes, they take for no offence ..They turne them out of their shrouds as mice. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* xlix, Unto a selly shrowde A sheepcote closely builte Amid the woodds. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xix. 205 in *Holinshed*, Our countrie conuerted..into the walks and shrowds of wild beasts. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 151 Then shall we see Christ comming in the cloudes, When some will wish whole mountaines were their shroudes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 147 Run to your shrouds, within these Brakes and Trees. 1656–7 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 364 When men pull down their houses that are ruinous, they try awhile by setting up shrowds, but finding them drop in, they build their houses again.

4. *pl.* (rarely *sing.*) A crypt, vault; esp. applied to the Chapel of St. Faith in St. Paul's Cathedral. (Cf. CROWD *sb.*2) Now *Hist.*

1550 LEVER (*title*), A fruitfull Sermon made in Poules churche at London in the Shroudes. 1552 ELYOT *Dict., Apogæum*, a shrowdes or lyke buildinge vnder the grownde. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 153 A church vnder the ground, like to the shrouds in Pauls. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. ix. II. 321 Shee goeth downe into the vault or shrouds out of which she delivereth her prophesies. 1611 COTGR., *Apogée*, a shrowd, or denne vnder th' earth. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1793) 392 The preacher [at Paul's Cross] went, in very bad weather, to a place called the Shrowds. 1858 MILMAN *St. Paul's* vii. 164 According to some accounts the Shrouds were in the triforium of the church.

† 5. Shadow, shade; *fig.* protection. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XCI. ii, Soft hiv'd with wing and plume Thou in his shrowd shalt ly. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 248 To retyre them from the heate..vnder the shade of a Tree, or shroude of a Church. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 71 To heare from me you had left Anthony, And put your selfe vnder his shrowd, the vniuersal Landlord.

† b. The branches of a tree, considered as affording shade. *Obs.* (Cf. SHROUD *sb.*3)

1597 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* 49 Where like a mounting Cedar he should beare His plumed top, aloft into the ayre; And let these shrubs sit vnderneath his shrowdes. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* xxxi. 3 The Assyrian was a Cedar in Lebanon with faire branches, and with a shadowing shrowd. [So 1884 Revised.]

6. A thing serving as a covering or protection; a defence; a covering, screen, veil, 'cloak', disguise. Now somewhat *rhetorical.*

1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 171, I shall set my shrowd for my defence, Under the mantell of well wyllyng audyence. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 3 The greatest forwardness craueth a shrowd, and the meanest matter cannot be without defence. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. ii, Jove..Could not inuent, t' himselfe, a shroud more subtile, To passe Acrisivs guardes. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Metam.* V. (1632) 186 Sol, obscur'd in shrowds Of exhalations. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 33 Thus Israel-like, he travells with a cloud, Both as a conduct to him, and a shroud. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. x. (1715) 94 Their Tops were covered with raw Hides, and other Shrowds, to preserve them from Fire-balls and missive Weapons. 1699 POMFRET *Dies Noviss.* 103 Swath'd in substantial shrowds of night, The sick'ning sun shall from the world retire. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxvi, At length the freshening western blast Aside the shroud of battle cast. 1814 — *La. Isles* I. Introd., Beneath a shroud of russet dropp'd with gold Tweed and his tributaries mingle still. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxvi, A grey shroud of rain sweeping up from the westward. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine* 6 The thickest shroud of the ivy.

7. Technical senses.

†a. In a windmill, a protective addition to horizontal sails. **b.** Either of the two annular plates at the periphery of a water-wheel, forming the ends of the buckets. **c.** A rim or flange cast on the ends of the teeth of a gear-wheel.

1576 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1580–93* (1888) 101/1 Sustentando dictum molendinum in omnibus necessariis, preter in new schrouddis to be mylne aves. 1629 ROUS *Diary* (Camden) 41 Her [*sc.* a crow's] nest was layd betweene the shrowdes in the toppe saile [of a windmill]. 1660 R. D'ACRES *Elem. Water-drawing* 9 Some of these [horizontal sails of a mill] are made to go with shrouds or shelters, others without. *Ibid.*, Though the shrouds may keep blustring winds away, yet neither it, nor any thing else can keep the Air away. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 126 This wheel was two inches in the shroud or depth of the bucket. 1797 J. CURR *Coal Viewer* 31 [Specification for] jinneys for conveying the corves..1 Shroud for the middle, 2¾ [inches] by 1, and 1 ditto for the Brake. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 291 The space occupied by the shrouds precludes their use in watches, but in the going parts of clocks they answer well.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in sense 2, as *shroud-cloth, -rags*; *shroud-bound, -like* adj. and adv., *-maker, -manufacturer*; **shroud-brass,** a memorial brass in which the deceased is represented in his shroud; **shroud-plate** = 7 b.

1865 NEALE *Hymns Parad.* 24 *Shroud-bound, tomb-held,..Thou canst raise me. 1890 *Daily News* 21 Oct. 5/2 Perhaps, a more truly morbid and abominable effigy never disgraced the walls of a place of worship than the *shroud brass. 1912 J. S. M. WARD *Brasses* 82 Skeletons. These are not so common as shroud brasses. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *To Mem. Burns* I, Thy 'magic mantle's' glowing sheen, Burst through thy *shroud-cloth ere 'twas seen. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 25 Thou, whose Hands the *Shrowd-like Cypress rear. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* X. v, In her shroud-like garments and attenuated frame, she seemed..as a spectre. 1913 *Engl. Rev.* May 244 The Vicar, his surplice

clinging shroudlike to his lank figure. 1892 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* Suppl., **Shroud manufacturer*, a maker of grave clothes for a corpse. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 326 On the inside of the *shroud-plates are formed the grooves for securing the ends of the buckets. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *Dust* iii, He sorts the *shroud-rags, he heaps gray bones.

Shroud (ʃraud), *sb.*2 Forms: 5 shrowthe-s, shrode-s, srowde, 5–7 shrowde-s, 6 schroude-s, shrowed(e)-s, shrowes (?), 6–7 shroude-s, 6–8 shrowd-s, 7 shreed-s, 7– shroud-s. [Prob. a use of SHROUD *sb.*1; cf. the mod. naut. phrase 'to *clothe* the mast with the shrouds'; a mast or spar without its rigging is said to be 'naked'. The sense of 'shrouds of a ship' attributed to ON. *skrúð* and to Norw. *skrud* is not authenticated.

'Remembering that in the 15th c. the headropes (or shrouds) were very numerous, the appropriateness of the term shroud seems obvious' (L. G. Carr Laughton).]

1. A set of ropes, usually in pairs, leading from the head of a mast and serving to relieve the latter of lateral strain; they form part of the standing rigging of a ship.

a. *pl.* (See also *fore-shrouds* FORE- 3 d, *main-shrouds* MAIN *a.* 10, *mizen-shrouds* MIZEN 3; for an extended use see BENTINCK-, BOWSPRIT-, BUMKIN-, FUTTOCK- *shrouds*.)

1458 in *Archæologia* XXIX. 328 The mast hathe a welle good stay, W^t shrowthes sure. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1720 In-to þe shrowdes I woll me hye. *c* 1500 *Cocke Lorelles B.* 12 Some one the shrowedes dyde clyme. 1532 in J. Strutt *Mann. & Cust. Eng.* (1776) III. 53 Item 9 shrowds and a backe staye on either syd. 1589 in Hakluyt *Voy.* 282 Another walkes vpon the hatches, another climbes the shrowes. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 496 As in a ship each boy hath his taske, some to row..others to climbe the shreeds. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxlviii, To try new Shrouds one mounts into the wind, And one, below, their Ease or Stiffness notes. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 436 They seem to have but little regard to the support of their masts, to which their stays and shrouds hold no proportion. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, In an instant every one sprung into the rigging, up the shrouds, and out on the yards. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 141 A heavy sea boarded the ship, dashing us into the mizen rigging, where we grasped the shrouds, and were saved.

b. *collect. sing.*

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 200 Payd be my mastyr for ropes for hyr srowde, ij.li. 1588 in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 45 He shall shew lights, one in the poop, and another two shrowed high. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 126 Fitting of the Shrowd so as to make way for the gibbing of the Yards. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* III. xxiii, The favouring breeze, when loud It pipes upon the galley's shroud.

c. *sing.* Any one of such ropes.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 341 The mast itself is supported.. by the shrowd..and by two stays. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 236 Secure your lines! grasp every man a shroud! 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* ix. 50 Stumbling to the deck [he] grasps a shroud to look out upon the sea. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 48 Each..bowsprit shroud [is] secured to its collar.

d. *fig.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 53 All the shrowds wherewith my life should saile, Are turned to one thred. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. ii, Readie to discharge Their pretious shot into the shrouds of heaven. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* II. 70 He quickly taught, pours in continual Clouds Of chain'd Dilemma's through our sinew'd Shrouds.

2. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shroud*, the chains by which the smoke-stack is braced, in steamers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **shroud-bridle** (see quot.); **shroud hawser,** a shroud-laid rope; **shroud-knot,** a knot used in repairing a parted shroud; **shroud-laid** *a.*, applied to rope composed of four (formerly sometimes three) strands laid right-handed with a heart; **shroud-plate** (see quot.); **shroud-stopper,** a rope connecting parts of a shroud below or above a damaged part (1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*); **shroud-tackle, -truck** (see quots.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shroud-bridle*, a kind of crow-foot fastened to the shrouds, to hold sheets, braces, etc. 1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 150 We receiv'd.. a thirteen Inch Cable and a *shroud Hawser. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 30 How do you make a *shroud-knot? 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 382 'Which knot?' asked Toby. 'Single or double wall, single or double diamoud, Matthew Walker, spritsail-sheet, stopper, or shroud?' 1800 *Naval Chron.* III. 474 Three strond *shroud-laid rope. 1825 BUDGE *Miner's Guide* 98 The term 'shroud-laid' is used to distinguish a rope of three strands or parts from another of nine strands, which is termed 'cable-laid'. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed 2) 369 Shroud-laid rope 4 strands and a heart Right-handed. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Shroud plate*, I. *a.* An iron plate fixed to a ship's side for the attachment of the shrouds. *b.* A ring surrounding a mast and to which the futtock-shrouds are secured. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Couladoux*, *shroud-tackles, which are used in the gallies..in the Mediterranean, in the place of dead-eyes and laniards. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Shroud-trucks.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shroud-truck*, ..a wooden thimble secured to the shrouds and acting as a fair-leader for the running-rigging.

Shroud (ʃraud), *sb.*3 Now *dial.* [Formally identical with SHROUD *sb.*1, but with sense independently derived from the sense 'to cut' of the root. Cf. SHRED *sb.*] **a.** *collect. sing.* and *pl.* Loppings of a tree, branches or twigs cut off. **b.** (chiefly *pl.*) A branch or bough.

1475-6 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 361 Of William Pole for the shrowde of the same elme, viijd. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Sarmenta*, twigges or shroude of trees cut of. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 73 Shroudded of younge vines. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 114 Tythes for beech wood, loppes, shrowds, willowes. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 15 Aquatick Trees, whose shrowds shall exceed in value the Grass they injure. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. vi. 93 In ellum-shrouds the flashin' hangbird clings.

Shroud (ʃraud), *v.*1 Forms: 3–4 scrude, 4 schroude, schruden, 4–5 shrude, 4–6 shroude, 5 shrowden, schrowude, 5–6 schroude, 6–7 shrowd(e, 7 shrow'd, shreud, shrewd, 6– shroud. *Pa. t.* 6–7 shrowded, 6– shrouded; *contr.* 3–4 scrud, 4 schrud, shroude, scrowd. *Pa. pple.* 3–4 scruded, 5 schruedede, 5 i-shrowdyd, schrouded, y-shrouded, 6–7 shrowded, 7 schroudit, 4– shrouded; *contr.* 3–4 scrud, 4–6 schroud, 5 schroude, 6 schroud, shrowed, 7 shroud. [f. SHROUD *sb.*1 Cf. SHRIDE *v.*1]

† **1.** *trans.* To clothe. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10448 Anna, leuedi,..scrud þe fair and mend þi chere! *Ibid.* 16346 Iesus thoght ful mikel scam quen he sua scruded was. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 20 (Thornton MS.) Schruedede in a schorte cloke. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 353 A mantel large hir self to shroude. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 84 Myterit..Schroude in his schene weid.

† **b.** *transf.* To adorn, deck. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8322 It sal be precius and prude, þe werc he sal sua semele scrude. *Ibid.* 23404 He þat wroght al thing in lede And scrud þam alle in þair fairhede. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 55 Ther is neither busk nor hay In May, that it nil shrouded been. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxi. 3 Quhen gilletis wilbe schomd and schroud, That ridden ar baith with lord and lawd?

2. To give shelter or housing to; to shelter. *arch.* Now only with admixture of 5 or 6.

c 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* xviii. (1484) cvj, Quod gabriel within thy blessyd syde The holy ghoost shal I shrowdyd be. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 32 The whiles our flockes doe graze about in sight, And we close shrowded in thys shade alone. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. 80 Fayre fowls ..shrowded in hard bed Of thorny thickets. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 83 Thrust out of all they had,..not knowing where to shroud their heads. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. iv. 68 One of these trees considered with all his young ones may (indeede) shrowde foure hundred or foure thousand horsemen. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 419 Ill wast thou shrouded then, O patient Son of God. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* I. 13 Some quiet cell, where they might shroud their grey hairs. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* I. 17 The joyous birds, shrouded in cheerful shade.

† **b.** *refl.* To take shelter. *Obs.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. A iij b, Having neither house to shroude them in, nor attyre to clothe their backes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 6 Angry Ioue an hideous storme of raine Did poure into his Lemans lap..And this faire couple eke to shroud themselues were fain. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 8 Some..made themselves places of Lome and Twigs.., to creep into, and shroud themselves in. 1642–4 VICARS *God in Mount* 193 They forced all the Musketeers ..to run in and shroud themselves within their pikes. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xvii. 60 They came into the Port to shrewd themselves from the storm as others did.

c. *intr.* To seek shelter or retirement; to take shelter or refuge. *arch.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 122 In his small bushes vsed to shrowde The sweete Nightingale. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 42, I will here shrowd till the dregges of the storme be past. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 316 If your stray attendance be yet lodg'd Or shroud within these limits. 1648 J. RAYMOND *It Merc. Ital.* Pref. 1 A weather beaten Traveller needs no such Umbrilla as a Patron to shroud under. *c* 1746 COLLINS *Ode to Fear* 48 Wilt thou shroud in haunted cell, Where gloomy Rape and Murder dwell? 1793–4 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow* xx, One who, forced from storms to shroud, Felt the loose walls of this decayed Retreat Rock. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 190 What enamour'd bride Cheated by shadowy wooer from the clouds, But hides and shrouds Beneath dark palm-trees by a river side?

† **d.** *intr.* and *pass.* To be huddled *up* or *together*.

1530 PALSGR. 702/1 Se howe yonder kyne shrowde to gyther for colde. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 64 b, Beastes and birdes without reason love one another, thei shroude, and thei flocke together. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runnes on Wheeles* Wks. (1630) II. 242 Peoples guts like to be crushed out being crowded and shrowded vp against stalls.

3. To cover so as to protect; to screen from injury or attack; to afford protection to. ? *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9902 þis castel..o luue and grace..wit kirnels es vnn-sett ful well, scrud on ilk side wit sele. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 459 Trewlie that tenefull was trimland than, Semelie schapin and schroud in that Scheild schene. *c* 1580 in *Archæologia* XI. 224 Vnder the protection of y^e peere.. whereby thay are shrowed from the radge of the sea. *c* 1582 *Ibid.* 227 No shelues of beache haue euer growne or remayned longer then they haue byn shrowded and protected by the peer. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1309/1 Whom he would in no wise shrowd or haue in his house and companie. 1618 LATHAM *Falconry* II. (1633) 84 Shee will grow so farre in loue..with you..and account her selfe safely shrowded when she hath your companie. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 40 The main Castleward to shrowd these weaklings from blows and qualmes. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xiii, From ire Of Scotland's king who shrouds my sire.

† **b.** *refl.* To protect oneself, seek protection. *Obs.*

14.. LYDG. *Beware of Doubleness* 72 They have no better protecciouu But shroude hem under doublenesse. 1575 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 49 The sayde lawlesse libertie of whore-hunting..shrouded it selfe vnder the bond of brotherly loue. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) A 2, I could..so shroud my selfe from scandall vnder your honourable fauour. 1692 T. WATSON *Body Divin.* 376 The Thief that shrowds himself under Law. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 2 A great many [Ships] that had shrowded themselves under our Protection..

† **4.** To conceal in a secret place or in a secret manner. Often *refl.*, to retire to a hiding-place; *pass.* to be in hiding. *Obs.*

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 147, I..gan..Among the busshes me prively to shroude. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. (1564) 389 Shal any man be able to shroude himselfe in such a corner, that I can not espye him? 1563–70 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2125/2 [She] shrouded her selfe in a low ditch with nettles. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 137, I haue beene closely shrowded in this bush, And markt you both. 1603 — *Ham.* (1st Qo.) 1452 [III. iv. 2] I'll shrowde my selfe behinde the Arras. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* I. ii. 40 Shrowd you within this closet, good my lord. 1641–2 CHAS. I *Wks.* (1662) I. 395, I am come to demand such Prisoners ..and do believe they are shrowded in the City.

† **b.** *intr.* To be concealed, lie hid. *Obs.*

c 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* xlviii. (1484) g vi, The septer of whom..shal..neuer cese ne in couert shroude. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* vi, How covertly doth sorow shrowde, In trymmest worldely toys. 1649 LOVELACE *Lucasta, Amyntor's Grove*, (Or have you seene the Lightning shrowd, And straight breake through th'opposing cloud? 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 65 Many..shroud under a cloak of Religion.

5. To hide from view, as by a veil, darkness, cloud; to cover so as to conceal; to screen, veil.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22288 The tother party, wonder myrk, Schrouded with a cloude dyrk. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virtue* IX. 162 Lycyna eke dyd her shrowde Vnder a blacke and mysty clowde. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* II. iii. 77 That disguise will hardly shrowd my woe. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 32 Thus shrowding his body in the skinne by stalking he approacheth the Deere. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 444 The Father of the Gods his Glory shrouds, Involv'd in Tempests, and a Night of Clouds. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, A monk whose face was shrouded by his cowl. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 59 A thin transparent vapour..threatening gradually to shroud the landscape. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* VI, I was shrouded at that moment from his sight by one of the yew trees. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 288 The hills, shrouded in grey mist. 1912 *Stage Year Bk.* 27 They performed in evening dress, but were shrouded in sombre cloaks and masks.

6. In immaterial sense: To screen from observation; to envelop or wrap *up*, as in obscurity or mystery; to veil under an appearance or 'show': sometimes with implication of disguise or concealment for an evil purpose.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2262 Whiche in þe ende, to her confusioun, Can vnder sugre schrowden her poysoun. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* II. (1555) 40 The poetes..underneth the trouth doth so shroude, Both good an yll. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 16 The shorteste Pamphlette may shrowde matter. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* II. ii. 91 Is this William the Conqueror, shrouded vnder the name of sir Robert of Windsor? 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 340, I honour vertue..under what shape soever it is shrowded. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. II. xlii, Nor doth the soul that in this flesh doth croud Her self rely on that thick vapour where she's shroud. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 343 Irresolute of soul, his state to shrowd In dark disguise. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v, The Queen, shrouded in deepest mystery. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* vii. (1846) I. 328 Its proceedings were impenetrably shrouded from the public eye. 1855 — *Philip II* II. xii. I. 288 We find her communications..frequently shrouded in cipher. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. 64 The whole of the short reign of Eadwig is shrouded in mystery. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 3. 286 His indolence and gaiety were mere veils beneath which Edward shrouded a profound political ability.

b. *refl.*

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Confl. Satan* (1578) 12 He shrowdeth himselfe under the robe of trueth. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* IV. xi. Wks. 1910 II. 550, I graunt that pastyme ys the lowly porte, Wherein mans mynde, maie shrewd itself full oft. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 84 If it happen that any abuse do grow and shrowd it selfe vnder the name of a custome. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. ii. 21 The remains of that nation, which escaped that dismall overthrow, shrowded themselves under the names of some neighbouring people. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. 1842 I. 518 Mr. Burke, instead of shrowding himself in exploded ignorance [etc.]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xii, Courage occasionally shrouds itself under the show of modest timidity. 1882 W. BALLANTINE *Exper.* XXIV. 233 He shrouded himself with a solemn air as if he was thinking profoundly. 1889 H. F. WOOD *Englishman Rue Cain* xi, When I see some fellow shrouding himself in studied silence.

7. To put a shroud on (a corpse), lay in a shroud; hence, to prepare for burial, bury.

1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.* 77 This cuttes, his graue must cost a groate, to shrowde his carrin corse. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 24 If I do die before, prythee shrow'd me In one of these same Sheetes. 1610 *Women Saints* 24 That I may for pouertie be shrowded in a sheete of an other bodies. 1681 *Disc. Tanger* 24 The Earl commanded the two dead Bodies..to be decently washt, and shrouded. 1718 G. SEWELL *Proclam. Cupid* 8 He has been shrowded—full three hundred Years. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Horace in London* 129 Chaunt, widow'd muse, my dying speech, And shroud my ashes in the abbey. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. XCVI. XII. 453 He..caused his dead body to be honorably shrouded and transmitted into Macedonia for burial. 1858 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 307 The..place wherein I have laid out and shrouded and coffined now four and twenty dead Sailors.

† **8.** To include, embrace. *Obs. rare.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* T 4 b, Vnder Gluttony, I shrowde not onely excesse in meate, but in drinke also.

9. *Mech.* To furnish (the sail of a windmill, a water-wheel) with shrouds.

1660 L. D'ACRES *Elem. Water-drawing* 9 The other sort of Horizontal sailes with shrouds, move more quietly, but with no worthy strength, though the one half be shrouded

never so wel. 1834–6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 88/2 The sides [of a breast wheel] are also sometimes close shrouded, or closed in on the sides to retain the Water, and it thus becomes a sort of bucket wheel. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. J 3 The crank plate .. being shrouded to a certain extent around the periphery.

Shroud (ʃraud), *v.*[2] *local.* Also 6–7 shrowd(e, shrood. [f. SHROUD *sb.*[3] Cf. SHRIDE *v.*[2]] *trans.* To lop (a tree or its branches); also with *off*; occas. *absol.*

1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xxii. 212 in *Holinshed*, To shrowd, staie vpright, and cherish the same [trees] in the blustering winters weather. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 493 [One] who..may pare away all rotten and vnsauory subtilties, .. may shrowde of all vnprofitable and withered superfluities and reduplications. 1582 *B. N. C. Docum.* (Marston R.[2] 2), The Queen may shrood or lop anie tree or trees. 1662 HERNE in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 246 All such pollards the tenants..shrowd when they make their hedges. 1754 *Museum Rust.* II. lii. 149, I..requested him either to cut down the elms, or permit me to shrowd them. 1851 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxv, By the time the tree was felled and shrouded, Tom was in a convalescent state. 1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* xiii, I'll climb up this afternoon and shroud off the lower boughs. *c* 1890 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 7 The said hornbeams were all pollards, being shrouded every four or six years.

Shroud, obs. form of SHREWD.

Shroudage (ʃrau·dėdʒ). *poet.* [f. SHROUD *sb.*[2] + -AGE.] The shrouds (of a ship).

1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 72 Its vaporous shroudage drenched with icy rain. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed*, etc. 101 He, acquainted well with every tone Of madness whining in his shroudage slender.

Shrou·ded, *ppl. a.* [f. SHROUD *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Concealed, veiled; sheltered; enveloped in a shroud.

1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* G 2 Cunning shrowded rogues. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 The Pholad, or Shrouded Shell. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Lady Griseld Baillie* xli, Joy appears with shrouded head. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T.*, That goodly pile.. confronting..the lighter, older, more fantastically shrouded one. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* vi, Brave old Samuel Johnson, in his shrouded-up existence. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lxi, One of them pressed her finger to her shrouded lips. 1888 MEREDITH *Hymn to Colour* v, Shall man..learn the secret of the shrouded death, By lifting up the lid of a white eye?

b. *Mech.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Shrouded gear*,..cog-gear in which the cogs are protected by a flange coming out even with the face of the wheel, so that the interdental spaces are in effect mortises in the face of the wheel.

Shrou·der. *rare*—[1]. [f. SHROUD *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who shrouds or covers up.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1675) 244 Noah..is made naked with sin, to shew that sin is no shrouder, but a stripper.

Shrou·ding, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHROUD *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. † Clothing (*obs.*); covering with a shroud or screen; protection, concealment; laying in a shroud.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27930 Fole contenance and ful scruding. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 13 Stonewals..are the best..for fencing, lasting, and shrouding of your yong trees. *a* 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 260 Shelter and shrowding from such mischiefs as the life of man is subiect to. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., A..Cedar.. within the bosom of whose shrowdings I must be cloakt from wind and weather. 1856 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1874) iii. 152 Gillespie's Hospital for the shrouding of aged indigence. 1858 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 308 The shrouding and placing in his house of wood.

2. *Mech.* The shrouds of a water-wheel forming an annular rim at the ends of the buckets.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 903/2 The ring of board ..making the ends of the buckets is called the shrouding.. and *QP* is called the depth of shrouding. 1834–6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 88/2 In some cases the shrouding is omitted, in which case great accuracy is requisite in forming the race and hanging the wheel. 1850 WEALE *Dict. Terms Archit.* 514 A water-wheel..consists of..shaft, arms, buckets, and shrouding. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 96 The wheel..having 10 wrought-iron arms ..rivetted or bolted to the centre, and to the shrouding.

3. *attrib.* † **shrouding board,** ? a protecting board; † **shrouding place,** a hiding-place; so † *shrouding corner*; **shrouding-plate** = *shroud-plate* SHROUD *sb.*[1] 8; † **shrouding sheet,** a winding sheet.

1679–80 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 343 A stay and a *shrowding board, 1s. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 224 This Isle afforded him a very fit *shrowding corner. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xi. 1 For all his seeking of *shrowding places everywhere, yet he could nowhere fynd any courtesie. 1611 FLORIO, *Velabro*, a booth or shrouding place. 1639 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* lxi. 4 A safe hope] or shrowding place, where bee hoped for, and had found safe shelter. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 326 The *shrouding plates are bolted upon the buckets and soling. 1576 CURTEYS *Two Serm.* A vj, The rich men of this world shall..carry away with them nothing but a *shrowding sheet. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 242 Lapped in their shrowding sheets, and tyed after the manner of dead Corses. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 569 Enwrapped in an Ox-hide for a shrouding sheet. 1699 LD. TARBUT in Pepys *Diary* (1870) 688 If they see a man with a shrouding-sheet in the apparition.

Shrou·ding, *vbl. sb.*[2] [I. SHROUD *v.*[2]] Lopping of trees; *pl.* loppings.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.*, *Shrouding*, the Lopping of Trees. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lii. 150 Green shrowdings of trees.

Shrou·ding, *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. SHROUD *sb.*[2] + -ING[1].] The shrouds of a ship.

1890 R. BRIDGES *Passer-by* iii, Aslant with trim tackle and shrouding.

Shrou·ding, *ppl. a.* [f. SHROUD *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That shrouds, veils, covers, or conceals.

1623 MARKHAM *Country Housew. Gard.* III. v. (1665) 76 They both require a strong and shrowding fence. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 214 Madame la duchesse, in her hideous shrouding cap. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* xxii. (1874) 67 Here, from the terrors of the grave, The new-born Church..Issued, as from a shrouding cave. 1883 DIXON *Mano* II. iv. 77 She..Back to her horse withdrew for shrouding gown. 1888 E. GERARD *Land beyond Forest* xliii, A carved oak chair heavily wreathed in shrouding cobwebs.

Shrou·dless, *a.* [f. SHROUD *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Without a shroud or winding-sheet.

1758 DODSLEY *Melpomene* xi, A mangled corse..lies shroudless, unentomb'd. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xvi, Tolling shroudless seamen's knell. *a* 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Lexington* 52 Shroudless and tombless they sunk to their rest.

2. Unshrouded, unobscured.

1841 C. SWAIN *Mind* IV. xxxv, Above, the stars in shroudless beauty shine.

Shroudly, obs. form of SHREWDLY.

Shroudy (ʃrau·di), *a. rare.* [f. SHROUD *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Affording shelter.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 315 (MS. Trin. Coll.), If yo[r] stray attendance be yet lodg'd w[th]in these shroudie limits.

Shrove, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Short for SHROVE-TIDE or SHROVE TUESDAY.] Shrovetide, or the merrymaking connected therewith.

1579 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 327 During Christmas..& Shrove. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie*, etc. 178 In their wakes, shroues, wassel-cups, or tides. 1913 *19th Cent.* July 133 Nora was to marry Tom Mahony next Shrove.

b. *Comb.*: **shrove-cake,** a small cake made to give children who go shroving (Halliwell, 1847); † **shrove-cock** = *shroving-cock* (see SHROVING *vbl. sb.* b); † **shrove-prentice,** one of 'a set of ruffianly fellows, who took upon them at Shrovetide the name of London Prentices, and in that character invaded houses of ill-fame' (Halliwell).

1638 DAVENANT *Madagascar*, etc. 29 More cruell than Shrove-Prentices, when they (Drunk in a Brothell House) are bid to pay. 1659 *Lady Alimony* v. ii. I 4, O ye pittiful Simpletons, who spend your days in throwing Cudgels at Jack a Lents or Shrove-Cocks.

Shrove, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. *shrove-* in SHROVE-TIDE.] *intr.* To keep Shrove-tide; to make merry. Often in (*to go*) *a-shroving* (locally applied to the practice of going round singing for money on Shrove Tuesday).

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 99/1 He trauelled to Rome a shrouing, of set purpose to be merrie. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* P 2 b, To certefie him that verie shortly hee would send him a couple of Hennes to Shroue with. 1611 FLORIO, *Berlingaccione*, one that loueth to shroue euer and make good cheere. 1620 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 198 Those ladies have invited them to a masque..so that on Thursday next, the king, prince, and all the court go thither a shroving. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* III. ii, To see him stated thus, as though he went A shroving through the City. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. vii. (1892) II. 571 Hans Boobikin, a rich Boor's Son, whom his Father had sent abroad a Fryaring, that is, shroving in our Language. [See also SHROVING *vbl. sb.*]

† **Shro·veday.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. In 5 **shrof-.** [See SHROVETIDE.] Shrove Tuesday.

14.. *Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 571/3 *Carniprivium*, shrofday.

Shrove Monday. ? *Obs.* Also 6 **shroff.** [See SHROVE-TIDE.] The Monday before Shrove Tuesday.

c 1450 *Bale's Chron.* 195 in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 121 The monday clept shrovemonday folewyng the xxi day of ffeverer. 1523 R. HILLES in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (1907) p. xiv, The sh[r]off monday þat was the VIII day of februari. 1589 in Hakluyt *Voy.* 231, I Departed out of London..vpon Shroue munday 1583. 1671 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 22 Here is no newes but that the grand ballett is not to be danced till Shrove-Munday. 1709 *Rider's British Merlin*, Fair on Shrovemonday at Newcastle under Line. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 32/1 Principal fairs held in Cornwall :—..Liskeard, Shrove Monday [etc.].

Shrove-mouse, obs. form of SHREW-MOUSE.

† **Shrove Sunday.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 **shrof(f, -ffe,** 6 **shroft, shrofe.** [See SHROVE-TIDE.] The Sunday in Shrove-tide, Quinquagesima Sunday.

1463 *Maldon, Essex Crt. Rolls* Bundle 38 No. 2 Dominica vocata Shrofsunday. *a* 1500 *Gough Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 164 On Shrofe Sonday the kyng hadd purposed to have goone Northward. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 96 The xxiij. of February [1555] was Shroft sonday. 1570 in D. Digges *Complete Ambass.* (1655) 51 Mr. Norris is arrived here yesterday, being Shrove-sunday. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* XI. 207 That the Clergy should fast from Quinquagesima (that is, Shrove-sunday) to Easter. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. (1668) 66 Laud preaching on Shrove-Sunday, Anno 1614. 1843 KEITH *Treat. Globes* 183 Shrove Sunday or Quinquagesima Sunday is 7 weeks Before Easter.

† **Shrove Thursday.** *Obs. rare.* App. erron. for SHEER THURSDAY = Maundy Thursday.

1518–19 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 301 Paid for watur on shrofthursday & on Estur Even for þe fount..j[d]. 1530 PALSGR. 267/2 Schrove thursday, *jeuuedy absolu* [on pp. 266/2, 811/2 glossed correctly 'Sherethursday'].

Shro·ve-tide. Also 5 **schrof-, -ffe-, shorff-,** 5–6 **shrof(f-,** 6 *north.* **s(c)hraf-,** 6–7 **shros-** (?); 6 **shrosty** (?), **shrovety.** [Of obscure origin.

The first element is undoubtedly related to SHRIVE and refers to the custom of being shriven in preparation for Lent.

An OE. **scrâf* shriving, confession, f. *scrîfan* to SHRIVE, would account phonologically for *shrove-*, but, if the form actually existed, the absence of evidence for this group of words until the 15th c. is remarkable. (Other early names for the season were FASTENS-EEN, FAST-GONG, FASTINGONG.)]

The period comprising Quinquagesima Sunday and the two following days, 'Shrove' Monday and Tuesday.

c 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* vii. in *Anglia* X. 386/39 Þe sondaye In Quinquagesime, with þe tweyne dayes folowynge, þat is clepyd Schroftyde. *c* 1512 *Regul. Northumbld. Housek.* (1770) 377 From Alhallowtid to Shraftide. 1544 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 250 Frome all haloudaye vntyll Shrostyde. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 38 'Tis merry in Hall, when Beards wagge all And welcome merry Shrouetide. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. 488 Paying their tribute to the Pope at Shrostyde, when they are allowed to shewe publike games. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 214 Having spunn out thus the time till neer Carnavale or shroftide. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* X. 434 He could sing Carols for Shrove-tide, or for Candlemas. 1853 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. II. 61 Shrove-tide, or the week before Lent.

1544 in *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 96 The tenauntes..shall befor Shrosty next..pay the rerages of the same. 1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 212 To know..his pleasure for preparacions to be made against Shrovety.

b. *fig.* A time of merriment.

1840 LONGF. *Span. Stud.* III. i, Enjoy the merry shrovetide of thy youth!

c. *attrib.*, as *Shrovetide even, -fool*; † **Shrovetide cock,** a cock tied up and pelted with sticks on Shrove Tuesday; † **Shrovetide hen,** a hen sent as a present on Shrove Tuesday.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. v, A Shroftide Hen, Which bought to giue, he takes to sell agen. *c* 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 283 The world cannot live without such Vizards and Shrovetide-Fools. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 106 Never was Shrovetide-Cock in such a Fear. 1768 TRUSLER *Hogarth Moralized* 180 Throwing at a cock, the universal shrove-tide amusement. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* 7 Martyr beat like Shrovetide cocks with bats. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXXIV, As surely.. as ever cock fought on Shrove-tide-even.

Shrove Tuesday. Also 5 **chrofte-,** 5–6 **shrof-,** 6 **shroff-, shroft-, shraf-.** [See prec.] The Tuesday immediately preceding Ash Wednesday; often called *pancake day.*

a 1500 *Gough Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 159 On Chroftetewesday the Erle of Warwikk come from Caleis w[t] a faire felloshipp. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* E 4 They would..stand crosse-gag'd with knives in their mouthes from one Shroft-tuisday to another. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* (1630) I. 115/2 By the vnmanerly maners of Shroue-Tuesday Constables are baffled, Bawds are bang'd, Punckes are pillag'd. *c* 1640 [SHIRLEY] *Capt. Underwit* IV. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1883) II. 381 Tis Shrovetuesday and the prentices are pulling downe Covent Garden. 1764 *Oxf. Sausage* 22 Let glad Shrove-Tuesday bring the Pancake thin. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* i, Some weeks before Shrove Tuesday comes about, The people take their fill of recreation. 1911 MACCULLOCH *Relig. Anc. Celts* xiv, A cock or hen was ceremonially killed and eaten on Shrove Tuesday.

b. *allusively.* A time of merriment.

1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* III. i, Neuer a time, that the ..collegiates come to the house, but you make it a shroue-tuesday! 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Beggery* D 2, May euery day of the yeare be a Shrouetuesday.

c. *attrib.*, as *Shrove Tuesday night, pancake*; † **Shrove Tuesday cock** = *Shrovetide cock.*

1615 T. HERBERT *News Islington* (Halliw. 1848) 21 As flat as a Shrove-Tuesday pancake. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* III. iii, Never was Shrove-tuesday Bird So cudgell'd. 1634 T. CAREW (*title*) Coelum Britannicum. A masque..on Shrove-Tuesday night. 1697 R. PIERCE *Bath Mem.* Pref. 6 [He] does..set up a Shrove-Tuesday Cock, for every one to throw at. 1848 WHATELY *Let.* in *Life* (1866) II. 135, I should reply, I will not set up any proposal like a Shroue-Tuesday cock for you to pelt at.

Shro·ving, *vbl. sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. *shrove-* in SHROVE-TIDE; cf. SHROVE *sb.* and *v.*] The keeping of Shrove-tide; the merrymaking characteristic of this season; festive rejoicing; carnival.

1580 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 180 At Shroftide to shrouing, go thresh the fat hen. 1599 DEKKER *Shoomakers Hol.* v. v. (1610) K 4 A day of shrouing which I promist to al the mery prentises of London. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 173, I have seene Curtizans..in time of shroving, apparrelled like men, in carnation or light coloured doublets and breeches. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* III. (1673) 4 What else..was the whole life of this miserable man here, but in a manner a perpetual Shroving? 1855 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. XI. 239 [In the Isle of Wight] Shroving, shroving, I am come to shroving.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shroving day, dish, time, ware, week*; **shroving cock, hen** = *Shrovetide cock, hen.*

1537 TR. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc. Clergy* Cij, They.. liue euery day as though al their life were a shrouynge tyme. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 115 His shrouing ware [is] but lenten stuff. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. 656, I..keepe my shroving dayes vpon fish dayes; and my feasts vpon fasting-dayes. 1611 in *Songs Lond. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 152, I will lay my lips to a fat shroving hen That none of these will 'er be had againe. 1612 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 235 The king came to town, and tarried here all that Shroving week. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* Introd., That he may stand like a Jack a Lent, or a Shroving Cock, for Everyone to spend a Cudgel at. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* Induct., His sweating put me in mind of a good Shrouing dish..a stew'd Poet! 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 421 Before so long a Lent of Servitude, they may permit us a little Shroving time first.

1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cccxcviii. 372 The Cudgelling of Shroving-Cocks is a Barbarous custom.

Shrow, obs. form of Shrew.

Shro·wardly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [? f. *shrow*, Shrew *sb.*2 after *frowardly*.] = Shrewdly.

1689 Etheredge *Love in Tub* I. ii, Now haue I..wounded her reputation shrowardly.

Shrowd(e, obs. forms of Shrewd, Shroud.

Shrub (ʃrʊb), *sb.*1 Forms: 2–7 shrubbe, 4–6 s(c)hrobbe, 6 shroub, shrewb, 6–7 shrubb, 7 shrob, 6– shrub. [App. repr. OE. *scrybb* fem. (occurring only once) presumed to mean 'shrubbery, underwood'. There may have been a parallel form **scrubb* without umlaut. (Scrub *sb.*1 is a parallel form.)

The following forms seem to be all related to the Eng. word and their meanings point to a general sense of 'rough plant or bush': N Fris. *skrobb* the broom plant, underwood, brushwood, W Flem. *schrobbe* climbing wild pea or vetch, Norw. *skrubba* dwarf cornel, Da. dial. *skrub* brushwood.]

1. A woody plant smaller than a tree; *spec.* in *Bot.* a perennial plant having several woody stems growing from the same root.

972 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1893) III. 603 Of þare stan stræte andlang sorybbes and fruyt þat grewe somtyme on þat hille. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. I. 2 Y shop me into shrobbis [*v. r.* schrubbes] as y a shepherde were. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. ci. (1495) 666 Mirtus is a lytyll tree as it were a shrobbe. 1530 Palsgr. 267/2 Schrobbe a busshe, *arbrisseau*. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 18 This tree (or rather shrubbe) is deuided into many braunches. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 595 A very thicket of shrobs upon an hill. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Sept. 1644 Rosemary, lavender, lentiscs, and the like sweet shrubes. 1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* I. 98 The holly can hardly be called a tree, tho it is a large shrub. 1802 Wordsw. *Farewell* 11 The flowering shrubs that deck our humble door. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 197 The cotton shrub is cultivated in India. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 342 Salix herbacea..The smallest British shrub.

transf. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 144 On thy thighs, Though meagre, ugly shrubs of hair arise.

b. *fig.* and in proverbial use.

1592 *Soliman & Pers.* v. iii, The shrub is safe when the Cedar shaketh. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* iv. ii. § 1. 127 These men questionlesse haue some little shrubs of pride and vanitie. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 213, I was Shap't Only to flutter in the lower Shrubbs Of Earth-borne follies. 1672 Sir T. Browne *Let. Friend* § 37 They who thus timely descend into themselves, cultivating the good seeds which nature hath set in them..become not shrubs but cedars in their generations.

†**2.** A twig, sprig, sprout. *Obs.*

c 1530 Tindale *Jonas* Prol. B viij b, It greueth thyne hert for the losse of a vile shrobbe or spraye. 1585 Fetherstone tr. *Calvin on Acts* vii. 30 The thicker the bush is, and the more store of shrubbes it hath. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, (1861) 206 The rose although in thorny shrubs she spreads, Is still the rose. 1647 Hexham I, Full of shrubs, *vol spruyten*.

†**3.** A mean, inferior, insignificant person; = Scrub *sb.*1 5. *Obs.*

1566 Drant *Sat.* I. x. E vj b, Suche carelesse, brainlesse, senslesse shrubbs. 1656 S. Winter *Serm.* 93 God's..ey and his heart was towards them..though poor shrubs praying in the temple. 1683 Bunyan *Greatn. Soul* (1691) 131 The Gyants in grace, as well as the weak and shrubs. 1690 C. Nesse *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 200 The poor shrub had sped so well in prayer.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 44 Fumitorie..is a bushie or shrublike Herbe. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. 61 Aparrayld In shrub weeds thorny [*consertum tegimen spinis*]. *c* 1710 Celia Fiennes *Diary* (1888) 220 Ye squares are full of gooseberry and Shrub-trees. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 317 In most of the tree and shrub kinds. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 448 Stems rather shrub-like. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 457 Currants, gooseberries, and other kinds of shrub fruit. 1841 Browning *Pippa* Introd. 46 All the while thy rain Beats fiercest on her shrub-house window-pane. 1870 C. Kingsley *At Last* xi, The welcome shade of low shrub-fringed cliffs. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 52 A dry land shrub-belt.

b. *spec.* applied to shrubby plants and to other natural objects resembling shrubs, as *shrub coral, worm*; also **shrub cotton**, a variety of the cotton plant intermediate between the herbaceous and the arborescent; †**shrub-mallow**, marsh mallow, *Althæa*; †**shrub-nightshade**, woody nightshade, *Solanum Dulcamara*; **shrub oak**, = *scrub-oak*, Scrub *sb.*1 6 c; †**shrub pea**, the shrubby pea of the Barbadoes; **shrub-shilling**, a variety of the pine-tree shilling (see Pine-tree b) of Massachusetts (*Cent. Dict.*); **shrub-snail**, a European snail, *Helix arbustorum*; **shrub trefoil**, **yellow-root** (see Trefoil, Yellowroot).

1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 857 *Shrub spotted Arsmart of Virginia. 1681 Grew *Museum* III. § 1. iii. 275 The *Shrub-Coral *Corallium fruticosum*. 1858 Homans *Cycl. Comm.* 434/1 The pod of the *shrub cotton differs from that of the herb in being egg-shaped. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 298 *Shrub Mallow with a white or purple flower. 1664 *Shrub nightshade [see Nightshade 2]. 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. iv. 75/2 The Shrub Night-shade, hath a dark brown stock and branches, the flowers like the common Night-shade, in one white, in another blew. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxix. 408 Passing through..several forests of *shrub oaks. 1784 J. Belknap *Tour White Mts.* (1876) 18 Among the brakes and wind-falls and shrub oaks on the pitch pine plain adjoining the Pond. 1868 Lossing *Hudson* 213 Making our way..through gorges filled with shrub-oaks. 1691–6 Plukenet *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 III. 291 Phaseolus Barbadensis fruticosus Septennii durationis. The Seven Years Pea, and The *Shrub Pea. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 175 The Helix..Arbustorum, Linn., or *shrub snail. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 55 *Fruticarii*..*Shrub-worms.

Shrub (ʃrʊb), *sb.*2 [Variant of Shrab, or metathetic ad. Arab. شُرْب *shurb* drink, draught.]

1. A prepared drink made with the juice of orange or lemon (or other acid fruit), sugar, and rum (or other spirit).

Often *rum-shrub*; also with other qualifying words indicating the ingredient which takes the place of the rum in drinks prepared in this way to which the name 'shrub' is extended.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 468 A mixture of lemon juice and rum (shrub as they call it) may be carried in any quantity, as it will keep a long time. 1762 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 118 Three seamen dropt down with fatigue and thirst, though wine, rum, and shrub were given them alternately. 1764 Eliza Moxon *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 145 To make Orange Shrub. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXX. 99, 38 gallons of rum shrub. 1835 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Miss Evans*, Miss Ivins's friend's young man would have the ladies go into the Crown, to taste some shrub. 1863 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 138 Beer-shrub, brandy-shrub, sherry-shrub, Simkin-shrub, tea-shrub. 1888 Besant *Fifty Yrs. Ago* xi, Is there any living man who now calls for shrub?

2. *U.S.* A cordial or syrup made from the juice of the raspberry, with vinegar and sugar.

1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie V.* vii, Mr. Peckham, would you be so polite as to pass me a glass of srub? Silas Peckham..took from the table a small glass cup, containing a fluid reddish in hue and subacid in taste. 1884 C. D. Warner *Their Pilgr.* xi, Sipping their raspberry shrub in a retired corner of the bar-room.

Shrub (ʃrʊb), *v.* [Of mixed origin: partly parallel form to Scrub *v.*, partly f. Shrub *sb.* With sense 4 cf. MDu. *schrobben* to scratch or root in the ground.]

†**1.** *trans.* = Scrub *v.*1 1. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* (Laud MS.) 4310 Þe knaues graiþen her hors & shrubben.

†**2.** *intr.* To rub or scratch the body; to fidget. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 300 With youre body be not shrubbynge. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* L 1, As how? as how? sayde Zadoch, shrugging and shrubbing.

†**3.** *trans.* To scratch. *Obs.*

1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* lvii, Asses love to..shrub their backs with its prickles [the rest-harrow].

†**4.** *trans.* To grub up (bushes); to rid (ground) of shrubs or stumps. *Obs.*

1553 *Short Catech.* in J. Randolph *Enchir. Theol.* (1792) I. 68 The husbandemen that fyrst vse to shrubbe and roote out the thornes..oute of their ley land. 1573 Baret *Alv.* G 573 To Grub, to shrubbe, or rid from bushes or trees. 1611 Cotgr., *Desfricher*, to grub, shrub, rid the ground from rootes.

†**5.** To lop (a tree, its branches); also *fig. Obs.*

1573 A. Anderson *Expos. Benedictus* 64 The Papistes.. though they be woll shrubbed, and shred, yet they begin euen nowe before the springe, to budde. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxiii. 81 These accusations, were rather to shrub off his faire top. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. i. 56 Shroudly shrubbing their branches, God rent them up by the roots. 1682 Grew *Anat. Plants* Introd. 3 Trunks, some being more Entire, others Branched, others Shrub'd.

†**6.** To cudgel. *Obs.*

1599 Greene *Pinner of Wakefield* v. i, Were not for shame, I would shrub your shoulders well. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), To *Shrub one*, to cudgel or bang him soundly.

7. *pass.* To be planted with shrubs.

1886 R. F. Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 140 A running stream whose banks were shrubbed with bushes of rose and jasmine. 1891 'Annie Thomas' *That Affair* II. ix. 144 A secluded spot, well treed and shrubbed in.

Hence **Shrubbing** *vbl. sb.*

1611 Cotgr., *Defrichage*, the shrubbing, or grubbing vp of yong wood. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. v. 92 Sancho imputes all his shrubbings to his Masters perjuries.

Shrubbage (ʃrʊ·bĕdʒ). Also 8 **shrubidge**. [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -age] Shrubbery.

1713 *Rolls Crt. Attachm. Walth. For.* (1873) I. 6 To fell the two Shrubidges cont. ab'. 90 acres lyeing in Layton Walk. 1893 J. W. Barry *Studies Corsica* 234 This evergreen shrubbage.

Shrubbed (ʃrʊbd), *a.* [f. Shrub *sb.* or *v.* + -ed.]

†**1.** Stunted; = Scrubbed *a.* 1; also, shrubby.

1539 *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chetham Soc.) 1204 There be ..CC shrubbed Okes & Asshes cropped & shredd. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng*, *Æneidos* 150 b, Neere at hand were growing diuers shrubbed Trees. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cccxxxviii. 788 *Althæa frutex Clusii*. Shrubbed Mallowe. 1599 Minsheu s. v. *Coral*, It groweth in the sea like a shrubbed stump. 1681 R. Knox *Hist. Rel. Ceylon* IV. x. 165 The Woods in all these Northern Parts are short and shrubbed.

2. Planted with shrubs.

1895 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 6/4 A path..with shrubbed borders on each side.

Shrubberied (ʃrʊ·bərid), *a.* [f. Shrubbery + -ed.] Planted or bordered with shrubbery.

1856 Hawthorne *Engl. Note-bks.* II. 53 The shrubberied paths. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 520/2 Miniature parks,.. flowered, shrubberied, and statued.

Shrubbery (ʃrʊ·bəri). [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -ery.]

1. A plantation of shrubs; a plot planted with shrubs.

1748 Lady Luxborough *Let. to Shenstone* 16 Oct., Nature has been so remarkably kind this last Autumn to adorn my Shrubbery with the flowers that usually blow at Whitsuntide. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 139 A beautiful shrubbery of birch, oak, and alders. 1841 B. Hall *Patchwork* I. x. 158 The house and terrace were sheltered by a thick shrubbery. 1877 Black *Green Past.* ii, She passed through some dense shrubberies..until she came to an open space at the edge of a wood.

attrib. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 56 Grass lawns, gravel walks, shrubbery compartments. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 58 [He] walked quickly down the shrubbery path.

2. Shrubs collectively or in a mass.

1777 G. Forster *Voy. round World* I. 64 Several species of lizards, land-tortoises, and serpents frequent the dry shrubbery. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* 15 Birch and ash grew around the bases of the pillars, and shrubbery tufted the sides. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 199 The light-toned masses of maple, alder, and small shrubbery along the water-side.

Shru·bbiness. [f. Shrubby + -ness.] The state of being like a shrub or planted with shrubs.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Shrubbiness*, Fulness of Shrubs. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 122 It is evident that no advance towards shrubbiness can be attained by crossing the present Florists' varieties [of Calceolarias] amongst themselves.

Shru·bbish, *a.* [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -ish.] Like a shrub.

1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 33 Those fenny ones are of a Shrubbish nature, as the Rush. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 152 The wild [pomegranates] are a shrubbish low tree.

†**Shru·bble.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -le] A little sprout or spray.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 128 The seed heaves up from a sprouting or shrubble to the scantling of height.. that nature has cut out for it.

Shrubby (ʃrʊ·bi), *a.* [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -y.]

1. Having the habit, growth, or size of a shrub; *spec.* having perennial woody stems rising from the root. In early use freq. applied to trees of stunted growth (cf. Scrubby *a.*1 1).

1582 Marbeck *Bk. Notes* 734 Mirrhe is a little shrubby tree. 1597 Bacon *Coulers Gd. & Euill* Ess. (Arb.) 148 The shootes or vnderwood that grow neare a great..tree, is the most pyned and shrubbie wood of the field. 1630 Capt. Smith *Advts. Planters New Eng.* 22 Three or foure short shrubby old Cedars. 1679 Evelyn *Sylva* (ed. 3) 2 These [trees] we shall divide into the Greater and more Ceduous, Fruticant, and Shrubby. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 66 Plants appearing Withered or Blasted, Shrubby and Curled, are the effects of immoderate Wet or Heat, and Cold interchangably. 1773 *Hist. Brit. Dom. Amer.* II. v. § 2. 290 The timber is too small, shrubby, and gnarly. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* (1810) III. App. 22 On all the small streams there are shrubby cotton-trees. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 593 The thick masses of wood of shrubby and tree-like Chenopodiaceæ.

b. In specific names of plants, often rendering L. *fruticosus*.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xiv. 1129 *Polemonium siue Trifolium fruticans*. Shrubbie Trefoile. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 1677 The shrubby wild Bay of Candy. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 15 *note*, The *brassica sylvestris*, or shrubby cabbage. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* ii. (1869) 98 Shrubby-willows or sallows. 1862 Johns *Brit. Birds* 426 The *Suæda fruticosa*, Shrubby Sea Blite, of botanists. 1884 W. Miller *Plant-n.* 57/2 Shrubby Grass. The genus *Thamnochortus*.

†**c.** Of persons: Stunted, undersized. *Obs.*

1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* v. (1891) 41 This kinde of people I finde to be..shorte of growth, broade, and shrubbye.

2. Of the nature of or consisting of shrubs.

1540 *Mem. Fountains* (Surtees Soc.) 343 A close of pasture with myche shrubby wood therein. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. iii. (1821) 43 A lowe shrubbie boggie wood. 1681 R. Knox *Hist. Rel. Ceylon* IV. x. 165 The Woods began to be very full of Thorns, and shrubby Bushes. 1708 J. Phillips *Cyder* I. 8 The goats their shrubby brouze gnaw pendent. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xvi, Troopers..posted behind the cover of he shrubby copses of alders. 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* vii. (1874) 115 The undergrowth consisting of fine herbaceous plants, tree-ferns, and shrubby vegetation.

3. Covered, planted, or overgrown with shrubs.

1598 Yong *Diana* 441 The beauties of the shrubby hils. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 135 Through blind waues in forrests and shrubbie places. 1634 Milton *Comus* 306 Due west it rises from this shrubby point. 1717 Berkeley *Jrnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 546 A stony, rocky, shrubby tract. 1814 Brackenridge *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 227, I..wandered several miles through shrubby hills. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. 218 We stopped near noon in a little shrubby plain.

4. Characteristic of a shrub or its habit.

1776 Withering *Bot. Arrangem. Veget.* 804 *Shrubby*, somewhat woody, as the stems of the Rose. 1826 *Encycl. Perth.* V. 639/1 It rises with a shrubby stalk 8 or 9 feet high. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 203 Tanacetum..Herbs often shrubby below. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 161/1 The foliage, which is produced on a strong, round, shrubby stem, is very dark green.

Shrubless (ʃrʊ·blĕs), *a.* [f. Shrub *sb.*1 + -less.] Without shrubs.

1816 Byron *Pris. Chillon* ix, Shrubless crags. 1862 Mrs. Speid *Last Yrs. India* 34 Aden—shrubless, flowerless, dusky, grim, and scorious.

Shru·blet. [-let.] A small shrub.

1886 *Offic. Handbk. Cape G. Hope* 303 Shrublets of 1 to 2 feet. 1897 Bryce *Impr. S. Africa* 10 A country..covered.. with grass or shrublets fit for cattle. 1900 B. D. Jackson *Gloss. Bot. Terms, Shrublet*, an undershrub.

So **Shru·bling** [-ling].

1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 456 The spring..bedecks the poorest shrubling.

Shruff[1] (ʃrʊf). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Parallel to SCRUFF *sb.*[1]] Refuse, esp. for burning; light refuse wood, cinders, etc. used for fuel.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 154 Thus baterid þis bred on busshes aboute, And gaderid gomes on grene þer as þe walkyd, þat all þe schroff and schroup sondrid ffrom ober. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* 24 Store of shruff dust and small cole. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 151 The shruff, moss and hair that the nest was thwackt together of. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Glose, Shruff*, light rubbish wood, a perquisite to hedgers. Norf. and Suff. 1893 ZINCKE *Wherstead* 100 'Shruff' for the dry wood in the hedges.

Shruff.[2] ? *Obs.* Also 6 shroffe, 7 shroof. [? ad. G. *schroff* fragment of mineral (Jacobsson in Grimm).] Old brass (or copper). Also *attrib.* in *shruff brass, metal.*

1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 1 It was enacted, that noe person..shoulde..carrye..any Brasse Copper..Gunemettall ne Shroffe Metal into anye parte..beyonde the Sea. *a* 1618 *Rates Marchandizes* G 2, Shruffe or old Brasse. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 736 Brass Shruff serves instead of so much Copper. 1700 *Ibid.* XXII. 475 Brass-Shruff..is a collection of pieces of old Brass, which is usually procured in small parcels. 1721 in Beawes *Lex. Mercat.* (1752) 678 Battery and Brass Shruff. 1787 *Jackson's Oxford Jrnl.* 7 Apr. 3/3 The following sorts of Copper, viz. Tile, Shruff, Shot,..[etc.]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 709, 8 oz. of shruff brass.

Shrug (ʃrʊg), *sb.* Also 7 shrugg. [f. SHRUG *v.*]

†1. a. A tug, pull. b. A shake (of the hand). The first quot. is obscure.

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 597 Here master master ware how ye tugg The devylle I trowe w[t] in shrugge for yt gooth rebylle rable. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 12 Unto this fellowe..I'le goe, And with my hand will give a shrug or two. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 7 July, All the effect this notable speech had was to frighten my uncle, and make him give two or three shrugs extraordinary to his breeches.

2. A raising and contraction of the shoulders to express dislike, disdain, indifference, or the like.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 69 It is growen to a common prouerbe, Ile giue him the Neapolitan shrug, when one intends to play the villaine, and make no boast of it. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 110 Still haue I borne it with a patient shrug. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 167 To these exceptions hee answered with a Spanish shrug of the shouldier. 1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* I. ii, Sirrah, no more of your French shrugs I advise you. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 75 ¶ 6 He contradicts with a Shrug, and confutes with a certain sufficiency. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 3 Apr. He is a lively man, full of chat, and foreign shrugs and gestures. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, A scarce visible shrug of apology. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiv. 170 The Guide Chef ..met me with a polite sympathetic shrug. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* xi. 267 He ordered a Bengalee to climb a lofty tree; but the man, with a shrug of his shoulders, and a lateral shake of his head, said he could not. 1886 T. FROST *Remin. Country Journalist* 99, I passed on, with a smile and a shrug.

†3. A shifting or hitching of the body, a fidgety movement (cf. SHRUG *v.* 5). *Obs.*

1626 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* 72 There is a drowsie shrugge..This shrugge is commonly performed with displaying out the armes, and yawning with the mouth. *Ibid.* The Misers shrugge, the winter shrugge, the drowsie shrugge, the lousie shrugge.

†4. A shiver, shudder. *Obs. rare.*

1713 WODROW *Corr.* (1842) I. 448 The Lord Advocate died ..without any shruggs of death.

Shrug (ʃrʊg), *v.* Forms: 5 schrugge, shrukke, 5–7 shrugge, 6 shroge, shruck, 8 shrugg, 6– shrug. [Of obscure origin.

Sw. dial. *skrukka, skrugge* to crouch, sit doubled up, Da. *skrukke, skrugge* to duck with the head, to walk with a stoop, are probably unconnected.]

1. *intr.* To shiver; to shudder for cold or fear. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1400 [see SHRUGGING *vbl. sb.*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schruggyn [*Winch. MS.* shruggon], *frigulo.* 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Peter* IV. 11 b, As often as we loke backe at them, we shrugge for feare to remembre suche fylthynes of lyfe. 1580 BLUNDEVILE *Horsemanship, Horse's Dis.* lxxiv. 35 He will be chill, and shrug for cold. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* v. 27 The French Lacquey, and Irish Footeboy, shrugging at the doores. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 580 To shrugge in cold weather, and to wish a fire. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps.* cxix. 136 He that shrugs when he sees a snake creep upon another. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* II. 130 It makes me shrugg when I call to mind the Agonies which he suffer'd.

2. To raise (and contract) the shoulders, esp. as an expression of disdain, indifference, disclaiming responsibility, etc.; in early use also, † to cringe.

c 1450 in *Aungier Syon* (1840) 299 They schal not..caste oute ther armes or handes, nor schrugge withe the scholders. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1154/2 If they did either frowne or shrug at him. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. ix. 4 Where great Patricians shall attend, and shrug, I'th'end admire. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 367 Hag-seed, hence:..shrug'st thou (Malice)? 1680 DRYDEN *Kind Kpr.* I. i. 11 Here will you take me at my word? *Wood* (*Shrugging up*) *Troppa poco, troppoco.* 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 10 Jan., I was quite shocked for her, and could only shrug in dismay. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiii, Ewan..shrugged, as one who would express by that sign that what he was doing was none of his own choice. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xliv, Adrian,..rose and accompanied him out of the room, shrugging. 1880 CABLE *Grandissimes* xiv, The quadroon shrugged.

3. *trans.* To raise and contract (the shoulders) in this way. Formerly often with *up.*

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* 187 Yf he cast hys head at the one syde, and do shroge vp hys shoulders. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* B 2 b, The action that he vsed, of shrucking vp his shoulders,..and biting the lip. 1596 — *Saffron Walden* G 2, If..I had not seene him shrug his shoulders, and talk of going to the Bathe. 1603 DEKKER *Wond. Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 137 Shrugging his shoulders together. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 264 ¶ 2 He..shrugs his shoulder when you talk of Securities. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. 66 He shrugs his shoulders, shakes his head. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 359 The triangular space between the deltoid and pectoral may be seen even in the living person when the shoulders are shrugged up. 1876 GREEN *Stray Studies* 48 The Italian shrugs his shoulders and submits in a humorous way.

4. *nonce-uses.* a. To bring by shrugging (*into*..).

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xviii, It is not the composition of the piece, but the number of starts and attitudes that may be introduced into it that elicits applause. I have known a piece with not one jest in the whole shrugged into popularity.

b. To express by means of a shrug.

1897 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* i, He..shrugged a tolerant 'As you will', with eloquent shoulders.

†**5.** *intr.* (and *refl.*) To move the body from side to side as with uneasiness, or as a gesture of joy or self-satisfaction; to fidget about. *Obs.*

c 1460 [see SHRUGGING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 71 The good man of the house shrodge [? *read* shrogde] hym for loye, thinking to hym selfe, I wyll make some pastyme with you anone. 1601 [? MARSTON] *Jack Drums Entert.* III. D 4 b, Mounsieurs Goat drunke, and he shrugges, and skrubbes, and hees it for a wench. *a* 1631 DONNE *Sat.* I. 74 He..grins, smacks, shrugs, and such an itch endures, As prentises, or schoole-boyes which doe know Of some gay sport abroad, yet dare not goe. 1638 DEKKER etc. *Witch of Edmonton* IV. ii. stage dir., Enter Dog, shrugging as it were for joy, and dances. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) M 2 b, That Book..I intended onely for a stumble to wake you (that you might shrugg and rub your eyes, and see in what a naked condition you are). 1652 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 479 The Louse gave a tug, that made the Taylor shrug.

6. *refl.* and *intr.* To draw oneself together, 'curl' oneself up; to shrink. ? *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO tr. *Montaigne* III. ix. 588 Let mee shrowd and shrugge my selfe into my shell, as a tortoise. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. iv. 80 stage dir., Hee shrugs himselfe vp in the cloake. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 39 How Plants, when they first begin to bud, will shrug and contract the little Stem. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, Robin, the bird, ..shrugs and folds itself into its feathers.

†**7.** *intr.* To shrink back or away, cower; occas. const. inf., to hesitate to do something. *Obs.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Grief of Joy* II. lv, That from the sonne we shrug into the shade And drowping sitt. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* I. 7 But that thou dost refuse and shrug to know such slender cares. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 385 Let us not..shrug at the difficulty. 1675 BROOKS *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 191 Will you shrug, and shrink, and faint, and fret when you are reproached for his name?

†**8.** *trans.* To contract or jerk uneasily. *Obs.*

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 173 He shrugg'd his sturdy Back, As if he felt his Shoulders ake.

9. To jerk, pull or tug *up.* *U.S.*

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 441 Zamor, the chieftain of the Tiger-band,..Shrugg'd up his brinded spoils above the rest. 1889 MARY E. WILKINS *Far-away Melody* etc. (1892) 29 She lay quietly, her shawl shrugged up over her face.

Hence **Shrugged** (ʃrʊgd) *ppl. a.*

1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. i. (1857) 4 An arched eyebrow, a shrugged shoulder.

Shru·gging, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHRUG *v.* + -ING[1].]

†1. Shivering. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 120 A scharp feuere fallib, þe which arrigor [=a rigor], þat is to seie a cold schurgynge [? *read* schrugynge], goip tofore. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 217 The touch of the cold water made a prettie kinde of shrugging come over her bodie. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor., Anger* ii. (1696) 352 A kind of Horror, and Shrugging upon the Sprinkling of Cold Water.

2. Raising and contracting the shoulders.

c 1460 RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 287 Nor pikynge, nor trifelynge, ne shrukkynge as þaw3 ye wold sawe. *a* 1693 *Urqu-hart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 The..shrugging of her hulchy Shoulders. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 136 The shrugging up of the Shoulders.

†**3.** Shrinking, hesitation. *Obs.*

1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 351 There is with many a kind of shrugging at this dutie.

Shru·gging, *ppl. a.* [f. SHRUG *v.* + -ING[2].]

†1. Shivering, shuddering. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 178 b, With a shrugging kinde of tremor in all her principall partes.

†**2.** ? Causing shivers, chilling. *Obs.*

1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* 88 The shrugging ayre about thy Temples hurles.

†**3.** Cringing. *Obs.*

1629 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 88 Hee begs too, onely not in the downeright for Gods sake, but with a shrugging God blesse you.

4. That shrugs, or is accompanied by a shrug of the shoulders.

1814 L. HUNT *Sonn.* Poems (1860) 233 The rambler..Feels ..in his shrugging neck the resolute blast. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxvi. Adrian ventured a shrugging protest in her behalf. 1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 336 Her hunched and shrugging shoulder-blades.

Hence **Shru·ggingly** *adv.*, with a shrug.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* I. viii. (Arb.) 56 The third me thinks shruggingly saith, I kept not to sit sleeping with my Poesie till a Queene came and kissed me. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 4/4 Students of international politics..shruggingly express the opinion that Morocco will drift along.

Shru·ggish, *a.* [f. SHRUG *v.* + -ISH.] Inclined to shrug the shoulders; contemptuous.

1877 G. MACDONALD *Marq. Lossie* lxxii, A conventional visitor was certain to feel very shruggish at first sight of the terms on which the marquis was with 'persons of that sort'.

Shrukke, obs. form of SHRUG.

Shrunk (ʃrʌŋk), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHRINK *v.*]

1. Contracted or reduced in size; drawn together into a smaller compass; † reduced in power, means, or the like. Also with *together, up, away.*

a. in predicative use.

1530 PALSGR. 705/2 My leather purse is shronke. 1540 — *Acolastus* II. I. H ij, My bely or panche is all wasted quyte vp or shronke to gether. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 291 Vomiting till his intrailes were all shrunke and broken. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. ii. 68 Timon is shrunke indeede. 1663 STAPYLTON *Slighted Maid* Prol., Men are shrunk in Brain as well as Stature. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 68 Sedums..when to all appearance shrunk and shrivel'd up. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxviii, My dominions ..are somewhat shrunk in compass. 1827 — *Chron. Canongate* iii, The wood paneling was shrunk and warped. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 245 The brain..is generally somewhat shrunk.

b. in attributive use. Now somewhat *rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i 104 In this borrowed likenesse of shrunke death Thou shalt continue two and forty houres. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1455 Her blew bloud chang'd to blacke in euerie vaine, Wanting the spring, that those shrunke pipes had fed. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 161 His shrunke shanke. 1609 B. JONSON *Masque* Wks. (1616) 955 As low as lies Old shrunk-vp Chaos. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* IV. iv, To stretch my shruncke up sinnewes at an ore. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 185 The withered or shrunk Barberries. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 392 The flaccid, shrunk, And wither'd muscle. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 71/2 She was of shrunk growth, if not positively deformed. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xv. (1856) 149 Till his shrunk face was as quiet on the pillow as if he'd been really at home the first night after a voyage. 1907 G. F. SCOTT ELLIOT *Rom. Plant Life* xv. 196 The 'shrunk' or folded condition of the leaflets.

2. Of cloth: That has been subjected to the process of 'shrinking'.

1895 *Stores Price List*, White Flannels...Cream Tennis, Twill (Shrunk).

3. Fitted *on* by the process of shrinking.

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 4/2 Eight cylinders, arranged V-fashion, with shrunk-on brass water-jackets.

Shrunken (ʃrʊ·ŋkn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHRINK *v.*] = SHRUNK *ppl. a.* **1.**

a. in predicative use.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vi. 6 Hond his ðiu suiðra ȝescruncan *manus eius dextra arida.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Hire Lippes schrunken ben for age. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xxiii. (1495) 617 Synewes that ben shronken wyth the Crampe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 43 This dede man of whom the skyn was scorched, the flessh rosted, the senewes shronken. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* iii. 290 My bones are so bruised, my sinewes are so shrunken. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Lucius Davoren* i, Very shrunken are the stores which Lucius Davoren guards. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 785 The liver shrunken and indurated. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxx, The mamma was shrunken and shrivelled.

b. in attributive use.

c 1400 *Ragman Roll* ix. in Wright *Anecd. Lit.* 84 Your shrunkyn lyppis and your gowuldyn tethe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 20 The..shrunken synewes of her chosen knight. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 500 If there were taken out of Mens Mindes, Vaine Opinions, Flattering Hopes..it would leaue the Mindes, of a Number of Men, poore shrunken Things. *Ibid., Boldness* 519 That puts his Face, into a most Shruncken, and woodden Posture. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* II. 210 Pale and shrunken cheeks. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. v, The baking-dish was served up..on a shrunken cloth at an end of the dining-table. 1860 *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* I. s.v. *Antioch*, Modern Antakia is a shrunken and miserable place. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. iv, He had rather a shrunken appearance. 1879 — *Theo. Such* xvi. 281 The shrunken meaning that popular or polite speech assigns to 'morality'.

Shryffe, Shryve, obs. ff. SHERIFF, SHRIVE.

Shshsh. An extended SH!

Hence **Shshshing** *vbl. sb.*

1848 [see SH]. 1873 H. E. P. SPOFFORD *Pilot's Wife* in *Casquet Lit.* IV. 13/2 She and the nurse made such a racket between them, with their shshshing and trotting and patting and stirring and tipping.

Shu, variant of SHE, SHOO.

‖ **Shuba** (ʃū·bă). Also shooba; anglicized **shube** (6 shoube, 6–7 shub, 8 shoobe, 9 schub, shoub). [Russian шуба.] A fur gown or great-coat. † Also, a piece of fur.

1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 234 Two shubs or gowns of white armmens. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 54 Their shoubes or gownes are hayrie on the outside, and open behinde, with tailes hanging downe to their hammes. 1656 *Act Commw.* c. 20 Rates (1658) 466 Furs called..Calaber, Shubs of Calaber, the piece or Shub 02 00 00. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VI. lxxxiii. 380 A full great coat lined with fur [*Note*, The Russians call it a shoobe.] 1814 LADY LYTTELTON in *Corr.* (1912) 181 Dress, a quadruple shawl and fur shuba over it. 1825 VISCT. STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE in *Life* (1888) I. 358 A panoply of bearskin, a *schub* of grand dimensions. 1849 MRS. ATKINSON *Tartar Steppes* viii. (1863) 177 During the greatest heat they wore horse-skin shubes. 1904 WHISHAW *Tiger of Muscovy* xxviii, Amy stood dressed in her fur shooba.

Shubrach, variant of SHABRACQUE.

Shuch: see SHEUGH, SUCH.

Shuck, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 scucca, sceocca, 3 s(c)ucke, schucke, shuke. [OE. *scucca*, perhaps f. root *skuh-* to terrify (cf. SHY).]

†1. A devil, fiend. *Obs.*

Beowulf 939 (Gr.) þæt hie widferhð leoda landgeweorc

laþum beweredon scuccum and scinnum. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 6 Ða wyrd he þonne wyrcð..ðurh þara scuccena mislice lotwrencas. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 10 Ða cwæð se hælend to him, gang þu sceocca on-bæc. *c* 1205 LAY. 6838 Swa vuele he luuede his lif þat þe scucke hine i-fenge. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 56 Ant tu þat schucke art schucken [*v.r.* shuken] herien ant heien. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 59 þen lahe vnwiht, þe hellene schucke.

2. *dial.* A spectre hound.

1850 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. I. 468 Shuck the Dog-fiend. This phantom I have heard many persons in East Norfolk.. describe as having seen as a black shaggy dog, with fiery eyes. 1893 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 4/7 Mr. F. A. Paley was not uneducated..yet he saw Shuck!

Shuck (ʃʊk), *sb.*[2] Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* Also **shock.** [Origin unknown.]

1. A husk, pod, or shell; *esp.* the outer covering or strippings of Indian corn, chestnuts, hickory nuts, etc. See CORN-SHUCK.

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 A *Shuck*: an husk or shell; as Bean-shucks, Bean-shells, per Anagramatismum τοῦ *Husk* forte. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 21 The Shucks of Almonds dried and beaten to Powder. 1811 *Mass. Spy* 12 June 4/3 The straw and the shucks, after the stacks are in, will bestow a cover on them impenetrable to drought. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* vii, Looking about as digestible as ..a chesnut shuck. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 45 Shucks are very much prized at the South as fodder for cattle. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* 55 Ill-fitting as the shuck on a dried cob.

b. A fruit skin.

1872 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VII. 840 Three hundred thousand bees and wasps Found her [*sc.* a fig] out, feasted on her to the shuck.

c. The shell of an oyster or clam.

1881 INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industry* 248.

d. The shell-like covering of some larvæ.

1886 *Field* 23 Jan. 104/1 To secure the swiftly darting larvæ..before emerging from the 'shuck'.

2. As a type of something valueless.

a. *gen.* b. in negative phr., esp. in *not worth shucks* = good for nothing. c. A mean or contemptible person. d. (See quot.)

a 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* III. iii. 36 They'd whip us to shucks on the parairer [= prairie]. 1859 BERCHER *Life Thoughts* Ser. II. 120 They [*sc.* infidels] shake and rend His truths until they think that they have destroyed them, but they have only cleared them of the shuck. 1890 *Nature* 20 Feb. 376 That record—a mere dry shuck, emptied of nearly all that makes natural history delightful. 1897 *Century Mag.* Aug. 591 That's the biggest shuck and the littlest nubbin I ever did see.

b. 1847 ROBB *Squatter Life* 135 He ain't wuth shucks, and ef you don't lick him fur his onmannerly note, you ain't wuth shucks, nuther. 1868 *All Year Round* 10 Oct. 431 As for your being a furrener, it don't matter shucks. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 174/2 We couldn't parly-voo worth shucks. 1910 CHURCHILL *Mod. Chron.* III. x, It don't amount to shucks, as we used to say in Missouri.

c. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iii. 206 Fer such mean shucks ez creditors are all on Lincoln's side. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, A regular old shuck.

d. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 47 During the Civil War,..the original Blue Backs of the Confederacy.. soon became known as Shucks, a name sufficiently significant of their evil repute as a circulating medium.

3. *pl.* as an interj. of contempt or indifference.

1885 'M. TWAIN' in *Century Mag.* Feb. 557/2 'We can spare it'. 'Oh, shucks, yes, we can spare it'. 1906 GUNTER *Prince in Garret* ix. 220 'Shucks, I know girls better than you do', was the ex-schoolmistress's reply.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse-Shoe Robinson* xl, A shuck-bed was spread for the lady. 1860 *Knickerbocker Mag.* June 613 We..enjoyed in common our shuck-mattress and scanty quilts. 1885 'M. TWAIN' in *Century Mag.* Feb. 547/2 There's always cobs around about in a shuck tick, and they poke into you. 1887 EGGLESTON *Graysons* ix, There were some shuck-bottom chairs, and a splint-bottom rocking-chair. 1888 *Ibid.* xxxi, He drew up another shuck-bottomed chair.

Shuck, *v.*[1] [Of obscure origin. Cf. the dial. *shuck*, to shiver, also to shirk (work).] *intr.* To shrink, draw back, hesitate.

1620 JER. DYKE *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 351 It was Gods price then; and they shukt not at it. *Ibid.*, Those be the shuckings of earthly hearts. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xvii. 26 To shew his prompt and present obedience, without shucking and hucking, without delays and consults. 1684 BUNYAN *Seas. Counsel* To Rdr. A 6 Those bitter pills, at which we so whinch and shuck. *a* 1688 — *Saints' Knowl.* Wks. 1853 II. 11 Usually in these [afflictions], though they make us shuck whenever they come upon us, blessing coucheth.

Shuck, *v.*[2] *U.S.* Also **shock.** [f. SHUCK *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To remove the shucks from (corn, etc.).

1819 W. FAUX *Mem. Days* (1823) 211 My host had a large party..assembled to effect a corn shucking, something like an English hawkey, or harvest home. Corn shucking means plucking the ears of Indian corn from the stalk. 1881 INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industry* (Fish. Industr. U.S.) 248 *Shuck*, to open or 'shuck' clams or oysters. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* V. II. 553 The average price paid for shucking raw oysters is 15 cents a gallon. 1888 EGGLESTON *Graysons* xxx, To shuck out..eight or ten ears of corn.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. To remove, throw or strip *off*, get rid of.

1848 MAJOR JONES *Sk. Travel* 178 After shuckin out the passengers and baggage,..they tuck us down a steep hill to the steambote. 1856 *Yale Lit. Mag.* XXI. 144 The cussed fever and ague had jist shucked his meat clean off. *a* 1860 A. B. LONGSTREET *Southern Sk.* 31 (Bartlett), He'd shuck off his coat to fight. 1891 *Century Mag.* Nov. 62 They have never shucked their boyhood.

b. *refl.* and *intr.* To slip *out of* one's clothes; to strip oneself.

1848 MAJOR JONES *Sk. Travel* 117, I shucked out of my old clothes. 1897 R. M. JOHNSTON *Old Times* in *Middle Georgia* 37 Sam..shucked hisself out his workin'-clothes.

Hence **Shucked** *ppl. a.*; **Shu·cker,** one who shucks oysters or clams; **Shu·cking** *vbl. sb.* (see sense 1 above).

1886 *Appleton's Ann. Cycl.* 524/2 To fix the standard of measurement of shucked oysters in the State. 1887 GOODE, etc. *Fish. Industr. U.S.* V. II. 553 Estimating the average amount made by the shuckers at $6 a week.

Shuck, dial. form of SHOCK *sb.*[1]

Shucker, obs. form of SUCKER.

†Shu·ckle, *v. Obs.* [app. by-form of CHUCKLE *v.*] *intr.* To chuckle; also, to cluck.

1598 FLORIO, *Colleppolarsi d'allegrezza*, to shuckle, to chuck or rouze ones selfe to gladnes and mirth. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* V. 63 Would but my little Partridge call, methinks I could so shuckle, and run, and Bill, and clap my Wings about her. Hah!

Shud. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (E. Angl., Yorks., Derbs., Heref.) Also 5 **schudde,** 9 **shod.** [Late ME. *schudde*, of obscure origin.

A Teut. root **skeud-*: **skaud-*: **skud-* with the sense 'to cover' seems to be evidenced by LG. *schode*, G. *schote* pod, Eng. dial. SHOOD, ON. *skauðir* pl. (Norw. *skaud*), MLG. *schôde*, horse's sheath, ON. *skjóða* bag, purse, and perh. MLG., MDu. *beskudden* to protect.]

A shed.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449/1 Schudde, hovel, or swyne kote, or howse of sympyl hyllynge to kepe yn beestys, *catabulum*. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 175 Let not..the thatched shuds be neater built then your tiled houses. 1688 *Holmesfield Crt. Rolls* in Addy *Sheff. Gloss.* s.v., A shud near to the said barn. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Shud*, shed. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Shod*, *Shud*, a shed.

Shud, obs. form of SHOOD, husk of oats.

Shudder (ʃʌ·dəɹ), *sb.* [f. SHUDDER *v.*]

1. An act of shuddering; a convulsive tremor of the body occasioned by fear, repugnance, or chill.

Phr. *To give one the shudders.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 137, I know you'l sweare, terribly sweare Into strong shudders, and to heauenly Agues Th' immortall Gods that heare you.

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* vi, An aguish shudder. 1841 DALLAS *Past. Superint.* 212 [She] said..before I spoke of the Communion, that seeing it last Sunday, 'gave her the shudders'. 1851 LONGF. *Golden Leg.* iv. *Neighboring Nunnery*, Through all my limbs a shudder ran. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* xii. 302 The first sensation of fear, or the imagination of something dreadful, commonly excites a shudder. 1908 *Sat. Rev.* 13 June 750/2 They solemnly adjure the author not to waste..talent..on giving us the shudders.

2. A tremulous or vibratory movement; a quiver.

1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. i. 15 The soft and rapid shudder of her breath In talking.

Shudder (ʃʌ·dəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4 **shodder,** 5 **shodur, shuder, shoter, shadyr** (?), 5–6 **shoder,** 6– **shudder.** [ME. *shod(d)re*, cognate with MLG. *schôderen*, also *schaderen* (LG. *schuddern*, whence mod.G. *schaudern*), MDu. *schûderen*, frequentative formation (see -ER[5]) on the root *skûd-* to shake.

To this root belong also (1) MLG., LG. *schudden* (whence app. MSw., Sw. *skudda*, and NFris. *skorre* for **skodde*), (2) OFris. *schedda* (WFris. *skodzje*, NFris. *skôddi*), OHG. *scultan*, *scut(t)en* (MHG. *schût(t)en*, G. *schütten*, whence mod.G. frequent. *schüttern*), (3) LG. *schuddeln*, OHG. *scutilôn* (MHG. *schütteln*, G. *schütteln*), (4) OHG. *scutisôn* to shudder, *scutisôd* 'trepidatio'.]

1. *intr.* To have a convulsive tremor of the body caused by fear, abhorrence, or cold; hence, to tremble with horror or dread.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 For doute leste he valle he shoddreth ant shereth. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 158 We xulde shadyr for no shoure. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 98, I shoterd and shoke I herd sich a rerd. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 68 Thus eche of other blother The tone agayng the tother: Alas, they make me shoder! 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* x. 4 The poore Heards..Shuddred with keennes of the winters cold. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, Thou wrapt in furres, beaking thy lymbs 'fore fiers Forbidst the frozen Zone to shudder. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Theod. & Hon.* 312 With Horror shuddring, on a heap they run. 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 13 Feb., I shuddered, and drew involuntarily back, when..I saw Mr. Burke. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxxi, He..mark'd him shudder at the sword. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, Only two or three domestics shuddered in the bleak old servants' hall. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Env.* (1894) ii. 41 The masses of ice and snow..make him openly shudder. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* ii, I have seen you look surprised when I have started and shuddered at trifles.

b. *transf.*

1769 *Junius Lett.* xxix. 132 There are still some facts in store at which human nature would shudder. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. ii, Her gentle heart, shuddering as it did with horror at his premeditated cruelty. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, My mind shudders when I think of her awful, awful situation.

c. With *away*, *up*: To shrink *from*.

1668 DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* v. i, As children..First try the water with their tender feet; Then, shuddering up with cold, step back again. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xviii, She shuddered up from contemplating it. 1855 — *North & S.* xxv, She shuddered away from the threat of his enduring love. 1893 MARY E. MANN *In Summer Shade* x, Mentally shuddering away from the picture he had called up.

d. const. inf.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 249 A midnight, nature shudder'd to behold. 1777 TOPLADY *Hymn*, '*Deathless Principle*' v, Shudder not to pass the stream. 1861 MEREDITH *Phantasy* xxix. Poet. Wks. (1912) 116 Already I shuddered to feel the wave, As I kept sinking slowly.

2. *nonce-uses.* a. To go *out* with a shudder.

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. xiii, The roses had shuddered out of her cheeks.

b. *trans.* To shake *off* with a shudder.

1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* cv, Lo! how she shudders off the beaded wave.

3. *intr.* To move tremulously, vibrate, quiver.

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv, Still catching the fierce rush of the gale..which steadied her though she shuddered to it. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 276 My pulse Would shudder along the purple-veined wrist Like a shot bird. 1869 FARRAR *Families of Speech* I. 25 The full dawn of which the earliest beams had shuddered through the darkness some years before.

4. *trans.* To cause to shudder. *nonce-use.*

c 1801–3 W. BLAKE *Auguries Innoc.* 8 A robin redbreast in a cage Puts all Heaven in a rage. A dove-house fill'd with doves and pigeons Shudders Hell thro' all its regions.

†5. *intr.* and *trans.* To scatter. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* IV. 1335 All shodurt as shepe, shont of his way. *Ibid.* 3706 The shippis with shire wynd shodert in twyn. *Ibid.* 6581 He..Shent of þo shalkes, shudrit hom itwyn.

Shu·dderful, *a.* [f. SHUDDER *sb.* + -FUL.] Causing shudders. Hence **Shu·dderfully** *adv.*

1872 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1911) I. 44 She cries out—O so shudderfully. 1901 *League Jrnl.* 16 July 465 A sharp and shudderful contrast.

Shu·ddering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUDDER *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb SHUDDER.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. xc, A shuddering [*v.r.* shoughtur-yng] a flusshing, & affray He [*sc.* the peacock] maketh thenne. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. A ij b, A shuddryng throughe her stracke. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 630/1 With universal shudd'ring, and dismay. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 288 They have intervals of shuddering, as if they were in a strong fit of the ague. 1812 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. 205 The..event..I never even yet recollect without an inward shuddering. 1888 *Athenæum* 20 Oct. 516/1 Strong shudderings and revulsions.

Shu·ddering, *ppl. a.* [f. SHUDDER *v.* + -ING[2].]

1. That shudders; trembling with cold, fear, or abhorrence; quivering, vibrating.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 110 And shuddring feare, and greene-eyed iealousie. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 30 The shuddering morne that flakes, With silver tinctur, the east vierge of heaven. 1742 W. COLLINS *Ode Fear* 53 With shudd'ring meek submitted thought. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 65 The shudd'ring tenant of the frigid zone. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. IV. vii, In the shuddering dawn. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* V, The massive turret shudders with the shuddering rocks on which it rests. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* XXVIII, A light laugh woke a shuddering echo along the fretted roof.

2. Characterized or accompanied by shuddering.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. vi. (1589) 20 Saue howlings out and shuddering feare came nought to eare or sight. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXVI, Pointing with a shuddering emotion to Annette. 1797 — *Italian* II, A shuddering presentiment. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* I. III, I have a shuddering sense of what there is inside. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 6 May 567/1 To leave on the hearer an impression of shuddering disgust. 1893 W. H. HUDSON *Idle Days Patag.* I. 2 Strange grating and grinding noises, and shuddering motions of the ship.

b. Causing one to shudder. *rare.*

1848 LADY LYTTELTON in *Corr.* (1912) 384 The notion of his being actually put to death..is shuddering!

Shu·dderingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a shuddering manner; with a shudder or shudders.

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* F 3 The..Mariner, that talks quakingly and shudderingly of a storme that hee hath newly toyld through. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* VII, Vivaldi shudderingly turned to look on it again. 1823 MISS EDGEWORTH in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 179 *note*, The touch of insanity in the brother's character in the last shuddering fine scene. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* XXIX. (1862) 414 She would most shudderingly contemplate that beloved form made a spectacle to strangers.

Shu·ddersome, *a.* [f. SHUDDER + -SOME.] Causing a shudder.

1893 *Strand Mag.* VI. 694 Below the nose a pale, ghastly, half-open mouth. It was shuddersome. 1893 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Dec. 11/2 There is something ghastly, something shuddersome about the little piece.

Shu·ddery, *a.* [f. SHUDDER + -Y.] Characterized by or causing shuddering; 'creepy'.

1863 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 450 My health is shuddery—nine-tenths mental too. 1880 *World* 9 June, Wilkie Collins grows..more spectral and shuddery.

Hence **Shu·ddериness.**

1874 R. H. HUTTON *Crit. Contemp. Th.* (1894) I. 68 The dreary hopelessness and shudderiness,..if I may coin a word, of the mood depicted.

Shuddery, Shudra: see SUDRA, an Indian caste. **Shude:** see SHOOD. **Shuder,** var. SUDDER.

Shue, shoo, *v. Sc.* [See SHOVE *v.*, etym. note.] *intr.* To swing, play at see-saw. Hence **Shue** *sb.*, a swing, see-saw. Cf. SHUGGIE-SHUE.

1808 in JAMIESON. 1890, etc. (see Eng. Dial. Dict.).

Shue, obs. f. SHOO, SUE *v.* **Shuf,** obs. f. SHOVE *v.* **Shufe,** obs. pa. t. of SHAVE *v.*

Shuff (ʃʊf), *sb.* An inferior class of brick.

1843 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 349/2 The principal varieties of bricks were called 'malm paviors', 'stocks', 'grizzles', 'places', and 'shuffs'. 1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 192 The shuffs were sold for an inferior price governed by their quality, as they were frequently quite rotten.

Shuff, *a. dial.* (see Eng. Dial. Dict.). [dial. var. of SHY *a.*] Shy.

1688 BUNYAN *Christ as Adv.* Wks. 1852 I. 173, I am dull and stupid that way; will not Christ be shuff and shy with me because of this?

Shuff, obs. form of SHOVE *v.*

Shuffle (ʃʊ·f'l), *sb.* [f. SHUFFLE *v.*]

†**1.** A shifting from one place to another; an interchange of positions. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 100 The very life and soul of motion is shuffle or sawing. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* i. 27 The unguided agitation and rude shuffles of Matter.

2. A tricky exchange or alternation (of arguments, expedients, etc.).

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 185 With a slye shuffle of counterfeit principles chopping and changing till he haue glean'd all the good ones of their minds. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* viii. 215 Life becomes a mere shuffle of expedients.

3. An evasive trick, evasion, subterfuge.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. ii. 4 All the vnwelcome Shuffles that the poore rude World puts on him. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. iv. § 5 A man that is unwilling to admit of anything supernatural would please himself with this general shuffle and put-off. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 46 Adam's first reason or shuffle was that he heard Gods voice. 1737 WATERLAND *Eucharist* 85 Socinus's pretended Reasons ..were mere shuffle and pretence. 1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 316 So as to leave no room for shuffle or evasion. 1861 S. BROOKS *Silver Cord* xli. (1865) 225 That seems a shuffle. You can say where the documents are, if you please to do so. 1893 M. PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* 201 You'll answer it now, yes or no, plain word and no shuffle.

4. Movement of the feet along the ground without lifting them; a gait characterized by such movement.

1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & Bks.* I. iv. 62 The bear.. dancing him from side to side in its heavy shuffle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 533 His gait distinguished from that of other men by a peculiar shuffle. 1862 *Lil'ywhite's Cricket Scores & Biogr.* I. 436 In delivering the ball he neither ran nor walked up to the crease, but advanced with a sort of 'shuffle'. 1865 G. R. SIMS *Ring o' Bells*, etc. 10 The shuffle of little tired feet along the passage.

5. A dance of a rude kind, in which the feet are shuffled along the floor. *Double shuffle*: one in which two movements of the same kind are made by each foot alternately.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. xviii. 321 The rude shuffles and dancings of the Cretick Corybantes. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleyyow* x, He would warm himself with the double-shuffle. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, They all turned-to and had a regular sailor's shuffle till eight bells. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Single shuffle, double shuffle, cut and cross-cut. 1894 E. SCOTT *Dancing* 84 The hornpipe step, familiarly known as the double-shuffle.

6. The act of shuffling playing-cards; also *elliptical* (a player's) turn to shuffle.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xi. 48 Nor any such hope to mend an ill game, as by causing a new shuffle. 1728 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 195 The deal, the shuffle, and the cut. 1894 MRS. F. ELLIOT *Roman Gossip* v. 162 The next shuffle of the cards finds him leading a hermit's life. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 140 To allow a certain number of cards to remain undisturbed is a comparatively simple matter in any shuffle.

Shuffle (ʃʊ·f'l), *v.* Forms: 6 **shoofle, shooffell, shuffil, -ell, shoffle,** 6–7 **shuffel,** 6–8 **shufle,** 7 **shoffel,** 6- **shuffle.** [Early modern Eng.; 16th c. *shoofle, shoffle, shufle,* etc., ad. or cogn. w. LG. *schüffeln,* also *schuffeln* to walk clumsily or with dragging feet, mix (corn), shuffle (cards), deal dishonestly, play unfairly; frequent. f. Teut. root **skuf-* (*skuð-*) to SHOVE. (Cf. SCUFFLE and SHOVEL *v.*2]

1. *intr.* To move the feet along the ground without lifting them, so as to make a scraping noise; to walk with such a motion of the feet; to go with clumsy steps or a shambling gait. Also said of the feet. Often with advs.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* B 4 b, Both of them goe a good seemely pace, not stumbling, shuffling. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 59 Another, his [arms] had shackled by the feete; Who like a Cripple shuffled on the ground. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 300 The Bear..shuffling along at a strange Rate. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xviii. (1791) II. 104 He came shuffling into the room with his boots on. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xiii, An old brown pony..Who shuffled onward, and from side to side. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, In making his bow, one foot shuffled forward..the other backward. 1827 — *Jrnl.* 5 Jan., I can now shuffle about and help myself to what I want. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. Introd., Shuffling backwards out of doors in the presence of the sovereign. 1902 R. BAGOT *Donna Diana* v. 43 The electric bell..rang...The servants shuffled to their feet and went to answer it.

transf. 1576 R. PETERSON *Galateo* (1892) 80 If a man or woman should..shuffle backwarde vpon their taile. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* ii. (1849) 81 [Plaice] reside wholly upon the bottom [of the sea], shuffling along by waving their flattened bodies, fringed with dorsal and anal fins. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 7 The creature shuffles along..by help of its arms.

b. To move restlessly or fidget in one's seat.

1881 *Durham Univ. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 133 They shuffle on their seats and become impatient. 1895 MERRIMAN *Grey Lady* II. ii, Captain Bontnor shuffled in his seat and likewise in his speech.

c. *trans.* To move (the feet) along the ground or floor without raising them.

1576 R. PETERSON *Galateo* (1892) 17 Some men vse to.. playe the dromme with their fingers, or shoofle their feete. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* I. 356 Men, women, rich and poor.. Shuffled their sandals o'er the pavement white. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* v. 114 Two or three boys and girls shuffled their feet on the matting.

d. To perform (a dance or a dance-step) with a shuffle. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xiii, Bruin..rose up upon his hindlegs, and instantly began to shuffle a saraband. 1833 [SEBA SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* iii. (1835) 38 'Change partners, and shuffle the next'; and so they chang'd, and shuffled and changed. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' *Lays of Ind* (1876) 5 Girls..who shuffled and beat A strange time with their feet.

2. To manipulate (the cards in a pack) so as to change their relative position, with the object of preventing the players from knowing the order in which the cards lie. Formerly freq. in allusive use, *to shuffle the cards* = to manipulate matters.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 184/17 To shuffle cardes, *confundere.* 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* G viij b, Al was but a new practise whereby to shuffle the cardes as we say, and so to heape one discord vpon another. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 69 Goe to, shooffell the cardes verie well. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* M 3 They fell to dansing..; in a trice so they shuffled the cards of purpose..that..he must tread the measures about with the foulest..fury that might be. 1638 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 5) III. iii. I. ii, They turned up trumpe, before the Cards were shufled. 1643 *Plain English* 17 [They] had shuffled their cards so cunningly as to be out of the reach of law. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 50 P 11 He is now shuffling the Cards, and dealing to Timothy. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* II. 235 We sure in vain the cards condemn: Ourselves both cut and shuffled them. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 474 To deal and shuffle, to divide and sort, Her mingled suits and sequences. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iv, Let us see if, at sixteen, we cannot shuffle cards, and play tricks with the gamester of thirty. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 139 The cards are..in their original positions, although they appear to have been perfectly shuffled.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*, freq. allusively, esp. in phr. *shuffle and cut.*

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* C iiij (1844) 27 Weele make you deale, shuffle as well as you can we meane to cut it. 1592 MARLOWE *Mass. Paris* I. ii, Since thou hast all the Cardes within thy hands To shuffle or cut, take this as surest thing: That..thou deale thy selfe a King. 1602 HEYWOOD *Woman killed w. Kindn.* III. ii, Shuffle, Ile cut; would I had neuer dealt. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 58 The Dealer shuffles, and the other cuts. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* II. i, Since we have shuffled and cut, let's e'en turn up trump now. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 93 He..shuffles and cuts with every one who has to do with him. 1748 WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 26 Dec., A little astonished at seeing the Count shuffle with the faces of the cards upwards. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* x, They draw, they sit, they shuffle, cut and deal. 1862 'CAVENDISH' *Whist* (1879) 6 The dealer has always the right to shuffle last. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. iii. 167 The princes..at the faro-table of Vienna shuffled and cut for the destinies of the world.

Proverb. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xxiii. 160 O Cousin, I say, Patience and Shuffle. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 141 And cut the fiercest quarrels short With—'Patience, gentlemen—and shuffle!'

c. *trans.* To produce or put *in* (a card or a certain succession of cards) in shuffling. Chiefly *fig.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* F ij b, The fault..was..in her mother, which in shuffling the cards shufled in a knaue too many. 1594 ? GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 251 Vnlesse I shuffle out my selfe a king. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 40 Your creatures were shuffled among all the knaves in the packe. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 425 Shuffling and cutting ones selfe a Fortune in this scambling World. *Mod.* I will try and shuffle myself a good hand this time.

3. To push along, about, or together in a disorderly mass or heap, or in a manner suggesting the shuffling of feet.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* xxiv, He shuffels vp a quayntitye of strawe..into some pretye carner of the barne where she maye conueniently lye. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1065/1 They..strewed againe the rushes that were shuffled with strugling. 1616 *Rich Cabinet* A a 2 To beginne another discourse when a man is telling a story..is as if you should shuffle stones against him which goeth [=walks]. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. (1723) 279 The Sea, by this Access and Recess, shuffling the empty Shells. 1725 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* III. 133 They Wash Cloaths, shufling, shifting of it. 1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.* 63 He then lets the further side rest upon the table, and shuffles the sheets gradually away from him.

4. To put or throw *together* in one mass indiscriminately, incongruously, or without order; to huddle or jumble together.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 127/45 To Shuffil, *confundere.* 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 32r The enemies rankes were broken, and for feare so shuffled together, that [etc.]. 1629 H. BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 1 Comparing my arguments to scroles shufled together in a lottery pott. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 268 They..eat upon the ground, sometimes shuffling flesh, and fish, and fruits together all into the same dish. 1685 SOUTH *Serm.* Prov. xvi. 33 (1727) I. 297 When Lots are shuffled in a Lap, Urn, or Pitcher. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xx. 269 Your shoes shuffled by a rascally servant into the general heap. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 66 The..granite blocks are.. mingled together and piled on one another..as if shuffled by some giant. 1899 J. G. FRAZER *Orig. Totemism* ii, The various clans..do not live isolated from each other, but are shuffled up together within a narrow area.

b. With immaterial obj.

1634 HEYWOOD *Lanc. Witches* III. Wks. 1874 IV. 211 Was there ever such a medley of mirth, madnesse, and drunkennesse, shuffled together? 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Distance* iv, Hearts by Love, strangely shuffled are, That there can never meet a Pare! 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 272 Eusebius's Histories are so shuffled and interpolated, and so disjointed from his Tables. *a* 1732 ATTERBURY (J.). He has shuffled the two ends of the sentence togeth-r. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Rejoicings New Year,* Good Days, bad Days so shuffled together. 1830 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ.* (1860) II. 20 Let us now shuffle the censuses of England and France together.

c. To mingle or join indiscriminately *with* or *among* others.

1593 KYD *Let. Sir J. Puckering* Wks. (1901) p. cviii, Some fragments of a disputation..affirmd by Marlowe to be his, and shufled w^th^ some of myne. 1648 WINYARD *Mids.-Moon* 2 Shuffle him with the rest oth' visitors. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* (1669) 282 With so little observance or order, that..the servants were shuffled in among their Masters. 1713 *Guardian* No. 108. 104, I..should not have minded them had they been still shuffled among the crowd. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 708 The pang of seeing worth.. soon shuffled in the dark With ev'ry vice.

5. To bring *in* in a deceitful, tricky, or surreptitious manner; to smuggle (a thing) *in* or *into* (something else); to thrust *in* somehow or other.

1565 JEWEL *Replie Harding* (1611) 201 Quite altering the words that hee found, and shuffling in, and interlacing other words of his owne. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 10 The wicked..labour..to shuffle in suspition amongst those that are free from thought thereof. 1610 T. ROBINSON *Justif. Separat.* Wks. 1851 II. 490 A bundle of corn shuffled into a field of weeds..cannot make the field a corn-field. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xiii. 150 Coates [of arms] sometimes are by stealth purchased, shuffled into Records and Monuments, by Painters. 1736 WATTS *Logic* III. iv. § 3 Nor..cheat your Understanding by changing the Question, or shuffling in any thing else in its Room. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* II. 35 He acknowledged that he had shuffled in this letter among other papers which he laid before the king to be signed.

†**b.** To remove, put *aside* or *away* in a hurried, secret, or underhand manner. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. vi. 29 Her Mother..hath appointed That he shall likewise shuffle her away. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Ep., Then was it good time for them to come in play, and..to shuffle all others, who had managed the Game whilst it was hazardous. 1649 *Bounds & Bonds Obed.* 40 We know..how Joseph was shuffled away by his owne friends and kindred. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 18 A maid servant, who..was on a sudden shuffled out of the said house. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Univ. Gallant* II. i, It seems, he is not proper company for me, or you would not have shuffled him away yesterday.

c. To bring, put, or thrust *into* or *out of* a position or condition in a haphazard, underhand, or shirking manner, or by rough-and-ready means.

1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* v. i, A spruce Captain, newly crept out of a Gentleman Vsher, and shufled into a Buffe Iurkin with gold Lace. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* v. (1661) 95 By Slight of hand..to shuffle this Canon out of the Acts of the Councel. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 4 That all the Bodies of the first Animals and Plants were shuffled into their several Forms..fortuitously. 1729 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* 267 Thus was he shuffled into your father's Employment. 1810 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch.* III. 83 Nothing can shuffle out the covenant of grace, but a secret conversing with a covenant of works. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 27 Oct., Calais..might..have been shuffled out of our hands during the Civil wars. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii. (1847) 92 She shuffled away the subject of poor dear Somersetshire, and bounded onward into loftier spheres of thought. 1860 TRENCH *Serm.* xxi. 247 He that shuns and shirks the task of his life, shuffles it from him. *c* 1860 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democracy* (1879) 43 To treat them as if they had been shuffled into their places by a lucky accident.

d. *To shuffle off*: to get rid of or evade (something difficult, arduous, or irksome) in a perfunctory or unsatisfactory manner; to dispose of evasively; to shirk (a duty or obligation).

In mod. use freq. in echoes of Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 67.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 16 And euer oft good turnes, Are shuffel'd off with such vncurrant pay. 1602 — *Ham* III. i. 67 When we have shuffel'd [*sic*] off this mortall coile. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 38 Men shuffle them [*sc.* judgements] off thus. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. iv. § 4 Though he would shuffle off the trouble of apprehending an Infinite Deity. 1784 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xii. (1876) 42 To evade and shuffle off real labour. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* 375 With the full expectation of shuffling off the remnant of existence, after the excellent fashion of that merry Grecian, who died laughing. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* II. (1876) 46 [They] are obliged for propriety's sake to shuffle off the anxious inquiries of the public. 1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* xxii. II. 70 In reality he shuffles off duty. 1890 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Engl. Lit.* 272 A mania which some of his admirers have..endeavoured to shuffle off.

†**e.** *To shuffle up*: to manage in secret; to hush up. *Obs.*

1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. xvi. 581 If it be pronounced at the Bench openly..and not shuffled up in a chamber.. secretly. 1605–24 BRETON *I pray you be not angry* (Grosart) 6/2 The matter cleanly shuffled vp, and shee with sorrow rather to confesse it in secret. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 551 The Spanish Inquisition, which is shuffled vp in corners.

6. *intr.* and *refl.* To get *in, into* or *out of* a position or condition, by some means or other, in an underhand, shifty, or evasive manner.

1565 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* 375 b, In regard of the Rome they haue shuffled them selues into. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 511 Sylla valiantly following on his victory, shuffled in [to the City] among them as they fled. 1780 COWPER *Lett.* 4 Mar., We were concerned at your account of Robert, and have little doubt but he will shuffle himself out of his place. 1826 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. 6, I might enter Sophomore,..but if I should manage to shuffle in I should always be the worst in my class. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 48 He would have contrived to shuffle awkwardly out of wealth and dignities. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 281 He shuffles out of the consequences by vague..charges of undue influence.

b. *To shuffle* †*over, through*: to perform hurriedly or perfunctorily, get through somehow.

1656 BAXTER *Ref. Pastor* Pref. b, If there should be any found..that will shuffle over the work. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxiv. 418 Dost thou shuffle over thy duties as an interruption to thy business and pleasures? 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 219 The service..was shuffled through.. coldly and unfeelingly. 1820 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 20 Dec., If we had but a spokesman or two we should shuffle through the session. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. iv, Tom was gradually allowed to shuffle through his lessons with less vigour.

†c. To make scrambling efforts, scuffle. *Obs.*

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. xcix, Shuffling for your roomes Of ease or honor. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 105 Your life, good Master, Must shuffle for it selfe. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Night-Walker* I, He that shall sit down frighted with that foolery Is not worth pity, let me alone to shuffle.

7. To act in a shifting or evasive manner; to shift one's ground in argument, etc.; to make use of deceitful pretences or shifty answers.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 25, I..am faine to shuffle: to hedge, and to lurch. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 5 So shuffling with the Macedonian and Syrian Kings, that betwixt both they still preserved their own estates. 1668 O. SANSOM in *Acc. Life* (1710) 60 When you should have produced it [a money-account], you shuffled, and shifted it off; pretending a Mistake. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 222 Mr. Milles did not frankly own it, but seem'd to shuffle about it. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 165 To him they shuffled in the same manner, and gave him the like false description of themselves. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. 125 He said and unsaid, sighed, sobbed, beat his breast, shuffled, implored, threatened.

b. So *to shuffle up and down.*

1633 AMES *Fresh Suit* II. 80 Those that are devoted to the Ceremonies may shufle up and downe, first to order, and when they are beaten thence, to Decencie. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* 5 June 1635, The Bishop of Halverstadt and Count Mansfelt shuffled up and down a good while. [1871 JOWETT *Plato* I. 96 He shuffles up and down [στρέφεται ἄνω καὶ κάτω] in order to conceal the difficulty into which he has got himself.]

†**8.** *trans.* To manipulate unfairly. *Obs.*

1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 32 With their wresting and shuffling holie Writ. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 209 If I shuffle any writers wordes, or dazel the Readers eies. 1641 in 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* Pref. a 2 b, This Authour is misalledged...This Councell shuffled up with little fidelitie.

†b. *To shuffle up*: to get or put together hastily or in a perfunctory manner; to patch up. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 357/1 Yet haue I not so slightly sene vnto mine own, nor shoffled it vp so hasteli,.. but that [etc.]. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* B 4 b, Some stitcher..hath shuffled or slubberd vp a few ragged Rimes. 1607 DEKKER *Westw. Hoe* Wks. 1873 III. 295 Like Country Atturnies, wee are to shuffle vp many matters in a forenoone. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Hen. VII*, (1653) 355 To shuffle up a Summary proceeding by examination, without tryall of Jury. 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. iii, A mad match soon shuffled up!

†c. To treat (a matter) in an equivocal fashion.

1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. iv. 59 He shuffeleth the point deceitfully. 1726 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 251 The Moderator shuffled the matter.

9. In immaterial sense: To put (a thing) *off from* one *to* another, or *upon* a person.

1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 168 Their possessions ..being shuffled and changed, and remoued so often from one to another. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* IV. v. 144 Looke how they shuffle the matter, and give it from one hand to another amongst themselves. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CCXXXIII. 203 If any thing Hits, we take it to our Selves, if it Miscarries, we shuffle it off to our Neighbours. 1745 *De Foe's Engl. Tradesm.* II. (1841) I. 18 The warehouseman shuffles them back upon the clothier to lie for his account. 1875 MCLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 125 Is he trying to shuffle off guilt from his own shoulders? 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiii. 189 Those who most agreed in what he had done, were not ashamed to shuffle off upon him their responsibilities. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Temptation* I. 281 I'll shuffle him off upon the governor.

†b. To put (a person) *off* (*with* an excuse, a makeshift). *Obs.*

1659 D. PELL *Impr. Sea* 574 Will any Land-lord bear with his Tennant that shuffels him off from year to year? 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* (1669) 287 Those whom the king had sent to him would not be shuffled off with that answer. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 77 It cannot consist with a gracious heart to shuffle off the great God with slight services.

†c. To cheat (a person) *out of* a thing. *Obs.*

1627 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) III. 150 He would spend his whole estate before he should be shuffled out of his landes. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 4 July, I..had great fears that they will shuffle me out of them [*sc.* houses].

10. *trans.* To shift from one place to another; to move *about* this way and that.

†*Shuffle the slipper*, the game of hunt-the-slipper.

1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 92 Several Houses now standing were shuffled and moved some Yards from their places. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XI. 1166 Apollo..granting half his pray'r, Shuffled in winds the rest, and toss'd in empty air. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 16 Our hero was beaten..at draw-glove and shuffle the slipper. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 320 Yon cottager, who weaves at her own door..Shuffling her threads about the live-long day.

†b. *intr.* To shift *about* hesitatingly. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* 28 Nov. 1635, The French shuffle yet well enough upon the Frontiers of Germany and Lorrain. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 79 The Wind would shuffle about to the Southward again, and fall flat calm.

†c. To pass *into* a succession of conditions. *Obs.*

1635 SHIRLEY *Traitor* ii. D 4 b, The Elements Shuffle into innumerable changes.

11. To put (a thing) *into* a receptacle, put or take (a thing) *on*, *off*, etc. in a clumsy or fumbling manner.

1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 161 By it stands a Boy that shuffles the Fat by degrees into a Bag. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VI. ii, His shoulders shuffle the loose coat off them. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, II. 62 The secretary shuffled the papers hastily under the table cover. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* III. ii, He shuffled off his slippers at the threshold. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iii, When he has shuffled his clothes on. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. lvii. (1878) 319 She could only shuffle her letter back into her pocket.

b. *intr.* To get *into* an article of clothing in a clumsy or fumbling manner.

1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli, Ailward shuffled into his harness. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 112 The inhabitants.. shuffled into their slippers.

c. To fumble. *rare.*

1812 *Examiner* 30 Nov. 767/2 Collingbourn observed the prisoner busily shuffling about his pockets.

12. *Comb.*: **shuffle-breeches** (meaning obscure); **shuffle-cap**, 'a play at which money is shaken in a hat' (J.); **shuffle-wing**, the hedge-sparrow, *Accentor modularis.*

1822 COBBETT *Cottage Econ.* (1823) § 107 The old *shuffle-breeches band of the Quarterly Review. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iii, He lost his Money at Chuck-Farthing, *Shuffle-Cap, and All-Fours. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. x, Even chuck-farthing and shuffle-cap themselves stood gaping till he [the village parson] had got out of sight. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Natur.* 151 The hedge sparrow, or *shufflewing.

Shuffle-board: see SHOVEL-BOARD.

Shu·ffled, *ppl. a.* [f. SHUFFLE *v.* + -ED 1.] Huddled up, jumbled together.

1685 DRYDEN *Alb. & Alb.* II, In shuffled Heaps they hither tend. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Wks.* (1686) 72 No shuffled Atoms did the well built work compose.

Shuffler (ʃʊ·flə). [f. SHUFFLE *v.* + -ER 1.]

†**1.** One who mixes up or jumbles. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Brouilleur*, a..disorderly shuffler, or mingler of things together.

2. One who acts in a shifty or evasive manner; a slippery, shifty person. In first quot. *transf.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 321 If it be..that this first Tithe is euery where stiled by the name of Tithes payed at Ierusalem: your second Tithe, for ought I see, may goe stand by for a shuffler, or it must bee confounded with the first. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 46 See this crafty shuffler how hee can packe this close. 1723 WATERLAND *2nd Vind. Christ's Div.* 157 Unless He were the greatest Prevaricator and Shuffler imaginable. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* (1837) II. 520 Sophocles in private life was a profligate, and in public life a shuffler, and a trimmer. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 5/2 If [he] is not the meanest and most pitiful shuffler who ever stood on a platform.

†**3.** *Cant.* ? A drinker. *Obs.*

1642 *Tom Nash his Ghost* title-p., To the three scurvy Fellowes of the upstart Family of the Snufflers, Ruffelers and Shufflers. 1652 BRATHWAIT *Barnabies Summons*, For all Malaga men, called Vintners, Sack-drawers..Tub-Taysters Snuffers, Ruffelers,..Shufflers,..Suck-spigots, Spewterers.

4. One who shuffles cards.

1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 154 If the sharp is a fine shuffler.

Shu·ffling, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUFFLE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of moving the feet along the ground without lifting them; the dragging and scraping of feet over a surface.

Double-shuffling: the performance of a double shuffle.

1608 DEKKER *Dead Terarme* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 51 What shuffling, what shouldering, what Justling. 1859 DICKENS *Haunted House* VIII. 48 There ensued such toe-and-heeling, and buckle-covering, and double-shuffling. 1869 'LEWIS CARROLL' *Phantasmagoria* 99 Old shuffings on the sanded floor. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* ii, A noise of shuffling and scrambling to their feet on the part of the congregation.

2. The re-arrangement of the cards in a pack.

1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 142 They haue such sleightes in sorting and shuffling of the cardes. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 69 What a shooffling doo you keepe with those cardes? 1659 H. NEVILE (*title*), Shuffling, Cutting, and Dealing, in a Game at Pickquet. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* IV, The cutting and shuffling of Cards. 1840 HOOD *Miss Kilmansegg* 2002 The rattling of dice and the shuffling of cards. 1856 LT. COL. B** *Whist player* (1858) 18 In shuffling, the cards must be above and free from the table.

fig. a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IV. 89 That all the shuffling and cutting of atoms could produce such a divine piece of wisdom as this is.

3. The shifting of a thing about or from one place to another; change of the position (of things) with reference to each other; mixing or jumbling *together.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 135 So that with ease, Or with a little shuffling, you may choose A Sword vnbaited. 1661 BOYLE *Scept. Chym.* II. 162 A new shufling and Disposition of the Component Particles of a body. 1691 RAY *Creation* (1714) 37 The fortuitous shuffling together of its component Materials. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xli. 43 This Shuffling of the Bat in the Paw of the Weazle. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 143/2 After some sidling of the head and shuffling of the wings. 1891 *Athenæum* 8 Aug. 189/3 'Charybdis', the title-piece, seems as if it might have come to its pre-eminence merely by a chance shuffling of the leaves.

b. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing, Shuffling.* This is..part of the process of Knocking-up, when the paper is laid in heaps, after having been taken down from the poles, to make it lie even at the edges.

4. Shifty or evasive dealing or conduct; †*occas.* evasion (*of* something).

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 4 Herein you do but rayse dust with your shuffiyng. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 61 There is no shuffling, there the Action lyes In his true Nature. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 113 There is rather a shuffling of approaching dangers, then preventing them from afarre. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) II. 112 The ambiguity and shuffling of a partial historian. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Poor Relations*, The truth must out without shuffling. 1842 MIALL *Nonconf.* II. 1 That species of shuffling, which goes by the name of expediency. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 375/2 All the rest is shuffling and subterfuge.

Shu·ffling, *ppl. a.* [f. SHUFFLE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. That shuffles in walking; that drags the feet over the ground without lifting them. Hence, of a walk, pace, gait: Consisting of or characterized by a shuffle.

1596 SHAKS 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 135 The forc't gate of a shuffling Nagge. 1609 *Old Meg of Herefordsh.* (1816) 1 The courts of kings for stately measures:..the country for shufling dances. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 45 The hurry of the pursuit will make but a shuffling pace. 1727 SOMERVILE *Happy Disapp.* 57 He knew him by his shuffling pace. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* Introd. (1842) I. 9 A kind of shuffling trot. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii, He was a strong..round-shouldered, shuffling, shaggy fellow. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* ii. 57 A ragged, shuffling tramp on the road.

2. Of persons: Given to shifty or evasive action or behaviour.

1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 94 A shuffling fello, not worthy water for his hier. 1674 *Essex Papers* (1890) I. 182, I find them very backward & shuffling in all their Paym^ts. 1715 ADDISON *Tryal Count Tariff*, The Court found him a false, shuffling, prevaricating rascal. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 12 The mean-spirited, shuffling knave. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th Cent.* II. viii. 439 So timid in danger, and so shuffling in difficulty.

b. Of action, conduct, speech: Evasive, shifty.

1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes' Trial* 29 Colonell Fiennes.., said in a shuffling manner, I confess he was a Governour *de facto*, but not *de jure*. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* V. xvii. 203 They held the Creed in the plain literal sense thereof without any shuffling Allegories. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. x, Though he durst not directly break his appointment, he made many a shuffling excuse. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 171 The shuffling conduct of Barrois. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxi, The wily, ambidexter, shuffling policy of the Emperor. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* iii. (1876) 246 Dick made a shuffling excuse that he could not see her.

3. That shuffles cards.

1777 [T. SWIFT] *Gamblers* II Great Father of the Shuffling Crew! [*margin* Mr. Hoyle].

Shu·fflingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] With a shuffling gait; in a shuffling or evasive manner.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 110 How shufflingly the Doctor behaves himself. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* I. i, Perhaps I may go shufflingly at first; for I was never before walk'd in Trammels. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvi, The honest man had shufflingly declined. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxxiii, Vernon..apologized to him shufflingly.

Shuffy (ʃʊ·fi), *a.* [f. SHUFF + -Y.] Of bricks: Friable from being badly burnt.

1850 DOBSON *Bricks & Tiles* 38 Shuffs. These are unsound and shuffy—that is, full of shakes. 1873 ROBERTSON *Engin. Notes* 33 If the intensity of the heat is intermittent the bricks will be shuffy like piecrust.

†**Shug**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [If not some error, perh. a forced use of *shug* SHOG *v.*] *intr.* ? To force one's way, shove *in.*

1638 DEKKER, etc. *Witch of Edmonton* v. i. (1658) 56, I am for greatness now..; There I'll shug in, and get a noble countenance; Serve some Briarean Footcloth-strider.

Shug, variant of SHOG *v.*

Shu·ggie-shue, *sb. Sc., Ir.* and *north.* Also 7, 9 **shoggie-shou**, **-show**, 9 **shuggy shoe**, **-shew**, **-shoo**, **-shaw**. [Cf. SHOG *v.* and SHUE *sb.* and *v.*] The pastime of swinging; a swing (esp. at a fair), hence *jocularly* the gallows; also a see-saw. Hence **Shuggy-shue** *v. intr.* to sway about. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxii. 96 There he played..at swaggie, waggie or shoggieshou [F. *a la brandelle*]. 1836 W. CARLETON *Fardorougha* xvi, You'd a' got a touch of the *Shuggy Shoe*. *Note* Gallows.

Shuggle, **Shugh**, var. ff. SHOGGLE, SHEUGH.

†**Shugh.** *int. rare*—1. [Cf. SHOO *int.*2] Used as an exclamation of impatience.

1640 BROME *Antipodes* V. v. *Joy.* Shugh, give me leave. *Byp. I* must take charge I see o' th' dagger againe.

Shuin, obs. variant of SEWIN 1.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 187 *Shuins*, seem unto me a kind of Salmon.

Shuite, obs. form of SUIT.

Shulder, **-dre**, **-dur**, obs. forms of SHOULDER.

Shule: see SHOOL *v.*, SHOVEL.

Shulleng(e, obs. forms of SHILLING.

Shu·llock. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In 7 **schullock**, 9 *dial.* **shollock**, **shullock**. [Of obscure origin: cf. dial. *shallock*, *shollock* vb., to idle about, to slouch.] Used as a term of contempt.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 642 M. Calvins great skill..could not without blushing be lacked of such schullockes and skipjackes as you be. 1841 R. W. HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 359 *Shollock.* A very dirty fellow,—bad in look as shabby in appearance.

‖ **Shulwar** (ʃʊlwɑ̄r). Also **shulwaur**. [Pers. شلوار *shalwār*. Cf. SHERRYVALLY, SHERWAL.] *pl.* Persian loose trousers.

1828 J. B. FRASER *Kussilbash* I. xv. 200 His huge shulwars, or riding trowsers..fell in folds over the large red leather boots. 1840 — *Koordistan* II. v. 118 The Sheikh's cloaks and shulwârs.

Shumac, Shuman: see SUMACH, SHAMAN.

Shumerian, variant of SUMERIAN.

Shumsheer, variant of SHAMSHEER.

Shun (ʃʊn), *sb. rare*⁻¹. [f. the verb.] The action of shunning; in phr. *upon the shun.*

1822 SCOTT *Peveril* Pref. Let., Our friend is so much upon the shun..that it must be no light temptation which will withdraw him from his incognito.

Shun (ʃʊn). *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shunned** (ʃʊnd). Forms: *α.* 1 scunian, 3 scunien, schunien, shunen(n, sconien, sonen, sunen, schunen, 3–4 schonen, schonie, 4 shonie, -ye, schonne, schwne, 4–5 shonen, shone, schone, 4–6 shonne, 4–7 shunne, 5–6 shon (6 schune, shonn), 6– shun; *irreg. pa. t.* 7 (once) shan. *β.* 1 -sceonian (in compounds), *north.* (gi)scynia, 3 sceonie, 4 shine, shenye, 5 *pa. t.* shynte. [OE. *scunian* (chiefly in compounds, *á-, onscunian*), a wk. verb not found in the other Teut. langs. Of obscure origin.

If the primary sense was 'to hide oneself (from)', the vb. might be a derivative from the Teut. and Indogermanic root **skeu-* to cover, hide.

The *β* forms are prob. due to the effect of the palatal *sc* on the following vowel.]

†**1.** *trans.* To abhor, detest, loathe. *Obs.*

1023 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 318 Of eallan ðan mannan ðe ðær gehænde beoð mid ane mode wurð he gescunned. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 þat ȝie hatien and scunien, ouer alle þing, ðes awerȝhede senne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2550 Drihhtin shuneþþ alle þa þatt unnclænnesse follȝhenn. *c* 1205 LAY. 14869–72 Mi uader..scunede [*c* 1275 sonede] þene cristindom & þa hæðene lazen luuede..þa we sculleð sceonien [*c* 1275 hatie]. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 229 For vych þing þat schonyeþ riht, hit luuyeþ þuster & hateþ lyht. *Ibid.* 792 Vor mynne crafte men me luuyeþ Vor þine strengþe men þe schunyeþ.

†**2.** To seek safety by concealment or flight from (an enemy, his pursuit, etc.) *Obs.*

a 950 *Guthlac* xix. (Gonser) 159/7 And hine Ceolred se kyning hider and þider wide afiynde, an he his ehtnysse and his hatunge fleah and scunode. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. vi. 44 The Mouse ne're shunn'd the Cat, as they did budge From Rascals worse then they. 1698 W. LISLE *Heliodorus* II. 36 A liuing Greeke from dead Ægyptian ran, And long time that, which could not hurt him, shan.

†**b.** To evade, elude (a blow, missile). *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 317 b, But Amphialus seeing the blow comming, shunned it with nimble turning his horse aside. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 4 [He] lightly shunned it [the stroke]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 810, I forewarn thee, shun His deadly arrow.

3. To avoid (in mod. prose use always to avoid persistently or habitually) from repugnance, fear, or caution; to keep away from (a person or his society, a place, etc.); to avoid encountering or exposing oneself to (dangers, conditions), using or having to do with (a thing); to eschew, abstain carefully from (an action, an indulgence, etc.).

a. with obj. a person, his company, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Al se hwat se he forgulte wes al [animals] hit him ulel [? *read* uleh] and scunede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1864 Þat folkes kin god bad him sunen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6157 (Laud MS.), Aqueyntaunce of alle men hij shoneþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XI. 427 Euery man hym shonyeth. 1393 *Ibid. C.* XIV. 245 Ech man shoneþ hus companye. *a* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lv. 76 The kyng was A lepre..and so Oríble .that Eche Man schoned his Compenye. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 242 If you will patiently dance in our Round,..goe with vs; If not, shun me and I will spare your haunts. 1607 ROWLANDS *Famous Hist.* 13 Society he shuns, and keeps alone. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 319 So passd they naked on, nor shund the sight Of God or Angel. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 88 Then he that sharp'd..Was mark'd and shunn'd as odious. *Ibid.* VI. 307 The tim'rous hare.. Scarce shuns me. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, So..shunning human approach, this troublesome old woman hid herself. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* III. xxiv. 238 The nobler class of Catholics shunned him.

b. with obj. a thing, a place, external conditions or circumstances, dangers, an enemy, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 9395 3iff þatt tin eȝhe iss all unnhal..Itt shuneþþ..þe sunness brihhte leome. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 Vor 3if heo hit [hore fulðe] stunken, ham wolde..speowen hit ut þer, and schumen hit þer efter. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 590 (Jesus MS.) þar to þu draust..& oþer clene stude þu schunest. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xi. 11 Ȝe shulen not eete the flesh of hem, and the faln to deeth ȝe shulen shonne [1388 eschewe]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1548 Bot euery mon may weel knowe & wyte What he was, by-cause þat he shynte & dred þe cresse. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 18 Yf..you finde it sweete, it is a signe of riche grounde..yf it be saltishe, it is to be shunned. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 78 Thus haue I shund the fire, for feare of burning. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 9 Neither is it the true man that shunneth the light, but the malefactour. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded. (e), I have shun'd the *Cæsura* as much as possibly I cou'd. For wherever that is us'd it gives a roughness to the Verse. 1710–11 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) III. 93 It is not supposed, that we should have Power always to Resist, unless we before-hand do what is in our Power to Shun Temptation. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 482 He hates the fight, and shuns the foe. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 239 Thy lips have..Taught me what path to shun and what pursue. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 38 O noble heart who..Nor bent, nor broke, nor shunn'd a soldier's death. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 616 They rode on all day, shunning towns and villages. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* x. 204 A strange superstition makes them shun this sacred place.

absol. 1818 SHELLEY *Lines Euganean Hills* 23 The dreamer..Longing with divided will, But no power to seek or shun.

c. with obj. a mode of action, expression, or behaviour, an occupation, employment, subject of conversation, a mental condition or the like (often expressed by inf. or gerund).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Þet clene wif scunað ȝitsunge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4502 Itt niss nohht lihht To betenn hefiȝ sinne, & forrþi birrþ þe shunenn a33 To fallenn ohht tærinne. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Þe man þe hit meȝeð riht þe suneð aleð gestninge and idel wil. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 449 Wiþ us schineþ euery schalk in schippus for to saile. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 459 We schoneþ and forsakeþ foule slewþe and leccherie. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Paues) *Tit.* iii. 9 Bote schenye þou questyones of foly. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiii. 227 The vce of thilk thing is to be shoned, eschewid, and avoidid. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. cxl. G vij b, Commaunde your souldyours, that they shunne to spoyle and robbe temples. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 60 Thenceforth the suit of earthly conquest shonne. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 16, I ever shunned to goe twice one way. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 21 Had not Phœbus warn'd me..To shun debate, Menalcas had been slain. 1742 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 282, I would say, shun late hours. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 19 The thorny subject which they were delicately shunning in their conversation. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 205 We touch on our dead self, nor shun to do it. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* i. 40 The majority of those who are growing old..shun looking back at all.

absol. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 169 Amonge monkes I mi;t be ac many tyme I shonye.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* Said *poet.* of things.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1101 So clene was his hondelyng vche ordure hit schonied. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 116 Scarcity and want shall shun you. 1701 ADDISON *Let. fr. Italy* 56 See how the golden groves around me smile, That shun the coast of Britain's stormy Isle. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 101 The meteor-happiness, that shuns his grasp.

4. To escape (a threatened evil, an unwelcome task). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 159 in *O. E. Misc.* 63 Eure he wolde..in godnesse wunye Wiþ þat he myhte helle fur euer fleon and schonye. 1413–46 HOCCLEVE *Minor P.* I. 193 How may we two, the deeth eschue or shone? 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 13 They follow vs with Wings, And weake we are, and cannot shun pursuite. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VII. 295 That thus repulst thou shunst the griefe To see the slaughtred heapes that lye? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 1062 [He will] teach us further by what means to shun Th' inclement Seasons, Rain, Ice, Hail and Snow. 1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 537 If a man were to go by chance at the same time with Burke under a shed, to shun a shower. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. VI. 207 No man of woman born Coward or brave, can shun his destiny.

†**b.** To prevent the occurrence of (an action, event), to guard against (some inconvenience). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 111 Bot Henry Dauid sonne, ..Contek for to schonne, to Steuen mad feaute. 1613 LADY E. CAREW *Mariam* I. i, For hee by barring me from libertie, To shunne my ranging, taught me first to range. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 245 To shun this Ill, the cunning Leach ordains..To feed the Females, e'er the Sun arise. 1796 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 154, I devoutly wish you may be able to shun for us this war. 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 159 Prowling Reynard..To shun whose thefts was Giles's evening care.

†**5.** *intr.* To shrink with dread; to be afraid. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Durham Ritual* 32/5 Giscynia, *metuere.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15173 Þe fieche was dutand for to dei,..It was ful sconand for þe sare. *a* 1325 *Maudelein* 24 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 163 For euer he schoneþ þat haþ misgilt. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 164 Þe bukis all he brocht..and prayt him to bryne þam sone. 'Na', said he, 'for þat I schone þe rek of þame suld noyus be'. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* x. 244 It is goddis will, it sall be myne, Agaynste his saande sall I neuer schone.

†**6.** To shrink back physically; to move or go aside (so as to escape or evade some person or thing); to fly (from an enemy, etc.); also with *aside, away. Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14128 Þey couþe nought fighte, ne to-gydere wone, Ne at tyme stande ne schone. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 496 Betere hit were douhtilyche to dizen on or oune, þen wiþ schendschupe to schone and vs a-bak drawe. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 314 Ne no more schoune fore þe swape of theire scharpe suerddes. 14.. *Sir Beues* (O) 3591 Fro his stroke away they dyd shone. 1530 PALSGR. 704/1 And I had nat shonned asyde, he had hyt me in the eye. 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1706) 152 If ye be good doers, both unclean spirits shall flee from you, and shrewd beasts shall shun for fear of you. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 269 He shunned as much as he could, keeping onely his place for feare of punishment. *a* 1600 *Flodden Field* xli. in Child *Ballads* III. 357/1 Doubtlesse while your lines wold last you wold never shun beside the plaine.

fig. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bathes Ayde* II. 18 b, The salte taste is that, which..byteth the tonge...The bitter taste is that, which seemeth to shunne away from the tongue.

†**b.** To keep away, refrain *from. Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* IV. 23 Sone, waite tyme, and shone awei fro euel [Vulg. *devita a malo*]. 1578 HUNNIS in *Paradise Dainty Devises* 24 To shonn, from bralls, debate and strife.

7. *trans.* To screen, hide. Now only *dial.*

1627 C. MACGEOGHEGAN tr. *Ann. Clonmacnoise* 12 Fintan ..shunned himself from the violence thereof [i. e. of the flood] in a caue. *Ibid.* 13 All the foule..gathered themselves there to shunn themselves. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss., Shun*, to screen, e. g., a shrub planted to hide back premises.

8. *dial.* To shove, push. [Perh. another word.] Cf. SHUNT *v.* 3.

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 To *Shun*: to shove. Suss. 1851 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. III. 205/1 In an assault case at Reigate, I heard the complainant say of a man who had hustled him, 'He kept shunning me along: sometimes he shunt me on the road'. 1875 W. D. PARISH *Sussex Gloss.* s. v. *Shun*, He shunned me off the pavement. 1876 *Surrey Gloss.*, s. v., They havn't made the hole large enough to get a stick in to shun the dung back.

9. *Comb.* †shun-field, one who shuns the battlefield; **shun-pike** *U.S.* (see quot. 1911); †**shun-thank**, one who grudges thanks.

1593 *Passionate Morrice* 81 But were not they shonne-thanks they would speake better of Honesties sonne. 1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* XIV. 199 My vertue won her, I no shun-field [δυγοπτόλεμο] was. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. ii. 22 Ef your soul Don't sneak thru shun-pikes so 's to save the toll. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 1053/1 A shunpike, or road constructed to facilitate evasion of tolls on a turnpike road, may be closed by injunction.

†**Shunch**, *v. Obs. rare.* In 3 schunchen. [Of obscure origin; ? related to SHUN *v.*] *trans.* To terrify, frighten (away or from the way). Cf. ASHUNCH.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Auh we schuncheð [*w.rr.* schutten, schuchteð] hine ueor awei hwon we doð deadliche sunne. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 34 To drif drihtin þen deouel..þat weneð me to schrenchen and schunchen of þe weie.

Shund, variant of SCHYND.

Shunless (ʃʊ·nlĕs), *a.* [f. SHUN *v.* + -LESS.] That cannot be shunned or avoided.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 116 Alone he entred The mortall Gate of th' Citie, which he painted With shunlesse destinie. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 139 This to the shunless fardel of the world Nerves my uncurvèd back.

Shunnable (ʃʊ·năbl), *a.* [f. SHUN *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be shunned.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 3/6 Shunnable, *deuitabilis.* 1824 C. WELLS *Joseph & Brethren* I. v. 77 You're shunable.

Shunned (ʃʊnd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHUN *v.* + -ED¹.] Avoided.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 364 Shun'd destruction doth destruction render. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* viii. 221 The lowly, the lost, the shunned, the shelterless.

Shunner (ʃʊ·nəɹ). [f. SHUN *v.* + -ER¹.] One who shuns.

1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 565 The shunner of battles. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 348 So gay and boon a companion, yet a shunner of wine.

Shunning (ʃʊ·nin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUN *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of SHUN *v.*

1546 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* X. 1–4 The shonnyng of dead carkasses. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Introd. 80 Juvenal..tyes himself..to the shuning of Moral Evil.

Shunning (ʃʊ·nin), *ppl. a.* [f. SHUN *v.* + -ING².] That shuns.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* D d iv, O Tantal, that indeuorest to drinke the shuning water.

Shunt (ʃʊnt), *sb.* [f. SHUNT *v.*]

1. An act of shunting. †**a.** An act of drawing back. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2268 Þat o[er schalk wyth a schunt þe schene wyth-haldez.

b. In Railway use and *transf.* from this: see SHUNT *v.* 4, 5.

1884 H. SMART *Post to Finish* xlvi, Damme if ever they persuade me into doing another 'shunt'. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 Dec. 1/1 The shunt from the German to the Austrian alliance was due to the desire..to support the Prince of Battenberg in his struggle against Russia. 1898 H. G. WELLS *Certain Pers. Matters* 132 All primitive men and most animals swear. It is an emotional shunt.

2. *Electr.* A derived circuit introduced to diminish the current flowing through the main circuit; esp. a resistance coil connected in parallel with a dynamo, etc.; more fully *shunt circuit, coil. In shunt*: connected so as to form a multiple current.

1863 R. S. CULLEY *Pract. Telegr.* 99 The 'shunt' system can be applied with advantage. The shunt is a wire connecting the two ends of the galvanometer coil. 1885 P. HIGGS *Magn. Dyn. Electr. Mech.* 101 Dynamo-machines..with the main circuit, or 'series' electro-magnet coils wound on the same arm or limb of the electro-magnet, as contains the 'shunt' coils. *Ibid.* 225 The total resistance of a circuit from which shunt-circuits are taken is less than its own resistance. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.* s. v. *Shunt Winding*, A dynamo or motor is shunt-wound when the field magnet winding is in shunt or in parallel with the winding of the armature.

b. *Telegr.* A device for diverting the current from one line to another; a switch; also *altrib.*

1878 EDISON in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 536 To keep wires in proper repair, and give, by switch or shunt arrangement, prompt attention to subscriber No. 923 in New York.

3. *Railways.* A switch.

1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 85/2 The sub-contractor..had to..lay down the temporary road, including turn-outs, shunts, crossings, etc.

4. *Ordnance.* Short for *shunt rifled gun*, also a curve in the rifling of a shunt rifled gun (see 5 b).

1864 *Daily Tel.* 4 May, The breech-loader had the shortest range,..the Armstrong shunt came next. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 698/2 [The grooves] run together for a short distance, until a shunt narrows the whole groove.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** (in sense 2), as *shunt terminal, winding*, etc.; **shunt box** (see quot.

1893); **shunt dynamo**, a shunt-wound (q. v.) dynamo; **shunt running** (see quot.); **shunt-wound** *a.*, having the shunt circuit wound in parallel with the main circuit.

1878 *Telegr. Jrnl.* 15 Sept. 375/1 A new galvanometer *shunt box. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.*, *Shunt Box*, a resistance box designed for use as a galvanometer shunt. The box contains a series of resistance coils which can be plugged in or out as required. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 533 A generator of electricity of the kind now known as the *shunt dynamo. 1911 HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin.* s. v., In energy meters.. furnished with a friction compensation for the low loads there is a tendency of the meter to work with no current in the circuit to which it is connected... This is referred to as '*shunt running'. 1895 *Pract. Electr. Engin.* I. 10 *Shunt-winding means that one branch of the circuit only encircles the cores. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Sept. 4/1 The conductor is connected..to a single *shunt-wound dynamo machine.

b. shunt line, road, a railway siding; also **shunt-rifling**, a method of rifling cannon so that the projectile undergoes a shunt or lateral change of position in the process of loading; so *shunt (rifled) gun, shunt shot, shunt system.*

1864 *Daily Tel.* 18 May, It was found necessary to re-vent the *shunt gun. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 May 9/2 If the Reading line were clear it would be impossible for the No. 18 *shunt line to be clear also. 1866 *Even. Standard* 13 July 7 The 600-pounder Elswick *shunt-rifled gun. 1868 *Rep. Munitions of War* 146 The *shunt rifling was evidently devised for the better centering of the shot. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 18 May, Conditions detrimental to the proper flight of the *Shunt shot. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 698/2 Sir William Armstrong devised the '*shunt' system.

Shunt (ʃʌnt), *v.* Forms: 3–4 **schunt**, 4 **shont**, 5 **s(c)hount, shontt**, 5– **shunt**. *Pa. t.* 4 **schunt**, 5 **shont, schounte**; **schontid**, 6– **shunted**. [Of obscure origin.

The ME. senses coincide with certain senses of SHUN *v.*, to which, indeed, some of the above-cited forms of the pa. t. may in certain instances possibly belong. It seems not impossible that this vb. may be a derivative of SHUN *v.*]

†**1.** *intr.* To start or go aside (so as to avoid some person or thing); to shy; to shrink or steal away; to hang back. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 242 (MS. T) Ne beo nawt þe skerre hors iliche þæt schuntes [*v.r.* blenchеð uor one scheadewe upo þe heie brugge]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 605 In þe hyȝe hete.. He was schunt to þe schadow vnder schyre leuez. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1902 He [the fox attacked with the sword] schunt for þe scharp. *Ibid.* 2280 Quod G., 'I schunt onez, & so wyl I no more. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1055 Thane he dressede one his schelde, schuntes no lengere. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 180 Sen it is sett to be soo & slipe it ne may, Ne schewid to be na noþire schap, ne we to schount nouthire. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 600, I will shunt for no shame of my shene fader. *Ibid.* 10998 Ne shamys you not shalkes to shunt of þe fild. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvi. 59 Þei schonte for no schoutis his schappe for to schende it, þei rasid hym on rode. 15.. *Song of John Nobody* viii. in Strype *Cranmer* (1694) II. 139 Then I drew me down into a dale, wheras the dumb deer Did shiver for a shower, but I shunted from a freyke.

†**b.** To start, move suddenly. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 580 In þe same tyme he seuyrd fra þi wambe, þe erd & all þe elementis so egirly schontid. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 47 Yeff your land ly in marres..& it be ereyd to depe at þe secund falowe..Your ploughe shall com to no harde grounde but go schoutyng [*? read* schonting] all in myxre. 1775 ASH, *Shunt* (*v. int. a local word*), to give a sudden start.

†**2.** *trans.* To elude (a blow, etc.); also, to turn aside (shame) from (a person). *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1334 Hade he not schounte his stroke thore, For sothe he hade bene slayne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2544 Let hym tegh to þe tempull..And let other men ..For to shunt vs of shame, shend of our foos. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxix. 361 Mi flesh it quakys as lefe on lynde, to shontt the showres sharper then thorne.

3. To shove or push aside or out of the way. Also *intr.* of a thing, to move from its proper position, to give way. Chiefly *dial.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Shunt*, a Country-Word for to shove. 1775 ASH, *Shunt* (*v. t., a local word*), to shove, to push. *Shunting* (*p. a., a local word, from* shunt), giving a sudden start; shoving, pushing with a sudden motion. 1850 S. BAMFORD *Dial. S. Lanc.* Gloss., *Shunt*, to give way; to move from a place. 1852 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. V. 450/1 In the North of England..speaking of a thing, a wall or foundation, which has moved from its position, we should say, 'it has shunted'; or of a thing which requires moving, 'Shunt it a little that way', 'Shunt it at the other end'. 1863 SIR R. ALCOCK *Capital of Tycoon* I. xiii. 268 After being punted a mile over the shallows, and another mile shunted or sleighed over the mud!

4. To move (a train or some portion of it) from the main line to a side-track or from one line of rails to another; also to move *back*.

1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* xxxiv. 410 As the men came up to 'shunt' it [the horse-box]. 1849–50 *Weale's Dict. Terms* s. v., When an engine, carriage, or train is moved off the main line to a siding, it is then said to be 'shunted'. 1852 F. S. WILLIAMS *Our Iron Roads* App. 384 [A] porter.., while holding the points to shunt a train, had his ankle injured. 1881 *Times* 19 Jan. 10/2 The train was accordingly shunted on to the up line and proceeded back to town. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* i. 14 The train was shunted back to where the ostrich had fallen.

absol. 1852 F. S. WILLIAMS *Our Iron Roads* App. 378 Passenger train came into collision with an engine which was shunting.

b. *fig.* To push aside or out of the way; to side-track; also, to get rid of.

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Mar. 261/2 Practically, General Peel is not shunted, but shelved. 1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xix, Which [horse] had we best shunt?..one's as good as the other to win, but the price makes all the difference. 1887 LOWELL *Old Eng. Dramatists* (1892) 3 Since then,..my mind has been shunted off upon the track of other duties. 1904 MAY SINCLAIR *Divine Fire* 255 That two hundred ought to be three thousand, and if it isn't paid I shall have to shunt the business.

5. *intr.* To move off the main line; to move from one line of rails to another.

1851 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. III. 204/2 At a certain station the parliamentary 'shunts' to let the Express pass. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 537/1 There we would wait, and back and shunt and change.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To move out of the way.

The dial. (Lancs., etc.) use='to go away, be off' may be in part a direct development from sense 1.

1869 'WAT. BRADWOOD' *The O. V. H.* xix, It's no use at all for us two to run against each other, that's flat; our horse shall shunt for your'n, if your'n won't for ours. 1892 G. R. LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 26 Let's shunt from here.

6. *Electr.* To divert (a portion of an electric current) by means of a shunt (see SHUNT *sb.* 2); also, to divert current from (a galvanometer).

1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xvi. § 3 (1881) 235 If a galvanometer with the resistance G be shunted by a shunt of the resistance *S*, the resistance of the shunted galvanometer will be [etc.]. 1878 *Telegr. Jrnl.* 15 Sept. 376/1 The necessary portion of the current is shunted off from the galvanometer. 1911 HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin.* II. 617/1 A winding which shunts or by-passes a portion of the main supply.

7. To turn (the shot) in a shunt rifled gun by means of a shunt or curve in the rifling (see SHUNT *sb.* 4, 5 b).

1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 698/2 When the groove becomes narrowed..the shot is shunted over to the left.

8. *Stock Exchange.* (See quot.)

1908 *Times* 22 Jan., Forbidding them to shunt, according to the definition of shunting which seems to be generally received—namely, dealing between markets by London and provincial firms on joint account, and with a division of profits and losses.

Shunted, *ppl. a.* [f. SHUNT *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. In senses of the verb.

1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 199/2 The shunted hero was.. heir to a considerable fortune.

2. *Electr.* Provided with a shunt.

1873 [see SHUNT *v.* 6]. 1911 HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin.* II. 344/2 Shunted Meter, an electricity meter provided with a low-resistance shunt [etc.].

Shunter (ʃʌ·ntəɹ). [f. SHUNT *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. A railwayman employed to shunt trains. Also, a mechanical device to facilitate shunting.

1852 F. S. WILLIAMS *Our Iron Roads* App. 381 William Lear, shunter, foot crushed. 1876 *L'pool Daily Post* 3 Oct. 5/1 One of the last new things in mechanical inventions is a railway shunter. It is a wooden lever [etc.].

2. *Stock Exchange.* (See quot.)

1888 *Glasgow Even. Times* 24 Aug. 3/6 A 'shunter' is.. a broker who buys or sells a stock in one market in the belief that he will be able immediately to cover the transaction in another at a profit.

Hence **Shunter·ship.**

1894 BLATCHFORD *Merrie Eng.* xix. 149 Promotion to a head shunter·ship..should be counted as high enough ambition.

Shunting (ʃʌ·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUNT *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb.

1775 ASH, Suppl., *Shunting*, the act of giving a sudden start. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Shunting*, moving a train into a siding, or on to another line of rails. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Sept. 239 At every station there is a multiplication of points, shunting, and signals.

attrib. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Apr. 6/1 The company intend to construct on this a shunting yard.

Shuppare, Shuppend: see SHEPPER, -END.

Shurbet, Shure, Shurk, Shurl: see SHERBET, SHOWER, SHIRK, SHIRL.

†**Shurn,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 4–5 **schurn**, 5 **schorne**, 6 **shurne**, 7 **sherne**. [Altered form of SCURN *v.*] *trans.* To avoid, shun.

a 1300–1400 *Cursor M.* 19446 (Gött.) He sau him croised þat ilke turn þat he for stani[n]g suld noght schurn. *Ibid.* 20960. *Ibid.* 23338. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 448/1 Schornyn, or a-chewyn, *vito*. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* II. B ij, I wyll non of the trulye, But shurne thy cumpanye, As I wolde the deuyll of helle. *Ibid.* B v b, If ye wyll shurne the head ake. 1546 — *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 63 b, The strete..bathe euer sence bene shurned in al general processyons.

Shurn(e, Shurral, var. ff. SHARN, SHIRREL.

†**Shurt,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3, 6 (*Sc.*) **schurt**, 3 **schirt**, ? 5–6 **shurt**. [repr. OE. (*ge*)*scyrtan* to shorten :—prehistoric **skurtjan* f. **skurt-* SHORT *a.* For the development of sense cf. SHORT *v.* 3 and ON. *skemta* to amuse, f. *skamm-r* short.] *intr.* To amuse oneself, to pass the time. Also *refl.* Hence †**Shurting** *vbl. sb.*, amusement, pastime.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 422 Auh talkeð mid ouer meidenes and mid þeaufule talen schurteð ou to-gederes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8240 All frutes he plantede in þat place, For his schirting and his solace. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. Prol. 7 Ȝoung folk thaim schurtis with gam, solace and play. 15.. *Turn. Tottenham* II (1631) B, It befell in Tottenham on a deare day, There was made a shurting by the high-way.

†**Shurvy,** *a. Obs.* [f. **shurf* (:—OE. *sceorf*: see SCURF *sb.*) + -Y.] ? Scurfy.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* 132 Your skyn scabbyd and scuruy, Tawny, tannyd, and shuruy.

Shut (ʃʌt), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 7–8 **shutt**, 8 **shoot**, 7– **shut**; *β.* 5 **schett.** [f. SHUT *v.*]

1. Something which shuts off or closes up.

†**a.** A locking-bar or bolt. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 315 On-doyng, or onpynynge schettis or sperellys, *apparicio*. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxi. § 67 With what key K. Henry opened the golden shut of the Popes Consistory for his free accesse, ..I cannot say. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 100 As you come to the gate on both the sides are the posts; and in one of them the hinges..but in the other are the shuts (shutting bars) [L. *claustra*]. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. iv, He knocked the corner of a lock into my head twice, once with a bolt and once with a shut; you know what that is; the thing what runs into the staple.

b. A shutter for a window. Now *dial.* (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1611 COTGR., *Volet*..also a shut, or woodden window to shut ouer a glasse one. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* III. 67 A small window, which never had a shut [orig. *volet*]. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 414 Open the shut.

c. *gen.* A hinged or sliding door or plate for closing an aperture; †a valve. Also in *Mining*: see quot. 1886.

1651 *Life Sarpi* (1676) 18 Those inward shuts or folds that are within the Veins. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 105/2 A Morion..with a shut to secure the face. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1704) 304 Therefore were there no Shuts or Stopples made for the Ears. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fives Improv.* 121 You may have two Shuts if you will, made..to shut up, or open both Holes. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 267 A small sliding shut should be made in the partition. 1886 BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 60 *Shuts*, movable or hinged supports for the cage at a pithead.

†**2.** An enclosure; a stew for fish. *Obs.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Surnames* 102 Shot or Shvt, A Keepe [Munster]. 1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 85 Then part of the fish he sells, part he shuts up in his shuts.

3. The action, time, or place of shutting. Chiefly *poet.*, the close (of day), the closing in (of evening).

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 278 As in a shady nook I stood behind, Just then returned at shut of evening flowers. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphit.* II. i, I have been in an Ague fit, ever since shut of Evening. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 764 At the Shut of Ev'n, the weary Bird Leaves the wide Air. 1819 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 36 When the chill rain begins at shut of eve. 1869 WHITTIER *Norembega* 19 At shut of day a Christian knight Upon his henchman leaned. 1899 MEREDITH *Cageing Ares* Poet. Wks. (1912) 522 Whereof they won, From hourly wrestlings up to shut of lids, Her ready secret.

4. A join, mend, splice; a weld, the line of junction of two pieces of welded metal. *Cold shut*, an imperfect weld due to chill; an imperfection in a casting, caused by the flow of liquid metal on a chilled surface.

1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 60 To joint close into the Grooves..and make an effectual Shut like one entire Sheet of Timber. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 114 The entire length and shape were produced without a shut. 1877 W. RICHARDS *Manuf. Coal Gas* 217 The castings must be free from any imperfections, such as honeycombs, 'cold shuts', cracks, or flaws.

5. *dial.* A riddance; esp. in phr. *a good shut.* (Cf. SHUT *v.* 11 and SHUTTANCE.)

Shut (ʃʌt), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **shut.** Forms: *Pres. stem* *a.* 1 **scyttan**, 3–4 **schutte**, 4–5 **s(c)hitte**, 4–6 **shutte**, 5–6 **shytt(e, shyt**, (also 9 *dial.*) **shit**, (5 **schytte**, 6 **schut, shute, shot**), 7 **shutt**, 6– **shut**; *β.* 4 **ssette**, (3 *sing. pres. ind.* 4 **sset**, *imper.* 3 **scete**, 4 **ssete**), 4–5 **schette**, 4–6 **shette**, (6 *Sc.* **schet**), 5–6, 9 *dial.* **shet**; *γ.* 4–5 **schete**, 4–6 **shete**, 6 **sheet**. *Pa. t. a.* 1 **-scytte**, 4–5 **schutte, s(c)hitte**, (4 **shutte**, 4, 6 **shytt**, 5 **shyt, s(c)hytte**, 6 **shutt**), 5– **shut**; *β.* 3–6 **shette**, 4–5 **schette**, 5 **schet(t, shet**; *γ.* 4 **schittide**, 5 **shytted**, 9 *dial.* **shutted**. *Pa. pple. a.* 2 **-scutted**, 4–5 **shyt**, 5–6 **shutte**, (4 **schit(t, schytte**, 5 **-yschutte, shytte, shit(t)e**, 6 **shyt(t, shitt**), 5–6 **shutte**, (also 9 *dial.*) **shit**, 6–7 **shutt**, 5– **shut**; *β.* 4–5 **ischet**, (4 **ys(c)het, yscheot, ysset**, **ischette, schet(t)**, 4–6 **shette, schet**, (also 9 *dial.*) **shet**, 5–6 **shett**; *γ.* 6 **sheet**; *δ.* 5 **schowt** (?), 6 **shott**, 6, 9 *dial.* **shot**; *ε.* 7– (now *dial.* and *arch.*) **shutten.** [OE. *scyttan* (more freq. in the compound *forscyttan* FORSHUT) :—prehistoric **skuttjan*, f. **skut-* wk. grade of the root of SHOOT *v.* Cf. OFris. *schetta* (WFris. *skette, sketsje*), (M)LG., (M)Du. *schutten* to shut, shut up, obstruct. (The formal coincidence of the MHG. and mod.G. *schützen* to protect is prob. accidental.)

The normal representation of OE. *scyttan* would be *shit*; down to the 16th c. this was the prevailing form, though the Kentish *shette* (used by Chaucer and Gower) was also very common. The mod. form appears to have been originally West Midland.]

I. The simple verb.

†**1.** *trans.* To put (a lock, bar, bolt, etc.) in position so as to fasten a door, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. SHOOT *v.* 13.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxvii. (Z.) 220 *Sero* (*serus*) ic scytte sum loc oðe hæpsige. *c* 1370 *Gregorius* (Horstm.) 669 Þe Fisschere on his feire feet þe lok schutte ful faste i wis. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3084 Tvnshetten & to shette ageyn Lokkys echon. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* III. (1675) 193, I have gotten now, honour to my Lord, the gate to open the store, and shut the bar of his door.

†2. To fasten (a door or aperture) with a lock or bar. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Beues* 3031 A..schette þe dore wiþ þe keie. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 292 And thanne was it y-schet faste with a pin. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 140 The cheste that was shette wyth iii lockis. 1509 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 477 A stronge Chest..having iiij lockes and iiij keyes to shete and open the same. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 74 The Door is shut with a piece of Felt. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxi, By keeping doors shut.

absol. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 111 Two massy keys he bore of metals twain (The golden opes, the iron shuts amain).

3. To bring (a door, gate, window, lid, etc.) into the position in which it closes the aperture. *To shut fast*: to shut so that it cannot easily be opened.

As words like *door, gate,* etc. usually admit of being used for the aperture together with that which closes it, this sense passes into sense 7.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 143 Ga into þine bedde..and scete ðe dure. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5821 (W.) The men of that cite.. ronnen to her gates fast, And hem shetten wel on hast. *Ibid.* 6185 In the water is heore gates;..Whan hit is flod, y-scheot [*Laud* yshet] they beoth. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 529, I fond a wiket smal So shet that I ne mighte in goon. *c* 1369 — *Dethe Blaunche* 335 My wyndowes were shette [*v.rr.* shet, shyt] echon. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 67 þer nys noon þat shittiþ frely þe doris of þe temple. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1094 Thogh his dore be noght shit. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5773 The gates ar all shett of that Citee. 1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 141 They schytte the gattes. 1521 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 669 The gates of the Citee shal-be shot euery nyght at viij of the clok. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xi. 7 Nowe is the dore shett. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 52 That doore..contynually to stand shitt the tymes of dyvyne seruice. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 119 b, The windowes..being kept shut in winter. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 53 The Citizens..shut their doores. 1647 TRAPP *Comm., Heb.* iv. 1 When the gate is shut. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 240 Fast we found, fast shut The dismal Gates, and barricado'd strong. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 608/2 The Gate used to be kept shut. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxiv, He would not even condescend to shut his gates. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liv, The publican shutting his shutters. 1895 P. HEMINGWAY *Out of Egypt* I. iii. 26 Every house had its green blinds closely shut.

absol. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxii. 22 He schal opene, and noon schal be that schal schitte. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 110 The servants by their pointed civilities, their zealous activity in opening and shutting,..declared the joyous moment at hand.

b. const. *against,* †*to* (or dative), *upon* (a person, etc., to prevent his ingress or exit, or access to him).

1340 *Ayenb.* 210 Huanne þou sselt bidde god..ine þine herte, ssete þe dore ope þe. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 145 They fonde the gatis shette and closed ayenst hem. 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 132 Wyllyam..shytt the doore to hym. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 5. 580 The Lord..himselfe shut the doore of the Arke upon Noah. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 467/1 He finds the Gates shut against him. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, She walked out of the room with a most majestic air, and shut her own door briskly on herself. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* Prol. ii, Adam was not more destitute when the garden-gates were shut on him.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (and in figurative context).

1340 *Ayenb.* 189 To þe fole maydenes..god ham ssette þe gate of þe sposayles. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1246/2 We shal not fayle..to haue a doore shet vpon vs where we haue none shette on vs now. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 68 And shut the gates of mercy on mankind. 1770 BURKE *Pres. Discont.* 51 Resistance to power, has shut the door of the House of Commons to one man. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xliv, Before God shut the doorways of his head. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agam.* 1302 *note,* Men are never satiated with prosperity, and never shut their doors against it.

d. *intr.* for *refl.* Of a door, etc.: To close of its own accord, or by some unseen agency. Also, to admit of being shut, or of being shut in a specified manner.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. iii. 615 Alle the dores & wyndowes of the palays shut by them self. 1648 HEXHAM II. *Een Schuyf-venster,* A Drawing-windowe that opens and shutts. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 199 The Door ..shuts with a strong Bar behind it. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iv, The last chorister had no sooner crossed the threshold of the door, than it shut with a loud sound. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxvii. 40 [Addressing the door] Hung to the beam, you shut mutely or open again.

4. *trans.* To close (something) by bringing together the outward covering parts.

a. To close (one's eyes). Also *fig.,* esp. in *to shut one's eyes to, against, on*; to ignore, refuse to recognize or consider.

c 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 296 She..shette hir eien for disdeyn. 1421–5 HOCCLEVE *Lerne to Die* 872 They close & shitte the yen of hir mynde. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 292 The hawke will sniffe often and shet her eyes towards night. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* (1675) 52 The plainest rustics, if they will not wilfully shut their eyes, may, by the benefit of its light, direct their steps. *a* 1711 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1716) II. ii. 35, I cannot shut my Eyes against Manifest Truth. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* vii. § 9 Wks. 1871 II. 303 Shut your eyes to assist your meditation. 1854 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 415 That man is to be pitied who can shut his eyes to facts. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* x. 115 He levelled his revolver at the dead leopard, and shutting his eyes tightly, fired four shots in rapid succession.

b. (*a.*) *To shut* (one's) *mouth*: chiefly in pregnant sense, to cease from speaking, to hold one's tongue. So in mod. slang, *to shut* (one's) *head, face.* (*b*) *To shut* (another's) *mouth*: to render unable to speak, reply, find fault, disclose secrets, etc.; occas. to prevent (an animal) from devouring.

1340 *Ayenb.* 179 þe dyeuel þet him zet beuore þe ssame him uor to ssette þane moup. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lii. 15, & ye kinges shal shut their mouthes before him. 1535 — *Dan.* vi. 22 My God hath sent his angel, which hath shut the lyons mouthes. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. xi. (Rtldg.) 377 If, on his return, his father ventured to remonstrate.. Gaspard shut his mouth at once, with..an impertinent answer. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xviii, Shut your heads and let Tom go on!

5. To close by folding up or bringing together of parts (e. g. a book, †a letter, a clasp-knife, one's hand); to bring (†one's arms) together.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1082 Aboute hir nekke of gentil entaile Was shet the riche chevesaile. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* II. 1226 She shette it [*viz.* a letter]. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 58 A paunce of plate, whiche of þe silf behinde Was schet and clos. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* viii, My buke I schet. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 335 Whan Rypus sawe that Rychard was confessed, he..made hym mounte vpon the ladder, & dyd shit the cheyn wherat he shold hang. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steel Glas* Epil., I shut my glasse, before you gasde your fill. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 b, A yeallow Cypresse wrought vpon goldfolie, which they shut and knit fast behind their coyfe. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* II. 44 And then her armes she spreads and shuts. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlix, The disappointed Dominie shut his ponderous tome. 1863 G. MACDONALD *Dav. Elginbrod* II. iii, She..shute the piano. 1886 WALSINGHAM & PAYNE-GALLWEY *Shooting* I. 175 Loaders ..should be made to learn..in shutting the gun always to raise the stock to the barrels. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Kitty Alone* II. 162 He shut his knife. 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Viciss. Evangeline* 233, I can't shut the clasp of my journal.

fig. 1722 *Lond. Jrnl.* 23 June 3/2 On Friday last were shut the Transfer Books of the South-Sea Company. *a* 1754 [see SHUTTING *vbl. sb.* 1].

b. *intr.* for *refl.* Also with sense †to become optically continuous, to leave no visible gap.

1582 WATSON *Passionate Cent.* ix. (Arb.) 45 So shuts or sprouts my ioy as doth this flow're. 1658 DRYDEN *Even. Love* IV. (1671) 56 *Stage direct.,* The Scene Shuts. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 72 The South-Land..shuts against the North-Land to a Man's sight. *Ibid.* 73 At Cape Quad the Lands shut one with the other, as if there were no farther passage. 1723 P. BLAIR *Pharmaco-Bot.* I. 45 It's Flower opens in the Forenoon, from eight till towards Noon, and then it shuts. 1878 JOAQUIN MILLER *Songs of Italy* 126 Earth and the sky and the sky and the sea, Seem shutting together as a book that is read.

† c. *fig.* (*trans.*) To close (one's life). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 253 The vicair general..His laste day..Hath schet as to the worldes ye.

d. *pass.* and *intr.* Of the day: To close in. Of winter: To set in, become settled.

1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. xx, The shades come down—the day is shut. 1854 LOWELL *Indian-Summer Rev.* xxii, Ere Winter wholly shuts.

6. *trans.* To weld. (Cf. SHOOT *v.* 38, SHUT *sb.* 4.)

1490–1555 [see SHUTTING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1604 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael's (Oxf.* (MS.), For shuttinge the Irons of the pumpe. 1844 *Mech. Mag.* XL. 176 The best method of shutting cast-steel. 1886 in *W. Somerset Word-bk.*

7. To close (an aperture) by placing something upon it or by drawing something across it; to stop up (a road) with obstacles or barriers.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VI. 92 To wynne vp þe wiket-3at þat þe wey schutte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xciii. 423 (Add. MS.) The way to helle is shitte to hire. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 228 With this ston this grave we shytte. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xv. 130 Strong men.. kept the postes and passages so shutte, that they kept away the corne and victuals from all Italie. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. viii. 229 They then invented the *Soccabous..,* the which they shut with doores. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia* Descr. xv. 143 They would..for ever shut the Passage into Abyssinia. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1859) II. 459 After that time..the sea was shut; and the winter had been a stormy one. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xvii. 31 Not a road was shut against him. 1911 *Daily Graphic* 2 Dec. 4/3 Every exit was barred, every passage shut with a human barricade.

8. To prevent access to or egress from (a place, building, etc.) by closing the doors or apertures. Now *rare* (superseded by *shut up*: see 19 e) exc. in *to shut a shop.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 154 þanne is þe castel ziker and ysset. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 23 We founden the prisoun schit with al diligence. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 574 The Troians shytted her Cyte. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* iv. 25 In the dayes off Helyas, when hevyn was shet thre yeres and syxe monethes. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 56 Being holy day, the beggers shop is shut. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. viii, This latter [the Feuillant Club] she..has the satisfaction to see shut. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, Rob the Grinder made his own bed, preparatory to shutting the shop. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* XXXVIII. (ed. 3) 324 Bank-Holiday with the shops of London shut.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 160 The Post-office is just going to shut.

†c. fig. (*trans.*) *To shut* (a person's) *heart*: to render him incapable of showing feeling. Also *intr.* for *refl.* of the heart. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1086 Ther-with þe sorwe so his herte shette That from his eighen fil þere not a tere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 328 Sche mihte noght o word on hih Speke oute, for hire herte schette.

d. *To shut one's purse,* etc. †*from, against*: to refuse help to.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 272 3it ony man see his broþer haue nede & schitte his purs & mercy fro hym. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 380 Whose table is not shut from any poore or needy. 1780 *Mirror* No. 102 Men whose purses are shut against their friends.

9. To enclose, secure, or confine (a person or thing) *in* or *within* a place, building, or receptacle; to put *in* a place and shut the door. Also *refl.* Also occas. const. with other preps., *under, between,* etc.; rarely without const. (Cf. *shut in* 15.)

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2455 Th'emperour him ladde..Into his chaumbre..And whanne thai were therinne i-schet. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 418 Gij in to his chaumber gan to gon, & schett him þer in anon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 452 Al schet in a schaze. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 726 Whan Dane here seluen shette Vnder þe bark. 1388 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 20 Eroude tetrark..schitte Joon in prisoun. *c* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxiv. 34 Thei..shette hym in a chambre. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 494 She had shytte hit in one of her coffres. 1483 — *Golden Leg., St. Barbara* (Kelmscott) 1050 Hir fader took her by the heer and drewe hir doun fro the montayn and shytte her faste in pryson. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) A iij, There then being the lady by the ordinaunce of her father shutte. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) T iv, He slept shut into a chest. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Fruites of Warre* cl. Wks. 1907 I. 171 Herewith we had..Nor meale, nor malt, nor meane ..To get such geare if once we should be shut. 1607 DRYDEN *Virg., Georg.* IV. 240 The rest, in Cells apart, the liquid Nectar shut. 1729 G. ADAMS tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* III. v. II. 52 *note,* He was shut into a den, and so starved to Death. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 91 You shut yourselves within your park walls and garden gates. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* v. xi. 19 We laughed and sang at nightfall, shut By the fireside glow. 1898 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* viii. 87 It was Von Holzen's habit to shut himself within his cottage for days together.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Of immaterial things.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. v. (1868) 170 It is raþer þe simplicite of þe soureyn science þat nis nat enclosed nor yshet wiþinne no boundes. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* 524 O thought that wrote al that I mette And in the tresorye hyt shette Of my brayn! *a* 1542 WYATT *Poems* 'The knot which first' 39 My deadly grief, and pains so strong Which in my heart be firmly shytt.

†10. a. To bar or exclude (a person) *from* some possession or enjoyment; to restrain *from* doing something. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxi. (1859) 35 To exclude hym and schytte hym fro this deute. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2567 Leste our Lord God hym from his grace schitte. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 30 If men for good exercise, and women for theyr credite, be shut from Theaters, whom shall we suffer to goe thither? 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* I. 25 The Romans made use of those mills, but for want of water were shut from their Baths. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* IV. i, We can no more than shut him from escape, Till further force arrive.

†b. To separate (one thing) *from* another; to cut off from view. *Obs.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Ecl.* vi. 54 The tender Soil then stiffning by degrees, Shut from the bounded Earth, the bounding Seas. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 36 Whose hovering sheets, along the welkin driven,..shut the eye from heaven. 1831 *Society* I. 14 A turn in the road shut them from his sight.

11. †To set (a person) free *from,* relieve *of* (something troublesome). *Obs.* exc. in passive (*dial.* and *colloq.*) *to be, get shut of, to shut one's hands of*: to be rid of, free from.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (1847) II. 31 Though he have healed thee, Shute from us shall he not be. *Ibid.* 33 To shutte hym of his dangere. 1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 312 This examinate promised..that he wold marye the said Grace..so that he might be shutt of the promises he hadd maid to one Marian Raic. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* To Rdr. D 3, Doo what I can, I shall not be shut of him. 1621 CADE *Serm.* 45 He cannot be quiet till hee bee shut of it [his diveil]. 1692 *Scarronides* II. Pref. 2 After his Taylor and Valet have shut their hands of him. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIV. i. § 3 His own life would be in danger, unless he..got shut of Aristobulus. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* xii, Happy will it prove for the boy if he is well shut of them. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 223 Types which all cattleholders agree in desiring to 'get shut of'. 1892 STEVENSON & OSBOURNE *Wrecker* xxii, Your family pays money to be shut of you.

b. *dial.* To get rid of, make away with (money).

1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 254 For fear I should shut it [the money]. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shut,* to spend. 'It'll shut a seet o' brass.' 1872 *Hartley's Yorkshire Ditties* Ser. II. 11 An' aw shan't ha' to come home and tell My old lass, ha' aw've shut all mi brass.

II. Combined with advs.

†12. **Shut about.** *trans.* To close on all sides. *Obs. rare*–1.

13.. *Bonaventura's Medit.* 989 þey shette hyt [the sepulchre] a boute with a grete stone.

13. **Shut down.** a. *intr.* To be closed with a lid; to come close down like a lid. Of fog, night: To come down and blot out the view.

1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* I. 161 The whole shuts down a-top, and closes in front, like a cabinet. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* i. 12 The fog shut down on us once more. 1897 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 140 The night shut down. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 385/2 The forest shuts down upon the edge of the running water.

b. *trans.* To close by lowering, etc.

1794 MCPHAIL *Treat. Cucumber* 91 The lights of the cucumber bed were kept close shut down day and night. 1836 O. W. HOLMES *Music-grinders* 72 Then..shut the window down. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 499 The lights may be shut down.

c. To close (a manufactory). *absol.* To stop working.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 226 The hands

..forced the superintendent to shut down. 1880 *Paper & Printing Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 6 Most of the paper-mills that were shut-down..are being started anew. 1912 KEITH *Human Body* xv. 241 When men and women lead sedentary and quiet lives their lungs are partly shut down.

† **14. Shut forth.** *trans.* To push (a person) out, to extrude, expel. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xvii. 43 The sonnys furthschet [L. *exclusi*], that pety was to seyn, Befor thair wepand wofull faderis eyn. 1564 ANNE LADY BACON tr. *Jewel's Apol.* II. ii. (1859) 21 There is now no nation which may truly complain that they be shut forth [*se exclusam esse*].

15. Shut in. **a.** *trans.* To prevent access to or confine (a person or thing) by shutting a door, etc. or closing a receptacle. Also *refl.*

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 17670 (Laud MS.) Ye shytte me in oon a friday At Euyn-tide in-to þat stede. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 163 The fayr danes whom the kynge acrysius holdeth fast shytte in wyth oute any rayson. 1530 PALSGR. 704/1 You have shytte in the dogge. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* III. 100, I needs must scorne this double flout, To shut me in, or shut me out. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Aug. 1654, These men went in with axes and hammers, and shut themselves in. *Ibid.* 18 Jan. 1671, I found him shut in. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 170 The present walls, with their eleven gates, shutting in the whole population, were built about 1557. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 518 A row of trusses of straw is laid side by side over the whole, to shut in the steam. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* XXVI, I shut myself in.

b. To enclose with a barrier, hem in.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xiv. (1495) 120 Mala (in Grewe) is the lewre and in the face lewres shyttyth in eyther side of the nose. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* vi. (1818) 212 Both ends of the reach being shut in by land. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* XXVI, We had shut in the battery [*i. e.* taken up a position from which it was shut in by a promontory]. 1863 'C. BEDE' *Tour in Tartan-land* 152 The Loch is shut in by a long-withdrawing range of mountains. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) III. xiii. 292 Wooded hills..shut in the view on every side.

† **c.** To close (a shop, building, gate, etc.). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 291 The bathes and the Stwes bothe Thei schetten in be every weie. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 34 The churche was shott in from monday unto thursday. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 143 The people shut in their shops, and came out in harnesse in great multitudes. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* II. i. D 1 b, The shop will be shut in presently. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 71 The gates were shut in.

† **d.** *intr.* Of the day, evening, etc.: To close in, grow dusk. Also of the days: To shorten. *Obs.*

1623 JOBSON *Golden Trade* 15 From 3. vntil the euening shut in. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 399 The Ambassadors..got to the City ere day-light was shut in. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 4 The day being shut in. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 158 Observing the sun-shine begin to shut in, I yielded. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 171 As day by day began gradually to shut in.

† **e.** To meet together with no space between.

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 122 Flints..cut so exactly square and even to shutt in one to another that ye whole wall is made without cement.

f. To be closed in (to the view).

1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* iv. (1818) 152 Just where the river shuts in. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiii. (1856) 124 The opposite shore..shut in so far upon the other, ..that, steering from the south'ard, one would never know there was a river there at all.

16. Shut off. **a.** *trans.* To prevent the passage of; to cut off (steam, etc.) by the closing of a valve or tap. Also, to close (a dark lantern).

1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 132 The motion of the piston was equalized by shutting off the steam sooner or later from the cylinder. 1904 H. B. M. WATSON *Hurricane Isl.* xx. 285, I shut off the lantern.

fig. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rur. Life* Gloss., 'To shut off work', to leave off work. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Pers.* 180 To shut off pain when we know it will be useless.

b. To cut off, separate *from*.

1833 ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 102 There are inlets of the sea, occasionally shut off from the parent ocean. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 154 Great crags.., shutting off this bay from the other portions of the coast. 1893 BENT in *Geog. Jrnl.* II. 142 A large lake..which was shut off along one side by a very fine dyke or wall.

17. Shut out. **a.** *trans.* To exclude (persons, also commodities, light, air, etc.) from a place, situation, circumstances, etc.; to deny (a person) right of entry to a place, etc.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* x. 75 He shitte [1388 schittide] hym out fro the citee. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 98 Ther is no lock mai schette him oute. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 172 Of a vc felles the wych the Holonders hayd schowt wt. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 25 All pleasure of the body he shette out of his herte by vᵉ vowe of chastite. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 397 Our former errour, and the basenesse of the Portuguese, shut us quite out of this country. 1672 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. i, Make haste and draw the Curtain while you may; You but shut out the twilight of my day. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 684 Heav'ns Portals wide expand to let him in; Nor are his Friends shut out. 1819 TAUNTON *Rep. Cases Comm. Pleas* VII. 480 The Defendant is completely shut out from taking the ground of mutual credit by his own statement. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 654 An exile, shut out from public employment. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 157 When we close one eye, we shut out the quantity of light which entered that eye as reflected from a different part of the room. 1842 LOWELL *Forlorn* xvi, For, whom the heart of Man shuts out, Straightway the heart of God takes in. 1895 P. HEMINGWAY *Out of Egypt* I. i. 10 The stuffy ill-lighted rooms at the back of the houses, shut out from view of the authorities.

b. Phr. *To shut* (some one) *out of doors*, † *out of the gates*.

1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cxlii. Wks. (1876) 261 One that by chaunce was that nyght shette out of the gates. 1530 PALSGR. 704/1 She hath shytte me out of dores. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, And Ravenswood's dirty usage of me—shutting me out of doors to dine with the lackeys.

c. To screen from view.

1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. ix. 101 A large headland..shutting out all points farther north. 1899 MRS. E. COTES *Path of Star* xv. 160 Orchids hung from above, shutting out the garden. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wand. Lond.* I. 11 Long white blinds that shut out the house opposite.

d. *Baseball.* (See quot. Cf. *shut out* sb. s.v. SHUT *ppl. a.* 2.)

1896 R. G. KNOWLES & MORTON *Baseball* 88 [A pitcher] who performed the remarkable feat of shutting out (*i. e.*, disposing of a team in their whole nine innings without a run being scored) Baltimore, Cleveland [etc.].

18. Shut to. **a.** *trans.* To close (a door); † to shoot (a bolt).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 95 & ȝif..he worpe his hond forð touward þe þurl cloð, swiftliche anonriht schutteð al þet þurl to. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1078 Dis angels two drozen loth in And shetten to ðe dure-pin. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 243 Sche..schett to þe dore. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxi. 30 Forthwith the dores were shut to. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 16 July, A little pretty daughter of my Lady Wright's most innocently come out afterward, and shut the door to. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii, The door was cautiously opened and shut to again behind me. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 128 A half-breed Indian that was loafing about there to shut-to the door.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1912 M. HEWLETT in *Engl. Rev.* Apr. 9 The earth's door shuts-to again.

19. Shut up. **a.** *trans.* To place or store away in a closed box or other receptacle; to keep from view or use; to confine within bounds. *lit.* and *fig.* † Also to withhold (one's money, kindness, etc.) *from* a person.

c 1400 *Pety Job* 364 in *26 Pol. Poems* 132 Tyll he..wylne to be shut vp in hys cheste. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17922 To shit vp gold in coffers. 1526 TINDALE *1 John* iii. 17 Whosoever..seyth his brother in necessitie, and shetteth vppe his compassion from him. 1530 PALSGR. 704/1 He hath shytte up his treasour in a wall. 1540 — *Acolastus* I. i. D ij, He neuer perceyued my goodnesse to be shut vp towardes hym. 1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* I. xciv. E vij, Whose names are worthye to be spred immortall, in euery age, whose fame should not be shutte vp, or hydde in any posteritie. 1612 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* v. v. 138 Our sensive spirits..can take..the same forms they had When they were shut up in this body's shade. 1691 tr. *Beddevole's Ess. Anat.* 120 Each Lobe [of the Liver] is shut up [Fr. *renfermé*] in a very delicate Membrane. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 467 Thoughts shut up, want air, And spoil. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xii. III. 268 Cutting long slips of muslin..and shutting them up in boxes. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 27 The waters are shut up within the great basin, the Caspian and Aral being the seas which receive those waters that are not lost in the plains.

† **b.** To comprise, include; to condense in brief expressions. *Obs.*

1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* vi. 49 Shutting vp whole and weightie Sentences in three words. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 472 There are three things which beget love, beauty, benefits, and praises: they are all three shut up in goodness.

c. (*a*) To confine (a person or animal) in prison or in some kind of restraint; to keep in seclusion; to hem (a person) round in order to prevent his escape. Also (chiefly *refl.*) to shut the door on (a person within a place, room, etc.) to prevent access; *pass.* to be closeted with.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiii. 312, I shall bryng hym agen wyth me vnto you all, were he shitte vp in x prisons. 1530 TINDALE *Lev.* xiii. 4 Then let the preast shitt him vpp seuen dayes. 1534 — *Acts* xxvi. 10 Many of the sainctes I shut vp in preson. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 119 A houell will..serue thee in winter..to shut vp thy porklings thou mindest to fat. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xv. 367 These Virgines thus shut vp into these monasteries. 1645 SYMONDS *Diary* (Camden) 173 These garrisons shutt up by the rebells. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Oct. 1670, Din'd with the Treassurer, and after dinner we were shut up together. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (1742) III. 222 He shut him up closely by sea, as well as land. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 476 Those for whom the feast should have been preparing, ..remained shut up at home. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. viii, Whom, however, Loménie..shuts up in the Bastille. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 613 The Jacobites.. were forced to shut themselves up in their houses. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* I. 1, [I] shut myself up with my own thoughts. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 276 The dogs were always shut up on moonlight nights.

fig. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* iii. 23 Before that fayth cam, we were kept and shut vppe vnder the lawe. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii. 189 The whole compass of their thoughts and mind being shut up within the two forementioned Sciences. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* I. 3 How we are all shut up in our own small selves.

(*b*) In some games of skill: To surround (the pieces of an opponent) in such a manner that a move becomes impossible without capture. Also said of the player. In *Dominoes*, see quot. 1870.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. (1883) 168 For yf he be taken or ded or ellis Inclusid and shette vp [etc.]. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 340 Endeavouring to keep the command of the game [dominoes], so that you can block it at any moment, or, as it is technically termed, 'shut it up'. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 371 Unskilful players of draughts are at last shut up by their skilled adversaries.

(*c*) To compel by the exclusion of alternatives *to* some particular conclusion, course of action, etc.

1836 *Rob Stene's Dream* (Maitland Club) Introd. 12 We are thus shut up to the conclusion, that the Poem must have been composed between 27th January, 1590–1,..and 28th February, 1591–2. 1843 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1860) III. 44 He plies the Oxford Tractists with this argument very fairly, and shows..that they are shut up to one of two courses.

d. To close (an entrance, aperture, etc.); to pull (a door, window, etc.) to; † to stop up, make impassable (a road). Also *occas.* to shut permanently (the eyes, mouth). Now *rare*.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XXV. 10 The gate was shett vppe. 1560 *Ovid's Narcissus* A iv b, And deth shut vp those eyes. 1570 T. WILSON tr. *Demosth. Orat.* ii. 15 All the Ports and Hauens in the Countrie are shutte vp by reason of the warres. 1608 WOTTON *Life & Lett.* (1907) I. 411 The ways being all shut up with frosts, and snows. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 32 If the Merchant sit still, the most of them may shut up their Shop windowes. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. I. xv. (1842) 89 When a tradesman shuts up his windows, to induce his creditors to believe that he is abroad. 1802 R. BROOKES *Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s. v. *Lepanto*, The harbour is small, and may be shut up by a chain. 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 100 Let them answer this question, or shut up their mouths upon this subject. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xix. (1842) 506 Closing the extremities of tubes so as to shut up one end. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xl, Well, his mouth's shut up at last. 1891 KINNS *Graven in Rock* viii. 290 The ancient Egyptians had closely shut it [the entrance] up.

fig. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 375 If the outward wandring be shut up, the inward accesse to God is opened.

e. To close, prevent access to or exit from (a place, a house, shop, room, etc.); † to screen by an enclosure *from* (obs.); *Agric.* to close (a meadow) to pasture, in preparation for a hay crop; to close (a box or other receptacle); *Naut.* to stop the leaks in (a ship). *To shut up shop*: see SHOP *sb.* 8 b.

Also in Biblical phrases, *To shut up the heavens*, to withhold rain; *to shut up the womb*, to render barren.

1530 TINDALE *Lev.* xiv. 38 Then let the preast..shett vp the housse for .vii. dayes. 1530 — *Deut.* xi. 17 And then the wrath of the Lorde..shott vp the heauen that there be no rayne. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* iii. 10 Because it shut not vp the wombe that bare me. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome Doomes Day* Wks. 1910 II. 246 Gluttony dyd shut up Paradyse. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. ii. 52 Tis very late, I were best shute vp my stall. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 July 1665, Two houses were shut up in our parish. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 110 ₱ 5 His mother..had shut up half the Rooms in the House. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Ess. Effects Air* vi. 121 Cities in Greece, shut up from Northerly Winds, were unhealthy. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 275 Their food, four small pastures...Two of them I fed in the spring, rather late before I shut them up for hay. 1805 COLLINGWOOD in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 110 *note*, The Achille wanted caulking much. I ordered a gang on board of her to shut her up before the wet weather comes. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXVII, Noah, you shut up the shop. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. IV. 396 The field is now shut up till the time of harvesting the crop. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, Let us shut up the box and the puppets. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* Epil., The workshops have been shut up half an hour or more.

fig. 1702 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 296 Alas then my heart was shut up.

f. To close (something) by folding together, to fold (something) up. Also *intr.* for *refl.* Also, † to fit closely *together*.

1611 BIBLE *Job* xli. 15 His scales are his pride, shut vp together as with a close seale. 1819–23 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 473/1 A machine shutting up in the form of a chest, or box. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. x, Shutting up the easel itself, [she] deposited it in the corner. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, And he, shutting up the knife..accompanied them to the cottage. 1891 *Punch* 25 Apr. 201/2 Smart new boy in cloak-room has noted gentlemen shutting up their crush hats. 1911 *Daily Graphic* 2 Dec. 4/3 Shutting up the little book he had been reading.

† **g.** To conclude, wind up (a subject, discourse, etc.); to finish up (an act, a period of time, etc.), to bring to an end *with*. *Obs.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Making of Verse* Wks. 1907 I. 471 The two last [lines] do combine and shut up the Sentence. 1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. vi. 171/2 in *Holinshed*, Some making their entrie with egs, and shutting vp their tables with mulberies. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 158 To shutte up the matter in fewe wordes. 1585 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iv. 17 And heauens haue shut vp day to pleasure vs. 1601 W. LEIGH *Soules Solace* (1617) 18 Hee shut vp his blessed life, with these blessed words [etc.]. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 182, I must aduertise them that shut vp their meale with drinke, that they doe it with a moderate draught. 1633 *Battle of Lutzen* 28, I shut up all concerning this point in this Assertion. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* I. 1 In the last Lecture..I shut up the doctrine of ulcers. *c* 1650 in Bromley *Collect. Roy. Lett.* (1787) 309 Thus I will shut up my long and tedious letter. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 102 He constantly shuts up the Week with a Debauch. 1741 WESLEY *Wks.* 1872 I. 303, I will shut up this melancholy subject with part of a letter.

h. *colloq.* To be the end of (a matter).

1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xii, Now, I'll tell you what it is, and this shuts it up;..I'll let him off for another five down and a bottle of wine; and if you mean done, say done, and if you don't like it, leave it.

i. *intr.* Of a period of time, state of things, a discourse, an action: To come to an end. *arch.*

1609 *Old Meg of Herefordsh.* (1816) 2 The sports growing to the end, and shutting up. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 31 Mar., The month shuts up only with great desires of peace in all of us. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* V. ii. 180 So here my time shuts up.

j. Of a person: † To end one's course of action

(*obs.*); to bring one's remarks to a close. Now *rare*. (Cf. m.)

1628 BP. HALL *Contempl.* xx. *Joash & Elisha* 21 The Joash of Judah having been preserved..by Jehoiada the priest..shuts up in the unkinde murther of his sonne. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. I. 72 And now (to shut up) I will give you a brief recapitulation. 1700 R. CROMWELL *Let.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 121, I fear how farre my penn hath runn; it is but reasonable to shut up. 1868 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 175, I must now shut up.

k. Of a commercial house: To close its doors, stop payment. *rare*.

1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, The very day when the Muff and Tippet Company shut up.

l. *trans.* To cause (a person) to stop talking, to reduce to silence. Also to silence (hostile artillery).

1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xiii, I say to them, What else are you made for? It shuts them up. They haven't a word to answer. 1860 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary in India* I. 291 Our artillery seemed to shut the hostile guns up. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* v, When I got there I was quite shut up. 1866 *Mysteries of Isis* 7 The Captain shuts up poor Henry..and he can't say a word in return. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 16 Looks at you and shuts you up just like Snorker, my old form master.

m. *intr.* (*colloq.* or *slang.*) To shut one's mouth, to stop talking. (Cf. j.) Often in imperative.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. viii, Order! or-*der*! shut up, Bouncer! 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* v, On this occasion he seemed to be at some loss for words: he shut up, as the slang phrase goes. 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Viciss. Evangeline* 234 He nearly had a fit, and shut up at once.

n. Of a racehorse: To refuse to go on running in a race.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xxix, Some horses..drag their feet along, all weary and tired; if you push them a bit, they shut up, or they answer the whip with a kind of shrug.

Shut (ʃʌt), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of SHUT *v.*]

1. In senses of the verb: Closed, fastened up, folded together, etc.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 51 Wyth a closid and shette purse shalt thou neuer haue victorye. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* 24 The open aier wolde be chosen and.. the shutte aier be eschewed. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 89 He would cary both our open and also our shut letters. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 72 Speaking words of tenderness through his shut teeth. 1830 CARLETON *Traits* (1843) I. 27 The dog..laying his shut paw upon Jack's nose. 1894 KIPLING *Jungle Bk.* 57 His first stroke..was sent home with shut mouth in silence.

transf. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i, By thy shut soul's hypocrisy. 1907 SIR O. LODGE *Subst. Faith* x. 63 Their shut minds and self-satisfied hearts are things to marvel at.

b. (See quot.)

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 52 When the word *shut* is placed after any particular stock, it denotes no transfer can be made, as the books of the Stock or company are adjusting.

c. *Paper-making.* (See quot.)

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 376 In a well-made sheet of paper the fibres are ranged in a horizontal and parallel direction, and a manufacturer describing such a sheet of paper, would say that the stuff was well shut.

†d. *Shut face*: ? an air of mystery. *Obs.*

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. iv. 64 With all your.. lookes out of the politicks, your shut-faces, And reseru'd Questions, and Answers that you game with.

†e. *Shut sound, vowel* = CLOSE *a.* 1 d. Also used to designate a short vowel of the quality used in closed syllables. *Obs.*

1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 222 Those who inhabit the valley of the Po..have derived..a strong tendency to nasal sounds and shut vowels. 1849 CRAIG *Dict., Key to Pronunc.*, A. Shut sound, as in man...E. Shut sound, as in men...O. Shut sound, as in hot.

f. *Shut couplet*: (see quot.)

1896 G. SAINTSBURY *Hist. 19th Cent. Lit.* i. 7 What has been called the 'shut' couplet—the couplet more or less rigidly confined to itself, and not overlapping.

2. *Comb.*: with advs. (see the corresponding combinations of the vb.), as *shut-in, -out, -up* adjs. Hence (*U.S.*) **shut-in, -out** *sbs.*, a person who is shut in or out.

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv. (1856) 139 As for the dead *shut-in appearance of it,..you'd never think it was a river. 1904 *Prosp. Mass.* (U. S. A.) *Blind Assoc.* 2 The lonely and the unbusy, the shut-ins in body and in mind. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xli. (1856) 378 A relation with the *shut-out world. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 79/2 (Baseball) *Shut out*, an innings in which a side does not score a run. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* x. 443 [He] relies Vpon the hope of *shut vp wayes. *a* 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 315 Job had a lot of shut-up rooms in his house.

Shut-down. [Cf. SHUT *v.* 13.] A shutting down; the closing for a time of a factory, etc. Also *attrib.*

1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 May 12/1 The shut-down movement has thus far been successful, but every advance in prices induces the opening of new wells. 1889 *Engineering* 11 Oct. 434/3 There has really been a 'shut down' of a large number of [oil-]wells, to check a wasteful over-production.

†**Shute**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: 1 scyte, 3 scute, ssute, schute, shute. [OE. *scyte* str. masc., corresponds to OHG. and MHG. *schuz* (mod.G. *schuss*):—OTeut. **skuti-z*, f. **skut-*: see SHOOT *v.* This word, with ME. *u* = *ü*, is distinct from *shute* var. of SHOOT *sb.*[1]]

1. A shot, a blow. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 1.)

c 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschr.* (1853) IX. 478/2 *Ictibus*, scytum. *c* 1205 LAY. 1461 Corineus bleintes & þene scute bi-berh. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8132 So þat to þe toun walle hii come atte laste And þe oþere hadde ilore hor ssute of bowe & of arblaste Ne hii ne miȝte vor oþer ginnes stones vp hom caste.

fig. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Al riht so, mid þen ilke wepnen, þ is mid scute of eien; mid spere of wundinde word. *Ibid.* 62 Hwo se is wise & iseli, wið þe schute wite hire, þ is wel hire eien: vor al þe vuel þ euer is cumeð of þen eien arewen.

2. The action of shooting or sprouting. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 2.)

a 1300 *Leg. Holy Rood* ii. 132 Wiþ a cercle of seluer he bond ech ȝeres scute þere So þat wiþþinne þritti ȝer þis tre wox wel heie.

3. A sharp twinge of pain. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 3 c.)

a 1300 *Marina* 202 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 173 Such shute com in þe womones hed,..& [heo] þer after wax riht wod.

Shute[2] (ʃūt). *Weaving.* [An old variant of SHOOT *sb.*[1], retained in this technical sense.] The weft. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 4.)

1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 17 Our Perpets that are all worsted Chains, and only the Shute of Woollen-Yarn, don't come to the Money. 1853 PERKINS *Haberdashery* (ed. 8) 45 The black is the warp, and the white or yellow (as the colour may be) the shute or shot. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art. S. Kens. Mus.* 217 A length of the thread, which he determines to make use of for his weft or shute.

Shute[3] (ʃūt). *dial.* Also 9 shut. [app. in part a dial. form of SHOOT *sb.* and partly a variant spelling of CHUTE.]

1. A channel or open trough for conveying water, esp. to a lower level; a gutter fixed beneath the eaves of a building. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 5 b.)

1790 DUNSFORD *Hist. Mem. Tiverton* 106 *note*, The stream of water..is conveyed over a deep road behind the hospital by a leaded shute. 1836 MRS. BRAY *Tamar & Tavy* II. xxx. 291 *note*, To cut off three bits of lead about the size of a half farthing; each from three different shuts (meaning spouts) for the cure of fits. 1910 W. H. DAVIES in *Engl. Rev.* June 385 When Sparrows twitter in the shutes.

2. A sudden flood in a river, a freshet. (Cf. SHOOT *sb.*[1] 5, CHUTE 1.)

1839 *Heref. Gloss., Land-shut*, a land-flood. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v., Theer's a tremenjus shut o' waiter i' the river.

3. A steep (artificial) channel or enclosed passage, down which ore, coal, grain, etc. is 'shot' to reach a receptacle below. (Cf. CHUTE 3, SHOOT *sb.*[1] 6 a.)

1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. 125/1 Stones were also put under her with long shutes from the deck. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 613 Conducts the meal to the 'hoppers', and through them down 'shutes' to a horizontal cylinder. 1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 137 Coal shutes..are taxable.

b. (See quot.)

1882 JAGO *Anc. Lang. & Dial. Cornw.* 263 *Shute*,..the watering place where the women fill their pitchers from the 'shute'. Also, a small stream of water running from a shute or channel.

4. (See CHUTE 5.)

1879 JENKINSON *Guide I. of Wight* 94 The St. Lawrence or Whitwell Shute.

Shuting(e, obs. forms of SHOOTING *vbl. sb.*

Shut-off. [Cf. SHUT *v.* 16.] Something which shuts off: a tap, valve. Also *attrib.*

1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. G 1, The shut-off valve. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. Advt. p. clxii, Automatic Shut-off.

†**Shu·t-purse.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 4 ssette pors. [f. SHUT *v.* + PURSE *sb.*] The 'shutter of purses': the title of the demon of miserliness.

1340 *Ayenb.* 187 Of zuiche volke is lhord a dyeuel and mayster, þet is ine helle, þet is ycleped ssette pors.

Shu·ttable, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. SHUT *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being closed.

1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 111 An easy carriage, open, but shuttable at will.

Shu·ttance. *dial.* [f. SHUT *v.* (sense 11) + -ANCE.] Riddance.

1826 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.* (ed. 2). 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 723 Good shuttance of bad rubbish. 1886 MABEL PEACOCK *Tales & Rhymes* 124 (E.D.D.) She's gotten good riddance an' shuttance o' him.

Shutter (ʃʌ·tər), *sb.* [f. SHUT *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. *gen.* One who or something which shuts.

1611 COTGR., *Fermeur*, a shutter, closer, fastener. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* IV. ii. (1686) 153 The two other Muscles of the Eye-lid are called Shutters. 1788 *Act* 28 *Geo. III*, c. 51 § 18 Watermen, Lock Shutters, Pound Keepers. 1907 *Outlook* 3 Jan. 12/1 Janus in the old mythology was the porter of heaven, the 'opener' and the 'shutter'.

b. Also with advs. as *shutter up, -in.*

1542 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 110 Well ye bysshoppes, and ye chanons of the churche of Beell, ye shutters vp of Godes Worde. 1611 COTGR., *Obturateur*, a stopper or shutter vp. *c* 1633 B. JONSON *Eupheme, Elegie on my Muse* 210 That houre, The last of houres, and shutter up of all. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* xxi. 468 If the plate were a 'shutter in' of a strake both butts would require to be fitted against plates already in place.

2. *spec.* a. A movable wooden or iron screen, applied to the outside or the inside of a window, to shut out the light or to ensure privacy or safety.

It may consist of a single board or plate (hinged like a door, sliding in a frame, or altogether detachable), of a number of boards or plates hinged together, or of a combination of laths or flat rods of wood or metal working on rollers. A window may have one shutter or several.

Phr. *To put up the shutters*: to bring one's business to a close for the day or permanently.

[1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 178 The close drawing of the Window-Shutters, Hangings, and Curtains.] 1720 S. SEWALL *Diary* 20 Oct. (1882) III. 270 She..clos'd the Shutters. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampsh.* III. 258 Another hole is made in the side of the house for a window, which is occasionally closed with a wooden shutter. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VII. 178 Yet were the windows of the low abode By shutters weather-fended. 1819 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1820) 42 One of the watchmen heard a noise at one of the shutters [of the shop]. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* V, Take down the shutters, yer idle young ruffian! 1863 *Appleby's Handbk. Mach. & Iron Work* 95 Patent revolving iron shutters. 1889 LD. LYTTON in Lady B. Balfour *Lett.* (1906) II. 389 He is only lingering now to put up the Parliamentary shutters. 1890 CONAN DOYLE *Capt. Polestar*, etc. 172 A few old-established houses..put up their shutters and confessed themselves beaten.

¶ With reference to the use as an improvised litter or stretcher for carrying a person who has been wounded or taken ill.

1843 DICKENS *Christmas Carol* ii. 60 As if the other fiddler had been carried home, exhausted, on a shutter. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* lxxi, I made it clear that you were really married, and to the daughter of a man that would send you home on a shutter, if you threw any doubt on it.

b. A folding cover hinged to a picture-frame in order to protect the picture from light, dust, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, That admirable paynting of Raphael..preserv'd in shutters of wainscott. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 224 He..painted..in St. Peter's, the shutters of an altar-piece. 1909 *Q. Rev.* July 169 An admirable altar-piece..which consisted of a magnificent centre-piece of goldsmith's work and shutters adorned with paintings.

c. *Photogr.* A device for opening and closing the aperture of a lens in order to regulate the duration of the exposure.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XIII. 9 A camera and shutter of new design. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 17 A reliable shutter..of the roller-blind..type.

d. *Founding.* A gate or movable partition designed to cut off the passage to a mould from the channel in which the molten metal flows.

1856 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Aug. 194/1 The shutter, or gate, was then lifted, and the metal allowed to flow.

e. *Organ-building. pl.* The louvre-boards forming one or more sides of the swell-box, which are opened and shut by a pedal or lever, so as to regulate the volume of sound from the swell-organ.

1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 122 The swell shutters should be left open.

f. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 220 *Shutter.* 1. A movable sliding door having balance weights attached, fitted within the outer casing of the Guibal fan, for regulating the size of the opening...2. The vibrating arm or door of the Cooke Ventilator.

g. *Clockmaking.* (See quot.)

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 35 Bolt and Shutter. An obsolete contrivance for keeping clocks going while winding. During the going of the clock the shutter—a plate of metal—stood in front of the winding square.

h. A lid or slide for obscuring the light of a lamp or lantern.

1910 J. BUCHAN *Prester John* i. 11 An evil-smelling old tin lantern with a shutter. 1911 *Act* 1 & 2 *Geo. V*, c. 45 § 4 (4) Every light carried on a locomotive..shall be fitted with such shutters or other contrivances as will enable the light to be temporarily screened in an effective manner.

i. (See quot.)

1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 168/2 (Punt shooting) *Shutter*, the movable portion of the wash streak, through which the punter works his punt with paddles or set pole.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *shutter-bar, -bolt, -hinge, -panel*; objective, as *shutter-maker.* Also **shutter-blind,** a blind with louvres to admit air; **shutter-case,** a box or fitting into which shutters may be put or folded when not in use; **shutter-dam,** a dam having gates which are opened and closed by hydraulic pressure obtained by water driven through pipes by means of a turbine; **shutter-front, -lid,** a covering or lid constructed to roll up after the manner of a flexible shutter; **shutter-rebate,** a groove cut into a window-frame to support a shutter; **shutter-stand** = *shutter-case*; **shutter-telegraph** = SEMAPHORE.

1737 *Salmon's Country Builder's Estimator* (ed. 2) 103 Upright Window-Bars, *Shutter-Bars. *Ibid.* 107 *Shutter-Hinges are sold by the Dozen. *Ibid.* 112 *Shutter Bolts are sold from 10*s. 6*d. to 18*s. 6*d.* per Dozen. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 555 In *shutter blinds..the movement is effected by a lever handle fixed on one of the luffer boards. 1810 *Hull Improv. Act* 55 [To] make any..*shutter-cases or shutter-stands. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Shutter Dam. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Aug. 11/2 A finely wrought gilt frame with a *shutter front to conceal its contents. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 652/2 A small secretaire in satin-wood with a *shutter lid. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 54 *Shutter maker. 1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* iii. 20 Rangsley knocked on a *shutter-panel. 1901 P. M. JOHNSTON in *Archæol. Jrnl.* 64 A shallow *shutter-rebate. 1810 *Shutter-stand [see *shutter-case*]. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 301 Some [dancers] are inclined..to..imitate the action of the old *shutter-telegraphs with their arms.

b. *Photogr.* (cf. 2 d). In *shutter-adjustment, -speed, -work*; instrumental, *shutter-exposure, -exposed* adj.; objective, *shutter-setting.*

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 331 The lens and part of the *shutter adjustment are in view. 1892 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 323 A rapid *shutter exposed plate. 1889 *Ibid.* II. 317 These plates after development are compared with the

negative of *shutter exposure. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. Advt. p. cclxxx, Plate-changing and *shutter-setting is effected by simply drawing out and pushing back the rod shown in block. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 335 The *shutter speed was slower in comparison with the moving train. 1891 *Ibid.* IV. 323 For rapid *shutter work..the best plan is to use a medium quantity of alkali.

Shutter (ʃʊ·təɹ), *v.* [f. SHUTTER *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To close with a shutter. Also with *adv.*

1826 B. HALL in Lockhart *Scott* (1839) VIII. 360, I found the windows shuttered up. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro'M.* xxix. 309 The doors were closed, the windows shuttered. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xxi, Here is Garraway's, bolted and shuttered hard and fast. 1897 *Spectator* 26 June 909/1 An appeal to the people of Kilrush to shutter their shops. 1910 J. BUCHAN *Prester John* i. 15 Tam who had seized and shuttered his lantern, coming last.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1882 *Society* 16 Dec. 16/2 The basilisk glance..had to be shuttered down. *c* 1886 KIPLING *Other Verses* (1899) 102, I took a country twice the size of France, And shuttered up one doorway in the North. 1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* xviii, The windows of Fitzpiers's soul being at present shuttered. 1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* 175, I barred my gates with iron, I shuttered my doors with flame.

2. *refl.* (with advb. complement). To close oneself *in*, shut oneself *off*, with shutters.

1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 60 A workman or a pedlar cannot shutter himself off from his less comfortable neighbours. 1880 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 203 The farmers..would shutter themselves in and drink strong beer and gin for days and days on end.

Shuttered (ʃʊ·təɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SHUTTER *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.] Closed with shutters; provided with shutters.

1845 TALFOURD *Vacation Rambles* I. 155 Green-shuttered white 'Pensions'. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* ii. 9 Shop after shop displayed its shuttered front. 1901 P. M. JOHNSTON in *Archæol. Jrnl.* 68 It must have had its grated and shuttered opening.

Shu·ttering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUTTER *v.* and *sb.* + -ING 1.] **a.** The action of the vb. SHUTTER. **b.** Material for making shutters.

1868 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 253 This is a detestable practice, shuttering; I rebel against it. 1898 MACEY *Specif. Detail* 371 Movable sheet-iron shuttering.

Shutterless (ʃʊ·təɹlés), *a.* [f. SHUTTER *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a shutter.

1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* i, A high, narrow, shutterless casement. 1885 R. BUCHANAN *Annan Water* i, The wind ..rattled the shutterless windows.

Shu·tterwise, *adv.* [f. SHUTTER *sb.* + -WISE.] After the manner of or like a shutter.

1880 MRS. R. O'REILLY *Sussex Stor.* I. 315 He swept the boots and all his paraphernalia off the board, and fastened it shutterwise.

Shutting (ʃʊ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUT *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. In trans. senses of the verb; closing, fastening up, drawing together, etc.

?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1598 For ther is noon so litel thing So hid, ne closed with shitting, That it ne is sene. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schetynge, or lokkynge wythe lokkys, *seracio*. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 116 The shuttinge of windowes. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 75 The said shutting of their mouths. *a* 1754 SIR J. STRANGE *Rep.* (1782) I. 615 The day of the shutting of the books. 1779 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 7 July, The shutting of our ports against France.

b. Welding, splicing.

1490 in *Archæol. Cant.* (1886) XVI. 298 For schettynge of the..bell claper viij d. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 150 Shutyng & Amendyng of v boltes. 1555 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 62 For shutynge on of the old hynges..ijd. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 78 *Shutting* is joining or welding one piece of iron to another.

2. Something which closes fast, a bar, shutter. Usually *pl.* Also, a junction, a place where two things come together.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schetynge, or schettynge, or sperynge, *clausura*. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* xxxv. 24 Than frote welle thyn heed, for it openyth the shettyngis of þi brayne. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* I. xxiii. (1639) 39 You must..fasten cupping glasses to the shutting of the joynts. *a* 1679 SIR J. MOORE *Eng. Interest* (1703) 108 The Bar or Shutting [of the door of a bee-hive] is to be made four square, of some heavy Matter, as Lead.

3. In intransitive senses of the verb: The close of a day, evening, etc.; nightfall.

1598 GREENWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* I. v. (1622) 8 In the night, or in the shutting of the euening. 1699 *Relat. Sir T. Morgan's Progr.* 13 The Major-General desired his Excellency, that he would give orders to them..to keep themselves in readiness..for at the shutting of the Night he would fall on.

4. In comb. with various advs.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schettynge in, *inclusio*... Schettynge owte, *exclusio*. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. ix. 86 In the shuttinge vppe and ende of all ages. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Z iv b, The setting of the Sun, and shutting in of nighte, belong to Zephyr. 1642–4 VICARS *God in Mount* 191 A little before shutting in of day-light. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (Rtldg.) 54, I mention'd..shutting of Houses up. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clvi, The thickness of the smoke at the shutting in of the evening. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvii, The shop was not closed, although it was past the usual hour of shutting-up. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Grk. Test.* 14 The deliberate shutting out of a large..portion of available evidence. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Mar. 2/4 The shutting down of the mines in America. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 677 The sudden shutting off of the blood-supply to a limited area of the brain.

b. Specific uses: **shutting off** (see quot.); **shutting up** (*a*) see quot. 1852; (*b*) welding; (*c*) *shutting-up time*: the hour for closing the shop, etc.; **shutting together** = *shutting up* (*b*).

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 240 *Shutting Off. A term used to describe the operation of throwing the winding wheels [of a fusee watch] out of action. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 824 *Shutting-up is closing the lights of frames, pits, greenhouses, and stoves, which have been opened for the admission of air. 1883 CRANE *Smithy & Forge* 43 Joining two pieces of bar or rod together which the smith usually denominates 'shutting up' or '*shutting together'. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxx, It was latish..and near shutting-up time.

Shu·tting, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That shuts.

1634 in *Archæologia* XXXV. 197 Fower shutting windowes. 1803 STRANGFORD *Poems of Camoens* (1810) 52 When..night-drops bathe each shutting bell [of a flower]. 1850 T. T. LYNCH *T'heoph. Trinal* v. 83 A shutting gate..we hear. 1900 ELWORTHY *Horns of Honour* ii. 143 The grinning opening and shutting jaws.

Shuttle (ʃʊ·tl), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **sciutil, scytel,** 4–9 (now *dial.*) **shittle,** 5 **shotil, shetil, schytle, schetyl(le, s(c)hutylle,** 6 **shetyll, shuttyll, shyttel(l, shittell, shettle, shoottle,** 7 **shutle, shuttel,** 6– **shuttle.** [OE. *scytel* ? masc.:—prehistoric **skutil* f. Teut. root **skut-*: see SHOOT *v.* Cf. ON. *skutill* harpoon; also Sw., Da. *skyttel* (of obscure history) and Da. *skytte*, Norw. *skyt*, *skjet* = sense 2 below.]

†**1.** *OE.* A dart, missile, arrow. *Obs.*

c 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 1177 *Jaculum*, sciutil. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxiii. 7 Syndon hyre wita scytelum cilda æghwæs onlicost.

2. An instrument used in weaving for passing the thread of the weft to and fro from one edge of the cloth to the other between the threads of the warp. *Fly shuttle* (see FLY *sb.*2 8).

The normal form of the shuttle resembles that of a boat, whence its name in various langs. (L. *navicula*, F. *navette*, G. *weberschiff*). Along the middle is an axis or 'spindle', on which revolves the 'quill' or 'bobbin', a cylinder carrying the thread of the weft.

1338 in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1819) II. 585/2 Item pro weblomes emptis xx^{s}...Item pro iiij shittles pro eodem opere ij^{s} vj^{d}. *c* 1400 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 85 Cum instrumento dicti artificii vocato *shotil*. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 728/15 *Hec navecula*, schetylle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/2 A Schutylle (*v.r.* shvtylle), *navicula, panus*. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C j b, *Pecten*, the shuttyll. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 195/40 A shuttle, *radius*. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Evagrius* IV. vii. (1585) 473 A weauers shittell. 1585 WITHER *ABC for Laymen* 131 The sliding to and fro of the shettle in weauing. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 736 The Fishers Boats are made like to a Weauers Shutle. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* XXII. 444 She trembling stood, and let her Shittle fall. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Wk.* Prol. 71 Ye Weavers, all your Shuttles throw. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 221 The shuttle is formed from a piece of boxwood. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 84 John's loom and shuttle could be heard.

b. *fig.* and in similative use.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. i. 25, I feare not Goliah with a Weauers beame, because I know also, life is a Shuttle. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* iv. 809 How swift the shuttle flies, that weaves thy shroud. 1844 EMERSON *Lect., Young Amer.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 293 The locomotive and the steamboat like enormous shuttles shoot every day across the thousand various threads of national descent. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 4 Swift shuttles of an Empire's loom that weave us, main to main. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. iv, When War's loud shuttle shall have woven peace.

3. *transf.* **a.** A thread-carrying device in the form of a weaver's shuttle, used for knotting, tatting and embroidery.

1767 MRS. DELANY *Lett.* 4 Jan., Ser. II. (1862) I. 91 Mrs. Jeffreys has bought me a very elegant shuttle for two guineas. ?1770 MRS. RAVAUD *Let. to Mrs. Delany* 10 Nov. *ibid.* 309, I want to know if the inclosed knotting is what you would have it...Its merit..is entirely owing to the instrument with which it is fabricated, the nonpareille shuttle of singular service. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 476 [Recent improvements in Tatting.] The use of a second thread or Shuttle, which enables straight lines and scallops to be worked, as well as the original ovals.

b. A reciprocating thread-holder in a sewing-machine, which carries the lower thread through the loop of the upper one to make a lock-stitch.

1846 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Sewing* (1871) 10 [The] application of a shuttle, in combination with a needle. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 647 A small shuttle, which has a horizontal motion beneath the cloth, is now caused to pass through this loop, carrying with it its own thread. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2116/2 The [Singer sewing-] machine makes a lock-stitch by means of a straight eye-pointed needle and a longitudinally reciprocating shuttle.

c. In a telephone (see quot.).

1879 PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 388 One of its coils is connected..to a V-shaped piece of metal, termed the shuttle, which, in its normal position, rests with one end against an adjustable screw.

d. A curved type-bar (in some typewriters) guided into position by a race. 1911 in WEBSTER.

4. A shuttlecock. Also the game. *Obs.* exc. in *Badminton*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/1 Schytle, chyldys game, *sagittella*. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1622) 252 Or like unto a Shittle, which flittereth from the hand of a child. 1895 *Official Laws Badminton* 11.

†**5.** = RADIUS 1 c. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

Perh. only a mistranslation of L. *radius*, one sense of which is 'weaver's shuttle'.

1662 *Comenius' Janua Ling. Triling.* 48 One arm bone; two of the elbow, (the ell and shuttle).

6. †**a.** A trochoid shell (see quot. 1750). *Obs.* **b.** In full *weaver's shuttle*, a shuttle-shell, esp. *Radius volva*; also, the shell of this gastropod.

1750 POCOCKE *Trav.* (Camden) 46 *Trochi entrochi*...The trochi are many of them like shuttles..some are an oblong oval, which they call shuttles: the country people call them fairy stones. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 199 Bulla Volva. Weaver's Shuttle. B. Birostris. Bastard Weaver's Shuttle. B. Gibbosa. Short gibbous Shuttle; the Gondola. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 195 The Weaver's Shuttle (*Radius volva*). *Ibid.* 196 The creature folds its foot round the *Gorgonias* on which it lives, carrying its shuttle gracefully over its head.

7. A book name for certain species of moths.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 51 The Shuttle (*Agrotis radia*, Curtis)...Probably a variety of *A. Radiola*... The small Shuttle (*A. Radiola*, Stephens) appears in June.

8. A shuttle-train (see 9 b).

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Obvious combs. (senses 2 and 3) as *shuttle-driver, -maker, -quill*; also *shuttle-shaped* adj., *shuttlewise* adv.; (sense 6) as *shuttle-tribe*.

1801 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. II. 796/1 From its lower end there go two small cords to the *shuttle drivers. 1412 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 584 [William Blakeney] *shetil-maker. 1661 PETTY in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 59 To which purpose there is somewhat considerable in the winding the yarn upon these *shuttle-quills. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 224 The eyes are lodged in a *shuttle-shaped band of black. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 317 The Shuttle-shaped Dart (*Agrotis puta*). 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 196 None of the Cowry or *Shuttle tribe have any operculum. 1879 HOWELLS *Lady of Aroostook* iii. 38 The ferryboats thrust *shuttlewise back and forth between either shore made a refreshing sound.

b. Special comb.: **shuttle-bearer,** the lay or batten of a loom; **shuttle-bone,** †(*a*) each of the bones of the forearm; (*b*) the navicular bone in the foot of a horse; **shuttle-box,** †(*a*) the cavity in the side of a shuttle to hold the spindle (*obs.*); (*b*) 'a tray or case at the end of the shuttle-race to receive the shuttle' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **shuttle-carrier,** the arm or other device which reciprocates the shuttle in a sewing-machine; **shuttle-crab,** a paddle-crab, *Callinectes hastatus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **shuttle-kissing** (see quot.); †**shuttle-prick,** the spindle of a shuttle; **shuttle-race,** the ledge or track along which the shuttle passes; **shuttle-service,** a service of shuttle-trains; **shuttle-shell,** a gastropod of the genus *Radius*; †**shuttle-spire,** ? = *shuttle-prick*; **shuttle-train,** a train running a short distance to and fro, as on a short branch line; † **shuttle-trough** = *shuttle-box* (*a*).

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 350 Exercising their arms and shoulders..by resting their hands on the lay or *shuttle-bearer. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. xvii. 417/2 The Cubitus ..doth consist of two Bones; the *Shuttle Bones. 1832 PERCIVALL *Anat. Horse* 60 The Navicular or Shuttle Bone (*Os Naviculare*). 1688 *Shuttle box [see *shuttle trough* below]. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/1 (*Weaving*), A ledge..which forms the 'shuttle race' for carrying the shuttle in 'picking' from and to the shuttle boxes at each end of the lay. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 649 (*Sewing-machine*), At the commencement of the return of the shuttle, an inclined piece upon the *shuttle carrier bears against a lateral stud upon one end of a short rocking or oscillatory shaft. 1908 *Bath Daily Chron.* 22 Apr. 1/7 The practice known as '*shuttle-kissing'—sucking the weft through the eye of the Shuttle. 1688 *Shuttle prick [see *shuttle trough* below]. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 216 A shelf, called the *shuttle-race, is formed by making the bottom bar broader than the side rails. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 378 (*Cupid & Psyche*), As I drove The ivory shuttle through the shuttle-race. 1871 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Sewing* 14 Sewing by means of a vibrating needle and a shuttle travelling in a circular shuttle-race. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 July 6/3 This '*shuttle' service of electric trains. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 195 Family *Ovulidæ*. (Egg and *Shuttle Shells.) 1744 in *Phil. Trans.* (1746) XLIII. 194 There was extracted from him..an iron *Shuttle Spire, four Inches long. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Shuttle-train. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 289/1 The parts of a Shuttle are, the *Shuttle Trough, or Box, is the square hole on the top of it, in which the Pin or Shuttle Prick is set within two holes having Yarn..wound about it.

† **Shu·ttle,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 **scyt(t)el, scetel,** 4 **ssettel,** 5 **schettel, schyt(t)yl;** β. 1 **scyttels, scyttyls, scytels, scettels,** 2 **scutles.** [OE. *scyt(t)el, scyt(t)els*:—prehistoric **skutil, -isli*, f. **skut-* in *scyttan* to shut; the two OE. words have different suffixes, but their forms coalesced in ME.: see -EL, -ELS. Cf. WFris. *skoattel*, EFris. *schötel*, NFris. *sködel*.

The mod. dial. *shuttle* (*shittle, shettle, shottle*) horizontal bar of a gate (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), is perh. the same word.]

1. A bolt or bar, as of a door.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 87 Ealle þa isenan scyttelas helle loca wurdan tobrocene. *a* 1000 *Kent. Gloss.* 658 in *Haupt's Zeitschr.* (1877) IX. 55 Scetel, *vectis*. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 70 Ða scytelses [*v.r.* scittelsas] to burston. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 230 Openiað þas ȝeatu and þa fæstan scytelsas. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Þet is þet [loc] þeðe deofel ne con unlucan, þet is þet scutles þeðe deofel ne mei nefre to-cysan. 1340 *Ayenb.* 94 'My zoster, my lemman, þou art a gardin besset, myd tuo ssettles,' þet is þe grace of god, and of angles. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 365/1 Ondoynge, or op(y)nynge of schettellys, or sperellys. *Ibid.* 447/1 Schyttyl, or sperynge, *pessulum, vel pessellum*.

2. ? A shutter or a partition.

1614 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* xviii. 15 By the drawing aside of some wainscot shuttles..a newe partition might seeme to be put vp.

Shuttle (ʃʊ·t'l), *sb.*[3] Forms: 5 schetel, 6, 9 *dial.* shittle, 8– shuttle. [f. SHUT *v.* + -LE.

It is uncertain whether the word represents OE. *scyttel, scyttels* (see prec.) in an unrecorded sense, or was a new formation in ME.]

1. A flood-gate which opens to allow the flow and regulate the supply of water in a mill-stream. Also a similar gate in a drain. Also 'one of the sections of a shutter-dam' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 445/2 Schetelys, or gote, *supra, aquagium.* 1583 *Inquisition of Sewers* 7 (N. W. Linc. Gloss.), The same sewer from the foresaid fields end to the shittle shall be diked, scowred and cleansed..by Mr. William Dalyson. 1738 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 167 The Miller..went immediately, and let down the Shuttle. 1812 NOUAILLE in *J. Nicholson's Oper. Mech.* (1825) 111 The shuttle or gate slides upon the floor of the trough, so as to..determine the quantity of water to be let out upon the wheel. 1832 *Holderness Drainage Act* 13 Stocks, shuttles and other works of drainage. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 400 The sluices or cloughs used then being merely what now would be called shuttles. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Shittle,*..the shuttle of a drain. 'The shittle agean th' fish-pond is o' no use noo.' 1887 *Fishing Gaz.* 2 Apr. 207/2 The..field..opposite the 'shuttle' or flood gate.

2. A small gate or stop through which metal is allowed to pass from the trough to the mould.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Shuttle (ʃʊ·t'l), *sb.*[4] *Sc.* and *Devonshire.* Also 7 schottlle, 7– shottle. [Of doubtful origin: perh. f. SHUT *v.* + -LE. Cf. prec.]

A small drawer, esp. one fixed in a chest, in which small articles were stored. Also 'a kind of box in the upper part of a chest, extending across; used for keeping money'; also 'a till in a shop, a money-box' (Jam.).

1626 WEDDERBURNE *Compt Bk.* (S.H.S.) 142 Ane aikin frez pres with schottlles of aik thairin. 1699 ELIZ. WEST *Mem.* (1865) 114, I thought they were like a cabinet full of shuttles and in every shuttle there was a jewel. 1719 HAMILTON *Epist. to Ramsay* I. 32 Gin that my haff-pay siller shottle Can safely spare it. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxviii, Those eyes..were now sharply and alertly darting their glances through shuttles, and trunks, and drawers, and cabinets, and all the odd corners of an old maiden lady's repositories. 1823 — in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 105 Like the inside of an antique cabinet with drawers and shottles and funny little arches. 1832 MRS. BRAY *Tamar & Tavy* (1836) III. xxxiv. 80 And I thought of the old names by which the little drawers and boxes in such [old cabinets] were called,—the shuttles. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. I. 152 A set of docketed papers, tied up with red tape, and deposited in shottle fifteen. 1870 J. K. HUNTER *Life Studies* 158, I had three white half-croons in the shuttle o' my kist.

Shu·ttle, *a.* Variant of SHITTLE *a.*, unsteady, shaky, etc., surviving *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 307 b, Metellus was so shuttle-brained that even in the middes of his tribuneship he left his office in Roome. 1553 *Respublica* v. ii. 85 (Brandl), That shuttle brained, tall, long man. 1602 R. T. *5 Godlie Serm.* 200 To some shallow heads, shuttle braines, and simple wits, it seemeth to be [etc.]. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 497 Howsoeuer our shuttle-pated Adioynder thinke of it. *a* 1649 *MS. Poems temp. Chas. I* (Halliw.), Nor can you deeme them shuttle-headed fellowes, Who for the Lord are so exceeding zealous. *c* 1660 *Rump Songs* I. 7 Is it not strange, that in that Shuttle-head Three Kingdoms ruines should be buried? *c* 1682 J. COLLINS *Making Salt in Eng.* 15 A mixture of harsh shuttle Sand. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk., Shuttle,* quick, lithe, active..Also applied to any dry or easily slipping matter, as grain, seeds, sand, &c. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. ii, See there how shuttle-witted are these girls.

Hence †**Shu·ttly** *adv.*, unsteadily.

1661 PETTY in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 59 To which purpose the quill is too short for the axis whereon it rowls, and moves as shuttley upon it as may be.

Shuttle (ʃʊ·t'l), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* In 6 **shutle.** [Partly or perh. wholly f. SHUTTLE *sb.*; but possibly in part a frequentative f. SHOOT *v.*: see -LE.]

1. *trans.* To move (a thing) briskly to and fro like a shuttle. Also, to throw swiftly.

1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xxxi. 260 He yᵗ hath an heauy burthen vpon hys back, yᵉ more he shutleth and moueth yᵗ same, yᵗ more doeth it greue hym. 1823 GALT *Entail* lxiv, He would hae grippit me by the cuff o' the neck and the back o' the breeks and shuttled me through the window. 1840 CARLYLE *Let.* 17 Mar. in Froude *Life Lond.* (1884) I. 177 A face of most extreme mobility, which he shuttles about..in a very singular manner while speaking. 1857 MEREDITH *Farina* (1865) 52 Now general commotion shuttled them.

2. *intr.* To go or move backwards and forwards like a shuttle; to travel quickly to and fro.

1823 GALT *Gilhaize* lxxxiv, In the clear linn the trouts shuttled from stone and crevice. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. i, Their corps go marching and shuttling, in the interior of the country. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 270/1 It is as though a section of roadway shuttled to and fro between the shores. 1910 *Spectator* 23 Apr. 666/2 Faster ships shuttle to and fro weaving the political web more and more rapidly.

3. *Sc.* To ply the shuttle, weave. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

Hence **Shu·ttling** *ppl. a.*

1850 *All Year Round* No. 41. 344 The flutes began in a whirling, shuttling movement.

Shuttlecock (ʃʊ·t'lkɒk), *sb.* [f. SHUTTLE *sb.*[1] (q. v. for forms) + COCK *sb.*[1] Cf. SHUTTLE-COCK.]

1. A small piece of cork, or similar light material, fitted with a crown or circle of feathers, used in the game of 'battledore and shuttlecock' (see 2) and also in the game of Badminton.

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 351, I trow all wyll be nought, Nat worth a shyttel cocke. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 804 A thousand wayes he them could entertaine,..With dice, with cards,..With shuttelcocks. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 74 This playing with a shettlecocke, or tossing empty bladders in the ayre. 1604 MIDDLETON *Ant & Nightingale* C 3 b, His head was drest vp in white Feathers like a Shuttle-Cock. 1626 BRETON *Fantasticks* Oct. C 4 b, The shuttel-Cocke with the Battel-doore is a pretty house-exercise. 1688 BUNYAN *Water of Life* 116 (end), They toss their Vanities about as the Boys toss their Shittle-Cocks in the Air. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip to Scarb.* Prol., Made up, like shuttlecocks, of cork and feather. 1801 C. K. SHARPE *Let.* 12 Jan. *Corr.* 1888 I. 103 With long stiff feathers stuck round their heads like those of a shittle-cock. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VI. i, Vast interests and solemn causes are no longer tossed about like shuttlecocks on the battledores of empty tongues. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 70/2 (Badminton) *Shuttlecock,* the missile employed, which consists of a cork crowned with feathers, from 3 to 5 inches in length.

b. *fig.*

1602 DEKKER *Satiromastix* F 2 b, What made these paire of Shittle-cockes heere? what doe they fumble for? 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem., Westm. Hall* Wks. 1709 III. I. 49 Certain..Sollicitors and Barristers, make it their whole business to keep the Shuttle-cock [Chancery suits] in motion. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 130 The shittlecock of conversation may fall to the ground. 1858 DK. ARGYLL *Autobiog.* (1906) II. 124 This Reform question ought not to be made the shuttlecock of party. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Dec. 5/1 The best American securities are periodically the shuttlecock of unscrupulous speculators.

2. The game (more fully *battledore and shuttlecock,* now played only by children) in which the shuttlecock is hit with the battledore backwards and forwards between two players, or by one player into the air as many times as possible without dropping it.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Shee can..play at shittle-cock. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (ed. 3) 255 The ordinary recreations which we haue in Winter..are Cardes..shuttlecocke, balliardes [etc.]. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 20 Sept., And get somebody to play shuttlecock with you, Madam Stella. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XIV, Pray Mr. F...are you fond of shuttlecock?

fig. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* iii. 20 They were only playing at shuttlecock with words.

3. A Mexican malvaceous shrub, *Periptera punica.*

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 588 *Periptera punica.* Shuttlecock. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *shuttlecock-maker.*

1628 FORD *Love's Mel.* I. ii, A shittlecock maker.

b. quasi-*adj.* Light, tossed hither and thither.

1660 R. BURNEY Κέρδιστον Δῶρον Ep. Ded. II. 11 He [Cromwell] brought the Shuttlecock opprobrie upon the grave Counsell of the Land, and called them together only to kick them out. 1754 STUKELEY *Mem.* (Surtees) III. 191 Now our shittlecock heads think of nothing but France. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* II. 83 Or any other shuttlecock pate, giddy with happiness and vanity. 1903 J. C. SMITH in *R. Wallace: Life & Last Leaves* 137 Shuttlecock retort was a familiar game with him.

Shu·ttlecock, *v.* [f. SHUTTLECOCK *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To throw, send backwards and forwards or to toss like a shuttlecock. Also *fig.*

1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Brief Hist. Times* I. 14 Transubstantiation, and Idolatry, the Bug-bear of the Times, has not been more Shittle-Cock'd, then this Argument. 1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 365 He is shuttle-cocked between London and Edinburgh. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* lxxvii, 'Yes, if the phrase is to be shuttlecocked between us,' I answered hotly. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 402 [Certain Companies] shuttlecocked their assets and liabilities from one to the other for balance-sheet purposes.

2. *intr.* To move or go backwards and forwards.

1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Berrys* 8 Nov., A letter may have shuttle-cocked about.

†**Shu·ttle-cork.** *Obs.* [f. SHUTTLE *sb.*[1] + CORK *sb.*] = SHUTTLECOCK *sb.* In quot. *attrib.*

a 1627 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* III. (1630) 38 Their short figging little shittle-corke-heeles.

Shu·ttleless, *a. rare.* [f. SHUTTLE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Adapted to work without a shuttle.

1888 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 7/3 A shuttleless lockstitch sewing machine. 1890 *B'ham Weekly Post* 1 Feb. 1/5 The shuttleless loom.

†**Shu·ttle-pin.** *Obs.* [? SHUTTLE *sb.*[2]] Some kind of fastening for harness.

1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 119 Harnesses..and all things belonging thereunto, as..belly wanties with tack, or shoottle pin, tide to euery hawm with a string.

Shuttler (ʃʊ·tlə(r)). *rare.* [f. SHUTTLE *v.* (sense 3) + -ER[1].] A weaver.

1870 J. K. HUNTER *Life Studies* 155 He was the prettiest shuttler I ever saw. 1897 *Ardrossan & Saltcoats Her.* 17 Sept. 5 The shuttlers in the employment of Stewart, Moir & Muir..ceased work.

Shuttler, obs. form of SUTLER.

Shuttling (ʃʊ·tlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SHUTTLE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of using a shuttle (also *fig.*); the action of fixing the cop in the shuttle; *concr.* that which serves the purpose of a shuttle.

1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 217 He then prepares the shuttling, which is more like a long knitting needle than an ordinary English shuttle, winding on it a length of the thread. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 399/1 To render the shuttling of the cop a matter of as little nicety as possible. 1889 *Century Mag.* Jan. 422/1 Those [olive groves] in the distance look more hoary and soft, as though a veil of light cunningly woven by the shuttling of the rays hung over them.

‖**Shutur sowar** (ʃu·tər sʊwā·r). *Anglo-Indian.* Also **shuta-, shootar-.** [Urdū a. Pers. شتر سوار *shutur suwār* (f. *shutur* camel + *suwār*: see SOWAR).] A camel rider.

1834 COL. MOUNTAIN *Mem.* (1857) 135 A couple of riding camels and an attendant Shootar Suwar. 1840 W. G. OSBORNE *Crt. & Camp Runjeet Sing* 179 Sent a Shuta surwar..off with an express to Simla. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 78 A body of eighty camel riders, or Shutur Sawárs, to use the Persian term, arrived.

Shuyster, variant of SHYSTER.

Shwanpan, variant of SWANPAN.

Shwere, obs. form of SWEAR.

Shy (ʃəi), *sb.*[1] Pl. **shies.** [f. SHY *v.*[1]] A sudden start aside made by a horse when it sees an object that frightens it.

1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* ix. (1809) 106 [The horse] made a sort of a shy towards the cliff. 1857 READE *Course of True Love* 166 In the middle of a great shy which her mare made. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 472 We pass it by with a courteous bow which has in it something of a horse's shy at the uncanny.

fig. 1900 MARY E. WILKINS *Parson Lord* 35 He has stepped along in his path of duty without a kick or a shy.

Shy (ʃəi), *sb.*[2] *colloq.* Also *rare* **shie.** Pl. **shies.** [f. SHY *v.*[2]]

1. A quick, jerking (or careless) throw, as of a stone, etc.

1791 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* (1813) I. 67 The person who throws ..has three *shys,* or throws, for two pence. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair,* Jack-in-the-box—three shies a penny. 1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* ii. (1850) 25 Swinging his cap round his head, he gave it a shie over the lee quarter. 1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* I. vii. 194, I never remember wanting to throw a rotten egg at any of my fellow-creatures before—but I feel certain that I should enjoy having a shy at Mr. Jubber! 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* XV. 245 When he was a boy, he..used to think it good fun to have a 'shy' at these windows.

b. *Eton Football.* A point scored in the 'Wall' game (see quot. 1881).

1868 *Field* 28 Nov. 446/3 This match..ended in favour of the School by five shies to nothing. 1881 *Pascoe's Everyday Life Public Schools* 54 Once behind this [calx] line, the player's object is to get it [the ball] up..with his foot against the wall and touch, when he gets a 'shy'; that is, the privilege of throwing the ball at the goals, while the other side..defend them. Of course, if he succeeds in reaching the goals, he gets a goal...More generally the game is decided by the number of 'shies' got.

2. *fig.* **a.** An attempt to damage by sarcasm or verbal attack; a 'fling' *at* a person or thing.

1840 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Superst.* Wks. 1862 III. 313 If Rousseau thought fit to try such tremendous appeals by taking 'a shy' at any random object, he should have governed his sortilege..with something more like equity. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xvi, 'You are always having a shy at Lady Ann and her relations', says Mr. Newcome... 'A shy! How can you use such vulgar words, Mr. Newcome?' 1859 DE QUINCEY *Pref. Memor.* Wks. 1862 X. p. xvii, The Doctor..resolved to 'take a shy', before parting, at the most consecrated of Milton's creations. 1873 B. HARTE *Washington in N. Jersey* in *Fiddletown,* etc. 94 I'd like to get a shy at G. W. some time.

b. A trial, an experiment; a 'shot', a 'go'.

1848 THACKERAY *Let.* in *Introd. to Pendennis* Wks. 1898 II. p. xxxiv, Sometimes I have a shy myself, and I don't lose or win twenty francs. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. vi, He would be all the better for a temporary shy at an entirely new scene and climate. 1881 C. GIBBON *Heart's Probl.* vi. (1884) 86 Have a shy at putting the case plainly to me. 1887 HENLEY *Culture in Slums* iii. 7 I've had at Pater many a shy.

3. One who throws, a thrower or shyer.

1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 103 A good field and shy.

Shy (ʃəi), *a.* Forms: 1 scéoh (? *inflected* scíon), 3 scheouh, scheowe, 5 schey, 6 shey, 7–8 shie, shye, 7– shy. [OE. *scéoh* (very rare; also in comb. *scéohmód* of timid mind), corresp. to MHG. *schiech*:—OTeut. type **skeuhwo-*; an ablaut variant (OTeut. type **skuʰwu-, -wjo-*) appears in MDu. *schuwe, schu* (mod.Du. *schuw*), Norw. dial. *skygg,* MSw., Da. *skygg*; the synonymous mod.G. *scheu* is a new formation after the related *scheu* fem. (MHG. *schiuhe*) fear, abhorrence, *scheuen* to be shy of, fear (MHG. *schiuhen* to be shy of, avoid, also causatively to drive away, OHG. *sciuhen* to frighten); f. Teut. root **skeuhw-* to fear, to terrify, whence prob. G. *schüchtern* shy; for other derivatives of the root see SHEWEL. The affinities that have been suggested for the root are very doubtful.

The phonetic development of mod.E. *shy* (ʃəi) from OE. *scéoh* is parallel with that of *thigh* from *þéoh.* Divergent forms in dialects are SHUFF (:—OE. *sceōh* with rising diphthong) and SKEIGH (with unexplained initial). It is noteworthy that the pronunciation (ʃoi) is current in many dialects in which (oi) does not ordinarily correspond to the (əi) of standard Eng.]

†**1.** Easily frightened or startled. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Riming Poem* 43 (Gr.) Nu min hreþer is hreoh heowsiþum [*read* heofsiþum] sceoh nydbyszum neah. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 242 Loke∂ þet ȝe ne beon nout iliche þe horse þet is scheouh, & blenche∂ uor one scheadewe...To scheowe heo beo∂ mid alle þet fleo∂ uor ane peinture. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schey, or skey, as hors, or stystyl. 1648 HEXHAM II. s. v. *Schouw, Een Schouw paerdt,* A Shye Horse, a Fearefull Horse.

b. *dial.* Of a horse: Skittish, unmanageable; high-mettled. Hence (?) of persons (see quot. 1840).

Cf. the OE. gloss 'scion, *peculantis*' (read *petulantis* as in Aldhelm *De Laud. Virg.* 4705, to which the gloss refers) in *Wr.-Wülcker* 517/16.

1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Shy*, hare-brained; high-mettled: head-strong; as wild colts, &c. 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. to Forby, Shy*, wild in conduct...A *shy* boy, or a *shy* girl is wanton, unsteady, amorous. 1860 *Hotten's Slang Dict.* s. v., *Shy* has also the sense of flighty, unsteady, untrustworthy.

2. Easily frightened away; difficult of approach owing to timidity, caution, or distrust; timidly or cautiously averse to encountering or having to do with some specified person or thing; suspicious, distrustful. Const. *of.* **a.** of persons.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 391 Certaine souldiers..caried away captiue certaine of the people of the countrey, which caused the rest of them to be so shey and fearefull. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cv. 412 This noble lustie Gentleman ..Grew thenceforth shie of Women, and a Timon vnto men. 1622 S. WARD *Life Faith Death* 48 Yet is it but our folly to be so shye of this sight, for though [etc.]. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Parallel Essex & Buckhm.* Reliq. (1651) 11 Princes..are (by wisdome of State) somwhat shye of their Successors. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 24 We should not be so shie of Death, for it is the only passage to Immortal Life. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Athanasius* 53 Men generally became more shy of his acquaintance. 1687 NORRIS *Poems* 36 But when we come to seize th'inviting prey, Like a Shy Ghost, it vanishes away. 1702 DE FOE *Shortest Way Dissenters* 27 The primitive Christians were not more shie of a Heathen-Temple, or of Meat offer'd to Idols,..than [etc.]. 1718 OCKLEY *Saracens* (1848) 446 Abdallah was still shy of him, and did not employ him in any considerable post. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. XXXVI, The spectre has grown shyer. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding Ho.* ii, Since the catastrophe recorded in the last chapter, Mrs. Tibbs had been very shy of young-lady boarders. 1885 [W. H. WHITE] *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* iv. (ed. 9) 52 The women in the country-side were shy of her. 1903 C. E. OSBORNE *Father Dolling* ii. (1905) 21 He thought he could do more good as a layman, especially with young men, as so many of the latter are 'shy' of the clergy.

b. of an animal, bird, etc.

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 *Shie* or *shy*, apt to startle and flee from you, or that keeps off and will not come near. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) I. 70 They [flamingoes] are very shy, therefore it is hard to shoot them. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 157 This place..abounds with goats, who, not being accustomed to be disturbed, were no ways shy or apprehensive of danger. *Ibid.* III. ii. 309 The cattle..were not shy of us. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin Killer* 20 Some have a notion that crows are shy of powder. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* i. (1818) 31 Some covies of guinea fowl were seen, but too shy to be shot at. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iv. 99 They [sea-cows] were very shy, and showed poor heads. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 58 If the fish remain shy, leave the swim for a couple of hours. 1908 [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 34 The robin is more shy.

c. *To be* or *look shy on* or *at*: to regard with distrust or suspicion.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. viii, The very Courtiers looked shy at it. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, Hulker & Bullock are looking shy at him. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* vi, How will you like going to Sessions with everybody looking shy on you?

3. Fearful of committing oneself to a particular course of action; chary, unwilling, reluctant. Const. *of, in, about, at,* and *to* with infinitive.

a 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 29 Be not thou shye in taking of him; for you have free liberty. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Brit. Ch.* vii, She..is so shie of dressing, that her hair doth lie About her eares. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 98 They that are guiltiest of folly, are the shiest to own it. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) I. III. XXVIII. 148 His Majesty..desir'd them..now that they had detected the Treason, to discover also the Traytors; but they were shy in that point. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 46 Although he had much Wit, H' was very shie of using it. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 81, I..have as good an Opinion of these Rules, as those have that are shyest of discovering theirs. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 395 Why then are you so shy in owning their rectoral power? 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. viii, A stinking ulcer, which made everybody shy to come near her. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 514 That stood aloof, as shy to meet. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXX, The local magistrates, from timidity or worse motives, have become shy of acting against them. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* V. v. II. 506 Distrust of the English power, now violently shaken, made his father shy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii, Be shy of loving frankly. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. ii, In those days, travellers were very shy of being confidential on a short notice. 1890 W. BOOTH *Darkest Engl.* II. v. 190 Families are naturally shy at receiving these poor unfortunates. 1913 JANE E. HARRISON *Anc. Art & Ritual* iv. 91 Some of us now-a-days are getting a little shy of deliberately cursing our neighbours on Ash Wednesday.

b. Averse from admitting (a principle), or from considering (a subject). Const. *of.*

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* vi. 84 That which the Remonstrant would perswade his reader we are shie of. *a* 1645 LAUD *Hist. Troubles* iii. (1695) 106, I see too, that too many Men are shye of Good Works. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. vi. § 16 The present Jews..are grown very shy of the argument drawn from thence. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. Gen. p. XX, At which Timidity of mine, none can justly wonder that considers how shie the ancient Fathers were of the Globosity of the Earth. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* I. 26 Nor are we shy of their Informations, because they were hid from Ages. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref., So far from being shy of such an Hypothesis, as that they were even Fond thereof.

c. Phrases. † *To make shy of*: to be shy of, to be afraid of (doing). *To fight shy*: see FIGHT *v.* 9.

1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndom.* I. 152 They made shie of reading Scripture, for feare of being made Heretiques thereby.

† d. *Shy of oneself*: unwilling to expose oneself.

1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 103, I was..now to thrust myself in among so many People, who for some Weeks, had been so shye of myself, that if I met any Body in the Street, I would cross the Way from them.

† **4.** Cautiously reserved; wary in speech or action. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 138 A shie fellow was the Duke. *Ibid.* v. i. 54 As shie, as graue..As Angelo. *a* 1691 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 152 He..found him very shie; but ..he was very free afterwards in his communications.

5. Shrinking from self-assertion; sensitively timid; retiring or reserved from diffidence; bashful.

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. ii (Arb.) 75 Shie Maid. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vi, But shy, quite too shy; no drawing her out. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* V. vii, A little shy at first, but he only wants bringing out. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* 29 People too shy or too stupid to talk. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 87 Nino is not a shy boy. *transf.* 1823 WORDSW. *Sonn., 'Not Love, not War'* 14 The flower of sweetest smell is shy and lowly.

b. of a person's actions, etc.

1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 100 ¶ 8 The Venus de Medicis ..is represented in such a shy retiring posture, and covers her bosom with one of her hands. 1722 STEELE *Consc. Lovers* III. i, All your Skittishness, shy Looks, and at best but coy Compliances. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. i, Performing a shy obeisance to the mistress of his house.

c. *fig.*

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 191 Such an Anatomie of the shiest and tenderest particular truths. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 412 The shy revival of English letters during the earlier half of Elizabeth's reign. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 27 Had but fortune favored, bidden each shy faculty advance. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. v. 88 The earth, in her shy embraces, Conceals the traces Of the secret birth of the Stream.

d. *transf.* Of a place, etc.: Retiring, secluded.

1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Conf.* Wks. 1862 I. 226 *note*, Shy recesses of the lake. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iv, It was a modest dwelling—but a shy blinking house. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gypsy* viii, A heap of flowers Pluck'd in shy fields and distant Wychwood bowers. 1885 LOWELL *Coleridge* Writ. 1890 VI. 72 He was the first to observe some of the sky's appearances and some of the shyer revelations of outward nature. 1899 C. G. HARPER *Exeter Road* 124 These places are all shy and retiring, tucked away up bye-lanes.

6. In various transferred uses of sense **2**. **a.** Of plants, trees, etc.: Unprolific, not bearing well. Also rarely of *birds*: Not breeding freely.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 47 The golden pippin has gradually become a shy grower in this country. 1836 MRS. TRAILL *Backwoods Canada* xiv. 246 The plant..seems to be a shy blossomer. 1852 *Beck's Florist* 193 It is rather a shy bearer, though it blooms very profusely. 1869 LOWELL *Study Wind., Gard. Acquaint.* (1871) 7 A small foreign grape-vine, rather shy of bearing. 1905 P. C. MITCHELL *Offic. Guide Gard. Zool. Soc.* (ed. 3) 7 An excellent table-bird but a shy breeder. 1905 RIDER HAGGARD *Gard. Yr.* July 239 They are shy flowerers.

b. *U.S.* Short (*of*), lacking. *Betting slang* (see quot. 1895).

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s. v., Having a less amount of money at stake than is called for by the rules of the game; short; as, to be shy a dollar in the pool. 1896 S. CRANE *Little Regiment* etc. 187 None..knew how an orderly sergeant ranked, but then it was understood to be somewhere just shy of a major-general's stars. 1897 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 21 Sept. 5/4 The police department is much too shy of funds already. *a* 1904 A. ADAMS *Log of Cowboy* ix. 132, I ordered Joe to tie his [the ox's] mate behind the trail wagon and pull out one ox shy.

7. *colloq.* or *slang* in uses derived from sense **5**. **a.** Of questionable character, disreputable, 'shady'.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* XXV, Rather a shy place for a sucking county member. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x, Nothing in shy neighbourhoods perplexes my mind more. 1864 H. J. BYRON *Paid in Full* v, Hadn't shy turf-transactions been more than hinted at? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, The two men, very shy characters. 1869 J. ROBERTS *Billiards* 254 Shell out is a 'shy' game for a public room. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 252/2 Gambling hells and shy saloons.

b. Doubtful in amount or quality.

1850 THACKERAY *Contrib. Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 165 That uncommonly shy supper of dry bread and milk-and-water. 1862 — *Philip* xix, The dinner, I own, is shy, unless I come and dine with my friends. 1865 M. LEMON *Loved at Last* ix, Any place will do, as her geography is rather shy, and I can make her believe anything.

8. *dial.* Of the wind: **a.** Chill, keen, piercing. **b.** 'Not exactly fair for the ship's course' (*Whitby Gloss.*, 1876). See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

[The origin of sense a is not clear; it may be a distinct word. Sense b seems a natural development from 2.]

1828 [CARR] *Craven Gloss., Shy*, keen, piercing. 'A shy wind'. 1891 *Century Dict. Shy* a., Scant. The wind is said to be shy when it will barely allow a vessel to sail on her course.

9. *Comb.* as *shy-breeding, -looking, -retiring*, etc.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 447 The *shy-breeding black sorts. 1879 ALEXINA M. RUTHQUIST in *Mem.* (1893) 95 His *shy-looking wife. 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 328 From stubborn shrubs Thou wrung'st their *shy-retiring virtues out, And vex'd them in the fire.

Shy (ʃəi), *v.*[1] Also 7 shie, shye. [f. SHY *a.*]

OE. had app. a vb. *scýhan, scýan* to take fright (= sense 3 below) f. the adj. = OHG. *schiuhen.* Cf. the following quot.:

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lives Saints* XXXI. 971 Þa scyddon [*MS. K.* scyhdon] þa mulas þe þæt cræt tugon, ðurh his to-cyme afyrhte.]

1. *intr.* To take a sudden fright or aversion; to make a difficulty, 'boggle' about doing something; to recoil, shrink. Const. *at, from*; rarely *to* with infinitive. Now usually felt as *transf.* from **2**.

1650 B. *Discoliminium* 40 Why [do] they shye so strangely at this new Ingagement? 1778 S. CRISP 8 Dec. in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* (1891) I. 93, I mean such freedoms as ladies of the strictest character..perhaps would shy at being known to be the authors of. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 June, He was too well-bred to force himself upon me, and finding I shied, he left me alone. *a* 1814 *Word of Honor* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 364 A man who loves another's wife, Will never shy to take a wife himself To screen his base intrigue. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* V. ii, The more publicity is given to this arrangement, the more difficult for Evelyn to shy at the leap. 1889 MAY CROMMELIN & BROWN *V. Vyvian* II. XV. 248 She is shying from the thought. 1911 BARRIE *Peter & Wendy* V. 81 The only thing he shied at was the sight of his own blood. 1912 ELINOR GLYN *Halcyone* XXVII. 245 He was not buried in that outer circle of oblivion from which the thoughts unconsciously shy.

2. Of a horse: To shrink or start back or aside through sudden fear. Const. *at*, rarely *from*.

1796 J. LAWRENCE *Treat. Horse* I. 166 Thorough-bred hacks are..the least liable to shy of all others. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, The horse shyed from the boar. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. 217 There is no use in being ill-humoured because a young horse shies. 1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* 20 [The horse] stumbled on, occasionally shying wildly at the glimmering whiteness of some heap of bleached guanaco bones. 1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 342/1 (Driving) *Shy*, to spring suddenly either sideways or backwards from fear, or from excess of spirits.

3. *To shy off* (rarely *to shy out of* something, *to shy away*); To slip away in order to avoid a person or thing; *fig.* to find a means of evasion.

1792 *Elvina* I. 38 We are obliged to shy off. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconformist* III. 209 Men who desire to get rid of the question..shy off, with wonderful dexterity from all allusions to it. 1856 MASSON *Ess.* iv. 101 The style of poetry..as all modern readers confess by the alacrity with which they shy out of the way of reprinted specimens of it [etc.]. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xiii, His blue eyes rather shied away from mine. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* III Elsie was shying off from Alec.

4. *trans.* To shun or avoid (a person, thing, or immaterial thing).

1802 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 399, I am inclined to suspect he shies the subject. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* II. 75 He has shied me lately. 1830 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) II. 50 His Grace [Wellington] had shyed the City Feast, being frightened by a Donkey. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XXXV, Troubridge..was not a man to shy his work. 1872 A. GRAY *Lett.* II. 623, I shy or refuse such applications generally.

b. *Pugilism.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 22 It struck us that the Black shyed his adversary. 1819 *Ibid.* N. S. IV. 236 He had too much of the Teddy Tay spirit about him to wince or shy it.

5. To render timid or shy; to frighten *off.*

1845 YOUATT *Dog* iii. 84 A rate given at an improper time ..disgusts the honest hound, it shies and prevents from hunting the timid one. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 173 A little projection of the main field to windward shied them off.

Hence **Shy·ing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1796 J. LAWRENCE *Treat. Horse* I. 81 This was not the effect of starting or shying, to which she [the mare] was at no rate addicted. 1869 J. H. NEWMAN in W. Ward *Life* (1912) II. 257, I hope my shying, as I do, will not keep you from speaking out. *a* 1900 DR. ARGYLL *Autobiog.* (1906) II. 82 They seemed to go suddenly mad, like shying horses or stampeded mules.

Shy (ʃəi), *v.*[2] Chiefly *colloq.* Also 8 shie. [Of obscure origin.

The earliest use suggests that it may have arisen in some way from the expression SHY COCK.]

1. *intr.* To throw a missile, esp. carelessly or by a jerk. Const. *at.*

1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* xiii. 164 He looks upon it as a sort of cock for him..to shie at. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Shie*, or *Shy*. To shy at a cock, to throw at a cock with a stick. KENT. 1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 34 I've shy'd with stick, to win a bit The backy-box of brown japan. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Superst.* Wks. 1862 III. 313 To shy at a cow within six feet distance. 1851 THACKERAY *Stray Papers* (1901) 269 Raikes..justly prided himself upon shying at the sticks better than any man in the army. 1889 BODLEY in *19th Cent.* Nov. 801 The Anglo-Saxon race alone is capable of propelling a missile in the method known as 'shying'.

2. *trans.* To fling, throw, jerk, toss; also with *at*, etc.

1828 EGAN *Boxiana* IV. 159 The Birmingham Youth.. also shied his castor with a confident air. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* vii, He then shyed his gold-laced cocked hat. 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithful* XXXIII, I wish he hadn't shied the cat at her. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. viii, When you came to shy empty bottles..he couldn't stand that sort of game. 1857 READE *Never Too Late* XV, He..shied the pieces of glass carefully over the wall. 1874 WALCH *Head over Heels* 74 We could shy up our caps for a feller. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* 233 Her own glass and its contents were shyed to the other end of the room. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* XVIII, I shied the stuff away.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 26 Mar., I cannot keep up with the world without shying a letter now and then. 1860 SIR H. ACLAND in J. B. Atlay *Mem.* (1903) 290 Washington..has a few palaces shied down upon a rubbishy heath. 1868

HELPS *Realmah* (1876) 245 He would merely shy barbarous words, half-Latin, half-Greek at us. 1882 H. C. MERIVALE *Faucit of B.* II. II. ii. 161 Then you bolted from Oxford, and shied up your fellowship.

Shyche, obs. form of SUCH.

†Shy cock, shy-cock. *slang. Obs.* [f. SHY *a.* + COCK *sb.*[1]] (? A cock that refuses to fight; also, a cock that is 'shy' or not easily caught. ? Hence:) A wary or cowardly person; also, 'One who keeps within doors for fear of bailiffs' (Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.* 1785).

1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man.* III, There is not a prettier scout..after a shy-cock than he. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 6 May ii, She laid all her snares for Dr. Lewis..but the doctor being a shy cock would not be caught with chaff. 1796 F. REYNOLDS *Fortune's Fool* v. 59 The members rose, lock'd the door, and call'd me a shycock!—forced the pistol into my hand. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 396 He is a *shy-cock.*

Shyer[1] (ʃəi·əɹ). [f. SHY *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A horse which shies.

1829 J. LAWRENCE *Horse* vi. 35 With affected shyers some severity may be necessary. These chaps generally fix upon some particular shying but: for example, [etc.]. 1886 *York Herald* 9 Aug. 9/3 The horse..was found to be a bad 'shier', and accordingly it was returned.

Shyer[2] (ʃəi·əɹ). [f. SHY *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who throws.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1905 *F. Sugg's Cricket Annual* 46 A good shier can save many runs.

Shyish (ʃəi·iʃ), *a.* [f. SHY *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat shy.

1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 80 Which Salutation he received with but a shyish Kind of Reception. 1825 LAMB *Let. to Wordsw.* May, Do write to Sir G. B., for I am shyish of applying to him. 1858 J. BLACKWOOD in Mrs. G. Porter *Ann. Publishing Ho.* (1898) III. 31 [Tennyson] is a striking-looking man, with a shyish, almost awkward, but manly and not unbecoming manner.

Shylle, obs. form of SHELL.

Shylock (ʃəi·lɒk). The name of the Jewish money-lender in Shakspere's *Merchant of Venice*; *allusively*, an extortionate usurer; also *attrib.* Hence **Shylo·ckian, Shy·locky** *adjs.*, after the manner of or characteristic of Shylock.

a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 50 It had such a kind of Shylocky taste of raw flesh about it. 1884 *Truth* 4 Sept. 374/1 The terms paid for accommodation were so onerous that the bargain had been a Shylockian one. 1894 GUNTER *King's Stockbroker* ii. 24 'Won't I beggar my boarders!' With this Shylock idea in his mind,..Lanty cries excitedly to a waiter. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 1/3 The essence of the real Shylock's business is that he extorts money from his victims on threats of various kinds. 1901 SKRINE *Life Sir W. Hunter* xiv. 261 The peasantry must be delivered from thraldom to village Shylocks.

Shyly (ʃəi·li), *adv.* Also **shily.** [f. SHY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a shy manner; with shyness.

1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 55 Two other Ministers..who behav'd themselves one towards another so shily and uncharitably as if Luther and Calvin had bequeathed..their virulent and bigotted Spirits upon them. 1797 T. HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxix. (ed. 2) 209 The buffalo cow shyly looks about her. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. vii. § 5 Nations whose commodities are looked shily upon by merchants. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 58 A very killing plan when the fish are biting shyly. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 209/1 Tadoussac..hides shyly behind its hills.

Shylyng, obs. form of SCHELLING.

Shymar, variant of CHIMER[1] *Obs.*

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4). 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Author Lat. Drama* 35.

Shynd, variant of SCHYND.

1809 A. EDMONDSTON *View Zetl. Isl.* I. iii. 130 Documents ..established by what is called a *Shynd* or *Soind Bill.* 1866 T. EDMONSTON *Shetl. Gloss* 101 *Shynd*, a court of law.

Shynde, obs. form of SHEND *v.*[1]

Shyness (ʃəi·nės). Also **shiness.** [f. SHY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition or quality of being shy.

1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. ii. 78 But when he mark'd that he did from them move With sodain shyness, he suppos'd it shame. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. p. iii, Men have a shyness and jealousy against such Truths as they have not been acquainted with. 1673 SIR W. TEMPLE *Ess. Adv. Trade Irel.* Misc. I. (1680) 132 This both checks the growth of the common breeds, and gives them an incurable shyness, which is the general vice of Irish Horses. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 201 P 1 The Woman..is treated with Shiness and Indifference. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 68 Vicunnas.., by reason of their shyness and swiftness, are killed with difficulty. 1818 OXLEY *Jrnls. Two Exped. N.S. Wales* (1820) 328 By making them small presents of hooks, lines, &c., this shiness has soon worn off. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* IV. XXVII. 285 A word, a look, the neglect of a salutation..have often produced a shyness among the dearest friends. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxvi. (1856) 214 The shyness of the seal is proverbial. 1909 *Spectator* 30 Oct. 677/1 There are certain shynesses which we regard as becoming.

Shynful, variant of SHENDFUL *a. Obs.*

Shype ax, variant of CHIP-AX.

c 1500 *Deb. Carpenters Tools* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 79 The shype ax seyd unto the wryght [etc.].

Shyrpe, variant of SHERPE *Obs.*

Shyrrywyke, obs. form of SHERIFFWICK.

Shyryf(e, etc. obs. forms of SHERIFF.

Shyst, obs. form of SCHIST.

1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Culross* 6 A stratum of Feruginous Sulphurious Slate or Shyst.

Shyster (ʃəi·stəɹ). *U.S. slang.* Also **shuyster.** [Of obscure origin.

It might be f. SHY *a.* (sense 7, disreputable) + *-ster*; but this sense of the adj. is app. not current in the U. S.]

'A lawyer who practises in an unprofessional or tricky manner; especially, one who haunts the prisons and lower courts to prey on petty criminals; hence, any one who conducts his business in a tricky manner' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895). Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1856 *Knickerb. Mag.* Apr. XLVII. 434 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) If these two 'shuysters' on the other side could get one more drink down your throat, you couldn't travel at all. 1857 *N. Y. Tribune* 13 Mar. (Bartlett 1860) The shysters, or Tombs lawyers, were on hand, and sought to intercede for their clients. *a* 1860 *N. Y. Tribune* (ibid.), When a man or woman is thrown into prison, a shyster leech gets access to him, and extorts from him his last cent under the pretence of obtaining his liberation. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xli, They..looked on a prominent civic official as a mere shyster. 1902 BOOTHBY *Uncle Joe's Legacy* 98 The shyster lawyer.

Hence **Shy·stering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1860 *Knickerb. Mag.* Nov. LVI. 458 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) A kind of twopenny shystering smartness and snap-judgment smartness. 1872 BRISTED in R. G. White *Amer. View Copyright* (1880) 40 At Tuesday's session an unpre-possessing person..made a 'shystering' pettifogging speech. 1895 *Weekly Exam.* (San Francisco) 19 Sept. 2/6 Those sharp practices generally passing under the name of shystering.

Si.—St.

Si (sī). *Mus.* [Cf. quots. 1850 and 1875. For various accounts as to the originator, see Grove *Dict. Music* and Littré.] In solmization, the seventh note of the scale.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., *Si*, in Music, a Seventh Note, added within this Sixty Years, by one le Maire, to the Six ancient Notes. *1797 Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 545 *note*, A note which is a tone immediately above the tonic, as *re* in the mode of *ut*, and *si* in that of *la*, is termed a sub-tonic. 1850 HELMORE *Plain-Song* iv. 22 The syllable *si* for the seventh sound of our octave was in more recent times added, from the initial letters of the closing words, Sancte Johannes. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Notation*, Here was a *sa* for the seventh note of the scale; but..it was not employed. In later use, in order to mark another semitone by the final *i* (as in *mi*) *sa* was turned into *si*.

Si, obs. pa. t. of SEE *v.* **Siacalle**, obs. variant of JACKAL. **Siad**, obs. variant of SAYYID.

Siagonology (səiăgŏnɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. σιαγόν-, σιαγών jaw-bone + -OLOGY.] (See quot.)

1895 RAVEN *Hist. Suffolk* 253 Something may be discoverable by craniology, .. odontology, or siagonology, which is the science of jaw-bones.

Siagush, variant of SYAGUSH.

Sialago·gic, *sb.* and *a. Med.* Also **sialo-**. [See next and -IC.] =next.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sialagogue (səi·ălăgōug), *sb.* and *a. Med.* Also **sialogogue**. [a. F. *sialagogue* (1752), or ad. mod.L. *sialagogus*, *-um*, f. Gr. σίαλον saliva + ἀγωγός leading, drawing forth: cf. *cholagogue*, *emmenagogue*.]

A. *sb.* A medicine which has the effect of producing a flow of saliva.

α. 1794–6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) II. 467 Any acrid drug, as pyrethrum, held in the mouth acts as a sialagogue externally by stimulating the excretory ducts of the salivary glands. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 448/1 Remote sialagogues are first received into the system by the stomach or other channels. 1855 GARROD *Materia Medica* 231 When chewed it acts as a sialagogue, and is sometimes used in relaxed states of the uvula and tonsils.

β. 1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8153/1 *Sialogogues*, medicines which promote the salivary discharge. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 662 Admitting all that can be said in favour of employing mercury as a sialogogue. 1859 J. TOMES *Dental Surg.* 490 The local remedies for toothache, ..excepting only sialogogues.

B. *adj.* Inducing a flow of saliva.

1855 GARROD *Materia Medica* 54 Its sialagogue power is shown in the increase of the salivary fluid and mucous secretions of the mouth. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med. & Therap.* (1879) 262 It has remarkable sialagogue property.

†Sialoquent, *a. Obs.*—° [Irreg. f. Gr. σίαλον + pres. pple. of L. *loquī* to speak.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sialoquent* (*sialoquus*), that spits much in his speech.

Siamang (səi·ămæŋ). [Malay سيامغ *si(y)-āmang*, f. *āmang* black.] A species of large ape (*Hylobates syndactylus*), with long black hair, found in Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula.

1822 Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES in *Trans. Linnæan Soc.* XIII. 242, I have recently procured a living Siamang, which is very tame and tractable. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 408/1 The Siamang of the Malays..has a peculiar formation of the hands or feet of the lower extremities. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 75 The ability to walk well was proved when a tame Siamang used to walk along a cabin table at sea, without disturbing the crockery.

Siambock, obs. form of SJAMBOK.

†Siamer. *Obs. rare.* [See next and -EB.] A native of Siam.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 504 The Siamers were now at Wars with the English. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlviii. 196 When the Siam Army and Fleet threatned Cambodia, the King knew his Inability to withstand the Siamers.

Siamese (səiămī·z), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name of the country *Siam* + -ESE. Cf. F. *Siamois*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to Siam or its inhabitants; also in the specific names of animals or birds.

1693 A. P. tr. *De la Loubère's Hist. Rel. Siam* 8 The Siamese History is full of Fables. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Aloes*, The Siamese Embassadors. *1797 Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 494/1 From this Shanscrit are derived the sacred characters of Thibet,..the Singalese, Siamese, Maharatan,.. &c. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* III. 406 The Siamese Pig is small, long bodied, very low on the limbs. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 343/2 The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens .. include .. a Siamese Pheasant (*Euplocamus prælatus*). 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 265 A species.. is called the Siamese Muggar, and has a close resemblance to the Marsh Crocodile of India.

2. *Siamese twins*, two male natives of Siam, Chang and Eng (1814–1874), who were united by a tubular band in the region of the waist.

1829 *Times* 25 Nov. 2/6 The Siamese United Twins. *Ibid.* 26 Nov. 2/3 It is announced..in the Paris papers of Monday, that the Sardinian girl with two heads died on the preceding day. The Siamese twins will therefore have a clear field in that capital. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 765/2 The most intelligible form of double monstrosity, like the Siamese twins.

transf. 1899 *Daily News* 15 Mar. 4/4 The death of M. Erckmann..removes the last of the Siamese twins of French fiction. 1900 H. W. SMYTH *Gk. Melic Poets* 278 Kteatos and Eurytos, the Siamese Twins of Greek mythology.

b. Twin; closely connected or similar.

1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. xii, We must leave the ladies to themselves for a short time, in order to take another glance at the Siamese willow-wearers at Ullsford. 1857 BREEN *Mod. Eng. Lit.* 72 They toss the lord and his page in the same blanket, and then they turn them adrift in the Siamese character of 'milord'. 1904 HICHENS *Woman with Fan* vi, Miss Schley's said to be like me not only in appearance but in other ways. Are we really so Siamese?

c. *Siamese coupling*, a form of coupling used for fire-hose.

1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Jan. 63/2 The siamese coupling, by which the power of two or more engines may be united on one hose.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Siam.

1693 A. P. tr. *De la Loubère's Hist. Rel. Siam* 6 The Name of Siam is unknown to the Siamese. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 449/1 The Siamese prepare the land for tillage as soon as the earth is sufficiently moistened by the floods. 1808 LEYDEN in *Asiatic Res.* X. 240 The *Thay* language is that which is used by the Siamese. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 238 The average height of the Siamese is 5 feet 3 inches.

2. The language of Siam.

1808 LEYDEN in *Asiatic Res.* X. 242 The *T'hay* language, or Siamese. 1854 LATHAM in *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 315 The Khamti language..is so like the Siamese of the capital [etc.]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 855/1 The foreign ingredients in Siamese are principally Sanskrit.

Siamese (səiămī·z), *v.* [f. prec. A. 2.] *trans.* To join, unite, or couple, after the manner of the Siamese twins.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 427 They are..Siamesed by a cord which defies the knife of the most skilful surgeon. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 510 We are Siamesed to France; we cannot cut asunder the link without hazarding blood. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 405 Three or four lines of 2½ inch hose are united or 'Siamesed' into one larger one.

Hence **Siame·sed** *ppl. a.*

1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. xi, The master of the George appeared at the head of his waiters, bearing the Siamesed repast for the two disconsolate lovers.

†Siamit(e. *Obs.* A native of Siam.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commonw.* (1603) 193 Although he be Lord of nine kingdomes, yet useth he no other nation in the war but the Siamits. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. ii. 387 The Siamites commonly hold, that God created all things. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) II. i. 16 The Siamites and Chinese.

Siampan, obs. form of SAMPAN.

Siatica, obs. form of SCIATICA.

Sib (sib), *sb.*[1] Now *rare.* Also 1 **sibb**, 4 **syb**; (1–3 *inflected*) 5 **sibbe**, 5–6 **sybbe**. [Common Teut.: OE. *sibb(e*, = OFris. *sibbe*, OS. *sibbia*, *sibbea* (MLG. *sibbe*), OHG. *sippia*, *sippa* (MHG. and G. *sippe*), ON. **sif* (pl. *sifjar*), Goth. *sibja*, related to next.]

1. Kinship, relationship.

Beowulf 2431 Heold mec and hæfde Hreðel cyning, ȝeaf me sinc and symbel, sibbe ȝemunde. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ii. 30 Hio ȝesette..þæt nan forbyrd nære æt gelizere betwuh nanre sibbe. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1049, Ða wende Beorn for þære sibbe þæt he him swican nolde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1712 (Laud MS.), For his nexte by syb Cosyn Beeþ jubiter and Appolyn. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* I. 18 Manye of theim were of Sybbe to hym. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 197/2 They hadde noo sybbe or kyndrede togydre; but oonly of that theyr husbondes were brethern germayn. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1186/2 The doughter of pusillanimitie, & therby so nere of sybbe vnto the nights feare. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* C iv, Do you not count hym next of sybbe to a fool? 1804 W. TARRAS *Poems* 14 Lat's try this income, how he stands, An' eik us sib by shakin' hands. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 8 Tam could bauldly claim Sib wi' an auld heroic name.

†2. Peace, amity, concord. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxvii. 3 Ða ðe spreocað sibbe mid ðone nestan. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 4 Nis sib banum minum. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xiv. 194 Ne meahte he hwæðere mid þone cyning..sibbe habban; ac swa micel..unsibb betweoh him aras, þætte heo heora weorod & fyrd ȝesomnodon. *c* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1140, He helde him for fader, & he him for sune, & sib & sæhte sculde ben betwyx heom. *c* 1205 LAY. 11308 Ich þe wulle luuien & halden þe for lauerd mid sæhte & mid sibbe. *c* 1275 *Duty Christians* 98 in *O. E. Misc.* 144 We schulde among vs habben ay sope luue and sibbe.

Sib (sib), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Forms: 1– **sib**, 1–4, 6, 9 **sibb**, 4–6 **syb** (5 **sybb**), 8 *Sc.* **sub**; (1–3 *inflected*) 4–7, 9 **sibbe**, 4, 6 **sibe**, 5–6 **sybbe** (5 **cybbe**). [OE. *sib(b*, = OFris. (and Fris.) *sib*, MDu. *sib(be*, *zibbe*, OHG. *sippi* (MHG. *sippe*), Goth. *(un)sibjis*. With the sb. uses cf. OFris. *sibba*, *sibbe*, MDu. *sibbe*, etc., OS. *sibbio* (MLG. *sibbe*), OHG. *sippo* (G. *sippe*, *sipp*) kinsman. See also I-SIB *a.*]

1. Related by blood or descent; akin. Now chiefly *Sc.* or *arch.*, but also used *spec.* of canaries (see quot. 1882).

Beowulf 387 Hat in gan seon sibbe ȝedriht samod ætgædere. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 12 Nelle ðu ȝeceiȝa friondas ðina..ne sibbo *vel* cuðo menn. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 157 Alse þe man doð þe ȝifeð his almes fader oðer moder, suster oðer broðer, oðer oðre swo sibbe þat he aghte mid rihte to helpen to feden. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1468 Đo wurð Rebecca childre bere,..At on burdene ghe under-stod two ðe weren hire sibbe blod. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20068 (Gött.), Iesu crist..cald til him sant iohan þat was his sibe ner kines-man. *a* 1350 *SS. Simon & Jude* 237 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 140 þat he suld haue done licheri With ane þat was his sib woman. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 332 Bot of hem tuo a man mai liere What is to be so sibb of blod. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 586, I of my blode haue, Ane of my sede, I supose, & sibbire of þe twa. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 872 Sib sister sone he wes to gud Wallace. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 100 The deuyll and she be syb. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 299 [He] intendit to marie hir gif he might haue had the popis lecence, because hir husband befoir and hie was sibe. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxiii, By the religion of our holy Church they are ower sibb thegither. 1882 *Bazaar* 15 Feb. 175 'Sib breed'..is a word used in the North for the particular kind of canary employed for mule breeding, and really means that the birds have been bred in-and-in for a number of years. 1888 D. GRANT *Chron. Keckleton* 48 The Brodies, as the sibbest relatives,..had taen chairge. 1891 *Bazaar* 20 Feb., Grand sib hen canaries, pink eyed strain, to breed light mules.

b. *transf.* Closely related in some way.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* vi. 55 We weir als sib as seue & riddill. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* H vij b, Pithagoras, when shall thy beanes, or colewoorte sybbe of kynde, Refreshe my hungry appetyte? *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 21 For c and k are sa sib, that the ane is a greek and the other a latin symbol of one sound. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cvi. 269 Sense of death is a sib friend and of kin and blood to life. 1897 *Naturalist* 84 The singular stability and depth of his conviction, often reiterated to those mentally sib, that Matter was All.

2. Related by blood or kinship *to* (or † *with*) a person. †In early use also with dative.

c 1200 ORMIN 323 To streonenn streon, to wurrþenn sibb Wiþþ kingess & wiþþ preostess. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 228 Ut of his side he toc a rib, And made a wimman him ful sib. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12648 A knyght þer was, hight Quyntalyn, Syb þemperour, & his cosyn. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1199 Largesse..Hilde by the honde a knyght of prys, Was sibbe to Artour of Britaigne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxx. 323 þou art..wele ny sybbe to my lord, for he is thyne Eem, and þou art his cosyn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. iii. 103 This poure man..is not his fader; he is no thyng syb to hym. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. vi, Many one..that neither shall be sib to thy blood, nor any word bear of thy name. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 269 Sicker, I am very sybbe [*gloss*, of kinne] to you. 1600 *Maid's Metam.* IV. ii, That Shepheardesse so neare is Sib to me, As I ne may (for all this world) her wed. 1808 SOUTHEY *Chron. Cid* 244 You are sib to the damsels. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, She is sibbe to Githa, wife of Godwin. 1888 H. MORTEN *Hospital Life* 43 Remember, I am sib to none but yourself now, and you should be good to me.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* Closely related, allied, akin, or similar, *to* some other thing.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 þe uuemeste þou is sib þe neþemeste rote. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 86 Witeþ wel, þis maundement is sibbe to many synnes. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) p. xvi, At .xxx. yere he is named a man And syb to the bull of nature stronge. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 469/1 But there is none of those storyes any thyng sybbe to saynt Johns ghospel. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 13/1 The English interiection, Fough, which is vsed in lothing a ranke or strong sauour, seemeth to be sib to the other. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 101 It must be vsed with moderation, for otherwise it breedeth drowsinesse, sib to the lethargy. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. B, Nearer to Sycophancy then to Sincerity, and..sibber to appeaching Hostility, then fraternall Charity. 1760–74 FERGUSSON *Rising of the Session* Poems (1845) 29 Though a dram to Rob's mair sib Than is his wife. 1786 T. WALKER *Ep. to Burns* (Jam.), I'm but a ragget cout mysel', Owre sib to you. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 220 The seeds of an aphorism—at least if it be..sib to an apophthegm—never were in him. 1894 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* ix. 88 A toom head an' licht heels bein' raither sib to ane anither.

† **c.** *Sc.* Having a right or claim *to* a thing. *Obs.*

1701 *Suppl. Dict. Decis. Crt. of Session* (1826) IV. 503 Some argued..that creditors seemed to be much sibber to these annual rents than the factors. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 197 It is something to be Sub to a good Estate.

3. *absol.* as *sb.* **a.** As *pl.* Kinsfolk, relatives. Also *fig.*

a 1000 *Soul & Body* 4 Þonne se deað cymeð, asundrað þa sibbe, þa þe ær somud wæron. *a* 1200 [see FREMD *a.* 4]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2503 He bad sibbe cumen him bi-foren, Or he was ut of werlde boren. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7086 Þis child wax so wel & þeu, as iseie fremde & sibbe. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 68 So drawyþ hy affinite Wyþ alle þyne sibbe, Ase þou of hire sibben dra3st. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 115 Nowþer of fader ne broþer, sibbe ne fremmed. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* 25 His tirannye ynmeasurable, without pite or mercy to sibbe or to freme. 1755 R. FORBES *Shop Bill* xii. Gloves likewise, to hap the hand of fremt an' sib. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Temptation* III. 350 All nice people are related to each other, and so are all nasty people —God's sib, and Satan's sib—the two!

b. A kinsman or kinswoman.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* XXX. 146 Þær ne byð sybbes lufu to oðrum. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27174 Quat man he es þat did þe sin,..Sib or fremd, lok quar it es. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 135 Dame purnele, a prestes file [*v.r.* sibbe], prioresse worth hue neuere. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 Thee murther he whusted, His syb in her mourning with long coynd forgerye feeding. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, III. ii, Tush Sib, if this be all, Valoys and I will soone be friends againe. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 139 So also with our Puritans, very Sibs unto those Fathers of the Society. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 513 From goody, gossip, cater-cousin and sib. 1894 F. S. ELLIS *Reynard the Fox* 213 It is Lapreel the Coney, My old-time sib, my ancient crony.

Sibbed, *a. dial.* [f. SIB *a.*[2]] Akin.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 40 *Sib'd*: a kin; *no sole sib'd*, nothing akin: No more sib'd then sieve and riddle, that grew both in a wood together. 1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss., Sibbed*, related to, of kin.

Si·bbens (also **-ans, -ins**), var. of SIVVENS.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 146 The disease called Sibbins ..has made its appearance once or twice in this parish. 1798 J. PATERSON in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 410 The sibbens affecting the surface of the body, more than the common lues. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* 542 There is a great variety of cutaneous complaints. .. Sibbens, a disease hitherto ill defined, I saw occasionally. 1851 in W. Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1891) I. 369 A case of 'Sibbans' reported by Dr. Whyte in the Gallowhill.

Sibbered, -ridge: see SIBRED.

Sibber-sauce. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Perh. ad. L. *cibāri-us* pertaining to food.] A sauce; a compound or concoction of this nature. Also *fig.*

1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 132 b, To this use serue..many drinkes and sibber sawces. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 64 They would neuer go about to coulour their faces with such sibber-sawces. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 588 Which with another sibber-sawce of vain words they haue set before him here again. *c* 1613 SIR E. COKE in Amos *Gt. Oyer Poisoning* (1846) 249 The composition of his own sibber sauces. 1868–98 in Yorkshire glossaries (in the form *sipper-sauce*).

Sibbil, obs. f. SIBYL. **Sibbits:** see SIBRED.

Si·bboleth, *v. rare*—[1]. [See SHIBBOLETH.] *intr.* To speak with a special pronunciation.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 154 At this day [it] is call'd *Spawhawn* (or as they Sibboleth, *Sphawhawn*) and by most writers differently spelled.

Siberian (səibī·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 **Sibirian.** [f. the name of the country *Siberia* + -AN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or belonging to, characteristic of, Siberia.

1729 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 600 A faithful Muscovite Servant, or rather a Siberian Servant. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* cvi, The writer..thinks he never before or since has encountered such rugged, Siberian weather. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* I. 317 Russia exchanges her precious Siberian furs for tea, silk, and nankeen. *Ibid.* II. 72 The oak, and the hazle,..cannot exist in a Siberian climate. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* XV, The draughts in the lobbies of this house are simply Siberian.

2. In special applications: **a.** In names of animals or birds, as *Siberian cow, dog, ibex, rabbit, weasel*; *Siberian crane, crow, falcon, finch*, etc.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 32 The zebu, or little African cow, and the grunting, or *Siberian cow, are but different races of the bison. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. I. 37 *Sibirian Crane..inhabits the vast marshes and lakes in Sibiria. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 331 The Siberian Crane,..*Ardea Gigantea. *Ibid.* VII. 181 *Siberian Crow, *Corvus Sibiricus*. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 278 The *Siberian Dog (*Canis Sibiricus*)..may be subdivided into several races, differing as to strength and size. 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. I. 113 *Siberian Falcon.. has the bill and air of a Kestrel. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 130 *Siberian Finch. Dusky purplish; neck above pale yellowish. 1854 MEALL *Moubray's Poultry* 177 Russian or *Siberian [Fowl]. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. I. 124 *Sibirian Grosbeak. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. I. 207 *Siberian Hawk. *Falco Sibiricus*. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 356 The *Siberian Ibex, *Ibex Alpium Sibiricarum*. 1881 LYELL *Pigeons* 81 The smooth-legged chequered or spangled ones are known in this country as Ural ice, while the rough-legged spangled birds are called *Siberian ice [-pigeons]. 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. I. 391 *Siberian Jay..inhabits Siberia; but its manners are totally unknown. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* III. 90 The *Siberian Rabbit (*Lepus Tolai*). 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 556 *Sibirian Titmouse, *La Mesange de Siberie*. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 267 *Parus cinctus*, Siberian Titmouse. *Ibid.* 284 *Motacilla ocularis*, *Siberian Wagtail. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. I. 456 *Sibirian Warbler, *Motacilla montanella*. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 432 *Siberian Weesel, *Viverra Sibirica*. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* II. 291 The Siberian Weasel, or Chorok .., resembles the Polecat in size, form, and proportions.

b. In names of plants, trees, or fruits, as *Siberian barley, crab* (apple), *iris, larkspur, oat*, etc.

1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (1857) § 5083 The *Siberian barley .. was introduced to this country in 1768, but is believed to be now lost or merged in the parent species. 1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gardener* (1803) 67 1/2 The *Siberian Crab; the tree dwarfish and the fruit small. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 142 Nor were all the apples..worth a single dishful of the Siberian crabs of Herne Hill. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 48 Another variety that flourishes well, comes from the Foxley apple and the *Siberian harvey. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 72 The black and white hellebore, the *Siberian iris. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 391/3 Other upright-shaped bouquets are of..Siberian Iris. *Ibid.* 25 Mar. 201/3 The *Siberian Larkspur, with its handsome foliage and tall spikes of dark ..flowers. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 578 In the *Siberian or Tartarian oat the grains are thin and small. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 489/1 Siberian Early White Oat.—This variety is originally from the north of Europe, and was sent to this country in 1839. 1832 *Planting* (L. U. K.) 34 *Pinus Siberica*, *Siberian pine. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 72 The *Siberian plum, and crab,.. form thickets of exquisite beauty. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 204 If the *Siberian Sowthistle shuts at night the ensuing day will be fine. 1832 *Planting* (L. U. K.) 125 The *Siberian stone or Cembra pine, is a highly ornamental species in England. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 659 *Pinus Cembra*, the Siberian Stone Pine, has also edible seeds. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* I. 475 Another species of vetch, viz. the *Siberian,..bids fair to become, perhaps, the most useful of all for fodder. 1775 *Ann. Reg.* 150 A field of *Siberian wheat..in..Yorkshire.

c. Miscellaneous, as *Siberian oil-seed, plague.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Siberian oil-seed*, a local name in Canada for the *Camelina sativa*, or Gold of pleasure. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 58/1 Anthrax..is epizootic..in..Siberia, where it is known as the *Sibirskaja jaswa* (Siberian boil-plague). 1885 *Western Daily Press* 19 Jan. 7/5 The woolsorters' disease, known also as splenic fever, malignant pustule, and Siberian plague.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Siberia.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 605 The Siberian, who was Servant to the young Lord, told us [etc.]. 1782 J. BROWN *Compend. View Religion* I. ii. 35 The Siberians..cast their newly born infants into rivers. 1854 *Orr's Circle Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 324 The Arctic Ocean, which washes the sea-board of the Laps and Siberians.

2. *pl.* Shares in Siberian gold-mines.

1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Nov. 11/1 The catalogue of 'Siberians' will..be added to in a day or two by the registration of the Kluchi Gold Mines.

Hence **Sibe·rianize** *v.*, to send to Siberia; to render Siberian in character.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., After a century of Cossacking, bombarding, knouting, and Siberianising. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* I. 3 The climate of Northern Yezo is Siberianized by the cold current from the Sea of Okotsk.

† **Sibe·rite.** *Min. Obs.* [f. *Siber-ia* + -ITE; named by C. Lermina (1799).] = RUBELLITE.

1802 *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 316 The tourmalin of a purplish red colour..is exactly similar to that of Siberia, to which the names of rubellite, of daourite, and of Siberite, have been successively given. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 127 Rubellite..occurs in a granite mountain in the Uralian chain in Siberia,..whence this mineral has been also called Siberite. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*

Si·bilance. *rare.* [See SIBILANT and -ANCE, and cf. F. *sibilance.*] The character of being sibilant; a hissing sound.

1823 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 397 The word preceding ends with *s*, and would occasion too marked a sibilance to be admitted without necessity. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 116 He felt like the author to whose ears is borne the ominous sibilance of the pit.

Si·bilancy. *rare.* [See next and -ANCY.] = prec.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* i. 88 At present the sibilancy of English is a European proverb. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 288 Certainly Milton would not have avoided them for their sibilancy.

Sibilant (si·bilănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. L. *sībilant-, sībilans*, pres. pple. of *sībilāre* to hiss, whistle. In 1 b directly a. F. *sibilant.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having a hissing sound; of the nature of, characterized by, hissing.

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 45 It were easie to add a Nasal Letter to each of the other pair of Lisping and Sibilant Letters. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) II. 240 A third [insect] of the same tribe..emits a small sibilant or chirping noise. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii, The language..had become less sibilant, and more guttural. 1880 *19th Cent.* XXXIX. 829 The ghost of Shakspere.. would probably join in the sibilant chorus.

b. *spec.* in *Pathol.* (See quots.)

1833 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* I. 229 The dry bronchial rhonchus ..includes two varieties, the sibilant and sonorous rhonchus. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 388 As a general rule, hissing and whistling sounds or sibilant rhonchi arise in the smaller tubes. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 30 The respiratory murmur..may be replaced by sibilant râles.

2. Making a hissing or whistling sound.

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 530 Sibilant Snake. *Coluber sibilans.* *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sketches* (1879) I. 77 Horse chestnuts and elms and sibilant poplars in front.

B. *sb.* A speech-sound having a hissing effect; a sound of the nature of *s.*

1822 J. THELWALL *Poet. Recreat.* 165 There must be no clashing of consonants, no hissing of sibilants, particularly in the termination of the lines. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 105 A sibilant of which the exact sound is still a matter of some doubt. 1876 S. BIRCH *Rede Lect. on Egypt* 32 The final sigma of the Greeks is represented by the Egyptian sibilant.

Hence **Si·bilantly** *adv.*

1891 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 739/1 It echoed sibilantly.

Sibilate (si·bile[i]t), *v.* Also 9 **sibillate.** [f. ppl. stem of L. *sībilāre* to hiss, whistle.]

1. *intr.* To hiss; to utter a hissing sound.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sibilate*, to whistle or hiss. 1823 *Examiner* 332/1 The disposition to sibilate became uncontroulable. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* iv. (1864) 71 Its voice is a harsh, grating hiss: it makes the noise when alarmed, all the individuals sibilating as they fly..away.

2. *trans.* **a.** To announce with a hissing sound.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 577 The 'Goose and Gridiron' sibillates the joys of supper.

b. To assail (an actor) with hissing.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 28 Dec. 5/1 Vociferous tragedians who would now be sibilated by a Victoria gallery.

Hence **Si·bilating** *ppl. a.*; **Si·bilatingly** *adv.*

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. iv. 309 Why the Spanish should have so many sibillating endings. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 399 He then proceeds..in a circumlocutory sibillating whisper. 1862 SALA *Accepted Addr.* 190 The pit began to be sibilatingly cat-calling, uproarious.

Sibilation (sibilē·ʃən). Also 9 **sibill-.** [ad. late L. *sībilātio*, noun of action f. *sībilāre.* So F. *sibilation.*] The action of hissing or whistling; a hissing or whistling sound.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 176 All Metals quenched in water give a Sibilation or hissing Sound. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IX. 328 When children make a noise and sibilation as they suck the Milk. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict., S.*..unhappily prevails in so many of our words that it produces in the ear of a foreigner a continued sibilation. 1802 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XIII. 10 Its sibillations are attached to its most necessary inflections. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 174 He with a long low sibilation, stared As blank as death in marble. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *La Plata* 8 The sharp fitful sibilations of the dry wiry grasses on the barren places.

b. *spec.* Hissing as a sign of disapproval.

1822 *Examiner* 109/2 The ecstasies of..the major part.. set sibilation at defiance. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 703 The play was sent to Orcus..amidst hideous sibilation.

Sibilator (si·bile[i]tə1). *rare.* In 5 **siblatour,** 9 **sibillator.** [Agent-noun, on L. types, f. SIBILATE *v.*] One who hisses or whistles.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXV. 137 (Harl. MS.), In that obere side is an hisser or a siblatour, and he hissithe so swetlye [etc.]. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* V, 'What's up?' replied the sibillator.

Sibilatory (si·bilătəri), *a.* Also **sibill-.** [See SIBILATE *v.* and -ORY.] Of the nature of, marked or expressed by, hissing.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 621 Mr. Hunt, however, notwith-

standing his sibillatory reception, told the saintly squad a homely truth. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IX. 213 Emitting a long sibillatory whistle. 1881 *World* 28 Dec., A suspicion of sibilatory indignation.

Sibilous (si·bilәs), *a.* [f. L. *sībil-us* adj. + -OUS.] Hissing, sibilant.

1768 G. WHITE *Selborne* xvi, The grasshopper lark began his sibilous note in my fields last Saturday. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 240 Its sibilous note is observed to cease about the latter end of July. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* I. 537 He [Laennec] distinguishes five principal kinds of rattle:..4 The dry sibilous, or hissing. 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 68 The respiration was accelerated, was becoming sibilous. 1890 *Australian Girl* I. xiii. 192 There was a faint sibilous sound.

‖ **Sibilus** (si·bilәs). [a. L. *sībilus* sb.]

†**1.** A hissing in the ears. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 254 Greet sownynge in þe eeris & sibillus, & defaute of heeringe & deefnes.

2. *Path.* A sibilant râle.

1887 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 146 When rhonchus and sibilus are present over the whole of both lungs..it is unlikely that the bronchitis is complicated with pneumonia.

Siblatour, obs. form of SIBILATOR.

†**Sib-la3.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SIB *sb.*[1] or *a.* + ON. *lag* community, partnership.] = SIBRED.

c 1205 LAY. 412 He hefde muchele strenghe..of þan Troyscen monnen, þe weren his moder isib; for þare sibelaȝe luue hem wes bi-tweonen.

†**Sibling.** *Obs.* [f. SIB *a.* + -LING [1].] One who is of kin to another; a relative.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xix. 12 Hæfst þu suna oððe dohtra on þisre byriȝ..oððe æniȝne sibling? *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 102 He yaf hymself to lecherye; & nat only to many sengle wommen, bot he ne synned [=shunned] neþer spousbrych ne syblynges.

†**Sibman.** *Obs.* [f. SIB *a.* + MAN. *Sib man* or *men* also freq. occur written as separate words.] Kinsman.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20243 Til hir scho cald Hir sibmen. *Ibid.* 27943 Incest, þat es for to lij Bi þat þi sibman has line bi. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 403 For his sibmen wonnyt thar-by, That helpyt him full wilfully. 14.. *Nom.* in WR.-Wülcker 690 *Hic affinis*, a sybmane. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 11 Sho lete hur carvur, þat was hur awn syb-man, hafe at do with hur.

Sibness (si·bnės). In later use only *Sc.* Also 3, 7 **sibnesse**, 6–7 *Sc.* **-nes**; 3, 5 **sybnesse**, 4 **subnes**. [f. SIB *a.* + -NESS. Cf. Fris. *sibbens.*]

1. Relationship, kinship.

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 275 Nu, mi swete ihesu, leaued haue i for þi luue flesches sibnesse. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 76 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Þureh þe sybnesse of seynt iohan..Louerd haue mercy of vs euervychon. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 208 For þi godnese art þou min, More for þi godnesse Þen for þine sibnesse. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. x. (Bodl. MS.), If mercurius is coniuncte þereto..he disposeþ a man..to writing and is the hous of kynrede & nyȝe subnes. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 58 For sic sibnes and also sic incest For till abhor, him thocht that twe best. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 386 Thou will count thy sibnes with this man and that man. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 29 Gif she be separate fra him, for parentage, and sibnes of blude. 1872 MICHIE *Deeside Tales* (1908) 9 People were wont to say of any inextricable problem, 'ye might as soon unravel the sibness o' the Gordons o' Girnock'. *c* 1892 RANKIN in Storey *Ch. of Scotl.* II. 421 The relation of godfather and godmother which had nothing to do with bodily *sibness* at all.

b. *transf.* or *fig.*

a 1658 DURHAM *Comm. Revelation* xi. (1680) 433 We would observe the sibnesse and identity of this trumpet with the seven viols. 1692 A. PITCAIRN *Assembly* IV. iii. 53 Pastoral Relations and Scriptural Sibnesses. 1744 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 III. 216 The wondrous sibness between Christ and His Church.

†**2.** *collect.* Kinsfolk, relatives. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1390 *Pains of Hell* (MS. Digby 86) 109 þe wreieþ his sibnesse oþer his steleþ Abouen his heien þe flod heleþ.

Si·bred. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 1 **sibreden**, 5 **-redin**, **sybredyn**(e; 4–5 **sib**(**be**)**radyn**. *β.* 3–5 **sibrede**, 4–5 **sybrede** (5 **cybrede**, **sybreed**), 6 **sybrade**; 4 **sibred**, 5–6 **syb**(**b**)**red**, 6 **sybberid**, 7 **sibbered**; 7 **sibrit**, 9 *dial.* **sibberet**(**s**), **sib**(**b**)**ret**(**s**), **-rit**(**s**), etc. *γ. Sc.* 5 **sibrend**, **sibrent**. [See SIB *a.* and -RED, and cf. GOSSIPRED.]

1. Relationship, kinship, consanguinity.

α. 1127 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1127, Þes ilce Willelm hæfde æror numen ðes eorles dohter of Angeow to wife, oc hi wæron siððan to-tweamde for sibreden. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 691 For the sybredyne of me, fore-sake noghte this offyce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10326 Þurgh sibradyn first, Thou was aliet to þat lynage. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 338/2 A Sybredyn, *consanguinitas.*

β. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10108 Þulke 3er þe king him let vor sibrede to dele. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12674 Iesu broþer cald was he For sibred, wirschip, and bunte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 284 Every man it scholde drede, And nameliche in his Sibrede. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 42 All other,.. that sybrede or other frendshypp hadden to hym,..weren I-dryue out of englond. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXXIX, But for sibrede & consanguinitee They were departed by papall iudgement.

transf. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 4 Ioyning these too togither, with the nighness allso of the woords, and sybred of the toongs.

γ. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. i. 75 Til sibrent [*v.r.* sibrend] haffande na knawlage And but al reuerens of maryage.

2. *E. Anglian dial.* The banns of marriage.

Prob. from the mention, in the banns, of 'sibred' as an impediment to the marriage.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455/1 Sybrede,.. *banna.* *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 21 Alle, þat..don swyche weddynges be solemnysed, & wyth-oute syb-redes, in cherchys, in chapellys, or in oratoriis. 1513 *Will of Poly* (Somerset Ho.), If she bee maried as sone as hir sybbred bee asked. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 76 *Sibberidge*, or *Sibbered*; the Banes of Matrimony, *Suff.* 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 348 *Sibrit*, banns of matrimony. 1860 AGNES STRICKLAND *Old Friends* 214 After their sibright was out-asked. 1884 J. S. ORTON *Beeston Ghost* 4 T'will be a precious long awhile afore the paarson axes my sibbret.

†**Si·bsomeness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *sibsum*, f. SIB *sb.*[1]] Peace, concord.

a 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 860, On godre ȝeþuærnesse and on micelre sibsumnesse. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 Þa weren alle mid sibsumnesse, and fuleden þam apostles. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 599 in *O. E. Misc.* 54 Sibsumnesse eu beo among, ne beo ye nouht of-dredde.

Sibyl (si·bil). Forms: *α.* 4–7 **sibil** (4 **sibbil**), 5–7 **sibill** (7 **sibell**); 4–5, 7 **sibille**, 4, 6 **sibile** (5 *Sc.* **sebile**), 6 **sibylle**; 7– **sibyl**, 7–8 **sibyll**. *β.* 4 **sybyl**, 5 **-ylle**, 7 **-yll**; 4, 6– **sybil**, 5–7 **sybill**, 6–7 **sybille**. [a. OF. *Sibile*, *Sebile* (F. *Sibylle*), or ad. med.L. *Sibilla*, L. *Sibylla*, *Sibulla*, a. Gr. Σίβυλλα; the explanation of this as Doric Σιοβόλλα = Attic Θεοβούλη is given by Jerome. In sense 1 now usually written with a capital, in sense 2 with a small letter.]

1. One or other of certain women of antiquity who were reputed to possess powers of prophecy and divination.

In later times the number of these was usually set down as ten, flourishing at different times and places in Asia, Africa, Greece, and Italy.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6999 Þe first sibile o pers, Men findes of in al wers. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1450 He for sibille his suster sente, That called was Cassandre al aboute. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 383 That Sibille of whom ye wite, That alle men yit clepen sage. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 299 Hethen propheseyes, whiche spake of the comynge of Crist, & specyally one of the Sybylles. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. Prol. 70 Oft by Sibillis sawis he [Virgil] tonis his stevin. 1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 2 Lactantius doubteth not to count him [Hermes] among the sibiles and prophets. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 56 The spirit of deepe Prophecie she hath, Exceeding the nine Sibyls of old Rome. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xi. 250 The Pictures of the sybills are very common, and for their Prophecies of Christ in high esteem with Christians. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 495 ¶ 10 The Prophecies of the Sybils..made many Years after the Events they pretended to foretell. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 307 Their industry had scooped the Sibyll's cave into a prodigious mine. 1831–3 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* xvii. (1845) 373 The verses of the Sibyls were known to the heathen from a remote antiquity. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 54 The grand sibyls and prophets, painted in fresco by Michel Angelo.

transf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. Prol. 145 Thou art our Sibill, Cristis modir deir.

2. A prophetess; a fortune-teller, a witch.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 56 How now Samela, wilt thou be a Sybil of mishap to thy self? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 70 A Sybill..In her Prophetticke furie sow'd the Worke. 1632 HEYWOOD 1*st Pt. Iron Age* I. i, Thou art no Sibill, but from fury speak'st, Not inspiration; we reguard thee not. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. iii, Thou wanton sybil, thou amorous woman of Endor. *Ibid.* II. iii, Handsome! Venus de Medicis was a sibyl to her. 1811 J. B. S. MORRITT *Let.* 28 Dec. in Lockhart *Scott*, I often heard of her in my early youth, from a sibyl who lived in the park. 1856 BOKER *Francesca da Rimini* I. i, Bah! on your sibyl and her prophecy! 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 111 O sibyl excellent, enough of adjuration!

attrib. and *Comb. a* 1718 PARNELL *Fairy Tale* 181 This tale a Sybil-nurse areed. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 115 To pow'r like thine no sybil spells pretend. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vii, Shouting question after question into the Sibyl-cave of Destiny. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* (1848) xix. 220 She sibyl-like Instinct with inspiration.

3. *Ornith.* (See quot.)

1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VI. 437 Sibyl Warbler, *Sylvia Sperata.*

‖ **Sibylla** (sibi·lă). Also 4 **sibila**, 6–7 **sibilla**; 4 **sybila**, 6–7 **sybilla**. [a. L. *Sibylla*: see prec.] = SIBYL 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7031 Þan ras þe thrid sibila, þat man clepis delphica. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. i. 99 Gevand respons onto this Sibilla. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 116 If I liue to be as olde as Sibilla, I will dye as chaste as Diana. 1611 COTGR., *Sibyllin*, prophecying, of a Sybilla, or Sybilla-like. 1842 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* s.v. *Divinatio*, The Sibylla whose books gained so great an importance at Rome, was, according to Varro, the Erythraean. *Ibid.*, Prophecies by some Bacis or Sibylla.

†**Siby·llianist.** *Obs. rare.* = SIBYLLIST 1.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 209 So farre, that for their frequent testimonies from them, the Pagans commonly styled Christians, Sibyllianists.

Sibyllic (sibi·lik), *a.* Also **Sybilic**. [f. SIBYL + -IC.] = next.

a 1849 POE *Ulalume* Poems (1859) 71 Its Sybilic splendor is beaming with Hope and Beauty. 1870 *Nation* XI. 390 Sibyllic enough to be extremely puzzling to the average mind. 1894 TABLE *Poems* 19 With sibyllic omen Seeming thus to say.

Sibylline (si·bilәin), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8–9 **Sybil**(**l**)**ine**, 9 **Sibyline**. [ad. L. *Sibyllīn-us*, f. *Sibylla* SIBYL. Cf. F. *sibyllin*, + *sibillin.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Pertaining to, uttered or written by, one or more of the Sibyls.

In this sense usually with a capital, and qualifying *books* or *oracles*: on the nature of these see *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 13.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, J. Cæsar* (1612) 738 That it was written in the Sybilline prophecies, how the Romaines might ouercome the Parthians. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 282 Concluding the whole business of the Sibylline Oracles ..to have been a mere Cheat and Figment; and that there never was any thing in those Sibylline Books [etc.]. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. 21 The Fathers are to be excused for citing the Sybilline verses as true. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xi. I. 361 The Sibylline books enjoined ceremonies of a more harmless nature. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 477/1 It may be that at this time a number of Sibylline oracles were forged and circulated. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 219 It had probably originated from the expectations of Jews and Christians, and is found again and again in the Sibylline books.

2. Oracular, occult, mysterious.

1817 COLERIDGE (*title*), Sibylline Leaves; a Collection of Poems. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* I. (1857) 3 The Sibyline tomes of tradition are disappearing in this part of the country. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 42 Looking out, with..her slightly dilated, sybilline eyes, quite through the universe. 1888 R. GARNETT *Emerson* I. 21 Her habitual mode of expressing herself was abrupt and sibylline.

Comb. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* X. (1857) 152 Here are a few sybilline-like leaves, the sole records, of his common everyday affairs.

3. Excessive, exorbitant.

In allusion to the Sibyl who sold three books to Tarquinius Superbus at the price of the original nine.

1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. Introd. 11 My terms are Sybilline. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 224 To set a Sibylline value on their verses in proportion as they were unsalable.

4. Resembling a Sibyl.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. V. iv, See Camille Desmoulins ..rushing out, sibylline in face; his hair streaming. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* II. 14 Suetonius Paulinus penetrated to the sacred island of Mona, exterminated the priests and white-robed Sibylline women who thronged the shores.

B. *sb.* In *pl.*, the Sibylline oracles or books.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 177/2 It was still the main object of the sibyllines to combat heathenism itself. 1895 SALMOND *Doctr. Immortality* IV. i. 411 These Sibyllines have come down to us only in the most confused and uncertain form.

Si·byllism. [f. SIBYL + -ISM.] Prophecy, soothsaying.

1833 CARLYLE *Misc.* III. 225 And himself, in a moment of sibylism, emitted that surprising announcement. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 177/2 Fusing the remnants of Greek sibyllism with their native prophecy.

Sibyllist (si·bilist). Also 7 **Sybillist**. [ad. late Gr. Σιβυλλιστής: see SIBYL and -IST.]

1. One who believes in the Sibylline prophecies; especially applied to the early Christians who accepted the Sibylline writings as genuine.

1605 J. DOVE *Confut. Atheism* 53 The heathens called the Christians Sybillistes, because Christian religion was most of all proued out of the Sybils Oracles. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 284 Upon Celsus mentioning a Sect of Christians called Sibyllists, Origen tells us, that these..were called so in way of disgrace, by other Christians. 1846 S. SHARPE *Hist. Egypt fr. Earliest Times* xiii. 429 Celsus charges the Christians with being sibyllists.

2. A writer or compiler of Sibylline oracles.

1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 811 A favourite device on the part of a Sibyllist is to review all the kings of the period just before his own time.

Sibylli·stic, *a. rare.* [f. SIBYL + -ISTIC.] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, the Sibyls.

1797 T. GREEN *Diary Lover of Lit.* (1810) 39 The sudden and violent transitions..from sibyllistic fury to colloquial familiarity. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIV. 559 The sybilistic Latin inscription..has sometimes driven curious travellers frantic to discover its purport.

Sic (sik), *a.* *Sc.* and *north.* *a.* (Chiefly *Sc.*) 5– **sic** (6 **syc**), 5–9 **sick**, 5–7, 9 **sik** (5 **syk**). *β.* (Chiefly *north.*) 5–7 **syke** (6 **sayk**, 7 **syik**), 5– **sike**. [Reduced form of *swik*, *swilk*: see SUCH *a.* The form *sike* may have arisen under the influence of SLIKE *a.* The examples from early texts are probably due to the 15th century scribes.] = SUCH *a.*

1. In ordinary attributive use.

α. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 180 Sloppis..left he..of sic quantite, That fyffe hundir mycht sammyn ryde. 1424 *Sc. Acts, Jas. I* (1814) II. 6/1 At þai þat sik treis pertenys to [etc.]. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 93 With sic courtassy as he couth, on kneis he fell. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 26 Pretendand the to wryte sic skaldit skrowis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 5 The beimes of the Sone..in sik brichtnes. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 6 In his court..there is sick vprightnes. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. (1699) 235 Together with sick witnesses as best knows the verity of the Premisses. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 6 That store which Heav'n In sic abundance to their hands has giv'n. 1814 A. WILSON *Loss o' the Pack*, Sic cheeks! sic een! Sic smiling looks! were never, never seen. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 30 At sic change ye'll grow clean wud.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 166 Sike lufe til hyre had Ihesu swet. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 125 Whether thy dayes, lord, be syke As mennys dayes, that dwellen here? 1480 *Newcastle Merch. Vent.* (Surtees) I. 3 Wppon payn of syke fin as shalbe thought reasonable. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 211 Sike fancies weren foolerie. 1589 PEELE *Eclogue Gratulatory* 32 Sike verse, I tell thee, ought have a great vaunt. 1604 *Urie Court-bk.* (1892) 4 Fewaill..syik as petteis, turris, or haidder. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 82 Is it Love, a God's Name, or some

sike giddy thing that girds you? 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Sike*, such. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sike*.., such, similar. 'Sike and sike like'.. all are alike in the matter.

b. Used with numerals in comparisons, as *by sic seven*, seven times (more, better, etc.).

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 388, I meyn fer mar the tynsell off my men, Na for my selff, mycht I suffir sic ten. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 22 In haly legendis haif I hard..Ma sanctis of bischoppis, nor freiris, be sic sevin. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 45, I beleue to haue ane better..be sic thre Nor is the auld. 1574 *Sat. Poems Reform.* xlii. 347 Quhais number..Is greiter..3ea, be sic thre.

2. Followed by *a* (or † *ane*).

a. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 77 Thir twa..Quhilk suld succeid to sic a hycht. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 67, I wait na worthie harberie..to serue sic ane man. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 98 Think on, thairfoir, quhill ȝe haue sic ane cryme. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 65 The king commandes thame..to be present at sik a day. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 133 To answere to sic ane man, anent sic ane thing, or in sic ane cause, or to sic ane Breive. *a* 1724 in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I think my doghter winna gloom On sick a lad as ye. 1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 86 Buirdly chiels, and clever hizzies, Are bred in sic a way as this is. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxix, I cannot enter into ony carnal transactions on sic a day. 1816 — *Old Mort.* xxxv, De'il tak me if they mak sic a guse o' Cuddie.

β. a 1400–50 *Alexander* (D.) 1968 With syke a soume for to seke a sawt vs to ȝelde. *c* 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1103 Herde ye euer syke another? 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 21 It would make a man mad to heare this fable-teller make syke a declaration. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 64 *Sike* a thing, such a thing. 1692 *Sc. Presbyt. Elog.* (1738) 118 Do you remember how you put out sike a sweet Saint of mine? *a* 1718 Parnell *Fairy Tale* 118 Was never wight in sike a case.

3. *absol.* Such person(s) or thing(s).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 14 For-þi folk mony fundine ware, þat for to sla sik wald nocht spare. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4272 Sike as growis on þe gronde..þat we fede vs with in-fere. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 353 Perchance ye say, that Bruce he was none sik. 1561 Winȝet *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 15 Sen we reid nane callit be God onlie, except sick as schew thair power geuin to thaim be Him. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 125 Bot sic as..willinglie sinnes agane, thay sinne aganis Christ. *a* 1724 in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1729) 17, I hae na meikle, But sick's I hae ye's get a Pickle. 1825–1876 [see Sic-like *sb.*].

‖ **Sic,** *adv.* [L. *sic* so, thus.] A parenthetical insertion used in printing quotations or reported utterances to call attention to something anomalous or erroneous in the original, or to guard against the supposition of misquotation.

1887 Sweet *Second Anglo-Sax. Reader* Pref., A prefixed star calls attention to an erroneous or anomalous form, being thus equivalent to 'sic'.

Hence **Sic** *v.*, to mark with a 'sic'. *nonce-wd.*

1889 Bax *Ethics Socialism* (1902) 94 The modern reviewer's taste is not really shocked by half the things he *sics* or otherwise castigates.

Sic, obs. or dial. form of Sike.

Sicamor(e, sicamour, obs. ff. Sycamore.

Sica·nian, *a. poet.* [f. L. *Sīcani-us*, f. *Sīcanī* (usually *Sicānī*), Gr. Σικανοί, a tribe inhabiting part of Sicily.] Sicilian.

1647 Cowley *Mistr., Coldness* iv, Alphæus found not a more secret trace, His lov'd Sicanian Fountain to embrace. 1795 Landor *Gebir* VI. 173 And now Sicanian Etna rose to view. 1875 Morris *Æneid* v. 24 The way..To brother-land of Eryx leal and safe Sicanian port.

Sicarian (sikē·riăn). *rare.* Also 4 -ien, -yen. [f. L. *sicārius*, f. *sīca* dagger.] An assassin. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

a 1400 N. T. (Paues) *Acts* xxi. 38 [He] ledde into deserte foure þowsande of men sicaryens. (Sicariens wore men þat maden fauchons or lytel swerdes.) 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* vi. 33, 4 Sicarians..slu..Becket. 1879 Farrar *Christ* II. lx. 362 In a nation which produced the sicarii, Pilate had given a fatal precedent of sicarian conduct.

So **Sica·rious** *a. rare* —1.

1821 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXV. 236 These prejudices..may occasion Sicilian vespers, and expose to sicarious destruction every British resident.

Sicatrize, obs. form of Cicatrize *v.*

‖ **Sicca** (si·kă). *Anglo-Indian.* Also 7 **secau, seccawe, siccau, sickaw,** 9 **sikka.** [a. Pers. (Arab.) سكة *sikkah* a die for coining, the impression on money.]

1. *Sicca rupee* (also † *rupee sicca*), originally, a newly-coined rupee, accepted at a higher value than those worn by use; latterly, a rupee coined under the Government of Bengal from 1793, and legally current till 1836, of a greater weight than the Company's rupee.

1619 in W. Foster *Eng. Factories in India* (1906) I. 113 Wherein wee have observed your request of rupees secaus coorah. 1620 *Ibid.* 182 In the exchange of rupees secaus for hundies. 1683 in Yule & Burnell *Hobson-Jobson* 633/1 Having received 25,000 Rupees Siccas for Rajamaul. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 24/1 One lack of sicca haulee Banaris rupees. 1777 Richardson *Pers. Dict.* I. 1033 A sicca rupee, of full standard weight. 1806 T. Maurice *Ind. Antiq.* 246 The gross amount of its revenue is stated at 54,47,985,13 sicca-rupees. 1859 Lang *Wand. India* 177 'You shall, in future, receive it in sicca rupees', said the Lieutenant.

b. *ellipt.* =prec.

1757 in Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 68 The Company shall be allowed..to coin siccas, both of gold and silver, of equal fineness with those of Muxadavad. 1763 *Ann. Reg., St. Papers* (1764) 191, I will cause the rupees coined in Calcutta to pass respect equal to the siccas of Morshedabad. 1886 Yule & Burnell *Hobson-Jobson* 632/2 This rupee, which is the sicca of more recent monetary history, weighed 192 grs. troy, and then contained 176·13 grs. of pure silver.

2. *Sicca weight*: (see quot. 1833).

1833 *India Regulation* (V.), The use of the sicca weight of 179·666 grains,..being in fact the weight of the Moorshedabad rupee of the old standard,..shall be discontinued. 1850 *Directions Rev. Off. N. W. Prov.* 224 The liquor..is liable to a fixed duty per gallon of 304 Sicca Weight, on being removed from the enclosure.

Siccan (si·kăn), *a. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6 **sikkin, sickin,** 6, 8 **sicken,** 8– **siccan,** etc. [f. Sic *a.* + Kin *sb.*1 6 b.] Such, such-like.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. xii. 69 Thus as he mvsis, stad in sikkin dowt. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 58 For thow may rew by all the rest That this day thow wants sickin ane. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B, He hath giuen the cause sicken a wipe in his bricke. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, My lad frae books can gather siccan sense. 1786 *Har'st Rig* xl, Minden plain, Whare siccan heaps o' French were slain. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxi, The savour of the wallflowers, and siccan shrubs as grow on thae ruined wa's. 1899 Crockett *Kit Kennedy* 96 There never was siccan a boy as that Kit o' yours.

Sicca·neous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *siccāneus* (Columella), f. *siccus* dry.] Dry, arid.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Siccaneous*, dry of nature, that hath no Rivers or Springs to water it. 1821 R. Pollok in *Life* 77 Some of our addle-headed modern critics have certainly dug the sentiment from the siccaneous heaps of ancient critiicism.

† **Si·ccate,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also as *pa. pple.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *siccāre*.] *trans.* To make dry.

1570 J. Drout *Gaulfrido & Bernardo* F viij, Whose watered plants scarse sicate were, Till he this same did close. 1623 Cockeram I, *Siccate*, to dry vp. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 214 They are used..to roborate and siccate the brain.

† **Sicca·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *siccātio* (Pliny), f. *siccāre* to dry.] The action or process of drying.

1612 Woodall *Surgeon's Mate* Wks. (1653) 274 Siccation is the drying up of excremental humidity in bodies. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 146 Seeds after siccation are reposed in glass vessels.

Siccative (si·kătiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *siccātīv-us*, f. *siccāre* to dry: see -ative.]

A. *adj.* Having the property of absorbing moisture; drying.

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* § 377 If the wounde be depe, vse siccatiue playsters. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* (1637) 134 So did they with the juyce of cedars; which by the extreame bitternesse, and siccative facultie,..subdued the cause of interior corruption. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 896 Such oils are said to be drying or siccative. 1847 A. Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 143 It may be rendered siccative at pleasure, by adding a little vitriol of zinc. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Mar. 575/1 Lead is siccative with reference to..linseed oil.

B. *sb.* A substance that dries up moisture, esp. as used in oil-painting; a dryer.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 639 To which add some powerful siccative, or dryer, as red lead. 1882 Gosse *Gray* v. 98 The successive criticisms of a swarm of Dryasdusts, each depositing his drop of siccative.

† **Sicced,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. L. *sicc-us*: perh. intended for **siccid.*] Dry.

1667 Primatt *City & C. Builder* 2 A Season that is too sicced or dry.

† **Si·ccicate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *siccus* or *siccāre*.] =Siccate *v.*

1639 T. de Gray *Expert Farrier* 21 The scorching heats will so siccicate and dry the planks. *Ibid.* 238 Corrupt cholericke bloud siccicating the flesh. *Ibid.* 291 They do siccicate and dry up many bad humours.

† **Sicci·fic(al,** *a. Obs.*—0 [f. L. *siccific-us*, f. *siccus* dry.] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Siccifical*, that hath power to make dry. 1721 Bailey, *Siccifick*, causing Siccity.

† **Si·ccitude.** *Obs.*—1 [f. L. *siccus.*] =next.

1599 Linche *Anc. Fiction* X ij, A general siccitude throughout the whole composition of our bodies.

Si·ccity. ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *siccitas*, f. *siccus* dry: see -ity. So F. *siccité* (1425), It. *siccità.*] Dryness; absence of moisture.

1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 62 It is humor sollid constant with siccitie. *Ibid.* 76 Thick Liquor with us hath siccity. 1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* I. (1653) 96 The eating of much salt..breeds barrennesse to mans body by the extream siccity thereof. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 288 Those sands, which a long calme disunites by reason of their siccitie. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Epid.* 172 The reason some..attempt to make out from the siccity and drines of its flesh. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 328 An undeniable Argument of its Frigidity, and thence a farther concomitant of its Siccity. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geogr.* III. 186 If the blood retains its siccity, the people are struck with terror. 1782 *European Mag.* II. 350 Heat is the common property of fire and air,..siccity of earth and fire. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 290 This must..express not physical siccity, but that unfruitfulness which in the desert results from want of moisture.

Siccophant, obs. form of Sycophant.

Sice (səis), **size** (səiz). Forms: α. 5 **syse,** 5–6 **sys,** 6 **syse, syis**; 5 **sis,** 5– **sise,** 6– **size.** β. 5– **sice,** 6–7 **syce.** [a. OF. *sis, siis* (mod.F. *six*):—L. *sex* six. So MDu. *sijs* (infl. *sise*).]

1. The number six marked upon dice; a throw in which the die turns up six. Often in figurative contexts and phrases, as *to set at cinque and sice* (see Cinque 3).

a. c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 671 Thy sys fortune hath turned in-to Aas. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. viii, He caste thre dyse, and on eche dyse was a sise, which made xviij poyntes. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 295 Thoughe sys or synke them fayle, The dyse oft renneth upon the chaunce of thre. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 438 Seke some better chaunce Yourselves to avaunce, With sise, synke, or synnes, For he laughes that wynnes. *Ibid.* 442 With sise, sinke, and quatter. 1668 Dryden *Evening's Love* III. i, So, I have a good chance, two caters and a size. 1684–5 South *Serm.* (1715) I. 297 What Reason in the World can he have to presume, that he shall..throw an Ace rather than a Size? 1712 Swift *Jrnl. Stella* 31 May, The die is cast, and is a spinning, and till it settles, I cannot tell whether it be an ace or a sise. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* III. x. 327 He no more knew whether he had written well or ill, than whether a die thrown out of a box was to turn up a size or an ace.

β. c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 166 Whos chaunce gothe neyther on synk nor sice. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 124 Quhilk thing thay did sa Syce vp and Sink downe. 1576 Fleming tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 26 Our countrymen for their carelessnes of lyfe, setting all at cinque and sice, are of a contrary iudgement. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 144 Topsie turvie, vpside downe, sincke shall vp and sice shall vnder. 1688 [see 1 c (*b*)]. 1789 M. Madan tr. *Perseus* (1795) 79 What The lucky sice would bring. 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Agam.* 32 Each of the three dice falling with the sice uppermost.

b. *Sice cinque*, a throw with two dice turning up six and five. Similarly *sice quatre, trey, deuce.* In quot. *a* 1618 with pun on *cinquepace.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Man of Law's Prol.* 125 Your bagges been nat fild with ambes as But with sys cynk, that renneth for your chaunce. 1552 Huloet, Nomber of eyghte on the dyce, as sice deux. [*a* 1618 Sylvester *Lacrymæ Lacrymarum* 102 Bats, Harpies, Syrens, Centaurs, Bib-all-nights, Sice-sink-ap-Asses, Hags.] 1658 J. Jones *Ovid's Ibis* 75 Deuce ace cannot pay scot and lot, and Sice Sink will not pay. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. x. (1737) 37 They were call'd.. Sice cinque, Sice quater, Sice trey. 1748 Hoyle *Backgammon* iii. § 8 Size-Deuce, a Man to be brought from the five Men placed in your Adversary's Tables. *Ibid.* iv. § 6 A probability of throwing..Quatre-Trois, or Size-Cinque.

c. *Size-ace, sice-ace.* (*a*) A throw with two dice turning up six and one; also *fig.* (*b*) A variety of backgammon (see quot. 1688).

(*a*) 1592 *Nobody & Someb.* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 337 *Sico.* Give me some bales of dice. What are these? ..*Som.* Those bar Sizeaces. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 172 A number of good fellowes would giue size ace and the dice that with as little toyle they could leaue Tyburne behinde them. 1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 217 Here Satan stays, when these Persons..will give Satan Size-ace and the Dice, at Irish, in enthralling the Lives of the Subjects. 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* I. iii, Size ace I have thrown. 1748 Hoyle *Backgammon* iii. § 7 Size Ace, you are to take your Barr Point, for a Gammon, or for a Hit. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 475 Behind this size-ace of our species we think we recognise Mr. John Bowyer Nichols.

(*b*) 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 63/2 Sice-Ace. It is played with six or more men apeece where the one load the other with Aces, and sices beares onely and dubbletts throws againe, and he that hath first borne his men wins.

2. *Size-point.* a. In backgammon, the sixth point from the inner end of each table.

1552 Huloet, Sice or the nombre of sixe on the dice or y^e sice poynt in tables, *senio.* 1748 Hoyle *Backgammon* viii. § 7 Suppose A to have 2 Men upon his Size Point in his own Tables. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. ii. 282 Changing the ace point in the English game for the size point.

† b. The six in dice. *Obs.*

1648 Hexham II, *Sesken*, the Size point on a Die.

3. *slang.* Sixpence.

1660 Tatham *Rump* IV. i. Wks. (1879) 254 He..allows me the merry sice a day to spend till better times come. 1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 459 He'l print for a Sice, (For that is his price) Your Name (that you may brag 'twas so done) on the Ice! 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 56. 3/1 For want of Sice to hire a Bed. *Ibid.* No. 71. 3/2 For two and six Pence and a Sice too. [1830 Lytton *Paul Clifford* iii, As Mrs. Lobkins expressed it, 'two bobs for the Latin, and a sice for the vartue'!]

Sice, obs. form of Size.

† **Sicer.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **ciser, cisar,** 5 **cisere, cysar, cyser, cesare**; 4 **seser,** 5 **sychere, syser,** 6–7 **sicer,** 7 **sicere.** [ad. late L. *sycera* (med.L. *cisera, cisara*): see etym. note to Cider.] Intoxicating liquor, strong drink.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10982 Mikel for right sal he suinc, And noþer win ne ciser [*Gött.* seser] drinc. *Ibid.* 12679 He dranc neuer cisar ne wine. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 67 Wyne & cesare he ne sal drinke. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 116 Teres of synners certein whilk ere contrite trewely Ere wyne and Cisere to seintis. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Luke* i. 15 Wine and sicer he shal not drincke. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Deut.* xiv. 26 Thou shalt buy..wine also and sicere. [1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. p. xxx, No man hauing but the English tongue onely is able to vnderstand it. Witnesse their Parasceue of the Pasche, their Azimes, their Wine and Sicer.]

Sich(e, obs. or dial. ff. Sitch, Such.

† **Siche,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [Related to next: cf. Sike *sb.*] A sigh.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 388 Ic me..on godes helde bebeode, wiþþ þane sara sice, wiþ þane sara sleȝe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Þeh he him bidde mid his muð, he ne fecheð noht þe sore siches onnedȝerward his heorte.

† **Siche,** *v. Obs.* Also 3–5 **syche.** *Pa. t.* 3 **sihte, syhte,** 3–4 **siȝte,** 4 **syȝte, siȝt,** 5 **syght.** *Pa. pple.* 4 **y-siȝt.** [OE. *sīcan*, whence in ME. both *sīchen* (sīt∫-) and *sīken* Sike *v.* In OE. a strong verb (cf. the past t. *onsāc*), but in ME.

transferred to the weak class represented by *ræcean, tæcean*, etc. After *siche* became obsolete, the pa. t. *sight* was associated with SIGH *v.*, and remained in use till the 17th c.] *intr.* To sigh.

a. c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. viii. 92 Þæt wæron þa tida þe Romane nu æfter sicað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Psalter* (Thorpe) vi. 5 Ælce niht on minum bedde ic sice and wepe. *c* 1205 LAY. 12772 Þe king gon siche sare. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 463 in *O. E. Misc.* 50 Louerd, he seyde, þench on me, and bi-gon to syche [*rime* kyneriche]. 13.. *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 31 For þi suster i mai wel siche [*rime* riche]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 353 Þe kyng byhelde þe man and þe place, and siched sore. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 232 Yf he syche,..that man lowyth the and dreddyth.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 Iob..an-hefde þo his egen to heuene..and sore sihte. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1291 Þe nyhtegale sat and syhte. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 4683 Þan stode þer sir Gij vp-riȝt: Wel depe in hert he haþ y-siȝt. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2971 Sorwfuliche sche siȝt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 227 Whanne he wook and syȝte [L. *suspirante*]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3420 He ansuerd noȝt, bot sare syght.

Hence † **Si·ching** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 287 Herodes..was i-tormented..wiþ ofte brekynge of sore sichinges [*v.r.* sychyngs].

† **Sichet.** *Obs.* [f. ME. *siche* SITCH; recorded only in Latinized forms *sichetus, -a, -um.*] A small watercourse. Cf. SIKET.

c 1133 in Dugdale *Mon. Angl.* (1825) V. 323/1 Ad quendam sichetum versus austrum. 1258 in Madox *Formul. Angl.* 88 Tres [selliones] jacentes inter Terram..et Sichetam sive Sicheta. [*c* 1260–80 in Eyton *Antiq. Shropshire* (1859) IX. 187 Nine seylions.., whereof three lay beyond the sichet towards Sponleg.] 1319 *Reg. Dunfermline* (Bann. Cl.) 149 Ascendendo..per vnum Sychetum se extendentem apud Le Aly.., & sic ab illo sycheto [etc.].

Sichomure, obs. form of SYCAMORE.

Sicht, Sc. form of SIGHT.

Sicilian (sisi·liăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Sicilia* Sicily + -AN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to Sicily or its inhabitants; characteristic of Sicily or the Sicilians.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 164 My best Traine I haue from your Sicilian Shores dismiss'd. 1649 OGILBY *Virg., Bucolicks* iii. (1684) 14 *note,* Archimedes, that famous Sicilian Mathematician. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* (1697) 451 Sicilian Tortures, &c. Some of the Sicilian Kings were so great Tyrants, that the Name is become Proverbial. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk,* Part of the Sicilian Silks are Raw. 1781 COWPER *Heroism* 24 All the charms of a Sicilian year. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xiv. § 1 (ed. 3) 381 Zancle..deriving its first name from the old Sicilian word Zanclos signifying a reaping-hook. 1871 *Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* 259 In most of the Sicilian drawings there is a tendency to an annular form.

2. a. In special collocations, as *Sicilian embroidery* (see quot. 1882); *Sicilian opening* (in chess); *Sicilian Vespers* (see quot. 1728).

1611 COTGR., *Vespres Siciliennes,* the Sicilian Evensong; mischiefes done, or death inflicted, in a place, and time, of imagined securitie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Vespers, Sicilian Vesperas,* is taken proverbially [etc., copying Cotgrave]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Vespers,* Sicilian Vespers,.. a general Massacre of all the French in Sicily, in the Year 1282; to which the first Toll that call'd to Vespers was the Signal. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 638 After the Sicilian vespers, 1282, Sicily was seized by a fleet sent by the kings of Arragon. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlewk.* 448/2 *Sicilian Embroidery,* an effective and easy work, formed with muslin, thin cambric, and braid, and is used for trimmings to washing dresses or for tea cloths and ornamental linen. 1883 *Standard* 28 Apr. 3/1 Noa and Tchigorin drew a Sicilian opening.

b. In names of plants, products, etc., as *Sicilian hore-hound, radish, toad-flax; Sicilian earth, saffron; Sicilian sword-fish.*

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Linaria,* Sicilian Toad-Flax, with many Stalks, and a Leaf of the White Lady's Bedstraw. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 117 A vast profusion of turnips and Sicilian radishes. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 141 Sicilian Sword-Fish. 1820 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 98 *Marrubium Peregrinum.* Sicilian White Horehound. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 161 Sicilian saffron is obtained from Crocus odorus, according to Gussone. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.,* etc. III. 440/2 *Sicilian Earth,* a name sometimes given to fossil bezoar, which appears to be of a similar character to Armenian Bole.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Sicily.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. vi. 16 Of Troianis samyn and Sicilianis a rout. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 60 He whom an honest quæstorship had indear'd to the Sicilians. 1685 DRYDEN *Pref. to Sylvæ* Ess. (Ker) I. 266 Theocritus writ to Sicilians, who spoke that dialect. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk,* The rest of Italy and Spain learned from the Sicilians and Calabrians the Management of the Silk-Worms. 1788 LEMPRIÈRE *Class. Dict.* s.v. *Metelli,* A general of the Roman armies against the Sicilians and Carthaginians. 1825 LYTTON *Zicci* 5 The Sicilians are all ill-bred, bad-tempered fellows. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* III. 10 Her Sicilian had been also on the banks of the Teple.

2. = SICILIANA. *rare* —1.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sicilian,* in Music, &c., a Kind of gay sprightly Air, or Dance; somewhat of the Nature of an English Jig.

3. = SICILIENNE.

1908 *Daily Chron.* 11 June 11/5 Machinists.—Skirts, voiles, and Sicilians.

‖ **Sicilia·na.** Also pl. **-ane.** [It., fem. of *Siciliano* Sicilian.] A dance of the Sicilian peasantry, resembling a jig: the music for this.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Siciliane,* a Kind of Jig. 1782 *Ann. Reg.* II. 11 In Christmas time all quarters of Naples resound with pastorali or Siciliane, a kind of simple rural music, executed by..shepherds, upon a species of bagpipes. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 704/1 *Siciliana,* in Music, a name given to a slow, soothing, pastoral description of air, in $^6/_8$ time. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 250 *Siciliana,* an old Sicilian dance in $^6/_8$ time, with a Satarello movement.

‖ **Sicilienne** (sisilie·n). [F., fem. of *sicilien* Sicilian.] A fine poplin made of silk and wool.

1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 235, I had quite made up my mind to wear that pearl-gray sicilienne which you all so much admired. *Ibid.* III. 225 Her pale-gray cashmere gown, and flounced sicilienne petticoat. 1889 *Tablet* 16 Feb. 260 The bridesmaids' dresses were composed of white sicilienne.

Sick (sik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–3 seoc (1 seoch, sioc), 2–3 seo(c)k; 3 sæc, seac, seak (9 *dial.*), 3, 6 seake; 1–3 sec (5 cec), 2–5 sek (5 cek), 2–6 seke (5 ceke), 5 seeke; 3 siec, 4 siek(e, 4–6 (9 *dial.*) seek, 5 seyk, 5–6 *Sc.* seik. *β.* 3 suc, sic, 3–6 sik (4 zik), 6–7 sicke (6 sycke), 6– sick (9 *dial.* zick). *γ.* 3–5 sijk (4 siik, syyk, 5 siyk), 4–5 sijke (4 sike 5 syike); 3–5 syk, 4–6 syke (4 zyke); 3–5, 7 sike. [Common Teut.: OE. *seoc,* = OFris. *siak, siech, sek* (WFris. *siik,* † *sjeack*), MDu. *siec, ziec* (Du. *ziek*), OS. *siok, seoh, siak* (MLG. *sêk, seik, sik,* LG. *seek, siek, siik*), OHG. *siuh, sioh, seoh, siach, siech* (MHG. and G. *siech*), ON. and Icel. *sjúkr* (Norw. and Sw. *sjuk,* Da. *syg*), Goth. *siuks.* Relationship to other Teutonic roots is uncertain, and no outside cognates have been traced. The variation of vowel in some ME. forms is not easy to account for.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** Suffering from illness of any kind; ill, unwell, ailing. Now chiefly literary and *U.S.*

a. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 5 Swa swa læca ȝewuna is..ðonne hi siocne mon ȝesioð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Eal swylce seo lange mettrumnes biþ þæs seocan mannes. *c* 1020 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1015, Þa læg se cyng seoc æt Cosham. *c* 1205 LAY. 6781 Swa þe king seoc [*c* 1275 seac] læi. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1175 Abimalech wurð sek on-on. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6978 (Laud MS.), Now man is hool, now man is seek. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 65 He makth him siek, whan he is heil. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 199 Youre fader is right seke this day. 1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 9 It profiteth as a good medicine couenably yeven to them that be seke. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xx. 165 Quhat medycyn can help ane seik man that hurtis hym selue vilfully? 1580 HAVE in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 46 Is any seake amang you, lat him call for the preistes of the kirk. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Seak,* 'I was nowther seak nor sair when I said it',.. that is, in no way incapable of giving my evidence.

β. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 201 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Nare noman elles dead ne sic ne non unsele. *c* 1275 LAY. 2794 Þo iwarþ þe king sick. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3861 Elydour feyned hym sik to lye. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 46 Þou3 I be simpul & sik nepeles I wile euere haue a clerk þat schal do me dyuyne office. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* li. 187 These herbes don me but distresse,..for I am Sykkere thanne I was before. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 16 b, So that none of them was sycke or miscaryed by y^e waye. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 493 In this meane while, king Henry waxed sicker and sicker. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 191 The one of these being very sicke, and, as was thought, in danger of death. 1674 GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 83 Instead of growing sicker, they are far more chearfull. 1709 *Tatler* No. 86 ₱ 3 At whose right hand he had sat at every Quarter-Sessions this Thirty Years, unless he was Sick. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 183 At Issas he barbarously put to death all the Greeks who were sick in that city. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiv, If she could be spared to come down and console a poor sick lonely old woman. 1891 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. 443 She too has been sick and sent up to Ilkley in Yorkshire.

fig. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II,* II. i. 96 Thy death-bed is no lesser then the Land, Wherein thou lyest in reputation sicke. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV,* IV. iii. 56 Sicke in the Worlds regard.

γ. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 28 Þis bok he leide ope þis man, ase he so sijk þer lay. *Ibid.* 132 Þe Monenday sore syk þe bischop thomas lay. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3126 Þai wende þe quen wald dye, So sike sche was bi siȝt. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1358 That is a fruyt ful wel to lyke, Namely to folk whan they ben syke. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 194 The feend..made the peple sijk. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 294, I have lever deye than be longe syke. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lincoln* v. (1571) 101 Our Sauiour was going to the house where this young mayde lay syke.

b. Const. *of, with* († *in, on*).

Also in figurative contexts, cf. 3 and 4.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 23 Men þat ben sijke in þe palesy. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 148 Be war..thou be noght sik Of thilke fievere [jealousy] as I have spoke. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxl. 385 Many sondry frutys so fayre..that a syke man of any infyrmyte shuld sone recouer helth. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI,* 13 b, Ihon Lilie fel sicke on the gowte. 1579 W. FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 136 To a sicke man of the ague, all drinkes seeme bitter. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Auto-Machia* 68 Sick to my Self I run for my reliefe: So, Sicker of my Physicke than my Griefe. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxvii. 11 Self-love, ignorance, &c...make the soul sick of the fret. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* I. Wks. 1751 XII. 209 You are sick of the Mulligrubs with eating chopt Hay. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 320 This inn-keeper..being sick of a violent fever. 1884 QUINCY *Figures of Past* 199 New York had succumbed to the influenza. Everybody had been..sick with it.

c. Of parts of the body: Not in a sound or healthy state.

In later use usually with suggestion of sense **2.**

1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Yef þe on leme is zik oþer y-wonded. *c* 1400 *Brut.* cci. 229 Seynt Thomas come vnto him, and enoynted oueral his sike side. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 35 Wher the heed is seke or euyll, þe membres may not be hoole ner good. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 33 b, Laye thys upon the sycke place. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvii. 48 The kidneys might be sick, or..could not be nourished with good blood. 1700 *Transactioneer* 48 At last his Third Finger was sick. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 169 And had a sick stomach. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 115 A Sick Stomach will not digest the food that may be forced down it. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 781 All that it inherits Are motes of a sick eye.

d. *Sick man,* a term frequently applied, during the latter part of the 19th cent., to the Sultan of Turkey.

The first quot. refers to a conversation between the Czar Nicholas I and Sir G. Seymour at St. Petersburg on the 21 Feb. 1853.

1853 *Ann. Register, Hist.* 252, I am not so eager about what shall be done when the sick man dies, as I am to determine with England what shall not be done upon that event taking place. 1855 J. MARTINEAU *Essays,* etc. I. (1890) 428 It was all right not to let the 'sick man' be frightened into convulsions. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. I. 30 That formidable potentate, not then the 'sick man' whose precarious condition and territorial inheritance cause so much anxiety in modern days.

transf. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 4/4 French dealings with the Sultan of Morocco, the Sick Man of Africa.

e. *north. dial.* In childbed, confined, lying-in.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*

2. Having an inclination to vomit, or being actually in the condition of vomiting.

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* v. vi, O lend me a bason, I am sicke, I am sicke. 1656 [? J. SERGEANT] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 130 Those who are sick with riding in a Coach. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 341 He was very sick, and brought it up again. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 5 July, Precipices, that, to look at, make my head giddy and my heart sick. 1815 *Croker Papers* (1884) I. iii. 75 The men were all sick, and the women and children thought they were going to the bottom. 1900 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 628 The patient, if he is in the house, usually crouches over the fire and feels sick and giddy.

fig. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XIII. 11 But his essences turn'd the live air sick. 1856 BRYANT *Autumn Woods* vi, When the noon of summer made The valleys sick with heat.

b. More fully *sick at* (or *in*) *the stomach.* ? *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii, The Dog, when he is sick at the Stomach, knows his Cure, falls to his Grass, vomits, and is well. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Collog.* 489 Antronius comes..to say, that he is sick at the stomach. 1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 48, Sick in my Stomach all the Morning—Owing to their hard Food. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Sick as a horse.* Horses are said to be extremely sick at their stomachs, from being unable to relieve themselves by vomiting. 1831 T. HOPE *Ess. Orig. Man* II. 320 The elephant [will] eat sugar-plums till he turns sick at the stomach.

c. In phrases *sick as a dog, horse,* etc.

1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* II. i, If..he shou'd chance to be fond, he'd make me as sick as a Dog. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* i. Wks. 1751 XII. 209 Poor Miss, she's sick as a Cushion, she wants nothing but stuffing. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. ii, I am sick as a horse, quoth I, already. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1847) VII. 79 T' Trees gang fleeing by..an' gars yan be as seek as a peeate. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sick as a horse,* a common vulgar simile, used when a person is exceedingly sick without vomiting.

II. † 3. Spiritually or morally ailing; corrupt through sin or wrong-doing. *Obs.*

c 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) ii. 11 ȝif he..his seocum, þæt is synfullum dædum ealle lacnunge ȝezearewade. *a* 1000 *Juliana* 65 Hæðne wæron bezen, synnum seoce, sweor & apum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 176 Þet fleschs wolde.. makien sic þe soule. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25329 Bot if þi saul it be sua seke þat þou þi mode mai nagat meke. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 303 Go salue þo þat syke ben and þorw synne ywounded. 1404–8 *26 Pol. Poems* vii. 5 The flesch..Is wormes mete, and sek of synne. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 90 To so seyk & vnclene myndis..Aungell foyd sall not sauyr. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 109 Mony was seik of ane vice; to wit, immoderat libertie of lyfe. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII,* II. iv. 204, I meant to rectifie my Conscience, which I then did feele full sicke. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* VI. i, And heal my Soul diseas'd and sick.

4. Deeply affected by some strong feeling, as (*a*) sorrow, (*b*) longing, (*c*) envy, (*d*) repugnance or loathing, producing effects similar or comparable to those of physical ailments.

(*a*) *a* 1000 *Fate of Apostles* 2 Ic þysne sang siðgeomor fand On seocum sefan samnode wide. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1050 Ne beo þu on sefan to seoc! *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. xii. (1868) 107 He song..wiþ as myche as loue..myȝte ȝeuen hym and teche hym in his seke herte. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 77 It will make you sicke at the heart to see it. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 69 Thou Iulia thou hast..Made Wit with musing, weake; hart sick with thought. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xiii. 12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sicke. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 6 My soul is sick, with ev'ry day's report Of wrong and outrage. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* 178 Liquors..whose healthful might Could medicine the sick soul to happy sleep. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* I. 3 When..the heart is sick, And all the wheels of Being slow. 1886 ROBINSON *Courting May Smith* VI. i, She was ill at ease, and sick at heart.

(*b*) *c* 1388 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* v. 8 If ȝe han founde my derlyng, that ȝe telle to hym, that I am sijk [L. *langueo*] for loue. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 53 These seke lovers I leve that to hem longes. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* V. iii. 142 Boote, boote Master Shallow, I know the young King is sick for mee. 1613 — *Hen. VIII,* II. ii. 83, I would not be so sicke though for his place. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* I. ii, She's sick of the young shepherd that bekiss'd her. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 28 When one

[nightingale].., Sick with sweet love, droops dying away. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 71 This girl, for whom your heart is sick, Is three times worth them all. 1875—*Harold* I. i, Sick as an autumn swallow for a voyage.

(*c*) 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 159 If evere yit thin herte was Sek of an other mannes hele? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 132 So euery step Exampled by the first pace that is sicke Of his Superiour, growes to an enuious Feauer. 1613—*Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 82 What we oft doe best, By sicke Interpreters..is Not ours, or not allow'd.

(*d*) 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 212, I am sicke when I do looke on thee. 1599—*Much Ado* II. ii. 5 Any barre..will be medicinable to me, I am sicke in displeasure to him. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. i. 122 Thy milky, meek face makes me sick with hate! 1880 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 155 It makes me sick to quote him.

b. *slang.* Disgusted, mortified, chagrined.

1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 254 Thinking..how sick he was when the jury..gave five hundred pounds damages against him. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Mar. 7/1 Those who backed the popular fancies in the winter must be feeling, in popular parlance, pretty sick.

transf. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Rhyme Three Sealers,* The sickest day for you..was the day that you came here.

5. Thoroughly tired or weary *of* a thing.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 87 The Common-wealth is sicke of their owne Choice. 1603 BRETON *Dial. Pithe & Pleasure* Wks. (Grosart) II. 14/1 Where the sonne is sike of the father, the sister of the brother. 1710 *Tatler* No. 257 ¶ 3, I was quickly sick of this tawdry Composition of Ribands, Silks and Jewels. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 7 Heartily sick of his host, himself, and his travels. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 281 The world is sick of such societies. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 7 May 5/4 There are plenty of Tories everywhere who are sick of the old party traditions.

III. 6. Mentally affected or weak. Now *rare.*

Cf. OE. *seocmód* adj. in Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lex.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 772 Þan waxes his gaste seke and sare, And his face rouncles. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 10 b, Some menne are so sicke in their braine, that thei are neuer wise. 1692 S. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 223 If they are not sick in their wits. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Isl.* v. xxvii. 3 It was a tone Such as sick fancies in a new-made grave Might hear.

7. Of things: Out of condition in some respect; corrupted or spoiled; *spec.* of wine which has become turbid, or of quicksilver (see quot. 1875).

1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxiv. 7 Vyndage morenyde, the vyne is sijk [L. *infirmata*]. *c* 1440 tr. *Palladius on Husb.* III. 939 Thy tre is seek, oyldregges water mynge [etc.]. *c* 1460 RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 116 in *Babees Bk.* 125 3iff swete wyne be seeke or pallid, put in a Rompney for lesynge. *a* 1470 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) VII. x. 290/1 Yf a man or woman selle a seke thynge for an hole thynge wyttyngly to begyle the byer, he doth theeft. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. ii. 153 The seik ground denyis his fruite and fudis. 1697 TRYON *Way to Health* xv. (ed. 3) 369 A Medicine of a loathing Quality, and far Sicker in Nature than the distempered Patient. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 7 Renish [wine]..commonly grows sick in June, if not rack'd. 1743 *Lond. & Co. Brewer* III. 208 If the Wort is sick, it cannot fail of communicating its unwholesome Quality to the Blood. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 189 Instead of sweets, his ample palate took Savour of poisonous brass and metal sick. 1868 H. C. R. JOHNSON *Argentine Alps* 103 The people very generally drink the wine new, the year after it is made—just as likely it is sick. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 696 The quicksilver constantly became 'sick',..and lost apparently all its natural affinity for gold. 1892 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 83 Should the hot and dry weather long continue, a curious phenomenon takes place. The mere is said to be 'sick'; that the eels are so there can be no doubt.

fig. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 124 This night methinkes is but the daylight sicke. 1606—*Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 103 O, when Degree is shak'd,.. The enterprize is sicke. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 738 A sepulchre..Where all good qualities grow sick and die. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. fr. Amer.* 111 When the sick system dies, the public will see the full amount..they have to suffer for their credulity.

b. Said of the young and ungrown feathers of a bird in moulting-time.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiii. (Arb.) 272 These fowles in their moulting time, when their feathers be sick. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 22, I see the fayrest Hawke hath oftentimes the sickest feathers. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* V. 187 If a Seraphim himself should be a Bishop, he would either finde or make some sick feathers in his wings. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xxxvii, A dove..with sick unpruned wing.

c. Of fish, etc.: In the spawning stage.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Herring*, The shotten and sick Herrings [are sorted] by themselves. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 107/1 The mass of ova..is spoken of by oyster fishers as 'white spat', and an oyster containing them is said to be 'sick'.

d. *Naut.* Requiring repairs.

More common in combs. as IRON-SICK, NAIL-SICK.

1854 ELIZ. S. SHEPPARD *Counterparts* I. 7 And the *Shelley*, she lays down at X, sick of paint. 1893 ALSTON & WALKER *Seamanship* (ed. 3) 55 Sick Seams.—Are those in which the stitches are worn, and give way here and there.

e. *Stock Exchange.* Slow, dull.

1870 MEDBERY *Men & Mysteries of Wall St.* 137 A Sick market; the market is Ill. When brokers very generally hesitate to buy. 1880 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 7/2 The [wool] market has been somewhat sick. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Mar. 2/5 Kaffir shares were again rather sick, and closed lower.

8. Of a sickly hue; pale, wan.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 8 Be not her Maid since she is enuious, Her Vestal liuery is but sicke and greene. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Triumph Life* 430 A light of heaven, whose half-extinguished beam Through the sick day..Glimmers. 1845 MANGAN *Germ. Anthol.* I. 139 Out, out, sick light! Out, flickering taper!

9. Accompanied by illness or sickness; denoting sickness. Also in fig. contexts.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 84 Now comes the sicke houre that his surfet made. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* ii. 19 So spending thy time in a still dream, but thou shalt have sick waking. 1656 EARL MONM. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 273, I did first exactly consider the body of the State of Rome in its sick condition. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Ep.* I. xviii. 159 They dread A sick Debauch and aching Head. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 286 A dissertation on the sick head-ach, ..by Dr. Nathaniel Dwight. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* II. 176 Seventeen sick and pitiable years, before death put a period to her sufferings. 1889 *Repentance of Paul Wentworth* III. 297 A sick despair was at his heart.

10. (Chiefly from the absolute or substantival use: see B.)

a. Appropriated or given up to, occupied by, one or more persons in a state of illness, as *sick-bay, -berth, -bungalow, -bunk, -chamber, -couch,* etc. Also SICK-BED, -HOUSE, -ROOM.

Cf. older Flem. *siechkamer, -stoel* (Kilian), G. *siechkammer, -stube, -zimmer,* Sw. *sjukstuga, -sång.*

1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 465 The temporary *sick-bay, in which they had been heretofore, being pulled down. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict., Sick-bay*, a place set apart in a ship for invalids or wounded men. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 284 We offer the plan of a *Sick Berth, which is to be considered as the hospital of a ship of the line. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict., Sick-berth attendant*, formerly termed Loblolly Boy; in a ship of war, a person who attends the surgeon and his assistants. 1845 STOCQUELER *Brit. India* 244 At Almorah there are five bungalows, called *sick bungalows, belonging to government. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xvii. 200 Nearly all our party..were tossing in their *sick-bunks. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxvii, Margery, whose element was a *sick-chamber. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 431 The grief and anxiety of a sick chamber. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 4 The *sick-couch is preparing, with..agonies and death. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. v. 5 That gentle Hermit..By my sick couch was busy to and fro. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xviii. 187, I had carried Mr. Goodfellow to the *sick-station with my dog-sledge. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 132 We set up a..copper-oven near the *sick tents. 1632 SHERWOOD, The *sick-ward of an hospitall, *la maladerie.* 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 491 The efficacy of these vapours in destroying the offensive smells which occur in sick-wards.

b. Of or pertaining to, connected with, persons suffering from illness, as *sick-allowance, -book, -club, cookery,* etc.

1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 198 His first ideas ..run in the line of sick-leave and *sick-allowances. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sick-book*, an account of such officers and men as are on the sick list on board, or are sent to an hospital, hospital-ship, or sick-quarters. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (1864) II. 331 Among these workmen are no Trade Societies, no Benefit or *Sick-Clubs. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* II. iii. 489 *Sick-cookery should more than half do the work of the poor patient's weak digestion. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* I. 137 This is my *sick Dish; when I am well, I'll have a bigger. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sick-flag*, the yellow quarantine flag. 1849 F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* v. (1851) 53 A portion of the proceeds being handed over to the *sick-fund for persons..hurt in the service. 1899 *Month* May 462 To master the principles of *sick-insurance. 1840 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 179 He would use all interest to get home on *sick leave. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Sick-mess*, a table for those on the doctor's list. *a* 1660 in J. MORRIS *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) vi. 277 The Cellaress and *Sick Mistress ..remained there. 1739 BP. HERRING in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 135 A woman, in a *sick night-cap hanging over the stairs. 1887 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1385 A member of a Benefit Society is not allowed, when receiving *sick-pay, to put his hand to a stroke of work. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 953 A low temperature is always accompanied by a decrease in the *sick-rate. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 52 But you, at your *sicke seruice had a Prince. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* IV. 37 Discharged with a *sick ticket to go home. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sick-ticket*, a document given to an officer, seaman, or marine, when sent to an hospital. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 593 In like manner the *sick-time is augmented principally by the attacks.

11. *Comb.*, as *sick-brained, -feathered, -hearted, -thoughted*; *sick-fallen, -pale, -tired*; also *sick-child, -heart* used attrib.

1658 *and Narr. Parl.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 474 Whether the protector, and the great men his confederates, be not rather to be termed fanatick, whimsical, and *sick-brained, than those who [etc.]. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxvii, In a soft, whining, *sick-child sort of voice. 1605 *Tryall Chevalr.* I. ii. in Bullen *Old Pl.*, Idle love, The *sick-fac't object of an amorous brayne. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 153 And vast confusioun waites As doth a Rauen on a *sicke-falne beast. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & Panther* III. 614 The latter brood,..*Sick-feather'd, and unpractis'd in the sky. 1875 MORRIS *Æneid* XII. 850 *Sick-heart men. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Poems* (1875) 541 Sing to thy child, the *sick-hearted, Songs of a spirit oppress'd. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* XX. 314 She and that *sick-pale brother. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 5 *Sick-thoughted Venus makes amaine vnto him. 1631 QUARLES *Samson* viii, From his loathed Bed, Sicke-thoughted Samson rose. 1861 J. BARR *Poems* 11 (E. D. D.), I'm *sick tired o' a bachelor life. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 742/2 Gordon was sick-tired of journalistic chatter.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. *absol.* as pl. Those who, such as, are suffering from illness.

a. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp., Mark* xvi. 18 Ofer seoce hi hyra handa settað & hi beoð hale. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 To seke gan and þa deden helpen to buriene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 Sume helpe..uorte lecnen mid þe seke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14078 Giueand mani seke þair hele. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 265 Ther is phisique for the seke. *a* 1450 MYRC 1841 When þow schalt to seke gon, Hye þe faste. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 95 b/2 He comanded that the feble and seke shold be sette aparte by them self. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* I. 90 To restore to thair health seik and waik.

β. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 153 b, Visytynge the sycke, comfortynge y^e prisoner. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* I. i, It's hard for the sicke to followe wholesome counsaile. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 218 The sicke of the dropsie augment their thirst in drinking. 1681 BELON *New Myst. Physic* 49 Supposing that the Sick are duly prepared. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. i. 293 Fresh provisions were distributed amongst the sick. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 224 The sick were so numerous that it became necessary to call in.. a nurse. 1888 H. MORTEN *Hospital Life* 49 Her friends were the sick and suffering.

γ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Gedereð in owre heorte alle sike & alle sorie. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Uisiti þe poure and to sike. *a* 1300 *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 63 Poure and sike he dude god, And seruede hem. 1340 *Ayenb.* 267 Ich y-zeȝ..þe tribz..of poure, and of zyke. 1404–8 *26 Pol. Poems* vi. 39 Fede non hungry, ne clobe no bare;..Visite no syke. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 254 To haue compassioun on alle syke & sory.

2. A person suffering from illness. ? *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXVIII. § 7 Swa swa se sioca ah þearfe þæt hine mon læde to þæm læce. *c* 1205 LAY. 17716 Ne ræche ich nane garsume.., Ah ælche seocken ich hit do For luue of mine dribtene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8060 To se þat seke a turn he made, In sekenes sar he fand him stad. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* IX. (*Bartholomew*) 90 And with þat wourd..þe seke wes heylit of his care. 1412 LYDG. *Troy Bk.* I. 3627 A medicine Availeth nat, whan þe seke is ded. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 52 Plese it yow to axe of youre devynour, yef this seke shall euer be hoill of this sekenesse. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* IX. 6 Then sayd he vnto the sicke of the palsey. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Child.* (ed. 4) I. 301 In which interval the sick passes a high-coloured urine.

3. A disease or illness (*obs.*); a fit of sickness; a sickening. *rare.*

It is doubtful whether even the older examples have any direct connexion with such forms as Goth. *siukei*, OHG. *siuhht* (G. *seuche, sieche*), Icel. *sýki*, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10407 þai..Wit-vten want has alle þair wis, Wit-vten seke, wit-vten sare. 13.. *Ibid.* 14147 (Gött.), Þe seke him saris fra heued to fote. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sick*, sickness, a fit of sickness; as, 'The sick's na aff him'. 1897 MAUGHAM *'Liza of Lambeth* i, This is too bloomin' slow, it gives me the sick.

Sick, *v.*[1] Forms: 2 seocan, 4 seke, 5 cekyn, seeke(n; 4 sijken, 5 syken, sike, syk; 6– sick (7 sicke). [f. SICK *a.* Cf. Fris. *siikje*, MDu. *sieken* (Du. *zieken*), MLG. *sêken, sûken* (LG. *sîken, sûken*), OHG. *siuhhan, -ên, -ôn* (MHG. and G. *siechen*), ON. *sjúkask* (refl.), Goth. *siukan.*]

†**1.** To suffer illness; to fall ill, sicken. *Obs.*

a 1150 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* CXVII. 25 *Languet*, seocet. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11816 þat caitif vn-meth and vn-meke, Nu bigines he to seke. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xiii. 14 Helise forsothe sijkide in sijknesse. *c* 1400 *Brut* CXXVIII. 303 þat he þat siked þis day, deid on þe iij. day after. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 65 Cekyn or wexe seke, *infirmor.* 1594 PEELE *Battle of Alcazar* I. ii, To sick as Envy at Cecropia's gate, And pine with thought and terror of mishaps. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 128 A little time before That our great Grand-sire Edward sick'd, and dy'de.

†**2.** *trans.* To cause to sicken; to make ill. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14147 þe sare him sekes fra hede to fote. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXVI. 4 Myn enemys þat angirs me, þei are sekid & doun fell. *a* 1645 HEYWOOD *Apollo & Daphne* Wks. 1874 VI. 289 His piercing beams I never shall endure, They sicke me of a fatall Calenture.

3. *intr.* To act as a sick-nurse. *nonce-use.*

1844 DICKENS *M. Chuzzlewit* XXV, Whether I sicks or monthlies, ma'am, I hope I does my duty.

Sick (sik), *v.*[2] Also sic. [dial. var. of SEEK *v.*]

1. *trans.* Of a dog: To set upon, attack (an animal). Chiefly in imperative.

1890 *Golden Days* (Philadelphia) 6 Sept. (Cent.), 'Sic 'em, Andy!' screamed Granny...The growls and snarls of the fighting animals..made a terrific din. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Sept. 8/2 'Sick 'un then'. Now 'sicking' a hedgehog is a job which few dogs care to tackle.

2. To incite or encourage (a person) to attack. Const. with *on* adv. or prep.

1885 MARY N. MURFREE *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mountains* xi, He sick-ed him on all the time. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* v. 50 Tarvin applauded both parties, sicking one on the other impartially for the first ten minutes.

Sick, obs. f. SEEK *v.*; var. SIC *a.*, SIKE.

Sick-bed. [SICK *a.* Cf. MDu. *siecbedde* (Du. *ziekbed*), LG. *sükbedde*, MHG. *siechbette* (G. *-bett*), Sw. *sjukbädd.*] A bed upon which a person lies ill.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 3632 (Trin.), Ar he dezed in seke bed his benisoun he wolde him 3yue. 1662 STRYPE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 177 That is wont to bring you upon a sick bed. *a* 1673 CARYL in Spurgeon *Treas. David* CXVI. 2 If from a sick bed he be raised to health. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 297 The many fruitless Remorses, and broken Vows, of Affliction and Sick-beds. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* V. ii, Considered a sick-bed to be a convenient scene for lectures. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. ix. 301 Much exhausted with their attendance on a protracted sickbed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 98 Had not many a man better never get up from a sick bed?

attrib. 1730 BOSTON *Mem.* xi. 375 A design..that it might be a convenient sick-bed room. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xix, Sick-bed homilies and pious reflections are..out of place in mere story-books.

Sicken (sik'n), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 secnen, 4–5 (9 *dial.*) seeken (5 -enyn), 5–6 seken (5 -ene), sekyn, 9 *dial.* seaken. *β.* 3 sikni, 4–5 sicnen, sijknen, sikynyn, 6 sycken, 6– sicken. [f. SICK *a.* + -EN[5]. Cf. OIcel. *sjúkna*, MSw. *siukna* (Sw. *sjukna*).]

1. *intr.* To become affected with illness, to fall ill or sick. Also const. *of* or *with*.

a. c 1200 ORMIN 4771 He warrþ all..Full hefiglike secnedd. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* viii. 29 Ochozias..came doun to visyten Joram..in Jezrael, the whiche seekened there. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 148 To knowe qwat schuld be-falle off hym that sekenyth in ony day off the mone. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* Contents XXI. xii, How syr Launcelot began to sekene & after dyed. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 63 My hert sekened and began to waxe sore. 1530 PALSGR. 708/2, I sekyn, I waxe sycke.

β. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 293/187 Anon-riȝt he bigan to sikni; and þare riȝt adoun lay. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* XXX. 13, I bigan to sikynyn the thridde dai hens. — *Isaiah* XXXVIII. 1 In tho daȝes sicnede Ezechie vnto the deth. 1530 PALSGR. 708/2 My father syckened first upon saynte Bartylmewes evyn. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 162 At this tyme the king sickened, and [was] forced to kepe his bed. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXVIII. 4 We sicken to shun sicknesse when we purge. 1657 *Penit. Conf.* xii. 331 Being in Normandy [he] sickned, of that disease whereof he died. 1705 J. LOGAN in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 35 The same night he sickened, as he thought of a surfeit of cherries, and in two days died. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) IV. 113, I was told that Lord C. had sickened much after his bleeding. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 249 The people who were sickening very fast with the small-pox. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1850) II. 327 Some sickened and sank down by the way. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 354 Soon after his restoration the Earl began to sicken.

transf. a 1822 SHELLEY *'Music, when soft voices die'* 3 Odours, when sweet violets sicken, Live within the sense they quicken. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 130 A small white insect, which caused..the trees to sicken and to bear no fruit that year.

b. *fig.* or in fig. contexts.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Monie ancren..witeð so hore heale, þet þe gost unstrencðeð & secneð ine sunne. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. ii. 20 When Loue begins to sicken and decay. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativity* xiv, Speckl'd vanity Will sicken soon and die. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* II. i, Why did she swear, unless it was to strengthen her Resolution, that began to sicken? 1770 GOLDSM. *Deserted Vill.* 262 In these..The toiling pleasure sickens into pain. *a* 1827 WORDSW. *Somnambulist* 80 Day sickens round her, and the night Is empty of repose. 1861 ALEXANDER *Gospel of Jesus Christ* 113 The appetite has sickened and so died.

c. Used with complement.

1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. i, Let him..Cling to his couch, and sicken years away.

2. a. To feel faint with horror or nausea; to revolt or experience revulsion *at* something.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 207 A most perfidious slaue ..Whose nature sickens but to speak a truth. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. x. 17 Mine eyes did sicken at the sight, and could not Indure a further view. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 136 The day beheld, and sickning at the sight, Veil'd her fair glories in the shades of night. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 167 The young apostate sickens at the view. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 157 Sickening with disgust, she rose abruptly, and pulled the bell. 1836 J. GILBERT *Atonement* vi. (1852) 165 How frightful is this portrait! the heart sickens as we contemplate it. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 196, I hate, abhor, spit, sicken at him.

b. To grow weary or tired *of* a thing.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. v, Cecilia now began to sicken of her attempt. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x. 96 Men sicken of their houses until at last they quit them.

c. To pine with yearning; to long eagerly.

1802 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. xi. 351 Why is it that a Swiss sickens at hearing the famous Ranz des Vaches? 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 181 His strong heart sunk and sickened with excess Of love. 1897 BARTRAM *People of Clopton* 146 I'll catch the next train to Bitham, for I'm sickenin' to get back theer.

3. To grow pale; to fade.

1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Borders* I. 250 The fronds sicken to a rich brown when touched by the first frosts. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 175 Expiring as a whole orb of moon sickens and disappears.

4. *Chem.* Of mercury: To become 'sick'.

1882 A. G. LOCKE *Gold* 21 The mercury employed for amalgamation .. sickens or 'flows' when ground up with pyritous rocks. [See also the *vbl. sb.*]

5. *trans.* To affect with illness; to make sick.

1694 CROWNE *Regulus* I, A Ghost! a damp evaporates from the word Which sickens me to death. 1714 PURCELL *Cholick* 175 To disengage those Insects from their Adherence to the Guts, to sicken, kill, and discharge them out of the Body. 1775 ROMANS *Hist. Florida* App. 53 I have heard of an instance of one of this kind [hog-fish] having sickened some people. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Clin. Med.* xiv. 176 The first six doses seemed to sicken him a little, but he did not vomit until after the seventh dose. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by the Threshold* 90 His fetid breath sickened me.

b. *fig.* or *transf.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 82, I do know Kinsmen of mine .. that haue By this, so sicken'd their Estates, that neuer They shall abound as formerly. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 312 The want of variety in the rotation would sicken the crops. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxii. 7 Which sicken'd every living bloom. 1876 ISA CRAIG KNOX in Whittier *Songs of Three Centuries* 310 The pool was still; around its brim The alders sickened all the air.

6. a. To give (one) a sickener; to make (one) sick or tired *of* a thing.

1797 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 341 The Blenheim, passing between us and the Enemy, gave us a respite, and sickened the Dons. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. viii. ¶ 5 His keeper sickened him of the project. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXXVI. I..learned enough of what was going on, to give Jekyl a hint that sickened him of his commission. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 1. 63 The long peace sickened men of this fresh outburst of bloodshed and violence.

b. To affect with nausea, loathing, or disgust.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 21 The familiarity with which she treated her brother-in-law..so sickened Jane, that she ordinarily affected illness. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXI, Being already sickened by various disgusting exhibitions of the damsel's affectation.

c. To render faint with fear or horror.

1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* Prol. 109 The storm Of faction, which like earthquake shakes and sickens The solid heart of enterprise. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxii, The strained, almost ferocious expression of her keen eyes sickened his soul. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* xviii, If we look to the right or the left we must see that which sickens the sense of sight.

Hence **Si·ckened** *ppl. a.*

1814 SCOTT *Ld. Isles* II. xxvi, Was not the life of Athole shed To soothe the tyrant's sicken'd bed?

Sickener (si·k'nəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER 1.] Something which nauseates or disgusts; an overdose or excess of anything; a sickening experience.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. ¶ 30 A fricassee, and..soup, .. greasy with mutton fat, were enough to have given a sickener to the inveterate stomachs of a regiment. 1853 W. JERDAN *Autobiog.* IV. xvi. 306 This was indeed a sickener to a careful biographer. 1882 G. MACDONALD *Weighed & Wanting* II. v. 51 A vision of the kind of creature he was capable of loving..would have been—to use a low but expressive phrase—a sickener to her.

b. Used of a shot or blow.

1834 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 54, I gave him such a sickener with the first barrel that I made him haul his wind. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* I. xvi. 185 Kit fetched his man an ugly stroke on the round of the waist behind.., a sickener of a stroke, if dealt soundly.

Sickening (sik'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. the vb. + -ING 1.] The fact of becoming sick or ill; an instance of this.

Also, in dial. use, confinement, child-bed.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xvi. 4 With dethes of siknyngus thei shul die. 1816 CHALMERS *Let.* in *Life* (1851) II. 53 To sustain you under all the sickenings, and faintings, and languishings of your earthly disease. 1858 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* V. 305 Not a case nor a sickening has been heard of. 1882 *Electro-Amalg. Co. Prospectus* 5 [It] prevents it from what is technically termed 'sickening' in the presence of arsenic, sulphur, oil, or any other substances .. deleterious to the action of mercury in amalgamating with gold or silver.

Sickening (sik'niŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. Falling or turning sick.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 600 The..gentle power..With nectared drops the sickening sense restored. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 272 The malignant influence gained upon her sickening orb. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. viii, Patient the sickening victim eyed The life-blood ebb in crimson tide. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. xxvi. 9 A whirlwind keen as frost Then in its sinking gulfs my sickening spirit tossed.

fig. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 636 The sick'ning stars fade off th' ætherea! plain. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 71 Must sick'ning virtue fly the tainted ground? 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. Pref., He thus ranges, without an instructor, confused, and with sickening curiosity, from subject to subject.

2. That causes sickness, nausea, or faintness; that disgusts or revolts; repulsive, loathsome.

1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 9 Jan., As they all consisted in almost unheard-of indignities..I will not give the sickening relation. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 123 Nocturnal sweats,.. induced by the sickening influence of digitalis. 1836 J. HALLEY in *Mem.* (1842) 58 Have had a most sickening job in shortening an article of my own for the Presbyterian Review. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* xi. § 1 (1862) 747 They gradually putrify and emit a sickening odour. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 564/3 Nothing more sickening than the Indian wars of the United States is to be found in history.

transf. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 101 All base substances .. cannot be taken up by the mercury, neither do they have any 'sickening' effect upon the mercury.

Hence **Si·ckeningly** *adv.*

1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) I. viii. 180 The duchess was sickeningly civil. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Sept., The outside is generally burnt up, and the inside sickeningly raw. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Aug. 183 A series of sickeningly inhuman outrages were committed.

Sicker (si·kəɹ), *a.* and *adv.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: *a.* 1 sicor, 2–6 sicer (5 sycher), 4–5 sicur(e, 5 sycur), 4, 6 sicir, 9 siccer, siccar; 2–9 siker (3 -err), 3–5 sikere, 4–5 sikir, sikur (5 -our, -yr, -re); 3–6 syker (6 -ar), 4–5 sykere, -ir, -yr (4 -ire, -ur); 4 zik-, zykere, 5 cykere, -yr; 5–6 sikkir (5 -yr, 6 sykkyr), 5–6 (9 *dial.*) sikker (6 -ar); 4 sycker, 5–6 sickir, sycker, 4– sicker. *β.* 4 secir, 4–5 secure (5 -ur, sekur); 4–6 (9) seker (6 secker), 4–6 sekir, -yr (5 cekyr), 5–6 sekire (5 -yre). [OE. *sicor* (rare), = OFris. *sikur, siker* (Fris. *siker*), OS. *sikur, sikor* (MLG. and MDu. *seker*, Du. *zeker*), OHG. *sihhur, sichur*, etc. (MHG. and G. *sicher*); MDa. *seeker, secker* (Da. *sikker*), MSw. *siker, sigher* (Sw. *säker*) are from German. The word is an early Teutonic adoption of L. *sēcūrus* SECURE *a.*, with the stress shifted to the first syllable.]

In ME. both adj. and adv. were very extensively employed, and the precise sense intended is not always clear. After 1500 the word is rarely used except by Scottish writers, but also remained current in the north of England: for a fuller exhibition of the senses in which it occurs in modern dialect, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

A. *adj.*

I. 1. Free from danger or harm; secure, safe.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* liv. 425 Ðif we ðæt gedone mid nanum ðingum ne betað ne ne hreowsiað, ne bio we no ðæs sicore. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 þanne beð noman siker, ar he ihere þat lufliche word of ure louerd ihesu cristes swete muðe, *venite benedicti* [etc.] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 227 Men were first naked and vnarmed, nouȝt siker aȝenst bestes, noþer aȝenst men. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 3 þat felynge of gostely fyer..in þe whilk þai knawe þame-self sekyr. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 7 The thyrde cause is for man sholde not holde hymselfe siker. For grete trust of sikernes engendreth necligence.

b. Associated or attended with safety or security from danger, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Holi olde ancren muwen don hit.., auh hit nis nout siker þing, ne ne limpeð nout to þe gunge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 175 And see þeeves grevede and robbede al þe see, so þat þe Romayns..hadde no siker seillynge wiþ oute oþer socour. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6764 þar ware monkes..[who] Thoght þai stode in sykir case. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 125 There may Leander make a safe and sicker stay. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* (ed. 3) 152, I'm as great on the side o' the law as it's siccar to be in thae uncertain times.

c. Of places or paths.

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 43 in *O. E. Misc.*, Heo doþ heore ayhte in siker stude þat sendeþ hit to heoue-riche. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7065 (Laud MS.), Þise..leden hym, by siker paas, Al to þe gates of Caspyas. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 111 þe stede þat þou fightys on with þy aduersers, be it semynge euer more seker, ffor þarfore shal þyn hoste peyne hem mekyll more to fight. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 285 A lufsummar leid..That couth be secrete and sure.., And sew bot at certayne tymes, & in sicir places. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* IV, Na na, he sall walk a mair siccar path, and be a dainty curate.

2. That may be depended on; in which one can put reliance, confidence, or trust; certain, sure.

c 1100 in *Anglia* XI. 377 Swyðe sicore forȝyfonnysse se mæiȝ him biddan æt gode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1268 Þo þe emperour hurde þis, he ne truste wel þer to Wiþ oute siker ostage such þing to do. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7538 Seynt Poule techyþ vs..A sykyr fyght þat wyl nat fayle. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xviii. 240 Syker assuraunce and borowes ye shal haue. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 46 In the maist stratest forme, and sikrest still of obligatioun that can be devisit and maid. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 86 He may attach him be sicker pledges, to enter and compeir in the Kings court. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. vi. § xix, Their Goods should be put under sicker Burrows. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 90 He was a carle in his day And siccar bargains he could mak.

Proverb. c 1440 CAPGR. *Life St. Kath.* II. 250 It is more sekyr a byrd in your fest Than to haue iij. in þe sky a-boue.

b. Of persons.

c 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 76 Seker men he sett to wake. 14.. in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 85 A goode sykere frende is yuell to fynde. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 40 A more syker attorney may noo man be than god is. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. iv. (S.T.S.) I. 142 It is nocht facill to be declarit, nor ȝit Is It writtin be sekire authoris. 1658 CARSTAIRS in Durham *Comm. Rev.* Pref. p. i, The ablest, sickerest and most accomplished ministers. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 84 He was a sicker boy. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss.* s.v., He's a varra sicker body.

c. Of defensive armour.

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 354 Ane hawberke..þat sekire was of Mayle. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4465, I a siker shelde sall be. *a* 1578 LINDESAY *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 66 To theif and reiver he was ane sicker targe.

3. Having a firm foundation or support; firm, unshaken, fast.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2493 As moche place..þat ich þeruppe mowe a siker bold rere. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 2230 (Fairf.), Make we a sicure tour..þat may reyche vn-til heyuen. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 10 þo3 such perforacion be goode, and don for þat þe wall shuld be made moore sikir and stronger. *a* 1573 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk Scot.* (1843) II. 272, I thinke not the ground so sicker, as that I durst build my conscience therupon. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* 28 Setting my staff wi' a' my skill, To keep me sicker. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Souter Johnny* 10 He wad hae stood right steeve and sicker And brav'd their dudgeon.

fig. 1877 THOM *Jock o' Knowe* 28 (E. D. D.) Resolve is sickerest when it's placed On a foundation wrought.

b. Not liable to be disturbed or unsettled; stable, assured, certain.

1340 *Ayenb.* 78 þet is þe uayriste lyf an þe zykeriste þet is ine þise wordle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 22 The world stant evere upon debat, So may be seker non astat. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 130 Grace become gyd and governour, To keip the house in sicker stait. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 430 Being some honest Curate, or some Vicker Content with little in condition sicker. 1857 RIDDELL *Psalms* XC. 17 Sete thou siccer the wark o' our han's apon us. 1886 HALIBURTON *Horace* 41 (E. D. D.), Mak' your union siccar.

†c. Of number: Fixed, definite. *Obs.*—1

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 254 Kynde wil 3ow teche, That in mesure god made alle manere thynges, And sette hem at a certeyne and at a syker noumbre.

d. Prudent, careful, especially with regard to money matters; wary, cautious.

c 1662 LIVINGSTONE in *Sel. Biogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 208 He is a sicker man: he thinks he will only preach against Poprie, and not make with other controversies. *a* 1800 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 292 There, couthie, and pensie, and sicker, Wonn'd honest young Hab o' the Heuch. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., He, who is tenacious of his own rights or property, is said to be a sicker man. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss., Sicker*, sly, inward minded. It is frequently prefixed by 'gey'. 'He's a gey sicker yen.'

4. That cannot be doubted; indubitable; absolutely certain.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 4134 (Fairf.), Ful secure veniaunce god

wil take. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 105 Deed to vs is sykyr, þe owre of deed truly vnsikyr. 1567 Turberv. *Ovid's Ep.* 61 My handes displayde gave siker signes and tokens of my paine. 1827 Scott *Tales Grandfather* 1st Ser. viii, 'Do you leave such a matter to doubt?' said Kirkpatrick, 'I will make sicker'. 1881 *Good Words* 774/1 We made sicker that he was wi' you.

†b. Genuine, good. *Obs.*[-1]

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1042 Sexti thousand þai him send of sekire besandis.

5. Certain of its effect; effective, sure.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 41, I salle 3ow say, For to saue 3our lond wele, a fulle siker way. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1382 A sekere stroke was there sett. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 408 A seker straik drewe he. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 76, I..hes the tane into the sicker snair. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 219 Thir Nobillis dois bot rycht, Gif thay the Quene keip still in sicker gaird. 1710 in Calderwood *Dying Testimonies* (1806) 152 Strive to make sicker work in time. *c* 1820 Beattie *John o' Arnha* (1826) 23 The charm is firm and sicker.

transf. 1843 J. Ballantine *Gaberlunzie* xii. (1875) 309 Time's a sicker master, an' we maun a' bend afore him.

6. Securely fastened or held.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 16905 (Trin.), þe princes of prestis of þe lawe went to þat monument And made hit sikur as hem þouȝt. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 95 Than art thow sicker in the snair. 1891 A. Gordon *Folks o' Carglen* 139 Aundrew stretchit his length on the grun', an' they had him siccar as a nail.

II. 7. Having assured possession or prospect *of* something. ?*Obs.*

a 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Efter þan þe hie weren wunienede in ierusalem, and weren hole and sunde, and sikere of here giue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4134 If yee do suilk an outrake Ful siker may yee be o wrake. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 32 He that wende to be siker of me hath failed of his purpos. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 130 Always sall he be sicker of this, That is neidful to want na thing. 1719 Ramsay *To Hamilton* iii. xi, Sicker of thae, winter and simmer, Ye're well enough.

†b. Having sure mastery *of* an art. *Obs.*[-1]

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* iv. 559 Few off thaim was sekyr of archary.

8. Having confident or certain knowledge; fully assured or convinced. With various constructions, as dependent clause (usually with *that*), *to* with inf., *of* (*for, in, on, with*), or ellipt. for these.

(*a*) *c* 1200 Ormin 4844 Beo þu sikerr þatt he shall þe 3ifenn eche blisse. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7353 Siker þou be þou ne ssalt me finde in none hurne. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2067 Sir, siker 3e be, þi self schal se þat ri3t. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 10013, I am sicur be my dreme That I am lorn. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* 31 Thow suld be sikkar that the..matter quhilk thou confermis with ane eith is trew.

(*b*) *c* 1275 *Moral Ode* 40 in *O. E. Misc.*, þe mon þat wile syker beo to habbe godes blysse, Do wel him seolf þe hwile he may. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 8559 þai salle be þare syker and certayne To have endeles ioy. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7991 Make vs sekur, on the same wise, oure soile for to leue.

(*c*) *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 952 Ne beo þou in wonhope non, Ac ful siker þou beo þer-on. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 234, I am ful syker in soule þer-of. ? 1404–8 *26 Pol. Poems* v. 51 Be not to sykere of þyne hele. *a* 1500 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 34 Ther-of thow art siker & sure. 1876 F. K. Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., I'se sikker on't.

(*d*) *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merlin* 5551 (Kölbing), Ac arst 3e schul me make siker. *c* 1470 H. Parker *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) II. vi. 115/1 Yf he be not syker, but only weneth to be syker, he shall not swere that it is so. 1876 C. C. Robinson *Mid-Yks. Gloss.* s.v., In idiomatic phrases, expressive of emphatic belief. 'I'm sikker and sure.'

†**9.** Assured of its object; confident, certain. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1217 þurh hwam we mahten habben sikere bileaue to arisen alle efter him. 1340 *Ayenb.* 13 Ine zikere hope þet iesu crist godes zone ssolde come. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 257 Lyghtne oure sowles with seker hope. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 29 The sekir faith..quhilk is in godis word and doctrine.

†**10.** Having a sense of security; confident. *Obs.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 11 With quakynge, swa þat 3oure ioy be noght ouere sykire. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 957 Be sikyr, douchtyr, and dred nocht!

B. *adv.*

†**1.** With security; safely; confidently. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 15092 Dead is Vortimer þe king, & siker þu miht hider comen. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14250 3yf Arthur hadde lenger abiden, þe sykerere myghte Moddred haue ryden. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 163 Forto go þe saveloker and þe sikerer to cruel bataille a3enst Marius. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 267 Hem that remayne al sikur maystow sowe.

2. Assuredly, certainly, without doubt.

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 286 in *O.E. Misc.* 45 Siker þu ert myd him a galilewis mon. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 154 So seker as I have a lif, Thou scholdest thanne be my wif. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 6442 'Sis, Sikyr, lady!' this woman gan seye. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 159 Sicker I hold him for a greater fon. 1614 J. Davies (Heref.) *Commend. Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 19 Now, siker (Wernocke) thou hast split the marke. *a* 1717 Parnell *Fairy Tale* Wks. (1833) 18 The board was laid, And siker such a feast was made As heart and lip desire.

b. With verbs of saying or affirming: As a certainty, as a fact.

a 1275 *Prov. of Alfred* 524 Siker ich it te saige, letet gif þe liket. 14.. *Life St. Kath.* (Halliw.) 8 Or ellys sekyr y telle the That thou schalt dedd bee! 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xx. 47 Sicker I 3ow asseure, He rewlis weill, that sa weill him can gyd.

3. Effectively, strongly, firmly.

c 1450 *Gesta Rom.* xxv. 96, I put a gret stone aboute thi necke, & yit þou Rise; I triste now I shalle pley sikir with the. 17.. *Laird of Warliston* 22 in Child *Ballads* IV. 31/2 The nurice she knet the knot, And O she knet it sicker!

1792 A. Wilson *On Men sawing Timber*, Experience ne'er sae sicker tells us, As when she lifts her rung and fells us. 1818 Rodger *Poems* (1897) 167 Lay't into our loof, We'll haud it sicker.

4. Securely; without risk of falling or shifting.

a 1586 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* v. 55 3our feet ar not so sicker sett. 1641 *Ferguson's Sc. Prov.* No. 310 He rode sicker that never fell. 17.. Ramsay *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* iv, They sicker raid that neir did faw. *a* 1774 Fergusson *Poems* (1788) II. 20 Ye wha canna staun sae sicker. 1863 Quinn *Heather Lintie* 201 Within oor hearts..Aye siccar shalt thou reign. 1867 G. W. Donald *Poems* (1879) 54/1 There's nae man sae sicker set But he may shift his stool.

Sicker (si·kəɹ), *v.*[1] Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 3 sikeri, -ery, sykery, 4 siker(e, -ir, -ur), 4–5 sykere(n, 5 -yn), 8 sicker, 9 siccar. *β.* 4–5 sekere, 5 sekyr(e. [ME. *sikeri, sikeren*, etc. (f. Sicker *a.*), = OFris. *sikura, sik(e)ria*, OS. *sikorôn* (MLG. and MDu. *sekeren*, Du. *zekeren*), OHG. *sihhorôn* (MHG. *sicheren*, G. *sichern*).]

1. *trans.* To assure (a person) of safety.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11323 In eiþer half to sikeri him freres him gonne lede. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Herrig's Archiv* LVII. 287 þou weore worþi for to dye.. Bote for I er sikerde þe Schalt þou haue no skaþe for me. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 17 Oþer wis may not þe kirk bring a man out of synne, ne forȝef þe peyn, nor man siker.

2. To assure (a person) of one's good faith by a pledge or formal promise.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11355 A þousend pound..ichim wolde ȝiue anon,..& þat ich im wolde mid treuþe sikery him vaste an hond. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 53 Edward sikerd him wele, to mak William his heyre. *c* 1450 *Erle Tolous* 1030 Wolde ye sekyr me, wythowt fayle, For to holde trewe counsayle.

b. *refl.* To put one's trust *in* a person.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11868 þat we ger get vs leches tuin, In quilk we mai siker vs in.

c. To betroth (a woman) *to* one.

c 1384 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2128 *Ariadne*, Now be we duchessis bothe I & ȝe And sekerede to the regalys of Athenys.

3. To assure (one) of a fact.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 932, I sal be before þame bowne in-to þis sammyne aray ..I sekyre ȝou. *c* 1400 Love *Bonaventi. Mirr.* xxvii. (1908) 144 Than he,..willynge that thei schulde no lenger be distourbeled and trauailled, sykerde hem of his presence.

4. To confirm by pledge or surety.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 69 Þerof he mad me skrite, ..& for to sikere his dede, set þer to his seale. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1463 Sad seurte was sikered on boþe sides þanne, þat menskful mariage to make. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2331 A trews they sette and sekeryd thare.

5. To secure, make sure or certain of; to make fast, fix firmly.

1708 Bruce *Good News in Evil Times* 40 Sicker what ye will, if the main Chance be not sickered, I'll not give a gray Groat for you. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Sned*, The runt must be siccard in the den, so that the [scythe-] blade may have a snanging sound.

Hence **Si·ckering** *vbl. sb.*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2322 That thay shall make me A sekeryng A trews to holde vs by-twene.

Si·cker, *v.*[2] *rare.* Also 3 **sikeri.** [OE. *sicerian*, = LG. *sikeren*, G. *sickern* (dial. *sikern*), app. related to OHG. *sîhan* to strain, filter: see Sye *v.*] *intr.* Of water: To trickle; to ooze or leak.

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* lvii. 437 Swiðe lytlum sicerað ðæt wæter & swiðe degellice on ðæt hlece scip. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 318 Þare beoz ase it veynene weren onder eorþe mani on, þat sikeriez [*text* sikeniez] out of þe se. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Lincolnshire).

†**Si·ckerhead.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. Sicker *a.* Cf. Du. *zekerheid*, G. *sicherheit* (OHG. *sihhurheit*), etc.] Assurance, certainty.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1265 Naueþ mon no sikerhede, þat he ne may wene & adrede þat sum vnhap neih him beo.

†**Si·ckerlaik.** *Obs.*[-1] In 3 **sikerlec.** [f. Sicker *a.* Cf. MSw. *sik(e)rlek.*] Certainty.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 14 Þenne þurh þis sikerlec seche ich earst uppon ham.

Si·ckerly, *adv.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: see Sicker *a.* Also 1 -lice, 3–5 -liche (3 -lichen, 4 -lich), 4–5 -lyche; 3 -like, 4 -lik, -lic; *comp.* 3 -loker, 4 -laker; 3 -liȝ, 4–5 -li (4 -le), 5–6 -lye, 6–7 (9) -lie. [Late OE. *sicerlice* (f. *sicer* Sicker *a.*), = MDu. *sekerlike, -lijc* (Du. *zekerlijk*), MLG. *sekerliken*, OHG. *sichurlîcho* MHG. *sicherliche* (G. *-lich*), MSw. *sikerlika*, etc.]

†**1.** With full certainty or conviction. *Obs.*

c 1100 in Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lexicogr.* 57 For þan þe þa apostles scolden witen sicerlice þæt he arisen wæs of deaðe, *c* 1200 Ormin 5322 þe birrþ witenn sikerrliȝ, Forr Goddspellboc itt kiþeþþ. *c* 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 662 That ȝhe trow this sekirly, My twa sonnys with ȝow sall I Send. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 327 As he which demeth sikerly That sche be ded. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. i. (Rolls) 132 If a treuthe be knowen bi doom of resoun, thanne it is knowen or sureli and sikirli; or it is knowen oonli probabili and likeli. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 13 To trow sickirly that God is almychty. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 22 But I holde full sickerlie..that he fyndeth but few gentlefolks [etc.].

2. Without doubt; undoubtedly, certainly, decidedly, assuredly.

α. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 106 His hope is al to gode-ward,..ðat is te sunne sikerlike. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2301 Lokes nou, hw he is fayr; Sikerlike he is hise eyr. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 114 Tho wiste he.. That he was sikerliche ded.

β. *c* 1200 Ormin 5754 þa shallt tu wurrþenn sikerriȝ An off Drihhtiness childre. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3237 And meriadok, sikerly, In his help gan he be. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 137 And sikurly sche was of gret disport, And ful plesant. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 594 Jornay thai socht, and sekyrly has found. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* vi. 44 That sikerly is true praise. *c* 1580 in *Monigomerie's Poems* (S.T.S.) 279, I was applesit to pleiss 3ow sickerly. 1736 W. Thompson *Epithal.* xi. 5 Such colours, sikerly, suit Hymen best. 1825 in Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* 1876 F. K. Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'Ay, ay, sikkerly', yes, yes, assuredly.

b. Qualifying verbs of affirming: Positively.

1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Huanne me zuereþ zikerliche of þinge þet me nis naȝt ziker. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2095 The xijte ward the kyng of Orkenaye.., I say yow sekerly. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. i. (S.T.S.) I. 15 Quha may sikkerlie afferme sa remote & vncouth historie?

3. With assurance; confidently.

c 1205 Lay. 7883 Sikerlichen we sculden uaren & fehten wiþ þon kæisere. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2469 Na man may trayste sikerly In hys gude dedys, þat he dus here. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1542 In whom shuld the sone have trust & feith sikirly, If his Fadir faylid hym? 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 102 Wherby I can not see what good they haue doone, but that men may more sickerlye be euell.

4. Without danger or harm; securely, safely.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 142 He chaungede is name þe sikerloker forto go. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxv. 5 þai sall pass in flode,..in meknes, for swa he passis sikirly. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1093 The poore man slepith ful sikirly On nyghtes, thogh his dore be noght shit. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xv. (S. T. S.) I. 84 þe samyn thing..was possibill and mycht sikkirlie be done. *c* 1665 Livingstone in *Sel. Biogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 268 How sickerly is that laid up from the reach of the roughest hands! 1897 Ld. E. Hamilton *Outlaws* 27 There's nae a man in Liddesdale can sickerly lead a party at night thro' the Foulbogshiel.

5. In a secure manner; firmly, fast.

c 1205 Lay. 26801 þer heo wel wisten sikerliche to halden þene riche mon of Rome. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 123 His handis bundyne sekyrly behynd his bak. *Ibid.* xxxv. (*Thadee*) 125 [He] closit þe dure sekyrly, & selyt it with led. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2401 þat Iowell..was full sekirly & soft all in silke falden. *a* 1810 J. Finlay in Ford *Harp of Perthshire* (1893) 419 What sorrow gars him haud it sae sickerlie? 1828 Buchan *Ball.* I. 112 Twa for keepers o' the guard, See that to keep it sickerlie.

b. In the manner of an obligation; bindingly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25162 Halden sikerlik es he Vs to here in vr mister. 1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Huanne me behat zikerliche þet me naȝt not yef me hit may uoluelle. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 439, I salle hym sekyrly ensure, undyre my seele ryche, To seege þe cetee of Rome wyth-in sevene wyntyre.

6. In a stable or steady manner.

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B) 526 þou make my loue..sykerly sett..to loue þe wele. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. civ. (1869) 56 Thilke that leneth him sikerliche ther to may not falle. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* 142 b, That thou may be sickerly groundit in the trew faith of this sacrament. 1822 Galt *Provost* xiv, [He] had again got himself most sickerly installed in the Guildry. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xlvi, To learn ye how siccarly to sit your beast.

7. With certainty of result; efficaciously.

1340 *Ayenb.* 195 Ase þe lanterne þet me berþ beuore þe manne him let bet and more zikerlaker þanne þe ilke þet me berþ behynde þe regge. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), No partie of the body touchep so sekerlich as þe hand. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V*, 72 We ..shal ordaine for the gouernance of our sayd father sekyrly, lovingly and honestly. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* III. 72, I would have aimed as sickerly as possible.

8. Sharply, severely, smartly.

1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. lxxxiv. (S. T. S.) I. 304 He first..mett sickerly with the Jnduellaris of Lochquhaber. ? 1609 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 265 Whilk might make a few..conveen together..and censure sickerlie those corrupters of the Kirk. 1685 Renwick *Serm.* (1776) 177 God shall make them pay sickerly for it. 1775 *Baillie's Lett. & Jrnls.* I. 384 Who spoke against conclusions, got usually so sickerly on the fingers that they had better been silent. 1808 Jamieson, *Sickerly*, .. smartly, severely; in relation to a stroke.

Si·ckerness. *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* [f. Sicker *a.*]

1. †**a.** Certain prospect or possession *of* something; assurance; certainty. Also with inf. *Obs.*

c 1100 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lexicogr.* 57 Heo habbeð blisse for þære sicornysse Godes rices. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27017 Again þe toþer hoping, þat es In werldes welth [to] hald sikernes, We find a..sample laid. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* i. 1 þe ferth is sykirnes neuer to lose þat goed. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 134, I not in what manere I scholde Of worldes good have sikernesse. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* in *Macro Plays* 37 He xall..dey in sekyrnes of joy perpetualle. 1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 1597 Twene hope and drede My lyfe I lede, But of my spede Small sekernes.

b. Certainty with regard to fact.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3472 Oure lauerd..Had don hir in to sikernes..Quat suld be þaa childer vie. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 105 He doth al his thing be gesse, And voideth alle sikerness. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 162 She sayeth as yf yt were paste for syckernesse of the fulfyllynge. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. i. (S. T. S.) I. 7 To write þe said history with mare faith and sikkirnes. 1897 *Shetland News* 15 May (E. D. D.), Dis I sed we mair dan ordinar sikkerness.

†**2.** Sense of security; self-confidence. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 Sikernesse streoneð ȝemeleaste & ouerhowe, & boðe..inobedience. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 11 Dred is wirkere of vertus, and sykirnes brynges necligence. *a* 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xi, He myȝt so falle into rechelesnes & into fals sikernes. 1587 *Mirr. Magistr.* (1610) 327 In their most weale, let men beware mishap, And not to sleepe in slumbring sickernesse.

3. The state or condition of being secure; freedom from danger or harm.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 Se seli sikernesse as ha was in..under Godes warde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1158 Hou sal ani herthli flesche lende wit þe in sikernese. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlv. 1 Till crist, þare is þi rest and þi sikirnes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 26 In mene estaat eek sikernesse at all Ne saw I noon. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 563/2 Caleis stode in grete sikernesse. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2539 A playne example of worldly vaynglory, Howe in this worlde there is no sekernesse. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 55 She..drew her selfe aside in sickernesse.

†**b.** A means or source of security. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 76 b/2 Almesse is a grete sykernesse to fore the hye god unto all them that doo it. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* civ. 295 The rockes, all inaccesse, To Conies bee theyr sikernesse.

†**4.** Security for the performance of a treaty, contract, etc. ; an instance of this, a bond, pledge.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 342 'And haue ine wille þet tu nult nan more sunegen.' Lo! þus ne askede he non oðer sikernesse. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 129 þe king him het þe panewes ȝelde oþur sikernesse him make. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 623 'Do me sikernesse þer-to,' seis Ioseph þenne. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 8 Of this was good sekernes Imaked on ether half. *c* 1470 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) II. ix. 118/2 A Jewe lente a crysten man a grete somme of golde..& toke no sykernesse of hym but his fayth.

†**5.** Sure keeping ; safe custody. *Obs.*

1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. ix. § ix, He shall abide in Sickerness (id est, in Prison) at the King's will.

†Si·ckerty. *Obs.* In 5 sykyrte, sikerte(e, sekurtie, sekirite. [f. SICKER *a.*, after *security.*] =SICKERNESS.

1405 in W. Fraser *The Lennox* (1874) II. 58 To the mar sykyrte and fulfilling of al thir pointis and articulis in thir Indenturis contenit. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 428 þou sulde be bettur provid with sekurtie of a sheperde tofall þan for to hafe a grete hall. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Active Policy* 185 Howe may any estate be in seurtee..Or in any wise be in sikertee, If couetous folke be in his favour?

Sicket, variant of SIKET.

Si·ck-house. Now *rare.* [f. SICK *a.* Cf. MDu. *siechuus, ziechuys,* MLG. *zeekhûs,* MHG. *siechhûs* (G. *-haus*), Sw. *sjukhus.*] A house set apart for sick persons ; a hospital.

1491 *Anc. Deed* A. 7494 (P. R. O.), Roberte Bigott Sekeman Ownere of y^e^ Sekehowes of Walsyngham. 1549 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 421 The Maior for the tyme being..shall survey the sek houssis of this cittie. 1612 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 308 Agnes Jamesoun..to hawe hir residence and ludging within the almes and seikhous betuixt the tounis. 1658 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 315 The great room of the sick-house was wholly spoiled. 1787 *Med. Comment.* II. 369 The child..had been admitted into the sick-house. 1799 W. TOOKE *View of Russian Emp.* II. 219 They were principally set against the sick-houses and quarantines. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 244 The sick-houses are, of course, totally unfurnished. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 103 When he was in the sick-house last month.

Sickinge, obs. variant of SIKING *vbl. sb.*

Si·ckish, *a.* [f. SICK *a.* + -ISH.]

1. Somewhat ill or sick, indisposed ; disordered.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxx. (1887) 110 To speake first of the weake and sickish bodie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 369 As Beares, when they feele themselues sickish or not well at ease, cure themselues with eating Pismires. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. vi. 185 Though..[it] did make her sickish, especially, when she slept upon it. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 31 Oct., I had a fit of giddiness :..then it went off, leaving me sickish. 1773 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* II. 95 He..was chilly, sickish, and had shooting pains in the head. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* III. 199 A sickish and peevish gentlewoman. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 32 You feel a little sickish?..take a little brandy.

fig. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxvii. (1612) 132 Our heires waxe sickish of our health, too long oure heere abode.

2. Somewhat nauseating or sickening.

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* (1821) II. 450 In passing these receptacles, we were saluted by a sweet, sickish effluvium, oppressive to the lungs. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 345 The atmosphere was a little faint and sickish.

Hence **Si·ckishly** *adv.*, **Si·ckishness.**

1727 BAILEY (II), *Queasiness,* Sickishness at the Stomach. 1733 G. CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. xi. § 2 (1734) 228 [Not] with such frequent Vomitings, but rather a continued Sickishness. 1779 *Sylph* II. 6, I felt a sickishness and chill all over me. 1847 WEBSTER, *Sickishly,* in a sickish manner. 1880 *Literary World* (Boston, U.S.) 24 Apr. 139/1 Most writers upon him are either unpleasantly bitter or sickishly sweet.

Sickle (si·k'l), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 sicul, sicol, sicel, 3–5 sikel, 4 sikil, sikul(le, 6 sikell ; 4 sykel, 5 sykelle, sykyl, sykol, 6 sykyll ; 4 sekil, 5 sekelle, -ylle, zekill ; 6 sick-, sikk-, sykkell ; 4 sygle, 6–7 sicle ; 6 syckle, 7 siccle, 6– sickle. *β.* 5 cykylle, 5 cikle, 6–7 cickle, 7–8 cycle. [OE. *sicol, sicel,* =MDu. *sek-, sik-, sykele, siccle, sickele* (Du. *sikkel*), MLG. *sekele* (LG. *sekel*), OHG. *sichila* (G. *sichel*; cf. Flem. *zichel,* †*sichel*); also MSw. *sikil,* MDa. *sig(h)il* (Da. *segel*). It is not certain that the word can be regarded as an early adoption of the Campanian L. *secula,* f. *secāre* to cut.]

1. An agricultural implement similar in form and use to a reaping-hook, but properly distinguished from this by having a serrated cutting-edge.

a. *a* 1000 in WR.-WÜLCKER 234 *Falx,..rifter, vel* sicul. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark iv. 29 He sent his sicol forþam þæt rip æt is. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 263 Siðe, sicol, weodhoc. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 825 þu schalt setten sikel ford *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 312 A luyte rondel ase a sikel Men seoth þar-on liȝt. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 527 *Sarcle, faux et faucil,* Wedehoke, sythe and sikulle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 306 But if he do it smythye In-to sikul or to sithe, to schare or to kulter. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455/2 Sykyl, *falcillus, falcicula.* 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxix. 163 A croked yron made after the facion of a zekill. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 28 A hande-rake..in the lyfte hande, and a syckle in the ryghte hande. 1542 HEN. VIII *Decl. Causes War w. Scots* Civ, As trew as the allegation of hym that is burnte in the hande, to saye he was cut with a sikell. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will & Test.* 871 Roome for the sithe and the siccles there. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 332 *A Sickle,* a toothed Reap-hook. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 25 Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield. 1796 *Campaigns 1793–4* II. x. 69 The peasants were preparing to put the sickle to the grain. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 50 The scythes and the sickles of the present day differ hardly at all from those in use nearly a thousand years ago. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 10/1 The saw-edged sickle, the smooth-edged hook, and the heavy sickle employed in cutting beans. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1898 The reaping-hook..has no teeth, and this distinguishes it from the sickle.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/1 Cykylle, *fassilla vel fassicula.* 1497 *Naval Acc. Henry VII* (1896) 88 Cikles, v dd. di. ; Sithes, vj. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Falces messoriæ,* cickles : siethes. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 244 Messana was at the first called Zancle, of the crookednesse of the place, which signifieth a cycle. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 292 Chase evil spirits away by dint Of Cickle, Horseshoo, Hollow-flint. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 410 The poor native.. gathers the short and scanty grass with his cycle, or hook.

b. *fig.* or in figurative contexts.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* (Globe) 680/1 Godes harvest..is even readye for the sickle. 1602 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 103 For all Times sickle has gone ouer you, you are Orlando still. 1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 208 Be it your care to reserve a sickle for your own harvest. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 23. 163 Labourers of every Kind may find Room to put in a Sickle. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 194 Each Moment has its sickle, emulous Of Time's enormous scythe. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1897) 6 In the vast field of criticism on which we are entering, innumerable reapers have already put their sickles. 1868 H. LAW *Beacons of Bible* (1869) 148 Wrath's sickle will do its work.

2. Something having the curved or crescent form of a sickle, in various special applications.

†**a.** An ornamental design in metal-work or embroidery. †**b.** An ancient military siege-implement (L. *falx*). **c.** A form of spur or gaff for a fighting-cock. **d.** A tail-feather of a cock. **e.** An instrument used in lacquering.

1459 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 188 [Two silver gilt basins] pounced [with knots of] sykols. *Ibid.* 189 [Two] Auter clothes [with one] frountell..[with divers] Compassis [of] sikels [curiously embroidered]. 1472 in *Wilts. Archæol. Mag.* XI. (1868) 337 A paire of cruettis of silver and gilte, w^th^ knottes of sikels. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 491 So also doth the Ram sometime put forth the sicle, and sometime pull it in, and hide it within the frame. *c* 1710 in Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* I. 301 A single battle fought with Sickles, after the East India manner. *Ibid.,* One Cock with a Sickle, and 4 Cocks with fair Spurs. 1882 *N. Middlesex Adv.* 7 July 3/2 Against the insertion of false *sickles* ..the judge of Hamburgs and bantams has..to be on his guard, a good tail..being of special importance in competition. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 309/1 The tapper then goes round provided with the..scraping sickle.

b. Applied to the crescent moon, etc.

1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 128 That secondary and weak light, which the Moon showes, besides her silver Sickle, within her Quarter. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 100 Ere the silver sickle of that month Became her golden shield. 1875 LONGF. *Amalfi* vii, Far away Sweeps the blue Salernian bay With its sickle of white sand.

c. A group of stars in the constellation Leo.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1885 SIR R. S. BALL *Story of Heavens* xviii. 383 The Sickle is specially famous..as containing the radiant point from which the periodic shooting star shower known as the Leonids diverges.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *sickle-blade, -maker, -man, -manufacturer, -sweep, -teeth.*

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 166 Its long, drooping pods..resemble a *sickle blade, or rather a curved sword blade. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 328/1 A *sekylle maker, *falcarius.* 1619 *Canterbury Marr. Licences* (MS.), Lancelot Symans of Horsmonden, sicklemaker. 1620 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 135 You Sun-burn'd *Sicklemen of August weary. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 249 Yet the harvest to the sicklemen Is as a grain to each. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 18 The seasons which the sickleman..should observe. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade,* **Sickle-manufacturer,* a maker of sickles. 1897 CROCKETT *Lochinvar* xxix. 261 Green flats of sparse grass, terminating in sweet *sickle-sweeps of yellow sand. 1897 R. MUNRO *Prehist. Prob.* 330 He discusses the peculiarities of the structure of *sickle-teeth.

b. Similative, as *sickle-billed, -houghed, -pinioned, -shaped, -winged* ; *sickle-like, -wise.*

1782 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. II. 705 *Sickle-billed Creeper...Bill an inch and three quarters in length, curved like a sickle. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 75 Sickle-billed Thrush. Californian Mockingbird. 1884 *Ibid.* 523 *Rostrhamus,* Sickle-billed Kites. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 15 To bee (as some tearme it) *sickle-hought behinde, that is somwhat crooked in the cambrell ioynt, as Hares and Greyhounds are, is not amisse. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 64 *Sickle-like tail-feathers. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 287 The close-set plumage of the Swallow tribe, their long sickle-like wings. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 419 There were still remaining several of the suckers..disposed along its *sickle-shaped Pinnulæ. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* vi, The sickle-shaped moon is growing every instant brighter in the heavens. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 351 A strongly-curved..vascular plate, sickle-shaped in cross-section. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 468 Among the more remarkable species we may note..the *Sickle-winged Humming-bird. 1876 LANIER *Clover* 100 And curls it, sharp, And *sicklewise, about my poets' heads.

4. Special combs., as †**sickle-bear,** an epithet of the god Saturn; **sickle-bill,** *Ornith.* (see quots.) ; †**sickle-boon,** tenant-service rendered by reaping (see BOON *sb.*[1] 6) ; **sickle-feather** (see quots.) ; **sickle-ham, -hough** (see quot. and *sickle-houghed* in 3 b) ; **sickle-moon,** the crescent moon (cf. 2 b) ; **sickle-oyster** (see quot.) ; **sickle-pea,** a variety of pea having a curved pod ; **sickle-pod,** an American species of rock-cress ; **sickle-tedder,** a workman who cuts the teeth in a sickle.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 385 Thou, rich, benign, Ill-chasing Jupiter, Art (worthy) next thy Father *sickle-bear. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 262 *Numenius,* Long-billed Curlew. *Sickle-bill. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 21 All of these have a long curved bill, and include..the Sickle-bills (*Drepanornis* and *Epimachus*). 1438 *Add. Roll* 41659 (MS.), Reddit per annum v s. iiii d, iiii *sikilbons et i [hay]bone. *Ibid.,* xx d. tres ob. for hys sekylbone. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 290 To John Hunt for sicle bonez, ij^s^. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 251/1 The Cocks..tail consists all of crooked bending feathers (*Sickle Feathers as some call them). 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 25 The sickle feathers of the tail are perhaps equally characteristic of the genus. 1799 *Sporting Mag.* XIV. 186 *Sickle-hams or *sickle-houghs, in horses, may be compared to knock or nap-knees in men. 1875 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 42 Bright morning. *Sickle moon just hiding in a red cloud. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* I. 526 Small oblong oysters, which the workmen call the *sickle-oyster, some of them being found crooked. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pisum,* The *Sickle Pea is much more common in Holland than in England. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 109 The Sickle pea, or Sugar pea, which is much cultivated in several foreign countries. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 576 Varieties of Field Peas...White Sickle. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 166 *Sickle Pod...A plant remarkable for its long, drooping pods. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 56 There is a peculiarity in the handling of his hammer and chisel by a *sickle tedder.

†Si·ckle, *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 sikel, 5 sikkil, 6 sickil, sickle ; 5 seckle, sekkul, sekyl, seekle. [f. SICK *v.* + -LE 1.] Sickly.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 466 Heore beire broþur lazarus was swyþe sikel a man. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 269 Olyuys, sikkil, to hele in Marche. *Ibid.* XI. 139 The tendir plaunte is take anoon,..and sekkul beth the grete ysette. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* (MS. A) 327/2 A Sekylman, *valitudinarius.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 121 Sickle, *valetudinarius.*

†Si·ckle, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 siclian, 1–2 sæclian, 3 sæclen, secli, 4 seccle. [f. SICK *a.* + -LE 3.] *intr.* To be or fall ill, to sicken.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 151 *Diu egrotat,* lange he siclaþ. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, Þa wæs Leofric abbot of Burh æt þæt ilca feord & sæclode þær & com ham. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1154 Þa sæclede he & ward ded. *c* 1205 LAY. 30549 Þa iward þe king þere isæcled ful swiðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 Leste..oure soule secli so sone heo is ute. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 575 Sche..seccleled in a seknesse.

Sick-leave : see SICK *a.* 10 b.

Sickle-bill(ed : see SICKLE *sb.* 3 b, 4.

Si·ckled, *ppl. a.* [f. SICKLE *sb.*] **a.** Provided with a sickle. **b.** Cut by means of a sickle.

1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1321 When Autumn's yellow lustre..tempts the sickled swain into the field. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 359 They..can house their mown corn as early as they could house sickled corn.

Si·ckler. [f. SICKLE *sb.*] One who uses a sickle ; a reaper.

1638 SANDYS *Paraphr. Job* xxiv, Their Sicklers reape the Corne another sowes. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 90 When on his golden tilths The farmer would the sickler bring. 1907 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VIII. 114 In the cornfields, where more hands were needed—men as sicklers.

Sickless (si·klĕs), *a.* [f. SICK *a.* + -LESS.] Free from sickness or ill-health.

a 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 6 To languish without ache, sicklesse for to consume. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.* etc. 75 b, In happie helth when sicklesse limmes haue lyfe. 1606 MARSTON *Sophonisba* IV. i, Giue me long breath, yong beds, and sicklesse ease. 1853 J. CUMMING *Foreshadows* 126 That was an earnest..of a sickless state.

†Si·cklew, *a. Obs. rare.* Forms: 4 siklewe, 5 sicke-, sekelew, 5–6 syklow. [f. SICK *a.* + -LEWE.] Sickly ; unhealthy.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 257 þe south..is..vnholsom and siklewe for men to wonye ynne. *Ibid.* III. 303 þey bulde þe citee Sene fore here olde men and siklewe. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 185 The parson seyd he was agyd and syklow, and he wold not be trobelyd herafter. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 102 His brethirne yat wer sickelew and febul. ?1503 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 233 The kyngis grace is but a weke man and syklow.

†Si·cklewort. *Obs.* [f. SICKLE *sb.*] **a.** The scarlet pimpernel. **b.** The plant self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*).

Gerarde appears to be the source of all later references.

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 196/2 [*Vpia*] *maior,..angl.* marie goldwert, *secundum quosdam, an.* sikelwert, *uel* chikemete. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 507 Brunell is called in English Prunell, Carpenters herbe, Selfeheale, and Hookeheale, and Sicklewoort. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Oingtereule,* 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 448. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n.,* Sickle-wort, from the shape of its flowers, which seen in profile resemble a sickle, *Prunella vulgaris.*

Sicklied (si·klid), *a.* [f. SICKLY *a.*] Rendered sickly or mawkish.

1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VI. ii, Even in the light of heaven there seemed a sicklied and ghastly glare. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xiv. (1848) I. 205 The poor sicklied workman in the manufactory. 1889 *Spectator* 16 Nov., The sort of sicklied sentiment which the age seems most to appreciate.

Si·cklify, *v. rare.* [f. SICKLY *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make sick or sickly.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 76 All I felt was giddy; I wasn't to say hungry, only weak and sicklified. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* viii, Sent forth as supposed good books ..to sicklify and sentimentalise good girls.

Sicklike, obs. form of SIC-LIKE.

Si·cklily, *adv.* [f. SICKLY *a.*] In a sickly manner.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Peakingly*, sicklily, wearily. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* II. 846 His will swayed sicklily from side to side. 1870 LE FANU *Willing to Die* III. 22 The first grey chill of winter's dawn hung sicklily over the landscape.

Sickliness (si·klinés). [f. SICKLY *a.* + -NESS.] The state or fact of being sickly; delicacy of constitution, ill-health.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Infirma valetudo*, sickelinesse. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 142, I do beseech your Maiestie impute his words To wayward sicklinesse, and age in him. 1633 G. HERBERT *Priest to the Temple* x, Not only sickness breaks these obligations of fasting, but sickliness also. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Life* (1721) I. 60 His Sickliness, Studies, and the Troubles he met with, turn'd his Hair gray before the usual time. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 471 The inclemency of the season, the sickliness of his army,..and a scarcity of provisions. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 85 Manifesting a considerable degree of sickliness in all their functions. 1896 A. J. C. HARE *Story of my Life* I. 109 [It] had much to do with accounting for my after sickliness.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxx. (1674) 223 That action..proceeding..from sickliness of mind, as a lover of novelties. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* viii. (1870) 201 His Irish melodies are not free from affectation and a certain sickliness of pretention. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 90 The sickliness of the shore, seems little to affect children.

Si·ckling[1]. [f. SICKLE *sb.*] The action of cutting with a sickle. Also *attrib.*

1598 FLORIO, *Segatura*, a sawing, a mowing, a sickling. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 358 The adoption of our method of sickling. *Ibid.*, The wages..on the sickling scheme.

Si·ckling[2]. [f. SICK *a.* + -LING. Cf. G. *siechling.*] A sickly or delicate person.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLI. 215 That they wear the red and white of health,..these sicklings cannot deny. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 297 Why should a man, like a girl or a sickling, Suffer his lamp to be quenched in the tomb?

Si·ck-list. [SICK *a.* 10 b.] An official list of sick persons, esp. soldiers or sailors.

1794 NELSON 10 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 495 Our Sick-list is now seventy-seven, almost all objects for the Hospital. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 211 As I could not appear on the quarter-deck, I was put down on the sick-list. 1841 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 233, I intend to keep myself on the sick-list this one day longer.

Hence **Sick-listed** *a.*, placed on the sick-list.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sickly (si·kli), *a.* Forms: 4 **sek-**, 5 **seke-**, **seekly**, 6 *Sc.* **seiklie**; 4 **sykliche**, 6 **syck(e)ly**, 6–7 **sickely**, **sicklie**, 6– **sickly** (7 **-ley**). [f. SICK *a.* + -LY[1]. Cf. MDu. *siekelic* (Du. *ziekelijk*), MHG. (and G.) *siechlich*, OIcel. *sjúkligr*, Norw. *sjukleg*, Sw. *sjuklig*, Da. *sygelig.*]

1. Ailing or indisposed; in a poor state of health; not robust or strong.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1505 Whan þemperour..seie him so sekly þat he ded semed,..sorwe sank to his hert. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1528 Thou nedelees Counseylest me, that sykliche I me feyne! *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/2 Seekly, or ofte seke, *valitudinarius.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 327/2 A Sekely man, *valitudinarius.* 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 44 The impotent syckely and aged people, which be not able to travaile to the said Churches. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iv. 61, I am not such a sickely creature, I giue Heauen praise. 1623 R. CARPENTER *Consc. Christian* 99 When you shall lie on your beds sickly, or in health conferre with your souls secretly. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 55 Another of this way of Life, being sickly, expressed much Courage in..adventuring upon any hard Enterprize. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iv. 50 The Captains of the squadrons represented to the Commodore, that their ships companies were very sickly. 1779 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 575 The troops and seamen arrived in a very sickly condition. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ii. 20 Being in the air so much..prevents my being sickly, as I used to be. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 339 A mother who did not care for her children would have feeble and sickly children.

absol. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* xi, Jack made an attempt at popularity amongst the sicklies at Cheltenham.

fig. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. 98 Leuing the pretence of necessitie, wherin they haue but a weake and sickly defence. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 17 In this sickely and elder age of the world. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 164 As in Sick bodies, so in Sickly governments, Change is desired. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* I. iv. Wks. X. 243 Armorica..was then, like many other parts of the sickly empire, become a mere desert.

b. Of plants, etc.: Characterized by a feeble or unhealthy growth.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* v. 55 No fruitful Crop the sickly Fields return. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* I. 63 Yet all must drop, as autumn's sickliest grain. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 1 As sickly Plants betray a niggard Earth. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* 3 The herbage grew up in sickly patches. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 79 He found..the seeds of *C. lancifolia* represented by three sickly plants.

c. Of the mind: Weak, disordered.

1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 72 How oft in weak and sickly minds The sweets of kindness lavishly indulg'd Rankle to gall. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 60 Here alt'ratives by slow degrees control The chronic habits of the sickly soul.

d. Of things: (cf. SICK *a.* 7).

1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 32 The beer..cannot recover itself, but remains sickly, and becomes sour.

2. Of conditions, etc.: Connected with, arising from, characterized by, ill-health.

1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 15 My body empty is,.. and ful of seekly heuynesse. *c* 1412 — *De Reg. Princ.* 124 My seekly distresse For-bad myn eres vsen hire office. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 40 To satisfie his seiklie appetyte. 1689 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Mar., Things far from settled.., by reason of the slothfull, sickly temper of the new King. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 140 A sickly Complaining Life they lead, because they will not take Courage. 1783 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 213 The sickly state of several families..in this place. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Life & Corr. Lawrence* II. 490 It represented the youth.. with a pensive and rather a sickly countenance. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* i, Of all the evils that can befall a man, I think a sickly youth must be the worst.

transf. 1885 *L'pool Daily Post* 30 June 4/6 Faded twigs keeping up a sickly struggle for existence.

†3. Pertaining to sickness or the sick. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 118 Thou know'st shee ha's rais'd me from my sickly bed. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Garden* IV. vi, Give me my Gowne and Cap though, and set mee charily in my sickly chaire. 1726 SWIFT *Stella's Birthday* 77 Wks. 1751 VII. 127 She at your sickly Couch will wait. *a* 1824 *Apollo's Choice* II. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV., The sweet delight of tending on a sickly couch.

4. Marked by the occurrence or prevalence of sickness; unhealthy.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 96 This Physicke but prolongs thy sickly dayes. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 223 This is a very sickly place and I believe hath need enough of an Hospital. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 77 In the late sickly season of the year. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 39 The island..became sickly and unhealthful to an extreme degree. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 645 The ship lay out in the open bay; no vessel near her was sickly. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 424 The year 1685 was not accounted sickly.

5. Causing sickness or ill-health; producing discomfort or nausea.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiv. 114 To live vnder a heaven or aire that is contrarie, troublesome or sicklie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 721 From the vicious Air, and sickly Skies, A Plague did on the dumb Creation rise. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 49 Night, and all her sickly dews. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXX. III. 159 The sickly, and almost pestilential, exhalations of low and marshy grounds. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 20 We have sweet odours that are sickly, in other words, depressing. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 113 Dense grey mists..enshrouding the pretty village in their sickly vapours.

6. Of light, colour, etc.: Faint, feeble.

1695 PRIOR *Taking of Namur* xiii, In vain France hopes, the sickly Light Shou'd shine near William's fuller Day. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IX. 124 The broad beam of day, which feebly once Lighted the cheek of lean Captivity, With a pale and sickly glare, then freely [etc.]. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* iii, The pale lavender muslin faded into a sickly grey. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* x, When the sickly winter sun was feebly trying to shine through the grey clouds.

fig. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1897) 5 A far-fetched, costly, sickly, imitation.

7. Of feelings, etc.: Weak, mawkish.

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iii, His soul laboured under a sickly sensibility of the miseries of others. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* IV. ii. 138 The fastidiousness of sickly taste. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 42 The sure mark of a sickly unreality in morals.

8. *Comb.*, as *sickly-born, -coloured, -looking.*

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, This was the elderly and sickly-looking person, who had been precipitated into the river along with the two young lawyers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 358 He was sickly-looking, seemed dispirited at first. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 260 Now the third child was sickly-born and grew Yet sicklier. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 186/1 A sickly coloured sward throughout the summer.

†**Si·ckly,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. SICK *a.* + -LY[2].] In a sick manner; with sickness.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bathes Ayde* Ep. Ded. 2 When the state of the body is sicklie affected. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. i. 107 Whose execution..Grapples you to the heart and loue of vs, Who weare our Health but sickly in his Life.

Sickly (si·kli), *v.* [f. SICKLY *a.*]

1. *trans.* a. To cover *over* (or *o'er*) with a sickly hue. Chiefly *fig.*

Usually in direct echoes of the Shakspere passage.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 85 Thus the Natiue hew of Resolution Is sicklied o're, with the pale cast of Thought. 1637 SUCKLING *Aglaura* III. i, Hope..has so sicklied o're Their resolutions that we must not trust them. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 227 Her features regular; but want had sicklied over their beauty. 1784 *Universal Mag.* I. 204 But there too, Superstition's hand Had sicklied every feature o'er. 1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. v. 225, I have seen the china-rose..sicklied all over with the myriads that thronged its leaves. 1876 W. PAGE-ROBERTS *Law & God* (ed. 4) 122 A man's virtues begin..to get an unhealthy cast and to be sicklied o'er.

b. To render sickly or pale. Also *fig.*

1763 CHURCHILL *Ep. to Hogarth* Poems 1767 I. 111 Thy Drudge..Sicklies our hopes with the pale hue of Fear. 1807 FENTON *Epistles* 52 Sicklied with age, and sour'd with self-disgrace. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xxiii, The silver lustre of the maid sicklied the poor widow.

2. *intr.* To assume a sickly appearance.

1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 186 The broad oak foliage sicklied and looked parched.

†**Si·ckman.** *Obs.* [f. SICK *a.* + MAN *sb.* Now only as two words, and so freq. in ME.] A man who is ill.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 216 *Homme malade gist en liter,* Sikeman lith in hors-bere. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 202 The Prayer of feyth shall hele the sekeman. *c* 1460 *Play Sacr.* 556 By what deuyll dyleth hym so long to tare, A seekman myght soone myscary. *c* 1520 NISBET *John* xi. 1 Thar was a seekman, Lazarus of Bethanie. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 182 Your Affections are A sickmans Appetite. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 953 As if you should tell a Servant of a Sicke-man, that his Master shall recover [etc.].

Sickness (si·knés). Forms: see SICK *a.* Also 1 **-nysse**, 4–5 **-nys**, **-nis**; 3–6 **-nesse**, 3–7 **-nes**, 5 *Sc.* **-nace.** [f. SICK *a.* + -NESS. Cf. obs. Flem. *siecktenisse* (Kilian).]

1. The state of being sick or ill; the condition of suffering from some malady; illness, ill-health.

a. c 967 *Canons Edgar* § 36 We lærað þæt æniz unfæstende man husles ne abirige, buton hit for ofer-seocnesse sy. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xliii. (1883) 209 Þæt god wolde.. heo mid mislicre seocnesse æt mannum ȝenyman. *c* 1205 LAY. 19303 Octa iherde suggen of seocnesse þas kinges. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 775 God sente on him sekenesse & care. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1025 Sekenes suld he neuer drei. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 128 Sche hath seknesse feigned. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 155 Yff man or woman take sekenes that day, thei schuld sone recouer. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 To provide..for the helth of man's body whan infirmities and secknes shalhappen. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 357 Personis that..takis seiknes in thair Hienessis army. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 614 *Seekness*, sickness.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 188 Al ower wo, sicnesse, & oðerhwat. 13.. *Sir Beues* 3918 While Saber lai in is siknesse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 95 Wyþoute steruinge and wyþoute zyknesse and wyþ-oute ealdinge. 1412 *26 Pol. Poems* xi. 90 Myn enemys y shal..ȝeue syknes and drede. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, Whiche..whan we be in syckines is our medycyne and helth. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 230 b, He is troubled with syckenes. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 173 Noble Anthony, not sickenesse should detaine me. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 162 When he falleth into sicknesse by the doing of some unlawfull act. 1712 POPE *To Miss Blount* 60 Those Age or Sickness soon or late disarms. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 25 Pangs.. occasioned by lingering sickness. 1804 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 451 To whom I owe that my bed of sickness has not been in a house of want. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 825 A languor came Upon him, gentle sickness.

γ. 13.. *Sir Beues* 3900 In grete Grese..Saber gret sikenesse tok. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 2 Idel was I neuere ..in sikenesse ne in helthe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 404 To which-so-ever she wold..assigne hit in helth or in sikenesse. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 27 With sykenesse they dye nat. 1542 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 140 Toke such a thought and sykenes that he dyed thereof.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 494 Adam þat broght me in seknes of ded. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 23 Disciplis of Anticrist agreggen þe siiknesse of þer folk. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 202 Wyth fastynge is sawid the Sekenys of body, and wyth Prayere the Sekenesse of Sowle. 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 20 They..deye by longe contynuaunce of ghostli siknesse. 1633 FORD *Broken Ht.* v. ii, Look upon my steadiness, and scorn not The sickness of my fortune. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 185 For if a depraved Temper be, as it were, the Sickness of the Soul. 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* II. i, I urg'd him to it, Knowing the deadly sickness of his heart.

2. A particular disease or malady.

Also freq. with defining terms, as *falling-, green-, horse-, joint-, sea-sickness* (q.v.).

a. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 126 Þanne ys god þæt mann fore-sceawie hwanne seo seocnysse siz. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 103 Þe þrid day of Aduent..þe kyng a seknes hent. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 44 He was made hale, what sekenes so he had. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a ij, To vnderstonde theyr sekeneses and enfirmitees. 1526 *Grete Herball* cxxiii. (1529) H ij b, Agaynst sekenesses of the mylt as Plinius sayth. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 5 That sair seiknes, named the sueit of Britannie, cam nevir till ws.

β. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 132 Þe bischop thomas lay, In þe syknesse of maldeflanke. 1382 WYCLIF *John* v. 4 He.. was maad hool of what euere siknesse he was holdun. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. XXXV. 149 There is noo syknes but that som socours is gyuen therunto. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 82 Every man judged as he thought, and named a sickenes that he knew. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 52 It is then good for Sciaticus and other colde sickennesses of the ioyntes. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* iv. 75 The healing of a sicnesse by a Physician. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 671 The Causes..Of ev'ry Sickness that infects the Fold. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 199 The Nature of the Sickness will scarce suffer the Patient to remove for the Benefit of the Air. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xii, One of those sicknesses of childhood which come and pass away.

γ. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 64 (Kölbing), Sone after,..A gret sikenes þe king him toke. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* viii. 17 He toke oure infirmytees, and bere oure sykenessis. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 35 Þan owe þe leche..bisily biholde wiþin, and considere if þe sikenes be mortified. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 194/2 Saint Roke we sette to se to the great sykenes, bycause he had a sore. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 24 The ix. day of the same monyth [July, 1551] beganne the gret sykenes callyd the swetth.

b. *fig.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Þanne is hit [pride] þe meste periluse zikenesse. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2644 If evere thou knewe of love distresse, Thou shalt mowe lerne in that siiknesse. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 65 Þe venemus seyknes of lust. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxv. 8 Ane paralous seiknes is vaine prosperite. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 31 A kinde of Will or Testament Which argues a great sicknesse in his iudgement That makes it. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* III. i, I feel a deadly sickness at my heart. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 11 His was one of the robust and incisive constitutions, to which doubt figures as a sickness.

c. A defect in wines. (Cf. SICK *a.* 7.)

1674 W. CHARLETON (*title*), Mysterie of Vintners, or a brief Discourse concerning the various Sicknesses of Wines.

d. A disease in sheep; braxy.

1794 *Stat. Acc. Scotl.* XII. 4 Of these, what is called the *sickness*, is generally the most common and the most fatal. 1822 [see BRAXY 1]. 1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 78 in *Husb.* III. (L. U. K.), An inflammatory disease of the stomach, called 'sickness', or 'braxy'.

3. A disturbance of the stomach manifesting itself in retching and vomiting.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ix. 145 The sicknes of the sea, wherewith such are troubled as first begin to go to sea, is a matter very ordinarie. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 306 Sickness is one of the most troublesome symptoms attending a Fever. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1857) 183, I was too much engrossed by the Sickness at my stomach to think of anything else. 1821 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) III. 209 Bessy had been obliged to go to bed from sickness of stomach and head. 1889 D. J. MATTHEWS *Dis. Women* (ed. 4) xviii. 149 You have here then..sickness, or sickness and vomiting if the pain is severe.

4. *fig.* Utter disgust or weariness.

1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 13 June, His sickness of the world..grows more and more obvious every day. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Quaker's Meeting*, When the spirit is sore fretted, even tired to sickness of the janglings..of the world.

5. Sickly hue.

1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § 16. 45 The green and yellow sickness of the false marble.

6. *attrib.*, as *sickness allowance, benefit, repentance, summer, year.*

1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* A iij b, The late great sickness year 1665. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harvest-Home* iii. 12 Sickness-repentance will not be enough. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 28 The foregoing discourse I wrote in the Sickness-summer at my country habitation. 1891 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 7/1 The altered term of sickness allowance. *Ibid.*, The plaintiff's sickness benefit was liable to immediate cessation.

Si·ck-nurse, *sb.* [SICK *a.* 10.] A nurse who attends upon the sick.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, I could not be expected to watch him like a sick-nurse. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 155 She was a sick-nurse, when my friend knew her. 1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mlle. Ixe* v. (1891) 133 At one time I was a sick nurse.

Hence **Si·ck-nurse** *v.*, to act as a sick-nurse. **Sick-nursish** *a.*, appropriate to a sick-nurse.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xix, This homely, sick-nursish illustration of the effect produced upon one's mind by the mere vastness of the great Pyramid. 1897 VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 2/1 You were tired out with sick-nursing and being up at night.

†**Si·ckrel.** *Cant. Obs.*—° [f. SICK *a.* + -REL.] 'A puny, sickly creature.'

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

Si·ck-room. [SICK *a.* 10.] A room occupied by, or set apart for, the sick. Also *attrib.*

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. ii, Seldom out of the sick-room. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 May, On visiting Lady Scott's sick-room this morning I found her suffering. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* II. ii. 421 A room especially designed for the sick-room. 1897 VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 10/2 All the unhealthy fancies born of loneliness and sickroom watching had passed away.

Siclato(u)n, variants of CICLATOUN *Obs.*

†**Sicle.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3–8 **sicle,** 5–6 **sycle,** 6–7 **sickle.** *β.* 4–6 **cicle,** 6 **cycle.** [a. OF. *sicle, cicle* (mod.F. *sicle*), ad. late L. *siclus*, a. Gr. *σίκλος, σῖγλος*, ad. Heb. *shegel*: see SHEKEL. Cf. MDu. *sicle, cicle, cikel*, Du. *sikkel*, G. †*sickel, sikel.*]

1. A shekel.

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Me solde his euesunge..uor two hundred sicles of seolure. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xlv. 12 Forsothe a sicle shal haue twenti halpenns; forsothe twenti syclis, and fyue and twenti syclis maken a besaunt. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxvi. (1908) 188 Tweyne mytes, the ferthe parte of a sicle. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* vii. 16 A buszshel of fyne meell was solde for a Sycle, and two buszshels of barlye for a Sycle also. 1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 436 With the holy Sicle, we must buy Christ, that may put away our Sinnes. The holy Sicle beareth the forme of our Faith. 1602 L. LLOYD *Briefe Conf.* 77 The Elders of that citie should..mearce him in an hundred sickles of siluer. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. xiv. 45 The accustomed imposition a Sicle or didrachme, the fourth part of an ounce of silver.

β. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 135 Mina is a manere weiȝte oþer a maner money, and weieþ sixty cicles. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* ix. (1908) 62 The child..was bouȝt aȝen as a seruaunt for v. penyes, that weren cleped cicles. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* 28 b, A sepulchre whiche Abraham bought for an hundreth siluer cicles. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) I. 405 A cycle or a homer, or an ephah.

2. An ancient Persian coin, worth half of a silver stater. *rare*—1.

1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* v. I. 184 He begs Aleander to send him the figur'd Inscription of the Sicles, of which he had spoke to him.

3. The value of two silver pennies. *rare*—1.

1720 J. JOHNSON *Canons Eng. Ch.* DCCXXXIV. viii, We will that the Adulterers pay thirty Sicles, or sixty Pieces of Silver to the Church.

Sic-like (sik,ləik), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: see SIC *a.* and LIKE *a.*

A. *adj.* Similar; such-like; of such a kind.

1442 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 7 Giff ony man dois sik like case in tyme to cum,..he sal pay sik like payne vnforgiffin. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 52 To Keire currour passand with sic like lettres, iij*s.* 1549 *Compl. Scot.* x. 84 There is ane syklik exempil of pirrus kyng of eporite. 1588 A. KING tr. *Camsius' Catech.* 2 The holie sacrament off the alter, and siclyk secreit mysteris of our religione. [1614 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Commend. Poems, Eccl.* 51 Wks. (Grosart) II. 21/2 To gab of sikliche notes of misery.] 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 63 Ev'n the ha' folk fill their peghan Wi' sauce, ragouts, an' sic like trashtrie. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, Constables, and sic-like black cattle. 1829– in northern glossaries. 1867 W. ANDERSON *Rhymes* 9 (E. D. D.), Flingin' crackers at ither, or some siclike wark.

B. *sb.* Such kind of thing(s) or person(s).

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xx. 36 Be nocht in countenance ane skornar,..Bot dowt siclyk sall stryk the in the neck. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 93 This was thair maner, and this day the hilande men..weiris even siklyke. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* I. iii, In this diphthong we commit a grosse errour,..spelling how, now, and siklyk with w. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 74 A Cotter howkan in a sheugh,.. Bairan a quarry, an' sic like. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v., 'What sort of fowk are the rest of them?'.. 'They're just sic and sicklike.' 1876 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 170/2 'Sike an Sike-like were there.'

C. *adv.* Similarly; in like manner; in such wise.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. x. 45 Sic lyke as quhar that, with thair hie toppis, The big akis [etc.]. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Annexation*, And sik-like..with consent of the three Estaites, it was statute [etc.]. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 50 And sicklyke, it is appoyntit that everie heritor and tennant [etc.]. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 134 And siclike thair wes aucht gentilmen appointed to watche his lodging. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4456/1 And sicklyke We..Command all.. the said Dukes..to give all due Respect to Our Commissioners. 1752 LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* 133 And sicklike upon the.. Day..foresaid, I passed to the Market-cross. 1888 *Scot. Serm.* in *Brit. Workman* May, An' siclyke it is wi' the Heavenly Word.

Sicomancy: see SYCOMANCY.

Sicomer, -our, obs. forms of SYCAMORE.

Siconye, variant of CICON(I)E *Obs.*

Sicory, obs. form of CHICORY.

Sicsac, variant of ZICZAC.

Sictuate, obs. form of SITUATE.

Siculo- (si·kiulo), used as combining form of L. *Siculus* Sicilian, as in *Siculo-Arabian, -Moresque, -Phœnician, -Punic.*

1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 405 This character on one of the Siculo-Punic medals. 1770 *Ibid.* LXI. 96 The ancient Siculo-Punic, and Siculo-Phœnician, characters. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 639 The true Siculo-Punic coins, that is, those actually struck by the Carthaginians in Sicily.

Sid. *Sc.* [app. a var. of SEED *sb.*, but the pron. (sid) is not used in Sc. in the usual senses of that word.] An inner husk of grain detached from the kernel in grinding. Usu. in *pl.*

1673 *Justiciary Rec.* (S.H.S.) II. 166 [He] called for a lippie of Sidds to his Dogs. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 215 After grinding the sharps, I..sifted them with a common meal sieve; they produced 7 pecks of meal and 1 peck of sids. 1865 *Blue Bk., Dock & Victualling Yard Expend.* 59 Offal Stores. These consist..of sids, husks, and dust, arising from the conversion of oats into oatmeal.

‖ **Sida** (sə·idă) *Bot.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *σίδη* some water-plant.] A genus of malvaceous plants of a woolly or downy character, indigenous to warm climates; a plant of this genus, esp. *Sida rhombifolia* or Queensland hemp. Also *Sida-weed.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Sida*, in botany, the name of a genus of plants, constituted by Linnæus [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 461/1 This description belongs chiefly to the sida; but it will also apply to the malva crispa. 1819 *Pantologia* X. s.v., The following species are propagated.. Rhomb-leaved sida. .. Great bindweed-leaved sida [etc.]. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 192 While belonging with Jute to the lower grade of textile fibres, *Sida* is much to be preferred. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants* 139 *Sida rhombifolia*,..'Common Sida Weed,' 'Queensland Hemp'.

Sidar, obs. variant of CIDER.

†**Sidder,** *v. Sc. Obs.*—1 (Meaning obscure.)

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 62 Strangmen of armes and of micht Wer sett thame for to sidder.

Sidder, variant of SIDDOW.

Si·ddle, *sb. north. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Downward slope; dip (of a coal-seam).

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 47 *Siddle*, the inclination of a seam of coal. 1894 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.* s.v., The general direction of the strips in open-field tillage lands was regulated by the siddle of the ground.

Hence **Si·ddle** *v.*, to slope downward, to dip.

1894 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.* s.v., Just ayont, the seam o' coal begins to siddle.

Si·ddow, si·dder, *a.* Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 7 **sydowe, siddowe,** 8– **siddow** (9 **seedow**), 8–9 **sidda.** *β.* 8 **sidore,** 9 **sidder** (**cidder**). [Of obscure origin.] Soft, tender, mellow.

Current in W. Midland counties, chiefly of peas, grain, or other vegetables. It is doubtful whether Grose is right in giving the word as a sb. and vb.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Finde they a chinke, they'l wriggle in and in, And eat like salt sea in his siddowe ribs. 1622 W. BURTON *Descr. Leicest.* 174 Long agoe it [Lindley] hath had the praise for good sydowe pease (as they tearm them). 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* I. 66 Sandy Land marled will bear good Sidore, or white or blue Pease, and also Turneps. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Sidda*, pease or vegetables that boil soft. These pease will sidda. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 331 Peas, which become soft by boiling, are said to be 'siddow', a well sounding term, which is much wanting in other districts. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sidder*, a term applied to malting barley. A shower of rain on barley, after it is cut, is said.. to make it sidder, i. e. promote its growth in the cistern and make it work better. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Sidder*, light; loose; friable; mealy: applied to soil that breaks up readily, peas that boil to a flour, yeast dumplings that are properly swelled, &c.

Side (səid), *sb.*1 Forms: 1– **side** (1 **siide,** 3 **siðe,** 4 **sijde, zide**), 4–5 **sid** (4 **said**); 2–6 **syde** (4 **syide, zyde,** 5 **syede, cyyde,** 9 *dial.* **seyde**), 5–7 **syd** (5 **syyd**). [Common Teut.: OE. *síde*, = OFris. (and mod.Fris.) *side*, MDu. *side, zide* (Du. *zijde*) and *sīd, syé* (Du. *zij*), OS. *sīde* (MLG. *side*), OHG. *sīta* (MHG. *sīte*, G. *seite*), ON. and Icel. *síða* (MSw. *sīþa, sidha*, Sw. and Norw. *sida*, Da. *side*); not recorded in Gothic. Perhaps connected with SIDE *a.*, and originally denoting the long part or aspect of a thing.

The form *síðe* in *Gen. & Ex.* 1295 is prob. ad. ON. *síða*.]

I. 1. Either of the two lateral surfaces or parts of the trunk in persons or animals, extending between the shoulders and the hips; the corresponding part in fishes, reptiles, etc.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* L 328 *Lumbus*, side. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. vii. [ix.] (1890) 178 His hors..ongon wealwian, & on æghwæðre siidan hit gelomlice oferwearp. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 34 An ðara cempa mið spere sidu his untynde. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 21 Þa genam he an ribb of his sidan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Weren his side mid speres orde iopened. *c* 1200 ORMIN 4777 Shulldre, & bacc, & side, & halls, & hæfedd. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 266 in *O. E. Misc.*, Þer cumeþ god myd his rode, His honde and his syde al a blode. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 627 Vte of his side.. Wit-oten sare a rib he tok. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 40 Whan the sharpnesse of the spore The horse side smit to sore. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 349 She weryd ii bokelers, oon by her syde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e iij b, With the hede, With the shulderis and the sides. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 339 Syr, there is two ribbes broken in sir Rowlandes syde. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 625 His brawny sides, with hairy bristles arm'd. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 342 Were this true, it would autoptically silence that dispute out of which side Eve was framed. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 344 Their Dewlaps and their Sides are bath'd in Gore. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 145 Down his Sides, and all the Belly Part, is white Wool. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. xii, With a look that implied 'I'll fit you for this!' [he] put his hands to his sides. 1824 MRS. CAMERON *Pink Tippet* I. 7 Esther Jones was now come out at the door, her arms were on her side. 1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 30 At once did [he]..Drop chin to breast, drop hands to sides.

fig. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 26, I haue no Spurre To pricke the sides of my intent. 1620 T. PEYTON *Glasse of Time* 62 The earth henceforth shall now no more endure Vnlesse thou till, and much her sides manure. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Convers.* 159 Evil Princes have evil sides; that is, bad Counsellors.

†**b.** Used with reference to generation or birth. (Cf. LOIN *sb.* 2 b.) *Obs.*

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 26 June 106 Hiȝ wæron acennede of Constantines sidan,..þæt ys of ȝestreonde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 348 Now has þou, woman, .. with-in þi twa sydis Consayued him. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1758 Þe chyld þat be-twyx my sydes lay. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvi. 25 Thy blyssit sydis bair the campioun. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 1009 From her fair unspotted side Two blissful twins are to be born. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. ix, From thy side two gentle babes are born.

c. In phrases denoting the effect of exertion in speaking (after L. *latera*), or boisterous mirth.

(*a*) 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 485 O master preacher!..Spare your sides. I am well enough. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 215 Having thus dispatched my message, it is now time I should spare both your ears, and my own sides. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.* xix. (1661) 394 It confirmed them: it gave them sides, and strength.

(*b*) 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 69 The iolly Britaine..laughes from 's free lungs: cries, oh, Can my sides hold, to think [etc.]. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 32 Sport that wrincled Care derides, And Laughter holding both his sides. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 You'd break a man's sides with laughing. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 548 It shakes the sides of splenetic disdain. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* li, Tom Scott..bade fair to split his sides with laughing.

d. In phr. *through the sides of*, denoting an indirect attack on a person or thing.

1684 BUNYAN *Holy Life* Wks. 1855 II. 527 There are many that..watch for an opportunity to speak against him, even through the sides of those that profess him. 1699 M. HENRY *Life P. Henry* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biogr.* (1818) VI. 268 That the name of God..be not blasphemed, nor religion wounded through their sides. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1768, About this time Dr. Kenrick attacked him, through my sides, in a pamphlet. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Introd. § 33 The other party, who..were not sparing in their severity, but wounded the ordinance itself through the sides of its defender.

2. In phrases denoting close proximity to a person (properly to one hand or the other), as *by one's side.*

a 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xc. 7 Fallaþ from sidan ðire ðusend & ten ðusend. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 Naht feor from þæs mæssepreostes sidan. *c* 1205 LAY. 25756 Arður eode abute, & his cnihtes bi his siden. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 371 Knictes an sweynes bi here siden. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 80 All Soules that will be safe, flye from my side. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 176 Let us forth, I never from thy side henceforth to stray. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 680 Th' Infernal Troops.. list'ning, crowd the sweet Musician's side. 1749 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 34 With Freedom by my side, and soft-eyed Melancholy. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 40 Allur'd By ev'ry gilded folly, we renounc'd His shelt'ring side. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, She passed five hours by her friend's side. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 14 Not at my side. I charge thee ride before.

b. *Side by* (†*for*, †*to*) *side*, close together and abreast of each other. In later use also of things, and freq. const. *with*. Hence *side-by-sideness*.

c 1205 LAY. 19824 þa duȝeðe..hine þer bureden bi leofen his broðer; side bi side beiene heo þer ligged. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1786 (Gött.), Thinc no man ferli þat þar suam Side bi side, bath wolf and man. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 347 So that the syngers sytte togyder syde to syde. 1529 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 63 *note*, Their plouche is drawen be foure beastis going syde for syde. 1614 J. KING *Vitis Palatina* 30 They that walk side to side, and cheeke to cheeke, walke as companions. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. clxxxviii. 463 That proud thing, myself, will not play, except it ride up side for side with Christ. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 88 They rank themselves, either in a circle, or side by side. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. viii, The sculls lay side by side. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xii, Fox-glove and night-shade, side by side. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv, A higher hand must..guide Her footsteps, moving side by side With wisdom.

Comb. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 166, I suppose co-existence in space means proximity, side-by-sideness—equally exclusive of occupation of the same space or of a remote one.

3. One of the lateral halves of the body of an animal, or the part about the ribs, used for cooking. Now chiefly in *side of bacon*.

In the first quot. the reference is to a child.

13.. *Cursor M.* 8715 (Gött.), Wid suord it sal be delt in tua, And ether sal haue a side in hand. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 25 Loke þat þow haue fayre sydys of Pyggys, & fayre smal Chykenys wyl & clene skladdyd & drawe. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* xxvi, It is ane syde of Salmond, as it wer. 1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 242 One side of baconn. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 4 April, A great dish of side of lamb. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxi, They undermined whole sides of bacon. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* v, The 'squire..sent us a side of venison. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, The haggis and the side of mutton, with which her table was set forth. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 167 After the carcass has hung 24 hours, it should be cut down by the back-bone, or chine, into two sides. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 8/3 The small carcases from which come the Wiltshire sides most popular with the Canadian consumer.

II. 4. One or other of the two longer (usually vertical) surfaces or aspects of an object, in contrast to the ends, or of the two receding surfaces or aspects, in contrast to the front and back.

The precise application depends to some extent on the form of the object and its position in relation to the observer.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxvii. 3 Swe swe wintreow ȝenyhtȝumiende in sidum huses ðines. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxii. 169 Twegan stengas..sting ut ðurh ða hringas bi ðære earce sidan. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 878 *A costes, claies, et roulous*, Be sydes, hirdeles, and cartesoulis. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 28 Cum we than on thame at a syde. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxvii. 5 The whiche he putte into the rynges that weren in the sides of the arke. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 132 b, When menne dooe mocke any bodye thei wagge their handes up & down by their eares at the sydes of their hedde. 1581 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 345 Castell with y^e^ falling sydes. Tree with shyldes. 1628 P. SMART *Vanitie Popish Cerem.* 33, I trow there are but two sides of a long table, and two ends. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 520 The credulous Nymph..concealed a Lamp by her Beds side. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 71/2 He..fastened these Beams..each with two braces..bound round and fastened of opposite sides. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 69 They seldom use any overlays or outriggers, either at the ends or sides [of a waggon]. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 138/1 The sides of the tongue become gangrenous. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 18 A harder layer,..with thick dotted sides. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* I. iii. 37 My boots are scat at the sides.

b. One or other of the bounding lines or surfaces of any right-lined figure or object.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2215 All þe sidis of þe cite þat sechus had biggid. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* (W. de W.) III. xvii, A rounde shape hathe noo sydes w^t^ corners. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 120 Neuer a one of them all hath of anye syde lesse then xx. myles of grounde, and of som syde also muche more. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. prop. 21. 31 Not euery figure hauing three angles hath also onely three sides. 1628 P. SMART *Vanitie Popish Cerem.* 33 Make it [the table] square, and then it will haue foure sides, and no end, or foure ends and no side. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 353 Again, in the Triangle *M P N*, the Sides *P M*, *P N* being given,..the base *M N* is found. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 2 Having two Sides and an Angle opposite to one of them, to find another Angle. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* 254 A ray of light after its emergence from such a crystal acquires sides. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, A large window, with three sides of glass. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 135 The relations of the sides of each triangle to each other..are the effects of its triangular form.

fig. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 69 On its theoretic and perceptive side, Morality touches Science; on its emotional side, poetic Art.

c. In a rounded, cylindrical, or spherical object, a part of the surface having a particular aspect.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 319 Æfre byð on sumere sidan hære eorðan dæȝ. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 85 Our Valiant Hamlet (For so this side of our knowne world esteem'd him). 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 722 Look downward on that Globe whose hither side With light from hence, though but reflected, shines. 1747 GRAY *Cat* i 'Twas on a lofty vase's side. 1788 COWPER *Mischievous Bull* 7 Wood-peckers explore the sides Of rugged oaks for worms. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 141 [Apples] with a tinge of red streaks on the sunny side. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 214 Hence we only see one side of our satellite [the moon].

d. *Math.* (See quots.)

(*a*) 1660–1706 [see ROOT *sb.*^1^ 14 a]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Side of a Power, is what we otherwise call the Root, or Radix. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 490/2 The same geometrical analogies by which a number multiplied by itself was called a *square*, procured for the number itself the name of *side*.

(*b*) 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Side of a Polygonal Number*, is the Number of the Terms of the Arithmetical Progression, that are summed up. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s.v. *Polygonal Numbers*, The *Side* of a Polygonal number is the number of points in each side of the Polygonal figure when the points in the number are ranged in that form.

e. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 981 A compartment, or pannel, formed in working the coal, is called a side of work. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 136 From this latter the main workings, called *sides of work*, are opened in the form of a square or parallelogram.

5. That part of the framework of a ship or boat extending from stem to stern between the gunwale and the main-wale or the water-line.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 16 Duru þu setst be þære sidan wið neoðan and þu macast þreo fleringa binnan þam arce. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1670 Quen þi timber es festend wele þou wind þe sides ilk dele. 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Syde of a bote, *bort*. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 32 Dangerous rocks, Which touching but my gentle Vessels side Would scatter all her spices on the streame. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* I. 273 The tumbling billowes fast her syddes assaill. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4093/1 A French Man of War .. came within Musket-shot along her side. 1795 NELSON 7 Feb. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 5 The Ships built at Toulon have their sides, beams, decks, and straight timbers from this Island. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 61 Great care is taken in fitting the pipes through the ship's sides. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* 104 On the stronger sides of recent first-class battle ships..the combined thickness of this plating is 2¼ inches.

6. a. The slope of a hill or bank, especially one extending for a considerable distance. (Cf. BANK-, HILL-, MOUNTAIN-SIDE.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1295 Men seið ðat dune-is siðen on Was mad temple salamon. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xiii. 34 Myche puple cam bi the out weye fro the side of the hil. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5863 Hym list for to rest, And bowet fro the batell to þe bonke side. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 176 The side of a bancke. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 295 Under a green mantling vine That crawls along the side of yon small hill. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 232 A Hill Torn from Pelorus, or the shatter'd side Of thundring Ætna. 1757 GRAY *Bard* II Down the steep of Snowdon's shaggy side. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 150 It is still overlooked by tremendous mountains; their sides covered with snow. 1811 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* (ed. 3) 303 The eruptions rarely attain the summit [of Etna], but more usually break out at the sides.

b. The outskirts of a wood, town, etc. ? *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5734 þe flok he fedd opon a tid, Bi a wildrin wod side. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 133 In his way, it hapnyd him to ride..under a forest side. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 228 By a wylde wodes syde As I walked myself alone. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 12 Vnder a woddes side, thei couertly espied them passe forward. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 129 Vnderneath the groue of Sycamour, That West-ward rooteth from this City side. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV*, 83 The Earle labouring to escape, at a Woods side where was no passage. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 242 Next Bray-Wood side. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 101 Him have we seen the Greenwood side along.

7. a. The bank or shore of a river or water; also, the land or district bordering on a river. (Cf. *burn-*, RIVER-, SEA-, WATER-SIDE.)

1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 54 In clifland bi tese side. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5799 All backward [they] hom bere to þe buerne side, þat fer from þe flode might no freke wyn. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 65 There be monye deipe places of waters nye to the sydes of the sees. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. xiii. 28 Towartis the ryveris syde alaw. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 313 If they chance to finde a man in the waters side he wil eate him all. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 230 Let 'em..Range the Forrest, by the Silver side Of some cool Stream. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 160 The place of meeting..is always by the side of some lake or river. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* I. xxiii, As her light skiff approach'd the side. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 317/1 Carrickfergus..situated on the W. shore or Antrim side of Belfast Loch.

b. A surface serving to enclose or bound a space or hollow.

1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 389 þat the dryver of the Bochours Carre..throwe his intrelles and oþer stuffe..in myddes of þe pitte & not be þe sides. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 173 In the bankes and sides of these Ponds, you must have Bushes and Creeke holes. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xxiv. 3 Dauid and his men remained in the sides of the caue. 1702 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* s.v., Sides of Horn-works.. and such-like Out-works..are the Ramparts and Parapets that enclose them on the Right and Left from the Gorge to the Head. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* VI, Three sides of this were enclosed by lofty buildings lined with ranges of cloisters. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* VI. § 2 (1862) 475 A mirror-like coating of reduced silver is formed on the sides of the vessel. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 253 The very sides of the grave itself shall pass. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* V. ix, The sides of the pool were of masonry, to prevent the water from washing away the bank.

8. One or other of the two surfaces of a thing having little or no appreciable thickness; also, the outer or inner surface or aspect of a thing.

See also *right* and *wrong side* under these adjs., and cf. the combs. INSIDE, OUTSIDE.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxii. 15 Berynge in hoond two tablis of testymonye wrytun on eithir side. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 71, I know on which syde my bread is buttred. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 8 A sheet of paper Writ on both sides the leafe. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. ii. 146 Some such Squire he was That turn'd your wit, the seamy-side without. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Nov., I'll say no more on this side the paper. 1826 KIRBY & SPENCE *Entom.* III. 529 *note*, They are gratified to see that M. Latreille has adopted this term in the work quoted on the other side. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 12/1 A small volume of some forty-seven pages, printed on one side only. 1899 RAYMOND *No Soul above Money* iii, He knew both sides of a penny, for all he looked so daft.

b. *spec.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2172/1 *Side*,..the surface on the right or dressed side of cloth.

9. a. A page of a book or writing. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Syde of a boke that is written, *pagee*. 1579 W. FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 241 He rehearseth halfe a side of M. Iewels wordes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 141, I will adde one side concerning Paradice, and then will goe on without digression. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 14 One of his sides in *Quarto*, for Falshood, Insolence, and Absurdity contains a Book in *Folio*. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 104 We thought you should have written a side upon that Subject at least. 1826 LAMB *Pop. Fallacies* ix, A man might blur ten sides of paper in attempting a defence of it.

b. *Tanning.* (See quot. 1885.)

1763 *Ann. Reg.* 92 Georgia..exports: 1602 sides of tanned leather. 1852 C. MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 23 The number of sides of sole leather inspected during the last five years. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/2 After soaking, the hides are..cut through the middle of the back to separate them into 'sides'.

10. An aspect or view of something immaterial.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. vi. 514 If thilk gouernaunce be.. profitable to him in othere goostli sidis. 1657 OWEN *Saints' Persev.* XV. Wks. 1851 XI. 539 It being the will of God to give us, as to his [David's] fall, his dark side and his sin to the full. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lvii. VII. 263 The future was not without its bright side. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. v. (1872) III. 44 His first aim is to find-out the ridiculous side of everyone. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 139 The better side of his vulgar nature came out.

III. 11. Place or direction with reference to some central point; a point of the compass. (Cf. NORTH-, SOUTH-SIDE.) Also *fig.* (quot. 1838).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlvii. 3 On sidan norðdaeles [is] cestre cyninges ðes miclan. *c* 1205 LAY. 21774 þer walleð of þan mæren a moniare siden..sixti wateres. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 124 So þat respit was þar-of I-nome, and ech wende in his side. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5021 Bot þi sire soile in na side see sall þou neuire. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxix, On summe side wille hit falle. Sum curtas mon ȝette may he fynde. 1648 MILTON *Ps.* lxxx. 45 Her branches on the western side Down to the Sea she sent. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* 467 A Fire, with a few Boughs before it, set up on that side the wind was of. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 497 He found it necessary to approach the town on that side, on which there lay a wood or forest. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 150 Lamps gracefully dispos'd, and of all hues, Illumin'd ev'ry side. 1838 MACAULAY in Trevelyan (1876) II. vii. 9 On that side he multiplied his precautions, and set double watch.

b. In phrases *on* (†*of*) *each* or *every side*, *on all sides*.

c 1205 LAY. 621 His ferde he sette on ælchere siden. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xix. 43 Thei schulen make thee streyt on alle sydis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 16 Tobroke is Cristes folde, Wherof the flock..Devoured is on every side. 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 365/1 On evyrysyde, *undique, circumquaque*. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1060 Counnyng surgeans were sought vpon euery syde. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 Troytowne is fired of al sydes. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 178 A most pleasant valley, compassed on all sides with mountaines. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 689 On each side bowing popularly low. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 38 Thus the Apartment is open of all sides. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 110 ¶ 2 The Ruins of the Abby are scattered up and down on every Side. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* viii, Thanks to Heaven were returned on all sides.

12. One or other direction to either hand of an object, space, or imaginary line; the position, space, or area implied in this. † *Of a side*, on each side.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 454 Ðeos ðriddle India hæfð on anre sidan þeostru, and on oðere ðone grimlican garsecg. *a* 1340– [see RIGHT *a.* 20]. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xli. 19 A face of man..of this syde, and a face of lyoun..on the tother syde. *c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* II. 571 They stode on þe lifte syde; and al þat abode within the toun stode on þe right syde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 12 Vndir this brench ran doun a revir bricht..Quhair did, vpone the tothair syd, persew A nychtingall. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 51 Taurus divideth it in the middest: On the North side is that which is called Asia interior. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxi. § 1, The strength..of the two lights..on this side, and on that side the point of concurse. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. (1900) 144 Upon the bank of the River, on the other Side, they saw the two shining men again. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* I. i, The pinners are double ruffled with twelve plaits of a side. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvii. 73 He, who hears him, chaunts on t'other Side, With me your Bounty, ah! with me divide. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 374 Suppose the beam should dip on the wrong side. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 458/1 The American car has a gangway lengthwise of the car, the seats on each side reversible. *fig.* 1641 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 288, I know he is fast riveted on that side, if the Commons give him not a jostle. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 16 But I had a farther Obligation laid on me on the same Side. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* Prol. 25 He who has O'er the grave been forced to pass To the other side.

b. In phrases *on* (†*of*) *either* or *each side*, *on both sides*.

c 1205 LAY. 27242 þa sænde heo a ba siden al þa men auoten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6263 þe see on aiþer side þam stod Als walles tua, quils þai for yod. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1520 He..sammes þaim on aithire side with silken rapis. *c* 1480 *Little Child. Bk.* 66 in *Babees Bk.* 20 Whan þou etyst, gape not to wyde That þi mouth be sene on yche a syde. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. xxx, At that cave's mouth,

twice sixteen porters stand,..Of each side foure [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 649 Before the Gates there sat On either side a formidable shape. 1823 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* I. 415 The altars on either side had their respective relics. 1867 W. L. NEWMAN in *Quest. Reformed Parl.* 79 The mountain backbone,..from which the streams flow down on either side.

13. The space lying to either hand *of*, or in any direction from, a specified place, point, etc.

For fig. uses see also RIGHT *a.* 10 d and WRONG *a.*

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxii. 2 In the mydle of the street of it, and on ech sijde of the flood [was] the tree of lijf. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 234 And at o syde of the Emperours Table, sitten many Philosofres. 1462 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 314 The gardeyn that ys on the north syd of the yat. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 73 On the other hand or syde of the gate was set a pyller. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 43 On the East side of the Groue. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* III. ix. 1 Set we our Squadrons on yond side o' th' Hill. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 33 A river, of whose banks On each side an Imperial City stood. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 138 And there he threw the wash about On both sides of the way. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* i. § 3 (1862) 59 Oxidizing actions are in constant operation unperceived on every side of us. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. 74 Of him we have heard in two widely different characters on different sides of the sea.

fig. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 327 [My heart] keepes on the windy side of Care. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, She's not to be forgotten on this side of time. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 8 She was on the less enviable side of fifty.

b. Const. without *of*, in such phrases as *on this, that, the other, side* (a place).

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5415 Þe devels on ilk syde þam sal stande. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1200 All þe bestaill.. Þat he mist se on any syde þe cite of Gadirs. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 410 No place elles where on þat syde þe See. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxvi. 110 Than sir Aymery drewe his people alonge on the dykes within the barryers, and the archers redy on bothe sydes the way. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 188 b, Thre dayes Jorney on this syde Venise. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 23 Vines grow threescore miles on this side Paris. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 53 Since you are on that side y^e water. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xiii, On the other side the willows. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 339 The provinces were laid waste on each side his passage. 1827 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 117 Had you been as much on this side London as you are beyond it, you might easily have met us there! 1887 LOWELL *Democracy* 46 This outburst of feeling on both sides the sea.

fig. 1676 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 5) xxi, There be as many miseries beyond riches, as on this side them. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 234 There is nothing absolutely or completely Perfect on this Side Heaven. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 40 ¶ 1 Good and Evil happen alike to all Men on this side the Grave. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 143 That's all we may expect of man, this side The grave.

c. *On this side (of)*, before (a specified date).

1436 HEN. VI in *Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 198 He that calleth hym Duc of Burgeyne disposyth hym..on this side Estre nyxt to lay assege to oure toun of Caleys. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 4/2 The seid x^th part to be assessed..a this syde the morn of the fest of the Purification. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 12 The seales aboue rehersed, shall bee made..on this syde the feast of the Natiuitie of sayncte John Baptist nexte commynge. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) IV. 235 But all, I fear, wont be completed on this side Christmas. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* lvii, He's not at hand, and won't be this side of eleven o'clock.

d. *On this side (of)*, short of.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 78 The other is openest in suerte of likelihode or of probabilite a this side suerte. 1647 H. MORE *Poems* Pref., [He] hath attempted bravely, but yet methinks on this side of Mathematicall evidence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 101 We are at worst On this side nothing.

14. † **a.** *On side*, to one side, aside. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 344 On athir hand The tothir battalis suld be gangand Behynd, on syde a litell space. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 57 Feith had first siȝte of hym, ac he flegh on syde. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5848 Ector wiste him hurt he feled, He rod on-syde and him keled. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Abbay Walk* 5 On caiss I kest on syd myne e, and saw þis writtin vpoun a wall. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 101 This battayl was sore foughten, for hope of life was set on side on euery parte. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 350/2 What shall it auaile vs to start on side from the rule which hee hath giuen vs?

b. In various phrases denoting position, movement, or inclination away from a central line or point. Also *fig.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 23 Stately trees (some tops whereof the wind seemeth to wreath and turne at one side). 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 43 Put your corner cap a litle nere a toe side. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 20 To me comes a creature, Sometimes her head on one side, some another. *a* 1688 BUNYAN *Israel's Hope Encouraged* Wks. 1855 I. 600 It would be too great a step to a side to treat of all those mercies. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 169 The middle Shoot..is found.. to lean of one Side a little. 1782 *A. Monro's Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 126 From each side..a bony bridge is produced backwards, and to a side. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* II. ii. 76 Your Majesty In such a filthy business had better Stand on one side. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* II. 162 Happening sometime after to be standing with him by a side at the window. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 64 It must..be understood that I place his private character entirely to one side.

c. *ellipt.* A side-dish, entrée.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlii, If those sides, or *entrys*, as she calls 'em, were'nt served yesterday, I'm d—d.

d. *Billiards.* Direction given to a ball by striking it at a point not directly in the middle.

1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiards* 125 In putting on side, all that has to be done is to strike the ball on the side instead of in the middle. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 483 The mysteries of 'side' began to perplex players.

15. A part *of* a place or thing lying in one or other direction from a centre or median line. Also without *of*.

1428 *E. E. Wills* 81 To the wherk of the Ill of the toon side of the Cloistere in the Chirchehawe. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 883 To þe este syde in england, Of þis prouynce þou ert ordaynd. 1537 LAYTON in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 156 To ryde downe one syde [of the country] and to cum up the other. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 48 The other side a'th City is risen: why stay we prating heere? 1686 BURNET *Trav.* III. (1750) 160 There are whole Sides of Streets without Inhabitants. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 43 To keep his Grinders from mouldering..he supplies both Sides with Grists at once. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* III. xi. 386 One Side of it [a school] stands upon great Stone Pillars, in a large Court. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* V. v. 134 It was the custom..for the men to be placed on one side of the church and the women on the other. 1886 PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 342 This side, on an afternoon in the season, is a place where fashionable ladies meet half their fashionable acquaintance.

fig. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 74 Than were ye deafe, ye could not here on that syde. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 549 He has no hearing on the prudent side.

b. A region, district, or the inhabitants of this. Cf. COUNTRY-SIDE.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2115 All þe citis of þa sidis he sesis þam clene. *Ibid.* 3867. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 87 He dwellyd be Kardyfe syde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 35 The next daye..the forward passed a bridge..into Flaunders syde & there lay. *a* 1623 BUCK *Rich. III*, I. (1646) 8 In Cumberland.., where he much resided,..all that Northerne side generally honouring..his Deportment. 1664 in Dircks *Life Marg. Worc.* (1865) xviii. 329 Not only at Gloucester Side, but all the way to the west. 1743 W. STUKELEY *Palæogr. Sacra* 8 Rejoicing especially was the practice..at public sacrifice, which they call *Panegyres*; a meeting of a side of a county, a province. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxviii, The King's vindictive pride Boasts to have tamed the Border-side. 1898 N. MUNRO *J. Splendid* xxxii, He had been set on the slip by a wherry that had approached from Cowal side.

c. A portion of a building set apart for particular persons or purposes. Also *fig.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 151 Þes yerþe is priour ine þe cloystre of þe zaule...Verst ine þe herte þet heþ tuo zides. 1482 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XXV. 121 The Chaunters of the Queres of the Bretherne and Systerne Sydes of Syone aforeseid. *c* 1529 in *Archaeol.* (1884) XLVII. 52 All the sayd ladyes bothe off the abbesse side and of the misericorde. 1904 GRIFFITHS *50 Yrs. Public Service* xiv. 205 The female 'side' of a prison gives more trouble to the authorities than the male.

d. *Side of bone*: (see quots.).

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Regions* I. 456 Each series, or 'side of bone', as the whalefishers term it, consists of upwards of 300 laminæ. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fish.* 23 There are in the mouth two 'sides of bone', as the whale fishers call them.

16. The line or limit, on either side, up to which something extends.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4280 His lawes sal pas and his powere Fra þe est syde til þe west, thurgh þe world here. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 233 b, The grate, which extended from the one syde of the bridge, even directly to the other. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn.* xxii. 12 My noble task, Of which all Europe talks from side to side. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* III. 43 The mirror crack'd from side to side. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54, I followed the veins several times from side to side.

IV. 17. Used to denote the action, attitude, etc., of one person, or a set of persons, in relation to another or others.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 429 Euerich blisse him is vnwille.. Al so þu dost on þire syde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3167 Þe king ek in is syde is herte up on him caste. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1463 Sad seurte was sikered on boþe sides þanne, þat menskful mariage to make. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 36 Alle þis Riche Retenaunce..Weoren bede to þe Bruytale on Bo two þe sydes. 1423 in *Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 83 This endenture y made..be thyxte the Dene & the Chapetre of Exter yn the on syde & the Mayer & the Comynce of Exeter..yn the other syde. 1590 *Plain Perc.* 23, I am sure I shall not be pinchd on the parsons side. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. i. 61 Hardly shall I carry out my side, Her husband being aliue. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., The Riddle*, I was sorry on my side for the occasion I had given him. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xiv, In declaring your trust in me, you have done what is honourable to yourself,..and in no way undeserved on my side. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, He was, on his side too, very anxious to see Mrs. Osborne. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. x. 154 From the divine side there can be nothing sudden.

b. In phrases denoting a contrast between different views, considerations, facts, etc. (Cf. HAND *sb.* 32 i.)

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 299 Alured seyde an oþer syde A word þat is isprunge wide. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13038 On oþer side was hir ful wa, If sco suld part king herod fra. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 122, I..preie yow That ye wole axe on other side If [etc.]. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 70 We may..a the one syde to stretly juge..the hole mater,..or els, of the other syde [etc.]. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 61 But on the other side, he must not use superfluous words. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 902 Men are to be Admonished, on the other side, that [etc.]. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* II. 67 As on the one side, Reason discovers it to be fit, that Man should be Immortal; so on the other side [etc.]. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 2 After a nice inquiry, and balancing on both sides.

† **c.** *In other sides*, in other respects. *Upon the side of*, with regard to. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 41 Or ells we er noghte disposede by clennes of lyffynge in oþer sydis for to ressayue his grace. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 330 Mi fader, upon loves side Mi conscience I woll noght hyde.

d. One of the two alternative views which may be taken of a question, problem, argument, etc. Also *transf.* in collective sense (quot. 1812).

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 113 But quickly on this side the verdict went. 1711 SHAFTSB. *Charac.* II. iv. (1714) II. 305 One of those timorous Arguers..so intent in upholding their own side of the Argument. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. III. 305 Much was written on both sides of the question. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 31 Aug. 547/2 Public dinners given by any side of a question. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 7/3, I am sure that there are two sides to the question.

e. A division of a school devoted to a particular class of studies. (Cf. MODERN *a.* 2 e.)

1884 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Sept. 348/2 Modern sides have grown and flourished. *Ibid.*, Latin and Greek on the Classical side. 1890 *Spectator* 13 Dec. 860/2 Efforts to expand the 'modern side', as they call it in English public schools.

18. The position or interests of one person, party, etc., in contrast to that of an opposing one. Chiefly in phr. *on (one's) side.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7547 Godd es euer on rightwis side, Werraiand again wrangwis pride. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 124 He þat is on Goddis syde, he heerið Goddis wordis. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 256 The parlement pierys..Seyen the duke of yorke hath god vpon his side. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 29 Your enemys ben not here, and knowe you, fayre sire, that I am of your party or syde? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 442 b, Therefore thought they now, or els never, yt God was on theyr side. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 141 To the end that the Spaniards might see the meere Irish served on our side. 1668 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 10 Mr. Ho..deserves a better fate than to be ever of the loosing side. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 194 The multitude..will always declare on the side of fortune. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxxii, He's the most impertinentest person in the world, and isn't never of my side. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 51 All the influence of Barillon was employed on the other side. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 434 All Nature is on the side of the man who tries to rise.

b. In phr. *to take a* (or *one's*) *side, take sides.* Also † *to hold side* (with one).

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 238 Nevertheles he came, and helde syde wyth his broder. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 570 The nicest eye could no distinction make, Where lay the advantage, or what side to take. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 249 He would take my Side to the last drop of his Blood. 1823 KEBLE *Serm.* ii. (1848) 38 Careful always to take the safe side in practice. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 398 Weak-minded people who cannot take sides with a persecuted truth. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. xi. 317 Every resident of mark found himself in a measure compelled to take a side.

19. Kinship or descent through father or mother.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 120 Half sisters of þer fader syde wedd þai, bot noȝt of þer moder syde. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 45/1 Englissh of his Moder side,.. and aparte Englissh on his Fader side. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 331 From his graundfather by the mothers side Cillenes child so came. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxix. 113 Peradventure a kinswoman to one of you, by his side that begot me in this miserable exile. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 132 ¶ 8 He traced up his Descent on both Sides for several Generations. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. ii. 61 As far as they could be followed, either on the paternal or maternal side. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xi, To be sure I am distantly related to the Rochesters by the mother's side.

20. One of the parties in a transaction, battle, or debate; a political party; a faction.

In phrases with *on* (as *on either side*) the sense may approach that of 12 b and 17.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 346 On athir syd thus war thai yhar, And till assemble all redy war. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9680 Aither syde, after sun, soght to þere holde. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 175 The pairtyng of the Grange forsade with the consent of bath the sydis wes made at Martymes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 100 b, How obstinate the Romishe syde was in the convocation at Auspurge. 1592 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xciii. 108 In trueth by his comming the side was reuiued. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xx. (1640) 207 The Conquering side is often more miserable by sinning than the conquered by slaughter or captivity. 1676 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 34, 5000 of each side killed on the place. 1726 *Wodrow's Corr.* (1843) III. 249 A certain side are highly disappointed. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. 464 The loss on either side, in this pursuit, appears not to have been great. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. li. 284 A general battle, in which each side feels that it cannot allow any odds to the other.

b. One of the parties in an athletic or sporting contest or game of skill. *No side*, the announcement of the conclusion of a game of football.

1698 LASSELS *Italy* I. 140 That side which throws the ball on over the rails of the other side wins the day. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5536/4 There will..be 31 Cocks shewed of a side. 1737 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 17 Kent side went in first and got 99 notches, then Surrey side went in and got 31. 1837 HOOD *Agric. Distr.* i, Which side had won the cricket match. 1862 *Cornhill Mag.* Sept. 378 'We'll play sides, of course', said Lily. 1882 *Standard* 20 Nov. 2/8 When 'no side' was called, the University were left the winners.

21. † **a.** One of the two divisions of a choir. *Side for side, on sides*, alternately. *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 11 b, The quere syngeth syde for syde. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1405/2 The Psalmes should be sung on sides, the one side of the quier singing one verse, the other another.

b. In Cambridge University, the body of students under the supervision of a particular tutor in a college. (Still in use at Trinity.)

1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 11 A large college

has usually two Tutors,..and the students are equally divided among them—on their sides the phrase is. 1859 FARRAR *J. Home* v. Mr. Grayson, the tutor on whose 'side' he was entered. 1882 J.W. CLARK in *Old Friends at Cambr.* (1900) 40 Tutor of one of the three *sides*, as they were called, into which Trinity College was then divided.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

22. Attrib. in sense 1, as *side-cover, -fellow, -mate, -sore, -stitch.*

1611 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 326 Thou shalt haue cramps, Side-stitches, that shall pen thy breath vp. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 49 Envy (which is alwayes the side-mate of vertue) repined. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. O. & N. Test.* I. 34 A collateral companion or side-fellow, or yoke-fellow. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 598 The *epipleura* or side-cover..that covers the sides of the body. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 346 The name Pleurisy.., side-sore of Early English.

23. Attrib., denoting 'situated or lying towards or at the side', as *side-aisle, -altar, -bench, -chancel, -channel, -cut, -drain, -gate*, etc.

1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 322 Such tables may be set up in any *side aisle on either side of the chancel. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jrnls.* (1872) I. 6 Here in the recess of every arch of the side-aisles..there was a chapel. 1542 in Legg *Clerk's-bk.* (1903) App. VIII. 92 Except the Curatt say masse at a *side awter. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* x. 166 Among the side-altars I observed one dedicated to Saint Anne. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4565 þe real rinkes..at þe heize dese, & alle oþer afterward on þe *side benches. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455/1 Sydebynche.., *subsellium.* 1535 COVERD. *Ezek.* xli. 9 The foundacion of the *syde chambres was a meterodde (that is sixe cubites) brode. 1571 in Legg *Clerk's-bk.* (1903) App. IV. 73 The parishe shall have for breakinge the grownd for a pyt, in the *side chanselles xs. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 97/2 The sides [of the roadway], where the water is received into the gutters, or *side channels. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 155 The carving work of the tabernacle and the degrees in the *side chappell at Whitehall. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 40 The space of a large side-chapel was taken up by the tombs of the Debarrys. 1805 ALLNUTT *Navig. Thames* 24 The Number of *Side-cuts, Pound-locks, and Weirs, that may be required. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 97 Ditches termed open *side drains, are made parallel to the axis of the road. 1814 *Selby & M. Weighton Road Act* ii. 5 When any new *side gate or side gates shall be erected. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 482 In his time..men began at Rome to bestow siluer vpon their cupboords and *side liuery tables. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* iii, *Side passages opened into it. 1897 *Cath. Mag.* Oct. 246 A *side-path which opened out into a sun-baked space. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* Pref., Two *side-pavements and a very bad road. 1535 COVERD. *Judges* xvi. 3 But Samson..toke holde on both yᵉ *syde portes of yᵉ gate of the cite. 1575 *Appius & Virginia* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 136 And at Simkin's *side-ridge my lord stood talking. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 404 The dung-hill should be placed on a head-ridge or side-ridge of the field. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* ii, Our repast..we ate in a little *side room with a mud floor. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 14 ₱15 At the Hay-Market the Undertakers forgetting to change their *Side-scenes. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* iv, He watched her at the side-scene—where she stood waiting to come on the stage. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 273 The rest of the *side streetes and allies being of poore building. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. xxii, Philip turned into a side street. 1775 *Ann. Reg.* I. 117, 13 culverts, 8 *side trunks, and 4 weirs. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 299 At last we struck up a *side valley. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xl. 16 The chambers and their pilers within, rounde aboute vnto yᵉ dore, had *syde wyndowes. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* i. 7 The rooms are lighted by side-windows, instead of by sky-lights.

b. Denoting 'situated, placed, or fixed at or on the side of something', as *side armour, -band, -beam, -bolt, -chest, -comb, -crust*, etc.

A number of technical combs. of this kind are fully explained in Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875 and 1884).

1883 *Whitaker's Alm.* 445/2 One iron-clad.., 9-in. *side armour. 1889 WELCH *Naval Archit.* 141 Ships provided with thick side armour are known as armoured vessels. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. xxix, This is put across the ends of them lengthways, so as to form a *side band. 1611 COTGR., *Iumelles*, the cheekes, or *side-beames of a presse. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 306 The several parts of a Bit... The *Side Bolts. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 23 Along the sides of the waggon, and outside it, are two longer and narrower chests called *side-chests...The side-chests are very convenient for holding tools. 1897 *Globe* 18 Feb. 6/3 Diamond *side-combs in her hair. 1780 *Mirror* No. 17 It had..battlements like the *side-crust of a Christmas goose-pye. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxv, The well-powdered ears which appeared beneath his neat military *side-curls. 1821 — *Kenilw.* vi, The cushions, *side-curtains, and the very foot-cloth. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 777 *Hoc calatrale*, a *sydedocer. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 349/1 *Side-fishes are long pieces of timber dove-tailed on the opposite sides of a made mast. 1742 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 185 Order him to send me down a very good coach and four horses with *side-glasses. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxx, He pulled up his shirt-collar, twined his *side-hair. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Aixcates de espuelas*, the *side irons of spurs, *Calcarium costæ.* 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 116 The pace..was..quite enough to bid a nervous traveller hold hard by the side-iron. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 217 *Side-Keelsons, are additional keelsons laid on the floors, one on each side of the main keelson, to afford additional strength and stability. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 78 If the Key[stone] be double, the *Side-Key is ⅓ of the Width. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 305 The curved sweep which the ends of the *side-levers describe. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxii, Always giving his *side-locks a twirl. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 262 With a strong hand turn-screw turn out the *side-pins, and remove the locks and hammers together. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 513 To take care that this stone lies firm upon solid ground, and ..do not indeed take its support from some *side-props. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 347/1 He [a colt] is led about by the cavesson,..without any *side-reins being attached. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 306 The Feed-Pump ..is also worked by *side-rods. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 12 Who attends the *side scale? The right rearman. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 625 *Side-scale*, a simple graduation..for the quick elevation or depression of the guns. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. iii. 49 The storme ourset, raif ruvis and *syde semis. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 154 Top of Front, from Side-Seam to Side-Seam (when Buttoned), 13 Inches. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 73, I then applied a well-padded *side-splint with foot-piece to the inner side of the leg. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 36 The *side standards, by being brought nearer to the perpendicular situation, are enabled to sustain considerably more weight. 1827 SIR H. STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 260 The two *Side-Stays..are made as short as possible, in order to prevent interference with the branches. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 703 The sawpit..has two stout timbers running the whole length, called *side strakes. 1754 BARTLET *Farriery* 356 A is a pad, to which is fastened a circingle B. CC two *side straps, one on each side the horse. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Side-straps*, in a field carriage, are flat iron bands which go round the side-pieces. 1445-6 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 630 Pro..x paribus de *Sydtrace ad viij *d.* 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 10 **Side-trees*, the lower main pieces of a made-mast. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 73 Two side trees, one on each side, and dowelled and bolted to the spindle. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 The dryuinge of his *syde-wedges, forewedge, and helewedge. 1888 FERGUS HUME *Mme. Midas* I. ii, Heavy *side whiskers and moustache.

c. Denoting 'growing out to the side', as *side-bough, -branch, -growth, -spray*, etc. See also SIDE-SHOOT.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 29, I am rather for cutting only of the *Side-boughs, than heading of them. *Ibid.* 73 If you would not have a Tree put forth *side-Branches, prune them up in February. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 80 A rapidly rising, slender, tall stem, devoid of side branches. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 256 Trimming off such straggling *side growth as may be in the way of the workmen. 1864 HIBBERD *Rose Bk.* 89 They will be likely to throw out a good deal of *side-spray that will soon cause the trees to be as crowded as before. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Midl. Co.* (ed. 2) II. 387 *Toes* or **sidespurns*, the spreading roots of trees.

24. a. 'Directed or tending sideways, exerted or taking effect laterally, indirect,' etc., as *side-blow, -course, -drawing, -flash, -jump*, etc.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Serm.* 230 What natural agent could ..impell them so strongly with a transverse *side-blow. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 88 The natural trend of the *side-course of the river is from the east to the west. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 220 The sliver is drawn off by *side-drawing. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 96 It was impossible for him to speak to any one he cared for, without some *side-flash of witty compliment. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 386 As a breaker approaches, meet it by a *side jump. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 345 Wishing..to procure, by *side means, information of who he was. *a* 1704 LOCKE (J.), The parts of water..will, by a *side motion, be easily removed. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 42 While we work, or study, or converse, we often change our posture, turn our eyes, and make many side motions having no connexion with the purpose we are about. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 363/2 The saddle..being small and light will not bear much *side-pull. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 119 Illuminated by some *side-ray from himself. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxix, The Lady of Lochleven, at whom this *side-shaft was lanched. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xvi, With another *side shot at the confidential clerk. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 80, I determined on firing at his knee, if I could not get a side-shot between the ear and the eye. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 116 He made a *side-stroke at me. 1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiards* 9 The tip being once added to the cue, side-stroke soon followed as a matter of course. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 690 To..stab religion with a sly *side-thrust. 1821 LOCKHART *Valerino* I. xii. 254 Your side-thrust is the only one I would lay an as upon. 1855 *Ecclesiologist* XVI. 338 The lofty and unstable outer walls of the wide nave would be forced apart by the side-thrust of the vaulting. 1894 H. SPEIGHT *Nidderdale* 381 A protective wall, preventing a destructive *side-wash, has been built. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1599) 257 It is his will by obliquity, a *side-will, vnproper, vndirect.

b. 'Seen from, looking towards, the side,' as *side-elevation, -front.* Also SIDE-VIEW.

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. ii, I wish the lady would favour us with something more than a side-front. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 509 Fig. 1193. represents this twin furnace in a side elevation.

c. 'Spoken aside or in an undertone,' as *side soliloquy, speech.*

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. iii. ₱7 This side speech explained to me the plot. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxiv, In a side soliloquy.

d. 'Apart from the main point or course of anything, subsidiary,' as *side-conflict, -effect, -issue, -result.*

1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) p. xxi, To judge the Creed by that method was a side-issue. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 291 Throughout these first six years..a side conflict was raging in Spain. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 435 The view that all psychical life is a side-effect of the physical process of formation. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Nov. 2/1 Such mere side-results as an influx of berry-pickers from London and Liverpool into the holly-growing districts.

25. Objective and parasynthetic, as *side-convulsing, -piercing, -shaking*; *side-mouthed, -sighted, -spotted, -striped.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 85 O thou side-piercing sight! 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xciii, Various distortions and side-shakings. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind* 1065 Forcing the point of a barbed dart Into its side-convulsing heart. 1861 SWINBURNE *Queen Mother* III. i, Cunning little heads And side-mouthed puppets quaintly cut on it. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 201 The 80-pr. is side-sighted, and has drop trunnion sights. 1899 W. T. GREENE *Cage-Birds* 60 The Diamond Sparrow..is a pretty bird, and is also called the Side-spotted Finch. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* 324 Side-striped Jackal (*Canis adustus*).

26. Forming combs. used attributively, as *side-spring boot*, etc. (See also *side-wheel* in 27.)

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 178 The Side Spot Triangle. 1862 *Illustr. Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4962, The ordinary side-spring boots. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 218 The side-drawing method secures a very large amount of doubling. 1892 GREENER *Breech Loader* 17 The side-lever snap-action gun. 1898 *Daily News* 10 May 6/2 A big thousand ton side-paddle frigate.

27. Special combs., as **side-axe**, an axe with a handle slightly bent to one side; **side-basset** (see quot. 1860); **side-bet**, a bet of one side against another; **side-bit**, a part of a shirt; **side-boy** (see quot.); **side-burn**, *U.S.*, a short side-whisker; **side-burthen** (see quot.); **side-car**, a conveyance in which the seats face to the sides, a jaunting-car; **side counter-timber**, *Naut.* (see quot.); **side-cousin**, ? one not quite a cousin; **side-cutting** (see quot.); **side-drawn** *a.*, sketched from the side; **side-drum**, a drum which is slung at the side of the performer; **side-file** (see quot.); **side-filister**, a form of plane; **side-forming** (see quots.); † **side-glass** *v.*, ? to ogle through the side-glass of a coach; **side-grafting** (see quot.); † **side-half**: *on side-half*, apart; *a side-half*, about; † **side-hand**, on one side *of* (see also SIDENHAND); **side-handed** *a.*, indirect; † **side-hankle** *v.*, to hobble (a horse) on one side; † **side-haying**, hedging at the sides of land; † **side-hinge**, a butt-hinge; **side-hook** (see quot. 1825); **side-ill**, *Sc.*, some disease in sheep; **side-ladder** (see quots.); **side-land**, a strip of land lying along the side of a ploughed field; also *attrib.*, sloping (cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); **side-laning, -lay, -mark, -nippers** (see quots.); **side-note**, a note made or placed at the side of a page; **side-piece** (see quots.); **side-plane**, a plane which cuts at the side (Knight, 1875); **side-plate, side rebate-** or **rebating-plane, side-rest, side-rib** (see quots.); † **side-school**, *Sc.*, a small school in an out-of-the-way district; † **side-scription**, a former Scottish method of subscribing documents (cf. *side-sign*); **side-seat**, the mode of sitting on horseback which accompanies a side-saddle; † **side-sele** (?); † **side-sign** *v.*, to sign (a document) by writing the name at the side, where the sheets are pasted together; † **side-span** *v.* (see quot.); **side-splitter**, a very funny story, farce, etc.; **side-splitting** *a.*, that convulses with merriment, extremely funny; also as *vbl. sb.*; **side-tackle**, *U.S.* in football, one or other of two players stationed at each end of the rush-line; **side-taking**, taking one side or other in a dispute, etc.; **side-tool**, a tool cutting on the side, used in wood-turning; **side-wheel**, *attrib.*, of steamers, having paddle-wheels at the sides; hence *side-wheeler*; **side-work**, (*a*) in fortification, a lateral work; (*b*) the action of bounding sidewards, on the part of a horse.

1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 8 The *side axe.., with one bevel, is free from this drawback, as it is held with the blade vertical. 1686 *Side-basset [see BASSET *sb.*³]. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 78 *Side-bassett*, a transverse direction, or at right angles with the line of dip. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Pat.* 277 The *side bet, as they called it, must be won. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 6/1 If Mr. Ives wishes to challenge me for the championship I shall be pleased to accept and make a side-bet of any amount he wishes. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Aunt Fanny* v, One of those queer little three-corner'd straps, Which..ladies call *'Side-bits', that sever the 'Flaps'. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 283 **Side-boys*, in a ship of war, are boys employed to take charge of the man-ropes, and attend on any officers or other individuals coming on board from or going off in a boat. 1887 *Chicago Jrnl.* 1 Aug., McGarigle has his mustache and small *sideburns still on. 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Compl. Oarsman's G.* 31 *Side burthens are extra thwarts laid in provisionally to carry sitters. 1881 *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 388 Mrs. Roche wore a silk dress on Sunday and drove to mass on her '*side car'. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 147 **Side counter timber*, the stern-timber which partakes of the shape of the topside, and heels upon the end of the wing transom. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. iii, And little Jenny—though she's but a *side-cousin. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 84/2 The cutting ..was in the line of railway, or what is called back-cutting, in contradistinction to earth got out of the line, which is called *side-cutting. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 166 To run vneuen as a Roman Face *Side-drawne. *c* 1800 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, **Side-drum*, the common military Drum. 1856 BERLIOZ *Instrument.* 231 The side-drum is only a drum longer than the preceding one. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Side-drum*, a small military drum frequently used in the orchestra. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict.*

Mech. Suppl. 808/1 **Side File*, for trimming up the outside edges of the cutting points of saws after setting, to prevent setting. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 28 The *side filister is a rebate plane of more complicated..construction, being fitted with shifting guides or fences regulating the depth and width of cut. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 97/1 To make what is termed a *side forming, which is done by raising the whole embankment at once. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Side Forming*, a road-way formed by paring down part of a hill or other steep, so as to form a road upon the side of it. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* III, Then will I..to the Park. *Wildish.* So will I; where I will *Side-glass you. 1693 — *Volunteers* IV. i, My side-glassing you at the park. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Graft*, *Side Grafting;..take off from a smooth part in the West side, as much Bark as [etc.]. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* l. (1908) 263 Oure lorde Jesu came and aperede to hir.., gretynge hir on *side half in thise wordes. *c* 1400 *Found. St. Barth.* vii, Herry the first xxx^ty yere, and a sidehalfe [L. *circiter*] the thirde yeare of his reigne. 1577–87 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* xiii. in *Holinshed* 71 The Avon riseth at Navesbie in the borders of North-hamptonshire, a little *side hand of Gillesborow. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1612) 603 He turned his horse head vpon a sudden, and leauing his enemies side-hand of him that had him in chase, he closely stole by them. 1845 THACKERAY *Legend Rhine* xiii, She made some *side-handed enquiries regarding Otto. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 189 A third sort [are]..like an unruly colt...These would be well fettered and *side-hanckled for leaping. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art Surv.* II. ii. 49 Compound Contiguall Boundage is more significant, as *side-haying, head-shawing. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 160 In a Battend-door,..they use Cross-Garnets. If a Fram'd Door, *Side Hinges. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 252 Every joiner should have, at least, two *side-hooks of equal size. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 585 A flat piece of wood, which has two projecting knobs, on opposite sides, one at each end, called a *side-hook*, is used, to keep the piece which has to undergo the operation of the saw steady. 17.. *Patie's Wedding* in Herd *Coll.* (1776) II. 190 I'se cut the craig o' the ewe That had amaist died of the *Side-ill. 1798 MIDDLETON *View Agric. M'sex.* 87 These carts, with the addition of movable head, tail, and *side ladders or copps, carry hay, corn, and straw. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 624 *Side ladder*, or *Accommodation-ladder*, a complete staircase structure used in harbour by most large ships. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 232 There was a side ladder over, which I got hold of, and..climbed on board. 1763 *Museum Rust.* (ed. 2) I. 101 This practice of carrying the upper bed of earth from the head and *side lands on to the field, is very common among the Essex farmers. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 104 The sideland, uneven parts of ground such as small mole-hills. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Sidelands*, the outside parts of a ploughed field, adjoining the hedges, running parallel with the lands or warps. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 78 **Side-laning*, making the gate-road (when abandoned for that purpose)..part of the new side of work. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 246 You may deuide your Greyhounds into three sundry parts, viz. Teasers, *Sidelayes, and Backsets, or Receytes. *Ibid.* 247 The sidelayes are to be let slippe at y^e^ side of a Deare or after him. 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Vocab.* 125 *Side lay*, the margin of a given measurement on one side of a sheet in printing. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* vii. (1870) 164 The *side-mark of the age at which they were done, wears out in works destined for immortality. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125 *Side mark*, the fixed mark on the side which a sheet is laid to in printing on a machine. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 906 Other cutting pliers called *side-nippers are oblique. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. England* IV. 537 Persons..who have observed the traces of his pen in *sidenotes and corrections. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Rider*, The axle-tree, upon which the *side-pieces rest, in a four-wheel carriage. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Side-pieces*, the longitudinal pieces of timber lying under the rafters between the ridge and wall-plates. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 625 *Side-pieces*, parts of a made mast. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1532/4 A Pair of French Pistols,..the Stocks of Maple, Silver *side-plates, and Silver Caps. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. iv, I am found to be the first that served up this grape with apples in neat little side-plates. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 303 The two lateral portions of the mesoderm..are usually called side-plates. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 489 When..the rebate plane is meant to cut at the side, it is called the *side-rebate plane. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 582 The former are used to smooth the side of a rebate, and therefore are called *side rebating-planes. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 181 Turnners have another Rest, called the *Side-Rest. This they use when they Turn the flat sides of Boards. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 103 Thee top wyth *sideryb of Atlas He sees. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 106 New side rib for carbine, with ring fitted. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 37 Between the upper and under-board there are six boards,..four longer ones, two on each side of the bellows, called *side-ribs. 1863 *Good Words* 727 In the more distant valleys where even the small *side-schools could not penetrate. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scotland* 916 **Side-scription*. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 538 In spite of her *side-seat, the body should be square to the front. 1395 in *East Anglian* Ser. II. IV. 85, j *sydsele, & j londplate & j rast. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 418 If there be more Sheets than one in the *Decreit*, the Principal Clerk *side-signs the joyning of every Two Sheets. 1750 ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* VI. II. 97 **Side-span* [sheep], as we call it, by tying a fore-leg to a hind-leg, with an allowance for length of string. 1881 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Dec., This..past master of the art of *side-splitting. 1881 *Harper's Monthly* LXIII. 266 No matter how side-splitting the story might be. 1891 *N. Y. Tribune* 20 Oct. 5/4 (Funk), He was..*side-tackle on his college foot-ball team. 1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* II. 140 Emulation and *side-takings amongst, and against their teachers. 1898 B. GREGORY *Side Lights* 504 Side-taking does not become party. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 516 For the insides of cylinders, the *side-tool..is sometimes used. 1857 M. F. MAURY in Corbin *Life* (1888) 135 She was a *side-wheel steamer. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 514/1 Such boats as they are!—*side-wheelers and stern-wheelers. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* I. 302 A *sidework composed of earth gabions or fascines. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD', *Col. Reformer* (1891) 102, I [never] saw a new arrival that could sit a buck-jumper, even if he only propped straight forward, and didn't do any side-work.

Side (səid), *sb.*[2] *slang.* [Of doubtful origin; perhaps identical with prec. (? in sense 14 d), but cf. SIDE *a.* 4.] Pretentiousness, swagger, conceit. Freq. in phr. *to put on side*, to give oneself airs.

1878 HATTON *Cruel London* VIII. ii, Cool, downy cove, who puts side on. 1880 PAYN *Confid. Agent* xi, The Captain sauntered up the Mews, with a good deal of 'side on', which became a positive swagger as he emerged into the more fashionable street. 1882 *Standard* 29 Sept. 5/2 With ..all our 'offishness', or 'side', as they call it, we and our cousins in the Far South get along amazingly well. 1896 J. HOCKING *Fields of Fair Renown* xii. 128 They seem to have no side; they are all as jolly as may be.

Side, Sc. f. SCYTHE; obs. f. SEED *sb.*; var. SITHE (time).

Side (səid), *a.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1–3, 5 sid, 4–6 syd, 4–9 syde, 5 syyd, cyyd(e, 4– side. [OE. *síd*, = ON. *síðr*, MSw. *siper*, *sidher* (Norw., Sw., Da. *sid*); also MDu. *side*, *zide* low, MFlem. *sijt* (rare) extensive.

ON. *síðr* is recorded only in sense 3, but MSw. *siper* and Norw. *sid* have also the MDu. sense of 'low, low-lying'.]

†**1.** Large, ample, spacious, extensive. *Obs.*

Beowulf 437 Pæt ic sweord bere oþðe sidne scyld. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 762 Æfter þyssum wordum weorud hlosnode geond þæt side sel. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 481 þe side se we mow sen set vp-on erþe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7570 Oure pepull to sle, Oure Citie to sese and oure side londes. *Ibid.* 7670 Saght þai the sure prinse thurgh the syde batell.

†**b.** Far-off, distant; going far. *Obs. rare.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 28 [They] lete write writtis all in wex closid,..And sente side sondis to schreuys aboute. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1513 His towne was takon..; His Suster sesyd and soght into syde londis.

2. Extending lengthways; long. Chiefly in phr. *wide and side* (cf. SIDE *adv.*[1] 1).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1655 Ðesetton þa Sennar sidne & widne leoda ræswan leofum mannum. *c* 1200 ORMIN 9174 And ta wass Romess kinedom Full wid & sid onn eorþe. 13.. *Sir Beues* 818 þe bor so loude cride, Out of þe forest wide and side. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7503 Namore lond, wyd ne syd, þan y may sprede a boles hyd. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1052 Chese a boor Gret bodied, side & wide, ek rather rounde Then longe. 1583 [see SIDENESS]. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 175 Their forms do vanish, but their bodies bide; Now thick, now thin, now round, now short, now side. 1876 WHITEHEAD *Daft Davie* 190 A street so 'syde-and-wyde' that there was elbow-room for everyone in Boulder in it. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., Aa'll tyek some o' this check; say, a yard side.

transf. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 170 If I sothe shall saie, and shonne side tales.

†**b.** Of a house-roof: High or steep. *Obs.*

c 1440 [implied in SIDENESS]. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 351 *Side*, long, deep; spoken of a roof.

3. Reaching or hanging far down on the person; long: **a.** Of garments, sleeves, etc. †*Side-robe* (1658), = LONG ROBE. (See also SIDE-COAT.)

Beowulf 1444 Scolde here-byrne, hondum ġebroden, sid ond searo-fah, sund cunnian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Thorpe *Laws* II. 370 Iohannes .. ġeseah urne Drihten mid alban ġescridne, and seo wæs sid niðer oð ða andcleowa. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 37 Betere is were thunne boute laste, then syde robes ant synke into synne. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxvii. 23 As he cam to his britheren, thei nakiden hym the side coote to the hele. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1925 þat I may..A side slauyn him sewe & send him to his modire. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 475 First, a goune of clothe of golde, with side slevis, sirples wise. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 151 Theyr cotes be so syde, that they be fayne to tucke them vp whan they ryde. 1545 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. C v b, I sawe hym clothed wyth a syde lynnen garment doune to the grounde. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 109 Some of the yonger sort..weare side coates of linnen..girt to their wasts. 1658 F. OSBORNE *Tradit., Mem. Q. Eliz.* 25 It abated the price of his opposers, the most of whom belonged to the side-robe. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 20 Allan was..dressed in a blue side coat, a red vest, and feathered hat. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 95 *Side*, long, as garments are when too big. *a* 1878 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* (1892) 339 My gude grey plaid, baith syde an' wide, I airtit to the wun'. 1886 *S. W. Lincs. Gloss.*, *Side*, long: usually applied to a coat, as 'Side coat', for Great coat.

absol. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 47 in *O.E. Misc.* 94 An ende, ne werie mon so syde, he schal to-dreosen so lef on bouh. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1534 Now wers men short and now syde.

b. Of the beard, hair, etc.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 368 His berd is long and sid i-nouȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8079 Lang and side þair brues wern, And hinged all a-bout þair hern. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bartholomew*) 218 Þare-with a syd berd it had. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 In anoþer ile er folk whas eres er so syde þat þai hing doune to þe kneesse. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* 756 (Brandl), I loue yt well to haue syde here. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 29 Oxne and bules snawquhyte with a mane thick and syde. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIV. xix. 1182 The haire of their head long, their beards side and overgrowne. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* VII. xxii. 679 He hath a round thicke head, a short nose,..broad and sydelips.

c. Narrow, strait, clinging.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 300 In modern usage..we.. use the word in the sense of strait. 'This sleeve is too side, it must be let out.'

4. a. Haughty, proud.

1508 [implied in SIDE *adv.*[1] 3]. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* s.v. *Sidelinge*, A side woman. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., I met Mrs. — in the town, and she was very side.

b. *Sc.* Severe or hard *on* or *upon* one.

1825 in JAMIESON. 1895 ROY *Horseman's Word* iii, Hout, tout, Tam!..you're just some syde on Geordie.

5. *Comb.*, as *side-bellied*, †*-fathomed*, †*-faxed*, *-haired*, *-lipped*, *-tailed*, *-waisted*.

Beowulf 302 Sidfæþmed scip, on ancre fæst. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xix. 221 þa ġefeng hine an treow be ðam fexe sona, forðan þe he wæs sidfæxede. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 869 His mouthe was wyde, he was syde lyppud. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 77 The fourthe [property of a fox is] to be syde-tayled. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 18 When the bytches are lyned, and that they beginne to be sydebellyed. *Ibid.* 50 Of the browne Hartes there be some great, long, and side haired. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 227 Of a bounzing side-wasted parish in Lancashire, we haue a flying voyce dispersed. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 180 Like our side-wasted Parishes in Lancashire, whose extensure is so large [etc.]. 1822 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* 190 He wore an old light blue, side-tailed coat.

†**Side**, *adv.*[1] *Obs.* Also 3 sid, 4 syd, 6 syde. [OE. *side* (f. *síd* SIDE *a.*), = MDu. *side* (Du. *zijd*, Fris. *syd*), MLG. *síde*.

The usual Eng. phrase *wide and side* corresponds to MDu. *wide en side* (Du. *wijd en zijd*, Fris. *wiid en syd*), MLG. *wide unde side*, *wit unde sit*; also MSw. *sitt oc witt*.]

1. To a great distance or length; far. Chiefly in *wide and side*, far and wide.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 277 Heht ða ġebeodan..side & wide ġeond Iudeas [etc.]. *a* 1121 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 959, He..Godes lof rærde, wide & side. *c* 1200 ORMIN 10258 Sannt Johaness word Sprang wide & side o lande. *c* 1275 LAY. 4961 Wide and side he somnede ferde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1646 (Götт.), Couaytise, lechuri, and pride, Has spred þis world lang and side. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 200 (Kölbing), Y..wered 30u wiþ mi power, Wide & side, fer & ner. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 490 For the Grecian Colonies were diffused farre and neere, wide and side.

2. Low down; towards or on the ground.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2513 þis maide out of chambre com.., side drou hire tail. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 193 As a letheren purs lolled his chekes, Wel sydder þan his chyn þei chiueled for elde. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.*, etc. (1843) 152 Her tongis honged owt full syde. *c* 1538 LYNDESAY *Minor Poems* 575, I think it is ane verray scorne That euery Lady of the land Suld haue hir taill so syde trailland!

3. Proudly, boastfully. (Cf. SIDE *a.* 4 a.)

1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 196 God wait quhat I think quhen he so thra spekis: And how it settis him so syde to sege of sic materis.

Side, *adv.*[2] [f. SIDE *sb.*[1], by ellipse of prep.]

†**1.** To one side *of* a place. *Obs.*[—1]

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii, A good way side of Jerusalem lies a melancholy Bay.

2. *Comb.* with pres. or past ppples., denoting 'by, from, or to the side', as *side-flowing*, *-hanging*, *-lying*; *side-bended*, *-cast*, *-seen*.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xliv. 4 Buriowne thei shuln among erbes..bisyde the syde flowende watris [L. *prætersfluentes aquas*]. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* (1890) 5 b, A rare Obelisk..the heigth whereof..did exceed the toppes of the sidelying mountaynes. 1601–2 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VII. xliv, The cast of her side-bended eye, did showe Both sorrow and reproofe. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 639 Even as a Winde..Bears down the Trees in a side-hanging Wood. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* V. 275 As on a side-seen storm..The flames fork round the semivault of heaven. 1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* II. i. 1 The head deferentially sidecast.

Side (səid), *v.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *siden*, *ziden* to set aside, go aside, obs. G. *seiten* (*syten*), to stand aside.]

I. *trans.* †**1.** To cut or carve (a pig or haddock) into sides. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Hors, Shepe & G.* (Roxb.) 33 A Pigge heded & syded, a lambe & kyde shuldred. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vij b, An Haddoke sided. 1508 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 267 Syde that haddocke. [1854 BADHAM *Prose Halieut.* 343 The reader will remember, when he puts the slice into a fish, that he gobbets trout..and sides haddocks.]

2. a. To have (one) on that side. *rare*[—1].

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ix. 27 His blind eye, that syded Paridell; All his demeasnure from his sight did hyde.

b. To come by the side of. *rare*[—1].

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIX. lxxvii, He sided there a lustie louely las, And with some courtly tearmes the wench he bords.

c. To walk or stand by the side of; to be side by side with (a person, etc.).

1613 CHAPMAN *Masque Middle Temple & Lincoln's Inn* A 2 b, Euery one of these horse, had two Moores,..that for state sided them. 1632 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. iii, Do you hold it, now, As a disparagement, that I side you, lady? 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T.*, The terrace is, indeed, left...The old benchers had it almost sacred to themselves...They might not be sided or jostled. 1896 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LIII. 41 The monoliths siding this shrine were pulled down.

d. *fig.* To rival, equal, match.

1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* IV. v, Whom he..Hath rais'd from excrement to side the gods. 1668 CLARENDON *Life* (1759) I. 53 He had sure read more..than any Man I ever knew, my Lord Falkland only excepted, who I think sided him.

3. To support or countenance (one). *Obs.*

1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 172 The Offenders..were belike so brested, sided, and backed with a many friends, tenants, and followers. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 107 [They] side factions, & giue out Coniecturall Marriages, making parties strong [etc.]. 1618 FLETCHER *Chances* I. ii, Let it raise wild-fires,..Yet I must through, if ye dare side me.

4. *refl.* To take a side or party. (Cf. II.)

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xiv. 60 The prouince of Narbon, which had sided itselfe and sworne to Vitellius. 1625 BACON *Ess., On Faction* (Arb.) 83 Kings had need beware, how they Side themselues, and make themselues as of

a Faction or Partie. 1901 *Univ. & Ludg. Mag.* July 296 They side themselves with the light blue or the dark blue, just as their friends belong to a particular university.

5. To assign to one of two sides or parties.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xlvi, To side this title is impannelled A quest of thoughts, all tennants to the heart.

6. *dial.* To put in order, arrange; to clear or tidy up. Freq. *to side up.*

1825– in northern dialect glossaries. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 394, I have plenty to employ me, in siding drawers. 1874 WAUGH *Chimney Corner* (1879) 36 Here, Sally; help me to side this table.

absol. 1842 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* II. 410 It will be left for me to clean, and 'side', and 'make all right again'.

b. To put aside, remove; to clear *away*.

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* x, MRS. Wilson was 'siding' the dinner things. 1853 — *Ruth* ii, Whenever things are mislaid, I know it has been Miss Hilton's evening for siding away! 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* VI. xiv, Now side everything away. The medicines too, put them in the cupboard.

7. *Naut.* To draw (a rope) *over* or *out*.

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 41 'Ease off the larboard hawser, Mr. Jenkins, if you please.'—'Side her over, gentlemen, side her over.' 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 624 *Side out for a bend*, .. to draw the bight of a hempen cable towards the opposite side.

8. To make of certain dimensions on the side; to square the sides of (timber).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 15 *Heel-Pieces* are sided to the same size as the side-trees. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 402/2 The breast hook should also be..sided nine-tenths of the beams of the lower deck. 1826 HAWKINS *The Oak* 15 The operation of 'siding' or squaring the tree. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 95 They are sided larger than the rest.

9. To furnish (a structure) with sides.

1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 366 Not a doubt exists of the economy of siding and roofing wooden bridges.

II. *intr.* †**10.** With *it*. To enter into rivalry.

a 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 27 He soon got honour, and no sooner there, but he began to side it with the best, even with the Protector.

11. To take a side; to join or form sides or parties. (Cf. 4.)

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. ii. 2 The Nobility are vexed, whom we see haue sided In his behalfe. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Rampant* (1687) 450 Many of these unhappy Men were awed to side, without either Malice to his Person or Power. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 39 All side in parties, and begin th' attack. *a* 1738 SWIFT (J.), The equitable part of those who now side against the court, will probably be more temperate. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Oct. 2/1 Children..differ so much from one another, and 'side' so unexpectedly, that [etc.].

b. Const. *with*. (The more frequent use.)

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIX. vi. 713 The citie of Locri,..in the generall revolt of all Italie, had sided also with the Carthaginians. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxv. (1739) 138 In case the King would not concur, the people generally sided with the Lords. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 368, I was afraid otherwise that Dr. H. would have accidentally..sided with Mr. Oddy. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. i. 32 The partial world is ready to side with them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 556 Again he encountered a pertinacious opposition. The seamen sided with Hume and Cochrane. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 231 There are few modern readers who do not side with Protagoras, rather than with Socrates.

transf. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 905 Levied to side with warring Winds, and poise Thir lighter wings.

12. To move or turn sideways. Also *fig.*

1668 ETHEREDGE *She wou'd if she cou'd* v. i, We'll foot it, and side, my pretty little miss. 1842 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xiv. 106 Gradually siding up to the lodge. 1879 *Expositor* IX. 117 In living English there is a tendency to let the word 'holy' side off and appropriate itself to the designation of right moral character.

b. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 47 *Side over*, to drive headways course across a pillar of coal, in working the broken.

13. To keep alongside; to abut *on* at one side.

a 1642 FINETT *For. Ambass.* (1656) 16 The Savoyard getting the start and siding allwayes close to the Spanish Ambassador. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* (Worcs. Hist. Soc.) II. 201 A plentifull vale..sydinge on Bredon hyll.

14. To measure (so much) on the side.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., It sides 14 inches.

'Side, aphetic Sc. f. ASIDE *prep.*

1810– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Sideage (sə·idĕdʒ). Also **sidage.** [f. SIDE *sb.*1 + -AGE.] **a.** A charge made for keeping trucks on a railway siding. **b.** The lateral portions of a building or the like collectively.

1896 *Times* 18 Dec. 13/5 The action was..in respect of sidage or standage rent charged upon trucks.. which remained more than four days upon their sidings. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 6/1 They are utilising the frontage, or sideage, of the theatre in Drury-lane for shops with flats above.

Si·de-arms. [SIDE *sb.*1]

1. *Mil.* Weapons worn at the side, such as sword, dagger, or bayonet.

1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 21 No Man shall appear in the Streets without his Side-arms [etc.]. 1779 A. ST. CLAIR in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 303 The garrison are prisoners of war, and the officers have liberty to wear their side-arms. 1821 *John Bull* 7 Jan. 32/1 The soldiers drew their side-arms and wounded several persons severely. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 158 The practice of wearing Side-Arms, when not on duty, being forbidden by General Order, is not to be resorted to except on special occasions. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 350 All armed with rifles and side arms.

2. *Artill.* (See quot. 1879.)

1812 MESURIER in Napier *Penins. War* App. (Rtldg.) II. 480 We have the guns posted with their proper side-arms and shot piles. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 179 'Side arms' means sponge, rammer, wad hook, and shell-extractor.

Side-bar. [SIDE *sb.*1]

1. *Law.* **a.** A former bar in the Outer Parliament House in Edinburgh (see quot. 1838). Also *attrib.*

1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* II. (1710) 418 The Ordinary is to make a Report of their Interloquitor, which he Reports in the Outer House the next day ordinarily, or at the side Bar the next Week. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 564 He should have stuck to side-bar quirks. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scotl.* 916 *Side-bar*, the name given to the bar in the Outer Parliament House, at which the Lords Ordinary were in use to call their hand-rolls.

b. A former bar in Westminster Hall. Hence *side-bar rule* (see quot. 1825).

1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. (C. P. S.) 349 The criminal will climb from the dock to the side-bar, and take his place ..with the counsel. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 156 Formerly, attorneys stood within this bar every morning during term, and moved the judges for the common rules, called side-bar rules, as they passed to their courts..The rules are [now] obtained at the rule-office; but each rule still expresses that it has been granted upon a 'side-bar' motion. 1883 *Law Times* LXXVI. 58/1, I do not now decide whether a view can still be obtained without a motion by a side-bar rule under rule 48 of R. G., H.T. 1853.

2. A toll-bar on a side-road.

1861 *The Star & Dial* 28 Oct., The relief of the parish from the turnpikes and side-bars now existing in the several roads of the parish.

3. *Side-bar keel*, a form of iron keel for ships.

1869 REED *Ship-building* ii. 25 This is the arrangement known as the 'side-bar keel', and a very excellent arrangement it is for external iron keels. 1874 THEARLE *Nav. Archit.* 269 The next kind of keel in order of frequency of adoption is the centre plate or side bar keel.

4. A lateral bar or longitudinal side-piece, as in a saddle, carriage, etc. Also *attrib.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2172/2. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 808/1. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 14/1 It has wheels of oak, with springs of the finest steel, arranged like a side-bar buggy.

Sideboard (sə·idbōəd). [SIDE *sb.*1]

1. a. A table (*esp.* for taking meals at) placed towards the side of a room, hall, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1398 Penne was alle þe halle flor hiled with knyȝtes, & barounes at þe side-bordes bounet aywhere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 36 Pacience and I were put to be macches, And seten by owre selue at a syde-borde. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* VII. v. 220 The knyght..took hym vp and sette hym at a syde bord, and sette hym self afore hym. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 26 The side borde in the haull with the tristillis sett in the ground. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. (1587) 40 Side Boords be laid aside, the tables end is gone. 1616 MIDDLETON *Civitatis Amor* Wks. 1885 VII. 288 They..dined that day in his [the Prince's] presence, at a sideboard. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2533/3 A Table raised 3 Steps under a Canopy for the Emperor and King, at each end of which was a Side-board. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 348 The rich banquet in the dome prepar'd, (An humble side-board set) Ulysses shar'd.

b. A piece of dining-room furniture for holding side-dishes, wine, plate, etc., and often having cupboards and drawers.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 350 At a stately side-board by the wine..in order stood Tall stripling youths rich clad. 1693 CONGREVE in Dryden *Juvenal* xi. (1697) 288 No Side-boards then, with gilded Plate were dress'd. 1710 *Tatler* No. 205 P 1 The sumptuous Sideboard to an ingenuous Eye has often more the Air of an Altar than a Table. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 13 April 1781, It would not be amiss to have some cold meat, and a bottle of wine upon a side-board. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 198 An immense unwieldy side-board, garnished with a few wine-glasses of a deep blue colour. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. i. 4 The butler..had been carving at the side-board during the conversation.

c. The contents of a sideboard. *rare*—1.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. x, 'I would as soon,' answered Cecilia, 'take with me the side-board of plate.'

d. *attrib.*, as *sideboard cloth, ornament*, † *table.*

1679 *Hist. of Jetzer* Pref. A b, They saw him every day.. Dine at a Side-board Table by himself. *c* 1716 in J. O. Payne *Rec. Eng. Catholics of 1715* (1889) 105 Sideboard cloaths 6. 1785 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 19 Mar., The sideboard-table..was equally unfit for my purpose. 1815 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 42 Montague mentions the sideboard-man of Cardinal Caraffi. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 80 You bring up your girls as if they were meant for sideboard ornaments.

2. A board forming the side, or a part of the side, of any structure.

1611 COTGR., *Tessons d'un pressouër*, the side-boords of a presse. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 175 The grander canoes..are ornamented with open work..; the side-boards ..are embellished with tufts of white feathers. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 130 The side-board of a groove may be cracked. 1861–2 *Ulster Jrnl. Arch.* IX. 145 On the wheel-cars or carts were subsequently put 'side-boards', to rest the feet on. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2173/1 *Sideboard*,..a vertical board at the side of a work-bench,..for supporting one end of a piece of work.

b. An additional and removable board placed on the side of a cart or wagon to increase its carrying capacity.

1832 *Stamford Mercury* 27 Jan. 2/5, 2 narrow wheeled waggons..with raves and sideboards. 1833 *Ridgemont Farm Rep.* 131 in *Husb.* (L. U. K.) III, The waggons..are well formed, with side-boards fixed on the top of the body. 1867– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

3. *slang.* in *pl.* **a.** A stand-up collar.

1857 *Slang Dict.* 18.

b. Side-whiskers (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Side-bone. [SIDE *sb.*1]

1. That part of the pelvis on either side of a bird or fowl which is easily separated from the backbone in carving; also sometimes, the scapula or shoulder-blade.

1819 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 261 A bird of such monstrous dimensions, that a side-bone of it will dine three real carnivorous Englishmen. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* v, After giving away both wings, and all the breast, two side-bones, and the short legs. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 456/1 The sweet morsel of the oyster out of a side bone.

2. A rib.

1848 C. C. CLIFFORD *Aristoph. Frogs* 38 A fat paunchy fellow:..his buttocks they strike And his side-bones they poke.

3. Ossification of the side cartilages in a horse's foot.

1886 A. B. ALLEN in *Amer. Agriculturist* (Cent.), Heaves, curb, spavin, sidebone, and ringbone are the most ordinary ailments in horses.

Si·de-box, *sb.* [SIDE *sb.*1] A box or enclosed seat at the side of a theatre.

1678 OTWAY *Friendship in Fashion* v. i, The Side-Box at the Play-house. 1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* I. i, You are only (when my wife goes to the play) to sit in a side box with pretty fellows. 1788 H. MACKENZIE in *Trans. Soc. Edinb.* (1790) II. 174 It is only the mob in the side-boxes who..can hear unmoved the sentiments of compassion, of generosity, or of virtue. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 297/1 No less preposterous is the practice of continuing the side-boxes up to the proscenium.

attrib. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* v. ii, Hang your side-box beaux! 1703 FARQUHAR *Inconstant* I. ii, You have a good side-box face, a pretty impudent face. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 624 Soon enough..T' ensure a side-box station at half price.

b. The occupants of a side-box.

1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 14 Why bows the side-box from its inmost rows? *a* 1732 GAY *Toilette* Poems 1737 II. 80 Nor shall side-boxes watch my restless eye.

Hence **Side-box** *v.*, to gaze at from a side-box.

1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* III. i, [I will] never have my Eyes off you, while I Side-box you in the Play-house.

Si·de-coat. Now *dial.* [SIDE *a.* 3.]

1. A long coat, a greatcoat.

For unhyphened examples, some of which may strictly belong here, see SIDE *a.* 3a.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 19 Lolioes side-cote is rough Pampilian. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, I grieve to see this double garded age, all side-coate, all foole. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xii. 1 If a man be to run a race,..he will not run in a long side-coat, which may dangle about his feet, and hinder him. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antig.* s.v. *Sidelinge*, In the North, wastcoats are call'd Side-coats. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 723 You've got a side-coat on.

† **2.** *pl.* Long clothes worn by children. *Obs.* Cf. LONG COAT.

1607 *Lingua* III. ii, How he played at blow-point with Jupiter, when he was in his side-coats. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* iii. 8 That truth was but a stripling, or rather went in side-coats till it came to their schools.

Sided (sə·idĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SIDE *sb.*1 and *v.*1]

1. Having sides; furnished with sides.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f iv b, A Grehounde shulde be..Syded lyke a Teme. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XII. prop. 7. 367 Sided Columnes (sometime called prismes) are triple to pyramids, hauing one base and equall heith with them. 1602 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7 The Head is like a House..Vaulted with Bone, and with Bone likewise sided. 1668–9 COSIN in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 38 A large square area..surrounded or sided with walkes and arched columnes.

b. With qualifying adj. (or adv.) prefixed.

14.. in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. 25 After the fox, [the horse is] prik-eryd, fayr-sided, schorte trottyng. 14.. [see LONG-SIDED *a.*]. 1577 [see DEEP *a.* IV. b]. 1660– [see MANY-SIDED *a.*]. 1669 [see FOUR, C. 1 b]. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 91 Take we a square body in the world unevenly sided. 1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* 9 To find the Perspective Plan of a Pentagon, or five-sided Figure. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 162 A French black-sided Cutter. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* (ed. 2) § 54 The hot water box below was made of zinc, double sided and encased in wood. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* I. 15 It..varies..to more than 100 per cent. in high sided vessels.

2. *Naut.* Having a (specified) dimension in the direction contrary to that of the moulding.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 10 *Sided*, the dimensions of any piece contrary to which it is moulded. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 398/2 Draw a line in the body plan parallel to the middle line, at a distance equal to the half of what the stem is sided. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Siding* or *Sided*, the dimensions or size of timber, the contrary way to which the mould side is placed.

3. Of timber: Dressed upon one or more sides.

1865 *Navy Dockyard Acc.* (Blue Book) 8 The average loss on rough timber is found by experience to be about 50 per cent. and on sided and square timber about 30 per cent. 1880 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 7 Jan. 28 A floor is made of 'sided pieces', or boards smoothed only on one side.

† **4.** Allied to one side or another. *Obs. rare.*

1613 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 287, I do not readily remember all their names, nor how they were sided. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 142 To take heed, that when factions be sided, his Greatnesse vphold not one faction, to the decay and ruine of the other.

Hence **Si·dedness.** Chiefly in combs., as *many-one-, two-sidedness* (q.v.).

1906 [see POLARIZATION 1].

Si·de-dish. [SIDE *sb.*[1]] A dish which is accessory or additional to the principal one in a course; a dish of the kind commonly used for this purpose.

1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Leg of Mutton*, A Side-dish of a farced Leg of Mutton. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 75 The kidneys make a pretty side-dish of themselves. 1820 BYRON *Juan* v. xxxii, A roast and a ragout, And fish, and soup, by some side dishes back'd. 1853 SOYER *Pantropheon* 383 [It] would have been then a little *entre-met*, or a cold side-dish (*hors-d'œuvre*). 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* ii, Cook suggests various side-dishes for the dinner.

fig. 1819 LOCKHART *Peter's Lett.* lxxi. III. 241 Some practised punster, who has been invited chiefly with an eye to this sort of exhibition (from which circumstance he derives his own nickname of a side-dish).

Si·de-door. [SIDE *sb.*[1] Cf. Fris. *syddoar*, MDu. *zijtdore* (Du. *zijdeur*), G. *seitentür.*] A door in the side of a building, garden, or the like; a door on one side of, or subsidiary to, the main door.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* vi. 34 Ether dore had two syde dores one hanginge to another. 1611 BIBLE *Susanna* 18 They..went out themselues at priuie doors [*marg.* Or, side doores] to fetch the things. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv, Christie of the Clinthill..emerged at that instant from the side-door under the archway. 1855 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 265 The clerk, opening a small side-door. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 230/2 In a..fruitless search for some side-door entrance to a shop or restaurant.

Si·de-face. [SIDE *sb.*[1]] The human face in profile; a view or representation of this.

1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* I. iii, Your honour's side-face is reduced to the tip of your nose! 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 485 ¶ 3 It was pleasant to see him diversify his Loveliness, sometimes obliging the Passengers only with a Side-face, with a Book in his Hand. 1752 SIR H. BEAUMONT *Crito* 24 Artists usually chuse to give a Side-face, rather than a Full one. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 306 It is said that no picture is extant of Cardinal Wolsey showing more than the side-face.

Si·de-fly. ? *Obs.* [SIDE *sb.*[1]] A species of horse-fly.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 935 The English call it a side-fly or a Horse-fly. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. *note*, A rough whitish Maggot..within the *intestinum Rectum* of Horses; I suspect the Side-Fly proceeds from it. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne* liii, Familiar to horsemen in the south of England, under the name of forest-fly, and, to some, of side-fly, from its running sideways like a crab.

Si·de-glance, *sb.* [SIDE *sb.*[1]] A glance directed sideways.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Queue*, To cast a side-glaunce at. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 13 ¶ 1 When a well-made Man appeared, he was sure to have a Side-glance of Observation. 1752 SIR H. BEAUMONT *Crito* 24 The Fascination, or stroke of Love, is most usually, I believe, conveyed, at first, in a Side-glance. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* xxiii, 'My lads,' said he with a side-glance at the girls, 'I have got news for you.'

b. *fig.* An indirect or slight reference.

1831 BLAKEY *Free-Will* 4 Some writers pass by the doctrine of free-will with a side glance. 1860 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. (1871) iv. 82 Yet it has been with at least a side-glance to questions of this sort.

So **Si·de-glance** *v.*

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 182/1 But from th' effulgence of a distant eye, Or by the side-glanc'd light'ning pierc'd we die. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 35 A big..man, whose little side-glancing eyes seemed always alert for scandal.

Si·de-hill. Now *U.S.* [SIDE *sb.*[1]] A hillside, an acclivity.

1708 [see below]. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 44 The steep side-hills, which form the small but handsome vale of Ashcombe. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 82, I arrived upon a side-hill, or rather side-mountain. 1893 K. SANBORN *S. California* 85 As to the safety of the ascent, no one need hesitate who is free from settled prejudice against a side-hill.

attrib. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4489/3 The Fee-simple and Inheritance of the Manor of Park-Manston,..containing.. 46 Acres of Uplands, or Side-hill-Lands,..are to be sold. 1861 STEPHENS & BURN *Farm-buildings* § 1762 Plan of second storey of American side-hill barn. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2173/1 *Side-hill Plow*, a plow whose cutting apparatus is reversible, so as to throw its furrow-slice to the right or left, as may be desired. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 219 They walked down the side-hill street.

Si·delang(le, *v. north.* and *Sc.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + LANGLE *v.* An example of *side lanyel* as a sb. occurs in the *Yorksh. Dial.* (1684) 171.] (See quots. and cf. SIDE-LINE *v.*)

α. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 28 Those that have theire ewes tupped betimes will usually hopple or sidelange their tuppes. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 351 To *Sidelong*, to fetter, as a preventive from straying, or breaking pasture, by chaining a fore and a hind foot of the same side together. 1868– in Yorkshire glossaries. 1869 KENNEDY *Evenings Duffrey* 190 Sidelanged, spancelled, and fettered, they [Irish Papists] must draw a trace [etc.].

β. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Side-langel*, to tie the fore and hind foot of a horse together on one side. 1838 HOGG *Tales, Katie Cheyne* ii, I am settled, tied up, tethered, side-langled.

Si·deless, *a.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1]] Without sides; open at the sides.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biogr. Lit.* xii. I. 267 No less a contradiction than an infinite circle or a sideless triangle. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* xi. 163 The sideless garment faced with fur, and terminating in long full skirts. 1877 *Athenæum* 3 Nov. 571/3 The ladies..wear the sideless cotehardies which were so common in their day.

Si·de-light. Also **side light, sidelight.** [SIDE *sb.*[1] Cf. Fris. *sydljacht, -ljocht* (in sense 2), G. *seitenlicht* (in sense 1).]

1. a. Light coming from the side.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 818 The side light that the sunne beames cast all night long. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., To take a photograph by side-light.

b. *fig.* Incidental light or information upon a subject.

1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. 221 The reader needs all the side-lights which can be thrown upon its translated forms. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. x. 120 Side light may be thrown upon Sarpi's judgment..by considering [etc.].

2. A window, or opening for light, in the side of a building, ship, lamp, etc.

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* i. 14 One side light should however in all cases be provided [in a laboratory]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2174/1 *Side-light*,..a plate of glass in a frame fitted to an air-port in a ship's side. 1898 *Cycling* 61 Sliding side-lights should be fitted,..and lamps with weak springs are to be avoided.

b. A side-portion of a large window; a window by the side of a door or other window.

1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Seven Gables* iv, She..gazed through the dusty side-lights of the portal. 1860 G. E. STREET in *Archæol. Cant.* III. 117 The tracery has quatrefoiled circles over the side-lights.

3. *Naut.* a. A light carried on either side of a ship under way in the night.

1887 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

b. A night-lantern in the gangway of a warship.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Si·de-line, *sb.* [SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. A line extending along or towards one side of a thing or space; *spec.* in *Football* (see quot. 1862).

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) III. 226 In young fish the space above the side line is marked with small black spots. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 413/2 Two side-lines, called goal-lines, are drawn from each of the goals.

attrib. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 June 9/1 (Tennis), Barrett scored many aces by clean side-line drives.

b. A railway or tramway line extending away from the main line.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 10/1 There remain the South London and the Southwark and Deptford Companies' systems. These, however, are but sidelines west and east.

2. A line used for securing an animal by tying together the fore and hind leg on one side.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* xviii. 320 The side-line is a very simple and useful method of confining the horse. *Ibid.* 321 When both legs are included in the hobble or rope (as in another way of using the side line).

3. An auxiliary line of goods, trade, or occupation.

1890 *New York Tribune* 9 Mar. (Cent.), Wanted..Salesman to carry as a side-line a new line of advertisement specialty. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. 5/3 In the cycling trade the agents..are exercised in their minds over the question of 'side lines'. They want something to do in the dull season.

Hence **Si·de-line** *v.*, to secure (cattle or horses) with a side-line.

1863 *Pilgr. over Prairies* I. 154 After unharnessing and sidelining our cattle ('sidelining' is tying the fore and hind legs on the same side within eighteen or twenty inches of each other). *a* 1904 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* x. 151 We hobbled every horse and side-lined certain leaders.

Sideling (səi·dliŋ), *sb.* Forms: 4 **sydelynge,** 5 **sydlyng,** 6 **syd(e)ling**; 4 **sidelyng,** 8– **sideling** (9 *Sc.* **-lin**); 9 **sidling,** *dial.* **siddlin,** etc. [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -LING[1].]

†**1.** A strip or piece of land lying by the side of a larger portion or by a stream. *Obs.*

1399 in Kennett *Par. Ant.* (1695) 531 Fons de Goldwell ..cujus aqua manat..præter dictas buttes, et ideo vocantur Sydelynges. *Ibid.* 532 Ab hoc furlong procedunt le Sidelyngs de quibus patet superius. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 369 The tythis of ix. buttis I-called Sydlyngis, liyng at the lowsy thorn, bitwene j. acre of lond..and j. pece of lond. 1576 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 387 A bracke betwixte two sydelings called the greate and little sydlings to be dammed uppe. 1726 in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1875) 54 One sideling of Pasture ground of about an acre. *Ibid.* 55 One small sideling of ground and Comon of Pasture for one Cow and one Horse.

2. A slope or declivity, *esp.* one along the side of which a track or road runs.

1808 JAMIESON s.v., *The sidelins* (*sidlings*) of a hill, i. e. the declivity. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* v. (1855) 127 We.. got upon a 'sidling' on the slope of the hill. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* I. xi. 230 A sideling that afforded no footing for his horse would necessitate a descent into the bed of the creek. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.*

3. *U.S.* = SIDING *vbl. sb.* 7.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Sidling*, a place at which to turn off on a railroad to wait for a passing engine. The English term is siding.

Sideling (səi·dliŋ), *adv.* and *a.* Forms: 4 **sidlyng,** 5 **sydlyng,** 6 **-ling**; 5–6 **sydelyng(e,** 6– **sideling** (7 **-line**; *Sc.* 8 **-lin,** 9 **-lan**); 6–7, 9 **sidling** (*Sc.* **-lin'**). [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -LING[2]. Cf. MDu. *side-, zidelinge*, MLG. *syd-, sydeling(e.* An OE. comb. *sidlingweg* occurs in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 446.]

A. *adv.*

1. With a sideward movement; in a sidelong direction; sideways; obliquely.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10348 3yf any connyng man of þo Standeþ stille, or sidlyng can go. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7320 Prothenor..Set hym a sad dynt Sydlyng by-hynd. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxiv. 524 Thenne they lasshed to gyder many sad strokes & tracyd and trauercyd now bakward now sydelyng. 1506 *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 290 So the King of Castile went sidling into the closet and drew the King in by the arm. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. (Arb.) 300 Such as retire from the Princes presence..go backward or sideling for a reasonable space. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 30 Hee hath the witte yet to enter sideling, like a gentlewoman with an huge farthingall. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 142 Crabs move sideling, Lobsters will swim swiftly backward. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* I. 14 If all his Atoms must descend Sideling, they'll never join one another. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 45 Sidelin to the fight They both come on. 1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* I. 392 Or east, or west, or sideling to the north, Or south careering, it is follow'd still.

†**2. a.** To or on one side (*of* a thing). *Obs. rare.*

1543 RECORDE *Arithm.* 132 b, Farthynges..must be set in a voyde space sydelynge beneth the pennes. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 349 Worcester House lies sideling of it. 1786 BURNS *Lord Daer* v, I sidling shelter'd in a nook, An' at his lordship steal't a look.

†**b.** With an inclination to one side. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 518 All Alexanders followers bare their heads sideling, as he did. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. I. viii, I pray you sit right in your saddle, for you ride sideling, which proceeds, as I suppose, of the bruising you got by your fall. 1718 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) I. 62 Sit a little more upright in your Saddle; you ride sideling methinks.

†**3.** With the side *toward* something. *Obs.*—[1]

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* G vj, The enemies were in a fallowe felde, wherof the furrowes lay sydelyng towarde our men.

†**4.** On a side-saddle; facing to the side. *Obs.*

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlviii. (1632) 158 To ride up and downe.., ever sitting sideling, as women use. 1619 MIDDLETON *Love & Antiq.* Wks. 1885 VII. 326 Queen Anne..being the first that taught women to ride sideling on horseback. 1698 J. CRULL *Muscovy* 299 This Horse..upon which the Patriarch rides sideling.

†**5.** So that the top and bottom are turned to the sides. *Obs. rare.*

1612 FLORIO, *Catagràphi*, images or pictures standing biase or sideline. 1712 SWIFT *Public Sp. Whigs* Wks. 1751 VIII. 9 A Fellow nailed up Maps in a Gentleman's Closet, some sideling, others upside down.

B. *adj.*

†**1.** Situated towards or at the side(s). *Obs.*

1548 VICARY *Anat.* iii. (1888) 27 [The] Parietales..be the bones of the sideling parts of the head. 1552 UDALL tr. *Germinus' Anat.* B iij b/2 The Chekes are the sydelynge partes of the face.

2. Directed or moving sideways; oblique.

1611 COTGR., *Oblique*,..sideling, bowed, winding. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 18 Sideling and oblique Accusations were admitted. 1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* II. i, The peaking Creature,..with a sideling Look, as if one Cheek carry'd more byass than the other. 1763 DODSLEY *Leasowes* in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1777) II. 304 The eye is carried by a sideling view down a length of lawn. 1771 FOOTE *Penseroso* v. 237 The sideling glance Of bigot malice. 1828 SCOTT *Fair M. Perth* xxiii, Henry struck him a sideling blow on the steel head-piece. 1845 G. OLIVER *Coll. Biogr. Soc. Jesus* p. iii, They cast no sideling glance to interest. 1890 HALL CAINE *Boudman* II. v, 'We know you are watching him,' he added, with a sideling motion of the head towards Government House.

b. *fig.* Of speech, etc.: Indirect.

1789 ROSS *Helenore* (ed. 3) 105 For Nory's sake, this sideling hint he gae.

3. Having an inclination; sloping, steep.

1611 COTGR., *Callate*,..a sideling, or sloping peece of ground. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 44 The green hill's sideling slope. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 246 It is a good plan to plough sidling ground in a circle. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 356/2 Never have I seen hills as sideling as these.

Hence † **Si·delingwise** *adv. Obs.*—[1]

1587 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Scotl.* 102/2 Two Pictish horssemen running at Colgerme sidelingwise, bare him quite through.

Sidelings (səi·dliŋz), *adv.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **sydlynges** (5 **-lyngs,** 6 **-lyngis,** 9 **-lins**); 4–5 **sidelynges** (6 **sedelinges,** *Sc.* **sidelingis**), 6– **sidelings,** 8–9 **sidelins** (**-lans, -lens**); 5 (9 *dial.*) **sidlings,** 6 **-lingis,** 9 **-lins.** [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -LINGS. Cf. Fris. *sydlings*, Du. *zijdelings*, G. *seitlings.* In Sc. dial. also used as an adj.]

1. = SIDELING *adv.* 1; also, indirectly, with indirect speech; with a side-look.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10869 Frolle vp stirte, & sydlynges glent. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2057 þe pouwere of Persy..Seȝes sidlings doun slayn of þaire blonkis. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4206 Right befor the king of kinges Manassen fel deid doun sidelinges. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 93 Theophrast maketh orobum to grow sydlynges. 1593 NASHE *Peore Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 In a verse, when a worde of three sillables cannot thrust in but sidelings. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 16 That she wave not sidelings or turne about. 1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-sozzo* 407 Why should others be forced to crowd in and wedge themselves through a narrow wicker sidelings? 1785 BURNS *To Wm. Simpson* ii, Ironic satire, sidelins sklented, On my poor Musie. 1807–10 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 70 I'll sidelins hint—na, bauldly tell, I whyles think something o' mysel'. 1856 J. SMITH *Merry Bridal* 66 Sidelins he meets the cauld averted gaze O' them that kent him in his better days.

†**2.** = SIDELING *adv.* 2 a. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1039 Bot thow moste seke more southe, sydlynges a lyttille. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 309 Se

that the deske..be set atte sowth ende of that awter..sidelyngs a fowre fote. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxi. (S.T.S.) I. 216 Ane weyng of horss men come sidlingis þe batall of Veanis. 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soul* I. xxvi. 49 In what sorte the light in the Chamber is to be placed..If sidelings, it may cause the Infant to proue squint. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 16 If ankors be layd out, either forward, or backward, or sidelings.

† **3.** = SIDELING *adv.* 3. *Obs.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 10 Take a greate basin, set it sedelinges to a wall, so that it do leane holy vpon the wall.

4. Side by side; abreast.

1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 2730 Sick breid, abufe the wallis, thare was, Thre cartis mycht sydlingis on thame pas. 1805– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

5. = SIDELING *adv.* 4.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 300 Women sit on horseback sidlings, and men stradlings. 1898 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Si·delong, *adv.*[1] and *a.*[1] Also side-long. [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -LONG. Cf. MDa. *sidelangs*, MSw. *sidholangs* adv.]

A. *adv.*

1. Towards the side; sideways, obliquely.

1580 BARET *Alvearie*, Sidelong or sidewise, *ex obliquo*. 1589 NASHE *M. Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 121 A crooked generation, that loues to swym side-long with the Crabbe. 1602 R. CAREW *Cornwall* 10 b, Their maner of working in the Loadmines, is to follow the Load as it lieth, either sidelong, or downe-right. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 197 As if..waters forcing way Sidelong, had push't a Mountain from his seat. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 17 Taking her Hoop in one Hand in a great Fury, she squeezes side-long through a Passage two Yards wide. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xl, With these words she sunk back on the settle, and from thence sidelong to the floor. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* x. § 58 That blue-lipped serpent—working its way sidelong in the sand.

2. Along the sides. *rare*—[1].

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 19 b, Which aulter (as I may tearme it) sidelong about, wrought with leaves.

3. So as to show the side. *rare*—[1].

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. v. (1611) 264 This forme of Helmet placed sidelong and close doth Ger. Leigh attribute to the dignity of Knight.

4. To the side *of*; side by side; presenting the side *to* something.

1643 *True Informer* 40 The Parliaments Forces were within six miles side-long of him. 1803 *Edwin* III. iii. 49 When..our bands were engaged in war, sidelong we fought. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* II. xii, Seated within the shop, sidelong to the window. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 203 Each [dog] was fastened sidelong to his neighbour's neck.

5. On the side; with the side to the ground.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 333 Side-long as they sat recline On the soft downie Bank damaskt with flours. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xl, Behoves no more, But sidelong, to the gently-waving wind, To lay the well-tun'd instrument reclin'd. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* IV. 95 He..sidelong on the beach the galley laid. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 334 Side-long the plough beside the field-gate lay.

b. Inclining to one side in moving along a slope.

1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* vi. 119 On the hills where the waggons have to run 'sidelong' to pick up the crops one side higher than the other.

6. As *prep.* By or along the side of.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 38 If she wyl not stande syde longe all the lambe, than gyue her a lyttell hey. 1822 SCOTT *Halidon Hill* I. ii, We'll..descend Sidelong the hill; some winding path there must be.

B. *adj.*

1. In a slanting direction; in a sloping position; inclining to one side; lying on the side.

1597 A. M. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/4 We must make the apertione sydelonge or contradictorye, when we purpose to iterate the phlebotomye. 1728 ROWE tr. *Lucan* V. 928 This [wave] lays the sidelong Alder on the Main, And that restores the leaning Bark again. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 91 With side-long plough to quell the flinty ground. *c* 1830 LONGF. *Spirit of Poetry* 30 The..upland where the sidelong sun.., at evening, goes. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 36 As he who whilst the side-long vase ran clear Dream'd down whole years in fancy.

b. *spec.* Of ground: Sloping.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampshire* III. 105 In side long ground, the stick by its rolling would overset the sled. 1802 E. DARWIN *Orig. Society* IV. 165 Green sloping lawns construct the sidelong scene. 1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Grt. Brit.* 36 The area of any cross section in sidelong ground. 1873 ROBERTSON *Engineering Notes* 48 Sidelong ground must be cut into steps before embanking over it.

2. Directed to one side or sideways.

1608 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 24 Mar. 2 The comming so neare togither, of two..so great festiuities.., giueth mee so iust an occasion, togither with my principal aime at the one, to haue a collateral, sidelong aspect at the other. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 169 Their motion is a laterall or sidelong motion. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 570 With a side-long look, Poor William thro' the heart was struck. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXI. 319 With a sidelong sweep Assailing him. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. clxxiii, Regarding both with slow and sidelong view. 1861 THACKERAY *Round. P., Ogres*, He gives a dreadful sidelong glance of suspicion. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. 1, Indicating with a sidelong nod the room to the left.

transf. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xxii. 10 Yearly shall bleed a festal Swine, That meditates the side-long Wound.

b. Glancing, moving, or extending sideways.

1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. xxxiv. 8 Fast the pebbly beach the boat did flee On sidelong wing, into a silent cove. 1864 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1305 But the sidelong arrow slid. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* III. i. 87 [It] shot out sidelong boughs across the deep.

3. Indirect; not straightforward or open.

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 25 We have seen the direct degrees; now follow the Collateral, or sidelong, which is called Difference. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 380 Their sidelong Answers, and silly Excuses will not do. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* vi. 82 They did not see the winks, and the side-long smiles. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 148 Hazarding promiscuous sidelong sort of observations, that might be taken up by anybody. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 97 A sinister look, which even the Captain could not help noting in a sidelong fashion.

† **Si·delong,** *adv.*[2] and *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. SIDE *adv.*[1] and *a.* + LONG *a.*] = SIDE *a.* and *adv.*[1]

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Epil. (Arb.) 82 They be no boyes, which weare such side long gowns. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 354 And now the Foxe had gotten him a gowne, And th' Ape a cassocke sidelong hanging downe. — *Vision Bellay* ix, An hideous bodie big and strong I sawe, With side-long beard.

Si·de-look. [SIDE *sb.*[1]] An oblique look; a side-glance. Also *fig.*

1705 STEELE *Tender Husb.* IV. i, That Side-look hides the Mole on the left Cheek. 1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 316 In that straight line he went on for fifty years, without one side-look. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xli, With a side-look he let her know that he did not wish to hurt her feelings.

So **Si·de-looker, -looking.**

13.. *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, Þe hare..Þe westlokere, The waldeneie, the sid-lokere. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1650 As he caste a side lokyng, He saw a lady in her bed syttyng.

† **Si·dely,** *adv. Obs.*[—1] [f. SIDE *sb.*[1]] In an indirect manner; indirectly.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 324 3if a man aȝenstondiþ God and doiþ aȝens his wille, 3it Goddis wille is fillid asideli [*v.r.* sydely] by punishinge of þis man.

† **Si·deman.** *Obs.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. = SIDESMAN 1.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2098/1 He beyng one of the Church Wardens or side men. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 134 In villages they are commonlie made churchwardens, sidemen, aleconners, constables. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 82 Besides this Incumbent, euery parish had certaine officers, as Churchwardens, Sidemen. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* III. i, It is worth all the Bells in your Church Steeple, Though your Sexton and Side-men hung there too, To better the peal. 1682 in *Picture of Liverpool* (1834) 108 Thomas Mathews elected sideman for the remainder of the year.

2. A partisan. *rare*—[1].

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 93 The partie that brought it was a sideman of the Iesuits.

3. (See quot.) *rare* —[1].

c 1600 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsars Comm.* 130 The first, second and third, and so forward in each file, are called Sidemen in respect of the same numbers in the next file.

4. = OYSTER 3.

1632 SHERWOOD, The sidemen of a pullet, *les huistres d'une poulle.*

† **Si·den,** *adv. Obs.* [OE. *sídan*, f. *síd* SIDE *a.*] = SIDE *adv.*[1] 1.

932 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 389 Of ȝehwilcum stowum wydan and sydan ȝegaderod. *c* 1205 LAY. 139 Muche lond he him ȝef..siden & widen. *Ibid.* 15405 He lette his men riden widen & siden.

† **Si·deness.** *Obs.* [f. SIDE *a.*] **a.** Length. **b.** Height (of a roof).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 158 God send sic sydnes in hyre hare þat scho wes cled mare ewinely with hare þane with hire clathis in hy. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 62 Þei maken þer abitis myche, boþe in widnesse and sidnesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 474 Stepnesse, or sydenesse of a roof, *elevacio.* 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sydenesse, *longevr.* 1583 P. STUBBES *Anat. Abuses* E ij, The other contayneth neither length, breadth or sidenes (beeing not past a quarter of a yarde side) wherof some be paved. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 258 When you..haue made both the bitt cheekes of an euen sidenesse.

† **Si·denhand,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 **sydnandys.** [f. OE. *sídan*, gen. sing. of *síde* SIDE *sb.*[1] + HAND *sb.*] Aside; on one side *of*.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5019 Cesar conseilled wiþ Androche, þat he wolde come out of þe cite, And turne a sidenhand o valeye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455/1 Sydnandys, or a-syde, *oblique.* 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1907) I. 9 The hedde of Avon Ryver risethe a litle sidenhand [*printed* -ham] of Gilesborow village, and cummith by it there first receyving a botom. [Cf. *side-hand* under SIDE *sb.*[1] 27.]

Si·de-pocket. [SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. A pocket in the side-portion of a garment (esp. a coat or jacket).

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 116 Pulling out his butcher's knife from a sheath in his side-pocket. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., He has as much need of a wife as a dog of a side pocket; said of a weak old debilitated man. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XXX, Buttoning his coat over the arms, which were concealed in a side-pocket ingeniously contrived for that purpose. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Inside the Bar* iii. 265 He's no more use for a hunter now, than a cow has for a side-pocket. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 465/2 He brought an old coat one day, and amused himself firing through the side-pockets.

attrib. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Jan. 4/2 He wore a..side-pocket jacket which fitted him like a glove.

2. (See quot.)

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 23 Along the sides of the tent are suspended rows of square-cut canvas bags, called side-pockets.

Si·de-post. [SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. One of the posts at either side of a doorway; a door-post. (Chiefly in Biblical echoes.)

1535 COVERD. *Exod.* xii. 22 Stryke it vpon the vpper poste and vpon the two syde postes. [Similarly 1572 and 1611.] 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 140 The striking of its Blood upon the Side-posts of their Houses. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 635 Striking the blood on the side-posts. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 562 To sprinkle its blood on the side-posts and on the lintel. 1874 RUSKIN *Val D'Arno* 217, I intended..to have insisted, at some length, on the decoration of the lintel and side-posts.

2. A post supporting a roof at or towards one side of it.

1625 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 197 The syde-postes of yᵉ roofe. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Arch.* (ed. 5) 427 *Side-posts* in a roof-truss, are posts placed in pairs at an equal distance from the middle. 1862 — *Rickman's Gothic Archit.* 200 The vaulting-shafts or half pillars..carrying either the ribs of the vault, or the side posts of the open timber roof.

Si·der[1]. [f. SIDE *v.* II.] One who sides *with* a person or cause; a partisan, adherent.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* III. 211 False dice and carders, with all cheatinge crewes, siders that feede, nay blo self-gaine-made faction. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 4 What then can nocent Charls Stuart, or his siders with, say for themselves? 1665 WINSTANLEY *Loy. Martyrol.* 171 A desparate Enemy to the Old King all along,..a greater Sider with Cromwel.

Hence † **Si·dership.** *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfortunate Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 21 The world is well amended, thought I, with your Sidership.

Si·der[2], forming the second element in a comb. or collocation, as *near sider*, a horse standing on the near side; *hillsider*, one living on a hillside, etc. See also INSIDER and OUTSIDER.

1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* cxii, I like that near sider with the white fetlock. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* xii, Those who think they know something of them might fancy that 'Old hand', 'Vandemonian', or even 'Sydney Sider', were not particularly offensive. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 11 The Trentsiders have a manner peculiarly their own. 1898 [see HILLSIDER].

Sider, obs. form of CIDER.

Si·de-rail. [SIDE *sb.*[1] 23 b.] A rail placed or fixed at the side of something.

1754 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* (ed. 2) 354 Let an assistant, standing on the side rail of a brake,..raise the horse's tail very gently. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. 437 *Geering*, the ladders and side rails of a waggon. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 34 By means of a crooked side-rail, bending archwise over the hind wheel, the bodies..are kept low. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 132 Placing gates and side-rails to those marshes. 1903 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 571, I leaned against the side-rail [of the yacht] beside her.

Sideral (sə·dĕrăl, si·dĕrăl), *a.* Also 6 **syderall,** 7–8 **-al**; 7 **siderall.** [ad. L. *sīderālis*, f. *sīder-*, *sīdus* constellation, star. Cf. F. *sidéral*, † *syderal* (16th cent.).]

1. Of or pertaining to the stars; sidereal, starry.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. I. XXXVIII. (1597) 170 b, The Astronomicall yeare is either Tropicall or Syderall. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 48 He sends for those of his Egyptian Wizards, whome he deemed most skilful in the Sideral Science. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 38 The Syderal Observations set forth in Tycho's name. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* X. 7 So shone the earth, as if the sideral train, Broad as full suns, had sail'd the ethereal plain. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 2, I who am only waiting..to..put diameters of the..sideral orbits between me and all souls.

2. Coming from, caused by, the stars. Chiefly of malign influences.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. XIII. § 27 As if it had beene a syderall infection or generall Lunacy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 693 These changes in the Heav'ns..produc'd..sideral blast, Vapour, and Mist, and Exhalation hot. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 31 The vernal nippings and cold syderal blasts. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 570 The virgin mud, fecundated..by the sideral influence. 1805 *Poet. Reg.* 175 Worse than mildew hoar Or Sideral blast is he.

Siderant (si·dĕrănt), *a. Path.* [a. F. *sidérant.*] Striking and paralyzing suddenly.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 664 The 'type foudroyante' of French authors, which may also be called the fulminant, siderant, apoplectic, or malignant type.

Sidera·phthite. [f. Gr. *σίδηρος* iron + *ἄφθιτ-os* undecaying.] (See quot.)

1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 39/1 A new alloy, which resembles silver, and is very ductile and malleable, is composed of 65 parts iron, 23 of nickel, 4 of tungsten, 5 of aluminium, and 5 of copper...The metal is called 'siderаphthite'.

† **Si·derate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *sīderārī* to be planet-struck, f. *sīder-*, *sīdus* constellation, star.] *trans.* To strike with malign (sidereal) influence, to blast. Chiefly in passive: To be blasted, struck with lightning; also *fig.*, to be thunder-struck.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Siderate*, to blast. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 335 Parts cauterized, gangrenated, siderated and mortified, become black. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* V. XXXIII. 102 The 2 Persons that were suddenly siderated or slain and scorched in bed together with Lightning. 1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. v. 307 This is Demonstration that puts the Controversie beyond all exception, and the poor Non-conformists are siderated with the violence of it!

Sidera·tion. Now *rare.* Also 7–8 **syd-.** [ad. L. *sīderātio* blast, blight, palsy, f. *sīderārī*: see prec. So F. *siderátion*, † *syderation* (16th cent.).]

1. Blasting of trees or plants.

1623 COCKERAM II. A iv b, A Blasting thereof, *Stellation, Syderation.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Syderation*, Blasting of Trees with great heat and drought, Tree-plague. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 383 If God hath ordained Sideration of Plants, or blasting of Fruits, must we accuse the

Creation? 1691 RAY *Creation* (1714) 304 Producing a Mortification or Syderation in the parts of Plants. 1721 BAILEY, *Sideration*, the Blasting of Trees or Plants, with an Eastern Wind or with excessive Heat and Drought. [Hence in Miller *Gard. Dict.* (1731).]

2. Sudden paralysis; complete mortification of any part of the body.

1612 COTTA *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* I. vii. 59 The sicke are also sodainly taken..with a senselesse trance and generall astonishment or sideration. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* iv. 27 An absolute coldnesse..causeth the sideration or death of the part. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 172 This hath been in them a Sideration, the Blasting of some unhappy Influence. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. vi. (1852) 575 Rabid animals, which, by a most unaccountable syderation from Heaven, had now neither strength nor sense left 'em to do anything for their own defence.

3. *Path.* (See quots.)

[1788 *Med. Comm.* II. 182 *Sideratio*, or Erysipelas of the head and face. 1809 PARR *Med. Dict.* II. 583 *Sideratio*, ..a sphacelus or a species of erysipelas, vulgarly called a *blast*.] 1828–32 in WEBSTER (citing Parr). 1849 CRAIG, *Sideration*, in Pathology, a name given to erysipelas of the face or scalp, from an idea of its being produced by the influence of the planets.

Sidere, obs. form of CIDER.

Sidereal (səidīə·rĭăl), *a.* Also 7–9 **siderial** (7 syd-); 7–8 **sydereal** (7 -all). [f. L. *sīdere-us*, f. *sīder-*, *sīdus* constellation, star + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to the stars.

1647 H. MORE *Pref. to Antipsychopannychia*, Upon which pure bright sydereal phantasms unprejudiced reason may safely work. 1651 — *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 32 That a Man has a sydereal body besides this terrestrial which is joined with the Stars. 1692 J. SALTER *Triumphs of Jesus* 24 Display your Glories ye Syderial States. 1739 H. COVENTRY *Philemon to Hydaspes* III. 76 [A] most expressive, as well as permanent Symbol of the Sidereal Splendors. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 26 Among the changes that happen in the sidereal heavens we enumerate the loss of stars. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii, What thinks Boötes of them, as he leads his Hunting-Dogs over the Zenith in their leash of sidereal fire? 1868 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. I. vii. 137 That general Astronomy which includes our whole sidereal system. 1874 FARRAR *Christ* I. iii. 29 That any strange sidereal phenomenon should be interpreted as the signal of a coming king, was in strict accordance with the belief of their age.

2. Star-like, lustrous, bright. *rare.*

1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. xiv. 201 With what a blushing astonishment doth she behold his syderealI countenance cast upon her. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl.* 30 Provoking some syderealI and flaming soules to display themselves in their full..lustre.

3. Of periods of time: Determined or measured by means of the stars. In *sidereal day, month, year, time* (see quots.).

1681 WHARTON *Disc. Yrs. & Months* Wks. (1683) 71 The Sydereal year is the space of time, in which the Sun returns to the same star from whence he departed. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 242 The Astronomic Year is also twofold,..namely, the Sydereal and Tropical. The Sydereal Year..is 365 Days, 6 Hours, and 10 Minutes nearly. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exper. Phil.* IV. xlii. 127 There must be one more sidereal day in a year than there are solar days. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* viii. 50 A clock regulated by the transit of fixed stars, or adapted to sidereal time. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 95 The interval between the departure and return of a meridian to the sun is called a solar day; in the case..of a star, a sidereal day. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 434 The sidereal month is the interval between two successive conjunctions of the moon with the same fixed star.

b. Of a clock: Showing sidereal time.

1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* Pref., An observation expressed by..the seconds of a sidereal clock.

4. Of planetary or lunar motion: Relative to the stars.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 554 Its annual sidereal revolution is calculated, by Laplace, to be performed in 1681 days, 17 hours, 57 seconds. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* viii. 252 The sidereal periods of the planets may be obtained..by observing their passages through the nodes of their orbits. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 66 *note*, This revolution is called a sidereal revolution in contradistinction to the 'synodic revolution', because, relatively to the Sun, the planet again occupies the same portion of the heavens.

5. Concerned with the stars.

1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* 372 Chap. xii. Of Sidereal Astronomy. 1853 — *Pop. Lect. Sci.* v. § 28 (1873) 204 Thus opening another chapter in the history of sidereal mensuration. 1870 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* (1871) 519 The nebulæ mark the limits of sidereal investigation.

Hence **Sidereal·ize** *v.*; **Sidereally** *adv.*

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 34 That very goddess, whose peculiar symbol was a ship.., is yet asserted to be sidereally the moon. 1873 PATER *Renaissance* viii. 150 German literature transformed, siderealised, as we see it in Goethe, reckons Winckelmann among its imitators.

Sidereal, *a.* *rare.* [f. as prec. + -AN.] Sidereal, starry.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Siderean*, of, or like stars, shining, bright; heavenly. 1857 B. W. PROCTER *Dram. Sc.* 342 They brought me down..Siderean music from the Pleiades.

Sidereous, *a.* *rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *σίδηρος* iron.] Composed of iron.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 503 Did the God of Hell, therefore, weep only from one eye, which rained the sidereous torrent of woe—the iron sleet of teary shower?

Sideric, *a.* *rare*⁻¹. Pertaining to iron.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 459/2 These elements he asserted were composed of the three principles sideric salt and sulphur and mercury.

Si·derism 1. [f. L. *sīder-*, *sīdus* star.] The doctrine of a sidereal influence upon terrestrial things or events. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Si·derism 2. [f. Gr. *σίδηρος* iron.] The supposed effects of magnetic influence upon the human body.

[1850 OGILVIE, *Siderismus.*] 1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 LANG *Making of Religion* ii. 32 Ritter thought he had detected a new force, 'Siderism.'

Siderite 1 (si·dĕrəit, səidī·rəit). *Min.* [In early use a. F. *siderite* (16th c.), or ad. L. *sidērites* m., *sidērītis* f., a. Gr. *σιδηρίτης*, *-ῖτις*, f. *σίδηρος* iron. In later use directly f. Gr. *σίδηρ-ος* + -ITE 1 2 b.]

†1. Loadstone. *Obs.*

1579 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie, Partheniades* (1811) vii. 50 Not flint, I trowe, I am a lyer; But syderite that feeles noe fier. 1607 ? BREWER *Lingua* IV. i, Hee fastens a post, vpon which he hangs me in a corde a Siderite, of Herculian stone. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxii, He hang'd on a Gibbet by a Rope a very large Siderite or iron-like Stone,..commonly call'd Load-stone.

2. (See quot. 1623 and SIDERITES.)

1623 COCKERAM III, *Siderite*, a stone like iron, hauing power to set variance amongst men. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1861 KING *Antique Gems* (1866) 67 The Siderites, of a steel colour and very heavy, were doubtless Sapphires, for they could be drilled by means of another Diamond.

†3. A phosphate of iron; pharmacosiderite, cube-ore. *Obs.*

So named by Bergmann (1790) under the impression that it was a new metal.

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 335 The white matter I supposed was the siderite of Bergman; which is now believed to be phosphate of iron. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 179 Iron in a Reguline state united to Phosphorus is called Siderite. 1805 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 325 The error which subsisted for a few years, respecting the compound formerly called siderite.

†4. Hornblende. *Obs.*

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 4 Siderite sometimes composes entire mountains...This important substance..is the hornblende of the German miners. *Ibid.* 9 In general..when the substance has a crystallised and silky appearance, it must be classed among the siderites.

5. A blue variety of quartz.

Named by Moll (1797).

1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 210 Siderite..is compact, of a greyish or greenish blue colour, is nearly as hard as quartz, and possesses a resinous or waxy lustre. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 200/1 Blue Quartz, Siderite, occurs crystallized and massive. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 72 The beautiful amethyst, the blue siderite, the yellow Cairngorm.

6. Rhombohedral carbonate of iron, native ferrous carbonate, spathic iron-ore.

Named by Haidinger (1844); also called SIDEROSE.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol. Min.*, etc. 206 There is a strong tendency in these crystalline carbonates to assume a spherical form; and hence the name Siderite and Sphærosiderite. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 228/2 Siderite, Chalybite, or Spathic Iron (carbonate of iron) occurs both crystallized and massive. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 410 Siderite, or spathic ore, so called from its sparry or glassy crystals, is a combination of iron with carbonic acid ($FeOCO_2$).

7. A meteorite consisting mainly of iron.

1875 *Nature* XII. 521/1 The great division of meteorites into iron masses or siderites, mixed masses or siderolites.., and aërolites or stony meteorites,..seems to be a sufficiently logical division. 1881 *Ibid.* XXIV. 508 The detection of carbon, while it agrees with the element's occurrence in siderites and carbonaceous aërolites, reminds us [etc.].

Siderite 2. *Bot.* [ad. L. *sidērītis*, Gr. *σιδηρῖτις*, f. *σίδηρος* iron: cf. prec.] A plant of the genus *Sideritis*; see IRON-WORT.

1753 *Chambers's Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sideritis*, In all the siderites the flowers grow in circles round the stalks. 1828–32 in WEBSTER (citing Coxe and Parr).

†**Sideri·tes.** *Obs.* = SIDERITE 1 (senses 1–3).

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 That whiche is of the coloure of yron is called siderites. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 629 Siderites is much like to yron: and supposed it is, That..it will breed discord and maintain dissention still. Of this Siderites is made another stone,..called Sideropœcilos, for the sundry spots therein. 1611 COTGR., *Siderite*, the yron-like stone Siderites, which, as some imagine, hath power to set men at oddes. 1750 *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 233 *Siderites*, is a Stone in Colour not much unlike Iron. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 469 Regulus of manganese, siderites, and regulus of molybdena.

Sideri·tic, *a.* *rare.* [f. SIDERITE 1 + -IC.] Of the nature of siderite (in senses 3 and 4).

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 180 Sideritic Calx. This consists of Calx of Iron united to Phosphoric acid. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 8 As the stones, confessedly called basalts by the ancients, often present marks of crystallisation, being sideritic rocks or primitive traps.

Sidero- 1 (si·dĕro, səidī·ro), combining form of Gr. *σίδηρος* iron.

1. In various names of minerals, as *sidero-calcite, -clepte, -graphite, -schisolite*; also *sideromagnesian* adj.

A considerable number of other compounds, which have had little or no currency in English, may be found in Watts' *Dict. Chem.* and Chester's *Dict. Min.*

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* I. 109 It may be inferred that *braun spar*, or *sidero-calcite*, exhibits in its composition various gradations to or from the sparry iron ore. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 127 The sidero-calcite and ferri-calcite of Kirwan have little connection with the present subject. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 210 *Sideroclepte*..is massive, translucent, of a yellowish green colour. 1820 J. TORREY in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 176, I have just discovered a new mineral, or one which I cannot find described. It is a compound of metallic iron and plumbago. ..I have called it *Sidero-graphite. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*, *Siderographite*,..considered a native compound of iron and graphite, but probably a furnace product. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 131 It is so much impregnated with iron, that it belongs to the *sideromagnesian rocks. 1825 *Brewster's Edin. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 372 He [Dr. Wernekingk] described *Sideroschisolite as occurring in small simple three-sided and six-sided pyramids. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 240 *Sideroschisolite*, a ferroso-ferrous silicate, occurring..in Brazil, in hexagonal crystals.

2. In miscellaneous combs., as **Si·derograph**, an engraving produced by siderography. **Sidero·gra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to siderography; so **Sidero·gra·phical** *a.* (Webster, 1828–32). **Sidero·graphist** (see quot.). **Sidero·graphy**, a method of engraving on steel, introduced by Perkins and Fairman and employed especially for bank-notes. **Sideroli·thic** *a.*, of the nature of a siderolite. **Si·deroscope**, an instrument used to detect minute quantities of iron by means of a combination of magnetic needles. **Siderote·chny**, 'the metallurgy of iron' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2174/2 *Siderograph. 1819 (*title*), Specimens and Description of Perkins and Fairman's Patent *Siderographic Plan to prevent Forgery [of banknotes]. 1820 J. PERKINS in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXXVIII. 47 We, the proprietors of the Siderographic art. 1847 WEBSTER, **Siderographist*, one who engraves steel plates, or performs work by means of such plates. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* XC. I. 349 *Siderography. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 326 Intermediate or *siderolithic varieties consist of an amalgam of metal and stone. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., *Sideroscope. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 352 This apparatus, which he calls a sideroscope, is shewn in the annexed figure.

Sidero- 2 (səi·dĕro, si·dĕro), irregular combining form of L. *sīder-*, *sīdus* star, in **si·derolith**, = SIDEROLITE 2 (*Cent. Dict.*); **si·deropore** [ad. mod. L. *sideropora*, Blainville], one of a genus of zoophytes.

1846 J. D. DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 519 They [the Seriatopores] graduate into the Sideropores on one side, and into the slender Pocillopores on the other.

Siderolite 1 (si·dĕroləit, səidī·roləit). [f. SIDERO- 1 + -LITE.] A meteorite composed of a mixed mass of iron and stone.

1863 *Phil. Mag.* XXV. 49, I propose calling..the intermediate varieties (including the Pallasites of Rose), in which the iron is continuous and associated with silicate, by the term Aërosiderolites or Siderolites. 1875 *Nature* XII. 522/1 The existence of great masses of siderolites like those of Pallas and from Atacama. 1883 *Science* I. 129/1 The iron has the associations usual in siderolite.

Siderolite 2. [ad. F. *sidérolithe*: see SIDERO- 2.] (See quot.)

1849 CRAIG, *Siderolites*, a name given by Lamarck to those Nummulites which have a stellated appearance, from the margin being bristled with points.

Sideroma·ncy 1. [f. SIDERO- 1.] (See quot.)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Sideromancy* (Ant.), a species of divination performed by burning straws, &c., on red-hot iron, in which operation conjectures were formed from the manner of their burning, &c.

Sideroma·ncy 2. [f. SIDERO- 2.] Forecasting the future by means of the stars.

1859 *Sat. Rev.* VII. 179 What most likely the prophet would in conversation mention as a general scrimmage, but in sideromancy describes as, 'nations bristling with bayonets, &c.'

Si·de-rope. Also 6 **sithe-.** [SIDE *sb.*1]

†1. A trace for a horse. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 339/1 A Syde rape, *retinaculum.* *c* 1520 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 206, ij lytyll lynys callyd syde ropes. 1556 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. N.S.) I. 15 In wheles, ploowes, Iron sydropes, ij shode wheles, with suche nessesaryes, XXV *s.* 1599 *Ibid.* (1861) III. 9, ix draught oxen with duble furniture of yokes, waynes, and sitheropes.

2. A guy attached to a mast or pole.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 13/1 The head of the mast..we may guide..by means of the two side Ropes, as with two Reins.

3. A rope for clambering up a ship's side.

1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xli, You might..have let me had a side-rope, my hearties.

Siderose, *a.* and *sb.* *rare.* [f. Gr. *σίδηρ-ος* iron + -OSE 1. Cf. SIDEROUS *a.*2]

A. *adj.* Similar to (that of) iron.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 4 Weight, siderose: sometimes approaching the barytose.

B. *sb.* = SIDERITE 6.

Named by Beudant (1832).

1856 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 85 Carbonate of Iron (Ironspar; Spathic iron; Siderose).

‖ **Siderosis** (sidĕrō·sis). *Path.* [f. Gr. *σίδηρος.*] Accumulation of oxide of iron in the lungs.

1880 FLINT *Princ. Med.* 186 The changes are similar to those of anthracosis and of siderosis. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 248 Thus authors have described the results of inhaling..metallic particles as siderosis.

†**Sidero·sous,** *a.* *Obs.*—[o] [ad. late L. *sīderōsus*, f. *sīder-*, *sīdus* star.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Syderosous*, Planet strucken; also full of Stars.

Siderostat (si·dĕrostæt). *Astr.* [f. SIDERO- 2, after *heliostat.*] An astronomical instrument by which a star under observation may be kept within the same part of the field of a telescope.

1877 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* (ed. 3) *Vocab.* 916 A form of the instrument [heliostat] specially used for astronomical

purposes is called a siderostat. 1878 LOCKYER *Stargazing* 343 One of the most recent additions to astronomical tools is the Siderostat. 1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* 289 Before the introduction of Foucault's siderostat a telescope would have had to be mounted equatorially, and a clock motion would probably have been necessary.

Hence **Siderosta·tic** *a.*

1879 *Proc. Roy. Soc. Dublin* II. 361 The Siderostatic Telescope..is principally intended for solar spectroscopic investigation. 1885 AGNES CLERKE *Hist. Astron.* 450 An instrument with 'siderostatic' mounting.

† **Si·derous,** *a.*1 *Obs.*—1 [f. L. *sīder-, sīdus* star.] Star-like, sidereal.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xi. (1686) 104 The mystical conjunction of Hawk and Lion, implying the genial or the syderous Sun.

Siderous, *a.*2 *rare.* [f. Gr. *σίδηρος* iron.] Having the qualities of iron; ferreous.

1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* Introd. p. xxxviii, The siliceous, the argillaceous, the magnesian [earths]; contemporary with which two last, was that of the ferruginous, or..siderous. *Ibid.* I. 1. Domain 1. Siderous.

Siderurgical (sidĕrū·ɹdʒikăl), *a.* [f. next + -ICAL.] Pertaining to siderurgy.

1870 tr. *Figuier's Primitive Man* 302 A model..of a siderurgical establishment belonging to the earliest iron epoch. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) IV. Suppl. 470 At present siderurgical industry yields two series of products.

Siderurgy (sidĕrū·ɹdʒi). [a. Gr. *σιδηρουργία* working in iron, f. *σιδηρουργός* an iron-worker, f. *σίδηρος* iron + *ἔργον* work.] The metallurgy of iron and steel.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Durh. Univ. Jrnl.* 20 Mar. 297 The art of siderurgy must have made considerable advances before it was possible to manufacture a flint and steel.

'Sides (səidz), *prep.* and *adv.* Now *dial.* [aphetic f. BESIDES.] Besides; moreover.

1579 E. HAKE *News out of Powles Churchyd.* D iij, All this theyle haue, and else much more, sydes Marchpane and greene Cheese. 1839– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1901 F. HUME *Golden Wang-ho* i, 'Sides, they'll want to—.

Si·de-saddle, *sb.* (and *adv.*). [SIDE *sb.*1]

1. A saddle so contrived as to enable a woman to sit with both feet on one (usually the left or near) side of a horse; in mod. use *spec.* one with horns or crutches to support and give a hold to the knees of the rider, who sits facing forward with the right knee raised.

1493 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 164 Imprimis sol. Willelmo Burton pro emendacione unius syd saddyl quæ fuit dominæ Markyndfeld, 5*d.* *a*1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 214 Wylliam Coffin Master of the Horses leadyng a spare horse with a syde saddle. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 65 King Richard tooke to wife Anne, daughter to the King of Boheme, that first brought hither the riding upon side saddles. 1630 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (ed. 2) 273 The vse of hoppes in our drinke, of riding in coaches, and of side-saddles, but since the time of Richard the 2 here with vs. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Sept., So I went..to take leave, and of Mr. Townsend did borrow a very fine side-saddle for my wife. 1716–8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xxxvi. 134 My side-saddle is the first that was ever seen in this part of the world. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 13 ¶ 8 She has twenty covers for side-saddles. 1823 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 228 Nobody has hinted at a side-saddle or wheeled vehicle for me. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 176 We remounted our side-saddles and galloped homewards. 1880 in Mrs. P. O'Donoghue *Ladies on Horseback* 266 Being able to sit square and ride straight on a side-saddle.

b. Used as *adv.* On a side-saddle; sideways.

1885 *Globe* 5 Nov. (Cassell), Anne of Bohemia exhibited the new fashion of riding side-saddle which she had introduced into England. 1905 SLADEN *Playing the Game* x. 101 The same bench does for natives and foreigners; the natives squat on it or sit on it side-saddle.

2. *attrib.*, as *side-saddle fashion, rider, riding, shoulders.*

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* B 3 With bobbing and bum, Our side saddle shoulders shal sheilde that doth come. 1788 COWPER *Let. to Rev. J. Newton* 19 April, He thenceforth rode behind, in the side-saddle fashion, with both legs on a side, and thus they proceeded till they came near to Oxford. 1893 MRS. A. M. HAYES (*title*), The Horsewoman: a Practical Guide to Side-Saddle Riding. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 8/2, I started in the Haute Ecole, as a side-saddle rider.

3. Side-saddle flower (or **plant**). **a.** An American swamp-plant of the genus *Sarracenia*, the leaves of which retain a considerable quantity of water.

For various explanations of the name see the earlier quots.

1738 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 347 From the Shape of the Flower, they are in Virginia called the Side-saddle-flower. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 19 *Sarracenia Flava.* Yellow Side-saddle Flower...*S. Purpurea.* Purple Side-saddle Flower. ..The name is derived from the fancied resemblance of the stigma to a pillion. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* xxxi. 169 This plant is found in swamps; its common name, Side-saddle flower, is given in reference to the form of its leaf. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 182 They may be seen in the Pitcher plants,..in the Side-saddle plant.., and in many others. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 840/2 The small plants called the American 'side-saddle flowers' (*Sarracenia*).

b. The plant *Darlingtonia californica.*

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 384/1 The only species,..known as the Californian Side-saddle flower or Pitcher-plant, is a perennial herb growing in marshy places.

Hence **Si·de-saddle** *v.*

1778 TICKELL *Prol. to Camp,* Side-saddle my horse! ah, lace my stays! 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* I. 371 So numerous were the animals, saddled, and 'sidesaddled',.. that they were commonly spoken of as 'the cavalry'.

Si·de-shoot. [SIDE *sb.*1 23 c.] A shoot growing out from the side of a stem. Also *fig.*

1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 222 The strongest Side-shoots having Joints sufficient for laying, are to be chosen. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 110 Plant, and propagate by slips and cuttings of the side-shoots, and rooted off-sets. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 129 At no time should more than one flower-bud be allowed to come forward on each side-shoot. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 256 The first step is to trim away the straggling side-shoots. 1890 CHILD *Ballads* IV. 40 This broil was no sooner settled than another sprouted, a side-shoot from the same stem.

Si·de-show. [SIDE *sb.*1 24 d.] A 'show' which is subsidiary to a larger one; a minor attraction in an exhibition or entertainment; hence, a minor incident or issue, a subordinate matter or affair.

1855 BARNUM *Life* xii. 316 In attending to what might be termed my 'side shows', or temporary enterprises, I have never neglected the American Museum. 1884 *Dickens' Dict. Lond.* 24/3 The price of admission is one shilling, besides 'side shows'. 1893 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 2/3 A charity bazaar, and..the entertainments which are given at those places in what are called the side shows.

fig. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Oct. 17/2 General Butler is conducting his Speech-making 'side-show' through New York. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sep. 2/1 The 'side shows', as the various sectional meetings are termed, were all well attended.

attrib. 1894 *Daily News* 28 June 6/5 With so little side-show attraction.

Si·de-slip, *sb.* [f. SIDE *sb.*1 + SLIP *sb.* and *v.*]

† **1.** ? A slope or rise. *Obs.*—1

In mod. Linc. dial. *on the side-slip of* means 'somewhat to the side of'.

1649 in *Archæol.* (1792) X. 434 The scite of this manor house being placed on the side slipp of a rising ground.

2. An illegitimate child. Cf. BY-SLIP 2.

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xl, The old man..left it to this side-slip of a son that he kept in the dark.

3. 'A division at the side of the stage of a theatre, where the scenery is slipped off and on.'

1882 in *Imperial Dict.* (Annandale) Suppl.

4. A slip taken from the side of a plant.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

5. The action or fact of slipping sideways, *esp.* on the part of a cycle or motor-car.

1896 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 4/2 Cyclists..came ignominiously to earth by reason of the demon 'side-slip'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 5/1 A lady cyclist met with a serious accident from side-slip near Leytonstone.

Hence **Si·de-slip** *v.*, to slip sideways.

1887 *Cycling* (Badm. Libr.) 359 Side-slipping.—Most riders of dwarf bicycles have experienced this when riding on greasy roads. 1902 in *Cassell's Dict.* Suppl. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 534/1 They will prance and curvet, sideslip [etc.].

† **Sideslips,** *adv. Obs.*—1 In 4 sideslepis. [Cf. prec.] ? Sideways, aslant.

*c*1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13162 On Borel & Cador þat formest went, þe Romayns a-side [*v.r.* sideslepis] on hem glent.

Sidesman (səi·dzmăn). [f. SIDE *sb.*1 Cf. SIDEMAN.]

1. One of the persons elected as assistants to the churchwardens of a parish.

There is no foundation for the statement, which is as old as the 17th cent., that *sidesman* in this sense is a corruption of *synodsman.* In the 17th cent. *assistant* is sometimes used interchangeably with *sidesman.*

1632 D. LUPTON *Lond. & Co. Carbonadoed, Apparators,* They have much businesse with the Churchwardens and Sides-men. 1667 *Answ. Quest. out of North* 12 There are in all, Threescore and fourteen thousand Churchwardens and Sides-men in England. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 171 A Gift of such Goods, made by them without the Consent of the Sides-men or Vestry, is void. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 45 Two church-wardens, and two sidesmen. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 70 A part of what has, more lately, been reckoned as one duty of the churchwardens,—the making of presentments—was formerly that of the Sidesmen only. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 5/1 General Moberly was for some twenty years a sidesman at this church.

fig. or *transf.* 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 7 But have likewise punctually set downe the office of these sides-men the Hands. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 210 Those Preaching sides-men of Prophesying Congregations. 1886 J. CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 195 On either side, the men of understanding, whom the young king had taken for his sidesmen, had their place.

b. An assistant to a municipal or civil officer. *local.*

1835 *Municipal Corpor. Rep.* 2585 The Sides-men [of Beaumaris] are assistants merely to the town stewards, and similarly appointed. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 156/1 The cutting of the wood in Wedholme fell into the hands of sixteen sidesmen elected by the tenants.

† **2.** A partisan; = SIDEMAN 2. *Obs.*

1648 MILTON *Tenure of Kings* 41 How little leasure would they find to be the most pragmatical Sidesmen of every popular tumult and Sedition? 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 22 He, with his little sides-man Lazarus.

3. A player in the game of bowls.

1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 54 One of the sidesmen runs before, and lays himself down at the spot most suitable for the ball striking, in order that his marrow may direct his aim thither.

4. One who supports another from the side.

1863 *Pilgr. Prairies* I. 271 Placing Wahtogachto on the quietest [horse], supported..by two able sidesmen, [they] took their way across the prairie.

Si·de-step, *sb.* [SIDE *sb.*1 or *adv.*2]

1. A step to one side. Also *Sc.*, a false step wrenching the limb (Jam. 1882).

1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 48 The side or closing step must..be frequently practised. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 6 The length of the side step, which is always taken in quick time, is 10 inches.

2. A step fixed to the side of a ship, vehicle, etc.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 625 *Side-steps,* pieces of wood bolted to the side of a ship for the convenience of ascending.

Hence **Si·de-step** *v.*, to step to one side.

1901 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 422/1 Skipper..raised his head, and side-stepped stiffly.

Si·de-stick. *Printing.* [SIDE *sb.*1 23 b.] One of a pair of sticks, usually of wood, with one side slanting, used in locking up a form.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* p. viii, By Furniture is meant the Head-sticks, Foot-sticks, Side-sticks,..and Quoyns. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Printing,* Some of these are placed at the Top of the Pages, call'd *Head-sticks*;.. others at the Sides, call'd *Side-sticks.* 1808 STOWER *Printer's Grammar* 203 Having dressed the inside of our pages, we proceed to do the same to their outsides, by putting side sticks and foot sticks to them. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXVIII. 12 The inventor claims for them that they are a perfect system of locking-up without side-sticks.

Si·de-table. [SIDE *sb.*1 23.] A table placed beside the wall of a room (*esp.* a dining-room), or to the side of a main or high table.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 200 þo þat seten atte syde table or with þe souereignes of þe halle. 1393—C. XVI. 42 Pacience and ich..seten by ous selue at a syd-table. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 377 Other sustres schal sytte at the syde tables in ther order as they be professyd. 1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 135 We schuld paye noo more for owre burdd but iij s. iiij d. fl. a weke at the hye tabull and ij s. viij d. at the syde tabull. *c* 1500 *For to serve a Lord* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 368 After the high principall tabill sette with brede & salte, thenne salte-selers shall be sette uppon the syde-tablys. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 135 Towards the confines of Flanders, the Hoasts onely cover the table, and a side table, upon which everie passenger hath his glasse. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Sept., The wind, blowing into the room.., flung down a great blow-pott that stood upon the side-table. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 148 ¶ 10, I saw a noble Sirloin on the Side-Table. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 58 Harry ordered a side-table to be covered for him and them. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, Besides which, the Native had private zests and flavours on a side-table, with which the Major daily scorched himself. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* xiii, The pantry-boy and the two kitchen-maids..took their own meals at a side-table in the same room.

Si·de-track, *sb.* Orig. *U.S.* [SIDE *sb.*1 23.] A railway siding.

1881 *Chicago Times* 14 May, The side-tracks of all the roads along nearly their entire lengths were filled with cars loaded with freight. 1894 *Times* 5 May 9/4 The stolen train was eventually run on a side track at Palmer, in Washington State.

Si·de-track, *v.* Orig. *U.S.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To run or shunt (a train, etc.) into a siding. Also *fig.*, to push or set aside.

1881 *Chicago Times* 14 May, It [the corn] has been side-tracked and kept in the sun and rain somewhere along the road. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 19 June 14/1, I saw several new locomotives which had been side-tracked and allowed to go to ruin.

fig. 1889 *Voice* (N. York) 4 Apr., In the end, that course will side-track and defeat the reform. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 56 Such a project was, in fact, sidetracked in favor of the census of school children.

2. *intr.* To run into a siding. Also *fig.*, to diverge from the main road or course.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 650 One train had side-tracked to await the train from the opposite direction. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 8 June, The business of the minister is to preach the gospel, not..to side-track on great moral issues.

Hence **Si·de-tracked** *ppl. a.*, **Si·de-tracking** *vbl. sb.*

1892 *46th Ann. Report Amer. Miss.* 140 These side-tracked brothers and sisters of our own Protestant lineage. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* II. 209 Sidetracking amply sufficient for the great mass of sojourning special trains was provided.

Si·de-view. [SIDE *sb.*1 24 b.] A view of anything obtained or taken from the side. Also *fig.*, a side-reference *to* something.

1715 POPE *Iliad* Pref. C 3, He not only gives us the full Prospects of Things, but several unexpected Peculiarities and Side-Views, unobserv'd by any Painter but Homer. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) II. 75 Only, that I know, she has a side-view to her daughter. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* I. 14 Passion..will snatch off the mask and give..us a side-view of their true form. 1819 *Pantologia* s.v. *Shipbuilding,* The whole length of the ship is represented according to a side-view, perpendicular to the keel. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 105 When both are side-views only of one thing. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 170/2 On the side view, by which the valve is presented to the eye of the observer.

Si·dewalk. Also **side-walk, side walk.** [SIDE *sb.*1 23.]

1. A walk or path running parallel to a main or central one. *rare*—1.

1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* I. ii, 'Tis composed of three walks of cypress-trees; each side-walk leads to a cave...The middle-walk is of great depth.

2. A (raised) path for foot-passengers along the side of a street, road, etc.; a footway or pavement. Now *U.S.*

1739 LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 69 The Side-walks for the Foot-passengers are..raised about a Foot above the Carriage-way. 1815 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1856) X. 125 Walking in the streets of Philadelphia, I met, on the opposite side-

walk, Colonel Joseph Lyman. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* ii, The side walks of the street..are immediately thronged with two long lines of people. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 724/1 On the outside of the sidewalk were planted American elms.

attrib. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 929/2 Little sermons in rhyme that are sure to catch the ear and to become hackneyed as a sidewalk song. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 58/2, I followed the shadows of the sidewalk-trees down to the next corner.

Hence **Si·dewalked** *a.* or *pa. pple.*, having, or provided with, sidewalks or foot-pavements.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 516/2 There is..no sidewalked street. 1893 *Home Mission N. York* LXV. 593 Miles of streets have been opened, graded, planked, and sidewalked.

Si·de-wall. [SIDE *sb.*[1] 23.] A wall forming the side of a structure, room, or enclosure.

1381 *Durham Halm. Rolls* (Surtees) 171 Et quod le sidwall sit in altitudine vij pedes. *c*1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 249 Apone that riche river..The side-wallis war set. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xli. 9 The thicknesse of the syde wall without. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xxi. 352 Which two Proverbs speak no more contradiction, then he that saith that the two opposite side-walls of an house hold up the same roof. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 238 It was almost sidewall high. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 62/2 The rail or side-wall of the Bridge..The height of this side-wall.. must be four foot. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvii, The side-walls had long since given way to time. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 420 Upon this the side-walls are to be founded. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 One sidewall long had in ruins lain.

transf. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 258 The stakes are the means of adding side-walls, as it were, to the hedge. 1882 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 4) 52 Sieve-plate on the side-wall.

Sideward (sə͡i·dwŭɹd), *adv.* and *a.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *sijtwert, zijdwaert.*]

A. *adv.* Towards one side or the other.

*c*1430 *Art Nombryng* 3 We writene in this art to the lift side-warde, as arabiene writene, that weren fynders of this science. *a*1513 FABYAN *Chron.* (1516) v. cxxvii. 64/1 Euyn soo became of hym,..he myghte goo or Ryde frowarde or sydewarde, but towarde the Chapell myght he in no wyse atteygne. *a*1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1605) 278 He fell side-ward downe. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 117 With that blow Amphialus last made, his arm had so O'erstruck it self; that sideward to the ground He fell. 1663 MARQ. WORC. *Cent. Inv.* § 95 Whether the Deer run forward, sideward, or start backward. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 972 Stones far outshooting, or sideward leaving the tee. 1851 TRENCH *Study Words* ii. § 36 The leaps and springs, now forward, now sideward, now upward. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 740 Frenzied blasts came to buffet the steamer forward, sideward.

B. *adj.* 1. Directed, moving, or tending towards one side.

1831 LARDNER *Hydrost.* vii. 131 In sailing vessels this sideward inclination is a matter of comparatively slight importance. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* I. xi. 152 A few weeks before, and they were..striding with a sideward lurch after cows. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Aug. 2/1 The sun..then rises with a slight sideward movement.

2. Situated on one side; lateral.

1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 59 Sharp collision among the blood-discs, passing from sideward veins into a large vessel.

Si·dewards, *adv.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *zijwaarts*, G. *seitwärts.*]

Sydwardys in the *Promp. Parv.* (E. E. T. S.) 410 is app. an error for *sydnandys* SIDENHAND.

1. To one side. Cf. SIDEWARD *adv.*

*a*1648 LD. HERBERT *Life* (1886) 73 When it is requisite only to make a horse go sidewards, it will be enough to keep the reins equal in his hands. 1694 *Martens' Voy. Spitzbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 114 He doth not look downwards, but streight before, and sidewards. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIII. 13 The rash fling sidewards.

2. In a position on one side; aside. Also const. *of* or *from.*

1723 *Pres. State Russia* II. 410 Docks for building of Ships are now Sidewards of the Citadel. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* II. 139 Sidewards from the farm-house lay some offices for the storing of produce and implements. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xiv. 153 And side-wards she, with young unwakened senses, Her simple, homely life commences.

Si·de-waver. *dial.* Also 7 -wiver, 9 -wafer, -wefer. [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] with obscure second element.

With sense 1 cf. the Northumb. *inwaver, inwiver* a bar of wood inside a boat, on which the seats rest. Sense 2 seems to be derived from the verbs *wave* or *waver.*]

1. A purlin.

1611 COTGR., *Filiere*, .. a side-wauer. 1641 *Louth Rec.* (1891) 110 To Carter for two fyne Poules for sidewivers for the schole, vs. vj d. 1671 in Holmes *Pontefract Bk. Entries* (1882) 103 Item, for syde wavers, 2. 0. 0. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray, Bawks*, the large timber beams that support the roof by sign-trees, under the side-wavers. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 351 *Sidewaver*, the purline of a roof. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Arch.* (ed. 5) 377 In some districts purlins are called ribs,..in Lincolnshire side-wavers.

2. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1851.)

1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh., Side-wavers*, the loose sides of a drift or open-cast, which would, if unsupported, soon fall. 1868 SCOTT *Ventilat. Coal-mines* 28 (E. D. D.), A side-wafer, or a frame of stone, most dangerous to look at, as it appeared ready to drop. *Ibid.* 31 The sides of the shaft..had given way; large side-wefers had slidden off.

Si·deway, *sb.* Also side-way. [SIDE *sb.*[1] 23. Cf. MDu. *sijt-, zijdwech* (Du. *zijweg*), G. *seitenweg*, Da. *sidevej*, Sw. *sidoväg.*]

1. A path or way diverging from, or lying to the side of, a main road; a byway: also *fig.*

1552 HULOET, Bypathes, bywaye, or sydewaye, out of the hyghe waye. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 220 We took a side-way towards the towns. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ii. 17 In a path or road where there was no side-way by which the figure could escape. 1874 LISLE CARR *J. Gwynne* I. iii. 69 From this her mind would slant off into a sideway.

2. A (raised) path along the side of a road; a footway. Now *U.S.* Cf. SIDEWALK 2.

1738 RICHARDSON *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 2) III. 319 A Causeway or Walk, well pav'd with flat Freestone, such as the Side-ways in Cheapside and Cornhil. 1852 D. G. MITCHELL *Reveries Bachelor* IV. i. vii, Below, dim figures are gathering on the narrow sideways to look at the solemn spectacle. 1886 *Philadelphia Times* 9 Apr. (Cent.), Every inch of roadway,..and every inch of sideway,..was covered by people.

attrib. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1808) 24 Mark the father 'mid the sideway throng.

Si·deway, *adv.* and *a.* [SIDE *sb.*[1]

A. *adv.* =SIDEWAYS *adv.*

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* (1634) 33 The beames of the Sunne comming oblikely or sideway. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 8 The first course being laid the lesser part out-side; the second the length laid side-way. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 21/2 Maha Rajah then looked at me sideway angrily. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 174 At the distance of a foot sideway it might have got through by piercing the wall alone. *c*1850 LOWELL *Extreme Unction* vi, My snake-turned nature, sunk in slime, Starts sideway with defiant hiss. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Seven Gables* vi, The faint gleam..showed the blanched paleness of her cheek, turned sideway towards a corner.

B. *adj.* Directed or moving towards or from one side; indirect; sidelong.

*c*1800 R. CUMBERLAND *J. de Lancaster* (1809) I. 274 Paying a side-way compliment to his daughter. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iii. 322 But there is hope that from these founts may flow A side-way stream, and equal good bestow. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* iv, [He] turned a slow sideway gaze on the stranger. 1883 *Nonconf. & Independent* 20 Dec. 1146/3 A stolen sideway peep into other men's bosoms.

Sideways (sə͡i·dwē͡iz), *adv.* and *a.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -WAYS.]

1. From one side.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 128 Let him that keepes them, offer them a little meate, not sidewaies, or behinde, but before coying them al the while. 1712 *Spect.* No. 524 ¶ 6 Where they lost the full Prospect of the Radiant Pillar, and saw it but side-ways. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Rabbet*, If the Wind be side-ways, it may do well enough.

2. Presenting the side instead of the face, front, or end; with the side foremost; in the direction of the side; facing to the side, etc.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* 5 But it is a side-wind, and we must alway lie sidewaies in the wind almost untill wee come to the cape de Bona Speranza. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. ix. (1634) 157 A Lion is given sometimes but halfe,..sometime but his head only, which is never borne but sideways, and with one eye. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* Pref. (1720) 6 The Beards..are not to be seen, unless they are laid in a due posture in the Microscope, viz. side-ways. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 344 Taking..five quires off his Heap in both his hands.., he shakes them long-ways and side-ways, to and fro. 1818 COBBETT *Polit. Reg.* XXXIII. 596 Their great Quack..would have pushed them along, either long-ways or side-ways, head-foremost or heels-foremost, through all their difficulties. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* v, Some side-ways, some head first, some stern first. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 140 A..narrow stair, upon which two people could not pass without turning sideways and squeezing.

b. Const. *to* or *towards.*

1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 104 The course of the Ezla..has altered much since the bridge was built. It now stands sideways to the current. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 79 Lucy Armstrong..sat..sideways towards Peters.

3. In a lateral or sideward direction; towards one side; obliquely.

1611 COTGR., *A costiere*, aside, sideling, sidewayes. *c*1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. viii. (Roxb.) 142 And two [guns] of like greatnes..were turned towards the Gallye to shoote sydewayes. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vii. 236 The Atoms may not only fly side-ways, but over likewise and under each other. *a*1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 408 Thus far as to water spouting horizontally, or as we usually say sideways from a vessel. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. xiv, We listened and looked sideways up! 1838 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 191 The horse slipped down side-ways on a hard-frozen slope, and I fell on my shoulder. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 176 He will find that the axis is not then inclined either to or from the Sun, but sideways. 1892 A. RITCHIE *Rec. Tennyson* I. viii. 48 He told me to look..if the field-lark did not come down sideways upon its wing.

b. With a scornful side-glance; askance.

1860 MISS KAVANAGH *Seven Years* III. 142 If any one should look sideways at you for what has passed, let that person expect to settle it with me.

4. So as to incline to one side.

1631 MILTON *Epit. March'ess Winchester* 42 But the fair blossom hangs the head Side-ways. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 333 A beautiful head of a youth bent sideways.

5. At one side (*of* a place).

17.. in *Chambers' Cycl.* (1753) s.v. *Coursing*, No horseman or footman is to go before or sideways, but all strait behind. 1805 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 2 We proceeded ..till we reached a cottage, about a mile sideways of Marston.

6. By an indirect way or route; indirectly.

1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 277 Whatever Provisions were with the greatest difficulty bought up Sideways in the Country and carried to them, were to be paid for double and treble the value. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. i. 260 Side not with Tostig in any violence, Lest thou be sideways guilty of the violence.

7. As *adj.* =SIDEWAY *a.*

1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 253 There will be no sagging, nor any side-ways deflection of the setting guide or the row. 1899 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 5/1 The present Press seats at Lord's are in the grand stand with a sideways view of the game.

Si·de-wind. Also side wind, sidewind. [SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. A wind blowing from one side, or on the side of a vessel, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XI. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Wyndes beþ twelue, foure þerof beþ icleped cardinales, chief windes, and .viii. collaterales, syde windes. *c*1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, þer kynde is for þe moste parte to flee euer in þe wynde, till he be nere ouercome; or at the leste syde wynde so þat it be euer in his nosethrille. 1598 [see SIDEWAYS *adv.* 2]. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xi. 155 The force of the winde continuing still, being a side wind, the Admiralles shippe discovered an opening. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CCXXXVI, One mighty squadron, with a sidewind sped, Through narrow lanes his cumbered fire does haste. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 434 Orators have celebrated the daring courage of the Romans, who ventured to set sail with a side-wind, and on a stormy day. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 56 He ought also to know how to take the advantage of a side wind. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 133 A strong side wind was blowing at the time.

b. In figurative contexts.

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I. i, With a side winde Must I now saile, else I no hauen can finde. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. iii. 157 Some sail to the port of their own praise by a side-wind. 1697 DRYDEN *Ded. Æneis* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 164 All this while I have been sailing with some side-wind or other toward the point I proposed in the beginning.

2. *fig.* An indirect means, method, or manner. Chiefly in phr. *by a side-wind.*

1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independency* I. 119 What they could not carry with a fore-wind, they now brought in againe with a side-wind. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 9 Let us come to a question by a side-wind, rather than by no wind. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, Others..could not forbear some Expressions, which by a Side-wind reflected on me. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 117 Acts of parliament have by a sidewind countenanced and established them. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 18 The fact of which excess only came out by a side wind when the bill was brought forward. 1841 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 12 Feb., Let the House..pass a distinct law against the practice, but not attempt to do it by a sidewind. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. x. 132 This is an attempt to evade and by a sidewind defeat the provision of the Federal Constitution.

3. *attrib.* as *adj.* Indirect, oblique; illegitimate.

1680 OWEN *Union among Protestants* Wks. 1851 XIV. 521 This jurisdiction, exercised with a side-wind power distinct from the public justice of the nation, is a great cause of weakening. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* Pref. 2 Others, by the nipping strokes of a side-wind Satyr, have endeavoured to tickle men out of their Follies. 1812 *Examiner* May 293/1 The sort of side-wind defence which some of his Majesty's Ministers had set up. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xiii. 339 One of those sly, side-wind girds at the French. 1897 *Trans. Devon Assoc.* XXIX. 455 Reginald.., side-wind son of Henry I.

Hence **Si·de-winded** *a.*, =sense 3; also as *adv.*, by a side-wind, indirectly. *rare.*

1710 *New Map Trav. High-Ch. Apostle* 4 [He] had written side-winded for the Pagan Pretender's Title. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 19, I discovered ..by a side-winded inquiry, that he is..worth more than two hundred thousand pounds. 1833 — *Parson's Dau.* II. ii, Emma received these side-winded lectures as her father wished.

Si·de-winder[1]. *U.S.* and *dial.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + *winder* a blow.] A heavy blow with the fist delivered from or on the side. Also *fig.*

*a*1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v., To seize..the opportunity of dealing Recorder Smith what the boys call a side-winder. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Professor* ii, The boys of my time used to call a hit like this a 'side-winder'.

Si·de-winder[2]. *U.S.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + WIND *v.*] A species of rattlesnake, *Crotalus cerastes.*

1888 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* III. 402 The New Mexicans have named this animal the 'side-winder', because of the slightly lateral motion which they have in passing forwards.

Si·de-wipe. *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + WIPE *sb.*]

1. An indirect rebuke, censure, or hint. *dial.*

1757 in Mrs. Barbauld *Life Richardson* (1804) VI. 279 Your third paragraph..is such a mixture of kindness and crossness, of spite and good nature, of side-wipes plain and friendly intimations. 1828– in dialect glossaries (Sc., Yks., Linc., Northampton).

2. =SIDE-WINDER[1].

*c*1850 *Southern Sketches* 31 (Bartlett, 1859), Arch would fetch him a side wipe on the head, and knock him into the middle of next week. 1893 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.*

Si·de-wiper. *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. as prec. + WIPER.]

1. =prec.

1888 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe* 58 Write him a note,..and fling in a kind of side-wiper about New Jersey. 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 94 *Sidewiper*, a blow on the side of anything with a stick.

2. *U.S.* The massasauga, or other rattlesnake of a similar type. Cf. SIDE-WINDER 2.

1889 in *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Crotalophorus.*

Sidewise (sə͡i·dwə͡iz), *adv.* and *a.* [f. SIDE *sb.*[1] + -WISE.]

1. In a lateral direction; to one side; sidewards.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xviii. F b, Go sidewise from thence as afore in a right angle. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 75 Because man, as also all other creatures goe

forward, and not backward or sidewise. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VIII. 222 Whole troopes, and shockes of pikes, sidewise, and foreright, vibrant thrustes in strikes. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b 7 b, These only amongst crustates swimme not, but goe, and that side-wise. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Terra*, A Series of very low.. Leaps, which a Horse makes forward, bearing sidewise. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 296 The men..each moved sidewise, first up, and then down the room. 1854 Greenwood *Haps & Mishaps* 83 Joltings, backwards, forwards, and sidewise. 1880 H. James *Portrait Lady* ii, 'It's a dear old place,' said the young man, looking sidewise at his neighbour.

2. = Sideways 2.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 811 They are not folded round about one another like unto Serpents, but are straightly closed together side-wise. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 151 Some couple laterally or sidewise as wormes. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 102 They gall us front and side-wise like Rams. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* v. 109 A native boat meets us, floating down side-wise with the current. *Ibid.* vi. 150 An old disused water-wheel lying up sidewise against the bank like a huge teetotum. 1880 H. James *Portrait Lady* iii, On the other side..was an old house..standing sidewise to the street.

3. On or from the side.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* II. xviii. (1614) 207 If they beate spice, the morter must lie side-wise. 1723 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 116 They must needs have a woful Effect, when view'd sidewise.

4. In an indirect manner; indirectly.

1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 18 A reasonable soul..is placed in the Predicament of Substance, but side-wise, not directly.

5. = Sideways 4.

1828–32 Webster s.v., To hold the head sidewise.

6. As *adj.* Directed towards one side; sideward.

1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xii, An enjoyment expressed.. by an additional tightness of face, thin elongation of compressed lips, and sidewise look. 1894 *Outing* XXIII. 392/1 As they passed Nan-mogie, each man gave a sidewise bow.

Sideyns, variant of Sithence *Obs.*

‖**Sidi** (sī·dī). Forms: 7 seedi, syddy, 7–8 siddy, 8 siddee, 9 siddhee, seddee, sidi, sidí, seedy. [a. Urdū *sīdī*, Marāthī *siddhī*, ad. Arab. *sayyidī* 'my lord': see Sayyid.] Originally, a title of honour given in Western India to African Mohammedans holding high positions under the kings of the Deccan; in later use, an African, a negro. Now chiefly in comb. *sidi-boy.*

1615 W. Bedwell *Arab. Trudgman*, Seedi, a name or title of honour, yet attributed vnto meane persons. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & Persia* 147 An Hobsy, or Arabian Coffery (they being preferred here to Chief Employments, which they enter on by the name of Siddies). *Ibid.* 168 Syddies. 1757 Grose *Voy. E. Indies* 91 These [islands] were in the hands formerly of Angria, and the Siddies, or Moors. 1761 Cambridge *War in India* 216 The Mogul appointed the Siddee, who was chief of a colony of Coffrees, to be his Admiral. 1813 J. Forbes *Oriental Mem.* III. 167 Among the attendants of the Cambay nabob..are several Abyssinian and Caffree slaves, called by way of courtesy Seddees, or Master. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 197 A long narrow dirty street, crowded with spectators, among whom might be noticed a great number of Sidis or blacks.

Comb. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 3/1 Where Malay jostles Chinaman,..and Arab elbows seedy-boy. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xiv. 233 This form of the disease.. among the Lascars and sidi-boys of steamers trading to India.

Siding (sə·idiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 7, 9 sideing. [f. Side *v.* or *sb.*[1] + -ing [1].]

I. 1. The action of taking sides in a conflict or debate; party spirit, partisanship, factiousness.

Common in the first half of the 17th cent.

1604 Hieron *Wks.* I. 497 When as..men fall to haue great reasoning among themselues, there cannot but follow a kind of division and siding. *a* 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll.* iv. 57 For Sideing is a madnes, where the Hand Acts to a Somewhat we but vnderstand In the Relations. 1661 Baxter *Last Work Believer* Wks. (1846) 255 She was seriously religious without any taint of siding or faction.

attrib. 1605 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 183 Having found that siding course..to be a false ground and ruinous to them that take it. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Heb.* x. 25 It was then, it was afterwards, and is still in these siding and separating times.

b. An instance of taking or forming sides.

Common in 17th cent., sometimes in quasi-concrete use.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* Ded. p. i, The turbulent tempests and bloudy broiles of factious sidings. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xxxviii. 491 Nor indeed is there any thing which had bred more Distempers in the Body of Learning, than Factions and Sidings. 1717 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 323 What gatherings there have been, and sidings of great men mixing themselves in every case almost.

c. Const. *with.*

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 226 It shadeth the minde from the inconveniences of Quarrells, Disputes, Sidings with Opinions. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 421 By reason of his siding with the Muscovian Merchants. 1680 Baxter *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 10 All Christians must earnestly oppose Divisions, and Sects, and sidings with Strife and Envy. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Jan. 6/1 The clear-headed parish priest, whose siding heart and soul with his people is to my mind proof conclusive that they have right on their side.

2. The action of tending or moving to a side.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 62 The variation of the compasse is..a deflexion and siding East and West from the true meridian. 1894 *Daily News* 7 July 6/6 When the bell rings to clear the course, there is again the 'siding' of the little boats to watch.

3. The action of laying out the sides of a field.

1610 Folkingham *Art of Survey* II. ii. 49 Collaterage Actiue, as siding, furrowing,..impayling, immuring [etc.].

4. *U.S.* The action of dressing or trimming the sides of timber.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2175/1 *Siding*,..that part of the operation of forming or trimming ship's timbers, etc., which consists in giving them their correct breadths. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 15 Oct., Mulays were used in siding down for the gang [saw].

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2175/1 *Siding-machine*, a machine for sawing timbers. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 5 Nov., The machinery first put in included a mulay and a siding mill.

II. 5. † **a.** A side of anything. *Obs.*[–1]

1627 Speed *England* xlii. § 2 The forme thereof is Triangle, and differs not much in the Sidings.

b. *U.S.* The boarding forming the sides of a timber building; weather-boarding; also (with *a* and pl.), a piece of this.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Sidings*, a name in America for long wedge-shaped boards, used for the sides or roofs of houses. 1866 *Morning Star* 31 Dec., The necessities of heat in the tropical department enforce the use of large quantities of wood for flooring, sidings [etc.]. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* iv. 89 Strips of weather-boarding, or 'siding', as it is called out West, may be made to take their place.

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2568/2 Siding-tiles are used as a substitute for weather boarding. *Ibid.* 2749/2 *Weather-board*, lapping siding-boards for houses.

6. *Naut.* (See quot. *c* 1850.)

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 399/2 Set off in the half-breadth plan the siding of the middle and after fashion-piece. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 147 *Siding*,..the size or dimensions of timber the contrary way to the moulding, or moulded side. 1869 Sir E. Reed *Shipbuild.* iv. 72 The body post, while retaining a very large siding, has a comparatively small moulding. 1874 Thearle *Nav. Arch.* 10 The logs should be about 14 or 16 inches siding.

attrib. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 283 Siding dimension, in ship-building, implies the breadth of a piece of timber.

7. A short piece of additional track parallel to the main line of a railway or tramway, and connected with it by switches, for enabling trains, trucks, etc., to pass each other or to lie by.

1825 Wood *Pract. Treat. Railroads* 299 BB[1] is a siding or passing for the carriages going in opposite directions. 1849 Sir F. B. Head *Stokers & Pokers* iv. (1851) 50 The carriages, after being unhooked,..are rapidly carried off into the sidings. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. vi. 377 Our journey was brought unexpectedly to an end by the train running into a siding.

attrib. 1850 *Mechanic's Mag.* Nov. 370 Beckers' self-acting siding-stop. 1897 *Daily News* 14 June 7/2 To reduce the accounts of traders for siding rents by 50 per cent.

b. A passing-place in a canal.

1852 *Mechanic's Mag.* July 4 Passing-places or sidings, to enable trains of boats going in opposite directions to meet and pass each other. 1883 Dillwyn *Sp. Parl.* 19 July, To increase the carrying capacity of the Canal..in deepening the channel, or by adding sidings.

Siding (sə·idiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Side *v.* + -ing 2.]

1. Taking the side or part of a person or cause.

1634 Milton *Comus* 212 The vertuous mind, that ever walks attended By a strong siding champion, Conscience. 1645 — *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 243 There is yet to this our exposition, a stronger siding freind, then any can be an adversary. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Wks. (1904) 145 The antique Chronos and his siding hosts.

b. Taking a side; factious, partisan. *rare*[–1].

1661 Baxter *Moral Prognost.* I. xciv. 22 An Opinionative, Modal, and Siding Religiousness, hath ever more Followers ..than true Holiness.

2. Forming a side or border; bordering. *rare*[–1].

1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Wks. (1904) 150 Along the sands of the siding deep..he follows me.

Sidle, *sb.* [f. the vb.] An act of sidling; a sidelong or oblique movement.

1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxi. 108 Turning the sidle into a stately sail, with a haughty sort of sneer. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 394/1 The final sidle up to dock was a very inglorious effort of poling. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 533 Susan coming forward with a coquettish sidle.

Sidle (sə·id'l), *v.* Also 9 *dial.* siddle. [Prob. a back-formation from Sideling *adv.*, on the analogy of verbs in -le 3.]

1. *intr.* To move or go sideways or obliquely; to edge along, esp. in a furtive or unobtrusive manner, or while looking in another direction; to make advances in this manner.

1697 Vanbrugh *Æsop* III, A crab-fish once her daughter told..She could not bear to see her go, Sidle, sidle, to and fro. 1708 Swift *Abol. Chr.* Wks. 1751 IV. 114 No more than one can get in at a time, and that not without stooping, and sideling, and squeezing his Body. 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) IV. iv. 24 Sir Harry..sidled to the door,.. and then slipped out. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 562 Halting on crutches of unequal size;..They sidle to the goal with awkward pace. 1822 Lamb *Elia* II. *On Books & Reading*, I used to admire how he sidled along, keeping clear of secular contacts. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* VII. 63 He sidled into a corner of the room. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. v. 158, I was put on big horses that jumped, and reared, and circled, and sidled.

transf. and *fig.* 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. i, Ever and anon straddling out, or sidling into some..digression. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 92 Ye know the foot-path sidles down the hill. 1841 L. Hunt *Seer* (1864) II. 72 Till 'Smith's Terrace', or some such interloper, came sidling in front of it with forty new tenements. 1866 R. Chambers *Ess. Fam. & Hum.* Ser. I. 151 He sidles into conversation with some overseer of the workmen.

2. *dial.* **a.** To saunter, lounge about.

1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) 95 *Sidle*, to saunter. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To sidle about a place,' to lurk or skulk about. 1841 Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 402 Just sidling about to see sights. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Lincs.*, *Sidle*, to lounge about for some ulterior purpose.

b. (See quot.)

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To sidle about a person,' to attend him obsequiously. 1855 [see Sidling *ppl. a.*].

3. *trans.* To move, turn, or direct sideways.

1779 T. Twining in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 62 Let us at least..give it a little gloss of novelty, by spelling it Tuineing,..or something that shall sidle us away a little from those vulgar tribes of Western Twinings and Twynings. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 138 Shoving, sidling, and swerving the said ill-fitting drawer into its original position. 1855 Browning *Old Pictures in Florence* x. 7 Not sidling a glance at the coin of their neighbour. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* iii. 90 He sidled his horse towards the fence and picked a rosy apple from the bough.

Sidling (sə·idliŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 8 sideling. [f. Sidle *v.* + -ing [1].] The action of the vb. Sidle; an instance of this.

1759 *Compl. Lett. Writer* (ed. 6) 225 Her sidling, and swaddling, and foolish unalterable simper. 1792 *Elvina* I. 139 It was not 'till after many sidlings and swimmings that she was prevailed on to sit down. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* v. (1855) 127 To start off at full speed, and thus to get the wheels to 'bite' again, is the only way to redeem an incipient sidling.

Sidling (sə·idliŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Sidle *v.* + -ing 2.] That sidles, in the senses of the vb.

1855 [Robinson] *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sideling*, insinuating by word or action. 'A sideling, wheedling sort of a body.' 1864 *Realm* 27 Apr. 1 An apparently quiet, inoffensive, purring, gliding, sidling animal. 1898 Mrs. H. Ward *Sir G. Tressady* 414 [He] walked with rather sidling steps to the door.

Hence **Si·dlingly** *adv.*

1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-Cap* 805 Hand in hand,— Or side by side,..On every good work sidlingly they went.

Sidling, variant of Sideling.

Sidonian (səidōu·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 Syd-, Zid-. [f. L. *Sīdōni-us*, a. Gr. Σιδώνιος, f. Σιδών (Phœn. and Heb. *Tsīdōn*), the Phœnician city of that name.]

A. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Sidon.

The Wycliffite versions of the Bible use *Sidonees* (*-eis*), *Sidonyes* (*-yis*), etc. In *Deut.* iii. 9 Coverdale has *Sidons.* The usual spelling (*Zidonian*) in the 1611 version is due to the Hebrew form.

1535 Coverdale *Judges* x. 12 Did not..the Sidonians, the Amalechites and Maonites oppresse you? 1611 Bible *Deut.* iii. 9 Which Hermon the Sidonians call Syrion. *Ibid.*, *Judges* xviii. 7 They were farre from the Zidonians. *a* 1701 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 31 The second [city was the seat] of the Sidonians. 1788 Lemprière *Class. Dict.* (1792), *Tyrus*, a very antient city of Phœnicia, built by the Sidonians. 1857 Wilkinson *Egypt. Pharaohs* 102 The Greeks were indebted to the Sidonians for many secrets in the working of metals.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Sidon.

1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. i. 213 The kingly seate of Southerne Libia, Whereas Sidonian Dido rules as Queene. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 71 By her..habite, or attire, *id est*, her Sidonian cloake. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 441 Astoreth,..To whose bright Image nightly by the Moon Sidonian Virgins paid their Vows and Songs. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* II. ii. 274 Garments tinctur'd with Sidonian Dye. 1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* 142 This language.. was the idiom of the Sidonian and Tyrian states. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 193 To a later period of the Sidonian workshops may probably be referred a number of small bottles of various forms.

Sidre, -ur, obs. forms of Cider.

Sidth. *dial. rare.* Also sith. [f. Side *a.* + -th.] Length; depth.

1855 *Norfolk Wds.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 36 As we say, 'the width and the sith,' or the sidth. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Sidth*, the measurement of the side of an object,—'lenth, width, and sidth'. 1882 in *Lancs. Gloss.* 1891 Jessie Fothergill *Kith & Kin* 93 A gown should be ..walking width and striding sidth.

† **Si·dy,** *a.*[1] *dial. Obs.* (See quot.)

1674 Ray *S. & E. Co. Wds.* 77 *Sidy*: surly, moody. Suss. [Hence in later glossaries.]

Sidy (sə·idi), *a.*[2] *colloq.* [f. Side *sb.*[2]] Inclined to 'put on side'; conceited.

1898 *Woman at Home* Oct. 57/1 Tommy wasn't half a bad fellow once...I never counted him sidey. 1899 *Daily News* 22 June 7/3 A 'sidy chap' is universally detested, and every chance is seized to 'take him down a peg'.

Sie, *sb.* and *v.*: see Sye. **Siec,** obs. f. Sick.

† **Siecle.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 sekil, sekyll, syecle, 6 seicle, siecle, secle. [a. OF. *secle, siecle* (mod. F. *siècle*), ad. L. *sæculum*: see Secular. The mod.F. form is occasionally used as a foreign word, esp. in the phrase *fin de siècle* (q.v.).]

1. The world (in the religious sense).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 37 When any wymmen of þe sekil.. cummis at aske þordir [= the order], man salle noght light-like gif it tam. *Ibid.* 39 When any riche man of þe sekil.. offirs his dogtir til god and til haly kirke. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2500 Of his leuyng þai suld noȝt wondir, Na halde it haly all þof it ware Solitary fra þe sekyll fare.

2. An age or period.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 429/1 The whyche god creatour.. be thanked..by all the syecle and syecles. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 3 The verteouse verkis dune be ȝour antecessours in oure dais ar euident til vs in this present seicle. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 125 Yet those trifles are come from many former siecles vnto our times.

3. A century.

c 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1079 The Romayns [reckoned] by lustres, whiche ben fyve yeres :..a secle is an hundred yere.

† **Siede,** *v. Obs.*[–1] [a. MDu. *sieden* (Du. *zieden*): see Seethe *v.*] *trans.* To boil.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 30 Ye may doo what ye wille, ..ye may siede me, or roste, hange, or make me blynde.

Siedge, obs. form of SIEGE.

† Sief. *Obs. rare.* Also sieff, seif. [ad. Arab. شياف *shiyāf*, f. شوف to see, to adorn oneself.] (See quots.)

c 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* F iij, Sief is a confectyon made after the fashion of a suger lofe & most be dyssoluyd in licour before it be receiuid. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 128 The Collirium or Sieff that follows, is useful. [1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Collyrium*, is an oblong or round Tablet or Trochisk, used formerly in Distempers of the Eyes; and was then called by the Arabian Name of *Seif* or *Sief*.]

Siege (sīdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 sege (5 cege, seche), 4–5 segh(e; 4 seeg, 6–7 seege, seage, 6 saige; 4–5 sige, 5– siege, 5–6 syege, 5–8 seige; 5 sedche, 6 sedge, syedge, 7 seidg(e, si(e)dge, segge. [a. OF. *sege, seige, siege* (mod.F. *siège*) :— pop. L. **sĕdĭcum*, f. **sĕdem* (L. *sēdem, sēdes*) seat. Hence also MDu. *siege, siegye, siedse* seat, siege.]

I. † 1. A seat, *esp.* one used by a person of rank or distinction. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 Þeos sege & teos seoue crunen haueð þi diciple þeos ilke niht of earned. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 228 Seue taperes weren in þe queor..And foure-and-twenti segene;..And þe Abbodes sege was a-midde þe queor. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 93 'Oure syre syttes,' he says, 'on sege so hyȝe'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 221 þerynne is.. dyuers oute goynges, benches, and seges [L. *sedilia*] all aboute. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3259 He..ledde hym to his tente,..And in his real seege and his chaiere As blyue hym sette. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. ii. 101 The Bisshop..blessid the syeges with grete Royalte..and there sette the viij and xx knyghtes in her syeges. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 153 The scribe in writing..Sitting in his siege acloyde with couetise. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 39 Guyon..From lofty siege began these words aloud to sound. 1614 LODGE *Seneca* 148 The sieges in a Theater ordained for Knights, appertaine to all Knights of Rome. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Masque Oberon* 213 *note*, The Knights masquers sitting in their severall sieges.

fig. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 22, I fetch my life and being, From Men of Royall Seige.

† b. An ecclesiastical see. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2813 Change worþ of bissopriches & þe digne sege iwis Worþ ybroȝt to kaunterbury, þat at londone nou is. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7760 He sente to Rome, to seint Romeyn,..He kepte þe sege of the apostoylle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 398 Quhen pape cornel þe sege of rowme gouernyt wele. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 50 So þat ani þing be askid for bischoppis, abbots, or oþer personis, to be putt in þer segis. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 21 The kirk of Alexandrye.. said that sanct Petir maid his sege thare and his charter. 1547 *Bk. of Marchaundes* C vj, A woman which held and possessed the pontifical syedge two yeres. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* IX. (1599) 367 A day wherein..are offered the tributes which are due to the seege Apostolike.

† c. *Sc.* A bench or form; a class. *Obs.*

1560 *Bk. Discipline* in Knox *Hist. Ref.* (Wodrow) II. 213 In the first Colledge..of the Vniversitie thair be four classes or saigeis. *a* 1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow) 69 Upon this premonition he continowes halff a yeir as guid a bern as was in the seage.

† d. A class or category. *Obs.*—1

1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 109 Wee shall first proceed with such as follow, being ranked in the same siedge, because recreations of the same nature.

† 2. A place in which one has his seat or residence; a seat of rule, empire, etc. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. (1868) 13 Is þis þe librarie wyche þat þou haddest chosen for a ryȝt certeyne sege to þe in myne house. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xix. 211 In that Cytee was the firste Sege of the Kyng of Mancy. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 194/2 He ordeyned and Instytuted Parys to be the chyef syege of the royame. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xliii. 206 He [Constantine] made his siege Bizantium, that retaines his name ere since. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 138 They may be fitly compared to the Hedge-hogge, who hath two holes in his siedge: one towards the South, another towards the North.

fig. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 56 He fixed her so fast in the siege of his remembraunce, as if he had been a yonge man. 1591 LODGE *Catharos* vi. 56 The braine, which according to some Philosophers is the siege of humane seed.

† b. The place in which a thing is set, or on which a ship lies. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2183 þe dore..fleȝ Out of þe Hokes & fram hir sege x. vet y-mete wel neȝ. 15.. *Ship Laws* in *Balfour's Pract.* (1774) 622 (Jam.), Gif the ship be on ane hard saige, the master sould gar the shipman amend it incontinent, that the ship tak na skaith.

c. The station of a heron on the watch for prey. A *siege of herons* is included in most of the old lists of 'companies of beasts and fowls'.

c 1452 in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1909) III. 51 Sege of Betowrys. Sege of hayrynnys. Sege vnto a Castelle. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 113 Having found the Hearon at siege you must get you with your Falcon up into some high place. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, A hearn put from her siege ..shall mount So high [etc.]. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 205 If you finde a wild Hern at Siege.

† 3. A privy. Also *to go to siege*, to go to stool, to ease oneself. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 22 (Add. MS.), 3if he may noȝt go to sege onys a day, helpe hym þereto opere wit clysterye, opere with suppositorye. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 122 þis clerk..slew þaim bothe, & cut þaim in pecis & keste þaim in a sege. 1544 PHAER *Pestilence* (1553) O j b, He ought euery day to goe to siege once. 1555 BP. BONNER *Prof. & Necess. Doctrine* U j, Dooe they passe into the seage from us as other meates doe?

† b. Evacuation. *Obs.*

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 954 in *Babees Bk.*, Aftur slepe and sege, honeste will not hit denay. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 55 b, If he which oftentymes unconstrayned hath had great sieges, be sodeynly stopped. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 574 The juyce of the wilde Letuce..scoureth by siege the waterie humours. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. v. 19 The philosophicall salt is of greatest virtue and force to purge:..whether it bee the belly, by siege;..or the body, by sweate. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 244 Clogging medicines..are..carryed off by seidge. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresney's Anusem.* 97 The Patient should swallow as much *Aqua Fortis*, as would dissolve the Knife.., and bring it away by Seige.

† c. Excrement, ordure. *Obs.*

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* ii. Wks. (1570) B iv, The lordes siege & rurall mens ordure Be like of Sauour. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 Make pillets thereof..and put that into the bodye; the same retayneth the sege. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 72 Then he tels you that his Sieges were blacker then broth. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 183 Less is discussed out of us, with a small and more hard siege or excrement.

d. *Comb.*, as *siege-hole, -house.*

1440 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 194 The sege houses in þe Westorcherd were graunte to hym. 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 87 For clensyng of the Sege holis, xviij d. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 170 b, A segehouse wold be vnder the open aire betwene two wallis. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* I. 353 It is hid in a .. Siege-house or Jakes, where people Seldome come.

† 4. The anus or rectum. *Obs.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 5 The same refrayne the vp braythinge into the head and driue downward to the siege. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 37 It helpeth..the inflammation of the eyes, and fundament or siege. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 144, I beheld them excluded by the passage of generation, near the orifice of the seidge. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 213 His body was diseas'd in his youth with a great soreness in the Siege.

5. *techn.* **a.** The floor of a glass-furnace.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The central space is occupied by the grate-bars; and on either side is the platform or firebrick siege. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 136 The rocky crust of clay left by the old pot on the furnace siege.

b. A hewer's table or bench.

1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 329 To roll up a large stone to the sort of block-bench, or *siege*, as it is technically termed, on which the mass had to be hewn.

II. 6. The action, on the part of an army, of investing a town, castle, etc., in order to cut off all outside communication and in the end to reduce or take it; an investment, beleaguering. Also const. *of.*

In early use sometimes approaching the concrete sense of 'investing force'. For the phrases *to lay* and *to raise a siege* see LAY *v.*[1] 19 and RAISE *v.*[1] 27.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7070 Her-of thar naman be in were, Forqui þe sege lasted ten yeire. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1909 *Ariadne*, Nysus doughtyr stod vp-on the wal, And of the sege saw the maner al. 1415 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* ii. 197 Rede the storie of Lancelot de Lake,..The seege of Troie or Thebes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liii. 200 He was not seen of theym that were atte the syege. 1515 *Scot. Field* 48 in *Chetham Misc.* II, Now leve we our king lying at the sedge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 42 After many battels and sundry sieges, he subdueth them. 1609 DEKKER *Peace is Broken* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 165 So many troubles..following both the armies (by meanes of the tedious Siege). 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* I. 12 Why fear you this seige.., secured by these walls and souldiers? *a* 1738 SWIFT *Hen. I*, Wks. 1768 IV. 275 In hopes to draw the enemy from the siege of so important a place. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) I. 237/1 He returned to the siege of Chalcedon. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. x, We must ..instant pray our Sovereign Liege, To shun the perils of a siege. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 383/2 The penetrating power of the arms which would now be used at a siege is far greater than it used to be.

fig. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxv, O how shall summers hunny breath hold out Against the wrackfull siedge of battring dayes. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D j b, He lay hard siege to her. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* iv. § 4. 29 So that noe part of the body..be free from the siege of the dense body that presseth it. *c* 1700 DRYDEN *Theo. & Hon.* 33 Love stood the siege, and would not yield his breast. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 93 ¶ 3 Interest and passion will hold out long against the closest siege of diagrams and syllogisms. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvi, From this [work] we escaped, having had a pretty good siege with the wooding.

b. Without article. *To lay siege to*: see LAY *v.*[1] 19.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacob*) 443 To Ierusaleme..[he] com..& gret sege gert till It lay. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. 38 Sone Sire Rollo wiþ his Route Bi-sette þat Citee wiþ sege a-boute. 1436 HEN. VI in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 109 Kyng Edward..lay at sege at the seid towne. 1513 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 9 The King of England that tyme lyenge at seege before Turney in France. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xi. 5 That castle to assaile..And lay strong siege about it. 1673 TEMPLE *United Prov.* Wks. 1720 I. 26 He took the Place, after three Years Siege. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xvi, If my Liege May win yon walls by storm or siege. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 415 Since the king declared Paris in a state of siege. 1873 MRS. H. KING *Disciples, Ugo Bassi* vii. (1877) 258 Though choleric at times, Still a good ruler for a state of siege.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly designating apparatus, etc., used in carrying out a siege, as *siege-artillery, -carriage, -gun, -machine, -park*, etc.; also *siege-craft, -day*, † *-garland, -operations, -ward.*

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv. Fire and thunder of siege and field artillery. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 625 *Siege-artillery*, the ordnance..used for overpowering the fire and destroying the defences of a fortified place. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2175/1 It is mounted on a *siege-carriage, and forms part of the train of an army. 1898 *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 603/1 There is..a treatise on *siegecraft in the Vatican Library. 1884 *Mil. Engin.* I. II. 17 Separate intermediate depôts..containing the necessary supplies for a '*siege day'. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 116 The same was called also an Obsidionall coronet or *siege-garland. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Siege-gun*, a heavy gun..used to batter down or effect a breach in an enemy's wall. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2175/2 Siege-gun carriages differ from those of ordinary field-pieces in being stronger and heavier. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxii. X. 621 Having provided himself with fresh *siege-machines. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ii. III. 194 There ensued a ringing frost;—not favourable for *Siege-operations. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Oct. 11 If..the German *siege-park is composed of some four or five hundred guns. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Park*, A siege park comprises the guns collected together at the commencement of the investment of a fortress. 1859 GLEIG *Life Wellington* xviii, He had no *siege-train at hand, nor any other means wherewith to approach the place in regular form. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 384 *Siege Train*, the men, guns, and material collected together for the conduct of a siege. *Ibid.*, **Siege Wagon*, a general service wagon fitted with movable trays for shot and shell. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xiii. 353 They..sien there Tholome..That Comeng was tho to the *segeward. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 135 Five-feet *siege wheels with metal naves. 1888 *Century Mag.* Sept. 660/1 Pope..surrounded the place by *siege-works in which he could protect his men.

Siege (sīdʒ), *v.* Forms: 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) sege, 5 seyge, 5 (6–7 *Sc.*) seige, 6 *Sc.* saige, 4– siege; 6 sedge, 6–7 siedge. [f. prec., or aphetic f. ASSIEGE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To besiege, beleaguer, lay siege to.

13.. *K. Alis.* 2667 (Laud MS.), Quyklich to Tebe toun Hij weinten & seged it environ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 348 Anon this Cite was withoute Belein and sieged al aboute. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 226 þer was..neuer cetie þat he segid bod he wan it. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1662 The cuntre rais, quhen thai herd off sic thing, To sege Dowglace. 1515 *Scot. Field* 23 in *Chetham Misc.* II, Then our king..Saith 'I will sedge it aboute, within this seaven daies'. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 89 The kyng of France vas past ouer the alpes to seige paue. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 165 There plant thy Cannon, siedge her round about, Be sure (my Boy) she cannot long hold out. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dial.* iii. Wks. 1874 VI. 141 Great Babylon, Mighty in walls, I sieg'd, and seised on. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIII. 333/1 'Tis not for me our arduous toils to shew; Nor tell 'midst dangers how we sieg'd the foe. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* IV. iv, They sieg'd him a whole summer night. 1893 *Nat. Obs.* 7 Jan. 184/2 He lived in the Castle when the French sieged it.

† 2. To place; to seat (oneself). *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Orig. Cron.* III. ix. 1086 Qwhar euir þat stane ȝe segit se, þar sal þe Scottis be regnande. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Godfr. Bulloigne* (1881) 74 Part on the right, part on the left this band Siedgeth it selfe, their wreakfull king before. Pluto sits in the mids.

Hence **Sieged** (sīdʒd) *ppl. a.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* V. (1593) 125 A chil-cold swet my sieged limmes opprest. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 140 These two could not agree, which he should part To sucker sieged frends. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* V. 205 Since in a sieged towne, I thought our horse-meate would be scant. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xviii. 415 Who, to remove the foe from sieged Harflew, sent, Affrighted them like death. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. vii, In sea-storms and sieged cities and other death-scenes.

† Sie·geable, *a. Obs.*—1 [f. SIEGE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being besieged.

1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. xxxvi. 84 He entrenched it on that side it was siegeable.

Siegenite (sī·gēnəit). *Min.* [f. *Siegen* in Westphalia.] A nickeliferous variety of linnæite.

1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 68 Siegenite..is a Nickel-Linnæite. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 44 Nickel-Linnæite. Siegenite. Linnæite..in which a considerable proportion of the cobalt is replaced by nickel.

Sie·ge-piece. [SIEGE *sb.* 6.]

1. A coin or piece of money, characterized by unusual shape and imperfect workmanship, struck and issued during a time of siege.

1736 FOLKES *Gold Coins* 7, I have among the Siege-Pieces seen a Twenty-Shilling Piece of Gold, struck at Pontefract. 1798 H. WALPOLE *Reminis.* in *Lett.* (1857) I. p. xcii, My narrative will probably resemble siege-pieces, which are struck of any promiscuous metals. 1853 HUMPHREY *Coin-coll. Man.* i. 5 The rude 'siege pieces' struck without coining apparatus in different parts of the kingdom. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Notes Coins* 12 There are various siege pieces of Charles I, who never in all his extremities resorted to the expedient of a debased coinage.

2. A piece of ordnance employed in sieges.

1799 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 25/1 The French found in the towers of Joppa ten pieces of cannon and about twenty indifferent siege-pieces.

Sieger (sī·dʒəɹ). Now *rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* segear, 6–7 seiger. [f. SIEGE *v.* + -ER.] A besieger.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. ix. (S.T.S.) II. 279 It had done during all þe said tyme mare dammage to þe segearis þan It gat. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) B v, He ordeyned that the house shoulde be sette aboute with his siegers. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. (1623) 555 He gaue commaund to his Seneschalle..to withdraw the Seigers. 1774 *Poetry* in *Ann. Reg.* 215 The more delay the siegers found..More fierce they mount the breach. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxix, Then let us make a fair sally upon the siegers. 1842 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. iv. (1874) 41 To..take his part With siegers or besieged.

Sieging (sī·dʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SIEGE *v.*] The action of besieging; a siege.

13.. *Cursor M.* 7070 (Gött.), Here-of thar na man be in were, For qui þe seging lastid ten 3ere. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxix. 3, I shal kaste a3en thee an hep, and the strengthis I shal sette in to thi seging. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxi. 255 Thenne the duke besegid long this castelle. And as thei wer thus in segeing [etc.]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 855 Wallace..At Sanct Jhonstoun was at the segeyng still. 1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 431 To Hannis, gunnar,..for to pas in the Ilis to the segeing of Carneburgh. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 18 S. Jhones toun, efter lang seigeng, is tane. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. v. (1872) I. 435 Stralsund has been taken, since that, by Prussian sieging.

attrib. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* I. iv, On plains [which] no sieging mine's volcano shook. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, Well for them, that Insurrection has only pikes and axes; no right sieging-tools! 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. xii. (1872) VIII. 21 Friedrich is not thought to shine in the sieging line as he does in the fighting.

Siegnior, obs. f. SIGNOR. **Siek(e,** obs. ff. SICK. **Siel,** obs. f. CEIL *v.*, SEEL *v.*; var. SILE *v.* **Sieling,** obs. f. CEILING. **Siely,** obs. f. SEELY. **Sien(ce,** obs. ff. SCION. **Sienc(e,** obs. ff. SCIENCE.

Sienese (sɑiĕnī·z), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Siennese.** [f. *Siena, Sienna* (see def.) + -ESE.]

A. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of Siena, a city in Tuscany.

1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 86 The Siennese produce this inscription to invalidate the boast of the Florentines. *c* 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XII. 479/1 For a while the Siennese flattered themselves that their liberty would be recoverable. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 43 The Sienese took possession of their fortress.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Siena.

c 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XII. 499/2 They obtained possession of many of the Siennese ports. 1850 Mrs. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 392 In a rare Sienese print of the fifteenth century. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 73 The winged boys of the Siennese Masters.

Sienite, Sienitic, var. SYENITE, SYENITIC.

Sienna (si,e·nă). Also 8 siena. [Elliptic for *terra di Sienna*: see SIENESE.] **a.** A ferruginous earth used as a pigment in oil and water-colour painting (called *burnt sienna* when it has been exposed to a red heat). **b.** The colour of this pigment, a rich reddish brown. Also *attrib.* or *Comb.*, as *sienna-brown, -red.*

[1760 SHENSTONE *Wks. & Lett.* III. 309 A terra-sienna or very rich reddish brown. *Ibid.* 314 Terra-sienna is a delightful colour.] 1787 W. WILLIAMS *Mech. Oil Colours* 44 Siena earth..is a fine colour, but comes little into use. [1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 642 Fawn-colour with burnt terra de sienna, or burnt umber and white.] 1853 *Zoologist* II. 4059 Minute granules of a rich sienna-brown hue. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 150 They are of a light-green color,..speckled with sienna and other rich shades of brown. 1876 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Oct. 4/1 Satchels of seeds, deep purple, sienna red, russet gold, and green.

Siennese, var. SIENESE. **Siens, Sienz,** obs. ff. SCIENCE. **Siens, Sient,** obs. ff. SCION. **Sier, Sierce, Sierge,** obs. ff. SIRE, SEARCE, CIERGE.

‖ Sierra (si,e·ră). Also 7 ser(r)a. [Sp. *sierra*:—L. *serra* saw.]

1. In Spain and parts of America now or formerly Spanish: A range of hills or mountains, rising in peaks which suggest the teeth of a saw.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 873 Peru is diuided into three parts, which they call Llanos, Sierras, and Andes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 445 Spaine generally, is a masse of mountaines,..the Rockie Seraes or Alpes so innumerable. 1691 EVELYN *Corr.* (1879) III. 469 There are vast ones [caves] under those Alps & Sierras from whence our rivers derive their plentifull streames. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 68 The Andes and Scirras [*sic*] are two Ridges of Mountains that run from North to South. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xxxii, Doth Tayo interpose his mighty tide? Or dark Sierras rise in craggy pride? 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* III. v, Although the bleak winds of the sierra gave an austerity to the climate. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 673/1 The sierra of Peru may be..divided into four sections.

attrib. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 422 *Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis*,..Sierra Jay.

b. In general use: A mountain-range of this description.

1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* XXXII. (1853) 141 Their rocky sierras on the east separated Azerbîjân from..the shores of the Caspian. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 96 The main range of Djebel Shomer, a long purple sierra of most picturesque outline.

2. *Astr.* = CHROMOSPHERE.

1851 G. B. AIRY in *Mem. R. Astron. Soc.* XXI. 7, I saw that the sierra, or rugged line of projections,..had arisen. 1871 PROCTOR *Light Sci.* 97 The objectionable word *chromosphere* (for *chromatosphere*) should be replaced by *sierra*. 1883 — in *19th Cent.* Nov. 876 In the sierra or chromatosphere the presence and nature of many other vapours are noted.

Hence **Sie·rran** *a.*

1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown*, etc. 92 It was in a Sierran solitude, where I had encamped. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 673/1 Sierran flora.

Sierse, obs. form of SEARCE *v.*

Sie·st, *v.* [f. next.] *intr.* To take a siesta.

1839 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1852) IV. vi. 76, I addressed a full church and siested as usual.

‖ Siesta (si,e·stă). [Sp. *siesta* (Pg. *sesta*):—L. *sexta* sixth (hour); hence, in Sp. and Pg., the hottest part of the day, rest or sleep taken at this time.] An afternoon rest or nap; *esp.* that commonly taken during the hottest hours of the day in tropical countries.

1655 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. i, When he slept his *Siesta* (as the Spaniard calls it) or afternoon sleep. 1667 EARL BRISTOL *Elvira* I. in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) XII. 147 What, sister, at your Siesta already? if so, You must have patience to be wak'd out of it. 1788 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 76 We have just risen from our *siesta*, and have no news. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* (1817) I. 156 Without his siesta and segar,..he would think his lot a hard one in this world. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xix, After dinner we usually took a short siesta, to make up for our early rising. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. viii. 243, I must go and get my siesta, or I shall be as stupid as an owl all the evening.

fig. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 29 Most men prefer a sleeping conscience to a tender one; and for such the Romish Church offers a perpetual siesta. 1884 SIME *To & Fro* 8 On duty which knows no siesta.

b. Without article.

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 123, I called with my handkerchief full of segars for the father, but he was at siesta, as they called it. 1869 MRS. S. HAWTHORNE *Notes Eng. & Italy* III. ii. 322 It was the hour of siesta, and the monks were..fast asleep. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 318 Deep recesses on either side for cushioned luxurious siesta.

† **Siester,** Anglicized form of SISTRUM. *Obs.*

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Plectron*, a fiddle-stick, or a siester pen.

Sie·stose, *a. rare* —1. [f. SIESTA.] Reposeful, indolent.

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* VII. 516 They prefer to enjoy a siestose negation not merely of comforts but of necessaries rather than to labour.

Sieth, variant of SITHE *v.*, to strain.

Siethe, obs. form of SCYTHE.

Siethes, variant of SITHES, chives.

Sieve (siv), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **sibi,** 1–2 **sife,** 1–2, 5–6 **syfe** (**syfa**), 4 **syfue,** 4, 6 **syffe,** 5 **syff,** 6–7 **siff**; 4 **seyf,** 5 **seyfe, sefe,** 6 **seiffe.** *β.* 4–7 **sive** (**siue**), 6 **cive**; 4–6 **syve** (**syue**), **cyve** (**cyue**), 6 **scyve.** *γ.* 4–6 **seve** (**seue,** 5 **sewe, ceve**), 6 **seeue, ceeue,** 7 **seeve,** 6–7 **seave.** *δ.* 7 **seive, scieve,** 6– **sieve.** [OE. *sife*, = MDu. *seve* (Du. *zeef*), MLG. *seve* (LG. *seve, sefe*, etc.), OHG. *sib, sip* (G. *sieb*, also dial. *sib, sip, siff*, etc.). The stem, which may be ultimately related to that of SYE, to strain, is the base of SIFT *v.*]

1. A utensil consisting of a circular frame with a finely meshed or perforated bottom, used to separate the coarser from the finer particles of any loose material, or as a strainer for liquids.

In agricultural and similar work a *sieve* is usually distinguished from a *riddle* by having finer meshes.

α. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 873 *Crebrum*, sibi. 9.. *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 215 *Crebrum, cribellum*, sife. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 94 Asift þurh sife, meng wiþ hunige. 1396–7 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 214, 1 syffe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 20 Take Appelys an sethe hem, an Serge hem þorwe a Sefe in-to a potte. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 339/1 A Syfe, *crybrum*. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 110 For ane siff to sift gunpowdir, ij s. 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Syfe to cyfte corne in, *crible*. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Excerniculum*, a sife or boulteclaith.

β. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1946 A siue he fond tite, And bond vnder his fete. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 529 Fan, berelep, and syue. 1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* XXVII. 5 As in the smyting of a cyue shal abide stille pouder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cyve for corne clansynge, *cribrum, cribellum*. Cyve, for mele, *furfuraculum*. 1530 PALSGR. 205 Cyve to syfte with, *crible*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 184 You must strain the waxe through a siue, or such like thing. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. XXI. 136 Here they had great plenty of rain, poured (not as in other places, as it were out of sives, but) as out of spouts. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 95 The dust..sticks to the faces of those that handle the Sive.

γ. c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 138 W[oman] weruth seue and riddell. 1357–8 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 181 In ij seves et j redel emptis. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 219 Boile it longe in watir, & þanne cole it þoru3 a seue. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Take a seve or a whete-rydoun. 1577 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees, 1835) 422 Five ryddells and seaves to wynnowe corne, x^d. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 33 If you would keep your rose cakes without worms, you must..set them in ceeues. *c* 1620 BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 136 Our memory is like a seave. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. 19 Take Ashes burnt from any light Wood..and put them into a Seeve.

δ. a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 665 Like sieues which hold water no longer than they are in the Riuer. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 251 Sieves..to sift the Lime and Sand withal. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 197 When it boils strain it through a fine sieve. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 30 The discs..striking against the sides of the sieves, force it through the apertures. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 113 The upper part of the cone was perforated like a sieve.

b. In phrases denoting something that cannot be done, or that is waste of labour.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 294 For as a Sive kepeth Ale, Riht so can Cheste kepe a tale. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 17 As he that fetcheth Water in a Sive. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* i. (1570) A vj/1 Such thinges..To thee be as sure as water in a siue. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 48 Suppose she were a Vestall,..shee might carrie water with Amulin in a siue. 1616 HIERON *Wks.* I. 586 That which is said in the prouerb, where one doth milke a goate, another holds vnder a siue. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xxii. 741 That's no better, than taking up water in a sieve, which runs out as fast as it is put in. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 135 That wad been milkin' his cow in a sieve.

c. *fig.* Of things.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* V. 511 Then stirring th' idle siue of newe, did all their forces aske. 1643 CARYL *Sacr. Cov.* 4 The Articles passe them through a finer Sieve. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* I. VII. 73 Those inventions were but sives, made of purpose to winnow the best men. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 218 All that, as they thought, was past and gone with their ordination..; they had passed through the Bishop's sieve. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 927 The infection was, so to speak, caught on the sieve—that is to say, the infected ships gave rise to cases of plague within the quarantine station.

d. *fig.* Of persons; *esp.* one who cannot keep a secret.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 208 Yet in this captious, and intenible Siue I still poure in the waters of my loue. 1646 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* vi, Here's none but wee, I am no Sive? I prithee, Swain, be free. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* I. i, As you are a waiting-woman; as you are the sieve of all your lady's secrets, tell it me. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* vii, Those judicious Collectors.., by some called the Sieves and Boulters of Learning. 1811 BYRON *Hints fr. Hor.* 734 *note*, The sieve of a patron let it out.

2. a. As used by witches for sailing in.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 461 Nicneuen..to teach it gart take it To saill sure in a seiffe, but compass or cart. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 8 But in a Syue Ile thither sayle. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 158 Like a witch in a scive. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* XIV, Thou must hold water in a witch's sieve. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* ix. 312 Another frolic they had, when, like the weird sisters in Macbeth, they embarked in sieves.

b. As used for purposes of divination. Commonly *sieve and shears*. Cf. RIDDLE *sb.*2 1 b.

1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 18 If he loose any thing, he hath readie a siue and a key. 1602 in Goudie *Diary J. Mill* 185 To quite hir selff..for the turning of ane siff and riddill for ane pair scheiris. *a* 1635 RANDOLPH *Jealous Lovers* I. x, A man cannot find out their Meaning without the 'Sieve and Sheers'. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* XXXVIII, Questions which by Sieve and Sheers are try'd. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. v, Thinkest thou..I can read thee all riddles without my sieve and my shears?

3. Used as a measure, or for holding anything. Also, a kind of basket used chiefly for market produce.

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 26 Sche answerd that she hadde but oonly .vii. Ceves ful of malte. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 272 Payd for di. a tymbre and iij. scyvys of letuse, iiij. s. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 92 Item xx mettes of barle sawne oppon the ground...Item xxvj seves of ottes sowin. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* I. i, Apple-Wives That wrangle for a Sieve. 1793 STEEVENS *Notes Shaks. Tr. & Cr.* II. ii, Sieves and half-sieves are baskets to be met with in every quarter of Covent-garden market. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 587 In other parts the early gatherings are..sent to the markets in half-bushel sieves. 1887 PARISH & SHAW *Kentish Gloss.* 149 In West Kent, sieve and half-sieve are equivalent to bushel and half-bushel.

4. In calico-printing: (see quots.).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 215 The colouring matter..is spread ..upon fine woollen cloth, stretched in a frame over the wax cloth head of a wooden drum or sieve. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 197/2 The mordant .. is applied to the block by pressing the latter upon what is termed a 'sieve' (a box covered with woollen cloth).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sieve-basket, -bottom, -cloth, -drum, -fashion, -frame*; *sieve-witted* adj.

1598 CHAPMAN *Seven Bks. Iliad* Ded. A 4 b, Our siue-witted censors, through whose braines all thinges exact and refinde, run to the earth in heapes. 1609 N. F. *Fruiterers Secrets* 4 They poure them out gently into their siues, or broad baskets made siue-fashion. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 215 The inverted sieve drum should fit the paste tub pretty closely. *Ibid.* 216 The printer seizes the block..and daubs it twice..upon the sieve cloth. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 332 The sieve-frame..is 28 inches in length and 5 inches in depth. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sieve-bottoms*, attachments for the frame of a sieve made of horse-hair or wire, etc. 1893 K. SANBORN *S. California* 140 They ..placed acorns in a sieve basket.

6. Special combs.: † **sieve-alphabet, -bone** (see quots.); **sieve lackey,** a species of moth; † **sieve prophet** (see 2 b); **sieve-raggings** (see RAGGING *vbl. sb.*3 2); † **sieve-stone,** a species of tufa.

1663 MARQUIS OF WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* Index p. iv, A *Sieve-alphabet [§ 34 To write..by holes in the bottom of a Sieve]. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 123 A little bone in the top of the nose, which is pierced through like to a litle siue. Hereupon it is called by the Phisicions the *siue-bone. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 46 The *Sieve Lackey (*Eulepia Cribrum*) appears in June. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 131 If but a *Sive-prophet appear among them,..they presently flock together, and gape at him. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. v. 305 The *Seive-Stone. *Lapis Cribriformis.*

b. In botanical terms having reference to sieve-like openings in the walls or ends of plant-cells, as **sieve-cell, disk, -pore, -tissue, -tube, -vessel**; also SIEVE-PLATE 1.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 23 The Sieve-structure which occurs in the sieve-cells of the fibro-vascular bundles of vascular plants. *Ibid.* 24 The opening of the sieve-pores has not yet begun. *Ibid.* 101 The latticed cells or sieve-tubes frequently have sieve- or latticed discs in their longitudinal walls. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 55 What are commonly known as sieve-tubes or sieve-vessels.

Sieve, obs. form of SEAVE, a rush.

Sieve (siv), *v.* Also 5 **cyue,** 6 **sy(e)ue, syve.** [f. SIEVE *sb.* Cf. MDu. and MLG. *seven, zeven* (LG. *seven, sefen*, etc.), MHG. *siben* (G. *sieben*), *siffen.*]

1. *trans.* To pass through a sieve; to sift or strain.

1499 [see the *vbl. sb.*]. 1530 PALSGR. 719/2 You can never make so fyne floure whan you do but syve your meale, as you shall do whan you boulte it. 1552 HULOET, Bult,

raunge, or syeue meale, *succerno*. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 442 Sieving milk through a syle. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 909 A strong brine of salt and boiling-water..is made and sieved through a cloth. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/2 The fibres of wood..are then sieved according to fineness, collected, and pressed into pulp.

b. To take *out* by sifting. In quots. *fig.*

1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* cxxiii. III. 74 They will find no lack of reasons why they and their representatives should not be sieved out of parliament. 1885 *Eng. Mech.* 235 The blue or short wave-lengths of the spectrum are sieved out first.

2. a. To perforate with holes like a sieve.

1853 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 29 Tak care o' your breeks that they dinna get sieved.

b. To bore in the manner of a sieve.

1875 LANIER *Symphony* 32 We sieve mine-meshes under the hills.

3. *intr.* To pass as through a sieve.

1863 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* CXXV, Oh God! that man should be a thing for immortal souls to sieve through!

Hence **Sie·ving** *vbl. sb.*

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Cyuynge or clensinge, *colatura*. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 8 Greediness..busies himselfe..in syuing of Muckhills and shop dust, whereof he will boult a whole cartload to gaine a bowd Pinne. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 79/1 After this sieving, after this pounding and trituration of the coarser particles [etc.].

Sie·veful. [See -FUL 2.] The fill of a sieve. Also *fig.*

a 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 26 She mesurid one cevefull And yaue it to the mynystris. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Char. of Diurn. Maker* (1677) 102 A Sieveful of Ballads and Godly Books. 1693 DRYDEN *Let.* Wks. 1893 XVIII. 111 For feare the few damsins shou'd be all gone, desire her to buy me a sieve-full. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hop Garden*, When it is thus fastned, cast in two or three Sieve-fulls of Hops. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 193/2 A skilful workman takes a sieveful from the unfinished heap. 1895 SAINTSBURY *Corrected Impressions* x. 89 A very sieveful of holes.

Sieve-like, *a.* [f. SIEVE *sb.*] Resembling a sieve; perforated like a sieve.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 369 Thence is't that Garden-pots, the mouth kept close, Let fall no liquor at their sive-like nose. 1639 W. SCLATER *Worthy Commun.* 3 So sieve-like are our memories, that they doe..let slip.. what should better be retained. *a* 1650 MAY *Old Couple* III, So dying aldermen Pour out at once upon their sieve-like heirs Whole gusts of envi'd wealth. 1765 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Glanders*, The os ethmoides, or sieve-like bone, through which the olfactory nerves pass. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 257 When the juice of the sugar-cane has been boiled down to a syrup, it is put to cool into sieve-like vessels. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 56 The partition walls..are..only thickened in a sieve-like manner.

Sie·ve-maker. [SIEVE *sb.*] One who makes sieves.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 686 *Hic cribrarius*, syfmaker [*printed* fys-]. *c* 1470 *Promp. Parv.* (K.) 457/2 Seve makere, ..*cribrarius*. 1572 in *Essex Rev.* (1906) XV. 212 Hugh Humfrey, the syvemakers son. 1601–*a* 1661 [see SIEVIER]. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6159/3 John Griffin,..a Sieve-maker by Trade. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sieve-maker*, a manufacturer of screening machines and sieves. 1892 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 5/4 A peasant on foot and a sievemaker driving a single horse tarantass.

Sieve-plate. [SIEVE *sb.*]

1. *Bot.* A sieve-like plate on the wall of a plant-cell. (Cf. SIEVE *sb.* 6 b.)

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 24 The sieve-plates do not at present show anything of the subsequent more complicated structure. 1882 VINES *ibid.* 89 In this condition the septum, perforated by a number of pores, is termed a *Sieve-plate*; it is usually broader than the diameter of the tube, which therefore appears dilated at..the sieve-plates.

2. *Zool.* (See quot.)

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 566 A calcareous plate placed at the base of the arm interradially, and called in the latter case a sieve-plate.

3. In paper-making, a plate through which pulp is strained. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sie·ver. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 5 cyver, 7 seaver. [f. SIEVE *sb.*]

1. A sieve-maker.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cyver, or maker of sevys.., *cribrarius*. 1616 *Mem. St. Giles, Durham* (Surtees) 46 Rec[d] of Rychard Robeson, Seaver. *c* 1800 in H. Speight *Nidderdale* (1894) 384 Sievers, fellmongers, tanners, weavers, bleachers.

2. A sifter.

1835 CARRICK *Laird of Logan* (1854) 189 Robin's associates were three of the 'Sievers' of Sessantilly, the rival mill to Goodie.

†**Sie·vier.** *Obs.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. SIEVE *sb.* + -IER.] = prec.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/1 Syvyȝere, or maker of syvys (*K.* siveyer,..*P.* syuyer), *cribrarius*. *c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winch.) 84 Cyueȝere. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 529 The son of a poore man there, a Syueyer or Syve-maker by his occupation. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. *Durham* (1662) 297 William Siveyer was born at Shinkley.., where his Father was a Siveyer or Sive-maker. [1894 WYLIE *Hist. Eng., Hen. IV*, II. 481 His father is said to have been a sievier or bolter-maker.]

†**Sievy,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. SIEVE *sb.* + -Y.] Like a sieve, unable to retain.

1724 tr. *Castelnau's Mem.* 47 When affairs of this kind come to be imparted to women, a sex so generally sievey that they can keep no secrets.

Siew, Siex, obs. forms of SUE *v.*, SIX.

Siff, obs. form of SIEVE *sb.*, SIFT *v.*

Si·ffilate, *v. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. F. *siffler*: see next.] *trans.* To whisper.

1837 MARRYAT *Dog Fiend* ix, 'He's gone,' was siffilated above and below.

Siffle (si·f'l), *v.* Also 4–5 syfle, 5 sifle. [ad. F. *siffler*, † *sifler*:—L. *sīfilāre*, var. of *sībilāre*: see SIBILATE *v.*] *intr.* To blow with a sibilant sound; to whistle, hiss.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 470 Syben he..sayez vnte Zeferus þat he syfle warme. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 517 Quen Zeferus syflez hym-self on sedez & erbez. 1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* xv. viii, The gode in forme of a serpent..syfled after his avenement. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. viii. 13 b/1 Incontynent that the dragon aperceyued hym he came to hym siflinge.

1862 D. RICHMOND *Through Life & For Life* xviii. 231 The damp, raw morning air, which siffled in from the open door. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* XXV, The air siffled gently through the low grass.

Hence **Si·ffling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Si·ffle** *sb.*, a sibilant râle (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1221 Neither doe ordinary hounds understand the signes that huntsmen use, nor every horse the siffling and chirring of the escuirry. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 313 What joy when Angus drew a long siffling breath.

†**Si·fflement.** *Obs.*[−1] [a. F. *sifflement*, f. *siffler*: see prec.] A whistling noise.

1607? BREWER *Lingua* I. i, Like to the winged chanters of the wood, Uttering nought else but idle siffilements, Tunes without sense, words inarticulate.

Sift, *sb. rare.* [In sense 1 = MDu. *sifte, zifte* (Du. *zift*), also MDu. and MLG. *sichte*. In other senses f. SIFT *v.*]

†**1.** A sieve. *Obs.*

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Cyue or cifte, *cribrum, cribellum*. 1648 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Zijgen*, To Runne through a Sift, or a Strainer.

2. The act of sifting (in quot. *fig.*); the fact of falling as from a sieve.

1814 MME. D'ARBLAY *Wanderer* I. 60, I don't say this by way of a sift. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poet's Jrnl.* Dec., The rustling sift of falling snow.

3. 'Something that falls or passes as if from the meshes of a sieve; sifting or sifted material' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Sift (sift), *v.* Forms: 1 siftan, 4 siften (5 -yn), 6–7 sifte (6 siffte), 4– sift (7 siff); 1 syftan, 4–6 syfte, 5 cyftyn, 6 cyfte; 1 seftan, 5, 7 seft; also *pa. pple.* 5 syfte, 6 sefte. [OE. *siftan, syftan*, = MDu. *siften, suften* (Du. *ziften*), MLG. *siften*; also MDu. and MLG. (and hence G.) *sichten*, Du. and WFlem. *zichten*. The stem is that of SIEVE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To pass (something) through a sieve, in order to separate the coarse from the fine particles, or to strain.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 873 *Crebrat*, siftiđ. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 11 Swa swa mon meolo seft [*v.r.* sift]; ðæt meolo ðurȝcrypð ælc ðyrel. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 137 *Cribro*, ic syfte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 388 Al this mullok in a sive y-throwe, And sifted, and y-piked many a throwe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxvii. (Tollem. MS.), Mele is grounde at mylle, and sefted with a seue. *c* 1415 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) p. xcvi, A dysshe full of aysshes fayre syfte. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 38 Þan bray hem smal y-now; & þerow a crees bunte syfte hem. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/1 Cyftyn, *cribro*. 1530 PALSGR. 718/2, I wyll nat syft my meale thorowe this syve, it is to course. 1555 EDEN *Decades* IV. (Arb.) 82 The myners..in dyuers places syfted the same on the drye lande. 1603 in Gage *Hist. & Antiq. Hengrave* (1822) 23 Item, one fier sholve made like a grate to seft the seacole wth. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 85 They sweep a place very clean to sift the lime in, and when it is sifted they make it up in a heap. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 69 P 11 Two of the Fair Sex, who are usually employed in sifting Cinders. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 171 Pound and sift three quarters of a pound of loaf sugar. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Glass* 303 The same powdered whiting..may be used again..upon being ground and sifted. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, A country contract which was to be sifted before carted.

b. In *fig.* or *transf.* uses.

1535 COVERDALE *Amos* ix. 9 Though I siffte yᵉ house of Israel amonge all nacions. 1589? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* L.'s Wks. 1902 III. 408 They haue sifted the holie Bible, and left vs nothing as they say, but branne. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xxx. 28 To sift the nations with the sieue of vanitie. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* iv. 8 The things of God..lose their value and force, when they are sifted through so many hands. 1822 W. TENNANT *Thane of Fife* I. lxxv, When the North [wind] should burst his bleak confines, And in his icy boulter sift the snow. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. iv. 129 The solar light is sifted by the landscape.

2. *fig.* a. To make trial of (a person).

In early quots. after Luke xxii. 31.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15523 He wil þe sift nu if he mai, as man dos corn or bran. 1535 COVERDALE *Luke* xxii. 31 Satan hath desyred after you, that he might siffte you euen as wheate. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* xiii, Sathan begins to sift me with his pride. 1624 T. SCOTT *Vox Dei* 76 Is it not a great and dangerous temptation, (o all yee that know what temptation is, what it is to be siffed, what it is to resist) that young men meet in the world? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xv. 315 For these reasons Lady Elizabeth was closely kept and narrowly sifted all her Sisters reigne. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 74. 140 The more..the Sincere Man..is sifted, the more he is intrusted.

b. To subject (one) to close questioning.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (E. E. D. S.) 47 The knave beginneth to sift me. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 37 He therefore began to sifte her more narrowly on this manner. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 30 Being curiously sifted by the guard at the City-gate, and being asked many questions. 1694 GIBSON in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 235 For fear it should be some you have employ'd, I have got one to sift him. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, He multiplied his Questions, and sifted me thoroughly upon every Part of this Head. 1756 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 16 May, I sifted Dr. Pringle himself, but he would not give me a positive answer. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, You must speak with this wench,..you must sift her a wee bit. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lv, Blind Hans's boy..was sifted narrowly by my master, and stammered and faltered.

3. *fig.* To examine closely into, to scrutinize narrowly, so as to find out the truth.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 11 Thes men..whos opinions I have desirid to be thurrouly siftid. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* L 4, Let no man take upon him to scan and sift Gods workes. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. (1686) 23 We may explore and sift their verities. 1735 BERKELEY *Free-think. in Mathemat.* § 15 Others who are not afraid to sift the principles of human science. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 189, I have endeavoured with great pains to sift the history to the bottom. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiv, We will sift this matter to the uttermost. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xxi. (1866) 350 It is..very hard to sift a slander. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. i. 14 The art with which he sifted the evidence of the witnesses.

b. Similarly with *out*.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 85 When as Tatianus promised to sift out the darke speeches and hidden mysteries of Holy Scripture. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 578 This word..ought to teach us not to sift out the life of our soveraigne prince. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. vii. 272 If the cause be difficult, his diligence is the greater to sift it out. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 70 They were lodg'd in my house for some dayes, which I spent in sifting out their humour and manner of life. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* II. ii. § 2 He tried to sift out the accounts of the money. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* I, Severely sifting out The whole idea.

†c. To search; to try. *Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D.'s Wks. 1874 IV. 148, I will sift all the tauernes ith citty,..Ile find her out. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 18 They sift each way might break this fond inchantment.

4. To separate, to take or get *out*, by the use of a sieve. Also *transf.* and in fig. contexts.

1428 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 6 He syfted oute of yt half a bushell of plaster and lyme. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 87 The marchauntis straungers nowe use..to sarse, syfte & trye out the best greyne. 1554–9 *Songs & Ball., Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 And eke the fyne flowr from the bran nerly syfft. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) App. I. 7, I have sifted out..the flower of my fancye. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. § 15. 21 Yet can the Lord..as a few precious jewels in..a great heap of rubbish sift them out. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 262 Having sifted out and thrown away all the finest particles. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* I. v. 39 That it will be got sifted, like wheat out of chaff, from the Twenty-seven Million British subjects. 1872 W. K. CLIFFORD *Lect.* (1879) I. 176 The lightest gas comes out quickest, and is as it were sifted from the other.

refl. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) I. iii. 109 In Pope..the grain has sifted itself from the chaff.

b. *fig.* To find *out*, get to know, by a process of elimination or close inquiry.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. 87 When by interrogation we sift out any thing. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxii. 195 To labour in sifting out a Philosophicall truth. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 240, I endeavour'd to sift the Secret from him. 1805 G. ELLIS *Let.* in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) II. ii. 75, I should think Ritson himself..would be puzzled to sift out a single additional anecdote of the poet's life. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* II. vii, Then, perhaps, you may sift out some farther particulars. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* x. (1874) 170 It will be investigated, and what is true in it be sifted out.

5. To clear or clean *from* impurities, etc., by means of a sieve; also *fig.*, to clean (one) *out of* money.

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 95 He.. little suspected that his Countreyman the Setter had sifted him out of his money. *c* 1632 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Elegy Gustavus Adolphus*, You are at best but honourable Earth; ..how e're sifted from that courser Bran Which doth compound, and knead the common Man. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 17 Sift it from stones and rubbish.

6. a. To cover *over*, by letting something fall through a sieve.

1563 HYLL *Arte Garden.* (1593) 14 The which allies and walkes you shall sift ouer with the finest sand.

b. To let fall through, scatter from or by means of, a sieve. Also *fig.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 204 If this [soil] be too stiff, sift a little Lime discreetly with it. 1674 FLAVEL *Husb. Spiritualized* (ed. 2) 264 The finest and richest mould must be sifted about the roots. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xx. 316 You must sift some fine sugar upon your cake when it goes into the oven. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 26 Cover it lightly over with earth,..sift it over the trap. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 85 Along the floor some sand I'll sift. 1855 DELAMER *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 37 After sowing, ..sift over the top a thin layer of cinder-ashes or lime-rubbish. 1869 B. HARTE *Luck Roaring Camp* 31 Again from leaden skies the snow-flakes were sifted over the land.

7. *intr.* To use a sieve; to do sifting. Chiefly *fig.*, esp. to pry *into*, make inquiry.

1535 COVERDALE *Amos* ix. 9 Like as they vse to siffte in a syue. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 153, I hope this proffer is but a tryall..to sift at my secret intent. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* v. iii, Although he puts his nobles in disguise..to sift into my words. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 205 You sifted not so clean before, but you shuffle as foulely now. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 287, I will not sift into them too minutely. 1779

Mme. D'Arblay *Let.* Dec., He has desired me to sift for what room you have, and to sound as to convenience. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 290 *Sift*, to embezzle small coins, those which might pass through a sieve—as threepennies and fourpennies—and which are, therefore, not likely to be missed.

8. To pass or fall as through a sieve.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 2/2 Madefye it with Rosewater least that it fal on a heap and sift throughe. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* ii. 137 He it was who sent the snowflakes Sifting, hissing through the forest. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxxiv, Golden leaves were sifting down on the marble floor. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 305/1 The April sunshine sifts in through an open window.

Hence **Si·ftage,** sifted matter. *rare* —1.

1881 Blackmore *Christowell* vii, At this he worked hard, ..pulling asunder the fibrous clods, but not reducing them to siftage.

Sifted (si·ftĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Sift *v.*] That has been passed through a sieve.

1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 243, vij stryke of syfted lyme. 1563 Hyll *Arte Garden.* (1593) 154 Put fine sifted earth, either into an old basket, or deepe earthen pan. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 353 The plowed, tilled, or sifted feilds. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 298 A Composition made of slacked sifted Lime and Linseed Oil. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell* vii. viii. 3 A genteel drive up to his door, With sifted gravel neatly laid. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 8 A sifted sample..of such fineness that each particle consists of one mineral species only.

fig. 1589 Nashe *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 95 The sifted Greeke witte of Father Augustine. 1878 *Masque Poets* 75 The sifted silver of the night Rained down a strange delight.

Sifter (si·ftəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.]

1. One who sifts, in lit. or fig. senses.

1579 Lyly *Euphues* Epist. Dedicatory, Though the stile nothing delight the dayntie eare of the curious sifter. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxxiv. (1592) 547 Some searchers and sifters of words. 1611 Cotgr., *Cribleur*, a sifter. 1720 T. Boston *Fourfold State* (1797) 311 Such is the exactness of the sieve and care of the sifter. 1752 Fielding *Covent Gard. Jrnl.* No. 23, They elude the enquiries of the most diligent sifters of antiquity. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* II. 172/2 A medium-sized dust-yard will employ..six sifters. 1871 R. B. Vaughan *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 646 He did not take for granted like the Sophist...He was a winnower and a sifter.

b. *Ornith.* (See quot.)

1872 Darwin *Orig. Species* (ed. 6) vii. 183 Ducks..subsist by sifting the mud and water; and the family has sometimes been called *Criblatores*, or sifters.

2. A utensil or apparatus for sifting; a sieve; also *dial.*, a fire-shovel, kitchen shovel.

1611 Cotgr., *Crible*, a siue, or sifter; raunging siue. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/1 The pulp is first made to flow from the vat upon a wire frame, or sifter. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2175/2 Sifters are used for sifting ashes from cinders; flour from lumps, etc. 1881 *Porcelain Wks., Worcester* 7 The number of pumps, sifters, and presses which are employed.

Si·fting, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/1 Cyftynge, *cribracio.* *c* 1460 *Ibid.* (Winch.) 410 Syftynge [*P.* siffinge] or clensynge, *collacio, collatura.* 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 171 Tha sal do thar diligens..with wedyng, renouyng and syftyng of seid. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 212 They moue them rownde aboute after the maner of syftynge. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 222 He scoffeth..at our spirituall sifting of the sacrament. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 262 To intend the sifting and scanning of euery pretended way of saluation. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* xvi. 432 Time will aske much, to the sifting out Of each mans disposition, by his deeds. 1736 Hervey *Mem.* I. 138 Examinations and siftings seldom turning to the account of those who have the reins of power. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* III. § 19. 70 The weighing and sifting of traditional testimony. 1884 *Athenæum* 24 May 660/1 The heap has undergone a certain sifting and classification.

attrib. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 283 Sifting-machines have been contrived for the purpose. 1861 Stephens & Burns *Farm-buildings* § 1773 In Mr. Downing's work, a plan of what is there termed a 'sifting-shed' [for separating pigs] is given.

2. *pl.* That which is removed or separated by means of a sieve.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* I. xxii. 131 The sheaues of wheate and rie are good for them: and sometimes bran mixed with siftings. 1611 Cotgr., *Cribleure*,..siftings. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* II. 280 *note*, The siftings would otherwise have been more considerable in so many years. 1845 *Bee's Florist Jrnl.* 30, I would recommend to add to it.. either sand, lime rubbish, or lime siftings. 1886 *Daily News* 15 Sept. 2/4 Tea..; black leaf, 8*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*; siftings, 5½*d.*

Si·fting, *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That sifts or separates; searching.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. cviii, How had she admired Thy sifting wit, thy speech and person lov'd. 1762 *Crazy Tales* 24 He was in such a sifting cue, Till she discover'd all she knew. 1850 McCosh *Div. Govt.* I. ii. (1874) 51 Its superstitions could not stand the sifting light of modern science. 1895 *Tablet* 9 Nov. 739 The sifting power of water in motion is very great.

Sig, *sb. dial.* and *U.S.* Also **seg, sigg, zig(g.** [Of obscure origin; the form does not correspond to older Flem. *seycke* (Kilian), G. *seiche*, in the same sense.] Urine.

1691 Ray *S. & E. Co. Wds.* 113 *Sig*, Urine, Chamber-lie. 1746 *Gentl. Mag.* XVI. 408/2 [Exmoor Vocab.], *Zigg*, urine. 1825 Jennings *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 67. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 670 The woollen factories used to supply to any householder who would..undertake to 'save' the 'sig', a tub or vat for the purpose.

† Sig, *v. Obs.*—1 [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To steep in, or sprinkle with, urine.

1581 in *Southern Times* 27 Oct. (1883) 3/4 That no tuckers do sig or wash any cloths upon the Sabbath Day.

Sig., in printing, abbreviation of Signature.

† Sigalder, *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *sige* victory + Galder.] A charm or incantation.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* I. 388 Syge-gealdor ic begale, sixe-gyrd ic me wege. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Sigaldren [*v.r.* sigaldrie], & false teolunges, leuunge on ore & of swefnes, & alle wichchecreftes.

Hence **† Sigalder** *v.*, to enchant, bewitch. *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 503 Þere was a wycche, and made a bagge, A bely of lebyr,..She sygaldryd so þys bagge bely þat hyt 3ede and soke mennys ky.

† Sigaldry. *Obs. rare.* Also 3 **-rie,** 4 **sygaldrye.** [f. prec. + -y.] Enchantment, sorcery.

a 1225 [see Sigalder *sb.*] 13.. *K. Alis.* 7015 (W.), Quede and harme he wil me spye,..Gef he wot of this sygaldrye [*Laud* trigoldrye] That this trowes [= trees] kan lye. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl., Crucifixion* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 69 Burye hym wher thy wil be, But look thou make no sigaldry To raise him up agayne.

Sig(g)e, obs. forms of Siege *sb.*

Sigge(n, obs. forms of Say *v.*1

Sigh (səi, *Sc.* siχ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 **syhe,** 5–6 **syghe,** 6 **sygh**; 4–7 **sighe,** 4– **sigh.** *β. Sc.* 6 **sych(e,** 6, 8–9 **sich,** 6, 9 *arch.* **siche,** 9 **sicgh**; *north.* 9 **seegh.** [f. the vb.]

1. A sudden, prolonged, deep and more or less audible respiration, following on a deep-drawn breath, and esp. indicating or expressing dejection, weariness, longing, pain, or relief.

α. 13.. *Cursor M.* 15169 (Gött.), Ful mani sari sigh, i-wis, þar sank tille his herte. *c* 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 248 Withyn the temple of syghes [*v.r.* syhes] hote as fyre.., Whyche syghes engendryd were with desyre [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxxi. 80 He draweth a depe sighe fro the herte rote. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 372 Rowland..sawe not durandall his swerd, wherof he dyde caste a grete syghe. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* viii. 2 Thou may complain with sighis lamentable The death of Bernard Stewart. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* I. lxxxvii, Wringing her hands (as one that griev'd and prayd) With sighes commixt with words. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 287 Stopping the Cariere Of Laughter, with a sigh. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xix. 440 In their sighes they breathed many a prosperous gale to Nassau's party. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 7 ¶ 1 The Lady..said to her Husband with a Sigh, My Dear, Misfortunes never come Single. 1757 Gray *Clerke* 14 A sigh; an unavailing tear. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* II. ii. 19 A sigh uttered from the fulness of the heart, an involuntary aspiration born and dying in the same moment. 1878 M. A. Brown tr. *Runeberg's Nadeschda* 38 A sigh of admiration is His full heart's only language now.

transf. 1817 Keats *I stood tip-toe* 12 There crept A.. noiseless noise among the leaves, Born of the very sigh that silence heaves.

β. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* xiii. v. 115 Drawand the sobbis hard and sychis smart. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xi. 116 With sobbing sych I to 3ou send This my complaint. 1593 A. Hume *Treat. Consc.* vi, [He] will vtter his passions ..with sichis, and with sobbes. 17.. Ramsay *Some of the Contents* ix, His eisy sangs..Sall be esteimd quhyle sichs saft lufe betray. 1802 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 32 Now, hey for seeghs and sugar words. 1879 G. Macdonald *Sir Gibbie* xlvi, She gae a gret sich, an' a sab.

2. *transf.* A sound made by the wind, suggestive of a sigh.

1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xi, Creeping shrubs, of thousand dyes, Waved in the west-wind's summer sighs. 1815 Shelley *Alastor* 8 Autumn's hollow sighs in the sere wood. 1848 L. Hunt *Jar of Honey* v. 64 Like the sigh that answers a wind over a churchyard.

3. *Comb.*, as *sigh-blown, -born, -broken, -clogged, -like, -swollen,* etc.

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 396 At length he ended His oft sigh-broken dittie. 1602 Markham *Mary Magd. 3rd Lament* 15, I will suppresse my sigh-swolne sadnesse. 1611 Cotgr., *Han*, the..sigh-like voyce, wherewith woodcleauers, &c., keepe time to their stroakes. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, The Collar* 19 Recover all thy sigh-blown age On double pleasures. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xvii. lxiii, With such potent passion did she breath That sigh-clogg'd Word. *a* 1847 Eliza Cook *Under the Moon* ix. 1 We may breathe a farewell in a sigh-deepened tone. 1849 De Quincey *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. 1862 IV. 331 Suggesting solemn and sigh-born thoughts. 1873 Brennan *Witch of Nemi* 12 Bathed in the streams of sigh-fermented tears.

Sigh (səi, *Sc.* siχ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4 **sihe(n,** 4–5 **syhe(n,** 5 **syh(gh)yn**; 4–5 **si3(h)e, si3ze** (4 six-), **sy3(h)e,** 5 **sye.** *β.* 4–5 **sighen,** 4–7 **sighe** (5 **sighye**?), 5–6 **syghe,** 6– **sigh.** *γ. Sc.* 5–6 **sych,** 5–6, 9 **sich.** *δ.* 4–6 **seigh,** 5 **seye** (?), 6 **segh**; *Sc.* 5 **seych,** 9 **seich, seech.** *ε. Pa. t.* 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **sight** (7 **sigh't**), 6 **seight.** [ME. *sihen, sizen, sighen*, etc., prob. a back-formation on *sihte, sizte*, pa. t. of Siche *v.*, through the guttural having more phonetic appropriateness than the palatal sound. The old pa. t., however, survived in literary use down to the 17th cent.; it may also have been the source of the variant Sight *v.*2 Further variations are Sithe *v.* and the dialect *sife, siff.*]

1. *intr.* To emit, give, or heave a sigh.

In ME. freq. in phrase *to sigh sore.*

α. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2959 (Gött.), Abraham syhid in his hert ful sare. 1382 Wyclif *Joshua* xv. 18 She sizide [1388 sizzide], as she sat in the asse. — *Job* iii. 24 Er I shul ete, I sizhe. *c* 1420 *Prymer* (1895) 34 To þee we sizen, gronynge in þis valey of teeris. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455/2 Syhghyn, for mornynge (*K.* syhyn..), *suspiro.*

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14221 Quen thomas..Hard þat ded was lazarus,..He sighed sar. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 319 Sche fond non amendement To syghen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5584 Þe berne..Sighis selcuthly sare & sadli he wepis. 1434 Misyn *Mending Life* 130 It is no meruell þof it say syghand: 'Qwho sall gif me þe, my broþer?' 1530 Palsgr. 718/1 He syghed tyll his herte dyd nerehande bruste. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 342 To sigh, and to wincke as thoughe he were a slepe. 1669 Dryden *Tyrannic Love* III. i, And when his strength is wanting to his mind, Looks back, and sighs on what he left behind. 1697 — *Virg. Georg.* IV. 673 On thee,..in Desarts all alone, He call'd, sigh'd, sung. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1188 They..talk'd the flowing heart, Or sigh'd and look'd unutterable things. 1781 Cowper *Expost.* 722 My soul shall sigh in secret, and lament A nation scourg'd. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xli, The young knight sighed, therefore, and held his peace. 1854 Tennyson *Marriage Geraint* 307 Then sigh'd and smiled the hoary-headed Earl.

γ. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 350 Men mycht haiff sene.. knychtis, for thar luffis sak, Baith sich, and wep. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 972 Wallace tharfor sichit with hart full sar. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Maryit Wemen* 446, I sich, without sair hert, or seiknes in body. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 459 The vther gaid hame..Sichand, and durst say no mair. 1791 Learmont *Poems* 113 She sicht sair i' her bed. 1884 D. Grant *Lays & Leg. North* 92 The Cooper didna sich an' grain.

δ. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 89 He seighed & sayde, 'sore it me athynketh'. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* 122 (Laud MS. 108), His fader at hom seyet3 sore, & seyþ 'allas! allas!' *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1416 Ye seigh gretly, I prae yow telle me why. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 130/2 Some sely woman seking saint Sythe when she seghyth for miscasting of her kayes. 1877 Neilson *Poems* 57 (E.D.D.), They sech loud an' lang. 1883 Currie *Poems* 44 (E.D.D.), Nae langer noo I seich and mane.

ε. ?*c* 1550 *Sir Andrew Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 65 The merchauntes answered, soore they sight. 1592 Breton *Pilgr. Paradise* Wks. (Grosart) I. 14/2 Shrinking downe, it sight, and spake no more. 1633 Cowley *Poet. Blossoms, Constantia & Philetus* 329 With that..He sight, as if they'd coole his torment's ire. 1689 Carlile *Fortune-Hunters* I. i, He lookt indeed and sight, and set his Cravat-string, and sight agen. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Sight*, sighed.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 783 Nature from her seat Sighing through all her Works gave signs of woe. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 83. 3/1 To hear her after, *Sigh in Welsh*, (Which ill-bred Clowns will call a Belch). 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* I. i, Tell me, my lute, can thy soft strain..So softly sing, so humbly sigh, That [etc.]?

c. Of the wind, trees, etc.: To make or give out a sound suggestive of a sigh.

1757 Gray *Bard* 24 Hark, how each giant-oak, and desert cave, Sighs to the torrent's aweful voice beneath! 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 104 Like yon neglected shrub..That..sighs at every blast. 1820 Scott *Monast.* ix, A chill easterly wind was sighing among the withered leaves. 1830 Tennyson *Claribel* 4 The solemn oaktree sigheth. 1855 — *Maud* I. xxii. vii, Whenever a March-wind sighs He sets the jewel-print of your feet In violets.

2. a. To express desire or longing by the utterance of sighs; hence, to wish or long ardently. Const. *for* († *after*), or *to* with inf.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Phil.* 8 Yet in soule our conuersacion is in heauen, sighing continuallye thither. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, In aliquam suspirare*, to sigh after one, or for one. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. viii. 20, I was belou'd of many a gentle Knight,..Full many a one for me deepe groand and sight. 1604 E. G[rimstone] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. vi. 18 Many Spaniards..sigh for Spaine, having no discourse, but of their countrie. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 205 ¶ 3 The Foreigner sighs after some British Beauty, whom he only knows by Fame. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* I. xx. 5 You..fondly praise The public World, even sighing to be read,—Unhappy Book! 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* iv, He sighed for the time when the King's cause should be again triumphant. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. ii, Long have I sigh'd for a calm.

b. To be sorry, feel sorrow. Const. *that, to.*

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. iii. 39 Fair semblances these Apterites Do make of good, and sighen very sore, That God no stronger is. 1670 Dryden *Conq. Granada* I. III. i, May your Heroick Act so prosperous be, That Almahide may sigh you set her free. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 148 And which more blest? who chain'd his country, say, Or he whose Virtue sigh'd to lose a day?

3. *trans.* **a.** To speak or utter (words, etc.) with a sigh. Chiefly with advs., as *forth* and *out.*

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 117 b, Some sighes out their woordes. Some synges their sentences. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 13 To..sigh a note and sing a note. 1607 — *Cor.* I. i. 209 They ..sigh'd forth Prouerbes. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* §8 Bvt wretched Iob, sigh't forth these words, and said, Ah me! 1797 Jane Austen *Sense & Sens.* xxxvii, Marianne sighed out her similar apprehension. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 120 It is rather too late ..for you and I to sit up sighing out romances in real life. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 1341 The Queen..sigh'd in passing, 'Lancelot, Forgive me'. 1879 Miss Braddon *Cloven Foot* xxxviii, 'Yes,' sighed Celia, 'He went early on Tuesday morning'.

b. To emit, give out, impart, etc., by sighing. Freq. with advs., as *away, forth, out.* Also *transf.*

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III i. 20 [I] Haue..sigh'd my English breath in forraine Clouds. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. v. 121 Neuer man Sigh'd truer breath. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 273 Sapores..sighed out his affrighted ghost, at the age.. of seventy one. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 51 Far from his country roams my hapless lord! Or sigh'd in exile forth his latest breath. *a* 1796 Burns *On a Bank of Flowers* iii, He gaz'd, he wish'd, he fear'd, he blush'd, And sigh'd his very

soul. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* LXXXV[1]. iii, Sweet after showers, ambrosial air,..sigh 'The full new life that feeds thy breath Throughout my frame. 1875 FARRAR *Silence & Voices* i. 5 Hundreds of martyrs sighed away their souls amid the flames.

4. a. To spend, consume, or while away (time) by sighing. Also with *away* and *out*.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 204 Thou wilt needes thrust thy necke into a yoke,..and sigh away sundaies. 1653 MILTON *Ps.* vi. 11 Wearied I am with sighing out my dayes. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* 229 Sighing the Moments that defer Our Ease.

b. To bring into a certain state or condition by sighing. Also *transf.* and *refl.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 178 Thy head stands so tickle on thy shoulders, that a milke-maid, if she be in loue, may sigh it off. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. i, The gale had sigh'd itself to rest. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Sonn., Prospect*, As fretful children do, Leaning their faces on the window-pane To sigh the glass dim.

5. a. To lament (an event, circumstance, etc.) with sighing.

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XXX, I sigh the lacke of many a thing I sought. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III, No..kinsman left To weepe my fate, or sigh my funerall. 1695 PRIOR *Ode Queen's Death*, Ages to come..Shall bless her Name, and sigh her Fate.

†**b.** To desire or long for (something). *Obs.*

1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 224 God's beauty is then..that, that we ought to sigh, all other desires are unjust.

Sigh, erron. var. of SITH, since; obs. var. SYE.

Sigher (sə͡iəɹ). [f. SIGH *v.*] One who sighs.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, When my daughters exequies approach, Let's all turne sighers. 1612 *Two Noble K.* II. i, I could wish my selfe a Sigh to be so chid, or at least a Sigher to be comforted. 1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* IV. i, Never was there such a sigher..as that unfortunate youth, during the absence of her he loved. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 225 Their lovers are generally constant simple sighers, both of a mind. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 16 June, I have been no sigher in shades—no writer of 'Songs and sonnets [etc.]'. 1879 BLACK *Macleod of Dare* XXX, Is she likely.. to prove a sigher?..A woman who goes about the house all day sighing.

Sighful (sə͡iful), *a. rare.* [f. SIGH *sb.* + -FUL.] Sorrowful; sad.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Tropheis* 1285 In a cave hard by he roareth out A sigh-full Song. *a* 1618 — *Hymn of Alms* 276 A sighfull Air (though Soule-less) to respire. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 53 The dank thoughts that shiver Upon the sighful branches of my mind.

Hence **Si·ghfully** *adv. rare.*

1900 *Academy* 27 Oct. 375/2 Cromwell..'sought the Lord'..sighfully and tearfully, beating his breast.

Sighing (sə͡iiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SIGH *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; sorrow, grief.

a. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* XXXVII. 9 Lauerd,..fra þe noght hid es mi sighinge. *a* 1400 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 27 My loue is euere in sikinge While y dwelle in þis way. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2295 Whan þat þei were to-gidre sette, þis Medea with syȝing first abreyde. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* lxi. 2, I might geue vnto them..ioyful oyntment for sighinge. 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 365 A plague of sighing and griefe, it blowes a man vp like a Bladder. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* XX, From haunted spring..The parting Genius is with sighing sent. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* IV. i, Your Breasts that heave with sighing. *a* 1827 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 510 Often accompanied, in sighing, with deep and long drawn intonations, which we call groans. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* II. ii. (1879) 356 Sighing is a deep and long-drawn inspiration chiefly through the nose followed by a somewhat shorter, but correspondingly large expiration.

attrib. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vi. 6 (Vesp. MS.), I swanke in mi sighinge-stede. 1603 PETOWE *Eliza's Funerall* A iv, Your sighing weedes put off. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXI. 15 In the quiver were Arrows a number, sharp and sighing gear. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Ep.* I. vii. 37 And o'er the flowing Bowl, in sighing Strain, [give me] To talk of wanton Cinera's Disdain.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 666 Cristne men þat saw þis thinge, faste cuth gret with ser sichinge. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 333 Dolour Infinyte,..With sobbyng, syching, sorrow, and with syte. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* lii, Oursett with inwart siching sair. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 224 Was nocht but grief.. And sichan' 'mang the monkish bands.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this; a sigh.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1088 Quen he eie a-pon him kest, A sighing of his hert brest. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1040 Fyrumbras ..made a grete syȝyng. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5052 With sare sighingis & sadd for sake of his wirdis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. 6 As he lay in a certeyne tyme by the fire, in siȝyngis and gryntingis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 59 b, Shewynge the same with swete teares and often syghynges. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) x. 53 Thair is nocht wie Can estimie My sorrow and my sichingis sair. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* III. 158 Broth made of an old cock..is good for long feavers, sighings [etc.]. 1877 M. ARNOLD *New Sirens* 70 Round our hearts with long caresses, With low sighings, [1849 sighs hath] Silence stole.

2. *transf.* Of the wind, etc.

1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* v. 60 The poor bird was beaten back with the loud sighings of an eastern winde. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXX, No sound was heard, except the sighing of the wind among the battlements. 1817 SHELLEY *Pr. Athanase* II. ii. 43 The far sighings of yon piny dale Made vocal by some wind. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXI, The gentle sighing of a broken pane of glass. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 258 The sighing of the wind in the trees

Sighing (sə͡iiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SIGH *v.*]

1. Accompanied by, uttered with, a sigh. Also *transf.*

c 1440 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 22 This man, cummynge a-forne the Auter.., with sighynge terys his mercy mekely besowght. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 68 And than to hym..I did complayne, wyth syghing teres depe. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* II. l, Sleep sighing words; stop all your discontenting; Sleep beaten breast [etc.]. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* XVI, Wan they stand and sere..,With dew all turned to tears; odour, to sighing ruth. 1863 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. XXIX. (1874) 155 Happy he, when..earth's sighing gladness Wrings the heart no more.

2. Of persons, etc.: That sigh(s). Also *transf.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 117 My sighing brest, shall be thy Funerall bell. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. XXXIX. 255 In our happiest prospects, the sighing heart will confess imperfection. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 309 Successive loads succeeding broils impose, And sighing millions prophesy the close. 1810 JANE PORTER *Scottish Chiefs* XIII, I am no gloomy, no sighing recluse. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Sonn. fr. Portug.* IX, To let thee..hear the sighing years Re-sighing on my lips renunciative.

b. *transf.* Of the wind, trees, etc.

1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 192 Let sighing Gales breathe ..in harmonious consonance to Him. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 178 A wind Will rush out of the sighing pine-forest. 1860 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 139 Between the high banks of sighing reed. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 302 The sighing, whispering, sad-voiced water-oaks.

Si·ghingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a sighing manner; with or accompanied by sighing.

1402 HOCCLEVE *Lett. of Cupid* 22 Her wordes spoken ben so syghyngly. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 307 She answered syghynly; alas, holy fader [etc.]. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 253 Then turnd she sighingly within her bed. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr. Progr.* (1900) 40 Christian..had no more talk but with himself, and that sometimes sighingly. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 137 The populace, sighingly, gave my Arabella for lost. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 5 Aug., The statues, busts, and pictures, which again I sighingly quitted, with a longing wish [etc.]. 1833 MRS. JAMESON *Crt. Beauties Chas. II* (1872) 170 He was for this time seriously and sighingly in love. 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Gk. Chr. Poets* ii. P 3 To go back sighingly to the tragedy, where we shall have to sigh again.

†**Si·ghingness.** *Obs.*[−1] [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of uttering sighs.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ci. 6 Fra steuen of mi sighingnesse [*v.r.* sikingnesse] Kliued mi mouth to mi flessche.

Sighless (sə͡iles), *a. rare.* [f. SIGH *sb.* + -LESS.] Giving or sending forth no sigh.

c 1835 MRS. BROWNING *Felicia Hemans* i, O'er the sighless songless lips, the wail and music wedding. 1838 — *Seraphim* Epil. iii, So soon to lie Sighless, because then breathless, in the tomb.

Sight (sə͡it), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 1 sihð, 2–3 sihðe (3 sihh-), 4 siþe, 4–5 sith, syth, 5 sythte; 1 sighð, 3 sig(ð)he, sihȝeðe, 4 ziȝþe, zyȝþe, 5 syȝth, 6 sygth. β. 2–3 syhte, 2–4 siht(e, 3 seht(e, sichte, 4–6 *Sc.* sicht, sycht, 7 *Sc.* seicht; 3–4 seȝt (4 seiȝt), 3–5 siȝt(e, 4 -tte), siȝhte, syȝt(e; 3 sigt(e, sygte, 5 sygt; 4–6 syght (5 seght), 4–7 syghte, sighte, 3– sight; 4–7 site, 9 *north.* seet. [OE. *sihð* (rare, usually *gesihð, gesiht*, I-SIGHT), = MDu. *sicht, zicht* (Du. *zicht*, Fris. *sicht*), MLG. *sichte* (hence Da. and Sw. *sigt*), OHG. *siht* (G. *sicht*), f. *sih-* the stem of SEE *v.* + -TH.]

I. 1. A thing seen, esp. of a striking or remarkable nature; a spectacle.

In early use chiefly of something strange or supernatural.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ix. 9 [He] bebead ðæm þætte ne ænixum..ða sihðo ȝesæȝdon. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark xvi. 8 Hyo..wæren aferde for þare sihðe þe hyo ȝeseȝen. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1607 Ha awundreden ham swiðe of þat sihðe. *c* 1275 LAY. 3897 Þreo daiȝes hit reinede blod... Þat was a wel wonder siht. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* II. 911 Swa grysly a sight saw he never nane. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 115 Wherof the Cite sore afflyhte, Of hem that sihen thilke syhte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 37 Vnder that water be two dragons that see no sight. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* vii. 441 The sycht with out was awfull for to se. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 306 b, My hert bresteth to se this syght. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) F ij, White teeth is a good sight in a woman. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 433, I saw in Irelands North-parts, two remarkable sights:..The other as goodly sight I saw. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XIII. *Acis, Polyphemus, & Galatea* 157 What fouler sight can be, Than the bald branches of a leafless tree? 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 306 How sad a sight is human happiness To those whose thought can pierce beyond an hour! 1803–6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* i, The earth, and every common sight. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* ii. 17 There is, perhaps, no sight in the material world more magnificent than that of the starry firmament. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Human Reason* 53 A name can only be a certain sound, or, if written, a certain sight.

†**b.** A vision. *Book of sights*, the Apocalypse.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John, Int. 1 Iohannes..in pathma ealond þæt boc ðæru sighðana [L. *apocalipsen*] eac awrat. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 32 Him-self he cam bi nighte, And schewede heom ȝware is heued lay ase it were in a sighte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18984 Yur yongmen [sal] sightes se. Yur eldrin men sal dremes dreme. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 Þou miȝt.. ete of þe trawe of liue, ase god zayþ ine þe boc of zihþe. 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sight that disceyveth ones jugement, *illusion*. 1581 A. ANDERSON *Shield of Saf.* (title-p.), Vpon Symeons sight, in hys Nunc dimittis. 1611 COTGR., *Vision*, a vision, sight, apparition, fantasie. 1825 LAMB *Mem. Liston* in *Eliana* (1867) 64 He was subject to sights, and had visions.

c. *pl.* Those features or objects in a particular place or town which are considered to be specially worth seeing.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 400 We tooke a Guide, and so proceeded in our sights. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Apr. 1646, We came this evening to Brescia, which next morning we traverst..in search of antiquities and new sights. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxv, You may go and see sights the whole day. 1835 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 44 Other sights we have seen none, except the British Museum and the King and Queen. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 183 A high class courier, well acquainted with the proper sights to be seen in each town.

2. A show or display *of* something; hence, a great number or quantity; a multitude; a 'deal' or 'lot'. Now *colloq.* or *slang*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 121 Out of his sepulture Ther sprong ..Of floures such a wonder syhte [etc.]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 239 He..brouȝhte to Yorke also a noble siȝhte of bookes. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 85 Ye sawe never suche a syght of schyppys take in to Englond thys c. wynter. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 91 A great redy Poole, whither an innumerable sight of Stares resort at night. 1577–82 BRETON *Flourish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 10/1 A sight of Asses then, there stoode in Battell ray. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III, O ye Gods, what a sight of things do not I want? 1752 STUKELEY *Mem.* (1882) I. 83 An infinite sight of rare flowers. 1778 SHERIDAN & TICKELL *Camp* I. ii, They wear..a large hat and feather, and a mortal sight of hair. 1800 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 231 She expresses herself more warmly than the rest, for she sends him a 'sight of thanks'. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. viii. 216 A sight of gentlemen goes over to see that old lady.

b. Used adverbially. *colloq.* or *slang*.

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. 49 One eats and drinks a considerable sight more than one does at home. 1854 HAWTHORNE in Bridge *Pers. Recoll.* (1893) 144 It is a devilish sight harder to write to a President..than to a private man. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* I. ii, He's had a fine sight more schoolin' nor I ever got. 1889 G. ALLEN *Tents of Shem* II. 122 You're a sight too clever for me to talk to.

†**3.** Aspect, appearance, look. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25586 Com an wunderlic deor æst in þan leofte ladlic an sehte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 147 Ely of fairest place, of fairest siȝt roucestre. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 57 Þat dungun in þat deope dale þat dredful is of siht. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xi. 2 Preise thou not a man in his fairnesse; ne dispise thou a man in his siȝt [L. *visu*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 452/1 Semely, yn syghte, *decens*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vj, Neuer the lees this engraylyng is no propur langage aftir the sight of thys cros. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xliii. 2 His sight to loke vpon was like the first. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 280 His bearde, which was now growne and did chaunge the sight of his face verie much. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ezek.* i. 22 *comm.*, A similitude over the heades of the living creatures of the firmament, as it were the sight of christal dreadful. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 532 All that by false weights, false measures, or false sights have imposed upon their customers.

II. 4. The perception or apprehension *of* something by means of the eyes; the presentation *of* a thing to the sense of vision.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ȝe schulen hebben..þe brihte sihðe of Godes nebscheft. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10841 þis leuedi duted noght þe sight O þis angel þat was sa bright. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1239 Wel hath Fortune y-turned thee the dys, That hast the sighte of hire, and I thabsence. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (1895) 75 The sonne of a heerd man, the whyche was as deed only by the syghte of the sayde dragon. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiii. 68 They loste yᵉ syght of yᵉ castell, it was clene vanysshyd a way. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 31 Wee had on our left hande the sight of the Ilandes. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 30 But no sooner lost shee once the sight of him [etc.]. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* Ep. Ded., So far hath your Highness vouchsafed (having happened on the sight of this Tractate) to express favour thereunto. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 15 Therefore he never inform'd the Captain of the Sight of Land. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, I did think the sight on her would but vex your Reverence. 1845 PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 27 Unable any longer to bear the sight of one who had pleaded guilty to so great a crime. 1885 E. GARRETT *At Any Cost* v. 85 He had had a preconceived idea which the sight of Mr. Sandison shattered for ever.

b. With possessive pron. or genitive case.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ierusalem bitacneð gripes sihþe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 674 Ȝiff he seþ þatt mann iss ohht Forrfæredd off hiss sihhþe. *c* 1275 *Moral Ode* 361 in *O. E. Misc.*, Nis þer no Murehþe so muchel so is godes syhte. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. T.* 866 If þat youre eyen kan nat seen aright, Looke þat youre mynde lakke noght his sight. 1594 DANIEL *Cleopatra* IV. 1074 Although they need such actors of deceit, Yet still our sight seemes to vpbraid their wrong. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 255 You must needs dine with me...I am ioyfull of your sights. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* x. 70 You, (alas, that I shou'd find it so!) To shun my sight, your Native Soil forego. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i, When thy lov'd Sight shall bless my Eyes again. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 263 Sully yourselves no longer by my sight!

c. Without article, chiefly in phrases as *to catch, have, lose sight of*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 To ȝiuen þe ancre brihte sihðe of heouene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23330 þe seli sal o þaim ha sight, Bot þof þai se þam [etc.]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 57 Feith had first siȝte of hym, ac he flegh on syde. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* (1896) 6 Mych hit gladet his hert..þat he myght in fayr weder haue somdell syght of his lond. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 49 Our Generall sent Captain Jobson and the master to take sight of such commodities as they weare ladend withall. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iii. 155 That he was able at first sight of them to give each of the beasts a name expressive of its nature. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 289 With Sight of Arms and Sounds of Trumpets nurst. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 263 Our people ran after him.., but as he had the advantage of being on horseback, he soon lost sight of them. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* XLVIII, Wondering, Until her heart felt pity to the core At sight of such a dismal labouring.

1837- [see CATCH *v.* 46]. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 13 As if he dreaded losing sight of her.

fig. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 73/1 It would not be much Matter what I began upon, for I would presently lose Sight of that. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 296 The conjecture was not lost sight of by contemporary or succeeding botanists. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 42 The higher the view which men take of life, the more they lose sight of their own pleasure or interest.

d. The first perception or view *of* something. Usually in phr. *at* or *upon* (*the*) *sight of*.

1471 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 130 That incontinent vpon the sighte of thies ye schew [etc.]. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 341 The thrid day nixt eftir the resset and sycht heirof. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ii. 7 At sight of which the Captaine generall went to lande. 1625 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1726) XVIII. 60 Upon Sight of theis our Letters Pattents. 1670–98 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 9 The servant upon sight of the paper, presently threw her fifty crowns. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 361 On sight of them drew up their forces. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 351/1 At sight of the sharps or flats prefixed to the tune to be sung,..you have of course the places of the semitones. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. XXVII, Sir Roderick..Redden'd at sight of Malcolm Græme.

e. A position or point commanding or giving a view *of* something. Chiefly *in* or *within* († *the*) *sight of*. Also *transf.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxi. 241 He came within the syght of Burdeux. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xii. 14 Passing further towards the sight of the yles De la Galite, & des Symboles. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 700 Fountaines, built within the sight of it [Ripon]. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* (1669) 279 The 16. About 10. in the morning we passed in sight of Dover-Castle. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 321 When that the army of the Hoppingtots did peregrinate within sight of Gotham. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 71 Even within the sight of the high towers of Antioch. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 764/1 We are not yet in possession of ritual peace, but for the first time we are fairly in sight of it.

5. A view, look, or glimpse *of* something.

c 1205 LAY. 20929 Nænne siht of londe iseon heo ne mahten. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1623 He nolde þe gywes leue ȝiue.. þat hii moste of þe boru enes abbe an siȝte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 57 Faith on hym hadde furst a sight ac he fleih a-syde. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lii, Quen aythir of othir hade a siȝte, Suche a lufue be-tuene hom liȝte. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 240 Schyr Jhone Butler..Out fra his men of Wallace had a sicht. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 204 b, Whan the Pristes not without monye let them have a syght therof. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 397 [His] presence to me after so long a sight of Hethnike strangers was exceeding comfortable. 1692 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 198 You should have had a sight of the Copy. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* XXVIII, He had some difficulty, he said, to get a sight of his landlord. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* vii. 99 One sight of a savage in a life-time was as much as most settlers had. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xii, A sight of you, Mr. Harding, is good for sore eyes.

† **b.** *At one sight*, in a single look, from one point of view. *Obs.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 483 Seuyne score of scheildis thai schew at ane sicht. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 283 The City..can not be seene all at one sight; saue on this Mountaine.

c. *fig.* A look *into* a matter. Cf. INSIGHT *sb.*[1] 2 b.

1592 GREENE *Ned Browne* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 27 There is no Art but he will haue a superficiall sight into. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 131, I joined myself to a house-painter..on condition of his giving me a sight into his business.

d. *Sc.* A station on the bank of a river, etc., from which the movements of salmon are observed.

1805 *State Leslie of Powis*, etc. 56 (Jam.), That the fishers used sights, during the fishing season, upon Fraserfield's grounds..; that the westmost sight was above the Fluicky-shot [etc.].

6. With omission of the dependent genitive, in phrases related to 4 d:

a. *At* († *the, as to the*) *first sight.*

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8029 He kneu þam at þe first sight. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) V. 40 At the firste sight..Men knele to him. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 160 As to the first sicht, it semys that [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 43 b, Hys serjante porter, which knewe hym at the fyrste sighte. 1579, 1702 [see FIRST *a.* 1 e]. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Axiom*,..a Proposition whose Truth every Person perceives at the first Sight.

(*b*) *a* 1593, 1611 [see FIRST *a.* 1 e]. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. XXVI. 137 In which definition, there is nothing that is not at first sight evident. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 166 P 3 You may see them at first Sight grow acquainted by Sympathy. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 29 I'm glad to see him, however, he has pleased me at first Sight. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. vi. § 1 Propositions which at first sight present themselves as verbal. 1875 [see FIRST *a.* 1 e].

b. *At* (formerly also *on* or *upon*) *sight*, used spec. with reference to the payment of bills. Also, in this connexion, *after sight* (see quot. 1835).

(*a*) 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 277 Let it be expressed in your bill that the money be paid upon sight. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 63 He that receives a Bill payable at sight, or some dayes after sight, &c. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busy Body* II. i, The frugal hand can bills at sight defray. 1767 FRANKLIN *Wks.* (1887) IV. 86 Being payable in cash, upon sight, by the drawer. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 399/1 At first, no doubt, the order was to pay..'on sight'. *Ibid.*, In modern times, the more frequent practice has been to make them payable at so many days after sight. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 53 We have..considered all bills as drawn payable at sight.

(*b*) 1673 *Humours Town* 60 One that will play at sight, tilt at sight (that is without Thought or Consideration), and whore at sight. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Pk—* vi, If they command the storms to blaw, Then upo' sight the hailstanes thud. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 270 Those who are not able to sing at sight. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 205, I swore to shoot the old warrigal at sight. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 277/1 The cowboy who lives in constant apprehension of being shot at sight.

c. *At* (so many) *days'* (etc.) *sight*, of bills.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3730/4 A Bill drawn..at 6 days sight. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5472/4 A Bill..payable..at 15 Days Sight. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XV, A goldsmith's bill at six days' sight. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* V. 100 Inland bills of exchange are drawn on demand, at so many days', or weeks', or months', sight or date, as the case may require.

7. A look or glance (at something or in a certain direction). Now *rare.*

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 280 in *O. E. Misc.*, Þer schule þe wrecche soulen iseon þat sunegeden bi sihtes. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7886 (Gött.), Þe king kast anis on hir a sight. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. iii. 119 Þe damysele caste on hire a siht. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* V, Fortune euer since I was a lad, Did smile vpon mee with a chearefull sight. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) iii. 18 Be sicht or smyle lat non knaw ȝour intentis. 1611 COTGR., *Oeil*, the eye;..a sight, a looke. 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict., Compass*, an Instrument..much more easy to be understood by a Sight, than the best description. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 141, I fell..struck blind By the sight within your eyes. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. XX, When you are coming down the alley give a sight up, sir, and you'll see me.

b. An observation with a surveying or other similar instrument; an aim with a gun, etc.

1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. and Voy.* viii. 121 Some sights obtained for the chronometer gave the longitude 94° 40'. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creator* Pref. (1874) p. lxvi, Across which he may safely take his sights and lay down his angles. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 151 All the way down I was either taking sights or working them out, and soon got pretty handy with my sextant.

c. *slang.* (See quots.)

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. 77 She proceeded to place her two hands extended in a right line from the tip of her nose.., after the fashion of what is called taking a double sight. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 214 'To take a sight at a person,' a vulgar action employed by street boys to denote incredulity, or contempt for authority, by placing the thumb against the nose and closing all the fingers except the little one, which is agitated in token of derision. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 186/1 Playfully 'taking a sight' with extended finger and thumb.

d. *U.S.* 'A straight stretch of road, as one along which a sight may be taken in surveying; a line uninterrupted by a bend or an elevation' (*Cent. Dict.*).

III. 8. The faculty or power of seeing, as naturally inherent in the eye; eyesight.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Ȝif he binimeð us ure sihte,.. oðer us crokeð on fote oðer on honde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 27 Ore swete louerd..smot him and bi-nam him is siȝt. 13.. *Sir Beues* 3108 Þow hauest so swonke.., Þow hauest ne3 for-lore þe siȝt. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 308 Þre siȝtis fallen to man; þe first is bodili siȝt, þat fallib to mannis eien, þe while he wakiþ. 1460 CAPGR. *Chron.* (Rolls) 8 He began first graving in metallis, to plesauns of the sith. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xii, I praye to the goddes that they vouchesauf to send me my syght ageyne. 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sight, *ueue, uision.* 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XXX. 13 Most Eyes have perfect Sight, tho' some be blind. 1637 HEYWOOD *Lond. Spec.* Wks. 1874 IV. 315 Sight is the most soveraigne sence, the first of five. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 15 The knowledge of Man..hath hitherto been determin'd by the view or sight. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 145 They are exceeding nimble, of an exquisite quick Sight. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* iii. 35 He has a keener sight into the place of storms than we. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bd.* 77 A spectacle that turns The sight o' the eyes to pity. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 7 His sight was exquisitely keen and clear.

b. *fig.* Mental or spiritual vision. See also SECOND SIGHT.

c 1200 ORMIN 5799 Fowwre der..þatt Godess þe ww Ezechyel Sahh þurrh gastlike sihhþe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 þis ..cnowunge kumeð of gostliche sihðe. *c* 1350 *S. Ambrosius* 43 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 8/2 þat inward siht þat Ambrose hedde in God Almiht. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 308 Þe þridde..is siȝt of mynde of mannis soule. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2848 Ȝif þat euery wiȝt Aduerten schuld & castyn in his siȝt Of future þing [etc.]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXV. i, To thee, O Lord most just, I lift my inward sight. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. xiv. § 7 The sight of their Mind more directly penetrative into the Divine presence. 1735 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* 135 The Sight of the Mind differs very much from the Sight of the Body. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 395 The soul, whose sight all-quick'ning grace renews.

9. The sense or power of vision in relation to the individual possessing or exercising it; freq. approaching to a concrete use, = eye or eyes. † Formerly also in *pl.* of a number of persons, etc.

c 1200 ORMIN 5495 Wiþþ þatt itt iss inn heoffness ærd Biforenn Godess sihhþe. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 904 He is to ure sihðe unsehelich in his ahne cunde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7886 Þe king kest ans on hir his sight. 1340 *Ayenb.* 267 Ich wente myne zihþe uor to yzi þe ilke holy ordres of þe gostes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 206 To make his soule fair..to goddis siȝtte as he makiþ him bisi..for þe siȝtte of men. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 307 Kepyng ther syȝth, and ther countynaunce saddly and religiously. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. x, Thow arte now moche playsaunt and fayr to the syghte of me. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apolk.* 35 The same are pale under their syghte and leane. 1592 GREENE *Disput. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 257 He.. would present his hart as a Tragick sacrifice to the sight of his cruel mistresse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 587 The slipp'ry God will..various Forms assume, to cheat thy sight. 1700 — *Sigism. & Guisc.* 715 Nor, farther word she spoke, but closed her sight. *a* 1771 GRAY *Tophet* 5 Our mother-church with half-averted sight. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.* 7 A fouler vision yet; an age of light, Light without love, glares on the aching sight.

pl. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* IX. (Percy Soc.) 33 O all ye cursed and such evyll fooes, Whose syghtes be blynded over all wyth foly. 1589 GREENE *Tullie's Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 112 Beautiful Ladies tickled with an earnest desire to satisfie their sightes with his Personage. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 125 From the hill tops wee dazell our sights in view of that sandy, stony, sterill desert.

b. *In one's sight*, before one's eyes.

c 1205 LAY. 25597 Me þuhte a mire sihȝeðe [*c* 1275 in mine sihte] þat þa sæ gon to berne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 622 Fiss on sund, and fouxl on flight, Was brogt all fort in his sight. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xiii. 13 It made fijr for to come doun fro heuen in to erthe, in the siȝt of alle men. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 62 Be I seyne in thar sicht,..Sum will me dulfully dicht. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XLIV. (Percy Soc.) 214 All thyng was visible In Goddes syght. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 5 b, He was advised by his frendes not to come in the Cardinalles syght. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 232 In the sight of the World, so as none should be able to denie it. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* ii. 370 His wife, his children, weeping in his sight.

c. *To sight*, to the eye; so as to be seen.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23968 Þai had him bath for-driuen and draun, Als sceud es us to sight. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1252 It was semand to siȝt as all þe soyle trymblid. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 28 We hard of no showting, too sight no sister apered. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Art Poet.* 208 He breaks to Light, And pours his specious Miracles to Sight. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 602 Not rude and surly,..And terrible to sight.

10. The range or field of one's vision; chiefly in phr. *out of one's sight.* Also *spec.* (quot. *c* 1865).

c 1200 ORMIN 3387 Þeȝȝ wenndenn fra þa wakemenn All ut off þeȝȝre sihhþe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 420 [He told] how sone of his seiȝt þe bestes seþþen ware. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 377 Or be me lief or be me loth, Out of my sighte forth he goth. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 19 For he na tyme suld be fra hys sicht. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Horizon*, the circle bounding our sicht. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 18 The visible things are gone out of our sight. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 500 Watchful Herons..Gain on the Skies, and soar above the Sight. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1812) I. vi. 321 The two armies lay in sight of each other. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1787 The ridge of mountains is interrupted by a plain of several leagues in extent, beyond which the sight was unbounded. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 168 Now get thee from my sight. *c* 1865 WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 76/1 The difficulty experienced by all persons.., is to find what is called their 'sight'; that is, the focal distance of the lens.

b. Without article, in the phrases *in sight, out of sight.*

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15884 Petre he folud him on ferr, For durst he noght in sight. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 175 Blessed mote þei alle be..That neuere shal se me in siȝte as þow doste nouthe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) XXXVII, He wende that no mon hade him herd, For he seȝhe non in siȝte. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1330 Kepe Gods feare in syght. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxix. (1674) 231 For fear of their Creditors, they have all played least-in-sight. 1717 POPE *Iliad* X. 222 And hostile Troy was ever full in Sight. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVII, Bothwell Bridge was at a little distance, and also in sight. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* III. 220 Goats in the meadows feeding without one watchman in sight.

(*b*) ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 342 Þey sayleþ faste: Arthour owt of syȝt ys paste. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 30 Whan man is oute of siȝt, sone he passiþ oute of mynde. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 79 If thou must spit, or blow thy nose, keepe thou it out of sight. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 133 Out of sight out of minde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 171 As soon as I was out of sight, I walked further towards the East. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 P 6 Remembering the old Proverb, Out of Sight out of Mind, I left the Room. 1797–1805 S. & H. LEE *Cant. T.* I. 350 He perceived [them] driven down the coast, and nearly out of sight. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXIII, When the sea breeze died away she was nearly out of sight. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. D. 874 He remained, as he alleged, out of sight of anyone entering the shop.

c. *Out of* (*all*) *sight*, immeasurably, beyond all comparison.

1821 in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 586/1, I consider Don Juan as out of all sight the best of your works. 1835 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 26 In most respects my situation is out of sight more suitable than it was at Craigenputtock. 1880 *Ch. Times* 22 Oct. 684 Under the old management, it was out of sight the most comic journal in England.

11. The exercise of the faculty of vision; the act of seeing or looking; esp. *by sight*, freq. denoting merely visual, as contrasted with more intimate, knowledge.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 183 Me knowe þ hem in eche lond bi siȝte þar me hem seþ. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 628 (Brit. Mus.), Oure mayne þee knewe þat ilke nyȝt, Bothe bi speche and by syȝt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 13, I..soiled it with syȝte or sum ydel speche. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XX. (Percy Soc.) 98 On whome my hole delyght Dayly was sette, upon her to have sight. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xiv. 5 The kocatrice keillis wi hir sicht. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. XVI. 172 A thousand sortes of hearbes and flowers,..in such sort, as a man cannot well conceive them without sight. 1680 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Aug., He told us that the things most worthy of our sight would be [etc.]. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 334 Then came flocking to him..those too who knew him not but by sight. 1831 *Society* I. 292, I assure you I mistook the person; Lord Conway is barely known to me by sight.

b. Examination, inspection, scrutiny. *Bill of sight*: (see quot. 1821).

In quots. 1452 and 1655 sense 12 a is possible.

1452–3 *Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 278 To gywe in the names of the tenantis..by the sighte of R. Dowdall. 1619 in W. Foster *Eng. Factories in India* (1906) 79 Pretending itt to

reserve them only for his first sight. 1655 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 188 Repaired and amended..at y^e^ sight and discression of Mr. Maior. 1662a *Order Ho. Comm. as to Customs* (1663) 1 For a Bill of sight, Bill of Sufferance, or any other imperfect Warrant. 1821 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* 327 A Merchant,..ignorant of the real quantities and qualities of his Goods,..may apply to the Collector and Comptroller for a Bill of Sight or View, in order that they may be brought on shore and examined. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 52 § 24 An entry by Bill of Sight.

c. *Line of sight*: (cf. LINE *sb.*[2] 11).

1559 [see LINE *sb.*[2] 11]. 1893 BALL *Story of Sun* 184 The amount of their movements along the line of sight.

12. a. Opinion, estimate, judgement; respect, regard, view. Now *rare*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11853 'Godd men,' he said, 'quat es your sight O mi fader þat þus es dight?' 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 32 Summe chosen Chaffare to cheenen þe bettre, As hit semeþ to vre siht þat suche men scholden. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3289 The secunde sir .. þat sewede thame aftyre Was sekerare to my sighte, and saddare in armes. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* IX. xix. (1541) B b iv, He had nothir reuerence to god, nor sicht to the commoun weil. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 419 At youre awin sychtis sche will sett fordwart that caus at hir power. 1607 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 242 To be disposed at the sight of [supervisors of will]. 1674 *Playford's Skill Mus.* III. 2, I assume that the true sight and judgment of the upper three must proceed from the lowest. 1851 WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gospels* viii. (ed. 5) 396 The first step to a right understanding of the Gospels must be the abandonment of this point of sight.

†b. Knowledge, skill, insight. Const. *in*. *Obs.* (Very common in the 16th cent.)

1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sight, knowledge, *perspicasité*. 1535 CRANMER *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 303 Surely I do much marvel of them both..having such sight in scriptures and doctors. 1581 in *Confer.* II. (1584) M iij, His sight in Greke was very litle or none at all. 1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 108 His sweete discourse, His sight in Musick and in heavenlie Arts.

IV. 13. a. The pupil of the eye. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 247 Macula is a wem in a mannys iȝe, & summe be white þerof & sittiþ vpon þe siȝt of þe iȝe, & summe bisidis þe siȝt. 1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sight of the eye, *le noyre de loyil*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 155 In either eie they haue two sights or apples. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. viii. (1686) 123 The horney Tunicle or Coat of the Eye, with the pupilla or sight. 1736 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 14 What they mean by the Ground of the Eye, is the Pupil or Hole thro' the Iris and Uvea, which the common People call the Sight of the Eye. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xiv. (1883) 43/1 His eyes were small and blue, with a large black sight in the middle. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sicht* of the ee. 1889 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Yorksh.).

†b. A visor. *Obs.*

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 122 For the grathing of the gilt ermyt [*sic*] my Lord of Owbigne gaif the King and for making of ane new sicht to it. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 197 b, The point of the axe of the lord Scales happened to enter into the sight of the healme of the bastard. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 121 Their eyes of fire, sparkling through sights of Steele. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 647 He pull'd down the sight of his Helmet.

c. *pl.* Spectacles. Now *dial.*

1619 H. HUTTON *Follies Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 39 An aged man, which spectacles did use Having them filcht.., Fearing the thiefe would not his sights restore [etc.]. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Oct., I bought me two new pair of spectacles of Purlington..; and his daughter..do advise me two very young sights. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 350 *Sights*, spectacles, glasses. 1899 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

†d. (See quot.) *Obs.*[—1]

1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 165 Glass-plates, or sights for looking-glasses.

14. An appendage to a surveying or observing instrument, serving to guide the eye.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 137 A ruler with two sightes, which we moue to and fro. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. vii. D j b, Forget not to haue two equall fine plates of brasse persed in the middes (for your sightes). 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xvi. 93 Take the Quadrant and look through the Sight at E. 1676 PHILLIPS *Purch. Pattern* 131 If a man have but a Ruler with sights..he may draw the foresaid lines to the several angles of the field. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 282 A Quadrant..and an Index moving upon its Center, furnished with Telescopic Sights. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Revol.* Wks. V. 312 An accurate land-surveyor, with his chain, sight, and theodolite. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* ii. 83 The tube or sight, fastened on the circle, works in the solid metallic centring. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 93/1 This prism..has, when so placed, a notched 'sight' on its upper surface.

b. A device, of the nature of a projection or notch, on a fire-arm or piece of ordnance, etc., to assist in taking aim.

In fire-arms and ordnance the sights are usually two in number, one at or near the muzzle and the other near the breech, the latter being adjustable so as to vary with the distance. In large guns the forms are often very complex.

1588 LUCAR tr. *Tartaglia's Colloq. Shooting* 18 When the levell sight which is set uppon the mouth of the peece is precisely so high as the levell sight which is set uppon the taile of the peece. 1591 SIR J. SMYTH *Instr. Milit.* 19*b* All their mosquets should be of one heigth or caliver of bullets with open sights. 1647 HEXHAM I, The sight of a crossebow, *het gesicht*. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1128 The sight in a gun or cross-bow, *scutula*. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 34 The foresight is aligned through the back sight with the object. 1890 *Times* 6 Dec. 15/3 Thousands of rounds were fired so rapidly..that in some cases the sights were actually melted.

15. The opening in a picture-frame; that part of the picture which shows in this.

1850 [see *sight-measure* in 17].

V. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *sight-aching, -fitting, -hungry, -hunter*, etc.

1593 NASHE *Christ's Tears* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 224 The.. *sight-aching botches of theyr vnsatiate intemperance, they will vnblushingly lay foorth. 1611 COTGR., *Advenant*, handsome,..well beseeming,..*sight-fitting. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* V. xii. 349 There the close of the exercises found them, patient and *sight-hungry as at the beginning. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 185 That professional *sight-hunters should go *sight-hunting. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 288 The Star-surveying Sage close to his Eye Applies the *Sight-invigorating Tube. 1593 NASHE *Christ's Tears* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 194 *Sight-killingly with his..frownes, he shall teache him, both that he is, and what he is. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vocation* 1008 What can the Sight of the *Sight-maker dim? 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 203 Ioues Lightning, the precursers O'th dreadfull Thunder-claps more momentarie And *sight out-running were not. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* I. 12 Their enemies were hidden in their own *sight-proof bush. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 759 That *sight-refreshing green Is still the liv'ry she [Nature] delights to wear. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* vi, The majority of *sight-seekers..know..little about the venerable edifice. 1895 E. OWEN in *Wks. G. Edwards* p. ix, There were then no fashionable inns to give accommodation to sight-seekers. 1896 *Cath. Mag.* June 350 It would be happiness to add its name to our list of *sight-seen countries. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 31 Monsters of nature, Nile-bred Crocodiles, *Sight-slaying Basilisks. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 44 The King of Virginia, that had two Squires..to lift up his Eye-lids... I am not bound to be any of his *Sight-supporters. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 613 There was a slight attack of left hemiplegia with headache, vertigo, and *sight-troubles.

b. In terms relating to the taking of surveys or observations, or denoting appliances used for this purpose, as *sight-alidade, -aligner, -angle, -beam*, etc.

1900 H. M. WILSON *Topogr. Surveying* vii. 161 A small *sight-alidade was devised by the author both for sighting directions, and for determining elevations by vertical angulation. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 97 The *sight-aligner and adjustable gun, invented in 1882. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxxiv. K iij b, From the Centre thereof, extend right lines.., wryting as before vppon euery of them the names of their places or markes, whereof they are the *sight Angles. *a* 1400 in Halliw. *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 63 Go toward it and froward it til þi *sight beme passe by þe heght of þe ȝerde and of þat thyng. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiii. 82 The Sight-beams over the ends of the Crosses. 1859 RUSKIN *Perspective* Introd. 9 Through the Sight-point, S, draw a horizontal line GH, right across your paper from side to side, and call this line the *Sight-line. *Ibid.* i. 99 The *Sight-magnitude of a line is the magnitude which bears, to the real line, the same proportion that the distance of the picture bears to the distance of the object. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* i. 24 *Sight-piece small and close to the muzzle. 1859 RUSKIN *Perspective* Introd. 9 The point S is to represent the point opposite which you wish the observer of your picture to place his eye in looking at it. Call this point the *Sight-point. 1883 R. G. WHITE *W. Adams* 121 He threw up his left arm, and took a *sight rest on it [with his revolver]. 1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* p. iv, The Groove E, wherein the *Sight-Staff slides to and fro. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiv. 85 If you see all Skie and no Water, then draw your *Sight-Vane a little lower. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 297 The sight vanes are pieces of brass standing perpendicularly to the plane of the instrument.

17. Special combs.: **sight-chase**, a chase in which the dogs hunt by sight; **†sight-court**, a place for public shows; **†sight-glasses**, spectacles; **sight-measure** (see sense 15); **sight-reader**, one who is able to read music at sight; so *sight-reading*; **†sight-shot**, the range of vision; **sight-singing**, the practice or art of singing at sight.

1897 *Outing* XXX. 127/1 Just in time to witness a short but pretty '*sight chase'. The dogs have seen the fox. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* (1556) 87 *Sightcourts, galereywalkes, and new churches, the more reuerentlie I fynde fault with for Pompeyus sake. 1605 tr. *P. de Loyes' Treat. Spect.* 59 It is well knowne that ordinarily the spectacles or *sight-glasses do make letters to seeme more great than they are indeede. 1850 *Jrnl. of Design* IV. 58 *Sight measure 4½ × 3½. 1866 *Athenæum* No. 2000. 277/2 The best *sight-readers in Europe. 1874 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* 5 A man may be a thoroughly accomplished musician,..a perfect sight-reader [etc.]. 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr. 551/2 The singer's power of independent '*sight-reading'. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Obscurity*, It only makes me run faster from the place, till I get, as it were, out of *sight-shot. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Solmization*, This preparatory exercise, so necessary to *sight-singing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 5/2 Sight-singing in elementary schools.

†Sight, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4 siȝt(e, 4–6 **sight**, 6 **syght**. [Cf. SIGHT *v.*[2] Not related to Du. *zucht*, which is for earlier **suft*.] A sigh.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15169 Mani sari sight [*v.r.* sigh, sikyng] ..þar sanc vn-til his hert. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 924 My seknes wiþ my siȝtes sumtime slakes. 1584 LODGE *Forbonius & Prisceria* 30 Not waying of her many louing sighes, Her watrie eyes, her secret moane by nights. 1584 *Pleas. Com. Two Ital. Gentl.* Dj, By the smoake of loouers scalding sighes [*rime* flighes].

†**Sight**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [? ad. LG. *sichte*: see SIFT *sb.*] A sieve or strainer.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 376 Pres it out strongly and put the decoction prest out through a wullen sight, and pres it out, that the substance may remaine in the sight.

Sight (səit), *v.*[1] Also 6 *Sc.* **syght, sicht**. [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *sichten, zichten* (rare), G. *sichten* (naut.), Da. *sigte*, Sw. *sigta*.]

1. *trans.* **†a.** *Sc.* To look at, view, inspect, examine, scrutinize. *Obs.*

1556 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 234 To..pas done with ane of the baillies to sycht the saidis stanis. 1578 *Supplication General Assembly* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 402 Quhen as zour Grace hes sichtit thir our laboris. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 303 None of us all knowing what was in the Clogbags till they were sighted. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. viii. § 1 The Body must in this case be sighted by Physitians. 1706 in J. Watson *Jedburgh Abbey* (1894) 42 That necessar it is workmen be imployed to sight and repair the samyn.

b. To examine by taking a sight.

1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 372/1 He reports..that the rails, sighted crosswise, are not as true as they should be.

2. To get or catch sight of, to see, to get or go within sight of (anything).

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvi. 315 Nor doth our Eie-sight see it selfe, nor Soule that sighteth it. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 375 Wilde beasts, whose hollow cryes, as we heard in the night, so we too often sighted their bodies in the day. 1819 O'MEARA *Trans. St. Helena* 36 The remarks which he asserts to have been made relative to sighting Napoleon. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* iv. (1856) 33 On the same day..we sighted the mountainous coast of Greenland. 1887 BESANT *World Went* vii, We sighted her one morning at daybreak.

b. *spec.* Of bills: (see quot.).

1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 103 A bill drawn at so many days' sight, must be computed exclusively of the day on which it is sighted, and inclusively of the day it falls due.

3. *intr.* To take a sight, *esp.* in shooting.

1842 J. F. COOPER *Jack o' Lantern* xxviii, Together they sighted, and together they fired. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 201/1 Then stooping and sighting along it, he moves the outer end of the lath. 1896 *Daily News* 27 July 9/3 He took matters very coolly, and sighted several times before he was satisfied.

†**Sight**, *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 *Sc.* **sicht-**, 6 **syght**. [? f. *sight*(*e*, pa. t. of SICHE *v.*] *intr.* To sigh.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 1138 In his hart he mad mayne & sichtit sare. *c* 1450 *Abce* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 67 Be not to sadde, to sorry, ne sight not to deep. *c* 1475 in *Rel. Antiq.* I. 71 Whan other men doyth sleype, Thene do I syght and weype.

Sightable, *a.* [f. SIGHT *v.*[1]] Comparatively clear.

1888 *Times* 18 Aug. 5/1 At 3 o'clock the chief officer reported that the weather was 'sightable', with occasional rain.

Sighted (səi·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] + -ED.]

1. Having sight of a specified kind.

See also *dim-, far-, long-, sharp-, short-, weak-sighted*.

1552– [see QUICK-SIGHTED]. 1586– [see CLEAR-SIGHTED]. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 159 Of an ill tree I hope you are not so ill sighted in graffing to expect good frute. 1596 SPENSER *Hymn Beauty* 235 Louers eyes more sharply sighted bee Then other mens. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VI. 162 That he might see this lovely-sighted maid. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 6 By which both senses being united Does render them much better sighted. 1791–3 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1799) I. 17 Who guide the helm of Britain half-seas over, Yet double-sighted keep an eye on Port. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. xii. § 1 Any of us whose heart is rightly tuned, or whose mind is clearly and surely sighted. 1866 S. B. JAMES *Duty & Doctr.* (1871) 153 Uncivilized, imperfect-sighted heathen men.

b. Having sight *like* something specified.

1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 643 Those are sighted like the bat, who see not the things most manifest in nature. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 388 Make me not sighted like the Basilisque.

2. Endowed with sight; able to see. Also *absol.*

1836 LANDOR *Minor Prose Pieces* Wks. 1853 II. 467/2 Above all others, blind or sighted, he is so ready to take advantage of the slightest word, that [etc.]. 1860 *Macm. Mag.* III. 56 If the sighted would help the blind. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 July 2/2 Two pretty boats manned each by six blind little lads and one sighted person.

transf. 1887 *Athenæum* 17 Dec. 818/3 Without sighted supervision the industrial competition [of the blind] with seeing workmen is too unequal to be maintained.

3. Furnished or fitted with a sight or sights.

1859 *Musketry Instr.* 28 It may sometimes occur that the rifle is not accurately sighted as to elevation. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 142 The gun is sighted centrally. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 432 One's rifle ought to be carefully sighted up to at least four hundred yards.

4. (See quot.)

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 306 If the hair as seen through the lens appears straight and bisects the interval between the black dots it is said to be in its sighted position.

Sightening. [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1]] In calico-printing, a fugitive colour used to test the quality of the work.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2176/2.

Sighter (səi·tər). [f. SIGHT *v.*[1]]

†1. *Sc.* An inspector. *Obs.*

1708 in *Hist. Regality of Musselburgh* (1857) 22 The two present magistrates and sighters to be present at the cutting and selling.

2. In card-sharping: (see quot.).

1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 196 'Sighters'..are simply minute dots upon the faces of the cards.

3. A sighting shot in rifle or artillery shooting.

1897 *Times* 23 July 8/1 Black, a sighter for tie shots, made 11 [bulls] in succession. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 4/3 They had..to fire three tie-shots off with a sighter allowed.

†**Sightful**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1]]

1. Visible.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Catherine*) 369 [He] is a god... wnsichtfull and sichtfull bedene. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* Prol. (Skeat) I. 58 The unsene privitees of god, made to us sightful..in our contemplacion and understonding. *Ibid.* III. ix. 98 How was it, that sightful manna in deserte to children of Israel was spirituel mete? 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* IIb vij, These vaynes appering .. immediatly vnder the skyn, very conspicuous and syghtful.

2. Endowed with sight; seeing. Also *fig.*

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1596) 59 The vnderstanding groweth more sharpe and sightfull. *Ibid.* 97, I cannot forgoe to thinke, that the reasonable soule seuered from the body..hath a power sightfull. 1613 CHAPMAN *Masque Inns of Crt.* Plays 1873 III. 106 Tis passing miraculous that your dul and blind worship should so sodainly turne both sightful and witful.

3. Sightly, pleasant to the eye.

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 180 His priest.. set forth the buildinges with divers comely and sightfull workes. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xvi. 11 The fulnesse of joye is matched ageinste the syghtfull entycements of the worlde.

Hence † **Si·ghtfulness,** the power of seeing. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1605) 149 Let vs not winke though void of purest sightfullness. *Ibid.* 219 My praier is Thou maist loue her, that I may see thy sightfullnesse.

Sighth, obs. form of SITHE, to sigh.

Si·ght-hole. [SIGHT *sb.*[1]] A hole to seethrough, *esp.* in a surveying or other instrument.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 29 Then rayse upand downe the ruler (having two sight holes made in it) unto the sonne. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 71 Wee of the offring side Must .. stop all sight-holes. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* VI. 72 Slain by the splinter of a Lance which wounded him thorow the sight-hole of his Helmet. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. xxiv. 130 Which will shew at what height the Sight-hole standeth. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 296 A small sight-hole, made through a piece of brass. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 50 The sight-hole..is still unfurnished with a glass of any sort. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 110/2 The sight-holes provided in the smoke-boxes of certain stationary boilers of the locomotive type.

† **b.** The pupil of the eye. *Obs.*

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1027 They contract much their pupilla or sight-hole of the Eye.

Sighting (sə·itiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SIGHT *v.*]

† **1.** A method of cheating at dice. *Obs.*

c 1752 *Art & Myst. Gaming* Title-p., The Art and Manner of working with a Great-Box; Eclipsing, Sighting, Waxing and Popping, &c.

2. The action of looking, catching sight *of*, inspecting or examining, etc.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXV. (1856) 203 The mere sighting of a distant coast. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 2/1 Thus enabling the docking, sighting, cleaning, painting, and undocking of vessels to be accomplished in one tide.

3. The action of giving to a gun the proper elevation and direction to hit the object aimed at.

1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 8 Feb. 1/3 The gunners were ignorant of the process of sighting. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 235 The British Admiral bore ungrudging witness.. to the excellent sighting of the guns.

4. *attrib.*, esp. *sighting-shot*, a preliminary shot allowed to each competitor in a shooting-match.

1861 *Times* 12 July, They had sold..8,000 tickets for the sighting targets. 1872 *Daily News* 15 July, He..fired his two sighting-shot bull's-eyes straight from the shoulder. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 397/2 The disk of the sighting rod is turned up to coincide with the sight. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 5/1 The sighting-room of the Royal Gun Factories.

† **Si·ghting,** *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SIGHT *v.*[2]] Sighing.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10496 (Gött.), To-quilys scho mened þus hir care, wid weping and wid sihting sare. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* Aiij, Craft in them renewyng that neuer decays, Theyre seyenges, sightynges, pronokynges, theyr plays.

† **Si·ghting,** *vbl. sb.*[3] [? ad. LG. *sichting* (G. *sichtung*), vbl. sb. f. *sichten* to sift: cf. SIGHT *sb.*[3]] The result of straining; strained matter.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 376 Sieth this sighting to the thiknes of hony.

Sightless (sə·itlės), *a.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Unable to see; destitute of the power of sight; blind.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1528 Ysaac Wurðede sighteles and elde swac. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) 15 Thus witless thoughtful, sightles lokinge, I endure my penaunce in this derke prison. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 54 And for he þis vtward ioys onely desirs, in in-wardly & vnsene blyndyd als wer sytheles to fyre gois. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 305 Baith sichtles, and michtles, I grew almaist at anis. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xliii, When in dead night thy faire imperfect shade..on sightlesse eyes doth stay. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 47 Were all seeing things sightless, there would be no colours. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 221 He who sightless wants his visual ray. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* V. 824 Sightless, of all thought bereft, He sank. 1842 LONGF. *Warning* ii, A cruel mockery of his [Samson's] sightless woe. 1879 G. ALLEN *Colour-Sense* iii. 27 The eye of the bee, of the cuttlefish, and of the eagle, have each apparently been separately developed from unlike remote sightless ancestors.

fig. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 416 The truth she loves a sightless world blaspheme. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* Jiii, She performed this journey with sightless eyes, and took little pleasure in the countries she traversed.

b. Deprived of the sight *of* something. *rare*—[1].

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 470 Being sightlesse of company, and humane faces.

2. Invisible, unseen, dark; impenetrable by vision.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. xi. 44 The scouring windes that sightlesse in the sounding aire doe flie. 1603 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 343, I have been well nighe driven heretofore into narrowe straits, amongste state rocks and sightless dangers. 1613 HEYWOOD *Bras. Age* Wks. 1874 III. 249 Hath any sightlesse and infernall fire Laid hold vpon my flesh? 1740 [S. BOYSE] *Deity* (1749) 11 He shuns the view of Sense, Lost in the blaze of sightless excellence. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 45 Following a soaring falcon through the half-sightless regions of the air. 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 115 They were even sightless to us, we could see nothing but the blaze from the muzzles of their muskets. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXV, Drown'd in yonder living blue The lark becomes a sightless song. 1888 B. W. RICHARDSON *Son of a Star* I. xii. 184 Touchless with human hands, Sightless with human eyes.

† **3.** Unsightly. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 45 Full of vnpleasing blots, and sightlesse staines. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 375 Ah! sightlesse desarts! fil'd with barren Sands!

4. Out of sight.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 381 Tvnneis beene sightlesse left, I sought the Ile Of little Malta. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXXI. (motto), Their tears..as they fall, sink sightless.

Hence **Si·ghtlessly** *adv.*, without having the faculty of sight.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1883 E. ARNOLD *Indian Idylls* 241 He lay,..with fierce eyes Roving the wood, and seeing sightlessly. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 159 His eyes ranged sightlessly after the boy.

Si·ghtlessness. [f. prec.] Lack of sight.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. iv. § 13 It is one instance only out of the myriads which might be given of sightlessness in modern art. 1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 90 There was a full assortment of the halt ..and the crippled—all degrees of sightlessness and unsightliness. 1893 R. JEFFREY *Visits to Calvary* 227 Your sightlessness is a sad deprivation.

Sightliness (sə·itlinės). [f. next.] Comeliness, handsomeness, beauty.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. A 2 b, A Citye in fourme of a palaice, and that not onelye with ordinarie matters,..but also for sightlynesse. 1598 BARKCLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 658 The delectible shew and sightliness of the tree. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. 303 Thus glasse-eyes may be used, though not for seeing but for sightlinesse. 1740–1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xv. 253, I, a poor girl, who..had only a kind of imputed sightliness of person. 1767 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 11 Faith will discover a hidden sightliness in it, under a very unsightly outward appearance. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xviii. (1862) 313 Much that for its little sightliness was nothing accounted of, shall prove true metal. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 170 Another mode of giving sightliness to the squared dome.

Sightly (sə·itli), *a.* and *adv.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *sichtelijc* (Du. dial. *zichtelijk*), MHG. *sihtlich* (G. *sichtlich*), visible, etc.]

† **1.** Visible; conspicuous. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 775/1 The wel knowen church [is] so builded .. that it shal alway be syghtlye, and can not be hyd. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiv. 12 Many manifest deliverances had bin exhibited too the elect people as it were uppon a syghtly stage. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 2/1 [God] doeth not come downe from heauen, in sightly shape to speake vnto vs.

b. *U.S.* Of places: Open to the view; that may be seen from a distance; commanding a wide prospect.

1828–32 WEBSTER, We say, a house stands in a sightly place. 1892 ALICE M. EARLE *Sabbath in New Engl.* i. 5 Our Puritan ancestors dearly loved a 'sightly location'; and were willing to climb uphill cheerfully..for the sake of having a meeting-house which showed off well.

2. Pleasing to the sight; fair to look at; handsome, beautiful.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 148 In a Iuggler, that lightnes is sightly. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* III. 11 In such sightlie ioumes it may easily bee thought, Citizens vse not to haue anie thing meane. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 12 They did not..proportion the houses in such comely fashion, as had bene most sightly and conuenient. *a* 1652 BROME *Covent Garden* I. i, Here's Architecture exprest indeed! It is a most sightly scituation, and fit for Gentry and Nobility. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 264 They were mounted on very sightly horses. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 265 If their schemes were perfectly consistent in all their parts, it would make only a more fair and sightly vision. 1850 W. SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* viii. (1858) 107 The sightly constellation of the southern cross. 1887 BALL *Nat. S. Amer.* 322 The absence of sightly buildings is not felt.

b. As *adv.* Handsomely, finely.

1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 224 This ambassador was..sightly enterteyned. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 42 They forward came bedect right sightly. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 290 Nor Rhodes, with Alcal and Elba, regard the robes with crosse Sightly beset. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 649 He, therefore, who would see his flow'rs dispos'd Sightly and in just order,..Forecasts the future whole.

Si·ghtman. *Sc.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1]] One who is stationed to watch the movements of salmon.

1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 93 They are..called sightmen, because..they become wonderfully quick-sighted in discerning the motion and approach of..salmon.

Si·ght-see, *v.* [Back-formation from *sight-seeing* (cf. first quot.), f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] 1 c.] *intr.* To see sights, visit objects or places of interest.

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 146 The ruins of Tintern,..Alas! now profaned by a sight-seeing crew. 1843 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 345 She sight-sees from the dawn of day. 1887 *World* 23 Feb. 15 Who..sight-see all day, and return to their gilded cars to dine and sleep.

Si·ght-seeing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] 1 c.] The action or occupation of seeing sights.

1847 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 250 It involves what I have no taste for—i. e., sightseeing. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xiv, The duke escaped the sight-seeing which bored him.

attrib. 1853 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Dau.* 87 Amongst the country folk..who paid Sharsted a sight-seeing visit. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 109 Mrs. Livingston proposes a sight-seeing drive about the city.

Si·ght-seer. [f. as prec.] One who goes about to see the sights of a place or places.

1849 CURZON *Monast. Levant* xv. 204 Nothing better or worse than Englishmen and sightseers. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Week's Holiday*, Humour and grotesqueness, which gives the sight-seer the most singular zest and pleasure. 1884 SALA *Journ. South* I. xx, The..society-loving patrons of the Roman season are a very different class from the sightseer.

Sightsman (sə·itsmæn). [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] Cf. SIGHTMAN.]

1. One who points out sights or objects of interest; a local guide, a cicerone.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Nov. 1644 Our Sights-man (for so they name certain persons here who get their living by leading strangers about to see the City).

2. One who reads or performs music at sight.

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Music* (1789) IV. vi. 263 This musician, who was..of considerable eminence..both as a sights-man and voluntary player. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Sightsman*, the appellation given to him who reads, or sings, music readily at first sight: hence we say, 'such a one is a good Sightsman'.

3. ? One who takes sight with a pistol.

1790 *Bystander* 169 How serious a thing it is to call all the duellists that ever lived, from the Roman Gladiators to the sightsmen of the present day, rascals.

Sight-worthy (sə·itwɒ̈ɹði), *a.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] + WORTHY *a.*] Worth seeing or visiting.

1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* Ded., For maiesty, and power, can nothing see Without it selfe, that can sight-worthy be. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. iv. 159 Cambridge..and Oxford,..where the worst Colledge is more sight-worthy then the best Dutch Gymnasium. 1791 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 263 For sight-worthy persons at Plymouth, More mentioned Mudge, whom you know of old. 1894 C. H. COOK *Thames Rights* 111 Objects not so sight-worthy as broadcloth.

Hence **Si·ght-worthiness.**

1849 J. FORBES *Physician's Holiday* ii. (1850) 13 A temporary halt may be called, according to the nature or sight-worthiness of the locality.

Si·ghty, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. SIGHT *sb.*[1] + -Y. Cf. obs. Flem. *sightigh* (Kilian), MLG. *sichtich*, OHG. (*ge*)*sihtig*, MHG. *sihtig* (older G. *sichtig*), visible (in G. also 'seeing').]

† **1.** Sightly, fair, handsome. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 269 A wonder faire mayde,.. and wonder sighty for men to byholde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. iv. (S.T.S.) I. 28 The romanis dressit furth þis play In the maist solempne maner þai culd or mycht, to mak It þe more sichty and glorius to the pepill.

† **2.** Visible, conspicuous. (See also quot. *c* 1440.)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. i. (Bodl. MS.), The reson of sighty þinge is roted and ischape in liȝt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 455 Syghty, *visibilis*. *Ibid.*, Syghty, or glarynge,..*rutilans*. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1229 Antony..in hys iaw bare A hurt ful of pain Off a lyon, which al hys life bare ful sighty. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. xvi. (S.T.S.) II. 203/2 Þare souerane manhede & vertew was sa notabill and sichty. 1536 — *Cron. Scot., Cosmogr.* v. B iij, The peple thairof ar..maist sychty in craft of cheualrie. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 111 Sighty, *visibilis*.

3. Keen-sighted; clever. Now *dial.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13448 (Trin.), Is noon so sighty foule of eȝe [as the eagle]. Ny so fer to fle may dreȝe. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 453/1 We are sighty inough to our owne profite. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Sighty*, quick at seeing how a thing ought to be done.

Sigil (si·dʒil). Also **7 sigill.** [ad. late L. *sigillum* (in class. L. *sigilla* neut. pl.), dim. of *signum*: see SIGN *sb.*]

1. A seal or signet. Also *attrib.*, as *sigil-mark.*

a 1610 PARSONS *Leicester's Ghost* (1641) 14 Giges went invisible By turning of the sigill of his Ring Toward his palme. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 132 Another figure ..imprinted by some sigil. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* XXVII. 48 Sigil-mark Set upon sold and lying privileges. 1880 WEBB *Goethe's Faust* I. i. 41 A book with sevenfold sigil is the Past! 1883 A. DOBSON *Old World Idylls* 243 Touched by the awful sigil of his right.

2. *Astrol.* An occult sign or device supposed to have mysterious powers.

1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 153 Love scorns, that any Remora should be: That's the true Sig.], moving Gallantrie. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 131 Amulets, spells, sigils, and incantations, practised in other diseases, are seldom pretended in this. 1711 POPE *Temple of Fame* 105 Of Talismans and Sigils [they] knew the pow'r, And careful watch'd the Planetary hour. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. vi, Sign and sigil well doth he know. 1842 BARHAM *Ingold. Leg.* Ser. II. *Raising the Devil*, He drew the mystic circle's bound,..He traced full many a sigil there.

3. *Rom. Antiq.* A small image.

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sigillaria*, Some derive the origin of sigils and figures, in this solemnity, from the argei [etc.].

Sigilism (si·dʒiliz'm). [ad. mod.L. *sigilism-us*, f. Sp. *sigilo* seal (of confession).] (See quot.)

1855 *Englishman's Mag.* Feb. 114 The following appear to be the principal crimes against which the edicts of the Inquisition were fulminated..: immorality in the confessional, sigilism (or revealing the secrets of the confessional).

Sigilla, pl. of SIGILLUM.

† **Si·gillar,** *a. Obs.*—[0] = SIGILLARY *a.* 1.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sigillar*, of or belonging to a Seal or Mark. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Sigillar*, belonging to a seal or sealing.

‖ **Sigillaria** (sidʒilē·riă). *Geol.* [mod.L., f. *sigillum* seal: see SIGIL. Named by Brongniart (1822).] A fossil tree, the leaf-scars of which resemble the impressions of a seal, found chiefly in coal deposits.

1831–3 LINDLEY & HUTTON *Fossil Flora* I. 155 It is ex-

tremely probable..that Sigillaria was a Dicotyledonous plant. 1836 Buckland *Geol. & Min.* I. 473 The longitudinal flutings of the trunks of Sigillariæ. 1849 J. H. Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 1183 Some suppose Sigillarias to be allied to Tree-ferns, others to Coniferæ. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 255 We may notice the sigillaria, so called from the seal-like impressions on its fluted trunk.

Hence **Sigilla·rian** *a.* and *sb.*; **Sigilla·rid**; **Sigilla·r(i)oid** *a.*

1870 *Geol. Mag.* VII. 293 The fossil *sigillarian forests of Nova Scotia. 1883 *Science* I. 523/2 A number of animals entombed in stumps of sigillarians in the coal-measures of Nova Scotia. 1877 Le Conte *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 316 The Lycopods [were represented] by gigantic Lepidodendrids and *Sigillarids. 1870 *Geol. Mag.* VII. 293 These specimens ..probably represented other types of *Sigillarioid trees. 1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 474 The Sigillarioid plants, regarded by different authorities as being Coniferous, or Lycopodiaceous. 1879 Geikie in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 345/2 Lepidodendroid and *sigillaroid plants abound, as well as calamites.

Si·gillarist. *rare*$^{-1}$. [irreg. f. L. *sigill-um* Sigil: cf. next.] A sigillographer.

1898 *Berks., Bucks., & Oxon Archaeol. Jrnl.* Jan. 110 Mr. A. P. Ready, the well known sigillarist.

Sigillary (si·dʒilări), *a.* [f. (late) L. *sigill-um* Sigil: see -ary. Cf. F. *sigillaire* and med.L. *sigillarius, -aris* sb.]

1. Of or pertaining to a seal or signet; connected with the use or making of seals, etc.

1652 Evelyn *Corr.* (1827) IV. 4 All those sigillary formalities of a perfect instrument. 1895 *Athenæum* 13 July 57/2 Several of their seals are given, which are striking examples of the sigillary art.

2. Subject to, or characterized by, the influence of a sigil or charm.

a 1834 Surtees in G. Taylor *Mem.* (Surtees) 233 That maiden kiss hath holy power O'er planet and sigillary hour.

Sigillate (si·dʒilĕt), *ppl. a.* [ad. late L. *sigillāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sigillāre*: see next.]

1. *Bot.* Marked with impressions resembling those made by a seal.

[1856 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* 173 *Sigillatus*, when a rhizoma is marked by scars left by the fall of branches successively developed upon it.] 1858 in Mayne.

2. Of pottery: Decorated with impressed patterns.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sigillate (si·dʒilĕt), *v.* Also 5 *pa. pple.* **sygylate.** [f. *sigillāt-*, ppl. stem of late L. *sigillāre* to seal, f. *sigillum* Sigil.] *trans.* To seal; to seal up. Also *transf.*

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* x. vii. in Ashm. (1652) 180 And in one Glas do all thys surely sygylate. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 229 Mercurie..To sigillate thou do'st not fail. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 111 By sigillating the mouth of the stomacke..they represse..the hot fumes that vaporate to the head. 1652 S. S. *Secretaries Studie* 200 To fasten, and, as it were, to sigillate, and affix to us the unmercifulness of men. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 269 In one moment the passport was sigillated.

Si·gillated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed 1.]

1. Impressed with a seal; esp. *sigillated earth*, Lemnian earth, sphragide (after med.L. *terra sigillata*).

Cf. Lithgow *Trav.* (1632) III. 97, 'The latter [name] is in force, because the earth being made up in little pellets, is sealed with a Turkish signet.'

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 396* The best of medicinal earths..is that the shop-men call Lemnian Earth, and sometimes Sigillated Earth. 1697 Evelyn *Numismata* i. 11 Baked and sigillated Earth..used for money. 1852 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiv. 502 It is known that great use is still made in the East of the bolar and sigillated earths of Lemnos, which are clay mingled with oxide of iron.

2. = Sigillate *ppl. a.* 2. (*Cent. Dict.*)

Sigillation (sidʒilē··ʃən). [See Sigillate *v.* and -ation.] The action of sealing; the fact of being sealed; the impression of a seal.

1642 R. C. *Union Christ & Ch.* 4 That which..receiveth the Sigillation here below is like to the Shape and Forme of those things above. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 132 This..impressed form or sigillation is of little moment. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 462 Since the art of writing has become comparatively common, sigillation, in the character of a source of real evidence, has gone completely out of use. 1840 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* 70 Its outward sigillation or official ratification is the ordinance of Baptism.

† **Si·gillative,** *a.* and *sb. Med. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *sigillātīv-us*: see Sigillate *v.* and -ive. So obs. F. *sigillatif.*] **a.** *adj.* Serving to seal or close up. **b.** *sb.* An application serving to close a wound.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 342 Sigillatiuis, & cicatrizatiuis, & consolidatiuis ben al oon. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Form.* Tij b, The helpes conglutynatyues, consolydatyues, and sigillatyues be of .xvj. fourmes. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 171 Quicksilver .. is .. so incarnative and so sigillative or siccatrizing. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxvi. 215 Sigillative cod.

Sigilled (si·dʒil'd), *a.* [f. Sigil + -ed 2.] Wearing a seal or signet-ring.

1864 R. S. Hawker *Quest Sangraal* 17 Beneath, came up a gloved and sigill'd Hand.

Sigillistic (sidʒilistik), *a.* [See Sigil and -istic.] Pertaining to seals.

1867 *Herald & Genealogist* IV. 14 The study of our sigillistic antiquities.

Sigillographer (sidʒilǫ·grăfəɹ). [f. L. *sigillum* Sigil: see -grapher.] One who pursues, or is skilled in, the study of seals.

1882 *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* IX. 53 Of the foreign heraldic seals ..I have little to say..; their importance for the English sigillographer is but slight. *Ibid.* 181 This eminent palæographer and sigillographer.

Sigillography (sidʒilǫ·grăfi). [f. as prec.: see -graphy.] The science or study of seals.

1879 *Athenæum* 27 Dec. 827 The splendid volume devoted by M. Demay to sigillography. 1886 *Ibid.* 11 Sept. 341/3 It is only of late years that much attention has been paid to Byzantine sigillography.

‖ **Sigi·llum.** *rare*$^{-1}$. [See Sigil.] A small figure of a person.

1637 B. Jonson *Sad Shepherd* II. ii, Binding characters, through which she wounds Her puppets, the sigilla of her witchcraft.

‖ **Si·gla.** [L. *sigla* neut. pl., perh. a contracted form of *sigilla*, pl. of *sigillum* Sigil.] Letters (esp. initials) or other characters used to denote words; abbreviations or marks of abbreviation.

1706 in Phillips (ed. Kersey). 1801 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXI. II. 1097 The characters..belong not to any alphabet, but are probably *Sigla*. 1832 Gell *Pompeiana* II. 122 The sigla which are supposed to be the private marks of the scribes. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 358 The small mark after the T is one of the sigla which it was customary in inscriptions ..to put..before and after numeral letters.

Hence **Sigla·rian** *a.*, pertaining to sigla.

1818 Burney in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 643 Garrard is the only book on the Siglarian subject which I possess.

† **Si·gle.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *sigla.*] (See quots. and Sigla.)

1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 21 Their supposed Coat also, of later time, being foure *Betaes*...The *Betaes* are interpreted as the sigles of Βασιλεὺς Βασιλεων, Βασιλεύων Βασιλεύοντι. *Ibid.* 162 About those times χ alone was a known sigle for our Sauiour. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sigles*, notes, breviatures, initial Letters set for words.

Sigleton, late variant of Ciclatoun *Obs.*

Sigma (si·gmă). [L. *sigma*, Gr. *σίγμα*, the 18th letter of the Greek alphabet.]

1. The name of the Greek letter Σ, *σ*, *ς*, the equivalent of the English S, s, in its uncial form having the shape of C.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 290 Written with *Iota* and simple *Sigma*. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* s.v. S, Which opinion is made more probable by the small form of the Greek *sigma*. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 385/2 The difference between the *shin.*, and the Greek *sigma*..depends solely upon the altered position. 1859 Millard tr. *Kühner's Gr. Gram.* 4 The Sigma (*σ*), at the end of a word, takes the form *ς*. 1876 S. Birch *Rede Lect. on Egypt* 32 The final sigma of the Greeks is represented by the Egyptian sibilant.

2. Something having the form of S or C.

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* liii. V. 481 The square before the sigma [= semicircular portico] was decorated with a fountain. 1877 Coues & Allen *N. Amer. Rod.* 32 The loops of enamel..do form a sort of sigma [etc.; see Sigmodont].

Hence **Si·gmaspire** (see quot.). **Si·gmate** *a.*, having the form of a sigma. **Si·gmate** *v. trans.*, to add a sigma or *s* to (a word, stem, etc.); hence *sigmated* ppl. a. **Sigmatic** (sigmæ·tik) *a.*, characterized by the addition of sigma or *s* to the stem. **Sigma·tion,** the addition of *s* to a word, etc. **Si·gmatism,** ‖ **Sigmati·smus,** the marked use or repetition of *s*; an instance of this. **Si·gmatize** [cf. late Gr. *σιγματίζειν*] *v. trans.*, to mark with the letter *s*.

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 (Sponges), One of the simplest forms [of microscleres] is the *sigmaspire..; it looks like the letter C or S, according to the direction in which it is viewed, its actual form being that of a single turn of a cylindrical spiral. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 937 [Sponges] with *sigmate flesh-spicules. 1849 T. K. Arnold *First Gr. Bk.* 5 The root of the future is got from the root of the present (or infinitive) by *sigmating it. *Ibid.* 22 The first Aorist of the Active is formed by adding *ă* to the *sigmated root..and prefixing the augment. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VIII. 216/2 The question of the plural treatment, or otherwise, of some sigmated words is fair matter for discussion. 1888 King & Cookson *Sounds & Infl. Gr. & Lat.* xv. 444 The inflexions of the *sigmatic aorist. 1897 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 233 We have also a subjunctive of the sigmatic aorist. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 142/1 This fondness for pluralizing..is constantly showing itself both in a purely senseless *sigmation and in a duplication of the plural ending. 1889 *Classical Rev.* III. 270 The *sigmatism is quite Ovidian. 1891 *Athenæum* 21 Feb. 246/2 Sophocles, 'O.T.' 425, should have been quoted as the most remarkable, and at the same time effective, example of sigmatism in Greek tragedy. 1887 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 369 There are three inseparable necessities which may be remembered by a *'*sigmatismus* —site, soil, and sympathy. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 145 Mr. Prynne..was..to be stigmatized, or if you will *sigmatized, on both Cheeks with the letter S for a Schismatick.

Sigmodont (si·gmŏdǫnt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Gr. *σίγμα* Sigma + *ὀδοντ-*, *ὀδούς* tooth.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Sigmodontes*, a class of murine animals in which the molars exhibit sigmoid patterns. **b.** *sb.* An animal belonging to this class.

1877 Coues & Allen *N. Amer. Rod.* 32 The loops of enamel..do form a sort of sigma, but it is usually a broken and always a distorted one, never more evident than in some other sigmodont forms. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 5/1 A represents the upper molars of a Mus, and B the corresponding teeth of a Sigmodont. *Ibid.* 6/2 Other groups,..probably descendants of Sigmodont Muridæ.

Si·gmoid, *a.* and *sb.* Chiefly *Anat.* [ad. Gr. *σιγμοειδής*: see Sigma and -oid.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having the shape of the uncial sigma C; crescent-shaped, semicircular.

Chiefly in *sigmoid cavity, notch, valve.*

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2097 We did also observe two Ventricles with the tricuspid or sigmoid-valves. 1741 A. Monro *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 252 A large semicircular or sigmoid Concavity is left. 1798 Hinderwell *Hist. Scarborough* II. I. 213 Nautilites, or Ammonites,..with sigmoid or curved ridges. 1831 Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 74 The condyle is separated from the coronoid process by the sigmoid notch. *Ibid.* 206 It is the inner side..of the head of the radius that is received into the small sigmoid cavity of the ulna. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 922 Relative insufficiency of the sigmoid valves due to dilatation of the aortic ring.

2. Having a double curve like the letter S.

Esp. *sigmoid flexure*, the last curving portion of the colon before terminating in the rectum.

1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 306 The sigmoid flexure of the colon immediately presented itself to view. 1797 M. Baillie *Morbid Anat.* (1807) 174 The gut..is narrower at the sigmoid flexure than at any other part. 1848 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 267 The flower stalk is..round,..gracefully bent in a sigmoid flexure. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* ii. 61 The beautiful sigmoid curvature of the vertebral column.

B. *sb.* **a.** The sigmoid flexure of the colon.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 967 The sigmoid may be so distended as to reach quite over to the right side of the abdomen.

b. A sigmoid curve (*Cent. Dict.*).

Hence **Si·gmoidscope** (see quot.).

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 1503 By means of the electric sigmoidscope..a clear view of every portion of the inside of the bowel may be obtained, even as high as the top of the sigmoid flexure.

Sigmoidal (sigmoi·dăl), *a.* [See prec. and -al.] = Sigmoid *a.*

1666 J. Smith *Solomon's Portrait. Old Age* 233 The sigmoidal Portals hindering its return, it [the blood] must pass through the Streiner of the Lungs. 1753 *Chambers's Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Sigmoides*, The semicircular cavity of the cubit.. is sometimes also called the sigmoidal-cavity. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xxxviii. 55 The pupa..has likewise a pair of long sigmoidal ones [respiratory organs] on the back of the trunk. 1833–4 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 598/2 The beds of coal and accompanying strata are bent into a sigmoidal flexure. 1879 Rutley *Study of Rocks* xi. 187 At times they have a somewhat sigmoidal flexure.

Hence **Sigmoi·dally** *adv.*, in a sigmoidal manner.

1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 218 The femur..is sigmoidally bent. 1886 *Geol. Mag.* (N.S.) III. 150 The sigmoidally curved folds of the ganoine.

Sign (sain), *sb.* Forms: *α*. 3–6 **sygne,** 3–7 **signe** (4 **sigine** ?), 5–6 **sygn** (5 **sygyn** ?), 4– **sign**; 4–5 **singne,** 4–5 **syngne** (5 **synn-**); 4, 6–7 *Sc.* **sing**(e, 5–6 *Sc.* **syng**(e, 5 **senge**). *β*. 4–7 **sine,** 4–6 **syne** (4 **synne,** 5 **syn, cyne, scien,** 6 *Sc.* **synd**). [*α*. F. *signe*, † *sine*, ad. L. *signum* mark, token, etc.]

I. 1. A gesture or motion of the hand, head, etc., serving to convey an intimation or to communicate some idea. Freq. in the phrases *to make a sign* or *signs*, and *by signs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Heo schal habben leaue to..makien signes touward hire of one glede chere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2740 To þe hert & þe hinde he turned him a-seine, & bi certeyn signes sone he hem taust. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2367 *Philomene*, She .. preyede hym with signys to gon Vn-to the queen..And be signys swor hym manye an oth [etc.]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 Þai speke not, bot ..makez signes as mounkes duse. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 467, I have ane secrete serwand,..That me supportis of sic nedis, quhen I a syne mak. 1530 Palsgr. 702/2 I spake nothyng to him, but I shewed hym of it by signe otherwise. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 237 Thou didst vnderstand me by my signes, And didst in signes againe parley with sinne. 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* 4 Warning us off by signes that they made. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 758 Then Hudibras, with face and hand, Made signs for Silence. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 454 ₱ 4 The Coachmen make Signs with their Fingers..to intimate how much they have got that Day. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* x, The moment Peter saw her he made a sign of silence. 1839 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 37 More by signs and dumb show than words. 1873 Dixon *Two Queens* XVI. ii. III. 193 Scores of starving men were ready on a sign to hunt him down.

† **b.** A show or pretence *of* something. *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) iii. 10 He made signe of etyng and feyned as he had etyn. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 230 The whyche..made to hym synge of loue and of subgectyon ..vnder the shadowe of decepcyon. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 91 b, Then he and all his companye made a signe of retraite.

c. A signal.

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* v. i. 23 Mark Antony, shall we giue signe of Battaile?..No Cæsar. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 298 The Charioteers started their horses upon a signe given. 1678 *Life Black Prince* in *Harleian Misc.* (1809) III. 144 The sign of battle, being given by King Philip, was entertained with clamours and shouts. 1708 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 349 From the top..they made a Sign by Fire, when they apprehended any imminent Danger. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* x. vii, With secret signs from many a mountain-tower, With smoke by day, and fire by night.

2. A mark or device having some special meaning or import attached to it, or serving to distinguish the thing on which it is put.

Freq. in *sign of the Cross* (cf. Cross *sb.* 3 b).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 84 Heo made þe signe of þe croiz. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6078 (Gött.), On ilk a post..A sine of tau T

make ȝe þer. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xv. 40 Crist cam and confermede and holy kirke made, And in sond a sygne wrot. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1040 Vertew commaundyd euery wyght To pauyse hym vndyr the sygne of the roode. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 22 Now nede is sette a signe on euery vyne That fertile is, sciouns of hit to take For settyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 b, Marked..not onely with the sygne of the crosse in our garmentis,..but also (I trust) with the sygne of tau in our soules. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 334 With his crosiers staffe [he] maketh the signe of the crosse upon the highest walles. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vi, Observing that several Herbs are marked with some Mark or Sign that intimates their virtue. 1733 BERKELEY *Th. Vision Vind.* § 40 A great number of arbitrary signs, various and opposite, do constitute a Language. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V, State Europe* Note x, It was usual for persons who could not write, to make the sign of the cross in confirmation of a charter. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 236 The common visual signs on the retina..are of all signs the most readily learned or understood. 1884 *Cath. Dict.* (1897) 258/1 The Church, accustomed to bless everything with the sign of the cross.

† **b.** A bookmark; = REGISTER *sb.*[1] 7 a. *Obs.*—[0]
1483 *Cath. Angl.* 340/1 A Syne of a buke, *registrum.*

c. A conventional mark, device, or symbol, used technically (as in music, algebra, botany, etc.) in place of words or names written in ordinary letters.
1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* S j b, Nombers Cossike, are soche as bee contracte vnto a denomination of some Cossike signe. *Ibid.* S ij b, There be other .2. signes in often vse, of whiche the firste is made thus + and betokeneth more: the other is made – and betokeneth lesse. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 104 The note whereupon the following part must begin, is marked with this signe :. 1609 DOWLAND *Orvilth. Microl.* 87 A signe is the successiue distribution of one and the same Close, in..a Song. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. x. (1674) 32 The Perfect of the Less..; its Sign or Mark is made thus. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, Ordinarily..in Algebra, the Sign [of multiplication] is omitted, and the two Quantities put together. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 422 In botany a variety of marks, or signs, are employed to express particular qualities or properties of plants. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 150 Two minus signs in arithmetic or algebra make a plus.

† **d.** *Math.* A point. *Obs. rare.*
1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. 1, A signe or point is that which hath no part. *Ibid.*, Vnity..is lesse materiall then a signe or poynt.

† **3.** A mark of attestation (or ownership), written or stamped upon a document, seal, etc. *Obs.*
1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 82 þe Deede was a-seiet, Be siht of sir Symoni and Notaries signes. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XX. 270, I wolde..bat ȝe were in þe Registre, And ȝowre noumbre vndre notaries sygne. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 133 The forsaide x. acris..lien in the Northefelde of the foresaide towne with owre syne woonyd i-seeled. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 22 Not only her promises but their othes her sealis and wrytynges & signes of their propre handes. 1558 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 388 In wittnes hereof we have..set hereunto our signes and common sealle. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer.* xxxii. 44 The fieldes..shal be written in a booke, and the signe shal be stamped on, and a witnes shal be taken.

† **4.** A figure or image; a statue or effigy; an imprint. *Obs.*
1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 112 Bere no seluer ouer see þat bereþ signe of þe kyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 229 Þere is anoþere signe and tokene to fore þe popes paleys; an hors of bras and a man sittynge þeron. *c* 1440 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 152 Ther ys ȝette a syne of his fote On a marbull stone þer as he stode. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. (1602) 143 For often Vprores did ensue for him, as vndeceast, Howbeit solemnely inter'd, himselfe, or Signe at least.

† **5. a.** A device borne on a banner, shield, etc.; a cognizance or badge. *Obs.*
c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 158 Ane Croiz, þat Man fer isaiȝ,.. þat was signe of is baner. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3213 Swete sire, ȝe me saye what signe is þe leuest to haue schape in þi scheld to schene armes? 1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 452 That thei..gyf no Liverees of Sygnes, no make no Retenue of men. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 355 A garland of yuy he [Bacchus] chase for hys sygne. 1461 *Coventry Leet-bk.* II. 319 [That they] neyther were ne vse oure most honnorable signe, nor any other lordes or gentilles signe, tokyn or lyuere. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 47, I will therfore shewe you of signes y^e are borne, and do occupie the same Escocheon.

† **b.** Something displayed as an emblem or token; *esp.* an ensign, banner, standard. *Obs.*
c 1400 *Song Roland* 503 An C thoussand of good men.. with proud synes of silk lifte on loft. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 222 Vn-to þat Prince I rede we praye, That till vs sende his syngne [*sc.* the star] vnsought. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 305/1 He is had among the companye of Angels as banerer and berynge the signe of oure lord. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxviii. 4 The signe triumphall rasit is of the croce. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* II. 300 Monie standarts and syngis..left be the Inglismen, be the Scotis ar tane. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 776 The great Ensign of Messiah blaz'd Aloft by Angels born, his Sign in Heav'n.

† **c.** *spec.* A pilgrim's token. *Obs.*
1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 12 An hundred of ampolles on his hat seeten, Signes of Synay and Schelles of Galys. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 171 Then, as manere & custom is, signes þere þey bought. *Ibid.* 175, 191.

† **d.** *pl.* Insignia. *Obs. rare.*
1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1016 Yet at the last..He all those royall signes had stolne away.

6. A characteristic device attached to, or placed in front of, an inn (†'house) or shop, as a means of distinguishing it from others or directing attention to it; in later use commonly a board bearing a name or other inscription, with or without some ornament or picture.
1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 405 That no person sille none ale out of his place, but he haue a signe at his dorre. *c* 1470 *Promp. Parv.* (K.) 456/1 Syne of an in. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 42 The Englysh prouerbe is this. Good wyne nedeth no signe. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 67 Vnderneath an Ale-house paltry signe, The Castle in S. Albons. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 156, I did never see nor heare that they have any publike Innes with signes hanging out. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 69 Note, That they weigh with the Balconie, the Bars that are to fasten the sign thereunto. 1727 SWIFT *Instr. Horace* II. vi. 72 To read the Lines Writ underneath the Country Signs. 1780 *Mirror* No. 82 Putting up their pictures as signs for their taverns and ale-houses. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 91 The signs of the shops are very elegant;—that is to say, they are elegant for signs. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* IX. 134 The first thing that met my eye..was a sign over a public-house.
fig. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. viii. 20 Fools! who to perswade men that Angels lodged in their hearts, hung out a devil for a signe in their faces. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Wks.* (1816) 429 Fantastic garb in apparel, which is the very bush or sign hanging out, that tells a vain mind lodges within. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* IV, I am but the vile and despised sign, which points out to the wearied traveller a harbour of rest and security, but must itself remain for ever without doors.

b. In phr. *at the sign of* (*the Bell, Sun*, etc.).
1501 *Alcock's Mons Perfect.* Colophon, Enprynted at London in flete strete at the sygne of y^e sonne by Wynkin de worde. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 One little lane stretching from the said way, to the signe of the bell at Drewry lane ende. 1672 *Heath's Flagellum* Title-p., Sold at his Shop at the Signe of the Crown. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 94 We baited at an inn, at the sign of the Falcon. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, Chose for their house of entertainment the sign of the Bell. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XX, An appointment to meet with the others of his company at the sign of the Griffin.

† **c.** *At the sign of the moon*, in the open air by night. (After Fr. *à l'enseigne de la lune.*) *Obs.*
1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. x. (1614) 294 They often lodge (saith Willamont) at the signe of the Moone; and the like moderation they vse in diet and apparel. 1679 G. R. tr. *Boaistuau's Theat. World* II. 107 The Souldier is for the most part always waking, having his Quarters at the Sign of the Moon.

II. 7. A token or indication (visible or otherwise) *of* some fact, quality, etc.
1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3744 þer nas nour aboute knist.. bot hii of sute were Of king arthures hous, oþer som signe þer of bere, Of robes oþer of armes. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 489 þat was þe syngne of sauyte þat sende hem oure lorde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* § 53 It is signe of gentil herte whan a man..desireth to han a good name. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 181 If þe place be whijt & neische..it is a signe of fleume. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Avian* viii, [He] hath shewed to the grete sygne or token of loue. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C iii b, He bare in his hande the signe or token of the office, wherby he lyued. 1594 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 285 All with black hoods, which with us is a signe of gentlewomen. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 228 Though it be no signe of a more polished, yet is it a marke of a greater wit. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 670 The Causes and the Signs.. Of ev'ry Sickness that infects the Fold. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 89 [It was] no sign of grace, For folks in fear are apt to pray. 1829 T. L. PEACOCK *Misfort. Elphin* X, They here found..materials of spinning and embroidering, and other signs of female inhabitancy. 1853 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXII, Working people..bearing on their dress or persons the signs of their daily labour. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 5. 202 The exile of Gaveston was the sign of the Barons' triumph.

b. Used without const., or with clause following.
c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 258 Signes of þe olde lawe weren toknes of oure signes now, as þei ben tokenes of þe blisse of hevene. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 232 They haue many tokenys or syngnes by wych a man may deme the Physnomye. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* 5 Of the foure Sygnes or tokens by whiche is knowen trewe loue. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 55 b, To axe of God a sygne wherby he maye testifie, that he careth for us. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 192 The thing signed is usually put for the sign itself. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. x. (1695) 277 The using of Words, without clear and distinct Ideas; or, which is worse, signs without any thing signified. 1766 GRAY *Impromptus* 12 A sign you have eat just enough and no more. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 270 Know I not Death? the outward signs? 1885 S. O. JEWETT *Marsh Island* XII, She never had given a single sign that she loved or meant to marry him.

c. Without article, in phr. *in sign of* (or *that*).
1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3986 Branches hii bere Of oline, as in signe þat hii aȝen pays here. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5121 He kist þam all in signe o saght. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 98 In signe þat I schulde bi-sechen hire of grace. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 44 The kynge..gyrdeth a boute them a swerde in signe that they shold abyde and kepe hym. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 30 In signe and takin heroff my Lord Governour hes takyn baith thair handis. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 26 In signe of truth, I kisse your Highnesse Hand. 1611 SIR W. MURE *Mes Amours* 39 Receaue, in sing that thou hes won the field, The bow. 1718 POPE *Iliad* X. 321 In sign she favour'd their intent, A long-wing'd heron great Minerva sent. 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 381 An animal is called a bull, in sign of its possessing certain attributes.

d. *U.S.* The trail or trace of wild animals, etc. Sometimes in pl., but the sing. is the technical use.
1847 RUXTON *Mexico & Rocky Mts.* XXI. 170 On the banks of the river I saw some fresh beaver 'sign'. *Ibid.*, We saw Indian sign on the banks of the river. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XXXII. 243 Buffalo 'signs' appeared as we rode into them. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 68 We had noticed bear 'sign' in a thick patch of rose-bushes. *Ibid.*, Lots of fresh 'sign', but no bear.

8. A trace or indication *of* something; a vestige. Chiefly in negative phrases.
13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 2934 (W.), So he traueld monethes thre, And no signe of hyr kowth he se. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 315 With the craftes whiche he couthe, He soghte and fond a signe of lif. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 100, I se ȝondyr a ful selcouth syght, Wher-of be-for no synge was seene. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* 228 Wherof yet in most Churches ther remaineth a smal signe, by disciplin geuen [etc.]. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXV. iii, [No] signe of sound their throates can show. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 66 The Aqueducts..whose Ruins and Signs are to be seen on the Road. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, I..could not discover any Sign of Houses or Inhabitants. 1795 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 109 No signs of such an intention were perceivable. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXX. 407 There is no sign of life in this wild place.

† **b.** A mere semblance *of* something. *Obs.*
1607 BRETON *A Murmurer* Wks. (Grosart) II. 8/2 Oh fine foole, how thou wouldest haue the signe of a man stand for a man? 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à-la-Mode* II. i, If it be but to punish that sign of a Husband there; that lazy Matrimony. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. iii, I would not have you draw yourself into a premunire, by trusting to that sign of a man there.

9. An indication of some coming event; *spec.* an omen or portent.
13.. *Cursor M.* 22430 (Gött.), Forn domes-dai þai sal be sene, wid sorful sines ful fijf-tene. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 165 Soche þey declare þ certeynliche by schewynge of tokenes and of synnes [*v.r.* synes] þat beeþ in suche a schulder boon. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. viii, How Dido send hir sistir Enee to pray, And of the grisly singis did hir affray. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xl. (1870) 302 That there is lykle [*sic*] hope of amendment, but sygnes of deth. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, V. vi. 44 The Owle shriek'd at thy birth, an euill signe. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 94 The auncient Iewes had this saying, that it is *bonum omen*, a good signe to see an old man in a house. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Clouds*, When..waterish Clouds appear on the Tops of Hills, it is a Sign of Rain to follow. 1793 COWPER *Tale* 61 Seamen much believe in signs. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* X. xvi, These signs the coming mischief did foretell. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen* III. x, If it come three times, I thought, I take it for a sign.

10. An act of a miraculous nature, serving to demonstrate divine power or authority.
In Biblical use, after L. *signum*, Gr. σημεῖον.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13420 þis was þe formast sign he did. *Ibid.* 13438 Sli signe did crist at þis bridall. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* IV. 22 The man was more than of fourty ȝeeris, in the which this sygne of heelthe was maad. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* II. 43 Many wonders and signes were done by the Apostles. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Prophe.* 59 But every Sign is not (if we speak accurately) a Miracle. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 73 Pharaoh, in contempt of Moses and Aaron, and the sign or miracle they had shown. 1876 MELLOR *Priesth.* IV. 179 His hearers no sooner caught the word 'faith', than they demanded a sign which might warrant it.

† **b.** A marvel or wonder. *Obs.*—[1]
a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4934 Sire, þou sall see with þi sist slike signes, or þou passe, As neuire segge vndire son saȝe bot þine ane.

11. *Astr.* One or other of the twelve equal divisions of the Zodiac, each distinguished by the name of a constellation and frequently denoted by a special symbol.
c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4803 þe twelfte day aftir, þe sternes alle And þe signes fra þe heven sal falle 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 108 Ther ben signes tuelve, Whiche have her cercles be hemselve Compassed in the zodiaque. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 2 Whan Phebus whas.. yronne Out of the signe, wiche callyd is aquary. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* e v b, The man whych is borne in a good planette or sygne. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXII. (Percy Soc.) 105 He sette..The bodies above to have their moving, In the xii. signes them selfe to domify. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 279 At that tyme the soonne was in the north signes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 182 Vnder what Signe in heaven Britaine lieth. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 299 Now look what Sign of the twelv shall bee found to rise up in the Horoscope or Angle of the East, that is the Sign-Regent of that Hous or Citie. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 100 § 3, I was looking..on that Sign in the Heavens which is called by the Name of the Ballance. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* XXIX. 289 The motions of Jupiter's satellites are according to the order of the signs. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 37 These are called the zodiacal constellations (very carefully to be distinguished.. from the signs of the zodiac bearing the same name).

† **b.** A constellation. *Obs. rare.*
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. XXIII. (Bodl. MS.), Arcturus is a signe ymade of vij. sterres. *Ibid.*, Orioun is a signe that ariseth in wintere. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XII. 46 The sygne of Oryon. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Orion*.. was .. translated among the sterres, & there is the signe called in latine *Jugula.* 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Orion.*

III. 12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *sign-language, -maker, -speech, -talk*; (sense 2 c) *sign-symbol*; (sense 5) *sign-mark*; (sense 6) *sign-iron, -painter*; (sense 7) *sign-word*; (sense 11) † *sign-carrier.*
1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 1 A Zodiack..; the Latins call it *Signifer*, that is to say, *Sign-carrier.* 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 44 On passing through the streets of London in his walks, before the *sign-irons were taken down. 1836 in *Hist. Chesterfield* (1839) 45 Having a sign, sign-iron, sign-post, or shew-board suspended from or in front of such house. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 25 The teacher remarked that I did not seem to be quite a beginner in the *sign-language. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 66 Such a movement is a true 'sign', being a movement made depicting a fact with the intention of conveying to other minds the ideas of the *sign-maker. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* IV. 387 The Kaiser's ominous *sign-mark had first place, The crowned grim twy-necked eagle. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 221 The painter should have had about the same degree of merit with a good *sign-painter in Europe. 1814 SIR R.

Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 346 For fear the head should not be recognised as the saint's, a brown cap is put upon it by the sign-painter. 1873 Cayley in *Messenger Math.* II. 17 Theorems in Relation to Certain *Sign-Symbols. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* 133 How was it my French didn't go, and your *sign-talk did? 1894 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. V. 6/1 It is a *sign-word only, not a term of affinity.

Sign (sain), *v.*[1] Also 4–7 signe, 5–6 sygne, 6 syne, 7 sine, *Sc.* singe. [ad. F. *signer* († *siner*) or L. *signāre*, f. *signum* Sign *sb.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To mark, protect, consecrate, etc., *with* the sign of the cross.

c 1305 *St. Edmund* 66 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 72 In mie foreheuede iwrite mie name þu schalt iseo; Signe þerwiþ þi foreheued & þi breost also. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 15, Ich signi þe wiþ signe of croys. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Bapt. Inf.*, We receyue this childe into the congregacion of Christes flocke and doe sygne hym wyth the signe of the crosse. 1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 248 They are to wear surplices, sign children in baptism with the sign of the cross. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 3 The Use of signing ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. 1834 K. H. Digby *Mores Cath.* v. vii. 193 St. Gregory the Great says, that it was the custom to sign the penitential bread with a cross. 1878 Gairdner *Rich. III*, vi. 269 He kissed the ground and signed himself with the cross.

b. To cross (*esp.* oneself).

c 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* xlvii. (1908) 252 Than sche wipeth his face and kisseth it,..and so signede and blessed hym. 1530 Palsgr. 718/1, I shall syne me on the forheed from the dyvell and all his angels. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xvii. cxxvii, How know I but thou art some fair-dress'd Feind To make me foul? and here himself he sign'd. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo Lippi* 155 Shaking a fist at him with one fierce arm, Signing himself with the other because of Christ. 1861 Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 100 Then, sign thyself, and peaceful go thy ways.

c. To make the sign of (the cross) by a movement of the hand.

1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* III. iv, He pray'd, and sign'd the cross between. 1872 A. de Vere *Leg. St. Patrick, Baptism* ii, With that small hand..He signed the Cross. 1896 A. Austin *England's Darling* I. i, Nay, sign the cross upon your brow and sleep.

d. To figure (the cross) *in* some material.

1825 Scott *Betrothed* x, Pointing to the cross signed in white cloth upon his left shoulder.

2. To place some distinguishing mark upon (a thing or person); to mark with a sign.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. viii. (Bodl. MS.), Grauers vse the peces þerof [i. e. adamant] to signe and to þirle precious stones. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 206 Heere thy Hunters stand Sign'd in thy Spoyle, and Crimson'd in thy Lethee. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 228 They..wore garments of black, signed with a white crosse. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* IX. 130 There sprung A Light that sign'd the Heav'ns, and shot along. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 436 The scar, with which his manly knee was sign'd. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. vii. § 20. 94 The reversed imagery of their darkness signed across by the soft lines of faintly touching winds.

fig. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* vi. 27 For him the Father, God, hath signed. — *Eph.* iv. 30 The holy Spirit of God: in which you are signed vnto the day of redemption. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* vii. 329 Since the Israelites are signed with the holy seal in the flesh, they are thereby acknowledged for the sons of God. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 634 Earth, Air, and Seas, with Prodigies were sign'd. 1862 F. T. Palgrave in *Bk. of Praise* (1866) 242 Saviour pure and holy, Sign us with thy sign.

b. To stamp as a sign *upon* something. *rare.*

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 16 The omnipotency of God, which is chiefly signed and engraven upon his works.

c. In *pass.* To have as signatures.

1706 Hearne *Collect.* 4 Feb., The leaves signed, a i. a iij.

†**3.** To put a seal upon (something). Also *intr.*, to use seals. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xxii. 10 Signe, or seele, thou not the wordes of prophecie of this book. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. Notes* 969 He..put him in the bottomles dungeon, & shut him vp, & signed him with his seale. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 178 The Easterne Countries or Ægypt doe not yet signe, sayth he, being contented with bare letters.

4. To attest or confirm by adding one's signature; to affix one's name to (a document, etc.).

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 11 Signe nor seale them not til thou haue ouerseen them. 1513–4 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Preamble, Every writting obligatorie..signed and sealed in fourme above rehersed. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 397, I am not well, send the deed after me, And I will signe it. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 52 The Lord Deputies entertainement to be paid according to the List after following, which List was to be signed by the Lords. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 63 The Caimacan was ready to sign the Pass. 1713 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Mar., They have had some expresses, by which they count that the peace may be signed by that time. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 22/2 It is the custom of Shroffs to get the body of the bond wrote by their Gomastahs, and they sign it with their own hands. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 199 Where an account is regularly settled between the parties, and signed by them, it will carry interest. 1874 T. Taylor *Leic. Square* iii. 64 His commission was not signed till April, owing to delays.

fig. 1613 R. Hill *Pathw. Piety* (1615) M 4 As the preaching of the Gospell is Gods powerfull instrument to sign our saluation. 1659 Milton *Rupt. Comm.* Wks. 1851 V. 401, I perswade me, that God was pleas'd with this Restitution, signing it as he did, with such a signal Victory. 1878 Ruskin *Notes* 50 Turner always signs a locality with some given incident.

b. To fix *down*, make *over*, give *away*, by signing.

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 75 We would with our blood signe downe such speis on the Plaines [etc.]. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* 21 June, This Tenement he signed over to his Sons. 1846 Dickens *Battle of Life* I, Signing away vague and enormous sums of money. 1858 Trollope *Dr. Thorne* I. xiv. 284 A man signs away a moiety of his substance.

5. *intr.* To affix one's signature. Also const. *to.*

1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 150 Another letter..signed below, not above (as she usually signed). 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 27 It was therefore better..to cause him ..to sign to whatsoever he had confessed. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* (1757) 32 The articles we signed to at Plymouth, were never read in our hearing. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 377 Though the witnesses must all see the testator sign,..yet they may do it at different times. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 27 Having signed and sealed for the future 'Italy', he will not let me allude to it now. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xviii. 137 They must both sign in your presence. 1879 O. W. Holmes *Archbishop & Gil Blas* 24 That is why my hand looks shaky when I sign for dividends.

fig. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Lett. to Gent. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 91 Thou hast the daintiest smacking Lips in the Universe, that would invite a Hermit to sign and seal upon them.

b. With *off*, *on*. (Cf. 6 c.)

1838 Emerson *Addr. Cambr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 200 In the country neighbourhoods, half parishes are signing off, to use the local term. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *To sign off*, to release a debtor by agreeing to accept whatever he offers to pay. 1878 Mrs. Stowe *Pogànuc P.* iii. 18 The revolution..which broke up the State Church and gave to every man the liberty of 'signing off', as it was called, to any denomination that pleased him. 1885 *St. James's Gaz.* 23 Sept. (Cassell), One set of men signed on after having only seven hours' absence from work.

6. *trans.* To write or inscribe (one's name) as a signature.

1817 Scott *Lett.* I. 407, I am about to sign my name three hundred times. 1858 Ld. St. Leonards *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xviii. 137 Then you should sign your name in their presence. 1888 Besant *Fifty Yrs. Ago* 78 Forty per cent. of the men..could not sign their own names.

b. *refl.* To denominate or designate (oneself) in a signature or signatures.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Sept. 5/2 A correspondent of last week's *Spectator*, who signs himself a 'Liberal Solicitor'.

c. To engage by the signing of an agreement. Also with *on*.

1889 in *Cent. Dict.*, The Athletics have signed a new player. 1894 *Times* 25 Sept. 10/6 When crews are not signed on board, a large proportion of them are missing when the boat is ready to sail. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 1/3 The men can only be 'signed on' in the presence of the Board of Trade officer.

II. 7. a. *trans.* To indicate, signify, betoken.

a 1375 *Joseph of Aramathie* 185 þat signede Ihesu crist ..was nout out-wiþ so cler bote wiþ-inne he was clene. *a* 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 633 His asse eares..signe in short space, The franticke foole sall grow madde like Mahowne. 1628 Gaule *Pract. The.* 36 That he hath lost it, doth but signe he had it not. 1652 — *Magastrom.* 184 A broad forehead signes or marks a man stupid. 1845 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 2) 135 This branch, Which waveth high o'er all, oh, let it sign Thine own Eternal Son's humanity. 1884 R. H. Newton *Bk. Beginnings* 127 The Asherah, the original of the Maypole, signs the productivity of nature.

†b. *intr.* To prognosticate, bode. *Obs.*

1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* C viij, To prophesie from Comets, or deuine, Tis foolerie; they neither cause nor signe. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. iii. 15 Musicke i' th' Ayre...It signes well, do's it not?

†**8.** *trans.* To designate. *Obs.*[-1]

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 23 An Angle is most commonly signed by three Letters, the middlemost whereof sheweth the Angular Point.

9. a. *intr.* To make a sign or signs by some movement of the hand, etc.

1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 494 Then signing to their heralds with his hand, They gave his orders from their lofty stand. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* viii, Prince John with his truncheon signed to the trumpets to sound the onset. 1869 Tennyson *Coming Arthur* 317 She..sign'd To those two sons to pass, and let them be.

b. *trans.* To intimate, convey, by a sign.

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 208 Upon this he sign'd to me, that he should bury them with Sand. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xix, He..held up his finger to him as he signed farewell. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xii, He, too, signed a mournful greeting to Tressilian. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 724 [He] signed me next morning that we should camp here.

†**Sign,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 signe, 5 segne, 5–6 sygne; 4 syngne, 5–6 syne. [Aphetic f. Assign *v.*] *trans.* To assign, appoint.

1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 163 Tent & pauillon tille Isaac did he signe. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 35 þat alle the bretheren..shullen ben redy at that day..in wat stede that he syngnyt hem. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Paternoster* 284 in *Min. Poems* (E. E. T. S.), Cause his lord was ageyn hym ffell He was fetryd and signed to prysoun. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 621/1 Many arraunt Theves..become Provers, and desire a Coroner to be signed unto theym to make their appelles of dyvers Felonyes. *c* 1510 Barclay *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) E iij, Like as a wise warriour signeth a souldiour For enemies aproching to watche and to espie. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxxix. 473 So euery man londyd excepte suche as were sygned to kepe the shyppes. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 19 The Emperor heaunlye..too thee the auctorityе signed Too swage seas surging.

Sign, obs. form of Sine *sb.* and Sing *v.*

Signable (sai·năb'l), *a.* [f. Sign *v.*[1] + -able.]

1. That may be signed (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855).

2. Capable of signing.

1802 Canning *Let.* in *Diaries & Corr. Ld. Malmesbury* IV. 96, I commit the paper to your discretion. If signable people should fall in your way, or if unsignable,..use it.

†**Signacle.** *Obs.* Also 4–5 sygn-, 5 synacle; *Sc.* 6 signakle, 8 sinacle. [a. OF. *signacle, sinacle*, etc., ad. late L. *signāculum*, dim. from *signum* Sign *sb.*]

1. A sign, seal, mark, figure.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Cor.* ix. 2 3e ben the sygnacle, or litil signe, of myn apostilhed in the Lord. ?*c* 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* iii. 172 The name of god..Is the signacle of the celestial seale. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lix. 140 This grace is..a propre signacle of þe chosen children of god. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/1 He had the Sygnacle or fygure of the holy crosse in soo right grete reuerence that he eschewed to trede on hit. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxxv. 18 All thing maling we dovne thring, Be sicht of his signakle. *a* 1555 Bradford *Medit.* (1607) 96 The sacrament of circumcision, which as the Apostle calleth the seale or signacle of righteousnes. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*

2. A sign or gesture.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxviii. 62 Whanne Nasciens knew that he hol was Be the signacle of [= made by] þe Man In that plas. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* v. 21 The sayd wymmen were alle dyssheuelled,..makynge merueylous synacles, as theyr custume was in that tyme.

3. *Sc.* A slight token or trace.

1768 Ross *Helenore* I. 8 Never a sinacle of life was there. 1790 Shirrefs *Poems* Gl. 32 *Sinacle*, a grain, a small quantity.

Signal (si·gnăl), *sb.* [a. F. *signal* (OF. also *seignal, seignau*, etc.), = Pg. *sinal*, Sp. *señal*, It. *segnale*, med.L. *signāl(e*, a Romanic formation on L. *signum* Sign: see -al 4. Used by Chaucer and Gower, but otherwise evidenced only from the end of the 16th century.]

†**1. a.** A visible sign; a badge or symbol. *Obs.*

c 1384 Chaucer *Ho. Fame* I. 459 Tho saugh I..alle the mervelouse signals Of the goddys celestials. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 57 In his hond He bar the signal of his lond With fisshes thre. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 7 His other signals of authority, the deckings of a corrupt minde.

†**b.** A mark of distinction or honour. *Obs.*

1655 M. Carter *Honor Rediv.* (1660) 3 Vertue being still admired, and honored, and some signall put upon it. 1685 Bunyan *Seventh-day Sabbath* v, Now what another signal was here [i. e. at the day of Pentecost] put upon the first day of the week.

2. A sign, token, or indication (*of* something).

In later use not clearly separable from sense 4.

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 121 In signall of my loue to thee. 1594 — *Rich. III*, V. iii. 21 (Qtos.), The wearie sonne ..Giues signall of a goodlie day to-morrow. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iv, The bread and wine which were but the signalls or visible signes..were made the things signified. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 12 'Tis a signal that he has no thought of mercy in store for them. 1725 — *Voy. round World* (1840) 320 All this while we saw no people, nor any signals of any. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* xcv. (1810) II. 190 To whom we wish to display some signal of our love. 1820 Shelley *Ode to Naples* 113 The signal and the seal..Art thou of all these hopes. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, The arrival of the piano, which, as she conjectured, must have come from George, and was a signal of amity on his part.

3. A sign agreed upon or understood as the occasion of concerted action, *esp.* one ordering the movement of troops or ships; also *fig.*, an exciting cause.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 116 Attending but the signall to begin. 1611 Coryat *Crudities* 16 Presently they gaue the Signall to Hernand Teillo, that lay vnder the towne with his ambuscado. 1667 Milton *P. L.* V. 702 All obey'd The wonted signal. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 176 The signal of battle being given with two cannon shot we marched in order of battalia. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) I. 60/2 The pæan..was the signal to advance. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* III. iii, Go on deck, and tell me if thou seest The signal flying for close line of battle. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xix. 134 This was the signal for a grasp all round. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vi. § 5. 318 The meeting of the Emperor [Charles] with Henry at Southampton gave the signal for a renewal of the war.

4. A sign or notice, perceptible by sight or hearing, given especially for the purpose of conveying warning, direction, or information.

1598 Drayton *Heroical Ep.* Poems (1619) 212, I..being ship'd, gave signall with my Hand Vp to the Cliffe where I did see thee stand. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 72 The Son gave signal high To the bright Minister that watch'd, hee blew His Trumpet. 1698 T. Froger *Voy.* 8 We likewise made signals to the other ships. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 12 The Master..order'd to fire a Gun as a Signal of Distress. 1732 Lediard *Sethos* II. ix. 281 The garrison beat..a signal of surrender. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, And, as she drew nearer to Olivia, gave a signal and passed on to her cell. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiii, It was a keen and warning look, And well the Chief the signal took. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 A bell rang which was a signal..that a train was coming.

b. An object serving to convey an intimation.

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 94 There is a small Church in the Sea,..which serves for a Light-house and Signal. 1774 Mackenzie *Mar. Surv.* II. 84 When the Surveyor is at a proper Station, the Assistant must set up the black Signal. 1838 Railway signal [see Railway 3]. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xlvii, He has something in his hand—he is holding it up as if it were a signal. 1878 Gurney *Crystallogr.* 105 Let these signals..be so placed that the same horizontal plane will pass through each of them.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attrib. with sbs. denoting something employed as, or used in giving, a signal or signals, as *signal apparatus, beacon, bell, fire, flag*, etc.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 258/1 It is usual to affix a 'signal

apparatus to them. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvi. 345 A large *signal-beacon or cairn. 1897 D. BUTLER *Ch. & Par. Abernethy* 180 The mere use of the *signal-bell of the hand-bell-ringer. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xli, Captain Drawlock..had the *signal-book in his hand. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 266 The sailor in possession of the signal-book reads the signal. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 290 The *signal fires were blazing fifty miles off. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Although *signal flags, in modern engagements, have been generally laid aside [etc.]. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. xxx, Might not my father's beadsman hoar..Kindle a *signal-flame? 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 336/2 A *signal-gun to be fired. 1842 LEVER *J. Hinton* vi, When the signal-gun announced the commencement of the action. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 13/2 The..height of the lower or *signal lamp. 1804 NELSON 23 Feb. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. ccxix, It is recommended..to be careful that the *Signal-lights for knowing each other are clear. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 237 Igniting the composition forming the signal light. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 270 These three texts.. may well stand as the great *signal-marks pointing to it. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* 36 From several of the vessels the trumpets woke a sonorous *signal-note. 1766 R. JONES *Fireworks* IV. 135 *Signal-rockets..are headed with stars, serpents, &c. 1887 *Spectator* 30 July 1019/2 A signal-rocket sent up from the flag-ship. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., A continual discharge of these *signal shells. 1812 S. ROGERS *Columbus* Poems (1839) 43 When hark, a *signal shot! 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 101/1 Their comrades..requested me to fire signal-shots at intervals. 1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 259 The distant *signal-whistle of a gang of robbers. 1895 *Mod. Steam Engine* 51 The signal whistle is shown at *g*. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxx, When mute Amadine they heard Give to their zeal his *signal-word. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* xxii, Thou wilt not forget that the signal word of the insurrection is Ursel.

b. With sbs. denoting a place or thing from which signals are given or worked, as *signal box, bridge, cabin, house*. etc.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* vi, I was..intent on looking for the telegraphic *signal-box. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 238/2 Distant signals..worked by wire communication from the signal box, were, it is believed, first introduced..in 1846. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 75 As I write comes a messenger from the *signal-bridge..with a copy of signal just made from the flagship. 1889 FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 69 The *signal cabin contains a most complicated piece of mechanism, called the 'locking frame'. 1796 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVI. I. 369 In the first distance is seen the *signal-house, with Bogner..beyond. 1892 E. REEVES *Homewd. Bound* 160 Most of the signal-house keepers and dredge men along the canal seem French. 1811 SIR W. SCOTT *Dodson's Rep.* I. 19 Notice was given from the Spanish *signal-post that an enemy was hovering on the coast. 1848 K. H. DIGBY *Compitum* I. 15 The notices, the signal-posts as it were, in life's forest. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., It is usual to fix a red flag..to point out the spot where the general or officer commanding takes his station in front of a line. This is called the *signal staff. 1898 SIR G. PARKER *Battle of Strong* xxxv, Not far from her was the signal-staff which telegraphed to another signal-staff inland. Upon the staff now was hoisted a red flag. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 43 The soldiers at these *signal-stations sat quite still during the intervals of silence. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxv, Under his steady gaze the blood rose slowly to its old signal-station on her cheeks. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. x. 159 It seems to have been intended, at first, as a watch, or *signal-tower.

c. With sbs. denoting persons connected with signalling, as *signal boy, corps, lieutenant*, etc. Also objective, as *signal fitter*.

1888 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 6/4 The dead body of..the *signal boy at Spa-road Station..was found..on the line. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 396/1 The *Signal Corps is a body of highly trained soldiers whose duty it is to provide the methods of communication between the different forces of an army. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 July 5/3 Two *signal fitters were standing in the four-foot way. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Signal-lieutenant, an officer in the Royal Navy having the charge of signals on board a flag-ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 626 *Signal-officer*, in a repeating frigate, a *signal-midshipman; in a flag-ship, a flag-lieutenant. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iii, The *signal officers ..had to make out the number of the flag. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 8/2 Accompanied by a signal officer and a small prize crew. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 399 A new equipment for the *Signal Service, the captive balloon. 1871 *Fair France* ii. 66 Female officials, down to *signalwomen and pointswomen, who at country stations stood, flag in hand, solemnly attentive to duty.

Signal (si·gnăl), *a.* [irreg. ad. F. *signalé*, pa. pple. of *signaler* to distinguish. In senses 2 and 3 the meaning has been influenced by the sb.]

1. Striking, remarkable, notable, conspicuous:

a. Of persons.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 23 Two great and signall Historians give in evidence against him [etc.]. 1670 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 57 He then betook himself wholly to the sea, and quickly made himself signal there. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 16 It is very easie to decide which of these impertinents is the most signal. *c* 1780 H. WALPOLE *Last Jrnls.* (1910) II. 36 The signal criminal [Dr. Dodd] suffered decently. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* II. v. I. 178 Signal villains of every class.

b. Of things or events.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 100 He died in a season most opportune,..and which in truth crowned his other signal prosperity in this world. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. iv. § 8 The extraordinary Prophets whom God did call out on some more signal occasions. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 46 Those that are in any signal Danger. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxx, All now thought that he would take the most signal revenge. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 195 The Israelites gained a most signal victory. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, IV. 393 But the same French general suffered a signal reverse..in the following year. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 30 The ministers were told that the nation expected, and should have, signal redress. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* II. 1 It was a signal proof of the wisdom of the English legislators.

†2. Distinctive, significative. *Obs.*

1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 84 Badges or signal Ornaments of the Proconsul of Asia. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Cases Consc.* (1678) 190 The signal note of the Godly party.

3. Constituting or serving as a sign.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. 2 The signall Oak which the Druides made choice of, was such a one, on which Misletoe did grow; by which privie token, they conceived, God marked it out, as of soveraigne vertue, for his service. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* 244 Long before his signal Crucifixion Jesus had died, by taking up daily that cross which his disciples..were to take up also.

Signal (si·gnăl), *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To make signals to (a person, ship, etc.); to summon, direct, or invite by signal.

1805 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VI. 463 The Captain of the Ship was signalled on board the Victory. 1892 STEVENSON *Across Plains* I It was..five o'clock when we were all signalled to be present at the Ferry Depôt. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* XII. iii, The girl came out, and signalling me to enter, went leisurely down-stairs.

2. a. To communicate or make known by signalling; to notify or announce by signal(s).

1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 233 Soon as on home's fair hills thine eyes shall signal a welcome. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 17 June 5/2 Even when storms are signalled off the Irish coast, they often take a totally new..course. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 65 In 1830 the only arrangement made for signalling the trains was a flag by day or a lamp by night.

b. To mark out clearly; to signalize.

1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 308 The noble dirge which signals with its majesty of music the consummation of Calantha's agony. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 280 Signalling and extolling that character in Christianity into which fineness of perception enters most.

3. To work (a railway) in respect of signals; to furnish with signalling apparatus.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Jan. 2/1 This line was a part of the London and Greenwich Railway, and was..maintained and signalled by us. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 June 10/2 Some portions of the principal railroads are fully signalled, but on many others hardly any signals are used.

4. *intr.* To give notice, warning, or information, or make any other communication, by signal.

1864 HOSMER *Color-Guard* 76 They are signalling night and day..by flag and fire. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Divine Worship* 199 The Officiator,..signalling to the Penitents, should begin the Antiphon.

Signaletic (signăle·tik), *a. Math.* [irreg. f. SIGN *sb.* or SIGNAL *sb.* Cf. F. *signalétique* (in a different sense), f. *signaler* vb.] Relating to the algebraic signs plus and minus.

1853 SYLVESTER in *Phil. Trans.* CXLIII. 546 A signaletic or Semaphoretic series is a sequence of disjunctive terms, considered solely with reference to the algebraical signs of plus and minus which they respectively carry. 1889 CAYLEY in *Nature* XXXIX. 218/1 They are signaletic functions, indicating in what manner..the roots of the one equation are intercalated among those of the other.

Signalist (si·gnălist). [f. SIGNAL *sb.* + -IST.] One who makes signals; one specially employed in signalling; a signaller.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 39 For the cause of my coming, you know that, my charming little signalist. 1881 *Appleton's Ann. Cycl.* 548 He was enabled to furnish each army corps ..with a competent force of skilled signalists.

Signality. Now *rare.* [f. SIGNAL *sb.* or *a.*]

†1. The quality of a sign or indication. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 224 Had they conceived any more then a bare signality in this Star,..they would not have computed from its Heliacall ascent which was of inferiour efficacy.

†2. Signification; significance. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. xi. (1650) 33 That the same should fall out at a remarkable time..may admit a Christian apprehension in the signality. 1658 — *Garden Cyrus* Wks. (Bohn) II. 502 Though he that considereth the plain cross [etc.]..will hardly decline all thought of Christian signality in them. 1693 J. BEAUMONT *On Burnet's Th. Earth* II. 111 Blew and red, denoting the two great destructions of the World..; so that the Rainbow carries a mixt signality.

3. Notability, distinction.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Ep. Ded., Had I had a Signality of Spirit to summon Democriticall Atomes to conglobate into an intellectuall Forme. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* Address p. xi, Now it seems to me a Signality in Providence in erecting your most Honourable Society in such a juncture of dangerous Humours. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 442 The battle of Azincourt reproduced the astonishing facts of Crècy and Poictiers with, if possible, even greater signality.

Signalize (si·gnălaiz), *v.* [f. SIGNAL *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make signal; to distinguish; to render conspicuous, remarkable, or noteworthy.

1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 102 Let none ever hope the like advantages, that are not signaliz'd by some remarkable qualities. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 21 The death of Germanicus was signaliz'd by another [meteor]. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 244 When..his Glory [was] sufficiently signalized, then he discarded those Instruments. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xli. 425 She named Whitgift.., who had already signalised his pen in controversy. 1861 MAY *Constit. Hist. Eng.* (1863) I. i. 45 This debate was signalised by the opposition speech of Sir Fletcher Norton, the Speaker. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* XLIV. 7 Leo the Tenth ..desired to signalize his reign by building the grandest church in the world.

b. To make known or display in a striking manner.

1702 FARQUHAR *Twin Rivals* III. i, Has he ever signalised his courage? *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 146 The final issue of God's dealing with such as have signalized their patience. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 322 He was very desirous of signalizing his talents by some enterprize. *a* 1806 C. J. FOX *Reign Jas. II* (1808) 125 The parliament opened..with an enthusiastick zeal, to signalize their loyalty.

c. *refl.* To distinguish (oneself) by some notable action or qualities. †Also const. *from.*

1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 289 There were two Captains of Launces with the Prince who had particular occasion to signalize themselves. 1689 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 577 A list of the officers in Derry that signalized themselves against the enemy. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 77 ₱ 5 A thousand extravagancies, by which they would signalize themselves from others. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* iv. 37 Among the savage Tribes, the Chiefs are they who most signalize themselves by Dance and Song. 1813 T. CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) I. xii. 324 Let me make a point of bringing forward nothing in conversation for the purpose of signalising myself. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Lect. Light* § 462 Gypsum possesses three planes of cleavage,..one of which particularly signalizes itself by its perfection.

2. To characterize or mark conspicuously.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 95 Their Habit is the main thing that signalizes them more than their Virtue. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. I. (1904) II. 316 The inhabitants ..have been frequently united..and the havoc and devastation of Asia have always signalised their union. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) II. 241 The symbol of death which signalizes its thorax. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xi. 160 Such tyrannous acts as we thus find to have signalized the Anglo-Norman reigns. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Irvilism.* x. 74 He awoke in time to hear the cheers which signalised the success of the Minister's speech.

3. To point out, note or mention specially, draw attention to.

a 1721 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 131 Our Lord..At John's request the Traytor signaliz'd. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* vi. 196 Some of the most portentous exhibitions of ungovernable violence that..have been signalized in history. 1835 SIR W. HAMILTON *Disc.* (1853) 543 Not a single voice was raised in either House to signalize the misstatement. 1885 FROULKES *Print. Consecration* viii. 379 The Gallican spirit breathing throughout his works has been already signalised.

4. To make signals to; to communicate with by means of a signal.

1824 BYRON *Let. to Muir* 2 Jan., They were signalising their consort with lights. 1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* vii. 153 Two guns were fired..for the purpose probably of signalizing the authorities at the Capital. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xix. 75 She saw a stalwart man arise..And pause a breath, to signalize Some one beyond her stinted view.

b. *intr.* To make or send signals.

1853 FELTON *Fam. Lett.* i. (1865) 8 We have signalized to Liverpool by way of Holyhead. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VII. 78 Developing a theory of signalising by pulsations.

5. To announce by a signal or signals.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 216 Who would then signalize to them where they might safest attempt to land.

Hence **Si·gnalized** *ppl. a.*

1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 53 One of the gallantest and most signalized Princesses that ever lived. 1819 T. CHALMERS *Serm.* (1836) I. 214 The special and signalised object of his kindness. 1870 W. ARNOT in *Life* x. (1877) 439 This is a signalised and monumental spot of the continent.

Signallee (signălī·). Also **signalee.** [f. SIGNAL *v.* + -EE [1].] One to whom a signal is made or transmitted.

1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* iii. 31 Presently we saw a signal, but end on, as flags are apt to be when the signaller is dead up wind and the signallee down.

Signaller (si·gnălə(r)). Also *U.S.* **signaler.** [f. SIGNAL *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who signals; *esp.* one specially employed to transmit signals.

1863 LITTLEDALE *Offices East. Ch.* 209 About the hour of Dawn all the signallers sound. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 12 A large force..without signallers or telegraphists. 1887 *Times* 25 Aug. 4/4 The signallers with the column were very busy.

b. One who uses signals in card-playing.

1885 PROCTOR *Whist* IX. 98 An original signal..should mean..that the signaller is..very strong in trumps.

2. A thing or apparatus used for signalling.

1872 SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 108 A hand-clapper or signaller used as a bell. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Oct. 7/2 An automatic signaller, which will..save fogmen's lives and be always ready.

Signalling (si·gnălin), *vbl. sb.* Also *U.S.* **signaling.** [f. SIGNAL *v.*] The action of making or transmitting signals.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 276 By rough signalling he first stood near the place where the first stake was to be driven in. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 424/1 Visual signalling was formerly carried on by semaphores, but it has been superseded by army signalling and sun telegraphy. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 21 May 4/1 Any new system of signalling which may be arranged between two or more players.

attrib. 1876 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 5/3 The loss of the Vanguard..was in the main due to imperfect signalling arrangements. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* p. vi, My obligations to..the Signalling Superintendent.

Signally (si·gnăli), *adv.* Also ? **signaly.** [f. SIGNAL *a.* Cf. obs. F. *signalement* in the same sense.] In a signal or striking manner.

1641 in *Archaeologia* I. 99 The Lord of hosts did signally appear for us. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. viii. (1677) 205 But if we follow the Account of the Septuagint, ..the advantage of the Increase would be signally greater. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 139 The same cruelty which they had so often and so signally exerted against their Spanish neighbours. *c* 1800 FOSTER *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 230 A being signally marked from her co-evals. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 55 It is hard to recall another institution, with such opportunities so signally wasted. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 433 All attempts to limit the choice of the electors beforehand had always signally failed.

Si·gnalman. [f. SIGNAL *sb.* 3 and 4.]

1. A man employed to make, convey, display, or give signals. (Chiefly in *Naval* use.)

1737 *Chamberlayne's St. Gt. Brit.* II. 115 Mr. John Dominick Grana, Signal-man. 1834 CAPT. MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 117 Our captain was determined not to see it, and ordered the signal-man not to look that way. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 626 *Signal-man*, the yeoman of the signals; a first-class petty officer in the navy. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* 16 A signalman pattered by to relieve his mate on the bridge.

2. A railway employee who attends to the signals which show whether the line is clear or not.

1840 *B'ham Jrnl.* 28 Nov. 4/2 At every station there shall be an officer or officers under the name of 'signal men'. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* III. 271 A very simple and complete method of communication between the signalman and switchman.

Signalment (si·gnălmĕnt). *rare.* [ad. F. *signalement*, f. *signaler* to mark out.] A description of a person wanted by the police; a distinguishing mark.

1778 *Ann. Reg.* 196 A French signalment, or hue and cry, was received at..Bow Street..of a most horrid murder. 1804 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 414 Were a signalment of this kind once established in the character of a mark of infamy is it not to be apprehended that the abovementioned custom of self-marking would cease? 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VI. 399 The foiled police Renounced me. 'Could they find a girl and child, No other signalment but girl and child?'

†**Si·gnance.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **sygn-**. [See SIGN *v.*[1] and -ANCE.] Signification, indication.

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1074 A glofe to his pensalle he hase, In Sygnance of his were. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. vi. 57 The Kalender or Index serues for a Directory to expedite the intimation of particulars with signance of due Characters.

‖**Signa·nter,** *adv. rare.* [Late L.] Expressly, distinctly, definitely.

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 58 He might signanter say to the one [etc.]. 1656 HEYLIN *Extraneus Vapulans* 172 The Doctrine being confessed on all sides to be signanter, and expressly pointed at.

†**Si·gnantly,** *adv. Obs.*—[1] [f. L. *signant-*, ppl. stem of *signāre* to mark, etc.] ? = prec.

a 1656 VINES *Lord's Supper* (1677) 394 Chrysostom takes this word [ουν] signantly.

Signatary (si·gnătări). [ad. F. *signataire.*] = SIGNATORY *sb.*

1858 *Times* 13 Aug. 7/1 The signataries of these two remarkable petitions. 1867 *Queen's Speech* in *Hansard* CLXXXV. 4 All the Powers, Signataries of the Treaty of 1856. 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* viii. 269 Within the jurisdiction of the signataries.

Signate (si·gnĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *signāt-us*, pa. pple. of *signāre* to mark, etc.]

A. *adj.* Marked or distinguished in some way.

1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* xxxii. § 14 The Signate-star above your pole shall help you. 1710 tr. *Werenfels' Disc. Logom.* 101 Then follow..the States, Amplications,..Signate Matter,..and whole Cart-loads of Qualitys. 1826 KIRBY & SPENCE *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 286 *Signate..*, marked with signatures. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 152 The second form of quiescent pupa, known as obtected, larvate, or signate, is characteristic of *Lepidoptera.*

†**B.** *sb.* A distinguishing mark or quality. *Obs.*

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 116 The power of the Species or particular kinde being unfolded, it assumeth divers Colours and Signates.

†**Si·gnate,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [f. ppl. stem of L. *signāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To stamp, mark.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b j b, All plants..which have their stalks signated with cuts and slits (as it were) are sanative to scars and wounds.

Signate, variant of SENNET *Obs.*

Signation (signē·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *signātiōn-em*, noun of action f. *signāre* to SIGN.]

1. The action of signing with the cross, or of marking with a seal.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* 1. ii. 76 Whence is the Vnction called signation, consignation, obsignation (with the like) but from the Crosse? 1637 C. DOW *Answ. H. Burton* 207 The blessed Eucharist wherein they acknowledge..no other exhibition than by way of signation or obsignation. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 13 John makes no mention of him in the signation of the tribes. 1883 *Ch. Times* XXI. 953/1 The Greek signation with the Cross is made from right to left.

†**b.** The action of marking in a particular way, or the fact of being so marked. *Obs.*

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. iii. 7 Those other Examples of the Signation of the Fœtus from the Mothers' Fancy, which Fienus rejecteth.

†**2.** A distinctive mark. = SIGNATURE *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 100 It somewhat resembles an horseshooe, which..Baptista Porta hath thought too low a signation, and raised the same unto a Lunarie representation. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b j, The shels of Seasnails having the signation of long ears.

†**Si·gnator**[1]. *Sc. Law. Obs.* Also 5–7 **signatour.** [App. ad. L. *signātōr-ius*: see SIGNATORY.] = SIGNATURE *sb.* 1.

1473–4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 2 A remissione be the King to certane personis..grantit be a signatour subscriuit with the Kingis hand. 1510 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIII. 649 That all the tennentis and forestaris..that has tane thair stedingis that thai cum and raise thair signatouris. 1580–1 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 349 Sindrie his subjectis..ceissis not to present thair signatouris, letters, and petitiounes, unto his Majesties self. 1626 CHAS. I in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 423/1 He did passe a signator of the said honour in your name. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xi. § 1, The *habilis modus* of granting which Rights is by Signator.

Signator[2] (signē·tə1). *rare.* [a. L. *signātor*, agent-noun from *signāre* to SIGN.] A signatory.

1650 J. FRENCH tr. *Paracelsus' Nat. Things* IX. 100 It is convenient for us..to declare by whom things are signed, and who the Signator is. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 6/1 The signators to the above letter are members of high standing on the Stock Exchange.

Signatory (si·gnătəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *signātōrius* of or belonging to sealing, f. ppl. stem of *signāre* to SIGN.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** Used in sealing. *Obs.*

1647 TORSHELL *Design to Harmoniae the Bible* 24 Georg. Longus of Milain, concerning signatory Rings. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Signatory*, that is used or serves to seal withal; As *Annulus signatorius*, a Seal-Ring, a Signet.

2. Forming one of those (persons or states) whose signatures are attached to a document.

1870 *Standard* 16 Nov., The Emperor is ready to come to an understanding with the signatory Powers. 1892 A. E. LEE in *Hist. of Columbus* I. 116 The signatory chiefs agreed to deliver up all captives, and to keep the peace forever.

B. *sb.* One of those whose signatures are attached to a document of any kind. (Cf. SIGNATARY.)

1866 *Contemp. Rev.* I. 261 That the twenty signatories were..the majority of the members present in the Lower House. 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. xi. 268 An address to the Archbishop of Canterbury, assuring him of the adherence of the signatories to the doctrine..of the Church.

Si·gnatural, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SIGNATURE *sb.* 6.] According to signatures.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XXV. ¶ 2 Laying the Heaps is to place them..in an orderly Signatural Succession.

Signature (si·gnătiŭr), *sb.* [ad. med.L. *signātūra*, f. *signāre* to sign, mark, etc., or a. F. *signature* (16th c.).]

1. *Sc. Law.* A writing prepared and presented to the Baron of Exchequer by a writer to the signet, as the ground of a royal grant to the person in whose name it is presented. (Bell.) Cf. SIGNATOR[1].

1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 219 To pas with writingis and signaturis to be subscrivit be the Kingis grace. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 383 Ane signature anent the confirmatioun of ane charter grantit to hir. *c* 1630 SIR T. HOPE *Minor Practicks* (1726) 85 All Signatures of Prelacies, and great Benefices; and also all Signatures of the Officers of State, pass under the Great Seal only. 1690 *Scot. Acts Parl.* (1822) IX. 200/1 The signatures and Charters of all vassalls of Kirklands. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. v. § 82 Before the union of the two crowns in 1603, all signatures passed under the King's own hand. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., Every Crown charter is preceded by a signature containing the principal clauses of the charter, and specifying the seal or seals through which it is to pass.

2. The name († or special mark) of a person written with his or her own hand as an authentication of some document or writing.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *La signature d'vn Notoire*, the signature or marke of a Notarie. *a* 1633 COKE *On Litt.* (1642) II. 556 A bill superscribed with the signature or signe manuall, or royall hand of the King. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1780) 294 He asserts that he has traced me through a variety of signatures. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxix, To make a last effort to procure that signature which would transfer her estates in Languedoc. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IX. xv, The fatal signature appear'd To all the multitude, Distinct as when the accursed pen Had traced it with fresh blood. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, I wish I had Miss MacWhirter's signature to a cheque for five thousand pounds. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 424 On so much of what has been said..they shall put the seals of all the judges with their signatures in writing.

b. The action of signing one's name, or of authenticating a document by doing so.

1621 LD. KPR. WILLIAMS in *Fortescue P.* (Camden) 162 Some things wee must offer to the kings signature when the clarkes are not to bee found. 1803 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 5 The last act to be done by the president is the signature of the commission. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 63 He therefore did not mean the signature of the two first sheets as a signature of the whole will: there never was a signing of the whole.

†**3.** The action of impressing or stamping. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 2 There is impressed upon all things..a third [desire] of Multiplying and extending their fourme upon other things: whereof the multiplying or signature of it upon other things, is that which we handled by the name of Active good.

4. A distinctive mark, a peculiarity in form or colouring, etc., on a plant or other natural object, formerly supposed to be an indication of its qualities, esp. for medicinal purposes. Now only *Hist.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 505 Some also pretending themselues Natures Principall Secretaries, haue found out in these..not onely Temperatures..., but Signatures of Natures owne impression. 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) p. v, He would take occasion to speak of the Beauty, Signatures, useful Vertues and Properties of the Plants then in view. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 127 Whether men, as they say of plants, have signatures to discover their nature by, is hard to determine. 1748 tr. *Werenfels' Diss. Superst.* 21 There are some that think those Herbs the fittest for curing those Parts of a Man's Body, to which they bear some Sort of Resemblance, commonly called a Signature. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 240 It is probable that the golden colour of the fish..induced the ignorant to suppose, that it was given by Providence as a signature to point out its medicinal quality. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 756 In former times such resemblances were greatly attended to by physicians, who termed them 'signatures'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 June 5/1 According to this law, the best way of obtaining the 'signatures' of drugs is by healthy persons testing them on themselves.

b. A distinguishing mark of any kind.

a 1626 ANDREWES *Serm.* (1856) I. 12 The Saviour..taking on Him 'Abraham's seed' must withal take on Him the signature of Abraham's seed, and be..circumcised. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* 33 It is become..the badge and signature of a modern Wit, thus to be one of David's fools, in saying there is no God. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* Pref. p. iv, There is not the smallest part of this Globe left without evident signatures of God's goodness. 1775 J. HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 298 It is a kind of universal signature, by which nature makes known to us the several species of her productions. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. II. (1856) 89 The capacity of ennui is one of the signatures of man's immortality.

c. A stamp, impression. Also *fig.*

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iii. § 9 So does meditation produce those impresses and signatures which are the proper effects of the mystery. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 71 It wou'd..dissolve the..foot-steps and signatures of the Deity on our souls. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 76 Vulgar parents cannot stamp their race With signatures of such majestic grace. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 54 To trace, in nature's most minute design, The signature and stamp of pow'r divine. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* VII. 105 Goodness celestial, whose broad signature Is on the universe. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* iii. § 8. 71 See by how many artifices ..time and storm will set their wild signatures upon it. 1871 J. R. MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* 142 The martyrs of the Roman catacombs, who have left the significant signature of their sufferings on vases and monumental tablets.

5. An image; a figure; an imitative mark. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Garden of Cyrus* iii, The Bryar.. maintains its pentagonall figure, and the unobserved signature of a handsome porch within it. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 237 Sir Thomas Brown..sent me the picture of one [a hen's egg]..having the perfect signature of a Duck swimming upon it. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. i. 259 A Stone with the Signature of a Button-Fish upon it. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. VIII. 108 They added the signature of the cross. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 286 *Signatures*,..markings upon a surface resembling in some degree letters and characters.

†**b.** A nævus, a birth-mark. *Obs.*

1682 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. 15 The fancy of the Mother can [form] the stubborn matter of the Fœtus in the womb, as we see it frequently doth in the instances that occur of Signatures and monstrous Singularities.

6. *Printing.* A letter or figure, a set or combination of letters or figures, etc., placed by the printer at the foot of the first page (and frequently on one or more of the succeeding pages) of every sheet in a book, for the purpose of showing the order in which these are to be placed or bound. Abbrev. *sig.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., Among Printers the mark or letter they set at the bottom of every sheet printed, as A, B, C, &c. to tell their Quires by, and distinguish one sheet from another, is called the Signature. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxii. ¶ 4 If it be the First Page of the first Sheet of a Book the Signature is A. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 339 The Signatures (there being no pages) are towards the top of the Leaf. 1710 *Ibid.* III. 47 The Signatures shew it to be 8vo. 1775 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poet.* II. 15 *note*, It is in quarto, with signatures to K k. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 135 It is customary to begin the first sheet of every work with signature B, leaving A for the title sheet. 1864 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VI. 266 Detached Sheet: 4to; signature, Ddddddd. 1895 *Trans. Bibliogr. Soc.* II. II. 112 It is usually said that the earliest instance in which printed signatures were employed was the *Praeceptorium Divinae Legis* of Johannes Nider, printed by Koelhoff at Cologne, in 1472.

attrib. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125 *Signature line*, the line of quadrats at the bottom of a page in which the signature letter or figure is placed. *Ibid.*, *Signature page*, the first page of a sheet, on which the signature appears. 1896 *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* p. xviii, The old signature marks that would confuse the bookbinder.

b. A sheet, as distinguished by its signature.

1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) IV. 37, I shall send you.. the Signatures F, G, H, I, of Mr. Dodwell's Dissertation. 1785 W. TOOKE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 430 As soon as such a number of books are perfected, the surplus of the various signatures are thrown aside for wrappers.

7. *Mus.* A sign, or set of signs, placed at the beginning of a piece of music, immediately after the clef, to indicate its key or time.

1806 CALLCOTT *Mus. Gram.* II. iv. 126 All the Signatures beyond six may be expressed by a smaller number by changing the name of the Tonic. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 206/2 There are in name thirty different keys, and as many signatures are in actual use. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., There are two kinds of signature, the time-signature and the key-signature.

Hence **Si·gnatureless** *a.*, having no signature, unsigned; without signatures.

1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* xxiii, Thus (abrupt and signatureless) ended the expected letter. 1892 *Athenæum* 18 June 790/2 In the volume called 'Love's Looking Glass' the poems are ranged signatureless.

Signature (si·gnătiŭ), *v.* [f. the sb.]

†**1.** *trans.* To indicate symbolically; to mark out, designate. *Obs.*

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b j, Plants which signature the Secrets, have a secret specifique vertue against sterility. 1740 CHEYNE *Ess. Regimen* p. xxx, Those who..have been signatur'd to intellectual Professions. *Ibid.* liv, Water being signatur'd, by its greatest Fluidity and Insipidity, for carrying alimentary particles..through all the strait meanders of animal Life.

2. *Printing.* To put a signature on (a sheet).

1889 T. MACKELLAR *Amer. Printer* (ed. 17) 135.

3. To put one's signature to; to authenticate or confirm by one's signature.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 June 2/3 Then followed the signatured address of a substantial householder of Courbevoie. 1909 *Eng. Rev.* Mar. 636 The meaning..was that he should 'signature' the ugly thing.

Si·gnaturist. *rare.* [f. SIGNATURE *sb.* 4 + -IST.] One who maintains the theory or doctrine of signatures in plants, etc.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 96 Signaturists have somewhat advanced it, who..have made men suspect there was more therein, then ordinary practice allowed. [Hence in Blount *Glossogr.* (1656), but wrongly explained.] 1786 FERRIAR in *Manch. Mem.* (1790) III. 50 Baptista Porta was not only a demonologist, but a signaturist, that is, a believer in the conformity of the virtues of plants to certain external appearances, supposed to be impressed by guardian angels.

†**Si·gnaturize,** *v. Obs.*[−1] [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To symbolize, signify.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 224 Making the character to signaturize the thing represented.

Sign-board (sə̄i·nˌbōəid). [SIGN *sb.* 6.] A board on which the sign of a shop, inn, or other place of business is painted or otherwise displayed.

1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 All signe boards of Wainscott or carved. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 102/1 A Chandler..Dipping of a Staff or Rod of Candles in Tallow..I have seen often times Painted on Sign-boards, to signifie the dwelling-house of a Chandler. 1793-4 WORDSW. *Guilt & Sorrow* xvi, No swinging sign-board creaked from cottage elm. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biogr. Lit.* (Bohn) 89 Our very sign-boards..give evidence that there has been a Titian in the world. 1844 EMERSON *Misc.* (1855) 308 Let him in the county-town..put up his sign-board, Mr. Smith, Governor. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 90 Some of the sign-boards of these ancient Roman inns have been disclosed amongst the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Signe, obs. f. SIGN *sb.* and *v.*, SING *v.*, SINE *sb.*

Signed[1] (sə̄ind), *ppl. a.* [f. SIGN *v.*]

†**1.** Sealed. *Obs.*—[0]

1647 HEXHAM I, A signed letter, *een gezegelden brief.*

2. Provided with a signature or signatures.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Geteeckende artijckelen*, signed articles. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form Process* (ed. 2) 76 Upon an signed Information given in against the said C. D. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* II. 202/1 A protest was entered against a signed list, pretending to be sent by Lord Forbes.

3. *Mus.* Placed as a signature. *rare.*

1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Musick* (1674) 8 These three Cliffs are called the three signed Cliffs, because they are always set at the beginning of the Lines on which is prickt the Song or Lesson. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, Characters of Sign'd Clefs.

†**Signed**[2], aphetic f. ASSIGNED *ppl. a. Obs.*

1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 418 *Signed Servant*, obsolete contraction for *Assigned Servant.*

Signed, obs. form of SINGED.

Signer (sə̄i·nəɹ). [f. SIGN *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who signs; a signatory.

1611 COTGR., *Signeur*, a signer, subscriber; marker. 1718 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 404, I am flattered with a hundred signers at Glasgow. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 121 This was laid open in the said petition: the signers of it were, John Harrison [etc.]. 1854 E. G. HOLLAND *Mem. V. Badger* x. 172 He secured more than a hundred signers to the pledge. 1884 MRS. F. MILLER *Life Ht. Martineau* 199 Her name headed the list of signers.

2. One who communicates by signs.

1893 *World's Congress Instruct. Deaf* 89 These associations produce the best and most graceful signers.

Signet (si·gnĕt), *sb.* Forms: 4– **signet,** 4–7 **signett** (6 -eth), 4, 6 **signete,** 5–6 **-ette**; 5 **sygnet, -at,** 5–6 **sygnette,** 6 **-ete**; 4 **syngnette,** 5 *Sc.* **singnet.** [a. OF. *signet* (also *sinet* SINET), or ad. med.L. *signētum*, dim. of OF. *signe*, L. *signum* seal, SIGN *sb.* Hence also MDu. and MLG. *signet* (Du. *signet*, dial. *singenet*).]

1. A small seal, usually one fixed in a finger-ring.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1087 With his salte teres gan he bathe The ruby in his signet, and hit sette Upon the wex. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 320 Sche..lappede it togedre tho And sette hir signet therupon. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 212/2 Robbed hym of..his Signet, and other dyvers Jnelx. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 38 My signet of gold, with a pellican and my armys grave ther in. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxii. 24 Though Iechonias..were the signet off my right honde, yet will I plucke him of. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 449 All hys victoryes and vertues were not for to bee drawne in the Compasse of a Sygnette. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 177 They wrought onyx stones encloused in ouches of gold, graven as signets are graven. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 483 A Bishop's private Seal or Signet bearing his own Coat-Armour. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) I. 353/2 Taking his signet from his finger. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ii, That diamond signet, which thou wearest on thy finger, thou holdest it, doubtless, as of inestimable value? 1889 J. DICKIE *Words of Faith*, etc. (1893) 254 Your name is graven on the signet on his hand.

2. A small seal of this kind in formal or official use, esp. as employed to give authentication or authority to a document.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. viii. (1839) 82, I hadde Lettres of the Soudan, with his grete Seel; and comounly other Men han but his Signett. 1428 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 83 perto I point my signet and my syne manuell. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 455 Doutyng that summe of the forseyd sealys of armys or sygnettes remayne stille amonges myn officeres. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xxi. 8 She wrote a letter vnder Achabs name, and sealed it with his signet. 1561 *Maitland Club Misc.* III. 283 Gewyn vnder ye Superintendentis signet and subscripsion at Sanctandrois. 1634 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* 46 Euery house of Quality, Magazen and Monastery were sealed vp, with the Signets of the Duke and Merchants. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, His Excellency..producing his Credentials under the Signet Royal [etc.]. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Scot. Law* (1809) 34 All our supreme courts have seals or signets, proper to their several jurisdictions. The Courts of Session and Justiciary used formerly the same signet, which was called the King's. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii, Empower me with thy signet To quell the machinations. 1839 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* VII. 61 In packages sealed with his own signet.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 254 In man the more we dive, the more we see Heav'n's signet stamping an immortal make.

†**b.** In phr. *clerk of one's signet. Obs.*

1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E. E. T. S.) 78 The clerke of his signet no doubte it was, for he vsed to cary his masters ryng in his mouth. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 920/2 A clearke of his closet..and two clearks of his signet.

3. *spec.* The smaller seal originally used by the sovereigns of England and Scotland for private purposes and for certain documents of an official character; in later Scottish use serving as the seal of the Court of Session. Also called *privy* or *King's* (*Queen's*) *signet.* Hence *Clerk of* (or *to*), *Keeper of, the signet*, and Sc. *writer to the signet* (see WRITER).

(*a*) 1417 in Déprez *Dipl. Angl.* (1908) 100 Yeven under owr signet atte owr castel of Touque ye xii day of aoust. 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 300 For the privie seale and the signet for the Revells money. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Clerk of the Signet*, is an officer attendant continually upon his maiesties Principal Secretary, who alwaies hath the custody of the priuie signet. *a* 1633 COKE *On Litt.* (1642) II. 556 The duty of the Clerk of the Signet is to write out such grants or letters patents as passe by bill signed..to the Privy Seal. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* f 3, One of the Clarkes of the Signet.

(*b*) 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 108 Item, to the clerkis of the singnet for the writin of letteris, be a precep, ij vnicornis, xxxvj *s.* 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 186 And ordanis the signet to ansuer lettres upoun his deliverance. 1592 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1814) III. 569 The kepair of the signet sall write on the bak of þe signatur the speciall day that he affixit the signet. 1638 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* VII. 101 Wee..command..all keepers of the signet, from signeting thairof. 1695 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1822) IX. 462 All Writs passing under the Signet, called the Signet of the Lords of Session, be subscribed by a Writer as Clerk to the said Signet. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 607 The Keepers and other Officers of the Queens Signet. 1765-8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. iii. § 39 When the signet is mentioned indefinitely, that of the session is commonly understood; which is also called the King's signet. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 168 The clerks or writers to the signet. *Ibid.*, The society is now under the keeper of the signet. 1851 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 350 The Parliament..assumed the power of stopping the signet, in other words, of suspending the whole administration of justice.

†**b.** A document given under this signet. *Obs.*

1477 in *Antiquary* (1891) 105/1 The foresaid Mayor resceyved a prive signet by the hande of a servante of the Kynge, the tenour whereof herafter ensueth. 1490 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 538 Ther was delyuered fro the Kynges grace a priue signet vnto Master R. Colman, Mair of þis Cite; the tenour wherof hereaftur ensueth.

4. An impressed seal or stamp; *esp.* the stamp or impression of a signet.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 837 Lesande þe boke with leuez sware, Þere seuen syngnettez wern sette in-seme. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* v. 2 Who is worthi for to opene the boke, and for to vnbynde the signetes of it? 1559 *Rec. Monast. Kinloss* (1872) 150 To thir our Literis of Bailziaries..our signet is affixed. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 209 Heere is the hand and Seale of the Duke: you know the Charracter I doubt not, and the Signet is not strange to you? 1701 STANHOPE *Medit. S. Aug.* 249 Let me bear thee upon my heart as a signet. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 202 Although the Felon's Fork Defac'd the Signet of a Bottle-Cork. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xii, See, here is his signet, in token of his instant and pressing commands. 'It is false!' said the Countess; 'thou hast stolen the warrant.'

b. *fig.* A mark, sign, stamp.

1662 OWEN *Animad. Fiat Lux* xx. Wks. 1851 XIV. 162 The time will come when this Platonical Signet [the theory of purgatory]..shall be utterly exterminated out of the confines of the church of God. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XI. 100 [St. Francis] from Christ Took the last signet, which his limbs two years Did carry. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* xviii, I fancied that this smile..was the Devil's signet on the Professor.

†**5.** A signal. *Obs. rare.*

1590 *Pasquil's Apol.* I. D iij b, The signet shall be giuen, and the fielde fought. 1687 TAUBMAN *London's Triumph* 8 The Boatswain having given his signet by his Whistle.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *signet-cylinder, letter, -office, seal, -wise*

1626 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 223 That your Committees have..sent a general Warrant to his Signet-Office. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 5 The Lords declined to meddle, pretending they would not annul the King's signet letters. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 158 Lewis Payne engraved two signet seals for Charles II. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 889 It is more than probable that, when the..forms of the old law came to be disused, Signet Letters, as they are termed, succeeded them. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* x. § 9 (1881) 205 The delicately striped and fringed dresses shewn on the most ancient signet-cylinders. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 466 The bezel is an irregular octagon, in the centre there is cut, signet-wise, a device. 1908 SCARGILL-BIRD *Guide Doc. P. Rec. O.* 81 The Signet Letter differed from the Writ of Privy Seal by omitting from the face of the document both the name and titles of the King and of the person to whom it was addressed.

Signet, obs. variant of CYGNET.

Si·gnet, *v. Sc.* Also 6 **signat.** [f. the sb.] *trans.* To stamp with a signet. Also *fig.*

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 321 Giffin to a boy, to ryn fra Edinburgh to Linlithquho to Watte Chepman to signet tua letteris to pas to woddis, xij *d.* *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 90 This wreittand [= writing] beand subscryuit and signatit with the kingis signit was..delyuerit to Schir Patrick Gray. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme of Proces* 111 Stewards, or Baillies, sall haue ane signet..with the quhilk they sall signet all letters, and precepts execut be them. 1638 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* VII. 101 Wee..command..all keepers of the signet, from signeting thairof. 1685 Sir G. MACKENZIE *Religious Stoic* i. 6 With whose image it is signeted. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form Process* (ed. 2) 71 These Letters are signet with the Seal of Court. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. iii. (1872) IV. 48 Friedrich..soon manufactured the necessary Passport, signeted in due form. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 100 § 13 Summonses passing the signet shall continue to be signeted as at present.

transf. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxv, The citation was.. written, as was the form, upon parchment, signeted with three crosses, and stuck to the table with a knife.

Hence **Si·gneting** *vbl. sb.*

1687 A. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) xi. 332 It cost 1 lib. 10 sh. for signeting. 1875 *Sc. Acts* XII. Index s.v. *Signet*, Ratification of an act of sederunt regarding the signeting of summonses.

Signet-ring. [SIGNET *sb.*] A finger-ring containing a signet.

1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. iv. 290 All the smaller Gems were used especially for Signets and Signet-Rings. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 132 Such are sealed on Wax only,..that is to say, with the Impression of a Signet-Ring. 1813 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. ii. 101 A Sultan who consulted Solomon on the proper inscription for a signet-ring. 1861 KING *Antiq. Gems* (1866) p. xxxviii, Signet-rings must have attained universal popularity in Greece before 600 B. C. 1878 J. MILLER *Songs of Italy* 82, I would be the richest King That ever wore a signet-ring.

†**Si·gneur,** obs. variant of SENIOR *sb.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. ii. 10 *Boy.* By a familiar demonstration of the working, my tough signeur. *Brag.* Why tough signeur? Why tough signeur?

So †**Si·gneury,** seniority. *Obs.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 36 If ancient sorrow be most reuerent, Giue mine the benefit of signeurie.

Signeury, obs. form of SEIGNEURY.

Signifer (si·gnifəɹ). Now *rare.* [a. L. *signifer*, f. *signum* SIGN *sb.* + *-fer* bearing. So obs. F. *signifer* (in sense 2).]

†**1.** The Zodiac. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 1020 Cynthea hir char-hors over-raughte..And Signifer his kandles sheweth brighte. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. xvi. 1582 His coursse haldande be hym selff..Sex monethe and twa þher Fra he entre in þe Signifere. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 89 He knew..Of signifer the greit obliquitie Fra Aries to Cancer. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. iv, The circle called Signifer, or the Zodiake.

2. A standard-bearer, leader.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 359 The Empriour Almane the armes he weris, As signifer souerane. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* X. lix. (1602) 257 Now to the Tribes was Dauid as the Zodiacke in the Signes, Euen Signifer to euery Prince that circled his Confines. 1902 *Speaker* 14 June 305/2 Quiet are Clan and Chief, and quiet Centurion and Signifer.

So **Signi·ferent** [cf. OF. *signiferant*], **Signi·ferous** *adjs.*, bearing a standard.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Signiferous*,..that bears a sign, Standard or Image. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 548 Let the present work..be lauded in the tuneful periods of his signiferent admirer.

Signi·fable, *a. rare.* [f. SIGNIFY *v.*] Capable of being signified.

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 766/2 Now what is it that is directly signifiable in the world about us?

†**Signi·fiance.** *Obs* Also 3–4 **signefi-a(u)nce,** 4–5 **signifiaunce** (5 **-yfi-, -yffy-**); 4 **syngnefi-,** 5- **fyaunce,** etc. [a. OF. *signe-, signifiance*, etc.: see SIGNIFY *v.* and -ANCE.] = SIGNIFICANCE.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Nu ye habbet i-herd þo signefiance of þo offringes þet maden þo þrie kinges of heþenesse to gode. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8243 þe white dragon ys syngnefiaunce þat þey schul take of þe vengaunce. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 362 A straw for alle swevenes signifiaunce! 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 135 A signyfiance and a tokyne of connynge and vndyrstondynge. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* e b, Here may the sinnar take faire signyffyaunce or ensample. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 3 Of his woords and speach who did misdeeme, Or sought not rather their signifiance.

Significance (signi·fikăns). [a. OF. *significance*, or ad. L. *significantia*, f. L. *significāre* to SIGNIFY: cf. SIGNIFIANCE. Not frequent before the 19th cent., but cf. next.]

1. The meaning or import *of* something.

c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 39 Often axed Vortiger of Merlyn the significance of the two dragons. [*Ibid.* 40 significaunce.] 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* viii. 73 Empty sentences, that have the sound of gravity, but the significance of nothing pertinent. *a* 1699 STILLINGFL. (J.), If he declares he intends it for the honour of another, he takes away by his words the significance of his action. 1825 COLERIDGE *Rem.* (1836) II. 349 What the several significances of each must or may be according to the philosophic conception. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. iv. ii. 225 The special significance of the symbols. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* iii. 11 One great species of the British squire, under all the three significances of the name.

b. Without const.: Meaning; suggestiveness.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxvii, She gave Waverley a parting smile and nod of significance. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* III. xxiv, To one who is anxiously in search of a certain object the faintest suggestions have a peculiar significance. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxix. (1878) 501 She had looked at me strangely—that is, with some significance in her face.

2. Importance, consequence.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 15 Of such significance, that, for many years, it was counted a great exploit to pass this Strait. 1733 P. SHAW tr. *Bacon's De Sap. Vet.* (1803) 77 All their endeavours, either of persuasion or force, are of little significance. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 4. 12 Many of the statutes and ordinances..derive their chief significance from their reference to Egyptian rites and institutions. 1867 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. i. § 4 (1875) 17 In the existence of a religious sentiment..we have a second evidence of great significance. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 155 The omission is not of any real significance.

Significancy (signi·fikănsi). [See prec. and -ANCY.]

1. The quality of being highly significant or expressive; expressiveness.

c 1595 CAREW *Excell. Eng. Tongue* in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* II. 286 What soeuer tongue will gaine the race of perfection must runn on those fower wheeles, Significancye, Easynes, Copiousnes, & Sweetnes. *Ibid.* 288 Neither maye I omitt the significancy of our prouerbes, concise in wordes but plentifull in number. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 142 It is of brave significancy to expresse the..cleansing quality of Christs blood. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* Postscr. to Rdr., Antiquated words..are never to be reviv'd, but when Sound or Significancy is wanting in the present Language. 1709 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* § 125 By the clearness and significancy of what he says. 1712 SWIFT *Let. Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1751 IV. 241 Dunces of Figure, who had Credit enough to give rise to some New Word,.. tho' it had neither Humour nor Significancy. 1824 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 301 Though its own beauty, simplicity, and natural significancy had pleaded less strongly in its behalf. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xvii, 'I will tell you in your private ear,' replied she, wagging her turban three times with portentous significancy. 1871 J. R. MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xii. 162 This interpretation is brought out with greater force and significancy in the verse which follows.

2. The quality of being significant, of having a meaning or import.

1631 J. BURGES *Answ. Rejoined, Lawfuln. Kneeling* 53 Significancy maketh a Ceremony to bee evill. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 247 The imposing of a significant Ceremony, is no more than to impose significacion upon a word. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vii. 273 As there is significancy in motion, so there are some passions which motion only can speak. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. x. (1762) 96 Again (if Language is of any Significancy at all) if Motives excite Volition, then they are the Cause of its being excited. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 23 As there is a relation between these two methods of significancy, the one may be employed to explain the other. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 296 The significancy of a name affords of itself no presumption against its historical reality.

b. The meaning or import (*of* something).

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 50 If we withall take the word Martyr in the fullest importance and significancy of the word. 1668 HOWE *Blessedness Righteous* (1825) 6 The word..hath the significancy we here give it. 1774 *Chesterfield's Lett.* (1792) I. Advt. p. xi, They are so varied and their significancy thrown into .. so many different lights, that they could not be altered. 1786–1805 H. TOOKE *Purley* (1829) I. 40 The right use, significancy, and force of all words except the names of Ideas. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 153 These symbols had lost their significancy to the mob. 1866 CANDLISH *1st Ep. St. John* xv. 167 Such is the import and significancy of the proposition that Jesus is the Christ.

† c. A significant thing. *Obs.*

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. Note 28 That Oyl mixt with any other liquor, still gets uppermost, is perhaps one of the chiefest Significancies in the Ceremony of Anointing Kings and Priests.

3. Importance, consequence.

1679 in *Somers' Tracts* I. 75 Of what little Significancy the Resolves of the Council..are to the imposing a Supreme Ruler upon the Nation. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 317 ₱ 2 They are neither missed in the Commonwealth, nor lamented by private Persons. Their Actions are of no Significancy to Mankind. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. Ded. p. viii, This opinion of our own significancy will however be corrected by the judgment of the public. 1847 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 71 Zwingli..kept mainly in view the practical significancy of scripture as a whole. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* ii. (1904) 39/1 Men on either side..attached no significancy to the fact.

Significant (signi·fikănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *significant-*, stem of *significans*, pres. pple. of *significare* to SIGNIFY.]

A. *adj.* 1. Full of meaning or import; highly expressive or suggestive: a. Of words, etc.

1579 E. K. *Ded. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.*, Other some.., if they happen to here an olde word, albeit very naturall and significant, crye out streightway [etc.]. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* Pref., Because it is most familiar to the Students and..most significant to expresse conceits of law. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* To Rdr. A 2 b, Endeuour to deliuer with significant, plaine, honest, and wel-ordred words thy Iouiall and cheerefull discourse. 1668 *Publisher's Pref. to Rolle's Abridgment* 2 His Arguments were fitted to prove and evince,..his words few, but significant and weighty. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 328 They are mutually entertained..with a variety of fables, which are merry, significant, and replete. 1781 J. RIPLEY *Sel. Orig. Lett.* 41 Let the words English and Scotch be obliterated and lost in that more ancient and significant word Britons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 117 He lived and died, in the significant phrase of one of his countrymen, a bad Christian, but a good Protestant. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 262 [He] breaks off with a significant hint.

b. Of things, gestures, actions, etc.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xli. 11 That is, no vain dreame, but significant, and deserving an interpreter. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. iii. ii. 393, I saw so significant a Smile on Theocles's Face, that it stopt me. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxii, She looked at me with a significant archness that made me colour. 1831 LAMB *Elia* II. *Ellistoniana*, Gathering up his features into one significant mass of wonder, pity, and expostulatory indignation. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. 87 The upper house had been treated in disputes which had arisen with significant disrespect. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. § 5. 204 A significant act followed these emphatic words.

c. Important, notable.

a 1761 LAW *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 19 Whoever he is ..that seems..to have made himself significant in any kind of religious distinction. 1857 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. vi. § 6. 209 A little man may be a very significant man. 1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XL. 66 Arsenic acid can be evaporated..without danger of significant volatilization.

2. Having or conveying a meaning; signifying something.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 5 A special dislike they have to hear that ceremonies now in use should be thought significant. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 626 Their voyce was not a significant voyce, but a kinde of scrietching. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 103 Adam gave..proper and significant names to all creatures. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 124 For all words are significant, or else they would not be words. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. vii. § 1 A general, which is as much as to say a significant name. 1871 C. DAVIES *Metric Syst.* III. 157 The names of the months were to be significant.

b. *Significant figure*, in ordinary notation and decimal fractions, any one of the figures from 1 to 9, in contrast to the cipher.

Earlier terms are *significative* and *signifying figure*.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 148 To have 6 Cyphers before the significant figure of each of them. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 22 Multiply the Significant Figures by the former Rules, and annex to the Product as many Cyphers. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1799) I. 4 The first nine are called Significant Figures, as distinguished from the cipher, which is quite insignificant of itself. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 431 Few measurements of any kind are correct to more than six significant figures.

3. Expressive or indicative *of* something.

1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* viii. 48 Blue eyes are generally more significant of weakness..than brown or black. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* Pref. p. i, Thus words are sounds significant of ideas. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Judgm. Other Men* (1842) 37 The most important of his actions may be anything but the most significant of the man. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* ix. (1880) 143 One of the first acts of Louis XIV..was significant of his future policy with regard to the Huguenots.

4. quasi-*adv.* = SIGNIFICANTLY.

1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 14 The sullen barons on each other stared Significant.

B. *sb.* Something which expresses or conveys a meaning; a sign, symbol, indication.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 131 Beare this significant to the countrey Maide Iaquenetta. 1591 — 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 26 Since you are tongue-ty'd, and so loth to speake, In dumbe significants proclayme your thoughts. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xx. 64, I see not, but that Diuinity, put into apt significants, might raulsh as well as Poetry. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 435/2 The second Question concerning Words, is of their Power, περὶ σημαινόντων, of Significants. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 273 The contradictory admission, that Regeneration is the *significatum*, of which Baptism is the significant. 1830 WORDSW. *Egyptian Maid* 251 In my glass significants there are Of things that may to gladness turn this weeping.

Hence **Signi·ficantness**, 'significancy' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Significantly (signi·fikăntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a significant manner; so as to convey some meaning; expressively, meaningly.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 445 He doth more significantly expres his meaning in that which followeth. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 75 Therefore Terence did significantly describe a good servant by the name of Dromo. 1663 MARQ. WORC. *Cent. Inv.* § 33 To write with a Needle and Thred..so that one stitch shall significantly shew any letter. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Convers.* 107 There are many who have a good Invention, yet want to express themselves significantly. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 321 There are those [waters]..that are significantly called mineral and medicinal. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 307 They looked significantly at each other. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. vi. 69 An embassy was despatched to Rome, John of Oxford..being significantly one of its members.

Significate (signi·fikĕt), *sb.* Also 5, 7 **-at.** [ad. L. *significāt-um*, pa. pple. neut. of *significāre* to SIGNIFY. So obs. F. *significat*.] That which is signified or symbolized.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 163 The likenes of a signe to his significat (that is to seie, to the thing signified bi him). 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 7 Wyse men haue taken in hand to make rules of speaking, that is, the constructions of the Regimente, and of the Significates. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 435/2 Chrysippus divided Dialectick into two parts,..of Significants, and Significats. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* II. i. § 3 A common term stands for several individuals. *Note.* These individuals are called its *significates*. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 692 In a symbol there is always something more to be understood than the symbol itself—namely, the significates.

† **Significate,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare.* [ad. pa. pple. of L. *significāre*: see prec.] Signified, indicated.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 373 Thauȝhe fables be not trewe, neuertheles thei cause trawthe in the thynge significate by theyme. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S. T. S.) II. 272 Thus war sex centuris of horsmen ekit..vnder the auld Names as war significate afore be augurys.

Signification (signifikē·ʃən). Forms: 4– **signific-** (5 singn-), 5 **signe-**, 6 **signifye-**; 4–5 **signyfye-**; 4 **sygnyfic-**, 5–6 **sygnifye-**, **sygnyfye-** (5 **-ffye-**), 6 **signifie-**; also 4 **-acioun**, 5 **-acyoun**, **-aciown**, 4–6 **-acion**, **-acyon** (5 **-asion**). [a. OF. *signification*, *-aciun*, etc., or ad. L. *significātio*, noun of action f. *significāre* to SIGNIFY.]

1. The fact or property of being significant or expressive of something.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3380 Bot þai it did for sum reson, And thoru signification. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 96 It es noȝt done withouten a greate significacion and a grete cause. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 38 Send after alle the gode men of thi londe to se the bataile, for it hath grete singnification. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 471/2 He sayth that so it might in dede, yf yᵗ the wycked Pope had not taken away the significacions of our sacramentes from vs. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 5 Ceremonies destitute of signification are no better than the idle gestures of men whose broken wits are not masters of that they do. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* ix. 14 The Rainbow hath in it two contrary significations, *viz.* of rain, and fair-weather. 1788 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 290/2 An additional character..is necessary, which has no signification when placed by itself.

b. Importance, consequence, significance. Now *rare* or *dial.*

1670 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* xv. § 42 Who, as soon as they were removed,..were found to be of no signification, or to have influence upon any men. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 276 A station of life where..gold..would be of no value.., nay, not of signification enough to make a present of. 1760 *Impostors Detected* I. Advt. 7, I met with the following MSS. which at that time I thought of little signification. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 84 It is no signification putting your questions to us. We only do as we are directed. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref.* s.v., *Of no signification*, of no importance. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., It's of no signification.

2. That which is signified by something; meaning, import, implication. Freq. const. *of*. a. Of words, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxii. (Bodl. MS.), Tabula..is in one significacioun a mete borde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 155 Cresus askede then cownsaile of his Goddes, whiche deceyuede hym by a worde equinocate,.. hauenge diuerse significaciones. *c* 1465 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1866) 37 This worde Anima hath many significacions. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 417/1, I sayde..that this is trewe of the vsuall significacion of these wordes themselfe in the English tounge. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. ii. 10 b, Which are Greeke woordes of like signification. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ₱ 15 Diuersitie of signification and sense in the margine..must needes doe good. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iv. 13 The Name *Body* is of larger signification than the word *Man*. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 62. 47 Care was taken, that the Children..should have such Names as were of an agreeable Signification. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 206 The Fire Snake, as it is called, from the signification of its Indian name. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 1 The form of the word, its sound and spelling, and the signification. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 443 As one conversant with geography in any extended signification of the word.

b. Of things, events, etc.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 2929 Thou behyhgtest forto tellen me here the signefycaciown of the dragowns tweyne. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 152, I shall expowne and declare vnto you the signyfycasion of this dreme. 1535 COVERDALE *Daniel* ii. 6 Shewe me the dreame and the significacion of it. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 106 Much talke had wee about the signification of this portraiture, but none could conceive truly what it should intend. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* To the King, To dig up Antiquities from the dark, by searching out the Signification of Statues and Inscriptions. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias' Descr. Greece* III. 104 The signification, too, of the entrails gave them the highest reason to hope that the gods would be propitious to them. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Pres.* Note A. 21 The natural signification is not changed on account of a signification annexed by the institution.

3. A thing, event, action, etc., which is significant or expressive of something.

13.. *Coer de L.* 339 The tayle henge to the grounde: That was sygnyfycaciown The hethene folke to brynge doun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 159 That dremes ben significaciouns As wel of ioye as tribulaciouns. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxiii. 523 The whiche was a ful wonderful beest and a grete sygnyfycacyon, for Merlyn profecyed moche of that beest. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxvii. [clxxxiv.] 572 As he rode forwarde in the forest of Mans, a great

sygnifycacyon fell to hym. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 233 Saint Luke, & S. Paule, vse manifest tropes, figures, and significations. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 14 Other Papists teach us, that in the masse is not the very same true and reall oblation, but onely a commemoration and signification of it. 1683 *Perswasive to Communion* 26 Are not Kneeling, and lifting up the Eyes, significations of the Reverence we owe? 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* 16 In all these fables, certain philosophers could easily discover symbolic significations of the highest morality.

b. *In signification of*, in token of. *rare.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 31 Now is thin Orisonte departed in 24 parties.., in significacion of 24 partiez of the world. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) A 2 In signification of the will I have to doe unto your Lordship any acceptable service.

†**c.** A sign, mark, indication, trace. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Eng. Dogges* (1880) 5 (So that there be some signification of bloud shed) these Dogges.. can disclose & bewray the same by smelling. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 98 They have nothing but small bunches—as it were, significations of their horns to-come. *Ibid.* 395 A great floud of waters..swept them all away, leaving no more behinde then naked and bare significations of former buildings.

†**d.** A sign, gesture, cry, etc., serving to indicate desire or feeling. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 112 By his gestures and movings they conjecture his meaning..; giving..ready obedience to his significations. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. 43 No Cruelty could be exercised towards them, which is contrary to the doleful Significations they make when beaten or tormented.

4. An indication or intimation of something.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22234, I..Prayed hir..That sche wolde anoon devyse There-off by exposicyoun, A cleer sygnyffycacyoun. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 209 The creaciones of wondres be causede otherwhile to the significacion of thynges to comme. 1542 HEN. VIII *Decl. agst. Scottes* B iij, All these..gyue suche signification of theyr arrogancy, as it is necessary for vs to oppresse it in the begynning. 1586 BURGHLEY in *Leicester Corr.* (Camden) 306 Comming to me with signification that he was to depart erly in the next morning. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* A 3 Feeling myself inspired with courage by the signification of your noble desire.., I stoutly fell to my taske. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 238 You gave me an intimation of a..Letter coming..., I returne you many thanks for this signification. 1719 *Col. Rec. Pennsylvania* III. 73 Until further Signification of his Majestys or their Excellencys Pleasure. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* III. IX. (ed. 3) 15 Caesar ..could never draw from the people any public signification of their favour.

b. *spec.* Notification in proper legal form.

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 5 Letters patentes..commaundyng such archebishop, to whom any such significacion shalbe made, to confirme the said election. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 499 Patents and commandements should be held in suspence and deferred, thirtie daies after signification and knowledge of them. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Some Significations are to be made to the Person himself; or, at least, at his House. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 5/1 It was contended that the statutory deprivation.. displaced the old proceeding by signification to the Court of Chancery.

†**Signi·ficatist.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. next and -IST.] (See quots.)

1585–7 T. ROGERS *39 Art.* (1607) 289 The Symbolists, Figurists, and Significatists, who are of opinion that the faithful at the Lord's supper do receive nothing but naked and bare signs. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 297 The Figurists, Significatists, Symbolists, taught you this Doctrine, who acknowledge nothing..but naked and bare signes.

Significative (signi·fikătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 significatyf, 6 -tyue, 6–7 -tiue, 7 -tyve. [a. OF. *significatif, -ive*, or ad. late L. *significātīv-us*: see SIGNIFY *v.* and -ATIVE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Serving to signify something; having a signification or meaning.

a 1400 in Halliw. *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 29 A cifre tokeneth nothinge but he maketh other the more significatyf that comith after hym. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (1897) 13 þou most borow on of þe next figure significatyf in þat rewe. 1542 COVERDALE *Old Faith* x. (1547) H j b, Wherby Christ testified..that all thinges significatyue in the tabernacle.. were now fulfilled and abrogate. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 159 Which surplussage to auoide, we are allowed to draw in other words single, and asmuch significatiue. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 32 You shall finde the Crosses of the Lordes Supper to be significatiue alone. 1639 ROBARTS *God's House & Service* x. 81 It must be taken in that significative sence, which we give thereof. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 33 To say truth, barbarous as it [law French] is thought to be, it is concise, aptly abbreviated, and significative. 1756 J. WITHERSPOON *Treat. Regeneration* (1804) 146 Multitudes cannot be described in juster or more significative terms. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 65 It does not appear that, like the bees, they emit any significative sounds. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. I. (1864) 338 In these sesquipedalian compounds the significative root remains distinct.

b. Serving as a sign or indication *of* something.

1637–50 in ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 264, I have receaved your short but right significative letter of your sound and ardent affection .. toward the cause. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 192 Those Attributes are to be held significative of Honour, that men intend shall so be. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 240 So plain is it that an Hail-storm is significative of the incursion and assault of an enemie. 1713 *Guardian* No. 170, The use of letters, as significative of these sounds. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* v. § 164 Your closeset wooden paling..is significative of pleasant parks. 1875 *Good Words* II. 130 On various minds it [Niagara] leaves various impressions; and perhaps this is significative of its real power.

2. Highly significant or suggestive.

1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 540 After this weighty and significative message, the Secretary added [etc.]. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 20. 157 A familiar Example, yet very significative in this case. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. 122 On the night of the 8th September, Egmont received another most significative and mysterious warning. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. xi. § 31 How strangely significative, thus understood, those last Venetian dreams of his become.

B. *sb.* A thing or word serving to signify or indicate something.

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* ii. 36 The Surplice is a significative of divine alacritie and integritie. 1765 in *Ann. Reg., Charact.* (1767) 135 Attacah, Deliverance, Pihahiroth, whether an appellative or significative. 1788 tr. *Swedenborg's White Horse* 16 Scarce any one knows..that those Significatives were derived from the Ancient Representative Churches to the Gentiles. 1893 *N.Y. New-Church Messenger* 19 Apr. 243 Our entire written language is a system of significatives pure and simple.

Hence **Signi·ficativeness.**

1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 31 You hold that any particular Text you alledge is truly a part of the Scriptures Letter, and not foisted in, or some way altered in its significativeness. 1697 — *Solid Philos.* 276 From the Nature of the Words, as Words; that is, from their Significativeness. 1860 WORCESTER (citing *Westm. Rev.*).

Significatively (signi·fikătivli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a significative manner; by signification; suggestively; expressively.

1564 RASTELL *Confut. Jewel's Serm.* 140 The body of Christ is, onlye..sacramentallie, significatiuelye,..imaginatiuelie, in the Sacrament. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 203 The same is eaten in the sacrament as in a mysterie, significatiuely. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 13 That the Bread be Christs body significatively (that is, by signification onely). *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. vi. (1662) 18 *Amiral* (thus compounded) was significatively comprehensive of his Jurisdiction.

Significator (si·gnifikeitəɹ). [a. med.L. *significātor*, agent-noun f. L. *significāre* to SIGNIFY. Cf. F. *significateur*.]

1. *Astrol.* **a.** The planet by which the querent or the quesited is specially signified (see quot. 1647).

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. XXI. (1886) 169 They seeke to find out the meaning of the significators, attributing to them the ends of all things. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* 48 When we name the Lord of the Ascendant, or Significator of the Querent, or thing quesited; we meane no other thing then that Planet who is Lord of that Signe which ascends, or Lord of that Signe from which house the thing demanded is required. 1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Pract. Phys.* Pref. 4 Who is strongest in the Heavens by essential dignities, shall afflict the Principal significator of the sick. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv, There was one significator, which pressed remarkably upon our astrologer's attention. 1895 *Mod. Astrol.* I 21 The position of the Significator, or lord of the Ascendant, in the fixed sign Taurus.

b. (See quot.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Ascendent*, The Degree of the Equator which rises upon the Horizon, at the Time of the Birth of any one,.. is also called the First House, the Oriental Angle, and the Significator of Life.

2. That which signifies or indicates. *rare.*

1649 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* II. 252 To leavy warre against the Parliament, shall stand alone, be the onely significator, and take up the whole roome in the Endictment. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 292 The most principal significator of the varieties of weather, the Countryman esteems the Moon to be.

Significatory (signi·fikătəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *significātōri-us.*]

A. *adj.* Serving to signify or intimate.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* VII. (1599) 288 Cæsar caused to be publikely read the Popes writ, with many other letters significatorie from diuerse places. 1641 WILKINS *Mercury* XX. (1707) 82 These Informations by significatory Fires, have been of Ancient Use. 1663 OWEN *Vind. Animadv.* Wks. 1851 XIV. 430 Hadrian..refused to receive him into the society of patriarchs upon his sending of his significatory epistle. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* 68 His name appears to denote invisibility, significatory of the nature of the realm over which he ruled. 1880 *19th Cent.* Sept. 430 The significatory relation between a substantive and its..verb.

B. *sb.* A thing significative. *rare.*

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Communicant* i. 42 Here being (as in baptisme) a double significatory of the spirit, a word and a signe.., it is certain he will joyn in this ministration.

Significa·trix. *Astrol.* [L. fem. form corresponding to *significator.*] = SIGNIFICATOR 1 a.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* lxxiii. 421 The ☽ her Significatrix [being] neer the ☉. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 152 The Moon is..commonly significatrix in Flegmatick nativities.

Signi·ficature. *rare*—1. = SIGNIFICANCE 1.

1855 M°COSH *Div. Govt.* II. i. (ed. 4) 124 The morphological significature of the limbs of vertebrate animals has likewise been determined by Professor Owen.

‖ **Significavit** (signifikē·vit). *Eccles. law.* [L., 3rd sing. perf. indic. of *significāre* to SIGNIFY. Cf. OF. *significavit* (Godef.).] A form of writ employed in ecclesiastical cases; *spec.* one formerly issued by Chancery for the arrest of an excommunicated person; also, the bishop's certificate on which such a writ is based.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 664 Of cursing oghte ech gilty man him drede..And also war him of a significavit. 1559 *Boke Presidentes* 14 b, The fourme of a Sygnyficauit to the Metropolytane of the prouins vpon a newe foundacyon of a byshopriche. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 23 § 6 After any Significavit being of Recorde in the sayd Courte of Chancerie, the tenour of suche Significavit by Mittimus shalbee sent [etc.]. 1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* II. iii, No, No I say; if it bee for defect of Apparance, take me out a speciall Significauit. *a* 1683 J. OWEN *True Nat. Gosp. Ch.* x. (1689) 216 Of what use a Significavit and Capias may be in this case I know not. 1714 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* III. III. v. 261 He sent a Significavit of some Heretics to be delivered to the Secular Arm. 1767 BURN *Eccl. Law* II. 206 At the common law, a certificate of the bishop, whereupon a significavit was to be granted, ought to express the cause. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 5/1 The first point taken..was that the Judge..had no power to enforce obedience to an inhibition issued under the Act by the process of significavit.

Significs. [f. SIGNIFIC-ANCE, on the analogy of forms in *-ics* (see -IC 2). Introduced by Lady Welby in 1896.] A proposed science and educational method based upon the importance of realizing the exact significance of terms and conceptions, and their influence on thought and life.

The terms *significal* adjs., *significally* adv., and *significian* sb., have also been employed.

1896 LADY WELBY in *Mind* (Jan.) 32 Taking advantage of the child's endless store of interest and curiosity, it ought to be easy to make 'Significs' or 'Sensifics' the most attractive of studies. 1903 — *Ibid.* 161 Significs, then, will bring us the philosophy of Significance, i. e. a raising of our whole conception of meaning to a higher and more efficient level.

Si·gnified, *ppl. a.* [f. SIGNIFY *v.*] Indicated.

1638 W. MOUNTAGU in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 277 God fit us for the signified time. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 33 More gently..then other Courts.. would have endur'd the least signifi'd dislike. 1786 A. GIB *Sacr. Contempl.* I. 33 A signified and sealed promise of eternal life.

Si·gnifier. [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] One who or that which signifies; a significator.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 383/2 He meaneth yᵗ.. yᵉ sacrament..is no cause thereof..but only a bare signyfier & a shewer therof. 1586 LUPTON *1000 Notable Things* § 59 Whosoeuer falles sicke in that yere wherein there is an Eclipse, and the Signifiers of the sayd Eclipse be in the Ascendent [etc.]. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* 97 It is God who is the signifier vnto vs of things spirituall. 1624 (see SIGNIFYING *ppl. a.*). 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. vii. 143 It hath Muscles, which Platenis terms the signifiers of the Affections of the Mind.

†**Signifure.** *Obs. rare.* [app. a. OF. **signifeure*, f. *signifier* to SIGNIFY.] Signification, sign.

c 1450 *Coventry Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 200 My baptyme is but signifure Of his baptyme. *Ibid.* 367 Have not prophetys ..Spoke be tokenys in signifure That Cryste xuld deye for 3our valure?

Signify (si·gnifəi), *v.* Also 3–5 signe- (3, 5 singne-), 4–6 signy-; 4–6 sygni- (5 sygne-, syni-), 5–6 sygny- (5 syngny-); and 4 -fi, 3–5 -fie, 4–6 -fye. [ad. F. *signifier* (12th c., = Prov. *signifiar, -ficar*, Sp. and Pg. *significar*, It. *significare*), ad. L. *significāre*, f. *signum* SIGN *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To be a sign or symbol of; to represent, betoken, mean.

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 27 Þet Gold þet is bricht.. signefieth þe gode beleaue þet is bricht ine þe gode cristenemannes herte. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Prol., Þis boke is distyngid in thris fyfty psalmes, in þe whilk thre statis of cristin mannys religion is sygnifyd. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 56 Foure angels singneñen foure general synnes. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xiv. 631 The two knyghtes sygnefyen the two dedely synnes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 65 b, This signifieth my body. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. § 2 The secret grace which they [the sacraments] signifie and exhibit. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, Then took he up his Garland and did shew, What every flower as Country people hold, Did signifie. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 424 For what is signify'd and understood, Is, by her own confession, flesh and blood. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 56 These words are intended to signify certain forms of civility. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi, The arrows [of Apollo] may be allowed to signify the sun's rays. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. Air* § 8 It may be easy to prove that the ascent of Apollo in his chariot signifies nothing but the rising of the sun.

absol. 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1829) 331 Now, if they be signs, then they do signify, and are not the very thing itself. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 228 Every voyce, therefore, that is significative, first of all signifies by the influence of the cœlestial harmony.

b. To betoken, foreshow, indicate as something that is to take place. Also *absol.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 596 (Laud MS.), Þe eye rounde shal signifie þat he shal habbe seignorye Of þis rounde myddell erd. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 306 A Raven, be whom yit men mai Take evidence, whan he crieth, That som mishapp it signefieth. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XV. 15 Or he be borne in burgh hereby, ..A sterne shulde schyne and signifie, With lightfull lemes. *a* 1450 *Kut. de la Tour* (1868) 11, Y wille shewe you what youre auision signifiethe. *c* 1475 *Brut* (1908) 603 þere aperyd in þe ffirmament a gret sterre,..whiche synified gret sorw, & myschef þat fylle afterward. 1530 PALSGR. 718/1, I sawe a marvaylouse thyng in the ayre yesterday what so ever it dothe signifye. 1665 COWLEY in Johnson *L. P.* (1868) 8 What this signifies, or may come to in time, God knows; if it be ominous it can end in nothing less than hanging.

2. Of words, etc.: To have the import or meaning of; to mean, denote.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22988 Ierom sais .. þat Iosaphat mai signifi Vr lauerd dome. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 287 What signefyes, gode sone, þese sawes þat þou seis? 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 151 For *dal* in the langage of theyme signifiethe parte. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 18/1 This name Jesus signifieth a sauioure. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 204, I have heard likewise, that *Caer* in the Syriack tongue, signified, *a Citie*. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* II. (1722) 173 The very Name of Typhon..signifies a Deluge

or Inundation. 1770 J. Clubbe *Misc. Tracts* II. 141 Which is expressed by a word in the Hebrew, that signifies *to initiate*. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 40 The autumn is designated by a term signifying the fall of the leaf. 1876 Tait *Roc. Adv. Phys. Sci.* (ed. 3) 365 We now employ the term *Energy* to signify the power of doing work.

absol. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* IV. xiii. (1713) 315 You are to understand..that the Kingdom of God in the New Testament signifies variously. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 66 (1713) II. 161 Conscience and Honesty are general Words, and signify, according to the mind of the Speaker.

3. To make known, intimate, announce, declare.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3233 Me cluped him Vter pendragon ..& þat was to singnefie þat merlin him clupede dragon in is prophecye. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xi. 28 Oon of hem.. signyfiede bi the spirit a greet hungir to comynge in al the roundnesse of erthis. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7165 Thus myche wole our book signifie, That while Petre hath maistrie May never Johan shewe welle his myght. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. v. 141 The self stranger, quham fatale destane Signifyit to cum furth of ane wncouth stede To be his son in law. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 228 It is reported not onlie in Germany, but also sygnyfyed oute of Italye, and other places. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. v. 442 A man of iudgement may aske, how they could signifie their conceptions by figures. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* d 5, When no living creature was come from Europe into that part of America to signifie that newes. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* (1775) III. 69 The 'squire and the parson..were smoaking their pipes together, when the arrival of the lady was first signified. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xix. (1787) II. 132 His first step was to signify a concise and haughty mandate. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* III. x. 324 In compliance with Scott's wish as signified in the letter last quoted. 1884 *Graphic* 16 Aug. 162/3 Her Majesty has signified her intention of subscribing 200*l.* to the Building Fund.

b. Const. *to* († *unto*).

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 127 To signefie to pope and to prelate, How this world is a thurghfare ful of woo. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvii. 65 He..stroof wyth hymself by what wayes he myghte signyfie it vnto her..for to gyue her lesse sorowe. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 226 b, The Duke of Saxon and the Lantzgrave immediatly signifye to themperour by letters the whole matter. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Ded., To publish these labors of mine vnder your name..to signifie unto the world my thankfull mind. 1605 Camden *Rem., Allusions* (1623) 140 It was also signified vnto him, they were borne in..Northumberland. 1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 300 He thought they were obliged to y^e Govr. for signifying these things to them. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. ii. (1904) I. 15 Nobody ever saw one animal, by its gestures and natural cries, signify to another, this is mine, that yours. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 162 A prince who obstinately refused to comply with the general wish of his people signified to him by his Parliament.

† **4.** To compare, liken *to* something. *Obs.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 284 The quhyte colour..is signyfyit to the vertu of puritee. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xvii. ix. 703 Wel oughte oure lord be sygnefyed to an herte.

† **5.** To hint at. *Obs. rare.*

1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 70 Other thinges, which the said worshipful doctor rather signified then fully explaned.

† **6.** To notify or inform (a person). *Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxxxvi. 108 Sir Gaultier of Manny sent certayne messangers to the kyng of Englande, signyfieng hym howe [etc.]. 1566 in Marsden *Court Adm.* (Selden) II. 135 Plezeth your..Lordshipp to be signifyed that I have receivid your..writ of supersedeas to me dyrectid. 1610 Heywood *Gold. Age* III. i, Messengers dispatch'd to signifie My sonne of our distresse. [1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xiv. § 23 Without some regular periodical Returns, we could not..signify others the Length of any Duration.]

7. *intr.* To be of importance or consequence; to have significance; to avail or matter: **a.** With advs., as *much, little, nothing*, or in questions with *what*.

1661 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 58 The House left Liddall to prosecute him at law, but I believe it will not signify much. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 33 But it signify'd little. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1724) II. 38 His speech signified nothing towards the saving of himself. 1757 Foote *Author* I, Lord I what signifies carrying such a lumb'ring thing about? 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* iii, 'It signifies little,' replied Captain Porteous; 'your pain will be soon at an end'. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 27 Condemned Praetextatus must be, and what did it signify by what semblance of law or justice? 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 30 What signifies repugnance? Truth is truth howe'er it strike.

b. Without qualifying word.

1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. iii. 48 Is he not made to stand by as a Cypher, when she alone must signifie in all these Devotions? 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 14 The Captain's Answer was, It does not signify. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 113 The anecdotes of Cooper's life are few; nor does it signify; his works are his history. 1817 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 91 His eye is still bloodshot, but nothing to signify. 1894 Baring-Gould *Kitty Alone* II. 156 There was no metal to signify at the butt-end.

Si·gnifying, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ing 1.] Signification, intimation, indication.

13.. *K. Alis.* 587 (Laud MS.), þe kyng..had þerof dotaunce,..And bad hem telle of whiche þing It miȝth be signifieyng? 1382 Wyclif 1 *Mac.* vii. 45 Thei sungen in trumpis after hem with signyfiyngus. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 2868 Thanne of merlyne often axede þe kyng what of the dragouns was þe signefyeng. 1535 Coverdale *Isaiah* xx. 3 It is a token and signifienge of the thinge, that after thre yeare shal come vpon Egipte and Ethiopia. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Denoncement*, a signifying, a declaring. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 33 Signes appropriated to the signifying of that honour we owe to God.

Si·gnifying, *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That signifies or denotes; significant. † *Signifying figure, number*: (see Significant *a.* 2 b).

1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 43 Of those ten one doth signifie nothing. .. The other nyne are called Signifying figures. 1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 69 The same offering ..is called the passion..of Christ,..in a signifying mysterie. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* xii. 161 If..you finde you haue taken manie nullities for signifying numbers, manie smaller signifiers for greater; correct the totall. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 2 There is a signifying voyce in the naturall signes of the Hand.

Signing (sə·inin), *vbl. sb.* [f. Sign *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of making or appending one's signature; confirmation by signature.

1611 Cotgr., *Signature*, a signature, signing, subscribing. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 329 Since the signeing of my letter I received yours of Jun. 1st. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 82 ¶ 1 My Steward brings his Receipt ready for my Signing. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 102 A patent ready drawn for queen Elizabeth's signing. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 20 The signing and endorsement must be attested by one witness. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 104 The signing of the treaty was deferred till the Lords Justices..should arrive.

2. *Eccl.* The action of making the sign of the cross.

1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. vii. 84 They made several signings with the cross. 1877 J. D. Chambers *Divine Worship* 362 The number and time of these Signings certainly varied.

Si·gning, *ppl. a.* [-ing 2.] That signs; entitled to sign; esp. *signing officer* (see quot. 1867).

1805 Collingwood 28 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. 219 Signed by yourself, First Lieutenant and signing Officers. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word Bk.* 624 A document..certified by the signing officer and the surgeon. *Ibid.* 626 *Signing officers*, the captain, senior lieutenant, master and purser (now paymaster).

Signior, etc.: see Signor.

Signioresse, variant of Seignoress.

Signless (sə·inlĕs), *a.* [f. Sign *sb.* + -less.]

1. Destitute of a sign, sign-board, or sign-post.

1684 S. G. *Angl. Spec.* 482 Their Signless Houses are a Sign of Rich and Eminent inhabitants. 1887 Hissey *Holiday on Road* 190 The modern hotel, of course, is signless. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 110 That signless, dusty road.

2. *Math.* Of quantities: Having no sign of direction; having no distinction of positive or negative.

1875 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Universe* iii. § 97 We now deal with quantities which cannot possess direction,..and are therefore all to be treated..as signless quantities...Now mass is of course a signless quantity.

3. Making no sign; motionless.

1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* VIII. 595 Poems..Which moved me in secret, as the sap is moved In still March-branches, signless as a stone.

Sign-manual. [Sign *sb.* + Manual *a.* 1.]

1. An autograph signature (*esp.* that of the sovereign) serving to authenticate a document.

1428 *E. E. Wills* 83 And þerto I point my signet and my syne manuell. 1459 *Rolls Parlt.* V. 351/2 All the Lordes ..and every of theym..settyng therto his Seale and Signe manuell, as here under apperith. 1536 *Wardr. Acc. Hen. VIII* in *Archæologia* IX. 252 Geven under oure signe manuelle, at oure castille of Wyndesore. 1560 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 112 Thiese our Lettres signed with our signemanuell shalbe your sufficient warraunt. 1648 Chas. I *Let.* in Thoms *Notes on Combe Martin* (1902) 37 Giuen under our Sign Manuel At Court at Newport. 1688 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 103 Untill Wee shall send you New Orders under Our sign manual. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1751 VIII. 325 Orders, and Directions,.. have been issued under the Royal Sign Manual. 1764 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* (1765) 344 They were distinguished by King James.., by a letter under his sign manual. 1818 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. iv. 113 The Crown-room .. was opened by certain Commissioners, under authority of a sign-manual. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. vi. 671 The Royal sign-manual, or signature of the Sovereign, is usually written on the upper-left-hand corner of the instrument. 1898 Bodley *France* III. iii. II. 142 A personage..who, by his sign-manual, can soften the severity of the revenue officials.

fig. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 58 The handshake, sign-manual of fealty.., did not pass between them.

2. A sign made with the hand or hands.

1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xvi. 116 Commands which were uniformly given by signs manual.

† **Si·gnment** 1. *Obs.* In 5 si(g)ne-, 6 sygnement. [Aphetic form of Assignment: cf. Sign *v.*2] Assignment, appointment.

1429 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 147 He is redy to delyvir hym, and not abasshe, By signement of the kyng, tyme and place. 1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 106 Item, payd to Nevell the iremonger at the synement of the paryssh for diuerse stuffe boght of hym. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. xxxix. 121 They were payde of theyr wages, or had suffycyent sygnement, so y^t they were pleased.

† **Si·gnment** 2. *Obs.*—1 [f. Sign *v.*1] A body of persons who have signed a document or agreement.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 223 They name the former signment the Assembly of Ireland both Nobles and Comons;..all the nobilitie of the faction did signe to this Henritian oathe.

‖ **Signor** (sī·nyoɪ), *sb.* Also 6–9 **signior** (7 -iour, -ier). [It. *signor*, reduced form of *signore* Signore, = Sp. *señor*, Pg. *senhor*, F. *seigneur*:—L. *seniōr-em*, acc. of *senior* Senior *a.* and *sb.* See also Seigneur and Seignior.]

1. In Italian use, or with reference to Italians: A term of respect placed before the name of a man in addressing him or speaking of him, now equivalent to the English 'Mr.'

1584–7 Greene *Tritameron of Love* II. Wks. (Grosart) III. 140 By my faith (Signior Aretino) you haue found such a knot in a Rysh as will bee so hard to vntye as Gordias was. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 85 A thousand thankes signior Gremio. 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* I. i, Signior Coruino, come most wisht for! 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 648/1 These are the Thoughts of Signior Muffei. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 350 The houses of..the signiors Verzi, Pompeii, and Pellegrini. 1818 Shelley *Tasso* 3 Did you inform his Grace that Signor Pigna Waits with state papers for his signature? *Ibid.* 13 O trust to me, Signor Malpiglio, Those nods [etc.]. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 657/1 Ratazzi..was succeeded in office by Signor Farini.

fig. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wks.* Ddd i, Mounsieur Claret, and sweet Signior Sacke.

b. Used without the name, as a form of address, equivalent to 'sir' in English.

1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 36 Good Signior take the stranger to my house. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Humour* IV. iii. O but Signior, had you such a wife as mine is. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *The Italian* i, The stranger ..said, 'Signor, your steps are watched'. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* iv, 'Isn't one fight a day enough for you, signor?' said the doctor. 1863 'Ouida' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 68 Thank you, signor, a thousand thanks.

c. An Italian gentleman, *esp.* a singer.

1779 Sheridan *Critic* I. i, Haven't we the Signors and Signoras calling here, sliding their smooth semibreves? 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* (1819) II. cxvi. 290 The door is always open to player signiors and signioras.

2. A person of note or distinction; one having rank or authority; a gentleman or nobleman; an overlord. See also Grand Signior.

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 12 Amonge whom there is no right Lawe nor Commonwealth compact but onely the will of the Lord and Signior. 1630 Massinger *Picture* II. ii, You *Signiers* Haue no businesse with the souldier. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* II. 63 The commodity of which redounds yearely to the Venetians, for they are Signiors thereof. 1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quevedo* (1708) 50 You know they are Cavaliers and Signiors already, and now (forsooth) they have an Itch upon them to be Princes. 1748 Smollett *Roderick Random* lxvi, [He] promised to procure for us the company of an English signior. 1803 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) I. 56/2 The great mass of territorial proprietors in Denmark are the signiors, possessing fiefs with very extensive privileges. 1885 J. Payn *Talk of Town* I. 47 Wise and reverend signors may well have learnt by experience to take trifling annoyances with equanimity.

† **Signor,** *v. Obs.*—1 In 6 signour. [a. OF. *signourer, seignorer*, etc., f. *seignor* Seigneur.] *intr.* To have lordship.

1559 *Kal. Shepherds* xxxviii. (Wally) k v b, Leo hath the great trees, that is to say he signoureth ouer them.

‖ **Signora** (sĭnyō·rā). Also 7–8 **signiora.** [It. *signora*, = Sp. *señora*, Pg. *senhora*, a fem. formed on *signore*, etc.: see Signor *sb.*] A term of respect applied to Italian ladies, corresponding to 'Mrs.' and 'Madam' in English; hence (with *a, the*, etc.), a lady of Italian nationality.

a. 1636 Massinger *Gt. Dk. Florence* IV. i, I am in private to conferre a while With this Signiora. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* I. vi. 19 The acts [of] Chivalry of the twenty four Signiora's. 1766 [Anstey] *Bath Guide* x, But talks of the Op'ras and his Signiora, Cries bravo, benissimo, bravo, Encora. 1775 *Ann. Reg.* II. 63 Anecdotes of Signiora Gabrieli, the celebrated Opera Singer.

β. 1766 Smollett *Trav.* v. I. 64 An Italian *signora* makes no scruple of telling you [etc.]. 1806 Surr *Winter in London* III. 39 'This is Francis's writing beyond all question,' said the signora. 1821 Byron in Moore *Life* (1832) V. 262 Got off my horse to walk in an avenue with a Signora for an hour. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xxvii, I sought my ideal of a woman amongst English ladies, French countesses, Italian signoras, and German Gräfinnen. I could not find her.

‖ **Signore** (sĭnyō·re). [It., the fuller form of *signor.*] = Signor.

1594 [see Signory 3]. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* i. 15 In Naples .. euery base groome .. must be termed Signore. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. i, I know Bilson hath decipher'd us all the galanteries of Signore and Monsignore. 1820 T. S. Hughes *Trav.* I. ix. 267 That worthy signore was enjoying his siesta. 1856 Boker *Betrothal* III. iii, I have an airy weapon that can..make our satin signore Grovel for life.

‖ **Signoria** (sĭnyō·rĭa). [It., = Sp. *señoria*, Pg. *senhoria*, F. *seigneurie*: cf. Signory.] The governing body of some of the old Italian republics, *esp.* that of Venice.

1549 Thomas *Hist. Italie* 79 b, All offices of preeminence, as of the Signoria. 1622 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 334 The Venetian ambassador gave notice of such a thing.., by order, as he said, from the signoria. 1686 Aglionby *Painting Illustr.* 362 When a Fisherman presents the Signoria of Venice with Saint Mary's Ring. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 327 His Excellency then made his speech to the Doge, and Signoria, in the English language. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 276 Few towns appear to have fared so ill as Siena, in which..for the signoria he also nominated the first set of members.

Signorial (sĭnyō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. Signory + -al. Cf. Seignorial.] Pertaining to a signory.

1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* v. 123 The legacy from tribal sovereignty to signorial privilege. 1883 Symonds *Ital. Byways* iv. 69 They regarded knighthood as a part of their signorial parade.

‖ **Signorina** (sĭnyorī·na). [It., dim. of *signora* Signora.] The Italian term of respect applicable to a young unmarried lady.

1820 T. S. Hughes *Trav.* I. ii. 42 A long story about a

beautiful signorina of ancient times. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Roman Singer* I. 31 The signorina was born here. *Ibid.* 72 My time is yours, signorina.

† Signority. *Obs. rare.* In 5 sygnyoryte, 6 signioritie, 8 -ty. [Cf. OF. *seignourité* (Godef.), med.L. *senioritas*. See also SEIGN(I)ORITY.] Lordship, government.

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 927 They shewe them polytyke, Pretendyng grauyte And sygnyoryte, With all solempnyte. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 29 The Athenians and Megarenes had made great warre..to haue had the signioritie of his [Solon's] country Salamina. 1792 SIBLY *Occult Sci.* I. 26 Besides these signiorities of the sun, moon and planets, the fixed stars have also their principalities in the heavens.

† Si·gnorize, *v. Obs.* Also signiorize. [f. SIGNOR + -IZE, or ad. obs. F. *signoris(s)-, signoriz-*, lengthened stem of *sign-, se(z)gnorir*, f. *seigneur* SEIGNEUR. See also SEIGNORIZE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To rule, reign, have or exercise dominion. Usually const. *in* or *over*.

a. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii. 212 Now Caesar..Sits signiorizing in her seate. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 49/1 Let that which thou mad'st not, neuer signiorize O'er me that thou hast made. *a* 1658 HEWYT *Serm.* 171 (Todd), At the time that He was to come, Judah must lose the scepter; not then to rule or signiorize in Judah.

β. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* I. 55 So many Nations..Ore whom (saue heauen) nought could signorize. 1613 tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. Times* 26/2 To the perdition of him [Adam] who had bin Created to Signorize and beare Maistry over all Beastes in the World. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 24 Upon the Continent of Italie She [Venice] doth Signorize over three entire Provinces.

b. With *it*: To play the master. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Faire le dessus*, to domineere, to signorize it.

2. *trans.* To govern, control, exercise dominion or rule over (anything).

1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. ii. 8 Rome, thou are tam'd, and th' earth..Doth laugh to see how thou art signiorizd. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* IV. xlvi, As proud as he, that signoriseth hell. 1602 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 There doth shee sit..And by hir might doth signiorize the Minde. *Ibid.* 26/2 Alphons, the tenth that Spaine did signiorize.

Hence **† Si·gnorizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 261 Admonition..vttered with more austeritie and signiorising termes. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 89 Eleazer..was the first that seminarizd thys hope of signiorizing and freedome amongst them. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 26/1 Fraile-Fleshes signiorizing Tyrant, fell.

† Si·gnorship. *Obs. rare.* In 7 signior-. [f. SIGNOR *sb.*] The rank or condition of a signor. Used as a form of address.

1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* IV. i, 'Tis a device..as shal make your Signiorship know I have not beene your Butlar for nothing. 1637 — *Guardian* I. i, Make choice Of either title, which your signiorship please.

Signory (sī·nyŏri). Forms: *α.* 5 *Sc.* **sigeniery** (I), 6 **sygneoury**, 6–7 **signiorie**, 6–9 **signory**. *β.* 5 *Sc.* **signery**, 6–7 **sygnory** (6 syng-), **signorie** (6 sygn-), 5– **signory**. [Originally a. OF. *signerie, signorie*, etc., varr. of *seignorie* (see SEIGNIORY), subsequently influenced by It. *signoria* (see SIGNORIA).]

1. Lordship, domination, rule.

a. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincent*) 106 Othir til our goddis sacrify & haf riches & sigeniery [*sic*]. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XI. (Percy Soc.) 44 Makyng them lese theyr worthy sygneoury. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii. 107 Th' inextinguible thyrst of signiorie. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 2. 216 His Lord and Maister will give him signiorie and authority over all he possesseth. 1632 W. LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 64 The Signiory thereof belongeth to Venice. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 146 This our recognition of a signiory paramount. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 423 The same sanction was given to those temporary delegations of the signiory to a prince. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 232 My heart, my mind, and all my life, Are given in bondage to her signiory.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 330 And sa thru his ded mychtely of deid [he] oure-come þe signery. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6980 He was a man of grete renown, Sowdon of perce with all his signory. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxvii. 41 The ysle of Creth, the which was vnder their sygnorie. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xvii. (S. T. S.) II. 17 Quhat signorie, quhat wikkit empire is this..þat 3e pretend? 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. i. 582 To..returne unto their old alleagence and obedience to their wonted signorie of Rome. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 166 His..designe is noe other thinge then the temporall signorie of this distracted kingdome. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* v. 123 Eldest son after eldest son succeeded to the signory.

b. Authority or supremacy expressed in looks or bearing. *rare.*

1598 YONG *Diana* 243 They sawe two louely Shepherdesses (though by their coye lookes shewing a kinde of signorie and statelinesse aboue any other). 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* IV. 300 Among the gallery portraits of our Leighs, We shall not find a sweeter signory Than this pure forehead's.

2. A lordship, domain, territory.

a. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 211 The kyngedomes and signiories whiche confine with the sayde sea. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vi. (1628) 181 Their proper Signiories, Lordships or places which they possessed. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 51 This region of Malabar..is divided into several Petit Signiories. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 673 They were empowered to receive gifts and beqtests of money, houses, lands, signiories, nay even of slaves.

transf. 1607 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Summa Totalis* Wks. (Grosart) I. 11/1 These thrust out Reason of her Signiorie (The Braines) where erst she sate in Siluer Throne.

β. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxiv. 404 To conquere agayne your herytage, londys, and sygnoryes. 1598 STOW *Surv.* i. (1603) 3 The state, comunalty or Signory of the Trinobantes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. viii. 412 To divide the soile into many Signories and Kingdomes. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 15 His Sons..won them Lands and Signories in Germany. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) V. xxix. 202, I shall take a view of the works projecting by the Duke of Modena, in order to render his little Signory considerable.

† 3. = SIGNORSHIP. *Obs. rare*—1.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 225 Signore, your signory shall vnderstand, that souldiers who haue enioyed the libertie of Italy, cannot content themselues to make abode in Spain.

4. A governing body, *esp.* that of Venice or other mediæval Italian republic. Cf. SIGNORIA.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. 159 The Arcadian signorie consider..the inhabitants..barbarous, sauage, and wild. 1612 W. SHUTE tr. *Fougasses's Venice* II. 481 A goodly Church..whither the Signory and Clergy doe yeerely goe in procession. 1652 M. NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 99 The Venetians and their Signiory for very many ages have been and are in possession of the aforesaid Gulf. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 138 The legislative authority is lodged in the great senate, consisting of the signory, and 400 noblemen. The signory consists of the Doge and twelve other members. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Faliero* I. i. 3 But still the Signory is deep in council. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. iii. § 59 The Palazzo Vecchio, in which the signiory of Florence held their councils. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. xx. viii. 108, 'I hear on good authority,' said Fisher to the Signory, 'that Cardinal Wolsey is not now in favour of a divorce'.

Sign-post. [SIGN *sb.*]

1. A post supporting a sign, usually that of an inn or shop.

1620 FLETCHER *Chances* III. i, If this geer hold, Best hang a sign-post up, to tell the Signiors, Here ye may have lewdness at Liverie. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 258 Hung out like a toling signe-post to call passengers. 1670 *Moral St. Eng.* 92 A good Inn hath very seldome a bad Sign-post. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 28 ₱ 3 When did the Lamb and Dolphin ever meet, except upon a Sign-Post? 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 483 Fell Discord,..Perch'd on the sign-post, holds with even hand Her undecisive scales. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. ii, [They] fill'd their sign-posts then, like Wellesley now. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 634 The signpost of the White Hart Inn served for a gallows. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xix. 521 He..was menaced with being hanged, like Porteus of Edinburgh, upon a sign-post, if he did so.

fig. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 107 We..were gazing in silence at this sign-post of death, when..a bundle of rags ..at the foot of the gallows began suddenly to move.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sign-post dauber, painter, painting, picture.*

1677 DRYDEN *To Lee* 51 But how should any sign-post dauber know The worth of Titian or of Angelo? 1682 — *Medal* Ep., But Sign-post painting will serve the turn to remember a Friend by. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Rem. Swift* (1752) 83 While there remained a sign-post painter in the world. 1779 *Mirror* No. 9 Those same Latin scraps,.. which you sometimes hang out by way of sign-post inscription at the top of your paper. 1815 L. SIMOND *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 216, I never saw such a collection of miserable sign-post pictures any where before.

2. A guide- or direction-post, set up to indicate the proper road to a place; a finger-post.

1863 LD. LYTTON *King of Amasis* I. ii. iii, The stretched forefinger of a common sign-post. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 149, I came to a signpost directing me to the left.

‖ Signum (si·gnŭm). Pl. **signa.** [L., see SIGN *sb.*] A mark or sign.

1848 *Scottish Jrnl. Topogr.* I. 296/2 The sword hilts [are] filagreed over with peculiar signa, probably cabalistic charms for the prevention of witchcraft. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 638/2 In addition to his subscription, the notary was formerly in use in Scotland to add his *signum*, which was a flourish of the pen. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Signa*, characters and signs in mediæval music.

† Sigrim (also sigrums), obs. var. ISEGRIM.

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 62 Quod the vox: 'Wo is now there? Iche wene hit is Sigrim that ich here'. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 169 The sleyghti fox ..And sigrums chief wardeyn of the folde.

Sih, obs. pa. t. of SEE *v.* **Siht(e, sihþe,** obs. ff. SIGHT. **Sihte,** pa. t. of SIGHE *v.* to sigh. **Siik, sijk,** obs. ff. SICK *a.* **Sijken,** var. SICK *v.* **Sijt,** obs. f. SITE.

Sik, obs. form of SIC *a.*, SICK, SIKE, SIKH.

Sika (sī·kă). [ad. Japanese *sika* deer.] A species of deer (*Cervus sika*) native to Japan and Manchuria.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 4/3 The elk, the Virginian deer, and the Japanese and Manchurian sikas. 1900 *Q. Rev.* July 202 The Japanese sika, Chinese swamp deer and hybrids live wild in the state forests.

Sike, syke (sēik), *sb.*[1] *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 4– **syke**, 6 **sy(o)k**, 9 **seyke**. *β.* 7– **sike**, 8–9 **sick** (9 **saik**). [The northern form repr. OE. *sīc* SITCH. Cf. ON. *sík*, Icel. *síki*, Norw. *sik, sike*, Da. *sig* (MDa. *siig, sige*), in the same sense.]

1. A small stream of water, a rill or streamlet, esp. one flowing through flat or marshy ground, and often dry in summer; a ditch or channel through which a tiny stream flows.

In former times freq. used as a boundary between lands, fields, etc. (cf. sense 2).

[*c* 1169 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1830) VI. 236 Ex alia parte nigræ quercus, usque ad sicam Polterkeved, quæ cadit in Ring. *a* 1214 *Liber de Melros* I. 78 Usque ad primum sicum ex aquilonali parte de Lilisyhates.]

α. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8165 Sykes do 3e graue & groupe, þe water þer-inne men schal scoupe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 300 The sykis alswa thair doune Sall put thame to confusioune. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 427 in *Macro Plays*, Myth I ryde be sompe & syke,..certis þanne schulde I be fryke. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Trial Fox* xxxvi, To fetche watter this fraudfull foxe furth fure, Sydelingis abak he socht vnto ane syke. 1573 *Nott. Rec.* IV. 152 Stakyng of serteyne plankes in the medowes ouer serteyne syckes. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* I. 145 Ouir dykes and dubis, sykes and seuches thay sould spang and leip. 1664–5 *Act* 16–17 *Chas. II*, c. 11 § 1 Forty Acres..in..Thurlby Fenn..are to be left for Lakes and Sykes for the receipt of Waters. 1726 THRELKELD *Stirp. Hibern.* 138 Marsh Marygold..in the small Sykes or watery Plashes of moist Meadows..copiously. 1818 SCOTT *Lett.* II. 4 My lake is but a millpond, my brooks but sykes. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* (1850) II. 192 He prized the stream that turned the wealthiest mills Less than the syke that trickles down the fell. 1889 RAINE *Hist. Hemingborough* 165 Fenny ground traversed by sykes and ditches.

attrib. 1719 *Min. Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S. H. S.) 180 Ground carrying grass tho' never so coarse, such as that called Syke grass.

β. 1611 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 219 The passage at Noletbridge sike..is decayed and many times very dangerous. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41 A *Sike*: a little Rivulet. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Sick*, a small stream or rill. 1811 WILLAN in *Archæologia* XVII. 157 *Bor-sike*, the name of a place, signifies the cottage by the sike. 1831 HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 221 The bed of a sike that runs in the direction of the road. 1896 BLASHILL *Sutton-in-Holderness* 13 Certain low marshy channels called 'sikes'.

b. A gully; a dip or hollow.

1859 W. WHITE *Northumbld. & Border* 363 On one of the slopes, a syke—that is a gully—was pointed out to me. 1884 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. X. 455/1 In Yorkshire *syke* is understood to be a dip in the ground.

† 2. A stretch of meadow; a field. *Obs. rare.*

1479 *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) II. 6 Idem t[enet] ij sykes prati,..Adam del Hyll t[enet] j syk, et r. p. a. ij d. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 38 The Mount-Sikes is 5 dayworkes, and had in it..seaven score and two grasse cockes ..; the waine-way into this close is att the gate a little within the gate of the Greate-Sikes. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 331 A *Sike*, a Quillet or Furrow.

Sike, *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Forms: 3 **sic**, 3–4 **sik**, 3–5, 9 **sike**; 4–5 **syk**(e, 9 *dial.* **soik.** [var. of SICHE *sb.* Cf. Fris. *sike* a breath.] A sigh.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 3if eni is þet naueð nout þe heorte þus afeited, mid seoruhfule sikes..grede on ure Louerd. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxii. 92 Ich have siked moni syk, lemmon, for thin ore. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 801 With a sik she sorwfully answerde. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 136 Thanne wolde she sitte adoun..And seyn right thus, with sorweful sikes colde. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Minor P.* xxii. 364 Vp he threew an heuy syk, And hire awook. 1878 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. IX. 396 Her give a great sike, and then died. 1885 BRIERLEY *Ab-o'th-Yate Yankeeland* ii. (E. D. D.), A good soik of relief.

† b. Without article: Sighing. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1239 Dor sat his moder in sik and sor. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 40 Me thuncheth min herte wol breke a two, for sorewe ant syke. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. 61 Wiþ syk and serwe..Heo souhte wher heo mihte wiþ him mete.

Sike (sēik), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 3–4 **siken**, 4–5 **sikyn**; 3– **sike** (5 **sike**), 9 *dial.* **soik**; 5–9 **sick** (9 *dial.* **sic**). *β.* 3 **syken**, 4– **syke** (4 **zyke**). [var. of SICHE *v.* Cf. MDu. *versiken* to sigh, Fris. *sykje* to draw breath.]

1. *intr.* To sigh.

α. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Summe of þan monne sare wepeð...Summe þer graninde sikeð. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Alle monne sores setteð in ower þouhte, & sikeð to vre Louerd. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 122 Seint Thomas wep In is heorte, and sore bi-gan to sike. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2621 Tristrem..sikeþ, for sobe to sain, Wiþ sorwe and michel pain. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1165 *Dido*, She siketh soore, and gan hire selfe turmente. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xliv, Gif 3e be warldly wight, that dooth me sike. *c* 1450 *Pride of Life* 163 (Brandl), Þou nast no nede to sike sore. 1864 RAMSBOTTOM *Lanc. Rhymes* 17 His mother, eh, Lord ! heaw hoo soikt. 1889 T. PINNOCK *Black Country Ann.* 67 (E.D.D.), We chaps cast..eyes on the ground an' we siked.

β. c 1250 *Owl & Night.* (J.) 1352 Þat heo vor summe sottes lore þe yorne bit and sykeþ sore. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxix. 85, I syke when y singe, for sorewe that y se. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 16 'Now, certes,' ich seide and sykede for ioye. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* 1046 Priuelie than he gan to syke. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 23 He was seyn often ..sykyng alow in his breste as a manne slepyng had wepte. 1515 *Scottish Field* 388 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), His servauntes they maie syke, and sorowe for his sake.

b. *dial.* To sob or cry.

1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.* Gloss., *Sike*, to cry, lament, sob. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial.*, *Sike*, to cry, sob, or violently bewail.

† 2. *trans.* To emit or give (a sigh). *Obs.*—1

c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxii. 92 Ich have siked moni syk, lemmon, for thin ore.

Sike, var. SIC *a.*, SICK *a.* and *v.* **Sikel(l,** obs. forms of SICKLE *sb.* **Sikelatoun,** var. CICLATON *Obs.* **Sikenes(se,** obs. ff. SICKNESS. **Siker,** obs. f. SICKER.

Siket. Now *dial.* Forms: 3–5, 9 **siket** (4 **syket**), 5–6, 9 **sicket**, 9 **secket.** [f. SIKE *sb.*[1] + -ET: cf. SICHET. Recorded chiefly in the Latinized forms *sikettus, -etus.*] A small watercourse or sike.

1300 in *Archæologia* (1857) XXXVII. 435 Per quendam sikettum qui vocatur Cavereswellebrok. *Ibid.*, Inde per

eundem sikettum usque ad..Kavereshull. 1318-9 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1830) VI. I. 558/1 In longitudine inter duos sikettos, quorum unus cadit inter Northwayt et Waytwra. 1479 *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) II. 16 A fonte praedicto versus austrum per j sikettum usque Sewynscheles moss. *Ibid.*, Per dictum bogg usque quoddam siketum. 1550 *Survey Borders* in Hodgson *Northumb.* (1828) II. III. 184 From thence till a place over a letche or litle sicket called the stepping stones. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Sicket, siket, secket*, a small syke, a small brook, a rivulet.

Sikh (sik, sīk). Forms: *α.* 8–9 **Seek, Seik,** 8 **Seekh,** 9 **Seikh.** *β.* 8 **Syke, Syc, Sicque,** 8–9 **Sik** (9 **Sík**), 9- **Sikh** (**Sik'h, Síkh**). [Hindī *sikh* (Skr. *śishya*), disciple. The spellings *seek, seekh, sík, sikh*, and the pron. (sīk), may have been due to association with Hindī *sīkh* learning, *sīkhna* to learn.]

1. A member of a military community belonging to the Punjab, where it was originally established as a religious sect by Nanak Shah in the early part of the 16th century.

α. 1781 WILKINS in *Asiatic Res.* (1799) I. 288 That sect of people who are distinguished from the worshippers of Brahm, and the followers of Mahommed, by the appellation Seek. 1784 in Seton-Karr *Select. fr. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 13 The Seekhs..have plundered all that quarter. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* III. 51/1 It is imagined he has taken refuge in the country of the Seiks. 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXI. 283/2 *marg.*, Seiks.

β. 1785 *European Mag.* IX. 453 For ease the slow Mahratta spoils, And hardier Sik erratic toils. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 109 All that is desirable to know respecting the Siks, the most remarkable part of the population. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 233/2 The Sikhs.. consider the profession of arms the religious duty of every individual. 1896 YOUNGSON *40 Yrs. Punjab Mission* v. 39 A Sikh must possess five things—a dagger, an iron bracelet, short breeches, long hair, and a comb.

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Sikhs.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1348/1 The principal alphabets formed from the Nāgarī, are the Bengalī..and Sikh or Punjabī. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl.* 257/1 A proclamation was issued, declaring the Sikh states..attached to the British dominions. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 718/2 The second volume of the Sikh scriptures. 1896 YOUNGSON *40 Yrs. Punjab Mission* v. 39 Gobind Singh.. renewed an old Sikh rite.

Hence **Si'khism,** the tenets or principles of the Sikhs.

1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 719/2 The numerous divisions into which Sikhism, as a system of belief and practice, has ramified. 1880 SIR R. TEMPLE *India in 1880* 120 Sikhism..is one of those inflammable things which a spark might kindle into a flame. 1896 YOUNGSON *40 Yrs. Punjab Mission* i. 4 Sikhism is like Buddhism a revolt from priestcraft and ritual.

Sikil, obs. f. SICKLE *sb.*; var. of SWIKEL *a. Obs.*

Si'king, *vbl. sb.* Now *dial.* [f. SIKE *v.* + -ING 1.] = SIGHING *vbl. sb.* 1.

a 1300 *Havelok* 234 Þer was sobbing, siking, and sor. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 Vorþenchinge acseþ grat zorȝe and greate zykinges of herte. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 662 Loue.. trauayles here wondir strong With thought and sykyng euere among. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1865 He with sore sykyng and snobbyng bothe Vnswered þe monke. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 24 Amonge his lamentacions and sykynges..he asayde..to opene his yes. 1886 BRIERLEY *Cast upon World* xviii, I hate to yer [= hear] that soikin' an' meeonin'.

attrib. 13.. *E. E. Psalter* vi. 6 (Egerton MS.), I swank in mi sikinge-stede.

Siking, *ppl. a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SIKE *v.* + -ING 2.] That sighs; sighing. Hence † **Si'kingness.**

13.. [see SIGHINGNESS]. *c* 1616 FLETCHER *Thierry & Theod.* v. i, Thou hast a bonny countenance and a blithe, promising mickle good to a siking wemb.

Sikkell, obs. f. SICKLE *sb.* **Siklatoun,** variant of CICLATON *Obs.* **Siknesse,** obs. f. SICKNESS. **Sikni,** obs. f. SICKEN *v.* **Sikonye,** var. CICON(Y)E, stork, *Obs.* **Sikul(le,** obs. ff. SICKLE *sb.* **Sikynyn,** obs. f. SICKEN *v.*

† **Sil.** *Obs. rare.* [a. L. or Fr. *sil* ochre.] Some kind of ochre.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. xiii. II. 485 As touching Ochre or Sil, it is exceeding hard to be reduced into pouder. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 5 Colours amongst the Minerall Oare of Gold and Siluer, as Sil, Azure.

Silage (sə'ilēdʒ), *sb.* [Alteration of ENSILAGE, after SILO.] Green fodder preserved by pressure in a silo or stack; = ENSILAGE 2. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Nov. 5/2 The testimony of all who have tried ensilage is that a given quantity of grass converted into silage [etc.]. 1888 *Times* 24 July 13/1 In a season like the present a good silage stack is about the only means of securing and preserving grass. 1894 J. K. FOWLER *Recoll. Old Co. Life* xii. 136 The silo was opened and the silage proved excellent.

Hence **Si'lage** *v. trans.*, to preserve by ensilage.

1885 *Field* 19 Dec. (Cassell), Any grass in excess of the requirements of the stock could be silaged.

Silc(k, obs. ff. SILK. **Sild(e,** var. SELD *adv.* **Silde,** obs. f. SELD *sb.* (shed, building). **Silden,** obs. f. SHIELD *v.* **Sildom,** obs. f. SELDOM.

Sile (səil), *sb.*^{1} *north.* and *Sc.* Also 4–5, 9 **syle,** 6 **syelle.** [Of doubtful origin; perh. repr. OE. *syl* pillar, column.] A large roofing-timber or rafter, usually one of a pair. Also *sile-tree.*

1338-40 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 377, vij copule de syles longitudinis xvj pedum, et iiij^{or} copule de syles longitudinis xxviij^{to} pedum. 1371 *Durham Halm. Rolls* (Surtees) 111 Reparabit unam grangiam de uno pare de siles et duobus gauil forks. 1582 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1860) 46 In the hay barne. Certaine sawen baulkes, viz., ix dormonds, and j sile. 1811 AITON *Agric. Surv. Ayrsh.* 114 The roof was formed of strong cupples termed Syles, set up 8 or 10 feet distant from each other. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Syles*, the principal rafters of a house. 1878 DICKINSON *Gloss. Cumbld., Sile trees*, the timber roof-blades of a thatched clay house.

Sile (səil), *sb.*^{2} *north.* (and *Sc.*). Also 5–7, 9 **syle,** 6 **syell.** [a. ON. **síl* (Norw. and Sw. *sil*): cf. SILE *v.*^{2}] A strainer or sieve, esp. one for milk.

1459–60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89, j pelvis cum foraminibus vocata j Syle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 339/2 A mylke Syle, *colatorium*. 1563 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 207, ij great bowells, iij wodd skailles, one syle. *Ibid.* 208 One syell, j vergeus barrell, vj mylk bowlls. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 130 A Sile, *colum*. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. vi. (1668) 144 The bottom of this Syle through which the milk must pass, must be covered with a very clean-washt fine linnen-cloth. 1684 *Yorkshire Dial.* 35 Now let us hame and late for Bowls and Sile. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 352 *Sile*, a milk-strainer. 1825– in dial. gloss. (Yks., Northumbld., Lancs., Nott., Linc., etc.).

Sile (səil), *sb.*^{3} *north.* and *Sc.* Also 9 **syle** (soil); sill. [Of Scand. origin: cf. ON. and Icel. *síld*, MSw. *sildh, silþ* (Sw. *sill*), Norw. and Da. *sild* herring; also Icel. *síli* (older *síl*) a herring.] Young herring.

α. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 288 The young herrings ..are then from half an inch to two inches long: those in Yorkshire are called Herring Sile. 1863 JEAN INGELOW *Poems* 186 Our folk call them syle and nought but syle, And when they're grown, why then we call them herring. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit. & Irel.* II. 210 Small ones [herring] not larger than a sprat are termed sills, or sile.

β. 1847 HALLIW., *Sill*, the young of a herring. *North.* 1863 *Rep. Commiss. Herring-trawling Scotl.* § 51. 26 The herring is found under four different conditions: 1st, Fry or Sill. 1883 [see *α*].

Sile, dial. variant of SOIL *sb.*

Sile, *v.*^{1} *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.* Also 4–5, 9 **syle.** [Prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. and Sw. dial. *sila* to flow gently, to pour with rain; but these senses have something in common with SILE *v.*^{2}, and are usually associated with that word.]

1. *intr.* To go, pass, move; to glide. Usu. with preps. or advs.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 131 He..Solased hem with semblaunt & syled fyrre; Tron fro table to table & talkede ay myrpe. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 401 Til a chambire gan þay syle, And gayly gan hym dighte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1973 Sile furth of my sight in a sad haste. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Lyfe Our Ladye* (Caxton) d ij, And fysshe eke with fynnes silid fayre. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 14 As sober evening sweetly siles along. 1876 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Sile past*, to glide by.

2. To fall or sink (*down*). Also *dial.*, to subside.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3043 (Ashm.), Siles doun on aithire side selcuth knȝtis, Sum darid, sum dede, sum depe wondid. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xvi, With sit siles he a-downe, To brittun him the king was bowne. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 524 He hard ane bugill blast..As the seymly sone silit to the rest. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41 To *Sile* down: *Lincoln*, to fall to the bottom, or subside. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 180 The white sand..Now swimming up in silver threads, and then Slow siling down to bubble up again.

b. *dial.* To fall down in a swoon; to faint *away*.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., To sile away*, to faint away. 1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 152 'Your Nelly's beguiled!' She said, and she siled on the floor. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sile*, to faint, to sink, or subside gradually.

3. † **a.** Of tears, etc.: To flow. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9210 Terys on his chekes Ronen full rifely...Þen he driet vp the dropes, & [? *read* þat] dreghly can syle. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., To sile o'er*, to boil over. *a* 1800 *Lord Derwentwater* iii. in Bell *Rhymes N. Bards* (1812) 225 When he read the three next lines The tears began to sile. 1807 [see the *ppl. a.* below]. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sile*, to percolate, to flow. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Syle*, 'It syl't and bled,' after the manner of a syle.

b. *dial.* Of rain: To pour (*down*).

1703 THORESBY *Let. Ray* (E. D. S.), *It Siles*, i. e. rains fast. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sile*,..to pour down with rain. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 33 Rain in the Northern counties, when it falls perpendicularly, is said to 'sile down', as if in allusion to its passing through a sieve. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 171 'It'll sile down till night, ..replied the groom.

Hence † **Si'ling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1307 Þe kyng..siket full sore with sylyng of teris. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3794 Thane syghande he saide, with sylande terys. 1807 STAGG *Poems* 65 Rashly they scale the scattran swathe,..An' seylin sweats their haffets bathe.

Sile, *v.*^{2} Now *dial.* Also 5–7, 9 **syle,** 8–9 *Sc.* **seil,** 8 **soil.** [Of Scand. origin: cf. MSw. *siila, sila*, Sw. and Norw. *sila* in the same sense, perh. related to Fris. *silje* to sift.]

1. *trans.* To strain; *esp.* to pass (milk) through a sieve or strainer.

14.. *MS. Lincoln A. 1. 17* fol. 281 in *Halliw.* s.v., Temper it with hate ale, and sythene syle it thorowe a hate clathe. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* in *Babees Bk.* 322 Þo euwere thurgh towelle syles clene His water into þo bassynges shene. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 131 To syle milke, *colare lac.* 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 150 You shall take your milk..as it comes from the Cow, and syle it into a clean Tub. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 44 To *Soil* milk, to cleanse it. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 274 Our Sowins are ill sowr'd, ill seil'd, ill-salted,..and few o' them. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 352 *To Sile*, to strain, as fresh milk from the cow. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, The brown four-year-auld's milk is not seiled yet. 1825– in dial. glossaries (E. Anglia, Northamptn., Linc., etc.). 1892 J. LUCAS *Kalm's Eng.* 173 That which was over was siled in the above-named manner and made into butter.

transf. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 159 The..gentle Nith canna call a single fin its ain,—they syle its current through the herling nets 'tween yule and yule. 1847 J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 264 The purest o' water is siel'd through the rock.

† **2.** *dial.* To pour. *Obs.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *Syle*, He siled a gallon of ale down his throat.

Hence **Siled** *ppl. a.*; **Si'ling** *vbl. sb.* Also **Si'ler,** a milk-strainer (cf. SILING-DISH).

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. iv. 109 *marg.*, Silling of milke. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Sil'd Milk*, skimmed milk. 1856 HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes* 82 He handed her the milk-strainer, the milsey, or seiler.

† **Sile,** *v.*^{3} *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6–7 **syle.** [ad. OF. *ciller* (*siller*), f. *cil* eyelash, or med.L. *ciliare* (Du Cange). The usual English form is SEEL.]

1. *trans.* To sew up (the eyes of a hawk). *rare*$^{-1}$.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. ii. (Tollemache MS.), Ofte þe ȝen of suche briddes [hawks] beþ þere siled, closid oþer hid.

2. To cover (the eyes or sight). Also with *up*.

c 1500 KENNEDIE *Passion of Christ* 448 Sum..filit his cristall eyne, And silit his sicht, as he a fule had bene. 1575 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scotl.* II. 479 Tuke thame nakit furth of thair beddis, and sylit thair eyis unto the tyme thay had distroyit the saidis houssis. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifix* 649 Now, siling vp his eyes, Hee streight must show Who him did most with causelesse strips infest.

b. *fig.* To deceive (the sight).

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* II. 155 Thus siling humain sight, it changed form: One while a Rod, one while a creeping worm. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 422 Wast for this thow sought by slight To syle my sight, thy curst designes to cloake?

c. To deceive, beguile, or mislead (a person).

A common Scottish use in the 16th century.

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 217 Dissymulance was besy me to sile. *c* 1550 LYNDESAY *Trag. Abp. St. Andrews* 205 With sweit and subtell wordis I did hym syle. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 33 With doubtsum talk she craftely begylde, Not only Grece, but Spaine and Indes she sylde.

3. To cover, hide, conceal.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. of Cresseid* 10 Quhen Titan had his bemis bricht Withdrawin doun, and sylit vnder cure. *c* 1500 KENNEDIE *Passion of Christ* 92 Silit he wes vnder schaddew of syn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XIII. Prol. 42 Baith man and beste..Involuit in tha schaddois warrin sild. 1551 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* 70 Thai offend the Juge, fra quhom thai syle and hyde the veritie.

Hence † **Siled** *ppl. a. Obs.*

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 129 Quhair Venus anis gettis in hir gouernance Sic sylit subiectis felterit in hir snair. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 48/2 While like a siled Doue, we (Lord) aspire.

† **Sile,** *v.*^{4} *Obs.* Also 5–6 **syle.** [Sc. and northern var. of CEIL *v.*] = CEIL *v.* 2.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 671 [A palace] Pantit and apparalit proudly in pane, Sylit semely with silk. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 949 To sile a wale, *lambroisser*. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* vi. 20 He syled the altare with Ceder.

Hence † **Siled** *ppl. a.*, ceiled.

1535 COVERDALE *Judges* iii. 20 He sat in a syled Sommer perler. — *Haggai* i. 4 Ye youre selues can fynde tyme to dwell in syled houses.

Sile-clout, -dish. [f. SILE *sb.*^{2} or *v.*^{2}] (See quots.)

1668 *Markham's Eng. Housew.* II. vi. 144 After your Milk is come home, you shall..strain it from all unclean things through a neat and sweet kept Syledish. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 67 A *Sile-dish*, a straining or cleansing Dish. 1876 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Sile-clout*, the cloth stretched over the hole of the milk-strainer.

Silen (səi'lĕn). Also 6, 7 **sylen(e.** [ad. L. *Silēn-us*, ad. Gr. Σειλην-ός: see SILENUS.]

1. *Gr. Mythol.* One of the *Sileni* or wood-gods; a species of satyr.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. XV. (1886) 155 In our childhood our mother's maids have so terrified us with.. satyrs, pans, faunes, sylens,..that we are afraid of our own shadowes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. X. II. 544 Lascivious wantonnesse, which he pourtraied by three drunken Sylenes making merrie and banketting togither. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 184/2 His [i. e. Socrates] appearance was not unlike that of the Silens and Satyrs. 1854 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 3) 206 Hermês and the Silens 'mingle in love' with the nymphs in pleasing caverns.

2. *Zool.* A species of macaque.

1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. 147 They were Silens, (*Inuus Silenus*) a species of short-tailed monkey.

Silena'ceous, *a. Bot.* [f. SILEN-E + -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the *Silenæ*, a division of the order *Caryophyllaceæ*. Also **Sile'nal** *a.* and *sb.*, typified by the genus *Silene*; a plant of this kind.

1836 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* (1846) 495 The Silenal Alliance. *Ibid.*, Natural Orders of Silenals. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 475/2 *Dianthus*, a beautiful genus of Silenaceous Dicotyledonous plants.

Silence (səi'lĕns), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **scilence,** 4–6 **scylence,** 6 **scylens**; 4–5 **cilence**; 5 **sylens(e,** 6 *Sc.* **silens,** 5–6 **sylence,** 3– **silence.** [a. OF. *silence, scilence*, ad. L. *silentium*, f. *silēre*

to be silent: cf. Prov. *silenci*, Sp. and Pg. *silencio*, It. *silenzio*.]

1. The fact of abstaining or forbearing from speech or utterance (sometimes with reference to a particular matter); the state or condition resulting from this; muteness, reticence, taciturnity. Occas. with *a* or in pl.

For the proverbial phrase *Silence gives consent*, see CONSENT *sb.* 1 c.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Ine silence & ine hope schal beon ower strencðe. *Ibid.*, Heo mei ec hopien þet heo schal ec singen þurh hire scilence sweteliche ine heouene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 637 [He] gert scilence be mad, til he had sad þat wes in his gule. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xix. 33 And Alisaundre axide with his hoond silence, and wolde ȝelde a resoun to the puple. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 44 In Plutoys name [there was] commaundyd silence. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 38 And oftetymes they selle as welle theyr scilence as theyr vtterance. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxix. 21 Vnto me men gaue eare,..& with sylence they taried for my councell. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 178 No word to your Master that I am yet in Towne. There's for your silence. 1601 CAMPION *Wks.* (1909) 24 Doe not demaund why I am mute: Loues silence doth all speech confute. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *News fr. Plymouth* I. i, Silence becomes Men best, when Women talk. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. iii. 157 The People intimidated, kept in a profound Silence for some Time. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 414 The tongue..Shall own itself a stamm'rer in that cause, Or plead its silence as its best applause. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 363 Nor dream that I will join the vulgar cry; Or with my silence sanction tyranny. 1847 EMERSON *Poems* Wks. (Bohn) I. 471 Ye taught my lips a single speech, And a thousand silences. 1875 FARRAR *Silence & Voices* ii. 29 What is called the silence of ignorance may sometimes be the silence of repudiation, sometimes even the reticence of scorn.

personif. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 192 My gracious silence, hayle: Would'st thou haue laugh'd, had I come Coffin'd home? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 604 The wakeful Nightingale ..all night long her amorous descant sung; Silence was pleas'd. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 65 And Silence, too enamoured of that voice, Locks its mute music in her rugged cell.

b. In the phrases *to keep* (or † *hold*) *silence*, *to break silence*, *in silence*.

(*a*) *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 22 Vrom þet, efter Preciosa, holdeð silence. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 228/324 Hov holde ȝe so silence þat neuer on ne spekez with oþur? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 336 As þai come til his presence, he gert þe puple kepe scilence. *c* 1450 *Rule Syon Monast.* liii. in *Collect. Topogr.* I. (1834) 31 Alle schal there kepe hyghe silence. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 122 With this Iupiter helde his pees and kept scilence. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 18 He required him that his adversaries might kepe silence. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 211 They kept a strict silence all the week. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. iv. 88 He keeps firm silence; but these lines found on him May speak. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 102 This is an event respecting which it is impossible to keep silence.

(*b*) 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 86 Thus fulofte my silence I breke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2525 Than Troilus..brake Sylense belyue, and abrode saide. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 42 He [Morpheus] mumbled soft, but would not all his silence breake. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 895 At length First to himself he inward silence broke. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XIX. 461 He broke Eternal silence, and portentous spoke. 1783 BURNS *Poor Mailie* 12 At length poor Mailie silence brak. 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* iv, An hour they sate in council, At length the Mayor broke silence.

(*c*) *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 93 We shulden be tymes reste, and preye to God in scilence. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 He kept the nyhte in peas and silence. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 993 þan sole in silence sall he sitt, And rays him self abouen his witt. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 566 In speech will I ever render thankes, and in silence acknowledge my selfe most deepely endebted. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvii. 75 But had the Crow his Food in Silence eat, Less had his Quarrels been. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* VII. 192 Amaz'd we stood; in silence, each his mind To fear and hope alternately resign'd. 1827 in Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., The next toast..he wished to be drunk in solemn silence. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Feb. 145/2 A brave man suffers in silence.

c. *To put to silence*, to silence by argument or prohibition; † to put to death; also † *to put silence (un)to*, to reduce to silence.

(*a*) 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxii. 34 Pharisees, heerynge that he hadde put silence to Saducees. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 41 Heir I put sylence to the in all partis. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 155, I know writing Books of Trade..puts a silence unto the whole History, be it never so good.

(*b*) 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) p. xxxvii, The ii. sonnys of Kinge Edward were put to silence. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 127/1 Ye haue put me to sylence, that I dare not nowe bee bolde to tell you that I haue sene it my selfe. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Brief Descr. iiij b, Which wordes so often he repeated, that thereby he put Barry to silence. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 290 Murrellus and Flauius, for pulling scarfes off Cæsars Images, are put to silence. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 499 So as to put them to silence. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xix. (1862) 326 He had put them to silence and to shame before all the people. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xlii. 424 Tyndale ..would..sometimes put all the dignitaries to silence by his arguments.

fig. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 254 Such force and dexterity, as may be able to putte your overthwart obstinacy to scilence. 1590 J. SMYTH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 60 My little Booke..shall be put to silence and abolished.

d. Used imperatively, = Be silent; make no noise.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 266 But silence, heere comes Thisby 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 216 Silence, ye troubl'd waves, and thou Deep, peace. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 165 Silence, ye Wolves! while Ralph to Cynthia howls. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 475 Silence now! Ye know the close device. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 225 Silence! Hush! what noise was this?

2. The state or condition when nothing is audible; absence of all sound or noise; complete quietness or stillness; noiselessness. Sometimes personified. Also const. *of* (the night, etc.).

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* viii. 6 The watris of Siloe, that gon with cilence. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. ii. (1495) 27 b, Derknesse is seen yf noo thynge is seen, & scylence is knowen yf noo thynge is herde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 1 Lucina schynnyng in silence of the nicht. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 59 Whenas all the world in silence deepe Yshrowded was. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 506 But as we often see against some storme, A silence in the Heauens. *c* 1630 MILTON *Upon the Circumcision* 5 Through the soft silence of the list'ning night. 1738 WESLEY *Hymns*, '*Regent of all the Worlds above*' iii, Fair Queen of Silence, Silver Moon. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 84 Stillness, accompanied with sounds so soft, Charms more than silence. 1832 MACAULAY *Armada* 49 Then bugle's note and cannon's roar the deathlike silence broke. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xix, There twice a day the Severn fills;..And makes a silence in the hills. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 25 Can I..sharpen ear to recognize Sound o'er league and league of silence?

b. Used allusively to denote the state beyond this life. Chiefly in pl. and with initial capital.

1803–6 WORDSW. *Ode Intimat. Immortality* ix, Power to make Our noisy years seem moments in the being Of the eternal Silence. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. i, To return silently, with his small, sorely foiled bit of work, to the Supreme Silences. 1908 E. MILLER *Martyrs of the Moors* 55 In fear and darkness his soul floated out to the great Silence.

c. *Tower of Silence*, one of a number of small towers upon the summit of which the Parsees place their dead (see quot. 1865).

1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 300 Their dead are not buried, but exposed on an iron grating in the Dokhma, or Tower of Silence, to the fowls of the air. *c* 1880 GRANT *Hist. India* I. lxix. 359/1 The exposure of their dead in the Towers of Silence, to be eaten by the birds.

3. Omission of mention, remark, or notice in narration. Chiefly in phrases *to pass with*, *pass over in*, *silence*.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* Prol. 114 It were no reason her name be had in scylence, But to the people her name be magnyfyed. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxiii. 156 Ordinances, which I passe with silence. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 131, I would much rather haue smothered such matters in silence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 385 Eternal silence be thir doome. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 P 3 As for the rest of my Infancy, there being nothing in it remarkable, I shall pass it over in Silence.

b. Neglect or omission to write (about something); failure to communicate or reply.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 206 By Don Jeans silence from Spaine, this overture..tooke no effect as long as the Queene lived. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* A j, The silence of all those who made the voyage with me, constrained me to expose it to publick view. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1788) 292, I understand that the public are not satisfied with my silence;—that an answer is expected of me. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* II. i. 9 The silence of the historian..concerning any contribution, might lead us to look out for some different journey.

† **4.** A small hammer used to command silence or order. *Obs.*—1

1556 in Jupp *Acc. Carpenters' Comp.* (1887) 139 He helde not his peess before the master hade knockyd with the sylence iij tymes.

5. *Mus.* A rest.

1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Music* 171 This Silence or Rest can be made but upon a Concord or consonant Note. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 342 The soul..With all its grand orchestral silences To keep the pauses of its rhythmic sounds.

6. *Distill.* Want of flavour in distilled spirit. (Cf. SILENT *a.* 5 c.)

1879 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* I. 229 Owing to its 'silence', there is no possibility of detecting afterwards from what source it has been obtained.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *silence time*, and in recent use *silence-box*, *command*, *room*, *rule*, etc.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 19 Speke wolde he nevere, as it is i-write in þe questiouns þat he wroot in his scilence tyme. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 268 Eche suster..shalle answer thus ayene in lyke voyce thof it be sylence tyme. 1894 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 3/1 These particulars are telephoned into a silence-box at the Central Savings Bank. *Ibid.* 14 May 5/1 He promised the modification and virtually the abolition of the silence rule.

Silence (sai·lĕns), *v.* Also 6 silense. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To cause or compel (one) to cease speaking on a particular occasion; also, to overcome in argument.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 181 Silence that fellow: I would he had some cause to prattle for himselfe. 1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 18 If they happen to be silenc'd by another they become on a sudden ill humour'd. 1733 *Present State of Popery* 21 This learned priest has silenc'd the parson. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii. Paulo was silenced for a while by a significant look from his master. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvii, Silenced by this hint, the chirurgeon betook himself to his proper duty. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. iv. 47 The Archbishop of York peculiarly irritated Becket, and was silenced by a violent answer.

refl. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 4 Ile silence me e'ene heere: Pray you be round with him.

fig. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 18 How difficult it is to silence imagination enough to make the voice of reason even distinctly heard. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, And, for a time, silenced his conscience.

b. To cause (an animal or thing) to cease from giving out its natural sound; to still, quieten.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 175 Silence that dreadfull Bell, it frights the Isle, From her propriety. 1735 SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) I V. 99 Upon desiring him to silence our dog. 1789 COWPER *Mrs. Throckmorton's Bullfinch* 59 That beak..Might have repaid him well, I wote, For silencing so sweet a throat. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III. iii, The mountain eagle..spread her dark sails on the wind, And..Silenced the warblers of the brake. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 391 It is the little rift within the lute That by and by will make the music mute, And ever widening slowly silence all.

c. To stop, suppress (a noise or sound).

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, Silence her cursed noise, if you should throttle her. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xxxi, An awful pause of horror silenced each murmur of the armed spectators.

2. To reduce (a person, etc.) to silence by restraint or prohibition, esp. in order to prevent the free expression of opinions.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 97 Imagine me, taking your part, And in your power, soft silencing your Sonne. 1607 — *Cor.* II. i. 263 He would Haue..silenc'd their Pleaders, And dispropertied their Freedomes. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 38 We may not marvell, if not so often bad, as good Books were silenc't. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 157 He saw that the R. Cath. Religion would be silenced in England. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, To silence the Play-house, *interdire la Comedie*. 1861 HOOK *Lives Abps.* I. i. 2 Oppression was legalised and Parliaments were silenced. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 165 If arms silence laws, they silence letters all the more speedily.

b. To put down, repress (any expression of feeling, etc.).

1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 207 To silence all tumultuous thoughts and secret murmurings of our evil hearts. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 380 Let them [*sc.* opinions] be silenced by the Laws of those, to whom the Teachers of them are subject. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & Fall* xlv. IV. 434 The complaints of the people could no longer be silenced by the splendid names of a legislator and a conqueror. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* vii. 124 She vehemently silenced poor Tim's suggestions. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 139 A threat of excommunication silenced the murmurs of the clergy.

3. a. *Mil.* and *Naval.* To compel (a gun, battery, or ship) to cease firing; to disable by superior fire; to stop (the fire of a gun).

1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxiii, The enemy's fire..slackened, and towards evening was quite silenced. 1755 in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 9 We silenced three of her lower deck guns. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 345 The batteries..opened on the town and fort, and soon silenced their fire. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Gt. Mutiny* 96 A number of the best shots..were selected to try and silence the fire from the battery.

b. *slang.* (See quot.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *To silence a man*, to knock him down, or stun him.

† **4.** To leave unmentioned or unnoticed; to pass over in silence, to omit. *Obs.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epitome 381 The Surname Tuder: wherein..that of Plantagenet is inclusiuely silenced. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 133 The..coniectures of the late Interpreter..I willingly silence. 1660 HOLMWOOD in J. Bland *Trade Revived* Pref., I was..injoyned..to silence his name, and have accordingly delivered sundry books to divers worthy Persons under a Nonemus.

† **5.** To get rid of (a thing) by maintaining silence. Const. *away*. *Obs.*—1

1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* IV. iv. 197 The subject.. being always embarrassing to me,..I silenced it away.

6. *intr.* To cease speaking; to become silent or still. *rare.*

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 30 The Heralds bad sone silence all and ceis. 1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 13 The olde man silenst here. *Ibid.* 91 There silenc'd she, and seemed a disdaine Royall and noble flamed in her face. 1886 RANDOLPH *Mostly Fools* III. i. 25 The busy bustling room silenced and sobered instantly.

Silenced (sai·lĕnst), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] That has been reduced or put to silence; *spec.* forbidden to preach or hold services on account of refusal to comply with some order.

1606 (*title*), A Christian..Offer of a most indifferent Conference..abovt the maine and principall Controversies betwixt the Prelats, and the late silenced and deprived Ministers. 1644 in Wilkins *Polit. Ball.* (1860) I. 15 The silenc'd clergy..In your damnation will bear share. 1681 BAXTER *Apol. Nonconf. Min.* 1 Apology for the Silenced ministers. 1731 CALAMY *Life* (1830) I. i. 77, I went afterwards to Mr. Tatnal's, who was the silenced minister of St. John Evangelist. 1737 POPE *Horace, Ep.* II. i. 237 The silenc'd Preacher yields to potent strain. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cxii, In yon field below, A thousand years of silenced factions sleep. 1825 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 352 Its old and long silenced claims..were now revived. 1836 H. ROGERS *Life Howe* iv. 150 Though Howe was an ejected minister, he could not consent to be a silenced one.

Silencer (sai·lĕnsəɹ). [f. SILENCE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who, or that which, silences; a conclusive argument or retort.

1635 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 419 Death (the great Silencer of all our Words and Thoughts). 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argt.* Post. N 3, Both Extreams..are silencers of all that would undeceive them. 1817 KEATS *To Georgiana A. Wylie* 64 Bane of every wicked spell; Silencer of dragon's yell. 1871 G. MEREDITH *Harry Richmond* xv, But my retort..was a silencer.

2. A piece of mechanism attached to a motor vehicle and used to silence or reduce the sound

naturally caused by its working; also, a similar contrivance attached to a maxim gun or rifle.

1898 *Autocar* 5 Feb. 93/2 A more satisfactory silencer than the average run of silencers on Bollées.

Si·lencing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SILENCE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 123 Neuer exceeding a penny a quart, day nor night; and this deare yeare, together with the silencing of his loombes, scarce that. 1635 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 406 This only.. hath been my motive for the silencing this Business thus long. 1651 BAXTER *Saints' Rest* II. vi. § 4 *marg.*, About the time of the silencing of Ministers. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 607 From that time to his silencing, he was a very zealous person for promoting the cause. 1751 J. BROWN *Ess. Shaftesb. Charac.* 62 So much for the silencing, which is the only conviction, of obstinacy and ignorance. 1895 *Athenæum* 31 Aug. 281/2 Very probably there was some partial silencing of the archery on one flank of the English host.

Si·lencing, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That reduces to silence; conclusive.

1800 SWANSTON *Serm. & Lect.* I. 224 This was a silencing question. 1870 *Daily Telegr.* 6 Oct., It is impossible to give any silencing answer to those pestilent querists.

†**Si·lency.** *Obs. rare.* [See SILENCE *sb.* and -Y.] Silence.

1634 LENTON *Inns of Crt. Anagrammatist* B iv, And, in Love's silency, Whisperd each other, Lord, what a back hath he! 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. ii. 20 The Moon in silency Doth passe by night. *Ibid.* iii. 65 In solem silency this vapour rose.

Silene (səilī·nz). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. L. *Sīlēnus* SILENUS.] A genus of caryophyllaceous plants typifying the tribe *Sileneæ*; a plant belonging to this genus; catchfly.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xix. (1794) 274 In *Cucubalus* it [the calyx] is much inflated, and in *Silene* it is swelling. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 414 It is evident from Ray's description that the Dover plant is a Silene, and not a Cucubalus. 1846 LINDLEY *Veget. Kingd.* 497 Some Silenes are scattered in many different parts of the globe. 1882 *Good Words* Mar. 184 Overgrown by masses of pink silene or tall graceful asphodels.

Silenic (səilī·nik), *a.* [f. SILEN-US + -IC.] Resembling Silenus or one of the Sileni.

In both passages the reference is to Socrates.

1822 SHELLEY *Prose Wks.* (1888) II. 108 Appearances in themselves excessively Silenic. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxviii. VIII. 605 Its effect was enhanced.. by the very eccentricity of his Silenic physiognomy.

Silenite, obs. form of SELENITE.

Silent (sai·lĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *silent-em*, pres. pple. of *silēre* to be silent.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Keeping or maintaining silence; refraining from speech or utterance; speechless, mute, dumb. Also, taciturn, reticent, reserved.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Taciturnulus*, somwhat silente. 1580 FULKE *Dang. Rock* 164 He is as silent as a Stone. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 22 Delia by being silent, seemed to consent. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 178 *Pol.* She dances featly. *Shep.* So she do's any thing, though I report it That should be silent. 1664 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 167 Upon so extraordinary occasions..had I an hundred tongues I should be struck silent. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 430 At awful Distance long they silent stand, Loth to advance, or speak their hard Command. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, Which kept him silent, notwithstanding his wish to speak. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, If I could think myself the cause of Tressilian's ruin,.. I might be brought to be silent. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, They were both silent for a time, she weeping. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 374 Throughout the two dialogues Socrates continues a silent auditor.

absol. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxiv, She has neither leisure nor thought to attend to the silent.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* of things.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 70 My duty cannot be silent, when I thinke your Highnesse wrong'd. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* (1696) 160 Idleness though a Crying sin..hath been the silentest of my guilts. 1757 GRAY *Epitaph Mrs. Clarke* 1 Where this silent marble weeps, A friend, a wife, a mother, sleeps. 1779 *Mirror* No. 61, There is a silent chronicle of past hours in the inanimate things amidst which they have been spent. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. viii, The song was silent, and the dance expired. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 16 Respect the silent heart of your mother. 1862 TENNYSON *Ded. Idylls* 16 All narrow jealousies Are silent; and we see him as he moved.

c. Of animals, birds, etc.

1801 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* Suppl. II. 204 Silent Tanager.. Inhabits the thick woods of Guiana... A solitary bird. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. II. 330 Silent shrike... Native of the interior of Africa and the Cape of Good Hope. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 25 The grasshopper is silent in the grass.

phrase. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* lx, The silent sow sups all the broth. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nature & Hum. Nature* I. vii. 201 The silent pig is the best feeder.

2. Of writers, books, etc.: Omitting mention of or reference to, passing over or disregarding, something in narration; containing no account or record. Const. † *in, of, as to,* † *to.*

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 171 For (to be silent in matters of more auncient memory) about the yeare of our lorde 1300 [etc.]. 1629 PEMBLE *On Zachary* 92 Why were they silent of the other fasts, and touch onely vpon this? 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 398 Our Historians..would not certainly have been silent of so considerable a structure, had they been the Authors of it. 1762 FOOTE *Orators* I. Wks. 1780 II. 25 The Court-Register has been silent to the members of common-council. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 280 Although history be silent as to many other inundations of the like kind. 1858 *Nat. Rev.* Oct. 505 The men of letters are so silent of them as to indicate [etc.]. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 224 As to the other shire..history is equally silent.

3. Characterized or marked by silence or absence of speech; performed, made, suffered, etc., in silence or without speaking.

The silent system, a method of discipline enforced in a prison, penitentiary, etc., which imposes complete silence on all occasions.

1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* 128 Sweet silent Rhetorique of perswading eyes. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 5 Religion hauing likewise her silent rites. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 204 Princes politickly understanding their mutual secret language (not to say silent signs). 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 319 His Religion was to be placed in a sober and silent Piety. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xiv. 20 A Country-Life was then your silent Prayer. 1779 *Mirror* No. 27, That silent and majestic sorrow which commands our reverence and our admiration. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXVIII, The younger knights told each other with their eyes, in silent correspondence [etc.]. 1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xvii, We went over the House of Correction.. to witness the operation of the silent system. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 14 She took care that they should be silent tears. 1891 *Fishing Gaz.* 14 Feb. 85/3 Then he drank a silent whiskey and left.

b. Of letters: Not sounded or pronounced; mute. See also quot. 1662.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 27 The adding..of our silent E, in the end of some words. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. viii. (1674) 26 Pauses or Rests are silent Characters, or an artificial omission of the Voyce or Sound. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 301 Other Letters..are quiescent or silent. 1869 ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* I. 570 The final *e* seems to have become silent even in 14. or 13. in the northern parts of the country. 1881 TYLOR *Anthrop.* vii. 179 The now silent letters are relics of sounds which used to be really heard in Anglo-Saxon.

c. Unmentioned, unrecorded; marked by the absence of any record. *rare.*

1616 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 46, I cannot keep silent the singular pietie & bouldnesse of a certaine woeman. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* ii. 28 He was bishop..for ten silent years.

d. (See quot.)

1888 HERON *Church Sub-Apostolic Age* 90 His quotations are what have been called 'Silent', without any mention of the source.

4. Characterized by the absence of sound or noise; quiet, noiseless, still.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 22 Till painefull studie shall out-weare three yeares, No woman may approach his silent Court. 1594 — *Rich. III*, v. iii. 85 The silent houres steale on, And flakie darkenesse breakes within the East. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 14 The nights.. whose length is abundantly able..to stirre up our phantasie by a silent quietnesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 547 Others more milde, Retreated in a silent valley. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) V. 42 The Providence of God acts in a silent and mysterious manner. 1794 COLERIDGE *Tears in Solitude* 1 A green and silent spot, amid the hills, A small and silent dell! 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 16 Three mountain-tops, Three silent pinnacles of aged snow. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* iv. 67 It involved..bark-canoeing on distant and silent lakes.

b. Making, or giving out, no noise or sound.

1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 220 From..this Day.. our Bells are silent throughout the Catholic Church. 1798 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clvi, The Guerrier and Conquérant..continued for a considerable time to fire.. a gun or two, and about 8 o'clock..were totally silent. 1827 POLLOK *Course Time* IX, He went abroad, With foot as silent as the starry dews. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage of Geraint* 321 A piece of turret stair Worn by the feet that now were silent. 1890 *R. Academy Catal.* 52 North Sea fishermen call screw steamers 'Silent Deaths', from their noiseless approach.

5. † **a.** Of the moon: Not shining. *Obs.*

a 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 202 The most easie deliverie..is alwaies in the increas, toward and in the full of the Moon, and the hardest labors in the new and silent Moon. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Daniel* I. xi. (1733) 160 The Jews referred all the time of the silent moon, as they phrased it, that is, of the moon's disappearing, to the old moon.

b. Inactive, quiescent, not operative.

1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* IV. XXX, The proper time for setting them is before they bud, while the rods are silent [L. *dum silent virgæ*]. 1828-32 WEBSTER s.v., A silent partner in a commercial house. 1867 ARGYLL *Reign of Law* i. 34 In many animal frames there are what have been called 'silent members', members which have no reference to the life or use of the animal. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 203 A volcano, after being silent for ages, may suddenly start forth into fresh life. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 643 One of the so-called 'silent' areas of the brain; for lesions in this situation are not infrequently latent, that is unattended with definite localising symptoms.

c. Of distilled spirit: Possessing no flavour.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 405 Well purified or clean spirits, such as the distillers call silent whiskey. *Ibid.* 1255 A little silent spirit of wine being poured in. 1879 *Spon's Encycl. Manuf.* I. 228 The Irish distillers..assert further that the Scotch produce or 'silent spirit' as they agree to term it.. possesses no flavour.

6. *Comb.* **a.** With adverbial force, as *silent-blessing, -falling, -gliding, -marking, -speaking*, etc.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 35 Thou Flood, whose silent-gliding waues, the vnder ground doth beare. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 882 Like silent-working Heaven, surprising oft The lonely heart with unexpected good. 1786 BURNS *Lament* ix, Oft has thy silent-marking glance Observ'd us. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 148 Wherefore flout The silent-blessing fate, warm cloister'd hours? 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcv. 26 On the silence broke The silent-speaking words. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occas.* 157, I will..view Each shrivelling stalk and silent-falling leaf.

b. Parasynthetic, as *silent-footed, -lighted.*

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl. 112 The silent-lighted town. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *My Japanese Wife* 11 A white cat flits ghost-like and silent-footed across the path.

B. *sb.* † **1.** The time of silence. *Obs.*—1

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 19 Deepe Night, darke Night, the silent of the Night.

2. A device by which a clock or alarm may be prevented from striking or acting.

1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 634/1 The three-armed piece *s t u*, which is called the strike or silent. 1871 R. S. CULLEY *Pract. Telegr.* (ed. 5) 228 A switch of this kind attached to an alarum is called a 'silent'.

Sile·ntial, *a. rare.* [Cf. next and -AL.] Accompanied by, connected with, silence.

1709 S. SEWALL *Diary* 6 Nov., Mr. Pemberton..read her Confession immediately, and by the silential vote restored her. 1712 *Ibid.* 2 Apr., What the Church had done in their Nomination, was by a Silential Vote Approved. 1859 J. WILSON *Mem.* IX. 390 From some unknown silential principle..he had declined to reveal the secrets.

Silentiary (səile·nʃări). [ad. late L. *silentiari-us*, f. L. *silentium* silence: see -ARY. So F. *silenciaire.*]

1. One who observes or recommends silence, *esp.* from religious motives.

1611 COTGR., *Silentiaire*, a silenciarie, a patron or patterne of silence. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* v. 4 The word signifieth Be dumb; and hereupon all our Silentiaries have founded their superstitious opinions and practices. 1844 *N. British Rev.* I. 141 A few solitaries, silentiaries, stylites,..from their caves and pillars, pleaded this interposition. 1883 SWINBURNE in *Fortn. Rev.* XXXIV. 513 The Gospel according to St. Coprostom the Silentiary [i.e. Carlyle].

2. An officer of the Byzantine court, whose duty originally was to obtain silence, but who frequently acted as a confidential adviser or agent. Now *Hist.*

Blount *Glossogr.* (1656) has: '*Silentiary*, a Gentleman Usher, who sees good rule and quietness kept'.

a 1677 BARROW *Pope's Supremacy* VI. xvi. (1680) 400 That notable passage in the Synod of Chalcedon; where Bassianus ..saith, Our..Emperor..afterwards sent his rescript by Eustathius the Silentiary. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlii. IV. 263 He had served ten years a silentiary of the Byzantine palace. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 117 Agathias' friend, Paul the Silentiary.., who at the court of Justinian held an..office corresponding to that of Gentleman Usher. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 479 The contemplation of the spectacle raises the Silentiary to his highest key.

b. An official whose duty it is to command silence.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 180 The silentiary, standing by the main pillar of the hall, smote lustily upon it with his rod, to command silence. 1883 SEEBOHM *Eng. Village Comm.* 240 The columns..are sometimes cased in metal, and the silentiary, to call attention, strikes one of them with his staff.

Silentious (səile·nʃəs), *a.* [Cf. late L. *silentiōsus*, It. *silenzioso*, Sp. and Pg. *silencioso*, F. *silencieux.*] Given to silence.

1879 WEBSTER *Suppl., Silentious*, habitually silent; taciturn; reticent. 1895 HOWELLS in *Century Mag.* June 184/1 Those silentious minstrels who grind small, mute organs at the corners of the pavement.

Si·lentish, *a. rare.* [f. SILENT *a.*] Somewhat silent.

1737 OZELL *Rabelais* IV. 175 A small, still, silent (or, if you will, Silentish) Sound.

Si·lently, *adv.* [f. SILENT *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a silent manner; without speaking, in silence; without noise or commotion, noiselessly, quietly; without mention or notice.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 157, I could not silently slip over such impieties. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 206 Tye vp my louers tongue, bring him silently. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 246 The Turkey company in London was at this time..silently enjoying the safety and profit of this trafficke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 130 She..silently a gentle tear let fall. 1730 WATERLAND *Rem. Clarke's Exp. Ch. Catech.* ii, What the compilers recommended chiefly to our faith, he silently passes over. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 419 These ask with painful shyness, and, refus'd Because deserving, silently retire! 1832 LYTTON *E. Aram* I. xi, Ellinor silently made room for her cousin beside herself. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* I. 313 Most of the..congregations had silently discarded the old doctrine of the Trinity.

† **2.** Gradually, imperceptibly. *Obs.*—1

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xiii. 30 It goes by little and little straight forward, and is silently terminated towards the spleen.

Si·lentness. [f. SILENT *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Maintenance of silence; avoidance of speech or utterance; reticence; speechlessness.

a 1623 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* xl. 3 [=xxxix. 2] With stillnesse, or, silentnesse. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Silentness*, silence. 1817 BYRON *Lament of Tasso* V, And if my eyes reveal'd it, they, alas! Were punish'd by the silentness of thine. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* v. iv, I charge thee, by the living's prayer, And the dead's silentness. 1882 MRS. CRAIK *Little Mother* II. 39 Dorcas with her silentness and careworn face.

transf. 1860 FABER *Bethlehem* iii. (1865) 153 There was something in the silentness of His look, which compelled worship.

2. The condition of being silent or still; absence of sound or noise; silence, stillness, noiselessness, quietness. Chiefly *poet.*

1795 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VI. xvii, The moonlight steeped in silentness The steady weathercock. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VIII. 74 Where the shrill chirp of the green lizard's

love Broke on the sultry silentness alone. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 105 The tingling silentness of solemn midnight ..lulled the spirit. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 201 The smooth pavement under the wheels adding with its silentness to the sense of dream wonder in it all.

b. With *a.*

1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* 88 A sound beneath—a silentness above. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 360 In the keen cold air There was a hush, a sleepless silentness.

‖ **Silenus** (səilī·nŭs). Pl. **Sileni** (səilī·nəi). [L. *Sīlēnus*, ad. Gr. Σειληνός: cf. SILEN.]

1. *Gr. Mythol.* The foster-father of Bacchus, and leader of the satyrs; also, a wood-god, a satyr.

1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* xxvii. (1722) 134 Several cruel Dæmons, Satyrs, Sileni and Tityri. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 44 He was a very Silenus to the boys, ..the students of the law, to make them merry whenever they had a mind to it. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Satyr*, The poets usually confound the Satyrs, Sylvans, Sileni, Fauns, and Panes. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn of Pan* 18 The Sileni, and Sylvans, and Fauns, And the Nymphs of the woods and the waves. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* 204 The Satyrs..when old were called Sileni.

2. *Zool.* A species of macaque. Also *attrib.*

1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 117 The Silenus Ape, usually miscalled Wanderoo, is so baboonish that, although it has a long tail, it cannot be placed with the Common Macaque.

† **Si·ler.** *Bot. Obs.* [a. L. *siler*.]

1. With the epithet *mountain*: An umbelliferous plant of the genus *Seseli*.

Given without the distinguishing epithet in Crabb *Technol. Dict.* (1823) and *Treas. Bot.* (1866).

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 73 Seseli massiliense is called in the Poticaries shoppes, siler montanum, it may be called in englishe, siler montayne. 1551 — *Herbal* I. (1568) 4 Dronken with syler mountayne and Frenche spykenarde. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. 621 The Mountain-Siler helpeth Goats to yean. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 236 Some use Siler of the Mountains to procure conception in Mares and Cowes. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 344 Take..Siler mountain, one dram.

2. A species of willow or osier.

The orig. sense of L. *siler*; app. never current in English.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 201 The root of the greater Siler decocted in Goats milk. [1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v.]

† **Siler,** obs. form of CELLAR. Cf. SILLER.

1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 212 My tenementes in the Hye Strete with a grete siler bowndyng next to Cristofer Lurte.

Silery, obs. variant of CILERY.

Silesia (səilī·ʃă). Also 7-8 **Slesia**, 7 **Sleasia.** [The Latinized form of the name of a province in the east of Germany (G. *Schlesien*). See also SLEAZY *a.*]

1. Used *attrib.* with *cloth*, *lawn*, etc. =next.

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Sleasie Holland*, That onely is properly Slesia, or Silesia linnen cloth, which is made in, and comes from the Countrey Silesia in Germany. [1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 28 Being called Sleasie-Lawns, the name Sleasia it takes from a town called Sleasia in Germany.] 1710 WHITWORTH *Acc. Russia* (1758) 82 The Hollanders..bring wines, paper,..brocades, Silesia cloth, and all sorts of gallanteries. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 363, 3 of Silesia Linnen.

b. A fine linen or cotton fabric originally manufactured in Silesia.

1727 W. MATHER *Young Man's Comp.* 411 The Commodities ..exported..are Iron, Copper, Slesias, Sheets, Sayes [etc.]. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 107 Fine printed linens of all sorts, cambricks, Britannias, Silesias, hats, etc. 1769 *Public Advertiser* 14 Nov. 3/3 Buckrams, glazed Linens,..and Quadruple Silesias. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 3 May 2/2, 10 pieces containing 1223 ells of 7-eights fine white Silesia. 1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* I. 213 The principal manufacture of Newburgh is that of Silesias. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 122/2 Some dull-tinted light cloth, as lawn, cambric or silesia.

2. The distinctive name of a variety of lettuce.

In Mills (1763) and Loudon (1824) the form is *Cilicia*.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Lactuca*, The most valuable of all the Sorts of Lettuces in England are the Versailles, the Silesia and Cos. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xv. (1813) 241 The Silesia lettuce is much admired by some, though at present but little cultivated.

Silesian (səilī·ʃăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Silesia. Also in special applications, as *Silesian beet*, *bole*, *cloth*, etc.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 81 In a different character from the Dalmatian, Croatian,..Silesian, and other nations towards the West. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. iii. iii. 348 Silesian Bole..feels as smooth as Castile-Soap. 1707 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* Wks. 1766 III. 271 The Silesian fund..enabled that Prince [Eugene] to make a conquest of Italy. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Terra*, Silesian Earth, in the materia medica, a fine astringent bole. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 243/2 Lettuce (Hardy Hammersmith,..Large White Malta, or White Silesian). 1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) II. 687/2 The second group is represented by the white Silesian beet. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* VI. xxxii. 120 A plan for a direct commerce with America, so as to open a sale for Silesian cloths. 1881 LYELL *Pigeons* 86 The Silesian swallow pigeon..is marked on the head with only a frontal spot.

B. *sb.* A native of Silesia.

1669 J. OWEN *Truth & Innocence Vind.* Wks. 1852 XIII. 418 A Silesian who gave the ensuing account of his faith. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 565/1 The Silesians and Bohemians have corrupted their dialects in the very same manner. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ii. III. 177 Printed ..Proclamation, briefly assuring all Silesians, of whatever rank, condition or religion [etc.].

Silex (sə·ilex). [L. *silex* flint. So F. *silex*.] Flint, silica.

a 1592 GREENE *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 68 The precious stone Silex is full of secret vertue.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Silex*, flint, in natural history, the name of a genus of semi-pellucid stones [etc.]. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 433 Most of the ambiguous stones ..contain, besides portions of calcareous and argillaceous earths, certain portions of the silex also. 1805 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 231 If the stone contain silex, this earth will be separated in the process of solution and evaporation. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Companion* 35 Silex is apparent in the epidermis of Indian corn, wheat, oats, and the hollow grasses. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvi. 271 It would..be a highly fossiliferous limestone with more or less silex.

attrib. 1887 *Daily News* 20 June 2/6 Valuable seams of hematite ore and silex pottery clay. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 36/1 The collection of silex grains that for courtesy we called the road.

Silf, e, obs. forms of SELF.

Silgreen, dial. variant of SENGREEN.

Silhouette (silu,e·t), *sb.* [From the name of Étienne de *Silhouette* (1709-1767), a French author and politician.

According to the usual account, which is that given by Mercier *Tableau de Paris* 147, the name was intended to ridicule the petty economies introduced by Silhouette while holding the office of Controller-general in 1759, but Hatzfeld & Darmesteter take it to refer to his brief tenure of that office. Littré, however, also quotes a statement that Silhouette himself made outline portraits with which he decorated the walls of his château at Bry-sur-Marne.]

1. A portrait obtained by tracing the outline of a profile, head, or figure by means of its shadow or in some other way, and filling in the whole with black; an outline portrait cut out of black paper; a figure or picture drawn or printed in solid black.

Details within the outline are sometimes indicated by white or gold lines. For an account of various methods employed in obtaining such portraits or pictures, see the *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 8.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXVII. 388 At best but the shadow of a shade,..the silhouette of a bust. 1801 FUSELI *Lect. Art* i. 9 Skiagrams, simple outlines of a shade, similar to those which have been introduced to vulgar use by the students and parasites of Physiognomy, under the name of Silhouettes. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* XII. xxix, Whenever they send me their silhouettes, or what do they call them, I chuck them out of the window. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* ii, She had..silhouettes of her father and mother..hung up in the lodgings. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 40 The beauty of silhouettes (pictures printed in solid black) depends upon two things—artistic ability and careful printing.

attrib. 1835 [see *Silhouettist* below]. 1841 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé* ii, A garment..stuck thick With multiplied silhouette profiles of Nick. 1895 *Daily News* 1 May 6/4 The archaic, dry, and silhouette style of the picture.

b. *fig.* A slight verbal sketch or description in outline of a person, etc.

1819 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 3 3 The baron's *silhouette* of the Lady of Copet..was certainly very amusing. 1857 C. BRONTË *Professor* iii, The silhouette I have just thrown off. 1894 J. KNIGHT *Garrick* xvii. 311 Actors..of whom Pepys has given us silhouettes, and Colley Cibber portraits.

2. A dark outline, a shadow in profile, thrown up against a lighter background.

1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xxviii, Entering the gate and passing the shrubs, the silhouette of a house rose to view; black, low, and rather long. 1866 WHITTIER *Snow-Bound* 167 The cat's dark silhouette on the wall. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *A. Quatermain* 186, I saw the black silhouette of the old Zulu raise its arm in mute salute.

3. *En* (or *in*) *silhouette*, in outline, in profile.

1832 J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* (1860) 18 At that hour nature draws her pictures *en silhouette*. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 Feb. 142/2, I shall be presented to you *en silhouette*, all black, and you will be required to recognise the portrait. 1889 *Harper's Weekly* XXXIII. Suppl. 60 This framing of trees, which stand out in silhouette against a bright blue sky.

Silhoue·tte, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To represent in silhouette, to throw up the outline of. Chiefly used in past participle, and const. *against* or *upon*.

1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* I. 137 We guided ourselves ..towards a ghostly point, whose deeper blackness silhouetted it against the shades. 1882 BRET HARTE *Flip* i, A spur of the coast range, which had been sharply silhouetted against the cloudless western sky. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 48, I have seen it silhouetted hard against tornado-clouds.

refl. 1890 S. J. DUNCAN *Social Departure* 311 The great ships silhouetted themselves upon a sky..gloriously blue.

2. *intr.* To show like a silhouette.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 110/2 Their huge crowns silhouetting in clear-cut outlines against the eastern sky.

Hence **Silhoue·tted** *ppl. a.*, **Silhoue·tting** *vbl. sb.* Also **Silhoue·ttist,** a maker of silhouettes.

1835 (*title*), Treatise on Silhouette Likenesses, by Monsieur Edouart, Silhouettist to the French Royal Family. 1888 W. D. LIGHTHALL *Young Seigneur* 97 The delicate silhouetting of the trees along the shore. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* July 748 The photographer..has focussed the silhouettist out of existence. *Ibid.* 752 If silhouetting be allowed to possess an artistic side. 1894 MAX PEMBERTON *Sea Wolves* IV. (1902) 23 The black hulls of innumerable barges and the silhouetted shapes of great steamers.

Silica (si·likă). [f. L. *silic-*, *silex* SILEX. Cf. F. *silice*.] An important mineral substance (the dioxide of silicon), which in the form of quartz enters into the composition of many rocks, and is contained in sponges and certain plants.

1802 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) Suppl. I. 254/1 Silica, when dried, is a soft white powder, without either taste or smell. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 81 Silica and alumina besides being present in almost all vegetable and animal substances. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 202 The water generally holds silica in solution.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 114 A silicaborate of lead, prepared by Professor Faraday. 1870 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* 26 Ehrenberg, on analyzing a shower of fine dust.., found eighteen species of silica-plated animalcules. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 36 Silica-skeletons are obtained most abundantly from epidermal cells and from Diatoms.

Silicate (si·likĕt). [f. prec. + -ATE 4. So F. *silicate*.] A salt produced by the action of silicic acid. Cf. SILICIATE.

1811 *Phil. Trans.* CI. 176 A compound salt, consisting of silicate of alumina, and fluate of alumina. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 36 The cereals require the alkalies and silicates liberated by the lime. 1872 W. S. SYMONDS *Rec. Rocks* i. 12 Amongst the other volcanic minerals the most important are the silicates of alumina, lime, magnesia, potash, and soda.

b. *Comb.*, as silicate board, a board made fireproof by being saturated with silicate; **silicate cotton,** slag-wool; **silicate paint,** 'natural silica, when dried and forming an almost impalpable powder, mixed with colours and oil' (Annandale *Imperial Dict.* 1882).

1881 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 3/4 Some incombustible, non-conducting material—preferably silicate cotton, which is manufactured from blast furnace slag. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 810/1 *Silicate Board*, an incombustible board for roofing.

Silicated (si·likeı·tĕd), *a.* [f. L. *silic-*, *silex*: cf. prec. and F. *silicaté*.] Coated or impregnated with silex or silica.

1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 100 With a larger proportion of alkali,..this earth affords a compound called silicated alkali. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 427 A concentrated solution of silicated potassa. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xiv. 356 The silicated moulds of shells. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 177 Liparites, trachytes, andesites and other highly-silicated eruptive rocks.

Silication (silikē·ı·ʃən). [Cf. prec. and -ATION.] Combination with silica; silicification.

1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* xi. 311 According to the nature of the particular current, its order of silication, [etc.]..changes in the mineral constituents are more or less easy.

So **Silicatiza·tion,** 'the process of combining with silica, so as to change to a silicate'.

1864 WEBSTER, citing DANA. [Cf. F. *silicatisation*.]

[**Silice,** an error for SILICLE.

Webster (1828-32), citing Martyn. The word is misprinted in the second edition (1796) of the *Language of Botany*.]

Sili·ceo-, combining form of SILICEOUS, as in *siliceo-calcareous*, *-felspathic*, *-fluoric*.

1816 *Edin. Rev.* XXVI. 163 Siliceo-calcareous sand. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 78 A permanent acid gas, called the Siliceo-fluoric acid. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. vii. 203 A hard siliceo-felspathic compound.

Siliceous (sili·ʃəs), *a.* [ad. L. *siliceus*, f. *silic-*, *silex* flint: cf. F. *siliceux* and SILICIOUS *a.*] Containing or consisting of silica; of the nature of silica: a. Of mineral substances.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Siliceous*,..of or pertaining to flint, flinty. 1783 WITHERING tr. *Bergman's Mineral.* 59 Siliceous Earth. 1794 SULLIVAN *View of Nature* I. 430 What some call vitrescent earths, others denominate siliceous. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 194 Siliceous sandstone, which is composed of fine quartz or sand, united by a siliceous cement. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* xii. 380 The upper greensand, in some localities,..consists of a sharp siliceous sand. 1879 D. M. WALLACE *Australasia* iv. 71 They consist of..sandy ironstone, or even hard siliceous rock enclosing quartz pebbles.

b. Of plant or animal structures.

1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 57 The siliceous epidermis..protects the bark from the action of insects. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* i. 5 This dust consists..of infusoria with siliceous shields, and of the siliceous tissue of plants. 1868 CARPENTER in *Sci. Opin.* 174/2 Imbedded in this mud there came up an extraordinary collection of siliceous sponges.

Silici- (si·lisi), combining form of SILEX or SILICA, as in *silicicalcareous*, *-fluoric*; *silicicalce*, *-murite*.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 102 Silicicalcareous freestones, which are often porous, and serve for filtering stones. *Ibid.* 144 Magnesia mixed with Silex. Silicimurite. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 202 Contiguous, on the one side to the white chalky stone, and on the other to the silicicalce. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 646 The effects of heating potassium in silici-fluoric gas. 1855 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Chem.* 168 Silici-fluoric acid.

† **Sili·ciate,** obs. var. SILICATE.

1814 J. BLACK tr. *Berzelius' Syst. Mineral.* 29 Silica considered as an acid possesses the property of giving siliciates of many different degrees of saturation...These we shall hereafter call siliciates. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 107 The oxide of iron which remains in the coke forms with the siliciate a slag or scar when the carbon is consumed.

Silicic (sili·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. SILIC-A (or L. *silic-* SILEX) + -IC. Cf. F. *silicique*.] Pertaining to, consisting of, or formed from silica. Chiefly in *silicic acid* (H_4SiO_4).

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 92 It might therefore be distinguished by the name of silicic acid, which would be more systematic than the term silica 1857 MILLER

Elem. Chem., Org. iii. § 3 (1862) 188 Every acid forms at least one ether, and some, such as the silicic and boracic, furnish more than one. 1883 *Science* I. 490/1 The silica was prepared by decomposing silicic fluoride with water.

Silicide (si·lisəid). *Chem.* [f. SILIC-A + -IDE.] A compound of silicon with one other element.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* s.v., Silicide of calcium has a lead-grey colour, metallic lustre, and scaly crystalline structure. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 352/1 Silicious spiegeleisen (or manganese silicide..) is prepared by the ordinary blast furnace methods.

Silicifa·ction. *rare.* = SILICIFICATION.

1881 *Jrnl. Bot.* X. 27 He distinguishes between silicifaction and petrifaction.

Siliciferous (silisi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *silici-, silex* SILEX + -FEROUS. So F. *silicifère.*] Yielding or producing silex or silica.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 101 Siliciferous Marlites.—Of these there are many varieties. 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* 184 It is so much the more siliciferous as it approaches more to granitic mountains. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xii. 372 The siliciferous and calciferous hydrates of iron. 1853 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxvi. 118 It is a siliciferous subsulphate of alumina and potash.

Silicification (silisifikē·ʃən). [f. as prec. + -FICATION. So F. *silicification.*] The process of becoming silicified; conversion into silica.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 214 In some places where silicification is in progress, the sources from whence the mineral matter is derived are as yet unknown. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 444/1 The act of petrifaction being the act of silicification and consequent change of the organic body. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 510 The old wood of plants which are characterised by extensive silicification of almost all their parts.

Silicified (sili·sifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. next + -ED[1]. Cf. F. *silicifié.*] Converted into silica. Chiefly in *silicified wood.*

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 49 The nodules of chalk flint frequently contain the silicified remains of sponge. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 442/1 The silicified and other mineralized bodies. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xv. 279 The silicified trunks of tree-ferns.

Silicify (sili·sifəi), *v.* [Cf. prec. and -FY.]

1. *trans.* To convert into, impregnate with, silica.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 120 The wood and fruit of the cocoa-nut tree..silicified by the waters of some mineral spring. 1849 DANA *Geol.* ix. (1850) 526 Ejections of basalt ..buried the mud,..silicifying the shells, and hardening the rock. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 4 Fossil wood which has been 'silicified' or converted into flint.

2. *intr.* To undergo silicification.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 442/1 The term petrifaction being an absurdity as applied to bodies in the act of silicifying.

Hence **Sili·cifying** *vbl. sb.*

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 70 All the fossils of a rock..are changed to silica (quartz) by a silicifying process.

Silicious (sili·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *silic-, silex* SILEX + -IOUS.] = SILICEOUS *a.*

(*a*) 1721 BAILEY, *Silicious*, Flinty, belonging to Flint. 1801 *Farmer's Magazine* Nov. 389 Argile or pure clay, silicious or sandy earth, and calx, or calcareous substances. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* xii. (ed. 2) 395 By far the greater number of silicious minerals are examples of the kind last alluded to. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 60 The silicious sinter of the Iceland geysers.

(*b*) 1851 RICHARDSON *Geology* iv. 72 Many deposits..are composed of the silicious shields of fossil infusoria. 1859 T. MOORE *Brit. Ferns* (1864) 107 The jointed tubular silicious stems, and terminal cones of fructification. 1896 DK. ARGYLL *Philos. Belief* 104 The silicious sponges, whose skeletons are composed of glass.

† Silicite. *Obs.* [f. L. *silic-* SILEX + -ITE[1] 2 b.] Labradorite, or a variety of this.

1843 T. THOMSON in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. III. XXII. 190 The fourth mineral..I have distinguished by the name of Silicite, from the great resemblance which it has to quartz in its external aspect. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. 193 Glaucolite and Silicite are other varieties [of Labradorite].

† Si·licited, *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *silic-* SILEX.] = SILICATED.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 499 Precipitated from *liquor silicum* (silicited alkali). 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* 283 Hence those that are most silicited, as they contract less, discover less verticality.

Silicium (sili·ʃĭm). [mod.L., f. *silic-* SILEX + -IUM. Named by Sir H. Davy.] = SILICON.

1808 *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 353 Had I been so fortunate as..to have procured the metallic substances I was in search of, I should have proposed for them the names of silicium, alumium, zirconium, and glucium. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 91 It is imagined, however, that Silicium forms an alloy with iron. 1861 SIR W. FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 156 The silicium is first attacked, neither the iron nor carbon being operated upon to any extent while any silicium remains. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 9 The flints within the chalk we know to be a compound of oxygen and silicium, called silica.

Sili·ciuret. *Chem.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *siliciure.*] = SILICIDE.

1827 F. LUNN in *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 662/1 A siliciuret of potassium is obtained, which cannot exist in water. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 9/2 Some of the metals may be combined with silicon: these compounds, which are not important, are termed Siliciurets.

Sili·ciure·tted, *a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Combined or impregnated with silicon.

1857 GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 675 Siliciuretted hydrogen, a remarkable gaseous compound of silicon and hydrogen, is produced when a bar of aluminium containing silicon is connected with the positive pole of a Bunsen's battery. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 149 Siliciuretted Hydrogen is a colourless gas formed by the action of hydrochloric acid upon a compound of magnesium and silicon.

Silicle (si·lik'l). *Bot.* [ad. F. *silicule* or L. *silicula.*] A small short seed-pod.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* ii. (1794) 31 The second [order] contains those [flowers] whose seed-vessel is a silicle, that is, a small and very short pod. 1812 *New Botanic Gard.* I. 46 The silicle is entire, oval, and full of brown seeds. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 257 It will flower and produce abundance of seed, which, when the silicles or pouches become ripe, may be gathered. 1861 MRS. LANKESTER *Wild Flowers* 29 The fruit is a pod... When long, it is called a silique, and, when short, a silicle.

Silico- (si·likō), combining form of SILICA or SILICON: a. With adjs., as *silico-alkaline, -ferruginous, -fluoric, -magnesian, -skeletal, -talcose.*

1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) I. 783/1 Charcoal in excess in a mixture of *silico-alkaline glass, gives a yellow colour. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* i. 4 The vitreous silico-alcaline or glass glazed wares. 1849 DANA *Geol.* viii. (1850) 439 They owe their appearance..to a *silico-ferruginous solution. 1827 F. LUNN in *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 656/1 The compounds of silicon and boron, being also Acids, [should] be called *silico-fluoric and boro-fluoric Acids. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 368 Silicofluoric acid gives a white precipitate with barium salts. 1842 J. B. FRASER *Mesopot. & Assyria* xv. 344 Gray or blueish sandstone, containing red nodules of a *silico-magnesian substance. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 849/2 *Silico-skeletal Radiolaria in which the central capsule is uniformly perforated all over by fine pore-canals. 1849 DANA *Geol.* xvii. (1850) 622 The *silico-talcose rocks..project in jagged points.

b. With nouns, as *silico-aluminate, -borate, -borocalcite, -fluate, -fluoride, -titanate.*

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 266 *Silico-aluminates, -borates. 1868 *Philos. Mag.* Ser. IV. XXXV. 40 The exclusive occurrence of the hard nodules of *silicoborocalcite in anhydrite. 1827 F. LUNN in *Encycl. Metrop.* IV. 656/1 The *silico-fluates of potash, soda, lime, and barytes are formed [etc.]. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1031 A total condensation ensues, and a dry silico-fluate of ammonia results. *Ibid.* 1032 *Silico-fluoride of barium is gradually precipitated when silico-fluoric acid is mixed with chloride of barium. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 147 A compound of this substance with..potassium silico-fluoride. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 263 Mosandrite is a hydrated *silicotitanate.

Silicon (si·likŏn). [f. L. *silic-* SILEX. Named by T. Thomson, in place of Sir H. Davy's SILICIUM.] A non-metallic element, which in respect of its abundance in nature ranks next to oxygen, and is usually found combined with this as *silica*; it may be obtained in the form of powder, scales, or crystals. Chemical symbol Si.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) I. 252 The base of silica has been usually considered as a metal, and called silicium. But..as it bears a close resemblance to boron and carbon, it is better to class it along with these bodies, and to give it the name of silicon. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 3 (1862) 197 When absolute alcohol is gradually added to chloride of silicon, a powerful reaction occurs. 1876 ROUTLEDGE *Disc.* 32 The silicon, most of the carbon, and some of the iron itself are oxidized in this process.

attrib. 1869 ROSCOE *Chem.* 342 Silicon ethyl..is obtained by the action of zinc ethyl on silicon tetrachloride. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 810/1 *Silicon Steel*, a steel in which silicon replaces a part of the usual carbon.

Hence **Si·liconize** *v.*, to combine with silicon.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 351/2 The presence of alkaline silicates in the furnace promotes the siliconizing of the iron.

Silicosis (silikō·sis). *Path.* [f. *silic-* SILEX + -OSIS.] A lung disease induced by inhaling flinty or siliceous particles.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 248 Thus authors have described the results of inhaling siliceous particles as chalicosis or silicosis. 1903 *Nature* 1 Oct. 527/2 The malady is silicosis pure and simple, a dust disease.

‖ **Silicula** (sili·kizŭlă). *Bot.* [L., dim. of SILIQUA.] A short pod containing seed; a silicle.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. iii. (1765) 79 In the first order *Siliculosæ*, the Pericarpium is a *Silicula*, little *Siliqua*. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Siliqua*, The *Silicula* does not differ from this essentially, but only in form and size. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 14 Fruit a siliqua or silicula. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 109 Silicula roundish or oblong, entire or notched. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 138 Compare the long capsule of Wallflower (a siliqua); the short capsule of Shepherd's-purse Capsell (a silicula).

Hence **Sili·cular** *a.*, 'having the shape or appearance of a silicula' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Si·licule. *Bot. rare.* [a. F. *silicule*, ad. L. *silicula.*] = SILICULA.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.*, *Silicula*, a Silicule, Silicle, little Pod or Pouch. 1857 J. G. WOOD *Comm. Obj. Seashore* 33 Its specific title 'siliculosus' is given to it on account of the silicules, or little pod-like bodies, that are found on the branches.

Siliculose (silikiŭlōu·s), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *siliculōs-us*, f. *silicula*: cf. F. *siliculeux.*] Bearing small short pods.

1731 BAILEY vol. II. (ed. 2), *Siliculose*, husky or full of husks. 1759 B. STILLINGFLEET *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 357 Horses are nicer in choosing than any of our cattle; siliquose and siliculose plants particularly are not relished by them. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 320 The *Siliculose* or short-podded order leads the way. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 230 *Siliculose*, bearing a silicle, or a fruit resembling it.

So **Sili·culous** *a.*, 'having silicles or little pods, or pertaining to them' (Webster, 1828–32).

Silicum, variant of SILICIUM.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 364 No compound of silicum and chlorine is known. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 57 A portion of the carbon, and almost the whole of the silicum, is removed from it.

† Silicuret, obs. variant of SILICIURET.

1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 12 The platinum combining with the silicon in the ashes to form a siliceuret of platinum.

Siligineous, *a. rare*—°. [ad. L. *siligineus*, f. *siligin-, silīgo* winter wheat.] 'Belonging to, or made of fine flour' (Blount, ed. 4, 1674). Also **Siliginose** *a.*, 'made of fine Wheat' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727); **Sili·ginous** *a.* (Craig, 1848).

† Si·ling, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Also 5 cyl-, 5–6 sylyng(e; 6 sylinge, *Sc.* syiling, 6–7 syling. [f. SILE *v.*[4] + -ING[1].] = CEILING *vbl. sb.*

1483 *Tintinhull Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 195 It. pro le sylyng ecclesie, ij[s]. ix[d]. It. pro factura le cylyng, xv[s]. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* I. 357 To the kervour that tuk in task the siling of the chapel. 1543 in *Essex Rev.* XV. 42 The chancell is in decay in tymber, tyling and sylynge. 1589 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 207 All the sylinge and wainescott in the hall and parlor. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 612 The olde syling that was once fast joyned together with nailes will begin to cling. *Ibid.*, The stars which are like golden nailes into the syling of the world.

attrib. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxiii. 6 They cutt downe all the sylinge worke of y[e] Sanctuary. 1565 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 179 Plew tymbre and sylinge bourds, with other hustlements.

Si·ling-dish. *dial. rare.* [f. *siling* SILE *v.*[2]] A strainer for milk.

1573 BARET *Alvearie*, A Siling dish, *vide* Colander and Strainer. 1578 in *Linc. N. & Q.* (1889) I. 232 In the Mylke House:..Item a sileing dishe. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Siling dish*, a dish for the purpose of straining milk.

‖ **Siliqua** (si·likwă). [L., a pod.]

† **1.** The carob-tree. (Cf. SILIQUE 1.) *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 978 Now..is to renewe The siliqua in plaunte & seedes trewe.

2. *Bot.* A long pod-like seed-vessel.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Siliqua*, in Botany, is the Seed-vessel, Husk, Cod, or Pod, of such Plants as are of the Leguminous kind. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. vi. (1765) 13 *Siliqua*, a Pod, is a Pericarpium of two Valves, wherein the Seeds are fastened along both the Sutures or Joinings of the Valves. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v., The proper *Siliqua* is two-celled, having a partition running the whole length of it. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 268 The wallflower seed-vessel is a Siliqua. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 138 Compare the long capsule of Wallflower (a siliqua);.. the siliqua of Radish.

3. *Anat.* A formation suggesting a husk or pod.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence **Siliqua·ceous** *a.*, of the nature of, suggestive of, a siliqua.

1744 *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 97 A siliquaceous Aperture, with a Row of Seeds ready to fall through it.

Siliquæform: see SILIQUIFORM.

† Siliquastre. *Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *siliquastrum* (which in class.L. means pepperwort), f. L. *siliqua* pod.] (See quots.)

1708 in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 *Punctularia*, the Punctulary, Sope stone, or Porous Marble Siliquastre. *Ibid.*, *Siliquastrum*, the Shale, or Siliquastre: An Ichthyodont, resembling leguminous Husks.

Silique (silī·k). *Bot.* Also 5 **selyque.** [a. F. *silique*, or ad. L. *siliqua* pod.]

† **1.** = SILIQUA 1. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 312 The serue and medlar & selyque [*v.r.* Silique] tre.

2. = SILIQUA 2.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* II. (1794) 30 When it is ripe, it becomes a kind of flat pod, called *silique*. 1806 J. GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 242 Silique covered with roughish tubercles. 1864 *Reader* 30 Apr. 559 Iodanthus..and Thelypodium.. have terete and torulose siliques. 1872 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* (ed. 6) vii. 174 The flowers..in the upper part of the spike [bear] lanceolate, two-valved, and two-seeded siliques.

Siliqui·ferous, *a. Bot.* [f. L. *siliqua*: see -FEROUS.] Pod-bearing.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 619 A siliquiferous Tree, with the Leaves of Beech. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 32, I told him that this tree of Jamaica had a papilionaceous flower, and was siliquiferous.

Sili·quiform, *a. Bot.* [f. as prec.: see -FORM. So F. *siliquiforme.*] Having the form of a silique.

1847 in WEBSTER, citing SMITH. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 320 When a fruit possesses the general structure of the siliqua,..it has been named a *Ceratium* or a siliquiform [1887 siliquæform] capsule.

Siliquose (silikwōu·s), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *siliquōs-us*, f. L. *siliqua*: cf. F. *siliqueux* (1549).]

1. *Bot.* Bearing pods or siliques.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 687 In this Sixth Volume we have describ'd and figur'd 61 Trees and Shrubs, the greatest part whereof are Siliquose. 1712 *Ibid.* XXVII. 425 This is not a Siliquose Tree. 1759 [see SILICULOSE]. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 247 A free use of the siliquose and coniferous plants as a part of the common diet. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. iii. § 13 This is manifest in siliquose plants and in palms. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 231 *Siliquose*, bearing siliques or pods which resemble siliques.

2. Having the form of a silique: a. In *Bot.*

1822 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 83 Capsule siliquose, stipitate. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 235 Fruit capsular or succulent; the former siliquose and 2-valved. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 255 The fertile..[fronds are] divided into linear somewhat siliquose segments.

Comb. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 9 The siliquose-fruited genera, such as Glaucium and Eschscholtzia.

b. *Path.* (See quots.)

1825 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 2) III. 85 Under this variety [of small-pox] was reckoned by the best writers the siliquose, or that which consists of soft and empty vesicles. *a* 1827 *Ibid.* (1829) IV. 234 Schmidt supposed that, in infants, the siliquose cataract might be caused by convulsions.

Siliquous, *a. Bot.* Now *rare.* = SILIQUOSE 1.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 5. 96 Herbs..considered according to their Seed-vessels, may be distinguished into.. Siliquous; containing their seeds in long pods. *Ibid.* 100 Siliquous Herbs not Papilionaceous. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 117/2 Siliquous seed [are] such as are born in husks, cods, or shells. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Siliquous,* having Seed-Vessels, Husk, Pod, or Shell. 1895 H. CALLAN *From Clyde to Jordan* xviii. 188 Siliquous vegetables like double peas.

Silk (silk), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 sioloc, seoloc, seoluc, seolc, 3 seolk (solk), 4 seolke; 3 selc, 4–5 selk(e. *β.* 4 silc, 4- silk (6 silck), 4–7 silke; 4–5 sylk(e, 5 cylk(e, 6 sylcke. [OE. *sioloc, seoloc,* etc. (for earlier **siluc*) masc., varying in form and gender from ON. and Icel. *silki* neut. (Norw., Sw., and Da. *silke*); not found in the other Germanic languages, but represented also by OSlav. *sheliků* (Russ. шёлкъ *shelk'*). The ultimate source is commonly supposed to be L. *sēricus* or Gr. σηρικός silken, f. L. *Sēres,* Gr. Σῆρες, the oriental people (perhaps the Chinese) from whom silk was first obtained. The change of *r* to *l* may have taken place in some language through which the word passed into Slavonic use and thence into the early Baltic trade.]

I. 1. The strong, soft, lustrous fibre produced by the larvæ of certain bombycine moths which feed upon mulberry leaves, etc., and by certain spiders; silken thread or filament.

Virginian silk (a plant-name): see VIRGINIAN.

c 888 [implied in SILKEN *a.* 1]. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* viii. 24 Næs þa scealca nan þe..cuðe .. heora wæda .. sioloce siowian. *c*1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 56 Seowa mid seolce fæste. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 790 Royl rollande fax to raw sylk lyke. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 33 Arbaces fond hym spynnynge reed selk at þe distaf. 1463–4 [see RAW *a.* 2 a]. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 35/1 They spynne lyke the wormes yat the sylke spynneth. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xix. 9 Soch as laboure vpon flax & sylcke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 124 The Seres, famous for the fine silk that their woods do yeeld. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 716 Spinning Worms, That in their green shops weave the smooth-hair'd silk. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5010/4 China Raw and Thrown Silk and Sleeve Silk. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 52 After some months feeding, they lay, upon every leaf, small bundles, or cones of silk. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 234 The matter of the silk is liquid in the body of the worm, but it hardens in the air. *Ibid.* 235 The silk of a cocoon weighs two and a half grains. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlewk.* 459/1 That part of ravelled silk thrown on one side in the filature of the cocoons.

transf. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 694 They bowel them, and fill their bodies with sugar, and silk of wooll.

b. In the phr. *of silk,* denoting the substance of which a garment, etc., is composed; freq. passing into sense 2.

c 1205 LAY. 22764 Cladeș soften al of white seolke. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 4549 Of solke was þat seil-cloþ. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 551 Bauderik of sylke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 84 þer houeþ an Hundret In Houues of selk. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 87 Wele arraid with clathez of gold and of silke. 1451 CAPGR. *Life St. Gilbert* xxxviii. 117 þe seide relikes were wounde..in a cloth of silk precious I-now. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* ii. 19 His mother also made him a litle cote of sylke. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 60 Our sutes of Silke. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 69 Her Bedchamber..was hang'd With Tapistry of Silke. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 169 Boradoes of silk. 1842 TENNYSON *Launcelot & Guinevere* 24 A gown of grass-green silk she wore.

c. In comparisons, esp. *soft as silk.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Body ant brest wel mad al,..Eyther side soft ase sylk. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 605 Theigh thou..straw her cage faire and soft as silk. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3993 Cassandra..was a Clene Maydon, Semely of a Sise, as the silke white. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 126 My bloode ys nessher than ys sylke. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 96 Soft and soupill as the silk. *a* 1732 GAY *New Song of New Similies* v. Plump as a Partridge was I known, And Soft as Silk my Skin.

d. A silken thread.

1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exper.* 67 We took..the bladder out of another Fish, and tyed the two Ends with a Silk. 1891 *Penny Postage Jubilee* iv. 69 Three red and two blue silk threads run parallel across the Mulready cover, the two 'silks' appearing under the design.

2. The cloth or textile fabric woven or made from this.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 174 Xyf man mæte ðæt he seoluc oððe godweb hæbbe. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 23 in *O.E. Misc.* 91 For seolk, ne for cendal, ne for deore wedes. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 392 With clene linnene cloth..And noþer in pal ne in seolke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 19 And 3e, loueli Ladies.., þat habbeþ selk, and sendel souweþ.. Chesybles for Chapeleyns. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2401 þat Iowell..was full sekirly & soft all in silke falden. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1220/1 It maketh vs.. gooe much more gay and glorious in sight, garnyshed in sylke. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 75 They.. affirmed, it was vnlawfull to weare silke. 1650 HOWELL *Lett.* III. 33 Cloth is the more substantiall..; But silk is more smooth and slik. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 35 Their Boots, which they make either of Silk, or of Horse-skin. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4472/4 At the Marine Coffee-house..will be expos'd to Sale..92 Chests China Silk,..3 Bales of super-fine Piedmont Silk. 1760 GOLDSM. *Cit. World* lxxvii, I was this morning to buy silk for a night-cap. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 1029 Silk had..been used by persons of distinction two centuries previously. 1908 *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 276 This lady wore grey silk.

fig. c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 33 Ne wynd þou naut þy senne ine selke. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 90 The beauty of that [goat] which Nature clothes with silk on the rocks of Angora. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. iii, He who has little silver in his pouch must have the more silk on his tongue.

b. Used allusively to indicate the rank of a King's (or Queen's) Counsel, marked by the right to wear a silk gown, esp. in the phrases to *receive, obtain,* or *take silk.* Also collectively, denoting the persons wearing such gowns. (Cf. 3 d.)

1810 BENTHAM *Art of Packing* (1821) 49 Our solicitor has heard with due attention the speeches delivered from learned silk. 1882 *Daily News* 25 May 2/5 He received silk in 1868. 1882 *Society* 4 Nov. 20/1 Ere long he 'spoiled silk' (as the saying is), and was made a Serjeant. 1897 *Standard* 16 Oct. 3/4 [He] soon obtained great distinction .., which increased on his taking silk.

c. As the material of a jockey's jacket.

1891 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 2/5 A capital start was made with the Snow Steeplechase for which seven sported silk.

3. With *a* and pl. A particular make of silk cloth or fabric.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 94 Fyne clothys, says and sylkys. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 672 Sondry riche merchaundises, as cloth of Gold, Siluer, Veluet, Satten, and other silkes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 399 Our silkes haue the name of this Region, where it is made of a most fine wooll. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 238 Chinese silks coming almost directly to Acapulco. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, She passed whole days in embroidering silks. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 693 One among his gentlewomen Display'd a splendid silk of foreign loom. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VIII. ii, An eccentric dress of Japanese silks.

b. *pl.* Garments made of silk; silk stockings.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 68 My self suld be full semlie with silkis arrayit. 1602 *How to Choose a Good Wife from a Bad* IV. iii, A huffing wench..whose ruffling silks Make with their motion music unto love. 1691– [see RUSTLE *v.* 2 b]. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. French King* Wks. 1730 I. 60 My spouse, alas! must flaunt in silks no more. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 941 As she sweeps him with her whistling silks. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXI, A very dusty skeleton in a blue coat, black knee-shorts, and silks.

c. A lady's silk dress.

1861 TROLLOPE *Tales Countries* 211 The black silk was not long,..nor wide in its skirts. 1897 SARAH GRAND *Beth Bk.* XXXIX, She had never worn her white silk trimmed with myrtle.

d. A King's (or Queen's) Counsel; a 'silk gown'. (Cf. 2 b.)

1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Feb. 5/1 The retainer of some eighteen 'silks' and at least as many junior counsel. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 120 Jervis, afterwards Justice of Chester, was the senior silk.

4. *U.S.* The silk-like filiform styles of the female flower of unripe maize.

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.,* etc. (1821) II. 403 Their favourite food is clover and maize. Of the latter they devour the part which is called the silk, the immediate means of fecundating the ear. 1894 *Century Mag.* Apr. 850 The pistillate flower of the maize..was appropriately called the 'silk'.

5. *elliptical.* **a.** A silk snapper. (See sense 10 and cf. SILT *sb.* 3 and 4.)

a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 104 Of the Sea Fish which I have hitherto met with, the Deep-water Silk appears to me the best.

b. A silk-covered cylinder in a flour-dressing machine.

1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 345/1 These [cylinders] are mounted horizontally on a spindle for revolving, and externally they are covered with silk of different degrees of fineness, whence they are called 'silks' or silk dressers.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

6. Attrib., passing into *adj.* **a.** Made of silk or silken material; silken.

a 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4430 þat riche ring..with a red silk prede þe quen bond..a-boute þe wolwes necke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 276 Schal no seriaunt for þat seruise were a selk houue. 1546–7 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 252 My best silke hat. 1551 in Strype *Mem. Ref.* (1721) III. 116 No man under the degree of a gentleman to wear any silk points. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 272 [They] pay no Custome..for any silke ware. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* IX. 1 The roomes within it were divided by Silk curtains. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 350 Pure Silk-Stuff was valued at the like Weight of Gold. 1741 *Corr. betw. C'tess Hartford & C'tess Pomfret* (1805) III. 216 With a black silk snail-string about their necks. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 395 The silk-yarn employed by the weavers. 1866 *Cornhill Mag.* May 558 Cecilia sits down to the jangling instrument, with the worn silk flutings. 1893 'J. O. HOBBES' *Study in Temptations* 138 She had also designed a black silk dolman for her Aunt Caroline.

Prov. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Luggs,* Ye can ne make a Silk-Purse of a Sowe's Luggs, a Scotch Proverb. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 174 Who can make a silk purse of a sow's ear? 1812 SCOTT 16 July in *Lockhart* (1869) III. xxiv. 401, I am labouring here to contradict an old proverb, and make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

Comb. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Zijde-laechen-verkooper,* a Silke-cloath-seller. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 60/2 *Acacia Julibrissin,* silk-tassel acacia. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 31 Silk button galls. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 287 Products of the silk-ribbon loom were exhibited. 1895 *Daily's Mag.* May 336/2 A regular silk jacket affair, with 'open' races, and an 'open' ditch.

b. With names of special fabrics, as *silk camlet, canvas, damask, drugget,* etc.

1530 PALSGR. 270/1 Sylke chamlet, *camelot de soye.* 1548 in Strype *Mem. Ref.* (1721) II. 208 A counterpoint of silk-say. 1611 COTGR., *Burat,* silke-rash; or any kind of stuffe thats halfe silke, and halfe worsted. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Monodia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 330/1 Embroidered gowns Of grass-green silk-shag. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* xix, Fine English broad-cloths, silk, silk-druggets. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 673, I have also excited a very considerable electrical force on strong silk velvet. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Silk-plush,* a material used for articles of ladies' dress; also very extensively for covering the stuff bodies of men's hats. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlewk.* 449/2 Silk Canvas or Berlin .. is of a very even and delicate make. *Ibid.,* Silk Damask is now superseded as a dress material.

Comb. 1594 *Canterbury Marriage Licences* (MS.), Jacobus Denewe.., Canterbury, silkrashweaver. 1597 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 229 My silke rash gowne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 410 The silk-russet grape Ravuscula, the asse-hued grape Asinisca, please not the eie. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 457 This thick liquid is passed..through fine hair and silk lawn sieves. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Silk-gauze manufacturer,* a gauze-weaver.

c. Of persons: Clad in silk. *rare.*

1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* (Shaks. Soc.) 19 Those changeable silk gallants, who..read no books but a looking-glass. 1624 PURCHAS *Verses in Capt. Smith's Virginia,* Fetters are forged For Silke-sotts, Milk-sops.

d. Resembling silk in lustre; silky.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 46 'Tis not..your blacke silke haire..That can entame my spirits.

7. Attrib. **a.** With terms referring to the structure, operations, or produce of the silkworms, as *silk-bag,* † *-bottom, -cavity, -cod, -gland,* etc.

1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 467 A superabundance of the gum which fills its *silk-bags. 1822 BONOEIL *Art of Making Silke* 72 [They] are bigger bodied, and make larger *silke-bottomes. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 11 They..fill the *silk cavities. 1820 *Observ. Silkwormes* D j, *Silke coddes, two shillings sixepence the pound. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 81 The disappearance of the *silk-glands during the pupa stage. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 14 The *silk organ itself was charged with corpuscles. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 54 This new species of *silk-pod. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xl. 112 There are a pair of *silk reservoirs (*sericteria*). *Ibid.* xli. 122 In general, the outlet of the *silk-secretors is at the mouth. 1822 BONOEIL *Art of Making Silke* 70 They make of one ounce of Spanish *silke-seede, eight, nine and tenne pound of silke. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 973/2 In the larva they [the salivary glands] constitute the *silk vessels.

b. With terms relating to the production, manufacture, or commercial handling of silk, as *silk-commodity, country, culture, district,* etc.

1822 BONOEIL *Art of Making Silke* 71 Their clymate is nothing so proper for this *silke-commodity as Virginia is. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silks,* Ardebil, another City of Persia, not far distant from these *Silk Countries. 1858 *Homans' Cycl. Commerce* 1721/2 The *silk culture was introduced into Louisiana in 1718. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 262 Throughout the *silk district of France. 1777 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 462 The smaller end of that part of a *silk engine called a star. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 269 Bobbin Mechanism of the Silk Engine. *Ibid.* 474 The *silk factories throughout the kingdom make little or no demand on muscular effort. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 487/1 The *silk-loom has been much improved lately. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 300 A company was formed..and some silk-looms were imported. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 276 The portion of the *silk-machinery which contains the swifts. 1703 *Sc. Acts, Anne* (1824) XI. 50/1 The managers of the woollen and *silk manufactories. 1701 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 98 Then we saw their *Silk Manufacture. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 399 The silk manufacture now may be compared with what the cotton manufacture was about thirty years ago. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Mill,* There are also *Silk-Mills, for spinning, throwing, and twisting Silks. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 266 When these mechanicians took the silk-mill in hand. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 393 In Piedmont..the manufacture is carried on by aid of the *silk reel. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3918/4 Enquire..of Mr. Kimpson at the Castle, a *Silk-shop. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The *Silk Trade is the Principal in China. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 246 The silk trade of Great Britain..may be valued at 7,000,000 *l.* sterling.

8. Objective: **a.** With agent-nouns, as *silk-breeder, -carder, -doubler, -dresser, -maker, -manufacturer, -mercer,* etc.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 26 June 10 The *silk-breeders of France are..in a position of the greatest distress. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Carding, which was perform'd by the common *Silk-Carders. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II,* c. 15 § 6 Every such Silk-winder and *Doubler. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 Ann Brown, late of Wapping Stepney, Silk-Doubler. 1771 *Burrow's Rep.* III. 1346 In their said Trade and Business of *Silk-Dressers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Silk-dresser,* a stiffener and smoother of silk. 1858 *Homans' Cycl. Commerce* 1719/2 This filament the *silk growers..unwind by various ingenious means. 1636 DAVENANT *Wits* Wks. (1673) 212 Twill make 'em sing, like *Silk-Knitters of Cocklane. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* II. 66 They..ripen Food For the *Silk-Labourers of the Mulberry Wood. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 692 *Hec sereatrix,* a *silkmaker. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 717/2 The various plans which ..our *silk manufacturers have introduced into their mills. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Gay,* [Gay] was sent to London..and placed apprentice with a *silk-mercer. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin Durw.* vi, The house of..Maître Pierre, the great *silk-merchant. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade,* **Silk printer,* a stamper of silk. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* VI. 186 The

*silk-reelers of Italy transfer the silk to a..reel, as they draw it from the cocoons. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. 233/2 There were several..*Silk-Twisters, Foreigners, .. living [*c* 1560] in St. Marten's Liberty. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 54/2 The Pundraca and Pattasutracára, or feeder of silk-worms and silk-twisters, deserve notice. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Silk-waterer*, one who clouds, waves, or waters silk, by passing two pieces..between metallic rollers.

b. With vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs., as *silk-bearing, -emitting, -growing, -reeling*, etc.

Also in names of machines, as *silk-doubling, -sizing, -softening, -sorting machine*: see Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875) and Suppl. (1884) s.v.

1872 Duncan tr. *Figuier's Insect World* iv. 221 The double *silk-bearing gland. 1729 Savage *Wanderer* v. 217 The leaf the *silk-emitting reptile feeds. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 60/2 The ailanthus silkworm..now spread through many *silk-growing regions. 1579 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 152/2 The offer and contracting anent the art of *silk-making. 1858 *Homans' Cycl. Commerce* 1719/2 These being the chief *silk-producing countries. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 314 The *Bombycidæ*, or spinners, including the silk producing moths. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* June 47 *Silk reeling is one of the industries [of Kansas]. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* vi. 173 A subdivision is sometimes made between a 'silk-throwing mill' and a '*silk-spinning mill'; the former being for the manufacture from..perfect raw silk, and the latter from..inferior silk. 1677 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 354 Yesterday a Committee was appointed to consider how to encourage the *Silk-weaving in England. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 264 There has been a constant depreciation of the wages of silk weaving in France, from the year 1810. 1611 Florio, *Indouanadura*, a *silke-winding. 1841 Browning *Pippa* Introd. 71 The next twelve-month's toil At wearisome silk-winding, coil on coil!

9. Instrumental, etc., as *silk-broidered, -covered, -hosed, -jacketed*, etc.

1753 West *Odes Pindar*, etc. I. 234 And to thy Tomb, as Off'rings, shall be brought *Silk-broider'd Mantles. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 367 They are all coated with coils of *silk-covered wire. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxvii, No *silk-hosed reveller of the presence-chamber. 1876 'Ouida' *Winter City* xii. 369 Postillions, *silk-jacketted .., and with ribboned straw hats. 1820 Keats *Lamia* II. 220 Each..*silk-pillow'd at his ease. 1857 G. W. Thornbury *Songs Cavaliers & Roundheads* 306 The *silk-robed men with peacock plumes. 1884 Browning *Ferishtah Fancies* (1885) 8 Inside—gold-roofed *silk-walled silence round about! 1639 G. Daniel *Vervic* 679 Noe *silke-wrapt wantons here..Shall graspe Luxurious Edward.

10. Special combs.: **silk-coal**, a variety of coal found in Shropshire; **silk-glue**, sericin; **silk gown**, = sense 3 d; **silk green**, a colour-substance used in paper making; **silk-gut**, the gut in the silkworm from which the silk is produced; **silk hat**, a cylindrical hat having a light stiff body covered with silk plush or shag; †**silk-maid**, a maid employed to make silk articles of dress; **silk paper**, a kind of tissue-paper; **silk-shag** (see quot.); **silk snapper**, a Bermudan fish (see quot. and sense 5 a, and cf. *silt-snapper*); †**silk snatcher** (see quot.).

1803 Plymley *Agric. Shropsh.* 55 Coal, called the *silk-coal. 1886 tr. *Benedikt's Chem. Coal-tar Colours* 39 Both fibroine and sericine (*silk-glue) consist of carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen and oxygen. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Tales* v, 'I presume you have studied for the bar?'..'No..'. 'But you have been much among the *silk gowns?' 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 58 *Silk green is a chemically pure colouring matter, producing beautiful shades of green. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1115 The rest of the entrails resembles boiled spinage, and therefore can occasion no mistake as to the *silk-gut. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 760/2 The *silk hat, with a body of felt and a nap of silk plush. 1893 Georgiana Hill *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 253 The tall silk hat, introduced from France about 1840. 1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 118 My *sylkemayde whyche makyth perte off suche as she shall weer. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 345 Thin as *silk paper. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 375 There were formerly manufactures of silk-paper in this town [Samarcand]. 1883 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 210 Young herring in Northumberland..are likewise termed *silk-shag. 1876 Goode *Fishes of Bermudas* 55 The Schoolmaster Snapper and *Silk Snapper of the fishermen probably belong to this genus [*Lutjanus aya*, family *Pristipomatidæ*]. 1884 *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* VII. (1885) 454 Some young 'Silk Snappers' brought by Mr. Gilbert from Aspinwall. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Silk snatchers*, thieves who snatch hoods or bonnets from persons walking in the streets.

b. *Bot.* In the names of trees, shrubs, or plants, as **silk-maudlin, -oak, -tree, -wood, -wort**: (see quots.).

1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 419 Stoll's Cape *Silk-Maudlin [is]..an ever-green Shrub, with deep dented Leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 551/2 Lofty trees..with a girth of eight feet, as in *Grevillea robusta*, the *Silk Oak of the colonists. [*Ibid.* 798/2 Silky, or Silkbark Oak.] 1852 Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 5/1 *Acacia julibrissia* (*silk-tree). 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 201 The silk tree (*Albizzia julibrissin*) is a low-headed spreading-tree, possessed of the most graceful foliage. 1880 Bessey *Botany* 547 Some East and West Indian trees of the genus *Bombax*..are known as Silk Trees. 1775 G. White *Selborne* lxviii, Stalks of the *polytrichum commune*, or great golden maiden-hair, which they [*sc.* foresters] call *silk-wood. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Silkwood*, a shrub, *Muntingia Calabura*. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 617 One [water-weed] known locally as network or *silkwort, on account of its thread-like stems.

c. *Ent.* In the names of various silk-producing insects: †**silk-fly**, the silkworm moth; **silk insect, moth** (see quots.); **silk-spider**, one or other of various species of silk-spinning spiders.

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 26 *Silke-flies I meane, which not on breast alone But all throughout .. Besides pure white, else colour carry none. 1798 Cruttwell *Univ. Gazetteer* (1808) s.v. *China*, The *silk insects, which are different from silk-worms, resemble caterpillars. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxx. 220 *Attacus Paphia*, a giant *silk-moth. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* II. x. (1890) 278 The male and female cocoons of the silk-moth (*Bombyx mori*). 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk*, The *Silk-Spider make[s] a Silk, every whit as beautiful..as the Silk-worm. 1866 *Athenæum* No. 2019. 26/1 A species of silk-spider.

d. *Ornith.* In the names of birds or fowls: **silk-bunting**, *U.S.*, one or other of the buntings of the genus *Spiza*, esp. *S. americana*; **silk cock**, a species of domestic fowl, esp. *Phasianus gallus* or *Gallus lanatus*, native to eastern Asia; **silk fowl**, a silk-cock or -hen; (see also quot. 1835–6); **silk-hen**, the female of the silk-cock; † **silk stare**, = next; **silk starling**, a species of starling (*Sturnus sericeus*), native to China.

1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 387 *Spiza*, *Silk Buntings. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 708 *Silk Cock, *Phasianus gallus*. 1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 222 The Silk Cock..is of a pure white. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 270/1 The *Silk or Negro-fowl of the Cape de Verd Islands (*Gallus Morio*, Temminck). 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 645/2 The silk fowl best known is that in which the plumage is perfectly white. 1868 Darwin *Variation Anim. & Pl.* xiv, I reared a large number of mongrels from a *silk-hen by a Spanish cock. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 27 Nov. 5/2 In Germany the silk hen is frequently remarkable for the length of her spurs. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. I. 10 *Silk Stare. Size of a Starling... The plumage in general glossy and silky. 1817 Stephens in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. II. 497 *Silk starling.

Silk, var. *swilk*, obs. form of Such.

Silk-cotton. [f. Silk *sb.* + Cotton *sb.*[1]]

1. The silky, elastic down or fibre obtained from various bombaceous and other tropical trees, and chiefly used for packing, stuffing pillows and cushions, making paper, etc.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1698) I. vii. 164 They [white cotton-trees] bear a very fine sort of Cotton, called Silk Cotton,.. like the Down of Thistles. 1703 *Ibid.* III. i. 21 The Silk-Cotton grows on tender Shrubs, 3 or 4 Foot high, in Cods as big as an Apple. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxiv. (1794) 340 You have here Silk-Cotton, the True Cotton, so much used in our manufactures [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1009/2 The silk-cotton of the Simool..is, like other silk-cottons, not adapted for spinning. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlewk.* 449/2 The Silk Cotton is enclosed within the capsules containing the seed, which is embedded in it.

attrib. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* 246 *Sterculiaceæ*. The Silk-Cotton Order. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 155/1 *Bombaceæ*, the Silk-cotton family, a group..belonging to Lindley's Malval alliance.

2. *Silk-cotton tree*, one or other of various species of tropical trees belonging to the genera *Bombax, Eriodendron, Ochroma*, and *Pachira*, which produce silk-cotton, esp. *B. malabaricum, Munguba*, or *Ceiba*, and *E. anfractuosum* or *orientale*. Cf. Cotton-tree 1.

1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 117 We found here some Guinea Pepper, and silk Cotton-Trees. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 168 This insect is most probably to be found in all countries where the silk-cotton-tree (*Bombax*) is indigenous. 1852 Th. Ross tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. iv. 148 A silk-cotton tree.., the trunk of which, in its fourth year, had reached nearly two feet and a half in diameter. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 99 Herds of cattle grazed beneath the shade of huge silk-cotton trees.

Silk-dyer. One who dyes silks.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 10 Table makers, sylke dyers, and shepsters. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 33 The Wardens of the Company of sylke dyers to sende hether 4 sylke dyers. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4535/4 Mr. James Taylor, a Silk Dyer. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 125 The silk-dyers keep a black vat, and its very complex composition varies in different dye-houses.

Silke, var. *swilk*, obs. form of Such.

Silked (silkt), *a.* [-ed [1].] Coated with silk

1844 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 2) 246 Twenty-two feet of silked wire wound on a quill. 1858 J. P. Joule *Sci. Papers* (1884) 405, 2798 yards of no. 40 silked copper wire.

Silken (si·lk'n), *a.* Forms: *α.* 1 **seolocen** (2 **-ken**), **seolcen** (**siolcen**), 3 **seolken**(**e**; 2 **seleken**, 4 **selkyn**, 5 **selken**. *β.* 3 **sulkene**, 4 **silkine**, 5 **-in, -yn**, 6 **sylken, -yn**, 4 **silken**. [f. Silk *sb.* + **-en** [4].]

I. 1. Made or consisting of silk.

α. c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xv, Seolocenra hrægla mid mistlicum bleowum hi ne gimdon. 9.. *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 195 *Bombicinum*, seolcen ȝezerla. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 28 Hyo..scrydden hine mid selekene reade sicchele [*read* scyccelse]. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 164 in *O. E. Misc.* 77 Heo drawep heore wede Mid seolkene þrede. 13.. [see *β*]. *α* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 197 Nou is Susan..sengeliche arayed, In a selken schert. 1475–6 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (Swayne, 1896) 362, iiij vnce j quarter of selken frenge, v s. ij d.

β. c 1205 Lay. 4549 Sulkene wes þat seil-clæð. 13.. *K. Alis.* 278 (Laud MS.), Yhiled myd a silken [*W.* selkyn] webbe. *α* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1520 He..sammes paim on aithire side with silken rapis. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 142 A silken threde so small that no man myght see hit. 1553 Eden *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 18 A silken fyllet of scarlet colour tied about their heddes. 1594 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. i. 13 Like a silken veile in compasse round About her backe. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 13 They would not suffer a man to were a Ring, or a woman a silken gown. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VI. 95 The silken reins Shine in her hand. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxii. (1787) II. 343 Their silken robes were embroidered with gold. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 63 The caterpillar attached itself to a leaf by a silken girth. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xix, Merry laughs were heard through the silken curtains.

fig. 1673 Dryden *Mar. à la Mode* II. i, Tho' nature gives you power To bind his Duty, 'tis with silken bonds. 1746 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 32 How silken the yoke to such a pair, and what blessings were twisted with such bands! 1799 Sickelmore *Agnes & Leonora* II. 68 He became firmly attached, in the silken bond of friendship, to a youth.

2. Worked in silk. *rare.*

1587 Fleming *Cont. Holinshed* III. 1346/2 Those silken pictures hallowed by the pope. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 17 Oft did she heaue her Napkin to her eyne, Which on it had conceited charecters: Laundring the silken figures in the brine [etc.].

3. Producing silk; characterized by the prevalence of silk.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 407 Insomuch as we need not wonder any more at the Seres or Indians for their cotton and silken trees. 1820 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* xxi, The maiden's chamber, silken, hush'd and chaste. *Ibid.* xxx, Spiced dainties, every one, From silken Samarcand.

4. Clad in silk. (See also 8.)

1640 Chilmead *Ferrand's Love Melanch.* 51 Every silken coxcombe that has but a Page at his heels. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* VII. cxxxv, All Inns by Silken and by Purple Things Were taken up. 1738 Johnson *London* 164 With brisker air the silken courtiers gaze. 1806 Mant *Poems* I. 17 And distant in the glittering sunshine ride The silken sons of luxury and pride. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xx, Her four noble Marys and all their silken train. 1896 *Daily News* 2 July 9/2 One would look instinctively for a vision of silken ankles and the red drugget on the pavement.

5. Of or pertaining to silk stuffs or goods.

1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 219 The Encouragement of our Woollen Manufacture; the Consequence of which, is the Encouragement of the Silken.

II. 6. Silky, silk-like; soft; glossy, shining, lustrous.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. Prol. 129 The balmy vapour from thar sylkyn croppis Distylland hailsum..hunny droppis. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 591 Now blessed be the day, That I see .. your silken hyde Fil'd with round flesh. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 87 His browny locks did hang in crooked curles, And euery..wind Vpon his lippes their silken parcels hurles. 1607 Rowlands *Guy Warw.* (Hunterian Club) 8 Pleasing, smooth, and silken skin. 1625 Milton *Death Fair Infant* 2 O fairest flower.., Soft silken Primrose fading timelesslie. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 468 Sleeps are sweeter on the silken Ground. 1820 Shelley *Œd. Tyr.* II. i. 64 The milk-white Bulls..in fresh dews.. Sleeking their silken hair. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* V. § 3 (1862) 362 It crystallizes in anhydrous silken needles. 1871 Palgrave *Lyr. Poems* 76 All day between them in silence The silken butterflies glide.

fig. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Silken skin*, in good humour. 'He has a fine silken skin to-day.'

b. Spec. in scientific names (see quots.).

1611 Cotgr., *Cotine*, Venice Sumach, silken Sumach, red Sumach. 1804 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 221 Silken Carp, *Cyprinus Sericeus*...Brilliant violet-silvery Carp... Native of slowly-running streams in many parts of Dauria. 1832 J. Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* III The Silken Carpet (*Alcis sericearia*, Curtis) appears in July. Wings..silky-brown, or brick-red.

7. Of words, etc.: Elegant; ingratiating, soft, flattering.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 406 Taffata phrases, silken tearmes precise. 1644 Jessop *Angel of Ephesus* 62 A late Patron of Episcopacie, who seemeth to be very neere of kinne to the Remonstrant in confidence and silken language. 1672 Owen *Christian Love* iii, Love may work as regularly by sharp rebukes as by the most silken and compliant expressions. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* I. i. 307, I cannot court you with a silken Tale. 1742 Watts *Improv. Mind* (1801) 90 To be restrained by such mild and silken language.

b. Similarly of persons, their looks, voice, etc.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 53 His simple truth must be abus'd, With silken, slye, insinuating Iackes. 1598 Marston *Pygmal., Sat.* ii, Then with a silken face [he] Smiles on the holy crue. *c* 1765 Churchill *Proph. Famine* Poems 1767 I. 88 Thus speak a form, by silken smile, and tone Dull and unvaried, for the Laureat known. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Apr. 5/4 Mr. Russell's voice, usually so soft and silken, was absolutely husky with passion.

8. Effeminate, luxurious.

In some examples sense 4 may be intended.

1599 Shaks. *John* v. i. 70 Shall a beardlesse boy, A cockred-silken wanton braue our fields? — *Hen. V*, II. Prol. 2 Now all the Youth of England are on fire, And silken Dalliance in the Wardrobe lyes. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XVI. clx, Whilst fooled Thou..Lin'st thy Commands with silken downy Ease. 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* 65 These Silken Syrians are no Souldiers Martiall. 1703 Rowe *Ulysses* II. i. 433 The silken Minions of the Samian Court. 1741–2 Gray *Agrippa* 98 The silken son of dalliance, nurs'd in ease. 1821 Byron *Sardanap.* III. i. 314 Baal himself Ne'er fought more fiercely to win empire, than His silken son to save it. 1877 L. Morris *Epic of Hades* II. 135 Their silken ease And royal luxury changed for blood and tears.

9. Soft, sweet, balmy; gentle.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* III. v. 215 Silken thoughts attend this deare beautie. 1601 — *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qto.) III. iii. 17 In smoothe silken peace. *a* 1635 Br. Corbet *Poems* (1807) 224 Those deeds..which ne'er affright The silken slumbers in the night. 1894 G. Egerton *Discords* 178 It is so good to sit thus bathed in silken air. 1895 W. Wright *Palmyra & Zenobia* iii. 23 A splendid charger, whose neck ..swayed hither and thither to her silken touch.

b. Of sounds: Soft, low.

1784 Cowper *Task* IV. 212 Time..has a dove's wing, Unsoil'd, and swift, and of a silken sound. *c* 1800 H. K. White *Cliff Gr.* 81 The gray owl's silken flight. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* V, In her lovely silken murmur.

c. Of wine: Mellow, silky.

a 1704 T. Brown *To J. Haines* in Coll. Poems (1705) 117 'Tis all Sincerity, a Silken Wine; It Charms the Taste, and Gratifies the Nose.

10. *Comb.*, as *silken-coated, -fastened, -folded, -sailed, -sandalled, -threaded, -winged*, etc. Also *silken-shining, -soft, -stapler.*

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 136 As for these *silken-coated slaues I passe not. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1890) 61/2 A *silken-fastened book. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 49 Fancies hatch'd In *silken-folded idleness. *a* 1835 Mother-well *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 64 'Tis softer than down, or This *silken-leafed flower. 1833 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* I. iii, Unfurl'd The shallop flitteth *silken-sail'd. 1847 — *Princ.* Prol. 149 Her tiny *silken-sandal'd foot. 1887 Meredith *Ball. & Poems* 157 O'er the *silken-shining pastures of the continents and the isles. 1859 Ld. Lytton *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 199 Your young feet there, *Silken-soft in each quaint slipper. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 74 Go we, let vs learne the *silken-staplers trade. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 58 A Newtonian telescope..furnished with a *silken-threaded micrometer. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 338 In her lap her open hand did lie, The silken-threaded needle close thereby. 1820 Shelley *Witch Atlas* Ded. 9 What hand would crush the *silken-winged fly.

Hence **Si·lken** *v. trans.*, to invest with a silky lustre; **Si·lkened** *a.*, dressed in silk.

1757 Dyer *Fleece* I. 494 Nightly to house them [*sc.* sheep] dry on fern or straw, Silk'ning their Fleeces. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xxx. 244 The cheering smiles and graces of silkened beauty.

Si·lkenly, *adv.* [f. Silken *a.* + -ly 2.] In a silken manner; also in *nonce-use* (quot. 1846).

1846 Landor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 286 This is not the doctrine..of the silkenly and lawnly religious. 1861 *Temple Bar* II. 178 He makes his thoughts flow silkenly to the purring of the cat. 1865 Meredith *Rhoda Fleming* xxi, She was..as silkenly insipid every evening of her life.

Silkette (silke·t). [f. Silk *sb.* + -ette.] A fabric made of silk and cotton, chiefly used for lining dresses.

1895 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 6/6 The skirt reveals itself to be lined throughout with rose-coloured 'silkette'.

Silk grass. *Bot.* Also **silk-grass.** [f. Silk *sb.* + Grass *sb.*1]

1. a. One or other of various species of lustrous grasses native to America and the West Indies, esp. *Bromelia* or *Nidularium Karatas*; also, the fibrous leaves produced by these.

1620 *Observ. Silkwormes* Dj, Silke grasse to bee vsed for Cordage, sixe-pence the pound. 1699 Wafer *Voy.* 94 They have a Plant also which is of good use to them, call'd by us Silk-grass, tho' 'tis indeed a kind of Flag. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3898/3 Goods out of the Mary Man of War from Vigo, consisting of..Coppras, Silk Grass, &c. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 13 July, He..made her a present of a purse of silk-grass. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 184 A number of the Chinook Indians came to the fort with hats..made of the cedar bark and silk grass. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 56 Large bags made of silk grass. 1864 Grisebach *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2.

attrib. 1699 Wafer *Voy.* 95 The Spanish Women make Stockins of it, which are call'd Silk-grass Stockins.

b. The name of various species of aloe, agave, or yucca, or of the fibre derived from these.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*, *Silk-grass*, a name used for two very different genuses of plants, the aloe and dog's bane. 1847 Webster (citing *Farm. Encycl.*), *Silk-grass*, a filamentous plant of the genus Yucca. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Silk-grass*, a name for the fine fibres of the *Agave vivipara*, and of *A. succæfolia*. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Bear-grass*, Bear-Grass (*Yucca filamentosa*). Sometimes called Silk Grass, from the fibres which appear on the edges of the leaves. It is not a grass.

attrib. 1769 E. Bancroft *Nat. Hist. Guiana* 48 The Silk Grass Plant nearly resembles the American Aloes.

†**2. a.** Dog's-bane (*Apocynum*). *Obs. rare.*

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1152 In the same Box are Pods of a Vegetable, we call Silk-grass, which are full of a kind of most fine down-like Cotton-wool. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*

†**b.** Cotton-grass. *Obs.*—1

1727 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1747) XVII. 23/2 A plant named silk or cotton grass from its white tuff on the top resembling the finest cotton wool.

3. The grass *Oryzopsis cuspidata* of the western United States, the glumes of which bear long silky hairs; also *Stipa comata* of the same region.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Silkily (si·lkili), *adv.* [f. Silky *a.* + -ly 2.] In a silky manner.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 53 The favourite animal is silkily painted. 1859 Meredith *R. Feverel* xv, His hair..fell away slanting silkily to the temples. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 428 Glumes silkily ciliate.

Silkiness (si·lkinės). [f. Silky *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being silky, in various senses of the adj.

1752 Sir H. Beaumont *Crito* 11 That appearing Softness or Silkiness of some Skins. *a* 1773 Chesterfield (T.), The claret had no silkiness. 1832 *Examiner* 19/1 Sycophancy, pliancy,..silkiness on one side, and a rasping roughness on the other. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Dr. Grimshawe* VI. (1891) 60 A dose of his famous preparation..causing a delightful silkiness of sensation. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 339 Ovary similarly variable in silkiness.

Si·lking, *vbl. sb.* Silken rustling.

1871 G. Macdonald *W. Cumbermede* I. xiii. 131 The silking of her frock aroused me.

Si·lk-like, *a.* [f. Silk *sb.* + -like.] Resembling silk; glossy, lustrous.

1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 7 They breed in little Nests made up like a bottom of soft Silk-like matter. 1776 Da Costa *Elem. Conch.* 63 They have beards..of fine, long, glossy silk-like brown fibres. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 468/1 The silk-like down of the seeds. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 99/2 A number of seeds provided with a tuft of glossy silk-like hairs.

Silkman (si·lkmăn). [f. Silk *sb.* + Man *sb.*1] One who makes or deals in silks.

1553 in *Archaeologia* XII. 394 Laurence Ball, sylkeman. 1576 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 413 John Weaver ..in London silkman. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 31 Hee is indited to dinner..to M. Smoothes the Silkman. 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 32 Four sylkemen and four dyers to be chosen by the Master and Wardens. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. 246/1 The Silkmen were incorporated by King Charles I..; now they are not so. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 491/2 The silk is bought through the London brokers or the Coventry silkmen, at a credit of five months.

Si·lkness. *rare*—1. (App. a mock title, but the text may be corrupt.)

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* III. i, Sir, your silkenesse Cleerely mistakes Mecœnas, and his house.

Si·lk-soft, *a.* [f. Silk *sb.* + Soft *a.*] Having the characteristic softness of silk.

1570 T. Preston *Cambyses* D j b, Thy mother yet wil kisse thy lips silk soft and pleasant white. 1648 Herrick *Hesperides*, *To Sir L. Pemberton* 121 To annoint the silke-soft-skin, or bath in Asses' milke. 17.. in Herd *Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 4 Oh, there,..I'd feast on beauty a' the night, Seal'd on her silk-saft falds to rest. 1833 Tennyson *Eleanore* ii, A glorious child, dreaming alone, In silk-soft folds, upon yielding down. 1879 E. Arnold *Light Asia* 29 Her dark and silk-soft waist.

Silk stocking. Also **silk-stocking.**

1. A stocking made of silk; usu. in *pl.*

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 17 To take note how many paire of Silk stockings thou haste. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* H iv b, Why, haue not many handsome legges in silke stockins villainous splay feete for all their great roses? 1710 *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 Four pair of silk-stockings curiously darned. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* (Oxf. ed.) I. 135 The silk stockings and white bosoms of your actresses. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 709/1 Henry VIII. wore the first pair of silk stockings in England.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1812 Jefferson *Let. to Gerry* 11 June, [They] will find their levees crowded with silk stocking gentry, but no yeomanry. 1842 Aiton *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 93 One-third of them..are sure to catch a cold..from every silk-stocking affair in the winter season. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* s.v. *Silk-throwing*, Preparing hard silk..for yarn for the silk-stocking maker.

2. a. A wearer of silk stockings.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

b. *U.S. politics.* (See quots. 1895 and 1896.)

1894 Stead *If Christ came to Chicago* 36 Hopkins was elected by the silkstockings on the one hand and the shorthairs on the other. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Silk-stocking*, a member of a branch of the Whig party in the earlier part of the 19th century. 1896 *Century Mag.* Nov. 6/2 Another class rejoice in this holiday as an opportunity to sit at home..reading in slippered ease.., or fondling the pet hobby. The 'people' call them 'silk-stockings'.

Hence **Silk-stockinged** *a.*

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* xxxvii, John..was leaning against the door-pillar, with..his legs crossed: beautiful, silk-stockinged. 1861 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* 34 The languid man's silk-stockinged foot having been re-shod.

Si·lkstone. [See def.] A variety of coal obtained at Silkstone near Barnsley in Yorkshire.

1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 57 The Arley mine or seam, which occupies the place of the Black Shale or Silkstone. 1891 *Times* 5 Oct. 4/4 Silkstones are still to be purchased..for moderate quantities up to 12*s.* 9*d.*

Si·lk-tail. [tr. G. *seidenschwanz*, f. G. *seide* silk + *schwanz* tail.] The waxwing or Bohemian chatterer, *Ampelis garrulus* or *G. Bohemicus.*

1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1161 Ad lanios ea Avicula referenda est, quam a Germanis Silk-tail vulgo appellari audio. 1703 Ray in *Thoresby's Lett. Eminent Men* (1832) II. 23 The Silk-tail is to me a bird altogether new. 1767 G. White *Selborne* xii, I pronounced it the male *garrulus bohemicus*, or German silk-tail. 1864 Hibberd in *Intell. Obs.* V. 24 The silktail, the grosbeak, the snowflake..may occasionally be seen [in England]. 1899 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 5/1 The eggs of the common fly-catcher..acquire a blueish-green shining colour, and are then sold..as the eggs of the silk-tail.

Silk-thrower. [f. Silk *sb.* + Thrower.] = Silk-throwster.

1670 R. Coke *Disc. Trade* 45 The discouragement put upon the Silk-throwers by the Corporation and Company of London. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. 233/2 This Company of Silk-Throwers..having gained their Trade..from the Strangers since Anno quinto of Queen Elisabeth. 1731 Bailey (vol. II) s.v., Their arms are Argent, three bundles of silk Sable, on a chief a silk thrower's mill. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Silk-throwers-company*, one of the minor livery companies of London, which has no hall.

Silk-throwing. [f. Silk *sb.*] The process of converting raw silk into silk yarn or thread.

1621 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1720) II. 234/1 Sundry Strangers that use the Trade of Silk-throwing. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 259/4 An Act to regulate the Trade of Silk-throwing. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 70/2 The proposal for setting up the business of silk-throwing was read. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 62/1 Numerous attempts have been made to simplify the silk-throwing.

attrib. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 709/1 In 1719, a silk-throwing mill was erected at Derby. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 453/1 The raw material for these silk-throwing factories.

Silk-throwster. [f. Silk *sb.* + Throwster.] One who converts raw silk into silk thread.

1621 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1720) II. 234/1 The Silk-Throwsters humbly desire to be made a Fellowship. 1648 C. Walker *Hist. Independency* 86 One of the new Captains of the Hamlets, a Silk-Throster, and a Tub-Preacher. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 185 A paper..signed by forty eminent silk-throwsters and weavers. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 239 There may..be a great increase of..Turkey raw silks without much increase in the silk-throwster's business. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 726/1 This is a special trade, the silk throwster usually conducting it in large mills with extensive machinery.

Silk-weaver. [f. Silk *sb.* + Weaver.] One who weaves silk stuffs; a weaver of silk fabrics.

1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 156 The silk-weaver and her parcells. 1645 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 184 John Turpine of Rippon, silkweaver. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* Epil. 21 True English hate your Monsieur's Paultry Arts; For you are all Silk-Weavers, in your hearts. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 140 A silk weaver, thirty-four years of age. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 260 By this disposition, the minds of the silk-weavers in France become elevated and refined.

Si·lkweed. *Bot.* Also **silk-weed.** [f. Silk *sb.* + Weed *sb.*]

1. *U.S.* = Milkweed 2.

1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 458 *Asclepias cornuti.* Decaisne (*A. Syriaca*, Linn...). Common Silkweed. *Ibid.* 459 *A. phytolaccoides*, Poke-leaved Silkweed. 1857 A. Gray *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 135 A coma, or tuft of long and soft hairs, such as we find in the Milkweed or Silkweed.

2. A plant of the genus *Conferva.*

1857 Henfrey *Bot.* 450 *Confervoideæ*, Silk-weeds...Plants ..of bright green, or more rarely (often temporarily) red colour. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 508/2 This is seen in Confervæ, such as the green matter often seen in ponds, and called *silk-weed.*

Silk-winder. [f. Silk *sb.* + Winder.]

1. One who winds or coils silk filament or thread preparatory to weaving.

1611 Florio, *Indouanadore*, a silke-winder. 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 15 § 6 Every such Silk-winder and Doubler. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 103 Since it came out of the hands of the silk-winder.

2. a. A silk-reel. **b.** A machine by which silk thread in the hank is transferred to the bobbin before spinning.

1858 in Simmonds *Dict. Trade.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2182/1 Fanshaw's silk-winder, English patent, 1827, was designed to avoid the breakage of the filament in winding the skein silk on to bobbins.

So † **Silk-windress, -windster.** *Obs.*

1598 Florio, *Diuidatrice*, a silke winderesse. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 Eleanor Brown, late of Milk-yard Shadwell, Silk-windster.

Si·lk-woman. Now *Hist.* [f. Silk *sb.* + Woman *sb.*] A woman engaged in the manufacture, use, or sale of silk.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/2 Cylke woman, *devacuatrix* (P. *auriscea*). 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325 The Silkewymmen and Throwestres of the Craftes and occupation of Silkewerk. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 10 Sylke women, pursers, and garnysshers. 1567–9 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 59 The same Spirit prepared and opened the Silke-womans heart. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 709/1 Henry [VI] having silk women, who were..probably only employed in needlework of silk. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 488/2 In the reign of Edward III., an act was passed to prevent artificers from using more than one trade.., the silk-women..being exempted from its operation.

Si·lk-work. [f. Silk *sb.* + Work *sb.*]

1. Silk embroidery.

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 427 Fourti knihtes doustres he wolde haue..forte souwe selk-werk. 1661 Tatham *London's Tryumphs* 5 The Pentioners bearing the severall sort of Silk-works. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 31 Oct. 1645, The Nunns of St. Catherine's sent me flowers of silk-work.

2. The manufacture or production of silk.

1455 [see Silk-woman]. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk*, To make a further Enquiry into this New Silk-work.

3. *pl.* An establishment where silk is wrought.

1622 Bonoeil *Art of Making Silke* 76 To certifie you from the English Factory in Persia, of the art and order that they use..in the Silke-workes there. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk*, In the French Silk-works, the greatest Part of this Silk passes for little better than a Kind of very fine Fleuret.

Silkworm (si·lkwɘ̄rm). Also 1 sioluc-, seolc-wyrm, 5 sylke-wyrme; 5 selke-, sylk(e)-, cylke-, 5–7 **silkeworme**, etc. [f. Silk *sb.* + Worm *sb.* In older use freq. written as two words, and from *c* 1600 often with hyphen.]

1. The caterpillar of the mulberry-feeding moth *Bombyx* (or *Sericaria*) *mori*, orig. a native of northern China, which on changing into the pupa state spins a cocoon made of silken filament; also, the caterpillar of any bombycid or other moth which thus yields silken cocoons of commercial value.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 151 *Bombix*, seolc-wyrm. *c* 1050 *Voc.* ibid. 360 *Bombix*, siolucwyrm, oððe sidwyrm. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcix, Leues of hyze beri tren ben grete and brode,..and gladly wormes eten þerof: and so silke wormes ben beste fed and norischid. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 643 *Hic bombex*, sylkworme. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* (1883) 26 A bayte that bredyth on an oke leyf & a sylke worme and a cod worme togyder. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 196 We call them in Englishe Silke Wormes, of which at this day the Spaniardes have greate plentye. 1599 T. M[ouffet] (*title*), Silkewormes and their Flies, lively described in verse. 1622 Bonoeil *Art of Making Silke* 1 This discourse is therefore touching

the feeding and intertainement of your Silke wormes. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* i. (1704) 8 Their prophets,..like silkworms, spun out their own bowels. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silk*, The Work of 12 Spiders..only equals that of one Silk Worm. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 71 Till the reign of Justinian, the silk-worms who feed on the leaves of the white mulberry-tree, were confined to China. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 109/1 During the time of spinning the cocoon the silkworm decreases in length very considerably. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 139 A plague had raged among the silkworms of France.

transf. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 266/1 An Improved Machine called the Silkworm, for the purpose of Spinning, Twisting, and Doubling Silk. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* x. *Wealth*, A man should not be a silk-worm; nor a nation a tent of caterpillars.

b. One who wears a silken gown or dress. Used contemptuously. *rare.*

1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Honest Man's Fortune* v. iii, Thou silk-worm. What has thou in thee to deserve this woman? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Cont. Quaker's Serm.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 3 Root out of them [*sc.* thy churches] all Anti-Christian Tiranny of most abominable Bishops; let not those Silk-worms and Magpies have Dominion over us. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. ii. 115 Better..call A Tartar lord, than these swoln silkworms masters! 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, Shall that English silkworm presume to beard me in my father's house?

†c. A woman given to frequenting drapers' shops and examining goods without buying. *Obs.*

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 454 ₱ 5 The Silk-worms are, it seems, indulged by the Tradesmen; for tho' they never buy, they are ever talking of new Silks, Laces, and Ribbands, and serve the Owners in getting them Customers.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *silkworm breeder, disease, egg, -like* adj., *shed*; also **silkworm gut**, a fine, strong, light gut, made of the drawn-out glands of the silkworm (see GUT *sb.* 4 d); **silkworm moth**, one or other of various bombycid moths, whose larvæ produce cocoons; **silkworm rot** (see quot.).

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 596/2 The *silkworm breeder allows a few of the pupæ to develop into moths. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., *Silkworm disease. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 251 An ounce of *silk-worm eggs in France is worth two francs and a half. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 66 Hook-lines..are usually made of *silk-worm gut. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 349 The sutures may be silk, kangaroo tendon, or silkworm gut. 1672 DRYDEN *Cong. Granada* II. i. ii, I..., *silkworm-like, so long within have wrought, That I am lost in my own web of thought. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 335 About the year 550..two monks..procured in India the eggs of the *silk-worm moth. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 946 The transmission..of the sporozoa of pebrine from the silkworm moth to its eggs and caterpillar. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.* 362/1 **Silk-worm rot*, a fungous plant, the *Botrytis bassiana*, which kills silkworms in great numbers. 1898 *Folk-Lore* IX. 8 The same formula must be used on entering a *silkworm-shed.

Silky (si·lki), *a.* (*sb.*). [f. SILK *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Silken; made or consisting of silk.

1611 COTGR., *Soyeux*, silky; bristlie (full of silke or of bristles). 1724 RAMSAY *Health* 20 Cosmellius may on silky twilts repose. 1743–6 SHENSTONE *Eleg.* xviii. 51 But Albion's youth..In silky folds each nervous limb disguise. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 288 The regeneration and spinning of silky waste of all kinds.

2. Having the delicate softness of silk.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 144 The several graces..of Musick, the soft and silky touches, the quick and pleasant relishes. 1710 CONGREVE *An Impossible Thing* 79 His eyes a silky slumber seiz'd. 1820 PRAED *Changing Quarters* 71 Are hearts of stone So small, and soft, and silky grown? 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 534 A true Cremona..may be known by the..silky quality of its tone. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. ix, The touch of Winnie's clasping fingers, silky and soft.

b. Of liquor: Having a soft delicate taste.

1743 *London & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 291 If they do not brew and sell a clear, pleasant, silky Beer. 1834 MCCULLOCH *Dict., Comm.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wine*, The first mentioned [variety of claret]..is characterised by its silky softness on the palate. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 473/1 Copious draughts of soft and silky claret.

absol. 1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 50 A very enticing mixture appropriately called *silky*,..made of rum and madeira.

3. Of speech, manners, etc.: Smooth, pleasing, ingratiating, insinuating.

1778 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* I. 197 Whilst they permitted themselves to be amused with silky speeches ..they were only allowing their ill-wishers to gain time. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 73 Better preach With silky voice, and sacred flow'rs of speech. 1836 HOOD *Poetry, Prose, & Worse* xxiv, No documents tender and silky Are writ such as poets would pen. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* xxix, Mrs. Gibson..petted him in her sweetest, silkiest manner. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Mar. 5/5 He stated his case in his silkiest and most persuasive accents.

b. Of persons: Quiet or smooth of manner.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 325 Her smooth silky husband crept behind me with the stealthy pace of a cat. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 279 Imagine a quiet little advocate, very precise and silky. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 427 The silky, graceful *serviteur des dames.*

4. a. Having the gloss of silk; resembling silk in lustre.

1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 344 His Tongue not hard, ..but of its natural Colour, with a silky Driness. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 446/1 Such are the minerals called silky copper ores, and several white and green earths. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 764 The crystals are either silky needles or short prisms. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 2 (1862) 171 White silky crystals of ethionic anhydride.

b. Having a texture like that of silk.

1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 137 To spread upon its fields the dews of heav'n, And feed the silky Fleece. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 50 Leaves thick,..clothed on both sides with a silvery white silky down. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 80 Fur dark brown, very soft, and silky, shaded with chestnut. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 65/1 The webs of the white feathers..are silky to the sight and touch. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 121 The young girl..wrung out the rain from her long and silky hair.

5. *Bot.* a. Covered with fine, soft, close-set hairs having a silk-like gloss; sericeous.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 385 *Sericeum*, silky, covered with soft silky Hairs. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 192 Stem cylindrical, silky, pinky. 1850 *Beck's Florist* Jan. 15 The leaves are narrow, lanceolate, and densely silky on both sides. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 116 *Potentilla anserina* ..softly silky, especially on the leaves.

b. In the specific names of trees or shrubs.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 789/2 Silky, or Silkbark Oak, *Grevillea robusta*. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants* 514 *Eucalyptus saligna*...Other New South Wales names for it are 'Grey Box' and 'Silky Gum'. *Ibid.* 581 *Orites excelsa*,..'Red Ash'. 'Silky Oak'. 1891 *Ardrossan Herald* 30 Oct. 2 The little Silky Willow, *Salix fusca*, commands attention from the peculiarity of its growth.

6. *Nat. Hist.* Having silk-like hair, plumage, etc.

a. In names of monkeys.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 210 Silkey Monkey. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 42 *Simia Midas rosalia* (the Silky Tamarin). 1876 *Nature* XIV. 121/2 A Silky Marmoset (*Midas rosalia*). *Ibid.* 538/1 Two Silky Marmosets (*Hapale chrysolecucus*) from S.E. Brazil.

b. In names of birds; also as *sb.*, a silk-fowl.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. i. 96 Silky Chatterer ..inhabits the province of Maynas, in South America. 1823 — *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 9 Silky Warbler (*Sylvia sericea*)...Inhabits the Southern parts of Spain. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 82 Silky Pigeon, *Columba Holosericea*. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 81 The 'silky' and 'negro' fowls,..with skin, combs, and bones which are black. 1885 *Daily News* 14 July 2/3 The little Japanese silkies are valuable for sitting on pheasants' or partridges' eggs on account of their light weight.

c. In names of moths; also as *sb.*

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 186 The Silky (*Orthotelia sericea*). *Ibid.* 211 Dale's Silky (*Melia? sericea*, Stephens). 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Silky-wainscot*, a British night-moth, *Senta maritima*. *Ibid.*, *Silky-wave*, a British geometer-moth, *Acidalia holosericata.*

7. *Comb.*, as *silky-black, -leaved, -looking, -soft, -textured, -voiced.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 241 Silky-soft Favonius breathe still softer, or be chid. 1817 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. i. 95 Silky-black Swallow, beneath white, with the forehead and throat rusty yellow. 1855 MISS PRATT *Fl. Pl.* V. 94 Silky-leaved Osier, or Smith's Willow. Leaves..white and glossy beneath. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) 781 Sericin is a white silky-looking substance. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *Jap. Wife* 124 Wrapping up our presents in soft, silky textured rice-paper.

Sill (sil), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1 **syl**, 1, 5–6 **syll**(e, 2, 4 **sulle**, 4, 7 **sille**; 6 *Sc.* **schyll**, 7, 9 **sil**, 7–**sill**, 9 **cill**. *β.* 5 **selle**, 7–9 **sell**; 5 **celle**, 8–9 **cell**. [OE. *syll* and *sylle*, = MDu. *sulle*, MLG. *sulle*, *sul* (LG. *süll*), related to MDu. *sille*, *zille* (Fris. *sille*), MLG. *sille* (LG. *sill*), and to ON. and Norw. *svill*, *syll* (mod.Icel. *sylla*), MSw. and Sw. *syll* (dial. *svill*), Da. *syld*, also OHG. *swelli*, *swella* (MHG. *swelle*, G. *schwelle*). The precise relationship of these types to each other, and to Goth. *gasuljan* to found, or to L. *solea* the foundation of a wattled wall (Festus), is not clear.]

1. A strong horizontal timber (occas. a stone or iron substitute for this) serving as the foundation of a wall (esp. in the building of framed houses) or other structure, = GROUNDSEL *sb.*[2] 1; hence, † a large beam or piece of squared timber. Also *fig.*

In ME. poetry sometimes used in the sense of 'floor'.

Beowulf 775 Þær fram sylle abeag medu-benc monig, *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* i. 27 Đonne hi ne beoð mid nanre sylle underscotene ðæs godcundlican mægenes. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 144 Ða bæd he hi anre sylle, þæt he mihte þæt hus on ða sæ healfe mid þære underlecgan. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 55 For al was þis fayre folk in her first age, on sille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 636 He fond nowthir to selle, Ne breed ne ale, til he com to the selle, Upon the floor. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 9 Of doghety men I schall 3ow telle, þat were full..Semely appon Sille. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/1 Sylle, of an howse, *silla, soliva*. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 830 Off hewyn temyr in haist he gert thaim tak Syllys off ayk, and a stark barres mak. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. ix. 70 Sum to the 3ettis weltis wechty stanis, And sum gret geistis and sillys for the nanis. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* VIII. xix. 58 Ambrose..brocht mony huge sillis & treis out of the nixt wod. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Baptism* 11 Every stone under the Sill supports not the house. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Sell*, in Architecture, is the Term..for the lowest piece of Timber in a Timber-building. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bay*, A cross Cell to hold in the side Cells from flying out. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 100 Three-inch planks..spiked down upon the ridge-tree and upon the sills on each side. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 387/1 The sills upon the pier-piling of the Selby bridge are fixed as opportunities are presented at low water. 1861 STEPHENS & BURN *Bk. Farm-buildings* 375 The lining..should be carried over the sill and nailed to it; the sill being wider than the studding [etc.]. 1877 E. PEACOCK *N.W. Linc. Gloss., Sill*,..the bottom of a fixed bench, pew, or other like wooden erection.

attrib. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 449 *Traches et trenchons*, Sulle-trees and splentes. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* I. 330 The floor and sill wall of the upper study. *Ibid.* II. 14 The arches are fenced below by a low sill-wall.

b. *dial.* and *U.S.* One of the lower framing-timbers of a cart or railway-car.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 457/2 The bodies consisting of sills, to which the journal-boxes were bolted. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Sills*, the bottom and side pieces which form the skeleton-frame of the body of a cart or waggon—the foundation of its superstructure.

2. The piece of wood- or stone-work forming the lower horizontal part of a window-opening. Cf. WINDOW-SILL.

1428 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 6 Unwroughte Stapylton stoone; reidy hewe for the saame for wyndowes, wyndow lambes and sills. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 29 The head of the Windowes, as well as the..James, and Sils. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 252 The sills of windows have been mostly made from three feet to three feet six inches distant from the level of the floor. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit* I. ii. 37 A recess in the sill with a seat in each side, the usual characteristic of a domestic window. 1873 W. BLACK *Pr. Thule* xviii. 297 She..placed the plate outside the open window, on the sill.

fig. 1858 KINGSLEY *Longbeard's Saga* 80 High in Valhalla A window stands open; Its sill is the snow-peaks.

Comb. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Sill-course*, a course of masonry in line with a window-sill.

b. *Naut.* A port-sill (see quots. and PORT *sb.*[3] 6).

1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Mar. Dict.*, *Sills of the Ports*, or *Port-sills*..., pieces of oak timber, let in horizontally between the frames to form the upper and lower sides of the ports. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 123 *Sills*, pieces of timber put in horizontally between the frames to form and secure any opening; as, for ports. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 626.

c. *Fortif.* (See quots.)

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 248 *The sill* is the front of the sole. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2182/2 *Sill* ..., the inner edge of the bottom or sole of an embrasure.

3. The threshold of a door or gateway; the lower horizontal part of a door-case. Cf. DOOR-SILL and GROUNDSEL *sb.*[2] 2.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 845 Travailers..Make haste enough, if only the First Day From their owne Sill they set but on their way. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 1359 The lintell, cheekes and sill of the Capitoll dore, were made all of brasse. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. i. ii. (1651) 445 When he can scarce lift his leg over a sill. 1716 SWIFT *Progr. Poetry* Wks. 1751 VII. 170 The Farmer's Goose.. Grown fat with Corn..Can scarce get o'er the Barn-Door Sill. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Sill* (of a door), threshold. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 310 Cills—These belong to the apertures of the doors and windows, at the bottom of which they are fixed. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 173 O Poverty!..he who on thy naked sill has stood [etc.]. 1906 *Expositor* Aug. 131 He laid bare an ancient gateway with four sills, one above the other.

transf. 1611 COTGR., *Sursueil*, the vpper sill, or head-peece of a doore; the peece of timber that lyes ouer a doore.

b. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* S iv, When Doorsteds are used, and the Sole of the Drift so soft, that it will not bear the Forks,..then we clap a Sill under them, which is a piece of Wood lay'd across the Drift. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Sill*,..a piece of wood laid across a drift to constitute a frame with the posts and to carry the track of the tramway.

c. A horizontal timber (or structure) at the bottom of the entrance to a dock or canal-lock, against which the gates close.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* 55 To raise the sill or threshold of the flood-gates..twenty inches. 1838 SIMMS *Publ. Wks. Gt. Brit.* II. 6 The gates clap against a sill of oak. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 162 The bottom of 'the Deeps'..was only two feet, six inches above the cill of Maud Foster Sluice. 1892 *Law Times Rep.* LXV. 590/1 The lock had been lengthened since its original construction, but an old sill had been left.

d. A horizontal timber, etc., rising above the level of a roadway.

1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* 318 The whole is easily moved forward to the edge of the gap, where a high sill should be laid, to prevent the wheels from approaching too near.

4. a. A kind of clay found in coal-measures. Also *attrib.*, as *sill-coal, -pencil.*

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 491 A shining kind of stony clay, called by the miners *sill*, lying in large beds in coal grounds. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Sill-coal*, coal which my informant describes as being found 'in the clunches'. 1899 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Sill*, the soft clay of the coal measures, used for slate pencils, which are called sill pencils.

b. A bed, layer, or stratum of rock, esp. of an intrusive igneous rock.

1794 HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumb.* I. [49]/1 Great sill red, near the bottom is alabaster, *gypsum alabastrum*. 1821 W. FORSTER *Strata* 95 Slate Sills. These Strata are of a Siliceous kind, and frequently contain small particles of mica. 1880 *Geol. Mag.* 433 The 'Slate Sills' and the 'Coal Sills' are particular beds of sandstone in the Yoredale Series. 1894 *Naturalist* 222 Intrusive igneous rocks in sills and dykes in all the Silurians.

attrib. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 159 The east drift, same level, on the sill-floor, has attained a length of 92 feet.

5. a. The foot or lower part *of* a title-page or title.

1834 LOWNDES *Bibliogr. Man.* I. 426 On the sell of the compartment of the title-page is the date of 1534. 1881 BRADSHAW in *Bibliographer* Dec. 10/2 The sill of the text-title contains the device of Martin de Keyser, while the sill of the general title contains a blank shield.

b. (See quots.)

1877 E. PEACOCK *N.W. Linc. Gloss., Sill*,... the bottom part of a plough which slips along the ground in ploughing. 1895 W. RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.*, *Sill Iron*, the iron which connects the plough with the standards, jigs, or carriage, of a Norfolk plough.

c. The bottom *of* a hedge.

1883 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 4/7 Although the hen prefers the sill of a hedgerow for her rough nest, she not unfrequently makes it in a cornfield.

Sill, *sb.*[2] Dial. var. of THILL. Also *attrib.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Sills* (of a waggon), the shafts, the same as thills. 1788- in northern dial. glossaries. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Sill-horse*, the shaft horse. 1877 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Sill-hank*, the hooks in the shafts of a cart or waggon for the shaft-horse to pull by.

Sill, *v. rare.* [f. SILL *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To furnish with a sill. Also *fig.*

1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods Stafford* 48 Ther was one bucket of brasse solde by the wardens, Thomas Yate & Thomas Yomans, to sylle ther church gate. 1908 *Academy* 11 July 29/2 Beneath your windows, deeply silled In red, red roses.

Sill, obs. f. SEAL *sb.*; obs. var. *sel*, northern f. SELF; obs. f. SELL *v.*; var. SILE (herring-fry).

Sillab, Sillabary, Sillable; see SYLLAB, etc.

Sillabub, syllabub (si·läbʌb). Forms: α. 6 solybubbe, 7 sullabub, sullibib, 7–8 sullibub. β. 6 selybube, 6–7 seli-, 7 sellibub, sallibube. γ. 6 sillye-, 6–7 syllibub, 7 sillie bube, cilli-, 7–8 sillibub, 9 *Sc.* sillybob. δ. 6 sillabubbe, 6– silla-, 7– syllabub. [Of obscure origin: cf. SILLIBOUK and SILLUB. The most frequent spelling from *c* 1700 has been *syllabub*, under the influence of *syllable*.]

1. A drink or dish made of milk (freq. as drawn from the cow) or cream, curdled by the admixture of wine, cider, or other acid, and often sweetened and flavoured.

In common use from the 16th cent. to about the middle of the 19th.

α. *c* 1537 *Thersytes* (1848) 79 You and I..Muste walke to him and eate a solybubbe. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* IV. 1186 Some, Sulli-bibs among the Milk-maids, making. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* IV. Wks. 1778 II. 52 Then they must..have the Sullabubs and Tarts brought into the Coach to 'em. 1748 Mrs. S. HARRISON *House-kpr.'s Pkt.-Bk.* vii. (ed. 4) 17 Sullibubs.

β. 1570 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Yks.* (1872) 55 They brough this examynent a selybube to drynk. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cc. (1636) 190 A posset or Selibub made of Verjuice, is good to coole a cholerick stomacke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 348 They vsed to thicken their milk into a kind of pleasant soure curd in manner of a Sellibub.

γ. 1591-2 NASHE *Prognostication* Wks. (Grosart) II. 165 Maides this quarter shall make sillyebubbes for their Louers. 1602 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) I. 492 First you shall haue a dayntie sillibub; next a messe of clowted creame. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. IV. v, Leaue the smutty Ayr of London, and com hither.., wher you may pluck a Rose, and drink a Cillibub. 1737 *Ochtertyre House-bks.* (1907) 104 Sillibubs and cold beefe. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXX, Instead of the light tarts, and nice jellies and sillybobs that were expected.

δ. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* 60 Ye Granta's white Nymphs, come & with you bring Some sillabub. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Pedlar* 138 This purchaseth him, upon better acquaintance, a posset or a sillabub. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Vacation in London* Wks. (1673) 289 Her Elbow small she oft does rub; Tickled with hope of Sillabub! 1704 W. KING *Mully of Mountown* 18 Thy White-Wine, Sugar, Milk, together Club To make that gentle Viand Syllabub. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 15 ¶ 6 Besides what it costs me in tea and hot rolls, and syllabubs. 1817 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* 5 July, Some other ingredient that, when it is poured into a pan, bubbles up like a syllabub. 1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxii. 352 How nice it would be to have..a sillabub, under those cedars. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxiii. (1889) 220 We retire to tea or syllabub beneath the shade of some great oak.

b. *attrib.*, as *sillabub-pot.*

a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 230 A large syllabub-pot. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 9/2 He beareth sable, a possett pott, or a wassell cup, or a sallibube pott.

2. *fig.* a. Something unsubstantial and frothy; *esp.* floridly vapid discourse or writing.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Sillabub*, or *Sillibub*, ..is figuratively taken for a florid, but frothy and empty Discourse. 1768 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 410 Latin and Greek books (compared with which most of the English are whipped Syllabub). 1847 SEDGWICK in Clark & Hughes *Life & Lett.* (1890) II. 113, I shall never again endure the rounded periods and syllabub of Robertson. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* xvii, I resolved to pause, and enjoy the moral sillabub until quite dissolved away. 1889 *Daily News* 11 May 2/1 The new bonnets are the veriest trifles; mere syllabubs of frothed-up lace.

attrib. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxxvi, When did I whip up syllabub sonnets, or string stanzas fragile as fragments of glass?

b. A mixture, combination.

1859 THACKERAY *Virginians* lxxvii, Aunt Lambert..was one great syllabub of human kindness.

Sillack, variant of SILLOCK.

Silladar (si·lädär). *Anglo-Ind.* Also **silledar, sillahdar.** [a. Urdū (Pers.) سلحدار *silāhdār* armour-bearer, squire, f. Arab. *silāh* arms, armour.] An irregular cavalryman who provides his own horse and arms; often used *attrib.*

1802 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* (1844) I. 312 The horse are 2000 good,..and 1500 [of these are] silladar. 1803 *Ibid.* 323 A body of silladar horse. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* III. 349 A silledar, or soldier of fortune. 1842 W. MILES tr. *Hist. Hydur Naik* 173 With only six thousand stable horse, nine thousand Sillahdars,..and six guns.

Sillag, variant of SILLOCK.

† **Siller,** obs. form of CELLAR *sb.*

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 142 In Suche a tyme thow shalt thy graunges and thy gerners opyn, thy Sillers disclose. 1543 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 414 Every siller and shope within the wallis.

Siller, variant of SILOUR; obs. f. SELLER; Sc. variant of SILVER.

Sillery (si·lərі). Also 7 Cel(l)ery. [f. *Sillery*, a village in the department of Marne, Champagne.] A high-class wine produced in and around the village of Sillery in Champagne.

The name usually denotes a still wine known as *Sillery sec* or *dry Sillery*, formerly made from the produce of the Sillery vineyards, but now mainly obtained from the neighbouring ones of Verzenay and Mailly.

1680 SHADWELL *Woman Captain* I. i, The richer Wines of Greece and Sicely, And Celery, Champaign and Burgundy. *a* 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Works* (1752) 116 As for French kickshaws, cellery and champain,..in troth we 'ave none. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 182, I am sure we can muster a sandwich, and I rather think that we may get a glass of sillery with it. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 1279 Of these [Champagne wines] the still is considered the choicest, under the name of Sillery, much drank in England. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* (1900) 80/2 His Majesty's right honourable ministers in the ante-room, drinking dry Sillery in honour of the event.

attrib. 1844 THACKERAY in *Colburn's Mag.* May 28 Sillery Champagne (4 bottles), £2.

Sillgreen, dial. variant of SENGREEN.

Sillibouk. *dial.* Forms: 6 sillibucke, 8 -buck; 7 sillibouke, 9 sylibewk; 8 silli-, 9 sillybauk. [var. of SILLABUB; for the ending cf. MERRIBOWK.] A sillabub. Also *attrib.*

1573 BARET *Alvearie*, A Sillibucke, *Lac in ceruisia suffocatum vel ingnlatum.* 1632 SHERWOOD, Sillibouke, or sillibub, *laict aigre.* 1701 W. BAXTER *Note Horace's Art Poet.* 239 Unde et nostrum *Sillabub*, quod rectius ab agrestibus *Sillibuck* profertur. 1721 BAILEY, *Sillibauk*, a Sillabub. *Lincolnsh.* 1819 PAUL BOBBIN *Sequel* 40 (E.D.D.), Th'.. black two bule'd sylibewk pot. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs.*, *Silly-bauk*, a corruption of sillabub.

Sillik, var. SILLOCK. **Sillibub,** obs. f. SILLABUB.

Si·llikin. *slang.* [f. SILLY *a.* + -KIN.] A simpleton.

1860 G. A. SALA *Lady Chesterfield* 32 Poor sillikin! he knows nothing of the secret clause in the treaty. 1882 F. W. ROBINSON *Women are strange* xxiii, A self-satisfied sillikin.

Sillily (si·lili), *adv.* [f. SILLY *a.* + -LY[2].]

† 1. Poorly, badly. *Obs. rare.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXV. (1887) 126 The soule it selfe is but sillyly looked to, while the bodie is in price. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Manger*, He that makes himselfe simple shall be sillily vsed.

2. In a foolish, absurd, or senseless manner.

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 256 How doe wee sillily call all Idolatrous, that is in vse amongst Idolaters? 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* III. xi. 248 Such Wounds which were very deep, and were sillily and ignorantly stitched. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 466 ¶ 6 [She] affects to please so sillily, that..you see the Simpleton from Head to Foot. 1740-1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xxiv. 67 He sat down, and look'd at me, and..as sillily as such a poor Girl as I. 1805 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* IX. 4 They sillily interested themselves in the event of a new experiment. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 254 Neither have I sillily paid four or five pounds away for it. 1864 BROWNING *Dram. Pers.* Wks. 1896 I. 573/2, I took your arm And sillily smiled.

Sillimanite (si·limänəit). *Min.* [f. the name of Benjamin *Silliman*, an American chemist (1779–1864); named by G. T. Bowen in 1824.] A silicate of alumina, occurring in slender rhombic prisms or in fibrous masses.

1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 476/2 Sillimanite. 1837 DANA *Min.* 321 Sillimanite occurs in slender prisms, thickly traversing quartz, in a vein of gneiss. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 167 Sillimannite is a mineral of frequent occurrence in gneiss and other crystalline schists.

Sillinder, obs. form of CYLINDER.

Silliness (si·linės). [f. SILLY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being silly; foolishness, senselessness.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 309 It is sillynesse to liue, when to liue is torment. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* 220 He sayth, that the Prelates may well laugh at Mr. Iohnsons simplicity and sillinesse of wit, that thinkes to fright them with such a bugbeare as this. 1705 BERKELEY *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 427 The sillyness of the current doctrine makes much for me. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35, If all this..proceed from silliness, we must pity the man, and there's an end on't. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* viii. 179 It is a combination of silliness with absurdity quite odious. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 410 The silliness of the so-called laws of thought..has been well exposed by Hegel himself.

b. An instance of this; a silly thing, act, etc.

1740-1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 62, I shall write on,..tho' I should have nothing but Sillinesses to write. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxxii. 491 Behold a silliness fit for a medical student, but not for me. 1882 STEVENSON *Fam. Stud.* ii. 104 If he had said 'the love of healthy men for the female form', he would have said almost a silliness.

2. Mental weakness.

1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 104 *Moria demens stultitia.* This, which is what we ordinarily denominate silliness, is generally a natural infirmity. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 695 Melancholia, or mere silliness, may be the earliest feature of the disease.

Sillion, obs. form of SELION.

Sillock (si·lək). *Sc.* Forms: 7 sellak, 8 -ok, 9 -ock; 8 silak, 9 sillack, -ag; 8–9 sillik, -uck (9 -uk), 8– sillock. [Orkney and Shetland dial.] A young coal-fish (saithe), at a certain stage of its first year.

1654 BLAEU *Atlas Scotiæ* 138 Piscium variorum, præcipue silurorum minimorum majorum et maximorum (vulgo Sellaks, Kuythes, Colmouses) captura felix. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl., Orkney & Zetland* VII. 589 Sillocks set in, in great quantities, to the bays or voes in winter. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* 434 Throwing his line among the throng of sillocks with which the inlet was filled. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schoolm.* XXV. (1857) 558 A flock of sea-gulls that had been sporting in the sunshine over a shoal of sillocks. 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 295 At this period they are from six to ten inches in length, and much esteemed as sillucks.

attrib. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* 122 It is to the sinewless arm of youth..that the light task is resigned of wielding the sillock-rod. 1888 SAXBY *Lads of Lunda* 34 A long, tapering, sturdy wand known as a 'sillack rod'.

Sillogism(e, obs. forms of SYLLOGISM.

Si·llograph. *rare.* [ad. L. *sillograph-us*, ad. Gr. σιλλογράφος, f. σίλλος a satirical poem.] A writer of satires or lampoons; *spec.* applied to Timon of Phlius (*c* 268 B.C.).

1845 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* I. 77 His state of mind is finely described by Timon the sillograph. 1849 GROTE *Hist. Greece* II. xxxvii. IV. 526 The sillograph Timon of the third century B.C.

So **Sillo·grapher, Sillo·graphist.**

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sillographer*, a writer of scoffs, taunts and revilings; such was Timon. 1775 ASH, Sillographist. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* X. 393/1 Menippus indeed, in common with the Sillographers, seems to have introduced much more parody than even the earliest Roman Satirists.

Sillo·meter. [ad. F. *sillomètre*, irreg. f. *siller* to make way, of a ship.] An instrument intended to serve the same purpose as a log-line.

1842 *Mechanic's Mag.* XXXVII. 141 The speed, as shown by the Sillometer, was gradually reduced from 8 miles per hour to 4.

Sillour(e : see SILOUR.

Sillow : see SULL, plough.

† **Sillub,** obs. Sc. variant of SILLABUB.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 386 For ony herb scho lykis to luike : It will instruct hir how to tak it; In sawis and sillubs how to mak it.

Sillu(c)k, variants of SILLOCK.

Silly (si·li), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* Forms: 5 syly, 6 sylie, silie, 7 sily; 6 cillie, 6–7 sillie (6 -ye), 5– silly; 6–7 sylly (6 -ye). [Later form of ME. *sely* SEELY *a.*]

From *c* 1550 to *c* 1675 *silly* was very extensively used in senses 1–3, and in a number of examples it is difficult to decide which shade of meaning was intended by the writer.

A. *adj.* 1. Deserving of pity, compassion, or sympathy. Now *north.* and *Sc.* Cf. POOR *a.* 6.

c 1425 *Seven Sages* (Percy Soc.) 1361 The sylyman lay and herde, And hys wyf answerd. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liv. 213 With these or the like exclaimes, this silly aged King..lay still a while. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. vi. 69 Ane husband, quhilk Sicheus hecht, had sche,..And stranglie luvit of the silly Dido. 1556 in W. H. Turner *Select Rec. Oxford* 246 The fire raging upon the silly Carcase. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. Temper* III. 187 What is poore, and silly man alone, but a very scrich-owle, and satyre. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. v. 685, I might have trusted him with all the secret, Open'd my silly heart, and shewn it bare. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 84 Good wife, for your courtesie, Will ye lodge a silly poor man? 1764 REID *Inquiry* i. § 6. 103 Is this thy pastime, O Nature, to put such tricks upon a silly creature? 1808 JAMIESON, *Silly* ..in the same sense as E. *poor* is often used, denoting a state which excites compassion. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The bit bairn's asleep noo, silly thing.

† b. Helpless, defenceless; *esp.* of women and children. *Obs.*

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 31 Making him repine, To see a sillie dame so sore distreste. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* IV. i. 72 Prouided that you do no outrages On silly women, or poore passengers. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxvi. (1660) 260 Not unlike those devillish Witches, that do work the destruction of Silly Infants. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 171 Who behaved themselves with such inhumanity, that they Charged among the silly Women. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 938 There remained fresh Examples of their Barbarism against weak Sea-men, and silly Fisher-men.

absol. c 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* x. 7 Lift up Thy heavnly hand, And by the sylly stand.

c. Of animals, *esp.* as a conventional (poetic) epithet of sheep.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 59 In the silly lambis skin, He crap als far as he micht win. 1564-78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 63 The poor cillie Mouse crept out of her small caue.., thinkyng no harme. 1577-82 BRETON *Toyes Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 38/2 This Lady..To hunt this silly harmlesse Harte dooth take a great delight. 1620-6 QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* Introd. 46 The Woolfe shall fawne vpon the silly Sheepe. 1646 — *Judgem. & Mercy* Wks. (Grosart) I. 120/x The silly Sheep reposed in their warm fleeces. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 119 His silly sheep, what wonder if they stray? 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* v, He could not keep..Here with the shepherds and the silly sheep.

2. Weak, feeble, frail; insignificant, trifling:

† a. Of persons or animals. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 71 b, Here we see that a smal sillie Bird knoweth how to match with so great a Beast. 1577 *St. Augustine's Man.* I viij b, Why raungest thou then through so many thynges O sillie man? 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. iii. (1632) 465 A Colliers Cart..drawn with one silly leane Beast. 1633 HERBERT *Temple, Sighs & Groues* i, Thou onely art The mightie God, but I a sillie worm. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 339 They are..so innocent as not to take away the life of the silliest vermin.

b. Of inanimate things. Now *Sc.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxxii. (1617) 558 He [Christ] leaueth neither children nor kinsfolk behind him to vphold his silly kingdome. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* v. i. 59 Of one bayes breadth, God wot, a silly cote. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III. (1651) 329 When as the lofty oke is blown down. the silly reed may stand. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 144 Many times 'tis but a scarf or silly taffeta ribbon. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. xi. 35 By dissection you discover this Worker of Miracles to be nothing but a poor silly contemptible Knob or Protuberency. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* 209, I was sawin'.., an' little Rob was haudin' the booards, for they were silly but things.

c. Weakly, feeble, sickly, ailing. *Sc.* and *north.*

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1512 To do the thing we can To pleise..This silly sickly man. 1777 *Ferguson's Scot. Prov.* 1 A silly bairn is eith to lear. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, Is there onything you would particularly fancy, as your health seems but silly? 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* i, She was but of a silly constitution. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* vi. 49 There's Leeby 'at I couldna hae done without, me bein' sae silly.

†d. Scanty, sorry, meagre, poor. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 93 A Pedigree Of threescore and two yeeres, a silly time To make prescription for a Kingdomes worth. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. 187 Where they found but silly shelter. 1767 SIR R. COLVILLE in Dossie *Mem. Agric.* (1768) I. 412 Marsh land, of a light, silly, hungry soil.

3. Unlearned, unsophisticated, simple, rustic, ignorant. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 392 The silly herdman all astonied stands. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxx. § 5 To make the sillie people believe that the contrarie is maintained by the Bishops. 1632 HERBERT *Priest to Temple* xxi, Socrates ..found Philosophy in silly Tradesmen. 1687 LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 2 From Hell (of which the silly people of the Country think the top of this hill to be the mouth). 1739 *Better Regulation Free-Thinking* 2 The glaring Absurdities of Priest-craft..daily become the Scorn and Contempt of the sillyest Part of the People. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* I. 41 If, as I believe, this is of Heaven, My silly speech doth wrong it.

†b. Of humble rank or state; lowly. *Obs.*

a 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) vi. 26 So luvaris lair no leid suld lak, A lord to lufe a silly lass. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 96 He was shot thorough with an arrow amongst his men by a sillie footman. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 258 Little thought shee that that silly man that sate there..was the Sauiour of the world. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 388 This Duke, before whose face the silly ones did shine, and the proud stiffe-necked oppressours did tremble. 1647 FULLER *Gd. Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 108 The silliest and simplest, being wronged, may justly speak in their own defence.

c. Of things: Plain, simple, rustic, homely.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 926/1 Dauid had no more but a sylie slynge, and a few stones. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* Ep. Ded. p. iv, Consider how the silie netts of those Fishermen drew the pride of the world..to beleeve. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. v. (1660) 281 Before the invention of Printing, the onely means of preserving good Arts..was by this silly instrument the Pen. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativity* viii, Perhaps their loves, or els their sheep, Was all that did their silly thoughts so busie keep. 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* II. Wks. 1799 I. 46, I am quite enchanted with this new instrument; 'tis so languishing and so portable, and so soft and so silly. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. ii, The silly buckets on the deck..,I dreamt that they were filled with dew.

4. Weak or deficient in intellect; feeble-minded, imbecile. In early use *Sc.*

15.. *Christ's Kirk* 24 in *Bann. MS.* 283 Fow yellow yellow wes hir heid, But scho of lufe wes sillie. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scotl.* (1722) II. 318 He did not recover the Exercise of his Reason fully, but was silly, and next to an Idiot. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiv, Davie's no just like other folk..; but he's no sae silly as folk tak him for. 1881 GOLDW. SMITH *Lect. & Ess.* 193 The King's uncle, being rather weak in intellect, was called Silly Billy. 1889 H. O'REILLY *50 Yrs. on Trail* 9 A girl..who was a trifle silly. She could remember nothing, and was a great trouble.

5. Lacking in judgement or common sense; foolish, senseless, empty-headed.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 24 Wee sillie soules, take the matter too too heauily. 1598 FLORIO s.v. *Zane*, A sillie Iohn, a gull, a noddie. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Tim.* iii. 6 Of this sort are they which creep into houses, and leade captiue silly women. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 3 A wise and good Man..will neither be so stupid, as to be surpriz'd with any Disaster, nor so silly, as to encrease it by a fruitless Anxiety. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* v. 212 Her soul is silly, but her body's wise. 1766 C. O'CONOR *Dissert. Hist. Scotl.* 64 Silly Man! The Ridicule recoils doubly on his own Head. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines & Pol.* v. 77, I should be very silly to pay when I might have them without. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, 'Heaven help this silly fellow,' murmured the perplexed locksmith. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 312 The gentlemen often came into the drawing-room with glassy eyes, and silly of speech.

b. Of words, actions, etc.: Evincing or associated with foolishness.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 77 By vertue thou inforcest laughter, thy sillie thought, my spleene. 1590 — *Mids. N.* v. i. 212 This is the silliest stuffe that ere I heard. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. viii, His silly looks carried in them a despair of any worth. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 461 He writes every week the silliest, foolishest stories in the world. 1764 GRAY *Y. T.* 10 At our time of life 'twould be silly, my dear. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 380 With awkward gait, stretch'd neck, and silly stare. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* p. x, The silly blunder of estimating their own intrinsic resources above those of all the world beside. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xxxix. 16 For silly laughter, it's a silly thing indeed.

c. *Silly season*, the months of August and September, when newspapers supply the lack of real news by articles or discussions on trivial topics. Hence *silly-seasoner*, *-seasoning*.

1871 *Punch* 9 Sept. 102/2 The present time of the year has been named 'the silly season'. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Aug. 171/1 The 'silly season' having begun in real earnest, the newspapers are, as a necessary consequence, full of instructive and amusing matter. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 2/2 The *Chronicle's* suicide 'silly-seasoner' promises well. 1897 *Ibid.* 20 Aug. 7/3 Various questions of bathing..form the *Telegraph's* 'silly seasoning' this year.

d. *Cricket.* (See quot. 1897.)

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 246 *Silly*—Applied to point, mid-on and mid-off, when they stand dangerously near the striker. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 June 3/1 Strudwick..jumped from silly-point and caught it almost on the leg side of the wicket.

e. *Comb.*, often with quasi-adverbial force, as *silly-bold*, *-looking*, *-mild*; *silly-faced*, *-titled*; *-like* adv.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1151 It [love] shall be raging mad or sillie milde. 1760 R. JAMES *Treat. Canine Madness* 186 The reason of which was owing to his [i.e. a sheep-dog's] being what we vulgarly call silly mad. 1807 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 388 A few extracts from the silly-titled poem Epics of the Ton. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, A tall gawky silly-looking boy of fourteen or fifteen. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 301 *Silly-bold*, impertinently and unbecomingly free; assuming unseemly airs. 1903 LD. R. GOWER *Rec. & Rem.* 258 Silly-faced Charles X in the same apparel.

6. Stunned, stupefied, dazed, as by a blow.

1886 COLE *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., It made me quiet silly for a time. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *King Solomon's Mines* 217, I charged with them, and got knocked silly for my pains. 1892 BESANT *Ivory Gate* II. i. 9 We're knocked a bit silly just at first.

B. *sb.* A silly or foolish person. *colloq.*

1858 K. H. DIGBY *Children's Bower* I. 68 While your regular critics, like great sillies, are mistaking jewels or fruits for dirt. 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Gondoliers* II, She is what is called a silly. 1896 *Punch* 14 Mar. 124 You are not to be a silly.

C. *adv.* = SILLILY *adv.* 2. Now *dial.* or *colloq.*

1704 CIBBER *Careless Husband* I. i, If you did but see how silly a man fumbles for an excuse, when he is a little ashamed of being in love. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 268, I certainly behaved very silly, and she had a right to be angry with me. 1881 W. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Gloss.* s.v., How can you talk so silly?

Silly (si·li), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [f. the adj.]

1. *trans.* & *refl.* To render (oneself) foolish.

1866 W. GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.*

b. To render silly; to stupefy, stun.

1886 COLE *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., It didn't kill it, it only sillied it a bit.

2. *intr.* To act foolishly; to fool *about.*

1877 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Sillying about*, acting foolishly. 1891 KIPLING *Naulahka* vi, When a man sillies about like that, promising to meet a man..and not showing up.

Sillybob, Sillyebub, obs. ff. SILLABUB.

Silly-hood. *dial.* = next.

1836 FURNESS *Medicus-Magus* 61 Three weeks ago his silly-hood was lost. 1877 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

Silly-how. Now *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6, 8–9 *Sc.* sely how, 9 *Sc.* seely-, seeliehoo'; 7 syllie-hoe, 7- silly-how (7 sillie), 9 *Sc.* silly-hoo, *north.* -hue, -hew. [f. *sely* SEELY *a.* and SILLY *a.* + *how* HOUVE. Cf. the equivalent Sc. *happy how* and G. *glückshaube*.] A child's caul.

1574 J. JONES *Nat. Beg. Growing & Living Things* 26 Termed in Greeke..Chorion, Secundina of the Latines, of most in English, the Sely how. 1616 A. ROBERTS *Treat. Witchcraft* 66 That naturall couer wherewith some children are borne, and is called by our women, the sillie how. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* ii. 25 May wee not pull The Syllie-Hoe ..Away? but tarrie Infants, in the wombe Of Ignorance. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. to Douglas* s.v. *Howe*, In Scotland the women call a haly or sely How..a film or membrane stretched over the heads of Children new born. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *How*. 1867 W. ANDERSON *Rhymes* 67 *note* (E.D.D.), Anyone possessing a seelyhoo' legally is always progressing in fortune. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., The silly-hue is usually preserved, and is believed to sympathise with the person whose face it covered.

Si·llyish, *a. rare.* [f. SILLY *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat foolish.

1761 MRS. SHERIDAN *S. Bidulph* IV. 175 We were all infinitely good humoured, but rather sillyish.

Si·llyism. [f. SILLY *a.* + -ISM.] A silly expression or utterance.

1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 268 They fled with a blushless face to their old Sillyism, 'Ha! Lord! who would have thought it?' 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 714 Let any contemporary sumph give vent to a sillyism respecting a great man and it is sure to be transmitted to the latest posterity.

Sillyon, obs. forms of SELION.

†**Si·llyton.** *Obs.*—[1] A simpleton.

1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) II. 351 Sillyton [L. *inepta*], forbear railing, and hear what's said to you.

Silo (səi·lo), *sb.* [a. Sp. *silo* (hence also F. *silo*) :—L. *sīrum*, acc. of *sīrus*, a. Gr. σιρός a pit to keep corn in.]

1. A pit or underground chamber used for the storage of grain, roots, etc.

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Arts* II. 692/2 The grain put in his *silos*, in 1819, was sound and fresh in 1824. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 31 The great curiosity of Cockatoo Island is the Siloes—excavations in the solid rock, shaped like a huge bottle, 15 or 20 feet deep, by 10 wide, with a narrow neck, closed with a stone capsule luted with plaster. 1860 DOMENECH *Deserts of N. Amer.* II. 278 Winter family provisions are also placed in silos like those of the Arabs. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* I. 245 There are receptacles for the manure cut in the floor, also silos for grain.

2. *spec.* A pit, or an air- and water-tight chamber, in which green food is preserved for fodder by ensilage (cf. SILAGE).

1881 *Leeds Mercury* 6 June 7 Storing green maize or rye in air and water-tight concreted pits or 'silos'. 1885 *Spectator* 21 Feb. 249 Tares are very difficult to deal with in the silo. 1893 *Times* 11 July 4/1 Coarse hop bines may be chopped while green and put into the silo.

Hence **Si·lo** *v. trans.*, to put (green food) into a silo; to turn into ensilage.

1883 *Standard* 5 Dec. 2/3 The cost of siloing grass..was eleven shillings. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Sept. 3/2 His crop, which was siloed yesterday in Cheshire, only yielded 18 tons per acre.

†**Silour.** *Obs.* Also 5 silloure (siller), 6 siloure, siler; 5 sylour, cylour, cyllowre; sylure, cylere, 6 syler, *Sc.* sylar. [var. of CELURE: cf. SILE *v.*[4]]

1. A canopy. Also *attrib.*

1394 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 598 In uno Silour empt. pro d'no Priore, cum tinctura de Canevas et Rideil. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4915 þe silloure full of Seraphens & othire sere halows, With curtyns all of clene silke. 1418–*c* 1450 [see CELURE]. 1465 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 243 Lectus blodius..cum tapeta ejusdem coloris. Item j silour ejusdem coloris. 1523 in *Archaeologia* (1800) XXXVIII. 364 In the ..Knyghton chamber,..syler and tester of whyte..and the conterpoynte of the same. 1548 *Will of Colman* (Somerset Ho.), One coverlett of siloure worke.

2. A ceiling. Also *attrib.*

1424–5 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 272 Pro emendacione de sylour in aula, cum clavis empt., vj *d.* 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 357 To Dauid, wricht,..in part of payment of v lib. for the sylour completing. 1513 *Ibid.* IV. 524 To James Carvour, ij^{c} sylour naile, xij *d.* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 56 The sylar alss wes of the sypar tre,.. Richt curious carvit with mony ane knot.

So †**Siloured** *ppl. a.*; †**Silouring** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77/2 Cyluerde (*H.* cyluryd, *P.* cylered), *celatus. Ibid.* 456/1 Syluryd, *celatus.* 1450–1 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 276 Pro le silorynge ejusdem camere. 1452–3 *Ibid.* 277 Pro le sylorynge domus rasture. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 238 Bocht j^{e} estland burdis for the silouring of the chapell in Striueling. 1558 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (1835) I. 184 Y^{e} sillering in the parler.

‖ **Silphium** (si·lfiŭm). [L., ad. Gr. σίλφιον.]

1. A plant of the Mediterranean region, yielding a gum-resin or juice much valued by the ancients as a condiment or medicine; the juice obtained from this plant, also called LASER.

The plant has been variously identified as *Thapsia garganica* or *silphion*, and *Narthex silphium*. It was largely cultivated for export at Cyrene on the north coast of Africa.

[1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Silphium*, the Herb Laserwort.] 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Laser*, When Cyrene no longer afforded the *silphium*, it was sought for in other places. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadr.* II. 432 These, with the plant Silphium, were used to denote the country of Cyrene, where both were found. 1820 MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 239 The silphium, or herb Benjamin, was much used by the ancients in medicine. 1858 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* I. 268 The subject of Arcesilaus..attended by the different officers of his stores, and watching the weighing of the silphium. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 81 A trade by which Carthage obtained the commodities that she needed, wine, oil, dates, salt fish, silphium.

b. *attrib.*, as *silphium land, plant, -spice.*

1820 MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 239 Do you remember, sir, when silphium-spice was sold so cheap? 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 189 Representations of what is thought to be the silphium plant—an early source of commerce in Cyrene. 1899 MACNAGHTEN tr. *Catullus* vii. in *Story of Catullus* 28 As many grains as are of Libyan sand By rich Cyrene in the silphium land.

2. A genus of N. American composite plants including the rosin-weed or compass plant and the prairie dock; a plant of this genus.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 602/1. 1800 *Abercrombie's Ev. Man own Gard.* 629/2 *Silphium*, bastard chrysanthemum. 1819 *Pantologia* X. s.v., Jagged-leaved silphium...Broad-leaved silphium. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 336 *Silphium Trifoliatum*, Ternate-leaved Silphium.

Silt (silt), *sb.* Also 5 cylt(e, 6 sylt, 9 silth. [Of doubtful origin, but app. denoting a salty deposit: cf. Da. and Norw. *sylt*, Norw. and Sw. dial. *sylta* salt-marsh, sea beach; OLG. *sulta* (MLG. and LG. *sulte*, *sülte*, older Flem. *sulte*, Du. *zult*), OHG. *sulza* (MHG. *sulze*, G. *sülze*) salt-marsh, salt-pan, brine, all f. *sult-*, ablaut-variant of *salt-*: see SALT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1] One or other grade of the same stem is also represented by OE. *un(ge)sylt* unsalted, Du. *zilt* adj. salt.]

1. Fine sand, clay, or other soil, carried by moving or running water and deposited as a sediment on the bottom or beach; sometimes occurring as a stratum in soil.

a. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77 Cylte, soonde, *glarea.* 1523 SKELTON *Garland Laurel* 23 Thus stode I in the frythy forest of Galtres, Ensowkid with syit of the myry mose. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 529 This Country which the Ocean hath laied to the land, by sands heaped and cast together, they it terme Silt. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 191 The great Changes that have been between the Sea and Lands..by casting up Silt and Sand. 1692 RAY *Disc.* 45 The interjacent Fretum having been filled up by the Silt brought down by the River Nilus. *a* 1707 PATRICK *On Deut.* xi. 11 Many times there followed, after the water was gone off, great sicknesses and diseases, by the smell of

the silt which it had left behind. 1799 *View Agric. Lincoln* 265 The stratum of *silt* in this neighbourhood is every where impregnated with *salt*. 1823 BUCKLAND *Relig. Diluv.* 190 On the east coast of England there is also a considerable addition of silt and mud on some parts. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* viii, Before Tom had stood there five minutes, he was buried in silt up to his ankles. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 280 When the Thames has overflowed its banks it has deposited silt on the neighbouring land.

fig. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 223 The perpetual silt of some one weakness. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* iv, Such was the grey silt that came up to him that night from the deposits of his memory.

β. 1813 PRIEST *View Agric. Bucks.* 23 These streams..are suffered to be filled with silth, rubbish, and all sorts of aquatic plants. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 99/1 There will be water undoubtedly, as the ground is sand and gravel, with silth below.

b. A bed or layer of this matter.

1881 *Rep. Geol. Expl. N. Z.* 34 A dyke occurring close to the silts, which stretch from Tokatoka south past the Dwaroa river.

†2. *pl.* Dregs, refuse, scum. *Obs.*—[1]

1635 HEYLIN *Sabbath* II. (1636) 107 The common prostitutes, such as received the silts of all the towne.

3. A silt-snapper (see 4).

App. an alteration of the earlier *silk (-snapper)*.

1863 *Jamaica Notes* in *Intellect. Obs.* III. 194 The mode of fishing for deep-water Silts is very effective. 1883 *Fish. Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 170 The principal salt-water fishes are ..Silts,..King-fish, Barracouta and many others.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *silt-bearing* adj.; **silt-bucket, grass, -ground** (see quots.); **silt-snapper**. a Jamaican fish (cf. 3).

1863 *Jamaica Notes* in *Intellect. Obs.* III. 194 [A canoe] on its way to the Silt-ground at two hundred fathoms depth. *Ibid.*, The deep-water Silt-Snappers include some five different species, all similar in colour. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 3 May 4/7 A silt-bearing river like the Mersey. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 57/1 Silt-buckets for preventing the choking of drains. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants* 104 *Paspalum distichum*, ..'Sea-side Millet', 'Water Couch', 'Silt Grass'.

Silt, *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *intr.* Of a channel, river-bed, etc.: To become filled or choked *up* with silt or sediment.

1799 *View Agric. Lincoln* 16 [The well] runs equally every year, and in all seasons,..but it is apt to silt up. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 304 There is naturally a tendency in all estuaries to silt up partially. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Com.* 79 The harbour is silting up at the east point. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mountain & Mere* v. 28 As the years rolled on, the water subsided, the hollows silted up.

b. To flow or drift *in* after the manner of silt. Also *transf.* to pass gradually *away*.

1863 H. KINGSLEY *A. Elliott* I. 33 If the wreck of the Mary Anne was moved, the sand would silt in again. 1892 CLARK RUSSELL *List, ye Landsmen* iii, It seemed to me that the electric mass was silting away north, and that there would come a clear sky in the south presently.

2. *trans.* Of silt: To fill, block, or choke *up* (a channel, the bed of a river or the sea, etc.) by gradual accumulation. Also rarely without *up*. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 301 *Silt-up*, to obstruct..by a large accumulation of sand. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 275 The deposits which within the historical period have silted up some of our estuaries. 1865 ESQUIROS *Cornwall* 158 The sands with which the mouth of the Exe is silted. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* xxix. 469 That the tendency of the sea filling this valley is to silt it up rather than to deepen it.

transf. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* i. (1858) 43 The sand of the desert daily silting up the temples. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* x. § 481 The whole Atlantic ocean would..be finally silted up with salt.

fig. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 59 While Time's last sands silt up the streams of soul.

b. To cover *up* or *over* with silt.

1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 145 To leave his shell in the mud where it becomes silted over and imbedded. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 224 If, by the overflow of a river, the plant should become silted up in mud.

Hence **Si·lted** *ppl. a.*

1890 *Clacton News* 25 Jan. 2/4 The silted matter from the ditch is generally required to make up the bank.

Siltage (si·ltédʒ). *rare.* [f. SILT *sb.* + -AGE.] Silt, silted matter.

1876 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 6/4 Siltage was brought into the canal to the extent of nearly three million cubic yards. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Sept. 113 Internally the siltage of centuries had preserved the colouring.

Si·lting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SILT *sb.* or *v.* + -ING[1].]

†1. Siltage. *Obs. rare.*

1739 LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 5 A Shoal..made up of Sand and of the Washing or Silting of the River. *Ibid.* 64 The Silting of the River, which must accumulate in a long Course of Years.

2. The action of the verb; an instance of this. Usually with *up*.

1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Com.* 230 There will be a most rapid silting up of the timber pond. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 308 The slight silting of a few inches at Holyhead..Harbour. 1894 JESSOPP *Rand. Roam.* ii. 71 That causeway would..help..to bring about a gradual silting up of the little river.

attrib. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xx. 416 Many of these sandy tracts are no doubt the result of ordinary silting operations.

Silty (si·lti), *a.* [f. SILT *sb.* + -Y.] Of the nature of, or resembling, silt; composed of, or containing, silt.

1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 84 Should I silently pass by and imprint no Remarks on their Silty Sands, and Silver Streams. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 290/2 The ground towards the Middlesex side being of a looser and more sandy and silty nature. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. I. 115 The land..consists of a good thick loam upon a porous silty subsoil. 1883 E. P. RAMSEY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 42 Depth of water from 6 to 9 feet, with oyster-shells and silty bottom.

Siluan(e, obs. forms of SYLVAN.

Silure (siliū·r). *Ichth.* [a. F. *silure*, ad. L. *silūrus* SILURUS.] A siluroid fish, esp. the sheat-fish (*Silurus glanis*).

In Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* (1804) V. I. 9–27 several species are enumerated.

1802–3 *Pallas' Trav.* (1812) I. 21 The silures and sterlets, a smaller species of sturgeon, are caught only in the spring. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 10 European Silure. *Silurus Glanis*..The great or common Silure may perhaps be considered as the largest of all European river fishes. *Ibid.* 20 Rufous Silure..Native of South America.

Silurian (siliū·riăn), *a.* and *sb.*[1] [f. L. *Silur-es*, an ancient British tribe which inhabited the south-eastern part of Wales.]

1. Of or belonging to the ancient Silures, or to the district inhabited by them.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 89 To the utmost Bounds of this Wide Universe, Silurian Cyder borne shall please all Tasts. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* III. 97 Others apart, in the cool Shade retir'd, Silurian Cyder quaff. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 492 If your sheep are of Silurian breed. 1839 MURCHISON *Silurian Syst.* p. xxxi, We have no precise definition of the geographical limits of the Silurian kingdom. 1908 *Outlook* 14 Nov. 656/1 The hero who is sometimes called a 'British', and sometimes a 'Silurian' chief.

2. *Geol.* The name given to the system or series of Palæozoic rocks lying immediately below the Devonian or Old Red Sandstone; of or belonging to this formation, or to the period when it was deposited.

1835 MURCHISON in *Philos. Mag.* July 48, I venture to suggest that..the term 'Silurian System' should be adopted as expressive of the deposits which lie between the old red sandstone and the slaty rocks of Wales. 1842 MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* xiii. (ed. 2) 275 The animal organisms of the newer Silurian strata form essentially different groups from those of the Lower Old Red Sandstone. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* viii. (1855) 208 The seas of the silurian and oolitic periods. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 557/2 The classification of the Silurian, Devonian, and Permo-Triassic (Poikilitic) formations.

b. As *sb.* in *pl.* Silurian strata.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 13/2 Upper Silurians,..Lower Silurians. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 89 It [*sc.* gneiss] may be regarded as older than the silurians of that region. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 541/1 The clay-slates of the Lower Silurians.

Silu·rian, *sb.*[2] *Ichth.* [f. SILUR-US + -IAN.] A siluroid fish. Also **Silu·rid, Silu·ridan, Silu·ride, Silu·rine,** *a.* and *sb.*, = SILUROID.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 16 A small *Silurian from Cayenne, in which there is no adipose fin. *Ibid.* 17 The head..is flat and broader than in the other Silurians. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Silurid. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 388 The electric Silurid (*Malapterurus electricus*). 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ii. 121 A species of fish..belonging to a genus of the family of the *Siluridans. *Ibid.* 123 The serrated bone, or first ray of the pectoral fin,..is found in other Siluridans. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* ix. (1864) 247 A good supply of Jandia, a handsome, spotted *Siluride fish. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Silurine.

Si·lurist. [f. L. *Silur-es* (see SILURIAN *a.*) + -IST.] A native of the district anciently inhabited by the Silures.

Commonly used as the distinguishing epithet of H. Vaughan, who was born in Brecknockshire.

1650 (*title*), Silex Scintillans: or, Sacred Poems and Private Eiaculations by Henry Vaughan Silurist.

Siluro- (siliū·rō), used as combining form of SILURIAN *a.*, as *Siluro-Cambrian* adj.

1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 118 The Siluro-Cambrian series of Ireland is not yet certainly known to be anywhere complete in one district. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* iv. 56 The Lower Silurian, is the Upper Cambrian of Sedgwick, and may properly be called the Siluro-Cambrian.

Siluroid (siliū·roid), *a.* and *sb. Ichth.* [f. SILUR-US + -OID.]

A. *adj.* Of fishes: Belonging to the family *Siluridæ*, of the order *Physostomi*, characterized by the want of true scales, having only a naked skin or large bony plates.

1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* x. 242 A lower position in the scale than existing Ganoid or possibly Siluroid fishes. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xii. 10 A siluroid fish, inhabiting the fresh waters of South America. 1884 *Athenæum* 13 Dec. 775/1 Certain marine forms—for example,..the siluroid family Ariinæ.

B. *sb.* A fish belonging to this family.

1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* 439 The Siluroids are related to the Silurus. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 7 A siluroid of Brazil of the genus Platystoma. 1883 *Fish. Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 98 The males of some tropical sheat fishes or Siluroids also perform maternal duties.

Silurus (siliū·rŭs). *Ichth.* Pl. **Siluri.** [a. L. *silurus*, a. Gr. σίλουρος. Cf. SILURE.] A genus of fish typical of the family *Siluridæ*; a fish belonging to this genus, esp. the sly silurus (*S. glanis*) or sheat-fish, one of the largest fresh-water fishes of Europe.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 243 As for the Silurus, a cut-throat he is wheresoeuer he goeth, a great deuourer. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. i. (1862) II. 299 The Silurus or Sheath-fish. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 403 The Sly Silurus, *Silurus glanis*. 1840 LT. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingdom* 317 Their flesh is less disagreeable than that of the other Siluri. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 50 It is said that the silurus, when the prey is plentiful, will attain over 56 lb. in four years.

Silva: see SELVA. **Silvage,** obs. f. SALVAGE, SELVAGE. **Silvagee,** obs. f. SELVAGEE. **Silvan, -ite, -ity,** varr. SYLVAN, -ITE, -ITY.

Silver (si·lvəɹ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 siolfor (siolofr-, siolufr-), seolfor, -fur, -fer (seolfr-, seulfr-), 2–3 seoluer (seolur-, 2 seolure), 3 soluer, solure. *β.* 2, 5 selfer (2 selfr-), 4 selfur; 3–5 seluer (3 selur-, 4 zeluer), 4–5 selver. *γ.* 1 sylofr, sylfor, -fur, 2 syluer, sylure; 1 sulfer (suulfr-), 3 suelfer, 3–4 suluer. *δ.* 1 silofr, 3 sillferr; 2–7 siluer (2 silur-, 5 siluere, 6–7 *Sc.* silwer), 4– silver; 4–6 siluir, -vir (5 -uire, -uyre); 4–5 syluere (5 cyl-), 4–7 syluer (5 cyl-), 5–7 sylver (5 -fer, 6 -var); 4 syluyre, 5 -uir, 5–6 -vir; 5 sylure, -wor, 6 -uur. *ε. Sc.* 6 syller, 6– siller. [Common Teut.: OE. *siolfor, seolfor*, etc., = OFris. *selover, selver* (later *selvir, silver*; WFris. *sulver*, dial. *selver*). OLFrank. *silver* (MDu. *silver, selver, sulver*, Du. *zilver*), OS. *silubar, silobar* (MLG. and LG. *silver, sülver, sulver*, etc.), OHG. *sil(a)bar, silbir*, etc. (MHG. and G. *silber*), ON. *silfr* (Icel. *silfur*, Sw. *silfver*; MSw. *silf, self, sylf*, Norw. *sylv*, Da. *sølv*), Goth. *silubr*. Related forms are found in the Balto-Slavic languages, as OSlav. *sĭrebro*, Russ. *serebro*, Pol. *śrebro*, etc., Lith. *sidabras*, Lett. *sudrabs*; as to the relationship of these and the ultimate origin of the word no definite conclusions have been established.]

I. **1.** One of the precious metals (in general use ranking next to gold), characterized in a pure state by its lustrous white colour and great malleability and ductility. Chemical symbol Ag.

Various forms of the metal, pure or mixed with other substances, are distinguished by defining terms, as *antimonial, bromic, horn, native, red, ruby silver*; *capillary, shell silver*, etc. The name is also given to several natural or artificial substances resembling or imitating the real metal, as *cat, German, inflammable, mock silver*.

α. β. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxv. 10 Swe mid fyre bið amearad seolfur. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvii. 268 Ðonne bið hit swiðe leaslice on siolofres [*v.r.* siolufres] hiewe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Nu hit is mid golde & mid seolfre ȝefrætwod. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 227 Hi worhtan ham anlicnessen, sum of golde, sum of selfre. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 493 Þeos maumez beoð imaket of gold, & of seoluer. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 4/115 Of seluer and of gold one riche schrine heo wrouȝte. *a* 1400 N. T. (Paues) 1 *Cor.* iii. 12 Gold, oþer selfer, oþer precyous stones. 1418 in *E. E. Wills* 32, vj disshes & vj Sawcers of seluer.

γ. δ. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John p. 188 Mid suulfre ofergylded. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xv. 2 Nu mec wlonc þeceð ȝeong hagostealdmon golde & sylfore. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxv. 9 Þou fraisted vs, als siluer fraisted isse. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 7 Imange all metalles nan is þat swetterly chymes þan syluere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77 Cyluer, *argentum*. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 42 A peyre of bedys of sylvir. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 Saynt Gregory..sayth that electrum is a myxture of syluer & golde myngled togyder. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 902 Deck't with Coperass, With Gold and Silver, Lead, and Mercury. 1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse Race* Wks. (Grosart) III. 327 There likewise should you behold a Mine of Siluer, ambitiously aspiring to bee as glorious Gold. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 269 The Silver here, and all over the Kingdom of Mexico, is said to be finer and richer in proportion than that of Potosi or Peru. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 59 Sulphurous veins and liveing silver shine. 1779 *Mirror* No. 17, A crooked piece of silver, which he, at first, mistook for a shilling. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 47 Silver..burns more readily than platinum or gold. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 359 Silver is obtained from its ores chiefly by roasting, crushing, and amalgamation with mercury.

fig. a 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 187 The goodman..there is silver and golde in his speeches and actions, that is, they are likewise precious. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 45 His tongue was silver and his heart was fire.

ε. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. i, As bright as any syller,..& straight as any pyller. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, With sprainges like gowd, and siller cross'd with black.

† b. *transf.* Quicksilver. *Obs.*

1607 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Summa Totalis* Wks. (Grosart) I. 13/1 Siluer selfe-mouing, we call Siluer-quick.

c. With *a* and pl. A piece or strip of silver.

1856 *Orr's Circle Sci., Pract. Chem.* 80 They are connected, all the zincs by one wire, and all the silvers by another wire.

2. The metal regarded as a valuable possession or medium of exchange; hence, silver coin; also (chiefly *Sc.*), money in general.

α. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* civ. 37 Dryhten..utalædde hie in seolfre & golde. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John p. 188 Æhtu ora seulfres. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1102, Þeofas..þær inne naman mycel to gode on golde & on seolfre. *c* 1205 LAY. 15050 Ȝe senden after cnihtes, & ȝeuen heom soluer & gold. *c* 1275 in *O. E. Misc.* 89 Habbe he þe yeftes of seoluer and of golde.

β. a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 33 Ne haue ðu hope te golde ne to seluer. *c* 1250 *Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 188 Euer of þe purse þat seluer heo tulleþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 Aye þise heste zeneȝeþ þo þet to moche louieþ hire guod gold oþer zeluer. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 745 in *Babees Bk.*, Seluer he [the almoner] deles rydand by way. 1472 *Presentmts. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 24 Yf it came be prewyd þat he his bed [=is bid] no selver tharfor.

γ. *c* 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlviii. 368 Gold & sylofr ic him sealde ȝenoh. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 9 Nallas ȝe aȝneȝe gold ne sulfer [*Rushw.* sylfur] ne feh on gyrdilsum iurum. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135, Wua sua bare his byrthen gold & sylure. *c* 1205 Lay. 3570 Wenne þu wult more suluer sæche hit at me suluen. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7779 Þe king in such manere suluer wan ynou. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. iv. 116 þe meyre hue by-souhte Of alle suche sellers suluer to take.

δ. *c* 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xlviii. 368 Ðonne he doð..ðæt silofr to diofolȝieldum. 1128 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1128, Se kyng..micele ȝersumes him ȝeaf on gold & on silure. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 228 [They] waren al to gradi of siluer and of golde. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4434 He sal gyf þam..Of gold and silver gret plente. 1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 20 Þe siluer þat schal be reseyvyd for þe londes. 1484 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 517 To gedur syluer for the Reparacion of the same. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 971 The vther..Concludit schortlie for to slea him, For vyling of his syluer fra him. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. xxxii. 295, I meane by profitable plants, those, which..bring silver to theyr maisters. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 201 He hath bequeathed all his siluer to me: *ergo*, his ready money. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 67/2 He afterwards distributed silver, to the amount of one lack of rupees. 1845 Browning *Lost Leader* 1 Just for a handful of silver he left us.

ε. *c* 1720 Ramsay *Last Speech Miser* i, Am I forc'd to die, And nae mair my dear siller see? 1790 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 24 Ilka melder, wi' the miller, Thou sat as lang as thou had siller. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xx, She'll hae a hantle siller. 1843 Bethune *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 48 Nobody will lend him siller. 1896 W. Harvey *Kennethcrook* 52 (E.D.D.), It was seldom the weaver would come to any terms other than 'siller doon'.

† b. The price in silver *of* something. *Obs.*—1

1411 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 19 þat alle þe londes..be sold, and þe Siluer þere-of spendyd to þe avaunc ement of lucie, my dowter.

3. Articles made of silver; silverware, silver-plate.

13.. *K. Alis.* (Laud MS.) 1156 He dude seruen Olympias In golde, in siluer [*W.* seolver], in bras, in glas. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxxvi, In siluer sa semly þai serue þame of the beste. *c* 1480 *Paston Lett.* III. 271, ij. lyneu bagges ..with broke silver and j. old harneis gilt. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 313 The Persians for the most part eat in Porcellane or earth, not valuing Silver. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xliv, The profusion of gold and silver that glittered on the sideboards. 1842 Tennyson *Will Waterproof* 127 [He] Sipt wine from silver. 1864 — *Enoch Arden* 742 For cups and silver on the burnish'd board Sparkled and shone.

pl. 1830 Tennyson *Recoll. Arab. Nts.* 125 A million tapers flaring bright From twisted silvers.

4. The metal as used for the ornamentation of textile fabrics; silver thread. *Cloth of silver*: see Cloth *sb.* 9 c.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 255/1 Brauderie..wrought with Gold or Silver of Cipre. 1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 499 Ten hankis off gold and ten hankis of silver the fynest that can be gottin. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. iv. 20 Cloth a gold and cuts, and lac'd with siluer. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iv. 69 Her Bed-chamber..was hang'd With Tapistry of Silke, and Siluer. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* v. xvi, His cloak was all of Poland fur, His hose with silver twin'd.

5. As a tincture in heraldry, more commonly called Argent, but cf. quot. 1868.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 415 A lyoun..Of siluir ȝe se sho'd To ramp in array. 1478 in W. G. D. Fletcher *Shropsh. Grants of Arms* (1909) 12 A cross engrayled gold or bythwen foure rosses silver, and to his tymbre a gauntelet sillver sette in a wrethe gold. 1562 Legh *Armory* (1597) 4 Called Siluer, and blased by the name of Argent. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Metal*, In Engraving [arms], Gold is expressed by dotting the Coat, &c. all over; Silver, by leaving it quite blank. 1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* v. xxxii, Saint Andrew's cross, in blazonry Of silver, waving wide! 1868 Cussans *Her.* (1893) 50 In blazoning a Charge ..supposed to be actually composed of metal..the terms *gold* and *silver* should be employed.

6. A silvery colour or lustre.

1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxii. (Arb.) 85 Wherin stode somme strange hystoryes whiche were of gold, of sable, of siluer. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 108 By yonder Moone I vow, That tips with siluer all these Fruite tree tops. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 310 The willow such, And poplar, that with silver lines his leaf. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 71 See the pale azure fading into silver. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lviii, There were scarce three lines of silver in her soft brown hair. 1896 Black *Briseis* xvii, A swan came breasting along,..leaving behind it two flashing divergent lines of silver.

7. a. A variety of insect, fish, bird, etc., having silvery colouring or markings.

1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 76 The Tawny Silver. 1875 *Spectator* (Melbourne) 19 June 81/1 Common fish, such as garfish, strangers, silvers, and others. 1879 L. Wright *Pigeon Keeper* 96 Silvers are divided into what is called brown barred and black-barred. 1903 F. Simpson *Bk. Cat* xii. 138 At present our silvers are too full of tabby markings.

b. *Photogr.* A salt of silver, *esp.* nitrate of silver.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 61 In the dark room add the silver to the collodion.

II. *attrib.* passing into *adj.*

8. Made or consisting of silver.

These collocations may be employed as the base of formations like *silver medallist, silver trumpeter*, etc.

1032 in *Anglia* XI. 8 Do hi ealle to gædere þæt þritig seolior stieca. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4858 He..did a siluer cupe at bide In a sek. *Ibid.* 8242 A siluer cercle. ?1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 97 A sylvre nedle forth I drogh Out of an aguiler. 1424 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 58 One of my siluere girdeles. 1457–8 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 297 To ber ij. sylver masys befor the Baylyfys. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij, Clense theym clene with a sylver spone. 1530 Palsgr. 270/1 Sylver vessell, *vessaille dargent.* 1563 Winȝet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 114 Quhy iuge ȝe the goldin and siluir chalissis? 1621 Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 33 The manufacture of gold and sylver thrydd. 1669 R. Montagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 440, I am sure without this my Lord St. Alban's would not have left a silver spoon in the house. 1685 Boyle *Eff. Motion* v. 55. I caused a Watch to be suspended by a little Silver-chain. 1725 *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 83 Plenty of silver tumblers. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 79 The size of the watch is something less than a silver two-pence. 1808 Scott in *Lockhart* (1869) III. xviii. 159, I..have only hopes that he may be shot with a silver bullet. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade* s.v., The British silver coinage consists of crowns, half-crowns [etc.]. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 84 You will value the old silver inkstand.

b. In fig. contexts. (See also Spoon *sb.*)

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. v. 764 We schollers fish for a liuing in these shallow foardes without a siluer hoock. 1605 Breton *Honour Valour* viii, To fish for honour with a siluer hooke. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Combattre*, Those that with siluer weapons fight are sure to ouercome. 1679, 1798 [see Key *sb.*[1] 3 b]. 1805 Scott *Last Minstrel* v. xiii, True love..is the secret sympathy, The silver link, the silken tie [etc.]. 1843 Le Fevre *Life Trav. Phys.* II. i. xiii. 22 They may be bribed, as we proved..when our cavalcade passed the barriers with a silver key.

c. Containing threads of silver, or some imitation of this.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., Threads of pure Silver, interwove like a Silver Galoon, that has been burnt to get out the Silk. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 298 Silver-twist-hackle. Dub with the herl of an ostrich feather. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Silver-lace*, wire coated with silver, and woven into lace. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlewk.* 225/1 The Gold and Silver Laces of the present day consist of warp threads of silk, or silk and cotton combined.

d. Mounted or plated with silver; wrapped in silvered paper.

1898 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 5/3 The prizes include silver handglasses and scent-bottles. 1904 *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 238/2 Tiny silver comfits wedged into every available little space.

9. Producing or yielding silver.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 798 *Hec argentifodina*, a sylverquarelle. *a* 1490 Botoner *Itin.* (Nasmith, 1778) 105 Beereferrys ubi les sylver mynes fodiuntur. 1548 Elyot, *Argentaria fodina*, a..syluer myne. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 1 The precious earth of golde and siluer mines. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Zilver-ader*, a Silver-veine. 1701 De Foe *True-born Eng.* I. 6 With all the Silver Mountains of Peru. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 257 They have for a long time been working it as a rich silver mine. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall* x. 284 As true silver-lodes are found in it, it may also be termed argentiferous. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 344 Some promising silver-lodes have lately been taken up. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 9 A promising market for various silver properties.

b. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 July 2/1 The 'Silver Senators'—that is, the representatives of silver-producing States.

10. Of or pertaining to, connected with, characteristic of, silver.

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 262 The gold-smith in the silver-streete. *a* 1618 J. Davies (Heref.) *Witte's Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 47/1 Riuers of Nectar ran on golden Sand (With siluer-cleerenesse) through that Paradice. 1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* 33 Near to which are conveniently placed the Smelting and Refining Mills, which therefore are called the Silver Mills. 1681 Grew *Museum* III. ii. i. 324 White Silver Ore, or of a silver-colour, from Cremnitz in Hungary. 1813 *Edin. Rev.* XXII. 148 Von Buch engaged a place in the silver-waggon. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 158/1 Our gold and silver standards similarly stated would be 917 and 925 respectively. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 73/2 This alleged fall, its causes, consequences, and remedies, constitute the 'Silver Question'.

b. Denoting compounds of which silver forms a part.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 442/1 Some silver amalgama is pressed upon it through a chamois skin. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 8 Silver-salts exposed to light become black by the absorption of oxygen. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 354 When chlorine gas is passed over fused silver fluoride, silver chlorine is formed. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 123/1 Gold of 20 carats with 4 carats of silver alloy.

c. Of or pertaining to silver articles or silverware.

1648 Hexham II, *Een Zilver-schapkraeye*, a Silver-cup-board. 1686, 1725 [see Scullery 1 b]. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 17 April 5/1 Finding that the silver trade has rejected..what he proposed as a boon. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 1/3, I should probably catch hold of..the things off my silver-table.

d. Advocating, relating to, etc., the adoption of silver as a currency or standard.

1890 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 2/4 Why should we not have stored bullion instead? Silver men will probably answer [etc.]. 1893 *Nation* 29 June 467/1 The very little game which our silver-bugs..are trying to play on us. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 271 The silver cabal won at every point.

11. a. Used for holding (silver) money. *rare.*

1526 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 402 Every man or woman which makith aquavitie, honied alle [or] singill alle to be ratiffied and sold, to paye the accostomid ratte to the silver boxe. 1773 Fergusson *Sitting of Session* vii, Gin ony..has na lous'd his siller pocks. *a* 1837 R. Nicoll *Poems* (1842) 110 Misers make Their heaven o' a siller bag.

† b. *Sc.* Of payments, etc.: Made or levied in (silver) money. *Obs.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 143 To pay to thame the..sylvir prices and maillis of the samyn. 1596 Melvill *Autobiog.* (Wodrow Soc.) 332 Setting..lyff-rents successive for peyment of small silver-dewtie. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Firmarius*, Quhidder it be siluer-maill, victuall, or vther duetie. *a* 1688 Dallas *Stiles* 279 Which Lands.. amount in yearly free Rent..to [so much] Silver-Rent. 1754 Erskine *Princ. Law Scot.* IV. ii. (1870) 587 Even intromission with the silver rent.

c. Played for stakes in silver coin.

1748 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 223 There were silver pharaoh and whist for the ladies.

12. Having the whiteness or lustre of silver; silvery. Chiefly *poet.*

Silver lining: see Lining *vbl. sb.*[1] 2 b.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 636 And firy Phebus..dryeth in the greues The siluer dropes hangynge on the leues. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 937 The freshnes of the clere wellys..Made the colde siluer stremes To shyne ageyn the sonne bemes. *c* 1450 — *Secrees* 1316 The lusty Silvir dewh in the grene meedys. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 410 Ane..bure in till asure..Siluer sternis so fair. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. i. 46 This precious stone, set in the siluer sea. 1605 — *Mach.* II. iii. 118 Here lay Duncan, His Siluer skinne lac'd with his Golden Blood. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VII. 52 Fair Galatea, with thy silver Feet, O. whiter than the Swan. 1738 Gray *Propertius* iii. 21 Yonder Star..with silver light Relumes her crescent Orb to cheer the dreary Night. 1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* II. 202 In gentler climes their silver currents flow. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* xii, A lodging..which looked out upon the silver Thames (for Thames was silver then). 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 257 Brightening more and more with the silver dawn.

b. Of the hair, beard, or head, when white with age. Also in fig. context.

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 253 Auncient men, vpon whose siluer heads the Almond-tree hath blossomde. 1592 Lyly *Midas* II. i, If one be olde, & haue siluer haires on his beard. 1606 *Sir Gyles Goosecappe* v. i, This speech hath silver haires, and reverence askes. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* VII. xl, Her silver heads adorning, (Her dotage index). 1810 Jane Porter *Sc. Chiefs* xxviii, The long silver beard..hung over his hands. 1833 Tennyson *May Queen* III. iv, O blessings on his kindly heart and on his silver head! 1850 — *In Mem.* lxxxiv, To reverence and the silver hair.

transf. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 43 You, Lord Archbishop,..Whose Beard, the Siluer Hand of Peace hath touch'd. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* II. 706 No Silver Rev'rence guards the stooping Age.

13. Of sounds: Having a clear gentle resonance like that of silver; soft-toned, melodious.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 We shal yelde a benigne & gentyll answere, & gyue a swete syluer sounde as yᵉ tryed syluer. 1592 Breton *C'tess Pembroke's Love* vii, Some brought in musicke of most siluer sounde. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v. 93 A Swaine (with Lawrell crown'd) Marrying his sweet Noates with their siluer sound. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nat.* xiii, Let your silver chime Move in melodious time. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 426 The vaulted roof..Reflecting to the queen the silver sounds. 1801 Busby *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Viol d'amour*, A kind of silver sound, at once..soft, sweet, and tender. 1839 Marryat *Phant. Ship* iii, He recalled..her silver voice. 1857 Ld. Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* 160 A mingled stream of music, light, and silver laughter.

b. Eloquent, persuasive, sweet-spoken.

1594 in Ingelby *Shaks. Cent. Praise* 12 As worthie subjects of your silver pen. 1713 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. viii, Serjeant such-a-one has a Silver Tongue at the Bar. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Briery Creek* iv, It must be such a silver tongue as never yet spoke that could persuade any nation [etc.]. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* xv. 150 Mr... Crawley; to whose silver tongue the world owed the liberty of many a ruffian. 1896 Mrs. Caffyn *Quaker Grandmother* 198, I..would give my eyes for..the silver tongues of them.

14. a. *poet.* Soft, gentle.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 22 All the night in siluer sleepe I spend.

b. Prosperous, happy. Cf. Silver age 1.

1659–60 *Pk. Skippon's Petit. to Citie of London* 1 Alas, those Silver daies are done, and this iron Age hath overtaken your poor Petitioner.

15. Of or pertaining to the silver age of Latin (see Silver age 1 b).

1889 Jacobs *Æsop* 14 Some of the fables..were products of Silver Latinity. 1896 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IX. 487 In any given passage in a silver Latin author. *Ibid.*, One of the best-known authors of the silver period, Juvenal.

III. *Comb.*

16. Objective or obj. genitive: **a.** With agent-nouns, as *silver-chaser, -plater, -polisher*, etc.

a 1400 N. T. (Paues) *Acts* xix. 24 For one, whos name was Demetrye, þat was a siluer-maker,..he gafe [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 340/1 A Syluer maker or keper, *argentarius*. 1680 C. Ness *Ch. Hist.* 242 Those sordid silver-lovers..being courtiers had a fair opportunity. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2770/4 A Silver-spinner in Bunhill-fields. 1718 W. Penn *Wks.* (1726) I. 713, I being a Silver-Spinster. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 153 Mr. Mansel, silver polisher, in Corbet-court. 1819 *Pantologia* X, *Silver-beater*, one that foliates silver. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 731 The silver-piercer sits at the silversmiths' and jewellers' ordinary work-bench. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* viii, She is alive,..and is married to a silver-chaser. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Silver-plater*, an electrotyper. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2195/2 The bane of the gold and silver miner.

b. With pres. pples., as *silver-bearing, -producing, -shaming, -shedding.*

1591 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* III. i. 230 Sad sighes, deepe grones, nor siluer-shedding teares. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Vision*, Sitting alone..Close by a Silver-shedding Brook. *a* 1699 J. Beaumont *Minor Poems, Whiteness*, The Silver-shaming Grace Of the Moon's unclouded Face. *c* 1710 Valden *To Sir H. Mackworth* xiv, The Silver-shedding Beams of Orient Light. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 251, 2 to 3 feet of silver-bearing quartz. 1888 *Daily News* 5 Apr. 5/2 If Lancashire depends for custom upon silver-using countries to this extent. 1891 *Ibid.* 23 Feb. 5/7 The popular reaction against free coinage continues, extending even to the silver-producing States.

c. With vbl. sbs. or nouns of action, as *silver-mining, -plating, -reduction.*

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 25/1 The art of silver-plating was introduced at Sheffield about the middle of the last century. 1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 47 The vats used for ordinary silver-plating are about twenty-four or thirty inches deep. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* p. ix, In all silver-reduction works. *Ibid.* 245 The silver-mining of Beaver Head County.

17. Parasynthetic and instrumental, of the types *silver-armed, -axled, -bearded, -browed; silver-bound, -mounted,* etc.

Such combinations have been very extensively used, esp. in poetry, and the number which might be formed is very great. In addition to those illustrated here, see SILVER-COLOURED, -FOOTED, -HAIRED, etc.

a. Denoting the use of the metal itself.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii, A hoode, and siluer-handled fan. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 442 Fair silver-shafted Queen for ever chaste. *c* 1640 — *Arcades* 33 Fair silver-buskind Nymphs. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1495/4 A Case of Silver-hafted Knives. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. I. ix. 49 The serjeants of the guards have silver-laced regimentals. 1813 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. ii. 99, I..delight in collecting silver-mounted pistols and ataghans. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* xlv, Rowena opened the small silver-chased casket. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvii, There was the jewel-case, silver-clasped. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 259 [He] bids [his horse]..to dig for him a grave..with his silver-plated hoofs. 1889 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Idyls* 18 The grandmother looked..over her silver-rimmed spectacles.

b. With allusion to the sound of silver.

1593 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 191 Ioyfull birds..Whose siluer tuned songs might well haue moued her. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* v. i. 111 My dearest wife was like this maid,.. As silver-voiced. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* To Rdr., I strike my silver-sounded lyre. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xxii, Though sometimes she would bind me with her silver-corded speeches. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 271/2 The beautiful note of the silver-voiced bell-bird.

c. With reference to the colour or lustre of silver.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 214 The silver-fronted Star, That swells and shrinks the Seas. 1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 25 Her silver-feathered turtle-doves. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* Wks. (Grosart) II. 69 Euen the siluer-bearded..cittizens haue giuen him welcomes. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 76 When silver-winged Peace againe shall Shine. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 924 The silver-eddied Peneus. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atlas* lvii, Like a calm flock of silver-fleeced sheep. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 82 A silver-barked beech, or a lime tree in full blossom. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 136 A saviour of the silver-coasted isle. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* 112 And where's the gloom now?—silver-smitten straight, One glow and variegation!

d. In specific names of animals, birds, fishes, plants, etc.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 55/2 The Spanish *Silver-cupped Moly. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 252 The *silver-eyed Sparus. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 431 Silver-eyed Snake...A Siberian species. 1809 *Ibid.* VII. II. 366 Silver-eyed crow. ..Native of South America. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 876/1 Another useful race of compact form.., called the *silver-laced Wyandotte. 1887 BELDEN in Wright *Illustr. Bk. Poultry* 382 These and all other names are gradually giving way to that of *Silver-pencilled Hamburghs. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 59 In the '*silver-spangled' variety, the only perceptible difference is, that the ground color is a silvery white. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xiv. (1890) 426 The Golden and Silver-spangled Polish..breeds. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 540 *Silver-spotted Sciæna...Native of the Arabian seas. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 320 The Silver-spotted Tunny, *Orcynus argentivittatus.* 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 174 *Silver-striped Herring...Native of the Indian and American seas. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 78/2 The sycamore maple,.. Silver-striped. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 45 The *Silver-studded Blue (*Polyommatus ægon*) is common on heaths. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend., Argynnis Paphia,* the *silver-washed Fritillary. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 147 One of our handsomest butterflies—The Silver-washed Fritillary.

18. With pres. pples., in the sense of 'like, or with, silver', as *silver-eddying, -flashing, -flowing,* etc.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 72 The siluer sounding instruments. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 24 The morning's silver-melting dew. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* G.'s Wks. (Rldg.) 117 Rounded with Lycus' silver-flowing streams. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 46 The Siluer-shining Sand expresseth Sulpher. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* x. cclxxiv, When Eloquence's tributary streams After the Silver-thrilling Current run. 1725 POPE *Odyssey* I. 464 Pallas..In slumber clos'd her silver-streaming eyes. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 10 Wanders the hoary Thames along His silver-winding way. 1830 TENNYSON *Recoll. Arab. Nts.* 51 The central fountain's flow Fall'n silver-chiming. 1845 HIRST *Poems* 77 Whence arise..his silver-swelling strains? 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 46 The steel..Hung silver-glittering on high.

19. Qualifying other adjectives, as *silver-bright, -clear, -golden,* etc.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 166 How siluer sweet, sound Louers tongues by night. 1595 — *John* II. i. 315 Their Armours that march'd hence so siluer bright. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 91/1 Many a glitt'ring siluer-golden spang. 1749 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 32 Oft woo'd the gleam of Cynthia silver-bright. 1830 TENNYSON *Lilian* 24 Silver-treble laughter trilleth. 1833 — *Two Voices* 428 A little whisper silver-clear. 1871 BROWNING *Pr. Hohenstiel* 308 Where some segment silver-true Stays clear.

20. With sbs., forming an attributive comb.

1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 38 Then by Alcandre t' Helena divine A silver brim guilt basket given was. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1238/4 A bright silver-hair bay Gelding.

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Silver-spoon-head,* in Archery, is the Head of some sort of Arrows, so called from the resemblance they have to the knobs of some sorts of Silver-spoons. 1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Lincoln.* 385, 2000 couple of silver hair [rabbits]. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 108 Silver-stripe Pike, *Esox Hepsetus.*

IV. 21. Special combs.: **silver-balli, bar** (see quots.); **silver bath,** a solution, esp. of silver nitrate, used for sensitizing photographic plates and printing paper; a dish to contain this; **silver-beggar, -black** (see quots.); †**silver bridal,** = *silver marriage*; **silver bronze** (see quot.); †**silver caustic,** lunar caustic; †**silver-eyed** *a.*, wall-eyed; **silver-feast,** = *silver wedding*; †**silver-foam,** litharge; **silver-fork,** used *attrib.* to designate a school of novelists about 1830 distinguished by an affectation of gentility; **silver glass** (see quots.); †**silver-glet,** litharge; †**silver-hider,** a miser; **silver lustre,** a composition used for silvering potter's ware; †**silver-marriage** (in Sc. form *siller*), a marriage at which each guest contributed a money-offering; **silver oar** (see quot. 1867); **Silver Office,** an office formerly attached to the Court of Common Pleas; **silver piece** (see the quotation for *silver bar*); †**silver-pill** (see quot.); **silver-point,** the process of making a drawing with a silver pencil on specially prepared paper; a drawing made in this way; **silver-powder,** a preparation of bismuth, tin, and mercury, used by japanners, etc. (Knight, 1875); **silver print,** a photograph produced by silver-printing; **silver-printing,** (*a*) the process of producing a photograph on paper sensitized with a silver salt; (*b*) printing in which the letters, etc., have a silver colour; †**silver quinsy,** = *silver sickness*; **silver rain** (see RAIN *sb.*[1] 4 c); **silver sand,** a fine white sand used in horticulture, etc.; †**silver-sick** *a.*, avaricious; †**silver sickness** (see quot. 1706 and cf. *silver quinsy*); **silver-side,** the upper and choicer part of a round of beef; **silver-skin,** (*a*) a variety of potato; (*b*) an inner skin on coffee-beans; **silver solder,** a solder partly composed of silver; hence *v.* and *vbl. sb.*; †**silver-spat,** a silver-bearing rock; **silver-spoonism** (see quot.); †**silver squinsy,** = *silver sickness*; **silver steel,** a fine steel containing a small amount of silver; **silver-stick** (see quot.); †**silver stone,** a variety of granite; **silver streak,** the English Channel; also *attrib.*; **silver string, -tail, -tailed** *a.* (see quots.); **silver thaw,** the phenomenon of rain freezing as it falls and forming a glassy coating on the ground, trees, etc.; (see also quot. 1867); **silver thread,** used *attrib.* to denote a variety of ironstone; **silver top,** *U.S.*, a disease in grasses which whitens the upper part of the stalk; †**silver web,** a kind of confection in sugar; **silver wedding,** the twenty-fifth anniversary of a wedding (cf. *silver-feast*); **silver weight,** (*a*) the weight used for silver; (*b*) the equivalent weight in silver; †**silver-worm,** a glow-worm; **silver wreck,** a wrecked silver-ship.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade,* **Silver-balli,* a wood obtained in Demerara from a species of Nectandra. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 241 [The] *Silver Bar [or] Silver Piece [is] the graduated arc at the extremity of a watch regulator when it is made of silver. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 61 The following formula for the *silver-bath solution is a standard one. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 38 The silver bath..standing in the sun,..that it may do its dark work the better. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 230 **Silver-beggar* or *Lurker,* a vagabond who travels through the country with 'briefs' containing false statements of losses by fire, shipwrecks, accidents, &c. 1805 R. JAMESON *Min.* II. 152 *Silver-black...Colour bluish-black, which inclines a little to dark lead-grey. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* III. 457/2 *Silver Black,* an earthy form of Silver Glance..found in several Saxon and Hungarian mines. 1624 *Rec. Presbytery of Fordyce* (MS.), Abuses at *Sylver brydells. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125 **Silver bronze,* a metallic powder used for silver printing. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Silver,* This powder applied to ulcers, acts in the manner of the lapis infernalis, or *silver-caustic. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3086/4 A dark Iron grey Mare,..*Silver Eyed. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3857/4 A small black Gelding about 13 hands,..Wall or Silver-Ey'd. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. 216 The celebration of what he called his *Silver-feast, being the twenty-fifth anniversary of his marriage. 1806 MRS. BARBAULD *Wks.* (1825) II. 125 We should have great pleasure in keeping with you your silver feast, as the Germans call it when a couple have lived happily a quarter of a century together. 1565 COOPER *Thes., Argyritis,* *siluer fome. 1611 COTGR., *Litharge d'argent,* siluer foame. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 59/1 A man who would die a martyr to his faith in the *silver-fork school of manners and morals. 1884 J. PAYN *Lit. Recollect.* 154 It had the culture of the silver-fork school without their affectation. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 62/2 Some of the rich silver ores are easily tried: for instance, *minera argenti vitrea,..* *silver-glass, which consists only of silver and sulphur. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 813/1 *Silver Glass,* an ornamental ground and cut glass. This glass can be used in the place of plaster, marble floors, or wood inlaid work. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 306 *Lithargyros,* Litharge, or *Silver-glet. 1611 COTGR., *Serargent,..* a scrape-good, penny-father, *siluer-hider, money-hoorder. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 466/2 The *silver lustre is differently prepared. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.,* **Siller-Marriage,* the same with *Penny-Brydal.* 1851 W. ANDERSON *Rhymes* (1867) 181 (E. D. D.), Siller marriages fifty years syne war in vogue. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* I. 66 Captain Ferguson..was carried from Newgate, the Marshal of the Admiralty, the officer carrying the *silver oar, &c., attending 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 626 *Silver-oar,* one of the badges of the civil court afloat, conferring the power to arrest for debt if not less than £20. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (1710) 573 Clerk of the Queen's *Silver-Office. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 312/1 The king's Silver Office books are the chief indexes to the fines. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., **Silver-pill,* a chemical preparation of silver, formerly highly commended. 1882 HAMERTON *Graphic Arts* xii. 97 *Silver-point, as practised by the best masters. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 219 Marvellously artistic etchings and 'silver-points'. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 138 The colour of the *silver print when appearing through this other metal may give a pleasing tint. 1901 *Athenæum* 12 Oct. 497/1 The views here given..cannot compare in sharpness with the unfortunately perishable silver prints. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 28 In determining the fixing agent to employ in *silver printing, this point has to be taken into consideration. 1888 [see *s.v. bronze*]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Argentangia,* the *Silver-Quinsey. 1843 LIDDELL & SCOTT, 'Αργυρ-άγχη, the silver-quinsy, which Demosthenes was said to have [etc.]. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Aug. 135, I put them [*sc.* seeds] into a wood or paper box,..with a little dry *silver sand. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Garden* (1861) 164 How are you off for silver-sand, pasture-loam? *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Wolf & Fox* xiii, Ye ar *siluer-seik, I wait richt weill. 1548 ELYOT *Lat. Dict., Argentagina,* the *syluer sycknesse. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Silver-sickness,* or *Silver-squincy,* is when an Advocate or pleading Lawyer, being brib'd by the other Party, feigns himself sick, or not able to speak. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vule.* I. vi, Such a beautiful bit of beef too, *silverside. 1881 BLACKMORE *Cristowell* iii, I can milk a cow, and pot a vine, and bed down a pony, and salt a silver-side. 1797 BILLINGSLEY *View Agric. Somerset* 116 The sorts [of potato] cultivated are the kidney..and *silver skin. 1823 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 528/1 The beans [of coffee are] put through a winnower, which takes off a delicate skin still remaining, called the 'silver-skin'. 1682 BOYLE *Contin. New Exper.* II. 18 And therefore *silver-solder could not be used in cementing the parts, but onely lead-solder. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 434 The hard solders most commonly used are the spelter solders, and silver solders. 1900 HASLUCK *Mod. Eng. Handy-bk.* 87 The flanges can be made separately, and either brazed or *silver-soldered on ends of tube. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 443 The practice of *silver-soldering is essentially the same as brazing. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 301 *Saxa Metallaria,* *Silver-Spat. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 50 *Silver-spoonism is, after all, vulgarity; it is an assumption of delicacy superior to the majority. 1611 COTGR., *Argentangine,* the *siluer Squinzie, a disease wherwith many besides Demosthenes..haue beene troubled. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1278 The silver-squincy, when a pleader being bribed by the other side, feigns himself sick, and not able to speak. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 248 *Silver steel, having the advantage of euphony .., becomes a popular denomination in the market. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), **Silver-stick,* the name given to a field-officer of the Life Guards when on palace duty. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 100 The *Silver Stone..is of great lustre in the microscope, every other granite placed by its side looking flat and tame. 1879 *Even. Standard* 11 Nov., The answer of the citizens of London to the '*silver-streak' politicians. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* v, The silver streak, on the other side of which is dear England. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms,* **Silver strings,* the covered strings used on violins, tenors, violoncellos, guitars, etc. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 419 **Silver-tail,* a bush term for a 'swell'; a man who goes to the manager's house, not to the men's hut. 1890 VOGAN *Black Police* 116 Those upper circles..termed in Australian parlance '*silver-tailed', in distinction to the 'copper-tailed' democratic classes. 1902 *Bladnd* 19 Feb. 14/2 During the Peninsular War the 61st were the 'Silvertailed Dandies', owing to the unusual amount of silver on the tails of the officers' coatees. 1860 P. H. GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 3 A phenomenon I have often seen in the woods of the transatlantic countries named above, where it is familiarly called *silver-thaw. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 626 *Silver-thaw,* the term for ice falling in large flakes from the sails and rigging, consequent on a frost followed suddenly by a thaw. 1891 *Standard* 26 Dec. 3/3 A 'silver thaw' is the result of rain falling from a warmer current of air at some little distance above the earth. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 193 Blue flats, *silver thread, and diamond iron-stone. 1890 *American Naturalist* 970 It is probable that these leaf-hoppers are responsible for much of the *silver-top. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* (1778) 191 Observe you don't put too much sugar down at a time for a *silver web. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 417 *note,* '*Silver' and 'Golden' weddings are generally kept in the North. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 134 An old man on the verge of the silver-wedding he might have kept as Chancellor. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 92 Se sester sceal wegan twa pund be *sylfyr gewyht. 13.. *Sir Beues* 1725 For him a 3af seluer wiȝt, Er he þat hors haue miȝt. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 766 *Hic auriginus,* a *sylverwurme. 1700 WALLACE *Acc. New Caledonia* in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 421 He pretends it was to search for a *Silver Wreck.

b. In names of animals, insects, etc.; **silver buckie** (see quot. 1866); †**silver fly** (?); **silver fox,** a North American variety of the red fox with black silver-tipped hairs, the black fox; **silver gibbon,** the silvery gibbon (*Hylobates leuciscus*); **silver lady** (see SILVER-FISH 2); **silver-line(s),** a species of moth; **silver-marmoset, -sprig** (see quots.); **silver-tip,** a grizzly bear with white-tipped hairs; **silver y** (moth), the gamma moth.

Various other names of moths, as *silver bar, cloud, fringe, ground,* etc., are given by Rennie (1832).

1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 264 Our children call the shell **Silver-buckies* or *Silver-Willies*. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.*, *Siller-buckie*, the Grey purple-streaked pyramid shell (*Trochus cinerareus*). 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 42 *Herbivora Erinopteros*,..the *Silver-fly. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 148 *Canis Argentatus* (*Silver Fox). 1889 *John Bull* 2 Mar. 150/1 Bordered..with silver-fox fur and lined with cream-coloured velvet. 1893 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 559 The beautiful silver, or black fox,..is usually nearly or entirely black, with the exception of the tip of the tail, which is generally white. *Ibid.* 65 The grey or *silver gibbon, or wou-wou,..comes from the island of Java. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 155 The Green *Silver Lines. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* vi. 102 The Cream-spot Tiger moth,..the Green Silver-line. 1893 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 192 The *silver marmoset of Brazil (*Hapale chrysoleucus*). 1799 [A. YOUNG] *View Agric. Linc.* 385 The sort [is] *silver sprig, which will not do well in other counties. 1800 MISS EDGEWORTH *Moral T.*, *The Will* i, The true silver grey rabbits—silver sprigs, they call them—do you know that the skins of those silver sprigs are worth any money? 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 70 The bear..was an old '*silver-tip', and a big one. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* Index, *Silver V. 1848 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 329 The caterpillars of..*Plusia Gamma* (Silver Y Moth)..are of this description. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 65 The well-known Gamma Moth, or Silver Y.

c. In names of birds, as **silver-bill**, (*a*) one of several birds of the genus *Munia*; (*b*) a South American tyrant bird of the genus *Lichenops*; **† silver bird**, some East Indian bird; **silver-dun**, a particular breed of domestic pigeon; **silver-eye** (see quot.); **silver-mealy**, a breed of pigeon; **silver pheasant** (see quots. and PHEASANT 2); **silver plover** (see quots. and PLOVER 2); **silver-tongue**, *U.S.*, the song-sparrow.

1883 *List Anim. Zool. Gardens* 239 *Munia malabarica*, Indian *Silver-bill. Hab. India. *Ibid*, *Munia cantans*, African Silver-bill. Hab. North-east Africa. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *La Plata* 202, I have also seen gaucho boys catch the Silver-bill (*Lichenops perspicillata*) by hurling a stick or stone at the bird, then rushing at it. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 401 Some *silver birds. 1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 187 The *silver-duns are the aristocrats of the family. 1888 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 824/1 By most English-speaking people in various parts of the world the prevalent species of *Zosterops* is commonly called 'White-eye' or '*Silver-eye'. 1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 149 Such kite-barred birds are termed '*silver-mealies' by Scotch breeders. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 23 The *Silver Pheasants (*Phasianus Nycthemerus*). 1861 C. P. HODGSON *Resid. Japan* 324 Silver pheasants come from Nambu, partridges from Sataki. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 121/2 The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens..include a Silver Pheasant (*Euplocamus nycthemerus*). 1887 BELDON in Wright *Illustr. Bk. of Poultry* 366 The Silver-spangled Hamburgh, or Silver Pheasant as it is commonly called in Yorkshire. 1899 DEWAR *Hampsh. Highl.* v. 130 The *silver plovers or lapwings..are to be seen and heard in every direction. 1899 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Silver plover*, the gray plover, *Squatarola helvetica*. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 371 *Melospiza fasciata*,.. Song Sparrow. *Silver-Tongue.

d. In names of fishes, as **silver-belly, bream, char, eel, -eyes, garfish, king, lamprey, pike, salmon, -sides, sole, -spot** (see quots.).

A number of other American, and some Australian, fishes are also designated in this way, as *silver bass*, *cero*, *chub*, *hake*, etc.: see Jordan & Gilbert *Fishes N. Amer.* (1882), Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* (1884) and *Amer. Fishes* (1888), Morris *Austral English* (1898).

1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fishes N. S. Wales* 43 It is necessary to cook the *silver-belly, as it is often called, perfectly fresh. *Ibid.*, Mr. Hill..speaks of a *silver-bream or white-bream. It is probable he refers to *Gerres ovatus*, a common fish of very compressed form. 1883 E. P. RAMSAY *Food Fishes N. S. Wales* 10 *Gerres ovatus*, a small but delicious fish, known to the fishermen as 'silver bream', 'silver bellies', &c. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 269 The two others were inscribed, the Red Charr, the *Silver or Gilt Charr. 1838 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 175 *Anguilla latirostris*,..the Broad-nosed Eel...In the Tweed..it is distinguished from the others by the name of *Silver-Eel. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 910 *note*, This species [*Trichiurus lepturus*] is known as 'Sabre-fish' and 'Silver Eel', on the coast of Texas. 1880 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 35 These fishes are commonly known as sea-breams. One form termed *silver eyes is said to pursue small fishes in Cardigan Bay. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), Bill-Fish (*Belone truncata*), a small sea-fish fond of running up into fresh water during the summer...Also called Sea-pike, *Silver Gar-fish. 1889 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 164/1 No one..had fared any better than I as regards tarpon...No one could boast of having even hooked a '*Silver King'. 1894 *Cosmopolitan* XVII. 31 You never have seen the equal of the silver-king—the grande coy—the tarpon. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 400 The *Silver Lamprey is always of less size than the ordinary dimensions of the Lampern. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 359 *Petromyzon fluviatilis*,..Lampern and silver lamprey. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 1. 109 *Silver Pike, *Esox argenteus*...Native of New Zealand and other islands in the Southern Ocean. 1888 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 307 *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, *Silver Salmon. 1901 *Scotsman* 26 Mar. 5/1 The silver salmon or coho..are freely taken by means of spinning. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes East N. Amer.* 26 *Cynoscion carolinensis*.., spotted sea-trout..; spotted *silver-sides. 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 225 Smelt or sand smelt...A local name is silver-sides, from its colour. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The brook-silversides is a graceful little fresh-water fish, *Labidesthes sicculus*. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 388 *Silver Sole, *Pleuronectes Argenteus*..; native of the Indian seas. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 300 The fishes of the family [*Maurolicus*] which we have denominated *Silver-Spots.

e. In names of plants or trees, as **silver beet, bell (tree), bennet, berry, birch, chain, chickweed, fern, -head, herb, knapweed, oak, pine (tree), poplar, thistle, wattle** (see quots. and the various sbs.).

Some other names of this type, as *silver feather*, *grass*, *hair-grass*, *lavender*, are current in dialect or local use.

1882 *Garden* 15 Apr. 256/1 The *Silver or Seakale Beet is grown for the sake of the midribs of the leaves. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* I. 123 The Snow-Drop Tree, *Silver-Bell Tree, or Wild Olive. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* (1860) 218 The *Halesia*, or Silver Bell, two species of which..are common in cultivation. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 505 *Halesia tetraptera*, the Silver-Bell or Snow-Drop Tree of the Southern United States. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* I. II. 79 Black and *Silver Bennets. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 381 *Elæagnus argentea*,..the *Silver-Berry, may perhaps be found within our northwestern limits. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 334 It is here that the finest specimens of *silver birch are to be found. 1847 HALLIW., **Silver-chain*, the white laburnum. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 62 *Paronychia argyrocoma*. *Silver Chickweed. 1858 A. IRVINE *Brit. Plants* 176 *Gymnogramma*. This genus is..distinguished by a yellow or white powdery substance, [and] hence called Gold and *Silver Ferns. 1889 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 590/2 Gymnogramme,..of which *G. chrysophylla* and *G. tartarea*, both West Indian, are cultivated as the Golden Fern and Silver Fern. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Paronychia*, *P. argyrocoma*, the silver chickweed, or, as recently named, *silverhead. 1611 COTGR., *Tannaisie sauvage*, Wild Tansie, *Siluer hearbe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 591 The great *siluer knapweed hath at his first comming vp diuers leaues spred vpon the grounde, of a deepe greene colour. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 220 *Stenocarpus salignus*,..'*Silver Oak'. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 664 [The tree] brought from the Cape of Good-hope, where it is called the *Silver Pine. *Ibid.* 665 The Silver Pine-Tree. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 173 A branch of the *Silver Poplar. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 526 *Silver Thistel. This Thistel is called in..Englishe..Wilde white Thistell, and Argentine. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* 1229/1 *Silver Wattle, *Acacia mollissima*. Silver Wattle of Tasmania, *Acacia dealbata*. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 271/1 The beautiful cool grey-green of the silver wattle.

Silver (sĭ·lvəɹ), *v.* Forms: 5 ciluеryn, sylveryn, 6 sylver, 6–7 siluer, 7– silver; also 9 *Sc.* siller. [f. the sb. Cf. G. *silbern*, *versilbern*, Du. *verzilveren*.]

1. *trans.* To cover or plate with silver; to coat with silver-leaf. Freq. with *over*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/1 Sylveryn, *argento*. 1530 PALSGR. 718/1, I wyll sylver the hafte of my dagger thorowe out. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 343/2 Their stockes be polished of the carpenter, and they bee gilded & siluered. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 517 They haue taken vp of late another custome, to siluer the trappings especially and caparisons of their horses of seruice. 1611 COTGR., *Argenter*, to siluer ouer; to gild, or couer with siluer. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Apr., My coach..is silvered over, but no varnish yet laid on. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.* s.v. *Silvering*, Rub with this mixture the metal you want to silver. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* s.v., Copper may be silvered over by rubbing it with the following powder. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 191 There ain't enough in this vein to silver a tea-pot.

absol. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Metal-Gilders silver by the Fire: Painter-Gilders, all the other Ways.

fig. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 433 Stay thy pretty little tuneful tongue, Nor silver o'er thy syllables. They will not Pass.

b. To coat (glass) at the back with a mixture of tinfoil and quicksilver, esp. for use as a mirror.

1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* I. ii, This glasse Is falsly silverd, maks me look as gray As if I were four score. 1753 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 287 Leaf tin, such as they use in silvering looking-glasses, is best to coat them with. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* II. 7 After this method common window glass, &c. may be silvered. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 412/1 The amalgam of tin is largely used in what is termed silvering mirrors. 1879 NEWCOMB & HOLDEN *Astron.* 93 The horizon-glass is divided into two parts, of which the lower one is silvered.

2. To invest or suffuse with a silvery hue or lustre.

1594–9 GREENE *Orlando Furioso* 1178 Is not..Her face siluer'd like to the milke white shape That Ioue came dauncing in to Semele? 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IX. viii, In azure arms, Silver'd with starres, and gilt with sunnie rayes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXII. CCXV, Venus whose pure lustre silvers Night. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* X. 108 Smiling calmness silver'd o'er the deep. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 362 The moon in full splendour silvered the wood on one side. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VII. vii, While she still silvers o'er your gloomy path. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 230 It silvered the hummocks and frozen leads, and gave a softened lustre to the snow. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 10/1 A few kelts, silvered by a short trip to the sea, have been taken.

b. To turn (the hair, beard, etc.) white or silvery.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 242 His Beard was..A Sable Siluer'd. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 429 Sage Echeneus, whose grave, rev'rend brow The hand of time had silver'd o'er with snow. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 703 His head Not yet by time completely silver'd o'er. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* XV, She who mocks the gray hairs of a parent, never shall one of her own locks be silvered with age! 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* XXXII, Thought, not time, had partially silvered the clustering of his raven hair.

c. In *pa. pple.* Shaded *off* with silver.

1902 *Fur & Feather* 19 Sept. 229/1 Feet, ears, and face, nicely silvered off;..grand undercolour, well silvered off.

3. *intr.* **a.** To flow with a silvery gleam.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 652 And bason'd high..The bright Superior silvers down the day. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 75 While underneath their mingling grains, The river silver'd down the plains.

b. To take on a silvery lustre; to fade *away* in this manner.

1878 W. H. MALLOCK *New Republic* IV, The moon was rising over the sea, and the sea was slowly silvering under it.

1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* III. 15 The darkness silvers away, the morn doth break.

Silver age.

1. The second age of the world, according to the Greek and Roman poets, inferior in simplicity and happiness to the first or golden age.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. 131 When..the siluer age came in more somewhat base than golde. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* I. (1632) 3 After Saturne was throwne downe to Hell, Ioue rul'd; and then the Siluer Age befell. 1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* X. (1722) 30 In Comparison of the next succeeding and the present Age,..this of Jupiter had no lower Character than that of the Silver Age. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 234/2 The silver age commenced when men began to deviate from the paths of virtue. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 76/1 Hesiod mentions five Ages—the golden, simple and patriarchal; the silver, voluptuous and godless.

b. The period of Latin literature from the death of Augustus to that of Hadrian.

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat.-Eng. Dict.* p. XXX, Tacitus, Pliny the historian, Suetonius, and some other prose writers, flourished in the silver age. 1826 BUTLER *Grotius* 31 The language of the Pandects is of the silver age. 1859 TRENCH *Sel. Gloss.* 6 While 'animosus' belongs to the best period of Latin literature, 'animositas' is of quite the later silver age.

2. An age marked by the extensive production or use of silver.

1740 tr. *Barba's Metals & Min.* 111 There was very little use or consumption of Quicksilver before the beginning of this new Silver Age of the World.

Silver-bush. Also **silver bush.**

1. The plant Jupiter's beard.

1640 PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* 1459 *Iovis barba frutex*, the Silver Bush. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 112 Winged hoary shining leaves, bearing yellow flowers in clusters...Silver Bush. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Silverbush*, a Plant called in Latin *Barba Jovis*, kept as a great rarity by divers Herbalists. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Colutea*, Ethiopian Bladder-Sena, with Scarlet Flowers, and Leaves like the Silver Bush. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXV. (1794) 353 That which is generally called Jupiter's beard or Silver bush, from the splendid whiteness of the leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1059/1.

2. *local.* Traveller's joy.

1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Silver Bush, *Clematis Vitalba*,—Jersey.

Silver-coloured, *a.* [SILVER *sb.* 17.] Having the colour of silver; of a greyish white hue with a metallic lustre.

1594? GREENE *Selimus* 154 Aged winter hath besprent my head With a hoarfrost of silver-coloured hairs. 1611 COTGR., *Ravel*,..a little sea-fish, that hath..a siluer-coloured bellie. 1679 RUSDEN *Further Disc. Bees* 5 Having three partitions in his belly, with silver-coloured lines going cross. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 163 The Silver [Rosemary] denominated from its Silver-colour'd Leaves. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 228 It has also four expansive silver-coloured wings. 1831 *A. Wilson's Amer. Ornith.* IV. 358 Silver coloured tern. *Sterna argentacea*. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. XV. (1890) 446 Dragons not rarely produce silver-coloured birds.

† Silver-cooper. *Obs.*—[1] [Alteration of Du. *ziel-verkooper* 'soul-seller'.] A kidnapper.

1796 [see CRIMP *sb.*[1] 2].

Silvered (sĭ·lvəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SILVER *v.* + -ED[2].]

1. Coated with silver or silver-foil; also of mirrors, glass, etc., backed with an amalgam of tin and quicksilver.

c 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 21 Thinges silverid. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* II. 183 The siluered scepter of peace is offered vnto us. 1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* (ed. 3) 206 Place the Golden Ball representing the Sun, and the Silvered (representing the (in two opposite points of the Ecliptick. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. XXV. (1737) 109 The Silver'd Knight took the Golden Warden. 1774 C. J. PHIPPS *Voy. N. Pole* 157 In the middle..is fixed a piece of silvered-glass. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 185 The common reflector is only a silvered back burnished. 1840 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. XXXI. 255 There were a number of gilded and silvered shields. 1881 *Trans. Obstet. Soc.* XXII. 125 It was..secured by a stout silvered-copper wire.

b. *Photogr.* Treated with a silver solution.

1890 *Anthony's Phot. Bulletin* III. 407 Not permanent prints,..but on silvered paper, which were tedious to get in dull weather.

2. Suffused with silver lustre; silver-coloured; whitened with age; silver-haired.

c 1600 *Ballad Spanish Trag.* I. 15 in *Kyd's Wks.* (1901) 343 Vntill that age with siluered haires My aged head had ouerspred. 1620 T. PEYTON *Glass of Time* I. 50 The dores thereof of siluer'd Pearle most white. 1622 DRAYTON *Polyolb.* XXVI. 260 Not Ancum's silvered Eel exceedeth that of Trent. *c* 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sec. Poem* 169 Indulge the waning Days Of silver'd Age with placid Ease. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. in France* 20 The amazing frame of the Pyrenees, rearing their silvered head far above the clouds. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gypsy* XXII, Brushing through, By night, the silver'd branches of the glade. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 41 The thinly silvered scalp of weak old age. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. V, That love-dream on the dear silvered sands.

† 3. Of sounds: Sweet- or silver-toned. *Obs.*—[1]

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. 66 If an Harper harped in the Moon, His silvered sound would touch our tickled ear.

Silveren (e, obs. forms of SILVERN.

Silverer. [f. SILVER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who silvers, *esp.* one who practises silvering or silver-plating as a trade.

1598 FLORIO, *Inargentatore*, a siluerer of any thing. 1706 J. STEVENS *Eng.-Sp. Dict.*, A silverer, *argentador*. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1138 Among the metals, copper or brass

are those on which the silverer most commonly operates. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 932 The silverers used to suffer considerably from mercurialism.

Silvere·tte. [f. SILVER *sb.*]. A fancy breed of domestic pigeon; a bird belonging to this breed.

1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 174 Silverettes have silver shoulders, with white bars edged with black only, tail grey, with the usual spots.

Silver-eye(s): see SILVER *sb.* 21 c, d.

Silver fir. [SILVER *sb.*]

1. A tall species of fir (*Abies* or *Picea pectinata*), native to southern and central Europe and some parts of Asia, introduced into Britain in the 17th century and extensively used for planting.

The bark of the young tree is of a silvery grey, and the leaves have two broad white lines on the under-surface.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 365 Firs are of several sorts,..but the best sort both for Beauty and Timber, is that which they call the Silver-Fir. 1789 EMMERICH *Forests* xx. 78 There are three species of Needle Wood or Firs: the Norway Fir, the Scotch Fir, and the Silver Fir. 1832 *Planting* (L. U. K.) 89 The specimens of the silver fir (*Pinus picea*) at Blair Adam .. are remarkable for size and symmetry. 1882 *Garden* 23 Dec. 548/2 The Silver Fir is a majestic tree either singly or in clump.

attrib. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vii, Among the high Silver-fir forests of the Pyrenees.

b. A tree belonging to this species.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 72 The greatest number of Silver Firs. 1892 *Gardener's Chron.* 27 Aug. 251/1 Some fine Silver Firs are here, one over 100 feet in height.

2. Applied to various other species of fir, usually with distinctive epithets (see quots.).

The 'silver firs' are sometimes classed under the genus *Picea*, and the 'spruce firs' under *Abies*.

1834 AUDUBON *Ornith.* II. 426 The Balsam or Silver Fir.. is abundant in the State of Maine. 1874 STEWART & BRANDIS *Flora N. West India* 528 *Abies Webbiana*,..Himalayan Silver Fir. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 225/1 The Silver Fir of Canada (*P. balsamea*)..furnishes the 'Canada balsam' used in medicine. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 412 The Giant Silver Fir, *A. grandis*, of Oregon and California.

Silver-fish. Also silver fish. [Cf. Du. *zilvervisch*, G. *silberfisch*.]

1. One of various silver-coloured fishes found in different parts of the world.

1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 26 Mullets, Snappers, Silver-fish, Garfish. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 342 The Silver Fish is smooth, broad, and thin, of a shining Pearl, or Silver Colour. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 203 The fish at the Cape call'd Silver-Fish is of the shape of a carp. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 195 The Fish they call the golden and silver Fish, that are found in divers Provinces [of China]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 125 We caught..maids, silver fish, congers. 1852 GORDON in *Zoologist* X. 3458 Common Sea Bream...In 1849 many were caught by the fishermen, who gave them the name of 'Siller-fish'. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 611 The Tarpum .. is the 'Silver-Fish' of Pensacola. 1888 STEARNS in Goode *Amer. Fishes* 407 The Silver fish or Grande Ecaille, is common everywhere on the Gulf coast.

2. An insect of the genus *Lepisma*, esp. *L. saccharina* or *domestica*; a bristletail or springtail.

1855 *Lardner's Museum Sci. & Art* VI. 62 A little insect, vulgarly called the *silver-fish*, or the *silver-lady*,..usually found in damp and mouldy cupboards, and in old wood-work. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life* 96 Some tall volume which he ..bent over with such delight, heedless of dust and silver-fish and the gathered odour of years. 1893 *Academy* 7 Oct. 292/1 The pest of all book lovers, the 'silver-fish' or 'silver coloured book-worm'.

Silver-foil. [SILVER *sb.* 8.] Also silver foil. Silver beaten out thin; silver-leaf.

1439-40 *Norwich Sacrist's Roll* (MS)., Pro thurificacione ..cum sylverfolie circumsparso. 1499 in T. Sharp *Dissert. Cov. Myst.* (1825) 35 For colours and gold foyle & sylver foyle for iiij capps. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Argentens, Argenteum folium*, siluerfoile. 1685 COLE in *Ray's Lett.* (1718) 197 Some..covered with a superficies as thin, and exactly of the Colour of silver Foil. 1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Arts* II. 695/1 While the artist draws the paper from between the silver foil and the glass. 1883 HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* 103 To illustrate its action in that particular,..place pieces of silver-foil in two test-tubes.

Silver-footed, *a. poet.* [f. SILVER *sb.* 17, after the Homeric ἀργυρόπεζα as an epithet of Thetis.] Having silvery feet; white-footed. Often *fig.*

1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *World Tost at Tennis* Induct. 34 By her side The silver-footed Thamesis doth slide. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 94 Yet Silver-footed Peace may blesse our feilds. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* II. 50 By silver footed Thetis thou wert won For fierce Achilles. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 702 Who, chas'd for Murder thence, a Suppliant came To Peleus, and the silver-footed Dame. 1747 MALLET *Amyntor & Theodora* Wks. 1759 I. 124 The silver-footed dews. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 51 The ministring stars..Waiting for silver-footed messages. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. I. 30 The silver-footed Thetis has contrived To o'erpersuade thee.

Silver gilt. Also silver-gilt.

1. Gilt silver or silverware.

1422 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 50 Also I bequeth to Jonet Knolles a stondyng cuppe of siluer gilte covered. 1487 *Paston Lett.* III. 463 A playn standing cupp of silver gilt. 1533 *Act 24 Hen VIII*, c. 13 No man shall weare..any maner aglettes, buttons, broches of golde or silver gilte. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 25 Some will not sticke to sell you siluer gilt for gold. 1684 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Dec., Cover'd with chaines of silver gilt. 1844 A. P. DE LISLE in E. Purcell *Life* (1900) I. vii. 123 In the sacristy is the shrine of St. Engelbert made of silver gilt. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus*, 180 A group of horsemen and prostrate figure, beaten out in silver gilt. Found at Perugia.

fig. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. iv. 133 Amy.. was pure gold: Angelina..was only silver-gilt.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Made of silver gilt.

1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4099/1 The Envoy was served in Silver-Gilt Plate. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlvii, He sported a silver-gilt snuff-box which was presented to him. 1895 JEWITT & HOPE *Corporation Plate* I. 240 The earliest pieces in point of date are the magnificent silver-gilt rose-water dish and ewer.

2. An imitation of gilding, consisting of silver-foil varnished with a yellow lacquer.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

So † **Silver-gilted** *a. Obs.*—1

1560-1 *Will of M. Bisset* (Somerset Ho.), My silver gilted caul with chains.

Silver-glance. Also silver glance. [ad. G. *silberglanz*: see GLANCE *sb.*2] A variety of silver ore; argentite.

1805 R. JAMESON *Min.* II. 155 Silver-glance...Colour dark blackish lead-grey. 1808 *Ibid.* III. 267 Silver-glance..is one of the most common and abundant of the silver-ores. 1856 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 94 Silver Glance.., when pure, consists of 86·5 parts of silver, and 13·5 parts of sulphur. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 214 The metallic contents are..ruby silver, brittle silver, and sulphide of silver or silver-glance.

Silver grain. Also silver-grain. [SILVER *sb.* and GRAIN *sb.*1 15.] (See quot. 1882.)

1801 [see GRAIN *sb.*1 15]. 1832 *Planting* 8 in *Lib. Usef. Ku., Husb.* III, The wood of the elm..is distinguished by having the medullary rays, or silver grain, equal, and not crowded. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 99 The thin plates which they form..are known to carpenters and cabinet-makers as the silver grain. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 131 If a thick stem is split longitudinally, the rays have the appearance, in many close woods, of glistening bands (the 'Silver-grain'), traversing the prosenchymatous woody tissue in a radial direction.

Silver grass. Also silver-grass. [cf. G. *silbergras*.] One or other of various species of grass, *esp.*: a. The striped or ribbon-grass. b. The Australasian grasses *Danthonia pallida*, and *Poa cæspitosa*. Also c. *dial.* The silverweed.

1600 R. SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 261 Siluer-grasse (so called, because the leaues doe resemble siluer on the backe side) doth delight in a moist and grassie ground. 1633 T. JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* 18 Round headed Siluer-grasse. At the top of the stalks..there grow two or three round heads consisting of soft and white downie threds. *Ibid.*, The heade of this (which I haue thought good to call Siluer-grasse). 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Silver-grass*, striped grass; common in gardens. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants* 82 *Danthonia pallida*, .. Silver Grass. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.* 144 Silver-fern or Silver-grass, *Potentilla Anserina*.

Silver-grey, *a.* and *sb.* [SILVER *sb.* 19.]

A. *adj.* Of a silvery or silver-flecked grey colour; also, having silvery grey hair.

1607 BARKSTED *Mirrha* (1876) 22 You blushing girles, and parents siluer-gray. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2121/4 Lost a fine large silver grey Mare. 1785 SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VII. 272 The silver-gray fox of North America ..is the isatis. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 102 A silver-grey cock belonging to Mr. John Angood. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 268 The silver-grey ridges of gneiss and mica slate that hem in the Nordland shore. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 177 Wreaths and clouds of silver-gray mist.

B. *sb.* a. A silvery grey colour.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 16 These little Insects.. are of a Silver Grey. 1792 BURNS *The Posie* v, The hawthorn .. wi' it's locks o' siller grey. 1864 TENNYSON *The Ringlet* 6 Never chilling touch of Time Will turn it silver-gray. 1907 MABEL PEACOCK *Lincolnshire Rhymes* 43 Because his hair has caught A touch of silver-gray.

b. *U.S. Politics.* (See quot. 1859.)

1856 *Household Wds.* 9 Aug. 86 Silver-gray..politically means a worshipper of the past,—a hoary-headed conservative. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Silver Grays*. This term originated in the State of New York, and was applied to the conservative portion of the Whig party...It was observed that many were men whose locks were silvered by age, which drew forth the remark from some one present, 'There go the silver grays!'

c. A variety of Dorking fowl having silvery grey plumage.

1889 E. BROWN *Poultry* 45 Silver Greys.—This is perhaps the most beautiful of all the Dorking tribe.

Silver-haired, *a.* [SILVER *sb.* 17.]

1. Having hair silvered with age. Also *fig.*

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 148 Such..as have a due esteem of Silver-hair'd Antiquity. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, The same tall, thin, silver-haired turnkey, whom he had seen on the preceding evening. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 147 He made the acquaintance of more than one silver-haired pioneer.

2. Having hair naturally of a silvery colour.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1301/4 Mounted upon a brown silver-haired Gelding. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Rabbit*, The skins of the silver-haired ones [rabbits] sell better than any other. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 26 *Simia Lagothrix Canus* (Silver-haired Monkey). 1836 SIR G. HEAD *Home Tour* 248 Rabbits..of a description called by the poulterers 'silver-haired', that is to say black with a sprinkling of white hairs, more or less. 1893 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 279 The silver-haired bat has the most northern range of any American species.

Silver-headed, *a.* [SILVER *a.* 17.]

1. = SILVER-HAIRED 1.

1643 A. ROSS *Mel Helic.* 128 Silver-headed age, which bows The back. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 378 A silver-headed domestic..stood near. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxx, The silver-headed butler had withdrawn.

2. Headed with silver.

1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. x, Garnished with a double row of silver-headed studs.

Silver-hilted, *a.* [SILVER *sb.* 17.] Of a sword: Having the hilt of silver.

1002 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 544 Twa seolfor-hilted sweord. 1596 J. DAVIES *Epigr.* ii, A silver-hilted rapier by his side. 1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 111 Our men..found among them 50 silver hilted swords. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, The famous Sheppard.. when he appeared in public generally wore a silver-hilted sword at his side. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* x. 262 My war-sword silver-hilted.

Si·lveriness. [f. SILVERY *a.* + -NESS.] Silvery quality or character.

Cf. Sc. '*Sillerieness*, richness in regard to money' in Jamieson *Suppl.* (1825).

1856 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* 352 None of earth were like to them in silveriness. *c* 1875 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 103 A fourth excels in the silveriness of his voice. 1885 *Westmorl. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 2/1 Salmon, whose silveriness had vanished by a month or two's living in the fresh water.

Si·lvering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SILVER *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. in various senses.

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Paper*, Silvering of paper, as it is called, is another secret among the Chinese, practised [etc.]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.* s.v., Silvering..is a species of gilding. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 728 To plate Looking-Glasses.—This art is erroneously termed silvering. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 592 The silvering of plane mirrors consists in applying a layer of tin-foil alloyed with mercury to their posterior surface. 1883 *Science* II. 60/2 On some occasions the silvering has been done at night.

b. *attrib.*, as *silvering bath, process, room*.

1855 *Orr's Circle Sci., Pract. Chem.* 13 Any of the well-known silvering compositions. *Ibid.* 41 Iron boilers..in close proximity to the silvering-room. 1872 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 171/2 If the pieces..are plunged into a gilding or silvering bath.

2. *concr.* Silver plating; a coating of silver, silver nitrate, or quicksilver.

1710 *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 A silver cheese-toaster with three tongues, an ebony handle, and silvering at the end. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.* s.v., The quick-silver thus laid on..will make a fine silvering. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xvi. (ed. 3) 149 If the silvering is injured, it can.. be re-silvered. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 209/1 Should a first silvering not be found sufficiently durable,.. apply a second or third coat.

Si·lvering, *ppl. a.* [f. SILVER *v.* + -ING 2.] That silvers; making or becoming silvery.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* VI. xxiv, The very light came cool'd through silvering panes Of pearly shell. 1818 MILMAN *Samor* 264 Eamont..Went laughing down its sunny silvering course. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* iv. 24 Beneath the silvering willows.

Si·lverish, *a. rare.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -ISH.] Silver-hued, silvery; † containing silver.

1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Sylveryssche, *argentin*. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Zilverachtigh*,..Silverish, or full of Silver. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 503 The Crystal or Oriental Pebble..is of a silverish Hue. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 739/1 His eyes were a bright silverish blue.

Si·lverism. [f. SILVER *sb.* + -ISM.] The policy of adopting a silver standard for coinage.

1895 *Forum* Feb. 674 The panic of 1893 was due to two social crazes—silverism and protectionism. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 9/2 The Chicago Convention has..carried Silverism to a reckless extreme.

Silverist. *rare.* = next.

1879 *Madras Mail* 5 Dec. 3 The..Yankee, who thought he had converted the great Chancellor from the evil of his golden ways, and made him a silverist.

Si·lverite. Chiefly *U.S.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -ITE.] An advocate of a silver monetary standard.

1886 *Science* VII. 267 The attempt is made to cast a slur upon the 'silverites' by calling them inflationists. 1892 *Nation* 28 Apr. 313/2 The silverites contribute to the gayety of nations from time to time.

Si·lverize, *v. rare.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To silver; to treat with a preparation of silver; to render silvery in colour.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Quadrains of Pibrac* cxix. Wks. (Grosart) II. 34 When like age shall silverize thy Tresse. 1808 JAMIESON, *Silverize*, to cover with silver-leaf. 1832 H. SMITH *Poet. Misc.* 29 He had glaz'd the streamlet o'er,..And silveris'd the bow'r. 1864 WEBSTER s.v. *Silverize*, This word and its derivatives are much used by photographers in reference to daguerreotype plates; as, a silverized plate.

Silver lead. Also silver-lead.

† 1. A composition of lead and tin. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 517 There is another deuise to sophisticate tin, to wit, by mixing white and blacke lead one with another.., and this maslen some call at this day, siluer lead or argentine.

2. Silver in combination with lead, esp. in the form of ore. Chiefly *attrib.*

1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 80 Small portions are also obtained from the silver-lead mines of 'Old England'. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 227 The mines.. possess as much..value as those of any other silver-lead camp on the coast. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 111/2 A button of silver lead is the result. *Ibid.*, The assay of silver lead ores.

Silver-leaf. Also silver leaf. [SILVER *sb.*]

1. Silver beaten out thin; silver-foil.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Silver-Leaf*, is that the Gold-beaters have reduced into fine, thin Leaves, to be used by Gilders, &c. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3300/1 In this manner silver-leaf is fixed and burnished upon brass in the making of what is called *French plate*. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 376 In the instances of tin-foil, gold and silver leaf, and

some others, the hammer is again resorted to after the metals have been rolled. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 995/2 A yellow, transparent varnish spread over silver-leaf to give it the appearance of gold.

b. A single piece of this.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Couch*, The Gilders use Couch for the Quantity of Gold or Silver Leaves applied on the Metals in gilding or silvering. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 195 You may lay on the gold or silver leaves with brandy. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1240 A silver leaf is sometimes laid over the knots in superior work.

2. A tree or plant having silvery leaves, as the white poplar. Also *attrib.*, having silvery leaves.

1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 507 Abele or Silver-leaf Poplar. 1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 66 Silver-leaf iron-bark country is always in high repute for grazing. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 363 *Acacia pendula*,..Boree, or Silver-leaf Boree.

3. *local.* Some disease or blight in plants.

1890 BLACKMORE *Kit & Kitty* III. ii. 27 Blister in a peach, or silver-leaf, or shanking in grapes.

Silver-leaved, *a.* Also **-leafed.** [SILVER *sb.* 17.] Having silvery leaves.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Coronilla*, Silver-leav'd.. Colutea of Candia. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 231 *A. Barba Jovis.* Silver-leaved Anthyllis, or Jupiter's Beard. 1831 TENNYSON in *Gem* 131 With..drooping daffodilly, And silver-leaved lily,..I wove a crown. 1881 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 66 The silver-leafed variety [of iron-bark trees] is more ornamental than useful. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants* 492 *Eucalyptus melanophloia*,..Silver-leaved Ironbark.

Si·lverless, *a.* Also 8–9 *Sc.* **siller-.** [f. SILVER *sb.* + -LESS.] Without money; having no money.

c 1325 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 324 Voiz of clerk is sielde i-heid at the Court of Rome,..silverles if he come. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 119 He sente hem forth seluerles in a somer garnement. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 14 A sillerless man gangs fast thro' the market. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Ye maunna gang this wilfu' gate sillerless, come o't what like. *a* 1837 NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 96 Folk sillerless may ca' us,—We ha'e unco little gear.

Silver-like, *a.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -LIKE.] Resembling silver in colour or substance.

1611 COTGR., *Argentin*, argentine, siluerie, of siluer, siluerlike. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 131 A roping, tough, silver-like thread of seed. 1684 LISTER in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 745 Sand..with Mica of..Silver like, Gold like [particles]. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 133 Calcium is a white silver-like metal. 1900 *Academy* 30 June 556/1 Silver-like his naked limbs.

Si·lverling. Now *arch.* [ad. G. *silberling* (OHG. *silabarling*), Du. *zilverling*.] A shekel.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xix. 19 They counted the price of them and founde it fifty thousande silverlynges. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* vii. 23 Though there be a thousand vynes in one, and were solde for a thousand siluerlinges. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I, Here haue I purst their paltry siluerlings. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* Ep. Ded. A 4, Every of them for the fruits thereof, was to bring a thousand silverlings. 1740 POCOCKE *Theol. Wks.* II. 120/1 These are called *Cesaphim*, pieces of silver, or Silverlings. 1873 KINGSBURY in *Speaker's Comment.* IV. 698/2 At least two hundred silverlings should be theirs.

Si·lverly, *adv.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -LY 2.]

1. With a silvery appearance or colour.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 46 Let me wipe off this honourable dewe, That siluerly doth progresse on thy cheekes. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 541 This river..begins to progress silverly Around the western border of the wood. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama Exile* 1397 Ask, if I caught not fair and silverly His blessing. 1871 R. BROWNING *Pr. Hohenstiel* 1144 On you glide Silverly till you reach the summit edge, Then over.

2. With a silvery sound.

1752 C. SMART *Omniscience of Supreme Being* 7 Cherubic Gratitude, whose voice To pious ears sounds silverly so sweet. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 128 When other harmonies, stopt short, Leave the dinn'd air vibrating silverly. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* 368 Midnight! the sounds rolled silverly out.

Silver mine: see SILVER *sb.* 9.

Silvern (si·lvəɹn), *a.* Now *poet.* and *arch.* Forms: *α.* 1 seol(o)fren, seolfryn, selfren, 3 selvren; 1 seolfern, 3 seoluern, 4 seluern. *β.* 1 syl(o)fren, silfren, 5 sylvryn; 4–5 syl-, silueren(e, 5 cil-, silueryn, siluern(e, 6–7 silverne, 6– silvern. [OE. *seolfren, silfren*, etc., = OFris. *selvirn*, MDu. *sil-, selverijn, sulveren* (Du. *zilveren*, dial. *zulveren*), OS. *silu-, silobrin* (MLG. *sulveren*, LG. *sülvern, silvern*), OHG. *silbarîn, silberîn* (G. *silbern*), Goth. *silubreins*: see SILVER *sb.* and -EN 4.]

1. Made of silver; consisting of silver.

α. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 8 Þa gyldenan stanas, & þa seolfrenan. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 29 Aug., Hi plezodon mid gyldenum applum on selfrenum disce. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Hi namen þære twa gildene scrines & ix seolferne. *c* 1205 LAY. 22783 Þa bollen seoluerne mid wine iuulled. *c* 1285 in *Anglia* IV. 194 Mid selvrene stikke me shal gold graven. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* 29 Þat he wuste bi þe seluerne by3e.

β. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxi. 21 Gylden maðm, sylofren sincstan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6145 Þe folk of israel to boru Asked silueren vessel sere. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xlv. 22 To Beniamyn he 3af thre hundryd siluereu pens. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 42 My Sylvryn Gyrdyll to Thomas Pertnale. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 26/3 In the which wound, we must impose a silvern or goulden pipe. 1626 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VII. 227 White silverne swoord, and in his hand a pike. 1863 GROSART *Small Sins* (ed. 2) 37 Not a bell, silvern or golden, but was 'holy'. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 70 Make me chainlets, silvern, golden.

fig. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. iii, As the Swiss Inscription says: '*Sprechen ist silbern, Schweigen ist golden* (Speech is silvern, Silence is golden). 1868 *Silent Hour* i. 4 Speech is, after all, not the silvern but the golden thing, when rightly used.

b. *Silvern wedding*, = silver wedding (SILVER *sb.* 21).

1880 *Daily Telegr.* 29 Dec. 5/4 Silvern Weddings are celebrations of tolerably frequent occurrence nowadays.

2. Silver-coloured. *rare.*

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 815/2 Silvern as a silver bream. 1885 O. CRAWFURD *Woman's Reputation* i, The little Ringwood brook.., a silvern thread amid the green meadow-land.

Si·lverness. *nonce-wd.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -NESS.] The essential quality of silver.

1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 168 Instead of perceiving nacreness, he transfers the silverness..to the nacre lying in his sight.

Silver ore. Also silver-ore. [SILVER *sb.*] An ore containing silver. *Dark red silver ore*, pyrargyrite. *Light red silver ore*, proustite.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 16 Engelonde is vol ino3..Of seluer or & of gold. *c* 1325 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 338 He fareth in a while as thouh he hadde silver ore. *c* 1350 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 150 Men þat soght for siluer ore, Within þe erth so gun þai crepe. *Ibid.*, Oþer mynours þeder fore For to seke þam syluer ure. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 596 *Mineria*, a myne *vel* Ore.., as..syluer ore, etc. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 272 Many mynes of silver oures. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 2 The Metal which is digged from those Veins is called Oar, as Silver oar. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 257 The cobalt was last of all cut out below by silver ore. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 122 Red Silver Ore.—This species is denominated *Red* chiefly from the colour of its streak. 1805 R. JAMESON *Min.* II. 177 Black Silver-Ore.. Colour iron-black. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 414/1 Silver ores, properly so called, are very rare in England. 1837 DANA *Min.* 417 Brittle Silver Ore, *Lunites rhombicus. Ibid.* 425 Flexible Silver Ore, *Elasmites rhomboideus.* 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 443, I have roasted nearly four thousand tons of silver-ore during the past year.

Silver paper. Also silver-paper.

1. A fine white tissue-paper.

1817 BYRON *Beppo* lvii, The..frontispiece of a new Magazine,..Colour'd, and silver paper leaved between That and the title-page. 1851 MAYHEW *London Lab.* I. 374/1 Those gown-pieces..are almost as thin as silver-paper. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 246 As if I had just emerged from the manifold silver papers of a bandbox.

attrib. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* iii, The pear, which he had delicately peeled in one long strip of silver-paper thinness.

2. Paper covered with silver-foil.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2186/1.

3. *Phot.* Paper sensitized with a silver solution.

1898 H. MACLEAN *Photogr. Print. Process* xvi. 139 Those known as silver papers, such as gelatino-chloride, collodio-chloride, albumenised, and bromide papers.

Silver plate. Also silver-plate.

1. A thin flat piece of silver.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 5 And he cast doune the sylver plates in the temple and departed. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idolatry* I. F f j, Shall the goldsmyth couer hym with golde and caste hym into a fourme of syluer plates? 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silver*, A Tincture of Silver [made] by dissolving thin Silver Plates..in Spirit of Nitre. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 37/2 The ring..is first tinned, and then the silver-plate is gently hammered upon it. 1845 *Athenæum* 203 The delicately sensitive film which is formed on the silver plate in the Daguerréotype process. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 509/1 The sensibility of the silver plate was still further increased by Mr. Goddard.

b. A silver dish in the form of a plate.

1710 *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 A broad brimmed flat silver plate for sugar with Rhenish wine.

2. *collect.* Vessels or utensils made of silver.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 184 Pewter vessels ..compared with silver plate. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 1 As silver-plate cleared is counted new, so this Commandment. 1717 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* iv, Her peuther glanc'd..Like siller plate. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 531/1 The alloy of silver and copper used .. for the manufacture of silver-plate. 1861 PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 Round the apartment..was displayed in close array the silver and pewter plate.

Comb. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 469 Areta, his siluer plate keeper.

Silver-scaled, *a.* [f. SILVER *sb.* 17.] Having silvery scales.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. XXV. (1558) 18 Bryght siluer scaled domageth the dragon. *c* 1450 — *Secrees* 674 Whysperyng tounges of taast moost serpentyn, Silvir scalyd whoos mouth is ful of blood. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. Prol. 55 The syluer scalyt fyschis on the greit. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 37 The silver-scaled fish that softly swim Within the sweet brooks chrystal, watry stream. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, Will the ocean afford you the silver-scaled salmon of the Awe? 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 403 A silver-scaled twenty-pounder.

Silversmith (si·lvəɹsmiþ). [f. SILVER *sb.* Cf. MDu. *silver-, selver-, sulversmit* (Du. *zilversmid*), OHG. *silbir-, silbersmit* (G. *silberschmied*), Sw. *silfversmed*; ON. *silfrsmiðr*, MSw. *silfsmiþer*.] A worker in silver; one who makes silverware.

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 99 Ic hæbbe..isenesmiþas, goldsmiþ, seolforsmiþ. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* XV. 9 That me spute with gold smythis, and siluer smythis. 1534 TINDALE *Acts* xix. 24 Demetrius, a silversmyth [1526 goldsmyth], which made silver schrynes for Diana. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Silver-smith*, one that makes all sorts of Silver and Gold-Plate. 1794 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1862) III. 250, I wrote to you on the 9th of this month a sort of silversmith's letter. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Peninsn. War* II. 476 Silversmiths were forbidden to purchase any articles in silver. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 146 The productions of the silversmith are principally the result of hammering.

Silver-tongued, *a.* [f. SILVER *sb.* 17.] Having a pleasant or melodious utterance; sweet-spoken; eloquent.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 61 Siluer-tongu'd Smith, whose well tun'd stile hath made thy death the generall teares of the Muses. 1618 VICARS *Commend. Verses in Sylvester's Wks.* (Grosart) I. 10/2 Admired Silver-Tongued Sylvester. 1713 WARDER *True Amazons* 17 Relying too much upon the silver-tongued Virgil. 1827 POLLOK *Course of Time* VII. (1860) 178 Silver-tongued Hope Promised another harvest. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xv. 150 He—good, silver-tongued man—heeded not the miserable jest.

Silver-tree. Also silver tree.

1. A tree with silvery lanceolate leaves (*Leucadendron argenteum*), native to Cape Colony.

1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 224 The Silver Tree..These trees..are, particularly, much seen about Constantia. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. Hope* (1786) I. 32 The silver-tree, as it is called, exhibited the whole year throughout its glossy white, or silver gray leaves. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 145 The Silver-tree (*Protea argentea*) has soft leaves resembling satin, of a silver colour. 1893 K. SANBORN *S. California* 159 To S. Africa they are indebted for the silver tree.

2. A West Indian tree or shrub belonging to the genus *Eugenia*.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 240 The shrubby Philadelphus, with Myrtle leaves; or the Silver Tree..This little tree is frequent in the red hills.

3. An Australian forest-tree.

1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 604 *Tarrietia argyrodendron*,.. Silver Tree.

Si·lverware. [SILVER *sb.*] Articles, esp. tableware, made of silver.

1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. § 57, I very seriously inquire why ironware is produce, and silverware is not? 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 17 The supper table with its fruit, flowers, crystal, silverware and decorated china.

Si·lverweed. Also **silver-weed, silverweed.** [SILVER *sb.* Cf. Du. *zilverkruid*, G. *silberkraut*.]

1. A common wayside plant of the genus *Potentilla* (*P. anserina*) with prostrate rooting stems and silvery leaves; goose-grass or wild tansy.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 86 This herbe is now called..in English Wilde Tansie or Siluer weede. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 181 Let them be steeped or infused in water of siluer weed, called wilde tansey, and of parietory of the wall. 1671 PHILLIPS (ed. 3), *Silverweed*, an herb called in Latin *Argentina*. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 187 Silver-Weed, Bull-Rushes, and other aquatick Herbs. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 12 Comfry white, and hoary silver-weed. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 182 Silver-weed..growing in some parts of Scotland..in times of scarcity made a substitute for bread. 1863 *Gardener's Chron.* 23 May 493 The Silver Weed is a great pest in the arable field, and especially where some damp spots remain. 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 129 Underfoot..the silverweed opened its yellow petals.

2. (See quots.)

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* II. 326 *Sibbaldia procumbens*.., Procumbent Silver-weed. 1848 CRAIG, *Argyreia*, Silver-weed. An East Indian genus of plants, so named from the silvery appearance of their leaves.

Silver-white, *a.* and *sb.* [SILVER *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Of a silvery whiteness.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 905 Ladie-smockes all siluer white. 1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Grey* IV. i, Say thou, whose Head is grown thus Silver White. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xiii. 31 His hair all silver-white, Shaking and shining. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Poems* 2 Buoyed on clouds all silver-white.

B. *sb.* 1. *local.* The white trout or finnoc.

1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 51 This fish I consider to be..the Silver White of the Tweed tacksmen. 1882 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 85 White-salmon..is locally known as ..whiting, phinock, moudie-trout, silverwhite.

2. A pure white lead used by artists; Chinese white.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2772/1 Kremnitz white, krems white, and silver white are synonyms of white-lead.

Silver wire. Also silver-wire. [SILVER *sb.*] Wire made from silver. Also with *a* and pl.

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565 *Argentifilum*, sylver wyre. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Silver-Wire*, is Silver drawn thro' the Holes of a Wire-drawing-Iron, and by this Means reduced to the Fineness of a Thread or Hair. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 21/2 When leaf-silver or fine silver-wire is heated by voltaic electricity, it burns with a fine green flame. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 754/1 The..silver wire being, of course, composed of pure silver. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 728/2 A porous jar..surrounded by a silver wire.

attrib. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* 203 Chloride of silver.. decomposed by silver-wire poles. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 617 A portion was then removed from the middle line, and the edges united again by silver-wire sutures.

Hence **Silver-wiry** *a.*

1891 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 9/2 Elderly women.., their silver-wiry hair and wrinkled faces.

Silver-wood. [SILVER *sb.*] One or other of several West Indian trees and shrubs (see quot. 1864).

1693 in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 620 The Silver-wood or White-wood, called by our Author *Leucoxylum*, is by him supposed the same with the white Brasil. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 78 Silver-Wood. This tree..has an almost smooth grey bark, with some very white spots on it. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Silver-wood, *Guet-*

tarda argentea, Zuelania Lætioides, and *Mouriria myrtilloides*.

Silver-work. [SILVER *sb.* Cf. MDu. *silver-, sulverwerc* (Du. *zilverwerk*), MLG. *sulverwerk, -wark*, MHG. and G. *silberwerk*.]

1. Articles made of silver; silver vessels or ornaments; silverware. † Also *pl.*

1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxx. 22 Yf ye destroye the syluer workes of youre Idols. 1538 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VII. 87 All furnist chaip and ruvell witht silver werk. 1648 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Zilver-werck*, Plate or Silver-worke to serve at a table. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Silver*, Silver works, as spurs, wrought hilts, &c. are boiled in salt, alum and argol, to give it a whiteness and clearness. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvi, Every bit of..silver work have we been spoiled of since Pinkie Cleuch. 1899 *Daily News* 16 May 8/4 The artificer may be seen at work in the room in which Messrs. Liberty show the silverwork.

2. A place where silver is smelted.

1674 RAY *Collect. Wds., Smelting Silver* 119 The History of these Silver-works may be seen in Dr. Fullers *Worthies of Wales*, General, p. 3.

† **Silverwort.** *Obs.*—[0] = SILVERWEED 1.

1611 FLORIO, *Atanási*, tansie or siluerwort.

† **Silvery,** *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. SILVER *sb.*] = Silver sickness (SILVER *sb* 2†).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 335 þanne oon of þe peple cride and seide, 'It is no squynacie but silverie [*v.r.* selvery] that it ailleþ'.

Silvery (sĭ·lvəri), *a.* [f. SILVER *sb.* + -Y. Cf. Du. *zilverich, zilverich*, G. *silberig*.]

1. Having the hue or lustre of silver.

1611 COTGR., *Argentin*, argentine, siluerie. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* iii. § 26 This is a flat edible Fish,..Silvery above and brown below. 1742 POPE *Dunciad* IV. 421 Of all th' enamell'd race, whose silv'ry wing Waves to the tepid Zephyrs of the spring, Or swims along the fluid atmosphere. 1796 TWINING *Trav. India*, etc. (1892) 2 His thin silvery locks curled round the collar of his old-fashioned..coat. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 86 While yet the silvery glory lies, Above the sparkling foam. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav. S. Africa* viii. 167 This bush has fine silvery leaves. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 290 One small bright silvery likeness of a cloud.

b. *Silvery iron*, an inferior kind of pig-iron, more commonly called *white iron*.

1861 SIR W. FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 67 Under these conditions, it makes what is called white or silvery iron.

2. a. In names of animals, birds, and fishes, as **silvery fox, gibbon, gull, shrew mole; silvery gade, hair-tail, salmon** (see quots.).

Also in some names of moths, as *silvery arches, broad bar, hawk* (Rennie, 1832).

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 241 The *Silvery Fox ..abound in the wooded eminences in Louisiana. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* II. 44 The Silvery or Black Fox. *Ibid.* 368 The Silvery Fox (*Canis Argentatus*) is a species which has been known for a long time. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 195 The *Silvery Gade, *Motella argentenla*. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 64 The second species (*Couchia argentata*) is commonly known as the Silvery Gade. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* I. 209 The Ash-coloured or *Silvery Gibbon, also called the Wou Wou. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 81 A species which is called the Wow-wow, or Silvery Gibbon (*Hylobates leuciscus*). 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 533 *Silvery Gull, *Larus argentatus*. Gull with a white head and neck. *c* 1875 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 207 The last-named species..from its lighter colour is often called the Silvery Gull. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 182 The *Silvery hairtail, *trichiurus lepturus*. 1871 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 154 The hair-tail or silvery hair-tail, blade-fish. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 63 *Silvery Salmon, *Salmo Argentinus*. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 374 The Prairie Mole, or the *Silvery Shrew Mole (*Scalops argentatus*).

b. In names of trees or plants, as **silvery acacia, hair-grass, honeysuckle, oak.**

1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 75 *Aira caryophyllea*.. (Silvery Hair-grass)...Its panicle is of a silvery grey colour. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 293 *Acacia subcærulea*,..Silvery, or Blue-leaved Acacia. *Ibid.* 552 *Grevillea striata*,.. Silvery Honeysuckle. *Ibid.* 599 *Stenocarpus salignus*,.. Silky Oak. Silvery Oak.

3. Having a clear gentle metallic resonance; silver-toned, melodious.

1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* III. v. in Bullen *Old Pl.* III, Hanging on every leafe an orient pearle Which strooke together with the silver winde Of their loose mantels, made a silvery chime. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xv. lxi, The silvery bell rang. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* ix, In his ears one silvery voice was ringing. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 June 5/1 A peculiar soft silvery tone which contrasts very strikingly with the English bands.

b. Silver-voiced.

1821 BYRON *Diary* Wks. (1846) 531/2 Burdett is sweet and silvery.

4. Producing silver; containing silver.

1870 J. ORTON *Andes & Amazon* vii. (1876) 120 At one end of the valley, perched above the clouds, is silvery Potosi. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 154 It is only requisite to melt the silvery gold.

5. *Comb.* a. Qualifying other adjs., as *silvery-green, -silken, -white*, etc.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 242 Stem hollow, silvery grey. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 588 Silvery-brownish Slow-Worm. 1831 POE *To Helen* Poems (1859) 62 Through heaven There fell a silvery-silken veil of light. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 174/1 The brilliant silvery-white appearance so characteristic of the fibrous membranes. 1882 *Garden* 25 Nov. 469/3 Silvery pink, becoming darker with age.

b. Parasynthetic or instrumental, as *silvery-eyed, -leaved, -lined, -sided, -tongued*, etc.

1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 252 The silvery-eyed, red Sparus ..is also a very beautiful fish. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 461/2 Silvery-leaved iron-wood, a native of Carolina. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 196 *Geranium Argenteum*. Silvery-leaved Crane's Bill. 1864 TENNYSON *Islet* 20 Over-stream'd and silvery-streak'd With many a rivulet. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide to Lakes* (1879) 211 The storm was succeeded by masses of silvery-lined clouds.

Silvester, -trial, varr. SYLVESTER, -TRIAL.

Sim[1]. [abbrev. of the personal name *Simon*.] † *Sim subtle*, a subtle or crafty person. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 170 b, Whereupon Simme Suttle argueth from destruction of the consequent on this wise. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voyages* II. ii. 84 In his latter yeeres this Sim suttle buried himselfe in a fouresquare graue,..seuerely forbidding it to be opened.

Sim[2]. Now *Hist.* [abbrev. of SIMEONITE.] A Simeonite; *esp.* at Cambridge, an evangelical, religious, or quiet man.

1851 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* 40 Passing for a terribly hard-reading man, and a 'Sim' of the straightest kind. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 214 *Sim*, one of a Methodistical turn in religion; a low-churchman; originally a follower of the late Rev. Charles Simeon. 1883 *Times* 22 Oct. 9/5 To be a Simeonite at Cambridge—the undergraduates abbreviated it into 'Sim',..—was to wear a badge of reproach.

Sim, var. of SUM *adv.* and *conj.*; dial. f. SEEM *v.*

Sima, obs. variant of CYMA.

‖ **Simagre.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *simagrée*, of unknown origin.] An affected air or look.

1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* III. i, By these languishing Eyes, and those Simagres of yours, we are given to understand, Sir, you have a Mistress in this Company. 1700 — *Ovid's Met.* XIII. *Acis, Polyphemus & Galatea* 31 Now in the Crystal Stream he looks, to try His Simagres, and rowls his glaring eye.

Simar (simā·r). Forms: 7– **simarre, simar** (7 -arr): 8– **symar** (9 **seymar**). [ad. F. *simarre*, ad. It. *cimarra, zimarra*: cf. CYMAR and CHIMER[1].]

1. = CYMAR 1. Also *fig.*

α. 1641 *Ariana* 201 A Persian simarre, or mantle. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Conq. China* xxxii. 581 Their Habit is either a certain Vest, or Simar. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XVIII. 685 The maids in soft simars of linen drest. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 128 They were wrapped in simars whiter than alabaster. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* vii, A simarre of the richest Persian silk. 1828 tr. *Manzoni's Betrothed Lovers* I. iv. 119 Trailing simars, broidered with work of Arabia. 1893 *Cent. Mag.* Aug 640/2 The dancing girl in soft simar.

β. 1700 DRYDEN *Flower & Leaf* 341 The ladies, dress'd in rich symars were seen Of Florence satten. 1796 MRS. J. WEST *Gossip's Story* II. 78 A white frock altered into a Grecian symar for the occasion. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 1273, I saw her..shining in her white symar, As through yon pale gray cloud the star. 1831 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. III. 328 The winter .. in green symar changin afore the gratefu' gaze intil the .. spring. 1886 W. ALEXANDER *S. Augustine's Holiday* 217 Dark sultanas dress'd in white symars.

2. = CYMAR 2, CHIMER[1].

1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* (1864) 5 They were attired in the scarlet simar, and surplice with its snowy lawn sleeves, proper to their order. 1886 tr. *Hugo's Notre Dame* VIII. ii, The simar had the worst of it in its collision with the cassock.

Simaruba (simărū·bă). *Bot.* and *Med.* Also 8-9 **simarouba.** [Native name in Guiana, known in Europe from *c* 1713, at first in the French form *simarouba*; the ending *-ba* is characteristic of Carib tree-names.]

1. A tree of the genus *Simaruba*, esp. *S. amara* or *officinalis* (formerly called *Quassia Simaruba*), a native of northern Brazil, Guiana, and some West Indian islands. Also *attrib.*, as *simaruba bark* (see 2), *family, tree*.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Simarouba*. The bark of this plant is very successful in the cure of dysenteries. 1756 BROWNE *Nat. Hist. Jamaica* 345 The bark of the root of this tree [Terebinthus] is thought to be the Sima-rouba of the shops. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Nat. Hist. Guiana* 84 The Simaruba tree is peculiar to Guiana. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 40 Simarouba Bark, is the Bark of the root of a species of Birch-tree, not yet sufficiently described. 1849 J. H. BALFOUR *Man Bot.* § 831 *Simarubaceæ*, the Quassia and Simaruba Family. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1060/1 *S. amara*..yields the drug known as Simaruba-bark, which is, strictly speaking, the rind of the root.

2. The bark of the root of *Simaruba amara*, which contains quassine and is employed medicinally as a tonic or astringent.

1778 WRIGHT in *Edin. Trans.* (1790) II. 79 The disorder was happily cured by the simaruba. 1789 CULLEN *Mat. Med.* II. 75 My account of the effect of bitters in the dysentery will perhaps explain the virtues ascribed to simaruba. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 376 Decoction of bark with simarouba. 1876 CURLING *Dis. Rectum* 115 Vegetable astringents, such as simaruba and krameria. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* xviii. 312 Boil half an ounce of simaruba in a pint and a half of water.

Simarubaceous (simărūbē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Simarubaceæ* (Richard, 1808), f. prec.] Belonging to the order of tropical trees and shrubs which includes *Simaruba* and *Quassia*.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 200/2 A genus of plants belonging to the Simarubaceous order. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 213 Among simarubaceous plants, the Quassia amara, celebrated in the feverish plains of Surinam.

Simbal(l, obs. forms of CYMBAL.

Simball. *U.S.* [Cf. CYMBAL 4.] A doughnut.

1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* iii, They had popped corn, and roasted apples, and eaten simballs. 1892 MARIA L. POOL *Roweny in Boston* xvii. 263 Mrs. Tuttle was frying doughnuts... Mrs. Tuttle called these fried cakes 'sim-balls'.

Simber, obs. form of SIMMER *v.*

Simber salt, obs. form of SOMERSAULT.

† **Simblic,** *a. Obs.* [f. Gr. *σίμβλιος* or *σιμβλήιος*, f. *σίμβλος* beehive.] (See quot.)

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1004 Mingled with liquid Pitch and Simblick Honey; Dioscorides saith Sicilian Honey is called Simblick.

Simblin, variant of SIMLIN.

Sime. *north. dial.* Also **syme, seyme.** [a. ON. *sima* neut. (Norw., older Sw. and Da. *sime*, Sw. dial. *simme*), = OS. *sîmo* masc. (hence OE. *sîma*), OFris. *sîm* rope, cord. See also SIMMON *sb*[2].] **a.** A straw rope. **b.** (See quot. 1781.)

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 97 *Syme*, a frame of straw to set pans on. 1825 J. BRIGGS *Kenn.* 223 (E.D.D.), He could twist the syme, but could not wash it in the Cocker. 1899 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Syme, seyme*, a straw rope used for holding down the thatch of stacks.

Simenel 1, obs. forms of SIMNEL.

Simeonite (sĭmĭ·ənəit). [f. the name of the Rev. Charles *Simeon* (1759–1836) + -ITE[1] 1 b.] A follower or adherent of Simeon or a supporter of his theological doctrines; a Low Churchman or Evangelical. Also abbrev. SIM.

1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Simeonites* (at Cambridge), the followers of the Rev. Charles Simeon..; they are, in fact, rank methodists. 1837 WILBERFORCE in Ashwell *Life* (1880) I. iv. 112 The good people there tell him one of us is to be the new (Simeonite) Rector. 1850 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) II. 254, I found the stairs, the passages, and the very street .. full of parsons, Puseyite and Simeonite. 1893 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Catharine Furze* vi, The patronage was in the hands of the Simeonite trustees.

‖ **Simia** (sĭ·miă). Pl. **simiæ** (sĭ·mi,ī). [L. *simia*. perh. f. *sīnus*, Gr. *σῖμός* snub-nosed, flat-nosed.] The class of animals consisting of the apes and monkeys, and more specifically of the tailless apes only, or of certain kinds of these, as the orang-utan; also, an animal of this kind.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., More regularly, the word *simia* is the name of that kind only which has no tail. 1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8166/2 The simiæ being more numerous in their species than any other animals [etc.]. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 70 It should seem rather to belong to the genus Lemur than that of Simia. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 56 The developement of brain, in all the *Simiæ*,..is arrested at a particular stage of advancement. 1872 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* III. 162, I cannot at present give up my belief in the close relationship of man to the higher Simiæ.

Si·miad, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. prec. + -AD.] Simian.

1874 R. F. BURTON tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* v. (1880) I. 183 The simiad Negro swaying Africk strand.

Simial (sĭ·miăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. SIMIA + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to, consisting of, apes.

1827 FONBLANQUE in *Life* (1874) 414 Had a Monkey Reviewer..admonished the tribe of the aggregate of loss to the simial stomach. 1828 — *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 150 Somewhere they worship a blue ape, and somewhere they incense another variety of the simial species. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* viii. (1874) 136 The sea inhabiting progenitors of the simial family. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* I. 91 It is quite a Simial characteristic and rarely if ever occurs in Man.

2. Characteristic of apes; ape-like.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii. The builder..skipping with all the simial ecstasy of a Frenchman. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxiv, Vulgar souls who, judging from their simial selves, may doubt the continence of Scipio.

Simian (sĭ·miăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as prec. + -AN. Cf. F. *simien, -enne*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Characteristic of apes; resembling that of apes; ape-like. apish.

1607 T. WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* vii. 82 Ther is a Simian or apish wit. 1862 MRS. SPEID *Last Yrs. India* 209 The poor little puny Tamul race of Southern India, whose general effect .. is unequivocally simian. 1883 BARING-GOULD *J. Herring* II. xxxi. 162 His face was simian in its ugliness and malignity. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 428 Giving the whole face a markedly simian expression.

2. Of or belonging to, comprising or consisting of, the apes or *Simiæ*.

1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* v. 90 Those [differences] which separate the human from the simian brain. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. vi. 199 The early progenitors of the whole Simian stock including man. 1889 *Edin. Rev.* CLXX. 375 The developement of man's intellect from simian ancestry.

B. *sb.* An ape or monkey.

1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* VII. iv. 455 She..saw Indra passing with an army of simians. 1890 STANLEY *Darkest Africa* I. xvii. 423, I should never have credited that any of the Simians understood the art of making fire.

† **Similable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. type **similābilis*: cf. Pg. *semelhavel*, Sp. *semejable*, It. *simiglievole*.] = SIMILAR *a.* 2.

1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* 17 Oct. 305/1 A 3eris proffitis..takin vp..be be said erle, as wes in similable wise previt before the lordis. 1494 *Ibid.* 7 July 361/1 Lik as he tuk apone him to preif in similable wise.

Similacioun, obs. form of SIMULATION.

Similacre, variant of SIMULACRE *Obs.*

Similar (si·milăr), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **similare.** [ad. F. *similaire* (= Sp. and Pg. *similar*), or med. L. **similāris*, f. L. *similis* like: see -AR[1], and cf. the earlier SIMILARY.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** Of the same substance or structure throughout; homogeneous; esp. *similar parts* (see quot. 1704). Also *transf.* (quot. 1728). *Obs.*

(*a*) 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 16 Simple Bodies, which consist of severall similare Parts. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxii. 123 Which may be compared..to the Similar parts of mans Body. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. 32 The same kind of Nourishment taken in by animals, is turned into Blood, Milk, Flesh, Bones, Nerves, and all the other Similar Parts. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Similar*, or *simple Parts*, by Anatomists are called such as are throughout of the same nature and texture, as all the Parts of a Bone are Bony, &c. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Disease*, Diseases of the Solids, he [Boerhaave] considers, either as of the simple, and Similar Parts; Or of the Organical. Similar Diseases are [etc.].

(*b*) 1669 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (ed. 2) 50 Minerals appearing to the eye either to be perfectly similar, as Metals, or at least to consist but of two or three distinct ingredients, as Cinnaber. 1704 NEWTON *Optics* (1721) 4 The Light whose Rays are all alike Refrangible I call Simple, Homogeneal and Similar.

2. Having a marked resemblance or likeness; of a like nature or kind.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Similaire*, Similar; like, resembling. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 198 The Carter Spider..has, for two particularities, very few similar creatures that I have met with. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 78 ¶ 3 Something similar, or analogous, may be observed. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. 1898 II. 124 At home we behold similar beginnings. We are on our guard against similar conclusions. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* III. iv, A set Of thieves who by themselves are sent Similar thieves to represent. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 229 Dr. Wollaston pointed out a similar fact as regards hearing. 1897 TROTTER *Life J. Nicholson* iii. (1908) 51 The rest of the party were threatened with similar tortures.

b. Const. *to*; also formerly *with*.

a 1740 WATERLAND *Serm.* Wks. 1823 IX. 23 The commandment to love our neighbour, which is a duty second and similar to that of the love of God. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xiii, They..produce similar effects with Exercise. 1832 THIRLWALL in *Remn.* (1878) III. 86 A legend of similar import with that of the death of Hercules. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 357 The effect of the Earth's daily movement upon the Sun is precisely similar to its effect upon the stars. 1896 [see B. 2 below].

3. *spec.* a. *Math.*, etc. (See quots.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Similar Segments* of a Circle are such as contain equal Angles. *Ibid.*, *Similar Triangles* are such as have all their three Angles respectively equal to one another. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 72 Similar Products are those whose Corresponding Factors are Proportional. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 322 Equiangular triangles are similar, and are proportional to the squares of their like sides. 1823 BROOKE *Crystallog.* 57 If all the planes of any primary form be similar, as those are of the cube, rhomboid, and some other forms. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 111 Two geometrical figures which have the same shape or form, but are constructed on a different scale, are said to be similar figures. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 30 The edges..which are equally inclined to each other are said to be similar.

b. *Mus.* Of motion: (see quots.).

1861 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 91 *Similar Motion*, that in which two or more parts always ascend or descend at the same time. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Motion*, Similar or direct motion is when parts move in the same direction either by single degrees or by skips.

4. *Comb.*, as *similar-looking, -sided, -sized.*

1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 87 Equal or similar-sided Bivalves, or whose cardo is central. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 20 A similar-sized tube..at the opposite extremity. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* 285/1 Similar-looking barks may be produced by very different species.

B. *sb.* **1.** A thing or person similar to or resembling another; a counterpart. Also const. *of.*

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 202 Let it be considered whether the Integral part be Similar or dissimilar, for Similars come rarely under consideration. 1719 SAMBER tr. *Boerhaave's Meth. Physick* 143 Therefore the Corpuscula of all firm Parts are Similars the most minute. 1763 CHURCHILL *Duellist* I, Thou Similar of Lust! 1778 *Learning at a Loss* II. 110 Admiring the horizontal Verdure of her Father's clipt Hedges; with fifty pretty little Similars full as indolently entertaining. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Life Sir T. Lawrence* I. 7 In manner and conversation, he was one whose similar you seldom met with. 1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* I. I. i. § 3. 161 If representative ideas, or similars, are for ever flowing off from all things in heaven and earth. 1894 *Cent. Mag.* Apr. 872/1 When had the similar of this preacher led the service in that..house of worship?

2. *Med.* (See quot.)

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 222 Hippocrates pointed out the occasional value of similars, that is of drugs which produce symptoms similar to those observed in the disease for which they are given.

†**Si·milariness.** *Obs.*[1] [f. SIMILARY *a.*] Similarity, homogeneity.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 44 It makes no alteration in the water, because of similariness of parts.

Similarity (similæ·riti). [f. SIMILAR *a.* + -ITY, or ad. F. *similarité*.]

1. The state or fact of being similar; likeness, resemblance. (Common from *c* 1780.)

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 56 Both which experiments do prove an homogeneity and similarity of their substance. 1721 in BAILEY. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxvii. (1788) 340 It arose from a fortunate similarity of principles. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 280 There is a strong similarity between the Hebrew and the Scythiac languages. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 91 Nothing has a greater tendency to unlock the heart..than a similarity of misfortunes. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* ii. 41 Certain insects escape danger by their similarity to plants.

2. *pl.* Points of resemblance.

1838 *Murray's N. Germ.* 142 Those who are acquainted with the French metropolis will find here many similarities. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* xv. (1878) 570 Presenting many remarkable similarities. 1897 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Apr. 418/1 There are many curious similarities between the inhabitants of Europe and North America.

Si·milarize, *v. rare*[−1]. [f. SIMILAR *a.*] *trans.* To compare, liken.

1806 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 304 The twenty-fourth canto opens with a description of hoar-frost similarized to snow.

Similarly (si·milărli), *adv.* [f. SIMILAR *a.* + -LY[2].] In a similar or like manner.

1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 13. 324 The point which is situate similarly to that on which the picture is made on the other eye. 1801 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 141, I have been ..just the same kind of being I was before, and just similarly employed. 1859 *Christian Remembr.* XXXVIII. 223 In that case, all other rivers..ought to overflow similarly. 1886 *Law Rep.* 32 Chanc. Div. 28 The same observations are true of all other contracts similarly circumstanced. *Comb.* 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. x. § 84 (1875) 258 The similarly-caused general currents in the air. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* II. xix. (1879) 680 An example of the similarly-fatal influence of undue emotion. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* i. 4 When such a reversed facsimile was placed over similarly-prepared paper.

†**Si·milarness.** *Obs. rare.* Similarity.

1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 104 The main Objection ..against the identity or similarness of this Artificial, with the Natural Sulphur Water. 1731 in BAILEY (vol. II.).

†**Si·milary,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 -iary. [See SIMILAR *a.* and -ARY[2]. Common in the 17th cent.]

1. = SIMILAR *a.* 1.

(*a*) 1564 P. MOORE *Hope Health* I. iv. 7 Soche members are compounded and doe consiste of the saied similarie and like partes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 29 The partes then of the body are diuided into two sortes or kindes: the first is, the simple or similary parts, the other the compound parts. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 196 Similary parts, as blood and other Humors, Flesh, Bones, Sinews, Arteries. 1671 GREW *Anat. Pl.* I. (1682) 4 Having thus taken a view of the Organical Parts of the Bean, and other Seeds; let us next examine the Similary, *sc.* those whereof the Organical are compos'd.

(*b*) 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarchy* III. Comm. 157 Anaxagoras ..conferred the first generation upon small and Similarie particles. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* (1650) 40 Ice is a similary body, and homogeneous concretion, whose materiall is properly water. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. iii. 4 Fat is a similary Body void of Life.

2. = SIMILAR *a.* 2.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxix, Hence growes the height of friendship, when two similiary Soules shall blend..in their commixions. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 125 As Augustine saith in a similarie case [etc.]. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1718) IV. 46 Rhyming cadencies of similary words.

Similat(e, obs. ff. SIMULATE *ppl. a.* and *v.*

Similation, obs. form of SIMULATION.

Simile (si·mili), *sb.* Also *β.* 7 **similie,** 7–9 **simily.** [L. *simile*, neut. of *similis* like. With the form *simily* (pl. *-ies*), cf. *query* for *quere, quære.*]

1. A comparison of one thing with another, esp. as an ornament in poetry or rhetoric.

a. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 160 By this *simile*..ich seo an euidence, That ho so synegeþ in þe *seynt espirit* asoilled worth he neuere. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 51 Samela had learnd..to anatomize wit, and speake none but Similes. *Ibid.* 88 Stuffe with prettie Similes and farre fetcht Metaphores. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I, No simile Is pretious, choyce, or elegant enough. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. ix. (1686) 26 Playing much upon the simile or illustrative argumentation. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No 303 ¶ 20 Milton..never quits his Simile till it rises to some very great Idea, which [etc.]. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope*, A simile, to be perfect, must both illustrate and ennoble the subject. 1825 LYTTON *Falkland* 8, I could wish..that this simile were in all things correct. 1858 DORAN *Court Fools* 167 Some of his similes are drawn from his profession. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 72, That was aptly illustrated by the simile of the infant that can only cry.

β. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 45 Did he not moralize this spectacle?..O yes, into a thousand similies. 1636 DAVENANT *Platonic Lovers* Wks. (1673) 390 An excellent Similie for a Painter, That would draw a good face. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 386 The same simily is made use of in Terence. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 64 There motley Images her fancy strike, Figures ill-paired, and Similies unlike. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ii, Even my similies,..my illustrations, my metaphors, are erudite. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Delille & Landor*, The simily is imperfect, because the fact is untrue. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* I. i. 13 [In] Anglo-Saxon poetry ..Similies..are rare.

b. Without article.

1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry*, They sigh in simile and die in Rhyme. *c* 1700 PRIOR *Dial. Dead, Locke & Montaigne*, Simile is the very Algebra of Discourse. 1707 — *A Simile* 4 'Tis but by way of Simile. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 165 How would he have run him up and down the gamut of simile!

c. *Comb.*, as *simile-maker, -monger.*

1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* II. i, I cou'd not..sit to a vain young Simile-maker, tho' he flatter'd me. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* viii. (1876) 178 That sort of confusion is indulged in by all simile-mongers.

†**2.** Likeness, resemblance; similarity. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Similie*,..likenes, or resemblance. 1613 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muses Teares* Wks. (Grosart) I. 5/1 The Simile twixt God and Man is such, That God is said to be immortall Man. 1692 TRYON *Good Housew. made Doctor* xiv. 103 What likeness or correspondence is there between Cloves, Mace,..and..Herbs or Flesh? Verily there is no simile between them.

†**b.** The likeness of a thing. *Obs.*—[1]

1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (ed. 2) 151 Everything delighteth to produce its own Simile.

Hence **Si·mile** *v. trans.*, to express by a simile.

1727 *Philip Quarll* 219 Having similed every different Part, he proceeds in the Representation thereof.

Simili-, comb. form of L. *similis* like, used in the sense of 'imitation', as *simili-diamond, -gold*, etc. Also *ellipt.*

1886 GRENVILLE-MURRAY *Young Widows* 33 Gold often runs to gold, or to simili-gold, like steel to the magnet. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 500/2 He provides the French middle classes with the finest simili-literature that there is in the market. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* v. 175 Rubies, spinels, and simili distinguishable from real diamonds only by experts.

†**Simi·liancy.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Sp. *semejanza*: cf. Pg. *semelhança, similhança*, It. *simiglianza.*] Similarity, likeness.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 21 Some long Treaty or Communication, Similiancie in condition, or some other pledges of loue. 1631 — *Celestina* I. 26 The great similiancy and suteablenesse which both of you have in vertue.

Simi·litive, *a. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. L. *similis* like.] Expressing likeness.

1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* v. § 25. 183 This similitive Particle [*As*] makes the [*All*] which goes before, and comes after, to be of one and the same extent.

Similitude (simi·litiud). Also 4–5 **symyli-,** 5 **simyli-,** 5–6 **symyly-, simyly-, symili-,** 6 **symily-, similytud(e;** 5 **semeli-,** 6 **semylytude;** 6 **similitewd.** [a. OF. *similitude* (= Sp. *similitud*, It. *similitudine*), ad. L. *similitūdo*, f. *similis* like.]

1. A person or thing resembling, or having the likeness *of*, some other person or thing; a counterpart or equal; †a similarity.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 42 He knew nat Catoun,..That bad man sholde wedde his similitude. —*Sqr.'s T.* 480 Pitee renneth soone in gentil herte, Feelynge his similitude in peynes smerte. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 97 This gostly manna..To us figurithe..A symilitude of the sacrament. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Poems* (S. T. S.) III. 167 Haif rewth, lord, of thyne awin symilitude. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 272 b, The similitude of an hande sent downe, toke me by the heer of my heed. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 19 Romanists will worship their counterfeit similitude, in stone or tree. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 384 Begotten Son, Divine Similitude, In whose conspicuous count'nance ..th' Almighty Father shines. 1714 STEELE *Poet. Misc.* Ded., Men of your Talents oblige the World, when they are studious to produce in others the Similitude of their Excellencies. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 174 Accustomed to cruelty,..they expected a similitude of treatment. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 23 The shadow stood, similitude exact Of Nestor. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Triumph Life* 117 Nor wanted here the just similitude Of a triumphal pageant. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vi. 130 Nature..bearing a relation to something moral of which it is the similitude and type.

2. The form, likeness, or image *of* some person or thing.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1627 Slike a segg in my slepe me sodanly aperid, Euyn in slike a similitude & þis same wedis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* (1879) 62 By the lady..we shall vndirstond the soule formed to the symylitude of god. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* v, He hadde from the nauylle vpward the symylytude or lykenesse of a man. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 421 He had a feende in his house in the symylytude of a catte. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 191 The first degree of this image and similitude that is in man. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 13 He that waiteth for Christ..conformeth himselfe daily vnto his similitude. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 520 Let us make now Man in our image, Man In our similitude. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. 147 Behold this flame in man's similitude.

3. †**a.** A sign or symbol; the symbolic representation of something. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. v. (1868) 75 A tyraunt..shewide by similitude þe dredes of realmes by gastnesse of a swerde þat heng ouer þe heued of his familier. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), Wt yn it is an hoole which shewt by similitude how þe moone wexeþ and wanȝeþ. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 17, I fond to purpos A similitude Ful craftily depeyntid vpon a wall. 1558 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* vii. 39 In this Sacrament is a sygne or a figure, or a similitude of Christes body.

b. A comparison drawn between two things or facts; the expression of such comparison; †a simile.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 431 Almache answerde vn-to that similitude, 'Of whennes comth thyn answeryng so rude?' *c* 1400 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 160 'By this simile [*v.r.* similitude],' he seide, 'ich seo an euidence' [etc.]. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* iij b, By similitude ryght so is the kyng..with his people as the saule with the body. 1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 84/1, I shal put then a more ernest ymage of our condicion & that not a fained similitude but a very true fassion & fygure of oure worshipful estate. 1553 WILSON *Rhet.* 100 b, A similitude is a likenesse when two thynges, or mo then two, are so compared and resembled together, that thei bothe in some one propertie seme like. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 116 A similitude may be taken from a chest-nut..breaking in the fire. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 266 To sneak away like a Cock, seems to

be a very improper Similitude. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 303 ¶ 20 Those who are acquainted with Homer's and Virgil's way of Writing, cannot but be pleased with this kind of Structure in Milton's Similitudes. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 11 April 1776, Nor could I think of a similitude to illustrate it. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.*, We cannot utter a sentence in sprightly conversation without a similitude. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 44 London is often likened to Babylon; but the similitude is a very unjust one.

attrib. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 52 As for our metaphorical and similitude-men of the pulpit, these things to them are too still and languid.

c. A parable; an allegory.

Chiefly in Biblical use, after L. *similitudo*, used to render Gr. *παραβολή*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 207 Luc tellip how Jesus seide to his disciplis þis similitude: þer was a man þat hadde a fige tree. 1388 — *Luke* viii. 4 He seide bi a symylitude, He that sowith, 3ede out to sowe his seed. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xcvi. 426, I shall say to the an Ensawmple and a semelitude of a woman, that was a paynym. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. iii, This fable made Esope for a symylytude whiche is prouffitable to many folkes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlvii. 15 He couered and fylled the whole londe with similitudes and wyse prudent sentences. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Luke* viii. 4 He said by a similitude. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd. 138 A dark Similitude Will on the Fancie more it self intrude,..Then things from Similies not borrowed.

d. In proverbial use.

1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 15 Similitudes do not run on all four, as the Proverb is. 1695 in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 89 If..this very Place was a Temple of Jupiter Belus, the Similitude will run upon all Four. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. p. lxxvi, Similitudes, even when they are taken from Asses, do not walk upon All Four.

4. The quality or state of being like; resemblance, similarity, likeness. Now somewhat *rare*.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 186 So than in that, it is more similitude to the everlasting presence. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 10 Be congruite Of simylytude. 1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 1 Kynges owen to haue puyssaunce and seygnorye upon the knyghtes, and the knyghtes by symylytude oughten to haue power..ouer the moyen peple. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 923 Specially havyng symilytude of maners togyder. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 279 Similitude and likenesse is a great cause of loue,..because similitude maketh many things to be as one and the same thing. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* Introd. 2 The similitude of Passions, which are the same in all men. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 287 Casaubon writ a whole Book on purpose, to shew they had no Similitude nor Affinity with one another. 1730 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 143 ¶ 14 As not every instance of similitude can be considered as a proof of imitation. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 25 A young man whom similitude of manners had rendered one of his principal confidants. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 405 Such deviations..as will efface all traces of similitude of structure. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* i. (1878) 42 The law which reconciles similitude and dissimilitude, the harmony of contrast. 1878 Miss J. J. YOUNG *Ceramic Art* 43 No better examples can be given of similitude.

†b. Likelihood, probability. In phr. *by* or *of (all, any, some) similitude*. *Obs.*

c 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 154 Qwat that a man dremyth schuld turne to trwthe be sum symylytude. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* I. (Percy Soc.) 5 To knowe whether and unto what place It wolde me bryng by any similitude. 1513 HEN. VIII in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) V. 317 In caas the said retardation had not been, our said ship of al similitude had not happened into the said daungier. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 31 This castel..cam to them be similitude by Maryage. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. IV*, D vj b, The Frenchemen whiche by all symilitude had knowledge of the kynges passage entered amongest the kynges nauie.

Hence † **Simi·litudeness**, = SIMILITUDE 2. *Obs.*

Simi·lituding *vbl. sb.*, a drawing of comparisons.

Similitu·dinize *v.*, to make comparisons.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 182 Man is made to the similitudenes of God. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 147 Thy own and other souls deluding. By such prophane similituding. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 316 Melodiously similitudinising in Sapphics languid or Alcaics terse.

†**Similitu·dinarily**, *adv. Obs.* [f. next + -LY 2.] In the manner of a similitude or simile.

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 48 A man, (for example) as Christ was, cannot but similitudinarily be a Vine, a Lyon, a Rocke, &c. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii, They (labouring to do it in a familiar way) did similitudinarily call them Bishops.

†**Similitu·dinary**, *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *similitūdinārius* (also *-āriē* adv.), f. *similitūdo*: cf. Sp. and Pg. *similitudinario*.] **a.** *adv.* In figurative language. **b.** *sb.* A thing resembling another. **c.** *adj.* Of the nature of a similitude or figure; expressing comparison or likeness; symbolic.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 33 Kepenge silence or spekenge similitudinary [L. *æniginatice*] where eny thynge of the Trinite was in theire werke. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F iij b, There be...iij. in the rumpe which be nat very spondyles, but symylytudynaries, & as vycares. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xii. (1887) 222 In their similitudinarie applications. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I ii. 107 Sacramentall signes are similitudinary. 1642 T. GOODWIN *Heart of Christ* 111 This..is not wholly to be understood in a metaphoricall or a similitudinary sense. 1680 DR. POTTER *Christophalg.* 44 (T.), Our Saviour chose this similitudinary way to express our union with himself.

†**Simi·lity.** *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. L. *similis*.] Similarity.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* I. 2, As he herde in all similitee Howe Ioseph had his graund-ser enfourmed. 1652 BIGGE *New Disp.* ¶ 291 Contrariety and simility. *Ibid.* ¶ 295 Although simility doth proximely include familiarity.

Similize (si·milaiz), *v.* Now *rare*. [f. L. *similis* or SIMILE: see -IZE.]

†**1.** *trans.* To imitate, copy. *Obs.*

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 454 He similize These Gebeonites: I will my selfe disguise To gull thee. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* III. 202 Sithe castinge, how his formes and faces viewe mote similize his father, yet vntrewe.

†**2.** To compare, liken. Const. *to, with. Obs.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 16 Some haue similized these kind of men with the Camelion. 1653 DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE *Poems & Fancies* 136 Similizing the Braine to a Garden. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* i. (1692) 53 The best to whom he may be similized herein, is Frier Paul the Servite.

3. To symbolize; to express or describe in similes.

a 1668 DAVENANT *Poems* Wks. (1673) 296 We need not bring So many Flowers..To shew or similize you more. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 165 How Calderon would have similized this pretty creature, had he ever seen it!

b. *intr.* To use a simile or comparison.

1686 DRYDEN *Duchess of York's Paper Defended* Misc. Wks. 1800 II. 496 If I may similize in my turn, a dull fellow might ask the meaning [etc.].

Similor (si·milɔi). [a. F. *similor* (1742), f. L. *simil-is* like + F. *or* gold.] A very yellow kind of brass used in making cheap jewellery.

1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8172/1 *Similor*, a name given to an alloy of red copper and zinc, made in the best proportions, to imitate silver and gold. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 30 This alloy may exist in many different proportions, under which it has different names, as tombac, similor, pinchbeck, &c.

Hence **Si·milored** *a.*, faced with similor.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 220/1 Yellow similored goods must only have the mercury fairly removed from them.

Simily, obs. variant of SIMILE.

Si·mioid, *a.* [f. SIMIA + -OID.] Resembling the apes; simian.

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 371 Man's ancestors, therefore,..were simial or simioid, 'monkeylike'.

Simious (si·miəs), *a.* [f. SIMIA + -OUS.]

1. Belonging to the race of apes; having apish characteristics.

1804-6 SYD. SMITH *Sk. Mor. Philos.* (1850) 190 A model of perfect conformation to the whole simious tribe. 1807 — *P. Plymley's Lett.* iii. (ed. 3) 5 *note*, That simious parasite who is always grinning at his heels. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 21 May, Neither woman nor man, but some simious interloper from Equatorial Africa. 1887 G. SALMON *Non-miraculous Christ.* (ed. 2) 141 Tribes of simious men gradually groping their way..from savage ignorance to..limited knowledge.

2. Typical or characteristic of apes.

c 1835 SYD. SMITH *Ballot* Wks. 1859 II. 307/1 That strange simious schoolboy passion of giving pain to others. 1839 C. A. MURRAY *Trav. N. Amer.* I. 320 A low receding forehead, a nose somewhat *simious*. [*Note.*] I believe I can justly claim the invention or anglicising of this word. 1882 TRAILL *Sterne* iv. 35 A novel in which he might give full play to his simious humour.

Hence **Si·miousness.**

1878 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 59 The obtrusive simiousness of the Mongolian features.

Simitar, obs. or U.S. form of SCIMITAR.

†**Si·mity.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *simus* snub-nosed, flat-nosed.] The fact of being flat-nosed.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* vii. 83 Midwives..are wont to compresse the lateral parts of the Nose, that this simity of children may be the sooner abolished. *Ibid.* 127 Simity therefore is the cause, not the disease.

Si·mkin [1]. *rare.* Also 9 **Simpkin.** [Diminutive form of the personal name *Sim* Simon: see -KIN.] A fool; a simpleton.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Simkin*, a Fool. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Simkin*, a foolish fellow. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 145/1 This Pierrot is the Simpkin of the ballet, and he's dressed in white, with long sleeves, and a white face.

Si·mkin [2]. *Anglo-Indian.* Also **simpkin.** [Urdū corruption of *champagne*.] Champagne.

1853 W. D. ARNOLD *Oakfield* II. iv. 127 The dinner was good, and the iced simkin, Sir, delicious. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 164 We agreed to drink our last two bottles of Simkin in honour of our signal victory. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 July 90/3 There is a good deal of 'Simpkin' or champagne consumed in the three Presidencies.

Simlin (si·mlin). Also 8-9 **cymling, 9 simblin.** [Alteration of SIMNEL.]

1. *U.S.* A species of squash having a scalloped edge. Cf. SIMNEL 2.

1794 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* 148 Cymlings (*Cucurbita verrucosa*). 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* 63 Hunters tell of some curious plants on the Arkansas, amongst which are the common sun-flower, the bean, and the simblin. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds & Usef. Pl.* (1860) 142 *Cucurbita melopepo* ..., Round Squash. Cymling. 1896 *Columbus Dispatch* 24 July 9 Peel and slice tender young simlins.

2. *dial.* = SIMNEL 1 b.

1847- in dialect texts and glossaries (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); also in combs., *as simlin-cake, -Sunday*.

Simment, obs. form of CEMENT *v.*

Simmer (si·məɹ), *sb.* [f. the vb.] The state or condition of simmering. Chiefly in phr. *on the* (or *at a*) *simmer*. Also *fig.*

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. v. ¶ 4 The kettle was kept on the simmer. 1825 LAMB *Refl. in Pillory* in *Elianα* (1867) 141 This nubbling might have helped the pot boil, when your dirty cuttings from the shambles..shall stand at a cold simmer. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* xii, In a constant simmer of trying to be good.

Simmer, Sc. form of SUMMER.

Simmer (si·məɹ), *v.*[1] Also 7 **simber.** [Later form of SIMPER *v.*[1], the change being probably due to a feeling of phonetic appropriateness.]

Simming in Beaum. & Fl. *Coxcomb* IV. vi. ('Tis still simming in her blood') may be an error for *simmering*.

1. *intr.* Of liquids: To make a subdued murmuring sound under the influence of continued heat; to be at a heat just below boiling-point. Also *transf.* of the containing vessel, etc.

1653 MORE *Antid. Atheism* II. xii. § 12 That their vital heat and moisture may not always only simber in one sluggish tenour, but some times boil up higher and seeth over. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IV. 135 Let it simmer on a gentle Fire, then let it cool. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 51 ¶ 7 To watch the skillet on the fire, to see it simmer with a due degree of heat. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 432 The water in the singing brass Simmer'd. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xviii. A large iron cauldron, bubbling and simmering in the heat. 1862 Miss BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxix, Over the handful of fire, upon which the broth..still bubbled and simmered. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 37 While her frugal supper was simmering.

transf. and *fig.* 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xliii, That sort of farthing candlelight which glimmers Where reeking London's smoky caldron simmers. 1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* I. ix. 150 The patient..keeps simmering [in the bath] eight or ten hours.

refl. 1882 G. H. HOLLISTER *Kinley Hollow* xv, Green wood will at last simmer itself into a blaze.

b. Of feelings, tendencies, etc.: To be in a state of gentle activity; to be on the verge of becoming active or breaking out.

a 1764 R. LLOYD *Author's Apol.* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 2 Whose friendship serves the talking turn, Just simmers to a kind concern. 1850 MERIVALE *Hist. Rom. Emp.* liv. (1865) VI. 457 A spirit of reform..still simmered with genial warmth on the surface of society. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VI. 145 The disaffection was already simmering in Devonshire. 1883 *19th Cent.* May 811 This mean business had simmered on, and was at last at boiling point.

c. Of persons, etc.: To be in a state of suppressed excitement or agitation.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 235 This great fiery heart, seething, simmering like a great furnace of thoughts. 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* II. 320 When they had left him boiling, or, at least simmering, in unanimity of wrath. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1322/1 The tribes of Afghanistan were simmering to revolt.

2. *trans.* To keep in a heated condition just below boiling-point.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 147 Boil and simmer it until the water having evaporated leaves the kali behind. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1377 It is then skimmed and simmered for about three hours. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 62 Simmer the whole for two hours, and strain.

†**Si·mmer,** *v.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] [app. a var. of SIMMON *v.*] *trans.* To cement.

1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 49 You must add to the under Side by a Closier..; which, if simmer'd to the Brick, will add much to the Strength..of the Work.

Si·mmering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SIMMER *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of the vb.; the state of being near boiling-point; the gentle murmuring of a liquid under the influence of heat. Also *fig.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 323 Experience shews it wastes less, and ferments better after so long boiling than simmering. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wine*, Any considerable heat, or even a degree of simmering, or tepidity. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xxxv, The simmering of a small pot which he had placed on the flame. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, A simmering buzzed in my heavy brain. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. 56 The fact illustrates the vague simmering of an interest in German speculation.

Si·mmering, *ppl. a.* [f. SIMMER *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That simmers; murmuring with a subdued sound.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 26 Nymphs! you erewhile on simmering cauldrons play'd. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* II. vii, Such is the buzz and frothy simmering ferment of the general mind. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* VII. vii. II. 255 The woods resounding with the simmering hum of insects. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* v. 36 The simmering dislike of the other medical men.

Hence **Si·mmeringly** *adv.*

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxix. § 24 (1689) 276 Let the Liquour boil very leisurely and simmeringly only.

Simmetrian, -triated, -trie, obs. forms of SYMMETRIAN, -TRIATED, -TRY.

Si·mmon, *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 5 **symonde,** 6 **semonde,** 7 **sim(m)ond, symond;** 7- **simmon** (8 **simon**). [var. of CEMENT *sb.*] Cement. (Cf. quots. 1706 and 1890.) Also *attrib.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* viii. 102 Þus sall I iune it..And sadly sette it with symonde syne. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 98 Glewe it in with Semonde or Rosen and waxe molten together. *Ibid.* 275 The gummie fatte of a fygge, the yolcke of an egge, or some kinde of Semonde made of purpose. 1641 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 191 Wax, rossel, and stone pitch to make symond for mending the fount stone broken by the Scotts. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 382/2 A Simmon Stick..is an handle with a round head ..which hath a certain Simond clapt upon it [etc.]. *Ibid.* (Roxb.) 231/1 These vessells are..stopped close together by a certaine morter, clay or simmond. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Cement*, commonly pronounced *Simmon*, a Compound made of Pitch, Brick-dust, Plaister of Paris, &c. us'd by Chacers, Repairers, and other Artificers. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Simmon*, cement. 1890 J. NICHOLSON *Folk-Lore E. Yks.* 80 When bricklayers wish to give a reddish

colour to the mortar, they used pounded bricks or tiles to mix with it. This powder is called simmon, and simmon pounding was formerly the hard labour punishment in Beverley Gaol.

Si·mmon, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* (chiefly *Shetland*). Also 9 simmin, -an, symmon; simmond, -ind. [f. ON. *sima* SIME. Cf. Gael. *sioman.*] A rope or band made of straw or heath, esp. one used in thatching; rope of this material. Also *attrib.*

a. c 1690 in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) III. 252 The common..thacking is of a kind of Divet,..and Straw and Simmons above the same. 1812 J. HENDERSON *Agric. Surv. Caithness* 27 These [divots] are secured on the houses with ropes made of heath, or straw (provincially simmons). 1871 COWIE *Shetland* 92 The roof consists of..thin divots of dried turf, spread on wood, and covered with straw placed in a vertical direction, and held in its place by simmins or straw ropes.

β. 1808 JAMIESON, *Simmonds*, ropes made of heath and of Empetrum nigrum. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* 115 Over these they lay the straw, and afterwards secure the whole with simmonds or bands formed also of straw. 1888 EDMONSTON & SAXBY *Home Naturalist* 145 A bit of simmond was woven. 1899 SPENCE *Shetland Folk-Lore* 195 Making numerous articles for domestic use from straw, such as..simmond-chairs [etc.].

Si·mmon, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 6 symon, 6–7 simon. [f. SIMMON *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To cement.

1568–9 *Sarum Churchw. Accs.* (Swayne, 1896) 283 Wex and Rosen and a fagot to symon the Stones. 1583 in Hutton *St. John Bapt. Coll.* (1898) 63 Item to Jhon Herberte simoninge certaine loose stones in the newe gate. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 83 French Glasse wrought with good lead, well simmoned, is worth sixteen pence a foot. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 385/1 The Second thing in this quarter is the Oyle, or Simoning Brush. *Ibid.*, The Leading of the glasse is..oyled and Simoned to keep out foule weather. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Simmon'd*, cemented. 'It's fearful weel simmon'd.'

Simnel (si·mnĕl). Now *arch.* or *local.* Forms: 3–4 simenel(l, 5 syme-, symynel; 5–6 symnelle (5 -nylle), 5–7 -nell, 5–9 -nel; 6–7 simnell, 6– simnel; 5 cymnel, 7 -nell, 7–8 cimnel(l. [a. OF. *simenel, seminel*, etc. (mod.F. dial. *simnel*), app. related in some way to L. *similа* or Gr. σεμίδᾶλις fine flour.

Med.L. *simen-, siminellus*, is merely an adaptation of the OF. or ME. word. L. *similа* is the direct source of OHG. *simela, semala*, etc. (MHG. *simele, semele*, G. *semmel*, with corresponding forms in LG., Du., Da., and Sw.).]

1. A kind of bread or bun made of fine flour and prepared by boiling, sometimes with subsequent baking. Now chiefly *Hist.*

12.. *Liber de situ Ecclesiæ Belli* in Dugdale *Monast.* (1821) III. 242 Constituens..panem regiæ mensæ aptum, qui simenel vulgo vocatur, habere pondere lx solidorum. *c* 1290 *Fleta* II. ix. § 1 Panis..de Symenel [ponderabit] minus Wastello de ij s[olidis], quia bis coctus erit. *c* 1300 *Munim. Gildhallæ* (Rolls) III. 411 Item, panis artocopi (*i.* simenel) ponderabit minus wastello per duos solidos.

c 1300 *Havelok* 779 For hom he brouthe fele sibe Wastels, simenels with þe horn. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565 *Artocopus*, a symynel. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 77 Cymnel, brede, *artocopus*. 1464 in Anstey *Munim. Acad.* (Rolls) II. 710 Panes vulgariter nuncupatos 'Wygges' et 'Symnelles'. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvi. 19 Thou didest eate nothinge but symnels, honny & oyle. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 26 Cakes of all formes, Simnels, Cracknels, Buns, Wafers, and other things made of wheat flowre. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 663 Cakes tempered with oyle in the frying pan, and wafers boyled in water..like vnto our simnels. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 237 Others sod it [bread] in seam like fritters; others boild it in water like cimnels. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v., Having provided Simnels made of Water according to the size of your Dish, cut 'em in Halves as it were an Orange. 1783 *Gentl. Mag.* LIII. II. 578 Some things customary probably refer simply..to the idea of feasting...Of these, perhaps, are.. cross-buns, saffron cakes, or symnels, in Passion week.., these being formerly at least unleavened. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 393 *Simnel.* In the island of Jersey the name is still applied to a kind of thin biscuit made of the finest wheaten flour and water.

b. A rich currant cake, usually eaten on Mid-Lent Sunday in certain districts.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To Dianeme*, Ile to thee a Simnell bring, 'Gainst thou go'st a mothering. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 A Simnell, is a thick copped Cake, or Loaf made of white Bread, Knodden up with Saffron and Currans. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Simnel*, a plumb-cake having a raised crust for the exterior. 1851 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. III. 506 A rich sort of cake, consisting of a thick crust of saffron-bread filled with currants, citron, and all the usual ingredients of wedding-cake, which is called a simnel. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 76 The 'simnels' eaten on Mid-Lent, or 'Mothering' Sunday.

c. *attrib.*, as *simnel bread, -cake*; **simnel-Sunday, Mid-Lent or Mothering Sunday.** Also *simnel-wise* adj.

1674 BLOUNT, *Simnel-bread*,..bread made of fine meal of corn. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 134 A Noble Cake, made Simnel-wise. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Bread*, We also meet with symnel bread manchet or roll bread, and French bread. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xiv, A quantity of rich pastry, as well as of the simnel-bread and wastle cakes. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* VI. xvi. (1862) 590 In Lancashire and Cheshire they still eat Simnel-cake on Mid-lent Sunday. 1863 CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* I. 336/2 A sort of rich and expensive cakes, which are called Simnel-cakes.

2. *U.S.* A variety of squash. Cf. SIMLIN 1.

1648 B. PLANTAGENET *Descr. New Albion* 25 Strawberries, Mulberries, Symnels, Maycocks and Horns like Cucumbers. 1705 R. BEVERLEY *Virginia* II. § 19 (1722) 124 The Clypeatæ are sometimes call'd Cymnels (as are some others also), from the Lenten Cake of that Name, which many of them very much resemble.

†**Simon.** *slang.* [Prob. a fanciful use of the personal name.] A sixpence.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Simon*, Six-pence. [Hence in later slang Dicts.]

Simon(d, obs. forms of SIMMON, cement.

†**Si·moner.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 Sym-. [var. of SIMONIER.] A simonist, simoniac.

?*a* 1407 W. THORPE *Exam. & Test.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 171/1 Proude obstinate heritikes, couetous Symoners. *Ibid.*, These Symoners sell synne, suffering men and women..to lie and continue from yeare to yeare in diuers vices.

Simoniac (simō·niăk), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: α. 4 symoniak, 5–6 -yake, 6 -iake, 7 -iack; 6–7 simoniak(e, 6–8 -iack(e, 6– simoniac. β. 7 simonaick. [a. OF. *symoniake, simoniaque* (= Sp., Pg., and It. *simoniaco*), or ad. med.L. *simoniac-us*, f. *simonia* SIMONY.]

A. *sb.* One who practises simony; a buyer or seller of benefices, ecclesiastical preferments, or other spiritual things. Freq. with initial capital.

α. 1340 *Ayenb.* 41 Peruore hi byeþ y-cleped Symoniaks alle þo þet wylleþ zelle oþer begge þe gostliche þinges. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 680 Pryuy symonyakes, with false vsurers. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 246 He saied that the Pope was a Simoniack, euer sellyng gyftes. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* D 3, Both the seller and the buier of spirituall things are Simoniacks. 1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* (1661) 84 A Bishop.., although he be a Simoniack, Heretick, excommunicate Person,..may yet firmly ordain others. 1682 BAXTER *Answ. Dodwell* iii. 22 Such as divers General Councils judged Hereticks, Infidels, Simoniaks, &c. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 234 If the Bishop appears, and alledges..that the Person presented is a Simoniac, unlearned, and the like, then they are to proceed to Tryal. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. iii. (1864) III. 476 Peter Bishop of Florence was accused as a Simoniac. 1881 *Church Times* Apr. 211 We should say that simoniacs seldom disturb congregations.

β. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 50 The contraveeners to be punished with all severitie and rigour as simonaicks. 1678 JONES *Heart & Right Soveraign* 349 There was but one bishop in all the isle of Britain then, and he afterwards a Simonaick.

B. *adj.* = next.

1632 D. LUPTON *Lond. & Co. Carbonadoed* (1857) 306 Like a false Canoniere, that came by his place by Simoniacke meanes. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 157 [To] part the simoniac pelf, And take the one half to himself. 1688 *Act 1 Will. & Mary* c. 16 Preamble, Persons simoniack or simoniacally promoted to benefices. 1900 *Speaker* 3 Mar. 588 The Simoniac baseness of the Universities.

Simoniacal (simŏnəi·ăkăl), *a.* Also 7 simonaicall. [f. prec. + -AL.]

1. Of the nature of, pertaining to, or involving simony.

α. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* v. 562 These thinges are Simoniacal..that are forebidden in the Olde and Newe Testamente. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxiv. § 8 Simoniacal corruption I may not..suspect to be amongst men of so great place. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 145, I may say of this Selfe, as we say of Simoniacall contracts for Benefices, that such Simony creates a lapse. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lxxxiii. 443 Mr. Williams..declined the stipulated eighty pounds.., as he thought it would have a Simoniacal appearance. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 60 When the common law censures simoniacal contracts. 1827 *Bentham's Ration. Judic. Evid.* V. 582 To dispute his lessor's title, by proving that his presentation was simoniacal. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. 380 The exaction of such a price ..was both oppressive and simoniacal.

β. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 2 If he would deliver at once all those his Purgatory Prisoners without the Simonaicall receipt of money.

2. Of persons: Guilty of or practising simony.

α. 1569 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. iv. 563 Yea, and in simoniacal heeps cathedral churches are stuffed with them, as dens of thieves. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. (1651) 44 What shall we expect that have such multitudes of Achans, church robbers, simoniacal patrons. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 233 Away with such young mercenary striplings and their Simoniacall fathers. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 298 P 8 The Simoniacal Ladies, who seduce the sacred Order into the Difficulty [etc.]. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VI. Wks. 1813 I. 427 Declaimed loudly against the simoniacal faction. 1848 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 122 One piece..is a song levelled at Simoniacal prelates. 1897 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Rome* 236 They condemned the simoniacal clergy in every rank.

β. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 249 It is but to punish him as simonaicall. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 20 The bribing hands of the Simonaicall Minions.

3. Tainted or marked by simony.

1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xx. 346 We haue happely forsaken..that polluted Church, that simoniacall temple. 1642 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. iii, Would he preferre those proud simoniacall Courts?

Hence **Simoni·acalness,** 'the being of a Simoniacal Nature' (Bailey, vol. II, 1727).

Simoniacally (simŏnəi·ăkălĭ), *adv.* [f. prec.] In a simoniacal manner; with the guilt of simony.

1600 O. E. (M. SUTCLIFFE) *Repl. Libel* II. iv. 83 They are ordeined simoniacally, and by excommunicate persons. 1688 [see SIMONIAC B]. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 619 After his decease, a certain Clerk was simoniacally presented by those Regular Patrons. 1767 BURN *Eccles. Law* III. 325 Canons..whereby a person simoniacally promoted is punished by deprivation. 1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 12 May, He had purchased a living in the country, but not simoniacally. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xii. 297 A bad pope, a simoniacally-appointed pope.

†**Simoniacle.** *Obs.*[−1] [a. OF. *simoniacle*, var. of *simoniaque*: cf. next.] A simoniac.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. viii. R ij, He þt well shall practyse an hondreth thyrty & foure cases of excomunycacyon..& then conforme with symonyacles and other excomunycacyons.

†**Simoniacre,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 symoniakre. [a. OF. *simoniacre*, var. of *simoniaque*: cf. prec.] Simoniacal.

1533 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 534 They sayd that we call the Pope Byshop of Rome, bastard, and symoniakre. *Ibid.*, As touchyng whyddyr He be bastard or symoniakre, or bothe.

†**Simo·nial.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 symonyal. [a. OF. *simonial*, f. *simonie* SIMONY.] = SIMONIAC *sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 784 Both he þat selleth and he þat byeth thynges espirituels ben cleped Symonyales.

Simo·nian[1], *sb.* and *a. rare.* Also 4 symonyan, -yen. [f. SIMONY + -AN, or ad. OF. **simonien.*]

†**A.** *sb.* A simoniac, simonist. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 148 Hise ȝiftis ben not mesurid bi man, alsiȝ symonyens mesuren þer grace, & ȝyven pleyner absolucion..for more money. *c* 1380 — *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 25 Chaffare walkynge in derkennessis is þe pryui heresie of symonyans. 1567–8 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 311, I sent my visitors into Norwich,..whereof I heard..that *Quid vultis mihi dare?* had so much prevailed there among the Simonians.

B. *adj.* Simoniacal.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VIII. i. III. 271 The clergy of Saxony resolved to expel all the intruding and Simonian bishops (those who had received investiture from the Emperor).

Simonian[2] (səimōu·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. med.L. **Simonianus*, f. *Simon* (see def.).]

A. *sb.* A member of an early Christian sect named after Simon Magus and regarded as heretical. (Cf. SIMONIST 2.)

1585–7 T. ROGERS *39 Art.* (1625) 57 Some thinke, that to attend vpon vertue, and to practise good workes, is a yoke too heauy, and intollerable; as the Simonians. 1655 BAXTER *Quaker's Catech.* Pref. B ij, He followed the first Hereticks, the Simonians and their followers, with the same kinde of judgements. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 129 There were no less than ten sorts of heretical Antichrists in the apostle John's days, the Simonians, Menandrians, Saturnalians, &c. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Simonians*, a Sect of ancient Hereticks, the first that ever disturb'd Christianity. 1831–3 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* (1845) 235 We are assured, that this convenient doctrine was a characteristic of the Simonians and other Gnostics. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 79/2 Even the Tübingen critics themselves could not deny the existence of a sect of Simonians.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to, characteristic of, the sect of the Simonians.

1883 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2184 The Simonian teachings gradually take on the form of an elaborate gnostic system. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 79/1 *note*, Hippolytus..gives extracts from a Simonian book.

Hence **Simo·nianism,** the doctrine of the Simonians.

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 80/2 We have therefore in Simonianism a rival system to Christianity. 1902 *Expositor* Sept. 227 There had been a revival of Simonianism in Samaria.

†**Simo·nical,** *a. Obs.* Also symonical(l. [f. SIMON-Y + -ICAL.] = SIMONIACAL.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 221/1 Where is Peters spirite, by whose power couetousnes is destroyed, and simonicall heresie is condemned? 1588 *Martprel. Epist.* (1843) 22 Since you were a Symonical Deane. 1606 L. OWEN *Running Register* 54 Paulus Quintus that great Symonicall Pope. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xiv. Wks. 1851 III. 449 Compiler of that unsalted and Simonical prayer. 1686 J. S. *Hist. Monast. Convent.* 157 His Office is to enquire whether there be any Simonical Practices..in the resignation of Benefices.

Hence †**Simo·nically** *adv. Obs.*

1660 R. CORE *Power & Subj.* 268 That patron who should simonically promote any Clerk.

†**Simo·nient,** *sb.* and *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4–5 symonient, -yent. [Cf. SIMONIAN[1] and -ENT.]

A. *sb.* = SIMONIAC *sb.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 26 And siþ þei sillen treuþe.. þei ben cursed symonyentis & so heretikis. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 9 Symonientis ben sovereyne eretikis. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) VII. 303/1 [They] that bye ony thyng spirytuel..ben called proprely symonientes.

B. *adj.* = SIMONIACAL *a.* 1.

1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 11 Such appropringe..is theefli, fals, and symonient. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) VII. 302/2 Some thynges be forboden for they be symonyent, as byenge and sellynge of the sacramentes of holy chirche.

Hence †**Simo·nientlv** *adv. Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 51 No man presume..symonyently, þat is to sey, for coueytise, for his labour tak ani þing.

†**Simo·nier.** *Obs.* Also 4 symoniour, -ier, 5–6 -yer. [Cf. prec. and -ER[1].] = SIMONIAC *sb.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 103 Þes proude clerkes, symoniours, silleres of pardoun and indulgences. *Ibid.* 112 Þer ben two maner of heretiks of whiche England schuld be purgid, and symonieris ben þe first. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 480 Þus þies symonyers war confusid, & belife þe abbay was wele rewlid and clere oute of dett. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. i, Be in no wyse..a symonyer, or a reuenour. 1520 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* VII. 76 b, Gregorius the 7..proceded sharply agaynst prelates and preestes that were symonyers.

Simo·nious, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7 symonious. [f. SIMONY + -OUS.]

1. = SIMONIACAL 1 and 3.

1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 II. 276 None shall hold Three or four Church-liuings (got by Symonious gold). 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 54 Going themselves on the simonious p'aces of their outed predecessors. 1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) I. ix. 192 A simonious suit decided against her in the Ecclesiastical Court had been the result.

2. = SIMONIACAL 2.

1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Preface, The oppressions of a Simonious decimating clergie. 1670 — *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 III. 292 At this relation..Stigand the Simonious Archbishop..is said to have laugh't.

Si·monism. *rare*—1. [Cf. next and -ISM.] The practice or advocacy of simony.

1895 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Mar. 370 For simonism and lack of manly straightforwardness, this letter has not often been paralleled.

Simonist [1] (si·mŏnist). Also 7 **symonist.** [f. SIMON-Y + -IST.] One who practises or upholds simony.

1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* v. 564 The Heresie of Macedonius ..is more tolerable, then is the Heresie of these simonistes. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 5 b, No excommunicate person or Simonist shall bee a patron to present. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 102 The Sacrilegist, and Symonist, the two Prophaners of holy things. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* IV. Wks. 1851 III. 163 Wulfer..selling the Bishoprick of London, to Wini the first Simonist we read of in this story. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. v. 49 An Adulterer, Simonist,..Arrian. 1767 BURN *Eccles. Law* III. 336 The ecclesiastical court may proceed against a simonist. 1864 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 502/3 A Turk might say,..if you are a Christian, you are a simonist and a persecutor.

attrib. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Vind. Naked Truth* II. 11 The Symonist Arch-bishop.

Simonist [2] (sə̄·mŏnist). *rare.* [f. *Simon* + -IST.] = SIMONIAN *sb.*[2]

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 854/2 The various heresies..are taken up in chronological order and arranged in five main groups, the Ophite, Simonist,..and Noetian.

† **Si·monite.** *Obs.* = SIMONIST [1].

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 525 Sarazene, symonyte, provit Pagane pronunciate. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. x. 235 Thei ware all busie vsurers, and Simonites: bothe spirituall and Temporall. 1588 in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 617 All Simonites, wch bye and sell, or unfytlie bestow livinges and offices.

Simon Pure. *colloq.* Also **Simon-pure, simon-pure.** [The name of a Quaker in Mrs. Centlivre's comedy *A bold stroke for a wife* (1717), who is impersonated by another character during part of the play.] *The (real) Simon Pure,* the real, genuine, or authentic person or thing.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lvi, 'Here,' proceeded the counsellor, 'is the real Simon Pure—here's Godfrey Bertram Hewit'. *a* 1832 — *Monast.* Introduction *note,* Each insisting that his Jedediah Cleishbotham was the real Simon Pure. 1860 W. C. PRIME *Boat Life Egypt* xxxiii. 357 If we would come with him the other way he would show us the real mummy, the Simon Pure. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 381, I believe the real Simon pure had been in the crowd all the time.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Real, genuine, authentic.

1889 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 337 The home of the Simon-pure wild horse is on the southern plains. 1894 HOWELLS *Trav. fr. Altruria* 125 If you want to see American individuality, the real, simon-pure article.

† **Simont, symont,** obs. ff. CEMENT *sb.* and *v.*

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. lxvii, The purifyit siluer.. Insteid of symont was ouir all that wone. 1505-6 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 46 Item.., to set on the simont riall quhilk wes deliverit to Quinta Essencia. 1598 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 252 The windoes..shalbe well glazed and simonted.

Simony (si·mŏni). Forms: 3-6 **symonye,** -ie (4 -i), 4-9 **symony**; 3-7 **simonie** (4 -ye), 6 **simoni,** 6- **simony.** [a. OF. *symonie, simonie* (= Sp., Pg., It. *simonia*), ad. med.L. *simonia,* f. the name of *Simon* Magus, in allusion to his offer of money to the Apostles, Acts viii. 18-19.]

1. The act or practice of buying or selling ecclesiastical preferments, benefices, or emoluments; traffic in sacred things. Freq. with initial capital.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 202 Simonie, Gauel, Oker. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 435 Wel vnnebe he it fond with-oute symonie. Simonie so is i-cleoped foreward for-to make To bugge lifiode of holie churche. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5521 Symonye ys, as men telle, When syftys of holy cherche men selle. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxviii. 1 Ill men..come in ..till dignytes of halykirke, borgh maystry and symony. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 328 Siche curatis..comen not into here benefices bi be dore,..but symonye, pride and coveitise. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. viii. 321 The fruyt of the chirchis riche endewing is synne of..symonye. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* xlvi. (Arb.) 93 He tolde me that for the synne of symony that he dyd..he sofred ful greuys peynys. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1200/2 If he came therto by simony, or some such other euyll mene. 1580 LUPTON *Siuqila* 11 Then I thinke none is admitted into that function with you, that intrude themselves into it by giftes or Simonie. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 45 But Simonie is now soe common growne, That 'tis account noe sinne, if kept vnknowne. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 434 Those Revenues and Preferments which Simony..had made mere Merchandise. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* x. (1739) 603 The Christian Church..proceeded with great Severity against such as were found guilty of Simony. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 278 By simony, the right of presentation to a living is forfeited, and vested *pro hac vice* in the crown. 1823 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* VI. 223 A pontiff unfit for his station through ignorance, incapable of holding it through simony. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. 315 In his ecclesiastical patronage Stephen stands vaguely charged with Simony.

fig. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* 83 Which foule abuse is nothing else but a meere mentall Simonie, vsurie, sacrilledge and most impious hypocrisie. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxvii. 103 The prevarications of Advocates, the Symony used of Judges.

attrib. 1859 SALA *Two. round Clock* (1861) 120 If you have a fancy to see Simony sales by auction, and advowsons.. knocked down for so many pounds sterling.

† b. Personified. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem time Edw. II* (Percy) iv, Trewth..dare not come..for ferde, if symonye may meet hym, he wil smyte of his berde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 37 Sir Simonye is of-sent to asseale þe Chartres. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iii. 19 For now is Symonye Kyng crouned in Holy Chirche. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (1843) 25, I thinke Simonie be the bishops lacky. *a* 1640 J. DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 72, I haue but a poore vicaridge which one Mr. Symon-Monye, or more familiarlie sym-monie, helpt me to.

† 2. The money paid in simony. Also *transf.,* a tip (to a verger). *Obs. rare.*

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. v. 196 What though pale Maurus paid huge Symonies For his halfe-dozen gelded vicaries. 1706-7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* II. ii, Then I, Sir, tips me the Verger with half a Crown; he pockets the Simony and Inducts me into the best Pue in the Church.

‖ **Simool.** [Bengālī, Hindī, etc. *simul* (also *semul, sēmul, sēmal*).] The (red) silk-cotton tree of India (*Bombax malabaricum*).

1855 ROYLE *Fibrous Plants India* 265 A report from the Society of Arts on two pieces of cloth made from the Simool or Silk Cotton tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1009/2 The silk-cotton of the Simool..is..not adapted for spinning.

‖ **Simoom** (simū·m), *sb.* Also sam-, semoom, simúm; simoon, -oun. [a. Arab. سموم *semūm,* f. the root *samm* to poison. With the form *simoon* cf. F. *semoun, simoun.*] A hot, dry, suffocating sand-wind which sweeps across the African and Asiatic deserts at intervals during the spring and summer.

a. 1790 BRUCE *Trav.* IV. 559 The simoom..still continued to blow, so as to exhaust us entirely. 1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VII. 139, I should have caught an ague on these sands, Did not a simoom cheer me now and then. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* III. i. 128 The red-hot breath of the most lone simoom, Which dwells but in the desert. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 131 This place is sometimes visited with a furious tornado, or simúm, from the desert. 1865 *Fortn. Rev.* I. 461 The samoom, which is so rare a phenomenon in the Egyptian desert. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 18 The semoom was fairly upon us. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol., Courage,* Wks. (Bohn) III. 108 The hunter is not alarmed by bears..nor an Arab by the simoom.

attrib. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xiv. 239 Every passion..had swept with simoom blast over the cities and villages of France.

β. 1847 WEBSTER, Simoon. 1860 MRS. HARVEY *Cruise Claymore* vi. 129 Two days after their departure an unusually violent simoon came on, and every soul was buried in the sand. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* ii. 58 A simoon of impalpable fine cloud dust sweeps by.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* v, Force itself..has doubtless a composing effect;—against inanimate Simooms. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurture* II. ii. (1861) 264 It is as if there were a simoon of piety blowing through the house. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Feb. 1/1 All the force and fury of Mr. Gladstone's oratorical simoom.

Hence **Simoo·m** *v.*, to exterminate as by a simoom.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 532 They are simoom'd—blasted —annihilated.

Simorg(h, variants of SIMURG.

Si·mosaur. *Paleont.* [See next.] An animal belonging to the fossil genus *Simosaurus.* So **Simosau·rian.**

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* V. 410 They comprise two groups, the ichthyosaurians and simosaurians. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Natural Hist.* V. 103 In the allied nothosaurs and simosaurs the limbs were better adapted for walking.

Simosaurus (sə̄imosō·rŭs). *Paleont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σῖμός snub-nosed + σαῦρος lizard.] A genus of Plesiosaurians belonging to the Triassic period.

1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1875) 492 Of the other genera .., *Simosaurus* and *Nothosaurus* are from the Trias. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 472 Prof. H. G. Seeley gave a detailed description of the skeleton of Simosaurus recently discovered in the Trias near Stuttgart.

Simo·sity. *rare*—0. [f. L. *sīmus* snub-nosed.] 'A being crooked nosed' (Bailey, 1721).

Simoun, variant of SIMOOM.

Simous (sə̄imə̄s), *a.* [f. L. *sīmus,* Gr. σῖμός; see -OUS.]

† 1. Bending or curving inward; concave. Also of the nose: Snub, flat. *Obs.*

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* III. xx. (1678) 73 This Gate-vein coming out of the sinus part of the Liver, is divided into six branches. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (ed. 2) 72 It is on the external or forepart, gibbous or bunching outward; on the internal or hind part, simous or bending inwards. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 292/2 A Swallow tailed Shelldrake. This Fowl hath a short Bill, and simous. 1697 EVELYN *Numismata* ix. 207 The nose..long, short, simous.

2. Having a flat nose; snub-nosed. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Simous,* flat nosed. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. i. 172 Simous Blenny, *Blennius Simus.*

Simpai. [Malay.] (See quots.)

1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 58 The Simpai..is of a very lively red; beneath white; its face is blue; and a crest of black hairs reaches from one ear to the other. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 87 The Black-crested Monkey, or the Simpai,.. *Semnopithecus Melalophus.*

Simpathy, obs. form of SYMPATHY.

Simper (si·mpəɹ), *sb.* [f. SIMPER *v.*[2]] An affected and self-conscious smile; a silly smiling look; a smirk.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, You become the simper, well, ladie. 1711 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 179 ₱ 7 The Whistler relaxed his Fibres into a kind of Simper. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 6 The proud Parnassian sneer, The conscious simper, and the jealous leer, Mix on his look. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 23, I suppose, by your simper,..that but few people come now to Becket's shrine for a kiss. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iv, Some men wear an everlasting barren simper. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxii, With an idiotic simper on his face.

Comb. 1817 *Lintoun Green* II. 22 The Boar was round as any clue, Was smooth and simper fac'd.

b. An affectation; a pose.

1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 1 Few would believe him, if he fell into the common simper of whining about the comfort of convicted felons.

Si·mper, *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **symper.** [Prob. imitative; connexion with next appears unlikely.]

1. *intr.* To simmer.

1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. (1652) 47 Remember that Water will buble and boyle, But Butter must simper and also Oyle. 1530 PALSGR. 718/1, I symper, as lycour dothe on the fyre byfore it begynneth to boyle. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spirits* I. (1659) 214 It seemeth to be a great Lake of pitch: and it playeth or simpreth, as water doth, when it beginneth to seethe. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Medicin. Exp.* v. (1693) 41 Let the Vessel stand in a moderate heat, that the Liquor may simper for many hours. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Verjuice,* The Verjuice must not be boil'd, but let it simper only. 1736 in *Ochtertyre Ho. Bk.* (S. H. S.) Introd. p. xxxix, Letting the berries Simper in a pan. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 301. 1881 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 90. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* 215.

2. *trans.* To cause to simmer. *rare*—1.

1694 W. SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 686/2 You are then to add the Balsam de Tolu..and Rose-water, simpering it till the Rose-water is evaporated.

Simper (si·mpəɹ), *v.*[2] [Of obscure origin. In sense 1 perh. related to a continental *semper* or *simper,* which is represented by Da., Norw., and Sw. dial. *semper, simper,* Swiss dial. *semper,* G. *zimper, zimpfer* (also MDu. *simper-, zimperlijc,* G. *zimpf-, zimperlich*), elegant, delicate, nice, dainty, affected, etc., and G. *zimpf-, zimpern, -eln* to be coy, etc. Mod.W.Fris. has *simperje* in sense 3, with adj. *simperich* peevish.]

1. *intr.* To smile in a silly, self-conscious, or affected manner; to smirk.

Perh. implied earlier in SIMPER-DE-COCKET.

c 1563 *Jack Juggler* (Roxb.) 9 She simperith, she prankith and getteth with out faylle, As a pecocke that hath spred, and sheweth hir gaye taile. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Ep.* 277 Simpering and smiling, he began somwhat leisurely to write. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I, She is one that may..simper when she is Courted by her Friend. 1652 OLEY *Life G. Herbert* (1836) p. cv, His birth and spirit prompted him to martial achievements,..and not to sit simpering over a book. 1770 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 20 Apr., She..lisps affectedly, simpers designedly, and looks conceitedly. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* III. xx. 215 Addigetta..smiles or simpers most engagingly whenever she is more than ordinarily pleased. 1891 M. WILLIAMS *Later Leaves* v. 61 She smiled and simpered and tried to avoid the question.

† b. So *to simper it. Obs.*

1575 NORTH tr. *Philibert's Philosopher at Crt.* 16 Counterfaite Courtiers which simper it in outwarde shewe, making pretie mouthes [etc.]. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* (Hunterian Club) 27 She simpered it, and made curtesie..as if she had neuer seene them before. 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Women* III. ii, See how she simpers it, as if marmalade Would not melt in her mouth!

† c. With allusion to SIMPER *v.*[1] *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 37, I simpered with my countenance lyke a porredge pot on the fire when it first begins to seeth. 1731-8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 45 And yet she simpers like a Firmity-Kettle.

† 2. To glimmer, twinkle. *Obs. rare.*

c 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Lover's Progress* III. i, The Candles are all out. *Lanc.* But one i' th' Parlour. I see it simper hither, pray come this way. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Search* iv, Yet can I mark how starres above Simper and shine.

3. *dial.* To whimper.

1865 SLEIGH *Derbyshire Gloss.* 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* 215 *Simper,* to cry, to begin to cry as a spoiled child does.

4. *trans.* To say or utter with a simper.

1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* x, 'He, he, he,' simpered Nat. 'I am Orlando, of whom you have heard so much.' 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 208 'Friends everywhere!' simpered the fool; 'pray how came you all here?'

b. With advs., as *away, forth, out.*

1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Char.* III. v, He simpered away nothing of its reality into conventual no-meaning. 1843 LYTTON *Last of Barons* II. iii, Must I go bonnet in hand and simper forth the sleek personals of the choice of her kith and house? 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 429 Drawing-rooms, where Browning and Tennyson were simpered out to coteries.

† **Simper-de-cocket.** *Obs.* Forms: (see the quots.). [app. a fanciful formation on SIMPER

v.[2] and COCKET *a.*] An affected coquettish air; a woman characterized by this; a flirt.

In quot. 1562 used as an adj. or adv.

a. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 55 She wyll iet..In her furred flocket, And gray russet rocket, With symper the cocket. 1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metam.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 619/2 Lay by..using your nimbles, In diving the pockets, And sounding the sockets Of simper-the-cockets.

β. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Weather* 877 (Brandl), I saw you dally with your symper de cokket. 1562 — *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 43 Vpright as a candle standth in a socket, Stoode she that daie, so simpre de cocket. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 238 Another sort of simper-de-cockets, who counterfet puppets, in speaking so finely that they wil scarce open their mouthes. 1621 COTGR., *Coquine*, a begger-woman; also, a cockney, simperde-cockit, nice thing. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 384, I have here in my Custody, said she, a little Simper de cockit that will not let me be at quiet.

Si·mperer. [f. SIMPER *v.*[2] + -ER [1].] One who simpers or smiles affectedly.

1769 NEVILE *Imit. Juvenal* 11 A simp'rer, that a court affords. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* V. xxi, Well the simperer might be vain. 1816 GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 216, I know what courtly simperers will think and say..of this ..style of writing. 1853 MRS. OLIPHANT *Salem Chapel* vii, Those self-engrossed simperers should yet be startled out of their follies.

Si·mpering, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SIMPER *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] Simmering.

1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* iv. in Ashm. (1652) 46 To know of the simperinge of our Stone. 1598 FLORIO, *Cremore*,.. the creame or simpring of milke when it seethes.

Si·mpering, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SIMPER *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The action of the verb; an instance of this.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 141 Her look's, her simpring, her woords with curtesye sweetning. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 103 Some little coy bridling of the chin, and nice simpring and wrything his face 30. waies. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Church-Porch* xxi, Simpring is but a lay-hypocrisie. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 314 Without which humility is but baseness,.. modesty but simpering, devotion but hypocrisie. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xx. 140 My mother's hand was kindly put into his, with a simpering altogether bridal. 1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, We were now not content with simpering, for we could not forbear downright laughing. 1894 *Forum* July 584 [Co-education] takes the simpering out of the girls—the roughness out of the men.

Si·mpering, *ppl. a.* [f. SIMPER *v.*[2] + -ING [2].]

1. That simpers or smiles affectedly. Said of persons or their features. Also *transf.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1595) 70 Then is she.. a simpring puppet to woonder on. 1602 DEKKER *Satiromm.* Wks. 1873 I. 185 These pretty, simpring, setting things, call'd brides. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Anthea lying in bed*, Like to a Twi-light, or that simpring Dawn, That Roses shew, when misted o're with Lawn. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epil., His simpering friends, with pleasure in their eyes, Sink as he sinks. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. v, Young ladies dwindle into mere listeners, simpering listeners, I confess. 1826 POLWHELE *Trad. & Recoll.* I. ii. 29 A pretty silly simpering girl..was dazzled by his wit. 1877 BRYANT *Wind & Stream* iii, The simpering stream, The fond, delighted, silly stream.

2. Accompanied by or associated with simpering; mincing, affected.

1595 T. P. GOODWIN *Blanchardine* II. (1890) 216 Pacing toward the Queene with a simpering smile, neither presaging mirth nor mourning. 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Women* III. ii, I had rather hear one ballad sung..Than all these simpering tunes. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 156 The man walks with a proud and simpring pace. 1712 W. KING *Little Mouths* 20 Betty, with bridled chin, extends her face, And then contracts her lips with simpering grace. 1862 THACKERAY *Round. P., Notch on Axe* 253, I went on meanly conversing with him, and affecting a simpering confidence. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* 503 It is no simpering smile.

† **Si·mperingly,** *adv.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [f. *simpering* SIMPER *v.*[1]] Simmeringly.

a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 110 When you see the milk begin to boil simp'ringly.

Si·mperingly, *adv.*[2] [f. SIMPERING *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].] With a simper; in a simpering manner.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 32 Mistris Minx, a Marchants wife,..that lookes as simperingly as if she were besmeared. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ix. 220 Why lookes neat Curus all so simpringly? 1612 *Benvenuto's Passenger* II. ii. 533 She affably and simpringly answered. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. 12 He..made use of some simperingly good-hearted expressions.

Simpiesometer : see SYMPIESOMETER.

† **Si·mplar,** *a.* *Obs.*—[1] [ad. late L. *simplār-is*, f. *simplus* SIMPLE *a.*] Single.

1610 [see DUPLAR *a.*].

Simple (si·mp'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also *a.* 4 **simpil, -ul,** 5 **simpel, -ill, -ulle**; 4–5 **sympile,** 5–6 **-ill,** 5 **sympel(l,** 5–6 **sympyll** (5 **-yl, -ylle, cympylle**), **sympul** (5 **-ull**), 4–6 **symple.** *β.* 4–6, *Sc.* 8–9 **semple,** 5–6 **sempill** (6 **-yll**). [a. OF. *simple* (12th cent., = Prov., Sp., and Pg. *simple*), ad. L. *simplus* or *simplex*. Hence also Du., Fris., G., Da., and Sw. *simpel* (MDu. also *sempel*).

L. *simplus* (in class. L. only in neut. *simplum*) is cognate with Gr. ἁπλόος, ἁπλοῦς, the first element in both being **sem-* 'one'. In *simplex* the second element is related to L. *plicāre*, Gr. πλακεῖν 'to fold'; cf. APALD *a.*]

A. *adj.*

In early examples it is often difficult to decide in which of several possible senses the word is to be taken.

I. 1. Free from duplicity, dissimulation, or guile; innocent and harmless; undesigning, honest, open, straightforward.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 790 Simple [as the dove] and softe be we alle. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 128 [False ancres] habbeð efter þe uoxe a simple semblaunt sume cherre, & beoð þauh ful of gile. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 746 Now sayned be þou sauiour, so symple in þy wrath! 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* x. 16 Be ȝe war as serpentis, and symple as dowues. *Ibid., Luke* xi. 34 If thin yȝe schal be symple, al thi body schal be liȝtful. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4404 To sawe emang þir simpill men sedis of debate. 1485 CAXTON *St. Winefryde* 14 A man of good lyf and symple courage. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Maryit Wemen* 255, I semyt sober, and sueit, & sempill without fraud, Bot I couth sexty dissaif that suttillar wer baldin. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 411 Wherein also appeareth some suspition of no simple dealing. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* V. iii. 404 Bostar, the Gouernour of Saguntum, a simple man. 1669 *Relat. Raleigh's Troubles* in *Harl. Misc.* IV. 60 The Lord Cobham, a simple passionate man, but of very noble birth and great possessions. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. (1787) III. 191 The edict which the fanaticism of Olympius dictated to the simple and devout emperor. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 243 Here wily Jesuits simple Quakers meet. 1822 SHELLEY *Fragm. Unf. Drama* 85 He was a simple innocent boy. I loved him well. 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* 27 A simple heart may be its own best guide. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 367 The simple, fearful child meant nothing, but my own too-fearful guilt..betrays itself.

2. Free from, devoid of, pride, ostentation, or display; humble, unpretentious.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 140 His oste nam wel gode ȝeme.. hov luytel he et him-selue, with wel simple mode. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1134 His lokez symple, hym self so gent. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 41, I am so simple of port, That forto feigne som desport I pleie with hire litel hound. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4664 All be we suggets in oure-selle & simpill oure latis. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxiii. (1868) 84 She deigned not to do reuerence and worshippe unto the kinge..for because he was symple and debonaire. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 272 Be ewir obedient, Humble, subiect, and symple of entent. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* ix. 9 Lowly and symple is he, he rydeth vpon an asse. 1630 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 30 A third sort of Iesuites there are, not vnfitly termed simple ones; these are wonderfull austere in their life. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* xxxii. ii, Harmless, and pure, and undefil'd, A simple Follower of the Lamb. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. v, A man with heart, head, hand, Like some of the simple great ones gone For ever and ever by.

3. Free from elaboration or artificiality; artless, unaffected; plain, unadorned.

Usually implying that the simplicity is a merit, but sometimes (as in quot. 1827) with suggestion of sense 7.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* Prol. (Rolls) 7 : Als þai haf wryten & sayd, haf I alle in myn Inglis layd, In symple speche as I couthe, þat is lightest in mannes mouthe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 217 Sobrete, and symple speche, and sothfaste byleue. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 320 Ther songe schal be sadde, sober, ande symple with-oute brekyng of notes. 1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Symple styll, *simple*. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. ii. 22 There are no trickes, in plaine and simple Faith. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s.v., Simple Style, an easie plain Stile. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. xii, I rather chose to relate plain Matter of Fact, in the simplest Manner and Style. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 32 The short and simple annals of the poor. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 209 Sophocles and Terence..are more simple than Lucretius. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* vii, It is, however, but a very simple tale, and may have no interest for persons beyond Janet's rank of life or understanding. 1860 WARTER *Sea-Board* II. 446 The simplest sermons, conveyed in the simplest language, usually do most good. 1881 FREEMAN *Subj. Venice* 249 The arcades themselves, though very good and simple, do not carry out the wonderful boldness..of the outer range.

b. Of persons: Free from over-refinement, unsophisticated, unspoiled.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iii, The inhabitants of these mountains are a simple people. 1821 SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 429 Pastoral people.., Simple and spirited; innocent and bold.

II. 4. Of persons, or their origin: Poor or humble in condition; of low rank or position; undistinguished, mean, common.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 49 Among lowe Men and simple deol þere was i-nouȝ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15007 þe simple folk al o þe tun þai went him for to mete. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 714 Per nys lord in no lond..þat sopli nere simple i-nouȝ þat semly to haue. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2631 A I nobill kyng,.. suffers me to say, Symple þof I be. 1441 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 206 Alas! what was myne adventure, So sodenly down for to falle,..Now am I made sympulest of alle. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 78 Kynge Dauid that was first symple & one of the comyn peple. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 423 All sic like..That cuming ar of sic sempill degrie. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 1346/1 Thomas Cromwell,..borne of a simple parentage & house obscure. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worst T.* (1841) 108 The silliest and simplest being wronged may justly speak in their own defence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 365 His place of birth a solemn Angel tells To simple Shepherds. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. 112 How you joke, And love to sneer at simple Folk! 1794 BURNS *Came ye the day* ii, There's wealth and ease for gentlemen, And semple folk maun fecht and fen'. 1864 *Spectator* 537 It is sometimes objected to Mr. A. Fripp's peasant children that they are more gentle than simple.

b. In modest or apologetic use.

In some examples sense 9 may be intended.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xiv. 3, I praye þe, lord, for thy grete myght Vnto thy symple seruand see. 1481 CAXTON *Godfr.* ccxii. 312 Reduced out of Frensshe in to englyssh by me symple persone Wyllam Caxton. 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 88 My simple bodie to be buried at Ratclif. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 223 Send be thy sempill servand Sanderis Scott. 1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Harl. *Dodsley* IV. 94 When I am dead, my simple ghost.. Shall hover about the place.

† **c.** In phr. *as simple as*, or *simple though, I stand here.* *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 228 *Slender.* He's a Iustice of Peace in his Countrie, simple though I stand here. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, I am his next heire at the common law, Master Stephen, as simple as I stand here. 1728 SWIFT *Mullinix & Timothy* Wks. 1751 VII. 213 And simple as I now stand here, Expect in Time to be a P—.

5. With designations or titles: Ordinary; not further distinguished in office or rank.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26226 Es na simple preist þat mai Sli scrift on man bot biscop lai. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 8 ȝif it so bifalle þat a symple brother dye. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 50 Alexander of Macedone cam on a tyme lyke a symple knyght vnto the court of Porus kynge of Inde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 64 Ane semple vicar I can nocht be. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 77 Salisbury and Warwick are no simple Peeres. 1657 *Narr. Late Parl.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 456 One of the simple and new-made knights. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 456 Perhaps no simple presbyter of the Church of England has ever possessed a greater authority over his brethren. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 201 This change affected however only the simple barons.

6. Of persons or their attire: Not marked by any elegance or grandeur; very plain or homely.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 110 He was long and lene, to loken on ful symple, Was no pride on his apparail, ne no pouert noþer. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6822, I, that were my simple cloth, Robbe bothe robbed and robbours. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVI. 478 The kynge..and his knyghtes..hadde don of theire helmes from theire heedes and valed theire coiffes of mayle vpon theire sholderes and com full symple. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 55 The body must be chastened and made leane with fasting and simple apparel. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 49 ȝe sall him find, but mark or wying, Full sempill in ane Cribe lying. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xviii. 191 Cloathed in a simple mantle, and torne trowsers.

b. Similarly of living, diet, abode, etc.

The simple life, a mode of life in which anything of the nature of luxury is intentionally avoided.

13.. *Cursor M.* 13272 (Gött.), Chese him felaus will he bigin, ..mene men of simpil lijf. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 503 þe crabbed lentoun, þat fraystez flesch wyth þe fysche & fode more symple. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 149 What euere þing curatis holden of þe auterage ouer a sympule liflode,.. it nys not here but opere mennus. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 64 Mekenesse, pouerte, and buxumnesse, that weren openly schewed in her symple dwellynge. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 120 But they ought to make good and symple colacion to geder. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 88 Leopold..did take the king captiue at Dena in a village nere therevnto, in a simple house. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 96 In that my welcome is so colde, and my cheere so simple. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ix. 16 His simple home; Which though it were a cottage clad with lome [etc.]. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 80 Her bodie she allowed but such like short and simple foode, stanching hir hunger with herbes and barlie bredd. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 790 Simple his Bev'rage, homely was his Food. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 17 Blest be those feasts, with simple plenty crown'd. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 22 There is a cave [etc.],..A simple dwelling, which shall be our own. 1889 R. BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* vii, The meal consisted of the very simplest fare, and was soon over. 1901 tr. *Wagner's The Simple Life* p. vii, What is the simple life?..It is a form of life, described by the pastoral poets, or the New Testament, but not livable to-day [etc.].

† **c.** Ordinary, not festival. *Obs.*—[1]

1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. x. 155 In worshippyng our lord on hye dayes and simple.

7. Small, insignificant, slight; of little account or value; also, weak or feeble.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 258 That ves a sympill stuff to ta, A land or castell for to vyn! ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 967 Siche sex ware to symple to semble with hyme one. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 116 Thei were so astoned with the hete of the fier that theire deffence was but symple. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* d iij b, The symple.st of theis .iij. will slee an Hynde calfe. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Folys* (1874) II. 80 They spoyle this pore man, so that sympyll is his porcion. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VI. ii, Supposing some small powre would have restrained Disordred rage, sends with a simple crew Sir Humfrey Stafford. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 106 *Queen.* I am a simple woman, much too weake T'oppose your cunning. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 62 It lies almost in the midst of the Kingdome, and till of late was but a simple Village. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref., Simple*, sickly, feeble, helpless. 1875 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 668 Their wise men.. scoff'd at him, And this high Quest as at a simple thing.

† **b.** Of price or sale: Low, poor. *Obs.*

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 499/1 If it seme come to, that utterance and sale of the seid Wolle..be so escarse and symple as likly is to be. 1439 *Ibid.* V. 24/1 Of so sympyl prys that it may not goodly bere the costes of Staple. *c* 1480 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 The pryce ys sympylle, the cost ys never the lesse.

† **8.** Poor, wretched, pitiful, dismal. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* 4050 Be þe sweuene ful wel I wat, þat Beues is in semple stat. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8247 His worshipful wife,.. With his Suster beside,..þat were sory for þe sight, Semple of chere. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) XXXVIII, Quat mon is this, That alle this mowrnyng makes thus, With so simpulle chere? *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 48 b, Jason..hering the fayr Myrro so ordeyne..of theyr sodayn departing began to make simple chere.

9. Deficient in knowledge or learning; characterized by a certain lack of acuteness or quick apprehension: **a.** Of persons (and animals).

1340 *Ayenb.* 137 He is ase þet simple seep ine huam al hit is guod and profitable..and ne wenþ and ne kan nazt ne nazt ne þengk. *a* 1400 *Wycliffite Bible* Prol. (1850) I. 58 No doute to a symple man..men mi3ten expoune..thorilliere the bible in English [etc.]. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1247 Symple as y had insight somwhat þe ryme y correcte.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 29 b, Thynke you..that I am so ignorant..? Judge you me so simple, that I know not wherin the glory of a conquerour consisteth? 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 609/1 A vayne conceit of simple men, which judge thinges by theyre effectes, and not by theyre causes. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xix. (1627) 220 If there be one simple in a fourme, or harder of learning then the rest, they will make him a right *Asinus*. 1640 WILKINS *New Planet* III. (1707) 169 It is a Book for the simpler and ignorant People. *a* 1718 W. PENN *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 38 Why should you render yourself unhappy, by associating with such a Simple People? 1768 WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 16, I say not this from any partiality or to decry the simple man as crossing my opinion. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 506 Women,..With all the simple and unletter'd poor, Admire his learning.. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* v, Thou art as simple, I see, in this world's knowledge as ever. 1865 MOZLEY *Miracl.* i. 22 The religion too of the intelligent as well as of the simpler portion of society.

b. Of mental powers, etc.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4435 Men of symple connyng He sal turne thurgh miracles and prechyng. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* VIII. 3052 This povere bok heer I presente,..Write of my simple besinesse. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 108 Sympylle ys there consayet, when yt ys forthe broughte. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 277 Symple Condicyons of a persone þat is not taught, y wille ye eschew. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ciii. 123 They had sene parte of the demeanour of the frenchemen, the which they thoght to be but symple. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* I. ii. 8 Ile shew my minde, According to my shallow simple skill. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* v. 257 Leave admonition,..Nor take that simple fancy to thy brain, That thou canst cure the wicked and the vain.

c. Of compositions, etc., esp. in apologetic use.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 22 On my rudnesse ..to have pitee, My simple makyng for to take at gree. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. viii. (1883) 187 Prayngе your good grace to resseyue this lityll and symple book. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 3 Humbly beseching your honour to accept this simple translation. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 28 Whose simple answere, wanting colours faire To paint it forth, him to displeasance moou'd. 1595 T. P. GOODWIN *Blanchardine* (1890) 233 To larum foorth my simple musicke.

10. Lacking in ordinary sense or intelligence; more or less foolish, silly, or stupid; also, mentally deficient, half-witted (now *dial.*).

1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. Siege Ostend* 63 A Germaine.. was lame of halfe his body, and simple. 1653 J. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xxiii. 290 Unwary fools and defenselesse people were called simple. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. ix, The good old Gentlewoman was not so simple, as to go into his project; she began to smell a Rat. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxvi, I was extremely disconcerted..and I am sure I must look very simple. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Northang. Abb.* (1833) II. xv. 201 You are fretting about General Tilney, and that is very simple of you! 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xxi, Nay, weep not so, thou simple boy! But sleep in peace, and wake in joy. 1883 *Hampshire Gloss.* s.v., He be quite simple, poor chap.

b. *Simple Simon* (see quots. 1785, 1865).

'Simple Simon is the subject of various nursery rhymes, which may have given rise to the general use.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Simple Simon*, a natural, a silly fellow. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 230 *Simon*, or *Simple Simon*, a credulous gullible person. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 5/1 A tall, ungainly Simple Simon of a peasant.

c. In bird-names, as *simple tern* (or *viralve*), *warbler*.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. ii. 500 Simple Warbler, *Motacilla campestris*. 1785 *Ibid.* III. ii. 355 Simple Tern. Size of the Noddy. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIII. i. 172 Simple Viralve (*Viralva simplex*),..Inhabits Cayenne.

III. 11. With nothing added; considered or taken by itself; mere, pure, bare; †single.

1340 *Ayenb.* 134 Þet me yleſp god ope his simple worde þet al is zoþ þet he zayþ. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 201/2 Wicked spirites went out of the bodyes of creatures by his symple regarde and syghte. 1578 *Sc. Acts, James VI* (1814) III. 113 The haill Iniureis and attemptatis committit of befoir..suld be reparit to the sempill availl. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 211 Nere may I looke on day...But she tels to your Highnesse simple truth. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 74 It was not probable they shoulde yeelde vpon a simple Letter. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 78 A medicine.. whose simple touch Is powerfull to araise King Pippen. 1627 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 207 They who are hanged for simple theft. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 103 Yet simple Nature to his hope has giv'n..an humbler heav'n. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T.* I. 84 What need of invention? We have only to tell the simple truth. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 38 A simple majority, provided that it consisted of twelve, was sufficient to convict. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 4 (1862) 219 Many of the compounds..have an affinity for oxygen so powerful that they take fire by simple contact with it. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 321 What M. Jacolliot calls a simple translation..is, as far as I can judge, a simple invention of some slightly mischievous Brahman.

b. In phr. *pure and simple*. Cf. PURE *a.* 3.

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 29 That of which we are speaking is knowledge pure and simple. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 16/2 The matter, both literary and pictorial,..has been garbage pure and simple.

12. a. *Med.* Of wounds, diseases, etc.: Uncomplicated by complications.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (Bodl. MS.), Also semple cuel schal be healed with medicyns þat beþ semple. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Forne.* Siv b, Al symple woundes ..ben new woundes in the partyes of yᵗ fleshe, that onely requyreth consolydacyons. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. ii, For, as they [causes] be simple or compound, so doe they ingender simple or compound diseases. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 45/4 As touchinge the simple fractures, in thre dayes once we dresse them. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 250 The Suppuration proceeding kindly, the Wound became a simple Wound. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 94 A wound is called *simple* when it occurs in a healthy subject; has been produced by a clean, sharp-edged instrument; is unattended with any serious symptoms; and the only indication is to re-unite the fresh-cut surfaces. 1877 BURNETT *Ear* 223 Simple Erythema is usually caused by local irritation from bites of insects.

b. *Law.* Unattended by any strengthening circumstance; not specially confirmed.

Simple contract, one made by word of mouth or not under seal; also *attrib.*

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 37 Quhatsumevir clame, semplill supplicatioun, bill or summondis. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. i. § 24 Simple reductions, where improbation is not also libelled, are now seldom made use of. 1798 DALLAS *Amer. Law Rep.* I. 244 In the case of an intestacy, simple contract debts..must be paid out of the personal estate. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 468 The plaintiffs had no lien on the estates purchased by Lockyer; being creditors by simple contract only. *Ibid.* III. 41 A general resignation bond, simple and unattended with any other fact or circumstance.

13. Consisting or composed of one substance, ingredient, or element; uncompounded, unmixed (or nearly so): a. Of bodies or substances, esp. natural or organic.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. iii. (Bodl. MS.), An element is semple and leste perticle of a bodie þat is compowned. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. viii. in Ashm. (1652) 150 The Compound corporall..Uprysyth agayne Regenerat, Sympill, and Spyrytuall. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 29 The partes then of the body are diuided into two sortes or kindes: the first is, the simple or similary parts. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 16 Simple Bodies, which consist of severall similare Parts. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 319 The Sunne, beating continually vpon [the Nile water],..maketh it become more Lighter, Purer, and Simple. 1704 NEWTON *Optics* (1721) 4 The Light whose Rays are all alike Refrangible, I call Simple, Homogeneal and Similar. 1724 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. (1736) 15 A Needle is a simple Body, being made only of Steel; but a Sword or a Knife is a Compound. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 4 Simple earths are those which are incapable of being converted or analyzed.., either with each other, or into any other substance. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) p. xlii, *Sulphur*...I have.. followed Dr. Thomson in regarding it as a simple solid. 1843 J. A. SMITH *Prodnct. Farming* (ed. 2) 11 The number of simple, or elementary substances, at present known..is fifty-four. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* III. 420 Simple solids retain after death the properties which they possessed during life.

b. Of medical or other preparations. *Simple colours* (see quot. 1771).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (Bodl. MS.), If he know what medicyne is semple, what compowned, what colde, what hote. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 92 Medicyns bobe þe symple & þe compound. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 32 b, Let the fyrste glyster be symple: that is to saye, made with water wherin ye haue boyled or sodden wheat bran, common oyle and salt. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 32 *Fal.* Go, brew me a pottle of Sacke finely. *Bard.* With Egges, Sir? *Fal.* Simple of it selfe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 178 In the time of Queene Elizabeth the Courtiers delighted much in darke colours, both simple and mixt. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 372 Volatile saline Spirit, either simple or aromatiz'd with Essences. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art of Conversation* 7 Not Esculapius himself, can, by the Means of Medicine, either Simple or Compound,..give you the least Help. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 223/2 Painters also distinguish colours into simple and mineral. Under simple colours they rank all those which are extracted from vegetables, and which will not bear the fire. 1825 E. HEWLETT *Cottage Comforts* xi. 145 A tablespoon full of simple peppermint water. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* i. 104 In Paris I learned to abjure *café au lait*, and to drink my tea simple. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 550 A simple aperient, and a stomachic or febrifuge mixture.

c. In general use.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 A foote of two sillables, is eyther simple or mixt, that is, of like time or of diuers. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. iv. § 4 (1622) 231 This *mens*..was the first Beginning of all things, being it selfe most simple, and without any mixture. 1655–60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 195/2 If desire and fear are not principal passions, it will doubtless follow, that none of the other affections are simple. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 11 Though he is but one, and one most simple uncompounded Being.

14. Not composite or complex in respect of parts or structure.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 33 It was oonly symple by itself in þe flesshe, hauyng no passyng to þe tother hole. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Lady* 107 To the soureayne Trynyte, one symple God, fader and sonne and holy gooste. *a* 1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 1142 Thre thinges be in a right simpul knot. 1530 PALSGR. 68 Dyvers substantyves be symple, that is to saye, be nat compounde with any other wordes. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. xviii, The change of vowels is, either of simple vowels, or of diphthongs. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Un*, is an English Privative, which may be added at pleasure to simple words. 1732 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 107 Then they fasten Potlarts to the several simple Chords, that draw up the Rings. 1779 *Mirror* No. 24, Take the simplest blossom that blows. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 140 Those tenses are called simple tenses, which are formed of the principal, without an auxiliary verb. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 63 Thousands of compound words or characters which the Chinese ingeniously formed by the combinations of the simple roots. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 4 (1862) 238 Both the simple and the double radicles are formed upon a similar molecular plan.

b. *spec.* in scientific use (see quots.).

(*a*) 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Simple Leaf* (with Botanists) is that which is not divided to the middle in several Parts, each resembling a Leaf it self, as in a Dock. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Leaf*, *Simple Leaf* is otherwise defined, that of which the petiole carries only one. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v. *Simplex*, A Simple root...A Simple stem... A Simple fructification. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) I. 82 *Simple Cup*, one that consists of a single series of segments. *Ibid.*, *Simple Stem*, one that is undivided; or, only sending out small branches. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower Pl.* I. 10 A flower-stalk bearing one flower only, is termed simple, as the Daisy. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* I. vii. 73 Leaves..which are not divided into separate leaflets are termed simple. 1879 A. GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vii. (1880) 291 Simple fruits, those which result from the ripening of a single pistil. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 433 The simple pistil is synonymous with carpel.

(*b*) 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Microscope*, The Simple [microscopes] are those which consist of a single Lens, or a single Spherule. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 31 The simple microscope may consist of one..or of two or three lenses; but these latter are so arranged as to have the effect only of a single lens.

(*c*) 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 306 He distinguishes..between simple and compound muscles: in the former, the fibres lie only in one direction. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 287 *Simple Ocellus*, when the ocellus consists only of iris and pupil. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* I. 31 A twin ocellus, or simple eye, of quite different structure from the ordinary compound eyes. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 324 Simple hairs are merely single epidermal cells produced in a tubular filament. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 130/1 Simple organisms,..that is, in which the primitive actinozoon attains its adult condition without budding or fission.

c. *Eccl.* (See quots.)

1850 *Vesper Book* Pref. p. xii, The Office as regards Vespers is said to be..Simple, when the Antiphons being sung as on Semi-doubles, the Psalms of the Feria are substituted for the Psalms proper to Feasts. 1874 *Breviary Offices* Pref. p. x, On Simple Feasts the Antiphons and Psalms at First Vespers are of the feria, and the Proper Office begins at the Chapter. 1883 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 375 On lesser feasts the office was simple—*i. e.* the feast was merely commemorated. *Ibid.* 376 The office for simple feasts differed little from that of the feria.

15. Not complicated or involved; presenting little or no complexity or difficulty.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 30 The knowledge of all Christendom should be so simple and grosse. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 55 If that this simple Syllogisme will serue, so: if it will not, what remedy? 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE tr. *Barthol. Anat.* II. vi. 106 The motion of the Elements is simple, never circular. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* I. ii. Pref., The simple terms of Christian Unity left us by Christ and his Apostles. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 446 God never does that by difficult ways, which may be done by ways that are simple and easie. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 177 A most simple train of circumstances had produced this romantic meeting. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* viii. 248 All that apparent irregularity..resolves itself into one simple and general law. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 277 A simple calculation determined the daily motion of the stake. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 356 We must prefer the simpler hypothesis to the more complicated.

b. In various technical uses, as in *Mus.*, *Math.*, *Logic*, etc.

In some of these there is connexion with sense 14.

(*a*) *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 117 First dyatessaron,..And dyapason, symple and duplycate. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Concord*, A simple, or original Concord. *Ibid.* s.v. *Counter-point*, Simple Counter-point, or the Harmony of Concords. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v., *Simple fugue*, or *Simple imitation*, is that style of composition in which a single subject is adopted, or some partial echo preserved among the several parts. 1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* ii. 34 In this form of note against note it is called Plain or simple Counterpoint. 1871 STAINER *Harmony* iii. § 41 Intervals not exceeding the compass of an octave are termed Simple. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 10 When the beats are of the value of an aliquot part of a Semibreve..the time is termed Simple.

(*b*) 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. xxix. (1636) 78 The Fractions wherewith you have to deale, are either simple or compound. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Simple Quantities* in Algebra, are such as have but one Sign, whether Positive or Negative. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 221 A Simple Equation, is that which contains only one power of the unknown quantity, without including different powers. *Ibid.* 110 Simple Interest is that which is allowed for the principal lent or forborn only, for the whole time of forbearance. 1859 B. SMITH *Arith. & Alg.* (ed. 6) 194 A quantity consisting of one term, as a, bx, 3abx, is called a Simple quantity, and also a Monomial. 1894 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 533 A group,...when it cannot be thus expressed as a permutable product of two factors,..is prime or simple.

(*c*) 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 12 Artificiall Argument is either..simple, or comparate. The simple is considered simply, and absolutely without comparison. 1689 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. ii. § 2 The simple ideas, the materials of all our knowledge, are suggested..only by..sensation and reflection. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* I. i. 2 Themes simple are those which are understood without a composition or complexion of notions. *Ibid.* xxvii. 109 Simple enunciation is that which cannot be resolved into more. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 139 That apprehension or perception, which is rightly said to be *simple*, because it rests in the pure view of things as they are. 1724 WATTS *Logic* 36 That idea, which represents one particular determinate thing to me, is called a singular idea, whether it be simple, or complex, or compound. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. iv. § 3. 108 A simple proposition is that in which one predicate is affirmed or denied of one subject. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 127 In respect to the Relation of the Predicate to the Subject, Judgments are divided into simple or absolute, and conditional.

(*d*) 1730 BAILEY (fol.) s.v. *Benefices*, *Simple Benefices*, are such where the Parsons are only obliged to read prayers, &c.

IV. †**16.** In advb. phr. *in simple*, simply; by itself; without any other fact or circumstance. *Obs.*

1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* 96 Thee wordes also of thee masse canon, yᵗ importe ye same ought so in simple to be taken without any far fetched glosse. *Ibid.* 102 It standeth wythe catholique doctryne yᵗ in symple the..naked utterance of the consecration wordes enforce not the sacrament. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 103 Hee delights to have Man in simple; (alone, by himselfe) unmixt.

17. quasi-*adv.* Simply.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Germania* I. (1622) 259 Those which dwell further in the land, go more simple to worke, and..haue no buying and selling, but by exchange of commodities. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xvii, The moral's truth tells simpler so. 1844 LADY FULLERTON *Ellen Middleton* (1854) II. x. 30 She was dressed perfectly simple in a brown silk gown.

18. *Comb.* Chiefly in parasynthetic adjs., as *simple-answered, -headed, -lettered, -mannered*, etc.; also *simple-seeming*.

c 1425 *Saints' Lives* Apol. in *Anglia* VIII. 107/7 þe wryter, þat is but symple-letterd, neiþer can ne purposis to folowe þe wordes. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 115 Ye schuld have pete To se a lady of soo hee degre So symple tyred. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Fooles Cap* lxi, A poore silly simple witted Asse. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 43 Be simple answer'd, for we know the truth. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Panaretus* 332 Wks. (Grosart) II. 127 Royall Eumenia.. And simple-manner'd Pistia. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 177 Mere incendiary declamation for the simple-headed multitude! 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* viii. 147 The same species of simple-plaited Orthidæ. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 307 Our simple-seeming Abbess and her nuns. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 145 The long series of simple-toothed Rodents.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. As *pl.* Persons in a humble or ordinary condition of life.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 338 Be..euer of faire speche, & seruisabul to þe simple so as to þe riche. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 32 Gentill and semple of euery clan. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxiv. 14 Tymely in the mornynge do they aryse, to murthur the symple and poore. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) vi. 2 Luve preysis but comparesone lloth gentill, sempill, generall. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxii, Gentle or semple shall not darken my doors the day my bairn's been carried out a corpse. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. viii, To hear no cause, of gentle or of simple.

b. As *sing.* A person of this class. † Also, one of modest unassuming manners.

a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 55 Ouer grete symplesse may make of þe symple a sott. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 288 She beseches you as hir souerayne þat symple to saue. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, A shilling makes a' the difference that Maggie kens between a gentle and a semple. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Tempt.* III. 8 The simples are not bound to pick up what the gentles throw away.

2. As *pl.* Those who are unlearned, ignorant, easily misled, unsuspecting, etc.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 23 The Heresyes of Wiclife and Husse.., whiche by the false enterpretation of Scripture giueth to the simple an occasion to sinne. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Ep. Ded., Whisperyng peruerse thynges to seduce and beguile the simple. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* cxix. 130 The entrance of thy wordes..giueth vnderstanding vnto the simple. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. iii. 97 His Doctrine was framed to give Wisdom to the Simple. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 182 Seeking their fate, to her the simple run. 1853 CDL. WISEMAN *Ess.* II. 338 A snare to the simple of heart.

b. As *sing.* An ignorant or foolish person.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxix. 12 The harlot caught the silly simple, and kissed him. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 440 With such like Judges..Simples passe for Physitians, and modest Physitians for Simples. 1894 H. D. LLOYD *Wealth agst. Commw.* 319 This action the paper described as 'a scheme for gulling simples'.

3. *pl.* Foolish or silly behaviour or conduct; foolishness, folly. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 114 A little troubled with the simples, but a good hearted man. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 415 'To be sick of the simples,' to Act the fool. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 44 His bare Shadow has cur'd many a poor Creature of the Simples. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Simples*,..also follies. 1894 NORTHALL *Folk Phr.* (E.D.S.) 26 To be sick of the simples, i. e. silly.

b. *To be cut for* († *of*) *the simples* (see quots. *a* 1700, 1828). Orig. *cant* or *slang*, and now *dial.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., *He must be cut of the Simples*, Care must be taken to cure him of his Folly. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* i. 17 You should be cut for the Simples this morning. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'Want's cutting for 't simples,' is a ludicrous expression applied to one who has been guilty of some foolish act. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CXXXVI, What evils might be averted..by clearing away bile, evacuating ill humours, and occasionally by cutting for the simples. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* vi. 28 'Tis time her was cut for the simples.

† **4.** A single thing. *Obs.*—[1]

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 379/1 God rewardeth for one Symple an hondred folde.

5. A simple word; a verb in its simple form or without prefix. (Cf. COMPOUND *sb.*[1] 2 c.)

1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xxxi, In maner ever of one syllable, except he be a compounde, and than his symple is but of one syllable. 1530 *Ibid.* 393 *Je prens* is a symple whiche hath for his compoundes *je reprens* [etc.]. 1659 [O. WALKER] *Instruct. Oratory* 25 Monosyllables..making the language dull and slow. Hence compounds more elegantly used, than their simples. 1848 VEITCH *Irreg. Grk. Verbs* Pref., The frequent absence of *simples* in whole or in part.

6. A medicine or medicament composed or concocted of only one constituent, *esp.* of one herb or plant (*obs.*); hence, a plant or herb employed for medical purposes. Now *arch.*

In common use from *c* 1580 to 1750, chiefly in *pl.*

pl. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 43 Where a sycknesse may be cured with symples, that is to saye, with one onely thinge that is medicinable. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* Pref. 2 There are an infinite number of simples which want Englyshe names. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 15 Their stomacks bee made a verie Apotecaries shoppe, by receiuing a multitude of simples and drugges. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. viii, The mixed Juices, from those Simples wrung, To make the Med'cine wonderfully strong. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vi, From the knowledge of Simples she had a Receipt to make white hair black. 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* (1699) 183 Houses well stored with tender Exoticks, and the Parterrs with Simples. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 318 Where prolific Nile With various simples cloaths the fat'ned soil. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* Introd. (1794) 2 It was simples, not vegetables that they looked after. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Med.* xxix. 368 An Irish Father, or Priest, whose knowledge is all comprehended in the virtues of two or three simples. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* ii. 93 Cordials..were kept by the lady of the house among her simples.

sing. 1587 GREENE *Penelope's Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 155 The Phisition..knoweth the nature of the Simple as well as the Gardiner that planteth it. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 108 There is for euery sore prouided a salue, yet no simple for hartes sorrow. 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 225 Men walking in the fields, ..cast their eyes suddenly upon such a flower or simple. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 39 Suppose a Planet were a Simple, or an Herb. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 95 From many a fragrant simple, Catharine's skill Drew oil and essence from the boiling still.

attrib. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 79 These lisping-hauthorne buds, that..smell like Bucklers-berry in simple time. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 50, I am only distilling some simple Waters for your Closet.

7. A single uncompounded or unmixed thing; a substance free from foreign elements, *esp.* one serving as an ingredient in a composition or mixture.

1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 27 b, Gunpouder, is made of three simples only, that is salt peter, brimstone and coles. 1593 *Bacchus Bountie* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 273 A dainty deuised compound, of sundry simples pastiewise, as the trimming of tripes [etc.]. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* 141 To these noxious simples we may reduce an infinite number of compound, artificial, made dishes. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 106 Cacao..as every simple..contains the quality of the four elements. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 90 Their chiefest Perfume .. was made of sixteen Simples; namely, Wine, Honey [etc.].

transf. 1622 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* p. xvi, Letters (which are the simples of this Art). 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merchant* 251 The three Simples or Essentiall parts of Trafficke, namely Commodities, Money, and Exchange of Moneys. *c* 1750 FIELDING *On Conversation* Wks. 1784 IX. 380 But besides pride, folly, arrogance, and insolence, there is another simple which vice never willingly leaves out of any composition.

b. A simple proposition, quantity, idea, etc.

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 119 As much as may be, this proposition is to be reduced to a meer simple. 1690 C. NESS *Hist. O. & N. T.* I. 29 Adam wisely understood all simples, singulars and universals. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1799) I. 114 Alligation teaches how to compound or mix together several simples of different qualities. 1879 BAIN *Educ. as Sci.* iii. 57 To strengthen an energy we must know what it is: if it is a simple, we must define it in its simplicity; if.. a compound, we must assign its elements.

c. A simple need or requirement; a necessity.

1859 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 123 My wishes and wants down to simples will sink.

8. *Weaving.* One of a number of lines or cords attached to the warp in a draw-loom (cf. quots.).

1731 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 107 From each of these Packthreads, just by the side of the Loom, are fastned other Packthreads called Simples, which descend to the Ground. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 415 Below the warp these lines, which are called the simples, are kept in a state of tension by weights,..and in order to keep them distinctly apart, are made to pass through a board perforated with holes. 1890 *Scot. N. & Q.* III. 158 M. Simblot..connected to the neck a separate series of cords called the 'simple'.. so that the draw boy could work when standing at the side of the loom.

b. 'A draw-loom employed in fancy weaving' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

† **Si·mple,** *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. SIMPLE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render (one) simple; to humble in respect of knowledge.

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iv. in *Anglia* VIII. 163/7, I, herynge þis,..and countynge my resoune noon, was sympled in myne owne sighte.

2. *intr.* With *at*: ? To make light of.

a 1652 BROME *Queen & Concubine* I. ii, That did your Champion, Madam, The Queens old Souldier, and your Father, Lady: D'ye simple at it? such a Souldier breaths not.

Simple (si·mp'l), *v.*[2] Now *arch.* [f. SIMPLE B. 6.] *intr.* To seek for, or gather, simples or medicinal herbs. Chiefly in phr. *to go* (*a*) *simpling* (cf. SIMPLING *vbl. sb.*). Also *fig.*

(*a*) 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 8. 160 When I did but know an hundred [plants], and had scarcely ever Simpled further than Cheap-side. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 823 Witches Simpling, and on Gibbets Cutting from Malefactors snippets. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* Prol., Simpling our author goes from field to field, And culls such fools as may diversion yield. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 172 We simpled in the Marshes. 1791 *Pop. Tales Germans* II. 88 Never did the poor physician venture to simple on the mountain again.

(*b*) 1648 ASHMOLE *Diary* (1774) 307 This day..was the first time I went a simpling. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 924 As by chance I carelesly wandered here and there a simpling. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 182 Our doctors never went a simpling. 1772 GOLDSM. *Prol. to 'Zobeide'*, While botanists..Forsake the fair, and patiently—go simpling. 1791 *Pop. Tales Germans* II. 85 A doctor..who used to go a simpling on the mountain. 1851 *Monthly Jrnl. Med. Sci.* XII. 344 In former days the Scottish herbalists used to go a-simpling after Roman medical plants.

† **Simplehead.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SIMPLE *a.* + -HEAD. Cf. MDu. and G. *simpelheit* (Du. *-heid*).] Simpleness, ignorance.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXXVI. iv. 5 Of his symplehead He coulde lide within his brest conceyue.

Simple-hearted, *a.* [f. SIMPLE *a.* + HEART *sb.*] Possessed of, or characterized by, a simple heart or spirit; ingenuous, sincere, unsophisticated; † ignorant, simple-minded (*obs.*). Also *absol.*

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. XXX. 80 Oftyme copre is coloured wondre lyke to gold by crafte done therto, soo that symple herted folke wene that it be fyn gold. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1889 Assay! þou simple-hertid goost! What grace is shapen þe, þou naght ne woost. 1712 SHAFTES. *Charac.* (1737) II. 387 How he, with dire hypocrisy and false tears, beguiles the simple-hearted. 1775 *Hist. Voy. C. Evans & S. Cheevers Malta* 149 A brief discovery of God's Eternal Truth and a way opened to the simple hearted. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lx, The distress of his situation, among this honest and simple-hearted race, being considered as no reason for increasing their demand. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, He made the most astounding revelations to the simple-hearted Major. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* III. vii, It was a comfort to me to..hear the simple-hearted Cymric folk talking.

Hence **Simple-hea·rtedness.**

1837 LOCKHART *Scott* II. x. 343 Where..the old Statesman entered with such simple-heartedness into all the ways of the happy circle. 1877 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* x. § 204 Exquisite in its purity, simple-heartedness, and joyful wonder.

Simple-minded, *a.* [f. SIMPLE *a.* + MIND *sb.*] Having a simple mind; possessing little or no subtlety of intellect; also, feeble- or weak-minded.

1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* III. 112 How sublime they move, And bending oft their sanctimonious eyes, Take homage of the simple-minded throng. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 145 The weak and simpleminded part of mankind (which is by far the most numerous division). 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiii, My Lord Southdown,..an epileptic and simple-minded nobleman. 1878 J. P. HOPPS *Jesus* iv. 16 These were mostly simple-minded, honest, and earnest men.

b. Belonging to, proceeding from, a simple mind.

1866 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. IX. 458/1 Characteristic..of the.. simple-minded tenderness, and the silly superstition of the period. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. 101 Action upon a theatre may doubtless be as simple-minded action as any other.

Hence **Simple-mi·ndedness.**

1847 WEBSTER, *Simple-mindedness*, artlessness. 1881 BRIGHT in *Standard* 17 Nov. 3/3 These men..call in question the Free-trade policy, and they have the courage or the simple-mindedness to believe [etc.].

Simpleness (si·mp'lnĕs). [f. SIMPLE *a.* + -NESS. Cf. Fris. *simpelens*.]

The indefinite character of the early uses of the adj. *simple* is naturally reflected in this noun, making it often difficult to assign the examples to a specific sense.

1. Absence of pride, ostentation, or pretentiousness; plain or unassuming disposition or manners.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 909 Now hynde þat sympelnesse conez enclose, I wolde þe aske a pynge expresse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1880) 383 He þat is gratter of 3ow, loke þat he be made as 3ongar in sympilnes. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 59 The mayster of mekenes and louer of sympilnesse. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 12 All his lyfedayes, he bulde þat name of a chyld, and..mekenes, and sympulnes, and wythout maleys. 1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* (1570) 158 So muche were they geuen to simplenes And other vertues chiefe and principall. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 83 Neuer any thing Can be amisse, when simplenesse and duty tender it. 1609 DANIEL *Civil Wars* VI. XXXV, Inlarge this vninquisitiue Beliefe: Call vp mens spirits, that simplenes retaine. 1866 JEAN INGELOW *Poems* 194 In his reverend face There was a simpleness we could not sound. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* lx, So rich and beautiful that it made me afraid; but for Allard's kindness and Mrs. Cope's simpleness.

2. Absence of duplicity or guile; innocence, integrity, guilelessness.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XX. 5 In symplenes of myn herte, and clennes of myn hondis I dide this. — 1 *Macc.* ii. 37 Dye we alle in oure symplenesse. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XVIII. 85 þe folk..wirschepez þe ox, in steed of Godd, for þe sympilnes and þe gudeness þat commez of him. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 71 To shewe the colour that signefieth symplenesse, and withinne..3e ben ravenous wolves. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 83 b, The nexte vertue in order is simplicite or simplenes, the contrary to doublenes. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 71 This byrde is the messenger of peace, ensample of simplenesse. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, You ever did possesse No wisedome, but was mixt with simplenesse; So wanting malice. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 82 So much truth and simpleness entered into his heart.

3. Deficiency in knowledge or learning, ignorance; also, lack of mental acuteness, intellectual weakness, foolishness.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 369 Aldredus, þat hopede to blende his robberie by þe sympilnesse of Wolston. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) XV. 167 It is no marvaylle thanne, that the Paynemes..beleeven more largely, for here symplenesse. 1479 in *Eng. Gild's* (1870) 416 Such thinges as I of my sympilnesse haue not duely ne formably executed. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 90 By processe of tyme

owther they be ouercumme by onstabulnes or els ben dysceyuyd by sympylnes. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* xiii. 8 Bewarre, that thou be not disceaued and brought downe in thy symplenesse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 150 Their sympelnes is suche that they nother feared the multitude or poure of owre men. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 72 That by her promises..she gull not my simplenesse. 1668 M. CASAUBON *Credulity* (1670) 185 Our Author doth declaim against the simpleness, and credulity of ordinary people. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 557 'Heaven,' saith the sage, 'is with us, here inside Each man.' 'Hell also,' simpleness subjoins. 1894 *The Voice* (N.Y.) 29 Nov. 7/3 Such were the men who, in vapid simpleness, caught at the impertinent refrain of some doggerel song.

† b. Foolish conduct or behaviour; a foolish act or thing. *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 451 He wolde avoide from his servyce his cownsellours whiche movede hym unto that symplenesse. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 194 My lordes, grete symplenes it is to you thus to traueylle your peuple for nought. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 43 Hyt ys but a Symplenesse for us to thyncke to kepe possessions in Fraunce. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 77 Run to my study:..Gods will, What simplenesse is this!

4. Poor or lowly condition; also, lack of elegance or refinement; plainness of dress, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4051 Quen he þaire simpilnes sees he soroȝes in his hert, Pleynes of þaire pouerte. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 16 Thow myghtfull maker, haue mynde on me, And se vnto my sympplenes. 1538 BALE *John Baptist* in *Harl. Misc.* (1808) I. 113 Soch autoryte As thy grace hath geuen to my poore symplenesse. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xx. clxxviii, Reverend John array'd in Simpleness, Did proudlyest-decked Mortals so excel. 1651 HOBBES *Gov. & Soc.* Ep. Ded., Whatsoever things they are in which this present Age doth differ from the rude simplenesse of Antiquity. 1873 MORRIS *Love is Enough* 86 He is poor, and shall scorn not our simpleness surely.

† b. Insignificance; trifling character or value.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/1 Sympylnesse, or lytylle of valew, *exilitas*. 1530 PALSGR. Ep. to King p. iv, The symplenesse of my poore labours in that behalfe. 1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* Pref., Most humblie beseeching you to beare with the simplenesse thereof.

5. Absence of complexity; freedom from complications; simple character.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. i. (1494) e iij b, For the symplynes [*sic*] of a boystous thynge is subtylnes. *Ibid.* VII. lxix. (Bodl. MS.), Hym nedeþ to knowe þe duyring, contrarynes, semplenes, qualite and quantite of þe pacient. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) Prol. 5 Prechoures of the symplynes of the gospell. 1609 J. DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 83 The Ancient simplenesse of Musicke. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. xii. (1636) 210 The simplenesse and purity of that shepherdish originall continued. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Child Angel*, O the inexplicable simpleness of dreams! 1882 *Nature* XXVII. 51 From a simpleness in structure to a wonderful differentiation thereof.

Simpler[1] (si·mplɔɹ). Now *arch.* [f. SIMPLE B. 6 + -ER.] One who collects or studies simples; a herbalist, a simplist.

1592 GREENE *Farewell to Folly* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 289 Menecas the Macedonian was a very good simpler. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xx. II. 105, I canot but detect the knauery of these Harbarists and simplers. 1656 W. COLE *Art of Simpling* Pref. p. i, What a rare happiness was it for Matthiolus that famous Simpler, to live in those dayes. 1720 DE FOE *Serious Refl.* ii. 33 Your Simplers have had some disputes about the sorts of it. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 137 This Simpler..might..stand the foremost amongst his own vegetative tribes. 1830 JAMES *Darnley* XXXVII, Bradford had gone to seek remedies from a simpler at Boulogne. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 35/1 Its properties are..slightly tonic; hence it comes within the province of the 'simpler'.

b. Simpler's joy, the plant vervain.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Simpler's Joy, *Verbena.* 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n., Simpler's joy*, from the good sale they had for so highly esteemed a plant, *Verbena officinalis.*

† **Simpler**[2]. *Cant. Obs.* [f. SIMPLE *a.*] (See quot. 1592.)

1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 39 They haue sundry praies that they cal simplers which are men fondly and wantonly geuen, whom for a penaltie of their lust, they fleece of al that euer they haue. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* (1860) 43 She returneth with two or three fleshly minded Rabbets or Simplers.

Si·mplesse. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 4 simplesce, 4–6 symplesse (5 -ess), 7 simpl'esse. [a. OF. *simplesse, -esce, -ece*, etc., = Prov., Sp., and Pg. *simpleza*: see SIMPLE *a.* and -ESS[2]. In ME. usually stressed *simplésse*, but cf. Gower *Conf.* I. 62 and III. 213.]

1. = SIMPLENESS 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Vor one of þe guode doȝtren þet mildenesse hep is holy simplesse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 112 Whan he..to so vil a povere wrecche Him deigneth schewe such simplesce. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 55 Oner grete symplesse may make of þe symple a sott. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 195 b/1 There ben twelue vertues vyrgynal,.. that is to wete feythe,..symplesse, Innocence, concorde.

2. = SIMPLENESS 2.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 70 These Prestes..with a contrefet simplesse, Which hid was in a fals corage, Feignende an hevenely message. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCXXVIII. iii, a Therle Richard of Warwike then conceyued Of the symplesse and great innocense Of Kyng Henry. 1623 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iii, Had Nature unto man such simpl'esse given He would like Birds be farre more neere to heaven.

3. = SIMPLENESS 3.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6381, I lede right a Ioly lyf, Thurgh simplesse of the prelacye; They know not al my tregetrye. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armes* (S.T.S.) 189 He throu ignorance and sympless gafe the sauf condyt. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 107 Beholde than what symplesse shall hit be to the to hold me thus enfermed. 1537 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 93 Suplying your Lordship to admytte my symplesse for I have don in hit the moost of my power. 1889 LOWELL in *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 148 Property's dividing line No hint of dispossession drew On any map my simplesse knew.

4. = SIMPLENESS 4.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 62 He clotheth richesse, as men sein, Under the simplesce of poverte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXVI. 272 (Add. MS.), Therfore I had me in all thynges as a Religious man in symplesse. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 172 Their weedes bene not so nighly wore; Such simplesse mought them shend. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Epithalamion* vi, Darting forth a dazling light On all that come her Simplesse to rebuke.

5. = SIMPLENESS 5.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 136 þilke cercle þat is inrest or moost wiþynne ioineþ to þe symplesse of þe myddel.

Simpleton (si·mp'ltɔn). [A fanciful formation on SIMPLE *a.* Cf. *idleton* in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

1. One who is deficient in sense or intelligence; a silly or foolish person; a fool.

Characterized by Johnson (1755) as 'a low word'.

1650 B. *Discollim.* 28 If a solemn Synod may erre, what may a single Simpleton doe? 1672 *Rosemary & Bayes* 16 It was a wish of St. Austin.., but I see now that the Father was a simpleton. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 281 This Morning preached at St. Marie's Mr. Poynter (that Dull Simpleton) of Merton Coll. 1769 *Junius Lett.* XXV. (1788) 139 The silly invectives of every simpleton who writes in a newspaper. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* IV. (1832) 82 A simpleton of sixteen is more an object of mercy than a simpleton of sixty. 1878 C. GIBBON *For the King* xvii, He is something of a simpleton, and did not recognise you.

attrib. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. III. viii. 158 The simpleton hero of one novel has no connexion with the simpleton hero of another.

2. *U.S.* The American dunlin or sandpiper, *Tringa* (*Pelidna*) *pacifica.* 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence (chiefly as nonce-words) **Simpleto·nian, Simpleto·nic, Si·mpletonish** *adjs.*, characteristic of or resembling (that of) a simpleton; **Simpleto·nianism, Si·mpletonism,** character or quality characteristic of a simpleton.

1847 LADY EASTLAKE *Jrnls. & Corr.* (1895) I. 212 Simple and childlike, and *simpletonish* in his manner. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 467 The eccentricity of the baronet, the overtrust and the mistrust of mankind,..are of the simpletonian school. 1860 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* 331 That childish or simpletonic quality which..young gentlemen.. denominate as 'verdant'. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 394 His imagination was beguiling him with some image of captivating simpletonism; frequently and oddly confounded with simplicity. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Oct. 11 It is a pity to mark the decay of simpletonianism, even in the fashion of dolls.

† **Si·mplety.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 simplete, 4 simplite, symplete, 5 symplyte. [a. OF. *simplet*é (Godef.): see SIMPLE *a.*] Simplicity.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 41 Simplete of semblaunt, & buhsumnesse & stilðe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 165 þanne shaltow se sobrete and symplete-of-speche. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* ii. 9 3it forsothe thou abidist stille in thi symplete. *c* 1400 *Launfal* 225 Thus sat the knyght yn symplyte, In the schadowe unther a tre.

Simplex (si·mpleks), *a.* and *sb.* Also *pl.* **simplicia.** [a. L. *simplex* single: see SIMPLE *a.*]

A. *adj.* Consisting or composed of, characterized by, a single part, structure, etc.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. xx. (1636) 43 Simplex [proportion], is when the Antecedent..contayneth the Consequent. 1866 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1892) V. 402 The cone may consist of a single sheet; it is then of the simplex kind. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict., Simplex telegraph*, a single-needle dial telegraph. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 7/2 The new form of traction called the 'simplex traction'... The conduit is laid, not between the two rails but beneath one of the rails.

B. *sb.* A simple uncompounded word.

1892 *Classical Rev.* Feb. 58/2 When..a complex was formed from any two of the above *simplicia.* 1904 *Expositor* Nov. 361 In the New Testament..the simplex ἰδεῖν is exceedingly common.

Simple·xity. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *simplex*, or f. SIMPLE *a.*, after *complexity.*] Simplicity.

1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 380/1 Its absolute simplexity and universality demonstrate the oneness and ubiquity of its author.

† **Simpli·cian.** *Obs.* Also simplitian, -sian. [f. SIMPLE *a.* or L. *simplic-, simplex*: see -ICIAN.] A simple or ignorant fellow; a simpleton. (Common *c* 1600–1650.)

1600–9 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Clubbes* (Hunterian Club) 37 My aprehension did Ingenious-scan, That he was meerely a Simplitian. 1616 R. C. *Time's Whistle* (1871) 148 Be he a foole in the esteeme of man, In worldly thinges a meer simplician. 1626 HERBERT *Body of Divinity* L 152 These simplicians are much better than scorners.

† **Si·mplicist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *simplic-, simplex* (see SIMPLE B. 6) + -IST. So older G. *simplicist.*] One who has a knowledge of medicinal simples; a simplist.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1596) 176 We behold many Phisitions,..great anotomists and Simplicists. *a* 1625 DONNE *Ess.* (1651) 201 As Simplicists which know the venom and peccant quality of every herbe but cannot fit them to Medicin.

Simplicita·rian. *nonce-wd.* [f. SIMPLICITY + *-arian.*] One who aims at simplicity of life.

1837 LOFFT *Self-forme.* I. 71 A man of letters..was in hardly better repute..with those noble simplicitarians.

‖ **Simpliciter** (simpli·sitəɹ), *adv.* [L., adv. from *simplic-, simplex* simple.] Simply, absolutely, unconditionally; without any condition or consideration. Chiefly in *Sc. Law.*

1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 8 The keping of the said place sall cease simpliciter. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 1243/1, I sayd, yᵗ seing they had ben *simpliciter* giuen to me, I would neuer thanke him for them. 1603 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VI. 547 To..ressave him to his Majesteis peax, and gif to him or ony in his name the wand thairof simpliciter in tyme cuming. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 185 This thing call'd Pain, Is..Not bad *simpliciter*, nor good, But merely as 'tis understood. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. iii. § 22 Suspending the letters of diligence on which the charge was given, *simpliciter.* 1884 *Law Rep.* 27 Chanc. Div. 210 The outlay upon Cardiff Docks is not *simpliciter* a question between tenant for life and remainderman.

Simplicity (simpli·siti). Also 4 symplicite, 5–6 symplycyte, 6–7 simplicitie, 6 -tye. [a. OF. *simplicité* (12th c.), or ad. L. *simplicitāt-em*, f. *simplic-, simplex* simple: see -ITY.]

1. The state or quality of being simple in form, structure, etc.; absence of compositeness, complexity, or intricacy.

1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 136 In so mochel as it is forþest fro þe mydel symplicite of þe poynt. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* I. xvi. (Add. MS. 27944), He is alwey impartabil & turneþ & ioyneþ creation to his symplicite. *Ibid.* XIX. cxvi. (1495) 920 One in nombre and one in symplycyte. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iii. 32 Then is it this first simplicitie which is the King. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. x. § 3 (1622) 304 His vncompounded simplicitie, is the true matter of his Vnitie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 191 There being in them no diversitie or difference, but a simplicity of parts, and equiformity in motion. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 36 We are led..to conceive this great machine of the World..to have been once in a state of greater simplicity than now it is. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* p. xii, The Easiness and Simplicity of this Method of Demonstration. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 324 In contriving machines, simplicity of parts should always be studied. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 73 It was once an ovum, whose extreme simplicity of structure might almost be said to verge upon homogeneity. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 443 The simplicity which the organ of hearing presents in this its earliest appearance.

b. A simple or easy task or duty.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pkt. Bk.* V. (ed. 2) 167 A..ready knowledge of the many important simplicities of his calling.

2. Want of acuteness or sagacity; lack of ordinary knowledge or judgement; ignorance; rusticity.

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 25 Seest thou not playnly how they of the cyte Dayly dysceyveth our poore symplycyte. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 66 If he had done it of ignorance, necessitie, and simplicitie, then shoulde not he have died. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* V. xvii. (1614) 537 Columbus vsed the like simplicitie of the Jamaicans to his preseruation. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 138 By these Subtilities..he deluded the simplicity of such as were not very circumspect. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 198 This was really a whimsical Thought, and I reprov'd my self often for the Simplicity of it. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 223 By the help of Humphry Clinker, who is a surprising compound of genius and simplicity. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. 1 His grandfather..had incurred a nickname expressive of extreme simplicity. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* i, The postmaster, laughing at his simplicity, told him he could not tell what letter to give him unless he told him the direction. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 276 That other simplicity which is only a euphemism for folly.

b. An instance of this. *rare.*

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 205 Let it be..one of our simplicities to suffer that iniury. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 46 There are so many incongruities, simplicities, absurdities..in his verie narration of it.

c. A simple person; a simpleton. *rare.*

1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* II. vi, How do you know that, Simplicity? 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* civ. III. 11 Undergraduate Oxford exhorts the grown simplicities to persevere, till hopeful youth can come to their relief.

3. Freedom from artifice, deceit, or duplicity; sincerity, straightforwardness; also, absence of affectation or artificiality; plainness, artlessness, naturalness.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 54 b, Excepte.. our mynde be subdued to simplicite and mekenes, surely our vyne wyll waxe wylde. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* Title-p., Excellently describing the weight of affection, the Simplicitie of loue. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 742 A man of the ancient Christian simplicity. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. x. 2 Nathanael was..full of holy simplicity, a true Israelite without guile. 1702 *Eng. Theophrastus* 112 Plain-dealing and simplicity are the best game a man can play. 1772 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) V. 139 Simplicity regards the intention itself, sincerity the execution of it. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* iv. 40 Everybody..looked up to him with respect for the simplicity of his character. 1856 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) II. 18 A charming simplicity, quietly enjoying life in poverty and ignorance.

personif. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 183 To decke a lowlie matter with loftie and swelling speech, will be to put simplicitie in plumes of feathers. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 204 That excellent country Lady, Innocent Simplicity. 1773 HAN. MORE *Search after Happiness* II. 144 Hail, artless Simplicity, beautiful maid.

b. *transf.* A simple or ingenuous child.

1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 228 His little blue-eyed twelve-years-old simplicity of a goat-herd sister.

c. Simple, unsophisticated ways or manners; absence of or freedom from luxury; plainness of life. Also (in *pl.*), an instance of this.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 159 b, These Patriarches..liue in all simplicitie & modestie. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. r. World* 404 Such is the original simplicity prevailing amongst them, that the men go quite naked. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* I, He had known life in other forms than those of pastoral simplicity. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VII. xliii. § 82. 256 The simplicity of all surprised the conqueror, who was accustomed to the magnificence of St. Cloud. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 10. 583 There was a grand simplicity in the life of his [Milton's] later years.

pl. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 2 When to Esthwaite's banks And the simplicities of cottage life I bade farewell. 1878 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* v. 123 He still loved the simplicities of a shepherd's life.

4. Of language or style: Absence or lack of elegance or polish; in later use, freedom from ornateness or over-elaboration; plainness or directness of an attractive kind.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 10 Goddes woorde, (whyche they contemned for the simplicitie of the same). 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii. Wks. (Grosart) I. 178 If anie haue charged mee, or do charge mee..with simplicity, I yeeld. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 386 By his gesture, countenance, or simplicity of speech, it may be discouered; which the artificiall speech of his Councell learned would hide and colour. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil, Ess. Georg.*, The Precepts of Husbandry are not to be deliver'd with the Simplicity of a Plow-man, but with the Address of a Poet. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* 24 Nov., Wks. (1876) 149 Simplicity is become a very rare quality in a writer. 1840 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) II. v. 259 True simplicity..as it regards the expression .. means, that thoughts worth hearing are expressed in language that every one can understand. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 73 Tennyson has endeavored to imitate the old epic simplicity.

pl. 1875 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. *Wordsworth*, The grand simplicities of the Bible.

5. Absence of ornament or decoration; freedom from useless accessories.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. i, Give me a look, give me a face, That makes simplicity a grace. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. 1772*, 57 That [window] in the East end has a magnificient simplicity. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 27 It stands like the cerulean arch we see, Majestic in its own simplicity. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Epictetus & Seneca* III. 497 What is decorated is simplicity no longer. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* vi. *Manners*, Even Brummel their fop was marked by the severest simplicity in dress. 1893 MORRIS *Gothic Archit.* 31 The cant of the beauty of simplicity (i. e. bareness and ugliness) did not afflict it.

pl. 1854 RUSKIN *Lect. Archit. & Paint.* i. 7 Your decorations are just as monotonous as your simplicities.

† **6.** *U.S.* = HUMILITY 3. *Obs.*

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* I. viii. (1865) 34 The Humilities or Simplicities (as I may rather call them) bee of two sorts, the biggest being as big as a greene Plover, the other as big as birds we call knots in England.

Si·mplicize, *v. nonce-word.* [f. L. *simplic-, simplex* simple: see -IZE.] *trans.* To make simple.

1814 L. HUNT *Feast Poets* 94 In like manner, he [Wordsworth] would clear up and simplicize our thoughts.

Simplification (simplifikēi·ʃən). [a. F. *simplification*, f. *simplifier* to SIMPLIFY.] The action or process of simplifying or rendering less complex or elaborate; the result of this.

1688 NORRIS *Love* I. iv. 39 Men eminently good who.. have attained to the highest degree of Mortification and Simplification of Desire.

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The simplification of army accounts is perhaps one of the most desirable objects in finance. 1834 HT. MARTINEAU *Moral* II. 60 Nothing being wanted to its efficacy but the simplification which time and practice were sure to bring. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 43/1 Military law..appears to us to be more complicated than it need be in these days of simplification of the statutes.

Si·mplifica·tor. [f. SIMPLIFY *v.*, after Latin types.] One who simplifies.

1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthusiasm* iv. (1867) 83 This is the supposition of simplificators, who..must needs disbelieve, because theology would otherwise afford them no intellectual exercise.

† **Si·mplifier**[1]. *Obs.*[−1] [f. SIMPLE B. 6.] A maker of simples.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 33 This skil is verie requisite for a good simplifier, because he may drie the leafe of any hearb in this maner.

Simplifier[2] (si·mplifəiəɹ). [f. SIMPLIFY *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which simplifies.

1824 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) IV. 260 A chastener and simplifier of style, it being the very reverse of ambition or ornament. 1896 *Cent. Mag.* Feb. 601 He is a great simplifier of details.

Simplify (si mplifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *simplifier* (15th c.), ad. med.L. *simplificāre*, f. L. *simplus* simple: see -FY.]

† **1.** *trans.* (See quots.) *Obs. rare.*

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbala* IV. i, That Precept of the Pythagoreans,..Simplifie your self, Reduce your self to One. 1692 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 132 This will recollect and simplify our souls and free us of that..dispersion of Thought which is so great an hindrance to us.

2. To make simple; to render less complex, elaborate, or involved; to reduce to a clearer or more intelligible form; to make easy.

1759 CHESTERF. *Lett.* cccIv. (1792) IV. 169 Let us simplify it and see what it [a disappointment] amounts to. *c* 1782 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 168 It will simplify the system of our mint to alloy both metals in the same degree. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 362 Their philosophic spirit had..simplified the forms of proceeding. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 57/2 The laws of commerce..are simplified and expanded. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 73 Early in this age, they began to simplify their spoken language. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 163 In a state of nature man..does not simplify and fix his motives.

absol. 1878 LOCKYER *Spectrum Anal.* 166 That is a wonderful simplification, and science always simplifies.

Hence **Si·mplified** *a.* and *ppl. a.*; **Si·mplifiedly** *adv.*; **Si·mplifying** *vbl. sb.*

a 1681 PORDAGE *Mystic Div.* (1683) 75 They are all pure simplified Spirits, not like the Angels,..but they are pure abstracted Spirits, proceeding from the supreme Unity. 1683 E. HOOKER *ibid.* 67 Where..uncompoundedly, abstractly and simplifiedly Hee stood. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis, Valley of Lilies* 48 He that is simplified and innocent, and humbly obedient. 1789 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* Pref., It furnishes a simplified account of other countries.

† **Si·mpling,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. SIMPLE B. 6 or *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The gathering or study of simples or medicinal plants.

1597 *Gerarde's Herbal, Ded. Verses*, In commendation of Mr. John Gerard for his diligence in simpling. 1656 W. COLE *Art of Simpling* Pref. p. i, In our times, the Art of Simpling is so farre from being rewarded, that it is grown contemptible. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 14 As for us, whose prevailing Passion was Simpling, we were perpetually on the hunt all round the City. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 137 Upon reading a little further, I found the Hero was a Botanist, and his toils Simpling.

b. *attrib.* in *simpling voyage.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxii, The Journall that I wrot of this simpling voyage. 1671 RAY *Corr.* 87, I intend .. to begin a simpling voyage into the north. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 62 An Account of a Simpling Voyage of John Baptista Triumphetti, Botanick Lecturer.

So † **Si·mpling** *ppl. a. Obs.*

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Poems* (1651) 230 'Twas..approv'd by the simpling brotherhood.

Si·mplism. *nonce-word.* [f. SIMPLE *a.* + -ISM.] Affected or overdone simplicity of literary style.

a 1882 EMERSON in *Century Mag.* (1890) Feb. 624 Other writers have to affect what to him [Wordsworth] is natural. So they have what Arnold calls *simplism*, he, simplicity.

Simplist (si·mplist). Also 6 **symplist.** [f. SIMPLE B. 6 + -IST.] One who studies simples or medicinal plants; a herbalist. Now *rare.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxviii. 95 The which controuersie ..may be decided by the least and simplest Symplist in these our daies. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 214 The Grecian Simplists describe this Moly with a yellow floure. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 100 It hath been mistaken by some good Simplist for Amomum. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 84 This Plant is taken by our Simplists to be a kind of Golden Rod. 1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* I. 39 This is a phenomenon that seems to have puzzled the simplists of antiquity not a little. 1837 — *Bot. Lex.* 94 The simplists of earlier times were content [etc.].

Simplistic, *a.* [f. SIMPLE B. 6 or SIMPLE *a.*]

1. Of or pertaining to a simplist or to simples.

1860 in WORCESTER (citing Wilkinson).

2. Of the nature of, or characterized by, (extreme) simplicity.

a 1881 J. F. CLARKE (Worc.), The facts of nature and of life are more apt to be complex than simple. Simplistic theories are generally one-sided and partial.

Simply (si·mpli), *adv.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 **simpleliche** (4 -lyche), 5 **semplelyche**; 4 **sympel-**, 4–5 **sympliliche**; 3 **simpliche**, 4 **symplich**(e. *β.* 4–5 **symplely** (6 -lily), 4–6 **simplely** (4 -li), 7 **simplyly**; 4–5 **sympylly**, **-illy** (6 *Sc.* -illie), 5 -el(l)y, 5–6 **simpely** (6 *Sc.* -illie); 4–6 **symply** (6 -li), 6–7 **simplie**, 6– **simply.** [f. SIMPLE *a.* + -LY[2], with later contraction as in *gently, nobly.* Cf. MDu. *sem-, simpelike* (Du. *simpellijk*).]

1. With simplicity (of mind) or sincerity; in an honest or straightforward manner; also, in later use, unaffectedly, artlessly.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2663 Þo hii come In eiþer side to Ambresbury..& þe brutons al simpleliche In god pays hii vnderstode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 134 He him lefþ simpleliche of al þet he zayþ, ase deþ þe litel child his mayster. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* ii. 7 He shal kepen the helthe of riȝt men, and defende the goende symplely. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 181 Ne telle noȝt in þi schryfte flateryng lapys..; but symplely late þin herte & þi tunge acorde in one. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 140 The kynge he receyved [their homage] with gode herte and sympilliche with wepynge. 1603 SIR R. WESTON in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 80, I..protest that att my deliuery of his obligacon I delt singlyly and simplyly with you. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 569 By things deemd weak Subverting worldly strong, and worldly wise By simply meek. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Village* 25 The dancing pair that simply sought renown, By holding out, to tire each other down. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* v. § 24 She did it beautifully and simply, as a child ought to dance. 1867 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life* (1895) I. 382, I was rather amused at Huxley asking me very simply whether I had read Thierry.

2. a. In a plain, homely, or frugal manner.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 331 Sone to Paryss can he ga, And levyt thar full sympylly. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 94 Freris owen to lyue sympliere and streitliere than othere religiouse. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7684 Þare in hungir and calde full pure Þai leuyd, and sympely Þai fure.

b. Humbly in respect of dress or surroundings.

c 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 56 Suche a litell childe so sympilly clothed. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 255 She went as simply as she might, to thentent that the king should not phansie her. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 2073/2 As he was but a Deacon, so was hee but simply or at least not priestly apparelled. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iv. 42 Whose meanest Cottage simply Me did shrowd.

3. a. In simple language, with simplicity of speech, with no attempt at style; also, so as to be readily understood, plainly, clearly.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1880) 46, I in fewe wordis & sympliche maade to write it. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 854 Haue y not preved thus symply, With-outen any subtilite Of speche? *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) II. xli. 46 Somwhat as I can sympelly reporten I shall it now rehercen. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 64 Whan he speketh to hem swetly and conuerseth with hem symply. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 143 To preach simply, is not to preach rudely, nor unlearnedly, nor confusedly, but to preach plainly. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 12 As if a stupid sense made her carelesse of danger, which to sympathize I have as simply for your sport depicted. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Slechtelick seggen*, to speake Simply, or in Briefe.

b. Without unnecessary elaboration or superfluous ornament; plainly and pleasingly.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 293 Few were its [the flute's] notes, its form was simply plain. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 61 This is a fine massive piece of architecture, simply grand. 1850 *Beck's Florist* Apr. 101 We found the gardens..very pretty, simply laid out, and well kept up.

Comb. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, A simply-attired pretty maiden.

c. Without complication or intricacy.

1864 BOWEN *Logic* vii. 202 That it is to be converted simply. 1867 SPENCER *First Princ.* (ed. 2) § 108. 308 Evolution..is illustrated most simply and clearly by this [etc.]. 1874 LOWELL *Agassiz* I. 144 A mortal..taking life as simply as a tree!

† **4.** Poorly, badly, indifferently; meanly, inadequately; weakly, feebly. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 134 Quhan thai the baner saw sympilly Swa standand, stuffit with sa quhoyn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 355 He koupe his gramer but sympilliche, for þat tyme was nouȝt oon techer of gramer in al his kyngdom. *Ibid.* VIII. 59 He..restored sympelliche [L. *exiliter*] þe Chartre Hous at Witham besides Salisbury. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 85 This Anchus Marcius.. made hym tutor of his childere, but this Tarquinius remembrede that luffe symplely [L. *male*]. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 207 In good feyth I have ben symply intretid among them. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. v. 99 Other that he knewe sholde doo lytel good and that were symply armed. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxix. 112 The Scottes helde but simply the trewse concludedde the yere before. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 182 Being inioyned to make a song [he] wil do it so simplie as one would thinke a scholler of one yeares practise might easelie compose a better. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xv. 89 Had he once gained entrance, perhaps I might have come off but simply.

5. In a foolish, silly, or stupid manner; without common sense or sagacity; †ignorantly. Also *simply disposed*, of a simple disposition.

1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 263 She hathe demenyd her ful symply bothe for youre worship and also for her awne. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xv. 11 But they wente on symply, and knewe not of the matter. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 195 If an elephant chance to meet with a man wandering simply out of his way in the wildernesse. 1662-3 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Jan., Sir W. Batten was paying off tickets, but so simply and arbitrarily..that I was weary of it. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 362 Omitting, simply enough, to carry a thermometer, one can measure the heat of nothing. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, People declared that she got money from various simply disposed persons, under pretence of getting them confidential appointments under Government.

6. Without addition or qualification.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxvi. (1495) 920 One symply is one that may not be departyd in dede though he may be departyd atweyne. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 25 Eueriche of þise medicynes symply by hymself .. staunchep wele blode. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lii. 231 (Harl. MS.), Yf eny thinge be yevin to two simplely, and that on be take or dede, al is in the powr of him or hir that is present. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 188 Smellinge waters as we call them simplely. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 78 If he take her, let him take her simply: the wealth I haue waits on my consent. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVI. xxviii. (1620) 569 His body was not simply dead, but respectiuely. 1616 T. ADAMS *Pract. Wks.* (1862) III. 11 Abstractively and simply understood, it is an exceeding excellent member. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 168 But that they have any Being, purely and simply, I deny.

b. Merely, only. †Also *all simply.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 Þai..sweres nane athes for nathing, bot symply saise it es or it es noȝt. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xcix. (1869) 53 In the time that j made the scrippe, it sufficed al sympilliche to leeue in god perfytliche. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 134 b, Therfore sayth he not simplely that there shall be no more tyme: but addeth [etc.]. 1650 T. HOBBES *De Corpore Pol.* 190 Now in those Laws which are simply Laws, the Commandement is addressed to every man. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 57 For the Law does not punish Man simply, as Man, but as Evil. 1762 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxiv. 768 He ordered that such of the prisoners as should simply promise to obey the laws for the future should be set at liberty. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* ii. 9 The penal law must depend upon the simply prohibitive. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iii. (1852) 66 It is simply a question of degrees. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 387 The highest praise due to the royalist.. was simply that he was not a traitor. 1879 M'CARTHY *Own Times* II. xix. 53 These men simply followed their judgment and their conscience.

† **c.** Unconditionally. *Obs. rare.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxvi. 38 They of the cite wolde nat yelde them vp symply, for alwaies they thought to be rescued. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 104 The Frenchmen fled into the Castle and there continued five daies, at the ende wherof thei rendered themselfes symply.

d. Without exception; absolutely.

Common in recent use as an intensive.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. ii. 9 Hee hath simply the best wit of any handycraft man in Athens. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIX. xxxiv. 735 b, Hee levied..the Numidians especially, the

best horsemen simplie in all Affricke. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. iv, Other Retentions and Evacuations there are, not simply necessary, but at some times. 1856 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 475 Your general political economy is simply undeniable. 1888 Stokes *Celtic Ch.* 176 The plates are simply magnificent. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* I. 247 The spot where we camped was simply too lovely for words.

Si·mpson, *sb. slang.* [From the surname *Simpson.*] (See quot. 1874.) Hence **Si·mpson** *v.* and **Si·mpsonize** *v.*

1871 *Echo* 13 Dec., It was found that the tank from which was drawn the water used in washing the cans, and, it may be, in 'Simpsonising' the milk, was in communication with a drain. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 291 *Simpson,* water used in the dilution of milk. Term in use among cowkeepers. From this the parish pump has been called Mrs. Simpson. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VII. 263 *To simpson,* to adulterate milk by adding water thereto, from a dairyman of this name who in the sixties was prosecuted on this account.

Simptom(e, obs. forms of Symptom.

‖ Simpulum (si·mpiŭlŏm). Pl. **simpula** (si·mpiŭlă). [L.] *Rom. Antiq.* A small ladle, used for dipping out wine for libations.

1745 Pococke *Descr. East* II. ii 249 An altar, with two reliefs on it, one being a person holding a simpulum. 1756 J. Kennedy *Curiosities of Wilton Ho.* (1786) 116 She holds in her Right-Hand a Simpulum. 1858 Birch *Anc. Pottery* II. 315 The vases used in sacrifices were principally of earthenware, and comprised the simpulum [etc.].

Simson (si·msən). *dial.* Also 7 **simpson.** [Alteration of *sinchon, sinsion* Sencion.] The plant groundsel.

1674 Ray *S. & E. Co. Words* 77 *Simpson,* Groundsell, *senecio,* Ess. Suff. 1777 Jacob *Catal. Plants* 105 *Senecio vulgaris,* Common Groundsel, or Simson. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 350 *Simson,* the common name of the groundsel—the *senecio vulgaris.* *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v. *Sencion.*

Sim subtle, suttle : see Sim 1.

Simulacral (simiŭlē·krăl), *a. rare*—1. [f. Simulacre + -al.] Resembling an image.

1875 Draper *Conf. Relig. & Sci.* (1876) v. 123 Their anthropomorphic notions of the nature of God and the simulachral form of the spirit of man.

Simulacre (si·miŭlēkəɹ). Forms: 4–5 **symyl-, similacre** (5 **-achre, semylacre**); 4–5, 7 **symulacre** (5 **semulacre, symolachre**), 6–7, 9 **simulachre** (6 **-acher**), 4, 7– **simulacre.** [a. OF. *simulacre* (= Catal. *simulacre,* Prov. *simulacra,* Sp., Pg., It. *simulacro*), ad. L. *simulacrum* : see Simulacrum.]

1. An image (of a god, etc.) to which honour or worship is rendered.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 653, I þe commawnd, ful lend, þat þare-In is dwelland, þat þu þat semulacre brake. 1382 Wyclif *1 John* v. 21 Litil sones, kepe 3e fro simulacris. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xviii. 82 Simulacres er ymages made to þe liknes of sum thing þat es kyndely; and ydoles er ymages made to þe liknes of what thing a man will þat es nogt kyndely. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 206 Alle thydolles and other symylacres that he fonde, he dyd do destroye. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. viii, Phidias..made of yuory the simulachre or image of Jupiter, honoured by the gentiles. 1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron.* 300 Albinius did sweare by the simulachre of Diana, not once, but thrice. 1613 *Treas. Anc. Mod. Times* I. 765/2 Infamous Daemons possessed themselues of these Statues and Symulacres. 1800 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 598 Distributions have been made..of engraved and waxen simulacres of saints, with the view..of introducing..a taste for image-worship, and a love of holy idolatry. 1851 Madden *Shrines & Sepulchres* I. 45 As temples had their origin in tombs, so idols had theirs in the simulacres of deceased men.

2. An image, a material or mental representation, *of* a person or thing.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 66 b/1 Whan the messagers cam they fonde a symylacre or an ymage in his bedde. 1590 Fenne *Frutes* 12 When Perdicas had espied the sumptuous simulachre of dead Alexander. 1658 *Bergerac's Satirical Charac.* xvii. 71 In fine, Simulacre of envy, leave your biting. 1830 James *Darnley* (1846) 160 A knight, in whom Sir Osborne might easily distinguish the simulacre of himself. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 306 Give the emotions that cluster about it,..and you get something like a simulachre of the object in the midst of them. 1872 Freeman in W. R. W. Stephens *Life* (1895) II. 17, I..sang 'Salve mundi Domine' before the simulacre of Fred. B.

Hence **Si·mulacrize** *v. intr.,* to pretend.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. ii, 'Are you sincere?' she asked. 'Are you not simulacrizing?'

‖ Simulacrum (simiŭlēkrŭm). Pl. **simulacra** (7 **-achra**), and **-acruma.** [L., *f. simulāre* to make like, to Simulate. See also Simulacre.]

1. A material image, made as a representation of some deity, person, or thing.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 229 The Heathen themselves call them every where the *Effigies* and *Simulachra* of other. 1633 Lytton *Godolphin* xxvi. 52 The far-famed simulacrum (the image of Cybele) which fell from Heaven. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Oct. 11 The dead-alive gape, stare, and hue of the lumpish simulacrums of a wax show. 1887 B. V. Head *Hist. Numorum* 634 The mountain is flanked by two tall conical simulacra, with radiate summits.

2. Something having merely the form or appearance of a certain thing, without possessing its substance or proper qualities.

1805 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 183 Does he mean..films, shadows, or *simulacra* proceeding from real external existences. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* (1858) 268 An ambitious charlatan, perversity and simulacrum. *Ibid.* 280 It behoved men to quit simulacra and return to fact. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 184 Nothing but a coat, and a wig, and a mask smiling below it—nothing but a great simulacrum. 1881 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 235 The true succession lies with those who carry the principles of the master to a more fruitful development, and not with those who embalm them as..sacred but sterile simulacra.

b. A mere image, a specious imitation or likeness, *of* something.

1833 *Edin. Rev.* LVII. 334 Some spirit of life breathed into their simulacrum of a faith. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Painters* IV. v. xix. § 6 Nightly we lay down our gold, to fashion forth simulacra of peasants, in gay ribands and white bodices. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* VII. vi. (1872) II. 302 He is become a mere enchanted simulacrum of a Duke. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xli, A vehicle..that appeared to be the mere simulacrum of a vehicle.

Si·mulance. *rare*—1. [Cf. next and -ance.] = Simulation 2.

1885 D. Wilson *Anthropology* 7 (Stand.), Man embodies an..immortal spiritual principle..which makes the resemblance of the apes to him but a mocking simulance.

Simulant (si·miŭlănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *simulant-em,* pres. pple. of *simulāre* to Simulate.]

A. *adj.* Simulating; presenting the appearance *of* something else.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 348 *Simulant,*.. when the mesothorax is covered by the prothorax, and the M tathorax only is visible, under the form of an elongated or enlarged scutellum. 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., A good many parts and organs..are thus simulant of others from which they are morphologically different.

B. *sb.* One who, or that which, simulates something else.

1860 W. H. Russell *Diary India* I. 103 These are, indeed, solemn processions, which not even youth and beauty, or their simulants, can make gay.

Simular (si·miŭlăɹ), *sb.* and *a.* [irreg. f. L. *simul-āre* to simulate + -ar, perh. suggested by Similar *a.*]

Some examples (in the 17th and 18th cents.) of *simular, simularity, simularly,* in the sense of *similar,* etc., are app. mere misprints or individual errors.

A. *sb.* One who, or that which, simulates, or puts on a false appearance (*of* something).

1526 Tindale *Prol. Romans* a ij b, Christ..rebuketh the Phareses.., and calleth them ypocrites, that is to saye Simulars. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. ii. 54 Hide thee, thou Bloudy hand; Thou Periur'd, and thou Simular [*Qq.* simular man] of Vertue: That art Incestuous. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* XIII. 95 His eye-lids, soon, sleep, falling as a dew, Closed fast, death's simular, in sight the same. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. I. P 13 Telling us how this simular of a Catholic is more than ever wedded to his Jewish customs and ceremonies.

B. *adj.* Simulated, pretended, counterfeited. Also, simulative *of* something.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* v. v. 200, I return'd with simular proofe enough, To make the Noble Leonatus mad. 1847 Emerson *Poems* Wks. (Bohn) I. 439 As in the old poetic fame The gods are blind and lame, And the simular despite Betrays the more abounding might. *a* 1859 De Quincey *Posth. Wks.* (1893) II. 247 That auburn wig which was presumed by its wearer to be simular of native curls.

Simulate (si·miŭlēt), *ppl. a.* Also 5 **similate,** 6 **symulate**; 5 **similat,** 6–7 *Sc.* **simulat.** [ad. L. *simulāt-us,* pa. pple. of *simulāre*: see next.] = Simulated *ppl. a.*

1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 4 Denocion not holy bot similate. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 29, I wyl not tellyn..what accyoun he feynyd,..and how and be what similat facyoun Meche peple to hys favour he dreu. 1550 Bale *English Votaries* II. Pref., The sodometrouse vowe of their symulate chastyte. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 450 By their fained simplicitie and simulate holinesse. 1671 [? R. MacWard] *Case Accomod. Exam.* 75 He can not prevail by his simulat condescendencies. *a* 1676 Br. Guthrie *Mem.* (1702) 102 The simulat division betwixt the two Marquesses of Hamilton and Argile. 1804 J. Grahame *Sabbath* 622 'Tis war alone that never violates The hallow'd day by simulate respect. 1845 Jane Robinson *Whitehall* xix. 133 Imprisoned in all that simulate magnificence.

Simulate (si·miŭlēt), *v.* Also **7 similate.** [f. L. *simulāt-,* ppl. stem of *simulāre* to make like, imitate, counterfeit, etc., f. *similis* like.]

1. *trans.* To assume falsely the appearance or signs of (anything); to feign, pretend, counterfeit, imitate; to profess or suggest (anything) falsely.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 267 This magicall sorcerer simulated the Christian faith, and was baptized. *a* 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Berkshire* I. (1662) 112 The Royalists were at night fain to hang lighted matches on the Hedges, (so to similate their aboad thereabouts) whilst they drew of. 1735 Thomson *Liberty* III. 485 What tho' the first smooth Cæsars arts caress'd, Merit, and virtue, simulating Me! 1791 Boswell *Johnson* an. 1752, To suppose that Johnson's fondness for her was *dissembled* (meaning simulated or assumed). 1835 Arnold in *Life & Corr.* (1844) I. 407 A government ..in word and action simulating reform. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 610 He did not think it worth his while to simulate regret for his past errors. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours Libr.* (1892) I. I. 9 These..show the pleasure which he took in simulating truth.

b. To have the external features of to present a strong resemblance to (something).

a 1662 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 204 If it [a vault] be merely natural, it doth curiously imitate art; if purely artificial it doth most lively simulate nature. 1853 E. K. Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xlv. (1856) 413 We passed the hills of Disco in review, with their terraced summits, simulating the Ghauts of Hindostan. 1874 M. Cooke *Planet* 2 Yet there are some flowering plants, which, at first sight,..simulate cryptogams.

c. *Zool.* = Mimic *v.* 5.

1876 Spencer *Princ. Sociol.* I. I. viii. 126 Many caterpillars, beetles, moths, butterflies, simulate the objects by which they are commonly surrounded.

†**2.** To convert *into* by simulation. *Obs.*—1

a 1658 Hewytt *Serm.* 176 We must not similate good into evil, nor truth into falshood, by wicked words or works.

†**3.** To put forward deceptively. *Obs. rare*—1.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 366 Whereupon Hilarion..was simulated for a witch or wizard, by the paganish party.

4. *intr.* To pretend or feign.

1823 Roscoe tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Eur.* (1846) II. xxxvi. 470 Doomed to suffer and smile and simulate.

Hence **Si·mulating** *ppl. a.*

1875 Poste *Gaius* (ed. 2) Add. 669 The simulating disposition..was free from the supervening rules of the simulated disposition.

Si·mulated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed 1.] Pretended, feigned, assumed.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 318 The simulated sanctitie of a wicked and counterfeit Rogue. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 358 The Horns are simulated Vertues. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 171 The carelessness, real or simulated, of the Judge. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 62 The Puritans..prayed, and with no simulated fervour, that she might be kept from the dagger of the assassin. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* 64 Our simulated thunderclaps which tell us counterfeited truths.

†**Si·mulately,** *adv. Obs.* In 6–7 **simulatlie,** 7 **-ly.** [f. Simulate *ppl. a.* + -ly 2.] Deceitfully, by or with pretence.

1592 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 575/1 Vnder pretens and cullour of..giftis of þair escheattis simulatlie purchest. 1629 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* Ser. II. III. 197 Of the whilks arreistments the most pairt ar simulatlie and fraudulentlie made. 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* ii. 83 Job..seriously (not simulatly) wished he had never been born. *a* 1657 Sir J. Balfour *Ann. Scot.* (1825) II. 29 He confessed (simulatly..) to liberat the King of suche grossnes.

Simulation (simiŭlē·ʃən). Forms: 4–5 **simil-, symylacioun** (5 **-aciounе, -acion**), 7 **similation**; 5–6 **symulacion, -acyon** (5 **-acioun**), 4–6 **simulacion,** 6– **simulation.** [a. OF. *simulacion, -ation* (= Prov. and Sp. *simulacion,* It. *simulazione*), ad. L. *simulātiōn-em,* noun of action f. *simulāre* to Simulate.]

1. The action or practice of simulating, with intent to deceive; false pretence, deceitful profession.

1340 *Ayenb.* 23 And þerof wexeþ uele zennes, ase ariȝthalf; þet is to wytene: lozengerie, simulacion. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7230 He nys no full good champioun That dredith such simulacioun. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4504 Amonge hem sille to bringe in tresoun, Feyned trou'e and symulacioun. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 170 He..did with mutual simulacion on his partie cover & kepe secrete the colorable dooyng of the saied feloe. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 319 This precept doth commaunde vs..that ..wee doe our neighbor harme..neither by simulation nor dissimulation. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. (1632) 114 His nature relishing too much of the Punick craft and simulation. 1692 South *Serm.* (1697) I. 525 A Deceiving by Actions, Gestures, or Behaviour, is called Simulation, or Hypocrisie. 1711 Steele *Tatler* No. 213 P 1 Simulation is a Pretence of what is not, and Dissimulation a Concealment of what is. 1788 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VII. 43 Simulation is the seeming to be what we are not; dissimulation, the seeming not to be what we are. 1836 Landor *Pericles & Aspasia* Wks. 1846 II. 379, I wish he were as pious as you are: occasionally he appears so. I attacked him on his simulation. 1872 Shipley *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 71 Fraud.., whether it consists in simulation or dissimulation.

b. Tendency to assume a form resembling that of something else; unconscious imitation.

1870 March *Anglo-Saxon Gram.* 28 *Simulation.* The feigning a connection with words of similar sound is an important fact in English and other modern languages: asparagus > sparrow-grass.

2. A false assumption or display, a surface resemblance or imitation, *of* something.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 392 For als miche as it is done by symylacion of holynes, þe whiche is double wickidnes. 1471 Caxton *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 650 How Anthenor and Eneas..dyde hit vnder symylacion of peas. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 357/2 Woulde God they would ones rather folow him truely in faith & good workes, then in simulacion of like santytie. *a* 1667 Cowley *Ess., Liberty,* So by the artificial simulation of some virtues, he made a shift to ensnare some honest..persons. 1873 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 12 A solid partition or simulation of a notochord. 1876 Miss Braddon *Y. Haggard's Dau.* I. 74 Miserly as the arrangements of the household were, it was kept up with a faint simulation of a gentleman's establishment.

Simulative (si·miŭlătiv), *a.* Also 5 **-tyue.** [f. L. stem *simulāt-* : see Simulate *v.* and -ive. Cf. med.L. *simulātīvē* adv.] Characterized by simulation or pretence.

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 77, I do not somone hym for taccomplysshe his promyse simulatyue of the mariage of vs two. 1840 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* 296 If the Adult..returned an insincere and simulative Answer: then.. he would fail of being inwardly regenerated. 1851 — *Many Mansions* 248 The simulative phantom of the particular individuals. 1875 Poste *Gaius* (ed. 2) 666 The formal dispositions of Roman jurisprudence were frequently simulative.

Hence **Si·mulatively** *adv.*

1826 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 396 Truly beginning with Nimrod, though simulatively..with Noah. 1851 — *Many Mansions* 201 Evil will be mingled with good, the simulatively holy with the truly holy.

Simulator (si·miŭlēt(ə)ɹ). [ad. L. *simulātor* a copier, a feigner, agent-noun from *simulāre* to

SIMULATE. Cf. F. *simulateur*, Sp. and Pg. *simulador*, It. *simulatore*.]

1. One who practises simulation.

1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 343 Churchmen and women are of necessity simulators. 1843 GAVIN *Feigned & Fictitious Dis.* 30 That severe pain of the body will not influence some simulators to return to their duty, may be still farther evidenced. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 147 If a simulator..is outwardly courteous to his friends, but inwardly bears them malice, can he..be a doer of proper works?

2. A thing which simulates another.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 687 Myoma and fibromyoma are also possible simulators [of keloid].

† Si·mulatory, *a. Obs. rare.* [See SIMULATE *v.* and -ORY.] Simulative.

1618 *Hist. Perkin Warbeck* 35 These words were vttered ..with simulatory maiesty. 1623 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XIX. x, Jehoram wisely suspects this flight of the Syrians to be but simulatory and politick.

† Simule, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **symule, simyll.** [ad. F. *simuler* (14th cent.), or L. *simulāre* to SIMULATE.] *intr.* and *trans.* To simulate or feign.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Cock & Fox* vi, Dissimuland in to countenance and cheir, On kneis fell, and simuland thus he said. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 159 They.. simyll discorde amonge them selves when they are most agreed. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 140 An honest man shal neyther symule nor dissymule any thyng for thentent to bye better or to sell better.

Hence **† Si·muled** *ppl. a.*, simulated. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 Than let us despyse this symuled & false obedyence. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xviii. 104 b, His simuled holinesse.

† Si·muler. *Obs.*[-1] [f. prec. + -ER [1].] A simulator, feigner.

1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 48 We hane herde say that Socrates was swete and ornate of speche in all comunycacion a symuler whome the grekes call irona.

† Simultal, *a. Obs.*[-1] [irreg. f. L. *simul* + -AL.] Simultaneous.

1654 VILVAIN *Chronogr.* 16 Such a sudden simultal surreption of 10 or 12 dais, wil..beget much confusion.

Simultaneity (simŏltăn^{i}·iti). [f. next: see -ITY, and cf. F. *simultanéité* (1754), Sp. *-eidad*, Pg. *-eidade*.]

1. The quality or fact of being simultaneous; occurrence at the same time.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 546 By the supposition, this asserted simultaneity is false. 1855 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 3) 13 The actual priority of cause to effect has been doubted, and their simultaneity argued with much ability. 1893 BALL *Story of Sun* 35 We may..suppose that they [*sc.* observations] have been made with absolute simultaneity.

2. A simultaneous attack. *rare* —[1].

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. vii. (1872) VIII. 230 He stands now elaborately divided into Three groups against those Three simultaneities.

Simultaneous (simŏltă^{i}·nĭəs), *a.* [ad. L. type **simultāneus*, formed (prob. after *mōmentāneus*) on L. *simul* at the same time: cf. F. *simultané* (1740), Sp., Pg., and It. *simultaneo*.

Med.L. *simultāneus* is given by Du Cange only in the sense of 'simulated'. Blount (*Glossogr.* 1656), citing *simultaneous* from L'Estrange, wrongly associates it with L. *simultas*, and explains it as 'that is privily displeased or hates with dissembling countenance'. Phillips (1658), as usual, repeats the mistake in different words. Marvell in his *Def. Howe* (1678) refers to the word as 'an elegant term of *The Discourse's* own production' (*Wks.*, ed. Grosart, IV. 199).]

1. Existing, happening, occurring, operating, etc., at the same time; coincident in time.

a 1660 HAMMOND *Wks.* (1683) IV. 570 All that we have need of..is only Gods concurrence, whether previous or simultaneous. 1677 OWEN *Justific.* ix. Wks. 1852 III. 213 There are they [faith and repentance] so frequently conjoined in the Scripture as one Simultaneous duty. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 45 He [God]..compares both means and ends together in one simple simultaneous view. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entom.* (1818) I. 498 They are not moved to it by a simultaneous but by a successive impulse. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 267 It was proposed that there should be simultaneous insurrections in London..and at Newcastle. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 42 The simultaneous use of both eyes is called 'binocular vision'.

transf. 1896 HOWELLS *Impress. & Exper.* 39 The railroad and the telegraph have made the little place simultaneous with New York and London.

2. *spec.* in *Math.*, as *simultaneous equation, function, root*, etc. (see quots.).

1816 BABBAGE in *Phil. Trans.* 183 There may be another second function of $\psi(x, y)$, which..may for the sake of distinction be called the second simultaneous function relative to x and y. 1842 COLENSO *Elem. Algebra* (ed. 3) § 72 Simultaneous Equations of one Dimension...Equations of this kind,..to be satisfied by the same pair or pairs of values of x and y, are called simultaneous equations. 1842 G. PEACOCK *Treat. Algebra* I. 232 Such pairs or sets of equations in which the same unknown symbols appear, which are assumed to possess the same values throughout, are called simultaneous equations. 1888 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* XII. (1897) 124 The summation extends to all the simultaneous roots x', y' of the equations $U=0$, $V=0$.

Simultaneously (simŏltă^{i}·nĭəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].]

1. At the same time; coincidently.

1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* I. I. 28 To make the same numerical act which is a Volition simultaneously to be no Volition. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1764) I. 127 Dissimilar emotions may succeed each other with rapidity, but they cannot exist simultaneously. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess., Writing & Bks.* lix, He introduces the deities of both acting simultaneously. 1816 BABBAGE in *Phil. Trans.* 192 If in the function $\psi(x, y)$ we put simultaneously $\alpha(x, y)$ for x, and $\beta(x, y)$ for y. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 22 An exclamation of surprise burst simultaneously from my companion and myself. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* v. 242 The actual banks are rarely, if ever, simultaneously visible.

2. By means of simultaneous equations.

1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 225 In this way all the elements of any of the planetary orbits may be determined simultaneously.

Simultaneousness (simŏltă^{i}·nĭəsnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact, state, or quality of being simultaneous.

1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 165 The ideas..flashing before his imagination, with the simultaneousness of lightning. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biogr. Lit.* XV. (1907) II. 18 The poet gives us the liveliest image of succession with the feeling of simultaneousness! 1861 LAMONT *Seasons w. Seahorses* v. 75 The simultaneousness with which they dive and reappear again is remarkable. 1890 *Spectator* 6 Sept., It is.. the simultaneousness of the desire to migrate which makes the migration so gregarious.

† Simultation. *Obs. rare*[-1]. [irreg. f. L. *simultās*: see next.] Quarrelling.

1605 G. POWEL *Refut. Epist. Puritan Papist* 43 They can hardly liue peaceably among themselues without simultation.

† Simulty [1]. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *simultas*, f. *simul* together, at the same time. Cf. OF. *simulté*.] A quarrel or contention.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Timber* (1641) 113 Imbarking himselfe in the Factions of the Family: to inquire after domesticke simulties. 1679 F. P. CRESSY *Gen. Disc.* 131 Thus we see.. in what inveterate..simulties, dissensions, and Book-warres the Protestants of all kinds and sorts doe liue.

† Simulty [2]. *Obs.*[-1] [irreg. f. L. *simul* + -TY.] Simultaneity.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. I. 16 Some scholemen say, that in free wil there is a simultie of power to opposites but not a power of simultie, i. e. a power of embracing opposites at one and the same time.

Simum, variant of SIMOOM.

‖ Simurgh (simə̈·rg). Also **simurg, simorg**(h. [Pers. سیمرغ *sīmurgh*, f. Pahlavi *sīn* (Av. *saēna*, Skr. *śyena*) eagle + *murgh* bird.] A monstrous bird of Persian legend, imagined as rational, having the power of speech, and of great age.

a. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 89 Is the Simurgh coming to pluck out my eyes? *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 459 In the Bahar Danush the Simurgh is mentioned as a genus, not an individual. This is heresy, the unity of the Simurgh being expressed in all the books of canonical romance. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 152 Some Brobdingnagian condor like the Simurg, with feathers that were large enough for oars—or the Roc itself.

β. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* VIII. xix, In Kaf the Simorg hath his dwelling place The all-knowing Bird of Ages. 1864 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 7) 305 Simorgh, and rokh, and phœnix, comet-like, Which nested in the sun. *a* 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Paradox* (1872) 329, I am an 'old bird',..a Simorg, an 'all-knowing Bird of Ages' in matters of cyclometry.

Sin (sin), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **syn(n**, 1–2 **synne**, 2–5 **sunne** (3 **sune**). *β.* 1–4 **senne** (4 **xenne**, 5 **senn**), 3 **seonne** (4 **sene**). *γ.* 2–7 **sinne** (3–4 **sine**), 4–6 **synne** (5 **cynne**, 5–6 **syne**), **syn** (6 **synn**), 4– **sin** (4 **sinn**). [OE. *syn(n*, for original **sunjō*, related to continental forms with extended stem, viz. OFris. *sende*, MDu. *sonde* (Du. *zonde*), OS. *sundea, sundia*, OHG. *sunt(e)a, sund(e)a* (G. *sünde*), ON. *synð, synd* (Icel., Norw., Sw., Da. *synd*). The stem may be related to that of L. *sons, sont-is* guilty. In OE. there are examples of the original general sense, 'offence, wrong-doing, misdeed'.]

1. An act which is regarded as a transgression of the divine law and an offence against God; a violation (esp. wilful or deliberate) of some religious or moral principle.

The expression *for my sins* (see quot. 1841) is freq. employed in a trivial or jocular way. For *the seven deadly sins* see DEADLY *a.* 5.

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cviii. 14 Syn modur his ne sie adilgad. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIV. § 3 Þæt is swiðe dyslic & swiðe micel syn þæt mon þæs wenan scyle þe Gode. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Ure dæghwamlican synna þe we wið Godes willan gewyrht habbaþ. *Ibid.* 63 Manige men wenaþ þæt morþor sy seo mæste synne. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1066, Þa Frencyscan ahton wælstowe gewald, ealle swa heom God uðe for folces synnon. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Se ælmihtiga God..do him his synna forgifenesse. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Vfel is þet mon..nule him biþenchen þet his sunnen waxað. 12.. *Prayer our Lady* 31 in *O. E. Misc.* 193 Ich habbe..wel feole sunne ido þe me ofþinceð nuðe. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1395 Ne beoþ noht ones alle heuie sennen. 12.. *Prayer our Lady* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 192 Ich com i-bunde sore mid wel feole seonne. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM III. 268 Þe dede ydo in lechery Hys ryȝt a dedleche senne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 15 Þe zeue heauedes of þe beste of helle byeþ þe zeuen hauedliche zennes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 224 The comun poeple..hath the kinges Senne aboght, Al thogh the poeple agulte noght.

γ. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Suilc & mare.. we bolenden xix wintre for ure sinnes. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Sainte Powel..sagh..þat hem likede here loðliche sinnes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 553 So cam on werlde wreche and wrake for to blissen swilc sinnes same. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14010 Sco wepe hir sinnes sare. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 108 þes two beþ synnus of þe flesche. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 480 All thy dayes [thou] hast lyuyd in multeplyyng of synnes & vices. 1524 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 14 Plenary remission of their synnes. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* F j b, And sir I pray you, what greater sinne is then iealousie? 1628 J. DOUGHTY *Serm. Church-schismes* (1628) 4 Austin..chargith them with no lesse a sinne, then with that of the holy ghost. 1676 OWEN *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 325 As some men's sins grow very high, other men's graces grow very low. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 111 Making her dream..of the sin which he resolved to allure her to commit. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiv, 'My mistress has committed some great sin, truly,' said the servant. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xi, At present, for my sins, I live in a village of the plain. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* XXVIII, She felt like one who has 'Sinned a great Sin'.

b. *transf.* A violation of some standard of taste or propriety.

1780 *Mirror* No. 92 All those sins against nature and simplicity, which artists of inferior merit are glad to practise. 1907 PHYLLIS DARE *From School to Stage* VIII. 146 The many literary sins I know I must have committed.

2. Without article or pl. Violation of divine law; action or conduct characterized by this; a state of transgression against God or His commands.

Original sin: see ORIGINAL *a.* 1 b.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cviii. 7 Ȝebed his sie in synne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 34 Eghuelc seðe wyrcas synn, ðræl is synnes. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 230 Mænize lif butan leahtre habban maȝon, butan synne hi na maȝon. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 227 Heo was buton senne aceenned and his lif was all buton synne. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 91 Ha wes offearet of scheome & of sunne. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 So us defendet þo ilke þinges fram senne. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3485 More pryde, no more synne, þan skorne god, mayst þou falle ynne. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2357 Here may men se..How foul es syn and how fylande. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5078 Trowe not that I wolde hem twynne, Whanne in her love ther is no synne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 323 Bot thou do so, forsuth thou dois gret syne. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 60 This lesson must not so curiously bee kept, as though it were sinne to make the deuision of fower, or fiue partes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 177, I that am honest, I that hold it sinne To breake the vow I am ingaged in. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 210 Such as will lye in sinne and goe on without repentance. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 613 Because 'tis sin to misemploy an hour. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* I. 4 We are all under the guilt of Sin. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. 14 It is your part to retire from such an occasion of sin. 1807-8 WORDSW. *Eccl. Sonn.* II. XXV, Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncrost With the least shade of thought to sin allied. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon Stylites* 120 A sinful man, conceived and born in sin. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. 32 Old Jewish sin was heathen sin—it was open.

b. Personified.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 882 In thy shady cell..Sits Sin, to seize the souls that wander by him. 1632 R. BERNARD *Isle of Man* 5 Thus we see what an ungrateful Villaine Sin is to his best friends. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 230 Meanwhile.., Within the Gates of Hell sate Sin and Death. 1818 SHELLEY *Eugan. Hills* 249 Sin smiled so as Sin only can. 1842 TENNYSON *Love & Duty* 8 Shall..Sin itself be found The cloudy porch oft opening on the Sun?

c. In phrases *child*, or *man, of sin*; *as black*, or *ugly, as sin*.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 53 You are three men of sinne. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* x, Though I am as ugly as sin, I would not have you think me an ass. 1827 — *Chron. Canongate* iv, They..bowed civilly if folk took aff their bannets as they gaed by, and lookit as black as sin at them that keepit them on. 1842 TENNYSON *Vision Sin* 5 From the palace came a child of sin.

3. a. A pity; a shame.

Still in colloquial use, esp. in Sc.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1976 It is hof him mikel sinne; He maden him swilke woundes þrinne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 501 'To dede in Forth he may for vs be brocht.' Lord Persye said, 'Now suthlye that war syne'.

† b. A fear of doing wrong. *Obs. rare.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2375 Þat he ne sholde neuere blinne, Ne for loue, ne for sinne, Til þat he haueden Godard funde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 518 To byrn and sla off thaim he had na syne.

4. *Comb.* a. With pa. ppples., chiefly in instrumental use, but sometimes denoting 'in sin' or 'from sin', as *sin-absolved, -born, -burthened, -clouded, -crushed, -drowned*, etc.

Combs. of this type are extremely common from about 1590 to 1670, and again from about 1850.

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* VIII. (Arb.) 68 With gredy mouth he alwayes feeds vpon the Syndrownd soule. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 832 Christ, who, sin-thrall'd man to free, Became a captive. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 137 Farewell sinne sowed flesh. *Ibid.* 161 This triple headed Pope with all his sin-absolued whoores. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIII. CCXV, The Curse which Heav'n injoin'd to grow On Sin-condemned Earth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 596 Whom thus the Sin-born Monster answerd soon. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* IX. 188 What joy must it be to a sin-burthened soul to hear the voice of pardon. 1792 R. CUMBERLAND *Calvary* (1803) II. 49 That sacred flesh, whose bleeding stripes Heal'd our sin-wounded souls. 1849 J. C. HARE *Par. Serm.* II. 98 The inmost Desire of his own sin-crusht soul. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occas.* 253 While song is hushed..In the sin-laden air. 1882 H. S. HOLLAND *Logic & Life* (1883) 187 The borders..of this sin-clouded sky.

b. With pres. pples. and vbl. sbs. in objective use, as *sin-afflicting*, † *-beeting*, *-chastising*, *-concealing*, *-doing*, etc. Also instrumental, as *sin-soiling* (see 4 e).

This type is common in the 17th and 19th centuries.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Ich com to..understonden þo sinbetende on rihtwisnesse. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 3 Not alonelie for hur syn-doyng..sho was sparred in a cloce cell iij yere. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 148 They be in greete peryll that breke the feest..in synnedoynge. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 44 Wise was that sin-washing Poet that made the Ballet of Blue starch and poaking stick. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 767 O comfort-killing Night, ..Vast sin-concealing chaos! 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* ccxviii, Thy scourge of Vice, thy sinne-afflicting Muse. 1681 J. FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxviii. 492 Earnest desires of our souls to God in prayer..for sin-mortifying grace. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* lxxx. 20 The Sin-consuming Virtue. 1774 J. EDWARDS *Hist. Redemption* (1793) I. iv. 85 If they came to such a dreadful sin-revenging God immediately they should die. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* IV. ii. 32 His death will be But as a change of sin-chastising dreams. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 18 Very beautiful to devils must be the sin-loving soul.

c. With agent-nouns, in objective use, as *sin-absolver*, *-discerner*, *-forgiver*, etc.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 50 Being a Diuine, a Ghostly Confessor, A Sin-Absoluer. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 88 One that makes Sin, We might render it a Sin-maker. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipapopr.* xv. § 1. 312 A huge, disciplined, active army:..not of sinopposers, but of slave-makers. 1849 J. A. CARLYLE *Dante's Inf.* 48 That sin-discerner sees what place in Hell is for it. 1870 W. GRAHAM *Lect. Ephesians* vi. 137 The character of the sin-forgiver should not degenerate into the sin-indulger.

d. With adjs., as *sin-black*, *-guilty*, *-like*, *-proud*.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 220 The diuell keepeth his audit in our sin-guilty consciences. 1624 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* 197 Thou couldst not cleanse These Sin-proud shining Halls. 1617 A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* 22 The stately Court,..whose sin-like hew Dazles the Eyes of euery Wight. 1812 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* xxii, Cormorants are sin-like lean, Although they eat from night to morn. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 29 With sin-black hills engirthed.

e. With vbs., in the sense 'by sin', as *sin-eclipse*, *-merit*.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 214 Our soules they keepe not from sinne-soyling, but are the onely instruments, so to soile and sinne-eclipse them. *Ibid.* 257 To make vs more wary of sinne-meriting it.

5. *attrib.*, as *sin-bane*, *custom-house*, *-entanglement*, *-gluttony*, *-guilt*, *-guiltiness*, etc.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 100 Sucking the *Sin-bane of Assyrian ayre. 1673 EGANE (*title*), The Book of Rates now used in the *Sin Custom-House of the Church of Rome. 1668 J. OWEN *Expos. Ps.* CXXX. Wks. 1851 VI. 381, I who am in the depths of *sin-entanglements. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 79 [To] kill the body & the soule both of her vnbounded *sinne-gluttonie. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 227 He..., by a *sin-guilt, hath transgressed a law. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* XX. 17 That the people might..bee admonished of their *sin-guiltiness. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lxvii, The pair were driving a bargain in the *Sin market. 1850 LYNCH *Theophi. Trinal* x. 201 The *sin-miasma from the evil will of a man. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 14 A form of godliness without the power of it, may well be called the devils *Sin-Mould. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* xiv. 18 This shalbe the *synneplage of Egipte and the synneplage of all people. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 202 Nor was there ever any *sinne-sacrifice without blood-shead. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 327 The *sin-score was settled with St. Kentigern in the regular way. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 562 The farther this foule *sin-spring flowes, It still more muddy and more filthy growes. 1625 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 154 True, I was blind, when thy *sin-Syren voice Made me despise my selfe.

6. Special combs.: † **sin-boot**, repentance, penance; **sin-eater**, one hired to take upon himself the sins of a deceased person by means of food eaten beside the dead body; so *sin-eating*; **sin-flood** [after G. *sündflut*, an alteration of OHG. *sin-vluot* general flood], the Deluge; † **sin-money**, money brought as an offering in expiation of sin; **sin-rent**, a payment made to obtain absolution for sins; † **sin-wood**, mad with sin.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 135 Alle weldede beoð freomfulle to *sun-bote. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Ute driuen him bed fulcnen on watere to synbote. 1686–7 AUBREY *Gentilisme*, etc. (1881) 35 A Loafe of bread was brought out, and delivered to the *Sinne-eater over the corps. 1860 *Murray's Handbk. S. Wales* Introd. 26 The superstition of the Sin-Eater is said to linger even now in the secluded vale of Cwm Amman. 1832 *Hone Year Bk.* 19 July 858 An usage called 'sin-eating' undoubtedly arose in catholic times. 1550 COVERDALE *Spir. Perle* xxiv. (1560) 232 When as the whole worlde beside were destroyed with the *sinne flood. 1892 J. LUCAS tr. *Kalm's England* 408 Whether all these strata came into their present shape at the sin-flood..I leave others to divine. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* xii. 16 The trespasse money, and *sinne-money was not brought into the house of the Lord. 1899 TREVELYAN *Age Wycliffe* 142 Wycliffe's position about pardons, *sin-rents, and the abuse of the confessional. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1073 Dat folc vnsell, *sinne wod,..wulden him ðor gret strengðe don.

Sin (sin), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 **syngian** (**synngiza**, **-ode**), 3–4 **sungen**; 1 **singian**, 3 **singen**, 4 **syngen**. *β.* 2–3 **sunegen** (2 **-eghen**, 3 **-egi**), 3 **sinegen**, **sinigen**, **synegen**, 4 **synegy**, **senegen**. *γ.* 3 **sunezen**, **sinezen** (**sinnzhen**), 4 **sen(ne)zen**, **senezi**, **synewi**, **sinie**. *δ.* 3, 5 **sunne**, 5 **senne**; 4–7 **sinne**, 4– **sin**; 4–6 **synne** (5 **synnyn**, **cynnyn**), 5 **syn**(e. [OE. *syngian*:—**sunigôjan*, f. **sunjô*, OE. *syn*(*n* SIN *sb.*; cf. Du. *zondigen*, G. *sündigen*, ON. *syndgask* refl. (Icel. *syndga*). This is normally represented in ME. by *siingen*, *singen* (cf. MING *v.*), but in early ME. the types *sunigen* and *sünizen* also appear. The shorter *sünnen*, *sinnen* are probably due to the influence of the sb., with which the vb. finally became identical in form.]

1. *intr.* To commit sin; to do a sinful act.

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* iv. 5 Eorsiað & nyllað syngian. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 109 Is ðearf ðæt hie gedon ..ðæt hie ne durren syngian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Numbers* xxii. 34 Balaam cwæð, Ic singie nitende. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 258 Þer inne boð..þo þe sungede muchel a drunke and an ete. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 *note*, Ancren, sume sungið in hare wim[p]lunge na lesse þene lefdi. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 172 God sæ3 bi-fore quat after cam, ðat singen sulde firme adam. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1381 Þorw Adam we sungeden furst vchon. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 165 at..preyers don sauen Soules þat han sunget seuen sipes dedlich. 1393 *Ibid.* C. I. 109 Hure syre sauh hem syngen and soffrede hem don ille.

β. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 3if we suneged, we hit sculen beote. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 928 Ich wisse men myd myne songe, þat hi ne sunegi nowiht longe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 44/336 Þe menbre þov most keruen of 3ware-with3 þou i-sunegut hast. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 384 *Homme suette et pecche*, M[an] wischith and senegith. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xv. 112 He þat knoweþ cleregie can sonnere a-ryse Out of synne, and be saf þow he synegy ofte.

γ. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3970 þatt illke mann ne sinnzheþþ nohht. 12.. *Prayer our Lady* 29 in *O. E. Misc.* 193 Ifurn ich habbe isuneȝet mid wurken & midd muðe. *c* 1310 *St. Edmund* 450 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 83 If y ne wende synewi dedliche, y nolde neuere hit do. 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 874 þo man senneȝed in paradys, Al chaungede þat flesch a-mys. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 Ine þri maneris me may zeneȝi be þise zenne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 15 Sopeliche he syneweþ nat þat so wynneþ hus fode.

δ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7955 'Sinned i haf,' coth dauid þan. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 339 Adam first gan synne, did þat God forbede. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 194 He syneth not, but whoso asketh I-styrryd with concupiscens..senneth venialy. 1426 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 21 Hengyng..Sum be þe membirs of here body, þat þai han sunnyd with in herthe leuand. 1530 PALSGR. 718/2, I have synned in glotonny to night, I have stolne a horse. 1569 ROGERS *Glasse Godly Love* 186 Wee dailie and hourely continually sinne. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 163 The Tempter, or the Tempted, who sins most? 1688 DRYDEN *Brit. Red.* 285 Thus Israel sinned, impenitently hard. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 237 A man may..deceive himself, and sin on with the hopes of an after-repentance. 1825 LYTTON *Falkland* 119 Do not tell me that I sin, when I..nurse the delirium [etc.]. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 610 That he sinn'd is not believable.

b. Const. *against* († *in*, *to*, *with*, etc.).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXVIII. 11 In heortan minre ic ahydde ȝespreocu ðin, ðæt ic ne syngie ðe [L. *tibi*]. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. x. 264 Þa sæde him hiora an..þæt he..miclum on þæm syngade. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 15 ȝyf þin broþor syngað wiþ þe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2986 (Gött.), Fra touche of hir i saued þe, þat þu suld noght sinne in me. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 313 3if þin brother synneþ in þee, þou shalt snybbe hym. 1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 22, I have synned to the alone, And forfetyd ofte before thi sy3t. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* XXXIX. 9 How shulde I then do so greate euell, and synne agaynst God? 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. ii. 59, I am a man, More sinn'd against, then sinning. 1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxix. 169 He that is subject to no Civill Law, sinneth in all he does against his Conscience. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 130 Who but wishes to invert the laws Of Order, sins against th' Eternal Cause. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1788) 343 Your conscience already tells you, that you have sinned against knowledge. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* (1877) 408 Strictly speaking, we can sin only against God. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXII, I think I have never sinned against her.

c. *spec.* To commit fornication or adultery *with* (or † *on*) one.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Bersabee..makede him sunegen on hire, so holi king ase he was. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 262/46 To alle þat with hire sunegy wolde euere redi heo was. 1375 *Cursor M.* 26261 (Fairf.), þou prest take kepe þou synne nogt wiþ þine awen shepe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 143 3if I seie eny of 3oure ordre synne wiþ a womman, I wolde helye hym wiþ myn mantel. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* 140 (Add. MS.), Whan he hadde synned with her, he had her more in hate than he before loved her. 1530 PALSGR. 719/1 All sortes of lecherye be naught, but specially to synne with a wedded woman. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 248 Another sinning on such heights with one, The flower of all the west and all the world, Had been the sleeker for it.

d. To offend *against* some principle, standard, etc.; to be faulty or wrong.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1711) IV. 99 This Government..sins against the Spirit of the Revolution. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VI. lii, The most regulated charms of feature, Which painters cannot catch like faces sinning Against proportion. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* v. 74 Our English system sins against all these canons, and sins grievously. 1888 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Dec. 464/2 Quite cleverly painted, and sinning chiefly by excessive prettiness.

2. *trans.* **a.** To do, perform, or perpetrate sinfully; to commit (a sin).

c 1325 SHOREHAM I. 136 Al þat he heþ iseneged her.., Ellinge brengeþ hit to nouȝte.

1682 SOUTHERNE *Loyal Brother* IV. ii, Gifted rogues, That..Sin or unsin rebellion to the crowd. 1822 PRAED *Troubadour* I. 80 He sinned few crimes, loved many times. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xi, While there remains so much to be sinned and suffered in the world. 1879 J. HAWTHORNE *Laughing Mill*, etc. 81 In the end the sin was sinned.

b. *To sin one's mercies*, to be ungrateful for one's blessings or good fortune.

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. i, I know your good father would term this *sinning my mercies*. 1849 MRS. OLIPHANT *Marg. Maitland* I. viii. 244 Surely, Mr. Allan,..it would be sinning your mercies. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Mar. 328/1 Without wishing in any way to sin our mercies.

c. *To sin one's soul*, to incur the guilt of sin. *dial.* 1894– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

3. With preps. and advs. **a.** To bring (oneself) *into* a state, or *beyond* something, by sinning.

1665 WALTON *Life Hooker* 37 These had sinned themselves into a belief that there was no God. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 191 They had sinned themselves beyond the reach of all remedies. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 170 Few consider what a degree of sottishness and confirmed ignorance men may sin themselves into.

b. To drive or force *away* (also *hence*) by sinning.

1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 164, I have sinned away your Father, and he is gone. 1688 DRYDEN *Brit. Redivi.* 292 For we have sinned him hence. 1694 *Providences of God* 84 The Lord grant we may not sin away our Mercies. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 207 Souls which have sinned away the grace of God and are beyond its reach.

c. (See quots.)

1652 LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenède's Cleopatra* Ded. A 2, At such times as your silent Authority gave me leave to want better imployment, this trifle was Sinn'd into English [from French]. 1777 FLETCHER *Bible Calvinism* Wks. 1795 IV. 241 The basest and vilest of men who have not yet sinned out their day of salvation.

Sin, Sc. variant of SUN.

Sin (sin), *adv.*, *prep.*, and *conj.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 4–6 (9) **syn**, 8–9 **sin'**, 8 **sun**; 4 **sine**, 6 **syne**; 5–6 **synne**, 6–7 **sinne**. [Contracted form of SITHEN: cf. SEN, SYNE, and SINCE. In later use freq. written *sin'*, as if an abbreviation of *since*.

The common early spelling *syn*, and the rare *sine*, *syne*, do not indicate a long vowel.]

A. *adv.* **1.** Then, thereupon; thereafter, afterwards, subsequently.

Frequent in Caxton.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 290 Alwey on dragon hem kepte; Syn were þey stolen þe while he slepte. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 218 Haþeles hyȝed in haste with ores ful longe, Syn her sayl was hem aslypped on sydez to rowe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 92 He hath putte hym self in armes wyth oute my knowleche And syn sendeth for me. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 64 I heyr moder..ranne for to kysse theym..and sin asked what thei had doon of theyr fader. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 245 He toke by force of armes the Erle of Fyerbourgh and syn passed in Austeryche.

2. From that time onwards.

1405 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 178 He hathe occupyde the lond evyr syn. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x, Yf euylle is syn happed to me it is wel bestowed. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 339/1 The first day of this present Parlement or at any tyme syn. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., I sa him last Jammas and I hennot sin him sin. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* 131 He's never addled owt sin.

3. Ago; before now. Also *long sin*, for a long time before (quot. 1596).

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 44 The bodyes longe syn destroyed & conuerted in-to poulder. 1530 *Hickscorner* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 175 Devotion is gone many days sin. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xi. 44 Knowing his voice although not heard long sin, She sudden was reuiued therewithall. 1796 R. WALKER *Plebian Pol.* (1801) 32 Boh this war ov eawars wud hah bin ore monyoah yeor sun. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.* 74/2 It's a gud lang time sin. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* 78, I heard the bell knoll a piece sin.

B. *prep.* From, after; subsequent to.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5670 Sin quen was þou vr dempster? *Ibid.* 13651 Ne it i-wiss was neuer herd Sin þe biginning o þe werld. 1455 in Scoones *Four Cent. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 5 The King is wel amended,..and hath ben syn Cristemesday. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 225 Never sin that tyme was no kyng crowned in gascoyn. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 102 My lady syn your departyng hath doo made..this toun. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 352, I have not seen him sin Tuesday. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, Things were strangely changed..sin' the sad and sorrowfu' Union. 1886 in *Cheshire Gloss.*

C. *conj.* **1.** From or since the time that. † Also rarely with *that*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9323 For sin þat we war born in werld Sua selcut sagh we neuer herd. 13.. *Ibid.* 22192 (Edinb.), A soru sulic was neuir are, Sin man was made.. And sine þe werde it firste bigan. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 229 (Fairf.), The fresshest syn the worlde was first bygonne. 1405 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 178 He owyth my mastyr ffor the londe that the sayd Roper had syn he deyde ffor hys wyffe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 212 Shew me where ye haue ben syn I saw you. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1192/2 It neuer hath had any sample lyke, sinne the world began vnto now. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 52 Owr kynde ys frayle,..& ever hath bene syne we knew vs. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xii, It's e'en a lang, lang time indeed Sin' I began to nick the thread. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* iv, Adam's niver touched a bit o' victual sin' home he's come.

2. Seeing or considering that.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11212 Sin godd wald þat it sua suld be. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 946 God war worthy mare to be lufed þan any creature,..Syn he es maker of althynge. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 28 Syn al power is of God,..man may do no þing, but if he 3eue him þe mi3t. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alian* xvi, Syn I hold the now, thou shalt not scape fro me. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 211, I care not whether I lyue or dye syn I haue founde you. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 Now, woer, sin ye are lighted down Where do ye win. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* III, I wish ye had suffered under ony hand but mine, sin' it be your lot. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* 126/2.

†b. So *sin that*. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 3167 (Fairf.), Quar sal we take a beste þis sacrifise to make, syn þat we haue brost nane. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 4 Me semeth conuenient, sin þat I speke of the assendent, to make of it special declaracioun. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 44 Syn that a knyght is capitayn of a batayll the lyf of them..lyeth in his hand.

Sinabar, obs. form of CINNABAR.

Sinæan (sɪnī·ăn), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. late L. *Sīnæ*, ad. Gr. Σίναι (Ptolemy), prob. ad. Arab. صين *Sīn*, the empire of China.] Chinese.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 390 From the destind Walls Of Cambalu..To Paquin of Sinæan Kings. 1893 R. WILSON tr. *Figuier's Human Race* iii. 292 The nations belonging to the Sinæan branch..have not the features of the Yellow Race so well defined as those belonging to the Mongolian branch.

Sinaic (sɪnē·ɪk), *a.*[1] *rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. late L. *Sīnæ* (see prec.) + -IC.] = prec.

1872 tr. *Figuier's Human Race* 205 We will separate it [the Yellow Race] into three branches—the Hyperborean, the Mongolian, and the Sinaic branches.

Sinaic (sɪnē·ɪk), *a.*[2] [f. *Sinai* + -IC.] = next.

a 1769 RICCALTOUN *Wks.* (1772) III. 117 Neither of these were inforced with that terrible sanction..as the Sinaic law was. 1803 A. KIRKWOOD in *Mem.* (1856) 22 This first gave me a proper view of the Sinaic covenant. 1848 HAMILTON *Sabbath* i. 18 The Sabbath..was antecedent to the Sinaic code. 1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm., Exod.* xix. 1–2 Cosmas regards Horeb as a part of the Sinaic cluster of hills.

Sinaitic (sɪnēɪ·ɪ·tɪk), *a.* [f. *Sinai* (a. Heb. סִינַי *Sīnai*) + -ITIC.] Of, or pertaining to, Mount Sinai or the peninsula in which it is situated; given or promulgated at Mount Sinai.

1786 A. GIB *Sacr. Contempl.* II. II. v. 106 Many things pertaining to the Sinaitic dispensation..are not necessary for being considered in this place. 1853 HORNER tr. *Lepsius' Lett. fr. Egypt*, etc. xxxiii. 294 The Sinaitic inscriptions on the sides of the valley become more frequent. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* I. 20 One such oasis in the Sinaitic desert seems to be the palm-grove of El-Wâdy. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 309 The actual subdivision of the pages of the Sinaitic manuscript.

Sina·lbin. *Chem.* [f. L. *sin-āpis* mustard + *alb-a* white: cf. SINIGRIN.] (See quots.)

1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 2nd Suppl. 832 White mustard seed contains a glucoside sinalbin, which is soluble in alcohol, and..decomposes in contact with aqueous extract of mustard. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 735 The characteristic constituent..of white mustard [is] sinalbin. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 451 A crystalline principle ..called sinalbin or sulpho-sinapisin.

Sinalogue, variant of SINOLOGUE.

†**Sinamer (synamer),** ? obs. var. of SINOPER.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a iij, A loys is calde sinamer or sanguine in armys. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 146 Sanguine was blazonned by the name of Synamer.

Sinamine (sɪ·năməin). *Chem.* Also **sinnamine.** [f. L. *sin-āpis* mustard + AMINE.] A basic compound obtained from thiosinamine (see quots.).

1850 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 3) 510 Sinnamine..has a powerful bitter taste, is strongly alkaline to test-paper, and decomposes ammoniacal salts. 1858 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) 853 Sinamine..crystallizes very slowly from a concentrated aqueous solution. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 307 Sinamine forms a resinous precipitate with nitrate of silver.

Sinamome, -mon(d), obs. ff. CINNAMON.

Sinapate (sɪ·năpēit). *Chem.* [f. SINAP-IC + -ATE[1] c.] A salt formed by the action of sinapic acid on an alkali.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vii. § 1. 498 *note*, An insoluble sinapate of baryta. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 308 All the sinapates, excepting the barium-salt, decompose with great facility.

Sinaper, variant of SINOPER.

Sinapic (sɪnæ·pɪk), *a. Chem.* [See next and -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or derived from sinapine. *Sinapic acid*, an acid obtained from sinapine by the action of potash and soda.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vii. § 1. 497 *note*, This base, when acted upon by potash or soda, is decomposed into sinapic acid, and a new alkali, termed sinkaline. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 308 Sinapic acid crystallises in small prisms.

Sinapine (sɪ·năpin). *Chem.* Also -in. [f. L. *sināp-is* mustard + -INE 5.] 'An organic base, existing as a sulphocyanate in white mustard-seed' (Watts).

1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 903 There exists in it [mustard] a peculiar crystallizable body, to which they gave the name of *sulphosinapisin*; but which has been shortened by Berzelius into *sinapin*. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vii. § 1. 497 *note*, An aqueous solution of sinapine has an intense yellow colour. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 277 Von Babo and Huschbrunn discovered a base named sinkaline as a decomposition product of sinapine.

Sina·pisin(e. *Chem.* [irreg. f. L. *sināpis* + -INE 5.] (See quots.)

1840 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* II. 1267 We learn that black mustard seed contains myronate of potash, myrosyne,..sinapisin, free acid,..and some salts. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 310 *Sinapisine*, the name given by E. Simon..to a white, scaly, crystalline substance, which be obtained from black mustard-seed by extraction with alcohol and ether. 1875 *Ibid.* and Suppl. 832 Sinapisine sulphate is insoluble in ether.

Sinapism (sɪ·năpizm). *Med.* Also 7 -isme. [a. F. *sinapisme*, or ad. L. *sināpismus*, Gr. σινάπισμα mustard plaster, σιναπισμός the use of this, f. σίναπι (σίνᾶπυ, etc.) mustard.] A plaster or poultice consisting wholly or partly of mustard flour; a mustard plaster.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIX. vi. II. 364 The places ought.. to be well prepared with the razour, and a sinapisme or rubificative made of mustard-seed. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 33 To reckon up all Causticks..from a Sinapism to a Burning-Iron. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 359 It is a Sinapism..which the Antients used much. 1783 MARTYN *Geogr. Mag.* I. 269 The sinapisms and warm cataplasms of European practise. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* 181 Blisters and sinapisms are of less frequent benefit. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Hdbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 29 To draw blood away from the seat of congestion by means of sinapisms, heat, or other irritants applied to the skin.

fig. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 226 So far as the writer is aware this species of military sinapism is not known in foreign armies.

Sinapi·stic, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *sināpis* mustard: see -ISTIC.] Consisting of mustard.

1879 SALA *Paris Herself Again* (1880) I. xviii. 318 In the majority of [French] places of public entertainment the sinapistic condiment is simply vile.

†**Si·napite.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **sinepites.** [f. L. *sināp-is* mustard + -ITE.] A concretionary stone composed of small granules resembling mustard-seed; a species of oolite.

1681 GREW *Museum* III. i. v. 295 The Sinepites, as it may be called. Being a Cluster of small hard Globules, like Mustard-seeds. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 456 The analogy between pisolite and sinapite is also preferable, both being derived from the vegetable kingdom. *Ibid.* 457 Sinapite from Iceland.

†**Si·napize,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. F. *sinapiser* (Rabelais), ad. L. *sināpīsāre*, Gr. σινᾶπίζειν, f. σίναπι mustard.] *trans.* To sprinkle after the manner of mustard powder.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxx, He..took his head and into it synapised some powder of diamerdis.

Sina·poline. *Chem.* [f. L. *sināp-is* mustard + -OL + -INE 5.] (See quots.)

1850 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 3) 511 When mustard-oil is treated with oxide of lead,..carbonic acid and another basic substance [is] produced, which, when pure, crystallizes in colourless plates...Sinapoline, the body so formed [etc.]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vii. § 1. 499 Sinapoline is a feeble base which crystallizes in brilliant greasy flakes from its solution in water. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 310 Sinapoline. Diallyl-carbamide...An organic base discovered by Simon..formed from cyanate of allyl, by addition of water and elimination of carbonic anhydride.

†**Sinca·nter.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 6 **cenkanter,** 6–7 **sinckanter,** 7 **sinkanter, sincaunter.** *β.* 6–7 **singcantor,** 7 **sincantor.** [Of obscure origin; the *β*-forms have been assimilated to *sing* and *cantor*. The variants *cinque-cater, cincater,* etc. (see examples under CINQUANTER), are no doubt due to association with the dicing terms *cinque* and *quatre*.] A contemptuous or depreciatory term applied to men, usually with the epithet *old*. Also *attrib.* (quot. *c* 1540).

α. c 1540 *Pilgrim's Tale* 708 in *Thynne's Animadv.* App. (1865) 97 The good yo[u]th..leuis the slechy podell, full of frogis, to the old cenkanter phariziecall dogis. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Epistle Ded. C 2, Being sent for to some tall old sinckanter, or stigmaticall bearded Master of Arte. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming of T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 41 Then thou callest them sinckanters, which is a proper Epithite vnto thy-selfe, for Sinckanter commeth of sincke and *antrum* a hole. 1601 MUNDAY *Downfall Earl of Huntingdon* v. i. K j, A plague on ye for a blinde sinksanker [*sic*]. 1611 COTGR., *Rocard*, a hoarse mouldichaps, an ouerworne sincaunter, one that can neither whinnie, nor wag the taile. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 410 He would conjure you into a boote, or into a benchhole for your labour, like a sawcy Sinckanter. *a* 1640 JACKSON *Creed* x. xix, One Volanerius an old Sinkanter or Gamester and Scurrilous Companion by profession.

β. 1581 HANMER *Jesuites Banner* E j b, It should appeare M. Censurer, that yee are but a nouice: you were best confer with the old singcantors, and learn further of their order. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Succentor*, he that singeth the Base. ..Our phrase, *an old Sincantor*, is either a corruption from this word; or if it be written with a *C*, then tis from the Fr. *Cinquante*,..and so may be taken for one that is fifty years of age or above. 1672 R. WILD *Lett.* 8 And now I talk of the old Singcantor [the Pope], our Gracious King is worth all the Clements in Christendom.

Sincar, obs. Sc. f. SINKER.

Since (sins), *adv., prep.,* and *conj.* (also *a.* and *sb.*). Forms: *α.* 5 **synnes,** 5–6 **syns,** 6 **sins, synse, synce, cynce;** 5– **since.** *β.* 5 **sennes,** 6 **sennys, sens, senss,** 6, 9 **sence,** 7 **cence.** [Reduced form of SITHENCE, or f. SIN *adv.* + -S. Cf. Du. *sinds*.]

A. *adv.*

1. Then, thereupon; immediately afterwards.

c 1450 *Langland's P. Pl.* C. v. 15 Conscience..seide hym as þe kyng seide and sitthe [*Ilchester MS.* synnes] tok hus leue. *Ibid.* XII. 171 In a myrour..hue made me to loke, And sutthe [*w.r.* sennes] seide to me [etc.]. 1483 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 139 They were..browght upp theyr and syns sworne unto the jurdyccyon of the towne. 1568 SPENSER *Visions Bellay* v. Wks. (Globe) 700/2, I heards the tronke to grone...And since I saw the roote..Sende forth againe a twinne of forked trees.

†b. *Since..since* (or *sith*): Now..then. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 841/2 Synce on the one syde, synce on the other, *puis dung coustl, puis de laultre*. *Ibid.* 884/1 Syns on the one syde and sythe on the other.

†c. Now, already. *Obs. rare.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 23 Haue we done singyng since? then will I in againe. *Ibid.* III. v. 55 But lo and Merygreeke haue not brought him sens?

2. From that time till now. In positive clauses implying continuity of action, etc., and commonly strengthened by *ever*.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xli. 407 Euer syns he hath kepte me at his owne will. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 2 You know since Pentecost the sum is due, And since I haue not much importun'd you. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Introd., Where they..have lived in sorrow and painestaking ever since. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 36 He [Midas] washed himself in this river and was restored; Since the streams are feigned to be golden. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 391/1 Bluster..quitted the Surgery in a Pet, and has liv'd in the Country ever since. 1824 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. Caroline Bowles* 62 The first of these inveterate catarrhs, which I never failed to have every year since. 1885 *Law Times* LXXX. 118/1 In 1879 he went abroad, and had ever since remained abroad.

3. Within the period, at some or any time, between then and now; subsequently, later.

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 119, I hearde once a tale of a thinge yat was done at Oxforde xx. yeres a go, and the lyke hath bene sence in thys realme. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 81 My bones beare witnesse, That since haue felt the vigor of his rage. 1623 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 36 It was written and since is lost. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* i. 4 Her foure children, Hugh the eldest, since dead in Madrid [etc.]. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, I am since informed that swearing is perfectly unfashionable. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* I. i, That rogue's trick you play'd poor Miss Amelia, by..leaving her..and since marrying another lady. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. xi, More like Noah's Ark than any thing that has been since seen floating upon the face of the waters. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1041/1 This was dimly felt at the time and has been more distinctly recognised since.

Comb. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Ark* 418 A vast multitude Of since-born mongrels. 1876 GLADSTONE in *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. (1894) 1/3 The since-promoted agents of the Turkish Government.

b. As *adj.* That has been since. *rare.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 317 That first travell had no sympathy With our since-travel's wretched cruelty. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 July 1641, Eldest sonne of the since Earle of Norwich. 1849 FROUDE *Nemesis Faith* 116 My since experience of Sunday evenings.

4. Ago; before now. With time specified, or preceded by *long*.

a. c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liv. 213 Long time since.. shee fell sicke and died. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 94 The cause..of that sedition was declared also foure yeares synce in the assembly. 1624 *Costin's Corr.* (Surtees) I. 32 Though his minde had ben that way 20 yeares since. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 226 It is certain.. the Chineses have some Books printed above seven hundred years since. 1721 in J. J. Babson *Hist. Glouc., Mass.* (W.), Captain Robinson..built the first of that sort about eight years since. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 33 A merchant from Lower-Maine bespoke it not half an hour since. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. Educ.* iii. (1860) 58 The mere rubbishy sweepings from the works of literati long since defunct. 1862 T. L. PEACOCK *The Deceived* Wks. 1875 III. 309 He went out a little while since.

β. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 94 That nacion had long sence beene vttrely destroied.., excepte [etc.]. 1597 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 417 Beinge longe sence signed by her Majeste.

B. *prep.*

1. Ever or continuously from (a specified time, etc.) till now.

a. 1530 PALSGR. 820/2 Syns that daye, *puis ce jour la.* 1562 *Child Marriages* 49 The said John Starkie is xiiij yeres of age, and as muche as sins Whitsonday-Monday last past. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXX. 30 The Lord hath blessed thee since my comming. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* II. ii. (1827) II. 6 It was five months and a half since his first setting out. 1780 *Mirror* No. 103, I inherited a law-suit, kept alive by various means, ever since the year thirty-three. 1802 WORDSW. *The Small Celandine* 14 I'm as great as they,..Since the day I found thee out. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 184 He sleeps since thirty years.

β. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *John* iii. 8 The deuell synneth sence y^e begynnynge. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 168 b, For sence the time of S. Gregory only,..we englishmen haue had the faith of Christ. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.* 369.

2. During the period between (a specified time) and now; at some time subsequent to or after.

a. 1544 in Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 70 The seid sir John..synz his entre in to the seid lordshipe.. haith gotten..dyuerse of the seid copiez of courte roll. 1582 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 27 Hee hathe said vj or vij Masses cynce his cuminge over. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. xxxi. (1655) I. 226 My last was of the first current, since which I received one from your Lordship. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* III. 9 Diophantus, who lived long since the times of Aristotle. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Udolpho* xxxiv, Sounds which, since that period, have there sunk into silence. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxi, Even our good chaplain ..Since our last siege we have not seen. 1837 KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 115 Many advances have been made in carpological investigation since the time of Gærtner. 1880 CHURCH *Spenser* I. 25 They seem to have changed since Spenser's time.

β. 1515 A. WILLIAMSON in *Douglas's Wks.* (1874) I. Introd. p. xxi, The Kyng..has sent now sens Cristmes an vysse clerk off his Consell. *a* 1533 FRITH *Antic. More* (1548) C 6 v, I receiued a letter from him, which was written sens Chrystmas. 1552 *W. Powell's Chron. Veres* Title-p., The noble Actes done in and sens the reigne of Kyng Henry the fourthe. 1637 HOBART in *Verney P.* (1853) 190 There has bine nothing don cence the taking in of the hornworke.

C. *conj.* I. From the time that.

1. Denoting a point of time to which the action or event mentioned is subsequent.

α. 24.. *Langland's P. Pl.* B. x. 224 (MS. Rawl.), Was neuer gome vpoun þis grounde, synnes god made þe worlde, Fairer vnderfonge. ne frendloker at ese, þanne me self. 1512 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 70 We sayled further that nyght thanne we dyde in anye daye syns we departed from Jaffe. 1588 KYD *Housek. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 252 A small patrimonie,..twice as much encreased since my father left it. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* ix. 24 There was none like it in.. Egypt, since it became a nation. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* v. v, Since I wrote these papers, I found two very striking instances [etc.]. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/1 Has he ever been out since he was last at the court house? 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxvii, Since you went hence, we have received certain notice, that [etc.]. 1875 TENNYSON *Harold* I. i, Albeit no rolling stone,..Thou hast rounded since we met.

β. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xix. 2 Have ye receaved the holy gost sence ye beleved? 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 24 Sence lordinge and loytrying hath come vp, preaching hath come downe.

2. Following upon a statement (or inquiry) as to the duration of the period in question.

α. 1557 N. T. (Geneva) *Acts* xxiv. 11 There are yet but twelue dayes since I went vp to Ierusalem. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 70 How long is't, Count, Since the Physitian at your fathers died? 1662 WALTON *Compl. Angler* (ed. 3) v. 124 It is so long since I learnt it, that I have forgot a part of it. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 32 ¶ 2 Nor is it so very long since Richard the Third set up half the Backs of the Nation. 1753 FOOTE *Eng. in Paris* II. Wks. 1799 I. 49 'Tis an age since I saw you. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95 It is now above four years since I became the wife of a gentleman. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* v, It is long since the kites have had such a banquet. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 4/5 It is just a fortnight since Mr. Gladstone embarked.

β. 1535 COVERDALE *Joshua* xiv. 10 It is now fyue and fortie yeare sence ye Lorde spake this vnto Moses. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Cum*, It is two yere, sens he came to me first.

b. Used in place of 'that'.

1647 W. BROWNE tr. *Polexander* II. ii. 194 It is..five moneths now, since these honor'd personages have suffer'd ..indignities in these Dungeons. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 313 Though it is now fourscore years since he has plagued all those who have any dependence on him, yet he is so well in health [etc.]. 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 162 It is near four months since Ella has been away.

c. As quasi-*sb.* *rare.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 137 My Friend..knoweth no History but some ten or twelve Sinces in his Almanack: How long since the World was created. *Ibid.* 298 The most famous of thy Exploits will not be eminent enough to make an Almanacks Since.

3. In sentences implying continuity of action or fact during the period indicated. Also with *ever*, and (rarely) with *that*.

α. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. i. 82 The iealous..Widdow, and her selfe, Since that our Brother dub'd them Gentlewomen, Are mighty Gossips. 1647 W. BROWNE tr. *Polexander* II. ii. 104 Ever since I have been able to carry Armes, I have try'd divers wayes to [etc.]. 1653 WALTON *Compl. Angler* ii, We were here an hour before Sun-rise, and have given her no rest since we came. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* I. iii, Here you have stood ever since you came in. 1779 *Mirror* No. 25, My gardener has tied his hair behind..ever since he saw Mr. Papillot. 1826 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 122 Thus have I been since first the Plague burst forth. 1863 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 155 She has lived in England since she was ten years old. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 253. I have known him ever since he was in petticoats.

β. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Pet.* iii. 4 For sence the fathers fell on slepe, euery thinge contynueth as it was from the begynnynge. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *A*, Euer sens thou waste a yonge man.

†**b.** With verbs of recollection: When; the time when. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 149 Thou remembrest Since once I sat vpon a promontory [etc.]. 1621 — *Wint. T.* v. i. 219 Remember, since you ow'd no more to Time Then I doe now. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 73 He can remember since we had not above three merchants ships of 300 tons.

II. 4. Because that; seeing that; inasmuch as.

α. *c* 1450 *Old Treat.* in *Rel's Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 174 Syns Christ bought vs as he did other. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* liv. 213 But since all humane flesh is mortall,..what auailes my sorowful grones and passions? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. i. I iij, Go to, let it be,..syns it lyketh so. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 7 b, Sins it is not yet dinner tyme, let vs walke about. 1611 A. STAFFORD *Niobe* 152 Whereunto I giue credit, since his succeeders do the same. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 483 But since no reason can confute ye, I'll try to force you to your Duty. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 215 ¶ 4 Since I am engaged on this Subject, I cannot forbear mentioning a Story [etc.]. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxvi., What signifies..courting his friendship, since you find how scurvily he uses you? 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brittery Court* iii. 59 You shall have them cheap, since there is but a poor demand for them to-day. 1895 *Manch. Guardian* 14 Oct. 5/6 All the tunnelling has to be done..by the pick, since boring machines cannot be used.

β. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxiv. 71 Sennys he spekyth of god, me thynke we ought to speke to hym. *a* 1553 *Respublica* 1765 But sens Respublica hath be putt me to exile, where maye I goo?

b. So *since that*.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 6 The saied proverbe seemeth by hym, whiche lacked learnyng, to bee devised, sens that he preferreth ignorance before cunnyng. 1588 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 114 Since that my beautie cannot please his eie, Ile weepe what's left away. 1639 GENTILIS *Servitio Inquis.* (1676) 278 Since that by the Princes Ministers, such a disorder is put in practice. 1682 CREECH *Lucret.* 55 For since that men born blind..Know things by touch [etc.].

Sincere (sinsī·r), *a.* Also 6 sincer, *Sc.* -ceir, 6–7 syncere, 7 sincear, sensear. [ad. L. *sincēr-us* clean, pure, sound, etc. Cf. F. *sincère* (1549), Sp., Pg., and It. *sincero*.

The first syllable may be the same as *sim-* in *simplex*: see SIMPLE *a.* There is no probability in the old explanation from *sine cērā* 'without wax'.]

1. Not falsified or perverted in any way:

a. Of doctrine, etc.: Genuine, pure.

1536 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 The syncere and pure doctrine of Goddes worde. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 189 A Popish priest that was once a professor of the sincere religion. 1653 ? HALE *Brevis Disq.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 340 Many think..that these are the true and genuine Doctrines.., which nevertheless have nothing at all common with the sincere Gospel of Christ. 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* (Pocock) I. 583 It was necessary to establish a form of sincere doctrine. 1827 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) III. 209 When sincere Christianity was propounded in all its native lustre.

b. True, veracious; correct, exact.

1555 (*title*) [Lydgate's] The Auncient Historie and onely trewe and syncere Cronicle of the warres betwixte the Grecians and the Troyans. 1583 FULKE (*title*), A Defense of the sincere and true Translations of the holie Scriptures into the English tong. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 26 Those great Expeditions..: Of which nevertheless, little sincere fame arrives to us; there being no Europæan who hath written truly thereof. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Auth. O. & N. Test.* 74 If some few..copies had been corrupted.., the sincere number would have detected the corrupt. 1698 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 161 Things worthy of our Knowledge; collected out of the most sincere and uncorrupted Monuments of Antiquity. 1861–2 R. WILLIAMS *Notes to Counsel* 16 Some sincere editions of the Bible no longer contain those warrants. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 19 That is the only sincere glimpse we get of the living, breathing, word-compelling Dante.

c. Morally uncorrupted, uncontaminated.

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 513 Keeping them pure and sincere against all temptations.

2. Pure, unmixed; free from any foreign element or ingredient: **a.** Of immaterial things.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 181 The lawys, wyche be syncere and pure reson, wythout any spot or blot of affection. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 214 For the lack of pure and sincere demonstration of the fact. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. ii. (1660) 100 The motion of the Heavens is the most sincere and unlaboured of all motions. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 375 By this means their enjoyments are sincere, unallayed with fears or suspitions. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 217 His present pleasures (if not so many) are more sincere and natural.

b. Of colours or substances.

1546 LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. de Invent.* VI. vii. 123 b, The white coloure was thought fittest for the ded bicause it is clere, pure, and sincer, and leaste defiled. 1595 B. BARNES *Div. Cent. Sonn.* xlviii, All angels might..out bring Victorious palmes, arraide in sincere white. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. vii. II. 476 If a man would know the true and syncere Vermillion indeed, it ought to have the rich and fresh colour of skarlet. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 412 Milke.. is not mingled with the bloud, but passeth out by vrine pure and sincere. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 244 Surely the drink should under the first narrow examination of digestion, put off every stone, and that which is most exceeding hard and sincere. 1744 tr. *Boerhaave's Instit.* III. 254 About the Tendons the Fat in this Membrane is rather watery and mucous than sincere Fat. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 233 Scarce any sincere gall issued forth on incision. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxi. ii, [Water] having no taste of its own, it becomes the sincere vehicle of every other.

c. *spec.* Unadulterated; genuine.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) 1 *Pet.* ii. 2 As newe borne babes desire the syncere [Gr. ἄδολον] mylke of the worde. 1576 BAKER *Jewell Health* 230 It is a noate or token that the spirit of the wyne was not syncere and pure. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* III. cxxiv, Those courteous Trees, to mend his fare, Into his Mouth sincerest honey shed. 1679 *Hist. of Jetzer* 4 Down he kicks his Cruet of Holy-Water, adding,.. they had none sincere and pure these eleven years, the Church-warden always dashing it with common water. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VII. 238 And wood is cheap And wine sincere outside the city gate. 1888 H. JAMES *Partial Portraits* 368 There has not been as yet an American Renascence, in spite of the taste for 'sincere' sideboards and painting of crockery.

†**d.** Free from hurt; uninjured. *Obs.*

1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XII. 733 He tried..a tough well chosen spear; The inviolable body stood sincere.

e. Devoid *of* something. *rare.*

a 1754 W. HAMILTON *To Lady Mary Montgomery*, The pleasing look, sincere of art. 1874 LOWELL *Agassiz* IV. ii, Our air, sincere of ceremonious haze Forcing hard outlines mercilessly close.

3. Containing no element of dissimulation or deception; not feigned or pretended; real, true.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 Almightie god, the very author and fountaine of al true vnitie and sincer concorde. 1595 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 346 At length stirred up with the instinct of the Holy Ghost & zeale of syncere pietie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 915 Witness Heav'n What love sincere, and reverence in my heart I beare thee. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 73 Nothing that could expresse a sincere affection. *a* 1703 BURNET *On N.T.*, Rev. iii. 9 Weak grace, if sincere, shall always find acceptance with Christ. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lv. (1788) 302, I am satisfied that he is a Christian upon the most sincere conviction. 1810 MRS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. iv. 106 You are quite right in believing my fondness for rural scenery to be sincere. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VI. 151 A sincere anxiety for the prosperity and dignity of his excellent friend the treasurer.

4. Characterized by the absence of all dissimulation or pretence; honest, straightforward:

a. Of life, actions, etc.

1533 PAYNE *Answ. More* (1829) 344 Master Wickliffe was noted..to be a man..of a very sincere life. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1300 Such as pervert the good and sincere life of Commonweales. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* vi. 23 By the sincere simplicity and plainnesse of the truth of God..he mightily confuted them. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* II. i, Thy function Which like the Gods thou Serv'st, should be sincere. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 112 My.. sincerest acts of religion must not presume to challenge a reward. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 176 Entering upon the dignity and the sincere thinking of mature manhood. 1841 EMERSON *Ess., Friendship*, Three cannot take part in a conversation of the most sincere and searching sort.

b. Of persons, their character, etc.

1539 BIBLE (Cranmer) 2 *Pet.* iii. 1, I stere vp your syncere mynde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiii. 10 The worthie deids done be that Prince sinceir. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 300 So they doe it out of a sincere conscience. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 25 Not having altogether the Reputation of a sincere man. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 6 A Woman is too sincere to mitigate [etc.]. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 121 Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. ii, If he is as..sincere as you have represented him to me. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xcvii, For surely they're sincerest Who are strongly acted on by what is nearest. 1837 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXV. IV. 393 She had not one sincere friend left. 1878 MORLEY *Carlyle* 175 He had the unspeakable advantage..of being ruggedly sincere.

absol. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* cxix. 1 Blessed are the vndefiled [*marg.* Or, perfect, or sincere] in the way. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 578 That prize belongs to none but the sincere. 1813 SHELLEY *Queen Mab* I. 124 The envied boon, That waits the good and the sincere.

Sincerely (sinsī·rli), *adv.* Also 6 syncerlye, syncerely, *Sc.* sincerlie, -ly, 7 sincerelie, sincerily. [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a sincere manner.

†**1.** Without falsification or perversion; in a proper or correct manner. *Obs.*

1535 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 30 All bishops and curates should preach the gospell of Christe syncerlye and truly. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 14 The sacrament ..is administered but not sincerely. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 107 Strabo, Iustine, and others, haue written of this people, but not sincerely.

†**b.** In good faith. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 23, I have been sincerely informed, that there was a Horse conceived of a Bull and a Mare.

2. Without dissimulation or pretence; honestly, straightforwardly.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 229 That..they wolde not followe their affections, but treate syncerely. *Ibid.* 231 b, Therfore must they worke syncerely. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. Prol. 1 Returneng sinceirlie to the catholik concorde. *c* 1605 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* v. ii, Sincerely, Gloster, I have told you all. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 102 The doctrine of the Gospell, sincerely obeyed, first Christianizeth men, and then civilizeth them. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 166 ¶ 8 He was so very sensible of his Fault, and so sincerely repented of it. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III. 286 But I envied him too much, I fear, when he won her to sincerely love him. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 125 The nation at that time was sincerely attached to Spain. 1872 M. COLLINS *Princess Clarice* II. ix. 130, I most sincerely..and heartily declare that I love the Thames next to my wife.

Comb. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 5/1 Many kind and sincerely-meant words.

b. Used in the subscription of letters.

1702 CHARLETT *Let. to Petys* 3 Sept., Excuse all..defects in, Sir, your most sincerely obedient Servant. 1735 MRS. PRATT in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 87, I long to have the pleasure of assuring you in person, how sincerely I am, Sir, your ever obliged and most faithful humble servant. 1817 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) IV. ii. 75, I beg my kindest respects to MRS. Southey, and am always sincerely and affectionately yours, Walter Scott. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* VI. 228 Good-bye—my paper's out so nearly, I've only room for Yours sincerely.

†**3.** In a pure or innocent manner. *Obs.*—[1]

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 91 She [Eve] might have sincerely beheld the tree, that no lust of eating might first have assailed her mind.

†**4.** In a pure, absolute, or perfect manner or degree. *Obs.*

a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1633) 10 Seldom or never shall you find governments which are absolutely and sincerely made of any of them above named, but always mixed with another. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. i. § 4 Narrations which are meerly and sincerely naturall. 1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 381 His..ministers heard not with eares, but more sincerely, with intellects. 1655–60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 185/2 The Gods being void of corporeal mixtion understand purely and sincerely.

b. Completely, thoroughly, wholly.

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 221 When the blood is sincerely purified,.. the spirits consequently are made pure. †1630 MILTON *On Time* 14 Every thing that is sincerely good And perfectly divine. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 43 But life can never be sincerely blest.

†**5.** Carefully; without injury. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 483 There was a monument erected in writing in the publick place at Ardea, which until his time was there sincerely preserved.

Sincereness (sinsī·rnés). Also 6 syncerenes(se, 6–7 sincerenes(se. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being sincere, in various senses of the adj.; sincerity.

1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 67 Preparing in the meane tyme with suche pure syncerenes, trewly to open the worde of god. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Institt.* I. 5 b, Whereas they ought to haue serued him with holinesse of life and syncerenesse of hart. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 3 The good of fruition or contentment, is placed eyther in the Sincerenesse of the fruition, or in the quicknesse and vigor of it. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Albovine* Wks. (1673) 429 Things do differ much from the sincereness Of

their first creation. 1695 TEMPLE *Introd. Hist. Eng.* 224 Conditions..observed with great Faith and Sincereness. 1844 BROWNING *Colombe's Birthday* IV, The doubts yourself, in after-time, May call up of your heart's sincereness now. 1879 ARNOLD in *Macm. Mag.* July 203 The profound sincereness with which Wordsworth feels his subject.

Sincerity (sinse·rĭti). [ad. L. *sincēritas*, f. *sincērus* SINCERE: see -ITY. Cf. F. *sincérité* (1519), Sp. *sinceridad*, Pg. *sinceridade*, It. *sincerità*.] The character, quality, or state of being sincere.

†**1.** Freedom from falsification, adulteration, or alloy; purity, correctness. *Obs.*

1546 UDALL in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. 651 That England might the better attain to the sincerity of Christ's doctrine. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Brief Descr. ij b, Such dayly danger honge over their heades that professed the sinceritie of the Gospel. *a* 1623 AINSWORTH *Pentateuch* I. Advt., Some objections made against the sinceritie of the Hebrew Text. 1653 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. vii, Our Rest..will be absolutely Perfect and Compleat; and this both in the Sincerity and Universality of it.

†**b.** Genuineness (*of* a passage). *Obs.*—[1]

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 19. 363 Though this [passage]..be no where now to be found in those extant Tragedies of this Poet.., yet the sincerity thereof cannot reasonably be at all suspected by us.

2. Freedom from dissimulation or duplicity; honesty, straightforwardness.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) 2 *Cor.* ii. 17 But as of synceritie.. speake we in Christ. 1611 BIBLE *Josh.* xxiv. 14 Feare the Lord, and serue him in sincerite, and in trueth. 1691 J. NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 281 When we Contemplate his Sincerity, which consists in his candid, open and ingenuous dealing with the Sons of Men. *a* 1718 W. PENN in *Life* Wks. 1726 I. 137 Sincerity goes farther than Capacity. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* II. xxxii. 212 Martyrdom.. is a very satisfactory proof of the sincerity of those who voluntarily submit to it. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 27 Who can question the sincerity of these men? 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. ix. 337 Henry..felt no confidence either in the sincerity of the pope, or in the sincerity of the French King. 1870 LOWELL *Study Windows* 158 There is nothing so pitilessly and unconsciously cruel as sincerity formulated into dogma.

b. Of feelings: Genuineness.

1611 BIBLE 2 *Cor.* viii. 8 To prooue the sinceritie of your loue. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 550 For thee she feels sincerity of woe. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 75 The sincerity of his friendship has been suspected. 1904 BUTCHER *Harvard Lectures* 191 At the root of all good writing lies sincerity of conviction.

c. *pl.* Sincere feelings or actions.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 279 Loyalty and Sovereignty ..are grounded not on garnitures and semblances, but on realities and sincerities. 1843—*Past & Pres.* (1858) 90 Exchange our dilettantisms for sincerities. 1877 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* (1886) 101 Men of flesh and blood, with beliefs, sincerities and virtues.

Sincesyne: see SINSYNE.

Sinch, variant of CINCH *sb.* and *v.*

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2186/2. 1878 TUTTLE *Border Tales* ix. 35 The whole is fastened by a broad 'belly-band', termed a sinch. *Ibid.* 38 The first hard pull is made upon the sinch. *Ibid.* 36 All soon learn to swell themselves out when being sinched.

Sincipital (sinsi·pĭtăl), *a. Anat.* [ad. L. type **sincipitāl-is*, f. *sinciput*: see next. So F. *sincipital* (1812).] Of or pertaining to the sinciput.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xliv, The two triangularie bones called sincipital. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 745/2 He found the entire syncipital region very irregular. 1843 WILKINSON tr. *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. ii. 62 The frontal, sincipital, temporal, and sphenoid bones. 1863 *Battlefields of South* II. 315 *note*, The occipital and sincipital regions are both large and well-balanced.

Sinciput (si·nsipʊt). Chiefly *Anat.* Also 7 syncIput. [L. *sinciput*, for early **semiciput*, f. *sēmi* half + *caput* head. So F. *sinciput* (1586).] The front part of the head or skull.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* 8 The fore part [of the head], called Sinciput, or Bregma. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 11 When the Temples are eminent, the occiput and synciput depressed. 1689 MOYLE *Abstr. Sea Chirurg.* II. vii, Mind that you apply not your Traphine on the temporal Bones, Sutures, or Sinciput. 1711 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 275 ¶ 5 We observed a large Antrum or Cavity in the Sinciput. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 279 A girl, who..was struck with the hand upon the sinciput, and became immediately blind. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* Argt., Wks. 1898 I. 305 Incorporation of the bullets with his sinciput and occiput. *a* 1848 HOLMES *Nux Postcænatica* 46 All the longest heads That ever knocked their sincIputs in stretching on their beds. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* iii. 77 We have the base or basilar region, and opposite to it the vertex, sinciput, or sincipital region.

fig. c 1638 *Strafford Papers* II. 358, I..judge the other [to be]..the very sinciput, the vertical point of the whole faction.

Sinck, obs. var. of SINK *sb.* and *v.*

Sinckanter: see SINCANTER.

†**Sincke,** obs. variant of CINQUE.

1577–82 BRETON *Toyes Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 28/1 Setting all at sincke and syce. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 144 Sincke shal vp and sice shall vnder.

Sinckfoile, obs. variant of CINQUEFOIL.

Sincopacion, Sincope, obs. vars. SYNCOPATION, SYNCOPE.

Sind (sɔind), *sb.* In 8 synd, 9 syne. [f. the vb.] A rinsing; a draught, a potation.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* iii, A heartsome meltith, and refreshing synd O' nappy liquor. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 57 'Thae Shire-folk are no content wi' glein' a pot a bit syne wi' a jaw o' water,' said Heather Jock.

Sind (sɔind), *v. north.* and *Sc.* Also 5 synde, 8– synd; 9 syne, sine. [Of obscure origin. The Sc. pron. also has a diphthong (seind), in contrast to the short vowel of *bind* (bind), *find*, etc.] *trans.* To rinse, to wash out or *down*.

a. *a* 1350 *St. Nicholas* 202 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 13 Als þe childe stouped þam bihind, To tak water, þe coup to sind. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 340/1 To Synde, *vbi* to wesche. 1752 *Scotland's Glory* 70 A cup of beer goes round at first their thirsty throats for synding. 1790 D. MORISON *Poems* 148 A lass..There sinding out her duds. *Ibid.* 185 Wi' nimble hand she sinds her milking-pail. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., To sind it down, being to take a drink after meat. 1841 W. AITKEN *Poet. Wks.* 55 A waught o' ale to sind their gab. 1860 F. FARQUHARSON in Ford *Harp of Perthshire* (1893) 216 Katie and Lizzie come in frae the kye, An' synd their milk coggies an' lay them a' by.

β. 1807–10 R. TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 13 Now Mirren's to the burn to sine her kirn. 1853 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 78 They syned doun the sappy, substantial food, Wi' a cap-fu' o' yill.

Hence **Si·ndings,** rinsings.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* ii, A' the bits of vinegar cruets.., and ilk ane wi' the bit dribbles of syndings in it. 1868 JANET HAMILTON *Poems* 221 The milky syn'ins o' the kirn. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 171 *Sindings*, watery dregs; washings.

Sindal(l, obs. forms of SENDAL.

Sindar, obs. form of CINDER.

†**Sindaw.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 syndow, -daw. [ad. G. *sindau* (also *sinnau*, *sinau*), f. *sin-* always (cf. SENGREEN) + *dau* dew.] The plant *Alchemilla vulgaris*, common Lady's mantle.

In Lyte (1578) and Parkinson (1640) as a German name only. In quot. 1621 the plant sundew may be intended.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 82 Alchimilla, other wyse called Pes leonis, is called in english our Ladies Mantel or syndow. 1562—*Herbal* III. (1568) 24 Alchimilla is named in English syndaw, and oure ladies mantil. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. iii. (1651) 369 Bernardus Penottus prefers his Herba solis, or Dutch-Sindaw, before all the rest in this disease.

Sindel, obs. form of SENDAL. **Sinder,** obs. f. CINDER; Sc. var. of SUNDER. **Sinderesis,** obs. form of SYNDERESIS. **Sindic(k,** obs. ff. SYNDIC. **Sindle,** var. of SENDLE *adv.* seldom.

Sindon (si·ndən). Now only *Hist.* Also 5–6 syndone, 5–7 sindone; 5–7 syndon (5 -oun). [a. OF. *syndone*, *sindone*, or a. L. *sindon* (*-dnis*), a. Gr. *σινδών* (*-όνος*), prob. of Oriental origin.]

1. A fine thin fabric of linen; a kind of cambric or muslin.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 95 The body bewrapped in Syndone. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xxvii. 59 Ioseph taking the body, wrapt it in cleane sindon. *Ibid.*, *Mark* xiv. 51 A certaine yong man folowed him clothed with sindon vpon the bare. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 163 The countrey of Media, whether the Russie merchants trauell for raw silkes, sindon, saffron and other commodities. 1631 WEEVER *Funeral Mon.* 16 They..inuested the defunct, with..perfumed sereclothes, fine Aromaticke Sindon, and the like. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 64 A Head-peece, lin'd with Syndon or fine Linen. [1860 *Our English Home* 29 A square piece of this fabric, lined with silk or scarlet sindon.]

2. A piece of this fabric used for various purposes: **a.** As a shroud, *spec.* that in which the body of Christ was wrapped.

c 1500 KENNEDIE *Passion of Christ* 1219 Ane pretius claith, quhilk we ane syndon call, That kingly corps to couer he coft syne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 259 The corporas [signifyeth] the syndone or sudary wherin his blessed body was..wrapped. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 40 Many Papists are perswaded they haue that Syndon wherein Christs body was lapped. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. vi. 117 Afterwards they were wrapped up in a Sindon, bound hand and foot with grave cloaths. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 54 The Holy Syndon, wherein they say our Saviour's body was wound up and buried.

b. As a corporas.

1553 *Respublica* 873 Thei had thalter clothes,..with the sindons in which wer wrapte the chalices. 1885 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* (1890) 340 The deacon received from the acolyte the *sindon*, or corporal,..and spread it upon the sacred table.

c. As a garment or wrapper.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 32 He vsed no woollen vesture, but wore a Sindone. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Mark* xiv. 52 But he casting of the sindon, fled from them naked. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Judges* xiv. 12, I will geve you thirtie sindones, and as many coates. 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1650) 10 There were found in it a Book, and a Letter; Both..wrapped in Sindons of Linnen. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Apr. 1661, Then was a coyfe put on [the King], and the cobbium, syndon, or dalmatic.

d. As a surgical appliance, being made up into a small roll or pledget, usually with some medicament, and used to fill up an open wound.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 199 Pulverated and sowed in a double syndon or pure cloth. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 76 A Syndon (that is a piece of fine cloth,.. having a thread fastened to the middle to draw it forth by). 1736 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 497 A large and thick Sindon dipt in a warm detergent Lotion. 1758 J. S. *Le Drun's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 78 We placed Linen Sindons upon the *Dura Mater*.

3. *attrib.* Made or consisting of sindon.

c 1500 KENNEDIE *Passion of Christ* 1298 Thir twa knychtis ..In syndoun claith him wand with reuerence. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 168 They [the Egyptians] sow up the body, which being done, they did put it in fine sindon cloth. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 11 That Auriflamb, that was so much admired by the French, was but of one color, a square red Syndon Banner. *Ibid.* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 122/1 Holy-oke termes it a church Banner, flag or streamer, others a Syndon Banner.

Hence **Si·ndonless** *a.* (in sense 2 c).

c 1595 SOUTHWELL *St. Peter's Complaint* 25 With easie losse sharpe wrecks did he eschew, That Sindonlesse aside did naked slip.

†**Si·ndony.** *Obs.* Also 6 sendony. = SINDON.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 336, I gyf the this sindony that I have bowth, To wynde the in whyl it is new. *c* 1502 *Joseph Arim.* 22 So Ioseph layde Ihesu to rest in his sepulture, And wrapped his body in a clothe called sendony.

Sindri, -dry, obs. or Sc. ff. SUNDRY.

†**Sine**[1]. *Obs.* Forms: **α.** 1 sionu, sinu, sino (*obl.* sine, *pl.* sina), 3, 5 syne, 4, 6 sine, 5 zyne, *Sc.* seyne. **β.** 4–5 syn; *pl.* 5 synnes. [OE. *sionu*, etc. (originally a *wō*-stem: see SINEW), = OFris. *sini*, *sine*, *sin* (Fris. *sine*), MDu. *sene*, *zene* (Du. *zeen*), MLG. and LG. *sene*, MHG. *sene*, *senne* (G. *sehne*, †*senne*), ON. and Icel. *sin* (Norw. *sin*, *sēn*), MSw. *sina*, *sena* (Sw. *sena*), MDa. *sinæ*, *senæ* (Da. *sene*). The *β*-forms may be due to Scand. influence. Cf. also HUXEN and HOCKSHIN.] A sinew.

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* N 97 *Nervus*, sionu. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 6 Læcedomas ȝif sin [*sic*] scrince..& ȝif sino clæppette & cwacize. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxii. 25 Þa ætþran he his sine on his þeo, and heo þær-rihte forscranc. *c* 1300 *Beket* 2429 That ther nas no flesch ileved bote synes and bar bon. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 3944 (Fairfax MS.), For þis enchesoun..of sine of bestes etes nane of 30u. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 37 Also choppe a-mong þe zynes of þe fete clene y-pikyd. *Ibid.*, Choppe þe syneys in-to þe same milk rythte smal. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 401 Wallace.. Throw brayne and seyne in sondyr straik the bayne. 1544 *Extr. Reg. Aberdeen* (1844) I. 207 Selling of tauch, sine, flesche, fische.

β. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 588 For þe egge of þe panne met with his shyn, And karff a too a veyn, & þe nexte syn. 14.. *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 165 Let now se and lefe youre dyn, And draw we ilka syn from syn. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1073 So þat þe synnes in his ham Be þat bolnyng was drawen samen.

Sine[2] (səin). Also 6–7 sign(e. [ad. L. *sinus* a bend, bay, etc.; also, the hanging fold of the upper part of a toga, the bosom of a garment, and hence used to render the synonymous Arab. جيب *jaib*, applied in geometry as in sense 2. Cf. F. *sinus*, Sp. and It. *seno*.]

†**1.** A gulf or bay. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. SINUS 5.)

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 98 Such is the German Sea, such Persian Sine, Such th' Indian Gulf. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 94 Between the Erythrean Sea, and Persian Sine.

2. *Trig.* One of the three fundamental trigonometrical functions (cf. TANGENT, SECANT): Originally, the length of a straight line drawn from one end of a circular arc parallel to the tangent at the other end, and terminated by the radius; in mod. use, the ratio of this line to the radius, or (equivalently, as a function of an angle) the ratio of the side of a right-angled triangle opposite the given angle to the hypotenuse (the sine of an obtuse angle being numerically equal to that of its supplement). Abbrev. *sin.*

For *covered*, *logarithmic*, *natural*, *subversed*, and *versed sines*, see the adjs.

1593 FALE *Art of Dialling* 60 This Table of Sines may seeme obscure and hard to them who are not acquainted with Sinicall computation. 1662 HOBBES *Seven Prob.* Wks. 1845 VII. 62 You take B R,..which is the Sine of forty-five degrees. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 123 [He could] Resolve by Signs and Tangents streight, If Bread or Butter wanted weight. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., Sines on the Plain Scale, Gunter's Scale, and almost all Scales have a Line, called the *Line of Sines*. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 10/1 The Sine of the visible Semidiameter of the Earth. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 63 The Sines of the Complement of the Altitude. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* V. 185 The sines or tangents of such small arcs being proportional to the arcs themselves. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VI. 230 Of sine and arc, spheroid and azimuth. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* III. 155 *note*, This will convert all the periodic terms ..into the sums of sines and cosines of arcs.

b. Const. *of* an angle.

1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 361 The sine of the angle of incidence bears to the sine of the refracted angle a given proportion. 1823 BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 296 The analogy between the sines of the angles of triangles, and the sides subtending those angles. 1859 SABINE in *Man. Sci. Enq.* 91 The intensity of the Earth's magnetic force in different localities is inversely as the sines of the angles of deflection. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xii. 407 The ratio of the sines of the angles of incidence and those of refraction is constant for the same medium.

†**3.** *Right sine*, = prec. *Obs.*

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. (1636) 103 *Sinus complementi*, is the right Sine of that Arch which is the complement of the given Arke. 1596 W. BOURNE *Variation Compass* B v b, Which is the seconde right signe of the semidiurnall arke. 1725 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) II. 797 The Ratio between..the Radius and the Right Sine of the Angle *A S D*. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* II. 456/1.

4. *attrib.*, as *sine compass*, *complement*, *galvanometer*, *-inductor*, *-integral*, *rhumb*, *-wave*.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6) s.v. Sine Complement of an Arch or Angle, is what that Arch or Angle wants of 90 Degrees [etc.]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 693/1 The extent

from 8 points to 3¼ points, the complement of the course on sine rhumbs. 1828 Moore *Pract. Navig.* 15 Sine rhumbs, marked (SR), is a line which contains the logarithms of the natural sine of every point and quarter point of the Mariner's Compass, figured from the left hand towards the right [etc.]. 1873 F. Jenkin *Electr. & Magn.* xiii. § 8 Sine galvanometers can be easily made much more sensitive than tangent galvanometers. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 49/2 A is the fixed and B the suspended coil of the electrodynamometer, and S the sine-inductor. *Ibid.* X. 52/1 The earliest forms of standard galvanometer were the tangent and sine compasses invented by Pouillet. 1880 *Ibid.* XIII. 39/2 These functions .. were styled the sine-integral and the cosine-integral.

Sine, obs. f. Sign *sb.* and *v.*; var. of Sind *v.*

Sinecal, obs. variant of Sinical *a.*

Si·necural, *a. rare.* [f. next + -al.] 'Relating to a sinecure.'

1860 Worcester (citing *Ecl. Rev.*). Hence in later Dicts.

Sinecure (sai·nĭkiūəɹ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 sine cura, 7–8 sine-cura, sine cure, sine-cure. [ad. L. *sine cūrā* in the phrase *beneficium sine cūrā* (see def.), from *sine* without, *cūrā* abl. sing. of *cūra* care. F. *sinécure* is from Eng. In Scotland and America the first vowel is freq. pronounced short.]

1. An ecclesiastical benefice without cure of souls.

a. 1662 Bagshaw in *Acc. Baxter's Suspension* 45, I hope the Bishop will be so Charitable as to provide a *Sine-Cura* for him. 1676 Degge *Parson's Counsellor* (1681) 197 Parsonages, Vicarages and *Sine Cura's*. 1706 Phillips (ed. 6), *Sine-Cura*, or *Sine-Cure*, a Benefice without Cure of Souls.

β. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 8 He can not have deserved less than a Prebend for his first Book, a Sine-cure for his second. 1700 Dryden *Fables, Charac. Good Parson* 71 The publick fair..Where bishopricks and sine cures are sold. 1748 Lind *Lett. Rel. Navy* (1757) III. 131 The Island has..a chaplain; but for some years past it has been made a Sine Cure. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 386 When the clerk so presented is distinct from the vicar, the rectory thus vested in him becomes what is called a *sine-cure*; because he hath no cure of souls. 1850 Ht. Martineau *Hist. Peace* v. iv. (1877) III. 241 This act abolished many ecclesiastical sinecures. 1862 Goulburn *Pers. Relig.* iv. iv. (1873) 278 The spirit of the age is to..hate and abolish sinecures.

† **b.** An income derived from such a benefice.

1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* iii. Wks. 1709 III. 1. 22 The Residentiary's Stalls, whose Owners made a *Sine Cure of 400 l. per Annum.*

2. Any office or position which has no work or duties attached to it, esp. one which yields some stipend or emolument.

1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* v. i, Well, a Widow, I see, is a kind of a sine cure. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 26 Nov., He.. makes y^e^ Place in a manner a *sine-cure*; as most other Publick Readers do. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 368 The magistracy of the city of London have adopted this ward only as a *sine cure* for the senior alderman. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* viii. 272 Many of the best institutions moulder into Sinecures. 1841 Miall in *Nonconf.* I. 553 If all men were under the influence of religion government would be a sinecure. 1885 'E. Garrett' *At Any Cost* vi, Grace's duties were never oppressive, but on Sunday they were a sinecure.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **a.** Of the nature of a sinecure; involving no duties or work.

1762 Ld. Barrington in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 432, I never could myself understand the difference between a Pension and a Sinecure Place. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 360 It was not Mr. Pultney's intention to erect a sinecure place. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 61 By means of sine-cures in general, and judicial sine-cure offices in particular. 1862 Beresf. Hope *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 277, I must strongly plead for the simultaneous creation of a chapter however sinecure for the present. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 22 Royal blood seems to have been thought ample excuse for a complete sinecure life. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 158 Martinsthorpe, a sinecure living, which consists of one ancient house and some half dozen occupants.

b. Holding or enjoying a sinecure.

1812 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 12 Oct. 643/1 The Courtiers, the Sinecure-men,..who grow rich from what empties our pockets. 1844 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* II. i. III. 76 A sinecure rector, or rector without cure of souls. 1872 M. Collins *Marq. & Merch.* II. v. 128 The little sinecure governess came face to face with her master.

Hence **Si·necure** *v. trans.*, to appoint to, place in, a sinecure (Ogilvie *Suppl.* 1855); also **Si·necured** *ppl. a.*

1832 *Lincoln Herald* 20 Nov. 4/3 Mr. Brougham, the Lord Chancellor's sinecured brother.

Si·necureship, *rare.* [f. Sinecure *sb.*] A position or post of the nature of a sinecure.

1828 P. Cunningham *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 320 The culprit is merely sent back to a sinecureship in a government gang.

Si·necurism. [f. Sinecure *sb.* + -ism. Cf. F. *sinécurisme.*] The practice of holding or permitting sinecures; the prevalence of sinecures in the church or any other sphere of work.

1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 233 In one point of view more flagrant is this abuse [non-attendance], even than sinecurism. 1858 Goldw. Smith in *Oxford Ess.* 180 Such sinecurism would..be accompanied by an undue depression and starvation of the working staff. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 224 The English universities have suffered deeply from..clericism, celibacy, and sinecurism.

Si·necurist. [f. as prec. + -ist. Cf. F. *sinécuriste.*] One who has or seeks a sinecure.

1817 W. Hone (*title*), The Sinecurist's Creed. Whosoever will be a Sinecurist [etc.]. 1845 Ld. Campbell *Lives Chancellors* xvii. (1857) I. 266 The Masters in Chancery were considered overgrown and oppressive sinecurists. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 9/1 What else is a ground landlord but a sinecurist quartered on the land.

attrib. 1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng., Catech. Exam.* 306 The parsonages deserted by Sinecurist Incumbents. *Ibid.* 325.

‖ **Sine die** (sai·nĭ dəi·i). [L., *sine* without + *diē*, abl. sing. of *diēs* day.] Without any day being specified (for reassembling, resumption of business, trial of a person or cause, etc.); indefinitely.

1631 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 125 My Lord of Salisbury's cause is put off *sine die.* 1641 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 9 Among all these I observe one, a very main one, to sleep *sine die.* *a* 1734 North *Examen* I. iii. § 146 (1740) 217 They seemed to lie there, without Bail or Trial *sine Die.* 1771 Gibbon *Lett.* 18 Nov., If I hear that your journey to Denham is put off *sine die*, or to a long day, I shall on Monday set off for London. 1803 Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 118 At fifteen minutes after twelve at night, the House adjourned *sine die.* 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *St. Cuthbert* vi, The *fête* was postponed *sine die.* 1892 *Nation* 22 Dec. 466/1 The reasons given for taking a recess instead of adjourning *sine die* are extremely puerile.

Sinegen, obs. form of Sin *v.*

‖ **Sine qua non** (sai·nĭ kwēi nǫn). Also 8– quâ. [L., *sine* without + *quā*, abl. sing. fem. of *quī* which (agreeing with *causa*) + *nōn* not.

The Latin phrase, which is common in scholastic use, occurs in Boëthius, and had its source in Aristotelian expressions. The corresponding plural *sine quibus non* has occasionally been employed.]

1. With adjectival force: Indispensable, absolutely necessary or essential. **a.** Following upon a noun (orig. *cause*).

[1588 Greene *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 44 They proceede not of necessitie, as *causa sine qua non*, but as infections that flowe from the abuse.] 1615 in Birch *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 378 He..was in some sort as a cause *sine qua non* of their blood that were dead for the fact before him. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 382 Which kind of Philosophers (saith he) do not seem to me, to distinguish betwixt the True and Proper Cause of things, and the Cause *Sine qua non.* *a* 1734 North *Examen* III. vii. § 64 (1740) 550 The Preliminary Article *sine quâ non*, was that..he should surrender his Place of Recorder. [1811 J. Adams *Wks.* (1856) I. 673 They would not insist upon the fisheries or western lands as conditions *sine quibus non* of peace.]

b. Used attributively.

1798 M. G. Lewis in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) I. ix. 291 A ghost or a witch is a *sine qua non* ingredient in all the dishes of which I mean to compose my hobgoblin repast. 1840 De Quincey *Style* IV. (1860) 312 Publication..is a *sine qua non* condition for the generation of literature. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* I. iv. 39 Though acts of assent require previous acts of inference, they require them, not as adequate causes, but as *sine quâ non* conditions.

2. Somebody or something indispensable.

1602 Cecil *Let.* in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 221 You are not the efficient cause or *sine qua non.* 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 1. ii, My mother agreed with her marriage-maker, her *Sine qua, non*,..to come one day thither to make merry. 1774 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1857) VI. 111 Remember, a brother is the *sine quâ non* of my reconciliation. 1786 Ld. Kenyon in *Brown's Chanc. Cases* II. 46 Certainty of the property, though one of the *sine quâ nons*, was wanting. 1814 *Amer. St. Papers, For. Relat.* (1832) III. 709 It was a *sine qua non* that the Indians should be included in the pacification. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* I. xviii, It seemed a sine quâ non with the gentlemen who superintended the training. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 285 Every finding of fact that was a *sine quâ non* of the judgment.

b. *pl.* Breeches. (Cf. Indispensable *sb.* c.)

1850 Smedley *Frank Fairleigh* xvii, Your..negotiation with that raw-boned giant in the blue plush *sine qua nons.*

Hence **Sine-qua-no·nical** *a.*, indispensable; **Sine-qua-no·nicalness,** indispensableness.

1816 Moore *Mem.* (1853) II. 95 The shabbiness with which they are daily surrendering so many wise, indispensable, and sine-quâ-nonical measures to the bullies of Opposition. 1834 Southey *Doctor* iii. (A. 1) I. 20 Nature herself shows us the utility, the importance,..the sinequanononiness of pockets.

‖ **Sine quo non.** Chiefly *Sc. Law.* [f. as prec., with the masc. *quō* (also pl. *quibus*) in place of the fem. *quā*.] Indispensable; also *absol.*, an indispensable person, *spec.* a curator, trustee, etc., appointed under this designation.

1693 Stair *Institutes* (ed. 2) IV. xx. § 31 By a *Quorum*, or *sine quibus non*, in which case though the *Sine quibus non* accept not,..the Interdiction remains. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* I. vii. § 15 The concurrence of the number fixed for the quorum, of which he who is *sine quo non* must be always one. 1819 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. x. 331 Harper is a *sine quo non.* 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 245 A curator *sine quo non* cannot act by himself. *Ibid.* 918 By the death or non-acceptance of the *sine quo non* the nomination fails.

† **Sines.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 synys, 6 sinnes. [a. OF. *sines*, also *senes*, ad. L. *sēnī*, the distrib. answering to *sex* six.] Two sixes in dicing.

c 1450 *Book of Brome* 16 Synys and Catyr that 3e haue cast. *Ibid.*, That 3e haue cast synys and trey. 1589 Nashe *M. Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 161 Their Dice are so cunninglie cogged; as though they cast Sinnes for the moste parte, yet they male in the end with a tripsie Tray, carrie all awale smoothe.

Sinesa·lary. *nonce-word.* [f. L. *sine* (as in *sinecure*) + Salary *sb.*] An office without pay.

a 1843 Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) I. 110 Some of these offices may have been Sinecures; but..none of them were Sinesalaries.

Sinescri·ptual, *a. nonce-word.* [Cf. prec. and Scriptural *a.*] Not possessing the Scriptures.

1840 G. S. Faber *Christ's Disc. Capernaum* 101 He places Ireneus and the contemporary sinescriptual nations an entire century later than that in which he was writing.

Sinesian (səinī·ʃĭən), *a.* [f. late L. *Sin-æ* (see Sinæan) + -ese + -ian.] Of or pertaining to the Chinese and kindred races or to those parts of Asia inhabited by them.

1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 226 A remarkable fact in the history of Sinesian civilisation. 1905 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 361/2 Now, through Japan, the West has made a definite breach in Sinesian exclusiveness.

Sinester, obs. form of Sinister *a.*

† **Sinet.** *Obs.* Also 6 synat, synet, senett. [a. OF. *sinet*, var. of *signet* Signet *sb.*] A signet.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlviii. 213 (Harl. MS.), He openid hit, & sawe þerein letters selid withe the sinet of þe Emperoure. 1502 *Croscombe Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 25 A ryng of sylver and gylt and a synat of sylver. 1530 Palsgr. 187 *Signet*, a synet. 1554 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 51 Ther was a man..hangyd, dran, and quartered, for conterffeyting the quen senett.

† **Sineth,** *adv., prep.*, and *conj. Obs.* In 5 senith, sinneth. [app. an alteration of *sethen* Sithen.] = Since *adv., prep.*, and *conj.*

1542 Harvel in *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1849) VIII. 706, I wrote to the same the first of thinstant; and senith her is arivid..the Turkes Ambassadour. — *Ibid.* IX. 38 Senith my last letters..the comming owt of Barbarossa hath ben her divulgid. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) B ij, Sinneth that what soever loveth well, is never lefte of the unluckie.

Sinetic (sine·tik), *a.* [var. of Sinitic *a.*] Chinese.

1893 R. Wilson tr. *Figuier's Human Race* 235 We shall separate it into three branches—the Hyperborean, the Mongolian, and the Sinetic branches. 1898 *Blackwood's Mag.* Jan. 144 Their low foreheads, leering Sinetic eyes, the lewd lips and heavy hair.

† **Sineti·tular,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *sine* without + *titul-us* title.] Without a title (for ordination).

1642 Jer. Taylor *Episc.* (1647) 183 That decree of Chalcedon against Sinetitular ordinations.

Sinew (si·niu), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 *pl.* seonuwa, seon(o)we, 2 seonewe, 3 sen(u)we, 3–4 senue, 3–7 senewe, 4–5 zenew, 5–6 senew; 4–6 senow, -owe, 5–6 senou; 6 senaw. *β.* 1 sionwe, sinwe, sinu(w)-, 4–7 sinewe (6 sinn-), 5– sinew, 6–7 sinue (6 sinnue); 1, 4–7 synewe (7 synn-), 4–6 synew (5 cynew, 6 syneu); 4 synue, 4–5 syn(u)we (5 cynwe), 5 synu, cynu. *γ.* 4 synoghe, 4, 6 synou, 5 synnou, 5–7 synnow (5 cynow-); 4 sinou, 5–7 sinow-, 6–8 sinnow. *δ. Sc.* (and *north.*) 5 (9) senon, 6 sennon, 9 sennen; 5–6 senown (5 sennoun, -own); 6 synnoun, 9 sinnon, sinnen (sinner). [OE. *seon(o)we*, *sionwe*, etc., oblique forms from the nom. *sionu*, *sinu*: see Sine *sb.*[1] The *w* of the stem also appears in OHG. *senewa*, *senuwa*, *senwe*, etc., and in MDu. *zenewe*, *zenuwe* (Du. *zenuw*). With the Sc. and northern forms in *-n* cf. *minnon* for Minnow and *talloun* for Tallow.]

1. *Anat.* A strong fibrous cord serving to connect a muscle with a bone or other part; a tendon. Also in fig. context (quot. 1560).

a. Beowulf 817 Seonowe onsprungon, burston ban-locan. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 48 Seonuwa [synd] fortoȝene & ða tan scrinceð up. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 7 Ant þenne ichulle tellen, hwen þu al to torren art,..alle þine seonewen. *c* 1205 Lay. 6498 Þat deor..forbat him þa breste, ban and þa senuwen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 175 Þere nas no flesch bi-leued bote senue and bare bon. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 23 Paralitikes..mai not riȝtli move þer partis for feblenesse of þer senewis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8794 The bavme..Bret thurgh the bones and the big senowis. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 627 *Neruus*, zenew. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 339 Grete and lene and full of veynes and of senewes. *a* 1529 Skelton *P. Sparowe* 46 Wherewith my handes I wrange, That my senaws cracked. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* x. 20 b, A senowe the whyche doth growe out of the myddle of the spondyls. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 101 To sende their ayde against the Turke..were to unarme them selves and to cut their owne senewes.

β. a 1000 *Andreas* 1425 Nu sint sionwe toslowen. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 282 Ón þa saran sinua & aswollenan.. bind on gate tyrdelu. *Ibid.* 328 ðif sinwe syn forcorfene, nim renwyrmas [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3941 þe maister sinu of his the. *Ibid.* 3944 O sinnu etes neuer juu. *c* 1305 *St. Christopher* 194 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 65 Hire lymes burste.. Necke & synuen & oþer ek. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxxii. 25 He towchide the synwe of his hip. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 97 To stawnche blod of weyne or of synuwe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 53 Take fayre Buttes of Porke..& clene pyke a-way þe bonys & þe Synewes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/1 Cynew,..of armys, or leggys, *nervus.* 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* III. vi. 37 A spirit hath no flesh, bones, nor sinewes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 162 The oil or ointment..is comfortable to the sinues. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* I. iii. 11 It happeneth..that through this needless stitching of the sinews, is caused the running of sinews. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 507 While his big sinews full of spirits swell. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 215 You cannot conceive..how it braces every sinew of the human frame. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* III. xiii, Such cause of haste Thine active sinews never braced. 1865 Sebley *Rece Homo* iii. (ed. 8) 23 No one questioned the stoutness of Samson's sinews.

γ. c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1917 Ilka vayn and ilka synoghe and lith. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 39 þe moupe of be lure wiþ þe lacertes and þe synowes.. was vtterly gnawen away. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/1 With owtyn Synowe, *enervus.* 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxxvii. 6,

I wil geue you synowes, & make flesh growe vpon you. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 126 His thighes full of synowes, and his legs well knitte. 1604 Breton *Passionate Sheph.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/2 Each Sinow, Limme and ioynt, Perfect shape in euery point. 1611 Cotgr., *Nerf*, a Synnow.

δ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James the Less*) 631 His senownys þat drawyn ware to-gyddyre, lousyt rycht þare. 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 297 His houch sennownis he cuttyt all atanys. *c* 1500 Kennedie *Passion of Christ* 450 All his body þai fret, Saris his senonis. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4921 Quhen that cald humour dounwart dois proceid, In Senownis it causis Arthetica. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. v. 287 Vanes, synnounis, banes. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sinnon*, for sinew. 1894 Heslop *Northumbld. Gloss.* 616 He cut yen o' the senons o' his leg wi' the adge.

b. A tendon taken out of an animal body and used for some purpose, esp. for binding or tying with; hence, † a snare; a string in a musical instrument.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7195 Wit seuen sinous wa sa me band. I tint my strenth. *c* 1388 Wyclif *Judges* xvi. 7 Seuene coordis of senewis. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 82 Thou settest my foot in a synewe [L. *in nervo*]. 1535 Coverdale *Judges* xvi. 7 Samson sayde vnto her: Yf I were bounde with seuen roapes of fresh senowes, which are not yet dryed vp, I shulde be weake, and as another man. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 95 They thrust the synew within the sheethe therof. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 513 Th' inchanting sinnewes of his Instrument. 1855 Longf. *Hiawatha* iii. 77 His linden cradle, ..Safely bound with reindeer sinews. 1875 Bancroft *Native Races Pacific St.* I. 56 A sling or net made of woven sinews.

† **c.** *transf.* A rib in a leaf. *Obs. rare.*

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. B j, Whose leues are..more depe cut in, towarde the synowe that goeth thorow the myd lefe. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 251 The stemmes whereof, with the synewes of the leaves.., are all redde. 1585 [see Nerve *sb.* 6 a].

d. In sing., as a substance or material.

1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 268 He appeared powerful enough to crush the boy—sinew and bone. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1879) 118 The tassels had been fastened by split sinew.

† **2.** A nerve. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xvii. (1495) 62 The synewe that hyghte *neruus obticus*, an holow sinew, is hidde in the vtter partye of the brayne. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 24 From þe brayn comen .vij. peire cordes, & þei ben clepid sensible senewis. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* I. x, The brayne, of whom all the sinewes take their originall. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* 1 No portion of sinewes, which are the immediate organs of sence, is in their [bones] substaunce disseminated. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 86 When..the Marrow of the back bone is hurt, there followeth the resolution of the sinewes (which hindereth the function of the sense and motion). 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iii, Nerves or Sinews, are Membranes without, and full of Marrow within.

3. Chiefly *pl.* Strength, energy, force.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 393 b, For this intent.., y' ther should no sinewes nor force at all be lefte in all Germany. *c* 1595 Carew in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 292 The Italyan is pleasante but without synewes, as to stillye fleeting water. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 194 His authoritie hath no sinews. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* iii. 49 That they may not be ignorant..what it is that gives sinews to an inference, and makes it just. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. 61 He should find..that their arms had not wholly lost their ancient sinew. 1878 Morley *Carlyle* 175 It [Carlylism] is Byronism with thew and sinew.

4. The main strength, mainstay, or chief supporting force, *of* something.

The plural has been more freq. employed than the sing.

sing. 1579 North *Plutarch, Cleomenes* (1896) V. 223 He that sayed first, that Money was the sinewe of all thinges, spoke it chiefly in my opinion, in respect of the warres. 1589 *Pasquil's Return* B, Bursting the sinew of peoples obedience. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 143 The great Achilles, whom Opinion crownes, The sinew, and the forehand of our Hoste. 1684 Bp. Burnet tr. *Utopia* 151 There must follow upon it a dissolution of all Justice, which is the chief Sinew of Society. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 210 Thou nervous sinnow of baith war and law! 1880 *Christian World* 137 The advanced Liberals..supply the bone, the sinew, the muscle, and the fighting power of the party.

plur. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 343/2 A man may well saie, that chiualrie is the fundation and sinewes of a commonweale. 1600 Holland *Livy* VII. xxxix. 277 The principall authors of the mutinie, who were the sinewes and strength thereof. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* vi. 104 Take away these words, and the sinewes of the sentence are cut. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* p. xiv, The Principles of Irreligion do unjoynt the Sinews of all Government. 1760 Johnson *Idler* No. 96 P 4 Indolence and effeminacy..relaxed the sinews of his resolution. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* i, The time may come..when death shall dissolve the sinews of Avarice. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 252 Whenever he thought fit to exert the sinews of his prerogative. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* 23 The discipline of the masses has hitherto knit the sinews of battle. 1870 J. Bruce *Life Gideon* xi. 197 It is pre-eminently practical as touching the very soul and sinews of our faith.

b. In phr. *the sinews of war*, i.e. money. † Also in sing. (quot. 1598).

After L. *nervi belli pecunia* (Cicero *Phil.* v. ii. 5).

c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 87 These coins and treasures be not with out cause called of wise men.. The senowes of warre. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 272 The Duke of Saxon, although he wanted the Senewes of warre, yet he batted Gemund. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 120 His Indian fleet bringing the sinew of his warres. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 139 We surpasse their state, In power, in riches, sinewes of sharpe warre. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* III. i, If you had the sinews of war, I am sure you would be flying out. 1751 *Narr. H.M.S. Wager* 5 That part of the World, from whence their immense Wealth, the Sinews of War, is chiefly derived. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. viii. 87 There was one possible..method of obtaining the sinews of war—the convocation of parliament. 1874 Burnand *My Time* v. 39 As to the sinews of war, had he not already provided for the improbable adversities of the future?

5. *Comb.* **a.** In terms denoting contraction or strain of the sinews, as *sinew-bound*, *-grown*, *-shrunk(en)*, *-strained*.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. viii. (1632) 214 An old, crazed, sinnow shronken, and nigh dead father. 1645 Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 23 My Sober Muse can say how it did wound My Sinnew-bound Vnusefull Members. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 105 The King..was sinew-shrunk, and wanted money the sinews of war. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2163/4 A brown bay Mare.., Sinew-strain'd on the near Leg before. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4125/4 He is a little Sinew-strain'd of the inside of the off Foot before. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Sinner-grown*, having a contraction in the sinews, of which sinner is a corruption.

b. Miscellaneous, as *sinew-backing*, *-bruise*, *-corded*, *-shrinking*, *-singer*; sinew-water, synovia, joint-oil.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 173 The sinew-shrinking Dead-laughing Apium. *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 717 The Guide of supplest fingers On (living-dumb, dead-speaking) sinnew-singers. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Phys.* 312/1 These Playsteres cure all woundes, whether they do thruste, or cut, yea and althoughe the very sinnuewater did issue thereout. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* I. vi. 26 That corrosive..resisteth forcibly the sinew-water, called the joynt-water. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Horse-feeder*, Strains, Over-Reaches, Sinew-Bruises, and the like. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* v. 524 Supple, sinew-corded, apt at arms. 1896 Grinnell *Story Indian* 152 The nocks were cut, and the sinew backing applied.

Sinew (si·niu), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To run through, tie together, cover over with, or as with, sinews. *rare.*

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* 13 Her gray breast, and her speckled side sayles, all sinnowed with siluer quilles. 1596 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 91 So shalt thou sinow both these Lands together. 1607 Markham *Caval.* VI. (1617) 55 After the tree is sinewd, you shall then glew strong canuase all ouer the wood also.

2. To supply with sinews; to strengthen as by sinews; to nerve, harden. Chiefly *fig.*

a 1614 Donne Βιαθανατος (1648) 86 Out of a duty to Sinew and strengthen..the Doctrine of our Blessed Saviour. 1625 — *Serm. 3 Apr.* 6 Thy Almightie Arme, sinewed euen with thine owne indignation. 1643 Spinkes *Serm. Oxford 19 Apr.* C 3 b, The kingdome being sinewed and flesht with the addition of so much new strength and force, flourisheth. 1718 D'Urfey *Grecian Heroine* v. i, My Climdor's, and Clorona's Wrongs,..sinew my old Flesh. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xxvii, We should then find that creatures, now stuck up for long tortures,..might, if properly treated, serve to sinew the state in times of danger. 1852 Culross *Lazarus Revived* 34 Christianity needs something to nerve and sinew it. 1879 Todhunter *Alcestis* 14 Sinew thy heart to hear; for death is dreadful. 1892 F. Tennyson *Poems* 480 Such might Sinews old custom.

Sinewed (si·niud), *ppl. a.* Also 8 sinnewed. [f. Sinew *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Having sinews of a specified kind.

1588 Kyd *Housch. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 239 A youth..well proportioned, tough sinewed, and of a strong constitution. *a* 1700 Dryden (J.), Strong sinew'd was the youth, and big of bone.

2. Strengthened with sinews; strong, firm, vigorous, powerful, sinewy.

1604 Drayton *Owle* 1450 The great Eagle..Whose sinewed wings..Beat the thin air. 1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 5 This strengthens Speech with nerves and the sinewed cords of twisted Reason. *c* 1720 Tickell *Ode to Earl of Sunderland* iii, The flower of chivalry, who drew With sinew'd arm the stubborn yew. 1894 Whitby *Mary Fenwick's Daughter* III. 82 Five feet eight of sinewed stature.

† **3.** Seated in the sinews. *Obs.*[-1]

1601 Chester *Love's Martyr*, etc. (1878) 85 Tis good for sinewed aches.

Si·newer. *rare*[-1]. [f. Sinewy *a.* + -ness.] The character, state, or quality of being sinewy.

1727 Bailey (vol. II.), *Nervousness*, fulness of Nerves, sinewiness, Strength, &c.

† **Si·newish,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 synowysshe, sinuishe. [f. Sinew *sb.* + -ish[1].] Pertaining to the sinews; having sinews; sinewy.

1530 Palsgr. 324/1 Synowysshe, belongynge to ones synouse, *arterique*. 1586 Hooker *Hist. Irel.* II. xxiv. in *Holinshed*, His [Hugh de Lacy's] neck was short, and his bodie..sinewish. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2 b/1 The sinuishe partes of the boddye.

† **Si·newize,** *v. Obs.*[-1] [f. Sinew *v.* + -ize.] *trans.* To furnish with sinews.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. [iii], Such an Anotomie of Witte, so Sinewiz'd and Arteria'd, that 'tis the goodliest Modell of pleasure that euer was, to beholde.

Si·newless, *a.* Also 6 sinewe-, 7 sin(n)ewlesse. [f. Sinew *sb.* + -less.]

1. Destitute of sinews.

1552 Huloet, Sinewelesse, or hauing no sinewes. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 245 That were to make headless trunks, and sinewless arms. 1798 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXV. 515 The Farnesian Hercules, so muscular before, so sinewless behind. 1815 Byron *Hebrew Melodies, Saul* i, His foot, in bony whiteness, glitter'd there, Shrunken and sinewless.

2. Lacking vigour; feeble, weak, powerless.

1644 [H. Parker] *Jus Populi* 44 Regiment in the first ages was rather too milde and sinewlesse than too violent and rigorous. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 193 All that ever was said against these Helps of beauty, seems to many wise women..weak and sinnewlesse. 1829 K. H. Digby *Broadstone of Honour* I. *Godefridus* 294 The arms which once slew the Nemæan lion may become sinewless. 1869 J. Ker *Serm.* (1874) I. 63 A weak sinewless Christianity. 1872 S. Mostyn *Perplexity* I. viii. 145 Look at those hands; they are white, thin, sinewless.

Sinewous (si·niuəs), *a.* Also 5 synew-, 7 sinnew-, 8 sineuous. [f. Sinew *sb.* + -ous.] Sinewy; also *fig.*, strenuous, vigorous.

In quot. 1745 perh. intended for *synovial*.

1495 *Trevisa's De P. R.* v. xxv. 134 The necke is synewous to make wylfull meuynge. 1586 Hooker *Hist. Irel.* II. x. in *Holinshed*, His armes and other limbs more sinewous than fleshie. 1663 in Kendall *Travels* (1809) I. xii. 143 Errors corrupt, by sinnewous dispute, He did oppugne and clearly them confute. 1745 Eliza Heywood *Female Spect.* III. 298 They [*sc.* snails] are.. furnished with a sineuous juice, which, distilling from their pores, becomes a hard consistence. 1861 Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 13 Men, who..scann'd His sinewous frame, compact of pliant power.

Sinewy (si·niui), *a.* Also *a.* 4 senewy; 5 synnevy, 7 synewy, -ie; 6 sinnewie, sinewye, 6–7 sinewie, 7 -ewey. *β.* 5 sennowy; synnowy, 5, 7 synowy (6 -owie); 6 sinnowy, 7 -ie, 6–7 sinowie, -owy (6 -owye). [f. Sinew *sb.* + -y. Cf. Du. *zenuwig*, G. *sehnig* († *zenich*, *synnig*).]

† **1.** Made of sinews. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1382 Wyclif *Judges* xvi. 7 If with seuen senewy [L. *nerviceis*] coordis..Y were boundun, Y shal be febie as other men.

2. Furnished with, full of, sinews.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxv. (Bodl. MS.), The nekke..[is] senewy to make wilfull meuyng. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 85 þe face and þe leggez, and synowy placez and bony. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* II. 32 It..helpeth the sinowye partes. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 233 The sides of the dogges bulke, or vpon his thighes, or suche sinewye places. 1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcos.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 24/1 For in the sinewes..This pow'r is plac'd, or in the Synewy skin. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Island* II. xx. *note*, The fleshie pannicle is a membrane very thick, sinewy, woven in with little veins. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Embrocation*, Nothing is more powerful to remove obstinate Swellings in the sinewy Parts. 1885 *Where Chineses Drive* 186 The only meat he could find to operate on was part of an awfully sinewy leg of beef.

Comb. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 246 The usual price received for lean, stringy-fleshed, sinewy-legged fowls, is far from remunerative.

3. Having strong, well-developed, or prominent sinews.

Usually implying strength, but sometimes leanness.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 226 Who-so hath the fete well shappyn, grete toes and synnowy, sholde bene stronge and hardy. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 704 The thies sadde and senowy, not to side. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. i, His armes and fingers long and sinowy. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 259 [Let] Bull-bearing Milo his addition yeelde To sinnowie Aiax. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 567 Those [whales] have great teeth..and are very sinewy. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* v. 581 Fainting as he touch'd the shore, He dropt his sinewy arms. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xiii. 7 The vast bird would,..with his sinewy neck, Dissolve in sudden shock those linked rings. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* VI. vii, In person, Orange was above the middle height, perfectly well made and sinewy. 1882 Sergt. Ballantine *Exper.* xxiii. 227 He was a sinewy little fellow.

transf. 1656 Heylin *Surv. France* 171 The Gates are very large and strong, as well in the sinewie composition of themselves, as in the addition of the Drawbridge.

b. *transf.* Of qualities, attributes, etc.: Derived from the possession of (strong) sinews; having the strength characteristic of sinews.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 308 As motion and long during action tyres The sinnowy vigour of the traualler. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* Prol., Oh! that our Muse Had those abstruse and synowy faculties. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 186 Even this veine of laughing..hath oftimes a strong and sinewy force in teaching and confuting. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 288 When at length mankind Had reach'd the sinewy firmness of their youth. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* I. xxviii, Few were the arms whose sinewy strength Sufficed to stretch it forth at length. 1873 'Ouida' *Pascarel* I. 7 Men were glad with the same sinewy force.. as made them in other times laborious.

c. Of language, writings, arguments, etc. (Cf. Nervous *a.* 3.)

1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* A 2 A faithfull, elegant, sinewie, and well digested historie. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 194 Nervous and sinewy Arguments. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 18 The Latin Tongue has something Masculine, and Sinewy. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 284 An out-of-door life encourages and produces a straightforward, intelligible, sinewy style. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 18 Mar. 3/3 His nervous sinewy literary style will not be thrown away.

d. Similarly of speakers and writers.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 605 Cæsar, who knowes as well to write, as war; The Sinnewie Salust. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 162 Thus the sinewie Epigrammatist.

4. Of the nature of sinews; tough, stringy.

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* 52 They [the muscles] are sinewie and broad in their begynning. 1594 T. H. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. Ep. to Rdr., Being dispersed into the muscles and skinne by meanes of certaine sinowie threedes concurring in manner of a net. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 95 Sinowie Ligaments bruised and broken. *a* 1631 Donne *Poems* (1635) 49 For if sinewie thred my braine lets fall Through every part. 1909 Patterson *Grip of the Nyika* 247 Tied up with bands of sinewy tree-bark.

† 5. Strung with sinews. *Obs. rare.*

? *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* I. 371 All deepe enrag'd, his sinowie bow he bent. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* xv, The sinowy Bow, and deadly-headed Launce, Shall breake in shiuers. 1659 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 242 So by the sinewy lyre now strook we see Into soft calms all storm of poesie.

Sinewy, obs. variant of SENVY.

† **Siney**, obs. form of *senē* SENNA.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn petit arbre dict Baguenaudier*, a tree called Siney.

Sinful (si·nfŭl), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 synn-, 1–6 syn- (5 cyn-), 4–6 synne-; 2–3 sun-, 3 sune-; 2–3 sen-, 4 zen-; 3- sin- (3 sinn-, 6 sinne-); also 1–6 -full, 3 -uull, 3–4 -fol, -uol. [f. SIN *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. ON. and Icel. *syndafullr* (Norw. and Sw. *syndfull*, Da. *syndefuld*).]

1. Of persons, etc.: Full of sin; wicked, corrupt.

c 825– [see b and c] *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke v. 8 Ȝeong from me, forðon monn synnfull Am. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 þa lareowas sceolan synnfullum mannum eadmodlice tæcan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 þis is alle sunfulle monne leddre. *c* 1200 ORMIN 12048 Nohht ne wære he þanne Godd Acc sinnfull mann & wrecche. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* 31 in *O. E. Misc.*, Se leprus signefieþ þo senuulle men. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9050 Es nan sinfuller þan i. 1399 GOWER *Praise of Peace* 45 This sinful world was al puiene tho. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70 þai call vs synfull and wikked. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/1 Cynfulle, ...*peccosus*. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 7 We synfull folk sulde be more deligent. 1526 TINDALE *Romans* viii. 3 In the similitude of synfull flesshe. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* I. iv, They that sinne in sinfull breast do cherish. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. 5 To execute his justice upon the sinful World. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 162 His weakness shall o'ercome Satanic strength..., and mass of sinful flesh. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 383 What is man? Sinful and weak, in ev'ry sense a wretch. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, You will not find it in this sinful world.

b. *absol.* in *pl.* (with or without *the*).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ix. 18 Bioð ȝecerde ða synfullan in helle. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ii. 16 He æt..mið synnfullum & bærsynnigum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 He nalde mid his to-cume þa sunfullen fordemen. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 209 Þuruh al þet ðu tawhtest and þoledest for sunfule in eorðe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 104 (Gött), Scho.. rayses þe sinful quen þai fall. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 22 Synful aren solaced & saued bi þat name. 1624 FLETCHER *Wife for a Month* IV. v, Shame attend the sinful, I know my innocence.

c. *absol.* in *sing.* † Also with *a*, a sinful person.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxix. 4 Hald mec, dryhten, of honda synfulles. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 þonne se synnfulla..his lif ȝeendaþ. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Þe prost þet scal among cristene monkun þene sunfulle of sunne clensen. *c* 1275 *On Serving Christ* 25 in *O. E. Misc.*, Per is þe sunfulle vnsofte to beon Hwer he not no wey fyr for to ficon. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13978 A seli sinful was sco þis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 90 To wende þane zenuolle and connynge an speches. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 317 Christ suffered a sinful to kisse his fete.

2. Of acts, etc.: Involving sin; characterized or marked by sin.

c 1200 ORMIN 4182 Fra sinnfull word & werre, Fra sinnful þohht & wille. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8357 Help hom & vorȝif hom þulke sunuol dede. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 49 þai ere eldid, þat is in þaire ald synful lyf. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 365 For certein Somme of gold [they] acorden That thilke horrible sinfull dede Assoiled was. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* iii. 13 Blessed is..y^ baren & vndefyled, which hath not knowne the synfull bedd. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 4 It is..ane synfull and ane damnabil thing. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* ciii, Were it not sinfull then striuing to mend, To marre the subiect that before was well? 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 160 Notwithstanding all Davids Piety and integrity he was overtaken with many sinfull failings. 1742 C. WESLEY *'God of all power'* iv, Purge me from every sinful blot,..Cleanse me from every sinful thought. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1839) I. iii. 42 Like that had prophet at Bethel..while he sat at his sinful meat. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 25 But many sinful things were highly agreeable to her.

b. Highly reprehensible.

1863 T. G. SHAW *Wine* 33 He considered it 'sinful' to expend 10/6 on a bottle of any wine.

Hence † **Sinfulhead**, sinfulness. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 280 Wilde der..pine man wiþ sorwe and dred, And don hem monen his sinfulhed. *a* 1400 *St. Bernard* 541 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 50 For I knowe my sunfulhede Boþe in word, þouȝt and dede.

Sinfully (si·nfŭli), *adv.* Forms: (see quots.). [f. SINFUL *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a sinful manner; wickedly, iniquitously.

a. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16135 Folle..þatt tær wass inne unnlaheþ & sinnfullike sammnedd. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9147 Þe erchebissop of kanterbury..Sacred him..wel sunuolliche [*v. r.* synuolyche] alas. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14055 Moddred..synfullyke had reysed stryf. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVI. 497 Sir,..ye sey suill and synfulliche.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26431 In tendes haue I lett don in Sinfully in tent to wyn. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2550 *Phyllis*, Syn thus synfully ye me be-gile. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78 Cynfully, *criminose*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 239 b, Neuer inordynatly couet thy neyghbours wyfe, to vse her synfully. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. i. 119 All this from my Remembrance, brutish wrath Sinfully pluckt. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xiii. 13 They have..sinfully shut their own eyes. 1879 R. T. SMITH *Basil the Great* ix. 108 Adam by eating sinfully transmitted sin.

2. Very reprehensibly.

1888 D. C. MURRAY *Weaker Vessel* xiii, We were a sinfully indiscreet and curious young couple to talk of the affairs of others as we did. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* i, Affable young gentlemen prepared, even sinfully delighted, to take chances not set down in books.

Sinfulness (si·nfŭlnės). Also 5 **synfullnes**, 5–6 **-fulnesse**. [f. SINFUL *a.* + -NESS.] The state or character of being sinful; wickedness, iniquity.

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 148 Of my wreched synfullnes To gyff me grace. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/1 Synfulnesse, *peccabilitas, viciositas*. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Synfulnesse, *maluatie*. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. i. § 2 By reason of the Sinfulness and Corruption of their Nature. 1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 43 The Sinfulness therein is only against God. 1761 WESLEY *'Jesus, if still'* vi, The sinfulness of sin. 1838 DICKENS *Nicklebу* xvi, Mr. Gallanbile dines late on the day of rest, in order to prevent the sinfulness of the cook's dressing herself. 1878 LECKY *Eng. in 18th C.* II. 192 The absolute sinfulness of resistance.

Sing (siŋ), *sb.* [f. SING *v.*1]

1. The sound made by a bullet in its flight.

1871 *Daily News* 1 Mar., I distinctly heard the sing of the bullet overhead. 1897 C. BIGHAM *With Turkish Army in Thessaly* vi. 43 Here the first bullets began to pass over our heads; but from the sing we judged them to be spent.

2. An act of singing; the power of singing.

1884 *Congregationalist* Febr. 103 An English audience.. enjoy a good, hearty, congregational 'sing'. 1907 *Cassell's Mag.* Feb. 324/2 Why don't you sing..? You have heaps of 'sing' in you.

Sing (siŋ), *v.*1 Pa. t. **sang, sung**. Pa. pple. **sung**. Forms: *Inf.* 1 singan, 3–4 singen (3 sinken, 4 singyn), 3–4 singe (4 zinge), 4–sing; 1 syngan, 3–5 (6) syngen (4–5 syngyn, 5 cyngyn), 4–5 synge (4 seynge, zynge), 5–6 syng (6 synng). *Pa. t. sing.* 1– sang (4 zang), 4–6 sange; 1, 4–7 song, 4–6 songe, soong, 6 soung, 6– sung (6 sunge); also *2nd pers.* and *subj.* 3 sunge, songe. *Pa. t. pl.* 1 sungon, -an, 1, 4–5 sungun, 2–4 sungen (3 sunggen), 4 songen, so(u)nguen, 3–4 sunge, songe. *Pa. pple.* 1 ȝesungen, 3 i-sunge(n; 1, 4–6 sungen (4 sungun), 4–6 sunge, 6 soung, sownge, soong(e, 6– sung; 3–4 i-songe, 4–6 songen (4 -yne, 6 -in, 5–6 -on), 5–6 songe, 5–7 song. [Common Teut.: OE. *singan*, = OFris. *sionga* (WFris. *sjonge*, dial. *soenge*), MDu. *singen* (Du. *zingen*), OS. and OHG. *singan* (G. *singen*), ON. *syngva* (Icel. and Norw. *syngja*, Sw. *sjunga*, Da. *synge*), Goth. *siggwan* (= *singwan*). No related forms have been traced in other languages.

Sung was the usual form of the pa. t. in the 17th and 18th cents., and is given by Smart in 1836 with the remark 'Sang ..is less in use'. Recent usage, however, has mainly been in favour of *sang*.]

I. *intr.* **1.** To articulate or utter words or sounds in succession with musical inflections or modulations of the voice, so as to produce an effect entirely different from that of ordinary speech; *spec.* to do this in a skilled manner, as the result of training and practice.

To sing dumb, small: see DUMB *a.* 3c, and SMALL *adv.*

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxvii. 5 Alle cyningas..singen in songum dryhtnes. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* 1, He..ongan wepan & þus singend cwæð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 17 We sungun iuh & ne plæzdeȝe. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 149 Hwæt is..þis folc þe her þus hlude singeþ? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 34 Ðu giue me seli timinge..Queðer so hic rede or singe I 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2349 Ech mon..songe al day bi þe stret ase vor is onour. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15085 To þe cite þey come singand. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 190 Þus bed þe do-bet,..Sike with þe sory, singe with þe glade. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xx. 65, I songe to rathe, for I sange by the morowe And now at eue I wepe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3073 Angels, þat weron bothe bryȝt & shene,..song lowde with myelde steuene. 1517 TORKINGTON *Diary* (1884) 63 On of the Jewys began to syng, and than all the women daunsed. 1614 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Eclogue* 74 Enaunter they..songen lowdly for so deere desart. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 553 The harmony (What could it less when Spirits immortal sing?) Suspended Hell. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 58 They flirt, they sing, they laugh, they tattle. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 27 No shepherd sung beneath the rosy bowers. 1803–5 WORDSW. *Solitary Reaper* 27, I saw her singing at her work. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi. 157 I've been up in Tom's room, hearing him sing. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 10 He never sang except in Church.

fig. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxix. 13 Ðæt singe ðe wuldur min. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* lv. 12 Mounteynes and hilles shul singe bifor 3ou preising. 1611 BIBLE *Job* XXXVIII. 7 The morning starres sang together. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 123 Bright Rapture calls, and soaring, as she sings, Waves [etc.]. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. i, Tell me, my lute, can thy soft strain..So softly sing, so humbly sigh. 1871 LOWELL *Study Windows, Pope*, I do not think that Pope's verse anywhere sings.

b. Const. *to* († *by*, *in*) an instrument of music.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxx. 22 Ic singu ðe in citran. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxx. 20 And [ic] þe on sealm-fatum, singe be hearpan. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xvi. 5 Asaph forsothe schuld syngyn in cymbalis. 1568 COOPER *Thesaurus, Canere ad tibiam*, to singe to the shalme. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. Prol. 26 When to the lute She sung. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Oct. 1645, Who had a daughter..that played and sung to nine severall instruments. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 132 Mademoiselle Le Blanc singing to her systrum.

c. *fig.* To cry out with pain; to make a noise, to boast, *about* something. *To sing different* (cf. 10 a).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 13 But certes, lechours dide he greteist wo: They sholde singen, if that they were bent. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 4/1 Matters are looking up. Still there is nothing much to sing about on our part even now. 1897 E. PHILLPOTTS *Lying Prophets* I. ix, If you comed to be a bride, you'd sing different.

2. To tell *of* († *by*) in song or in verse.

c 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* IV. xxiv. 346 Song he ærest be middangeardes ȝesceape & bi fruman moncynnes. *c* 1205 LAY. 24211 Sone heo gunnen singe of Arðure þan kinge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7613 (Laud MS.), þe lefdy wandreþ in a plas, And syngeþ of Dido & Eneas. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 290 Ha, who herde evere singe or rede Of such a thing as that was do? *a* 1529 SKELTON *Maner of World* 169 Sometime we song of myrth and play. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cantatus*, songe of: praysed. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 8 Most truely our Lucan singeth of this our countrey. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 807 Thus have I sung of Fields, and Flocks, and Trees, And of the waxen Work of lab'ring Bees. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 56 The poets will swear that I dream, When I sing of the splendour of mine. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxvii, Marshalled by two Minstrels, who sung of war and ladies love. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 233 So he began his song, and first he sung of the Orkney Earls across the western main.

fig. 1887 *Illustr. Lond. News* Summer No. 2/1 His gait and carriage Sang..of ploughed fields.

b. To compose in verse; to make poetry.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 10 Who would not sing for Lycidas? he knew Himself to sing, and build the lofty rhyme. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 659 He..judg'd with coolness, tho' he sung with fire. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 312 Studious of song, And yet ambitious not to sing in vain. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* x, Thus have I sung beyond thy first request. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* x. (1876) 267 Horace, Virgil, and Dante still sing as when they lived.

† **3.** To chant or intone, in the performance of divine service; to say mass. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3932 Clerkes songe as riȝt was, þat ioye it was to hure. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 83 Persones and parisch prestes..askeþ leue and lycence at londun to dwelle, To singe þer for Simonye. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iii. 19 Thei suffre not the Latynes to syngen at here Awteres. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 9 [The pope] ordeynede that brede ordeynede to synge with scholde be pure brede and clene. 1538 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 222 He songe in thys chapell, and hadde the offeringes for hys lyving. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 319, I haue built two Chauntries, Where the sad and solemne Priests sing still For Richards Soule.

4. Of birds: To produce tuneful or musical sounds; to warble.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 124 Se haswa fuzel..swinsað & singeð sweȝle tozeanes. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1663 Foweles boþe grete & smale..sungen al so uale wise. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1031 (Gött.), Soun of foulis þat þar singes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 53 He herde among the leves singe The Throstel with the nyhtingale. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 149 Þei fare as þe cuccuke, þat syngyth but of him-self. 1515 *Scottish Field* 435 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), Birdes brayden to the bowes, And boldlie they songen. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* III. i. 158 Did euer Rauen sing so like a Larke? 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 22 Hearke, hearke, the Larke at Heauens gate sings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 198 Ye Birds, That singing up to Heaven Gate ascend. 1766 GRAY *Kingsgate* 10 No tree is heard to whisper, bird to sing. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* lx, Wrens sing all the winter through, frost excepted. 1822 COLERIDGE *Lett.*, etc. II. 116 Like a gleam of sunshine..setting all the birds a-singing. 1908 *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 27 The birds singing in the old apple-trees.

b. Of cocks: To crow. Also with *out*.

In early use after L. *cantare* in the Vulgate.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 34 Ón ðisser næht ær ðon hona singe *vel* crawe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 248 Se hana sona hlud-swęge sang. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xiv. 72 Bifore the cok synge twyes, thries thou schalt denye me. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 313 This joly lyf han thise two clerkes lad, Til that the thridde cok bigan to synge. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 160 The Bird of Dawning singeth all night long. 1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* 27 The cock sung out an hour ere light.

c. Said of the raven, sea-mew, toad, etc., and (in later use) of the cricket.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* 1983 Sang se wanna fuzel under deoreðsceaftum. *a* 1000 *Seafarer* 22 Dyde ic me to gomene ..mæw singende fore medodrince. 1340 *Ayenb.* 156 Þe asse ..beginþ to iheape and yernþ to-yens him..and beginþ zinge grat-liche. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 220 These toades synge after three or foure sortes. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. Prol. 7 And crickets sing at the oven's mouth. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* III. ii, When crickets sing, why should not we? 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* lxxxviii, The new inhabitants [i. e. crickets] stayed some time, and fed and sung. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* III, A Cricket sings upon the Hearth.

5. With *out*. Also *spec.* in nautical use.

1530 PALSGR. 718/1, I synge out, or I synge a loude, *je chante a playne voix*. 1840 R. H. DANA *Before Mast* ii, The sailors 'singing out' at the ropes in their hoarse and peculiar strains. *Ibid.* xvii, Sailors, when heaving at a windlass.., always have one to sing out.

b. To call or cry *out*.

1823 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 43 Sing out, and we shall come. 1850 W. SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iii. (1858) 34 Sing out when we head right! 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 93 They all got crazy at last, and sang out for the keeper. 1901 MRS. C. BAGOT *Links with Past* 44 A marine made it a point of honour to take a flogging in silence—a sailor thought it no disgrace to 'sing out'.

† c. *Cant.* To peach, turn informer. *Obs.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxviii. *note*, To sing out or whistle in the cage, is when a rogue, being apprehended, peaches against his comrades. 1826 — *Old Mort.* xliii, The thing will never keep two days longer, and the first bird that sings out will get the reward.

6. Of things: To give out a ringing, murmuring, or other sound having the quality of a musical note.

Beowulf 323 Hringiren scir song in searwum. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 174 Se hearpere..zeðeð ðæt hie [the strings] noht unzelice ðæm sone ne singað þe he wilnað. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xl. (1883) 183 In þæm dæȝe singað þa byman. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 10 Go

vppon the lande, that is plowed, and if it synge or crye, or make any noyse vnder thy fete, than it is to wete to sowe. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 49 When the bag-pipe sings i' the nose. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* i. viii. 20 One said, He loved to heare his carter though not his cart to sing. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 872/2 When the liquor in the barrel has done singing, stop the vessel close. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1271 They hear these stoppings begin to sing or call, as they say, whenever an interruption takes place in any point. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 85, I do forget..that the music of her shores is singing Still in your ears. 1887 Besant *The World went* i, On the other hob stood a kettle, singing comfortably.

b. Of missiles, etc.: To sound in this way by reason of rapid motion through the air; to move with a singing sound.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* Introd. 2 An arrowe that singeth as hee goeth. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N.T.* 213 The plagues of God shall be sent as so many arrowes singing into thy bosom. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* (1677) 235 So many spears went singing by his head. 1716 Pope *Odyss.* viii. 138 The discus flies, And sings with unmatch'd force along the skies. 1761 Gray *Fatal Sisters* 22 Pikes must shiver, javelins sing. 1813 Byron *Br. Abydos* ii. xxv, Whose bullet through the night-air sang? 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xviii, It did all our hearts good to see him..make the blade sing through the air.

7. Of the ears: To ring, tingle, be filled with a humming sound.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* i. iii. ii. ii, Their eares sing now and then. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xl, I had forgotten the buffet, though mine ear sung after it for a whole day. 1849 Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 112 The eye grows dizzy, and the ear sings with heat.

8. To admit of being sung; to be usually sung.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Melody*, Yet so far as the Bass may be made airy, and to sing well, it may be also properly said to be Melodious. 1821 Mrs. Hemans *Lett.* in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1837) I. 83, I am anxious that the words should both sing well and read well. 1873 O'Curry *Lect. Anc. Irish* III. 391 Those verses..which sing to the air of *Ar Eire*, etc.

II. *trans.* 9. To utter (songs, etc.) with musical modulations of the voice; also (quot. 1553), to articulate (words) in a singing tone.

Said of birds, etc., as well as of persons. Sometimes used *fig.* (cf. sense 2) to denote the composition of verse.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxvi. 4 Hu singað we song dryhtnes in eorðan fremðre? *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* ii, Ða lioð þe ic wrecca ʒeo lustbærlice song, ic sceal nu heofiendᵉ singan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 352 Þas galdor mon mæg singan on wunde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Ebreisce folc sungen heore leof song ure helende to wurðinge. *a* 1250 *Prov. of Alfred* 355 Ne ilef þu neuer..alle þe þinge þat þu iherest singe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3940 So murye & so gret was þat song þat me song þerinne wyde. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5195 (Laud MS.), Mery tyme it is in maij, þe foules syngeþ her lay. 1340 *Ayenb.* 268 Hy zonge þane zang þet noa oþer ne may zynge. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3698 Þai made as mery melody & musik þai sanng As in þe moneth of Mai. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* x. xxxi. 464 The harper had songe his songe to the ende. 1530 Palsgr. 718/1, I synge him..a balade. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 117 b, Some sighes out their woordes. Some synges their sentences. 1601 [Bp. W. Barlow] *Serm. Paules Crosse* Pref. 14 How the late Earle..song eyther the 54. or the 94. Psalme. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* i. (1682) 149 If they have not the words, which are sung, by heart, they have Copies of them given to them. 1710 Pope *Windsor For.* 434 To the list'ning swains First in these fields I sung the sylvan strains. 1798 Coleridge *Fears in Solitude* 18 The singing-lark (that sings unseen The minstrelsy that solitude loves best). 1827 D. Johnson *Ind. Field Sports* 202 A hundred dancing-girls sung their sprightly airs. 1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* i, It's a dark night, sang the Kettle. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxi, Suppose, on the other hand, your swan sings quite a different sort of dirge.

b. With object denoting the key, voice, note, etc. Also *fig.* (quot. 1600).

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 146 Ther to he song som tyme a loud quynyble. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* liv, Quhare are thy notis smale, That thou of loue has song this morowe-tyde? ? *a* 1450 [see Bass *sb.*⁵ 2]. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxii. 17 The pyet.. Fenʒeis to sing the nychtingalis not. 1552 Huloet, Tenor, or he that singeth a tenor, *succentor*. 1600 Holland *Livy* xlv. xxxi. 1222 The third [statesman] betweene, sung a meane, and was crosse to the one and the other. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Chanter*, Who doth sing so merrie a note as he that cannot change a groat? *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 25 July 1684, A Frenchman who sung an admirable basse. *a* 1791 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 319 They must sing only the tenor. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 275/1 So that an adult male can still sing the soprano parts.

c. With advs., as *forth, out, over*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 134 Thus I sang hem forth fulofte In halle. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. ii. 42 Þe child..neuer-þe-latere song forþ his song. 1611 Bible *Wisd.* xviii. 9 The fathers now singing out the songs of praise. 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 303 How can he sing out the high praises of God? 1813 Scott *Rokeby* ii. xvi, While linnet, lark, and blackbird gay, Sing forth her nuptial roundelay. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxvi, She sate down at the piano.., and sang over all her father's favourite old songs.

10. In phrases: a. *To sing another song* or *a different tune*, to speak or act in a very different manner.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 260 O thou, which hast desesed The Court of France þe thi wrong, Now schalt thou singe an other song. 1588 J. Udall *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 18 If they had euen my experience, they would sing another song. 1600 Heywood *If you know not me* Wks. 1874 I. 207 The Queene must heare you sing another song Before you part with vs. 1711 W. King tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 91 The Jesuits begin to play their part, and sing another song. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxiii, If it was not within two days of Palm Sunday, herself would make you sing another song. 1890 Henty *With Lee in Virginia* 124, I imagine he would sing a different tune if the blue coats ever get to Richmond.

b. *To sing the same* (or *one*) *song*, to tell the same tale, to harp on the same strain.

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* ii. O j, In all their counsels they songe styll one song. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* ii. 39, I haue hard prisoners (and not any almost but they sing the same song)..crie out against brookers. 1646 Bp. Maxwell *Burd. Issach.* 14 This is so much obeyed, that the Ministers of the Kings Family, or Parish, must sing the same song. 1863 tr. *Ruffini's Vincenzo* II. xi. 183 After you have been here twelve months..you will sing the same song as I do now. 1898 Ln. E. Hamilton *Mauvkin* viii, He was singing the same song himself just, no later than yestreen.

c. *To sing sol-fa, sorrow, woe*, to lament.

1566 Gascoigne *Supposes* iv. ii, If I come neere you, hempstring, I will teache you to sing sol fa. 1748 Jarvis *Quix.* i. iii. iv, It would be of service and use only to those who are dubbed knights..; as for the poor squires, they may sing sorrow. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxii, I will take such ample vengeance, that the very stones of their glens shall sing woe for it this hundred years to come!

d. *To hear a bird sing*, etc., denoting the receipt of private information. (Cf. Bird *sb.* 4.)

1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. v. 113, I heare a Bird so sing, Whose Musicke (to my thinking) pleas'd the King. 1618 Fletcher *Loyal Subj.* iv. ii, I heard a Bird sing, they mean him no good office. 1672 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* ii. ii. (Arb.) 53, I..heard besides a grave Bird sing That they intend, sweet-heart, to play us pranks. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* 285, I have had a bird too singing something in my ear these two days past.

11. To chant or intone (a lesson, mass, etc.). Sometimes used in much the same sense as Say *v.*¹ 9.

a 850 *Lorica Prayer* 9 in *O. E. Texts* 174 Sing ðonne pater noster. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) xi. 35 Singe man ærest sex sealmas & þonne on ende fers. *c* 1030 *Ibid.* (Logeman) 39 Si an [ræding] of ðære ealdan ȝecyðnysse..ȝeræd oððe sungen. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1122, Þa hwile þe þa munecas sungen þære messe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Þe halie ureisuns þe me singeð in halie chirche. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Bi þe weie ase heo geð go singinde hire beoden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9348 Þe bissop of lincolne is masse song þo. 1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 315 Þe wile we singeþ evesong, hi scholleþ sitte and ete. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 172 Better him wer..messe [to have] songen, & serued God alle myght. 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 14 An honest Preest sufficiantly lerned in dyvynete to synge & sey dyuyne seruice. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 9 The masse of requiem .. was songon by the archbishop of Yorke. 1503 *Ibid.* 201 The Pater Noster was songen. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 172 Because we may not build Monasteries, or haue Masses, Dirges, or Trentals sung for our soules [etc.]. 1699 J. Jackson *Let. to Pepys* 25 Dec., The Cardinals, &c., entering afterwards to sing vespers. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* iii. Wks. 1709 III. i. 22 Those Ladies that look thro' their Fingers while the Service is Singing. 1753 Challoner *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 93 In the high or solemn Mass the Gospel is sung by the Deacon. 1808 Scott *Marm.* vi. Introd. 31 On Christmas eve the mass was sung.

fig. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* vii, Whom fierce Winter seized,..And sang the requiem of his shivering ghost.

†b. With *out*: To exhaust the value of (a sum of money) in the celebration of masses. *Obs.*

c 1530 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 228 When your prest at Boynton had song out all your ten pound, he kepes him still at his cost.

12. To declare, relate, recount, or celebrate, in song or verse.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xx. 14 Hefe up, dryhten, in mexne ðinum; we singað..meȝen ðin. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Hwæt singað þa leoðwyrhtan oðres be ðisse woruld buton mislica hwearfunga? 972 *Blickl. Hom.* 231 He þa ..wæs Drihtnes lof singende on þæm carcerne. *c* 1205 Lay. 22976 Ne [is] al so[t]h ne al les, þat leod-scopes singeð. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xx. 13 We shul syngen & psalmen þy vertuz. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 203 Thurgh tresoun of hire false tunge, Which thurgh the lond was after sunge. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 786 Philippus Augustinus, as songen is in layis,.. Was Emperour I-chose. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* i. vii, After he.. had songen the gestes and actes marcial of the ancient princis of Greece. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 130, I haue not songen, how This mischiefe came: but I intend With wofull voice to sing it now. 1636 Heywood *Challenge Beauty* ii. i, I shall be Ballated, Sung up and downe by Minstrills. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 3 Mecænas, read this other part, that sings Embattel'd Squadrons and advent'rous Kings. 1738 Gray *Propertius* iii. 15 Sing with what a careless Grace she flings Her artful hand. 1760 Sir W. Jones *Arcadia* Poems (1777) 122 He sung the woes of artless swains. 1820 Byron *Juan* iii. lxxix, He sung the Sultan and the Pacha. 1850 Mrs. Jamieson *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 61 He sang the creation of the world, and the origin of man.

transf. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xii. xii, Jones afterwards proceeded very gravely to sing forth the happiness of those subjects who live under such a magistrate.

b. *To sing one's praises*, to be loud in laudation of (a person, etc.).

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Cantus*, To synge ones greate prayse. 1620 B. Jonson *Alch.* ii. i, I'll He bound the players shall sing your praises, then, Without their poets. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 26 Aug., Dr. Johnson..was so caught by it..that he has sung its praises ever since. 1858 Thackeray *Virgin.* xxxi, May we modest Cinophilists not sing the praises of our favourite plant?

c. To proclaim in a musical or resonant manner; to announce clearly or distinctly. Also *fig.*

1605 *First Part of Ieronimo* i. i, My knee sings thanks vnto your highnes bountie. *c* 1616 Fletcher *Thierry & Theod.* i. ii, I hear a tempest coming, That sings mine and my kingdom's ruin. *a* 1668 Davenant *Man's the Master* iii. ii, They sung us thanks ere we made them a fire. 1837 A. Tennent *Vis. Glencoe* 5 Hark how the pibroch shrilly sings The deeds of other years. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xviii, Before whose door the watchman sang the hours when she was asleep. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 356 Put my eyes out, and I'll sing you the soundings foot by foot.

d. To call *out*. Also *transf.*

1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* i, 'Port your helm,' sung out the boatswain. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* i. xvii, Suddenly a scout sang out that a party was in sight. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvii, Moon and stars shining overhead, and the bell singing out the watch. 1850 — *Pendennis* iv, Clavering clock sang out one. 1901 *Daily Express* 28 Feb. 6/5 As the baskets go down they sing out the number where the money is to be placed.

13. a. To bring into a certain state, or to a certain place, by or with singing. Const. with preps. and advs. Also, † to lull by singing.

a 1500–34 *Coventry Corpus Christi Plays* (1902) 29 Here the wemen cum in wythe there chyldur, syngyng them. 1530 Palsgr. 718/1, I have songe thy brother aslepe. 1595 Shaks. *John* v. vii. 23 This pale faint Swan, Who..sings His soule and body to their lasting rest. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* iv. ii. 13 Then sing him home, the rest shall beare this burthen. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 190 Like the gay birds that sung them to repose. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxi, If ever they do again, I'll give them leave to sing me to Bedlam for my pains. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 3 The blackbird sang the sun to bed. 1868 Morris *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 306 The garden birds sang down the setting sun. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* i. 21 All Florence danced and sung the sweet May in.

b. To take, drive, force, etc., by or with singing. Const. *away, forth, off, out of*, etc.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. i. 200 Oh she will sing the Saueagenesse out of a Beare. 1650 A. B. *Mutat. Polemo* 15 To be chirpingly drunk, and sing away sorrow. 1788 Cowper *Mischievous Bull* 23 The angry Muse thus sings thee forth, And claps the gate behind thee. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xxiii. 154, I put on the man, Sing off my sighs, and trifle as I can. 1830 Praed *Palinodia* vii, When Laura sings young hearts away. 1875 M'Laren *Serm.* Ser. ii. vi. 102 A truth which syren voices are constantly trying to sing us out of believing.

c. To spend or pass *away* (life) in singing.

1816 Shelley *Dæmon of World* ii. 163 The winged habitants, That in the woods their sweet lives sing away.

d. To make (one's way) with singing.

1890 Hall Caine *Bondman* ii. iii, There is a full stream that tumbles into the sea..after singing its way down from the heights of Barrule.

III. 14. In combs., as †**sing-alone**, a solo singer; †**sing-man**, a singing man. *nonce words.*

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* 208 Besides these there were in a little Box near the Altar, four Musicians, called Sing-alones. *Ibid.* 221 The Abbot sung the first Verse of Even-song, which was continued by the Music and Sing-men.

Sing (siŋ), *v.*² *Sc.* (and *north.*). Also 6 **signe**. *Pa. t.* **singed, singet, -it**; also **sang, sung**. [Northern form of Singe *v.*, perh. based on the early pa. t. and pa. pple. *sengde, sengd.* Frequently conjugated after Sing *v.*¹] *trans.* To singe.

1543–5 *Aberdeen Register* XVIII. (Jam.), Sche causand sing the said houiss with ane turf of hedder. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 95 Thay thresche na stuf, bot with fyre thay signe it into the pile vpon the ground. *Ibid.*, Quhen thay haue signet it, thay winnow it. 1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superst. of Scot.* (1834) 193 Fyre ane piece of linying cleath, and sing ane hair of the beast. *a* 1689 W. Cleland *Poems* (1697) 19 Rebellious Books, Whose paper well might serve the Cooks, To sing their Poultrie. 1725 Ramsay *Gentl. Sheph.* ii. i, Fat are the puddings,—heads and feet well sung. 1828 Buchan *Ballads* (1875) I. 122 [It] sang the points o' her yellow hair. 1884 Grant *Lays & Leg. North* 29 He steed until the flames hed sung The whiskers on his cheek.

Sing, obs. Sc. form of Sign *sb.*

Singable (siˑŋăbˈl), *a.* Also 4 **syngabil**. [f. Sing *v.*] That can be sung; suitable for singing.

In common use only from about 1865.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxviii. 54 Syngabil [L. *cantabiles*] was til me þi rightwisyngis. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., The Minime they esteemed the least or shortest note singable, and therefore indiuisible. 1681 Morelli *Let. to Pepys* 11 Apr., All Baptist's bases are singable, where many of Pedro's are not so. *a* 1861 Mrs. Browning *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) I. 268 You probably know his ballads, which have a certain singable beauty in them. 1880 Hawels *Poets Pulpit* 178 He knew that the singable parts were generally imbedded in a portion which was not singable.

Hence **Siˑngableness**; also **Singabiˑlity**.

1869 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Dec. 12 That consummate simplicity and *singableness* which make Heine's lyrics so dear to his countrymen. 1888 *Alliance News* 5 May 352 Lyric character (singability).

Singalese, variant of Sinhalese.

Singalie, obs. Sc. form of Singly *adv.*

Singara, variant of Singhara.

Singcantor, variant of Sincanter *Obs.*

Singe (sindʒ), *sb.* Also 7 **sindge**. [f. the vb.] The act or effect of singeing; a slight surface burn, a scorch. Also *fig.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* iii. 34 Other incinerable substances were found so fresh, that they could feel no sindge from fire. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 80, I could not be cast into the furnace, and come forth without a singe. 1830 Hr. Martineau *Hist. Peace* iv. xiii. (1877) III. 123 Lafayette traversed a purgatory of human passions without a singe from any flame. 1895 Browning *Bp. Blougram* 722 Break fire's law.., although the penalty Be just a singe? 1888 Shorthouse *Countess Eve* xi, An appalling mystic light—the singe and glow of the flame of the pit!

Singe (sindʒ), *v.* Forms: 1 sæn(e)gan, sen(e)gan, 4 seng, 4–6 senge (5 seenge), 7 sendge; 5–6 synge, 6 syndge, 6–8 sindge, 7 sindg, 6– singe. See also SING *v.*[2] [OE. *sencgan*, = OFris. *sengi*, *singa* (WFris. *singe*, dial. *sinzje*), MDu. and Du. *zengen*, MLG. and MHG. *sengen* (G. *sengen*, †*sängen*), related to Icel. *sangr* singed, *sengja* singed taste, Norw. *sengra*, *sengja* to smell of burning. The stem **sang-* may be related to SING *v.*[1] and have reference to the sound produced by violent singeing.]

1. *trans.* **a.** Of persons, etc.: To burn (something) superficially or lightly, to burn the ends or edges of (hair, wings, etc.); *esp.* to subject (the carcase of a pig, fowl, or other animal) to flame or fire in order to remove the bristles or hair.

c 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* I. 436 Zyme eac swan ðæt he æfter sticunge his slyht-swyn wel behweorfe, sængce. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 349 For who so wolde senge a Catles skyn, Thanne wolde the Cat wel dwellen in his In. *a* 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* Lev. xxiii. 11 *marg.*, The eeris of corn weren sengid in fier, and the cornes..weren schakun out. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. ii. 74 He wold not that they shold vse ony yron but to brenne and senge his heeris. 1530 PALSGR. 718/1 Take away this candell, I have synged my heare. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 152 b, With a flame made with strawe, or stickes, syndge him. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 42 No man blameth the candle..though butter flyes sindge theyr winges in it. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 167 He..fetcht in two young pigs: not long he staid, But kill'd, sindg'd, jointed, roasted. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 112 P 2 [He] either clipped the Wings, or singed the Tails, of his innocent Captives. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 57 Take your goose ready dressed, singe it and pour over it a quart of boiling milk. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 103 The hunters..will venture so near as sometimes to singe his hair with the flash of the rifle. 1886 PASCOE *London of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 345 If the hair is..to be dressed, singed, shampooed. *fig.* 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 259 They are singed at the sight of her faire face. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 71 She had gone such lengths in the way of flirting with a recruiting officer, that her reputation was a little singed. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxix, I go forthwith..down the coast, to singe the King of Spain's beard. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VII. 1640 'Twas truth singed the lies And saved me.

† **b.** To burn, consume with fire; to cauterize (a sore). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5206 We sall his cite & him-selfe synge in-to poudire. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 242 Who will forget Catania? of high fame For pietie of brothers sindg'd in flame. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 171 It must needs be some grief..to the patient to have an old festered sore searched and singed.

c. *techn.* To pass (a woven fabric) over a heated plate or roller, or through gas flame, in order to remove superfluous fibres, or to dress the nap.

1728, 1800 [see SINGEING *vbl. sb.*]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1139 In some shops, semi-cylinders of copper..have been substituted for those of iron, in singeing goods prior to bleaching them. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 369 For goods to be finely printed both sides are singed.

2. Of fire or flame: To burn (something) slightly or superficially. Also *techn.* (cf. 1 c).

1340 *Ayenb.* 229 Þet uer þet zengh and bernþ ofte þe huyte robe of chastete and of maydenhod. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 27 They..take a light candell..which sengieth and brenneth away the cotton of the same fustyan. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 255 b, It singed trees and turned them up by the rootes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 79 Thus hath the candle sing'd the moath. 1659 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 191 The fire Might sindge thy upper down attire. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1666, The..smoake and fiery vapour, continu'd so intense that my haire was almost sing'd. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Rev. Relig* II. iii. 202 It did not singe their clothes or hair. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) vii. 159 A bright flash of lightning seemed to singe our beards. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 813/2 The flame applied directly under the roller singes the cloth thoroughly. *transf.* 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 312 The scorching sky Doth singe the sandy wilds of spiceful Barbary.

† **b.** Used to describe the effect produced by intense cold. (Cf. BURN *v.*[1] 13 d.) *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXI. xxxii. 411 The cattell, sheepe, oxen, and horses, singed with cold. 1601 — *Pliny* II. 319 Hogs grease..healeth burns and scaldings, yea, though one were scorched and sendged with snow.

3. To take *off*, remove, by superficial burning.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 171 The Doctor, Whose beard they have sindg'd off with brands of fire. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xliv. 348 Depose their erroneous Doctrines, and Traditions, and have them as it were sindged off. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. (ed. 4) 303 The galeon's colours being singed off the ensign-staff in the beginning of the engagement. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mech.* 415 These operations consist generally of singing the superfluous fibres from the surface of the cloth, by drawing it over hot irons. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* II. 48 *Singeing-furnace*, a heated surface of copper, over which the strip of cotton is drawn rapidly.., by which the light airy filaments are singed from the surface of the cloth.

Singe, obs. f. SIGN *sb.* and *v.*[1], SING *v*

Singed (sindʒd), *ppl. a.*[1] Forms: 4 seynd, 5 seynt; 4 senged, 6 singde, 6–7 sindg'd, 7–8 sing'd, 7– singed. [f. SINGE *v.* + -ED [1].] That has been subjected to the process of singeing; scorched or slightly burnt, or presenting the appearance of this; parched.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's T.* 23 Milk and broun breed..Seynd Bacon and somtyme an Ey or tweye. *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 19 (Thynne), He knew wel by hys senged snoute, He was a man wonte to walke about. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13703, I sawh a wekke..Pyled and seynt as any kaat. 1594 *1st Pt. Contention* I. iv, Where Pluto in his firie Waggon sits, Ryding amidst the singde and parched smoakes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 928 Summer drouth, or singed air Never scorch thy tresses fair. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* vi. 497 Shall I be fed With sodden Nettles, and a sing'd Sow's Head? 1700 — *Fables, Cock & Fox* 34 Rashers of sindg'd bacon on the coals. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 475 Tnen the sing'd members they with skill divide. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvi, Flesh, which, in its sable and singed shape, seemed [etc.]. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 42 Singed Grous, *Pterocles Exustus*. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 27 A yellow singed appearance is given by using soap with much resin, or much alkali.

b. *Singed cat*, in allusive use (see quots.). *U.S.*

1847 HALIBURTON *Old Judge* I. ii. 44 It don't do to hang a feller for his looks, after all, that's a fact; for that crittur is like a singed cat, better nor he seems. 1858 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1859), We reckon there'll be fun; as a Cincinnati paper says Pryne is a perfect singed cat. 1859 *Ibid.*, *Singed cat*, an epithet applied to a person whose appearance does him injustice.

Singed (sĭ·ŋẹ̆d, sĭŋd), *ppl. a.*[2] *Sc.* (and *north.*). Also 8–9 singet, 9 singit. [f. SING *v.*[2] + -ED [1].] = prec. Also *fig.* and *Comb.*

a 1682 SEMPILL *Blythsome Wedding* 64 A sing'd sheep's head and a haggize. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 40 He's like the singed cat, better than he's likely. 1789 BURNS *Kirk's Alarm* vii, Singet Sawney! Singet Sawney! Are ye huirdin' the penny? 1808 JAMIESON, *Singit-like*, puny, shrivelled. 1857 J. STEWART *Sk. Scot. Character* 64 (E.D.D.), Your singit shargie o' a laddie.

Singeing (sĭ·ndʒĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 7 cingeing, etc. [f. SINGE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb., in various senses. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 453/1 Seengynge,..*ustillacio*. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Chamusquina*, singeing with fire. *c* 1626 BACON *Advt. touching Holy War* (1629) 40, I remember Drake, in the vaunting stile of a Souldier, would call this Enterprise: The Cingeing of the King of Spaines Beard. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sheering*, Some use the Phrase Sheering of Hats, for the passing of Hats made of Wooll over the Flame of a clear Fire...Others call this Flaming and others Sindging. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* iv. § 23. 183, I do not remember an account of any things being prepared for food by singeing. 1800 *Patent Specif., Bleaching, Dyeing*, etc. (1859) 78 All kinds of woollen cloth..may be finished.. by singeing instead of cropping or shearing. 1820 BYRON *Juan* v. cli, The singeing of a single inky whisker. 1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 177 The forest, instead of being burnt up, merely showed signs of singeing. 1895 J. L. MAXWELL *Life W. B. Thomson* x. 101 My attention was drawn to an intolerable smell of singeing.

b. *Comb.*, as *singeing-furnace*, *-lamp*, *plate*, *-machine*, *stove*, etc.

1800 *Patent Specif., Bleaching, Dyeing*, etc. (1859) 78 Drawing the cloth..over the singeing plate. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nature of Wool* 158 For this purpose he employs the shears, the singing stoves and the press with its heated plates. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 48 Singeing-furnace. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* XXVII, Flirtation, after all, was not necessarily a singeing process. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2186/2. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 813/2 A gas singeing machine intended for removing or dressing the nap on woven goods.

Si·ngeing, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That singes; burning, scorching.

1598 YONG *Diana* 286 Then thornes More sharpe and pricking with thy singing scornes. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, May I be numd with horror, and my vaines Pucker with sing'ing torture. 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 229 In the singeing heat of..ten o'clock.

Hence **Si·ngeingly** *adv.*

1655–87 H. MORE *App. Antid.* (1712) 220, I confess that the Bodies of Devils may be not only warm, but sindgingly hot. *Ibid.* 221.

Singel, obs. form of SHINGLE *sb.*[1]

Singer[1] (sĭ·ŋəɹ). Also 4 syngere, 5–6 synger; 5 synggare, 6 syngar, singar(e. [f. SING *v.*[1] + -ER [1]. Cf. Fris. *sjonger*, MDu. *singer*, MHG. *singære*, G. *sänger*.]

1. One who sings; a trained vocalist; also *spec.* in eccl. use (quot. 1843).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4024 After Sysilly com Glegabret, A syngere of þe beste get. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 17 And right anon thanne comen Tombesteres,.. Syngeres with harpes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 476/1 Synggare, *cantor*. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 5 Namely, that he..help the Syngers after his cunnyng in the honour of our blessed lady. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 154 Marchauntys therof [pleasures] and craftys men, syngarys and playarys apon instrumentys. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 29 His filching was like an vnskilfull Singer, he kept not time. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* III. ii, He has been..one of the sweet singers to the city Funerals. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 393 The vocal musicians, or singers,..perform even in private houses for money. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 216 Three thousand singers, with the masters of the respective chorusses. 1818 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* x, My judgment is not deep, my lord; but the singer may dispense with my approbation. 1843 HAMMOND *Def. Faith Œcumen. Councils* 183 If a Subdeacon, Reader, or Singer commits the same things. 1880 'VERNON LEE' *Italy* III. ii. 213 Farinelli..was proud of being a singer and afraid of being a political agent.

b. Of song-birds. (More frequently *songster*.)

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 239 We see also, that Cock-birds, among Singing-birds, are ever the better singers. 1849 CRAIG s.v., The canary is a fine singer. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 462 Singers (*Sylviadæ*)...Some of them noted singers.

2. A composer of poetry or verse; a poet.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 1 Dauid.., the swete singer of Israel. 1652 (*title*), Herbert's Remains, or, sundry Pieces of that sweet Singer of the Temple. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Preshyt. Proposals* Wks. 1711 IV. 126 Quakers, Muggletonians and Sweet-Singers of Israel. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 423 Amidst the throng in Elizabeth's antechamber the noblest form is that of the singer who lays the 'Faerie Queen' at her feet. 1880 LANIER *Sci. Eng. Verse* Pref., Wyatt, Surrey, Sackville, and a host of less known or unknown singers.

attrib. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 74 A sterling man, a true Singer-heart. 1906 *Month* July 90 Some prayer that has come through the centuries from a singer-saint.

Singer[2] (sĭ·ndʒəɹ). [f. SINGE *v.* + -ER [1].] One who or that which singes.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2187/1 *Singer*, an apparatus through which cotton or woolen goods are passed to relieve them of their fluff, preparing them for the dyer. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Si·ngeress.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SINGER [1] + -ESS.] A female singer.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezra* ii. 65 In hem singeres and singeressis, two hundrid. — *Ecclus.* ii. 8, I made to me singeris and singeresses.

Singhalee·. *rare* −[1]. = SINHALESE 2.

1847 *Simmons' Col. Mag.* May 14 We've been a studying Singhalee.

Singhalese, variant of SINHALESE.

‖ **Singhara** (sĭŋgha·ra). Also singara. [Hindī *singhārā*.] The water-chestnut (*Trapa bispinosa*) of India, or the edible nut produced by this. Usually *attrib.* with *nut*.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 478/2 The Singhara nut..forms an object of general cultivation in the lakes which surround the city of Cashmere. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 126 The seeds of the araucarian pine,..and the singhara, or water-nut, are all highly recommended..as substitutes for potatoes. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 71/2 The jhils supply the villages with wild rice..and the singhara water-nut.

Singilly, obs. form of SINGLY *adv.*

Singing (sĭ·ŋĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 4–6 syngyng(e, 5 cyngynge, etc. [f. SING *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of the verb; chanting; also, matter suitable for singing.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20587 Omang þat singing and þat gleu Our leuedi hir sun ihesu knew. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XI. 145, I [was] saued, as ȝe may se, with-oute syngyng of masses. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1162 In ayn oþer plase sais he þat angels sal our synging se. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78 Cyngynge of songe, *cantus*. *Ibid.*, Cyngynge of masse, *celebracio*. 1484 *Paston Lett.* III. 314 Sche seyd that ther wer non dyngysyngs, ner harpyng, ner lutyng, ner syngyn. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* vii. 31 They mynistred before the habitacion of the Tabernacle of witnes with synginge. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 21 With singing, and shouting, and iolly chere. 1611 BIBLE *Song Sol.* ii. 12 The time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 90 They are naturally inclined to singing. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 763 Yet was he received by the Clergy with a Solemn Procession and Singing. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 21 Apr., Every one stood up at the singing. 1817 SHELLEY *Fragm., To one Singing* 2 Upon the liquid waves of thy sweet singing. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 72 The horrid noise which the Kaffirs made, and call singing. 1872 T. HARDY *Under Greenw. Tree* Pref., Some of these compositions which now lie before me..are good singing still.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1716 In blisse, and in syngynges, This Troylus gan all his lyf to lede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 164 Leccherous maners, as kyssynges, felynges, dern syngynges. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 454 Their Diriges, their Trentals, and their shrifts, Their memories, their singings, and their gifts. 1661 *Papers Alter. Prayer-bk.* 80 They use not the same prayers, singings or readings. 1684 *Foxe's A. & M.* III. 390 Neither their singings, nor their sayings, shall bring us out of Hell.

2. The emission of a clear musical note by fermenting or heated liquids.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 113 3iff þe wyne reboyle, þow shalle know by hys syngynge. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., The sound made by damp wood when burning is also called singing.

3. A sound of a musical character having its origin *in* the ears or head.

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* v. i, I'll swear I had A singing in my head a whole week after. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 78 The iuyce..allayes the singing in the Eares. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1700) 163, I have a singing in my head like that of a Cartwheel. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 70 The giddiness in my head, singing in my ears,.. were now considerably abated. 1889 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Instit.* XIX. 119 Singings in the ear, gurglings in the throat.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *singing face*, *gear*, *-master*, *matter*, *robes*, *-school*, *skill*, *-voice*; **singing-bone**, *dial.*, the funny-bone; † **singing-book**, a book to sing from; **singing-e'en**, *Sc.*, New Year's eve; † **singing gift** (see quot.); † **singing loaf**, = SINGING BREAD; **singing-muscle**, one of the syringeal muscles of a singing-bird (*Cent. Dict.*); † **singing psalms**, the metrical version of the psalms used for singing in church; † **singing wine**, ? wine used in celebrating mass.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, **Singing-bone*, the sharp bone at the edge of the elbow. 1580 ALLEN in J. Gillow *Haydock Papers* (1888) 17 To employ the same summe..upon a payre of organs, one table, and certayne *singing bookes. 1607 [? BARWER] *Lingua* I. iv, When shall wee heare a new set of singing-books, or th' viols, or the consort of Instruments. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 24 *Singin'-e'en she's owre aft seen, She's shakin' hands wi' fifty. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* II, He hadn't what is generally termed a *singing face. 1530 *Knaresb. Wills*

(Surtees) I. 26 That he shall have his tytle and *singynge geyr bought at the coste of my sayd wyeffe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 *Syngynge 3yfte, or reward for syngynge, *syparium*. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* f viij, A great deale of flower wolde not make so manye hostes, as they call them, or *synginge loues. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) T viij b, Make a fewe pylles of aloes,..wynde them in a piece of a singing lofe,..and let them be swalowed. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ¶ 2 He..employed an itinerant *Singing-Master..to instruct them rightly in the Tunes of the Psalms. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvii, If there is any truth in your news, is it a *singing matter, you scoundrel? 1679 BUNYAN *Fear of God* Wks. 1852 I. 473, I will set it before thee both as it is in the reading and in the *singing psalms. 1710 W. BEVERIDGE *Wks.* (1846) VIII. 615 Great endeavours..have been made..to cast out the Old, and bring in a New Version of the Singing-Psalms. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Homer & Homeridæ* Wks. 1857 VI. 362 When his *singing robes were on,..the *rhapsodos* held his stick in his right hand. 1736 AINSWORTH, A *singing school, *ludus musicus*. 1838 G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* Introd. p. x, In the sixth century Pope Gregory I established a singing-school at Rome. *c* 1600 F. DAVISON in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 331 Let my tongue lose *singing skill. 1880 LANIER *Sci. Eng. Verse* i. 28 These are the limits for the human *singing-voice. 1558 *Fraternity Holy Ghost, Basingstoke* (1882) 9 Item payed for *singinge wyne, ij d.

b. Of places used for singing in, as *singing-gallery, -house, loft, -pew, -place, -seat, theatre.*

1688 MIÈGE *Grt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Jubé*,..a singing Place. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Sept 1644, At the end of it is a Cupola or singing theatre. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 708 The Reading-Desk stands just by the Singing-Pew. 1770 *Ibid.* LXI. 74 The lightning entered..through two places in the roof, one near the singing loft. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Como* (1839) 211 That shady nook, a singing place for birds. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xx, The theatres and singing-houses which these roaring young blades frequented. 1864 WHITTIER *Wreck of Rivermouth* 109 In the singing-seats young eyes were dim. 1883 C. C. PERKINS *Ital. Sculp.* 139 A singing-gallery (cantoria) in the Cathedral.

Si·nging, *ppl. a.* Also 4–5 **syngynge.** [-ING².]

I. 1. That sings; giving forth song.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 128 Syngynge man silden weputh. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVI. ii, All earth, I say, and all earth dwellers, Be of his worth the singing tellers. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 198 The singing Masons building roofes of Gold. 1779 *Mirror* No. 24, We have the whistling plowman, the singing milk-maid. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 3 O'er stiller place No singing skylark ever poised himself. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 515 The bright visions, Wherein the singing spirits rode and shone. 1882 J. PARKER *Apostolic Life* I. 12 Like a singing angel newly sent from the glad heavens.

b. In names of birds, etc.

1864–5 WOOD *Homes without H.* xii. (1868) 218 A most beautiful pensile nest is made by the Singing Honey-Eater (*Ptilotus sonorus*). 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 253 The *Batrachidæ* are represented on the Pacific coast by the 'Singing-fish', or 'Toad-fish', *Porichthys porosissimus*.

2. Specially or professionally employed in singing; engaged or hired to sing: **a.** *Singing man,* a man engaged to sing in an ecclesiastical choir.

1527–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 346 Paide to a singing-man of Sent Anthis..for keping of our lady mas. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 156 To haue plaide it on the Organes with a quier of singing men. 1602 CAMPION *Art Eng. Poesie* ii. 6 Sir Thomas Moore..makes two sundry Epitaphs vpon the death of a singing man at Westminster. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. xvii. 179 He heavily aggravated the debauchednesse of Singingmen. 1725 *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 100 Mr. Bierly..married a daughter of Dan. Williams the Singing-man of Westminster. 1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* III. i. 22 He procured a singing-man's place in the cathedral of Norwich. 1802 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Singing-Man*, the appellation formerly given by the common people to the gentlemen of cathedral choirs. 1905 E. CANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* xiv. 269 The Abbot begins the chant, and the monks, facing each other like singing-men in a choir, repeat the litany.

fig. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 120 As many sortes of shrill breasted birdes, as the Summer hath allowed for singing men in her siluane chapels.

b. Similarly *singing boy, clerk.* Also, in other than ecclesiastical use, *singing girl, woman.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* XXXV. 25 All the synginge men and wemen [1611 the singing women]. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Cantrix*,..a syngyng woman. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Feb., And hither come cushions to us, and a young singing-boy to bring us a copy of the anthem to be sung. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 25 Let Singing-boyes Whose Pension's pay for 't, do those Drudgeries! 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 41 ¶ 6 Mr. John Taplash..desires your Vote for Singing-Clerk of this Parish. 1776 *Addit. Wks. Pope* I. 35 With wives I never sin, But singing girls and mimicks draw me in. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 302 The dicast..enters with a torch in one hand, and leads a singing-girl in the other. 1880 BROWNING *Mulèykeh* 59 For a couple of singing-girls his robe has he torn in two.

3. *Singing bird,* a bird that sings; a songster. Usually applied to cage-birds; the pl. is also sometimes used as a rendering of OSCINES 2.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cantrices aues*, syngyng byrdes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 288 (Q.¹), Suppose the singing birds musitions. 1626 [see SINGER¹ 1 b]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 5 ¶ 7 The next time it is Acted, the Singing Birds will be Personated by Tom-Tits. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 339 Of the Canary-bird, and other hard billed Singing-birds. 1828 SCOTT *Rob Roy* v, They are like imprisoned singing-birds. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 772 It is owing to the capacity of the air-cells that the Singing Birds are enabled to prolong their notes.

transf. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. iv, Mealy-mouthed inquisitors, and shaven singing-birds.

4. That makes or gives out a sound of a musical character (cf. SING *v.*¹ 6).

1565 COOPER *Thes.*, *Sagitta stridens*, a syngyng arrow. 1629 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 274/1 His winged messenger..did hide His singing feathers in his wounded side. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xvi. 423 Malice, which,..like hollow singing bullets, flies but halfway to the mark. 1716 POPE *Iliad* V. 214 Through the thick storm of singing spears he flies. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 432 The water in the singing brass Simmer'd. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 235 Sounds Sweet as a singing rain of silver dew. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* Introd. 48 Beyond them..Stood the groves of singing pine-trees. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 175 A patch of singing sand under my feet.

b. *Singing-buoy,* a buoy having something attached which gives out a singing sound. *Singing coal* (see quot. 1883). *Singing glass* (see quot. 1875). *Singing hinny* (north. dial.), a kind of cake which emits a hissing sound while cooking on a girdle. *Singing tree,* a West Indian tree, the pods of which make a singing sound when stirred by the wind.

1894 *Outing* XXIV. 460/2 A *singing-buoy had been torn from its moorings. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 193 Strata, including *singeing [*sic*] coal. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coalm.* 223 *Singing Coal*, a bed of coal from which gas is ordinarily issuing from the partly-exposed face in the mine, producing a hissing sound. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Feb., I had one or two *singing-glasses made, which make an echo to the voice, the first that ever I saw. 1792 G. GALLOWAY *Poems* 34 To see..Mr. Cartwright's singing glasses. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2187/1 *Singing-glass*, a thin, sonorous glass vessel, which yields an echo when vibrated by a sound. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Singin* or **Singing-hinny*, a kneaded spice cake baked on the girdle; indispensable in a pitman's family. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* iv, Neither cream nor finest wheaten flour was wanting for 'turf-cakes' and 'singing-hinnies'. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 340 The *flamboyant*..is very abundant here [the Bahamas]; as is also the '*singing' tree, which we first saw in Jamaica.

II. 5. Of the nature of singing; having the musical qualities of song.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 11244 (Trin.), Aungels..brouȝt word with syngynge steuen. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXIII. ii, O now accord Violls with singing voice. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVIII. xi, On the Lord your singing gladnes spend. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 115 A She-Preacher.. with a Trembling Voice, and Singing Tone. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentl. Sheph.* I. ii, The water fa's, and makes a singand din. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 37, I have acquired by habit that singing tone of voice which is common in our mountains. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvii. 317 The intervals between the louder reports being filled by a low singing noise.

† Singing bread. *Obs.* [Cf. SING *v.*¹ 3 and 11.] The wafer used in the celebration of the mass.

1432–3 *Will of E. Strete* (Comm. Crt. London), Duo par de bakyngirnes, unum pro shosynlyngbred [?] & aliud pro singyngbred. 1453 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 190 Item j box of silver covered, for syngyngbrede. 1527 in Lewis *Life Fisher* (1855) I. 314 These prestis makith us to beleve, that the synginge brede they holde ouer their hedes is god, and it is but a cake. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* IV. 51 b, And least in grave he shoulde remaine, without some companie, The singing bread is layde with him. 1616 SURFL. & MARKHAM *Country Farme* V. xxii. 585 Singing breads are made after the manner of Oublies, saue only that the meale whereof they are kneaden is not mingled with Honey, Sugar, or any manner of Leaven whatsoever.

Singing cake.

† 1. = SINGING BREAD. *Obs.*

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 258 A patten with the hoste or singing cake. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 43 He hath..delivered into his handes a chalice with wine and water, also the gilt Patent with a singing Cake. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1102/2 A cat.., with hir fore feet tied togither, and a round peece of paper like a singing cake betwixt them. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 342 Vnconsecrated singing cakes (as they terme them).

† b. Used as a wafer for sealing with. *Obs.*

1582 MUNDAY *Eng. Rom. Life* 5 These Letters finished, and sealed vp with singing Cake, he delyuered vnto vs.

2. *Sc.* A cake given to singers on Hogmanay.

1894 'H. HALIBURTON' (J. L. ROBERTSON) *Furth in Field* 28 Money was sometimes added to the ordinary gift of 'singing' cakes and cheese. 1894 MELDRUM *Margrédel* I. 6, I remember that dining at the Oliphant's crowned the joy of singing-cakes and other delights.

Si·ngingly, *adv.* [f. SINGING *ppl. a.*] In a singing manner or tone.

1575 G. NORTH tr. *Philibert's Philosopher at Court* 16 Counterfaite Courtiers..speaking lispingly, and answering singingly. 1896 DORAN *Knights & their Days* viii. 122 He ..takes the half dozen damsels..and swings singingly along with them in search of the roving Scot.

Single (si·ng'l), *sb.* Also 5 **sengle,** 6 **syngle,** *Sc.* **singill.** [Substantival use of SINGLE *a.*]

1. a. *Falconry.* The middle or outer claw on the foot of a hawk or falcon. Now only *arch.*

Chiefly in *pl.*, the middle claws being called the *long singles*, and the outer the *petty singles*. In early use the singles were distinguished from the pounce and talon; later writers sometimes use the word vaguely to denote all the claws.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a iiij, The clees that are vpon the myddil stretchers ye shall call the longe sengles. And the vttermost clees ye shall call the pety sengles. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 123 If a falcon trusse..you muste cope his tallantes, his powise, and his petie single. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. killed w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 99 Both her petty singles And her long singles griped her more than other. 1614 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 134 When you do perceiue that your Hawke hath caught a straine..in any of the lesser ioynts of the singles. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 237/2 The Singles, or Petty Singles, are the Toes of the Hawk. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv, What! struggling, fluttering, aiming at me with beak and single? 1860 H. AINSWORTH *Ovingdean Grange* 61 Like the Barbary falcon, armed with strong singles and pounces. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 368 Like the muirfowl quivering in the singles of a falcon.

b. *Hunting.* The tail of a deer.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 243 The tayle of Harte, Bucke, Rowe, or any other Deare, is to be called the Syngle. 1590 COCKAINE *Hunting* D j, He will close vp his mouth as though he had not been..hunted that day, making a bragge and setting vp his single. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 Such as want that treasure, make use of singles of Deere, beaks of Birds [etc.]. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 175 That single wagging at thy Butt, Those Gambrils, and that cloven foot. 1711 PUCKLE *Club* 90 His next discourse was of the tail or single of a deer. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Single*, the tail of a deer. Used on the north-eastern side of the county. 1865 G. F. BERKELEY *Life & Recoll.* II. 280 We found a doe.. I killed her myself, and cutting off the single..I presented it to D'Anchald.

transf. 1592 LYLY *Midas* IV. iii, There was a boy leasht on the single...*Licio.* Whats that? *Pet.* Why, a boy was beaten on the taile with a leathern thong.

† c. *pl.* Entrails, intestines. *Obs.*—1

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. 353 She put thereto the.. flesh and feathers of a Witch.., The Singles [L. *prosecta*] also of a Wolfe.

2. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* A handful or small bundle of gleanings.

The form current in the west midlands is SONGLE.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 116 Thow lay full prydles in the peise this somer, And fane at evin for to bring hame a single. 1615 in Ritchie *Churches of St. Baldred* 150 He did thresh but a verie short space—twa or thre Singles—in his necessitie. 1786 *Hav'st Rig* XXVI, They're great thieves. For which they're ordered far behind, To mak such singles as they find. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 123 They're fu' glad To gather singles on the shade. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbid. Gloss.* 643 Gleaning is often described as 'gatherin singles' or as singlin...Singles are bundled and carried home on the 'gatherer' and afterwards 'bittled'.

3. In various specific or technical senses.

† a. A particular step in dancing. *Obs.* **b.** A simple uncompounded word. **† c.** *Sc.* One half of a doubled amount. *Obs.* **d.** A form of change in bell-ringing. **e.** A single (as opposed to a double) flower. **f.** A silk thread consisting of a single strand. **g.** *Cards.* (See quots.) **h.** *Cricket,* etc. A hit for which one run is scored; a single point. **i.** *Tennis, Golf,* etc. A game or match in which only one person on each side plays at one time.

a. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xxiii, The thirde motion, called singles, is of two unities seperate in pasinge forwarde. 1611 COTGR., *Simple*,..a single in dauncing. **b.** 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xvi. (Arb.) 145 The sillable *prooue*..is long in all his singles and compoundes *reproue, approue, disproue*. **c.** 1592 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 574 He sall mak payment..for the singill of the dowbill of the fewferme of the landis of Catsiak. **d.** 1684 R. H. *School Recreat.* 93 Another Way of Ringing Twenty Four Changes, Doubles and Singles on Four Bells. **e.** 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* V. (1813) 62 The farina of the singles transported by bee or wind will spoil the seed of the doubles. **f.** 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 197 Raw silk, before it can be used in weaving, is made to take one of three forms, being converted into either singles, tram, or organzine. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 184 There is a kind called dumb singles, which consists of silk merely wound and cleaned... Another manufactured variety, called thrown singles, is silk which has been wound, cleaned, and thrown. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 154/2 By *singles* is signified one of the reeled threads twisted. **g.** 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 162 *Single*, (at long whist) scoring the game after your adversary has scored five or more; at short whist, after he has scored four. 1876 CAMPBELL-WALKER *Correct Card* (1880) Gloss., *Single, a*,—making game after your adversary has scored three or four up. **h.** 1858 *New York Tribune* 25 Aug. 5/6 Smith made three by singles. 1883 *Daily Telegr.* 15 May 2/7 Mr. Hawke added another single off that bowler. **i.** 1884 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 3/5 The first rounds of the Gentlemen's Singles..were decided as follows. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Nov. 4/1 J. H. Taylor won the singles competition with a score of 76.

4. A single thing, person, etc. *In singles,* each one separately, singly.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi, If..any [trees] be so strongly constituted,..they may..perform that in some singles which is observable in whole kinds. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 133 Houndin the wolves in singles or pairs or flocks. 1838 HOOD *Clubs* v, Friends dropping in at close of day To singles, doubles, rubs. 1895 *Scottish Antiq.* X. 79 In singles or in pairs men began to put in an appearance.

† Single, obs. var. of (or error for) SINGLO.

1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5934/3, 35 Tubs Single Tea per Hertford. 1730 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 12 Oct., 50 Chests of Bohea and 50 Chests of Single.

Single, obs. or dial. f. CINGLE (horse-girth, etc.).

Single (si·ng'l), *a.* Forms: 4–5 **sengle** (4 **seyngle**), 5 **sengil(l, sengell(e, cengylle,** 6 **sengyll**; 5–6 **syngle, singill** (5 **syngyll**, 6 **syngyll**), 5– **single.** [a. OF. *single, sengle* (also *saingle, sangle*, etc.; mod.Picard dial. *single*, Norman *sangle*) :—L. *singulum* (in class.L. only pl. *singuli*, etc.) one, individual, separate; the first syllable is identical with the *sim-* of *simplus* SIMPLE *a.*

Some of the senses placed under branch II, though less original than those of branch I, are slightly earlier and more common in Middle English.]

I. 1. In predicative use: Unaccompanied or unsupported by others; alone, solitary. **a.** With the substantive verb, or in constructions implying this.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 33 We ben sengle of us silf, & semen ful bare, Nouht welde we now [etc.]. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3225 And my partye is but in veyn, So sengle that I stonde in doute; For Venus hath so gret a route

Ageynes me [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 60b, Hys eyes graye, hys teethe syngle and heare thynne. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. v, Edmund away,..be not found single for suspect: Proud Mortimer pries neare into thy walkes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVI. XXV, Still I'm alone, yea singler than alone; In Absent Him I from my self am gone. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 796 Our Noblest Senses act by Pairs,..But those that serve the Body alone, Are single and confin'd to one. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. v. 392 They left Clodius single in the opposition. 1780 *Mirror* No. 90, He is left alone, single and unsupported, like a leafless trunk. 1803-5 WORDSW. *Solitary Reaper* i, Behold her, single in the field. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 115/2 In the first place, each executive officer should be single, and singly responsible for the whole of the duty.

b. With other verbs, in quasi-advb. use.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1531, I com hider sengel, & sitte. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 342 His Birth being otherwise so obscure and mean, as no man had ever stood so single. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* IV. i, I desir'd that he would leave the Company and meet me single here. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 7 ¶ 1 My Dear, Misfortunes never come Single. 1798 WEBBE in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 6 All our former..exertions were made against Tippoo single, and unsupported by the French. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 16 The royal braces go single. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* III. 6 See, here is Hermod, who comes single back From Hell.

† c. Unsupported by other evidence. *Obs.*—1

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xii. 356 Wherfore this that Girald writith of this voice is ful sengil to be beleued.

2. Individual, as contrasted with larger bodies or numbers of persons or things.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7867 For þere-as men are so mony,...All put in a purpos with a plain wille; þof the synigle mon say, & it sothe be, Hit is demyt for dulle. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* iv. 56 Though these were but single men yet they were martyrs. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 713 Nor do those Ills on single Bodies prey; But oft'ner bring the Nation to decay. 1717 POPE *Iliad* X. 196 Each single Greek..Stands on the sharpest edge of death or life. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. vi. 409 Laws to inflict penalties on single persons by name. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 68 No single mind in single contact with the facts of nature could have created out of itself a Pallas..or a Lear. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. 93 We hear sometimes of single remarkable acts of virtue, which spring from minds in which there is not the habit of virtue.

absol. 1865 NEALE *Hymns Paradise* 48 There the gifts of each and single All in common right possess.

b. Of, pertaining to, or connected with, one person only. Freq. with possessive pronoun.

1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* II. ii, With my single fist Ile combat thee. 1626 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 58 Although he had noe other company But his sole single selfe to satisfie. 1672 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 397 So that I must adventure to give you my single opinion, submitting to better judgements. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 74, I observ'd their prayers were all made on the first person and single, though before the body of people. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 139 Constantius..acknowledged, that his single strength was unequal to such an extent of care. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xxxvii, He had, almost by his single and unassisted talents, stopped the irruption of the banded force of all the Highland chiefs. 1842 TENNYSON *'You ask me, why'* v, Should banded unions..induce a time When single thought is civil crime. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. ii. 60 What hinders me to make my single will The world's whole law?

† c. *At single hand*, single-handed, unaided. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 575 There is hardly any Dog so courageous, as to adventure upon a Wolf at single hand.

3. Separate; distinct from each other or from others; not combined or taken together.

In the first quot. used distributively, after the Latin.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 309 Iacob..blessenge his childer with single benedicciones. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 11 The poor Greek..opened his purse and gave unto the Emperour four single halfpence. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, He might have altered the shape of his argument, and explicated them better in single scenes. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* ii. (1736) 22 All Urns contained not single Ashes. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii, A Rams Cod stored with Single Pence. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 1 A Man..who communicates his Writings to the World in loose Tracts and single Pieces. 1779 *Mirror* No. 24, It will readily be admitted, that the preference, in every single object, is due to the former. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 89 Dropped by single pieces into the copper while in full boil. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* x. 316 The beginning of all Knowledge is in single acts of the Perceptive or Acquisitive Faculty. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 486 Each single fibre, at the spot where it receives the stimulus, can attach to it the extra-impression described.

4. Undivided, unbroken, absolute. *rare.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 21 Being consorted with Manild, For thirst of single kingdome him he kild. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 204 Yet nought but single darknes do I find. 1701 *Swift Contests Nobles & Commons* iii, The madness of the people, who..were now wholly bent upon single and despotick slavery.

5. One only; one and no more. Sometimes strengthened by *one*.

1538 ELYOT, *Simplus*, single in numbre, one only. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 50 Two bosomes interchanged with an oath, So then two bosomes, and a single troth. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* XXXIX, For this, let vs deuided liue, And our deare loue loose name of single one. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 34 He'll order the Master to take no money from them, and that with a single word. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* III. 59 Thus all will judge, and with one single aim. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* vi. § 5 Wks. 1825 III. 169 The prisoner was bound to the soldier by a single chain. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiii, He observed that Wayland purchased in each [shop] only one single drug. 1846 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iii. 92 In one case, the mind may be occupied with a single object, or a single idea. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 495 We have observed the tendency of Plato to combine two or more subjects..in a single dialogue.

absol. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 94 Why how could they Draw off from thee one single of thy griefs?

b. In emphatic use after a negative, or an adv. denoting scarcity.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 50 ¶ 11, I will not write one single Word about any such Matters. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 188 What must become of the rest who have not a single Penny? 1780 *Mirror* No. 94, Hardly a single house did I find inhabited by the same persons I left in it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 123 During a whole week, not a single private letter from beyond the Tweed was delivered in London. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xii. 664 France had not possessed a single man who dared to think for himself.

c. With *even*, or implying this.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 351 Sometimes they find a difficulty in rearing even a single nest. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. iii. 25, I don't expect this Plague Will change its quarters, long as it has left A single man alive. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* Ser. III. 183 From a single phrase, as from a single gesture, we can often go far to divining the character of a man's thoughts.

6. a. Sole, only, one. b. Mere.

1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 61 By the easy abuse, if not by the single use of Images. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* xviii, These are not the single Enemies I have to encounter with. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* xlviii. (1749) II. 30 That he should not leave so important a creature as man, to the single guidance of his own precarious faculties. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 672 Heroes who carry victory with their single presence. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 287 The single bed of a poor family had sometimes been carried away and sold. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. v. 87 To the outer world the earlier period of the race, with the single exception of Abraham, was an entire blank.

7. Standing alone in comparison with other persons or things; unique, singular.

1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* IV. i, That you may know my single charity, Freely I here remit all interest I e'er could claim. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* vi. § 13 He will be sure to commit them [sins], rather than run the disgrace of being too single and precise. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 22 Some there are who appear single in Opinion, only to be continually opposite to the common Judgment of Mankind. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1848) II. 347, I..am almost single in not having been to see him. 1786 J. JAY in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 131 Favor your country with your counsels on such an important and single occasion. 1815 MACKINTOSH *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 27 April, Wks. 1846 III. 358 Single among representative assemblies, this House is now in the seventh century of its recorded existence. 1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. Notes & Illustr. p. xlvii, The Rómaca and Paulisa are single of the names.

II. 8. Unmarried, celibate. (See also quot. 1847.) Also *absol.* as pl.

A single man, a bachelor. *A single woman*, a spinster; † a prostitute (quots. 1530 and 1657).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7361 Syf weddyd man sengle woman takeþ. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 73 And sugetis taken ensaumple at here curatis, boþe weddid men & sengle. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. 155 A syngil man and a syngil womman. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXII. (Percy Soc.) 156 Who that is single and wyll have a wyfe, Right out of joy he shall be brought in stryfe. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syngle woman, a harlot, *putayn*. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 28 The Single man committing fornication sinneth lesse than the Adulterer. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 337 No Stew-holder, or his Wife, should let or stay any single Woman to go and come freely at all times. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Cor. vii. 26 No doubt but it is much more for their..quiet to be single, than to have a Wife or Husband. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 485 A lady..thinking Mr. C. single and disengaged. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* X. x, A single woman is a thousand times more shackled than a wife. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* XXXVIII, The fair *single* part of the creation. 1847 LIPSCOMB *Buckingham* I. 582 The inmates,..being ..single persons, whether having been married or not. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* XCIII. III. 298 No one dreams of drawing any distinction between the single and the married. *fig.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 15 Men might say Till this time Pompe was single, but now married.

b. Of, pertaining to, or involving celibacy, *esp.* in *single life*.

For the phrase *single blessedness*, see BLESSEDNESS b.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 *Cor.* 55 As in my other letters I required you not to leade a syngle lyfe. 1557 N. T. (Geneva) 1 *Cor.* Argt., He answereth to certeine pointes..touching single life. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 596 Lawes were enacted touching the single lives of Priests. 1612 BACON *Ess., Marr. & Single Life* (Arb.) 266 A single life is proper for Churchmen. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 112 ¶ 6 They that have grown old in a single state. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* I. Wks. 1799 II. 100 A single service is best suited to me. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* viii. 251 But shall his Bride your single state reproach? 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. iv. (1850) 62 Without having changed her state of single-unblessedness.

Comb. 1597 BEARD *Theat. God's Judgem.* (1631) 410 These are the godly fruits of those single life-louers, to whom the vse of marriage is counted vnlawful.

† **9.** In slight raiment; without cloak or armour; marked by scantiness or simplicity *of* clothing. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 204 (Laud MS.), Dame olympias, amonge þis prес, Sengle rood, al manteles. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1067 And seynglе in a kertyl he stood, Abood the lyon fers and wood. 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1071 [They] vnnarmede him þo anon, & wan he was sengle amoung hem þer, by auysed is schap echon. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 353 Men of þis lond..beeþ sengle of clopinge, scarse of mete, cruel of berte. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 168 He was not so gay scourned, ne so sengle of clothes, but he had on hym good and warme gownes.

† **10.** Of cloth, garments, etc.: Of one thickness of material; unlined. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*John*) 152 Skantly had Ilkane of þa a singill cloth, fore-owtine ma. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 168 A hood of scarlatte sengle & wythoute furrynge. *Ibid.* 169 A shorte and sengle gown withoute lynynge. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 475 Item, j. gowne of blewe felwett.., slevys sengle. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syngle gowne, *robe sengle*. *Ibid.*, Syngle kyrtell, *corset simple*. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 24 One vestment of blewe single sattene. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 90 A much more sparing dyet is fitter; and a single-coat, though it be never so ancient and thin, is fully sufficient.

11. Composed or consisting of only one part, feature, etc.; not double, compound, or complex; also, of the ordinary or small size, as distinguished from DOUBLE *a.* 4.

For various special uses, see 17.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 347 Many depe diches and castelles sengle, double, and treble, and many wardes strongliche i-walled. 1449 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 Þe sengell gistes of þe same flore at þe fronte shullen be in brede..ix inches. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 347, v. doble polyves and a sengelle. 1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* Wks. (1876) 324 A sengell threde is nothynge so stronge as is a double. 1540 in Greene *Hist. Worcester* II. App. p. ii, Item ij masers, one with a dowbilbond, the other with a sengylbond. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* I. § 26 b, When a thing is purchased or gotten..by gift or legacie, or some other such single title. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 45 Single Rafters six and three Inches. *Ibid.* 96 Nor do provident builders rivet locks only at the one side, for that a thief within doores..makes that single riveting of no use as to security. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 154/2 The maner of which beatings is performed by single and double..blows. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* s.v. *Tenaille*, The Single Tenaille, a Work, the Head whereof is form'd by two Faces, making one Angle Rentrant. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 192, I mean single carts, or carts drawn by one horse. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 89 The vowels generally, whether single or diphthongal, are sounded as they are in Italian. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 89 A single line furnished with sidings to enable the laden waggons to pass the empty ones. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2480 A single whip..is the simplest tackle. It consists of one single block and a fall.

† b. Of artillery. *Obs.*

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 54 Small artaillyery sik as double falcoun, single falcoun. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 367 Collveringis, myans and doubill falcouns, singill falcouns and hagbuttis of fund.

c. Of flowers: Having only one whorl or set of petals; also, of plants: Bearing such flowers; opposed to DOUBLE *a.* 1 d.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 30 Ther groweth a flour like a syngle rose in the tope of thys herbe. 1594 PLAT *Jewel-ho.* III. 33 You may also drie Paunsies, Stock-gilliflowers, and other single flowers. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 54 The sweet muske Rose double and single. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 198 Single and double Hepatica. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Hyacinthus Tuberosus*, The Single sort is by far the fairer Flower. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* v. (1813) 62 No single flowers should be suffered to grow in a garden where there are double ones. 1812 *New Botanic Garden* I. 29 With single blue flowers, with double blue flowers. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 339 In double flowers..the corolla is much more durable than in single ones.

d. Intended for or accommodating one person.

a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 73 A single bedroom. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXXIII, A strip of faded carpet stretched in front of a small single bedstead. 1886 PASCOE *London of To-day* i. (ed. 3) 34 Single bed-rooms cost from 4*s.* to 15*s.* per day.

† **12.** a. Simple; plain; without further qualification or addition. *Obs.*

c 1421 *26 Political Poems* 105 While obley in yrnes or boyst ys stoken, Hit nys but bred, and sengyl bake. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lii. 705 Whanne Piers vndirstood that he A kyng was Of so hy degre, and wende he hadde ben A sengle knyht [etc.]. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 271/1 Bynde hem..by obligation or obligations, aswell sengell as conditionell. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. liv. 556 Some doe make this oile after the simplest and singlest sort. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § vi, God Almighty intended not that single Theft should be punished by death. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. 47 Perhaps divine goodness..may not be a bare single disposition to produce happiness.

† b. Slight, poor, trivial. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. viii. 184 Ymagis of God..forto make bi hem sengil and leuke remembrauncis. 1585 DANIEL *Notable Deuises* Wks. (Grosart) V. 302 Hauing..maried a wife of singulare beautie, but (according to the common rumour) of single honestie. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 207 Is not your voice broken? your winde short? your wit single? *a* 1626 BEAUM. & FL. *Queen of Corinth* III. i, He utters such single matter in so infantly a voice. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 19 The Sect of the Essenes among the Jews..used a single or Abstemious Diet.

13. Of beer, ale, etc.: Weak, poor, or inferior in quality; small. Now *arch.* Also *transf.*

1485 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* I. 177/2 A vessell of single bere to the gonners, xii d. 1505 in *10th Rep.* ibid. App. V. 392 That there be no sale bread, singill ale, nor bonyed alle..mad in towne, but by ffre men. 1594 *Knack to Know a Knave* in Collier *Five Old Plays* (Roxb.) 386 Your drinke is too strong...Single beere is better far both for your profit and your seruants health. *a* 1635 BP. CORBET *Poems* (1647) 30 Although I thinke Poets were nee'r infus'd with single drinke. *Ibid.*, Let your Channels flow with single tiffe. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4032/4, 12 Pieces of single French Brandy. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xviii, An hogshead of ale at Martlemas, of the double strike, and single ale at pleasure.

14. Simple, honest, sincere, single-minded; free from duplicity or deceit.

1529 HORMAN *Vulg.* 55 He is a good sengyll soule, and can

no harme. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 727 Single Truth and simple Honestie Do wander up and downe despys'd of all. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 38, I speake it with a single heart, my Lords. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* iv. i, Sure, he's an honest, very honest gentleman; A man of single meaning. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 20 To single Hearts doubling is discruciating. 1809 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 134 To those whose views are single and direct, it is a great comfort to have to do business with frank and honorable minds. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiii, [Such as] nothing but a pure and single heart [could have] expressed. 1873 WHITNEY *Oriental & Ling. Stud.* 83 The single devotion of the Brahman student.

b. Of the eye, after Biblical use.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xi. 34 When thine eye is single: then is all thy body full of light. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* I iv, Considering with a single eye the parties in this cause, ye shall finde that [etc.]. 1669 N. MORTON *New Eng. Mem.* A 2, I onely crave of thee to reade this following Discourse with a single eye. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 63 He that looks upon these words with a single eye. 1853 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* 343 Keep your eye single, and your hands clean. 1884 *Century Mag.* Mar. 925 All readers of his know..how absolutely single his eye is.

15. Of a combat or fight: Between two persons; man to man. (See also COMBAT *sb.* 1 b.)

[1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 46 b, If it be enemie to enemie single, they then are not to discharge their peeces.] 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iii, I saw him, hand to hand, In single fight with their Lord Generall. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 360 Who in this Iland by a single combate tried it out. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. i. (1840) 48 He..killed Rodulphus, the duke of Saxony, in single fight. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 9 ¶ 7 The President..was said to have killed half a dozen in single Combat. *Ibid.* No. 72 ¶ 5 Let you and I end our Quarrel in single Fight. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxvii, Reserving my right to defy my Lord of Murray and my Lord of Morton to single duel. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 4 At last Ascanius met him man to man and slew him in single fight. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 706 That the two kings shall decide the matter by single combat.

16. In quasi-advb. use.

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1795 Non Armore he dyde hym vppon Bot A Robe All sengle wrought. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 58 [The] Countroller..is thirde in estate..aftyr the Steward, but at no tyme..within thys courte covered in servyse, and but single served. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1663/4 They lye Unmored, and ride single, and intend to Sail this Afternoon. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 83 They commonly lay twelve or fourteen loads of Chalk upon an Acre, where they lay it single. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* III. x. 343 My venerated friend, who was—unlike, perhaps, some others of the company at that hour—able to hear accurately, and content to *see single*.

III. 17. Special collocations.

Single anchor (see quot. 1867). †*Single billet*, single-stick. *Single care* (see quot.). *Single change* (see quot. 1688). *Single chant* (see CHANT *sb.* 2). *Single entry* (see ENTRY 9 b). *Single file*, a line of men one behind the other. *Single Gloucester* (see GLOUCESTER). *Single house* (see quot. 1818). *Single line* (see quot.). †*Single officer* (see quot.). †*Single rapier*, the rapier only (without dagger). †*Single sentinel* or *soldier*, a private soldier (*Sc.*). †*Single sword*, ? singlestick. *Single ten*, the ten of a card-suit; (see also quot. *a* 1700).

1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* viii, The *Ter Schilling*..lay at *single anchor. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 627 *Single anchor*, a ship unmoored, having hove up one bower, rides by the other. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Captain* II. i, No more Than..Fighting at *single Billet with a Barge-man. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 429 The law which enables a person of unsound mind..to be placed..under what is technically designated '*Sin gle Care'—that is, under certificates in the house of a medical man or other person. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 462/2 The *Single Change, is when all the Bells ring, and one is changed only from Round Ringing. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* iii. 39 About the year 1642..single changes were first attempted. 1861 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 91 **Single Chant*, a simple harmonized melody extending only to one verse [etc.]. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Chant*, A single chant is in two strains, the first of three, and the second of four bars in length. 1826 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 462/2 The more obvious method.., which is called Book-keeping by *Single Entry. 1849 FREESE *Comm. Class-Bk.* 103 If my books were kept by single entry, I should simply credit Smart & Co. for the coffee. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. 394 He therefore commanded some Foot Companies to steal over silently, and by *single Files. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* 255 Sufficient only to support infantry marching in single file. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* v. 83 To place the different elements of a sentence in succession, in single file so to speak. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 July 1654, The humourous old Knight has built a long *single house of 2 low stories. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Dumbiedikes was what is called in Scotland a *single house; that is, having only one room occupying its whole depth from back to front. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2187/2 **Single-line*, a single rein leading from the hand of the driver to a strap forked a little behind the hames, and proceeding thence to the bit-rings. 1759 in *Eng. Historical Rev.* (1897) XII. 763 We are *Single Officers, that is, only one Livetenant to a Company. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 31 ¶ 3 The historian mentions, when he attack'd Thalestris, it was only at *single Rapier. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* II. v. (1830) II. 168 A person of quality,..standing before an ensign, lieutenant, or *single sentinel. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, Not knowing..how far the manners of a *single soldier might have been corrupted by service in a great house. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 159/1 Two Fencers,..makeing triall of their skill, with back-sword or *single sword, sword and buckler and the like. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 43 Whiles he thought to steale the *single Ten, The King was slyly finger'd from the Deck. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Single-ten*, a very foolish, silly Fellow; also Nails of that size. 1829 HUNTER *Hallamshire Gloss., Single-ten*, A person playing at Whist may be heard to say: I have neither ace, face, nor single-ten.

b. With sbs. in *-er*, as *single-driver*, *-hander*, *-loader*, *-peeper*, *-roomer*, *-sticker*, *-striker*, etc.

1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 347 The '*single driver' is the familiar name applied to locomotives propelled by one pair of driving-wheels. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 145/2 The cost of a *single-hander depends on the size of the boat. 1887 *Daily News* 6 Oct. 6/2 The rifle can then be used as a *single-loader. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Single peeper*, a person having but one eye. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 305 They are recorded as 'single peepers',..having lost an eye. 1887 *Daily Telegr.* 10 Sept. 2/5 None of the big *single-stickers..showed any signs. 1898 *Cycling* 62 Repeating bells are preferable to *single-strikers. 1889 *20th Cent.* (N. Y.) Apr. 6 He says that is a fair question which no *Single-taxer ever answers, but that if it is evaded the whole single-tax theory vanishes.

18. With sbs., forming combs. used attributively, as *single-action*, *-beat*, *-cell*, *cylinder*, etc.

Combs. of this type have been very frequent in recent use. For a number of technical examples, see Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875) and *Suppl.* (1884).

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 36 *Single-action bellows..is generally very small. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 20 Atmospheric, or Single Action, Engine. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 398 A *Single Beak Pellican with a screw, of some..called a Screw'd tooth Forcer. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 241 The chronometer and duplex are the best known examples of *single-beat escapements. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 867 In the *Single Bill roll is inserted all petitions.. and other notes or applications to either Division of the Court. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 228, Fig. 152 represents the *single-cell apparatus. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125 **Single cylinder machines*, machines for printing one side at a time only. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 382 'Which knot?' asked Toby. 'Single or double wall, *single or double diamond?' 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 238 One and three-quarters pound of *single-eye pieces produced ten pounds. 1899 MORROW *Bohem. Paris* 138 A *single-file march round the room is started. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* i. § 1 (1862) 15 An additional screen of *single iron plate. 1892 GREENER *Breech Loader* 6 The cheaper quality laminated steel,..known in the trade as single-iron Damascus. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 271 Neat Workmen prevent a division of a *single-letter syllable at the end of lines. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, **Single lever bridge*, composed of two frames locking into each other, and not meeting at a greater angle than 120°. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* I. 330 Each chamber had a lofty narrow *single-light window. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 543 The shaft of..the *single-lip auger. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 2/1 In 1885, the country was practically divided into *single-member electoral districts. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Elect. Telegr.* 108 The double-needle telegraph may easily be arranged so that it shall act as a *single-needle telegraph only. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 31 The '*single-piece bow' is made of one rod of hickory, lancewood, or yew-tree. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xv. (ed. 3) 138 A kind of lace, called '*single-press', was manufactured. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* II. II. xi. 363/2 One pound is the usual allowance for *single-rein bridles. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 251 Neither neat nor efficient *single-row hedge can be made without the aid of stakes. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* v. 166/2 *Sicyos angulata*, *single-seed cucumber. 1892 BRIGHTON *Sir P. Wallis* 278 One of the finest *single-ship actions ever fought. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* I. 23/2 A meaner tower might serue such *single soule kings as were at those daies in Ireland. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 105 To see what a single-sole Gentleman I was, and how like a naked cottage I lookt. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 410/2 Single-sole shoes or 'pumps'. 1872 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 444 What can be done in the way of *single-span Gothic churches. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 47 When a *single-stroke steam-engine is made to turn a mill. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 398 The second [instrument]..is termed a *Single tooth Pincer, of some a Forcer. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 74 The top-masts are made in one spar, and are called *single tree. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 345 They have single-tree canoes. 1883 *Whitaker's Alm.* 445/1 The *Huascar* is an iron low freeboard *single-turret ram. 1860 *Single wall knot [see *single diamond knot*]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 48 In Sussex they use much the *single Wheel-plough. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 497, B, the *single worm screw.

19. Parasynthetic, as *single-banked*, *-barrelled*, *-blossomed*, *-edged*, etc. Also *single-seatedness* sb.

Many examples of this type occur in recent use.

1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 July 35 One of its best *single-banked life-boats. 1890 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 83/1, I took my heavy *single-barrelled rifle. 1762 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 660 Some *single blossomed plants..of the Gardenia. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 62 The richer sort haue *single edged swords with sharpe points. 1817 MILLER *Bampt. Lect.* 40 The single-edged sword of temporal visitation fell blunted from the hearts of stone. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 265 *Single-finned Bullhead..The gill-covers consist of a single lamina. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 209 Of both which sorts there are great Variety of Colours, some being double, and others *single Flowered. 1756 HILL *Brit. Herbal* 440 Great *single-flowered Mountain Hawkweed. 1840 HOOKER *Hist. Northumb.* III. II. 361/2 *Orthotrichum cupulatum*, *Single-fringed sessile fruited Bristle-moss. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xxi. II. 261 The case..against *single-headed authorship of the Odyssey. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. 130 A black *single-headed, hoary-haired giant. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 48 The steel rails..are of the single-headed section. 1721 R. BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nature* 92 Some of the Figs will be Cloven-footed, and others *single-hoof'd. 1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 16 Claws with a *single-hooked moveable fang. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 198 *Single-horned Rhinoceros. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6012/6 A Man and a Woman in a Lane, *single Horn'd. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Sept. 5/3 He was driven in a single-horsed brougham. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Colchicum*, A yellow, *single-leav'd Flower. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* v, They were *single-masted. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phanero.* 300 Many have certainly a reticulum of bundles, even when they are '*single-nerved'. 1840 J. W. BOWDEN *Life Gregory VII.* I. 60 The long *single-pointed mitre. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 36 The many-seated has given place to *single-seated judicature. 1830 — *Corr.* Wks. 1843 XI. 40 In this sub-department..you find..many-seatedness established—by you, *single-seatedness, I see, is preferred. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sicyoides*, The *single-seeded Canada cucumber. 1870 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 272 The olive fruit..is a smooth, elliptical, single-seeded drupe. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 165 This is not quite so perspicuous and *single-sensed as Archbishop Leighton's sentences in general are. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* lxxviii. A whip..travelling through a *single-sheaved block. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1403/4 A Silver hilted *single sheld Sword. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 335 *Single-spotted Chærodon. 1856 MEREDITH *Shaw. Shagpat* (1909) 245 The Queen..being now the mistress of the *single-thoughted. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Sonn., To Univ. of Oxford*, With double lines of *single-twisted Rime. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3840/4 A black Hat with a single-twisted white Hatband. 1879 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) II. 252 The potential of the magnetic system is *single valued at every point of space. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 211 *Single-wheeled plows.

20. With pa. ppples. and ppl. adjs., as *single-cut* (of files), *-dyed*, *-filed*, *-grown*, *-hung*, *-lanted*, *-reefed*, *-refined*, *-riveted*.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 302 In this state the file is what is called a *single-cut. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 819 When the file is spoken of, a double-cut file is always implied, unless a single-cut file, or a rasp, is specifically named. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2187/1 **Single-cut File*, a file having but a single rank of teeth. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 9 Pillow Fustians,..some of them *single dyed. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 107 Let us walk on, *single-filed. 1833 TENNYSON *Palace of Art* I, Musksconted blooms.., In bunch or *singlegrown. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 593 **Single-hung*; in window-sashes, when one only is moveable. 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* Ep. Ded., I have drunke double-lanted ale, and *single-lanted. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 173 The topsails were *single reefed. 1718 MRS. M. EALES *Receipts* 28 A Pound of *single-refin'd Sugar. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* App. 44 In *single-rivetted joints there is but one row of rivets.

b. With pres. ppples., as *single-cutting*, *-driving*, *-living*, *-shooting*.

1563 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxv. 349 Single-living men, that is to say, unmaried, and especially unmaried priests. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 549 The cone countersink may be viewed as a multiplication of the common single-cutting drill. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 559 Single-driving rear-steerers were at this time [1877] very common. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 3/3 All magazine rifles must be more costly than single-shooting rifles.

c. With vbs., as *single-knock*, *-plate*, *-rivet*.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 735/1 The original plotter.., who has single-knocked at so many mansions in Grosvenor Square [etc.]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 998 The ingot is now dressed carefully with the file on one or two faces, according as it is to be single or double plated. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 103 The edges of the plating above this height..may be single riveted.

Single (sĭ·ngg'l), *v.*[1] [f. the adj.]

1. *trans.* To separate or part from each other; to take asunder. Now *rare*.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 114 For as much as the office[s]..of later daies have been united inseparably, I will not lose the labour in going about to single them againe. 1584 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 11 Wee will ..single them a little, and deale with them seuerallie. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. i. § 2 Not..to offer the edge of the axe unto all three boughs at once, but rather to single them, and strike at the weakest first. 1828 *Trial W. Dyon & his Son at York* 20 The reports were so near together, that I could scarcely single them.

refl. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* 144 Whensoeuer his men scattered & singled themselues, some of them came short home. 1600 BRETON *Strange Fort. Two Princes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 11/2 Spying certaine Ladies..comming into the garden, they singled themselues one from another. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 115 That the Army should more easily passe singling themselues..than if they clustred and thronged at a Bridge.

2. *Hunting.* To separate (one deer, etc.) from the herd; to pick out and chase separately. Also with *forth* or *out*.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 109 The meanes to single forth The stricken Deare which doth in heard remaine. 1590 COCAINE *Treat. Hunting* D j, Then the Huntsmans part is to applie the hounds well vntill they haue singled the wearie Deere againe. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) 60 Follow the largest Head of the whole Herd, which you must endeavour to single out for the Chase. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 324 The grisly Boar is singled from his Herd As large as that in Erimanthian Woods. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 127 From the moment he singles out an Antelope the whole body are in motion. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xiii. 202 The hound had at length singled out a particular deer.

fig. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 35 He behaued himselfe so warily, that hee singled his game wiselye. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. i. 117 Single you thither then this dainty Doe, And strike her home by force, if not by words. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 12 Nay Warwicke, single out some other Chace, For I my selfe will hunt this Wolfe to death. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 125 ¶ 8 We should then single every Criminal out of the Herd, and hunt him down.

3. To separate (one person or thing) from others; to draw or take aside or apart.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 1 Now Clifford, I haue singled thee alone. 1632 HEYWOOD *Four Prentices* I. Wks. 1874 II. 216 Why have you singled me alone? *a* 1658 ROWLEY, TOURNEUR, etc. *Witch Edmonton* III, I have not shewn this cheek in company. Pardon me now: thus singled with your self [etc.]. *a* 1674 SIBBES *Fruit. Will* (1675) 25 Singling every thought, setting it naked in its own proper form.

refl. 1588–9 GREENE *Metam.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 73 When wee were in the greene meades, Meribates and my daughter had singled themselues. 1602 BRETON *Wonders Worth Hearing* Wks. (Grosart) II. 9/1 A couple..for serious cause of conference had singled themselues together.

b. Const. *from*.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 Theare stood an od corner from vulgar companye singled. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 401/2 Sir Richard Greenefield being singled from his fleet, all alone arriued in the Iland of Hispaniola. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XI. 901 Him soon she singled from the flying Train, And slew with ease.

refl. a 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 320 He singled himself from his company. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 2 That our Ships might have the Liberty that Night to single themselves from the Crowd of other Ships.

† c. With *forth* (cf. 5). *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 12, I..watcht him how he singled Clifford forth. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. i, If wee can, [let us] single her forth to some place. 1636 tr. *Florus' Hist.* 10 Horatius..faynes himselfe to flie, so to single forth the enemie.

4. To pick out or distinguish from others.

In quot. 1671 with allusion to a challenge.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 28 In that behalfe..we single you, As our best mouing faire soliciter. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* VI. 304 How, when we would remember, can we single a Flye from the vniversity of beastes, foules and fish. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1092 Dost thou already single me? I thought Gives and the Mill had tam'd thee. 1701 STANHOPE *St. Aug. Medit.* II. vii. (1720) 129 He singled thee from the rest. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* IV. ii, He, whom my jealousy..Hath singled for destruction! 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. v, Up the side he sprang, And look'd among the crew, and singling me Fell at my feet. 1822 SHELLEY *'We meet not as we parted'* iii, That moment from time was singled As the first of a life of pain.

refl. 1812 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 383 The instinct..in each man of declaring his particular existence, and thus of singling or singularizing himself.

5. With *out*. To choose or select from a number of persons or things, *esp.* (in later use) in order to distinguish by particular notice or attention; to pick or mark out, to destine.

1629 BAKER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 258 This bearer will convey hether such bookes as it shall please you to single out and deliver to him. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 74 Begin, auspicious Boy,..and with a smile thy Mother single out. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 120 ¶ 2 Every Man singled out some Woman to whom he offered his Addresses. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. i, Having singled her out, he was regarding her. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* XXX. (1862) 434 The man..now singles out the blessing which he craves. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 18 Singling out..from the entire body of the Clergy a man under suspicion of heresy.

b. Const. *as*, *for*, or with inf.

1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 88 The want whereof dejects us beyond measure, as men singled out for patterns of misery. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 10 May, I find that he do single me out to join with me apart from the rest. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 186 This is the Passage which Lucilio Vanino singled out for his Text. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. xi. (1840) 159 Satan saw God had evidently singled out the Israelites..to favour them. 1780 *Mirror* No. 88, I doubted not that they would single me out as a prodigy of learning and genius. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* viii. 85 This woman having been singled out as an example. 1856 BOND *Russia at Close of 16th c.* (Hakl. Soc.) Introd. 61 The Protector..had singled him out for the execution of a secret commission. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew*, etc. XXXI, The one she has singled out as the recipient of her kindness.

c. To select for special mention or comment.

1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Cosens* 66, I will onely single out some three or four of his chiefe absurdities. 1672 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Pleadings* Pref. A iij b, Pointed and short pleading, wherein the Speaker singles out a point, and presses it. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 35 ¶ 11, I shall not scruple..to single out any of the small Wits, that infest the World with such Compositions. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXX. 404 America and not Germany had been singled out by the poet. 1891 *Spectator* 5 Dec. 809 It is time to single out one or two works by members.

d. *refl.* To separate (oneself) from a number of others.

1885 PASCOE *London of To-day* XIII. 120 Two or three horses at last emerge again, and single themselves out.

6. To bestow singly. *rare*—1.

1652 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* (ed. 3) 498 Wishing that..whatsoever good was singl'd on them, may joyntly be heaped upon you.

7. To thin (seedling plants), so as to leave each plant separate; to pick *off* (shoots). Also const. *out*.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Dipsacus*, Singling out the Plants to about six or eight Inches Distance. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 51 The turnip being singled by the hand-hoe. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 196 As they grow up in the spring the young shoots should be singled off to one. 1884 F. J. LLOYD *Sci. Agric.* 255 When the turnip plants are tolerably advanced, or rough leaved, they are singled.

transf. 1858–61 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* II. 42 He has not the art of 'singling' his thoughts, an art..as necessary for young fancies as young turnips.

absol. 1886 (see SINGLER *sb.*). 1896 P. A. GRAHAM *Red Scaur* XII. 175 This 'll never do, singlin' wi' your best things on.

8. To render single, to reduce to one; to concentrate. Also *refl.*

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 29 The acquisition of knowledge..is best..made, by limiting, almost by singling to the mind, the objects of attainment. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Aspasia* Wks. 1846 II. 371 This reproof..singled his aim.

b. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 627 *To Single*, to unreeve the running part of topsail sheets, &c., to let them run freely, or for harbour duty.

9. *intr.* a. To go singly; to separate from others. Also with *out* and *off*.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 338, Theare them he findes in martial discipline well ordred,..taught..to double ranckes, and singel backe in place. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* IV. 292 Let..all go on At once. To single is to weaken you. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. State Pol. Learn.* viii. Wks. (Globe) 435/2 A reflection somewhat mortifying to the author who breaks his ranks, and singles out for public favour. 1769 — *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. 204 Titus Manlius.., burning with shame to see the whole body of the Romans intimidated, boldly singled out against Metius. 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Single off, as cattle do when they are sick, or going to calve, &c.

b. *U.S.* (See quot. and cf. SINGLE-FOOT.)

a 1864 W. S. CLARKE (Webster), Many very fleet horses, when overdriven, adopt a disagreeable gait,..in which the two legs of one side are raised almost..simultaneously. Such horses are said to single, or to be single-footed.

c. Of a railway track: To become single.

1899 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 6/7 Just before Penybont the track singles for a short tunnel.

Hence **Si·ngled** *ppl. a.*, selected.

1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 108, I take to witness four singled poems.

† **Si·ngle,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *singler* (now *cingler*), nasalized form of OF. *sigler*, ad. ON. *sigla* to sail.] *intr.* To sail. Also † **Si·ngling** *ppl. a.*

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* IV. 122 The perfite pylot ..with singling sheet doth shunne Cyanes straits. 1587 GREENE *Euphues his Censure* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 189 The Maryners ready with a Cockboate to set them aboorde hoysed sayles, and singling into the mayne, bad farewell to Ithaca.

Single-acting, *ppl. a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 20 b.] Acting in one direction or by one method, *spec.* of a steam-engine (see quot. 1875). Opposed to DOUBLE-ACTING.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 174 The double-acting engine..exerting twice the power of the single-acting engine. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. F 3, Single-acting hammers are those which are raised by the pressure of steam, and fall by gravity alone. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2187/1 *Single-acting Engine*, an engine in which steam is admitted to one side only of the piston.

Si·ngle-breasted, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19.] Of a coat, waistcoat, etc.: Having only one thickness over the breast; not doubled by overlapping. Opposed to DOUBLE-BREASTED.

1796 TWINING *Trav. India*, etc. (1894) 2 His thin silvery locks curled round the collar of his old-fashioned single-breasted coat. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 296 Next in favour to the frock is the short single-breasted jacket. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 31 Had chance thrown to him a court single-breasted coat [etc.]. 1885 PASCOE *London of To-day* XII. 112 The coat altered its form, and became a dress coat, single-breasted.

Single-eyed, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19.]

1. *fig.* Having the eye single or sound; sincere, honest, straightforward. (Cf. SINGLE *a.* 14 b.)

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* (1721) I. 32 The..general Council..was at Ariminum, who were all (but one single-ey'd Man) Arians. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* XX, You are..too noble, single-eyed, self-sacrificing to endure my vanity. 1890 *Spectator* 19 July 74/1 Those who best understand what may be done by single-eyed, eager, and resolute clergymen.

2. *lit.* Having one eye or eye-like mark; one-eyed, monoculous.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 348/1 None of these single-eyed monsters [*Cyclopia*]..live for more than an hour or two after birth. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 420/1 Its single-eyed spot near the tip of the fore-wings.

† **Single-fold,** *a. Obs.*—1 Simple.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* ¶ 82 The single-fold doctrine of simples hath stood deserted, and forlorn.

Single-foot, *sb. U.S.* [Cf. SINGLE *v.*1 9 b.] A particular gait of a horse, variously identified with the amble and the rack; see also quot. 1882.

1882 STILLMAN *Horse in Motion* 117 Single-foot is an irregular pace,..distinguished by the posterior extremities, moving in the order of a fast walk and the anterior ones in that of a slow trot. 1893 MUYBRIDGE *Descr. Zoöpraxogr.* 31 The amble has various local names, such as the 'single foot', the 'fox trot', etc. 1897 HOWELLS *Landl. at Lion's Head* 154 This mare can walk like a Kentucky horse, ..I believe I could teach her single-foot.

So **Single-foot** *v.*, **Single-footed** *a.*, **Single-footer, Single-footing** *ppl. a.*

a 1864 Single-footed [see SINGLE *v.*1 9 b]. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 246 The horse often single-foots faster than he trots. *Ibid.*, It is often said that a single-footing horse never trots well. *Ibid.* 247 My best single-footer is my fastest trotter.

Single-hand, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 18 + HAND *sb.*]

1. Performed, worked, managed, played, by one 'hand' or person. † *Single-hand cricket*, = SINGLE-WICKET.

1761 in Wagborn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 54 A great match at single-hand cricket. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 245 In our single-hand ribbon-loom, the weaver can make but a piece and a half a week. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 3 The gradual extension of 'single-hand drilling'. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 143 A single-hand cruiser is a sail-boat ..capable of being managed by one man.

2. *Single-hand weaver*, one who works his loom without assistance. So *single-hand trade*.

1768 *Ann. Reg.* 2 58 Several of the journeymen single-hand weavers were seized by their antagonists. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 492/1 The undertaking system applies now only to the single-hand trade in the country districts. *Ibid.*, Three-fourths of the single-hand weavers are women.

Single-handed, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19.]

1. a. Of actions: Carried on or performed by one person, ship, etc., alone or unaided, or by one person on each side.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No 18. 2/2 Q. D. and T. play at single handed whisk. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIX, Rashleigh..maintained a desperate and single-handed conflict with the leader of the band. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 129, I shall never forget one single-handed course of our good friend's favourite little bitch Helen. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* XLVII, They had two single-handed encounters. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 808/2 Despite the single-handed exertions of Lieutenant..Edwardes.

b. Adapted for using with one hand.

1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 172 Do you use a single or double-handed rod?

c. = SINGLE-HAND *a.* 1.

1886 *Field* 30 Jan. 140/1, I should not advise any topmast for a single-handed sailing boat.

2. a. Working alone or unassisted; without the aid, help, or support of others; by one's self; unaided, unsupported.

1768 *Ann. Reg.* I. 57 Many journeymen weavers, distinguished by the names of single-handed weavers. 1815 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 249 We have beaten them single-handed at sea. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* lv. VII. 100 Rome, single-handed, could not long have withstood such an army. 1877 CREIGHTON *Age of Elizabeth* v. i, He was surrounded by an atmosphere of suspicion, and..stood single-handed.

b. Using one hand only.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 511 A single-handed sower makes a bout to sow a ridge.

c. Having only one hand or workman.

1847 in WEBSTER. [Hence in recent Dicts.]

Hence **Single-ha·ndedly** *adv.*, **-ha·ndedness.**

1882 EBSWORTH *Roxb. Ball.* IV. Introd. p. x, He hopes to press on vigorously and single-handedly, to the speedy completion of the entire work. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 2/1 Singlehandedness among menservants is the last resource of the incompetent.

Single-hearted, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19.]

1. Possessed of a single or sincere heart; straightforward, honest, sincere; simple-hearted.

1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1604) 83 The single-hearted man coveteth not gold,..but only hath an eye to God's will. 1644 CROMWELL *Lett.* 6 Sept., In this Cause I hope to approve myself an honest man and single-hearted. 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 593, I can say I am plain hearted and single-hearted. 1812 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) II. xii. 392 The Duke's mind was moulded upon the kindliest and most single-hearted model. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* XXX, He is the most grateful, single-hearted, affectionate creature, that ever breathed. 1899 *Edinb. Rev.* Oct. 508 Life at Court was distasteful to the single-hearted priest.

2. Of actions, etc.: Proceeding from or characterized by sincerity of heart or purpose.

1804 MATILDA BETHAM *Biog. Dict. Women* 736 Her eloquent, and, as it were, single-hearted appeal to impartial posterity. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 185 [He] had hitherto acted with a single-hearted view to his own interests. 1893 *The Advance* (Chicago) 22 June, The single-hearted earnestness of the Templars is impressive.

Hence **Single-hea·rtedly** *adv.*, **-hea·rtedness.**

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 163/1 *Monocordia*,.. Single-heartednesse. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* I, The sincerity and single-heartedness of one of the purest, gentlest Nora Creenas that ever walked. 1857 RUSKIN *Elem. Drawing* II. 192 The more quietly and single-heartedly you take each step in the art, the quicker..will your progress be. 1881 HOWELLS *Foregone Conclusion* X, I would fain have lived single-heartedly.

Si·nglehood. [f. SINGLE *a.* + -HOOD.] The state of being single or unmarried; spinsterhood.

1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. of Flirt* XX, My mother..would not see me the last day of my singlehood. 1881 MRS. A. R. ELLIS *Sylvestra* II. 166 Betty was satisfied with her singlehood so long as [etc.].

Single-horse, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 18.]

1. Of vehicles: Made to be drawn by a single horse; one-horse.

1764 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 96/1 He regularly attended unkennelling the fox in his single-horse chair. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 105 They stopped a single-horse chaise, in which were a Mrs. Constable..and her servant-maid. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 35 They are..thought inferior to the single-horse cart. 1851 *Official Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 366 Light single-horse cart, for farming purposes. 1860 W. G. CLARK *Vac. Tour* 49 We engaged a large-wheeled single-horse vehicle.

2. Used with or for one horse.

1798 R. DOUGLAS *Agric. Surv. Roxb.* 50 A smaller hook coming from the middle of two lesser stretchers, or single-horse-trees.

Single-line, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 18.]

1. Consisting of or having only a single line of plants, rails, etc.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 256 In single-line hedge the saplings are so wound between as to press against the stakes. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 322 Some few years since a single line railway was made between the two towns. 1897 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 3/1 Between Malvern and Hereford there are two long single-line tunnels.

2. Taking up, or making, one line in writing or printing.

1892 A. OLDFIELD *Man. Typogr.* IV, A single-line motto in pearl caps. 1892 PLUMMER *Two Saxon Chron.* I. 132 *n.*, After [the year] 1001 several single-line annals had been marked out.

Single-minded, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19.]

1. Sincere in mind or spirit; honest, straightforward; simple-minded, ingenuous; single-hearted.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. (1877) I. 34 Or else the single minded bishops shall see the living bestowed upon such as doo deserve it. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. iv. (1713) 10 Such a single-minded Soul as Philopolis will..prove a glorious Citizen of Heaven. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxxviii, An unpretending, single-minded, artless girl. 1859 MILL *Liberty* ii. 50 Single-minded in his devotion. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Morals* I. 42 The single-minded religious enthusiast, incapable of dissimulation or procrastination.

2. Proceeding from or characterized by sincerity or honesty of mind.

1836 H. ROGERS *J. Howe* iii. (1863) 67 The letters..serve to show, with what single-minded purpose, these great men laboured. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. i. 50 The single-minded fidelity that had been nourished within them.

3. Having but one aim or purpose.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 44. 413 He was a more single-minded and one-idea'd man than even his patron and master.

Hence **Single-mi·ndedly** *adv.*, sincerely, frankly; with singleness of aim or purpose; **Single-mi·ndedness.**

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 39 We might.. stand *single myndedly obedient vnto his documentable Sentences. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* III. viii. 136 Single-mindedly selfish men may be seen through and through. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* x, Such force of character as consists in pursuing one's own way single-mindedly. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. ii, If *single-mindedness, straightforward policy, and a resolution to do good, are characteristic of simplicity. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 148/2 The seriousness and singlemindedness which made him an influence on all who came in contact with him.

†**Single money.** *Obs.* [SINGLE *a.* 3.] Small money, small change.

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 117 There came an other and bought a knife and should haue single money againe. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 96 If there were euer a good fellow..would sweare and forsweare for single-money. 1625 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1726) XVIII. 143/1 They are growne .. of very necessary and daily Use instead of single Money. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* v. i, Tell fortunes, and cozen our poor country-people of their single money. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iv, Gold, Silver, single Money.

Si·ngleness. [f. SINGLE *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Sincerity, straightforwardness, honesty, integrity; freedom from deceit, duplicity, or guile.

1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* ix. 11 That..ye maye be made ryche in all Synglenes. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 *Cor.* 54 The poorer they became..throughe theyr godly liberalitie, the rycher are they growen in gentle heartes and singlenes. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 392 Ashamed to have heeded..advice so contrary to the singleness of the doctrines of her father. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Assassins* i. Prose Wks. 1888 II. 148 A character superior in singleness and sincere self-apprehension to the slavery of pagan customs. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 108 With artlessness..and a degree of earnest singleness. 1874 CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* i. (1902) 13 The purity and singleness of his first motive was gone.

b. Const. *of* heart, mind, eye, etc.

1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* i. 1 Haue a good opinion of the Lorde, & seke him in the synglenesse of hert. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xx. 357 The thirde [virtue] is singlenesse of heart. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Comm.* i. v. 94 We must speak of his power..with joyfulness and singleness or simplicitie of heart. 1798 V. KNOX *Chr. Phil.* (ed. 3) Pref. p. x, A consciousness of having, with singleness of heart, espoused a cause beneficial to mankind. 1828 MACAULAY *Hallam Ess.* (1897) 57 Unsparing devotion, boldness of speech, and singleness of eye. 1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 154 Miss Martineau is a person of great singleness of mind, sincere and truthful. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. xxxiii, Respected for his integrity, industry, and singleness of character. 1885 *North Star* 18 May 3/2 Doing what he held to be his life-work with singleness of soul.

2. The state or condition of being unmarried, or of not marrying again (quot. *a* 1817); celibacy.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) 1 *Cor.* vii. 28 *note*, He doth not preferre singlenes as a thing more holy than mariage. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 437 Whether becometh better the ministers of the church, mariage or singlenesse. 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 24 July, Whether he is happy or not in marrying, I am sure he will be wretched in singleness. 1800 WORDSW. *Michael* 78 His days had not been passed in singleness. His Helpmate was a comely matron. *a* 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* i, Sir Walter's continuing in singleness requires explanation. 1881 H. JAMES *Portrait of Lady* xliv, She appeared to have accepted the idea of eternal singleness.

b. A single or unmarried person. *rare*—1.

1818 BYRON *Let. to Rogers* 3 March, They are marrying the remaining singleness of the royal family.

3. The quality of being single; the fact of consisting of one in number or kind; oneness.

In the Shaks. quotation used punningly for 'simplicity'.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 70 O single sol'd jeast, Soly singular for the singlenesse. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 4 Since all is one, and one all that's car'd for, singlenesse hath such regard [etc.]. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 176 Neither alwaies..ought variety, or singleness of meats to be exhibited. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xlii. 574 The mind becomes impressed with the singleness of nature's laws. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 130 The first writers, combining in a singleness of taste, may construct a particular style. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. xcv, The singleness of the larval velum.

†b. Unmixed nature or quality. *Obs.*—1

1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 194 That pure Simplicity or Singleness, dwelling in the Divine Nature.

†c. Singularity. *Obs. rare.*

1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 21 Novelty and Singleness were as destroying..to Art, as all the Barbarism..of the Enemies of the Romans. *Ibid.* 22 To appear single for the sake of Singleness.

4. The fact of standing alone; solitude, solitariness, isolation.

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XIV. 211 Here keepest thou in singleness thy state: No other can divide with thee this work. 1816 BYRON *Chillon* xiii. *note*, From its singleness and diminutive size [it] has a peculiar effect upon the view.

5. The quality or fact of having one single aim or purpose; concentration of the faculties upon one object. Const. *of* (purpose, aim, etc.).

1806 WORDSW. *Happy Warrior* 40 Who comprehends his trust, and to the same Keeps faithful with a singleness of aim. 1833–5 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. ii. 234 His unrivalled charm..lies in his singleness of purpose. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. ii. 344 He lived in it with an unhesitating singleness of purpose. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 560/3 His failure seems..due to a want of singleness of aim.

Si·ngler, *sb. local.* [f. SINGLE *v.*[1] 7 + -ER [1].] One who singles or thins out plants.

1878 'SAXON' *Gall. Gossip* 333 (E. D. D.), Singlers, my boy, singlers;..they're always grumbling. 1886 *S.W. Lincs. Gloss.* 131 She's gone singling, they can't get singlers enew. 1899 *Dundee Advt.* 21 Nov. 4/2 The singler has more at his control in the making or unmaking of the crop than average observers imagine.

Singler, variant of SANGLIER, wild boar.

†**Singler,** *a. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **sengler,** 5–6 **syngler** (5 -e), 4–6 **singler.** *β.* 5–6 **synglar** (6 -e). [ad. OF. *sengler, seingler*:—L. *singulār-is* SINGULAR *a.*] = SINGULAR, in various senses.

α. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vii. (1868) 57 Nat only þe names of singler men ne may nat strecchen, but eke þe fame of Citees. 1469 *Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 336 If any of the portoures goo owt with cariage into the contry, for ther sengler avayle. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* b iij b, Iff ye haue a chastised hounde,..vncouple him..and goo to a sengler partrich. 1514 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 146 To alle and syngler covenantes and grauntes. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* VII. (1599) 295 Maximilian retaining still a singler ambition in this iorney, would admit no companion.

β. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 241 Bot for a dog,..I will haiff nayn, bot synglar as I ga. *c* 1500 *Sc. Poem on Heraldry* 190 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 100 The quhiche stanis..ar so precyus singlare. 1542 UDALL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2 My singlar good Maister.

So †**Si·nglerly** *adv.*, singularly; †**Si·nglerty,** singleness. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 429 Now for synglerty o hyr dousour, We calle hyr fenyx of Arraby. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 8 It longiþ to þe gretnes of God to graunt singlerly þeis priuilegs. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 714 þe singlerte [L. *solitudo*] of þi lyfis ende. 1487 HEN. VII in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) II. 524 Wherby ye shall singlerly please us.

Single-soled, *a.* [f. SINGLE *a.* 19. Cf. *single-sole* in attrib. use, s.v. SINGLE *a.* 18.]

1. Of boots or shoes: Having a single thickness of material in the sole.

1541 *Extr. Reg. Aberdeen* (1844) I. 453 The best dowbill solit schoine..and the best singill solit schoine thai can mak. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* F 4, In the single-soald pumpes of his aduersitie. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 149 The inch of single-solled schoes, of the best sort, at xvjd. the inch...The second sort of single-solled schoes, at xiiijd. the inch. 17.. *Souters of Selkirk* in Scott *Border Minstr.* (1802) I. 249 And up wi' a' the braw lads, That sew the single soaled shoon. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, Commendations of her fair guest, from the snood, as they say, to the single-soled shoe. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 4977, The fastening can be used with single-soled or light boots.

†**2.** *fig.* Of persons: Poor, mean, of little account or worth. *Obs.*

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. xvii. 62 Singlesowld Lawyers and golden Asses. 1593 P. STUBBES *Motive to Good Wks.* 93 Then should not our land have beene pestered with so many up-start single-soled Gentlemen. 1607 R. C[ARSW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 189 Those silly soules, the singlesoled priests. 1611 COTGR., *Gentilhommeau*, a small, or single-soled, Gentleman; a Gentleman of low degree. 1640 BASTWICK *Ld. Bishops* iv. D 3 b, Excommunication is a Solemne businesse, not to be..done in a blind Court, and by a single soled Priest.

Single-stick, *sb.* Also **singlestick.** [f. SINGLE *a.* + STICK *sb.*] Fighting, fencing, or exercise with a stick provided with a guard or basket and requiring only one hand.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 200 An exciseman, whom he challenged to a bout at single-stick. 1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVII. 5 A grand match at single-stick was played at.. Botley. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, He larked with the midshipmen, played single-stick with the mates. 1895 SNAITH *Mistress Dorothy Marvin* xxxii, To fence and play singlestick or quarterstaff.

attrib. 1881 *Times* 2 Feb. 10/5 The single-stick play.. was remarkable for its ambidexterity. 1885 PASCOE *London of To-day* xiii. 139 The main features of the tournament are single-stick combats, sword and bayonet contests [etc.].

b. A stick used for this.

1837 LOCKHART *Scott* III. i. 8 Tall, vigorous, athletic, a dauntless horseman, and expert at the singlestick. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxi, A man who..has his opponent's singlestick before him.

c. 'A wooden sword used on board ship for teaching the use of the cutlas' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Hence **Single-stick** *v. intr.*, to fight or fence with a single-stick.

1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 39, I was Laertes because I could singlestick rather well.

Singlet (si·nglĕt). Also *dial.* **senglet, cinglet.** [f. SINGLE *a.* + -ET, after DOUBLET.]

1. An unlined woollen garment (knitted or woven), now usually close-fitting and worn as an undershirt or jersey. Also *attrib.*

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1806) 31 When I..come to grope in my Singlet pocket for my sawt. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Singlet*, a waistcoat not lined, as opposed to a doublet. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Singlet*, an under waistcoat. *c* 1861 J. T. STATON *Rays fro' th' Loominary* 40 Ben Brattles had as good a hert in him.. as ever beat below a senglet. 1885 *Longman's Mag.* V. 493 He desired his dresser to strip off his singlet. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 67 My only garments were a flannel singlet and a pair of canvas trousers.

†**2.** A single sheaf (of grain). *Obs. rare.*

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 18 Aug. 1776, For, in case of rain, it [i.e. wheat] is much safer in singlets, than even in shock. 1796 — *W. Eng.* I. 175 Setting up mown corn in singlets..would..be the most eligible practice.

†**Si·ngleton** [1]. *Obs.* [a. OF. *singleton*, var. of *sigleton*, etc.: see CICLATOUN.] A coverlet of cloth of gold used in creating a Knight of the Bath.

The quot. is translated from a French account of the ceremonies at the creation of Knights of the Bath, printed in N. Upton *De Studio Milit.*, etc. (ed. Bysshe, 1654) 22.

1656 DUGDALE *Warwickshire* 533 The Chandler shall take for his Fees..the Bed wherein he first lay, after his Bathing, together with the Singleton and other necessaries. [Hence in Holme (1688) III. 56/1.]

Singleton [2] (si·ngltən). [f. SINGLE *a.* Cf. SIMPLETON.]

1. *Card-playing.* In whist or bridge: The only card of a suit in a hand. Also *attrib.*

1876 CAMPBELL-WALKER *Correct Card* vi. (1880) 41 If..the lead is a singleton..it may be right to put on the ace. 1885 PROCTOR *Whist* Pref., The absolute rejection of the Singleton lead. *Ibid.* viii. 91 While doubt remains as to the position of trump strength, avoid..discarding a singleton.

2. A single thing, as distinct from a pair.

1892 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 191/1 The Duke de Broglie has usually issued the volumes of his elaborate history..in pairs. He now appears with a singleton.

3. A single entry in a competition. Also *attrib.*

1898 *Field* 27 Aug. 368 Two instances of singleton entries, and of consequent walks over for the leading prize.

Single-tree. *U.S.* and *Austr.* = SWINGLE-TREE.

1847 WEBSTER s.v., A single-tree is fixed upon each end of the double-tree when two horses draw abreast. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Single-tree*, a crosspiece for fastening harness. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* iii. 24 The old mare ..moved herself square to a singletree by which her tracechains were fastened.

Single-wicket. [f. SINGLE *a.* 5.] A form of cricket in which there is only one wicket and consequently only one batsman at a time.

1736 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 13 Whom they beat before at single-wicket. 1770 J. LOVE *Cricket* 16 Scarce any youth wou'd dare At single Wicket, try the doubtful War. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 49 The parties in a match at single wicket vary in number from one to six on a side. 1887 J. ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 55 She'll vanquish any boy her size At games of single-wicket!

attrib. 1736 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 16 A great single-wicket match was played between the three countymen and the three Londoners. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 9 In single-wicket matches, if the striker moves out of his ground to strike the ball, he shall be allowed no notch.

Si·ngling, *vbl. sb.* [f. SINGLE *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

1. The action of the verb; selection from a number; separation from others. Also with *out.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Dispatch* (Arb.) 249 Order, and Distribution, and Singling out of Parts, is the life of Dispatch. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 79 It is not the singling out of a few persons that makes a Parliament. 1667 *Termes de la Ley* 560 Severance is the singling of two or more that are joyned in a writ.

2. The action of singling or thinning out plants. Also *attrib.*

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 16 Whether the great deficiency is occasioned by the death of plants after the singling process has been completed?..or the distance left by the singling is greater than we desire? 1899 *Dundee Advt.* 21 Nov. 14 Much of the success in root-growing depends on the singling process.

3. *Distill.* (See quots.)

1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 226 The distillation may proceed as rapidly as [it] can run without coming foul or muddy, until 2400 gallons have been drawn off: these constitute what are called singlings. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 816/1 *Singlings*, the first to come over, the crude spirit of distillation.

Si·ngling, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ING [2].] That renders single or separates.

1598 MARLOWE *Hero & Leander* I. 258 Wilt thou liue single still? one shalt thou bee, Though neuer-singling Hymen couple thee. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* iii, Till singling Death this sacred knot vndoe, And part this new-made One, once more in two.

Singlo (si·ŋlo). Also 9 **sunglo.** [See def.] A kind of green China tea, orig. obtained from the Sung-lo range of hills in the southern part of the province of Gan-hwuy (or Anhui). Also *singlo tea.*

The form SINGLE, occurring in the 18th cent., is prob. a mere error of printing or transcribing.

1699 OVINGTON *Ess. Tea* 21 The second sort is Singlo, or Soumlo with the Chinese. 1701 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1206 The Bing Tea is the second growth in April: and Singlo the last in May and June. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* 132 The East-India ships..have brought..1,533,200 [lb.] of singlo. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 379 The kind of green tea..most abundant is called Singlo,..the name of a mountain on which it grows. 1852 FORTUNE *Tea Countrys China* 86 Travellers who seek Sunglo tea may now search in vain, that which is sold in the markets is a mere counterfeit.

†Singlure. *Obs.*—[1] In 4 **synglure.** [f. SINGLE *a.*] Singleness, uniqueness.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 8 Quere-so-euer I lugged gemmez gaye, I sette hyr [the pearl] sengeley in synglure.

Singly (si·ngli), *adv.* Forms: 4 **senglely**, 5 **syngnlelie**, 6 **singlely**; 4 **sengeley**, **-ly**, **-(l)lic**, 5 **sengeliche**; 4 **singelli**, 6 **singilly**, *Sc.* **singalie**; 4 **sengli**, 5 **senglyche**, 6– **singly.** [f. SINGLE *a.* + **-LY**[2], with later contraction as in *simply*, etc.]

1. As a single thing or person; apart from others or a number; by its (her, him, one) self; separately.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxl[i]. 11 Sengli I am til I forthfare. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6081 Let vs senglely a-wey fare. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. ix. (1868) 85 Þei ne mowe ꝥeuen but o þing senglely of alle þat men seken. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 463 Þe same iij hostis at sho had had away syngnlelie, ilkone be þer one, sho broght baim agayn in hur byll. *a* 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 353 Fearing..lest while singly I have to answer to so many [etc.]. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 70 If there be more Gods, than one, then singlely and apart they must needs haue lesse strength. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* v. iii, And wish some man that boasts your masters bloud Were singly here to undergoe their fate. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 98 He is greater then his subjects singly and apart. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 118 Mingl'd with the neighb'ring Herd, She slights what erst She singly fear'd. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 310 The fruit..grows singly and not in clusters. 1826 LAMB *Pop. Fallacies* xiii, The good things of life are not to be had singly, but come to us with a mixture. 1872 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxxxvi. 2 Each point singly 'tis easy to grant.

b. Without the aid or support of others; unaided, unassisted, single-handed.

1608 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 247 Hee must fight singly to morrow with Hector. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* IV. Wks. 1874 IV. 73 Singlie of my selfe I will oppose all danger. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 173 He was not able to cope with him singly. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 268 Great Ulysses shall suppress these harms, Ulysses singly, or all Greece in arms. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 199 Such was her strength.., that no enemy could singly withstand her.

2. †a. Simply; without any more. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 196 Nou is Susan in sale, sengeliche arayed, In a selken schert, with scholdres wel schene. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 127 The said Capitane being in the menetyme singalie accumpanyit with ane servand.

†b. Slightly, poorly, ineffectively. *Obs.*—[1]

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* L v b, Their crosses wear so narrowe and so singly set on, that a puff of wynde might haue blowen them from their brestes.

c. Solely, only; merely. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 263 Neither was it singly Canitius's treachery, which gave the Roman General this confidence. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* IV. (1750) 177 For if the Pope derives anything from St. Peter, all that is singly in himself. 1740 CHESTERF. *Lett.* c. (1792) I. 279 People do not improve, singly, by travelling, but by the observations they make. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Aneed. Paint.* (1786) II. 222 Sir Toby Matthew's title to a place in this work depends singly upon a letter from the Duchess of Buckingham to the Duke. 1795 HORSLEY *Serm.* (ed. 2) 235 St. Peter upon this occasion spoke singly for himself.

†3. Sincerely, truly, honestly. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *N. T.* To Rdr., My Conscience beareth me recorde, that of a pure entent, singilly and faythfully I have interpreted itt. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. lxxxiii. 212 If your Lordship and others with you..set yourselves singly to seek the Lord and His face.

4. *Comb.*, as *singly-read*, *-refractive*, *-seated.*

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 320 Inquiring..whether it were the apocryphal scripture, or the more canonical?.. The singly-read, or that of various readings? 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 86 Sufficient ..should be the power of the singly-seated absolutist. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 115 A singly-refractive substance containing fixed bubbles also occurs in some sodalite.

Singnet, obs. form of CYGNET, SIGNET.

Singrene, obs. form of SENGREEN.

Sing-sing[1]. *nonce-word.* [Imitative.] A singing or ringing sound.

1659 TORRIANO, *Tintinno*, any shrill ting..., gurgling, sing-sing, or sharp sounding of bells or bazons.

Sing-sing[2]. [Native name.] An African antelope, *Kobus sing sing* or *defassa*. Also *attrib.*

1854 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* I. 254 This animal is called Sing-Sing by all the negroes ..The English on the Gambia call it a Jackass-Deer from its appearance. *c* 1875 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 19 The Nagor,..the Sing-sing, and the Water-buck are closely allied African Antelopes. *Ibid.* 20 The Sing-sing Antelope. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 304 The sing-sing (*Cobus defassa*), from Western and Central Africa,..differs from the water-buck by its fine and soft hair.

Sing-song, *sb.* [f. SING *v.*[1] + SONG *sb.*]

1. A ballad, a piece of verse, having musical rather than poetical qualities, esp. one of a monotonous or jingling character.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* IV. I. in Bullen *O. Pl.*, My posts shall not be garded with a little sing song. *a* 1662 FULLER *Worthies, Berks.* I. (1662) 86 This sing-song was made on the English by the Scots. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 70. 3/2 Her Sing-Songs..sound as well as Country Ding-Dongs. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. ii. § 130 (1740) 101 There was a Magazine provided of..Pictures and Sing-songs for the Service at Oxford. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* XXX. 315 A beautiful legend; a nice sing-song to send men to sleep.

transf. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sing-song*, a wearisome repetition of any tale or grievance. 'Don't make such a sing-song about it.'

2. Verse or rhyme of the above type.

1693 T. RYMER *Short View Trag.* 34 Campanella tells us, that the German and Gallican Heresie began with Sing-Song, and is carried on by Comedy and Tragedies. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 226, I ne'er..daggled thro' the town, To fetch and carry sing-song up and down. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary, Let. to Crisp* 19 Nov., I would recommend to such worthy judges, the sing-song and prettiness of Waller and Cowley. 1833 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. XVIII. 35 Its place is taken by the despised melodrame, the sing-song of opera. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 207 His actions are celebrated in most grandiloquent sing-song.

b. Tone of voice marked by a monotonous rise and fall, with a kind of singing effect.

1822 C. B. BROWN *Carwin*, etc. II. 115 Their tone was an insipid sing-song, or a monotonous uniformity. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xliii. 43 Crying out the invitation to prayer in a long drawling sing-song. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* ii. 50 The fine old Norfolk words, and twang, and squeaky sing-song have gone.

†3. A singer, minstrel. *Obs.*—[1]

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xviii, Rhimers, Poets,..Sing-songs, Musitianers.

4. An amateur concert of an informal nature; a convivial meeting where each person is expected to contribute a song.

1769 *Trinculo's Trip* 19 The dinner o'er, the sing-song done. 1857 RITCHIE *Night Side London* 192 The wealthy [have] their 'ancient concerts'—the costermongers what they term their sing-song. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 231 *Sing-Song*, a choral meeting at a pot-house. 1885 *Times* 11 Feb. 8/1 On Christmas night the whole camp was *en fête*, a capital sing-song having been got up.

b. The style of singing usual at a concert or gathering of this description.

1893 MILLIKEN *'Arry Ballads* 3 A sand-parlour'd shanty devoted to sing-song and swipes.

5. *attrib.* a. Of persons: Making mere jingling rhyme or monotonous verse; delighting in trivial or simple singing.

a 1687 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Poems* (1775) 141 And sing-song Durfey..Lives by his impudence, and not the muses. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 51 The poets ..from Huffing Dryden, to Sing-Song Durfey. 1760 MRS. DELANEY *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 620 A good-humoured sing-song man. 1794 W. COMBE *Boydell's Thames* I. 282 The severity of the sing-song satirist. 1872 *Punch* 16 Nov. 200/1 You know that the sing-song lot mostly dislike good music.

b. Of the nature of sing-song: characterized by a jingling triviality or a monotonous rise and fall.

1734 *Prompter* 24 Dec. 1/1 Are the Opera's any more than Sing-song Concerts? 1739 WHITEHEAD *Manners* 8 What sing-song Riot, and what Eunuch-squawling. 1810 SCOTT 24 Oct. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. vi. 196, I have other four little tales, or sing-song kind of verses. 1812 *Baker's Biogr. Dram.* II. 313/2 A satire on the sing-song and raree-show insignificance of modern operas. 1832 MACAULAY *Lett.* 21 July in *Trevelyan*, Shall I tell you the news in rhyme? I think I will send you a regular sing-song gazette.

c. Monotonous in cadence.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 89 A regular sing-song intonation. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I, Repeating in true sing-song vernacular the legend of St. George. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxii. 198 He addressed him in an unctuous tone, and in a sing-song style.

Hence **Si·ng-so·ngy** *a.*

1900 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 107 Reading in deep guttural tones, and in a sing-songy way.

Sing-song, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* a. To force by means of singing.

1726 WELSTED *Dissembled Wanton* I. i, In Short, we are Sing-Songed at once out of our Senses and our Money.

b. To utter or express in a monotonous chant.

1867 *Our Young Folks* March (Stand.), Some singsonged the multiplication table. 1888 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* vi, Now they sing-song all the things so, and I can't seem to pick myself up. 1884 *Graphic* 15 Nov. 519/3 One sing-songing the alphabet.

2. *intr.* To sing, make verses, utter words, etc., in a sing-song manner.

1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 131 On the linden, birds were thronging, All chirping, warbling, singing singing. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. i, There's no glory Like his who saves his country: and you sit Sing-songing here. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 267 He sing-songed, always saying '*this* fine bullock' in exactly the same tone of voice.

†Singster. *Obs. rare.* [f. SING *sb.* + -STER.] A singer.

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xix. 35 May Y here more the vois of syngeris ether of syngsters? 1553 BRCON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 120* All the worshippyng of God semeth to be set in these singsters. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 103 The singster of Israel hath taught vs our Lesson.

Singstress. *rare.* = SONGSTRESS.

1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 127 When they call a singstress a Ghawázi, it is as if you were to call Nillson a *corps de ballet.*

Singular (si·ŋgiulăr), *a.*, *adv.*, and *sb.* Forms: α. 4–6 **synguler**, 4–5 **-ere**; 4–7 **singuler**, 4–5 **-ere**, 4–6 **-ler**, 5 **-eer**; 5 **senguler**(e. *B.* 4–6 **syngular**, 6 (chiefly *Sc.*) **singulair**, 6–7 **-are**; 5– **singular**. [α. OF. *singuler*, *-eir*, *-ier*, and *singulaire*, or ad. L. *singulāris*, f. *singuli* SINGLE *a.* The form with *-er* from OF. continued in use till the 17th cent.] A. *adj.*

I. 1. †a. Living alone or apart from the herd. Only as an inaccurate rendering of L. *singularis feras* in Ps. lxx[i]x. 14, where *singularis* is the sb. (see SANGLIER).

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* lxxix. 14 Þe bare of þe wod outtermyd it; and þe synguere wildbest has etyn it. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxix. 14 The bor of the wode outlawide it; and the singuler wilde beste destroiede it. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 942 Hegge þou a-boute vr vyn-3ard,..þat woodnes us hurte ne make aferd Of þe wylde best singulere. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* lxxix. 14 The singular wilde beest hath eaten it.

b. Alone; away from others; solitary. *rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* iv. 10 And whenne he was singuler, or by hym silf, the twelue..axiden hym for to expowne the parable. 1728 VENEER *Sincere Penitent* Pref. p. xi, His way of living was singular and retired. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Singular*, lone or single, as a singular house, or farm.

2. One only; one and no more; single.

In quot. 1377 prob. with allusion to sense 3a.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 35 He was synguler hym-self and seyde *faciamus*. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 14 þe repentaunce of a singuler synne & nou3t repente of alle his oþer synnes..may nou3t auaile. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 221 This geaunte yssued oute of the towne, and demaunded synguler persone ayenst a persone. *a* 1500–20 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) App. iv. 8 Thocht sevin 3eir I war avysit..Ane singulare thing to put in dyte; It suld with sum men be dispysit. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 22 Thus the soule, although it be singular,..yet bringeth forth sundry and manifold actions. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 147 Some of the antient Fathers..apply it unto one singular individuall man onely, and no otherwise. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXI. lvi, Knit up in a most mysterious Knot Of simple singular Triplicity. 1765–8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* II. vii. § 1 He succeeds to that subject by a singular title.

†b. Exclusive; sole. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 342 Oon mai seie þat he aloone is Cristis viker here in erþe, and he haþ power singuler to taxe gracis as him likiþ. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 68 What auctorite is to the bisshop of Rome to appropre to hymsilf principal power, eithir singuler, of byndinge and assoilinge. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 34 The masse was only oure singuler suffrage To delivre the people from their synne. 1592 HARVEY *Foure Lett.* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 228 The singular marke, whereat euery Arte & euery vertue is to leuell.

c. Forming the only one of the kind; unique, solitary. single. Also (with *the*), sole, only.

a 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 101 Now I will shew you what man is..; but I will not speak of that singular Son of man, which was Christ. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 215 The Copy being singular, and none extant any where else. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 21 The arch whereof is..almost singular in its kind and architecture. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 2 He was the singular instance in Scotland. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 241 A laudable example this, and I hope not singular one. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 156 This is perhaps a singular instance in the history of mankind. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 308 Singular readings, as they are usually called, which have no other direct attestation whatever. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Aug. 4/5 But the Reign of Terror is a singular event, and the Commune of 1871..is no parallel whatever.

†d. Of practice: Confined to one object. *Obs.*—[1]

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iv. 55 Singular practise the only singuler, and admirable woorkeman of the world.

3. a. *Gram.* Denoting or expressing one person or thing. Chiefly in *singular number* (also used *fig.*). Opposed to PLURAL *a.* 1.

L. *singularis* appears in this sense from the time of Varro onwards.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 17 Everiche in þe singuler nombre was i-cleped Anthiochus. 14.. *Crowned King* (Skeat) 46 To shewe you my sentence in sinouler nounibre; To peynte it with pluralitee my prose wolde faile. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. p. xxvi, Theyr synguler nombre hath a great meyny of dyvers terminations. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 21 b, They simply vsed the singular name of God as if they were contented with one God alone. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* B 3, There are two numbers, the singular speaking of one, the plurall of moe. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Que*, An interrogatiue of the Singular Number. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) I. 258 Why, *I believe*, in the singular number? 1818 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 64/1 (1845) We call 'I love' singular, and 'we love' plural. 1872 MORRIS *Eng. Accidence* 99 *Alms*, *eaves*, *riches*, though treated as plurals, are singular in form. *Ibid.* 100 *Summons* is a singular form..and is usually treated as such, making the pl. *summonses.*

b. *Logic.* (See quots.)

After various uses of L. *singularis* in scholastic logic: cf. the note to B. 1 d.

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 200 A singular accident is [that] which cleaves to a singular substance. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* II. viii. 32 Singular syllogisms depend upon this maxim, whatever things agree in one single third, those also agree amongst themselves. 1724 WATTS *Logic* I. iii. § 3 That idea which represents one particular determinate thing to me, is called a singular idea. 1846 MILL *Logic* I. ii. § 3 An individual or singular name is a name which is only capable of being truly affirmed, in the same sense, of one thing. *Ibid.* iv. § 4 The proposition is singular when the subject is an individual name. 1855 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 74 A judgment about an intuition, as 'Northumberland House is near Charing Cross', is a Singular judgment. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* iii. (1875) 18 A singular term is one which can denote only a single object.

c. *Math.* (See quots.)

1845 DE MORGAN in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 370/1 There is.. what we may call a *singular* solution for every particular form of θ, which deserves the attention of mathematicians. 1859 G. SALMON *Less. Introd. Higher Algebra* 45 We shall call those values which make all the differentials vanish, the *singular roots* of the quantic. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. III. 461/2 A singular solution of a differential equation..is a function of x and y (etc.). *Ibid.* 462/1 The discovery of such solutions depends upon that of singular integrals of the differential equation under consideration. 1869 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* VII. 244 Certain forms of the singular curve. 1886 *Ibid.* XII. 395 The point $x = a$ is in

this case said to be a singular point in regard to the differential equation.

4. Of persons: † **a.** Holding no office; having no special position; private. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 40 (Cambr. MS.), Ryȝt as a senguler persone synnyth in takynge vengeaunce of a nothir man, righ[t] so synnyth the Iuge ȝif he do no vengeaunce. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccx. 242 þat fro þis day afterward ȝe shulle nouȝt be cleymede Kyng,..but..shul bene holde a singuler man of all þe peple. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, As moche as is in me, I forbede all syngular persones from the studyenge of this treatyse. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 79 You would not haue anie priuate or singuler man of what degree soeuer, to haue the patronage..of anie ecclesiastical liuing.

b. *Singular successor*, in Scots Law, one who acquires feudal property by a single title (usually that of purchase) as distinguished from an heir, who succeeds by a general or universal title.

c 1630 SIR T. HOPE *Minor Practicks* (1726) 138 The Assignation will not be valid against a singular Successor, who acquires a real..Right with the Liferent. 1747 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 50 § 12 The Methods of procuring Entry by Heirs, or Singular Successors, or Purchasers of lands in Scotland. 1797 HOME & KAMES *Decis. Crt. Session* IV. 69 It was a fixed point, that general burdens are ineffectual against creditors and singular successors. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 957 He holds them as his inherent right,.. of which he cannot be deprived..by the right of the vassal's heir or singular successor. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 9 Aug. 4/1 It is a quibble of the worst kind..first to tax them as singular successors and then to tax the heir when he succeeds to the family property.

† **5.** Of a fight or combat: = SINGLE *a.* 15. *Obs.*
From the 16th cent. chiefly in Sc. use.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xvii. 8 Chesith of ȝou a man, and come he doun to a synguler strijf. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 331 Lucius Mallius callede a Frensche man to a singuler bataile. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 65 b/2 They shold chese a man to fight a synguler batail ayenst golyas. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 525 He had cowartlie refusit singular combat bayth of a Barroun and Gentilman undefamit. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 66 The singular fights or combats..happened evermore betweene enemies of contrary nations. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xii. § 2 Wherein singular Combats are discharged, there is an exception made of such as are fought with His Highness licence. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 22 Of old, the Party accused had his Election, whether to vindicate himself, by singular Combat, or be tried by an Inquest. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xiv, Those in his high place fight no singular combats.

† **6.** Single in form or dimensions. *Obs.*—[1]

1452 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 282, iij sengulere Principalls..in Scantlyon accordyng to the Principalls.

II. † **7.** Separate, individual, single. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7457 Þan bihoves þam,..For ilka syn þat þai dyd here, Have certayne payne singulere. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vi. (Skeat) I. 59 Right as everich hath thus singuler instrumentes by hemselfe, they han as wel dyvers aptes and dyvers maner usinges. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 58/2 To be bounde to hem, and to othere persones,..in singuler obligacions. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 63 In whiche psalmes..in synguler lettris fyve, This blessid name Maria, there may he see. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 5 It is tyme we approche to the singular description of Bones. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* i. 4 This is the particular or singular inscription. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 127 He equalled all others in the seuerall vertues, which in each of them were singular. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xxviii. 68 The confusion and rupture as it were, of the singular determinate parts. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Commons* v, That because Clodius and Curio happen to agree with me in a few singular notions, I must therefore blindly follow them in all. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 135 Common Remarks for certain singular Cases relating to the Pruning of all manner of Trees.

† **b.** Esp. in *singular man* or *person*. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 442 Þe generalte of þis preyere lettes not oure Lord God to here syngulere personys, aftur þei ben worþi. *c* 1450 PECOCK *Bk. Faith* I. vii. (1909) 89 Every singuler persoone of the same chirche, *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 244 Lyke as one man is kynde of all synguler men, and in euery synguler man is ye kynde of all mankynde. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccii. 260 Our subiectes, comons, colleges, vniuersities, or syngular personnes, what soeuer they be. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 243 Not..for conseruation of the life of the *individuum* or singular man, but for propagation of the whole species. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* (1647) 93 The succession therefore..was made by singular persons, not by a Colledge. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 85 Thus doth humane nature, being in each singular man, shew the existence of..its original author and pattern.

c. In phr. *all and singular*, every one. Also rarely *each and singular*. Now *arch.*

(*a*) 1472 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 17 To..fulfille all & singuler my willes & ordenaunces herevnder wreten. 1546–7 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 248 All and singuler thos my landes. 1583 in Feuilleral *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 360–1 Summa Totallis of..all & singuler the paimentes. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 20 All and singular the 39 Articles. 1739 *Col. Rec. Pennsylvania* IV. 346 Inviolably observed in all and singular the parts thereof. 1781 *Articles of Confederation U.S.* § 13 Each and every of the said Articles.., and all and singular the matters..therein contained. 1838 in W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 558 All and singular the felonies, ..and all and singular other the premises.

(*b*) 1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 The tenthe of all and singuler dignyties. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Deacons*, All and synguler actes and Statutes. 1838 in W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 558 The truth..of all and singular articles and circumstances.

(*c*) 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* I. i, With both of 'em; with each and singular of 'em. 1843 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 123 To say to all and singular, 'Swallow my opinions and you shall be whole'. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 152 The common concordant and unanimous consent of all and singular.

† **8.** Of or pertaining to, connected with or affecting, the individual, in contrast to what is common or general; personal, private, one's own.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 5 When I had takene my synguere purpos and lefte þe seculere habyte. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 509 Alle persones of what kynne privat sectis, or singuler religioun. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 82 To seie þe pater noster þat crist made hym self, & not..singuler preieres made of vs self. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 60 And for they wolde no singuler prerogatif thei kepten the comoun lawe as othere. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 7 The duc off Burgoyn ..slow many thowsands..to revenge a synguler querel. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 33 Of lyberte, wyll, & synguler pleasure,..poore people they devour. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 92 b, Not accordyng to the proportion of that singular righteousnesse whiche is of ourselves, and peculiar to every of us. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 18 Many truths, now of reverend esteem and credit, had their birth and beginning once from singular and private thoughts. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* IV. vi. (1733) 87 Yours is a singular God, that's only to your selves.

† **b.** *esp.* Of profit, advantage, gain, etc. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *Ho. Fame* I. 310 That shal be take for delyte, Loo, or for synguler profite. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 152 Anon for singulier beyete Droah every man to his partie. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 132 Sum Pryncis ther bene, that for thar owyn Synguler auauntage ..takyn atte har talent trew men goodis. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 95 For they entende to theyr synguler wele and prouffyt and not to the comyn. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 257 b, One that preferred the dignitee..of the commenweale, before his owne singulare avauntage. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 61 For a time they gat much, and so abased the credite of theyr Predecessors to theyr singuler Luker. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 280 The Spaniards (whose proper nature it is, to reap singular profit from the fear in which they..have put..neighbouring Princes).

† **c.** Special; peculiar *to* one. *Obs. rare.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiii. 31 And to ȝour schervand singulair, Welcum, my awin Lord Thesaurair. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 2 The excellent effects of our peculiar and singular weapon the Long Bowe. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 266 Common Law which is singular to our nation.

III. † **9.** Separate from others by reason of superiority or pre-eminence. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 283 So syngulere by hym-self as to syȝte of þe poeple, Was none suche as hym-self. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 172 Twa knyghtes hym servede, Singulere sothely, as Arthure hym selvyne. 1613 DAY *Dyall* IX. (1614) 234 Are we not bound to keep it [the Sabbath] singular and inviolable. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* II. v. (1636) 31 Lucifer, that would have beene singular, and alone above all his fellow Angels.

† **b.** Of persons: Eminent, distinguished, notable.

1497 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfact.* i. 1 A suppreme & a synguler mayster to teche you al thynge. 1554 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) III. App. xx. 58 If..ye neglect so singular a pilot in such a tempest of affairs. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 1 Common places..gathered out of the workes of diuers singular Writers. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Olive* I. i, Her behaviour to it Is like a singular musitian To a sweete instrument. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clxvi. 710 A late Minister of the Church of England, and a Singular Astrologian. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 817 A great Linguist, a singular Grecian, and an exact Philologer.

† **c.** Used in forms of address, esp. to a person of title. *Obs.* (Common in the 16th c.)

In later use only with *good*: cf. 14.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 483 My singuler souerane, of Saxonis the wand! 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 3 To satysfye.. my good synguler lordes..I haue enprysed..to reduce this ..book in to our englysshe. *a* 1555 LATIMER *Serms. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 367 To the right honourable master, secretary to the king's grace, his singular good master. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretary* I. (1625) 19 To the right Worshipfull and my singular good Lady Mother. 1626 W. HAIG *Let.* in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) vii. 155 To the Right Honourable my singular good Lords, the Earl of Dunfermline [etc.]. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* Ded. A 2, The Countesse of Arundell and Surrey, my singular good Ladie and Mistresse.

† **d.** Specially active *in*, or good *at*, something.

1606 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 98 The humble affection we have to be singulare in your service. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. ii. 183 With Pathetick expressions, which he was singular at, the Manchegan could not choose but melt into pity.

10. Above the ordinary in amount, extent, worth, or value; especially good or great; special, particular. Common from *c* 1500 to *c* 1650; now *rare*.

a. Of immaterial things, qualities, etc.

a. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxix. 14 Þe deuel..is he wild best þat is of syngulere eruelte. *Ibid.* p. 523 This blessid mayden..in synguler ioy..was glad in cryst. 1424 HERE, VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 99 The singulier diligence and the ful notable service that ye doon vnto us. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 1 To gyue therfore synguler louynges and thankes. 1566 *Pasquine in Trounce* 110 The same is a singuler token and most plaine demonstration of his worde. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. ii. 1 b, My Lady of Aramount of most feruent desire and singuler affection was attending her husbande.

β. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1885) 152 And so þe kynge shall lese the offices, as flor any synguler service he shall haue flor hem. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 291 She was also of singular easynes to be spoken vnto. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* A ij b, An euident declaration of the singular good will..of God towardes his creatures. 1622 BRINSLEY *Pos. Paris* (1669) p. v, I find a singular benefit hereby in causing all my lowest to stand or sit together. 1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxviii. 164 Offices, or any other singular marke of the Soveraigns favour. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 277 To our singular satisfaction we found the water.. ran..eastward. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, x. III. 219 For this, too, he found an expedient with singular art and felicity. 1842 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 28. 104 The instance ..is of singular significance in this matter. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iv. 56 A theory that has done singular mischief to the cause of recreation.

† **b.** Of remedies, medicines, etc.: Excellent; highly efficacious or beneficial. In predicative use freq. const. *against* or *for*. *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 7 My lord; þat is remedy syngulere amange anguysses of þis warld. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxiii. (1495) 904 Butter taken in to the body is a synguler helpe ayenst venym. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 152 A syngular remedy for the sklendurnes of our polytyke body. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. xvii, Cast out all the mud and filth, which is a singular compost for Land, upon the bank. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* lvii, It is a singular drink for the falling sickenesse. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 245/1 It is a singular Thing against a Gonorrhæa.

(*b*) 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 55 Pimpernell..is singuler against the bytings of venemouse beasts. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xii. 70 In the paine of the hemorrhoides there is nothing more singular then the perfume made of shauings of iuorie. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 174 It [i. e. honey] is singular for gout and for the cure of all wounds. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 4 It is singular for the Stone.

† **c.** Of persons. (Cf. 9 b.) *Obs.*

1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 54 Dere and specyal brother and synguler frende. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 4 Six princes, all learned, or singular fauourers and aduancers of learning. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 132 One only City.., whose President was..my very singular friend. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art of Convers.* 6 A most able Physician and singular Friend.

11. Remarkable; extraordinary, unusual, uncommon. Hence, rare, precious.

A common sense of *singularis* in classical Latin.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. v. (1859) 76 There I sawe a mereuylous cerkle, of syngulere gretnesse. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 133 Boece whiche was..tresor of rychesses, singuler house of sapience. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) I b, I sholde haue a synguler iewell to bere in my bosom. 1585 T. WASHINGTON *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. vi. 117 [They] are much giuen to..vsing singular perfumes. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* 54, I could not chuse but say, it was the singularest, and superlative piece that hath been extant since the Creation. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 5 A great Philosopher,..famous far and near, As one of singular Invention. 1766 PORNY *Elem. Heraldry* v. (1777) 140 Had it not been for the singular conduct of this brave person, the King had then remained a prisoner. 1779 *Mirror* No. 62, This was a proof of his good-nature, as well as of his singular presence of mind in critical situations. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xiii. 135 One or two theorems of singular geometrical elegance and beauty. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. 30 The Romans..admired the singular quality and workmanship of the wooden columns. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. i. 9 To refuse to do so would be to decline the use of..a singular gift of Providence.

† **12.** Differing *from* others in opinion; standing alone; peculiar in this respect. *Obs.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 152 Iarhi, you confesse, was of another minde; and thinke you, that Iarhi was therein singular from all the old Iewes? 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. v, Lest you will think him singular in this opinion, I will tell you, this seems to be believed by our learned Doctor Hakewill. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 425 The Vulgar thus through Imitation err; As oft the Learn'd by being singular. 1754 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 343. I find the author has been led..to the same strange conclusion..in which I feared I should for some time have been singular. 1792 BOSWELL *Johnson* Feb. 1766, Sir, he must be very singular in his opinion, if he thinks himself one of the best of men.

13. Different from or not complying with that which is customary, usual, or general; strange, odd, peculiar.

a 1684 LEIGHTON *Wks.* (1835) I. 119 It is no Wonder that the Godly are by some called Singular and Precise. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Apr. 1667, Suitable to her extravagant humour and dresse, which was very singular. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 341 Its manner of procuring its prey, is one of the most singular in all natural history. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxiv, In one of my excursions..I overheard a singular conversation. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 155 He was called strange and singular long before he was acknowledged to be great. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 55, I clambered up among these singular terraces. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* vii. 189 Those who make themselves singular in their dress and manners are seldom free from vanity.

† **14.** Quasi-*adv.* Singularly, especially, particularly. *Obs.* (Cf. 9 c.)

1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Synguler pure thyng, *chose desirée*. 1548–9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices* (Mar.) 23 That shall be to hym a singuler great coumforte. 1582 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 90 When a singuler good workeman in any mistery comes. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 123 Hee proved a singular learned man. *Ibid.* 318 The Realme of Ireland at this time was singular well governed. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. iv, A singular good principle.

15. *Comb.*, as *singular-looking, -minded, -witted* adjs.

1620 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* VIII. xii. 302 He was an admirable, singular witted man, inferior to none. 1815 SCOTT *Guy Mann.* xxiii, This wild and singular-looking woman. 1831 — *Ct. Robert* vii. The survivors of these singular-minded men. 1878 SMILES *Robt. Dick* iii, [He] took up a singular-looking nut.

B. *sb.*

1. a. A single person; an individual. Now *rare*.

1420 in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) IX. 917 Tounes, Comunaltees and Singulers. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* 14 So deare a singular, and so necessarie a companion. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 15 Of Singulars, all we haue, is a probable conjecture. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Timber* Wks. (Rtldg.) 756/1 Eloquence would be but a poor thing, if we should only converse with singulars; speak with man and man together. 1854 S. DOBELL *Balder* xxiv. 158 This..I give To thee, and am no poorer; no, nor thou.., nor a singular of all Who ever shall possess it.

b. A single thing; a single point or detail.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 700 All compound thinges are of greater force then Singulares. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 204 As for *Epitomes*..for one that meanes to goe through all the singulars; they seeme quite vnnecessary. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 121 The whole Creation heedfully survey, Each Singular minutely weigh.

c. Contrasted with a class or species.

1640 *Canterburians Self-Conviction* Postscr. 1 To make them but two singulars under one spece. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. III. xxvi, She..Calls kinds immortall, though their singulars do waste. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 124 Every man..owns something, wherein none are like him: and these are as many, as humane nature hath singulars. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) II. 1037 A species; that is to say, a class consisting exclusively of mere individuals or singulars.

d. *pl.* Contrasted with universals.

The use of L. *singulare, -aria*, in contrast to *universale, -alia*, goes back to Boëthius.

1643 DIGGES *Unl. Taking Arms* ii. 46 This notion of universall speculatively distinguished from singulars. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. i. 4 His Universal Ideas..he makes to be the..great Exemplar and image of al singulars. 1690 C. NESS *Hist. O. & N. T.* I. 29 Adam wisely understood all simples, singulars and universals. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 15 Think you, that God's Providence is..employ'd about Universals?..But if God takes care of Singulars [etc.]. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vii. 180 Their Knowledge being confined, as we have seen, to Intuitions,—to Singulars.

2. *Gram.* The singular number; a word in its singular form.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXXIII. (Bodl. MS.), *Porrum* is *hoc Porrum* in þe singuler & *hii porri* in þe plurel. 1530 PALSGR. 127 Howe all maner participles forme theyr..plurel nombres out of theyr singulars. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Grum.* I. XIII, The first [declension] maketh the plural of the singular, by adding thereunto *s*. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 162 The..imperative has no first person of the singular. 1799 *Asiatic Researches* II. 211 Their Feminine Singulars are used in the Persian as Participles. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 313/1 The aspirate has taken the place of the *r* or *σ* in the nominative singular. 1872 MORRIS *Eng. Accidence* 99 The plurals of some substantives differ in meaning from the singulars.

†**3.** Personal or private profit or gain. *Obs.*—1

1419 in *26 Polit. Poems* 71 For defaute of Iustice, and singulere to wynne, þey were rebell.

†**4.** A single or ordinary rafter. *Obs.*

Cf. the mod. Somerset *singler* (Elworthy *Word-bk.* 671).

1452 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 282 Atte euery Joynt of the Crest tre atte the Principalls and sengulers shalbe half Angells. Also atte..euery end of the sengulers atte the Jowpye shalbe an Angel.

†**5.** = SANGLIER. *Obs. rare.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c iij, A Synguler is he so: for a lone he will goo. 1688 [see SANGLIER].

Singularist. [f. SINGULAR *a.* + -IST.]

†**1.** One who differs from others, or from what is generally accepted; one who affects singularity.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* II. 101 One vnlearned Singularist hath more in him, then ten learned Precisians. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 66 Some smirking singularists, brag Reformists, and glicking Remembrancers..seeke to be masons of infinite contradiction. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 45 The private faults, opinions, conceits of Factionists, Singularists, or so, bee Fathered upon the Church. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* XXXIV. (1686) III. 378 Men not enduring to be termed..a clownish singularist, or non-conformist to ordinary usage, a stiff opiniatre.

2. *Eccl.* One who holds a single benefice, as contrasted with a PLURALIST. *rare.*

1799 MORNINGTON in Stanhope *Life Pitt* III. 192 To make my brother Gerald a fat pluralist; he is at present a meagre singularist. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 550 The effect.. will be..to make the rich and influential clergyman a pluralist, and keep the poorer class singularists probably for life.

†Singula·ritan. *Obs. rare.* [Cf. next and -AN.] =SINGULARIST 1

1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 697 *Patres sic judicant, ego vero sic*, saith another Singularitan. 1653 BP. WEBBE *Pract. Quiet.* (1657) 237 Such Singularitans there were among the Corinthians, who standing upon their own proud conceit contemned others.

Singularity (singiŭlæ·riti). Also 4 **syngularyte**, 5–6 **-ite**; 5–6 **singularite(e**, 5 **-yte(e**, 6–7 **-itie**, 6 **-itye**. See also SINGLERTY and SINGULERTY. [ad. F. *singularité* (12th c.), or late L. *singularitas*, f. *singularis* SINGULAR 1 see -ITY.]

I. †**1.** Singleness of aim or purpose. *Obs. rare.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lv. 10 Þai perisch þat sekis many thyngs, and syngularite is halden in halymen, for þai sett all þaire hert to luf anly a god. 1640 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 130 Is there in us that which God requires, Unity, Purity, and singularity of heart?

†**2.** A single or separate thing or entity; a unit.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. met. III. (1868) 160 Whan þe soule..seeþ..god, þan knoweþ it to-gidre þe somme and þe singularites. þat is to seyn, þe principles and enerycbe by hym self. 1548 GESTE *Pr. Masse* 139 'Wee' importeth a multitude and not a singularitee. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civil Life* 162 (As Aristotle saythe) the knowledge of vniuersalities springeth from singularities. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1756) 120 Persons of short times..know not singularities enough to raise axioms of this world. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 40. 1/2 Tho it be an Usual thing in the Hebrew ..for a Plural Word to denote a Singularity.

3. The quality or fact of being one in number or kind; singleness, oneness. Now *rare.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 80 The singularitie of one man may easilie be abused. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 245 The singularitie of one Pastour over each flocke is commanded. 1608 HEYWOOD *Lucrece* II. ii, Barren Princes Breed danger in their singularitie. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount of Life* viii. 20 He is described by the Singularity of his Mediation, One Mediator, and but one. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 390 The unity of each Church resteth on the singularity of the pastor. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. xx, Why may not John Bull be *Us*..? I hope John Bull is no more confined to Singularity than Nic. Frog. 1806 *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 225 The projectile motions of the planets..are all decidedly in favour of a marked singularity of direction. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xi. (1853) 132 Not merely the singularity in the number of God's Being.

II. 4. †**a.** The fact or condition of being alone or apart from others; solitariness. *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. XXIII. (1495) 212 Men vsyd to ete togyders in open place, leest syngularite [*Bodl. MS.* singulerite] schuld brede lechery. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 189 Goats love singularity, and may well be called Schismaticks among Cattel, and therefore they thrive best lying together in small numbers.

b. A solitary instance.

1814 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1856) X. 106 A friendship of forty years, I have found a rarity, though not a singularity.

†**5.** Private or personal profit or gain. *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23661 Wherfore the Spon that thou hast seyn ys callede 'Syngularyte', thyng to possede in propurte. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 190 But covetyse and singularite Of one [*v.r.* owne] profite..Hathe done us harme. *c* 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 2223 Comende that Officeer.. As hym that loueth moore prosperite, vnyversal of thy Regioun Than pryvat avayl to his singularyte.

†**b.** Desire to be specially favoured. *Obs.*—1

c 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* x. 26 Some of thyse men by a grete singularytee desire of god some specyalle yefte.

†**6.** Distinction due to, or involving, some superior quality; special excellence or goodness. *Obs.*

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 378 No singularite of metes and drynkes be had in the freytour. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 153 Dylygently to attayne in al artys and crafte gret syngularyte. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 62 b, In lyke maner may you dresse and trymme Peches and other fruites: a thing of great singularitie. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 358 There were conioyned all singularities together, best workmen, best wits,..and so in euery kinde Superlatiue. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 482 The kindnesses of whom..argued in them a greater singularitie of kindnesse and compassion.

7. The fact or quality of differing or dissenting from others or from what is generally accepted, esp. in thought or religion; personal, individual, or independent action, judgement, etc., esp. in order to render one's self conspicuous or to attract attention or notice. (Common from 1590 to 1700.)

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. XXX, Syngularyte, as not to vouchesaufe to do as done other. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 147 This mislikyng of Ryming beginneth not now of any newfangle singularitie. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Letter* B, Excellency hath in all ages affected singularity. 1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. i, It comes too neere singularitie, and a desire to be noted. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 359 The Day will come, when those that despise his Singularity, will envy his Happiness. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* X. 369 He that zealously vends his Novelties, what is he but a Trader for the fame of Singularity? 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. XXIX. 181 Singularity is usually the indication of something wrong in judgment. 1814 CARY *Dante, Par.* XXIX. 92 So much the restless eagerness to shine, And love of singularity, prevail. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy* 10 That conceit of singularity which is the natural recoil from our uneasy consciousness of being commonplace.

b. Const. *of* (opinion, etc.).

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 114 Doctor Latwar,..affecting some singularitie of forwardnesse, more then his place required,.. was mortally wounded. 1622 in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 184, I neaver affected singularity of opinion either in myself or any other man. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* II. 166 Tacitus's only aim seems to have been singularity of expression. 1779 *Mirror* No. 19, That singularity of opinion, which is the natural consequence of his want of opportunities of comparing his own ideas with those of others. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. xvi. (1869) 327 Avoid singularity of opinion as well as of every thing else.

†**c.** Dissent or separation *from* (something). *Obs.*

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* vi. 15 Is our Consent with the Universal Church, or your Singularity from it, liker to Schism or Separation? 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 22 These Holy Men['s]..Singularity from Sin and False Worship.

8. a. Individual character or property; individuality; distinctiveness.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 11 There is a certaine singularitie, interest, and proprietie in euerie thing. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 491 Some particulars..may be said touching some of them in other places, according to the singularitie of each Nation in this so manifolde a profession. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXI. lii, That Singularity which seemeth so Close girt to every Individual Creature. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* I, This room..is without ornament, elegance, or any sort of singularity, and merely to be marked by its length. 1836-7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* XXVIII. (1859) II. 169 All the special determinations which give it [a triangle]..singularity or individuality.

b. The fact or condition of departing or deviating from what is customary, usual, or normal; peculiarity, eccentricity, oddity, strangeness.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Passport*, The Count smiled at the singularity of the introduction. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 150 The manners and customs of the Indians are marked with a singularity peculiar to the savage. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 122 *note*, The following anecdote, which, for its singularity, surpasses even the attempts of Chatterton. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. v. 303 There is another species of rock which I shall mention, on account of its singularity. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. iv. 56 The singularity of his manners had attracted as much notice as his eminence at the bar.

†**c.** A special or particular kind *of* (something).

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. vii. (1869) I. 63 Some natural productions require such a singularity of soil and situation, that [etc.].

9. With *a* and pl. **a.** An instance of individual departure from common ideas or practice.

1570 GRINDAL *Let.* in *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 305 He hath a busy head, stuffed full of Singularities. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. ix. (1614) 154 When afterwards in a singularitie he had gone aside into a Caue, and there mewed vp himselfe. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremont's Ess.* 98 He fear'd the singularities which came from a false Spirit. *Ibid.* 336, I pardon our religious Men the sad Singularity of eating nothing but Herbs. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 166 ¶ 1 The World is so overgrown with Singularities in Behaviour, and Method of Living. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 7 Numerous expressions and singularities of style. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* 14 Even slight singularities of dress—usually puerile and contemptible affectations. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 22 Oct. 5/4 The singularities of his character and the misfortunes of his life.

b. A distinctive, noteworthy, or curious thing; esp. *pl.*, notable features or objects; † the sights (*of* a place).

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 131 Since Douer is not far off let us make unto it and unfold the singularities of the same. 1593 MUNDAY *Def. Contraries* 15 Countrey houses..beset with cleere fountaines, Vineyardes, Meadowes, ..and other singularities. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 15 Many haue wrote of the singularities of old Rome. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Voy.* lvii. 225 When we had well observed the singularities of this Temple. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 78 Numbers are daily crouding from this city..to view these singularities [petrified human bodies]. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* IV. ii. 275 One of them [chess-boards], a perfect singularity, is of circular form. 1808 BENTHAM *Scotch Reform* 2 But as Africa of old was noted for physical, so have the British islands been in modern times for psychological singularities.

transf. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, Al the choisest singularities of the court were vp in pantofles.

c. A peculiar, exceptional, or unusual feature or characteristic.

1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 382 There is a singularity therein in regard of the nature of it. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) I. 121 From these singularities of structure, it is probable that the generation of these plants is effected in some mode not yet understood. 1817 MILL *Brit. India* II. iv. I. 167 The trials by ordeal..have been thought a mighty singularity in the institutions of our Gothic ancestors. 1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 227, I have..seen several of these singularities, and especially the renewal of the sight and hearing. 1852 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* II. 28 On the singularities of curves. 1883 WALLEM *Fish Supply Norway* 22 It is a singularity of the export..of cured fish that [etc.].

Singularize (si·ngiŭlărəiz), *v.* [f. SINGULAR *a.* + -IZE. Cf. F. *singulariser.*]

1. *trans.* To mark conspicuously; to make distinct or conspicuous; to distinguish, signalize.

1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 111 If any thing miraculously singularizeth witt, it is Impudence. 1644 J. GOODWIN *Innoc. Triumph.* (1645) 35 Separated from all its fellows by this parenthesis of preferment, ..and one other of them..singularized with this parenthesis. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 402 There is not a word there expressing any distinction..to any other Apostle, much lesse singularizing each of them distinctly. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 2/2 It has some Properties which do..singularize it. 1735 J. HUGHES tr. *Fontenelle's Dial.* III. iv. (ed. 3) 145 True Wisdom wou'd too much distinguish and singularize its Possessors. 1894 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 20 Dec. 6/3 He was a Capet, a family name singularized by the recurrence of these warrior prelates.

refl. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Oracle* 202 They affect.. to singularize themselves by an extraordinary air. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 30 Apr., The two Amazons who singularised themselves most in action. 1785 C'TESS OF R. *Ess.* II. 16 Resolving to do..something good, in order to singularize themselves. 1812 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 383 The instinct..in each man of declaring his particular existence, and thus of singling or singularizing himself.

2. To make singular or one; to individualize; to convert into the singular number. *rare.*

1663 SPARKE *Prim. Devotion* 337 What is the meaning of this hymn so trebled, so singularized, but three distinct Persons, yet one onely Lord God? 1694 R. BURTHOGGE *Reason* 154 The Great Work..of the Body is to Singularize and Individuate the General Vital Principle of the Universe. 1828 [J. R. BEST] *Italy as it is* 404 The situation of Baia, the moderns have singularized the name, is preferable to that of Naples.

Hence **Si·ngularized**, **Si·ngularizing** *ppl. adjs.* Also **Singulariza·tion.**

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 247 Thus we..speake of the Church indefinitely taken,..not appropriated to any individuall, or singularized person. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 415 Where no such distinction or singularizing expression was found. 1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 310/2 Your correspondent asks for examples of ignorant singularization.

Singularly (si·ngiŭlăli), *adv.* Forms: a. 4 **syngulerlyche**, 5 **singuleerliche**; 4–6 **syng-**,

singularly (4 -li, 6 -lie, -lye). *β.* 5–6 **syngularly**, 6– **singularly** (6 -lie). [f. SINGULAR *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Singly; apart from, unaccompanied or unaided by, any or all others; by oneself or itself; one by one, separately, individually. Now *rare.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 21 All proude men, þat raises þaim vp syngulerly, and suffers na felaghis. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) I. 94 Ye, and yet other-whyle with wil assenteth, singulerly by him-selfe. *a* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xx. 65 On the wylle I oute throwe my salt teres, for syngulerly on the my look is set. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCVI. iii, [He] faught full worthely With George Turnaile in lyestes syngulerly. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 29 Therefore by theyr parcelles syngularly they be to be declared. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 28 § 2 Euery of them..maie retaine singulerlie to euery one of them in his house..one chaplein. 1653 BAXTER *Christian Concord* 109 That man..who will do all alone, singularly or on his own head. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 345 In truth there are 4 Roots, but every one singularly equal to *b*. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* 70/1 He..Would solemnly and singularly curse Each minute [etc.].

b. With special application or reference to one person or thing.

1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 390 Yf I have rehersed wyttyngly the text of the Gospell syngularly unto your maistership, I beseche you to be had excused. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii. 49, I speake generally to euery springing wit: but more specially to a few: and at this instante singularly to one. 1644 JESSOP *Angel of Ephesus* 11 The denomination is not to be taken..Singularly or Personally, but..collectively. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 138 Though I have spoken singularly of one Principal Post, yet as you work this, you must work all four Principal Posts.

c. After one's own fashion; independently.

1669 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* Introd. i. 3/2 The Christian is to walk singularly, not after the World's guise. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 57 His lot who dares be singularly good. [1806 S. ROGERS *Written in Westminster Abbey* 16 Round Him, who dared be singularly good.]

2. In the singular number; so as to denote one.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 345 He seid not pluraliche, þat he shulde 3yve it to his seedis, but singulerly, to his seed. *a* 1522 LILY *Grammar* in *Shaks. Jahrbuch* (1908) 89 How verbes..varye in ther modes,..and in theyr persones, bothe syngularly and plurally. 1575 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1577) 74 Christ pardoning this theefe, sayd not, *Amen dico vobis*, but speaking singularly, he sayd, *Amen dico tibi*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 181 The Hebrews call them [goats] singularly *Ez*, and plurally *Izim*. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 246 Though that Poet speak more than once of God Singularly.

3. In a special manner; to an unusual degree or extent; specially, particularly, unusually.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cv. (1869) 115 Youre wit is singuleerliche to alowe and to preyse. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 8 Most singulerly Verteuous be hyr excellent cheryte. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1878) 290 In which .iiii. [things] the noble woman Martha..was syngulerly to be commended and prayesed. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 44 Salute Persis, whome I syngulerlye loue. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 344 You shall see the ouercomming of the Citie, liuely set forth, and the holy things..singularly expressed. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xiv. 47 They were singularly well accomplished therein. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 122 They had something singularly honest and sincere in their faces. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. Tales* I. 81 A forgetfulness of himself, that was singularly charming. 1825 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 1 The afternoon was singularly beautiful. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 718 A man of singularly clear judgment and singularly lofty spirit. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 223 His Latin..is singularly forcible and expressive.

†**4.** Excellently, admirably, particularly well. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 76 Caesar, the proper youth, is singularly disposed. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, That rebatu becomes thee singularly. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 72 Master Secretary..spake singularly for the justifying of her Majesties speciall care.

5. Oddly, strangely, peculiarly. *rare.*

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 292 *Cyclopterus*, the lump-fish: This is a very singularly-shaped fish..and of a remarkably clumsy figure. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., The quires of paper thus singularly conferred on me. *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) I. 39 Here I am, settled since night before last,..and living very singularly.

Singularness (siŋgĭ·ləlănės). Now *rare.* [f. SINGULAR *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being singular; singularity, † singleness.

1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syngularnesse, *singularité*. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 *Cor.* 58 Nor by anye other waye proue [they] theyr owne syngularnesse, but by deprauynge other mennes actes. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxv. 12 That the frutefull yeeres excell in singularnesse of beauty. 1650 WEEKES *Truth's Conflict* Pref. A 2 They do require a singularnesse of intention, and raisednesse of mind. 1657 *Deuine Louer* 17 The greatnesse or singularnesse of our Priuiledges. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Singularness*,..also, a particular way of behaviour, &c., affectedness. 1900 P. C. SIMPSON *Fact of Christ* ii. 32 A singularness by which He is not only separate from sinners, but is also distinct from saints.

Singuler(e, obs. forms of SINGULAR.

†**Singulerty.** *Obs.* In 5 **sin-, syngulerte.** [a. OF. *singularté*: see SINGULAR *a.* and -TY.] = SINGULARITY.

1414 in *26 Polit. Poems*, 58 Syngulerte is sotyle befte. þey calle hit custom, troupe to blende. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 70 Syngulerte..is whan a man folwyth his owyn wyll for pompe, & wyll nost do as wynere don. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXXVI. vii. (MS. Ashm. 34), The publyke cause afore þe singulerte, [He] Preferred ay as it of ryght shuld be.

Singulo-, comb. form of L. *singulus* single, in **singulo-silicate**, a unisilicate.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 62/2 Of cuprous..silicates,..the singulo-silicate is red, dense, and rather refractory. *Ibid.*, The singulo-silicate and bi-silicate combinations.

Si·ngult. Now *arch.* [ad. L. *singultus* a sob, a speech broken by sobs.]

1. A sob.

In the two quotations from Spenser, as well as in *Tears Muses* 232 and *Colin Clout* 168, the word is misprinted *singulf* in the original editions.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 12 There an huge heape of singultes did oppresse His strugling soule. 1596 *Ibid.* V. vi. 13 With deepe sighes, and singults few. 1616 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i, When her teares were stopt from eyther eye, Her singults, blubbrings, seem'd to make them flye Out at her oyster-mouth. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* xv, Thus her plain'full mone, Commixt with bitter singults, she exprest. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* (1763) 291 Whiles frequent singults check'd his faltring tale. *a* 1756 G. WEST *Educ.* in *Dodsley's Coll. Poems* (1782) IV. 30 Heart-thrilling cries, with sobs and singults sore. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxix, Had he foreseen it was to cost you these tears and singults.

†**2.** = SINGULTUS 1. *Obs.*[−1]

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 366 The singult, or hicket, which is a convulsive motion of the stomach.

Singu·ltient, *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. ppl. stem of L. *singultīre* to sob: see prec.] Sobbing.

1650 HOWELL *Parly of Beasts* 23 Som of ripe age will screech, cry, and howle in so many disordered notes and singultient accents. 1879 L. MORRIS *Ode of Life* (1880) 4 The great Universe wakes with a deep-drawn singultient breath.

Singu·ltous, *a. rare*−°. [f. SINGULT: cf. next.] 'Relating to, or affected with, hiccough.'

1851 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

†**Singu·ltuous,** *a. Obs.*[−1] [ad. obs. F. *singultueux*, f. L. *singultus*.] Characterized by or attended with hiccuping.

1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* I. (1585) 190 There hath followed singultuous feuers and death itself at the length.

†**Singulture.** *Obs.* [f. L. *singult-us*.] = next.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 235 Its faculty is..to abate singulture.

‖**Singultus** (siŋgʌ·ltŭs). [L. Cf. SINGULT.]

1. *Path.* Hiccups, hiccuping.

Given in the *Physical Dict.* (1657) and in Blancard, Harris, etc., but without evidence of actual use in English.

1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwifery* III. 180 A fever intervened..attended with singultus. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 395 Sickness, vomiting, singultus, languor, anxiety. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosologia* 197 Dry cough, vomiting, singultus. 1880 FLINT *Princ. Med.* 313 Singultus may be produced by pressure on the phrenic or branches of the pneumogastric nerve.

2. A sob. *rare.*

1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. ii, But, more or less, the whole's a syncope Or a singultus—emblems of emotion.

Sinhalese (sinhălī·z), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Singhalese, Singalese.** [f. Skr. *Siṅhala* Ceylon + -ESE. Cf. CINGALESE.

The plural *Singales* used by Purchas (1613) and Herbert (1634) does not appear to be of this formation: it may represent the Skr. pl. *Siṅhalās*.]

1. As *pl.* The native inhabitants of Ceylon.

1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 313 The natives of Ceylon, called Singalese,..are not so black as those of Malabar. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 242 The Kandians and the Singhalese resemble each other in manners, language, and religion. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 198/2 The 'tic-polonga' of the Singalese.

2. The language spoken in Ceylon.

1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 318 The language is Singalese; and there are some Mahometans. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 738/2 Their [*sc.* the Veddahs] language..is a dialect of the Singhalese.

3. As *adj.* Belonging or pertaining to Ceylon or to the native inhabitants of that island.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 494/1 From this Shanscrit are derived the sacred characters of Thibet, the Cashmirian,.. and Tamoul; the Singalese, Siamese, Maharattan [etc.]. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* II. 311 In the reign of Claudius, embassadors were sent to Rome by a Singalese rajia. *Ibid.* 314 Religious books in the Tamulic..and Singalese languages. 1890 *Contemp. Rev.* LVII. 257 Sixty years ago the Sinhalese priesthood were intensely illiterate. *Ibid.* 270 According to the Sinhalese narrative.

Sinic (si·nik), *a.* Also 7 **Sinick.** [ad. med.L. *Sinic-us* (med.Gr. Σινικός), f. late L. *Sinæ*: cf. SINÆAN *a.*] Chinese.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 8 Martinius tells us ..that the antient writers of the Sinick history speak much of the Flood. 1801 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* I. iv. 27 Bory de St. Vincent..admits fifteen species of Men. These are, 1st, the Japetic;..5th, the Sinic.

Sinical (si·nikăl), *a. Math.* Also 6 **sinicall**, 8 **sinecal** (?). [f. SINE 2 + -ICAL.] Of or relating to a sine or sines; employing or founded upon sines.

1593 FALE *Art of Dialling* 60 This Table of Sines may seeme obscure and hard to them who are not acquainted with Sinicall computation. 1673 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 171 By this sinical projection..I can find the hour of the day to a minute. 1702 FALCONER *Shipwr.* I. 751 In chiliads next the analogy is sought: And on the sinical triangle wrought.

†**b.** *Sinical quadrant*, a former nautical instrument having intersecting sines drawn from each side.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. i. 47 Instruments in esteem amongst Navigators, are chiefly..the Plain Scale, the Sinical Quadrant, the Plain Sea-Chard, and the True Sea-Chard. 1693 ALINGHAM *Geom. Extr.* 69 Several Mathematical Instruments, as sinical Quadrant, Forestaff [etc.]. 1702 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 18 [Description given, copied by Harris, Kersey, etc.]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Quadrant.*

1781 J. ADAMS (*title*), The Description and Use of a new much-improved Sinical Quadrant. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 185 The plain Triangle..[is] better than the sinecal Quadrant.

Sinicism (si·nisiz'm). [f. SINIC *a.* + -ISM.] Chinese manners, customs, or principles; affectation or adoption of what is Chinese.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 228 The reference is a mere sinicism. Even cowry shells, commonly used in early China as currency, were never so employed in Japan.

Sinicization (si·nisəizē·ı̆·ʃən). [f. next + -ATION.] The action or process of Sinicizing.

1898 *Athenæum* 26 Nov. 747/3 Shinto might have become a religious and ethical system, but its development was arrested by Sinicization and Buddhism. 1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 209 It is of primitive Japan, of its birth and final sinicisation, that the story..is attempted in the following pages.

Sinicize (si·nisəiz), *v.* [f. SINIC *a.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To invest with a Chinese character.

1889 *Athenæum* 28 Sept. 414/2 While the civilization of Japan becomes every year more and more Westernized, her language..becomes more and more Sinicized. 1904 *Ibid.* 22 Oct. 547/3 Japan was never really sinicized, and what was best in China never became hers.

Hence **Si·nicized** *ppl. a.*

1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 218 A thoroughly sinicised and variously manipulated version. 1905 *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 361/2 Even the Buddhism which rules the minds of men ..from the Himalayas to Sagalin is of a sinicized character.

Sinification (si·nifikē·ı̆·ʃən). [See next and -FICATION.] Sinicization.

1900 *Athenæum* 4 Aug. 145/3 The Japanese have introduced the whole Chinese system of ideographs, one result of which..is a peculiar sinification..of the vocabulary.

Sinify (si·nifəi), *v.* [f. *Sini-*, comb. form of L. *Sinæ* (see SINÆAN *a.*) + -FY.] *trans.* To Sinicize.

1900 *Spectator* 15 Sept. 330 The Europæan who becomes Sinified is a degraded being.

Si·nigrin. *Chem.* Also **sinnigrine.** [irreg. f. L. *si-năpis* mustard + *nigra* black + -IN 1 or -INE 5.] Myronate of potassium.

1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 735 The characteristic constituent of black mustard is myronate of potassium, or sinigrin. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 451 The elements of this oil exist in the seed [of Black Mustard], in the forms of myronate of potash or sinigrin and myrosin.

Sinister (si·nistəı), *a.* Forms: α. 5–6 **synystre, synistre**, 5–7 **sinistre**; 6 **syne-**, 7–8 **sinester**; 5–6 **syni-**, 5–7 **sini-**, 5– **sinister.** *β.* 5 **senestre**, 5–6 **sene-**, 5 **seni-**, 6 **senyster.** [a. OF. *senestre*, *sinistre* (mod.F. *sinistre*, = Pg. and It. *sinistro*, Sp. *siniestro*), or L. *sinister* left, left-hand. The more original senses of the word are in English later and less common than the transferred.

The stressing shown by examples in verse down to the time of Pope is *sini·ster*. Johnson (ed. 4, 1773) gives *si·nister*, but adds 'it seems to be used with the accent on the second syllable, at least in the primitive, and on the first in the figurative sense', and this distinction is retained by Smart (1836), though previously rejected by Walker.]

I. †**1.** Of information: Given with intent to deceive or mislead, esp. so as to create a prejudice against some person; prompted by malice or ill-will. *Obs.*

1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 And of all that by sinistre information, I havyng doute of harme of my body,..dyd assemble thise persones. 1485 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* IX. 646 *note*, Gif..Johne informit the kingis heines that the said acris pertenit nocht to the said tennandis, that it was wrang and senister informacion. 1534 MORE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 49 That..no synistre information move your noble Grace to have eny more distrust of my trowth. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 416 Upoun sinister informatioun maid to thair Lordshipis,..the said Robert wes lattin to libertie; albeit the saidis Lordis perfytelie now undirstandis the contrarie.

†**b.** Similarly of suggestions, advice, etc. *Obs.*

1430 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 279/2 By sotill meanes and sinistre suggestions. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 433 þe hasty, sinistre and seductous suggestion & labour made be Laurens Saunders. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 8 b, The evell & sinister councell of perverse and flatteryng persons. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., R. Tresilian* xvi, Kynge Richarde,..By synister aduyse, had tourned all vpsodowne. 1569 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 257 Doubting what synister complainte may be now againste me. 1601 B JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, The sinister application Of the malicious, ignorant, and base Interpreter.

†**2.** Of opinions, etc.: Prejudicial, adverse, unfavourable, darkly suspicious. *Obs.*

1432 *Paston Lett.* I. 35 That the said Erle may have knowleche therof, to th' entent that he may..not dwelle in hevy or synistre conceit or opinion. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxxvii. Wks. 904/1 It wyl be hard to bring anye suche sinister opinion of him in any good honest mans head. 1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* I. 17 Let me not bee mistaken by sinister construction. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* VI. 313 We passe into the corners of other mens soules..by rash judgements and sinister suspitions. 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xxiv. (1700) 146 We are apt to harbor sinister thoughts of the Contriver of a Plot. *a* 1723 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 67 Some evil Suspicion or sinister Thoughts concerning me. 1795 *Sewel's Hist. Quakers* I. Pref. p. xv, This is a very sinister and preposterous conceit.

3. Of actions, practices, etc.: Dishonest, unfair; not straightforward, underhand; dark.

Common *c* 1470 to 1650, esp. with *arts*, *courses*, *labours*, *means*, *ways*.

1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 326 The sinistrez, malicious, and fraudulent laboures and rapportes of our sayd ennemyes. 1483 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 43, I am right sory & any synister wayes of my adversaryes be shewed unto you. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. li, Thou .. sekest for thy defence derke & synyster excuses. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xix. 160 The sinister ministratione of thy office, is the special cause of the scisma. 1612 BACON *Ess., Of Judicature* (Arb.) 456 Persons that are full of nimble and sinister trickes and shiftes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. 165 Such who consult with covetousness in matters of conscience, embracing sinister courses to save charges. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 84 Private letters..which were obtained in a sinister manner by him. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xv, Cheap Fish..might be sold all the year if no sinister arts were used to prevent it. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* i. (1867) 18 We ought not to heed the injudicious, and perhaps sinister, delicacy of some persons who had rather that truth should remain for ever sullied [etc.].

4. Corrupt, evil, bad, base.

1474 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 110/1 Contynuyn in habundaunce of goodes and havour, to their sinister pleasure. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 7 Leste ye be let or withdrawen ther-fro by eny sinistre or euil temptacion. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* Ep. Ded. 2 Ane sinister inuentit false titil contrar our realme. 1574 WHITGIFT *Def. Aunsw.* iii. Wks. 1851 I. 302 When do partial and sinister affections more utter themselves, than when an election is committed to many? 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 12 Many in some blind and sinister respect or other, can come to heare Ieremie speaking from the Lord. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* 16 He speaks of bad manners and vitious humors and sinister affections,.. as envy, contention, contumacy, incontinency. 1780 BURKE *Sp. Econ. Reform* Wks. 1842 I. 254 To see us pervert our skill into a sinister and servile dexterity, for the purpose of evading our duty. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xxi, These were advantages:..he thought—It was his foible, but by no means sinister—That [etc.]. 1827 HOOD *Craniology* 79 Till one gets mastery good or sinister, And comes in like a new prime-minister. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. in White* xi, To the same hidden source and the same sinister influence.

b. Of motives, aims, etc.

Common from *c* 1590, esp. with *designe, ends, motives, views.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Q viij, Ye suppose my good desyres be sinister. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. ix. § 3 Is it so strange a matter to find a good thing furthered by ill men of a sinister intent and purpose? 1628 PRYNNE *Love-lockes* 14 Men in our dayes doe nourish their Haire and Loue-lockes out of Vaine-glory, Pride,..and such like Sinister and sinfull ends. 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* viii. 324 If Henry the eighth had any other private sinistre grounds known only to himself, they doe not render the Reformation one jod the worse in it self. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 45 They may out of sinister and corrupt designs give false Judgments. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxv. (1788) 337, I do not mean to enter into an examination of the partial, sinister motives of your conduct. 1804 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) III. 133 The Marhatta Chiefs..have frequently applied to him to exert the influence..to carry their sinister objects. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 133 Wolsey..soon satisfied the king that he had no sinister intentions. 1871 MORLEY *Condorcet* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 43 All the evils came from the sinister interests of the nobles.

† c. Erring; erroneous; astray *from* the right path. *Obs. rare.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 63 b, Despyse suche synystre feares and shames, for they come communly of the ennemy. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 18 The sinistre rooted persuasion of the Jewes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 157 They haue also this sinister opinion, that at the day of Iudgement..Mahomet shall appeare. 1634 HABINGTON *Castara* I. (Arb.) 12, I never felt a wanton heate, nor was my invention ever sinister from the straite way of chastity.

† 5. Of persons: Acting or advising to one's detriment. *Obs. rare.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 258 Yf some of his synester frendes haue informed geffray. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 91 The displeasures to hym doen by the quene and her sinister counsailors.

6. Of omens, etc.: Portending or indicating misfortune or disaster; full of dark or gloomy suggestiveness; inauspicious, unfavourable.

Orig. denoting omens seen on the left hand, which was regarded as the unlucky side: cf. 9 c and DEXTER *a.* 1 c.

1579 NORTH tr. *Plutarch, Marcellus* (1895) II. 370 To withdraw the evill from them these sinister tokens did threaten. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 29 Guided by some sinister starre. 1611 JONSON *Catiline Comed.* I. i, All the several ills that visit earth, Brought forth by night with a sinister birth, Plagues, famine, fire. 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict.* s.v., [When] Saturn [is] in *Aries*, and Mars in the same Degrees of *Gemini*,..Saturn is said to cast a Sinister Aspect to Mars. 1792 GOUVR. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 180 From such facts it is impossible not to draw the most sinister presages. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xix, Dorothy..had that strong appetite for collecting and retailing sinister intelligence, which is often to be marked in the lower classes. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 230 Many said that those words, when examined, would be found full of sinister meaning. 1873 HOSKEN *Florence* (1884) I. xv. 226 The death of a lion [in Florence] was deplored as a sinister omen.

b. Of looks, etc.: Suggestive of evil or mischief.

1797–1805 S. & HY. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 374 In the countenance of St. Auber he thought he discerned something watchful and sinister. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 112 The sinister expression with which she regarded the travellers. 1833 LYTTON *My Novel* III. ii, Such a smile!—so disagreeable and sinister! 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. I. 9 The typical Irish immigrant, with his sinister animal features. *Fig.* 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXXVIII. V. 68 This article, of so sinister an aspect, seems to have been inserted chiefly with a view to Thebes. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. vii. 328 It gives a sinister expression to her otherwise unblemished character.

Comb. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXXI, A rather ill-favoured countenance, and a turned-up, sinister-looking nose. 1884 COLBORNE *With Hicks Pasha* 131 Their only visible tenants being sinister-looking vultures.

c. Of natural objects, places, etc.

1844 HOOD *Forge* 31 As wild a night As ever was known on that sinister height. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vii. 69 The sky looks sinister; a sort of scowl overhangs the blink. 1894 P. PINKERTON *Adriatica, Venice in Autumn*, I hear the madmen scream From sinister San Servolo.

7. Attended with mishap, misfortune, or disaster; unlucky, unfortunate; adverse.

Common *c* 1580 to 1670, esp. with *accident, chance, fate, fortune.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 115 If I be intercepted with some sinister chaunce. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 242 A trauailer that hath sustained harm by sinister fortune. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 8 Promising but a Sinister successe. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 III. 112 Thir Countrie, whose sinister fate had now blinded them for distruction. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xii. 287 Leicester himself, in case of any sinister accident, could easily take shelter in the city. 1792 COWPER *Lett.* 16 Sept., With no sinister accident to retard or terrify us. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xliv. IV. 243 A sinister event..had opened the series of transactions in the East, and had cast a gloom over the public sentiment at home.

8. Unfavourable, harmful, or prejudicial *to* a person, his interests, etc.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* XX. 304 The bird of Jove Truss'd..a trembling dove: Sinister to their hope! 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 285 By some accident very sinister to me, you absolutely forget the defence. 1805 *Brathwait's Barnabees Jrnl.* Introd. (1818) 40 A place very sinister to English princes. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* Ser. II. *Main Street*, Such a life was sinister to the intellect, and sinister to the heart.

II. **9.** Situated on the left side of the body.

c 1475 *Partenay* 3049 The sinistre Arme smote he vppon. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 84 Raymondyn..putte..the hand senester at hys nek. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 54/1 My Lord of Gyurì receaved a terrible shot in his sinistre shoulder. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 128 My Mothers bloud Runs on the dexter cheeke, and this sinister Bounds in my fathers. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac-Fl.* 120 In his sinister hand..He placed a mighty mug of potent ale. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXXIX, The old lady substituted a black silk shade to obfuscate her sinister luminary.

Comb. a 1658 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 158 That which still makes her mirth to flow, Is our sinister-handed woe.

absol. 1861 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columb.* (1892) II. 437 All the infinite variety of shakes..was executed upon the devoted sinister and dexter of the President.

b. Lying on or towards the left hand.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 436 b/2 The preest translateth his book to the synyster parte of the aulter. 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 39 The sinister winge of the vantguard. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 310 In the Greeks' left wing, The Trojans saw the Cretan king..And his attendant.. Both cheering the sinister troops. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 67 We have placed the name of Amorites on the sinister front of this our description. 1830 GLEIG *Country Curate* I. iii. 48 Of the doors,..that behind is fastened to the sinister lintel by..five latches. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. iii. 74 A card with the name of the journal..engraved in the sinister corner.

c. With reference to omens. (Cf. 6.)

1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* XX. 24 Then o'er their heads an Eagle flew on high Sinister. 1717 POPE *Iliad* XII. 257 The victor eagle, whose sinister flight Retards our host. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Pref. 50 By the sinister flight of birds.

10. *Her.* Forming, or situated on, the left half of a shield (regarded from the bearer's point of view; cf. DEXTER). Also *absol.*

Cf. also BAR-, BATON-, BEND-SINISTER.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 41 The sinister point..is in the left side of the same escocheon. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royal Slcp* 43 Shee pointeth to Hercules on the sinister side, with his club in his hand. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. Introd. 8 The sinister half [of the escutcheon] being as it were obscured or cut off. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Tenne*..is expressed in Engraving by Lines diagonal, from the Sinister Chief and Traverse. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 447/2 The Bend is an ordinary formed by two diagonal lines, drawn from the dexter-chief to the sinister-base. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. 169 The sinister half of the impaled shield. 1868 CUSSANS *Heraldry* (1893) 53 *Purpure*, diagonal lines drawn from sinister to dexter.

b. *Sinister bend*, = *Bend-sinister*, BEND *sb.*2 3.

1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 83/2 A Sanguine-field, that beareth Harts, in chiefe, crost with sinister-bends. 1820 LAMB *Elia* I. *South-Sea Ho.*, His lineal pretensions, like his personal, favoured a little of the sinister bend.

11. Directed to the left; characterized by moving or turning towards the left. *rare.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 84 A hundred Knights Circling the sad pile with sinister rites [L. *ex more sinistro Orbe*]. 1644 BULWER *Chirom.* 102 To draw sinister circles, or rashly to fling the Hand up and downe. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Oul. Organic.* 224 *Ostrea serra*: suborbicular, sinister, gigantic.

12. Relating to the use of the left hand. *rare*—1.

1828 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXVI. 7 It became practicable to keep the left hand habitually clean,..and there was no longer any occasion to persist in those sinister forbearances, which are..commanded.

Sinisterity (sinisteriti). Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *sinisteritas*: see prec. and -ITY.]

† 1. Sinister character; perversity; dishonesty. *Obs.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Thess.* I. 5 Sinisterity of ends is here opposed to sincerity in Gods work. 1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* II. 102 The activity of the Romish Priests to gain Proselites: their dexterous sinisterity in seducing Souls. 1758 JORTIN *Life Erasmus* I. 113 On this point they judged not amiss, nor with their accustomed sinisterity, if we may be permitted to use that word.

† 2. Lack of skill or dexterity; clumsiness, awkwardness. *Obs.*—0

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sinisteritie*, vnhandsomnesse. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sinisterity*,..lack of grace in doing a thing.

3. Use of the left hand; skill in this.

1877 SHILLETO in *Cambr. Jrnl. Philol.* VII. 155 The Latin thief's *sinisterity* of hand became proverbial.

Sinisterly (si·nistəli), *adv.* Forms: see SINISTER *a.*; also 6 -lye, 6–7 -lie. [f. SINISTER *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. L. *sinistrè*, F. *sinistrement.*]

1. In an inauspicious or unlucky manner; unfortunately; ominously. *rare.*

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 174 Yff onye thyng falle sinistrely only yn theyr deffaut, as God defend. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. vii. (1602) 30 Beholding how sinisterly the double fight hath past. 1611 COTGR., *Malheureusement*,..vnluckily, vnfortunately, sinisterly, disastrously. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 37 If any thing sinisterlie happen unto him through his owne temeritie.

† 2. In a derogatory manner; with malicious depreciation. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 260 b/1 They asked what man..had so euyll and synystryly spoken of the sayd abbot. 1506 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees, 1890) 52 Oon Bartrame Dawson..is sensysterly defamed that he shulde be a Scottysshman borne. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 158 Heiring that his just and necessarie intentioun..to be sinisterlie reportit of. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* vii. 26 He hath not opened..both [his ears] vnto him which hath sinistrelie..slaundered me. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 128 b, Hee ouerthrewe Marcellus, by accusing him to haue spoken somewhat sinisterly of Caesar.

† 3. In an unfavourable sense; with a bias towards the worst view. *Obs.*

Very common down to *c* 1650, esp. with *conceive, interpret*, and *judge.*

1529 MORE *Supplic. Souls* Wks. 297 Such as would be glad sinisterly to misseconster euery thyng towarde the clergy. 1538 WRIOTHESLY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 110, I write this unto You bicause you may peraventur here sumwhat hereof, and the thing percase sinisterly interpreted. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 13 b, The mallice of men is so greate, that they..thinke sinisterlie and preposterouslie of all the good deedes which are wrought. 1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 77 If now some giddy fancy in your braine Make you conceiue sinisterly of her. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 274, I would have nothing in Him, that is justly to be blamed, or sinisterly suspected.

† 4. With evil intent or purpose; maliciously, malevolently. *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. Ded. 2 Quhen thai & mordocheus var sinisterly accusit, and alse persecuit, be amman. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 88 A matter sinisterly suggested unto you against mee without any maintainable reason. 1642 *Consid. Duties Prince & People* 20 As there are those that are sinisterly officious to the one, so are there toward the other. *a* 1692 A. WOOD *Hist. & Antiq. Univ. Oxf.* (1796) II. 444 The scholars' arms..were not borrowed of them, as some had sinisterly suggested.

† b. Unfavourably; adversely. *Obs.*

a 1600 HOOKER *Answ. Travers' Supplic.* § 6 That I am.. one which refuse to be at peace with such as embrace the truth, and side my selfe with men sinisterly affected thereunto. 1628 *Barnevelt's Apol.* B 3, The Gouernours of the free cities were sinisterly affected towards the State.

† 5. In a wrongful or wicked manner. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 615/2 Nowe is not the tytle of hys Chapter so sinistrelye written and wryed awaye from the poynte. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 394 Sinisterlie purchest upoun wrang narratioun maid to oure Soverane Lord. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 381 Dissembling our sinnefulnesse, and reioycing sinisterly in our supposed perfection. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. ii, You told me you had got a growen estate, By griping meanes, sinisterly.

† 6. Clumsily; awkwardly. *Obs. rare.*

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 41 Hee [the scholar] ascends a horse somwhat sinisterly, though not on the left side. 1633 EP. HALL *Hard T., N. T.* 258 The fooles heart and hand goes sinisterly to work. 1650 B. *Discollim.* 14 Some of our new Architectors have read some Authors..with their left eyes, which makes them work with their left hands, so sinisterly.

Si·nisterness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being sinister, in various senses.

1699 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 62 The ignorance,..precipitancy and sinisternesse of their silly censures. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II. ed. 2), *Sinisterness*, Unfairness, Self-Interestedness [1730 (fol.) *adds* Aukwardness].

Si·nistrad, *adv. rare.* [f. L. *sinistra* left hand + *-ad* (see DEXTRAD).] To or towards the left side; sinistrally. Also with *of.*

1803 J. BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 166 In the head and trunk,..Sinistrad will signify towards the sinistral [aspect]. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* 331 All muscles..must ..be situated either dextrad or sinistrad of the mesial plane. 1885 *Buck's Hand-bk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 109 The section-plane..passed just sinistrad of the meson.

Sinistral (si·nistrăl), *a.* Also 5 **sinistralle,** 6 **synys-, synis-, sinistrall.** [a. OF. *sinistral* (*senestral*), or ad. med.L. **sinistrālis*: see SINISTER and -AL.]

I. † 1. Adverse; unlucky. *Obs. rare.*

c 1475 *Hart. Comtin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 445 Dredynge not sinistralle fortune in batells.

† 2. Likely, or designed, to cause mischief. *Obs.*

1534 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 298 To geue to yow notycyon of certyn synystrall matters, contrary to o^r^ realme of Yngland. 1536 BOORDE *Let.* in *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 52 Stultycyously thorow synystrall words, I dyd as many of

pat order doth. 1561 F. Cox *Retraction* (title-p.), Certain sinistral and devilish acts.

†3. Darkly suspicious; very unfavourable. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 365 Neither will they therefore conceive any sinistrall suspicion of so great a king. *Ibid.* 392 b, Divers men have had a sinistrall opinion of him. 1572 Kethe *Serm. Blandford* Pref. A 2, Their sinistral reportes of my Sermon.

†4. Heterodox; unsound. *Obs.*

1545 Coverdale *Abridgem. Erasm. Enchirid.* Prol., But what so euer is spoken..that same is..iudged of them to be of a wrong and synistrall oppinion. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xvi. (1870) 165 Synistrall opinions, as concernynge prestes to haue wyues, wyth such like matters.

II. 5. Situated on the left side of the body; of or pertaining to the left hand or side.

1803 J. Barclay *New Anat. Nomencl.* 121 As for the lateral parts of the trunk, *Right* and *Left* might still denote these; although..*Dextral* and *Sinistral* might perhaps be preferable. 1828 *Harrovian* 185 A letter of goodly dimensions in the digits of our sinistral hand. 1894 *Nation* 30 Aug. 163/3 Because so few people are left-handed, a very good clue is afforded when a sinistral sign is discovered.

b. *spec.* (See quot. 1866.)

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 498/1 Shell thin..; internal lip dilated, the aperture ovate or ovato-lanceolate, sinistral. 1866 R. Tate *Brit. Mollusks* iii. 45 When the aperture is on the left hand side it is said to be sinistral.

c. *fig.* Illegitimate. (Cf. Left-handed *a.* 5.)

1897 Hazlitt *Four Generations* II. 172 To the country which paid him so well, he proved himself grateful by distributing his sinistral representatives of both sexes pretty freely, when there was a berth at his disposal.

6. *Conch.* Characterized by turning spirally from right to left; reversed, left-handed.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 510/2 The *Syphonariæ*..are the only shells they can be confounded with, by their being sinistral. 1839 *Ibid.* XIII. 499 [They] explain how..appearances place a sinistral animal in a dextral shell. 1881 Bock *Head-Hunters Borneo* xxiii. 242 They also brought me a sinistral Helix of a dark, reddish brown colour. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 474 It is rare for a left-handed or sinistral twist to be normal in a given genus or species.

7. Of flat-fishes: Having what is properly the left side converted into the upper or coloured one.

1882 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 1 When referring to the pleuronectoids the terms right (dextral) or left (sinistral) are employed with reference to the position of the upper or coloured side.

8. Of persons: Left-handed.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 11/3 Two per cent. of mankind are naturally sinistral.

Sinistrality (sinistræ·lĭti). [f. prec. + -ity.] The state or quality of being sinistral.

1852 Roget *Thesaurus* p. xxii. *note*, I have..framed from the adjectives..*sinistral*, and *gaseous*, the abstract nouns.. *sinistrality*, and *gaseity*. 1888 *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.* XI. 604 A certain coincidence between conditions of temperature and dextrality or sinistrality of the species [*Synaptura*]. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Sept. 326 The meaning which the disputants attach to what they call sinistrality.

Sinistrally (sinistrăli), *adv.* [f. as prec.]

†1. In a sinister manner; perversely, wrongly.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* vii. 49 Sinistrally expounding thynges that be dontfull. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 467 He..had heard how sinistrally..many euill men spake and thought of him.

2. Towards the left.

1847 in Webster. 1881 Le Conte *Sight* 19 To rotate it on its axis outward, i.e. dextrally..for the right and sinistrally for the left.

3. *Conch.* and *Bot.* With the whorl, spathe, or the like turning towards the left.

1854 Woodward *Mollusca* II. 202 Operculum sinistrally sub-spiral. 1881 *Jrnl. Linnean Soc.* XV. 273 Sinistrally inclined ribs. 1883 *Jrnl. Bot. Brit. & For.* 237 The spathes ..are rolled up indifferently either way—either dextrally or sinistrally.

Sinistration. *rare.* [f. L. *sinistr-*, stem of *sinister* + -ation. Cf. med.L. *sinistrāre* to go on the left hand, to be adverse.] a. A moving or turning leftwards. b. The state or condition of being sinistral. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sini·strine, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ine 1.] Left.

1792 *Baron Munchausen* xxix. 133 Either [champion] stamped his foot sinistrine.

Sinistro- (sinistro), used as combining form of Sinister, in the sense 'on, situated in, directed or turning towards the left', as *sinistro-cerebral*, *-gyrate*, *-gyric* adjs.; *sinistro-sacral* adv.

1803 J. Barclay *New Anat. Nomencl.* 174 The position of the heart in the thorax;..we may say its direction from the mesial plane is sinistrad and sacrad, or sinistro-sacrad. 1885 *Proc. Soc. Psychol. Research* III. 43 The replacement of some sinistro-cerebral by some dextro-cerebral centre of sight or speech. 1887 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 194 All movements of the hand..from right to left are sinistrogyric. 1898 *Daily Graphic* 16 Feb. 9/4 The writing..was sinistrogyrate, or centrifugal.

Sinistrorsal (sinistrō·săl), *a.* [f. next + -al.] a. (See first quot.) b. = Sinistral *a.* 6.

1828-32 Webster (citing Henry), *Sinistrorsal*, rising from left to right, as a spiral line or helix. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 345 The whorls turn obliquely to the right side in nearly all the species, but in a small number to the left; and the latter are named *reversed*, (or *sinistrorsal*). 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 51/2 Shell sinistrorsal, pyriform, very ventricose. 1868 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 697 *Ancylus*, a genus of little fresh-water snails..; the animal being, as Rang considers, sinistrorsal.

Hence **Sinistro·rsally** *adv.*

1884 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* May 364 The heterostrophe or sinistrorsally spiral apex.

Sinistrorse (si·nistrōɪs), *a.* [ad. L. *sinistrorsus*, contracted f. **sinistrōvorsus*, f. *sinister* left + *vertĕre* to turn.]

1. *Bot.* Twining or turning spirally from right to left.

The word has been used in two opposite senses, owing to a difference in the supposed position of the observer: see quot. 1870 and cf. note on Dextrorse.

1856 Henslow *Dict. Bot. Terms* 174 *Sinistrorse*,..towards the left hand. 1870 *Henfrey's Bot.* (ed. 2) 100 In determining the direction of spirals,..it is usual to suppose one's self standing in the axis of the organ; but many authors suppose themselves standing in front of it;..hence great confusion in the application of the terms *dextrorse* and *sinistrorse*. 1879 A. Gray *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) iv. § 3. 140 Direction of Overlapping..may be either to the right (dextrorse) or to the left (sinistrorse).

2. Moving or going towards the left.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sinistrous (si·nistrəs), *a.* Also 6 **sinistrus**, **-terous**, **sinystrous**. [f. the stem of L. *sinister* Sinister *a.* + -ous.

The stressing *sini·strous* appears occasionally in verse, and is given by Smart (1836) as proper to sense 5.]

I. †1. Erroneous, perverse, heretical. *Obs.*

1560 Whitehorne tr. *Machiavelli's Arte Warre* 1 b, There hath growen these sinisterous opinions, which maketh men to hate the warlike seruice. 1581 J. Hamilton in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 76 Euerie curious heid..mycht.. apply thame to ane peruerse and sinistrous sense. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 194 They approue the apprehension of such a sinistrous opinion with these arguments.

†2. Malicious, unfair, prejudiced. *Obs.*

1593 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 400 The sinistrous informations of ill-disposed people. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 2 Concerning sinistrous censures. 1693 R. Fleming *Disc. Earthquakes* 14 How sad a Token is it, when such are not only rejected, but have a sinistrous and false Application made of the same. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 176 P 8 The sinistrous interpretations or absurd remarks of haste and ignorance.

†3. Underhand; dishonest; corrupt. *Obs.*

1600 W. Clarke in *Archpr. Controv.* (Camden) I. 168 These moste indirecte and sinisterous procedinges. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. A 2, A pitty it is to see the crooked and sinistrous courses of the greatest part. 1689 *Trial Pritchard v. Papillon* 34 Embark'd in sinistrous and unjustifiable ways. 1717 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 327 The coming in by this door..is a proof of..sinistrous designs in entering upon the holy office of the ministry.

4. Betokening or attended with misfortune or disaster; ill-omened, inauspicious, unlucky; baleful, malign, etc.

a 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden, No. 36) 177 Aswaldus..likewise with sinistrus fortune obteined the regall sceptre. 1598 Yong *Diana* 148 Those fauourable or sinistrous successes of Fortune. 1607 Earl Stirling *J. Cæsar* IV. ii, Which to my soule sinistrous signes impart. 1633 Hart *Diet of Diseased* III. v. 244 Some have observed some sinistrous accident to have insued the use of this remedy. 1733 Budgell *Bee* I. 498 Nor Thunder-Crack Sinistrous roar'd Presage. 1775 Johnson *Journ. Hebrides* Wks. 1825 IX. 126 The arrival of a beggar on an island is accounted a sinistrous event. 1832 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XLVIII. 277 An English traveller noticed it, in his journal, as a sinistrous omen. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1026 Not one grace Outspread before you but is registered In that sinistrous coil.

II. †5. Of or pertaining to, situated on, the left hand or side. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. ii. 182 The heart doth seem to incline unto the left,..because its sinistrous gravity is drawne that way. *Ibid.* 191 The distance of the North and Southerne pole..is equall unto the space between the East and West, accounted the dextrous and sinistrous parts thereof. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 221 The Contrarieties and Conjugations of things, such as..Dextrous and Sinistrous, Eaven and Odd, and the like.

†6. *fig.* Left-handed; slow. *Obs.*—1

1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. xx, Many, who are sinistrous unto Good Actions, are Ambi-dexterous unto bad.

7. Of flat-fishes: = Sinistral *a.* 7.

1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. 318 Sinistrous Flounder, *Pleuronectes Passer*...Brown Flounder, with eyes toward the left.

Sinistrously (si·nistrəsli), *adv.* [f. prec.]

†1. Unfavourably, *esp.* with display of prejudice against a person. *Obs.*

In the first quot. there is connexion with sense 3.

1560 Whitehorne tr. *Machiavelli's Arte Warre* 90 b, If the Capitaine..in lightynge of his horse fell, it was of y^e souldiours interpreted sinisterously. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Magical Mirror* Wks. (1711) 174 Evil-affected and malicious Spirits..may sinistrously interpret and calumniate the Resolution. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. xvi, To accuse, calumniate,..detract, or sinistrously interpret others. *a* 1733 R. North *Lives* (1826) I. 266 He had his jury to deal with, and if he did not tread upon eggs, they would conclude sinistrously, and be apt to find against his opinion.

2. In an erroneous manner; incorrectly, wrongly, perversely; awkwardly.

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 223 Scripture perqueir he bes sinistrouslie. *a* 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* 354 Some of them take Scripture to prove it, but most untoward'y:.. yet more sinistrously from those words 'If I be lifted up'. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 307 Digestive and abstersive remedies, applied sinistrously and amiss. 1699 Bentley *Phalaris* xiii. 407 Mr. B.'s general Reflections upon the Stability of the Greek Tongue; which he has made so sinistrously, and with so very little Judgment. 1880 S. Cox *Comm. Job* 426 The Critics misconceive Elihu as completely and sinistrously as Job was by his friends.

†3. Inauspiciously, unfortunately. *Obs.*

1607 Earl Stirling *J. Cæsar* III. ii, Pacifie thy brest Lest sorrows but sinistrously presage That which thou would'st not wish. 1611 Coigr., *Sinistrement*, sinisterously, vnluckily.

4. Corruptly; by underhand means.

1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 209 The promiscuous multitude being by intellectual weakness prepared for the reception of mental poison—the select few, by sinistrously derived strength, for the injecting of it—observe [etc.].

5. With a tendency to use the left hand in preference to the right; with the left hand.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 190 Many in their infancy are sinistrously disposed, and divers continue all their life ..left handed. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 888 We often stand shut up in that sentry-looking canvass box, dexterously, and sin strously fingering the string.

†Sini·struous, *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sinister*: cf. forms like *monstruous*.] = Sinistrous *a.*

1582-8 *Hist. & Life of Jas. VI* (1804) 275 Twa poets of Edinburgh, perceauing his sinistruous dealling, did publish the same to the people. 1671 [R. Mac Ward] *True Nonconf.* 351 A most effectuall corrective, both of sinistruous designes, and evill mixtures. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2221/4 Considering that some Oaths are capable of being Wrested by Men of Sinistruous Intentions.

Hence **†Sini·struously** *adv. Obs. rare.*

1582 in Sir J. Melville *Mem.* (1735) 259 Sinistruously perverting the same. *a* 1615 *Bricue Cron. Erles of Ross* (1850) 17 He was sinistruously and wrongously put out of the Abbay.

Sinitic (sini·tik), *a.* [f. late L. *Sin-æ* (see Sinæan) + -itic.] Of, pertaining or relating to, the Chinese, or other peoples of the Yellow Race.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1900 *Speaker* 8 Sept. 614/1 The Professor of Sinitic languages replied in our rough Western way.

Sink (sink), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5-6 **synke** (5 **cynke**), 6 **syncke**, **synk**; 6-7 **sin(c)ke**, **sinck**, 6- **sink**. [f. Sink *v.* Cf. I.G. and G. dial. *sinke* a hollow or depression in the ground; Fris. *sink* sinker on a net.

Kilian gives 'Sincke. *vetus.* Cloaca, latrina. *Ang. sinche*'; but there is no independent evidence for this, and the citation of the English word renders the entry suspicious.]

I. 1. a. A pool or pit formed in the ground for the receipt of waste water, sewage, etc.; a cesspool; a receptacle for filth or ordure. Now *rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Synke, for water receyvynge,.. *exceptorium*. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 20 Y^e newe prevy hous ovir the synke. 1515 Barclay *Eglogues* II. (1570) I iij, Of a trene vesell then must thou nedely drinke, Olde, blacke and rustie, lately taken fro some sinke. 1589 *Hay any Work* 39 If you would haue a good sauour, you must go to the sincke for it. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 117 A Play is like a Sincke in a Towne, where vnto all the filth doth runne. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 373 He converted..the Sepulchre into a Sink or common House of Ease. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 58/1 Make good large Sinks, and..fill them up with Sand, which will suck up..the superfluous moisture. 1731 Swift *To Gay* Wks. 1751 X. 204 You want a Hand to clear a filthy Sink; No cleanly Workman can endure the Stink. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* iii. 179 The cave within being the sink described in the Talmud as that into which the blood and offal of the sacrifices were drained off.

fig. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 185 The watter of life we gaif thame neuer to drink, Bot stinkand pulis of euerie rottin synk. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 19 Against thy hart make thou a hole, That all the teares that thy poore eyes let fall May run into that sinke.

b. A conduit, drain, or pipe for carrying away dirty water or sewage; an opening specially made for this purpose; a sewer. Now *rare.*

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Cynke of Lawere, *mergulus*. 1509-10 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 105 Pro layng le Synkys in lardariis carnium et piscium. 1564 Haward *Eutropius* I. 3 He builded..sinkes also to avoid the filthe & ordure of the city. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 582 The vaulted sinks also and draughts..which he deuised, by..cutting through the seuen hils. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 1 The Lye-Trough and Rincing-Trough he places towards some corner of the Room,..and under these he causes a Sink to be made to convey the Water out of the Room. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 95 To cut a Hole thro' my new Fortification like a Sink to let Water go out. 1774 *Beverley & Hessle Road Act* ii. 9 Ditches, watercourses, sinks or drains. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *The Ox* 96/1 Two sinks, or drains, with iron gratings over them, to catch the fluid refuse from the gutters.

c. A basin or receptacle made of stone, metal, or other material, and having a pipe attached for the escape of water to a drain, etc.; *esp.* such a basin fitted in a kitchen or scullery, and having a supply of water connected with it.

1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 65, ij alter Stones —One Mr. Sheffield haith made a sinck of in his kitchine. 1611 Cotgr., *Aiguier*, a sinke, or washing stone, in a kitchin. 1634 in *Archæologia* XXXV. 197 In the kitchen..A grate for the sincke. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 95/2 A large Kitchen..with an oven, stove, pump and sink. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* i. 17 So advantageous is the unlimited use of water, and a regular sink with its drain. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii. 115 Simeon..was washing his hands at a neat sink, in a little back porch. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 759 Attention must be paid to the housemaid's sink.

fig. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 190 Certain [sun-] spots are, as it were, sinks by which cooler gases descend into the Sun's interior.

2. *fig.* a. A receptacle or gathering-place *of* vice, corruption, etc.

In common use from *c* 1560; sometimes of single persons.
1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 242 Manasses was as the pyt and synke of all fylth & synne. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. to Scottes* b v b, Afore I will stirre that vnsauery sinke of treson and trecherie. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 160 Unless that humour be discharged, it will become a sink of many difficult evils. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Whs.* (1709) 410 The Man..was the very sink of Fraud and Deceit. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 359 Where kings have toil'd.., One sink of level avarice shall lie. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. x. (1869) 196 The low, dull, level sinks of ignorance and vulgarity. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. v. (1866) 215 The justice and finance councils were sinks of iniquity. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* II. x. 185 What vaults of uncleanness, what sinks of deathful horrors, would not the souls of some of us grow!

b. A place in which vice or corruption is rank or rampant.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. A ij, Rome hath bene so synnefull a syncke & pernicious puddell. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xi. (1592) 160 To toyle it selfe..in this sincke here beneath, I meane this elementall world. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 25 A city's but a sink, gay houses gawdy graves. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 116 This necessary severity doth sweep their state from being the sink of sinners, the rendezvous of rogues. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 258 Any good that this World, this Sediment and Sink of the Creation, can afford. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 247 The wanton and absurd insult expressly thrown in the face of London..as compared to Rome, that sink of sinks. 1884 SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* viii. 150 The sinks and hiding-places of a great city.

†**c.** A collective mass of unsavoury or objectionable matters. *Obs.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1047/1 So manie greeuous faults meeting togither in one sinke. 1589 NASHE *M. Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 160 To leaue furder stirring of this stinking sink. 1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) 29, I irk to rake longer in this sink.

†**d.** The scum or dregs *of* a place or set of persons. *Obs.* (Cf. L. *sentina.*)

1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Rascals*, The rascall and vile sort of men: y^e^ sinke of the citie.., *sentina, colluuies vrbis.* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 407 No less than 5000 of the sink of the People meet ill armed. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Wars of Jews* IV. vi. (1733) 702 As to their Quality, they are the very Scum and Sink of Mankind. 1740 in Wordsw. *Scholæ Acad.* (1877) 313, 2 of King's College..happened to meet with some of y^e^ sink of y^e^ Town.

e. A place where things are swallowed up or lost.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VI. cxciv, That dark Cave Where Sorrows find their sink, and Cares their grave. 1789 B. RUSH *Med. Enquiries* 79 Dr. Rush .. terms them [*sc.* hospitals], 'The sinks of human life in an army,' and says, 'they robbed the United States of more citizens than the sword'. 1823 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) XI. 76 As the Secretary of State's office is a sink of papers, and these are really curious,..I shall be glad to have them [*sc.* papers] again.

3. *transf.* A receptacle of foul or waste matter.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 22 She poured forth out of her hellish sinke Her fruitfull cursed spawne of serpents small. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C ij b, The sea [is now] a sinke, and riuers to the same Are rotten pipes. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* XIII. ii. 363 The Mesentery..is as it were the sink into which the Noble Parts do send their superfluous Excrements. 1684 *Contempl. State of Man* II. vii. (1699) 206 Hell is the Worlds sink, and the receptacle of all the Filth in this Great Frame.

†**b.** *The sink(s) of the body*, the organs of digestion and excretion. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 126 The Cormorant belly.., Who is the sinke a th' body. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. 102 From the sinks of our body no such sweet or salutary emanations are observed. 1692 RAY *Creation* (1714) 230 It is also observable that the Sinks of the Body are removed as far from the Nose and Eyes as may be.

II. †**4. a.** The well or fountain of a lamp. *Obs.*—[o]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Synke, of a lampe (*P.* holdinge the tiwshe), *mergulus.*

†**b.** *Founding.* ? A hole dug in the ground for placing a gun-mould. *Obs. rare.*

1541 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 125 Gevin to v men..making and drying of the mulde and spindill, casting of the sink. 1542 *Ibid* 126 Clengeing of the sink and rynnyng of the mettell.

†**c.** A waxen tube or pipe for carrying off melted wax from the model of a statue. *Obs. rare.*

1736 *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v. *Foundery*, When the wax-work is finished and every part corrected, all these pieces are placed again upon the core, in order to fix hollow pipes of wax in them from every part of the figure,..called *sinks.*

†**5.** The well of a ship. *Obs.* (= L. *sentina.*)

1621 COTGR., *Lasser*, the sinke, or well, of the pumpe of a ship. 1638 HEYWOOD *Dram. Royall Ship* 14 Her sinke drew no more water than one man might easily empty by a pumpe. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 270 In the lower Deck they had a very convenient Pump; it is an Iron-Chain..that reaches down to the Sink. 1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 365 A stink, much like that of the Sink of a Ship.

6. *Mining.* **a.** A pit-shaft. Now *rare.*

In quot. 1896 the sense may be 'process of sinking'.

1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 507 To serche out..leid mynes.., to brek the ground and mak sinkis and pottis thairin. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 316 Ane woman..cuist hir selfif in ane colfil sink. 1602 *Charter* in Dallas *Stiles* (1697) 769 For..upholding of Sinks, Syers, Gutters, Eyes,..Airholls [etc.]. 1739 SIR J. CLERK in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) II. 91 The sink goes down perpendicularly 80 fathoms below the sea. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 2/6 Have struck a rich body of ore in the sink worth 11 ounces of gold.

b. A well or pool *of* water.

1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 126 If this man had really seen ore in the bottom of a sink of water in a mine.

c. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 224 *Sinks*, natural cavities met with in iron mines.

7. A flat, low-lying area, basin, etc., where waters collect and form a bog, marsh, or pool, or disappear by sinking or evaporation. Now *U.S.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 99 Be thir sinkes [*supra* certane difficile myres] wil gang no' only the Reiuers selfes.., bot the horses in lyke maner. 1702 E. WEST *Mem.* (1865) 186 The way being full of mires, sinks, and snares. [1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxv. 107 Ghilan is generally esteemed the sink of Persia. 1801 SKRINE *Rivers Gt. Brit.* 68 This may be called the sink of Yorkshire, the country being deep, and occasionally sandy.] 1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* xxi. (1862) 223 On the arid plains around the sink of Humboldt's River. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 194 Even large rivers, like the Humboldt, spread out into shallow lakes, erroneously called 'sinks', and, exposing thus a large area to evaporation, dry up.

b. = SINK-HOLE 2. Chiefly *U.S.*

1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav.* 174 Though the waters of these ponds in the summer and dry seasons, evidently tend towards these sinks. 1854 BARTLETT *Personal Narr.* I. 110 We stopped to look at some limestone sinks near the road. 1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 6 Apr. 2/3 But in some places veins of sand..run through the rock...Water,..percolating through, sometimes causes the entire vein to fall through. When the vein..comprises an acre or two it is called a 'sink'.

8. *Kinematics.* (See first quot.)

1878 W. K. CLIFFORD *Elem. Dynamic* I. 214 The point *s* is called a source of strength μ when the fluid streams out in all directions; when μ is negative, so that the fluid streams inwards, it is called a sink. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 208 The problem to find the velocity..due to the given causes (sources, sinks, etc.).

III. †**9.** A quantity *of* hemp sunk in a retting-pit. *Obs.*—[1]

16.. in *N.W. Linc. Gloss.* (1889) 485 Drowned in a hempe pitt neare a litle sinke of hempe.

†**10.** *Mining.* = CHUN 1. *Obs.*—[o]

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s.v., A Sink..is the same thing with a Chun.

11. a. *Dancing.* (See quot.)

1706 J. WEAVER *Orchesography* 2 Sinkings are the bending of the Knees. Risings are when we rise from a Sink.

b. A dropping or lowering of the voice. *rare*—[1].

1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 189 Their ignorance of the subject of the whispering dialogue ..was..owing..to a soft sink in the voice of both Henry and Clara.

12. a. *U.S.* A kind of oblong boat used in wild-fowl shooting, which becomes submerged to the water-level and serves to conceal the sportsman.

1857 E. J. LEWIS *Amer. Sportsman* 284 It is better..to have two or more double-barrelled guns in the Sink. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Battery*, a sort of boat used for duck-shooting...It is also called...a Surface-boat, Sink, or Box. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-Fowl* XXV. 252 When done with, the brush may be thrown off, and the labor of towing about the 'sink' avoided.

b. = SINKER 5.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Aug. 11/1 You want..nothing else but a good rod, with..a lead sink, and an inch of mackerel by way of bait.

c. *Theatr.* A part of the stage constructed to sink and rise by means of machinery.

Cf. *sinking stage*, s.v. SINKING *ppl. a.* 3.

1859 *Punch* 5 Feb. 58/2 Gorgeous transformations...scruto work, gas-battens, and all the resources of 'sink and fly'. 1859 SALA *Twice round Clock* (1861) 255 The scene-shifters ..seeing..the traps greased, and all the 'sinks' and 'flies', ropes and pullies,..in due working order.

13. A depression or hollow, esp. one made in a flat surface.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2616/2 *Trap*, a sink or depression in a sewer-pipe. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 94 For making square sinks to receive screw heads and the like, a pin drill is used. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 215/2 [In electrotyping] any depressions or 'sinks' must be marked with a pair of callipers.

IV. 14. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly in sense 1), as *sink-cleansing*, †*-house*, *-pan*, *-pipe*, *-top*, *-trap*; also **sink-box** *U.S.*, = sense 12 a; **sink-dirt** *dial.* (see quot.); **sink-room** *U.S.*, a scullery.

1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-Fowl* XXV. 252 The usual method of taking canvas-back in the West is by the aid of decoys, shooting..from a *sink-box. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 37 Such can turn black to white; hire temples, ports, Rivers, *sink-cleansing, bus'ness of all sorts, And gain by't. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Sink-dirt*, channel mud. *c* 1614 *Brasenose Coll. Munimenta, Harrowden* (MS.), A *sinkehouse with a chamber over it. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 38 Rome became the very *sinckpan of all Idolatries of the Worlde. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 308 The *sink pipe of lead would convey it to the outside. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Old Town* VI. The conversation was interrupted by a commotion in the back *sink-room. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2188/1 The *sink-top is of cast-iron. *Ibid.* 2188/2 *Sink-trap*, (Hydraulic), a trap for a kitchen sink, so constructed as to allow water to pass down, but not allow reflow of air or gases.

†**Sink,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*—[o] [app. ad. L. *cinct-us* girdle.] (See quot.)

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 611 *Semicinctorium*, a synk or a lace.

Sink, obs. form of CINQUE.

Sink (siŋk), *v.* Pa. t. **sank, sunk.** Pa. pple. **sunk, sunken.** Forms: *Inf.* 1 sincan, 3, 5 sinken (*Orm.* sinnkenn), 5 synken, -yn, synkyn; 3–7 sinke, 4–6 synke (5 synkke), 4, 7 sincke, 6 syncke; 4, 6– sink (5 senk-), 4–5 synk, 4 sinc, 7 sinck. *Pa. t. a. Sing.* 1, 3–4 sanc, 5 sanck; 4–5 sanke, 4–5, 8– sank. *Pl.* 5–7 sanke, 6 sancke, 9– sank. *β. Sing.* 1 sonc, 4 sonk. *Pl.* 3–5 sonken, 5–6 sonke, 6 soncke, 6–7 soonke. *γ. Pl.* 1 suncon, 3 sunken, sunke, 5 sunkyn; also *sing.* 6 suncke, 6–7 sunke, sunck, 7– sunk. *δ.* 5 synked, 7 (9 *dial.*) sinked. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 suncen, 3 i-sunken (*Orm.* sunnkenn), 3– sunken, 4 sunkin, -yn, 6 suncken; 4–7 sunke, 6–7 sunck(e, 7– sunk. *β.* 4–5 sonken, 5 sonkyn; *Sc.* 5 sonkine, -yne, 6 sonkin; 4 i-sonke, 6 son(e)ke, soonke, 7 soonk. *γ.* 9 sank, *dial.* sinken. [Comm. Teut.: OE. *sincan* (*sanc, suncon, suncen*), = OFris. **sinka* (WFris. *sinke*), MDu. *sincken, sinken* (Du. *zinken*), OS. *sinkan* (MLG. and LG. *sinken*), OHG. *sinchan* (MHG. and G. *sinken*), ON. *sǫkkva* (:—**sinkwan*; Icel. *sökkva*, Norw. *søkka, søkkja*; MSw. *sionka*, Sw. *sjunka*; Da. *synke*), Goth. *sigqan* (= **sinkwan*). In trans. use the form *sink* takes the place of OE. *sencan*, ME. *senchen* SENCH *v.*

The use of *sunk* as the pa. t. has been extremely common. Johnson (1755) says 'pret. *I sunk*, anciently *sank*'. In sense 21 c the pa. t. was *sinked*, which otherwise is very rarely found.]

***Intransitive uses.*

The perfect and pluperfect tenses were formerly freq. conjugated with the vb. *to be* instead of *have.*

I. 1. To become submerged in water; to go under or to the bottom; (of ships) to founder.

c 975 *Rushworth Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 30 Þa [Peter] in-gon sincan, cegde cweþende 'hæl mec drihten'. *c* 1205 LAY. 4582 Scipen þer sunken, þer þreo & fifti scipen feollen to grunde. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 538 in *O. E. Misc.*, Þe fir he [the whale] feleð and doð hem sinken. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2904 Þai sink in þat wele þar neuer man sank þat was o sele. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), An egge fleteþ in salt water and sinketh downe in fresche watere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12525 [Ajax] Hym-seluyn in the sea sonkyn belyue, Swalprit & swam. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 279 The boot was full of water and sanck. 1530 PALSGR. 718/2 Some say that a man shall synke thrise or ever he synke to the bottome. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 51 His shyppes were so laden with golde that they soonke. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 209 The other [emblem] is two pots floting on a pond,..with this word, 'If we knock together, we sink together'. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 64 Leaving his other ship..to the mercy of the water, which in a moment sunk before his face. 1748 LIND *Lett. Navy* (1757) II. 107 They were resolved to sink rather than to strike. 1767 SIR W. JONES *Seven Fountains* Poems (1777) 35 The light bark, and all the airy crew, Sunk like a mist beneath the briny dew. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 142 If she sunk, they considered her innocent. 1858 LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 44 Glass sinks in water, but floats in quicksilver; ebony sinks in spirits of wine, but floats in water.

fig. 1575 *Mirr. for Mag., Induction* v, Sithe those..Ofte sooniste sinke, in greatest seas of care. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Nager*, A faiourite..of authoritie, may boldly swimme where another would sinke.

Phr. 1825 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1826) 98/2 Dubbed a wizard .., Stebbings .. proposed at length, of himself, the old-fashioned ordeal of 'sink or swim'.

b. To become partly or completely submerged in quicksand, marshy ground, snow, etc. Also in fig. context.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. 1 Qwik grauel þat gers him synk þat standis þar on. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 339 Whenne a man synkis in þe myre. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) 28/1 They muste goo vpon brode trenchers that they falle not & synke [in sand]. 1530 PALSGR. 718/2 Foure great peces of artillery be sonke in yonder maresse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 529 It is so throughly wet..with waters, that a mans foote is ready to sinke into it. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 242 They sink up to the Belly in the looser snow. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 272 We..feel at ev'ry step Our foot half sunk in hillocks green and soft. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 110 Each footstep sinking ankle-deep in moss. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xviii. 127 [The] snow..was yielding enough to permit the feet to sink in it a little way. 1890 'EDNA LYALL' *Hardy Norseman* v, Your feet sank into the softest of carpets.

Comb. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 428 All my dayly solace, was sincke down comfort; whiles Boggy-plunging deepes kissing my horse belly.

2. †**a.** To go down, to descend, *into* hell. Also without const. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 13381 All þatt wanntebþ Cristess hald All sinnkebþ inntill helle. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 7 Mi sawle schulde sinken..to sorhen in helle. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 123 Whan j me bithinke þat j agilt haue boþe him and þee And þat my soule is wurthi for to sinke. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 80 Þei sonken in-to helle þo citees vchone. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 552 Spynk, sink with stynk ad Tartara Termagorum.

b. To subside or go down into, to be swallowed up by, the earth, etc. Also const. *in, into, within.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3775 Alle he sunken ðe erðe wið-in, Wið wifes, and childre, and hines-kin. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2810 Þou lede þam suith out o þis tun, Are þat hit be sunken don. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 193 Somme of hem synke in to the ground. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) ix. 101 In to that See sonken the 5 Cytees. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 13 God had made mani citees to sinke for the synne that thei delited hem inne. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 13 For and I flyt sum sege for schame sould sink. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 99 Amonge other of the euylles of Sodom and Gomor, whiche sanke for synne. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. i. 106 Let me know. Why sinkes that Caldron? 1611 BIBLE *Num.* ii. 9 Her gates are sunke into the ground. 1736

GRAY *Statius* ii. 16 The ponderous mass sinks in the cleaving ground.

3. To descend to a lower plane or level; to slip, drop, or fall *down*; to pass *in* by falling. Also *spec.* (quot. 1891).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 218 Ȝif þæt sie omihte wæte innan onburnenu tyhte hie mon ut mid liþum mettum sincendum. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 251 Þe coupe ful out of his hond, & anon to grounde sonk. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* 212 (W.), Other ich am of wine dronke, Other the firmament is i-sonke. *c* 1425 *Abraham's Sacr.* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 42 A! Lord of Heuyn, thy grace let synke. 1563 FULKE *Meteors* (1640) 47 Clouds..by their heavinesse doe by little and little sinke downe lower into the lowest region. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, With that her head sunk down upon her brest. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 374 Some kind of bodies sink naturally downwards toward the Earth. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb. 1645, This subterranean grott..is in some places obstructed by the earth which has sunk in. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* 159 ₱ 6 Their Footing failed and down they sunk [from the bridge]. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxii, Birds, incapable of sustaining themselves, sunk down exhausted out of their native element. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 73 He lets his lax right hand..Sink upon his mighty knees. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Sink*, to swim deep, as a school of fish; specifically, to pass below a net.

transf. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 59 Power that sinks and pettiness that soars.

b. To subside; to give way and go *down*, to fall *away*; to be beaten *in*.

1530 PALSGR. 718/2, I synke in, as a mans harnesse synketh by vyolence of strokes, *je me efondre.* 1563 FULKE *Meteors* (1640) 21 When some part of the land sinketh downe, and in stead thereof arise Rivers, Lakes [etc.]. 1776 SEMPLE *Building in Water* 3 The Cause of this West Side sinking more than the East Side. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix. 189 If the whole country would sink, and hide all this injustice,..I would willingly sink with it. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* IV. iv, The very airth under your feet seems to be a-sinkin' away.

c. Of the sun or moon: To descend in the sky; to move toward or pass beneath the horizon.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. iii. 61 O setting Sunne: As in thy red Rayes thou doest sinke to night [etc.]. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 168 So sinks the day-star in the Ocean bed. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, Sweeter still, when the sun sinks to rest. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* XI. xxxix, The Moon is sunk; a dusky grey Spreads o'er the Eastern sky. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 57 The sun sank behind the neighbouring peaks.

transf. 1821 SHELLEY *Ginevra* 106 The day sinks fast, the sun is set. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cvi[i], A bitter day that early sank Behind a purple-frosty bank Of vapour.

d. To pass out of sight, to be lost to view; to disappear.

1521 in *Bradshaw's St. Werburge* (1887) 201 Make hym domestique Within the heuyns, in whiche that thou art sonke. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. x, Caught a view of the lovers just as they were sinking out of sight. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* XXXVII, Low in the forsaken west Sank the high-reared head of Clee.

e. Of land, etc.: To have a downward lie or slope; to descend gradually; to dip.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 10/2 If the plain be smooth.., not rising or sinking on any side. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 208/1 His belly hangs low, being not far from the ground, as it sinks much in the middle. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iv, The hill sinks downward to an extensive plain. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* I. i. 25 Descending and ascending as the country sinks and swells.

f. Of the eye: To glance or look downwards; to droop.

1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 374 The eye of Boniton Sinks at that low, sepulchral tone.

4. a. Of water, etc.: To go down; to fall to a lower level; to subside. Also *transf.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1437 (Gr.), Þa fandode forðweard scipes, hwæðer sincende sæflod þa ȝyt wære under wolcnum. *a* 1400 *Theophilus* ix. in *Engl. Studien* XXXII. 6 Al his wisdam & his good, Ryȝt as doth þe salte flood, It sanc doun to grounde. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Flumina subsidunt*, the riuers sinke. 1741–3 POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 199 That the water may have a fall from them [*sc.* the higher parts] to all other parts, when the Nile sinks.

b. Of flames, etc.: To die down; to burn less strongly; to go out.

1611 BIBLE *Numb.* xi. 2 When Moses prayed.., the fire was quenched [*marg.* sunke]. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 260 Down sink the flames, and with a hiss expire. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* i, A flash of intelligence seemed to revive in the invalid's eye—sunk again.

5. To drop or fall gradually down to the ground, on a seat, etc., from want of power to remain erect; † to faint *away*.

To be sinking, to be ready to drop (with fatigue, etc.).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 67 Þe ded bodye..sank with þat til erthe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xvi. 59 The knyght sanke doune to the erthe dede. *Ibid.* xx. xxii. 838 Syr Gauwayn synked doun vpon hys one syde in a swounde. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 593 She trembles at his tale, And ..sinketh down, still hanging by his neck. 1608 CHAPMAN *Duke Byron* v. iii, As a savage boar that..keeps off the baying hounds, Though sunk himself. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 735 The Victim Ox, that was for Altars prest.. Sunk of himself. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 159, I reached [the house] with much difficulty, and then sunk away on the threshold. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. iv, If he gets a seat, he never offers to move, if he sees one sinking with fatigue. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, Jeanie sunk down on a chair, with clasped hands, and gasped in agony. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 274 If the stem of a balsam sinks down for lack of moisture till it touches the earth. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 95/2 He was sinking with hardship, fatigue, and hunger.

b. To fall down, fall *in* ruin; to give way through weakness or fatigue. Also of soil: To be soft or yielding.

1535, 1597 [see SINKING *ppl. a.* 1 a]. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 128 Your house, but for this virgin that doth prop it, Would sink and overwhelm you. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 13 The Ground is Hard in some Places and Sinks in others. 1770 GOLDSM. *Deserted Village* 47 Sunk are thy bowers in shapeless ruin all. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* iii. 403 When the patient attempted to stand up or walk, he was totally unable to do either, his legs sinking under him.

c. To drop down in a slow or easy manner into a lying or sitting posture.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xiii, The hound sunk down to his couchant posture. 1831 *Society* I. 267 'Will you let me repay myself thus,' added he, sinking into the seat beside her and taking her hand. 1885 'E. GARRETT' *At Any Cost* x, MRS. Brander..sank down on a billowy chair, and took possession of Tom.

6. Of water or other liquids: To pass into or penetrate a substance, to be soaked up or absorbed. Const. *in*, *into*, *through*, etc. † Also, to ooze *out of* something.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 535 In to þe see all watres sinkes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 Þir flodez sinkez doune in to þe erthe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 37 The watir out of gaseyn or of myre Be not ybrought, ner out of metal synke. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xix. 4 Nilus shal synke awaye, & be dronke vp. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 62 Will the aspiring blood of Lancaster Sinke in the ground? 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 412 The continual Rains had..sunk through our Tents and cloaths. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 655 In muddy Pools, the Water sinks. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Paper*, Blotting Paper is paper.. in which..ink readily sinks or spreads. 1745 P. THOMAS *Voy. S. Seas* 247 This Ink is..extremely black, and..sinks when the Paper is fine. 1843 WAY *Prompt. Parv.* 78 The drain..which allowed the water..to sink into the earth. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 222 The tendency some colours have, in certain circumstances, to what is called 'sink-in'.

fig. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 5, I with love am so bethrowe, And al myn herte is so thurgh sunke, That I am verraliche drunke. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 120 Gif the poysone in hir hart be sonkin, That sho will not consent he puneist be. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 1977 Those sins Have sunken to all Nature's heart. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* c. 7 Into my inmost veins when love sank fiercely to burn them.

† **b.** Of paper: To cause ink to spread or 'run' on being applied to it; to absorb ink. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 46 If the paper should happen to sinke, which is an especiall fault in many of our late yeere bookes. 1688 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., This Paper sinks, or blots,..*ce Papier boit.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 715/2 To hinder paper from sinking, take..rock alum, dissolve it in..water, and apply it to the paper.

7. a. Of a weapon or blow: To make way *into* or *through* some part, etc. Also with advb. complement.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5310 (Kölbing), Wawain on þe helme him smot, þe ax sank depe. *Ibid.* 9352 Arthour on þe helme him smot, þe dent sanke þurch. *a* 1400 *Sir Beues* (Kölbing) p. 212 Hit [*sc.* a stroke] sanke þrouȝ helm and basnette. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xvii. 49 The stone sunke into his forehead.

b. To recede, be depressed, *into* something.

1530 PALSGR. 718/2 As a mans eyes sinke in to his heed for thought, or sycknesse.

II. 8. a. To penetrate *into* († *to*, *unto*, *through*), enter or be impressed *in*, the mind, heart, etc.

In quot. 1612 it is not clear whether the meaning is 'to enter into the mind', or 'to find acceptance'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15170 Mani sari sight, i-wiss, þar sanc vn-til his hert. *Ibid.* 25997 Sua sar þin sakes to for-thingk þat soru thoru þin hert sink. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 8 Hit ful depe is sonken in my mynd. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 604 In-to thyn herte let my wordes synke. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. xi. 858 There kyndenes and myn vnkyndenes sanke so to myn herte that I myȝt not susteyne my self. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritit Wemen* 115 Quhen that the sound of his saw sinkis in my eris, Than ay renewis my noy. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edward IV*, 18 These reasons..so sancke in the Dukes stomacke, that he promised [etc.]. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3 Very fewe assent vnto the truth we teach; it hardly sinketh with men that God should become man. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. vi. 1, That which sinks deepest into me is the Sense I have of the common Calamities of this Nation. 1814 SHELLEY *Stanza written at Brachnell* 1 Thy dewy looks sink in my breast. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix. 185 These things sink into my heart, Tom. 1884 J. QUINCY *Figures of the Past* 250 Then a pause, that the absurdity of the position of his antagonist might sink in and be vividly realized.

b. To press or weigh *on* one.

1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* I. 337 The sense of his subjection to his own vassals, sunk deep on his mind. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* x. iv. (1872) III. 250 This misadventure sank heavily on the spirits of Luiscius.

c. To descend or fall (*up*)*on* a person or place; to settle down *over* a district.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xii, Silence sunk on all around. 1814 — *Lord of Isles* v. xv, Over Carrick..Had sunk dejection's iron sleep. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. 638 With clinging charm Sinking upon their hearts. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads* Ded. xiii, Night sinks on the sea.

9. a. To be immersed or plunged deeply *in* something; to dip deep *in*; to be absorbed *in* thought, etc. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29037 Quat bote for-bere bath mete and drink, And saul in sulwines to sink? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 179, I..þat has nocht anerly my-selfe sonkyne in syne vnhapely. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5113 In gret myscheef and sorwe sonken Ben hertis that of love arn dronken. *c* 1460 *Vrbanitatis* 55 in *Babees Bk.*, To depe in þy cuppe þou may not synke Thow3 þou haue good wylle to drynke. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xii. 2 When I..see the braue day sunck in hidious night. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 262 ₱ 4 No Man is so sunk in Vice and Ignorance, but [etc.]. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* Introd. 24 A great Variety of new Terms, which are annually changed, and those of the last Season sunk in Oblivion. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xlv, He pursued his way through the woods sunk in deep thought. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xiii, In night the fairy prospects sink. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vi, Where, sunk in dreamy rapture, I sat during a bright sunny hour. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 2 They..were both sunk in the deepest sleep. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic of Hades* I. 9 The young dear body bathed And sunk in its delight.

† **b.** To fall away *from* one. *Obs.*

c 1430 *How the Good Wiif*, etc. 79 in *Babees Bk.*, þo þat ben ofte dronke, þrift is from hem sunke. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 174 The well affected would either joine with them..or sincke from them.

10. Contrasted with *swim* (or † *flete*), to denote success, prosperity, etc., in contrast to failure or adversity, or (in later use) determination to do something without regard to consequences.

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 110 Ye rekke not whethyr I flete or sinke. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1539 She..reccheth neuere wher I synke or fleete. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 85 They care not (as hyt ys commynly sayd) 'whether they synke or swyme'. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 53 Our Recluses neuer come out of their lobbeis, sincke or swimme the people. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. A 2 b, If the Court swimme, he cares not though the Church sinke. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* iii. (1672) 29, I will be just and honest, sink or swim. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Sink or swim, I am determined to gang to Lunnon. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxiii, It's sink or swim with all of us.

11. To fall, lapse, or degenerate *into* some inferior or unsatisfactory state or condition. Also const. *from* (a better state).

c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 37 Betere is were thunne boute laste, then syde robes ant synke into synne. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. 4 Those that are not sunke into a prophane way, yet may be sunke from a zealous. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 55 ₱ 2 The Republick sunk into those two Vices.., Luxury and Avarice. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 28 The constitution sunk at once into a chaos. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 190 The nation sank into that state of utter corruption and imbecility which Xenophon..has painted. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxxi, She could better bear something quite new than sinking back into the old everyday round.

b. To pass *into* oblivion, insignificance, etc. Also const. *from* (notice).

1704 SWIFT *Tale Tub* Author's Apol., Such treatises.. which are already sunk into waste paper and oblivion. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 6 Apr., I..catch at the first chair in my way, and take possession of it, merely to sink from notice. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* (1897) 302 The favourite of the people rose to supreme power, while his rival sank into insignificance. 1877 BROCKETT *Cross & Crescent* 286 The songs..are so ancient that their authors have sunk into oblivion.

c. To change, turn, be transformed *into* some lower form.

a 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) IV. ix. 187 Prudence without piety sinks into knavish craft. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. § xx. 50 It is, indeed, possible..for men to sink into machines themselves. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* i, The afternoon was just sinking into dusk.

12. To pass or fall gently *into* (or *to*) sleep, rest, peace, etc.

1718 *Free-thinker* No. 82. 190, I have observed above Half of his Hearers sunk into Slumbers. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvi, She at length sunk to repose. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxiv, 'Twere best at once to sink to peace, Like birds the charming serpent draws. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xlvi, He..seemed to sink into a doze. *fig.* 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. iii. 29 Since the long War now sinks to Peace. 1845 BROWNING *How they brought the Good News* i, Behind shut the postern, the lights sank to rest.

b. To lapse or fall *into* reverie, contemplation, etc.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxvii, She was soon recalled from the reverie into which she sunk. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* vi, The officer at once reassumed his superiority, and the soldier sunk back..into his wonted silence and reserve. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 121 He turned away from her and sunk into reverie.

13. To give way *under* (or *beneath*) misfortune, affliction, etc.; to be weighed down or crushed.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 22 Vnder loues heauy burthen doe I sinke. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 54 Courage, sweet boy, sinke not beneath the weight Of crushing mischiefe. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 822 But sinking underneath his master's fate: In exile with his godlike prince he mourned. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 163 ₱ 7 If we sink under such little Stroaks of Fortune. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 570/2 Harissa with triumphant smile.. left him sinking in despair. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* II. 69 Such as many with weak spirits must have sank under. 1835 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 433 That France had at length made overtures to him was a sufficient proof that she felt herself spent and sinking. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. iv. 274 Under this accumulated pressure, we shall assuredly sink, if we imitate the credulity of our forefathers.

b. To become depressed or dejected; to droop or languish.

1605 1*st Pt. Jeronimo* III. ii. 170 Iust at this instant her hart sincks and dies. 1655 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 221 My heart as well as purse being quite sunck. 1727 BOYER *Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., His Courage sinks or lowers...*son*

Courage s'abbat, le Cœur lui manque. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v. iii, My spirits are so sunk with the agitations I have suffered. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. ix. 350 Their spirit began to sink, and they sought advice from Delphi. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xx, So much the vital spirits sink To see the vacant chair. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xi. 167 While she was outwardly calm, .. her heart sank within her.

c. To decline rapidly; to fail in health or strength; † also, to die. Freq. const. *under* (some trouble or ailment).

1718 HICKES & NELSON *Life Kettlewell* III. 457 He sunk all of a sudden; for being raised to take some Chocolate for his Re-freshment, he Died in a Moment in that Posture. 1780 *Mirror* No. 106, His health began to sink under the vexations of his mind. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 65 The patient being previously much exhausted, sunk under this last complaint. 1829 COOPER *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 385 The patient..did not sink till his stomach became disordered. 1892 *Academy* 13 Feb. 161/1 He sank quietly and died on the 1st February.

14. To go downwards in the scale of fortune, success, or relative position.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. vi, It was his beauie fortune to sinke;..therefore talke no more of him. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* II. ii. 240 Neu'r speake, or thinke, That Timons fortunes 'mong his Friends can sinke. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* IV. xi, Now for a trick to rid us of this Clowne, Or our trade sinks. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 May 1681, Lord Sunderland was much sunke in his estate by gaming. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 200 Who was sinking in his business and began to think that of a witness would be a better trade. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIV. 125 The Clubs appear to be sinking. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iii, The sight of decayed gentility..may call forth our pity..: 'You have evidently sunken,' we say to ourselves. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* i. 17 It would be an immense calamity to the rural population if the clergy were to sink in the social scale.

b. To descend to a lower level or type; to degenerate. Also const. *to.*

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 269 Such as are..grosly sunk and debauched in their Lives. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* xii. 194 Thus the musical and poetic Arts sunk along with the Roman Empire. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. iii. 57 An understanding sunk beneath the capacity of a brute. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 427 Intellect as well as holiness had sunk down to a level of low mediocrity. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 29, I don't want to see the morality of women sink to the morality of men.

c. To diminish, decrease, or fall in estimation; to decline in value or appreciation. Also const. *to.*

1685 BURNET *More's Utopia* 11 The Reputation of their Wisdom would sink. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 58 Shall he..sink with Moderns to Contempt and Shame? 1780 *Mirror* No. 70, He sunk in his own esteem, in being reduced to use the language of solicitation. 1780 *Ibid.* No. 71, Former services..sunk to nothing. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral Tales* (1816) I. v. 32 Flora soon sunk many degrees in his opinion. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xv, He had sunk by this time to the very worst reputation. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 516 The Whigs, conscious that they had lately sunk in the opinion both of the King and of the nation.

15. To fall low; to diminish or decrease; also, to disappear, to vanish.

1655 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 221 My..purse being quite sunck. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. III. (1904) I. 218 The value [of superfluities]..sinks in times of poverty and distress. 1802 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 85 Towards the beginning of Harvest, prices sunk much. 1812 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. i. 7 While my trees grow and my fountain fills, my purse, in an inverse ratio, sinks to zero. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 1 The abstruseness and difficulty of such research..sink before the mind capable of valuing the importance of general laws.

b. Of sounds: To become gradually fainter; to die away.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXIII, The sound of her steps soon sunk in distance. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 195 How the notes sink upon the ebbing wind! 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 269 Chatting and chirping sunk inconsciously To silence.

* *Transitive uses.*

III. 16. To cause (a vessel, etc.) to plunge or go down beneath the water; to submerge by rendering incapable of floating; to destroy in this way. † Also *with up* (quot. 1591).

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxviii. 3, I come in heghnes of þe see, And þe storme it sanke me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26846 A thirl sinkes þe schipp to grund. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 677 Many [ships] were drowned and sonken into the see. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 54 After long fight.. they toke and sonke almost all the whole nauy of Fraunce. 1592 SPENSER *Vision Bellay* xiii, The storme impetuous Sunke vp these riches..Within the gulfe of greedie Nereus. 1603 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 126 If I take any of you vpon the Sea, I will sinke you. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 17 They hinder any Ship..to pass them without leave, else they would run a danger of being sunk. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, The largest balls, thus discharged, would.. sink down Ships..to the Bottom of the Sea. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXVI. III. 429 Seven were so disabled, yet none went down, and they sank three of the Corinthians. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Oct. 5/4 A single well-directed shot would have sunk them because of the absence of watertight bulkheads. *fig.* and in fig. context. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 132 Those you make friends..fall away Like water from ye, never found againe But where they meane to sinke ye. *a* 1648 CLEVELAND *On a Fly* 14 Wks. (1687) 'Twas bravely aim'd..Th' hast sunk the Fable o'er and o'er. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xvii. P 4 There is no sinking me; I always float on the surface of ill-luck. *Ibid.* IV. vii. P 11 If you catch any relation..sneaking about him,..trust me for sinking, burning, and destroying him in less than no time. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, I think Miss O'Dowd would have done for me,..and when she had sunk me she would have fallen upon you.

b. To submerge; to put or thrust under water.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12292 Ilka tyme þat y him se, Y wilde be sonken, for y ne may fle. 1530 PALSGR. 718/2 Sythe we must nedes be taken, let us synke our letters. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 406 b, The Archebyshop, fyrste synkynge hys great Artylarie in the Rhyne,..fled awaye, to save hym selfe. 1578 in *N.W. Linc. Gloss.* (1877) 224/1 That no man synke anie hempe..in the North more. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 66, I have heard Wise Men ..wish that..that Island were sunk under Water. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 251/2 The line is shotted so as just to sink it.

17. To cause (a thing) to descend or fall to a lower plane or level; to force, press, or weigh down in any way.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 754 Ðus it is..brent wið brimfir, sunken and shent. *Ibid.* 1108 Siðen loth wente ut of hine, brende it ðhunder, sanc it erðe-dine. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 345 Prey hire to synken euery Rok adoun In to hir owene dirke Regioun Vnder the ground. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 71 Thus the .viij. citeez were sonken and brent. 1610 SHAKS. *Tempest* I. ii. 12, I would Haue suncke the Sea within the Earth. *Ibid.* II. i. 201 Doth it not then our eyelids sinke? 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv 71 Keep the Iron in this Posture, without either mounting, or sinking its ends. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 65 The Rain forcing down the Earth, and sinking the Seed. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 44 The blast from an air-gun was repeatedly thrown on the bulb of a thermometer, and it uniformly sunk it about two degrees. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* V. XXX, He raised the page, where on the plain His fear had sunk him with the slain. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 169 Mr. Walker succeeded in sinking the spirit-thermometer to −91°. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* i. 11 Finding the weight necessary to sink the ship one inch from the assigned water line.

fig. 1670 in *Caldwell Pap.* (Maitland) I. 140 The dead weight of his brethrein..sunk him into his grave.

refl. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 66/1 Air-vessels, by means of which the animals can raise or sink themselves in the water.

b. To send, let, or push, down from a higher plane or level. Also with *down.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 229 We found this auncient Well so wondrous deepe, that scarcely all our ropes could sinke our bucket in the water. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 103 A Spinners circle is bespread, With Cob-web-curtains: from the roof So neatly sunck [etc.]. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 33 A compleat form..which the Grecians and Romans have found to be a Dimension sunk down from above. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* (1866) I. 168/1 The bore-hole is apt to become crooked, so that it is often impossible to sink the pipes required to protect the hole.

c. To allow (the hand, etc.) to fall lower.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 213 Then sink your Right hand somewhat below the Level of the Rest. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* vi, The two combatants sunk the points of their swords. 1831 — *Ct. Robt.* iii, Each sentinel sunk his weapon. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxviii[i], When in the down I sink my head, Sleep, Death's twin-brother, times my breath.

18. To excavate (a well, pit-shaft, etc.) by digging vertically downwards; to bore; to lower (ground, etc.) by excavation.

1358 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 561 In uno puteo de novo sinkando in campo de Fery. 1572 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxxi. K j, If a well bee soonke. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* VI, They dig up iron in the fields by sinking ditches two foot deep [etc.]. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 15 To Sink a Pit, we must have a stock of Timber prepared. 1776 SEMPLE *Building in Water* 42 The Men went on with their sinking that Floor. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xxxiii, She saw that the last tenants had had a pump sunk for them. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxiii. 404 Fresh water was happily found by sinking wells.

absol. 1882 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xx. 471 Water is obtained by sinking..to the surface of the granite. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2757/2 This rock was sunk through for 273½ feet.

19. a. To excise or cut out; to form (a cavity, etc.) in this way, or by heavy pressure.

1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 Carved workes either raised or Cutt through or sunck in with the grounde taken out. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 253 On either side the Head produce an Ear, And sink a Socket for the shining Share. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dock*, Any Place in the Ouze, out of the Tide's Way, where a Ship may..dock herself, or sink herself a Place to lie in. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 331 Words..were sunk into the Moorstone with the point of a pick. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* V. xxi, See yonder oak, within whose trunk Decay a darken'd cell hath sunk.

b. To lower by cutting away; to cut patterns or designs in (a die, etc.).

Implied much earlier in SINKER 1.

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 157 Hew away the underside of that Board.., and so sink it to a flat superficies to comply with the first Board. 1683 *Ibid., Printing* i, The Founder [would] not sinck the Matrices. 1885 JAMIESON *Suppl., To Sink*, to cut the die used for striking money.

c. To let in or insert into the substance of a thing by scooping, hollowing, or cutting.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 506 The holes for sinking the heads of..screws. 1834 L. KITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 84 There is a stone sunk in the wall containing a sculpture in bas-relief. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 122 Hollow Fusee, a fusee in which the upper pivot is sunk into the body of the fusee.

20. To lower the level of (ground, water, etc.).

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* II. 6 To sinke a Decke is to lay it lower. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 68 Rolling the Surface of it with great Cllinders..to sink and level it as much as possible. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. v, You sunk the river with repeated draughts.

b. To lose sight of (an object on the horizon) by sailing away.

1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 227 Sunk were the bulwarks of the friendly shore. 1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 313 This island was sunk from the deck. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv, They were..far off.., and in a few hours we sank them in the northeast. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* I. 191 At dusk we had sunk the Englishman to his lower yards.

c. To descend, move down (a slope, etc.).

1862 COLLYNS *Chase Wild Deer* 199 She now sank the bottom for Exford and crossed just above the village. 1892 *Field* 27 Feb. 299/1 Captain Helmes' first gorse, which he skirted, to sink the hill for the gorses above Bigbury.

IV. 21. To reduce or bring to ruin or a low estate; to overwhelm, destroy; to weigh down.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Prol. 9 Black ravenous ruine,..Readie to sinke us downe, and cover us. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 60 If I haue a Conscience, let it sincke me,..if I be not faithfull. 1637 R. ASHLEY tr. *Malvezzi's David Persecuted* 5 The same action which at one time hath reared up a Prince, should at another sink him. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 451 Fate, and their crime, have sunk them to the dust. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIV. vii, Whether he will sink these wretches down for ever, or..raise them all from the brink of misery and despair. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* ii. 22 The king was taking huge morsels that would almost sink a common man. 1865 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 72 Such another article would sink the *Gazette.*

absol. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 943, I raise or sink, imprison or set free; And Life or Death depends on My Decree.

Comb. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 7 [The Jesuits] had discouered themselues..to be..shelues of sinke-downe to all princely regalitie. 1688 BUNYAN *Heavenly Footm.* Wks. 1851 III. 385 The..soul-entangling flatteries of such sink-souls as these are.

b. Used as an imprecation. Now *arch.* Freq. *sink me*, used in quot. 1666 as a quasi-*sb.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Dog of Warre* Wks. II. 229 Who make (God sinke 'em) their discourse [etc.]. 1642 R. ANDREWES *Decl.* A j b, The Cavalliers swore 'Damme me and sinke me if we doe not kill all the Puritans..in the towne'. 1666 M. M. *Solomon's Prescr.* 28 Who can scarce speak a sentence without their Dammee's and Sinkmee's. 1710 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bickerstaff's Burying* 7 Estate! sink the Estate! 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* II. i, Sink the public, Madam, when the fair are to be attended. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxiv, I had rather you tried your saw..upon the ship's knee-timbers than on mine, sink me! 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* iv. 58 Sink them all for parsons.

c. *absol.* To use profane language; to imprecate, swear. Now *dial.* or *arch.*

1663 *Proposal to use no Conscience* 6 We swear like Gentlemen of Rank, Curse, Damn, Sink. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 132 'Tis a strange sort of thing to believe..that he should fall a damning and sinking against Colledge. 1704 TRAPP *Abra-Mule* Prol. 37 Fools..think All Wit and Valour is to damn and sink. 1750 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 311 He has constantly been damming and sinking. 18.. *Rakes of Mallow* i, Breaking windows, damning, sinking. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 225/2 *To Sink and Graem*, to curse, to imprecate; Shetl[and].

22. To lower; to make of less repute or estimation.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 181 Let your highnes Lay a more noble thought vpon mine honour, Then for to thinke that I would sinke it heere. 1707 ADDISON *Pres. State of the War* Wks. 1721 IV. 301 They catch at all opportunities of ..ruining our trade, and sinking the figure which we make among the nations of Europe. 1779 *Mirror* No. 60, Far from sinking their dignity in our estimation, it adds to it. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xlvi, I cannot say how it has sunk him in my opinion.

b. To debase or degrade (a person).

1706 DE FOE *Jure Divino* III. 2 Why..the Rewards of Vertues are possess'd By him that sinks the Man to raise the Beast. 1779 *Mirror* No. 18, To sink the lower orders of men far beneath that station to which by nature they are entitled. 1781 BURNS *Stanzas Prosp. Death* 15 Again I might..exalt the brute and sink the man.

c. To reduce *to*, lose *in*, something lower.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 103 ¶ 9 The necessity of doing something, and the fear of undertaking much, sinks the historian to a genealogist. 1781 COWPER *Table T.* 415 When a country..In prostitution sinks the sense of shame.

23. a. To reduce the inflexibility of (a bow).

1634 MARKHAM *Art of Archerie* vii, Take your Bow into the Field, shoote in it, sinke it with dead heavy shaftes. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 378/2 *Sinking a Bow*, reducing its force.

b. To cause (a person, the mind, spirits, etc.) to become dejected or depressed.

1630–50 BRADFORD *Hist. Plymouth Plantation* (Mass. Hist. Soc.) 208 It is a marvell it did not wholy discourage them, and sinck them. 1665 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 65 The Walls of the Canaanites..did even sink the Hearts of those that beheld them. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 177 The Thoughts of this sometimes sunk my very Soul within me. 1730 SHENSTONE *Ode to Health* 52 Nor growing cares could sink my cheerful mind. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. ii, I hate a solo; it sinks, it depresses me intolerably.

c. To reduce, weaken, or exhaust the strength of (a person). Now *rare.*

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 523 All these things, together with a load of age.., sunk Duke Lauderdale so that he died. 1782 *Med. Comm.* I. 32 Bleeding sunk the patient much. 1818 HENNEN *Princ. Milit. Surg.* (1820) 217 Repeated and copious venous bleedings now came on, which rapidly sunk the patient.

24. To reduce in amount, value, or price.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Oct. 1645, We invited all..to a feast, which sunk our excellent wine considerably. 1727 POPE & GAY *What passed in London* Swift's Wks. 1751 VI. 261 It being by our greatest Dealers in Stocks, thought only a Court-Artifice to sink them. 1757 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IX. 228 Who would have sunk his own market, by telling his customers there would be plenty the next day?

Comb. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1823) II. 322 I've been a complete sink-pocket, that's the truth of it.

b. To drop or lower (the voice) in speaking; to render less audible.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvi, He..sunk what he had to say in a whisper. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* vi. (1883) 140 She sank her voice, although they were not within earshot of any one. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 261 'It was in this way,' he went on, sinking his voice.

25. a. To abandon or cease to use; to give up; to allow to be merged *in* something else.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 23 He took upon him the Title of Duke of Suffolk, which had been sunk in the Family. 1776 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* vii. (1876) 407 [It] must..disqualify him for the practical part of his profession and make him sink the performer in the critic. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. vii, I..have not sunk the lover in the husband. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* iii, She sunk her assumed rank. 1854 THACKERAY *Wolves & the Lamb* (1899) 11 When I come into the property I shall sink the name of Milliken.

b. To avoid mentioning or alluding to (a person or matter); to pass over in silence; *spec.* in *Piquet* (see quot. 1885). Also const. *upon* the person or persons spoken to.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. xi, Mr. Allworthy,..out of modesty, sunk everything that related particularly to himself. 1772 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 21 Mar., He sunk upon us that he was married; else we should have shewn his lady more civilities. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. iii. P 10, I dined at a cheap ordinary, and sunk the secretary upon my messmates. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* I. xiv. (1866) 240 A certain courtly willingness to sink obnoxious truths. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* (1861) 43 Too small to be put in training, he had fallen into the hands of a steeplechasing horse-dealer, who sank his pedigree. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 116/1 Experienced players not unfrequently omit to call some small score..in order intentionally to mislead you. This manœuvre (called sinking a score) is especially resorted to [etc.].

Comb. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. 301 He, as well as I, utterly scouted the stupid sink-the-shop rule of conversation.

c. To suppress in pronouncing.

1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 221 To sound or sink in *cano*, O or A. 1760–1 GRAY *Eng. Metre* Wks. 1884 I. 328 To sink the vowel and abridge it, as was usual, according to the necessity of their versification.

d. To deduct (the offal) when reckoning the weight of a carcase.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* Apr. 307 Mutton from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* per stone of 8 lb. sinking the offal. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 470 A calf..weighs from 10 to 11 stones imperial, sinking the offal, as it is called in London. 1895 *Times* 28 Jan. 13/2 This custom of 'sinking the offal' is very old, and originated in the days when this part of the beast possessed comparatively little value.

ellipt. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 481 Lean cattle.., if they had been killed immediately, would have come to 10*s.* per stone (of 14 lib.) sink.

e. To set aside; to leave out of consideration.

1860 F. W. ROBINSON *Grandmother's Money* VI. i, He was sinking self so much, and struggling so hard towards one noble action,..that [etc.]. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/2 A happy knack of sinking individual opinion. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Feb. 2/1 Sinking minor differences, all parties ought to unite [etc.].

26. To make away with; to appropriate (money, etc.) for one's own use. Also *spec.* (quot. 1819).

1713 ADDISON *Trial of Ct. Tariff* Wks. 1721 IV. 324 That the said Count had either sunk or mis-laid several books, papers, and receipts. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., To sink or keep part of a Sum of Mony. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) I. 32 By sinking the greatest part of her fortune to my own use. 1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* II. 57, I took up..the broaches, and immediately 'sunk' a very handsome one..in my coat-sleeve.

27. To pay up or wipe out (a debt, etc.).

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., To sink a Fund, *éteindre, supprimer, amortir un Fond.* 1740 W. DOUGLASS *Disc. Curr. Brit. Plant. Amer.* 16 Their Bills became of less Value than those of New-York; but being yearly in good Faith, sunk, they became equal. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 102 That impost will suffice to..sink the principal in a very few years. 1895 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 3/1 This windfall should properly go to sink the unfunded debt.

28. = INVEST *v.* 9.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., In..Annuities, the Capital is sunk for the Lender. 1789 BRAND *Newcastle* II. 197 The revenue of the Corporation..including the sums that had been sunk with them for lives. 1797 BURKE *Reg. Peace* iii. (1892) 243 The Grand Junction Company,..having sunk half a million,..applied to your House, for permission to subscribe half as much more. 183– *Society* I. 139 It is in my power to add to my own income by sinking my small principal. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. vi. § 1 (1876) 57 Capital sunk (as the expression is) in permanent improvements of land. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxviii. 672 To these we must add the capital sunk in the mills.

29. To invest or spend unprofitably; to lose (money) in unfortunate investment, war, etc.

1777 J. REED in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 388, I found that in two or three years I should probably sink my little fortune. 1780 J. HOWARD *Prisons Eng. & W.* 263 There is an account of several..bequests to prisoners. Whether they be now totally sunk,..I cannot say. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxv, Some stock sunk in the South-Sea funds. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sk. Mil. Nun* Wks. 1853 III. 16 The unknown amounts of cash, that had been sunk in that unhappy speculation! 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 310 The enormous sums sunk in war.

Sinkable (siŋkăb'l), *a.* [f. SINK *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being sunk.

Cf. *non-sinkable*, of a life-boat, in recent use.

1865 *Times* 11 Mar. 8/3 The most seaworthy vessel is but too likely to be the most sinkable.

Sinkage (siŋkĕdʒ). [f. SINK *v.* + -AGE.] The act of sinking; subsidence; an instance of this. Also, that which sinks or has sunk.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 174/1 When they lean sideways, they admit the mouldering pile beneath, and own to the sinkage. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* i. 11 The sinkage due to putting weights of moderate amount into the ship. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 5/1 The buoyancy of the timber in resisting sinkage when butted against.

Sinkanter, var. SINCANTER *Obs.* **Sinkapace**, var. CINQUEPACE *Obs.* **Sinke**, obs. f. CINQUE. **Sinkefoile, -foyle**, obs. ff. CINQUEFOIL.

Sinker (siŋkəɹ). Also 6 synkker, 7 syn-, 6–7 sincker; 6–7 sinkar (6 *Sc.* sincar). [f. SINK *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. G. *sinker* (spec. in mining).]

I. 1. One who engraves figures or designs on dies. Chiefly *Sc.* (Cf. *die-sinker* s.v. DIE *sb.*1 8.)

1526 *Sc. Acts, Jas. V* (1814) II. 317/1 Þe sayaris fe, and þe sy[n]karis of þe Irnis fee. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 481 The generall, maister cunyeoure, warden, sincar and assayer. 1605 *Ibid.* VII. 27 The Lords..commands Thomas Foulis, sinkar of His Majesties irones, to mak ane new greit seale. 1656 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) II. 411 The offices of under-engraver and sinker of our saide stamps. 1674 in Dallas *Stiles* (1697) 110 Constituting the said T. W. Graver and Sinker of his Majesties said Mint.

2. One who sinks a pit-shaft, well, or the like.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 22 Perhaps the Sincker, (or Labourer) has..12d. or 14d. a Day. 1710 *Act* 9 *Anne* c. 28 § 9 No Coal-Owner..shall knowingly employ..any Overman,..Pitman, Sinker, Carriage-man [etc.]. 1816 W. SMITH in Phillips *Mem.* (1844) 81 These stony nodules the sinkers have called rock, but no regular rock has yet been found. 1862 SMILES *Lives Engineers* III. 51 Kit Heppel, who was a sinker at the pit. 1897 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 3/1 Fourteen sinkers..were at work in the bottom of the Simpson Shaft.

3. One who causes (something) to sink.

1632 SHERWOOD, A Sinker of poore people with exactions, *oppresseur*. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. lxxxix, Meantime, read all the national-debt sinkers. 1867 *Morning Star* 25 Feb., Without Scialoja there is a chance for Ricasoli in swimming with the anti-clerical spring tides. The [ship-] sinker has been dropped.

II. **4.** †a. A weight for pressing cheese. *Obs.*

1568 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 282, x ches fatts wth ij° sinkers, ij°. 1596 *Ibid.* (1860) 271, iij sinckers for to couer cheese.

b. In a stocking-frame or knitting-machine, a jack-sinker or a lead-sinker.

1779 in *6th Rep. Deputy Keeper Rec.* App. II. 164 A Machine for Knitting without the use of Jacks or Sinkers. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 652 Fig. 560, where both kinds of sinkers appear in section. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1237/2 The sinkers..are at the same time depressed, one after another, by the cam or slur above them.

c. A weight attached to the chain or rope of a horse's stall-collar.

1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 251 Have also a ball of wood called a sinker, as a straw wisp and all such slovenly expedients are said to be dangerous. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 127 A leather stall-collar, having an iron-chain collar-shank to play through the ring.., with a turned wooden sinker at its end, to weigh it to the ground.

5. A weight of lead, stone, or other material for sinking a fishing-line or -net in the water. Cf. SINK-STONE 2.

1844 in W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* (1855) 323 The loops in the lower baulk are loaded with sinkers of stone. 1866 LAING *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 34 Such grooved stones have also been found in Denmark, where they are supposed to have been sinkers for fishing lines or nets. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 7 A large float and heavy sinker and a worm or minnow for bait.

fig. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* xx, I perceive you fish with a heavy sinker; down far down in the future.

b. A weight of lead or other metal for sinking a sounding-line, buoy, or mine, in water.

1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 18 Rope supporting the sinker. 1892 *Daily News* 29 July 6/6 It occupied about five minutes to haul in his sinker and compare the indication of his tube with the scale.

c. *slang.* A base coin; also *U.S.* a dollar.

1839 *Slang Dict.*, *Sinker*, bad money. 1864 *Slang Dict.*, *Sinkers*, bad money—affording a man but little assistance in keeping afloat. 1900 FLYNT *Tramps* 342 'Give you a sinker (a dollar),' I said.

6. A sink, cesspool, or drain. Now *dial.*

1623 COCKERAM I, *Lauatrine*, a square stone in a Kitchin, with a hole to auoid water, a sincker. 1847 HALLIW., *Sinker*, a cesspool; used in the neighbourhood of Spilsby. *Linc.* 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs.*, *Sinker*, a drain to carry off dirty water, etc. *Ibid.*, The rat has run down the sinker-hole.

7. *attrib.*, as *sinker-bar, -wheel* (in a knitting-machine), *sinker-bar, -rod* (in boring apparatus).

1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 747/2 The lead sinkers ..being all fixed to one bar, called the *sinker bar. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 330/1 The drilling tools consist of the 'bit',..the sinker-bar resembling the auger stem, and the rope-socket. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2441/2 *Substitute*, ..a short section of *sinker-rod having flanges to ream the hole and keep it straight. *Ibid.* 1237/1 The wings of the..*sinker wheel..press the yarn in between the needles.

Hence **Si'nkerless** *a.*, having no sinker (5).

1892 W. O STODDARD in *Arkansas Mite* 31 Under that bank the sinkerless line carried..its little green prisoner. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 2/1, I had but to bait my line and cast it, sinkerless, into the water.

Sinkfield, -foil(e, obs. ff. CINQUEFOIL.

Sink-hole (siŋkhōl). [f. SINK *sb.* + HOLE *sb.*]

1. A hole or hollow into which foul matter runs or is thrown; † a sink, or a hole by which a sink is emptied. Also *fig.* and in fig. contexts.

1456 in *Cockersand Chartul.* (Chetham) II. I. 471 *note*, Following the said strind to the Sinkehole, and fro' Sinkeholl..into the Black polles. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* D vij b, James of the synk hole (sauyng your reuerence) a frier, forsooth that wrote the Legendaurie. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 152 Wee satt at y^e^ sterne,..but now we haue no place allowed vs, no not scarsely next the pump, or the sinck-hole. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* v. ii, Thou wilt be hang'd as handsomly..as if thou wert Heir apparent To all the impious Suburbs, and the sink-holes. 1665 M. N. *Med. Medicinæ* 89 Instead of clearing the body of Scorbutick Humors, they drain the best Juices down through the common Sink-hole. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 132 This passage, or rather sink-hole, as being very steep and shelving,..goes sloaping down Seventy six Foot. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 259 The law is to be made a sink-hole for the storing-up of old abuses. 1847– in dialect use (Yks., Linc., Derby, Warw., Oxf.).

attrib. 1895 RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.* 196 *Sink-hole Thief*, a despicable small thief, capable of creeping through a sink-hole (Ardleron).

2. A hole, cavern, or funnel-shaped cavity made in the earth by the action of water on the soil, rock, or underlying strata, and frequently forming the course of an underground stream; a swallow-hole. Chiefly *U.S.*

1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 174 The vast grotto or bason of transparent waters, which is called by the traders a sink-hole, a singular kind of vortex or conduit, to the subterranean receptacles of the waters. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views of Louisiana* (1814) 106 The number of funnels, or sinkholes, formed by the washing of the earth into fissures of the limestone rock. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xx. (1863) 330 As for those sink-holes, or caverns in the rock, I can compare them, from their sinuosities, to nothing more aptly than the human ear. 1889 G. F. WRIGHT *Ice Age N. Amer.* 129 What are called sink-holes, frequent in limestone regions, where a great amount of material below the surface is removed in solution.

3. *U.S.* a. A soft place in a marsh, remaining unfrozen in winter. b. An unprofitable undertaking which is carried on in spite of losses.

1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Sinking (siŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SINK *v.* + -ING 1. Cf. Fris. *sinking*, Du. *zinking*, G. *sinkung*.]

1. The action of the vb. in intransitive senses:

a. Denoting an actual downward movement.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/1 Cynkynge, *dimersio, submercio. *a* 1500 in *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E. E. T. S.) 33 Þe barge of bariona [sall] bowne to the senkyne. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Sedimentum*, a sinkyng downe to the botome. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 78 The Sailors..left the ship then sinking ripe to vs. 1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 74 No Trinck shall stand to fish..at the rising or sinking of any Mother-Fishes. 1662 GERBIER *Principles* 19 To prevent the sinking and bending of their Walls. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* II. Wks. 1799 II. 22 One, two, three, ha. There are risings and sinkings [of the body in dancing]! 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 460 The alternate swelling and sinking of the brain, during inspiration and expiration. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 348 The sinking of the one knob and the swimming of the other. 1890 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLVI. I. 34 The numerous deep crevasses, sinkings in and landslips. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 203/1 Bend the knees quickly and fall soft—a sinking down is better for the flesh than a downright tumble.

b. In various *fig.* or *transf.* uses.

1717–8 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VI. 126 This sinking of the value of Money creates abundance of Murmuring. 1727 POPE (*title*), Peri Bathous: or, Martinus Scriblerus his Treatise of the Art of Sinking in Poetry. 1740–1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 11 These are wonderful sinkings from purpose. *a* 1851 MOIR *Poems* (1852) II. 11 In his soarings he was Heavenly, In his sinkings he was man. 1897 *Daily News* 18 June 4/3 The sinking of the prices paid in the London markets.

c. A lowering or drooping of the spirits, etc.

1663 SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 326 Those horrors and sinking of spirit in bad men. 1829 SCOTT in *Croker Papers* 30 Jan., Johnson, however indulgent to his own sinkings of the spirits. 1851 JERROLD *St. Giles* XVI. 168 St. Giles, with a sinking of the heart, passed on. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 23 Jan. 13/2, I felt a sinking at my heart, lest..I should find myself unable to go any further.

d. Decline or diminution of vital power.

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Arythmos*, a Sinking and Failure of the Pulse, so as it can be no longer felt. *a* 1776 JAMES *Dissert. Fevers* (1778) 125 That kind of sensation which patients describe by a sinking. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 169 We may, by too free a detraction of blood, produce a sudden sinking of the powers of life. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* IX. 101 Coldness of the extremities and sinking of the pulse. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 146 In this form of neurasthenia, pains, sinkings and acidities of the stomach are frequent.

2. The action of the vb. in transitive senses.

Sinking and drawing, a method of angling, in which the hook is allowed to sink and then gently drawn up again. Also called the 'sink-and-draw' style, principle, etc.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epitaphs* (1623) 322 His conquering of Cyprus, the sinking of the great Galleasse of the Sarracens. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XV. P 2 When I come to the sinking and justifying of Matrices. 1705 J. BLAIR in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 150 Some proposing the cancelling of the said Aspersions, other, the sinking of the whole paper. 1896 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* I. v. iii. 251/2 Chub-Fishing..Sinking and drawing is therefore practised, because by this mode the line is not so likely to be entangled. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 223 Though rotary presses at £7,000 apiece require a somewhat alarming sinking of capital.

b. The process or act of boring or excavating

downwards in search of coal, etc.; the pit or shaft thus formed.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 11 The Earth, Minerals and Water, that may be met with in our way of Sinking. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Th.* 294 The sinking of perpendicular shafts. 1839 MURCHISON *Silurian Syst.* I. ii. 22, I..learned that sinkings in search of coal had been prosecuted..in the district. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 16/2 Our party consists of four, which is much the most common number, particularly where the sinking is deepish.

3. A depression, or the amount of this; a recess or worked hollow.

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 27 Niches cut for Figures, and two Sinkings for Shells and Buffets of Water. *Ibid.* 137 The Depth or Sinking you would give the Bowling-green. 1797 T. HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* II. xxxviii. 27 The sinking under the stage is of a great depth. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 615 A beech mould is next made..of the profile of the intended cornice, ..with the quirks, or small sinkings, of brass or copper. 1863 *Archaeol. Cant.* V. 16 One piece with chamfered sinkings, probably a piece of Norman moulding. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* (1894) III. 176/2 A dovetail sinking is cut on the upper surface of the stones at the ends.

Si·nking, *ppl. a.* [f. SINK *v.* + -ING 2.]

†1. a. Of ground: Soft, yielding. *A sinking sand*, a quicksand. *Obs. rare.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 148 Thair schippis..drevin vpoun the land, Quhair tha war ebbit on ane sinkand sand. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 97 The splitting Rockes cowr'd in the sinking sands. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Slough*, ..a deep, sinking, mudy place.

†b. Of paper: Allowing ink to spread. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 5/2 *Papier qui passe*, blotting or sinking paper. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 273 A writer purposing to write well,..doth sometimes come short of his intent, if he meeteth with sinking and blotting paper. 1665 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* (1669) 393/2 By thy religious duties thou settest a fair copie, O do not write it in sinking paper. 1772 *Gentl. Mag.* XLII. 192 Will any paper match him?—Yes, throughout He's a true *Sinking Paper*, past all doubt. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 83 You must take a paper that will bear ink very well for this use, for a sinking paper will separate with the wet, and spoil all.

2. That sinks, in senses of the intransitive verb.

1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i, As Seas and Winds to sinking Mariners. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIII. 95 At once they bend,.. And leave the sinking hills, and less'ning shores. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 35 Her hands..sometimes stay the sinking head on her gentle arms. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. 179 Like a great ship in the sun's sinking sphere Beheld afar at sea. 1853 LD. LYTTON *Ring of Amasis* I. I. ix, He is within but a few arm-lengths of the sinking child. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. iii, I can see the rim of the sinking sun burning fiery red low down between the trees. *fig.* 1704 PRIOR *Celia to Damon* 88 Another Nymph with fatal Pow'r may rise To damp the sinking Beams of Celia's Eyes. 1740 WESLEY *'Jesus, the all-restoring Word'* ii, Quicken my soul,..My sinking footsteps stay.

b. Lapsing into ruin or decay; failing, losing; declining, decadent.

1693 BOWLES in Dryden *Juvenal* v. (1697) 103 No Man expects..what Piso us'd to send, To raise, or to support a sinking Friend. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Save the sinking House of thy Ulysses. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1787) III. 67 Amidst the misfortunes and terrors of a sinking nation. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lam.* ii, In the civil war of 1689, he had espoused the sinking side. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 459 Live! oh live! outlive Me and this sinking empire.

c. Of the heart, spirits, health, etc.: Drooping, flagging.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxi, The hope of which issue has cheered the sinking heart of many a duellist. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xvii. 325 Their appearance..roused..the sinking spirit of the army. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiv. 212 [They] cowered in their tents with sinking hearts,..and composed last messages for their friends.

3. Special uses: **sinking-chain**, part of the apparatus of a pit-shaft boring-rod; **sinking-fire**, heart-burn, -jar (see quots.); †**sinking-lead**, a sounding-lead; **sinking stage** (see quot.).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 904 The beam centered at *c*, having an arc-head and martingale *sinking-chain. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Sinking-fire*, a forge in which wrought-iron scrap or refined pig-iron is partially melted or welded together by means of a charcoal-fire and a blast. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* I. 163 *Cardialgia..syncoptica*, *Sinking heart-burn. The pain or uneasiness extending to the pit of the stomach; with..failure of strength, and great tendency to faint. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 24/2 After due agitation of the wash three samples should be taken by the dipping cylinder, or *sinking-jar. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Zinck-loot*, a *Sinking-lead or Plummet to sound the depth of water. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 430/1 The stage,..including a considerable portion formed to rise or fall by suitable machinery, and called the *sinking stage.

Sinking fund. [See SINK *v.* 27 and FUND *sb.* 4 a.] A fund formed by periodically setting aside revenue to accumulate at interest, usually for the purpose of reducing the principal of a national, municipal, or company's debt.

Sinking funds were established by the British Government in 1716, 1786, and 1873 for reducing the National Debt. In the Act 3 George I (1716) c. 7 it is termed 'a General Yearly Fund'.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6232/1 It must be a..great Satisfaction..to see the sinking Fund improved. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 329 The surpluses..are usually denominated the sinking fund, because originally destined to sink and lower the national debt. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xciv, The Sinking Fund's unfathomable sea...leaves The debt unsunk, yet sinks all it receives. 1882 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. 573 No special sinking fund exists; but the general revenue is in excess of the expenditure.

attrib. 1846 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 5/5 A loan of 18,840,000 florins is to be raised by the sinking-fund commission. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 9/1 A restoration of Sinking Fund purchases.

Sink pors: see CINQUE PORTS.

Si·nksman. [f. SINK *v.*] = SINKER 2.

1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 46 Foul air, completely extinguishing..the lights of the sinksmen.

Sink-stone (si·ŋkstōn). Also **sinkstone.** [f. SINK *sb.*[1] or *v.* + STONE *sb.*]

1. *dial.* A stone basin or sink, having a pipe attached for the escape of water; a hollowed stone with an opening leading to a drain.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Gravel*, It will be proper to have sink-stones laid by the sides of the walk,..to let off the wet. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sink-stone*, an excavated stone, with a small grate, to receive the off-scourings of a kitchen. 1877– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Yks., Linc.).

2. A stone sinker for submerging a fishing-line or -net in water.

1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* 76 Many of them were used as sinkstones for nets. 1872 EVANS *Anc. Stone Implements* 212 Sink-stones are by no means rare in Ireland, and continue in use to the present day.

Sinky (si·ŋki), *a. rare.* [f. SINK *v.* + -Y.] Of sand or soil: Yielding; = SINKING *ppl. a.* 1 a.

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 249 If the forced-up surface also of the pit be too soft and sinky. 1895 'G. SETOUN' *Sunshine & Haar* vii. 145 It was a heavy enough walk over the 'sinky' sand even in the best of weather.

Sinless (si·nlės), *a.* Forms: 1–2 synleas, 4 sinles, 7– sinless; 2 synneleas, 4–5 -les, 6 -lesse; 3 sinnelæs, 7 -lesse; 4 senne-, sunneles. [f. SIN *sb.* + -LESS. Cf. OS. *sundilôs*, OHG. *suntilôs* (MHG. *sundelôs*, G. *sündenlos*), ON. and Icel. *syndalauss* (Sw. *syndalös*, Da. *syndeles*).] Free from, devoid of, without sin. Also const. *of*.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past C.* liv. 423 Swa bið eac swiðe oft synleas yfel ġeðoht ðæm godum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 7 Hwylc eower si synleas [*Hatton* synneleas], wurpe ærest stan on hi. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxiv. 121 Crist þrowade for us synleas. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11020 Soþ mann. all þweorrt ut sinnelæs Off bodiȝ & off sawle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 913 O man sinles þan mad i þe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 217 Miht I sunneles don as þou seist? 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 525/2 He..beyng synnelesse hymselfe, paynefullye payed for oures. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 33 Such a Law, as was given to a sinnelesse and immortall creature. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 425 In calm and sinless peace. 1680 in Howell *State Trials* (1816) VII. 1170 Sir Thomas was as sinless of it [the plot] as the child that was unborn. 17.. RAMSAY *Lady Somerville's Bk. Songs* 5 If she thy sinless faults forgive. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* VI. vi, Make ev'n me..A sinless Saint below. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* I. 11 Hath then the gloomy Power..Seized on her sinless soul? 1877 E. R. CONDER *Basis Faith* ii. 66 To pronounce any human being sinless is to pass a positive judgment carrying immense consequences.

Hence **Si·nlessly** *adv.*

1696 LORIMER *Rem. Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 69 To be always Sinlesly Holy in Heart and Life. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 290 The image of virgin growing up sinlessly to womanhood. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* IV. 474 A sinlessly holy co-redeemer.

Sinlessness (si·nlésnės). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being sinless; freedom from sin, innocence.

1661 BOYLE *Motives Love of God* Wks. 1772 I. 287 The sinlessness of whose condition will keep them [etc.]. 1849 C. S. BIRD *Mariolatry* 32 The original sinlessness of Mary is at length fully developed. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 127 When man was in a state of sinlessness. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. v. 126 A sullen reverence for her..sinlessness and her honour.

Sinn, obs. f. SIN *sb.*; Sc. var. SUN.

Si·nnable, *a. rare.* [f. SIN *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of sinning. Hence **Si·nnableness.**

1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* VII. (1669) 291/2 Though they never sinned, yet they are sinnable. 1863 tr. *Réville's Man. Relig. Instruct.* 205 If our nature was not sinnable. *Ibid.* 202 Original sin..is not sinfulness but sinnableness.

Sinner (si·nəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 4 sin-, synȝer, zenezere, sinnier, 5 synnyer. β. 4 synnere, 4–7 synner, 4– sinner. γ. 4 synnour, 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) synnar, 5 *Sc.* synar, 6 *Sc.* sinnar. [f. SIN *v.* Cf. OFris. *sondere*, MDu. *sondaer* (Du. *zondaar*), MLG. *sunder*, OHG. *suntari* (MHG. *sundære*, G. *sünder*), ON. and Icel. *syndari* (Sw. *syndare*, Da. *synder*).]

1. One who sins; a transgressor against the divine law.

α. *c* 1325 *Prose Psalter* I. 1 Blessed be þe man, þat..stode noust in þe waie of sinȝeres. *Ibid.* I. 6 Þe sinniers. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Sleuþe and uorȝetinge blendeþ þe zenezeres. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 201 He did so myche for Pagans and Synnyers.

β. *c* 1325 *Prose Psalter* I. 7 Þe waye of synners schal perissen. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* II. 17, I cam not for to clepe iuste men, but synners. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 470 A riche man..þat was a synner of his bodie. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 298 It perceith my stomacke to se the rest & ease that synners often haue. 1579 in W. Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 31 Contrition maketh a man more sinner. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxviii. 248 Salvation of a sinner, supposeth a precedent Redemption. 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* I. 1, Sinners shall..bid the light adieu. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 96 Now..they are safe, sinners of either sex. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* lxxvi, Both, like sinners caught, Blushed. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 179 Sir Miles enjoyed the lamentations of a sinner the morning after a debauch.

fig. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 101 Like one Who..Made such a synner of his memorie To credite his owne lie.

Comb. 1797 T. PARK *Sonn.* 72 She ponders o'er her follies past, And, sinner-like, repents at last.

γ. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 183 Olde Adames sone, þe furste synnour [*rime* sauour]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 27 Þus was Crist callid a synnar and blasfemer. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 120 Sinnaris hes thy Celsitude Resistit cruellie.

b. *spec.* An unchaste woman.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 695 *Hec fornicatrix*, a sinner. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 143 The Servants, Pages, Lacquies, and *Filles de joye* (Punkes or pleasant sinners) which follow the Court. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerusalem Sinner saved* (1886) 41 They knew that she [the woman of Samaria] was a town sinner, an adulteress.

c. In phrase *as I am a sinner.*

1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 329 As I am a sinner, My eager stomach crokes, and calls for Dinner! ?1800 SHELLEY *Verses on a Cat* i, As I am a sinner, It waits for some dinner. 1844 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 59 My acquaintance..was in the boat with fifteen trunks, as I am a sinner.

2. In trivial use: A reprobate, rogue; an offender against some rule or custom.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. x, A thousand broad hints.. seasoned exactly to the taste of these old sinners. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XXX. 231 The smoky old sinner chuckled with delight at the remembrance of his adventure. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xxii. 53 The original sinners of the Herefordshire border..were still lords of English soil.

Hence **Si·nner** *v.* (with *it*), to act as a sinner.

1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 15 Whether the Charmer sinner it, or saint it, If Folly grow romantic, I must paint it. 1880 A. I. RITCHIE *Ch. Baldred* 26 He sainted it and sinnered it.

†**Si·nneress.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -ESS.] A female sinner.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* vii. 37 A womman synneresse, that was in the citee. *Ibid.* 39 She is a synneresse. 1647 HEXHAM I, A Sinneresse, *een sondaresse.*

Sinnership (si·nəɹʃip). [f. SINNER *sb.* + -SHIP.] The condition of being a sinner.

c 1750 J. NELSON *Jrnl.* (1836) 66 Many..told me to my face that I never knew the gospel liberty, nor what it was to enjoy the poor sinnership. 1818 BENTHAM *Church-of-Englandism* 175 Exists there any scale..by which the sinnership and the miserableness of the Archbishop can be measured? 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* III. 114 Which the more Tends to the reconciling us, no saints To sinnership. 1887 — *Parleyings, F. Furini* xi, Show saintliness that's simply innocent Of guessing sinnership exists to cure All in good time!

Sinnes (in dicing): see SINES.

Sinnet (si·nət). Also 7 sinnett, sinnit, 8-9 sinnate. Cf. SENNIT. [A nautical term of obscure origin.] A kind of flat braided cordage formed by pleating together several strands of rope-yarn, coarse hemp, grass, or other fibrous material.

1611 COTGR., *Trene*, a threefold rope, cord, string, or twist, called by Marriners, a Sinnet. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* V. 25 Sinnet is a string made of rope yarne commonly of two, foure, six, eight or nine strings platted in three parts, which being beat flat they use to sarue ropes or Mats. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 28 If he have but Hands enough to Furl, Rief, and make Sinnate. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXVI, The boys..laid up grass into sinnet for the men. 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* lxxiv, A roll of grass sinnate (of the kind which sailors sew into the frame of their tarpaulins). 1880 J. S. COOPER *Coral Lands* I. x. 105 They stand about six feet high, the gables being filled in with sinnet.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. x. 101 Our sinnet-laid twine would not stand the powerful struggles of the beast. 1894 B. THOMSON *South Sea Yarns* x, A man may make many signs by jerking a sinnet cord which another holds.

Sinnet, variant of SENNET.

Sinning (si·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 synguung; 3 sineginge, siniging (4 -yng), sunegunge, -ynge, -ing; 4 seneȝynge. *β.* 5 synn-, synnynge, 6 synnyng, 7– sinning. [f. SIN *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb in various senses.

α. *c* 1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 149 Us is swiðe þearle to eſstanne,..þæt we..ðære syngunge ȝeswican. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 193 No mod ðu ne cune..Oc swic of sineginge. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Lo hu holi writ..telleð hu sunegunge bigon. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM I. 669 Ine wyl of seneȝynge. *a* 1400 in *Herrig's Archiv* CIV. 307 God is more greuet of þat defendyng þen of þe furste sinigyng.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/1 Cynnynge, *peccamen.* 1493 *Communycacyon* (W. de W. 1535) A iij, Thou purposed..To set my people in synnynge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 227 Not onely for ones, twyse, or seuen tymes synnyng. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* xviii. 27 In the day of sinning he will beware of offence. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 661 Spirits of purest light,..now gross by sinning grown. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 429 The Blessing of God does not ordinarily follow a presumptuous Sinning against his Command. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. vii, The regularity of my design Forbids all wandering as the worst of sinning. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* Poems (1905) 171 To think She would succeed in her absurd attempt, And fascinate by sinning.

attrib. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi, 17 God will not alway serve men for a sinning-stock. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 147 A sinning-house near Whetstones-Park.

Si·nning, *ppl. a.* [f. SIN *v.* + -ING 2.] That sins or commits transgressions.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Amos* ix. 8 Behold the eyes of our Lord upon the sinning kingdom. 1626 *J. Lane Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VIII. 370 Tis not yond noble kinges intent to kill

his sinninge subiectes that repent. 1885 *Athenæum* 5 Sept. 300/2 The implacable wrath which he subsequently felt for the sinning guest at last melted.

Hence **Si·nningly** *adv.*, **Si·nningness.**

1647 TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *John* iii. 9 Sinningly, so as to be transformed into sin's image. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harvest-Home* i. 3 Nor shall they offend Sinningly. 1863 tr. *Réville's Man. Relig. Instruct.* 201 The liability to sin may be called sinnableness; the tendency, sinningness.

Sinno·graphy. *nonce-word.* [f. SIN *sb.*: see -GRAPHY.] (See quot.)

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 495 Sinnography (as I may tearm it), the description or consideration of the kinds & differences of Sin.

† **Sinnomon,** obs. form of CINNAMON.

1609 ARMIN *Maids of More-cl.* (1880) 208 Stuft with sweet sinnomon and cloues.

Sinnon, Sinnowe: see SINEW *sb.*

† **Si·nny,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 1 **synniz,** 5 **synny.** [f. SIN *sb.* + -Y.] Sinful, wicked.

*c*950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 9 He syngias *vel* synniz bið. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 5218 Off his synny crime [he] lefte not more ne lesse.

Sinny, Sc. variant of SUNNY *a.*

Sino- (si·no), combining form of Gr. Σίνα, L. *Sinæ* (see SINÆAN *a.*) the Chinese, as in **Si·nogram,** a Chinese written character; **Sino·loger,** =SINOLOGUE; **Sinolo·gical** *a.*, 'relating to the Chinese language or literature' (Webster *Suppl.* 1879); **Sino·logist, Si·nologue,** one versed in the Chinese language, or in the customs and history of China; **Sino·logy,** the study of things Chinese (*Imp. Dict.* 1882); **Si·nophil** *a.*, fond of the Chinese.

Sinologist and *sinologue* have been in common use from *c* 1880 and 1860 respectively.

1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* viii. 318 *Sinograms, ideograms, and all hieroglyphics and picture-writing. 1857 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 12/2 One of the greatest living French *Sinologers. 1838 DU PONCEAU *Chinese Syst. Writing* Introd. 26 Those *sinologists who consider ideas to be inseparably inherent in the Chinese characters. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 643/2 The Sinologist who read the scratches .. as Chinese! 1856 MEADOWS *Chinese* 375 The metaphysical reader, even if no *sinologue, will at once decide in favour of my version. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1306. 581 A gifted young sinologue who bids fair to introduce a new era in the study of Chinese. 1894 *The Liberal* 24 Nov. 50/1 The *Sinophil author of Primitive Civilization.

Sinod, -al(l, Synode, obs. ff. SYNOD(AL. **Sinodoches,** obs. i. SYNECDOCHE. **Sinody,** var. SYNODY *Obs.*

Si·n-o·ffering. [f. SIN *sb.* 6, prob. after G. *sündopfer*, used by Luther to render Heb. *ḥaṭṭāth*, f. *ḥāṭā'* to sin.] In the older Jewish religion, an offering (of an animal for sacrifice) made as an atonement for sin. Also *transf.*

See especially *Lev.* iv and vi. The distinction between *sin-offering* and *trespass-offering* has been the subject of much controversy.

1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* iv. 3 He shall brynge..a yonge bullocke..for a synofferynge. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 1 With what sinne-offering once euery yeere they reconciled..the people vnto God. 1643 J. CARYL *Expos. Job* i. 5–6 Of other Sacrifices, as the Sin-offering,..there were parts..reserved for the Priest. 1786 A. MACLEAN *Chr. Comniss.* I. (1846) 39 The sin-offering or sacrifice of expiation. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, The death of a Jewess will be a sin-offering sufficient to atone for all the amorous indulgences of the Knights Templars. 1865 R. W. DALE *Jew. Temp.* xvii. (1877) 187 In the sin-offering the idea of atonement was supreme.

Sinologar, etc.: see SINO- above.

Sinon (sə·inən). Also 6–7 **Synon.** [The name of the Greek who induced the Trojans to bring the wooden horse into Troy (Virgil *Æneid* II. 57 sqq.).] One who misleads by false tales; a perfidious person; a deceiver or betrayer.

In *Peele's Jests* viii. Dyce reads *she-Sinon* for *she-sinnow* of the old editions.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 483 b, You come to late gentle Synon with these fables and bables. 1592 ?KYD *Soliman & Pers.* II. i. 95 Heere comes the Synon to my simple heart: Ile frame my selfe to his dissembling art. 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 38 They decipher him for another Solon, and the Synon of those times. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 133 The Ambassador easily descryed him to be a Synon, sent meerly to betray his credulity. 1807 COLLINSON *Thuanus* 82 They are a company of Sinons, who watch opportunities of enriching themselves by the ruin of others. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, Osbaldistone inveighed..against the arts of these modern Sinons.

Hence **Si·nonism.**

1864 *Daily Telegr.* 29 Oct., Another 'dodge'—another Sinonism, if that phrase sounds more agreeably to classical ears—is conceived.

† **Sinoper.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **sinopre,** 5–6 **synopre, -pyr** (6 *Sc.* **-pir**), 5–7 **synoper** (6 *Sc.* **-peir**), 6 **syneper, synapour** (*Sc.* **-par, -pir,** 7 **-per**), 6–8 **sinoper** (6 **seno-**); 6 **cinaper,** 7–8 **cinoper.** [a. OF. *sinopre* (cf. Pg. *sinopera*), var. of *sinople* SINOPLE. Some of the forms may be partly due to confusion with CINNABAR.]

1. A colour of some shade of red. Also *attrib.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 964 With knottis graue clene, Depeynt with azour, gold, sinopre, & grene. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 530 Lo hym ther that thow sechest, with the sheilde of synopre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. Prol. 57 The sylver scalyt fyschis..Wyth fynnis schynand brovn as synopar. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 1112 Ȝe..sall knaw hir be hir moste heuinly hewis,—Gold, Asure, Gowles, Purpour, and Synopeir. 1573 *Art of Limming* 5 To temper good Synapour, grind Synapour lake and Synapour topes ech by himselfe. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* I. 13/2 Colours derived from Sanguine·..Synaper, or Lake colour.

2. a. A kind of red earth used as a pigment (originally one brought to Greece from Sinope in Paphlagonia). **b.** Cinnabar.

The latter may have been the more usual sense.

1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 63 Item, ij unce synapir, xvj d. 1510 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 199 Ceruse, Synoper, red okyr, yelowe oker. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Cinnabaris*, a softe redde stone founde in mines, called in latin *Minium*, in Englysh, Cinoper...The common Cinoper is counterfayted of brimstone and quicke siluer. *Ibid., Sinopis*, a redde stone commonly called Sinoper, or Ruddle. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 229 Great quantitie of quicksilver and Cinaper. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, You shall deale much, with mineralls,..argaile, alkaly, Cinoper. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. viii. 233 Other Farriers take a dramme of Synoper. 1611 COTGR., *Cinabre*, Synoper; Vermillion; or, a kind of Lybian minerall, redder then Vermillion. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bezoar-Stone*, Others use Cinoper, Antimony, and Quicksilver. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 46/1 Sinoper, or Terra Pontica.

Sino·pian, *a. rare.* =next.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Bol*, Sinopean red earth. *Ibid., Rubrique Sinopique*, Sinopian red earth.

Sinopic (sino·pik), *a.* [ad. L. *Sinōpic-us*, a. Gr. Σινωπικ-ός, f. Σινώπη, a Greek colony in Paphlagonia.] Obtained from Sinope or its neighbourhood.

1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 61 Theophrastus expressly says, that it was a Cappadocian Earth, tho' call'd Sinopic. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Sinopis*,..the Sinopic ochre, commonly called *rubrica Sinopica*. 1868 DANA *Min.* 477 The sinopic earth of the ancients was brought from Cappadocia, and used as a red paint.

So **Sino·pical.** *rare* $^{-0}$.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Sinopical*,..of or belonging to that Stone.

Sinopite (si·nəpəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *sinopit* (Hausmann, 1847), f. L. *Sinōp-is* or *Sinōp-ē* (see next) + -ITE[1] 2 b.] (See quots.)

1868 WATTS, *Sinopite, Bole of Sinope*,..a ferruginous bole occurring in masses with fine earthy fracture, in Cappadocia. 1868 DANA *Min.* 477 *Sinopite*,..a clayey earth of a brick-red color dotted with white, adhering to the tongue.

† **Sinople.** *Obs.* Also 5 **cinople,** 6–7 **synople,** 8 **senople.** [a. OF. *sinople* (cf. Sp. *sinople*, Pg. *sinopla*, It. *sin-, senopia*), ad. L. *Sinōpis*, a. Gr. Σινωπίς, f. Σινώπη: see SINOPIC *a.*]

1. =SINOPER 1.

? *c* 1450 *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* II. (1555) xi. 964 Green Depeynt with asure, golde, cinople, & grene. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 98 The Parret hath all hir whole bodie greene, sauing that..she hath a Coller or Chaine naturally wrought like to Sinople or Vermelon. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 159 From hence came the temperatures of Asure, of Cinnaber, of Sinople, of Purple.

attrib. 1552 HULOET, Synople coulour or redde.

2. =SINOPER 2.

1548 ELYOT, *Miniaria*, the place where synople is dygged. *Ibid., Minium*, synople or redde leade. 1611 COTGR., *Minion*, Synople, red lead, Vermillion. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 7 The Common Armoniack he [Pliny] calls Synoper (and we Synople).

3. The colour green; *spec.* in *Her.*, vert.

The origin of this use (prominent in French) is not apparent. In quot. 1838–9 used as if the name of a charge.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. xvii. 280 That other coloure of armoyrie is grene that men calle sinople or verte. 1602 *Palmerin of Eng.* II. lxii, In this was pictured in a field of Sinople the lively and naturall forme of the Princesse. 1611 COTGR., *Synople*, Sinople; Greene, in Blazon. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Sinople* or *Senople*, in Heraldry, the Green Colour in Armories. [1838–9 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* iv, The well known device of Holkar, argent and or gules, between a sinople of the first, a chevron truncated, wavy.]

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of a green colour.

1590 LODGE *Euphues' Gold. Legacy* O 2 b, The Sinople tree, whose blossomes delight the smell. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. i. (1660) 5 They beare three Toades, Sable, in a Field Vert, *alias* Sinople. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Sonnets* xliv, The delightful Green Of your fair radiant Een,.. Sinople Lamps of Jove. 1698 T. FROGER *Voy.* 116 A White Flag with a Sinople or green Cross in it.

4. *Min.* A variety of ferruginous quartz.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 313, 4th Family [of Siliceous Genus]—Sinople. It is said to contain 18 per ct. of iron. 1798 JAMESON *Min. Shetland Isles* 34 Frequently also considerable veins of red sinople, intermixed with chalcedony .., run in this rock. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 72 Sinople, ribbon jasper, Egyptian jasper.

Sinovia(l, obs. ff. SYNOVIA(L. **Sinow(e, -ie,** obs. ff. SINEW, SINEWY. **Sinque,** obs. f. CINQUE. **Sinque a pace, Sinquepace,** varr. CINQUEPACE.

Si·n-sick, *a.* [SIN *sb.* 6.] Sick with sin.

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xlvi, Is there no meanes, but that a sin-sicke Land Must be let bloud with such a boysterous hand? *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Paradox agst. Libertie* 1068 Wks. (Grosart) II. 64 The poysony humour fell Wherewith my sin-sick heart already 'gan to swell. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 2 The manifold distempers of your sin-sick soul. 1779 COWPER *Olney Hymns* lix, O God, whose favourable eye The sin-sick soul revives. 1845 G. MURRAY *Islaford* 46 The sin-sick heart reposed in hope and prayer.

Hence **Si·n-sickness.** *rare* $^{-1}$.

1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 161 Commonly good men are best at last, even when they are dying; for they seldome dye of a sinne-sickenesse

Sinsion, variant of SENCION.

Sin-soiled (si·n,soild), *a.* [SIN *sb.* 6.] Blemished, stained, or soiled by sin.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 214 Our costly skinne-cases could keepe vs from..beeing sinne-soyled. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 50/1 If the Heau'ns, sinne-soiled, must not stand, much lesse must Man. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 907 That B'alblinded, bloud-soild, sin-soild Pair. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xxiii. (1848) I. 344 No man that is not..repenting of his sin-soiled state. 1891 G. F. X. GRIFFITH tr. *Fouard's Christ the Son of God* I. 294 The depth of degradation from which the Saviour rescued this sin-soiled creature.

Sinsyne (sinsəi·n), *adv. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: *α.* 7– **sinsyne,** 9 **sin-, sin',** sin **syne**; *north.* 8 **sinsaan,** 9 **sin-seyne.** *β.* 8–9 **sincesyne, since syne.** [f. SIN *prep.* + SYNE *adv.* Cf. the earlier SENSYNE.] Since then, from that time.

α. a 1657 SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scotl.* (1825) II. 228 The forme of worschipe..receaued at the reformatione, and vniwersally practissed sinsyne. 1724 RAMSAY *Royal Archers Shooting* ix, Just fifty years sinsyne. 1793 BURNS *Logan Braes* 3, Years sinsyne hae o'er us run. 1802 ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 43 Monie a thousand happier days We beath ha'e kent sin-seyne. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* ii, Mony a mad measure has been danced sin' syne. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 43, I hae eaten ower muckle sin syne.

β. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, She has pass'd sincesyne As a poor orphan. 1786 *Har'st Rig* lvi, Ay since syne he's tint the way For her to spear. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xiv, We twa hae forgathered no lang sincesyne. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* xxiii, It has been turned sax times since syne.

Sinter (si·ntəɹ). [a. G. *sinter*, the equivalent of Eng. *sinder* CINDER.]

1. A hard incrustation or deposit formed upon rocks, etc., by precipitation from mineral waters; esp. *siliceous sinter*, geyserite.

1780 *Von Trail's Iceland* 344 The porous crustated stone, or sinter, which is found in the moor surrounding the border of the bason. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 279 The massive are often called Cobaltic Sinters. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 213 The hot springs..precipitate vast quantities of siliceous sinter. 1857 J. D. DANA *Min.* (1862) 249 Iron sinter is a yellowish or brownish hydrous arsenate of the peroxyd of iron. 1881 GEIKIE in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 432 The tendency of each geysir to build up a cylinder of sinter around its vent.

2. *Sinter coal* [ad. G. *sinterkohle*], cherry coal.

1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 105 Sinter coal approaches nearest to caking coal, but the fusion of the separate pieces into one is not so perfect.

Hence **Si·ntered** *ppl. a.*, converted into cinders; **Si·ntering** *vbl. sb.*, conversion into cinders.

1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 225 In reference to Western coals we cannot talk about the sintering or fusion of carbon. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 309 To separate the sintered lumps from the well-roasted fine ore.

Sintery (si·ntəri), *a.* [f. prec. + -Y.] Consisting of sinter.

1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* xxi. 362 The Great Geysir.. is indicated by a mound of sintery deposit like a heap of dry grey leaves. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 2/1 Here and there..the sintery veneer was broken off in large uneven patches.

Sintheresis, obs. form of SYNTERESIS.

Sinto(o, Sintu, etc.: see SHINTO, etc.

‖ **Sintoc.** Also **sindoc, syndoc.** [Malay سنتوك *sintoq*.] (See quot. 1842.) Also *attrib.*

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 45/2 Sintoc, or Sindoc, sometimes written Syndoc, is the bark of a species of Cinnamomum,.. called C. Sintoc by Blume...It resembles the Calilawan bark, called clove-bark by some. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 630 Sintoc bark, which has analogous properties, is the produce of *Cinnamomum sintoc.*

Sintyr: see CINTRE. **Sinu(e,** obs. ff. SINEW *sb.*

Sinuate (si·niu,ĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *sinuāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sinuāre*, f. *sinus* SINUS; cf. F. *sinué.*]

1. *Bot.* Of leaves: Having a margin made wavy or uneven by alternate rounded and somewhat large sinuses and lobes; sinuous. Also similarly in *Ent.* of wing-cases, etc.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 117/2 Sinuate leaves, such as are crooked, bent or crumpled about the edges. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 179 *Sinuate, hollowed*; when they have broad and spreading Openings in the Sides. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xii. (1794) 126 The Wild Clary has the leaves serrate, sinuate, and smoothish. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 258 The margins of these cases are sinuate. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 290 The leaves are large, ovate, smooth, unequally sinuate. 1882 VINES tr. *Sachs's Bot.* 212 A rudimentary branching, as in indented, toothed, and sinuate leaves.

b. *Comb.*, as *sinuate-angular, -dentate, -lobate, -pinnatifid, -runcinate, -serrate, -undulate*; *sinuate-leaved, -lobed, -toothed.*

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot., Sinuato-angulosum*, a sinuate-angular leaf. *Ibid., Sinuato-dentatum*, a sinuate-toothed leaf. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 152 Sinuate-leaved Mad Wort. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 11 Leaves cordate at base,..lower sinuate-runcinate. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 335 Leaves..of branches..sinuate-lobed. *Ibid.*, Leaves..of branches..sinuate-serrate.

2. *Ornith.* (See quot.)

1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 30 The gape is..curved, sinuate, when they [*sc.* rictus and tomia] lie in the same curved or waved line.

Si·nuate, *v. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. ppl. stem of L. *sinuāre*: cf. prec.] *intr.* To creep or crawl in a winding course.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 104 When you are sinuating like a serpent towards the especial stag of your heart.

Sinuated (sĭ·nĭuĭ,ētèd), *ppl. a.* [f. as SINUATE *a.* + -ED 1.]

†1. Having a sinus or hollow. *Obs. rare*—1.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 36 A round head..is admitted into the..rounde sinuated side of the Boatelyke Bone.

2. *Bot.* Of leaves or their margins: = SINUATE *a.* 1.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), A Sinuated Leaf..is that which is cut about the Edges into several long Segments, as in Oak-Leaves. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 68 The radical leaves..are not sinuated on the edges. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Engl. Flora* II. 11 The last, from which it differs in being generally more bushy, with more deeply toothed, or sinuated, leaves. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 13 Leaves lanceolate, unequally spiny, sinuated. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1062/2.

b. Similarly of shells, parts of insects, etc.

a 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* (J.), Another was very perfect, ..and more sinuated. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 233 Its figure is oblong,..and the hinge somewhat sinuated at the opening. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* 103 This piece is usually ..sinuated or notched in the middle of its anterior edge. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 104 Shell rather ventricose;.. outer lip..sinuated near the notch of the anterior canal. 1875 M. C. COOKE *Fungi* (ed. 2) 67 A cellular mass, consisting of the sinuated hymenium and young spores.

3. Sinuous, winding.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Africa* in *Jrnl. Geogr. Soc.* XXIX. 127 The sinuated beds of watercourses and the steep inclines of hills.

Si·nuately, *adv.* [f. SINUATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sinuate manner.

1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 92 Leaves ovate-rhomboid, sinuately toothed. 1874 M. C. WOOD *Fresh-Water Algæ* 135 Polar lobe with its apex broadly sinuately excised.

Sinuation (sĭnĭuē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *sinuātio*, f. *sinuāre* to curve, etc.]

1. The act or fact of winding about, or pursuing a winding course.

1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 80 We call those Accidentall generations of windes, which doe not..beget the impulsive motion of windes, but..by sinuation or winding doe agitate and tumble it.

2. A winding or bending in and out; a sinuosity.

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 65 The humane Brain is in proportion to the Body much..larger than the Brains of Brutes,..and fuller of *anfractus* or sinuations. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 175 The Form of the Circumference of Leaves where there are no Angles or Sinuations. 1832 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* III. 148 A road..winding in numberless sinuations along the edge of a deep precipice. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 351 A median sinuation divides this extremity into two lobes.

Sinuato- (sĭ·nĭuātō), used as combining form of SINUATE, prefixed to adjectives in the sense 'sinuately', 'sinuate and', as *sinuato-dentate, -pinnatifid, -undulate*; *sinuato-contorted, -dentated, -serrated.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Leaf*, Sinuato-dentated leaf expresses a leaf like the former [*sc.* sinuated], but with the lateral lobes of a linear figure. 1775 J. JENKINSON *Brit. Plants* Gloss., *Sinuato-serrated*, serrated and partly sinuated. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 290 Sinuato-Undulate.., when the sinuses are obtuse. 1857 T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 46 Fr[onds] coriaceous sinuato-pinnatifid, densely scaly beneath. 1887 PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomyc.* 11 The margin is.. undulate, sinuato-contorted, and crisped.

Sinu-auri·cular, *a. Zool.* [f. *sinu-*, SINUS + AURICULAR *a.* 5.] Of or belonging to, situated between, the sinus venosus and the auricle.

1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 764/1 The sinu-auricular aperture, by which the sinus and the right auricle communicate,..has an oval form.

Sinu·mbra. ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *sine umbrā* without a shadow.] *Sinumbra lamp* (see quot. 1851–3).

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1863) 109 A mild radiance like that cast by the ground glass globe of a Sinumbra lamp. 1851–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* (1867) II. 5 In Phillips's Sinumbra lamp..the shadow if not destroyed is rendered imperceptible by the peculiar form given to the circular oil vessel.

Hence **Sinu·mbral** *a.*

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 329/2 Sinumbral and pneumatic fountain lamps. 1864 *Lardner's Museum Sci. & Art* II. 207 The old English ring-lamp called the Sinumbral lamp.

Sinuose (sĭnĭuō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *sinuōs-us*, f. *sinus* SINUS: see -OSE 1.] Full of or characterized by bends or windings; sinuous, sinuated.

1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* Gloss. (1836) 1105/1. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 250 In the Gourd tribe [the anther lobes are]..linear, and sinuose or convoluted.

Hence **Sinuo·sely** *adv.*

1874 M. C. WOOD *Fresh-Water Algæ* 84 Thallus membranaceous saccate, obovate, sinuosely-bullose.

Sinuosity (sĭnĭuŏ·sĭti). [ad. F. *sinuosité* or med.L. **sinuōsitās*: see prec. and -ITY.]

1. The character, condition, or quality of being sinuous or winding in and out.

1598 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep.* Wks. (1810) 58/2 Meander is a river..famous for the sinuosity and often returning thereof. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., 'Tis the Sinuosity of the Sea Coasts that forms Bays, Ports, Capes, &c. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772* 33 The multitude of pretty bays that give such an elegant sinuosity to its shores. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 170 The extreme sinuosity of the river has caused it to return for a brief space in a contrary direction to its main course. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiii. 100 Owing to the sinuosity of the brook, the pools..are yet not within fish sight.

fig. 1857 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) II. 212 The natural difficulty of the German language,..enhanced by the elaborate sinuosity of the period. 1885 *Society in London* 251 Something of the sinuosity of the Oriental.

2. (Chiefly *pl.*) A curve or bend, *esp.* one of a series.

1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 235 There was no need ..of..so much as of a Helm for steering, or indeed of any Sinuosity or Protuberance whatsoever. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Leaves*, The Sinuosities or Circuits, which are found throughout the whole Structure [of the leaf]. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xxvii. II. 46 So delicately cut, as to shew ..all the swellings and sinuosities of the muscles. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 679 It exactly accompanies the phrenic nerve, forming several sinuosities. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obst. Med. & Surg.* 3 A considerable sinuosity or arch, forming, when the bone is joined to the sacrum, a very long notch. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 88 Care being taken to penetrate to all the sinuosities of the sore.

b. A curve, bend, or winding in a road, river, valley, etc.

a 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 334 The fewer the sinuosities of the rivers, the farther was he removed from the sea. 1774 J. CAMPBELL *Polit. Surv. Britain* I. 274 The very irregular indented Line, which forms its Shore, comprehends, allowing for those Sinuosities, at least eight hundred Marine Leagues. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* i, Winding by a narrow path along the sinuosities of the valley. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xxix. 406 The further point of this sinuosity. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* ii, She..watched Lance's figure as it vanished..in the shadows and sinuosities of the ascent.

c. *fig.* A complexity or intricacy.

1827 MISS SEDGWICK *H. Leslie* (1872) II. 180 One accustomed to all the sinuosities of the human mind. 1849 BRIGHT *Sp., Ireland* 2 Apr. (1876) 171, I certainly never heard the right hon. gentleman steer through so many sinuosities in a case. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abroad* I. i. 28 The sinuosities of the discussion.

3. A sinuous movement.

a 1892 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 41, I kept a tame snake. ..I liked to watch his wonderful sinuosities on the carpet.

Sinuo·so-, combining form of L. *sinuōsus*, prefixed to adjs. in the sense 'sinuately', 'sinuate and', as *sinuoso-lobate, -plicate.*

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 142 Dilated and profoundly sinuoso-lobate. *Ibid.* 191 Short turbinate, sinuoso-plicate at margin.

Sinuous (sĭ·nĭuəs), *a.* Also 7 sinewes (?). [ad. L. *sinuōs-us* (see SINUS and -OUS) or F. *sinueux*; cf. It., Sp., and Pg. *sinuoso.*]

1. Characterized by or abounding in turns, curves, or sinuosities; sinuate, curving.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 28 It behoued the head of Radius also to be more depressed, and somewhat sinuous. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 132 It would be tryed, how..the Voice will be carried..in a Trumpet, which is a line Retorted; Or in some Pipe that were Sinuous. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 481 Whatever creeps the ground, Insect or Worme,..Streaking the ground with sinuous trace. 1686 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* App. i. 11 The Seed-leaf on its outside is sinuous or full of crinkles. 1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 20 In a Cap's round sinuous Bottom laid. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 585 Obstinate, deep, and sinuous ulcers. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 117 The mouth large, widely sinuous. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii. 280 The lungs..containing several sinuous cavities. 1862 DARWIN *Orchids* i. 12 The slightest touch causes it to rupture transversely, in a sinuous line.

b. Of rivers, coasts, roads, routes, etc.

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 51 The Flood Meander running with his Sinewes returnes and windings. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 179 Roving from Port to Port in that sinuous Region. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 165 Here Ouse, slow winding through a level plain.., Conducts the eye along his sinuous course. 1797 COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 8 There were gardens bright with sinuous rills. 1810 T. L. PEACOCK *Genius of the Thames* 7 While Thames impels, with sinuous flow, His silent-rolling stream below. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. xviii. 379 Its bold spurs enclosing sinuous river gorges. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xviii. 303 A sinuous band of highlands stretches almost continuously.

c. *transf.* Intricate, complex; roundabout.

1853 CDL. WISEMAN *Ess.* II. 338 The perplexities of this formulary,..its sinuous involutions,..make its character too plain, as a snare to the simple of heart. 1860 O.W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* ix, I have been sinuous as the links of Forth ..; sinuous, I say, but not..hard to follow for a reader of the right sort.

d. *fig.* Deviating from the right; not straightforward or direct; morally crooked.

1850 WHIPPLE *Ess. & Rev.* (1856) I. 207 A man..who has acquired high station by no sinuous path. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. x. 230 The beginning of a sinuous course of extravagance. 1902 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 6/3 The end of his sinuous career is in view.

2. Of movements: Taking place in curves.

1877 ROSENTHAL *Muscles & Nerves* 11 A..whip-like process by the sinuous motions of which these animals move themselves about in the water.

3. Of animals: Moving with supple bends of the body.

1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 143 The stealthy terror of the sinuous pard.

4. quasi-*adv.* Sinuously.

1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 2 Now the line seems strung like a thread of iron.., now winds sinuous as a snake.

Hence **Si·nuously** *adv.*, **Si·nuousness.**

1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 513 The..Streams which do arise from under the Mountains do evidence the hollowness, and Sinousness [*sic*] of them. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sinuousness*, Fulness of Turnings and Windings. 1847 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 249 Whence it narrows rather sinuously to the posterior angles. 1880 HODGKIN *Italy & her Invaders* III. v. II. 409 The dragon ensigns floated sinuously to the breeze.

Sinupa·llial, -pa·lliate, *adjs. Conch.* [f. *sinu-* stem of SINUS + PALLIAL *a.*, or PALLIATE *a.* 4.] Of certain lamellibranchs: Having the pallial line deeply incurved or inflected beneath the impression of the posterior adductor muscles, for the retraction or expansion of the pallial siphons.

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 192 This division, the Sinupallial, was far less common in the Silurian than the integripallial. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 486 The integropalliate are far more numerous than the sinupalliate forms in the older rocks. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 687/1 The valves of the Sinupalliate genus Cytherea.

Sinus (sə·ĭnŏs). Pl. **sinuses** (7 sinus, 7–9 sinus's, 8 sinusses). [a. L. *sinus* a curve, bend, bay, etc.]

1. *Path.* An impostume, abscess, or sore, forming a narrow suppurating tract and having a small orifice; the cavity or hollow caused by this.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 45/1 If the Sinus be in the legge, & the bottome of the same vnder the Knee. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sinus*, is when the beginning of an Abscess or Ulcer is narrow, but the bottom large. 1748 tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distempers of Horses* 238 When the *Pus*..has been squeezed out, the Sinus itself, which contained it, is washed. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 124 Sinuses remained where the abscesses had been. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVI. 83 There was a sinus discharging pus on the inside of the right thigh above the knee.

2. A curvature, flexure, or bend; *spec.* in *Zool.*, a curved recess in a shell.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 995 The third bone hath two Sinus distinguished by a long knot, whereinto the heads of the second bone are receyued: againe the knub of the third bone entreth into the Sinus of the second [etc.]. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 177 Howsoever a line be bowed, it makes always a *sinus* or cavity. 1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 235 There was no Sinus or Inequality, or perhaps so much as one Pore left open, according to this Hypothesis of the Figure of the Ark. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* (1729) II. 73 Another [echinus], depress'd by some external Force, so as to make a large Sinus on one side. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* iii, The root of this outward ear, the folds, and sinuses thereof..conducting the air towards it. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 156 A wing or lobe, having a sinus distinct from the notched canal at the base. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 360 There is a broad notch or sinus in the columella.

b. *Bot.* One of a series of small rounded depressions on the margin of a leaf.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Leaf*, A leaf with sinus's at the sides. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 437 The sinuses being opposite. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 59 Their sinuses sometimes lengthened into other lobes. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 325 Auricles rounded incurved almost enclosing the deep sinus.

3. *Anat.* a. One or other of various irregular venous cavities, reservoirs, or dilated blood-vessels in different organs or parts of the body; a venous channel or receptacle of blood.

These are frequently distinguished according to their extent, particular form, or position.

1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5134 Whether there is any sinus or common Trunk, into which all the veins are gathered. 1731 *Ibid.* XXXVII. 92 We found the Veins much distended with Blood, as were also the Veins and Sinuses of the Brain. 1761 *Ibid.* LII. 267 The brain was..no-ways loaded with blood, either in its proper vessels, or in the contiguous sinuses of the dura mater. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 437 Inferior Longitudinal Sinus.., occupying the lower edge of the cerebral falx. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 31 Both the arteries and veins form occasionally wide spaces, or sinuses. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 58 The venous system presents many large sinuses in the lower vertebrates.

b. A natural hole, cell, or cavity in the substance of a bone or other tissue, and either closed or having a relatively small opening.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Any Cavity in or between the Vessels of an Animal Body, the Anatomists call a Sinus. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 28 *Sinuses*, large Cavities within the Substance of the Bones, with small Apertures. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 297 The application of the trepan to the frontal sinuses. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 434/2 In the bones of the head we find certain cells, called *sinuses*, which contain air, not marrow. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. of Man* I. iv. 121 The frontal sinus, or the projection over the eye-brows is largely developed.

†4. A cavity or hole in the earth. *Obs.*

a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 299 By the excavation of certain *Sinus* and Tracts of the Earth,..the Water subsided into those Caverns..prepared for its reception. 1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 513 They meet with [natural cavities in the earth] very frequently, some..running away with small Sinus's. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exemp.* 145 The Earth..abounding every where with canals and sinuses, wherein the Dew and Rain-water..glide.

†5. A bay, gulf, or arm of the sea; = SINE 2 1.

1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 110 The promontories and capes shoot into the sea, and the sinus's and creeks.. run as much into the land. 1693 RAY *Three Disc.* II. ii. 85 The Sea would rather run into them, and make Sinus's. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 549 A bridge over a narrow sinus of the sea. 1749 W. DOUGLASS *Summary* I. 399 A salt water sinus, commonly called a continuation of Taunton river. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* II. 163 The great number of friths, sinuses, or arms of the sea.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sinus affection, aneurysm,*

phlebitis, pyæmia, thrombosis; *sinus-like* adj. Also sinus probe (see quot. 1884).

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 678/1 Sinus-like spaces surrounding the viscera. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 816/2 *Sinus Probe*, a vermicular pointed uterine curved probe, used in its peculiar branch of surgical operations. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 940 The presence or absence of sinus aneurysm. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 575 The tissue intermediate between the original inflammation and the sinus wall.

Sinusoid (səi·nŏsoid). [a. F. *sinusoïde*, f. L. *sinus* SINUS + -OID.]

1. *Math.* A curve of sines (CURVE *sb.* 1).

1823 LARDNER *Algebraic Geom.* I. 200 A curve, represented by the equation y = sin. x, related to rectangular co-ordinates, is called the curve of sines, or the sinusoid. 1876 *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* VII. 213 Prof. Cayley described a surface, depending upon the sinusoid, which was being constructed for him. 1884 tr. *Glaser de Cew's Magn. & Dynamo-electric Machines* 254 If the magnetic field in which the armature rotated were uniform, this curve would be a true 'sinusoid', or curve of sines.

2. (See quot.)

1900 MINOT in *Proc. Boston Nat. Hist. Soc.* 185 The [blood-] vessels of the first type are true capillaries...The vessels of the second type I propose to name 'sinusoids', on account of their resemblance to true sinus and also to separate them clearly from genuine capillaries.

Sinusoidal (səinŏsoi·dăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL; cf. F. *sinusoïdal*.] Resembling, pursuing, flowing in, the wave-like course of a sinusoid.

1878 MAYER *Sound* 64 Hold the glass up to the light, and you will see a delicate wavy line, a sinusoidal trace. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 54 The curve expressive of a simple pendulous vibration—that is a sinusoidal curve. 1900 *Lancet* 1 Dec. 1580/1 These patients have all been treated with the electrical bath and the sinusoidal current.

Hence **Sinusoi·dally** *adv.*

1888 *Philos. Mag.* Ser. v. XXVI. 373 Let *f* vary sinusoidally with the time.

Sinward (si·nwōɹd), *adv.* [f. SIN *sb.* + -WARD.] Toward or in the direction of sin. †Also *to sinward*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 346 Vche a mayde þat he mette he made hir a signe Semynge to-synne-ward. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 111 Feendys noumbre þe steppys of man & womman to synne warde. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 45 The thoughts that were roving helward, worldward, and sinward. 1644 T. CASE *Quarrel of Covenant* 74 A people..may enter Covenant with God, with their hearts, Rome-ward, and Earth-ward, and Sin-ward. 1820 MRS. GRANT OF LAGGAN *Mem. & Corresp.* (1844) II. 268 An infirmity always verging sinward.

‖ **Sion.** *rare.* [L. *sion* water-parsley, a. Gr. σίον some kind of marsh plant.] = LAVER *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 254 Ðeos wyrt þe man sion & oðrum naman laber nemneþ byð cenned on wætum stowum. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 138 Sion is so muche hote as it is well smelling, when it is tasted. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* xciv, His remedies were 'womanish and weak'. Sage and wormwood, sion, hyssop,..and Faith, and all in small quantities except the last.

Sion, Sioun, obs. forms of SCION.

Sion(er, etc.: see ZION(ER, etc.

Sip, *sb.* Also 7 sippe. [f. the vb.] A single act of sipping; a small quantity *of* some liquid taken in this way.

It is possible that *sype* in Caxton's text of Chaucer's *Anel. & Arc.* 193 may have been intended for *sip*, but the correct reading is *schipe* reward.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 131 The wine..did appeare no common grape: my haste could not forbeare a second sippe. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Aug., A bottle of strong water, whereof, now and then, a sip did me good. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They..bring it to you scalding hot, and so you must drink it, but at several sips, else it is not good. 1715 CHAPPELOW *Right Way Rich* (1717) 169 A sip of some comforting syrup. 1768–74 A. TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 234 A sip of Daffy's Elixir, in the morning rising, has proved a powerful means of grace. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvi, However Oliver might have relished a moderate sip of the same good wine. 1856 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* IV. Poet. Wks. (1910) 495/1 Between this cask and the Abbot's lips Many have been the sips and slips. 1887 JEFFERIES *Amaryllis* iii, If it was to be had, a sip of port wine.

b. *fig.* A mere taste *of* something.

1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. 442 Will the great Author us poor worms destroy, For now and then a sip of transient joy? 1852 DE QUINCEY *Sir W. Hamilton* Wks. 1890 V. 307 A sip is all that the public collectively ever care to take from reservoirs of abstract philosophy. 1871 N. SHEPPARD *Shut up in Paris* 246 They take a little sip of a stroll, a little sip of sleep, and a little sip of manual labour.

Sip, *v.* Forms: 5 syppy(n, cyppyn, 6 syppe; 5, 7 sippe (5 scippe), 6– sip. [Of obscure origin; possibly a modification of *sup* intended to express a slighter action.

Kilian's '*Sippen*, pitissare, sorbillare' is not otherwise certified, and is rendered suspicious by his citing 'Ang. *sippe*'; but a LG. *sippen* in the same sense is given in the Bremisches Wörterbuch, and appears to be genuine.]

1. *intr.* To take up liquid in small quantities with the lips; to drink by a sip or sips; freq. with *of* (a specified liquid, etc.). Also in fig. contexts.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife of Bath's Prol.* 176 Than maystow chese, whether thou wolt sippe Of that tonne that I shal abroche. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604 *Potisso*, to syppy. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Syppyn, nowȝt fully drynke, *potisso, subbibo*. 1530 PALSGR. 719/1 Syppe on, Cysse, and tell me what it is. 1584–7 GREENE *Carde Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 162 Yea, let thy Concubine Castania..to sippe of the same sorrow. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 161 Ile haue prepar'd him A Chalice..; whereon but sipping, ..Our purpose may hold there. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 182 Yee doe here but sippe of this cuppe, but then ye shall drinke up the dreggs of it for ever. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They all drink it sipping for fear of scalding themselves. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 47 Ridotta sips and dances, till she see The doubling Lustres dance as fast as she. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 581 With caution taste the sweet Circean cup; He that sips often, at last drinks it up. 1789 — *Annus Mem.* 18 As the bee.. Assiduous sips at ev'ry flow'r. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XXIV. v, As a man in social hour Sips of the grateful cup. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, Who bent over their shoulders, to sip, before the wine had all run out.

transf. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, As many as haue but the..audacitie to—sip of their lips. 1871 *Athenæum* 26 Aug. 273 The whole French nation..sip in drinking, they sip in reading, and they sip their work.

2. *trans.* To drink (liquid, etc.) in very small draughts; to imbibe, or partake of, by sipping. Said also of bees, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Humé*, supped, sipped, or sucked vp [etc.]. *a* 1650 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro, Mary Magd.* v, Every morn from hence A brisk Cherub somthing sippes. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 191 Drink one quarter of a pint as hot as you can sip it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 505 Let 'em sip from Herbs the pearly tears Of Morning Dews. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 187 Bees, industrious workmen! that..sip the mellifluous dews. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 391 He enjoys..Sweet converse, sipping calm the fragrant lymph Which neatly she prepares. 1825 LAMB *Elia* II. *Wedding*, None told his tale. None sipt her glass. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, The knowing way in which he sipped, or rather sucked, the Johannisberger. 1886 PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 350 The places where ladies go to eat creams..and sip coffee.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 67 Weele drinke a health, while they two sip a kisse. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* I. 274 The shippe..sinking sippes the seas, by weight downe borne. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 172 And every Herb that sips the dew. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 13 The maid attentive sips Each word that flows, like nectar, from her lips. 1871 [see sense 1 *transf.*].

c. With advs., as *off, up*.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. (1674) 50 The Macedonians..thought to have sipt up every mans State in less than a moneths time. *a* 1763 W. KING *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 13 Pope had sipped up all the brandy. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 278 A large spoonful of mustard in a pint of warm water, which he sipped off like coffee!

d. *fig.* To take a mere taste of (something).

1618 BOLTON *Florus* 105 That he might not seeme to have once sipt or skimd the honour of their Chastity. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xiv. (1840) 139 Pleasures he rather sipped than drank off.

3. To take honey from (a flower) by sipping.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 76 The winged Nation..skim the Floods, and sip the purple Flow'rs. 1727 GAY *Beggar's Opera* I. i, My heart..roved like the bee,..I sipt each flower. 1878 J. MILLER *Songs of Italy* 81, I should sip but one, this one Sweet flower underneath the sun.

4. *refl.* To bring (oneself) into a certain state by sipping.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., I gradually sipped and smoked myself into a certain degree of acquaintance with *un homme comme il faut*.

Hence **Si·pping** *ppl. a.*

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 31 That would much better fit some old soker..than his sipping..bibbership. 1871 N. SHEPPARD *Shut up in Paris* 246 This sip, sip, sipping race have been devoured by a race which does nothing by sips. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 993 Then peptonized milk.. may be swallowed in sipping fashion.

Sipage (səi·pēdʒ). *Sc.* and *U.S.* [f. SIPE *v.* + -AGE. Cf. SEEPAGE.] Leakage or oozing of water.

1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* 1892 *Trans. Amer. Soc. Civil Engin.* XXVI. 572 The new levees..and..the land behind them [were]..very much affected by sipage.

Sipahee, sipahi, variants of SEPOY.

Sipars, obs. form of CYPRESS 3.

Sipe (səip), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *U.S.* Also **sype.** [Related to SIPE *v.* Cf. MDu. *sijp, sijp* (Du. dial. *zijp*), MLG. *stp, sipe*, Fris. *syp, sipe* a ditch, channel, etc.]

1. The act of percolating or soaking through, on the part of water or other liquid; the water, etc., which percolates. (Cf. SEEP *sb.*)

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIII. § 5 Seo eorðe hit helt & be sumum dæle swilgð, & for þam sype heo bið ȝeleht. *a* 1583 in Sir J. Balfour *Minor Pract.* (1754) 588 Gif thair be ony persounis that settis furth under the yeird the sype of thair bark cobill,..or ony sype of 'kitching, to the King's water or well. 1777 in Cramond *Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 97 By the general sipe of the slating there is no mending of the slating without terring the sclates. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Hist. Isle of Axholme* 25 The water obtained from the wells sunk in the warp..is what is termed ground sype, i. e. water filtering through from the surface. 1894 *Naturalist* 23 There is no inflow or spring here apparently, so the water is only sipe.

attrib. 1892 *Trans. Amer. Soc. Civil Engin.* XXVI. 568 The water which thus transpires through the soil is called.., by the Americans of the Mississippi Valley 'sipe-water' (pronounced *seep*).

2. A small spring or pool of water.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Sipe, Sype*, .. a slight spring of water; *Perths.* 1897 BUTLER *Brit. Birds* IV. 65 Here and there, many small ponds or 'sypes', and birch trees.

Sipe (səip), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **sype.** [OE. *sipian* wk. vb., = Fris. *sypje*, MLG. *sipen* (pp. *gesypet*); cf. MDu. *sipen, sypen* (Du. dial. *zijpen*), MLG. *stpen*, MHG. *stfen* str. vb. Sw. dial. *sipa*, Da. *sive* are prob. from LG.

The length of the vowel in OE. *sipian*, and the relation between this vb. and the OE. sb. *sype*, are not clear. If the vowel was short, the modern representative would normally be SEEP *v.*, and the form *sipe* may really correspond to the continental strong vb.]

intr. Of water or other liquid: To percolate or ooze through; to drip or trickle slowly; to soak.

For various dialect modifications of sense, and transitive uses, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 252 Asete þonne on hate sunnan,.. þæt hit sipige & socige .iiii. dazas oþþe ma. 1398, 1503 [see the *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*]. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 2 Plinie ..writes of the wode that is called Smilax, how it will let sype through water mixt with wyne, and kiep the wyne still. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 97. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Sipe*, to leak, to ooze or drain out slowly through a small crevice. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 446 In this way a considerable amount of water was permitted to ooze and 'sipe' out and away.

Sipee·ra. *Bot.* Also sip(e)ira, -(i)era, sipiri. [Native name in Guiana.] a. *Sipeera-tree*, the greenheart tree (*Nectandra Rodiæi*) of Guiana; = BEBEERU. b. The bark of this tree.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Nat. Hist. Guiana* 333 They contentedly recur to the use of Sipera, or Green-Hart-tree Apples. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 6/2 The timber of the Green Hart, or Sipiera tree, is very valuable. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. 92/2 The timber is commonly called Greenheart; the bark is better known as Bebeeru .. and Sipiri or Sipeira.

Hence **Sipee·rine.** *Chem.* [Named by Maclagan in 1843.] (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Sipeerine, Sipirine, Sepeerine*, an alkaloid existing, together with bebirine, in the..greenheart-tree...It was discovered by Rodie in 1834.

Siper (səi·pəɹ). *north. dial.* Also s(e)yper. [f. SIPE *v.*] An immoderate drinker; a toper.

1803 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 66 The Hiverby lads at fair drinkin are seypers. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow of a Crime* XXV, You're worse than he is, you old sypers.

Sipers, obs. form of CYPRESS 3.

† **Siphac.** *Anat. Obs.* Also *a.* 5 syphac, 6 cyphac, sifac, 7 siphack. *β.* 6–7 siphach. [a. med.L. *siphac, syphac* (whence also obs. F. *siphach*, Pg. *sifac*), a. Arab. صِفَاق *çafāq*, from the root صفق *çafaqa* to cover.] The peritoneum.

a. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lv. (Bodl. MS.), Hernia is a skynne in þe wombe and hatte Siphac also and brekeþ somtyme. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 169 For to holde alle þese þingis, þe stomak & þe guttis is ordeyned a skyn, þat is clepid þe siphac. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* B j, The voyde places that are betwene the cyphac and the myrac. 1548 VICARY *Anat.* (1888) 64 That [part] which appeareth next vnder the Sifac is *Omentum*.

β. 1552 UDALL tr. *Germinus' Anat.* C vj, Nexte within thys Abdomen or Mirach is contayned Siphach. 1587 T. THOMAS *Lat.-Eng. Dict.* (1615), *Peritonæum*,..the inner rim of the bellie..: the Anatomists call it Siphach. [Hence in later Eng. Dicts.]

† **Siphany.** *Obs. rare.* Also sy-. [Of obscure origin.] The name of some flower.

1509 *Invent. Plate*, etc. (St. John's Coll., Camb.), Item ij copes of blew satyn..embrodride with Rede rosis and white syphanyes orfreide with rede satyn..embrodrid with portculis and white and blew syphanyes. *Ibid.*, A vestment and ij tunycles..garnyshed with siphanyes and margaretes with my ladies pose.

Sipher, obs. form of CIPHER *sb.*

† **Si·pher,** obs. form of CIPHER *v.* 8.

15.. in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 To myche wyndinge of the pipis is not the best, Whiche may cause them to sypher wher armoney shulde rest. *Ibid.*, Wronge handlynge of the stoppis may cause them sipher fro the kynde.

Siphilitic, obs. form of SYPHILITIC.

‖ **Sipho** (səi·fou). *Zool.* [L. *sipho* SIPHON *sb.*] = SIPHUNCLE 1.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 458 The chambers are traversed by a tube—the sipho or siphuncle. *Ibid.* 464 The sipho is formed by two free folds.

Siphon (səi·fən), *sb.* Also 7–8 cyphon, 7– syphon. [ad. L. *siphōn-, sipho* (cf. prec.), ad. Gr. σίφων pipe, tube. Cf. F. *siphon* (1611), Sp. *sifon*, Pg. *sifão*, It. *sifone*.]

1. A pipe or tube of glass, metal, or other material, bent so that one leg is longer than the other, and used for drawing off liquids by means of atmospheric pressure, which forces the liquid up the shorter leg and over the bend in the pipe.

a. 1659 LEAK *Waterworks* 6 A Syphon..hath that end which is without the vessell longer then the other. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 306 The Water..forces it self in nature of a Syphon up to the highest Clifts. 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 75 If the Water in the Vessel be made to rise up into the Syphon. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 283 The ebb and flow of springs..are likewise to be accounted for on the simple principle of the syphon. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* XXIV. 634 Bend a piece of glass tube into a syphon. 1907 HOPKINS *Elem. Photogr.* 28 A syphon to carry off the contaminated water.

β. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XXXV. 263 We resolved, instead of a List of Cotton, or the like Filtre, to make use of a Siphon of Glass. 1661 — *Examen* VI. (1682) 72 The passage of water through Siphons. 1745 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 11, I applied the siphon..to the pipe of a water-engine. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 125 Water will not therefore rise in a siphon, any more than in a pump, beyond the height of 33 feet. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.*

XXII. 95/2 The siphon has practically a certain minimum diameter for each liquid.

b. *transf.* A channel or tube through which water passes on the principle of the siphon.

1744 THOMSON *Autumn* 829 Beneath th' incessant weeping of these Drains, I see the rocky Siphons stretch'd immense. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 139 A communication betwixt the caverns that lie one over another, by a kind of natural syphons. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 200 A vertical 'syphon in the embankment of the reservoir composed of well wrought masonry or brick-work. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 148 We had to take to the canal..; because, where it crossed the river, there was, not a bridge, but a siphon. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xi. 129 The pump then becomes a syphon, the flow of water continues without further pumping.

c. *ellipt.* A siphon-bottle, *esp.* one containing aerated water.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2189/2. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *You never can tell* 307 *Waiter*...Scotch and syphon for you, sir? 1905 VACHELL *The Hill* iii, Upon the table were some siphons.

2. † **a.** A fire-bucket. *Obs.*—⁰

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 296/2 A Fire Bucket, (or a Leather Bucket)...This is also called a Syphon, which is a kind of Vessel made of Tanned Hydes to carry Water in, to quench Fire that is raging amongst Dwelling Houses.

† **b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—¹

1724 MASON in *Abridg. Patent Spec., Shipbuilding* (1862) 10 A new machine called a siphon or an attracting engine,.. composed of two tubes one within the other.

c. A form of tube for milking cows.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 468 He..introduces the small tube of the siphon an inch or more into the teat. 1881 SHELDEN *Dairy Farming* 58/1 A silver 'syphon' or 'milking tube'.

3. *Zool.* **a.** = SIPHUNCLE 1.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 174 The partitions, siphon, &c., of this fossil are those which are to be found in every species of *Belemnite.* 1858 GEIKIE *Hist. Boulder* vi. 107 The inner tube that traverses the centre of the chambers from end to end of the shell is called the syphon.

b. A tube-like organ serving as a canal for the passage of water or other fluid; also, a breathing-tube or suctorial organ.

1826 *Phil. Trans.* 353 The Buccinum, when completely buried, is enabled to communicate with the water by its respiratory syphon. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 445 A sucker, or siphon,..occupies the place of the mouth. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 217 The margins or lips of these orifices are usually drawn out..into longer or shorter muscular tubes,..termed the siphons. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 449 The mid-foot..forms two lobes which usually fuse together, and constitute the siphon.

c. (See quots.)

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 561 In the *Desmosticha* and *Petalosticha* a tube—the siphon—arises from the posterior extremity of the œsophagus and lies closely applied to the inner margin of the intestine into which it opens again at or near the end of the inferior coil. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 137 The so-called siphon, or accessory intestine, is a very peculiar structure occurring in most Echinoids.

4. *Bot.* One or other of a number of elongated cells which surround the large monosiphonous cell in the frond of certain florideous red algæ.

1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Monosiphonous*, Certain of the higher algæ..in which the siphons or pericentral tubes are wanting. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 269/1 The species of *Polysiphonia*, the 'siphons' of which may be regarded as one-celled branches.

5. *attrib.* In names of apparatus, etc., of which a siphon forms a part, or which involve the principle or use of the siphon, as *siphon barometer, bottle, can* (sense 2 c), *condenser, cup, fountain, gauge, pump, recorder, trap*, etc. Also *siphon pipe, tube*, = sense 1; **siphon-shell**, a gasteropod having a siphon (3 b); **siphon-worm** (see quot.).

Descriptions of most of these are given by Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875) 2189–90 and *Suppl.* (1884) 817–8.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 480/2 The *siphon barometer..was early adopted as more convenient than that of Torricelli. 1836 *Orr's Circ. Sciences, Pract. Chem.* 244, I employ a *siphon bottle such as is here represented. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2189/2 An apparatus for filling *siphon-bottles with aerated liquids. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 468 The milker sits down as in the common method, fixing the *siphon can (pail) firmly between his knees. 1851 *Official Catal. Exhib.* I. 419 *Syphon douche. 1819–24 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 388/1 Of the *siphon-fountain. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 47/2 Such are Tantalus's Cup and the siphon fountain. 1819–24 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 372/2 The *siphon-gage..differs from the short barometer-gage merely in this circumstance, that [etc.]. 1831 LARDNER *Pneumatics* v. 104 The siphon gauge must be regarded as a more direct measure of the elastic force of the air in the receiver than the barometer gauge. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 237/2 The whole circle of pipes..is supplied with water..by means of the *syphon pipe. 1873 F. JENKIN *Electr. & Magn.* xxiii. § 5 Sir William Thomson's *syphon recorder actually draws on paper the curves which we have learnt to construct theoretically. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 788/2 The common *siphon trap as used in most sinks and water-closets. 1688 J. SMITH *The Barroscope* § 74, I shall endeavour to demonstrate it in a 'Cyphon-Tube... Take then a Glass Tube (etc.). 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* iv. 75 Other bivalves possessing prolongations of the mantle known as siphon-tubes. 1896 *Ang. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* IV. 800 The Sipunculidæ ('Syphon-Worms') have a retractile proboscis, at the base of which is placed the vent.

6. *Comb.*, as *siphon-bearing, cleaning, -filling; siphon-like* adj. and adv.; *siphon-mouthed, -shaped.*

1688 J. SMITH *Barroscope* § 74 Let about a Foot of the other End be turned up, Cyphon-like, in the Form of a Fish Hook. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1120 A family of Crustaceans, comprehending those which have a siphon-shaped mouth. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Siphonostomus*, having a siphon-like mouth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2189/2 *Siphon-filling Apparatus*, an apparatus for filling siphon-bottles with aerated liquids.

Siphon (sə͡iˈfən), *v.* Also **syphon**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* Cf. mod.F. *siphonner.*]

1. *trans.* To draw off or bring up (liquid, etc.) by means of a siphon. Const. with advs., as *off, out*, or with preps., as *from, into.*

1859 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XX. I. 135 The tolerably clear liquid was syphoned off. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 394 It is..siphoned off and a fresh charge put in. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 558 The contents [of the stomach] may be syphoned out.

2. To empty after the manner of a siphon.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Feb. 3/1 During this time many gullies and traps have been syphoned, giving free egress for sewer gas.

Hence **Siˈphoning** *vbl. sb.*

1895 PARKES *Health* 53 The discharge of one closet may cause the siphoning of the trap of the other.

Siphon-, combining form of Gr. *σίφων* before vowels (cf. SIPHONO-), occurring in a few terms of *Zool.* and *Bot.*, of doubtful currency in English, as *siphonanth, -anthous, -apter, -apteran, -apterous.*

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1120 (Siphonapterans). 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* (Siphonanthous, Siphonapterous). 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Siphonage (sə͡iˈfŏnĕdʒ). Also **sy-**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -AGE. Cf. F. *siphonage.*] The action of drawing off liquid by means of a siphon; also *spec.*, the accidental emptying of a siphon-trap.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 353 A heavy yellow liquor..sinks to the bottom, and may be withdrawn by syphonage. 1884 *Century Mag.* Dec. 260/1 Siphonage is due to the rapid movement through the trap of air. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 437 The stomach-pump or a free syphonage of the stomach may be promptly used.

Siphonal (sə͡iˈfŏnăl), *a.* Also **sy-**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -AL.] Having the form or character of a siphon; of or pertaining to a siphon. Chiefly *Zool.*

(*a*) 1826 *Phil. Trans.* 353 The syphonal, or posterior extremity of the valves [of *Pholas canalida*]. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 85 The siphonal lappets of Paludina. 1880 GÜNTHER *Introd. Study Fishes* 130 The siphonal [stomach of Teleosteans]..presents the form of a bent tube or canal.

(*b*) 1853 PHILLIPS *Rivers Yorks.* iii. 112 Variable pressure on the water, derived from a curved or siphonal passage underground.

‖ **Siphonaria** (səifŏnēˈriă). [mod.L. *Siphonaria* (Sowerby, 1824), f. L. *sīphōn-* SIPHON.] A pulmonate gasteropod of the genus *Siphonaria*, distinguished by a siphon passing from the apex to the margin.

1861 P. P. CARPENTER *Lect. Mollusca* 82 (Cent. Dict.), The Siphonarias have solid, conical shells, often overgrown with sea-weeds and millepores...They are found on almost all tropical shores.

Siphonate (sə͡iˈfŏnĕt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -ATE² 2.]

A. *adj.* Of molluscs: Furnished with, or characterized by having, a siphon.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 61 Representing the inhalant siphon of the siphonate orders. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 686/2 In this way the notches..are in the Siphonate forms converted into two separate holes.

B. *sb.* A mollusc furnished with a siphon.

1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 304 Lamellibranchs are divided into siphonates and Asiphonates, i. e. those with and those without breathing siphons behind. The Siphonates are the higher. *Ibid.*, At present the Siphonates are the more abundant.

Siˈphonated, *a. Zool.* [f. prec. + -ED¹ 2.] = SIPHONATE *a.*

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 13 Most of the siphonated univalves are animal-feeders. 1883 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xxii. 442 A greater number in the lower division, that of entire-mouthed univalves, than in that of the siphonated.

Siphoned (sə͡iˈfŏnd), *a.* Also **syphoned**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -ED¹.]

1. *Zool.* Siphonate.

1889 HYATT *Genesis Arietidæ* 13 The smaller siphoned species of the genera Endoceras and Sannionites.

2. Operated on by means of a siphon.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 512 My first syphoned patient..was admitted into the Leeds Infirmary with benignant pyloric stenosis.

Siphoneous (sə͡iˈfō·nĭəs), *a. Bot.* Also **sy-**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -EOUS.] Of the fronds of algæ: Composed of tubes; having a tubular structure.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v. *Siphoneous.* 1892 *Athenæum* 14 May 636/2 Spirit specimens of *Ascothamnion intricatum*, an organism described as a siphoneous alga.

Siˈphonet. *Ent.* [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -ET.] A small siphon or tube by which an aphis emits a sweet, honey-like fluid; a honey-tube.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 393 *Siphunculi* (the Siphonets). *Ibid.* IV. xl. 120 The Aphides all secrete a fluid excrement.., which is ejected not only at the anal passage, but, in many, by two little siphonets also above it.

† **Siphoˈnia.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A light kind of overcoat.

1823 *Household Words* VIII. 76 Not less can I set down as slang the verbiage by which coats are transformed into his-uniques, alpacas,..and siphonias. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxxiv. 391 Incongruously picturesque garments such as ponchos, togas, vicunas, siphonias, Inverness wrappers, &c. 1863 *Morning Star* 21 May, The Derby Days, when blue veils and siphonias..have been the main characteristics of the journey by road.

Siphonic (səifŏˈnik), *a.* Also **sy-**. [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -IC.]

1. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to a siphon; siphonal.

1832 OWEN *Mem. Pearly Nautilus* 63 The siphonic artery. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* (1837) I. 322 *note*, The siphonic apertures of the transverse plates.

2. Of or pertaining to, working by means of, on the principle of, a siphon.

1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 257 The siphonic action, or suction. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 59/2 Syphonic Water Closets, Urinal and Cistern. *Ibid.* 74/1 Automatic Syphonic System of Ventilation.

Siphoniˈferous, *a. Zool.* [f. SIPHON *sb.* + -(I)FEROUS.] Having a siphon; siphonate.

Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. (1842) 1120 gives *Siphonifers* as a rendering of mod.L. *Siphonifera.*

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 519/1 All the other genera.. are provided..with an internal siphoniferous polythalamous shell. *Ibid.* 700/1 In the siphoniferous acephala having the foot short and rudimentary. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 432/1 In the siphoniferous branch of the family [*Conchifera*]. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Siphoˈniform, *a.* [f. as prec. + -(I)FORM.] Having the form or shape of a siphon.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Siˈphonless, *a. rare*—¹. [f. SIPHON *sb.*] Destitute of a siphon.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 258 In both groups the species are mostly siphonless.

Siphono- (sə͡iˈfŏnō), a. Gr. *σιφωνο-*, combining form of *σίφων* SIPHON, used in various terms of *Zool.* and *Bot.*, as **siˈphonobranchiate** *sb.* and *a.*; **siphoˈnogam** ; **siˌphonogaˈmic** *a.*; **siphonoˈgamous** *a.*; **siphonoˈgamy**; **siphoˈnoglyph** (-glĭf); **siˌphonoglyˈphe** (-glə͡iˈfī); **siphonoˈphoran** *sb.* and *a.*; **siˈphonophore** (-fō·ɪ) *sb.* and *a.*; **siphonoˈphorous** *a.*; **siphoˈnopod**; **siphonoˈpodous** *a.*; **siˌphonostoˈmatous** *a.*; **siˈphonostome**; **siphonoˈstomous** *a.*; **siˌphonozoˈoid**: (see quots.).

Various other combs. of doubtful currency, such as *siphonocladaceous, -clancydate, -gnathoid*, etc., are given in recent Dictionaries.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1120 **Siphonobranchiates*,..an order of Gastropods, including those in which the branchial cavity terminates in a tube or siphon more or less prolonged, by which the respiratory current of water is received and expelled. 1849 CRAIG, *Siphonobranchiate *a.* 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Text-Bk. Bot.* 431 The pollen-tubes..conduct the two generative cells to the egg-cell. The Phanerogams have accordingly been termed by Engler, *Siphonogams. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 242/1 *Siphonogamic. 1891 *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 From another point of view karyogamy is..*Siphonogamous: karyogamy is effected by a tubular outgrowth from one or both of the gametes. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 242/1 *Siphonogamy. 1894 *Jrnl. Marine Zool.* I. 78 The single *siphonoglyph giving attachment to the ventral pair of directive mesenteries. 1883 *Phil. Trans.* CLXXIV. 693 On the Ciliated Groove (*Siphonoglyphe) in the Stomodæum of the Alcyonarians. *Ibid.* 694, I propose to call this groove 'the siphonoglyphe'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 725 [One end of the mouth] leading into well marked grooves strongly ciliated known as gonidial grooves or siphonoglyphes. *Ibid.* 775 A *Siphonophoran has been variously regarded (1) as an assemblage of organs, or (2) as a colony of polymorphic zooids. *Ibid.* 775 *note*, The *Siphonophoran tentacle..is sometimes attached directly to the coenosarc. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1120 **Siphonophores*,..a name given by Escholtz to an order of Acalephes, to which he refers those species which have no central digestive cavity, but simply isolated tubes. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 733/2 The vapory, translucent siphonophores..lived contentedly in their glass prison. 1884 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* I. 206 The *Siphonophore fauna of the Mediterranean Sea. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 267/1 The *Siphonophorous Order are..distinguished by the absence of any stomach. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 555/1 The variously modified units of the siphonophorous colony. *Ibid.* XVI. 684/1 In embryo *Siphonopods..the sucker-bearing lobes of the fore-foot are truly podial structures. *Ibid.* 669/1 *Siphonopodous Cephalopods in which the inflected lateral margins of the mid-foot are fused so as to form a complete tubular siphon. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 244 In a second group the aperture of the shell is notched in front; and the shell is said to be '*siphonostomatous'. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 460/1 Latreille..admitted into the class *Crustacea* 12 orders,.. the Ostrapods, the Xyphosures, and the *Siphonostomes. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1120 *Siphonostomes*,..a family of Crustaceans, comprehending those which have a siphon-shaped mouth for suction. *Ibid.*, *Siphonostomes*...By M. de Blainville the term is applied to those gastropods which have the opening of the shell prolonged into a siphon. *a* 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 278/1 All the pieces of the mouth can be accounted for in the *Siphonostomous Order. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Siphonostomous*, a designation of animals with a siphon-shaped mouth for suction. 1881 H. N. MOSELEY *Corals* in *Rep. Sci. Results Voy. Challenger 1873–76* II. 118, I propose to term in the case of Alcyonarians, in which there are two kinds of zooids,..the aborted polyps (zooids of Kölliker) '*siphonozooids'. *Ibid.* 119 The siphonozooid cavities are only about one-fifth the length of the autozooid cavities. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 114 The constant presence, in various Alcyonarians, of arrested individuals (siphonozooids).

Siˈphosome. *Zool.* [f. Gr. *σίφω-ν* siphon + *σῶμα* body.] The lower part of a siphonophore stem, bearing the reproductive and nutrient organs.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 SEDGWICK *Textbk. Zool.* I. 139 Two parts may be distinguished in it [the coenosome]—an upper part, the nectosome.., and a lower part, the siphosome, bearing the nutritive and reproductive organs.

Siphre, -yre, obs. forms of CIPHER *sb.*

Siphuncle (səi·fvŋk'l). [ad. L. *sīphunculus*, dim. of *sīpho* SIPHON.]

1. *Zool.* A small canal or tube traversing and connecting the shell-chambers in certain cephalopods; = SIPHUNCULUS, and SIPHON *sb.* 3 a.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 161 The most important part of this organ, the continuous siphuncle. 1862 KEARLEY *Links in Chain* v. 103 A membranous tube termed the Siphuncle, which originating in the body of the nautilus in the outer chamber passes through all the partitions in succession. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* li. (1875) 368 The function of the siphuncle is unknown, except in so far as it doubtless serves to maintain the vitality of the shell.

transf. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xxxv. (1883) 213 This flint has traversing it from pole to pole a thread, a spindle, a siphuncle of the richest golden hue.

2. *Ent.* A small siphon or suctorial organ.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 363 Replaced by an exarticulate retractile tube, which exerts a retractile siphuncle. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 472 The siphuncle, which is the suctorious part, being first retracted within the tubulet.

Si·phuncled, *a. Zool.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Possessing or furnished with a siphuncle.

1847 in WEBSTER (citing Buckland). 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 77 *Shell, mucro* (only known) chambered and siphuncled.

Siphu·ncular, *a. Zool.* [f. L. *sīphuncul-us* + -AR.] Of or pertaining to, acting or serving as, a siphuncle.

1832 OWEN *Mem. Pearly Nautilus* 46 The siphuncular apertures of the septa. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* viii. (1855) 230 An external, many-chambered shell, with a siphuncular tube passing through the chambers. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 464 Siphuncular collars generally directed backwards.

Siphu·nculate, *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + -ATE.] = next.

1875 BLAKE *Zool.* 244 A shell which is external, many-chambered, and siphunculate. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 738/2 The spiral-chambered and siphunculate shell of *Spirula*.

Siphu·nculated, *a. Zool.* [Cf. prec.] Possessing or furnished with a siphuncle.

1828-32 in WEBSTER (citing Say). 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* v. § 5. 459 The Phragmocone, or chambered, siphunculated, internal shell. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 532 The *Tetrabranchiata* possess an external chambered siphunculated shell.

‖ Siphu·nculus. *Zool.* Pl. **-culi.** [L. *sīphunculus* a little pipe, dim. of *sīpho* SIPHON.] = SIPHUNCLE 1.

Anglicized as *siphuncule* by Mayne *Expos. Lex.* (1858).

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 121 A siphunculus carried the whole length of the shell [of the nautilus]. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 48 The siphunculus of the Belemnite is always upon the verge of the chamber, or cell. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 164 The chambers divided by winding septa, pierced by a siphunculus always placed at the outer side. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* xv. § 3 (1837) I. 332 Families of fossil chambered shells, that possessed siphunculi.

Sipid (si·pid), *a. rare.* Also 7 **sippid.** [Back-formation from INSIPID *a.*]

1. Savoury; = SAPID *a.* 1.

1623 COCKERAM I, *Sippid*, sauorie. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 237 The flesh of Crocodile..was wholesome, white, and sipid.

2. *fig.* = SAPID *a.* 3.

1908 A. SYMONS in *Sat. Rev.* 17 Oct. 480/2 The music was ..gay, rattling, sipid, voluptuously melodious.

Hence **Sipi·dity,** savour, flavour. *rare* −1.

1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* I. 233 It is..used everywhere.. to give sipidity to their otherwise tasteless food.

Siping (səi·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* Now *dial.* [f. SIPE *v.*] The action of percolating, oozing, etc.; the result of this; also *pl.*, water or other liquid that has oozed or leaked.

1503 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees) 30 So that no fylth..discend from the same swynstye..excepte yt it be by sipynge, or casualtie. 1621 GRANGER *On Eccl.* 316 The siping through of waters into the house. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1825- in dialect glossaries, etc. (Northumb., Yks.). *c* 1880 in Heslop *Northumbld. Gloss.* (1894) 644 Sandy gravel, with a small siping of water.

So **Si·ping** *ppl. a.* Also as *adv.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (Bodl. MS.), Whanne þe posteme is in state men schal vse temperinge pinges and scheding and naisschinge and cypingg. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. iii. 24 Here fifty Sisters in a sieve do draw Thorough-siping water. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 408 A siping wet neet.

Sipirs, obs. form of CYPRESS 3.

Sipling (si·plin), *north.* and *obs. Sc.* Forms: 6 **suppline, syplin, syeppaling,** 8 **sippleing;** 7, 9- **sipling,** 9 **siplin', -lin.** [perh. ad. OF. *souplin* a shoot of a tree (Godef.); as a mere var. of SAPLING the change of vowel would be difficult to account for.] A sapling.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. i. 47 Quhar hepthorne buskis.. grew hye, And evin syplinnis of myrthus. *Ibid.* VII. xiv. 87 And a haill suppline of a gret myrtre. 1620 *North Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 186 To cutt upp young siplings of asshe & hassells. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 35 Young Plants or Sippleings, as we here call them, of Oak, Ash or Aller. 1807 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (1881) 108 Wid a spur on my heel, a yek [= oak] siplin in han. 1849- in dialect glossaries (Northumb., Durh., Cumb.).

Sipman, obs. form of SHIPMAN.

Sipper (si·pəɹ). [f. SIP *v.* + -ER 1.] One who sips; hence, a drinker or toper.

1611 COTGR., *Piailleur*, a bibber, sipper, wine-swiller. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. i, They are all sippers, sippers o' the city; they look as they would not drink off two pen'orth of bottle-ale amongst 'em. 1702 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (1709) 381 Sippers of Brandy and spirituous distill'd Liquors. 1806 SURR *Winter in London* II. 233 Only look..at the difference of beef steak breakfasters, and the sippers of souchong! 1866 MEREDITH *Vittoria* viii. (1889) 62, I promised my Rosellina, my poppy-headed sipper, a red-wine evening. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 27 May 5/2 Half a dozen gentlemen..sipping tea..; each sipper wears a tall hat. *fig.* 1850 MCCOSH *Div. Govt.* (1852) 206 He is probably an idle dreamer, or a sipper of the sweets of literature.

Sipper-sauce, *dial.*: see SIBBER-SAUCE.

† Si·ppet, *sb.*1 *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **syppet.** [Cf. SIP *sb.* and -ET.] A little sip.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 367 Here is an olde typpet, And ye wyll gyue me a syppet Of your stale ale. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 98 Shee drinketh.. but water mixed with wine: in such wise, that with her sippets none may..kill his thirst.

Sippet (si·pĕt), *sb.*2 Also 6–7 **syppet,** 7 **sippit, -ett, cippet.** [app. intended as a diminutive of SOP *sb.* Cf. *supett* in the earlier Wycl. version 2 *Sam.* xiii. 8.]

1. A small piece of toasted or fried bread, usually served in soup or broth, or with meat, or used for dipping into gravy, etc.; a small sop.

1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syppet a lytell soppe, *tatin.* 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* v. xxi. 720 Some do make sippets or small slices (as they call them) of bread dried vpon the coales. *a* 1655 SIR T. MAYERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* No. 47 (1658) 41 Serve it up with brown bread, and sippets fryed with butter. 1693 CROWNE *Country Wit* III. iii, See that the mutton broath have white bread sippets in it. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 42 Lay round them stewed spinage pressed and cut like little sippets. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 71 When you dish it up take off the lid, and..cut the lid in sippets. 1826 POLWHELE *Trad. & Recoll.* I. 139 The fresh boiled round of beef, with onions and sippets, welcomed my arrival. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 142 Having leisurely buttered his sippets of crisp dry toast. 1887 FENN *Master Cerem.* iii, She threw some of the sippets in, and began tasting the broth in an unpleasant way.

b. *transf.* A small piece of something; a mere fragment.

1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Captain* IV. iii, Come pre'thee leave this sadness,..This mumps, this Lachrymæ, this love in sippets. 1647 J. C[LEVELAND] *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 1 It is an History in Sippets; the English *Iliads* in a Nut-shell. 1751 LD. COBHAM in Walpole *Geo. II* (1822) I. v. 117 He did not like cutting the government out into sippets. 1761 COLMAN *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 83 A vast variety of thin volumes, containing certain sippets of philosophy, morality, and the arts. 1888 *Athenæum* 30 June 822/2 Those fragments are portions of a whole.., not [to be] doled out in literary sippets.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sippet-brewis, -pudding, -shaped.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxi, Store of good minced meat, and a great deal of sippet-brewis. 1830 DOLBY *Cook's Dict.* 452/2 *Sippet Pudding.*—Cut a small loaf into extremely thin slices [etc.]. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech of Folkestone* (1905) 74 The occasional presentation of a sippet-shaped *billet-doux*.

Hence **Si·ppet** *v.*, to cut into sippets. *rare.*

1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xxxix. § 6 (1689) 257 Sippet it and garnish the dish.

Sipping (si·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SIP *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb.; drinking by sips; also, a single act of this; a quantity taken at a sip.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78 Cyppynge of drynke, *subbibitura.* 1483 *Vulgaria* 15 b, See now wyth their syppynge what wyne thei haue dronken. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xxvi. (1847) 306 The little sipping that our hearts should have here now. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 6 O praye for a fore taste and sum sippinge of this greate supper. 1611 COTGR., *Piaison*, a bibbing, sipping, tipling. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 89 The Weomen of Germany have a custome to helpe their..Friends, by sipping of the cup. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 187 A little toast and water alone, taken in small sippings. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 34 The sipping and gurgling of tea.

transf. 1886 F. HARRISON *Ess.* 211 How different this from the critic's sipping of new books! 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 219 Her aprons were darker than in the other villages of my sipping.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sipping-drink*, etc.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 61 May not a man as soone surfet by eating a whole sheepe..as by the sipping taste of sundry dainties? 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een.. Zuyp-dranck*, .a Sipping-drinke. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, If you call on your host for help for such a sipping matter as a quart of sack. 1872 *Athenæum* 26 Aug. 273 Perhaps their sipping disposition has something to do with their fall.

† 2. = SIPPET *sb.*2 1. *Obs. rare.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xiii. 6 Let my sister..make me a syppynge or two, and that I maye eate it of hir hande. *Ibid.* 8 She toke floure,..and made him a syppynge.

Si·ppingly, *adv.* [f. SIPPING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] By or in sips. Also *transf.*

1824 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXIV. 275 Theology is sippingly tasted. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IX. 201 He takes it, not sippingly and with gusto,..but..in large quantities.

Sipple (si·p'l), *v.* Also 6 **syp-**, 7 **scipple.** [f. SIP *v.* + -LE 3.]

1. *trans.* To drink (liquor, etc.) slowly or by small sips; to sip *up.*

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. iii. B v, The man doth sipple up the brothe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 141 To sypple, *sorbillare.* 1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorkshire Ale* (1685) 7 At the first they did but sipple up This rare Ambrosia. 1748 SMOLLETT *R. Random* xlvi. (1817) II. 96 Improperly applied to the taking of coffee, inasmuch as people did not drink, but sip or sipple that liquor. 1832–53 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 14, I had not learn'd to sipple tea.

2. *intr.* To sip liquor or the like leisurely.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VII. (1617) 19 Distempered with heate.., which you shall plainely perceiue by his continuall desire to drinke and scipple. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* ix, The body had got sic a trick of sippling and tippling wi' the bailies and deacons when they met. 1819 — in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. ix. 294 You had better drink a bottle of wine on any particular occasion, than sit..and sipple at an English pint every day.

Hence **Si·ppling** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XX. xxi. II. 72 The seed of Mallows ..sodden in milk and taken after a sippling sort. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1159 To spend all the day in sipling. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They all drink it sipping..; so that being in a Coffee-hane..one hears a pretty pleasant kind of sippling musick.

† Sippo. *Obs.*−1 [ad. Pg. *sipo.*] A liana.

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 207 They run among some Sippoes or Withes that run into the tree.

Sipress, -is, -ous, obs. ff. CYPRESS 3.

Sipu·ncular, *a. Zool.* [f. SIPUNCUL-US + -AR.] Of or belonging to the genus *Sipunculus* of gephyrean worms.

1841 FORBES *Hist. Brit. Starfishes* 254 Pallas, in his Miscellanea Zoologica,..has figured two English Sipuncular worms.

Sipu·nculid. *Zool.* [f. as prec. + -ID 3.] A gephyrean worm of the family *Sipunculidæ.*

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 619 A caecum is sometimes present at the commencement of the rectum in Sipunculids. 1893 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 328 The papillæ..characteristic of the skin of Sipunculids.

Sipu·nculiform, *a. Zool. rare.* [f. as prec. + -(I)FORM.] Having the form of a small pipe or of a sipunculus.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 270/2 The Sipunculiform Holothuriæ. Body more or less suddenly attenuated backwards.

Sipu·nculoid, *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [-OID.]

A. *sb.* Any member of the group *Sipunculoidea* of gephyrean worms.

1857 AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U.S.* I. 78 The Sipunculoids appear to be more closely related to the Annulata than to the Holothurioids. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 430 Forming with the Brachiopoda and Sipunculoids an isolated group.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to the group *Sipunculoidea.*

1881 *Nation* 1 Dec. 435/1 The report on the *Gephyrea*, or Sipunculoid worms. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 431/1 The Sipunculoid Gephyræans..possessing identically this arrangement.

‖ Sipunculus (səipʌ·ŋkiŭlŏs). *Zool.* Pl. **-culi.** [L. *sīpunculus*, var. of *sīphunculus* SIPHUNCULUS.] A gephyrean annelid with a retractile proboscis, belonging to the typical genus of the family *Sipunculidæ.*

1841 FORBES *Hist. Brit. Starfishes* 252, I have represented the Sipunculus alive in a Periwinkle shell. *Ibid.* 255 It is very probable that several other minute Sipunculi inhabit the British seas. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 247 A larval Sipunculus about 1/12 of an inch long.

Sipylite (si·piləit). *Min.* [f. *Sipyl-us*, one of the children of Niobe + -ITE 1 2 b.] (See quots.)

1877 MALLET in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* 3rd Ser. XIV. 397 On Sipylite, a new Niobate, from Amherst County, Virginia. 1882 WATTS *3rd Suppl., Sipylite*, a niobate,..associated with albanite and magnetite, and occasionally with a few large crystals of hydrous zircon.

† Siquare. *Obs.* Also 4 **siquar, sequar**; 5 *Sc.* **sith(t)-, syth(t)ar, -ware.** [Origin and precise form doubtful.] Period or point of time; moment. Chiefly in phr. *in that siquare.*

Very common in the Cotton MS. of the *Cursor M.*, but usually altered in the other MSS. Otherwise recorded only in the *Sc. Leg. Saints*, where the forms should perhaps be written with *sich-*, as in Horstmann's edition.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5056 He sagh an egypcien ful sare Smit a iuu in þat si-quare. *Ibid.* 12301 Þe barn frendes fra þat siquar Held iesum in wirscip mar þan ar. *a* 1400 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 631 He saw cryst in þat sythware pas in hewine. *Ibid.* ii. (*Paul*) 306 In þat sithar.

‖ Si quis (səi kwis), *sb.* Also **si-quis, siquis.** [L. *si* if, *quis* any one (sc. *inevenerit*, etc.), the opening words of the notice or bill (see def.) when written in Latin.]

1. A public intimation, notice, or bill, freq. one exhibited on a post, door, etc., requesting information, advertising something lost, or the like; in later use only *Eccl.*, a notice, required in certain cases, intimating that a candidate seeks ordination, and asking if any one knows of any impediment.

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* II. v, Saw'st thou ever *Siquis* patch'd on Paul's church dore, To seek some vacant Vicarage before? 1599 JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. i, Enter Cauallier Shift, with two Siquisses in his hand. *Ibid.*, The aduancement of a *Siquis* or two. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Martyrs* A 3 b, Set vp a Siquis, giue intelligence, That such a day shall be my Tragedie. 1611 COTGR., *Placquard*,..a Bill, Siquis, or Libell stucke vpon a post, &c. 1646 H. MOSELEY in *Beaum. & Fl.'s Plays* I. (1905) p. xiii, Therefore now I put up this *Si quis*, that whosoever hereafter happily meetes with it [etc.]. 1674 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 48, I understood that he had sent out a general Siquis

thorow his own Province. 1817 C. Hodgson *Instr. Candidates Holy Orders* 3 Form of notice or 'Si quis', and of the certificate of the same having been published in the church of the parish where the candidate usually resides. 1843 Hook *Ch. Dict.* 523 In the case of a Bishop, the Si quis is affixed..on the door of Bow Church. 1904 Wright & Neil *Protestant Dict.* s.v. *Ordination*, If the candidate had left the university and is living elsewhere, a notice must be published...This notice is known as a *si quis*.

attrib. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn Bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 235 The first time that you venture into Powles.., presume not..to cast an eye to Si quis doore.

2. *slang.* (See quot.)

1864 *Slang Dict.* 231 *Si Quis*, a candidate for orders.

Hence ‖ **Si quis** *v. trans.*, to advertise for.

1713 *Gentleman Instructed* II. x. 186, I must excuse my Depart.., otherwise he may send Hue and Cry after me, and *Si quis* me in the next Gazette.

Sir (sə1), *sb.* [Reduced form of *sire* Sire *sb.*, the shortening being due to the absence of stress before the following name or appellation. The forms *sore*, *sur(e* may represent OF. *sor* or *sieur*, the oblique case of *sire*.]

A. Illustration of forms.

α. 4– sir (6 sirr, 6–7 S^r), 5–7 syr.

1297– (see examples in B).

β. 3–6 ser, 4–5 sere.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27450 Sere biscop, ta god kepe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 6 (Cambr.), His name was sere Thopas. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 182 Seses, seris, of 3our syte. *c* 1444 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* IV. v. 441 This grete noyse, seres, what may it bee? 1452 — *Life St. Gilbert* 112 The fayre tour..whech þou say, Ser Pope, is þe grete excellens of þi dignite. 1509 in *Scott. Jrnl. Topogr.* (1848) II. 120/2 Ser Wil3eam Synclair of Wairseytt, Kny[ch]t.

γ. 5 sur, sure, sore.

? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 285 Hys worthynesse, sur Emperour, Passeþ Muche alle 3owre. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 289 The doughty knyght sure Degrevaunt. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 443 Sore, for thy corteci, Smyghte me no more! *c* 1425 *Abraham's Sacr.* 435 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays*, Lo! sovereyns and sorys, now haue we schowyd [etc.].

δ. Sc. 4–5 scher(e, 5 schyr, 5–6 schir (5 shir). In later Sc. also Stir (cf. Stirrah).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVII. 494 Till schir Robert the douchty king. 1396 in *Scott. Antiq.* XIV. 217 Scher Henry Synclar, Erle of Orkynnay. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. xviii. 125 Schirris, I thank God and al 3ow. *c* 1459 *Regist. de Aberbrothoc* (Bann.) II. 105 Honorabile and wirschypful schyris. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* I. 43 A letre to Schire James Ogilvy of Erly. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 84 Schir George Douglas of Pettindreicht Knycht. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 6 Schirs, is thair ony heir Quhais lornay lyes unto Dundie?

B. Signification.

I. 1. The distinctive title of honour of a knight or a baronet, placed before the Christian name († rarely the surname).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10822 Sir hubert de born & obere þat in prison were ido. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 387 Sir Gawan, so mot I þryue,..Þis dint þat þou schal dryue. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 6 (Lansd.), A knyht was faire and gent.., His name was sir Thopas. *c* 1440 *Contin. Brut* (1908) 437 Sir Henry Beauford, Cardynall, and Bisshop of Winchestre. 1488–94 Ld. Fitzwalter in *Paston Lett.* III. 343 Zowir lofyng cosyn, J. Sir Fytz Wauter. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 41 The lady Margarete Bowmer wyffe unto sir John Bowmer,..but she was the wyffe of one Cheyny, for he solde hare unto sir Bowmer. 1596 Spenser *State Irel.* (Globe) 667/2 [A grant] of New-castell to Sir Henry Harrington, and of..Fearnes to Sir Thomas Masterson. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 272 Sir Drake whom well the worlds end knew. 1645 Symonds *Diary* (Camden) 217 Sir Nich. Kemys was governour when Gerard came. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 112 ¶ 2 My Friend Sir Roger, being a good Churchman [etc.]. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* VI. xv, He never read them;—with amaze I found Sir William Drummond had. 1899 Fitzpatrick *Transvaal fr. within* (1900) 286 Sir Alfred Milner..commanded the entire confidence of the Uitlanders.

b. In *transf.* uses, as *Sir Harry*, *John*, *Sydney*, *Timothy* (see quots.).

See also Barleycorn 2 b and Roger de Coverley.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Sir Timothy*, one that Treats every Body, and Pays the Reckonings every where. 1808 Jamieson, *Sir John*, a close stool. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Sir Sydney*, a clasp knife. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Sir Harry*, a close-stool.

2. Applied retrospectively to notable personages of ancient, esp. sacred or classical, history. Now only *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2249 Sir putifar wel vndirstod þat Ioseph was o gentil blod. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 24 Sen þe tyme of sir Noe. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) I. 215 Jasone, the gentile, With hys falow, schyr Hercules. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 208 We will prese to Sir Pilate. *c* 1475 Henryson *Orpheus & Eurydice* 116 At þe last schir orpheus couth heir. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. v. 110 Schir Dardanus, born of this cuntre cik. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 71 Woorthye syr Æneas, why..teare you A caytiefe forlorne?..I am named syr Polydor. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 63 Shall I Sir Pandarus of Troy become? *Ibid.* II. i. 122 Goe thou like Sir Acteon. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* XXXII, The valiant Sir Pandarus of Troy. 1882 R. F. Burton tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IV. 93 The Oriental hordes..Wherewith Sir Xerxes crost the Hellespont.

3. Used fancifully, or as a mock title.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 82 Þe Deede was a-seke, Bi sihte of sir Symonl. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 13 Schir drunkyniess þat syre doys no thing rycht. 1567 Jewel *Def. Apol.* V. 561 Here, yee sale, 'Sir Defender is pretily seene in humanitie'. 1582 T. Howell *Deuises* (1879) 185 Tyll syr Phebus beames shall lose their light. 1592 Greene *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 254 Though the other youth beare the charges and was made sir pay for all. 1600 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 93 (Qq.), I am sir Oracle, And when I ope my lips, let no dog barke. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 286 This Sir Prudence, who Should not vpbraid our course. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 416 Lowest at the board..sat Sir Smug. 1822 Shelley *Faust* ii. 114 Does not Sir Mammon gloriously illuminate His palace for this festival? *Ibid.* 150 Sir Urian is sitting aloft in the air. 1879 Farrar in *Expositor* IX. 214 He suddenly confounds the highly self-satisfied Sir-oracle.

b. *Sir Rag* (see quots.).

1764 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XII. 29/1 Thomas Hunt, from Leicester (a Sir-Rag to a Waggoner), died at y^e George. 1891 *Ibid.* 132/2 A dusty set of tatterdemalions..constantly attended fairs and race-courses, and these poor scarecrows used to be called in my young days 'Sir-Rags'. *Ibid.*, In the Midland Counties..the chief of a band of servants or workers, a foreman or overseer,..is the 'sir-rag'. *Ibid.* 133/1 Sometimes he or she is the 'head sir-rag', or, as some put it, 'head sir-rag, chief cork and bottle-washer'. 1901 J. Prior *Forest Folk* ii. 18 He looks at a body as if he were head Sir Rag.

†**4.** Placed before the Christian name of ordinary priests (also that of a pope). *Obs.* (Cf. Sire *sb.* 1 b, and Dan 1 a.)

It has been supposed that this use arose out of sense 5, but there appears to be no evidence for this, although the title (at least in later times) was clearly used in contrast to *Master*, and denoted that the priest had not graduated in a university. For the generalized use of *Sir John* see John 3.

c 1386 [see John 3]. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VII. vii. 207 Kynge Henry..wrat richt reuerendly Til þe pape Schir Adryane. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 170 Sir John Bukk, Parson of Stratford, physshed my stankys at Dedham. 1511–2 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 277 To sir Robert for Candell to sey his matens in the mornynges. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* II. f vj, The most ragged ronnagate, and idle idiote among theym, is no lesse then a syr, whiche is a Lord in the Latin, as syr John, syr Thomas, syr Wylliam. 1554 Hilarie *Resurr. Masse* A viij, My smered Chaplens..I make them to be called Syrs euery one. 1573 Tyrie (*title*), The Refutation of ane Answer made be schir Johne Knox. 1595 ?Greene *George a Greene* 1191 Well preacht sir Iacke, downe with your staffe. 1635 [see John 3].

†**5.** Used (as a rendering of L. *dominus*), with the surname of the person, to designate a Bachelor of Arts in some Universities. *Obs.*

1557 in Lamb *Collect. Hist. Univ. Camb.* (1838) 229 M^r Turner, Father, Syr Whytgyfte the bachelor, Syr Bryges the eldest son. 1575 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O.H.S.) 150 Too S^r huker of Corpus christie college in Oxforde. 1614 Selden *Titles Honor* 54 How *Dominus*..is now familiar for *Sir* to euery Batchelor of Art in the Schools, all men know. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 71 Hall and his Popish faction (whereof M^r. Potto, M^r. Binnion, and S^r. Appleby the Leaders) opposed his admission. 1690 S. Sewall *Diary* 2 July, Sir Mather in England yet had a Degree conferred on him. 1714 in Aubrey *Lett.* (1814) I. 294 Pray, Sir, will you do so much as send to Sir Wilkinson of Queen's? 1763 in Pierce *Hist. Harvard Univ.* 234 (Cent. Dict.), That Sir Sewall, B.A., be the Instructor in the Hebrew and other learned languages for three years. 1822 Nares s.v. *Sir*, At the Universities..a bachelor, who in the books stood *Dominus* Brown, was in conversation called *Sir* Brown. This was in use in some colleges even in my memory.

II. 6. Placed before a common noun, and forming with it a term of address, as *Sir clerk*, *king*, *knight*, etc. Now *arch.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 10282 Sir king,..we beþ icome fram verre londe iwis. *Ibid.* 10309 Nou sir clerc, quaþ þe king, 3e mowe þretni ynou. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 757 Sir knight,..Whi seystow euer nay? *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6390 Sir Preest, in shrift I telle it thee, That he..Hath me assoiled. 14.. *Chaucer's Doctor's Prol.* 10 Sir Doctour of Phisyke.., Telle us a tale. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXX. 211 Sir Knyghtis [*sc.* Roman soldiers], þat are curtayse and kynde. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 589 Ah! sir Mule, now blessed be the day [etc.]. *Ibid.* 1033 Nay (said the Foxe) Sir Ape, you are astray. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 298, I am one, that had rather go with sir Priest, then sir knight. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 135 Come (Sir Page) Looke on me with your Welkin eye. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xliv, 'Sir knight,' replied the baron, 'how is it possible that' [etc.]? 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxxiii, Saint Mary! what call you yon, Sir Monk? 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arth.* 152 Sir King, I closed mine eyelids, lest the gems Should blind my purpose. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* iv, Now, then, sir priest,..go on with your story.

transf. 1820 Scott *Jrnl.* 14 May, Look where you will, Sir Sun, you look upon sorrow and suffering.

b. With contemptuous, ironic, or irate force.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 242 (Harl.), Sir [*v.r.* Sire] olde lecchour, let thi japes be. *a* 1529 Skelton *Against Scottes* 101 Syr skyrgalyard, ye were so skyt [etc.]. 1592 *Troublesome Raigne of King John* (1611) 27 *Lim.* Good words sir sauce, your betters are in place. *Phil.* Not you sir doughtie, with your Lyons case. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* V. i. 83 Come sir boy, come follow me Sir boy, ile whip you from your foyning fence. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. ii, So, Sir Critic, I could have replied; but I scorn it. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xxix, 'How, sir knave!' said the King, angrily, 'is it for such as thou to dictate to our judgment?'

7. Used as a respectful term of address to a superior or, in later use, an equal (sometimes with additions as *dear*, †*fair*, †*gentle*, *good*); also formally in addressing the Speaker of a legislative assembly.

1330–30 *Horn Ch.* 721 Sir, mi3testow hold him to þi nede,..Bataylle miȝt þou bide. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Agnes*) 102 Certis, gud sir, maryt ame I. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 228 Hir answere bese belife—'nay, sir!' 1509 Fisher *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 307 But ye wyll say vnto me, Syr yf we were sure of this we wolde not be sory. 1535 Coverdale *Ruth* ii. 13 She sayde; let me fynde fauoure (syr) before thyne eyes. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 57 The Sadler had it Sir, I kept it not. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. ii. 97 For Gods sake, S^r, tell me plainly. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* Ded. 11 You see, Sir, to what an unexpected length my desire to vindicate [etc.]. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 45 ¶ 1, I heard a Voice cry, Sir, Sir!—This raised my Curiosity. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xliv, 'Dear sir!' said Henri, 'here is an armchair..massy with gilding'. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* x, 'Sir to you,' said Mr. Foker politely. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 627 'Aye, aye, sir,' is the well-known answer from seamen. 1873 in Hansard *Parl. Deb.* 3r July 1389/1, I rise, Sir,..to make the Indian Financial Statement.

b. In *pl.*, used in addressing two or more persons. In Scottish use passing into a mere exclamation (see the later quots.).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4907 Perfore, sirs,..Let make vs a message. 1459 *Rolls Parl.* V. 369/2 Sirres, be mery, for yet we have moo frendis. *c* 1500 *Adam Bel* cxiv. in Child *Ballads* III. 27/2 Good syrs, of whens be ye? 1615 Ruggle *Ignoramus* IV. (1736) 50 Goodly, Sirs,..I shou'd have sworn it had been my Master Antonio. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Young Wom.* (1767) I. vii. 304 Have you forgotten, Sirs, that what they see you admire,..they will be induced to think..worthy of admiration? 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* XXXIX, 'But eh, sirs,' she continued,..'Eh, sirs! ye're sair altered, hinny'. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl., Sirs, Sirse, Serse*, interj., a common mode of address to a number of persons, although of both sexes; often pron. q. *Sirce*. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* (ed. 3) 96 Eh, sirce, but there's mony wonderfu' things in the warld.

c. Used in commencing or subscribing letters.

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 19 Right worthy and worshepefull Sir. *a* 1448 *Ibid.* 71 Syr, I recummawnd me to zow. 1535 Starkey *England* (1878) p. xiii, Syr, I most hertely commend me vn to you. 1568 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 73 His supplicatioun..:—Schirris, baillies, counsale, and communite of the burgh. 1628 Ussher in *Lett. Emin. Lit. Men* (Camden) 138 Deare Sir, I know not who should beginne first [etc.]. 1655 in *Nicholas P.* (Camden) 300 Which I shall desire you to keepe for y^e use of, Sir, Your..humble seruant, Robert Phelipps. 1745 J. Elton in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxvii. 304 Sirs, I have been acquainted with your resolutions of August last. 1789 Burns *Let. to Cunningham* 4 May, My dear Sir, Your duty-free favour..I received two days ago. 1822 Lamb *To J. Taylor* 7 Dec., Dear Sir, I should like the enclosed Dedication to be printed. 1861 Brewster in Mrs. Gordon *Home Life* xix. (1869) 345 Sir,—I have only this moment seen..an advertisement of your picture [etc.].

8. Used with scornful, contemptuous, indignant, or defiant force. (Cf. Sirrah.)

1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 84, I.. account thee no honest man: For sir know I haue learned your pettegree. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 80 Well sir, get you in: I will not long be troubled with you. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* II. ii, *Lacy*. By the city custom, madam? *Lady*. Yes, my young sir. 1675 Baxter *Cath. Theol.* II. XIII. 283 Sir, the City ringeth of you as one that greatly wrongeth the cause of God. 1782 in *Brit. Tourist* (1809) IV. 119 *Sir!* in a surly tone, [signifies] a box on the ear at your service!—to a dog it means a good beating. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* XXX, Sir, this is either a very great mistake or wilful impertinence...I am Captain Jekyl, sir. 1855 J. D. Burn *Autobiogr. Beggar Boy* (1859) 44 His uniform manner of addressing me was, by the withering and degrading title of 'sir!' 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* IX, I've been too good a father to you all...But I shall pull up, sir.

b. *My dear sir*, in remonstrance or expostulation.

1825 R. P. Ward *Tremaine* II. XXVI. 238 'And, indeed, my dear Sir—' 'I won't be Sir'd,' cried the Doctor.

9. Applied to women. Now *dial.*

1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cassandra* I. IV. vii, [To Dalia.] Ah syr, you would, be like, let my Cocke Sparrow goe. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *King & No K.* II. i, *Pan.* [to waiting-women]. Sirs, leave me all. (Exeunt Women.) 1621 Fletcher *Pilgr.* II. i, *Juletta*. Would you know o' me, Sir? *Alphonso*. O' thee, Sir? ay, o' thee, sir; What art thou, Sir? 1688 Crowne *Darius* II. Dram. Wks. 1874 III. 411 *Barsana* [to her confidante, Oronte]. How ill you dress me, sir? 1818 Miss Ferrier *Marriage* ii, 'And ye tu bonny sir,' addressing Lady Juliana.

10. A person of rank or importance; a lord, a gentleman; one who might be addressed as 'sir'.

In early use equivalent to *sire*; in later examples usually by direct transference from sense 7.

13.. *Coer de L.* 3567 Whos hed it was my seres aske? *c* 1500 *Young Children's Bk.* 88 in *Babees Bk.*, Wer-euer þou commys, speke honestly To ser or dame. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 20 Taking with him to accompanie him the sir of S. Veran. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 81 A sad face, a reuerend carriage,..in the habite of some Sir of note. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. vi. 160 A Lady to the worthiest Sir, that euer Country call'd his. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 45 In one of their open Pagods..stands a Venerable Sir at the upper end. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penit.* II. ii, A talking Sir that brawls for him in Taverns. 1740–1 Richardson *Pamela* II. 354 On Tuesday Morning, my dear Sir rode out, attended by Abraham. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* Concl. 102 Why should not these great Sirs Give up their parks some dozen times a year? 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims*, *Poet. & Imag.*, Our little sir, from his first tottering steps,..does not like to be practised upon.

11. A parson or priest. Now *dial.* (Cf. 4.)

1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 390 But this good Sir did follow the plaine word. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.* 74/2 'Here's t' sir cumman' = Here's the clergyman coming.

Sir (sə1), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To address (a person) as 'sir'. Also with *up*.

1576 R. Peterson *Galateo* (1892) 47 He that is wont to be (*Sird*) and likewise (*Sirreth*) other. 1600 1*st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* II. i, *Sum.* Sir, I brought it not my lord to eate, *Harp.* O, do you sir me now? 1722 De Foe *Relig. Courtsh.* I. ii. (1840) 68 Don't worship me and sir me now. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1768) I. viii. 43 My Brother and Sister..Sirr'd him up, at every word. 1806–7 *Poet. Reg.* 179 Learn..To frown importance while they cap and sir ye.

1861 LEYS *Mem. J. D. Maclaren* v. 94 In his kind and sincere way he sirred some cabman, porter, or poor man. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 8 'I don't know, sir, I'm sure,' said the stranger... 'Don't *sir* me! don't you know my name?'

2. *intr.* To use the term 'sir' in addressing a person.

1798 SOUTHEY *To M. Hill* 7 Sir-ing and Madam-ing as civilly As if the road between the heart and lips Were..a weary and Laplandish way.

Hence **Sirring** *vbl. sb.*

1836 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. 76 [He is] remarkably civil to me, and he gives me such quantities of *sirrings*—that is, he says *sir* so often.

Sir, obs. f. SIRE *sb.* **Sír,** variant of (*Anglo-Ind.*) SEER. **Sirah,** obs. f. SIRRAH. **Sirbace,** obs. f. SURBASE. **Sircar:** see SIRKAR. **Sirce** (Sc.): see SIR *sb.* 7 b. **Sircot,** obs. f. SURCOAT. **Sircue,** var. CIRCUE *v. Obs.* **Sircule,** obs. f. CIRCULE *v.*

† **Sirculey,** var. *circulet* CIRCLET.

15.. *Bk. of Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 16 The sword borne by an Earle, the cappe and Sirculey borne by an Earle.

Sircumsycion, obs. f. CIRCUMCISION. **Sircuyte,** obs. f. CIRCUIT.

‖ **Sirdar** (sɔ̈·ɹdäɹ, sɔɹdäɹ). Forms: *α.* 7, 9 serdar, 7 serdaar. *β.* 8 sardar, surdâr, 9 surdar. *γ.* 8 sirdâr, 9 sirdar. [Urdū (Pers.) سردار *sardār*, f. Pers. *sar* head + *dār* possessor.]

1. In India and other Eastern countries, a military chief, a leader or general of a force or army; also *spec.* in recent use, the British commander-in-chief of the Egyptian army.

α. 1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 211 This Ioseph..got to be made Seidar [*sic*] of Damasco (which is Generall of the Souldiery). 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 256 He has also the Title of Serdar or General of the Army. 1819 F. HAMILTON *Nepal* 109 Military officers, named Serdars, frequently are appointed to command over different portions of the country.

β. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 349 The Janizaries are there under the Command of a Sardar. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. li. 231 The begler-begs have the power of life and death, as have also those sardares, who are on the frontiers. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 178 He is a Sardar of five thousand horse in the Mahratta empire.

γ. 1803 WELLINGTON in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 788, I had also a long and difficult negotiation with the Nizam's sirdars. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 337 There are many other shops which accompany the camp, to supply the sirdars and the soldiers. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 June 4/3 The Turcoman shepherds or sirdars, who alone traverse these little frequented routes. 1898 — 5 Sept. 3/3 The Sirdar's force to-day marched to within six miles of Omdurman.

2. *Sirdar-bearer,* an Indian valet or body-servant. (See BEARER 1 d.)

1782 *India Gaz.* 2 Sept. (Yule), That a gentleman should pay a rascal of a Sirdar Bearer monthly wages for 8 or 10 men. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 104 A sirdar-bearer (personal attendant, or Indian valet) took charge of my two boxes. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 225 There is every reason to believe that he is honest, as Sirdar-bearers go.

b. *ellipt.* in the same sense.

c 1813 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Ayah & Lady* xii. 75 'I will also swear,' said the sirdar, 'by Gunga' [etc.]. 1828 *Asiatic Costumes* 27 The barburdar, or surdar, .keeps the keys, and in fact has charge of every thing in the house. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 117 The sirdar-bearer, called sirdar in brevity, is, among other things, the valet-de-chambre.

Hence **Sirdarship,** the office of Sirdar.

1898 *Daily Chron.* 10 Oct. 6/3 The statements that Lord Kitchener intends to resign the Sirdarship.

Sirdena, obs. form of SARDINE *sb.*[2]

Sire (səi·ɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3– sire, 4–5 sir, 6 sier; 4 scire, 7 shire. *β.* 3–8 syre, 5 cyre, cyyr, syr, syar, 5–6 syer. [a. OF. *sire* (*cyre*), for earlier **sieire* :—pop. L. **seior*, for cl. L. *senior* SENIOR. The oblique case in OF. was *sieur* :—**seiōr-em* for *seniōr-em.*]

I. † **1.** Placed before personal names: **a.** Denoting knighthood. = SIR *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 22485 Wulcume sire Arður, wilcume lauerd. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9066 Sire geffray, þat was erl of aungeo. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 44 He was callid Syre Amys ..at his crystenyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 305 þe firste 3ere of þe comynge of sire John, þe secounde kyng Henricus his sone, into Irlond. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. i. 37 þus sone Sire Rollo..Bi-sette hat Citee. 1492 *Paston Lett.* III. 380 To my..frendes, Sire William Knevette, Sire John Paston, Sire Robert Clere, Knyghtes.

transf. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 1 Sire Dowel dwelleþ.. not a day hennes, In a Castel. *Ibid.* 19 Sire seowel and seywel,..And sire Godfrei Gowel, grete lordes alle.

† **b.** Applied to persons of ancient history, or to ecclesiastics: cf. SIR *sb.* 2 and 4. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 21 þe Erchebischope of Canterburi sire Ode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2009 To his senatour..Sire maximian. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 785 Sire Eneas was þer-of fayn. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 192 And þanne strumpatis & beuys preisen sire iacke or hobbe & william þe proude clerk. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 407 A frenche romance that sire Robert, Bisschope a lycoln, made.

† **2.** With common nouns, = SIR *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 15 'Sire Aumperour,' he seide. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2862 Sire erl,..And þou wile mi counsayl tro, Ful wel shal ich with þe do. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 837 Sire knyght, quod he, my mayster and my lord. *c* 1400 *Brut* lvi. 50 Perfore, sire kyng,..we bene comen into 3oure lande.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. ix, Syre kynge god yeue good helthe. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 264 'By my feyth, sire knight,' said geffray.

(*b*) *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 840 And ye sire clerk lat be your shamefastnesse. — *Nun Priest's Prol.* 26 Wherfore sire Monk daun Piers by youre name I pray yow [etc.]. *Ibid.* 44 (Corpus), Come ner sire prest com hider sir Iohn.

† **b.** = SIR *sb.* 6 b. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 242 Sire [*v.r.* Sir] olde lecchour, lat thy Iapes be. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 28 By my feyth, sire vassal, hit commeth to you of grette pryde [etc.]. *Ibid.* 29 Sire musarde.

3. Without following sb. In early use = SIR *sb.* 7. Now only *arch.* (= 'your majesty') or as an echo of French usage.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Me leoue sire,..is hit nu so ouer vuel uor te toten utward? *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 49 'A, sire,' quath þe luþere Quiene,.. 'Furst ichulle to þe drinke'. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2099 (W.), A knyght com sone rennyng, And saide, 'Sire, up on hast!' 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 301 'Ha, lieve sire,' tho quod sche, 'Now tak the harpe'. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xviii. 240 Sire said the reed knyght.. al this wil I do as ye commaunde. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 267 Sire, the kyng is departed from hens. [1672 TEMPLE *Ess., Government* Wks. 1720 I. 100 The peculiar Compellation of the King in France, is by the Name of Sire.] 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 3 By heaven! Sire, it is not well done. 1820 SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 71 Your sacred Majesty...They are in waiting, Sire. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 357 'Sire,' said he, 'there has been a battle before Pavia'.

† **b.** = SIR *sb.* 7 b. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2248 Herkenes nowe, hende sires, 3e han herd ofte, wich a cri has be cried. *a* 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. IV. 257 Certes, sires; ful good hit is To stonde stille at þe Mes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *Reg. Princ.* 2747 Considereth, sires, I am oon of þo [etc.]. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 6 Gentyl sires, herkene to me. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 271 After, after, fayre sires.

† **c.** = SIR *sb.* 7 c. *Obs.*

1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 24. 1490 *Ibid.* III. 363.

II. 4. One who exercises dominion or rule; a lord, master, or sovereign. In ME. freq. in phrase *lord and sire.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6556 He wende aboute as noble sire fram londe to londe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 440 He..sette him heist in his hall, Als prince and sire ouer oþer all. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1260 þay..þat sumtyme sete in her sale syres & burdes. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 217 This yonglynge..aftyr be-came a grete Sire in the realme. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 42 And sa was Romulus all hale lord and syre. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. iv. 58 Soupyt in wyne and sleip [are] baith man and syre. *c* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVIII. iv, Then thundred heav'nly sire. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 780 Podagra..quietly laid herself down at the feet of this corsie sire. 1812 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* XXVIII, With delight its Sire to see Hell's adamantine limits burn.

† **b.** A lord or ruler *of* a specified place. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22256 A king..þat of þe romain sal Impire Hali lauerd be and sire. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 14 In Charlemayn courte, sire of Saynt Dinys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 250 Of thilke Empire He was coroned Lord and Sire. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 265 Almighty god thow lord of al, and Syre. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 25 Where is Pirrus, that was lord and sire Of Ynd? 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1491 Syrus, that soleme syar of Babylon. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 217 For his reward.., Of tha landis tha maid him lord and syre.

5. A person of some note or importance; an aged or elderly man. Also generally, man, fellow.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 62 Nou is vche boye bold broþel an oþer, To talken of þe Trinite to beon holden a syre. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1643 He semyd a fole, that queynte syre, Bothe by hede and by atyre. *a* 1500 *Debate of the Carpenter's tools* 241 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 88 The wymbulle spekes lyke a syre. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 145 Fra sic a syre, God 3ow saif, my sueit sisteris deir! 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iv. 32 That maliciouse and crafty olde syre. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 388 Our men, regarding his age, began to make much of him;..whereat the old sier showed himselfe very glad. 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* 41 This smith was a quaint sire, As merry as bird on brier. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 715 At length a Reverend Sire among them came. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 688 To name an infant meet our village-sires. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* V. XXIV, 'What says the monk?'—'The holy Sire Owns, that..She sought his skiff.'

6. A father; a male parent; also, a forefather. (Cf. GRANDSIRE 1.) Now chiefly *poet.*

c 1250 *Lutel Soth Serm.* 81 in *O. E. Misc.* 190 Hire sire and hire dame þreteþ hire to bete. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 189, I herde my sire seyn..þere þe catte is a kitoun, þe courte is ful elyng. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2492 (*Phyllis*), Fals in loue was he ryght as his syre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13198 þat noble he stale Fro the souerain hir Syre, & soght with hir furth. 14.. *Sir Beues* 2283+244 He made a fyre And threwe þer yn dam & syre. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 4 Whose sire was the old earl of Bedford. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 64 Pyrrhus shortlye wyl hither, Thee soon fast bye the syre, thee syre that murthred at altars. 1674 MILTON *P. R.* I. 86 His Mother then is mortal, but his Sire He who obtains the Monarchy of Heav'n. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 282 Nor be with harmful Parsimony won To follow what our homely Sires have done. 1742 GRAY *Adversity* 9 When first thy Sire to send on earth Virtue, his darling Child, design'd. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 57 The sceptre of his sires he took. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. XXXII, In distant ages, sire to son Shall tell thy tale of freedom won. 1817 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. III. 177 My sire the daughter gave him and the government.

attrib. and *Comb.* *a* 1835 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* (1847) 10 'Tis Harold—'tis the Sire-bereaved—Who goads the dread career. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 442 Shame to me,.. my sire-land, Not to know thy soil and skies!

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1728 PRIOR *The Flies,* Sire of Insects, mighty Sol. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 674 Profusion is the sire. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* iv, He died, Who was the Sire of an immortal strain. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* vi. 245 The venerable sire of Gothic philology, Jacob Grimm.

7. A male parent of a quadruped; *esp.* a stallion. Correlative to *dam.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 68 She shall haue moste comonly a sandy colte,..neyther lyke syre nor damme. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 54 Beastes haue no other care of their yong ones, but onely..vntill they bee able to feede.. themselues: afterward, both syre and damme and little ones forget one another. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 229 The Pharsalian Mares evermore bring Foals very like their Syre. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* I. 32 So Kids and Whelps their Sires and Dams express. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 126 Thus beast and bird their common charge attend; The mothers nurse it, and the sires defend. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 423 Although both sire and dam may possess some good points, yet in the offspring these will be lost. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iii. 30 They must not feed their sires upon straw.

transf. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 568 The mind and conduct..: Each, sire and dam of an infernal race, Begetting and conceiving all that's base.

Sire (səi·ɹ), *v.* Also 6 syre. [f. SIRE *sb.*] *trans.* To beget or procreate; to become the sire of:

a. Of persons, or in general use.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 26 Cowards father Cowards, & Base things Syre Bace. 1835 LONGF. *Outre-mer* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 119 He was a gross, corpulent fellow,..sired by a comic actor. 1891 ZANGWILL *Bachelors Club* 82 His father had just that measure of talent which so often sires a genius.

transf. 1902 OWEN WISTER *Virginian* xiv, The blamed thing was sired by a whole doggone Dutch syndicate.

b. *spec.* Of animals, esp. horses. (The more frequent use.)

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 1 July 6/2 These also are animals with rare pedigrees...Several are sired by Kisber. 1894 ASTLEY *50 Years Life* II. 190 He sired some real good hunters.

Sire, obs. variant of Sc. SYRE, drain.

Siredon (səiɹ·dɔn). [a. late L. *Sīrēdon,* ad. Gr. Σειρηδών, late form of Σειρήν SIREN. Named by Wagler (1828–33).] The axolotl.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 56/1 *Siredon,* Wagler's name for the Axolotl. 1875 COPE *Check-list N. Amer. Batrachia* 63 The Siredons, or larval *Amblystomæ.* 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 402 Dumeril has also shown that the Siredons were capable of reproduction.

Sireless (səi·ɹlĕs), *a.* [f. SIRE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no sire; fatherless.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 583 The Beast is lust-less, sex-less, sire-less, mute. *a* 1618 — *Triumph Faith* III. xxiii, That Mother-Maid, Who Sire-lesse bore her Sire, yet ever-Maid. 1790 A. WILSON *To D. Brodie* Poet. Wks. (1846) 9 The sullen midnight tempest roars; Loud o'er my sireless dome it wildly howls. 1814 BYRON *Address Caledonian Meeting* 20 The sireless offspring and the lonely spouse. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 124 Them sireless see in dire starvation's gripe.

Siren (səi·rɔn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 sereyn, -ayn, 5 -ayne, 6 *Sc.* seryne, syraine. *β.* 4–7 *pl.* sirenes (5 syrenes); 6–8 syrene, 7 sirene (syriney). *γ.* 5– siren. *δ.* 5– syren. [Ultimately ad. Gr. Σειρήν (pl. Σειρῆνες, first mentioned in *Odyss.* xii. 39 ff.), through L. *Sīrēn* and late L. *Sīrēna*; the latter is the source of It. and Sp. *sirena, serena,* Pg. *sereia, serea,* F. *sirène,* and OF. *sereine, seraine,* whence the earliest forms in English.]

I. † **1.** An imaginary species of serpent. *Obs.*

This sense is derived from glossarial explanations of L. *sirenes* in the Vulgate text of *Isaiah* xiii. 22, where the Wycliffite versions have 'wengid edderes' and 'fliynge serpentis'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 61 An eddre þet hatte serayn, þet yernþ more zuyþere þanne hors, and oþerhuyl vleþ [etc.]. [1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lx. (Bodl. MS.), In Arabia beþ serpentes wiþ winges, þat beþ icleped Sirene,..and here venym is so stronge þat deþe comeþ tofore þe biting.] *c* 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. lxxxiii, Ther be also in some places of arabye, serpentis named sirenes, that ronne faster than an horse, & haue wynges to flye.

2. *Classical Mythol.* One of several fabulous monsters, part woman, part bird, who were supposed to lure sailors to destruction by their enchanting singing.

In early use frequently confused with the mermaid.

a. c 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 684 Though we mermaydens clepe hem here,..Men clepen hem sereyns in Fraunce. 1482 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. ix. 88 They be called seraynes or mermaydens. 1578 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXXVIII. 33 With sangis lyke the seryne our lyfis thow allurit.

β. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 369 þe þre Sirenes, þat were half maydens, half foules, and hadde wynges and clawes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 58 Sirenes of a wonder kynde Ben Monstres,..And in the grete Se thei duellen. *c* 1405 LYDG. *Reason & Sens.* 1772 Hit passed of force and myght Sirenes song,..Which ar meremaydenes of the se. *c* 1430 — *Misery cordias* 83 Syrenes, with warblys of swetnesse Blente ther resouns. *c* 1520 L. ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* III. lxxxiii, Syrene, the mermayde is a dedely beste that bringeth a man gladly to dethe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 18 He must.. sayle beseydes theyr songes as the enticementes or daungerous rockes of the Sirenes. 1609 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* I. i, The Foggs and the Syrene offends us more. 1648 HERRICK II, *Een Meer-minne,* a Mer-maide, or a Syriney. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge 2 v b, The fabulous [birds] are, the.. harpie, stymphalides, sirenes,.. phœnix. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* (1840) 265 She talked like an angel, sung like a Syrene.

γ. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13286 When the Sirens this sene,.. þai wyn to the wale ship, & walton all vnder. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 148 They hauing Sirens tongues and Crocodiles teares, thereby entic'd him to intangle him. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. vi, Voluntary solitariness..brings on like a Siren..some Sphinx to this irrevocable gulf. 1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* (1716) 24 There is no Damocles like unto self opinion, nor any siren to our own fawning conceptions. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vi. 32 The sphinx and siren have been admired, and accounted elegant in all ages. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Music* (1789) I. II. ii. 310 All ancient authors agree in telling us that Sirens inhabited the coast of Sicily. 1831 KEIGHTLEY *Myth. Anc. Gr. & It.* 246 Hesiod describes the mead of the Sirens as blooming with flowers. 1876 A. S. MURRAY *Mythol.* iii. (1877) 38 The Sirens are strictly personifications, not of the sea, but of the dangers of the sea-coast to sailors.

δ. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13271, I..sailet þurgh a sea þere Syrens were in. 1657 H. PINNELL *Philos. Ref.* 26 Nimphs, Undens, Melosyns, whose Monsters or bastards are the Syrens that swim upon the water. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 364/1 This is one of the kinds of Mermaids.., and is the right Syren; two of them, about..1670, was brought dead, to our City of Chester,..where I..drew them. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 315 When Ulysses stopped the ears of his crew with wax, on sailing by the Syrens. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. v. 163 It is of the purest gold, and represents a Syren. 1877 *Times* 17 Feb. 4/4 Projecting from the extreme edges..are, first, 15 birds with human faces—syrens.

3. *fig.* One who, or that which, sings sweetly, charms, allures, or deceives, like the Sirens.

γ. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 47 Oh traine me not sweet Mermaide with thy note, To drowne me in..teares: Sing Siren for thy selfe. *c* 1630 MILTON *At a Solemn Music* 1 Blest pair of Sirens,..Sphear-born harmonious Sisters, Voice and Vers. 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 595 These are Blessed Sirens that..Pipe..some sad and woful ditties of men's sin. 1756 C. SMART *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. (1826) II. 109 That guilty Siren, sloth, must be avoided. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 552 Pleasure is..a very siren, attracting only to devour. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxxii, As round the band of sirens trip, He kiss'd one damsel's laughing lip. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, To accept the oft-proffered invitation of these sirens. 1884 *Christian World* 19 June 453/2 The influence of the sirens of the political boudoir.

δ. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. i. 23 This Queene, This Syren, that will charme Romes Saturnine, And see his shipwracke. 1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 7 Deceyuing Syrens, whose eyes are Adamants, whose wordes are Witchcrafts. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 4 This Syren (as some write) came out of Gascoign. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* I. iv, Fortune has seldome yet vouchsaf'd to turn Syren to pervert me. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 23 There are too many instances of intrigues..with these wanton syrens, having been revenged with death. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 176 These pretty syrens were delighted to seize upon us. 1803 H. K. WHITE *Clifton Grove* 108 Why clasp the syren pleasure to his arms. 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* I. p. xxv, A rosy syren before—Hope,..always receding from its embrace.

†**4.** A drone bee. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 318 The Drones at the beginning be termed Sirenes or Cephenes. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 930 Of the Sirens there are two sorts, the one lesse all of a duskie colour; the other bigger, black mixt with other colours.

5. One or other of the eel-like gradient and tailed amphibians belonging to the family *Sirenidæ*, native to N. America; esp. the mud-iguana, *Siren lacertina*.

So named by Linnæus on account of the statement made to him by Dr. Garden, that it had a sort of singing voice.

[1766 tr. *Linnæus* in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 192 It must be a new and very distinct genus, and should most properly have the name of *Siren*.] 1791 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* Pl. 61 The genus with which the Siren has evidently the greatest possible affinity is that of Lacerta or Lizard. 1831 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* IX. 414 The Lacertine Siren (*Siren Lacertina*). 1855 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 28 In the siren the pelvic arch and limbs are not developed. 1883 *Science* II. 260/2 This siren will eat crayfish.

6. *Anat.* (See first quot. and cf. sense 9.)

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 347/2 In another family of [human] monsters, denominated *Symeles*, or Sirens, the two thoracic or abdominal limbs are fused together into a single member. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Mar. 671 His identification of the Siren with the sympodial fetus..seems exceedingly probable.

7. An acoustical instrument (invented by Cagniard de la Tour in 1819) for producing musical tones and used in numbering the vibrations in any note. Cf. SIRENE.

1820 *Ann. Reg.* II. 1364 The Syren, a new Acoustical Instrument...In consequence of this property of being sonorous in the water the instrument has been called the Syren. 1870 TYNDALL *Heat* viii. App. 256, I placed a syren within a few feet of the singing flame. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2191/1 It has been ascertained by means of the siren that the wings of the mosquito move at the rate of 15,000 times a second. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 104/1 The 'siren'.. consists essentially of a circular plate, revolving on an axis through its centre at right angles to its plane.

b. An instrument, made on a similar principle but of a larger size, used on steamships for giving fog-signals, warnings, etc.

1879 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) I. x. 332 He..found that when the syren was sounded no echo was returned. 1880 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 5/2 The Siren can be sounded with either steam or compressed air, made to pass through a fixed flat disc fitted into the throat of a long trumpet. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Courageous* 11 Harvey heard the muffled shriek of a liner's siren.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

8. Attrib., in sense ' characteristic of, resembling that of, a Siren', as *siren air, beauty, note*, etc.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 75 Noble personages,.. whom all the Siren songes of Italie, could neuer vntwyne from the maste of Gods word. 1588 *Martrel. Epist.* (Arb.) 43 Be not led away by the Syren sounds and intisements of yong Iohn. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 787 Whose Syren-notes Inchaunt chaste Susans. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxix, What potions haue I drunke of Syren teares? 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 2 Soft and siren words and periods which..make a pretty sound in the ear. 1728–46 THOMSON *Seasons, Spring* 991 Her syren-voice, inchanting, draws him on To guileful shores. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *Valentine's Day* 19 Far from that shore, where syren-beauty dwells. 1788 BURNS *Written in Friars-Carse Hermitage* iii, Pleasure with her siren air May delude the thoughtless pair. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Wednesday before Easter*, Be silent, Praise, Blind guide with siren voice. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 712 The gentle breathing of the south wind..was but a siren song which had lured them to their destruction.

b. Appositive, as *siren daughter, enemy, hag*, etc.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 149 The invocation of Dame Memory and her Siren Daughters. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 76 How silly were their Sages heretofore To fright their Heroes with a Syren-whore? 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 541 Others the Syren Sisters warble round, And empty heads console with empty sound. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 561 Then the siren enemies are busiest about us. 1794 COLERIDGE *Lines on a Friend who died of a frenzy Fever*, Vice, siren-hag! in native ugliness. 1836 NEWMAN *Siren Isles* in *Lyra Apost.*, The craft of Siren choirs. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* ii. 76 When..the music of Memory and her syren daughters has been brought low.

c. Forming adjs. or advs., as *siren-haunted, -voiced*; *siren-like*.

a 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 235 Siren-like songs. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Libertine* i. Wks. 1711 IV. 144 No more shall your Voice, Syren-like, charm my Heart. 1819 MRS. HEMANS *Tales & Hist. Scenes, Death of Conradin* 244 Bid him guide Thy steps Those syren-haunted seas beside. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* ii. 44 The siren-haunted sea.

9. In sense 6, as *siren form, formation, -like*.

1831 SOUTH *Otto's Path. Anat.* I. 32 The most perfect degree of coalescence in the human subject, the syren formation, in which even the whole of the lower extremities are united into one common limb. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 964/1 *Sympodia* or Siren-like form. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 764/2 Another curious result of defective separation of symmetrical parts is the siren form of fœtus.

10. In sense 7 b, as *siren signal, -trumpet*.

1879 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) I. x. 332 The aërial echoes heard when standing behind the syren-trumpet at the South Foreland. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 70 Making our presence known to one another by siren signals.

Si·ren, *v. rare.* Also **syren.** [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To allure, entice, persuade.

1690 *Secr. Hist. Chas. II & Jas. II*, 50 The advantageous league which she had pleasantly syren'd her brother to make with the French Monarch.

2. *intr.* To make signals with the siren.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 5/1 The statement that 'it is the custom of the North German Lloyds to run "syrening and flaring" down the North Sea'..was absurd.

†**Sirenaic.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. SIREN *sb.*] A member of the celebrated Club which met at the Mermaid Tavern.

Due to confusion of the siren with the mermaid: see SIREN *sb.* 2.

1616 CORYAT *Trav. Eng. Wits* 37 Right Generous, Iouiall, and Mercuriall Sirenaicks. *Ibid.* 42 Farewell noble Sirenaicks!

Si·rename. *rare.* [Alteration of *sirname* SURNAME, after SIRE *sb.*] A patronymic; a family name.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 305 b, It should bee called our sire name, that is to say y^e^ name of our fathers bloudde. 1552 *Ord. St. Barthol. Hosp.* D iij, Ye shall manifestly declare..the names and sirenames of so many as that yeare haue died in the house. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 17 Pharao the last king of Memphis of that sirename. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. iii. 100 Old Reuben Mowbray had an excellent surname or sirename.

‖ **Sirene.** Also **sirène.** Now *rare* or *Obs.* [F. *sirène.*] = SIREN *sb.* 7.

1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) IV. 777 This is precisely the principle of the Sirene of Baron Cagniard de la Tour...The Sound produced is clear and sweet, like the human voice. 1850 *Pract. Mech. Jrnl.* III. 149 (*title*), On the Sirene, a new sound producer. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 745/1 More complex forms, such as Helmholtz's double sirène.

†**Sireneal,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 6 syreneall. [irreg. f. SIREN *sb.*] Of or given by sirens.

1592 R. D. *Hymnerotomachia* 53 b, [Nymphs] which..did alter their Musicke and Instruments, and during the banquetting, others with an Angelike and Syreneall consent, did tune the same to their handes.

†**Sireniacal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. SIRENAIC.] Belonging to the Mermaid Club.

1616 CORYAT *Trav. Eng. Wits* 32 Pray commend me to M. Protoplast, and all the Sireniacall gentlemen. *Ibid.* 37.

Sirenian (səirī·niăn), *sb.* and *a.*¹ *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Sirenia*, f. L. *Sīrēn* SIREN *sb.*]

A. *sb.* Any member of the order *Sirenia* of fish-like aquatic mammals.

1883 *Science* I. 346/1 The discovery of a new fossil sirenian in South Carolina. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 114 The Sirenians or Sea-Cows. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 567 The existing Sirenians resemble the Cetaceans in having their fore-limbs converted into flippers.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to or having the characteristics of the order *Sirenia*. 1892 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Sirenian,** *a.*² *Obs.* Also **syrenian.** [f. SIREN *sb.* + -IAN.]

1. Of or characteristic of a siren; alluring, seductive, deceitful.

1600 TOURNEUR *Trans. Metamorph.* Ii, To her Syrenian Song the Knight gave eare. 1633 PRYNNE *1st Pt. Histriom.* Ep. Ded., So desperately infatuated with their Syrenian enchantments. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VIII. CXXXIV, No wanton Dress, no Tongue's Sirenian Grace.

2. Inhabited or frequented by alluring women.

1659 HOWELL *Lexicon, Ital. Prov.*, In that Syrenian Citty [Naples] 'tis found that one hair of a woman can draw more then a hundred yoaks of Oxen.

Sirenic (səire·nik), *a. rare.* Also 8–9 **syrenic** (8 -ick). [f. SIREN *sb.* + -IC.]

1. Melodious; charming, fascinating, alluring.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Ep. to Ch. Dives* Wks. 1711 IV. 180 Spell-caught by their Syrenick Voice. 1822 T. G. WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 292, I can truly describe her intense power over me as that of the moon on the restless tides;—a Syrenic song [etc.]. 1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxiii. 360 Which satyric dance and sirenic song accomplished.

2. Of persons: Sweet-singing.

1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 393 Nor less was he charmed with the vocal duetts and trios of our syrenic friends.

Sire·nical, *a.* Also 6–7 **syrenicall,** 7 **-ical, sirenicall.** [f. as prec. + -ICAL.]

1. = SIRENIC *a.* 1. Now *rare.*

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* ii. 12 This is the Syrenicall allurement of your attendant φιλοδοξία. 1609 Sir E. HOBY *Let. to Mr. T. H.* 4 Freeing..my deare countrimen from your Syrenicall deceit. *Ibid.* 92 Bobbing your credulous Ladies with these Syrenicall insinuations. 1662 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV 283 They play on loud virginals joyntly to their singing, which..make up a syrenical and spherical harmony. 1900 UPWARD *Eben. Lobb* 254 There was not much that was sirenical about this instrument.

†**2.** = SIRENIC *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1604 MARSTON *Malcontents* III. iv, But here's a couple of sirenical rascals shall enchant ye: what shall they sing, my good lord?

Hence **Sire·nically** *adv.*

1888 *Punch* 4 August 53 We loathe deserted wives and sirenically influenced (if we may coin an epithet) husbands.

Sire·niform, *a. rare.* [f. SIREN *sb.* 6 + -(I)FORM.] Of human monsters: Having the lower extremities abnormally united in a single limb.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 965/1 A surgeon..supposed that the Sireniform monster had been formed during a very difficult delivery.

Si·renize, *v.* Now *rare.* Also 6 **syranyze.** [f. SIREN *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To delight or charm; to allure or enchant. Also *intr.* (quot. 1656).

1584 H. CONSTABLE *Diana* VII. viii, Thy transparent eyes.. Whose dumbe conceits diuinely syranyze. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 212 That same gentle kindnes,..that abandoned odious Hatred; That Sirenized Furies. 1623 COCKERAM I, *Syrenize*, to enchaunt, to bewitch. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sirenize*, to play the Siren, to attract or allure, as Sirens do with singing.

b. To charm *out of* a certain state.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 123 What soule is so metaphusicall subtile, that can humorously sirenize heauens soule, Iehouah, out of the concealments of his Godhead?

Sirenoid (səi·rĕnoid), *a.* (*sb.*). *Ichth.* [See def. and -OID.] Of or belonging to the group *Sirenoidei* of dipnoid fishes. Also *sb.*, a lung-fish of this group (*Cent. Dict.*).

1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darwinism* 238 The notably small division of sirenoid fish which breathe air during the dry season of the year.

†**Si·reny.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **syrenie.** [f. SIREN *sb.* + -Y.] Allurement, fascination.

1600 TOURNEUR *Trans. Metamorph.* xvi, Disquiet Eriphila; hel's Syrenie. *Ibid.* xxx, Rowze up the watch, lull'd with world's Syrenie.

Sireship (səi··ɹʃip). [f. SIRE *sb.* + -SHIP.] The state or condition of being a sire; paternity, fatherhood; also *fig.*, authorship.

1837 C. LOFFT *Self-formation* II. 94 The Two Gentlemen must be left at large, to walk abroad and plume themselves in the false bravery of their sireship. 1882 *Standard* 4 Sept. 6/1 His credentials bid fair for the success of his sireship.

Si·ress. *nonce-word.* [f. SIRE *sb.* + -ESS.] A mother; a matron.

1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Words* II. 176 But softly, ye venerable sires and siresses!

Sirfoot, obs. Sc. form of SURFEIT *a.*

Sirgirie, obs. form of SURGERY.

Sirha, obs. form of SIRRAH.

Sirian (si·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Astr.* Also 6–7 **Syrian.** [f. SIRI-US + -AN.]

1. Of or belonging to Sirius.

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 5 And the hot Syrian Dog on him [*sc.* the sun] awayting,..Corrupted had th'ayre. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iii, The worthier beasts have made their layers, and slept Free from the Syrian Star. 1685 CARYLL in *Dryden's Misc. Poems* (1727) I. 306 Thrice happy Swains, guarded from Sirian Beams By sacred Springs. 1874 PROCTOR *Expanse of Heaven* 246 We must set all the Sirian planets circling much more rapidly than the corresponding members of the solar family. 1885 CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 417 A spectrum of the Sirian pattern.

2. Having a spectrum like that of Sirius.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 138 The former star..is more nearly allied to the Sirian stars in the distribution of energy in its spectrum. 1903 A. R. WALLACE *Man's Place in Universe* vi. 130 Other astronomers call the first group 'Sirian stars', because Sirius though not the hottest is a characteristic type.

3. *absol.* as *sb.* A star having a spectrum like that of Sirius.

1900 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 461 Helium or Orion stars merge imperceptibly into Sirians, Sirian into Solar.

‖ **Siriasis** (sirəi·ăsis). *Path.* [a. L. *sīriāsis*, a. Gr. σειριᾶσις, f. σειριᾶν to be hot and scorching.] A disease affecting children, characterized by inflammation of the brain and membranes, and burning fever. Cf. SIDERATION 3.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 397 Yong infants many times be tormented with an vnnaturall heat and burning of their head, called Siriasis. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Sirricasis* [sic], an Inflammation, or rather great Heat of the Brain and its Membranes, occasion'd by the heat of the Sun. 1879 LEWIS & SHORT *Lat. Dict.* 1710/3. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* xii. 203 The very definite and probably specific disease described under the name siriasis.

Siriema, variant of SERIEMA.

Sirien, obs. variant of SYRIAN *sb.*

‖ **Sirih** (sī·ri). *Bot.* Also **siri.** [Malay سيرى *sīrih.*] A tropical shrub, *Chavica Siriboa*, of the N. O. *Piperaceæ*, the leaves of which are valued in south-east Asia for chewing with the areca-nut; also, the leaf of this shrub, = BETEL.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1064/1. 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. 126 In a small Bamboo case..the Dyak carries his sirih and lime for betel chewing. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 72 Mats were spread out, and siri and betel-nut produced.

b. *attrib.*, as *sirih-box, leaf.*

1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. 271 A married woman may not accept..a sirih leaf from a stranger. 1881 *Bock's Head-Hunters Borneo* ii. 19 Other princes..squatted on the floor, each with his large silver-gilt sirih-box, and a huge brass spittoon in their midst.

Siringe, obs. form of SYRINGE.

‖ **Si·ris.** *Bot.* Also **siriss, sirris.** [Hindī *siris.*] **a.** One or other of several leguminous trees of the genus *Albizzia*, native to tropical Asia and Africa. **b.** A similar tree belonging to the genus *Acacia*, esp. *A. sirissa.*

1874 STEWART & BRANDIS *Flora N. West India* 176 *A*[*lbizzia*] *Lebbek*,..Siris. *Ibid.* 177 *A*[*lbizzia*] *Julibrissin*,..Pink Siris. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Oct. 685/1 The *Coccus lacca*..is also found on..the Siriss (*Acacia sirissa*). 1896 *Academy* 28 Nov. 458/1 The broad Mall [of Lahore], embowered in siris and peepul trees.

attrib. 1886 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* 114 Ah! *kŏil*, little *kŏil*, singing on the *siris* bough.

‖ **Sirius** (si·riŭs). *Astr.* Also 6 **Ser-, Syrius.** [L. *Sīrius*, ad. Gr. Σείριος.] A fixed star of the first magnitude, the chief of the constellation Canis Major or Great Dog, and the brightest in the heavens; the dog-star.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. v. (1868) 22 þe sedes þat.. arcturus saw ben waxen heye cornes whan þe sterre sirius eschaufeþ hym. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 294 *marg.*, Serius is otherwyse cauled Canicula, this is the dogge of whom the Canicular dayes haue theyr name. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 75 Thee fields cleene fruictlesse thee dogstar Sirius heated. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* x. 382 So Sirius, flashing forth sinister lights, Pale human kind with ..famine frights. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 512 An Image of the Sun, as bright as Sirius to an Eye given in Position. 1727 W. BROOME *Poems* 38 When sultry Sirius.. Flames in the Air, and cleaves the glowing Plains. 1756 MASON *Ode Memory* ii. Poems (1774) 20 If Sirius flame with fainting heat. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 252 As the fiery Sirius alters hue, And bickers into red and emerald. 1883 JEFFERIES *Story My Heart* i, I prayed..now with the Pleiades, now with the Swan or burning Sirius.

transf. 1891 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 83/2 Each gem turned into an Aldebaran or a Sirius—a constellation of white, red, and green flashes, that interchanged their hues with her every pulsation.

‖ **Sirkar** (sə̄·ikāı). *Anglo-Ind.* Forms: α. 7 **sercar(e, -carr, -cor**; 7 **sarkar**, 9 **surcar**; 8 **sircār**, 8–9 **sircar**, 9 **sirkar.** β. 7 **cercarr, circare**, 8–9 **circar.** [Urdū (Pers.) سرکار *sarkār*, f. Pers. *sar* head + *kār* agent, doer.]

†**1.** The court or palace of a native king or prince. *Obs.*

1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 160 We weare sent for to the Governors to cut price of our clothes for the Princes sercarr. 1623 *Ibid.* (1908) II. 303 [Three pictures] delivered into the Prince his sercare. 1626 *Ibid.* (1909) III. 141 [A commodity] which belongeth to our masters cercare.

2. A province; a revenue division. Cf. CIRCAR.

1627 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 176 The Decies of Surrat Cercare..will not obey the Kings firmaen, though the Divan..seemeth to urge them. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 332 Large provinces called Soubahs, which were subdivided into sircars and Purgunnahs. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 15/2 The great failure has occurred in the northern sircars; where..the collections are still attended with difficulty. 1806 T. MAURICE *Ind. Antiq.* I. 285 Multan contains 3 sircars, divided into 8 pergunnahs.

3. The State or Government.

1798 EDMONSTONE in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 61 The allied Sircars look to no other object than the security and tranquillity of their own dominions. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1844) I. 54 To make the people pay the circar according to the exchange fixed at Seringapatam. 1883 MATEER *Travancore* (1891) 179 The principal temples..are under the immediate control of the Sirkar or native Government. 1896 B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* 118, I fled to the plains, where I have taken road contracts for the Sirkar, and prospered.

4. A house-steward (usu. native).

1772 VERELST *View Eng. Govt. Bengal* Gloss. p. v, In common usage in Bengal, the under Banyans of European gentlemen are called *Sircars.* 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 47/2 The cloth which round their loins. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 187 My English Sircar, who has the uncontrolled disbursement of my money. *c* 1803 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* (1847) xv. 269 These persons were..stewards, or head servants,—persons in Calcutta called Circars.

5. A native writer or accountant; a clerk employed in a merchant's office for making purchases, etc.

1828 *Asiatic Costumes* 41 The surcars are brokers, agents, and clerks, in all the public offices in Calcutta. 1905 *Statesman* 23 Aug. 3/4 The accused..was a bill collecting sircar in the employ of the complainant.

‖ **Si·rki.** *Anglo-Ind.* Also 9 **sirky, seerky.** [Hindī *sirkī.*] **a.** The upper part of the culm of a species of tall reed-grass, *Saccharum Munjia* or *Sara*, native to India. **b.** Matting made of this.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *Vade Mecum* I. 489 This *seerky* is composed of the stems of the *surpat*, or tassel grass. *Ibid.* 490 In India those itinerants [*sc.* gipsies] .. invariably shelter themselves under *seerky.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1064/1 Sirki. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* 666/1 It is from the upper part of the flower-bearing stalk of surkunda that sirky is derived.

Sirloin (sə̄·rloin). Forms: α. 5–8 **surloyn,** 6–7 **-loyne,** 7 **-loi(g)ne, -line,** 8– **surloin** (8 **sur-loin**). β. 6 **serlyn,** 7 **sir-loyne,** 8 **sir-loyn, sirloyn**; 7 **s'loin,** 8 **sir loin,** 8–9 **sir-loin,** 8– **sirloin.** [ad. OF. **surloigne*, var. of *surlonge*, f. *sur* over, above + *longe* LOIN *sb.* The spelling *sirloin* shows the same tendency as *sirname* for *surname*, *sirples* (obs.) for *surplice*; its final prevalence may have been largely due to the fictitious etymology variously stated in the following quotations.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. ii. 299 A Sir-loyne of beef was set before Him (so knighted, saith tradition, by this King Henry [the Eighth]). 1732–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* ii. 121 *Miss.* But, pray, why is it call'd a Sir-loyn? *Lord Sparkish.* Why,..our King James First,..being invited to Dinner by one of his Nobles, and seeing a large Loyn of Beef at his Table, he drew out his Sword, and..knighted it. 1822 *Cook's Oracle* 163 Sir-Loin of Beef. This joint is said to owe its name to King Charles the Second, who dining upon a Loin of Beef,..said for its merit it should be knighted, and henceforth called Sir-Loin.]

1. The upper and choicer part of a loin of beef, used for roasting. Also const. *of.*

α. 1554 *Church-w. Acc., St. Marg. Westminster* (Nichols, 1797) 14 A surloyn of beef, 6*s.* 8*d.* 1559–60 *Old City Acc. Bk.* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* XLIII. 175 Paide for a surloyne of beffe, *vs* iiij *d.* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 9 A calfe, a surloyne of roast biefe, a pigge. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Nov., We had a good surloyne of rost beefe. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 9. 57 Many..prefer..a Surloin of Beef, or a Haunch of Venison. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 132 A Spit he seiz'd, Just reeking from the fat Surloyn. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. ii. 23 When he has gotten his surloin or his steak. 1885 *Times* 9 Apr. 9 The production of a perfect shorthorn surloin.

fig. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 48 Let's haue a dozen spare ribs of his rethorique,..and a whole surloyne of his substantiallest sentences and similes.

attrib. 1601 in *Hounsh. Ord.* (1790) 296 The surloine peece of the beefe. 1885 *Times* 9 Apr. 9 A riband-patterned surloin steak.

β. 1525 *Old City Acc. Bk.* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* XLIII. 172 Payd to the Bochsar for a greyt serlyn, xvi*d.* 1623 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. 46 A s'loin, a rumpe,..and a rond of beef. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 119/1 When..fish is gone,..then these venerable fathers..can take a Sir-loyne of Beefe [etc.]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 517 P 2 He had lost his Roast-Beef Stomach, not being able to touch a Sirloin. 1760 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* (1785) II. iv, The first cut of a sirloin of beef was better. 1829 S. ROGERS *Human Life* 13 Then the huge ox shall yield the broad sir-loin. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* III. 67, I hold it an article of faith to have a sirloin of beef upon my table on Sunday. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* xv, A side-table was laid for him, and a great sirloin was brought in.

b. *transf.* Of persons.

1648 MAYNE *Amorous War* I. i, I doe feele, One of my Surloynes going. 1757 E. PERRONET *Mitre* II. lxxxvii, The news makes all their Sur-loins crack: Down drops each stounded head. 1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xviii, To see proud Albyn's tartans as a belt Gird the gross sirloin of a city Celt.

2. With punning allusion to SIR *sb.* 1. (Cf. the etym. note above.)

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Great Eater of Kent* 10 That he should presently enter combate with a worthy knight, called Sir Loyne of Beefe, and ouerthrow him.

†**Sirly,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **serreli,** 6 **serly, syrlye.** [f. SIR *sb.* + -LY 1. Cf. SURLY *a.*] Lordly, haughty, imperious.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3316 Now William..stiffi forþ rides, so serreli þurþ þe cite al him-self one, þat eche welyh was a-wondred. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 100 Serly, *imperiosus.* 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 203 Sike syrlye shepheards han we none, They keepen all the path. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXV. xxxviii. 911 Syrly lords (say they) were the Macedonians, and rigorous. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIX. i, Thine own erected head To far more solid Wretchedness doth bow Than ever made the vilest Reptile be The footstool of Contempt to sirly Thee.

Sirmark (sə̄·rmaik), *sb.* Also 9 **surmark.** [f. MARK *sb.*1] The first element is prob. *sur-* over, above, although *sir-* is the earlier and more usual form.] One or other of several marks made upon a mould to indicate where the respective bevellings are to be applied to the frame-timbers of a vessel.

α. 1664 E. BUSHNELL *Compl. Shipwright* 15 Make Sirmarks to them. 1721 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 26 Then hang up a Ribbon at the Floor Sirmark. *Ibid.* 52 In the Length, 3, 4, or 5 Sirmarks are made, according to the Length of the Piece. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 401/1 The lowermost diagonal..which is named the lower sirmark, at which place the bevellings are taken for the hollow of the floors. 1833 RICHARDSON *Merc. Mar. Arch.* 4 Length of midship floor 10 feet 3 inches from sirmark to sirmark. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 190/1 A line or batten is stretched from some point in the middle-line of the keel to the corresponding heads or sirmarks on opposite sides.

β. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 250 The points, called surmarks, where the respective bevellings are to be applied to the timbers. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 21/2 A cross..on the staff line and also on the stem..called the surmark.

Hence **Si·rmark** *v.* ? *Obs.*

1664 E. BUSHNELL *Compl. Shipwright* 16 The Moulds being made and Sirmarked to the body of the Vessell.

Sirmyse, obs. form of SURMISE *v.*

Sirname, obs. form of SURNAME.

Siroc (səi·rɒk, sirɒ·k). Forms: α. 8– **siroc** (9 **sirocc**). β. 8–9 **sciroc.** γ. 8–9 **siroch.** [a. earlier F. *siroc, siroch* (now *siroco*), or ad. It. *sirocco.*] = SIROCCO 1.

Freq. written with a capital letter.

α. 1775 in ASH. 1786 *European Mag.* IX. 286 The fierce Siroc prevails! 1800 SOUTHEY in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) II. 93 A detestable burning blast, a bastard sort of siroc. 1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Isl.* III. 25 Every wind From the hot Siroc to the wet Monsoon. 1867 EMERSON *May-Day*, etc. Wks. (Bohn) III. 438 These the siroc could not melt.

β. 1789 [see b]. 1819 W. S. ROSE *Lett.* I. 289, I attribute ..this strange influence of perfumes to the Sciroc. 1879 M. D. CONWAY *Demonol.* I. II. vii. 184 Here scirocs, there hurricane, and often tornado.

γ. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Constantia Neville* (ed. 2) I. 261 The grass looked as if it had endured the baleful effects of the blighting Siroch. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* V. xxix. 122 That woody vale,..where no burning siroch blows.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 190 A sciroc wind, or a rainy day, or a hard frost. *c* 1808 R. K. PORTER *Russ. & Swed.* (1813) II. xlii. 193 The Siroc sultriness and oppression..increases at every step. 1809 BRYDONE *Tour thro' Sicily* xx. 207 Lest we should be caught by the Sirocc winds. 1829 POE *Tamerlane* Poems (1859) 215 Like rain Upon the Siroc-withered plain.

Sirocco (sirɒ·ko). Also 7 **syrocco,** 8 **syrocca, serocco**; 7, 9 **scirocco,** 9 **scirrocco.** [a. It. *sirocco, scirocco* (also *scilocco*), = Sp. *siroco* (also *xaloque*), Pg. *xarouco*, Prov. *siroc*, older F. *siroc, siroch* (also *siloc, sciloque*, etc.), ad. Arab. شَرْق *sharq* east, f. *sharaqa* (the sun) rose. Cf. prec.]

1. An oppressively hot and blighting wind, blowing from the north coast of Africa over the Mediterranean and affecting parts of Southern Europe (where it is also moist and depressing). Usually with *the.*

α. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 211 The South-East winde (which the Italians call Syrocco) did blow very contrary to us. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 706 Forth rush..Eurus and Zephir with thir lateral noise, Sirocco, and Libecchio. 1736–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 96 The woods south of Rome are kept up as a fence against the *Sirocco*, or south-west wind. *a* 1791 WESLEY *Serm.* lxix. Wks. 1811 IX. 251 There will be no Sirocco in Italy. 1818 MRS. ILIFF *Poems sev. Occas.* (ed. 2) 120 When dire Sirocco..From Afric's burning sands mephitic vapours brings. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xl, Where the sirocco steals away their strength. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 21 The sirocco was blowing up and down the streets.

transf. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life India* ii. 14 From the west blows a scorching wind, the *sirocco* of..the Daodpore desert.

β. 1819 SHELLEY *Lett.* Prose Wks. 1880 IV. 134 My health is better so long as the scirocco blows. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulch. & Syrian Shrines* II. 223 Under the balmy skies of the early spring, before the horrible scirocco begins to blow. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iii. 33 The insidious heat of the scirocco.

b. With *a* and pl.

α. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii. 572 The atmosphere is thick and dusky: 'Tis a sirocco. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 11 Dec. 10/2 The storm..was followed by a sirocco, which lasted until noon.

β. 1841 FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 71 We have incessant rain, which is as bad as your scirroccos. 1860 MRS. HARVEY *Cruise Claymore* vii. 134 A khamseen was blowing:..this wind, which is an exaggerated scirocco, brings clouds of hot sand from the desert.

c. *fig.* A blighting influence; a fiery storm.

1864 G. A. SALA *Quite Alone* I. ii. 40 Now Scandal's sirocco seized a spiteful anecdote, and twirled and twisted and sent it spinning. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 402, I..have passed through a sirocco of the soul.

2. *elliptical.* A sirocco drying-machine (see 3).

1890 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 2/5 When the hops have been sufficiently rolled..they are..placed in the drying machine or sirocco. 1892 WALSH *Tea* 105 In the process of 'firing' the leaves are..placed in layers in a hot-air machine, known as a 'Sirocco'.

3. *attrib.*, as *sirocco blast, -dust, fog, gale, weather, wind*; also sirocco fan, a fan for forcing a strong current of air into a mine, etc.; sirocco

drying-closet, drying-machine, oven, a closet, machine, or oven for drying hops or tea-leaves, by means of a hot, moist current of air (cf. 2).

1894 GLADSTONE *Horace* III. xxiii. 5 Your vines shall mock *scirocco blasts. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Worksh. Rec.* Ser. IV. 115/2 About a third of the tea..is cured in Davidson's so-called '*sirocco' drying-closets. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 2/3 The first '*Sirocco' drying machine (in which hops are being made into tea). 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 266/1 The dust or sand of dried lakes..borne away into the upper regions of the atmosphere,..may descend again..in the form of 'red-fog', 'sea-dust', or '*sirocco-dust'. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulch. & Syrian Shrines* II. xxiii. 295 The mountains..were veiled in a dreamy, sad-looking *scirocco fog. 1895 F. M. CRAWFORD *Casa Braccio* XXXVI, Then came November with its pestilent *sirocco gales and its dampness. 1890 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 2/5 The machinery consists of a *Sirocco oven and a patent tea roller. 1897 HUGHES *Mediterranean Fever* v. 193 It [*sc.* ice] will also be needed in warm and *sirocco weather. 1777 A. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 253 The same effect..which..the *sirocco winds have upon the inhabitants of Sicily. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 19 An enfeebling and unhinging power, like that of the Sirocco wind.

Siro·ccoish, *a. nonce-word.* In 9 scir-. [f. prec. + -ISH.] Somewhat resembling that produced by the sirocco; oppressively hot and moist.

1837 J. F. COOPER *England* (ed. 2) III. 195 We are more elastic..in a clear bracing air, than in one that is close and sciroccoish.

Siron, variant of CIRON *Obs.*

The Latin pl. *sirones, syrones* occurs in works of the 17th cent., as the transl. of Mouffet's *Theat. Insects* (1658) 1094.

1744 tr. *Boerhaave's Inst.* III. 294 The Sirons, as they are called, dwell in these Cells when they cause the Itch.

Sirope, obs. f. SYRUP. **Sirp(e)cloth,** varr. of SURPCLOTH *Obs.* **Sirples, -us,** obs. ff. SURPLICE.

Sirrah (si·rä). Now *arch.* Forms: *α.* 6 syra, syrra (syria?), 6–7 sirra. *β.* 6 syrha, syrrha, 6–7 sirha, sirrha. *γ.* 6 sirah, 7 syrrah, 7– sirrah. *δ.* 6 serea, serray, serrha, 9 *dial.* serrah. See also SIBRAH. [f. SIR *sb.* The additional syllable had probably no definite origin, though explained by Minsheu as the interj. *ah* or *ha.*]

1. A term of address used to men or boys, expressing contempt, reprimand, or assumption of authority on the part of the speaker; sometimes employed less seriously in addressing children.

α. 1526 *100 Merry Tales* (Rastell) xlii, Sirra I vnderstand that thou dost ly euery night with my wyfe when I am from home. 1548 CROWLEY *Confut. N. Shaxton* G j b, A, syra, there said you wel! 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. ii. 30 Sirra, your Fathers dead, And what will you do now? 1641 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 289 The Bishop saying 'Sir', was mistaken to have said Sirra, and called to the bar.

β. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 2 Sirha, when our..graundsires were alive thei spake plainly in their mothers tongue. 1579 G. HARVEY *Two Lett.* ii. 64 Ah Syrrha, and Iesu Lord, thought I, haue we at last gotten one, of whom his olde ..Companions may iustly glory. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. v. 61 Syrha, sirha, He know the trueth of all. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. x. II. 538 Sirrha, (quoth he) remember you are but a shoemaker.

γ. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, But, heare you, sirah. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 194 Nay, sirrah,..I knowe not what will become of you. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Don Zara* 171 Syrrah, Though I cannot prove how, or where thou attainedst those glorious Arms, yet [etc.]. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 105 P 3, I assure you Sirrah, I wont go to the Devil for you. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 169 Sirrah, I'll break your bones! 1821–2 SHELLEY *Chas. I*, ii. 306 Go, sirrah, and repent of your offence Ten minutes in the rain. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, 'You mean Captain Drake, your worship?' 'I do, sirrah'.

δ. 1547 HOOPER *Answ. Bp. Winchester* T j, See thy God, knele downe serea and hold upp thy handes. 1566 DRANT *Horace Sat.* I. iii. B iij b, What serray what I say? (Quod he) doste thou not know thy selfe? 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 1 Serrha, *heus, io.* 1833 CLOSE *Satirist* 164 I'll fetch the, thau idle serrah!

b. Used attributively with appellations or proper names.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. 121 Sirra Costard, I will infranchise thee. 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* I. Wks. (Grosart) X. 59 Sirrha collier, know that we are here all assembled as a grand Iurie. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisill* II. i, But, Sirha Rice, when's the day? 1663 COWLEY *Cutter of Coleman Str.* I. ii, I, Sirra Jack-an-apes, if you start when your father speaks to you. 1860 AINSWORTH *Ovingdean Grange* IX. ii. 341 Give me a glass of brandy, sirrah host.

†**2.** Applied to women (seriously or in jest). *Obs.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* II. i, Sirrah Bellafront,..thou shalt sit at the upper end, punk. 1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* II. iv, Ah Sirrah; And have we got you here? faith Noble Lady, We'l keep you one month Courtier. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. i, Adod, sirrah, I like thy wit well. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* vii, You lose all your money at cards, sirrah Stella. 1711 *Ibid.* 11 July, Stella, hussy, don't you remember, sirrah [etc.].

Sirree. *dial.* and *U.S.* Also **sirre-e, sir-ee,** *dial.* **sur-, sor-, sarree.** [f. SIR *sb.* (cf. prec.); prob. a modification of the common dialect *sirry, surry,* etc.] Sir, sirrah.

1823 *Knight's Quarterly Mag.* I. 300 O! say, sirree, where he'st thee gwain? 1848 RUXTON *Far West* i, No sirre-e; I went out when Spiers lost his animals. 1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Eng. Sportsman* ix. 146 To say No sirree-e-e-e-e is to convey the sentence of No you infernal rogue [etc.]. 1900 R. H. SAVAGE *Brought to Bay* I. ii, 'So, the title is secure!' cried the overjoyed Hawtrey. 'Yes, Sir-ee!' frankly answered Texas Dave.

Sirreng, obs. form of SYRINGE.

Sir-reverence, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 se-, save, 7 sa-reverence. [Alteration of *save* (abbreviated to *sa'*) *reverence*: see SAVE *prep.* 4 and REVERENCE *sb.* 5.]

†**1.** *Sir-reverence of,* with all respect for, with apologies to. (Cf. REVERENCE *sb.* 5.) *Obs.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii, Sir reuerence of your master-dome, and you were out a-doore [etc.]. 1594 LODGE & GREENE *Looking Gl.* 326 And sir, sir-reuerence of your manhood and genterie, I haue brought home such mony as you lent me. 1614 RICH *Honestie of Age* (1844) 14 His manners, that hauing to tell a sober tale to a Justice of peace, would still begin his speeches with 'Sir reuerence of your worships honesty'. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* II. iii, The beastliest man—..(Sir-reverence of the company)—a rank whore-master.

†**b.** Without const. *Obs.*

α. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 91 A very reuerent body: I such a one, as a man may not speake of, without he say sir reuerence. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 171 And, sir reuerence, how lowsy he and the mother of Infortunatus were. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* Induct., Hee has (sirreuerence) kick'd me three, or foure times about the Tyring-house. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* Pref. Verses, And makes the Country Neighbourhood about Swallow, Sir reverence, what he voideth out. 1687 MRS. BEHN *Lucky Chance* IV. i, Plain Fulbank,—methinks you might have had a Sir-reverence under your girdle, Sir.

β. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Let. A ij b, A thing that I cannot name wel without saue-reuerence. 1598 DELONEY *Jacke Newb.* x. 115, I was a woman when she was, se-reverence, a paltrie girle. 1658 BURTON *Comm. Antoninus Itin.* 223 So great was his despite against him, meerly because he was *Sacerdos Maritatus*, which forsooth he cannot name without a Sa-Reverence. 1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), Sa-reverence, *salva reverentia*, saving regard or respect; an usual word.

†**c.** With punning allusion to SIR *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 270 They neither feare Goodman Sathan,..nor Sir Reuerence, nor milord Gouernement himselfe.

2. Human excrement.

1592 GREENE *Ned Browne* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 33 His face,..and his Necke, were all besmeared with the soft sirreuerence, so as he stunk. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lii, For four..Days I hardly scumber'd one poor Butt of Sir-reverence. 1738 BRACKEN *Farriery* (1749) 218 It was a Bolus made of Sirreverence or Human Dung, begging the Reader's Pardon. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 30 Apr., As a plate of marmalade would improve a pan of sir-reverence. 1828– in dial. glossaries (Yorksh., Durham).

b. With *a.* A piece or lump of this.

1592 GREENE *Upstart Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 235 As far as a hungry sow can smell a sir reuerence. 1683 DRYDEN *Vind. 'Duke of Guise'* Wks. 1725 V. 333 If I cry a Sir-Reverence, and you take it for Honey, make the best of your Bargain. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 174 To try an Important Experiment, whether it was possible for 'em to preserve a Sir Reverence. 1720–1 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 315 To pass by the Sir-reverence, and the good Dousing the Dragon met with. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph. Acharn.* IV. vii, May Providence Send to the hand of this fine shark A newly-born sir-reverence. *a* 1840 FERRE *Aristoph. Acharn.* 1170 Let him grasp for his defence A ponderous sir reverence.

Hence †**Sir-re·verence** *v. Obs. rare.*

1665 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. iii. 27 Another time sirreverencing in a paper, and running to the window with it. 1697 CIBBER *Woman's Wit* IV. 52 O Lord Sir! I do Sir-reverence your Person.

Sirrha, obs. form of SIBRAH.

†**Si·rright.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SIR *sb.*] A right pertaining to the male line.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Honour* VII. ii. 204 Rodolphe alleaged that the Dukedome..was..a Male Fief of the Empire, from which..Daughters were excluded, and so the sirright ceassing, he was the very neerest heire.

Sirring, obs. f. SYRINGE. **Sirris,** variant of SIRIS. **Sirrup,** obs. f. SYRUP. **Sirse** (Sc.): see SIR *sb.* 7 b.

Sirship (sɔ·ɹʃip). [f. SIR *sb.* + -SHIP.] The position of a Sir; baronetcy.

1873 *Gentl. Mag.* July 101 A baronet..whose grandfather ..had left his descendants nothing to support the dignity of the hereditary Sirship.

Sirt, var. SYRT *Obs.* **Sirtes, -is:** see SYRTIS *Obs.* **Sirup,** obs. and U.S. var. SYRUP. **Sirurgien:** see CHIRURGEON and SURGEON.

‖**Sirvente** (sirvānt). Also syrvente, sirvent. [a. F. *sirvente* or ad. Prov. *sirventes, serventes* (cf. OF. *serventeis, -ois*, It. *serventese*, Sp. *serventesio*), app. f. *servir* to serve, but the connexion is not quite clear. The French and English form has arisen by taking *sirventes* as a pl.] A form of poem or lay, usu. satirical, employed by the troubadours of the Middle Ages.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xvii, The knight..asked his host whether he would choose a *sirvente* in the language of *oc*, or a *lai* in the language of *oui*. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* II. 516 To get A notion of the Troubadour's intent In rondel, tenzon, virlai or sirvent. 1878 STUBBS *Study Med. & Mod. Hist.* vi. (1900) 141 Some few sirventes or satiric lays that entitle Richard [I] to the name of a trouvere.

Sis, obs. variant of SICE, SISE *sb.*1

Sisal (si·săl, sisa·l). Also sissal. [See def.]

1. The name of a port in Yucatan, used attrib. with *fibre, grass, hemp,* to designate the prepared fibre of several species of *Agave* and *Fourcroya*, which is largely exported from that place for use in rope-making. Also *Sisal plant*, the aloe or other plant from which the fibre is obtained.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 724/1 None of its agricultural products yield articles of export, except the Sisal hemp. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 126 The sisal hemp, which is the product of the Agave Americana, is also very enticing to the speculator. 1887 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 6 May 4/8 A cargo of sisal grass for the Plymouth Cordage Company. 1889 *Times* 9 Mar. 4/3 The issue was an Act..to give substantial encouragement..to the cultivation of the sisal fibre. 1889 D. MORRIS *Kew Bulletin* No. 27. 60 The true Sisal plant is Agave rigida.

attrib. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 36/2 The prosperity which Yucatan in recent years owes to the development of the Sisal hemp trade. 1882 CHRISTY *New Commercial Pl.* No. 6. 43 The Giant Lily or Sisal Hemp Plant of South America (*Fourcroya gigantea*). 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 May 6/2 Some thousands of acres of sisal hemp plantations.

2. *ellipt.* = prec. Chiefly *attrib.*

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 24 White Sisal Rope. White Sisal Lines. 1895 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 2/3 Hemp has shown renewed activity...Sisal also is firmer. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 65 Almost all the settlers of this island [*sc.* Andros] are engaged in Sisal cultivation.

Siscoe, variant of CISCO. *U.S.*

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* VI. 11 Herring are found all along the coast; and in the lakes there is a similar fish known as the siscoe.

Siscowet (si·skoˌet). Also siskawitz, -iwit, -owet, etc. [Odjibwa, meaning literally 'cooks itself' (Goode).] A variety of the great lake trout of N. America, found in Lake Superior.

1849 H. W. HERBERT *Fish & Fishing* 145 The Siskawitz is rather shorter and stouter than the Mackinaw fish. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 496 The Siscowet, *Salvelinus Namaycush.* 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 468 The amateur is likely to confound the Namaycush with the Siscowet.

attrib. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 318 Siscowet Salmon..is probably a local variety rather than a distinct species.

Sise, obs. variant of SICE, SIZE.

†**Siseangle.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *sise* SICE + ANGLE.] A hexagon. So †**Siseangled** *a.*

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Def., Likewyse shall you iudge of siseangles, which haue sixe corners. 1567 — *Whetst.* C iij, Quadrate, Cinkeangeled, Siseangeled.

Sisel (si·sĕl), *sb. Zool.* [ad. G. *siesel*: cf. ZIZEL.] A kind of ground-squirrel (see quots.).

1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 93 Of the Old World species the best known is the Sisel, or Suslik (*Spermophilus citillus*), which is abundant in Central and Eastern Europe, and in Siberia. 1894–5 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 79 The suslik or sisel of North-Eastern Europe and Northern Asia.

†**Sisel,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [a. ON. *sýsl*, related to *sýsla* sb. work, business, *sýsla* vb. to be busy, etc.] Occupied, engaged.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 112 Quen hali kirc bigan newli, Sain Jon was sisel, and bisi, In ordaining of priestes and clerkes, And in casting kirc werkes.

‖**Siser.** *Bot. rare.* [L. *siser*, perhaps the same as Gr. *σίσαρον* (whence mod.L. *sisarum*).] The water-parsnip or skirret (*Sium sisarum*).

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* 74 Fuchsius rekoneth that our skyrwort, or skyrwit is a kinde of siser. 1562 — *Herbal* II. (1568) 139 The roote of Siser sodden is pleasant to the mouth. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Siser*, in botany, a name given to the skirret. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Sium Sisarum*, systematic name of the siser or skirret, formerly considered aromatic.

Siser, obs. form of SIZAR.

Siserary (sisĕrē·ri). Now *dial.* Forms: 5 sessarary, 7 sesarara, 8 ceserera; 7 sas-, 8–9 sassarara (9 sassaray); 7 sursurrara; 8 siserari, 8–9 -ary, 9 -ara; 7 sissara, 8–9 sisserara, 9 -ary. [Popular corruption of CERTIORARI.]

†**1.** A writ of Certiorari. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Housek. Bks.* (Roxb.) 196 My Lord payd to the Clerk of the Pece for a sesserary for the Vekery of Wyrmyngforde ij. s. vj. d. 1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* C j, Heere a writ of *Demur*, there a *Procedendo*, heere a *Sursurrara*, there a *Capiendo*. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* G iij, They cannot so much as pray, but in law, that their sinnes may be remou'd, with a writ of Error, and their soules fetcht vp to heauen, with a sasarara. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 67 Sissaras, Writs, Latitats and Procidendos. 1760–1 SMOLLETT *Launcelot Greaves* ii, O! that there was a lawyer here to serve him with a *siserari*.

2. *With a siserary,* with a vengeance; suddenly, promptly.

1607 W[ENTWORTH] S[MITH] *Puritan Widow* II[1]. iii, If it be lost or stole..a Conning Kinsman of mine..would fetcht againe with a Sesarara. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xxi, It was on Sunday in the afternoon, when I fell in love all at once with a *sisserara*. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxi, 'As for the matter of that,' returned the hostess, '..out she shall pack with a sassarara'. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 71 I'll fetch you up with a sisserary. 1837 G. W. THORNBURY *Songs of Cavaliers & Roundheads* 55 Tossing off Canary cups, With a Sassarara.

3. A severe rebuke or scolding; a sharp blow; a torrent *of* (language).

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 15 May, I have gi'en the dirty slut a siserary. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* x, Master Holdenough ..attacked it with such a siserary of Latin as might have scared the devil himself. 1850 G. W. REYNOLDS *Myst. of Court* I. 16 He was just inflicting a Sassarara upon the waiter for not keeping up a cheerful fire. 1893 COZENS HARDY *Broad Norfolk* 5 One boy will give another a clip o' the head..and once I heard a fellow say he had given another a sisserara.

4. A loud clanging noise.

a 1770 '*Lady Ouncebell*' v. in Child *Ballads* II. 207 He heard the bells of the high chapel ring, They rang with a ceserera. *a* 1850 *Ibid.* 209 They made a loud sassaray.

Sisers, obs. f. Scissors. **Sisimbrium,** obs. var. of Sisymbrium. **Siskawitz,** var. of Siscowet.

Siskin (si·skin). Also 6 **sysken-,** 7 **sisken.** [ad. G. dial. *sisschen* or *zeischen,* = older Flem. *sijsken, cijsken* (Kilian; Du. and Flem. *sijsje*), Da. *sisgen,* a dim. form based on MHG. *zîsec* (also *zîse*; G. *zeisig*), MLG. *ziseke, sîsek* (Norw. *sisik, sisk,* Sw. *siska*), which are app. of Slavonic origin; cf. Pol. *czyżik, czyż,* Russ. *chizhek', chizh'*.]

1. A small song-bird, in some respects closely allied to the goldfinch; also called Aberdevine.

By older writers sometimes identified with the greenfinch.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. (1568) 134 It [sesamum] groweth in Germany..and men fede byrdes with the sede of it there, namelye Syskennes. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 80 She most commonlye hatcheth hir yong in the Larkes Nest or Siskins, which Siskin is not much vnlike to the Goldfinch. 1616 Surfl. & Markham *Country Farme* VII. lxx. 731 The Siskins liue, some fiue, others eight yeares. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge d j b, All sorts of little birds, as sparrows,..wrens, witwalls, siskens. 1768 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* II. 512 The Siskin, which is an irregular visitant, said to come from Russia. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 169 The Siskin and Linnet only forsake us in severe winters. 1813 Montagu *Ornith.* Suppl. s.v. *Siskin,* The Aberdevine or Siskin, is in size between that of the Greater and Lesser Red-poles. 1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 252 The siskin (*Carduelis spinus*)..is sometimes very abundant. 1894–5 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 385 From Japan to the British Isles the common siskin (*Chrysomitris spinus*) is found in suitable localities.

2. Applied with defining words to various small birds related to or resembling the siskin.

1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. i. 292 Mexican Siskin ..inhabits Mexico. *Ibid.* 293 Chinese Siskin ..inhabits China. 1839 Audubon *Ornith. Biog.* V. 46 Black-headed Siskin, *Fringilla Magellanica. Ibid.* 85 Arkansaw Siskin, *Fringilla psaltria.* 1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 116 Arkansas Goldfinch; Mexican Siskin. 1884 — *N. Amer. Birds* 354 *Chrysomitris pinus,*..American Siskin.

3. *attrib.,* as *siskin finch, group*; **siskin-green,** a light green inclining to yellow; **siskin-parrot,** a small parrot of the genus *Nasiterna* (*Cent. Dict.*).

1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 59 Siskin-green forming the connecting link with yellow. 1815 Stephens in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. II. 467 Siskin Finch. *Ibid.* 471 Mexican Siskin Finch. 1879 E. P. Wright *Anim. Life* 260 A peculiar sort of green approaching to sage-green, but so peculiar as to give rise to the name of 'siskin-green'. 1894–5 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 385 A less well-known member of the siskin group is the citril finch (*Chrysomitris citrinella*).

Siskowet, variant of Siscowet. **Sisme,** obs. f. Schism. **Sismograph, -meter,** variants of Seismograph, -meter. **Sisour(e,** obs. ff. Sizer. **Sisours,** obs. f. Scissors.

† **Sispar** (also sy-), ? obs. f. *side-spar.*

1532–3 *Durh. Househd. Bk.* (Surtees) 173 Pro sarracione j rod in sparres et sisparres. *Ibid.,* Walplaytts et sysparres.

Siss, *sb.*[1] *U.S.* Also **sis.** (See quot.)

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Siss* and *Sissy,* contractions for sister, often used in addressing girls, even by their parents.

Siss, *sb.*[2] [Cf. next.] A hissing sound.

1870 Talmage *Crumbs Swept Up* 397 The chuck and siss and smoke of the bar, as it plunged into the water.

Siss (sis), *v.* Also 4 **ciss-, sciss-, syss-.** [ME. *cissen, sissen,* = MDu. *cissen,* Du. and LG. *sissen,* of imitative origin: cf. G. *zischen* and Sizz *v.*] *intr.* To hiss. Now *dial.* and *U.S.*

In dial. use also *trans.,* to hiss (a person), to incite (a dog) by hissing: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

13.. W. de Bibbesworth in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 152 *Serpent ciphele,* scisset [*v.r.* cisses]. *c* 1400 *MS. Bibl. Reg.* 12 B. i. f. 12 (Hallw.), *Sibilus est genus serpentis,..*a syssing. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 21 Their peeces..sometimes lieth sissing in the touchhole or peece. 1828– in dialect glossaries (Yks., Lanc., Chesh., Linc.). 1828–32 Webster, *Siss,* to hiss; a legitimate word in universal popular use in New England. 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2). 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., I've always a sissing noise in my head. *Ibid.,* If a sup o' rain were to fall, it would siss.

Siss (obs. Sc.): see Sithe, time.

Sissars, -ers, obs. forms of Scissors.

‖ **Sissonne.** *rare.* [F. *sissonne, sissone*: see Littré and Hatzfeld.] A certain step in dancing.

1706 J. Weaver *Orchesography* Table 35 A Table of Sissonnes or Cross leaps.

‖ **Sissoo** (si·sū). Also **seesoo, seesu, sissu.** [Urdū (Hindī) *sīsū.*]

1. A valuable Indian timber-tree, *Dalbergia Sissoo.*

1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade M.* II. 71 This [wood], which is called the *sissoo,* grows in most of the great forests, intermixed with the *saul.* 1854 Hooker *Himalayan Jrnls.* II. 340 *note,* The Cuttack forests are composed of teak, Sal, Sissoo, ebony,..and other trees of a dry soil. 1876 *Cornhill Mag.* Sept. 318 Studded here and there with tall clumps of *sál* and *sissu.*

attrib. 1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade M.* II. 72 Some *sissoo-trees* grow to a great height. 1859 J. Lang *Wanderings in India* 358 The Governor-General..wore his head as high as a seesu-tree. 1874 Stewart & Brandis *Flora N. W. India* 149 The Sissoo tree is indigenous in the sub-Himalayan tract.

2. The timber obtained from this tree.

1810 T. Williamson *E. India Vade M.* II. 72 *Sissoo* is, of late, more employed than formerly for the frame, ribs, knees, &c. of ships. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 162 The beams too of the houses, if not of bamboo, sissoo, or teak, are not safe from their devastating fangs. 1874 Stewart & Brandis *Flora N. W. India* 150 Sissoo is very elastic, it seasons well, does not warp or split, and takes a fine polish.

attrib. 1873 Balfour *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) IV. 184/1 Sissoo-wood oil,..an empyreumatic medicinal product. 1874 Stewart & Brandis *Flora N. W. India* 150 Sissoo wood is esteemed highly for all purposes where strength and elasticity are required. *Ibid.,* Supplies of large Sissoo logs.

Sissors, -oures, obs. forms of Scissors.

Sissy: see Siss *sb.*[1]

Sist, *sb. Sc. Law.* [f. the vb.] A stay or suspension of some proceeding; *spec.* an 'order or injunction of the Lord Ordinary prohibiting diligence to proceed' (Bell).

1693 Stair *Instit.* (ed. 2) IV. lii. 755 Therefore (by Act of Sederunt Nov. 9. 1680) Fourteen Days are only allowed for Sists of Execution, from the Date the Bill was signed. *Ibid.,* That it may be known what Sists are granted, the Clerks of the Bills are ordained to make an Alphabetick Inventar of Bills Refused or Sisted. 1721 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 562 A sist in case of heats and debates in a session, until superior judicatories took up the differences. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 121 He gave notice to the tenants of Ardshiel, that he had procured a sist for them against the decreet of removing. 1765–8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. iii. § 18 A sist granted on a bill without passing it, expires also in fourteen days. 1800 A. Carlyle *Autobiogr.* 287 The solicitor..immediately granted the alarmed brethren a sist. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 961 Where intimation of the application or sist in the Bill-Chamber has been made to the charger.

transf. 1831 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1853) 216 In contempt of a sist on the proceedings by the Elector of Mentz.

Sist, *v. Sc.* [ad. L. *sistĕre* to cause to stand, etc., a reduplicated form corresponding to *stāre* to stand.]

1. a. *trans.* To stop, stay, or suspend (some proceeding, etc.), *esp.* by judicial decree.

1652 *Reg. Commiss. Gen. Assembly* (S. H. S.) III. 553 Their desire and overture for sisting the present differences had been mett by the Commission. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1406/2 We have thought fit hereby to sist and supersede all Execution upon any Letters of Caption. 1716 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 192 The Assembly might now declare, that they did not..design to..rescind a sentence passed in the Commission; but only..had sisted its execution. 1831 *Church Patronage Reporter* Jan. 9 If it [patronage] enjoys the high sanction of the pages of inspiration, we may here sist our procedure. 1881 J. H. Stirling *Text-bk. Kant* 6 The whole business of metaphysic..is summarily sisted. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 App. Cases 174 His Lordship sisted the appellant's action until the decision of the action of declarator.

absol. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. x. § iii, If a pursuit were intented before them, upon a Bond, they behoved to sist, if the Bond was alledged to be false.

† b. *intr.* To cease, desist, stop. *Obs.*

a 1676 Br. Guthrie *Mem.* (1748) 60 An accident which ..fell out upon the second of July, and imported, that the covenanters meant not to sist there. 1676 Row *Contin. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 456 Neither did the persecuting Prelatis rage then sist. *a* 1707 Sir D. Hume *Domestic Details* (1843) 55 My cause being in the roll, I had no mind it shall sist on any account.

2. *trans.* † a. To present (oneself) *before* a court. Also without const. *Obs. rare.*

1643 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1870) VI. i. 5 The Convention.. haveing given warrant to Charge the erle..to compeir with all diligence and sist his persone befor thame. *a* 1722 Lauder *Decisions* (1759) I. 680 Where a prisoner..grants a bond..to sist himself such a day, or else pay the debt.

b. To cause or order (one) to appear *before* a court; to summon or cite.

1721 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* III. i. (1830) III. 7 He was sisted before the committee for public affairs. 1752 Louthian *Form of Process* (ed. 2) p. vi, The Manner of apprehending and sisting Delinquents before the Court. 1802 A. Ranken *Hist. France* I. 283 On being sisted before the court, security or bail was taken. 1837 Gilfillan *Life Waller* 16 He..was sisted before the Court of War, and condemned to die. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 100 § 98 Nothing herein contained shall prevent..the Court from sisting any person upon his own application..as a party to the cause.

3. To place or posit. *rare*—[1].

1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1853) 313 Some..have preposterously sisted nature as the first or generative principle.

† **Sistence**[1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [aphetic form of Assistance.] Aid, help.

a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxlviii. (1811) 134 With the sistence of the cyteyns of the same, the sayd Cytie was defendyd.

† **Sistence**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *sist-ĕre* Sist *v.* + -ence.] Stopping.

1640 Howell *Dodona's Gr.* 187 Extraordinary must be the wisdome of him who floateth upon the streame of Soveraigne favour, wherein there is seldome any sistence, twixt sinking and swimming.

Sister (si·stəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 **sweostor, sweoster** (**swester, sweester, sw-, su-, soester**); **swostor, -tur; swustor, -tur, -ter; swystor, -tar, -ter, swistor, -ter.** β. 1–7 **suster** (4 **-tir, -tyr**). γ. 3–4 **soster** (4 **soster**). δ. 3– **sister** (4 **-terre, -tre, -tur**), 5, *Sc.* 5–6 **sistir** (5 **-tire,** 6 **seister**); 4 **scyster, syister,** 4–6 **syster** (4 **-tre,** 6 **-tur**), 4–5 **systyr,** 5–6 *Sc.* **-tir**; 4 **oistir,** 5 **-ter, cyster, -tire, -tyr.** [Common Teut.: OE. *sweostor, swuster,* etc. (see above), = OFris. *swester,* OS. *swestar* (LG. *swester*), OHG. *swester, swister* (G. *schwester*), Goth. *swistar*; forms without *s-* appear in OFris. *suster, sister* (WFris. *sister, soster,* EFris. *süster,* NFris. *söster, sester,* etc.), MDu. and MLG. *suster* (Du. *zuster,* LG. *suster, süster*), ON. and Icel. *systir* (Norw. and Sw. *syster,* Da. *søster*). Of the three ME. types, *suster* and *soster* represent OE. forms with the *w* absorbed, while *sister* appears to be from Scandinavian. The Teut. stem **swestr-* stands for an original *swesr-,* and has cognates in OSlav. and Russ. *sestra,* Lith. *sesů,* Skr. *svasā* (*svasr-*), L. *soror* (:—**swesor*), OIr. *siur,* Welsh *chwaer.*]

I. 1. A female in relationship to another person or persons having the same parents. (Also applicable to female animals.)

Sometimes loosely used in the sense of Half-sister, and in that of Sister-in-law.

α. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 658, Hæfde hine Penda adrifenne..forþon he his swostor [*Laud MS.* swustor] anforlet. *Ibid.* an. 888, Sio wæs Ælfredes swostor cyninges. *c* 925 *Ibid.* an. 922, Þa gefor Æþelflæd his swystar æt Tameworþige. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 40 Ne is ðe gemnise þætte soester min forleort mec [etc.]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xii. 13 Sege nu, ic þe bidde, þæt þu min swuster sig. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1067, Ða begann se cyngc.. gyman his sweostor him to wife. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048, Þa..betæhte hy his swyster to Hwerwillon. *Ibid.* an. 1091, Eadgar..for to þam cynge..& to his swustor.

β. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 604, Sæberht Ricolan sunu Æðelberhtes suster. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1140, Eustace ..nam þe kinges suster of France to wife. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 þo two sustres wepen for here broðres deað. *c* 1200 Ormin 6382 Þa susstress..Werenn Labaness dohhtress. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2643 þat worþi mayden þat was Williams suster. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxviii. 288 Thei taken hire Doughtres and hire Sustres to here Wyfes. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* III. ii. 101 By reson ye ar myn neuew, my susters sone. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxxvii. (1870) 298 He dyd kylle his wyfe, and his wyfes suster. ? 1562 *Child-Marriages* 65, I have gevin her xx[s]; and I wilbe as good vnto my suster Katherine. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. iv, Gods will, my suster shall see him.

γ. 1275 Lay. 25534 þe fader weap a þane sone, soster o þan broþer. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 880 Morgan..of þe eldor soster was. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 720 3our owhen soster him bare. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 308 Fedra hire yonger Soster eke, A lusti Maide. *Ibid.,* To sen hire Soster mad a queene.

δ. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3855 Ðor was moyses sister dead. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2410 þou art my sister and i þi broþer. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2328 þerfore y schal myn heritage Gyue þy sistres in mariage. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 51 He wes cummyn off the offspryng Off hyr that eldest systir was. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 478/2 Cystyr, by þe faderys syde oonly, *soror. c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. iv. 298 That ech man ouȝte for bere ouer myche loue to..britheren and sistris. 1535 Starkey *Let.* in *England* (1878) p. xx, The weyght of such maryage betwyx brother & systur. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* I. ii. 263 Her father..will not promise her to any man, Vntill the elder sister first be wed. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 579 The inheritance became divided among the sisters of the said John Tiptoft. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 423 Prince Maurice, and his Sister, who was marryed to Count Hohenlo. 1741–2 Gray *Agrip.* 118 Daughter, sister, wife, And mother of their Cæsars. 1794 Coleridge *To a Friend* (*Charles Lamb*), I, too, a sister had, an only sister. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxix, I trust your honour will allow me to speak with my sister? 1877 Tennyson *Harold* v. ii, There was more than sister in my kiss, And so the saints were wroth.

b. In older forms of the plural.

In OE. the plural had either the same forms as the singular, or appears as *sweostra, -tru,* etc. These subsequently assumed the pl. *-n* of weak nouns, and gave the common ME. forms *sustren, sostren, sistren,* etc. (cf. *brethren*). In general literary use these were finally discarded about 1550 in favour of the pl. in *-s,* which is found as early as *c* 1200.

α. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 718, Hiera swostur wærun Cuenburg & Cuþburh. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 56 Suoester [*Rushw.* swæster] his alle. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark vi. 3 Ah ne swester her usih miþ sindun? *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 62 Neoȝone wæran Noðþes sweoster. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8710 Miche bale hade his brether, and his blithe sister. *Ibid.* 10759 Mycle pite was of Priam.., With sobbyng of syster, þat semly were euer. ? 1562 *Child-Marriages* 65 One of my suster is maried alreadie.

β. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 3 Ahne suoestro [*c* 1000 swustra, *c* 1160 swustre] his her miþ usic sint? *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1067, Mid his modor & his twam sweostran. [*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark iii. 35 Se is min moder & min broðer & mine swustren.] *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 435 þat þou sum-ȝware þine sostrene do in-to ane nonnerie. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7560 His moder & is sostren tuo mid him sone he nom. 1340 [see sense 5]. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 93 As sustern in unitie they accorden. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) ix. 102 Sarra..and Melcha..weren Sustren to the seyd Lothe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2077 Hurre sustron weptone. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 49 Bretheryn or systerynes chylderyn arn in þe secunde degre. *c* 1507 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 202, I recommend me to you, and to all my brethren and sistren. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 30 b, You have other parentes, other brethren, sisterne, and nephewes. 1580 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 432, I will that all the goodes be devyded equallye amongeste my Brethren and systeringe childringe.

1843–8 (see 3). *a* 1849– (see 3 b). 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Sistern,* for sisters. A vulgar pronunciation sometimes heard from uneducated preachers at the West.

† c. Used to designate the mother-in-law of one's daughter. *Obs.*

1701 Evelyn *Diary* 28 Mar., I went to the funeral of my sister Draper.

2. *fig.* One who is reckoned as, or fills the place of, a sister.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 50 Min broðer & suoester [*Rushw.* swuster] & moder is [he]. *c* 1200 Ormin 15700 Weppmenn & wifmenn haþe Sinndenn till ure Laferrd

Crist Full dere brepre & susstress. 1340 *Ayenb.* 89 He is my broþer and my zoster and my moder. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* vii. 4 Sey to wisdam, My sisterthou art. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 137 Thus sayde I..vnto wormes sekurly,..'My systren all ye bene'. *Ibid.*, I shall call hem sustres. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxiv. 394 The maidens.. that day were called the Sisters of their god Vitzliputzli. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt*, Introd. Addr. P 19 What do they whisper, thou sworn sister of the Eumenides?

b. A female holding a similar position to another; a fellow-queen, etc.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 2 Vnto our brother France, and to our Sister, Health and faire time of day. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, If..it was needful to continue some restraint on the person of her unhappy sister of Scotland.

3. a. A female member of a religious order, society, or gild; *spec.* a nun.

Also with special designations as *Sister(s) of Charity, of Mercy*, etc.

(*a*) *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxiii. (1890) 340 Sumu haligu nunne..wæs..restende in sweostra slæperne. *Ibid.*, Þa geseah heo oðere sweostor ymb heo restende. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 54 Þat vche mon schulde seye, Ich were suster of [3our] house. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 225 But take we heede to..nunnes and sustris & see hou þei folowen Crist for þe more partie. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 To noriche more loue bytwene þe bretheren and sustren of þe bretherhede. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 174 A sister of þe fraternitie of Oegniez. 1482 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XXV. 122 Ye kepar of oure ye sistrenes librarie. 1530 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 16, I bequeith..to the prioriesse of Thikhid and hir systers iijs. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 205 The Sisteris gray, befoir this day, Did crune within thair cloister. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 18 One Isabell, a Sister. *c* 1660 in J. Morris *Troubles Our Cath. Forefathers* (1872) vi. 257 For Subprioress she appointed Sister Anne Tremaine, one of our old Sisters that came from St. Ursula's. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* III. 24 The grey sisters were endowed with five hundred marks an hour, to say masses. 1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* Proem xvi, Behold the black Beguine, the Sister grey. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian Princess* II. 16 Mass being concluded, each sister departs to pursue her particular employment. 1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 112 They regard them.. with far less indulgence than the schools of the Sisters.

(*b*) 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 181/2 There are a Roman Catholic church..and an establishment of the Sisters of Charity. 1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* III. 180 We had sick-nurses..Catholic 'Sisters of Mercy'. 1898 C. BELL tr. *Huysmans' Cathedral* viii. 145 Sisters of the Visitation, Sisters of Providence, Sisters of Good Comfort,..all lived in hives close round Chartres.

b. A female fellow-member of the Christian Church as a whole, or of some body or association within this.

In quot. 1607 used allusively in bad sense. For the vocative use, which appears earlier, see 5.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiii. 63 Therbi [thou] enhauncidist thi silf aboue thi Cristen britheren and sistren. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 70 Wyllynge in his herte euery person se his brother or syster in god, to haue the same graces and glory. 1533 MORE *Apol.* iv. Wks. 849/2 Now was this word taken vp, & walked about abrode among the brethren & sistern. 1577 FULKE *Answ. True Christian* 23 Our deare brethren and sistern begotten in Iesu Christ by the gospell. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. ii. Wks. 1873 II. 307 The Seruing-man [has] his Punke, the student his Nun in white Fryers, the Puritan his Sister. 1738 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 107 The rest of the day we spent with all the brethren and sisters. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, This is one of the precious sisters, and we'll take her word. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 375 We united brethren and sisteren of the three kingdoms. 1861 N. A. WOODS *Tour Pr. Wales in Canada* 261 The cortège had to be eked out with the Temperance Brethren and Sistren.

†**c.** *Sisters of the bank*, prostitutes. *Obs.*

1550 CROWLEY *Inform. & Petit.* 472 Immodeste and wanton gyrles haue hereby ben made sisters of the Banck (the stumbling stock of all frayle youth).

d. A member of a body of nurses; also *spec.* a head-nurse having charge of a ward in an infirmary or hospital.

1873 MRS. BROOKFIELD *Not a Heroine* II. 158 Two 'Nursing Sisters', from an excellent institution,..took turns day and night to attend upon [him]. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 492 The Matron..who is guided by the reports of the 'sisters' or 'charge-nurses'.

4. a. Used to designate qualities, conditions, etc., in relation to each other or to some kindred thing.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 29 All ðat hire suster, ðe rihte ȝeleaue, hire seiheð, all his [*sc.* hope] hit fastliche hopeð. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 17 Ah wel is him þat folheð wit godes dohter for he halt wið maidenhad þat is hire suster. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9547 Þe first o þam was cald merci...Pees þe feirth sister hight. 1399 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 98 Ich shal þe kenne to clergie,..hue is ryhte to þe seuen ars and also my soster. 1443 LYDG. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 212 In thes seven sustryn was no divisions: Chesf of ther consayl was Humilitas. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 133 Virginite whiche is suster of angellis. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 104 If musicke and sweet poetry agree,..the sister and the brother. 1644 N. D. *3rd Pt. Three Conversions Eng.* 179 Vayne glory..with her other sisters, Inobedience, boasting, &c. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 10 Thou with Eternal wisdom didst converse, Wisdom thy Sister. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* V. v, Science, and her sister Poesy, Shall clothe in light the..cities of the free! 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. ii. (1876) 58 Inspiration decidedly the sister of daily labor.

b. Applied to mythological or imaginary beings; esp. *the (fatal or three) sisters*, the Fates or Parcæ.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 733 O fatale sustrin! which, or any clothe Me shapyn was, my destyne me sponne. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 1402 The myghty Muse..Calliope, And hir eighte sustren eke. 1420 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 489 Or I was born, my desteny was sponne By Parcas sustren, to slee me, if they conne. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iv. 155 This opinioun, that iij. sistris (whiche ben spiritis) comen to the cradilis of infantis, forto sette to the babe what schal bifalle to him. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 388 Scho send hym doun vnto the sisteris thre. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) B ij, Whose fatall threde false fortune nedes would reele, Ere it were twisted by the susters thre. 1592 LODGE *Euphues Shadow* (Hunterian Club) 79, I should be confirmed..euen to ouercome the insupportable trauailes of the sisters. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 8 These weyward Sisters saluted me, and referr'd me to the comming on of time. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 15 Begin then, Sisters of the sacred well. 1744 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 59 The harmonious Muse And her persuasive sisters. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* V. 194 Should the weird sisters, in a fit of bad temper [etc.]. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 325 Hark on a joyous day what prophet-story the sisters Open surely to thee.

5. In the vocative, as a mode of address, chiefly in transferred senses.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Leoue broðre and sustre ȝe hi-hered hu [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Þis nis nout uor ou, leoue sustren, iseid ne uor oðer swuche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Sleȝþe zayþ..'Now broþren and zostren y-hyreþ my red and yueþ youre'. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 31 Þan schuld þei pley, as Wiclif disciples played, 'Sistir me nedith'. *c* 1545 COVERDALE *Church in Denmark* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 469 My right dear and entirely beloved brethren and sistern in Jesu Christ. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. vii. (1886) 181 Thou shalt See sister underneath The grounde with roring gape. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 75 Will you goe Sister? Shepheard ply her hard. 1603 DEKKER *Batcheler's Banq.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 202 Sister, good morrow, what newes I pray? 1761 GRAY *Fatal Sisters* 51 Sisters, weave the web of death. 1764 — *Y. T.* 5 'Lord! sister,' says Physic to Law. 1780 *Mirror* No. 98, And who taught you drinking songs, sister Juddy? 1843 R. CARLTON *New Purchase* I. 203 Brethurn and sisturn, it's a powerful great work, this here preaching of the gospul. 1848 in *Century Mag.* (1882) Apr. 886 Pray for me, brethren! pray for me, sisteren.

6. *pl.* The seven chief stars in the constellation of the Great Bear. See also SEVEN SISTERS.

c 1450 METHAM *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 10/266 Hys bryght plowgh of sterrys, and eke the systyrrys at ther stent, The quyche be namyd the sterrys seuyn.

7. A thing having close kinship or relationship to another.

1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse Race* Wks. (Grosart) III. 327 There should you behold a Mine of Tynne, (sister to Siluer). 1622 BONORELL *Art of Making Silke* Title-p., The two renowned and most hopefull Sisters, Virginia, and the Summer-Ilands. 1736 GRAY *Statius* i. 54 The sun's pale sister, drawn by magic strain. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, The days of life are sisters. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 176, I am really concerned for the metropolis and her younger sisters. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xxxii, Where Lusitania and her Sister meet, Deem ye what bounds the rival realms divide? 1867 J. L. PORTER *Giant Cities of Bashan* 155 Olivet overtopping its sister [Mt. Moriah] three hundred feet. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 49 Sparta..in laws and institutions is the sister of Crete.

†**b.** *pl.* The strings of a staircase. *Obs.*[-1]

1518 *Lett. & P. Hen. VIII*, II. II. 1371 A block to set the systers of the stairs upon, 3 ft. long, 18 inches broad, 10 inches thick.

c. One of the cheeks of a cider-press.

1813 RUDGE *Agric. Surv. Glouc.* 225 The cheeks, or 'sisters', are two strong upright pieces of oak, kept to their places by being let into the ground. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 291 An improved cider-press..; B B the cheeks or sisters.

d. (See quot.)

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Feb. 1/3 The term 'sister' used for the stool on which the lace-makers place their pillows.

8. *ellipt.* for *sister-line* (see 10b), *-block.*

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 2 The same Signs, with the Sisters relating to the Lines. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 29 'What blocks have we below—not on charge?' 'Let me see, sir, I've one sister, t'other we split in half the other day.'

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

†**9.** The old uninflected genitive remained in common use down to the 16th cent. (latterly only in Sc.) in terms of relationship, esp. *sister son*; rarely in other uses, as *sister bed, part.*

(*a*) 835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 448 Donne ann ic his minra sweostar suna. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xvi. (xviii.) (1890) 308 Se wæs his sweostor sunu. *c* 1200 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1054, His sunu Osbarn & his sweostor sunu Silward. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3525 King arthures soster sone þe king howel was. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21130 Iacob.. was our lauerd sistur sun. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 557 Modreyt his systir son him slew. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 575 *Consobrini*, systersones. 1480 WARKWORTH *Chron.* (Camden) 3 One fayre ladye, suster-doughtere to the Kynge of Fraunce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/1 A Syster husbande, *socrinus*. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 35 Albert..was slayne by his syster sonne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 354 The empreouris sister douchtaris. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 20 Dauid of Abirnethie, his sistir sone. 1680 in *Cloud of Witnesses* (1871) 83 The Earl of Mar's mother and I being sister-bairns.

(*b*) *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 174 Sho purseyvid & saw a multitude of fendis rumyand abowte hur sister bed. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* VII. 582 The son got two merks, and the daughter one; hence the sister part, a common proverb in Shetland to this day.

10. Appositively, in the sense of 'fellow': **a.** With designations of persons (or animals).

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 The kingdom..is ten times as populous as when the legend supposes you and your sister-trollops to have lived there. 1708 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* Wks. 1766 III. 29 The Sister-Graces hand in hand Conjoin'd by love's eternal band. 1708 WYCHERLEY *Let. to Pope* 23 May, Her artful innocence..will..make her sister rivals of this age blush for spite, if not for shame. 1775 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 89 Spending the day with my namesake and sister delegate. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XV, With my sister-nymphs I sport. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii, To me Shall they become like sister-antelopes. 1839-54 BAILEY *Festus* 226 While six sister goddesses mazily tread The bright fields of air. 1862 Q. VICTORIA in Ld. R. Gower *Rec. & Rem.* (1903) 69 Pray express to all these kind *sister widows* the deep and heartfelt gratitude of their widowed Queen.

b. With names of things.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II, We must..come from Schism to Unity with our neighbour reform'd Sister-Churches. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 57 When the sister line of the line of Life is short. 1680 C. NESS *Church Hist.* 92 Those two sister-sins, adultery and idolatry. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 619 Alike their leaves, but not alike they smil'd With sister-fruits. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1410 The Sister-Hills that skirt her plain. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* ix, Wolmer, with her sister forest Ayles Holt. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* I. Introd. 22 Russet bare Are now the sister-heights of Yair. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream* 4 Dreaming on your damask cheek, The dewy sister-eyelids lay. 1870 W. THORNBURY *Tour rd. Eng.* II. xx. 58 Nor did he forget the sister-seat of learning,..Oxford. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xlii. 114 Each State recognises the judgments of the courts of a sister State.

c. In collocations tending towards specialized uses, as *sister art, dialect, island, kingdom, language, ship, tongue, university*, or the plurals of these.

1695 DRYDEN *Parallel Poetry & Painting* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 135 At this time..Poetry is better practised than her *sister-art. 1768 W. GILPIN *Ess. Prints* (1781) 54 The art of scraping mezzotintos is greatly more improved than either of its sister-arts. 1894 PARRY *Stud. Gt. Composers, Mendelssohn* 266 He entered fully into the enjoyment of the numberless masterpieces of the sister art. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. lix. (1892) 475 The *sister-dialects of the Italian, Spanish, and French. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 217 Similar forms may be found in the sister-dialects. 1816 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 324 The prospective measures in agitation respecting our *sister island. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 427 The three sister islands of Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica. 1779 *Mirror* No. 30, Our frequent communication with the metropolis of our *sister kingdom [*sc.* England]. 1826 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 246 The Irish Bible-man,.. whose family are so very well known in the most unfortunate sister-kingdom. 1846 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* I. Introd. 29 The sister kingdom of Aragon. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. § 1. 303 The Greek and Latin Tongues I consider as *Sister-Languages. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 246 Other great nations in India whose idioms are sister languages of the people of Tamul. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 325/2 The 'Vernon', a *sister ship.., made the voyage from Calcutta to Spithead..in 86 days. 1886 *Engineering* 12 Mar., The Edinburgh, a sister ship to the Colossus. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 143 A *sister-tongue to those of which the Hebrew is the oldest literary type. 1679 FELL in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 270 If we are justified, the advantage will extend to our *Sister University. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 378 The emulation of the sister University was moved.

d. In scientific or technical terms, as **sister-block, -cell, -hook, -keelson** (see quots.).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 156 **Sister-blocks* are made of ash, similar to two single blocks, and are turned out of a solid piece,..one above the other. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 23 Take it..through the upper sheave of the sister block. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 352 *Sister blocks*, blocks or bull's-eyes seized between the topmast shrouds, for the topsail lifts and reef tackles to lead through. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 920 A fertile sexual union of *sister-cells takes place regularly. 1887 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 5) 788 By the division of an epidermal cell (the mother-cell) by a partition which extends across and divides the two daughter- or sister-cells. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2191/2 **Sister hook*, a double hook in which the shanks of the respective portions form mousings for the fellow portions. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* iv. 74 Unknotted jibsheets fly out, sister-hooks rattle loose. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 176 *Sister keelsons are additional keelsons laid on the floors, one on each side of the main keelson, to afford additional strength and stability, especially to prevent the ship sagging by the weight of the masts. 1869 SIR E. REED *Ship-build.* ii. 45 The forms of keelsons and sister-keelsons used in iron shipbuilding have been almost as various as the forms of keels.

11. Attrib., in *sister-band, -love, -train, -triad, -twin*; sister-fold, a sisterly embrace (*poet.*); †**sister-right**, a right of sisterhood; **sister-wife**, a wife who is also the sister of her husband.

1786 BURNS *O Thou dread Pow'r*, The beauteous, seraph *Sister-band. 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 26 From out our sister-band thou'dst won thy bride. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxx, These maids enlink'd in *sister-fold. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. xxv, Was it *sister-love For which the silver rings Round her smooth ankles and her tawny arms, Shone daily brighten'd? 1467 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 233 De et super unum *sister right in Collegio S. Trinitatis Pontefract. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* IV. vii. 5 The elder Grace, with her fair *Sister-Train, In naked Beauty dances o'er the Plain. 1872 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. (1873) II. 144 In our new *sister-triad what a beauty! 1611 COTGR., *Jumelle*, a female twin, or *sister twin. 1818 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. xxii. 3 We, on the earth, like sister twins lay down. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. iii. 64 My Grecians shall victorious prove, By me led on to War, the *Sister-Wife of Jove. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 4 Mango Capac and Mama Oella his sister-wife. 1853 HUMPHREY *Coin-coll. Man.* x. 118 Ptolemy VII married Cleopatra the sister-wife of his predecessor.

Sister, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To stand to (a person or thing) in the relationship of a sister or sisters. Chiefly *fig.*

1608 Shaks. *Per.* v. Prol. 7 Her art sisters the natural roses. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 407 Whose misfortune [is] to be brother'd and sister'd by a couple of creatures, who are not able to comprehend her excellencies. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* xxiv. 158 Seven snowdrops Sister the pleiads.

2. To call (one) sister; to address as a sister.

1663 Killigrew *Parson's Wedding* II. iii, You have got one of the best hiders of such a business in the Town; Lord, how he would Sister you at a Play! 1753–4 Richardson *Grandison* (1812) III. 251 How artfully..he reminds her of the brotherly character which he passes under to her. How officiously he sisters her! 1834 Mar. Edgeworth *Helen* xxxv, Think what it must be..to be 'dear sistered' by such bodies as these in public.

3. To treat in a sisterly manner.

1871 Mrs. Whitney *Real Folks* xiv, She could be mothered and sistered, as girls ought to be.

Hence **Si·stering** *vbl. sb.* (in sense 2).

1818 Southey *Lett.* (1856) III. 97 By..such brothering and sistering he kept up his influence among his people.

Sister-german. [f. Sister *sb.* + German *a.*[1]] A sister through both parents; a full sister.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xi. 19 The sister germayn of his wiif Taphnes. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 159, I have gyven my suster germayne to Reynawde for his wyff. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxi. 75 She dyde doo calle anne her suster germayne. 1523 Ld. Berners tr. *Froiss.* I. xxi. 31 Isabell of Englande..was suster germayne to king Charles last deed. 1570 J. Dee *Math. Pref.* d ij b, Picture and Sculpture, are Sisters germaine.

†**Si·sterhead.** *Obs. rare.* [-head.] =next.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 278 Thei token thanne litel hiede, The brother of the Sosterhiede To wedde wyves. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxvi. (1859) 40, I doo yow to vnderstande that this lady Misericord, sauynge hyr systerhede, hath caused in this Courte grete annoye. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 622 *Sororitas*, a systerhede.

Sisterhood (si·stəɹhud). Also 4 **sosterhode.** [f. Sister *sb.* + -hood.]

1. The state or condition of being a sister; sisterly status or relationship.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 268 That was unto Creusa sent.., For Sosterhode hem was betuene. *Ibid.* III. 278 Thanne ..Sosterhode of mariage Was torned into cousinage. 1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* IV. lxxii, She..left to doo the part Of sisterhood, to doo that of a wife. 1611 Cotgr., *Demi-lict*,.. brotherhood, or sisterhood, on th' one side only. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem.* (1660) 407 There is a kinde of natural equality in Sisterhood. 1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) III. 10 Her last leave of love and sisterhood. 1820 Scott *Monast.* v, I will but salute you with the kiss of sisterhood. *a* 1855 C. Bronte *Professor* xviii, They acknowledged in her a sisterhood of youth and health.

transf. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xxii. (1862) II. 541 Connected by colonial sisterhood with the Chalkidic settlements.

2. A society of sisters; *esp.* a society of women who have taken certain vows and live together under conventual rule, or who are otherwise devoted to religious life, or to charitable work as a vocation. Also *attrib.*

c 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* III, Let me be one, Although unworthy, of that Sister-hood. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 157 Ile dispose of thee, Among a Sisterhood of holy Nunnes. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxix. 362 Amongst your Sisterhood I know are amorous Wenches some. 1687 T. Brown *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 Own yourself and the rest of your sister-hood to be cheats. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 164 ¶ 3 To look out a Sisterhood of Nuns among whom to place his Daughter. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlvii, When she took the vows, ..few of the present sisterhood, I believe, were witnesses of the ceremony. 1866 *Church Times* 1 Sept. 277/2 The various works of charity which are chiefly conducted by Sisterhoods. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. 10 The first impression from life at the secluded Sisterhoods was given me at the Convent of St. Michael.

b. Used loosely to denote a number of females having some common aim, characteristic, or calling. Often in a bad sense.

1609 Markham *Famous Whore* (1868) 47 You faire creatures of my sister-hoode I wish this my discourse may do you good. 1637 Massinger *Guardian* IV. iii, I will build An hospital only for noseless bawds,..and be myself The governess of the sisterhood. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 71. 103 Have the whole Sisterhood of Canting Females banished to some Desart Island. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* xxiii, One of the sisterhood, a little stale, advised me to take lodgings in a part of the town where I was unknown. 1791 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Ode i to Mrs. Paine* Wks. 1812 II. 440 The Sisterhood of Billingsgate shall throng. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xi, She lacked..the decided boldness and effrontery of her sisterhood. 1873 G. C. Davies *Mount. & Mere* I. 3 Those members of the female sex..who agitate questions they know nothing about. The *Saturday Review* calls the latter the 'Shrieking Sisterhood'. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* I. 82 Lady Dolly and her sisterhood were audacious but cowardly.

c. *fig.* A group, array, association, or number of things imagined as sisters.

1827 R. Pollok *Course of T.* II, A little orb [the earth], ..With her fair sisterhood of planets seven. 1839 Donaldson *New Cratylus* I. iv. 80 The Celtic nations, the claim of whose speech to a place in the Indo-Germanic sisterhood has lately been established. 1883 in Schaff *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2038 A sisterhood of churches covering a large section of country.

Sistering (si·stəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Sister *v.*] Having a relationship comparable in some way to that of a sister or sisters.

1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 2 From off a hill whose concave wombe reworded A plaintfull story from a sistring vale. *c* 1625 Drumm. of Hawth. *Fam. Epist.* Wks. (1711) 140 The Roman was almost naked from the Waste upwards, discovering the sistering Apples of her Breast. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 856 The soft sistering music of a stream That pilgrimed by. 1880 Swinburne *Studies in Song* 13 At his birth the sistering stars were one.

Sister-in-law. Also 5 **sistir elawe, 7, 9** *dial.* **sister-law,** etc. [See Law *sb.*[1] 3 c.] **a.** The sister of one's husband or wife. **b.** The wife of one's brother. **c.** The wife of one's husband's or wife's brother.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/1 Syster yn lawe, as hows[bondes] syster, or wyfys syster, *glos. Ibid.*, Syster yn lawe, broders wyyf, *fratrissa*. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 35 The ladies husbondes brother was there, and sawe his suster-in-lawe a litelle asyde with a knight in a corner. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/1 A Sistir elawe, *socrus, nurus*. 1535 Coverdale *Ruth* i. 15 Beholde, thy syster in lawe is turned backe vnto hir people. 1552 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 142 Item I geve..to mother Harvy, my syster in lawe, the thurde [gowne] wch I last made. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* xxii. 467 Her Sister-laws that stood about her nigh. *a* 1721 J. Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 183 He mentions his Sister-in-law's being with child, as no little proof of his brother's kindness. 1779 *Mirror* No. 65, It was my wish to live with my sister-in-law in terms of the strictest friendship. 1820 Shelley *Let. to Mary Gisborne* 218 Some dozens of female friends, sisters-in-law, and cousins. 1838 Dickens *Nicklehy* iii, Now for my sister-in-law.

Si·sterize, *v. rare* —[1]. [f. Sister *sb.* + -ize.] In *pass.*: To be provided with a sister or sisters.

1752 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 82 It is happy for D., since she is so brotherised and sisterised, that she can make their strange and unnatural behaviour easy to her.

Sisterless (si·stəɹlĕs), *a.* [f. Sister *sb.* + -less.] Having no sister.

1856 Mrs. Craik *J. Halifax* ii, Brotherless, sisterless, and friendless as I was. 1875 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 389 I'd like to end my life that way, motherless, wifeless, and sisterless.

Si·ster-like, *adv.* [f. Sister *sb.* + -like.] After the manner of a sister. Also **Si·sterlike** *a.*, appropriate to sisters; sisterly.

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* (Arb.) 104 And sister like did louingly Faire Phylomene embrace. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. iii, Sister-like in love they dwell. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 205 How sweetly shine the steadfast stars, Each eyeing, sister-like, the earth. 1864 Skeat *Uhland's Poems* 134 They sat..In sisterlike embrace together wound.

Si·sterliness. [f. next + -ness.] The quality of being sisterly; sisterly affection or sympathy.

1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* II. xi. 232 An elegant sisterliness, one might almost say. 1882–3 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Aug., If you could experience once the brotherliness and sisterliness that warms our Annual [mission] Meetings.

Sisterly (si·stəɹli), *a.* [f. Sister *sb.* + -ly[1].]

1. Of or pertaining to a sister; also, characteristic of, befitting, becoming, or like a sister.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 100 Sisterly, *sororius*. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 100 After much debatement, My sisterly remorse confutes mine honour. 1756 Warburton *Bolingbroke's Philos.* iii. 158 We shall hear no more of this sisterly resemblance [of Christianity] to Platonism. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlv, A renewal of all the maternal kindness of the abbess, and of the sisterly attentions of the nuns. 1821 Scott *Pirate* xix, They..exchanged a sisterly kiss, and a sisterly good-night. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliii, She..read him lectures with sisterly frankness. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 10 Exhibiting in their own lives every joy of sisterly love.

2. Of or pertaining to a sisterhood.

1883 *Women's Suffrage Jrnl.* Nov. 201 The self-devotion of women to the sisterly life arose out of Christ's teaching.

Sisterly (si·stəɹli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly[2].] In the manner or spirit of a sister.

1616 J. Lane *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* viii. 68 Yet if thow die the deathe, I live that liefe Which dieth sisterlie with Algarsife. *a* 1821 Keats *Hyperion* I. 296 Those silver wings expanded sisterly. 1864 F. W. Robinson *Mattie, a Stray* III. 205 She spoke coolly and sisterly now.

Siste·rnity. *rare.* [f. Sister *sb.*, on the analogy of Fraternity.] Sisterhood.

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* xxiii. 166 A Sisternity of mimpes, mops, and idle holy women. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. ix. 235 Others of their sisternity (very weak headed women, frail vessels) carried not matters so well.

Si·stership. [f. Sister *sb.* + -ship.] Institutional or conventual sisterhood.

1840 Agnes Strickland *Queens Eng.* I. 294 *note*, Those favoured ladies who..are fortunate enough to obtain sisterships. 1843 Ld. J. Manners in *Mrs. Brookfield & her Circle* (1905) 133 They are not to be bound by vows, but during their Sistership to obey all the rules of the House.

Sisters thread. [perh. from Sister *sb.* 3 a.] (See quot. 1812.)

1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 156 Sisters threade j. oz. 1586 *Rates of Custome* E viij b, Thred called Sisters thred the li., v *s.* 1590 *Acct. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 371, iiii ounce systers thred, v *s.* 1626 Surfl. & Markham *Countrie Farme* v. xviii. 568 It will make you yarne..for the finest sisters thred that can bee sowed with. 1662 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. 4 (Rates, inwards), Sisters thred, the pound xv *s.* 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 257 All bleached Thread is called Sisters Thread.

Si·stle, *v. rare* —. [Imitative.] *intr.* To emit a kind of hissing sound.

1849 H. A. Wise *Los Gringos* II. I forgive the entire African races for whistling the latest polkas, or rather *sistling* through their closed teeth.

†**Si·stre.** *Obs.*[—1] [a. F. *sistre*, or ad. L. *sistrum*: see next.] A sistrum.

c 1590 A. Hume *Epist. Monteref* 30 A loftie troup of Ladies in array, Sum on a luth, sum on a sistre play.

‖ **Sistrum** (si·strŭm). Pl. **sistra** (**sistrums**). Also 8 **systrum.** [L., ad. Gr. *σείστρον*, f. *σείειν* to shake.] A musical instrument consisting of a thin oval metal frame furnished with transverse metal rods loosely fixed in it and a handle by which it was shaken. Also *attrib.*

Originally peculiar to Egypt and the worship of Isis, but subsequently used in other Oriental countries.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. cxliii. (1495) 946 It is prouyd that Isis quene of Egypte was the fyrste fynder of Sistrum. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1312 That brasen Timbrel which they sounded and rung at the sacrifices of Isis, named Sistrum. *Ibid.*, Upon the Absis or rundle of the Sistrum toward the toppe, they engrave the forme of a cat. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* xiii. (1683) 201 A Draught of all sorts of Sistrums, Crotaloes, Cymbals, Tympans, &c. in use among the Ancients. 1698 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* (1699) 111 A Sistrum or Ægyptian Rattle with three loose and running Wires cross it. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* ii. Wks. 1766 III. 119 The instrument in her hand is the Sistrum of the Ægyptians. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 132 Mademoiselle Le Blanc singing to her systrum. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 63/2 Some writers have confounded the sistrum with the cymbals. 1883 V. Stuart *Egypt* 206 She held stretched out towards them a sistrum in either hand.

‖ **Sisymbrium** (sisi·mbriŭm). *Bot.* Also 6 **sisimbrium.** [L., ad. Gr. *σισύμβριον* some sweet-smelling plant.] A genus of herbaceous cruciferous plants (under which water-cress was formerly included); hedge-mustard, garlic-mustard.

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. (1568) 140 The seconde kynde of Sisymbrium is called cardamine also, in Englishe water cresses. 1580–3 Greene *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 23 The hearbe Sisimbrium growes not to a great braunch in a moment. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 205 Sisymbrium double and simple. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The smooth rocket-leaved sisymbrium with yellow flowers. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 64/1 In Sisymbrium the cotyledons are folded with their back upon the radicle.

Sisyphean (sisifī·ăn), *a.* Also 7 **Sysiphæan,** 9 **Sisyphæan, Sysyphean.** [f. L. *Sīsyphēius*, ad. Gr. *Σισύφειος*, f. *Σίσυφος*, Sisyphus, the name of a king of Corinth, whose punishment in Hades was to roll a heavy stone up a hill; as he reached the top, the stone rolled down again.] Of or pertaining to Sisyphus; like (that of) Sisyphus; resembling the fruitless toil of Sisyphus; endless and ineffective.

1635 Quarles *Embl.* III. xv, I barter sighs for tears, and tears for grones, Still vainly rolling Sisyphean stones. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 11 Thus I roll Sisyphean Stones, and play (Which he can never) all my time away. 1858 Gannon *O'Donoghue*, etc. 53 Without this magic bond no power on earth Can raise the ponderous Sysyphean stone. 1871 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 41 The Sisyphean toil of rolling the clammy balls. 1895 Kidd *Soc. Evol.* ix. 245 Do we only see therein humanity condemned to an aimless Sisyphean labour?

Sisyphian (sisi·fiăn), *a.* [f. L. *Sīsyphius*, ad. Gr. *Σισύφιος*, f. *Σίσυφος*: see prec.] Sisyphean.

1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkewormes* 45 Sisyphian soules, betwitched multipliers, Surcease to pitch this neuer pitched stone. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 734, I..survey'd A mournful vision! the Sisyphian shade. 1863 I. Williams *Baptistery* II. xxi. (1874) 49 What but this was the Sisyphian stone? 1864 R. A. Arnold *Hist. Cotton Famine* 447 A mere labour test—a Sisyphian employment.

Sisyphism (si·sifiz'm). [f. *Sīsyph-us* + -ism.] Unceasing and fruitless labour like that of Sisyphus, *spec.* as a characteristic of modern industrial conditions; also, the view that industrial labour is of this nature.

In quot. 1856 the reference is to the use of the crank and similar punishments in prisons.

1846 G. R. Porter tr. *Bastiat's Pop. Fall. Gen. Interests* 24 *note*, We beg the reader to excuse us if we designate this system hereafter under the name of Sisyphism. *Ibid.* 26 Industry in practice never admits of Sisyphism. 1856 Reade *Never too Late* I. 231 The ancients imagined tortures particularly trying to nature, that of Sisyphus to wit..We have made Sisyphism vulgar. 1884 Rae *Contemp. Socialism* 406 These gloomy views have in France received the name of Sisyphism.

So **Si·syphist.**

1846 G. R. Porter tr. *Bastiat's Pop. Fall. Gen. Interests* 25 It may be thought, perhaps, that I exaggerate, and that there are no true Sisyphists.

Siszers, obs. form of Scissors.

Sit (sit), *sb.*[1] [f. the vb. Cf. Fris. *sit*, Du. *zit*, MLG. *sit*, MHG. and G. *sitz* seat, sitting.]

I. a. The manner in which an article of dress, or some part of one, is disposed or fits the person.

1776 Mrs. Thrale *Let. Johnson* 16 May, Long lectures about the sit of a cap, which you will not give me a minute to put on as it should be. 1785 Mackenzie *Lounger* No. 22 ¶ 9 She looked very narrowly at the Poupée's head-dress, and the particular sit of her tucker. 1837 *Q. Rev.* LIX. 414 Accounting for the sit of a plume by saying that he had fixed it in a moment of enthusiasm. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 62 A child..taught to care for nothing but the sit of its frock. 1892 *Gd. Words* Sept. 634/2 Rather concerned about the sit of a couple of folds in her dress.

b. Inherent character or tendency.

1866 Dora Greenwell *Ess.* 107 Natures the whole bent and sit of which is powerfully attracted to good.

c. Manner of sitting. Cf. Seat *sb.* 2.

1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 259 The dignified step of the..black chargers, the rigid sit of the soldiers.

2. A spell of sitting.

1832 Tennyson in *Mem.* (1897) I. vi. 247 After this long

sit however I ought certainly to have some interesting passages to tongue. 1852 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* (1905) I. III. viii. 437, I have had a long sit with Lord Aberdeen to-day.

b. *Cant.* (See quot.)

1907 G. R. SIMS in *Referee* 17 Feb., To be 'at the sit' is to travel by buses and trams for the purpose of picking pockets.

3. A sinking or settling down (of a wall, the roof of a mine, etc.).

1808 JAMIESON, *Sit*, the state of sinking, as applied to a wall. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 98/1 If the roof were tender, it would be apt to break away and fill up the passage, which would be a *sit*. 1885 BEVERIDGE *Culross & Tullilan* II. 234 Many sits or depressions have taken place in the surface.

4. The seat of the body.

1903 HARKER *Rom. of the Nursery* 273, I climbed out of my cot and went downstairs, sit-first, bumpetty-bump on every step.

Sit., *sb.*[2] *Printers' slang.* Abbrev. of SITUATION.

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125 *Sit.*, an abbreviation for the word 'situation', an engagement for work. 1896 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 10/6 Compositor .. seeks change...Not out of sit.

Sit (sit), *v.* Forms: (see below). Pa. t. and pa. pple. **sat** (sæt). [Common Teut.: OE. *sittan* (*sæt*, *sæton*, *geseten*), = OFris. *sitta* (WFris. *sitte*), MDu. *sitten*, *zitten* (Du. *zitten*), OS. *sittian*, *sittean* (MLG. and LG. *sitten*), OHG. *sizzan*, *sizzen* (G. *sitzen*), ON. and Icel. *sitja* (Norw. *sitja*, *sitta*, *sita*; MSw. *sitia*, *sittia*, Sw. *sitta*; Da. *sidde*):—Teut. type **sitjan*, for which Goth. had *sitan*. The stem **set-*, pre-Teut. **sed-*, is widely represented in the cognate languages, as in Lith. *sedeti*, Lat. *sedēre*, Gr. ἕζεσθαι (cf. ἕδος seat), etc.

In some senses there has been confusion between *sit* and the corresponding causal verb *set*, analogous to that which has existed between *lie* and *lay*, but in modern use the two verbs are clearly distinguished. Some ME. examples of this confusion, in senses where it does not otherwise occur, are probably no more than scribal errors.]

A. Illustration of forms.

1. *Infin.* α. 1 **sittan** (**syttan**, **sitton**), 2–4 (7) **sitten** (3 *Orm.* **sittenn**), 4–5 **sytten**, 5 **syttyn**, **cyttyn** (6 *errors.* **sitting**).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 3 Hu meahtest þu sittan..? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 237 He ȝeseah..Matheus sænne sittan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, He ne myhte..sitten ne lien. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14086 He wollde sittenn þær. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 218 None..sitten ne mowe þere longe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cyttyn, *sedeo*. *Ibid.* 457/1 Syttyn, on a sete. [1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vi. 127 He..mayd him sitting doun. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. 26 A lamp, that men do sitten by.]

β. 1 **sitte**, 3–6 **sitte** (4 **xitte**), **sytte**.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 23 Sitta..to suiðra minra. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 217 in *O. E. Misc.* 116 Syker he may sitte. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 311 *ibid.* 46 Ich ine heuene schal sytte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Riȝtnesse..ssel sitte amydde. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 95 Þere þe lorde..liketh nouȝte to sytte. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 39 The peleer there I was wont to sitte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. iv. 103 There shall no man sytte therin.

γ. 3 **siten**, 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) **site**, 4 **sijt**, **siet**; 4 **sete**, 4, 6 *Sc.* **seit**, 9 *dial.* **seet**.

a 1300 *Havelok* 366 His knictes dede he alle site. *c* 1325 *Prose Psalter* CXXXI. 13 Her childer shul siten. 13.. *Cursor M.* 8291 Þan can he seit On þat tre. *Ibid.* 14734 Þair setles þat þai in can sete. *Ibid.* 27335 Hu þe man.. Sal siet. *Ibid.* 27337 To sijt þe preist tot be-side. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. vi. 6 To site so hie ane charge. *a* 1576 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* I. 28 To seit with so mony wrangis. 1820 WILBRAHAM *Cheshire Gloss.* 86 *Seet*, to sit.

δ. 4–6 **syt** (5 **sytt**), **sitt**, 5– **sit** (9 *dial.* **sit**).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 935 Made him to sytt On a sege. *Ibid.* 592 Þat folke..May sitt & carpe. 1427 *Acts Privy Council* III. 232 Þat..þei wolde sit upright. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 18 They wyll folowe those stakes..and syt by them. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 47 Beinge suffred to sitt..at Ibertie. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 892 Plase to zit down.

2. *Pres. Indic.* α. 1*st pers. sing.* 1 *north.* **sitto**, 1–3, 6 **sitte**, 4 **sitt**, 6 **syt**, 6– **sit**.

a 825 *Vesp. Psalter* XXV. 5 And mid arleasum ic ne sitto. *a* 1000 *Riddles* XXV. 7 Þær ic glado sitte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 338 Hwon ich sitte norto demen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20840 Quelper I sitt, or stand. 1530 PALSGR. 719, I syt..amongest other folkes.

b. *2nd pers. sing.* α. 1 **sites**, 4 **sittes**, 4–6 **sittis**.

a 825 *Vesp. Psalter* IX. 5 Du sites ofer ðrymseld. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* I. 1 Trew king, þat sittes in trone. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1872 Þou..sittis..in sege. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) I. 169 Sen so thow sittis in saitt.

β. 1 **sittest**, 1– **sittest**, 4–5 **sittist**, 6 **syttest**; 1, 6–7 **sitst**, 7 **sit'st**, **sitt'st**; 4 **sist**.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 Þu be sitest ofer cherubine. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lx. 4 Du sitst on ðam hean setle. *Ibid.* lxxix. 2 Du be..sittest ofer cherubin. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 89 Þu sittest a day and flyhst a niht. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* XXIII. 3 Thou sittist. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* V. 5743 O thou.. That hihe sist. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xlix. 20 Thou syttest. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iv. 24 The more thou sitst. 1648 MILTON *Ps.* lxxx. 5 Thou Shepherd..That sitt'st between the Cherubs.

c. 3*rd pers. sing.* α. 1 **sitteð**, **sitteð**, 1, 4 **sitteþ** (5 **-ip**), 4– **sitteth** (5 **-othe**, **-yth**); 4 **sytteþ**, 6 **syttothe**, **-ith**, **-yth**.

a 825 *Vesp. Psalter* IX. 29 [He] siteð in searwum. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 28 Þonne sitteþ sunu monnes in setle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* IV. 2724 Hou he sitteth be the fyr. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 300 þis veine sittiþ ful ny3 þe gret arterie. 1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 102 The which tenement syttyth and lyyth [etc.]. *a* 1530 LUPSET *Treat. Charite* (1539) 8 It..syttethe faste and sure. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 160 Where the winde sitteth.

β. 1–5 **sit** (4 **zit**), 1, 4 **sitt**, 4 **sitte**, 7 **sith**; 1, 4 **syt**, **sytt**, 4 **sytte**.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Sit se hehsta sceoppend on his heahsetle. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 28 Þonne mannes sunu sitt [*v.r.* sy tt, syt]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 701 Bi hire make ȝe [=she] sit o niȝt. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 He..zit abe riȝt half of god. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1832 *Lucrece*, She sytte in halle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* VIII. 2428 So sitte it wel that [etc.]. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. XXV. (1558) 17 b, Wher he sit crowned. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Hum. Heaven on Earth* clxviii, Heere, in a Chimney,..Sith Grimnesse.

γ. 1, 4 **sites**, 4 **sitis**; 1 **sittes**, 1, 4 **sittes** (5 **-es**), 4–5 **sittus**, 5–6 **sittis**, 6– **sits** (7 **sitts**); 4 **syttes**, 5–6 **syttis**.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 28 Mið ðy sittes sunu monnes in seðel. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2086 He sittes wit drightin. *Ibid.* 26557 He..Sites [*v.r.* sitis] on his..right hand. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 446 þat he sittus in mi siȝt. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 47 As he on dese syttis. *c* 1420 *Wars Alexander* 73 It sittez till hym. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 37 In fife..sittis the Primat. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 100 If the wind sitts fair.

d. *Plur.* α. 1 **sittað**, 2 **sitteð**, 3 **sittet**, **sytteþ**; 1 *north.* **sittas**, **-es**, 6 *Sc.* **sittis**.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CXXXI. 12 Bearn heara..sittað ofer seld min. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 79 Ðaðe in ðiostrum ..sittas [*c* 1000 sittað, *c* 1160 sitteð]. *c* 1130 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1130, Hæge sitteð þa aceres dæleth. *c* 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 168 ȝe þat sittet [*v.r.* sytteþ] i-schrud wið skarlet. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit Wemen* 440 Thai all, that sittis about [etc.].

β. 3–6 (7) **sitten**; 4 **sytten**.

c 1250 in *O. E. Misc.* 190 [They] sitten þer to-gederes. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 206 Men..þat in merke sytten. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 34 b, [To] iest vpon the geastes, as they sitten at the table. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* March 1 Why sytten we soe? [1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. iv. 9 They sitten soft.]

γ. 4 **site**, **sete**, 6 **sitte**, 6– **sit**.

13.. *Cursor M.* 25587 Þar we gang and þar we sete [*v.r.* site]. *c* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXIV. vii, Gods own eyes on good men sit. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 346 They sitte nerer his knee. 1749 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 15 There sit the sainted sage, the bard divine.

3. *Pres. Subj.* α. *Sing.* 1–7 **sitte**, 4–6 **sytte**; 4–5 **sitt**, 7– **sit**. β. *Plur.* 1–2, 4 **sitten** (1 **sitton**, *north.* **sittа**).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* C. 6 Dæt hie sitten. *Ibid.*, *Hymn* IV. 15 Dæt he sitte. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 37 Þætte..we sitta [*c* 1000 sitton, *c* 1160 sitten]. *a* 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 206 Sitte his mann ðer ðar he sitte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Þet weneð þet order sitte iðe kurtel. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17583 Þof he sitt in heuen hall. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 862 Þof it vnsemely me sitt. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* Cvj, Yᵗ the styward..sytte not from hensforward [etc.]. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Deut.* XXIX. 20 Al the curses sitte upon him. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* (1637) 57 If the wind sit southward.

4. *Imper.* α. *Sing.* (later also *Plur.*) 1–4 **site**, 3–4 **sete**; 1, 4 **sitt**, 5 **sitte**, 4– **sit**; 4–5 **sytte**, 5 **sytt**, 5–6 **syt**.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* CIX. 1 Site to ðe swiðran minre. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 44 Sitt to suiðra min. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 290 Ne lie þu nout..ne site nouðer. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 635 in *O. E. Misc.*, Sete þanne..besiden him seluen. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3683 Sitt [*v.r.* sit, sete] vp and ete. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* XLVII. 5 Syt, be stille [1388 sitte thou]. — *Matt.* XXVI. 36 Sitte ȝee heer. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XVIII. 68 Com sytt I soyn shall we se. 1535 COVERDALE *Ruth* IV. 2 Syt you downe here.

β. *Plur.* 1 **sitte**, **sittað**, **-aþ**, 2–3 **sitteð**, **-eþ**, 4 **sitteth**; 3 **sytteþ**, 4 **syttyþ**; 1 *north.* **sittas**, 4 **sittes**, **sites**.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 36 Sittas [*Rushw.* sittaþ] her. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 49 Sitte ȝe on ceastre. *c* 1205 LAY. 22827 Sitteð, sitteð swiðe. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 150 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Sytteþ her þe hwile. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4975 Godmen, sittes [*v.r.* sites] a littel tom. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 932 Syttyþ dowun vpp-on ȝoure knees. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* XIII. 18 Beth mekid, sitteth.

5. *Past Indic.* α. *Sing.* (*1st and 3rd pers.*)

α. 1, 3–5 **sot**, 4 **sat**, **satt**, 4–5 **sette**.

Instances of *set* in the sense of 'sat' later than the 15th cent. probably belong to SET *v.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* XXV. 5 Ic ne set in gesihhte idelnisse. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt., Int. 21/2 [He] set ofer asales fola. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 562 in *O. E. Misc.* 53 Þe ou set at þe heuede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 16025 He sett vte-ouer þam. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 Þer he zet, ase zayþ þet godspel. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 790 (Lansd. etc.), Whan þe Iustice sette. 14.. *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 876 ȝisterday in myn In as I set.

β. 1, 3 **sate** (1 **satte**), 3 **seat**; 2– **sat**, 3–8 **satt**, 4–6 **satte**. Also *2nd pers.* 6 **sattest**, 7 **satst**, **sat'st**.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXV. § 7 Se hearpere..sæt on ðæm munum. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 101 He sat ofte and tahte wisdom. *c* 1205 LAY. 3060 Þer he on mðelen seat. *Ibid.* 3530 þe swain sæt at hire fæit. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* IX. 35 When sir Dauid..satt on his stede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* VII. 2282 He satte him thanne doun. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XIV. 226 The kynge..satte stille. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* XXIII. 41 Thou sattest vpon a goodly bed. 1579 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* III. 241 [He] satt doun vpoun the ground. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 21 Thou..Dove-like satst brooding. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 102 This said, he sat.

γ. (*2nd pers.* I **sete**, 3 **sete**, 4 **seete**.) 4–5 **sete**, 4 **seete**, 4, 9 *dial.* **seet**.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) XLIX. 21 Þu sæte ongean þinne broþor. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 Ich slepte, & tu sete biuoren me. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1171 He sete on Salamones solie. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXXI. 21 If in the myddel of manye thou seete. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11109 Yet sadly ho sete. 1446 LYDG. *Nightingale Poems* I. 97 She..seet in myddes of the tre. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 306 *Seet*, perf. tense of sit.

δ. 4–5 **saat** (5 **saate**); 4 (5 *Sc.*) **sait**, **saitt**; 4– **sate**. Also *2nd pers.* 7, 9 **satest**.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2768 [He] ras fra þen [*v.r.* þar] he sate. *Ibid.* 8296 þar he sait an. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 339 A ravoun sat [*v.r.* saat] uppon þe riȝt schulder of Valerius. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* XXVI. 9 Oon byrde..sate on a brere. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 168 He..saate in Iugement. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XIX. 1 Lot sate in the gate of Sodome. — *Ezek.* XXIII. 41 Thou..satest vpon a stately bedde. 1761 GRAY *Odin* 18 By the moss-grown pile he sate. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* XXXIX, She sate in a corner of the..waiting room. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. XIII, Thou..Satest athirst.

ε. 5 **sote**, 8–9 *dial.* **sot** (9 **zot**).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8266 Wayueronde he sote. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* (1814) 73 London..*Sot*, for *sat.* 1843– *Sot* in common dialect use (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); also *zot* (Som., Dev.). 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* II, She sot down, said Joe.

b. *Plur.* α. 1 **sæton**, **-un**, 2–3 **sæten** (3 **-enn**); 1 **setun**, 1, 5 **seton**, 3–5 **seten**, 4–5 **setyn**, 4 **seeten**, **sieten**.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXVII. § 1 Þær nane oðre an ne sæton. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John XX. 12 Tuoeȝe engles.. seton [etc.]. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark iii. 34 Ðaðe vtan ymb heop his setun. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) LXVIII. 12 Ealle þa him sæton sundor. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15560 Menn att bordess sætenn þær. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Unneaðe his moder & Joseph seten þeron. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 1139 Py peple..Whych setyn yn derkenes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. V. 190 [They] seeten so til Euensong. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 2809 Thei sieten alle stille. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3115 Hurre sustren..setone by-sydus herre þo. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4612 Wher as they setyn on by on. *c* 1430 *Merlin* XIV. 225 The knyghtes..seten..at table.

β. 3–4 **sete**, 4 **seete**, **siete**, 8 *dial.* **seet**; also 7 **sitt**.

c 1205 LAY. 22767 Seoðden sete þa eorles. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2777 þe maistres sete stille ynou. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* V. 3339 Ther they siete and spieke. *Ibid.* VI. 1174 Tofore his oghne bord thei seete. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 681 (Harl.), As thei sete and eeten. 1688 in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 109 The..Jury..sitt upp all night about it. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 35 In com thor sougers an seet dawn.

γ. 4–5 **saten**, **satyn**, 5 **soten**; 4– **sate**, 4 **saite**, 5 *Sc.* **sait**.

These forms possibly represent ON. *sáttu*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 17845 Sundri þai þam fra oþer saite [*v.r.* sate]. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 476 þe grete lordes þat saten in hall. 14.. *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXVII. (*Machor*) 1102 Till [=while] þat þai sait at þe burd. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 343 Bees come and sate on the lippes of Plato. *c* 1450 *Gesta Romanorum* XCII. 420 (Add. MS.), Such ij...satyn, and dronkyn. 1451 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* 70 On-to hem whech soten aboute him. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 114 We came..and sate vs downe.

δ. 5 **satten**, **satte**.

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5435 No man list To speke a word, but satten stil. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 66 Many flyes satte vpon the soores.

6. *Past Subj.* 1 **sæte**, 3–4 **sete**.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 Rihtlic þæt wæs þæt se blinda.. sæte wædliende. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 504 Ðat it..sete one ðe se sond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4060 Þei ech of vs sete al day. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1622 þeiȝh i sete euer.

7. *Past Part.* α. 1 **ȝeseten**, 3 **iseten**, 2, 5 **seten**, 4–5 **setun**, 5 **setyn**, 5–6 **setten**; 3–4 **isete**, 4–5 **sete**.

c 925 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 922, Þæt folc..þe on Mercna lande ȝeseten wæs. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Ariseð þanne ȝe hauen seten. *c* 1205 LAY. 18532 þa heo weoren alle iseten [*c* 1275 isete]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 415 In a tyme he hadde i-sete here. 1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXXI. 21 If thou hast sete in the myddis. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) XVII, This xvi. weke I haue setyn here. *c* 1481 CAXTON *Dialogues* 45 Randolf..hath seten.. xxx. yere. 15.. *Adam Bel* 527 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 161 They had not setten but a whyle. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 21 b, He had muche rather haue setten still.

β. 4 **siten**, **syten**, **sytyn**; 4– **sitten**, 5 **sitton**, 6 (9) *Sc.* **sittin** (9 *Sc.* **sutten**); 5–6 **sytten**, 5 **-yn**.

The type *sitten* was very commonly used by good writers down to the early part of the 19th cent., but has now in ordinary use been displaced by *sat*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 21665 Quen sco had sitten [*v.r.* siten, syten] þar a wei. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* CXXVI. 3 Rysis eftire þat ȝe hafe sytyn. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12222 The sure knightes Hade sitton here. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* III. ii. 101 The knyghtes names that had sytten therin. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* III. 21 Evyn as I..have sytten with my father. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 189 Nocht weil sittin doune in the Impire. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXVIII. § 7. 253 Strangers haue sitten by him. 1787 BURNS *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, I'm sitten down here. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Diogenes & Plato* Wks. 1853 I. 467/1 If they had always sitten with their hands before them. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* clii. III. 8 One who might be comfortably sitten down with.

γ. 4 **satte**, 6–7 **satt**, 6– **sat**.

Sat is also common in dialects (see *E. D. D.*).

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13491 (Fairf.), Doun I walde þe folk ware satte. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Poemes* (1869) II. 269 Had she satt in feeld. 1665 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 48 The King has satt.. at a Councell of Warr. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 122 ¶ 6 The Court was sat before Sir Roger came. 1779 *Mirror* No. 60, After having sat a considerable time. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxxiii, Where he had sat when he was a...boy.

δ. 6– sate.

1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* (? 1550) 34 b, As thogh God had sate and eat..wyth them. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xxvi. 4, I haue not sate with vaine persons. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., The Gazers* ii, We have both sate gazing. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 3 Being all sate down, we fell a talking. 1803 *Edwin* II. i. 12 Where..Hermon and his friend were sate. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, She had sate by him.

ε. 6 sytt, sitt, 6–7 sitte, 6–8 (9 *dial.*) sit.

1528 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 284 To have sit down. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 145 After he had sitte a good space. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 81 When..the kinge and the..bishop were sitt doune. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 327 Hauing sit enthronized three daies. 1662 HICKERINGILL *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 288 The better for being sit upon. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1830) III. 109 He..had sit down in a fur. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* 216 That milk has sit.

B. Signification.

I. *intr.* 1. Of persons: To be or remain in that posture in which the weight of the body rests upon the posteriors; to be seated.

Beowulf 500 Hunferð maþelode..þe æt fotum sæt frean Scyldinga. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlix. 20 Sittende wiδ broeδer δinum δu teldes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Þa sæt þær sum blind þearfa le δon wege. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8933 Þære he satt to fraȝnenn hemm Off þeȝȝre bokess lare. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 279 Ic wile..Min sete norδ on heuene maken, And δor ic wile sitten. 1340 *Ayenb.* 266 Ich yze3 oure lhord iesu crist ine ri3t half zittinde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 297 þe senatoures arayed hem..and so þey seten in here hous. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxi. (1859) 21 Sathanas satt for to wryte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xix. 65 As he satte so hym thoughte he herd a noyse of houndes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. ii. 42 Sibilla Cumane..Quhair as scho sat rummesing in hir caif. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 26 b, Within it was Victory sitting with two wings. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 186 After that he hath sitten a while there..he is conducted..to his lodgings. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 45, I see them sit, they linger yet. 1779 *Mirror* No. 26, The rest of the company sat nearer or more remote from him according to their respective ranks. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 30 It is a beautiful brook, and one that Walton himself might have sitten by and loved. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 94 The clause which permitted scrupulous persons to communicate sitting. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 41 A man may think as well standing as sitting, often not a little better.

fig. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 346 [I do not believe] that they sitte nerer his knee, or foote stoole, then other penitent sinners doe. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 40 Thy rapt soul sitting in thine eyes. 1747 GRAY *Ode Favourite Cat* 28 Malignant Fate sat by, and smil'd. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. i, Venice sate in state, throned on her hundred isles. 1856 AIRD *Poet. Wks.* 307 Beneath her branchless palm must Judah sit.

b. Const. *on* or *upon*. Also fig. *to sit on the* or *one's throne*, to reign.

Beowulf 286 Weard maþelode, δær on wicge sæt. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Sittað manfulle on heahsetlum, & halize under heora fotum þrycað. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1079, Se cyng..wearδ þær ȝewundod, & his hors ofslaȝen þe he on sæt. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5807 Þær he satt onn hiss sæte. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 235 þe ston þat ich op-on sitte. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 608 Thair ane place thai fand so braid, That thai mycht syt on anerly. *a* 1450 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 2/75 O thynke how..on my knee Thow sat. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 18 He satte vpon his hammes. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 305 He cutte the benche yt Darius had sitten on. 1613 R. HARCOURT *Voy. Guiana* 41 This Idole is fashioned like a man sitting vpon his heeles, holding open his knees. *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial. Com. Laws* (1681) 65 That in this court the Kings of the Realm have sitten on the high bench. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VIII. xix. 276 After he had sitten 24 years on the throne. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 609 A stone, on which..Telamon sat to view the Salaminian ships. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 226 Although the Christian sybils ..no longer sat upon a tripod.

c. Const. *in* (a seat, throne, saddle, etc.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8540 Salamon Was king sittand in his fader tron. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 131 Quhen at he suld sit in sege of maieste. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 482 As he sat in his sete softly by his qwene. *c* 1440 *Avow. Arth.* xiv, The king in his sadul sete. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 Whiche sawe..a persone syttyng in the trone of god. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. v. 26 Like silly Beggars ..sitting in the Stockes. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 215 The said Heralds..presented themselves before Charles, who sate in an high Throne. 1672–5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 529 They would not have sitten any longer in their Thrones than the Pope pleased. 1754 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 166 Persons who rent seats.. after they quitt sitting in them. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 112 The chair in which he sits.

d. *spec.* Used of persons seated (usually at a table) for the purpose of, or while engaged in, eating, drinking, gaming, etc. (Cf. 2 a.)

a 1300 *Havelok* 2098 Betere is i go miself, and se, Hweþer he sitten nou, and wesseylen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 265 Sitte nouȝt to longe. Arise vp ar appetit haue eten his fulle. 1494 in *Ordin. Household* (1790) 116 And the Kinge sitt in the chamber, that the board must bee on the left hand;..and at that end must the Bishoppe sitt. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* X viij, Wyth whom when he had sitten eating awhile, he departed from them out of the feast. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* I vj, The Kinge of Spaines embassador slacked his comming to ye Council, because he disdained to sit vnder ye French embassador. 1597 [see SALT *sb.*1 7b]. 1605 *Hist. T. Stukeley* A 3b, Ber Lady we haue sitten well my host, 'tis one a clock. 1791 BURNS *Tam o'Shanter* 24 That..ilka melder, wi' the miller, Thou sat as lang as thou had siller. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. ii. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 2 Without..recollecting that he had described himself..as engaged to a party likely to sit late. 1845 W. H. G. KINGSTON *Lusitanian Sk.* xxiii. II. 145 We sat but a short time after the hostess and her daughters had retired.

e. *ellipt.* To sit up (see 25 b).

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. i, Little Trix was promised to sit to supper that night.

2. With prepositional phrases denoting the occupation of the person while seated: a. With *at* (table, meat, a meal, etc.).

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 9 Ȝesæh monnu sittende æt ȝæflaes monunȝe. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exodus* xi. 5 Oδ þære wylne frumcennedan sunu, þæt sitt æt þære cweornan. *c* 1205 LAY. 13460 He uondede heom mid worde alse heo seten [*c* 1275 sete] at borde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1215 Þer after hii sete at hor mete, wiþ gret nobleie echon. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1763 Vche haþel..Seten at her soper & songen þer-after. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* vii. 37 Jhesu hadde sete at the mete in the hous of the Pharisee. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. ix. 55 They hadde none other lust but al day syt at the table. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 22 § 4 Laborers..longe sitting at ther brekfast at ther dyner and nonemete. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* ix, He founde Tobias syttinge at yᵉ table. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 819 When we had sitten at supper untill it was two houres. 1710 *Tatler* No. 235 ¶ 3 It was an unspeakable Pleasure to visit or sit at Meal in that Family. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 88 One Day, as she and I sat together, at our Needles. 1806 WORDSW. *Horn Egremont Castle* 74 As good men do, he sate At his board by these surrounded. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xviii, They..sit long at meals, making much of their meat and drink. 1880 [see MEAT *sb.* 4 b].

b. With *to*.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ix. 14 Make hem to sitte to mete. 1625 in Ellis *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 132 One that hath already been tryed in transcribing of manuscripts, and will sitt close to worke. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 338 They could hardly sit to their Oars. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xiii, These two therefore sat stoutly to it [*i. e.* drinking] during the whole Evening. 1817 BELOE *Sexagenarian* II. 218 He sat sturdily to work, and produced.. an historical performance of several volumes.

3. a. With complement denoting the manner (or place) of sitting (on a seat, etc., or on horseback).

c 1205 LAY. 25121 Summe heo sæten stille mucle ane stunde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 Nule he nout..wenden ouer, auh wule sitten ful ueste. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10151 He wauerit þerwith, & weikly he sete. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* 196 The magnificence Of him that hiest In the hevin sitt. 1530 PALSGR. 719/1, I syt hyest, or uppermoste at a table. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* (1630) 34 Sit you all merry, Ladies. 1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* I. iii, A Woman need not be asham'd to sit Jig by Joule, with the best of the Parish. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 72 They look very well, and sit as close as if they were nailed to the Horse. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 565 The poor Beast..was no more to be governed by his Rider, tho' the Fellow sat well enough too. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 158, I sha'n't dare to sit cross-legg'd for you without offence. 1791–3 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1799) I. 74 A fat Whitechapel butcher, seated on the centre of the front bench...The butcher sat very back. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xl, Old Colchicum ..sitting bodkin between Mademoiselle Coralie and her mother.

b. With adj. or advb. complement in figurative phrases (see quots. and the complementary words).

1427 *Acts Privy Council* III. 232 þat..þei [*sc.* lords of the Council] wolde sit upright and entende hooly to..þe goode of þe King and of his land. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 315 The Mogull oft threatens to dethrone him; yet he sits close and keeps his owne. 1694 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* vi. 116 To shew his Disciples it was Good to be Solitary, and sit loose to the World. 1833 G. S. FABER *Recapit. Apostasy* 127 Striving..to sit light to all sublunary matters. 1844 THACKERAY *Contrib. Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 54, I wish to sit as soft as I can in this life. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* i, They never reckoned that..they would sit tight and strike out hard.

c. In other figurative phrases (see quots. and the various sbs.).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 45 b, The Byshoppe, whiche as the master of a shyppe sitteth watching at the Healme. *c* 1580 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carew* (ed. Maclean) 228 Oure enemyes, that have threatened to sitt on my skirts. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* III. iii, She..sits on thorns till she be private with him. 1632 — *City Madam* IV. i, He shall not Sit long on Penniless-Bench. 1633 D. ROGERS *Treat. of Sacr.* ii. 79 We have sitten at the feet of Christ attentively while we heard. 1652 in *Victoria Hist. Dorset* (1908) II. 252 [To] pay v *s.* or sitt vi houres by the heeles. 1727 PRIOR *Alma* I. 230 Poor Alma sits between two Stools. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 23 Between..the dearth of good masters, and a fashionable reputation, Jervas sat at the top of his profession. 1888 H. HARLAND *As it was Written* 153, I had sat on pins during the inquisition. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* June 626 Those who sit 'on the fence'—men with impartial minds, who wait to see..'how the cat will jump'.

4. To occupy a seat in the capacity of a judge or with some administrative function.

To sit in judgement: see JUDGEMENT 1 b.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 19 Miδ δy sæt..he fore hehsedle. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xviii. 13 Þiȝ oδre dæȝe sæt Moises, þæt he wolde deman þam folce. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5636 Haly men and parfit, þat with hym in dome þan sal sitt, And wyth hym deme. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 96 Some..in stede of stuwardes sytten and demen. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 790 [He] him be-hette þat he wolde be redy whan þe Justice sette. 1507 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) 257 He..syttith as stuard..and holdith theyre Courtes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 75 A greate assemble..in the whiche the two kynges sat as judges. 1681 WOOD *Life* 17 Aug., The Judges..went to the Guildhall yard where they sate from 9 to 12. 1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 376 When the judges of each court sit together upon their several benches. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 690/1 The summons was heard by the registrar, sitting as Deputy Chancellor.

b. To occupy an episcopal, or the papal, see.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 131 Gregorie þe sixte, first called Gracianus, after Benet, sat almost foure ȝere. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Orig. Cron.* v. 4535 Qwhen Anastace þe pope was dede, Symacus sat in til his stede Fifteyn ȝhere. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6531 Tumbertus..Was Eata successour; he sat in hexham ȝeres thre. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 540 Peter is sayd first to haue sit at Antioche. 1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 128 Clement 5 then sitting in his papacy. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 132 When he had sitten fourty yeares in his Bishopricke. 1690–1 WOOD *Life* 1 Feb., Pope Ottoboni..died (after he had sate 16 months). *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 13 It was dignify'd with a Bishop's See. In which sometimes sate Severian. 1862 C. WORDSW. *Misc.* (1879) I. 257 The Roman Bishop of that name, who sate in the episcopal see from A. D. 218 to 223.

c. To have a seat in, be a member of, a council or legislative assembly. Also const. *for* (a constituency).

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xv. 17, I sat not in counseil of pleieres. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxiii. 16 For who hath sytten in the councell of the Lorde? 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 3 b, Them that sytte in the Parlament. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacifica* 195 Since he hath sitten in this Parlament. 1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* IV. 268 Countries I have seen Many; and oft with Heroes in my life In Councels sitten. 1705–6 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 9 The clause..about officers sitting in parliament after the queens death. 1828 W. FIELD *Mem. Dr. Parr* II. 305 The third..had sitten in eleven successive parliaments. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 203 Francis Plowden, the Commissioner of Revenue, who sate for Bannow. 1880 TROLLOPE *Duke's Childr.* I. v. 55 You used to sit for Silverbridge.

5. Of a legislative or other assembly: To hold a session; to be engaged in the transaction of business.

1518 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 298 Paid for brede and drynke at the parsonage at syttyng vppon þe Avdytt for the newe byldyng. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 924/1 We the aforesaid rector and doctors haue..sitten to dispute these questions 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 57 When the counsell hath sitten seauen or eight houres, the Bassa visier maketh true relation to the Prince, of all that hath bene handled. 1639 *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 78/1 If the King..go about to break their Parliament, I hear they are resolved to sit without his Majesty's leave. 1712 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 6 That the..town's chest be now..inspected, sitting this Councill. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxiv. 725 A convocation.. had usually sitten at the same time with the parliament. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 177/1 There is also a chief secretary for Ireland, resident in Dublin (except when parliament is sitting). 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 136 In the House of Lords the presence of three members is sufficient to enable the House to sit.

6. a. To place oneself in a position for having one's portrait painted or for being photographed. Also const. *for* (one's portrait), *to* (a painter, etc.).

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 122 It may please you..to sit so longe..that a seruaunt of the kinges highnes..may take your phisionomie. 1584 LYLY *Alex. & Camp.* IV. ii, The misfortune I had with your picture wil put you to some paines to sitte againe to be painted. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Mar., This day I began to sit; and he will make me, I think, a very fine picture. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 28 June 1641, I..sate to one Vanderborcht for my picture in oyle. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 53 Who can take Death's portrait true? The tyrant never sat. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk. Bk.* I. 115 Simon..painted portraits to admiration, only nobody came to sit to him. 1894 LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. Pref. p. x, Dr. Pusey persistently refused to sit for his portrait.

b. To serve as a model *for* a painting or a character in a novel. Also *fig.*

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 35 Imagining, as he well might, that he had sat for the Coffee-house Sign. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 18 Mr. Young, a learned..friend of..Fielding's, sat for parson Adams. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 526 Airy dreams Sat for the picture; and the poet's hand..Impos'd a gay delirium for a truth.

c. To present oneself for examination; to be a candidate *for* a fellowship.

The latter is a special Cambridge use; at Oxford one is said to *stand* for a fellowship.

1830 S. BUTLER in *Life* I. 371 Tom will be at Cambridge to sit for a fellowship at St. John's. *Ibid.*, I had only two men to sit at the Classical Tripos.

7. To be, to continue or remain, *in* a certain state. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

In most cases with suggestion of the literal sense.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cvi. 10 Sittende in δeostrum & scuan deaδes. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 2700 Ic þæs færes a on wenum sæt. *a* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Δus sit man on his sinne, swo ich seid haue. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1239 Δor sat his moder in sik and sor. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 15576 (Fairf.), Þou sal couer & confort ham þat sitis in sorou & site. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XX. 198 As I seet in þis sorwe, I say how kynde passed. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 22 Thus sat I in solace, sekerly and sure. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 30 Than we and tha sall sit in rest and peice. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 401 Had not our Sunne thus wisely prolonged his course, we had sit still in Darknesse. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 431 While Virtue, Valour, Wisdom sit in want.

b. With adjectival or other complement denoting the condition.

Deor's Compl. 24 Sæt seoc monig sorȝum ȝebunden, wean on wenan. *a* 1035 *Laws Cnut* II. lxxii. (Liebermann) 360 Sitte ælc wunduwe werleas twelf-monaδ. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 378 in *O. E. Misc.* 124 Þanne myht þu sikerliche sely sytte. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* iii. 28 He shal sitte solitarie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2265 Ye wetyn..þat all Auffrike & Europe..Sittyn to hom subiecte. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1006 He was anker and sole satt, ..And leued in lyf contemplatyue. 1530 PALSGR. 719/1 Go to the warre who wyll, I wyll sytte styll. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 47 The Indians beinge suffred to sitt afterwarde at libertie. 1638 W. SCLATER *Serm. Experim.* 79 That people have now

long sitten without a King. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Sept. 1683, That the French King might the more easily swallow Flanders..whilst we sat unconcern'd. 1760 *Ann. Reg.* I. 9 That haughty power was obliged to sit the impotent spectator of the ruin of her colonies. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 31 That he can sit secure in the enjoyment of inheritance. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 68 Plato has arrived at the time when men sit still and look on at life.

c. With appositive complement denoting the position or occupation of a person. Also *fig.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxviii. 10 Siteð dryhten cyning in ecnisse. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xlvii. 8, I shal not sitte a widewe. — *Rev.* xviii. 7 In hir herte she seith, I sitte a queen. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* IV. iii. § 3. 181 Having sitten Viceroy tenne yeeres. 1649 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* 124 It is Babylons voyce, *Sedeo Regina*, I sit a Queene. 1634 Milton *Comus* 957 Night sits monarch yet in the mid sky. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 304 He sate bishop 19 years. 1725 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 62 Dr. Charlett sate Vice-Chancellor, and ordered y^e^ Sermon to be printed. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 877 Gods..that sit Amus'd spectators of this bustling stage. 1833 Chalmers *Const. Man* (1835) I. i. 103 Conscience sat mistress over the whole earth. 1859 Reade *Love me Little* vii. (1868) 88 She was sitting sentinel till the carriage should arrive.

8. To have one's seat, quarters, or place; to abide, dwell, remain (in a place).

c 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 855, Her hæfne men ærest on Sceapige ofer winter sætun. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxi. 35 On allum ðaðe sittað ofer onsione all eorðes. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1036, Man ȝerædde þa þæt Ælfȝifu..sæte on Winceastre. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137, Sculdest þu neure finden man in tune sittende. 13.. *K. Alis.* (Laud MS.) 1927 Bitwene tygre & Eufraten, Seten alle þise heþen men. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Eng. Wks.* I. 149 Hem were beter to sitten at home. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4024 [They have] Nouthire cites in to sytt, cellis, nor na tounes. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 23 If the good Lady had..used his helpe, shee should not have needed to have sitten so pensive at home. 1649 Sclater *Comm. Malachy* (1650) 176 It had better for them, to have sitten by the flesh-pots and garlicke, and onyons of Egypt. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 56 Shall the rest..sit lingring here Heav'ns fugitives? 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 194 It is hard to sit in Rome, and strive against the Pope.

fig. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 446 He sittus in mi siȝt me þinkes euer-more. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2846 Y-wis, he sit so nere myn herte. To speke of him, at eve or morwe, It cureth me of al my sorwe. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVII. v, The lady..who sits, indeed, very near my heart.

b. To be tenant of, to occupy, a house, farm, etc.; to remain during a lease; to continue a tenancy. Usually const. *at* (a certain rent), or with compl. Also, † to live *at* a certain rate of expense.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 8, I sit at ten pounds a weeke. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 17 Marke how they will moane their own mischances, how they sit at an unmerciful rent. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Of Usury* (Arb.) 542 As a Farmer cannot husband his Ground so well, if he sit at a great Rent. 1723 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. X. 257/1 The Schoolmistress to sit Rent free. 1752 Smollett *Per. Pic.* xci, She found herself ..incapable..of keeping the farm, unless he would..allow her to sit free for a twelvemonth. 1811 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) II. xi. 356, I now sit a tenant at will under a heavy rent. 1844 W. Cross *Disruption* XXXVIII. (E. D. D.), Sit wha like, I'll flitt. 1883 *19th Cent.* Sept. 439 The ryots..claim at times to sit at rates that have long been obsolete.

Prov. 1625 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 9 Their Tenants..haue taken vp this Prouerbe, Botch and sit, Build and flit.

9. † a. To lie *in* wait or in ambush. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lx. 29 [He] siteð in searwum miđ ðæm weolixum. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 332 Tristre is þer me sit mid þe greahundes forte kepen þe hearde. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 30 He sittis in waitis wiþ þe riche in hidels. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* viii. 9 Thei wenten to the place of the busshement, and thei seten betwixe Bethel and Hay.

b. To remain at a siege. Cf. 21 c (*b*).

c 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 878, He..him æfter rad oþ þæt ȝeweorc, & þær sæt xiiii niht. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxvi. 16 Aulixes mid an hund scipa leedde ofer laxnstream; sæt longe ðær tyn winter full. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., To sit before a fortified place; to lie encamped for the purpose of besieging it.

10. Of birds: To perch or roost; also, to rest the body on the ground or other surface.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 208 Þær se wilda fuzel..siteð siþes fus. *a* 1000 *Genesis* 2139 Ac nefuglas under beorhhleoþum blodiȝ sittað. *c* 1205 Lay. 2827 An muchel ern spec a þon castle þer he sat. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 80 Þu sittest a day and flyhst a niht. 13.. *Coer de L.* 4636 (W.) On hys crest sat a raven swart. 1446 Lydg. *Nightingale Poems* I. 97 She a-lyght Amde singynge sest in myddes of the tre. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d ij b, All maner of fowlys that syt in trees. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) App. ii. 12 That bird..sait, & tald me hir intent. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 748 The birds sit as thicke as stones lie in a Paued street. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* cii. 6 Like an Owl that sits all day On barren Trees. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 308 The stockdove..Sits cooing in the pine-tree. 1803 *Gen. Scotl.* s.v. *Orkney Islands*, The cliffs on which the birds are sitting. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, v. 4 A widow bird sate mourning Upon a wintry bough. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 1/3 The coveys have grown so wild..that they will not sit to setters.

b. To take up or continue in the posture necessary for the hatching of eggs. Also const. *on.*

In older use freq. *to sit abroad*: see Abrood *adv.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/2 To Sytt on eggis, *incubare*. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 146 All hole-footed fowles wyll sytte a moneth. 1602 *Anal. Pl. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. 173 An old goose that sits hatching vp those eggs. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* II. xvii. 90 Let them [eggs] be sitten upon, their due time [etc.]. 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Farm.* 71 A hen sits twenty days. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 303 Until the female begins to sit, the male is frequently heard to make a singular kind of noise. 1855 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* 108 If a hen is really determined to sit, it is useless..to attempt to divert her from her object.

transf. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 597 The Serpent having laid her Egge sitteth upon them to hatch them at several times.

fig. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 21 Thou..Dove-like satst brooding on the vast Abyss And mad'st it pregnant. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* XXXV, Civil war is like a cockatrice;—we have sitten hatching the egg that held it for ten years.

11. Of animals: To rest the body in a manner analogous to that of a seated person.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 86 Þe were icundere to one frogge þat sit at Mulne vnder cogge. 13.. *Pains of Hell* (Vernon MS.) 217 Wolmes and serpentes on hem seeten. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4178 'Þe Dan' he says 'sal þe nedder be Sitand in þe way als men sal se'. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* x. (Thornton MS.), Cerkelytt withe serpentes, þat satt by hir sydes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vij b, A Cony sittyng. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 18 The sheepe..wyll folowe those stakes, as he flytteth them, and syt by them. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 352 Others on the grass Coucht, and now fild with pasture gazing sat. *Ibid.* v. 25 How the Bee Sits on the Bloom. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 115 ¶ 6 A Hare is not yet safe that Sits within ten Miles of his House. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. II. vi. 139 It is very desirable to find the hare sitting, because she may otherwise sit so close as to be 'chopped'.

fig. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* V. x, This alone must have abundantly satisfied Jones that he was (to use the language of sportsmen) found sitting.

12. To rest the body *on* the knees; to be in a kneeling posture. Cf. 19. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* III. ix. 134 Þeh þe hie hiene meðigne on cneowum sittende metten. *a* 1000 *Daniel* 180 Þa hie for þam cumble on cneowum sæton. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 106 in *O. E. Misc.* 40 He hit bitauhte iudas, þat alle hit myhte iseo, þer he wes bivoren him and set on his kneo. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (*Mark*) 173 He..prayt for þam..& sad, sittand one his kne [etc.]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 155 This Maiden, which sat on hire knes Tofore the king. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 15 As he satt in his prayers, hym þoght [etc.]. 1518 in *Yorks. Arch. Trans.* II. 381, iij pure women to sit at y^m^ herse & pray. 1593 in J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Forefathers* (1877) 155 All the time he was before them, the President forced him to sit upon his knees. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (Bann. Club) 120 He sitting vpon his knees before hir, keping a gret grauite. 1652 Boate *Nat. Hist. Ireland* (1860) 125 On that dry place where the mud is poured forth sit certain women upon their knees. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxii, While he sat on his knees before me, mopping and mowing. 1868 in *Myrc's Instr. Par. Priests* 74 In Durham *sitting on the knees* is an expression still used for kneeling.

II. 13. Of things: To have place or location; to be situated.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxix. § 13 Þæt leohte fyr..up gewit, & sio hefize eorðe sit þeer niðere. *c* 900 Wærferth tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 245 Þæt ȝetacnað, þæt seo rihtȝewittuze sawl siteð on þam lichaman. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 129, I..sauh þe sonne sitte soup euene þat tyme. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 33 The same wyse maistou sen..wheither the sterre sitte est or west or north. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) i. 7 The evylle Town, that sytt toward the ende of Hungarye. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 23 Loke quere sittes 2 in þe lyft side in þe first rewe. *c* 1440 *Astron. Cal.* (MS. Ashm. 391), A table..which will shewe you in what signe þe moone sitteþ euery day. 1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 102 The which tenement sytteth and lyyth by y^e^ tenement of John Clerk. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxii. 54 The forkit Clauer besyde the Croce that sittis. 1812 *New Bot. Garden* I. 29 The involucre..sits close to the flower. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xx, In the room where the coffin sat wreathed with flowers. 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Donkey* (1886) 179 The village of Cocurès, sitting among vineyards and meadows.

fig. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 40 Thy rapt soul sitting in thine eyes. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 93 That regardlessness for trifles which then sat at my heart. 1793 Burns *Young Jessie* 13 Love sits in her smile, like a wizard ensnaring. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 34 Mark you what spirit sits in St. John's eyes?

b. To be situated, to rest or lie, to be supported, *on* or *upon* something. Freq. *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 75 Swa seo hefige byrþen [of the tomb] siteþ on þæm deadan lichoman. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 162 Us godes yrre betelice on sit. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 735 Þer sat is ship up-on þe sond. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 12 An hundred of ampolles on his hat seeten. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 23 Which Ring..where it on a finger sat [etc.]. 1494 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 23 The little Bone that sitteth upon the great Fin. 1619 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Malta* IV. ii, Art thou a Knight? did ever on that sword The Christian cause sit nobly? 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* II. 20 That sleep all night upon his eyes should sit. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* XXVIII, A fatal paleness sat upon her cheek. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 214 Scarlet semi-globules sitting on the sides of the branches. 1820 Scott *Monast.* XXXVII, Your Father and Abbot will not disgrace the mitre which sits upon his brow. 1853 M. Arnold *Sohrab & Rustum* 666 Truth sits upon the lips of dying men. 1888 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 880/2 A little three-legged trivet on which a tankard..might sit with live coals beneath.

c. With compl. denoting manner or position.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 188 It wole make hise heeris longe & make hem sitte faste. 1654 Z. Coke *Logick* To Rdr., The numerous Tomes of the Times, which serve but ..to make the world sit straight about you. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 55 The Ship sat upright. 1739 Labelye *Piers Westm. Bridge* 30 We sunk the Caisson a second time, and found it to bed itself, or sit perfectly level upon the hard Gravel.

d. Of the wind: To blow from, be in, a particular quarter. Now only in fig. phrase.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 123 The winde sits faire for newes to go to Ireland, But none returnes. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* II. xiv. 78, I wot not whether it were bicause the winde sat that way, or bicause we lodged vpon the riuer. 1620 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 587 When the wind sitteth West, it is alwaies rain. *a* 1654 Selden *Table-T.* (Arb.) 32 A good Miller that knows how to grind which way soever the Wind sits. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 10 ¶ 5 By that Time they are pretty good Judges of the Weather, know which Way the Wind sits [etc.]. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 137 The wind sat North.

fig. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. iii. 102 That she should so dote on Signior Benedicke... *Bene.* Is't possible? sits the winde in that corner? 1605 Chapman *All Fools* I. i, Sits the winde there? blowes there so calme a gale From a contemned and deserued anger? 1706 Mrs. Centlivre *Basset-Table* IV, Ha, Captain, how sits the wind between you and your mistress? 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xv, So soon as the Marquis's political agent found how the wind sat, he began [etc.]. 1834 Whately in *Life* (1866) I. 243 The following straw may serve to show how the winds sits. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* vi, Is it so the wind sits?

† e. Of the tide: To set. *Obs.*[—1]

1751 R. Paltock *P. Wilkins* (1884) I. 239 Shooting from shelf to shelf, as the tide sat.

14. In fig. phrases: a. With *nigh, near, close to, at*, etc.: To affect one deeply.

c 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 18 My sekenes sat ay so nigh my herte. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* 106 There befell unto him another mischiefe, that sate as neere hys skirtes as the death of his dilling. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. 394 Your Brothers death I know sits at your heart. 1611 Speed *Hist. of Gt. Brit.* IX. iii. § 19. 443 Whose sinnes beganne to sit so neere his heart..that hee sore repented him of the same. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 39 Of all my misfortunes, the greatest that ever befell mee, and which sits closest to my heart. 1713 Addison *Cato* I. iv, When discontent sits heavy at my heart. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* XXX, The anguish and uncertainty which sat heavy at his heart.

b. To press or weigh (heavily, lightly, etc.) *on* or *upon* one. Also without const.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 280 (Q.), Woe doth the heauier sit, Where it perceiues it is but faintly borne. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Wks. 1851 IV. 9 For no effect of tyranny can sit more heavy on the Common-wealth. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* (1703) II. 182 These questions well-answered.. will make a man's years sit easy upon him. 1729 Butler *Serm., Balaam* 451 There must therefore be some method of making it sit a little easy upon their minds. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* II. xiv, To make reparation..for the insult he had given him, which sat still upon my father's mind. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* x, The restless haggard expression sat more heavily than ever on his face. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 196 Old age sits lightly upon you.

c. To lie (easily, etc.) *on* the stomach. Also without const., to be easily digested.

(*a*) 1708 W. King *Cookery* 19 You cannot imagine..how much easier they will sit upon your Stomach. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* IV. i, Good liquor will sit upon a good supper, but a good supper will not sit upon..my conscience. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 572 Such preparations of iron as may sit easy on the stomach.

(*b*) 1737 Byrom *Rem.* (1856) II. i. 123 Had a cheesecake ..by the way, which..did not sit so easy, being buttery. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 187 A little toast and water alone..will often sit easy when nothing else will remain.

† 15. With dative of person: To affect (one) in a specified way; to distress, vex, grieve. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 To don al & drehen þat him liked, ne sitte hit hire se uuele. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 24342 (Fairf.), Our sorowing..satte vs baþ in flesshe & bane. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. III. 154 Yf he fynde 3ow in defaute..Hit shal sitte 3oure soules ful soure at þe laste. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2284 Sothely your suster sittes vs not so harde. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 24 3eit he desyrd the thing that sat him sar. *a* 1500 *Assembly Ladies* 663 She felt gret displeasunce,..And no wonder; it sat her passing nere. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 269 In his aige that sat him than full soir. *a* 1542 Wyatt *Poet. Wks.* (1861) 24 But pray restore it mannerly, ..For to lese it, it sitteth me near.

† b. To cost (one) so much. *Obs. rare.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 48 We han a wyndowe a wirchyng wil sitten vs ful heigh. *c* 1421 *26 Pol. Poems* 85 Mannys loue sat me so sore, Nas neuere bargayn derrere bouȝt.

16. Of clothes: a. With dative: To fit or suit (a person, etc.). *rare.*

This sense and 17 are due to the influence of AF. *seeir* (mod.F. *seoir*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15286 Wit a tuell he belted him His side sitand ful mete. *a* 1764 Lloyd *Poet. Wks.* (1774) II. 38 Suppose For once you wear the begger's clothes;..Bless me, they sit you to a hair. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 129 Her morning-promenade dress of white muslin,..but, adds she, it will not sit her.

b. To fit (well, tightly, etc.). Freq. with preps. as *about, on, to*. Also *fig.*

† 1370 *Rob. Cicyle* 287 Alle men wondurd fro whens he came, So welle hys rayment sate hym on. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2263 Poyntis and sleves be wel sittand, Right and streight upon the hand. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. i. 338 His ouer garment sat ouerthwartly. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) H ij, Her hose sittynge cleane to her legge. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iii. § 14 Which cloak sitteth no less fit on the back of their cause, than of the Anabaptists. 1602 *How Chuse Good Wife* III. iii, He is such a sloven, That nothing will sit handsome about him. 1607 Dekker *Northward Hoe* II. i, How sit our blew-coates on our backes. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A Coat that sits close to the Body. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* iii, A close dress of scarlet which sate tight to his body. 1851 *Eliza Cook's Jrnl.* 19 July 277 Throwing also an occasional look down..his new Californian trowsers, seeing that they 'sit' well. 1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 52 Now just turn round and show me how it sits behind.

c. *fig.* Of airs, opinions, practices, etc.

1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Selfdeceiving* 369 Let his gifts and graces be never so excellent, yet they sit but loose about him. 1728 Vanbr. & Cibber *Prov. Husb.* II. i, *Lady Arn.* Do you ever play at hazard, Clarinda? *Clar.* Never; I don't think

it sits well upon women. 1786 *Francis the Philanthropist* III. 79 He whose opinions..sat loose upon him, was always deemed a bad, and generally a weak, man. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, Her little air of precision sits so well upon her. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xi. i. (1872) IV. 25 A light stoicism sits gracefully on him. 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 970/2 The feudal Conservatism which sat so well upon him.

†17. Usually *impers.* To suit; to be suitable, fitting, proper, or seemly. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15558 þei mette.. To conseille þem, & to wyte How þat þyng best mighte site. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 404 But..I seye that yuele it sit To assaye a wyf whan þat it is no nede. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 335 Yit sit it wel that thou eschuie That thou the Court noght overhaste. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. ix. 333 It bisemeth and it is sitting, and therfore it is to be doon. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 26 The Nightingale is souereigne of song, Before him sits the Titmose silent bee.

† b. Const. *for*, *to*, or with dative. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 1071, I am a kyng, it sit me noght to lye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 51 It sit a prest to be wel thewed. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 129 As hyt syttythe and semyþe so worthy a prynce and a prynccesse. *c* 1420 *Wars Alexander* 73 It sittez noȝte till an emperour..to lose his men þus. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 392 With pesyn & baken whan sesoun þer-to dothe sitt. 1530 Palsgr. 719/2 It sytteth nat for your estate to weare so fyne furres.

c. With *well* as complement. Now *dial.*

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 750 It sat hir wondir wel to synge. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 394 In spek wlispyt he sum deill; Bot that sat him rycht wondre weill. 1399 Gower *In Prvise Peace* 52 It sit hem wel to do pite and grace. 1426 *Acts Privy Council* III. 183 My..lorde of Gloucestre wol as hit sitteth him wel..kepe & restreyne his meyne. 1846 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) s.v., 'It sits him well,' of a pretentious person.

III. 18. To seat oneself; to take a seat; to sit down. Cf. 21 a. Also const. *to.*

Beowulf 489 Site nu to symle..swa þin sefa hwette. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Þet mon..er timan to his borde ne sitte. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xiii. 18 Sei to the king,..Beth mekid, sitteth. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* I. v. 12 [They] sit to the Banquet. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* I. 98 Thus, he sate, and up..Heroic Agamemnon rose. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 19 This done, they sate to the Table, and some Gobelets..were drunk about. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* I. 101 This said, he sat. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* xii, Sit then, Brenhilda, since the good man will have it so. 1873 Holmes *Addr. Opening Fifth Avenue Theatre* 100 The hurrying crowd..smooths its caudal plumage as it sits.

b. In pa. pple. with *is*, *was*, etc. Cf. 21 a (*b*). Now *dial.*

c 925 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 922, Him cierde eall þæt folc to þe on Mercna lande ȝeseten wæs. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 281 Þo heo weren alle i-sete þare cam on and seruede. *c* 1300 *Childhood Jesu* 1720 (Horstm.), To þe bord huy beoþ isete. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 48 Al on mur3þe was he y-sete wiþ a fair baronye. 1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 66 Hee againe desires her, being satte [etc.]. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* VII. 12 We being sate, and she likewise, Clerantes said [etc.]. 1711 [see A. 7 γ]. 1864 Ramsbotham *Lanc. Rhymes* 12 At th' eend o' th' day..aw'm sat at whoam.

c. *transf.* To set; to stick; to settle down.

1621 Br. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 358 He heard the Sunne hisse, sitting in the West Ocean. 1888 Addy *Sheffield Gloss.* 216 *Sit*, to adhere firmly, to be burnt. 'That milk has sit.' 1901 *Daily Chron.* 28 Dec. 9/2 Henriette (French barque), supposed sat upon her anchor in Astoria Harbour.

†19. To go down *on* one's knees. Cf. 21 b. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 63 ȝwane it saiȝ þe freres sitten a-kneo, kneuli it wolde al-so. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2709 Þou wost ful wel..Þat Abelwold þe dide site On knes. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 195 b/2 Assone as the preestys were gone and departed she satte on hir knees. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xvi. 43 Huon..by force was fayne to syt on one of his knees to the erthe.

20. To rise *upright*, *on end*, move or lean *back*, in a sitting posture. Cf. 25.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19790 Quen sco o petre had a sight, Bi hir self sco satt vp-right. 1822 Scott *Nigel* xxv, The female..sat by the expiring fire with her limbs outstretched. ..'Do not leave me,'..she said, sitting upright. 1884 T. Speedy *Sport Highl.* xiii. 212 It being a habit of the mountain-hare..to run one or two hundred yards, and then, kangaroo-like, sit on end and look back. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Aug. 5/5 Lord Redesdale beamed benevolently upon his contemporary as he sat back upon his bench.

IV. **With adverbs.*

21. **Sit down.** a. To seat oneself; to take a seat. Cf. 18.

c 1205 Lay. 12958 Þe swike set adun alse he wolde holden run. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2809 Nu wile ich þat ye doun site. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 240 Doun thei seten bothe same. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilzear* 177 Doun he sat the King neir, And maid him glaid and gude cheir. *a* 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 217 He was at the last constrayned for werynes to sitt down in a chayer. 1582 Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* 155 A place appointed for y^e captain generall to sit down on. 1674 tr. *Martiniere's Voy. N. Countries* 22 We sat down, fed as heartily as we could, and then taking leave [etc.]. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xv, He entered, drew a chair, and sate down. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. v, Mrs. Delville..made her sit down. 1817 Scott in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. iii. 97, I..am often six hours on foot without stopping or sitting down. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 104 He then sat down between the doors. 1890 Doyle *White Company* iv, He sat down by the roadside to partake of his bread and cheese.

(*b*) In pa. pple. with *is*, *was*, etc. Cf. 18 b.

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 185 As soon as they were sitten down. 1641 Brome *Jovviall Crew* III. Wks. 1873 III. 402 Yonder they are at peep. And now sitten downe as waiting for my purpose. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 23, I am now sat down to give you a few scattered observations. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) I. 273 They were scarcely sat down, before one of the housemaids came [etc.]. 1787 [see A. 7 β].

(*c*) Const. *to* (a game, meal, etc.).

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. i. 239 The sixt houre, when..men sit downe to that nourishment which is called supper. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 101 He..sits down to the Cards or Hazard. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 148 ¶ 1 The first who ever sat down to a whole roasted Ox. 1795 *Jemima* I. 206 Quietly submit to sit down to the table at which my late fellow servants are to wait. 1826 Lamb *Pop. Fallacies* xiii, Cannot we like Sempronia, without sitting down to chess with her eternal brother? 1856 C. J. Andersson *Lake Ngami* 98 We arrived..just as the family was sitting down to dinner. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 19 Sept. 5/1, I sit down to ham and eggs.

ellipt. 1863 *Illustr. Lond. News* 8 Aug. 150/3 The inspection dinner..took place yesterday week...Between forty and fifty gentlemen sat down.

(*d*) To come accidentally to the ground in a sitting posture.

1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 212 To see a man *sit down* in a waltz.

† b. To go down *on* one's knees. Cf. 19. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 137 Bi-fore ech ymage he op aros, and eft he sat a-doun a-kne. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1335 Þe erl wende to þe emperour & sat adoun a kne. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 604 With þat befor þe bischape rath he set done one his kneis bath. 1544 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 198 To cum..and syt down on hir knees and ask the said Jonat forgifnis. *a* 1578 Lindsay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 187 [They] passit to the quenis grace and sat doune vpone thair kneis and askit pardone. 1626 *N. Riding Rec.* III. 260 Until such time as she shall sit down upon her knees and submit herself to her mother and crave her blessinge.

c. To establish oneself in some position or place; to settle, take up one's abode. In later use chiefly *U.S.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 693 Donald Bane..efter his Deid sat doun and rang into his Steid. 1579 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* III. 241 [He] satt doun upoun the ground of the saidis landis,..and upliftit the dewiteis of the samin. 1632 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1825) I. 87 The Braintree company, (which had begun to sit down at Mount Wollaston). 1637 in *Century Mag.* (1883) Sept. 644 These ten men.. shall have liberty to view a place to sit down, and have land sufficient for three-score families. 1764 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* (1765) I. 89 Salt meadows..were an inducement to people to sit down there. 1799 in *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. (1801) 311 On the turn of middle age..the author sat down on a farm in Maryland. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 332 A comparison of their present state with their situation when they first sat down.

(*b*) To encamp *before* a town, etc., in order to besiege it; to begin *to* a siege.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* IV. vii. 28 All places yeelds to him ere he sits downe, And the Nobility of Rome are his. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* I. i, The great Gonzaga,..before we could get time To victual or to man the conquered city, Sat down before it. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. i. 6 His Father..resolv'd to send him..to the Siege of Rochelle, that was then sitting down. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 120 They sat down to the siege of Coburgh Castle. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxix. 155 Had he not..sitten down in the winter season before that city. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxxv, The army of Burgundy sat down before Nancy, in a strong position. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. ix. (1864) II. 419 With a large force he sat down before Ravenna.

(*c*) *fig.* Of persons or things: To settle down in some way.

1599 Alex. Hume *Day Estivall* 182 Great is the calme, for euerie quhair The wind is sitten downe. *a* 1675 Lightfoot *Rem.* (1700) 203 There hath been many a good soul that hath sitten down in much sadness. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* x. 298 In this time it began to sit down on my spirit very much that I was unfit for them. 1780 J. Berington *St. Eng. Cath.* p. viii, Shall I sit down satisfied because the good humour of a magistrate chooses to indulge me. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* iv, We little thought to hae sittin doun wi' the like o' my auld Davie Howden, or you either. 1888 *Times* 26 June 4/6 He [a jockey] did not sit down to ride the horse—*i. e.*, to ride him with his hands and legs. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 583 A terrific tornado, which has been lurking growling about, then sits down in the forest and bursts.

d. To put up, rest content, *with* († also in early use *by*), † to acquiesce *in*, something. Cf. 29 a.

(*a*) 1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* xi-xii. 117 But men will laugh at our simplicity, if we sit downe by such indignities. 1663 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 141, I..chose rather to sit down by ye loss then displease him.

(*b*) 1614 Jackson *Creed* III. 126 All were bound vpon paine of death to sit down with their priuate loss. 1674 Boyle *Corpusc. Phil.* 17 A sober physician..will never sit down with so short an account. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 49 ¶ 1 We are apt to sit down with our Errors, well enough satisfied with the Methods we are fallen into. 1764 J. Randall *Semi-Virgil. Husb.* App. 10, I was obliged to sit down with that loss, great as it was. 1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xlvi, He was compelled to sit down with the affront. 1881 Mallock *Rom. 19th Cent.* I. 152 He was not a man tamely to sit down with dejection.

(*c*) 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii, The major part sit down in his authority.

22. **Sit in.** a. To have a place as a player *at* a game.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, We cannot all sit in at them [the proposed games]; we shall make a confusion.

b. To begin in earnest *to* something.

1736 [Chetwood] *Voy. Vaughan* vi. (1760) 91 When our Business was over, we sat in to Drinking. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVIII. xiii, The Squire sat in to his Cups.

c. *dial.* (See quot.)

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'Sit in,' to adhere, as any extraneous matter does in a recent wound.

23. **Sit on.** a. Also with to. (See quots.) Now *dial.*

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 107 Sette al on the fire,..but sterre it well..for sitting to. 1808 Jamieson s.v., Any food, prepared in a pot, is said to *sit to*, when, from not being stirred, it is allowed to burn. 1825 — *Suppl.* s.v., Broth or soup, which has been boiled too long, especially when burnt in the pot, is said to be *sitten on*. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To sit on,' to burn to the pan, chiefly applied to milk.

b. To continue to sit, to remain, stay on.

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 228/1 *To sit on*, to remain, to continue to abide in the same house. 1893 Keith *'Lisbeth* II. ii, Isabella was fidgeting..for fear I should be sitting on till the bell rang.

24. **Sit out.** a. To sit apart from others, or to remain seated, so as take no part in a game, dance, etc. Cf. 37 a.

1626 Middleton *Mayor of Queenb.* I. ii, If I see any kneel, and I sit out, That hour is not well spent. 1629 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* 54 A nimble humour, apt..to play at small play rather than sit out. 1659 *Shuffling, Cutting & Deal.* 7 I'le play at small game, rather then sit out. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* V. iii, You won't be so cantankerous as to spoil the party by sitting out. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* i, Some stuck to cards, and though no longer deep gamblers, rather played small game than sat out. 1886 'Edna Lyall' *Won by Waiting* xxix, [She] only refused him once when she wanted to sit out with Cornelia.

fig. 1664 J. Wilson *A. Commenius* II. ii, Who was the prouder pray; Diogenes, that spurn'd at every thing, Or Alexander, that sate out at nothing?

b. To sit in the open air.

1908 [Miss Fowler] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 109, I am now sitting out, for the first time.

25. **Sit up.** a. To raise the body from a recumbent to a sitting posture.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1597 Þa ha weren iseten up, [ha] sehen as þe engles..smireden hire wunden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3683 'Fader,' he said, 'sitt vp and ete'. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 456 Þanne sat sleuthe vp and seyned hym swithe. 1526 Tindale *Luke* vii. 15, I saye vnto the aryse. And the deed sate vp. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To sit up in his Bed, *s'asseoir dans son Lit.* 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* v. 69 She heard, she moved,..and up she sat. 1908 R. Bagot *A. Cuthbert* xxvii, Sonia sat up excitedly. 'I will not have a doctor,' she exclaimed.

b. To defer the hour for retiring to bed until late; to wait up *for*; to watch through the night (or some part of it) *with* one.

1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 624 Our drunkards, that sytte vp so late. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. iii. 10 Let the Nurse this night sit vp with you. 1611 Bible *Ps.* cxxvii. 2 It is vaine for you to rise vp early, to sit vp late. 1672 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* II. v. (Arb.) 63, I sate up two whole nights in composing this Air. 1710–1 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Mar., The surgeon sat up with him: he is asleep again. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 78 He..even sat up two nights together to examine their operations. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* II. v. 189 'To sit up to supper' was the great reward when they had been 'very good bairns'. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* II. 86 They sat up talking till far into the night.

c. To be in a sitting posture, in contrast to lying in bed.

1727 Boyer *Dict. Royal* II. s.v., To sit up in one's Bed, *se tenir assis dans son Lit.* 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 165 He may sometimes sit up in bed for a short space. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 98 When they attempt to sit up during convalescence. 1858 Geo. Eliot *Scenes Cler. Life, Janet's Repentance* xxvii, The pale wasted form in the easy-chair (for he sat up to the last).

† d. *Anglo-Ind.* (See quot. 1780.) *Obs.*

1777 in Busteed *Echoes Old Calcutta* (1888) 136 Lady Impey sits up with Mrs. Hastings; *vulgo* toad-eating. 1780 Capt. I. Munro *Narr.* (1789) 56 When a young lady arrives at Madras she must, in a few days afterwards, sit up to receive company, attended by some beau as master of the ceremonies, which perhaps continues for a week. 1795 Sir T. Munro in Gleig *Life* (1830) I. 169, I am not to be forced to sit up, and receive male or female visitors. 1810 [see Sitting *vbl. sb.* 6 (*b*)].

e. (See quot.)

1856 S. Warner *Hills of Shatemuc* xvi. 162 'Will you sit up, cousin?'..: the meaning of the request being that he should move his chair up to the table.

f. *To make* (one) *sit up*, to astonish, startle, have a powerful effect on, one.

1889 *Daily News* 23 July 5 When her [George Sand's] novels first made the world 'sit up', if we may venture to use such a phrase. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 323, I am going to tell you a story that..will make you sit up. 1896 Mrs. Hungerford *Lonely Girl* xv, If you had accepted my pink gown..you would have made..[him] sit up.

** *With prepositions, in special senses.*

26. **Sit on or upon.** a. To sit in judgement or council, to deliberate, on (a person or matter).

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* viii. 21 (Harl. MS.), þe domys-man come to þe Cite, for to sitte vp on brekers of þe lawe. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 82 It is seyd her that..serteyn jwrys.. schold come downe and syt on syche peryll as be noysyd ryotous. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Macc.* xiv. 21 They appoynted a daye to syt vpon these matters quyetly amonge them selues. 1574 Travers *Decl. Eccl. Discipl.* Table, Deacons which he appointed..to sit vppon the offences that arise in the churches. 1608 Chapman *Byron's Trag.* v. ii, Must I be sat on now, by petty Judges. *a* 1693 Ashmole *Antiq. Berksh.* (1719) I. 153 Her Father..caused her Corps to be taken up, the Coroner to sit upon her, and further Enquiry to be made. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 550 ¶ 3 At which time I intend to sit upon Business. 1798 *Hull Advert.* 13 Oct. 3/2 A coroner's jury has sat on the body, and returned a verdict of lunacy. 1832 Hawker *Diary* (1893) II.

337 The select committee at Ordnance, who..sat on my new military carbine. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 547/1 A committee of..friends..'sat' upon our affairs while we were furnishing.

b. To have a seat on (a jury, commission, etc.).

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 134 The kinges maiestye hathe appointed you..to sit vpon the tryall of knell being accused of Treason. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol., Chancerie* § 84 When the time came that the same commission was to be sitten on. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 282 We find not that there was any..commission sitten upon about their death. 1676 I. MATHER *Hist. K. Philip's War* (1862) 48 Indians as well as English sate upon the Jury. 1836 in Barrow *Mirror of Parlt.* 2041/2 Those who sit on courts-martial have a most important office to perform. 1840 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 120 My poor man of genius had to sit on a jury. 1895 *Times* 10 Jan. 9/6 He sat on the Royal Commission on Hospitals.

† c. To press *sore* or *hard* on (one). Cf. 14 b.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 690 In to fleyng the Sotheroun suttaill ar, Se thai the tym thai wyll syt on ws sar. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) I. IX. 583 He..would never..give that party any favour.., but on the contrary sat hard upon them on all occasions.

d. *slang.* To squash, check, snub.

1865 *Slang Dict.* 231 *Sit-upon*, to overcome or rebuke, to express contempt for a man in a marked manner. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xviii, 'Bell, what is good for you, when you're sat upon?' 'Patience,' says Bell. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* xxxiv, My lady felt rebuked, and, as she afterward expressed it, sat upon.

27. sit over, to be occupied with (a matter, etc.) while sitting; to pore over (a book).

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlviii, Her daughters sighed, and sate over the Peerage all night. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 The garden..where..the elder merchants sat over their pipe and beaker of Rhine wine.

28. sit under. To listen to, be a hearer of, attend the church of (a minister or preacher).

1644 MILTON *Educ.* 6 There would then also appear in Pulpits other visages, other gestures,..then what we now sit under. [1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner* (1700) 130 Those that sit under the Glorious sound of the Gospel.] 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 27 P 5 The..audience that sits under our preachers. 1797 R. STORRY *J. Foster's Poems* To Rdr., The privilege which he enjoyed in sitting under the ministry of the late..Mr. Adam. 1840 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* x, She, after a time,..*sat under him*, as the phrase is, regularly thrice a week. 1878 J. A. SYMONDS in *Brown Life* (1903) 338 Your sermon on Faith..makes me wish that I had the privilege of 'sitting under' you.

29. sit with. † a. *Sc.* To put up with or tolerate, to stand (a wrong, etc.). *Obs.* Cf. 21 d.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 90 That sege wald sit with none wrang Of berne that wes borne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 28 Ane man..nocht willing to seit with so mony wrangis as he had gottin onrewenge. 1635 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. lii. 149 They haue been false to Christ and He will not sit with the wrong. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* 1. xxi. § iii. 112 Nor is it probable that the person offended would have sitten long with such a wrong. 1774 in *Cloud of Witnesses* (1778) 3 God will not sit with all the wrongs done to him.

b. To be consonant or in harmony with, to agree with, to befit (one). Now only *arch.*

1555 W. WATERMAN *Fardle Facions* App. 330 It sitteth not with equitie, that the elder should be putte beside the enheritannce of his father. 1579 SPENSER *Let. to Harvey* Wks. (Globe) 706/1 It sitteth with you now, to call your wits and senses togither. 1590 — *F. Q.* I. i. 30 With holy father sits not with such thinges to mell. [1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* I. 2 As for the rapier, nae doubt it sits wi' your degree.]

V. *refl.* and *trans.*

30. *refl.* To seat (oneself).

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 2 Sitte [ðin mod] him on minum hrædwæne;..ic bio his laddeow. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17845 Sundri þai þam fra oþer saite, And aiper be himseluen wrate. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 243 Themne he satte hym at dyner nygh to Eglantyne. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 16 Sit thee by our side. 1686 J. S[ERGEANT] *Hist. Monast. Conv.* 183 The Prayer of the Mass..being sung, he sat him self again in his seat. 1830 H. ANGELO *Reminis.* I. 185 Bach..would sit himself in his place. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 202 He sat himself upon the marble edge of the basin.

b. With *down.* (The more frequent use.) Also, to settle (quot. 1823).

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3672 He satt him doune beyde him. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* I. xvi. He sat hym down vnder a fayre oke. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 104 [He] called for a chayer, & satt hyme self down in the mydds of the table. 1639 FELL *Inspr. Sea* 59 In every corner they walk into, or sit themselves down in. 1682 N. O. *Bellum's Lutrin* 2. 136 He yields, and sits him down to tast the Creature. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 32, I sit me down a pensive hour to spend. 1775 FLETCHER *Checks* Wks. 1795 VI. 230 The multitude of professors, who sit themselves down in self imputed righteousness. 1823 COLEBROOKE in *St. Cape Good Hope* 374 The early colonists of South Africa sat themselves down on fertile spots. 1868 F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 199, I..sat myself down on the ridge. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Children.* xiii, Come and sit you down by the fire.

31. *trans.* To sit upon, to ride (a horse).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 276 He would not suffre any bodye to sitte hym, or gette up on his backe. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) S iv b, Hee that sitteth not well a horse. 1623 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, IV. ii. 16 He..grew so ill He could not sit his Mule. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 285 The King return'd..so Drunk, as were also most of his Lords, that they could hardly sit their Horses. 1700 PRIOR *Carm. Sec.* xvi, Hardly the Muse can sit the headstrong Horse. 1762 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 30 Mar., It was difficult to sit our horses. 1836 MRS. SHERWOOD *H. Milner* III. v, Edgar sits a horse as well as any young man in England. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 230 Wells could not sit the horse better himself.

b. Of a hen or hen-bird: To sit upon, to hatch (eggs). Also *transf.* (quot. 1828).

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xvi. 107 Geese loue not almost to sit any but their owne egs. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 51 The Hen gathereth the youngest most tenderly: Yea, how long will she sit the very eggs? 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'He wad sit eggs,' said of a person, who sits long in a neighbour's house, when his company might be well dispensed with. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 525 The hen will sit seventeen of her own eggs.

c. To sit in (a boat) in an expert manner.

1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 66 They sit their boat, and keep time as if they were two clock-work figures. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 May 448/2 There is a great deal in knowing how to 'sit' and 'trim' a boat.

32. To cause (a person) to sit; to seat in a certain place or position. Also with *down, up.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. ix. 225 The grene knyghte took hym and sat hym at a syde table. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall. Pr.* 379 In the bankets the kings of Persia made, they sate him whom they loved..on the left hand of the prince. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 253, I went and sat the wayters to dynner. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xi, Taking Paul up in his arms, and sitting him on another little table. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 21 June 387/1 He promptly sat us down to such entertainment as his vessel furnishes. 1895 *Daily News* 9 Oct. 7/5 The man is so bad that we can't sit him up.

b. To place in position for photographing.

1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 92 We sit a stranger immediately he comes in, knowing absolutely nothing what manner of man he is of.

c. To make or cause (a hen-bird) to sit.

1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 62/1 Ought she not..to..know how to sit hens and turkeys?

† **33.** To set or place. *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 719/1 Syt these glasses of rose water a sonnynge. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* IV. 224 If he would sit me down where he found me. 1824 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* LVII. 511 When he took his lady from the horse Into his arms, he gently sat her down.

† **34.** *Sc.* (and *north.*). To disregard, neglect, pay no heed or attention to (a command, call, etc.). *Obs.* [So MIcel. *sitja.*]

a 1300 *Havelok* 2567 Was non þat enere his bode sat, For he him dredde swipe sore. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilzear* 99 Durst scho neuer sit summoundis that scho hard him say. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. vi. 6 Astonist he was to site so hie ane charge. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 67 Sit thou this charge,..The second sall bee something sairer. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 43 Let Cities learne of Ninive the great, For to repent, and not God's summons sit. 1699 T. BOSTON *Art of Man-Fishing* (1900) 61, I did a long time sit the call of the church. 1742 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 III. 58 His bowels are shut against me: I have sitten his call so often. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 43, I sat that bidding, but I've rued it ay sin syne.

35. To sit against, resist; to endure, bear; to put up with, go on with. Now *rare.*

c 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 15 (Lincoln MS.), Was never knyghte ..Mighte sitt a strake of his hande One his styff stede. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 114, I must sit all stormes. 1625 DONNE *Serm.* cl. Wks. 1839 VI. 56 First God turns their Rivers into blood, Pharaoh Sits that process and more. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* I. 50 Being unable to sit the shock of fowr lances,..he was unhorsed. 1848 NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* xviii. 273 And he's so positive ..; it is quite unpleasant, I don't know how to sit it sometimes. 1859 READE *Love me Little* vii. (1868) 88 Ladies, whose hearts are in dress, have no taste for books however frivolous; can't sit them above a second or two.

36. † a. To hold (a meeting). *Obs.*[1]

1635 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 274 For the meeting..it stood not well with some other occasion to have it sitten at this time.

b. = *Sit out* (37 b); to stay till the end of.

1784 *Laura & Augustus* III. 16 We soon after this returned home, not chusing to sit the entertainment. 1845 STILL *Cottar's Sunday* 36 Neebours roun', whan Robin teuk it, Swore he wadna sit his lease.

c. To bear (one) company in sitting.

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'To sit a woman,' to keep company with her, to court. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* xix, I will undertake to sit you through it up to morning.

37. sit out. a. To remain seated and take no part in (a game or dance). Cf. 24 a.

1659 *Shuffling, Cutting & Deal.* 3, I was somewhat scrupulous, whether Play was lawful, or not; and so sate out the last Game. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Tinted Venus* 15 I've never had to sit out a waltz before.

b. To remain sitting, so as to be present during the course of (something). Also with *it* (quot. 1809), implying endurance of something disagreeable.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 101 P 1 An Audience would sit out an Evening to hear a Dramatical Performance. 1727 SWIFT *Art Polit. Lying* Wks. 1755 III. I. 218 [To] sit out publick prayers with decency. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. IX. P 12, I cannot conceive how a clever fellow like you can sit it out with such lourdah guests. 1827 TICKNOR *Life, Lett. & Jrnls.* II. vi. 107, I..sat out a part of their family breakfast. 1888 J. JOHNSTON *Cent. Conf. Missions* I. 450 This is the only meeting, except the first, which it has been my privilege to sit out.

c. To remain longer than (another) when paying a visit.

1845 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 344 He stayed till eleven. Craik sitting him out. 1883 W. E. NORRIS *Thirlby Hall* xii, I thought I would sit the other visitors out.

Sit-, the verbal stem in combs., as † **sit-horse,** a riding-horse; † **sit-house,** *Sc.* a residence.

c 1652 *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 193 He was not only for my coach, but he paced as easy as any sitt-horse. 1743 *Maxwell's Sel. Trans.* (Jam.), The form of a sit-house, barn, bire, stable, with corn and kitchen yards. 1754 *Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) 333 For expenses in building the Sitt house as agreed on.

Sital, obs. form of CITOLE.

Sitar (sĭtā'r). *Anglo-Ind.* Also sitarre. [Urdū ستار *sitār.*] A form of guitar, properly having three strings, used in India.

1845 STOCQUELER *Hdbk. Brit. India* (1854) 26 A trio of sitars, or rude violins. 1859 J. LANG *Wand. India* 152 Two or three of the company..played alternately on the sitarre (native guitar or violin). 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VI. 144 One that twitched A three-string sitar. 1898 SIR G. ROBERTSON *Chitral* I. 7 A sitar-player will sing of love.

Si·tarch. *rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *σῑτάρχης* or *σῑτ-αρχος*, f. *σῖτος* corn, food.] (See quots.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Sitark*, he that hath the Office to provide Corn, and Victuals sufficient. 1676 COLES, *Sitarch*, a Pourveyor.

Sitaris (sĭtă'ris). *Ent.* [mod.L. (Latreille, 1802), f. Gr. *σῖτάριον*, dim. of *σῖτος* corn, food.] A genus of beetles belonging to the family *Meloidæ*, the larvæ of which are parasitic in the nests of certain bees; a member of this genus, esp. *S. muralis.*

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* I. 689 M. Bretonneau of Tours..having found that Sitaris is not vesicant. 1866 DARWIN *Orig. Species* xiv. (ed. 4) 530 The first larval form of a certain beetle, the Sitaris,..is a minute active insect. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 337 The female Sitaris..lays her eggs in a mass glued together.

Sitch (sĭtʃ). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 sic, 4, 6 syche, 5–7 siche, 6 sucche, 7 sich, 9 sech, seech; 6 sytch, 7 sytch; 6–7 sitche, 9 sitch. [OE. *sīc*, giving normally ME. *sīch*(*e*, *siche* in southern and midland dialects, corresponding to the northern SIKE *sb.*[1]; cf. DITCH and DIKE.]

1. = SIKE *sb.*[1] 1.

Chiefly recorded in descriptions of boundaries.

969 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 535 Of þam mere west.. þonne innan anne sice þonne andlange sices þæt cymð to þæm hor pytte. [? *c* 1160 in Dugdale *Mon. Angl.* (1825) V. 584 In viis, et aquis, in sichis et moris.] *c* 1315 SHOREHAM v. 177 Ine flom iordanes syche He was ycrystned. 1410 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 12 Et abhinc vsque Merdonsiche. Et sic per illam siche diuertendo vsque [etc.]. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 10 b, Some rynning waters be commen, as lytell brokes, and sytches. *Ibid.* 50 Smale ryuers, brokes, sucches,..and pyttes. 1581 *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 826 A litle waye into the sitche there, called Sisley-hole,..& vnder the bridge vp the sitche to Hyndwell. 1602 in *Ch. Stretton* (1904) II. 195 Thence following the fylde..and then up a sytch called Newe sytch. 1637 in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., Half a land in the Barley field near Stafford's siche. 1684 MANLEY, *Sichetum*..., a Sich or small Current of Water that uses to be dry in the Summer. 1826– in dialect glossaries (Chesh., Northampt., Shropsh., Sheff.).

attrib. 1602 in *Ch. Stretton* (1904) II. 196 Over Wittingslow Heath to Dunocke sytch heade.

b. = SIKE *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1888 ABDY *Sheffield Gloss.* 214 It is a gate at the bottom of a *sitch* or ravine.

2. = SIKE *sb.*[1] 2.

1842 W. WOOD *Hist. & Antiq. Eyam* (1848) 114 A gravestone..found in a field which is now called Philip's sitch.

Sitch, dial. or illiterate f. SUCH *a.*

Sit-down, *a.* and *sb.* [The phrase *sit down* (see SIT *v.* 21) used attrib. and as sb.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of a meal: At which persons sit down; somewhat substantial or formal.

1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* xi, Jemima thought we'd better have a regular sit-down supper, in the front parlour. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 3/1 It seems that the Kitchen Committee..will have nothing to do with an organised sit-down banquet.

2. Of a fight: Determined, hard.

1853 JERDAN *Autobiogr.* III. 18 It was a fair sit-down fight and keen encounter.

B. *sb.* **1.** An act of sitting down, esp. as an occasion of friendly or social intercourse. Also *spec.*, a place where travellers habitually rest (see quot. 1898).

1876 MRS. STOWE *Pogunuc P.* xiii. 111 After tea there came the genial hour of the social sit-down in front of the andirons. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geogr.* (U.S.) Oct. 315 At intervals of two miles [in Burma]..are 'sit-downs', generally a favorite tree selected because of its dense and wide spreading shade, beneath which all native travellers have their sit-down and smoke.

2. *Sit-down-upons*, trousers, breeches. *colloq.* (Cf. SIT-UPON.)

1840 J. T. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* viii, Some little damage from the splinters and tenterhooks to my sit-down-upons. 1844 — *Parsons & Widows* iv, [He] threatened to lower his sit-down-upons and apply the rod.

† **Site,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3–5 sitt, 4 site, sitt, syt, sitht, 4–6 syte, 5 sitt, syte, cytte. [a. ON. **sytt* (cf. Norw. *syt*), variant (properly the original nom. sing.) of *sutt* (Norw. *sut*) sorrow, distress. Cf. SITE *v.*[1]]

1. Care or sorrow; grief, trouble of any kind.

Common in northern ME. poetry during the 14th cent.; in the 16th cent. in Scottish use only.

c 1200 ORMIN 4852 All flæshlig care & serrzhe & sitt. *Ibid.*

7967 Wiþþ serȝhe & sit, wiþþ bitter wop. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1410 Adam..liued..al his liue in site and care. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 65 Inglis men with site þam soght, And hastily quit tham thaire hire. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 182 Seses, seris, of ȝour syte & soruȝes na mare. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1202 He has me sauit fra syte throw his gentrice. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. xviii, Tuiching the proces of my panefull site. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 519 Se ȝe be blyth and glaid, And slaik also of all ȝour syte and sorrow. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 157 Sa mot hir hart be fillit full of syte.

b. With *a* and pl.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 566 He schulde neuer for no syt smyte al at onez. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 88 The secund dedeli syn is hatten enuy, That is a sorowe and a site of the welefare..of our euen-cristen. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xvii. (Thornton MS.), Telle me now sothely what may safe thi sytis. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S. T. S.) III. 107 False is this warld,..Besoucht with syn and other sytis mo.

2. *To make site*, to lament, mourn. *rare.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 5 Sorow & site he made.. For his sonne & heyre þat so sone was dede. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 63, I sall mak site and sorows sere.

Site (sait), *sb.*[2] Forms: *α.* 4– site, 6–7 syte; 5 siȝt, 6 sight. *β.* 6–7 scyte, 6–9 scite (9 cite). [a. AF. *site* (1302–3 in Godef.), or ad. L. *situs* place, position, etc. The mod.F. *site* (for which Cotgr. has *sit*) appears to be ad. It. *sito*).]

† **1.** The place or position occupied by some specified thing. Freq. implying original or fixed position. *Obs.* (common in the 17th cent.).

α. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* ii. § 17 Fro the Equinoxial may the declinacion..of any body celestial be rikned, after the site north or south. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3322 Þe clere sterris of Iades so red Whiche han her siȝt in þe Crabbis hed. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) I. 22 b, Mariners..learne to knowe..the syte and place of rockes and shelues. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 184 The fourth difference [in distillation] is by the site and placing of the vessell. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 273 Of the providence and wisdome of God in the site and motion of the Sun. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1704) 167 The Chamælion imitates the Woodspite..in the site of his Toes.

β. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 154 The Rocks Tumbling downe from their scytes. 1675 ALSOP *Anti-sozzo* 353 A Body is..the result of all the Integral parts put together in their due Scite and proper Order.

† b. With *a* and pl. A place or position. *Obs.*

a 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 63 þan drawe a lyne..in anoþer site, þat es to say, place of þe table. *Ibid.* 69 Calle G þe mark in þe place of þe seconde site, þat es to say, stondynge. 1596 LODGE *Divel Coniured* D iij, Peculiar and determinate obseruances, (as certaine houres, a certaine scite of starres). 1662 MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. xi. § 6 There appearing to us but one Animadversion as but one site of things. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 165 Supposing all things to arise from the different Compositions of Magnitudes, Figures, Sites, and Motions. 1716 SWIFT *Progr. Beauty* Wks. 1757 III. II. 163 Three Colours,..So graceful in their proper Place Remove them to a diff'rent scite, They form a frightful hideous Face.

† c. Without article or other qualification: Place, position, situation. *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 469 in *Babees Bk.*, In syte [*text* syce] ichon from oþer shalle be þe lenghthe of oþer, þat men may se. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 874 Contrariwise in the Plaines, iust by in site, they haue their summer from October to Aprill. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 199 When words..are in site or placing disjoyned.

(*b*) 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 67 Site, or situation, as it is the passion of a thing placed, belongeth hither. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. 6 Site doth confine This point; take site away, it's straight a spark divine. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* I. ix. 29 Site is the order of the parts of the body amongst themselves.

† d. Attitude, position, or posture (of the body, etc.). *Obs.*

1609 ANDREWES *Serm.* (1841) II. 239 Christ's site, that He stood, when He wished it. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 148 That uprightness and straitness, which is the most useful site of most plants. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 4 The conveniency of this Site of our Bodies. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 1022 The semblance of a lover, fix'd In melancholy site, with head declin'd.

2. The situation or position of a place, town, building, etc., esp. with reference to the surrounding district or locality. Occas. without article.

α. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 1 Lo Collin, here the place, whose pleasaunt syte From other shades hath weand my wandring mynde. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. 582 Anniball..rode to the gate Capena, for to view the site of the cittie. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 24 Some force whole Regions, in despight O' Geography, to change their site. 1711 POPE *Temple Fame* 421 A Structure fair, Its Site uncertain, if in Earth or Air. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) I. i. 5 The sublime site of the Castle. 1838 *Murray's Hdbk. N. Germ.* 286 Its Castle,..imposing from its size, its strength, its site. 1869 MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 70 The loss of health caused by the pestilential site of a dwelling.

β. 1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* I. (1898) I. 18 The magnificall scites and scituations of greate men's houses. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 374 A man (but meanly exercised in their language) may..readily understand the Scite, or soile, of their townes, by the onely sounde of the name. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXX. 236 Both in their pleasant Scites, most happily installd. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 625 His Cannon shot were aimed with that skill from a little rising, whose scite they had tryed, that [etc.]. 1714 *Steele's Poet. Misc.* 292 A House by Scite and Structure warm. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* (1815) 281 The castle is an instance of the sublime in scite and architecture. 1807 CUMBERLAND *Mem.* II. 150 In this valley, on the banks of the fertilizing Douro, would be the proper scite for the capital of Spain. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 255 The town has nothing but its scite to recommend it.

3. The ground or area upon which a building, town, etc., has been built, or which is set apart for some purpose. Also, in mod. use, a plot, or number of plots, of land intended or suitable for building purposes.

Plane of site in *Fortif.*: see PLANE *sb.*[3] 1 h.

α. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 490/2 Londes..such as been and make the Syte or Sites of any such Abbey, Priory [etc.]. 1547 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. i. 131 The Sightes ..wheruppon the same ij churches Are nowe .. buyldyd. 1649 MILTON *Observ. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 542 The Sites and Precincts hereby intended, are declared to be the Body of the Abby, one Garden and Orchard [etc.]. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* i. 2 The gardens..and small enclosures behind..may perhaps have been the original site of the town. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 228, I have seen only countries frequented by Europeans,..but I shall ever recollect with pleasure two of those sites. 1838 J. L. STEPHENS *Trav. Greece* I. 57 Every ruined village on the road stands on the site of an ancient city. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 18 In rude and unsettled times, these insular sites afforded safe retreats. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 38 The costly nature of the work in making good the site, when the soil is not naturally suitable.

attrib. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Dec. 7/3 Defining the term 'site value' as 'the annual rent which at the time of valuation might reasonably be obtained for the land..as a cleared site, if let for building'.

β. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 27 Al the scites & circuites of all such religious houses. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 48 Scyte, precinkte, and Compasse of the late dissolved Hospitall. *a* 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worcs.* (Worcs. Hist. Surv.) I. III. 499 Lower Wyke with the scyte of the mannor. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cornwall* (1662) 202 He conferred on him and his heirs the rich demesne and scite of Middleton. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 167 The Descendants..are still in possession of the Scite of the Castle. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 130 *note*, Upon this scite the Baths and Long Room have since been erected. 1808 PARSONS *Trav. Asia* iii. 72 A steep road leads to the cite of the celebrated village, formerly called Daphne. 1835 PALGRAVE *Hist. Anglo-Saxons* iv. 89 The entrenchments.. just enable us to trace the scite of the royal residence.

b. *transf.* The seat *of* (an industry); the scene *of* (some condition, etc.).

1637 G. DANIEL *Genius of this Isle* 572 Looke now vpon my Sister Germanie; The Seat of Warre, the Scite of Miserie. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 98 There is the site..of a fishery there. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 151 In the ninth century Lake Mälar was the site of so prosperous a trade.

4. *techn.* A framework of timber forming the foundation or basis of a piece of scaffolding.

1901 BLACK *Scaffolding* 27 At a suitable distance from the intended wall a 'site' is first planted...This consists of a baulk of squared timbers, frequently about 4in. square.

† **Site**, *v.*[1] *Obs.*—[1] [a. ON. *sýta* (Icel. *sýta*, Norw. *syta*), f. *sit* sorrow: see SITE *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To grieve.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11675 Bot i site for an oþer thing, þat we o water has nu wanting.

Site (sait), *v.*[2] [f. SITE *sb.*[2], or back-formation from SITED *ppl. a.*]

1. *trans.* To locate, to place.

Lately reintroduced in military use: cf. SITING *vbl. sb.*

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XII. xii. (1622) 174 For the Greeks sited Byzance in the vtmost part of Europe, in a very narrow streight, which diuideth Europe from Asia. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. ii. § 3. 197 And Amianus Marcellinus siteth the Sacæ..to inhabit ouer-grown places ..at the foote of the mountaines Ascanimia and Comedus.

2. *intr.* To be situated or placed; to lie.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 460 The lower Æthiope, siteth most Southerly of any part of Africke.

Site, obs. form of CITE *v.*

† **Sited** (sai'tĕd), *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 scited. [f. SITE *sb.*[2] or L. *sĭt-us* placed, situated.]

1. Of buildings, countries, etc.: Having a (certain) site or situation; situated. Usually const. with preps. or advs. (Common *c* 1600–1650.)

α. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 305/2 A mansion for the Dean there, sited betwene the Toure called the Clokhous, and the wall of our seid Palice. 1585 W. WHITAKER *Answ. Rainolds* 283 The garden wherein Adam for a time remained, was sited in the east. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIII. xii. (1622) 198 A Riuer..sited in the confines of both their Countries. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 72 A little howse..sited in midst of a small wood. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. XXXVIII, This fair Isle, sited so nearely neare.

β. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 122 Ireland, an Isle most fruitful, and fitly scited to endamage Spain. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 179 Aix.., scited in the furthermost parts of Provence. *a* 1661 — *Worthies* II. *London* (1662) 218 The City of Leyden is scited in the very bottom of the Low-Countries.

b. Turned, or facing, in respect of site. *rare.*

1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 102 Their Temples were ..sited indifferently towards all Parts of the World.

2. Of things, persons, etc.: Having a particular place or position; placed, seated.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XX. iii. 145 When she [the moon] is sited just against and directly by line opposite, she will shine out at the full. 1624 GATAKER *Wife in Deed* 10 A wart, or a wen,..sited and seated in some conspicuous part. 1624 — *Transubst.* 98 What should he speake to him as sited elsewhere, when hee hath him corporally there present? 1660 R. COKE *Justice Vind.* 9 Aristotle..makes virtue and vice to be sited in the power of man.

† **Si·teful**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 sitfull. [f. SITE *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Sorrowful, mournful, doleful.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21513 And spak he wit a siteful care.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 219 Compleyne for him in to that sitfull sell is. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. XXX, Rander louingis..Till Venus, and vnder her guerdoun..Rest at all eis, but sair or sitefull schouris.

Hence † **Si·tefully** *adv. Obs.*—[1]

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1243 To Dunbar the twa chyftanys couth pass, Full sitfully, for thar gret contrar cas.

Sitellyng, f. of *citoling* CITOLE *v. Obs.* **Siter**, obs. f. SITTER. **Siteyn**, obs. f. CITIZEN.

Si·t-fast, sitfast, *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 sitt-. [f. SIT *v.* + FAST *adv.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** *Farriery.* A hard excrescence, induration, or tumour, tending to ulceration, produced on the back of a horse by the uneven pressure or chafing of the saddle.

1611 COTGR., *Mal de corne*, the sitt-fast; a hornie swelling on the backe of a horse. 1639 T. DE GREY *Expert Farrier* 317 An hard knob..formerly a saddle-gald..is converted into a sit-fast. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4493/3 A white Gelding full aged,..a Sit-fast lately taken out about the middle of the Saddle-place. 1753 BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* (1754) 285 A sit-fast proceeds generally from a warble. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 169 Warbles..will frequently disappear without medical treatment, but they will, at other times, degenerate into sitfasts. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Nov. 707/2 Whether a warbly back or even a sitfast would be such unsoundness as to constitute breach of warranty.

fig. 1661 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* II Arguments..sufficiently confirm'd by every Marriner, to take of [=off] the greatest sit-fast of incredulity. *a* 1732 BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 53 He can raise the oldest sit-fast, concerning which there remains no hope with us.

b. *dial.* (See quots.)

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Sit-fast*, a false healing of a wound, whereby is made a hard scab or excrescence. 1888 ABDY *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., He's got a sit-fast in his arm. 1893 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Sitfast*, a hard substance which sometimes forms in a wound and prevents it from healing.

2. *Sc.* **a.** The plants restharrow and creeping crowfoot.

1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 114 Of this sort are some species of the thistle, and what the ploughmen call sit-fasts. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sitfasts*, restharrow. 1825 — *Suppl.*, *Sitfast*, Creeping Crowfoot, *Ranunculus Repens.*

b. An earth-fast stone. (Cf. B. 1 a.)

1813 R. KERR *Agric. Berwick* I. 35 Some [stones] are even of many hundred weights, and are called sit-fasts. *Ibid.* 380.

3. *dial.* (See quot.)

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Sit-fast*, a sottish person, one who sits long or is fast bound to his cups.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **1. a.** *Sc.* Of stones: Firmly fixed or embedded in the ground (cf. A. 2 b).

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 377 Land that is incumbered with sitfast stones, or with the roots of trees and bushes. 1880 W. MARSHALL *Hist. Scenes Perthshire* (1881) 312 The land contains numbers of sitfast stones.

b. Remaining stationary; unmoving.

1857 EMERSON *Poems* 70 To find the sitfast acres where you left them.

2. Marked or characterized by sitting firmly; fixed, firm.

1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. I. iv. 165 Which the cultivators of the soil have not yet been able to dig up from its sitfast hold. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. vi, For now no man..but will trot *à l'Anglaise*, rising in the stirrups; scornful of the old sitfast method.

Sith, *adv., prep.*, and *conj.* Now *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: *α.* 1 sīþþa, 2–3 sīþþe, 3–5 sīþþe, 4 sitthe, 5 sythþe; 4–5 siþe, 4–7 sithe, 4 syþe, 5–6 sythe; 4 siþ, 4– sith (6 sigh), 5 syghth (syght), 5–6 syth. *β.* 1 sōþþa, sōþa, 3 sōþþe; 2 seoþþe, 3 seoþþe, seoþþe; 2–5 seþþe (4 zeþþe), 4 setthe, 4–6 sethe (9 *dial.* zeeth), 5 sep, 5–7 seth. *γ.* 2 syþþe, syþþe, 3–5 suþþe, 5 suthþe, 4 sutþe, sutthe, 5 sutth, sup. [Reduced form of OE. *sīþþan*, etc., SITHEN.]

A. *adv.*

† **1.** Then, thereupon; afterwards, subsequently.

α. a 1000 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John, Postscr., [John] in foresaza sīþþa..gisprunt word miþþy god xisalde. *c* 1150 *Ags. Gosp.* (Royal MS.) John xix. 12 And siþþe sohte pilatus hwu he hine for-lete. *c* 1275 LAY. 3060 Þus seide þat maide Gordoille, and siþþe sat stille. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1814 Þe rith eye ..made he fleye, And siþe clapte him on þe crune. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 215 The pith Pike out,..ek do in sith Donge & cucumber seed. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* v, 22 He stode styl,..and syth demaunded hym of the causes of his..sorowe. *c* 1500 *Robin Hood* IV. 118 To bydde a man to dyner And syth hym bete & bynde. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 18 Matrabrune murmured alway..bi wicked detraccion, which she put sith in effect.

β. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xi. 7 Soōa *vel* ōona æfter ðas [he] cuoeð to his ðeġnum. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Þet ..he hine icnawe and seoðe hine for-hoȝie. *c* 1205 LAY. 29537 Þa iwende seint Austin..suð and norð, and seoðe þurh ut Englelond. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 149 in *O. E. Misc.* 41 Vre louerd myd heom iwende...Seþþe he to heom seyde [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2997 Whan þei samen hade souped & seþþe whasche after. *a* 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1868) 13 So she shroue her and was sethe of holy lyff.

γ. c 1275 LAY. 28736 Suþþe he nam hane way. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1855 Þow scholdest hem ȝelde a3eyn; And suþþe to him amendes make. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XII. 171 In a myrour..hue made me to loke, And sutthe seide to me [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 113 Boille hem in water, & suththe roste hem on a gridel.

† b. Next in succession, order, or place. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 47 in *O. E. Misc.* 38 Alle men he taubte to holde treowe lune, Erest to god almyhti,..Seþþe to luuye his euenyng. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 63

Saturnus is þe hiȝeste planete, siþ Jubiter. and siþ Mars. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 228 (Fairf.), First sat the god of love, and syth his quene.

† **2.** Continuously or ever from or since that time (cf. SINCE *adv.* 2, and SITHEN *adv.* 2). Freq. with *ever* or *alway*. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25511 þat heo..[were] æuer seoððe laðen in auer ælche londe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 902 For so hard hacches haue hold me seþþe, þat i not in þe world what is me to rede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 31 For alway siththe more and more The world empeireth every day. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 120 Ulysses ever sithe With new found crimes began me to affray. 1621 *N. Riding Rec.* (1894) 183 And ever seth the woddes hath beyne kept as they ought to be.

† **3.** At some or any time(s) since; = SINCE *adv.* 3. *c* 1300 *Harrowing Hell* 49 Ich haue seþþe þoled..hot, cold, honger ant þurst. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 441 The kyndenesse þat myne euene-cristene kidde me fernyere, Sixty sythes I sleuthe haue forȝete it sith. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3287, I also Have enquerid sith..to knowen of his ende. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B ij, By-cause they erred, wee haue founde sithe the waie. 1549 LATIMER 7 *Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 *marg.*, The byshoppes be stirred theym so then, that some of theim were neuer so diligent sythe.

† **4.** Ago; before now; = SINCE *adv.* 4. *Sith ago*, long ago; long since. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1647 Elles had i deide for duel many dai seþþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 104 And [it] fell bot siththe awhile,..That my Stepmoder..Forschop me. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), The deth contagiousli conspired Of Artaxerses sithe go ful yore. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 62 As y herde an holy man preche, and not longe sythe. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* Prol. C viij, It hath ben long sith tought to speke dutche,..spanish, and dyuers other langages.

B. *prep.*

† **1.** Continuously or ever from (a specified time, etc.) till now; = SINCE *prep.* 1. *Obs.*

β. γ. *a* 1325 tr. *Stat. Westm. 1* c. 38 (MS. Rawl. B. 520) ff. 7 b, That the writ[s]..habben the terme suþþe þe fursteþ passage of þe King Henri in to Gascoine. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 81 Parisch prestes playneþ..þat heore Parisch haþ ben pore seþþe þe Pestilence tyme. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 161 To þat tyme þe archebisshoppis were of Rome, and seþþe þat tyme þe archebisshoppes were of Engelond. 1442 *Rolls of Parit.* V. 56/1 Seth which tyme ..the seide Statute hath nat at all tymes be putte in due execution. 1460 *Paston Lett.* II. 90, I have ben so sekelew sethe Crystmasse.

α. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 186 Sith whanne was þe way ouer mennes bedes? *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 68 Thei seye that it hathe ben there sithe the beginnynge of the World. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 536 In dayly experiens sithe bifore the Parlement of Bury. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 59 His Feuer tercian, of the whiche he had languished sore, sithe his voyage royall into Fraunce.

† **2.** During the period, at some or any time(s), since (a specified time); = SINCE *prep.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1275 LAY. 4154 Soch nas neuere..suþþe þe ilke time þat Brutus com her liþe. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 158 Swich a bild bold..Say i nouȝt in certeine sithe a longe tyme. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21803 A place Wych, syth tyme that I was born, I hadde neuere seyn toforn. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 57 § 2 Your lettres patentes made sith the same iiij^th daie. 1535 STARKEY *Lett.* in *England* p. xiii, Syth our fyrst acquyntance..many letturys ther hath byn at sundry tymys betwyx vs wryten. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 106, I come to tell you things sith then befalne.

† **b.** *Sith late*, recently. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* d vj b, How syth late a hooly man dyd preche therof. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* v. v, Of thy thowsand wyles that syth late thow coudest doo, lete me now see..one of them.

C. *conj.*

† **1.** From, subsequent to, or since the time that. Also rarely with *that*. *Obs.*

α. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vii. 45 Ðios uutedlice of ðon *vel* siðða in ic foerde ne blann cossetunges foeta mine. 12.. *Prayer our Lady* 30 in *O. E. Misc.* 193 Ich habbe isuneget..mid alle mine lime siððe ich sunehi cuðe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 64 For sith charite haþ be chapman ..Many ferlis han fallen. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soules* (Caxton) i. ii. (1859) 3 So hast thou done alwey syth thou began. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 110 b/2 It is longe sith that I knewe that thou dwelledest in this region. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brytt.* 360, I sawe not you syth I was in your bedde. 1581 RICH *Farewe. Milit. Prof.* Cc iv, It is long agoe sithe I haue bothe forgiuen and forgotten these causes.

β. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 7 ȝero þrio sint of ðon *vel* siððа ic cuom. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke vii, 45 Seððe ich inn eode. *c* 1275 *Serving Christ* 52 in *O. E. Misc.* 92 Seynt iohan is þe beste þat euer wes iwrouht Seoþþe god makede Middelerd. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 117 Seþþe þat þe see was first i-ordeyned..hit chaungeþ neuere his place. 1492 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 100, I had no word seth I parted from Plompton.

γ. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Mark i. 14 Syððe [*v.r.* syððc] Iohannes ȝeseald was com se hælend on galileam. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 59 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 26 Eal þat eure ilc man haued i-do sutþe he com to manne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4778 Among þe brutons..was euere cristendom Suþþe it verst..hider com.

† **b.** During which; that. *Obs.*[1]

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) T viij, It is nowe three score and two yeres sith the earth hath sustayned and fedde the earth of my bodie.

2. Seeing that; = SINCE *conj.* 4. Now *arch.* or *poet.*

Very common from *c* 1530 to *c* 1670, being freq. used to express cause, while *since* was restricted to time. After 1700 app. obsolete, but revived by early 19th cent. writers.

α. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 339 Siþ þei alle been deed in bodi, Cristis wordis may be taken of hem. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 874 For sith the day is come þat I shal dye, I make pleynly my confession. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 159 Sith yee be in company of honest men & good, Worchith somwhat aftir. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1744 But sythe it is so,..What were now thy beste consayle? 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 157 Nowe sythe helle is derer than heuen, I aduyse the specyally to bye heuen. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* C iv b, It was a shame the sonne shoulde have a beard, sith the father had none. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 237 And yet why so? sith since I call to mind, Than the Clementes none were more unkind, Than Innocents more nocent none I find. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 185 The usual Traffick in the Church of Rome..now ceaseth, sith she herself ceaseth. [1751 LLOYD *Progr. Envy* Poems (1762) 206 Ah me! unhappy state of mortal wight, Sith Envy's sure attendant upon fame.] 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* II. 22 It seems..well deserv'd: Sith he of Rome..In heaven's empyreal height was chosen sire. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 38 Weep, Lovers, sith Love's very self doth weep, And sith the cause for weeping is so great. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays of Highl.* 43 Sith I am the man I am.

β. γ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 47 Hue is hit uoul dede seþþe hit is kendelich? *a* 1375 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 500/274 Seþþe hit is vnknowe to vs, We schul preye for alle Fidelibus. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 33 What neodeþ hit þanne a newe lawe to brynge, Sutthe þe furste suffisede. *c* 1450 *Merlin* x. 143 Seth it is so, we shall delyuer yow the rynge. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxi. (1893) 222 Seth..worldlye thynges..doth nat helpe mannes soule.

† **b.** So *sith that*. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 223 þat is no body, seþþe þat þe liknesse..is no body. *Ibid.* VI. 101 Siþþe þat ȝe telleþ [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8452 Sith that ye haue him forlore, Ye shal haue a richer husbond. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 140 Sith that he is not deed, it oughte to suffyse you. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) X ij, And in her wealth, sith that such chaunge is wrought, Hope not to much. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 43 Sith that heauens king From hope of heauen hath thee excluded quight, Why fearest thou? 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 228 Sith that the Extent of heaven is not acknowledged any higher then the clouds. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gent.* IV. III. 2 And indeed no wonder, sithat corrupt Nature.. has..been ever aspiring after an Equality to the Deitie.

Sith, obs. form of SCYTHE *sb.*, SIGHT *sb.*[1]

† **Sithe,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1–3 siþ, 2 syð, 4 sid; 1 siþ, syþ, 4 sihþ; 4–6 sith (4 sitht, siht), 4–6 syth, 6 *Sc.* syith; (1) 2–3 siðe, (1) 2–4 siþe (4 sipe), 3–4 sype, 4–6 sithe, sythe (4 syde); also *pl.* 5–6 *Sc.* sis(e), sys(e), syis. [Common Teut.: OE. *síþ*, *síð* str. masc., = OFris. **sīth* (in dat. pl. *sethen*), OS. *sīð*, *sith*; these represent original **sinþ*, the *n* of which is preserved in Goth. *sinþs*, OHG. *sind* (MHG. *sind-*, *sint*), ON. and Icel. *sinn* and *sinni* (neut.), related to the vb. **sinþan* (ON. *sinna*) to go, the causative of which is represented in English by SEND *v.*]

I. 1. A going, journey, path, way.

This sense is very common in OE. poetry.

Beowulf 1278 His modor..ȝegan wolde sorhfulne sið. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 173 Hu mycele sciþbrocu he ȝebad on þæm siþe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 360 Butan fyrhtu þu ðone sið ȝefremest, ac se wulf sorȝaþ ymbe his sið. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 959, His sawle to ȝescyldnesse on langsuman syðe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 85 The holy gost before vs glad Full softly on his sithe.

2. Fortune on a journey; also generally, fortune, hap, luck.

Beowulf 1986 Hiȝelac ongan..fricgean hwylce Sæȝeata siðas wæron. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 64 Hu lange wilt ðu bewepan Saules sið, þonne ic hine awearp, þæt he leng ofer Israhela ðeode ne rixiȝe? *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1057, Þæt wæs hreowlic sið & hearmlic ealle þissere þeode, þæt he swa hraðe his lif ȝe-endade. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 He hefde þurst and hunger and chele and alle wreche siþe. *a* 1225 *St. Juliana* 47 Nat i hwet vnseli sið makede me her to sechen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2546 Egipte folc adden nið For ebris adden seli sið.

b. Mishap, misfortune, trouble.

c 1205 LAY. 25846–7 [Heo] weop for hire wel-sið, wanede hire siðes þæt heo wæs on liues. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 274 Wid ðat pride him wex a nyð, Ðat iwel weldeð al his sið. 13.. *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 425 Schome hit is..longe to liuen in serwe and sihþ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 9456 (Gött.), In soru and sithe to him and his. *Ibid.* 10411 Speke we nou ..Of hir sythe and of hir care.

3. One's pilgrimage on earth; life-time; the course *of* one's life.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 55 He haueð to us muchel nið alle þa deies of ure sið. *c* 1290 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 217 Hy tolden tales Of hoere auentures fales And of here liwes siþe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1400 Adam was for þis tiþand blith, Sua glad was he neuer his sith. *Ibid.* 27021 Þou has soght in all þe sith Werldes welth to lijf in pese.

II. Time, occasion.

This is the only sense in which the word is recorded in Goth. and OFris.; it is also found in OS., and is prominent in ON. (also MSw. and MDa.). For the sense-development cf. GANG *sb.*[1] 6, GO *sb.* 4, and the similar use of LG. and Du. *reis*, Sw. *resa*.

4. With cardinal numbers (or equivalent term), denoting frequency of occurrence, etc.

In OE. the case is either the instrumental, or the accusative governed by a prep. The instr. pl. *siðum* became ME. *siðen*, and finally assumed the same form as the sing. In place of a numeral, an adj. or adv. might be used, as in *eft-sithes* ET *adv.* 4, *fele-sithe(s)* FELE *a.*[1] 4, and OFT-SITHES). With the Sc. forms (5) cf. mod. NFris. *sis*, as in *twasis* twice, *manningeis* many times.

α. *Beowulf* 1579 Oftor micle ðonne on ænne sið. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxvi. 12 Æne siðа spreocende wes God. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1025 Þe bisscopp selff..þær shollde cumenn o þe ȝer Ann siþe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3093 Bi-sek ȝet god, ðis one siðe, Ðat he vs of his pine friðe. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvi. 272 I..swouhnede mony a siþe.

1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 23 The woods were heard to waile full many a sythe.

β. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxviii. 164 Seofen siðum in dæȝe lof ic sæȝde ðe. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 4 Ȝif seofo siða ȝesynnȝiȝa in ðec & seofa siða [*Rushw.* siðum] on dæȝe ȝecerred bið. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vi. 15 Hiȝ ferdon seofon siðon embe þa buruh. *c* 1205 LAY. 1188 Niȝen siðen he bi-eode þat weofed. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 Aues also er fif siðen. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2189 þo was hauelok swiþe blipe, And þankede God ful fele siþe. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1377 Nyne syþe he ȝede aboute, & kiste þe auter. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3239 Sche seyde 'allas' more þan an hundrid sythe. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacion* (Roxb.) 48 He weshe hym..in fiwmme Jordan seven sithe. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxvii, Ȝeildand Venus thankis ane thousand syith. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 33 The foolish man..humbly thanked him a thousand sith.

γ. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 21 Mot ic him forȝyfan oð seofon siþas? *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 352 Þare ylcan gate meolc..on þry siþas drince. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1731 Ten siðes ðus binnen .vi. ȝer, Shiftede iacob hirdenesse her. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2162 Hise fet he kisten an hundred syþes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 123 þat welle chaungeþ hewe and colors foure siþes a ȝere. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 178 Every day..Sevene sythys into the eyr..she up lyfted was. *c* 1456 PECOCK *Bk. of Faith* (1909) 232 Verrili thus it fallith in unnoumbrable sithis in Ynglond. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. (1811) 120 He went .v. sythes to Rome and came agayne. 1598 HALL *Sat.* IV. vi. 79 He..Wishes for home a thousand sithes a day.

δ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 393 That gert him victor haue feill sis. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. ii. 103 He þat day was stad straytly..And fyve syis [*v.r.* syse] was at gret mys-cheyf. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 101 Dame Flora..thay thank a thousand syse. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 132 Ane thousand syse than sall I pryse Thy halynes.

b. *On* (or *in*) *one sithe*, at one and the same time.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 4 Neron..het æt sumum cyrre forbærnan ealle Romeburg on anne sið. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 208 Ne forlæt þu þæs blodes to fela on ænne siþ. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 382 Syne thay..salust the souerane sone, in ane sith.

c. Used to express the multiplication of numbers, *esp.* (so many) times *ten* or *twenty*.

Cf. Da. *tred-sinds-tyve* sixty, *fir-sinds-tyve* eighty.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 22 Ne cuoeðo ic ðe wið seofo siða ah wið hundseofuntiȝ siða seofo siða. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 Ehtatyne syþum hund teontiȝ þusenda hi..wið feo sealdon. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 302 Feower siðon seofon ȝear þæt beoð eahta & twentiȝ. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Ða com Turold abbot & æhte siþe twenti Francisce men mid him. *c* 1205 LAY. 1103 Sixtene siðe tuenti scipen tuhten from hauene. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1287 Alle italde bi tale, fif siðe tene. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11345 Anna,..þat liued had foursith tuenti yeier In viduid. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2096, I will have three sythe double of his [treasure]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 234 Þe tale of zixti,..bet is of zixziþe ten. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 45 Þe roundenesse of þe worlde aboute is þre hundred siþes and fiftene siþes an hondred þowsand paas.

d. Used to express comparison.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 147 Heo hæfde seofon siþum beorhtran saule þonne snaw. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1665 Seouen siðes brihtre þen beo þe sunne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 702 Þe sun was þat time..Seuen sith brighter þen þe dai. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 109 Al þis I sauȝ slepynge & seue siþes more. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 62 An hundred sithes better than they deserue. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxxi. 126 His cercle is gretter..than the cercle of the mone..xii sithes so moche. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* I. (1570) A iij, His Church is twenty sith more gay Then all the Churches betwene the same and Kent.

5. With ordinal numbers, and indefinite or demonstrative pronouns.

In some cases denoting a space of time (cf. 3); a trace of this appears to survive in Shetland dial. in such expressions as *the night side*, *the season side*.

a 850 *Lorica Prayer* 5 in *O. E. Texts* 174 Do ðonne fiorðan siðe ðin hleor ðriȝa to iorðan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 27 Þæt deofol hine þa ȝenam þriddan siþe. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1110, He..to Pentecosten forman siþe his hired on..Windlesoran heold. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 64 Us reoweð þat sið þat we so longe habbeð ileuet þine reades. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 325 Ich singe..þe þridde syþe a middelnyhte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6421 If he þam slaked ani sith, Sir amalech was als suith. *Ibid.* 13094 Hu lang siþe Sal he him hide? 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* x. 17 Also this sithe prey ye the Lord [etc.]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4204 Þan was he sary in þat sithe & sadly he pleyned. 1421 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 85 For in this sith in the baillage of Caux..ther ys no steryng of none evyl doers. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 14 He spends the yeare as blyth, As doth the King at euery tyde or syth. 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* 41 This smith was..Jocund and gleesome at every sith.

6. *By sithes*, at various times. *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 17 Where werre, & wrake, & wonder, Bi syþez has wont þer-inne. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. xxxvi. (W. de W. 1494), Vnto some men and wymmen he yeuyth it all theyr lyfe tyme by sythes whan he vysyteth hem.

Sithe, *sb.*[2] Now only *dial.* Also 7 sith, 9 sigth. [var. of SIGH *sb.*, after SITHE *v.*[2]] A sigh.

1609 ARMIN *Maids of More-Clacke* E iv, Be smile full, and expresse no griefe in sithes. 1633 COWLEY *Pyramus & Thisbe* 71 With many a Sith, many a speaking Teare. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* 139 *Sigth*, a sigh.

Hence † **Sitheful** *a.*, sighful, sad. *Obs.*

1620 R. NICCOLS *Robt. Dk. Normandy* lxxxix. in *Mirr. Mag.* 630 As bird in cage..sadly sits and sings,..Till breath be spent in many a sithfull song.

Sithe, *sb.*[3] *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 6, 9 syth, 9 sythe. [prob. a var. of SIEVE *sb.* Cf. next and SITHE *v.*[3]] A sieve; a milk-strainer.

13.. *Wowing Jak & Jynny* 28 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 388 Ane milk syth. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 240. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl. 233/2 *Syth*, *Sythe*, a 'sey', sieve, or strainer for milk.

Sithe, *sb.*[4] *rare.* Also 6 siethe. [Alteration of *sive, cive* CHIVE[1]; cf. prec.] *pl.* Chives.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 94 Seedes and herbes for the Kitchen...Spinage,..Suckerie,..Siethes. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 13 There's abundance of good herbs, as parsly, purslain, Sithes in great plenty. 1853 PULMAN *Rustic Sketches* Gloss., *Sithes,* chives.

†**Sithe,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 1 siþ-, siðian, 3 siðen. [OE. *siðian,* = OS. *sithôn,* OHG. *sindôn* :—OTeut. **sinþōjan*: see SITHE *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To go, travel.

Beowulf 808 Scolde..se ellorgast on feonda geweald feor siðian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lives Saints* I. xvi. 154 Ða se hælend siðode,..sum man him cwæð to, 'Ic wille siþian mid ðe'. *c* 1205 LAY. 21279 Cheldric..þohte forð siðen & ouer sæ liðen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 698 Ȝef ȝe ones make haueð, fro him ne wile ȝe siðen.

Sithe (səið), *v.*[2] Now *dial.* Forms: 3 (*pa. t.*) sipte, 5–6 sythe, 6–7, 9 sithe (6 *pa. t.* sitht), 7 sith; 5 syghth-, 6 sygth-, sigth-, sighth-. [A variant of SIGH *v.*, prob. originating in the pa. t. *sipte* for *sihte*: see SICHE *v.*] *intr.* To sigh. Also *trans.*, to say with a sigh.

c 1275 LAY. 3108 Ȝeo eode in to bure and ofte siþte sore. *a* 1400 *Sir Cleges* 98 As he walkyd vpp and dovn Sore syghthyng. *a* 1400 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 361 Why dost thou sythe so sore, & qwake? 1528 in Burnet *Hist. Ref., Rec.* (Pococke) I. 133 The said holiness..sithed and wiped his eyes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 180 b, Some sighthed and sayd nothyng. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 92 He lookt, he sitht, he courted with a kisse. 1607 MARSTON *What You Will* III. i, So I say sithing and sithing say my end is to paste vp a Si quis. 1685–90 COAD *Wonderful Prov.* (1849) 72 A new born child (that is living) doth sith and sob. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 303 *Sithe,* to sigh. 1875 *My Opin. & Betsey Bobbets* 91 As the young woman totters along to prison, is it any wonder that she sithes to herself. *Ibid.* 89 'Alas!' sithes the woman to herself.

Hence **Si·thing** *vbl. sb., ppl. a.*; **Si·thingly** *adv.*

c 1530 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 27 Thys nygth my brethe and wynde by sythyng was so short that I was..as one that shuld have dyd. 1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* a j, What manly vertues, in other noble men.., he Sythingly aspired after. 1609 ARMIN *Ital. Taylor* (1880) 171 The sithing King sayes, Courage man. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.* s.v., I knew a clergyman who always read 'Sithing', for 'sighing of a contrite heart'.

Sithe, *v.*[3] Now *dial.* Forms: 5 cythyn, 6 syth, 9 sythe; 8 sieth, 9 sithe. [prob. a var. of ME. *cyve, syve* SIEVE *v.* Cf. SITHE *sb.*[3] and *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To strain; to pass through a sieve.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 79/1 Cyyd, or cythyd and clensyd, as mylke, or oþer lyke, *colatus. Ibid.,* Cythynge or clensynge, *colatura.* 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Colo,* to syth or passe through a claith. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 84 They sieth it into a brass veshell tinned within. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., To Sythe,* to strain any liquid; *Lanarks.* 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sithe,* to strain and purify milk.

Sithe, obs. form of SCYTHE, SIDE, SIGHT.

Sithement, variant of SYTHMENT *Sc. Obs.*

†**Si·then,** *adv., conj.,* and *prep. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 sioððan, 1–3 siððan, 2 -on, 3 -en; 1 siþan, siþþan, -on, 4–5 siþþen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4–5 siþthen, 5 sythethyn, sitthen; 3 siðen (4 siden, syden), 3–4 siþen (4 -an), 4 syþen, 4–5 siþin; 2–7, 9 sithen (5 -enne, -in, -yn, -un, 7 -ene); 4–6 sythen (5 -ene, -in, -inne, -yn, -on, -un). *β.* 1–2 seoððan, 3 seoð-, seoðþen (soððen); 1 seoþðan, 2 seod-, 3 seoðþan; 1 seoþþan, 3 -þen (2 soþþen); 2 seððan, 2–3 seðden (3 sed-), 4–5 seþþen; 1 seoðan, 3 seoðen, seoþen; 2–3 seðen, 3 seiþin, 4 seþen, -in; 3–6 sethen (5 -enne), 4–5 sethyn, 5–6 sethin (5 -inne, -un). *γ.* 1 syð-, 2 sydþan, 1–2 syþðan, syððan (2 -on), 2–3 suðden (3 -den), 3 swo-, swu-, souðden; 1 syþþan (syþan), 3–4 supþen, sut(t)hen. [OE. *siþþon, siþþan,* etc. (see above), for earlier **sið þon* (*þan*) 'subsequent to that' (cf. *æfter þon,* and G. *seitdem*), with shortening of the first vowel. The ME. *siþen, sithen,* however, may also represent ON. *síðan* (Da. *siden*), of the same meaning.]

A. *adv.*

1. = SITH *adv.* 1.

a. 831 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 445 Wes hit becueden Osbearte..& siððan nenigzra melhanda ma ðes cynnes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 He þonne siþþon mid sare ȝeswenced bið. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, Sithen þerefter sahtleden þe king & Randolf eorl. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 235 He..sennde siþþenn Haliȝ Gast Till hise Lerninngcnihhtess. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 399 Godard stirt up..and siþen sat Bi þe knictes. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* Prol. 25 þe sam God sythyn was..þe first maker of alle thyng. 1428 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees, 1890) 6 And sythen was funden half a duzan fals tyn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. ix. 175 Kynge Arthur.. entryd in to Lorayne..and sythen retorned in to hault Almayn. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) D iij, And sythen In Wygmore land..I caught the ryght heyre of the crowned howse.

β. Beowulf 1937 Hraþe seoþðan wæs æfter mundgripe mece ȝeþinged. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 Swa swa hit seoþþan ȝelamp. *a* 1175 *Lott. Hom.* 225 Ga inn seðen mid þine hiwun. *c* 1205 LAY. 26580 Ælc his Rumain of-sloh; & seoððen heore hors wenden. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 46 Hou sone he hit for-les, And seþþen hou hit for-bouht wes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 59, I wol souwen hit my-self and seþþen with ou wende. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lv. 451 But Sethen Cam there gret persecucioun To bothe Rewmes.

γ. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 2 þa ongan hyne syððan hingrian. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, þe Iudeus of Noruuic..him on rode hengen..& sythen byrieden him. *c* 1205 LAY. 3915 His lond he huld half ȝer, and suðden he adun halde. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Digby MS.) 17 Ihesu..suþþen was don ful muchel some. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXII. 143 Iuwes..culled hym on croys-wyse.., And sutthen buriede hus body.

2. = SITH *adv.* 2. (In later use = SINCE *adv.* 2.)

(*a*) *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 507 (Gr.), Him næniȝ wæs.. oðer betera under sweȝles hleo syðþan æfre. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 219 þa æfter þisse dæde his noma wæs a seoþþan.. mære ȝeworden. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Se Ælfsi wæs þa abbot syððon fiftiȝ wintre. *c* 1205 LAY. 4257 He makede..monien laȝen gode þe long swuððen stode. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2897 And o sithen it was said..That Parys was Pryam son.

(*b*) *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 262 Ihesus..Ros fro ded on ðe sunenday, dat is forð siðen worðed ay. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1256 þat gresse gren, þat euer has siþen ben gren. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 2 A grete Daneis felde..þat euer siþen hiderward Kampedene men kalle. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 22 Euer sethen angeles haue ben frendys..to all good men. 1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII,* c. 11 § 1 The seid Clothes ever sythen into this day have been..conveyed out of this realme. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 29 Which armes the frenche kynges have ever sythen borne, and yet bere unto this present tyme. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 116 Euer sithene this citty hath declined.

3. = SITH *adv.* 3.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 39 Næniȝ efenlic þam, ær ne siþþan, in worlde ȝewearð wifes ȝeeacnung. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* XXXIV. 10 Ne aras siððan nan witeȝa..swilce Moises wæs. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Digby MS.) 33 Suþþen haui þoled.. hounger and þurst. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1641 In sory houre Stood I to loken,..For sithen have I sore syked. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 146 The cursid Emperoure Nero, and many otheres Sethyn and in oure dayes. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII,* c. 35 The Kyngis Grace..deputed to hym than and sithen offices of charge. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 25 Before thy time men were not half so wyse As sythen in thy schoole they have been taught. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* V. xii. 46 Sithen our Country-man Dr. Dee..saith, that an English-man was first Inventor.

4. = SITH *adv.* 4.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 536, I..took his herte in chaunge for myn for ay, But sooth is seyd, goon sithen many a day [etc.]. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 118 Hit is not longe sythen whan I was in my royame [etc.].

B. *conj.*

1. = SITH *conj.* 1.

a. c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* viii, Ealra ðara arwyrðnessa þe ðu..hæfdest siððan ðu ærest ȝeboren wære oð ðisne dæȝ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 We..swa wæron siþþon se æresta ealdor..Godes bebodu abræc. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 84 Siðen ðat newe werld was boren, Til ihesus crist fro helle nam His quemed. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7993 (Gött.), Siþen god þe ches king of kith, His herte has euer ben þe wid. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 1244 (Corpus MS.), Neuer siþþen þat þe world bigan..Nas of so fewe so noble a companye. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 265 in *Macro Plays* 10, I was neuer worth a pottfull a wortis, sythyn I was borne. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 201 The greet good that ȝe have had in yowyr rewle sythyn yowyr fadyr deyyd. 1555 BRADFORD in *Coverdale's Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 252 My manyfolde synnes, euen sythen I came into prison. 1572 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker) 405 He was with me sithen Justice Manwood was placed. [1889 F. COWPER *Capt. of the Wight* 3 The price has risen mightily sithen the tolls have been laid on all hawks.]

β. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 187 Manize ȝear syndon agan nu seoþþan ure bisceopas..to me ȝewreoto sende. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Alle þo þe habben ben seðen ure louerd..steh to heuene. *c* 1205 LAY. 338 Moni ȝer was agan seodðen his cun hider com. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1139 In sorwe ich haue ben ay Seþþen ich aliue haue ben. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 197 Ho-so will enserche the olde stories Sethyn the worlde began.

γ. Beowulf 2474 þa wæs synn and sacu..syððan Hreðel swealt. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 21 Hu lang tid is syððan him þis ȝebyrede. *c* 1205 LAY. 4154 Swulc nes næuere eær on erde swoððen..þe Bruttes come hær liðen. *c* 1300 *Harrowing Hell* (Digby MS.) 32 Almest so muchel hit is agon Suþþen þat i bicom furst mon. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 138 Sutthen þis barn was ybore, beoþ pritty wynter passed.

2. = SITH *conj.* 2.

a. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 Whu shal þat wurðe, siððen [L. *quoniam*] wapman me ne atrineð? *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 160 Þis neddre, siðen he nede sal, maked seld of his bodi. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3167 (Gött.), Quar sal we take þe best,..Siþen we wid vs broght hiþer nan? *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 273 þis ys Iesus oure lord..sythen he made vs of noȝt. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 49 And sithen crist..chas that.., sothely that is best. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxii. 69 Sythen I haue made yow knyghte thow must yeue me a gyfte. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXI. (Percy Soc.) 153 Thus, sithen Nature hath you well indued With so much beaute,..Exyle Disdayne.

β. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 Hu scal þat bon, soþþen na Mon mine likame irineð.. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 65 Hu scolde godd..hauen rewðe..of ðe, seoðen ðu..ne hafst nu hier none of ðe seluen? *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 239 (Kölbing), Seþþen þe king yslawe was..,A king þal mosten haue swiþe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 545 (Corpus), Siþen his face was so disfigured..He mighte wel..Lyue in Athenes eueremore vnknowe. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 9066 Sethen hit is so as that ȝe seyn. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 163, I beseche you.., sethen I moste departe your presens, to call me ofte in your remembraunce.

γ. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 205 Suððen God nom swa muchele wrake..we muzen eðe us adrede. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 272 Suthen charite..chargeþ this so sore.

b. So *sithen that.* = SITH *conj.* 2 b.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 241 Sithen that god al thing thus beforn wot. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xiv. 73 Holi Scripture is a reuerend thing.., sythen that þi it.. the Cristen Chirche of God takith her feith. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 50 For noo thynge I shal suffre the to do that fayte sythen that thou arte not presently in helthe.

C. *prep.*

1. = SITH *prep.* 1.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 Eche lif..þat is ȝiarked siðen þe biginninge of þes woreld. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5670 (Gött.), Siþen quen was þu vr domesman? 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/2 Myne adversaries hav..holden me in prison, sithen Seynt Katerynes day twelve Monthes last passed into this tyme. 1500 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 236 Olde dett that was dew sethen the tyme off Iohn Mylton. 1581 NOWELL & DAY in *Conf.* I. (1584) D iij b, The space of a xi. hundred yeeres..sithen the Tridentine Councill.

2. = SITH *prep.* 2.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Ðis wæs ȝedon syððon ure Drihtnes acennednesse dccclxxiii°. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. IX. 164 Many a peire sithen þe pestilence han pliȝt hem to-gideres. 1415 SIR T. GREY in *43rd Rep. Dep. Keeper Rec.* 583, I spake never withe hem sethen yat tyme. 1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 368 Whych appoyntements sythen yourr departyng hath be largely remembryd. 1535–6 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII,* c. 42 By an Acte made sithen the begynnyng of this parliament. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 70 And sithen that time, hath sprung not all to the pleasure of God.

Si·thence, *adv., conj.,* and *prep. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Forms: *a.* 4 sitth-, sytthenes, 4–5 siþ-, sithenes, 5 sythnes; 5–8 (9 *arch.*) sithens (6 -ins, sythens, -yns, -ence), 6– sithence. *β.* 5–6 sethens, 6 sethence (7 seeth-). [f. prec. + *-es* -8: cf. SINCE *adv.*, etc.]

A. *adv.*

†**1.** = SITH *adv.* 1. *Obs.*

In later use with tendency to pass into sense 3.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 65, I wil sowe it my-self and sitthenes wil I wende To pylgrymage. *c* 1400 *Brut* lxix, Merlyn saw þat sterre,..and siþenes he quok and wepte tenderly. ? 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* 414 [He] ordeigned by the same fro that tyme sethens, every mayre on Mighelmas daie to be chargid [etc.]. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 31 The slaves were not sithence seene, by whom they beleived the Prince to bee betraied. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 94 Certain principall Persons, conceived signall for Sanctity in that Age, and sithence put into the Calender of their Saints. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 311 Sithence the Fleeces of Arcadian plains..bore esteem.

†**2.** = SITH *adv.* 2. Freq. with *ever. Obs.*

1560 in Marsden *Cases Crt. Admiralty* (Selden) II. 119 Our said subjectes have feared ever sethence to trime..any shippes of warr. 1599 BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* F ij, Ever sithence, it hath bene a by-word: an Almond for the Parrat. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 684 Ever sithence the British nation hath continued..dutifully in their loyal allegiance. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 103 The Defendant was in his service before the day given by the Essoin,.. and every time sithence.

†**3.** = SITH *adv.* 3. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 223 Sythe that time Tyndal hath put out..another booke...And yet hath he sithens put forth a worse. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 11 Long since there was an istmus.., although the sea hath sithence fretted the same in sunder. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Pl. Man's Plough* Ep. Ded. p. vi, That..which I have sithence conceived and thus brought forth. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 35 What Goods, and Chattels, he had at the time of committing the said Treason, or at any time sithence.

†**4.** = SITH *adv.* 4. *Obs.*

Very common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1650.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Mark* i. 9 The Prophetes so many hundred yeares sythens prophecied. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* ix, Why haue your hands long sithence traueiled To frame this world? 1619 J. KING *Serm.* 11 Apr. 10 Wellnigh fifteene yeeres sithence. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 135 Seeing Devotion..long sithence hath desisted to expresse itself in such pompous Buildings.

B. *conj.*

†**1.** = SITH *conj.* 1. *Obs.*

1557 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 387 Sethienc [*sic*] the said Collodge was furste..unitid together. 1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* (1596) 11 It is a great while paste sithens we two sawe eche other. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 55 Such as were made Priests sithence her Majesty came to the Crowne.

2. Seeing that; = SITH *conj.* 2. Now *arch.*

Very common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1650.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 15 Why calle ȝe hym cryst,.. sithenes iuwes calle hym ihesus? *c* 1400 *Beryn* 559 Sithens þow hast hym bete, it were no reson þat I shuld bere þe gilt. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* V. in Ashm. (1652) 60 Sithens our Tincture must be most pure and faire. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XLI. (Percy Soc.) 203 What you avayleth such treasure to take, Sithens by force ye must it now forsake? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 8 Sithens silence lesseneth not my fire,..I will reuele, what ye so much desire. 1626 J. YATES *Ibis ad Cæsarem* II. 1 Well might he say so, sithence none that is sound and Orthodox, professeth any other societie. 1644 J. BERKENHEAD *Serm.* 3 We must be subject, sithence there is no power but of God. *c* 1709 PRIOR *1st Hymn Callim.* 16 Holy Retreat! Sithence no Female hither..Must dare approach. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* IV. xlviii, Sithence our Drusi prince is loathsome grown,..she sees him not without disdain. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin* xiii, It's our plain duty to bide by it, sithens we was sent by Buccleuch to be guided by the hound.

†**b.** So *sithence that,* = SITH *conj.* 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Brut* CXCVI, How might Robert Holonde fynde in his hert me to bitraye, sithens þat y haue Louede him so miche? 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 385 Studiouslie to keepe it, sithens that you haue it once. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 394 But sithens that sicke men are not to prescribe diets but to keepe them, I am redie to take potions. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. x. (1670) 57 For sithence that by their means..we attain to all knowledge [etc.].

C. *prep.*

†**1.** = SITH *prep.* 1. *Obs.*

1483 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 102 The revenues of the same.., sethens Michilmesse last past. 1556 in *Rel.*

Hist. MSS. Comm. Var. Coll. IV. 221 Ever sithens the begynnyng of Kyng Edwarde the VIth untill this tyme. *c* 1585 Hooker *Serm.* v. P 8 This hath been the state of the Church sithence the beginning. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 8 For soe much doe I finde to be called Dyuett seethence the conquest. 1628 Abp. Williams *Serm.* 17 What life you see in me, sithence that happy houre I first applyed to my soule the passion of my Sauiour.

†2. = Sith *prep.* 2. *Obs.*

1536 in Fuller *Ch. Hist.* (1655) v. 209 It was never merry in England, sithence the Letany was ordained. 1582 Nowell & Day in *Conf.* I. (1584) D b, Sithence the Tridentine Councill, some Popish printers haue left out the.. Prologue. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 29 Sithence the remembrance of later times, a larger Emperie hath not befallen any christian potentate.

Siper, sither(e, ob. ff. Cider. **Sitherope,** obs. f. Side-rope. **Sithir,** obs. f. Cider. **Sithment,** var. Sythment *Sc. Obs.*

† **Si·thre,** *adv. Obs.* [f. OE. *sīþor*, comp. of *sīþ* late.] With *of*: At a later time; subsequently.

c 1200 Ormin 322 Þatt Davib kingess kinness menn..Wiþþ Aaroness kinness menn Off sibre wærenn sammnedd. *Ibid.* 7293 Alle þa þatt herrdenn itt & wisstenn itt off sibre.

Sith(t)ware (obs. Sc.): see Square.

† **Sithy-coat.** *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.)

1657 Reeve *God's Plea* 125 They must be rents, rags, slashes, Sithy-coats, and sack-cloth people, that must undertake this work.

† **Si·tiate,** *v. Obs.*—[1] [irreg. f. L. *sitī-re* to thirst + -ate [3.] *intr.* To thirst.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 130/2 Let him drincke of this water when he Sitiateth.

† **Siti·culous,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [ad. L. *sitīculōs-us*, f. *sitis* thirst.] Very dry.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 116 They engender cholericke and siticulous humors.

Sitient (si·tiĕnt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *sitient-em*, pres. pple. of *sitīre* to thirst]. (See quot. 1656.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sitient*,..thirsting, coveting, desiring much. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 358 Rheumatism doth not seem to have made thee less esurient or sitient.

Sitiles, obs. form of Cityless.

Siting (soi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Site *v.*[2]] The action of placing or laying out (trenches).

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 449/2 Trace or Siting of Trenches.—The system on which trenches are laid out [etc.]. *Ibid.*, The siting of the trenches will depend on the ground.

Sitio- (sitio), combining form of Gr. *σῖτο-ν* food made from grain, bread, as **Sitio·logy** [cf. F. *sitiologie*], (see quots.). **Sitioma·nia, Sitiopho·bia** [cf. F. *sitiophobie*], morbid repugnance or aversion to food. Cf. Siti-.

1849 Craig, *Sitiology*, a treatise upon aliments. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Sitiology*,..the doctrine or consideration of aliments..; dietetics. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Sitiomania. *Ibid.*, Sitiophobia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 379 Acute cases with great nutritional disorder, when great insomnia, sitiaphobia [*sic*], or suicidal impulse is present.

† **Sitisot.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: **sit(t)isott, -sotte, setisot, sitisote.** [Of obscure formation; the final element may be Sot *sb.*] Some kind of game (see quots.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16623 Wit him þai plaid sitisott, and hadd þat [he] suld rede Quilk o þaim him gaf þe dint. *Ibid.* 24027 O clai þai kest at him þe clote, And laiked wit him sitisote. 13.. *St. Alexius* 366 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 182 Som keste atte him stone & clotte, Som plaied wiþ him sitti-sotte.

Sitizen, obs. Sc. form of Citizen.

Sito- (soito), combining form of Gr. *σῖτο-ς* food made from grain, bread, as **Sito·logy,** = Sitiology; **Sitoma·nia, Sitopho·bia,** = Sitiophobia; hence **Sitopho·bic** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1864 Webster, Sitology. [Hence in recent Dicts.] 1888 *Ogilvie's Imperial Dict.* IV. 93/2 *Sitomania*, morbid repugnance to or refusal of food. *Ibid.*, Sitophobia may consist in repugnance to all food, or merely to particular viands. It is a frequent accompaniment of insanity. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 4 Jan. 2 The gastric condition of twenty insane patients who manifested sitophobia.

Sitol(e, variants of Citole *Obs.*

‖ **Sitringee** (sitri·ndʒi). *Anglo-Ind.* Also 7 **sittringe, sittron-, sitterne-, siturngee,** 8 **sittringee,** 9 **sitringe.** [ad. Urdū سترنجی *shatranjī*, f. Persian *shatranj* chess, with reference to the original chequered pattern.] A carpet or floor-rug made of coloured cotton, now usually with a striped pattern.

1621 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 354 [With the help of skins], cittringes, [etc., they saved most of them from harm]. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 93 They..seat themselves in Choultries,..commonly spread with Carpets or Siturngees. 1785 in Seton-Karr *Sel. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 111 To be sold by Public Auction..The valuable effects of Warren Hastings, Esquire,.. Carpets and Sittringees. 1825 Heber *Jrnl.* 4 Jan., Sitringees were laid, by way of carpet, on the floor. 1825-9 Mrs. Sherwood *Lady of Manor* III. xxi. 240 The pavement was spread with a sitringe, or carpet of striped cotton, the manufacture of the country. *Ibid.* V. xxix. 80.

Sitryn(e, obs. forms of Citrine.

Sittell, Sittelness, obs. Sc. ff. Subtle(ness.

‖ **Sittella** (site·lă). *Austr.* [mod.L. (Swainson, 1837), dim. of *sitta*, ad. Gr. *σίττη* nuthatch.] A species of small tree-creeping bird, somewhat resembling the nuthatch, native to Australasia; a tree-runner.

1848 Gould *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 102 *Sittella Leucocephala*, White-headed Sitella. *Ibid.*, My collection contains three specimens of this new species of *Sittella*. 1890 in Morris *Austral Eng.* (1898) 419 Sittellas. [Close season.] From the first day of August to the 20th day of December.

Sitten (si·t'n), *ppl. a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [pa. pple. of Sit *v.*]

For various mod. dial. uses, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

†1. *Well sitten*, having a good seat (on horseback). *Obs. rare.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxvii. 70 The tailȝeour that wes nocht weill sittin, He left his sadill. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) ii. 38 He micht counter Will on horss, For Sym wes bettir sittin Nor Will.

†2. *Sitten-up*, settled in habit, not easily stirred or moved. *Obs.*—[1]

1671 J. Livingstone *Let. to Parishoners Ancram* 15 Their fire edge might help to kindle-up old sitten-up professours.

Sitter (si·tə1). Also 4 siter, sittere, 5 syttarre, 6 sittare. [f. Sit *v.* + -er. Cf. WFris. *sitter*, MDu. *sitter*, *zitter* (Du. *zitter*), G. *sitzer.*]

1. One who sits or occupies a seat:

a. In general use.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlix. 5 He..sall call..all perfite men to be siters wiþ him and deme. 1388 Wyclif *Rev.* v. 1 Y say in the riȝthond of the sittere on the trone, a book. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9140 Hit semyt by sight of sitters aboute, As the moron mylde meltid aboue. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457 Syttare, at mete, *conviva*. 1565 Cooper *Thes.*, *Sessor*, one that sitteth: a sitter. 1608 *Dispute Quest. Kneeling* 73 Not kneelers at any distance from the table,..but sitters at the table. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 740 The Turks are great Sitters and seldom walk. 1650 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* (ed. 2) 47 Few or many sitters in the House, is not a thing of our examination, if they be above forty. 1806 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 561 Oft from the sitter tales fall about; and from the recumbent, lies. 1837 W. B. Adams *Carriages* Introd. 18 The seat, for a single sitter, was placed in the centre of the poles. 1897 Miss Broughton *Dear Faustina* xiv, In a quarrel the sitter has always an advantage over the stander.

fig. 1862 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Poet. Wks. (1879) 277/1 A large majority..who hold with Dædalus, the primal sitter-on-the-fence, that [etc.].

b. A person who sits to an artist, photographer, or sculptor, for a portrait, etc., or as a model.

1649 Lovelace *Poems* 62 As if thou..didst draw With those brave eyes your Royall Sitters saw. 1816 Galt *Life B. West* 69 [The artist's] youth and the peculiar incidents of his history attracted many sitters. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* xxxvii. (1844) II. 37, I am going further to get sitters than any of my fellow artists ever did. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* 297 The roof over the sitter..must also be opaque.

c. A passenger in a rowing-boat, as distinct from the rowers or steersman; *spec.* at Eton (see quot. 1827).

1653 Appleton *Fight Legorn-Road* 5 Captain Cox in the Elizabeth's Shallop with nine Oars and four Sitters. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1085/3 A single Boat, with but two Sitters, besides the ordinary crew of Rowers. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 66 A boat put off..with four oars and one sitter only. 1827 *Ann. Reg.* 480/2 Mr. Canning was the sitter in the 'ten-oar' at the Eton regatta, a post of honour which is always reserved by the boys for some favoured visitor. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, His boat had no cushion for a sitter, no paint, no inscription.

†d. *Cards*, etc. One who actually takes part in a game, as distinct from one who stands by and bets on it. *Obs. rare.*

1748 Smollett *R. Random* lii, He then explained the difference between the sitters and the betters; characterized the first as old rooks, and the last as bubbles.

e. *Sc.* One who has a seat in a church.

1838 Chalmers *Wks.* XII. 212 A sitter in the Church of St. John.

f. (See quot.)

1851 in Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* II. 35/1 Five men worked [at 'translating' shoes] and slept there, and three were *sitters*—that is, men who paid 1*s.* a week to sit there and work, lodging elsewhere.

†2. One who sits on a horse or other animal; a rider. Also *transf. Obs.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxii. 17 Þe sittere on þat hors sall nogt be safe in habundaunce of his vertu. 1382 Wyclif *Num.* xxii. 25 Whom seynge, the asse ioynede hym silf to the wal, and brisidde the foot of the sitter. — *Macc.* iii. 25 Forsothe sum hors apeeride to hem, hauynge a dreedful sitter. 1515 Barclay *Eglogues* iv. (1570) c iij b/1, But if this same colte be broken at the last, His sitter ruleth and him refrayneth fast. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 659 Hornets ..getting upon the poor Bees backs, they use them in stead of a Waggon or carriage: for when the silly Bee laboureth to be discharged of his cruel Sitter: the Hornet..spareth not to kill..his..chief maintainer.

†3. A name for the hare. *Obs.*—[1]

13.. *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, Þe sittere, þe gras hoppere, þe Fitelfot, þe fold sittere.

4. A female bird, *esp.* a domestic hen, which sits on eggs for the purpose of hatching them.

1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 137 A Henne will be a good sitter from the second yeare of her laying to the fift. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 256 The oldest [hens] being always reckoned the best Sitters, and the youngest the best Layers. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 229/1 The plan of giving the eggs to another sitter. 1884 L. F. Allen *Amer. Farm Bk.* 493 The hen [turkey]..is an inveterate sitter, and carefully hatches most of her eggs.

5. With advs., as *sitter-by, -out, -up.*

(*a*) 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. 167 Princes that haue theyr sitters by, to whom they commit theyr office to rule and gouerne in their stede. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. II. 79 It is very dull tho', Mamma, to the sitters-by. 1850 Clough *Dipsychus* II. iv. 89 Life..still delights to turn The tide of sport upon the sitters-by. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* clx. III. 173 He must be excused by the honourable members who complained of something in his pocket injurious to the sitters-by.

(*b*) 1621 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* II, Not a bed Ladies? y'are good sitters up. 1822 Lamb *Ess. Elia, Confess. Drunkard*, They were men of boisterous spirits, sitters up a-nights, disputants, drunken. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* lxxi, There's them can pay for hospitals..choose to be sitters-up night and day.

(*c*) 1829 Caroline B. Southey *Ch. on Churchyards* II. 292 An unwearied sitter out of..Dr. Hartop's long stories.

† **Sitterine,** obs. form of Citrine B. 2.

1571 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 139 Stones called Sitterines and Topiasses with enamellings.

Sittim, obs. form of Shittim.

Sittine (si·təin), *sb.* and *a. Ornith.* [f. mod. L. *Sittinæ*.] a. *sb.* A member of the *Sittinæ*, a sub-family of the Linnæan genus *Sitta*. b. *adj.* Of or pertaining to this family (*Imp. Dict.* 1882).

1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VII. 345 The Sittines..differ only in having the bill a little more compressed.

Sitting (si·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 3 sittunge, 4–5 sittyng (4 cyttynge), sytting, 5–6 -yng(e, etc. [f. Sit *v.* + -ing [1].]

1. The action of the vb. Sit, in various senses; the fact of being seated; an instance of this.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Hwat oðer god cumeð of þisse onliche sittunge, þet Ieremie speked of. *c* 1325 *Prose Psalter* cxxxviii. 1 Lord,..þou knewe..my sittyng and my risynge. 1382 Wyclif *Lam.* iii. 63 The sitting..and the aȝeen rising of hem see; Y am the salm of hem. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 440 Hit is wonder of the wit of this wise kyng, Wold assent to þat sytting. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 325 The lay brethren..keping the same stondynges and syttynges that the quer doth. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 233 b, This syttynge signyfyeth none other but the peace of the soule. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 197 Is the skill in sitting of an horse no honour at home? 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 107 Without the highest attain'd Will be for thee no sitting, or not long On David's Throne. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 30 Nov. 1680, The place of sitting was now exalted some considerable height from the paved floore. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *A Siege* is the Sitting or Encampment of an Army round a Place. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 41 Why should a student indulge so much in the lazy and unhealthy habit of sitting?

†b. Order or place of sitting (at table, etc.).

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 127 Þei wolen sitt ful hiȝe in furst sittyngis at þe sopers. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 902 And eek that euery wight in his degree Haue his estaat in sittyng and seruyse. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 51 For no pryde scholde aryse For any degree of syttynge. 1494 in *Ordin. Household* (1790) 112 The sitting of all Dukes, Earles, and Barons sonnes.

†c. The fact of being sat in or occupied. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1440 Lovelich *Merlin* 4490 They..axeden..why that place was voyde of syttyng, and why that som good man mihte not sytten there.

d. Carriage or posture *of* something. *rare*—[1].

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 9 P 3 Miss..immediately at her Glass, alters the Sitting of her Head.

2. The action on the part of hen-birds of sitting on and hatching eggs; incubation.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 39 In þe somer seson whane sittinge nyeth, þat ich foule with his fere folwith his kynde. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 25 Þe eggges bringges furth briddes withouten sittyng of hen. 1611 Cotgr., *Couvement*, a brooding, sitting on. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 128 P 3 The Male [Bird]..amuses and diverts her [the Hen] with his Songs during the whole Time of her Sitting. 1787 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 292 [They] are really the foolishest geese I ever beheld, for they choose all times for sitting but the spring. 1830 Southey *Young Dragon* I. v. 10 With amianth he [the dragon] lined the nest,..To bear the fiery sitting. 1854 Meall *Moubray's Poultry* 425 For sitting, the newest [eggs] are to be preferred.

b. A number of eggs placed under a sitting bird for incubation; a clutch.

1854 Meall *Moubray's Poultry* 426 The differences of the seasons..must have a considerable effect upon the chances of hatching a sitting of eggs. 1895 Elworthy *Evil Eye* 406 A sitting of eggs is a number just as well known as a baker's dozen—thirteen.

3. a. The fact of being engaged in the exercise of judicial, legislative, or deliberative functions; an instance or occasion of this; a meeting of a legislative or other body; the period of time occupied by this.

c 1400 *Pearl* & *Gaw.* 3446 It es the assyse, Whils sityng es of the justise 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 240 The eight daye of Aprill was the thirde sytting of the fathers in the Counsell at Trent. 1598 *Child-Marriages* 173 It is fuly Concluded..at this, her Maiesties generall Sessions, by the said Justices in their open Sessions and full sittinge. 1660 Milton *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 452 If all this avail not to remove the Fear or Envy of a perpetual Sitting, it may be easily provided [etc.]. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 1 Oct. 1678, The Parliament, growing now corrupt and interested with long sitting and court practices. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* I. 50 The speaker was twenty hours in the chair, which was the longest sitting, by three hours, that is remembered to have happened. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvii, The brief interval..betwixt the dismissal of the audience and the sitting of the privy council. 1845 Prescott *Philip II*, II. xi. (1857) I. 269 These discussions occupied many and long protracted sittings of the council. 1896 *Law Times* C. 356/2 The first sitting of the new court was held on the 10th inst.

b. *Yorks.* A statute or hiring fair. Now *pl.*

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 135 Masters that wante servants, and servants that wante masters, have the benefitte of the next sittinge to provide for themselves. *Ibid.* 136 When servants goe to the sittinge, they putte on theire best apparrell. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 352 *Sittings*, statutes for servants. 1851 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. III. 328/2 It is customary once a year for men and women servants out of place to assemble in the market places of Hedon and Patrington..and there await being hired. This very ancient custom is called Hedon Sittings or Statutes. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorks. Folk-Talk* 369 We're off for Pockli'ton sittins.

c. Among the Society of Friends, a gathering or meeting for family worship.

1841 GURNEY *Jrnl.* in Braithwaite *Mem.* II. 261 We were favoured with a very good family sitting after breakfast... I had to minister to them all.

4. A thing or place upon or in which one sits; a seat, *esp.* in later use, sitting accommodation for one person in a church or other place of worship. Also *fig.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. *Trav.* (1839) ix. 106 In that Cytee [Samaria] was the syttinges of the [ten] Tribes of Israel. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 119 The nature of these is.. to cast about for the sitting of the Beast, and so having found it, with continual cry to follow after it till it be wearyed. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sitting*, a single seat or sitting in a pew. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* 168 The number of sittings between one wall of a chapel and its opposite. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 339 From £10 to £12 per sitting is, I think, a fair estimating price.

5. A spell of remaining seated:

a. In phr. *at a* or *one sitting*, during a single period of sitting; at one time or spell of continuous action, work, or study.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. i. 117 Your daughter spent in Genowa..one night fourescore ducats. *Shy*...Fourescore ducats at a sitting! fourescore ducats! 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 47 To finish this Piece up at one sitting. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 72 ¶ 8 Others who have smoaked an Hundred Pipes at a Sitting. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 198, I was assur'd..that she lost at one Sitting to the Tune of a hundred Guineas. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, You should question me for half-a-dozen hours at a sitting, and welcome. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 76/1 They [turtles].. lay at one sitting to the number of a hundred eggs. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* iv. 120 The incredible bulk of food that they will make away with at a sitting.

b. In other uses.

1621 BP. HALL *Heauen upon Earth* § 4 [Gorges] who.. can freely carue to themselues large morsels at the next sitting. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. ii, The man is a monster, without one redeeming quality that I could discover in a seven hours' sitting. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlv, Every time that he got a headache from too long an after-dinner sitting. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 370 The symptom often departs suddenly during the course of the first sitting [for treatment by electricity].

c. A spell of sitting to an artist, sculptor, or photographer for a portrait, etc.

1706 *Art of Painting* (1744) 333 He drew his picture for him at several sittings. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 243 He..generally obtained one or two sittings for the completion [of the portrait]. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. viii, I am going to give Kneller my last sitting. *c* 1865 *Wylde's Circ. Sciences* I. 147/2 The muscles of the neck are apt to become fatigued if a long 'sitting' be necessary. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 522/2 His ordinary mode of proceeding in the case of a portrait was to make a realistic study during the sitting.

fig. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* iv. (1870) 106 Dryden recurs to the object often, takes fresh sittings of nature [etc.].

d. A séance.

1880 HARE in W. H. Harrison *Psychic Facts* 14 The medium..gave me another sitting at her own dwelling.

6. With advs., as *down, out, up.*

For northern dial. uses, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

(*a*) 1535 COVERDALE *Lam.* iii. 63 Thou seist also their sittinge downe and their rysinge vp. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 220 The sitting doun of the schip called the Cardinall..betuix Sanct Colmes Inch and Crawmond, without any occasioun, except negligence. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 141 Some few shot of the Spaniards offered to disturbe our sitting downe [=encamping], but were soone beaten home. 1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 218 It being now but seven days till the sitting down of the Parliament. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 43 The only contrivance by which the sitting down of such a handful of men..could have had the effect of a regular envestment. 1881 MISS YONGE *Lads & Lasses Langley* ii. 67 When there was a sitting down, Frank had been used to.. put his head on his arms and be comfortable.

(*b*) 1547 *Bk. of Marchauntes* e ij, If any woman lye in childbed, they to go to say gospels and to be at the syttyng vp and chirching. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* III. ii, I, watching my lady's sitting up, stole up at midnight from my pallet. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. India Vade-M.* II. 112 This 'sitting up'..generally took place at the house of some lady of rank,..who for three successive nights, threw open her mansion.

(*c*) 1902 MRS. ALEXANDER *Stronger than Love* xi, Nothing short of two valses and one 'sitting-out' can atone for it.

b. *attrib.* (See quots.)

1893 KEITH *'Lisbeth* II. ii, I hope you'll excuse it's not being a sitting-down tea. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 460 A change from the lying-down to the sitting-up position. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Apr. 3/2 Thousands of shirts, sitting-up jackets, socks, pyjamas. 1902 E. GLYN *Reff. Ambrosine* 53, I went to no more sitting-out places [at a ball].

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sitting apartment, bath, box, -chamber, height, muscle, parlour, part*, etc.

1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1855) 89 The partition between the laying and *sitting apartments. 1843 ABDY *Water Cure* 67 Copious water drinking, short *sitting baths, and wet bandages on the body. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1855) 87 Laying and *sitting boxes may be placed at either side of the building. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. xi, Here was the governor's sleeping-cabin [on board]—his lady's *sitting-cabin [etc.]. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (1887) III. 6 A mansion, wherein were furnished *sitting-chambers. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 176 These were Stones but of a *sitting height at utmost. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 348 A high narrow chair with a straight back that hardly allows of any flexion to the *sitting muscles. 1854 MEALL *Mowbray's Poultry* 424 The construction of *sitting-nests on one side of the..night-house. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* lxxxvi, Within sight of some window in the common *sitting parlour. 1730 FIELDING *Tom Thumb* II. x, While the two stools her *sitting-part confound, Between 'em both fall squat upon the ground. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 396 After sleeping two hours in a *sitting posture. 1573 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 350 For chargys aboute the swanes..at the *syttynge tyme and uppynge tyme.

b. Special combs.: **sitting-breeches** (see quot.); **sitting-day**, a day on which a legislative or deliberative body sits; **sitting-shot**, a shot taken in a sitting position.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Sitting breeches*, one who stays late in company, is said to have his sitting breeches on, or that he will sit longer than a hen. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 14 July, I went, and found him busy in trials of law in his great room; and it being *Sitting-day, durst not stay. 1894 *Daily News* 6 March 2/1 He was not absent from the House one sitting day. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl.* ix. 151 If it was later in the day, it might be to our advantage to try a *sitting-shot.

Si·tting, *ppl. a.* [f. SIT *v.* + -ING 2. In senses 1 and 2 after OF. (*bien*) *seant.*]

†**1.** Of garments or articles of apparel: Fitting *well* or closely to the body. *Obs. rare.*

1382 *Prayer* 42 in *O. E. Misc.* 193 Inne mete & inne drinke ic habbe ibeo ouerdede, & inne wel sittende schon. *a* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2263 Poyntis and sleves be welle sittande, Right and streght on the hande. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/1 Syttynge clothe, or streythe, *strigium*. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* xxi, In surcotes whyte, of veluet wel sitting.

†b. (Well) placed or formed. *Obs.*—1

c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 227 She was sklender a-boute the flankes and the haunche lowe and comly well sittynge.

†**2.** Becoming, befitting; proper, suitable; appropriate. Freq. preceded by *well*. Const. *to, unto*, rarely *for*, or *that*. *Obs.*

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 986 To hem [the arrows] was wel sitting and able The foule croked bowe hidous. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1041 Fawnus for Agea, as it was wele sitting, Made ful grete ordenaunce for hir burying. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1262 A wel beseyn meyne, Lyche as was sytting vnto his degre. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. ix. 333 It biseweth and it is sitting..that the ȝeuer ȝeue his ȝifte..mediatli. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxxxii. (1811) 265 It is not vnworthy to the..for to the it is sittynge for noblesse of bloode. 1564 HAWARD *Eutrop.* X. 114 Not all together so hedefull aboute hys affayres as it was sittinge & fitte for soo myghtye a prince. *c* 1575 T. HACKET *Treas. Amadis de Gaule* 284 This..shall be a thing very well syttyng and convenient to your accustomed graciousnesse.

†b. In attributive use. *Obs. rare.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 953 He saluȝede þat sorowfulle with sittande wordez. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* b iiij b, [The] nose..is the most syttyng membre that a man..may haue.

3. That sits in, possesses the right to, or holds, a position, office, or tenancy.

Sitting member, a Member of Parliament actually holding a seat in the House of Commons at the time referred to.

(*a*) 1706 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 19 Petitioners against sir Thomas Bellot and Mr. Cotton, the sitting members. 1813 *Exam.* 1 March 139/1 Three of the Sitting Members..were not duly elected. 1890 M. S. WILLIAMS *Leaves of Life* II. v. 44 A property which he had bought when sitting Member for Preston.

(*b*) 1768 *Ann. Reg.* 57 The sitting Magistrates..at the Rotation-office in Whitechapel. 1843 *Chambers's Edin. Jrnl.* 45/2 The case being brought before one of the metropolitan police courts, the sitting magistrate committed the soldier for trial.

(*c*) 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 614 The new conditions will be made as if the sitting tenant were a stranger. 1884 ROGERS *Six Cent. Work & Wages* I. 54 Raising rent on the sitting tenant, to use a modern phrase.

4. That sits: a. Of animals or birds, *esp.* of hen-birds whilst hatching.

1621 COTGR., *Couveresse*, a sitting henne. *c* 1709 PRIOR *Dove* xiii, Have You observ'd a sitting Hare, List'ning [etc.]? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 708 Places should be chosen for placing the sitting hens in. 1883 *Century Mag.* 682 A deep,..elaborate structure, in which the sitting bird sank.

†b. *Bot.* Sessile. *Obs.*

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 82 Sitting Flowers, are those which have no Fruit-stalk. *Ibid.* 328 In *Leontodon Taraxacum* the down is supported on a long pedicle, in all the other English species it is sitting. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 17 It is..placed immediately on the ovary or pistil, and is said to be sitting. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* vii. 203 Leaves are..either sessile or petiolate, that is, either sitting or having footstalks.

c. Of persons, figures, etc.: Seated.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 426 Monument of Maximilian-Joseph I...Colossal sitting figure. 1842 TENNYSON *Vision of Sin* i. 12 Sitting, lying, languid shapes. 1887 MAHAFFY *Gk. Life & Thought* VI. 112 The proposal..to carve Mount Athos into a sitting figure.

5. *dial.* To which one sits down.

1889 WESTALL *Birch Dene* I. 251 A 'standing gill' cost a penny, a 'sitting gill' three-halfpence. 1898 CORBAN *Angel* 180 To take a sitting drink..with the Gordon gentlemen.

†Si·ttingly, *adv. Obs.* [f. SITTING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a befitting or becoming manner; fittingly; suitably.

a 1300 *Curtor M.* 3289 Hir semed all hir werkes wel, Sittandlik hir watur [she] toke. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 159 Take kepe..That they bee herberde in haste in thoos heghe chambres, Sythine sittandly in sale seruyde ther-aftyr. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. vi. (1869) 78 For she wole no thing sey but sittingeliche and wel ordeyned. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 114 In gods temple has this angulere two wallis iognt sittingly. 1530 PALSGR. 841/2 Syttyngly, *conuenablement.*

Si·tting-place. [SITTING *vbl. sb.*]

1. A place to sit in; a seat. *rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 6 Sothely thei louen the first sittyng placis [L. *primos recubitus*] in sopers. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/1 Syttynge place, *sedile*. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxx. (1592) 472 Being required a sitting-place at his right hand or at his left. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Chron.* ix. 18 There were sixe steps to the throne.., and stayes on each side of the sitting place. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 59 There is not one among you whose sitting-place is not written by God, whether in the fire or in paradise.

†**2.** The posteriors, the rump. *Obs.*

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 117 A suppositar..conueyed into the syttynge place of the chylde. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 198 Take the hairs that grow behind on the goats sitting place. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* 4035/4 A..Mare, ..with two..white Spots in the middle of the Sitting Place.

Si·tting-room. [SITTING *vbl. sb.*]

1. A room or apartment used for sitting in, esp. in contrast to a bed-room or kitchen.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. (ed. 3) I. 96 A travelling trap for a sitting room! 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* I. i. 4 The usual sitting-room of his house presented a cheerful appearance. 1894 E. BANKS *Camp. Curiosity* 34 With each sleeping-room was connected a sitting-room, where fires were kept.

attrib. 1852 *Beck's Florist* 172 The bouquet with which they are in the habit of daily furnishing their sitting-room table. 1895 CROCKETT *Love Idylls* (1901) 125 Behind the sitting-room door.

b. A portion of a poultry-house in which hens sit or hatch eggs.

1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1855) 89 The ends of the nest box may be shifted, so that she will be in the sitting room, where she may remain..till she hatches her brood.

2. Room or space in which to sit or available for sitting.

1882 *Imperial Dict.* s.v., Sitting-room could not be got in the hall.

Sitti-sotte, variant of SITISOT *Obs.*

Sittringee, variant of SITRINGEE.

Situ, in L. phr. *in situ*: see ‖ IN 15.

Situal (si·tiuăl), *a. rare*—1. [ad. med.L. *situālis*, f. *situs* site.] Positional.

1856 A. BUTLER *Hist. Anc. Philos.* I. 351 Campanella.. establishes five separate worlds—situal, material, mathematical, mental, and archetypal.

Situate (si·tiuĕt), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **situat, sytuate**, 6–8 **scituate**. [ad. late L. *situāt-us*, pa. pple. of **situāre* (used in med.L.), f. L. *situs* site.] = SITUATED *ppl. a.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. Pref. p. i, Mortall folke are marueylously separated, both by lande and water, and right wonderously sytuate. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 8 The Ilandes of Molucca situate in the mayne Easte Indian Sea. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. v. 34 Now the body being situate in this rectangular forme, the weight A B must needs be augmented. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 336 Popo being an Island Scituate in the midst of the River. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 107 This large and populous city was situate about two days journey from the Tigris. 1845 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 666 A planet situate on its surface and forming a part of it. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* III. 145 The château..was situate on low ground.

Situate (si·tiuĕt), *v.* Now *rare*. Also 6 **situat, cituat, cytuat(e, 7 scituate.** [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *situāre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To give a site to; to place, locate.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 940 To situat, *colloquer*. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* i. (1870) 232 Where a man shulde cytuate or sette his mancyon place. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 189 Tripoly..hath three times beene situated, and remoued in three sundry places. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. x. (1715) 292 The rapidness of the Torrent carry'd back those Islands.., not situating them in the same place as at first. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 86/1 The Ancients dedicated their Buildings..,and situated them in the best air they cou'd find out.

b. With personal object.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23/2 We must first of all situate the patient towardes the light. 1652 *Perfusative* 4 They meant to situate them in a higher condition then they were themselves. 1790 *Bystander* 178 It was thought proper to situate them between the audience and the stage. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 1 *note*, As a painter would situate a beggar under a triumphal arch. *refl.* 1792 PAINE *Rights of Man* (ed. 4) 107 They situated themselves in three separate chambers.

c. To subject to circumstances; to place in a certain situation.

1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 656/2 He would violate his promises, and that would so situate her that she would not be able to keep hers.

†**2.** *intr.* To have, or take up, a certain situation or position. *Obs.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Loue C.* IV. 46 b, The Countries nere aboute Friselande scituatyng betweene Eems, and Lauwers. 1647 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 286 As many steeles as touch that vertuous stone..Together moue themselues, and situate together.

Hence **Si·tuating** *vbl. sb.*

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 84/1 The Ancients in the

situating of their smaller Temples..turned their fronts so as they might be seen from the Sea.

Situated (si·tiu,ētèd), *ppl. a.* [f. as SITUATE *ppl. a.* + -ED [1].]

1. Of places or things: Placed, located.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 116 Asperge situated on a verey hyghe mountayne standyng alone. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (Sommer) 299 While he cast his eye about,.. cursing all Ilands in being euill scituated. 1650 T. B[AYLEY] *Worcester's Apoph.* 13 A place so proudly scituated, that you might as well command all the Countrey. 1699 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1749) 153 It is scituated in the Wilderness. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95. His estate..is situated in an agreeable neighbourhood. 1808 CRUTTWELL *Univ. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) III, *Oxford*, a city..situated on a gentle eminence. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 83 The great nebula of Orion is situated in the part of the constellation occupied by the sword-handle.

b. Used attributively, chiefly with advs.

1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 77 What famous towne and situated Seate Is that huge Building that is made by Art? 1854 GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 120 Belfast is a handsomely-situated and well-built town. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 94 The..finely-situated ..Endcliffe House.

2. Of persons: Placed in relation to, or in respect of, circumstances.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. 110 There have been some rich Men, that were finely Scituated, and had all things richly to Enjoy. 1806 A. KNOX *Rem.* (1844) I. 74 In one way or other, he will still, as he is situated, cultivate the Communion of Saints. 1857 C. BRONTË *Professor* vi, It was impossible for me to be thus situated, and not feel the angel or the demon of my race at work within me.

Situation (sitiu,ē·ʃən). Also 5 setuacyon, 6 syt-, situacion, sytuation, 6–8 scituation (7 citt-). [a. F. *situation* (+ *sit-*, *scituacion*, etc., = Sp. *situacion*, It. *situazione*), or ad. med.L. *situātio*, n. of action f. *situāre*, f. L. *situs* site.]

I. 1. The place, position, or location *of* a city, country, etc., in relation to its surroundings.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 44 Haue in mynde..the setuacyon of thy cyte newely fowunded. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Sytuacion of a towne, *assiete*. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 8 The situation of the cytie of Saba in Ethiopia vnder Egipt. 1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lviii. (1602) 253 France, ..whose Scituation so Spayne scattred Realmes disioynes. 1636 DAVENANT *Platonick Lovers* I, The scituation of this house hath but a while employed his eyes without. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 3 The same must be attributed to the Scituation of the Land. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 5 Our Native Riches and apt Scituation for Commerce. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* iii. (1813) 26 The situation of a garden should be..rather low than high. 1842 CUNNINGHAM *Revels at Crt.* 223 In one [plan] the situation of the music room is clear enough; viz. at the side of the stage.

b. Used without *of* (but implying this).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 210 b, The Castell was kept agaynst them which for the situation was unprennable. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 677 The high situation upon an hill. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 262 As for the Scituation— he chooses that side or declivity of a Hill. 1782 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 129 Their prison was an ancient palace, ..the situation was pleasant, the buildings stately. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 243/2 The situation as a whole is far more beautiful than that of Jerusalem.

c. Without article.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 The chiefe cytie..is in situacion..much lyke vnto the cytie of Milayne. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xlviii. 2 Beautifull for situation..is mount Sion. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 76 Places as eminent in scituation as she in sweetnesse of disposition. 1820 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. v. 119 Edinburgh is the finest town for situation in Europe.

d. With *a* (usually followed by an adj.).

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Positio campestris*, a situation in a playne champion countrey. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 429 Westminster..had a pleasant situation amongst fruitfull fields and greene grounds [etc.]. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 133 We ought in the choice of a Scituation to regard above all things the Healthfulness of the place. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 236 Manila itself is in a very healthy situation. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 246/1 Such a situation as might be agreeable..to the architect. 1808 J. WEBSTER *Nat. Philos.* 162 A fire burning in an open situation.

2. †a. The place occupied by something; the site *of* a building, etc. *Obs.*

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 25 Having sixtene fote of..the same grounde for the scituacion of the same conduicte heade. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 172 The Citie of Mexico is seated in the same Lake, although the Spaniards have filled vp the place of the scituation with earth. *a* 1615 *Briene Cron. Erlis of Ross* (1850) 3 The said Erll founded an abbey at Farne, quhair the situation thereof yit does appeare. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 323 Pilasters of Stone, and Arches, would have taken up a great part of the Situation there.

b. A place, locality.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 260 The pleasant scituation called Beaulieu. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 60 He views The dismal Situation waste and wilde, A Dungeon horrible. 1716-8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xvi. 53 After passing these dreadful rocks, Dresden appeared to me a wonderfully agreeable situation. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 105 Sir William Soames being sent embassador to Constantinople.., Vosterman accompanied him, intending to paint the delights of that situation. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* xv, Two chairs were placed by the side of this comfortable situation.

3. a. Place or position of things in relation to surroundings or to each other.

a 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXVIII, To be so tickled they would change their state And situation with those dancing chips.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 31 From the scituation some are Anterior, some Posteriour. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 543 The scituation of these two conduits. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Resistence*, The Resistence of a Body is always equal to the greatest Weight which it will sustain in a vertical Situation, without breaking. 1792 *Baron Munchausen* i. 4, I fell..to the ground with fear; after waiting in this prostrate situation a few seconds, I heard a noise. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* II. 257 Her mizen-top,..in the then situation of the two vessels, was not more than fifteen yards from that part of the deck. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 177/1 In the three first situations the separation is sometimes called exhalation.

b. A place or locality in which a person resides, or happens to be for the time.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXIV. 21 Those soules Idols, that the weary dead Gaue vp in earth: which in a flowry Mead Had habitable situation. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 18 Boisterous weather..caused us to make all manner of Dispatch to get out of that Situation. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* I. II. vii. 157 Apply in sickness to the best physician or apothecary within reach of your situation. 1817 MALTHUS *Popul.* Pref. p. iii, It was written..from the few materials which were then within my reach in a country situation. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xi, Educated in a remote situation.

†4. a. Direction, course. *Obs.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* I. (Percy Soc.) 7 This is the waye and the sytuacion Unto the toure of famous doctrine.

† b. Surface. *Obs.* Cf. GROUND *sb.* 6 b.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 9 Whan you wil gylte the parchemente, you shal geve it a grounde or sytuatyon wyth the white of an Egge or Gomme.

†5. a. The action of situating. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. x. (Arb.) 98 By diuersitie of placing and scituation of your measures and concords.

† b. Settlement, occupation. *Obs.*

c 1650 BRADFORD *Plymouth Plant.* I. x. (Mass. Hist. Soc.) 88 They..found diverse cornfeilds, & litle runing brooks, a place (as they supposed) fitt for situation.

II. 6. The position in life, or in relation to others, held or occupied by a person.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 169 P 4 That the very situation in a country-life does not incline men [etc.]. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* I. Pref. p. xliii, In my present situation at Birmingham. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1806) I. xiv, His situation, at this printer's, was far better suited to him, than that..at the brewer's. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* viii, I am happy that my situation, as a soldier under command, altogether dispenses with my thinking of it at all.

b. A post of employment; a position in which one works for wages.

1813 *Examiner* 26 Apr. 265/1 He obtained the situation of army-agent. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* vii, A gallant young cavalier .. offered to Catalina a situation amongst his retinue. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* xvii, I took a situation.

7. Condition or state (*of* anything). ? *Obs.*

1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 230 That which we esteem a Happiness in one Situation of Mind, is otherwise thought of in another. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 405 The land, at the end of the nine years, must be in a much better situation than before it was limed. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 148, I found the work now in the following situation.

b. Physical condition; state of health. In later use only *spec.* of women (see quots.).

1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* (1797) I. 117 Examine the situation of my son, and prescribe what you shall judge proper for his cure. 1780 *Mirror* No. 80, The change of situation from pimples and scales to a blooming complexion. 1792 M. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 95 People in a weak debilitated situation. 1829 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XV. *note*, That the woman should have concealed her situation during the whole period of pregnancy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvii, Mrs. Bunny's in an interesting situation..and has given the Lieutenant seven already.

8. Position of a person with regard to circumstances.

1728 T. SHERIDAN tr. *Persius* (1739) Ded. p. iv, You are now in a Situation of taking two the most delightful Prospects that a generous Mind can have. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 162 Where undue advantage is taken of the plaintiff's situation. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 353 Your situation is a situation of difficulty, and nothing but great patience can carry you through it. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xvi. 342 How true is it that men in parallel situations necessarily move on similar principles. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. I. 1 The difficulties of his situation increased.

9. Position of affairs; combination of circumstances.

1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* CCXIX. (1792) II. 343 Suppose that business and situations should..call Mr. Harte away from you. 1777 PITT in Almon *Anecd.* (1812) II. 302 This ruinous and ignominious situation..calls upon us to remonstrate in the strongest..language. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ix, He honoured his religion..by the morality which guided his conduct in all ordinary situations. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 15 In a situation of the utmost difficulty and peril. 1864 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 The financial situation is perceptibly clearer.

Phr. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lviii. (1865) VIII. 3 The senate at last was master of the situation. 1870 MISS BRIDMAN *R. Lynne* II. v. 111 He was..master of the situation.

b. A particular conjunction of circumstances (*esp.* one of a striking or exciting nature) under which the characters are presented in the course of a novel or play.

1779 *Mirror* No. 31, The novellist who delineates characters by feigned circumstances and situations. 1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 147 The conduct of her story is well conceived, her situations are in general natural. 1830 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 446 It has some striking scenes, but I think the 'situations' are produced by rather extravagant means. 1849 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 July 59/2 At the head of every scene is a description of the action, as a key to the musical situation. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *M. Dering* i, It [a book] is wildly melodramatic, and full of 'situations' from end to end.

c. Without article (see quots.).

1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* III. i, This scene goes entirely for what we call situation and stage effect. *Ibid.*, There's situation for you! there's an heroic group!

10. *Horse-racing.* One of the first three places in order of arrival at the winning-post; a place.

1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 34 Saying that he could lay against Blue Bell,..and that he had a little more to lay out against Whistler for a 'situation'. *c* 1887 'THORMANBY' *Men of the Turf* 105 The three worst horses, probably, that ever monopolized the Derby 'situations'.

Sit-up, *sb.* and *a.* [See SIT *v.* 25.]

A. *sb.* A surprise. *rare* —[1].

1483 BP. LANGTON in *Christ Ch. Lett.* (Camden) 46, I trow ..thai shal have a sit up or ever the Kyng departe fro York.

B. *adj.* Used for sitting up in.

1902 BARNES-GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 178 The lounge chairs are canvas, the sit-up chairs are rush seated.

Si·t-upon. *colloq.* [f. SIT *v.*] In *pl.*: Trousers, breeches. (Cf. SIT-DOWN *sb.* 2.)

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 126 With a pair of the master's sit-upons that wanted reparation. 1857 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* III. x, They weren't dressed in tall hats..and velvet sit-upons.

‖ **Situs** (sai·tŏs). *rare.* [L.] Situation, position.

1701 RAY *Creation* (ed. 3) II. 229 It was convenient that man should have such a figure or Situs of the parts of his body that he might conveniently look upwards. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Things depending on the Situs of Lines and Figures. 1890 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXVI. 289 The future situs of the cotton manufacture of the United States. 1891 *Tablet* 28 Feb. 334 It enables a Catholic to see as he never otherwise could the precise situs and shape of ultra-Protestant convictions.

Sity, obs. form of SIGHTY *a.*

Sitz bath (si·tsˌbɑþ). Also sitz-bath. [ad. G. *sitzbad*, f. *sitzen* to sit.]

1. A bath in which one sits; a hip-bath.

1849 CLARIDGE *Cold Water-Cure* 54 The Sitz or Sitting Bath. By this is to be understood a hip bath: that used at Gräfenberg is a small flat tub. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 94/1 Combined Spray and Sitz Bath...Copper Sitz Bath in Cabinet Work.

2. A bath taken by means of this.

1852 BRISTED *Five Years Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 165 The daily purgatory of wet sheets, sitz baths, and the like. 1861 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* II. 318 We were..looking slightly blue after our sitz baths. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 750 A hot sitz-bath may be used.

Siue, Siuier, obs. forms of SIEVE, SIEVIER.

Sivaism (sī·vă,izm). [f. Skr. *Śiva* 'the auspicious one' (see def.) + -ISM.] The special worship of Siva, the third deity of the Hindu triad, to whom are attributed the powers of reproduction and dissolution.

1901 *Edin. Rev.* 7 Jan. 32 The lotus of Sivaism and of Isis. 1905 *Q. Rev.* July 200 The temper of Sivaism is not that of Buddhism.

Sivaistic (sīvă,i·stik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ISTIC.] Of or pertaining to the worship of Siva.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Sivaite (sī·vă,əit). [f. as prec. + -ITE.] One who specially worships Siva; an adherent of Sivaism. Also *attrib.* (Cf. SIVITE.)

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 815/2 Sankara Acharya, the great Sivaite reformer of the 8th century. 1883 *Ibid.* XV. 185/1 The Sivaites are most numerous in the extreme south and on the west coast.

Hence **Sivai·tic** *a.* (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*).

Sivathere (si·vă,þī·ə). [Anglicized form of next.] = SIVATHERIUM.

1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* xiv. 334 The Sivathere..had another pair [of horns] placed more towards the back of the head. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 337 By far the largest of all Ruminants was the gigantic Indian sivathere.

‖ **Sivatherium** (sivă,þī·ə·riŭm). *Palæont.* [mod. L., f. *Siva* the Hindu god + Gr. *θηρίον* wild beast.] A fossil ruminant of great size, with four horns, discovered in the Siwalik or Sub-Himalayan hills in Northern India.

1835 FALCONER & CAUTLEY in *Asiatic Res.* XIX. I. 2 We have named the fossil, *Sivatherium* [etc.]. *Ibid.* 22 The food of the Sivatherium was less herbaceous than that of existing horned ruminants. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* 457 The living Sivatherium must have resembled an immense Gnu or Antelope. 1886 GEIKIE *Class-bk. Geol.* XXVI. (1903) 393 The *Sivatherium* and *Bramatherium*—colossal, four-horned creatures, allied to our living antelopes and prong-bucks.

Sive (also 5–6, 9 syve, 6 syue, siue), variant spelling of *cive* CHIVE 1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Syvys, herbe. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 101 The moste parte of the writers of herballes in Germany, teach that our Sive..is porrum sativum. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Civet, cive*, or *Civette*, a chiboll, siues, scalions. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 171 Sives are a diminutive kind of Leek. 1874 MRS. WHITCOMBE *Bygone Days in Devon & Cornw.* 47 The fairies had even their musicians, whose hautboys were of syves.

Sive, obs. form of SIEVE.

†**Si·ved.** *Obs.* [OE. *sifeþa*, etc., f. the same stem as *sife* sieve.] *pl.* Siftings, bran.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* F 386 *Furfures*, sifiðan. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 11 Ðæt meolo ðurgcrypð zelc ðyrel, & þa syfeða [*v.r.* siofoða] weorðað asyndred. *c* 1000 *Sax.*

Leechd. II. 250 Oferwylle on þam selfan ecede sifeþan. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 78/2 Cyuedys, of mele, or brynne, *furfur, cantabrum. Ibid.* 457/1 Syvedys, or brynne, or palyys, *furfur.*

Hence † **Si·vedy** *a.*, full of bran. *Obs.*

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Herrig's Archiv* LVII. 290 Atte laste on Bord was brouht A Lof þat payed him riht nouht; Blac hit was and siuedi.

Siver, variant of Sc. SYVER, drain.

† **Si·ver,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Origin obscure.] *intr.* To simmer. Hence **Si·vering** *vbl. sb.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xx. ix, Colestocke ashes set over the fire untill it siver only, or have one walme at the most, is good for spasmes. *Ibid.* xxiii. ix, If they haue a little siuering or waulm ouer the fire.

† **Sivet, sivil.** *Obs.* (See quots.)

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. ix. 54 He shall not suffer any holes to be cut through the tree for to passe the stirrop leathers thorowe, but to haue stronge Siuills of yron wel reuited thorow the tree wherein to put your stirrop leathers. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 93/2 The *Sivets*, which are square rings in Plates, three on each side the tree to put the straps too. *Ibid.* ix. 397/1 The Sivett, is a square barr of Iron or square-Buckle, without a tonge, set to the sides of the Sadle-tree,..to hang the Straps at for the Girth, and the Leathers for the Stirrops.

Si·vite, variant of SIVAITE.

1882 *Missionary Herald* (Boston) 8 Feb. 68 Considerable opposition displayed by the Sivites. 1892 *Ibid.* Sept. 369 They answered that they were Sivite boys, and could not say Christian prayers.

Si·vvens. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 8 **cevenns,** 9 **sivens.** See also SIBBENS. [ad. local Gael. *suibhean* (commonly *suibheag* or *subhag*) raspberry: see quot. 1776.] An infectious skin disease formerly prevalent in Scotland.

1762 *Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S.) 235 A Distemper commonly called the Cevenns, which is believed to have been brought originally..by Oliver Cromwell's army. 1776 PENNANT *Tour in Scot.* II. App. 447 A loathsome and very infectious disease of the venereal kind, called the *Sivvens*. ..Sometimes a fungus appears in various parts of the body, resembling a rasberry, in the Erse language called *Sivven.* 1810 J. ADAMS *Hunter's Treat. Ven. Dis.* VII. 566 Of this kind [non-syphilitic] is the sivvens of Scotland. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 167 Yaws have been supposed by some writers to be a species of lues, and especially of that which in Scotland is denominated sibbens or sivens.

Siw(e, obs. forms of SUE *v.*

Six (siks), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: α. 1 **siox-, siex,** 1–5 **syx,** (1) 5–6 **syxe**; 1– **six** (4 **zix**), 3–7 **sixe.** β. 1–2 **seox,** 1–6 (*Sc.* 7–8) **sex,** 2–4 **sexe,** 5 **cex**(e. γ. *Sc.* 5– **sax.** [Common Teut.: OE. *sex, six, siex, syx*, etc., = OFris. *sex* (WFris. *sechs*, NFris. *soks*, etc.), MDu. *ses*(*se, zes*(*se, zees* (Du. *zes*), OS. *sehs, ses* (MLG. *sês, ses, sos*, LG. *ses, sös, sos*), OHG. and MHG. *sehs* (G. *sechs*), ON. (Icel., Norw., Sw., Da.) *sex* (MSw. *säx, siäx, siax,* etc., MDa. *sæx, siæx*), Goth. *saihs.* Cognate forms occur in all the Indo-European languages (as L. *sex*, Gr. ἕξ, etc.) and indicate an original **sueks.*

In OE. used either without change of form (esp. when attributive) or with plural declension *syxe, syxa, syxum.*]

The cardinal number next after five, represented by the symbols 6, VI, or vi.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with a sb. expressed.

α. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. 70 Siex mila from ðære byriz. *c* 901 *O. E. Chron.* an. 901, Her ȝefor Ælfred..syx nihtum ær ealra haliȝra mæssan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 1 Æfter six dazum. *c* 1124 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1124, Twezen sed-læpas to six scillingas. *c* 1205 LAY. 25979 þa six swin he to-droh. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2788 Sixe erles weren sone yare. 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Þis zenne him sseaweþ..ine zix maneres. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ix. 37 He had syx wyfes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 117 The maister had..vytaylled & laden.. six galeys. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 199 Some sixe or seuen fresh men set vpon vs. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 2 The Creation of the world in the six daies work. 1762 *Ann. Reg.* II. 21 Henry Fielding was in stature rather rising above six feet. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xiii, She..had probably completed her six lustres. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 152/1 Six drachms of Barbadoes aloes, six ounces of Epsom salts.

β. 835 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 449 An swin oððe sex weðras. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark ix. 2 Æfter dagum sexum. *Ibid.* John ii. 6 Stænene fato sexo. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 852, He scolde ȝife ilca ȝear..sex foður ȝearda. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 739 Sex ȝer and fiftene mo, Adde Abram on is elde do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7387 His suns sex þat war at hame. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2708 Of þir sex poynres I wil spek and rede. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 90 As þe heþun men had sex kyndis of similacris,..so han lordis now sex kyndis of prelatis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67 Cexe, *sex.* 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 65 By my computation your table sheweth sexe zones. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 348 Sex stone of talow...Sex payre of lyne shets. 1627 *Rep. Parishes Scotl.* (Bann. Club) 3 We walow it to be worth sex bollis ane husband land off rining wictuall. 1742 in *Scottish Jrnl. Topogr.* (1848) II. 62/1 To sex bottles sack.

γ. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* I. 39 The land aax yer, and moyr perfay, Ley desolat after hys day. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 107 Sax mulis chargit vitht gold. *c* 1615 SIR W. MURE (*title*), Sax Lynes wpon the Fall of Somersait. 1795 MACNEILL *Scotland's Skaith* xli, Wi' firm intention To drink sax nights out o' seven. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xlii, Ae night, sax weeks or thereby afore Bothwell Brig.

b. Followed by *hundred* or *thousand*, or the ordinals of these. Also *six-sevenths*, six (parts, etc.) out of seven.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. vii. 38 Pharon hæfde syx hund wiȝ-wægna..: þæt wæs syx hund þusenda manna. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 657, Æfter ure Drihtnes acennednesse seox hundred wintra. *c* 1205 LAY. 613 In þon castle he dude hende six hundred of his cnihten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2002 He had sex hundret yeir and an. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 67 Cex hundryd, *sexcenti.* 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 6 He beand bot sex thousand men. 1647 HEXHAM I. (Numbers), The sixe hundreth, *de ses hondertste.* 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xiii, Sax thousand years are near hand fled. 1855 TENNYSON *Lt. Brigade*, Into the valley of Death Rode the six hundred. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 13 Six-sevenths of the cases occurred between the ages of 40 and 70.

c. Coupled with a higher cardinal or ordinal numeral following, so as to form a compound (cardinal or ordinal) numeral.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 26 Mar. 50 On þone syx & twentezðan dæȝ þæs monðes. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 20 Feortiȝ & sex uintro getimbred uæs ðis tempel. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 233 Þre þousend & sixe & twenti þer [*v.r.* ȝer] was fram þe worldes bigynninge. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 96 Til I had mad þaim redy, in novmer sex & sexty. *c* 1425 *Cract Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 6 As þou seyst by þe comyne speche, Sex & twenty & nouȝt twenty & sex. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 223 The sixe and thirtieth Chapter treateth of the next text. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 16 Some fiue or six and thirty of his Knights. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 164 We sailed again the six-and-twentieth day after we came in. 1779 *Mirror* No. 47 ¶ 4 Tom is a young man of six-and-twenty. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* x, Six-and-twenty years of travel.

d. In special applications.

Six Acts, Articles (see quots.). *Six Clerks* (see SIX CLERK). *Six Nations* (see quots.). *Six Preachers* (in Canterbury Cathedral; hence the sing. *Six Preacher*).

1859 ROSSE *Index of Dates*, **Six Acts*, severely repressive measures, passed, 1819. 1862 TOUNSEND *Man. of Dates, Six Acts*,..six measures for the prevention of seditious meetings and the regulation of political publications. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. 231 Death being the penalty of such who were made guilty by the "six Articles. 1862 TOUNSEND *Man. of Dates, Six Articles, or Bloody Statute*,..an act (31 Hen. VIII, c. 14) passed June 28, 1539...The six articles enforced were transubstantiation, communion of one kind, celibacy of the clergy, vows of chastity, private masses, and auricular confession. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 112 Sir Julius Cæsar was then Master of the Rolls, and had.. the indubitable right and disposition of the "Six-Clerks' places. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2771/4 Lost..between St. Paul's Church-yard, and the Six Clerks-Office. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Six Clerks*, Officers in Chancery of great Account, next in Degree below the Twelve Masters. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 70/1 The office of Six Clerks is an office of great antiquity connected with the Court of Chancery, probably as ancient as the Court itself. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 6/2 'Which..are the "Six Nations?' 'The Mohawks, the Oneidas, the Onondegas, the Cayugas, the Senecas, and the Tuscaroras.' 1900 *Ibid.* 15 Jan. 10/1 The Six Nations Indian Reserve, Ontario...The Six Nation Indians number 3,500 to 4,000 souls. 1841 *Clergy List, Benefices* (219), "Six Preachers. James Reeve M.A. 1816 [etc.]. 1879 CROCKFORD *Cler. Directory* 469/1 Six Preacher of Cant. Cathl. 1874.

2. With ellipsis of sb., which may usually be supplied from the context.

α 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 1 Aug. 134 þa hyra syxe wæron acwealde beforan þære meder. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 298 Nullich of alle [mihtes] siggen, buten sixe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6842 (Kölbing), þo was þer of .xv. þousand Yleued bot sex bihinde. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6859 He sles oure men by fyue and six. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 43 Quhen thair was cum in fywe or sax, The Quenis Dog begowthe to rax. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 210 Gif God was maid of bittis of breid, Eit ȝe not oulklie sax or seuin. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 277 Heere haue beene Some sixe or seuen, who did hide their faces. 1673 *Humours Town* 95 A Declamation against the Act for Six in the Hundred. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 60 Wood's half-pence will come to be offered for six a penny. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 161 Let that day be blest,..Nobly distinguish'd above all the six. 1831 *Wilson's Amer. Ornith.* II. 180 Four inches long, and six in extent. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* III. vii. 401 Broken lines of foam, which sometimes rolled in six-deep.

b. More specifically with ellipsis of *pieces, years* (of age), *syllables* or *feet* (in verse), *points* (on a stag's horn), *inches*, or *pence* (as in 'ten and six').

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* lxv, Alle in sundur hit brast, In six or in seuyn. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 420 Ek oon yeer oolde Is good, & so til sixe on wol he holde. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 25 Well, we will haue such a Prologue, and it shall be written in eight and sixe. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Cur.* II. iii, Let him bear six, and six, that all may blaze him. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 507 At Westminster, where little poets strive To set a distich upon six and five. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. l, At six..he was a charming child. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *Trade W. Africa* 329 The average height..is five feet six to five feet eight.

c. With omission of *hours*, as *six o'clock.*

[1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 20 Fro mydnyght tyl sex of the belle yn the mornyng.] 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. v. 25 At six a clocke ith morning. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 273 Hee..tooke shipping..by sixe a clocke in the morning. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 14 At six they go all to study in a large Hall. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. viii, I set sail on the 24th day of September, 1701, at six in the morning. 1834 K. H. DIGBY *Mores Cath.* V. vi. 183 The rule in Du Guesclin's time was to rise and sup at six. 1888 LOWELL *Heartsease & Rue* 107 'Tis striking six! Sure never day Was short as this is!

attrib. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* XXV, I shall go on the six o'clock train. 1899 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 3/4 De Aar has been placed under martial law and a six-to-six curfew established.

d. With omission of *horses.*

1684 [see COACH *sb.* 4]. 1693 TATE in *Dryden's Juvenal* II. (1697) 30 You Nymphs that would to Coach and Six arrive. 1764 GRAY *Y. T.* 18 Not I—for a coronet, chariot and six. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 377 A coach and six is..never seen, except as part of some pageant. 1877 [see COACH *sb.* 4].

e. With omission of *shillings*; spec. in *six-and-eightpence* as a lawyer's fee; also *transf.*

α 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Six and eight-pence*, the usual Fee given, to carry back the Body of the Executed Malefactor, to give it Christian Burial. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 393 Flinging down a Portugal Six-and-thirty [=a Joanese]. 1756 FOOTE *Eng. fr. Paris* I, *Lat.* The Law..is the Bulwark...*Crab.* Mercy, good Six and Eight-pence. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Six and eight-pence*, an attorney, whose fee on several occasions is fixed at that sum. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 100 The six-and-eightpenny feeling..was too strong to be resisted. *Ibid.* 151 Cynics tell us, that..we shall find six-and-eightpence at the bottom of every thought and every action of mankind. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* x, I have..the interest of a friend rather than a lawyer. You don't suppose it's for the sake of the six-and-eightpence.

f. In phr. *six . . and half-a-dozen . .*, denoting that there is little or no difference or choice between two (sets of) persons or things.

1836 MARRYAT *Pirate* iv, I never knows the children. It's just six of one and half-a-dozen of the other. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* XXXVIII, 'What do they say about his chance?'..'Six and half-a-dozen, sir.' 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. xii. 256 My verdict is, six of one and half a dozen of the other.

3. = SIXTH *a.*

c 1385 in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 506 Oure pope Urban þo sex. *c* 1430 *Brut* CCXIII, And þe vj day come a nother Henauder. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. CCCXLVI. 547 Bartylmewe des Angles..receyued the papalyte, and was called Vrbayne the sixe. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 62 Make short either the two, foure, sixe, eight, tenne, twelue sillable, and it will..fall out very absurdly. 1603 PARSONS in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) II. 218 This 6 of July.

B. *sb.* **1.** The abstract number six, or the symbol denoting this.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXIX. (1495) 922 The nombre of syxe..is the fyrste perfyghte nombre of the euen partyes therof taken alle togyder. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 6 Write þe digit of þe nombur in þe first place þat is sex. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Senarius*, that is of the number of sixe. 1611 COTGR., *Sixiesme*,..a proportion of six. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Six*, a Primitive Number, compos'd of Four and Two, or Twice Three. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 13 Scarcely could ye counted sax, Before [etc.]. 1861 F. W. ROBINSON *No Church* II. i, Little boys who wore their hair in 'number sixes' at the temples, when law had left them hair sufficient for such ornamentation.

2. Chiefly *pl.* a. A set of six spots or pips on a die, domino, or card; also, a card, etc., having six pips or spots. (Cf. SICE.)

1599 MINSHEU *Percivall's Sp. Dict.* Dial. 26 R. I did lift an ace.—L. I a fower.—M. I a sixe. 1663 COWLEY *Ess., Danger of Procrastination*, 'Tis a hundred to one, if a man fling two Sixes. 1863 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gladiators* I. 410 One more throw for the Sixes and the great game is fairly won. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* III. viii, Venn lifted the box, and behold a triplet of sixes was disclosed. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 734/2 You have thrown double-sixes.

b. A set of six persons.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 36 The standard and its coverer each in the middle of the two center ranks of sixes. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiii, On every road of Spain..may be seen gangs of fives and sixes of these people. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* ix, He's been courted by Sixes and Sevens—all the girls..have tried him.

3. *pl.* In various elliptic uses.

a. Lines of six syllables. †b. Sixpenny nails. †c. ? Spirits. †d. *Mus.* Intervals of a sixth. e. Gloves, shoes, etc., of the sixth size. f. Six-pounder guns. g. Some form of cake. h. Candles weighing six to the pound. i. Six-inch flower-pots. j. Bonds bearing interest at 6 per cent.

a. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 59 The first [line] hauing eyght sillables, the second sixe, wherof the two sixes shall alwayes ryme. 1891 J. C. PARSONS *English Versification* 36 Sixes and four. Iambic trimeter and dimeter. *Ibid.*, Sevens and sixes. b. 1629 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For one hundred of fines and one hundred of sixes xjd. c. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Xmas Day* 14 Were ere such dregs mix'd with Geneva sixes? d. 1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Musick* 44 Observe those two Parts that proceed always by Sixes. *Ibid.* 45 Before we had a Knowledge of these small and great Sixes, it was almost impossible to add two Parts with these Sixes. e. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 97 When..a shoemaker..came to take measure of him, he told him, 'O..long sixes or short sevens will do'. f. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 409 A Ship Privateer, carrying sixteen twelves and sixes. 1812 in *Examiner* (1813) 4 Jan. 6/2 Carronades of different calibres, with two long sixes. g. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 51 The..ginger-bread bakers coaxingly insinuate them among their new made sixes. h. 1829 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* V, A serious injunction "not to take out sixes for tens'. 1826 LAMB *Pop. Fallacies* XV, Man found out long sixes.—Hail candle-light! 1843 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* ii, An imaginary general illumination of very bright short-sixes. i. 1851 *B'ham. & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 31, I ordered..200 pots, (size full sixes). j. 1867 *Nation* 10 Oct. 295 The bonds became known as the 'Sixes of 1861'. 1893 *Daily News* 29 June 2/5 Mexican Sixes have dropped further 3¼ per cent.

4. † a. Six-shilling beer. In later use *pl.*

1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies* xii. 97 How this threede-bare Philosopher shruggs, shifts, and shuffles for a cuppe of six. 1655 R. YOUNGE *Agst. Drunkards* 3 Nor hath the richest Sherrie, or old Canarie any more operation with them, than a cup of six hath with me. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Six and Tips*, whisky and small beer (Irish). 1796 *Ibid.* (ed. 3), *Sixes*, small beer, formerly sold at six shillings the barrel. 1810 in *Anc. Brit. Drama* II. 461, I suppose he means small beer, which, among the vulgar, still goes by the cant name of sixes.

b. Sixpennyworth.

1872 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 107 Nothin'..but six of pale brandy neat got her round again.

5. In phrases with *six and seven, sixes and sevens*, etc., originally denoting the hazard of one's whole fortune, or carelessness as to the consequences of one's actions, and in later use the creation or existence of, or neglect to remove, confusion, disorder, or disagreement.

The original form of the phrase, *to set on six and seven*, is based on the language of dicing, and is probably a fanciful alteration of *to set on cinque and sice*, these being the two highest numbers. Subsequent variations arise from the use of *at* for *on*, of *or* for *and*, of other verbs in place of *set*, and of the plurals *sixes* and *sevens*; the latter became the standard form in the 18th cent. To illustrate the development more clearly, the chief types are here grouped in separate paragraphs.

(*a*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 622 Lat nat this wrechched wo thyn herte gnawe, But manly set the world on sexe and seuene. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 128, I shall, and that in hy, set all on sex and seuen. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scotl.* I. 654 Quha..settis all his thrift on sax and sevin. 1542 UDALL *Apoph.* 267 b, There is a prouerbe, *omnem iacere aleam*, to cast all dyce, by which is signified, to sette all on sixe & seuen. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B iv, I'm in a wood, ..Yet o're my head a threatning Rocke still hingeth..; Twixt wood and rocke, I stand on six and seauen. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Desesperade, Ioüer à la desesperade*, to set his whole rest, or set all on sixes, and seuens.

(*b*) 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 43 Yet had he leuer marre and destroy al, and (as they saye) set all at six and seuen, then [etc.]. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 38 Old Laertes..caring for all other things else, sets his owne estate at sixe and seauen. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* To Rdr., I haue set all at six and seuen, and I intend by the Muses favour happilie to go on. 1622 JACKSON *Judah* 56 To become cold, carelesse, and negligent, set all at six and seven.

(*c*) 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* CXXXVI. 833 Not to runne and scratch for other mens goods, as if they were left at sixe and seuen. 1592 *Repentance R. Greene* G.'s Wks. (Grosart) XII. 179 Then left I her [my wife] at six or seuen, who went into Lincolneshire, and I to London. 1648 T. HILL *Dying Saints* 19 Do not let things lie at six and sevens..any longer. 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Cardinals* II. 1. 127 They leave things at sixes and sevens. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 888 The goddess..Left all below at Six and Sev'n. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Left at sixes and sevens*, in confusion, commonly said of a room where the furniture, etc. is scattered about, or of a business left unsettled. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 317, I was sick of the labour by two o'clock and left several of my books and all of my papers at sixes and sevens. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., He's gone away in such a hurry, he has left everything at sixes and sevens.

(*d*) 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 528 He let the affaires of his kingdome runne at six and at sevens. *a* 1620 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 151 She doth nothing with discretion, but hurleth all about at six and seven. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. viii. 369 The worship of God lying at sixes and sevens, the Government of the Church meer Anarchy. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. i, His Affairs went on at sixes and sevens. 1764 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 345 It was owing to the Six-and-seven way of going on of things in the heathen world. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. vii. P 3 The affairs of the treasurer..are all at sixes and sevens. 1862 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 172 The line of a railway..puts all precedent things at sixes-and-sevens. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Sept. 15/3 [These] differences.. have for a long time kept society in Sofia at sixes and sevens.

(*e*) *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Alsop's State of Conform.* Wks. 1711 IV. 118 His zeal swallowing his concern for his Family, things were run to sixes and sevens. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 126 If I was to go from home..every thing would soon go to sixes and sevens. 1846 MRS. CARLYLE in *New Lett.* (1903) I. 219 With her departure everything went to sixes and sevens.

C. *Comb.* **1.** Combining (usually hyphened) with a sb. and forming an attrib. compound, as *six-bar* (gate), *six-bottle* (man), etc.

Common during the 19th cent., and very freq. in recent use.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 P 3 She..makes nothing of leaping over a *Six-bar Gate. 1868 *U. S. Rep. Munit. War* 286 Two of the *six barrel, and one of the ten barrel improved guns. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 109 A *six-bottle-man, that is to say, one who can make such a tun of his corporation, as to carry off six bottles of wine at one sitting. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 303 On land that will carry beans, he thinks a *six-course shift the best. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 131 Five-day ague..*Six-day ague. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* III. 45 It does not agree with the scheme of the *six-days creation. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Feb. 1/2 An eight hours day and a six days week stand in the forefront of the workman's programme. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 132 A *six-ell ridge about 198 feet broad. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Trimeters*, ancient lyrical verses of a *six-feet measure. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4515/3 A *six gun Privateer taken by the Crown. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 112 The lowest size of a Wiltshire down farm, that can be managed to advantage, is a good *six horse business. 1822 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 114 Cobb & Co.'s line of six-horse coaches. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXII, The entire repulse of the French under Ney after a *six hours' battle. 1762 in Sir J. Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 176 Carts to have *six-inch Wheels. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 23 This six-inch gun is stopped dead in eighteen inches. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 30 The sun was low enough to allow me to venture on a *six-mile walk. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 268 *Six month Clocks have two extra wheels and pinions between the great and centre wheels. 1887 I. R. *Rancho Life Montana* 46 From a *six-months' calf to very old cows. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 580 A ground plan..of a *six-pot furnace. 1896 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725/3 *Six-quarter-cattle*, (Fife), from eighteen months to two years old. 1892 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 203 He is a *six-season hunter. 1624 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. i, Give me the man can start up a justice of wit, out of *six shillings beer. 1679 EVELYN *Pomona* (ed. 3) Pref., When.. our Citizens..shall come to drink it [cider] moderately diluted, (as now they do six-shilling Beer, in London and other places). 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Nov. 5/1 The length requisite for a six-shilling novel. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 23 *Six Spot Burnet. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* Gloss. s.v. *Sheep*, [Sheep are called] *six-teeth [wethers or ewes] from the shear-time after three years old. 1872 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 134/2 The difference between a four and a six tooth wether. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. i. 3 A *six Thred-line or small Belch. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 267 You'll make a wry face upon *six-water grog. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 292 *Six-water Grog*,..the weakest grog possible—six portions of water to one of rum. 1851 *Westm. Rev.* July 368 A *six wheel tank engine. 1898 *Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* IX. 293, I find that practical dentists are in the habit of speaking of the first permanent molar tooth as 'the *six year molar'.

b. In phr. *six-year(s)-old* used attrib. or absol.

1630 M. GODWYN tr. *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* 220 The six yeare old Queene. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4342/3 A Plate.. shall..be run for..by Six Years old Mares. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lviii, My wife..wears shoes for a six-years-old child. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 2/3 This six-year-old has a very light weight to carry.

c. In various attributive combs.

1858 HOGG *Life Shelley* II. 158 Thrice in the week did the six-inside coach plough its reluctant course to town. 1889 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 2/5 The minister never came down out of his six-by-four pulpit to be cross-examined. 1895 *Times* 10 Sept. 4/2 The Football Association..[is] prohibiting all six-a-side competitions.

2. Parasynthetic, as *six-angled, -arched, -barred*, etc.; sometimes in specific names of animals, birds, etc., as *six-banded, -lined, -plumed* (see quots.).

Many examples of this type occur in recent use.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXI. (Percy Soc.) 99 With knottes *sixeangled, gay and glorious, The rose did hange. 1682 GREW *Museum* I. ii. i. 18 Not of triangular, but six-angl'd and square pieces. 1893 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *C. Furze* i, A *six-arched stone bridge. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 1. 189 *Six-banded Armadillo. 1879 E. P. WRIGHT *Anim. Life* 213 The Six-banded Armadillo..is a native of Brazil. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 58 They met with a *six-barred gate. 1881 *Times* 15 Jan. 5/6 The *six-barrelled Gatling..fired 267. 1877 W. BLACK *Green Past.* xi. 89 He..took out a *six-chambered revolver. 1552 HULOET, *Sixe cornered. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 239 Pointed with sixe cornerd or foure cornerd smooth sides. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 271/1 Peduncles very short, solitary, *six-flowered. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* V. 164 The window..consists of two trefoiled lights, with a *sixfoiled circle in the lead. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv, And art thou there *six footed Mercury? 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 231 Words of six-footed dimension. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* Prol. 15 Priams *six-gated City. 1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 21 *Six-Gilled Shark...Grey Shark. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, During the emptying of a *six-hooped pot. 1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 12 The Vulgar shout to see their *six-inch'd King. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 181 Body *six-jointed, the last segment largest. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Convolvulus*, The smaller five or *sixleav'd hairy bindweed of Ceylon. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 11 The *Six-legg'd Nation [sc. ants] in the Fields appears. 1874 LUBBOCK *Metam. Ins.* i. 16 The larva is minute, six-legged, and very active. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 240 *Six-lined Lizard. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2023/4 A *six Oared Barge never used above four or five times. 1809 BRYDONE *Tour Sicily* xiii. 155 This is a small six-oared boat, made entirely for speed. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 25 The *Six-plumed Bird of Paradise. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxiv. (ed. 3) 405 Its *six-pointed mullets charged upon a field of Warrenne. 1888 RUTLEY *Rockforming Min.* 193 A small *six-rayed star has been developed. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 24 The other has its Stems *six-rib'd. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 423 A neat *six-roomed cottage. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 419 Both the four rowed and the *six rowed barley. 1896 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 183 The six-rowed barley is said to be hardy and prolific. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. ix, A *six-shared horse-hoe. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* D ij, The king..saued him from the ierke of the *six string'd whip. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* III. ix, This obsolete six-stringed instrument. 1696 PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* XXVII. (1697) 524 These Hangings..were made of simple fine *sixthreded Linen. 1812 W. STEVENSON *Agric. Dorset* 421 They..are called by the name of two-toothed, four-toothed, and *six-toothed ewes. 1846 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 29 The old plan of keeping flocks until six-toothed is become quite obsolete. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 90/2 The question of four and *six-wheeled engines. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 204 Some cast on *Six-wing'd Seraphs envious eye.

3. In comb. with sbs. ending in *-er*, as *six-footer, -roomer, -wheeler*.

Other examples, as *six-incher*, etc., occur in recent use.

1844 HEWLETT *Parr. & W.* XXXIII, I..inquired of a second *six-footer. 1887 BLACK *S. Zembra* 192 Scarcely a man of the family less than a six-footer! 1897 *Outing* XXX. 144 Some of the big six-footers (commonly called 'old sojers' or 'old man kangaroos'). 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 115 A remnant of land too small for another *six-roomer. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 158 The longest *six-wheeler is fifty-four feet [long].

4. In advb. sense, = 'in six parts', as *six-cleft, -parted, -partite*.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Lett. Bot.* XXVIII. 439 The corol is six-parted; and the stamens are usually eighteen. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 231 The Six-cleft Plume..appears early in spring. 1861 HULME *Wild Fl.* Introd. p. viii, Perianth campanulate, six-partite. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 167/2 A very short six-cleft somewhat spreading limb.

5. Miscellaneous, as six-ale (see quot. 1898); **six-bar**, a six-barred gate; **six-branchial** *a.*, six-gilled; **six-chamber**, a six-chambered revolver; †**six-double** *a.*, sixfold; **six-four** (see quot.); **six-oar**, a six-oared boat; **six-shot, six-stroke**, a stroke in billiards counting six points; **six-tooth** (cf. *six-tooth* C. 1 and *six-toothed* C. 2).

1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. I. 132 '*Six ale' is a mixture of one at fourpence a pot with one at eightpence a pot in equal proportions. 1841 LYTTON *Night & M.* I. iv, We will..take the gate yonder—the old *six-bar. 1862 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 21 *Six-Branchial Shark. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 9 July 289/1, I slipped..a neat..*six-chamber into my hip-pocket. 1552 HULOET, *Sixe dowble, *sexcuplus*. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 70 The second inversion, consisting of a note with its 4th and 6th, is termed the Chord of the *Six-four. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* vii. 57 Where [were] the fellows who could tool a team or steer a *six-oar? 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 98/2 A *six-stroke is made by playing at the red, and pocketing it and your own. 1878 *Wilts. Arch. Mag.* XVII. 303 We have wether hogs.., and four-tooths, and *six-tooths.

Sixain (si·ksḗin, ‖ sizeñ). Also 6 syx-, sixaine, sizeine. [a. F. *sixain* (OF. *sisain, sizain*), f. *six* six.]

1. A stanza of six lines. (Cf. SEXTAIN.)

1575 GASCOIGNE *Notes of Instruction* Wks. 1907 I. 472 There are Dyzaynes, & Syxaines,..commonly used by the French. *Ibid.* 473 Dizaynes and Sixaines [serve] for shorte Fantazies. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* (Arb.) 79 The first proportion..of a staffe is by *quadrien* or foure verses... The third by *sizeine* or sixe verses. *Ibid.* 101 The *Sixaine* or staffe of sixe hath ten proportions. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1841 BORROW *Zincali* III. i. 6 Occasionally, sixains or stanzas of six lines, are to be found. 1881 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 15 Jan. 40 The tendency of a sonnet to split into a huitain and a sixain.

†**2.** *Mil.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[e]

Merely copied from some French work, such as Furetière's Dict., and never actually used in English. Hence in later Dicts., as Harris, Kersey, James, etc.

1702 *Milit. Dict.* (1708), *Sixain*, an ancient Order of Battle for six Batalions...Twelve Batalions will make two Sixains, eighteen will make three, and so on.

Sixareen: see SIXERN.

Six Clerk. Now only *Hist.* Also **Six-Clerk.** [See SIX *a.* 1 d.] One of the six official clerks formerly connected with the Court of Chancery.

The office was abolished in 1842; for a full account of its history see the *Penny Cycl.* (1842) XXII. 70–72.

1625 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 316 A Moiety of a Six Clerk's place in Chancery. 1659 *England's Conf.* 11 Mr. Smith a Six Clerk. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 189 A good natured six-clerk took a fancy to the young man. 1813 *Act* 53 *Geo. III*, c. 129 Any Office or Offices of a Six Clerk or Six Clerks of the Court of Chancery in Ireland. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 70/2 In 1630 the office of Six-Clerk was, if not a sinecure, at least an appointment of great value.

Sixer (si·ksəɹ). *colloq.* [f. SIX *a.* + -ER[1]. Cf. G. *sechser*.]

1. Anything that counts as six (as a hit for six runs at cricket).

1870 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 452 It is not difficult to hit sixers to leg. 1905 VACHELL *Hill* xii, Never before in an Eton and Harrow match have two 'sixers' been hit in succession.

2. *slang.* **a.** Six months' hard labour.

1869 *Temple Bar* Apr. 75 The next bit I did was a 'sixer'. 1900 *Daily News* 6 Nov. 9/1 The prisoner..said, 'It don't matter whether I get a sixer or a stretch'.

b. A sixth term of imprisonment.

1872 [see FIVER 3].

c. A six-ounce loaf.

1877 *Five Yrs. Penal Servitude* iii, He keeps a sharp eye on that man to see he does not 'filch' a 'sixer', as the six ounce loaf served with dinner, is called. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Nov. 3/1 The 'sixers' of old..had become eight-ounce loaves for men.

Sixern (si·ksəm). *Shetland.* Also **sixareen, sixereen**, etc. [repr. ON. *sexæringr* (Norw. *seksæring, seksring*), f. *sex* six + *dr* oar.] A six-oared boat.

1866 EDMONSTON *Gloss. Shetl.* 103 *Sixareen*, a six-oared Norway skiff. 1881 *Standard* 9 Aug. 6/3 The 'Sixern'.. will not on the average exceed 19 ft. in length by about 5 ft. or 6 ft. in breadth and 4 ft. in depth. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 46 Model of a 'Sixern', 'Sixareen', or six-oared yawl.

Si·xfoil. *Arch.* and *Her.* [f. SIX, after *quatre-, cinquefoil*.] An ornamental design (or opening) having the form of six leaflets or petals radiating from a common centre.

1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* ii. § 21. 53 The double sub-arch decorated..with quatrefoils, sixfoils, and septfoils, in the transept towers of Rouen. 1864 [see CINQUEFOIL *sb.* 2 b]. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xv. 194 In early blazoning but little difference appears to have been recognized between sixfoils and roses.

Sixfold (si·ksfōld), *a.* Also 1 **sixfeald**, 5 **sex(e)fold**, 6–7 **sixefolde**, 7 **-fold, sixfould.** [f. SIX *a.* + -FOLD. Cf. ON. *sexfaldr*, MSw. *siäxfald*, Da. *sexfold*, MHG. *sehsvalt*.] Consisting of six together; comprising six things, kinds, etc.; also, six times as great or as numerous; sextuple.

a 1000 in WR.-WÜLCKER 230 *Exagonum*, sixfeald. *Exametro heroico*, sixfealdum leoþcræfte. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 10 This sexefold propyrte Of the margaryte. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 91 Sex fold takle with a robenett. 1552 in HULOET. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* B ij, Sextupla. 6 to 1: 12 to 2..Sixefolde. 1609 [J. MELTON] (*title*), A Sixe-folde Politician; together with a Sixe-folde Precept of Policy. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiv. 182 Wee shewed a sixfold difference. 1733 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 II. 206, I have given you a sixfold View of that Christian fortitude. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III.

94 The mouth of this fish is furnished with (sometimes) a sixfold row of teeth. 1823 H. J. Brooke *Introd. Crystallogr.* 59 The primary planes of those forms which possess fourfold or sixfold cleavages. 1882 Farrar *Early Chr.* II. 29 The sixfold woe of Isaiah (Is. v. 1–30) on greed, and luxury, and unbelief, and pride, and injustice, and the reversal of moral truths.

Si·x-foot, *a.* [See Six C. 1.]

1. Measuring six feet in length, breadth, or height.

a 1683 Oldham *Par. Horace* II. xiv. 4 To have but the small pittance of a six-foot Grave. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xi. 113 To make a Six-Foot Ridge very high, will sometimes require more Furrows. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. viii, Each one a six-foot bow could bend. 1823 Byron *Juan* IX. xlvi, But they were mostly nervous six-foot fellows. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 301 The pump..worked on a six-foot stroke.

b. *Six-foot way*, the space between two parallel railway lines; also with ellipse of *way*.

1861 *Star & Dials* 21 Oct., The third [truck] was simply knocked into the six-foot. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 559 The distance between the two pairs of rails (popularly called the six-foot) is here wider than usual.

2. Containing six (metrical) feet.

1891 J. C. Parsons *English Versification* 98 The existence [in Shakspere] of occasional six-foot lines is generally admitted. [Cf. *six-feet* s.v. Six C. 1.]

Six-footer: see Six C. 3.

‖ **Sixieme.** *Obs. rare.* Also **sixiesm.** [F. *sixième* († *sixiesme*, etc.), f. *six* six.] A sequence of six cards at piquet. *Sixieme major*, one consisting of ace, king, queen, knave, ten, and nine.

1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* IV. i, 'Twas won fairly: a Sixieme, and Fourteen by Aces. *Ibid.*, 14 by Aces, and a Sixieme Major. 1674 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 60 You must reckon..for a Sixiesm sixteen.

Sixpence (si·kspĕns). Also *Sc.* 8– **saxpence.** [f. Six *a.* + Pence.]

1. A sum of money equal in value to six pennies.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 36 Wheber þis be charite to curse a man for sexe pans. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 273, I sall pray my moder to gif me vjd & þat I sall giff you. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 6 For the vnder Clerk vj d for euer. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. ii. 20 Thus hath he lost sixepence a day, during his life; he could not haue scaped sixpence a day. 1641 Hakewill *Libertie of Subject* 70 There shoulde be paid..six pence of the pound upon all other Merchandizes. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* I. (1721) 44 In hopes of Sixpence and their Dinners. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 444 Every person in England is computed by some to spend six-pence a day. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 83 That Bible, bought by sixpence weekly saved. 1846 Dickens *Cricket on Hearth* ii. 65 As near the real thing as six-penn'orth of halfpence is to sixpence.

Comb. 1828 Scott *Jrnl.* 22 April, An extra sixpence worth of snuff. 1875 A. R. Hope *My Schoolboy Fr.* 76 We bought sixpenceworth of chocolate.

2. A British silver coin worth six pennies.

1598 [see Mill *sb.*[1] 10]. 1659 [see Milled *ppl. a.* 2]. *c* 1675 R. Cromwell in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIII. 93 As much as will lye upon a sixpence. 1707 Sibbald *Scotland* (1739) I. 24 The Size of the late Coin'd English Sixpence. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 551, I found the peritonæum..to be of the thickness of a six-pence. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 294 Lady Bell protested she had not a six-pence in her pocket. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. xi, I have no assurance..that Emma Lovell cares one single sixpence about me. 1886 Pascoe *London of To-day* iv. (ed. 3) 65 The 'Zoo' on Monday,..when a sixpence opens the gate to the neediest.

b. Applied to Spanish coins. In later use *U.S.*

1563 *Child Marriages* 58 Well she remembres he send her a Spanish vj[d]. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Sixpence*, the New York name for the Spanish half-real.

c. *transf.* Used familiarly as a nickname or designation.

1600 Nashe *Summers Last Will & Test.* 857 Young sixpence, the best page his master hath, playes a little, and retires. 1899 Westcott *David Harum* vii, Ann and Jeff are just the same old sixpences as ever.

d. *colloq.* (See first quots.)

1772 R. Graves *Spir. Quixote* (1783) I. 225 Beginning to spit six-pences (as his saying was), he gave hints to Mr. Wildgoose to stop at the first public-house. 1799 Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 419 Expectoration of a little frothy mucus, such as are vulgarly called sixpences. 1889 A. G. Murdoch *Sc. Readings* Ser. III. 60 See if ye can bring us in half-a-mutchkin, for I'm spittin' white sixpences.

Sixpenny (si·kspĕni), *a.* and *sb.* [Six *a.*]

1. *Sixpenny nail*, a nail originally costing sixpence per hundred. (See Penny 10.) Also *fig.*

1426–7 [see Penny 10]. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 16, cc vj peny nailes xij[d]. 1494–5 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (ed. Swayne) 43 Pro clauis voc' sixpeny nayle iijd. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* 128 Rap at the wicket with the sixpenny nayle of modesty. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 244 Four Penny, and Six Penny Nails, used for Pantile Lathing. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 309 A prepared Six-penny (or..a Ten-penny) Nail. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 119/1 A six-penny nail, 73 to the lb., 2¾ inches long. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* App. 46 The force required to draw a 'sixpenny nail' of 73 to the lb.

2. Of persons: That may be hired for sixpence; earning no more than sixpence; worth only sixpence; paltry, petty.

Common as a depreciatory term *c* 1590–1630.

1601 Preston *K. Cambyses* B iij, *Ruff.* I will giue thee sixpence to lie one night with thee. *Mer.* Gogs hart, slaue, doost thinke I am a sixpeny Jug? 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* Epist., The birthright of euerie six pennie slaue. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 82, I am ioyned with no Footland-Rakers, no Long-staffe six-penny strikers. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* III. i, Swaggering, suburbian roarers, Sixpenny truckers. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* II. iii, The poorest peasant that ever was yok'd to a sixpenny strumpet. 1788 Burns *Let. to Mrs. Dunlop* 21 Jan., Lately I was a sixpenny private, and, God knows, a miserable soldier enough.

3. Costing, or priced at, sixpence.

1591 Nashe *Pref. Sidney's Astr. & Stella*, An Asse is no great statesman..though he..look as demurely as a sixpenny browne loafe. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* II. ii, Bring him a sixpenny bottle of ale. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1348/4 Eight pieces of Six-peny broad black taffaty Ribon. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 Apr., I went to town in the sixpenny stage to-day. 1760–72 Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 110 A shilling, to buy two six-penny loaves. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 11 Mar. 3/5 It is generally accepted..that the sixpenny reprint has come to stay.

b. Bringing in sixpence; having a subscription of sixpence; selling articles at sixpence.

1673 *Humours Town* 29 To make the Voyage of the Strand..in search of some Six-penny Adventure. 1807 Syd. Smith *P. Plymley's Lett.* iv, I hear from some persons in Parliament, and from others in the sixpenny societies for debate [etc.]. 1888 *Daily News* 23 Nov. 7/2 A 'sixpenny bazaar', an emporium where any article on sale was to be had for a sixpence.

c. As *sb.* A book (*esp.* a novel) or magazine published at sixpence.

1894 *Literary World* 30 Nov. 432/1 Has the knell of the solid Sixpennies been sounded?

4. Amounting to, having the value of, sixpence. *Sixpenny bit* or *piece*, = Sixpence 2.

1592 Greene *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 3 A sixpenny reward in signe of my superficiall liberality. 1605 *London Prodigal* v. i. 72 Ile not let a sixepennie-purse escape me. 1712 H. Prideaux *Direct. Ch.-Wardens* (ed. 4) 99 This is done for the base Lucre of a Six-penny or Twelve-penny Fee. 1842 Bischoff *Wool Manuf.* II. 157 A sixpenny duty on the import. 1852 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 335 Non-reading men play..for the lowest possible (sixpenny) points. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 837 It is round or oval, the size of a threepenny or sixpenny piece.

Sixpennyworth (sikspe·niwɤɪþ). Also **sixpenn'orth** (sikspe·nəɪþ). [f. Six *a.* + Penny + Worth *sb.*] As much as is worth sixpence; an amount which is or may be bought for sixpence.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 502 Sixe peny worthe of yerely rente. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 5 Apr., This rain ruins me in coach-hire; I walked away sixpennyworth. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Characters* viii, Ninety-seven sixpenn'orths of gin-and-water. 1884 *Graphic* 13 Sept. 278/1 A marvellous Six-pennyworth.

Six-pounder (si·kspaundəɹ). [f. Six *a.* + Pounder *sb.*[4]]

1. A cannon throwing shot six pounds in weight.

1684 J. Peter *Relat. Siege of Vienna* 108 Six pounders, 2. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 169 Four six pounders, four four pounders, and two swivels. 1790 Beatson *Naval & Milit. Mem.* II. 166 A light brass six-pounder to be fixed in the bow of their long-boat. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 347/1 The report was smart like that of a six-pounder. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* V. xx. 568 Cornwallis planted ..some six-pounders on his own left.

fig. 1797 in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) I. viii. 263 Clerk and I are continually obliged to open a six-pounder upon him in self-defence.

attrib. 1810 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 220 The Portuguese six pounder brigade.

b. A shot weighing six pounds.

1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 628 He was himself hit by a second ball, a sixpounder.

† **2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Six pounder*, a servant maid, from the wages formerly given to maid servants, which was commonly six pounds.

Si·xscore, *a.* Now *arch.* [f. Six *a.* + Score *sb.* 16.] Six times twenty, one hundred and twenty.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5353, I am sex scor and ten yeir ald. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 183 Hue may ney as moche do in a mounthe one As 3oure secret seel in sexscore dayes. 1489 *Mater. Reign Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 445 Diverse summes of money amounting to the sum of sex score poundes sterlinges. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* ix. 14 And Hiram sent vnto the kynge sixe score hundreth weight of Golde. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xiii. 363 There was a staire of stone of sixscore steppes. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Two Oxford Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 9 His living was commonly reputed worth sixscore pounds a year. 1814 Southey *Carmina Aulica* ii. 2 Sixscore full years have pass'd. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. II. 59 Fifty were their barks and each Held sixscore youths of the Bœotian race.

Si·x-shooter. [See Six C. 3.] A revolver capable of firing six shots without reloading; a six-chambered revolver. Also *fig.*

1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxv. 250 The imaginary powers of the angekok-soak and the marvellous six-shooter which attested them. 1865 Lowell *Wks.* (1890) V. 267 Every senator seems to carry..a sort of legislative six-shooter. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 207/2 A valiant wielder of the brush brought up the rear with a six-shooter.

attrib. a 1894 C. H. Pearson in Stebbing *Life* (1900) 134 There were only two laws..in Julesburg—lynch law and six-shooter law.

Hence **Si·x-shooting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1887 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Apr. 370 The Home Secretary sees no reason for legally interfering with the unrestricted enjoyment of six-shooting. 1896 *Daily News* 24 Jan. 3/4 By his side was a six-shooting revolver.

Six-sided, *a.* [f. Six *a.* + Side *sb.*[1]] Having six sides; hexagonal.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 756 Some were pyramidal, constituted on a six-sided Basis. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 739/2 Prisms, terminated by six-sided pyramids. 1821 Jameson *Man. Min.* 194 Its most frequent crystallization is the acute six-sided pyramid. 1859 Huxley *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 65 Hydrophyllium six-sided. 1877 — *Physiogr.* 58 These shapes usually look like little six-sided towers.. terminated at one end..by a short six-sided spire.

Hence **Six-sidedness.**

1883 Drummond *Nat. Law Spir. W.* 371 There is a six-sidedness, as it were, in the very nature of this substance.

Sixsome (si·ks,sʊm). Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5 **sex sum,** 5–9 *Sc.* **saxsum.** [f. Six *a.* + -some. Cf. OFris. *sexasum* (WFris. *sechstesum*, *seizesum*).]

1. a. As one of six; with five others. *Obs.*

b. Six in all; six together. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Oros.* I. i. 18 Þara he sæde þæt he syxa sum ofsloge syxtiz on twam dagum. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 231 And syne his suerd he swappit out,..And slew sex sum weill soyn and ma. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 471, I am sengilly here, with sex sum of knyghtes. 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 703 Saxsum thar com, and brocht bot cartis thre. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v. *Sum.*

2. As *adj.* Performed by six persons together.

1888 Saxby *Lads of Lunda* 216 The set began a sixsome reel.

† **Six-square,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. Six, after *three-*, *four-*, *five-square.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Having six (linear) sides; hexagonal.

c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 305 A Challes withe a patten gilte, the foote of vj square. 1577 Googe *Heresb. Husb.* IV. (1586) 175 Their Celles, or lodgings, made every one sixe square. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 456 He beareth Gules, a six Square Tower. 1699 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* 7 Below the Castle Hill..stands a noble old Monument. It is six square. 1713 Warder *True Amazons* 59 Cells.. which are Mathematically Six Square.

2. Having six superficial sides; of the form of a cube; cubical.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* III. I. (1636) 273 Made like a six-square Dy. 1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. iii, Upon a six-square piece of ivory.

B. *sb.* A hexagon.

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1499/4 The hours engraven in a six-square.

Sixt(e, obs. forms of Sixth.

‖ **Sixte** (sikst). [F. *sixte* sixth.] A particular position in fencing.

1885 E. Castle *Schools & Masters of Fence* 138 It is.. probable that seven out of the eight modern parries, 'prime, seconde, tierce, quarte, sixte..' were practised..in the early days of Louis XIV.'s reign. 1889 Pollock *Fencing* (Badm.) p. xi, Time Thrust in Sixte.

Sixteen (siksti·n, si·kstīn), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **syx-, sixtyne,** 3–4 **sixtene,** 5–6 **syxtene,** 6–7 **sixteene,** 7– **sixteen** (7 **-tein**). *β.* 1–6 **sextene** (5 **cex-**), 4–6 **sexten,** 4 **sextiene,** 5 **sex-, cexteyn(e;** *Sc.* 5 **saxten,** 6 **-tine,** 7 **sextine.** [OE. *syx-*, *six-*, *sexlyne* (see Six *a.* and -teen), = OFris. *sextine*, *-tene* (WFris. *sčchstjin*, NFris. *sokstain*, etc.), MDu. *sestien* (Du. *zestien*), OS. *se(h)stein* (MLG. *sestein*, LG. *ses-*, *sös-*, *sostein*), OHG. *seh(s)zën* (G. *sechzehn*, † *sechszehn*), ON. and Icel. *sextán* (Sw. *sexton*, Da. *sexten*).] The cardinal number composed of ten and six, represented by the symbols 16, XVI, or xvi.

A. *adj.* 1. In concord with a sb. expressed.

a. a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 4 Mar., Sixtyne monaþ hi wæron somod. *c* 1205 Lay. 26658 Arður þider hafde isend sixtene þusund baldere Brutten. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 115 Sixtene bischopus al-so þis dede to ende bringue. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* xv. 33 Sixtene 3eer he regned in Jerusalem. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. 354 Ianuarius hath longe nyghtes of syxtene houres. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xlvi. 18 She bare vnto Iacob these sixtene soules. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* IV. i. 21 Some sixteene moneths. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxix. 113 Two Mayes, which amounts to about sixteen pence of our Money. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Metam., Acis, Pol. & Galatea* 7 Now sixteen Summers the sweet Youth had seen. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 210 There shall he learn, ere sixteen winters old [etc.]. 1847 W. C. L. Martin *Ox* 178/2 A full dose averages twelve, fourteen, or sixteen ounces. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 123 The man had the sixteen miles to Gloucester to cover.

β. a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 30 July, Þonne biþ seo niht eahta tida lang, & se dæg sextene tida. *c* 1200 Ormin 572 Forr þatt Eleazar Sextene suness hafdde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 120 Cancer..hath unto his retienance Sextiene sterres. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 63 Sowthest he saw..Saxten salis arayit all on raw. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 332/1 Sexten sythe, *sedecies*. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 93 To the nummer of sexten scoir of the maist nobillis of the cuntre. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 82 A thousand a hundir and saxtine 3eiris.

2. With ellipsis of sb., which may usually be supplied from the context.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 298 Þe uorme o six stucchenes, þe oðer o sixtene. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 37 Þe date was nien hundreth sexti & sextene. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptist*) 31 Of þis nowmir sexten were of þe kyne of Eleazare. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* V. 799 Sexteyn with him that worthi was in wer.

b. With ellipse of *years* (of age).

1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. I. 13 Sonne of sixteen, Plucke the lyn'd Crutch from thy old limping Sire. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, Several of sixty tripped it with almost as much glee and airy lightness as those of sixteen. 1891 Hardy *Tess* (1900) 72/2 Why didn't you stay and love me when I—was sixteen?

† **3.** = Sixteenth *a.* 1. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10639 The sextene day sothely..The bold men to bent bounet full picke. 1422–30 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. 3338 When Tytan..hadde take his se, Of þe Bole in the sixtene degre. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* Headline, The sextene buke. 1653 *Apol. for Goodwin* 3 Take a

taste..of his sixteen Querie. 1680 in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 179 Twesday the sixtein of the said moneth.

B. *sb.* **1.** The abstract number sixteen.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 318 To-dæl þa syxtyne, ponne byð se an dæl eahta. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E. E. T. S.) 6 Compositys ben nomburs þat bene componyt of a digyt & of an articulle as..fyftene, sextene, & such oþer.

2. A sheet of sixteen leaves; a book in sixteenmo.

† 1606 BODLEY in *Relig. B.* (1703) 62 If Mr. Principal shall want Strings for the lesser sort of Books in Octavo, and Sixteens. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 23/2 Whether they be large or small octavo's, sixteens, or twenty foures. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 11 Bound in Twelves, Sixteens, or Twentyfours. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 125.

† **3.** *pl.* A kind of ale. *Obs. rare* —1.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 251 That kinde of ale which at Oxford is called sixteenes.

4. A girl of sixteen.

c 1840 O. W. HOLMES *The Dilemma* 2 Now, by the bless'd Paphian queen, Who heaves the breast of sweet sixteen.

C. *Comb.* **1.** With sbs., forming attributive compounds, as *sixteen-ounce*, *-page*, etc.

1774 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 165/1 [On Nov. 30 there was] executed at Tyburn,..John Rann, alias Sixteen-String Jack. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 139 [He obtained] the appellation of Sixteen-strings Jack, by wearing breeches with eight strings at each knee. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 50 Common sixteen-ounce phials of white glass. 1865 'CUTHBERT BEDE' *Rook's Gard.* etc. 269 Their Sixteen-shilling Reversible Trousers. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 464/2 In weaving, say a sixteen-leaf satin. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 204 To print a sixteen-page paper in duplicate.

2. Parasynthetic, as *sixteen-sided*, etc. Also *sixteen-square* adj. and vb.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Rang*, A sixteene-stringd Lute. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 29 It is trimmed sixteen-square. *Ibid.* 33 The yard is then sixteen-squared. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sketches* 157 A sixteen-sided stand.

3. With sbs. in *-er*, as *sixteen-pounder*.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3112/3 We found in the Castle..69 Pieces of Cannon, viz...3 sixteen Pounders [etc.].

Sixteener (sikstī·nəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER 1.]

1. One of a body of persons sixteen in number.

1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 574 On the decease of one sixteener or alderman, the remainder filled up the vacancy.

2. A youth of sixteen.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 41 For Joe is a less boy than many of his companions, some of whom are fifteeners and sixteeners.

Sixteenmo. [English reading of the symbol 16mo; cf. *twelvemo*, *eighteenmo*.] = SEXTO-DECIMO.

1847 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 6 Feb. 87/2 Duodecimo, post-octavo, eighteenmo, sixteenmo, and a hundred other vos and mos. 1903 *Publishers' Circular* 28 Mar. 353/2 In folio, octavo, and duodecimo the water-lines are vertical; in quarto and sixteenmo horizontal.

Sixteenth (sikstī·nθ, sikstīnþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 sextetha, sex-, syxteoða, 3 sixteoþe, 3–4 sixtetþe (4 syx-). *β.* 2 sixtenðe, 4–5 -tenthe, 6 -tenth, 6– sixteenth; 5 syxtenethe, 6 -tenth, -teenth; 4 sextenþe, -tenthe, 4, 6 -tenth; *Sc.* 5 sextend, 6 -teint (9 saxteent). [f. SIXTEEN + -TH, replacing OE. *syxteoða*, etc. Cf. OFris. *sextinda*, *-tenda*, *-tiensta* (WFris. *sechstjinde*), MDu. *sestiende* (Du. *zestiende*), MLG. *sesteende* (LG. *zesteinste*), MHG. *seh(s)zehende* (G. *sechzehnte*, † *sechszehnte*), ON. and Icel. *sextándi* (Sw. *sextonde*, Da. *sekstende*).] The ordinal numeral belonging to the cardinal sixteen.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with a sb. expressed or implied.

a. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 16 Jan. 28 On þone sextеoðan dæg þæs monðes. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 283 *Sextus decimus*, se syxteoða. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5244 In þe sixteþe [*c* 1430 sixtene] zere of þe kinges kinedom. *c* 1300 *St. Swithin* 81 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 45 Eizte hondred zer and in þe sixteoþe zere. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 145 In þe sixtetþe zere he was i-made knyzt.

β. *a* 1200 *Juliana* 79, I þe Sixtenðe dei of feouerreres moneð. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 221 þe sextenþe [article is] þat bei ben verrey..myrrours of mekenesse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 3 The yer sextenthe of kyng Richard. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 610 *Sedenxs*, the syxtenethe. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 180 Wil Smith and John eidar a likane of thir a sextend pairt. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 188 The sixteenth Chapter endeth the exposition. 1589 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 27 The fewferm of the sextеint pairt of the landis. 1611 COTGR., *Seziesme*, the sixteenth in ranke, number, &c. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 July 1660, I went towards home the sixteenth. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bible*, The New Latin Translations, done...in the 16th Century. 1850 J. H. NEWMAN *Difficulties Anglicans* I. xii. (1892) 388 The shadow of the fifth century was on the sixteenth. 1866 MISS YONGE *Dove in Eagle's Nest* xi, Within a week of their sixteenth birthday.

2. *Sixteenth note*, the sixteenth part of a semibreve; a semiquaver.

1861 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 92.

B. *sb.* **1.** A sixteenth part.

1611 COTGR., *Seziesme*, a sixteenth; a sixteenth part. 1769 *St. James's Chron.* 14–16 Sept. 3/3 The Tickets..are ..divided into Halves, Quarters, Eighths and Sixteenths. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 31 Wings of the male one inch to one inch one-sixteenth. 1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 176 The fourth a quarter as wide, or one sixteenth as large. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 742 One thirty-second to one sixteenth of a grain of perlodide.

2. *Mus.* **a.** The interval of two octaves and a second. **b.** A sixteenth note.

1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xlii, He'll keep me there while he tweedles upon the Twelfth and Sixteenth.

Hence **Sixteenthly** *adv.*, in the sixteenth place.

a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 322/1 Sixteenthly, They ought to appoint a Surveyor. 1691–8 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 170 And Sixteenthly, the Glory that Virtue casts about the Head of those who suffer this little Martyrdom. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xiv, Never..was a sermon listened to with more impatience...The Captain heard 'sixteenthly'—'seventeenthly'—'eighteenthly', and 'to conclude'.

† **Sixter.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 syxter. [ad. OF. *sex-, sestiere* :—L. *sextārī-us*.] A certain measure.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvii. 44/1 He lyued sobrely: And in thre yere he ete not but onely a syxter of wortes medled in a lytyll colde water.

Sixth (sikspθ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 sexta (sesta, seista), 2–5 sexte (2–4 seste), 3 sæxte, 3–6 sext, 5– *Sc.* saxt (6 saxte). *β.* 1 siexta, sihsta, sixta, 2–6 sixte (2–3 siste, 4 zixte), 3–7 sixt (4 sixst); 1 syxta, 3–6 syxte, 5 zyxst, 6 syxt. *γ.* 6 syxthe, 7– sixth. [OE. *sexta*, *sixta*, *syxta*, etc. (see SIX *a.*), = OFris. *sexta* (WFris. *sechste*, NFris. *sokst*), MDu. *seste* (Du. *zesde*), OS. *se(h)sto* (MLG. *seste*, *soste*, LG. *seste*, *söste*, *soste*), OHG. *sehsto* (MHG. *sehste*, G. *sechste*), Goth. *saihsta*; also OHG. *sehto* (MHG. *sehte*), ON. *sétti* (Icel. *sjötti*, Norw. *sette*, Sw. and Da. *sjette*).] The ordinal numeral belonging to the cardinal six.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with a sb. expressed or implied (freq. occurring earlier in the context).

a. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 6 Jan. 14 On þone sextan dæg þæs monðes. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark XV. 33 Miððy award tid ðio seista. *c* 1205 LAY. 13909 Þæ sæxte [god] hæhte Appollin. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* Pref. p. xxiii, The seste dale is of penitence. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2736 (Laud MS.), þe sexte he slouȝ of Nauere he was. *c* 1320 *Deb. Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 348 The seste day ayen the dom shule foure aungles stonde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 121 After Leo Virgo the nexte Of Signes cleped is the sexte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2047 Here begynnes the Sext Boke. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 35 Virgil..in the sext beuk of his eneados. *c* 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 302 That saxt chapter of Iohne. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 43 The saxt day of November.

β. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. vii. 38 Þæt syxte [wonder] wæs þæt eall þæt folc wæs on blædran. *c* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 827, Siexta [cyning] wæs Oswald se æfter him ricsode. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechdoms* II. 298 Syxte mægen is þæt drycræft þam men ne derep. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 þe forme [wave] wes snaw,..þe siste smorðer. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 14 Þe sixte dole is of penitence. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5018 He deide after martin masse riȝt þe sixte day. 1340 *Ayenb.* 17 Þe uerste boȝ of prede is ontreuþe,..þe zixte, ypocrisie. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 59 Þe sixte tyme þe consuls of Rome..were sent aȝenst Hanibal. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 75 The syxte [property] is, to haue great nosethyrlles. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 336 The sixt Chapter declareth, that Manna was a figure. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 6 Yea, there was a fift and a sixt edition. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 449 The Sixt [day], and of Creation last arose.

γ. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 b, Saynt Brigitte ..in the syxthe boke of her reuelacyons. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* i. 31 And the euening and the morning were the sixth day. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. (1674) 92 The first [string]..is called the Treble;..the Sixth, the Bass. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, His Majesty, in a sixth audience,..proposed many doubts. *a* 1771 GRAY *Dante* 74 E'er the sixth Morn Had dawn'd. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 404 Among anatomists we sometimes hear of a sixth sense. 1884 *Jrnl. Education* 1 Sept. 351/2 A classical Sixth Form.

b. Following on the names of kings, popes, etc. Very commonly, and now usually, expressed by the symbol VI, *e.g.* James VI.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 151 Gregorie þe sixte,..after Benet. 1423 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 83 The ȝere of Kyng Harry the ȝyxst the furste. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 2 Charles the Sext of that name. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 86 Ther eftir henry the saxt lossit his liyf. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eirenarcha* II. iv. 160 The late K. Henry the sixt. 1642 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind.* xiv. 174 All the Bishops in King Edwards the sixt time. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 227 Nothing to Pope Sixtus the 4th, nor to Alexander the sixt. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlviii. V. 37 To nominate for her successor Michael the sixth. 1857 *Willis's Current Notes* Jan. 4/2 King James the Sixth.

2. *ellipt.* With omission of *day*, *house*, *form*, etc.

1573 *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 14 Writtin at Paris the sext of December. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* xi. 7 In the sixt of the Decretals. 1631 WEEVER *Funeral Mon.* To Rdr., The sixt of May. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xliv. 258 Any malevolent in the sixt,..shews great danger. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* Pref., By getting not only the Sixth to put it down but the lower fellows to scorn it.

B. *sb.* **1.** A sixth part.

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* B ij b, A sixte more. 1611 COTGR., *Sizain*, a sixt, a sixt part. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Measure*, The Viertel, or Verge, consists of five Mingles, and one Sixth of a Mingle. 1828 SIR J. E. SMITH *Engl. Flora* II. 345 Some flowers are deficient in a sixth of all their parts. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 418/2 One-sixth of its width. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 588/2 In some Indian species the pores are one-sixth of an inch across.

2. *Mus.* A tone on the sixth diatonic degree above or below another; the harmonic combination of two such tones; an interval comprising six diatonic degrees of the scale.

Different varieties are distinguished by the epithets *added*, *augmented*, *French*, *greater*, *Italian*, *minor*, *Neapolitan*, *sharp*, *small*.

1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 70 A third, a Fift, a Sixt, and an eight. 1609 J. DOWLAND *Ornith. Microl.* 29 Those which sound thirds, sixts, or other imperfect Concords. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* ix. 178 In this Tune they might ascend gradually unto a Sixth. 1752 tr. *Rameau's Treat. Mus.* I. 3 The Third becomes a Sixth,..and..the Seventh becomes a Second. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v., There are four kinds of sixths, two consonant and two dissonant. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 70 The first inversion of the Triad, consisting of a note with its 3rd and 6th, is termed the Chord of the Sixth.

3. *Fencing.* = SIXTE.

1885 E. CASTLE *Schools & Masters of Fence* Introd. 10 There can be as many guards as there are parries, although in modern days, carte, tierce, and sixth are almost exclusively used.

4. *Anat.* A nerve of the sixth cranial pair.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 117 Double ptosis has been frequently noted, and paralysis of both sixths sometimes.

C. *Comb.* With sbs., forming an attributive compound, as *sixth-floor*, *-form*, *-rate* (also *absol.* of a former class of warships).

1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 232 A tub-and-cask tenant, —vulture-lodg'd—*sixth-floor man. 1807 SYD. SMITH *P. Plymley's Lett.* vi, The *sixth-form effusions of Mr. Canning. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours Library* III. 273 Landor is precisely a glorified..edition of the model sixth-form lad. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3014/4 A *Sixth Rate Frigat of 26 Guns called the *Drake*. 1747 LIND *Lett. rel. Navy* (1757) I. 22 Captains of sloops [have] the same [pay] with captains of a sixth rate. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Sixth-rate*, a British vessel of war bearing a captain.

Sixthly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In the sixth place.

a. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. French* in *Palsgr.* 929 Sixtely, *sixtement*. 1579 FULKE *Ref. Rastel* 770 Sixtly, that..[he] had not..ben iudged for an heretike. 1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* ix–x. 15 Sixtly, we are simple men and want vnderstanding. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* II. To Rdr., Sixtly in boasting of their Parts.

β. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 42 Sixthely, how farre [etc.]. 1648 D. JENKINS *Wks.* 37 Sixthly, we maintained the counterfeiting of the great Seale to be high Treason. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* App. III. 297 Sixthly, If one require a Reason why Christ is described [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Rules*, Sixthly, Racking. 1832 W. PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 25 Sixthly, one of the MSS...contains a prayer taken from Basil's liturgy. 1876 *Clinical Soc. Trans.* IX. 93 Sixthly and lastly, as to the use of phosphorus.

Sixtieth (si·kstiėþ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1 syx-, sixtiȝeþa, sixteoȝoða, 4 zixtiaȝte, sixtithe, sextid, 6 syxteth, sixteth, *Sc.* saxtieth, 6– sixtieth. [OE. *sixteogoða*, etc., f. *sixtig* SIXTY.]

A. *adj.* The ordinal numeral belonging to the cardinal sixty.

c 960 *Rule of St. Benet* (Schröer) 37 Ðy feorþan dæge se þreo and syxtiȝeða and se feower and syxtiȝeþa [sealm]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 283 *Sexagesimus*, se sixteoȝoða. 1340 *Ayenb.* 234 Þo þet byeþ in wodewe-hod habbeþ þet zixtiaȝte frut. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* x. 1 In the hundrid and sixtithe ȝeer Alisaundre..stiede vp. 1530 PALSGR. 372 *Soixantiesme*, syxteth. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 527 The Sixtieth Chapter treateth vpon this text. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 Oct. 1680, Now I ariv'd at my sixtieth year. 1755 JOHNSON, *Second*,..the sixtieth part of a minute. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 77 The temperature became normal by the sixtieth [day]. 1892 GLADSTONE in *Pall Mall G.* 24 June 7/2 In this, the sixtieth year of my public life.

B. *sb.* A sixtieth part.

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 61 It would be expected that the image should be diminished about one-sixtieth. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 145 The addition of..potash..in the proportion of one-sixtieth is always necessary. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 320/1, 48-sixtieths of a minute.

Sixtine (si·kstin), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Sixtin-us*, f. the papal name *Sixtus*.] Of or pertaining to the pope Sixtus V (1585–1590), or to the edition of the Vulgate published by him in 1590.

More rarely used as a variant of *Sistine*, the special epithet of the chapel and bridge built by Sixtus IV (1471–1484).

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 465/2 The true Sixtine Vulgate is now of excessive rarity. 1845 in Kitto *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* (1849) II. 924/1 The Sixtine and Clementine Bibles. 1863 WESTCOTT in Smith *Dict. Bible* III. 1707/2 The critical value of the Sixtine readings.

Six-tooth(ed: see SIX C. 1, 2, and 5.

Sixty (si·ksti), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 siextez, 2–4 sixti (4 zixti), 4– sixty, 5 -sty, 6 sixtye, 6–7 sixtie; 1–2 syxtiȝ, 3–6 syxty (5 syxti). *β.* 1 sexteiȝ, -tih, -deih, -diȝ, 1–2 sextiȝ, 4–6 sexti, 4–6 sexty (5 cexty, *Sc.* sextie, sexte); *Sc.* 5 saxte, 6 -tie, 9 -ty. [OE. *siex-*, *syx-*, *sextig*, = OFris. *sextich*, *-tach* (WFris. *sechstich*), MDu. *sestich* (Du. *zestig*), OS. *sehstic* (MLG. *sestich*, LG. *zestig*, *söstig*), OHG. *sehsaug*, etc. (MHG. *sehzic*, *-zec*, G. *sechzig*), ON. *sextigir* (MSw. *säxtighi*, MDa. *sexti*; Icel. *sextíu*, Sw. *sextio*).] The cardinal number equal to six times ten, represented by the symbols 60, LX, or lx.

A. *adj.* **1.** In concord with a sb. expressed or implied.

a. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. vi. 172 Æfter siextegum dagа ðæra þe ðæt timber acorfen wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 On þæm ȝeare bið þreo hund dagа & fif & syxtiȝ dagа. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 852, He scolde ȝife ilca ȝear into þe minstre sixtiȝe fodra wudu. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 On þralshipe hie wuneden two and sixti wintre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7260 In a þousend ȝer of grace & sixe & sixti riȝt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. V. 442 Sixty sythes I..haue forȝete it sith. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ix. 306 Syxty secondes make one mynute, syxty mynutes one gree.

1560 BIBLE (Genevan) *Gen.* v. 20 So all the days of Iered were nine hundreth sixty and two yeres. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 50, I haue sixty Sailes, Cæsar none better. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* vii. 88 The rammes sixtie, the hee goates sixtie. 1816 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. i. 33 Longman's people had then only sixty copies. *a* 1860 ALB. SMITH *Med. Student* (1861) 39 Some sixty of these small pieces of paper.

β. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. p. 19 Bisin [he] cueð wæstm[es] þrittiges, sexteiges, & hundrades. *Ibid.* Mark iv. 20 [Hia] wæstmiað an þrittig & an sextig. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 663 Twelwe and sexti men woren ðor-to. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10197 In þat louh ar sexti iles. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 234 Ich saued my-self and sexty þousand lyues. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 827 Sexty thai slew. *Ibid.* X. 878 Off his best men saxte was brocht to ded. 1589 MONTGOMERY *Misc. Poems* lviii. 6 Tuyse sax and saxtie zeirs he livd. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiii, I hae kend this auld kirk, man and bairn, for saxty lang years.

† b. Sixtieth. *Obs.*—0

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 332/1 Sexty,...*sexagesimus.*

2. Followed immediately by a lesser numeral, as *sixty-one*, etc.

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Serplath*, Ane thousand, three hundreth, sextie aucht zeires. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Star*, Reducing the..Number of Knights [of the Star] to Sixty-two. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) III. 177 The most valuable of these was published by Purchas in sixty-six plates. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, The actress, who was sixty-five years of age. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 191 The new building..is one hundred and seventy feet long by sixty-one feet deep.

b. *Sixty-six*, a card-game in which a point is gained by scoring sixty-six.

1897 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 9/2 The game was called '66'.

3. Forming part of an ordinal number.

1647 *Form for Ch. Govt.* Prop. 12 The sixtie one Canon of the sixth generall Synode. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 395 The sixty-second year of his age. 1821 BYRON *Cain* II. ii. 71 As The sixty-thousandth generation shall be. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 77 The patient was out of bed on the sixty-second [day].

b. With *part*, or used absol. in this sense, esp. *sixty-fourth*; hence *sixty-fourther*, one who owns a sixty-fourth part of a vessel.

1768 DR. CHAUNCY *Lett.* 74 It was but the sixty-thousandth part. 1811 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 269 A favor in the form of sixty-fourths of lottery-tickets. 1889 *Whitby Gaz.* 14 June 3/3 A shipowning port, in which the disease of the sixty fourther exists in an aggravated form. 1899 WERNER *Capt. Locusts* 76 The minutest fraction of European blood,..one thirty-second, perhaps, or one sixty-fourth.

B. *sb.* **1.** The abstract number sixty.

1340 *Ayenb.* 234 Þe tale of zixti þet is wel gratter, þet is of zixziþe ten. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 91 Turtils troned on trene By sixti I sayȝ. *c* 1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 4 Þere he [the figure 6] schuld tokyne but sexty. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. (1636) 84 Which [numbers] maketh two sixties to bee kept in mind. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, The same Characters are sometimes us'd, where the Progression is by Tens; as 'tis here by Sixties. 1755 JOHNSON, *Second*,..the second division of an hour by sixty. 1886 PENDLEBURY *Arithm.* (1897) 5 The number in six groups of ten is called sixty.

b. *Like sixty*, with great force or vigour; at a great rate. *colloq.* or *slang*. (Cf. FORTY A. b.)

1848 LOWELL *Biglow Papers* Poems (1890) II. 135 Though like sixty all along I fumed an' fussed. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 215 'To go like sixty,' i. e. at a good rate, briskly.

c. *Sixty per cent*, a usurer. *colloq.*

1853 READE *Gold* I. 1 What you do on the sly, I do on the sly, old sixty per cent. 1897 MARSH *Crime & Criminal* xii, Was he going to develop into a sixty per cent, and offer me a loan?

2. Sixty years of age. Also *sixty-one*, *-two*, etc.

1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 503 We find our selves at Sixty wise. 1780 *Mirror* No. 103, He seemed to be about sixty, but retained a..florid complexion. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxvi, He appeared to be about sixty-five. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 30 Although I am but sixty-three Or four. 1890 *Spectator* 11 Oct. 473/2 An old lady over sixty.

3. *pl.* The years from 60 to 69 in a century or in a person's life; the period 1860–1869.

1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxi, The old patter, that spoken by himself in the early sixties, was unknown. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 9 A series of works published in the fifties and sixties.

4. a. *pl.* A particular quality of wool. b. A certain size of sewing-cotton.

1894 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 2/6 Medium sixties are a shade weaker. *Ibid.* 2 Feb. 2/6 Super 60's and the finer crossbreds..are steady. 1907 H. WALES *The Yoke* xix, Three reels of white cotton—one eighty and two sixty.

C. *Comb.* With sbs., forming attributive compounds, as *sixty-gun*, or with nouns in *-er*; also *sixty-sized* adj.

1747 DR. LIND *Lett. rel. Navy* (1757) I. 35 *note*, None who had not commanded..60 gun ships, would have a right [etc.]. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 317 The French had erected a battery of twenty-four sixty pounders [etc.]. 1828 CUNNINGHAM *A. S. Wales* II. 257 Why could not the fellow..have had his sixty-guinea hoard taken from him? 1851 GLENNY *Handbk. Flower Garden* 155 When they have taken good root, pot them into sixty-sized pots. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 123 A new 60-stamp mill has been under course of construction.

b. Similarly when followed by a lesser number.

1880 *All Year Round* No. 73. 547 The gun was designed for a sixty-eight pound shot. *Ibid.*, No sixty-eight pounder in the service. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 407/1, I..returned..holding the sixty-one day record. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Aug. 7 The sailing yacht *Venaetta*, a well-known sixty-five rater.

c. *Sixty-fourmo* (see quot.).

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 126 *Sixty-fourmo*, a sheet folded into sixty-four leaves—written shortly, 64mo.

Sixtyfold (si·kstifōuld), *a.* (and *sb.*). [f. SIXTY + -FOLD.] Sixty times as great or as much.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* ii. 175 Sum berð þrittigfealdne wæstm, sum syxtigfealdne. *Ibid.* 182 Þa habbað eft æt him syxtigfealde mede. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 23 Wedlac haueð hire frut þritti-fald in heuene; widewehad, sixti fald. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 8 But other seedis..3auen fruyt; sume an hundred fold, another sexti fold. [So in later versions.] 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 82 It gave you income sixtyfold instead of fourfold.

† **Size.** *Obs.* Also 3 syȝe, sy, si. [OE. *sige*, = OFris. *si*, OS. *sigi* (MLG. and MDu. *sege*, Du. *zege*), OHG. *sigi*, *sigo*, *sigu* (MHG. *sige*, G. *sieg*), Goth. *sigis*. OE. had also *sigor*, = ON. *sigr* (Sw. *seger*, Da. *sejr*).]

1. Victory in battle or conflict.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ix. 42 Þa Cretense hæfdon þone grimlecan sige. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, Se Norrena cyng ahte siges ȝeweald. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ah ic eou ȝife sige and streinþe þet ȝe maȝen over feond ouer cumen. *c* 1200 ORMIN 11421 To winnenn sige & oferrhannd Off himm þurrh Cristess hellpe. *c* 1205 LAY. 16199 Þa heo iseȝen þat heo sigen næfden. *Ibid.* 17409 Heo swunken ful swiðe ah næfden heo syge.

2. A position of victory or triumph.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 123 Ther ha schineth seoueuald schenre then the sunne i si ant i selhthe. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 11 (Bodl. MS.), Sei me hwi þu forsakest þy sy & ti selhðe.

3. *Comb.*, as *sige-craft*; *sige-fast* adj.

See also SIGALDER and SIGALDRY. A large number of combs. occur in OE. texts.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. ix. 124 He sigefæst swa eft ham ferde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 167 Eallum Godes halgum he is sigefæstra & ȝecorenra. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16958 Þatt lede þatt iss sigefasst. *c* 1205 LAY. 15501 Þe king..bad heom..fondien þat soðe mid heore sige-craften, whær on hit weore ilong [etc.].

Sizable, variant of SIZEABLE.

Sizar (sai·zăr). Also 6–9 **sizer** (7 **cizer**). [f. SIZE *sb.*[1] 7 + -ER[2], -AR[3].] In the University of Cambridge, and at Trinity College, Dublin, an undergraduate member admitted under this designation and receiving an allowance from the college to enable him to study.

The name probably indicates that the person so admitted received his 'sizes' free. Formerly the sizar performed certain duties now discharged by college servants.

a. 1588 BURGHLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 27 Under the pain of six shillings and eight pence for everye tyme that any..Fellow, Scholer, Pensioner, or Sizer shall offende in any of the foresaid Orders. 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 835 My Sizer being not yet come with a candle, I will transcribe a passage of Eusebius. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4) *Sizer*, is a Servitor or Attendant in our Universities. 1745 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 377 The dean said, if his parents would consent to his entering the college of Dublin as a sizer..he would take care he was treated with a particular regard. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* (ed. 2) Postscr. There is a youth.., a sizer of Emanuel College. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* vii, As he sauntered along the silent alleys of the College Park..some solitary sizer might be met with.

β. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 16 They took..heretofore a very good method to prevent sizars over heating their brains: bed-making, chamber-sweeping, and water-fetching. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii, Which..I had snatched up..as thievishly as any sizar of Montague college could have done. *c* 1780 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. Introd. p. xcvi, My Father..entered me a Sizar. 1804 H. K. WHITE *Lett.* I. 117 Somebody, perhaps, has been hinting that there are servile offices to be performed by sizars. It is a common opinion, but perfectly erroneous...The sizars at Cambridge only differ from the rest in name. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* V. (1876) 83, I was a poor man, a sizar, and had to make my way in the world. 1902 *Student's Hdbk. Cambridge* V. 92 The emoluments of a Sizar take the form of various allowances, the annual value of which may be estimated at about £40.

attrib. 1859 FARRAR *J. Home* ix, I'll pay you and your sizar friend there for this, depend upon it.

Sizars, obs. form of SCISSORS.

Sizarship (sai·zărʃip). Also 8 **sizership**. [f. SIZAR.] The position or status of being a sizar.

1782 BURKE *Penal Laws agst. Irish Cath.* Wks. VI. 282 Your lordship mentions a proposal..of erecting a few sizerships in the college. 1803 H. K. WHITE *Lett.* I. 96, I have not heard from Cambridge yet, and it is very doubtful whether there be a vacant sizarship in Trinity. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* xiii, These sizarships, now, were meant for—just such cases as yours. 1902 *Student's Hdbk. Cambridge* V. 77 Exhibitions, Sizarships and Subsizarships limited to candidates who can show that they are in need of pecuniary assistance.

transf. 1877 J. MORLEY *Robespierre* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 31 He proceeded with a sizarship to the college of Louis-le-Grand in Paris.

Size (saiz), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–7 **syse** (*Sc.* 5 **siys**, 6–7 **syis**, 7 **sys**), 3–7 **sise**; 5 (8) **syze**, 6– **size**; 5 **cyse**, 5–7 **cise**, 7–8 **cize**; 5 **syce**, 7 **sice**. [a. OF. *sise*, *cise*, aphetic forms of *assise* ASSIZE, probably due to *l'assise* being apprehended as *la sise*. Cf. med.L. *sisa*, *cisa*, MDu. *sise*, *sijs*, MLG. *sise*, MDa. *sise*, *sisse*. The currency of the form in Eng. may have been subsequently increased by *assize* being taken as *a size*.]

I. 1. An assize for the administration of justice. = ASSIZE *sb.* 11, 12, 13. Now *dial.*

In later use commonly in the pl. form *sizes*.

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 337 Wȝan ȝe hadden set your sise. ye thre traytours, sore I wep.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. III. 178 Gyle..shope þat a shereyue sholde bere mede Softliche in saumbury fram syse to syse. *c* 1440 CAPGR. *Life St. Kath.* I. 894 They sette the shire, þe cessyons and the Cyse Ryght as hem lest. *c* 1486 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 68 As touching the matters he hard at the syse, I caused some to be thyn at this time. 1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* (1570) 4 There shall be no bayle nor treating of mainprise,..There shall be no delayes vntill another Sise. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 187 Like as the captiue Wight..hopes at Sise to be releast, is then condemde to dye. *a* 1631 DONNE *Sat.* II. Poems (1654) 123 You said if I return'd next size in Lent, I should be in remitter of your grace. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. vi, He sent for a writ against me and had me to size.

attrib. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 14 'Twas Size time there, and hanging was a brewing.

(*b*) *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 344 Iudgys [were] ordeyned to kepe a cyrcuyte, as nowe they kepe the syzys in the tyme of vacacyon. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 190 In the sessyonys and sysys at scyre townys appoyntyd. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* III, The Sattin..will serve you at a Sizes yet. *Ibid.* IV. [iii], Some Dunce that..admires nothing but a long charge at Sizes. 1673 TEMPLE *Ess. Ireland* Wks. 1720 I. 114 Sometimes one Share of that Money is paid to a single Pretender at the Sizes or Sessions. 1703 DE FOE *Reform. Manners* Misc. 81 A Brace of Female-Clients meet him there, To help debauch the Sizes and the Fair. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 145, I will never..bring you to the sizes or sessions. 1847– in dial. glossaries (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* viii, There had been one tried at the 'sizes, not so long ago.

† b. *Sc.* A jury. *Obs.* = ASSIZE *sb.* 13 b.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 124 The siys of this couth say to him rycht nocht. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 489 This governour..Corruptit judgis thair with him he brocht, And syis also that knew richt weill his thocht. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xliv. 29 In dout vhat wyse that feirfull syse Pronunce thair sentence wald.

† **2.** An ordinance or regulation. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 9427 (Trin.), Lawes two were set on sise To Adam in paradise. 1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 401 The sise of a Corriour is þat he corry no maner of lether but yf it be thorowe tanned. *Ibid.*, The sise is that no mercer, Grocer, Draper, Smyth nor no other crafty man by nor sell no maner thyng .. but yf ther weyghtes and mesures be sised & sealed.

† **3.** The established order of things. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) I. 570 Thyr war þe wordys of Denyse Quheue þat he saw againe þe syse The sonne Eclyps.

† **4.** An ordinance fixing the amount of a payment or tax. Also *attrib.*, as *size-boll*, *-money*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28438 Toll and tak, and rent o syse, Withhalden i haue wit couettise. 1543 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 199 Robert Ratray..resignit..in the prouestis handis.. the haly dais fische of Dee, and syise boll. 1633 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1817) V. 94 For bruiking of the said burgh lands.., tolles, customes, sys bolles. 1641 *Ibid.* 627 To apply to þe vse of þe said brucht with the syis boll and syistrie. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 206 The Payment of their Sizemoney, which they reckon so great a Hardship.

† **5.** A fixed standard of quality or quantity for articles of food or drink, or other commodities. *Obs.* = ASSIZE *sb.* 5.

?1479 in *Eng. Gilds* 424 The Maire..to do calle byfore hym..all the Bakers of Bristowe, there to vndirstand whate stuff they haue of whete. And after, whate sise they shall bake. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 364/2 The Office of Cise of Ale in the same Towne, in the Countie of Glamorgan. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 194 The mayre toke brybes of the bakers & suffred them to sell brede under the syse. 1559 *Fabyan's Chron.* VII. (1811) 705 An acte of parliament for wood and coal to kepe the fulle sise,..that no man shall bargaine, sell, bryng, or conueigh of any other sise. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 15 He made a Law, ordaining a size, by certain pins in the pot, with penalty to any that should presume to drink deeper then the mark. *c* 1680 SHAFTESBURY in Christie *Life* (1871) I. App. I. p. xii, The senior fellows.. articled with us never to alter the size of our beer. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 308/1 The Bakers cannot without [scales] make and perform that just Size put upon them.

† **6.** A proper manner or method; a standard of action or conduct; a limit. *Obs.*

c 1420 *26 Pol. Poems* 66 He may not stonde, þat hab no toon [=toes], Lepe ne renne, ne ryde in syse. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lii. 500 Of syre Tristram came..alle the syses and mesures of blowynge of an horne. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 854 My persone prest Beyonde all syse. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 400 Though..he were wicked past al sise. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 63 In our talke or in any other thing no syse is suffered, but in sermons which muste not passe above an howre.

† **7.** A quantity or portion *of* bread, ale, etc.; *spec.* in Cambridge use (see quot. 1617); an allowance.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 285 That in so smalle a syse of breade and wine, the infinite..Christe.. shoulde be comprehended. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 20 The Maister Butler of Pembrooke Hall,..one that sheweth more discretion in setting vp a sise of Bread, than thou in all thy whole booke. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 178 Tis not in thee.. to cut off my Traine,..to scant my sizes. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* s.v., A size is a portion of bread and drinke: it is a farthing which schollers in Cambridge have at the buttery: it is noted with the letter *S* as in Oxford with the letter *Q* for halfe a farthing. 1691 RAY *S. & E. Co. Words* 113 A *Size* of Bread, and a Cue of Bread, Cambridge. The one signifies half, the other one fourth part of a Half-penny Loaf. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., Size of Ale, half a pint; Size of bread and cheese, a certain quantity.

transf. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 4 Our size of sorrow Proportion'd to our cause, must be as great As that which makes it.

† b. *Size-q(ue)*, the half of an ordinary allowance. Cf. CUE *sb.*[1] 2 b. *Obs.*

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* IV. iii. 1838 You are at Cambridge still with sice kue. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 31 He never drunk above size-q: of Helicon.

†**8.** *To pay size*, to pay heavily. *Obs.*—1

1662 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Sept., My Lady Batten and her crew, at least half a score, came into the room, and I believe we shall pay size for it.

9. †**a.** A device for measuring pearls.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. [Hence in later Dicts.]

b. A gauge used in wire-drawing.

1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 55 A brass plate called a size, on which is measured by means of notches..the increase which a certain length of wire should gain in passing through a fresh hole.

II. 10. The magnitude, bulk, bigness, or dimensions *of* anything.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 26 For bai þe mesure & þe mett of all þe mulde couthe, þe sise of all þe grete see. 1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syse of a mannes body, *corpulence*. *Ibid.*, Syse of any thyng, *moyson*. 1621 DONNE *Anat. World* I. 12 When, as the age was long, the sise was great; Mans grouth..recompenc'd the meat. *a* 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 65 The humane Brain is..much..larger than the Brains of Brutes, having regard to the size and proportion of their Bodies. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* x. 376 The cloathing of humility does as it were conform itself to the size of the wearer. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xiii. (1813) 181 The size of a hot bed, as to length and breadth. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 111 The size of some stems is truly astonishing. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 146 The absolute size of leaves varies greatly also.

b. Preceded by *of*, or in later use with ellipse of this. *Of a* (or *one*) *size*, of the same magnitude or dimensions.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3815 Protheselus the pert kyng was of pure shap, Semely for sothe, & of Syse faire. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. viii. 173 Now arte thow better of a syse to dele with than thou were. 1560 BIBLE (Genevan) *Exod.* xxxvi. 9 The curtaines were all of one cise. [Also 1 *Kings* vi. 25.] 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 124 Of the Size royal, is that peece which shooteth a bullet from seuenteene pound waight vpward. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 63 Young trees of a smaler sise. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordshire* 108 Of different colours, figures, cizes. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 490 The crystals of this salt were in general..more of a size, than those of the gooseberry. 1781 COWPER *Ep. Lady Austin* 95 A seed of tiny size. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* v, 'Why don't you hit one of your own size,' said the boy. 1884 PAR *Eustace* 13 The two men were about a size. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* 115 A frame the exact size of the window.

c. In abstract use: Magnitude.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 352 They Limb themselves, and colour, shape or size Assume. 1702 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* I. i, The mixture of cize and figure, can beget nothing but cize and figure. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 67 Whose shape would make them, had they bulk and size, More hideous foes [etc.]. 1845 PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 12 The church of St. Julian, equal in size to most cathedrals. 1848 DICKENS *Domdey* v, The books precisely matched as to size. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. vi. 199, I had always a quite true perception of size, whether in mountains or buildings.

d. Suitable or normal dimensions. *rare.*

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 65/1 The plants..should be thinned, and..may be used as they attain size till August.

e. Thickness or thinness (of a liquid mixture); consistency (cf. SIZE *v.*[1] 4 c).

1863 WISE *New Forest* Gloss., 'The size of the gruel' means its consistency. 1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks & Tiles* (ed. 2) 147 The temperer having secured the proper plasticity, or 'size' for the clay.

11. A particular magnitude or set of dimensions; *esp.* one of a series in the case of various manufactured articles, as boots, gloves, etc.

1591 PERCIVALL *Span. Dict.*, *Punto*,..the sise of a shoo. *c* 1610 DONNE *Lett.* xxxii. Wks. 1839 VI. 338 There is not a size of paper in the palace, large enough to tell you how much I esteem myself honoured in your remembrances. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 104 He is certainly a Size above ordinary in his own Conceit. 1731 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4899/4 Another silver Mazarene, a size larger. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Size*, a term of measure amongst shoemakers, equal to one third part of an inch. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* XX, Her white satin shoes being a few sizes too large. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 329 It appears also that there is a size which meets with less resistance from atmospheric influence than others. 1879 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 9 To haste..to..the glover, Having managed to discover what is dear Neæra's 'size'.

fig. 1879 HUTTON in *Bagehot's Lit. Studies* I. p. lxii, He was 'between sizes in politics'.

b. Used *ellipt.* with a sb. following.

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 41 Cut your sturgeon into what size pieces you please. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 215 The Writings of that Father [St. Augustine] were the first Works done on that size Letter. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 308 After this first trial you can judge what size eye will do next. 1886 CAULFEILD *Seamanship Notes* 3 Different size cables. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 159 A large size plate.

12. Magnitude, extent, rate, amount, etc., as a standard of immaterial things. Also in phrases (see later quots.).

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Love* 1509 (Brandl), As the horse feleth pleasure in wyne..aboue the tre, So feleth he..aboue ye. 1579 SPENSER *Two other Lett.* l. 56, I hope you will vouchsafe mee an answeare of the largest size. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 21 Shriking vndistinguisht wo, In clamours of all size both high and low. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. xii. 257 Although those dayes shall be of a larger size then these. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Commons* Wks. 1735 II. i. 23 The power of these princes..was much of a size with that of the kings in Sparta. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 233 He understood well the size of their understandings. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 283 Errors, of whatever size. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'He talks at a fearful size;' i. e. he talks big. 1836–8 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 299 One day I was adrivin' out at a'most a deuce of a size, and he stopped me. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 30 Nothing to do, and lots of time to do it in! that seems to be about the size of it. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining* 224 *Size*, in reference to a *fault*; this word means the extent of the displacement or the *throw*.

b. Of persons in respect of mental or moral qualities, rank or position, etc.; †hence, class, kind, degree, order.

1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* II. v. (1692) 151 Which showeth..that Christians of all sizes, great and small, are but Brethren. 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 497 Our Mock Phalaris is a Sophist of that size, that no kind of Blunder is below his Character. 1719 SWIFT *To a Young Clergym.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 5 A plain sermon intended for the middle or lower size of people. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 207 Can we impute to God that, which is below the common size of men? 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 506 But God, and Man, and letter'd Post denies, That Poets ever are of midling Size. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. vi, The cause is reduced..to suit the size of the partisans. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 8 There are things enough to be said of Voltaire's moral size.

c. *pl.* As adv. Many times, far.

1861 EMILY DICKINSON *Lett.* (1897) II. 241 All our Lord demands, who sizes better knows than we.

13. Special combs., as **size-bone**, whalebone of the length of six feet or above; **size-fish**, a whale yielding size-bone; †**size-land**, a narrow strip of ploughed land; **size-roll**, (*a*) a military roll showing the size of each man; (*b*) 'a piece of parchment added to a roll' (Simmonds, 1858); **size-slate**, a slate having certain definite dimensions or measurements; **size-stick** (see quot.).

1820 SCORESBY *Arct. Regions* II. 419 The *size-bone or such pieces as measure six feet or upward in length is kept separate from the under-size. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 527/2 The figures given are the values of 'size-bones',..which is twice the value of whalebone under that length. 1820 SCORESBY *Arct. Regions* II. 419 The captain and some of the officers..having a premium on every *size fish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 628 The harpooner gets a bonus for striking a 'size-fish'. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* I. i. 75 [In Middlesex] they plow two, three, or four of these *size-lands into one broad-land. 1757 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 473 Nor shall I delay to send the companies' *size-rolls, when they come to my hands. 1832 *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* II. 16 Each Troop forms on its own parade, in rank entire according to the size-roll. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 155 The form of Size Roll..is so arranged as to sub-divide the three divisions for each height,—'small,' 'middling,' and 'large,'—each into three classes. 1865 BOWER *Slate Quarries* 31 The average price of *size slates, tons, and slabs. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 **Size-stick*, the shoemaker's measuring-stick to determine the length of feet.

Size (soiz), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5 cyse, 5–7 syse, 6 syes, 6–7 sise, syze, 7– size. [Possibly the same word as prec., but the history is not clear.

Cf. Sp. *sisa*, given by Minsheu (1599) as 'solder for golde', but explained in later Sp. dicts. in accordance with sense 1. Florio (followed as usual by Torriano) gives both It. *sisa* and *assisa* in the sense of size 'that painters use', but later It. dicts. do not confirm this.]

†**1.** A glutinous or viscid wash applied to paper, parchment, etc., to provide a suitable ground for gilding, painting, or other work. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 456/2 Syse, for bokys lymynynge. *c* 1485 *E. Eng. Misc.* (Warton Club) 73 To make a cyse to gyld unburned gold on bokys. 1573 *Art of Limming* Title-p., The maner how to make sundry sises or grounds to laye silver or gold upon. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 595 Whatsoever is to be pargetted with this Maltha..ought first to be rubbed throughly with a size of oile. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 Take Red Lead..or Yellow Oker, well ground with Oyle of Spike or Turpentine; this is the Sise: Then draw with that the Figure you would have in Gold. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Limning*, There are always applied two Lays of hot Size o'er the Colours..are laid on. 1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 62 For gilding on wood, &c. with what is called water-size, the parchment or leather size above-mentioned is mixed with whiting, and several layers of the mixture spread upon the piece.

b. *Printing.* (See quot.)

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 126 *Size*, the preparation used for printing with bronze.

2. A semi-solid glutinous substance, prepared from materials similar to those which furnish glue, and used to mix with colours, to dress cloth or paper, and for various other purposes.

1530 PALSGR. 270/2 Syse for colours, *colle de cuir*. 1563 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Color*, *Liquidus*..Moyste, tempered with sise as peynters vse. 1582 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 359 Paste bord, paper, and paste, white, sise, verte, synoper. 1658 W. SANDERSON *Graphice* 78 Old rotten size, to bind the Colours together. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 234 What size is to white walls, which hinders them from coming off, and makes them lasting. 1747 FRANKLIN *Conjecture* Wks. 1887 II. 107 Paper wet with size and water will not dry so soon as if wet with water only. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 367 The various degrees of viscidity and tenacity which characterize mucilage, size, and glue. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 63 The outer face of the veneer and the surface of the table are wetted with very thin glue, or with a stiff size. 1883 HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 302/2 Size of very different qualities is made at glue-works.

3. The buffy coat on the surface of coagulated blood in certain conditions. Cf. SIZY *a.*

1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 387, I shall next..enquire into the formation of the inflammatory crust, or size, as it is called.

4. *attrib.*, as *size-colour*, *-gelatin*, *-manufactory*, *-manufacturer*, *-water*.

1603–4 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 20 § 1 As well with Oyle Colours as Size Colours. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Limning*, That the Size-Colours hold the best. 1738 *Ibid.* s.v. *Book-binding*, The leaves being wetted with the size-water. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Size-manufacturer*, a boiler down of skins, etc., and maker of size. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 20 Substances..from size, horn, and isinglass manufactories. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* 123 Others are softer, more resembling size-gelatin.

†**Size,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Forms: 5 size, 6 sys(s)e, syce, 5–7 syze, 6–7 syze. [perh. ad. OF. *sis*, *siis* six: cf. *size* SICE and SIX B.] A certain kind or size of candle, used esp. at court and in churches.

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 22, x candells wax, for the sizes of the chambre. *Ibid.* 41 He setteth up the sises in the King's chambre. 1518 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, II. II. 1515 Pure wax for morters, quariers, priketts and sysys. 1560 *Acc. Fratern. Holy Ghost, Basingstoke* (1882) 13 Item paid for tapers & Syces at whitsontyde, ij *s.* 1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* III. 37 To whome [Christ] if that they light a syse, his mother hath six againe. 1611 COTGR., *Bougie*,..a size or small round candle vsed in churches. 1659 HEYLIN *Examen Hist.* I. 288 Upon the Communion Table they..never set more then two fair Candles with a few small Sizes neer to them.

attrib. 1552 HULOET, Size candle. 1559 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 91 Payd upon Easter day in the mornynge for a sysse candle, j*d*.

Size, variant of SICE (six in dice).

Size (soiz), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 syse, 5–8 sise, 8 cise, 6– size. [f. SIZE *sb.*[1], or, in early use, aphetic for ASSIZE *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To regulate or control, *esp.* in relation to a fixed standard. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4654 Many seerties we seet [*read* he set] þat sysed all þe werde. 1467 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 335 Þat þe Mair ordeyn iiij assisours to sise þe watir at all Milles within þis Cete. 1579 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 402 All other measures..to be vewed, tryed, sised, allowed, and sealed. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 247 Ye coyn they vse is either of brasse or els rings of Iron, sised at a certein weight in steede of money. 1613 in W. M. Williams *Founders' Co.* (1867) 23 The said Weights ..shall..be sized by the Standard at Founders' Hall. 1656 W. WEBB in D. King *Vale Royall* II. 213 This Maior.. sized the Wines,—Muscadine at 7d. the quart, Sack at 10d. and other Wines at six pence. 1698–9 *Act* 11 *Will. III*, c. xv. § 1 A Vessel..made, sized, and equalled unto the said Standard. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 79 All makers of brass weights..are obliged to have their..weights sized by the Company's standard. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 467 My weights were most accurately sized.

2. In University use (at Cambridge, Harvard, and Yale): To enter as a 'size' upon the buttery or kitchen books; to score (an amount) against oneself in this manner. Also *transf.*

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 47, I knew thee when thou war'dst a thred-bare gowne: Siz'd eighteene pence a weeke. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* V. ii. 2048, I vse to size my musicke, or go on the score for it, Ile pay it at the quarters end. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* Wks. 1875 I. 14 Drinking college tap-lash..will let them have no more learning than they size, nor a drop of wit more than the butler sets on their heads. 1790 *Laws of Harvard Coll.* 38 They may be allowed to size a meal at the kitchen. 1811 *Laws of Yale Coll.* 31 The Butler shall make up his bill against each student, in which every article sized or taken up by him at the Buttery shall be particularly charged.

b. *intr.* To order 'sizes', or have them entered against one.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 11, I have sized in Cambridge, and my friends a season, Some exhibition for me there disburst. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* IV. ii. 1691 You that are one of the Diuels fellow commoners, one that sizeth in the Deuils butteries. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* s.v., To size is to set downe their *quantum*, i. e. how much they take in their name in the Buttery-booke. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *To Size*,.. to Score as Students doe in the Buttery-Book of a College at Cambridge. 1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 3) 19 Soup, pastry, and cheese can be 'sized for', that is, brought in portions to individuals at an extra charge. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 93 If a man asks you to supper, he treats you; if to size, you pay for what you eat.

†**c.** *trans.* To allowance (oneself); to eke *out* with something extra. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 727 It is said, they eat earth by measure, for they eat so much every day as they can gripe in their fore-foot, as it were sizing themselves. *c* 1614 FLETCHER *Wit at Sev. Weap.* II. i, To be so strict A Nigard to your Commons, that you are fain To size your belly out with Shoulder Fees.

†**3.** To state the size of (something). *Obs.*—1

a 1662 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 250 The pygmies..being but one foot high (as some size them).

4. To make of a certain size; to give size to; to adjust in respect of size. Also with *out*.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* iii. (1623) 4 They serue to size out the Summer-doore to his due space of foure square inches. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Inuent.* 21 Pieces of Lead sized to, and nailed over the said Bolts. 1702 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* I. i, That the parts of the organ be fitly cized, shaped and set together. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 290 The smaller end of it being sized as near as possible to the manholes of the floors.

fig. 1733 *Revolution Politicks* VII. 44 Sizing his Words at such a rate as one yet willing to be understood that he had not stray'd from his Brethern in Point of Loyalty. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 284 He is so exactly siz'd and cut out for a Town Fop, Coxcomb, or pretty Fellow.

b. *Agric.* (See quots.)

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 53 You must not let it lie long before you strick, sise, or plow it up into small Ridges.

1808 *Young's Ann. Agric.* XLV. 342 [He] sizes the field, as it is styled, that is, draws out new ridges or stitches nearly in the direction of the old original ones. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 5 These..are what is termed sized; that is,..the ploughman sizes them by going one bout, or by once going and returning up the field.

c. To reduce (clay) to the proper consistency for moulding.

1889 C. T. Davis *Bricks & Tiles* (ed. 2) 147 It is necessary to grind the same clay..several times..before it comes to the proper degree of plasticity for moulding; this operation is called 'sizing the clay'.

5. To classify or arrange according to size. Also *transf.* to class or rank (*with* others).

a 1635 Randolph *Townsmen's Petition* Wks. 1875 II. 658 With proctors and with testers grave Our bailiffs you may size. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 197 Size your Horses or Oxen equal. 1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 46 They sort and size all the Threads so, that they can apply them to make equal Cloaths. 1735 Somerville *Chase* I. 82 The Multitude Dispers'd, to size, to sort their various Tribes. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VI. 403 Instead of being scientifically classified, and (if we may so speak) accurately sized, we may expect to find them [i. e. facts] tossed together with little judgment. 1886 *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 696/2 The said broken products were then sized and separated.

b. *Mil.* To arrange or draw up (men) in ranks according to stature.

1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The flank troops of a squadron must be sized in the following manner. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 46 In this formation companies are to assemble..., being sized from flanks to centre. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* § 837 All guards are..to be inspected and sized by the adjutant.

c. To single (plants). *rare.*

1660 [see Sizing *vbl. sb.*[1] 3]. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* III. lvii. 241 It would be adviseable, at the time of first sizing the plants, to leave more than are necessary.

6. *U.S.* (See quot.) *rare* —[1].

1836–9 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 442 Come, I'll size your pile...Plank down a pile of dollars..of any size you like, and I'll put down another of the same size.

7. a. *colloq.* Usually with *up*: To take the size or measure of; to regard so as to form an opinion of; to make an estimate of.

Originally, and still chiefly, *U. S.* (common from *c* 1885).

1884 *Cent. Mag.* Nov. 54 Such a stranger..would have 'sized them up'..simply as a pair of poverty-stricken Mexicans. 1891 Marriott-Watson *Web of Spider* xi, It was dark when I seized her, and I hadn't time to 'size' her. 1896 Newnham Davis *Three Men & a God* 148 The grey-haired..man who met us..mentally sized me up at once.

b. With *down*: (*a*) To arrange in sizes downwards; (*b*) to size up; to comprehend.

1896 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 229 The stone slates are 'sized down', the smaller ones to the top, the bigger towards the eaves. 1896 *Chambers' Jrnl.* 25 Jan. 57 There's just one thing I don't size down. I know why I am here:..but why are you?

8. *intr.* a. To be on an equality *with*; to match *with*; also with *up*.

1639 Mayne *City Match* IV. viii, Her birth Not being so high she will more size with you. 1902 O. Wister *Virginian* v, It was a letter which..'sized up' very well with the letters written in my part of the United States.

b. To assume size; to increase in size.

1818 Keats *Endymion* III. 206 The gulphing whale was like a dot.., Yet look upon it, and 'twould size and swell To its huge self.

Size (səiz), *v.*[2] Also 7 sise. [f. Size *sb.*[2] Cf. Sp. *sisar* (1739), It. *sisare* (Florio).] *trans.* To cover, smear, prepare, treat, or stiffen with size.

Cf. the earlier Oversize *v.*[2], and *blood-sized* in Beaum. & Fl. *Two Noble K.* I. i. 105.

1667 Primatt *City & C. Builder* 103 For Lathing, Plaistering, Rendring and sizing the Partition. 1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 65 Cold-clear it, i. e. Size it over. 1721 C. King *Brit. Merch.* II. 268 A Liquor is there prepared for sizing or gumming every Sheet. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 4. 93 In order to fit it [paper] for the ink, it is *sized*, or conted with a mixture of weak fine glue and alum. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/1 The paper..is then sized by passing the spurs through a strong solution of gelatin.

fig. 1633 J. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 10 Uncleanness is a deep stain, sized into the soul by her dwelling in the body.

Sizeable (səi·zab'l), *a.* Also sizable. [f. Size *v.*[1] + -able.] Of a fair († proper or convenient) size; fairly large.

In very common use from *c* 1680; *sizeable* has always been by far the more frequent spelling.

a. 1613 J. May *Decl. Clothing* iii. 16 His charge not to set that seale but vpon perfect and sizable cloth. 1681 R. Knox *Hist. Ceylon* 16 The trees are not very great but sizable. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. I. 115 A Fish about 8 inches long, broad and sizable. 1783 Cowper *Let. to Newton* 30 Nov., I swallow..a dozen good sizable cakes. 1855 Haliburton *N. & H. Nature* II. 193 Halifax is a sizable place and covers a good deal of ground. 1893 *Times* 12 June 13/5 Prices continue to show increasing firmness, especially for sizable and hard wood.

β. 1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 185 The Wyer must be ..drawn and made sizeable and fit to make all sorts of Pins. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 293 Having taken up at a time 3 sizeable men. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 220 ¶ 3 A more modern Virtuoso..invented that sizeable Instrument which is now in Use. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 238 The people are fond of purchasing sizeable trees for building. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 147 We find the cerebellum sizeable, but not remarkable. 1882 *Good Words* Sept. 606 Presently we come upon quite a sizeable stream.

Hence **Si·zeableness** (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

Size-boll (obs. Sc.): see Size *sb.*[1] 4.

Sized (səizd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Size *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. Having a specified or indicated magnitude or size: a. In predicative use.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 82 A strange sow mightelye sized. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 180 As my Loue is siz'd, my Feare is so. 1693 Norris *Pract. Disc.* (1711) III. 17 Certain Particles of Matter so and so sized, so and so figured. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. 121 Differently sized, from the Bigness of a Pheasant. 1766 Canning *Anti-Lucretius* II. 89 If in it's motion one should chance to strike Against another, shap'd and siz'd alike.

b. Attributively, with qualifying words denoting relative size, as *fair-, full-, great-, large-, middle-sized.*

In later use also with advs., as *fairly-, moderately-sized.*

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 26 Thou great siz'd coward. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Poincte*, The middle-sized wax-candle vsed in Churches. *a* 1678– Large-sized [see Large A. 15]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cock*, A Dunghil Cock..should be..of a large and well-siz'd Body. 1796 C. Marshall *Gardening* xiv. (1813) 204 One plant or at most two will be now under one full-sized light. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 225 A moderate sized garden pea. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* 46 Large drag-nets,..having fairly-sized meshes. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 528/2 The average-sized bottlenose whale yields 22 cwts. of oil.

c. With qualifying words of the types *same, such, this*; *different, several*, etc.

1626 Sir E. Cecil in *J. Glanville's Voy. Cadiz* (Camden) p. xliii, The Commissioners are much to be commended for such sized shippes as they have made. 1656 Duchess of Newcastle *Nature's Picture* XI, Like several sized candles, are longer or shorter ere they come to a snuff. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 224 They have different sized Grooves in the Slate for that purpose. 1806 A. Hunter *Culina* 189 This sized pie will require three hours baking. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 28 Re-pot in the same sized pot. 1879 Noad & Preece *Electricity* 221 A series of experiments made..with different-sized platinum electrodes.

d. With *the*, = the size of.

1824 J. Johnson *Typographia* II. 139 Having..decided upon the sized type most suitable for the principal one. 1875 Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. (ed. 2) 362 Table showing the Sized Chain or Wire Rope which is used as a Substitute for Hempen Rope. 1897 Mary Kingsley *Trav. W. Africa* 547, I should say this is about the sized one you find..in your chicken-house.

2. Matched in size. *rare* —[1].

1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* III. 569 Such Bodies built for Strength, of equal Age, In Stature siz'd;..The nicest Eye cou'd no Distinction make.

3. Of a fair, proper, or standard size. *Sized fish*, a size-fish (see Size *sb.*[1] 13).

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 33 [He] writ to me to buy him a sized Gelding for Hunting. 1771 Berenger *Horsem.* I. 170 As the riders were cloathed in..armour ..Great and sized horses were..required. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 217 Taking off the sized Tin from time to time on another shovel. 1845 J. Coulter *Adv. Pacific* ii. 12 A sized fish that any Waltonian might well stare at! 1865 Bower *Slate Quarries* 30 Sized tons, various breadths, and irregular lengths.

Sized (səizd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Size *v.*[2]] Treated or prepared in some way with size.

1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 713/1 This sized paint must be laid on with a stiff brush. 1815 *Hist. John Decastro* II. 199 As worthy a gentleman as ever walked between sized felt and neats leather. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 747 If the varnish be applied to a sized colour. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* xxv. (1881) 172 Sized paper is floated in potassium dichromate.

b. With qualifying term.

1864 R. A. Arnold *Hist. Cotton Famine* 513 The wearers of this heavily sized cloth. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 126 A certain proportion of size.., according to instructions for a 'hard' or 'soft' sized article.

Sizel, variant of Scissel.

Sizeless (səi·zlės), *a.* [f. Size *sb.*[1] + -less.] Devoid of magnitude.

1874 *Edin. Rev.* No. 285. 76 An immeasurably small speck or size-less point.

† **Sizely,** *adv. Obs. rare.* Also **syzely.** [? f. Size *sb.*[1]] Nicely, daintily.

Cf. Ray's northern word '*Sizely*, nice, proud, coy'.

1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 23 Three prety puzels..before the Bryde, Syzely, with set countenauns, and lips so demurely simpring, az it had been a Mare cropping of a thistl. *Ibid.* 33 The coorsez wear not so orderly serued, & sizely set dooun, but wear by and by az disorderly wasted & coorsly consumed.

† **Sizer** [1]. *Obs.* Forms: 4 sisour(e, 4–5 sysour(e, 5 cysour, 7 sizer. [aphetic form of *assisour* Assizer.] An assizer.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1336 What shul we sey of þys dytours, Þys fals men, bat beyn sysours. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 234 Lordis wolen not mekely here a pore mannis cause.., but suffre sisouris of contre to distroie hem. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 131 Þe ferthe inche is, whan false cysourys gon vp-on qwestys, & puttyn a man fro his ryȝt thrugh a fals verdyȝte. *a* 1450 Myrc 1665 Alle fals sysourus and okererus. 1624 in W. M. Williams *Founders' Co.* (1867) 30 Persons..that shall be Auditors, Clerk, Bedell, Sizer, Searcher, or Searchers, shall take the severall Oathes.

Sizer [2] (səi·zəɹ). [f. Size *v.*[1]] A device for testing the size of articles, or for separating them according to size.

1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 52 Making a true round hole in a thin peece of Brass,..you may try if the cast bullet will just..fill that hole...This thin peece of Brass, with a round hole in it, is call'd a Sizer. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Sizers*, machines used in Ceylon made of perforated sheet zinc or wire gauze, for separating the coffee into three sizes.

Sizer [3] (səi·zəɹ). [f. Size *v.*[2]] One who applies size to any article.

1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 276/1 Average weekly wages:..Sizers,..25*s.* *c* 1890 W. H. Casmey *Ventilation* 8 The reason why so many old sizers are found with joints twisted out of all natural shape by rheumatism.

Sizer, variant of Sizar.

Sizers, obs. form of Scissors.

Sizziness (səi·zinės). Also 8 **sizyness.** [f. Sizy *a.*] The quality or state of being sizy or glutinous; viscosity.

Common in the 18th cent. with reference to the blood.

1701 Flover *Cold Baths* I. 25 Windiness or Sliziness of the Humours. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 226 Disorders arising from the sizyness of the juices. 1797 J. Downing *Disord. Horned Cattle* 3 This medicine..thins the blood, and dilutes its siziness.

Sizing (səi·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Size *v.*[1]]

1. In University use: The action or practice of procuring 'sizes' from the buttery or kitchen; a portion or quantity so obtained; a size.

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 104 The Butler or Manciple of Trinitie Hall..trusted him for his commons and sizing. 1628 Shirley *Witty Fair One* IV. ii, I have had a head in most of the butteries of Cambridge, and it has been sconced to purpose. I know what belongs to sizing. 1661 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v. *Size*, In Cambridge they call it Sizing. 1736 in *Athenæum* (1906) 20 Jan. 76/2 Commons, 10 weeks, £1 3*s.* 4*d.* Sizings, £1 11*s.* 6*d.* 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar Tongue, Sizings*, Cambridge term for the college allowance from the buttery, called at Oxford battles. 1833 Pierce *Hist. Harvard Univ.* 219 We were allowed at dinner a cue of beer, which was a half-pint, and a sizing of bread. 1834 in Cottle *Rem. Coleridge & Southey* (1847) 304 What little suppers, or sizings, as they were called, have I enjoyed. 1852 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 3) 20 Two tables..which..go through a regular second course instead of the 'sizings'

b. *transf.* A share or allowance.

1822 Byron *Werner* IV. i, As for merriment And sport,.. our sizings were Even of the narrowest. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 1/1 There appears to have also been a..tendency.., to stint the metropolitan counties of their sizings.

† 2. = Assizing *vbl. sb. Obs.* —[1]

c 1640 in *Roxb. Ballads* II. 181 A health unto the Baker that never was misled Nor yet put into the pillorie for sizing of his bread.

3. The action of separating and arranging according to size; also, singling of plants.

1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 119 It may be proper here to speak of weeding and sising. The latter operation is the plucking up roots or plants that are..offensive to others in the same beds, by reason of their nearness. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Sizing*, is a curious way of Dressing the Tin Ore, after it comes from the Launder of the Stamping-mill; which is by sifting it thro' an Hair-Sieve. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Size*, In all regiments the sizing begins from flanks to centre [etc.]. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 425 A previous accurate sizing of the stuff to be treated is necessary. 1894 *Daily News* 30 Jan. 3/4 It is most especially in the inferior sizing or assorting of fruit that reform is needed.

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 Sizing-apparatus, -cistern. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 650 The ore is..carried..through the sizing-screens into a series of eighteen settling-tanks. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/5 The middlings ..are carried now to the sizing machines.

Sizing (səi·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Size *v.*[2]]

1. The action of applying size, or of preparing in some way with size.

1635 *Church-w. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 98 Item siseing and oyling of the new window, 8*d.* *a* 1667 Petty in Sprat *Hist. Royal Soc.* (1667) 294 When we treat of Sising and Stiffening. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 725/1 The sizing of this paper must also be moderate. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 907 For printing paper, the sizing is given in the beating engine. 1883 *Hardwicke's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. 9) 229 The Photographic properties of the paper are much affected by the mode of sizing adopted.

2. Size prepared for use; also, the materials from which size is prepared.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 470 A strong lie of soft soap, called *sizing*. 1888 Carr *Crewen Gloss., Sizing*, glutinous matter used by weavers to stiffen the warp, or to make it more smooth. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1882) 177 The sizing should be removed by immersion in boiling water.

fig. 1855 Bagehot *Lit. Studies* (1879) I. 289 No great painter of English life can be without a rough sizing of strong sense.

3. *attrib.*, as *sizing-box, -house, -machine*, etc.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 1 June 1/1 Paper-mill..comprises.. four vatts,..and sizing-house adjoining. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 370, I have since seen the sizing machine in action, dressing warp. 1880 J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 55 Strain through a fine wire into the sizing box. 1887 Molloney *Forestry W. Africa* 405 It has..been recommended as a sizing material for photographic prints.

Sizing, yeast: see Sizzing.

Sizors, obs. form of Scissors.

Sizy (səi·zi), *a.* Also 8 **sizie, sizey.** [f. Size *sb.*[2]] Resembling size; having the consistency of size; thick and viscous; glutinous.

Very common in the 18th cent., esp. of blood.

1687 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 552 The Interstices of the Muscles ..where the Blood is very sizy. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 321 The most flowery parts of it [boiling malt] run whitish, glewy and sizie, like Sadler's Paste. 1763 Golden, *Misc. Wks.* (1837) II. 539 Those which lay them in the waters, place them..generally in a sizy substance. 1797 J. Downing *Disord. Horned Cattle* 17 This medicine.. disperses pituitous skins, and the sizy blood. 1827 *Lancet* 8 Dec. 390/2 The blood drawn yesterday is slightly buffed and sizy.

Sizz (siz), *v.* Also 8 **siz.** Chiefly *dial.* or *U.S.* [Imitative: cf. SISS *v.*, and WFris. *sise, sizje.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To burn, brand. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v. *Neck-verse*, The Women are of course sizz'd in the Fist, without running the risque of a Halter.

2. *intr.* To give out a hissing sound; to hiss, sizzle. Also *fig.*

1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 352 *To Siz*, to hiss. 1861 MRS. CHESNUT *Diary fr. Dixie* 27 June, If, when water is thrown on them, they do not sizz, they won't do. 1887 *The Voice* (N.Y.) 1 Sept., Touch any one of the 900 delegates..and he (or she) will sizz.

Hence **Si·zzing** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1890 *Nature* 16 Oct. 595 Mention has been made..of a peculiar 'singing' or rather 'sizzing' noise on the wire. 1907 *Scribner's Mag.* Feb. 145 The monotonous sizzing of cicadas.

Sizzars, -ers, obs. forms of SCISSORS.

Si·zzing. *dial.* Also 6 **sizing,** 8 **siesin,** 9 **sizzen,** etc. [See quot. 1674.] Yeast, barm.

Given in recent glossaries as current in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Hampshire.

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i, My wits worke like barme, alias yest, alias sizing, alias rising, alias Gods good. 1674 RAY *S. & E. Co. Words, Sizzing*, yeast or barm, *Suss.*; from the sound Beer or Ale make in working. [Hence in Grose, etc.] 1736 LEWIS *Hist. Thanet* (ed. 2) 38 *Siesin.*

Sizzle (si·z), *sb.* [from the vb.] A hissing sound, *esp.* one produced by the action of frying or roasting; also, broiling heat.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 351 *Sizzle*, the half hiss, half sigh of an animal; of an owl for instance. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* June 222 The sizzle and delectable flavor of the deer's juicy ribs roasting in those ashes. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 510/2 The match..ended a wasted life in a sizzle of despair.

Sizzle (si·z'l), *v.* Also 7 **sizle,** 8 **sizel.** [Imitative: cf. SIZZ *v.* and FIZZLE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To burn or scorch so as to produce a hissing sound; to burn *up* with intense heat.

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* xxiii. 165 Having his taile wel sizled with brimstone or scalded soundly with Holy water. 1624 J. GEE *Foot out of Snare* 47 Hath none read of..the holy potion, to scald, broil, and to sizle the Diuell? 1715 *Cotton's Scarron.* IV. (ed. 10) 92 To sizel thy Tail instead of Paper. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 351 If we heen't rain in another week we shall be all sizzled up.

2. *intr.* To make a kind of hissing sound, esp. in the process of frying, roasting, or burning.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 303 *Sizzle*, to dry and shrivel up with hissing, by the action of fire on some greasy or juicy substance. 1861 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* v. 66 In it the hot iron being then allowed to sizzle, there results a peculiar singed aroma. 1883 E. H. ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 67 From its ends sizzled and dropped its sap.

fig. 1859 BERCHER *Life Thoughts* Ser. II. 91 This question is sizzling everywhere. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* I. 245, I simply sat still..and sizzled,—for I was being slowly fried to death in my own blushes.

Hence **Si·zzling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* 159 (Bartlett), From the ends of the wood the sap fries and drips on the sizzling coals below. 1877 E. G. SQUIER *Peru* (1878) 234 There is a gentle and constant sizzling of frying meats. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 526/2 We could..hear the sizzling of our cutlets. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* xxvi, Instantly a sizzling and bubbling sound came up from below.

Sizzors, obs. form of SCISSORS.

‖ **Sjambok** (ʃæmbɒk), *sb.* Also 9 **sambock, shambok, sjambock, jambok.** [a. Cape Du. *sam-, tjam-, sjambok*, a. Malay سمبوق *samboq*, چمبوق *chamboq*, ad. Urdū *chābuk*: see CHABOUK and CHAWBUCK.] A strong and heavy whip made of rhinoceros or hippopotamus hide, used in South Africa for driving cattle and sometimes for administering chastisement.

a. 1830 S. BANNISTER *Hum. Policy* 126 Sambocks of rhinoceros and sea-cow skins. 1842 Miss MOFFAT *Tour S. Africa* vi. 86 On their punishing him with a sambock, he seized a gun.

β. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* iv. 175 Large whips of rhinoceros and hippopotamus hide (termed sjamboks). 1856 ANDERSSON *Lake Ngami* 61 We also carried awaya goodly supply of the beast's hide, for the purpose of converting it into 'shamboks'. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 99 To ..take some of his hide for sjamboks.

γ. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 144/2 Every ox had been most unmercifully flogged with both waggon-whips and jamboks. 1867 MAYNE REID *Giraffe Hunters* II. xix. 225 The Makalolo were constantly wielding their huge 'jamboks' to induce them to go quicker.

Hence **sjambok** *v. trans.*, to strike or flog with a sjambok. Also **Sjamboking** *vbl. sb.*

1899 G. H. RUSSELL *Under the Sjambok* lx. 92 Then I will sjambok them first, and hang them after. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 247, I have given him many a sjamboking. 1900 *Daily Graphic* 8 Feb. 3/1 To be sjambokked within an inch of his life.

Sk-, in ME. and older Sc. a frequent variant of So-, as in *skab* scab, *skabard* scabbard, *skabble* scabble, etc.

For variant forms not entered under Sk- see Sc-.

Skaal: see SKOAL. **Skabe, Skab(e)d,** obs. ff. SCAB *sb.*, SCABBED *a.* **Skaberge, -berk(e, -bord, -brek,** obs. ff. SCABBARD *sb.*[1] **Skable,** obs. f. SCABBLE *v.* **Skace,** obs. f. SCORCE *adv.*

†**Skaddle,** app. a var. of (or error for) STADDLE.

1635 L. FOX *North-West Fox* 210 The Salv[age] inhabitants had lately bin there, & left the skaddles of their fire.

Skaddon, variant of SCHADON *Obs.* **Skade,** Sc. var. of SCALD *a.*[1]; dial. form of SCATHE *sb.* **Skadle, Skadylle,** obs. ff. SCADDLE *a.* **Skaerd,** obs. pa. pple. of SCARE *v.* **Skafe-master:** see SCAFFMASTER. **Skaffel(l,** varr. of SCAVEL, spade. **Skaffell,** obs. f. SCAFFOLD *sb.* **Skafrie, Skaif(f)ry,** varr. SCAFFERY *Sc. Obs.* **Skaid,** var. Sc. f. SCALD *a.*[1]

Skail (skēl), *sb. north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 4 **skaile,** 8 **skyle;** 4, 7 **scaill,** 9 **scail, scale.** [f. the vb.]

1. A dispersal or separation; a scattering.

13.. *Cursor M.* 15541 (Gött.), þis ilke night sal be a skaile bi-tuix ȝu and me. 1625 in Lang *Hist. Scot.* (1904) III. i. 8 There would be a scaill among our Counsellors and the Sessioners. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., The skail of the kirk. 1837 *Voluntary Church Mag.* Jan. 12 The skail of the kirk and the dismissal of the court happening at the same time. 1871 J. RICHARDSON *Cummerland Talk* Ser. I. 47 They wad mak a bonnie scail o' thur scrafflen things 'at git silver cups.

2. A dispersed company; a scattered party.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 337 He Saw bot the fleand scaill, perfay, And thame that sesyt in the pray. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 160 Within the yetts, that stood unlockit To catch the skails, that..Cam' rushin' in.

3. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 62 *Scale of air*—a small portion of air abstracted from the main current. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Scale*, a small portion of the ventilative current in a mine passing through a certain-sized aperture.

Skail (skēl), *v. north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–6, 9 **scail** (6 **scaile**), 5–6 **scaill** (6 **schaill**), **scayl**; 4– **skail,** 4–6 **skaill** (6 **skeill**), 4–7 **skaile,** 4–6, 9 **skayl,** 9 *Sc.* **skell**; 4– **scale, skale,** 9 **scaale**; 9 **skyle** (**scyle**), **skile,** etc. [Of obscure origin; the correspondence in form and meaning with OIr. *scáilim* (later Ir. *sgaoilim*) to scatter, is prob. accidental, as the early adoption and extensive use of a Gaelic word of this type would be very remarkable.

A more likely source would be an OScand. **skeila*, related by ablaut to ON. *skilja* to separate, divide; but there appears to be no trace of such a form.]

I. 1. *trans.* To scatter or disperse (a thing or collection of things).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26021 þis reuth es like a castand gin, Scailand a hepe es samen o sin. *Ibid.* 27899 For all þat euer festis wiit, Drunkennes þan skailes it. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 378 Here slane has bene mony men, Of quham þe hedis in placis sere ar scalyt. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 2443 Qwha skalis his thoucht in syndrynes, In althynge it is þe les. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 123 Gif the vassallis be nocht with thair lord, thai ar agaynis him, and scailis his gudis. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 14 Haill, beyme to skaill of ded þe dirk vmbrakill! 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 453 Lyk a certane sone, new risen to skail and skattir the Cloudis of al tumulte. 1826 GALT *Lairds* i, It has skail't the daunert wits o' the master. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 990 This is termed skailing the air; for otherwise the gas would kindle at the furnace. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 125 The pains that Nature takes to 'scale' her species.

absol. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 123 He that gaderis nocht with him scaylis.

†**b.** To spread (a rumour, tale, etc.). *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 447 Bot the tithandis var scalit sone, Of the deid Douglas had done. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1300 Throuch braid Bretane the woice tharoff was scalyt. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. v. 32 This ilk weuche.. Glaidlie this rumour gan throw the peple skaill.

c. To scatter or spread (hay, manure, molehills, etc.) over the ground. Also, to clear (land) of mole-hills by scattering them.

(*a*) 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 78 Then att night..hee..scaled the hey aboute in little heapes. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 247 They lead out their fold-garth manure, and *scale*, or spread it immediately from the waggon. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 95 *Skale*, or *Shail*, to scatter or throw abroad, as molehills are when levelled. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 143 Some..skail, Wi' eager nebs, the dusky frozen turf. 1893 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v. *Scale*, Manure is dropped on land from a cart in isolated little heaps which are subsequently *scaled*, that is, scattered evenly over the surface.

(*b*) 1822 BEWICK *Mem.* 24 To 'scale' the pastures and meadows, that is to spread the mole hills over the surface of the ground. 1827 E. MACKENZIE *Hist. Newc.* II. 713 They are also required to scale, mole, and dress the Cow Hill.

d. *dial.* To rake out; to clear with a poker.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* Suppl. s.v. *Scale*, Scale the Oven. 1887 BEESLEY *Marlocks* I. 1, The youth with the poker commenced 'scaling' the fire.

2. To pour out; to shed; to spill.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. iii. 59, I sall vpon thaim a mirk schour doun schaill Of weit and wynd. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* iii. 27 Them that settis ther fellcite to skattir & to skail blude. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 695 [They] skaillit and sparpaillit the meill..in the said burne. 1728 RAMSAY *Kobt., Richy, & Sandy* 80 Red-yards, ye ken.., Had skail'd of ours, but mair of his ain blood. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xix, Scores of folks driving about with pitcherfulls of water, and scaling half of it on one another and the causeway. 1894 A. LAING *Poems* 17 (E.D.D.), Then glaikest things may scale their tea Upon our Sunday braws.

fig. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. cxx. 299 Alas! I have skailed more of Christ's grace,..than I have brought with me.

absol. 1642 FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* No. 52, An old seek is ay skailing. 1896 BARRIE *Tommy* xxxvii. 441 It's a small offence to skail on a clarty floor.

b. To rend, spoil. *rare*—[1].

1768 Ross *Helenore* 28 Her gartens tint, her shoon a' skelt and torn.

†**3.** To spread out, distend. *Obs.*—[1]

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. xii. 83 Scaland schetis, and haldand rowme at large.

4. To separate, remove. *rare*—[1].

a 1833 *Queen's Marie* vi. in Child *Ballads* III. 393/1 The king is to the Abbey gane, To pu the Abbey-tree, To scale the babe frae Marie's heart.

II. 5. To break up (an assembly, school, etc.) by dismissal; †to disband (an army).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13850 Wit þis þai scaild þair semble, Bot iesus went fra þat cite. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. 1440 Ay þai qwhit ȝow lil for lal, Or þat þai skail þar marcat all. 1487 *Sc. Acts, Jas. III* (1814) II. 177/2 The Shereff sal..charge þaim to cess, & skale þair gadering. 1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 510 *note*, Unto suche tyme as the Kyng retorne homewardes, and scail his host. 1541 *Ibid.* V. 199 We ar contentit þat baith ye armyis in all partis be skailit. 1598 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 174 Gif the said schooll be dissolvit and skaillit, it will tend to the preiudice of the youth of this town. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 43 Stick baith the sermon an' the tune, An' skale the kirk. 1886 'H. HALIBURTON' *Horace* II Then Patie's waukened wi' a kick, An' skells the meetin'.

refl. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 465 ȝe sall se als soyne at thai..sall brek aray, And scale thame, our harness to ta.

†**b.** To break up (one's home). *Obs.*

c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 551 Men & wemen hes skalit thair hale houshald. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 516 Diverse..landis are laid waist, and mony honest houshaldis constrenit to skaill thair houssis. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* I. clxxxii. (1664) 352 Were it not that want paineth me, I should have skailed house & gone a begging long since.

†**c.** To annul (a proclamation). *Obs.*—[1]

a 1583 SIR J. BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 345 To proceid aganis ony persoun that aucht to keip proclamatioun, the samin standand vndischargit or skaillit.

†**6.** To compel (an army, etc.) to scatter or disperse; to put to flight, to rout.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 428 And Douglas..full egirly Assailt, and scalit thame hastely. *Ibid.* VII. 299 Fortoun has tnaualit vs this day, That scalit vs so suddandly. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. 1492 Befor þe laif þai knychtis þen.. Pressit þaim fast to skayl þat rowt. 1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* III. xiv, And there his men were beten..and skayled euery from other. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. x. (S. T. S.) I. 57 To skail þame in sindry partis he began to fie. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 328 Iudas sall Iuge ȝou, and God sall scale ȝour nest. *a* 1600 *Floddan F.* viii. (1664) 73 The gray gooswing did work such greif, And did the Scots so skoure and skaile. 1732 EBEN. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 I. 485 By the fall of Adam the family was skailt. 1843 *Coquetdale Fishing Songs* (1852) 109 Deil scale the byke frae Redlees Syke.

†**b.** To raise (a siege). *Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. 2970 Sa sall we pruff þat sege to skail, or gar remuff. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. vi. (S. T. S.) I. 147 How Caius mucius..causit porsena to scale his sege. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 60 To Glasgow [they] past with mony trapit steid, Thair skalit the sege.

III. 7. In passive: To be in a scattered or dispersed condition.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22304 Cummen I am to gedir yow þat has ben scaild ai to nu. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 466 Quhen we se thame scalit swa, Prik we than on thame hardely. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 282 The chas was gret, scalyt our breid and lenth. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. xi. 58 The byssy beis..On diuers colorit flouris scalit wyde. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 45 Money of the earleis freindis being skailed of the toune.

8. *intr.* Of persons, assemblies, etc.: To separate, disperse, break up, scatter.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2524 þair folk scaild ai-quare a-boute. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 93 Thai scalit throu the toune in hy. 1458 *Extr. Rec. Burgh Edin.* (1869) 75 That all scuillis scail and nane to be haldin. 1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 215 *note*, He mette..thayme of Lowdean scayllande and goinge homewarde. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 120 This airmie skailled and passit na forder at that tyme. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1675) I. cxlvii. 287 How soon will this House skail! 1724 *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 211 Ay Jeany, Jeany, ye gade to the kirk; But when it skail'd where could thou be? 1822 GALT *Provost* xxxii, The grammar school was at the time skailing. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* (1870) p. x, I was just stan'ing till the kirk had scaled. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xvii. 179 A miscellaneous pour of lads and lasses almost like a kirk skailing.

Prov. 1641 FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.*, Bread's house skaild never. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 20 'A Bread House skail'd never'...Spoken when we have Bread, and perhaps want something finer. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 40 Bread's house skail'd never. A full or hospitable house never wants visitors.

9. Of things: To spread or disperse; to pour down or be spilled.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18836 His hare..Apon his sculdres ligand wele, Bi his eres skailand sumdele. *Ibid.* 26995 Quat es mans lijf bot fam, And a rek þat..skailles wit a windes blast. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 467 The stynk scalyt off ded bodyis sa wyde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XIII. Prol. 22 The recent dew begynnis doun to scaill. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Day Estivall* 62 The clouds of raine From tops of mountaines skaile. 1895 N. ROY *Horseman's Word* xxxiv, It wantit little till it would be skailin' ower the tap on's [=top of us].

Hence **Skailed** *ppl. a.*, scattered, spilled.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 691 Feill scalyt folk to thaim will son rynew. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 30 Sum standis besyd and skaild law keppis.

Skail-, the verbal stem in combination, as **skail-door, -water** (see quots.); †**skail-wind,** a scattering wind.

1709 M. BRUCE *Serm.* 13 (Jam.), You shall all be scattered... You are sure enough now, but beware of the next blast that is

to blow, it will make a skealwind among you. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Skail-Water*, the water that is let off by a sluice before it reaches the mill. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Scale Door*,..a door in the mine, the opening or closing of which regulates the supply of ventilation to a district.

Skail(e, Skaille, obs. forms of SCALE.

Skailes, variant of SKAYLES *Obs.*

Skailing (skē'·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SKAIL *v.*]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; dismissal, dispersion.

?*c* 1450 in *Ratis Raving* 16 Tyme of scalynge, tyme of gaderinge. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 354 To Johnstoune,..that brocht tithingis of the skaling of the Inglismen, iij *s.* 1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 206 He [Burbon] myght..percace have ben redy, leng before the tyme of ther skaling. 1569-70 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1875) 269 To enter euerye day at the skaling of the nycht wasche. 1651 in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 53 Mr...Boyd to be spoken to about the soon scaling of the Barony Kirk on Sunday afternoon. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 190 The Erll Marschall haveing sure intelligens of the skailling of the barronis army. 1805 J. NICOL *Poems* II. 158 (Jam.), It sall soon get a scailin! 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 527/1 They were discussed and pulled to pieces at the 'scaling of the kirk', as the parishioners trudged homewards.

2. *Mining.* An opening through which the ventilating current passes.

1850 ANSTED *Geol.*, etc. IV. xix. 490 The current of air once obtained, is conducted through the passages of the mine by various contrivances, consisting of..partitions, and partial orifices or *scalings*.

Skaillie (skē'·li). *Sc.* Forms: 5 scailȝee, 6 skal-, skelȝe, skail-, 6–7 scailyie, 7-yee, scailzie, 8 scaillie, skailly, 7– skaillie; 8 skell(e)y, 9 skeelie, skyl(l)ie. [a. MDu. *schaelie* (mod.Du. *schalie*), or ad. OF. *escaille* (mod.F. *écaille*): see SCALE *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** Blue roofing-slate. *Obs.*

Frequently mentioned along with *slate*; on the distinction see quot. 1808.

1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 275 To the man that brocht vp the scailȝee. 1516 *Ibid.* V. 115 To Johne Kelsaucht, sklatter of Striveling, to by skalȝe for the castel in Edinburgh. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 678 To carie the sklaittis, skailyie, lyme, sand, and tymmer. 1621 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 626 To thaick þe same agane with Sklait or skailyee. 1681 *Ibid., Chas. II* (1820) VIII. 357 To be theiked with lead, sclait, scailyie or tyle. 1707 MIEGE *St. Gt. Brit.* ii. 7 Slates..of a blue colour, which they call *Skelley*, and are made use of for covering the Houses of People of Quality. 1715 PENNECUIK *Tweeddale* 5 Here is to be found Marle,..Slait and Skailly. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., The name *skaillie* [in the north of Scotland] being confined to blue slates, while the flat stones, commonly used instead of them, are called *brown sklates*.

2. Slate-pencil. Also *skaillie pen.*

1808 JAMIESON, *Skaillie Pen*, a sort of pencil of soft slate, used for taking memorandums, or writing accounts on a slate. 1871 ALEXANDER *J. Gibb* ix. 69 A bit sclattie an' skaillie. 1885 STRATHESK *More Bits* iii. 42 To sharpen their slate-pencil or 'skeelie', as they call it.

Skailly, obs. Sc. form of SCALY *a.*

Skain(e, obs. forms of SKEIN, SKENE.

†**Skains mate.** *Obs.*—[1] (Origin and exact meaning uncertain.)

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 162 Scuruie knaue, I am none of his flurt-gils, I am none of his skaines mates.

Skair (skēə·r), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 scair, 8–9 skare. [var. of SHARE *sb.*, but the *sk-* is difficult to account for.] A share, portion.

c 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 556 That ressoun is bot vane, To say a man may do na mair, But serue a kirk vntil his skair. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 43 Six hundreth yeares and fourtie was her scair, Which Nature ordained her for to fulfill. *c* 1650 R. SEMPILL *Piper of Kilbarchan* xiv, For of his springs I gat a skair, At every play, race, feast and fair. 1721 RAMSAY *Poet's Wish* iii, May he then but gie then Those blessings for my skair. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 115 And chang'd her camstane for a skair O' belly-timber sweet. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Real Souter Johnny* 31 In a tuilzie..to tak your skair.

Skair (skēə·r), *v.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* To share.

1720 RAMSAY *Wealth* 114 Thrice lucky pimps,..That can in a' his wealth and pleasure skair. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. iii, Had I fifty times as mickle mair, Nane but my Jenny shou'd the samen skair. 1773 FERGUSSON *Caller Water* xiii. (1789) II. 41 Caller burn..That gars them a' sic graces skair, And blink sae bonny. 1858 M. PORTEOUS *Real Souter Johnny* 31 To seek wi' fremmit folk, to skair A safer beild.

†**Skair,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Also 3 skeȝȝrenn, 4 skayre. [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To scatter, disperse; to send *out* in various directions.

c 1200 ORMIN 16451 Forr þatt all Adamess stren Todrifenn wass & skeȝȝredd Inntill þiss wide middellærd. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2467 Thane the price men..skyrmys a lytill; Skayres thaire skottefers, and theire skowtte-waches. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1089 [They] Skaireu out skoute-waccche for skeltyng of harme.

Skair, Sc. variant of SCAR *sb.*[1]

Skait, obs. form of SCAT *sb.*[3], SKATE.

†**Skaitbird.** *Sc. Obs.*—[1] (Meaning uncertain.)

Guessed by Jamieson on insufficient grounds to be 'the Arctic Gull'. The first element might be Norw. and Sw. *skata* (Da. *skade*) magpie.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 37 Skaldit skaitbird, and commoun skamelar.

Skaitgyld: see SCAT *sb.*[3] c.

Skaith, Skaithless, Sc. vars. of SCATHE *sb.* and *v.*, SCATHELESS.

†**Skalbert,** obs. Sc. form of SCABBARD *sb.*[1]

1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 194 Veluet to be ane skalbert to the Kingis suerd.

Skald, scald (skɔ̄ld, skæld). Also 8 scalld. [a. ON. and Icel. *skáld* neut., occurring as early as the 9th cent.; no satisfactory etymology has yet been proposed. Hence also mod. Norw. and Sw. *skald*, Da. (incorrectly) *skjald*, †*sk(i)alder, sk(i)aldre.*] An ancient Scandinavian poet. Also sometimes in general use, a poet.

Usually applied to Norwegian and Icelandic poets of the Viking period and down to *c* 1250, but often without any clear idea as to their function and the character of their work.

a. 1763 PERCY *5 Pieces Runic Poetry* Pref. A 5 b, It was the constant study of the northern Scalds to lift their poetic style as much as possible above that of their prose. *Ibid.* 49 The Ransome of Egill the Scald. 1775 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. 60 It is supposed, that Rollo carried with him many scalds from the north. 1830 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii. *note*, It will readily occur to the antiquary, that these verses are intended to imitate the antique poetry of the Scalds. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. 267 The inspiration of the scald comes upon him.

β. 1780 VON TROIL *Iceland* 198 In ancient times there was no king, or any other man of note, who had not his own skald or poet. 1818 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* II. 356 Before taking the field of battle, it was the office of the Skald to compose a poem suited to the occasion. 1886 *Athenæum* 24 Apr. 551/2 The skill with which the author has reproduced..the alliterative verse of the Skalds.

Hence **Ska·ldship,** the office of skald.

1879 E. W. GOSSE *North. Studies* 117 There was no young man so fit to be considered heir-apparent of the skaldship as Runeberg.

Skald(e, obs. forms of SCALD *v.*, SCOLD *sb.*

Skaldic (skɔ̄·ldik, skæ·ldik), *a.* Also scaldic. [f. SKALD + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the skalds or their poetry.

1775 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* I. Diss. i. e 3, The old scaldic fables and heroes. 1784 JERNINGHAM *Scand. Poetry* Advt., The system of the Scaldic mythology. 1808 FINLAY *Scot. Hist. & Rom. Ball.* I. p. xxx, The Skaldic remains preserved in the Edda. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* v. 180 One of the chief features of this artificial or skaldic poetry. 1894 *Nation* 21 June 471/3 Here and in the other Sagas the scaldic verses are such a component part of the text that they cannot..be eliminated without serious loss.

Skales, variant of SKAYLES *Obs.*

Skalesse, obs. form of SCALELESS.

Skalfatting, obs. Sc. form of SCAFFOLDING.

†**Ska·lfering,** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also 6 scalf-, scelf-, skelf-. [f. LG. *schalfer* or Du. *schelfer*, var. of *schilfer*: see SKILFER.] **a.** *vbl. sb.* Scurfiness. **b.** *ppl. a.* Scurfy.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 2 He yᵗ hath a scalfering head let the same take yᵉ course branne..& put a litle vinegre thereto..: yᵗ doth driue the scelfering away. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 674 Head skalfering, cast seething hot water into Wheat branne [etc.].

†**Skalk,** obs. variant of SCALP *sb.*[1]

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxvii. 23 God sall breke þe.. skalke of hare of gangand in þaire trespas. *Ibid.* cxxviii. 4 Lord riȝtwys shal hew downe þe skalkys of synful.

Skallade, -ader, -ado, var. ff. SCALADE, SCALADO. **Skallewag,** var. form of SCALLYWAG.

Skalling, obs. f. SCALING *vbl. sb.*[2] **Skaloun,** obs. f. SCALLION. **Skaltre,** var. SHALTREE *Obs.* **Skam(e)lar,** obs. ff. SCAMBLER. **Skammel, Skamyll:** see SCAMBLE *sb.*[1] and *v.*

Skance (skæns), *a.* [aphetic f. ASKANCE *adv.*] Of a look, glance, etc.: Oblique, sidelong.

1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xliii, The cunning skance gleam from the black, deep-ambushed squinters. 1872 LE FANU *In a Glass Darkly* I. 56 With a skance look, all the time, watching the movements of the beast.

†**Ska·nder,** *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 4 schaundre. [ad. OF. *escandre*, var. of *esclandre*: see SLANDER *sb.*] Slander, scandal.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 336 Of..Tomlyn,..and of Sir Alisandere,..þat boþe com in skandere for dedes þei did þore. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 421 He putte of þe schaundre of his moder.

†**Ska·nder,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 sksunder. [ad. OF. *escandrer*, var. of *esclandrer*: see SLANDER *v.*] *trans.* To bring into discredit; to slander.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26221 For bath gain man, man seis him wirk, And þof skander hali kyrk. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 17 Walter..hath noysed and skaundered the seyd William.

Skane, obs. f. SKENE. **Skap(e,** obs. Sc. ff. SCALP. **Skarale,** obs. Sc. f. SQUIRREL. **Skard, Skarrit,** obs. pa. t. of SCARE *v.* **Skarschliche,** obs. f. SCORCHER. **Skarsinarie,** obs. f. SCORZONERA. **Skarste,** obs. form of SCARCITY. **Skarth:** see SCART *sb.*[1], SCARTH *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

‖**Skat** (skät). Also scat. [G. *skat* (recorded from at least 1838), ad. It. *scarto* (F. *écart*) cards laid aside.] A three-handed card-game much played in Germany.

1864 *Athenæum* 27 Aug. 269/3 Even to the present day, the game [Ombre] is to be met with, although it has powerful rivals to contend against in Whist and Scat. 1889 E. LENCKE (*title*), Skat: an Illustrated Grammar of the German Game of Cards. A Complete Treatise How to Play Skat.

Skatable, variant of SKATEABLE.

Skate (skēt), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4–5 schat(e, 4–9 scate, 7 scaite. β. 6 skete, 6–8 skeat(e, 7 skeite; 6, 8 skait(e, 7– skate (7 skatt). [a. ON. *skata* (still in Norw. and Icel. use; Færöese *sköta*).]

1. A fish of the genus *Raia*; esp. the common species *Raia batis*, a very large, flat, cartilaginous fish much used for food.

α. *c* 1340 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 36, j Schat. *Ibid.*, x schat. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 46 In vij scates. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 443/1 Scate, fysche, *ragadies*. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 764/39 *Hic garus*, a schate. 1530 PALSGR. 266/1 Scate fysshe, *raye*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 39/11 A Scate, fishe, *batis, raia*. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* lxxxii, The Scate, the Roch, the Tench, the pretie Wincle. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 119 Yet is it commonly contrived out of the skins of Thornebacks, Scaites or Maids. 1737 *Ochterlyre House Bk.* (S. H. S.) 27 For scate and flounders [&]o. o. 7. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xv. 440 Haddock, Scate, fresh Ling.

β. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Raia*, a see fysshe called Raye or skete. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 13 Mony kyndes of fische, cheiflie in thrie, Killine, Skait, and Makrell. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 439 The fresh gall of a Ray or Skeat..is an excellent medicine for the eares. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 213 One fish like to a Skate we caught. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 61 In shape like a Skate or Flare as we call them in Cambridge. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 308 The variegated Raia, with the middle of the back smooth.., The Skaite. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 422 There is reason to believe that the true Skate produces its young later in the season than either the Thornback or the Homelyn. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 667 Of the Skates, *Raiidæ*, there are five species on our Atlantic coast.

b. With distinguishing adjs.

1611 COTGR., *Raye estelée*, the starrie Skate. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 130 *Raia Fullonica*,..the Fuller-Scate. *Ibid., Spinosa*,..the Card-scate. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 421 The Skate. Blue Skate, and Grey Skate, *Scotland.* 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 40 *Raia erinacea*, Common Skate; Little Skate. *Raia ocellata*, ..Big Skate. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 104 Crab-eating Skate, Rhina Skate.

†**2.** The angel-fish. *Obs.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 133 Scate, *Angel-fish.* 1681 GREW *Museum* I. v. i. 96 The Scate, or Angel-Fish.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skate-fish, -liver oil, soup, -tailed, -toothed*; **skate-barrow,** the egg-case of a skate; **skate-bread** (see quot.); **skate-leech,** a leech which infests the skate; **skate maid** (see MAID *sb.*[1] 7); **skate-rumple,** the hinder quarters of a skate; **skate-shears** (see quot.); **skate-sucker,** = *skate-leech.*

1884 *Evang. Mag.* Aug. 344 The so-called 'Mermaid's-Purses'.. the fishermen call..'*Skate-barrers'. 1681 in Macfarlane *Geogr. Coll.* (S. H. S.) III. 191 *Skatebread, which is a small fish, an inch and a half long. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* O iv b, Like restie bacon, or a dride *scate-fish. *a* 1801 R. GALL *Poems & Songs* (1819) 69 Our wames e'en to our riggiug-bane Like skate-fish clapping. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 404 The best-known example is the *skate-leech (*Pontobdella muricata*, L.), which is olive-coloured and dusted with whitish grains. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Skate-liver oil*, a fish oil often sold for the same purposes as cod-liver oil. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 422 Fishermen distinguish the females..by the names of *Skate Maid, Thornback Maid, and Homelyn Maid. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iii, [An] auld fule.., that may hae some judgment in cock-bree or in *scate-rumples. 1810 NIELL *List Fishes* 27 (Jam.), The male..possesses long sharp-edged appendages on the lower part of his body..; and fishers call these appendages *skate-sheers. 1710 P. LAMB *Royal Cookery* 25 *Scate or Thornback-Soupe. 1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 289/1 The type of the genus is *Hirudo muricata*, Lin., well known to fishermen under the name of *Skate-sucker. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 242 The Skate-sucker belongs to the genus Pontobdella. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 181 *Scate-tail'd Sicilian Amaranth. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 393 The..*Skate-toothed shark. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 296 Smooth-hound,..skate-toothed dog, in allusion to its dentition.

Skate (skēt), *sb.*[2] Also α. 7 scats, schate, 7–8 scate, 7–9 skait. β. 7 skeate, skeete, skite, scheet, 8 skeet. [Orig. in pl. *schates, scates*, etc., ad. Du. *schaats* (pl. *schaatsen*), MDu. *schaetse*, ad. ONF. *escache* (mod. *écache*) stilt: see SCATCH[1].

The alteration of sense from 'stilt' to 'skate' in Du. has not been clearly traced. In English the *s* was from the first apprehended as a plural ending, there being only one example of the pl. *scatses*: cf. however the Sc. verb *sketch, sheetch*. The spelling *skait* was not uncommon in the earlier part of the 19th cent.]

1. A device consisting of a steel blade mounted in a wooden sole, and fixed to the boot by means of a screw and straps, used for the purpose of gliding over ice; in later use a similar device made entirely of steel and clamped or strapped to the boot. Also = ROLLER-SKATE. Chiefly used in *pl.*

The blades are of varying length and curved or rounded at the toe.

α. [1648 HEXHAM II, *Rijdt-schoenen*, Riding shoes upon yce, called in Holland Schates.] 1684 *Ballads Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 11 The Rotterdam Dutchman with fleet-cutting scates. 1688 W. CARR *Rem. Govt. United Prov.* 113 The nimble Duchmen on their Scatses. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 60 Upon the Ice its admirable to see Men and Women as it were flying upon their Scates from place to place. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 32 Jan., Rosamond's Pond full of the rabble sliding, and with Skates, if you know what those are. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) II. XII. 72 The Hollanders transport themselves..over the ice, with scates. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* III. i, Learning to cut the outside edge, on skaits that have no edge to cut with. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 522/2

After seeing that the strap is properly crossed,..buckle it sufficiently tight to fasten the skate on securely. 1892 'F. Anstey' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 121 Several persons are having their skates put on.

8. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 1 Dec., Over the Parke, (where I first in my life..did see people sliding with their skeates, which is a very pretty art). 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 239/2 A Dutch Skite, this is a kind of wooden paten. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 24 Jan. 1684, Sleds, sliding with skeetes, a bull-baiting.

fig. 1719 Baynard *Health* (1740) 20 Life on smooth skeets slides swiftly by.

b. *pl.* = Ski *sb.* 1.

1698 A. Brand *Embassy China* 57 They make use of Scates, by the help of which they pass over the Snow with great Agility. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 215 They make use of skates, which are made of fir, of near three feet long, and half a foot broad. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 242 There is no difficulty in travelling over them, even without either snow skaits or sledges. 1849 [see 3].

2. [from the vb.] An act or spell of skating; one of a series of turns in figure-skating.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xxvi. (1856) 214 Took a skate this morning, over some lakelets recently frozen over. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 38. 277 He ceases to complete his skates, he passes from one to the other too rapidly. 1889 *Advance* (Chicago) 11 Apr. 294 Bound for the smooth sheet of ice..for a skate.

3. a. *Comb.*, as *skate-grinder, -lender*, etc.

1849 Longf. *Kavanagh* xxviii, In his imagination arose images of the Norwegian Skate-Runners. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Skate-maker*, a manufacturer of iron sliding shoes. 1880 C. A. Collins *Eye-witness* vi. 84 What becomes of icemen and skate-lenders in summer? 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2192/2 *Skate-grinder*, a machine for grinding skates.

b. *attrib.*, as *skate-blade, -iron*; **skate-sail**, a sail rigged up on a skater's back so that the wind may carry him along.

1868 Lossing *Hudson* 277 Three sled-runners, having skate-irons on their bottoms. 1882 *Standard* 1 Dec. 5/4 Skimming over the frozen lakes by the aid of the Danish skate-sail. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 202/1 The skate-blades are fixed to plates which are screwed fast to heel and sole of the skating-boots.

Skate (skēt), *v.* Also 7–8 **scate**, 9 **skait**; 8 **skeit, skete.** [f. Skate *sb.*²]

1. *intr.* To glide over ice upon skates; to use skates as a means of exercise or pastime. Also with *over* (cf. Row *v.*¹ 1 f).

1696 S. Sewall *Diary* 30 Nov., Many Scholars go in the Afternoon to Scate on Fresh-pond. 1730 Thomson *Winter* 632 With him who slides; Or sketing sweeps, swift as the winds, along. 1768 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) III. 223, I scate almost every day; and amuse myself much with so noble an exercise. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Vanderput & S.* ii. 38 Because I cannot shoot and skait and swim? 1842 Hawthorne in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) I. 450, I get up at sunrise to skate. 1890 *Field* 11 Jan. 65/3 One Mile Race. G. C. Tebbutt..skated over.., Verspijk being absent.

fig. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Experience* Wks. (Bohn) I. 179 We live amid surfaces, and the true art of life is to skate well on them. 1897 *Church Times* 17 Sept. 283 Cardinal Vaughan is an adept at skating over thin ice. In his address..there were many points which every one knows were weak, but he glided over them with surprising deftness.

b. *transf.* To slide or glide along; to move lightly and rapidly.

1775 C. & F. Davy tr. *Bourrit's Journ. Glaciers* (1776) 221 Driving his heels more or less into the snow, he skaited, if I may so call it, to the bottom. 1782 Mrs. Cowley *Bold Stroke for Husband* v. ii, Those new shoes! they have made me skate all day, like a Dutchman on a canal. 1847 Emerson *Poems* Wks. (Bohn) I. 425 The train along the railroad skates. 1892 *Nature* 10 Sept. 457/1 Other insects merely dive into the water..or skate upon the surface.

2. *trans.* a. To knock (one) *down* in skating; to contest (a match), to compete with (some one), by skating.

1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* April, To skate a man down is a very favourite diversion among a certain race of wags. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* xxxiii, A match was skated upon the lake. 1890 *Field* 1 Feb. 143/2 Whether a race is skated or not.

b. To cause (something) to slide or glide over a smooth surface.

1883 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 3/3 They..turn up on deck early in the morning to 'skate the chairs'.

Skateable (skē·tăb'l), *a.* [f. Skate *v.* + -able.]

1. Fit for skating upon.

1890 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 3/2 The River Cam is covered with thick ice, and is skateable from the university town to some distance below Ely. 1893 *Star* 7 Jan. 3/5 Above Hampton Court..there is absolutely no skateable ice.

2. Capable of being skated.

1892 *Field* 7 Mar. 334/3, I have a design for a cross-cut in which the lines are crossed five times; it is quite 'skateable'.

Ska·teless, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. Skate *sb.*²] Having no skates. In quot. *absol.*

1826 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 98 The skateless hire the '*best* skates' for a shilling.

Skater (skē·tər). Also 8 **scater**, 8–9 **skaiter.** [f. Skate *v.* + -er.] One who skates.

1700 S. Parker *Six Philos. Ess.* 37 The next Generation, believe me, shall all be Scaters. 1768 Wilkes *Corr.* (1805) III. 228 Ice-boats sailing up and down, the scaters, the booths, &c. All Holland is now alive. 1796 Moore *Amer. Gangr.* II. 334 They are the best skaters upon the ice in the world. 1841 L. Hunt *Seer* II. (1864) 19 Now skaiters are on the alert. 1892 'F. Anstey' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 121 Practised Skaters being irritable and impatient.

Skating (skē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Skate *v.* + -ing¹.] The action of the verb.

1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 30 Their chief Delight was in scating. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) II. i. vi. 29 When the water is frozen,..it also furnishes them the amusement of skeiting. 1842 E. Miall in *Nouconf.* II. 27 The exercise and recreation of scating. 1886 Mabel Collins *Prettiest Woman* x, Are you coming to the skating?

transf. 1849 Longf. *Kavanagh* v, Another long silence, broken only by the skating of the swift pen over the sheet.

b. *attrib.*, as *skating-book, -boot, -match, -rink.*

1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 104 A skaiting match from hence to Whittlesea. 1867 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. XII. 171/1 'A skating rink' is a meadow, on to which water is let in winter to a slight depth, for the purpose of skating. 1875 Burnie *Mem. Thomas* 54 The idle world is frantic on skating-rinks; they are springing up everywhere. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 206/2 A little intelligent study of the diagrams in your skating-book. 1895 Skating-boot [see Skate *sb.*² 3 b].

Skatist (skē·tist). [f. Skate *v.*] One who is fond of skating.

1876 *All Year Round* XVI. 18 Even in Chicago,..persistent and fanatical 'skatists'..have shown a decided preference for rollers. 1885 *Kendal Mercury* 30 Jan. 5/2 The skatists rubbed their hands gleefully.

Skatol (skæ tǫl). *Chem.* Also **scatol, skatole.** [f. Gr. σκατ-ός, gen. of σκῶρ dung + -ol.] An aromatic substance produced by the decomposition of albumen in the intestinal canal.

1879 *Academy* 11 Jan. 34 Bruger has found a new substance skatol. 1881 Watts *Dict. Chem.* 3rd Suppl. 1803 Skatole forms the chief constituent of the volatile aromatic portion of human faeces. 1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* 13 The products become simpler,..as phenol or phenic acid, indol and skatol.

Skato·xyl. *Chem.* [f. as prec. + Ox(y)- 2 + -yl.] A product of the oxidation of skatol. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1890 J. Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagnosis* vii. 244 It is assumed that skatol..is oxidised to skatoxyl within the body, appearing in the urine as skatoxyl-sulphuric acid. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 287 The indoxyl and skatoxyl sulphates of copper.

†**Skaunce.** *Obs.* Also 5 **skawnce.** [Formed by a false analysis of Askance(s) *conj.*] A jest. It is doubtful whether quot. 1483 belongs here.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 291 But þis is but a skaunce. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 401 Peasse, man, for godis payn! I saide it for a skaunce. *Ibid.* xxi. 353 Sir, we do it for a skawnce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/2 A Skaunce, *vbi* a wylte.

Skaunt, aphetic form of *askaunt* Askant.

1791 W. Taylor tr. *Lessing's Nathan* (1887) 35 This fellow does not follow me for pastime. How skaunt he eyes his hands!

Skawburn(e, obs. forms of Scabbard *sb.*¹

Skawde, obs. north. form of Scold *v.*

†**Skawte.** *Obs.*⁻¹ (Meaning uncertain.)

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 559 Sir, I Wold cut thaym a skawte and make theym be knawne.

Skayle, Skaylle, obs. ff. Scale *sb.* and *v.*

†**Skayles.** *Obs.* In 6 **skailes,** 6–7 **skayles, scailes, skales,** 7 **scales.** [app. a variant of Kayles, but the origin of the *s-* is not clear; cf. *kittle-pins* and *skittles.*] A form of the game of skittles or ninepins; also, one of the pins with which this game is played.

a. a 1566 W. Wager *Longer thou livest* 781 You taught me first to play at blow pointe,..At skayles, and the playing with a sheepes joynte. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1895) II. 91 He played at skayles in the middest of the streete. 1598 Florio, *Sbrigli*, a play called ninepins or keeles or skailes. 1628 *Maldon Docs.* (Bdle. 199 No. 4), Playinge at..skayles, bowles, or anie other unlawfull games. 1647 Peacham *Worth of a Penny* 31 The most ordinary recreations of the Countrey are foot-ball, skales, or nine pins.

β. 1579 Rice *Invective agst. Vices* D ij b, Tennis balles or bowles, horse bones for scailes, nor knives for muggle pricke. 1600 Nashe *Summers Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 105 It is against my profession to vse any scales, but such as we play at with a boule. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 257 To them that doubt of Wine, of chesse, scailes, and of Tables, thou shalt say that such sports and such drinkes are a great sinne.

Hence †**Skay·ler**; **Skay·ling**; **Skayle-pins.**

1579 Rice *Invective agst. Vices* C iv, Giuen to Bowlyng,.. Tennis plaiyng, scailyng, and such like. *Ibid.* F j, Dicers, Bowlers, Caruers, Scailers, Crossers and Pillers. 1656 *New Almanack* 8 That antient Olympick game called scale pins, in memorie of nine of those gallant lads.

Skaymlis, obs. pl. f. Scamble *sb.*¹

Skayne, obs. form of Skein, Skene.

Skayre, obs. form of Scare *v.*

Skayth, obs. Sc. form of Scathe.

†**Skayved,** *a. Obs.*⁻¹ (Meaning uncertain.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2167 þe skwes of þe scowtes skayued hym bi3t.

Skeal(1: see Scale *sb.*² and *sb.*⁴, Skail-.

†**Skealt.** *Obs.*⁻¹ In 6 **skealte, skelte.** [prob. ad. Irish *scealta*, pl. of *scéal* tale, story.] Story, talk, rumour.

c 1580 J. Hooker *Life Sir P. Carew* in *Archaeol.* XXVIII. 130 This was not onely her talke; but it was also the comon skealte and speache throught the whole lande.

Skean: see Skene, Irish dagger. **Skean(e,** var. Skein *sb.* **Skear,** dial. f. Scare *v.* **Skeary(e,** obs. or dial. ff. Scary *a.* **Skeat,** var. of Sceat. **Skeat(e,** obs. ff. Skate *sb.*¹ **Skeath,** obs. f. Scathe *sb.* **Skeating,** *vbl. sb.*: see Skeet *sb.*

†**Skeck,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 3–4 **skec, skek(ke, seek.** [ad. OF. *eschec*, var. of *eschec* spoil, booty.] An attack made for the sake of plunder; a petty raid. Cf. Skeg *sb.*³

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5131 Bote hii þus mid scolkinge vpe þe englisse wende, & doþ eni skek feble ynou & abbeþ þe worse ende. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4324 (Kölbing), Kepe we þe strait wais Ouer alle in þe cuntrays & robben hem her sustenaunce Wiþ skec. *Ibid.* 4501 þat..Binomen mani painems her liif & wiþ skekes & wiþ fi3t þe wayes loked wele a pli3t.

†**Skeck,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 **skecken, skekke.** [f. prec. Cf. Skick *v.*]

1. *intr.* To make a raid *on*; to spoil, plunder.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7409 (Kölbing), þai hem hidden a litel þer bi, For to aspien, sikerli, þe route of þe Sarrazins.., For to skecken on hem on hest, When þai seize time best. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 82 Thyne executurs Of þe ne will rekke, but skikk ande skekke Full baldely in thi boures.

2. *trans.* To seize as spoil.

c 1325 *Body & Soul* 244 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 243/1 Uche to pyke that he con skekke, Scheep or swyn..or net.

Hence †**Ske·cking** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 3563 (Laud MS.), Many proude gome.. Wille þ wenden in þe morowenyng And vpon vs maken a skekkyng. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 257 Half þe peple stood i-armed wiþoute þe citee forto defende þe cite, and þe workmen for resynge and stekkynge [*v.r.* skekkynge] of straunge nacioun.

Skecon, obs. form of Scutcheon.

Skedaddle (skĭdæ·d'l), *sb. colloq.* [f. the vb.] A hasty or precipitate retreat or flight; a scurry.

1870 M. Collins *Vivian* I. xvii. 267 There was a rapid skedaddle of small legs all in one direction. 1884 Gordon *Jrnls.* (1885) 128 One feels such a mean brute to go egging on men to fight, and then to let it end with a skedaddle.

b. Without article.

1871 *Daily News* 27 Jan., Although the movement was directed by the noble sentiment of wisdom, it must be described by the undignified name of skedaddle. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 2/2 in advocating a policy of skedaddle he only represents himself.

Skedaddle (skĭdæ·d'l), *v. colloq.* Also **skeedadle.** [prob. a fanciful formation.

'Said to be of Swedish and Danish origin, and to have been in common use for several years throughout the North-west, in the vicinity of immigrants from those nations' (Webster, 1864); but there are no forms in Sw. or Da. sufficiently near to be seriously taken into account. There is some slight evidence of the currency of the word in English and Scottish dialect use before it became prominent in America, but it is doubtful how far this is of importance for its origin.]

1. *intr.* Of soldiers, troops, etc.: To retreat or retire hastily or precipitately; to flee.

Orig. U.S. military slang, introduced during the Civil War of 1861–5.

1862 in Post *Soldiers' Lett.* II. xxxii. 90 As soon as the rebs saw our red breeches (the Zouaves) coming through the woods they skedaddled. 1863 J. Russell *Diary North & S.* II. 421 For their men skedaddled, and the Secession cavalry slipping after them, had a very pretty chase. 1875 Buckland *Log-Book* 246 The enemy skedaddled without coming to the scratch. 1894 H. Nisbet *Bush Girl's Rom.* xxvii. 260 So that those honest fellows..might have the less temptation thrown in their way to skedaddle.

2. In general use: To go away, leave, or depart hurriedly; to run away, 'clear out'.

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 May 540/3, I 'skeedaddled' from the capital of the dis-United States. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxxi. 260 Mama, Major Grantly has—skedaddled. 1878 Besant & Rice *Celia's Arb.* xxxix, The middies swiftly creep over the seats and skedaddle.

b. Of animals: To run off, stampede.

1879 F. Pollok *Sport Brit. Burmah* I. 166 There were several hundred elephants about, and they all skedaddled, making for the hills. 1888 J. Inglis *Tent Life in Tigerland* 66 An untried elephant will not unnaturally turn tail and incontinently 'skedaddle' as hard as it can lay legs to the ground.

3. *trans.* To spill (milk, etc.). *dial.*

1862 Ld. Hill in *Times* 13 Oct. 10/3 You blind buzzard, don't you see you are skedaddling all that milk?

Hence **Skeda·ddler.**

1864 *Index* 9 June 359/3 If the emigration of skedaddlers from the field of battle continues to increase. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 507 Consolation to skedaddlers in general.

Skee, var. Ski *sb.* and *v.* **Skeed,** obs. f. Skid *sb.*

Skeel (skīl). Now *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **skele, 6 skelle, 6–9 skeil, 6 skeill, skeyll, 7 skeele, 7–skeel**; 7 **skile, 8–9 skiel,** etc. [a. ON. (now Icel.) *skjóla* pail.]

1. A wooden bucket, pail, tub, or similar vessel used for some domestic purpose, chiefly for holding milk or water, and usually having a handle or handles formed by staves rising above the rim.

In early use freq. in inventories and similar documents; now only dial., chiefly Northern and West Midland.

The precise purpose for which a skeel is used varies in different localities, and this is occas. denoted by a defining word prefixed, as *bread, butter, dough, washing skeel.*

c 1330 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 518 In Erthening, Chescclathe, Meles, et Skeles,..iij*s.* ij*d.* 1387–8 *Ibid.* 314 In iij skelys empt. pro lacte, ix*d.* 1459 *Ibid.* 89, j caldrun, ij skelez, j kyrn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341/2 Skele, *embadium.* 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 231 Fische wyvis cryis, Fy! and castis doun skillis and skeillis. 1570 *Durham Depositt.* (Surtees) 186 This examinate brought water in a skeill to be maid in holly water. 1629 *Mem. Fountains* (Surtees) 305 The greater milking-skeele, one stone trough. 1642 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 145 A little two gallon skeele to fetch water in. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 169 She must either quit her place,

or break the *skeel*; the vessel in which water is brought from the well. 1789 W. H. MARSHALL *Glouc.* I. 269 Skeels..are broad shallow vessels; principally for the purpose of setting milk in. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Skiel*, a beer-cooler, used in brewing. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1008 Part of the butter is spread on the bottom of another bason or *skeel*. 1825– in dial. glossaries (Cumb., Durh., Glouc., Heref., Northampt., Warw., Worc., Yorks.). 1854 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edin.* (1886) 3 Mrs. Hyslop's head was over the skeil, wherein lay one of the linen shirts of Mr. Dallas.

2. *Coalmining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 224 *Skeel*, a kind of cage in which coals are lowered down the cuts or staples.

Hence **Skee·lful**, a bucketful, pailful.

1575-6 *Durham Deposit.* (Surtees) 296 This examinate had bein at St. Oswald's well for a skeil full of wayter. 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 237 But wi' skeelfuls o' wetter he brightened his jaw.

Skeel, variant of SCALE *sb.*[2]

Skeel-duck, -goose: see next (quot. 1806).

Skee·ling. *Orkney dial.* Also 6 **skilling.** [prob. of Scandinavian origin.] *Skeeling-goose*, the sheldrake.

1578 [see ROUT *sb.*[7]]. 1684 SIR R. SIBBALD *Scotia* III. 21 *Skeeling-goose*, de quo fama est, in ejus Ventriculo Grana Piperis reperiri, de quo tamen non constat. 1806 NEILL *Tour Ork. & Shetl.* 195 *Skeel-goose*, Shieldrake, *Anas Tadorna*. In Orkney it is sometimes also called skeeling-goose or skeel-duck. 1866 EDMONSTON *Gloss. Shetl. & Orkney* 104.

Skeely, variant of SKILLY *a. Sc.* and *north.*

Skee·man. *Naut.* [ad. Du. *schieman* (hence G. *schiemann*, F. *esquiman*) 'boatswain's mate', formerly also *schimman* (so in LG. of 1557), possibly for *schipman* SHIPMAN.] (See quot.)

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 306 The line-managers, together with the 'skeeman' [*note*, the officer who has the direction of operations conducted in the hold], the cooper, and..a few others, are employed in breaking out the hold.

Skeemish, obs. or dial. form of SQUEAMISH.

Skeen (skīn). Also **skin, skyn.** *β.* **sakeen, sakin.** [ad. Tibetan *skyin.*] The Himalayan ibex (*Capra himalayana*).

α. 1825 J. D. HERBERT in *Asiatic Researches* XV. 397 A curious animal, which had been killed in hunting and which these people called Skin. 1842 VIGNE *Trav. Kashmir* II. 385 Several Skyn or Ibex had been seen. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Naturalist India* 233 The ibex (*Capra himalayana*)..is known to the natives by the names 'skeen' and 'kail'.

β. 1836 *Jrnl. Asiatic Soc. Bengal* V. 242 Capra Ibex? called Sakeen in Kanáwar. 1852 GRAY *Catal. Specim. Mammalia Brit. Mus.* III. 152 Capra Himalayana. The Sakeen or Skyn.

Skeen: see SCHEME *sb.*[2], SKENE.

Skeer, dial. f. SCARE *v.*; var. of SKERE *a. Obs.*

Skeer, *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 7 **skeere.** [Cf. SKIRR *v.*] *trans.* = SKIRR *v.* 4.

For intransitive uses, current in Somerset and Wiltshire, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1636 R. JAMES *Minucius Felix* 8 Children sportfully contending who should skeere shells farthest upon the top of the sea. 1880 *Cornwall Gloss.* 51/1 *Skeer*, to skim a stone on the surface of the water.

Skeer, *v.*[2] *dial.* Also **skare.** [a. ON. *skara* (still in Icel., Norw., and Sw. dial.), in the same sense. For the form *skeer* cf. SCARE *v.*] *trans.* To poke out (ashes), clear out (a fire) by poking.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 17 *Skeer the Esse*: Cheshire. Separate the dead ashes from the Embers. 1791-6 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser. II, *Skare*, 'to skare the fire,' to stir it at the bottom and potter the dust out. 1865– in dial. glossaries (Derby, Cheshire, Sheffield).

Skeer-devil, variant of SCARE-DEVIL 2.

Skeery, variant of SCARY *a.*

Skeet (skīt), *sb.* Also 5 **skete,** 9 **skeat.** [Of obscure origin.] A long-handled scoop or shovel; in later use *Naut.* (see quots. 1769, 1846). Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 168 A skete is opyn a-forn, redy to deluyn in-to þe nesch wose, & redy to delyuere it out. A skete also suindel, in þe heuyd, is raysed & reryd on bothe sydes...Also a skete hath a long handle. *Ibid.* 178 Lo, how þis skeet of perfyȝt sorwe sauyd þe chanoun fro wordly schame. 1662 *Ir. Stat. at Large* (1765) II. 465 Skeets for whitsters, the skeet 1*s.* 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 476 That the Men in the Boats might be ready with Skeets and Buckets to put out any Fire these Savages might endeavour to fix to the Outside of the Ship. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 152 Skeets are for weting Yachts Sails, or the Ship's Sides. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Skeet*, a..long scoop..used to wet the decks and sides of a ship in hot weather...This instrument.. is also employed in small vessels to wet the sails, to render them more..efficacious in light breezes. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284 *Skeet*, a piece of wood or iron with a groove in it, used for throwing water over the planks of a ship's sides. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 13 A man stood on the gunwale throwing water into the sail with a long-handled metal 'skeet'.

Hence **Skeet** *v. trans.*, to throw (water) over sails, etc., with a skeet; to wet (sails) in this way; **Skee·ting** *vbl. sb.*

1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 17 The men on board still 'skeeting' the water on to the sails. 1890 *Outing* XXIV. 470/2 Our British-made sails were..kept decently flat only by drenching the luffs with water, a process called 'skeating'.

† **Skeet,** *adv.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 3–5 **sket** (4 **schet, skette,** 4–5 **skit**), 4–5 **skete** (4 **schete, sckete**), **skeet** (5 **skeete**). [a. ON. *skjótt* (Icel. *skjótt*, Norw. *skjott*; MSw. *skot, skyt, skut*) quickly, neut. of *skjótr* (Icel. *skjótur*, Norw. *skjot*; MSw. *skioter, skiuter*) swift, quick, related to ON. *skýta*, = OE. *scéotan* to shoot. The corresponding OE. adj. *scéot* occurs once, with the variant *gescéot.*]

A. *adv.* **1.** Quickly, hastily, immediately.

Very common in metrical texts *c* 1300–1400.

c 1200 ORMIN 1266 3iff þu..3eornesst tatt tu mote sket Uppcumenn inntill heoffne. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1960 Mi dore he broken up ful sket, And wolde me linden hond and fet. 13.. *Coer de L.* 5488 (W.), The ryche Sawdon, al so skete, A noble clerk he sente for thenne. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 195 Jenne ascryed þay hym sckete, & asked ful loude [etc.]. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 493 þe sergeauntz stirten out skeet, þai founden hym, & kisten his feet. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vii. 221 Thay were dampned, sone and skete, Vnto the pyne of hell.

2. Readily, easily. *rare.*

c 1200 ORMIN 2900 Forr mann mass sket to soffte ben 3æn þa patt Drihhtin wrabbenn. *Ibid.* 4716.

B. *adj.* Swift, active.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13434 This Askathes, the skathill, had sket sones thre. *Ibid.* 13672 Ascatus þe skete, for skath of his sonęs, Miche water he weppit.

Hence † **Skee·tly** *adv. Obs.*—[1]

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5040 þen bownes agayn þe bald kyng, baldly he wepis, þat he so skitly suld skifte.

Skee·ter, colloq. form (chiefly U.S. and Austr.) of MOSQUITO.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xx, Miss Feely whip!—wouldn't kill a skeeter, her whippins. 1882 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *Three in Norway* xvii. 131 In this happy spot the 'skeeter' is unknown. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 14 Making up the fire, and throwing some green bushes on it to drive the skeeters away.

† **Skeeth,** obs. or erron. f. SHEATH (of a plough).

1614 MARKHAM *Eng. Husb.* I. i, The head thicke and large, the skeeth broad, strong, and well sloping. *Ibid.*, A slender skeeth.

Skeffington's daughter: see SCAVENGER'S DAUGHTER. **Skefold,** obs. form of SCAFFOLD.

Skeg, *sb.*[1] Also 6 **skeygg,** 7 **skegge, scegg,** 7, 9 **skegg.** [a. ON. *skegg* (Icel. *skegg*, Norw. *skjegg*, Sw. *skägg*, Da. *skjæg*) beard (of men, also transf. of a ship, of grain, etc.). Sense **2**, however, may be directly from Du. *scheg, schegge* (hence G. *schegg, schech*), which represents the same Scand. word.]

1. *local.* A species of bearded oat, of inferior quality (see quots.). Also *attrib.* in *skeg-oat.*

1598 I. R. *Fitzherbert's Husb.* § 14 These [rough oats] are for the most barranest Heath or forrest ground that may be, as in Darbishiere, where they call them Skeyggs, and not Oates. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 18 The Oates being good, sound and full, and not like your Southerne Oates light and empty, which in the North we call skegs. 1794 R. LOWE *Agric. Notts.* 9 It was usual to get five crops running; oats or pease, barley, rye, oats, and lastly skegs. 1804 A. HUNTER *Georgical Ess.* (ed. 4) VI. 259 Upon such land he may profitably obtain a crop of skegs. 1832 WHITE *Notts.* 44 *Skegs*, a species of oats, are the '*Avena stipiformis*' of Linnæus. They grow where nothing else will, and yield a sweet nourishing food.

attrib. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. (1617) 9 Now there is a fourth kinde of Oate, which is a Skeg-oate, which is a small light naughtie Oate. 1613— *Eng. Husb.* I. xvii, The skegge Oate..with a beard at the small end like a wilde Oate.

2. *Shipbuilding.* (See quots.) Also *attrib.*

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), *Skegg*, is that little parte of the Keele which is cutt slaunting, and is lefte a little without the Sternepost. [Hence in Boteler, Phillips (1658), and later Dicts.] 1664 E. BUSHNELL *Shipwright* 21 The little round piece of an Arch, in the Scegg of the Vessell. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v., These Skegs are very useless and inconvenient, for they are apt to snap off, and so endanger the Stern-Post. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284 *Skeg-shores*, pieces of plank put up endways under the skeg of a heavy ship, to steady her after part a little at the moment of launching. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2103/2 *Skeg*,..a knee which unites and braces the stern-post and keel of a boat.

Skeg, *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 7 **skegg(e.** [Of obscure origin: cf. SCAD[2].] A species of wild plum, esp. the bullace (*Prunus insititia*) or the sloe (*P. spinosa*).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 278 *marg.* Some take them for Damascen plums, or rather for Bullois, Skegs, or such like wilde Plums. 1611 FLORIO, *Bullot*, bulloes, slowne, or skegs. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cclx, The Sloes and Skeggs grow in Hedges and Copses. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Skeg*, a wild plum of a reddish colour, growing in hedges. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial.*, *Skeg*, the wild damson. *c* 1895 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., He laughed at me for calling berries skegs.

attrib. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 511 That kind of Peaches or Abricots...love better to bee graffed either upon a skeg or wild Plum-stocke, or Quince. *Ibid.* 554 Skeg trees, Brambles, the little wild Bulbous Crow-toes.

† **Skeg,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* In 6 **skegg(e.** = SKECK *sb.*

1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 211 His Majeste meaneth not that suche revenge shall procede upon every skeggę or thefte, but uppon a notable rode or hurte. 1545 *Ibid.* 434 Upon the courrage wherof the Scottes shall perchaunce attempt somme skegg upon the frontiers.

Skeg, *sb.*[4] Now *dial.* Also 7 **scoeg.** [Of obscure origin: the form *skag* is also current in south-western dialects.] (See quot. 1839.)

1625 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Arrant Thiefe* B 4, A nayle, or scoeg, by chance his breech did teare. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref., Skeg*, the stump of a branch; also a rent in a piece of cloth such as would be made by a stump of a branch.

Hence **Skeg** *v. trans.*, to tear (cloth) jaggedly or as with a snag.

1890– in dial. glossaries (Glouc., Wilts.).

Skegger (ske·gəɹ). Also 7 **skeggar,** 8 **scegger,** 9 **scagger.** [Of obscure origin.] A young salmon, a samlet; salmon fry.

1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 141 There is more then one sort of them [salmon], as namely, a Tecon, and another called in some places a Samlet, or by some, a Skegger. 1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1694) 255 In the South they call him Samlet; but if you step to the West he is better known there by the name of Skeggar. 1661 WALTON *Angler* (ed. 3) vii. 135 Those little Salmons called Skeggers, which abound in many Rivers relating to the sea. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* I. iv. 19 The Salmon-Fry, or Scegger, call'd in some Countries a Salmon-Smelt. 1818 J. HASSELL *Rides & Walks round Metrop.* II. 58 There is excellent fly-fishing for a small fish called a scagger. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 48 A Salmon or a Skegger in the Thames is now but rarely seen. 1882 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 68 [Salmon] from one to two years old; before it has gone to the sea, it is known as a shed, skegger [etc.].

attrib. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iii. 85 A little Trout called a Samlet or Skegger Trout;..these [are] by some taken to be young Salmons.

Skeigh (skīχ), *a.* and *adv. Sc.* Forms: 6–7 **skeich,** 9 **skiech, skeech**; 8 **skiegh,** 8– **skeigh.** [Related to OE. *scéoh* shy (= MHG. *schiuhe, schiech-*, G. *scheuch*), but the origin of the *sk-* is not clear: cf. SKEY *a.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of horses: Inclined to shy; skittish, mettlesome, spirited.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Maritt Wemen* 357 He is nought skeich, na 3it sker, na scippis nought on syd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. vi. 134 Thymetes..Castyn from hys staffage, skeich and hedstrang hors. *c* 1620 SIR J. MELVIL *Memoirs* (Bann. Cl.) 34 My skeich horse ran throw them.., against my will. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* viii, When thou an' I were young an' skiegh,..How thou wad prance, an' snore, an' scriegh, An' tak the road! 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iv, The loupin here and there of the skeigh brute of a horse. 1892 N. DICKSON *Kirk Beadle* 62 The minister remarked as he saw the mare a little friskier than usual, 'She's a little skiech the day'.

2. *transf.* Of persons, esp. women. Hence, shy, coy, disdainful, proud.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxvii. 34 Quhen scho growis skeich, I byd on beich, To lat hir in the brydill bend. 1568 CHARTERIS *Pref. to Lyndesay's Wks.* A ij b, Now Courteouris cum hidder! Thocht ȝe be skeich, and skip abone the skyis. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. vi, And vow gin she was skeigh And mim that day. 1769 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 90 The lasses turned skeigh, man, They hid themsels amang the corn. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 33/2 There's nae need for being sae skeigh on a night like this. 1861 J. BARR *Poems* 235 (E. D. D.), There should be something done anent her, She'll turn ower skeigh.

B. *adv.* Proudly, disdainfully.

1792 BURNS *Duncan Gray* 6 Maggie coost her head fu' high, Looked asklent and unco skiegh. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 153 Wi' guid plain fare we'll leuk fu' skeigh, Haud up our nose fu' bauld, ay.

Hence **Skeigh** *v. intr.*, to shy, startle; **Skei·gh-ish** *a.*, somewhat skittish.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. xiii. 152 Harlyt wyth hors that caucht affray And skeichit at ane meirswyne by the way. 1827 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 12 (E. D. D.), The capering skeighish jade Made him owre the rumple fly, In dirt that day.

Skeil(, obs. forms of SKEEL.

Skein (skēin), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 5–7 **skeyne,** 7– **skein.** *β.* 5 **skayn(e,** 6–7 **skaine,** 6–8 **skain**; 6 **scayne,** 7 **sc(h)aine,** 8 **scain.** *γ.* 6 **scan** (*Sc.* **sc-, skanze**), **skane,** 7 **scane.** *δ.* 6 **sken(e,** *Sc.* **skenye, -ȝe,** 7 **skiene, skeane,** 9 **skean.** [ad. OF. *escaigne* (1354 in Godefroy; mod. Picard dial. *écaigne, écagne*), of obscure origin. Cf. med. L. *scagna* (1294 in Du Cange).]

1. A quantity of thread or yarn, wound to a certain length upon a reel, and usually put up in a kind of loose knot.

A skein of cotton consists of eighty turns of the thread upon a reel fifty-four inches in circumference.

α. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skeyne, of threde, *filipulum, cernaculum.* *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 310 Some for very nede Layde downe a skeyne of threde, And some a skeyne of yarne. 1619 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 116 [We] send you two skeynes [of silk] heerewith. 1681 FLAVEL *Right Man's Ref.* 249 Like a ravelled skeyn of silk, so entangled and perplexed. 1704 DE FOE *Giving Alms no Charity*, For every skein of worsted these poor children spin, there must be a skein the less spun by some poor family. 1772 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 39 They spun forty-two and a half skeins of line, worsted, and tow-yarn. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 302 The silk is imported into this country thus wound off into skeins. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 179 Woollen yarn is reckoned in skeins, the scale being based on the number of yards per dram.

β. 1442 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 387, xvj Skaynys of grete packethrede. 1486 *Nunn. Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 13, vj skaynes of Saile Twyne. 1579 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 255 For 4 scaynes yelow sylke, *6d.* 1628–9 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (ed. Swayne) 313, 2 skaines of silke to sewe y^e cushin, *2d.* 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 253/1 This is an other kind of engine..by which silk skaines or hanks..are vnwound. 1765 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 205 The manufacturers usually distinguish and denominate the fineness, by the number of skains which go to the pound.

γ. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 798 Reche me that skane of tewly sylk. 1527 *Dunnow Churchw. MS.* f. 6 b, For ii scanys of whyte threde for the copys, 8*d.* 1675 in Wise-

man *Surg. Treat.* 300, I kept the Ulcer..open with a Scane of Silk.

δ. 1541 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 23 Foure skenȝe pakin threid, price xij *d.* 1546 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 159 Payd for a skene of sylke to mend the second cope, ij^{d}. 1591 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 79 A sken of black stychinge silke, i *d.* 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 54 The Skeane there breaketh soonest, where the Threed is finest. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* II. iii, A skeane of brown thread. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* i, She sold tape, thread, needles, skeans of worsted.

b. *fig.* (esp. with *ravelled, tangled*, etc.).

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 35 Thou idle, immateriall skiene of Sleyd silke. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. ii, My parts depend Vpon the vnwinding this so knotted skeane. 1636 T. COLE in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 39 Detraction will be ready to undoe, And ravell out my skaines, ere they can well Bee stretch't upon the Loome. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 145 They disentangle from the puzzled skein..The threads of politic and shrewd design. 1797 *Enquirer* I. xi. 95 In the tangled skein of human affairs. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xxxi, The unwinding of the perilous skein of state politics. 1884 *Spectator* 2 Aug. 999/2 The appointment..might introduce order into the confused skein of our policy there.

† **c.** A certain length or quantity *of* girth-web made up like a skein. *Obs.*—[1]

1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 499 Tuay skenyeis of girdis to bind up the bedde.

2. *transf.* **a.** A small cluster or arrangement resembling a skein.

1687 *Death's Vision* x. (1713) 51 *note* 13 The Glands are found to be nothing but a Clew or Skain of most fine and slender Pipes. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 757 Ah, gentle! 'tis as weak as spider's skein. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad, Crowd* I. xxiii. 256 Her red cheeks and lips contrasting lustrously with the mazy skeins of her shadowy hair. 1878 J. MILLER *Songs of Italy* 117 Far And near red lightning in ribbon and skein Did write upon heaven Jehovah's name.

b. A flight of wild fowl.

1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 119 Skeins of wild geese fly clanking over our heads. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Holmby House* I. 53 A skein of wild fowl..were winging their arrowy flight. 1889 H. M. DOUGHTY *Friesland Meres* 182 Only one skein of geese passed over us.

3. *attrib.*, as *skein-silk, wool*, etc.

1764 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 17 Mar., Scain and Barrel Pig-Tail, and Shagg Tobaccoes. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Skein-silk Dyer*, a dyer of raw silk. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 289 Skein sewing-silk is made of three to ten threads twisted together, and two of these latter doubled. 1875 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 318 A great heap of skein-wool has come for me.

Skein (skēin), *sb.*[2] Also **skain.** [ad. Du. *scheen* (MDu. *scheene*), = G. *schiene* in the same senses (see Grimm, s.v.), cognate with SHIN *sb.*]

1. A split of osier after being dressed for use in fine basket-work.

1837 HEBERT *Eng. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 154 The osiers are divided into four parts, lengthways, which are called splits, and these are afterwards reduced to various degrees of fineness, when they are called skeins. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) I. 109/1 By passing the splits between the two edges, they are reduced to skains. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 423/1 The skains are frequently smoked and dyed either of dull or brilliant colours.

2. *U.S.* A metal head or thimble protecting the spindle of a wooden axle.

1862 T. HUGHES in Ludlow *Hist. U.S.* 345 One of the free-state settlers went to the blacksmith's shop unarmed, carrying a waggon skein to be repaired. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2193/2 The ordinary skein consists of three straps, let into slots in the arm.

Skein (skēin), *v.* Also 8 **skain.** [f. SKEIN *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To make into skeins.

1775 ASH, *Skain*, to wind and make up threads in knots or small parcels. 1864 *Intellect. Obs.* No. 34. 303 The men skeining the cotton. 1899 *Academy* 11 Feb. 184/1 Flax was ..spun into thread, skeined, and bleached in butter milk.

Skein(e, var. forms of SKENE.

Skeith (skīth), local var. of *skeef* SCAIFE.

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 369 The Yorkshire two-horse swing-plough, furnished with a 'skeith' instead of a straight coulter. 1884 *Impl. & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6727/1 The skeith or wheel-coulter..divides the slice into two parts.

Skelder, *v.* *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [A cant term of obscure origin.]

1. *intr.* To beg; to live by begging, esp. by passing oneself off as a wounded or disbanded soldier.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. ii, An honest decayed commander, cannot skelder, cheat, nor be seene in a bawdie house, but he shall be straight in one of their wormewood comœdies. 1611 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* I. i, You see how I must skelder for your good. 1633 MARMION *Fine Companion* III. iv, Wandering abroad to skelder for a shilling. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xxxviii, Such a wife would save thee from skeldering on the public.

2. *trans.* To swindle, cheat, defraud (a person); also, to obtain (money) by cheating.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, A man may skelder yee, now and then, of halfe a dozen shillings, or so. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn Bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 246 He shall now and then light vpon some gull..whom he may skelder..of mony. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxxiv, I could not skelder one piece out of them, without risk of hue and cry.

Hence **Skeldering** *vbl. sb.*

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Introd., His profession is skeldring and odling. 1602 DEKKER *Satiromast.* Wks. 1873 I. 203 If Skeldring fall not to decay, thou shalt flourish. 1606 — *Seven Deadly Sins* Ded., That art of Skeldring I studie not; I stand vpon stronger Bases.

Skeldering, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [f. prec. + -ING[2].] Begging, sponging, swindling.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. i, There was the madde skeldring captaine, with the veluet armes. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* vi. (Arb.) 41 The Meanie are..skeldring soldiers, and begging schollers. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* v. i, You skeldering varlet! hold, stand. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, Such base, skeldering, coistril propositions. 1826 — *Woodst.* xx, I have lived in a skeldering sort of way myself.

† **Skeldock.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **skaldock,** 8 **scaldrick.** [Obscurely related to KEDLOCK; see also SKELLOCH *sb.*[1]] (See quots.)

1673 WEDDERBURN *Vocab.* 18 (Jam.), *Rapistrum arvorum*, skaldocks. 1747 R. MAXWELL *Bee-Master* (1750) 71 There are two Sorts of wild Mustard, the one commonly called Skeldocks, the other Runches...Skeldocks yield Yellow, Runches very white Honey. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl., Cramond* I. 217 The long continued use of the town dung has filled the soil full of every kind of annual weeds, particularly..wild mustard, called here scaldricks.

Skeldraik, -drake: see SCALEDRAKE.

† **Skele.** *Obs. rare.* [? ad. OF. *escuele*: see ESQUELE.] A dish or platter.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1405 When alle segges were þer set, þen seruyse bygynnes,..Burnes berande þe bredes vpon brode skeles.

Skele, obs. form of SKEEL *sb.*

Skelet. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **skelette,** 7 **scelet.** [ad. older F. (16th cent.) *sc-, sk-, squelete* (also *sch-, squelet*, etc.; mod.F. *squelette*), or Gr. σκελετ-ός, -όν: see SKELETON *sb.*]

1. A skeleton. Also *fig.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Forma ossea*,..a skelette. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* Explan. Words, *Scelet*..is taken also for a dead carcasse of man or woman, represented with the bones onely, and ligaments. 1621 S. WARD *Life of Faith* 24 For what should I cast away speech vpon scelets and skulles, carnall men I meane. 1707 SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* Suppl. (1826) IV. 673 The Lords thought this decreet had not so much as the visage and scelet of a decreet. 1720 PENNECUIK *Helicon* (ed. 2) 146 The Skelet now hath got his Breast-Plate on. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Cornwall), She's nothing but a walking skelet.

† **2.** A mummy. *Obs. rare.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 328 To bring in place.. at their feasts a Scelet, that is to say, a drie and withered anatomie of a dead man.

Skelet, obs. form of SKILLET[1].

Skeletal (skelĭtăl), *a.* [f. SKELET-ON *sb.* + -AL.] Of or belonging to, forming or formed by, forming part of, or resembling, a skeleton.

Skeletal muscle, a muscle attached to and controlling a part of a skeleton.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 168 The skeletal framework..does not go beyond the fibrous stage. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 8 The skeletal formations in the sternal region of the visceral wall. 1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* I. ii. (1879) 37 All the ordinary striated skeletal muscles are connected with nerves.

Skeleto-, combining form of Gr. σκελετός, -όν, used in a few scientific terms, as **skeleto·genous** *a.*, producing, or helping to form, a skeleton; **skeleto·graphy, skeleto·logy, skeleto·trophic** *a.* (see quots.).

1851 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*, *Skeletology*,..a treatise on the solid parts of the body. 1876 *Ibid.*, *Skeletography*, a description of the skeleton. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 427 The tissue..which has been called the 'skeletogenous layer' or skeletogenous tissue', on account of its relations to the future skeleton. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 634/1 The skeletal and blood-containing and -producing tissues in fact form one..continuous whole, which may be called the skeleto-trophic system of tissues.

Skeleton (skelĭtŏn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6–8 **sceleton** (7 **scell-, scal-**). *β.* 7 **skelliton** (**-itan**), **skelle-, skel(i)ton, skeleten,** 7– **skeleton.** [a. mod.L. *scelet(on, skeleton*, ad. Gr. σκελετόν (sc. σῶμα), neut. of σκελετός dried up, f. σκέλλειν to dry up. The Gr. masc. form σκελετός also occurs in this sense, whence late L. *sceletus* (Appuleius). Cf. F. *squelette* (see SKELET), Sp. and Pg. *esqueleto*, It. *scheletro.*]

1. The bones or bony framework of an animal body considered as a whole; also, more generally, the harder (supporting or covering) constituent part of an animal organism.

α. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* B iiij, I haue found some of Galens Sceletons in sundry pointes. *a* 1616 B. JONSON *Masques* Wks. (1616) 966 Whose very sceleton boasts so much worth. 1665 HUBERT *Catal. Rarities* 4 A Scelleton of a little Marmoset. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 408/1 The Scaleton of a Man..is the emblem of Mortality. 1768 CHESELDEN *Anat.* 50 The sceleton of a child twenty months old. *Ibid.* 59 A sceleton of an adult.

β. 1611 COTGR., *Scelete*,..a carkasse whereof nothing is left but the bones, which we call a Skelton, or Skeliton. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 38 By continuall sight of Anatomies, Skeletons, or Cadaverous reliques. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 338 These poor Wretches look'd like Skeletons. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 498 At the entrance hang the skeleton and some other parts of a whale. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Trans. Humboldt* xix. 279 All the skeletons are bent, and so entire that not a rib or a bone of the fingers or toes is wanting. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* ii. (1849) 84 Even the muscles [of the crab] becoming detached from the skeleton. 1884 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. p. xiv, The skeleton or endo-skeleton of fishes differs widely in the various orders. *fig.* 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ix. 347 Grammar is not only the skeleton of a language but the very life-blood of it as well.

b. *A skeleton in the closet, cupboard*, etc.: A secret source of shame or pain to a family or person. Brought into literary use by Thackeray, but known to have been current at an earlier date.

1845 THACKERAY *Punch in the East* Wks. 1886 XXVI. 112 There is a skeleton in every house. 1855 — *Newcomes* lv, Some particulars regarding the Newcome family, which will show us that they have a skeleton or two in *their* closets, as well as their neighbours. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 62 Our family had a skeleton in the cupboard. 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* ix, She regretted having ever unveiled for her benefit the family skeleton. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 51/1 A household that..possessed no closeted skeleton.

c. *A skeleton at the feast* (or *banquet*), a reminder of serious or saddening things in the midst of enjoyment; a source of gloom or depression.

An allusion to the practice of the ancient Egyptians, as recorded by Plutarch in his *Moralia.*

1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Livingstone* iii. 18 The skeleton of ennui sat at these dreary feasts; and it was not even crowned with roses. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. iv. 86 He was..the general skeleton at all banquets. 1896 MRS. HUNGERFORD *Lonely Girl* xiv, To give him leisure to act the skeleton at the feast.

2. *transf.* A very thin, lean, or emaciated person or animal.

1629 MASSINGER *Picture* III. i, Who haue we heere? What skelliton's this?..A Ghost! or the image of famine! 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. West* 2, I gave 2s. 6d. for the hire of the Skelliton or Anatomy of a Beast to carry me ten miles. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* iii. 65 He came out half starved, a mere Sceleton. 1715 J. CHAPPELOW *Right way Rich* (1717) 55 We are become an army of mere skellitons. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 213 The sad sense of impending evil..wore him down to a skeleton. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cii, A mother had not known her son Amidst the skeletons of that gaunt crew. 1847 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vi. 193 Men gaunt skeletons; women in cabins too weak to stand.

b. *fig.* A mere outline; a thing having a bare, meagre, unattractive character.

1607 BREWER *Lingua* III. ii, Such a Rawbond Skelton as Memory. 1642 LD. BROOKE *Disc. Episc.* Ep. Ded. 3 How much lesse then, when presented only in a bare and naked Sceleton? *c* 1685 BURNET *Own Time* Suppl. (1902) I. 3 He laid all the Scriptures relating to any point together, but it was but a skeleton of bones. 1857 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 49 The systems [men] learn are nothing but skeletons to them. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 376 Scarcely a skeleton of the proceedings of the earlier sessions.

3. The supporting framework of anything, as of buildings, etc.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Wks.* (1687) 32 So by an Abbey's Skeleton of late I heard an Eccho supererogate. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 109/2 *Carcase*, is (as it were) the Skelleton or Frame of an House new raised. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. iii. (1762) 5 The plant would indeed die..: without earth, not even a skeleton of it would remain. 1792 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* II. 266 The Skeleton or Carpentry of the Dome. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 48 We noticed this day the skeleton or frame of a skin canoe. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* xiii. 727 The obvious use of the saline matters is to furnish a skeleton or support for the plant. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geogr.* iv. 168 The mountain chains which form the skeleton of Europasia.

4. The bare outlines or main features, the most necessary elements, *of* something.

1647 *Case of Kingdom* 2 The bare bones, the very Skeleton of a Monarchie. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. (1662) 2 This bare Sceleton of Time, Place, and Person, must be fleshed with some pleasant passages. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 42. 222 They have the skeletons of all the arts or sciences, in which they are to be examined. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 175 Being indeed only the sceleton of the bill. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 10 July, What did you write of it here?..Did you finish any part? or only form the skeleton? 1836 H. ROGERS *J. Howe* ii. 27 It may be useful..to look even on the skeleton of the Scriptures. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 164 The sterner features remain, the skeleton of thought.

b. The outlines, plan, or scheme of a sermon.

1724 R. WODROW *Life of J. Wodrow* (1828) 125 He took in the performances he termed skeletons. *c* 1799 J. BUNTING in *Life* (1859) I. vii. 102 My stock of skeletons is yet so small, that I should find it difficult..to avoid sameness and repetition. 1808 SIMEON (*title*), Helps to Composition: or, Six hundred skeletons of sermons.

5. *Mil.* The small number of men (and officers) representing a regiment which is far short of its full strength. (Cf. 7 c.)

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Skeleton*,..frequently applied to regiments..extremely reduced in their number of men. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 77 Having on board part of the skeleton of the 16th regiment of foot, ..consisting of 10 officers, and 62 rank and file. 1837 COL. THOMPSON in Barrow *Mirr. Parl.* III. 1805/2 A fat soldier..said, 'I am the skeleton of the 101st regiment'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 628 *Skeleton of a Regiment*, its principal officers and staff. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 387/2.

6. *ellipt.* **a.** *pl.* A skeleton suit.

1879 MRS. EWING *Jackanapes* iii, It was when he had just been put into Skeletons (frocks never suited him).

b. A skeleton key.

1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 24 Oct. 8/1, 300 implements for house-breaking,..skeletons and other keys.

c. A skeleton toboggan.

1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 204/1 There were sixteen entries on skeletons...Eight skeletons (four gentlemen and four ladies) ran in the second heat.

7. *attrib.* That is, or has the character of, a skeleton:

a. In sense 1, as *skeleton-chief, -hand*, etc.

1811 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* III. xvi, Her skeleton form the

dead Nun reared Which dripped with the chill dew of hell. 1831 HOWITT *Seasons* (1837) 288 The plants which waved their broad, white umbels.., like skeleton-trophies of death. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xv, He was high-shouldered and bony;..and had a long lank, skeleton hand. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 82 It was an army of skeletons—a skeleton chief at their head and skeleton horses to bear them onward!

b. In sense 4, as *skeleton map, note, plan, sermon* (cf. 4 b), etc.

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, Skeleton plan. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* viii. 202 The skeleton-machinery of his individual existence. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* 134 The circulation of printed skeleton forms, on various subjects. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* III. § 2. 138 Skeleton maps of knowledge. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor.* 35, I have but filled in the little skeleton notes in the musty memoranda of travel. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 260 A sort of skeleton biographies of the leading men. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xvii. (1876) 475 A series of skeleton sermons.

c. In sense 5, as *skeleton battalion, company, crew, regiment*, etc.

1778 A. HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VII. 546 Owing to the skeleton state of our regiments. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 183 With my skeleton-battalion, therefore, I proceeded to the fort. 1829 BESTE *Mem.* 177 A skeleton regiment, such is the phrase, arrived from the West Indies. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxv, To fill up the skeleton ranks of the different Companies. 1833 *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* II. 38 The Skeleton Squadron will be composed of non-commissioned officers, or privates, with their coverers. 1881 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 5/6 The brigade depot at Chester, consisting of four skeleton companies of the 22nd Regiment.

d. In miscellaneous uses, as *skeleton ball, beam, clock, dial, key*, etc.; also **skeleton larva, shrimp, suit** (see quots.).

1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 125 A new Beacon has been erected.., having a *Skeleton Ball at the top. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* App. 23 The first case explained will be that of a *skeleton beam, composed of a framework of slender bars of the simplest possible construction. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* s. v., A *skeleton clock is one which is without the usual case, and so fitted up, that the interior wheel-work is visible. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* II. ii. 23 On the mantelpiece was a skeleton-clock. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 176 A *skeleton dial of cast iron gilt. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 126 **Skeleton face*, thin-faced letter used for jobbing purposes. *Ibid.*, **Skeleton forme*, a special forme—usually of a broken and open nature. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 296 The locks might have been picked with *skeleton-keys. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* s. v., Skeleton keys are thin light keys, with almost the whole substance of the bits filed away. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 156 The aquatic larvæ of a gnat, commonly called *skeleton larvæ, form a very amusing exhibition. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 194 Distinct .. as is the *skeleton leaf Whose green hath fretted off its fibrous frame. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 147 This double layer.. is readily seen in what are called skeleton leaves, namely, those in which the parenchyma between the veins has been destroyed. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 29 A bar movement is sometimes called a '*skeleton' movement. 1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 327 *Skeleton packs are made by taking three or four cards out of the pack. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 493 A *skeleton platform which is filled in with withies and made flat. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 766 A *skeleton roof..is formed of long poles [etc.]. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 212 The popular name of Spectre, or *Skeleton Shrimp, seems very appropriate to *Caprella*. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz* (1850) 46 A patched and much-soiled *skeleton suit; one of those straight blue cloth cases in which small boys used to be confined. 1852 *Househ. Wds.* V. 190/1 Those premier pantaloons were snuff-coloured, buttoning over the jacket, and forming, with an extensive shirt frill, what was then called a '*skeleton suit'.

8. *Comb.*, as *skeleton-producing, -strewn* adjs.; *skeleton-wise* adv.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 726 The skeleton-producing cells appear to be derived from the ectoderm. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 382 To have pencil and paper at hand and jot down the dream, at least skeletonwise. 1895 SHAND *Life Gen. Hamley* I. iv. 94 On the skeleton-strewn plateau.

Ske·leton, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To outline or mark after the manner of a skeleton.

1861 *Athenæum* 23 Feb. 262/1 The swarthy wood-marge, skeleton'd with snow. 1897 *Daily News* 23 June 15/4 The ..thirty miles of shipping will be skeletoned in lights.

2. To construct in outline.

1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* I. 202 The true Black-Forest novel, if it is ever written, will be skeletoned somewhat in this way. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 6/2 He skeletons his act, then clothes it with language.

3. To convert into a skeleton.

1888 *Scientific American* LVIII. 203 A recipe for skeletoning and bleaching leaves.

Ske·letoned, *ppl. a.* [f. SKELETON *sb.* or *v.*] Reduced to a skeleton; skeletonized.

1850 S. G. OSBORNE *Gleanings* 53 This little blanched piece of skeletoned humanity. 1891 F. ADAMS *J. Webb's End* 233 The empty, skeletoned hide of a bullock.

Ske·letoness, *nonce-word.* A female skeleton.

1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* I. 9 A marvellously lean lady, called the 'living skeletoness'.

Skeleto·nian, *a. rare.* [f. SKELETON *sb.*] Pertaining to or resembling a skeleton; skeletal.

1801 R. WARDLAW *Let.* in *Life* (1856) iii. 51 The skeletonian method of sermonising. 1879 *Temple Bar* Oct. 258 His skeletonian hands outstretched, his parched lips suing for mercy.

Skeletonic (skelĭtɒ·nĭk), *a.* [f. SKELETON *sb.* + -IC.] = SKELETON *sb.* 7; also, skeleton-like.

1880 W. S. GILBERT *Pirates of Penzance* II, Take your file and your skeletonic keys. 1883 *Scotsman* 6 Sept. 5/3 In its later days the meetings of the Club became more and more skeletonic. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Feb. 5/2 The huge beast will subsequently be preserved in stuffed, skeletonic form.

Skeletonize (ske·lĭtɒnəiz), *v.* Also 7 **skellitonize**, 8 **sceletonise**. [f. SKELETON *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to a skeleton. Also *fig.*

1644 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *No Merc. Aulicus* 7 Thus..I have anatomized and skellitonized your railing Pamphlet. 1720 W. STUKELEY in *Mem.* (1882) I. 32, I likewise sceletonisd several different sorts of birds. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 488/1, I would propose that the bodies..should be made skeletons, and plac'd in..his own proper chaise, which shall be first skeletoniz'd by a coachmaker. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 246 Captain Lewis had four of those animals skeletonized. 1865 PARRISH (*title*), The Phantom Bouquet: a popular treatise on the art of skeletonizing leaves and seed vessels. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. Jungle* v. 51 We skinned and skeletonized many a gavial and large bird.

2. To draw up in outline; to sketch out.

1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 128 We but skeletonize an unknown and unknowable cause in the form of some of its effects. 1882 MOZLEY *Remin.* (ed. 2) I. 75 Long before Simeon was skeletoni-ing our sermons.

absol. 1869 SHEDD *Homiletics* iv. 94 This homiletic habit will appear in a disposition to skeletonize.

3. *intr.* To become a skeleton.

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 23 Dec. 3/6 Are our shipwrights skeletonising on air? 1879 *Scribner's Monthly* XIX. 182 His brethren gathered to bear him down, And lay him away to skeletonize.

Hence **Ske·letoniza·tion,** reduction to a skeleton; **Ske·letonized** *ppl. a.*, reduced to a skeleton; drawn up in outline; **Ske·letonizer,** an insect which reduces leaves to a skeleton; **Ske·letonizing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1795 SOUTHEY *Let.* in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) I. 252 Perhaps the climate may agree with me, and counteract a certain habit of *skeletonisation. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. I. 185 The *skeletonized Death, with all the animation of a living person. 1857 TAYLOR *Hist. Antiq. Cupar* 17 The Revolution consigned the skeletonised remains to their present resting place. 1885 SIR P. PERRING *Hard Knots* 215 Yet have we here..a skeletonized sentence, or rather a succession of skeletonized sentences. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The apple-leaf *skeletonizer, *Pempelia hammondi*. 1869 SHEDD *Homiletics* viii. 186 *note*, *Skeletonizing is to sermonizing what drawing is to painting. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 48 Complete skeletonizing of a bird is a special art of some difficulty. 1885 *Athenæum* 14 Nov. 640/2 Observations as to definite layers [in leaves] and the relation of these to the skeletonizing process.

Ske·letonless, *a.* [f. SKELETON *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no skeleton.

1883 W. S. KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 38 The skeletonless Slime-sponge (*Halisarca Dujardinii*). 1888 *Amer. Nat.* Oct. 894 Its soft and skeletonless body.

Ske·letonly, *adv. rare* —1. [f. SKELETON *sb.* + -LY 2.] Like a skeleton.

1847 MEDWIN *Life Shelley* II. 242 Byron.., at Genoa, had become skeletonly thin.

† **Skeletontal,** *a. Obs. rare* —1. In 7 sceletantall. [irreg. f. SKELETON *sb.* + -AL.] Skeleton-like.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 192 His sceletantall fabrick appear'd as a pale statue of exanguinality.

Skeletony (ske·lĭtɒni), *a.* [f. SKELETON *sb.* + -Y 1.] Skeleton-like. Also *Comb.*

1852 M. CAMPBELL in *Mem.* (1877) I. vii. 242 For the first half-hour it [the address] was dry and skeletony. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 38. 280, I was still examining the atrophied arm,..feeling..its dark nails and bent skeletony fingers. 1884 A. PUTNAM *Ten Yrs. Police Judge* xii. 104 The cattle ..were a skeletony-looking herd.

Skeleto-trophic: see SKELETO-.

Skelett(e, obs. forms of SKILLET 1, SKELET.

Skelf. *Sc.* (and *north. dial.*). Also 4–5 **skelfe.** [prob. ad. Du. or LG. *schelf*, related to SHELF *sb.*] A shelf (see also quot. 1802).

1396–7 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 214, j skelfe pro caseo. 1408 *Ibid.* 223, ij skelfes. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Town & C. Mouse* xv, Baith cheis and butter vpoun thair skelfis hie. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, On skelfs foregainst the door. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 71 On skelfs a' round the wa's the cogs were set. 1802 FINDLATER *Agric. Peebles* 41 Above it, lying against the slaunt of the roof, is the *skelf*, or frame, containing shelves. 1837 R. P. GILLIES *Recoll. Sir W. Scott* III. ix. 200 The whole of the *shelves* cam to an accident and fell down. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 169 He has a hantle o' rael gweed claith upo' yon back skelfs.

Skell. *north. dial. rare.* [a. ON. *skel*, = OE. *scell* SHELL *sb.*] A shell.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14683 Luytel notes þey toke. &..dide y[n] þe schelles [*var.* skellis] fyr & tunder. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* II. 65 Þe see now will I set within..Othir fysch to flet with fyne, sum with skale and sum with skell. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss.* s.v., Borrowdale nuts hes thin skells.

Skell, variant of SCALE *sb.*4

Skellach (ske·lăχ). *Sc.* Also 7 **skelloche.** [Alteration of next.] A small bell. Also *attrib.*

1653 in R. S. Fittis *Eccl. Annals Perth* (1885) 43 On the Skelloche littill Bell, anno dom. 1400. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* II. IV. IX. (1863) 474 The recovery of another iron skellach .. which lay buried .. alongside a group of stone cists.

Ske·llat. *Sc.* and † *north.* Now *rare.* Forms: 4 skellet, 6– skellat, 9 skellit, skillet, -at. [ad. OF. **eskelette* (*escalete, esqualette*), var. of *escheliłte*, etc., dim. of *esquelle, eschelle* (cf. med.Lat. *scella, scilla*, It. *squilla*, Sp. *esquila*, Prov. *esquella*), ad. OHG. *scella, scilla* (MHG. and G. *schelle*), related to the verb *scellan* (G. *schellen*) to sound, resound, ring.]

1. A small bell, a hand-bell, used for ecclesiastical purposes, or by a bellman. Also *transf.*, a scolding, railing woman.

Also, 'a sort of iron rattle, used for the same purpose as a hand-bell, for making proclamations on the street' (Jamieson).

1398–9 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 268 In j corda de canabo emp. pro skellet, ij *d.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 50 Vnto no mess pressit this prelat, For sound of sacring bell nor skellat. *a* 1810 R. TANNAHILL '*Come hame to your lingels*' 5 Guidwife, ye're a skillet, your tongue's just a bell. 1856 J. STRANG *Glasgow & its Clubs* 214 The triple tinkle of his skellat was heard. 1883 R. M. FERGUSSON *Rambling Sk.* II The small bell, called the skellat or shrill-toned bell, also called the fire bell, is not hung.

2. *attrib.*, as *skellat-bell, -bellman, -tongue.*

1578 in R. S. Fittis *Eccl. Annals Perth* (1885) 43 The Assembly ordains..to buy an Tow to the Little Skellet Bell. 1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* 37 Skillet tongue, Shrilly reviling. 1827 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 112 (E. D. D.), Here lies Maggie, a skillat bell,..Rail'd on her neibours air and late. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 114 A hand-bell, called the skellat-bell and by some the passing-bell, was rung through the streets.

Skeller (ske·lə1), *v. north. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To cause to warp, twist, shrivel, or blister, esp. with heat. (Cf. SKELLOW *v.*)

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 63 *Skellerd*, warpt, cast, become crooked; *Darbish.* 1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Skellerd*, crooked, out of the perpendicular. 1828 CARR *Crav'n Gloss.*, *Skeller*, to warp, to cast. 1876 F. K. ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., It's all skeller'd to one side. 1883 *Almondb. & Huddersf. Gloss.* s.v., Paint blistered with heat is also said to be skellered.

Skellet, -it, variants of SKILLET 1.

† **Skellett.** *Obs.*—0 (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (ROXB.) 251/2 He beareth Gules a weavers skellett, Or: wyered Argent... This is part of the Loome and is a long square of wood, made after the maner of an Embrautherers tent to slip up and down.

Ske·llied, *a. Sc.* [Cf. SKELLY *v.*] Squint-eyed; squinting.

1821 HOGG *Jacobite Relics* Ser. II. 40 There's gentle John, and Jock the slorp, And skellied Jock, and bellied Jock. 1870 J. K. HUNTER *Studies Char.* 257 Willie had a real earnest servant-lass, who was skellied in one eye.

Skelloch (ske·lɒχ), *sb.*1 *Sc.* Also 9 **skellach, skellock, skillock.** [Obscurely related to *kellock* KEDLOCK: cf. also the earlier SKELDOCK. The Gael. *sgeallag* is prob. from Sc.] Wild mustard, *Sinapis arvensis*. Also, wild radish (Jamieson).

1743 MAXWELL *Sel. Transact.* 80 This Ground, if it is much dunged, runs excessively to Runches, Skellochs, etc. *c* 1800 H. MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 55 The skelloch bright 'mang corn sae green. 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 235 He sows his barley early, and it is choked by runches and skelloch. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 202 His patches of corn bloomed a bright yellow with the ancient 'skellach'.

Skelloch (ske·lɒχ), *sb.*2 *Sc.* Also **skellock.** [Cf. SKELLOCH *v.*] A shrill cry; a scream, shriek.

1808 JAMIESON, *Skelloch*, a shrill cry, a squawl. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, Bang gaed the knight's pistol, and Hutcheon, that held the ladder, and my gudesire.., hears a loud skelloch. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* (ed. 3) 166 Did ye think the bit stot was the Foul Thief himsel' that ye gied that skelloch!

Skelloch (ske·lɒχ), *v. Sc.* [prob. imitative.] *intr.* To shriek, yell; to resound shrilly.

1808 JAMIESON, *To Skelloch*, to cry with a shrill voice. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 180 [He] skelloch'd at ane awfu' rate, As onie man in sic a state Would do. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House w. Green Shutters* 124 Her laugh went skelloching up the street.

Skelloche, obs. variant of SKELLACH.

Skellow, to warp: variant of SKELLER *v.*

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Jan., Not without fear and trembling lest the wood should prove perverse and 'skellow'.

Ske·llowed, *ppl. a.* (See quots. and prec.)

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. (1617) 56 If it be not iust and euen, but longer or wider one way then another, which of Sadlers is called a skellow'd tree, then it..will hurt a horse. *a* 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser. II, *Skellowed*, warped.

Skellum (ske·lŏm). Also 7 **skel-, scellum, skell-, schellam, 7–9 schellum, skelm.** [ad. Du. *schelm* (sχe·ləm), a. G. *schelm* rascal, devil, pestilence, carcase, etc. (MHG. *schelme*, OHG. *scelmo*): cf. SCHELM. ON. *skelmir*, Da. *skelm*, Sw. *skälm* are from LG.]

1. A rascal, scamp, scoundrel, villain. Now *arch.* (except in S. Africa).

1611 B. JONSON *Coryat's Crudities* Introd. Verses, Going to steal 'em He findeth soure grapes and gripes from a Dutch Skelum. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Apr., He ripped up Hugh Peters (calling him the execrable skellum). *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlviii. 386 Pander, Knave, Rogue, Skelm, Robber or Thief. 1723 *Trickology* 22 A Piece of Villainy peculiar to a finisht Skellum, or consummated Scoundrel. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 19 She tauld thee weel thou was a skellum, A blethering, blustering, drunken blellum. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxi, That schellum Malcolm. 1888 BEVIS CANE *Haunted Tower* 194 What then ye skellum? What then?

attrib. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* I. i, A certain Plot, which I have long been brewing, against these Skellum English.

2. In S. African use applied to animals.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 8/2 Move yourselves forward, there, you skellums! 1887 RIDER

HAGGARD *Jess* i. 6 But I am glad that you have killed the *skellum* (vicious beast).

Ske·lly, *sb.*[1] *Sc. rare.* [Of doubtful origin: cf. Irish *sceilg* reef, rock.] A rock, a skerry.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. iv. 89 On the scherp skelleis, to hir wanhap, [she] Smat with sic fard the airis in flenderis lap. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 102 The storm that dang him frae the deep, Upon our tangly skellies steep. 1839 T. CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1852) IV. v. 81 The rocks not high; but having more the character of skellies projecting into the sea.

Skelly (ske·li), *sb.*[2] *north.* Also 8 schell(e)y, 9 skilly. [? f. SKELL *sb.* + -Y.]

1. The gwyniad, the fresh-water herring, *Coregonus clupeoides.*

1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* i. xiii. 40 The Schelley is bred in..Ulles-Water...In shape it is more like a Herring than a Trout. 1787 J. CLARKE *Surv. Lakes Cumbld.* 38 The skelly is remarkable for this, no bait has ever been found which they will take. 1805 DOROTHY WORDSWORTH *Jrnls.* (1897) II. 156 Hundreds of fish were leaping in their prison. They were all of one kind, what are called Skellies. 1899 J. WATSON *Lake District Fisheries* vii. 91 The gwyniad (locally skelly) occurs in Ullswater.

2. The chub, *Cyprinus cephalus.*

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 268 *note.* 1794 HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 33/1 Chub or Skelly...The skelly is plentiful in almost all our rivers. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 358 It [the Chub] is the Skelly of Cumberland, so called on account of the large size of its scales. 1894 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., That they no longer employ a man to kill skellies, but that the members devote one week to a competition in skelly catching.

3. The roach, *Leuciscus rutilus.* [Cf. Da. *skalle.*]

1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) s.v.

4. The dace or dare, *Leuciscus vulgaris.*

1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) s.v. 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., The Petteril skellies were hated of the single-hair trout-fisher.

Skelly (ske·li), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 scalie. [ad. ON. **skjelga* (cf. Norw. *skjegla*), refl. *skjelgask*, f. *skjalgr* (MSw. *skälgh, skielgh*, Norw. *skjegl*), adj., = OHG. *scelah, sceleh* (MHG. *schelch*), OE. *sceolh*, squint, skew.] *intr.* To squint.

Cf. SKELLIED *a.*; the noun and adj. *skelly*, and the comb. *skelly-eyed*, are also in dialect use.

1776 HERD *Scottish Songs* (ed. 2) II. 171 Sae proud was he o' his Maggie, Tho' she did baith scalie and squint. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* iv, 'It is the very man!' said Bothwell;—'skellies fearfully with one eye?' 1829– in dial. glossaries (Northumb., Durh., Cumb., Yks.).

Skelp, *sb.*[1] Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Also 6 scelpe. [Related to SKELP *v.*[1]] A blow, *esp.* one given with the flat of the hand, or with something having a flat surface; a slap or smack; also, the noise made by a blow of this kind.

Also, in East Anglia, a strong kick (cf. the vb.). For other variations of meaning see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 35 [He shall be] with schath of skelpys yll scarred. *Ibid.* 370 Fra oure skelpes not scatheles he skyppes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 323 Yit for drede of a skelp help well thi dam. *Ibid.* xii. 425 Now, in payn of a skelp This sang thou not lose. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 26 He regardyth no more the pope than he dothe a whelpe. Well lett hym alone, for that wyll I geve hym a scelpe. ? 1555 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 127 (Bann. MS.), I sowld haif revin thame all in raggis, And laid on skelp for skelp. *a* 1600 *Burel's Pilgr.* in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1709) II. 48 Quhyls luking comfort to resaue, Quhyls luking for a skelp. 1794 BURNS *Contented wi' Little* 3, I gie them a skelp as they're creepin' alang. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., The water is said to come with a *skelp* on a boat, when its shock is sudden and violent. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 352 *Skelp*, a blow. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvii, They came crack down on their bottoms with a loud skelp on the seats. 1887 *Schoolmaster* 15 Jan. 104/1 He got two skelps on the side of the head.

fig. a 1774 R. FERGUSSON *Drink Eclogue* Poems 1789 II. 75 Wi' skelps like this fock sit but seenil down To wether-gammon.

Skelp, *sb.*[2] Also scelp. [? f. SKELP *v.*[1] I.]

1. A thin narrow plate or flat strip of iron or steel, which by twisting and welding is converted into the barrel of a gun.

1821 *Patent* (Bradley) No. 3437, The manufacturing of iron skelps (for the making of barrels for fire-arms)..by rollers instead of by forge hammers. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 56 When a common musket barrel is made, the maker inserts the thicker end of a skelp in the fire. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 219 He made the barrels by twisting a scelp with bevelled edges round a mandril.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skelp-bender, -bending* adj., *-forger, -iron, -twist, -welding.*

1845 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. I. 672/1 A strike among the skelp-forgers. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 147 A barrel made from threepenny skelp iron. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 724 This method has entirely superseded the skelp-welding by hand. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 4 The cheapest kind of twist barrels is that called scelp twist.

† **Skelp,** *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. next.] Good for galloping on (cf. SKELPING *vbl. sb.*).

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 30 But if he haue not sweat at all, then you shall vpon some faire skelpe earth gallop him till you make him sweat.

Skelp, *v.*[1] Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Also 5–6 skelpe, 9 scelp. [prob. imitative.]

1. *trans.* To strike, beat, slap, smack, in later use *spec.* on the breech.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1924 Ledis me him hedire, þat I may him skelp with a skorge. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 338 Skelpe hym with scourges and with skathes hym scorne. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2207, I shall skelpe the on the skalpe; lo, seest thou that? 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, I'm friends wi' Mause,..Altho' they skelpit me. 1797 BRYDGES *Hom. Trav.* II. 348 Euripylus, who saw them skelp him, Resolved at any rate to help him. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lii, Why not take 'em by twos across thy knee, and skelp em till they cry Meculpee? 1888 F. HUME *Madame Midas* I. iii, They should hae been skelped for their idleness.

absol. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 133 She scolds at the lasses, she skelps at the bairns.

b. To drive with blows.

1824 in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 126 Mons Meg we'll drag out, and we'll thunner him down, We'll skelp him to hell. 1851 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 131 My fair opponents skelp me aff. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* I. 17 A byke was regarded as a glorious capture,..because of the fun the boys had in skelpin' out the bees.

2. *E. Anglia.* To kick violently.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 303 *Skelp*, to kick with violence. 1895 RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.*

3. *intr.* To skip, trip, walk, or run rapidly; to hurry. Also with *it.*

1721 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 68 Instead of coach, on foot they skelp it. 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* ii, Three hizzies, early at the road, Cam skelpan up the way. 1790 — *Tam o' Shanter* 81 Tam skelpit on thro' dub and mire. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* vi, If he will not take warning,..and no keep skelping about here. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Skelp*, to move quickly, to skelp away. 1902 BELLOC in *Academy* 3 May 453/1 Two hundred leagues and a half Marched I, skelped I, slipped I.

Skelp, *v.*[2] [? f. SKELP *sb.*[2], or a special use of prec.] *trans.* To beat out into a skelp.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 139 The sheet, when drawn from the furnace, is skelped upon the floor, or on an iron plate.

Ske·lper [1]. *dial.* [f. SKELP *v.*[1]] One who slaps or smacks; also, a specially large thing or tall person.

1790 BURNS *To a Gentleman*, etc. 7 That vile doup-skelper, Emperor Joseph. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Skelper*, a large thing of any kind. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Skelper*, a tall, lanky youth.

Ske·lper [2]. [f. SKELP *v.*[2]] A hammer used in forging skelps.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 139 Which was formerly done almost exclusively by the forge-hammer or skelper.

Skelpie-limmer. *Sc.* [f. SKELP *v.*[1]] A jade, hussy.

1785 BURNS *Halloween* xiv, Ye little Skelpie-limmer's-face! I daur you try sic sportin. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 13 And brewsters tongues, wi' dads and dabs, Rome's skelpie-limmer thumpet.

Ske·lping, *vbl. sb. dial.* [f. SKELP *v.*[1]] The action of the verb in various senses. Also *skelping earth* (see quot. 1607 and cf. SKELP *a.*).

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 29 More, Medow, Heath, greenswarth, or grasse leyes, all of which my countrymen of the North call skelping earths, because a horse may..gallop smoothly thereupon. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, He must have been a great villain, indeed,..and I wish I had the skelping o' him. 1820 — *Monast.* iv, I reckon their skelping back and forward..has been a main cause of a' the breach between us and England. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxiii, We were but silly boys that needed skelping.

Ske·lping, *ppl. a. dial.* [f. as prec.] That skelps, in various senses; also, big, large, lusty.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. (1617) 3 If the fierce Horse haue in his skelping course either vpwithes, inwithes, or downe-withes. 1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* 22 And aye he gies the tozie drab The tither skelpin' kiss. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Skelping*, full, bursting, very large. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Skelping*, stout, lusty. 'That's a skelping lass'. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs., Skelping*, large or fine.

† **Skelt,** *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. *intr.* To hasten; to be diligent.

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 278 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 For as he [God] says in his sothe,..þe skilfulle & þe vnskathely skeltone ay to me. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1554 Scoleres skelten þeratte þe skyl forto fynde, Bot þer was neuer on so wyse coube on worde rede.

2. *trans.* ? To spread or scatter hurriedly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1186 Penne was þe sege sette þe Cete aboute, Skete skarmoch skelt, much skape lached. *Ibid.* 1206 Hiȝe skelt was þe askry þe skewes an-vnder.

Hence † **Ske·lting** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1089 The Grekys..Skairen out skoute-wacche for skeltyng of harme. *Ibid.* 6042 With skowte wacche for skathe & skeltyng of harme.

Skelter (ske·ltəɹ), *v.* [f. the second element in HELTER-SKELTER.] *intr.* To dash along, hurry, rush, scurry.

1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* i. 8 Those that were on the wing began skeltering in headlong flight. 1868 WALLACE *Malay Archip.* 65 Numbers of women skeltered away as I walked through the village. 1899 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 4 They will come skeltering back fast enough.

Hence **Ske·ltering** *ppl. a.*

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxii, After the long dry skeltering wind of March..there had been a fortnight of soft wet.

Skelton, obs. form of SKELETON.

Skelto·nian, *a.* [-IAN.] = SKELTONICAL.

1867 HALES in H. & Furnivall *Bp. Percy's MS.* I. 211 Some Skeltonian doggrel about the famous fight. 1889 LOWELL *Latest Lit. Ess.* (1891) 139 Did not Skelton borrow his so-called Skeltonian measure from France?

Skelto·nic, *a.* and *sb.* [-IC.] a. *adj.* = next. b. *sb. pl.* Skeltonical lines.

1843 DYCE in *Skelton's Wks.* I. p. cxciv, A poem called *Philargyrie*..has been frequently mentioned as a 'Skeltonic' composition. 1908 G. SAINTSBURY in *Camb. Hist. English Lit.* II. 212 Irregular octosyllables, sometimes approaching 'Skeltonics'.

Skeltonical (skeltɒ·nikăl), *a.* [f. the name *Skelton* (see def.) + -ICAL.] Of verse: Pertaining to, or characteristic of, John Skelton (*c* 1460–1529); consisting of short irregular lines with frequent running on of the same rime.

1589 in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* xxxiii, A Skeltonicall salutation..Of the Spanish nation. 1601 MUNDAY *Downf. Earl of Hunt.* III. iii. I ij, You fall into your vaine, Of ribble rabble rimes, Skeltonicall. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 245 A Skeltonicall salutation to those that know how to reade. 1843 DYCE in *Skelton's Wks.* I. p. cvii, Examples of the metre called Skeltonical. *Ibid.* p. cxxix, Which has some Skeltonical lines. *Ibid.*, Various Skeltonical passages. 1873 MORLEY *Eng. Lit.* (1886) 217 This form of verse, which has been called Skeltonical, appeared in the delicately playful *Boke of Phyllyp Sparowe.*

Ske·ltonize, *v. rare* [-1]. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To compose Skeltonical verse.

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* v. *motto*, Skelton Skeltonizeth.

Skelum, obs. form of SKELLUM.

Skeluolliche, obs. form of SKILFULLY.

Ske·lvy, *a. Sc.* [f. SKELF: cf. *shelvy.*] Full of shelves or ledges.

1787 BURNS *Bruar Water* iv, Here, foaming down the skelvy rocks, In twisting strength I rin.

Skelyng, obs. f. SKILLING, hut. **Skelȝe,** obs. f. SKAILLIE *Sc.* **Skemble,** var. of SCAMBLE *v.* **Skem(e,** obs. ff. SCHEME, SKIM. **Skemere,** obs. f. SKIMMER *sb.*

† **Skemler,** variant of SCAMBLER *Sc.*

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Assecla*, a skemler, a page, a lackay.

Skemmel, -il, Skemmle, var. ff. SCAMBLE.

Skemp, Sc. variant of SCAMP.

Skemting, variant of SKENTING *Obs.*

Sken, *v. dial.* [Of obscure origin: perh. related to the stem of ASKANCE.] *intr.* To squint; to give a side-look; to glance.

1611 COTGR., *Bigle*, skenning, squinting, looking askew, or nine waies at once. *Ibid.*, *Vuarlouque*, squinteyed, skenning, askew-looking. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 427/1 *Squint Eyed*, to sken or look awry. 1694 CROWNE *Married Beau* Epil., Then on her cullies she begins to sken; She pats their cheeks, and calls 'em—pretty men. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 95 *Sken*, to squint. 1818– in northern and north-midland dialect glossaries, etc. 1861 WAUGH *Birtle Carter's T.* 14 Skens a bit, lass!..He skens ill enough to crack a lookin'-glass.

Skene (skīn). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Forms: α. 6–7 skayne (6 scayne), skaine, 8 skane. β. 6–7 (9) skeyne, 6 skeyn, 6–7 skeine, 7– skein. γ. 6–7, 9 skene (7 skine), 7–8 skeen (7 -e), 9 skien. δ. 6–7 skeane, 7– skean. ε. 8–9 skian. [a. Irish (and Sc.) Gaelic *scian, sgian* (genitive *sceine, scine*) knife (cf. W. *ysgien*). The α and β forms prob. represent the Gaelic ones with *ei*, and the others those with *ia* or *i*.]

1. A form of knife or dagger, in former times one of the chief weapons of the Irish kerns, and also in use among the Scottish Highlanders.

The word was also loosely applied by writers of the 16th and 17th centuries to a dagger or small sword of any kind.

α. 1527 *Will of Bolde* (Somerset Ho.), My blak sattyn doblet, my skayne, & a paire of blak hoses. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 60, xvi. hundreth Ireshmen armed in mayle with dartes and skaynes after the maner of their countrey. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 220 Persey thrust him through the hart with Hermes hooked skaine. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. xlviii. 461 Short daggers or skaines hidden under their cuirasse and harnesse. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxii. 1579 For their weapons [they] had but Irish Skaines and Darts. 1735 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 426, I was called to Thomas Conway, who had received a Wound with a Skane or great Knife.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Skeyne a knyfe. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 128 Therof rose bearyng of skeynes and murdrers. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 42/2 The bill against the spar, and the sword against the skeine. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 431 A certaine shag-haired fellow..drawing out his skeine or short curtle-axe. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Kent* II. 74 To him all the Irish Nobility made their solemn submission..., laying aside their Girdles, Skeines, and Caps. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 828 The Irish were armed only with darts and skeins. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. xxii. (1877) 160 Melachlin sent with her..sixteen young men armed with skeynes, or long knives. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* vii. 181 They were found in a bog..along with a variety of skeynes, celts,..and other relics of antiquity.

γ. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii. 22 Against the light foote Irish haue I serued, And in my skinne bare tokens of their skenes. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 15 Caivs..was stabbed treacherously with a knife or short skeene. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xiii. (1821) 143 Whereupon with their skenes they instantly murdered him in the place. *c* 1680 in Somers *Tracts* (1748) II. 254 They kill'd poor Infants,..tossing some upon their Swords, Skeens, and other Instruments of Cruelty. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. ix. (1737) 34 Poinadoes, Skenes, Penknives, Puncheons. 1822 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, A stout soldier before he was so mangled by the skenes of the Irish clan MacDonough. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv, Their black skenes and light darts were no match for the Danish swords and battle-axes. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL *Duke of Britain* viii. 106 A short skene in his belt.

δ. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 631/2 He may under his mantell goe privilye armed,..carrying his head-

peece, his skeane, or pistoll yf he please. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. Arg. 249 The young man..drew his skeane and forced him to sweare unto him. 1646 VICARS *Parl. Chron.* IV. 163 Inhumane whores, with Skeans or long Irish knives about them. 1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege London-Derry* 2/2 Not only the Men, but the Women and Boys too began to furnish themselves with skeanes, and half-pikes. 1720 SWIFT *Irish Feast* in Misc. (1735) V. 16 They rise from their Feast, And hot are their Brains, A Cubit at least The Length of their Skeans. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 156 The very women were exhorted by their spiritual directors to carry skeans. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 275/1 The good claymores, the dirks, skeans, and pistols.

c. 1774 D. GRAHAM *Hist. Reb.* Writ. 1883 I. 135 With durks and skians they fell a sticking. 1878 A. HUME *Antrim Dial.* 23 (E. D. D.), There is no appearance of a skian or any other weapon. 1897 A. LANG *Pickle the Spy* 6 Well knowing that the skian was sharpened for his throat if he were detected.

2. a. *Skene-dhu* [Gael. *sgian dubh* black knife], a small dagger carried by Highlanders (now only as an ornament), frequently thrust into the stocking.

1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) III. 353 A very formidable knife which when opened becomes a sort of skene-dhu or dagger. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Our Sketching Club* 37, I.. struck him [a deer] just right with the skean-dhu at the root of the neck. 1897 A. L. HUMPHREYS *Private Libr.* (ed. 2) 16 Some employ mediaeval daggers, or skene dhus, but the edges spoil a book.

b. *Skene-ochles, -ochil, -occle* [Gael. *achlais* armpit]: (see quot. 1754).

1754 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) II. 119 Some of them carry a sort of knife which they call a skeen-ochles from its being concealed in the sleeve near the arm-pit. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxix, Her ain sell..could..kittle his quarters wi' her *skene-occle*. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* ii, The skene-occle is an ugly weapon. 1829 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* xiii, So saying, the beldam plunged a skeinochil into my breast.

Skene, variant of SCHEME *sb.*[2], SKEIN.

Skenis, var. of ME. *(s)kinnes*: see KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b.

Skeˑnningly, *adv. rare*[−0]. [f. SKEN *v.*] With a squint.

1611 COTGR., *Biglement*, squintingly, skenningly, askew.

Skeno-: see SCENO-.

† Skent, *v. Obs.* Also 3 **skemt-**. [ad. ON. *skemta*, f. *skamm-r* short. For the change of *mt* to *nt* cf. SCANT *a.*] *trans.* To entertain, amuse.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 449 Þe more ich singe þe more ich may & skente hi myd myne songe. *Ibid.* 1085 Ic..sori was for hire sore And skente hi mid myne songe.

Hence † **Skenting (skemting)** *vbl. sb.*

a. c 1200 ORMIN 2165 Þatt doþ uss tunnderrstanndenn wel Þatt nass þo nohht tær ute I skemmtinng & inn idelle33c. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 434 He bit us..eten & drinken wiþ unskil, & in ure skemting he doð raðe a foxing.

β. *c* 1205 LAY. 19167 Þis iherde þe king þer he læi an skentting. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 446 Þe rose..Bit me þat ich schulle singe For hire luue one skentynge. *Ibid.* 532.

Skenus, var. of ME. *(s)kinnes*: see KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b.

Skenye, obs. Sc. form of SKEIN *sb.*[1]

Skeo (skyō). *Ork.* and *Shetl. dial.* Also 9 **skio, skoe.** [a. Norw. *skjaa* a shed.] (See quot. *a* 1688.)

1602 in J. MILL *Diary* (S. H. S.) 181 Sawndie Smyth awner of the skeo. *a* 1688 WALLACE *Orkney* (1693) 93 *Skeos*, little houses built of dry stones without any Morter, that the wind may have free passage through them, in which they dry their fishes and fleshes. 1795 J. MILL *Diary* (S. H. S.) 101 [She] murdered the child and concealed the body in a skeo. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xi, He would substitute better houses for the skeoes. *Ibid.* xxix, A deserted *Skio*, or fisherman's hut. 1897 *Shetl. News* 3 July (E.D.D.), The old skoes for preserving meat or vivda in, existed to my time. *Comb.* 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* (1891) 259 The tables labouring..under the weight of skeo-dried vivda.

Skep, *sb.* Forms: α. 1 **sceppe**, 4 **scep**, 4, 7 **scepp**, 5 **scappe**, 8 *Sc.* **scape**; 4–6 **skeppe**, 5–7 **skepp**, 4– **skep** (9 **skape, skeb**). β. 4–7 **skepe**, 6 **skeipp**, 8 **scepe**. γ. 4, 7 **skippe**, 5 **skyppe, skype**, 7– **skip** (9 **skib**). [a. ON. *skeppa* (Norw. *skjeppa*, Sw. *skäppa*, Da. *skæppe*) basket, bushel, obscurely related to OS. *scepil*, MLG. and MDu. *schepel* (Du. *schepel*), OHG. *sceffil* (G. *scheffel*), of the same meaning.

In early documents the Eng. word also appears in the Latinized forms *sceppa, (e)scheppa, eskeppa*, etc.]

1. A specific quantity *of* grain, malt, charcoal, etc., being the amount contained in a basket or other vessel of a certain size; a skepful.

α *a* 1100 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lex.* 55 Þæt is iii sceppe mealtes & healf sceppe hwæte. *Ibid.*, An sceppe malt & iii hund hlafe. [1216 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* (Bd. 505 No. 5), Item Brasium pro dominicis. De Penred xviij. schepp[le]. 1225 *Whitby Cartul.* (Surtees) I. 220 Solvere annuatim..sex sceppas pacabilis farinae de avena. 1234 *Pipe Rolls Cumberland & Westm.* (1905) 55 Reddit compotum..de xxxiiij. eschappis et viij. strakes avene. 1353 in *Test. Karleol.* 2 Item..duas eskeppas farinæ, duas eskeppas ordei. 1371 in *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 9 In vj scheppis de charcole emptis.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 22 He seide he ou3te an hundrid skippis of corn. Þis mesure of corn is more þan a quarter. [1470–1 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 216 Et in ij skeppis carbonum vocatorum charcole.] 1496 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 295 For a skep of light brede. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 166 Fyne barley loues, wherof was lefte ,xii. coffyns or skyppes of fragmentes. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 70 *A Skeppe*, a measure of corne. 1669 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* lxi. 437/1 And for every skep of sand did he not come upon Gods ground? 1824 *Examiner* 9/1, 3 skeps of vegetables besides potatoes. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 119 A hogshead is then placed by the copper, and one or two skeps of chaff thrown in.

attrib. 1859 A. JEFFREY *Roxburghshire* III. vii. 125 The skep measure is said to have been borrowed from the English practice. It contained twelve bushels.

2. A basket or hamper, varying in form and use in different localities.

Also, in local use, a coal-scuttle.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4741 Len vs sumquat o þi sede,..Len vs sumquat wit þi scep. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 533 *Bolenge et corbelchon*, Bultyngcloth and skeppe. 1419 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 228, j skepp de virgis. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 209 A better craft is for this besinesse: Let make a skeppe of twygge a foote in brede. 1519 *Maldon* (Essex) B. 160 Oon quarte pott, ii° pynt potts, ii° skepps to bere malte in. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 35 A pitchfork, a doongfork, seeue, skep and a bin. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* 46 A great number of people sent thither at once to carrie it away in baskets and skeps. *c* 1680 W. LINNETT in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 493 Wheelbarrows, skepps, ladders, sieves, and other necessaries. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Skep*, a coarse round farm-basket. 1823– in many dialect glossaries. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* (ed. 2) I. 34 The skeps and baskets and three-legged stools were all cleared away 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 37 Bullock-tenders always call their baskets skeps.

Comb. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skeppe makere, *corbio.* β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1257 He let hyre se sic met as with hyme had he In a skepe. 1397 in *Finchale Priory Charters* (Surtees) p. cxviii, Item j skepe pro elemosyna. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 341 A Skepe, *canistrum, cofinus*. 1563 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 207 One mavnde, j straw skeipp & j hopper. 1659 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* Gloss., *A Skepe*, or *Scuttel*, a flat and broad Basket, made to carry Corn withal.

γ. 1435 *Tintinhull Church-w. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 176 Item pro uno skyppe, iiij[d]. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.), Mawnd, skype, *sportula*. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. viii. 231 Mettall..tied together in a cloth in manner of a skippe. 1691 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 114 A *Skip*.., a Basket, but not to carry in the Hand. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Skip*,..a wicker basket, wider at top than bottom, almost uniformly a bushel measure. 1887 BYRNE *Heir without Heritage* I. vii. 122 Silky bundles of finished work lay in skips by the side. 1894 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* June 237 Increased demand for crates, skips, and baskets.

b. *Mining.* (See quots. and cf. SKIP *sb.*[2])

1860 *Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 44 *Skep*, or *Skip*, a square box (usually wrought iron) in which the coals are sent up to the pit's mouth. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 224 *Skep*, a bucket or tub a pit-horse drinks out of.

3. A beehive. Also *fig.*

1494 *Deed* (P. R. O., A 6660), The same Kateryne shall have fre yssve to goo and come to hyr hyve skeppys beyng w'in the Meese and Yards. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 45 Euen as they do swarme about their king The hunnie Bees,..When he delyts furth of the skepps to spring. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 231 The making of conuenient Skepes or Bee-hyues. *a* 1640 J. DAY *Parl. Bees* (1881) 21 Honey and waxe I will bequeath to build A skep. 1716 *Hist. MSS. Comm., Moray P.* 150 Being informed that your Lady wanted some huny I have caused smoak a scepe. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Ode to Bee* Poems (1789) II. 31 Yet thir, alas! are antrin fock That lade their scape wi' winter stock. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xvii, Andrew..often cast a parting glance upon the *skeps*, as he called the beehives. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* 119 He conducted us to a place where there were several skeps of bees. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 2/2 A rustic who keeps his bees in a flat-topped straw skep.

Skep, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To cause (bees) to enter a skep; to hive. Also *fig.*

1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* 1866 G. EASTON *Autobiogr.* (1867) x. 135 Whist! we are skepping the bees. 1891 *Scott. Leader* 21 Oct. 7 If they put a hive over them they would.. have 'skepped' nine-tenths of so-called Liberal Unionists of Scotland.

2. *intr.* Of bees: To enter a skep. *rare*[−1].

1842 *Dumfries Herald* Oct., Flowers as thick as swarms of bees a-skepping.

Hence **Skeˑpping** *vbl. sb.*

1883 J. MARTIN *Remin. Old Haddington* 322 The keeping and skeping of bees.

Skepe, obs. pa. t. SCAPE *v.*

Skepen, -on, obs. forms of SCHEPEN.

Skeˑpful. Also **-full.** [f. SKEP *sb.* + **-FUL** 2.] The fill of a skep; as much as a skep will contain. Also *fig.*

c 1570 *Durh. Deposit.* (Surtees) 195 She borre one skepfull of sande to the buyldynge of the aulter. *Ibid.*, 2 skepfull of clay. 1832 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* lxii. in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 402 Why, the ballads swarm out every morning by the skep-full. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Skep*, The tithes of certain grain were paid to Whitby Monastery in 'Skepfuls', but the specific amount of a skepful does not appear. 1906 *N. & Q.* Ser. x. V. 45/1 A log of wood, a bushel of corn, or a skepful of some farm produce.

† **Skeˑpper.** *Obs.* Also 6 **scepper.** [f. SKEP *sb.*] A maker of skeps.

1499 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 300 Edmund Bartlet, skepper. 1527 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* p. xxx, Bagmakers, Scep-pers, Wyerdrawers & Cardmakers.

Skepping, variant of SKIPPING *vbl. sb.*[2]

1824 *Mech. Mag.* No. 60. 58 Whether the new boiler can improve the grain of inferior West Indian sugars. Two charges, or skeppings, as they are technically termed, were run off in 13½ minutes.

Skeptic, Skeptical, etc.: see SCEPTIC, etc.

Skepyn, obs. form of SCHEPEN.

† **Sker.** *Obs.*[−1] [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *skjera*, MSw. and Sw. *skära*.] ? A sickle.

? 1340 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 203, iij bemes pro aratris .., j par de bustyngs. It[em] ij skers, j hacke.

† **Sker**, in phr. *o sker*, ? aslant. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4421 Bot Nemny bar þe scheld o sker, & Iulius smot his swerd ouer fer.

Sker, obs. or dial. var. SCAR *a.*, SKIRR *v.*

† **Skerche**, obs. Sc. form of SCARCE *a.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xli. 5 Be nocht a wreche, nor skerche in 3our spending.

† **Skere,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: 3–4 **sker** (4 **scker**), 3–5 **skere**, 4 **skeer**, 5 *Sc.* **skeyr.** [a. ON. *skærr* (Norw. *skjær*, Da. *skær*, Sw. *skär*) bright, clean, pure: cf. ME. *scēre, schēre* SHEER *a.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Pure, purified; cleansed or free from sin or guilt.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Whoa is þeonne skerre, & more ut of þe worlde þen beoð pilegrimes? *c* 1275 *Sinners beware* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Makie we us clene and skere þat we englene ivere Mawe beon o buten ende. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 843 Darstow into bataile go, Al quite and skere you make? *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 987 Of the bishop he hath powere To soyle men..; His absolucion may make hem skere.

b. Const. *of* sin, etc.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 424/140 Ich am her In mi purgatorie, forte ich beo of mine sunnes scker. 13.. *Ibid.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 311/238 [Christ] was bore of þe mayde þat was of sinne skere. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 203 He schulde be skeer of his synnes.

2. Free from injury, harm, or molestation; unhurt, unmolested; also const. *of*. Freq. in *quit and skere.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 50 We schulen secþen efter wrake..þat ne schulen ha beon sker of ure weorre. *c* 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 372 At eure Muchele feste euervyche yere Schal ich þere gywene kyng lete gon al skere. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7936 Þe kyng þankede God þo, þat so quit & sker had lat hym go. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 297 For love of swete Jhesus, Now let us passe skere.

3. Destitute, devoid, *of* something.

c 1250 *Doomsday* 78 in *O. E. Misc.* 166 Goð awariede gostes, feondes ifere, In-to berninde fur; of blisse 3e beoþ skere.

4. *Skere Thursday*, = SKIRE THURSDAY. *Sc.*

Cf. Norw. *skjær-*, Da *skær-*, Sw. *skärtorsdag.*

1498 *Acc. Lord High Treas. Scot.* I. 384 To serue the pur men of thair siluir on Skeyr Thurisday at the seruice. 1498 in *Rec. Old Aberdeen* (1899) 15 Nundinas..in Cena Domini ante Pascha vulgariter nuncupata Skeyrthurisday.

B. *adv.* Quite; entirely; altogether.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 867 Al ich forsake her, & cweðe ham al sker up. *c* 1275 *Moral Ode* 159 in *O. E. Misc.* 63 He myhte helle fur..schonye, And lete sker al þes worldes weole. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1914 Maboun..To-karf that sworde ..A twynne quyt and skere.

† **Skere,** *v. Obs.* Also 3 **skeren**, 4 **skeri, -y**, **sckere, skiere.** [Related to prec.: cf. MSw. and Sw. *skära*, MDa. *skiære*, to cleanse, purify, clear (a person), etc.]

1. *trans.* To free (a person) from blame or accusation; to acquit (one) *of* a penalty or charge; to clear, exculpate.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 3if þu wreiest þe wel her, God wule unwreien þe þer, and skeren mid alle. *c* 1275 *Fragm. Song* 7 in *O. E. Misc.* 101 He vs skere of þe typing, þat sunfule schulle an-vnderfon. *c* 1400 *Launfal* 795 They seyden.. Hyt was long on the quene, and not on Launfal, Therof they gonne hym skere.

2. *refl.* To clear (oneself) *of* a charge, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1302 Bute hit of wicchecrafte were þar of þu wrecche most þe skere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3995 (Laud MS.), Of traisoun me wil I skere. *c* 1320 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 156 Of scathe y wol me skere. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 3398 Bot thou may the fayrer skere Of that thyn sone haves tolde here.

b. Without construction, or with clause.

c 1275 *Lutel soth Sermun* 85 (Jesus Coll. MS.), Euer heo wule hire skere ne com hire no mon neyh. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 99 He tormentede þare-fore manie Men þat ne mi3ten heom nou3t skere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3998 (Laud MS.), Antiochus seide, 'þou ne mi3th þe skere'.

c. To defend or save (oneself).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 58 In this wise himself he skiereth, So that he hath the wordes weyved And thurgh his Ere is noght deceived. *Ibid.* 175 Sche lieveth noght al that sche hiereth, And thus fulofte hirself sche skiereth.

Hence † **Skeˑring** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6885 Ac 3if..heo hire skeringe do after mi lokinge. *a* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 6958 To do my penaunce [MS. *a.* sckeringe].

Skere, obs. f. SCARE. **Skerel(e,** var. of SCARLE *Obs.* **Skerf**: see SCARF *sb.*[2] **Skerl,** var. SCARLE *Obs.*; obs. f. SKIRL *v.* **Skerling,** var. SKIRLING *sb.* **Skerlyt,** obs. form of SCARLET *sb.* and *a.* **Skermish(e,** etc., obs. ff. SKIRMISH. **Skerre,** obs. f. SCAR *sb.*[1], SCARE *v.* **Skerret, -it,** obs. ff. SKIRRET[1].

† **Skerry,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **skerrey.** [Of obscure origin.] (See later quots.)

1540–1 *Will W. Coney* (Somerset Ho.), A little boote otherwyse callyd a Skerrey. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 531 Little punts or boats that will carry but two apeece (which they call Skerries). 1851 STRICKLAND *Northampt. Dial., Skerry*, a small boat, formerly much used in the fenny districts. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 25 Islands..to which the Croyland men went in their boats or skerries to milk the cows—the boats being so small that they could carry only two men and their milk-pails.

Skerry (skeˑri), *sb.*[2] [Orkney dial., f. ON. *sker* (NORW. *skjer*, Sw. *skär*, Da. *skær*), whence also Gael. *sgeir.*] A rugged insulated sea-rock

or stretch of rocks, covered by the sea at high water or in stormy weather; a reef.

1. a. With reference to Scotland, esp. those parts of it formerly under Scandinavian influence.

1612 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 481/1 Ony landis, annuelrentis, Iles, skerreis, holmes..within the erldome of Orknay. 1654 BLAEU *Atlas Scotiæ* 135 Minimæ partes vocantur Scopuli (vulgari apud Incolas Orcadum nomine Skerries). *a* 1688 T. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 93. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. 300 Near this Pentland Skerry, there are two or three other skerries or rocks, on which there is not nourishment for any tame living creature. 1805 BARRY *Orkney Islands* 18 There are several [islands] which are overflowed at high water, and have scarcely any soil...These ..are called *Skerries*. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 373 The islands, or skerries, which..skirt the forbidding coast on the western side of the Hebrides. 1875 W. M'ILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 62 The rocks stretch seaward in rugged ledges and skerries.

b. In general use.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 40 Rocky islets known to the Danes as 'skerries'. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 512, I see his black bows strike The hidden skerry. 1885 S. TROMHOLT *Aurora Borealis* II. 251 Between islands and tiny skerries, the steamer speeds on.

2. Without article.

1847 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* i. (1857) 19 Rock and skerry are brown with sea-weed. *a* 1856 — *Rambles Geologist* in *Cruise of 'Betsey'* (1858) 273 The tempest weltered round reef and skerry. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coastwise L.* i, From reef and rock and skerry—over headland, ness, and voe.

Skerry (ske·ri), *a.* and *sb.*[3] [Of uncertain origin.]

1. *adj.* Of the nature of shale; shaly, slaty.

a 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Skerry*, shaley...*Derb.* Spoken of coals. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 59 Brown skerry stone. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvi. 296 Grey shale and thin skerry laminae.

2. *sb.* Earth or stone of a shaly nature.

1844 H. HUTCHINSON *Pract. Drainage Land* 140 From this depth..was nine feet to the water, then one foot of yellow skerry and sand. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 240 *Skerry*, the thin, grey, partially laminated bands occurring in the red brick earth near Bosworth. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 224 *Skerries*, greenish-white micaceous sandstone.

Skerry, Sc. variant of SCARRY *a.*[1]

a 1830 *Thomas Rymer* x. in Child *Ballads* I. 325/1 It's dont ye see yon broad broad way, That leadeth down by yon skerry fell?

Skers, Skersytye, obs. ff. SCARCE, SCARCITY.

Skerth. *dial.* [? a. ON. *skarð*: see SCARTH *sb.*[1]] A small watercourse.

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 291 [Lincolnshire], The river..is augmented by numerous highland streams, 'delphs and skerths', on each side. *Ibid.* 302 A network of drains, dykes, eaus, and skerths.

Sketch (sketʃ), *sb.* Also 7 scetch, schetch (schetse, schytz). [ad. Du. *schets* or G. *skizze* (†*skitze*, *skize*), neither of which is recorded before the 17th cent., ad. It. *schizzo*, whence also Sp. *esquicio*, F. *esquisse* (†*esquiche*): the source of the It. word is supposed to be L. **schedius* (cf. *schedia* raft, *schedium* extemporaneous poem), Gr. σχέδιος done or made off-hand, extempore.

In the following examples the foreign origin of the word is still indicated by the spelling: 1692 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xlvii, A Schytz or hasty Piece of Painting done by a great Hand is of great Value. 1693 P. PETT *Barlow's Rem.* Pref. A viij b, Intending only what the Dutch Painters call a Schytz, and not a perfect Delineation or Draught. 1697 W. POPE *Life Bp. Ward* 149 The first *Schetse* of a Comedy calld the *Paradox*.]

1. A rough drawing or delineation of something, giving the outlines or prominent features without the detail, esp. one intended to serve as the basis of a more finished picture, or to be used in its composition; a rough draught or design. Also, in later use, a drawing or painting of a slight or unpretentious nature.

a. 1668 [see 2]. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* Pref., Both he that designed it from my Scetch, and the Engraver after him. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 179 This..moulding..would be far better exprest by a Scetch that should..represent the bottom and top of two of them.

β. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 145, I have made a little Sketch of this which will serve to give an Idea of those of Tschehel-minar. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 23 As the slightest sketch, if justly trac'd, Is by ill-colouring but the more disgrac'd. 1751 HOLLIS in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 380 The Designs that have been taken of them hitherto, have been rather Sketches..than accurate and exact Plans. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxii, In these little sketches she generally placed interesting groups characteristic of the scenery they animated. 1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. viii. 246 Constable has offered Allan three hundred pounds to make sketches for an edition of the Tales of My Landlord. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xviii, All about the walls hung pen and oil sketches of fantastic sea-monsters.

transf. 1713 *Guardian* No. 149, We have a kind of sketch of dress, if I may so call it, among us, which..is called a Dishabille. 1821 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, But in this respect his fancy probably filled up the sketch which his conjectures bodied out. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 242 His [*sc.* the donkey's] bray is..an experimental sketch for the neigh of her finished animal.

† b. (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 149/1 *Schetches*, are touches on a Paper with the point of a Charcoal in drawing out of any Figure, and so by little and little running over the whole Work.

2. A brief account, description, or narrative giving the main or important facts, incidents, etc., and not going into the details; a short or superficial essay or study, freq. in *pl.* as a title.

1668 CHARLETON *Ephesian & Cimm. Matrons* II. 76 Whereof I have here drawn no perfect Picture, but only a rude Scetch. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* x. 366 After this short but true sketch of Popery. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 5 Thus ..have you had exhibited to you a sketch of art. You must remember, however, it is but a sketch. 1780 *Mirror* No. 96, I offer you a small sketch of an incident, supposed to have happened in the times of our forefathers. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Sir T. Lawrence* II. 301 [This] renders necessary some sketch of the establishment of the Academy of painting in Ireland. 1857 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. 7 Here our narrative, even as the merest sketch, comes to its natural close. (*b*) 1758 L. TEMPLE *Sketches* Preface, The Author of the following Papers chuses to call them *Sketches*. 1835–6 DICKENS (*title*), Sketches by Boz. 1876 D. DONOVAN (*title*), Sketches in Carbery, Co. Cork; its Antiquities [etc.].

b. The general plan or outline, the main features, of anything. *rare.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virgil, Ess. Georgics* (1721) I. 207 We are beholden to him [Theocritus] for the first rough Sketch of a Georgic. 1796–7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xxvii, Everything..was finally settled according to Charlotte's first sketch. 1803 G. ELLIS *Let.* in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) I. xi. 394 If the sketch of that story was previously known.

3. *Mus.* a. A short piece, usu. for the pianoforte, either slight in construction or vividly descriptive.

c 1840 SIR W. S. BENNETT (*title*), Three Musical Sketches.

b. A preliminary study made during the progress of, or in preparation for, a finished work or composition.

1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 528 The Movement..affords us examples both of preliminary sketches and an amended whole. *Ibid.* 529 The volume presents some intensely interesting sketches for an Andante.

4. A short play or performance of slight dramatic construction and usually of a light or comic nature (see quot. 1892); also, a musical performance by one person, in which playing, singing, and talking are combined.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (ed. 3) III. 132/2 We always did a laughable sketch entitled Billy Button's Ride to Brentford. 1881 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Dec., Mr. Corney Grain..now gives a supplementary musical sketch, entitled 'Master Tommy's Theatricals'. 1892 *Daily News* 3 June 2/2 'Sketches'—the new name for small or condensed, and in some cases, mutilated stage plays, the acting time of which shall not be more than 40 minutes, and the performers in which shall not be more than six.

5. *slang.* A small quantity; a drop.

1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Years Life* II. 258, I have had..just a sketch of whisky with water from the burn.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sketch-block, -map, -plan.* Common in recent newspaper use.

1782 R. CUMBERLAND *Anecd. Painters* (1787) I. 194 His figures..are slight and sketch-like. 1872 W. W. SMYTH *Mining Stat.* 38 The geological sketch-map, which accompanies this paper. 1886 *Guide Exhib. Galleries Brit. Mus.* 235 A sketch-plan of the Battle of Aboukir. 1892 *Daily News* 19 May 2/4 The practice of sketch artists, sketch authors, and sketch managers has been..to pay copyright fees. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 281 You must..practise with a pencil and sketch-block the..foreshortening of objects.

Sketch (sketʃ), *v.* Also 7 scetch. [f. prec. or ad. Du. *schetsen*, G. *skizziren.*]

1. *trans.* To describe briefly, generally, or in outline; to give the essential facts or points of, without going into details; to outline.

1695 DRYDEN *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* Pref. p. xii, To contemplate those Idea's, which I have onely sketch'd, and which every man must finish for himself. 1751 J. HARRIS *Hermes* I. ii. (1786) 19 Now a Sentence may be sketch'd in the following description. 1814 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 312 The language most animated and poetical; and the characters sketched with a masterly enthusiasm. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess.* xix. Wks. (Bohn) I. 237 The history of the State sketches in coarse outline the progress of thought. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 285 The history of the city will be more fittingly sketched at another stage.

b. With *out* (cf. 2 a).

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* Ded., Could I but scetch out a faint Idea of Your Glorious Actions. *a* 1779 WARBURTON *Wks.* (1811) X. 201, I have at present nothing to do with its various abominations, here sketched out. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. xii. 302 To sketch out..what we conceive to be a better mode of supplying some account of Madame de Sévigné. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* xxiii. § 154, I have sketched out this scheme for you somewhat prematurely.

2. To draw the outline or prominent features of (a picture, figure, etc.), esp. as preliminary or preparatory to further development; to make a sketch or rough draught of (something); to draw or paint in this manner.

a. With advs., as *in, out, over.*

1725 WATTS *Logic* (J.), Some admirable design sketched out only with a black pencil, though by the hand of Raphael. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 66 For this purpose, a map of the soil is sketched out—we presume, from imagination. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Sir T. Lawrence* I. 332 The pupil confined himself to pen and ink drawings, sketched over with Indian ink and bistre. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* i, He sketched in lightly the face and figure.

transf. 1818 HAZLITT *Charac. Shaks. Plays* (1838) 244 This is little more than the first outlines of a comedy loosely sketched in.

b. Without qualifying term.

1786 REYNOLDS *Notes Mason's tr. Dufresnoy* xi, The method of Rubens was to sketch his compositions in colours. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* (ed. 3) II. 73 Sketching on the sides the shape or resemblance of the fences or boundaries. 1855 TENNYSON *The Brook* 102 Sketching with her slender pointed foot Some figure..On garden gravel. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 213, I sketched some of the crystals.

transf. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* vi, She had soon sketched and finished a dashing pair of Wellington trousers.

c. *intr.* To admit of sketching.

1883 HOLME LEE *Loving & Serving* I. ii. 27 Those poke bonnets..sketched well.

3. *intr.* or *absol.* To practise sketching; to draw or paint sketches.

1874 R. TYRWHITT *Our Sketching Club* 29 If you will only practise measuring heights and distances with thumb and pencil, whenever you sketch.

b. To proceed in a sketchy manner. (Cf. prec. 4.)

1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xv, We have to cut some of the business between Romeo and Juliet, because it's too long, you know...But we sketch along through the play.

Sketch, Sc. f. SKATE *sb.*[2] and *v.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); dial. f. SCATCH *sb.*[1] (a stilt).

Sketchabi·lity. [f. as next + -ITY.] The quality of being sketchable; suitability as a subject for a sketch.

1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittany* I. 253 To..try the sketchability of a water-mill. 1883 H. JAMES *Portraits of Places* 48 In the wonderful..Genoese alleys the traveller is really up to his neck in the old Italian sketchability.

Sketchable (ske·tʃăb'l), *a.* [f. SKETCH *v.*] Suitable for being sketched; effective as the subject of a sketch.

1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 182 Wyk, a place most sketchable, situated on a branch of the fiord. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* 533 Thinking to find a sketchable point of view inland, we struck down towards the plain.

Ske·tch-book. [f. SKETCH *sb.*]

1. A book having leaves of drawing-paper specially reserved or adapted for making sketches in.

1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. vi. 197 Encountering some odd figure, armed with a sketch-book, evidently bent on a peep at the Great Unknown. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Dobbin used to carry about for her her stool and sketch-book. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 338/2 My friends take their sketch-books.

b. As the title of a book containing essays or studies of a more or less descriptive nature.

1820 IRVING (*title*), The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon. 1843 THACKERAY (*title*), The Irish Sketch-Book.

2. A note-book containing a composer's preliminary sketches or studies.

1883 *Grove's Dict. Music* III. 528 Beethoven..left behind him a whole library of Sketch-books. *Ibid.* 529 Some of the Sketch-books in the Royal Library at Berlin.

Sketcher[1] (ske·tʃəɹ). [f. SKETCH *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who sketches a picture, portrait, etc.

1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* II. 128 I'll do as other sketchers do—Put any thing into the view. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Sir T. Lawrence* I. 234 As a sketcher of likenesses, he disclosed the future power of the President. 1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittany* I. 70 As perfect a little domestic landscape as a sketcher could desire. 1888 W. P. FRITH *Autobiog.* III. v. 137 Creswick, though by nature a lazy fellow, was a pretty constant sketcher.

b. One who writes an outline sketch, or who jots down preliminary memoranda.

1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Posit. Cath. Eng.* 311 Those who write books about a people or a school are hardly more than extempore sketchers; or they paint from memory. 1883 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 526 Others, again—the Sketchers, *par excellence*—began even their greatest works by noting down a few scraps of Subject, which they afterwards modified, enlarged, and improved.

2. An implement for sketching.

1894 BARING-GOULD *Des. S. France* I. 159 With a sketcher of flint,..a primeval man amused himself in delineating.. such animals as he pursued in the chase.

Ske·tcher[2]. *Sc.* Also 8 skytcher, 9 skatcher. [f. *sketch*, Sc. form of SKATE *v.*] A skate.

For the Sc. *sketcher*, etc., a skater, see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1790 A. WILSON *Rabby's Mistake* Poet. Wks. (1846) 101 Owre the loch's clear frozen face, On skytchers thrang, in airy chase, Flew mony a cheery chiel. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iii, I thought sketchers were aye made of airn. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xxvi, A new strap for my skatcher.

Sketchily (ske·tʃili), *adv.* [f. SKETCHY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a sketchy manner; without elaboration or detail.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* iii, The character of the lieutenant was sketchily given. 1870 *Daily News* 5 Dec., Her account of the country is lightly and sketchily written. 1886 G. ALLEN *Maimie's Sake* i, A few stray lines made to do duty sketchily for a rough idea of the imaginary picture.

Sketchiness (ske·tʃinés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being sketchy.

1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. viii. 119 His modes of treatment are alike removed from sketchiness or incompletion, and from exaggeration. 1885 *Athenæum* 6 June 719 The tendency to sketchiness is not great where the materials ..lie..ready to the hand.

b. *techn.* (See quot.)

1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 173 Sketchiness is the technical term for the tendency of patterns to show lines of spacing across the cloth in a way that is objectionable.

Sketching (ske·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SKETCH *v.*]

1. The action of the verb SKETCH; something sketched, a sketch. Also with *down.*

1824 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 226, I enjoy the first conception and first sketchings down of my ideas. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 215 You remember poor George's fondness for picturesque views and sketching. 1884 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 20/1 It was a crazy oddity with much scribbling and even schoolboy-like sketching by some one in the last century.

2. *attrib.*, as *sketching-block, -book, -case, -club, -pencil, -ramble, -stool*, etc.

1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. XXXV, In a sketching ramble—a charming morsel of the picturesque breaking out upon you. 1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* III. 212 His well-stuff'd bags, with all their hoard Of sketching-tools. *Ibid.* XVIII. 70 He..from his pocket took His pencil and his sketching-book. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xiv, A set of sketching materials. 1861 G. MUSGRAVE *By-Roads France* 45 Folding up my sketching stool and strapping it on to the havresac. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Our Sketching Club* 67 Get..a good sketching-block.

Ske·tching, *ppl. a.* [f. SKETCH *v.* + -ING 2.] That sketches; occupied with sketching. Hence **Ske·tchingly** *adv.*

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* iv. A sketching gentleman that lives..at the Cleikum of Aultoun yonder. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Aug. 10 Telling..how he himself had been guide to Horace Vernet as he rode sketchingly along to his namesake's dwelling-place.

Ske·tchist. *rare.* [f. SKETCH *sb.* 2 + -IST 1, after *novelist*, etc.] A writer of literary sketches.

1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 576 The phrase might have been restricted to essayists, or, were the term admissible, sketchists. 1893 *Star* 22 June 1/8 The popular legal sketchist.

Sketch-map: see SKETCH *sb.* 3.

Sketchy (ske·tʃi), *a.* [f. SKETCH *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Giving only a slight or rough outline of the main features, facts, or circumstances without going into details: **a.** Of writings or authors.

1805 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 136 These two extremes, of meagre copying, and of imitation so free and sketchy as to leave no likeness, are to be found in our two translations of Homer. 1828 J. STERLING *Ess.* (1848) II. 50 Sketches of society,—very sketchy indeed,—..make up the miscellany. 1854 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* (ed. 4) Pref., A story thus originated could not be other than sketchy and desultory. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVI. 358/1 On particulars of breaches and of objections he is very sketchy.

b. Of style, etc. (in writing or painting).

1811 *Self Instructor* 527 This style of painting is intended to be light and sketchy. 1852 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. v. 137 The thin, sketchy, and slight manner in which the whole was executed. 1871 *Athenæum* 3 June 686 In the second volume..The style is not so sketchy, but we have rather a fragment of a picture than the picture itself.

2. Of pictures, etc.: Of the nature of, or resembling, a sketch; consisting or composed of outline without much detail.

1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 288 A sketchy generalized resemblance of an object. 1864 I. TAYLOR in *Good Words* 231 These sketchy portraits, inserted..in the very midst of the reported speeches. 1884 *19th Cent.* Jan. 31 The well-known column..around which Landseer's very sketchy lions watch.

fig. 1817 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 96 It [Wordsworth's 'Gipsy'] is a kind of sketchy intellectual landscape. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. xv, A party of this kind should be more sketchy in its style; the outline more free, and less detail.

3. *colloq.* Of a light, flimsy, unsubstantial or imperfect nature.

1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* I. 16 A scrappy sort of sketchy fragmentary breakfast. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 563 A house with no doors, and only very sketchy wooden window-shutters.

‖ **Skete** (skēt). [ad. mod. Gr. *σκῆτος*, f. Gr. *ἀσκητής* monk, hermit.] An association of hermits belonging to the Greek Church.

1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 68 When a number of these retreats are assembled round a central church, a skete (*ἀσκητήριον*) is formed, which in some cases differs from a monastery only in not possessing an independent constitution. 1887 RILEY *Athos* 79 The sketes, or priories, have no voice in the government of the community.

Skete, var. SKEET *sb.* and *a.* **Skethill,** var. SCATHEL *a.* **Skeut,** obs. f. SCOUT *sb.*[3]

† Skevin. *Obs.* In 4 skeuayne, skeuyn, skyueyn, 5 skyveyne; 4 skyuen, 5 skywen. [ad. ONF. *eskevein*, var. of OF. *eschevin* (mod.F. *échevin*): see ECHEVIN and SCABINE.] A steward of a gild.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 46 To chesen an Aldirman..and foure skeuaynes, trost men and trewe, for to kepyn and reseyuen þe goodes..of þe gilde. *Ibid.* 64 To chesyn alderman and skyueynys that ben profitable for the Gylde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458 Skyveyne, of a gylde (*S.* skywen).

† Skevinage. *Obs.* Also **skun-, scunage.** [ad. ONF. *eskevinage*, var. of OF. *eschevinage* mod.F. *échevinage*): see prec.] A district under the jurisdiction of a local magistrate.

In English use only with ref. to the precincts of Calais.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 149/2 Withoute the Towne, in the Procincte longing to the same, called the Skevinage. 1487 *Ibid.* VI. 404/2 Th' Office of Baillyve of the Scunage of Calais. 1529 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII* (1876) IV. III. 2392 A house place..within the scunage of Calais.

Skevington's daughter, gyves, irons: see SCAVENGER'S DAUGHTER.

† Skew, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 4 skewe, skwe, skiu, scue. [prob. of Scand. origin and related to SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. The sky or heaven.

c 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvii. 13 Mirke watres þat ware ofe hewe In þe kloudes of þe skewe. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 483 Ho [*sc.* the dove] skyrmez vnder skwe & skowtez aboute. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1341 (Fairf.), Þis tree was of sa mykil in siȝt, þat to þe skew raȝt þe top. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10182 The skew [*MS.* skrew], for þe skrykyng & skremyng of folke, Redoundet with dyn.

2. *pl.* The skies, heavens, or clouds.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1494 Þe wey he made vs to lede Þorw þe skewes [F. *nuwes*], þer he eode. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1206 Hiȝe skelt was þe askry þe skewes an-vnder. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9637 That day was full derke..With a Ropand Rayne rut fro the skewes.

Skew (skiū), *sb.*[2] Forms: 3 sc(u)we, 5 scue; 3 scyue, skyue, 4 skewe, 7– **skew** (9 *Sc.* skeu). [ad. OF. *escu* (mod.F. *écu*) :–L. *scūtum* shield.

Both the OF. *escu* and L. *scutum* occur in this sense in early accounts (1253) of Westminster Abbey: see G. Scott *Westm. Abbey* (1863) 239. The OF. word may also be the source of *scu*, a screen or partition, given in *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 and 468/2.]

1. † a. A stone specially intended or adapted for being placed with other similar ones to form the sloping head or coping of a gable, rising slightly above the level of the roof. *Obs.*

1278 *Bursar's Rolls, Merton Coll.* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* II. 143 Item eidem iij.*s.* iij.*d.* per xx pedibus in longitudine de quibusdam lapidibus qui vocantur scuwes et ponuntur in opere in tecto parve domus retro coquinam. 1288 *Ibid.*, Item in xviij ped' de skyues empt' xviij.*d.*, precium pedis j.*d.* 1359–60 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 193 In iiij[xx] iiij ped. de skewes empt., prec. pedis j. *d.* [1445–6 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 392, 45½ feet of 'Scuez'..are bought for the construction of the walls.] 1635 in Paterson *Hist. Musselburgh* (1857) 146, vij[c] double and single treis, and about j[m]. skewis. *collect.* 1428 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 6 Ashler, coyne, skew, ragge, chalke, flint, tyles and estriche boarde. 1533 in Bayley *Tower of London* (1821) I. App. p. xxix, In skew and crests to the same spacys on the west side. *Ibid.*, At the Juell Hows doore, iij. spacys covered w[t] skew and crest.

b. The line of coping on a gable. Chiefly *Sc.*

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 43 High on the skilentin skew, or thatched eave, The sparrow..Seeks out a dwelling-place. 1823 GALT *Entail* xlix, I paid..the Glasgow mason..for the count o' his sklater that pointed the skews o' the house. 1861 STEPHENS & BURN *Farm-Buildings* § 279 There are no skews [in this gable], the slating projecting over the walls.

c. A skew-corbel (see 2).

The genuineness of this sense is somewhat doubtful.

1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 4) I. 340 The term skew is still used in the north for a stone built into the bottom of a gable or other similar situation to support the coping above.

2. *attrib.*, as *skew-corbel, -put, -stone, -table.*

Parker appears to have formed *skew-table* out of *scutable*, which is given by J. T. Smith *Antiq. Westm.* (1807) 207 in a translated document of 1330; on the same page occurs *sencrestes*, which may be a misreading of *scu-crestes*.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 947 The gables are to be slated over, and the skew-stones (the coping-stones of the gables, called barge-stones in England) are to be laid over the slates, but to project 3 inches over..the walls. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 4) 340 Skew-table was probably the course of stone weathered, or sloped, on the top, placed over a continuous set-off in a wall. 1850 OGILVIE, *Skew-corbel, Skew-put*, a stone built into the bottom of a gable to support the coping above. 1851 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. ii. 31 The spring stones or skew-tables of the gables.

3. A slate used in forming the gutter of a roof.

1899 *Evesham Jrnl.* 1 Apr. (E. D. D.), The centre one is the 'bottomer', on either side are two 'tie-lyes', and above and below in the next course two 'skews'.

Skew (skiū), *sb.*[3] Also 7 scew. [f. SKEW *a.* or *v.*[2]]

† 1. A side-glance. *Obs.*[–1]

1622 S. WARD *Christ All in All* (1627) 29 Whateuer good workes we doe with an eye from his, and a skew vnto our owne names,..the more penaltie of pride belongs vnto vs.

2. A slant; a deviation from the straight line; an angle, esp. that at which a bridge spans a road or river; a sideward movement.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 261/2 Scew or Campher, is the cutting off of a corner of a Wall. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 232/2 The projections of all the lines of pressure are equal to..each other,..whatever may be the angle of the skew. 1885 *Scientific American* 1 Aug. 64 In the completed structure there are..no two skews alike. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 18 Feb. 3/3 The skew in the chancel he attributes..to an alteration having been carried out by rule of thumb.

b. *transf.* A slip, an error.

1869 FURNIVALL in *Bk. Precedence* Pref. p. xvii, Thus one of the many skews in the Harleian Catalogue was set straight.

c. *On the* (or *a*) *skew*, on the slant, slantwise.

1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 399. 175 All these bits are secured in the main stock on a skew. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 174 Birds that flew dead straight, birds that seemed to work on the skew. 1894 *Times* 22 Sept. 13/4 Over the Lune, which is crossed on the skew, the span is 350 ft.

3. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1789 T. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 27 Skews and backs are only local joints of an irregular curved figure, which often resemble hitches. *Ibid.* 330 A skew is an irregular discontinuous mineral fissure,..which generally lies in a very slanting irregular position. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 224 *Skews*,..irregularities in the roof indicating danger from falls.

† Skew, *sb.*[4] *Cant. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A cup; a wooden dish.

1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 83 A skew, a cuppe. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* II. F iv b, This is Bien Bowse, this is Bien Bowse, Too little is my Skew. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Skew*, a Begger's Wooden Dish. 1754 *Song* in Farmer & Henley *Slang* s.v., To thy Bugher[=dog] and thy Skew, Filch and Jybes, I bid adieu.

Skew (skiū), *sb.*[5] *Cornish dial.* [? Cornish.] A drizzling rain; a driving mist. Also *fig.*

1839 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. v. 128, I am in a regular Cornish skew as to the future,..can't see an inch before me. 1880– in Cornish glossaries.

Skew (skiū), *sb.*[6] *Harrow slang.* [Cf. SKEW *v.*[5]] **a.** A difficult passage for translation or explanation. **b.** An entrance examination held at the end of a term. Also *attrib.*

1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 757 One examination paper..was popularly known as 'Skew-paper'. 1890 *Daily News* 14 Aug. 4/8 To explain hard passages, or 'skews', as they are technically styled.

† Skew, *sb.*[7] *Sc. Obs.*[–1] (Meaning doubtful.)

Perhaps a back-formation from *reskew*, but cf. SKEW *v.*[2]

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 835 Hardy and hat contenyt the fell melle, Skew and reskew off Scottis and Inglis als.

† Skew, *sb.*[8] *Obs.*[–1] [Cf. SCOW *sb.*[2] 2.] A coracle.

1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* iv. in *Holinshed* I. 5/2 These Scots..vsed..to steale ouer into Britaine in leather skewes.

Skew (skiū), *a.* and *adv.* Also 7 skue, scue. [Cf. SKEW *v.*[2] and ASKEW *adv.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having an oblique direction or position; turned to one side, slanting, squint.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXX. xi. 397 He had with his gray eyes a skew cast at all times, and looked sterne. 1639 *Crabtree Lect.* 106 Thy skew shapes legges are so distant one from another, that it is unpossible that thou shouldest ever gall thine Ankles. 1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 44 It is far easier for her to..fetch in some odd skue conceit from a remote obscure corner, than to think of what is nearer. 1684 BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 195 Its right and parallel situation..was chang'd into an oblique; in which skew posture it hath stood ever since. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* I. 429 The common coping of a wall, which consists of a sloped or skew surface surmounted by a roll moulding. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* v. 130 The skew mouth running vertically, make[s] their appearance something frightfully odious. 1881 E. B. TYLOR *Anthropology* 63 The Tatar and Japanese faces show the skew eyelids of the Mongolian race.

† b. Distorted, perverted; macaronic. *Obs.*

1607 BREWER *Lingua* III. v, I remember about the yeare 1602. many vsed this skew kind of language.

2. In special collocations, denoting that the thing in question deviates from a straight line, or has some part not at right angles with the rest, as *skew arch, bridge, girder*, etc., or *skew bevel, chisel, facet, former, iron*, etc.

1845 FORD *Hdbk. Spain* I. 257 First observe a singular Moorish *skew arch. 1857 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (ed. 3) II. 447, I speak of what are called Skew Arches, in which the courses of stone or brick of which the bridge is built run obliquely to the walls of the bridge. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 668 They fulfil the office of bevil wheels, or rather of *skew-bevil wheels. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 349/2 The teeth have then a peculiar form, and the wheels are called *skew-bevels*. 1838 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 546, I have found a good story of a *skew bridge at Caen. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 245 The art of building oblique or skew bridges appears to have been known on the Continent as early as 1530. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 354/1 One *skew, or corner chisel. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 644. 296 The tools used in carving are the chisel, the gouge, the skew-chisel, the parting tool. 1751 JEFFRIES *Treat. Diamonds & Pearls* (ed. 2) Gloss., In Brilliants, there are two sorts, **skew* or *skill* facets and *star* facets. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 74 The *Skew-Former..is seldom used by Joiners, but for cleansing accute angles. 1838 SIMMS *Publ. Wks. Gt. Brit.* 8 In the *skew girders the proper wind must be preserved. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 27 The iron is sometimes set at right angles to the sole of the plane and sometimes at an acute angle, when it is called a *skew iron. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 485 The obliquity is then given to the iron, which is inserted at an angle, as in the *skew-rebate and Gillister. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 214 In *skew-sight or lateral vision, the axis of the eye affected usually coincides with that of the sound eye. 1850 *Engineer & Mach. Assist.* 74 That variety of toothed-geer known as *skew-wheels.

b. *Math.* (See quots.)

1848 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* I. 378 Passing to the general case where the lines and points in question are not identical, which I should propose to term the theory of 'Skew Polars'. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci., etc.* III. 467 *Skew Surface*, a ruled surface of which two successive generators do not in general intersect. 1873 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* IX. 65–6 Before going further it will be convenient to establish the definition of 'skew anti-points'. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 384 When they are not satisfied it is called a Skew system.

3. *Comb.*, as *skew-eyed, -fisted* adjs.; *skew-nail* vb.; *skew-wise* adv.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Monfet's Theat. Ins.* 1074 They are not one-ey'd, nor horrid skew-ey'd. *a* 1700 *Dict. Cant. Crew, Skew-fisted*, awkward, ungainly. 1875 MORRIS *Æneid* v. 445 He..his body swift writhed skew-wise from the fall. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 743. 340 The edge of the shelf may be skew-nailed to the support behind.

B. *adv.* Obliquely, askew. *rare.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., To *look skew*, or *a-skew*, to squint or leer, to look shy, or with an evil Eye upon one. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 305, I hope you don't think, Ma'am, that I have looked skew at not being paid my last week.

† Skew, *v.*[1] *Obs.*[–1] [f. SKEW *sb.*[1]] *intr.* To become overcast.

c 1400 *Siege Jerusalem* (E. E. T. S.) 53 Þe welcon wanned anon & þe water skewed, Cloudes clateren gon, as þey cleue wolde.

Skew (skiū), *v.*[2] Also 5–6 skewe, 7 scew, scue, 7–8 skue, 9 'skew. [ad. ONF. *eskiu(w)er*,

eskuer, *escuer*, var. of OF. *eschuer*, *eschever*, etc.: see ESCHEW *v.*[1] The later development of sense is curious, as well as the apparent use of the verb-stem in the adv. ASKEW and the adj. SKEW.]

†**1.** *intr.* To escape, to slip away. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1562 Skilfulle skomfyture he skiftez as hym lykez, Is none so skathlye may skape, ne skewe fro his handez.

2. To take an oblique course or direction; to turn *aside*, move sideways.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 148 Crawfurd drew saill, skewyt by, and off thaim past. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. i. C ij, He, that..chearelye wills the to be bould not once to skew a syde. 1637 N. WHITING *Albino & Bellama* Author's Apol., And should they see us on our knees for blessing, They'd scus aside, as frighted at our dressing. 1703 BRAND *Descr. Orkney & Zetland* 9 We judged it safest, to keep as near it [the land] as we could, and scued away by the coast. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Skue* or *walk skuing*, to waddle, to go sideling along. 1811 WILLAN in *Archæologia* XVII. 158 *Skew*, to go aside, or obliquely. 1813 D. ANDERSON *Poems* 112 (Jam.), Contemplating ilk foppish brat,..To see them skew and skip about. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, They skewed, bustled, and bumped along.

b. To shy (as a horse), to swerve. Also *fig.*

1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. viii. 370 When the Magistrate is settling the Civil peace of his Dominions, he needs not concern himself whether the people will skew or no. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 304 *Skew*, to start aside, as a horse, at some object which scares him. 1852– in dialect glossaries (Northampt., Linc., etc.).

3. To squint *at*, to look *at* (or *upon*) sideways, esp. in a suspicious or slighting manner; hence, to make side-hits *at*, reflect *upon*, something.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 94 To Skewe, *limis oculis spectare.* 1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* II. i, Our service Neglected, and look'd lamely on, and skew'd at. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 111 We find our selves ready..to skew at the infirmities of others. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* 460 'Tis dangerous skewing upon the errors of the age a man lives in. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 173 The cows stood round her in a wondering way,..Skewing at her. 1852 BORROW *Wild Wales* III. 74 Now looking to the left, now to the right,.. now skewing at an object, now leering at an individual.

†**4.** *trans.* To turn (the eyes) sidewards. *Obs.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Ireland* in Holinshed *Chron.* (1587) II. 17/1 Pleaseth you to skew your eie towards the margent. 1582 — *Æneid* II. (Arb.) 67 Nor backward skewd I myn eyesight..tyl that my burden I lighted.

5. To cut *off*, set *back*, insert, etc., in an oblique manner.

1611 COTGR., *Embraser*, to skue, or chamfret off the Iaumbes of a doore, or window. 1703 R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 11 The springing of the Arch is skew'd back from the upright of the Jambs. 1777 GOSTLING *Walk Canterb.* (ed. 2) 181 The way was skewed off with an angle. 1886 MRS. CADDY *Footsteps of Jeanne D'Arc* 109 The lower room has a narrow window..skewed into the thickness of the wall.

6. To depict or represent unfairly.

1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* x, What has he done but twist and skew and distort and discolor..this whole dog-gonned country?

7. *dial.* To throw, hurl, cast, fling.

1824– in dialect glossaries, etc. (Northumbld., Yks.).

Hence **Skew·ing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Biseau*, a bezle, bezeling, or scuing; such a slopenesse, or slope forme, as is in the point of an yron leauer, chizle, &c. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Life* (1733) 807 He prepar'd the people for his Purpose by a skewing discourse upon the Matter then in Question. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 8 Jane's skewing cow was struck with fear.

Skew, *v.*[3] *techn.* [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.) Also **Skew·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 149/1 *Skew*, a term in Heraldry-Painting, which is with a Wing or Hares Foot [to] brush away all the loose edges of Silver and Gold that remains of the working of them. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) I. 758 A brush, with which every part is carefully gone over, superfluous gold being removed from some parts, and worked into others..The process is called *skewing*, and the particles of gold collected from it, are sold under the name of *skewings*. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* Jan. 487/1 Go over the frame with a *skewing* brush to remove all loose particles of gold. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2194/2.

Skew, *v.*[4] [f. SKEW *sb.*[5]] In *pass.* with *up*: To have the vision obstructed by mist.

1842 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. v. 149 Walking I know not where—all mist before my vision, 'skewed up', nothing certain.

Skew, *v.*[5] [? a special use of SKEW *v.*[2] Cf. SKEW *sb.*[6]] **a.** *To be skewed*, to fail in repetition.

b. To fail in doing (a repetition).

1859 FARRAR *Eric* 53 He would laugh when any one told him how he had escaped 'skewing' (i.e. being turned) by reading it off. 1899 'MARIELLO TOWER' *At School & at Sea* 36 *Skew*..signified failure in a lesson, as: 'I skewed my rep (repetition), this morning'. 1905 H. A. VACHELL *The Hill* iii, It doesn't pay to be 'skewed'.

†**Skewage,** obs. variant of SCAVAGE.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 68/1 Thei pay Skewage for the same merchaundises atte Suthampton. 1503 *Ibid.* VI. 550/2 An Act concerning Skewage or Skewage.

Skew-back. [f. SKEW *sb.*[3] or *v.*[2] + BACK *adv.*]

1. *Arch.* The springing-line of an arch; the sloping surface on which either extremity of an arch rests; a course of stone or brickwork, an iron plate, etc., immediately supporting the foot of an arch.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 279 According to the breadth of the Piers between the Windows, so ought the Skew-back or Sommering of the Arch to be. *Ibid.* 280 The line A C, which is vulgarly called the Skew-back for the Arch. 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 36 Set off the Skew-Backs from *f* to *E*, and..*I* will be the Centre to which the Skew-Backs..are directed. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 34/1 The arching for the support of the stairs is to be..springing from cut skew backs, and properly keyed in. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 87/1 A plate of cast-iron is usually laid upon the stone skew-backs, extending the whole width of the bridge. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 40 The arches are turned in Roman bricks,..a steep skew back being formed for their springings.

b. A ring on the inside wall of a blast-furnace, by which the area is diminished.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 820/1.

2. *Mech.* A cap or other casting made to receive the end of a diagonal rod or brace.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 820/1.

Hence **Skew-backed** *a.* (see quot.).

1905 BOND *Goth. Archit.* 259 The upper surface of the top springer..against which the first voussoir of the real arch.. starts, is said to be skewbacked.

Skewbald (skiū·bold), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 skew-bal'd, 8–9 -ball. [Cf. SKEWED *a.*[1] and PIEBALD.]

A. *adj.* Of animals, esp. horses: Irregularly marked with white and brown or red, or some similar colour.

Properly distinct from PIEBALD (see quot. 1866), which is sometimes inexactly used for it.

1654 J. CLEVELAND *Poems* 38 Th' Apparatour upon his skew-bal'd horse. 1692 *London Gaz.* No. 2777/4 A skew-bald Gelding about 14 hands. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3870/4 A Strawberry Gelding..; with a skew bald Face (the white coming over his off Eye). 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 20 Yesterday however shewed me what I knew not had existed—a skew-bald or pyebalded ass. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 992 Captain, a fallow and white dog, with skewbald face. 1866 W. WATSON *Youatt's Horse* xv. 346 When the white is mixed with black it is called 'pie-bald', with bay the name of 'skew-bald' is given to it. 1876 *World* V. 19 A middle-aged gentleman of hermit habits on a skewbald cob.

B. *sb.* A skewbald horse.

1863 G. A. SALA *Capt. Dangerous* I. iii. 47 She was to have her pony, with John coachman on the skewball, sent to fetch her every Saturday. 1883 *Times* 30 May 5/1 Mr. Frisby's skewbald was at some disadvantage in this class.

Skewed (skiūd), *a.*[1] ? *Obs.* Also 5 scued, skevyd, 5–7 skued, 7 skude, skewd. [Of doubtful origin: perh. f. OF. *escu* shield (cf. L. *scutulātus* as a colour of a horse, f. *scutula* platter), but there is also close resemblance in form and sense to Icel. *skjöltr*, the history of which is equally obscure.] Skewbald.

In quot. 1495 the reading of the Bodleian MS. is *scawed*, translating *maculosum* of the original.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 703 (E.E.T.S.), The skewed goos, the brune goose as the white Is not fecounde. *Ibid.* IV. 810 The gray [horse], the goldenhered and the skued [*v.r.* scued]. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 507 Item, payd to Richard Wayfer..for a skevyd nagg iiij*s.* 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxvi. 830 Some Catte is whyte, some red, some blacke, some skewed and specklyd. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Runnyng* 142 Some be flybytten, Some skewed as a kytten. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 116 b, The yelowish and the skued or pied horses are discommended almost of all men. 1611 COTGR., *Pecile*, a pide, or skude colour of a horse. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 323 Skewd was his horse, of manie colors chaunginge. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s.v., A skew'd horse, one of two colours.

Skewed, (skiūd), *a.*[2] [f. SKEW *sb.*[3] or *v.*[2]] Set obliquely or aslant; skew. Also *Comb.*

1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* vi. 4 *marg.*, Windowes broad within and narrow without; or skewed and closed. 1619 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* IV. i, As I live I am asham'd, this wench has reach'd me,..This skew'd ey'd Carrion. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 109/1 It is in the construction of railroads that the skewed arch meets with its most important application. 1895 C. R. B. BARRETT *Surrey* iii. 95 The eastern half of the chancel is skewed internally.

†**Skewel.** *Obs.*[–1] [prob. a. OF. *escuele* (mod. F. *écuelle*).] ? A dish, platter.

1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 278, iiij litle wood skewells, xij[d]; v laten bassings.

Skewer (skiū·əɹ), *sb.* Also 7 scure, seuer, 8 scewer. [A variant of SKIVER *sb.*[1], which is prob. the more original form: cf. *kever*, *kiver*, and *cure* as variants of COVER *v.*, and *newt* from earlier *evet*. In the *Nottingham Recs.* II. 86 (an entry of 1411) it is probable that *skeuer* should be read as *skumer*, scummer.]

1. A long wooden or metal pin, used especially to fasten meat or the like together, to keep it in form while being cooked.

1679 EVELYN *Sylva* (ed. 3) xxi. 100 The Wild Cornel or Dog-wood good to make Mill-Cogs, Pestles, .. Butchers Skewers, &c. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 292/2 A Butchers Cambril, Or, between two Scuers. *Ibid.* 315/1 He beareth Azure, two Skewers or Flesh pricks. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 266 He with Iron Skewer, pierces the tender Sides of both, their Legs and Wings close pinion'd to their Ribs. 1729 — *Direct. Serv.* ii, Send up your Meat well stuck with Scewers, to make it look round and plump. 1809 *Asiat. Researches* IX. 60 These leaves are..used all over India to make baskets, and made fast together, with skewers, from the fibres of the *bamboo*. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 33 [Bleacher], To these pieces of canvass, the ends of the web of calico..may be fastened by wooden 'skewers'. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 79. 33 It is the wood used by butchers for making wooden skewers.

fig. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xii, Transfixed by the red-hot skewers of jealousy.

b. A metal pin used to fasten an article of dress or to secure the hair.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 234 A fringed blanket, fastened about her shoulders with a copper skewer. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 303 The buckles of the Romans, and the skewers employed by Queen Elizabeth. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 222 Two plaited bands of hair..fastened up with a flat silver or gilt skewer.

c. A pin on which a bobbin is placed.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 158 But single bobbins are set on skewers in the reel in correspondence with the single spindles on the copping rail. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 315/1 The bobbins..are mounted..on a creel which has skewers for their reception.

d. Applied contemptuously to a weapon.

1838 JAMES *Robber* vii, Let us look at your skewer in a handle, my Lord.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skewer-full*, *-machine*, *-maker*; skewer-piece (see quot. 1867); skewer tree, wood, the spindle-tree, from the wood of which skewers are made.

(*a*) 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 95 The green skewerwood seeds of scarlet shows. 1863 PRIOR *Brit. Pl.*, *Skewer-wood*, from skewers being made of it, a shrub called in the Western counties Skiver-wood, *Evonymus Europæus*. 1894 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 164 The square berries of the skewer tree little known except to the birds and the gipsies.

(*b*) 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xl, Strung together like what we call 'skewer pieces' on board of a man-of-war. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 629 The meat being then divided into messes, the remnants are cut into small pieces termed skewer-pieces. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2194/2 Skewer-machine. 1880 *Times* 10 Dec. 3/4 Tempting the hungry passers-by to purchase a skewer-full of the dainty roast. 1885 *Instr. Census Clerks 1881* 46 Skewer Maker.

Skewer (skiū·əɹ), *v.* Also 8 skuer. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To fasten (meat, etc.) with a skewer; to pierce with a skewer or skewers. Also const. *together*, *up*, *upon*.

1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 29 Some be of Bears Skins and Rackoon Skins sewed or skuered together. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 147 Skewer them and roast them or stove or bake them, just as you please. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 69 Skewer your hare with the head upon one shoulder. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 69 Skewer the fillet as close as possible. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* v, A piece of stick..upon which were skewered..pieces of beef and pork.

refl. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiii, If thou takest all that trouble of skewering thyself together, like a trussed fowl.

fig. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xliv, Britannia, that unfortunate female.., skewered through and through with office pens and bound..with red tape. 1871 *Member for Paris* II. 10 He..served him up every day to the readers of the *Pavois*, skewered through and through with an epigram.

b. To run through, transfix, with a sword or other weapon.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii, Perhaps *not* to part, but to fall mutually skewered through with iron. 1861 C. READE *Cloister & H.* xliii, He felt his arm hot, then cold, and there was an English arrow skewering it. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *R. Lynne* I. xiii. 214, I thought I was being skewered by a horrid savage.

refl. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* xi. 311 The bird alighted there, and skewered itself upon the lance.

c. To place upon skewers. Cf. SKEWER *sb.* 1 c.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 379 There are 1656 under 18 years of age, of whom..108 [are employed] in..skewering cops.

2. To fix, fasten, or secure to or into something else with, or as with, a skewer or skewers; to truss. Const. *in*, *into*, *to*, also *down*, *up*.

1777 SHERIDAN *Trip to Scarborough* v. ii, Why should you..suffer the rascals thus to skewer down my arms like a rabbit! 1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VII. 139 We'll see what fare the butler's foresight Has skewer'd into my knapsack. 1815 *Hist. J. Decastro* III. 231 He saw a great long thing lying on the ground skewered up in a white cloth. 1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* 364 The grenadier turned down his bayonet, and skewered him to the ground. 1890 *Nature* 30 Oct. 641 The mats are skewered on to two long bamboos.

fig. 1838 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* III. 174 When so strict a Calvinist..could skewer such frippery patches..on the sober gown and cassock of a Reformed and Scriptural Church!

3. To fix or thrust (*into* or *through* something) like a skewer or skewers.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxvi, He skewered his great eyes into mine. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* iv. 135 They took a sharp stake..and..skewered it right through the carcase.

Hence **Skew·ered** *ppl. a.*; **Skew·ering** *vbl. sb.*

1794 T. WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 58 The more perfectly the whey is got out of the cheese, by skewering, thrusting, and pressing, the less air will be left in it. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 237 Take the steaks,..then roll them up, and secure their form by skewering. 1839 *Mag. Dom. Econ.* IV. 243 The cheese..is turned and the pressure and skewering continued. 1868 *Daily Tel.* 29 May, The Chinese belles, with their crimped..and skewered hair.

†**Skewing.** *Obs.*[–1] = SKEWAGE.

1312 in Sharpe *Cal. Lett. Bk. D.* (1902) 280 [Citizens of York to pass free from payment of murage, pavage,] skewynge [or] skewenge, [and other customs].

Skewing (in Gilding); see SKEW *v.*[3]

Skew·ly, *adv. rare.* [f. SKEW *a.* 2 b + -LY[2].] In a skew manner.

1896 W. W. R. BALL *Math. Recreations* (ed. 3) 137 Two cells in complementary rows and columns are said to be skewly related.

Skew·ness. [f. SKEW *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being skew.

1894 *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXVI. 357 While their frequent skewness sufficiently indicates that the neglect of $X'r+\frac{1}{2}$ as compared with *a* is unjustifiable. 1901 *Nature* 3 Oct. 569/1 The polygon with the lower mode has a skewness of +0.48.

Skewse, obs. f. SCUSE *v.* **Skewt**, var. SCOOT *v.*

† **Skey,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* A kind of boat.

1507 *Will of German* (Somerset Hō.), A boote otherwise called a Skeye. 1542 *Admir. Ct. Warrant Bks.* 1 Sept., Navicula vocata a skey.

‖ **Skey** (skēi), *sb.*[2] *S. African.* Also **skea.** [Du. *schei* tie-piece.] One of a pair of wooden bars passing through each end of an ox-yoke, to which the neckstraps are fixed.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 7/1 In inspanning, the yoke is placed on the back of the neck of the ox, with one of these skeys on either side. *Ibid.* 10/2 The oxen..spring about in the yoke,..invariably snapping the straps and yoke-skeas. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iv. 103 From the beams hung Kaffir ropes,..old saddles, yokes, skeys, neckstraps, and all apparatus for wagoning.

† **Skey,** *a. Obs.*—° [var. of SKEIGH *a*] Skittish. Cf. the vb. *skey* (of a horse) in Brockett (1829).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 444/2 Schey, or skey, as hors, or stystyl. *Ibid.* 457/2 Skey, as hors, *umbraticus.*

† **Skey,** *v. Sc. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. two different words.]

1. *intr.* To get clear, to sheer *off.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 873 Bot fra the Scottis thai mycht nocht than off skey, The clyp so sar on athir burd thai wey.

2. *trans.* ? To startle, come upon suddenly.

1539 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 220* 3e slew his serwandis doggis þat skeyit 3ou quhare 3e lay.

Skey, obs. f. SKY. **Skeymishe, -mows(e,** obs. ff. SQUEAMISH. **Skeyn(e,** obs. ff. SKEIN, SKENE. **Skeyr,** obs. Sc. f. SKERE. **Skez3ren,** var. SKAIR *v. Obs.*

‖ **Ski** (ʃī, skī), *sb.* Pl. **ski** (also **skis**). Also **she, skee.** [a. Norw. *ski* (*skjī, sjii*, also written *skid*) neut.:—ON. *skíð* snow-shoe, billet of cleft wood, = OE. *scíd* SHIDE *sb.* In some Norw. dialects also *skida* (*skjia, skjie*) fem., = Sw. *skida* (pl. *skidor*):—ON. *skíða.* In mod. Norw. and Sw. *sk* before palatal vowels has the value of (ʃ).

The form *skid*, and the Sw. pl. *skidor*, have occasionally been used in English context, but have not obtained general currency.]

1. One of a pair of long slender pieces of wood fastened to the foot and used as a snow-shoe, enabling the wearer to slide down hill with great speed.

The length and breadth of ski vary, but the average dimensions are eight feet long and four inches broad; they are usually pointed and curved at the toe, sometimes curved at the heel. Within recent years the use of ski as a means of exercise or sport has spread from Norway and Sweden to Switzerland and other places.

a. 1885 TROMHOLT *Aurora Borealis* I. 136 The Ski are pointed and slightly curved at one end, and the edges rounded. 1893 *Daily Graphic* 28 June 13 Fourteen pairs of ash and sycamore ski of special pattern, some being 10 feet in length.

β. 1889 *Montreal Daily Star* Carnival No. 4/3 Snowshoes, skees, and tugues were hung about the arch in stars. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 2/1 Tobogganing, sleighing, and skee-ing (on long, narrow, snow-shoes called 'skees').

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ski-climber, -runner*; *ski-excursion, -jumping, -running*; *ski staff*, etc.

Examples of this type are common in recent usage: only a few are given here. The Norw. or Sw. forms of some (as *skilöbning*) are occasionally employed.

1854 LATHAM *Native Races Russ. Emp.* 84 The most characteristic..of their habits..is what we may call by a name coined for the occasion—she-running. 1888 *Times* 16 Nov. 10/1 At a concourse in Christiania he became champion ski-runner. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 307/2 He thrust out his ski staff and tripped up his companion.

Hence **Ski** *v. intr.*, to travel on ski. **Ski'er,** one who uses or travels on ski; a ski-runner. **Ski'-ing** *vbl. sb.*, the action of travelling or running on ski, esp. as a sport. Also *attrib.*

1893 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 5/3 If we had winter worth speaking of here, ski-ing would soon take a prominent place among our field sports. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 4 Apr. 967/2, I have seen an expert skeer go down a long steep hill with the swiftness scarcely equaled by a bird. *Ibid.*, It must be a very funny sight, that of the skeeing down hill. 1904 *Times* 4 Mar. 9/2 They skied down to Chamonix.

Skiagram (skəi·ägræm). Also **skiogram.** [f. Gr. σκιά shadow + -GRAM.]

1. An outline of the shadow of an object filled in with black (see quot. 1801); a picture painted or produced in this style.

1801 FUSELI *Lect. Paint.* i. 9 The first essays of the art were Skiagrams, simple outlines of a shade, similar to.. Silhouettes; without any other addition of character or feature but what the profile of the object thus delineated, could afford. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 694 To trace back the more perfect art through its stages—the 'Polychrom', the 'Monochrom', the 'Monogram', and 'Skiagram'. 1848 WORNUM *Lect. Paint.* 351 *note*, Vases, or those with the black figures (skiagrams) on the stained reddish-yellow terra cotta, are the most ancient.

2. A skiagraph, radiograph.

1896 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Feb. 557 In another case of suspected tuberculous disease of the foot I obtained a very good skiogram. 1899 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 324 The first series of skiagrams..published with the design of showing the development of the bones of the hand and wrist.

Hence **Skiagramma'tic** *a.*, skiagraphic (*Cassell's Suppl.*). Also **Skiagramma'tically** *adv.*, skiagraphically.

1901 *Lancet* 26 Jan. 251/1 It often happened that a limb though not skiagrammatically perfect, was yet functionally so.

Skiagraph (skəi·ägrɑf), *sb.* Also **skio-.** [See SCIAGRAPH.] A photograph obtained by means of the Röntgen rays; a radiograph. = SCIAGRAPH 3.

1896 *Daily News* 11 Apr. 6/4 On a skiagraph being taken.. an obscure..form of partial dislocation was easily discovered. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 362 Skiagraphs taken by means of the X Röntgen rays.

Hence **Ski·agraph** *v. trans.*, to photograph by means of the Röntgen rays. **Skiagrapher,** a radiographer (Gould *Dict. Med.* Suppl.). **Ski:agra'phic** *a.*, of or pertaining to skiagraphy; radiographic. **Ski:agra'phically** *adv.*, after the manner of a skiagraph; by means of, with respect to, skiagraphy.

1896 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Feb. 587 Photograph of a patient being *skiographed. *Ibid.* 18 Apr. 997 It is now possible.. to skiagraph the foreign body. *Ibid.* 22 Feb. 491 All this was ascertained by means of..the *skiographic method. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 135 Skiagraphic investigation..in the diagnosis of intra-thoracic growths. 1892 *Speaker* 5 Mar. 285/2 Through the blinds of the saloon below various pairs of lovers are seen—*skiagraphically embracing. 1896 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 22 Feb. 490 A case of osseous ankylosis skiographically diagnosed.

Skiagraphy (skəiæ·grăfi). [See SCIAGRAPHY.]

1. (See quot.)

1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 37 Painting is said to have passed through several stages in Greece, commencing with simple skiagraphy or shadow-painting: by which is meant giving the exterior outline, or shape of the shadow of an object, without any intermediate lines.

2. (See first quot.)

1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 235 The fundamental distinction between his [i. e. Homer's] Inner and Outer, his practical and poetical geography. In order to mark that distinction more forcibly, I would..even call..the latter his territorial skiagraphy. *Ibid.* III. 343 There is a great mass of fabulous and imaginative skiagraphy.

3. Radiography.

1896 (*title*), Archives of Clinical Skiagraphy [continued as, Archives of the Roentgen Ray]. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 768 Skiagraphy has been employed for the diagnosis of pericardial effusion.

Skian, var. SKENE. **Skiatic,** obs. var. SCIATIC *a.*[2]

Ski'bbet. Now *dial.* Forms: 4–5 **skybet,** skibet, 5 **skebett,** 9 **skibbet, skivet.** [Of obscure origin: cf. SKIPPET[1].] A small box; a small compartment in a chest, etc. Also *transf.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.), And what is hoote and drye..is resceyued proprelich in þe skybet of þe galle. *Ibid.*, þe skibet of the splene, be melt. *c* 1500 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 25 De diuersis pixidibus, bampers, skebettis, et aliis locis, ut hoc patet sequenter. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* 51/2 *Skibbet*, a small covered compartment in a large chest, always near the top. 1895 QUILLER COUCH *Wandering Heath* 81 My grandfather kept his fishing lines in a little skivet under the sternsheets.

Skice, *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 6–7 **skise,** 9 **skeyse.** [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To move quickly; to skip or frisk about; to run, etc.

1591 FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl.) 14 They skise a large space, and seeme for to flie withall, and therefore they call them..flying squirrels. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* iv. i, He is..up at five a Clock in the morning..; Skise out this away, and skise out that away; (He's no Snayle, I assure you). 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *To skice*, to play and frolick about. 1846 W. SANDYS *Spec. Corn. Dial.* 19 Then a passel of maidens..beginn'd for to skeyce and to fade so fri-kis. 1867 HARLAND & WILKINSON *Folk-lore Lanc.* 181 To Lapland, Finland, we do skice. 1875– in dial. glossaries (Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, etc.).

† **Skice,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [? Alteration of *sclice* SLICE *v.*] *trans.* To slice, cut.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. lv. 829 The more fiercely he cryed on still, the more cruellie fell the Lictor to cut and skice his apparrell. 1601 — *Pliny* I. 544 To skice and scrape their bark round about, in maner of scarification.

† **Skick,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **skyke,** 5 **skikke.** [var. of SKECK *v.*] = SKECK *v.* Hence † **Ski'cking.**

13.. *K. Alis.* 6077 (W.), And into theo mores they heom drowe,..For to skyke, and for to slene, Of kyng Alisaundris men. *Ibid.* 6142 The kyng was sory..That he no myghte geve heom bataile, Bote here and there, with skykyng. *Ibid.* 6276 By robbery they liveth, and skickyng. *a* 1400 [see SKECK *v.* 1].

Skid (skid), *sb.* Also 7 **skidde,** 8–9 **skeed,** 9 **skidd.** [Of doubtful origin: both form and sense suggest some connexion with ON. *skíð* (see SKI) and OE. *scíd* SHIDE, but *skid* does not phonetically represent either of these.]

1. A beam, plank, or piece of timber, *esp.* one of a number upon which something rests or is supported, or by which a thing is held in position.

1609–10 *Cranbrook Churchw. Acc.* in Stahlschmidt *Bells of Kent* (1887) 239 It. p^d for two Skiddes for the frame of the bells, vs iiijd. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 292 This tub was fixed upon skids (pieces of timber) about six inches thick. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 76 He had not a little the appearance of a beer barrel on skids. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 93 The block..is then mounted upon square pieces of wood called skids. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 63 There is..a skid, or transom, placed across the last step of the carriage.

b. One of a number of beams, or pieces of stone, on which a vessel is built, or placed during repair.

1856 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Feb. 110/1 This [dry] dock.. was 191 feet long on the stone skids at bottom. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 629 *Skids*,..beams resting on blocks, on which small craft are built. 1888 *Daily Telegr.* 27 June 5/2 Boats which will float from their skids when waterborne.

2. † a. A kind of sledge. *Obs.*

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 182 You must have..a Kind of Skid or Sledge, upon which the tree is set a little leaning.

b. *Naut.* (See quot. 1750.)

a. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 8 There broke a Sea in the Ship, which..bilg'd the Cutter, and canted her off the Skeets [*sic*]..athwart the Barge. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) D 2, The main skeeds, for hoisting in the boats clear of the ship's side. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 303 It cleared all our boats, and occasioned only a trifling injury to some of the skeeds in its progress.

β. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 152 Skids are wooden Fenders fay'd on the Outside of the Ship, for the Conveniency of hoisting in Boats, Provisions, etc. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Skids*, or *Skeeds*, are long compassing pieces of timber, formed so as to answer the vertical curve of a ship's side. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 92 The boats on the davits and the long-boat on the skids.

c. A plank or roller on which a heavy thing may be slid or pushed along.

1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284 The name of Skids is also given to pieces of plank put under a vessel's bottom, for the purpose of launching her off when she has been driven ashore. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Skid*, a piece of light timber from ten to twenty feet in length, upon which heavier timber is rolled or slid from place to place. 1868 *Regul. Army* ¶ 1167 As it may become necessary to disembark without the aid of a platform, some strong skids not less than 15 feet long, should always be carried.

d. *Lumbering.* One of a set of peeled logs or timbers, partially sunk into the ground, and forming a roadway along or down which logs are drawn or slid; also, one of the logs forming a skidway (see 5). *U.S.*

1851 *Harper's Mag.* III. 518 New skids are nicely peeled ..and plentifully as well as calculatingly laid along the road. 1880 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 14 Jan., Some of the lumbermen have from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 [logs] on the skids. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 194/2 Then the load itself, three logs tandem,..slid over the greased skids with a gliding, majestic motion.

e. *Coalmining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.*, *Skids*, slides or slippers upon which certain coal-cutting machines travel along the faces whilst at work.

3. A device for locking the wheel of a vehicle or for retarding its motion in descending a hill or slope; *esp.* an iron shoe chained to the vehicle and placed in front of the wheel so as to be caught between it and the ground.

1766 *Compl. Farmer*, *Skid*, the chain by which the wheel of a waggon is fastened, so as to prevent its turning round, upon descending a steep hill. 1824 BURCHELL *Trav.* I. 151 The *remschoen* (lock-shoe or skid) is a log of wood..having a groove in it to receive the felly of the wheel. 1836 SIR G. HEAD *Home Tour* 87 As the laden carriages are thus raised, an iron skid is attached to the last, to prevent accident. 1874 M. COLLINS *Transmigr.* I. vi. 95 We began to descend a hill so steep that the skid was necessary.

transf. 1866 E. C. RYE *Brit. Beetles* 114 This development ..acts as a 'skid' or 'break' upon the base of the elytra.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context. A retarding influence or agency.

1841 HOOD *Tale of a Trumpet* 591 Backsliding in spite of all moral skid. 1865 *Daily Telegr.* 12 Apr. 6 It is for ever the function of Tories to be the skid, and not the wheel. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 292 It is often said that a talkative person might put the skid on, with advantage to his listeners. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 193 Legislation does not require to have a skid on the wheels continuously.

4. [From the vb.] An act of skidding; also, a side-slip. (Frequent in recent use.)

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **skid-beam, -pan** (see quots.); **skid-road,** a way or track formed of skids (2 d) along which logs are hauled; **skid-way** (see quot. 1893); also, an inclined way formed of skids (2 d).

1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 290 Spar-deck properly signifies a temporary deck laid in any part of a vessel; and the beams whereon it rests get the name of *skid-beams. 1895 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 6/2 Lifting the heavy boats into their positions on the skid-beams over the upper deck. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, **Skid-pan*, the iron, used to Skid with. 1884 *C. T. C. Monthly Gaz.* Nov. 347/1 These roads being composed of soft stone, and all waggons coming down with skidpans on. 1880 *7th Rep. Topogr. Surv. Adirondack Reg.* 176 Advised that lumbermen had cut '*skid-roads' on which logs were drawn [etc.]. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 24 Dec. 9 The *skidways through the woods are piled full of logs. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 707/1 The skidway consists of two logs or timbers about ten feet apart, laid perpendicular to the log-road..; upon which a tier of logs is placed ready to be loaded on the sleighs.

Skid (snow-shoe): see SKI.

Skid (skid), *v.*[1] [f. SKID *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To apply or fasten a skid or brake to (a wheel) in order to retard its motion; to lock (a wheel) in this way.

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 To *Skid* a wheel: *Retaru sufflaminare*, with an iron hook fastned to the Axis to keep it from turning round upon the descent of a steep hill, *Kent.* [Hence in later Dicts.]. 1859 DICKENS *Two Cities* I. ii, The guard got down to skid the wheel for the descent. 1860 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Engineers* XIX. 495 If it is required to put on the breaks harder, and to skid the wheels. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 133 In order that the wheels may be skidded when necessary to check the recoil.

b. To push or drag (a person) *along*.

1881 *Times* 2 Feb. 4/5 He was skidded along in front of the wheel of the cab.

2. *Lumbering.* To haul (logs) on or along skids; to pile or place on a skid-way. Also *absol.*

1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 6 Apr., Not one-fifth of the logs cut and skidded..have been banked. *Ibid.* 18 Dec. 426 Operators have been cutting and skidding for the past thirty or forty days. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* Dec. 655/2 The logs are then 'skidded' by horses or oxen into skidways.

3. *intr.* Of a wheel: To slip or be dragged along without revolving, esp. as the effect of having a skid or brake applied to it.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 160/2 An engine always gets through its work better upon a wet day than a dry one...It is true, the wheels skid more. 1854 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 84 A roller *skids*, when in a sharp turn it cuts up the turf. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets*, etc. 200 We..would suddenly skid, with the break on, down a steep hill.

transf. 1862 JACOMB in *Peaks, Passes, & Glac.* Ser. II. I. 244 We left at noon, and glissaded down the slopes to the Maison Blanche again. Mr. Mathews..skidded down with all his wonted agility.

b. To slip obliquely or sideways, esp. owing to the muddy, wet, or dusty state of the road; to side-slip. Usually said of cycle or motor-car wheels, but also of horse-vehicles or persons.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 10/2 While the steam-engine ..was on its way to the fire the wheels 'skidded' against the kerb. 1886 *C. T. C. Gaz.* IV. 137 Enough weight on the steering-wheel to prevent it skidding at all. 1892 *Liverpool Daily Post* 4 July, The back wheel of their machine skidded, throwing the lady under the vehicle.

Hence **Ski·dder**, a lumberman who hauls logs along the skids to the skidway; **Ski·dding** *ppl. a.*

1883 in *Cent. Dict.*, The skidders haul the logs to the pile. 1897 *Daily News* 31 Dec. 3/1 Skidding 'buses, and the fog silence.

Skid (skid), *v.*2 *rare.* [variant of SCUD *v.*1] *intr.* To run or go quickly, to scud.

1815 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. lxiv. 311 They ran skidding down the aisle of the chapel..like frightened hares. 1891 KIPLING *Barrack-Room Ball., Screw Guns* i, You can skid up the trees, but you don't get away from the guns!

Skidding (ski·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SKID *sb.* or *v.*1]

1. *concr.* Timber or planks used as a support for a gun, etc., or to facilitate its removal.

1859 GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 123 One piece of short skidding, 4½ feet long, five..inches square. *Ibid.* 124, 4.. assists 2 at the lever and skidding. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 513 The frame..[is] supported..by two upright oak skids,..and by coins, scotches, or skidding, inserted between it and the fore carriage.

2. *Lumbering.* (See quot. 1878.) Also *attrib.* in *skidding-team, -tongs.*

1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 22 Dec., Pevys Skidding Tongs always on hand. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 147 Skidding is hauling logs together and placing them on skids convenient for loading. 1893 *Ibid.* June 707/1 The skidding-team is brought in and the log is..hauled away. *Ibid.*, In the case of small logs, it is grappled with 'skidding-tongs', which seize the log like a pair of pinchers.

3. The action of the verb SKID (esp. sense 3).

1889 *Hull & E. Yorks. Times* 27 Apr., Bump on the roadway, through the skidding of the wheels over the wet stones. 1889 *Daily News* 21 June 6/3 There was no skidding of the wheels, and there was no appearance of the brake having been applied.

Ski·ddy, Ski·ddy-cock. *dial.* (See quots.)

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Skiddey*, or *Skiddey-cock*, a water-rail. 1886 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 223/1 The Water-Rail, locally known as the Skiddy or Billcock, is the *Rallus aquaticus* of Ornithology.

Skie, obs. form of SKY *sb.*1

Skied (skəid), *ppl. a.* [f. SKY *sb.*1 or *v.*1]

1. Seeming to touch or reach the sky; lofty. *rare*−1.

1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1097 Wide the pale deluge floats, and streaming mild O'er the sky'd mountain to the shadowy vale.

2. As second element in combs.: Having a sky of a specified kind.

1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 270 In the bright, hot, blue-skied East. 1903 L. C. SMITHERS *Burton's Arab. Nts.* 7 The ..sensuousness of the hot-skied East glows from every tale.

3. *Cricket.* Of a ball: Hit or sent up high in the air. Also *transf.* of a stroke.

1868 *Morning Star* 19 June, Judging the bound of the ball when it lands after a high throw or skied hit.

Skief, variant of SCAIFE.

Skier, variant of SKYER.

1893 *Times* 12 July 11/5 The fieldsman soon had the satisfaction of seeing the batsman..taken at mid-on from a skier.

Skier, var. SKYE; see also SKI *v.* **Skieve,** var. SKIVE *sb.* **Skiey,** variant of SKYEY *a.*

Skiff (skif), *sb.*1 Forms: *α.* 6–7 **skiph, skiffe,** 6 **skyfe, skyffe,** 6– **skiff.** *β.* **sciffe,** 7 **sciph.** *γ.* 7 **schiff(e, schiph.** [ad. F. *esquif* (1549), Sp. and Pg. *esquife*, or It. *schifo*: the source of the Romanic word is prob. OHG. *scif* ship, boat.]

1. A small sea-going boat, adapted for rowing and sailing; esp. one attached to a ship and used for purposes of communication, transport, towing, etc. Hence, a small light boat of any kind.

α. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 13 The hoounds harroing after [deer], ez they had bin a number of skiphs too the spoyle of a karuell. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 8 The Currant..was so fierce, that he could not get in with his Skiffe, because he had no helpe to row. 1587 GREENE *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 243 Hee sent secretly one of his sonnes in a little skyfe to Pisandros. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 26 Great ships haue also other small boats called Shallops and Skiffes, which are with more ease ..rowed to an[d] againe. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 228 Those scouting Skiphs which were joined with the bigger sort of Pinnaces or light Vessels. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 Their Long-Boat, and a great Shallop, besides a small Skiff. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 96 The port of Lymington..is chiefly frequented by light skiffs, rigged in the cutter-form, with a jib and boom. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xx. 61 We took a little skiff that lay on the beach, and paddled off. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 95 In later times Lochryan was frequented by the skiffs of the Gaelic tribes.

transf. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Epid.* 66 If in two skiphs of cork, a Loadstone and steele be placed.

attrib. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. iii, The skiff-boat neared: I heard them talk.

β. 1589 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 259 Themistocles sent Sicinnus his childrens schoolemaster secretly in a Sciffe towards the Persians. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Skiff* or *Sciph*, a Ship-boat, properly all of one peece.

γ. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 46 To see him hidden in a little Schiffe, whom but a little before the whole Sea could not suffice. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* II. 51 Where leaving their ships they took their journey, putting their schiffs upon waynes to passe the Poe with. 1670 *Relat. Siege of Candia* II We found 3 Schiffs, or wherrys, drawn up upon rowlers.

2. *spec.* **a.** A kind of clinker-built sculling- or pleasure-boat (see quot. 1886). Also, a long narrow racing-boat for one oarsman, outrigged, usually fitted with a sliding-seat, and covered in fore and aft with canvas.

1793 in Quiller-Couch *Rem. Oxford* (O.H.S.) 200 Various vessels, moored in view, Skiff, gig, and cutter, or canoe. 1845 in Sherwood *Oxford Rowing* (1900) 26 All skiffs or boats constructed for less than four oars..are to be fitted.. with a sufficient deck or covering made of wood or waterproof canvass. 1883 *Boats of the World* 26 Edward Hanlan's paper skiff, which..has been sent along faster than any one-man boat of either hemisphere. 1886 BOURNE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 31/2 The skiff is wider and longer than the gig and of greater depth, and, rising higher fore and aft, with rowlock placed on a curved and elevated gunwale,..rows lighter than the gig.

attrib. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 46 Aug. 4/1 With rowlocks rising high from the gunwales, on the well-known skiff system still preferred on the Thames. 1895 *Daily News* 6 July 10/1 The Skiff Club inaugurated its first season with a successful series of races in Teddington Reach.

b. A light kind of sailing-boat in use on the St. Lawrence. Also *attrib.*

1891 *Harper's Weekly* 19 Sept. 713/4 High winds and heavy seas have no terrors for the skiff sailors. *Ibid.*, The manner of sailing these skiffs is unique.

Hence **Ski·ffless** *a.*, without a skiff or skiffs; **Ski·ffman,** one who mans a skiff.

1829 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg. N. Scotl.* (1834) 50 Behind spreads wide a skiffless shore. 1868 GORRIE *Summers & Winters Orkneys* vii. 231 The skiffmen make good bargains.

Skiff, *sb.*2 *Sc.* [f. SKIFF *v.*2]

1. A slight gust *of* wind or shower *of* rain, etc.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 56 Whan skiffs o' wind blaw aff the brae. 1870 in *Public Opinion* 23 July 110 An occasional skiff with the syringe, to keep the foliage free from dust. 1895 *N. B. Daily Mail* 20 June 4 Notwithstanding a slight skiff of rain.

2. A slight sketch, trace, touch, etc., *of* something.

1839 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* XXVII. (ed. 2) 363 Wait a moment, till I give a skiff of description of our neighbour Reuben. 1884 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1901) I. vi. 320 I have had a skiff of cold and was finally obliged to take to bed.

Skiff (skif), *v.*1 [f. SKIFF *sb.*1]

1. †**a.** *trans.* To cross, row or sail over, (a river) in a skiff. *Obs.*−1

a 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Two Noble Kinsmen* I. iii, Perill and want contending, they have skift Torrents, whose roring tyranny and power I'th least of these was dreadfull.

b. *refl.* To row or scull (oneself) in a skiff. In quot. *fig.*

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xvii, I hope she steered herself, skiffed herself, paddled herself to the ceremony.

2. *intr.* To row or scull in a skiff; to go on the river in a pleasure-skiff. Hence **Ski·ffing** *vbl. sb.*

1869 BP. MCDOUGALL in Morgan *Univ. Oars* (1873) 314 They..should..confine themselves to mild four-oars and skiffing. 1885 M. PATTISON *Mem.* I. 151 We were together every day, skiffing, walking, teaing. 1898 T. ARNOLD in *19th Cent.* Jan. 106 We used often to go skiffing up the Cherwell.

Skiff, *v.*2 *Sc.* [Perhaps an alteration of SKIFT *v.*2, but cf. SOUFF *v.*]

1. *intr.* To move lightly and quickly, esp. so as barely to touch a surface; to glide, run, etc., in this manner. Hence **Ski·ffing** *vbl. sb.*

1725 RAMSAY *Gentl. Sheph.* I. i, Neat she was..As she came skiffing o'er the dewy green. *a* 1758 — *Guardians of the Fair*, Watchful guardians of the fair, Who skiff on wings of ambient air. 1792 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 19 See Sweet Peggy skiffin' ow'r the lee. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 66 He saw the Vicar ..Fast scamperin' and skiffin'. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. II. 31 A hurrying across upper floors, and a skiffing up and down stairs.

2. *trans.* To touch lightly in passing over; to skim.

1807–10 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 83 Rude storms assail the mountain's brow That lightly skiff the vale below. 1843 NICHOLSON *Hist. & Tradit. Tales* 234 [They] skiff the water on the wing.

Ski·ffy. *Sc. rare*−1. (See quot.)

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scotl., Campsie* XV. 331 There were employed at least two men at the windlass, putting up the coals in skiffies, termed hutches.

Skift, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also **skiffte, skyft**(e. [a. ON. *skipti* (MSw. *skipte*; Norw., Sw., Da. *skifte*) distribution, shift, etc.: cf. SKIFT *v.*1] A shift, in various senses; a change; a division or share; an artifice, device, or trick.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 1719 Now as hillis hie it schawis, Now set laich with ane nopir skift, That þai may se nocht bot þe lift. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXVI. 130 At oure soper as we satte,..My skiffte come to scathe. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 198 in *Babees Bk.*, Yf any man haue part with þe in gyft, With hym þou make an euen skyft. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXIV. 392 Is ther none other skyfte Bot syfte, lady, syfte? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xvii. 211 Make ye as good skyfte as ye can; ye shal bere this lady with you on horsbak vnto the pope of Rome. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 481/2 He will haue a clappe on the tone cheke or the tother, make what skyfte he can.

†**Skift,** *sb.*2 *Obs.*−1 (See quot.)

1783 W. GORDON *Livy* I. iv. (1823) 20 The water had subsided and left the trough or skift [L. *alveus*], in which the infants had been exposed, on dry ground.

Skift, *sb.*3, variant of SKIFF *sb.*2

1877 MAY LAFFAN *Hon. Miss Ferrard* I. vii. 191 The autumn leaves rustling under foot and flying off in sudden skifts across the dry ruddy grass.

Skift, *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **skyft,** 4–5 **-e** (5 **scyfft**), 4–5, 9 **skift** (8 *Sc.* **skifft**), 5 **-e.** [a. ON. *skipta* (MSw. *skipta*; Norw. and Sw. *skifta*, Da. *skifte*) to divide, change, etc., = OE. *sciftan*, SHIFT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To shift, change, or move (something).

13.. *Cursor M.* 23678 (Edinb.), Sun and mon, and stern on lift, þat ai wit stiring er nu skift,..Fra þat tim stil sal þai stand. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 709 Now haf þay skyfted my skyl & scorned natwre. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 389 He wolde nevur skyfte his clothis bod ons in a yere. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xl. 405 Lete see now yf ye can skyfte it with your handes. 1828– in many north. dial. glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

†**2.** To arrange, devise, manage, or order (something). *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 569 'Þus schal I,' quoth kryste, 'hit skyfte, þe laste schal be þe fyrst þat strykez.' ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 32 Scathylle Scottlande by skylle he skyftys as hym lykys. *Ibid.* 1643 Loke 3e skyfte it so þat vs no skathe lympe.

†**3.** To divide, distribute, or make division. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Sir Amadas* 644 (W.), Bot skyfte me evon,..Gyffe me my parte, Y wyll awey. *Ibid.* 656 Oderwyse skyft wyll not wee, Bot at yor wyll schall hit bee. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 108 in *Macro Plays* 80 His good..he wolde þat it were scyfftyd a-mongis his ny kynne.

†**4.** *intr.* To ordain; to act, devise. *Obs.*

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 61 Bot Godd that skilfulli kan skift, Mad them alle serely spekand. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* I. (Brandl) 574 Well enured men, suche as..can best for you in tyme of nede skyft.

5. To undergo shifting, change, or removal; to change one's place, etc. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 19 Oft bobe blysse & blunder Ful skete has skyfted synne. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 467 To skyre skarlet hewe skyftis hire face. *Ibid.* 5040 Baldly he wepis, þat he so skitly suld skifte. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 67 The sun now frae the twal hour point Had nearly skifftit twa hours yont. 1847 E. & A. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xxiv, He mad ye skift properly. 1848 *Tales of Kirkbeck* 155 A huge carved oak rocking chair 'fearfu' lubbardly for skifting'.

†b. To escape, get away *from*. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* XXVI. 41 Why, sir, to skyfte [*pr.* skyste] fro his skath We seke for youre socoure þis sesoune.

Hence † **Ski·fting** *vbl. sb.*, division, distribution.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 249 So þer fell a grete debate..for skiftyyng of þis money betwix þaim.

Skift, *v.*2 *Sc.* [Perhaps only a special use of prec.; see also SKIFF *v.*2] *intr.* To move lightly and quickly; to skip, run, glide, etc.

a 1586 SIR R. MAITLAND *Poems* (Maitl. Club) 30 Use not to skift athort the gait. 1640 *Canterburians Self-Conviction* Postscr. 13 But ye skift out here much further to an extravagance. 1790 A. WILSON *To W. Mitchell* Poet. Wks. (1846) 112 High ower my head the sheep in packs, I see them mice-like skift. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 182 And Arnold's nakit ghaist was seen Loupin'.. And skiftin' owr the roofs like fire.

Ski·fter, *v.* (See quot. and cf. prec.)

1887 MRS. C. READE *Maid o' the Mill* xxii, He murmurs spasmodically and skifters off down the stairs.

Ski·fting, Sc. variant of SKIRTING *vbl. sb.* 4.

1842 AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 223 Then take stone, hewn and well jointed, and set it as a skifthing round the whole wall. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 119 The floor ..is..finished with a neat skifting board..round the walls of the barn.

†**Skig,** *a. Obs.*−1 In 4 **skyg.** [Of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. and Sw. dial. *skygg*.] Fastidious.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 21 He is so clene in his courte,.. Nif he nere scoymus & skyg & non scabe louied, Hit were a meruayl to much.

Ski·ing, *vbl. sb.*: see SKI.

†**Skikart.** *Obs.* [? f. SKICK *v.*] An old name for the hare.

a 1325 in *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, þe scotewine, þe skikart.

†**Ski·lfer.** *Obs. rare.* [a. Du. *schilfer* (†*schelfer*) fragment, scale; cf. SKALFERING]

1. A small piece; a splinter.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 10/2 If you perceave anye skilfers or splinters by the which that membrane might be pricked. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 342/2 If..there weare one little skilfer, or smale bone.

2. *pl.* Scurf; dandruff.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 3/1 It expelleth alsoe the skilfers of youre heade. *Ibid.* 47/1 This doth not onlye expelle all skilfers of the heade.

Skilful (ski·lfŭl), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 4 sceluol, skileful; 4–6 skylful, 5–6 -full(e, 6 skyllfull; 4–5 skilfulle, 4–7 -full, 4– skilful (6 skillful, 9 *Sc.* skeelfu'). [f. SKILL *sb.* + -FUL.]

†1. Endowed with reason; rational; also, following reason, doing right. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21334 Mai na skilful man þis wern. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 278 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 For as he says in his sothe psalmyde writtes: þe skilfulle & þe vnskathely skeltone ay to me. *c* 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* 19 (Lamb. MS.), He made skylful creaturis as angelys and man. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* iii. 22 A skylfull beeste þan will y make, Aftir my shappe and my liknesse.

†b. Intellectual, mental. *Obs.*—1

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) I. 43 Dul ben thy skilful understandinges; thy wil hath thy wit so amaistred.

†2. Reasonable, just, proper. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 169 Mochel is riȝtuol þing and sceluol þet ich yeue mi lif..uor him þet his lif..yaf uor ous. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 215 He was nevere so wroþ wiþ man þat he ne wolde forȝeve ȝif he seigh skilful occasioun. *c* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lxx. (W. de W. 1494), Neuerthelesse it was worthy and skylfull that our lorde sholde shew as he is. *c* 1460 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 831 It is nat leful..to be serued, but serue skylful Thinges.

†b. Of stature or distance. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 315 Kyng William was of skilful stature, to greet and fat of body. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxv, Þei ought tary till þei are were þat he be entered two skylfull boweshotes. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxxii. (1811) 247 A man of skylfull stature, but somedele fat in y^e bely.

†3. Sufficient, ample. *Obs.*

a 1350 *St. Nicholas* 190 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 13 In þat ȝere þai had none nede, Bot skilfull both to mete and sede.

4. Having practical ability; possessing skill; expert, dexterous, clever. Also const. *to.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 311 At conseil & at nede he was a skilfulle kyng. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 27156 (Fairf.), Prest agh be..skilful to knaw þe pliȝt, quilc is heui & quilk is liȝt. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 b, A Captaine of the Sea, moste skylfull. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* v. (1592) 49 Of men themselues, the skilfullest make Lawes, & take vpon them to rule others. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 7 The Greeks are strong, & skilful to their strength. 1660 W. SECKER *Nonsuch Prof.* Pref. 15 Where there are any faults men are more skilful to find them, then careful to mend them. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 44 Many other deceptions may be effected..which are all known to the skilful. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 21 Having always his descriptions from the most skilful persons in every country. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* vii. 25 Human pride Is skilful to invent most serious names To hide its ignorance. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 85 One who had been trained and exercised under a skilful master.

absol. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iii, In these delicate circumstances..the skilfullest may falter.

b. Const. *in* a matter.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 72 If he had byn skilfull in Astronomye. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. ii. § 8 The perfectest divines were judged they, which were skilfullest in Calvin's writings. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. vi. § 1 Among the Ægyptians who are supposed most skilfull in the account of the year. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 174/2 The Chinese are very skilful in this kind of work.

†c. Having a good knowledge *of* a subject. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. v. 16 [He] vpon him set, of perill nought adrad, Ne skilfull of the vncouth ieopardy. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Daniel* comm., Daniel skilful of times, a studious historiographer. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 251 Very skilfull of the Greeke and Latine tongues.

5. Displaying or requiring skill.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLVII. iii, With skilfull tunes his praises sing. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 322 For..he made only sweet Essayes in that, Of skilfull industry. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* Pref. p. xvi, He should magnify them likewise by a skilful management of outward circumstances. 1794 BURNS *'My Chloris I mark'* 9 Let minstrels sweep the skilfu' string In lordly lighted ha'. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 416 The skilful manner in which they treated their patient. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 309 It was made of the bone of a whale, and worked out with skilful labor. 1895 *Gentl. Mag.* July 581/2 Irony ..is one of those edged tools which require skilful handling.

†6. As *adv.* = SKILFULLY. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 645 Þus skilfull lange he scolaid & þe scole vsed. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3742 (Trin.), Skilful is iacob his nome, þat is to say in riȝt langage Putter out of heritage.

Skilfully (ski·lfŭli), *adv.* Also 4 skeluolliche, skilfulliche, skil-, schilfuli, skilefully, 4–5 skylfully, etc. [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

†1. Reasonably; with good reason; naturally.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 46 Ful schilfuli and wit resoun Mai men ask this questioun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 Me may zuerie wyþ oute zenne,..in oþre guode skele and clenliche and skeluolliche. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Second Nun's T.* 320 Men myghten dreden wel and skilfully This lyf to lese. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 176 Who so wole..byholde how oure lorde Jesu wepeth,..skilfully he may be stired to compassioun and wepynge. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 3198 As deth for deth is skilfully guerdoun. *c* 1460 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 403 To..ly not for his profett in suche guise That it shuld harme any man skilfully.

†b. To a reasonable extent; in a moderate degree. *Obs.*

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 553 Þerfore I rede..Þat vche Mon skilfuli of his god [=good] mak him glad. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 35 He techeþ alle men to be skilfulliche scars. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 47 She sente aftur a man..That hadde serued her-seluen skylfully longe. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Drawe it thorgh a streynour skilfully thik.

2. In a skilful manner; with skill; cleverly, adroitly, dexterously.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Scienter*, cunnyngly: skilfully. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 253 Thou art an old Louemonger, and speakest skilfully. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. § 6. 414 Choice persons are instructed..wisely to encampe, and skilfully to embattaile. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boethius* I. 16 Thou didst skilfully read upon all Divine and Humane Learning. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. xv. 100 The one being laid against the other so skilfully, that there is a just equipoise of the whole globe. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 105 He skilfully availed himself of those threats to pretend that his life was in danger. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1873) II. viii. 547 The scheme, secretly prepared, was skilfully accomplished.

b. With pa. pples. used attributively.

1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. iv. 245 In a skilfully executed picture. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 164, I rushed forth, having burst the skilfully-joined doors. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 11 The more skilfully worked weapons of a later stage of the same period.

Skilfulness (ski·lfŭlnès). Also 5–6 skylful-, 7 skilfulnesse, 8 skill-. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

†1. The quality of being reasonable. *Obs.*—0

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skylfulnesse, *racionabilitas.*

2. The quality of being skilful; dexterity.

1561 EDEN tr. *Cortes' Arte de Navigar* Pref., The experte skylfulnesse of so excellent a Pilot. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxxviii. 72 He..guided them by the skilfulnesse of his hands. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 262 So little avails the skilfulness of the Pilot. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. Supernum. No. I. 2/2 He outstrip'd the Starter in the skillfulness of War. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. II. xxxv. 336 For want of skilfulness in the pilots. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Aug. 5/2 A panegyric upon the skilfulness of their administration.

†3. Knowledge *of* a thing. *Obs.*

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 853 The Iberians had the better of it, through their skilfulnesse of the places.

Skill (skil), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 2 skele, 4 sckele, 9 *Sc.* skeel; 2–5 skile, 3–5 skyle; 2–7 skil, 3 4 sckil, 4–6 skyl (skylle), 5–6 skyll, 3– skill (4–6 skille). β. 3 scule, 4 scele, 5 schele, schyle; 3–4 schil, 4 schyl, 4–5 scill(e, scylle. [a. ON. *skil*, neut. (Icel. and Norw. *skil*, Sw. *skäl*, Da. *skjel, skel*) distinction, difference, etc., related to MLG. and MDu. *schele* (LG. *schele, schel*), MDu. and Du. *geschil, verschil*, LG. *schill*: cf SKILL *v.*[1]]

The great variety of usage in ME. often renders it difficult to assign particular examples to a definite sense.

†1. Reason as a faculty of the mind; the power of discrimination. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 1210 ȝiff þu follȝhesst skill & shæd & witt i gode þæwess. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Mid skilles ȝettunge, þet is, hwonne þe schil & te heorte ne wiðsiggeð nout. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 645 Þyn inwyt, þyn owne skyle, Aȝen þe seyþ and euermore wylle. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 273 Swylk men er noght led with skylle, Bot þai folow, ay, þair awen wille. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Jnstin*) 709 Þane þu ma se be kyndly skil þat na man suld gyf treuthit þaim til. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 457/2 Skyl, *racio.* *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* I. 1763 He dissþendyt his resone In wycis agan kindly skill.

†b. Discrimination or discretion in relation to special circumstances. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 139 Ða þinges ðe ne sculen ben iȝiuen, þa bieð to wiðhealden mid michele skele. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 193 Hadde he wel loked him wiþ skil, Ilc beste sulde don his wil. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 260 Me think it suld accorde till skill To set stoutness agane felony. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12807 (Fairf.), John ansquared þes men vntille wiþ milde wordes & wiþ skille. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 32 Skathylle Scottlande by skylle he skyftys as hym lykys. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1325 Sa that the cause may be kend, and knawin throw skill.

†c. A sense of what is right or fitting. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 245 He praied to hold him stille,..& he suld do his wille, in alle þat skille mot se. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 279 Ne sholde no scorner ne scolde oute of skyl hym [*sc.* Temperance] brynge. ?*c* 1470 ASHBY *Active Policy* 649 Do theim to be lettred right famously Wherby thei shall reule bi Reason and skele. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 26 Grant thow me myn askyng, As reason wold, & skyll.

†2. That which is reasonable, proper, right, or just. *Obs.*

α. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 God..ȝife us to him god iwil, and to alle men riht and skil. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 971 Sire kyng, we aske þe bot skyle. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 214 Thai dempt thaim eftir thar will, Takand na kep to rycht na skill. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 260, I did hym neuer yit bot skill.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13938 O yur vn-witt qui ne wald yee blin,..And herken scil and hald resun? 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Þe ilke ne hyealdeþ scele ne mesure. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 968 It es oft wemens will Tham forto blame that sais tham scill.

†b. In predicative use (=reasonable, right); also with adjs. as *good, great. Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1425 Siðen men hauen holden [it] skil, first to freinen ðe wimmanes wil. *a* 1300 *Assump. Virg.* 312 Now when it is my sones wille to hym y come, and that is skyle. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2635 As lord he per abade, As gode skil wald be. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 751 It is gret skill at men chasty Thi prowd vourdis. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. viii. (1859) 6 In euery ryghtwys court skyle is that the actour be admytted to maken his compleynt. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 147 To mak you lord of your avne, me think it grete skill. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 106 It is reason and skyll, We your pleasure fulfyll. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 784 Madame, that is bot skill, To thair counsall hartlie applie I will.

†c. In prepositional phrases, denoting that something is in accordance with, or contrary to, what is reasonable or right. *Obs.*

(*a*) *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 186 May vr eyþer hwat he wile Mid rihte segge & myd skile. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* 3750 (W.), When thou haues said to tham thi will, And gifen the dome, by right and scill. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 436 Me think men suld him luf of skill. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* 24 Let eche man serue his charge in skylle. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 893 This is a lord..; To salus him ye may be propyr skill.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18274 Qui gaf þou rede þis ilk iesu o cruciſi, Wit-vten skil, vn-rightwisli? 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5825 He meked hym self ouer skyle, Pottes and dysshes for to swele. *Ibid.* 7293 Dyners are oute of skyl and resun On þe Sunday, or hye messe be doun. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 358 For til escuse hym of þe Ill, þat he had don agannis skill. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4010 Bot þou toke hurr lond from hurre without ony reson or skyll.

†3. Cause, reason, or ground. Also with *a* and pl.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14833 He has vs wonnen wit maistri, And we sal sceu yow sckil for-qui. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1767 Bodily dede here dredes ful many, For twa skilles principaly. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 358 To make werres and to pile For lucre and for non other skyle. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xiii. (1859) 9 And that I preue by this skile. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* I. 2 (Harl. MS.), Goode Sir, tell me why and what skile, þat þou so beholdest me? 1537 *State P. Hen. VIII*, I. 551 We haue, for sundry skylles, thought it more convenyent to..differre our journey. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* II. 3 P iv b, For many other skils it is wisedom to knowe..that all goodes..be of God. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 152, I thinke you haue As little skill to feare, as I haue purpose To put you to't. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 280 Thinking the Lion to be couchant for a skill, that he might be rampant after.

β. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9389 Yon was a rightwis dom, Als yee sal se wit rightwis scill. 1340 *Ayenb.* 11 This heste uorbyet wyl to habbe oþre manne þing by wyckede scele. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 293, I sayd, How so? tel me thi scill. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 229 The secounde schyle ys that thou shalle dye.

†b. A statement made by way of argument or reasoning. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4263 Þan ys þys Terlyncels skylle, 'Slepe þou long, and y shal hele'. *Ibid.* 11581 Seynt Austyn seyþ þys skyl, Do þyr-aftyr who so wyl. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 104 For ye have told me such a skile Of this ensample. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3451 When the king had tald this scill. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2532 in *Macro Plays*, Coueytyse, þou seyst a good skyl..; al þi byddynge don I wyl.

†4. a. One's case or cause. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xlii. 1 Deme me,..and schede mi skil [L. *causa*] Fra men þat noght be hali wil. *Ibid.* lxxiii. 23.

†b. An arrangement, ordinance. *Obs.*—1

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 709 Now haf þay skyfted my skyl & scorned natwre.

†c. A wise or sensible act. *Obs.*—1

15.. *Doun by ane rever* 63 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 307 Wyismen said, he did nane skill.

†5. In the phr. *can* (or *could*) *skill*, to have discrimination or knowledge, esp. in a specified matter. Usually const. *of*, *in*, or *to* with inf. *Obs.*

The phr. is an adoption of the ON. *kunna skil.* In later use, when not accompanied by an adj., *skill* was probably in most cases apprehended as a vb. (cf. SKILL *v.*[1] 4 b). The construction with *of* is extremely common *c* 1525–1640.

(*a*) *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* Prol. 198 Ilk cristen man and weman þat has witte and mynd, and skille can,..Suld be bughsom ay [etc.]. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxiv. 137 By the aduys of them that best can skyle thees palebordes shal be sette. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1377 But some man wolde conuey, and can not skyll. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. i. (1588) 5 Let them iudge that can skill.

(*b*) 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 345 [Saturnus] kouþe skile of vynes and in repynge and in telyenge of feeldes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 34 It is a gret perille to beginne to haue langage with suche men that canne skille of the worlde. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 56 Ye can skyll of the fassion of the erth, and of the skye. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O j b, Many..that coulde as well skill in ruling Cities and armies, as men can. 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1604) 153 A holy man..passeth not how men dishonour him; neither can he skill in any fraud or guile. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Cor.* xii. 19 But Saint Paul could not skill of those arts.

(*c*) 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 269 Thei have not a capitain that can skill how to use victorie, when he hath it. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 72 Seigneur Francesco..coulde well skill to court all kinde of degrees. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 75 Many such men as you are, can skill to giue good words. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 11 We could skill to modify also the Air about them. 1869 JEAN INGELOW *Lily & Lute* I. 82 Could he skill to make it seen As he saw?

†b. With adjs., as *good, no, some*, etc.

c 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 71 Þai trowed to turn life him vntill, For þai kowth þan none oþer skill. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1628 Ascaunce þat þey were lewde, And coude no skill of marchandise. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 27 Thei can knowe many thinges be force of clergie that we ne can no skyle on. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 244 He can good skyll to helpe in this mater of the benefice of Oxned. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 52 Let the wol be..wounden with a woll-wynder, that can good skyll therof. 1540 HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 359 Yet in lying I can some skill, And if I shall be judge I will. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 105 Their greatest Philosophers could lesse skill of the nature..of the Tydes.

6. Capability of accomplishing something with precision and certainty; practical knowledge in combination with ability; cleverness, expertness. Freq. const. *to* with inf.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26181 Ga Til a wijser to sceu þi wond,

þat skill has for to mak it sond. 1553 *Respublica* 1109 Will ye beleve People that hath no manier of skill to iudge or to descerne what thing is good or yll? 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* ii. 34 Though..pleasing be his Rime, Yet all his skill cannot excuse her Crime. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 3 b, If these..bee granted to a man that is unexpert, and hath no skill and science to exercise the same. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 552 To stand upright Will ask thee skill. 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* cxxxix. 4 Heav'n, Earth, and Sea,..Shew me thy wond'rous Skill. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 407 No works..but such as may amuse.., demanding rather skill than force. *Ibid.* VI. 619 That oft we owe our safety to a skill We could not teach. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 543 Utterly destitute of the skill necessary to the conduct of great affairs. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § i. 452 The boy inherited his father's skill on lute and organ.

b. Const. *in* (also arch. *of*) a subject, practice, etc.

1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Whiche viage is sufficiently knowen to suche as haue any skyll in Geographie. 1590 *Plain Perc.* 9 Euery cut-purse vseth them.. that hath had any skill in his miniken Handsaw. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. § 6 Their great skill in Astronomy is attested by Diodorus. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 122 This author..hath good skill in the feeding and ordering of singing-birds. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 78 ₱ 9 Who shows as much Liberality in his Practice as he does..Skill in his Profession. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* v, His professional jealousy, personal strength, and skill in the use of arms, brought him into many quarrels. 1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* I. i. 29 No skill of speech have I. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xx. 195 He had little skill in talk.

†**c.** An art or science. *Obs.*

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iiij, Of the former knowledge Geometricall, are growen the Skills of Geographie, Chorographie, and Stratarithmetrie. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. ii, Those hidden skils, Ascrib'd vnto the infernall Proserpine. 1647 FULLER *Holy War* III. vi. (1840) 118 Richard.. quickly got money, the sinews of warre, by a thousand princely skills. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. § 27. 241 And certainly, the skill of Christian suffering is not the easiest of all trades or sciences.

†**d.** A skilled person. *Obs.*—1

a 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 77 You will much oblige me to propound it to as many skills as you shall converse with, and to send me their several judgements.

7. Knowledge or understanding *of* something. Now *arch.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxvii. (1592) 425 If thou eate of the tree of the skill of good and euill. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndome.* I. 157 Surely that Priest..could not haue skill of brachygraphy, nor well spell Latine. 1685 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* Pref. 3 If he..has a competent skill of the one tongue, and is a master of the other. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, Since ye say ye hae skeel o' the law. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* XI. 463 Thereof I have no skill, Whether he liveth or dieth.

†**8.** *No skill*, it matters not. *Obs.*—1

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 128 Though shame or defame do happen, no skill.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb* (in sense 6), as *skill-pride*, *-thirst*; *skill-contending*, *-wrought* adjs.; **skill faced** (see quot. 1850).

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 664 With curious Skill-pride, and vaine dreames. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1018 Busy yourselues in skill-contending schools. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 539 Too-curious-Skill-thirst, Envie, Felony. 1615 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 197 To reueyle the veyle of Nature, to prophane her mysteries for a little curious skil-pride. 1751 JEFFRIES *Treat. Diamonds & Pearls* (ed. 2) Gloss., In Brilliants, there are two sorts, *skew* or *skill* facets and *star* facets. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1330 These triangular facets are called skill facets, from the difficulty of placing them correctly. *Ibid.* 1336 A row of double skill facets are then arranged around the girdle. 1887 R. BROWN *Trilogy* 72 For ever dart-struck was his casque Skill-wrought.

†**Skill**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* ? A skillet.

1600 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 128 One skille xj[d]; one brazen ladle viij[d]. 1603 *Ibid.* 150, ij skilles xix[d].

Skill, obs. variant of SKULL [2], basket.

Skill (skil), *v.*[1] Now *arch.* Forms: 3 **skelien, skilen**, 4 **skile**; 4–5 **scil**, 5–7 **skil**, 6 **skyl**; 5–6 **skyll**, 6 **skille**, 6– **skill**. [a. ON. *skilja* to divide, distinguish, etc., or *skila* to decide, expound, related to MDu. and MLG. *schillen* and *schelen* to differ, make a difference, etc. Cf. SKELL *sb.*]

†**1. a.** *intr.* To separate, part *from*. *Obs.*—1

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Ðu..noldest þenchen of ðine forðside, þat tu fram ðine lichame scoldest skelien, and tefore me cumen.

†**b.** *trans.* To separate, divide, take *out*. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 16860 Unnlic all oþerr lede, & skiledd ut all fra þe follc þurrh hallȝ lif & lare. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9292 Wel sal he cun knaa quilk es quilk, Fra the wick þe god to scil.

†**c.** To make free or quit *of*. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xvii. (Arb.) 44 The kynge hath skylled hym quyte of alle his brokes and forgyuen hym all his trespaces and mysdedes.

2. †**a.** *intr.* To cause a distinction or difference.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 119 Swo þe holie gost hem fulde of him seluen, and sette þe word on hem þe þere speken, and skilede on hem þat hie herden.

b. *impers.* In negative or interrogative clauses: To make a difference, to be of importance, to matter. †Also with dat. of person. Now *arch.*

Extremely common from *c* 1525 to *c* 1670.

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 306 If thei mad question to what entent thei schuld rise, this answere had thei:—'It skil you not, so ye have good wagis, and treuly payed'. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. (Percy Soc.) 173 What skilleth you though that he dye this nyght? *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Weather* (Brandl) 443 What y[e] deuyll shold skyl though all y[e] world were dum. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 245 Whether he be now lyuing, I know not, but whether he be or no, it skilleth not. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. 16 It skils not how infallible the truth in it selfe or the proposer be. *c* 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* II. Wks. 1716 I. 118 From the Court or Queen, what skills it? I commend him. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, Blow the brains or thinking-faculty quite out of him for the time: it skills not; he.. revives on the morrow. 1881 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 94 Hence! Whate'er I am it skills not.

c. *impers.* To avail, help. Now *arch.*

1528 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) V. 368 If you have any wast mony, give yt to poore pepull and tarye at home, for it shall not skyll to go on pilgremages to Ipiswiche. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. ii, It skills not, boots not step by step to trace His youth through all the mazes of its race. 1848 K. H. DIGBY *Broadstone of Honour* III. *Morus* 220 It may not skill repeating the names of holy men forgotten by the moderns. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* liii. IV. 103 But what skills talking?

d. To care, reck. *rare*—1.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, Whether he was the devil's crony or no I skill not.

†**3.** To allege in argument. *Obs.*—1

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 343 For al that evere I skile may, I am concluded with a nay.

4. To understand, comprehend. Now *dial.*

a 1500 *How the wise man taught his son* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 170 Skyll fully what thou pray. 1555 PHAER *Æneid* I. 16 Encompast with the cloud he goes (a wondrous thyng to skyll). 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* 18 Truly I cannot scil what is procurare malum socio. 1632 J. FEATLY *Hon. Chast.* 9 Who skils not the cunning of those delicate imposters, in their wretched devices? 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 115 Seeing you are unlettred, and skill not the Original languages. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) I. xiii. 191 The speaker little skilleth the use of speech, or the rule of conversation. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Skill*, to know, to understand..'I nivver could skill him.'

†**b.** *intr.* To have knowledge *of*, or skill *in*, something. *Obs.* (Cf. SKILL *sb.* 5.)

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) K vij, Or what woman now adaies, that is sad & wise, wil be known to skill of daunsing. 1561 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxii. 230 Lest the unlearned should say, they did not skill of such books. 1628 J. DOUGHTY *Serm. Ch. Schismes* 16 More shifts besides they skill of to obscure their malitious drifts. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 132 That they might the better skill in the works of Embrodery. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1704) 198 To vilifie those Studies which themselves skill not of.

c. With inf.: To know how *to* do something. Also with *how*. Now *arch.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* lxx. Wks. (Grosart) II. 157 They now skild not how from him to wend. 1671 EVELYN *Let. to Father Patrick* 27 Sept., He would be thought a thick-skinn'd doctor..who skill'd not to discern how a thing might be real, and yet spiritual. *a* 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1830) I. 462 Not skilling to get his suit quietly, he would extort it by force. 1859 S. R. HOLE *Tour Irel.* 13 He who skilleth not to brew it..., may thank me, perhaps, for thus instructing him. 1865 NEALE *Hymns Paradise* 46 If there be that skills to reckon All the number of the Blest.

†**d.** *trans.* To order, dispose. *Obs.*

c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) Pref., A man may many times, if he skill it aright, give his Prince good counsel, contrary to his inclinations.

†**5.** *intr.* To get along, to subsist. *Obs.*—1

1537 *State P. Hen. VIII*, II. 449 The pore Englishe erth tillers in the English pale cannot skyll upon penury nor wredchidnes, as the Irishe tenantes doo sustayne.

6. *trans.* To teach, instruct. *rare*—1.

a 1813 A. WILSON *Foresters* Poet. Wks. (1846) 218 Not he who guides the legs, or skills the clown To square his fist, and knock his fellow down.

†**Skill**, *v.*[2] *Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To mount, ascend.

a 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 2844 Lybeauus wyth goodwyll Into hys sadell gan skyll, And a launce yn hond he hent.

Skilled (skild), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **skild**. [f. SKILL *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].]

1. Of persons: Possessed of skill or knowledge; properly trained or experienced.

1552 ELYOT s.v. *Calleo*, To be well skilled in the law. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 92 Gentlemen, well skil'd in Musicke. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* II. ii. 127 The parts of the Egyptian learning, in which the Scripture tells us Moses was skil'd. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 292 The Persians are skill'd..to shoot flying. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* I. xv. 31 And Sthenelus, in Battle skill'd; Or skill'd to guide with steady Rein..his Chariot. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 148 More skilled to raise the wretched than to rise. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. Concl., We are..skilled both in active and sedentary recreations. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 76 Sarsfield.. was little skilled in the administration of war, and was still less skilled in civil business. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* IV. I. 114 Some hand Skilled to bend the bow.

b. In attrib. use. (Now common.)

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 484/2 An unusual influx of skilled labourers into any employment. 1856 BOND *Russia at Close of 16th c.* (Hakl. Soc.) Introd. 18 Furnishing him with warlike ammunition and with skilled engineers. 1857 J. W. DONALDSON *Christian Orthod.* 436 A general designation of professional or skilled workmen. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 475 Every physician and every skilled artist does all things for the sake of the whole.

2. Of work: Requiring or showing skill.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. x. (1904) I. 113 The policy of Europe considers the labour of all mechanics, artificers, and manufacturers, as skilled labour. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* 91 Every branch of public administration is a skilled business. 1876 A. S. MURRAY *Mythol.* iii. (1877) 43 He..seems more the patient god of skilled metal-working.

Skilless (skī·lles), *a.* Also 3 **skillłæs**, 9 **skill-less**; 6 **skilles**, 6–7 **skillesse**, 6 **skyllesse**. [f. SKILL *sb.*[1] + -LESS.]

1. Devoid of († reason or) knowledge; ignorant.

c 1200 ORMIN 3715 Wiþþ mannkinn þatt wass stunnt, & dill, & skillłæs swa summ asse. 1561 NORTON & SACK. *Gordobuc* II. ii, Lest skilles rage throwe doune with headlong fal Their lands. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* IV. 661 Writing the dooings of other persons in a toong wherein I am skillesse. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 9 [Through] iealousie, what might befall your trauell, Being skillesse in these parts. 1627 MAY *Lucan* X. (1631) 595 The skillesse people run Through the vast pallace scatter'd vp, and downe. 1814 CARY *Dante, Purg.* IX. 100 A heavenly dame, not skilless of these things. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 909 A little patience, youth! 'twill not be long, Or I am skilless quite.

2. Lacking skill; unskilled, unskilful.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 204 From cities ioy, to countrie care, To skillesse folke is homelie change. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 132 Like powder in a skillesse Souldiers flaske Is set a fire. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 55/1 Some young Phaeton; Whose skilless and unstaved Hand May prove the Ruin of the Land. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) 203 But Swords and Guns have not made more mortal wounds, than Probes in the hands of carelesse and skillesse Chirurgeons. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* v. i. 101 Let me see the wound; I am not quite skilless. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 379 A mind, not ignoble, not skillless, not abjectly craven. 1890 *Spectator* 18 Oct., [To] organise a brigade of poor gentlemen to replace these arrogant and skilless dockers.

b. Of things: Showing a lack of skill; badly made, crude, inartistic.

1830 GODWIN *Cloudesley* I. x. 156 The crude and skill-less impositions of the Turk. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* i. (1862) 119 In their skill-less delineations the artists could not manage to find room for more. 1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* II. iv. 5 What matter though skilless the lay be, and rude?

Hence **Ski·llessness**, want of skill.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 183 He had messed the mouth of a loose-fish by his awkward and impotent skillessness.

Skillet [1] (ski·lĕt). Forms: *α.* 5 **skelet**(t, 6–7, 9 **skellet** (7, 9 **-it**), 8 **scellet**. *β.* 6 **skyllet**, 7 **skillett**, 6– **skillet**. [Of obscure origin.

The sense is against connexion with OF. *eschelette*, etc., a little bell (see SKELLAT), and both form and sense differ from OF. *escuelete*, *esculette*, a small plate. The ending *-et*, however, and the culinary associations of the thing itself, make it probable that the source was AF. or OF.]

1. A cooking utensil of brass, copper, or other metal, usually having three or four feet and a long handle, used for boiling liquids, stewing meat, etc.; a saucepan, stew-pan. (See also quot. 1866.)

α. 1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20 Unius skelett aeneae, iij d. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 131 Take crownes of whitsour bred, smal myed on a gratour, & do hit in a skelet. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Skellet with a handell, *poillon*. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 144 b, These after putting into a possenet or skellet, set..over the fyre. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* II. xix. 174 Then put it into a verie cleane sweet pipkin or skellet. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 67 Take an Iron Pot or Skellet,..set it on the Fire. 1719 *Will of J. Hirst* (Yorks.), A dozen of trenchers, a skellet, a spit and racks. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict., Skellit*, a small pot with a handle. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs., Skellet*,..a funnel shaped vessel, used principally for heating beer and milk.

β. 1519 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B.* fol. 160 b, iiij[e] ketills, a skillet, ix[e] platers. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* M ij b, He shall gyue a lydde or couer worthy for the skyllet or lyttell panne. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xlii. 201 The juyce of the leaues boyled..in a brasen pipkin or skillet is very good to heale..old ulcers. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. l. 541 Boile them in fresh water in some skillet. 1658 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 118 In boyling the milk it swells so high that it sheds over the brim of the skillet. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. p. lxii, I have seen some try to boil Cane-juice to sugar in an ordinary Skillet. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 108 The lightning..melted an old copper skillet. 1802 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epist. Ct. Rumford* Wks. 1812 V. 136 Whose tinkers form..Skillets and saucepans. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* v. 55 The dressers were resplendent with immense brass skillets. 1881 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 364 Armed with a skillet she happened..to have been scouring.

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 353 *Skillet*, the thin brass perforated implement used for skimming or fletting the cream off milk.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skillet-maker*, *pan*, *soot*; also *skilletful*.

1552 in *Bury Wills* (Surtees) 142 Too brasse pannys, to kattylls, one skyllet panne. 1611 COTGR., *Poislier*,..a Skellet-maker, or Frying-panne maker. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 69 Your confutation hath..left nothing upon it, but a foul taste of your skillet soot. 1888 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 373/2 Mrs. Pearson..had baked a skilletful of hot biscuits.

Ski·llet [2]. [Of obscure origin; there is no obvious connexion with prec.]

1. (See quot.)

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 July 3/1 Here a block is being cut into the right length and shape for 'skillets', the wooden strips of which matchboxes are made.

2. A thick flat piece of silver or other precious metal (*Cent. Dict.*).

Skillet, variant of SKELLAT, bell.

Ski·llick. *rare*—1. =SKILLIGALEE **2.**

Cf. Devonshire *skiddick* in similar uses.

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* (Ridg.) 322, I havn't a skillick till quarter-day.

Skilligalee (skiligāli·). *slang.* Also **skilla-, skillo-, skilly-**, and **-golee, -glee**. [prob. a purely fanciful formation.]

1. =SKILLY *sb.*

1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* I. xviii. 202 Tolerable flour, of which the cook composed a certain food for breakfast, known among sailors by the name of skilligolee, being in plain English, paste. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxx. 353 In some [Unions] they gives you bread and cheese, and in some broth, and in some skillygolee. 1872 M. COLLINS *Pr. Clarice* II. ii. 22 Aren't you afeard of being..committed for seven days on a diet of skilligalee?

2. With negative: A single coin of the smallest value.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xii, But this is all nothing, except to prove satisfactorily that I am not worth a skillagalee.

3. *attrib.* Worthless, trifling.

1883 *Christian World* 13 Dec. 870/1 The parsons were a poor skillygalee lot.

Skilling (ski·liŋ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–5 **skelyng**, 7–9 **skeeling**, 9 **skeling**; 8– **skillin, skilling**, etc. See also SKILLION. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A shed or outhouse, *esp.* a lean-to, a penthouse. Current in the south of England, from Surrey to Dorset.

1389 *New Coll. Accs.* in Wood's MS. D. 2, fol. 272 In laborem facient. unius Skelyng pro sept. 2*s.* 6*d.* 1448–9 *Abingdon Abbey Accs.* (1892) 124 In j skelyng siue coquina facta in tenemento dicti Henrici Baret. *a* 1722 E. LISLE *Husb.* (1757) II. 93 If I put cows or oxen under skillins, or penthouses. 1831 *Devizes Gaz.* 8 Aug. (E. D. D.), A barn and extensive skilling was burnt down. 1862 *Morning Advertiser* 8 Sept., Mr. Fowle was in his yard..when the storm first burst, and ran for shelter under a skilling. 1874 JEFFERIES in *Toilers of the Field* (1893) 167 A portion of the Court is roofed in and is called the skilling.

b. In Australasian use. (Cf. SKILLION.)

1837 GOODRIDGE *Voy. S. Seas* (1832) 172 Many houses have been built..consisting of two rooms in front, and two sheds or skillings as they are called. 1849 M. RUSSELL *Polynesia* ix. 353 Three substantial weather-board dwelling-houses..with skilling at the back. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 351 At the back a skilling, a lower roofed portion of the building.

attrib. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 79 There were two unfinished skilling rooms built on to the back of the hut.

2. (See quots.)

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 *Skeeling*, an Isle or bay of a barn, *Suss.*[*ex.*]. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Skeeling* or *Skilling*...the side of a garret or upper room, where the slope of the roof interferes with the upright.

‖ **Ski·lling**, *sb.*[2] [In sense 1 ad. Du. *schelling*; in sense 2 a. Da., Sw., or Norw. *skilling*.]

†**1.** =SCHELLING. *Obs.*[—1]

1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Indies* i. 6 The Cash-keeper paid us..three Dutch Skillings every day while we stayed on Shoar.

2. A small copper coin and money of account formerly in use in Scandinavia.

1793 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 232/2 [In] Denmark..and Norway..16 Skillings = a Marc [= 9*d.*]. 1802 ACERBI *Trav.* I. 220 The poor mendicant finished by asking..some.. skillings in charity. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 326/1 *Ryksort*, a Danish silver coin at 24 skillings. 1875 JEVONS *Money* xi. 126 The skilling [of Norway] being nearly equal in value to an English halfpenny.

Skilling (wild goose), obs. var. SKEELING *Sc.*

Ski·lling, *vbl. sb. rare*[—1]. [f. SKILL *v.*[1]] † The operation of reasoning.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 137 Swiche comparisoun as it is of skilynge [L. *ratiocinatio*] to vndirstondyng and of þing þat is engendred to þing þat is.

Skillion (skiʳlyən). *Austr.* [Alteration of *skillin* SKILLING *sb.*[1]] A lean-to, serving as a shed or as a small room.

1864 ELIZ. MURRAY *Ella Norman* I. 163 This led into a 'skillion', or shed built against the house. 1870 HONEY *Glaucus* I. i. 5 The farm..together with the three Skillions at the end of the Retreat are..his property. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* 12 The harness-cask, which stood in a little back skillion.

attrib. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Australian Life* 73 A verandah, and a skillion room opening off it.

† **Skillwise**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 scel-, scilwis; 3–4 skilwis(e, 4 skillwise, -wyse, skyllwyse. [a. ON. *skilvíss* (MSw. *skäl-*, MDa. *skælvis*) reliable, trustworthy, etc., f. *skil* SKILL *sb.*[1]]

1. a. Intelligent, discerning, clever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4677 Depe selers..thoru es aun scel-wis [*v. r.* witti] red, He fild wit wines. *Ibid.* 6528 If þai war þat tim sa vn-wise, Yeit er þai noght all skilwise. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lvii. 11 A man þat is skilwise sall thynke þat it falles þaim not of chawnce.

absol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 33 Bot be the fruit may scilwis se, O quat vertu is ilka tre.

b. Endowed with reason; rational.

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 12 He made skillwise creatures, angel and man. *Ibid.* 330 To tham that he wate er of skillwise elde.

2. a. Just, equitable, fair.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28781 Godd of heuen..es rightwise, & til alle men ilik skilwis.

b. Reasonable; not excessive.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxvii. 11 When thai..entice him fra scilwis penaunce. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 324 Bot if thai forbere it be skillwise cause. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1435 And who so askes hir skilwis thyng, Sche sal not greue þam with groching.

† **Skillwisely**, *adv. Obs.* [a. ON. *skilvíslega*: see prec. and -LY[2].] Reasonably; rationally; with understanding.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4747 He salde ilkman his porcion, Sua þat þai moght scilwisli..liue þar-bi. *Ibid.* 8347 Scilwisli and scort He tald þat him lai apon hert. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 9 Sonnes of men þat lifis skilwisly and in rightwisnes. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 446 If we lyff skillwisely als the lawe techis.

† **Skillwiseness.** *Obs.* Also 3 sckele-, 4 schil-. [Cf. prec. and -NESS.] Discretion, intelligence, reason.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 149 Þe is god þat þu beseke at gode one mihte ðe hatte discrecio, þat is, sckelewisnesse. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 567 It has als schilwisnes o will þe god to tak and leue þe ill. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 1 Thou made manne, And gaf him gast of schilwisnes.

Skilly (ski·li), *sb.* Also 9 skilley. [Abbreviation of SKILLIGALEE.] A kind of thin, watery porridge, gruel, or soup, commonly made from oatmeal, and used especially in prisons and workhouses.

1839 *Slang Dict.* 33 *Skilley*, nickname for a broth given on board the hulks. 1846 *Camp & Barrack-Room* ii. 16 Jack Skilly, a title given in consequence of his being the dispenser of skilly to patients. 1865 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Oct. 4/5 That 'skilly' formed the traditional staple of workhouse dietary under the New Poor Law, we are well aware. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of a Novelist* 97 Gentlemen who have tasted workhouse skilly and soup.

Skilly (ski·li), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 9 skeely, skeily. [f. SKILL *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Skilled, skilful; having considerable skill in some respect.

a. *a* 1768 Ross *Helenore* II. 90 Upo' your milk your skilly hand ye'll try, An' gees a feast o't as we're coming by. 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 51 Her apron shortens to the skilly ee. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 91 A gash skilly body, weel kent near and far. 1903 *Daily Record & Mail* 10 July 5 For the past few weeks Greenock has been the happy hunting ground of the skilly cracksman.

β. *a* 1803 *Sir P. Spens* i. in Scott *Minstrelsy*, O whare will I get a skeely skipper, To sail this new ship of mine? 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., The doctress of a country village is skeely. 1863 J. L. W. *Bygone Days* 42 Tibbie..confessed he was a 'skeely' man, John; for he cured her cow.

Skilly-pot, Skilpot. *U.S.* [ad. Du. *schildpad* turtle.] The slider or red-bellied terrapin.

1807 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 58 Famous place for *skilly-pots*—Philadelphians call 'em tarapins.

Skilts. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ii, A sort of brown tow trousers, known at the time..as skilts; they were short, reaching just below the knee, and very large, being a full half yard broad at the bottom.

Skim, *sb.* Also 6 skymme, 6–7 skimme. [f. SKIM *v.* In earlier use taking the place of SCUM *sb.*]

1. †**a.** =SCUM *sb.* 2 b. *Obs.*

1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 33 That [water]..wherof cometh leest skymme or frothe, whan it doth boyle. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1622) 444 Like a skimme which seetheth into the broth. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 70 Continue..your skimming so long as any skim doth arise. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 57 Boyl it in a Pan of Iron, take off the skim. 1764 ELIZA MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 171 Boil it over a slow fire, and skim it whilst any skim rises.

†**b.** =SCUM *sb.* 3 b. *Obs.*

1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 108 Although Philip took delight in this skim of men [flatterers], yet could they neuer draw him..to incurre those vices.

c. *Amer.* A thin layer *of* ice.

1897 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 8/3 A frost that produced a skim of ice beyond Winnipeg.

2. a. A form of horse-hoe; a shim. *rare*[—1].

1795 VANCOUVER *Agric. Essex* 99 Horse-hoes or skims.. answer particularly well for cleaning the fallows.

b. An addition to the coulter of a plough by which the surface of the ground is pared off.

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 141 The turnips were ploughed for once, with Ducket's skim coulter plough, without the skim. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 416 If you attach the skim to bury the surface. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 18 (L. U. K.), A double skim, which can be either added to the plough or removed at pleasure. 1904 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., There is sometimes a skim in front of the coulter which serves to turn in the weeds.

3. *ellipt.* =SKIM-MILK I. Also *fig.*

1885 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 2/1 The milk is manufactured into butter and cheese,..and the 'skim'..is not exactly the most nourishing stuff in the world. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 34 But there is skim and skim, just as there is butter-milk and butter-milk. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 3/1 The owners of pictures are in the habit of proffering a certain proportion of skim with their cream.

4. The act of skimming or moving lightly.

a 1851 MOIR *Castle of Time* xxiii, For clouds on the blue air, with shadowy skim, Were rolling their faint billows. 1892 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 73/2 The buoyancy of her tread, like the skim of a bird which has not quite alighted.

b. A hasty sketch or survey.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Oct. 3/3 As a careful political study, it [the book] is of little value. Delightful skims are apt to be full of fables.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **skim-plough**, a plough having a skim attached, a skim-coulter plough; hence *skim-plough* vb.; **skim-net**, a net used with a kind of skimming action.

1813 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* I. 137 The skim-plough of the late Mr. Ducket,..and other skim coulters. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 17 (L. U. K.), Trench and skim ploughs. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 765 The land has been recently skim-ploughed. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 820/2 *Skim Net* (Fishing), a large dipping net. 1887 GOODE *Fisheries U. S.* 802 Prior to 1872, shrimp were taken in this locality only with skim-nets. 1891 C. L. MORGAN *Anim. Sketches* 135 An efficient skim-net, wherewith to capture insects on the wing.

Skim, *a. rare.* [By inference from *skim-milk.*] Skimmed; made of skim-milk.

1794 DARKE in Marshall *Rev.* (1810) II. 373 Where they make the skim cheese, the land is deemed too rich for one meal. 1866 *Intellect. Observer* No. 56. 126 Milk scant and skim. 1893 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 5/5 Then the problem of branding skim cheese will be solved.

Skim, *v.* Also 5 skem(e, skym(e, 7 skeam-, 6–7 skimme. [prob. ad. OF. *escumer*: see SCUM *v.* The vowel may be partly due to SKIMMER, in which the narrowing would be assisted by the original stress on the final syllable.]

I. 1. *trans.* To clear (a liquid or a liquid mass) from matter floating upon the surface, usually by means of a special utensil; to deprive (milk) of cream by this method; to deal with (a pot, etc.) in this way. Also *absol.* (Cf. SCUM *v.* 1.)

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 50 Þou shalt hit frye, In buttur wele skymmet wyturly. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Caste alle on a potte, & skym yt. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 71 Þe þridde part of hony, boiled and skemed. 1548 ELYOT, *Despumo*, to skimme or clarifie any licour. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 131 To Skimme, *despumare*. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 36 Are you not hee That..Skim milke, and sometimes labour in the querne? 1611 COTGR., *Escumer*,.. to skimme, or clarifie, liquor. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 1 The clear water, having been first carefully skimmed. 1777 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 32 When it boils, skim it clean. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 114 Boil the first mash one hour...Then skim and cleanse. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 643 Morgiana..put the pot on the fire to make the broth, but while she was skimming it the lamp went out. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 49/1 When the lead is all melted it is skimmed, and then drawn off into the mould.

fig. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* II. vi. (1636) 105 He might not seeme to have once sipt or skimd the honour of their chastity so much as with beholding them. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 115 He had rak'd hell and skim'd the devil for it. 1704 in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 350, I wish we may ever be skimmed so as to leave anything pure behind.

b. *Agric.* To plough (land) very lightly.

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 163 Skim it with plough very thin to make it fine. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 468 A few surface weeds appearing, he skimmed the land, without turning a furrow.

2. To remove or collect by skimming. Also in fig. context.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvii. 387 Fairies..Feast upon the Cream, which they skim from the Milk. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 393 She..Boils in Kettles Must of Wine, and skims, With Leaves, the Dregs that overflow the Brims. 1778 HAN. MORE *Florio* I. Dramas, etc. 176 He lik'd those literary cooks Who skim the cream of others' books. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 141 We bought three cows, and skimmed our own cream. 1894 W. J. DAWSON *Making of Manhood* 30 We forget that the newspaper skims the scum of life.

b. To take *off* or *away* by skimming. Also *fig.*

1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 86 Upon these waters..is found a kind of white cremor..; this being skim'd off [etc.]. 1744 BERKELEY *Let. on Tar Water* § 8 The oil that floated on the top and was skimmed off. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 379 Skim off the skin which will appear on the surface. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 403 The most pure part is skimmed off, and becomes fine oil. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 3. 81 The lighter and decayed seeds float, and are skimmed off.

fig. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* xx. 456 And with his Sword he skim'd his head away Helmet and all. 1780 COWPER *Progress of Error* 343 To purge and skim away the filth of vice.

†**c.** To scoop *up* as if by skimming. *Obs.*[—1]

1665 FOX in Bickley *Life* (1884) xviii. 264 The water..ran about the room so that I was fain to skim it up with a platter.

3. To cover with a thin layer, as with scum.

1666 DRYDEN *Annus Mirab.* cxiii, Where the false tides skim o'er the cover'd Land, And Sea-men with dissembled Depths betray. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xli, The Fountain of Trevi skimmed almost across with a glassy surface.

b. *intr.* To put on a thin layer.

c 1865 MRS. SPOFFORD *Pilot's Wife* in *Cosquet of Lit.* IV. 25/2 The chocolate skimmed all over with a coat of cold oil at last. 1896 KIPLING in *Sat. Rev.* Christmas Suppl. 1/1 The beach-pools cake and skim.

4. To throw lightly *over* or *upon* the surface of something.

1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 187 Some saffron, or snuff, just skimmed over his face. 1832 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 141 Water, during the operation, being frequently skimmed upon the surface to displace the scales.

II. †**5.** To scour (the sea, etc.); =SCUM *v.* 2.

a 1440 *Brut* cclxv. 383 Þe erle toke his meyne, and went to schyppe, and skimmed the see,..þat no maner enymys durste rowte vpon þe see. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 573 The whiche scowryd and skymmyd yᵉ see ryght well and manfully.

6. To deal with, treat, or study, in a slight and superficial manner. Also with *over* (cf. 9 c).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1605) 179 Who, (but skimming any thing that came before him) was disciplined to leaue the through-handling of all to his gentle wife. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 52 Such as love only to skim things, and have not the patience to keep their minds to a deep and close attention. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, To skim a thing over, (to pass it over slightly) *effleurer une matière* [etc.]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. i. P 2 He had never skimmed the first principles of it [Latin]. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm. Ser.* II. vi. (1864) 88 They skim the surface of the thought. 1896 GLADSTONE in *Contemp. Rev.* June 3 Parliament dived into the question, which the Bench had only skimmed.

b. *esp.* To read rapidly or carelessly; to glance over without close attention.

1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educat.* (ed. 4) I. 187 The kind of books here recommended, if thoroughly studied, and not superficially skimmed. 1820 BYRON *Blues* I. 22 Where I just had been skimming a charming critique. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Daus.* I. xii, The London paper.., which Harvey

undertook to skim for the benefit of his friend. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* II. 75 He..was skimming the telegrams in an unconcerned manner.

7. To move, glide, fly or float, lightly and rapidly over or along (the ground, etc.).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 76 Then stooping on the Meads and leafy Bow'rs, They skim the Floods. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 232 The Ball now skims the Street. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 101 Smooth as Swallows skim The new-shorn Mead. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 143 One of the most rapacious little animals that skims the deep. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* I. ii, The happy shepherd swains..skim, perchance, thy lake with light canoe. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Resignation* 71 The red-grouse..Skims, now and then, the shining ground. 1878 J. BULLER *New Zealand* I. ii. 27 Wild fowl skim the surface of the water.

fig. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Apr. 5/1 Lady Duffus-Hardy.. has skimmed a large expanse of country in order to cull these blossoms for our delectation.

b. To pass over (a surface) with close approach or very slight contact.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 42 On that day the sun, when lowest, skims the horizon without setting. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 474 If you now turn to the north you will find that so.ne just skim the horizon. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 111 The oar, instead of deeply entering the water, only slightly skimming the surface.

8. To cause to fly lightly; to throw (a thing, esp. one having a flat surface) so that it maintains an evenness of balance or poise in its flight.

1611 COTGR., *Ricochet*, the sport of skimming a thinne stone on the water. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 138, I skimmed my hat after him to make him afraid for something. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 245, I took the guinea, and..the window being open, I skimmed it out. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliii, He skimmed his cocked-hat in the air. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* i, Hearing the..voice of the guard as he skimmed forth for my grasp the expected packet. 1887 MARY COWDEN CLARKE *Girlhood Shaks. Heroines* vii. 174 To skim both bread and trencher to the other end of the hall.

9. *intr.* To sail, glide, float, fly, run, etc., with a light and easy motion, on or close to some surface, or through the air.

In very frequent use from *c* 1700.

1591 T. ELIOT *Disc. Warre* 18 The little Pyrate, that did but skimme vp and downe the sea in a litle Brigandine. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 7 The winds skimming over the face of them, fannes the coole vapour all over those quarters. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 497 Sportful Coots run skimming o'er the Strand. 1705 BERKELEY *Cave of Dunmore* Wks. 1871 IV. 507 A rivulet..skims along the side of the cave. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* III. 287 As the slick Lev'ret skims before the Pack. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XV, The barges were seen skimming along the moon-light sea. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, The hard glazed hat in question skimmed into the room like a bird. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 302 An English-built yacht skimmed by. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 The sleighs skim along very smoothly and lightly as long as the ponies keep their feet.

fig. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 151 Others who are for skimming over the surfaces of a great many things, without going to the bottom of anything. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. I. x. 271 They skim lightly over the surface and never touch the greater part lying at the bottom. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxi, I hate the judgment that, like the flesh-fly, skims over whatever is sound, to detect and settle upon some spot which is tainted. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* iii. § 2. 187 The science of comparative religion skims round the outside of the region.

b. To glance *over*, without reading closely.

1738 MRS. PENDARVES in Mrs. Delany *Lett. & Corr.* (1861) I. 30 Your last letter, which..I skimmed over to satisfy myself of your health. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. iv, Plumeo skimmed over the pages, like a swallow over the flowery meads. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Family* I. 89 Why in such a hurry? Let me first just skim over the paper. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. I. i. 14 He was skimming over my introductory epistle.

c. To pass *over* lightly, without dwelling upon or treating fully.

1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. viii. Wks. (1801) 234 They skim lightly over the arguments. 1765 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 430 Our blemishes and foibles.., which the eye does not willingly fix upon, but is apt to skim lightly over. 1824 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. II. v. 263 He skims over rather than dives into the subjects of which he treats. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1319/2 He is skimming over a real difficulty, which is not to be evaded by eloquent talk.

d. To go *over* lightly with the scythe.

c 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 26 in *Husb.* III. (L. U. K.), The rank grass..is 'skimmed over' or mown, and made into hay for young stock in the winter.

10. To glance *round* the horizon.

1817 KEATS *I stood tip-toe* 17 There was wide wandering for the greediest eye,..Far round the horizon's crystal air to skim.

Ski·mback. *U.S. local.* [? f. SKIM *v.*] A North American river-fish (see quots.).

1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 119 *Carpiodes cyprinus*, Quillback; Spear-fish; Sail-fish; Skimback. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 437 *Carpiodes velifer*, the ..'Skim-back' of the Ohio River, is a fish often seen in the markets.

Ski·mble-ska:mble, *a., sb.,* and *adv.* Also 7 scimble, and 6–7, 9 scamble, 7 scemble. [f. SCAMBLE *v.*, with usual variation of vowel in the first element: cf. *clitter-clatter, tittle-tattle*, etc.]

A. *adj.* 1. Confused, incoherent, nonsensical, rubbishy.

In modern use only after the Shakspere passage.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. i. 154 Such a deale of skimble-scamble Stuff, As puts me from my Faith. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 111/2 Here's a sweet deale of scimble scamble stuffe. 1822 BYRON *Vis. Judg.* Pref., Hence all this 'skimble-scamble stuff' about 'Satanic'. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 69 He talks a deal of 'skimble skamble' stuff about 'askance'. 1880 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* II. 281 My belief is they scarcely sang a piece of pure Rossini all night, but had fitted in modern skimble-skamble tunes.

2. Accompanied by confusion or disorder.

1826 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 995 They skurry, In a skimble skamble hurry.

B. *sb.* Confused or worthless discourse.

1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B 7, He.. askes..where's the wind..With such fine scimble scemble, spitter spatter. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* II. ii. (1866) 159 After a good deal of skimble-skamble of this nature.

C. *adv.* Confusedly; in confusion.

1775 in ASH. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii. (1871) 140 The flakes shaded and mottled the sky, and fell twirling, pitching, skimble-scamble.

Ski·m-coulter. *Agric.* [f. SKIM *v.*] A coulter fitted with a plate of iron or steel which shaves off the top-layer of the ground and turns it into the furrow.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 447/1 Mr. Ducket was the original inventor of the skim-coulter...It consists of a thin plate of iron, with a sharp edge, fixed horizontally to a common coulter. 1803 A. YOUNG in Hunter *Georg. Ess.* III. 163 This is entirely prevented by the skim-coulter, which is applicable to every sort of soil. 1825 COBBET *Rural Rides* 26 There was a skim coulter that turned the sward in under the furrow. 1881 ELEANOR ORMEROD *Manual of Injurious Insects* 81 A skim-coulter attached to the plough.

b. *attrib.* in *skim-coulter plough*; also used as *vb.*

1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 74 Two skim-coulter ploughs, two drill markers. 1832 *Planting* iii. 23 (L. U. K.), To have the surface scarified, horse-hoed, or skim coulter ploughed. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 264 (L. U. K.), Skim-coulter ploughs have been used to obviate this inconvenience.

Hence **Ski·m-coultered** *a.*

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 542 It may be better to follow the practice adopted in some districts of using a skim-coultered plough. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 416 No plough ever yet invented will effect this object so well as a skim coultered plough.

Skime, *v. north. dial.* Also 8–9 **skyme.** [perh. a. ON. *skima* to peer, look about one, = OE. *scimian* (of the eyes) to be dim or dazzled. Cf. also Norw. dial. *skimla* to squint.] *intr.* To squint, look askance.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 63 To *Skime*, to look a squint, to glee. 1788– in dialect glossaries (Yks., Linc., Notts.).

Skimiter, obs. form of SCIMITAR.

Skimmed (skimd), *ppl. a.* [f. SKIM *v.*]

1. a. Cleared of impurities by skimming.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 44 Adde to it twoo vnces of skimmed Honnye.

b. *Skimmed milk*, = SKIM-MILK 1.

1623 [see SKIM-MILK]. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 275 We in Leicestershire give them skimmed-milk and whey. 1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric.* 347 Sour Milk, as it is commonly called, skimmed Milk, Whey, and the like. 1815 SMITH *Panorama Science & Art* II. 813 Another mode of varnishing plaster,..is to brush it over with skimmed milk. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* I. xxiv, They had a quart of skimmed milk, and were glad to get it. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 438 In every instance, except one, the milk sold as pure milk was skimmed milk.

Comb. 1837 *Flemish Husb.* 62 in *Husb.* III. (L. U. K.), Some skimmed-milk cheese for family use. 1842 J. ATTON *Domestic Econ.* (1857) 215 Milk is also manufactured into butter, and what is called skimmed-milk cheese.

c. Of cheese: Made from skimmed milk.

1881 *Chicago Times* 16 Apr., This compound can be used only in the manufacture of skimmed cheese. 1893 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 5/5 A cheese with no brand on it will be classed as skimmed cheese.

2. Removed or collected by skimming.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, He speakes all creame, skimd, and more affected then a dozen of waiting women.

Skimmer (ski·mər), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **skemour**, 5 **skemere.** *β.* 4–5 **skymour**(e, 5 **skymere**, 5–6 **skymer**, 7 **skimer.** *γ.* 4 **skymmoure**, 6 **skymber**, 7 **skymmer**; 5– **skimmer** (8 **schimmer**). [In older senses ad. OF. *escumoir* and *escumeur* (*esquemeur*): see SCUMMER *sb.* In later use also f. SKIM *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. A shallow utensil, usually perforated, employed in skimming liquids; also, any utensil or implement by means of which skimming or some analogous process is performed.

α. 1392 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 153, j skemour, j ladell. *Ibid.* 154, ij skemours de laton emptis, iij*s.* 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 613 *Spumatorium*, a skemere. *c* 1440 *Douce MS. 55*, fol. 24 b, Bete on the clothe with a skemere or a ladell to make it sadde and flatte.

β. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Gader it to-gederys with a ladelle or a Skymoure. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 490, ij. ladels and ij. skymers of brasse. 1542 in Harrison *Ann. Old Manor House* (1893) 211, ij brase ladyls and ij skymers of laten. 1607 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. 6 Brasen skimers v. 1686 in *Essex Rev.* (1906) XV. 172 Two pestls, one brass skimer.

γ. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 66 Item, a skimmer, iiij *d.* *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iv, I with our skimmer will fling him one flappe. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* C iij, Giue me my skimmer, Martins mouth hath sod vnskimde these twelue months. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. xix. 487 Great store of nuts..which floated downe the channell vnto Casilinum, and with grated skimmers of wicker were taken up. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 913 Take away the froth that riseth, twice a day, with a wooden skimmer that hath holes in it. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 124 You may take off with a Skimmer, the Corn that Swims on the Water. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 153 Skimmers, made with a round Hoop of Iron,.. are used by the Scavengers for clearing Chips, etc. which float on the Surface of the Water. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 403 Shallow tinned iron or copper ladles, called skimmers. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 345 Some persons judge of the heat proper for pouring, by applying the skimmer to the surface of the metal. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 76 As soon as this is melted, take out the oysters with a skimmer.

b. (See quot.)

1887 GOODE *Fisheries & Fish. Industr. U.S.* 559 As soon as the oysters are opened they are placed in a flat pan with a perforated bottom, called a skimmer, where they are drained of their accompanying liquor.

c. *U.S.* A clam or scallop, the shell of which may be used for skimming milk, etc.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

† 2. = SCUMMER *sb.* 2. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 261 Men of Saxonia.. beep bope lizter and strenger þan oþer skymours of þe see.

3. One who skims a liquid. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Escumeur*,..a scummer, or skimmer of liquor.

4. One who skims in reading.

1751 SKELTON *Deism Rev.* viii. (ed. 2) II. 302 There are.. different degrees of Skimmers: first, he who goes no farther than the Title-page. 1864 *Realm* 15 June 6 Nor is it quite fair to newspaper readers or skimmers to expect them [etc.] 1907 *Outlook* 9 Nov. 605/1 For the judicious skimmer there is in these handsomely illustrated volumes a rich store of entertainment.

5. *Ornith.* A bird of the North American genus *Rhyncops*, esp. the black skimmer (*R. nigra*).

The name has reference to the manner in which these birds obtain their food, by skimming small fish, etc., from the surface of the water with the lower mandible.

1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. II. 347 Black Skimmer, *Rynchops nigra*. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIII. 135 The Skimmers are distinguished from all other birds by the very extraordinary form of their beak. 1838 AUDUBON *Ornith.* IV. 204 The hoarse cries of the Skimmers never ceased more than an hour. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 651 The number of birds on Cape Cod is very great, and among them are many rare ones for the North, such as the black skimmer, or shear-water.

6. a. A form of horse-hoe; a shim.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 375 The hand-hoes destroy those that are too near the beans for this skimmer or horse-hoe.

b. *U.S.* A form of skim-coulter (*Cent Dict.* Suppl.).

7. One who scours, or passes lightly and quickly over, the sea, land, etc.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 436 The poor skimmers over sea and land whom our friend so justly denounces. 1863 JANET HAMILTON *Poems & Ess.* 75 The cooing dove, the cawing rook, The skimmers of the lake and brook. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* II. 47 Skipper Borringer.., a persistent skimmer of the seas.

b. Applied to vessels, *spec.* to a particular type of yacht.

1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 235 Thou 'Skimmer' of the untamed sea. 1862 *London Rev.* 16 Aug. 139 Only at the yachting stations will the tapering spars and the snowy wings of the skimmers of the seas be found. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 7/2 The skimmer..is the only type which can be driven at abnormal speeds with a small sail area.

8. *Golf.* A particular kind of low stroke.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 4/2 The shot was a sliced skimmer off a wooden club.

9. *attrib.*, as **skimmer-cake** (see quot. 1863).

1863 WISE *New Forest* Gloss., *Skimmer-cake*, a small pudding made up from the remnants of another, and cooked upon a 'skimmer', the dish with which the milk is skimmed. 1889 HARDY *Wessex Tales* 25 Helping himself to a cut piece of skimmer-cake.

Skimmer (ski·mər), *v.* [Northern var. of SHIMMER *v.* The *sk-* suggests a Scand. origin, but there is no trace of the form in ON., and mod.Sw. *skimra* may be from German.]

1. *intr.* To shimmer, glitter, gleam.

c 1440 [implied in the *vbl. sb.*]. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 *To Skimmer*, to shine, to glitter. 1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 68 Weeds..which, now black, now tipped with light, skimmered and danced in the night air. 1845 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 234 It skimmers from the play of light upon those numerous..crystals. 1863 MISS YONGE *Hist. Christian Names* I. 255 The pale pure electric light that skimmers on the topmast.

2. To flutter, move rapidly.

For other dialect variations of sense, see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1824 HOGG *Whs.* 1865 I. 464 He was bounding over the heads of the maidens, and making his feet skimmer against the ceiling. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 304 *Skimmer*, to flutter or frisk about lightly. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, Some were..skimmering away through the bright air. 1892 in *Pall Mall G.* 28 Sept. 7/3 The hawk darted down, skimmered along the ground a distance, and was then lost in a wood.

Hence **Ski·mmering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 123 Be ony skymeryng [*v.r.* skemeryng] of the skye When ze shulde knawe owthir kyng or knave? *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Skimmer*, a skimmering light, i e. glimmering. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Skimmerin*, the flickering of the rays of light. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'A fine skimmering morning, a splendid dawn betokening a fine day.

† **Skimmer,** obs. Sc. form of SCUMBER *v.*

a 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 780 Leane limmer, steale gimmer! I sall skimmer in thy mouth.

Ski·mmia. *Bot.* [mod.L. (Thunberg, 1784), f. Jap. (*mijama-*) *skimmi*, the name of the plant.] A genus of Eastern shrubs belonging to the order *Rutaceæ*; a shrub of this genus, esp. *S. japonica*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1064/2 *Skimmia*, the name of a genus of evergreen shrubs, with oblong entire stalked leathery dotted leaves, and flowers in terminal panicles. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 210/1 These Skimmias are excellent evergreens.

Ski·m-milk. [f. SKIM *v.* + MILK *sb.*]

1. Milk with the cream skimmed off or otherwise removed. Also in fig. context.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 36 (Qq.), I could deuide my selfe, and go to buffets, for mouing such a dish of skim milke [1623 *folio* skim'd Milk] with so honorable an action. *a* 1712 W. KING *Misc. Poems, The Old Cheese*, This is Skim-milk, and therefore it shall go. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 297 He..gives first new, then skim milk. 1808 CURWEN *Econ. Feeding Stock* 63 The skim-milk was included in the butter account. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 382/1 He lived principally upon 'parritch' and skim milk. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 132 If fat be removed from the milk as in 'skim' milk, rickets follows.

fig. 1778 *The Love Feast* 11 Craft's blue skim-Milk is best for Tools to lap. 1872 *Punch* 4 May 180/2 The genuine outpouring of the milk and cream, and none of the skim-milk of human kindness. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 7/1 The idea prevailed that the cream had been extracted from the.. revelations, leaving little but skim milk behind.

2. *attrib.*, as *skim-milk cheese*, etc.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1012 In making skim-milk-cheeses the milk is set in the leads or pans as usual. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 220 It's no skim-milk story, I do assure you. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 15/2 On the whole it is a better cheese than our Suffolk skim-milk cheese. 1876 *Clinical Soc. Trans.* IX. 38 On the adoption of the skim-milk treatment.

Ski·mminess. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SKIMMY *a.* + -NESS.] Resemblance to skim-milk.

1887 F. W. ROBINSON *In Bad Hands* III. 90 The general skimminess of the fluid [*sc.* milk].

Ski·mming, *vbl. sb.* [f. SKIM *v.*]

1. That which is removed or obtained by skimming. Usually *pl.*

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 198 Put hyt in a panne ouer þe fuyr, & skem hyt wel as long as eny skemmyng wol aryse. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 259 The smoake that the people reported to see and the skyminges of potts. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1096 Apply that skimming of the air, that is, those cobwebs that are scattered in Autumn. 1750 ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* V. III. 57 (E.D.D.), The skimmings [of soaked wheat] he sowed by themselves. 1777 *Cook's Voy.* (1784) I. I. vii. 130 They relished the very skimmings of the kettle. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 211 The last skimmings are termed fleetings, and are generally reserved for the use of the servants. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Skimmings*,..thick syrup or scum in sugar-boiling.

fig. 1553 *Respublica* 98 The skimmynges, the gubbins of booties and praies. 1838 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* Mar. 353 Skimmings from 'The Diary of George IV'. 1845 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. i. 14 These are but the top skimmings of these five years' living. 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST (*title*), The Cream of Leicestershire: Eleven seasons' skimmings; notable runs and incidents of the chase.

2. The action of removing floating matter from the surface of a liquid, etc. Also *fig.*

1611 COTGR., *Escumement*,..a scumming, or skimming. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 252 After a short skeaming off a little of the sweet of their will. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772* II. 299 The great scallop-shell is made use of in the dairies of this country for the skimming of milk. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 115 Repeat the skimming until no yeast rises. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxii, I..will return in the skimming of a bowie. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 1. 65 The impurities, which are afterwards removed by skimming.

3. a. The action of reading (*over*) hastily.

1711 GAY *Pres. St. Wit* in Arber *Garner* VI. 506 A lively instance of those Wits who..'will endure but one skimming'. 1751 SKELTON *Deism Revealed* viii. (ed. 2) II. 302 They run over a book with all imaginable haste [etc.]: this they call skimming. 1862 HELPS *Organiz. Daily Life* 85 The skimming over [of the pamphlet] was effected in half an hour.

b. The action of causing to skim through the air.

c 1745 in Lees *Hist. Inverness-shire* (1897) xi. 169 Such loud huzzas and schimming of bonnets up into the air..was not heard of for a long time.

4. *attrib.*, as *skimming-gate, -iron, -ladle*, etc.

1639 *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 8 One Skiminge spoone with holes in it. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 375 They use a kind of skimming plough..having a flat share, somewhat like a mason's trowel, with two long wings projecting backwards. 1813 ELLIS *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* II. 111 Mr. Douce derives it from the Skimming-Ladle. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 14/2 When the curd is properly formed, it is cut horizontally in thin slices by the same skimming-ladle. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 578 A scum on the surface, which is removed with skimming irons. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 344 The pot is now lifted out..and carried to the skimming-place. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. 194 *note*, Taken with the skimming net. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* 201 The recess..for the skimming of the metal is known as the *skimming gate*.

Ski·mming, *ppl. a.* [f. SKIM *v.*]

1. Moving lightly along or close to a surface; flying in an easy gliding manner, etc.

a 1685 OTWAY *Epist. to Mr. Duke* 33 Where skimming swallows o'er the surface fly. 1783 BURNS *'Now Westlin Winds'* iv, Thick flies the skimming Swallow. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 7 Like skimming bees That fly and flirt about. 1859 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* § 432 We know that it is not such a skimming current as the geologist would make, which runs from one lake to another. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 223/1 The dead leaves lift and whirl as though from an earth-skimming cannon shot.

2. *fig.* Touching merely the surface of a subject; not deep or thorough.

1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 307 A bare superficial, skimming knowledge in the French. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 181 There are more ways than one of grooming a horse, as may be witnessed by the skimming and careless way in which some ploughmen do it. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 June 1/3 With all this light and skimming talk.

3. Serving to skim a thing over.

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 211/1 The first, or 'skimming' coat of the covering being laid on of a thickness of $^3/_{16}$ inch.

Ski·mming-dish. [SKIMMING *vbl. sb.* 4.]

1. A dish suitable for skimming with; *esp.* one used in skimming milk or in cheese-making.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/1 A little broad flat Dish made of Wood, called by Dairy Women a Scimming Dish. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 124, Who on her skimming-dish carves her name. 1785 W. W. PEPYS in Roberts *Mem. Han. More* (1835) I. 384 To send you a skimming-dish,.. towards setting-up housekeeping. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1017 The operator stirs up the unbroken curd from the bottom with the skimming-dish. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* ix, Have you become an amateur of damp quarries and skimming-dishes?

b. *fig.* Something comparable to a skimming-dish in respect of shallowness.

1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* x, The adherents of the inexplicable more than hinted that their antagonists were..mere skimming-dishes in point of depth. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 11/1 The Englishman not inaptly calls the American's boat a 'skimming dish'.

c. *U.S.* A shallow yacht-built type of boat used on the coast of Florida.

1884 J. A. HENSHALL *Camping in Florida* ii. 15 The boats are..of light draught and center-boarders. There are the 'skimming-dish', the 'pumpkin-seed' and the 'flat-iron' models.

2. *attrib.* in † *skimming-dish hat.*

1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* I. vi. 99 That unshaken patriot still appears in the same..skimming-dish hat, and slit sleeve. 1773 J. BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 193 A dozen skimming dish hats, such as gentry wear. 1855 *Willis's Current Notes* V. 58/2 The Skimming-Dish Hat.

Ski·mmingly, *adv.* [f. SKIMMING *ppl. a.*] In a skimming manner; *esp.* lightly, carelessly, superficially.

1847 WEBSTER, *Skimmingly*, by gliding along the surface. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Charac.* xiv. 361 How skimmingly he relates that, 'having flown over many knavish professions, he settled down in rogue.' 1900 *Pilot* 16 June 494/2 Of all these..men he gossips in an easy, skimming style; too skimmingly, indeed, for the most part.

Skimmington (ski·mintən). Also **skyming-, skimmen-, skimmerton; skimmiting, -ity**, etc. [Possibly from *skimming* (see quot. 1639 in sense 1) + *-ton* as in *simpleton*, with the object of simulating a personal name.]

†1. The man or woman personating the ill-used husband or the offending wife in the procession (see 2) intended to ridicule the one or the other. Also *transf.*, a husband whose wife is unfaithful to him; a shrewish woman. *Obs.*

1609 BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* iv. (1623) Ij, Yet when they haue it [*sc.* their desire], let them use poore Skimmington as best they may, especially in publike, to hide his shame. 1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lanc. Witches* H.'s Wks. 1874 IV. 234 Enter..a Skimington, and his wife on a horse. 1639 *Divers Crabtree Lectures* Frontispiece [representing a woman beating her husband with a skimming-ladle], Skimmington, and her Husband. 1813 ELLIS *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* II. 110 If they stopped at any other door and swept there too, it was a pretty broad hint that there were more Skimmingtons, *i.e.* Shrews in the town than one.

2. A ludicrous procession, formerly common in villages and country districts, usually intended to bring ridicule or odium upon a woman or her husband in cases where the one was unfaithful to, or ill-treated, the other. Also *attrib.* (cf. b).

For varying accounts of the reasons for, and the character of, the procession, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lanc. Witches* H.'s Wks. 1874 IV. 230 Hearke ye, do you heare it? There's a Skimington towards, gentlemen. *c* 1679 OLDHAM *Wks.* (1854) 125 Like pageants of Lord Mayor, or Skimmington. 1714–5 BAGFORD in *Leland's Collect.* I. p. lxxvi, I might here mention the old Custom of Skimington, when a Woman beats her Husband. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* Concl. (1811) 221 Where the strength of arm is with the wife, she generally uses it in a manner to excite her neighbours to lampoon her by a Skimmington. 1865 *St. James' Mag.* July 511 The 'skymington' is still in use for henpecked husbands and shrewish wives. 1886 HARDY *Mayor of Casterbr.* xxxix, The rude music of the skimmington ceased. *Ibid.* xl, He knew nothing of the skimmington-ride.

b. In phrase *to ride* (*the*) *skimmington*, to hold a procession of this kind.

1697 *View Penal Laws* App., A Table of..Misdemeanors, Offences and Nusances...Riot and Riding Skinnington [*sic*]. *a* 1712 W. KING *Monarch* 1 When the young people ride the Skimmington, There is a general trembling in a town. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.*, Riding Skimmington. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxi, You would do well not to forget whose threshold was swept when they last rode the Skimmington upon such another scolding jade as yourself. 1831 *Examiner* 396/2 One of those scenes called 'riding skimmerton', or rustic country justice, took place on Monday evening last at Bitterne.

3. A row, quarrel. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1753 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 479 The Speaker..was so misrepresented by the Attorney-general, that there was danger of a skimmington between the great wig and the coif.

Ski·mmy, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SKIM *v.*] Of the nature of skimming; superficial.

1893 *Critic* 7 Jan. 6/2 A sketchy and 'skimmy' study of the romance as distinguished from the novel in the United States.

Ski·mmy-dish. *rare*$^{-1}$. = SKIMMING-DISH.

1823 W. COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1830) I. 347 What! young gentlemen go to plough! They become clerks or some skimmy dish thing or other.

Skimp, *a.* [Of obscure origin: not in general use until very recently.] Scanty; = SCRIMP *a.*

1775 *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy Soc.) 255 Then the fops are so fine, With lank waisted chine, And a skimp bit of a hat. 1890 *Athenæum* 9 Aug. 189/3 Breaking up other measures, especially those of the ode, into skimp lengths of like sort.

Skimp, *v.* [Cf. prec.] = SCRIMP *v.*

1879 in WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1880 R. G. WHITE *Every-Day English* 13 The *a* in *catch* is moderately broad;..and consequently it is 'skimped' by all who are inclined to be slovenly. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* i, In those ages men did not skimp their flint, and oak, and mortar.

absol. 1888 EGGLESTON *Graysons* xix, The woman who has..schemed and skimped to achieve her attire.

Skimped (skimpt), *ppl. a.* Also 9 **scimpit.** [Cf. prec.] = SCRIMPED *ppl. a.*

1839 CARLETON *Fardorougha* v. (1848) 55 Only your cothamore's too scimpit for me. 1860 MAYNE REID *Hunters' Feast* i, Bradley's garments, on the contrary, were tight-fitting and 'skimped'. 1884 LANG in *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 323/1 Stone walls can never seem so squalid and skimped as the London houses of dirty, yellowish brick.

Skimper-scamper, *adv.* [f. SCAMPER *v.*, with usual variation of vowel.] In hurry and confusion.

1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xlvi, And there all the lamps are broke,—and the women run skimper scamper.

Skimpily (ski·mpili), *adv.* [f. SKIMPY *a.* + -LY^2.] In a skimpy manner or style.

1859 W. H. GREGORY *Egypt* I. 314 She would..have dressed herself more becomingly, and less skimpily. 1866 *Contemp. Rev.* II. 487 They are carelessly and 'skimpily' got up goods. 1887 FENN *Master Cerem.* iii, She recrossed the skimpily furnished drawing-room.

Ski·mpiness. [f. SKIMPY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being skimpy.

1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* xxxi, The faded and unknown hue of the substantial brocade, the skimpiness of the satin. 1884 *Punch* 2 Feb. 53 [A female] who had tried to make up for the skimpiness of her figure by the breadth of her hat-brim.

Ski·mping, *ppl. a.* [f. SKIMP *a.* and *v.*] Skimpy; marked by skimpiness.

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* xcv. (1783) III. 193 Sir, what a *skimping* waistcoat is here! neither cut, nor turn, nor slope, nor figure. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* III. 213 He was downright tired of the Skimping out-of-the-way doings as is here. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* I. vi. 125 A little milliner's girl in a skimping plaid shawl. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxii, The miserable, scrambling, skimping life we had lately been used to.

Hence **Ski·mpingly** *adv.*

1853 LYTTON *My Novel* III. xv, The Squire and his son Frank were large-hearted, generous creatures in the article of apology, as in all things less skimpingly dealt out.

Ski·mpings. *Mining.* [? alteration of *skimmings.*] (See quots.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 222 The water is poured off from the surface of the Tin, and the light waste upon it is skimmed off and laid by itself, to be buddled over again by the name of the Skimpings. *Ibid.* 238 The Ore swims uppermost, and is skimmed off in the manner of Tin skimpings. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 577 If divided into three, the two upper portions were termed top and bottom skimpings. 1860 *Eng. & Foreign Gloss.* (ed. 2) 23 (Cornwall terms), *Skimpings*, skimmings of the light ores, &c., in the dressing process.

Ski·mpling. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SKIMP *a.*] A stunted, not properly developed, person.

1890 G. ALLEN in *Universal Rev.* May 53 Let her parents marry her to no matter what rich fool, what undersized skimpling, what hereditary *crétin*.

Skimpy (ski·mpi), *a.* [f. SKIMP *a.* + -Y.] Of a scrimp, scanty, meagre, or spare character; stinted or stunted in some respect; lacking the proper fulness or size.

1847 *Mary, Star of the Sea* xxii. (1878) 325 Her grandmother..pulled a *skimpy* curtain one way across the window, in order to exclude the light. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXXV. Apr. 450/1 Contrasting advantageously with the pitiful skimpy garments of the English foot-soldier. 1883 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Ione* I. viii. 197 You must give me a whole hour to-morrow to make up for this skimpy call to-day.

Skimshander. = SCRIMSHAW.

1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whaleman's Adv.* xiii. 182 *Mux* and *skimshander* are the general names by which they express the ways in which whalemen busy themselves ..in working up sperm whales' jaws and teeth and right whale bone into boxes [etc.].

Skin, *sb.* Forms: 3– **skin** (3, 7 **skinn**), 4–6 **skyn** (4 **skiyn**, 5 **sckyn**), **skynn**, 3–6 **skynne**, 4–7 **skinne**; 4–6 **skine, skyne**; 4 **schin(ne, scinne, scyn**, 4–5 **scin.** [a. ON. *skinn* (Icel., Norw., and Sw. *skinn*, Da. *skind*) neut., for earlier **skinþ*, related to OHG. *scindan* (MHG. *schinden, schinten*, G. *schinden*), MLG. *schinden, schinnen*, Du. *schinden* to flay, peel, etc. Cf. also G. dial. *schind, schinde* skin of fruit, obs. Flem. *schinde* bark, rind (Kilian).]

I. 1. The integument of an animal stripped from the body, and usually dressed or tanned (with or without the hair), or intended for this purpose; a hide, pelt, or fur; also occas., an article made of this.

In technical use the *skins* of the smaller animals (as sheep, calves, etc.) are distinguished from the *hides* of the larger (as oxen).

c 1200 ORMIN 3210 Hiss girrdell wass off shepess skinn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3677 Wit a rugh skin sco hidd his hals. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cl. 4 Taburn is made of a dryid scyn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 359 His gulion, Which of the Skyn of a Leoun Was mad. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iii. (1883) 93 The Notayres skynners coryours and cardewaners werke by skynnes and hydes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 276 These be wolues in lambes skynnes. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* K ij, They have the skinne of the Hyena, which..will drawe the haire from the skinne of other beastes to it. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 173 Guilded leather.., three skins whereof were commonly sold for a Crowne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 588 Skins of Beasts, the rude Barbarians wear. 1750 tr *Leouardus' Mirr. Stones* 82 Some say, it should be wrapt in the skin of a calf. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 72 In a little while the skins began to make their appearance, a few at a time; they were laid down in the lodge. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 349/1 Beneath is stretched a leather apron, or 'skin', to catch the filings.

b. In phrases, esp. those (*a*) denoting premature action or too confident anticipation.

(*a*) 1567 *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 392 Theye coulde not marchaundyze for the beares skynne before they had hym. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* E viij, Selling the beares skinne which yet they had not taken. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. iii. 93 The man that once did sell the Lyons skin While the beast liu'd, was kill'd with hunting him. 1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) IV. III. 436 We must not dispose of the Bears Skin till the Bear be Dead. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* v. iii, Are ye dividing the skin while the lion lives? 1858 COSTELLO *Millionaire Mincing Lane* xvii. 146 That reckoning which sells the skin of the bear before the beast is captured. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 5/2, I do not like to divide the skin before we have caught the bear.

(*b*) 1570 *Cecil Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 489 You can have no more of the cat but the skin. 1582 T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 96 Besides his Skinne, the Fox hath nought to pay. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* iv. 6 Every Fox must pay his own skin to the flaier.

c. *slang.* (See quots.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Skins*, a tanner. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Skin*, a purse, a money bag. [Hence in later slang Dicts.] 1821 HAGGART *Life* 15 Young M'Guire had taken some skins with a few shillings in each. 1856 MAYHEW *Gt. World London* iii. (Farmer), Abstracting skins from gentlemen's pockets.

2. A complete hide of a sheep, calf, etc., or a part of one, specially prepared as parchment or vellum and used for writing or painting upon.

Cf. Icel. *skinn* parchment, and *-skinna* used in the names of manuscripts.

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Betere may ech man rede þe ilke zenne and þe opre ine þe boc of his inwyt þanne ine ane ssepes scinne. *a* 1375 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* xlvii. 308 He wrot so faste til þat he want, For his parchemyn-skin was so scant. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xi. 280 This Pygwade had well herde all that the kyng yon had sayd, & wrote it in a skynne of parchemente. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 32 A whole skin of parchment, and sometimes 2. or 3. skins will hardly serue. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* III. x. (1654) 274 It is not a small skin that would containe that Tome. 1679-88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 65 Writing, flourishing, and embellishing one large skinn of vellom with his said Majesties armes. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Parchment*, The Persians of old ..wrote all their records on skins. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* lx, The very skin of vellum Gerard had longed for. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 1 The ponderous deed of eight skins of parchment.

3. A vessel made of the hide of a small animal, such as a sheep or goat, and used for holding or carrying liquids, etc.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxx. (1870) 199 You shall draw your wyne out of one of the legges of the skyne. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1867/6 His Coach [was] visited, and a little Skin of Wine..taken out of it. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 54 We brought..Tar one Skin. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xl. 530 A native drawing two skins of oil. 1846 *Edin. Rev.* LXXXIV. 175 The best Xeres that ever smacked of the skin. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 40 [The army] carried its water supplies with it in skins.

fig. 1874 G. C. HUTTON in Oliver *Life* (1910) viii. 82 You cannot keep Christianity in the old bottles of Constantine. It is continually bursting the legislative skins.

II. 4. The continuous flexible integument forming the usual external covering of an animal body; also, one or other of the separate layers of which this is composed, the derma or epidermis.

1340 *Ayenb.* 81 Ac oure eyen byeþ fyeble, þet ne zyeþ bote þet skin wyþ-oute. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1229 Marcia that lost her skyn Bothe in face, body, and chyn. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 11 Pyke a-way clene þe bonys an þe Skyn, an bray hym in a morter. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e iij b, All [animals] that bere skyne and talow and Roungе. 1508 DUNBAR *Twa Mariit Wemen* 93 To see him scart his awin skyn grit scunner I think. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xvii. (1870) 276 Refrayne from eatynge of the skynnes of fysshe and flesshe, & bornet meate. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 237 Their women are white, hauing blacke haires and a most delicate skinne. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b, The skinne in the seahorse is so thick, that speares may be made thereof. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 201 The true Skin, and all its innumerable Glands. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 56 The skin of children newly brought forth, is always red. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 92 By circumscribed œdema, or a slight blush on the skin. 1880 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. p. xx, The skin or tegumentary system may be entirely or partially scaleless.

Prov. 1419 *26 Pol. Poems* 70 It is worthy he smerte and be wo, þat of his owen skyn wole kerue a thong.

b. *fig.* (See quots.)

Quot. 1579 echoes Persius *Sat.* v. 116 'veterem pelliculam retines', which Cooper (1565) renders 'thou art the olde man still; thou hast still thine olde skinne'.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 133/1 We shall be alwayes in part lead away with our old skin, and there will be great remnants of the old man in vs. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* II. ii, They skip into my lord's cast skins some twice a year. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xxxiv, That great epoch, when vanity casts off its first skin. 1856 MAYHEW *Gt. World London* 39 The wealth in which the merchants of Rag Fair deal..is merely the offal of the well-to-do—the skins sloughed by gentility. 1896 *Daily News* 1 June 3/2 Mr. Tree may be said..to have got into 'the skin of the part', as the French have it.

c. Without article, as a material.

1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 88 When skin is exposed to solutions containing tannin, it slowly combines with that principle.

5. In allusive phrases: a. Denoting oppressive or severe treatment, or summary punishment

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 73 Þus, as god seiþ of tyrauntis, þei taken here skyn fro þe bak. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 32 Þey pluckede the plomayle from þe pore skynnes. *Ibid.* 126 3e..plucked and pulled hem anon to þe skynnes. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 96 She can bringe the Iudges skynne ouer hys eares. *Ibid.* 97 He wyll for wyddowes sakes..plucke ye Iudges skinnes ouer theyr heades. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 55 Many..who in regard of their age,..being esteemed as dead men, haue made young men to tremble and quake, who earst purposed to plucke their skin ouer their eares.

b. *Skin and bone(s)*, denoting extreme emaciation or leanness. Also, a very lean person.

c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 73 Ful of fleissche Y was to fele, Now..Me is lefte But skyn & boon. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V*, 16 b, In..whose reigne she dyed, when she had nothyng but a reueled skynne and bone. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 134 Yet art thou skyn and bone. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 251 My self being nothing but skin and bone, as one that languished in a Consumption. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 22 She languished and pined away to skin and bones. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 201 Her features are so regular..that were she only skin and bone, she must be a beauty. 1827 *Perils & Captivity* (Constable's Misc.) 224 We arrived, extenuated and reduced to skin and bone. 1888 W. D. LIGHTHALL *Young Seigneur* 73 'Heh, heh, heh!' cried an old skin-and-bones.

c. *To sleep in a whole skin*, etc., to escape being wounded, to remain uninjured.

1555 J. PROCTOR *Hist. Wyat's Rebellion* 45 The common saiynge, Good to slepe in a whole skinne. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 114 The foole is crafty inough to sleepe in a whole skin. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXII. xxi. 823 b, To enter into no armes at all, to sit still and sleepe in a hole skin. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 110 Be gon in a moment, as you hope to sleep in a whole skin. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* ii. 16 The Algerines are a very timorous sort of People, willing to sleep in a whole Skin. 1813 SOUTHEY *March to Moscow* x, He was besides in a very great fright, For a whole skin he liked to be in. 1897 W. E. NORRIS *Marietta's Marriage* xliii, We'll assume ..that your anxiety to keep a whole skin justified you in taking to your heels.

† d. *As the skin between one's brows*, etc., used to emphasize the force of an adjective. *Obs.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii. 121, I am as true, I wold thou knew, as skin betwene thy browes! 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, *Punt.* Is he magnanimous? *Gent.* As the skin between your brows, sir. 1614 — *Barth. Fair* IV. iii, Tou shalt be as honest as the skin between his hornsh. *a* 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iv, I am as honest as the skin that is Between thy Brows.

e. *To the skin*, through all one's garments; hence, thoroughly, completely. Also, leaving no clothing on the body.

(*a*) 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 84 After these iiij had been searched unto their skinnes, and nothing found upon them. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 7 This contentious storme Inuades vs to the skin. 1611 COTGR., *Traversé*,..wet through, or (as we say) to the skinne. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. (1783) 14, I don't believe..that they were ever wet to the skin in their lives.

(*b*) 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 749 The Sauages..giuing all to their naked skinne..for the trifles he gaue them. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* v. v, We were boarded, pillaged to the skin, and after Twice sold for slaves. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxxiv. (1640) 181 The Egyptians would rather sell themselves to the skinne, yea sell themselves and all, then they would..take corne by force.

f. *Out of one's skin*, denoting excessive exertion, or more usually (with *jump*, etc.) extreme delight, excitement, high spirits, or surprise.

(*a*) 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 38 Hymselfe as one ready to leape out of hys skynne for joy,..declared [etc.]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 94 The marchant, if his gaines doe safe come in, Is with joy ready to leape out on's skiane. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxxvi. (1713) 283 How transported are my Spirits,..that I am ready even to skip out of my skin for Joy! 1732 FIELDING *Miser* v. i, I am ready to leap out of my skin for joy. 1798 COLMAN *Blue Devils* I. i, 'Twould make me jump out of my skin with joy. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. vii, Scipio..was ready to jump out of his skin for joy at the sight of me. 1860 TROLLOPE *Castle Richmond* III. xiii. 246 So is we all ould frinds, an we're all glad—out of our skins wid gladness. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* xv. 101 The horse..looked in splendid condition, 'fit to jump out of his skin', to use a racing term.

(*b*) 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 40 The souldiour may fight himselfe out of his skinne. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii, Why should he be made..to drive the poor beast out of its skin?

g. *By* (or *with*) *the skin of one's teeth*, with difficulty, narrowly, barely.

In the original form *with*, etc., the phrase is a literal translation from the Hebrew text of *Job* xix. 20; the Vulgate and Septuagint render the passage differently.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Job* xix. 20, I haue escaped with the skinne of my tethe. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempt. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 510 He reckoned himself only escaped with the skin of his teeth, that he had nothing left. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 109 Skin o' my teeth, I guess, if it hadn't been for Watty boy. 1893 *Nation* 9 Feb. 99/2 His eldest son was implicated in the robbery..., and came off by the skin of his teeth. 1894 SALA *Lond. Up to Date* 66, I got in by the skin of my teeth.

h. *To save one's skin*, to save oneself from loss or injury.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* Index, Æquivocating with our conscience..for the saving of our owne skin, is abominable. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* liv. 54 Dangerous Civilities.., wherein 'tis a Hard Matter for a Man to Save, both his Skin, and his Credit. 1890 W. STEBBING *Peterborough* viii. 155 A poltroon who was ever considering how to save his skin. 1898 DOYLE *Tragedy Korosko* v, He was taken prisoner.. and had to turn Dervish to save his skin.

i. Miscellaneous phrases (see quots.).

For the Sc. *skin and birn*, see BURN *sb.*[3] 2 b.

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, III. i, Thou shalt both have thy skin full of wine and the rest of thy money. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* II. ii. (1670) 236 We must discern the skin from the shirt. *c* 1680 SOUTH *Serm.* (1715) I. 36 If Mens Religion lies no deeper than their Skin. 1732-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conv.* 46 Why where should she be? You must needs know; she's in her Skin. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 560 To express the Condition of an Honest Fellow..under the Effects of good Fellowship, it is said that he [has]..Got his Skin full. 1790 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Feb., I shall pity those men when the book comes out!—I would not be in their skins! 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T., In a bad skin*, out of temper, in an ill humour. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To be in another's skin,' to be in his place or situation. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 221 Him who sticks so in his skin. *Ibid.* 224 Messer Angiolieri's slipped his skin. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. ii. (1872) VI. 142 It is certain Voltaire was a fool..not to have a thicker skin. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Holmby House* I. xi. 151 Lady Carlisle laughed under the skin.

6. A membrane covering any internal part of an animal body.

Gold-beater's skin: see GOLD-BEATER 1 b.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 169 þe stomak & þe guttis is ordeyned a skyn, þat is clepid þe siphac. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 69 Swynez grese wele y-clensed of þe litel skynnez and smal y-kutted. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 749 *Hoc fren*, the sckyn of the brayne. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* II. ix. (1639) 84 If the skins [pleuræ] which be joyned all the length of the breast within be inflammate. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., The internal Skin of the inner Cavities. 1702 J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 7 The two Skins of the Mesentery. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1138 Skins may be expectorated abundantly.

7. Anything which resembles skin in nature or use; an outer coat or covering of anything.

a. The outer covering of certain fruits and vegetables; the peel or rind; also, the bark or rind of a tree or plant.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clv. (Bodl. MS.), Plinius..seiþ þat frute of siliqua is swete:..and þe skynne þerof is yȝete. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 22 b, You shal take the rootes of..wilde Mallow, and scrape from them cleane their skinne or barke. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. i. 56 The skinne [of the leek] is good for your broken Coxcombe. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 81 The body of this plant is soft,..and between the skins, water issues forth as you cut it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 34 The Cucumbers are so good in Aleppo, that..the Francks also eat them green, skin and all. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 126, I have often seen the very Skin, or Rind of the young Roots left behind in drawing. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 190 The moment the skin [of the apple] is first cut. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 1 (ed. 2) 160 Red grapes may be made to yield a 'white' wine..; but if the skins be left in the fermenting mass [etc.]. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 511 Yellow pine timber ..placed at first skin to skin, and afterward 2 feet apart.

b. A pellicle, a film. Also *fig.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 64 Those remedies whiche ought..to drawe a skinne ouer my wound. 1671 GREW *Anat. Pl.* I. ii. (1684) 15 The Cuticle becomes a Skin; as we see in the growing of the Coats of Cheeses, of the Skin over divers Liquors, and the like. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* viii. 98 For the skin of the Bubble is Water. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 385 In the same manner take off a second skin that will form on the surface of the Lead. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Calculus*, etc. 279 The heat of boiling water would not..produce a skin upon milk without the presence of air. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xiii. 110 Covered with gauze or muslin, or with a skin of dried skimmed milk. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 81 It is this white solid substance which forms the thin skin on the surface of the water.

c. In miscellaneous uses (see quots.).

1611 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. ii. 29 As fit..as the pudding to his skin. 1677 *Descript. Diamond Mines* in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 243 The Diamonds..are very well spread, large Stones.., they have generally a bright Skin. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 94 It enables the land..to come speedily to a good skin (as we term it), or coat of grass. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* ii. 12 If they [Laurentian hills] could be flattened out they would serve as a skin much too large for mother earth in her present state. 1894 *Nature* 26 July 289 Observations hitherto made in the earth's outer skin.

d. The surface of a piece of cast or rolled metal.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 425/1 The removal of the exterior *skin* of a casting greatly increases the corrosive

action of salt water and its combined air. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* App. 54 It is used to form a hard and impenetrable *skin* to a piece of grey cast iron by the process called *chilling*.

e. *Arch.* The facing of a wall, in contrast to the material in the heart of it.

1884 *Mil. Engin.* I. II. 84 To have only a thin skin on the outside which could readily be knocked out by a crowbar. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Nov. 6/5 The disintegrated condition of the inner masonry..rendered impossible the project..of replacing the inside masonry without disturbing the 'skin'.

8. *Naut.* a. The planking, or iron plating, covering the ribs or frame of a vessel.

(*a*) 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Planking* is sometimes called 'laying on the skin', by the artificers. 1814 *Phil. Trans.* CIV. II. 287 The ribs are covered by a skin of greater or less substance from the extreme ends of them to the keel or back bone. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxxii. 444 The entire bulkhead was in a blaze, as well as the dry timbers and skin of the brig. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 629 *Skin*, this term is frequently used for the inside planking of a vessel, the outside being the *case*. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 4/1 The boat is most substantially constructed;..the skin being of mahogany three-eighths of an inch thick.

(*b*) 1862 *Times* 7 Mar., The 18 inches of wood between the armour and iron skin. 1883 NARES *Constr. Ironclad* 5 The plates forming the outer and inner bottoms or *skins* are rivetted on.

b. (See first quot.)

1841 TOTTEN *Naval Text Bk.* 394 *Skin*, that part of a sail, when furled, which remains outside and covers the whole. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 49 What cloth will you take for furling the spanker in a skin? The third from the leech. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 134 Gather up the skin, shaking the slack sail well down into it.

9. Used as a term of contempt.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Skin*, a term applied to a person, as expressive of the greatest contempt; as 'Ye're naething but a nasty skin'. 1889 *Century Mag.* Dec. 227 Occasionally he would refer to the president of the Off-shore Wrecking Company, his former employer, as 'that skin'.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

10. Attrib. a. In sense 'of, in, connected with, the skin', as *skin-disease, -furrow, -tint*, etc.

This type is very common in recent medical works.

1615 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 349 Betwixt the fleshy membrane and the skinne runne certaine vessels called *Skinveines*. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* Wks (Grosart) IV. 16 'Tis a pitiful giddy..insect, ingendered..in every marish, can but run a pore thorow and give but a skinne-wound. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 57 Lay the feet over them the skin side up. 1864 W. T. FOX *Skin Dis.* 15 The unchangeable elements, in the teaching of skin pathology. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 363/1 Pellagra, at one time, the name of a loathsome skin-disease. 1880 *Nature* 28 Oct. 605 On the Skin-furrows of the Hand. 1896 *Peterson's Mag.* VI. 231/2 The skin-tints are less clear and warm than the same painter's 'Bubbles'.

b. In sense 'made, or consisting, of skin', as *skin-boat, -bottle, -canoe, -case*, etc.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 214 Our costly skinne-cases could keepe vs from consuming to dust. 1647 J. TRAPP *Comm. Luke* i. 59 A skin-bottle hanging in the smoke of filthy desires. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 128 This plate is to be moved round,..rubbing it with a small skin cushion. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) II. 155 We..nearly completed the frame of a skin Canoe. 1827 J. HOLMES *Hist. United Brethren* i. (ed. 2) 7 The skin-boat is..from forty to fifty feet long, and proportionally broad and deep. 1871 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 246 Skin shoes tied about the ankle with neat thongs. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 123 He carried a small skin wallet slung to his waist.

11. Objective. a. With pres. pples., as *skin-breaking, -clipping, -piercing, -plastering*, etc.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 226 Those skin-playstring Painters. 1599 — *Lenten Stuff* ibid. V. 229 The curtaild skinclipping pagans. 1611 COTGR., *Ratoire*,.. a skinne-breaking oyntment. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 141 Arrowy sleet, Skin-piercing volley, blossom-bruising hail. 1889 J. J. THOMAS *Froudacity* 40 The skin-discriminating policy induced..since the abolition of slavery. 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl Karp.* 244, I listened open-eyed to the herd's bear statistics, literally skin-clamming as these were.

b. With verbal sbs., as *skin-cutting, -grafting, -healing*, etc.

1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxvii, The other three are picked men, who will not fear their skin-cutting. 1860 TOMLINSON *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Leather* 25 When they are in the state of pelt, they are split...This is effected by means of a..machine called the 'skin-splitting machine'. 1876 *Clinical Soc. Trans.* IX. 30 During this period skin grafting was practised continuously. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 380 Manipulations cannot be begun upon wounded surfaces until skin-healing is complete.

c. With agent-nouns, as *skin-dealer, -dresser, -hunter, -preserver*.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Skin-dealer. Ibid., Skin-dresser*, a currier, or furrier. 1890 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 7/1 A brother..who carried on business as a furrier and skin-dresser. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 794/1 Wholesale slaughter by skin-hunters has nearly destroyed the Platypus in some districts. 1893 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 5/5 No fewer than three taxidermists or skin preservers.

12. a. With past pples., as *skin-built, -clad, -peeled, -spread*.

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Persius* (1673) 294 Who without heed.. praise thee so, That (skin-peel'd asse!) thy self dost first cry, Hoe! 1823 JOANNA BAILLIE *Poems* 260 Whilst travellers from their skin-spread couches rise. 1846 H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Horace* II. vi, Galesus' tide, Sweet to the skin-clad flocks. 1883 *Boats of World* 27 Two examples of skin-built canoes. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 113/2 Stilicho..planted the cruel Goths, his 'skin-clad' minions, in the very sanctuary of the empire.

b. Misc., as *skin-like* adj., (*to the*) *skinward* adv.

1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 302 That wears Linen above, and woollen to the Skinward. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 82 *Skinny*, or *Skin-like*..tough, thin, and semi-transparent, like gold beater's skin. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 9 Gelatinous skin-like integument of the compound body.

13. Special combs.: **skin-bone**, an ossification in or of the skin; **skin-book**, a book made of parchment or vellum; **skin-bound** *a.*, having the skin tensely drawn; hide-bound; **skin-eater**, a moth or beetle which infests and destroys prepared skins or furs; **skin-faro**, *U.S.* (see quot. and *skin game*); **skin-finish**, a particular style of chasing in bronze; **skin-food**, a preparation for improving the skin; **skin friction**, the friction developed between a solid and a fluid or gaseous body; **skin game** (see quots.); **skin-graft** *v.*, to subject to the process of skin-grafting; **skinman**, a skin-dresser or skin-dealer; **skin-mark**, a merchant's mark; **skin-merchant**, a skin-dealer (see also quot.); **skin-plating**, metal plating forming the skin of a vessel; †**skin-prints**, tattoo-marks; **skin-scraper**, a strigil; **skin-sensory** *a.*, of or pertaining to the skin together with the sensory apparatus; **skin-vision**, the power of perceiving distinctions of light by means of the skin; **skin-wool**, wool taken from the skin of a dead sheep; **skin-worm**, the Guinea worm; **skin-yard**, a yard used for the working of skins.

1862 COCKAYNE *St. Marherete* Title-p., Now First Edited from the *Skin Books. 1883 G. STEPHENS *Bugge's Stud. North. Myth. Examined* 33 The oldest known Swedish skin-book dates after 1250. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 130 Of which [tightness of the skin] further notice will be taken under the article of *Skin-bound. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 136 Except in a very close room, I feel as if skin-bound for days together. 1882 M°CABE *New York* XXXIX. 545 *Skin-faro..offers no chance whatever to the player. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 19/2 This mode of chasing, called..in English '*skin-finish', is..only found on work of the best class. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 518/2 The two principal causes of the resistance to the motion of a ship are the *skin friction and the production of waves. 1882 M°CABE *New York* XXXIX. 545 The '*skin game' is used, with the majority of the visitors, for the proprietor is determined from the outset to fleece them without mercy. 1897 R. F. FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 623 *Skin Games*, those in which a player cannot possibly win. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 May, Epit. Med. Lit. 74 The wound should be allowed to granulate and subsequently be *skin grafted. 1788 BIDDLE *Autobiogr.* (1883) 227 *Skinmen, breechesmakers and glovers. 1736 H. BOURNE *Hist. Newcastle* 89 There are higher up this Isle..other Three Characters, which are the Merchants *Skin-mark. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* I. 278 *note*, Skin marks were not used instead of arms, but rather as distinct insignia appropriated to the profession of merchandise. *a* 1792 BURGOYNE *Lord of Manor* III. ii. (D.), I am..vulgarly called a recruiting dealer, or more vulgarly still, a *skin-merchant. 1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* ix. 174 The fastenings of the stringer angle-irons connecting it with the *skin-plating. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 237 The chief men and women have *skin-prints, as a brave kind of Gallantry. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 555/1 Blunted strigils or *skin-scrapers. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. of Man* I. ix. 270 The first of the secondary germ-layers, the *skin-sensory-layer. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 399 Experiments with regard to the '*skin-vision' of animals. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nature of Wool* 340 The *skin-wool is not usually found most plentiful where the stock of sheep is most heavy. 1884 W. S. B. M°LAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 71 With short wool, especially if it be skin wool, the rollers should be closed up. 1857 tr. *Küchenmeister's Anim. & Veg. Parasites* I. 308 Amongst the Germans it is known as ..the *skin worm,..leg-worm,..and Pharaoh's-worm. 1879 E. R. LANKESTER *Advancem. Sci.* (1890) 40 The skin-worm (*Demodex folliculorum*). 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Apr. 4/7 A fire occurred..in Mr. Pryce Parry's *skinyard and wool warehouse.

Skin, variant of SKEEN.

Skin, *v.* Also 6–7 **skyn, skinne** (6 **scinne**). [f. SKIN *sb.* Cf. Norw. *skinna* to cover with skin.]

I. 1. *trans.* To furnish or cover with skin; to cause skin to form or grow on; to heal by the formation of skin. Also with *over*.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cix. 41 b, After that incarnat the place and so skyn it. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 39/2 We must..with an exsiccating plaster cure them, and soe skinne them. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 55 Fresh-Butter skinnes the rawnesse of the throate. 1697 DRYDEN *Ded. Æneid* Ess. (Ker) II. 210 The wound was skinned; but the strength of his thigh was not restored. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* I. x, He looks like a death's head skinned over for the occasion.

absol. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 272 It [aloe] is..a great healer, and that which vniteth & skinneth quickly.

b. In fig. contexts. †Also with *up*.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 147 It will but skin and filme the Vlcerous place. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) II. xx. 253 They had skin'd up the sore, and yet, it breaks out in their Soul again. *c* 1750 WARBURTON *Serm.* ii. Wks. 1811 IX. 47 The wounds, our own earth hath formerly received, ..which though skinned over by time and human culture, are seen. 1796 COLERIDGE *The Destiny of Nations* 420 Short Peace shall skin the wounds of causeless War. 1880 M°CARTHY *Own Times* lx. IV. 337 He does not seem to have considered the difference between skinning over a wound and healing it.

c. *fig.* To cover (*over*) in some slight or superficial manner.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 136 Authoritie..Hath yet a kinde of medicine in it selfe That skins the vice o' th top.

1650 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 191 It is to be feared your Amsterdam affaires are rather skinned than cured. 1658–9 SIR A. HASLERIGGE in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 104 It may be skinned over for a time, but will break out. The people are not pleased. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 289 It is only their assured and confident expectation..that skins over their mischievous dispositions with a momentary quiet. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. x, The objects of which (so thinly were they skinned over) were just as evident to Emma as to Lady Frances. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* ix. (1865) I. 372 This open rupture was with difficulty skinned over at the last moment.

2. a. *fig.* To clothe, attire. *rare.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, You never skin'd a new[? = anew] beautie more prosperously in your life. 1620 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* II. ii, Off with your husks; I'le skin you all in Sattin.

b. To cover with a skin or skins. *rare* —1.

1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 10 The jarres are all fild, stoped close, skyned, and marked with the distinction of the fruits.

c. *absol.* To put a good skin on cattle. *rare* —1.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 190 The largest pasture..will neither *skin* nor *tallow*, or, in other words, is fit for nothing but young stock.

d. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* s.v., *To Skin up a Sail in the Bunt*, is to make that part of the canvas which covers the sail when furled, smooth and neat, by turning the sail well up on the yard. 1841 TOTTEN *Naval Text Bk.* 394 To skin the sail up smooth is to turn it well up, and so as to cover the sail neatly and smoothly.

e. *Shipbuilding.* (See quot.)

c 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 141, Planking is often termed *skinning* the ship.

3. *intr.* To form skin; to become covered with skin; to grow a new skin; to heal *over* in this way. Also *fig.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 181 The sooner it skinneth, the sorer it festereth. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 124 Her excoriated carkasse began to skin again. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 345 All suckers must be cut away from the root, and the place..smoothed with a knife; for then it will soon skin over. 1829 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 129 If the ulcer skins over in that way, the quacks will exult in having wrought a cure. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 392 The centre [of the ulcer] granulated and skinned naturally. 1891 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* XXXV, The hole in his skull skinned over.

II. 4. *trans.* To strip or deprive of the skin; to flay; to peel.

1591 PERCIVALL *Span. Dict., Desollar..*, to skin, to pul off the skin. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 246 The Crocodile is very strong, and one day as I caused one of them..to be skinned [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pears*, When they are off the Fire, stir, skin them, and squeeze about half a Lemon upon them. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 3 Apr. 1779, A fishmonger who was skinning an eel alive. 1853 SOYER *Pantropheon* 167 It was necessary to skin the bird very carefully. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 210 They may skin me alive, if they please.

b. To rub or scrape the skin off; to bark. Also *transf.*

1855 JARVES *Art Hints* 383 Almost every one of his pictures have been more or less skinned, to use an expressive term, by the carelessness of cleaners. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiii. 167 It is the same hummock you skinned your shins upon. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 97 My feet were already skinned in several places.

c. In phrases denoting excessive meanness or desire for gain, esp. *to skin a flint.*

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vii, May I be broil'd like a Red-herring, if I don't think they are wise enough to skin a Flint. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 195 Report says, that she would skin a flint if she could. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 134 They'd skin a flea for his hide and tallow. 1859 LEVER *D. Dunn* IV, I was..brought up amongst fellows would skin a cat. 1884 [see FLINT *sb.* 4].

5. To strip or pull *off* (a skin, etc.); to remove by drawing off inside out.

1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 228 They skin off your skin. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 11 Having, carefully skinned off the Film with the edge of the Slice. 1759 MARTIN *Nat. Hist.* I. 28 Turf of the Ground, skinned off, and burnt to Ashes. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxi, Skin the stockings off,..or you'll bust 'em.

transf. 1896 LILLARD *Poker Stories* ii. 59 Many a time I've seen a game player just skin off his watch and ring.. and play them in.

6. *intr.* To shed or cast the skin; to lose the skin by rubbing.

1772 *Ann. Reg.* 96/2 It skins every year; and its skin is said to be a remedy against the cramp. 1908 GILBERT MURRAY tr. *Aristoph., Frogs* I. ii, When all my shoulder's skinning, simply skinning.

7. *slang.* a. *trans.* To clean out (a person) at play.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., To strip a man of all his money at play, is termed *skinning* him. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 19 Oct., The gamblers did their best to give us fits; but in less than half an hour, sir, the little squaw she skinned the crowd. 1889 H. O'REILLY *Fifty Yrs. on Trail* 343 In less than two or three hours [to] be skinned out of every cent.

b. To strip (*of* clothing or money); to fleece by exactions or swindling.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 71 Perhaps he gets 'skinned' (stripped of his clothes and money from being hocussed, or tempted to helpless drunkenness). 1892 *Spectator* 12 Mar. 364/2 Suppose the Emigration Trusts skin the emigrants until they stop emigration. 1898 *Eclectic Mag.* LXVII. 607 Some new device is invented for enmeshing and skinning the investor.

c. *Skin the lamb* (see quots.).

1864 *Slang Dict.* 232 *Skin the Lamb*, a game at cards, a

very expressive corruption of the term lansquenet... When a non favourite wins a race 'bookmakers' are said to skin the lamb. 1883 *Graphic* 21 Apr. 410/2 The Ring are enormous winners on the race, the majority having 'skinned the lamb'.

8. To exhaust or impoverish by excessive fishing, cropping, etc.

1867 F. Francis *Angling* vii. (1880) 274 He does not want to skin the stream. 1895 *Forum* (N.Y.) Sept. 8 To renovate the soil which had been 'skinned' in the days of slavery.

9. *U.S. slang.* a. *trans.* and *intr.* To copy or crib.

1849 *Yale Lit. Mag.* XV. 81 Never skin a lesson which it requires any ability to learn. 1851 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (1852) 381 Classical men were continually tempted to 'skin' (copy) the solutions of these examples. 1851 B. H. Hall *College Words & Customs* 430 'At Yale College,.. in our examinations,' says a correspondent, 'many of the fellows cover the palms of their hands with dates, and when called upon for a given date, they read it off directly from their hands. Such persons *skin*'.

b. *trans.* To abscond, make off, slip away. Also with *out*, to depart hastily.

1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* (1877) 254 You jest gether up your traps and skin out of this. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 442/1 The hero..would never have been one could he have skinned for cover in time.

c. With *out*: To produce, display.

c 1895 *Thompson St. Poker Cl.* 42 Mr. Williams proudly skinned out three jacks and a pair of kings.

d. To glance over, examine.

1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 174 Each man skinned his cards and tried his hardest to look disappointed.

10. In phrases used as adjs.

1869 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 203 If you had passed a week at this skin-'em-alive place. 1891 Miss MacEwen *Three Women in One Boat* 87 A good old skin-your-nose encounter.

Skin-coat. Also 6 **skyn coit, skincote, -coate.** [f. Skin *sb.* + Coat *sb.*]

1. A coat made of skin.

1533 *Acc. Lord High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 181 To begary the samyne doublet, and to begary ane skyn coit, v ¼ quarteris velvet. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 76 Am not I a Gentleman, though tirde in a shepheardes skincote.

† 2. *transf.* A person's skin. *Obs.*

1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 9, I will lay on load on your skincoat for this geare anon. *a* 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, i. Proh., Ay engraned the memory of Boughon on the skincoate of some of them. 1611 Cotgr., *Escailler*,..to beat, bethwacke, belabor the skin-coat of. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. xvii, I will have their skin-coat shaken once yet before they die.

† **Skind,** *v.* *Obs.*—[1] [a. ON. *skynda* (so mod. Icel., Norw., and Sw.; Da. *skynde*), = OE. *scyndan*, OS. *skundian*, etc.] *trans.* To hasten.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1989 De chapmen skinden here fare, In to egipte ledden ðat ware.

Skin-deep, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Skin *sb.* 4 + Deep *a.* and *adv.*]

A. *adj.* Penetrating no deeper than the skin; superficial, shallow, slight: a. As a proverbial limitation of beauty, or in similar connexions.

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. Wks. (1856) 37 All the carnall beauty of my wife, is but skin-deep. 1687 Boyle *Martyrd. Theodora* iv. (1703) 49 Nor any of our sex ought to think skin-deep beauty as great a blessing, as 'tis an applauded one. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* iv. ii, Beauty that's only skin deep Must fade like the gowans of May. 1740-1 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. xcix. 484 Beauty is but a specious..recommendation, a mere skin-deep perfection. 1854 Spencer *Personal Beauty* Ess. (1891) II. 394 The saying that beauty is but skin-deep, is but a skin-deep saying. 1869 M'Laren *Serm.* Ser. II. v. 79 Moses' face shone, but the lustre was but skin deep.

b. Of wounds, incisions, etc. Also *transf.*

a 1633 Overbury *Charac., Ordinary Fencer* Wks. (1856) 112 His wounds are seldome above skin-deep. 1805 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 30 The skin-deep scratches, which we can make or find on the surface of the earth. 1841 Emerson *Method of Nat.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 222 But the thunder is a surface phenomenon, makes a skin-deep cut. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xix. 566 As for his wounds, they were literally skin-deep.

c. *fig.* in various contexts.

1657 Trapp *Comm., Ps.* xvi. 9 Their joy is but skin-deep. 1677 Hornbeck *Gt. Law Consid.* vii. (1704) 399 A few slight and skin-deep reflexions. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* xii. 434 Denoting the skin-deep joy of ungodly men. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) II. x. 130 Skin-deep and short-lived allurements. 1825 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 362 The little faults are all skin-deep, and she is excellent. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkback* 251 The effect upon the hearers was, after all, but skin-deep.

B. *adv.* To the depth of the skin; in a superficial manner; superficially, slightly.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* vii. xiv, Caro, cursed damme of sinne,..Yet seems (skin-deep) most fair. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 218 They have little horns which grow but skin-deep, mooving them as their ears. 1702 Steele *Funeral* II, When I know her further than Skin-deep, I'll tell you more of my mind. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* Wks. 1842 II. 288 Stings that have penetrated more than skin-deep into my mind. 1864 Kingsley *Rom. & Teut.* iv. (1875) 100 He was but a wild man of the woods..polished over skin-deep with Roman civilization.

Ski·nflint. Also 7–9 **skin-flint.** [f. Skin *v.* 4 c + Flint *sb.*] One who would skin a flint to save or gain something; an avaricious, penurious, mean or niggardly person; a miser.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Skin-flint*, a griping,.. close-fisted Fellow. 1762 A. Murphy *Citizen* II. i. An old miserly good for nothing skin-flint. 1791 A. Wilson *Laurel Disputed* Poet. Wks. (1846) 125 How skin-flint graned his pocks o' goud to loss. 1816 Scott *Antiquary* xi, It would have been long..ere my womankind could have made such a reasonable bargain with that old skinflint. 1840 Thackeray *Catherine* x, It is a pity that old skinflint should be in the way of both your fortunes. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 226 Which sum the captain, who was a regular skinflint, said was far too much.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Miserly, mean.

1789 Parker *Life's Painter* xiv. 114 The miser, that skin-flint old elf. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* v. (1857) 86 The skin-flint wife of a 'paper minister'. 1895 Zangwill *Master* II. vii, By persuading some small skinflint dealer to cheat him.

Hence **Ski·nflinty** *a.*, niggardly; **Ski·nflintily** *adv.*, in a niggardly manner; **Ski·nflintiness, Ski·nflintism,** niggardliness, parsimony.

1861 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Feb. 170 Love of approbation,..for the time, conquers her native skinflintiness. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 10 July, The rewards of 'skinflintism' are not great in the long run. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 6/1 He behaved skin-flintily to Max Müller. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 431/2 The man with the skinflinty heart.

Ski·nful. Also 9 -full. [f. Skin *sb.* + -ful.]

1. The quantity contained within the skin.

1650 Howell *Lett.* III. 4, I could willingly..return this small skinfull of Bones to my common Mother.

2. A quantity that fills a skin vessel.

1802 Southey *King Ramiro* xii, So he gave him .. a skinful of wine to quench his thirst. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* II. 195 That simple skinful of water which..is the life of men passing a desert. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 652/1 Well do I remember how at each well the first skinful [of water] was tasted all around.

3. As much as the skin can hold: a. As much as any one can drink.

1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. 234 When he has no liquor at all, or when he has a skinfull. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* (1869) 348 On this night I had my little skinful,—for there was no stinting. 1886 W. Graham *Social Problem* 203 Why should I work, when I..can get my skinful?

b. *transf.* A full allowance; as much as one wants or cares for.

a 1779 D. Graham *Leper the Taylor* I. Writ. 1883 II. 116 Poor Sandy went home with a skinful of terror. 1869 W. S. Gilbert *Bab Ball., Sir Macklin* v, He wept to think each thoughtless youth Contained of wickedness a skinful. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Dec. 501 His men had had a skinful of fighting and short commons just before.

Skink (skiŋk), *sb.*[1] *Zool.* Forms: α. 6, 9 **scinc,** 7, 9 **scinck,** 7–9 **scink.** β. 7 **skinke,** 8 **skinc(k,** 6– **skink.** [a. older F. *scinc* (now *scingue*), or ad. L. *scincus*, ad. Gr. *σκίγκος*.] A small lizard (*Scincus officinalis*) common in northern Africa and Arabia, formerly regarded as of great value in medicine for its stimulative qualities; also, any lizard belonging to the same family (the *Scincidæ*).

α. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* 182 Also the parts of scinces which embrace the reines. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 693 There have been some that have reckoned Scinks and Lizards among worms. 1682 Grew *Musæum* I. iii. 48 The Scink..hath..short Legs, a flat and broad Foot like a Hand, with very short Toes. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 246 Gulls, the scink, the leech,..&c. are all said to feel.. approaching changes of weather. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 281 The Scink is one of the middle-sized or smaller lizards. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 275 Herbivorous..scinks, called, on account of the shape of the teeth, *cyclodus*. 1872 Humphry *Myology* 37 In the Scinc this portion..is quite separate in its whole length.

β. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 200 Th' horned Cerastes, th' Alexandrian Skink. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 316 Much like to this kind is the Skink (whom some haue named the land Crocodile). 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 171 Skincks.—Some Authors have ascribed much to these as Alexipharmicks. 1831 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* IX. 237 The skink of pharmacopolists..does not exceed the length of six or eight inches. 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 296 The Skink inhabits the western and northern parts of Africa.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1790 J. White *Jrnl. Voy. N. S. Wales* 242 The Scincoid, or Skinc-formed Lizard. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 166 The skink tribe..are a very numerous family.

Skink, *sb.*[2] Now *rare.* Also 7 **skinck, skinke.** [In sense 1 ad. early mod. Du. or LG. *schenke*, repr. MDu., MLG., and MHG. *schenke* (rarely *schinke*), OS. *skenkio*, OHG. *scenko*, *scencho*, etc. In sense 2 from Skink *v.*]

1. A skinker; a tapster or waiter. In later use only *spec.* (see quot. 1847).

1603 J. Davies (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 21/1 O Skinck, how blessed wert thou in his loue That drue thee on. 1786 *Francis the Philanthropist* I. 172 Mr. Francis and his companion had friends of every rank, from the humble skinke to the dignified..doctor. 1847 Halliw. s.v., In a family the person latest at breakfast is called the *skink*, or the *skinker*, and some domestic office is imposed or threatened for the day, such as ringing the bell, putting coal on the fire, or, in other cases, drawing the beer for the family.

2. a. *Sc.* Drink, liquor. (In contemptuous use.)

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxii, The wine!..puir, thin, fushionless skink it was. 1844 Ballantine *Miller Deanhaugh* xvi. 247 Jail beer was poor, thin skink for gentlemen who had drank claret after dinner every day for twenty years.

b. *pl.* (See quot.)

1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 126 *Skinks*, an old term applied to drink—or drinking around the imposing stone in order to celebrate some auspicious occasion.

Skink, *sb.*[3] *Sc.* Now *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 **skinck.** [prob. ad. MLG. *schinke* (see next), either with ellipse of some word for 'broth', or with simple transference from the meat to the liquid.] A kind of soup made from shin of beef. Also *attrib.*

c 1575 Balfour *Practicks* (1754) 235 The air sall haue..ane butter-plait, ane skink-plait, ane beif plait, ane luggit disch. 1602 in Henderson *Old World Scotl.* (1893) 14 Ane dische of bruise, and ane uther of skink or kaill. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 45 Wee finde also that Scotch Skinck (which is a Pottage of strong Nourishment,) is made with the Knees, and Sinewes of Beefe, but long boiled. *a* 1682 Sempill *Blythsome Wedding* 72 There will be meal-kail and castocks, And skink to sup till you rive. 1790 Shirrefs *Poems* 210 Guid barley broth and *skink* came next. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 169 It was of this piece that the old favourite soup of Scotland, called *skink*, was made. 1893 Henderson *Old World Scotl.* 57 Its quality was very similar to that of the strong Lowland soup called skink.

† **Skink,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.*—[1] [ad. LG. *schinke* (G. *schinken*), OHG. *scinca*, *scinco*.] Ham.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 12 He cares not for..the sawsedge of Bolognia, the skink of Westphalia.

† **Skink,** *sb.*[5], obs. variant of Skunk *sb.*

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* III. ix. 382 The skink..resembles a polecat in shape and size. 1809 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* XIII. 2 Where'er the skink-ey'd Gallic pest Flings taint and uproar o'er the ball. 1824 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 90 As..the skink and squash are treated by American woodmen, who turn their backs upon the fetid intruder.

Skink, *v.* Now *dial.* or *arch.* Forms: 4 **skynke,** 6–7 **skinke** (6 **skincke,** 7 **scinke**); 6 (9) **skynk, skinck,** 6– **skink.** [ad. MDu. or MLG. *schenken* (cf. OFris. *skenka*; ON. *skenkja*, Sw. *skänka*, Da. *skænke*), corresp. to OE. *scencan* Shench *v.*]

1. *trans.* To pour out or draw (liquor); to offer, present, serve (drink, etc.).

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 478 Bacus the wyn hem skynketh al aboute. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. iii. 90 In flacon and in skull Thai skynk the wyne. 1607 W. Barksted *Mirrha* (1876) 45 The Queen of loue..forc'd her to skinke so much, the iuice ran ore. 1635 Shirley *Lady of Pleas.* IV. ii, A drawer is my Ganymede: he shall skink Brisk nectar to us. 1667 Davenant & Dryden *Tempest* IV. iii, Hem! skink about his grace's health again. 1728 Ramsay *Last Sp. Miser* XXVII, And like dub-water skink the wine. 1806 R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 221 They skinked the mead, and they skinked the wine. 1899 Lumsden *Edin. Poems & Sangs* 130 Stout Scots drink to me skynk.

† 2. To fill with liquor; to pour liquor into. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. iii. 62 Now skynk, and offer Jupiter, coupis full. 1558 Phaer *Æneid* VII. S iv b, Now skinke your cups to Ioue, and great Anchises cheerely cal. 1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* H, Ile haue them skincke my standing bowles with wine.

3. *absol.* To draw, pour out, or serve drink; to wait on a company (see quot. 1785).

1591 Fletcher *Russe Commonw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 17 For that cause [they] called this newe citie by the name of Naloi, that is skinck or poure in. 1594 Greene & Lodge *Looking Gl.* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 93 Villaines, why skinck you not vnto this fellow? 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* Wks. I. 123/2 And No-body did drinke, and winke, and scinke. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* I. 562 And then the Gods laught..outright, To see the lame and sooty Vulcan skink. 1755 Smollett *Don Quixote* IV. xiv. II. 425 Truce with your compliments and skink away, honest Tosilos. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, To *skink*, is to wait on the company, ring the bell, stir the fire, and snuff the candles; the duty of the youngest officer in a military mess. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 304 *Skink*, to serve at table; particularly to serve the guests with drink. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. vi. (1871) 260 Come crush a glass with..all this nice company. You have skinked quite long enough.

† 4. *Sc.* To make a present of; to make *over* to another. *Obs. rare.*

1508 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) I. 117 Vpoun his gude warkmaneschip and gyding thai skynk him the tymmer of the auld ruf. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* (1848) lxxxv. 156 If this had not been, I would have skinked over and foregone my part of paradise and salvation, for a breakfast of dead, moth-eaten earth. *Ibid.* lxxxviii. 163 Do we not sit far in our own light, to make it a matter of bairn's play, to skink and drink over paradise.

Hence **Ski·nked** *ppl. a.*

1598 Florio, *Mesciuto*, skinkt, powred or filde wine.

† **Ski·nkard.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **skinkird.** [f. Skink *v.* + -ard.] A tapster.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 11 To be a drudge.. Vnto the base-borne Skinkird bred in Hell. 1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* II. iii, Thou hast a noble wit and spirit, wench, That never was ordained for any skinkard T'engender with.

Skinker (ski·nkəɹ). Now *arch.* or *dial.* Also 6 **scincker, skincker, skynker.** [ad. MDu. or MLG. *schencker* (*schincker*), or f. Skink *v.* + -er[1].]

1. One who draws, pours out, or serves liquor; a tapster; (see also quot. 1847 s.v. Skink *sb.*[2] 1).

1586 *Praise of Musicke* 51 That banquet of the gods where Vulcan plaid the skinker. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 444 The butler or skinker asked him how much he should poure out for everie one. 1647 C. Harvey *Schola Cordis* vi. 3 See how the hellish skinker plies his bowle. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 15 (1713) I. 98 From rebellious Taps, and Tapsters and Skinkers, *Libera nos.* 1702 S. Parker tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* II. 63 My Skinker perceives himself..agreably affected in filling me out a Glass when he has no Inclination to drink. 1813 J. Hogg *Queen's Wake* 24 Thrice did they drain th' allotted store And wondering skinkers dun for more. 1830 Lamb *Let. to W. Wordsworth* Wks. 1900 XII. 128 [Vulcan] the two-handed skinker. 1852 Hawthorne *Blithedale Rom.* II. xi. 206 Some old-fashioned skinkers and drawers..were

spreading a banquet. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings* Wks. 1896 II. 733/2 The skinker fast brimmed Their glass with rare tipple's enticement.

†b. The constellation Aquarius. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 278 Mean-while the Skinker, from his starry spout, After the Goat, a silver stream pours out. *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 418 On th' Azure steep Our Parents plac't a Skinker: and by him, Two silver Fishes in his flouds to swim.

†2. A jug or similar vessel used for skinking with. Also *attrib.* *Obs.*

1594 *Wills & Invent. N. C.* (Surtees, 1860) 245 The butterye..ij hodgsheads,..j quarte potte, j skinker. 1600 *Will of Sir R. Bedingfeild* (Somerset Ho.), Silver wine pot called a Skynker. 1639 *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IX. 7 Four great flagons...10 Skinker potts. 7 Tankards. 1646 *Will of Estcourt* (Somerset Ho.), A deepe silver bason with a silver skinker.

Ski·nking, *vbl. sb.* [f. SKINK *v.*] The action of pouring out or serving liquor. Also *attrib.*

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 57 The skinking pottes.. were all of pure fine Gold. 1598 FLORIO, *Versatione*,..a skinking. 1611 *Ibid.*, A powring or skinking forth. 1631 MABBE *Celestina* ix. 105, I know no better office at boord, then to fall a skinking. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 102 Had Bacchus sell been there,..for skinkin', He couldna weil hae blam'd the drinkin'.

Ski·nking, *ppl. a.* [f. SKINK *v.*]

1. That skinks; wine-giving.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 74 With nauye we passed By mounts of Nazon too skincking Bacchus alotted.

2. *Sc.* Thin, watery. (Cf. SKINK *sb.*[2] 2.)

1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* viii, Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware That jaups in luggies. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *St. Ives* xxvii, A pint of skinking claret.

Skinkle (ski·nk'l), *v. Sc.* [perh. a frequentative f. ON. *skina* to shine.] *intr.* To glitter, glisten, sparkle; to have a showy appearance.

17.. *Lord Thomas* xix. in Percy *Reliques*, It skinkled in their een. 1791 A. WILSON *Laurel Disputed* Poet. Wks. (1846) 127 Ae night the lift was skinkling a' wi' starns. 1888 *Glasgow Evening Times* 15 Oct. 2/6 A handful of flame which..merely skinkles on the window-panes.

Hence **Ski·nkling** *ppl. a.*

1790 A. WILSON *Poems* 205 Row't in a skinklan plaid. *c* 1795 ? BURNS *Poem on Pastoral Poetry* iv, Squire Pope but busks his skinklin patches, O' heathen tatters! 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 30 Or flee about on skinklin' wing, Like butterflies. 1849 SYMINGTON *Harebell Chimes* 104 Death lurks in its skinkling fire.

Skinless (ski·nlĕs), *a.* Forms: 5 **skin-, skynles,** 6 **skinne-,** 6–7 **skinlesse,** 8– **skinless.** [f. SKIN *sb.* + -LESS.] Destitute or deprived of skin; having only a very thin skin.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Med. Pass.* in Horstman (1895) I. 98 þe fleisch þere þe cros sittith is skinles & ouer-runne wib blood-rowis. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. ix, The wulf ranne aweye skynles. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 59 The head woulde bee very deformed if it were skinnelesse, where it is couered with haire. 1600 *Hosp. Incurable Fooles* A iv, Those skinlesse Snailes that lift vp their hornes for nothing. 1611 COTGR., *Fricandeaux*, short, skinlesse, and daintie puddings. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. vii. 28 The..skinless Pear is a kind of Russelet in Shape and Taste. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 310/1 What is it that's born Skinless, flies Wingless, and goes roaring to Death? 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* xxi, He was looking..at the skinless cast on the chimney-piece. *Ibid.*, He looked round again at the skinless man. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-killers* 78 He [the raven] pranced about on his [the wolf's] scraggy skinless carcase.

fig. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Mar. 331/2 There was nothing in it to make the most skinless man in existence wince.

Hence **Ski·nlessly** *adv.*

1859 BOYD *Recreat. Country Parson* (1862) 86 Not only are they themselves skinlessly sensitive [etc.].

Ski·nlet. *rare.* [f. SKIN *sb.* + -LET.] A thin skin; a membrane.

1598 FLORIO, *Cuticula*, a filme, a skin or skinlet, a thin rinde or pill. *Ibid.*, *Milza*,..a filme or skinlet.

Skinned (skind), *ppl. a.* [f. SKIN *sb.* and *v.*]

I. 1. Having a skin, *esp.* of a specified kind.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xix. 206 In another Yle ben folk, that gon upon hire Hondes and hire Feet, as Bestes: and thei ben alle skynned and fedred. 1611 COTGR., *Marmote*, ..a little muddie fish, headed, skinned, and finned, like an Eele. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* III, Oh here they come. They are delicately skin'd and limb'd. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 260 Skate is skin'd like a File. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1754) 3 These Fish are..skinned like a Mackerel.

b. With defining term prefixed, as *clean-, dark-, fox-, hard-, loose-*, etc.

See also THICK- and THIN-SKINNED.

1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 32 Kepe the fro fische þat is hard skynned. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 56 Se that he [an ox] haue a brode ryb, and a thycke hyde, and to be loose-skinned. 1598– [see ROUGH-SKINNED *a.*]. 1611 COTGR., *Poire d'amiot*, a yellow, and hard-skind Peare. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* (1900) 45 What Sir Raynard, ye fox-skin'd Chuffe. 1827 [see FAIR *a.* 18]. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 58 An English official,..having a lean, clean-skinned body. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* III. vi, A bright-eyed, dark-skinned little girl.

2. Of wounds, etc.: Covered with skin. Also with *over*.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxvii. 288 Which like a skinn'd wound doth wrankle inwardly. 1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* p. xxx, The Edges of it in process of time, tuck in, and growing skinn'd and hard, give it the Name of a callous Ulcer. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 90 My wounds, though not skinned, were healing apace. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. ix. 76 A wound imperfectly skinned over.

3. Covered with a layer (of something).

1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. 145 When the earth grows discolour'd and skin'd over. 1837 WORDSW. *Musings near Aquapendente* 103 From pavement skinned with moss.

II. 4. Stripped of the skin.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 404 Their [frogs'] flesh shows white and lovely as they lie in the markets skin'd and ready prepared. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* xxxii, The boy, whose appearance [was] not much dissimilar to that of a skinned rabbit in a livery. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* June 131 Birds and their eggs, skinned animals, and insects.

b. *colloq.* In phr. *to keep one's eye skinned*, etc., to keep a sharp look-out.

a 1859 *Traits Amer. Humor* (Bartlett), Keep your eye skinned for sign. 1887 FARRELL *How He Died* 22 The reverend josser..kept his eye skinned. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* iii, We kept a skinned eye on her.

Skinner (ski·nəɹ). Forms: 5 **scynner(e, schynnere, skynnar(e,** 6 **skynar,** 5–7 **skynner,** 6– **skinner.** [f. SKIN *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. ON. *skinnari*, MSw. *skinnare*, Norw. *skinnar*.]

1. One whose work or business is concerned with the preparation of skins for commercial purposes.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxv. (Bodl. MS.), [The cat] is ofte for his faire skynne itake of þe skynner and islayne & ihuylded. 1418 *Nuttingham Rec.* II. 116 Johanne Crophyll, skynner. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. xvii, Theyr skynnes were good for to make mantels with, yf skynners myght haue them. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* (1870) 249 Let your skynner cut both the sortes of the skynnes in smale peces tryangle wyse. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 268 He began to tell me that by his art he was a Skinner. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* 873 The skinners are woont to make stomachers to lay ouer the stomacke. 1675 OGILBY *Britannia* Introd., The Principal Companies..are the Mercers,..Skinners. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Principle* ii. 45 One Hinde, a citizen and skinner of London, lent to Henry IV. the sum of £2000. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 852/2 Seven of the livery companies of London .., the Mercers',..the Salters',..and the Skinners'.

attrib. 1794 R. GRAY in Scott *Stat. Acc. Perth* (1796) 38 This corporation has a very convenient skinner-work.

2. One who removes the skin; a flayer.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. iii. 98 Then the Hockser immediately Mounts, and Rides after more Game, leaving the other to the Skinners, who are at hand, and ready to take off his Hide. 1884 *Good Words* June 391/1 In districts where the game is abundant more skinners were enlisted.

3. *U.S.* One of a number of marauders who committed depredations on the neutral ground between the British and American lines during the War of Independence.

1775–83 [see COW-BOY 2]. 1821 J. F. COOPER *Spy* i, This poor opinion of the Skinners was not confined to Mr. Cæsar Thompson. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 290 Who knows but you are one o' the tories yourself..or one o' the skinners? 1857 [see COW-BOY 2]. 1882 LECKY *Engl. in 18th Cent.* IV. 129 The loyalist banditti called the Skinners.

4. a. (See quot.)

1856 MAYHEW *Gt. World London* 46 'Skinners,' or women and boys who strip children of their clothes.

b. A fleecer; also in racing slang (see quot. 1874 and cf. SKIN *v.* 7 c).

1856 DORAN *Knights & their Days* ix. 142 They are constituted the legal skinners of all sojourners among them. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 293 *Skinner*, a term among bookmakers. 'May we have a skinner,' i. e., may we skin the lamb. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 5/2 Yesterday's race..resulted in what the sporting public, high and low, graphically describe as a 'skinner'. The bookmakers..do the skinning.

5. One who makes skin to grow. In quot. *fig.*

1660 GAUDEN *Slight Healers Publick Hurts* 43 Pretenders to heal, superficial skinners.

6. (See quots.)

1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 278 Poullach..In the Channel those the size of a whiting are termed codlings and skinners. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 59 When Cod are of the size of Whiting they are termed Codlings and 'Skinners'.

Skinnery (ski·nəri). Also 5 **skynnery.** [f. SKIN *sb.* + -ERY.]

†1. Skins or furs collectively. *Obs.*

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 946 To drapery & skynnery euer haue ye a sight.

2. A place where skins are dealt with for commercial or other purposes; the working premises of a skinner.

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 131 Canvas in the Skynnery j. *Ibid.* 146 A lb' of threde delivered into the Skynnery for skynners to wirk with. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 342/1 A Skynnery, *pelliparium*. 1827 MACKENZIE *Hist. Newcastle* II. 716 There are some extensive tan-yards and skinneries in Newcastle. 1883 J. MARTIN *Reminis. Old Haddington* 84 There was long ago a tannery and skinnery at its termination.

Ski·nniness. [f. SKINNY *a.*] The quality of being skinny; leanness, emaciation.

1727 BAILEY, vol. II. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Skinning (ski·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SKIN *v.*]

1. a. The action or process of covering with skin, or of forming a new skin; cicatrization, healing. Also with *over*, and *fig.*

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* 49 For skynnynge of a place there is nothing shal skyn so sone as it wyl. 1633 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 341 But whether these be perfect cures or but skinnings over..will appear hereafter. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* ix. 66 We are not to goe about the skinning of the wound before the flesh bee somewhat higher than the naturall skin. 1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* Introd. 2 The first Stage of Healing..is by Surgeons call'd Digestion;..and the last, or skinning-over, Cicatrization. 1793 J. HUNTER *Treat. Blood*, etc. Wks. 1837 III. 496 Therefore contracting and skinning are probably effects of one cause. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 455 The parts towards the centre may be so long kept from skinning, that the granulations may become weak.

b. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284 *Skinning*, a term used for planking a vessel. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 138 *Planking*, covering the outside of the timbers with plank; sometimes..called 'skinning'.

2. The removal, or stripping off, of skin; the fact of having the skin removed or rubbed off. Also *fig.*

1775 in ASH. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. 141 These..are bound to exert themselves..in taking beavers, which, without skinning, they render in at the trader's lodge. 1878 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIV. 699 The skinning of flints and the driving of screws are practised by many people as if they were positively meritorious. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 105 My feet were not yet quite well, after the skinning they had got coming over the trail from Wallace.

†b. Fleecing, plundering. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 347 Places for the skinning of strangers, who are reputed to be rich.

c. Impoverishing, exhausting.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 559 The skinning of the land by sending away its substance in hard wheat is an improvidence of natural resources.

3. *attrib.*, as *skinning-apparatus, knife, process, table.*

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 602/2 The skinning process takes place in this stage. 1864 WHEELWRIGHT *Spring Lapl.* 296 Hoping soon to see it lying on his skinning table! 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2196/1 *Skinning-apparatus*, a mechanical appliance for removing the hides from animals. 1884 *Good Words* June 391/1 The skinning knives did duty as table knives.

Skinnis, var. of ME. *kinnes*: see KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b.

Ski·nnum. [See quot. 1854.] A variety of domestic pigeon.

1854 MEALL *Moubray's Poultry* 277 It is perhaps owing to the loose *skinny* eyes and bill..that they are vulgarly called 'Skinnums'. 1867 TEGETMEIER *Pigeons* ix. 100 My skinnum was in his hand. Hurrah! the prize was mine.

Skinny (ski·ni), *a.* [f. SKIN *sb.* + -Y[1].]

1. Consisting or formed of skin; resembling skin or film; cutaneous, membranous.

1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. *Flie*, To flie with skinny winges. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. Proem, The bones charged with purulent and skinnie matter. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 236 Heere is also to be obserued a skinny Ligament. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 6 The Bee hath four dry pellucid skinny wings. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 94 Those loosened Pieces of skinny Membranes. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 734 The middle row of scales the largest, all more or less membranaceous and skinny. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 71 Whirls..surrounded by a skinny sheath. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 660 So the hair sprang up in the skin, being of a skinny and stringy nature. *fig.* 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 11 Settling in a skinny congealment of ease and sloth at the top.

Comb. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 351 *L. Scariosa*, Skinny cupped Liatris.

2. Of, pertaining to, or affecting, the skin. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Peaucier*, skinnie; of, in, or belonging to, the skinne. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 186 In cutaneous or skinny Distempers. *Ibid.* 246 An excellent Medicine in Skinny Disorders.

b. Lying next the skin.

1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 114 Take the rump-end of the Back-bone, and lay it with the skinny side upward.

3. Having the skin prominently shown; lacking flesh; thin, lean, emaciated.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 45 Each at once her choppie finger laying Vpon her skinnie Lips. 1724 RAMSAY *Health* 118 With skinny cheek, pale lips, and blood-run eyes. 1781 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Journ. Flanders* Wks. 1797 II. 29 The daughter of Herod..is rather beautiful, but too skinny and lean. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 127 Skinny shrivelled grain produces food weak and unsubstantial. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iii, His long skinny arms all covered with anchors and arrows and letters. 1879 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Oct. 415 A chicken..sometimes skinny and often ill-kept.

4. Mean, miserly, niggardly, stingy.

1833 HOOD *Public Dinner* 152 The subscription still skinny. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict., Skinny*, mean; inhospitable. 1890 *Lancet* 2 Aug. 246/2 As a rule, the whole of the men in a factory would contribute, and 'skinny' ones were not let off easily.

†Ski·nster. *Obs.* In 3 **skinnestere.** [f. SKIN *v.* + -STER.] A female skinner.

1270 *Close Roll 2 Edw. I*, memb. 7 d, [Agnes] the skinnestere.

Skin-tight (ski·n,təit), *a.* and *sb.* [SKIN *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Fitting tightly to the skin; close-fitting.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Apr. 4/2 The skin-tight bodice which forbids all graceful, easy movements. *a* 1891 T. C. CRAWFORD *English Life* 91 (Cent.), Pink skin-tight breeches met his high patent-leather boots at the knee. 1895 *Outing* Dec. 202/1 When these boots are on they are skin-tight everywhere.

B. *sb. pl.* Close-fitting nether garments.

1899 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 7/4, I should have to admit some who go along the Portsmouth road in skin tights.

Skintle (ski·nt'l), *a.* and *sb.* [? f. SKINTLE *v.*] (See quots.)

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc. (ed. 2) 135 The straight courses, pillar, hangers, and skintle bricks. *Ibid.* 136 The 'skintles' are the bricks set diagonally in order to tie the over-hangers together.

Skintle (ski·nt'l), *v.* Also **scintle.** [perh. for *squintle*, f. SQUINT *a.*] *trans.* To separate and

reset (half-dried bricks) at angles to each other, so as to complete the drying.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 280/2 When half dry the bricks are separated somewhat (*scintled*), to allow free access of the air. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *Fifty Yrs. Public Serv.* 236 They dried slowly, and were regularly 'skintled', or rearranged so that the air might get all round them.

So **Ski·ntling** *vbl. sb.*; also as *adv.*

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 408/2 After the bricks are partially dried, another operation takes place, called 'skintling'. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 341/1 *note*, When the bricks have stood a few days, they are reset with a greater space between them, which operation is called *scintling*. 1889 *Science* XIII. 335/2 When dry, they [the bricks]..are carried in wheel-barrows and set 'skintling', or at angles across each other.

Skio: see SKEO. **Skiogram, -graph**, etc.: see SKIAGRAM, -GRAPH, etc.

Skip (skip), *sb.*[1] Also 5 **skyp(pe**, 5–7 **skippe** (6 **szkippe**). [f. SKIP *v.*[1]]

1. An act of skipping; a slight bound or spring. *Hop, skip, and jump* (see HOP *sb.*[2] 3).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 290/2 Lawnche, or skyppe, *saltus*. *c* 1450 *Mir. Saluac.* (Roxb.) 165 The ydicus [*sic*] made a skippe fro heven to the anone. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 19 For mirth of May, wyth skippis and wyth hoppis, The birdis sang vpon the tender croppis. 1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 655 Father Latimer..suddenly gave a skip in the floor for joy. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., The Address*, Nor did I mount them [the steps] with a skip and a couple of strides. 1807–8 IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 80 She was a young lady of most voluminous proportions, that quivered at every skip. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* ii, The woman..turned with a skip, and was gone.

fig. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Pref., Whether by Art's rude force, or Natures skip I know not. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Apr., And hath come into his place..with a great skip over the heads of a great many. 1817 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. iii. 84, I..had hoped..to have indulged myself with a skip over the Border.

b. = LEAP *sb.*[1] 3.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 478 Two or three thorough skips are quite sufficient for the purposes of conception.

2. An act of passing from one thing or point to another with omission or disregard of what intervenes.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. v. (1674) 8 Not conferring places upon her Nobility by skips and leaps, but by degrees and gradation. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 127 Nor do I imagine that the skips from the one to another will be found very great. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* v. (1856) 36 To avert the disastrous consequences of a twelve hours' skip in their polar reckonings. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 197 It is a long skip between 1789 and 1807.

b. *Mus.* A passing from one note to another at a greater interval than one degree.

1730 *Treat. Harmony* 29 It is only in the foresaid Skips that we can make use of Discords upon the accented Part of the Bar. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp. Canon & Fugue* vii, In three-part counterpoint skips are always to be avoided. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 53 Two successive wide skips in the same direction being generally undesirable.

c. Matter in a book which may be skipped in reading.

1833 MACAULAY *Ess., Walpole* (1897) 275 In his books there are scarcely any of those passages which, in our school days, we used to call *skip*. 1889 HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* viii. 122 The scenes in which his heroines are on the stage are skip. Amine's appearances, however, are not skip.

3. [prob. short for SKIP-KENNEL.] A footman, lackey, or manservant. In later use *spec.* at Trinity College, Dublin, a college-servant, a scout.

1698–1700 WARD *London Spy* VII. Wks. 1706 I. 157 As a Courtiers Footman when he meets his Brother Skip. 1716–20 *Lett. fr. Mist's Frnl.* (1722) I. 142, I was surprized to see a Skip transformed so speedily into a Trumpeter. 1732 DODSLEY *The Footman* 91 Then to the hall I guide my steps, Amongst a crowd of brother skips. 1839 LEVER *H. Lorrequer* XIII, Call your own skip.., damn me if I'll be your skip any longer. 1884 *Punch* 22 Mar. 141/2 A good man once, now, so his skip informs me,..smokes six or seven pipes of strong tobacco..every night.

Skip, *sb.*[2] Also **skipp**. [var. of SKEP *sb.* (q.v. for *skip* in other senses).] In mining or quarrying, a bucket, box, basket, cage, or wagon, in which materials or men are drawn up or let down.

1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 Some colliers were descending into a coal pit,..five in one skip and four in the other. 1841 in HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss. 1884 *Building News* 15 Aug. 283/3 The mortar and other rubbish was also lowered in skips.

attrib. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Met. Mining* 75 A plan of a shaft with double skip road adapted for wheels. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2196/2 *Skip-shaft* (Mining), one boxed off by itself for the skip to ascend and descend in.

Skip, *sb.*[3] *Sc.* [abbrev. of SKIPPER *sb.*[2]] The director or captain of a curling or bowling team or side.

1830 *Memorab. Curl. Maben.* 29 The other skips having arranged among themselves, the boards were selected [etc.]. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 368/1 Sides are made up, usually consisting of four against four, with a director styled *skip* for each. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* No. 1318. 138 A great moorland farmer having to figure as skip on the one side.

Skip, *sb.*[4] [f. SKIP *v.*[2]] (See quots.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Skip*, in sugar-making in the West Indies, a charge or strike of syrup from the coppers. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 163/2 The difficulty is determining the exact moment when the boiling of the 'sling' in the striking-teach must cease, i. e. when to make a 'skip'.

†**Skip**, *sb.*[5] *Obs.*—[0] (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 260/2 Goat skins are reckoned by the skip, which is 50 Skins.

Skip, *sb.*[6] Abbrev. of SCHIPPERKE.

1895 *Our Dogs* I. 128/2 The best class of Skips ever seen in England.

Skip, *v.*[1] Forms: 4–6 **skippe** (4 **schippe**), 4–7 **skyppe** (5 **sckyppe**), 6 **skype**; 4– **skip** (4 **schip**, ? **scep**, 4–6 **scip**), 5 **skyp(p**, 6–7 **skipp**. [app. related to MSw. *skuppa*, *skoppa* in the same sense (cf. also SCOPE *v.*[1]), but the history of the vowel is not clear.]

I. *intr.* **1.** To raise oneself off the ground by a light and graceful movement; to spring or leap lightly and easily, *spec.* in the exercise of skipping with a rope.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23569 For to skip and for to rin, Quen it war better for to blin. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 95 With such gladnesse I daunce and skippe, Me thenkth I touche noght the flor. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La Male Regle* 120 Seeknesse.. paieth me my wage, So þat me neithir daunce list, ne skippe. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* in *Macro Plays* 54 For ioy. I sprynge, I sckyppe. 1530 PALSGR. 719 Are you nat ashamed to skyppe thus in your daunsynge, lyke a gyrle of the countray? 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 227 The grassehopper.. skipped, leapt and chirpte, in her kinde. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 27 [These nymphs] would oft iun races, skipping like wanton Lambes. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 54 Up he skips upon his legs, as manfully as a Taylor upon a Shop-Board. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 24 Sept., Sophia skipped with joy, and Cecilia was all smiles. 1844 HOOD *Skipping* i, Little Children skip, The rope so gaily gripping. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* x. 259 He skips, and screams, and grins like an ubiquitous goblin.

fig. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. Concl. (1739) 202 If at any time he skipped higher, he afterwards fell lower.

b. With cognate accusative. *rare.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, Force the plump lipt god, Skip light lavoltaes in your full sapt vaines.

2. To spring or leap lightly in a certain direction or to a certain point; to move or advance by a skip or skips. Const. with advs. and preps.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1361 (Ritson), The knyht to Horn gan skippe, And in his armes clippe. 13.. *K. Alis.* (Laud MS.) 1108 Hym to awreke, kyng Philipp Ouer þe table gan to skipp. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xiv. 13 Barnabas and Poul.. scipten out into the cumpanyes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXVII. 552 Gaheries toke the horse..to Gueheret his brother, and made hym skippe in to the sadell. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* Pref. 4 Hou uncomely a thing it were if a Philosophier would..scip about the stage. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 23 On sands from vessels dooth skippe thee coompanye cheereful. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 158 Thus burthened, [he] shal trauell till hee come where he can skip into Paradice. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* (1677) 266 Let none from hence again retire..Nor any man before the rest skip out. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* I. 58 He was very much surprised to see Eighteen young Men skipping one after another into his House. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 110 She skipped along with the alertness of an antelope. 1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* III. 146 Our walker skipped from rock to rock at a great rate. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 935 They skip up stairs two at a time.

fig. 1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXXVIII. 37 And thei schulen not skippe ouer in to the chirche. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 282 Insomuch that they say when the gods made beautie, they skipt beyond their skill. 1692 S. PATRICK *Answ. Touchstone* 58 The Faith of the Gospel (unto which he now skips).

b. To hasten, hurry, move lightly and rapidly; to make off, abscond. Now *U.S. colloq.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 255 To Paris gan he skip, & held his parlement. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2920 Eche man.. with his god schippes And alle here good thedur skippes. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 257 Ye had ned to be ware that th' Exchetor skyppe not from you, when he comyth to London. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 142/2 The foresaid rebels, who skipped to and fro in such sort, that in no case could he find them at any aduantage. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 8 What is Orlando, but a stragling mate,.. Skipt from his countrey. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xix, By Jove, you'd better skip for it, or you'll have what Captain M— says. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 107 So, to throw her father off the scent, on the appointed night we 'skipped' and went by way of Fort James.

3. To pass from one point, matter, etc., to another with omission of what intervenes; in mod. use *spec.* to do this in reading.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 622 *Cleopatra*, The weddynge & the feste to deuyse..It were to longe..And for thy to thefeect thanne wele I skyppe. 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) I. App. XL. 35 He that woulde challenge kyndred of Constantyne the Great, and woulde from his father skippe upp streight to Constantyne. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 199, I had rather Haue skipt from sixteene yeares of Age to sixty. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abroad* II. ii. 150, I must really spare the reader two thirds of this portentous list, and skip for him to the conclusion. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IV. iv. 163 The art of reading is to skip judiciously.

b. Similarly with *over*. Also sometimes, to pass *over* with very slight or superficial treatment.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 4417 Late him be with sorwe, And skippeth ouer wher ye list nat rede. 1548 ELYOT, *Præterео*, ..to make no mencion of, to skippe ouer, to leaue out a thyng, that shulde be spoken of. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 454 The nimble Perfunctorinesse of some Commentators (that skip over hard Places). 1725 WATTS *Logic* 344 They skip over, and but lightly touch the drier part of their theme. 1843 MAITLAND *Dark Ages* XV. (1890) 274 As I am not writing history,..let us skip over rather more than a century. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 248, I might have skipped over these difficulties like the proverbial chamois.

4. Of things, in literal or fig. senses.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 361 In this wise skippeth venial in-to deedly synne. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liv. 8 Quhou hir schort catt noiss vp skippis. 1568 *Like Will to Like* in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 331 The barrel was turned to a ship, Which me-thought the wind made nicely to skip. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. lxxxv, Bright Palestine, Whose woods drop honie, and her rivers skip with wine. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1667) 330 Just as the Loadstone draws Iron to it, and makes it skip into its Bosome. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 212 Quick sensations skip from vein to vein. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xviii, The landlord stirred the fire, sending the flame skipping and leaping up.

b. *Mus.* To pass from one note to another at an interval of more than one degree.

1868 OUSELEY *Harmony* iii. (1875) 52 The seventh may skip sometimes to the fifth on the same bass.

II. *trans.* **5.** To pass over in reading, or in going through a book, etc. Also with *over*, and in fig. context.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 Not sparing your voyces, not clipping the syllables, nor skyppyng ony worde. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* I. 7 Christ skips thy faults, only thy virtue reads. 1604 — *Father Hubbard's T.* Wks. 1885 VIII. 54 To skip it over and say that line were naught. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Preface p. iv, Those that are well versed in the New Philosophy .. may skip what was design'd. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) IV. ii. 21 The Doctor looked so earnestly at me, when he skipped two sides of it. 1823 LAMB *Let. to Barton* 17 Feb., I do not think that I skipped a word of it [*sc.* a book]. 1875 R. F. BURTON *Ultima Thule* I. xii, Let the reader 'skip' such photos if he likes.

b. To pass over without mentioning, dealing with, taking into account, etc.; to omit.

1531 ELYOT *Governor* II. xiv. (1557) 141 Oftentimes a.. loker on espieth a default, that the doer forgetteth or skyppeth ouer. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 232 How childish an ouersight was it for Paul to skip the whole bench of them. 1669 BP. HOPKINS *Serm. 1 Peter* ii. (1685) 66 A day it was, that..we might well wish that the Year would skip it over. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* II. 180 In reckoning up the chief patrons of it, he always skips Justin Martyr. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Apr., I shall skip useless recollections upon unpleasant subjects. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 52 Two virtues remain; shall we skip one and go to the other? 1893 W. FORBES-MITCHELL *Rem. Mutiny* 2, I intend to skip much that has already been recorded in the pages of history.

c. To pass over, pass by, without touching or affecting in any way. Also with *over*.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. v, He, making a reverse blow,..enters the linings [of a doublet] and skips the flesh. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 110 Let not thy sword skip one: Pitty not honour'd Age for his white Beard. 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware W.* II. ii, All means to come by riches or advancement Miss me, and skip me over! 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* Notes XXXI. 162 He passed over, or skipped, those houses, and forbore to smite them. 1886 G. ALLEN *Darwin* ii. 25 It is fashionable to say..that the mental energy skips a generation. 1898 MANSON *Trop. Dis.* VIII. 155 Sometimes it [the plague] skips a house, a village, or a district.

d. To miss, escape from. *rare*—[1].

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 132/2 Ther's nothing of him that doth hanging skip Except his eares.

6. a. To jump or leap lightly over (something); to go off, leave (rails).

a 1732 SWIFT *Tom Mullinex & Dick* VII, Tom could move with lordly grace, Dick nimbly skip the gutter. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 121 Nelly lightly skipt the stile. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 18 May 6/5 A little later another car skipped the rails.

b. To absent oneself from, stay away from.

1824 SOUTHEY in *Life & Corr.* (1849) I. 141 Having one day skipped school to attend a concert.

c. *U.S. colloq.* To flee (the country).

1884 *Milnor* (Dakota) *Teller* 12 Sept., The granger school master..skipped the country this week.

7. To cause to skip, bound, or jump.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* XXIV. P 13 He skips his Balls both at once from the first and third Row to the second and fourth Row. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lv. 194 The usual friendly invitation however was given ..by skipping several rifle bullets across the river. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Pat.* 26 He had skipped pebbles on it and waded across it at low tide.

fig. 1867 F. H. LUDLOW *Little Briggs & I* 217 Retired merchants, who had a passion for skipping away their hard dollars on the bottomless pond of fancy cattle-breeding.

III. 8. The verbal stem in comb., as **skip-bone**, = SKIPJACK 3; **skip-brain** *a.*, flighty, hare-brained; † **skip-frog**, the game of leap-frog; **skip-louse**, a tailor; **skip mackerel** *U.S.*, the blue-fish or skipjack; **skip-rope**, a skipping-rope (*Cent. Dict.*); **skip-tail**, a spring-tail; **skip-tooth** (see quot. 1875).

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 30/1 This skipp-braine Fancy moves these easie Movers To loue what ere hath but a glimpse of good. 1727 BOYER *Fr. Dict.* II, Skip-Frog, (a sort of Play, amongst Boys), *La Poste*. 1807 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* XX. (ed. 3) 271 We laugh that win, Since we pay but for one, tho' nine Skip-lice get in. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 188/1 The small insect called *Podura Plumbea*, the common Skiptail. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2196/2 *Skip-tooth Saw*, a saw in which alternate teeth are cut out. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 433 About New York they are called 'Skip Mackerel'. 1901 E. L. ARNOLD *Lepidus* 33 As he finished a drum-stick, or pitched a clean-picked skip-bone into the ferns.

Skip, *v.*[2] [ad. Du. *schoppen* (G. *schöpfen*) to ladle, bale, dip, draw (water), etc.] *trans.* To transfer (sugar) from one vessel to another in the process of manufacture.

a 1818 M. G. Lewis *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 87 Till it becomes sufficiently free from impurities to be skipped off, that is, to be again ladled out of the coppers and spread into the coolers. 1843 G. R. Porter *Sugar Cane* (ed. 2) 211 When the sugar is perfectly clarified it is skipped off, or passed into another vessel.

Skip, *v.*[3] [f. Skip *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To command or direct (a team in curling or bowling) as skip.

1900 *Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald* 2 June 5/2 President and Vice-President skipped rinks pitted against each other.

Skiph, obs. form of Skiff *sb.*

Skipjack (ski·pɪdʒæk), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 scip-jacke, -jake, 6–7 **skipiack**(e, 7 -jacke. [f. Skip *v.*[1] + Jack *sb.*[1]]

A. *sb.* **1.** A pert shallow-brained fellow; a puppy, a whipper-snapper; a conceited fop or dandy. Now *arch.*

1554 T. Martin *Marr. Priests* Ll ij b, A way was opened to euery skipiack that lusted to make hymselfe a priest. 1596 J. Hooker *Hist. Ireland* in *Holinshed* II. 106/1, I trust to see the daie, when .. your children .. shall disdaine the companie of anie such skipiacke. 1604 Rowlands *Looke to it* (Hunterian Cl.) 38 You nimble skipiacke, turning on the toe, As though you had Gun-pouder in your tayle. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 18 Our shoes and fantastical stockins speak us rather Skipjacks, Whifflers or Antics, then sober and solid men. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* III. 230 How few of our fashionable skip-jacks .. possess a spark of that spirit. 1869 *Daily News* 12 June, Noble bronze faces, which contrast rather strongly with the countenance of the simpering skipjack who has preceded them.

†**2.** A horse-dealer's boy; a jockey. *Obs.*

1608 Dekker *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* x, The boyes, striplings, &c., that haue the Riding of the Iades vp and downe are called Skip-Iacks. 1674 Staveley *Romish Horseleech* (1769) 215 If friars should wear short habits they would look more like Jockeys and Millers than Friars...And then,..will it not be a rare sight for us to go like skipjacks and Millers? *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Skip-jacks,* youngsters that Ride the Horses for Sale. [Hence in later Dicts.]

3. A toy made of the merrythought of a fowl, and so contrived that it can be made to skip automatically; also, the merrythought itself.

1797 Mar. Edgeworth *Early Lessons* I. 253 This is as tight and as strong as the stick and string in my skip-jack. 1805 *Poet. Reg.* 179 Thy bony breast Shall featly frisk it o'er the cottage floor, A strange automaton, by village hinds A Skip-Jack nam'd. 1825–1895 in dialect glossaries (Northumbld., Yks., Northampt., E. Anglia, etc.).

4. The name of various fishes which have a habit of leaping out of the water, *esp.* the blue-fish (*Temnodon* or *Pomatomus saltator*) of tropical and subtropical seas.

In American use the name is also given to the horse-mackerel, Ohio shad, and brook silverside (1882 Jordan & Gilbert *Fishes N. Amer.*), the bonito, jurel, runner, leather-jacket, butter-fish, cutlass-fish, etc. (1884 Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.*).

1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. I. 115, I saw also some Boneta's and some Skipjacks, a Fish about 8 Inches long, broad and sizable, not much unlike a Roach. 1734 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 *Saltatrix.* The *Skip-Jack.* It hath obtained its Name from its frequent Skipping out of the Water. 1775 *Ibid.* LXVIII. 393 [The] sea was covered with Portuguese men of war, of which [we] took up several; also some pilot-fish and skip-jacks. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 225 That species of whale, called by sailors skip jacks. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* vi, Pelicans..fell into the water with wide-spread wings, and after a splash, rose with another skipjack in their pouch. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 76 Snapper-fishing is usually carried on with a bottom bait of skip-jack, bluefish, or young shark.

5. a. A beetle belonging to the family *Elateridæ*; a click-beetle (see Click *sb.*[1] 4) or spring-beetle. Also *attrib.*

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 317 The numerous species of the elastic beetles (*Elater*, L.), skip-jacks as some call them, perform this motion by means of a pectoral process or mucro. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 93 From this habit of suddenly springing into the air, these insects are known in Europe by the common name of 'skip-jacks'. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* i, The Elaters—fire-fly, or skip-jack beetles.

b. A kind of trout-fly.

1867 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (1880) 233 There is a smaller fly..called the Skipjack.

B. *adj.* **1.** Having the trifling, petty, or flighty qualities of a skipjack; puppyish, foppish.

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 19 The world finds fault with Gellia, for she loues A skip-jack fidler. 1645 *Arraignment Persecution* Ep. Ded. 2 Such a Quagmire of croaking skip-jacke Presbyters. 1696 Vanbrugh *Relapse* v. iii, I verily believed miss had got some pitiful skip-jack varlet or other to her husband.

b. *transf.* Of things.

1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 464 Why, I cannot abide these scipjake blanke verses. 1650 H. More *Anthus. Tri.* etc. (1656) 75 Meer vagrant imaginations seated in your own subsultorious and skip-jack phansie onely. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 360 These petty Skip-Jack Aspects which have to do..where ever the Sun hath to do.

2. Hopping, jumping, skipping.

1605 P. Woodhouse *Flea* (1877) 18 For I shall make it very plaine appeare, This little skip-jack beast, his worth is small. *c* 1626 *Dick of Devon* IV. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* II. 60 What with your skip Jacke fleas, the nap of my sleepe was worne off.

Hence **Ski·pjackly** *a. rare*[−1].

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 135 Now 'tis but odde to think how such a flicketing skipjackly thing as that is.. should be bound to the behaviour of such a grave stayd thing as time is.

†**Skip-kennel.** *Obs.* [f. Skip *v.*[1] + Kennel *sb.*[2]] One who has to jump or skip over the kennels or gutters; a lackey, a foot-boy, a foot-man. (Cf. Skip *sb.*[1] 3.)

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 155 Yet every Draggle-Tail'd Wench, and Skip-kennel, shall be better us'd than We. *c* 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* VII. 18 A Mountebank without his fools, and a Skip-kennel turn'd out of place. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 13. 63 It is peculiar to these learned head-pieces to shew more respect..to their skip-kennels, than to their students or fellows. 1729 Swift *Direct Serv., Footman,* You have no professed enemy but the rabble and my lady's waiting-woman, who are sometimes apt to call you skip-kennel. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 39 The grid-iron whizzing, The skip-kennels quizzing.

Skippable (ski·păb'l), *a.* Also **skipable.** [f. Skip *v.*[1] + -able.] That may be skipped, omitted, or passed over in reading.

1820 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 94 Sir Philip's English sapphics or dactylics—which are, to be sure, the most unreadable and skippable things ever written. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XI. viii. (1872) IV. 98 A fifth part of it consists of 'Documents' proper, which are skippable.

Skipper (ski·pəɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 5 **skyppare,** 6 **skyppar.** [f. Skip *v.*[1] + -er[1].]

1. One who or that which skips or jumps.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Skyppare, *saltator, saltatrix.* 1530 Palsgr. 271/1 Skyppar, *saultevr.* 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 264 Many a time the fishers twitch vp their hooks, and see a number of these skippers [fleas] and creepers [lice] setled thicke about their baits which they laied for fishes.

b. Applied contemptuously to a youth. *rare*[−1].

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shrew* II. i. 341 *Tra.* Greybeard, thy loue doth freeze. *Gre.* But thine doth frie. Skipper stand backe, 'tis age that nouriseth.

2. *spec.* As a name for various insects:

†**a.** A locust. *Obs. rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3087 Dis wind hem brogte ðe skipperes, He deden on gres and coren deres. 1599 T. Mouffet *Silkwormes* 25 Springs not from egges that..bloudy Crocodile, Fish, Lyzards, Snakes, and Skippers African?

b. A skipjack or spring-beetle.

1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* I. 225 Skipper, *Elater oculatus.* 1813 Bingley *Anim. Biogr.* (ed. 4) III. 143 The Night-Shining Skipper. In the savannas of most of the warmer parts of America, these insects are to be seen in great abundance.

c. A butterfly of the family *Hesperiidæ.*

Also used with various distinguishing epithets, as *chequered, clouded, dingy, Lulworth, pearl skipper,* etc.

1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 305 A butterfly, called by Aurelians 'The large skipper' (*Hesperia Sylvanus,* F.), when it alights..always turns half-way round. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 314 The family of skippers, *Hesperians,* are rather small, thick-bodied butterflies, having the antennæ hooked at the end like a shepherd's crook. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* VI. 92 To *Pamphila* and the following genera belong all the small, quick-flying butterflies, known as the skippers, properly so called.

attrib. 1903 A. C. P. Haggard *Sporting Yarns* 126 A butterfly of the skipper tribe.

d. *dial.* and *U.S.* A cheese-maggot, or other small maggot, etc., of similar habits.

1828–32 in Webster. 1882– in dial. glossaries (Cornwall, Cumberland).

3. *spec.* As a fish-name: **a.** The saury pike.

1674 Ray *Coll. Words, Fishes* 104 Skipper, *Acus minor. a* 1705 — *Synop. Pisc.* (1713) 109 In Mari Britannico duæ Acus species inveniuntur, ut nobis retulerunt piscatores Cornubienses, quarum alteri *Girrocks,* alteri *Skippers* nomen indiderunt. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 394 The Saury Pike. Skipper, *Scomberesox saurus.* 1865 Couch *Brit. Fishes* IV. 141 Skipper..is a migratory fish, which comes to our coasts at the beginning of summer.

b. The hopping-fish of Australia.

1898 Morris *Austral Eng.* 419.

4. One who omits passages in reading.

Cf. the earlier *overskipper* (1377) and *forskipper.*

1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* lxvi, He never had skipped in his life, and had such a thorough contempt for skippers. 1856 *Titan Mag.* Nov. 415/1 Our service is spoil'd by.. The trippers—the clippers—the impudent skippers. 1888 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 178/1 He has..compiled a useful and interesting monograph, especially for the judicious skipper.

Skipper (ski·pəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 4, 7 **skypper,** 6 **skyppar,** 5–7 **skippar** (6 -are), 7 **sckipper, skiper,** 7–8 **scipper,** 8 **schipper.** [ad. MDu. or MLG. *schipper* (cf. Fris. and Da. *skipper,* Sw. *skeppare,* ON. *skipari*; also OF. *eskipre, eschipre*), f. *schip* Ship *sb.*]

1. The captain or master of a ship, esp. of a small trading, merchant, or fishing vessel; † a ship-man, seaman.

In the 15th and 16th cent. chiefly in Sc. use.

1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camd.) 37 Item Herman, skypper de Dansk. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 310 The skippar of the schip callit the Ros. 1506 in *Charters,* etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 190 That na skipperis nor maisters of schippis saill furth of our realme [etc.]. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 16 My rapier pendant like a round sticke fastned in the tacklings for skippers the better to climbe by. 1624 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 19 The murder of one of our people ther by a scipper of theirs. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v. *Scipper,* But we usually take *Skippers* for common Seamen or Mariners. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* II. 65 Eight of them went a shore, leaving two Indians aboord with the English Skipper. 1721 Ramsay *Prospect of Plenty* 154 The north-sea skippers are leal-hearted men. 1767 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* II. i. 110 A French man of war..met one of our fishing vessels..[and] sent for the skipper to come on board. 1822 Scott *Nigel* iii, A rank, as well as manners, highly superior to the skippers (or Captains, as they called themselves) of merchant vessels. 1878 Jevons *Polit. Econ.* 29 The skipper starts when wind and tide are in his favour.

fig. 1673 S. Parker *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 481 As if you were the Skipper of the State.

Comb. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* iv, Here he lived too, in skipper-like state, with his nephew Walter.

b. *Skipper's daughters,* high white-crested waves.

1888 Stevenson *Across the Plains* vi. (1905) 130 Out in the open there were 'skipper's daughters'.

2. The captain or director of a sporting team or side.

In curling and bowling the Sc. term is now Skip *sb.*[3]

1830 *Mentorah. Curl. Maben.* 100 The sweeping department to be under the exclusive control of the skipper. 1838 in *Chambers's Inform. People* (1849) II. 651/1 The skippers shall have the exclusive regulation and direction of the game [in curling]. 1893 *Star* 30 May 1/7 He..afterwards acted as skipper of the Cambridgeshire Eleven.

3. *Gun-making.* (See quot.)

1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* (1867) I. 821/1 From [the screwer-together the gun] passes to the *skipper* and *finisher,* who takes the whole to pieces, and corrects any trifling errors of the preceding workmen.

Hence **Ski·ppership,** the office of skipper; the management or handling of a ship.

1828 *Examiner* 1/1 If skippership went to the highest bidder,..we should have a still greater proportion of bad pilots. 1894 *Daily Chron.* 4 Aug. 3/5 In recognition of his skippership of the Trafalgar.

†**Ski·pper,** *sb.*[3] *Cant. Obs.* Also 6 **skypper.** [A canting term, possibly ad. Cornish *sciber* or W. *ysgubor* a barn.] A barn, outhouse, or shed, used as a sleeping-place by vagrants.

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 83 A skypper, a barne. *Ibid.* 85, I couched a hogshead in a Skypper this darkemans. 1641 Brome *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 392 Now let each Tripper Make a retreat into the Skipper. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Skipper,* a Barn. [Hence in later Dicts.]

†**Ski·pper,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. Du. *schepper* scoop, ladle: cf. Skip *v.*[2]] (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 280/1 A Skipper or Sugar ladle.

Ski·pper, *v.*[1] [f. Skipper *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To act as skipper or captain of (a vessel, team, etc.).

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 July 5/2 The former is to skipper his yacht *Meteor.*

absol. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 445/2 The owner skippers for himself.

Ski·pper, *v.*[2] *Cant.* [f. Skipper *sb.*[3]] *intr.* To sleep in a barn or outhouse, or in the open. Also with *it.*

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 478 They..frequently 'skipper it' in the open air, when the weather is fine and warm. 1894 D. C. Murray *Making of a Novelist* 107 In the language of the road, to sleep in the open is to 'skipper'.

Comb. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 310 Here is the best places in England for 'skipper-birds'; (parties that never go to lodging-houses, but to barns or outhouses, sometimes without a blanket).

Ski·pper, *v.*[3] *rare*[−1]. [freq. of Skip *v.*[1]] *intr.* To skip or hop.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. xiv, A grass-finch skippered to the top of a stump.

Ski·ppery, *a. dial.* and *U.S.* [f. Skipper *sb.*[1] 2 d.] Of cheese, etc.: Full of maggots.

18.. Dow *Serm.* II. 258 (Bartlett), The earth [will] appear as animated as a plate of skippery cheese. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss.* 170/2 *Skippery,*..said of bacon and cheese when full of 'jumpers'.

†**Skippeson.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 **skyppeson.** [ad. OFr. *eskip(p)eson,* f. *eskipper, esquiper* to Equip.] Equipment, provision of necessaries.

1444 *Coll. Hist. Staff.* (1891) XII. 318 With skyppeson and reskyppeson reasonable for him, is seid men and horses. *Ibid.* 320 The seid Sir Phelip shall have skyppeson and reskyppeson resonable for him.

Ski·ppet[1]. [Cf. Skibbet.] A small round wooden box, used for the preservation of documents or seals. Also *transf.* (quot. 1398).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* IV. x. (Tollemache MS.), The toper party of colera, þat is drawen to þe skipet of galle [L. *ad cistam fellis*]. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxiv. (1859) 37 In her hond she brought a skypet,..and she took forth the Charter. 1864 E. Edwards *Libr. & Founders Libr.* ix. 223 Skippets (or boxes turned on a lathe). 1871 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 179 A 'skippet' found in the parvise of Bodmin Church, and a leather-covered case. 1886 *Ibid.* 11 Dec. 783/2 The seals of the different parties being preserved in silver skippets attached to the volumes by silken cords.

Ski·ppet[2]. *rare.* Also 5 **skeppette.** [dim. of *skip* Skep *sb.*]

1. A basket. Now *dial.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 44 Hym closid in a skeppette sho laide be the Ryvere syde. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.* 141 *Skippet,* the same as Kipe [=a bushel basket].

†**2.** A small boat or skiff. *Obs.*[−1]

Prob. due to association with *ship* or *skiff.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. xii. 14 Vpon the banck they sitting did espy A daintie damzell,..By whom a little skippet floting did appeare. [Cf. stanza 15.]

Ski·ppet[3]. Now *dial.* Also 8 **skippit.** [var. of Scuppet.] (See quots.)

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 194 Help the water out of the ruts with scoops or skippits. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Lincs., Skippet,* a wooden shovel used for lifting water. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropshire Word-Bk.* 386 *Skippet,* a long-handled, spoon-shaped implement used by drainers. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss., Skippet,* the long-handled ladle used for filling a water-cart, emptying a hog-tub, &c.

Ski·pping, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SKIP *v.*[1]]

1. The action of the verb skip, in literal senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 246/1 Hoppynge, or skyppynge, *saltacio.* 1590 BARROUGH *Physick* I. xxxviii. (1639) 60 The diseases which come by skipping in of stones or chips..into the Eyes. 1611 COTGR., *Resilment*, a leaping, skipping, rebounding, backe. 1844 HOOD *Skipping* i, Little Children skip,..All are fond of skipping!

attrib. 1736 AINSWORTH s.v., In a skipping posture, *saltabundus.* 1894 *Daily News* 14 June 6/4 Among the 'sports' for girls being a skipping contest and various races. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 827 Her first attack cut short prolonged and severe skipping effort.

2. The action of skipping, in transferred senses.

1560 *1st Bk. Discipline* xi. (1836) 69 This skipping and divagation from place to place of Scripture. 1597 T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 7, I know not how to tune them [*sc.* notes] by reason of their skipping. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Contents, Stirring of Ghost is like skipping of thought. 1863 *Reader* 5 Dec. 660 We remember, of course, that skipping is fair play in novel-reading. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 July 3/2 The reader..can always have recourse to judicious skipping.

Ski·pping, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SKIP *v.*[2]] In sugar-making: (see quots.). Also *attrib.*

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 196 Of this solution about fifty gallons, called a skipping, are put into a copper pan. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1202 Each finished charge is called a skipping, because it is skipped or laded out. 1860 TOMLINSON *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Sugar* 16 Sometimes the last and largest copper contains a skipping-teach, a smaller vessel of the same shape with a valve at the bottom worked by a handle.

Ski·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. SKIP *v.*[1]]

1. That skips. Also *spec.* in *skipping stickleback* (see quot. 1803).

1560 BIBLE (Genevan) *Wisdom* xvii. 19 The running of skipping beastes, that colde not be sene. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. ii. 60 The skipping King hee ambled vp and downe. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, Hee's a good skipping swaggerer. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 81 A designe to make your skipping suiters hop away and leave you. 1733 FIELDING *Intriguing Chambermaid* I. v, Indeed, with your little, pert, skipping beaux, I don't know what may happen. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 25 A skipping deer, With pointed hoof dibbling the glebe. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 609 Skipping Stickleback, *Gasterosteus Saltatrix.* ..Stickleback with eight dorsal spines connected by a membrane. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 95 A she-goat..with her two little black fantastically-skipping kids.

transf. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 196 Allay with some cold drops of modestie Thy skipping spirit. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mell.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 13 A short finger, and a naked chinne, A skipping eye. 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Skipping-Notes*, notes which do not proceed by conjoint degrees, nor in any regular course, but which lay at awkward and unexpected distances from each other.

2. Characterized by skips.

1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii, In their vild, vnseuill, skipping giggs. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 172 An Æthiopian..who..doth dance in their processions with a skipping motion.

Ski·ppingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a skipping manner; by skips.

1572 HULOET *Alv.*, Skippingly, or by skippes and leapes. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 23 If one read skippingly and by snatches, and not take the threed of the story along. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Commenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 639 The third [the rash man] rambling over businesses skippingly. 1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 605 Hart on the hill never bounded more skippingly. 1889 *Times* 13 Aug. 4/3 Readers who get through a book skippingly.

Ski·pping-rope. [f. SKIPPING *vbl. sb.*[1]] A piece of rope, sometimes with a wooden handle at each end, used in the pastime of skipping.

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* III. 318 Stretching to catch two things like skipping-ropes. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* ix. 45 Just as a girl throws her skipping-rope. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* x, I showed her a new skipping-rope that I had bought on my way.

attrib. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 798 The peculiar 'skipping rope' fibres, i. e. filaments with a knob at each end, which occur..in the mesoglaea of certain Ceratine sponges.

† **Ski·ppish,** *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. SKIP *v.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Inclined to skip; given to skipping.

1576 A. FLEMING tr. *Caius' Eng. Dogs* (1880) 16 A Hare (being a wilde and skippishe beast).

Skipple (ski·p'l). *U.S.* Also 7 skiple. [ad. Du. *schepel* (also MDu. and MLG.; OS. *scepel*), = G. *scheffel* (OHG. *sceffil*) bushel.] A measure of three pecks. Also *attrib.*

1685 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 95 One Skiple Salt. 1701 WOLLEY *Jrnl. N. York* (1860) 34 Long Island Wheat three shillings a Skipple (a Skipple being three parts of a Bushel). 1769 *Cont. Narr. Ind. Charity School Lebanon* 18 Corn [maize] and wheat at the German Flats are from six shillings to a dollar a skipple. 1901 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VIII. 283/2 The Skipple-measure or Short Bushel of New England.

† **Skippound.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Du. *schippond*, or LG. *schippund* (cf. ON., MSw., etc., *skippund*.)] = SHIPPOUND.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 30 The Skippound is vsed in many places..: the Skippound is taken for the lading of corne in a ship, *Quasi Shippound*, as a diuident of a Last of corne. 1674 S. JEAKE *Arith. Surv.* (1696) 126 At Antwerp..A Stone is 8 lb. The Skippound 300 lb.

Skippy (ski·pi), *a.* [f. SKIP *v.*[1] + -Y[1].] Characterized by skipping.

1883 JANE G. AUSTIN *Nantucket Scraps* 178 The beach-grass long and tangled, swarmed with all things of a crawly, skippy, venomous nature.

† **Skire,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 3, 5 skir, 5, 8–9 skire; 4–6, 9 skyre, 5 skyr. [a. ON. *skirr* (Norw. and MSw. *skir*) clear, pure, = OE. *scīr* SHIRE *a.* In later use only *Sc.*]

1. Clear *of*, free *from*, something morally bad.

c 1200 ORMIN 8015 þatt genge þatt wass milde & meoc,.. & off galnesse skir & fre. *Ibid.* 12194 All þatt ahhte off eorþliȝ þing þatt Godess þeowwess haffdenn..i þiss middell ærd Iss all skir fra þe deofell.

2. a. Of water: Pure, clear.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1776 þay..Asscaped ouer þe skyre watteres & scaped þe walles. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2119 Scamandra þe slire [*read* skire: *Dubl.* skyr] flode þe scriptour it callis.

b. Of colours, flames, etc.: Clear; bright.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 467 To skyre skarlet hewe skyftis hire face. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12500 [The lightning] skirmyt in the skewes with a skyre low. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 533 With flying fyreflaughts burning bright and skyre [*v. r.* schyre].

3. Conspicuous or notable, esp. in respect of harmful qualities.

This sense, which appears only in the *Destr. Troy* (cf. also ll. 12700 and 13616) is prob. due to the requirements of alliteration.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8897 In anythyng..þat hase skapet vs to skathe, ne to skyre harme. *Ibid.* 13397 Ascatus the skir, þat skathill was in elde.

4. (See quot. and cf. SKIRE *adv.*)

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Skire*, *Skyre*, pure, mere; as 'a skire fool'.

† **Skire,** *v. Obs.*[-1] In 4 skir. [a. ON. *skira* (Norw. and MSw. *skira*), f. *skirr* adj.: see prec.] *refl.* To cleanse, clear, or purify (oneself).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28058 þat þai ripe wele þair aun boke, And skir þam sua wit þair in-sight þair conscience..clene and bright.

Skire, *adv. Sc.* Also 6 skyr, 8 skier, 9 skyre, scyre. [See SKIRE *a.*] Sheer; quite; altogether. Also *ellipt.* quite mad.

1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 85 Sum in Angus exponing the same ran skyr daft. 1766 A. NICOL *Poems* 95 (E.D.D.), Our land is now quite skier naked made. 1822 HOWDEN in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. II. (1881) 35 'The man's gane skire', muttered Matt. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Skeir*, In Fife..the phrase is *skyre-mad*, i. e., quite insane.

Skiret, obs. form of SKIRRET[1].

Skire Thursday. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* ? *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 Skire, 5–6 Skyre, 6 Skir, 7 Sky(i)r, Skier, Sky. *β.* 5 Skyrys, 6 Skyris, Skiris, 9 Skiers, Scarce; 7 Skis, Skies. See also THURSDAY. [ad. ON. *Skíri-þórsdagr* (Norw. *Skirtorsdag*), f. *skír* SKIRE *a.* Cf. also SKERE *a.* 4.] The day next before Good Friday; Maundy Thursday; = SHEER THURSDAY.

α. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2277 So..walde he passe To Skyre thuresday, þan walde he his fete waschyn and clensyd be. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 72 Almous on Skire Thurisday. 1562 *Invent. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 156 Item, fourty drying clathis of all sortes—Deliverit xii..on skir-furisday at the wesching of the pure folkis fete. 1621 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 642 Thrie ȝeirlie faires, Viz. the first..vpoun skyirthurisdaye, the secund..at Lambes. 1670 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 228 For wine att the Communion upon..Sky Thursday.

β. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 108 On Skyrys Thursday, giffin for the Kingis almus clathis, xvij merkis. 1630 in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 343 *note*, Skis-Thursday being our Lady-Day in Lent. 1677 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 241 For bread and wine att the Communions of Palme Sunday, Skies Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Day, and the Sunday after.

b. *Sc.* Used as the name of local fairs or markets held on this day.

In quot. 1864 the date is correct by Old Style.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Skeir, Scarce-Thursday*, the name of a fair held at Melrose on the Thursday before Easter. 1864 *Glasgow Her.* 15 Apr., 'Skiers' Thursday.—This important concluding market was held yesterday.

Skiriwort, obs. form of SKIRRET[1].

Skirl (skəːl), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 skyrl, 8 skirle. [f. the vb.]

1. A shrill cry, a shriek; shrill talk.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. xi. 1 With skirlis and with skrekis thus sche beris. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. 40 The botis man..cryit vithit ane skyrl, quod he, i see ane grit schip. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xix, Mony an unco skirl and shout. 1791 A. WILSON *Laurel Disp.* Wks. 1876 II. 18 Her skirle Sets my twa lugs a ringing like a gir'le. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxv, That silly fliskmahoy..has..done naething but laugh and greet, the skirl at the tail o' the guffa, for twa days successfully. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxiv, The skirl of the grey sea-birds.

2. A shrill sound, *esp.* that characteristic of the bagpipe.

1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* I. xv. 238, I hear the skirl of the bagpipes which announces that we are not far from the Highlanders. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* iv. 78 A skirl of vocal music rose up suddenly close by.

b. *Skirl-in-the-pan*, something prepared for eating by frying in a pan.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v, I trow ye dinna get sic a skirl-in-the-pan as that at Niel Blane's. 1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.*

Skirl (skəːl), *v.*[1] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 5 scrille, skrille, 6, 8 skirle, 6 skyrl, 8 skerl. [prob. of Scand. origin: the early form *skrille* corresponds to a Norw. dial. *skrylla*, with variants *skrella* and *skrolla* in the same sense.]

1. *intr.* To scream, shriek, cry out shrilly.

c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 536 Thenne his lemmon on lofte scrilles [*v.r.* skirles] and scrykes. *Ibid.* 619 Ho scrilles [*v.r.* skrilles] and scrikes. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 39 Baith Iohne the Ross and thow, sall squeill and skirle. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 593 Whan he was borne towarde his moders chare, he skyrlyd and cryed so feruently. 1645 SIR T. HOPE in *Misc. Sc. Hist. Soc.* I. 131 Quhen I preis to tak any of the barnes in my armes, he skirlis for impatiencie. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* vi, He grippet Nelly hard an' fast; Loud skirl'd a' the lasses. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xi, Stay where ye are, and skirl as loud as ye can. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xi. 100 The women-folk fair skirled wi' fear.

b. Of the bagpipe (or its music): To produce the shrill sounds by which it is characterized; to sound shrilly.

a 1665 R. SEMPILL *Piper of Kilbarchan* 44 He gart his pipe, when he did play, Baith skirl and skreed. 1791 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 123 He screw'd the pipes and gart them skirl, Till roof and rafters a' did dirl. 1873 BLACK *Pr. of Thule* iv, The wild and ominous air that was skirling upon the hill-side.

c. Of other inanimate things.

1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iv, On the painted board that is skirling and groaning at the door. 1891 BARRIE *Little Minister* iii, Blasts from the north..skirled through the manse. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 388 It was comfortable too at meal-times to hear the bacon skirling in the pan.

2. To play the bagpipe.

1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* ii, Three fiddlers..and a piper ..all skirling, scraping and bumming away throughither. 1879 C. KEENE *Let.* in *Life* x. (1892) 296 [He] had a sort of piper skirling away in his garden.

3. *trans.* To sing, utter, play, etc., in loud and shrill tones.

1786 BURNS *Ordination* iii, O' double verse come gie us four, An' skirl up the Bangor. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvii, If he suld hear her skirling her auld ends o' sangs. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* i. (1855) 23 His piper 'skirling a gathering'.

b. To cause (the bagpipe) to sound shrilly.

1885 G. FRASER *Poems* 219 Pate Clauchan o' this toon, Wha skirled his pipes.

Skirl (skəːl), *v.*[2] [Of obscure origin; also current in northern dial. as *scurl.*] *intr.* To fly with a sweeping or whirling motion.

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, A pretty white curlew skirled over the housetop to settle on the sheepwash dam. 1869 *Daily News* 18 Aug., Butterflies white, butterflies blue, are on all sides trooping and skirling in the shine.

Ski·rling, *sb. local.* Also scar-, scur-, skerling. [Of obscure origin.] A young salmon; a samlet, sparling.

1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 2) III. 266 [Samlets] are also common in the Wye, where they are known by the name of Skirlings, or Lasprings. 1801 W. COXE *Tour Monmouth.* I. 2 The only fish not common in the English rivers, are the skerling and the sewin. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 527 *note*, Scarling or scurling,..smolt, &c. all denote the same fish. 1891 *Fishing Gaz.* 14 Feb. 88/3 The Severn Board of Conservators have successfully prosecuted those found with these skirling in their possession.

Ski·rling, *vbl. sb.* [f. SKIRL *v.*[1]] Shrill crying, shrieking, etc.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxx, She could find voice enough to tell the women and children without, to 'leave their skirling, and look after the cows'. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s. v. *Skerl*, The skirling of the sea-gulls is said to be the forerunner of a gale. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* v. 53 It heartens me..like the skirling of the Highland pipes.

Ski·rling, *ppl. a.* [f. SKIRL *v.*[1]] Crying or sounding shrilly, screaming, etc.

1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xii, When skirlin weanies see the light. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, Haud your tongue, ye skirling limmer! 1819 — *Leg. Montrose* iii, Their damnable skirlin' pipes. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 828/1 The skirling cry of the snipe.

† **Skirm,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. the vb. Cf. F. *escrime*, OF. *escremie*, *eskermie*, etc.] Movement as in fencing or fighting; skirmish.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13541 Thus I skope fro the skathe with skyrme of my hondes. 1534 *Primer in English* F v, Syr, lo: here are two swerdes, thynk ye not these two be sufficient for this scyrme.

† **Skirm,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 3 scurmen, 3–4 skirmen, 4 skyrmen; 3 scerem-, schirme, 4–5 skirme, 4 sckyrme, 5 skyrme. [ad. OF. *eskirmir*, *eskermir*, *eschermir*, etc. (also *escremir*: see SKRIM *v.*), f. OHG. *skirman*, *scirman* (G. *schirmen*) to defend, f. *scirm*, *scerm* shield, defence. Cf. SKIRMISH *v.*]

1. *intr.* To fence, to skirmish.

c 1205 LAY. 8144 Þeos tweien cnihtes bi-gunnen mid sceldes to scurmen. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Þe wreðfule biuoren þe ueonde skirmeð mid kniues. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4745 Oþer bachelers skirmede faste, Wrastlede, lepen, stones caste. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2227 Somme for to sckyrme asay with swerd & bokelere. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxi. (1869) 120 Now j wole telle of the staf;.. I skirme therwith and defende me. ?*c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 67 (Bann. MS.), Sum bird will bay at my beke,..sum skyrme at myn e.

b. *trans.* To engage with (one) in fight. *rare*[-1].

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13601 Þow has britnet my brether..; And now Aschatus with skath wold skirme to þe deth.

2. *intr.* To dart about, move rapidly.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 483 Ho skyrmez vnder skwe & skowtez aboute, Tyl hit was ny3e at þe naȝt. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12500 Hit skirmyt in the skewes with a skyre low.

Hence **Ski·rming** *vbl. sb.*

In *Wars Alex.* 5157 the form *skirmand* prob. stands for *skremand* screaming.

c 1275 LAY. 8144 Þeos twei cnihtes bi-gonnen to sceremigge [*read* -inge]. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2323 Buttinge with sharpe speres, Skirming with taleuaces þat men beres. 13.. *K. Alis.* 672 (Laud MS.), Now can Alisaundre of skirmyng, As of stedes derayeyng.

† **Ski·rmery.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. **eskirmerie* (var. of *escrimerie*), f. *eskirmir* : see prec.] Skirmishing, fencing.

c 1450 *Merlin* xxi. 368 The kynge Bohors, that moche cowde of skirmerie, resceyved the stroke on his shelde. *Ibid.* xxviii. 571 Dodinell caste a stroke of skirmerye to monevall.

Ski·rmish (skə̄·ɹmiʃ), *sb.* Forms: α. 4 skarmuch, 4, 6 -moch, 5 -moche, -masche, 6 -musch(e, -mouch; 4 scharmoch, -mus; 5 scarmuche, -muschе, -musshe, 6 -muss, -mouch(e, -moge; 6 skaramouche, scaramoche, -moshe. β. 4–5 skarmich, 4 -myssh, 6 -mische; 4 scarmich, -mych(e, 5 -mysshe. γ. 4–6 skyrmysshe, 5–6 -mysh, 6 -myshe, -mish; 4–6 skirmysshe (5 scir-, 6 schyr-), 6 -mysche, -mishe, 6– skirmish; 5 skermyshe, 6 -mysche, 7 -mish. δ. 6 skyrmosh, skyr-, skirmush. ε. 5–6 skermyche; 6 scir-, 6–7 skirmige, 8–9 *dial.* -idge; 6 scir-, 6–7 skirmage. [The earlier forms are ad. OF. *escar(a)moche, -muche, -musche*, etc., ad. It. *scaramuccia* (cf. Sp. *escaramuza*, Pg. *-muça*), of doubtful origin. The later forms *scar-, sker-, skirmish* (cf. SCRIMISH *sb.*) have been influenced by those forms of the vb. which are derived from OF. *eskirmiss-*; with the obsolete variants of these in *-iche, -ige, -age*, cf. SCRIMMAGE *sb.* and the forms of RUBBISH.]

1. An irregular engagement between two small bodies of troops, esp. detached or outlying portions of opposing armies; a petty fight or encounter. Also occas. without article, as a mode of fighting.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1186 þenne was þe sege sette þe Cete aboute, Skete skarmoch skelt. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 934 (Campsall MS.), Now late..we oure tales holde Of Troylus þat is to palays ryden Fro þe skarmuch. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 533 They..made there many skarmuches. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* cliv. 228 And there was the skarmoche grete & fiers. 1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 33 They helde them contynually occupied..with scaramoshes, alarmes, and false assaultes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 34 Not this rude kind of battell, nor these armes Are meet,..Such cruell game my scarmoges disarmes. 1601 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Lett.* (Camden) 115 Slaine there with a shot in an obscure scarmouch.

β. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 611 Ascry aros at skarmyssh [*v.r.* scarmich] al with oute. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* xx. Title, Of..Skarmiches Lastyng xxx dayes Betwene the Towne & the tenttes. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxiv. 75 To haue them fyrst at a scarmysshe ayenst the aduersaryes.

γ. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxxxiv. 324 Pryns Edward,..with sore skyrmisshes & fightyng and grete assautes, fought with hem. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 911 To profer Skyrmyssh to this Castell. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxviii. (1811) 94 By dayly skyrmysshes & assautes he loste moche of his people. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 267 b, The Prince..had offered them the skermysche with the light horsemen. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. ii, While they maintaine hot skirmish too and fro, Both battailes ioyne. 1688 J. S. *Art of War* 2 Distances for intire Doublings or Skermishes between rank and file is 3 foot. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lv. 276 In many counties, where the people were divided, mobbish combats and skirmishes ensued. 1810 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) VI. 496 Our cavalry had a skirmish with the enemy..in which they had the advantage. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 141 At this critical moment..the Earl fell in an Irish skirmish.

δ. 1514 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 313 Who hathe had manye skyrmoshys withe hyme. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 352 Y⁶ assaultes..which be called skirmushes be easilie withstood.

ε. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 45 Thys yere..was a grete skermyche in the north abowte Carlelle. 1567 DRANT *Hor. Ep.* I. i. B viij, The valiant man of warre May ..liue at lengthe a parte from scirmage farre. 1581 RICHE *Farew.* (1846) 8 The orders of sondrie battailes, and the maner of skirmiges. 1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 240 In the heate of scermadge. 1680 C. NESS *Ch. Hist.* 96 Save onely two poor spirts, or small skirmages. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 46 While the Skirmidge lastut. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 305 *Skirmidge*, a skirmish. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*

† **2.** A body of skirmishers. *Obs.*

1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 23 b, Minutius forthwith sent forthe his lighte armed men and attacked the scaramoche.

3. *transf.* **a.** Any contest or encounter.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 43 Bitter bruntes and shrewde skyrmishes of aduersitie. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 64 They neuer meet, but there's a skirmish of wit between them. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 58 Incountring still in loues sweete skirmiges. 1690 C. NESS *Hist. O. & N. Test.* I. 300 His violent wrestling was not..a short skirmish of a few day-hours. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 74, I had a new skirmish with him whose the money should be. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Poor Relations*, Many and hot were the skirmishes on this topic. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* I. (1856) 472 In two days more, after a closing skirmish with the ice-pack, we headed homeward.

b. An action or proceeding of a slight character; a slight display *of* something.

1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvi. (1739) 114 By light skirmishes of borrowing smaller sums of money,..and paying them again, thereby to gain credit for greater sums. 1681 FLAVEL *Right. Man's Ref.* 166 The fury of his anger, not some light skirmish of his judgment.

c. A scamper, scramble.

1835 T. ARNOLD in *Life & Corr.* (1844) I. vii. 428, I never have regarded a regular walk along a road..as exercise... A skirmish over the country is a very different thing.

4. *attrib.*, as *skirmish-drill, -line.*

1868 UPTON *Inf. Tactics* § 638 In the skirmish-drill the officers..will constantly aim to impress each man with the idea of his individuality. 1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 241 The wonderful exploits on the skirmish-line and at the outposts.

Skirmish (skə̄·ɹmiʃ), *v.* Forms: α. 5 scarmuche, -mushe, 5–6 -musshe, 6 -musch, -mush, -muss, -mosh; skarmuss. β. 5–6 scarmysshe, 5 -myshe, -mish, 6 -missh, -mesh; 5 scarmiss, -mys; 5 skarmysshe, 6 -misch, -mis. γ. 5 scermish, 5–6 skyrmysshe, 6 -myshe, -mish, skirmishe, -misch, 6– skirmish (7 scir-). δ. 6 skyrmyche, 9 *dial.* -mage. [The α-forms are ad. OF. *escar(a)mucher, -mucier*, ad. It. *scaramucciare* (cf. Sp. *escaramuzar*, Pg. *-muçar*), f. *scaramuccia* : see prec. The forms in *-ish* are influenced by, or directly based on, OF. *eskirmiss-, eskermiss-*, the lengthened stem of *eskermir*, etc. : see SKIRM *v.*]

1. *intr.* To engage in a skirmish or irregular encounter; to fight in small parties. Freq. const. *with.*

α. *c* 1470 *Contin. Brut* cclix. 528 þe Duke..gat peple to him, which come out & scarmusshed [1482 *Caxton* scarmuched] with þame of Caleys. 1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 33 They salied forth daiely and scaramoshed with them. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Wars* III. ii. 46 Any part of shot or pikes..set to defend any straight, or to scarmush.

β. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 282 þus men bygonne & scarmysshute fast, þe twey hostes bothe y-fere. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2079 On a day he went, to scarmish with thaim.

γ. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 512 He..issuyd boldly agayne y⁶ foresayd persones and skyrmysshed with them. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 21 Thei with light horses began to skirmishe with his hoste. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 141 Sir John Barkeley..skirmishing with them, killed some dead in the place. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 88 Next Morning the Britains..skirmished with the Roman Horse. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 123 Thence to Acomac, where he skirmished with some Indians. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 607 Some of his ships should skirmish with the enemy: but the great body of his fleet should not be risked.

δ. 1530 PALSGR. 720/1 They dyd skyrmyche togyther syxe dayes or ever the batayles joyned. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Skirmage*, to skirmish.

b. In fig. uses or contexts.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 17 Bebrusht with bryers her brooded body bled, The brambles skirmishte had with every vayne. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* A viij b, But inward Senses skirmish in the night. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* 20 Awakes his Lute,..and ere the warre begin, He lightly skirmishes on every string. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 96 ₱ 11 [Falsehood] sometimes waited the attack; but always endeavoured to skirmish at a distance. 1886 GLADSTONE in *Times* 9 Apr. 5/5 We should no longer fence or skirmish with this question...We should come to close quarters with it.

† **2.** To fence; to make flourishes with a weapon.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 399 þan Nero made oon skirmysshe above Seneca his heed with a brygbt swerd. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 648 He myght not se where to smyte, and be-gan to scarmyshe and to grope a-boute hym with his staffe. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 b, Then were in sight the number of twentie Moores skirmishing with their dartes. 1763 J. BROWN *Poet. & Music* xxxvi. 97 After skirmishing for some time with their Swords, one of them (as wounded) fell down.

† **3.** *trans.* To engage or attack (an enemy) in or with a skirmish. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 273 Yonder is the kyng vryan.., that scarmyssheth theire nauye. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 109 They..fell to the Inglischemen, and skirmischit thame so haitlie that they caussit thame reteir. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 83 The great quantity of artillery ..skirmished them so well [etc.]. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. iii. 245 To war with God or skirmish the Scripture is no approved method to secure Peace.

† **b.** *fig.* To win by skirmish. *Obs.*—1

a 1797 WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1847) II. viii. 271 Fox even skirmished his borough from Dr. Hay.

Skirmisher (skə̄·ɹmiʃəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER.] One of a number of soldiers taking part in a skirmish or acting in loose order apart from the main body of an army or battalion.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Excursor*, a skirmishar. 1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 156 That his Skirmishers and light armed be beaten in. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* XX. (1634) 246 If this be exactly done the Skirmishers will never be above the length of one File behind the body of your Pikes. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvii. 329 Skirmishers are scouts for the discovery of the strength of an army, before battel be given. 1799 *Cavalry Instr.* (1813) 269 Skirmishers are to be very attentive..in instantly obeying the signals made for their direction. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 199 A detachment of whom..were employed as skirmishers and marksmen. 1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* V. ii. 382 Our skirmishers gained the edge of the bank.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Something sent out in advance.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., As you usually throw out a few lines of verse (by way of skirmishers, I suppose) at the head of each division of prose. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Jan. 1/3 We have four advertising cars, which go one, two, three and four weeks ahead. These we call 'skirmishers'.

Skirmishing (skə̄·ɹmiʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: (see the vb.). [I. SKIRMISH *v.*] The action of engaging, or taking part, in a skirmish or skirmishes.

α. β. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1910 *Ariadne*, So byt happed, that at a skarmysshynge [*v.r.* scarmuchyng, etc.], She caste hir hert vpon Mynos the kynge. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I xviii. 54 Whan prisouners be taken in scarmyshyng or otherwyse. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 131 Thenne bygan the scarmusshing strong & grete and moche mortal. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xx. (S. T. S.) I. 116 The fulich gabynis ..straik sindri small skarmischingis and batallis aganis þe romanis. *a* 1600 *Hist. Jas. VI* (Bann. Cl.) 128 He fell in the hands of the said capten efter a light scarmeshing.

γ. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* IV. i, The self same musick that in auncient daies Brought Alexander..from skirmishing to kissing. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 180 Wearied with the heat of the day and long skirmishing. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 259 An infinite number of party skirmishings..happened. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, I. 307 Merely the skirmishing of light troops before the commencement of a general battle. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 333 Mackay, meanwhile, wasted some weeks..in indecisive skirmishing.

attrib. 1858 BROCK *Havelock* xiii. 210 Advance was made in skirmishing order on the entrenched quadrangles.

fig. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 42 Which are but light skirmishings, and not serious contendings in matters of Religion. 1687 in *Magd. Coll. Collect.* (O. H. S.) 166 All this was but skirmishing in respect of what was done on Saturday. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* x. 338 Little is to be hoped for from the skirmishings..and desultory movements of the intellect.

Skirmishing (skə̄·ɹmiʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Engaging in a skirmish or skirmishes; designed for skirmishing.

1781 in Simes *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 8 [The Adjutant-general] gives and signs all the orders for skirmishing parties. 1799 *Cavalry Instr.* (1813) 269 Skirmishing detachments are usually made of a flank division or subdivision. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* i. 9 The wild fellows were thrown out on all sides, and formed a skirmishing front all the way.

Hence **Ski·rmishingly** *adv.*, in a skirmishing manner.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, The upholsterer's foreman.. skirmishingly measuring expensive objects. 1889 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 5 Oct. 638/1 What loading-up he did was very skirmishingly effected from the rear.

Skirp, *v. rare.* Now *Sc.* [a. ON. *skirpa* (also Icel. and MSw.), to spit.]

† **1. a.** *intr.* To behave with contempt. **b.** *trans.* To mock, deride. (Cf. SCRIP *v.*[2]) *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 ORMIN 7393 3iff þe33 herenn ohht off Godd, & skirrpenn þær onnȝæness. *Ibid.* 7389. ?*c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 67 (Bann. MS.), Sum bird will..skirp me with scorne.

2. *trans.* To splash up on; to bespatter.

1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 18 The boat rising up and down on its very ends, and leaning over till the spray actually 'skirpit' her face.

Skirr (skə̄ɹ), *sb.* Also **scurr, skurr.** [f. the vb.] A sound of a grating, rasping, or whirring character.

c 1870 M. CLARKE in *Mem. Vol.* (1884) 127 How many nights in that humble shelter have I listened to the skirr of the wild cats. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* I. xx. 219 The scurr of whetting [*sc.* shears] spread into the sky. 1887 — *Woodlanders* III. ii. 44 The occasional skirr of a halter in Melbury's stables.

Skirr (skə̄ɹ), *v.* Forms: α. 6 skyr, 6–7, 9– skir, 7 skirre, 7, 9– skirr; 6, 9 *dial.* sker. β. 7, 9 scur (9 *dial.* skur), 9 scurr. [Of doubtful origin; the form *scur* could represent OF. *escorre, escourre* :—L. *excurrĕre*, but the existing evidence indicates the priority of *skir.*]

1. *intr.* To run hastily (*away*); to flee, make off; = SCOUR *v*[1] 1 c.

α. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 54 b, Your..bragging adversaries..wil flee, ronne, & skyr out of the felde. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. vii. 64 We will come to them, And make them sker away. 1602 *Life Ld. Cromwell* III. ii, So many battles have I overpass'd And made the French skir when they heard my name.

β. 1887 CAINE *Deemster* xxxvii, From their confusion in scurring away, I knew that the sheep had indeed been there.

2. To move, run, fly, sail, etc., rapidly or with great impetus. Sometimes implying a whirring sound accompanying the movement. Usu. const. with advs. or preps.

α. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 7 Let Zeuxis Grapes not make him proude at all, Though Fowles for them did skyr against a wall. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 315 Seleucus with an hundred ships,..in a scornful manner, skirred along under the noses of them. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 5 From their skirring along, or gliding upon the snow. 1827 J. F. COOPER *Prairie* II. xii. 198 Suddenly one of the.. most ferocious of them all broke out of the ring, and skirred away in the direction of her victims. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 173 The black-maned clouds, like Furies on the wing, Skir past.

β. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* I. i, The light shadows, That in a thought scur o'r the fields of Corn. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxii, The animal, who was scurring over the field,..instantly returned. 1866 *Reader* 17 Feb. 173/1 A picture..of the wind and the rain, as the first scurs at its fiercest speed.

b. *dial.* To slide or skate swiftly.

1811 WILLAN in *Archaeologia* XVII. 158 *Skerr*, to slide swiftly, to skait. 1825– in dial. glossaries (Northumb., Lancs, Devon, Cornwall).

3. *trans.* To pass or go rapidly over (a stretch of land or water), esp. in search of something or some one. (Cf. SCOUR *v.*[1] 2.) † Also, to ride rapidly *through.*

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. iii. 35 Send out moe Horses, skirre the Country round. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. ii, Whil'st I with that, and this well mounted, scurr'd A Horse-troope through, and through. 1816 BYRON *Siege Corinth* xxii, Mount ye, spur ye, skirr the plain, That the fugitive may flee in vain. 1826 SCOTT *Kelly's Reminisc.* Misc. Wks.

1870 XX. 234 An adventurous little schooner of this kind skirring the coast in search of its own peculiar objects. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* ii, The broader puddles, though skirred by the breeze, found the network of ice veiling over them.
fig. 1821 BYRON *Cain* III. i. 64, I had..skirr'd extinguish'd worlds; And, gazing on eternity, methought [etc.].

4. To throw with a rapid skimming motion. Cf. SKEER *v.*[1]

a 1652 BROME *Mad Couple* I. i, None dare venture so neare you as a Man hurles a Die or Skirrs a Card. 18.. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., 'See me skirr this stone.' A word used only..in connection with this hoyish test of skill. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* XXXV. 358 Polwarth..skirred his flat hat into the middle of the sawdust.

Hence **Skirring** *ppl. a.*

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XII. Mm ij b, As the swallow..With tendre houeringe winges her skirringe flight swift forward takes. 1827 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 277 *North.* Have you had any snow yet James, in the forest? *Shepherd.* Only some skirrin sleets.

Skirret[1] (skir'rit). Forms: *α.* 4 **skyrwate**, 5–6 **skyrwyt** (5 **-wytte**, **skerwyth**, **scyrwy3th**, **schirewyt**), 6 **skyrwit**; 4 **skirwhite**, 4–5 **-whit**, 5–7 **-wit**, 6 **-wike**, 7 **-wicke**. *β.* 6 **skyrwort**, **-wurt**, 6–8 **skirwort**, 6 **-wurt**, 7 **-wirt**; 7 **skir-(r)iwort**. *γ.* 6 **skyrrit**, 6– **skirret** (6 **skiret**), 7 **skirrot**; 7 **skerret**, 8 **-ett**, **-it**. [ME. *skirwhit(e*, app. an alteration by popular etymology (? simulating *skire white* pure white) of OF. *eschervis* (mod.F. *chervis*), which is closely related to Sp. *chirivia*, Pg. *cherivia*, and appears to be a variant of OF. *carvi* CARRAWAY. The later Eng. *skirret* is a natural development from *skirwhit*, while *skirwort* represents a further attempt to make the word intelligible.]

1. A perennial umbelliferous plant, *Sium sisarum*, a species of water parsnip, formerly much cultivated in Europe for its esculent tubers; the root of this plant.

In one or two 15th cent. glossaries *skyrwyt* renders L. *eruca*, prob. in error.

α. 1338 in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1846) II. 585/1 In flore, *jd.* In skirwhittes, *jd.* *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 12 *Baucea*, skirwhit. *Ibid.* 33 *Pastinaca*, skirwhite. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Skyrwyt, herbe or rote. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Skyrwyt, an herbe. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 600 Skirwits: The roots boiled are good for the stomacke. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xii. § 126 The rape.., the navew, parsnip, carret, skirwit.

β. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 74 Fuchsius rekoneth that our skyrwort or skyrwit is a kynde of siser. Persnepes and skirwortes are commune in Englande. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 605 Skirwurtes are hoate and drie in the seconde degree. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* XXXIX. (1614) 78 Pomfret..brings forth liquorice and great plenty of skirlworts. 1725 *Fam. Dict.*, *Skirret* or *Skirwort*.

γ. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 94 Herbes and rootes for sallets and sauce..Skirrets. 1608 MACHIN *Dumbe Knight* I, Roasted potatoes, or boil'd skerrets, are your only lofty dishes. 1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* 64 Skirrets..exceedingly nourishing, wholsome and delicate. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. I. 250 Skirrets, useful in bloody Urine, and Spitting of Blood. 1803 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* I. 416 Half a pound of skirrets, an ounce and a half of pure sugar. 1855 DELAMER *Kitchen Gard.* (1861) 33 The Skirret. ..A native of China, with the root composed of fleshy tubers ..growing together something like a dahlia root.
attrib. 1840 AINSWORTH *Tower of London* (1864) 85 A skirret pasty; an apple tansy; and a prodigious marrow pudding.

b. With distinguishing terms, as *garden*, *wild*; also applied to other species of *Sium* (quot. 1796).

c 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 30 *Carui agreste*, wylde-schirewyt. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Chervis sauvages*, wild Skirwike. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 41 To come more particularly to the garden Skirwort. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 42 Garden Skirrets. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 299 *Sium latifolium*.., Broad-leaved Skerrett. Great Water Parsnep. *Ibid.*, *S. angustifolium*.., Upright Water Parsnep. Narrow-leaved Skerret.

† **c.** *Skirret of Peru*, the potato. *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxxxiv. 780 This plant which is called of some *Sisarum Peruuianum*, or Skyrrits of Peru, is generally of vs called Potatus or Potatoes.

2. *Skirret-root*, the edible root of the plant *Sium sisarum*, or, more frequently, the plant itself.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Siser*, One kinde of it is the roote that is called Skirwike rootes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. v. II. 18 The Skirwirt root or white Parsnip, (which indeed would be written among other Physicke plants). 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 326 Skirret-roots were so sweet and delicate in ancient times, that [etc.]. 1736 AINSWORTH II. *Siser*,..the skirret root.

Skirret[2]. *Freemasonry.* (See quots.)

1853 G. OLIVER *Dict. Symb. Masonry* 339 The skirret acting on a centre pin is used to mark out the ground of a new building. As the skirret has a chalked line attached to it [etc.]. 1877 K. R. H. MACKENZIE *Roy. Masonic Cycl.* 677 *Skirret.*—One of the working tools of a Master Mason. It is an instrument usually made of wood, shaped like the letter T, acting on a centre-pin.

Skirrh, var. SCIRRHE *Obs.* **Skirr(h)ous**, obs. ff. SCIRRHOUS *a.* **Skirring**, *ppl. a.*: see SKIRR *v.*

Skirry, var. SCURRY *v.* (Cf. SKIRR *v.*)

1869 'OUIDA' *Tricotrin* I. 260 She is no more dead than that mouse that skirries over the floor.

Skirt (skɔ̈t), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **skirte** (6 **-the**, 7 **scirte**), 4– **skirt** (6 **schirt**, 7 **skeart**); 4–6 **skyrte** (5 **-tte**, **scyrtte**), 5–6 **skyrt**; 5–6 **skurte**, 8 **scurt**; 6 **skort**. [a. ON. *skyrta* (Icel. *skyrta*, Norw. *sjørte*, *sjorte*, *sjurte*; MSw. *skiurta*, *skiorta*, Sw. *skjorta*, Da. *skjorte*) shirt, = OE. *scyrte*: see SHIRT *sb.* The development of the Eng. sense is obscure, but the corresponding LG. *schört* has in some districts the sense of 'woman's gown'.]

I. 1. The lower part of a woman's dress or gown, covering the person from the waist downwards; also, esp. in modern use, a separate outer garment serving this purpose. † In ME. occas. = LAP *sb.* 4 b.

Divided skirt, a form of skirt divided in the middle and presenting the appearance of full knickerbockers; also, a skirt made in two widths and open back and front, used in riding or cycling.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8963 Sco lift hir skirt wit-vten scurn, And bar-fote wode sco þat burn. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlvi. 188 (Add. MS.), The woman..toke his hede into her skirthe, and he began strongely for to slepe. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 398 When þe childe was born it was broght & layd in hur skurte. 1535 COVERDALE *Lam.* i. 9 Ierusalem synned euer more & more...Hir skyrtes are defyled, she remembred not what wolde folowe. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 37 In a long purple pall, whose skirt with gold Was fretted all about, she was arayd. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Two Noble Kinsmen* II. ii, This is a pretty colour, wilt not do Rarely upon a skirt, wench? 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 21 Upon the Queene's Birthday most wore embraudered bodys with plaine black skirts of Morella Mohair and Prunella. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xiv, She put on her white muslin tunic and pink skirt. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 2 Sept. 7/1 A divided skirt..is the clumsiest..article that a woman can put on. 1899 CONAN DOYLE *Duet* (1909) 105/2 With a swift rustle of skirts, she was between the door and his chair.
fig. 1857 W. T. MATSON *Resurgam* Poems (1858) 142 When Darkness gathers up the skirts of gloom.

b. A woman; *the skirt*, women collectively. Now *slang*.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 52 Now thow thy tale hes tauld,..Bot not gottin thow wald, licht skirt for all thy skippis. 1899 HYNE *Further Adv. Capt. Kettle* xii. 298 If any of you rats of men shove your way down here.. before all the skirt is ferried across [etc.].

2. The lower part of a man's gown or robe. Now chiefly *Hist.* or with reference to Eastern countries.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7884 þe kyng.. anon vp stirt, Bot Hengist laughtym by þe skirt, & held hym as stille as ston. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 865 [A robe] þat sete on hym semly, wyth saylande skyrtez. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3473 Many schredys and schragges at his skyrttes hynnges. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 65 He grapid in his bosom & fand xij d of gold, & he keste þaim in þis wude preste skyrte. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* CXXXIII[I]. 2 It..ranne downe vnto the beerd,..& wente downe to the skyrtes of his clothinge. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i, Or wilie Cyppus, that can winke and snort Whiles his wife dallyes on Mæcenas skort. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 822 In the skirts Of the rob'd pedagogue. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* vii, I saw the skirts of his garments ascending up those steps in the rock. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 105 He stretched forth his hand, and lifted up the skirts of his clothing.
fig. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* June 754 He proudly lifts his skirts lest they should trail in the mire of antiquated Conservatism.

b. The bottom, lower portion, or tail of a coat or similar garment. Chiefly *pl.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 29 If he ha's a quarter of your coat, there is but three Skirts for your selfe. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 92 Because he could not come to kisse his hand, he reverently kissed the skirt of his armour. 1659–60 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Jan., I rose, put on my suit with great skirts, having not lately worn any other clothes but them. 1711 STEELE *Spectator* No. 145 ¶ 7 The Skirt of your [men's] fashionable Coats forms as large a Circumference as our Petticoats. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The whole of the British army formerly wore skirts to their coats. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, 'For God's sake, what is it?' Mr. Chopper said, catching the Captain by the skirt.

3. In various phrases, denoting close approach or adherence to some person or thing; in earlier use esp. *to sit on* (*upon* or *in*) *one's skirts*, to press hard upon one, to deal heavily with, to punish severely.

(*a*) 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 10, I shall to reveng former hurtis..syt on theyr skurtis That erst sate on mine. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 32 They would not..forget nor forgive so horrible a murther, but were fullie resolved..to sit in their skirts. *c* 1630 BP. SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 271 Adversaries; who..might sit closer upon their skirts than formerly, and do them a shrewder turn for it another day. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 184 Many began..to sit upon the Bishops skirts, that is, to controvert the motes and bounds of their authority. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 12 He'll be sure to sit like Pitch on his Skirts. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* II. III. xv. (1803) IV. 75 If my government holds,..I will sit upon the skirts of more than one of these men of business.
(*b*) 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 To have everyon in continuall ielouzye lest he sitt over neere there schirtes. 1584 [see SIT *v.* 14 a]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. ¶ 65 A Sicilian gentleman..determined to stick in my skirts, and either ruin or marry me. 1813 *Examiner* 24 May 335/2 He..need not come skulking in under the skirt of a boroughmonger. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXVI. That amiable virgin, having clung to the skirts of the Law from her earliest youth. 1867 LONGF. *Dante*, *Inf.* XV. 40 Therefore go on; I at thy skirts will come.

II. 4. a. One of the flaps or lower portions of a saddle. Also *saddle skirt*, SADDLE *sb.* 10.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 601 þe apparayl of þe payttrure, & of þe proude skyrtez, þe cropore, & þe coertor, acorded wyth þe arsounez. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XXXIII. 683 [He] smote the horse with the spores on bothe sides faste by the skirtes of his sadell, for his legges were so shorte. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 94/1 The Skirts, the covers of the side of the [saddle] tree, which are Fringed and wrought, and sometime plain. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6136/3 A brown quilted Saddle marked J. H. on the near Side Skirts. 1736 CARTE *Life Ormonde* II. 13 This letter was sowen up in the skirt of a saddle. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 415/1 A saddle consists of the wooden frame or saddle-tree, the skirts or padded under-flaps [etc.].

b. The rim or base of a bell or bee-hive.

1555 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 147 One lytle bell..being..xxx^{li} ynces about the skyrtes. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* iv. (1623) K ij, The Bees..otherwise might be prest to death betweene the two skirts. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 462/1 The Skirt, the bottom of the Bell. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 275 Some reckon it better to place the Hive..into another, in a place that the skirts may be uppermost. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* s.v. *Bees*, When you buy a new hive, try it..whether there be not a hollowness some where or other in the skirt.

c. The border, rim, outer portion, extremity, or tail-end of anything. Also *techn.* (see later quots.) and *fig.*

1566 in *Sidneiana* (Roxb.) 4 A Post-script by my Lady Sidney, in the skirts of my L. Presidents Letter. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 174 Shasses, that is, striped linnen.. wound about the skirts of a little cap. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xix. 436 Onely the skirts of their lungs were tainted. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IX. 169 *Skirts*, Projecting of the Eaves. 1725 E. W. *Amorous Bugbears* 18, I began to noch down my Observations upon the Skirts of my Memory. 1805 WORDSWORTH *Waggoner* III. 58 And to the waggon's skirts was tied The Creature. 1829 P. NICHOLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 237/2 In the seven diagrams [of roofs] here referred to, the side BC is supposed to be the skirt next to the wall. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2196/2 The skirt or external periphery of a millstone; *e.g.* from the eye to the skirt the leader-furrows run.

d. *Naut.* A side or leech of a sail.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* V. 23 The Leech of a saile is the outward side of a skirt of a saile. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) s.v. *Brayls*, Brayls..are fasten'd to the Creengleys at the Skirt of the Sail. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 119 We hoisted a skirt of the Mainsail, and edged further off. 1851 KIPPING *Sailmaking* (ed. 2) 4 In all quadrilateral sails..the sides, or skirts, are called the leeches.

5. A rim or border; an edging. *rare.*

1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 30 One of the vessels hath a skirte or edge, wythin which the other is receyved. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 325/2 By these Pincers two edges or Skirts of Lead are turned one over the other. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 118 ¶ 3 This consists of a narrow lace, or a small skirt of fine ruffled linnen, which runs along the upper part of the stays before.

6. The diaphragm or midriff of an animal, *esp.* as used for food.

[In the following quotation the sense is not clear:—1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hunting* f iij b, Than shall ye kyt the skyrtis the teeth euen fro.]

1725 *Family Dict.* s.v. *Hog's Tongues*, Drain them a little, and having cut some Hog's Skirts, according to the Length of the Tongues, let every one be put into its Case, made of those Skirts. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 18 Then the skirt and tripe. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 241 The diaphragm or skirt is also cut off. 1868 *Daily News* 19 June, A considerable portion of the livers and skirts are purchased wholesale by retail dealers in low neighbourhoods. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 121 We had a hearty breakfast off the 'skirt'.

b. (See quot. 1886.)

1881 *Dr. Gheist, An Autobiogr. fr. Midlands* 66 His menu is varied enough, and ranges from 'skirts of casalty mutton' up to the primest joints. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 674 *Skirts* or *Skirting*. Used by butchers. The trimmings or loose pieces taken off from the carcass after being 'dressed'. Also the loose pieces of wool mixed with dung on a fleece.

III. 7. The border, boundary, or outlying part *of* a territory, country, kingdom, etc. Chiefly in *pl. sing.* *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 905 Rycht at the skyrt off Quenysbery befell,..Schir Jhone the Grayme [etc.]. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 627 In the very utmost skirt of this Shire. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 210 Upon the skirt and fringe of our fair land.
pl. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 216 He and his sonnes abroade ransacked, herried, and spoiled, the skirts, and outsides of the whole shyre. 1592 *Soliman & Perseda* I. v, From the other skirts of Christendome Call home my Bassowes. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 139 They hang about the skirts of the habitable countries. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. i. iii. (1710) 19 The Soil [is] not very fertile towards the middle, but rich in the Skirts. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii. 165 The far shores And skirts of these our realms. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems* 31 Lilith stood on the skirts of Eden.

b. *pl.* The outskirts or outlying parts *of* a town or city; the suburbs. Also rarely *sing.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. vii, As I haue walkt alone, in diuers skirts i' the towne, as Turne-bull, Whitechappell, Shore-ditch. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 247 It proseeded estward unto the verye scirtes of the towne. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 72 Collen,..a free city...The middle part of it is well built of Stone.., the Skirts meaner and of Wood. 1728 BERKELEY *Wks.* (1871) IV. 149 Inquire in some other skirt or remote suburb. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772* 51 The Derwent washes the skirts of the town.

c. *pl.* The parts *of* an army furthest distant from the centre or main body; the edge, border, or fringe *of* a crowd, etc.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. XXV. (S.T.S.) I. 232 þai saw..þe vtir skirtis of þare armye discomfist with grete slauchter. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 26/2 They would ride about the sides and skirts of the enemies host. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XL. XXXIX. 1085 The charge was alreadie given in the utmost skirts of the armie. 1764 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 22 Apr., The skirts of the congregation could not hear. 1838 PRES-

cott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. v. 237 Squadrons of light cavalry, hovering on the skirts of the Portuguese camp. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* VI. xix, An old fisherman on the skirts of the crowd.

8. The edge, margin, verge *of* a wood, lake, cloud, etc.; the foot or lower slopes *of* a mountain or hill.

sing. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Rive*, The skirt, edge, or side of a wood. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 86, I passed along the skirt of Mount Ida. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 237, I came to the Skirt of the Wood. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 197 Seated under their shade on the skirt of a meadow. 1817 J. Bradbury *Trav. Amer.* 20 *note*, Colter..succeeded in gaining the skirt of the cotton wood trees. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. liii. (1862) IV. 438 Landing at the skirt of the island.

pl. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* i. (1615) 19 Meeres and boundaries to know the Ring and uttermost Skirtes of the Forest by. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 294 The people are forbidden to goe vp to the mountaine or to come neere the skirts of it. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 878 To binde The fluid skirts of that same watrie Cloud. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbados* 69 Those which feed in the miry skirts of muddy ponds or rivers. 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 142 The coals and coal metals trend away in a south-east direction to the skirts of the Moorfoot hills. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornw.*, etc. iii. 93 Gray or brown argillaceous slates that range from the skirts of the granite. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* I. iv. 26 After the first ten minutes on the skirts of the wood.

b. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* Pj, However, that which bounds and limits its [*i.e.* the vein's] breadth, we never call Sides but the Skirts, or Scurts.

9. In figurative use, after senses 7 and 8.

1629 Whitlock in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 688 Now we are but upon the brink and skirts of the Cause. 1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* 135 The differences are but the skirts and suburbs of Religion. 1820 Keats *Isabella* xxxix, I am a shadow now, alas! alas! Upon the skirts of human-nature dwelling. 1839 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* IV. xxiii. 383 It sees the skirts of powers and providences beyond this world.

b. The beginning or end *of* a period of time. Chiefly *pl.*

1624 B. Jonson *Neptune's Triumph* Wks. (Rtldg.) 642/2 To draw down a cup of nectar, in the skirts of a night. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. ix. 285 Snow..may fall..on the Day, or upon the Skirts of the Day, upon the precise Aspect. 1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* III. xxiv. 222 It was then the skirt of the afternoon. 1857 Heavysege *Saul* (1869) 55 Seven days I waited,—ay, till the skirts o' the term Had disappeared.

10. A tract or piece of land forming a border, edge, or side of a river, country, etc. ? *Obs.*

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 227 The skirt or lappet of earth whereon it stands. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. iv. 25 The Canaanites..were crouded up in that narrow skirt of Phenicia. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* (1865) II. 70 Spots and Skirts of more desireable Land upon the Banks of some Rivers.

b. A number of trees, etc., surrounding or bordering a place.

1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 74 They call it a Towne, when they have compassed a skirt of wood with trees cut down. 1835 W. Irving *Tour Prairies* xxiv, A skirt of thickets hid the approach of the supposed enemy from our rear. 1885 G. Allen *Babylon* xxix, A broad skirt of unoccupied hillocks.

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1 or 2), as *skirt-braid, -clasp, -fold, -lining, -pocket*, etc.; **skirt-board**, = Skirting-board; **skirt-dancing**, a form of ballet dancing in which the steps are accompanied by the manipulation of long flowing skirts or drapery; so *skirt-dancer, skirt-dance* sb. and vb.; † **skirt-foist**, a female cheat.

a 1652 A. Wilson *Inconstant Ladie* IV. ii, I do not like that skirtfoist. Leave your bouncing! 1690 Leybourne *Curs. Math.* 901 Other Works about a Building..: As, Contaliver Cornice,.. Skirt board,.. &c. 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* xxi, The knife—..an inconvenient and dangerous article for a skirt-pocket. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxi, A row of entire skins of that animal hung from the skirt border. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2196[Skirt-clasp, -elevator, -protector, etc.] 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlwk.* 451/1 Skirt braids..are made of Alpaca and Mohair. *Ibid.* 451/2 As a rule, alpaca and silecia are the principal materials in use for Skirt Linings. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 1/2 It should be the very thing for skirt-dancing. 1894 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 206 The girls who could not skirt-dance yawned behind their fans.

Skirt (skɔ̄ːt), *v.* [f. the sb.]

I. *trans.* **1.** Chiefly of, or with reference to, natural features, scenery, or surroundings: **a.** To form the skirt or edge of; to lie alongside of; to bound or border.

1602 Carew *Cornwall* II. 127 b, The little parish called Temple, skirteth this Hundred, on the waste side thereof. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. 2 [They] dragged them headlong with them, down the precipices which skirted the road. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. vi. 69 The western coast is of less extent..by reason of the Andes which skirt it. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 254 Those vast and trackless forests that skirted the settlements. 1843 Portlock *Geol.* 520 The granite appears to skirt the great mass of altered schists and hornblendic rocks. 1879 Dixon *Windsor* II. vii. 73 The gardens skirted the river-side.

fig. 1817 Chalmers *Astron. Disc.* iv. (1852) 92 That boundary which skirts and which terminates the material field of his contemplations.

b. In pa. pple., const. *with* or *by*.

1727 Addison tr. *Ovid's Met.* III. *Death Pentheus*, A spacious circuit..Level and wide, and skirted round with wood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 121 A very narrow path skirted on each side by precipices. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, A fair and fertile champaign country..skirted by the picturesque ridge of the Pentland Mountains. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 107 In the fall, the black feathers of the crown of the adult are skirted with ash.

fig. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Dæmonic Love*, So is man's narrow path By strength and terror skirted.

2. To surround, edge, or border, *with* something.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 282 The middle pair Girt like a Starrie Zone his waste, and round Skirted his loines and thighes with downie Gold. 1746 J. Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 209 See how the declining sun has beautified the western clouds..and skirted them with gold. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Sail*, The edges of the cloths,..of which a sail is composed, are generally sewed together with a double seam: and the whole is skirted round at the edges with a cord. 1828 Campbell *Lines on Departure Emigrants N. S. Wales* 27 To skirt our home with harvests widely sown.

b. To provide with an edging or border.

1787 *Builder's Price-bk.* 39 Dado..level, skirted, and caped.

c. To turn *up* at the skirts.

1848 Clough *Bothie* II. 96 With blue cotton gown skirted up over striped linsey-woolsey.

3. Of persons, ships, etc.: To go or pass along the border, edge, or side of (a country, district, etc.); to go round, in place of crossing.

1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 204 The Covert's utmost Bound Slily she skirts. 1808 Scott *Marm.* II. viii, And now the vessel skirts the strand. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* II. 182 Near sunset we skirted a large reedy swamp. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xxii. 684 Skirting some palm-groves and crossing the dry bed of a canal.

fig. 1817 Coleridge *Biogr. Lit.* (Bohn) 70 They..enabled me to skirt, without crossing, the sandy deserts of utter unbelief.

b. To scour or search the outskirts of (a wood, etc.). *rare.*

1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 231 They past..by us, without skirting or searching the wood. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, All who have gone out to skirt the forest.. bring back the same news.

4. *dial.* **a.** To plough in a certain manner (see Skirting *vbl. sb.* 2).

c 1795 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* vii. Wks. 1816 II. 193 Time.., Who, with that ease a farmer skirts his land, Furrows so cruelly o'er the fairest face. 1796– [see Skirting *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 462 In the South Hams the land is skirted (ploughed so as to miss a portion).

b. To trim (a hedgerow); to dress (a fleece) by removing the ragged edges.

1879 *Norfolk Archæol.* VIII. 173 The sides of the highways are skirted in autumn. 1883 *Leisure Hour* 244/1 This is called 'skirting' the fleece..The fleece, when skirted, is rolled up, and we now follow it to the classer's table.

II. *intr.* **5. a.** Of persons: To travel, move, hang about, etc., on the outskirts or confines of something, or in a casual manner.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* v. i. 37 [He] made himselfe Master of Denmarke and Norway, whence he went and skirted on [F. *aborder*] the Gaules. 1768 G. White *Selborne* xiii, [He] passed through that kingdom on such an errand; but he seems to have skirted along in a superficial manner. 1827 J. F. Cooper *Prairie* I. xvii. 245 Lest the sons of the squatter should be out skirting on our trail. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii. Brunswick is skirting and rounding, laboriously, by the extremity of the South. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna Doone* xliv, Then I set off up the valley, skirting along one side of it.

fig. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 2/1 It may have been due to the fact that he had to skirt round under the bluff of Mr. Henry Chaplin.

b. Of hunting-dogs: To leave the pack when following the scent or in a chase.

1781 Beckford *Thoughts Hunting* (1802) 61 Should a favourite dog skirt a little, put him to a thorough line-hunting bitch. 1842 Apperley *Life Sportsman* xvii, The two most acknowledged faults [of a hound] are running mute and skirting. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. II. iv. 119 The defects which should especially be avoided are.. mute running,..skirting, or a tendency to leave the rest of the pack.

6. a. Of roads, rivers, etc.: To lie or run *along* or *round* the edge or border of a place, etc.

1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* i. (1782) I. 30 A sandy desert.. skirts along the doubtful confine of Syria. 1859 Sir E. Tennent *Ceylon* II. VII. ii. 138 As the path ascends it skirts round scarped acclivities. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 56 The Leam..skirts along the margin of the Garden.

b. Of strata: To crop *out*.

1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scott.* III. 84 Many of the strata below it..have skirted out at the surface, and are no longer found.

Skirted, *ppl. a.* [f. Skirt *sb.* or *v.* + -ed [1].]

1. Wearing a skirt or skirts. Freq. in recent use in *skirted rider*.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* I. iii. 93 French-thrift, you Rogues, my selfe, and skirted Page. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 113 The public voice was against the admission of the skirted animal. 1898 *Girl's Own Paper* 19 Nov. 120 There are five distinct methods of mounting for skirted riders.

b. Of garments: Having a skirt.

1842 Lover *Handy Andy* v, Heavy-caped and skirted frieze coats streamed behind the full-grown. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 6/3 That the present skirted dress of women is unfit for cycling and other outdoor pursuits.

2. Having a skirt, edge, or border of a specified kind, as *dewy-, long-, sky-, wide-, willow-skirted*.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 66 With plenteous Riuers, and wide-skirted Meades. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 959 The dewy-skirted clouds imbibe the sun. 1807 Wordsw. *The Mother's Return* 35 Far as the willow-skirted pool. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* vi. 430 Does that long-skirted drab, that over-nice And formal clothing prove a scorn of vice? 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Stonehenge*, In the sea-wide, sky-skirted prairie.

Skirter (skɔ̄ːɹtəɹ). [f. Skirt *v.* + -er [1].]

1. *Hunting.* **a.** A hound which leaves the pack while following scent.

1781 Beckford *Thoughts Hunting* (1802) 86 They should not be skirters, but, on the contrary, should be fair-hunting hounds. 1842 Apperley *Life Sportsman* xvii, What are called left-handed hounds, not exactly skirters, but apt to run wide of the pack. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. II. v. 131 Inveterate skirters, also, and conceited babblers, by all means hang.

b. A hunter who skirts or goes round an obstacle instead of over or through it.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 37 One more proof how often riders and skirters bring on mischief. 1856 Kingsley *Poems, The Lind* ii, Leave cravens and skirters to dangle behind.

2. *Austr.* A horseman who rides on the flank or side of a body of riders, party of travellers, etc.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Ref.* (1891) 209 The couple on the trail ensured its being neither lost nor overlooked; the skirters, by riding straight on either side, picked up the tracks when any deviation was made.

3. *Austr.* One who trims fleeces.

1883 *Leisure Hour* 243/1 Near the skirters' table there is a very much shorter table.

Skirting (skɔ̄ːɹtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Skirt *v.*]

† **1.** The action or fact of treating lightly or superficially. *Obs.*—[1]

1687 R. L'Estrange *Brief Hist. Times* I. 164 A little Skirting now and then, upon the Narratives; and Bantering, betwixt Jest and Earnest, upon the Credit of the Witnesses.

2. *Devon dial.* (See quot. 1796.)

1796 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* I. 144 For Skirting, the common share is used; but made, perhaps, somewhat wider than when it is used in the ordinary operation of plowing. In this mode of using the plow, little more than half the sward is pared off; turning the part raised, upon a line of unmoved turf [etc.]. 1813 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 115 When skirting is required, the wing of the share is considerably enlarged. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 725/3.

3. A border, edge, edging, or margin.

1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 88 The ploughman..leaving the skirtings near the hedges to be last finished. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1530 This latter boundary and skirting of Assam. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 171 Very young birds have rufous skirting of many feathers.

b. The lower part or skirt of a garment. Also *pl.*

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 68 With slop-frock suiting to a ploughman's taste, Its greasy skirtings twisted round his waist. 1829 Tennyson *Timbuctoo* 177 Wherefrom The snowy skirting of a garment hung.

c. Material used for the skirts of saddles; saddle-skirts collectively.

1852 C. Morfit *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 150 The smaller and lighter ones [*sc.* hides] are used for 'skirting' and for enamelling.

d. Cloth or material suitable for women's skirts or underskirts (see quot.).

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlwk.* 451/1 *Skirting*, strong thick woollen, worsted, cotton, or mixed fabrics, woven of certain dimensions, so as to be suitable in length and width for women's underskirts, and to preclude the necessity of making gores and seams.

4. *Carp.* The narrow boarding, edging of slate or cement, etc., placed vertically along the base of the wall of a room, or other place in a building, next to the floor. Also *collect.*, material suitable for this. Cf. Skirting-board.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 603 Skirting, when wide, is also measured by the foot superficial. *Ibid.* 626 It [*sc.* slate] makes excellent skirtings of all descriptions. 1863 Whyte Melville *Gladiators* II. 242 The walls were of polished citron-wood, heavily gilded round the skirting and edges. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 886. 414 There is a skirting round the room which must not be cut away.

5. *Austr.* The trimmings or inferior portions of a fleece. Also *skirting table*, the table at which these are removed.

1881 Grant *Bush Life Queensland* I. vii. 85 The roller-up, with a rapidity which is the result of long practice, separates the skirtings. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/7 At the 'skirting table' we will stand for a little while, and watch while the fleece..is opened out by the 'roller' and the inferior portions removed.

Skirting, *ppl. a.* [f. Skirt *v.*] That skirts, in senses of the vb.

c 1735 Harte *Eulogius* Poems (1810) 383/1 On skirting heights thick stood the clust'ring vine. 1817 J. Scott *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 77 Beyond the city..a black skirting outline ran along a ridge of high ground. 1829 P. Nicholson in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 237/2 Every supporting bar ought to be fixed at each extremity to opposite parts of the skirting frame. 1858 Froude *Hist. Eng.* III. 131 Skirting parties meantime scoured the country far and near.

Hence **Skirtingly** *adv.*

1882 Proctor in *Longman's Mag.* Dec. 184 The earth can pass through, centrally or skirtingly, but a very minute proportion of the meteor systems.

Skirting-board. [Cf. Skirting *vbl. sb.* 4.] The narrow board placed round the wall of a room, etc., close to the floor.

1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 291 The floor, joints and projections of the skirting-board. 1772 Mrs. Haywood *New Present for Maid* 256 Rubbing the skirting-boards with a piece of oily flannel. 1814 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XII. 185 The skirt-

ing board of the room was painted of that colour. 1861 Wynter *Soc. Bees* 25 A cracked window or a shrunken skirtingboard.

fig. 1859 Sala *Gaslight & D.* xxiii. 268 A woful skirting-board of crouching Irish paupers.

Skirtless (skɔ̄·rtlĕs), *a.* [f. Skirt *sb.* + -less.] **a.** Of garments: Having no skirt. **b.** Of persons: Wearing no skirt.

1809 Byron *Bards & Rev.* 599 For skirtless coats and skeletons of plays Renown'd alike. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 6/5 Baggy trousers, such as skirtless feminine bicyclists adopt. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 372 The traveller was in livery—skirtless fawn and silver coat.

Skirty, *a. Linc.* [f. Skirt *sb.*] (See quots.)

1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. i. 282 These fens..being 'skirty', *i.e.* a mixture of peat and alluvial silt or clay, forming a deep black loam. 1851 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 490 The fen land adjoining the hard lands partaking of the characters of both, is called *skirty land.*

Skirvie, -vye, obs. ff. Scurvy *sb.* and *a.*

Skirwhit(e, -wike, etc., obs. ff. Skirret 1.

† **Skirwingle.** *Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin.] Some kind of bird.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* IV. iii. 83 Churre, Peeper, Grindle, Skirwingle, Sea and Land Larkes.

Skirwit, -wort, -wurt, obs. ff. Skirret 1.

Skise, obs. or dial. form of Skice *v.* 1

Skister (ʃĭ·stəɹ, skĭ·-). [f. Ski + -ster.] One who uses ski; a ski-runner.

1898 Conway *With Ski & Sledge* xi. 194 The..expertness attained by the best Norwegian and Swedish skisters (to coin a needed word).

Skis Thursday, obs. var. of Skire Thursday.

Skit, *sb.*1 Now *dial.* Also 4 **skitte, skyt,** 5 **skytt(e.** [Of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *skit* dirt, filth, Norw. and Icel. *skíta* diarrhœa. The corresponding native form is Shit *sb.*]

1. *fig.* Dirt, trash. *rare*—1.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16714 But for to schewe his mykel wyt, On my spekynge þat ys but skyt [*v.r.* skitte].

2. Diarrhœa in animals, esp. sheep; scouring.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Skytte, or flyx...*fluxus...dissenteria.* 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 491 To cure the Skit or Looseness in Sheep. 1799 A. Young *Agric. Lincoln.* 376 They die of the *skit*, or scouring. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 986 A sort of indigestion..which, when it proceeds to any great length, is termed the *skit.* 1865 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. II. 289 Something more than common 'skit', or diarrhœa.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skit-brains, -brained,* in opprobrious use.

1553 *Respublica* 1812 Stande styll, skitbraind theaff, or thy bonds shall be coilled. *Ibid.* 1818 The skitbraines nold not bee roilled ner sens ye wente.

Skit, *sb.*2 [Related to Skit *v.*2, but the earlier history is not clear.]

1. **a.** A female of a vain, frivolous, or wanton disposition. Chiefly *Sc.*

1572 *Buchanan's Detect. Mary Q. Scots* M ij, That haynous offence,..that at the banquet of her domesticall parasite, sche had nat played the dauncing skit. 1583 Earl Northampton *Defensative* S ij, At the request of a dauncing skitte [Herod] stroke of the head of Saint Iohn the Baptist. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *Skit* is still used for a vain, empty creature; sometimes, *proud skit.*

b. *Sc.* 'A young capering or restive horse.'

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 254/2.

2. A quizzing or satirical reflection *upon,* or hit *at,* a person or thing; a remark of this nature.

1727 Bailey (vol. III.) *Skit,* a Caprice, Whimsey. 1779 Mrs. H. Cowley *Who's the Dupe?* II. ii, Come, come, none of your tricks upon travellers. I know you mean all that as a skit upon my edication. 1820–2 Pyne *Wine & Walnuts* (1824) II. xi. 174 No more of your skits at my right noble country. 1861 *Times* 22 Mar. 8/6 Mr. Cobden could afford to reply to the compliments of a Mayor without a skit at the press. 1878 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 421 He did not deserve your skit about his 'Finsbury Circus gentility'.

b. A literary or artistic production intended as a piece of light satire, parody, or caricature.

1820 Combe *Syntax, Consol.* VII. (Chandos) 243 A Manuscript with learning fraught, Or some nice, pretty little skit Upon the times. 1884 *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 91/1 The German skit on the Shapira forgeries..is about to be translated in English verse. 1884 Sharman *Hist. Swearing* iv. 60 The British bull-dog has figured again and again in pictorial skits.

c. A trick; a hoax; a practical joke; = Skite *sb.* 2. Chiefly *dial.*

1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxii, If he really shot young Hazlewood—But I canna think it, Mr. Glossin; this will be some o' your skits now. 1865– in dialect glossaries.

3. A slight shower (*of* rain or snow).

1847 in Halliw. 1865 Mrs. Carlyle *New Lett.* (1903) II. 336 It is blowing hard to-day, with a dull grey sky, and skits of rain. 1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* III. ii. 18 Soon the first snow of the winter came, the first abiding earnest snow, for several skits had come before.

transf. 1877 Blackie *Wise Men* 334 Plagues, frosts and mildews, and the lashing hail,..Are all but skits of crudely mingled air.

b. A squirt or small jet of water.

1877 Blackie *Nat. Hist. Atheism* ii. 31 No more..than a skit of a boy's squirt can put out the sun.

4. A slight stroke.

1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 351 In the city, where money follows the skit of a pen,..it comes to be looked on as light.

Skit, *sb.*3 (See quot.)

1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 277/1 The rods, or willows, as they are termed in the trade, comprise several varieties, as the skit willow, the gold-stone.

Skit, obs. var. Skate *sb.*2

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 484 What to term them I know not, (except Dutch skits, to Slide withal).

† **Skit,** *a. Obs.*—1 In 6 **skyt.** [? Back-formation from Skittish *a.*] Precipitate, over-hasty.

a 1529 Skelton *Agst. Scottes* 101 Syr Skyrgalyard, ye were so skyt, Your wyll than ran before your wyt.

Skit, *v.*1 *rare*—1. [Related to Skit *sb.*1] *intr.* To void thin excrement; = Skitter *v.*1

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 985 If the milk be given over cold, it is apt to cause the calf to *skit* or purge.

Skit (skit), *v.*2 [Of doubtful origin: perh. only a back-formation from Skittish *a.* It might, however, represent an ON. **skytja* (cf. *flytja* flit), f. **skut-*, the weak grade of *skjóta* to shoot. In sense 2 perh. from Skit *sb.*2 2.]

1. *intr.* To shy or be skittish; to move lightly and rapidly; to caper, leap, or spring.

1611 Chapman *May Day* II. ii, I hope my friend will not loue a wench against her will;..if shee skit and recoile,... away he goes. 1621 Molle *Camerarius' Liv. Lib.* IV. xiii. 278 The daughters of Prætus..persuaded themselues that they were changed into cowes, and thereupon began to low, and skit vp and downe the fields. 1807–10 Tannahill *Poems* (1846) 11 She skits and flings like ony towmont filly. 1860 Piesse *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 3 Innumerable insects may be seen at sunset skitting and dancing in the air. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* viii. 64 The man..skitted back into a bush, very nimble and clever.

2. **a.** *trans.* To cast indirect reflections or light satire upon (a person, etc.); to ridicule or caricature by means of a skit.

1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Skit,* to reflect on. [Similarly in later northern dial. glossaries.] 1892 *Star* 24 Mar. 2/4 These meetings were skitted by Elkanah Settle in 'The New Athenian Comedy'. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 Feb. 3/4 The first occasion on which Mr. Roberts has 'skitted' Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

b. *intr.* To make satirical hits *at* a person or thing.

1821 *Lonsdale Mag.* II. 247 Then nobody dare skit at me for being a tailyer. *c* 1840 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 84 Warburton..had too much learning to skit at Bentley as Pope has done. 1885 Mozley *Rem.* I. 130 When people have condoled with me..or have skitted at commercial gentility.

Skite (skəit, *Sc.* skeit), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **skyte.** [Related to Skite *v.*2]

1. A sudden, vigorous stroke or blow, esp. one given in an oblique direction; an oblique impact, or one which causes a rebound.

1785 Burns *Jolly Beggars* i, When hailstanes drive wi' bitter skyte, And infant frosts begin to bite. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl., Skite,..*a smart and sudden blow, so as to make what strikes rebound in a slanting direction. 1895– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Sc., N. Irel., Northumb.).

2. A trick; a skit. Cf. Skit *sb.*2 2.

1804 W. Tarras *Poems* 60 He's play'd my dochter Meg a skyte, Which weel has coft the gibbet. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v., He's played me an ill skite. 1899 Lumsden *Edin. Poems* 89 This Club .. Enjoy'd thy witty 'Tory' skites Wi' hearty glee.

3. A person who on some account or other is regarded with contempt. (Cf. *blatherskite.*)

1808 Jamieson s.v. *Skyte.* 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, But I maun speak to this gabbling skyte too, for bairns and fules speak at the Cross what they hear at the ingle side. 1850 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 136 Oh, such a withered up skite poor Mac is become.

Skite (skəit), *v.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 5 (9 *Sc.*) **skyte.** [a. ON. *skíta* (Icel. *skíta,* Norw. and Sw. *skita,* Da. *skide*), or MLG. *schîten,* MDu. *schijten,* = OE. *scítan* Shite *v.*] *intr.* To void excrement. Hence **Skiting** *ppl. a.*

1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 85, I cam abord the Admirall, and bade them stryke in the Kyngys name.., and they bade me skyte in the Kyngs name. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 194, I warne the it is wittin, How, skyttand skarth, thow hes the hurle behind. 1596 Harington *Metam. Ajax* Prol. B, In further contempt of his name, vsed a phrase that he had lerned at his being in the lowe countries, and bad Skite vpon Aiax. 1808 in Jamieson. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 353.

Skite (skəit), *v.*2 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 8 **skyt,** 9 **skyte.** [perh. f. ON. *skýt-,* umlauted stem of *skjóta* to shoot.]

This verb, and the corresponding sb., have much currency in dial. use; fuller illustration of the various senses may be found in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1. *intr.* To shoot or dart swiftly, esp. in an oblique direction; to run lightly and rapidly; to make *off* hastily.

1721 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 112 Like a shot starn, that thro the air Skyts east or west with unko glare. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) s.v., To skite about is to go running about. 1895 Jane Barlow *Strangers at Lisconnel* 325 It's a..young villain her son must be..to skyte off and lave her that-a-way.

2. To slip suddenly.

1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 225 The 'blower' skytit oot o' Samie's mou'. 1881 J. Ballantine in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. I. 29 Our feet skyted back on the road freezing hard.

† **Skitegate.** *Obs. rare.* Also **skyt-.** [ad. Du. *schiet-gat, f. schielen* to shoot + *gat* hole.] An opening or loop-hole in a wall for a cannon or other piece of artillery.

1677 Earl Orrery *Treat. Art War* 118 Great Cannon Gabions well fill'd with Earth, or Skite Gates thorow the Flanks and Faces of the said Works. 1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* (1877) I. 93 Captain Julius..being so astonish'd with fear as to throw himself and his fellows out at a skyt-gate [Fr. *une canonniere*], was immediately cut to pieces by the enemy.

Skitly: see Skeetly *adv.*

Skitter, *sb.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 9 *dial.* skitta. [f. the vb.]

1. Diarrhœa; looseness or laxity of the bowels.

a 1585 Polwart *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 244 To heale thee of thy skitter. 1823– in dialect glossaries (Sc., Yks., Lanc., Linc., Suff.).

2. Thin excrement. Also *Comb.*

1692 *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* (1738) 118 A Cake unturn'd, that is, it's stone-hard on one Side, and skitter raw on the other. 1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 16 A Spoonful of Skitter will spill [= spoil] a Potful of Skink.

Skitter, *sb.*2 *U.S.* [f. Skitter *v.*2] A light skipping movement or the sound caused by this.

1905 *Scribner's Mag.* July 1 The slim shell trailed with dying headway to the skitter of the resting oars.

Skitter, *v.*1 *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 4 **skiter-,** 5 **skyter-.** [A frequentative of Skite *v.*1] *intr.* To void thin excrement. Hence **Skittering** *vbl. sb.*1 and *ppl. a.*1

13.. *Langtoft's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 252 Skiterende Scottes, Telle i for sottes, And wrecches unwar. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 499 It skittered and skarted; they skirled ilk ane. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 14 Seeing there was but a Skittering Lass between him and the Crown. 1683 *Yorkshire Dial.* 5 Thur Yowes are Clow-clagg'd, they skitter sayr. 1721 Kelly *Prov.* 20 A skittering Cow in the Loan would ay have many Marrows. 1825– in dialect glossaries (Northumb., Cumb., Yks., Som., Dev.).

transf. 1682 Martindale in Houghton *Coll. Lett. Impr. Husb.* No. 11, Some, when the strength of Marle is worn out by long Tillage, strengthen it with a new Supply, but then they ordinarily set it thin (which they call *skittering*).

Skitter, *v.*2 [app. a frequentative f. Skite *v.*2]

1. *intr.* To move or run rapidly; to hurry about; to scamper off.

1845 S. Judd *Margaret* (1871) 149 On they flew, skittering, bowling, sluice-like, mad-like. 1875 *Toxie, a Tale* I. vi. 100 Neither did he and I skitter at sixty miles an hour. 1882 Blackmore *Christowell* lii, Up on the first horse we could lay hold of, and skittered on the heels of the rest of them.

b. *U.S.* To skip or skim *along* a surface, with occasional rapid contact.

1885 T. Roosevelt *Hunting Trips* 56 Some kinds of ducks in lighting strike the water with their tails first, and skitter along the surface for a few feet before settling down.

2. *trans. U.S.* In angling, to draw (a spoon-bait or hook) with a jerking or skipping motion over the surface of the water. Also *absol.*

1883 *Cent. Mag.* July 383/2 The angler, standing in the bow, 'skitters' or skips the spoon or bait over the surface just at the edge of the weeds. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 221 In skittering with a spoon, some of the fly-fisher's skill..comes into play.

Hence **Skittered** *ppl. a.*; **Skittering** *vbl. sb.*2 and *ppl. a.*2

1883 *Cent. Mag.* July 383/2 Skittering..is practised with a strong line..to which is affixed a small trolling-spoon. *a* 1888 in Goode *Amer. Fishes* 37 When taken with a skittered minnow or bright fly on a light rod. 1893 M. Gray *Last Sentence* II. viii, The skittering feet and minute shriek of mice.

† **Skitterbrook.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Du. *schijtebroek,* with the first element assimilated to Skitter *v.*1] One who befouls his breeches; a coward.

1632 Brome *Crt. Beggar* IV. ii, The Devill fright him next for a spurging skitterbrooke. *a* 1652 — *Novella* IV. ii, Like to make a skitter brooke Of you in your Dutch slops.

Skittery, *a.* [f. Skitter *v.*2] Trifling.

1905 M. Deane *Little Neighbour* 124 'She is just a little fool,' said Roger—'a skittery little fool, with no sense, and not much to look at'.

Skittish (skĭ·tĭʃ), *a.* Also 6 **skyttys(s)he, skytysshe, scittish.** [Of obscure origin: perh. f. a Scand. base **skyt-* (see Skit *v.*2) + -ish.]

1. Of disposition, etc.: Characterized by levity, frivolity, or excessive liveliness.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 590 Whan þat þou hast assayde boþe two, Sad age, I seye, after þi skittish youþe. 14.. *Six Ballads* (Percy Soc.) 10 My dere is off a skyttyshe brayne. *a* 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 339 Lewelyn.. rebellyd agayne the kyng; for so moche as syr Edwarde his sone..wolde haue chaungyd some of theyr skyttyshe condycyons. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud.* II. 230 Fancie, being very turbulent and skittish,..is the cause that wee liue in the middest of marueilous troubles in respect of our affections. 1611 Cotgr., *Perversité,* a skittish, giddy, or vntoward humor to doe an vnlawfull, or ill, thing. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 479 He still resolv'd..T' adhere and cleave the obstinater; And still the skittisher and looser Her Freaks appear'd, to sit the closer. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* II. 135 If you think you can part with her for her skittish tricks. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 470 T' address The skittish fancy with facetious tales. 1882 Tennyson in *Life* (1897) I. 95, I considered it [a critique] at the time as somewhat too skittish and petulant. 1894 J. Knight *Garrick* IV. 68 Macklin claims to have supplied a curiously unconventional and skittish rhymed apology.

Comb. 1605 Breton *Soules Immortal Crowne* I. xlii, How Fancie like a Flea, Can skip about a skittish humour'd hart.

2. Of horses, etc.: Disposed or apt to start or

be unruly without sufficient cause; given to shying or restiveness through high spirits or playfulness; unduly lively or spirited.

c 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 14/2 These great fortunes lift vp a man hie,..but oftentymes, as a fierce and a skittish horse, thei cast of their maister. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 37, I had a sore falle of a skytysshe horse. 1635 Jackson *Creed* viii. xviii. 202 The old asse..became resty and skittish, ready to kick. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* iii. ii. 178 Great is the difference betwixt a swift horse, and a skittish, that will stand on no ground. 1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 638 The skittish Beast being affrighted..gave two Starts and threw the Prince to the Ground. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 24 Horse skittish and wants exercise. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Fr. Governess* Wks. 1832 II. 138 The ass is sometimes skittish and playful. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Rough Recoll.* I. i. 8 A very skittish,and at times vicious,thoroughbred colt.

fig. and *transf.* 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* vi. 370 These skittish Lands will dismount all that bestride them. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lvi. 208 Balancing our skittish bark upon the green waters.

b. Similarly of other animals.

1600 *Maids Metam.* I. i, A heard of skittish Deere. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* 198 A trick to stroke the skittish cow to get down her milk. 1837 Hood *Ode to R. Wilson* 241 Exactly as a skittish Scottish bull Hunts an old woman in a scarlet cloak.

3. Fickle, inconstant, changeable; tricky, difficult to deal with or manage.

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 18 Such as I am, all true Louers are, Vnstaid and skittish in all motions else. 1606— *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 134 How some men creepe in skittish fortunes hall. 1639 Hammond *Serm.* Wks. 1683 IV. 547 What skittish things popular benevolence and popular applause have been always found to be. 1844 N. P. Willis *The Lady Jane* II. 411 A 'scribbler's' is a skittish reputation. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xv, The management and training of the most skittish or vicious diseases.

4. Spirited, active, lively; frolicsome.

a 1592 Greene *Jas. IV*, iv. iii, She is like a frog in a parsley-bed, As skittish as an eel. 1619 Fletcher *Wildgoose Chase* II. iii, He slights us As skittish things...May be my free behaviour turns his stomach. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 26 July, [He] is the most skittish leaping gallant that ever I saw, always in action. 1709 Prior *Let. to Sir T. Hanmer* 4 Aug., If you hear of a Welch widow..that has her goings and is not very skittish. 1813 H. & J. Smith *Home in London* 131 One night at the British, We grew rather skittish, And sallied out fighting the rabble. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* v. 166 Sobriety of dress must be enforced, and skittish widows protected from their own volatile tastes.

5. Inclined to show coyness or reserve.

1648 *Merc. Publicus* No. 2 ¶ 9 The Irish wench hee thought to hold By force, but she was skittish. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Art Love* I. 822 Name not yourself her Lover, but her Friend. How many skittish Girls have thus been caught? 1774 J. Adams *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 42 They are, therefore, jealous of each other—fearful, timid, skittish. 1840 Mrs. Trollope *Widow Married* ii. So skittish that she would never let one speak to her. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xxi. iv. (1872) X. 31 Kaunitz and his Empress are extremely skittish in the matter, and as if quite refuse it at first.

Ski·ttishly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a skittish or lively manner.

1598 Florio, *Ritrosamente*, waywardly, frowardly, skittishly. 1611 Cotgr., *Sauvagement*,..skittishly. 1683 [Ld. Coleraine] *Situat. Paradise* 93 The Beasts were very plump, and skittishly played as they passed by. 1873 Mrs. Whitney *Other Girls* xxxiv, The animal made a half parenthesis of himself, curving skittishly..as he went by the frightsome pile. 1882 A. Edwardes *Ballroom Repentance* I. 19 Skittishly tapping the young man's arm with her fan.

Ski·ttishness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being skittish, in various senses.

1607 Markham *Caval.* II. (1617) 12 Skittishness or fearefulness proceedeth..either from nature, youth, custome, or imperfectness of sight. 1692 *D'Urfey's Marriage-Hater Match'd* A iij, The Skittishness of Miss Margery, and the freakishness of Berenice. 1721 Steele *Const. Lover* III. i, Then, Phillis, consider how I must be reveng'd..of all your skittishness, shy looks, and at best but coy compliances. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Lett.* 5 July, He would fain have discovered the reason of my skittishness. 1863 N. Hawthorne *Our Old Home* 134 Something akin to feminine skittishness. 1874 M. Collins *Transmigr.* I. vi. 110 The old roan plodded along, his skittishness quite lost.

transf. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* iv. 183 Young sprigs of language have a levity and skittishness which render them unworthy of literature.

Skittle (skit'l), *sb.* Also 7 *pl.* **skittolles, sketells (skyttals).** [Of uncertain origin: forms without initial *s-* (see Kittle-pins) appear a little later in the 17th cent., whereas in the case of Kayles and Skayles the *s-* form is the later of the two.

Phonetically *skittle* answers exactly to the Scand. word represented by Da. and Sw. *skyttel*, occurring in the senses of 'shuttle, child's marble, movable bar in a gateway', but there is no evidence to connect this in any way with the game of skittles.]

1. *pl.* A game played with nine pins set in a square upon a wooden frame, an angle of which is directed towards the player, who endeavours to bowl down the pins in as few throws as possible; = Nine-pins 1.

1634 in Footman *Hist. Parish Ch. Chipping Lambourn* (1894) 120 William Gyde..for playing at skittolles on Sunday. 1666 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 96 Dice, cards, sketells, shuffleboords, billiard tables. 1748 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) II. 120, I was one day playing at skittles with some of these. 1773 A. Jones (*title*), The Art of Playing at Skittles; or the Laws of Nine-Pins displayed. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 64 All the joys that ale and skittles give. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* xiii. (1869) 443 The Feegeeans..have also a game resembling skittles.

b. In the phrase (*not*) *all beer and skittles*, or variants of this, used to denote that something is (not) unmixed enjoyment.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xli, It's a reg'lar holiday to them—all porter and skittles. 1870 Mansfield *School-life Winch. Coll.* 138 But Football wasn't all beer and skittles to the Fags. 1897 'Ouida' *Massarenes* v, Life isn't all skittles and swipes...You always seem to think it.

c. *colloq.* Nonsense; rubbish. Also used interjectionally.

1904 F. T. Bullen *Creatures of Sea* xxiv. 354 [He told me] That they never ate and never rested because they had no feet, and other skittles of the kind. 1905 *Author* 1 Feb. 149 *Mag.* A man has..more self-restraint. *Char.* Skittles! That's the last thing he's got.

2. One of the wooden pins with which this game is played. Cf. Nine-pins 2.

1680 *Merry Milkmaid Islington* 1. B, To cleave you from the scull to the Twist, and make nine Skittles of thy bones. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 758/1 The player..tries to knock down the whole of the skittles in a given number of throws. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 820/2 A crucible taking the shape of a skittle.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attrib., in sense 'used in, or for playing at, the game of skittles', as *skittle-alley, -ball, -bowl, -frame, -ground, -pin.*

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 68 ¶ 2 Every *skittle-alley half a mile out of town is embellished with green arbours and shady retreats. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) V. 319 The bronchocele had increased to the size of a *skittle-ball. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxiii. (Dubl.) 378 A piece of Wood of the shape of a *Skittle-Bowl. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* Introd. § 38 All the *skittle-frames in or about the city of London. 1771 Miss Burney *Early Diary* (1889) I. 131 Pray get the *skittle ground marked out. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. vii. 203 The kayle-pins were afterwards called..kittle-pins, and hence..*skittle-pins. 1664 Cotton *Scarron.* IV. Wks. (1725) 109 Nor did I e'er make *skittle Pin-bones, Or Bobbins, of Anchises shin-bones.

b. Miscellaneous, as *skittle-maker, -player, pool, -sharp, swindle*; *skittle-playing, -sharping*; *skittle-shaped*; **skittle-pot,** a jeweller's crucible fashioned like a skittle (Knight, 1875).

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Skittle-maker*, a turner who shapes wooden skittles. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. vii. 158 As the *skittle-player bends his body to give a bias to the bowl. 1767 A. Campbell *Lexiph.* (1774) 63 During a season of *skittle-playing. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 758/1 *Skittle pool and other minor games. 1869 A. R. Wallace *Malay Archip.* I. 374 They are all *skittled-shaped, larger in the middle than at the base. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 345/2, I was not..a *skittle sharp, for I never entered into a plot to victimise any person. 1881 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 5/6 The..victim of the skittle-sharp is..told that a man..who is very silly, is coming to play..and that if the dupe will 'make one' in the pitiful robbery he shall share in the proceeds. 1862 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* IV. 309 Others betake themselves to card-sharping and *skittle-sharping. 1851 *Ibid.* I. 345/2 Getting into a hobble relative to a *skittle swindle.

Skittle (skit'l), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To play at the game of skittles.

1865 *Good Words* 125/2 On 'Saint Monday' they go 'pigeoning', 'skittling', or after some other amusement.

2. *trans.* With *down*: To spend or lose (money) prodigally; to squander.

1883 *Contemp. Rev.* XLIV. 609 There are many ways in which the Australian..can skittle down his money...He can lose £10,000 in a night at cards [etc.].

Hence **Ski·ttling** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

1890 F. W. Robinson *Very strange Family* 71 Throwing one piece of furniture at another in a skittling fashion.

Skittle-dog. *local.* (See quot.)

1862 Couch *Brit. Fishes* I. 49 Spur Dog;..in Cornwall the male is called Skittle Dog.

Ski·ttler. *rare.* [f. Skittle *v.*] One who plays at the game of skittles. Also *fig.*

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 200 He suffered himself to be bowled down in such a cause by such a beggarly skittler as Willis, as if he had been a penny ninepin.

Ski·tty. *dial.* [Cf. Skiddy.] The moorhen.

1813 Montagu *Ornith.* Suppl. s.v. *Gallinule*, Skitty, Spotted Rail, or Lesser spotted Water-Rail. 1888 in Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 675.

Skitty-bats, -boots. *dial.* (See quot. 1886.) Halliwell (1847) gives *skitty-* and *skitter-boots* in this sense.

1882 T. Hardy *Two on Tower* xxxviii, His corduroys and skitty-boots in which he had been gardening. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 675 *Skitty-bats*, boots laced in front, but not so high in the leg as *half-bats.*

Skiu, variant of Skew *sb.*[1] *Obs.*

Skiv. *slang.* A sovereign.

1858 Thomson *Almæ Matres* i. 4 A slight peculiarity of habit, contracted..from constantly losing 'skivs' at cards. 1871 *Punch* 14 Oct. 160/2 They tip you half a skiv now, instead of half a cartwheel.

Skive (skəiv), *sb.*[1] Also **skieve.** [ad. Du. *schijf* (sxeif), MDu. *schive*: see Shive *sb.*] A revolving iron disk or wheel used with diamond powder in grinding, polishing, or finishing diamonds or other gems; a lap, a diamond-wheel. Cf. Scaife 2.

1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 176 The diamonds are lastly polished upon an iron lap or skive, charged with diamond powder. 1862 *Catal. Intern. Exhib., Brit.* II. xxxiii. 53 Large diamonds are not exposed to the risk of cutting, but are polished from the rough on the skieve. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 241 Gently pouring a little powder between the edge of the skive and the stone.

Skive (skəiv), *sb.*[2] [f. the vb.] The surface part of a sheet of leather cut off by a skiving-machine; a skiver.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Leather-skiving Machine*, The knife *C*, whose position..determines the thickness of the leather which passes between the knife and roller, the skive passing above the knife.

Skive (skəiv), *v.*[1] Also **skyve.** [a. ON. *skífa* (Norw. *skiva*), related to ME. *schīve* Shive *sb.*] *trans.* To split or cut (leather, rubber, etc.) into slices or strips; to shave or pare (hides).

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 305 *Skive*, to pare off the thicker parts of hides, to make them of uniform substance, in order to their being tanned. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1280/2 Leather is also skived for making lap-joints in round work and belting. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 115/1 One Machine for skyving or paring the edges of leather.

b. To pare or cut *off.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1277/2 [A] Machine..for skiving off the edge of a piece or strip of leather.

Hence **Skived** *ppl. a.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1280/2 The lap-seam..is sometimes formed with skived edges to avoid a ridge. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 7/2 Pneumatic tyres, which are made from 'skived' rubber.

Skive (skəiv), *v.*[2] *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To move lightly and quickly; to dart.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Skave*, Thus we say, 'skiving like a lapwing', in allusion to the manner in which that bird skims over the surface of a sheet of water. 1857 J. G. Holland *Bay Path* xxvi. 334 Don't you want a little tot, Hugh, to be skiving round the cabin here? 1893 Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norf.* 49 Can't they skive under water when they want tu?

Skivel (ski·v'l). *dial.* = Skiver *sb.*[1]

1790 E. Nairne *Kentish Tales* (1824) 76 No pains or cost's required to paint a devil Down in a trice, with black ink and a skivel. 1868– in dial. glossaries (Sussex, Kent).

Skiver (ski·vəɹ), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *dial.* Also 9 **sciver, skivver, skivor.** [See note to Skewer *sb.*] A skewer. Also *fig.*

1664 J. Wilson *Projectors* IV, The frugal Spaniard!..that shall..carry a pound of Mutton in triumph on a Skiver! 1685 Boyle *Effects Motion* ix. 121 A little Bodkin or skiver of wood. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. i. 31 Little bits of Pork, spitted 5 or 6 of them at once, on a small skiver, and roasted. 1746 *Gentl. Mag.* XVI. 491/1 With a skiver From love's quiver I am spitted. 1838– in dialect glossaries, etc. (Yks., Som., Cornw., Irel.).

attrib. 1847 Halliw., *Skiver-wood*, dogwood, of which skewers are made. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 675 *Skiver-timber*, the spindle-wood;..*Euonymus europæus.*

Skiver (skəi·vəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also **skyver.** [f. Skive *v.*[1] + -er.]

1. A thin kind of dressed leather split from the grain side of a sheep-skin and tanned in sumach, used for bookbinding, lining hats, and other commercial purposes.

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Apr. 2/2 Various kinds of leather,..red and brown skivers. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 443/2 The skin is 'split'...That known as the 'grain'.. is very thin, and is dressed into a 'skiver'. 1880 Leland *Minor Arts* I. 32 Now make a dragon..out of papier mâché .., cover it with skiver.

attrib. 1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* V. ix. 205 The other half being alumed or tawed for 'skiver' leather.

2. One who or that which skives; *esp.* a workman who pares or splits leather.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2197/1 *Skiver*, a paring tool for leather. 1894 J. Macintosh *Ayrshire Nts. Enterf.* xxi. 397 The shapes are then handed to the skivers, the fitters, and the sewers.

Skiver (ski·vəɹ), *v.*[1] [f. Skiver *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To pierce or stab with or as with a skewer; to fasten with a skewer.

1832 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 432/2 Nor was that abject delusion destroyed even by the bayonets that skivered the Invincibles. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* ix. 280 *note*, The head doctors would skiver him, if they caught him taking a fee. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 675 Mind you skiver up the bag.

Skiver (skəi·vəɹ), *v.*[2] [f. Skiver *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To cut or pare (leather).

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2197/1 *Skiver*,..a machine..adjustable to skiver counters to any desired width of scarf.

Skiver, *v.*[3] *U.S.* [Cf. Skive *v.*[2]] (See quot.)

a 1891 *Shore Birds* 33 (Cent. Dict.), At the report of a gun the frightened flock will dart about in terror, *skiver*, as it is technically called.

Skivet, variant of Skibbet.

Skivie (skəi·vi), *a. Sc.* Also **skaivie.** [Of obscure origin: cf. Du. *scheef*, ON. *skeifr* askew, asquint.] Harebrained; mentally deranged.

1808 Jamieson, *Skaivie*, harebrained; applied to one who acts as if in a delirium, or on the borders of insanity. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, 'He means *mad*,' said the party appealed to...'Ye have it—ye have it', said Peter, 'that is, not clean skivie, but—'.

Ski·ving, *vbl. sb.* [f. Skive *v.*[1]]

1. (See quots.)

a 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 305 *Skivings*, the parings of hides, to be boiled into glue. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1281/2 By splitting so as to preserve the grain side, one sheet of very fair leather may be obtained, while the other (*skiving*) is fit for trunk-covers, etc.

2. The action of splitting leather, etc.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 820/2 *Skiving*, the act of removing the rough fleshy portion from the inner surface of a skin. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 7/2 'Skiving' has

hitherto been thought impracticable, but specimens of this process applied to the Surrey pneumatic tyres were shown by the patentee.

3. *attrib.*, as *skiving-knife, machine, process, -tool.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1277/1 It is a skiving process, and is usually performed on a skiving or shaving machine. *Ibid.* 2197/1 Skiving-knife; skiving-tool.

Skladdyt, obs. pa. pple. of SCALD *v.*

Sklait(t, Sklate, obs. Sc. forms of SLATE *sb.*[1]

Sklander, etc.: see SLANDER, etc.

Skla(u)nt, Sklave, Sklavin: see SLANT, etc.

† Skleir, *sb. Obs.* Also 4 scleire, scleyre, sklayre, skleire, sleyre, slaire. [a. MLG. *sleier, sleiger,* = MHG. *sleier,* mod. G. *schleier,* Du. *sluier,* of obscure origin.] A veil.

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 280 þis wymmen.. Wiþ hornes on heore hed Pinned on vch a syde..Wiþ selk scleyres I-set aboue. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 7 'þat weore a long lettynge' quaþ a ladi in a skleir [*v.rr.* scleire, sklayre, slaire, etc.].

Hence † **Skleir** *v. trans.*, to veil. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xiv. (Skeat) 25 And with fayre honyed wordes heretykes and mis-meninge people skleren and wimplen their errours.

Sklent, *sb. Sc.* Also **sclent.** [Sc. var. of SLENT *sb.* Cf. the earlier ASKLENT *adv.*] A slant or slope; a slanting or sideward movement; a side-look, etc.

1768 Ross *Helenore* 16 With easy sklent, on every side the braes..wi' scatter'd busses raise. 1786 BURNS *To J. Smith* vii, This while my notion's taen a sklent, To try my fate in guid, black prent. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xiv, I gae a sklent wi' my ee. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 712/1 Not descended indeed in direct line from..Wordsworth.., but striking off from him in a sort of sklent, if we may use such a word.

Sklent, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **sclent.** [var. of SLENT *v.*]

1. *intr.* To move, dart, or fall, obliquely; to lie aslant; to give a side-look, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. vii. 87 As sum tyme sclentis the round top of tre, Hit with the twynit quhyp. *Ibid.* x. xiii. 51 The casting dart..That fleand sclentis on Eneas scheyld. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 1668 The honour.., streight sent back, is vpwards driven, And by Reflexe doth sklent hye way to Heauen. 1808–1901 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Sc. and Northumb.).

b. *fig.* To deviate from a straightforward course, or from the truth.

1581 N. BURNE in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 155 Bot becaus ye se your self conuict,..ye ar constranit to sklent and mak the act of Parliament ane buclar for your defence aganis al argumentis. 1785 BURNS *2nd Epist. J. Lapraik* xi, Do ye envy the city-gent, Behint a kist to lie an' sklent. 1864 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

2. *trans.* To direct obliquely.

1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* ii, Ironic satire, sidelins sklented, On my poor Musie. 1785 — *Addr. Deil* xvii, Ye ..sklented on the man of Uzz, Your spitefu' joke.

Hence **Skle·nting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 83 Tha peure winschis ȝe wranguslie suspect For sklenting bowttis. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 II. 321 He was a large quarter of myle from the schote and sklenting of boltis. 1785 BURNS *Addr. Deil* vii, The stars shot down wi' sklentan light.

Skleroclase, variant of SCLEROCLASE.

Sklice, obs. or Sc. form of SLICE.

Skli·ther, obs. variant of SLITHER *a.*

† Skluce. *Obs.*[−1] [Cf. MDu. *sluus* pulp (of an apple).] A pulpy mass.

c 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 25 Boyle it, & plante þin skluce with Rosys, & serue forth.

Skn-, occas. ME. variant of SN-.

‖ Skoal (skōūl), *sb.* Also 7 scol, scoll, skole, scoill, scoall. [ad. Da. and Norw. *skaal,* Sw. *skål,* repr. ON. *skál* bowl.] A health in drinking; a toast. Also *Comb.*

In early use only Sc., perhaps introduced through the visit of James VI to Denmark in 1589. In recent use the Norw. and Da. spelling *skaal* is sometimes retained.

1600 *Scot. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 204 He wes directit frome his ma^tie To drink his scoll to my lord diuk and the rest of the companie. *Ibid.*, Immediatlie after the scoill had passit about. 1649 *Ibid., Chas. II* (1814) VI. II. 174 All those who under whatsoever name..Drink healthes and scoalles. 1678 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scotl.* 787 Sir William Beyer..stayed the taking away of the centries..till the Kings skole were drunk at that part of the bridge.

1840 LONGF. *Skel. in Armour* XX, There from the flowing bowl Deep drinks the warrior's soul, *Skoal!* to the Northland! *Skoal!* 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 62 With the peculiar manners used in Scandinavian skoal-drinking I was already well acquainted.

† Skoal, *v. Sc. Obs.* In 6–7 scoll, 7 scole, scoall. [f. prec.] *intr.* To drink healths; to drink deeply. Hence **Skoa·ling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 395 He is harling them to harlatrie...to scolling and drinking. 1624 *Extr. Aberdeen Register* (1848) II. 391 That nane presume...to vrge thair nichtbouris to waught or scole farder nor thair plesour. 1649 *Sc. Acts, Chas. II* (1814) VI. II. 174 Healthing and scoalling is the occasion of much drunkennesse.

Skoche, Skoch(e, obs. ff. SCOTCH *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Skodaic (skōdē·ĭk), *a. Path.* [f. the name of the Austrian physician Joseph *Skoda* (1805–81).] The specific epithet of the resonant percussion note heard in cases of pleuritic effusion.

1882 *Quain's Dict. Med.* II. 1187 This resonance, called Skodaic resonance, is a very characteristic sign. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1137 If a layer of lung intervene.. a Skodaic note may be elicited. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 338 The resonance becoming..of that character which is generally known under the name of 'skodaic resonance'.

Skoe, Skogy: see SKEO, SCUGGY *a.*

† Skoke. *Obs.* [ad. MDu. or MLG. *schok*: see SHOCK *sb.*] A certain quantity (see quot.).

1545 *Rates of Customs* þj, Double Iron plates called doubles the skoke xx.*s.* Doubles the bondel, iij.*s.* iiij.*d.* and vj. bondels to the skoke.

Skolder, obs. Sc. f. SCOWDER *v.* **Skole,** obs. f. SCALE *sb.*[1], SCHOOL, SKOAL. **Skolecite,** obs. f. SCOLECITE. **Skolion,** var. SCOLION. **Skolkerye,** obs. var. SKULKERY. **Skons(e,** obs. ff. SCONCE. **Skonschon,** obs. f. SCUNCHEON. **Skooter,** obs. var. SCOUTER. **Skop(e, -ppe,** obs. ff. SCOOP.

Skopster. *local.* The saury pike.

a 1705 RAY *Syn. Pisc.* (1713) 165 *Skipper* Cornubiensium (corruptione vocis) *skopster.* 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 141 Skipper. Saury. Skopster.

Skoray, var. SCAURIE. **Skord(e,** obs. pa. pple. SCORE *v.* **Skorodite,** var. SCORODITE. **Skorrie, Skory,** varr. SCAURIE. **Skorza,** var. SCORZA. **Skose,** obs. f. SCORSE *v.*[1] **Skouchin,** obs. f. SCUTCHEON *sb.*[1] **Skough, Skowg,** obs. ff. SCUG *sb.*[1] **Skoukinge,** obs. f. SKULKING *vbl. sb.* **Skoulk-, Skoute-wacche,** obs. vars. SCOUT-WATCH. **Skoverour,** obs. f. SCOURER[1]. **Skowe,** var. SCOGH, wood. *Obs.* **Skowke,** obs. form of SCULK *v.* **Skowlt,** obs. f. SCOUT *sb.*[4] **Skowre,** obs. f. SCORE *sb.*, SCOUR *v.* **Skoymus, -mys,** obs. ff. SQUEAMOUS, -MISH.

† Skoyse, ? obs. variant of SKICE *v.*

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sgr.'s T.* VII. 411 Instantlie kinge Cambuscan skoysd to campe in th' aier.

Skrae-fish. *local.* (See quots. and SCRAE *sb.*[2])

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 630 *Skrae-fish,* fish dried in the sun without being salted. 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I 295 Coal-fish,..also locally..skrae-fish.

† Skrange, ? misprint for *skragge* SCRAG *sb.*[2]

1607 *Barley-Breake* Div b, Amongst the rest, a blacke and filthie bird Sate on a skrange, and cries, A rope, a rope.

Skrap(p)le, obs. forms of SCRAPPLE *sb.*[1] and *v.*

Skraule, obs. form of SCRAWL *v.*

Skreigh (skrīχ), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* Forms: 6 skrech, 8 skriech, 9 skreich; 7– skreigh, 9 skriegh, skreegh, screigh, etc. [Alteration of *screik* SCREAK *sb.*, in order to imitate a more prolonged or harsher sound.] A shriek or screech; a loud shrill cry or scream. Also *fig.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The herrons gaif ane vyild skrech as the kyl hed bene in fyir. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 395 The skreigh is rais'd, with many rewfull cries. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. vi, He gripped Kate, And gar'd her gi'e a skreigh. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 200 The witches follow Wi' mony an eldritch skriech and hollo. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, 'The skriegh of a Tammie Norie,' answered Ochiltree, 'I ken the skirl weel'. 1818 — *Rob Roy* xxiii, The skreigh of duty, which no man should hear and be inobedient.

Skreigh (skrīχ), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* Also **skrieh, skregh,** screigh, etc. [Alteration (after prec.) of *skreek, skriek,* etc. (see SCREAK *sb.* 3), for earlier CREEK *sb.*[2]] The break *of* day.

1802 LEYDEN *Lord Soulis* viii, The page he look'd at the skrieh of day. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* x, I wad..be on and awa' to Mucklestane wi' the first skreigh o' morning. 1879 *Yachtsman's Holidays* 53 The watchful Lachlan called all hands by 'skreigh o' day'.

Skreigh (skrīχ), *v. Sc.* Also 8 skriegh, 9 skreegh, skriech, skreich; 8 scriegh, 8–9 screigh, 9 scriech, etc. [Alteration of *screik* SCREAK *v.*: cf. SKREIGH *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To screech or shriek; to utter a loud shrill cry; to make a screeching noise.

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. vii, And fouk wad threep, that she did green For what wad gar her skirle And skreigh some day. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* viii, How thou wad prance, an' snore, an' scriegh. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, I would hae skreigh'd out at once, and raised the house. 1894 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* ii, The tempest..whistlin' and skreeghin' amang the..trees.

2. *trans.* To utter in a screeching tone.

1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry* ii, Scriechan out prosaic verse, An' like to brust! *c* 1800 MACNEILL *Poems* (1844) 60 Rebellion loud..Skreighed wild her cry.

Hence **Skrei·ghing** *vbl. sb.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, I doubted Mary wad waken you wi' her skreighing.

Skrene, obs. form of SCREEN *sb.*[1] **Skreyme,** obs. f. SCREAM *sb.* **Skrich(e,** obs. ff. SCRITCH.

Skrim, *v. Sc.* In 5–6 scrym, skrym. [ad. OF. *scrimir,* var. of *escremir, eskermir,* etc.: see SKIRMISH *v.*] *intr.* To skirmish; to dart. Hence **Skri·mming** *vbl. sb.*

For possible traces of the vb. in modern Sc. see Jamieson's Dict., s.v. *Scrim* and *Skrim.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 521 Thar wes ilk day Iustyng of wer, And scrymmyng maid full apertly. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 67 Sum skripe me with scorne, sum skrym at myn E. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. v. 68 Ane gret flycht or ost Of fowlis..Quhilk on thar wyngis..Skrymmys heir and thar. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 610 Ane lang quhile thair he la, With greit scrymmyng and carmusche euerie da.

Skrine, obs. form of SCREEN *sb.*[1]

Skua (skiū·ă). *Ornith.* [Adopted by Hoier (*c* 1604) from the Færoese *skúgvur* (earlier **skúvur*), = ON. *skúfr* (in mod.Icel. *skúmur*), of uncertain origin.] A predatory gull belonging to the genus *Stercorarius,* esp. the largest European species, *S. catarrhactes,* which breeds in Shetland, the Færöes, and Iceland.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 349 Hapning to read over the description of Hoier's Skua..I find it exactly agrees with ours, so that I do not at all doubt but this Bird is the Skua of Hoier. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 417 They hold a knife erect over their heads, on which the Skua will transfix itself. 1777 FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 109 We saw a bird..which proved to be the skua or great northern gull. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIII. I. 214 The Skuas are more partial to fish..than the Jagers. *Ibid.* 216 Pomarine Skua. 1896 J. SKELTON *Summers & W. Balmawhapple* I. 216 The tarrock skims lightly along, and screams as the skua comes prowling round the cape.

b. *attrib.* in *skua-gull.*

1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 447 *headline,* Skua Gull. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 370 Solan geese, skua-gulls and land birds on the wing. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 26 A sort of false cere occurs in some water birds, as the jaegers, or skua-gulls.

Skuddiller, variant of SCUDLER, scullion.

Skue, obs. form of SKEW *a.*

† Skue, *v. Obs.*[−o] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Raser les eaux,* to skimme ouer, to skue [*? read* skud] or sayle vpon, the water.

† Skuett. *Obs.*[−1] [app. related to SKEWER *sb.* Cf. SCUET.] (See quot.)

1728 E. SMITH *Compleat Housewife* (ed. 2) 35 To make Skuetts. Take fine, long, and slender Skewers; then cut Veal Sweet-breads into pieces, like Dice, and some fine Bacon into thin square bits;..and then spit them on the Skewers [etc.].

Skugry, obs. Sc. form of SCUGGERY.

Skul, obs. form of SCULL, SKULL[1].

Skulk (skʊlk), *sb.* Also 4–5 soulke, 6 scoulke, sculck; 5 skulke. [f. the vb.]

1. One who skulks or hides himself; a shirker.

c 1320 LANGTOFT *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 248 The roghe raggy sculke Rug ham in belle!

1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* iv, 'Where's that skulk, Chips?' shouted Jermin down the forecastle scuttle. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 107 You are an honest fellow, Jemmy, whatever skulks and sneaks may say.

† 2. A number, company, or gathering (of persons or animals given to skulking). *Obs.*

Chiefly in echoes of a list of 'proper terms', and having at no time much real currency.

c 1450 in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1909) 25 A Skolke of freris. A Skolke of thewys. A Skolke of foxys. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj b, A Skulke of Theuys [etc.]. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 90 Ony persone or persones..that make ony sculke or be a receyuer or a gederar of euyl company. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 502/1 He shall doe [miracles] in hys catholike church, and suffereth none to be done among all the scoulkes of heretykes. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis,* etc. (Arb.) 138 An armoure..wheare scaals be ful horriblye clincked Of scrawling serpents, with sculcks of poysoned adders. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 10 Notwithstanding all this, there remained a sculke of such, as neither care nor castigation could amend. [1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sculk,* (among Hunters) a Company, as A Skulk of Foxes. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & P.* I. i. 17. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1821) II. 50 We say a flight of doves ..., a skulk of foxes. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 380 A cloud of foxes..(the term, an old book told me years ago, should be a sculk of foxes).]

3. An act of skulking.

1858 WRAXALL *Wild Oats* XXV, [He] preferred being locked in till twelve, 'doing a skulk', as he elegantly termed it.

Skulk (skʊlk), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 sculkin, 4 sculke, 4– sculk, 7 sculck. *β.* 4 skulc, 4– skulk, 4, 7 skulke. *γ.* 3 scolk-, 5 *Sc.* scowk-, 6 scowlke, scoulk, 7 scouke, skowke. [app. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *skulka* to lurk, lie watching, Da. *skulke,* Sw. *skolka* to shirk, play truant.]

There is app. a remarkable lack of evidence for the currency of the word in the 15th and 16th centuries, compared with its frequency in earlier and later use.

1. *intr.* To move in a stealthy or sneaking fashion, so as to escape notice. Usually with advs. and preps., as *about, away, into,* etc. † Also *refl.*

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 400 Nis non þet muwe etlutien [*v.r.* auuey sculkin] þet heo ne mot him luuien. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13741 Ne wist þai neuer quat to sai; Bot ilkan sculked þaim awai. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1788 Alle thyng it brestes in sonder, Als it sculkes by diverse ways. 1642–4 J. VICARS *God in Mount* (1844) 149 Lord Paulet..took his way toward Myneard, and so to sculk over into Wales. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 24 He was..forced to..creep and sculk into every place for fear of being taken and hanged. 1773 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1831) II. 484 It is a poor thing for a fellow to get drunk at night, and sculk to bed. *c* 1825 MRS. SHERWOOD *Houlston Tracts* II. No. 32. 6 The three servants sculked by her to get out of the room. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 525 Plotters and libellers by profession,..who were forced to sculk in disguise through back streets.

β. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* CXVIII. 158, I sagh wemmand and skulked awai. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 93 Awey he skulketh as an hare. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2651 Take withe the .iij. hundred knightes..Leste þat lurdeynes come skulkynge oute. 1419 *26 Pol. Poems* 69 Þe glosers skulked away, for shame of here sooles. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 209 The Enemy..killing a Man at Weymouth, another at Hingham, as they lay skulking up and down in Swamps and Holes. *c* 1720 PRIOR *True's Epitaph* 19 He..Ne'er

skulk'd from whence his sovereign led him. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 338 The enemy..skulking out of Toulon for a mile or two, and then..skulking into port again. 1850 D. G. Mitchell *Reveries Bachelor* 245, I went up at night, and skulked around the buildings. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* II. 382 The peasant, when drunk, skulks to his home from the public-house through by-ways.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* liv. 211 Some mischief that makes it [a louse] oftentime sculk into some meaner and lower place, and run behind a mans back. *a* 1694 Tillotson *Serm.* cliii. (1748) VIII. 369 As if things..did break forth into being and sculk again into nothing..'at the beck of his will'. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* I. iii, Beware you do not think That I by lying arts..have skulk'd into his graces. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 16 There are masked words droning and skulking about us in Europe just now.

2. To hide or conceal oneself, to keep out of sight, to avoid observation, esp. with some sinister motive or in fear of being discovered; to lurk.

a. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxi. 9 Sinful sal se,..And sal sculke to be awai. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15887 Al þat ilke day he sculked; Among þe pouere men he hulked. 1484 in *Litt. Cantuar.* (Rolls) III. 311 Sculkynge in wodys be day and lyinge a wayte to robbe the Kynges lyege people. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 217 A Leopard that sculkt in the aforesaid thicket. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* I. 15 Man is a yong Lyon,..lurking and sculking to doe mischiefe. 1736 Fielding *Pasquin* v, The fox, Wise beast, who knows the treachery of men, Flies their society, and sculks in woods. 1806 H. Siddons *Maid, Wife, & W.* I. 108, I..must sculk, a dishonourable, an abandoned fugitive. 1894 Gladstone *Horace* III. xii. 22 Sculking where the woods are thick.

β. a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxviii. 15 To skulke als irain þou made saule his. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8287 Hengist byforn had don hem skulke In wodes, in hilles, to crepe in hulke. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 129 Our Ianizaries discharged their harquebuses, lest some should haue skulkt within. 1709 Dampier *Voy.* III. II. 165 She [a boat] seeing us coming that way,..skulked behind a point a while. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* (1863) 42 They told me that they had seen two sailors skulking behind the piles of timber. 1884 Gilmour *Mongols* 265 Most Mongols would prefer to endure two or three years' imprisonment, to being compelled to skulk for life.

transf. 1664 H. Power *Exp. Philos.* II. 117 The spontaneous Dilatation..of that little remnant of Ayr skulking in the rugosities thereof. *c* 1750 Shenstone *Ruin'd Abbey* 293 The bigot pow'r Amidst her native darkness skulk'd secure. 1838 Dickens *Nickleby* xix, A smile, which seemed to skulk under his face.

γ. 1530 Palsgr. 699/2 A daye tale he scoulketh in corners and a nyghtes he gothe a thevyng. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 994/2 Heretikes..wont but to crepe together in corners, and secretly scoulk together in lurkes lanes. 1611 Cotgr., *Blotir*, to squat, skowke, or ly close to the ground. 1659 Torriano *Eng.-Ital. Dict.*, To scouke, *nascondersi*.

b. To hide, to withdraw or shelter oneself, in a cowardly manner. Freq. with *behind*.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 256 Reuoke the foe, thy wounds, and vsuall feare; Behind my target sculk. 1681 Dryden *Span. Friar* IV. ii, Should a common Soldier sculk behind, And thrust his General in the Front of War. 1781 Cowper *Conversation* 375 But counterfeit is blind, and skulks through fear, Where 'tis a shame to be asham'd t'appear. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* li, They shall not find us skulking and hiding, as if we feared to take our portion of the light of day. 1877 W. Black *Green Past.* xi, I'll fight any one of you—ah! skulk behind the women, do!

transf. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 207 He stood at bold Defiance with his Prince;..and sculk'd behind the Laws. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 122 Every rancorous knave ..may skulk behind the press of a newsmonger..without running the least hazard of detection or punishment. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvii, But my love did not long remain skulking thus behind the hedge of honour.

c. To shirk duty; *spec.* to malinger.

1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 312 Let magistrates alert perform their parts, Not skulk or put on a prudential mask. 1826 Hutchison *Pract. Obs. Surg.* 191 The sick list having been ..delivered in to the captain, with a particular mark against the name of every man either sculking or suspected of sculking. 1843 H. Gavin *Feigned Diseases* 23 Marines.., much more than sailors, are found frequently skulking, owing to the severity of their exercise. 1887 Besant *The World Went* iv, [He] is not one who will skulk, or suffer his crew to skulk.

3. *trans.* **a.** To shun, keep away from, avoid, in a skulking manner.

c 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 8 I'le skulk the place where God hath sent me to. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 377 What school-boy would dare to skulk a fight? 1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 561 Southey, in his wonted mode, skulks the affair of the Bay of Naples.

b. 'To produce or bring forward clandestinely or improperly.'

1846 Worcester, citing *Eclectic Rev.*

Skulker (skʌ·lkəɹ). Also 4, 6 **sculker**(e, 4 **scolker**, 5 **sculcare**, *Sc.* **scoukar**. [f. prec. + -er 1. Cf. MSw. *skulkare*, Norw. *skulkar*.]

1. One who skulks, in various senses. † Also as a name for the hare.

13.. *Names of Hare* in *MS. Digby* 168 b, þe wint-swifft, þe sculkere, þe hare-serd, þe heg roukere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 He hab wiþ hym flemed men and scolkers aboute. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3119 Than skyftes þes skouerours,.. Diskoueres for skulkers that they no skathe lymppene. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 180 Skour weyll about for scoukaris in the se. *c* 1530 *Pore Helpe* 384 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 266 A man that wyl not vary, And one that is no sculker. 1728 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 401 The numbers that are for laying him aside.., too often hedgers and skulkers. 1800 Coleridge *Wallenstein* I. vii, Did we confine thee not, to let that skulker..pass the gates of Pilsen! 1841 C. Mackay *Pop. Delusions* II. 30 He..was now a solitary skulker in the forests. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* xv, It's good advice, whichever of you skulkers gave it.

b. *spec.* (See quot. 1785.)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Skulker*, a soldier who by feigned sickness or other pretences evades his duty, a sailor who keeps below in time of danger [etc.]. 1826 Hutchison *Pract. Obs. Surg.* 191 The plan I adopted, when serving afloat, to lessen the sick list of sculkers, as they are technically termed in the navy. 1887 *Spectator* 9 July 932/1 Serjeant Lawrence..was particularly hard on skulkers.

2. A moth, *Graphiphora latens*.

1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 54 The Sculker..appears in summer. Rare. South of Scotland.

3. *Ornith.* (See quots.)

1867 H. Spencer *Princ. Biol.* VI. viii. § 349 'Skulkers' is the descriptive title applied to the Water-Rail, the Corn-Crake, and their allies, which evade enemies by concealment. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 241 Their shy retiring habit of skulking among the rushes has caused them to be sometimes called *Latitores* (skulkers).

† **Skulkery.** *Obs.* Also 5 **sculkery, scolcurye, skolkerye, skoulkery.** [f. Skulk *v.* + -ery.] The practice of skulking.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7602, I may not longe it suffry Off that Achilles with his sculkery. *Ibid.* 8360. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1644 For na skomfitoure in skoulkery is skomfite euer.

Skulking (skʌ·lkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Skulk *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5130 Bote hii þus mid scolkinge vpe þe englisse wende. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 3 Þei went tille Snawdone..To purueie þam a skulkyng, on þe Englis eft to ride. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 130 Thai var fayis to the kyng, And thoucht to cum in-to scowkyng [*v.r.* sculking], And duell with hym. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 451/1 Sculkynge, *cleptura*. 1611 Cotgr., *Tapissement*,.. a crooching, skowking, or ducking downe. 1659 Hammond *On Ps.* lxxxviii. 18 The lying hid, and sculking of friends. 1751 J. Brown *Shaftesb. Charac.* 9 These hussars .. by sudden evolutions and timely skulking, can do great mischiefs. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 415 Intemperance and skulking were never so little practised in any fleet as in this. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* ix. (1880) 333 The artifices of salmon are multifarious..'Skulking' is a common one.

b. *attrib.*, as *skulking hole, place*.

1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* ii. 40 Then Ionathas and they that were with him, rose out of their skoukinge places agaynst them. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* xiv. (1669) 301/1 The Quakers..have their skulking hole to which they run from the Scripture. 1831 Scott *Ct. Robt.* ii, The light-footed Grecian..dodged his pursuer from one skulking place to another.

Skulking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. That skulks or hides; sneaking, lurking.

1619 Fletcher *False One* I. i, I bought it Of a skulking Scribler for two Ptolomies. 1639 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 37 The malignitie of some Skulkinge enviers of my preferment. 1728 Morgan *Hist. Algiers* II. v. 320 What have we to do with the History of a Crew of starving, beggarly, skulking Pyrates? 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 571 The Moravians..are apprehensive of a visit from some of their skulking parties. 1803 *Naval Chron.* X. 82 The skulking French row-boats..make sure work of taking prizes. 1828 L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* I. 171 You gave that skulking rascal..money when you spoke to him. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 208 A few skulking marauders.

fig. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 110 An old skulking statute long since out of use.

2. Characterized by skulking.

1658 W. Burton *Itin. Antoninus* 39 Such as by stealth, and in a skulking way, did what they did. 1674 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 38 That anonymous and sculking method both of Writing and Licensing. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 487 But thy Great Soul this skulking glory scorns. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xx, That skulking and rambling mode of life.

Hence **Skulkingly** *adv.*

1847 in Webster. 1878 C. J. Vaughan *Earnest Words for E. Men* 118 The good thing [presented itself] timidly, skulkingly.

Skull 1 (skʌl). Forms: *α.* 3–5 **scolle**, 4–5 **scol, scoll**, 5 **scole**; 5 **skolle**, 5–6 **skoll**, 6 **skol**. *β.* 3, 5 **schulle**, 4–7 **sculle** (6 **scoulle**, 7 **scoule**), 6–7 **scul**, 6–9 **scull**. *γ.* 4–6 **skulle**, 6–7 **skul**, 5– **skull**. [Of obscure origin: first prominent in south-western texts of the 13–14th centuries, usually in the form *scolle*.

A foreign origin is indicated by the initial *sc-*, *sk-*, but the locality of the early examples is against connexion with ON. *skoltr* (Norw. *skolt, skult*, Sw. *skult*, dial. *skulle*) skull, poll, or with Norw. dial. *skul, skol* shell (of nuts or eggs). There is correspondence of form with Du. *schol*, MLG. *schulle*, MHG. (and G.) *scholle* (OHG. *scolla, scollo*) earthy crust, turf, piece of ice (cf. also Sw. *skolla* metal plate), but there is no evidence that these were ever used in the sense of 'skull'. The same difficulty applies to OF. *escuelle, escule* dish, nor would this readily have assumed the early form *scolle*.]

1. The bony case or frame containing or enclosing the brain of man or other vertebrate animals; the cranium; also, the whole bony framework or skeleton of the head.

α. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 168 Robert de brok..boru3 þe scolle smot is sweord. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 521 Summe pleyed of the heved, And summe heore scolles icleved. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 115 Golgotha is to menynge a baar scolle. For whan..mysdoeres were þere byheded, þe hedes were i-left þere. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 216 Watir þat is gaderid in children hedis, ouþer it is wiþinne þe scolle or wiþoute þe scolle. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 79 Take a plouer, and breke his skoll, and pull him dry. 1506 *Kal. Sheph.* (Sommer) 102 In the skol ben two bones which ben called parietalles that holdeth the brayne close and stedfast.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 296 Ne 3if him neuer inȝong auh tep him oðe schulle, uor he is eruh ase beore þeron. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 8 *Greue, fountayne, et haterel*, Sched, molde, and sculle. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* ix. 35 Thei founden not, no bot the scul, and the feet, and gobitis of the hond. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Sculle, of the heede, *craneum*. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 80 Lete the sculle be hole. 1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 238 They haue the bones of the sculles of theyr heades foure tymes thycker..then owres. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. xxvii. 180 Small rounde heades..with little hooles in them, like to a dead scull. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 548 All these muscles are seated on the backeside of the Eye within the cauity of the Scull. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 34 The Carotid Arteries..after they have enter'd the Scull. 1781 Cowper *Convers.* 780 That truth itself is in her head as dull, And useless, as a candle in a scull. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* II. 236 Ghosts being seen about..at night, with bare sculls and blue lights in their sockets.

γ. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 371 þis Albuinus had ..overcome þe kyng of Gispides, and i-made hym a cuppe of his skulle forto drinke of. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 128 The kyng in audience aboute Hath told it was hire fader Skulle. 1579 G. Baker *Guydo's Quest.* 11 b, Other [bones] be..sawwise, as y^e skul of the head. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 440 The skull or cranium is all that bone which compasseth the braine and after-brain like a helmet. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxi. 124 There were also other vessels laden with dead mens skuls. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 428 A piece of a skull, which had belonged to..Oliver Cromwell. 1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 209 The great veins of the skull or the sinuses. 1877 J. A. Allen *Amer. Bison* 454 Variations in the form of the skull are often strikingly apparent.

b. The head as the proper seat of thought or intelligence. Commonly with allusion to dullness of intellect.

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 82 Better a dum mouthe than a brainles scull. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. v. 121 Thou hast spoke..as if thy eldest sonne should be a foole: whose scull, Ioue cramme with braines. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 488 Your Sexe, Whose empty Sculles .. your selues peruersely vexe. *a* 1795 Cowper *Pairing Time* 8 Ev'n the child who knows no better..Must have a most uncommon skull. 1823 in Cobbett *Kur. Rides* (1885) I. 338 It has at last been hammered into their skulls, that the interest cannot be paid in full, if wheat sells low. 1857 Reade *Course True Love* 99 We..have not an idea of our own in our sculls.

† **c.** *slang.* The head of an Oxford College or Hall. *Obs.* Cf. Golgotha 2.

1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 11 (1726) 55 The Sculls.. clapp'd a Degree upon his back. *Ibid.* No. 30. 167 Another gentleman..who has lately given a certain learned Scull great offence. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 223 *Scull* or *Skull*, the head or Master of a College,..but nearly obsolete.

d. A representation of a human skull, as an emblem or reminder of death or mortality.

1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 898 She was a perpetual *memento mori*; a skull and cross-bones would hardly have been more efficacious. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 40 Here are the typical marrow-bones, skull, and sand glass.

† **2. a.** The crown or top of the head; the sconce, the (bare) scalp. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 353 Loke þat þou be armed sad, & hele þy bare scolle. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 15 As piled as an Ape was his skulle. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 586 *Glabella*, the schulle. 1611 Cotgr., *Calvaire*, the (bare) skull, or skalpe of the head. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1638) 16 A third..shaves here and there, the bald scull appearing in many places.

† **b.** Used to render L. *cervix*, the back of the neck. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxviii. 48 He shal put on an yren ȝok vpon thi scol. — 1 *Sam.* iv. 18 He felle fro the litil seet.., and the scullis brokun, he is deed.

† **3.** A skull-cap of metal or other hard material; a close-fitting head-piece. *Obs.*

α. 1522 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 400 No kynde of armor, as shorte of mayll, ne skoll. 1536 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 136 [He] had a paire of brexen journeys on his backe,..and a skoll on his head.

β. 1530 Palsgr. 268/1 Scull harnesse for the heed, *segretle*. 1557 *Act 4 & 5 Phil. & Mary* c. 2 § 2 One Murrien or Sallet, ..and one Steele Cappe or Sculle. 1611 Cotgr., *Secrete*, a thinne steele cap, or a close scull worne vnder a hat, &c. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Mosc.* Wks. 1851 VIII. 478 Thir Armour is a Coat of Plate, and a Scull on thir Heads.

γ. a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 235 Suche as should beare Morysh Pyckes..had no harnesse but skulles. 1600 Dymmok *Ireland* (1843) 7 Armed with a shert of maile, a skull, and a skeine. *a* 1674 Milton *Hist. Mosc.* Wks. 1851 VIII. 527 They saw the Emperor and his Son..each with a Skull of Pearl on thir bare Heads.

4. A crust of solidified steel or other metal formed on a ladle, etc., by the partial cooling of the molten material. Also without article.

1773 *Wright's Pat.* in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 161 Making Malleable Iron..from Scull and Cinder Iron or other Cast Metal. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 326/2 To keep the blown metal in fusion and prevent 'skulls' forming when it is run out into a casting ladle. 1894 *Daily News* 12 Feb. 6/6 The process does not produce 'skull', and small quantities can therefore be dealt with without in any way chilling the metal.

5. *attrib.* In sense 'of or pertaining to, belonging to or connected with, the skull', as *skull-bone, -form, -pan, -piece, -skin, -wall*, etc.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 575 The muscle of the eare springing from the *pericranium* or skull [skin]. 1746 W. Thompson *R. Navy Adv.* (1757) 39 The Scull Pieces of Oxen and Hogs. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 759/2 The skull-bones are freely supplied with blood. 1891 *Archæol.* LIII. 212 A heavy stroke through the crown into the side

of the skull-pan. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 239 The pressure of the cranial contents against the skull-wall. *Ibid.* 644 A tympanitic note on skull-percussion.

b. In sense 'in which skulls are reposited', as *skull-box, -house.*

1628–9 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (Swayne, 1896) 312 Henge for the skulle howse dore. 1654–5 *Ibid.* 330 Locke for y^e skull house dore. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 67 In the apertures between the uprights which supported the roof [of the charnel-house] were heaped up skull-bones.

c. In sense 'formed or made of a skull', as *skull-cup, -goblet, wine-cup.*

1825 HOGG *Q. Hynde* 280 Their skull-cups fill'd unto the brim. 1854 G. GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 27 The housekeeper took from a costly cabinet the famous and fearful skull wine-cup. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 221 Where..the skull goblet has often gone its rounds.

6. *Comb.* a. With pa. or pres. ppples., as *skull-built, -covered, -crowned, -dividing, -hunting*; also *skull-like* adj.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 145 A scull cround hat of the fashion of an olde deepe porringer. 1641 W. HOOKE *New England's Tears* 10 Their instruments are ..skul-dividing Halberds. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* II. xxii, The skull-built towers, the files of human heads. 1809–10 SHELLEY *Bigotry's Victim* 2 Dares the lama..The lion to rouse from his skull-covered lair? 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 523 The charnel-house of Time—where skull-like orbs.. Defiled the purview. 1898 C. S. HORNE *Story L. M. S.* 407 The teachers had themselves been skull-hunting cannibals.

b. With agent-nouns, as *skull-cracker, -hunter, -slinger, -thacker, -thatcher.*

1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 394 Rats-bane [a physician] .., who was but a young Skull-slinger then. 1719 RAMSAY *2nd Answ. Hamilton* ii, But me ye ne'er sae crouse had craw'd Ye poor scull-thacker! 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 181 A splendid green-stone Meri, heirloom of her deceased lord, and the skull-cracker no doubt of a hundred foes. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 94 *Skull thatchers*, straw bonnet makers,—sometimes called 'bonnet-builders'. 1863 Miss BRADDON *A. Floyd* xxiv, 'I'll find my skull-thatcher if I can,' said Captain Prodder, groping for his hat amongst the brambles. 1902 J. CHALMERS in *Life* (1905) xx. 98/2 That they are skull-hunters I do not doubt.

7. Special combs.: †**skull butterfly** (see quot.); **skull-eel**, the sharp-nosed eel, *Anguilla vulgaris*; **skull-fish**, † (*a*) some fish supposed to resemble a skull; (*b*) a whalebone whale above two years of age; †**skull-man** (see quot.); †**skull-moss**, a greenish kind of moss growing on skulls long exposed to the air; †**skull-seam**, a suture on the skull; **skull-vein** (see quot.).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 721/2 The *skull butterfly is another singular species, so called from its head resembling in some degree a death's head or human skull. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 243 Eel, *skull-eel, or brown-eel. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 154 *Orbis*,..the Globe, or *Scull-fish. 1725 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 257 After this, they [whales yielding whalebone] are term'd *Scull-fish, their Age not being known, but only guess'd at by the Length of the Bone in their Mouths. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Skull-fish*, the technical name among whalers for.. a whale which is more than two years old. 1659 TORRIANO, *Capellétti*, certain soldiers serving on horse-back with steele-caps, called with us *skull-men, or black-skulls. 1631 W. FOSTER *Hoplocrisma-Spongus* 40 *Scull-mosse* or bones, .. Mummy and the Fat of Man..comprehend the corporeall perfection of Man. 1681 GREW *Musæum* II. III. iv. 237 Of the same Species with the Skull-Mosse. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 576 The Nose..serveth as a Gutter To void the Excrements of grossest matter; As by the *Scull-seams and the Pory Skin Evaporate those that are light and thin. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 98/2 The peculiar character of the veins commonly called *scull veins, from their strong resemblance to the sutures of the scull, which traverse the blocks of white limestone.

Skull[2], **Scull** (skʌl). *Sc.* and †*north.* Forms: α. 6 **skill, skyll.** β. 6– **skull.** γ. 8– **scull.** [Of obscure origin.] A strong, shallow basket (now sometimes made of iron wire) of a circular or oval form and considerable size, used esp. for farm produce, fish, and fishing-lines.

α. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 231 Fische wyvis cryis, Fy! and castis doun skillis and skeilis. 1516–7 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 106 Pro le Skyll' pro bobus pascent ij d. β. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 496 Item, for skullis, vj d. 1634–46 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) 288 To the Judas, whose skill..was knowen to be far greater in making of skulls nor either in praying or preaching. 1724 *Dunbar's Flyting* xxiii. in Ramsay *Evergreen*, Fish Wyves..cast down Skulls and skeils. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 395 She seized her empty skull, and beat it unmercifully about.. poor John. 1840–1 *Q. Jrnl. Agric.* XI. 112 The large ozier or willow basket..in some parts of the country known by the name of 'skulls'. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v., The fisherman's skull is..deep at one end for the line, and shallow at the other for the baited hooks.

γ. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 465 All riddles, sculls, creels, mauns, beescaps. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIII. 402 She recollected that she was..rocked in a fisher's scull instead of a cradle. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi, She maun get the scull on her back, and awa wi' the fish to the next burrows-town. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 261 The most common practice of carrying the turnips is by the stalls in baskets, called *sculls.*

Hence **Sku·llful, Scu·llful**, the fill of a skull.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 122 Each skulful [ed. 2 scullful] will contain rather more than 32 lb. [of turnips].

†**Skull**[3]. *Obs. rare.* Also scull. [Of obscure origin.] A drinking-bowl or -vessel.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. i. 125 We keist of warme mylk mony a scull [L. *cymbium*]. *Ibid.* VII. iii. 89 In flacon and in skull [L. *cratera*] Thai skynk the wyne.

Skull, variant or obs. form of SCULL *sb.* and *v.*

Skullbanker, var. SCOWBANKER *slang.*

Skull-cap (skʌ·lkæp). Also 7–9 **scull-cap.** [f. SKULL[1] + CAP *sb.*[1]]

1. A light, close-fitting cap, usu. of silk, velvet, or other soft material, for covering the head.

α. 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 182 About 30 persons,..clad in Indian stuffs, with sculp [*sic*] caps on their heads. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A Scull-cap, that some wear under the Perwig. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xlii. 194 They also use scull-caps of paper, or a cabbage-leaf under their hats. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xi, A Presbyterian clergyman,..wearing a black silk scull-cap. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 206 Their black and greasy scull-caps..might once have been red.

β. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lovers* II. i, I suppose I was used like other Children. They clap'd me on a Skul-cap. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 59 He wore commonly a little leather cap, which sort was then called skull caps. 1848 LAYARD *Nineveh* vii. (1850) 141 The women wore small embroidered skull-caps. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. iii. 355 He commonly wore a black silk skull-cap.

2. *Hist.* A steel or iron cap, a form of casque or helmet fitting closely to the head; = SKULL[1] 3.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* ix, An iron skull-cap, none of the brightest, bore for distinction a sprig of the holly. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* (1849) 174 There was a ferocious tyrant in a skullcap like an inverted porringer, and a dress of red baize. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 98 Skull-caps.., with or without nasals, are common amongst esquires, archers and men at arms.

3. *Bot.* One or other of various species of plants belonging to the genus *Scutellaria*, in which the calyx finally assumes the appearance of a helmet.

α. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 326 *Scull-cap*, see Skull-cap. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 320 *Scutellaria*,.. Little red Scull-cap or Willow-herb. 1821 BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 5 *Scutellaria hyssopifolia.* Hyssop-leaved Scull-cap. *Ibid.* 78 *Scutellaria latcrifolia.* Side-flowering Scull-cap...Blue Scull-cap. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 172 The scull-cap, (*Scutellaria,*)..has been said to be a remedy for the hydrophobia.

β. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Skull-cap, *Scutellaria.* 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr.* 67 in *Gard. Assist.*, Skull-cap, or helmet flower. 1855 Miss PRATT *Flowering Pl.* IV. 205 Common Skull-cap..received its name from the singular impalement of its calyx, which, when inverted, resembles a helmet with its visor raised.

b. *Amer.* (See quot.)

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 406 *Veronica scutellata*, Skull-cap or Marsh Speedwell,..[grows] in swamps and marshes, N. Eng. and Western States, and Brit. Am[erica].

4. *Geol.* (See quots.)

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 375/2 The skull cap [in certain quarries in the island of Portland] is irregular in texture; it is a well-compacted limestone, containing cherty nodules. 1860 DAMON *Geol. Weymouth* 88 The term 'skull cap', applied to the solid layers constituting the lowest bed of the Purbeck formation, is intended to denote its position in relation to other beds below. 1885 R. ETHERIDGE *Stratigr. Geol. & Palæontol.* 478 *note*, The lower Purbeck beds are known as the '*cap*' and the '*skull cap*'. They are botryoidal limestones or indurated calcareous tuffs, possibly derived from the denudation of the Portland rocks.

5. *Anat.* The bony structure covering the brain; the top or roof of the head.

1855 L. HOLDEN *Human Osteology* 94 The skull-cap is composed of the expanded arches of three of the cranial vertebræ, and forms a beautiful oval dome for the protection of the brain. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 760/1 These fossæ are marked, as is the whole skull-cap, by the cerebral convolutions.

Skulle, obs. f. SCULL *sb.*, oar.

Skulled (skʌld), *a.* [f. SKULL[1] + -ED[2]. Cf. *thick-skulled*, etc.] Of certain vertebrates: Possessing or furnished with a skull.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. xvii. 97 The whole Vertebrate tribe may primarily be divided into the two main sections of the Skull-less and the Skulled Vertebrates.

Skullen, obs. form of SCULLION.

Skullery (skʌ·lərı). [f. SKULL[1] + -ERY 2.] A collection of skulls; a place for skulls.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 327 The effect of the water dropping from the jaw-bones and eyeholes...It is not to be thought that an Irishman could contemplate such a skullery with unmoved imagination. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 1/3 On his excavating expeditions an annexe, usually known as the 'skullery', is almost invariably brought into use.

Skullian, -ion, obs. forms of SCULLION.

Sku·ll-less, *a.* [f. SKULL[1].] Having no skull; not furnished with a skull.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. xvii. 97 Of the earlier and lower section, that of the Skull-less, the Amphioxus is alone extant.

Sku·lly, *a. rare.* [f. SKULL[1].] Containing skulls; having skulls about.

1896 E. A. KING *It. Highways* 218 A damp and skully place..is the crypt.

Skulp, obs. form of SCALP *v.*[2]

Skumer, -our(e, obs. forms of SCUMMER.

Skumfite, Skunfit, obs. forms of SCOMFIT.

Skunage, variant of SKEVINAGE *Obs.*

Skundrell, obs. form of SCOUNDREL.

Skunk (skʌŋk), *sb.* Also 7 **squnck, squnncke, 8 skunck.** See also SKINK *sb.*[3] [ad. Amer. Indian (Abenaki) *segankw* or *segongw*; variant forms occur in many other dialects.]

1. A North American animal of the weasel kind, *Mephitis mephitica*, noted for emitting a very offensive odour when attacked or killed.

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 25 The beasts of offence be Squunckes, Ferrets, Foxes. 1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy.* 85 The Squnck is almost as big as the Racoon. 1701 C. WOLLEY *Jrnl. New York* (1860) 31 Musquashes, Skunks, Deer and Wolves, they bring upon their backs to New-York. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav.* 11 *note*, There is a species of polecat in this part of America, which is commonly called a skunk. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. II. 395 A smell as insufferable as that of some of the American Weesels or Skunks. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xi, He was advised to wear the scalp of the skunk as the only trophy of his prowess. 1877 COUES *Fur-Bearing Anim.* vii. 196 The Skunk is a stoutly built animal, with a small head, low ears, and short limbs..; the tail long and very bushy.

b. *ellipt.* The fur of the skunk.

1862 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Lett.* (1884) I. xvi. 404 Sables are so expensive as to be vulgar and Skunk..is infinitely handsomer. 1884 *Daily News* 23 Sept. 6/1 Skunk is to be very much worn this winter. It can be deodorised to a very great extent.

2. *colloq.* A thoroughly mean or contemptible person. Also in playful use.

1841 [W. G. SIMMS] *Kinsmen* I. 171 He's a skunk—a bad chap about the heart. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) s.v., Now, Tom, you skunk, this is the third time you've forgot to set on that switch. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 42 That miserable old skunk you've engaged to take my place.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *skunk-fur, -robe, -skin*; *skunk-like* adj.; **skunk-bird, -blackbird** *U.S.* (see quots.); **skunk currant** *U.S.*, the fetid or mountain currant, *Ribes prostratum*; **skunk-head** *U.S.* (see quot.); **skunk porpoise** *U.S.* (see quot. and PORPOISE); **skunk weasel**, = SKUNK *sb.* 1; **skunk-weed** *U.S.*, = SKUNK-CABBAGE.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 30/1 [The male bobolink's] variegated dress, which, from a resemblance in its colours to that of the quadruped, obtained for it the name of '*skunk-bird' among the Cree Indians. 1855 H. W. BEECHER *Star Papers* (1873) 192 We followed that old Polyglott, the *skunk blackbird, and heard [etc.]. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Skunk blackbird*, the common marsh blackbird, so called in the rural districts of New England, New York, and Canada West. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 771/1 The bobolink's chief name was suggested by..his song; but another, skunk-blackbird, alludes to the skunk-like color and pattern of his dress. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* (1821) II. 312 Three sorts of currants are found in the forest: the red, the black, and a peculiar kind, called *Skunk currants. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 273 A small shrub,.. ill-scented, and with ill-flavored berries—sometimes called Skunk Currant. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlwk.* 451/2 *Skunk Fur..is of a dark brown colour, rather long in the hair, and rough. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 305 **Skunkhead*, the popular name, on the sea-coast, of the Pied Duck of ornithologists. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 346 This plant—so readily known by its *skunk-like odor. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 16 The best known species on the Atlantic coast are the '*Skunk Porpoise', or 'Bay Porpoise'. 1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) v. 144 A good *skunk robe is a very pretty bit of peltry. 1862 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Lett.* (1884) I. xvi. 404 With my pelisse of racoon and my cap of *skunk-skin. 1771 PENNANT *Synop. Quad.* 233 *Skunk Weasel. 1738 *Phil. Trans.* XL. 348 *Arum Americanum, Betæ folio.* The *Scunk-weed. 1855 *New Cycl. Bot.* II. 708 *Dracontium fœtidum*...It is a native of North America, where it is called Scunk Cabbage or Scunk Weed.

Hence **Sku·nkdom,** (*a*) skunkish character; (*b*) skunks collectively; **Sku·nkish** *a.*, resembling a skunk; contemptible; **Sku·nklet,** a young skunk; **Sku·nky** *a.*, befitting a skunk; nasty.

1839 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 49 My skunkdom requires only to be known to be felt. *Ibid.*, I wish you would write poor Isabella. In this you are more skunkish than I. 1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) v. 144, I was meditating on skunkdom and keeping a look-out for willow grouse. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 3/1 The five or six little skunklets remain *en famille* with their parents until the following spring. 1897 BLACKMORE *Dariel* xl, You try to shove him into any skunky corner.., and he lets you know.

Skunk (skʌŋk), *v. U.S. slang.* [f. prec.] *trans.* (See quots.)

1848 DURIVAGE *Stray Subj.* 135, I made high, low, game, and skunked him, outright again. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 409 In games of chance, if one of the players fails to make a point, he is said to be *skunked.* A presidential candidate who fails to secure one electoral vote is also skunked. 1859 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) s.v., A student who leaves college without settling up, is said to skunk his bills.

Skunk-cabbage. *N. Amer.* [f. SKUNK *sb.*] A perennial stemless plant of the arum family, *Symplocarpus fœtidus*, giving out an offensive odour, especially when bruised.

1762 ELIOT in Mills *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 156 The roots of swamp hellebore (known in different places by the several names of skunk cabbage, tickle weed, bear root). 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampsh.* III. 127 The *arum*, or skunk cabbage, has been found very efficacious in asthmatic complaints. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 287 The root and seeds of the Skunk Cabbage, *Symplocarpus fœtida*, are powerful antispasmodics. 1878 MRS. STOWE *Poganuc P.* xvii. 147 The honest, great green leaves of the old skunk cabbage, most refreshing to the eye in its hardy, succulent greenness, though an abomination to the nose.

Skunte: see SCUM *v.* 5 b.

Skuppat, obs. form of SCUPPET *sb.*

Skur(r: see SCOUR *v.*[2]; SKIRR *sb.* and *v.*

†**Skure**, *v. Obs.* (Meaning doubtful.)

Not likely to be either *secure* or *skewer.*

1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 129 As the Puttoke

doth surpasse eche winged foule perdy, By egernesse to skure her pray, once seene with greedy eye.

Skurn(e, obs. ff. SCORN *v.* **Skurt,** var. SQUIRT *sb.* **Skuruie, -uy,** obs. ff. SCURVY *sb.* and *a.* **Skut,** obs. f. SCOUT *sb.*[3], SCUT *sb.*[1] **Skute,** var. SCOOT *v.*; obs. f. SCUTE. **Skuyer,** obs. f. SQUIRE. **Skuys,** obs. f. SCOUSE *sb.* **Skwar,** obs. f. SQUARE. **Skwe,** var. SKEW *sb. Obs.* **Skwff,** obs. Sc. f. SCOFF *sb.*[1] **Skwsacion,** obs. f. SCUSATION.

Sky (skəi), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–4 (6) **ski** (4 **scki, schi**); 3 **skei,** 4 **skey**; 3 **skiȝe,** 4–7 **skie, skye** (5 **schye**), 4– **sky** (7 *pl.* **skyne**). [a. ON. *ský* (Icel. *ský*, Norw., Sw., Da. *sky*) neut., cloud (:—original **skiuja*), directly related to OS. *skio* masc., OE. *scéo* (doubtful), and more remotely to OE. *scuwa*, ON. *skugge* shade, shadow, whence SCUG *sb.*[1] See also SKEW *sb.*[1]]

†1. A cloud. *Obs.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 66 Up he teð, til ðat he ðe heuene seð. ðurȝ skies sexe and seuene til he cumeð to heuene. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3255 Bi-foren hem fleȝ an skiȝe briȝt ðat niȝt hem made ðe weiȝe liȝt. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 1600 A certeyn wynde..blewe so hydously and hye That hyt ne left not a skye In alle the welkene. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 50 Al sodeinly Sche passeth, as it were a Sky, Al clene out of this ladi sihte. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1007 As sterris in the frosty nyght, Whanne walkne is most bryght, With-oute cloude or any skye. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 161 The somerys day is..seelden seyn, With so cleer hayr, but that ther is som skye. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxix. 3 Quhone sabill all the hewin arrayis, With mystie vapouris, cluddis and skyis. ?*a* 1550 *Sterne of Redempt.* 31 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 329 To the superne eternall regioun, Quhair noxiall skyis may mak no sogeorn.

fig. 14.. *Epiph.* in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 121 Thus..trw menyng darketh with a skye That we in Englysch callon flaturye. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 165 Ye soored ouer hye .., Your names to magnifye, Among the scabbed skyes Of Wycliffes flesshe flyes.

2. *The skies,* the clouds (*obs.*); the upper region of the air; the heavens. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1300 *XV Signa* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 11 Þe holi man telliþ ..þat þe skeis so sal spec þan..in steuen as hit wer man. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 261 Sche drof forth bothe char and whel Above in thair among the Skyes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6016 The day was done, dymmet the skyes. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 25 The skyes rang for schoutyng of the larkis. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 121 The skies, the fountaines, euery region neere, Seeme all one mutuall cry. 1614 C. BROOKE *Ghost Rich. III*, Poems (1872) 103 To..curle his leauie hayres The more in bows, and armes, that kisse the skyne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 248 Late at Night, when Stars adorn the Skies. 1754 GRAY *Pleasure* 51 The common Sun, the air, the skies To him are opening Paradise. 1784 MICKLE *Cumnor Hall* ii, Now nought was heard beneath the skies, The sounds of busy life were still. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ix, With uplifted right hand..to these pouring skies. 1860 LD. LYTTON *Lucile* I. IV. 12 There was war in the skies!

transf. and *fig.* 1562 WINȜET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 20 We exhort ȝow, and adiuris ȝow also,..to descend from the hie skyis. 1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 190/2 *Machina*,.. the skies or counterfet heauen ouer the stage.

b. Used without *the*, in limited sense.

1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 41 Illumynit our with orient skyis brycht. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 55 A brighter Day and Skies of azure Hue. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 138 The rude inclemency of wintry skies. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* XXX, It was a dismal day, with leaden skies overhead.

3. *The sky,* the apparent arch or vault of heaven, whether covered with cloud or clear and blue; the firmament.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1341 Him thoght..þat to þe sky it raght þe toppe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 312 The Sky wax derk, the wynd gan blowe, The firy welkne gan to thondre. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 610 Quhen the day can daw,..And the sone in the sky wes schynyng so schir. 1508 DUNBAR *Golden Targe* 50 I saw approch agayn the orient sky, A saill. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 9 When the sky fallth we shall have larks. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 283 The sky doth frowne, and lowre vpon our Army. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 221 The skye being extreame cold with snow and frost. 1672 R. WILD *Poet. Licent.* 34 If the Skie fall, down-comes the price of Larks. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 178 As ..lead itself can fly, And pond'rous slugs cut swiftly thro' the sky. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 5 A dark Flag on that [pole] which appears between you and the Sky. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. i. § 5. 204 The sky is to be considered as a transparent blue liquid, in which..clouds are suspended. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vi. 135 No people have ever existed to whom the sky has not suggested one set of ideas.

b. With descriptive or limiting term.

1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court*, Ouer this..in an Euening sky, the ruddy Sunne was seen ready to be set. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Nov. 1660, The Sunn represented by a face and raies of gold, upon an azure skie. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. vii, All in a hot and copper sky, The bloody Sun..did stand. 1814 WORDSW. *Yarrow Visited* 17 A blue sky bends o'er Yarrow vale. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* v. ii, With her..wild voice pealing up to the sunny sky. 1869 E. DUNKIN (*title*), The Midnight Sky: Familiar Notes on the Stars and Planets.

c. Without article.

1556 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 13 Into a starre in sky. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. v. 146 A Nobler Sir ne're liu'd 'Twixt sky and ground. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. 93 But the greatest part of this paisage and Landtskip is sky. 1725 POPE *Odyssey* III. 411 A length of Ocean and unbounded sky. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* III. 107, I..perused The common countenance of earth and sky. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. XVIII. v, The countercharm of space and hollow sky. 1884 *Trnl. R. Meteorol. Soc.* (1885) XI. 231 There was a portion of blue sky between the Helm cloud and the Bar.

d. *fig.* or in fig. phrases.

To the sky or *skies*, to the highest possible degree, enthusiastically, extravagantly. *In the skies*, in an ecstasy, in the realms of fancy.

(*a*) *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXX. i, O God,..Display thy faces skie on us thine owne. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 56, I, in the cleare Skie of Fame, o're-shine you. 1793 COWPER *To Mary* i, The twentieth year is well-nigh past, Since first our sky was overcast. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 61, I bid him—at suspicion of first cloud athwart his sky..die! 1897 W. E. NORRIS *Marietta's Mar.* XXXI. 224 He dropped upon me suddenly out of a clear sky and began asking questions which I had to answer.

(*b*) 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 104 Italians..alwaies extoll their owne things to the skie. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 191 Those of any Piety or Religion, commended it to the Skyes. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 71 You were extoll'd to the Skies I assure you. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 25 Rhymsters who praise 'em to the skies, And meanest actions eulogize.

(*c*) 1869 MRS. H. WOOD *R. Yorke* XX, Roland was in the skies at once.

4. *poet.* or *rhet.* **a.** The celestial regions; heaven; the heavenly power, the deity.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 308 Now am I dead, now am I fled, my soule is in the sky. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 242 So maist thou be translated to the skies. 1697 DRYDEN *Alex. Feast* 179 He rais'd a Mortal to the Skies; She drew an Angel down. 1731 SWIFT *Judas* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 165 The just vengeance of incensed skies. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 70 Thou that hast..dared despise Alike the wrath and mercy of the skies. 1810 SHELLEY *Despair* 8 In the eternal mansions of the sky. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CLI. ii, Time loses his scythe When he enters the skies.

b. The sky (sense 3) of a particular region; hence, climate, clime.

1701 ADDISON *Let. to Ld. Halifax* 136 We envy not the warmer Clime that lies In ten Degrees of more indulgent Skies. 1842 TENNYSON *You ask me why* VII, I seek a warmer sky. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. XXI. 207 Strange that these famine-pinched wanderers of the ice should rejoice in sports..like the children of our own smiling sky.

5. a. The colour of the sky; sky-blue.

1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* II. i, Those knots of sky do not So well with the dead colour of her face. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She wou'd if she cou'd* III. ii, A whole bevy of damsels in sky, and pink, and flame-coloured taffetas.

b. The representation of a sky in a painting, etc.

1747 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art P.* 34 *note*, It is chiefly in this View, that Ruisdale's Waters, and Claude Lorrain's Skies are so admirable. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 746 For a pure mid-day sky,..vermilion and white as the sky approaches the horizon. 1878 RUSKIN *Notes* 43 The sky is unusually careless.

6. 'The upper rows of pictures in a gallery; also, the space near the ceiling' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

7. The small opening in the roof of a cab, used as a means of communication.

1907 *Daily Chron.* 18 Oct. 4/4, I did..steal the..box from his hansom-cab, and the driver was looking through the sky.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attrib., in sense 'of or in the sky', as *sky-children, -glare, -pebble*, etc.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 Shee pouts, that Ganymed by Ioue too skitop is hoysed. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 83, I must put off These my skie robes spun out of Iris Wooff. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 53 The Sun and the Moon (according to this Hypothesis) will prove the two great Lights, and the Stars but scatter'd sky-pebbles. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 133 Beautiful things made new, for the surprise Of the sky-children. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, In the sky-glare of the lights of the little town. 1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* I. 251 It was a sky-storm, and the lightning was at least a mile high.

b. With agent nouns, as *sky-flyer, -holder*, etc.

1812 COLMAN *Br. Grins, Fire* XLVIII, The monarch of Olympus spake; It made his petty tenants quake, And the large sky-holders obedient bowed. 1838 'T. TREDDLEHOYLE' *Ben Bunt* 19 Bein a bit an a ski-peepar ma sen. 1891 *Times* 5 Oct. 3/5 Splendid buildings..—veritable 'sky-piercers', as most modern American aspiring business houses are. 1897 *Daily News* 3 June 5/6 There would be hardly a point..where at least the pyrotechnic sky-flyers could not be seen.

c. With pa. pples., as *sky-blasted, -born, -bred, -capped, -cast, -dyed*, etc.

Similar combs. are common in the 19th cent.

1595 SPENSER *Friend's Passion* 31 The skiebred Egle roiall bird. 1599 J. DAVIES *Immort. Soul, Introd.* xi, What is this Knowledge, but the Sky stoll'n Fire? *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 346 He held his scepter vp, to all the skie thron'd powres. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* V. iv. 96 The Thunderer, whose Bolt..Sky-planted, batters all rebelling Coasts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 285 The third his feet Shaddowd from either heele with featherd maile Skie-tincturd grain. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XI. 727 There figs sky-dy'd, a purple hue disclose. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 418 Sky-born, sky-guided, sky-returning race! 1747 COLLINS *Ode Pity* II, Let the nations view Thy skywoven robes. *a* 1821 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 310 Earth-born And sky-engender'd, Son of Mysteries! 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. ii. 108 The sky-cast shadow of a Hebrew chief. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* III. 291 Soon thy sky-capped towers, Phæacia, vanish from view.

d. With pres. pples., as *sky-aspiring, -cleaving, -falling, -measuring, -pointing, -reaching*, etc.

This type is also common in the 19th cent.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 130 Sky-aspiring and ambitious thoughts. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. x. 22 They are the daughters of sky-ruling Ioue. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* 1492 Skie-measuring Mathematicians. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ix. 66 Mighty Raran shooke his proud sky-kissing top. 1633 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Speeches to Pr. Chas.* Wks. (1711) 39/1 Nero's Sky-resembling Gold-ceil'd Halls. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* III. x. 21 Thy Threshold hard-hearted, and sky-falling Rain. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 117 Whose trees have their sky-touching heads overshadowed by..mountains. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. iii. 28 The keen sky-cleaving mountains. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Amid sky-rending *vivats*, and blessings from every heart. 1887 *Times* 29 Aug. 4/4 Endless sky-reaching spires.

9. Special combs.: **sky-blink,** = ICE-BLINK 1; **sky-blotch,** the dark outline of a building against the evening sky; **sky-clear** *a.*, clear as the sky; **† sky-fire** (see quot.); **sky-flyer,** an ambitious person; **sky-gazer** (see quots.); **sky-mark,** a thing standing out against the sky (*nonce-use*); **sky-organ,** the wind (*nonce-use*); **sky-pilot** (see quot. 1893); **sky-pipit** *U.S.*, = SKYLARK *sb.* 2; **† sky-puppy** (see PUPPY *sb.* 3 c); **† sky-setting** *Sc.*, sunset; **sky-stone,** a meteorite.

1837 MACDOUGALL tr. *Graah's E. Coast Greenl.* 134 This *sky-blink, or ice-blink, as it is usually termed by English navigators, is a whitish luminous appearance seen above ice. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 311/2 The aspect of the '*sky-blotch' of an architectural edifice is very important. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* x. (1869) 386 His soul and actions are *sky-clear. 1710 P. S. *Wks.* II. 262 *Sky-Fire is that in the Body of the Sun, and other Heavenly Lights. 1887 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 3/4 Such a work, by a young *sky-flyer of eighteen. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 127 The name of this fish, *uranoscopus*, or '*sky-gazer', is derived from the position of the eyes, which are singularly planted on the crown of the head. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 630 *Sky-gazer*,..a sail of very light duck, over which un-nameable sails have been set, which defy classification. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* (1857) 101 The four tall poplars..were our landmarks, and *skymarks too. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 20 The next moment, the *sky-organ began to blow in our rigging. 1888 CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 22 A dock missionary (we called him *sky-pilot). 1893 *Spectator* 30 Dec. 952/2 A 'Sky-pilot', in sailor's parlance, is a clergyman generally, and specially a clergyman who has a spiritual charge among seamen. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 286 *Neocorys*, *Sky Pipits. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 31 On the last Monday of Nov. 1730, about *sky setting. 1797 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1808) II. 78 Let the heavier *sky-stones come whence they may, these must have been formed in the atmosphere.

Sky, *sb.*[2] *Orkn.* and *Shetl.* ? *Obs.* [repr. ON. *skeið*: cf. mod. Norw. *skeid* foot of a plough (Aasen).] A small board in the place of a mould-board in a plough.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 585 A square hole is cut through the lower end of the beam, and the *mercal*, a piece of oak about 22 inches long, introduced, which..holds the sock and sky.

Sky (skəi), *sb.*[3] *slang.* (See quots.)

1860 *Slang Dict.* 216 *Sky*, a disagreeable person, an enemy. 1869 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* (ed. 3) 471 The..conflicts between the Westminster scholars and the 'skys' of London, as the outside world was called.

Sky (skəi), *v.*[1] Also **skie.** [f. SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* **a.** *slang.* To throw or toss up (a coin).

1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Irish Bulls* 129 Billy (says I) will you sky a copper? 1860 *Slang Dict.* 216 *Skie*, to throw upwards, to toss 'coppers'. 1872 *Punch* 3 Feb. 53/2 Sufficient for that indeed would have been 'skying a copper'.

b. *Cricket.* To strike (a ball) into the air.

1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlem. Mag.* 378/1 The ball did not 'travel' on the sand, and when 'skied' was at once secured. 1880 *Times* 28 Sept. 11/5 He skied the ball to cover-point, where it was easily held.

absol. 1882 *Daily Telegr.* 27 May, His eleventh proved disastrous to Abel, who skyed up to Spofforth at point.

2. To hang (a picture, etc.) high up on the wall or near the ceiling, *esp.* at an exhibition.

1865 *Slang Dict.* 233 Artists say that a picture is skyed when it is hung on the upper line at the Exhibition of the Royal Academy. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 70/2 Skied up over a door of the hall is the portrait of a..maiden dressed as a shepherdess. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 848/2 A good sea-piece, and one which is undeservedly skied.

transf. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 3/1 The members of the press are regarded as unwelcome intruders and are shamefully 'skied'.

3. To cover like the sky; to overshadow.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Crowned & Buried* 3 Napoleon!—years ago, and that great word..skied us overhead—An atmosphere whose lightning was the sword.

4. To catch sight of (an outline) against the sky.

1900 H. LAWSON *Over Sliprails* 95 He stooped,..with his hands on his knees, to 'sky' the loom of his big shed and so get his bearings.

5. *intr.* To paint a sky in a picture. *nonce-use.*

1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 139 If any one calls, I can't be seen—I'm skying.

6. *Boating.* To lift the blade of an oar too high.

1883 *Cambridge Staircase* vi. 94 He knows..when men are cocking or skying, or swinging out of or into the boat.

Hence **Sky·ing** *vbl. sb.* (in sense 2).

1869 *Echo* 23 Jan., In the new rooms a much larger number of pictures will find places...The 'skying' and 'grounding' so much complained of will be avoided.

Sky, *v.*[2] [Of doubtful origin; connexion with prec. is not apparent in either sense.]

1. *intr.* To run swiftly.

1837 J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 153 They sky along, breast high, causing the woods to ring again.

2. *trans.* At Harrow: To charge and overthrow in a game of football.

1905 VACHELL *The Hill* IV. 83 Jolly well played, Cæsar!—Sky him!—Well skied, sir!

Sky-, common ME. var. of SKI-.

Sky·bald. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6, 8–9 skybald, 6 schy-, 9 skybauld, -belt; 6 skay-, skybell, 9 skybal, -bel, -ble, skebal, -bel, scybel, -ble, etc. [Of obscure origin.] A low, rascally, or contemptible fellow; a lean or worn-out person or animal; a worthless article, etc.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Reform.* Wks. 1848 II. 11 Fy, lett us never leive efter this day, that we sall recule for Frenche schybaldis. 1580 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 77 Geveand to him money iniurius wordis, sick as knayf, skaybell, matteyne, and lowne. *c* 1587 MONTGOMERIE *Sonnets* xxiv, A skurvie skybell for to be eshued. 1728 RAMSAY *General Mistake* 154 Poor skybalds! curs'd with more of wealth than wit. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 115 Oft did he wish aw sec skeybels were hang'd. **1825**–in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Sc. and N. Irel.).

attrib. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 126 Learne, skybalde knaue, to knaw thy sell.

Sky-blue, *sb.* and *a.* [SKY *sb.*[1]]

A. *sb.* **1.** A pure blue colour like that of the sky; a fabric of this colour.

1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dying of silks*, Sky blues are begun with orchal, and finished with indigo. 1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Evelina* (1791) II. 245 He may lay that your nose is a sky-blue, if he pleases. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* ii, A guitar, with a riband of dirty skyblue. 1899 W. T. GREENE *Cage-Birds* 63 Followed by a narrow line of sky-blue.

2. Thin or watery milk, having a bluish tint.

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy* 254 Its name derision and reproach pursue, And strangers tell of 'three times skimm'd sky-blue'. 1827 HOOD *Retrospective Review* 68 Oh! for that small, small beer anew! And..that mild sky-blue That wash'd my sweet meals down. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 34 'Sky-blue' is not always the result of over-creaming and dilution.

† **3.** *slang.* Gin. *Obs.*

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 53 ¶ 4 Madam Gin has been christened by as many names as a German princess; every petty chandler's shop will sell you Sky-blue. 1796 in *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.*

B. *adj.* Of the blue colour of the sky; azure.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Silver*, The Spirit of Wine assumes a beautiful Sky-blue Colour. 1773 M. BROWNE *Pisc. Eclog.* viii. 117 'Twas there gay Phylla..Glanc'd the soft passion from her sky-blue eye. 1821 R. TURNER *Arts* 235 The lapis lazuli is of a beautiful sky-blue colour. 1888 *Truth* XXIV. 99/2 The carriage..is in sky-blue plush and silver.

Sky-colour. [SKY *sb.*[1]] A (blue) colour like that of the sky. Also as *adj.*, = next.

1552 ELYOT, *Cærulus & Cæruleus*, blewe of colour lyke the skye in a clere wether, skie colour. *a* 1586 SYDNEY *Arcadia* I. xii. (1891) 50 b, Vpon her bodie she ware a doublet of skie colour sattin. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 71 For this cause some are red, others yellow, these greene, those skie-color, others gray, or blew. 1632 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 24 It is of a greene, yellow, and a skye colour. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 149 Within an hour..the sky-colour reached to the lower part of the liquor. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 962/1 Dying of Leather...A pure sky colour. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 39 They say men dying remember..Some garment or sky-colour. 1889 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* 21 The innumerable other flowers and wings and sky-colours.

Sky-coloured, *a.* [SKY *sb.*[1]] Of the (blue) colour of the sky.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 160 b, The tulbant of the merchant must be skie coloured. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 59 Her Robe, Sky-colour'd Silk, with curious Caul Of golden Twist. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xxviii. (1713) 251 The Figure thereof was.. drawn with Lines of a Sky-coloured blew. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 189 They wore a Sky-coloured Habit after the Manner of the Hermits. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 214 The Sky-coloured Rat of Pennant.

Skye (skəi). [Gaelic *Sgith* (skī), recorded in Olcel. as *Skíð*.] The name of the largest island of the Inner Hebrides used attributively, esp. in *Skye terrier*, a small breed of dog, long-haired, long-bodied, and short-legged.

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* IV. II. i. 571/1 In shape he is more like the English than the Skye variety. *Ibid.* 571/2 The Skye dog. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* II. x. 290 A blue Skye-terrier lay on his back.

b. *ellipt.* A Skye terrier.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 53/1 A small Isle of Skye terrier—but few, I was informed, know a 'real Skye'. 1863 OUIDA *Held in Bondage* (1870) 40 A setter, a retriever, and a couple of Skyes, were on the hearthrug.

Skyer (skəi·əɹ). [f. SKY *v.*[1] + -ER. Cf. SKIER.] A lofty hit at cricket.

1882 *Daily Telegr.* 12 June. Being grandly caught from a skyer behind the wickets. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxi, You should have seen Henderson caught at slip from a 'skyer'.

Skyer, obs. form of SQUIRE *sb.*

Skyey (skəi·i), *a.* Also 7 skyie, 8–9 skiey. [f. SKY *sb.*[1] + -(E)Y.]

1. Of or pertaining to the sky; emanating from the sky: **a.** In the phr. *skyey influence(s)*, due to Shakspere.

a. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 9 A breath thou art, Seruile to all the skyie-influences. 1799 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* III. 129 Subject to the 'skiey influences'. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene Aram* III. ii, The skiey influences seem to tincture the animal life with their own .. spirit of change. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 18 Oct. 491/3 The skiey influences were decidedly sympathetic.

β. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xix, Upon whose complexion the 'skyey influences'..had blended the red and white into the purely nut-brown hue. 1847 MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* viii. (1857) 123, I was eager to ascertain whether it had not stood its testing centuary better under the skyey influences. 1882 C. F. KEARY *Prim. Belief* 128 Almost all the Vedic hymns are concerned with the skyey influences.

b. In other contexts. Also, lofty.

a. ? 1793 COLERIDGE *Lines on Autumn. Evening* 74 The skiey deluge, and white lightnings glare. 1814 CARY *Dante, Purg.* III. 28 In the skiey element One ray obstructs not other. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xxviii, From their skiey haunt Fell to their feast the great birds bald and gaunt.

β. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* IV. 558 No charm Could lift Endymion's head, or he had view'd A skyey mask. 1826 H. N. COLERIDGE *Six Months in W. Ind.* (1832) 167 The mountains..are of skyey height. 1887 T. HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xiii. 234 Beside him sat Marty, also straining her eyes towards the skyey field of his operations.

2. Resembling the sky in colour; azure.

1816 SOUTHEY *Lay of Laureate* lxx, A virgin clad in skiey blue. *a* 1851 MOIR *Poems* (1852) II. 305 Skiey robes, The tincture of the young Year's finest blue. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 392/1 The soft skyey tone of the turquoise.

Comb. 1797 WALDRON *Virg. Queen* IV. i, Apt to soil our skiey-tinctur'd wings.

Sky-farmer. [SKY *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** *Cant.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1753 *Disc. Jy. Poulter* (ed. 2) 36 Sky Farmers, are People that go about the Country with a false Pass,..under Pretence of sustaining Loss by Fire, or the Distemper amongst the horned Cattle. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 566 A set of cheats who..impose on the benevolence and compassion of the charitable; these are called sky-farmers. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sky-farmers*, cheats who pretend they were farmers in the isle of sky, or some other remote place, ..or else called sky farmers, from their farms being in..the clouds.

2. In Ireland, a contemptuous name for a class of tenant-farmers.

1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 8 The sky-farmers (those who hold at rack-rents) are mostly so greedy for gain, that [etc.]. *Ibid.* 371 Of late years the hard-hearted sky-farmers, that is, the inferior sort,..drive the poor into the mountains. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 73 The sky farmers,..that is the petty ones, let potatoe ground. 1910 P. W. JOYCE *English in Ireland* 326 *Sky farmer*, a term much used in the South.., is a farmer without land, or with only very little.

Sky-ful. Also -full. [SKY *sb.*[1]] As much, or as many, as the sky can hold.

1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* vi. 99 Contented to part with a skie-full of Starrs for one Sunne. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* I. xxviii. 309 A firmament of light,..resembling a sky-full of meteors close at hand.

Sky-gazer: see SKY *sb.*[1] 9.

Sky-high, *adv.* and *a.* [SKY *sb.*[1]]

A. *adv.* As high as the sky; very high. Freq. *fig.*

1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 208 Opinions which would make the bench of bishops jump sky-high! 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii, We..should probably have been knocked to pieces and blown sky-high. 1887 SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* 62 Always up sky-high or down in the dumps.

B. *adj.* Reaching to the sky.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* I. (1904) 39 Utgard with its skyhigh gates..had gone to air.

Skyish (skəi·iʃ), *a.* [f. SKY *sb.*[1] + -ISH.]

1. Lofty; approaching the sky.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 276 To o're top old Pelion, or the skyish head Of blew Olympus. [1816 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 5 Jan., The skyish top of blue Olympus.] 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 78 The distant spires Of skyish hills.

2. Resembling that of the sky.

1818 LD. JEFFREY *Let. to C. Wilkes* 5 Aug., The whole landscape took a strange silvery skyish tint.

Skyke, variant of SKICK *v. Obs.*

Skylark (skəi·lāɹk), *sb.* [SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. The common lark of Europe, *Alauda arvensis*, so called from its habit of soaring towards the sky while singing.

1686 R. BLOME *Gentlem. Recreat.* II. *Fowling* xxxi. 168 The Sky-Lark is more hardy than the Wood-Lark, and less troublesom to keep. 1754 GRAY *Pleasure* 13 The Sky-lark warbles high His trembling thrilling ecstacy. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith.* s.v., It has been asserted that the Sky Lark never perches. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 40 Some wild skylark's matin song. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* vii. (ed. 4) 128 After the Skylark and Blackbird have heralded the coming day.

2. *U.S.* The Missouri pipit, *Anthus* or *Neocorys spragueï*; the prairie lark or sky pipit.

1872 COUES *Birds N. W.* 42 The Missouri Skylark..is one of the most abundant and characteristic birds of all the region along the forty-ninth parallel of latitude.

Skylark (skəi·lāɹk), *v.* [f. prec.: see the vbl. sb., quots. 1815–19.]

1. *intr.* **a.** To frolic or play; to play tricks; to indulge in rough sport or horse-play. In early use chiefly *Naut.*

1809 *Naval Chron.* XXI. 84 By kicking R. Nelson.., when 'skylarking'. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* xxxviii, Every evening the hands were turned up to skylark, that is, to play and amuse themselves. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* iv. 51 My Malays skylarked, joked, and played about. 1872 W. BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxii, The chief administrator of justice..was up here skylarking in a phaeton.

b. With *it*: (See quot.)

1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* v. 46 Listening to a lady amateur skylark it up and down through the finest bravura of Rossini or Mozart.

2. *trans.* **a.** To trick, cheat.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* v, 'I'll fly a cheque on Meiklewham.' 'See it be better than your last,' said Sir Bingo, 'for I won't be skylarked again'.

b. To leap in a frolicsome manner.

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 292, I begin skylarking the gates and setting into wind to follow the foxhounds.

Hence **Sky·larking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Sky·larker,** one who skylarks.

1809 *Naval Chron.* XXI. 84 An admonition against 'skylarking'. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* 484 *Skylarking*, a term used by seamen, to denote wanton play about the rigging, and tops, or in any part of the ship, particularly by the youngsters. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 204, I heard [him] say to a friend, 'I say Baronet, let us have a *lark*'. I asked our Scapegrace..what this meant? He told me that it was a term in low life, for kicking up a *row*,..at break of day; it being the short term for *sky-larking*. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, Fond of displaying my newly-acquired gymnastics, called by the sailors 'sky-larking'. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 76 Sundry fast skylarkers amused themselves with horse-racing. *Ibid.* 221 To the wonderment of the citizens, the skylarking barrister drops down upon them as the Simeonite Vicar of St. Peter's.

Skyle, obs. form of SKILL *sb.*

Sky·less, *a.* [f. SKY *sb.*[1]] Without visible sky; dark, cloudy.

1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* i, A soulless, skyless, catarrhal day. 1871 *Athenæum* 9 Sept. 337 A large boundless sea, skyless and sunless. 1888 GISSING *Life's Morning* III. xxii. 208 In what black, skyless, leafless town was she pursuing her lonely life?

Skylight (skəi·ləit), *sb.* Also **sky-light.**

1. Light from the sky; light coming into a room, etc., from above.

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 152 It being intended that a Skie-light shall fall through the Hollow Newel upon the Stairs. 1683 — *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 1 Not..so low that the Sky-light will not reach into every part of the Room. 1780 JOHNSON *Lett. to Mrs. Thrale* 1 May, The pictures, for the sake of a sky-light, are at the top of the house. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 96 *note*, I found, that I could..perceive a bright object, such as white paper, against the sky-light. 1879 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 6) I. iv. 110, I now..direct attention to..the polarisation of skylight.

† **b.** *Sc.* The light of the night-sky. *Obs.*

1730 in Marshall *Hist. Scenes Ferthshire* (1880) 199 It [a ghost] appeared to me again, just after daylight, betwixt day and skylight.

c. = DAYLIGHT 3 b. ? *Obs.*

1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* v, Push about the bottle:..No heel-taps. As to sky-light, liberty-hall. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* x, Come, Mick, no skylights—here is Clara's health.

2. A small opening in a roof, or in the ceiling of a room, filled in with glass, for admitting daylight; the framework and glass fitted to an opening of this kind.

1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 111 For the finishing of its roof and sky-light. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 257 A Sky-light that was over a Kitchen. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 113 The second and third rooms were square, and both furnished with a sky-light. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 239, I smelt a very strong smell, blowing in at the weather port, and coming down the skylight which was open. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Jan. 5/5 The *débris* fell with a crash through a skylight into the offices below.

transf. and *fig.* 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* iii, His other skylight had been shut up ever since Aboukir. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Theol. Ess.* I. 13 Skylights opened to let in upon human nature an infinite dawn from above.

3. A light in the sky; a rocket.

1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 70 Three sky-lights then from the girdling trine Told 'Ready!'

Hence **Sky·light** *v. trans.*, to furnish with a skylight or skylights; **Sky·lighted** *ppl. a.*, furnished with a skylight or skylights; lighted from above; **Sky·lighty** *a.*, having the characteristics of being lighted from above.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiii, If the Buffs proposed to new sky-light the market-place, the Blues..denounced the proceeding. 1848 *Man in Moon* III. 248 Perhaps you may know the room—large, square, skylighty. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben Hur* 136 As these were now raised, the compartment had the appearance of a skylighted hall. 1884 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 410/2 The mezzanine floor and skylighted gallery ..will be devoted to the Department of Prints and Drawings.

Sky-like, *a.* [SKY *sb.*[1]] Resembling the sky in colour or shape.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 912 The sky-like Turquez, purple Amethists. 1649 LOVELACE *Ode to Lucasta, The Rose* i, Sweet serene skye-like Flower. 1652 BP. HALL *Inwis. World* II. § 5 Some glister with a sky like, others with a star-like, clearness. 1822 MILMAN *Martyr of Antioch* 136 Down through the round and sky-like dome.

Sky-line. [SKY *sb.*[1]] The line where earth and sky meet; the horizon.

1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 126 The blue hare..running up hill, and seating himself on the sky-line. 1871 WHYTE MELVILLE *Sarchedon* 23 The sun was sinking..behind the level sky-line of the desert. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 384, I see two lumps of land on the sky-line.

Skyll, obs. f. SKILL; obs. var. SKULL, basket.

Skymer(e, Skymour, obs. ff. SKIMMER *sb.*

Skyn, variant of SKEEN.

Skynd, variant of SCHYND *Obs.*

Skynes, skynnes = *kinnes*: see KIN *sb.*[1] 6 b.

Sky-parlour. [SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. An attic, a garret.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sky parlour*, the garret, or upper story. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 7, I remained six weeks in this Sky parlour. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 14 The necessary order was also despatched to the

carpenter and glazier to set them at work on Morgan's sky-parlour in the seventh story.

2. The gallery in a theatre.

1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 27 The advice so often given by the illustrious tenants of the theatrical sky-parlour.

Sky-pilot: see SKY *sb.*[1] 9.

‖ **Skyr** (skī·ər). [Icel.] A dish prepared from curdled milk; a kind of curd.

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 122 Not to mention reindeer tongues, skier,—a kind of sour curds, excellent when well made. 1868 WHITTIER *Dole of Jarl Thorkell* 77 Make dole of skyr and black bread That old and young may live. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. vii, He supped on the porridge and skyr they set before him.

Skyr(e, varr. SKIRE *a.* and *adv.*, SKIRR *v.*

Skyrby, obs. form of SCURVY *sb.*

† **Skyre,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* (Meaning uncertain.)

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 122 Ffy! skolderit skyn, thow art bot skyre and skrumple.

Skyre (*Sc.* skəir), *v. Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To be bright or glaring; to flaunt. Hence **Sky·ring** *ppl. a.*, bright or loud in colour; glaring; conspicuous.

1677 NICOLSON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 318 *Skire*, to shine. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-Table Misc.* (1733) I. 25 Nae skyring gowk, my dear, can see Or love, or grace, or heaven in thee. 1760 J. BARCLAY *Battle of Sheriffmuir* in *Jacobite Songs* (1871) 35 Had ye seen the philabegs And skyrin tartan trews. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 107 They do not wonder even at meteors, for the air is full of them, and they go skyring through the stars. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 169 That braw French merino 't she's been skyrin in.

† **Skyred,** *a. Sc. Obs.*[–1] [Cf. SKIRE *adv.*] ? Slightly crazy.

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliv. 207 As he vas vyse, the vther planelie skyrit, Gar paint thair baigis: to Geneue haist with speid.

† **Skyrgaliard.** *Obs.* Also 6 **skyre-.** [f. GALLIARD *sb.*[1], with obscure first element.] A wild or dissipated fellow.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 101 Syr skyrgalyard, ye were so skyt, Your wyll than ran before your wyt. — *Dk. Albany* 168 Suche a proude palyarde, Suche a skyrgaliarde. [1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 26 The quarrel of these wild ruffiers and skyr-galliards.]

Sky-rocket. [SKY *sb.*[1]] A rocket which ascends high into the sky before exploding. Also *fig.*

1688 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 454 There are various reports how the late fire..began: some say by carelessnesse; others, by a sky rocket falling amongst hay. 1690 DRYDEN *Prol. to 'Mistakes'* 15 He's no high Flyer—he makes no sky Rockets, His Squibbs are only levell'd at your Pockets. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3805/8 The Ships..made a very Glorious Show at Night,..some firing several Sky-Rockets. 1765 R. JONES *Fireworks* iv. 136 Six sky rockets, fixed on one stick, and fired together, make a grand and beautiful appearance. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 79 At last I obtained a grumbling assent to my going on shore, and off I went like a sky-rocket. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 230 The composition in a sky-rocket, which is required to burn on a graduated scale. 1862 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 108, I should be back like a returned sky-rocket.

attrib. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 3 Aug., Such successors seldom report in such sky-rocket style after about six months. 1894 R. H. DAVIS *Eng. Cousins* 120 An American misses the rah-rahs, and the skyrocket cries.

Hence **Sky-rockety** *a.*

1890 *Voice* (N. York) 23 Jan., I began to ask myself questions about this sky-rockety assemblage of words. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* April 348/2 That the sudden and sky-rockety increase last year was unnatural is generally admitted.

Skyrre, obs. form of SCAR *sb.*[1]

Skyrrhus, obs. form of SCIRRHUS.

† **Skyrsay.** *Sc. Obs.*[–1] (Meaning uncertain.)

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xii. 1104 (Cott. MS.), Withe aulde hoyis [=hose] and rewyn schoyn, And mowlyt breid in skyrsays [*v.rr.* cartis, baggis] don.

Skyruie, obs. form of SCURVY *sb.*

Skyrwate, -wyt(te, obs. ff. SKIRRET *sb.*[1]

Sky-sail. *Naut.* Also **skysail.** [SKY *sb.*[1]] In square-rigged vessels, a light sail set above the royal.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xv, I set and took in every sail, from a sky-sail to a try-sail. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* x, The sun came out bright, and we set royals, sky-sails, and studding-sails. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 230 She was a full-rigged ship, carrying three skysails.

b. *attrib.* with *mast, pole, yard.*

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iii, White hammock-cloths, skysail masts. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 284 Either of these poles gets the name of the skysail pole. 1885 *Daily Telegr.* 26 Nov. (Cassell), A length of mast continued above the royal mast, upon which a skysail-yard may be crossed.

Sky·scape. [f. SKY *sb.*[1], after *landscape, seascape.*] A view of the sky; also in painting, etc., a representation of part of the sky.

1817 SOUTHEY *Let.* in *Life* (1850) IV. 283 It was the unbroken horizon which impressed me,.. and the skyscapes which it afforded. 1861 C. J. ANDERSON *Okavango* x. 137 The beautiful and striking skyscapes and atmospheric coruscations attendant on these storms. 1878 GROSART *More's Poems* Introd. p. xli, The great ancient Painters, whose backgrounds of portraits..rather than land-scape, or sea-scape, or sky-scape proper, assure us [etc.].

Sky-scraper. [SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. *Naut.* A triangular sky-sail.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 135 *Sky-scrapers.* These sails are triangular..The foot spreads half of the royal yards. 1797 S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 52 Four vessels hove in sight.. with..royals and skyscrapers set. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 217 The light sails which some adventurous skippers set above the royals in calm latitudes are termed sky-scrapers and moon-rakers. 1883 A. KNOX *New Playground* 113 Studding-sails and sky-scrapers did not produce the smallest effect.

2. *colloq.* **a.** A high-standing horse.

1826 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 461 The huntsmen were all abroad.., trotting..down the road, on great nine-hand sky-scrapers. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XX. 48, I should like to see him upon one of the crack Sky-scrapers of the day.

b. A very tall man.

1857 *Slang Dict.* 19, I say, old sky-scraper, is it cold up there?

c. A rider on one of the high cycles formerly in use.

1892 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 6/6 Riders of the ordinary [cycle] ..are few and far between, and are often derisively styled 'sky-scrapers'.

3. An exaggerated or 'tall' story. *nonce-use.*

1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* xxxiii, My yarn won't come so well after your sky-scrapers of love.

4. A high building of many stories, *esp.* one of those characteristic of American cities.

1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* Nov., How the sky-scrapers are built. 1893 *Daily News* 15 May 5/5 It does not look like a typical skyscraper, though I suppose a thirteen-story house is one.

Sky-scraping, *a.* [SKY *sb.*[1]] High enough to appear to touch the sky; hence, remarkably high or lofty.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* i, He..saw my mother with her sky-scraping cap at the back of her head. 1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* Nov., When entire streets are built with sky-scraping buildings. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 550 It [the mountain] revealed itself..from its surf-washed plinth to its sky-scraping summit.

Sky-sign. [SKY *sb.*[1]]

1. *poet.* A celestial sign or portent.

1880 BROWNING *Idyls, Pietro* 8 Where [there] was..Star to name or sky-sign [to] read.

2. A sign of the nature of an advertisement, so constructed and placed that the letters, etc., stand out against the sky.

1890 *Spectator* 30 Aug., We entirely agree with him as to the hideous horror of these 'sky-signs', as he terms them. 1893 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Mar. 5/4 A large board on the roof of a house is a great deal more to be dreaded than any sky-sign yet invented.

† **Skyvald.** *Obs.*[–1] (Meaning obscure.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 529 Þerwyth he blessez vch a best, & bytaȝt hem þis erþe. Þen was a skylly skyualde, quen scaped alle þe wylde.

Skyward (skəi·wŏɹd), *adv.* and *adj.* Also 6 **skies ward.** [SKY *sb.*[1]]

A. *adv.* Towards, in the direction of, the sky. In early use *to (the) skyward.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 To skyward his claspt hands heauelye lifting. *Ibid.* II. 65 Mounting his sight to the skyward. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 76 Swift buckes shall flie for foode to the skies ward.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 80 One glances sky-ward with affright. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Courtship* ii, The grieving Angel had skyward flown. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 17 A blaze shot skyward from the crystal mere.

fig. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* 33 Our hopes..began once more to soar skyward.

B. *adj.* Leading to the sky; going towards the sky; heavenward.

1838 MOIR *Casa Wappy* Poems (1852) I. 21 Thy little feet have trode The skyward path. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* Proem p. v, Ere..granite wrought Its skyward impulse from earth's hearth of fire.

Hence **Sky·wardly** *adv.*

1893 *Nat. Observer* 11 Mar. 413/1 The corks have broken forth and shot skywardly.

Sky·wards, *adv.* [Cf. prec.] Towards the sky.

1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 54 Skywards were spread his wings of feathery snow. 1853 MISS E. S. SHEPPARD *Ch. Auchester* I. 275 The smoke looked beautiful..as it swelled skywards. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ix, Mrs. Landover's nose went sky-wards, and her short upper lip curled itself in the same direction.

Sla(a, obs. ff. SLAY, SLOE, SLOW. **Slaap,** obs. f. SLAPE. **Slaar(e,** obs. north. ff. SLAYER. **Slaathorn,** obs. f. SLOE-THORN. **Slaavic,** var. of SLAVIC. **Slaa-worm,** obs. f. SLOW-WORM.

Slab (slæb), *sb.*[1] Also 3 **sclabbe,** 4, 6 **slabbe,** 7 **slabb.** [Of obscure origin: the form does not accord with OF. *esclape* splinter, shiver (of wood).]

1. A flat, broad, and comparatively thick piece or mass of anything solid.

In early use of metal, later also of stone and wood, and finally of any substance capable of having this form. For some technical uses see quots. 1674, 1825, and 1863.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 315 Ase ȝif a man nome ane sclabbe [*Harl. MS.* slab] of Ire, þat glowynde were a-fuyre. 1354–5 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (Surtees) II. 164 In M de grossis spykinge, 7s 6d. In viij slabbes empt. 1s 8d. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3313 Grete slabbes of styl & yre to þe walles þo wern y-slente. 1556 RECORDE *Castle Knowl.* a viij, The Grounde of Artes who hathe well tredd, And noted well the slyppery slabbes. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 198 One only simple Circle of about twelve Slabbs of Stone. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Preparing of Tin* 124 When they have a sufficient quantity of the melted metal, they cast it into oblong, square pieces in a mould made of moore-stone. The lesser pieces they call *slabs*, the greater *blocks.* 1771 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* III. iv, A large cargo of.. sugars, rum-puncheons, mahogany slabs. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 452 An arch enclosed on every side with large slabs of stone. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 637 The large piece [of glass] with the knot, still retains the name of *table*; the smaller piece is technically called a *slab.* 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* l, A little slab of plum cake. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xiv. 141 The walrus..was cut into flat slabs half an inch thick. 1863 *Chambers's Encycl.* V. s.v. *Iron*, Puddled balls which have undergone shingling are called *slabs* or *blooms.* 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. x. 316 Our slabs of gun-cotton also emit waves of different densities in different parts.

transf. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 171 He was a pampered slab of propriety from his youth up.

2. a. A rough outside plank of timber cut from a log or a tree-trunk preparatory to squaring the main portion, or sawing it into planks.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 33 Sawne slab let lie, for stable and stie. *Ibid.* 42. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 25 [He must watch] the Sawyers at their Pit, that they waste no more than needs in Slabs. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 332 *Slab*, the outside sappy Planck or Board sawn off from the sides of Timber. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 549 A marine character may be given by shells;..that of a Russian log-house by the outside slabs of trees. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 345/1 The waste of the log, consisting of the 'slabs' and edgings.

b. *Austr.* A coarse, axe-hewn plank, two or three inches in thickness.

1845 [see 5 a]. 1861 MRS. MEREDITH *Over the Straits* iv. 130 A bare, rough, barn-like edifice, built of slabs. 1886 HENEY *Fortunate Days* 71 Built was the house of slabs, long and thick and rudely planed by the hatchet.

3. a. A flat piece of wood or stone used as a table, counter, etc.; a small table hinged to the wall in the passage or hall of a house.

1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 16 Throw Chairs about; the Slab in pieces beat. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* xi, Four..wine-glasses..were on the slab in the passage. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* p. xxxiii, The most luxurious slab of a fishmonger's shop.

b. A flat piece of stone, etc., on which colours are ground, or printing-ink distributed.

1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 199 The Slab and Muller, for grinding pigments, figures in a painter's paraphernalia far less frequently now than formerly. 1882 SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* 383 *Ink Slabs*...Metal being injurious to many kinds of coloured inks, slabs of various kinds are used.

c. A porcelain palette divided into compartments, usually with sloping surfaces, for mixing and holding water-colours.

1888 FIELD & DAVIDSON *Gram. Colouring* (ed. 4) 158 Mix the colour in three degrees of depth, in as many different compartments of the slab.

4. *attrib.* **a.** In sense 'constructed of slabs', as *slab-cottage, -fence,* etc.

1826 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. vii. 86 No slab-fences; no well-poles. 1846 STOKES *Disc. in Australia* I. ix. 266 The house..was what is called a Slab Hut, formed of rough boards and thatched with grass. 1869 TOWNEND *Rem. Australia* 155 We passed through Studley Park, with here and there a slab house or tent. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 97 A very small slab cottage.

b. In sense 'having the form of a slab or slabs', as *slab-board, -deal, -slate,* etc.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 133 The slab-slices..may of course vary, but all are free of the smallest portion of waste. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2197/2 The waney portions of the slab-boards are removed by the Edger. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 412 Slab-wood answering all purposes. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 157. 54 When the slab deals or outsides have been cut away. 1889 SEDDON *Builder's Work* (ed. 2) 232 The work upon slab slates, or slate-mason's work.

c. Misc., as *slab-car, -pit, -saw.*

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 19 Dec., Getting the slabs and clippings into the slab-pit. *Ibid.*, The refuse will be run to the slab-saw and cut up, and from there it will fall into the slab-car.

5. *Comb.* **a.** With pa. pples., as *slab-bridged* (fig.), *-built, -roofed.*

1845 *Voy. of Port Philip* 52 His slab-built hut, with roof of bark. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 119, I suspect that he confounded those mysterious slab-built *wags* with the real hour-glass tower. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. *Introd.* Poet. Wks. (1884) 280 The picturesque force of the epithet *slab-bridged* applied to a fellow of shaky character. 1896 MRS. CROKER *Village Tales* 99 The little slab-roofed dwelling.

b. With agent-nouns, as *slab-burner, -grinder.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2197/2 *Slab-grinder*, a machine used for grinding up the refuse slabs in a..saw mill. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 345/2 The 'slab-burner' or 'hell', a large circular brick furnace..erected conveniently near the saw-mill.

Slab (slæb), *sb.*[2] Also 7 **slabb(e.** [app. of Scand. origin: cf. older Da. *slab* mud, mire, Icel., Norw., and Sw. *slabb* wet filth, slops, etc. Ir. and Sc. Gael. *slab, slaib* mire, mud, dirt, are prob. from English.]

1. A muddy place; a puddle. Now *dial.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 532 A fairer towne, than a man would looke to finde in this tract among such slabbes and water-plashes. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 392 The bottom of the harbour, which is all a slab, was much altered, the mud being washed from some places, and deposited in others. 1847 HALLIW., *Slab*, a puddle, a wet place. *North.* 1895 RYE *E. Anglian Gloss.*, *Slab*, a puddle or collection of surface drainage.

2. Wet and slimy matter; ooze, sludge.

1622–3 *Sarum Churchw. Accs.* (Swayne, 1896) 175 A Barrowe full of Lyme Slabb, 8d. 1671 *St. Poine Improved* 4 The Slabb and Mud which remains after the Water is drawn off the Ground. 1867 EMERSON *May-Day* Wks. (Bohn) III. 408 And upward pries and perforates Through the cold slab a thousand gates.

fig. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IV. 733 Throw in abuse..a shake all slab At Rome, Arezzo for the world to nose.

Slab (slæb), *sb.*[3] *Naut.* [Cf. SLAB-LINE.] (See quots.)

1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 12 *Slab*, any slack part of a sail hanging down. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 604/2 *Slab of a sail*, the slack part which hangs down after the leech-lines are hauled up.

Slab (slæb), *a.*[1] [Related to SLAB *sb.*[2] Cf. older Da. *slab* slippery.] Semi-solid; viscid.

In modern use entirely as an echo of Shakspere, frequently *fig.*, and usually accompanied by *thick*.

(*a*) 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 32 Make the Grewell thicke, and slab. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xvi, Whatever the chance contributions that fell into the slow caldron of their talk, they made the gruel thick and slab with dollars. 1870 FRISWELL *Mod. Men of Lett.* vii. 126 Various adventures and thoughts, poured out thick and slab. 1894 RALEIGH *Eng. Novel* viii. (1903) 234 His ['Monk' Lewis's] taste was rather for horrors, thick and slab.

(*b*) 1841 SEALY *Porcelain Tower* 154 Where the air is slab and hath got no sky. 1849 AINSWORTH *Lanc. Witches* I. vi, The slab, salt waves of the Dead Sea. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xvii. 351 The embroilment would seem to be now slab enough.

Hence **Sla·bly** *adv.*; **Sla·bness.**

1881 *Academy* 7 May 334 All these materials are mixed thickly and slably by the aid of a very clumsy style. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Aug. 206/2 If these ingredients are not thick and slab enough for readers, they must, indeed, be fanatics of thickness and slabness.

† **Slab,** *a.*[2] (or *adv.*). *Obs.*[—1] (See quot.)

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 13 With Scotch Salt, he cured the whole Lading of Cod, having none that were weak or slab salted.

† **Slab,** *v.*[1] *Obs.*[—1] [Of doubtful origin: connexion with SLAB *sb.*[2] is perhaps possible.] *intr.* ? To wallow.

c 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 442 Hou yst þet hy ine helle slabbeþ, And þare-tou none grace nabbeþ To repente?

Slab, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* or *Obs.* [prob. of Du. or LG. origin: cf. MDu., Du., and LG. *slabben* (G. *schlabben, schlappen*), Fris. *slabje*, Norw. and Sw. *slabba*, in the same sense.] To eat or drink in a hasty or untidy manner: **a.** *trans.* with *up.* **b.** *intr.* with *at.*

1553 *Respublica* 853 Suche hongrye doggs will slabbe vp sluttishe puddinges. 1729 in Macfarlane *Genealog. Collect.* (S.H.S.) I. 111 The Laird of Grant..was for Diversion's Sake brought to see the Orphans slabbing at their Trough. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 173 Lang may ye blow the reamin ale,..While I slab up my barefit kail

Slab (slæb), *v.*[3] [f. SLAB *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To dress (timber) by removing the outside slabs; to clear of bark-wood.

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 237 They will cut none smaller, neither will they Slab any, unless they are paid for it by Measure. 1811 *Self Instructor* 137 For cutting a piece of timber..and slabbing it, i.e. cutting off the outside pieces. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 234 A paling Board..being slabbed or feather-edged and dubbed on the sappy side. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2028 *Sapping-machine*, a circular saw for slabbing balks.

b. *U.S.* With *off*: 'To throw aside as useless, like the outside piece of a log' (Bartlett, 1859).

1835 COL. CROCKETT *Tour* 212 You must take notice that I am slabb'd off from the election.

2. To convert into a slab or slab

1868 LOSSING *The Hudson* 70 There are also several mills for slabbing the fine black marble of that locality. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 11 May, A section of one thirty feet in diameter is to be slabbed, and the slabs..are to be set up to form a house.

3. a. To lay or pave with slabs.

1832 *Lincoln Herald* 7 Feb. 4/4 The expense of slabbing the sides of the Market-place. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ii. 46 The parapet is broad, and slabbed with red Verona marble. 1891 BARING-GOULD *In Troubadour Land* xvi. 230 The roof is slabbed with stone, so as to form a terrace.

b. To support (the sides of a shaft) with slabs. In quot. *absol.*

1871 J. J. SIMPSON *Recit.* 24 So dig away, drive away, slab and bail.

4. To stick or plaster in slabs.

1886 TUPPER *My Life* 21 They had slabbed on the underside of the tables masses of bread and butter supposed to have been eaten-out.

† **Slabbard.** *Obs.*[—0] (See quot.)

The sense does not correspond to that of MDu. *slabbaerd-, slabbaert*, glutton, foul-mouthed person.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 458/1 Slabbarde,..*morosus, tardus.*

Slabbed (slæbd), *ppl. a.* [f. SLAB *sb.*[1] or *v.*[3] + -ED.] Formed, or made, of or into slabs; protected by, paved with, slabs.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 870 The slabbed margin of a well. 1820 — *Lamia* I. 381 A silver lamp, whose phosphor glow Reflected in the slabbed steps below. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* v. 99 A fine inner court, with sumptuous staircases of slabbed stone.

Slabber (slæ·bəɹ), *sb.*[1] [Related to SLABBER *v.* Cf. G. *schlabber* slaver, slush, street-mud; older Da. *slabber* muddy ground.]

1. Slaver; excessive saliva. Also *slabber-like.*

1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 193 This Surface is supple, cover'd with a gluey slabber-like Liquor. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 140 The Slabber which may distil out of his Mouth.

2. Slobbering talk.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xvi. 44 The language of these people..is the most brutish and inhuman language..that could well be conceived of. It is a complete *slabber.*

3. *Sc.* Soft mud; slop, slush.

1887 *Jamieson's Dict.* Suppl. 221/2.

Slabber (slæ·bəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. SLAB *v.*[3] + -ER[1].] **a.** A saw or machine for removing the outside slabs from timber, or dressing the outer portion of logs. **b.** A machine for dressing nuts or bolts.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2197/2.

Slabber (slæ·bəɹ), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* Also 6 slabour, 7 slabbor. [prob. of Du. or LG. origin: cf. Du. *slabberen*, LG. *slabbern* (G. *schlabbern, schlappern*), Fris. *slabberje*, older Da. *slabre*, a frequentative of *slabben*, etc.: see SLAB *v.*[2], and cf. SLOBBER, SLUBBER. The compound *bislaberen* occurs in ME.]

1. *trans.* To wet or befoul with saliva; to beslaver or beslobber.

1579 W. FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 637 This was no great honouring of that holy yron, to put it to bee champed and slaboured in an horse mouth. 1619 HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* 28 A Spaniell..will leape vpon him, slabber his cloathes. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I*, I. 102 The K[ing] hung about his neck, slabboring his cheeks. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *J. Bull* III. vi, He..slabber'd me all over from Cheek to Cheek, with his great Tongue. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 64 He ..began to slabber his companions, with a most bear-like affection. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* vi. (1870) 151 How Gargantua mewls, and pules, and slabbers his nurse. 1865 ATKINSON *Prov. Danby* (MS.), *Slabber*, to wet the thread with saliva in the process of spinning.

refl. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 26 Mar., Eating of sack posset, and slabbering themselves.

fig. 1637 J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 86 So as you eat cleanly, & do not slubber & slabber your quotations of those books.

2. To wet in a dirty or disagreeable manner.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 106 Her milke pan and creame pot, so slabbered and sost. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 22/1 We were enclosed with most dangerous sands. There were we sowsd & slabberd, wash'd & dash'd. 1675 HOBBES *Odyss.* VI. 49 A pure and undecaying firmament, Which..Nor wet nor slabber'd is with showr of rain. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, A huge book..whose leaves, stained with wine, and slabbered with tobacco juice [etc.]. 1901 *Stafford Chron.* 25 Oct. (E.D.D.), Cyclists on a wet day get slabbered.

3. To gobble *up*, swallow *down*, in a hurried or unrefined manner. Cf. SLAB *v.*[2]

1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v., To Slabber vp potage halfe hoate & halfe colde. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 53 (1713) II. 85 Their Leading-men..void Pamphlets..so thick, that their hungry Spectators cannot slabber them up fast enough. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* vii. 48 A course of Waters slabber'd down..do undoubtedly very much prolong the interval of fits.

4. *intr.* To let saliva flow or fall from the mouth; to slaver, dribble; to disgorge water.

1548 HEXHAM II, *Zeeveren*, to Slabber like young children. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1272/4 He is..given to slabber in his speech. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 217 Two young Tritons, and three Dolphins, that slabber into the same Bason. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xlii. 322 How did he use to hang, till he slabbered again, poor doting old man! 1793 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes to Pope* Wks. 1812 III. 220 Slabbering, whining, crying.

5. To flow in a viscid or sloppy manner.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* ix. (1653) 164 Their spittle slabbering forth. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xix. P 1 The Mettal may spill or slabber over the Mouth of..the Mold.

6. *Sc.* To work in a sloppy manner.

1831 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 369 This morning, when I came down-stairs, I found Mr. Macdonald [a sculptor] slabbering away at the model. 1894 [see the *vbl. sb.* 1].

Hence **Sla·bbered** *ppl. a.*

1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Hum. Heaven on Earth* vi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 6 Ouer all, he ware a slabberd Gowne. 1638 RANDOLPH *Hey for Honesty* IV. iii, The rugged wrincles of her slabber'd face. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 337 For what live ever here?..To see what we have seen? Hear, till unheard, the same old slabber'd tale? 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXVII, A hadden tongue..makes a slabbered mouth. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* I. (1864) 46 A few..slabbered slices of pork.

Slabber-chops. *rare*[—0]. [f. prec.] (See quot.)

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *Baveur*, one that slabbers, a slabber Chops.

† **Slabberdegullion.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. SLABBER *v.*] = SLUBBERDEGULLION. Also *attrib.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. XXV, Slapsauce fellows, slabberdegullion druggels, lubbardly lowts. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. XV. (1737) 60 The Scabby Slabberdegulions still waited for us.

† **Sla·bberer.** *Obs.* [f. SLABBER *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. G. *schlabberer.*] One who slabbers; a driveller; a slobberer.

1611 COTGR., *Patouillard*, a padler, dabler, slabberer; one that tramples with his feet in plashes of durtie water. 1660 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 370 *note*, You may know him by his red beard, a slabberer of Boyes. 1744 OZELL tr. *Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* 99, I have observed a great many of your gigantic People..to be mere Dolts, Slabberers and Oafs.

Slabbering (slæ·bəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLABBER *v.*]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses.

1611 COTGR., *Patouil*, a padling, dabling, slabbering. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 169/2 Call not your Laundresse slut or slabb'ring queane, It is her slabb'ring that doth keepe thee cleane. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 223 Glasses of Rose-Water poured on our Garments to excessive slabbering. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Staggers*, It is a good sign if he..drinks freely without slabbering. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* v. 55 All his work was only slabbering with paint.

2. a. *Slabbering-bib*, a bib, esp. for a child, to protect the clothes from falling saliva.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Zeever-doeck*, a Slabbering-bibb. 1673 *Humours Town* 27 They are but petty Striplings, scarce out of their Slabbering-bibs. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fable Bees* (1733) II. 176 We say, that a man wants a slabbering-bibb, when he behaves very sillily. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. viii, Lady Honoria..seized one of the napkins, and protested she would send it to Mortimer for a slabbering-bib.

transf. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Slabbering bib*, a parson or lawyer's band.

b. *Slabbering-bit*: (see quot.).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Mastigadour*, or *Slabbering-Bit*, in the manege, is a snaffle of iron, all smooth, and of a piece [etc.].

Sla·bbering, *ppl. a.* [f. SLABBER *v.*]

1. Characterized by slabbering.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 78 They get many a slabbering kisse. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 191 I've now and then a slabb'ring kiss. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Slaik*,..to kiss in a slabbering manner. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xvi. 44 A continual *slabbering* sound is made in the cheeks.

2. That slabbers, in various senses.

1630 [see the *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1045 He all to bespattered him with his railing and slabbering tongue. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. 451 Aukward slabbering sky-farmers. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 42 Set down that slabbering milksop..and let her shift for herself.

Sla·bberish, *a. rare*[—0]. [f. SLABBER *sb.*[1]] Of the nature of slabber.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Zeeverachtigh*, Slabberish, or Slabbie.

† **Sla·bberment.** *Obs.*[—1] [f. SLABBER *v.* + -MENT.] A slabbery application.

a 1620 J. DYKE *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 160 All these slabberments will never ease the paine.

† **Slabber-sauce.** *Obs.* [f. SLABBER *v.* Cf. the earlier SLIBBER-SAUCE.] A sauce, or similar preparation, composed of various ingredients mixed in a sloppy mass. Also *fig.*

1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 27 Which will not be filled vp with the slabbersawce of mens merits and satisfactions. 1581 *Test. 12 Patriarches* 10 b, The Egiptian woman did much to him..by offering him slabersawces. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 202 As absurd..as it would be for a man to accustome himself to no other diet but slabber-sauces, and druggs. 1788 FALCONBRIDGE *African Slave Trade* 21 A sauce, composed of palm-oil, mixed with flour, water, and pepper, which the sailors call slabber-sauce.

† **Sla·bbery,** *sb. Obs.*[—1] [f. SLABBER *sb.*[1] or *v.*] *fig.* An outpouring of abuse.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 134 She..calls mee rampant beast in formidable hide, with I wot not what other Getulian slabberies.

Slabbery (slæ·bəri), *a.* Now chiefly *dial.* [f. SLABBER *sb.*[1] or *v.* Cf. LG. *slabbrig*, G. *schlabb(e)rig.*] Sloppy, slabby, slushy.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXI. XXXVI. 413 They were faine to go upon the bare yce underneath, and in the slabberie snowbroth. 1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 95 The sudden rain having rendred the ways so slabbery, and me so dirty. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* 31 Dec., Our frost is broken,..and it is very slabbery. 1874 T. TAYLOR *Leic. Sq.* viii. 177 Hard frost was passing into 'slabbery' thaw.

Slabbiness (slæ·binés). [f. SLABBY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality, condition, or state of being slabby; wetness; sloppiness.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 310 All iorneys incumbered with continuall waters and myrie slabbynesse. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 251 Alexander got on land, where he could hardly stand, for the slabbinesse of the ground. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr. Prog.* II. 183 The Way also was here very wearysom thorow Dirt and Slabbiness.

Sla·bbing, *sb.* [f. SLAB *sb.*[1]] Slabs collectively; slab-work.

1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 76 The slabbing.. had rotted away and fallen down.

Slabbing (slæ·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLAB *v.*[3] + -ING[1].] The action of the vb., in various senses.

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 237 If the Carpenter will have any pieces clear'd by Slabbing..they will..be paid by Measure for it. *Ibid.* 239 Slabbing..is cutting off the out-side pieces. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 7/4 Much interest was taken in the 'slabbing' of an ingot for H.M.S. Glory.

b. *attrib.*, as *slabbing-gang, -mill, -roll, -saw.*

1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 258 Engine-houses with engines driving slabbing rolls. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2197/2 Slabbing-gang. *Ibid.*, Slabbing-saw. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 344/2 In the 'slabbing' gang [of saws], the outsides or slabs were cut from one log. 1903 J. H. BRIDGE *Hist. Carnegie Steel Co.* 33 The slabbing-mill now turns out thirty thousand tons of steel slabs a month.

Sla·bbish, *a. rare*[—0]. Somewhat slabby.

1647 HEXHAM I, Slabbish way, *slijckachtige wegh.*

Slabby (slæ·bi), *a.*[1] [f. SLAB *sb.*[2] + -Y.]

1. Wet, miry, muddy, slushy, sloppy. Now *dial.*

a. Of roads, etc. (Common in 17th cent.)

1542 *Lamentable & Piteous Treat.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1745) IV. 512 The poore Souldyers..fynding the Way, by which they shuld go, so slabby and slyppery. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 321 The citie is very large and wyde and also very slabby and myrie. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXI. XXXVI. 413 To tumble..upon the slipperie and glassie yce, and the molten slabbie snow. 1690 C. NESS *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 418 They oft pass through a strait, long, slabby lane. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 92 When waggish boys the stunted beesom ply To rid the slabby pavement. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 78 Deep or slabby roads. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IV. XXXVII, By stamping close at your side on the slabby pavement. 1825– in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Northampt., Suff.).

fig. 1610 COOKE *Pope Joane* 106 You..make that the

ground of your conclusion. Now that is a slabbie ground. 1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 79 This latter is more clean and sober, the other more slabby and fantasticall.

b. Of weather.

1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 291 [It] denotes,..in winter, grievous cold, and snowy slabby weather. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 14, I am only to caution our labourer, ..that he do not stir the Ground in over-wet and slabby weather. 1713 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Jan., Very warm slabby weather, but I made a shift to get a walk.

2. Of liquids, etc.: Thick, ropy, viscous.

a 1654 Selden *Table-t.* (Arb.) 86 They present you with a Cup, and you must drink of a slabby stuff. 1676 Wiseman *Surg. Treat.* II. iii. 173 In the Cure of an Ulcer with a moist Intemperies slabby and greasy Medicaments are to be forborn. 1725 *Family Dict.* s.v. *Tart*, You must drain off the Milk, or else the mass will be too slabby. 1810 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 148 In order to render palatable the bitter herbs.., it was usual..to sprinkle over them a thick slabby sauce. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 17 June 10 Pawing at the corners of the mouth to free it from thick slabby saliva.

Slabby (slæ·bi), *a.*[2] [f. Slab *sb.*[1]] Of the nature of a slab; covered with slabs.

1853 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XX. 308 It is remarkable for clean, broad, and handsome streets; for slabby terraces and a broad-sweeping beach. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* xii. 224 Some of the quartz-trachytes show a fissile, slaty, or slabby structure.

Slabline (slæ·bˌləin). *Naut.* [prob. ad. Du. *slaplijn* (G. *schlappleine*), f. *slap* slack.] (See quots. 1769 and 1846.) Also *attrib.*

1647 N. Ward *Simple Cobler* 46 When Kings are haleing up their top-gallant, Subjects lay hold on their slablines. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slab-line*, a small cord passing up behind a ship's main-sail or fore-sail...It is used to truss up the sail. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 285 *Slabline*, a rope used to haul up the slack of a course, in order to prevent it from shaking, or being split in the act of hauling up the sail. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 25 The quarter slabline block on the jackstay. *Ibid.* 47 The inner slabline is..brought abaft the sail.

Slably, Slabness: see Slab *a.*[1]

Slab reef. *Naut.* (See quot. and Slab-line.)

1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 125 There are the same number of slab reef lines.., and they are used for hauling up the slab reef or slack part of sail which hangs down abaft all when a reef is taken in.

Slab-sided (slæ·bˌsəided), *a. U.S.* [f. Slab *sb.*[1]] Having sides like slabs; flat-sided; long and lank.

1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 145 Great, long, slab-sided, simple gawkeys. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxv. 79 Her captain was a slab-sided, shamble-legged Quaker. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* v. 94 The silky, thin-haired, narrow-chested, and slab-sided animal so fashionable nowadays.

Sla·b-stone. Also **slabstone.** [Slab *sb.*[1]] A stone having the form of a slab.

1851 Sternberg *Northampt. Dial.*, *Slab-stones*, broad and thin stones. 1891 *N. & Q.* 3 Jan. 8 A slabstone was discovered in the Court aisle. 1897 Chetwynd-Stapylton *Stapeltons of Yorks.* 191 Torre also saw four monumental slabstones.

Slachtir, obs. Sc. form of Slaughter.

Slack (slæk), *sb.*[1] *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 5 **slac, slakke, slake,** 5–6 **slak,** 6– **slack.** [a. ON. *slakki* (Icel. *slakki*, Norw. *slakke*) in sense 1.]

1. A small shallow dell or valley; a hollow or dip in the ground; a depression in a hill-side or between two stretches of rising ground.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* xiv. 536 Till the hill thai tuk the way. In a slak thame enbuschit thai. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1418 Doun þay dange þaire Baners brade Bothe in slakkes & in slade. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7418 Slike paynes suffird all þe pak þat wer broght in to þat slak [=a vale of depnes 7407]. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* vi. v. 189 Ther by a lytyl slake syr launcelot wounded hym..nyghe vnto the deth. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* viii. x. 91 Sitand into ane holl valle or slak. *a* 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* iii. 146 Qubite as the snaw that euer lay in slak. 1615 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 326 The samen is mercheit be stanes..quhill it come to the end of the Gallow slackis. 1682 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1885) IV. 85 My danger upon Clifton common..; in a slack full of snow my horse got fast. 1718 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 402 Ane stripe that rins in ane slack. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 353 *Slack*, a valley, or small shallow dale; a dip. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* (1871) 60 O'er slope and slack She sought her native stall. 1825– in northern glossaries. 1891 J. C. Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 186 A series of short banklets, hillocks, mounds, and peaks, with intertwining gullies, slacks, and hollows.

† b. A pit, a hole. *Obs.*[–1]

a 1500 in *Ratis Raving* (1870) 23 Mony man makis a slak in an vthir manis vay, and fall fyrst thar in.

2. A hollow in the sand- or mud-banks on a shore.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3720 Thane was þe flode passede; Thane was it slyke a slowde in slakkes fulle hugge, That let þe kyng for to lande. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiv. 39 Had not bene ane slack was in the sands, Weill had he payit 3ow tratouris for 3our tressoun. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 138 The 'slacks' I have mentioned are fresh-water pools which extend just inside the outer sandhills [of the estuary of the Mersey].

3. A soft or boggy hollow; a morass.

1719 in Cramond *Annals Cullen* (1888) 79 The magistrates appoint..that none cast above two spades casting in the common moss or Chamar Slack without liberty. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxv, A deep morass, termed in that country a slack. *c* 1880 J. Lucas *Stud. Nidderdale* 278 *Slack*, a hollow boggy place. 1897 Ld. E. Hamilton *Outlaws* xxviii. 310 The yellow slack that feeds the Blackburn, and in which horse and rider might readily disappear for ever.

Slack (slæk), *sb.*[2] Also (now *dial.*) **sleck.** [Of doubtful origin: cf. older Flem. *slecke*, Du. *slak*, LG. *slak(ke*, G. *schlacke* dross of metals.] Small or refuse coal. Also *attrib.*

α. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 152 Vndonged sleck wole make hem lene, as preue is. 1665 Dudley *Metallum Martis* (1854) 8 These Colliers must cast these coles and sleck or drosse out of their wayes. 1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 898 The Men..hid themselves as well as they could in the loose sleck or small Cole. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 29 Nov. 2/1 For every chaldron of coals, sleck, cinders, culm, coke. 1857 Waugh *Lanc. Life* 197 Nearly every cottage had its stock of coals piled up under the front window,..the 'cobs' neatly built up into a square wall, and the centre filled up with the 'sleck an' naplins'.

β. 1729 Swift *Let. on Irish Coal* Wks. 1841 II. 110 In every half barrel of coals you have the one-half of it slack, and that slack of little use. 1795 J. Phillips *Hist. Inland Navig.* Add. 173 For all slack or small and inferior coal for the purpose of burning lime-stone or bricks,..six-pence per ton. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 358 The fire is now slackened, and a quantity of slack, or refuse pit-coal, thrown into the furnace. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1420. 649 The fuel used is fine coal generally called 'Smith's coal' or 'slack'. 1881 *Census Instr.* (1885) 84/3 Slack-picker, -washer.

Slack (slæk), *sb.*[3] Also 6 **-e.** [f. Slack *a.* or *v.*]

† **1.** The passing or spending *of* time. *Obs.*

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1559) R iij b, All onely for slacke of time, and driuyng of one houre to a nother.

2. A cessation in the strong flow of a current or of the tide. (Cf. Slack-water.)

1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 531 During the time of the water flowing, the strength of the current going down was greatly abated, almost to a slack. *Ibid.*, He met an unexpected slack in Greenwich-reach. 1892 *Law Times Rep.* LXVII. 251/1 The tide was low water slack, and the weather was fine and clear. 1902 Ld. Avebury *Scenery of England* 456 They are the debris of the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire coast, and are deposited at the slack of high-water.

b. A stretch or reach of comparatively still water in a river.

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Slack*, a long pool in a streamy river. 1889 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Jan. 8/3 Some perch and pike have also been taken out of the eddies and slacks.

3. An interval of comparative inactivity; a lull in business or in action of any kind.

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* II. 83/1 An ingenious..costermonger, during a 'slack' in his own business [etc.]. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xliv, Though there's a slack, we haven't done with sharp work yet, I can see.

b. A slackening of speed.

1899 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 7/6 The 23¼ miles..are covered in 21½ minutes; and this though there is a relaying slack at Farnborough.

4. That part *of* a rope, sail, etc., which is not fully strained, or which hangs loose; a loose part or end.

To hold on the slack, to skulk; to be lazy (1864 *Slang Dict.*).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 95 Topsails are allowed 3 inches slack in every cloth in the foot. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 437 When the sledge is in motion, ..it pulls up the slack of the rope from the bottom of the rope-walk. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* viii. (1880) 281 Gathering the line up..so that no slack hangs about. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log of Sea-waif* 89, I sat on the poop beside the tiller, hauling back the slack of the wheel-ropes.

b. *colloq.* The seat *of* a pair of trousers.

1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ii, To take a feller up jest by the slack o' 's trowsis. 1879 Waugh *Chimney Corner* 229, I took it bi th' slack o'th' breeches, an' chuck't it into th' poand.

5. *pl.* Trousers.

1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 346 His inexpressibles (drab slacks) were napless. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 232 Formidable in 'slacks', as he called his trousers. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Sept. 7/2 Eight nice little British sailors, in eight nice little pairs of white pants, called slacks.

6. *dial.* and *U.S. colloq.* Impertinence, cheek.

1842 H. J. Daniel *Bride of Scio*, etc. 177 Howld tha slack! Yer tongue young chap's too saucy. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 357 Let's have none of your slack. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 481/2 I've taken a lot of your slack for a month or two, and I'm..gettin' somewhat peevish.

Slack (slæk), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 1 **sleac, slæc,** 3–5 **slac,** 4–6 **slak** (5 **sclak**), **slakke,** 4–7 **slacke,** 5– **slack.** [Common Teut.: OE. *sleac, slæc,* = MDu. *slac, slack-* (Du. and Flem. dial. *slak*), MLG. *slak* (LG. *slakk, slack*), OHG. and MHG. *slach* (G. dial. *schlach*, also *schlack*), ON. *slakr* (Icel. *slakur*, Norw. and Sw. *slak*, Da. †*slag*). The stem is related to that of L. *laxus*.] **A.** *adj.*

I 1. Of persons: Lacking in energy or diligence; inclined to be lazy or idle; remiss, careless; negligent or lax in regard to one's duties.

Beowulf 2187 Ðeata bearn..wendon, þæt he sleac wære, æðeling unfrom. *c* 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvii. 125 Dæt he..ne sie to stræc on ðære lare, ne to slæc on ðære mildheortnesse. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 317 þæt þam sleacan preoste ne þince to mycel geswinc þæt he undo his eagan herto. 1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Huanne he is sleuuol,..uoryetinde, slak, and fallinde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipm. T.* 413 Ye han mo slakkere dertours than am I. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 711 Allas! seide Gamelyn, þat euer I was so slak That I ne hadde broke his nekke. 1492 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 78 Yf he se otbyr be slakke or necligent. 1535 Coverdale *Hab.* ii. 3 For in very dede he wil come, and not be slacke. 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 18 If they haue been found to be slacke, their negligence is openlie reprooued. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. v. (1651) 576 Many slack and careless Parents..measure their childrens affections by their own. 1665 Dryden *Ind. Emp.* III. i, The Truce will make the Guards more slack. 1741 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) I. 304, I put those of the women who were grown slack, into distinct Bands. 1793 Mann in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 438 A Government unhinged, an exhausted Treasury, and slack Allies. 1826 Disraeli *V. Grey* VI. ii, When you complained that you and meat had been but slack friends of late. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. xlix. 255 In such parts of the West.., if the sheriff is distant or slack, lynch law may usefully be invoked.

b. With various constructions, esp. *in* with gerund or sb., and *to* with inf. Also † *slack of*, short of (quot. 1605).

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 100 Se ðe on oðrum dæzum sleac wære to godnysse. *c* 1000 in *Anglia* XI. 117 Handa mine ..synd..sleace to æniz wyrcenne god. 1535 Starkey *Let.* in *England* (1878) p. xxiv, I perceyue you haue byn slakker in wrytyng bycause you mor lokyd for ferther instructyon. 1535 Coverdale *Eccl.* v. 4 Yf thou make a vowe vnto God, be not slacke to perfourme it. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. iii. 9 If you come slacke of former seruices, You shall do well; the fault of it Ile answer. 1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* II. (1782) 97 Thy purged eye will see God is not slack..to fulfil his word. 1703 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* VI. § 235 II. 96 Neither the King, nor the Parliament, being slack in pursuing the business by the Sword. 1753 Washington *Jrnl.* Writ. 1889 I. 33 The French were not slack in their Inventions to keep the Indians this Day also. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* iv, The sturdy armourer was not..slack in keeping the appointment. 1867 S. Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* ix. (1880) 145 Louis was not slack to obey the injunction. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 711 Florence was not slack at attributing crimes to Eadric.

c. Slow in coming; tardy, late. *rare*[–1].

1694 Echard *Plautus* 53 An empty Belly and a slack Guest, makes one as mad as the Devil.

2. Not busy; having little work, etc. (Cf. 6.)

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 421/2 There are plenty of empty or slack hotels in Edinburgh that would answer your purpose. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xv, As we are rather slack just now, if you would give me a half-holiday. 1870 Bartley *Sq. Mile E. London* 54 He would not mind when in work, but when slack he thought they should go free.

II. 3. Of conduct, actions, etc.: Characterized by remissness or lack of energy.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xv. 442 Diode he swiðe druncennisse & mongum oðrum unalefednessum ðæs slæcran lifes. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) xviii. 44 Hit is ealles to sleac munuca þeowdom .. gif hie læsse singað on þære wucan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 602 We sceolon asceacan ðone sleacan slæp us fram. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* ii. Wks. 1312/2 Their fastynges were also verye paynefull and precyse: and ours neglygent, slacke, and remysse. 1579 Northbrooke *Agst. Dicing* (1843) 20 The cause of my slacke and seldome comming to the church. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 689 If they will decipher..a slow and slack victory, they picture a Scorpion. 1611 Bible *Prov.* x. 4 He becommeth poor that dealeth with a slacke hand. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* VII. i. (1849) 382 The slack though fitful reign of William the Testy. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 566 The correspondence gradually became more and more slack. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. xiv. 820 Some very great men have effected absolutely nothing, not because their labour was slack, but because their method was sterile.

4. Of pace: Slow; not smart or hurried.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 138 Sum oðer munuc..mid sleaccre stalcunge his fotswaðum filizde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 2043 The nobleste of the grekes..caryeden the beere With slak paas. 1682 Dryden *Medal* 44 Their pace was formal, grave, and slack. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 243 As he came nearer, I found his Pace was slacker, because he had something in his Hand. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* V, His companion slackened the slack pace of the horse.

5. Comparatively weak or slow in operation; deficient in strength or activity; dull.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (1868) 68 Wiþ slakke and delitable soun of strenges. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Whanne þe vertu is feble and slake it may nought sprede þe woosen and veynes into euerich place and side of þe body. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* § 50 This infirmite doth come thorowe euyll, slacke, or slowe digestion. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 32 Rebellion now began for lack Of Zeal and Plunder to grow slack. 1688 Prior *Seneca Dying* 3 The moral Spaniard's ebbing Veins, By Study worn, and slack with Age. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 7 Aug., I pretended not to understand him. I am forced to that method of slack comprehension continually. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. 1827 IV. 81 It may be imagined whether imitation is in danger of being slack. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 15 Many brewers hesitate in applying what are called slack liquors, lest their worts should be foul. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit.* v. (1875) 201 The culture of Germany—so wide,..that it is apt to become slack and powerless.

b. Of heat, etc.: Not strong or excessive; gentle, moderate.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* IX. xv. 356 Thys monthe [July] the heete is stronge in the begynnynge and slacker in the ende. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 57 They give the greatest coldness to the water, with a slack or mean moystness. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s.v. *Varnish*, Harden it..first with a slack heat, the next with a warmer, and the third with a very hot one. 1741 *Compl. Fam-Piece* I. iii. 228 Set them in a slack Oven till they are tender. 1892 *Daily News* 21 Mar. 5/8 Three-fourths of the blast furnaces have been put on slack blast.

c. Of wind, or tide: Blowing, or running, with very little strength or speed.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 38 Cæsar..about sun sett, hoysing saile with a slack South-West, at midnight was becalm'd. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biogr. Lit., Satyrane's Lett.* I, The wind continuing slack. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 218 Pontoons used as row-boats, when the tide was slack. 1892 W. C. RUSSELL *List Ye Landsmen* xi, The breeze has fallen slack.

6. Of work, etc.: Not brisk or active.

1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 119 When betting became slack. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 17 Discourses..'Bout work being slack, and rise and fall of bread. 1873 C. ROBINSON *N. S. Wales* 50 The work..is not always continuous as the demand is sometimes slack.

b. Of times: Characterized by inactivity or dullness in work or business.

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., Slack times. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix. 99 A slack season in which many workmen remain unemployed. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 838/2 There would be a slack three weeks between two of the fruit crops.

III. 7. Not drawn or held tightly or tensely; relaxed, loose.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1252 (W.), The stedes ronnon with slak bridel. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 605 The slakke skyn aboute his nekke shaketh. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 317/2 Lusch, or slak, *laxus*. 1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Slacke, nat fast togyther, *lasche*. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 83 His..siluer bowe, which was but slacke. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 272 In the morning wee bore a slack saile. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 4 The Stays were very slack, being loosened by the force of the Wind the day before. 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* VII. 52 The slack cordage rattles round the mast. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 136 It was an invariable rule with me to be sure that the bandage was slack. 1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* iii. 29 The slack canvas being no longer water-tight, little pools of water gathered round the furs and saddle-cloths.

b. In fig. contexts.

1590 R. HITCHCOCK *Quint. Wit* 13 Wicked men let slacke their raines with liberty to follow vice. 1648 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 104 To reward merritt and punish offenders.., not letting slacke the raignes. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 1530 Somewhere must a screw be slack!

c. Free from confinement. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 9 Eche one of them unloosed his spring, and let the water slacke.

d. Not contracted; open, wide. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 74 b, You must take heed..that the cleft be not to slacke nor to strait.

8. Lacking cohesiveness or solidity; not compact or firm; crumbling, loose; soft.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 72 Slak [*v. r.* sclak] sonde, lymous and lene, vnswete & depe. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 785 Of these Cobwebs..some..are loose, weak, slack, and not well bound: other contrary-wise well compacted. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Domest. Econ.* I. 91 When malt which has been thus sprinkled remains some time in store, it grows soft, or *slack*, as it is called. 1897 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 4/7 The mud, which was a cake during the frost, became slack dough with the thaw.

9. Of the hand: Not holding or grasping firmly. Also in fig. context.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 892 From his slack hand the Garland wreath'd for Eve Down drop'd. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 158 A slack hand had..been held upon them. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 548 Down dropp'd the leg, from her slack hand releas'd. 1856 BRYANT *Hymn to Death* 57 His slack hand Drops the drawn knife. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyrical Poems* 120 Some finish'd thing, Ere the slack hands at eve Drop, should be his to leave.

b. Similarly of one's hold of anything.

1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* II. i, A somewhat slacker hold. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* ii. (ed. 4) 29 Her hold getting a little slacker, he made a sudden bolt.

10. Special collocations.

Slack barrel, cask, one made to hold dry goods. *Slack-course* (see quot. 1875). *Slack helm* (see quot. 1867). *Slack lip*, = SLACK-JAW. *Slack wire*, a wire not drawn tight, on which an acrobat performs.

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1185 Another female danced on the slack-wire. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 630 *Slack helm*, if the ship is too much by the stern, she will carry her helm too much *a-lee*. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2197/2 *Slack-course* (Knitting-machine), a range of loops or stitches more open than those which precede them. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 338 Tight or wet and dry or slack cask manufacture. *Ibid.*, Slack barrels are..extensively employed. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 104 No man durst give him 'slack lip' on pain of being instantly knocked endways.

IV. 11. *Comb.* **a.** Parasynthetic adjs., as *slack-backed, -fingered, -haired, -hammed, -handed*, etc.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 301 Debaucht and slacke hayred companions. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 20 O, there's a monstrous league between these soft And slack-ham'd pathicks! 1674 FLAVEL *Husb. Spiritualized* I. 22 What, now slack-handed, when so neer to my everlasting rest! 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Slag*, a slack-mettled fellow, one not ready to resent an affront. 1822 MANBY *Voy. Greenland* 130 In what are called slack-backed fish. 1881 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Comed.* 92 This time if I let you slip, may I be stamped slack-fingered! 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 25 A slack-lipped specimen of the young blood of the period.

†**b. Slack-grace**, one who has little grace. *Obs.*

1623 R. CARPENTER *Consc. Christian* 29 Weaklings and slacke-graces, set not their hands to the worke.

B. *adv.* In a slack manner; loosely, slackly.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 7 Persecuting the Protestants no slacker then the Pope would have done. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* v. 357 It is better they [the joints] be bound slack a whole week, than too hard one hour. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 81 Makes the Joint go stiffer, or slacker, at Pleasure. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Tradesmen..say, 'Money comes in very slack'.

b. With pa. ppples., as *slack-done, -dried, -laid, -salted, -sized, -spun*.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 153 A handful of slack-dried Hops will mar and spoil many pounds. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 56 Slack-laid means slack-twisted. *Ibid.* 59 If slack-spun, it will break. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Anything dressed before a slack fire, or in a slow oven, as 'slack-done meat'. 1862 RAWLINSON *Ancient Mon., Chaldæa* I. v. 91 A third [brick], the coarsest of all, is slack-dried, and of a pale red.

Slack (slæk), *v.* Also 6–7 slacke, 6 *Sc.* slak. [f. SLACK *a.*, in some senses taking the place of the earlier SLAKE *v.* Cf. MDu. and older Flem. *slacken*, Flem. dial. *slakken*, Norw. *slakka*.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To be slack or remiss in respect of (some business, duty, etc.); to leave undone or not properly attended to.

1530 PALSGR. 720/2 Whye slacke you your busynesse thus? 1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 201 What a remorse of conscience shall ye haue, when ye remembre howe ye haue slacked your dutye. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 88 Who slacketh his tillage, a carter to bee, for grote got abrode, at home lose shall three. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 248 Why not my Lord? If then they chanc'd to slacke ye, We could controll them. 1621 QUARLES *Hadassa* § 2 Wks. (Grosart) II. 48/2 But in contempt, she slacks our dread behest, Neglects performance of our deare Request. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. i. 16 Fear had made him..slack the performance of what he had promised. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* viii, My duty has limits, and if I slack it for a day [etc.]. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 76 Breeding ewes that are kept too well..seldom acquit themselves so well..as those that have been slacked a little in winter.

†**b.** To neglect (an opportunity, etc.); to allow to slip or pass by. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 27 b, The occasion of so glorious a victory..was..putte by and shamefully slacked. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. lxxiv, This good chaunce, that thus much favoureth, He slackes not. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 Slacke not this thy tearme-time, but get ..knowledge of God. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* V. 834 Time calls you now,..Slack not the good Presage.

†**c.** To lose or waste (time). *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 161 Like a spedy purvior, whiche slacketh not time. 1591 SIR H. SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xlviii. 82 Lest by slacking the time they prouoked his further displeasure. 1633 A. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. v. (1821) 72 Slack not time..to prosecute him freshly in the Reare-ward.

2. To cease to go on with, or prosecute, in a vigorous and energetic manner; to allow to fall off or decline. Also *to slack one's hand(s)*, to diminish one's exertions or activity.

1520 *State Papers, Hen. VIII*, VI. 63 Though the preparacions here bene slacked, because moche money nedith. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 143 The king of clemencie tha besocht, to slak the seige a lytle. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 15 Neither is there any reason why we should slacke our endeavours. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To slack his hand, in point of Liberality, to give less liberally, *être moins liberal*. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 292 If they slack their Hands, or cease to strive, Then down the Flood with headlong haste they drive. 1790 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 1 Jan., I do not slack my labour. I can preach and write still. 1835 WILLIS *Melanie* 57, I did not slack my love of life and hope of pleasure.

b. To allow to mitigate or abate. *rare*.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 161 Consideryng how the Turke slacketh nothyng of his fiersenes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. ix. 25 Yet neither would their fiendlike fury slacke, But euermore their malice did augment. 1609 TOURNEUR *Funeral Poem Sir F. Vere* 231 With their obedience he did slacke the bent of his severitie in punishment.

3. To reduce the force or strength of; to make less active, vigorous, or violent.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* 36 There be three things which are wont to slack young Students endeuor. 1610 *Histrio-mastix* VI. 149 To waile our want, let speaking slacke the paine. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 155 The boiling heate of your love will be..at least something slackt. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 122, I slack'd my Fire gradually. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XXI. 399 Nor slack thy furious fires 'till with a shout I give command, then bid them cease to blaze. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 234 You ringers, slack the knell.

b. To slake (one's thirst).

1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* V. x. 420 So much as might somewhat slacke their thirst. 1663 *Aron-bimn.* 29 Here is a Julip will slack his thirst. 1750 BEAWES *Lex Mercat.* (1752) I A neighbouring spring slacked their thirst. 1864 NEALE *Seatonian Poems* 52 One drop to find, his maddening thirst to slack. *a* 1904 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* V. 65 It was a novelty to see them reach the water and slack their thirst.

4. To make lax, neglectful, or remiss.

1597 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* I. i, Love slack'd my Muse, and made my numbers soft. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 30 Not to slack you towards those friends which are religious in other clothes then we. 1659 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* 441 Hold thy foot when he hath thus slackt thy heart.

refl. 1881 RUSKIN *Love's Meinie* Pref. p. viii, Languages called living, but which live only to slack themselves into slang, or bloat themselves into bombast.

5. To delay or retard; to render slower in respect of motion or progress. Also with *up*. Now *rare*.

1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* I vj, When..the Kinge of Spaines embassador slacked his comming to y^e^ Council. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 3, I am nothing slow to slack his hast. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 80 All other bodies are slacked by the medium or Aire by which they are to moue. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 6 This..conserveth the greenness and slacketh the Dessication of it. 1891 *Cent. Dict., To slack up*, to retard the speed of, as a railway-train.

b. To allow (one's pace, course, etc.) to become less rapid.

1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* Ep. Ded. 1 It did not become one that was running a race, to intermit or slacke his pace. 1675 OTWAY *Alcibiades* III. i, But you, Sir,..Missing your Game, can easily slack the Flight. 1704 SWIFT *Battle Bks.* Misc. (1711) 264 But Wotton..began to slack his Course. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 152 Here, slacking our pace, we found ourselves growing extremely sick. 1826 HOOD *Fall of the Deer* 23 Slacking Pace at last From runninge slow he standeth faste.

6. To make slack or loose; to render less tense or taut; to loosen, relax.

1530 PALSGR. 720/2, I slacke a knotte,..I lowse a thynge that was to strayte tyed, *je lasche. Ibid.*, Slacke his gyrdell. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ii. 14 Ne euer Artegall his griple strong For any thing wold slacke, but still vppon him hong. 1608 SHAKS. *Pericles* III. i. 43 Slack the bolins there! 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. i, The Sunne began to slack his bended bow. 1695 *New Light Chirurg. put out* 53 As often slacking the Turneke. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Slack the hand*, is to slack the bridle, or give a horse head. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xli, Tak the gentleman's horse to the stable, and slack his girths. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 630 Slack the laniard of our main-stay.

b. With advs., as *back, down, off*, etc.

1806 *Port of London Bye-Laws* XXVII. (1807) 34 If the person..shall not..slack off the breastfasts of such ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 631 Slack up the hawser. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. Q 7, The saw can be instantly stopped by slacking back one of the slides. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 654 With..the peak of the foresail slacked down. 1893 F. M. CRAWFORD *Children of King* I. 8 A hand forward to slack out the cable.

fig. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* (1877) 280 Jack Dunquerque was to 'Slack off' his visits to Twickenham.

c. *absol.*

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* V, Give her line enough; but do not slack too fast. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 27 Slack back two or three turns. 1884 *Law Reports* 9 App. Cases 426 They slacked astern about 25 feet.

7. To cause (lime) to disintegrate by the action of water or moisture; to slake.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 258 When you slack the Lime, take care to wet it every where a little. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 40 It..takes the form of a fine powder, and the title of 'Lime slacked in the air'. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 177 Lime, if exposed to rain,..and slacked like mortar, loses half its effect. 1905 *Daily Mail* 2 Jan. 5/6 Where 150 sacks of lime, slacked by the inrushing water, burst into flame and were destroyed.

II. *intr.* †**8.** To delay, tarry. *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 720/2 You have slacked to longe, you shulde have come afore. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. i, I woulde not haue slacked for ten thousand poundes. 1611 COTGR., *Tardiver*, to linger, foreslow, slacke, delay.

9. To be inactive or idle; to fail to exert oneself in a due manner. In mod. use *colloq.*

1543 *Necess. Erudit. Chr. Man* B iii, Those men..slacking in suche care and desyre, as they shulde haue to please god. 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* II. 6 Thou..also didst put hir [the soul] within this bodie, not for to slacke with sloth. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIV. xi, Up, O Lord,..Sleepe not ever, slack not ever.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 27 June 8/2 It is far better for any eleven to possess a duffer,—..provided he is a thorough 'goer'—than a good player, however great, if he slacks.

b. To neglect, to be backward or dilatory, *to* do something. Now *rare*.

c 1560 E. G. in FAIT *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 505 Thy word to offer thou doest not slacke. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66 Slack not my woords to remember. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* v. 8 Slacke not to be converted to our Lord. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxiii. 21 When thou shalt vow a vow vnto the Lord.., thou shalt not slacke to pay it. 1886 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 146 The kind Physician will not slack to treat His patient.

10. Of persons (or animals): To become less energetic, active, or diligent.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 323 b, After they..found in manner nothing, they begin somewhat to slack. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 83 If..after a traine or two more they slacke againe the second time. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 30 In case any man appointed to worke seemed to slacke,..he chastised and put him off. 1779 T. FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 13 We rowed with fourteen oars, and continued so most part of the day, slacking at times when it was very hot. 1875 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 319, I have somewhat slacked from the Virgil translation.

b. Similarly with *off*.

1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* XVI. (1882) 243 If he slacks off in his respect or affection for you. 1884 *Bazaar* 17 Dec. 647/2 This young artist..has not slacked off, as so many do when a certain..standard is reached.

11. To diminish in strength or speed; to become weaker or slower; to moderate in some respect.

c 1580 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 453 The storme began to slacke, otherwise we had bene in ill case. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xvi. I. 11 For that naturall motions doe either hasten or slacke. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 37 If the fire chance to slack which I have kindled. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 69 Just as we had gained somewhat more than mid passage, the tide slack'd. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 394 Rain slacked about six, and we set out. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 313 The breeze slacked, and we slowly worked up to the north. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 274 One expected to see the locomotive pause, or slack up a little.

b. Of affairs, business, etc.: To fall off; to go more slowly; to be less brisk.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 24 Their negotiations all

must slacke, Wanting his mannage. 1831 R. SHENNAN *Tales* 37 When business had begun to slack.

12. To become less tense, rigid, or firm.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 117 Hir garter, which slacked by chance and so fell from her leg. 1592 J. DAVIES *Immort. Soul* III. vii. (1714) 33 When the Body's strongest Sinews slack, Then is the Soul most active. 1773 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 87 How maun their weyms wi' sairest hunger slack! 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 215 The ice slacked, and the ship was towed..to the eastward. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., To Slack,..* to become flaccid. *Ibid.*, A tumour is said to *slack*.

13. Of lime, etc.: To become disintegrated under the action of moisture.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 242 Lime..appears to be cold, but Water excites it again, whereby it Slacks and crumbles into fine Powder. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 46 Good marle in hot weather will slack with the heat of the sun like lime. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 15 It..often crumbles to powder, even the pebbles of a certain sort 'slacking' to a sandy consistency.

Slack-baked, *a.* [SLACK *adv.*] Of bread: Imperfectly or insufficiently baked.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 32 Those loaves are invariably slack-baked. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* viii, That particular style of loaf which is known to housekeepers as a slack-baked, crummy quartern. 1884 SALA *Journ. South* I. xxiv. (1887) 318 A board covered with squat round loaves of bread, somewhat slack-baked in appearance.

fig. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xli, One beaming smile, from his nut-brown face down to the slack-baked buckles in his shoes. 1882 *Daily Telegr.* 8 Apr., Such a slack-baked slop-made little atomy as he is.

Hence **Slack-bake** *v.*

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz* iv. (1850) 14 Men..who had mismanaged the workhouse, ground the paupers, diluted the beer, slack-baked the bread.

Slacked (slækt), *ppl. a.* [f. SLACK *v.*]

1. Retarded; rendered slower.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxi. 201 A graue Poem..wings the Soule vp higher, then the slacked Pace of Prose.

2. Of lime: Slaked.

1700 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1749) 152 The Body instantly dissolv'd and fell into Dust like slack'd Lime. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 367 Slack'd powdered Stone Lime must be by degrees sifted on. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 318 Slacked lime is merely a combination of lime, with about one third of its weight of water. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 645/2 It falls to powder, like slacked quicklime.

‖ **Sla·cken,** *sb.* Also 8 slaken, 9 -in. [ad. G. *schlacken*, var. *schlacke* dross of metal, etc.] Slag.

There is no evidence that the word has ever had any real currency in English.

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1197 They ordinarily melt it..by the help of Iron-stone..and Slacken (a scum or cake taken off from the top of the pan, into which the melted Minerals run). 1693 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Nat. Hist.* 233 To this..they add Limestone and Slacken, and Melt them together. *a* 1744 LUCAS in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archaeol. Soc.* VIII. 36 Slaken as the Germans call them, or old Cinders, which they here call Forest Cinders. [1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Slacken*, in metallurgy, a term used by the miners to express a spungy and semivitrified substance (etc. Hence in later Dicts.). 1837 HEBERT *Engin. Encycl.* II, *Slakin*, a term used by smelters to express a spongy, semi-vitrified substance, which they mix with the ores of metal, to prevent their fusion. (Hence in Francis, Knight, etc.)]

Slacken (slæ·k'n), *v.* [f. SLACK *a.* Cf. the rarer SLAKEN *v.*, and Icel., Norw., and Sw. *slakna* (older Da. *slagne*).]

I. *trans.* **1.** To cause to become slower; to delay or retard.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Tarder*, to hinder, to slacken. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosp.* 283 That the Sunne denyeth her his beames, that her presence slackneth his rising. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 406 Some alteration..of vital motion, by quickening or slackening..the same. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 113/2 You may slacken the current of the Water, by making it run winding. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 91 The 'clinginess'..may tend to slacken the step of the Wiltshire ploughman. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* ii. 42 The production of the one will be slackened, and that of the other quickened, till they are made equal. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 130 As the river approaches its mouth, the flow becomes slackened.

b. To allow (one's pace, etc.) to become slower; to diminish or lessen (speed).

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. v, Partridge being unable any longer to keep up with Jones,..begged him a little to slacken his pace. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 103 Neither quickening nor slackening his pace as he approached. 1853 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 213, I..slackened my steps, till they were clear off. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 186, I gave him a bullet.., which soon caused him to slacken his pace. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 [The engine-driver] did not slacken speed.

fig. 1837 T. JONES *Christian Warrior* IV. ii. 84 Do not slacken your pace in religion because of reproaches.

2. To render less vigorous or eager; to cause to fall off or decline.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 35 Such a rest .. as shall slacken our endeavour to make sure our salvation. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 10 Religion seemeth to smother or to slacken the..alacrity of men in following Profit. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 87. 222 Riches had no Allurements to slacken their Enquiries. 1807 JOEL BARLOW *Columb.* IV. 422 Thy freeborn sons..Nor sloth can slacken, nor a tyrant bind. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 26 The sight of which..is enough to slacken the appetite. 1896 TOUT *Edw. I*, iii. 47 The best and the worst of motives combined to slacken crusading enthusiasm.

b. To allow to become less vigorous, etc.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 197 If we slacken our holy industry in making sure our salvation, we..may be cast out. 1665 TEMPLE *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1720 II. 6, I know him to be a Man too firm to be diverted from his Point, or slacken it without some such Maim. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 541 The Hindús..first slackened their efforts, and at last gave way and dispersed. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. xiv. 784 In the heat of their new warfare they slackened their opposition to the church.

3. To relax in point of strictness or severity.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 9 The temperate use of the Prerogative, not slackened, nor much strayned. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. i, In matters not very bad or impure, a human law giver may slacken something of that which is exactly good. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 180 The laws for coming to church have been slackned in favour to the scrupulous dissenters.

b. To render (a person) less severe or stern.

1685 F. SPENCE tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medicis* 168 There was some glimmering of hope, that..it would not be impossible to slacken and mollifie him if he gave him audience.

4. To give relaxation to (one's thoughts, etc.).

1643 DENHAM *Cooper's Hill* 242 When great Affairs Gave leave to slacken, and unbend his cares. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* I. 63 Where down I sate Beneath a tree, slackening my thoughts by choice, And settling into gentler happiness.

5. To moderate, make less intense.

1685 LADY R. RUSSELL *Lett.* I. xxii. 58 That consideration should in reason slacken the fierce rages of grief. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* XXV. 377 Make a pretty brisk fire,..then slacken it so as just to have enough to keep the still at work.

6. To render, to allow to become, less tense, taut, or firm; to reduce the tension of.

1611 COTGR., *Lascher*, to slacken, wyden, loose, vnbend, let out. 1668 MARVELL *Corr.* xcviii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 251 Yesterday Harman was brought to the House to give account of slackning saile in the first victory. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 86 Slackening our sail, and heaving out a small boat. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 246 She slackened the reins. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xxii, Being then somewhat slackened in the joints of the right side by a paralytic. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 12 The yarn is alternately stretched and slackened.

b. In fig. contexts.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. vi. liii, Nor shall this storm slacken a whit that firm ligue of love, wherin I am eternally tied unto you. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 191 A Superior ..who having the Reins in his hand, could Slacken them according to his own humour. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilis.* II. viii. 467 In Spain, directly government slackened its hold, the nation fell to pieces. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, Most of its money mills were slackening sail, or had left off grinding for the day.

c. To cause to relax; to weaken.

1663 COWLEY *Complaint* vii, Thou slacknest all my Nerves of Industry. 1697 J. COLLIER *Ess. Moral Subj.* I. (1703) 63 Such a Partiality will slacken the Nerves of Industry. 1778 LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* xiii. 7 Therefore shall all hands be slackened.

7. To make loose, to loosen. Also *refl.*

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 54 By slackening the screws..the puppets are at liberty to slide horizontally. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. P 11, The rotation of the mandril is continued until the tyre is slackened by the continued action of the rollers. *Ibid.* P 13, The vice gradually slackens itself from the severe shake and strain it is receiving.

II. *intr.* **8.** Of persons: To become lax, remiss, or negligent; to grow less energetic or eager.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 47 When the people slacken, and fall to loosenes and riot. 1800 WORDSW. *Michael* 443 Meantime Luke began To slacken in his duty. 1854 FREEMAN in *Ecclesiologist* XV. 320 At this point I feel that I must begin to slacken. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* iii. (1868) I. 81 Preventing them..from slackening in their determined hostility to Spain.

9. To diminish in respect of strength, vigour, intensity, etc.

1652 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 178 Their Obedience (in which the safety of the Common-wealth consisteth) slackened. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 738 My penance hath not slack'n'd, though my pardon No way assur'd. *a* 1738 SWIFT *Will. II*, Wks. 1768 IV. 265 In a few years the piety of these adventurers began to slacken. 1794 NELSON 20 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 451 Our exertions must not slacken. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Old Margate Hoy*, In a poor week, imagination slackens. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 116 The assault must have begun to slacken; for he feared a sally of the besieged.

b. Of fire, wind, tides, or other natural forces or processes.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Nov., By and by comes news that the fire is slackened. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 155 The Wind slackened so at this place, that we scarcely made any way at all. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exper. Phil.* III. xxxi. 287 When the impulse slackens, the fly communicates part of its motion. 1820 tr. *Legrange's Chem.* II. 309 When the distillation begins to slacken, unlute the apparatus. 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 99 The currents run with the wind..and slacken in September. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Jan. 6/1 The intensest heat is white, if it slackens it becomes faintly coloured.

c. Of business, etc.: To become less active or brisk. (See also quot. 1828.)

1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* ii. (1841) I. 14 Markets slacken much on this side. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Slacken*, to fall in price. 'Corn begins to slacken.' 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iv. 63 When the demand for iron slackens. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlviii. 267 Faster and faster slackens the demand for tea.

10. To diminish in speed; to become slower.

a 1721 KEILL *Maupertius' Diss.* (1734) 65 In those distant parts, the velocity of the Comet slackens. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 155 How oft upon yon eminence our pace Has slacken'd to a pause. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xvi, As he approached the entrance to that den of infamy, .. his pace slackened. 1893 TRAILL *Social Eng.* Introd. p. xxxiv, Through the first half of the ensuing century the rate of progress in the sciences a little slackens.

b. To begin to go more slowly.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iv, At a high trot, they start; and keep up that pace. For the jibes..do not tempt one to slacken. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 84 The tired ox slackens in the furrow. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xv, 'That was well done!' panted Bella, slackening in the next street, and subsiding into a walk.

11. Of lime: To become slaked.

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 206 Bricklayers.. let the Lime slacken and cool before they make up their Mortar.

12. To become less tense or firm.

1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whaleman's Adv.* ix. (1858) 120 The line for an instant slackened. 1892 LOW *Machine Draw.* 20 When in this condition the nut has no tendency to slacken back. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. vii, Her clenched hands slackened away from his neck.

Slackened (slæ·k'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.]

1. Rendered less tense or firm.

?*c* 1640 WALLER *Chloris* Poems (1711) 146 Wind up the slacken'd Strings of thy Lute. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* V. 522 Fear seiz'd his slacken'd limbs and beating heart. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 204 He reanimates their slackened nerves with the mystic picture of an apple-tree. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. xxiii, The slacken'd bow, the quiver, the long lance. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. P 16, In the slackened state of the key.

2. Abated, mitigated; relaxed.

1736 GRAY *Statius* I. 51 The circle sped; It towers to cut the clouds;..Anon, with slacken'd rage comes quiv'ring down. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 20 Aug., 'Tis best, therefore, to think of these matters till they occur with slackened emotion. 1833 ARNOTT *Physics* II. 83 During the moment of slackened combustion. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* ix, He began to reform the slackened discipline of the hall.

Sla·ckener. [f. as prec.] One who, or that which, slackens or slakes.

1861 LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* (1872) 516 The common slackener of our thirst.

Sla·ckening, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec.] The action of making or becoming slack, in various senses.

1611 COTGR., *Relaschement*,..a relenting, or slackening. 1648 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 225 By the slackning, loosening, or disjoynting whereof, the body..cometh to be as much weakned. 1706 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 266 There may too in the Soul be great Slacknings of Zeal. 1765 A. DICKSON *Agric.* II. 248 Tho' it may be known when the foremost neglects his work by the slackening of his traces. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* cxiv. III. 45 But there are great slackenings in the tide. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. 335 Nothing is described as taking place..to cause any slackening in the levies.

Sla·ckening, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Making or becoming slack.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* v. metr. i. 104 What so seame by slakning ranes [=reins] to slip. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 42 One really began sometimes to think of the slackening wheels of Pharaoh. 1892 *Daily News* 24 May 7/1 Some still more general cause of slackening traffic.

Sla·cker. [f. SLACK *v.*]

1. (See quot. 1877, and cf. SLAKER 2.)

1797 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XV. 155 An oak head and slacke[r] is placed on the end [of the drain] next the land. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Slacker*, a shuttle or stopgate to hinder the passage of water.

2. *colloq.* A person who shirks work, or avoids exertion, exercise, etc. (Common in recent use.)

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 4/1, I said it was a silly thing to do, and they retorted that I was a 'slacker'.

Sla·cking, *vbl. sb.* [f. SLACK *v.*] The action of the vb., in various senses.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287 Our countree..to be desolated through our slouthfulnesse or slackyng. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 26/1 They wanted their horssemen which were yet behind, & through slacking of time could not come to land. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 135 Sith there is no slacking of Gods kindnes, why should there be any intermission of our duty? 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 488 The other Ship..was hindred by the slacking of the wind. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 292 With Quicklime, which slacking will make it as hard as a Stone. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 175 The slacking of lime completely is a most important operation. 1905 H. A. VACHELL *The Hill* ix. 189 How about work, eh? Lot o' slacking last term.

attrib. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 222 The water of the slacking pits and buddles.

Sla·cking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] That slacks, in senses of the vb.

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* 126 When it is slacking water. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 459 A white brittle substance, having the peculiar odour of slacking quick-lime. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 366 Many watch The ebbing motions of the slacking sea. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 642 It resists the solvent and slacking action of water.

Sla·ckingly, *adv.* [Cf. prec.] Slackly.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* II. 39 [The eyelids] by their meanes are stifly supported, and not slackyngly or losely borne.

Sla·ck-jaw. [f. SLACK *a.* Cf. JAW *sb.*[1] 6.] Tiresome or impertinent talk.

1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 14 *Ayes* and *noes* settle the affairs of the nation,..as well as all the slack-jaw of modern orators. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxv, A sort of nautical eloquence, which his enemies termed slack-

jaw. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 10 All manner of blarney, slack-jaw, fudge, and gossip. 1864 *Realm* 6 July 7 The platitudinous sham-antique slackjaw, all words and no thought, of..worthless pedants.

Slack-lime. [? f. SLACK *v.*] Lime in the state of being slacked.

1840 POE *Balloon Hoax* Wks. 1865 I. 92 A coffee-warmer, contrived for warming coffee by means of slack-lime.

Slackly (slæ·kli), *adv.* Forms: 1 sleaclice, 4 slacli, 5–6 slakly, 6 slacklie, -lye, 6– slackly; 5 slackelich, 5–7 -ly. [f. SLACK *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a remiss or negligent manner; without due diligence or energy.

*c*960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) xliii. 68 Wen is, þæt sume.. sleaclice laȝon and slepon. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* xii. 14 These that weren with ynne, tristiden to the stablenesse of wallis,..and diden slacliere. 1422 *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 160 For-als-moche that he his Sonnes..slackely reprowid and not chastid. 1531 TINDALE *Exp.* 1 *John* (1537) 99 Therfor is that office so slackly executed. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 622/2 The same Statutes are soe slacklye penned..that they are often..wrested to the fraud of the subject. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. v. II. iii. (1651) 387 They use them rashly, unprofitably, slackly, and to no purpose. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 627 Descending suddenly to assault Voorne Island, if it were slackly guarded. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 72 Their laws.. have ever been slackly executed. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxvi, The summons was very slackly obeyed. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxiii, You would find—after your education in doing things slackly for one-and-twenty years—great difficulties in study.

2. Without due vigour or force; slowly.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.), By openyng pereof þe vertu passith and þe lyuour worcheþ þe more slackelich. 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 58 We sayled forth slakly and easely ayenst the wynde. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 32 When he dooth set foorth on his iournie verie slacklie and slowlie. 1648 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Slappelijck*, To go Slackly, Faintly, or Slowly to worke. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxvii. 7 When one would aim an arrow fair, But send it slackly from the string.

b. Not busily or briskly.

1884 *American* IX. 148 Times are dull and labor slackly employed. 1892 GISSING *New Grub Street* I. 5 When one kind of goods begins to go slackly, he is ready with something new.

3. Not tightly or firmly; loosely.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B vj, Tho saame lewnes [=lunes for hawks] þou shalt fastyn slackely as a bowstryng vnocupyede. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* IV. Wks. 591/2 So god agaynewarde vseth hymselfe towarde hym, in holdynge hym the more slackely. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 35 Some in her threeden fillet still did bide,..Though slackly braided in loose negligence. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 454 A Piece of Muslin..tied slackly about the Neck. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 243 This accident happened from her being.. slackly rigged. 1879 DIXON *Royal Windsor* II. i. 6 The gown was caught in slackly by a belt.

Slackness (slæ·knés). Forms: 1 sleacnes, -nys, sleacnys, 4 slacnesse, slaknes (5 -nesse), 5 slakenes, 6 slacke-, 6–7 slacknesse, 6– slackness. [f. SLACK *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Lack of diligence or energy; tendency to idleness or sluggishness; remissness.

*c*897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 289 Oft eac sio godnes ðære monnðwærnesse bið diezellice ȝemenged wið sleacnesse. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Efterward comþ slacnesse..þet bint zuo þane man þet onneaþe he him yefþ to done wel. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 680 He dooth alle thyng with.. slaknesse and excusacion, and with ydelnesse, and vnlust. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 55 Who maye herein woorthely accuse vs for the slackenesse of owre dewtie towarde hym. 1592 W. WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 38 B iiij, Deley..which happeneth by the slacknesse either of the creditor, or debtor. 1642 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 346 He said, 'he should wash his hands..from the least imputation of slackness in that..pious work'. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 630 From Mans effeminate slackness it begins. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* I. 107 Not folded arms, and slackness of the mind, Can promise for the safety of mankind. 1803 MALTHUS *Popul.* (1817) II. 408 The slackness of its neighbours in manufacturing, or any other cause. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 313 His slackness drew on him a sharp reprimand from the royal lips. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. 327 Their interest and their duty were too nearly the same to allow of any slackness.

b. Laxity; want of strictness.

1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 213 Y^e^ slackness of discipline used in England towards Soldiers. 1699 BURNET *39 Art.* XXV. (1700) 280 A slackness in Doctrine..will always bring with it a much greater corruption in practice.

2. Slowness; tardiness.

*c*1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 264 Swa swa þære sunnan sleacnys acenð ænne dæȝ..swa eac þæs monan swiftnes awyrpð ut ænne dæȝ. *c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 282 Ðam ȝemettum wæs beboden þæt hi sceoldon caflice etan, forðan ðe God onscunað þa sleacnysse on his ðeȝnum. *c*1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 301 Nu wolde ic þæt þa æðela clericas asceocon fram heora andȝites orðance æfter sleacnysse. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 14 In a businesse of moment a man feareth not the blame of conuenient slacknesse. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* i. § 3 (1643) 14 These who mocked at the slackenesse of Christs coming to judgement. 1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* (J.), There is a slackness to heal, and a cure is very difficultly effected.

3. Lack of vigour or strength; absence of tension or tightness.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Poores of bodies..closeþ for slakenes of heete in the euetide. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Slaknesse, *laxatura.* 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 284 Man..knowing well the Slackness of his Arm, Trusts only in the well-invented Knife. 1755 JOHNSON, *Laxity*, .. slackness; contrariety to tension. 1877 W. H. WHITE *Nav. Archit.* 484 The contrary condition..is termed 'slackness', and can only be counteracted by keeping the helm a-lee.

b. *concr.* The slack part *of* anything.

1898 CROCKETT *Red Axe* (1903) 157 Lifting him unceremoniously up by the slackness of his back covertures, I turned him over.

4. Absence of briskness; dullness (of trade, etc.).

1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 51 Whenever he speaks of the slackness of trade. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 June 4/1 In the Stock Exchange the tone was mostly flat, in consequence of the slackness of business.

Sla·ck-rope. [SLACK *a.* 7.]

1. A rope, loosely stretched, on which an acrobat performs. (Contrasted with TIGHT-ROPE.)

1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) I. 388 There are fewer people who walk well upon that line, than upon the slack rope. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) III. 263 In the evening we went to see some performers on the slack rope. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, The signal which announced that Madame Saqui was about to mount skyward on a slack-rope ascending to the stars. 1892 KIPLING & BALESTIER *Naulahka* 199, I have danced on the slack-rope before the messtents of the officers.

2. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 456 These anchors being likewise connected with the ice, by means of a slack-rope.

Sla·ckster. [f. SLACK *v.*] = SLACKER 2.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 6 Nov. 4/5 There are 'slacksters', as the slang of the schools and universities has it, in all professions.

† **Slackstone.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. G. *schlackstein* (see quot. in Grimm).] A form of slag.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Minor* I. xiv. 41 How a Slackstone or Copper-stone is to be made. *Ibid.*, Slackstones (as the Philosophers do judg) are Sulphur and Arsnick mingled with a subtil Earth.

Slack-trough. [f. SLACK *v.*] A water-trough in which a blacksmith cools heated metal. (Cf. SLAKE- and SLECK-TROUGH.)

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Slack-trough*, the trough which is used for quenching the iron in a blacksmith's shop. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 285/2 Lay rod on edge of slack trough.

Slack-twisted, *a.* [f. SLACK *adv.*] Of a rope: Not tightly twisted. Hence *fig.*, of a loose, unsatisfactory character; lazy, inactive.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 56 Slack-laid means slack-twisted. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 292 The slack-twisted operations of a certain pack of hounds. 1887 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* XII. 16 One Dr. Barlow, a notable trimmer even in those slack-twisted times. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 17/2 Durbeyfield was what was locally called a slack-twisted fellow.

Slack-water. Also **slack water, slackwater.** [f. SLACK *a.*]

1. The time at high or low water when the tide is not flowing visibly in either direction.

Occurs earlier as *slake water*: see SLAKE *a.* 3.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slack-water*, the interval between the flux and reflux of the tide;..during which..the water apparently remains in a state of rest. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xviii, The ebb-tide was..over; a short pause of 'slack water' ensued. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 170 This long period of nearly slack water is very valuable to the traffic of the port.

fig. 1883 *19th Cent.* May 896 We are in a period of 'slack water' so far as politics are concerned.

2. A stretch of comparatively still water in the sea, due to the absence of currents.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* x. (1856) 76 A portion of the interval between the eastern and western coasts is the seat of a partial slackwater, or even rotating eddy. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. iv. 65 The north of Herm is the point of land where there would be slack water.

3. A part of a river lying outside of the current, or one in which the flow is lessened by a lock or dam. Also *fig.*

1867–77 CHAMBERS *Astron.* 258 There is no 'slack-water', as is ordinarily the case in other rivers. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 1 [To] swim..into the current, get swept down by it a quarter of a mile, and paddle slowly back again in the slackwater. 1902 *Scotsman* 25 Mar. 7/3 The House again fell into the slack water of small talk.

4. *attrib.*, as *slack-water deposit, period, stream*; **slack-water navigation,** navigation carried on by the use of locks or dams on a river.

1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 75/2 It was concluded that the time had arrived for changing the navigation of the Lehigh into a slackwater navigation. 1860 HOLMES *Elsie V.* ii, This slack-water period of a race, which comes before the rapid ebb of its prosperity. 1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 28 It is difficult to see how the advantages of slackwater navigation..can be brought within the range of local objects. 1889 F. G. WRIGHT *Ice Age North Amer.* 358 The Ohio above Cincinnati was a slack-water stream. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 196 The ice-dam accounts most naturally for the slack-water deposits.

Sla·cky. *Sc. rare.* Also **slackie.** [Of obscure origin.] A form of sling.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxv, The other shepherds and shepherdesses came with their slings and slackies following them. *Ibid.* xxxii, He..found..that Marquet's head was broken with a slackie or short cudgel. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v., The *slackie*, it is believed, is that kind of sling, which is made of an elastic rod, or piece of wood, split at one end, for receiving the stone.

Slade (slēd), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 slead, sled, 1–3 slæd, 9 *dial.* slad (sled); (1–3 *dat.*) 4– slade (3–4 sclade), 5–6 *Sc.* slaid, 6 slaide. [OE. *slæd* (*slead, sled*) neut., = Norw. dial. *slad* neut. (also *slade* masc.), a slope, hollow; cf. also Da. dial. *slade* a piece of level ground (16th cent. in Kalkar), G. dial. (Westph.) *slade* dell, ravine.

The OE. nom. and acc. *slæd* is represented by the mod. dial. form *slad*, current chiefly in western counties. The usual *slade* is from inflected forms, esp. the dat. sing.]

A valley, dell, or dingle; an open space between banks or woods; a forest glade; a strip of greensward or of boggy land.

The precise application of the word varies in different localities: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

*c*893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. 76 Hio..beforan þæm cyninge farende wæs,..oð hio hiene ȝelædde on an micel slæd. 944 in Earle *Land Charters* 179 Andlang dic oð ðone weȝ þe scyt to fealuwes lea on þam slade. 956 *Ibid.* 192 þonne on þæt slæd, þonne of ðan slæde [etc.]. *c*1205 LAY. 8585 He ferde..in to ane muchele slæde, & slahliche his folc hudde. *Ibid.* 28365 Þe niht heom to-delde, ȝeond slades & ȝeon dunen. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 3475 Wiþ strenghe þe helde þai vnder-nome, Wiþ strenghe þai wene þe slade ouer-go. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 93 Hou he clymbeth up the banckes And falleth into Slades depe. *c*1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 176 In conditis descende into the slade Hit may, and on that other side arise. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xiii. 203 Ther by in a slade he sawe four knyghtes houyng vnder an oke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. xi. 84 In dern sladis and mony scroggy slonk. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 97 The Ethiopians..gather together into a long slade betwixte two hilles, a great deale of rubbeshe. 1606 J. REYNOLDS *Dolarnys Primerose* (1880) 62 Thus as the medowes, forests and the feelds, In sumptuous tires, had deckt their daynty slades. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 81 If you consider that all your Common Fields were never under Tillage neither, As great part Slades and Hade wayes, and a great part Meadow. 1700–1 GOUGH *Hist. Mydale* (1875) 37 You will finde it more unlevell with banks and deep slades, than any other low grounds in the Lordship. 1811 WILLAN in *Archaeologia* XVII. 158 *Slade*, a breadth of green-sward in plough'd land, or in plantations. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 137 Lovers there she saw, arm-twining, in the wild wood's shadowy slade. 1899 A. MORRISON *To London Town* 5 Over the slade they took their way, where the purple carpet was patterned with round hollows.

transf. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1258 Quen we war put o paradis vn-to þis wreched warld slade. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep.* I. 115 When as the Sunne hales tow'rds the Westerne slade.

Slade (slēd), *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 6–7 *Sc.* slaid. [var. of SLEAD or SLED *sb.*[1]] A sledge.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* (Tull.) 86 Thow cwmelie conductit thy termes on ane slaid. 1661 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scotl.* Ser. III. I. 44 [Indwellers in Restalrig..thrust the complainer's servants off his said land, .. and with carts and] slaids [carried away the whole crop]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 339/1 A Slade..and a Tumbrell..are things used by Carters and Husbandmen, for the carriage of Commodities from place to place. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388. 1799 YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 157 They load it on slades, and carry it for grassing to an eaten eddish. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 306. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 387.

Slade (slēd), *sb.*[3] [Of obscure origin: perh. related to SLIDE *v.*] The sole of a plough.

1867 J. & F. HOWARD *Catal. Steam Cultivators*, etc. 38 The wear of plough slades or soles, by sliding on the roads, is obviated [by the use of a wheeled sledge]. *Ibid.* 39 When a new breast is put on, a new slade should be put on also, or the plough will not stand level.

Slade (slēd), *v.*[1] *dial. rare.* [app. related to SLIDE *v.*] **a.** *intr.* To slide. **b.** With *down*: (see quot. 1787).

1787 W. H. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 To *Slade down*, to draw back part of the mould into the interfurrow, with the plow dragging, or slading upon its side. 1895 P. H. EMERSON *Birds*, etc. *Norf. Broadlands* 186 They don't move their wings much—kind of slade along.

Slade (slēd), *v.*[2] *dial. rare.* [f. SLADE *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To carry on a sledge.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 306 Heavy weights are easily sladed on level ground.

Slade, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of SLIDE *v.* **Slae,** north. and Sc. var. SLOE. **Slaer,** obs. f. SLAYER.

† **Slaffart.** *Sc. Obs.* (Meaning doubtful.)

See *Sclaffert* in Jamieson and the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1609 in R. M. Fergusson *A. Hume* (1899) 195 Vilipending of Johne Scherare, baillie,..in saying he wald nocht gif ane slaffart for his kyndnes.

Slag (slæg), *sb.* Also 6 **slagge,** 6–9 **slagg.** [a. MLG. *slagge* (whence also Sw. *slagg*), = G. *schlacke* (also *schlack*), of obscure origin.]

1. A piece of refuse matter (see 2) separated from a metal in the process of smelting.

1552 in P. H. Hore *Wexford* II. (1901) 236 At the furst melting of the after Gripple..was mad therof 288 lbs. of lead besids the slaggs and stones. 1581 in *Trans. Jewish Hist. Soc.* (1903) IV. 98 When it cometh to the smeltinge the copper cometh forth so easelie, without such quantitie of slagges or drosse. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 771 They sometimes find Slaggs 3, 4, or 5 feet under ground, but such as they judge cast aside heretofore. 1691 RAY *Coll. Words* 177 The slags or cinders of the first smelting they beat small with great stamps. 1787 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 398 It [a chapel] is composed wholly of brazen slags. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxiii. (ed. 3) 236 Others remain in the form of melted slags, floating on the surface of the iron. 1869 *Daily News* 30 Mar., Two hundred,..with bludgeons and iron slags, attacked the lecturer and the audience.

2. A vitreous substance, composed of earthy or refuse matter, which is separated from metals in the process of smelting; any similar product resulting from the fusion or distillation of other substances. (Cf. SCORIA 1.)

1620 *Patent Office Rec.* (1858) 71 Which Slag, Scorious or Sinder is by our Founders at Furnaces wrought again and found to contain much Yron. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1051 If the Stuff be hard to flux, they throw in some slag (which is the Recrement of Iron) to give it fusion. 1763 W. Lewis *Phil. Comm. Arts* 22 The metal and slag, melting and dropping down through the coals, are collected in the bottom. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 274 The slag is skimmed or drawn off through the hole of the furnace. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 82 The emery was reduced to a dark gray or blackish slag, which occupied the upper part of the crucible. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. (ed. 2) 644 The ashes of the peat melt and form a slag. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 4/1 A small amount of calcined borax is added, which makes the slag more liquid.

fig. 1870 Lowell *Among my Books* Ser. I. 295 All through his life..he never quite smelted his knowledge clear from some slag of learning. 1878 E. Jenkins *Haverholme* 2 The hard slag of a cold, sagacious cynicism.

b. With specific epithets, as *basic*, *grey*, *sharp*.

1811 Farey *Derbyshire* I. 389 This tapped or white [lead] Slag..received the name of Macaroni Slag. *a* 1876 W. H. Greenwood *Man. Metall.* II. 37 From the sharp edges of the fractured fragments it [metal slag] is sometimes called sharp slag. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Gray slag*, the slag from the Flintshire lead furnace. It is rich in lead. 1889 A. B. Griffiths *Manures & Uses* 101 Finely ground basic slag must be considered an important fertilizer for wheat crops.

3. *Geol.* A rough clinker-like lump of lava (see quot. 1879); lava in this form. (Cf. Scoria 2.)

1777 Forster *Voy. round World* II. 307 Easter Island.. produces..vegetables and useful roots, without any other soil than slags, cinders, and pumice-stones. 1789 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. 103 Break into clays the soft volcanic slaggs. 1857 Ld. Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 106 Bare cinder-like hills, that rose round..in a hundred uncouth peaks of ash and slag. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 243 When the ejected fragment of lava has a rough irregular form, and a porous structure like the clinker of an iron-furnace, it is known as a *slag*.

4. *local.* (See quots.)

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Slag*, the cinder of a bad, spurious, kind of coal. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 *Slag*,..a thin bed or band of coal mixed with lime and iron pyrites. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Small coal*,..the duff, slag, or waste, which arises from the sorting of the large coal into nuts.

5. *attrib.* a. In sense 'consisting or composed of slag', as *slag-bed*, *-brick*, *-cement*, etc.

1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 385 The workmen clean up the *slag-bed and tend to the fire. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2198/1 *Slag-brick. 1879 H. Reid *Nat. & Art. Concrete* (new ed.) 123 An hospital..was built..of these slag bricks. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 436/2 The *slag-cement undergoes a similar change to that..in Portland or Roman cements. 1880 Sir E. Beckett *Book on Building* (ed. 2) 220 That new *slag-felt which I mentioned. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 431/2 *Slag-glass, owing to its toughness, is specially suitable for manufacturing into tiles,..slates, &c. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Antiq.* Gloss., **Slagg pigs*, flat pigs of lead of a smaller size and inferior quality to the common ones. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 142/2 *Slag-sand or ashes...This is thrown out from volcanoes in form of.. grains. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 433/1 The united action..scatters, as it were, the molten slag in the water into the material called slag-sand. *Ibid.* 432/2 When perfectly cold, it is tipped from the waggons, and falls into small-sized pieces, called '*slag-shingle'. 1862 Kingsley in *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 275 Plodding along the dusty road, between black *slag walls. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 83/2 'Silicate Cotton', or '*Slag Wool', a pure mineral fibre manufactured from blast furnace slag.

b. In other uses, as *slag-car*, *-furnace*, etc.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2198/1 *Slag-car*, a wrought-iron car..used to contain and carry off the slag of a furnace. *Ibid.*, Slag furnace. *Ibid.*, The slag-pots are of cast-iron. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Min.* 269, 14 inches from tuyeres to slag-tap. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 99 The slag being drawn off.. by a channel-way into the slag-waggons.

6. *Comb.*, as *slag-burner*, etc.; *slag-molten* adj.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Stoans hudge slag molten he rowseth. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 320 A Hessian crucible..melted into a slag-like substance. 1881 *Census Instr.* (1885) 164/2 Slag-burner, -felter, -tipper [etc.].

Slag, *a. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. MLG. *schlagge* rainy or dirty weather, Sw. *slagg* sleet, Norw. *slagg* slaver, and see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Slag(g* adj.] Slippery with mud; muddy.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Slag, or fowle wey,..*lubricus*, *lutosus*, *limosus*.

Slag (slæg), *v.* [f. Slag *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To free (ore) from slag; to convert into slag; to scorify.

1882 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 580 The ore must first be slagged. *Ibid.*, A cord of wood will slag several tons of ore.

2. *intr.* To form into a slag; to become a slag-like mass. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence (or from the sb.) **Slagged** *ppl. a.*; **Sla·gging** *vbl. sb.* Also **Sla·gger** *sb.*

1824 McCulloch *Highlands Scot.* I. 285 The walls are more or less perfectly slagged or scorified. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 317 A hearth for slagging purposes. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Slagger*, those in the blast furnace industry who attend to the slag as it is run down the trough...Their work is called slagging.

Sla·gger, *v.* Now *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To loiter, lag, walk slowly or lamely. Also *fig.* Hence **Sla·ggering** *vbl. sb.*

1622 R. Preston *Godly Man's Inquisit.* ii. 47 It is not leaden heeles, but faint and dead hearts that makes vs slagger. *Ibid.* 62 Fie on this slaggering and staggering of Christians. 1809 Batchelor *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 144. *c* 2821 Masters *Dick & Sal* xxxii. (Kent. Gl.), An so we slagger'd den, ya know, An gaapt an stared about. 1887 in *Kentish Gloss.*

Slaggy (slæ·gi), *a.* Also 8 **slaggey.** [f. Slag *sb.* + -y 1.] Of the nature of slag; pertaining to or resembling slag.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 266/1 Slateing, is a covering of Houses with a kind of Blew Slaggy Marble. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 170 A slaggey and stoney body. *Ibid.* 176 It also often appears slaggy, and run. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 133/2 This is..of a slaggy texture. 1805 R. Jameson *Min.* II. 49 Slaggy Mineral Pitch. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 219 Some of the bones were found adhering to the slaggy lava. 1881 Judd *Volcanoes* ii. 12 Stromboli is a great mass of cinders and slaggy materials.

Comb. 1863 Ramsay *Physical Geogr.* 13 An arrangement in slaggy-like layers.

Sla·g-hearth. [Slag *sb.*] A furnace for treating the slag-products of lead-smelting.

1778 Pennant *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 79 These artless slag-hearths are very frequent in the dingles of our country. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 756 The whole may then be..introduced without any preparation into the slag-hearth. 1868 Jovnson *Metals* 101 By the aid either of the reverbatory furnace, the slag hearth, or the cauldron furnaces.

Slaght, variant of Slaught *Obs.*

Slaght-boome: see Slaught-boom *Obs.*

Slaghter, obs. form of Slaughter *sb.*

Sla·g-lead. [Slag *sb.*] Lead obtained by re-smelting grey slag.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 294 *Plumbum Nigrum*,.. Common Lead, & Slagg Lead. 1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 32 This Slag is afterwards smelted again,..and the Lead obtained from it is called Slag-lead. 1811 Farey *Derbyshire* I. 391 For Red-Lead making..the Hard or Slag-Lead is preferred. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 436 Slag-lead is lighter than other lead, but it is much harder.

Slaht, var. of Slaught *Obs.* **Slaid,** Sc. pa. t. Slide *v.* **Slaie,** var. of Slay *sb.*1; obs. f. Slay *v.*1 **Slaigh,** dial. var. of Sloe. **Slaight,** obs. f. Sleight.

Slain (slēn), *sb. north. dial.* Also **slane, sleean.** [f. Slain *ppl. a.* 3.] Smut in grain; also *concr.*, smutty grains.

1703 Thoresby *Lett. Ray* (E.D.S.) 103/1 *Leyse*, to pick the slain and trucks out of wheat. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 358 *Sleean* (that is, *slain*), the smut of corn. 1829– in northern glossaries.

Slain (slēn), *ppl. a.* [See Slay *v.*1]

1. That has been slain; killed, slaughtered.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 199 As te keiser stod bimong þat sunful slaht of þat islein ahte deouele to lake [etc.]. *c* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 So schulen eft acwikien hire isleiene briddes. 1382 Wyclif *Lev.* vii. 8 The preest that offreth the slawn offryng of brent sacrifice. 1388 — *Ps.* ci. 21 For to vnbynde the sones of slayn men. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Chron.* xxii. 26 Dauid..offred burntofferynges & slaynofferynges. 1579 Lodge *Def. Poetry* 22 In all the Romaine conquest, hardest thou euer of a slayne Poete? 1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 292 Our people, who wanted not will to have revenged the slaine mans cause. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 784 From the slain Victims pour the streaming Blood. 1776 Mickle tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 151 *note*, Homer and Virgil's lists of slain warriors. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* vii, The slain game affording a plentiful supply for roasting or broiling. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's Nest* § 223 The wearing of the skins of slain animals.

b. *absol.* Usually *pl.*

c 1340 Hampole *Psalter* 522 Of the blode of slayne. 1382 Wyclif *Numb.* xxxv. 19 The ny3 kynne of the slayn. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxxii. 30 All the prynces of the north, with all the Sidonians, which are gone downe to the slayne. 1671 Milton *Samson* 439 Their God who hath deliver'd Thee Samson..into thir hands..who slew'st them many a slain. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 July 1685, The slaine were most of them Mendip-miners. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. v. vii, In hot frenzy of triumph, of grief and vengeance for its slain. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. vii. 231 For the slain, I give consent to burn them.

2. *Letter(s) of slains*, in older Scots Law, 'letters subscribed by the relations of a person who had been slain, declaring that they had received an assythment, and concurring in an application to the Crown for a pardon to the offender' (Bell). Now only *Hist.*

1473-4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 4 Componit wyth Will Scot for a remissione for the slachter of Johnne Crossate, for the quhilk he schew a lettre of slanys of the partj. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 34 To gif ane plane letter of slains to the said Capitane for the slauchteris committit vpoun him and his freindis. 1661 *Ibid.* Ser. III. I. 10 The said Barbra Turner, her only dochter, who hes granted the foresaid letter of slayans and discharge. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxviii. § iv, If the party doth willingly grant a discharge of all grudge, or revenge in the Crime of Murder, this discharge is called a letter of Slanes. 1765-8 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* IV. iv. § 105 In the case of slaughter, it behoved the wife or executors of the deceased..to subscribe letters of slains, acknowledging that they had received satisfaction. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, I. 301 By the letters of Slanes, the heirs and relations of a person who had been murdered, bound themselves..to forgive, pass over, and forever forget, and in oblivion interr all rancour, malice [etc.]. 1824 Scott *Waw.* xlviii, You are aware the blood-wit was made up..by assythment, and that I have since expedited letters of slains.

3. *dial.* Of grain: Affected by smut or blight.

1641 H. Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 53 When your barley is infeckted with slaine corne yow must endeavour by all meanes possible to leade it dry. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 353 An ear which is smutty is called a 'slain ear'. 1800 Tuke *Agric. N. Riding* 111 In order to prevent wheat from being smutty or slain, brine..has been generally used. 1825– in northern glossaries.

Slaire, variant of Skleir, a veil. *Obs.*

Slaister (slē·stəɹ), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Cf. the vb.] A dirty or disgusting mess or compound; the act of working at or making this.

a 1774 Fergusson *Election* Poems (1845) 43 Ye louns! that troke in doctor's stuff, You'll now hae unco slaisters. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* ii, 'Ay, and are you at the painting trade yet?' said Meg; 'an unco slaister ye used to make with it lang syne'. 1832 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 268 They are painting the dining-room, lobby, and staircase; and, to avoid such a *slaister* for the future, doing it in oil. 1857– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Slaister (slē·stəɹ), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **slester,** etc. [Of obscure origin.] a. *intr.* To eat, work, etc., in a slobbering, wet, or dirty manner. b. *trans.* To plaster in this fashion.

For fuller illustration of forms and senses see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1756 Mrs. Calderwood *Jrnl.* (1884) 64 The maids..have nothing to do but slester and wash. 1773 Fergusson *Auld Reekie* 124 Look at that head, and think if there The pomet slaister'd up his hair! 1826 Scott *Antiq.* x, Ye'll be for your breakfast?..hae, there's a soup parritch for ye—it will set ye better to be slaistering at them and the lappermilk than meddling wi' Mr. Lovel's head. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 89 Loud gaups o' lauchter shook the bank, As Johnnie slaister'd throu' the stank.

Slait, obs. Sc. var. Slate *sb.* and *v.*; var. of Sleight *sb.*3; pa. t. Slite *v.*

Slake (slēk), *sb.*1 Also 4 **slak.** [f. Slake *v.*1]

1. The act of slacking or slackening in some respect; an instance of this.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23618 Sua sal þe wreches..for þair sak, Be stad in pine wit-vten slak. 16.. *Robin of Portingale* in *Percy's Folio MS., Ball. & Rom.* I. 238 At the wakening of your first sleepe your sorrowes will haue a slake. 1787 W. H. Marshall *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 'To be at slake,' to be at leisure. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, Such side-questions..as, in the heat of the main-battle, he ..could not get answered; these also he takes up, at the first slake. 1865 — *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. iii. V. 184 Some slake occurring..in that interminable Honsbruck Lawsuit.

2. A source or cause of slaking. *rare*—1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24592 His lijk ful lath was þe to þarn, þat slak was o þi site.

Slake (slēk), *sb.*2 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also *Sc.* 5 **slak,** 7, 9 **slaik.** [Obscurely related to the synonymous Slawk and Sloke.] A name given to several species of Algæ, including marine and edible kinds as *Ulva* and *Porphyra*, and also the freshwater sorts, as *Enteromorpha* and *Conferva*.

c 1475 Henryson *Poems* (S.T.S.) III. 151 Ane sleiffull of slak, þat growis in the sluss. 1623 *Orkney Witch Trial* in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scott.* (1834) 389 And giving him a 'cogfull of slaik' to be eat raw on a cake, he recovered daily. 1710 Ruddiman *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Slike*, Scot. Bor. call a kind of Sea-weed, very soft and slippery, Slake, which they also eat. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scott.* VII. 201 The green slake which grows in the river. 1853 G. Johnston *Terra Lindisfarnensis* I. *Bot. E. Borders* 287 The Enteromorphæ fill the bed of the lower part of the Tweed during the summer, and are well known to our fishermen under the name of Slake. 1901 *Trans. Stirling Nat. Hist. Soc.* 68 The Bannock at this point was filled with slake, and so deep that none could ride over it.

Slake (slēk), *sb.*3 Chiefly *north. dial.* [? Related to Slike *sb.*]

1. Mud, slime.

c 1800 *Rep. Agric. Surv., Cumb.* 30 (Britten), Slake or mud left by the tide. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Nov. 4/1 At low tide a large area of river slake is left exposed on each side to the influences of the weather.

2. A stretch of muddy ground left exposed by the tide; a mud-flat.

1828 G. Young *Geol. Surv. Yorks. Coast* 39 The morass at Hartlepool is evidently a continuation of the slake. 1868 Maidment *Sc. Pasquils* 4 *note*, The slakes are waste lands bordering on the sea shore, which are covered with water when the tide comes in. 1889 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 348/3 Adventures..in a gunning punt along the 'slakes' off Holy Island.

† **Slake,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A flake.

a 1608 Dee *Relat. Spirits* I. (1659) 357 They knock their wedges..and so break off great Slakes of Stone, like Slate. 1610 Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 32 Columbine or Pidgeon Marle lies in lumpes and cloddes, but with Sunne and Frost, it resolues and cleaues into thinne slakes or flakes. 1721 *Post-master* 9 June 264 The Slakes of Fire were wafted by a strong Wind upon the Roofs of the Houses.

Slake (slēk), *sb.*5 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. Slake *v.*2] A splashy daub; a smear; a lick, wipe, soft stroke, etc.

1721 Kelly *Sc. Prov.* 396 I'll give you a Gob Slake. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Mid.* xvii, Maybe a touch o' a blackit cork, or a slake o' paint. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 144 Wafered to the pane with three wafers of divers colours, and a slake of starch. 1855 Atkinson *Whitby Gloss.*, A *Slake*, a mere wipe, not a thorough cleansing. 'A lick and a slake',..as a slut gets over certain of her household duties.

Slake, obs. variant of Slack *sb.*1

† **Slake,** *a. Obs.* [var. of Slack *a.*, representing OE. disyllabic forms.]

1. Loose, relaxed; not tight. = Slack *a.* 7.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1251 (Laud MS.) Þe stedes rennen wiþ slake bridlen. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. met. i. (1868) 4 Þe slake skyn trembleþ vpon myn emty body. 1422 tr. *Secreta*

Secret., Priv. Priv. 221 Flesshe in tempure neshe, noght slake, tokenyth good vndyrstondynge. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xxviii, The raines of Loue I loue, though neuer slake. 1643 STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* xv. 60 It sheweth holes, by whose benefit the ring is made straight, or slake, according as need requireth.

2. Slack, remiss. *rare*—[1].

1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. 214 For my parte, I wyl neuer be slake in thys behalfe.

3. *Slake water*, = SLACK-WATER.

1580 BURROUGH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 436 Diligently note the time of..the slake or still water of full sea. 1635 in Foxe *North-west Fox* 124 It was then slake-water. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 34 From the strong current on the Bucks side, to the slake water on the Berks side.

Slake (slēk), *v.*[1] Forms: 1 sleac-, slacian, 3 slakien, 5 slakeen (?); 2–3 slakie (3 scl-), 3–slake (5 scl-), 4 slak; *Sc.* 5–7 slaik (5 slalk, 6 sclaik), 6 slaike. [OE. *sleac-, slacian*, f. *slæc* SLACK *a.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *slaken* to make slack, relax, diminish, etc., mod.Icel. *slaka* to give way, Norw. *slaka* to slacken. OE. had also the compound *aslacian*: see ASLAKE *v.*]

1. *intr.* †**1.** Of persons: To diminish the intensity of one's efforts; to become less energetic or eager; also, to undergo or manifest a weakening or decrease in some specified respect. *Obs.*

In some cases the sense approaches that of 'cease'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xvii. 11 ðif he þonne lithwon slacode, þonne hæfde Amalech sige. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 54 For hire love in slep y slake, For hire love al nyht ich wake. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 110 If þou fynde hem yn hem slakand or failland, comforte here hertes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3050 Als sone as þe son vp soȝt þe slaȝtere begynnes, And so to þe son-sett slakid þai neuire. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 214 Quhen the peple, throuch the dinn and cry tha maid, slaiket nocht lytle.

† **b.** Const. *to* with inf. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2136 Swa þat ich slakie to ofseruin heouenriche. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 38 in *O. E. Misc.* 59 Ne scholde nomon don a virst ne slakien wel to donne. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxi. 112 ȝif me grace from synne to fle, And him to loue let me neuer slake. *c* 1440 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 206 Alas! for to sorow how shuld I slake.

† **c.** Const. *of* something. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13054 (Fairf.), Bot þou of suche dedis slake, þou wil noȝt dey wiþ-outen wrak. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 649 They kan nat stynte of hire entencion,.. They wol nat of that firste purpos slake. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 656 Prefand giff he mycht off that languor slalk [=slaik]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 398 The Inglischemen..slaikit of thair curage. 16*a*1 in *Gude & Godlie Ball.* App. I. 232, I will ȝow exhort..To slaik of ȝour sleuth.

† **d.** To fall *away* from one; to depart. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1400 *Sir Cleges* 80 (W.), His men..Gan slake awaye on euery syde; With hym there wold dwell non. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 248 Wyne dreggis wole make hem [ants] thennes slake.

2. † **a.** To become relaxed, slack, or loose. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xvii. 12 Aaron and Ur underwriðedon Moises handa..and hiȝ ne slacedon nan þing syððan. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 126 [The serpent] fasteð til his fel him slakeð. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1244 The bende of your bowe Begynneth to slake. 1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Immort. of Soul* III. vii, When the Body's strongest Sinews slake.

b. Of lime: To become hydrated or slacked.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, The chalk slakes, when thaws and rains come on. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* iii. § 1. 122 The lime gradually slakes and falls to powder. 1895 *Bloxam's Chem.* 332 Air-slaked lime has slaked by simple exposure to air.

3. To decrease in force or intensity; to become less violent, oppressive, or painful; to abate, moderate. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3772 Sco send him son in-til aran,..þar to suiorn..Til þat his broþer wreth suld slake. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* v. 4 Wald he salue vs sone, mi sorow suld slake. *a* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3108 In me fyve woundes dide he make, The soore of whiche shalle nevere slake. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 4190 Atte last the wynde beganne to slake. 1553 in Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 248 The winter..doth still..increase by a perpetuitie of cold: neither doth that colde slake, until [etc.]. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 93 That the indignation against them shortly will slake of it selfe. *c* 1605 ? ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* I. ii, No man leaves physic when his sickness slakes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VI. xvii, Custom .. can make The dint and edge of any strangeness slake. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* IV. vi, It tolled One when the firing began; and is now pointing towards Five, and still the firing slakes not.

b. Of fire: To burn less strongly; to die down, die away, go out. Also *fig.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6224 þe synful..sal wende Until helle fire, þat never sal slake. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 23 Þere þe fuyre slakeþ, it chaungeth into stony clottes. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxiii. 14 Poul sayh bi-foren helle ȝates Brennynge tres þat neuer slakes. 1603 DRAYTON *Odes* I. 93 'Tis possible to clyme, To kindle, or to slake, Although in Skelton's Ryme. 1613 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i, She perceiving that his flame did slake [etc.]. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, 'Tis not ev'ry day 10 Look how next the holy fier, Either slakes or doth retire.

† **4.** To become weaker or fainter; to lessen, fall off. *Obs.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 806 Ȝef mannes denocioun slakeþ..Byþenche hym Of þe uertue þat þer hys. *a* 1400 *Hymns to Virgin* 71 Þi sizte and heeryng bigynneþ to slake. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. i. 726, I see and fele dayly that thy loue begynneth to slake. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 6 When loie gan slake, then made I change. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 114/2 When we see the honour of God slake, or bee in daunger to be darkened. 1614 DYKE *Myst. Selfe-Deceiving*, His forwardnesse slaked.

† **b.** To come to an end; to cease. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12886 þe ald testament hir-wit nu slakes, And sua þe neu bigining takes. *Ibid.* 23704 Als wreches [we] wid vr will forsakis þat selines þat neuer slakis. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 244 Al stouned at his steuen, & stonstil seten,..As al were slypped vpon slepe, so slaked hor lotez in hyȝe.

† **5.** To become or grow less in number, quantity, or volume; to fall or subside. *Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2595 Now is þe þridde day a-gon þat our vitaile gunne to slake. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 411 They leueþ in more pees, By cause of hir riches. For hir catel schulde slake, And þey vseþ ofte wrake. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 421 This misery..fell and slaked by a litle and litle, vntill at length all was ended. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1677 No floud by raining slaketh. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 42 The tides swell, and anon again..they slake. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 580 Nilus slaking, the Windes then blowing,..the Winter approaching.

II. *trans.* † **6.** To make slack or loose; to lessen the tension of; to allow to become slack or relaxed. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Mon sunfulle þet lið in heuie sunne and þurh soðe scrift his sunbendes nule slakien. *c* 1275 LAY. 21922 Louerd Arthur þe king slake ouse bendes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6421 Quils moyses heild vp his hend.. Had godds folk þe hale maistri; Bot if he þam slaked ani sith, Sir amalech wan als suith. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 341 The See was plein, Hem nedeth noght a Riff to slake. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xxviii. (1869) 190 But summe of þe hoopes weren slaked for defaute of oseres. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxiv. 77 Syn cam a rayne that slaked the cordes of theyre bowes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* X. v. 34 Takyll thy schippis, and thy schetis sclaik. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) III. 157 b, The father must somewhat slake the bridle hand, and giue her more libertie.

† **b.** To let or set loose; to set free, release. *Obs.*

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 518 in Herrig *Archiv* LIII. 401 At pasch of Iewes þe custom was Ane of preson to slake. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. metr. ii. (1868) 68 Þei [lions].. slaken hir nekkes from hir cheins vnbounden.

† **c.** To pour (*on* something). *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 540 Of aysel oon emyne on hit they slake. *Ibid.* 582 Aysel theron and hony wol they slake. [L. *superfundere.*]

d. To disintegrate or slack (lime).

1662 GERBIER *Principles* 20 Did not make use of their Lime at the same time it was slakt. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 331 Let the lime be slaked, by plunging it into a butt filled with soft-water. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 198 The Lyonese builders..slake the lime by aspersion.

† **7.** To make smaller or less in amount or size; to reduce, diminish, lessen. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26269 Ai quen nede es for to slak [*v. r.* slake] þe sett penance. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2343 Ȝit sall þai nor þam-self it [*sc.* their task] slake, Bot suffer it for godes sake. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 49 þe 3 day, forsoþ, remeuyng þe emplastre, þe bolnyng in party was slaked. 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 618 in *Babees Bk.*, If that thou spent past thy degree, thy stock thou soone shalt slake. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 749 Taken in the same maner they slake the bellyes of suche as•have the dropsie. 1612 WOODALL *Surgeon's Mate* Wks. (1653) 80 Wheat bran..doth slake and swage the hard swellings.

8. To render less acute or painful; to abate, mitigate, or assuage. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9641 þat sua þou wald his sorus slak, þat he moght dom be-for þe tak. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 11 He fonde up also halsynge coniuresouns for to slake wiþ siknesse. *a* 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 84 in *Anglia* XVIII. 297 Þis drinke xal..slakyn þe terys euerychon. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 212 His brethir þoght þai wuld somwhat slake his truble. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXVII. (Percy) 120 Dame Venus..all thy payne may sone redresse and slake. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 317 The roote.. slaketh the gryping paynes of the belly. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 57 Hope of Lawful gain might slake my Anguish. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* 192 Wake thou,..and slake..A wound more fierce than his, with tears and sighs.

† **b.** To relieve (one) *from* or *of* sorrow, etc.; to comfort. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xciii. 13 þat þou slake him fra daies ille. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 733 That ilke lord ful of miht, Of serwe he may me slake. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxix. (*Cosme & D.*) 254 Prayand þame for goddis sake hyme of his sorou for to slake. 14.. *Sir Beues* 711 So him solaste [*v.r.* slaked] þat mai, þat al is care wente awai. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiii. 28 Thow knawis thy self gif he was diligent To get thy peax, and slaik the of that weir. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 230, I want wares And salues, to slake thee of thy saires.

† **9.** To make less vehement, violent, or intense; to diminish the force or fury of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 10 Stiringe of his stremes slakes þou. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 746 And eek the pope, rancour for to slake, Consenteth it. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 672 He thocht to slaik Makfadzanys hie curage. 15.. in *Q. Eliz. Acad.*, etc. 45 þat schall sclake hym of hys mode. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 501 Who of his great goodnesse .. vouchsafed a little to slake the tempest. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 453 She often makes Our peace with God, and his displeasure slakes. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* vii. 126 The just chastisements of their offended Consciences being slaked.

b. To allow to diminish in vehemence or vigour; to moderate (one's anger, etc.). Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18357 Þou þat þi wreth sua suetli slakes, And fra þi folk þair sinnes takes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 96 Hire oghte of mercy forto slake Hire daunger. *a* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) I. xxxviii. (1859) 42 To this she hath goodly agreed hyr selue, slakyng hyr ryghtwys rygour. 1591 LYLY *Endym.* I. ii, He shall slake that loue which he now voweth to Cynthia. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 356 The Quene for her humanitie and gentlenes, slaiket her seueritie. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* Apol. 558 If there be any that would slake their zeal in this point. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* I. 73 But Poseidon Girdler of Earth his anger will not slake.

10. To appease, allay, or satisfy (desire, thirst, † hunger).

Said either of the person or of the means.

(*a*) *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 80 He umthoght him..How he might this ilk nonne fange To slake his lust that was so strange. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* I, Plages of coreccyon Most grevouse and sharpe, hys wanton lustes to slake. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 425 His rage of lust by gazing qualified; Slakt, not suppresst. 1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 722 Crucifie my lustes,..slake and quench in me this vnlawfull heate. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. iv, In life and truth, Might not my heart its cravings ever slake? 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 188 Each, apart, too soon will tire; Altogether slake desire. 1894 S. WEYMAN *Lady Rotha* iv, All who could not get into the house to slake their curiosity or anger.

(*b*) *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. ii. (1868) 71 Ryche men han y-nou3 wher wiþ þei may staunchen her hunger, and slaken her þrest. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 366 May no drynke me moiste ne my thruste slake. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 796 Tormented Tantalus..could not slake His burning thirst. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, Amidst the running stream he slakes his thirst. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 509 A crystal draught Pure from the lees, which often more enhanc'd The thirst than slak'd it. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* viii. 213 Here wild boars and deer slake their thirst in small lakes. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 28 Fine springs..slaked the thirst of the Explorer's workmen during the excavations.

(*c*) *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2006 *Ariadne*, In to the bestis throte he shal hem [i. e. balls] caste To slake his hungir. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1820 þar with þair hungyr forto slake. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii, Give me somewhat, wherwith to slake mine honger. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 52 They slaked had the feruent heat Of appetite with meates of euery sort. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 492 Men may..eat to slake hunger and content nature.

11. To quench or extinguish (fire); to cause to burn less strongly. Also in fig. contexts.

c 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in S.'s Wks. (1843) I. p. lxvii, The fire being quickly slaked, Skelton cam in with his frendes. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Esdr.* v. 8 The fire shalbe oft.. [*marg.* slaked] againe. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 125, I hope I have slaked your flame, and stopt your mouth with a..better ordinance. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s.v., To slake a fire is to put on small coals, that it may not burn too fast. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXVI, 'Only for two days,' said Charlotte, trying to slake the flame she had raised. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* VII. 144 By mitigating..the pains of inevitable Purgatory, slaking the penal fires [etc.].

12. To cool or refresh by means of water or other fluid. Also *fig.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 311 He boorded soo for kyng William hadde i-slaked his greet wombe wiþ a drynke þat he hadde i-dronke. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* A ij, Sorell water..slaketh all hote thynges bothe within the body and without. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. i, Ere Sol had..slakte his smoaking charriot in her floud. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* II. vii, In the blood that warms Thine heart, perfidious, I will slake mine ire! 1822 LAMB *Elia* II. *Conf. Drunkard*, When a draught from the next clear spring could slake any heats which summer suns..had power to stir up in the blood. 1850 WHITTIER *All's Well*, The clouds, which rise with thunder, slake Our thirsty souls with rain. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 235, I reached a little patch of snow, and managed to slake my parched lips. *refl.* 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* XXI. v. IV. 152 The great passion of the age began to slake itself with blood.

b. To moisten, wet, soak. (Cf. 6 d.)

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xiv, A mass of ashes slaked with blood. 1820 — *Monast.* XXXV, Oatmeal slaked with cold water. 1824 L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* III. 35 The rebels retraced their steps, leaving this fertile province slaked in blood and ashes.

† **13.** To render less active or vigorous. *Obs.*

1549 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Phil.* II. 9 Howbeit your good wil was not slaked,..yet you wanted oportunitie to sende the thinges. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 121 James Earle of Douglas..past fordwart with displayit banner to slaike the kingis airmie lyand at the seige of Abercorne. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. Prol. 1 Now sleep yslaked hath the rout.

† **b.** To remit or slacken (exertion, etc.). *Obs.*

1586 DRAKE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 304 We then slaked no possyble travel or dyllygence. 1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 22 Vnto some Frigate light get thee aboord, And towards Greekish soyle no sayling slake.

† **14. a.** To put off, delay. *Obs.*—[1]

1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 48 It seamith that the Bushop slakith the sending of the Cardinals to thEmperour.

† **b.** To neglect, allow to pass. *Obs.*

1560 FRAMPTON *Narr.* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. 230 They asked me, Why I did so slake the time, and not declare the truth.

Slake (slēk), *v.*[2] *dial.* Also 6, 9 **slaik**, etc. [a. ON. (Icel. and Norw.) *sleikja* (MSw. *slekia*) to lick.] *intr.* and *trans.* To lick with the tongue; to smear, daub, wet slightly, etc.

Common in Sc. and north. dial. use; for variations of sense see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1535 LYNDESAY *Satire* 2173 Set thou not by, howbeit scho kisse and slaik it. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Slaik*,..to bedaub. 1821 WILLAN in *Archæologia* XVII. 158 *Slake*, to smear, to wet, or bedaub. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 5 Adders rough, and gruesome horrid,..gluey tongues did slake and feed. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xxx, The mischievous ones were busy..'slaking' neighbour's doors with sowens.

transf. 1807–10 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 68, I never had

an itchin' To slake about a great man's kitchen, And like a spaniel lick his dishes.

Slaked (slēkt), *ppl. a.* [f. SLAKE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

†**1.** Loosened; slackened. *Obs.*—[1]

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. met. i. (1868) 152 Fortune, þat semeþ as þat it fletiþ wiþ slaked or vngouernede bridles.

2. Of lime: Hydrated; slacked.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Fusé, Chaux fusée*, slaked, or sleckt lime. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* i. (1814) 20 Slaked lime was used by the Romans for manuring the soil. 1837 J. T. SMITH *Vicat's Mortars* 79 The heat given out by a large quantity of slaked lime. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 173 Adjacent to these reservoirs are others containing pure slaked lime.

Slakeless (slē·kiés), *a.* [f. SLAKE *v.*[1] + -LESS.] Incapable of being slaked, quenched, or mitigated; insatiable.

1596 R. LINCHE *Diella* (1877) 36 My slakelesse payne hells horror doth exceede. 1819 BYRON *Proph. Dante* i. 115 The..slakeless thirst of change. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 361 To glut her slakeless thirst for blood. 1842 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 26 *note*, This wholesale spiller and slakeless thirster of blood.

†**Sla·ken**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 **slakyn.** [f. SLAKE *a.* + -EN[5]: cf. the later SLACKEN *v.*]

1. *intr.* To grow slack; to abate.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5993 Here synne shal noþer be forȝyuen ne slakyn Vn-to þey ȝelde þat þey haue takyn. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9473 When he was ded, his side gan slaken; Lightly was þen þe castel taken. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* ix. 49 Þe pride of sir Dauid bigon fast to slaken. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 103 The Storme began to slaken. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 308 Least any may pretend ignorance or thinke we should slaken therein.

2. *trans.* To assuage, mitigate.

1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifix* Wks. I. 275 Till God thy Dolours slaken, in some sort.

Slaker (slē·kəɹ). *rare.* [f. SLAKE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who slakes, assuages, or quenches.

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 34 Where be subduers and slakers of all vyce! 1554–9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 3 He ys owr swete savyor and slaker of sadnes. 1611 COTGR., *Estancheur*, a..slaker, quencher (of hunger, thirst, &c.).

2. A sluice or stop-gate; = SLACKER 1.

1664–5 *Act* 16–17 *Chas. II*, c. 11 § 11 The Slakers to take off the Surplusage of Waters. 1767 *Hull Navigation Act* 1072 Leave open any of the gates, doors, or slakers.

Slake-trough. [f. SLAKE *v.*[1] 12.] = SLACK-TROUGH.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 228 He then dips the hammer in the slake trough, and lets fall upon the anvil a few drops of the water it picks up. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2198.

Slakin: see SLACKEN *sb.*

Slaking (slē·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLAKE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb in various senses.

c 1400 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 120 In slakyng dicte calcis xj. d. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 11 þe slakyng or esyng of the akyng and brennyng. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Estanchement de soif*, slaking of thirst. 1587 A. FLEMING *Contin. Holinshed's Chron.* III. 1548/2 With the slaking of the one followed the forgetfulnesse of the other. 1620 *Church-w. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 78 Item payed for a foother of lyme, iij s. iiij d... Item for bearing it in and slaking, iiij d. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 200 That sort of lime..which heats the most in slaking.

Slaky (slē·ki), *a.* [f. SLAKE *sb.*[3] + -Y.] Muddy.

1841 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 250 The low and slaky shore that extends from Berwick Bay to Fenham Flats. 1901 *Trans. Stirling Nat. Hist. Soc.* 70 The swampy ground had assumed a different aspect. Its slaky condition had disappeared.

Slam (slæm), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **slamm.** [Related to SLAM *v.*[1]]

1. A severe blow; a violent impact.

1672 J. BLAKESTON *Lazarillo* II. ix, He gave me half a dozen..punches with his knee, and as many slamms with his girdle. 1829 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 306 Their whole career is a series of tumbles, backslidings, and cogent slams of the head against the wall.

2. A violent closing of a door, etc., producing a loud resounding noise; the noise so made, or a noise of this nature.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, Both the slam and the scowl were lost upon Sam. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 334 A slam was heard at the hall door. 1871 BP. FRASER in Hughes *Life* (1887) 204 Closing his prayer-book with an angry slam. 1898 MUNRO *J. Splendid* xi. 109 The crack of the musket..falling away in a dismal slam that carried but a short distance.

b. *dial.* (See quot.)

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slam*, a peculiar mode of ringing the bells.

Slam (slæm), *sb.*[2] Also **slamm.** [Of obscure origin.]

†**1.** The card-game ruff and honours. *Obs.*

1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* D 4 Ruffe, slam, Trump, nody. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, *Upon Tuck* 281 At Post and Paire, or Slam, Tom Tuck would play. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 82 At Ruff and Honours, by some called Slamm, you have in the Pack all the Deuces.

2. The fact of losing or winning all the tricks in a game of cards, esp. in whist.

1660 in Wilkins *Polit. Ball.* (1860) I. 148 Thus all the while a Club was trump,..Until a noble General came, And gave the cheaters a clear slam. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 229 The Doctor hath one Card more left to play, which if it hit not, he will have a perfect Slam. *a* 1700 *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Slam*, a Trick; also a Game entirely lost without getting one on that side. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 435 Notes upon Hoyle, who is vastly erroneous in many places, particularly in calculating the slam. 1850 *Bohn's Hdbk. Games* 85 When a player calls, and his partner refuses to answer, although he has the power, they cannot gain a slam. 1864 *Reader* 827/1 He lost a slam—that is to say, he did not win a single trick.

b. With the qualifying terms *grand* and *little* or *minor*, chiefly in bridge.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 14 May 3/1 In two of the 'hands' to be played the 'grand slam' is won. 1897 R. F. FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 623 (Bridge), Little Slam, winning 12 out of 13 possible. 1899 A. MAINWARING *Cut Cavendish* 48 'Grand slam', *i.e.* taking every trick [at bridge], or 'minor slam', every trick but one.

†**Slam**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [a. LG. *slam* (whence Sw. *slam*), = G. *schlamm* mud, slime.] Refuse matter separated from alum in the preparation of this.

There appears to be no evidence for the currency of the word later than the 17th cent.; the entries in various technical dictionaries of the 19th cent. are app. derived from Bailey (1728).

1650–1 *North Riding Rec.* V. 65 Throwing the slam of allome into the water-course. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1054 That which they call Slam, is first perceived by the redness of the Liquor when it comes from the Pit. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. III. i. 343 Certain Nitrous and other parts call'd Slam.

Slam, *sb.*[4] *rare.* [Cf. next, and mod. Yks. *slam* a slovenly person.] ? An ill-shaped person.

1699 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. v, *Hoyden.* I don't like my lord's shapes, nurse. *Nurse.* Why, in good truly, as a body may say, he is but a slam.

†**Slam**, *a. Obs.*—[1] (See quot.)

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 137 A *slam* or *slim* Fellow is a skragged, tall, rawboned Fellow.

Slam (slæm), *v.*[1] [Possibly of Scand. origin: cf. Sw., Norw., and Icel. *slamra* (also MSw. and Icel. *slambra*), Sw. dial. *slämma*, Norw. *slemma* (*slemba*), to slam.]

1. *trans.* To beat or slap vigorously. *dial.*

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 137 To *Slam* one, to beat or cuffe one strenuously. 1825–56 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

2. To shut (a door, window, etc.) with violence and noise; to bang; to close with unnecessary force. Also with advs., as *down*, *to*, *up*.

1775 ASH, *Slam* (*v.t.* a colloquial word), to shut with a noise. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. viii. (1820) 504 He..slammed down the window. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vi, The clang of several doors which he..slammed with force behind him. 1873 BLACK *Pr. of Thule* ix. 142 He would slam the door to again. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 186 The practice of slamming the gun up is dangerous.

b. Freq. with *in one's face*; often *fig.*

1786 in Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) Ser. II. III. 421, I hear..that you squander away your money..and then slam the doors in the King's face! 1826 SCOTT in *Lockhart* (1839) VIII. 238, I propose to slam the door in the face of all and sundry for these three years to come. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 348 They always wait where they think there's the slightest chance of effecting a sale, until the door is slammed in their face.

c. To dash, throw, push, etc., with some degree of violence or force. Also *fig.*

1899 GARDINER *Cromwell* 192 One of them slammed an overturned cream-tub on the head of another. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Oct. 5/3 Slamming every available man into the firing line. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 150 When the winter storms slam the roaring billows against the cliff faces.

3. *intr.* Of doors, etc.: To shut, or strike against anything, with violence and resounding noise. Also with advs., as *down*, *to*, etc.

In recent use freq. employed to denote any violent action or loud noise.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 359 To shut a door violently, or to let it slam to of itself. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. V. vi, The huge Drawbridge slams down. 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 52 Big doors slam and resound when anybody comes in. 1893 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Mar. 58 The gates are so hung that, if carelessly left open, they will always slam to and fasten.

4. Used with adverbial force: With a slam or heavy blow; suddenly and violently.

1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* 320, I no sooner rais'd my Head in Sight, but slam came three or four Stones at me. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 129 Slam went his head to the ground. 1796 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Middlesex Election* Wks. 1816 IV. 178 Slam off a [=he] went, without more ado; Nort could his bacon save.

Hence **Sla·mming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1796 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1816) IV. 186 One scoundrel..with a slammin stick, Com'd souse upon my sconce. 1868 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) II. 204 There was a great slamming of pew doors. 1892 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 5/4 The wing of a slamming door shut i front of him. 1893 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Mar. 58 Formerly the posts, both banging and slamming posts, were made of oak.

Slam (slæm), *v.*[2] [f. SLAM *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To beat by winning a slam; also *dial.*, to trump. Hence *transf.*, to beat completely.

1746 HOYLE *Whist* 80, D having seven Spades in his Hand wins them, and consequently Slams A and B. 1907 *Daily Mail* 5 Sept. 6/1 He [a race-horse] absolutely slammed his field.

2. *intr.* To win a slam.

1833 W. H. MAXWELL *Field Bk.* 489.

†**Slam**, *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* A substitution for DAMN *v.* 5, perh. suggested by SLAM *sb.*[2]

a 1657 N. WALLINGTON *Notices Chas. I* (1869) II. 94 They returned only burning and slamming themselves in rage and malice. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 243 Slam me, but the man's mad! 1797 BRYDGES *Hom. Trav.* I. 321 But ev'ry syllable is true, Or slam me if I'd tell it you!

Slam-bang, *adv.*, *a.*, and *v.* Also **slam bang.** [f. SLAM *v.*[1] 4 + BANG *v.* 8.]

A. *adv.* With a slam and a bang; with noisy violence.

1847 in HALLIW. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T.* (Chandos) 201 He would fetch his club down, slam bang, and smash the vessel into a thousand pieces. 1887 F. R. STOCKTON *A Borrowed Month* 159, I sent an arrow slam-bang into the lantern.

B. *adj.* Noisy, violent.

1889 *Advance* (Chicago) 14 Mar., The friends of the Sabbath are not what some.. slam-bang reformer would have the world believe.

C. *vb.* **1.** *intr.* To slam and bang.

1837 MISS SEDGWICK *Live & Let Live* (1876) 110 She slam-bangs about the house. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 51 My engines Through all the seas, slam-bangin' home again, Slam-bang too much.

2. *trans.* To assail violently.

1888 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 12 July, You might as well denounce the legal profession because of the shysters..as to slam-bang newspapers because there are recreant editors.

Hence **Sla·m-ba·nging** *vbl. sb.*

1889 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 1 Aug., When you take up a Prohibition organ, you will find it full of political slang and slambanging.

Sla·mmakin, Sla·mmerkin, *sb.* and *a.* Chiefly *dial.* Also 9 **slammockin, slomm-, slummackin**, etc. [Of obscure origin; the shorter forms *slammack(s*, *slommack(s* occur widely in dialect, but are not recorded before the 19th century.

Mrs. Slammekin, who is described as affecting a careless undress, is a character in Gay's *Beggars' Opera* (1727). It is more probable that the colloquial word suggested the name than that it was subsequently derived from it.]

A. *sb.* †**1.** A loose gown or dress. *Obs.*—[1]

1756 *Connoisseur* No. 134 ¶ 7 A burgess's daughter..who appeared in a Trolloppee or Slammerkin, with treble ruffles to the cuffs.

2. A slovenly female, a sloven, a slattern.

a. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Slammakin*, a female sloven, one whose clothes seem hung on with a pitch fork, a careless trapes. 1808 JAMIESON, *Slammikin*, a drab, a slovenly woman; Loth[ian]. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref.*, *Slammockin*, a slattern.

β. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1823) I. 103 A brisk, coquettish woman; a little of a shrew, and something of a slammerkin.

B. *adj.* Untidy, slovenly.

Ash *Suppl.* (1775) gives '*Slammerkin* (a droll word), irregular in motion, making a sudden transition'; the existence of this sense is very doubtful.

a. 1794 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Soldier of Tilbury* Wks. 1812 III. 241 So slammakin, untidy, ragged, mean, Her garments all so shabby and unpinn'd. 1864 LE FANU *Uncle Silas* III. 157 Holding out with finger and thumb..her slammakin old skirt. *Ibid.* 261 The vainest and most slammakin of women.

β. 1837 THACKERAY *Professor* Wks. 1900 XIII. 499 That saucy, slammerkin, sentimental Miss Grampus. 1863 *Examiner* 14 Nov., His Minerva is a tawdry slammerkin slattern. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* XXXVII, The slammerkin Irish housekeeper.

Slammer (slæ·məɹ). [f. SLAM *v.*[1]]

1. A violent gust (of wind).

1891 *Field* 7 Mar. 344/4 A strong westerly wind..came off the Barn Elm grounds in regular slammers at times.

2. One who slams (doors, etc.).

1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 11 June 372/1 He is a quiet neighbour—no slammer or tramper.

†**Slamp.** *Obs.*—[0] (See quots.)

1611 COTGR., *Chinfreneau*, a slampe, iert, wipe; thumpe. *Ibid.*, *Truellée*,..a clap, slat, or slamp with a Trowell.

Slampaine, -pam: see SLAMPANT.

†**Slampamb.** *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning obscure.) Halliwell's explanation appears very unlikely.

a 1573 *New Custom* II. iii, I will never staye, Tyll I finde meanes to ridde the beaste out of the waye. I wyll cut him of the slampambes,..Where so ever I meete him.

†**Slampamp.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure formation: cf. Du. *slampampen* to revel.] (See quots.)

1593 G. HARVEY *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 282 A homely gallimaufry of little Art, to reqvite her dainty slaumpaump of little wit. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* ibid. II. 277, I haue seldome..tasted a more vnsauory slaumpaump of wordes. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 79 Let them look to it..for the course they take in commending this course Himpenhempen Slampamp, this stale Apple-squire.

†**Slampant.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **slampaine, -pam.** [Of obscure origin and doubtful form.] A trick. *To give one the* (or *a*) *slampant*, to play a trick on, to circumvent or hoodwink, one.

Cotgrave prob. copied North's rendering of Fr. *trousse*.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 30 The townesmen being pinched at the heart, that one rascal in such scornefull wise should give them the slampaine. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 805 Polyperchon,..meaning to giue Cassander a slampant and blurt,..sent letters Pattents vnto the people at Athens. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 116 Shal a stranger geue me the slampam? With such departure my regal segnorye frumping? 1611 COTGR., *Trousse*,..a cousening tricke, blurt, slampant.

Slan, dial. variant of SLOE.

Slander (sla·ndəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–6 **sclaundre**, 4–6 **-der** (4 **-dire**, 5 **-dir**); 4 **sclawndire**, 5 **-dre**, **-dyr**, **-der**; 4–6 **sclander**, **-dre** (6 **-dir**), 4 **sclondre**. β. 4–6 **sklaunder** (4 **-dere**, **-dir**, 4–5 **-dre**, 5 **-dur**, **-dyre**); 5 **sklawnder** (5–6

-dyr); 5 (*Sc.* 6–7) **sklander** (-dyr, 6 *Sc.* -dir, -dre). γ. 4–7 **slaunder** (4–5 -dre, 5 -dere), 4 **slawndire**; 5 **slandyre**, 6– **slander**. [ad. AF. *esclaundre*, OF. *esclandre*, an alteration of *escandle*, ad. L. *scandalum*: see SCANDAL *sb.*]

1. The utterance or dissemination of false statements or reports concerning a person, or malicious misrepresentation of his actions, in order to defame or injure him; calumny, defamation.

α. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 165 þov mis-seist mi louerd þe king;..ho miȝte soffri swuch sclaundre bote he nome þarof wreche? *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlix. 21 þou..spak oȝain þy broþer, and þou settedest sclaundre oȝains þe sones of þy moder. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 þe ilke þet zuereþ zoþ.., naȝt kueadliche, ake liȝtliche and wyþ-oute sclondre. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 27 þay boghten forto take hym wyth som wordes of sclawndyr yn God. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f v, Ther be iiii. thyngs principall to be drad of euery wise man. ..The iiii. is sclaunder & the mutacion of a comynalte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 138 b, The spiryte of falsnes, the spiryte of sclaunder.

β. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 489 Sklaundir for to fordo a mannes gode fame. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *Ho. Fame* III. 1580 His other clarioun That hight sklaundre in euery toun With whiche he wonte is to diffame hem that me liste. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27683 (Cott. Galba), Of enuy cummes oft grete grocheing, Missaw, sklander, and bacbiteing. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 100 That nobill king..Chest Sklander to the west se cost. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Acts Jas. VI*, 137 Any purpose of reproch, or sklander of his Majesties person, estate, or governement.

γ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slaunder,...*calumpnia*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 84 b, Whose mother susteyned not a litle slaunder and obloquye of the common people. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xvi. (Arb.) 50 The Poets being in deede the trumpetters of all praise and also of slaunder (not slaunder, but well deserued reproch). 1629 CARLIELL *Deserving Favourite* 833 Though heretofore the company of a Father Were a sufficient buckler to beare off slanders darts. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Grt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 124 He that kills a mans reputation by calumnies or slander, or open reviling. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxv, Who deals in slander, lives in strife. 1794 COLERIDGE *Lines on a Friend* 19 Shall Slander squatting near Spit her cold venom in a dead man's ear? 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1161 Falsehood and malice, either express or implied, are of the essence of the action for slander. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lxxiv, How much is only slander and false suspicion?

† **b.** Fame, report, rumour. *Obs.*—1

Here used for the sake of the rime; but in some other ME. examples the idea of rumour is perhaps more prominent than that of falsity.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4797 (Laud MS.), The lijf of Alisaunder, Of whom fleiȝ so riche sklaundr. *Ibid.* 6066 þe folk of þe londe herden þe sclaundr þat to hem com kyng Alisaunder.

2. A false or malicious statement or utterance intended to injure, defame, or cast detraction on the person about whom it is made.

α. β. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6851 þer was vpe þe quene emme..ydo A luþer sclandre. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2145 Vngiltles er ȝe In swiche a sclaundr brouȝt. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. III. 86 To scornie and to scolde, sclaundres to make. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 2 Of the whiche there come to diuerse gret defames and sclaundres withoute cause and reson. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 155 There was neuer creature borne..that myght escape the sclaundres and backbytynges of them whiche are backbyters. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 13 b, If he beynge tyckled wyth false complaintes and sklaunders [L. *criminationibus*], should come into Germany. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 69 It maie be a sclaunder, but it is no lie.

γ. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 1338 Slaundrys for to for-do a mannys good fame. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 132 þe Emperour..askeþ þan What ys riȝte name was þat made such a slaundre. 'Sire,' said he, 'sir Fyrumbras, þe kyng of Alysaundre'. 1590 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 144 His gift is, in deuising impossible slanders. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. i, Where it concernes himselfe Who's angrie at a Slander, makes it true. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 122 Your tongues..run ryot in..spightful slanders. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxv, One slander must ten thousand get. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* lvi, Count de Villefort has detected the slanders that have robbed me of all I hold dear on earth. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 172 His slanders were monstrous: but they were well timed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 302 The envious..reduces his rivals to despair by his unjust slanders of them.

† **3.** Discredit, disgrace, or shame, incurred by or falling upon a person or persons, *esp.* on account of some transgression of the moral law, unworthy action, or misdemeanour; evil name, ill repute, opprobrium. *Obs.* Cf. SCANDAL *sb.* 2.

In some cases not clearly separable from sense 1.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7287 Haraldes broþer, þat he drof in to flaundre,..him sulf to grete sclaundre. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 377 To hom þat are in ille lyue, In sclaunder, myscounforth, or in stryue. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5074 And she of hirs may hym, certeyne, Without sclaundre, yeven ageyn. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 35, I will telle you of a lady that caught a gret blame and sclaundre atte iusting withoute cause. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 340 Quhilk taill and brute, besydis the sclandir that it importis to thame.., is to hir Hienes self verie prejudiciall.

β. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 17 Hit were boþe skaþe and sklaundre to holy cherche. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XII. 47 Felyce hir fayrnesse fel hir al to sklaundre. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 139 in *O.E. Misc.* 215 Þese..neuer wold shryue hem of þat trespase, Fore dred of sklawnder and penans doyng. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. i. 726 He withdrewe hym from the companye and felaushyp of Quene Gueneuer for to eschewe the sklaunder and noyse. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 21 It is..tinsale baith of honour and of fame, Incres of sorrow, sklander, and evill name.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 618 With þat al schot sone one hyme,..& huntyt hym owt of þare towne with slandyre & confusione. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V*, 15 b, Muche matter was deuised in the same proclamacion to the slaunder of the Lord Hastynges. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 75 Some [ministers] fall to one mischiefe, some to another, to the great slander of the Gospell of Iesus Christ. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xvii. § iii, When they are suspected of Adultery, and thereby gives slander to the Kirk,..they are excommunicat.

† **b.** Const. *of* the person, etc. *Obs.*

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2231 *Philomene*, Why madist thow on to the Slaundere of man, Or..Whi sufferist thow that tereus was bore. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3972 To me it is gret hevynesse, That the noyse so ferre is go, And the sclaundre of us twoo. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 3 In..ryght gret sklaundre of ye cite of York, and agayne ye course of trewe marchandise. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 21 Think ȝe nocht schame, Sa litill polesie to wirk In hurt and sklander of ȝour name.

† **c.** A source of shame or dishonour; a discreditable act; a disgrace; a wrong. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 189 If the lawe be forbore..It makth a lond torne up so doun, Which is unto the king a sclandre. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. iv. 731 That shalle be a grete sklaunder for yow in thys Courte. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xiii. 162 A grete lady whiche to fore had don to hym a grete sklaundre and dysplaysir. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 218/1 And that wer a sore sclaunder to the word of god, that men should se him whom thei heare preache well, so proude an ypocryte. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 30 The whiche is thought as well a greate sclaunder to the said common lawe of this Realme.

† **d.** A person who is a discredit, disgrace, or scandal to some body or set of persons. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Suppl. Souls* Wks. 306/2 They should be of the worst sort, & such as now be sklaunder of their order. 1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* a v, These.. reputed heddes of the Churche, bee the onely shame and slaunder of the Churche. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. viii. 35 That shamefull Hag, the slaunder of her sexe.

† **4.** A cause of moral lapse or fall; a stumbling-block. = SCANDAL *sb.* 1 b, OFFENCE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlviii. 13 þis way, þat is, þis life of þa, for it ledis þaim til hell, is slawndire til þaim. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 41 Mannes sone shal sende his angels, and thei shulden gedre of his rewme alle sclaundris, and hem that don wickidnesse. *a* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 57 Go o bak after me Sathanas, and þu art sclaunder to me. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 348 He was not so perfit that he couthe bere beggerie at ful without sclaundre. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 30 Ye prech Iesu Christ crucifeit, sclander to the Iowis and folie to the gentils. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 126 He that desirith to be good indeed ought not so much as to become an occasion or slander of evill.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *slander action, -bearer, currency, law*; *slander-beaten, -mouthed* adjs.

1600 LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 114 Whole volumes gainst their slander-bearers. 1622 BP. HALL *Serm.* (1627) 492 A slander-beaten crosse, a crucified Sauiour. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. v, A Slander-mouth'd Railer. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* II. ii, In all cases of slander currency, whenever the drawer of the lie was not to be found. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Nov. 5/3 Our slander law is still uncivilised. 1900 *Daily News* 1 June 7/4 Rumours had been spread about the village, on which the slander action was begun by him.

Slander (slɑ·ndəɹ), *v.* Forms: α. 4–6 **sclaundre**, -der (4 -dir, 5 -dyr), 4 **schlaundre**, 5 **sclawndre**, 4–6 **sclandre**, -der (5 -dir). β. 4–6 **sklaundre**, -der (5 -dir, -dur), 5 **sklawnnder**, 4–7 **sklander** (6 -dir). γ. 4–7 **slaundre**, -der, 5 -dir, **slawnder**, 5– **slander**. [ad. OF. *esclandrer* (and *esclandrir*), f. *esclandre*: see prec.]

† **1.** *trans.* In or after Biblical use: To be a stumbling-block to; to offend; to cause to lapse spiritually or morally. *Obs.*

a. In passive; also *refl.* (see first quot.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13109 þat man sal for-blisced be þe quilk him sclanders noght for me. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 35 Ful bliced..es he That es noht sclaunderd in me. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* iv. 17 Afterward tribulacioun sprongen vp, ..anoon thei ben sclaundrid. *c* 1400 N. LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxviii. (1908) 146 Wherfore they were gretely sclaundred and stired aȝenst hym. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. vi. 513 The persoon sclaundrid (that is to seie, prouokid and putt into synne). 1563 WINȜET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) I. 67 That the waik and infirm be nocht sclanderit be our vngodly silence in tyme of persequtioun.

b. Used actively. (Cf. SCANDALIZE *v.*[1] 2.)

1382 WYCLIF *Malachi* ii. 8 Forsothe ȝe wenten awey fro the weye, and sclaundren ful many men in the lawe. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 40 He þat puttiþ forþ þis þing noiþer dredi þ ne schamiþ to lette ne sclaunder oþer men. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* C vj, If thyn eye sclaunder or shame thy self put hit fro the. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 61 Yf thyne eye sclaunder the, or be to the occasyon of synne.

† **2.** To bring into discredit, disgrace, or disrepute. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 430 þe feynde.. thocht to fyle hyre gud name, & sclandir hyr, & gere thol scham. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 23 þe prisoners þat were i-sent aȝe were i-sclaundred for evermore. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 125 þies synnes er grevus, and þerfor I enione þe to penance at þou schryfe þe noght of þaim vnto no noder man, for þai may gretlie sklander þe. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 128 b, I entende not that by me ye sholde be sclawndrid. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. 209 Now a days the precharys sklaunder the word of God, rather then teche hyt, by theyr contrary lyfe. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. i, Yet might she loue me for my valiancie: I, but thats slaundred by captiuitie. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* v. lviii, Least in that place the sad displeased earth, Doe loathe it selfe as slandered with my birth.

3. To defame or calumniate; to assail with slander; to spread slanderous reports about, speak evil of, traduce (a person, etc.).

α. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4252 Thurgh pride he sal ogayn God ryse And hym sclaunder and his law dispise. 1397 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 379/1 In that that I sclaundred my Loord, I knowleche that I dede evyll. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 21 After these wordes, she wepte and saide he had sclaundred her, and that it shuld not abide unponisshed. 1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 314 W. Barker sclaundred me yn certeyn maters of gode...Wold Jesu Barker had seyd true. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Godly Advise* (1580) 10 The finest clothe maie be soonest stained, the honestest maie bee soonest sclaundered. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 74 Their art of sclaundering their opposites,..misreporting their actions [etc.].

β. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 421 in Herrig *Archiv* LIII. 398 Wha sklaunders god, yhe wate he mon Be stained to ded for syn. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7415 þus in helle salle þai far ay, And þar-with sklaundre God. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 77 in *O. E. Misc.* 213 þo..Bakbidit here neȝtbore fore enuy, And sklaundird hem in erþ ful falseley. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 84 b/1, I..haue leuer to deye than to dyffame & sklaundre my moder so fowly. 1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 83 Gif they.. sklander and blasphame lauful magistrats. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 187 Throuch the inuie of sum persounis he had bene sklandiret to the Emperour.

γ. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 55 Thus þei seyd ..And slaundird foule þis holy man. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slawnderon, *scandalizo, calumpnior*. 1530 PALSGR. 720/2 Have alwayes a good tonge in your heed, for it is both synne and shame to slaunder any bodye. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 To slaunder any man, before he be convicte of Heresye. 1621 BP. SANDERSON *Serm.* (1637) 51 It is deepliest slandered and hotliest opposed. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 307 One shall abuse and slander the other. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 374 Full ten years slander'd, did he once reply? 1735 POOLE *Dialogue* 82 You slander us in this Point. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 350 Some one, he thought, had slander'd Leolin to him. 1888 G. MASSON *Med. France* (1897) 42 Bertram de Born..spent his life in warring against his neighbours..and..slandering them in his *sirventes*.

† **b.** To accuse (unjustly or otherwise) *of*, charge or reproach *with*, something discreditable. Also with *that* and clause. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 834, I am ferd..þat hit lede..me harme for to haue of thy hegh wille, To be sclaundret of þi skathe. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 234 She was sklawnndered on-hyȝe þat she hadde taken howndes. 1526 TINDALE *Titus* i. 6 Havynge faythfull children which are not sclandred off royote. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 38 The best way is, to slander Valentine With falsehood, cowardize, and poore discent. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 128 That are (truelie) slaundred with eating fyve meales a day. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. i, O, Sir, proceed: I'll slander you no more of wit, good Sir.

† **c.** *Sc.* To charge *with*, accuse *of*, a crime or offence. *Obs.*

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 436 Men that wes sclanderit with finding of ane hurd. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 158 Personis sclanderit or suspect of treasoun salbe tane and remane in firmance. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Act Jas. II*, 132 Gif any person is sklandered, or suspect of treason, he sal remaine in firmance.

† **4.** To speak or write evil of, to misrepresent or vilify (a thing). *Obs.*

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 94 Thou wenest thou saist soth whan thou liest most lewde, and sclaunderist the truthe. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* xx. 183 Thir freuole sophistaris that marthirs and sklandirs the text of aristotel, deseruis punitione. 1569 ROGERS *Glasse of Godly Love* 178 Make such ashamed as would sclaunder the holy Gospell. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. 11 It hath beene slandered for heresie and new doctrine to have the Scripture in vulgar.

5. *intr.* or *absol.* To speak or utter slanders.

1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 6 Ne say no word to hym sklanderyng. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 6 He was counseld and biddyn noght to sclandyr in na maner bot say fully ye treuthe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xli. 22 Be ȝe so wyiss that vderis at ȝow leir, Be nevir he to sklander nor defame. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. vii, Let them rail, then, scoff, and slander. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. iv. iv, I keep but a man and a maid, ever ready to slander and steal.

† **6.** *trans.* To publish or spread abroad. *rare.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 27425 (Fairf.), Atte wiser squa his rede aske he, þat na man shrift sklanderet be. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 919 Tharfor I will bot lychtly ryn that cace, Bot it be thing that playnly sclanderit is.

Hence **Sla·ndered** *ppl. a.* Also *absol.*

1602 COLLETON (*title*), A Ivst Defence of the Slandered Priestes. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 285 We Are now..man to man;..The slanderer to the slandered; foe to foe. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 230 They all preferred the slandered to the slanderer; but they listened all the same.

Slanderer (slɑ·ndərəɹ). Also 4–6 **sclaund-** (6 **sclaunderour**, *Sc.* **sclanderar**); 4 **sklaund-**, 6–7 *Sc.* **skland-** (6 **-erar**); 5–7 **slaunderer**. [f. SLANDER *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who slanders, one who devises or utters false or malicious statements about a person, etc.; a defamer or calumniator.

α. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 14 It semeþ þat þei ben.. sclaunder[er]is of crist, puttyng on hym siche worldly pompe and ypocrisie. 1388 — *Titus* ii. 3 Olde wymmen in hooli abite, not sclaundereris. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 Spyes, lyers, and grete sclaunderers. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 468, I saye they be sclaunderers, and ennemies of the common countrie. 1647 HEXHAM I, A sclaunderer, *een lasterder*.

β. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7042 þe domes salle þan be redy Tille þe sklaunderers of God alle myghty. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 40 The sklanderaris of his Hienes.

1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Burrow Laws* 155 Gif there be any sklanderers, rebelles, or nicht walkers within the burgh.

γ. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xliii. 15 The voyce of the slaunderer & blasphemer. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 467 b, The slanderer afterwarde, loste his head, as he deserved. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 260 Stir not you till you haue Well determin'd vpon these Slanderers. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 425 To be ourselves the slanderers of our own just and religious Deeds. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. i, Much of it will probably seem too severe, when applied to the slanderer of books. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* I. i, The male slanderer must have the cowardice of a woman before he can traduce one. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii, Ye are both my foes and slanderers. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. 50 The slanderers were ready with long tales of rapine and sacrilege.

† **2.** A source of discredit or disrepute. *Obs.*—1

1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Treat.* (Wodrow Soc.) 151 Are thay not oppin sclanderaris of the Congregatioun, quhilkis sulde be myrouris of gude lyfe?

† **Sla'nderful,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **sclandirful,** 6 **sklaunder-.** [f. SLANDER *sb.* + -FUL.] = SLANDEROUS *a.*

1453 *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) I. 320 The first publisheris of the seide sclandirful noysyng. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. ii, Come, come, you're a slanderful huswife.

Hence † **Sla'nderfully** *adv. Obs. rare.*

1550–1 *Acts Privy Council* (1891) III. 213 He had at all tymes..used him self unreverentlie to the Kinges Majestie, and very sklaunderfullie towardes the Counsaill.

Slandering (sla·ndəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* Now *rare.* [f. SLANDER *v.* + -ING 1.] The utterance of slander(s).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 18 In..muche sclaundrynge and cursynge and obere peynes ynowe. *Ibid.* 264 For as þei seyn þis is bacbitynge or detraction & sclaundrynge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 48 To teache the treuth, and to abstaine from sklaundering of others. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 89 The olde manner of Commedies decayde, by reason of slaundering which therein they vsed against many. 1647 HEXHAM I, A sclaundering, *een lasteringe.*

So **Sla'ndering** *ppl. a.*, **Sla'nderingly** *adv.*

1402 HOCCLEVE *Letter of Cupid* 140 A sclaundryng [*v. r.* sclaundrous] tong is his grete aduersarye. 1599 H. PORTER *Angry Women Abingdon* (Percy Soc.) 56 A iealious slandering spitefull queane she is. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Lasterlicken,* Calumniously, Sclaunderingly. 1716 *Loyal Mourner* 50 No sland'ring Tongue.

Slanderous (sla·ndərəs), *a.* Forms: *α.* 5–7 **sclaunderous** (5 -drous(e), 6 **sclandero(u)s.** *β.* 6 **skla(u)nderous(e),** *Sc.* **sklanderus.** *γ.* 5–7 **slaunderous** (6 -erus), 7 **slandrous,** 6– **slanderous.** [ad. AF. **esclandrus,* = OF. *esclandreux* (1455), f. *esclandre* SLANDER *sb.* : see -OUS.]

† **1. a.** Of bad repute; discreditable, disgraceful, shameful. *Obs.* (Freq. in 16th cent.)

1402 HOCCLEVE *Letter of Cupid* 67 Now ys it good, confesse him a traytoure, and bringe a woman to a sclaundrouse name. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* ii. 15 Whose wayes are croked, and their pathes slaunderous. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 35 That filthy and sklaunderous life of pristes. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Addit. (1602) 335 Our effeminate abode here is vaine and slanderous.

† **b.** Forming a source of shame or disgrace *to* some one. *Obs. rare.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. v, Tis thou hast..made me slanderous to all my kin. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 44 If thou..wert grim, Vgly, and slandrous to thy Mothers wombe, Full of vnpleasing blots [etc.].

† **c.** Giving cause or occasion for slander. *Obs.*—1

1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. i. 20 Though we lay these Honours on this man, To ease our selues of diuers sland'rous loads.

2. Of words, reports, language, etc.: Of the nature of, characterized by, or containing slander or calumny; calumnious, defamatory.

α. β. 1424 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls, Hen. VI,* II. (1907) 31 Non of the xxiiij aldermen xal..supporten..no maner of persone ..in spekyng of sclaundrous wordes. *c* 1500 in Leadam *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) 101 It is allegid by the seid Complaynaunt in his seducyous and sclaunderous bill [etc.]. 1535 STARKEY *Lett.* in *England* (1870) p. xx, Where as sklanderouse fame & mysreport may peraduentur put you in suspycyon of the contrary. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 481 Quhat sclanderous brute and rumour is spred.

γ. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 288/2 An inordinate, seditious and slaunderous Acte..made ayenst..King Herrie the VI^th. 1529 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xiv. 256 Yt ys ordeyned that no man of the sayde Felyshippe shall..speke any Slanderus wordes yn disablyng hym of hys science. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 44 He was openly beheaded by decree of all the Senate, and a slanderous Epitaph set upon his grave. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 229 Some had giuen out most slaunderous speeches against him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 536 Truth shall retire Bestuck with slandrous darts. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 267 This part of Mr. W's reply, I call slanderous personal abuse. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xix. 114 His supposed offences were slanderous expressions used against the king. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. D. 597 The highest judge in the land is answerable in damages for slanderous language.

3. Of persons, etc.: Given to the use of slander or calumny; employing slander as a means of defaming or injuring others. Also *absol.*

α. β. 1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* ii. Wks. (1876) 327 The sklaunderous mouthe & cruel tethe that Martyn luther hath set vpon them [*sc.* Sacraments]. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* viii. 2 Skorner of poitis and sklanderus knaif! 1647 HEXHAM I, Sclaunderous lippes, *lasterlicke lippen.*

γ. 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. viii. 116 To stop the mouths of evil and slaunderous reporters. 1564 *Brief Exam.* *ij, He wyll not be slaunderous to any man. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 88 Lyinge, slanderouse rogues. 1653 LD. VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 210 Nor covetous persons, nor envious, nor slanderous,..shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. 1769 *Junius Lett.* ii. (1780) 40 They find no notice taken of, or reply given to, these slanderous tongues and pens. 1838 ARNOLD in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. viii. 114 Zealous,..and pious, but narrow-minded in the last degree, fierce and slanderous.

transf. 1626 BEAUMONT *Bridal Song* iv, The crow, the slanderous cuckoo, nor The boding raven.

† **4.** Of the nature of a scandal or offence, = SCANDALOUS I. *Obs.*

1553 HOOPER *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1513/2 These men..may be kept by one sclaunderous stumbling blocke or other, that they neuer come vnto Christ.

Sla'nderously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a slanderous manner; with slander; calumniously; also, unjustly, falsely.

1429 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls, Hen. VI* (1907) II. 31 That same persone of the xxiiij aldermen so spoken of sclaundrously. ? 1500 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) 104 That the seid John shuld sedicyously and sclaunderously put yn his bill of complaynt. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 118, I knowe the papystes and their flocke shall sclanderouslye report me. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* iii. 8 As wee be slanderously reported. 1647 HEXHAM I, Sclaunderously, *lasterlicken.* 1675 SHARP *Serm.* (1754) I. 47 So far it is from abridging us of any of our earthly delights, (as its enemies slanderously represent it) that it abundantly heightens them. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 462 Men..slanderously affirm of the swans that they sing a lament at the last.

† **2.** Scandalously; shamefully. *Obs.*

1563 ABP. PARKER *Articles* § 24 Any couples maried that liue not together, but slaunderously liue apart. 1631 *Conf. Faith* in Sternhold & H. *Ps.* Rr vij b, He was guiltles condemned vnder Pontious Pilate,..and most slandrously hanged on the Crosse.

Sla'nderousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Inclination to slander.

1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1706) 119 Teaching slanderousness, war, wrong, and abundance of all mischief. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Slanderousness,* reproachfulness. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 101 Impropriety...Slanderousness. ..Ill-nature. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 247 Breathing the atmosphere of faction, slanderousness and hate.

Slane (slēn). *Anglo-Irish.* [ad. Ir. *sleaghán.*] A long-handled spade, having a wing at one or both sides of the blade, used in Ireland for cutting turf.

1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* IV. iv. 40 Dig your trench with slanes. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 96 They are cut by an instrument called a slane, which is..a spade of about four inches broad, with a steel blade of the same breadth, standing at right angles to the edge of the spade. 1847 *Paddiana* I. 307 Two or three slanes..being propped up against it [the door]. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 265/1 They brought me a spade and a slane for turf-cutting.

Comb. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* 172 There isn't a spade-load of good slane turf.

Slane, var. of SLAIN *sb.*; obs. pl. SLOE.

† **Slang,** *sb.*1 Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **slaing.** [a. MDu. or MLG. *slange* (Du. *slang,* G. *schlange*) serpent, cannon, etc.] A species of cannon; a serpentine or culverin. (Cf. SLING *sb.*2)

1521 LD. DACRE in *Archaeologia* XVII. 205 A Saker, two Faucons,..viij. small Serpentyns.., a grete Slaing of Irn. 1539 in *Archaeologia* XI. 439 Four score shotte of leade for a slang, 16 shotte of leade for a saker. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Mak reddy 3our..slangis, & half slangis, quartar slangis. *c* 1600 R. BANNATYNE *Memor.* (1836) 133 Small brasen peices, slanges of irone, and vtheris mae peices that was tane fra the toun.

Slang (slæŋ), *sb.*2 *dial.* [Of obscure origin. Some dialects have the form *sling*; further variations are *slanget* (*slanket*) and *slinget* (*slinket*).] A long narrow strip of land.

The precise sense varies a little in different localities.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 715 There runneth forth into the sea a certaine shelfe or slang, like unto an outthrust tongue. 1764 in *Rep. Comm. Inq. Charities* XXVIII. 145 Two slangs of ground. 1804 J. EVANS *Tour S. Wales* 300 Formerly the lands of this district [near Fishguard] were divided into very narrow slangs, which were unenclosed. 1839– in dialect glossaries (Northampt., Shropsh., Heref.). 1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 426/2 He struggled across a couple of grass fields into the slang adjoining Brown's Wood.

Slang (slæŋ), *sb.*3 [A word of cant origin, the ultimate source of which is not apparent. It is possible that some of the senses may represent independent words. In all senses except 1 only in slang or canting use.

The date and early associations of the word make it unlikely that there is any connexion with certain Norw. forms in *slengr* which exhibit some approximation in sense.]

1. The special vocabulary used by any set of persons of a low or disreputable character; language of a low and vulgar type. (Now merged in c.)

In the first quot. the reference may be to customs or habits rather than language: cf. the use of SLANG *a.* 2 b.

1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 68 Thomas Throw had been upon the town, knew the slang well. 1774 KELLY *School for Wives* III. ix, There is a language we [bailiffs] sometimes talk in, called slang. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 106 Such grossness of speech, and horrid oaths, as shewed them not to be unskilled in the slang or vulgar tongue of the lowest blackguards in the nation. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xiii, What did actually reach his ears was disguised..completely by the use of cant words, and the thieves-Latin called slang. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 117 And broaches at his mother's table The slang of kennel and of stable.

b. The special vocabulary or phraseology of a particular calling or profession; the cant or jargon of a certain class or period.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 306 Giving, in return for those fees, scraps of written lawyer's slang. 1834 H. J. ROSE *Apol. Study of Divinity* (ed. 2) 15 However tempting the scientific *slang,* if I may so term it, of the day may be. 1857 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) II. 43, I have drawn, modelled in clay and picture fancied, so much in past years, that I have got unconsciously into the slang. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xi, Correct English is the slang of prigs who write history and essays. And the strongest slang of all is the slang of poets.

c. Language of a highly colloquial type, considered as below the level of standard educated speech, and consisting either of new words or of current words employed in some special sense.

1818 KEBLE in Sir J. T. Coleridge *Mem.* (1869) 75 Two of the best [students] come to me as a peculiar grinder (I must have a little slang). 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, He was too old to listen to the banter of the assistant-surgeon and the slang of the youngsters. 1868 DORAN *Saints & Sinners* I. 107 He [Latimer] occasionally employed some of the slang of the day to give force to his words. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* xv, If I had ever talked slang, I might have said that we chummed together famously.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 139 Like a door from which some slang-loving roué has wrenched the knocker. 1850 *N. & Q.* Ser. I. 369/2 That great slang-manufactory for the army, the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

d. Abuse, impertinence. (Cf. SLANG *v.* 3, 4.)

1825 LOCKHART in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 297 This Mr. H. gave grand slang to the Porters, etc., who crowded the vessel on our anchoring: 'Your fingers are all thumbs, I see', etc.

† **2.** Humbug, nonsense. *Obs.*—1

1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 192 Have you seen the bills?..What, about the lectures? ay, but that's all slang, I suppose; no, no. No tricks upon travellers.

† **3.** A line of work; a 'lay'. *Obs.*—1

c 1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* 120 How do you work now?..O, upon the old slang, and sometimes a little lully-prigging.

4. A licence, *esp.* that of a hawker.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Slang,*..a warrant, license to travel, or other official instrument. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 234 'Out on the slang,' i. e. to travel with a hawker's licence. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 2/1 You don't want for much to start with;..£ sovereign..for a (slang) licence is plenty.

5. A travelling show.

1859 *Slang Dict.* 94 *Slang,* a travelling show. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 63 There is a great deal of the Rommany or Gipsy element..wherever the 'slangs' or exhibition affairs show themselves.

b. A performance.

1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 101, I am talking of a big pitch, when we go through all our 'slang', as we say.

c. *attrib.,* as **slang cove, cull,** a showman.

c 1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* 130 To exhibit any thing in a fair or market,..that's called slanging, and the exhibiter is called the slang cull. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 353 We did intend petitioning.., but I don't suppose it would be any go, seeing as how the slang coves (the showmen) have done so, and been refused.

6. A short weight or measure. (Cf. SLANG *a.* 3.)

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 32/2 There's plenty of costers wouldn't use slangs at all, if people would give a fair price. *Ibid.* II. 90/1 Some of the street weights, a good many of them, are slangs.

Slang (slæŋ), *sb.*4 *Cant.* [app. a. Du. *slang* snake, etc.: see SLANG *sb.*1]

1. A watch-chain; a chain of any kind.

G. *schlange* is similarly used in canting language.

1812 in J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* *c* 1866 VANCE *Chickaleary Cove* (Farmer), How to do a cross-fan for a super or slang. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 4/2 The slang (chain) should be taken with the watch, if possible, by snipping..the buttonhole that it is fixed in.

2. *pl.* Fetters, leg-irons.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Slangs,* fetters, or chains of any kind used about prisoners. 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf, Slangs* are the greaves with which the legs of convicts are fettered. 1883 *York & York Castle* 276 Each set of these slangs or leg irons, weighing perhaps from twelve to fifty pounds.

So **Slanged** *ppl. a.*, fettered.

1812 in J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*

Slang (slæŋ), *a.* (and *adv.*). [Related to SLANG *sb.*3]

1. Of language, etc.: Having the character of, belonging to, expressed in, slang.

1758 *J. Wild's Adv. to Successor* (Hotten), The master who teaches them should be a man well versed in the cant language, commonly called the slang patter. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* 5 Mar., The following stanzas..in the Slang or Brentford dialect. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 296 The police-officers are of opinion that the robbery..is what is called, in slang language, *a put-up robbery.* 1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXVIII. 512 Now this style is the reverse of one made up of slang phrases. 1861 *Q. Rev.* No. 220. 468 The translation..is studded with the colloquialisms, and sometimes even slang expressions, of Charles II.'s time. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 24 Set phrases, each with a special and almost a slang signification.

2. Given to the use of slang; of a fast or rakish character; impertinent.

1818 MOORE *Diary* 1 Dec., The conversation to-day of rather a commoner turn than usual on account of these slang bucks. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xxiv, The set with whom he lived at Cambridge were the worst of the place. They were fast, slang men, who were fast and slang, and nothing else. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Ins. Bar* xi, Forgetting in his indignation to be either slang or cool. 1864 *The Realm* 30 Mar. 7 Daring, saucy girls, slang and fast.

Comb. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *K. Coventry* xii, A slang-looking man with red whiskers.

b. Of dress: Loud, extravagant; more showy or obtrusive than accords with good taste. ? *Obs.*

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 444 Without the slightest appearance of slang or flash toggery about him. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 11 A smart scarf, a very new hat, a slang coat, and a massive watch-chain. 1858 WHYTE MELVILLE *Interpreter* x, His dress was peculiarly neat and gentlemanlike, not the least what is now termed 'slang'.

c. Of tone, etc.: Slangy, rakish.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 47 Let some wit call out in a slang tone,—'the gallows!' and a peal of laughter would damn the play. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 62 A slang air..and the use of certain significant phrases.. current in London. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* xxix. (1879) 263 The slang tone in which these words were uttered produced another burst of laughter.

3. *Costers' slang.* Of weights and measures: Short, defective.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Slang weights* or *measures*, unjust, or defective ones. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 32/2 The slang quart is a pint and a half. *Ibid.*, The slang pint holds in some cases three-fourths of the just quantity.

b. *adv.* So as to give short measure.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 32/2 He could always 'work slang' with a true measure.

Slang (slæŋ), *v. colloq.* or *slang.* [f. SLANG *sb.*3 or *a.*, in various senses.]

1. ? *intr.* To exhibit at a fair or market.

c 1789 [see SLANG *sb.*3 5 c].

2. a. *trans.* To defraud, cheat. b. *intr.* (also with *it*). To employ cheating; to give short measure.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Slang*, to defraud a person of any part of his due, is called *slanging* him; also to cheat by false weights or measures, or other unfair means. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 284 He *slanged* the *dragsman*,.. which means that he sneaked away from the coach. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 32/2 So the men slangs it, and cries '*2d.* a pound', and gives half-pound. *Ibid.* 474/2 What he's made by slanging, and what he's been fined.

3. *intr.* To utter, make use of, slang; to rail in abusive or vulgar language.

1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xlviii, We rowed, swore, slanged with a Christian meekness and forbearance. 1842 LD. HOUGHTON in Wemyss Reid *Life* I. 285 Having so furiously slanged against the wickedness of war. 1868 W. R. GREG *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* 141 Mr. Carlyle slangs like a blaspheming pagan; Mr. Kingsley like a denouncing prophet.

4. *trans.* To abuse or scold violently.

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* i, He could..slang coal-heavers..better than anybody else in London. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* v, His off-hand way of blowing up and slanging people. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Good Men* II. xi. 314 He sent for the offender..and in the most slashing style 'slanged', even threatened him.

Hence **Sla·nging** *vbl. sb.*

1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 250, I feel certain that I could stand any..quantity of what is genteelly called 'slanging'. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* xvii, I never had such a slanging in my life! 1895 *Athenæum* 7 Sept. 316/3 The slanging all round which they give one another.

Slang, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of SLING *v.*

† **Sla·ngam.** *Obs. rare.* [Cf. SLANG *sb.*2 and SLANGREL.] ? A lanky person.

1611 COTGR., *Longis*,..a tall and dull slangam, that hath no making to his height, nor wit to his making. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxv, Codshead loobies, woodcock slangams,..and other such like defamatory epithetes. *Ibid.* II. i, The little Grammar school-boyes..called those leg-grown slangams Jambus.

Slangily (slæ·ŋili), *adv.* [f. SLANGY *a.* + -LY2.] In a slangy († or flashy) manner; in language of the nature of slang.

1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lxvii, It is not every baggy-corded fellow that rolls slangily along in top-boots.. that is a groom. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 7 Nov., There would be an opening for clever workmen,..but none for what are slangily but very expressively known as 'duffers'. 1895 *Strand Mag.* 724 'Thanks awfully,' I said, slangily but firmly.

Slanginess (slæ·ŋinės), *sb.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Slangy character or quality.

1865 *Lond. Rev.* 7 Oct. 392/1 An exaggerated and caricatured account of the slanginess..of the American nature. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 15 Courteous, well-bred, and utterly devoid of slanginess. 1891 *Spectator* 23 Mar., The predominant slanginess and flippancy of her style.

Slangish (slæ·ŋij), *a.* [f. SLANG *sb.*3 1 + -ISH.] Somewhat slangy.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 380 'A great school-boy'..is a sort of slangish expression. 1851 H. NEWLAND *The Erne, its Legends*, etc. 102 The slangish looks.. and knowing demeanour of the men. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 278 That extremely low slangish way.

Hence **Sla·ngishly** *adv.*

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 261 Living on the town, as it is slangishly called. 1822 *Ibid.* XI. 723 The 'Northamptonshire peasant,' as he is somewhat slangishly called.

Sla·ngism. [f. SLANG *sb.*3 1.] A slang expression. Also **Sla·ngist, Sla·ngster,** one who uses slang. **Sla·nguage,** slangy speech; a form of slang (*jocular*). **Sla·ngular** *a.*, pertaining to slang (*jocular*).

[The following passage is the source of the adj. *slangous* given in some Dicts.:—1823 J. BEE *Dict. Turf* p. vi, The irons were *the slangs*, and the *slang*-wearers' language was of course *slangous*, or partaking much, if not wholly, of the *slangs*.]

1853 *Household Wds.* Sept. 76/2 Frivolous little foreign 'slangisms hovering about fashionable cookery and fashionable furniture. 1866 E. YATES *Kissing Rod* I. i. 6 A 'cool card', a 'long-headed chap',..and..other complimentary slangisms. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 83/1 She did not exactly say with the modern *slangist, 'That's rather an extensive order'. *c* 1830 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. I. 369 Gentlemen cadets wishing to achieve a notoriety as wits and *slangsters. 1892 LELAND in *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 496 A congress 'at which a language, or rather *slanguage, was deliberately constructed and adopted'. 1899 *Sport. Life* 4 Sept. 5/3 In 'slanguage' current on the Turf and amongst the young bloods of the Stock Exchange. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, Being asked what he thinks of the proceedings, [he] characterises them (his strength lying in a *slangular direction) as 'a rummy start'.

† **Sla·ngrel,** *sb.* and *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. SLANG *sb.*2 and SLANGAM. Mod. Warwick dial. has *slang* adj. in the same sense.] a. *sb.* A lanky person (? or thing). b. *adj.* Long and narrow.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 250 The third was a long leane old slauering slangrell. 1598 FLORIO, *Bislongo*, twice long, a slangrell. 1643 tr. *Diodati's Annot. Bible* Gen. vi. 14 A great Vessell, on the inside like a great chest, of a slangrell forme.

Slangwhang (slæ·ŋˌhwæŋ), *v.* Chiefly *U.S.* [f. SLANG *sb.*3 1 + WHANG *v.*] *trans.* and *intr.* To assail with, to make use of, violent language, abuse, or vituperation. Also **Sla·ngwha·nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1829 H. MURRAY *N. Amer.* II. III. iii. 366 The expression 'slangwhanging', which signifies making violent political harangues to the multitude. 1841 in *J. Q. Adams' Conn. w. Monroe Doctrine*, etc. (1902), This french proverb applies to all such slang whanging rascals like yourself. 1890 *Melbourne Punch* 14 Aug. 107/4 That Eminent Personage immediately began to slangwhang the umpire.

Sla·ngwha·nger. Chiefly *U.S.* [Cf. prec.] A noisy or abusive talker or writer.

1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 109 These knights, denominated editors, or *slang-whangers*,..may be said to keep up a constant firing 'in words'. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 203 Candidate, Slangwhanger, and Member. 1891 T. & ANNA FITCH *Better Days* 304 The Tucson Star which used to be the chief of slangwhangers.

Slangy (slæ·ŋi), *a.* [f. SLANG *sb.*3 1.]

1. Of persons: a. Of a flashy or pretentious type. b. Given to the use of slang.

1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* vi, He appeared to me merely a tall, handsome, conceited, slangy boy. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 217 *Slangy*, flashy, vulgar; loud in dress, manner, and conversation. 1870 FRISWELL *Mod. Men Lett.* ix. 149 A 'Varsity man, as the slangy people of to-day call those educated at Oxford or Cambridge.

2. a. Of dress: Somewhat loud or vulgar.

1861 *Times* 30 May 9/3 A queer-looking man, whose attire, though good, is 'slangy', and suggestive somehow of the stable. 1884 *Ibid.* (weekly ed.) 3 Oct. 13/3 Fellows in smart, though slangy attire.

b. Of language, etc.: Pertaining to, of the nature of, slang.

1864 *Daily Telegr.* 3 Sept., A slangy vulgarity which savours even more of the bar-room than of the camp. 1876 *World* V. 4 The conversation of Society is as slangy..as its ethics are dubious. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Sept. 381 Their style is always smart,..sometimes slangy.

Slank (slæŋk), *a.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [prob. a. Du. or LG. *slank* (MDu. and MHG. *slanc*, G. *schlank*) thin, slender.] Of persons, parts of the body, the hair: Lank, thin.

The quotation dated 1656 in Davies reads *flank* in the original edition, but this may be a misprint for *slank*.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 33 Slim, lank, slank, slight. 1715 CHAPPELOW *Right Way Rich* (1717) 119 They wound religion through his slank sides. 1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* 1865 MELLOR *Uncle Owdem* 4 (E.D.D.), It ratched him eawt an' made him lunger an' slanker. 1882 in *Lanc. Gloss.*

[**Slank,** error for *slauk* SLAWK.

The mistake appears to have originated in ed. 1552 of Elyot's Latin Dict. (s.v. *Bryon*), and is continued by Cooper, Cotgrave, etc.]

Slant (slant), *sb.*1 Also 7, *Sc.* 9 **slaunt.** [Connected with SLANT *adv., a.*, and *vb.* See also SLENT *sb.*1]

1. The slope *of* a hill, piece of ground, etc.; a sloping stretch of ground; an inclined plane or surface.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 87 The best Situation of a House or City, is upon the Slaunt of a South-west Hill. 1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 84 If this globe be drawn along the slant DF, less force will be required to raise it, than if it were lifted directly up. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 92 Returning then to the foot of the hill, you ascend an easy slant. 1802 [see SKELF]. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. xiv. 41 Ferdinand..kept along the southern slant of the coast as far as Almeria. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 33 His dog..brought back some stray sheep to the sunny side of the slant.

b. A small surface, a short line, having an oblique position or direction.

c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. § 98 Luzone Olive Whelk, with white Slants and Spots. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 10 First cut the pieces with a slope, or slant,..and then spread a thin layer of shoemaker's wax over the slants. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 122 Each pullet-egg Of diamond, slipping flame from fifty slants.

c. A sloping beam or ray *of* light.

1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* iv, Pale slants of light from the yard above. 1862 THORNBURY *Life Turner* I. 20 Crimson fog-suns and misty slants of sunshine. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i, A slant of light from the setting sun.

d. *Mining.* (See quot. 1881.)

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Slant*, a heading driven diagonally between the dip and the strike of a coal-seam; also called a *run*. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 5/1 He succeeded in penetrating the mine a hundred yards into the main slant.

2. A course or movement in an oblique direction.

1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 313 Kept plying to Windward not far from the Land, sometimes making good Slants. 1889 T. E. BROWN *Manx Witch* 2 Lek didn want The Pazon to know her, and made a slant.

3. Slope, inclination, obliquity. *On the slant,* aslant, obliquely.

1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. 97 Where the length of the cavity, owing to the slant of the sides, is measured [etc.]. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 258 The slant of a ladder that leans against a house. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 97 Not a bad road, but on the steeper side of the hill, and quite on the slant.

4. *techn.* a. A receptacle having a sloping bottom in which paint-brushes are placed in order to keep them moist.

1875 FIELD & DAVIDSON *Grammar of Colouring* 168 The brushes..may be dipped in nut-oil and laid in a tin slant until wanted again. *c* 1896 *Rowney's Price List* 20 Oil Slant and Smutch Pan.

b. A slab having shallow sloping compartments or depressions for water-colours.

1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 817 Round China Slants and Basins.

5. *dial.* and *U.S.* A sly hit or sarcasm.

Occurs much earlier in the form SLENT.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Slant*, sly jokes, or petty lies. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Slant*, an oblique reflection or gibe; a sarcastic remark. (In vulgar use.) 1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* I. xxi. 274 Had the slant fallen upon himself, personally, Old Tiff would probably have given a jolly crow. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 94 Whitwell felt an ironical slant in the words.

6. *slang.* An occasion, chance, opportunity; also, an opportunity of going somewhere.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 49, I boldly entered myself on board a privateer, with the determination of playing them a slippery trick the very first slant I had. 1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 140 It was n't any wonder, when we did get a slant into town, if we took a drop too much.

7. *Austr. slang.* (See quot.)

1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 217 Pedder had got tired of things in general, and had organized that movement which was popularly known in Norfolk Island and Port Arthur as a 'slant', that is, he had planned a murder or a mutiny on purpose to obtain a trial in Hobart or Sydney.

Slant (slant), *sb.*2 *Naut.* [Later form of SLENT *sb.*2] A slight breeze or spell *of* wind, etc.

1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 381 Having a slant of wind from the eastward, we fetched the coast of Ireland. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lxii. 195 Trimming his sails, so as to catch any slant of a breeze. 1871 *Daily News* 16 Mar., We got a slant of bad weather, which, however, did not prevent other balloons from starting. 1892 CLARK RUSSELL *List, Ye Landsmen* i, Should there come a slant of wind, I'm off.

b. Used without the genitive phrase.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii, Having had a slant from the land wind in the night previous. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, The wind coming against them in slants and flaws. 1876 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla Land* II. 15 There was no wind except a slant at sunset.

Slant (slant), *adv.* and *a.* Also 5 **slonte,** 7 **slaunt.** [Aphetic for ME. *a-slonte, o-slante*, etc.: see ASLANT *adv.* It is not clear in what way these forms are related to the early sb. and vb. SLENT.]

A. *adv.* In a slanting, sloping, or oblique manner or direction; slantingly, aslant.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. ix. 306 Zodiacus is a cercle that passith slonte [*Bodl. MS.* aslonte]. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 29 Cut the nebbe first slant downewards to make it thinne, and after strait ouerthwart. *c* 1700 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 294 Encompassing ye maze, in which are some slaunt cut wayes. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VII. 625 The mighty Talbot came, And smote his helmet: slant the weapon fell. 1804 *Wolcot's* (P. Pindar) *Beauties Eng. Poetry* II. 11 A bridge, that cuts From Richmond Ferry slant to Brentford Butts. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* v. 185 The sunbeams fell slant through the church windows.

B. *adj.* 1. Of wind, etc.: Blowing or coming from the side; moving obliquely.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. viii. (ROXB.) 136 Beholding an English Shipp woorke into the harbor with a very slant and boysterous gayle of wynde. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1075 The slant Lightning, whose thwart flame driv'n down Kindles the gummie bark of Firr or Pine. 1790 *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 49 A slant wind..brought me..in with the island. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 318 Trampling the slant winds on high.

2. Having an oblique or sloping position or direction; inclined from the perpendicular or horizontal; falling, lying, placed, etc. slantwise.

1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* VI. 260 On the wide mountain-wave's slant ridge. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 59 The southern side of the slant hills. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 194 Hatched with slant lines. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* XVIII, The sun threw softer and slanter lights over the beautiful picture of the valley. 1883 PROCTOR *Great Pyramid* II. 56 The slant tunnel would give the direction of the true north.

b. Of direction: Oblique.

1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 47 (1794) II. 188 Those fine obliquities of his genius began to expand, and, taking a thousand slant and cross directions [etc.]. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 173 Across which we had about three leagues to sail in a slant direction. 1871 *Daily News* 25 Jan., The French began to retreat, and in a slant direction right in front of us.

3. In special collocations, as *slant fire, height, side, tack, vein* (see quots.).

1851 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* 43 *Slant fire [is] when the shot strikes the interior slope of the parapet, forming with it a horizontal angle not greater than 30°. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* II. 42 To find the Surface of a Pyramid or Cone. Multiply the perimeter of the base by the *slant height, or length of the side [etc.]. 1873 J. Pryde *Pract. Math.* 156 The slant height of a cone. *a* 1823 Hutton *Course Math.* (1828) II. 138 Suppose the same cone to be cut by a plane parallel to one of the *slant sides, entering the other slant side at 4 inches from the vertex. 1873 J. Pryde *Pract. Math.* 156 A line from the vertex of a right cone to any point in the circumference of its base, is called its slant side. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 631 **Slant tack*, that which is most favourable to the course when working to windward. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* Q j, Having duly weighed its randome and Inclination either Way, whether any Cross or *Slant Vein appears. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Slant-vein*, one vein crossing another at an acute angle.

4. *Comb.*, as *slant-eyed, -shouldered.*

1865 *Daily Telegr.* 17 Nov. 5/2 A slant-eyed, saffron-coloured race. 1870 Whittier *Miriam* 126 The slant-eyed sages of Cathay. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 103 That hatchet-faced, slant-shouldered,..comic valentine.

Slant (slănt), *v.* Also 6 **skla(u)nt.** [Later variant of Slent *v.*1, the vowel having probably been influenced by Aslant *adv.*]

1. *intr.* To strike obliquely *on, upon*, or *against* something.

1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* Wks. (1876) 323 For the sonne shooreth so lowe by the grounde that his bemes thanne sklaunteth vpon the grounde. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 132 The ball..slanted upon the right shoulder of the Prince..and struck off the skin. 1777 *Ann. Reg.* 161 Mr. Bates's sword bent and slanted against the Captain's breast-bone. 1873 Smiles *Huguen. France* II. ii. (1881) 342 The shot..slanted on the King's right shoulder, [and] took a piece out of his coat.

2. To be in, to have or take, an oblique direction or position; to deviate from a straight line or course; to slope.

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 37 The Governor's House in the middle overlooks all, slanting diagonally with the Court. 1766 J. Cunningham *Poems, Inscription Imit.* iii, Where the green hill so gradual slants, Or flowery glade extends. 1797 Coleridge *Kubla Khan* 12 That deep romantic chasm which slanted Down the green hill 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xvii, An aged oak, That slanted from the islet rock. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. i. 24 The Tartar eyes are not only far apart, but slant inwards. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxvii. 218 A range of minor peaks ran slanting downwards.

b. Of light or shadow: To fall obliquely.

1795 Cowper *Moralizer Corrected* 15 And from the trees ..Shades slanting at the close of day Chill'd [etc.]. 1804 Grahame *Sabbath* 371 The sunbeam slanting through the cedar grove. 1837–42 Tennyson *St. Agnes' Eve* 6 The shadows of the convent-towers Slant down the snowy sward. 1863 Geo Eliot *Romola* xvii, A sickening sense of the sunlight that slanted before him.

3. Of persons: To travel, move, sail, etc. in an oblique direction; to diverge from a direct course. Also *U.S.*, to move off.

1692 L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* xvi. xii. (1733) 443 And so by a side-Wind he slaunted all the way upon Pheroras. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 143, I stretch'd a-cross this Eddy slanting North west. 1776 Carroll *Jrnl.* (1845) 74 From *La Prairie* you go slanting down the river to Montreal. 1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xlviii, We went along Cheapside, and slanted off to Little Britain. 1897 Howells *Landlord at Lion's Head* 12 The father and the elder brother came out, and..slanted away to the barn together.

b. Of things: To take an oblique course.

a 1849 H. Coleridge *Poems* (1850) II. 12 The thunder roar'd, the sharp rain slanted. 1874 Lisle Carr *J. Gwynne* I. iii. 69 From this her mind would slant off into a sideway. 1885 C. E. Cradock *Prophet of G. S. M.* vii, Her rebuking glance slanted beyond him from under her half-lifted lashes.

c. *fig.* To be inclined, have a bent, *towards* something.

1850 Lowell *Unhappy Lot of Mr. Knott* I. xi, I've always heard Our poor friend somewhat slanted Tow'rd taking liquor overmuch.

4. *trans.* To cut with a slant.

1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 439 We venture to disapprove the custom of slanting Quoins on both sides, and planing their edges and corners off. *Ibid.*, It would deserve the name of an improvement, were Quoins slanted on one side only.

5. To give an oblique or sloping direction to (something); to cause to slope.

1805 Southey *Madoc* II. xviii. 63 The evening glories which the sun Slants o'er the moving many-colour'd sea. 1812 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1876) IV. lx. 206, I turned suddenly from my walk..to slant my steps close to where he sat. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* IV. ii. (1875) II. 254 Their inky sails are hither slanted. 1891 *Sportsman* 8 July 8/1 The rain came down in torrents, slanted by the wind.

6. Of a path: To ascend in a sloping direction.

1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* xxii, Where the path we walk'd began To slant the fifth autumnal slope.

Sla·nted, *ppl. a.* [f. Slant *v.* + -ed 1.] Having an oblique or sloping direction; cut, placed, or driven aslant.

1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 439 The slanted side of a Quoin. 1818 Keats *Endym.* IV. 333 In less time Than shoots the slanted hail-storm. 1851 Trench *Poems* 24 The slanted columns of the noon-day light. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Jan. 7/1 The flames rise from the furnace and pass..in between the slanted tubes.

Slantindicular (slăntindi·kiu̯lăi), *a.* (*sb.*) and *adv.* Also **slanting-, slantendicular.** [f. Slanting, after *perpendicular.* Orig. *U.S.* and chiefly colloq. or humorous.]

A. *adj.* Slanting, sloping, oblique; neither perpendicular nor horizontal.

a. 1840 J. T. Hewlett *P. Priggins* ii, I took particular care to slew the buttons at the knees well forward in a slanting-dicular direction. 1868 *Hurst Johnian Mag.* Feb. 341 Put your arm quite straight at an angle of about 45° with your body, (that is in a 'slantingdicular' direction).

β. 1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* liv, Jumping off the ground all four feet at once in a slantindicular direction.

fig. c 1863 *U. S. Newspaper* in Bright *Sp.* (1868) II. 239 He walked uprightly *before the world*, but when he was *not* before the world his walk was slantindicular. 1872 De Morgan *Budget of Paradoxes* 289 And he must not put himself [in the calendar] under the first saint with a slantendicular reference to the other.

b. As *sb.*, with *the.*

1843 Mrs. Romer *Rhone, Darro*, etc. II. 305 What the Doctor termed 'the slantingdicular' of our position obliged me to be secured in my place by a rope.

B. *adv.* = next.

1866 Buckland *Curios. Nat. Hist.* Ser. III. I. 73 They [ducks] open their web feet, come down, as the Yankees say, 'slantindicular'.

Slantindi·cularly, *adv.* [See prec.] In a slanting or sloping direction or position; obliquely. Also *fig.*, indirectly.

a. 1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 110 Others mounting slantingdicularly and Paul-Prying into the bedroom windows. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 19 Nov. 230/1 He sits *slantingdicularly*, as he does on the..bicycle. 1880 'Wildfowler' *Mod. Wildfowling* 66 The shoulder guns were resting 'slantingdicularly'.

β. 1834 De Quincey in *Tait's Mag.* I. 86 For..a sunrise and a sunset, ought to be seen from the valley or horizontally,—not, as the man of Kentuck expressed it, slantindicularly. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, Glancing—however slantin'dicularly—at the subject in hand, I would say [etc.]. 1884 *Punch* 22 Nov. 245/2 Some 'gees'..Who go slantindicularly down the street.

Sla·nting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Slant *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb; in quot. = Perspective *sb.* 3.

a 1618 Raleigh *Rem.* (1644) 136 Painted Tables (in which the art of Slanting is used) appear to the Eye, as if the parts of them were some higher, and some lower than the other.

Sla·nting, *adv.* and *ppl. a.* [f. Slant *v.* + -ing 2.]

A. *adv.* In a sloping direction; slantingly.

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), *Skegg*, is that parte of the keele, which is cut slaunting [etc.]. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 190 Cut off slanting above the Bud, with a very sharp knife. 1893 Hodges *Elem. Photogr.* 33 A thin nail driven slanting through the support..will make the framework quite firm.

B. *ppl. a.* That slants or slopes; lying, situated, or directed, obliquely.

1688 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To give a slanting blow. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 63 Hills, some of which were slanting, some headlong and impending. 1797–1805 S. & Ht. Lee *Canterb. T.* I. 353 The returning sun now shot a bright and slanting ray. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. II. ii. 240 It continues a south-east course, in a slaunting form, across Allan-water. 1859 Reeve *Brittany* 75 The slanting dilapidated roof of the chancel. 1876 M. Foster *Physiol.* II. ii. (1879) 302 All the ribs have a downward slanting direction.

b. *Needlework.* (See quots.)

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlwk.* 32/1 *Slanting Gobelin Stitch*, a name sometimes given to long or satin stitch. *Ibid.* 125/1 *Slanting Stitch*, a variety of Double Crochet.

Slantingdicular(ly: see Slantindicular(ly.

Sla·ntingly, *adv.* [f. Slanting *ppl. a.* + -ly.] In a slanting direction or position; with a slope or inclination; aslant, obliquely.

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* XII. prop. xvii. 380 Which it will the more aptly doo, if ye do abate slauntingly the contrary arasses of the slitt of it. 1683 Snape *Anat. Horse* II. viii. (1686) 85 The septum of a Hog's Heart slantingly pervious in several places with great..pores. 1708 Berkeley *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 489 The extension of a plain, look'd at straight and slantingly. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 184 Cut it slantingly, half way through up towards the next joint. 1817 Keats *'Lo! I must tell a tale of chivalry'* 12 The lance points slantingly Athwart the morning air. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii. (1878) 247 The afternoon sun as it shone slantingly through the stained window.

b. *fig.* Indirectly.

a 1677 Barrow *Pope's Supremacy* Wks. 1859 VIII. 9 It little mattereth, if he may strike princes, whether it be by a downright blow, or slantingly. 1694 Strype *Cranmer* I. xxvi. 111 Slantingly through their Sides, striking at the Arch-bishop himself.

Sla·ntingness. *rare* —0. (See quot.)

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Slopingness*, Slantingness, going diagonally.

†**Sla·ntling,** *adv. Obs.*—1 In 6 **sklantlynge.** [f. Slant *a.* + -ling 2.] Slantingly, obliquely.

1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* Wks. (1876) 323 Whan a bowle is throwen sklantlynge vpon a wall it slydeth forwarde.

Sla·ntly, *adv.* [f. Slant *a.* + -ly 2.] Slantingly, obliquely.

1727 Bover *Dict. Royal* II, Slantingly, or slantly, *obliquement.* 1851 R. H. Stoddard *Serenade* Wks. (1880) 49 The yellow Moon looks slantly down, Through seaward mists, upon the town. 1876 Lanier *Poems, Clover* 105 Champs and chews, With slantly-churning jaws.

Slantways (sla·ntwēz), *adv.* [f. Slant *a.* + -ways.] = next.

1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 497 A new street standing slant-ways to one of the entrances of the town. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 128 The two clouds..went rolling slantways on the wind towards the west. 1895 Tristram *Japan* 19 The four main islands of Japan stretch slantways through sixteen degrees of latitude.

Slantwise (sla·ntwəiz), *adv.* and *a.* [f. Slant *a.* + -wise.]

A. *adv.* In a slanting or sloping direction or position; slantingly, obliquely.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 98 Some maketh a hollownes, halfe a foot deepe, with fower sets in it, set slant wise a steepe. 1751 J. Bartram *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.*, etc. 38 In the mean time we were setting poles slantwise in the ground. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 333 Three streets, which run slantwise up the eminence. 1843 F. W. Faber *Lett.* (1869) 194, I think of..how the sun is coming slantwise out of Langdale. 1882 J. Hawthorne *Fort. Fool* I. xvi, The waggon lying slantwise across the road.

fig. 1869 *Fortn. Rev.* June 637 When..they have an opportunity of looking slantwise at their own merits, and of praising themselves by implication.

B. *adj.* Slanting, oblique.

1856 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 129 From our windows we have a slantwise glimpse of the walls of St. John's College. 1858 Whittier *Telling the Bees* viii, The slantwise rain Of light through the leaves. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 101 Its slantwise band across the chest.

Slap (slæp), *sb.*1 [a. LG. *slapp* (also *slappe*; G. *schlapp* and *schlappe*), of imitative origin: cf. Slap *adv.* Older Da. *slap* is also from LG.]

The apparent instances in *Arthur & Merlin* (1838) 8084, *Pallad. on Husb.* (1873) IV. 763, Palsgr. 563, and Milton *Colasterion*, are errors for *flap*: see Flap *sb.* 1 and 1 b.

1. A smart blow, esp. one given with the open hand, or with something having a flat surface; a smack; an impact of this nature.

1648 Hexham II, *Flabbe*, a Slash, or a Slap with a sword on the face. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 45 ₱ 7 One..got behind me in the Interim, and hit me a sound Slap on the Back. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 627 The leap, the slap, the haul. 1767 Bickerstaffe *Love in the City* I. ii, If we had not been in church, I would have hit her a slap in the face. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xviii, Not believing, that the knowledge..can be at once conferred by the slap of the flat of a sword. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 294 She seized her nurse's head, and gave her repeated slaps and blows. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Rough Recoll.* I. ix. 216, I felt a slap on my back which nearly sent me down the companion-ladder.

b. A cut or stroke *of* something. *rare* —1.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 267/1 They can cutt through many wyers together at one slap of the sheares.

c. *At a slap*, all at once.

1753 *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 59, Loosing Ten Thousand Pounds at a Slap. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 676 But we are losing our time in describing, Here at a slap we throw the whole tribe in.

d. A gust *of* wind.

1890 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* v, A slap of wind carried pretty nigh half the mast over the side.

2. *transf.* a. A reprimand, reproof; a spoken or written attack or censure; a side-hit.

1736 Duchess of Marlborough *Opin.* in *Corresp.* (1838) II. 207, I could easily forgive him [Swift] all the slaps he has given me and the Duke of Marlborough. 1791 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 30 You see on what topics they chose to magnify him [Foxe] at York. It is a slap at me. 1853 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 41, I much enjoyed the slaps you have given to the provincial species-monger. 1861 T. A. Trollope *La Beata* II. 135 [He] could not help feeling severely the very vigorous slap on the face which had been administered to him.

b. An attempt, venture, go, *at* something.

1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* I. 5 We mean to have a slap at the rabbits. 1884 'H. Collingwood' *Under Meteor Flag* 270 Come, lads!.. take another slap at them; we must get on deck somehow. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 417 He dashed off to Adelaide for a slap at copper.

c. A quick trip or dash.

1901 P. Fountain *Deserts N. Amer.* ix. 163, I..collected the wherewithal for another slap across country.

Slap, *sb.*2 *Sc.* Also 5–7 slop, 5–6 slope. [a. MDu. or MLG. *slop*: cf. Du. and LG. *slop*, LG. *slup(p*, MG. *slupf*, G. *schlupf* (dial. *schluff, schloff*), opening, gap, narrow passage, hiding-place, etc. The change of *o* into *a* before *p* is normal in Sc.; cf. *drap* drop, *tap* top, etc.]

It is possible that *slope* and *sloppes* in the alliterative *Morte Arthure* 2977 and 3923 belong to this word, but in neither passage is the sense quite clear.

1. A breach, opening, or gap in a wall, fence, hedge, etc.

a. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VIII. 179 Bot sloppis in the vay left he, So large, and of sic quantite, That fyffe hundir mycht sammyn ryde In at the sloppis, syde for syde. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* V. xi. 3256 Þan þar fais..Sloppis in syntry placis made. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* II. viii. 77 He..throw the 3et ane large wyndo mackis; By the quhilk slop the place within apperis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvi. 140 Lyik..scheip that vil nocht pas throucht the slop of ane dyik.

β. a 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Cl.) 264 [They] dischargit the said cannone oft tymes thairat and maid greit slappis in the wall. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* III. (1903) 110 Quhen he was cuming to Birssay with hir out of the slap. 1686 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 339 Throwing down ane slap in the Trinity Churchyard dyke lately builded up be the magistrats. 1762 Br. Forbes *Jrnl.* (1886) 241 Here you see a Slap, then a Stone hanging over, as portending its Speedy Fall. 1783 Burns *Poor Mailie* 37 To slink thro' slaps, an' reave an' steal, At stacks o' pease. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* I, His guide..then broke down a *slap*, as he called it, in a dry-stone fence. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 140 Slaps in the dykes admit easy ingress and egress.

b. An opening or passage left in a salmon-cruive from Saturday evening to Monday morning, in order to allow the fish to pass; the period during which this is left open; the weekly close time for salmon. Freq. in *Saturday('s) slap.*

1424 *Scott. Acts* (1814) II. 5 þai þat has crufis in fresche watteris þat þai ger keip þe lawis anentis þe setterday slop, and suffer þaim nocht to stande in forbodyne tyme. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* S ij, The Setter-dayis slop, is ane space of time, within the quhilk it is nocht leasum to take Salmonde fish. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 246 And albeit some are permitted to lays nets, and to make weares, yet must he keep the Saturdaies slop, that is, to lift the same from Saturday in the afternoone vntill Monday. 1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 275 On Sunday afternoon, when the 'Slaps' are open. 1876 MAXWELL in Francis *Angling* x. (ed. 4) 349 The Luce is terribly netted; the fish slaps are sometimes built up. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Aug. 2/1, 'I should like to have your opinion on the weekly close time.' 'The "Saturday slap", I suppose you mean.'

c. ? A break in the clouds; a patch of sky.

1508 DUNBAR *Golden Targe* 26 The purpur hevyn our scailit in silvir sloppis Ourgilt the treis.

d. A narrow pass between hills or mountains.

1715 PENNECUIK *Tweeddale* 10 The Water of Line hath its first Spring near the Coldstaine Slap. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Ph—* i, O'er ilka cleugh, ilk scar and slap. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* xiv, They passed through the 'buchts' and 'slaps' of the Galloway hills.

2. *transf.* A breach in, or way *through*, a body of troops; a gap *in* the ranks.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 949 Sloppys thai maid throu all that chewalry, The worthy Scottis thai wrocht so worthely. *Ibid.* x. 310 A slop thai maid, quhar thai set on a syd. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxi. (S. T. S.) I. 218 Be force of al þare bodyis and wapynnys..þai made ane slop throw þare Inemyis. 1867 A. DAWSON *Rambling Recoll.* (1868) 38 These triumphs made many slaps in the ranks of the regiment.

†**3.** A gash or wound. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 72 Longius..mad ȝet þare in cristis syd a slope, þat ves bath lang & vyd. *Ibid.* xlv. (*Christine*) 300 With ane arrow in hire syd he mad a slope.

†**Slap,** *sb.*3 *Obs.*[1] [f. SLAP *v.*3] A single act of lapping or licking up; a lap.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 3 As for my spoons, those I brought, that I..might haue one slap at the Spoone meat.

†**Slap,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* App. a var. of SLOP *sb.*

1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Fooles Cap* lxxxiv. D iij b, Hee that puts fifteene elles into a Ruffe And seauenteene yards into a swagg'ring slappe. 1605 — *Olde Man's Lesson* C iv, A thousand times more contentiue, then to buye it in a Shoppe, and to weare it in Slappe.

†**Slap,** *sb.*5 (Origin and meaning uncertain.)

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xv. 99 Under which [market] the poore Indian wives meet at five a clock at evening to sell what slap and drugges they can prepare most cheape for the empty Criolian stomackes.

Slap, *sb.*6 *Sc.* [Of obscure origin. Jamieson also gives *slap* as a vb. 'to separate grain', etc.] 'A riddle for separating grain from the broken straw, &c.' (Jam. 1808). Also *slap-riddle.*

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 271 The rougher part that is left in the slap-riddle is..passed again through the mill. *Ibid.* 333 The slap-riddles are ⅜ inch, and 1 inch in the meshes.

Slap, *sb.*7 *Coalmining.* Slack. Also *attrib.*

1865 *Morning Star* 27 Feb., While one [coal-waggon] was being lowered by the machinery so that it might be brought near the slap-heap. 1883 in GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225.

Slap, dial. form of SLOP *sb.* and *v.*

Slap (slæp), *v.*1 [f. SLAP *adv.* or *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To strike or smack (a person or thing) smartly, esp. with the open hand or with something having a flat surface; to hit (one) *on*, *upon*, or *over* (a certain part) in this way.

1632 SHERWOOD, To slappe, *frapper. Voyes* to flap. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, I should hate, man, to have my father's wife kissed and slapped..by another man. 1690 CROWNE *Eng. Friar* III, Must I be slap'd over the lips by every fellow? 1747 RELPH *Poems* Gloss., *To slap*, to beat. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xxvi, He slapped his forehead as if he had hit upon something material. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. ii, Sir William slapped the calf of the leg he was caressing. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxix. 271, I was trying on Miss Marie's dress, and she slapped my face. 1887 SIR R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* viii. 135 He slapped the palm of her hand very vigorously.

refl. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 45 The gigantic chief.. slapping himself upon the breast, gave Mr. Crooks to understand [etc.].

b. To drive *back*, beat *down*, knock *to* the ground, etc., with a slap.

1819 TENNANT *Papistry Stormed* (1827) 17 Fun at the door-stane stands, And slaps him [Care] back wi' baith his hands. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ii, Oonah slapped down the hand that barred her progress. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* ix, Louise is coming to-night to see me slap the masked fellow to the dust.

c. *techn.* To work (clay) in a certain manner: (see SLAPPING *vbl. sb.* b).

1786 WEDGWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 397 What we call handing or slapping the clay, an operation by which its different parts are intermixed, and the mass rendered of an uniform temper throughout. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The clay is made into lumps, is equalized, and slapped much in the same way as for making Pottery.

†**2.** To write or jot *down* quickly or smartly. *Obs.*

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. i, But as soon as any one speaks, pop I slap it down, and make that, too, my own. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 37 Pop, he slaps them down.

3. To strike, bring down (one's hand, etc.) *on* or *upon* something with a slap; to clap (the hands) *together.*

1717 PRIOR *Alma* I. 346 Dick..Then slapp'd his Hand upon the Board. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 June, The Duke slapped his hand violently on the table, and called out [etc.]. 1860 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert's Career* xviii. 332 He suddenly slapped his hand upon his forehead. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/5 The Chancellor of the Exchequer slapped his palms together.

b. To put or place *on* or *into*, to fling or throw *down*, etc., with a slap or clap.

1836 MARRYAT *Midship. Easy* xiii, The grating was slapped on again by Jack. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* vii. (1879) 65 Long planks were drawn from waggons and slapped down on one another. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *Man of Destiny* 161 He slaps the cloth on the table and deftly rolls it up.

fig. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R., Mountjoy* (1855) 63 The moment I make my appearance in the world, a little girl slaps Italian in my face.

c. To place, put, or set (one's hat) *over* the face, etc. so that it lops down or overhangs; to jam *down* firmly. ? *Obs.*

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. ii, [He] slapped his hat over his face. 1796 — *Camilla* II. 168 Lionel slapped his hat over his eyes. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 162 His hat was slapped quite down, as if to keep it from being carried away by the wind.

4. To shut (a door, gate, etc.) sharply or with a slap. Also with *to.*

1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* IV. ii, *Sir Jeal.* There, go, and come no more within sight of my Habitation..(Slaps the Door after her.) 1762 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 133/1 The daughter..slapped to the door. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv, I..contented myself with slapping the door of my bedroom in his face. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* v, The door was slapped to,..and on we drove.

5. *intr.* Of a door, etc.: To slam. *rare.*

1796 *Black Giles* (Cheap Reposit. Tracts) 4 They are very apt to let the gate slap full against you, before you are half way through. *a* 1882 ROSSETTI *Ballad of J. Van Hunks* i, You might hear the hall-door slap.

6. Of waves, water, etc.: To beat or strike *on* or *against* something with a slapping sound.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxii, We could..hear the water slapping against the bends. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* v. 86 The sea slapped and broke..on our windward quarter. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 169 The fellows could hear the rain slapping in gusts against the window-panes.

7. To move or walk quickly; to go *along* in this manner. *dial.* or *colloq.*

1827 *Mirror* II. 36/2 Always slap along at a desperate rate through the streets. 1828– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Yorks., Lancs., Northants.).

8. To strike or fire *at* a person.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ii, I'll keep no terms with him;—I'll slap at him directly, what can you do that's wickedest? *Ibid.* iii, Slap at him, Morty, my boy, the minute you get the word, and if you don't hit him itself, it will prevent him dwelling on his aim.

Slap, *v.*2 *Sc.* Also 6 **slop.** [f. SLAP *sb.*2]

1. *trans.* To make gaps or breaches in (a wall, etc.).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. viii. 110 The Volscenaris assemblit in a sop, To fyll the fowseis and the wallis to slop. *a* 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Cl.) 211 The men of weare.. slappit all the pendis of the kirk, for keiping thairof aganis my lord regent. 1767 in Cramond *Ann. Cullen* (1888) 106 The wall is slapt to make a slit to give air to the criminal prison. 1805 *State Fraser of Fraserfield* 216 (Jam.), The remains of an old dyke or bulwark, much slapped and broken.

†**2.** *transf.* To make breaks or breaches in (a body of troops). *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* X. viii. 6 The quhilk Turnus..The myd routis went sloppand heir and thair. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xv. (S. T. S.) I. 86 þai nocht alanerlie dang and sloppit þe Sabynis legiouns, bot als put þame to flicht.

Slap, *v.*3 Now *dial.* [ad. LG. *slappen* (G. *schlappen*) in the same sense.]

1. *intr.* To lap.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* i. 4 The other [dog] ranne straight to slap in the platter.

2. *trans.* To lap or gobble *up.*

1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Right Hand* 19 They haue slapt vp his Vomite. 1637 HEYWOOD *Pleas. Dial.* iv. Wks. 1874 VI. 191 With his long finger having scrap'd the dish, And slapt up all the sauce of flesh or fish. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'To slap up,' to swallow greedily, to dispatch a meal. *Ibid.*, He slapt up his porridge in a trice.

Slap (slæp), *adv. colloq.* [ad. LG. *slapp* (G. *schlapp*), of imitative origin.]

1. With, or as with, a slap or smart quick blow; quickly, suddenly, without warning or notice: **a.** In general use (frequently parenthetic); also with *off*, *down.*

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. i, First one speaks, then presently t'others upon him slap, with a Repartee. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* III, You han't been married eight-and-forty hours, and you are slap—at your husband's beard already. 1733 FIELDING *Quix. in Eng.* II. iv, There is no laying down anything eatable, but if you turn your back, slap, he has it up. 1736 — *Pasquin* I. I defy you to guess my couple till the thing is done, slap, all at once. 1852 READE *Peg Woff.* (1889) 123 Let us be serious and finish this comedy slap off. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiii, 'The money must be paid.' 'In full and slap down, do you mean?' asked Fledgeby.

b. With *come*, *go*, *run*, etc.

In later use freq. implying sense 2.

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* IV. ii, Slap down goes the glass, and thus we are at it. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. v, If they offered to come into the warehouse, then strait went the yard slap over their noddle. *a* 1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 10 You were but twelve hours in my house,..when slap comes down an express to hurry you away. 1831 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* II. 280, I was determined to run slap ashore. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 259, I'm blessed if I didn't ride slap into that drain. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 226 A ball had passed slap through his body.

c. With verbs denoting violent impact.

1825 WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 291 Let fly..slap at my smeller. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* I. vii. 140 A ball, of the consistence of hasty pudding, hit him slap in the mouth. 1861 G. MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* xli, Andrew pushed through the doorway, and..delivered a punch slap into Old Tom's belt.

2. Directly; straight.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, I, and my Noah's Ark, lay slap in the way. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *The House-Warming* ii, The shaft..ne'er glanced from a limb Of a tree..,but was aimed slap at him. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, A turnstile leading slap away into the meadows. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* XXV, We walked slap down to the hotel.

Slap, *a. slang.* Ellipt. for SLAP-UP.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 107/1 People's got proud now,..and must have everything slap.

Slap-bang, *adv., a.,* and *sb.* Also **slap bang.** [f. SLAP *adv.* + BANG *v.* 8.]

A. *adv.* With, or as with, a slap and a bang; without delay, immediately; without due consideration or regard to the consequences.

1785 [see B. 1 a]. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Slap-bang*, violently, headlong—slap-dash. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, After fooling a man like a child in leading-strings for half a year, to let him go slap-bang, as I call it, in a minute, is an infernal shame. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* (1889) 34 Over they went slap bang; whether they were China or woollen goods they met with the same treatment.

B. *adj.* †**1. a.** *Slap-bang shop*, an eating-house or cook-shop (see quot. 1785). *Obs.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Slap-bang shop*, a petty cook's shop where there is no credit given, but what is had must be paid down with the ready slap-bang, i. e. immediately. This is a common appellation for a night cellar frequented by thieves, and sometimes for a stage coach or caravan. 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* 83 So I *vaunks* myself to a slap-bang shop, for half a pound o' beef. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIV. 214 Cow-heel or hot alamode from the slap-bang shop.

† **b.** *Slap-bang coach* (cf. prec., quot. 1785). *Obs.*

1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 9, I invented the slap-bang coaches, and sported the tandem.

2. Marked or characterized by carelessness, heedlessness, or haste.

1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 53 Still I dare this slap bang assertion dispute. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 283/1 A bold 'slap-bang' method. 1878 FR. A. KEMBLE *Rec. Girlhood* I. 98 The careless, slap-bang style in which overtures were performed.

3. = SLAP-UP *a.* 1.

1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 209 We don't intend to send you out in the tip-top, slap-bang, gentleman's-son style at first.

C. *sb.* **1.** A slap-bang shop.

1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz* (1837) III. 36 They..dined at the same slap-bang every day, and revelled in each other's company every night. 1860 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* iii. 106 Refreshments served with no more style than at what we term a 'slap-bang'. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1950. 341/1 Cook-shops, or 'slap-bangs', as street-boys call such odorous places.

2. Some kind of liquor.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 77 What shall I call for? glass of the Mowbray slap-bang? No better; the receipt has been in our family these fifty years.

Slap-dash, *adv., a.,* and *sb.* Also **slap dash, slapdash.** [f. SLAP *adv.* + DASH *adv.*]

A. *adv.* With, or as with, a slap and a dash; in a hasty, sudden, or precipitate manner; *esp.* without much consideration, thought, ceremony, or care; hurriedly and carelessly.

1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* III. i, Down I put the notes slap-dash. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. iv, Now am I slap dash down in the mouth, and have not one word to say! 1729 BYROM *Rem.* (1855) I. II. 331 A way of printing letters or anything slap-dash. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. xxvii. 167 These denunciations come so slap-dash upon one, so unceremoniously,..that they overturn one! 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* 42 He..rode slap-dash at Gimcrack, hoping to effect it by a broadside. 1838 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1883) II. 37, I cannot plunge, slap dash, into the middle of events and characters. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 40 Record of the tour, written slapdash after my return.

B. *adj.* **1.** Marked or characterized by haste, carelessness, or want of due preparation or consideration; done, performed, etc. in a dashing and haphazard manner or style.

c 1792 MILNER in Sidney *Rowland Hill* (1834) 96 'Tis this slap-dash preaching..that does all the good. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. xi, The Yahoos, who invariably couple noise with smartness, had, in their slap-dash manner, arranged the table and placed the chairs for the guests. 1862 GRATTAN *Beaten Paths* II. 70 The slapdash mass of censure, sarcasm, philosophy, and fiction contained in those remarkable pages. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xiii, I thought it rather a mad proceeding..to come off in this slap-dash fashion.

2. Of persons: Given to acting in this way.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii. You right hearted but thoughtless slapdash vagabond. 1893 JESSOPP *Stud. Recluse* v. 182 To study history..is always..abhorrent to men who belong to the slapdash classes.

C. *sb.* † **1.** Slapping, cuffing, or beating. *Obs.*[1]

1712 Mrs. Centlivre *Perplexed Lovers* iii, Hark ye, Monsieur, if you don't march off I shall play you such an English Courant, of slap-dash, presently, that shan't out of your Ears this Twelvemonth.

2. Roughcast.

1796 W. H. Marshall *W. Eng.* I. 330 *Slapdash*, rough-cast, or liquid coating of buildings. 1853 *Exeter Dioc. Archit. Soc.* IV. 166 Masons actually laying slapdash thickly on the exterior. 1886 *Cent. Mag.* July 423 The gray slap-dash is filled with red granite pebbles.

b. *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Slab*, or *Slap-dash*, a cheap mode of colouring rooms [1829 by dashing them with a brush], in imitation of paper.

3. Carelessness, roughness, or want of finish in style or workmanship; writing or work done in this style.

1826 *Examiner* 73/1 We are to be flabbergasted for some time to come with slap-dash in support of the commercial wisdom of our ancestors. 1876 W. White *Holid. in Tyrol* ix. 74 English folk are too fond of slap-dash in their writing. 1889 *Athenæum* 2 Feb. 146/3 As a specimen of newspaper 'slapdash' we may point to the description of General Ignatieff.

b. With reference to painting: (cf. 2).

1884 *Athenæum* 6 Dec. 739/2 The energetic slap-dash of the landscape and sky. 1886 *Ibid.* 14 Aug. 215/3 Curing our water-colourists of the too prevalent tendency to mere slap-dash as the only way of expressing strength.

4. *north. dial.* (See quot.)

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Slapdash*, a thoughtless, impetuous fellow.

Hence **Sla·p-dash** *v. intr.*, to write, work, etc. in a slap-dash or offhand manner or style; *trans.* (see quot. 1828). Also (in *nonce use*) **Slap-da·shery, Slap-da·shically** *adv.*

1820 T. G. Wainewright *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 99 'Come,' said he,..with that, slap-dashing into the thickest of any question that started itself. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Slap-dash*, to rough-cast. 2. To colour rooms by dashing them with a brush. 1836 E. Howard *R. Reefer* lii, These latter friends of mine were, as our Transatlantic brethren say, pretty considerably, slap-dashically right. *a* 1871 De Morgan *Newton*, etc. (1885) 105 One of the most stinging warnings which a biographer had ever received against what I must call the slapdashery of assertion. 1872 *Dublin Rev.* April 380 Many novelists have taken the Crimean war for their theme;..but they do not 'slapdash'.

Slape (slēp), *a. north. dial.* [a. ON. *sleip-r* (Icel. *sleipur*, Norw. *sleip*) slippery.]

1. Slippery; smooth. Also *fig.*, crafty, cunning, deceitful.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 414 Who so will do after me Full slape of thrift then shal he be. 1671 Skinner *Etymol. Angl.*, *Slape*, quod agro nostro Linc. lubricum & mollem signat. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), *Slape*, slippery. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 353 *Slape*, slippery; as ice, or a dirty path. 1811– in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Linc., Notts.). 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 562 Doff it, and lo! the slape sconce of the Doctor. 1901 Marq. Lorne *V. R. I.* 48 The gardener warned her to be careful, as the ground was 'slape'.

2. Of ale: (see quots.).

1671 in Skinner *Etymol. Angl.* [with Latin explanation, translated by Ray]. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words*, *Slape-ale*: Lincoln. Plain ale as opposed to Ale medicated with Wormwood or Scurvy-grass, or mixed with any other liquor. 1742 Gale in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 338 His old companions say they will in a little time bring him back again to slape-ale. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Slape-yale*, rich, soft or smooth ale. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Lincs.*, *Slape*, strong, soft and sweet (applied to ale).

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slape-faced, -fingered, -haired*, etc.; **slape-face** (see quot. 1847); also, a smooth-faced man.

For other combs. of this type, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1803 R. Anderson *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 75 Left-handed Sim, slape-finger'd Sam. 1839 Rayson *Poems* (1858) 63 For slape-finger'd art he is equall'd by neane. 1847 Halliw., *Slape-face*, a soft-spoken, mealy-mouthed hypocrite. 1884 W. Black *J. Shakespeare* i, If he..have a red beard, I will not have him... If he be a slape-face, I will have none of him. 1890 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 392 There were..two distinct breeds [of dogs]: the slape-haired and the rough-haired.

Slape, obs. form of Sleep.

Slapjack (slæ·pˌdʒæk). Also **slap-jack, slap jack.** [f. Slap *v.* + Jack *sb.*1]

1. *U.S.* A griddle-cake. Cf. Flapjack 1.

1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* (1865) 438 Dainty slapjacks, well buttered, and garnished with honey or treacle. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 97 A dish of real Connecticut Slap Jacks, or Hominy. 1872 C. King *Sierra Nevada* vii. 148 Such dainties as thrice-turned slap-jacks.

2. A card-game in which a player gains by being the first to slap a jack when played.

1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* v, He would labour with sublime patience at the perplexity of 'Muggins' or 'Slap-Jack', two games of cards, to enliven the dulness of a purely literary evening.

† Slappaty-pouch. *Obs.*–1 [f. Slap *v.*1] ?Slapping of the hands against the sides in order to warm oneself.

c 1700 T. Brown *Lett. fr. Dead* Wks. 1720 II. 151 We have even tired our Palms and our Ribs at Slappaty-pouch, and..I [*sc.* Charon] had almost forgot to handle my Sculls.

Sla·ppel. *dial.* (See quot.)

1674 Ray *S. & E. Co. Words*, A *Slappel*, a piece, part, or portion, *Suss*[*ex*]. [Hence in Grose, etc.]

Slapper1 (slæ·pəɹ). [f. Slap *v.*1 + -er.]

1. *dial.* A large thing or object; a big, strapping, or overgrown person.

1781– in northern dial. glossaries. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.*, *Slapper*, any large object; as a big salmon, *Roxb.* 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slapper*,..applied to persons and things, but most frequently to over-grown females. *Ibid.*, 'She's a slapper.'

2. One who slaps; *spec.* in *Pottery.*

1860 Tomlinson *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Pottery* 32 The workman called the slapper takes a mass of the paste, weighing from sixty to seventy pounds, and dashes it down on a bench before him. 1880 C. Mason *Forty Shires* 159 When the clay is to be used, the slapper does his work.

3. An implement used for slapping with.

a 1886 H. S. Brown *Autobiog.* (1887) iv. 18 Mr. Stowell had on his desk a broad wooden slapper, to be smitten with which we were commanded to hold out our hands.

Sla·pper2. *rare*–0. [f. Slap *v.*3] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Licheur*, a licker, lapper, or slapper vp of.

Sla·ppet, *sb. Derby mining.* Also slap(p)it. [? dim. of OF. *esclape* shiver, splinter.] A splinter or shiver of ore, etc.

1768 Mettam in Whitehurst *Form. Earth* (1778) 188 They fly out in such slappits, smooth on one side. 1811 Farey *Derbyshire* I. 250 Large Slapits, Spels or fragments fly off, sometimes with loud explosions.

Hence **Sla·ppet** *v.*

1811 Farey *Derbyshire* I. 367 On his return, [he] finds all the Vein-stuff so furrowed, spelled, or slappeted off.

† **Sla·ppiness.** *Obs.*–1 [Cf. Du. *slap* soft.] Softness, flabbiness.

1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* iii. vi. 142 For this cause Infants do not presently speak nor reason, because the slappiness of their brain gives not passage to the Idea's.

Sla·pping, *vbl. sb.*1 [f. Slap *v.*1] The action of the vb., in various senses; an instance of this.

1632 in Sherwood. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 67 (1713) II. 166 Our Author's next Charge..is the slapping of the Pew-doors in Prayer-time. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 378 The Town made answer with the slapping of their slings. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* iii. 51 The pattings and slappings of the Fuegians. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Courageous* 70 There was an incessant slapping and chatter at the bows now, varied by a solid thud.

attrib. 1851 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* I. viii. 154 That smart, slapping sound, produced by an open hand upon tender flesh. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 44 The loud, vibrating, prolonged, presystolic bruit and slapping first sound [of the heart].

b. *spec.* in *Pottery.* (See quots.)

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 460 When the clay is required for the thrower the process of *slapping* follows next. This is performed by a strong man, who places a large mass..upon a..bench. He then..cuts the mass through, and taking up the piece thus cut off, he..casts it down again on the mass below. 1880 Janvier *Pract. Keramics* iv. 44 Just before using, the paste for this often undergoes the process of 'slapping'.

Sla·pping, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. Slap *v.*3] (See quot.)

1611 Cotgr., *Lichement*, a licking; lapping, or slapping vp.

Sla·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. Of pace, etc.: Extremely fast; rapid, rattling.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 124 The first run was at a slapping pace. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xxii, Billy gave the little black mare her head, and away she went at a slapping pace. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ix. 428 One giraffe-cow, going at a slapping gallop a long way ahead over a villainous country.

2. Of horses: Big, powerfully built (sometimes implying ability to travel quickly).

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 277 One by Comus, and the other by Jonathan, both slapping colts. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* ix. 38 Nor did the great slapping brown horse.. turn out less imposingly than his master. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* i, The Yorkshiremen..try to breed great slapping carriage-horses.

b. Of persons or things: Unusually large or fine; excellent, very good; strapping.

1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v., *A slappin chiel*, a tall fellow. 1829– in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Berks., Somerset, Cornw., etc.). 1849 Cupples *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 23, I really couldn't help laughing to see the slapping, big-bearded fellows..showing off in this manner.

3. That slaps, in senses of the vb.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 750 The large and slapping pulse which he has frequently observed in pericardial effusions. 1899 *Triad* vii. 12/1 We swam on in the face of the slapping seas.

Sla·ppy. [f. Slap *v.*1] Some indoor game.

1868 Holme Lee *B. Godfrey* xxxvi, Everybody was willing..to engage in 'Post' or 'Slappy'.

Slap riddle: see Slap *sb.*6

† **Slapsauce.** *Obs.* [f. Slap *v.*3 + Sauce *sb.*]

1. One who is fond of good eating; a greedy or gluttonous person. Also *attrib.*

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 188 At dinner and supper the table doth craue good fellowly neighbour good manner to haue. Aduise thee well therefore, ere tongue be too free, or slapsauce be noted too saucie to bee. 1611 Cotgr., *Leschard*, a lickorous, or sweet-mouthed slapsawce. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxv, Slapsauce fellows, slabberdegullion druggels, lubbardly lowts.

2. A slabber-sauce. *rare*–1.

1709 O. Dykes *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 12 Her Chocolate, her Gellies, and her Sweet-meats; or such like liquorish Slap-sawces, which pall the Appetite and disrelish the Palate for the whole Day.

† **Slap-shoe.** *Obs.*–0 (See quot.)

1688 Holme *Armoury* iii. 14 Slap shooes, or Ladies shooes, are shooes with a loose Sole.

Slap-up, *a. slang* and *colloq.* [Slap *adv.*] Very or unmistakably good or fine; of superior quality, style, etc.; first-rate, first-class, grand. (Common in 19th cent.) a. Of things.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 147 Send them to that slap-up work, the Sporting Magazine. 1858 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 66 A trim, sparkling, slap-up Irish jaunting-car. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* iv. 53 We'll have a good round, square, slap-up meal at seven.

b. Of persons.

1829 *Caricature Title*, The Slap-up Swell wot drives when hever he likes. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 17 He had made some slap-up acquaintances among the genteelest people at Paris. 1876 J. Saunders *Lion in Path* xx, I'm a little sweet on her maid, slap-up creature, I can tell you.

Slare (slēəɹ), *v. dial.* [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *slara* to stagger; also NFris. *slare* to drag the feet. *Slare* or *slair* in other senses (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) is current in all northern and eastern dialects.] *intr.* (See quot. 1877.)

1726 S. Wesley in Southey *Life J. Wesley* (1820) I. 445 My man, who lay in the garret, heard some one come slaring through the garret to his chamber. 1726 Hoole *Ibid.* 457 We..heard, at the broad stairs head, some one slaring with their feet. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 227/1 *Slare*, to make a noise by rubbing the boot-soles on an uncarpeted floor.

Slash (slæʃ), *sb.*1 [f. Slash *v.*]

1. A cutting stroke delivered with an edged weapon or instrument, or with a whip.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 297 *marg.*, Because euery one was ready to cutte his throte as to haue a slash at his fleshe. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 13 b/2 A great hewe or slashe, by which the eare hangeth by the heade. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* iii. 26 Sometimes they fight after their fashion, which is a slash or two with the edge of the sword. 1652 Cotterell tr. *Calprenède's Cassandra* iii. (1676) 43 Cut the straps of his Cask, with a slash of his sword. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* ii. i, I observed it had yet some life, but, with a strong slash across the neck, I thoroughly despatched it. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxxix, He ..had only taken this recumbent posture to avoid the slashes, stabs, and pistol-balls, which..were flying in various directions. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 431 There seemed a prospect of the English crown passing, without slash or blow, to the brow of the Norman.

transf. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* v. vii. (1872) II. 119 Capable of rough slashes of sarcasm when he opens his old beard for speech. 1867 Latham *Black & White* 3 Listening to the angry slash with which each wave's crest swished like a scourge across the ship.

2. A long and deep or severe cut; a gash; a wound of this character.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Taillade*, He gaue him a slashe or cutte on the legge. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 986 Three great slashes [were] made on his backe, where they began to flea him. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 10 In adding to their beauties, they have two or three slashes in the face. 1717 Prior *Alma* ii. 445 Scarr'd with ten thousand comely Blisters,..Distinguish'd Slashes deck the Great. 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd., A slash or two, or a broken head, was easily accommodated. 1890 Doyle *White Company* xxx, The Bohemian knight.. bleeding from a slash across the forehead.

b. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 654/1 *Lacinia*,..a slash. A deep taper-pointed incision.

3. A vertical slit made in a garment in order to expose to view a lining or under garment of a different or contrasting colour.

1615 Markham *Country Contentm.* I. xi. (1633) 75 Let your apparel be plain..without any new fashioned slashes, or hanging sleeves, waving loose, like sails about you. 1627 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 261 A swain.. was suspected..and..searched, and a poisoned knife found in one of his slashes. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 109 ₱ 5 Observe the small Buttons,..the Slashes about his Clothes. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* i, The colour of the traveller's doublet was blue, and that of his hose violet, with slashes which showed a lining of the same colour with the jerkin. 1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlwk.* 451/2 *Slashes* or *Panes*, a term used by tailors and dressmakers, to signify a vertical cutting in any article of dress [etc.].

b. *attrib.* with *cuff, pocket.* Also *absol.* (see quot. 1859).

1799 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 149 To you I submit..whether the coat shall have slash Cuffs (with blue flaps passing through them), and slash pockets. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 33 *Slash*, outside coat pocket.

† **Slash,** *sb.*2 *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Sc. *slash* a large splash of liquid, etc., perh. ad. OF. *esclache* (Godef.).] A drink, draught.

1614 W. Hornby *Sco. Drunkennesse* (1859) 18 But if to pledge a slash hee doth refuse They'l take the pot, and throw the drinke in's face. *c* 1783 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 94 Flounders, the younger,..So prim on his stallion and fond of his slash.

Slash (slæʃ), *sb.*3 *U.S.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Flash *sb.*1 and Plash *sb.*1, also Eng. dial. *slashy* wet and dirty, miry.] A piece of wet or swampy ground overgrown with bushes.

1799 Washington *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 232 Excepting the ground now in and designed for lucerne, south of the slash by the Barn. 1837 P. H. Gosse in *Life* (1890) 106 The first quarter of a mile lay through a very rough slash. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v., Between this and Edenton there are many whortleberry slashes. 1890 *Cent. Mag.* June 221/2 The camp was in a cypress slash. You could cut the miasma with a knife.

b. *Comb.* **slash-pine** (see quots.).

1882 Hough *Elem. Forestry* 328 Varieties [of *Pinus taeda*] are known in North Carolina as 'Swamp Pine', 'Slash Pine'. 1884 C. S. Sargent *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 516 The slash pine (*Pinus Cubensis*) of the Florida coast.

Slash (slæʃ), *sb.*4 *local.* [Later form of Slatch 1.] (See quots.)

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* 376 Besides 'sloughs' there occur in Broadhaven and elsewhere, small but very deep troughs of finely fractured culm, which are called 'slashes'. These (as far as my knowledge goes) are peculiar to Pembrokeshire. 1849 — *Siluria* (1854) 275 The stone-coal .. has been for the most part shivered into small fragments, and is frequently accumulated in small troughs or hollows, the 'slashes' of the miners.

Slash (slæʃ), *v.* Also 4 slasch, 6–7 slassh. [perh. ad. OF. *esclachier* to break; used once in the Wycliffite Bible, but otherwise recorded only from the middle of the 16th cent.]

1. *trans.* To cut or wound with a sweep or stroke of a sharp weapon or instrument; to gash, †hew.

1382 BIBLE 1 *Kings* v. 18 (MS. Bodl. 959), The grete stones .. whiche þe masownys of Salamon .. han slascht [*altered to* ouerscorchyd]. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 42 Slashing the Lady with his fauchion fell. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 114 Hewd and slasht he had beene as small as chippings, if he had not played ducke Fryer. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 664 Alas! some of us shall with Scythes be slasht. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1877) I. 14 Where all their confederates and neighbours..cut and slashed their fore heads in token of sorrow. 1716–8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xxxviii. 152 Some slashed their arms with sharp knives, making the blood spring out. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 518 The thighs with fire consumed, they..slash'd the remnant, pierced it with spits [etc.]. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whaleman's Advent.* v. (1858) 67 The mincer with a two-handed knife slashes it nearly through into thin slices. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. xviii, There are few things a woman..would not do to save two friends from hacking and slashing each other.

refl. 1652–62 HEVLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 64 Most hideously to slash themselves in all parts of their bodies.

b. To cut *off* or *out* with a sweeping or sharp stroke.

1599 GREENE *Alphonsus* 597 Therefore Fabius, stand not lingring, But presently slash off his trayterous head. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimes* II. 1724 Their owne flesh..they slash off in morsels. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, I will slash the eyes out of his head with my poniard! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. vii, Already one poor Invalide has his right hand slashed off him.

2. *intr.* To deliver or aim cutting blows (also const. *at*); to make gashes or deep wounds.

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* H iv, Euen so..was Syr Arthur Darcy slasht at with swoordes, and..hurt vppon the weddyng fynger of hys righte hande. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 15 The knights..Broke their rude troupes,..Hewing and slashing at their idle shades. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sgr.'s T.* VIII. 261 Swoordes flew out, most feircelie hissinge, percinge, cuttinge, slasshinge. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 349 Knights..when they slash, and cut to pieces, Doe all with civillest addresses. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 317 Y^e Spatæ were us'd both to push and slash. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, The enemy..will fall to, cutting and slashing, till he makes them all rise up dead men. 1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 291 Then did he slit them with his thumbnail, and then did he pare and slash away at them again. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 44 In the fights..these lads hacked and slashed with the same tremendous spirit.

fig. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 114 He would needs..hewe and slash with his Hexameters. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. vii. (1872) VIII. 225 The Austrians..will not go, till well slashed into, and torn out by sheer beating.

b. To strike violently or at random; to lay about one with heavy blows; to move rapidly and violently, etc. Also with *down, out.*

a 1654 SELDEN *Table T.* (Arb.) 88 They that do drudgery-work, slash, and puff, and swear. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 236 Boshell came up rather distressed,..and endeavoured to slash out. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 159 We..came slashing down with the mad current into the narrow passage between the dykes. 1901 *Scotsman* 10 Sept. 7/3 Williamson..slashed to the enclosure.

3. *trans.* To cut slits in (a garment) and so expose to view an under-garment or a lining of a contrasting colour; to vary *with* another material or colour in this way.

1598 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 9 A Coat slasht to hang back to shew their Sleeves. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xviii, A carnation-velvet doublet, slashed and puffed out with cloth of silver. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. vii, Those enormous habiliments, that were..slashed and galooned. 1898 *Stratford-on-Avon Herald* 11 Feb., A morning dress was made with..cuff sleeves to match, slashed with bright colour.

transf. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 26 The sun sinking slowly behind a fog-bank had slashed the whole western sky with scarlet streaks.

4. To cut with a scourge or whip; to lash, whip, thrash severely.

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* IV. iv, You know where you were taw'd lately, both lash'd, and slash'd you were in Bridewell. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 266/1 Here I stand, with whip in hand To slash all those that do oppose Good Husbandry. 1710 *Medley* No. 12, These the Emperor order'd to be daily beaten and slash'd in the Market-place with cudgels, whips, and scourges. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxiii, Drag him to the market-place!—slash him with bridle-reins and dog-whips! 1896 A. J. C. HARE *Story Life* I. iii. 173 He was very hot-tempered, and slashed our hands with a ruler.

5. To rebuke or assail cuttingly; to criticize severely or mercilessly. Also *absol.*

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, Pref. 4 History must not cauterise, and slash with Malice, those Noble Parts. 1659 PELL *Impr. Sea* Ded. a 5 b, Because you have Authority..to cut the comb of that, which this Book so sharply slashes, and reproves in the Sea. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. iv. § 55 If we would see him in his Altitudes, we must go back to the House of Commons...There he cuts and slashes at another Rate. 1771 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 121, I do not think myself bound to defend the character of even the best of kings. Pray slash them, and spare not. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* v, Criticism is a great science and may be divided into three branches: viz. 'to tickle, to slash, and to plaster'.

6. To crack (a whip); to bring down in a slashing manner.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* VI. ii. 220 She slash'd a whip which she had in her hand; the cracks thereof were..loud and dreadful. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* IX. 305 He slashed his breaded whip. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 13 Slashing his whip so near the horse that the creature was frightened. 1899 WERNER *Capt. Locusts* 113 She brought her switch down on the old grey's flank; and then..slashed it sharply across her own shoulders.

7. To beat, tread *down.*

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xxxiii. 18 Where the herds have slashed down the high grass.

8. Used adverbially to denote action or sound.

a 1654 SELDEN *Table T.* (Arb.) 71 A Whip that cry'd Slash. 1839 *John Bull* 11 Aug., Here, said he, and slash went the knife.

Slashed (slæʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. Of garments: Having vertical slits to show a contrasting lining; in mod. use, having a piece of material of a different colour inserted.

1633 SHIRLEY *Triumph of Peace* Plays (1888) 441 Confidence in a slashed doublet parti-coloured. 1649 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* III. i, Like a Cavalier, in a slasht suit. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) V. 79 Charles I. with ruff, ribband, and slashed habit. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Slashed sleeves and pockets, which are peculiar to the British cavalry, when the officers or men wear long coats. 1887 *The Lady* 20 Jan. 37 Another [costume] of black velvet and white silk, with slashed sleeves.

2. Gashed, cut; deeply wounded. Also *absol.*

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iii, A sound skin is better than a slashed one. *c* 1850 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) II. 143 Chopping into small pieces the already slashed and slain.

3. *Bot.* Deeply cut; laciniate.

1839 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 138 Where leaves are extremely divided, .. we say .. that the leaf is multifid, laciniated, decomposed, or slashed. 1856 HENSLOW *Bot. Terms* 174 *Slashed*, where a surface is divided by deep and very acute incisions.

Slasher (slæ·ʃəɹ). [f. SLASH *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who slashes; a fighter, a bully; a slashing fellow.

1559 *Mirr. Mag., The Blacksmith* xxxii, With slashers, slaues and snuffers so falshod is in price, The simple faith is deadly sinne, and vertue counted vice. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 57, I..behold the glorious picture of that most-threatning Slassher. 1611 COTGR., *Chamailleur*, a slasher,..swash-buckler. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Slasher*, a bullying riotous fellow. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* vi, The worn-out acerbity of an old slasher [= reviewer]. 1836 in C. K. Sharpe *Corr.* (1888) II. 495 Mrs. Villiers, in galloping to cover.., was pitched off, and frighten'd even the hard-hearted Melton Slashers. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 95 *Slasher*, a powerful roisterer, or pugilist. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 291 We'll make a slasher of him in a little bit.

b. *pl.* (See quot. 1802.)

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Slashers*, a nickname which was given during the American war to the 28th regiment of foot. 1848 THACKERAY *Let.* 28 July, The other regiment in garrison at Canterbury, the Slashers if you please. 1898 *Times* 10 Jan. 11/6 When my original regiment, the 28th Gloucestershire, the gallant 'Slashers', arrived home from India in 1865.

2. A sword; a weapon for slashing.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiii, 'Had he no arms?' asked the Justice. 'Ay, ay, they are never without barkers and slashers.' 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 445/2 The creese..makes a frightful wound, whether used as a slasher or a sticker.

b. A billhook.

1882 HAY *Brighter Brit.* I. 186 A billhook, or slasher,..for the purpose of clearing all the undergrowth. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct. 10/3 One..was armed with a 'slasher', used for cutting hedges.

c. An implement used in brick-making to detect stones in the clay.

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks & Tiles* v. 129 The hand-temperer then cuts through the small pile of clay with a tool termed a 'slasher'.

3. A severe criticism or review.

1849 *Ainsworth's Mag.* Dec. 535 Writing squibs or slashers for electioneering purposes. 1858 THACKERAY *Let.* 27 Dec., A request for a notice might bring a slasher down upon you.

4. A form of sizing-machine for yarn, so called on account of its rapid working.

1862 *Catal. Brit. Exhib., Brit. Div.* I. § 1515 Sizing Machine, commonly called Slasher, for sizing or dressing, and afterwards drying the warp preparatory to being woven. *Ibid.*, Slasher-sizing machine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2199/1 In the slasher..the yarn runs through boiling size.

Sla·shing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SLASH *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb; cutting; gashing.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Discoursing of his fraies and deep acting of his slashing and hewing. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv, Onely to turne his slashing at the Court Gate, to slaughtering in the Field. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 13 We were at slashing and pelting with the Hollanders, and they with us. 1782 CREVECŒUR *Lett.* 81 How do you go on with your new cutting and slashing? 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 655 Special orders were given..that the swords should be made rather for stabbing than for slashing.

attrib. 1670 AUBREY *Miscell.* (1890) App. 214 Their servants .. (in that slashing age) did commonly bang one another's bucklers.

2. The action of making a slit in a garment in order to show the lining or an under-garment of a contrasting colour; the opening thus made.

1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 221 The elegant fashion of slashing makes its appearance about this time. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlwk.* 451/2 Pieces of stuff of a different material being sewn under the Slashings.

b. A piece of material inserted in a garment of a different colour to form a contrast.

1887 *Sporting Life* 2 July 3/1 A dress of creamy white material with a pale pink slashing. 1888 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 551/3 Brocaded trains gleaming fitfully with slashings of exquisite pink.

3. A heavy downpour of rain.

1828 MRS. S. C. HALL *Sketches Irish Char.* (1842) 74 The rain fell in slashings, like hail.

4. *U.S.* A place where the trees have been blown down; a clearing made by a storm.

1894 *Outing* XXIV. 186/2 When we got into a spruce thicket or an old 'slashing'—the track of a hurricane.

Sla·shing, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].]

1. Severely critical; cuttingly sarcastic.

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 164 From slashing Bentley down to pidling Tibalds. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Homer* i. Wks. 1857 VI. 312 The Alexandrian critics, with all their slashing insolence, showed themselves sons of the feeble. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Organ.* § 5. 306 Slashing style, and daring assertion,..are falling into discredit. 1895 *Tablet* 23 Mar. 457 A deliberate and slashing attack upon the Catholic Church.

2. That slashes or cuts severely.

1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 70 Being 'called out' by one of these slashing gentlemen. 1863 *Reader* 31 Oct. 502 The way in which he cramps up his calves and toes as the next slashing blow is about to come down. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 121, In every mill there are other saws.., such as 'slashing' saws for cutting slabs.

3. Spirited; dashing; full of vigour.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii, There goes the pride of Perth—there go the slashing craftsmen. 1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 276 They were mostly what would be called slashing men, who could do a great deal and do it well. 1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 May 492/3 The Stockwell colt..was a slashing horse.

Comb. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, A long-armed, bare-headed, slashing-looking player coming to the wicket.

b. Of actions; *esp.* of pace, rapid.

1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* I. 54 My grandfather rode jollily along, in his easy slashing way. 1837 T. HOOK *Jack Brag* iii, They all went off at a slashing pace. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, Making a slashing drive to the off for 4.

4. Very large or fine; splendid.

1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. vii, Some fair creature with a slashing fortune at her disposal.

Hence **Sla·shingly** *adv.*, in a slashing manner; vigorously; severely.

1659 TORRIANO, *A-sládscio*, slashingly, riotously. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 743 He goes slashingly to work. 1893 *Review of Rev.* Dec. 626 Told so vividly and slashingly.

Slashy (slæ·ʃi), *a. rare.* [f. SLASH *v.*] Of a slashing nature.

1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XI. iii. (1872) IV. 54 Its wit is very copious, but slashy, bantery.

Slat (slæt), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4–7 sclat, 5 sklat, 6 sklatt(e, 6–7 sclatt. *β.* 4–7, 9 slatt, 6–7 slatte, 5– slat. [ad. OF. *esclat* (mod.F. *éclat*) splinter, shiver, piece broken or split off anything, related to OF. *esclater* to burst, of doubtful origin (cf. ÉCLAT *sb.*).]

With the following example, in which the sense is not clear, cf. *slate-incense* s.v. SLATE *sb.*[1] 7.—1345–6 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 133 In xxxiij libris de slatt' pro incens' empt. 5*s.* 8*d.*

1. A roofing-slate; a thin slab of stone used for roofing. Now *dial.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* v. 19 By the sclattis thei senten him doun with the bed in to the myddil. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 399 There lyme is copious, And sclattes also for hous. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 449 Sklat, or slat stone, *latericia, ymbrex.* 1521 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 399 No man shall buld..anny straue or tache housse..unlesse they be covered with sklattes. 1565 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 234 For ij. foder of sclatts caring frome plawsworth. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* vi, The Roofe, instead of Slats, Is couer'd with the skinns of Batts. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 391 All the houses of the Village were cover'd with slats or tiles. 1823– in many dialect glossaries (chiefly Midland and Southern). 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Slatt*, a thin slab of stone used to cover buildings, distinct from what are called slates.

transf. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 55 He unheled chirches roves and coppes þat were i-heled wiþ slattes of bras, and took awey þe slattes.

b. Used to denote a certain shape.

1634 *Lowe's Chirurg.* 354 Part of the bone is superficially separated like unto a little spelch or sclat. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 81 The Figure of them is for the most part flat, in the manner of Slats. 1676 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* (1685) 377 Sediment like Meal, is ill. If like Slats, worst.

c. A large slab of stone. *rare.*

1894 CROCKETT *Mad Sir Uchtred* v. 61 The burn comes down over broad slats of granite.

2. A writing-slate. Now *dial.*

c 1390 † CHAUCER *Merciles Beaute* 34 Love hath my name y-strike out of his sclat. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 63 Draw a Circle on a Slat or Paper. 1823 [see 3].

3. Slate used for roofing buildings. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18362 Thei caste al doun thes worthi wones, Led & tyle, sclat & stones. 1412–3 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 76 Et in ij M^l sclat emptis. 1581 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 413 He shall.. cover the same..w^th slatt. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 43 Built but of Brick, of rusty Tiles, and Slat. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 360 *Slat*, slate, either

that used at school, or to roof houses, or what is found among coals.

† b. Slate, or some slaty substance, used in the form of powder, esp. as a medicine; *Irish slat*, alum-slate. (Cf. SLATE *sb.*1 4 b.) *Obs.*

1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 265 Take of black or blew slat, and make it into fine powder. 1643 SIR B. GRENVILE *MS. Letter*, I am something sore, and did spitt bloud two daies... I had no slatt, neither do I now need it. 1665 SIR R. HOWARD *Committee* III, Go in and take some Irish slat by way of Prevention, and keep your self warm. 1684 in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 271 Irish Slat Pulveriz'd, and infus'd in Water.., would impart its Vitriolick Quality.

† c. Slate as a variety of stone or rock. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 896 Slat, Jet, and Marble shall escape my pen, I over-pass the Salt-mount Oromene. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. II. ii. 329 A Metalline Slat from the Tin-Mines. 1697 in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 467 The Slat above this Coal afforded only Stalks of Plants.

4. A long narrow strip of wood or metal, used for various purposes.

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 189 Nailing of slats, old hoops, or laths, on the two sides and fore end of the cart. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The slats of a cart or a chair. 1866 *Harvard Mem. Biogr., R. Ware* I. 242 The bulk of those now in bed must have lain on the slats of the bedstead. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 28 Arranged in transverse rows, like slats on a blind. 1890 HALLETT *1000 Miles* 277 When the floors are of split bamboo..the interstices between the slats are many and often large.

b. In vehicles: (see quots.).

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 31 The side pieces are called Slats, which are..hung on a centre pin or bolt to the elbow-rails. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slats*, the sleepers or rails to support the bed of a cart. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2199/1 *Slat*,..a bent strip which bows over the seat and forms one of the ribs of the canopy.

5. a. *Basket-making.* (See quots.)

1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* I. 153 The larger ones [*sc.* osiers] forming the slat and skeleton of the basket. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) I. 109/1 In this way the foundation of the basket, called the *slat* or *slate*, is formed. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 423/1 The whole now forms what is technically called the slath [*sic*], which is the foundation of the basket.

b. *dial.* A hurdle.

1883 C. R. SMITH *Retrosp.* I. 4 Some open hurdles, or slats as they are called in Kent.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In senses 1–3, as *slat-coal*, *-pen*, *-pin*, *-stone*.

1412–3 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 76 In sclatpynnes emptis xx d. 1436–7 *Ibid.* 114 Et in sclatpynnes et tyȝlpynnes emptis iiij s. *c* 1440 [see 1]. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xii. 195 If you make it upon a Slat Stone,..you may wipe the Arch, that is lightly drawn by a Slat Pen.., off at pleasure. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 222 This resembles a Slat-Coal of a Lead colour.

b. In sense 4, as *slat-awning*, *-bar*, *-bottom*, *-matting*.

Various other combs. are given by Knight *Dict. Mech.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2199/1 A corrugated iron slat-awning. *Ibid.* 2202/1 *Slat-matting*, a floor covering of wooden slats or veneers on a flexible fabric, which may be rolled like a carpet. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 388/2 *Slat Bar*, the bar of a siege howitzer limber between the splinter bar and bolster. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Oct. 819/2 The olives are first dried in trays with slat bottoms.

Slat (slæt), *sb.*2 [f. SLAT *v.*2]

1. A slap; a slapping blow. Now *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Truellée*, a trowell-full; or, a clap, slat, or slamp with a Trowell. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) 101 Ad I chell gi' tha..a zlat in the chups. 1837– in Devon and Somerset use (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 47 Such snocks and slats since war began Never saw recruit or veteran.

2. A sudden gust or blast *of* wind.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv, The sail..by a slat of the wind blew in under the yard with a fearful jerk.

Slat, *sb.*3 *rare* −1. In 8 slatt. [a. Irish *slat* rod, measuring stick.] (See quot.)

1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 348 Frize..at a slatt or measure, four feet two inches long, and 20 to 23 inches wide.

Slat (slæt), *sb.*4 [? Irish.] A salmon out of season; a spent salmon.

1870 *Daily News* 16 Feb., An unclean and unseasonable salmon of the species called 'kelts' in Scotland and 'slats' in Ireland. 1882 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 69 After spawning this fish [salmon] is a kelt or slat. 1886 *Field* 27 Feb. 261/1 These 'slats' would then escape, and the cause of a great injury to the fishing be prevented.

Slat (*Cant*): see SLATE *sb.*2

Slat (slæt), *v.*1 Also 7 slatt. [f. SLAT *sb.*1]

1. *trans.* To cover with slates. Now *dial.*

c 1475 *Crabhouse Reg.* (1889) 61 Sche made the cloystir.. and slattyd it. 1615 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) I. 79, I compounded with Iohn Lambert to slatt my new stable in yoghall. 1667 in Earwaker *E. Cheshire* (1877) I. 114 Paid for slatting the Lych porch. 1881 in EVANS *Leic. Gloss.*

2. To furnish, or make, with slats.

1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 66 The hay-rack is slatted so closely that the sheep cannot put their heads through the bars.

Slat (slæt), *v.*2 Also 3 sclatte, 9 *dial.* sclat. [Of doubtful origin. Some of the senses resemble those of ON. *sletta* to slap, splash, etc., but this would not readily account for the currency of the word in south-western dialects. In sense 4 perh. partly imitative: cf. SLATTER *v.*2]

1. *trans.* To flap, cast, dash, impel quickly and with some force. Const. *down*, *against*, *on*, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Hwon heo iherեð þet god, heo sleateð [*v.r.* sclattes] adun boa two hore earen. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Flacquer*, He squasht, slat, or squat her downe there. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *To slat on*, to dash against, or cast on any thing. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whaleman's Adv.* xiii. (1858) 186 The danger from a whale's flukes and fins, as the monster slues and slats them round. *c* 1866 STATON *Rays fr. Loominary* 37 If he comes this way ogen ..aw'll slat some watter on him. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 95 She'll slat the letters down every which way, and you've got to hunt 'em out for yourself.

b. To knock *off* by impact or pulling.

1871 DE VERE *Americanisms* 545 Fishermen on the Eastern coast, who disengaged mackerel and other delicate-gilled fish by slatting them off the hook.

2. To strike, beat; to knock *out*.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1034/2 A butcherlie knaue named Fulks..slat him in the head with a club. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* IV. iii, *Men.* How did you kill him? *Mal.* Slatted his braines out. 1837– in south-western dialect (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

3. *intr.* (See quots.) *dial.*

1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *To slat* or *sclat*, to beat with violence against any thing, as rain against a window. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Why the water's slatting off your hat on to your coat.

4. *Naut.* Of sails: To flap violently.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* v, The great jib flying off to leeward and *slatting* so as almost to throw us off the boom. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxvi, The canvas slatting out and in, in great bights. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *A Sailor's Sweetheart* III. vi. 256 The sail slatted so violently that it was as much as we could do..to get the canvas up to leeward.

b. In other contexts: To flap or slap.

1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Court of K. Arthur* I. 120, I couldn't seem to stand that shield slatting and banging..about my breast. 1897 — *Man that corrupted Hadleyb.*, etc. (1900) 333 The removable desk-boards had been taken away, and nothing left for disorderly members to slat with.

Hence **Sla'tting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1883 *Cent. Mag.* Oct. 942/1 All hands..jumping aloft like monkeys to roll up the slatting canvas. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* I. 46 Every moment this terrible slatting threatened her other spars.

Slat (slæt), *v.*3 Now *dial.* [prob. ad. OF. *esclater* to break in pieces: cf. SLAT *sb.*1] *intr.* and *trans.* To split.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 415 It [the nail] slatteth and shiuereth in the driuing into two parts. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 424 Both head-peeces and habergeons were slat and dashed a peeces. 1702 *Burlesque of R. L'Estrange's Vis. Quevedo* 72 If his Horns had not been Flatted Perhaps my Head he might ha' Slatted. 1825– in dialect glossaries (chiefly south-western).

† **Slat,** *ppl. a. Obs.*−1 [f. SLEAT *v.*1] Baited.

c 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 154 He sitteth ase a slat swyn that hongeth is eren.

Slatch (slætʃ). ? *Obs.* [A derivative of OE. *slæc* SLACK *a.*, with normal palatalization.]

1. = SLASH *sb.*4 *rare.*

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 91 A slatch they call a peece of coal by itselfe found in the erthe and is quicklie digged about and no more to be found of that peece.

2. *Naut.* † a. The slack of a rope. *Obs.*

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) 126 When.. parte of a Cabell or Roape doth hang slack,..then they said hale the Slatch of the Roape or Cabell. [Hence in Boteler, Holme, Harris, etc.] 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 39 Hale vp the slatch of the Lee-boling. By Slatch is meant the middle part of any rope hangs ouer board.

b. A brief respite or interval; a short period or spell (*of* some kind of weather, etc.).

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), Whan it hath beene a sett of foule weather and that there comes an Interim..of faire weather,.. they call it a little Slatch of faire weather. [Hence in Boteler, Holme, Harris, etc.] 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 79 Wee could neuer haue a cleere slatch from Ice, to haue it vp. 1703 SIR H. SHERE *Medit. Sea* in *Ld. Halifax's Misc.* 9 At certain times in the Winter Season, they take their Slatches of Flood and Ebb according to their Occasions. 1730 WRIGLESWORTH *Jrnl. of the Lyell* 7 Apr., This morning it blowing Hard,..so [we] must wait for a slatch of fair Weather. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slatch*, is generally applied to the period of a transitory breeze of wind, or the length of it's duration. [Hence in later Dicts.]

Slate (slēit), *sb.*1 Also (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4– sclate (5 sclathe), sklate (9 sklet); 5–9 sclait (6 sclayt), 5 sklaytt, 6 sklaitt, 6–9 sklait. [ad. OF. *esclate* fem., in the same sense as *esclat* masc., whence SLAT *sb.*1 After *c* 1630 the forms with *scl-*, *skl-* are exclusively northern and Scottish. The earliest example of the form occurs in sense 3, but the development of the senses must have been the same as in SLAT *sb.*1]

1. A thin, usually rectangular, piece of certain varieties of stone which split readily into laminæ (see 4), used especially for the purpose of covering the roofs of buildings.

Also freq. called a *roofing-slate*, and with distinguishing terms as *blue*, *green*, *grey*, *white slate(s)*. For the older Sc. use of the word see SKAILLIE.

a. 1455 *Anc. Cal. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 284 Sclatys, bordes, gottorys, schall ly upon the key be the spase of xx. dayes. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 228 As a sclate fell of a hous and slewe a man. *c* 1540 BOORDE *The Boke for to Lerne* B ij, Many tyles or sklates. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 678 Becaus thair is sklaittis, lyme, sand and tymmer to be transportit..to his said palice. 1832 CARRICK in *Whistle-Binkie* (1890) I. 213 Some o' them gaed ower the sklates As weel's your dainty dow.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 706/1, I sclate a house with stone slates. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 39/12 A Slate, tyle, *tegula*, *later*. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 202 The roofe is couered with certaine blacke stones or slates. 1662 GERBIER *Principles* 36 The Roof..should be covered either with Lead or blew Slates. 1745 *Season. Advice Protestants* 17 The Houses, that were formerly in good Repair, and cover'd with Slates, decay. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Obs. Surg.* (1771) 65 A Slate fell upon her Head from the Top of an House. 1811 FAREY *Derbyshire* I. 428 At Sheffield these white and grey Slates are exclusively used. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xix, The house was built of cold grey stone, with a roof of slates. 1889 H. C. SEDDON *Builder's Work* (ed. 2) 231 Ordinary roofing slates are sold by the number... Some of the largest sized slates are..sold by the ton, and hence are called ton slates or weight slates.

b. A slab of slate, † or other stony substance; a laminated rock.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. viii. I. 506 It [the Columbine marl] will resolve and cleave into most thin slates or flakes. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 27 The Irish Ocean, a sea so shallow, and so full of rocks and slates [etc.]. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 500 He [the slater] supplies sawn slates for shelving in larders and dairies.

c. In phr. *To have a slate loose* or *off*, to be weak in intellect. (Cf. TILE *sb.*)

[1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. i, The college tutor.. facetiously likened his head to a roof, and said there was a slate loosened in it.] 1860 *Slang Dict.* 218 He has a slate loose. 1862 *Athenæum* 27 Sept. 397 On too good terms with himself to think that..there is a 'loose slate', in his intellectual covering. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh up as a Flower* xxxv, You must have a slate off this morning, Nell!

d. A flat piece or plate of some other material used for the same purpose as a roofing-slate.

1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. 87 'Glass slates' in roofing to lofts are sometimes used to admit light. *Ibid.* 89 Slating with very strong zinc slates. 1893 SPON *Mechanic's Own Book* (ed. 4) 617 Shingles, or wooden slates, are made from hard wood.

2. A tablet of slate, usually framed in wood, used for writing on.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 44 Consider thy rote furst,.. & entere hit in-to thy slate. *Ibid.* § 45 Take alle the signes, ..& wryte hem in by slate. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxviii, Ye must search Angles of position agayne, and marke them in the table or slate. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. Wks. 1710 I. 315 Letters..painfully engrav'd in thin wrought Plates, Some cut in Wood, some lightlier trac'd on Slates. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 A Board plastered over, which with Cotton they wipe out, when full, as we do from Slates or Table-Books. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* I, I can't remember her name, but 'tis upon the slate. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* II. I. iii. 39 We proceed in the same manner a person would who should undertake to draw any plan assigned him upon a slate. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 53 We will now work a brewing according to the example in the instructions, on a slate. 1874 JEVONS *Princ. Sci.* (1900) 96, I have used a slate of this kind, which I call a Logical Slate, for more than twelve years.

transf. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 750 Opal Slates in Leather Frame. *Ibid.* 757 Porcelain Menu Slate.

b. *fig.* A record of any kind concerning or against a person; esp. in phr. *a clean slate*.

1868 E. YATES *Rocks Ahead* II. ii, He had passed the wet sponge over the slate containing any records of his early life. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Sept. 9/1, I can conceive nothing more desirable in the interests of these embarrassed tenants than that they should have a clean slate.

c. *U.S.* (See quot. 1888.)

1877 *N. York Tribune* 1 Mar. (Farmer), The facts about the latest Cabinet slate..are interesting as showing..the course of President Hayes in choosing his advisers. 1884 *American* VIII. 232 In dictated nominations, in the making of 'slates' for obedient party acceptance. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxiii. II. 457 Some leading man.. sketches out an allotment of places; and when this allotment has been worked out fully, it results in a Slate, *i.e.* a complete draft list of candidates to be proposed for the various offices.

3. Roofing-slates collectively, or the material from which these are made.

α. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* civ. 23 Þai..did treson [to the Israelites] forto less þaim in werke of mortere and sclate. 1392 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 116 In sal. Simonis Sklater cooperantis et ponentis lapides de sklate. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. (1811) 113 He buylded a royall mynstre of lyme and stoone, and couered it with platis of syluer in stede of sclate or leade. 1571 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 309 Ten lode of sclait.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 720/2, I slate a house, I cover it with slate. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 194 Many also [are covered] with slate or other stone. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. Ind.* I. xl. 94 A greate citie, consisting of houses made of Earth, and couered ouer with broade stone or slate. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* (1810) 8 Of late days quarries of slate are found out, wherewith they cover houses. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 72 A Penthouse..covered with Tyles, Lead or Slate. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Slating*, Roofs cover'd with Slate, must be first Boarded over. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 281/2 Houses of respectable appearance, roofed with slate.

4. An argillaceous rock of sedimentary origin, the different varieties of which have the common property of splitting readily into thin plates.

Many varieties are distinguished, esp. in *Geol.*, by special terms, as *clay*, *hornblende*, *mica*, *talc slate*.

1653 COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* (1663) 254 The extream trouble his people were at in planting their ladders against the walls by reason of their bad scitnation which was all of Slate. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 764 There is also a sort of Mineral we call a Slate, which is partly Coal, partly Alum-stone, partly Marcasite, which being laid up in heaps and burnt, are used for hardening the Coal ways. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The same impressions are also frequently found on other substances, as on the black slate that lies over veins of coals. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 19 This [slaty

alum] is the stone called Black Slate, celebrated among the vulgar for its medicinal properties. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 24 The ore is first calcined with a low heat, so as to destroy the bituminous matter of the slate. 1852 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) 266 The slate of Stonesfield ..is a slightly oolitic shelly limestone. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 254 The quartz is divided by a horse of slate into two parts.

† b. *Irish slate*, alum-slate, formerly used medicinally in the form of powder. *Obs.*

a 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1720) III. 99 You must give him Irish Slate *quantum sufficit*. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* I. i. 22 Take of Irish Slate, *Sperma Ceti*, of each half a Dram.

c. With *a* and pl. A kind or variety of slaty rock.

1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v., Some Directions..whereby the ..lasting Goodness of any Slate may be Experimented. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Besides the Blue Slate, we have in England a Greyish Slate, call'd also Horsham Stone. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 171/2 Undulations on slates and sandstones of every geological age. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. App. 430 The cleavage of slates is therefore not a question of stratification. 1903 MARR *Agric. Geol.* 234 Mudstones which, owing to the subsequent impress of cleavage, usually occur as slates.

5. A bluish-grey colour like that of slate.

1882 Sir W. CROOKES *Dyeing & Tissue-Printing* 144 Light Slate. *Ibid.* 145 Slate on Cotton Wool. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Nov. 1/3 Far to the south, where the slate of the sea and the grey of the sky wove together.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. in the senses 'made or consisting of slate', 'having the character of slate', as *slate-band*, *-bed*, *-belt*, *-book*, etc., *slate-clay*, *-coal*, *-marl*, *-spar* (see quots.).

1810 S. SMITH *Agricultural Survey of Galloway* 20 *note*, The proper schistus,..called by English miners shiver, and in Galloway *slate-band. *Ibid.* 21 Strata of a soft shivering argillaceous stone, which..is called in the country slate-band. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornw.* vi. 184 The *slate-beds in the valley between Milton and Maristow. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., A billiard-table with a slate-bed. 1882 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 458 On the eastern or *slate belt great activity is manifested. Most of the mines are situated near the contact of the slate and the granite. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Slate-book*, two or more slabs of framed slate bound together for writing on. 1804 R. JAMESON *Min.* I. 312 *Slate clay, shale. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 962 The strata of this section contain numerous varieties of..slate-clay. 1805 R. JAMESON *Min.* II. 72 *Slate-Coal...Colour intermediate between velvet-black and dark greyish-black. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 *Slate Coal*, a hard, dull variety of coal, not unlike Cannel. 1803 A. HUNTER *Georgical Ess.* I. 233 A drachm of a friable *slate-marl afforded a residuum of eighteen grains of yellow sand. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 238 Where this sort of marle has a thin laminated structure.., it is frequently denominated *slate marle*. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 344 The aggregate of quartz and mica..is, when it is slaty, called *slate mica, or shistose mica, or slaty mica. 1793 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 344 The *slate-rock waters of this District are superior to those of any others. 1813 COLERIDGE *Remorse* II. i, There where the smooth high wall of slate-rock glitters. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. App. 432 Fossil shells are found in these slate-rocks. 1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 99 [They] enterit in the said hous,..and thaireftir tuke doun the *sklait ruife. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2200/1 The pitch of a slate roof should not be less than 1 in h[e]ight to 4 of length. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xx, A devil's ally, that can change *slate-shivers into Spanish dollars. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Slate slab*, a sheet or plate of slate. 1804 R. JAMESON *Min.* I. 508 *Slate Spar...Its colour is milk, greenish and reddish white. 1858 J. NICOL *Elem. Mineral.* 203 *Slate spar*, thin, lamellar,..with a shining white pearly lustre and greasy feel. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 65 The character and features of this *slate-stratum. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 81 The *slate-system [of rocks] has obtained its full share of such attention. 1531 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII* (1880) V. 183 Payment to John Cornelis of Handwarp, for..making of *slate tyle. 1778 *England's Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Padstow*, The trade in slate-tiles. 1867 MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners Old France* II. 6 A lofty domicile..exhibiting laths, timbering and *slatework.

b. Instrumental, as *slate-formed*, *-spired*, *-strewn*; *slate-thatcher*.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schalie-decker*, a Slate-thatcher, or Coverer. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 235 The thin slate-formed argillaceous strata of the coal metals. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 238 Leckö Slott with her grand slate-spired towers. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xxv. (1899) 116, I had crossed more than one crest of the slate-strewn ranges.

c. Objective, as *slate-cutter*, *-maker*, *-picker*, etc.; *slate-cutting*, *-dressing*, etc.

(*a*) 1780 *Westm. Mag.* Suppl. 730/1 Slate-mak[er]. 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 703/1 The slate-workers of Stonesfield. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2200/2 *Slate-cutter*, a machine for cutting the edges of roofing or other slates.

(*b*) 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 329 The stone slag, or copper cinder, resulting from the slate-smelting. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2200/2 Slate-beveling, -cutting, -making, -trimming, Machine. 1894 *Daily News* 13 June 5/2 Collecting data as to the methods of slate-dressing.

d. With names of colours, as *slate-blue*, *-brown*, *-grey*. Also *attrib.*, of a slate colour.

(*a*) 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 152 Leek green, or slate blue. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 619 For several other shades as..slate-gray. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vii, A slate-blue heron rose lazily off a dead bough. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 729 Latticed porticoes, and slate-brown paint.

(*b*) 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 233 Tail..entirely black, or with only a slight slate tipping. 1889 SAUNDERS *Brit. Birds* 646 The adult in summer has a slate or greyish-black hood.

7. Misc. and special combs., as *slate-like* adj., *slate-merchant*, *-mine*, *-pit*, *-quarry*, etc.; **slate-axe** (see quots.); **slate-board**, **-boarding** (see quot. 1833); **slate club**, a sharing-out club, whose accounts are nominally kept on a slate; **slate-frame** (see quot.); **slate-galiot**, a vessel carrying slates; **slate house** *Sc.*, a house with a slated roof; † **slate-incense**, ?(cf. note to SLAT *sb.*[1]); **slate-knife**, a knife used for splitting slates; **slate-land** (see quot.); **slate-nail**, **-peg**, **-pin**, a nail, peg, or pin used to fix a slate on a roof; **slate-saw** (see quot.).

1828–32 WEBSTER, **Slate-ax*, a mattock..used in slating. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Slate-axe*, a mattock for shaping slates for roofing, and making holes in them to fasten them to the roof. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 242/2 The *slate-boards are supported by five purlins 4 ft. apart. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss., **Slate-boarding*, boards placed on the roof, on which to nail the slates. 1888 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 7/5 He would pay her in the evening, as he was in a *slate club. 1891 J. F. WILKINSON *Mutual Thrift* 60 Taking London, we have a large number of old dividing clubs located in the East End, and known as 'Birmingham societies' or 'Slate clubs'. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Slate-frame*, the narrow wood border for a writing-slate or slate-book. 1887 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. v. 235 When at length they set sail in a *slate-galiot, a storm whirled them quite up to the north of Ireland. 1554 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 198 De domo tegulata, vulgo ane *sklait hous. 1815 in *Pennecuik's Wks.* 243 *note*, A wild and solitary site for a slate house, yet proper for a hunting seat. 1470–1 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 217 In incenso vocato *Sclate-incense empto ad deserviendum in choro festis duplicibus principalibus, nil hoc anno. 1484–5 *Ibid.* 222. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 622 The instruments used in splitting and cleaning slates are, *slate-knives, axes, bars, and wedges. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 196 (Dublin ed.), Poor **Slate* Land [*note*, lying upon Slate or Stone]. 1898 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* 523 Impressions..have been left upon *slate-like rocks. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Slate-merchant*, an importer or wholesale dealer in slates. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Schalie-myne*,..a *Slate-mine. 1880 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 300 He now, with the forefinger of his left hand, got hold of a *slate-nail. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2201/1 **Slate-peg*, a kind of nail used in securing slates on a roof. 1579 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 312 Lathe,..*slatepyne, and nayles. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. ii. 64 At the end of each tile is a hole that would receive a common slate pin. 1611 COTGR., *Ardoisiere*, a *slate-pit, *slate quarrey. 1829 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* Introd., He was the son of a labourer in the slate-quarries of Stobo. 1846 TENNYSON *Golden Year* 75, I heard them blast The steep slate-quarry. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2201/2 **Slate-saw*, a machine for trimming the edges of slate-slabs to shape. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Slate-works*, a yard, etc. where slate is sawn or shaped. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. I. 6, I.. visited *slate-yards and quarries.

† **Slate,** *sb.*[2] *Cant. Obs.* (See quots.)

a. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 61 Some of these goe with slates at their backes, which is a sheete to lye in a nightes. *Ibid.* 76 Their mothers carries them at their backes in their slates, whiche is their shetes. [Hence in later works; in the *Dict. Cant. Crew* (*a* 1700) given as *slat.*] 1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* III. iii, To Mill from the Ruffmans, commision and slates.

b. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Slate*, a half Crown.

Slate (slēt), *sb.*[3] [f. SLATE *v.*[3]] A severe criticism; a slating.

1887 LANG *Books & Bookmen* 19 'Slate' is a professional term for a severe criticism. 1889 HANNAY *Marryat* 157 Carlyle's savage 'slate' of him [Marryat] is unjust.

Slate, *sb.*[4] *Sc. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] A slovenly, dirty person.

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. vi, Had aff [= hold off], quoth she, ye filthy slate. 1806 JOHN HOGG *Poems* 74 (Jam.), The blether-lipped drunken slate!

Slate (slēt), *v.*[1] Also 6 **sclate**, **slaytt**, 7 *Sc.* **skleat.** [f. SLATE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cover or roof with slates.

1530 PALSGR. 706/1 It is better to sclate a house with stone than to tyle it. 1554 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 470 Covenaunted wyth Odam to slaytt the new Buylding. 1605 *Ibid.* 491 Thomas Yates to slate y[e] Hall. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 108 Houses..built..warme and defensiue..as if they were tiled and slated. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 471 Walls were not repaired nor the roofe skleated till three yeares after. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 23 Aug., I pleaded that Mr. Dudley had been at great Charge to Slate his House. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 947 The gables are to be slated over. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 138/2 The defendant..had on several occasions employed S. to slate houses for him.

absol. 1727 SWIFT *Vanbrugh's House* Wks. 1755 III. II. 64 A lyrick ode wou'd slate; a catch Wou'd tile; an epigram wou'd thatch.

2. To put down (a name, etc.) on a writing-slate; to set down, book, *for* something.

1883 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6/2 He had been 'slated' for a month—that is, his name was entered upon a slate in the porter's lodge, which indicated that he was dangerously ill. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 25/1 So the Professor was unconsciously slated for the office of hero.

Slate (slēt), *v.*[2] *slang* and *colloq.* [app. f. SLATE *sb.*[1] Sense 2 appears to have originated in Ireland.]

1. *trans.* (See quot. 1865.) ? *Obs.*

1825 C. WESTMACOTT *English Spy* II. 158 Another point of amusement is *flying a tile* or *slating* a man as the phrases of the Stock Exchange describe it. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 234 *Slate*, to knock the hat over one's eyes, to bonnet.

2. To beat or thrash severely.

1825 KNAPP & BALDW. *Newgate Cal.* IV. 149/1 Slate him, the Dublin word for an unmerciful beating. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* III. 159 Putting his head in cautiously for fear of drunken Irishmen, who might be seized with the national impulse to 'slate' him.

b. *Mil.* To punish (an enemy) severely.

1854 CHAMPION in Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) V. 375 'Slate 'em, slate 'em, my boys!' was his exulting..adjuration. 1885 WILSON *From Korti to Khartum* (1886) 163 Now we shall get 'slated', I thought..; a few good shots might have picked off every one on deck. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eye-witness* 107 Their smaller guns..kept it up far into the night, slating the reverse slopes of the Krantz with wonderful accuracy.

transf. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 688/1 A billiard table in an overcrowded hotel, even with a railway rug around one, is apt to 'slate' the sleeper before morning.

3. To assail with reproof or abuse; to rate or reprimand; to scold severely.

1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 210, I weep over the realm's decay, and have some notion of *slating*—excuse me for borrowing a word from the vocabulary of the new ministerial and courtly party of Ribandism—Lord Palmerston. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 218 *Slate*, to pelt with abuse. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs.*, *Slate*, to scold. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* II. 306 Val slated me hard enough. So we may cry quits over that.

b. To criticize (a book or author) severely; to castigate, cut up.

1848 A. WATTS in *Life* (1884) II. 258 And, when they'd been by critics slated, Had always the review to show 'em. 1870 'OUIDA' *Puck* xvi, That wretched Mouse, when he wants to slate a very good novel. 1890 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* p. xxv, You slated this [book], and it has gone through twenty editions.

Slate (slēt), *v.*[3] *north.* and *Sc.* Also 4–5 **slayt**, 6–7 *Sc.* **slait.** [ad. ON. **sleita*, corresponding to OE. *slǽtan*: see SLEAT *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To incite or set on (a dog). Also const. *on*, *at*, *against* (a person, etc.).

13.. *Metrical Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LVII. 266 Þei sayh beestes..and þei hem bayted Wiþ houndes þat þei on hem slayted. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 657 Þat feynd..slaytyt þaim full fellonly, & bad þai suld þat hure wery. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxii, Diane..him in forme hes of ane hart translatit. I saw (allace) his houndis at him slatit. *a* 1568 BALNEVIS in *Bannatyne MS.* 393 Thairfoir had bound thocht scho be found, Or dreid thy doggis be slaittit. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v., To slate the dog at any one. 1796 in Pegge *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 63. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slate*, to set on, to incite. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.* 126 I'll slate my dog against thine.

2. To bait, assail, or drive, with dogs. Also *fig.* Hence **Sla·ting** *vbl. sb.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 200 (Laud MS.), Þer was..Of lyons chace, of bere baityng, A-bay of bore, of bole slatyng. 1684 *Yorkshire Dial.* (ed. 2) 43, I did Slate him back than with our Dog. *Ibid.* 106 *To slate a Beast*, is to hound a Dog at him. 1755 *Guthrie's Trial* 143 (Jam.), It is much to be lamented, that people professing his name, should be so slaited and enslaved by transgression as many are.

Sla·te-colour. [SLATE *sb.*[1]] The bluish-grey colour of slate.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxii. 303 The abdomen of the male is usually slate-colour. 1835 *Ladies' Cabinet* Nov. 338 Fashionable colours,.. slate-colour and myrtle green. 1889 SAUNDERS *Brit. Birds* 642 The mantle is slate-colour.

Sla·te-coloured, *a.* [SLATE *sb.*[1] Cf. prec.] Of the colour of slate, usually bluish-grey.

1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. II. 319 Slate-coloured Antelope. 1811 *Ibid.* VIII. I. 261 Slate-coloured Creeper. 1812 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VI. 13 Slate-colored Hawk, *Falco Pennsylvanicus*. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz* (1850) 135/2 Grandmamma in a high cap, and slate-coloured silk gown. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xvi. (1890) 481 Young swans are slate-coloured. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 162 *Passerella Townsendii*,..Slate-colored Sparrow.

Slated (slēi·tĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] Also *Sc.* **sclated**, **sklaitit.** [f. SLATE *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Covered with slate or slates. Used *pred.* and *attrib.*

pred. 1611 COTGR., *Ardoisé*, slated, couered with slates. 1634 BREERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 50 Here..a brave fish-market, the stalls curiously slated. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 411 His House was as dry as if it had been til'd or slated. 1806 *Gaz. Scotl.* 600 There were 72 houses, of which 35 were slated. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* (L.U.K.) I. 104 The house and buildings are brick, and slated.

attrib. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 90 The content of a slated roof. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* xi, A dismal, rickety building, with a slated face. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. v. 168 The houses..with high and steep slated roof.

Slated (slēi·tĕd), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SLATE *v.*[2]] Reproved, scolded; severely criticized or attacked.

1872 E. PEACOCK *Mabel Heron* I. 80 Think how he went away like a slated dog—rated I should have said. 1897 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 6/4 One of the consolations of the 'slated' author. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Apr. 2/3 The athletic friends of the 'slated' authoress.

Sla·teful. [f. SLATE *sb.*[1] 2.] As much or as many as can be written on a slate.

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxvi, A slatefull of..*x*, *y*, *z*'s. 1866 E. B. ELLIOTT *Mem. Ld. Haddo* xviii. (1868) 350 A slateful of names had been gone through.

Sla·te-pencil. [SLATE *sb.*[1]]

1. A pencil, made of soft slate or other material, used for writing on a slate.

1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 483 Some wear, at their nostrils, slate pencils, about four inches long. 1810 *Risdon's Surv. Devon* p. xv, A manufactory of slate pencils has of late been established. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2201/1 The common irregularly shaped black slate-pencils..are made in Germany.

2. The material of which slate-pencils are made.

1801 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 436 Children..often introduce.. pieces of slate-pencil, and even pins into their ears. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* i, Putting out at good interest a small capital of slate-pencil and marbles.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1882 BRET HARTE *Flip* ii, A greyish slate-pencil pallor. 1894 *Proc. Geol. Assoc.* XIII. 364 Slate-pencil-coloured strings of clay.

Slater[1] (slēi·tər). Also 5, *Sc.* 7–9 **sclater**, 5 *Sc.* **sclatar(e**; 6, *Sc.* 9 **sklater**, 6 *Sc.* **sklaittar, skleattar**; 6 **slaiter**. [f. SLATE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. One whose work consists in laying slates.

a. 1408 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 137 In sal. Will. Fyscher sclater operantis et emendantis. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 89 To a sclatar for the poyntin of al the place off Stirling. 1561 *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Cl.) 454 To ye sklaittar and his servandis. *c* 1600 *Chester Pl., Banes* 92 You wrightes and sklaters, with good players in showe. 1808 JAMIESON Addit., *Sclater.* 1823 GALT *Entail* xlix, His sklater that pointed the skews o' the house.

β. 1562–3 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4. § xxiii, Tharte or Occupation of a ..Tyler, Slater, Healyer, Tilemaker. 1591 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1860) 200 Thre slaiters and a boye. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 50 When some of the slates are broke, the Slater mends them with little charge. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6222/9 Thomas Hookam,..Slater and Plasterer. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 399 All quarry slates require this preparation from the slater. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 46 Silvery roofs..deftly fitted by some cunning slater.

attrib. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 241 A slater boy, dwelling in the village of Hamegecourt. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 196 The slater-work is then executed.

2. A wood-louse. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

α. 1684 SIBBALD *Scot. Illustr.* II. III. vii. 33 *Millepes Asellus, nostratibus* the Sclater. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 361 He is also fond of eating *sclaters. c* 1873 G. JOHNSTON in *Hist. Berwick. Nat. Club* (1876) VII. 32 'Sclaters' were crawling on the paved floor.

β. 1802 *Eng. Encycl.* V. 627/2 *Millepedæ*,..Wood-lice, hog-lice, or slaters. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* iii. 44 Modern slaters or wood-lice, which are not very distant relatives of these old crustaceans. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Nat.* vi. 97 Hosts of night-wandering insects,..slaters, centipedes and snails.

†**Sla·ter**[2]. *Obs.*[−1] [f. SLATE *v.*[3]] (See quot.)

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. ii. (1862) I. 394 There are two varieties of this kind [the land-spaniel]; namely the slater, used in hawking to spring the game; and the setter, that crouches down when it scents the birds, till the net be drawn over them.

Sla·te-stone. Also 4, *Sc.* 8–9 **sklate**, 5 **sklaytt**, **sclathe**, 6–7 (9 *Sc.*) **sclate**. [SLATE *sb.*[1]]

1. A single piece of slate, or of thin stone serving the same purpose.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 307 He tuke þe knyght be þe nekk & drew hym oute þurgh þe thakk of þe howse..& his bowels cleuyd on þe sclathe stonys. 1493 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 164 Pro xxiiij sklaytt stonys pro prædictis cameris. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Slate stone, *ardoyse.* 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 514 The neighbour inhabitants use to digge great plenty of sclate stones for their buildings. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Invent. Shipping* 7 All that have Corne beate it in Morters, and make Cakes, baking them upon Slatestones. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 156 'Tis a' sklate-stanes instead of money. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 74 The famous Delabole Slate-stones. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Then folk might see men deliver up their silver to the state's use, as if it had been as muckle sclate stanes. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiv, The huts were built of slate stones.

2. Stone of the nature of slate.

1392 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 116 Pro coopertura cujusdam domus .. cum sklatestane. 1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 446 Blueish glittering slate Stone. 1764 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 51 In the slate-stone, they are generally crushed. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Econ. W. Eng.* II. 320 The material of building being a coarse schistus, or slate stone. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xii. 360 These flags are employed for roofing purposes..and receive the name of 'slatestone'.

attrib. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Econ. W. Eng.* II. 65 The materials of these hills appear to be chiefly rotten slate, or rusty slate-stone rubble.

Slather (slæ·ðəɹ), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To slip or slide; to move in a sliding or trailing manner.

1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Slather*,..to slip or slide. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.* s.v., The plank slathered away. 1909 KIPLING *Actions & Reactions* 115, I hate slathering through fluff.

Slath sword: see SLAUGH-SWORD.

Sla·tiness. *rare*[−0]. [f. SLATY *a.*] 'The quality of being slaty; slaty character.'

1882 in *Imperial Dict.* (Annandale).

Slating (slēi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SLATE *v.*[1]]

1. The fixing of slates (on a roof or elsewhere); the business of fixing slates.

1579 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 312 They..shall perfectlye and workmanlye finishe the slateinge off the sayd rouffe. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 18 Wylliam Broune for slatynge seven dayes ij^{s} iiij^{d}. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 63 Slating with blew Slates the workmen finding all, will cost seven pence per foot. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 626 Slating is performed in several other ways. 1889 H. C. SEDDON *Builder's Work* (ed. 2) 231 The slating of roofs is paid for by the square of 100 feet super.

attrib. 1572–3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 120 A hundreth sclaiting latthes. 1863 SMILES *Indust. Biogr.* 237 As the slating trade did not keep him in regular employment.

2. *collect.* The slates covering a roof.

1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 24 The ancient slating reposes in venerable grey amongst moss and grass. 1838 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 142 The shot rattled on the slating of my house. 1867 MUSGRAVE *Nooks & Corners Old France* II. 6 The slating here and there imitating scales.

3. The action of covering with a composition imitating slate; a kind of wash for blackboards.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 822/1 Black-board Slating may be accomplished with the following mixture. 1885 SPON *Mechanic's Own Book* 435 Black-board wash, or 'liquid slating'. *Ibid.*, To apply the slating, have the surface smooth.

Slating (slēi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SLATE *v.*[2]]

1. A severe punishment; a beating.

1872 *Echo* 4 Sept., The Kilkenny Militia..really did..get a fearful slating to-day.

2. A severe reprimand or scolding.

1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* II. 307 After that first 'slating', as the vulgar little creature called it, Valentine said no more. 1894 *Tablet* 24 Aug. 304, I hear the good nuns got a bit of a 'slating' from the Chaplain as a reward for their anxiety.

3. A severe criticism or literary castigation.

1870 'OUIDA' *Puck* xix, Extinguished by means of journalistic slating. 1890 *Literary World* 22 Aug. 145 It must be admitted that the slating was well deserved.

†**Slating,** *vbl. sb.*[3] *Obs.*[−0] [f. OF. *esclater*: see F. *éclater* (sense 7) in Littré.] (See quot.)

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 91/1 Slat-ing of Inamell, is taking Inamell off a Ring, and Inamelling it with another colour.

Slating (slēi·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SLATE *v.*[2]] Severely critical or condemnatory.

1885 *Longm. Mag.* V. 499 A 'slating' article was in type for publication. 1900 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 7/1 A question whether 'booing' was more damaging than a 'slating' notice.

Slatish (slēi·tiʃ), *a.* [f. SLATE *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Somewhat resembling the colour of slate.

1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* i. 11 The colour of the back is slatish grey with white spots. 1884 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Nov. 703/2 The musk-rat is..of a slatish-blue colour. 1887 CLARK RUSSELL *Frozen Pirate* I. ix. 134 The clouds..had taken a slatish tinge.

†**Sla·t-stone.** *Obs.* Also 4 **skalt-**, 6 **slatte-**. [f. SLAT *sb.*[1]] = SLATE-STONE.

1392 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 108 In cc skaltstanes [*sic*] emp. pro emendacione j cameræ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Slat stone,..*ymbrex.* 1516 in *Wilts. N. & Q.* July (1905) 90 Too lodes of slattestone fro the Quarre of Cotteswolde. 1648 B. PLANTAGENET *Descr. New Albion* 6 Building and Slatstone. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 46 In a Morter covered with a Slat-stone.

Sla·tter, *sb.* Also 4–5 **sclatter**, 5–6 **sklatter**, 6 **sklattar**. [f. SLAT *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. = SLATER[1] 1. Now *dial.*

1379 in *Yorks. Archæol. Jrnl.* V. 43 Henricus Sclatter & vxor, Sclatter, vj^{d}. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 1793 Sklatteres, Masons, and Carpenter, And other Men of alle mister. 1444 *Act* 23 *Hen. VI*, c. 12, Les gages ascun..maistre Tiler ou Sclatter. 1539 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 160 William Bybe, sklatter. Waltar Cuddesdon, sklattar. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. v. (1651) 575 As slatters sort their slattes, do they degrees and families. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1009 The Sects (the hewing instrument of the Slatters). 1881 *Leic. Gloss.*, *Slatter*, one who 'slats' generally, but more particularly a slater.

†**2.** A wood-louse. = SLATER[1] 2.

1739 DR. CLARKE in Graham *Soc. Life Scotl. in 18th c.* (1899) I. i. 50 Give him twice a day the juice of twenty slatters squeezed through a muslin bag.

†**Sla·tter,** *v.*[1] In 5 **slat(e)re**. [Cf. SLAT *v.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To slash or slit (clothes).

a 1400 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 62 Slatre þi clothis boþe schorte & side. 1480 CAXTON *Cron. Eng.* CCXXVI. 233 Short clothes and streyte..on euery syde slatered [*Brut* 297 desslatered] and botened with sleues and tapytes of surcotes.

2. To split, to shiver.

c 1400 *Turnament Tottenham* 159 Ther were flayles al to slatred [*v.r.* flatred],..Bollys and dysches al to schatred.

Slatter (slæ·təɹ), *v.*[2] [Imitative: cf. SLAT *v.*[2] 4.] *intr.* To clatter. Also **Sla·ttering** *vbl. sb.*

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 20 The slattering of a cadent brickbat. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 588 At first a low muttering is heard,..then a sort of sliding slattering noise, and finally a reverberating thundering crash. 1870 *Daily News* 1 Oct., The Prince might ride by with his escort slattering over the paved street.

Sla·ttering, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. the dialect verb *slatter* to spill or splash awkwardly, to slop, to waste, etc., of obscure origin.] Careless, slovenly.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, A *Dawgos* or *Dawkin*, a dirty, slattering woman. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* I. vii. 79 All persons who would not lead a loose and slattering life, but design..to prosecute an orderly course of action. 1889 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

Slattern (slæ·təɹn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **slaterne**, 7–8 **slatern**. [Related to prec.]

A. *sb.* A woman or girl untidy and slovenly in person, habits, or surroundings; a slut. (See also quot. 1639.)

1639 J. SMYTH in *Glouc. Gloss.* (1890) 199 A slaterne, i. e. a rude ill bred woman. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play-Ho. to be Let* Wks. (1673) 118 Good Housewife in House, not sauntering young slatern. 1669 DRYDEN *Royal Martyr* Epil., Here Nelly lies, who, though she liv'd a Slattern, Yet dy'd a Princess, acting in St. Cathar'n. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 243 ¶ 3 That Species of Women which we call a Slattern. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. ii. 76 Butterflies one day, and slatterns the next. 1845 MRS. NORTON *Child of Islands* (1846) 110 His wife a shrew and slattern. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 314 The young girls were tawdry slatterns.

b. Applied to a man. *rare*[−1].

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* v, He was now..as great a dandy as he before had been a slattern.

B. *adj.* Slovenly, untidy, slatternly. Said of appearance, etc., or of persons.

(*a*) 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 270 Beneath the Lamp her tawdry Ribbons glare, The new-scower'd Manteau, and the slattern Air. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* vi. (1848) 208 Works formed out of trite, vulgar, slattern matter. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xvii. 146, I could not but admire a certain degree of slattern elegance about the baggage. 1861 D. COOK *Paul Foster's Daughter* ii, At the best his room has a slattern air.

(*b*) 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 340, I recognised..in his slattern spouse, the once trim and dimpling columbine. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. xlix, He plods his way to a fireless hut, where a slattern wife and ragged children receive him.

transf. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 4/3 The slipshod writer and the slattern thinker.

Slattern (slæ·təɹn), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To fritter or throw *away* (time, opportunity, etc.) by carelessness or slovenliness.

1747 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) I. ci. 242 Every fool, who slatterns away his whole time in nothings. 1755 — in *World* No. 148, I have known many a passion..(if I may use the expression) wholly slatterned away, by an unguarded and illiberal familiarity. 1785 *Town & Co. Mag.* Nov. 594 This class..frequently slattern away a reputation for the sake of idolatry. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 103 The mournful folly with which they slatterned away the noblest opportunity.

2. To work *over* in a slovenly manner.

1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* II. 4 Many of our great men in office..generally slattern over what they are obliged to do, by proxy.

3. *intr.* To play the slattern.

1856 MASSON *Ess.* vi. 246 [They] and the niece are slattering about the house.

Sla·tternish, *a.* [f. SLATTERN *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat slatternly.

1833 LYTTON *Godolphin* 10 Then, came a gentleman's wife, a pretty, slatternish woman, much painted.

Sla·tternliness. [f. next + -NESS.] The quality or fact of being slatternly.

1811 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertrude* II. 172 She ..was shocked to see the effect of domestic slatternliness. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. vii. 126 Evidences that the esteem of a life is preferred to the slatternliness of the moment. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew* xlviii, [She] put down the deficiency to the charge of domestic slatternliness.

Slatternly (slæ·təɹnli), *a.* [f. SLATTERN *sb.*]

1. Of persons: Having the condition or habits of a slattern; slovenly; untidy.

c 1680 COTTON *Ep. to Sir C. Clifton* 49 One that had since bin her Maid;..a slatternly ill-favour'd toad. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Sir C. Grandison* (1781) VI. vi. 21 She..looked so shy! so silly! so slatternly! 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* vi, I am..slatternly; I seldom put, and never keep things in order; I am careless. 1865 E. C. CLAYTON *Cruel Fortune* I. 143 The tatterdemalion, slatternly, slipshod women who lounge..against the door-posts.

Comb. 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* i, She turned out to be a small, slatternly-looking craft.

b. *transf.* Of artists or authors in respect of their work.

1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 70 The time he wasted on his works, in which at least he was the reverse of his slatternly cotemporaries. 1812 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. i. 21 When you have twenty things to tell, it is better to be slatternly than tedious.

2. Of appearance, etc.: Appropriate to, characteristic of, a slattern.

1776 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 5 Apr., We saw the young and handsome Duchess..walking in such an undressed and slaternly manner. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* iv, The slatternly, dirty appearance of Araminta's dress. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* i. (1858) 33 A home made wretched by a wife's slatternly conduct. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxii. 702 The rooms were untidy; the general aspect of the place was slatternly and neglected.

Slatternly (slæ·təɹnli), *adv.* [f. SLATTERN *a.* + -LY[2].] In a slovenly way.

1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. CCXXXIV. 68 A fine suit, ill-made and slatternly or stifly worn,..only exposes the aukwardness of the wearer. 1841 TUPPER *Twins* iii, [She] lay slatternly abed, to nurse a head-ache till noon.

Slatternness (slæ·təɹnnés). Also **slatterness**. [f. SLATTERN *a.* + -NESS.] Slatternliness.

1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* No. 16 (1748) III. 166 To give the artful stepmother an opportunity of accusing her of ill housewifry and slatterness. 1886 *New York Herald* IX. 196 You cannot expect neatness and order in any house where the daughters see nothing but slatterness.

†**Slatter-pouch.** Also **slatter de pouch**. *Obs. rare.* Some kind of dance or game.

c 1600 *Grobiana's Nuptialls* I. iii. (MS. Bodl. 30), Noe daunceinge unlesse it be the old slatter de pouch or y^{e} beares masque. 1654 GAYTON *Fest. Notes* III. iv. 86 Much did they suffer, but what did they? much When they were boyes at Trap, or slatter-pouch; They'd sweat untill they stank.

Sla·ttery, *a. rare*[−1]. [Cf. SLATTER *v.*[1]] Of a brittle or shivery character.

1829 GLOVER *Hist. Derby* I. 58 This last mentioned coal is slattery and often sulphureous.

Sla·tting, *vbl. sb. rare.* Also 6 **sclattynge**. [f. SLAT *v.*[1]] = SLATING *vbl. sb.*[1]

1532 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 109 Excepte sclattynge and tymber owerhedde. 1583 in Hutton *St. John's Coll.* (1898) 62 Item for slatting of y^{e} lofer. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 504 The slatting of the house cracked.

†Sla·tty, *a. Obs.* [f. SLAT *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Slaty.

1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 74 In a Clayie and slatty Countrey. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 120 They have harder, stony, slatty sorts of Marles. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 59 The black and gritty, the shelfy slatty Soil, and the stiff reddish Soil.

Slaty (slēˑti), *a.* Also 7 slatie, 8 slatey. [f. SLATE *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Composed of slate; resembling slate; having the nature or properties of slate. Also of land: Lying upon slate (quot. 1733).

In the earliest quots. the sense is perhaps 'stony, rocky'.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 258 Some go streyght thyder, Be it slaty or slyder; They holde the hye waye [etc.]. 1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) I. 62 An exceding..strong Castelle on a stepe Rok, having but one way by the stepe slaty crag to cum to it. 1611 COTGR., *Ardoisin,*..slatie, or, of slate. 1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 65 Blew slate.. and other slaty stone mixed therewith. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 19 [The stone-coal] is subject to be a little Slaty. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 199 These Estates consisted of Thin Slatey Land. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 153 Slaty Copper ore, or Cupriferous Marlite. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 16 Hard flint they sat upon, Couches of rugged stone, and slaty ridge. 1865 J. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 5 From Newquay to above Boscastle the rocks..are of a slaty character.

2. Characteristic or typical of slate.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 83 Of a slaty fracture. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 445 The slaty cleavage never coincides with the direction of the strata. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Techn.* (ed. 2) I. 45 The principal fracture is straight, slaty.

3. Slate-coloured.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 176 The slaty or purplish and granular saburra thrown up from the stomach. 1868 G. MACDONALD *Seaboard Parish* II. v. 77 The sun had disappeared under a cloud, and the sea had turned a little slaty. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 202 A slaty patch extending from the shoulder and hip to the legs.

b. *Slaty Gum*: (see quots.).

1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl.* 470 *Eucalyptus largiflorens*... Also called 'Slaty Gum', from the grey and white patches on the bark. *Ibid.* 524 *Eucalyptus tereticornis*... Called.. 'Slaty Gum' in New South Wales and Queensland.

4. Smacking of slate.

1824 HENDERSON *Anc. & Mod. Wines* 226 The better sorts [of Moselle wines]..sometimes contract a slaty taste from the strata on which they grow.

5. *Comb.* a. With names of colours, as *slaty-black, -blue, -green, -grey.*

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxx, A broken track along the precipitous face of a slaty grey rock. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XIII. II. 164 Slaty-black Graucalus with the head and neck..black. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* i. (1860) 25 The rock-pigeon is of a slaty-blue, with white loins. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* v, A coat.. approximating in colour to white and slaty grey.

b. Misc., as *slaty-headed, -like, -looking,* etc.

a 1866 R. DICK in Smiles *Life* (1878) 91 The cliffs—now yellowish, then reddish—now thin and slaty-like. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 580/1 A Slaty-headed Parrakeet. 1882 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 241 Gray, slaty-looking little towns.

Slauchter, -ir, obs. Sc. forms of SLAUGHTER.

Slaue, obs. form of SLAVE *sb.* and *v.*

Slauen, -eyn, variants of SLAVIN *Obs.*

†Slaugh, obs. variant of SLAWK.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 44 Most Part of our People eat a Weed that grows on the Rocks; it is a thin Weed of a dark green Colour, and called by the Seamen, *Slaugh. Ibid.* 62 Eat Slaugh and Sea-weed fry'd with Tallow-Candles.

†Slaughmess. *Obs.*[−1] [ad. older Flem. *slachmes,* f. *slach* (*slag*) blow, stroke + *mes* knife: cf. next.] A large knife used as a weapon; a dagger.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V,* 47 b, The fierce Brabanders and strong Almaines with long pykes and cuttyng slaughmesses.

†Slaugh-sword. *Obs.* Also 6 slawght-, slath-, 7 slaug-. [ad. older Flem. *slachsweerd* (Du. *slagswaard*; Da. *slagsværd*, Sw. *-svärd*), or G. *schlachtschwert.*] A large two-handed sword.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 235 b, Euery man hauing a iauelyn or slaughsword to keepe the people in aray. *a* 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden, No. 36) 11 A brode slawght swerde, and a dager sharpe onelie on the one side. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 6 b, A fewe slath swords for the gard of their Ensignes. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 226 Those rough Tewtons..That vse long slaug-swords [*printed* slang-] in their mart.

†Slaught, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 3 slaht, 3–4 slaȝt (4 slaȝte, slaȝþe, sclaȝt), 4–5 slaght (5 -te, slagh); 4 slawȝt, slawhte, 5 slawþe, 6 slawght; 4 slauht, 5 slauȝt, 4–5 slauȝte (4 -tte), 4–7 slaughte. [Early ME. *slaht, slaȝt,* app. repr. OE. **sleaht* (cf. gen. pl. *wælsleahta*), var. of *slæht, sleht, sliht,* etc.: see SLEIGHT *sb.*[2] The unmutated vowel corresponds to that of OFris. *slachte* (Fris. *slacht*), MDu. and Du. *slacht,* OS. *-slahta,* OHG. *slaht* (G. *schlacht*) and *slahta* (MHG. *slahte*), ON. and Icel. *sláttr* masc. and *slátta* fem.]

1. Slaying; slaughter.

c 1205 LAY. 4263 Alken farinde mon, ȝef slaht oþer hæfde beoȝde idon [etc.]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 198 Þe keiser stod bimong þat sunful slaht. ȝ3.. *E. E. Allit. P. A.* 801 As a schep to þe slaȝt þer lad was he. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 362 Be wel avised.. Of slawhte er that thou be coupable. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 142 Yf the slaght be vnryghtfull, god shal answere, 'Who-So sleyth, he shal be slayne'. 1469 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 307 All suche slaghts and kyllyng done in defennce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 298 Where shee had made a scaffold,..and there caused them to be kept, as ready for the slaughte. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* II. xi, Bad [spirits] are delighted with slaughtes and tragicall invocations.

2. *fig.* A stroke (of sorrow), spell (of sleep). *rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 59, I slode vpon a slepyng slaȝte. *Ibid.* C. 192 [They] Arayned hym..what raysoun he hade In such slaȝtes of sorȝe to slepe so faste.

3. A flash (of lightning). Cf. FIRE-SLAUGHT.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17372 His cher lik was slaght o fire. *Ibid.* 22680 All þe stanes..Sal smitt togedir wit sli maght Als thoner dos wit firen slaght.

†Slaught, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec., or ad. Du. (and LG.) *slachten* or G. *schlachten.*] *trans.* To kill, slaughter. Hence †Slau·ghting *vbl. sb.*

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* ix. 2 Wysdome..hath slaughted, ..and prepared hir table. — *Jer.* xii. 3 Take them awaye, ..and apoynte them for the daye off slaughtinge. 1647 HEXHAM I. s.v., The time of slaughting beasts, *den slagh-tijdt.*

‖ Slaught-boom. *Obs.* In 7 slaught bome, slaght-boome. [ad. Du. or LG. *slagboom* (hence Da. and Sw. *slagbom*), = G. *schlagbaum,* f. *slagen* to strike, fall, and *boom* beam, tree.] A beam used as a barrier.

1637 MONRO *Exped.* 7 The Castell..with Moates, Drawbridges, and slaught bomes without all. 1642 *Relat. Acton before Cirencester* 4 Each end of the high street .. was secured against Horse with strong slaght-boomes which our men call Turne-pikes.

Slaughter (slɔ̄ˑtəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 slahter, -tir, 4–5 slaȝter (4 -tter), slaghter (5 -tre, -tur); 4 slauh-, slauȝter, 5– slaughter (5 slawghtir, 6 -ter); 4 sclawtur, sclauter, 6 sklaut(t)er; 5 slawter, -tyr, slauther, 6 slauter. *β. Sc.* 5–6 slachtir (5 -tyr, -ter), slawchtir (5 -tyr, 6 -ter), slauchtir (5 -tyr), 5–7 slauchter (6 -tre). [a. early ON. **slahtr* neut. (ON. and Icel. *slátr* butcher-meat, Norw. dial. *slaater* cattle for killing), f. the stem **slah-*: see SLAY *v.*[1]]

1. The killing of cattle, sheep, or other animals for food. (See also 4.)

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliii. 24 Als schepe of slaghter wend er we. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (1495) 741 Fysshe fleeth..the place of washyng and of slaughter of other fysshe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slawtyr, of beestys, *mactacio.* 1487 *Act 4 Hen. VII,* c. 3 The Slaughter of Beasts..had and done in the Butchery. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 794 From his Herd he culls, For Slaughter, four the fairest of his Bulls. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead* Wks. 1711 IV. 77 A Son of Slaughter at White-Chapel converted to the observation of Fish-days. 1868 *Standard* 15 Dec. 6 The laws..that have traditionally been handed down with respect to the slaughter of cattle.

b. The skins of killed beasts. *rare*[−1].

1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 317 The ordinary of the tanners..enjoined..That each brother should have but one butcher to buy slaughter of.

2. The killing or slaying of a person; murder, homicide, esp. of a brutal kind.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6752 If þe son be risen þan, It sal be slaghter telld o man. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 38, I wille you telle Hou it of his slahter felle. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 882 No wight but shee Mighte of this slaghtre and murdre gilty be. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 4 Dauid after the slaghter of Golie. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Porrex* vii, I procur'd hir wrath by slaughter of hir sonne. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. ii, The villaine hath sworne the slaughter of his maister. 1652 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* vii. 142 It is a fruit, I say, of the slaughter of Christ and of his blood. *a* 1722 SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* (1759) I. 13 Our law concludes all it finds with cold steel..guilty of the slaughter. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxvii, He felt..indignant at the supposed slaughter of young Glendinning. 1825 — *Betrothed* xxxi, So singular were the tidings of the Constable's slaughter.

β. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 457 And þai..throw browthir slawchtir cun þe file. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 215 The saklace slauchter off hir. 1570 BUCHANAN *Admonit.* Wks. (S. T. S.) 23 Sum of þame ar counsalouris of þe kingis slauchter. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 288 Throw counsell of his wyf he inuented the kings slauchtre.

3. The killing of large numbers of persons in war, battle, etc.; massacre, carnage.

a. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 91 Sen þis greuance hard, þe slauhter & þe drede,..sone afterward þe kyng to 3ork 3ede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 307 Þat 3ere was þe grete slauȝter of Saxons. 1420–22 LYDG. *Thebes* III. (MS. Laud 557), He made of hem..So grete slaughter and occisioun, That as þe deth fro his sword þey fled. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxiv. 92 The grete damage and grete slawghtir that he had don of his folke. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxliii. 637 There was on both partyes such slauter that it was marueyle to behold it. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 199 What slaughter and hauocke it caused, what profusion of blood between the nobles and the commons. 1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* V. ii, Slaughter grows murder when it goes too far, And makes a Massacre what was a War. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, The field Strow'd with Rome's citizens, and drench'd in slaughter. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 67 To wade through slaughter to a throne. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 122 The chief.. cut his way through the enemy with great slaughter. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. lxix. (1862) VI. 224 These Greeks repelled the Persian assailants with considerable slaughter.

fig. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 b, In oppression & slaughter of all true soules that resisteth hym. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. I. iii, They make a slaughter of Scriptures.

transf. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 160 The slaughter [by scurvy] would have been..terrible.

β. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 567 A felloun slauchtir maid thai thair. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 930 On Sotheron men full gret slauchter thai maid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V. xiii. 98 Sic multitude Of slauchter he maid. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 193 This, in the secunde 3eir of his regne, maid gret slachter amang the Pechtes.

b. Personified.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 237 They were besmear'd and ouerstaind With slaughters pencill. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 496 Grim Slaughter strides along, Glutting her greedy Jaws. 1840 WHITTIER *'Maiden, with the fair brown tresses'* 129 When the red right-hand of slaughter Moulders with the steel it swung.

c. Persons slain in battle, etc. *rare.*

1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* V. 122 Some, 'midst the heaps of slaughter, sought their dead. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 210 His body being found amidst a heap of slaughter.

4. In the phrases *to* or *for the slaughter.*

a 1400 N. T. (Paues) *Acts* viii. 32 As a schepe vnto þo slawghter was he ledde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* ix. 2 Euery man [had] a weapen in his honde to the slaughter. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xliv. 22 Wee are counted as sheepe for the slaughter. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* xxxv. 21 Wilful murtherers..should..be taken from the altar to the slaughter. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 238 Two miserable Wretches..were now brought out for the Slaughter. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 421 Witness the patient ox,..Driv'n to the slaughter.

5. A particular instance or occurrence of slaying or massacre.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 342/2 A Slaghter, *cedes.* 1535 COVERDALE *Numb.* xxxv. 6 Ye shall geue them sixe fre cities, that he which committeth a slaughter, maie flye thither. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 33 The slaughters made by the gunne. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 131 There was a horrible slaughter, for..those that fled could not escape their pursuers. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 229 We made a..terrible slaughter. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xxii. 215 Of those who escaped this slaughter most met with death in some other form. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 575 They next resolved..that the slaughter was a murder.

†6. *Mil.* (See quots.) *Obs. rare.*

1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* I. 45 These..be placed in the heart of the battaile, vsuallie called the slaughter of the field, or execution of the same, who commonlie doe not fight but in verie great extremitie. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Wars* III. ii. 47 Halberdes or billes..we call .. the gard of the ensignes, and slaughter of the field.

†7. A cut or slash; a wound. *Obs. rare.*

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 274, I pray you how many slaughters do you make in a poore Calues skin? 1606 G. W[OODCOCK] *Hist. Iustine* II. 12 This man, after innumerable slaughters receiued in the Battayle, as also hauing pursued the Enemy [etc.].

8. *fig.* a. An excessive cutting down *of* trees.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CXV. 167 There hath been of late dayes, Such a Slaughter of Oaks, and other Trees, all over this Land.

b. A sweeping reduction in the price of goods in order to effect a clearance.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib., in sense of 'intended or set aside to be killed for food', as *slaughter cattle, cow, lamb, ox, sheep, stock.*

1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* xi. 7, I myself fedde yᵉ slaughter shepe. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 496 Such as are killed they call the skins of slaughter-lambs. 1612 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Stirling* I. 132 Ilk slauchter kow passing langis the brig,..tua pennies. 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 43 It should be but the logic of a beast, if the slaughter ox should say [etc.]. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 301 Slaughter oxen or cows, and milch cows, are not to be had for money.

b. Attrib., with words denoting a place used for slaughtering, as *slaughter-pit, -place, -room, -shop, -yard.*

1688 BUNYAN *Jerusalem Sinner Saved* (1886) 13 Jerusalem was now become the shambles, the very slaughter-shop for saints. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi, Ere we reach yon fatal slaughter-place. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 8/2 Slaughter-rooms, built of stone. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 218 All that's a turn too good for making slaughter-yard bacon, does for the Chinamen. 1897 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 5/2 The troops who have just entered the city found many of these slaughter pits.

c. Objective, as *slaughter-breathing, -dealing, -threatening* adjs.

1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Supplicants* 131 Pursuit's alarms, And slaughter-threat'ning arms. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 259 The slaughter-breathing lad in the blue coat. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. XVIII. 214 His slaughter-dealing hands.

10. Misc. and special combs., as *slaughter-feast, -market, -stack, -weapon, -work*; **slaughter-master,** = SLAUGHTERER 3; **slaughter price** (see quot. and cf. 8 b); **slaughter shop,** = SLAUGHTER-HOUSE 4 b; **slaughter-skin** (see quot.) ? *Obs.*; **†slaughter-slave,** a vile executioner; **†slaughter sword** (see SLAUGH-SWORD); **slaughter-year** (see quot.).

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Trophеis* 201 This savage Beast, Which in his Fold would make a *Slaughter-feast. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 59/1 The cottier or small farmer, who could not pretend to rear beasts for the *slaughter market. 1841 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 181 The *slaughter-master..is a cormorant, who swallows the food of the weak. 1893 *Daily News* 27 Jan. 7/4 The bank premises had been written down to what was called in the north '*slaughter prices'—that was to say, not what they would fetch in the market, but as mere bricks and mortar. 1841 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 180 Tradesmen.. whose establishment bears the euphonious titles of the '*slaughter shop' and 'blood house'. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Slaughter-skins,* a term used by our curriers ..for the skins of oxen, or other beasts, when fresh, and

covered with the hair. 1555 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1684) III. 512/1 The common Cut-throat and general *Slaughter-slave to all the Bishops of England. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 72 The clowde-climing *slaughter-stack of thy dead carkases. 1569 *Irish Act* 11 *Eliz.* Stat. III. c. 1 Preamble, The Scotts..with their *slaughter swords hewed him to pieces. 1611 BIBLE *Ezek.* ix. 2 Euery man a *slaughter weapon in his hand. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, The hand-waled murderers, whose hands are hard as horn wi' haudin the slaughter-weapons. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Wars* I. i. 4 Our nation hath performed round *slaughter-worke therewith. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* Pref. (1827) 32 The two bloody *Slaughter-years.., 1684, 1685, wherein 82 of the Lord's suffering People were..cruelly murdered.

Slaughter (slɔ̄·təɹ), *v.* [f. prec. Cf. ON. and Icel. *slátra*, Norw. dial. *slaatra*, in sense 1.]

1. *trans.* To kill (cattle, sheep, or other animals), *spec.* for food.

1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxii. 13 But they..slaughter oxen, they kyll shepe. 1727 BAILEY s.v. *Diipolia*, A number of Oxen.., of which if any eat of the Cakes he was slaughtered. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 165 During the winter, the rein-deer are slaughtered as sheep with us. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 46 § 112 It shall not be lawful for any flesher..to slaughter cattle..elsewhere than in the shambles. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxvii. 362 The fire was lit up, and one of our birds slaughtered forthwith. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* Introd. p. viii, English and Eastern hunters, who came out and slaughtered game by thousands.

absol. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 167 He should learn to slaughter gently, dress the carcass neatly [etc.].

2. To kill, slay, murder (a person), esp. in a bloody or brutal manner.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Wheare lyes strong Hector slaughtred by manful Achilles. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* v. iv, In slaughtering him thy vertues are defamed. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 357 The Prince himselfe hath hardly escaped from being taken or slaughtered. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 268 Let not Medea.. Slaughter her mangled Infants on the Stage. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 427 She slaughtered our child on the spot. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1870) II. 154 They said it was not lawful for a single unauthorised individual to condemn and slaughter the consecrated ruler of the nation.

fig. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 389 The circumstances.. were very plausible, if time did not slaughter my goodwill. 1845 BROWNING *Time's Revenges* 5 He slaughters you with savage looks Because you don't admire my books.

3. To kill or slay (persons) in large numbers; to massacre.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Addit. (1602) 341 Troy is sacked, and her people for the most part slaughtered. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 75 What do these Worthies, But rob.., slaughter, and enslave Peaceable Nations. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 69 To know simply how to slaughter Men..is to excel in a very fatal Science. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 405 Frederic, who attained the title of Great, on account of his superior skill in the arts of slaughtering men. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, He shall..slaughter the infidels, even heaps upon heaps. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 138 The Latins were slaughtered in their own homes and in the streets.

fig. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 93 One good deed, dying tongueless, Slaughters a thousand wayting vpon that. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* x, Fanny went on slaughtering the S's as fast as Furlong ruined R's.

absol. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XI. 199 Still slaughtering on, the king of men proceeds.

†**4.** To gash or slash (a hide). *Obs. rare.*

1603-4 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 22 § 1 No Butcher..shall gash, slaughter, or cut any Hide..in flayinge thereof.

5. *fig.* To sell at low prices or at a sacrifice.

1896 *Daily News* 9 June 9/6 In that case,..we should have to slaughter our stock and lose our money.

Slau·ghterage. [f. SLAUGHTER *sb.*] All that is connected with the slaughtering of animals for food.

1854 *Bentley's Misc.* Oct. 323 It is astonishing with what art..we have succeeded in hiding..the slaughterage, the sutlerage, and the sewerage.

Slau·ghterdom. *rare.* [f. as prec.] Slaughter, massacre; slaughtered condition.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* ii, What cruell bloudshed, what horrible slaughterdome haue bene committed, for the point of Honour. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 11 How much more shall the King of all kings reuenge the death and slaughterdom of his Embassadors. 1850 *All Year Round* No. 74. 575 On either hand, lie the carcases and bones of horses in different stages of slaughterdom.

Slaughtered (slɔ̄·təɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SLAUGHTER *v.*]

1. Of animals (or flesh): Killed for food, etc.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 223 Lord Bassianus lies embrewed heere, All on a heape like to the slaughtred Lambe. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/1 Water wherinne slaughtered fleshe hath binn washed. *a* 1639 CAREW *A Cruel Mistress* 5 A slaughter'd bull will appease angry Jove. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xvii, Underneath yon jutting crag Are hunters and a slaughter'd stag. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 390 The muscle of slaughtered animals ..forms also an agreeable..food for man.

transf. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xii. 29 Whether slaughter'd Onions crown your Board, Or murder'd Fish an impious Feast afford.

2. Of persons: Killed, slain; massacred.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1376 A weeping tear, Shed for the slaughter'd husband by the wife. 1669 HOPKINS *Serm.* I *Pet.* ii. 13 (1685) 4 Our most unfeigned mourning for a slaughtered Monarch. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 117 Heaps of slaughter'd Soldiers bite the Ground. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* III. iii. 68 Thrice shall her Matrons..Deplore their slaughter'd Sons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 316 Another had marched.., over heaps of slaughtered Moslem, to the sepulchre of Christ.

absol. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xiv, I have heard..that the spirits of the slaughtered have strange power over the slayer.

3. *slang.* (See quot.)

1892 *Star* 19 Dec. 2/5 Furniture made by 'slaughtered' (i.e., extra sweated) cabinet makers.

Slaughterer (slɔ̄·təɹəɹ). [f. SLAUGHTER *v.*]

1. One who slaughters or kills.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. v. 109 Thou do'st then wrong me, as y' slaughterer doth, Which giueth many Wounds, when one will kill. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 593 At his slaughterers Incensed Paris spent a lance. 1679 C. NESS *Antichrist* 191 Nations all that time warring against those slaughterers. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abroad* II. i. 98 The slaughterers of St. Bartholomew.

b. A powerful fighter or boxer.

1896 C. DOYLE *R. Stone* xvii, I've seen Jack Harrison fight five times, and I never yet saw him have the worse of it. He's a slaughterer, and so I tell you.

2. A killer of animals; a butcher.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een slager der beesten*, a Slaughterer. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* vi. (1672) 161 The Lamb looks cheerfully on the slaughterer. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* IV. 352, I saw the cattle start..And with a piteous moaning vainly seek To fly the coming slaughterers. 1828 MAITLAND *Let. to Simeon* 28 One perhaps has been a singer in the synagogue;..a third, a slaughterer. 1868 *Standard* 15 Dec. 6 The [Jewish] slaughterer is not a butcher in the accepted sense of the term. 1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 428 A tremendous slaughterer of the brute creation.

3. *slang.* A dealer who buys from small makers at extremely low prices.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 333 The 'slaughterers'..buy at 'starvation prices'.., the artificer being often kept waiting for hours. *Ibid.* II. 303 The slaughterer cared only to have them viewly and cheap.

Slau·ghter-house. [SLAUGHTER *sb.*]

1. A house or place where animals are killed for food.

c 1374 in *Scriptores Tres* (Surtees) App. p. cxli, Primo Lardariam, quæ vocatur Sclauterhus. 1441-2 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 79 Pro cust. boum gros. apud le Slauterhouse. 1471-2 *Ibid.* (Surtees) 93 Pro una magna corda pro le Slaughterhous. 1535 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 133 The bochers..shall have the voyde grounde..to make a sklautter housse. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 6 They fell before thee like Sheepe and Oxen, & thou behaued'st thy selfe, as if thou hadst beene in thine owne Slaughter-house. 1675 BROOKS *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 340 A lamb..goeth as quietly to the shambles or the slaughter-house as if it were going to the fold. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 21 ¶ 13 The Second is a Butcher's Daughter and sometimes brings a Quarter of Mutton from the Slaughter-house. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 86 The butchers men who work in the slaughter-houses. 1860 EMERSON *Conduct of Life* Wks. (Bohn) II. 310 You have just dined, and, however scrupulously the slaughter-house is concealed.., there is complicity.

fig. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvi, Permit him to go freely about his task of preparing these Saxon hogs for the slaughter-house. 1894 DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 25 The world has been held up to us as one great..slaughter-house resounding with the cries of a ceaseless agony.

b. *attrib.*, as *slaughter-house style, talk.*

1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* II. VI. viii. 576 The rise of Young Ireland, with its political ignorance, its slaughter-house talk, and its bullying boasts. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Immortality* Wks. (Bohn) III. 279 Where there is depravity there is a slaughter-house style of thinking.

2. *transf.* A place or scene in which persons are killed or slaughtered.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 103 [They] beganne openly to say Cortes meant to carrie them to the slaughter house. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisdom of Solomon* viii. 15 A reign, not blood, An empire, not a slaughter-house of lives. 1646 TRAPP *Expos. John* x. 40 Jerusalem was then as Rome is now, the saints' slaughter house. 1673 STILLINGFL. *Serm.* v. 86 Those whose malice goes beyond their power, and want only enough of that to make the whole World a Slaughter-house. 1790 MERRY *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 24 Yet, haughty France, my verse could never claim, For deeds that suit the slaughter-house of fame. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xv, This ancient fortress of my race Shall be..No slaughter-house for shipwreck'd guest. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 84 The lust of blood That makes a steaming slaughter-house of Rome.

fig. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. iii. 17 It is the great slaughter-house of genius and of mind.

b. A house injurious to health.

1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 769/1 Rear tenements, to the number of nearly 100, have been condemned as 'slaughter houses', with good reason.

†**3.** A part of a fortification. *Obs.*

1552 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* (Roxb.) 439 It was agreed the wall shuld stond, and tow slaughter houses to be made upon to skowre the utter cutiners. *Ibid.*, Another walle within that, with tow other slaughter houses, and a rampere within that again.

4. *slang.* a. (See quot.)

1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 73 The houses called by sharpers Slaughter-Houses, are those where persons are uniformly employed by the proprietors to affect to play at hazard for large sums of money.

b. A shop where goods are bought from small makers at very low prices. Also *attrib.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 333 This was owing to..the unwillingness of the small master to carry it to another slaughter-house in the rain. 1861 *Ibid.* III. 233 A special race of employers, known by the significant name of 'slaughter-house men'.

Slaughtering (slɔ̄·təriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLAUGHTER *v.*] The action of the verb in various senses.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 646 By trecheries, poisonings, slaughtering, and such like Scythian kindnesses. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv. Wks. 1851 III. 367 To turne his slashing at the Court Gate, to slaughtering in the Field. 1711 *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 165 The slaughtering of a great number. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 387 Axes for Aetnean slaughterings. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 7 Since the opening of the public abattoir, all private slaughtering..is strictly prohibited.

b. *attrib.*, as *slaughtering-house, stock*, etc.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1873) 56 The estancias and slaughtering-houses. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 280 His slaughtering stock before the knife would pine. 1891 *Month* LXXII. 18 Ice-houses, slaughtering-yards.

Slau·ghtering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That slaughters; killing, slaying.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 144 Hither hale that misbelieuing Moore, To be adiudg'd some direfull slaughtering death. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* III. i, Inforce me sheath my slaughtering blade In the deare bowels of my countrimen. 1625 MILTON *On Death Fair Infant* 68 To..drive away the slaughtering pestilence. 1679 C. NESS *Antichrist* 211 Ministers have..ever been the sacrifices for slaughtering tyrants.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* (Cf. KILLING *ppl. a.*)

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 184 Having thus far described the slaughtering rounds of this fight. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 303 A little master, working, as he called it, 'at a slaughtering pace,' for a warehouse. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* (1880) 298 The most slaughtering way of fishing for grayling is with the grasshopper.

2. Of prices: Of the nature of a sacrifice; lower than is profitable.

1898 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 9/4 In the export yarn trade there is a turn for the worse in values, owing to sales at slaughtering prices from stock.

Hence **Slau·ghteringly** *adv.*

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* XXXVII, They waxed..cuttingly polite, then slaughteringly sarcastic.

Slau·ghterman. Also 4 slaghter-, 4-5 slawter-, 6 slauter-. [f. SLAUGHTER *sb.*]

1. One who kills or slays; an executioner.

a 1350 *St. Matthew* 307 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 135 He þat was þaire slaghter man Vnto þe appostell playnly ran And bare him thurgh with-owten let. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 92 To slea that beaste & slauterman of the devyll. 1577 BULLINGER *Decades* (1592) 64 He suffered..the torments of the slaughtermen, and death it selfe. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* v. iv, All his aides Of ruffians, slaues, and other slaughter-men. 1680 C. NESS *Church Hist.* 39 Some savage slaughter-men..to drown those males. 1869 SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. ix. 12 Before the slaughtermen are permitted to smite the Lord's enemies. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 439 Adventurers who had been hired on both sides as slaughter-men.

fig. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Poems* (1677) 118 O he's a terrible Slaughter-man at a Thanksgiving Dinner! 1711 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* (1737) I. 270, I know not whether it be from this killing disposition..that our satirists prove such very slaughter-men. 1784 BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 412 Mr. Newton has fallen into the hands of a slaughter-man..Dr. Mayhew, who will certainly cleave him down the chine.

2. One whose work or occupation it is to kill cattle, etc., for food.

1389 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 49 Stipendia famulorum ..: Slawterman, iiis vjd. 1416-7 *Ibid.* 613 Item in feodo del Slawterman. 1548 ELYOT, *Bouicida*, a slaughter man. 1624 J. DAVIES *Ps.* xliv, Like sheep which Slaughter-men cull out to kill. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 153 Houses for the Slaughter-men, Sea-men, and Fishers. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6048/4 Richard Gilbert,..Butcher and Slaughterman. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 124 No bullock ever fell so clean from the hands of an experienced slaughterman. 1851-3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) I. 3/1 To give space for one slaughterman to dress a bullock.

Slaughterous (slɔ̄·təɹəs), *a.* [f. SLAUGHTER *sb.* + -OUS.] Murderous, destructive.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 What fortun vnhappye Mee fenst from falling wyth thy fierce slaughterus handstroke. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. v. 14 Direnesse familiar to my slaughterous thoughts Cannot once start me. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separation* 20 Many will rather submit to those slaughterous and inhuman courses than seek to redeem their precious liberty. 1798 *Progress of Man* 96 in *Anti Jacobin* (1852) 74 The slaught'rous arms that wrought thy woe. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 97 The place where the slaughterous but immortal struggle was waged. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, II. 367 After various slaughterous conflicts,..the Spanish troops were obliged to withdraw. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* x, Some accident might occur from such slaughterous and indiscriminate directions.

Hence **Slau·ghterously** *adv.*, 'destructively; murderously' (1847 Webster).

†**Slau·ghtery.** *Obs.* [f. SLAUGHTER *sb.*, after *butchery.*]

1. Slaughter.

1604 DRAYTON *Moses Maß Miracles* 62 Death is discern'd triumphantlie in Armes, On the rough Seas his slaughterie to keepe. 1620 MARCELLINE *Triumphs Jas. I*, 9 That slaughtery, butchery, and all their massacres..are to him most horrid and hateful. 1648 [see sense 2].

2. A slaughter-house.

1648 SYMMONS *Vindic.* 191 Masters of a Slaughtery will they be called, because they delight so much in the slaughtery of mankind. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 181 A Slaughtery for killing of Beasts.

Slauk(e, variants of SLAWK.

Slaunder, -ir, -re, obs. ff. SLANDER *sb.* and *v.*

‖**Slauntiagh.** *Obs.* Also slanteghe. [In form app. a. Ir. Gael. *sldinteacha*, pl. of *sldinte* health, but the sense is that of *sldn, sldnadh*, or *sldnaidheacht* surety, guarantee.] A pledge or surety.

1535 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 266 Chaier Ochonor.. is sworne and bounde by suirties and slauntiaghs of Omore and others, to take the Kingis parte against his broder. 1538 *Ibid.* III. 44 The said ODonyll and ONeile were bounde and sworne togethers.., and have fond suerties, otherwise callid slanteghe.

Slauth(e, obs. forms of SLOTH *sb.*

Slav (slāv, slæv), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 4 **Sclaue,** 4, 9 **Sclave.** *β.* 8–9 **Slave.** *γ.* 9 **Slav.** [In early use ad. med.L. *Sclavus* (recorded from *c* 800), corresponding to late Gr. Σκλάβος (*c* 580): cf. older G. *Sklave, Sclav(e, Schlav(e,* MHG. *Schlaff.* The later forms in *Sl-* correspond to mod.G. and F. *Slave,* med.L. *Slavus* (951), and are closer to the OSlav. and Russian forms: see SLOVENE.]

A. *sb.* A person belonging by race to a large group of peoples inhabiting eastern Europe and comprising the Russians, Bulgarians, Servo-Croats, Poles, Czechs, Moravians, and Wends or Slovenes.

α. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 417 Cirillus, apostel of þe Sclaves. *Ibid.* VI. 249 He chastede þe Saxons and þe Sclaves. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxii. (Tollem. MS.), Þe contre and londe of sclaues. *c* 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIII. 631/1 Pomerania was originally peopled by the Sclaves. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* i. 15 The Croatian dress resembles that of all the Southern Sclaves.

β. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* Iv. V. 544 The national appellation of the Slaves has been degraded by chance or malice from the signification of glory to that of servitude. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall of Rome* vii. 349 The particular inroad in which the Slaves participated was signalized by the last triumph of the veteran Belisarius. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* 21 Linguistically the Slaves are closely related to the Letts.

γ. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 383/2 The Eastern Slavs, the ancestors of the Russians. 1880–1 MORFILL in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* 74 A very full account of the North-Western Slavs. 1883 — *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 31 We find Slavs settled between the Danube and the Balkan.

B. *adj.* Belonging to, characteristic of, or originating with the Slavs; Slavic; Slavonian.

1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* i. 10 The twin pigtails of maidenhood are far more characteristically Sclave than German. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 403 The Slav trap prepared for her in Bosnia. 1903 G. F. ABBOTT *Tour Macedonia* 110 Through great part of Central Macedonia one finds the Slav language predominating in the open country.

Hence **Sla'vdom,** the Slavonic race generally; Slavs collectively.

1881 *Times* 19 Jan. 9/5 A general casting off of the Turkish yoke from all Slavdom. 1889 *Ibid.* 15 Aug. 3/4 Outside Slavdom Russia has no politics whatever.

Slave (slēv), *sb.* (and *a.*). Forms: *α.* 4–6 **sclaue,** 5 **sclave,** 6 **sklaw, sklaue, sklave,** *Sc.* **sclayff.** *β.* 6 *Sc.* **slawe, slaif,** 6–7 **slaue,** 6– **slave.** [ad. OF. *esclave* (also mod.F.), sometimes fem. corresponding to the masc. *esclaf, esclas* (pl. *esclaz, esclauz, esclos,* etc.), = Prov. *esclau* masc., *esclava* fem., Sp. *esclavo, -va,* Pg. *escravo, -va,* It. *schiavo, -va,* med.L. *sclavus, sclava,* identical with the racial name *Sclavus* (see SLAV), the Slavonic population in parts of central Europe having been reduced to a servile condition by conquest; the transferred sense is clearly evidenced in documents of the 9th century.

The form with initial *scl-* is also represented by older G. *schlav(e, sclav(e,* G. *sklave.* In English the reduction of *scl-* to *sl-* is normal, and the other Teut. languages show corresponding forms, as WFris. *slaef,* NFris. *slaaw,* MDu. *slave, slaef* (Du. *slaaf*), MLG. and LG. *slave* (hence Da. and Norw. *slave*), older G. *slaf(e,* Sw. *slaf*).

The history of the words representing *slave* and *Slav* in late Gr., med.L., and G., is very fully traced in Grimm's *Deutsches Wörterbuch* s.v. *Sklave.*]

I. 1. One who is the property of, and entirely subject to, another person, whether by capture, purchase, or birth; a servant completely divested of freedom and personal rights.

α. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 106 He was sone i-nome, Ase a sclaue forth i-lad and i-don in prisone. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 391, I wol þe serue Right as þi sclaue. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. v. 114 My fader.. Twelf chosin matronis sall 3ou geif all fre, To be 3our sclavis in captiuite. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlviii. 161 It is a sclaue, a crysten woman, whom we bought at Damiet. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 33, I..rather choose..to be Lord of those that riches haue, Then them to haue my selfe, and be their seruile sclaue.

β. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Seruiliter,* lyke a bondman or slaue. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 50 As thai war slawes, presoneris, and captiues in a raip. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 2 Before the commyng of the sayde William there were no slaues or bondmen. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 308 Wee'll visit Caliban, my slaue, who neuer Yeelds vs kinde answere. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 167 Of guests he makes them slaves Inhospitably. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. xlvi. 35 You will expect I should say something..of the slaves. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 388 The wealth..Pillag'd from slaves to purchase slaves at home. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 73 They were preparing us to give up..the children of free ancestors to become slaves, and the fathers of slaves! 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* (1889) 204 The Arabs bring cloth, beads, and wire, to buy ivory and slaves.

b. Used as a term of contempt. Now *arch.*

1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1834) II. 448 Emonges 200 of them [galloglasses] shalbe skaunt 8th that are gentilmen .., and all the residue sklawes. *c* 1560 *Durham Depositt.* (Surtees) 64 Thou art a slave and a knave to fynd fault with me. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. vi. 39 Where is that Slaue Which told me they had beate you to your Trenches? 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 615 Though the deist rave, And atheist, if earth bear so base a slave. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxii, 'And what is to be my surety?' said the Jew..'The word of a Norman noble, thou pawnbroking slave', answered Front-de-Bœuf.

transf. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 33 This yellow Slaue [*sc.* gold] Will knit and breake Religions.

†**c.** In less serious use: Rascal; fellow. *Obs.*

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 87 Dyvers persons wondering at the force of such a little slave [Cupid]. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* xv, I come now from discoursing with an Husbandman—an excellent stiffe slave. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 181 Oh Slaues, I can tell you Newes, Newes you Rascals.

2. *transf.* One who submits in a servile manner to the authority or dictation of another or others; a submissive or devoted servant.

1521 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge* (1887) 203 Be nowe beniuolent, whan I shall on the call, Vnto thy slaue. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* I. i. 224 Let me be a slaue, t' atchieue that maide. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., The Thraldom* iv, I am thy slave then; let me know, Hard Master, the great task I have to do. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Oct. 1685, He..is of nature cruel and a slave of the Court. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, I'd be her slave no longer. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 163 Oliver, the head of a party, and consequently, to a great extent, the slave of a party. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 2 She had her adorers and slaves grouped about her.

b. *fig.* One who is completely under the domination *of,* or subject *to,* a specified influence.

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jack Cade* xxiv, Therefore Baldwin warne men folow reason, Subdue theyr wylles, and be not Fortunes slaues. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scotl.* I. 240 Sergius, a mounk and sclaue of the Nestorian and Heretical Impietie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 77 Giue me that man That is not Passions Slaue. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 102 He is the slaue of muddy Mammon. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iii. 37 Well knowing that the Tartars are a People that use not to be very much slaves to their words. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. i. 53 The Slave to Envy, Anger, Wine or Love. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87, The slaves of a weak, a childish; or a gloomy superstition. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, I am the slave of remorse. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 174 [He] is the slave of his inveterate party prejudices.

transf. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* v. iv. 81 But thought's the slaue of Life, and Life, Times foole. 1602 — *Ham.* III. ii. 198 Purpose is but the slaue to Memorie. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xvii, O War! of hate and pain Thou loathed slave.

3. One whose condition in respect of toil is comparable to that of a slave.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 121 The women, therefore, of these countries, are the greatest slaves upon earth. 1801 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* (1847) xii. 214 We called the slave-of-all-work to inquire the cause of all this tintamara. 1889 G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 192 The white slaves of the sweater.

4. *Ent.* An ant captured by, and made to serve, ants of another species.

1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* (1818) II. 75 Certain ants are affirmed to sally forth..for the singular purpose of procuring slaves to employ in their domestic business. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* vii. (1860) 220, I opened fourteen nests of F. sanguinea, and found a few slaves in all. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* iii. 77 If the colony changes the situation of its nest, the masters are all carried by the slaves to the new one.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

5. Appositive, as *slave-girl, -martyr, -pander, -soldier, -subject, -wife,* etc.

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. iv, Where's this slave-pander now? 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 105 'Twas difficult to apprehend..what publick [subsisted] between an absolute prince and his slave-subjects. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* v. 206 The slave-soldier lends His arm to murderous deeds. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 110 Slave wives and mothers. 1839 MISS MAITLAND *Lett. Madras* (1843) 278 Four wives and seven slave-girls were burnt with him. 1900 *Dublin Rev.* July 205 The honour that was paid to the slave-martyrs.

b. Used predicatively as *adj.*

a 1576 PILKINGTON *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) 225, I will..make thee more vile and slave..than any people round about thee. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* i. (*c* 1900) 35 Algiers, Brazil or Dahomey hold nothing in them so authentically slave as you are.

6. Attrib. in various senses, as *slave-bargain, -bill, -blood, -hunt, -labour,* etc.

1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* III. 283 You have ..found a respectable purchaser for your plantations, and have disposed of your *slave-bargain on your own terms? 1791 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 27 May, As for politics, I reck not, having no room in my head for any thing but the *Slave-bill. 1612 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* IV. iii, He had bought his bands out With their *slave bloods! 1864 WEBSTER, **Slave-hunt,* I. A search after persons to make slaves of. *Barth.* 2. A search after fugitive slaves. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, The leaders of the slave-hunts, the Arab desperadoes. *a* 1859 *Voice from South* 19 (Bartlett), I hear you avowing that *slave labor shall not come in competition with free labor. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, Exclusive sugar cultivation had put a premium on unskilled slave-labour. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unofficial Patriot* 2 The direct results of having been born to *slave-ownership. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 135 The inducement to *slave-piracy among the Cilicians. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Apr. 2/1 On the western side of Africa there are no *slave raids. 1852 J. M. LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 195 The tendency of the *slave-system being to divide the white population. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 651 The violent remonstrances of our traders in favour of the inhuman *slave-traffic. 1838 WHITTIER *Farew. of Virginia Slave Mother* 3 Where the *slave-whip ceaseless swings.

b. With words denoting places, buildings, etc., in some way connected with slaves or slavery, as *slave-barge, -cabin, -country,* etc.

1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 218 A *slave-barge passed down the Nile. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* II. 228 Black Toussaint Louverture in his *slave-cabin at Hayti. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. round World* (ed. 2) xxi. 499, I thank God, I shall never again visit a *slave-country. 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virginia* 76 A warrant to search your *slave-huts..for a runaway negro. 1855 BAILEY *The Mystic,* etc. 70 The desert heart of *slave-land. 1838 STEPHENS *Trav. Turkey* 52/1 In the *slave-market..it required no great effort of the imagination to make her decidedly beautiful. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. 92 Since Gregory had beheld the angelic children of Deira in the Roman slave-market. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 135 The great *slave-mart at Delos. 1845 COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* ii. 15 One large kind of storehouse attracted my attention; ..it was a *slave-pen. 1796 H. M. WILLIAMS *Lett. on France* IV. 177 (Jod.), The faithful historian of a *slave-ship. 1842 LONGF. *Witnesses* iii, There the black Slave-ship swims. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 219 The *slave villages..are away down the north face of the island.

c. Consisting of slaves, as *slave-caravan, -caste, -coffle, -drove.*

1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke's Hist.* (1897) 558 The marts of the African slave-caravans. 1865 *Atlantic Monthly* June 752 The last slave-coffle that shall ever tread the streets of Richmond. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 348 The slave-droves of an African prince. 1895 C. S. HORNE *Story L. M. S.* 95 Members of the poor slave-castes must not approach nearer than ninety paces to a Brahmin.

7. Objective. **a.** With agent-nouns, as *slave-auctioneer, -broker, -catcher, -dealer,* etc.

1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. clxxviii. 216 Give up your sons to slaughter, that *slave-auctioneers may still handle female flesh. 1893 *Dublin Rev.* April 295 The son of a *slave-broker in Cairo. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ix. 77 Are you the man that will shelter a poor woman and child from *slave-catchers? 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 110 The root is..well known to these *slaue-coursers. 1776 G. SHARP *Law Liberty* Title-p., Slave-holders and *slave-dealers. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. 17 'They are English, Angles!' the slave-dealers answered. 1830 R. WALSH *Notices of Brazil* II. 480 A ferocious looking fellow with a scourge.. who was the *slave-driver of the ship. 1889 G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 193 The sweater himself, a mere slave driver paid 'by the piece'. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 196 The *slave employer..has no remedy but to solicit..a deduction from the price. 1776 G. SHARP *Law Retrib.* Title-p., Tyrants, *Slave-holders, and Oppressors. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 525 An intention of alarming the slaveholders of the coast. 1889 *Academy* 24 Aug. 112/2 Our hero's capture by a band of ruthless *slavehunters. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Species* vii. (1860) 223 Ants which are not *slave-makers. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* xiii. 628 Fortune-tellers, *slave-mongers, gladiators. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, Her father was a German Jew—a *slave-owner they say. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Feb. 1 The *slave raider has extended his operations far and wide. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 162 A merchant *slaue-seller. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. v. (1864) II. 16 Barbarian or Jewish *slave-venders.

b. With pres. ppples., as *slave-carrying, -collecting, -dealing,* etc.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 13 July 4/2 The *slave carrying ships were pestilential jails. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 88 Both species of the *slave-collecting ants. *Ibid.* 75 None of the *slave-dealing ants appear to be natives of Britain. 1864 *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* Jan. 10 The *slave-dealing king of Dahomey. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Society in Amer.* II. 77 This brought in an accession of *slave-holding settlers. 1735 THOMSON *Liberty* I. 32 Extended in her hand the Cap, and Rod, Whose *Slave-inlarging touch gave double life. *a* 1628 F. GREVIL *Life Sidney* XV. (1652) 205 These *slave-making conjunctions betweene the Spaniard, and his Chaplaine. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 81 Another of the slave-making ants. 1852 J. M. LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 195 A *slave-owning oligarchy.

c. With vbl. sbs., as *slave-catching, -dealing, driving, -hunting,* etc.

1864 WEBSTER, **Slave-catching,* the business of searching out and arresting fugitive slaves. 1873 P. H. COLOMB (*title*), Slave-catching in the Indian Ocean. 1845 MARG. FULLER *Wom. 19th Cent.* (1862) 25 Room for a monstrous display of *slave-dealing and slave-keeping. 1889 G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 23 Its ferocious sweating and *slave-driving. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* p. xxvi, The whole system of *slave-holding..is exceedingly strange. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* v. 75 The pulpit preached *slave-hunting. 1845 *Slave-keeping [see *slave-dealing*]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 715 The law which made *slavetrading felony.

8. a. With pa. ppples., as *slave-cultured, -deserted, -got, -grown, -peopled.*

1763 CHURCHILL *Duellist* I. Poems 1767 II. 11 Some slave-got Villain. 1788 COWPER *Morning Dream* 26 To a slave-cultur'd island we came. 1809–10 SHELLEY '*Oh! take the pure gem,*' etc., ii, Where patriotism..Plants Liberty's flag on the slave-peopled shore. 1817 — *Rev. Islam* IX. x, Their many tyrants sitting desolately In slave-deserted halls. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. vi. § 3 I. 571 Slave-grown will exchange for non-slave-grown commodities in a less ratio [etc.]. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxli. 120 The supply of slave-grown cotton.

b. Similative, as *slave-like.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 205 This Slaue-like Habit. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* iii. (1857) III. 19 He would have addressed her in the most fulsome and slave-like strain. 1896 *Daily News* 13 Apr. 3/1 A slave-like obedience.

9. Special combs.: **slave-captain,** the captain of a slave-vessel; **Slave Coast,** a part of the west coast of Africa (see quot. 1875) from which slaves were exported; **slave-fork,** a forked branch of a tree secured to the neck of a slave to prevent escape; **slave-power,** a power based upon, or recognizing, slavery as an institution; **slave state,** one or other of the southern United States of America, in which slave-holding was legal; **slave-stick,** = *slave-fork.*

Slave-wood, given in various Dicts., etc., as a name for the Simaruba tree, is an error for *stave-wood.*

1808 CLARKSON *African Slave-Trade* I. 378 Norris had been formerly a *slave-captain, but had quitted the trade. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) II. 1110/2 Benin,..in Africa, has ..the *Slave Coast on the west. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 299/1 The most eastern districts [of the Gold Coast] are often distinguished by the name of the Slave Coast. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 269 The Slave Coast extends from the river Volta to the Calabar river. 1883 ANNANDALE *Imperial Dict.*, *Slave-fork. 1898 *Daily Telegr.* 11 Apr. 4/7 Many poor wretches fighting in fetters or in slave-forks. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 413 **Slave power*, the political power of slave-holders; the body of slaveholders. 1861 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. clxxvii. 214 The martyrdoms a victorious Slave-power may in its tenderness impose. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 94 Buffaloe robes..will be found of much use in the *slave states, as a cheap and comfortable bedding for negroes. 1888 BRYCE *American Commw.* III. liii. II. 334 New States had been admitted substantially in pairs, a slave State balancing a free State. 1899 WERNER *Capt. Locusts* 244 Once before I saw him there with people tied in *slave-sticks.

Slave (slēv), *v.*[1] Also 6–7 slaue. [f. SLAVE *sb.* Cf. ENSLAVE *v.*; also (M)Du. and (M)LG. *slaven*, G. *sklaven*, chiefly in sense 4.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to the condition of a slave; to enslave; to bring into subjection.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. ii, Thou canst not slave Or banish me. 1644 BERKENHEAD *Serm.* 21 Princes protect us from evill doers, who would..mercilesly slave our children. 1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* II. i, I lend a Hand to Slave my Country!—No. 1881 MRS. A. R. ELLIS *Sylvestra* II. 60 Why did he go on board a Bristol ship, if not for slaving men?

fig. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. i. 71 Let the..Lust-dieted man, That slaues your ordinance,..feele your powre quickly. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xlviii. 30 Who could never stoope To slave his vertue, for a servile Hope.

b. Const. *to* (a person, etc.).

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* L iij b, Subiected and slaued to the proudest..nacion. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Kt.* I. i, My recreant soule, Slaved to her beauty, would renounce all warre. 1652 C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* 76 It slav'd them unto Macedon and Rome. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 39, I first slaved to the yoke Both ox and ass.

refl. *c* 1613 ROWLANDS *Paire of Spy-Knaves* (Hunterian Cl.) 3 A Sicophant, that slaues himselfe to all. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 439 If they hope to obtaine any thing by their fauour..they must..slaue them-selues to Flatterie.

c. *Croquet.* (See quot.)

1868 WHITMORE *Croquet Tactics* 21 To 'slave'..a ball is to take it on with you in the game.

2. To treat as a slave; to employ in hard or servile labour.

1699 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 218 The Ægyptian Kings built them Monuments, wherein they slaved their whole Nation. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 179 Brought on..by hard Riding and Slaving the Horse afterwards. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxvi, A man were better dead than thus slaved and harassed.

b. To abuse by the name of slave.

1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* p. iii, The Nursery man is presently slaved and condemned for a cheating Knave.

3. *intr.* (with *it*). **a.** To practise slavish imitation. **b.** =next.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* E ij, Some proude spirited princocks..gets him a liuerie Coate of their cloth, and slaues it in their seruile sutes. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. vii, He found himself presently..slaving it like the rest of the family.

4. To toil or work hard like a slave.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) V. 77 There's many more who slave and toil, Their living to get. 1766 ANSTEY *New Bath Guide* viii. 80 She slav'd all the Day like a Spitalfields Weaver. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. x, Slaving to drag up each separately out of its deep bed. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xi, Poor Berry drudged and slaved away as usual. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 55 While he was still slaving at these bricks without straw.

b. To plod *through* something in reading.

1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VIII. xvi, Reading newspaper poetry;—which..you occasionally slave through.

c. *trans.* To wear *out*, etc., by severe toil.

1864 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* ii, I may slave my life out, and there isn't one of you will..help me. 1880 — *Just as I am* xlix, You will slave yourself to death. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* July 184/1 What a hideous place was Pentonville to slave away one's life in.

5. *intr.* To traffic in slaves. *rare*—[1].

1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* I, I made a contract.. to buy a Cargo to slave with on the Coast of Guinea.

† **Slave,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Related to SLEAVE *v.* or SLIVE *v.*] *intr.* To tear away or split.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 Cutte the settes..a lyttel from the erth, the more halfe a-sonder, and to lette it slaue downewarde, and not vpwarde. *Ibid.* § 133 That causeth the bowes to slaue downe the nether parte.

Slaveage (slē·vēdʒ). *nonce-word.* [f. SLAVE *sb.*, after *peerage*.] Slaves collectively.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 428 His ignorance of the British Peerage is equal to his ignorance of the American slaveage.

Sla·ve-born, *a.* [SLAVE *sb.* 8 a.] Born of a slave parent or parents; born in the condition of a slave.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III, The obstinate cowards, the slave-born tyrants. 1594 *Selimus* (Temple ed.) 551 The mighty Emperor of Russia Sends in his troops of slave-born Muscovites. 1616 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Div b, A sable Stage Where slaue-borne Man playes to the scoffing Starres. 1765 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* I. xxvii. 19 Thy breast no slave-born (*earlier edd.* slavish) Venus fires.

Slaved (slēvd), *ppl. a.* [f. SLAVE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Enslaved.

1639 G. DANIEL *Vervic* 515 As coldly Dull As the slaved Russian.

2. Of a vessel: Loaded with slaves. *rare*—[1].

1796 Z. MACAULAY in Visc'tess Knutsford *Life & Lett.* (1900) vi. 141 Some of which he had already sent off fully slaved.

Slavedom (slē·vdəm). [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -DOM.] **a.** Slavery. **b.** The position of a slave.

1562 PHAER *Æneid* x. Dd ij b, Than may your grace condempne al Italy to great Carthage, In slauedome vnder Moores. 1605 T. BELL *Motives Romish Faith* 8 [He] shal becom a Papist, and yeilde himselfe to the slauedome of popish religion. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* xxvii. 324 A throne, at which earth's puny potentates May sue for slavedoms. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 165 The tyrants of slavedom have borne the sway here for forty years.

Slave-driver, -holder, etc.: see SLAVE *sb.* 7.

Slaveless (slē·vlės), *a.* [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -LESS.] Not possessing slaves.

1852 J. M. LUDLOW *Hist. U. S.* 195 An ignorant and helpless mass of slaveless freemen.

Slave-like *a.*: see SLAVE *sb.* 8 b.

Slaveling (slē·vliŋ). [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -LING [1].] A submissive or servile person.

1884 *Contemp. Rev.* May 688 The most independent of these slavelings..degenerated into a place-hunter.

† **Sla·vely,** *adv. Obs.*—[1] [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -LY [2].] After the manner of slaves; oppressively.

1553 W. TURNER in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. i. iv. 49 If ye saw..how slavely and bondly they handle the rest of the Clergy.

Slave-merchant. [SLAVE *sb.* 6.] One who traffics or deals in slaves; a slave-dealer.

1747 DUNKIN in *Francis's Horace, Ep.* II. ii. 7 *note*, This was probably the usual Language of Slave-Merchants. 1792 *Genil. Mag.* LXII. i. 2 The slave-merchants..brought forward several persons as witnesses. 1808 CLARKSON *African Slave-Trade* I. 385 Slave-merchants..came in. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. vi. 85 The slave-merchant supplied laborers on credit.

† **Slaven,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. SLEAVE *v.* or SLIVE *v.* Cf. SLAVE *v.*[2]]. Split.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 116/2 In the bent of this Bow..is placed an arrow slaven; halfe an arrow it cannot properly be termed, but the side of an arrow.

Slaveocracy, -crat: see SLAVOCRACY.

Slaver (slæ·vəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 **slavere,** 5 **slavyr,** 6–7 **slauer,** 6– **slaver.** [Related to SLAVER *v.* Cf. Icel. *slafur* in the same sense.]

1. Saliva issuing or falling from the mouth.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 *Pur sauver ses dras de baavure*, from slavere. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slavyr, *orexis*. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 79 The leafe is hote: and holden vnder ones tethe, bryngeth furth slauer. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 17 To shake hiz earz twyse or thryse wyth the blud & the slauer aboout his fiznamy. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 329 The froth or slauer of an horse mouth. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 136 That a Toad communicates its venom..by the humiditie and slaver of its mouth. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 106 Of all mad creatures..It is the slaver kills, and not the bite. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. 400 A venomous slaver, which, they suppose, issues from the Salamander's mouth. 1820 BYRON *Blues* I. 47 I'd inoculate sooner my wife with the slaver Of a dog when gone rabid. 1834 DISRAELI *Rev. Epick* I. xlix, It spat, and washed With burning slaver from my front the cross. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. iv, Ruthven, with the slaver of his rage upon his mouth.

b. *fig.* Drivel, nonsense; also, gross flattery.

1825 COLERIDGE *A Character* 68 The coward whine and Frenchified Slaver and slang of the other side. 1862 *Times* 2 Apr., A modest man, one to whom such slaver must be loathsome. 1893 COZENS HARDY *Broad Norf.* 55 Some people may look upon this correspondence as a lot of squit and slaver (nonsense).

2. Mucus-slime of fish or worms. *rare.*

1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 293 She got nothing but the slaver of worms, or scum of fishes. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 46 In the Eele..is no Sex visible, yet by their slaver..do they produce their young.

Slaver (slē·vəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -ER [1].]

1. A vessel engaged in slave-traffic.

1830 R. WALSH *Notices of Brazil, 1828–9* II. 482 This was opposed by the mate of the slaver. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. viii. 722 The proceeds of ships..condemned as slavers. 1886 *Athenæum* 13 Nov. 627/3 They were in the boats creeping up to a slaver.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1886 *Athenæum* 13 Nov. 627/3 The story of his slaver hunting carries one back to boyish recollections. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 5 As stout a slaver-skipper as ever kept niggers under hatches.

2. One who deals or traffics in, or owns, slaves.

1842 LONGF. *Quadroon Girl* iv, The Slaver's thumb was on the latch. 1862 *Industrial Mag.* Feb. 52 In America the slavers themselves make it an open boast. 1889 *John Bull* 2 Mar. 145/2 That there was no worse slaver than the present Sultan of Turkey.

Slaver, variant of SLIVER *sb.*

Slaver (slæ·vəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4– **slaver,** 5 **slawer, slavyr,** 6–7 **slauer.** [app. of Scand. origin: cf. Icel. *slafra* in the same sense, related to LG. *slabbern*, etc., SLABBER *v.*]

1. *intr.* To let the saliva run from the mouth; to slabber. Also *fig.*

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 *L'enfaunt bavie de nature*, slaveryt of kynde. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 784 His mouthe slavers, his tethe rotes. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 668 *Salmare*, to slawer. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slaveron, *orexo*. 1530 PALSGR. 720/2 Fye on the knave, arte thou nat a shamed to slaver lyke a yonge chylde. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 224 He driueleth and slauereth at the mouth commonly. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. (1617) 83 You shall euer haue a Horse that is so cut,.. continually slauering, because the moysture which commeth into his mouth, cannot bee held in. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. vi, It may be also, when they take Tobacco, they slaver on the shorn side of their Chin. 1751 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 194 All of them slaver'd and frequently chang'd colour. 1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 87 He chewed tobacco, and sitting next my companion, slavered and spat upon his coat. 1841 THACKERAY *Men & Coats* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 366 The man was bleeding at the nose, and slavering at the mouth. 1874 HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xxvi. 228 With lips that slavered with their hate.

b. *fig.* To drivel; to fawn. Also with *it*.

1730 SWIFT *Wks.* (1755) IV. i. 122 Why must he sputter, spawl, and slaver it In vain against the people's fav'rite? 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 13/1 Where humour turns changeling, and slavers in an insipid grin. 1862 WRAXALL tr. *Hugo's Les Miserables* IV. xxvii, It is a.. frog-like language which crawls, slavers. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 135 He thought..of his uncle and how he had snubbed and then slavered over him.

2. To issue as or like slaver.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 90, I saw flesh bluddye toe slauer, When the cob had maunged the gobets. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. vi, Still the bottle-ale slauereth, and the tabacco stinketh! 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* ix. 103 Their gums are seen..with spittle slavering forth.

3. *trans.* To wet with saliva; to slobber.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xxx. xcix, That [meat] they left they did so file and slaver As few could brook the sight. *a* 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 209 Thou wast not made to slauer her faire lips With thy dead rewmy chops. 1693 DRYDEN, etc., tr. *Juvenal's Sat.* vii. 144 With white Froth his Gown is slaver'd o'er. 1819 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 135 Provided it be slavered over with a froth of philosophy. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Only a Clod* i, To..slaver his hand with its flapping tongue.

b. *fig.* To fondle, to flatter, in a disgusting or sycophantic manner.

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* III. 183 She wondered Mr. Runnington was not ashamed to be slavering such a great girl. 1832 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) II. 238 This eagerness to slaver the archfoe of the cause. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VI. Wks. (1904) 484/2 Is it that the Devil slavers them So excellently, that we come to doubt Who's stronger?

4. To utter in a slavering fashion. Also with *out*.

1599 BROUGHTON *Lett.* i. 7 You will needes..slauer out your follies in view of the world. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xii, Slavering portentous stories about malcontent country gentlemen.

Hence **Sla·verer,** one who slavers; also *fig.*, a servile flatterer.

1618 HOLYDAY *Technogamia* III. v, My Slauerer was at his Tobacco. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 71 Fashionable life has been exalted above its just and proper level, and depressed below it, by the slaverers and the vituperators.

Slavering (slæ·vəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLAVER *v.*]

1. The action of allowing saliva to run from the mouth.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 *De baavure*, fro slavering. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 668 *Hec salmacio*, slaveryng. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* iii, How durst thow be sa bald to fyle this bruik ..with thy foull slauering? 1611 COTGR., *Baverie*, a..slauering, or driuelling at the mouth. *a* 1827 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 107 In vulgar language it is denominated Drivelling or Slavering. 1878 MEREDITH *Teeth* 61 Slavering; imperfect speech; inflamed gums.

b. *pl.* That which is emitted as slaver; also *fig.*, drivellings.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xxi. 13 His slauerynges ranne downe his beerd. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 237 *note*, [They]doe pronounce such waer, slaveringes, not poems rare. 1684 *Contempl. State of Man* I. iii. (1699) 28 Silk [was nothing] but the slaverings of Worms.

c. *fig.* Extreme longing or desire. *rare.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. iii. 15 Strutting-in knowledge, Egre slavering-After hid-skill, with every inward uncouth thing. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1201 Your greedy slav'ring to devour, Before 'twas in your Clutches, Pow'r.

2. *fig.* Kissing. *rare*—[1].

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 183 An old lecherous fellow which could not keep his lips from slavering of women.

3. *attrib.*, as *slavering-bib, -bit, -cloth, -clout.*

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 *Une bavere*, a slavering-clout. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 668 *Hoc salmarium*, slaveryngclout. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Slaveryng clothe for chyldren, *bauette*. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Slabbe*,..a childs Bib, or Slavering clout. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Bits*, The Masticadour or Slavering-Bit. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 358 *Slaaverin bib*, a bit of cloth under a child's chin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 244 The provision of slavering-bibs in some cases.

Slavering (slæ·vəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Characterized or accompanied by the emission of slaver. Also *fig.*

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 224 The fifth..kynde of madnesse is called the Rewmatike or slauering madnesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 118 Miso..came with skowling eyes to deliuer a slauering good morrow to the two Ladies. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 109 In one slauering discourse or other, [to] hang out the badge of his follie. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* (1675) 56 A kind of slav'ring Letchery. *c* 1830 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 48 In the slavering times of our Scotch Solomon. 1871 E. PEACOCK *R. Skirlaugh* I. 192 Let's have no slaverin talk like that.

2. That slavers; allowing saliva to fall.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 250 The third was a long leane old slauering slangrell. 1602 *How to Choose a Good Wife* II. iii, Money can make a slavering tongue speak plain. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 56 An old sheep-biter..with a slavering lip. 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iphigenia* 179 The slavering Cudden, prop'd upon his Staff. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* I. i, What Crowds Of Slav'ring,

..shameful Ideots. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* (1861) 240 She is proud of having this slavering, greedy man at her feet. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Aug. 188 The lowing and slavering droves that one sees on the roads.

Hence **Sla·veringly** *adv.*

1736 AINSWORTH, Slaveringly (foolishly), *ineptè*, *insulsè*. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 113 The muscles of the lips [have been] slaveringly relaxed.

Slavery (slā·vəri), *sb.* Forms: 6–7 slauerie, 6–8 slaverie, 7 slauery, 7– slavery. [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -ERY. Cf. MDu. *slaverie* (Du. *slaverny*), LG. *slaverei* (Da. *slaveri*, Sw. *slafveri*), G. *scl-*, *sklaverei* († *skl-*, *schlaverey*).]

1. Severe toil like that of a slave; heavy labour, hard work, drudgery.

1551 ROBINSON *More's Utopia* II. v. (1895) 161 In this hal, all vyle seruice, all slauerie,..is done by bondemen. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 43 Digginge of Coles, and other slaueryes and extreame toyles. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 34 Asses which they use..to carry Packs,..and any other Slavery. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 65 To give them continual Waterings..is a very great Slavery and Expence. 1897 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 6/7 Such people..ought never to keep servants, but do their own slavery.

† **2.** Conduct befitting a slave; ignoble, base, or unbecoming behaviour. *Obs. rare.*

1553 WILSON *Rhet.* 73 But if an officer..should vse any slauerie, we are much more greeued. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) A vj, If there bee anie..which seeketh to ..benefit himselfe by flatterie, by briberie, by slauerie.

3. The condition of a slave; the fact of being a slave; servitude; bondage.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 138 Being taken .. And sold to slauery. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 9 Seeing the gain by their slavery is more aim'd at than the conversion of their souls to Christ. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. xlvi. 36 Their slavery is, in my opinion, no worse than servitude all over the world. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 211 A barbarian killing his wife and himself to escape slavery. 1863 MILL in *Sat. Rev.* 302 Foremost among all things which injure and dishonour a country stands the personal slavery of human beings.

b. *fig.* The condition or fact of being entirely subject to, or under the domination of, some power or influence.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 114 The redemption of all y^e^ world..from the slauerie of sinne. 1644 MILTON *Education* 3 Instilling their barren hearts with a conscientious slavery. 1724 WATTS *Logic* (1736) 223 This is.. as shameful a Slavery of the Soul. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xix, If you will not release yourself from the slavery of these fears. 1855 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* ii. (1878) 68 The slavery to chance is a worse evil than slavery to authority. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. x. 393 A kind of slavery—a minute obedience to the clock.

c. A state of subjection or subordination comparable to that of a slave; also with *pl.*, an instance of this.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii, No hope of end To our infamous monstrous slaueries. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. I. ii, 'Tis a wonder..what slavery King Henry II. endured for the death of Thomas à Beckett. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 June 1683, The extream slavery and subjection that courtiers live in. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iv. Wks. 1761 III. 74 All government without the consent of the governed, is the very definition of slavery. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 208 The feeling which pervaded the native states, their anxiety to be rescued..from the miserable slavery to which they had been reduced.

4. The fact of slaves existing as a class in a community; the keeping of slaves as a practice or institution.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Slave*, As Slavery was not abolished by the Gospel, the Custom..lasted a long Time. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 122 The notion of slavery was not unknown to our laws, so early as the reign of king Edward the sixth. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* ii. 22 Why, then, has there been slavery in all ages of the world? 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix. 188 On this abstract question of slavery there can, as I think, be but one opinion. 1873 SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* vi. 143 Slavery, under which.. certain men held complete possession of others.

personif. 1794 COLERIDGE *To La Fayette*, Slavery's spectres shriek and vanish from the ray! 1880 E. KIRKE *Life Garfield* 53 There lies Slavery, a black marble column at the head of its grave.

5. *attrib.*, as *slavery-fetters*, *question*, etc.

1824 *Batavian Anthol.* 103 While on our friends No slavery-fetters hang. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. xii, There are Blacks, and the Slavery Question to be investigated. 1860 LOWELL *Election in Nov.* Prose Wks. 1890 V. 40 The demand of the slavery-extensionists.

Slavery (slæ·vəri), *a.* [f. SLAVER *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].] Like slaver; befouled with slaver; characterized by slaver; given to slavering.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xlvii. (1869) 160, I am foule, old, and slavery. 1646 in *Jubilee of W. Orr* (1880) 11 For calling one of ye elders a mansworne slaverie loun. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 453 A constant weeping of a thin slavery Liquor. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. vi, Thrusting his slavery lips close to her ear. 1895 KIPLING *and Jungle Bk.* 234 He drove the dholes..from yells to hoarse slavery ravings.

Sla·ve-trade, *sb.* [SLAVE *sb.* 6.] Traffic in slaves; *spec.* the former transportation of African negroes to America. Also *attrib.*

1734 SNELGRAVE (*title*), A New Account of some Parts of Guinea, and the Slave Trade. 1772 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 12 Feb., A very different book..on that execrable sum of all villanies, commonly called the Slave-trade. 1834 DE QUINCEY in *Tait's Mag.* I. 28/2 Of the kidnapping, murdering slave-trade, there cannot be two opinions. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 322 The efforts made by the English and United States' fleets to put down the slave-trade. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxvii. 186 That America should benefit the African, was always the excuse for the slave-trade.

Hence **Sla·ve-trade** *v. intr.*, to traffic in slaves.

1818 R. THORPE *View Slave Trade* 68 By enabling the great body of factors to discover, that..they might slave-trade with impunity.

Sla·ve-trader. [Cf. prec. and SLAVE *sb.* 7 a.]

1. One who trades in slaves; a slaver.

1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 184/2 The..conviction of three slave-traders at Sierra Leone. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxxv. 390 For the English colonies, her Britannic majesty..was the exclusive slave-trader.

2. A ship engaged in the slave-trade.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 232 The most ordinary slave-trader of all..flies no flag.

Slavey (slā·vi). *colloq.* [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -Y.]

† **1.** A male servant or attendant. *Obs.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Slavey*, a servant of either sex. 1852 SMEDLEY *L. Arundel* xii. 91 The slaveys [= waiters] will swallow that or anything else for Persian. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xi, The slavey has Mr. Frederick's hot water, and a bottle of soda water on the same tray. He has been instructed [etc.].

2. A female domestic servant, *esp.* one who is hard-worked; a maid of all work.

1821 EGAN *Life in London* 174 'He is only fond of the Slaveys!' (*Note.* A slang term for servant maids.) 1837 T. HOOK *J. Brag* i, Four guineas per annum, and a tip to the slavey. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances back* I. xiii. 249 A young lodging-house slavey..bade me follow her upstairs.

Slavian (slā·viăn, slæ·viăn), *a. rare.* [f. SLAV *sb* + -IAN.] Slavonian, Slavic.

1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Lit.*, etc. III. 520/1 Its principal ingredient is the Sclavian language. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* v. viii. II. 426 Among the Slavian tribes the Greek missionaries had penetrated into regions of unmingled Barbarism. 1865 *Reader* No. 119. 391/1 Greek, Romain, and Slavian newspapers.

Slavic (slā·vik, slæ·vik), *a.* and *sb.* Also Sclavic, Slaavic. [f. SLAV *sb.* + -IC.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Slavs; Slavonian; Slavonic.

a. 1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 256 Classes and families of languages. ..Indoeuropean...Sclavic. *Ibid.* 281 The connexion of the Sclavonian, and Lithuanian, which we have comprehended in the title of Sclavic family. 1864 *Athenæum* 2 Apr. 467/3 The 'Sclavic Athens' [as] she [Ragusa] was named in the seventeenth century.

β. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 184 The Slavic, or Sclavonic race, is a 4th Indo-European family. 1849 PATON *Highl. & Isl. Adriatic* I. xii. 157 The most advanced of all the Slaavic nations of central Europe. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 389/2 The author of a Slavic Grammar. 1882 W. B. WEEDEN *Soc. Law Labor* 11 The Slavic development differs from other Aryan experience.

B. *sb.* A Slavonic form of speech.

1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 389/2 The lines of distinction..between old Slavic and Russian. 1876 WHITNEY *Language and its Study* vi. 214 Old Slavonic, or the Church Slavic, having been adopted by a large part of the Slavonian races as their sacred language.

Hence **Sla·vicize** *v. trans.*, to render Slav-like, to convert into Slavs.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Dec. 8/1 The Servian individuality cannot be Germanized, but it might be Slavicized. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 172 Any attempt to Slavicise the Germans of Bohemia.

Slavifica·tion. [f. SLAV *a.* + -(I)FICATION.] The action or process of Slavicizing.

The verb *Slavify* also occurs in recent use.

1883 C. ABEL *Slavic & Latin* Contents, The Slavification of the Finnish area.

† **Slavin.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 sclaueyn (5 sklaueyne), 5 -ayne; 4 sclaveyn, 5 -ayn, -ene. β. 3 scl-, 4 sklauin; 3, 5 sclauyne, 5 scl-, sklauyn; 3 sclavyne, 3–4 sclavyn (4 skl-). γ. 4–5 slaueyn, 5 -aine; 4–5 slaveyne, 5 -eyn. δ. 5 slaw-, slavyne (-yn), slauyn(e. [ad. OF. *esclavine*, = Sp. *esclavina*, It. *schiavina*, med.L. *sclavina*, *-inia*, app. f. *sclavus* slave or *Sclavus* Slav. Cf. also MDu. *slavine*, *-ijn*, MHG. *slavenie*.] A pilgrim's mantle.

a. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 419 Cam þare a Man in o sclaueyn. *c* 1325 *Orfeo* 222 To him a sclaveyn anon he toke. 13.. *Octouian* 394 Ther com a palmer old In a sklaueyne. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 25 An oold fader..wyth an oold sclauayn uppon hym. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 773 *Hec sarabarda*, a sclavene.

β. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 1054 Haue her clobes myne, And tak me þi sclauyne. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 2066 [He] 3af him is hors, þat he rod in, For is bordon and is sklauin. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 185/1 The crosse that he bare and sklauyn that he ware. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvi. 42 b/1 A mantel, in maner of a sclauyne.

γ. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 236 His slaueyn was of þe olde schappe. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxxiv. (1554) 214 One Bulgare, clad in slaueyn olde. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 157 A pylgrym 3af his slaveyn for to drynke myȝty wyne.

δ. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3474 With scrippe, ande with slawyne, and skalopis i-newe. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 198 How þer was a pylgram at .. seld his slavyn. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 10 He shewd me his slauyne and pylche and an heren sherte ther vnder.

Slaving (slā·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLAVE *v.*] The practice of capturing or trading in slaves.

1862 J. STEWART in *Stewart of Lovedale* ix. 88 From the Zambesi to Lake Nyassa there is nothing but slaving. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* 593 The members of the same tribes who..have never engaged in slaving. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 2/1 Though slaving was never our business, it did occasionally happen that we bought a few slaves.

† **Sla·ving,** *sb. Obs.*[−1] [f. SLAVE *v.*[2]] A slip of a tree; = SLEAVING.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 Dyuerse apple-trees, that haue knottes in the bowes,..and suche other, that wyll growe on slauynges.

Slavish (slē·viʃ, slæ·viʃ), *a.*[1] Also 6 slau(e)ishe, 6–7 slauish. [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -ISH[1]. Cf. Du. *slaafsch*, G. *scl-*, *sklavisch* († *schl-*, *slavisch*).]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of, a slave; befitting a slave; servile, abject.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Vernilitas*,..slauishe behauour. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 3 To submit themselues vnto slauish seruitude. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 83 The victorie..which..had brought you in slaueishe subiection. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 66 There was..twelue thousand Christians deliuered from their slauish bondage. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 122 See how he lies..In slavish habit, ill-fitted weeds. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* xi. 188 The Player.. was generally of slavish Birth at Rome. 1770 *Lett. Junius* xxxix. (1788) 214 The house of lords have imposed a slavish silence upon themselves. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxiii, The bondsman's peace, who..with smooth smile his tyrant can accost, And wield the slavish sickle. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 2. 468 The spirit of slavish submission which pervaded the Houses.

b. Toiling, toilsome, laborious.

1828 A. CLARKE in *Life* (1840) xiii. 472 Winter is a dangerous and slavish time for the Shetland preachers. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 100 A slavish life, busied with a succession of fretful observances, has no attractions.

2. Having the character († or status) of slaves; of a submissive, unmanly disposition.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Vernaculi*, slauysh and naughtie condicioned men, eyther in flatteryng or in ill speach. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 126 They racke their rents vnto a treble rate;..And clogge their slauish tenant with commaunds. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Titus* ii. 3 We may not become slauish vnto them. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 152 [They] cause the poore slauish subiected Christians, surrender all they haue. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 114 The Muscovites how submissive and slavish soever they may be, will endeavour the recovery of their freedom. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 306 Scourge of thy people,..Sent in Jove's anger on a slavish race. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 228 Th' omniscient Judge Scorns the base hireling, and the slavish drudge. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Theol. Philos.* (ed. 2) 131 The thoughtless, slavish victim of inclination.

3. Vile, mean, base, ignoble.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 193 The slauish motiue of recanting feare. 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy d'Ambois* IV. i, The princely author of the slavish sin. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 202 To free itself from slavish Prepossession. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 89 To lye is a slavish Vice. 1737 SWIFT in Scoones *Four Cent. Eng. Lett.* 169 The slavish, hellish principles of an execrable prevailing faction. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. 35 The slavish counsels of those who only calculated the expense of a war. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 547/1 A slavish dread of the powers of nature.

4. Implying or involving slavery.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 291 If then we shall shake off our slauish yoake,..Away with me. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 17 Hee had run away from his master by reason of hard and slavish usage. 1709 WATTS *Hymn*, '*How sad our state by nature is!*' i, Satan binds our captive souls Fast in his slavish chains. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 112 For British nymphs..Feel all the meanness of your slavish lot. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* i, The slavish and despotic constitution introduced into the empire.

5. Servilely imitative; lacking originality or independence.

1753 TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 87 In the Translation ..I have not confined myself to a slavish and literal one. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xix. i. 307 In preparing this great work there was no slavish adherence to the old law.

b. Of persons.

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 294 We have not a few of these slavish followers. 1863 BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 73 Slavish copyists of the English dockyard system.

Slavish (slā·viʃ, slæ·viʃ), *a.*[2] and *sb.* [f. SLAV *sb.* + -ISH[1]. Cf. G. *Slavisch*, † *Sclavisch*.] **a.** *adj.* Pertaining to or characteristic of the Slavs. **b.** *sb.* The Slavonic language.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 473/2 Some nations of Slavish origin inhabiting Asia. 1843 in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 101 As they relate to the Slavish languages. 1844 *Ibid.* 273 In the old Slavish, or language of the church. 1899 R. MUNRO *Prehist. Scot.* x. 380 Slavish pottery is always well burnt.

Slavishly (slā·viʃli), *adv.* Also 6–7 slauishly, 7 slaueishly, slauishlie. [f. SLAVISH *a.*[1] + -LY[2].]

1. In a servile or slavish manner.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Verniliter*, lewdly:..slauishly. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 23 Most slauishly thou kissest and embracest them. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xi, It is a wonder to see, how slavishly these kind of men subject themselves. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 362 Some..content themselves to live slavishly..for a Morsel of Bread. 1727 GAY *Fables* xii. 21 She never slavishly submits, She'll have her will, or have her fits. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. p. xvi, Not slavishly addicted to any new system. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* xi, He was slavishly gentle to Catherine. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 A nation..slavishly devoted to foreign models.

Comb. 1821 *Examiner* 659/1 A very slavishly-inclined talker of Kings.

† **2.** Oppressively, tyrannically. *Obs.*

1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 349 To this missery hath tirannie inthrald us all and slaveishly caused us to stoope to the demaund of even base infidells. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 26 The women of the better sort are slauishly infringed from honest and lawfull liberty.

Slavishness (slē·viʃnés). Also 7 **slauishnes, slavishnesse**, *Sc.* **slawischnes.** [f. SLAVISH *a.*[1]]

1. Slavish quality or characteristics; servility.

1622 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. 120 His willingnesse to serue such base things, is the great brand of his slauishnes. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Wks.* (1686) 10 To scare The senseless rout to slavishness and fear. *a* 1768 T. SECKER *Wks.* (1771) V. 140 Making a Language absurd, and imprinting a Character of Slavishness upon it. 1830 SIR J. MACKINTOSH *Progr. Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 185 Blackstone,..whose writings are not exempt from the charge of slavishness. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* ii. 45 This will now strike our readers as a doctrine of utter slavishness.

†**2.** A state of slavery; bondage. *Obs.*

1622 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. 113 Thus detaining them in more than Egyptian slauishnes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. xiv. 111 These bemoaned the slavishnesse of these poore servants.

†**3.** Oppression, tyranny. *Obs.*

1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. 48 For putting any to the rack..it is by the English believed to savour too much of slavishness.

Slavism (slā·viz'm, slæ·viz'm). [f. SLAV *sb.* + -ISM.] The collective qualities or racial character of the Slav peoples.

1880 *Daily News* Nov., Its recent effusive article on Slavism. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Mar. 5/1 Fearful lest Hellenism should be effaced, more especially by Slavism.

Slavist[1] (slā·vist). [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -IST. Cf. *anti-slavist* (1832).] One who favours or upholds slavery; *spec.* a member of the former pro-slavery party in the United States.

1889 H. O'REILLY *50 Yrs. on Trail* 15 The border warfare between the slavists and free-soilers.

Slavist[2] (slā·vist, slæ·vist). [f. SLAV *sb.* + -IST.] One skilled in the Slav languages and literature; a Slavonic scholar.

1863 *Reader* 17 Oct. 444/3 The celebrated Slavist, Paul Safarik. 1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* v. 115 Professor Jagić, of St. Petersburg, one of the most eminent of modern Slavists.

Slavistic (slāv-, slævi·stik). [f. SLAV *sb.* + -ISTIC.] Slavonic research.

1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 31 The orthodox and well-grounded decisions of Slavistic.

Slavite (slā·vəit). *U.S. rare.* [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -ITE[1] 1.] = SLAVIST[1].

1831 GARRISON *Liberator* I. 115/1 Undoubtedly the most abominable and surprising spectacle which the wickedness of war presents in the sight of Heaven is a reverend slavite.

Slavize (slā·vəiz, slæ·vəiz), *v.* [f. SLAV *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To Slavicize.

1887 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* II. 676 Bigleniza may have been slavised from Vigilantia or Biglantia. 1909 *Edin. Rev.* July 142 The Bulgarians..have become wholly Slavised both in language and in sentiment.

Slavo- (slā·vo, slæ·vo), combining form (on Greek analogies) of SLAV: **a.** Used parasynthetically with terms denoting other peoples or countries, as *Slavo-Germanic, -Hungarian, -Lettic, -Lithuanian, -Phœnician*, etc.

1839 DONALDSON *New Cratyl.* § 97 (1850) 141 The old Pelasgian or Slavo-Phœnician language of the South. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 182 This branch is often called the Slavo-Lettic. 1888 STRONG tr. *Paul's Princ. Lang.* ii. 29 We assume..a Slavo-Germanic, a Slavo-Lettic, an original Germanic..language. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* 35 Roots peculiar to Slavo-Lithuanian and Teutonic.

b. Objective, in adjs. or sbs. denoting tendency to admire or favour the Slavs, Slavonic ideals, etc., as **Sla·vophil(e, Slavo·philism**; or morbid dread of these, as **Sla·vophobe, Slavo·phobist.**

1877 WALLACE *Russia* ix. 139 They agreed..with the *Slavophils. 1881 *Athenæum* 8 Jan. 54/1 He poses as an incurable Slavophile. *Ibid.* 55/1 The history of the Slavophile movement. 1892 H. D. TRAILL *Marq. Salisbury* xiii. 183 Their Slavophil opponents were jubilant. 1877 WALLACE *Russia* xxvi. 418 The characteristic traits of genuine *Slavophilism. 1883 *Times* 3 May 4 The second part of the volume is a manifesto of 'Slavophilism'. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 8 July 1/1 Hungarians are, as a rule, *Slavophobes.

Slavocracy (slā·vo·krási). Also **slaveocracy.** [f. SLAVE *sb.* + -OCRACY, but with erroneous application.] The domination of slave-holders; slave-holders collectively as a dominant or powerful class.

1848 *N. Y. Express* 4 Sept. (Bartlett), An exhortation to curb the slaveocracy. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Sp.* xxiv. 526 Union means a submission to the old slavocracy. 1896 E. B. GORDON *Biogr. A. Y. Gordon* 68 The devouring indignation against the slavocracy which possessed the soul of Theodore Parker.

So **Sla·vocrat**, a member of the slavocracy.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 413. 1882 H. VON HOLST *Calhoun* ix. 308 The slavocrats..were not such doctrinaires as to risk their bones in charging windmills.

Sla·von, *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6–7 **Scl-, Slauon.** [ad. older F. *Esclavon* (whence also older Flem. pl. *Sclavoenen*, mod.Flem. *Slavonen*), = It. *Schiavone*, med.L. *Sclavonius*: cf. next.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A Slavonian.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 290 The Slauon dooth pleynly vnderstande the Moscouite. *Ibid.* 306 Vnder the dominion of the Slauons and vsyng the same tonge. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* Ii vj, He ouercame the Hungars, and Subiected the Sclauons. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* I. 341 In the seventh century the Slavons..were ruled by chiefs, or dukes, seemingly hereditary. 1836 *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Lit.*, etc. III. 501/1 [They] were followed by the Sclavons, a Sarmatian people.

2. The Slavonic language. *rare*[−1].

1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 128 The Slavon is their vulgar tongue.

B. *adj.* Slavonic. Also *Comb.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 318 The Slauon tounge whiche at this day is sumwhat corruptly cauled Sclauon. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 344/1 In oure Slauon language, it hath bene vsed of old. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* Wks. III. 266 [The Bible] in the Sclavon tongue. 1850 *New Monthly Mag.* April 449 The proposed union of the Slavon tribes—Slavon-Poles, Slavon-Bohemians, and Slavon-Servians.

Slavonian (slăvō·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6–7 **Sclauonian, 7–9 Sclavonian.** [f. med.L. *S(c)lavonia* the country of the Slavs, f. *S(c)lavus* SLAV.]

A. *sb.* **1.** The language of the Slavs; Slavic; Slavonic.

a. 1577 DEE *Memor. Navig.* 62 Far-Forreyn-Languages: As..the Sclauonian, or Moschouite, the Arabik Vulgar, the Turkish [etc.]. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644, In the Church are confession-seates for all languages, Hebrew, Greek,..Welsh, Sclavonian, Dutch, &c. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* xlv[ii]. II. 28 In Pera they speak Turkish, Greek, Hebrew,..Russian, Sclavonian. 1839 DONALDSON *New Cratylus* § 88 (1850) 130 The resemblance of Sclavonian to Latin and the oldest element of Greek.

β. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 107/1 The works of St. Ambrosius..were translated into Slavonian. 1906 PRINCE KROPOTKIN *Mem. Revolutionist* (1908) II. viii. 125 A useless mixture of Russian and old Slavonian obscured the sense.

2. A person of Slavonic origin; a Slav.

a. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 181 One Dando a Sclauonian, who liued 500 yeres. 1648 HEXHAM II, *De Sclavoenen*, the Sclavonians. 1756 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* XII. I. i. § 5 The Sclavonians, a rough and barbarous people. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s.v. *Gog*, Beyond the Tartars and Sclavonians. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* ii. 77 The Sclavonians of the Austrian side.

β. 1614 BRERETON *Lang. & Relig.* 58 Among which the principall in Europe, are the Slauonians themselues. 1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6896/2 The Slavi, or Slavonians, corruptly called the *Sclavonians*. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 101/1 Jornandes, the first writer who mentions the Slavonians. 1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* i. 20 The Slavonians were glad that they heard the great things of God in their language.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the Slavs; Slavonic; Slavic.

a. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 40 *Alan* is thought by Iulius Scaliger..to signifie an hownd in the Sclavonian tongue. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 75 The Hermonduri and Sorabi of the Sclavonian Nation. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 4 The Highdutch, the Sclavonian, and Curland Language. 1724 WATERLAND *Athan. Creed* vi. 94 Cyrill and Methodius, who are said to have invented the Sclavonian letters, and to have translated the Scriptures into the Sclavonian tongue. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 550 The Hungarian language stands alone..among the Sclavonian dialects. 1830 H. G. KNIGHT *Eastern Sketches* Pref. p. xxix, Of Sclavonian or Illyrian extraction. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* i. 5 In reviewing the history of the various Sclavonian tribes.

β. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 66 To have three teeth, like a Slavonian T. 1614 BRERETON *Lang. & Relig.* 59 Of the Turks dominion onely Epirus..speake vulgarly the Slauonian tongue. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 543 The original stock of the Sclavonian, or more properly Slavonian, race. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 101/1 The Slavonian or Slavic race..comprehends about 70,000,000 inhabitants. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* ii. 80 Here a Slavonian gentleman intervened.

2. Of or pertaining to Slavonic countries. In the bird-names *Slavonian falcon, grebe.*

1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. I. 171 Sclavonian Falcon. *Falco Sclavonicus.* 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* III. 308 The Sclavonian Grebe..is rather a rare bird here in summer. 1889 H. SAUNDERS *Brit. Birds* 705 The Slavonian Grebe is a northern species.

3. Coming from Slavonic regions.

1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XXX. 88 As snow..closely piled by rough Sclavonian blasts.

Hence **Slavo·nianize** *v. trans.*, to Slavicize.

1885 *Science* VI. 303 They [the Bulgarians] are not of pure Slavic descent, but are a Slavonianized race.

Slavonic (slăvo·nik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Slauonique, 7–9 Sclavonic.** [ad. med.L. *S(c)lavonicus*, f. *Slavonia*: see SLAVONIAN.]

A. *adj.* Of, belonging or pertaining to, the Slavs or their language; Slavic; Slavonian.

a. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 382 The Sclavonic tongue hath abolished her [the Greek tongue] in Epire and Macedon. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., A Greek, Latin and Sclavonic Dictionary. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lv. V. 564 The Sclavonic city of Julin. 1832 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ix. *note*, Teutonic Germany, or Celtic Gaul, or Sclavonic Illyria. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* i. 2 A Sclavonic tongue begins to be heard around. *Ibid.* 4 The headings over the shops are almost entirely Sclavonic.

β. 1614 BRERETON *Lang. & Relig.* 59 Yet is not the Slauonique tongue..the vulgar language of the Turkish Empire. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxiii. (1674) 91 Terms, which..seemed rather to be Slavonick words. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* I. 299 The Slavonic tribe of Rossi. 1845 S. AUSTIN tr. *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 309 In those districts where the Germanic and Slavonic elements are intermingled. 1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* i. 21 The introduction of the Roman ritual into the Southern Slavonic countries.

B. *sb.* The language of the Slavs.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 3 The Slavonic is extended, though with some variation, through many large Territories. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Each..have their particular Dialect; only the Sclavonic is the common Mother of their several Languages. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 23 Mar. 1772, He [Johnson] observed, that the Bohemian language was true Sclavonick. 1848 SOAMES *Latin Church* I. 4 Their converts worshipped in Sclavonic, the language which those people spoke. 1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* I. 7 The modern Bulgarian language shows Slavonic in a very corrupted form.

Hence **Slavo·nicize** *v. trans.*, to Slavicize.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 194/1 The Slavonic or Slavonicized population.

†**Slavonish,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also **Sclavonish.** [f. SLAVON + -ISH[1]. Cf. Du. and G. *Slavonisch.*] Slavonian.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 254 b, Two Frenche, fyve Spanishe, and one Slavonishe. 1614 BRERETON *Lang. & Relig.* 58 Many are the nations that haue for their vulgar language the Slauonish tongue. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov. 1644, An altar of the Madona..and divers Sclavonish Saints.

Sla·vonism. *rare.* Also 9 **Scl-.** [f. SLAVON(IC) + -ISM.] Slavism.

1839 DONALDSON *New Cratylus* § 78 (1850) 113 The Scandinavian tribes..were much less tainted with Sclavonism than the Lithuanians. 1854 R. G. LATHAM *Native Races Russian Emp.* 332 The two separate nationalities being merged under the great generality of Slavonism.

Slavoniza·tion. [f. next.] The process of Slavonizing or of becoming Slavonized.

1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 68 This Slavonization of Germany is indicated upon..our large..map.

Sla·vonize, *v.* Also 9 **Scl-.** [f. SLAVON(IC) + -IZE.] *trans.* To render Slavonic in language, character, political feeling, etc.

1839 DONALDSON *New Cratylus* § 78 (1850) 113 The Low Germans who were thus Sclavonized. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall of Rome* iii. 121 The Slavonized portion of the second. 1876 A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* i. 30 They have been Sclavonised by the multitude of their subjects.

Slaw (slō). *U.S.* Also **slaugh.** [ad. Du. *sla*, shortened form of *salade* SALAD.] A salad made of sliced cabbage, etc.

1864 *Daily Telegr.* 9 Feb., Salted cucumber, beetroot and cold slaugh. 1890 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 5/2 Salsify, cold slaw (sliced cabbage) with rich mayonnaise dressing.

Slaw, obs. or dial. f. SLOW. **Slawe(n,** obs. ff. pa. pple. SLAY *v.*[1] **Slawethe,** obs. f. SLOTH.

Slawk (slōk). *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 5, 8 **slauk,** 6–7, 9 **slauke,** 6 **slawke,** 9 **slaak.** [Probably ad. Ir. *slabhac, sleabhac* (also dim. *sleabhacán*, Sc. Gael. *slabhgan*) in sense 1: cf. the Gaelic origin of DULSE. For variant forms see SLAKE *sb.*[2], SLAUGH, and SLOKE.

In older Dicts. frequently misprinted *slank(e.*]

1. An edible sea-weed (see quot. 1892).

c 1450 *MS. Ee. 4. 20* (Camb. Univ. Lib.) fol. 283, Hec herba vocatur a vulgo slauk. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* 21 The other kynde is described..to haue leaues lyke letties, and thys kynde is called in englishe slauke. 1562 — *Herbal* II. (1568) 76 The bryon thalassion of Theophrastus and Pliny is called in Northumberland slauke: whych in lent the poore people sethe..and eat it. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* x. in *Holinshed* 41 Having well doonged it in the meane time with slawke of the sea, they sowe barleie. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 236 *Lichen marinus*, the laver, slauk, and by the Irish called Slukane. 1892 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss., Slauke*, the seaweed green laver, *Ulva lactuca* and *U. latissima.*

2. A kind of brook- or river-weed.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 135 His haurns wi' slawk and sludge war muddy. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes fr. Nature* 127 That green slimy matter..to which in Scotland the expressive name of *slaak* has been applied. 1884 STREATFEILD *Linc. & Danes* 360 *Slawk*, slimy weeds found in drains.

Slawly, obs. form of SLOWLY.

†**Slawm.** *Obs. Mining.* (See quot.)

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* T j, A remarkable Joynt in the Stone, Ore, &c. and filled with Clay, and this Clay..is very soft and Greasy,..and these are called by the name of Slawms.

Slawn, obs. pa. pple. SLAY *v.*[1]

Slawnes(se, obs. forms of SLOWNESS.

Slaworm, obs. or dial. form of SLOW-WORM.

†**Slaw·sy.** *Sc. Obs.* A ludicrous term of endearment. Also **slawsy-gawsy.**

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 39 My hwnygukkis, my slawsy gawsy. *Ibid.* 41 Tak gud confort, my grit-heidit slawsy.

Slawth(e, obs. forms of SLOTH.

Slay, sley (slē), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 **slege,** 5 **sleye,** 7 **sleie,** 6– **sley,** 8–9 **sleigh** (**slea**). *β.* 4– **slay,** 5–7 **slaye,** 6 **slai-,** 8–9 **slaie.** [OE. *slege* stroke, striking, slaying, etc., = OS. *slegi*, f. the stem of the vb. SLAY. The related forms in the other Teut. languages retain the vowel *a*, as MDu. and MLG. *slach* (Du. and LG. *slag*), OHG. *slag* (G. *schlag*), ON. *slagr* masc., *slag* neut., Goth. *slahs*; cf. also OS. *slaga* (MLG. *slage*, LG. *slāge, slāe*), OHG. *slaga* (G. *schlage*) fem., stroke, striking implement.

A variant OE. form appears in the Corpus Gloss. P 376 '*Pectica*, slahae', in a later vocab. (Wr.-Wülcker 262) written 'slae'.]

1. An instrument used in weaving to beat up the weft; = REED *sb.*[1] 10.

a. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 188 *Insubula*, webbeamas. *Percussorium*, slege. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* Ibid. 601 *Pecten*,..a sleye. 1530 PALSGR. 13 A sley. 1599 MINSHEU, *Liços para texér*, the owfe or threed..which the sleie doth weaue vp and downe. 1625

MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 128 Warp is spun close..because it runs through the sleies. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 109 [He] weaveth the woof into the warp, and with the sley drawn-to thickeneth the linen cloath. 1701 *Minute Bk. New Mills Cloth Manuf.* (S.H.S.) 238, 800 Spanish Reids long lithed for broad lomb sleas. 1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 278 The sleigh is made in the same manner as stocking-frame sleighs are made. 1890 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen & Worsted Cloth Manuf.* (ed. 2) 139 The sley is fixed vertically in the going-part of the loom. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 368 Rocking the child ..to and fro like the sleigh of a loom.

β. 1316 in Rock *Text. Fabr.* (1870) 96 Item in j slay pro textoribus viij d. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 340 A webbe.. Wouyn thorue slay Made of yrede (*sic*) and of birche. 1404 *26 Polit. Poems* 15 At þe last it gob,..As ende of web out of slay. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 The Slayes and Yern therto belangyng. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 791 To weue in the stoule sume were full preste, With slailis, with tauellis, with hedellis well drest. 1591–2 *Proclamation* 20 Jan., Some by using of false slaies, and false weauing of their clothes, making the muster ende thereof..closely wouen. 1602 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 241 My new lynnen loame with all the slayes. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 53 Thou mayest have the Looms, Wheels, and Slayes at first out of Germany and from Haerlem. 1717 CROXALL *Ovid's Met.* VI. 178 The woof and warp..press'd by the toothy slay. 1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 773 The slay, or file of reeds, with which the weaver approximates the threads of shoot. 1879 ASHENHURST *Weaving Des. Text. Fabr.* (1893) 305 There are numerous rules and formulae..for determining the setting of warps in the slay.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slay-hook*, *-maker*; also **slay-bar**, the reed of a stocking-frame, etc.; † **slay-bred**: (see quot. and BRED *sb.*).

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 591 *Lama*, sleybrede. 1583 in Wadley *Bristol Wills* (1886) 236 John Wallys, slaymaker and weaver. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6196/8 John Rew, late of Exon, Slea-maker. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 734/1 The warp..is drawn through the reed by an instrument called a sley or reed hook. 1843 *Mechanic's Mag.* XXXIX. 428 The sley bar has a new and peculiar motion given to it for bringing the work over the needle heads.

† **Slay**, *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[–1] Some kind of fabric.

1745 P. THOMAS *Voy. S. Seas* 58 The plunder..consisted in ..fine Linens and Woollens, Britannia's, Slays, and the like.

Slay, obs. form of SLEIGH *sb.*

Slay (slē[1]), *v.*[1] Pa. t. **slew** (slū). Pa. pple. **slain** (slēn). Forms: (see below). [Common Teut.: OE. *slēan*, north. *slán*, *slá* (pa. t. *slóg*, *slóh*, pl. *slógon*, pa. pple. *slægen*, *slegen*, *slagen*), = OFris. *slān*, *slā* (WFris. *slaen*, EFris. *slō*, NFris. *slaa*, *slō*, *slū*), MDu. *slaen* (*sclaen*, Du. *slaan*), OS. *slahan* (MLG. *slān*, LG. *slān*, *slagen*), OHG. *slahan*, *sclahan* (MHG. *slahen*, *slachen*, etc., G. *schlagen*), ON. *slá* (Icel. *slá*, Norw. and Da. *slaa*, Sw. *slå*), Goth. *slahan*. The relations of the pre-Teut. stem *slak-* are somewhat uncertain.

All parts of the verb exhibit a great variety of OE. and ME. forms, partly through natural phonetic development, and partly by assimilation to each other. The normal ME. infinitives are *slē(n* from OE. *slēan*, and *slā(n*, *slō(n* from northern OE. *slán* or from ON. *slá*; the later forms *sley*, *slay* are due to the influence of the pa. pple.]

A. Illustration of forms.

1. *Infin.* α. 1–3 **slean** (3 **sclean**, **sclein**), 4–5 **sleon**; 3 **slæn**, 3–5 **slen**, 5 **slene**.

c 888 [see B. 3]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Nan man ne dorste slean oðerne man. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8040 Herode..Let slæn þa little barrness. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 49 Þe an to sclein þen oþer. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3729 Ðor ðrette god hem alle to slen. *c* 1275 LAY. 3943 Rapir ich wolle þe slean. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vi. (1868) 53 Busirides þat was wont to sleen hys gestes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slen, or kyllyn beestys. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CVIII. x, The Christen folke [they] did brenne, wast and slene.

β. 1, 3 **slæ**, 3–6 **sle** (5 **scle**), 4–6 **slee** (5 **sclee**), 3–6 **slea**.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 49 [He] ongann slae heafudlinges his. *c* 1205 LAY. 17952 þu scalt beien slæ þer. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 16052 þou lettest slea Constance. 1340 *Ayenb.* 223 Ham uor to slea. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4392 (Fairf.), þat wife..þogt him to slee. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 816 þouge men wold sclee hym. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15576 We schal scle hem In fight. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 25 It were beste for vs to sle hym. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 28, I shal slee myself. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. viii, She shall not slee mee. 1575 R. B. *Appius & Virginia* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 153 He..did sle himself outright. 1587 GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 28 He thinks to slea..his daughter.

γ. (*north.* and *Sc.*) 1, 3–4 **slan**, 4 **slane**; 1, 5 **slaa**, 1, 3–7 **sla** (5 **scla**), 6–7 **slae**, **slea**.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xii. 45 [He] onginneð..slaa ða cnæhtas. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 49 [He] onginnaþ slan efnþeu his. *c* 1200 ORMIN 19921 To slan þatt mann. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 832 þe strang þe weker for to sla. *Ibid.* 13952 þan soght þai iesu for to slan. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 48 We purpos to slaa þam alle. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 157 He may sla him at his awin will. 15.. in *Dunbar's Wks.* (S.T.S) II. 318 Thair is nocht thair bot tak and slae. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* Pref. 56 To slea the sanctis of God. 1603 *Philotus* civ, Themselues to sla. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 40 That the husband did slea hir. *Ibid.*, That he did not slae hir.

δ. 3–5 **slon**, 4–5 **slone**; 3–6 **slo** (5 **sclo**), 4–6 **sloo**, 5–7 **sloe**.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1328 Abraham..was redi to slon him. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 512 He may me waiten for to slo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 844 Fader & moder scholde he sloo. *a* 1400 *Launfal* 837 To..dampny hym to sclo. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 474/2 Kyllyn, or slone. 1489 SKELTON *Death Earl Northumbld.* 35 To slo their owne lord. 1526 — *Magnyf.* 2354 Thyselfe that thou wolde sloo. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 13 To slo me, but offence.

ε. 4 **slaȝe**, 5 **slayn**, 5–6 **slaye**, 6 **slaie**; 4–7 **sley** (6 **sleye**), 5– **slay** (6 **sleay**).

1340 *Ayenb.* 8 þou ne sselt slaȝe nenne man. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 139 Some wole..sley sheep of Holy Chirche. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1766 (Dubl. MS.), I sall.. slaye þe with my handez. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.), Kyllyn, or slayn. 1479 *Barbour's Bruce* II. 205 [He] bad him..byrn, and slay. *a* 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 405 So death doth sleay their soules. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* iv. 14 Who so fyndeth me, shal slaye me. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 b, To go & slaie them.

2. *Pres. Indic.* α. 1*st pers. sing.* (also *Subj.*) 1 **slea**, 1, 3 **slæ**, 4 **sle**, 6 **slee**; 6 **sley**(e, **slaye**, 7– **slay**.

c 825 *Vesp. Hymns* vii. 77 Ic..slea & ic ȝehaelu. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 31 Ic slæ hiorde. *c* 1205 LAY. 3943 Ær ich þe slæ mid mine spere. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7632 (Gött.), þat i him sle it es noght gode. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 235 Cry grace,..or I the chece and sley. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xvi. 43 Better it were..or I slee thee.

β. 2*nd pers. sing.* α. 1 **sles**, **slaes**, 5 **slees**; 4 **slaas**, **slos**.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxviii. 19 Hweðer sles ðu..synfulle. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 23 Forhuon mec slaes ðu? *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxviii. 18 If þou slaas.. sinful. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2706 þat þou..mine gode knihtes slos.

β. 1 **slehst**, **slæȝst**, 3 **sleast**, 3–4 **sleest**; 3–4 **slast**, 6– **slayest** (*poet.* slay'st).

a 900 *Kentish Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 79 ȝif ðu slehst. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 37 þu þe slæȝst witga. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6752 þa slast tu..þin aȝhenn flæsh. *c* 1275 LAY. 5017 ȝif þou sleast þine broþer. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 37 Jerusalem, that sleest prophetis. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 46 þou sleest him in þat [etc.]. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 37 Thou that slayest the prophetes.

γ. 3*rd pers. sing.* α. 1 **sliehð**, **slihð**, **slyhð**, **slæhð**, 2 **slekþ**.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlvi. 347 Ðonne hit mon sliehð [*v.r.* slihð]. *c* 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* I. xvi. (1890) 78 Seo haliȝe æ mid deaðe slæhð [*v.r.* slyhð]. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke vi. 29 Þam þe þe slehð on þam wange. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1527 He slekþ hym þat trowyþ hys lesyng.

β. 1 **slaeð**, 3 **sleað**, **slað**; 1 **sleð**, 4–5 **sleþ**, 4–6 **sleth**, 5 **slethe**; 4–5 **sleep**, 5–6 **sleeth**; 1 **slaes**, 4 **sles**(e, 4–5 **slees**, 7 **sleas**.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 34 Ðonne he sleð hie. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 ȝif hua ðec slaes in suiðra ceica. *Ibid.* Luke vi. 29 Seðe ðec slaeð on cece. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 29 Cwalm slað [*Bodl.* sleað] þat ahte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29385 [He] þat sles his fo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13890 As þe lyon..sleþ þe best. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 90 Shrifte of mouth sleeth synne. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 18 He that slethe the creature. *Ibid.*, Who so sleth any man. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 The lawe sleeth the gylty man. 1539 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1541) 46 He that sleath his prince.

γ. (*north.* and *Sc.*) 3*rd pers. sing.* 3 **slaþ**; 4–5 **slas**, 5 **slase**, 5–6 **slaes**, **slais**. Also 3 **sloð**, 5 **sloys**.

c 1200 ORMIN 2092 He slaþ hiss aȝhenn sawle. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 431 þer he us sloð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29348 He slas him-seluen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3883 He..Slaes of þa serpentis many..hundreth. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29386 (Cott. Galba), Him þat slase Preste or clerk. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 It slas þe souerayn vertu. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 372 He that sloys yong or old. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlix. 44 Evir quhill he be slane he slais. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. *a marg.*, He slaes the Inglismen.

δ. 4 **slaȝþ**, 5 **sleith**, 5–6 **sleyth**, 6 **sleythe**, **sleayeth**, 6– (now *poet.*) **slayeth**; 6–7 **slayes** (*Sc.* **slayis**), 7– **slays**.

1340 *Ayenb.* 34 He..himzelue slaȝþ. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 143 Who-So sleyth, he shal be slayne. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 6673 (Laud MS.), Who sleith eny man with wille. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* iv. 15 Who so euer slayeth Cain. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 348 In fine it sleayeth the partie. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 435 He slayes Moe then you Rob.

δ. *Plur.* α. 1–2 **sleað**; 4–5 **slen**, **sleen** (5 **scleen**); 4–6 **slea**, **sle**, 5–6 **slee** (5 **sclee**); also *north.* 5 **slees**.

c 888 [see B. 3]. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 61 [They] sleaþ here auȝene saule. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1349 þey sle hem alle. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xvii. 26 Lo! liouns sleen hem. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 288 Theise Serpentes slen men. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* 236 Poysones which slee.

β. 2 **slaȝe**(ð, 6 **sleye**, **slaye**, 7– **slay**.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 þenne slaȝe we ure sunne. *Ibid.* 53 Heo slaȝeð heore aȝene saule. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* iv. 5 They..slaye (other men) them selues. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Esdras* iv. 5 They slay and are slaine.

γ. (Also *Subj.*) 4–5 **sla**, **slaa**, 5 **slo**(e.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxi. 3 Vnto yhe sla. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 487 Thai sla our folk. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3198 Slaa ȝe me þus sudanly? *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 16328 (Trin.), Til þat þei þe slo.

3. *Pres. Subj.* (*2nd* and *3rd pers. sing.*). α. 1 **slae**, 1, 3 **slea**, 4–6 **sle**, 5 **slee**.

a 901 *Laws Alfred* Pref. § 16 (Liebermann), ȝif hwa slea his ðone nehstan mid stane. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 ȝif hwa ðec slae. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 15 Se þe slea his fæder. *c* 1325 *Prose Ps.* CXXXVIII. 18 ȝif þou sle þe synȝers. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xiii. 15 If he sle me.

β. *north.* 3–5 **sla**, 4–5 **slo**.

a 1300 in *O. E. Misc.* 200/5 Loke þat tu ne sla na man. *c* 1310 in Wright *Spec. Lyric P.* vii. 29 Er thou me sio. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 61 Suffre þat he sla. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 371, I will that no man other slo.

γ. 6 **slaye**, 6– **slay**.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxvi. 15 That..No wicht ane vder slay. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xix. 6 Lest the auenger ..slaye him. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. iv. 24 If he slay me He does faire Iustice.

4. *Imper.* α. 1 **sleh**, 2 **sleih**, 4–5 **sle**, 4–6 **slee**, 6 **sley**; 1 **sleah**, **sleaȝe**, 4–5 **slea**; 1 **slyh**, 2 **slyȝh**. Also *plur.* 1 **slæð** (**slæh**), **sleað** (**slea**), 3 **s(c)leaþ**, **sleoþ**, 4 **sleth**, 5 **sleeth**, **sleep**; 4 *north.* **sles**.

sing. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lviii. 12 Ne sleh ðu hie. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark x. 19 Ne slyh þu. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 67 Ne sleih, ne ne stell. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Slea hit mid dedbote. *c* 1325 *Prose Ps.* lviii. 11 Lord, ne sle hem nouȝt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 264 What þow fyndest þere, slee it. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 162 Go thou and Sle the Synners. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 24 Slea me, she sayde. 1539 CRANMER *Luke* xix. 27 Slee them before me.

plur. *c* 1000 *Andreas* 1300 Sleað synnigne ofer seolfes muð. *c* 1205 LAY. 28726 Slæð..al þat ȝe findeð. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 4222 Sleoþ ham mid swerde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4855 Sleþ hom hastiliche anon. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1163 Spares non, bot sles on fast. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6634 (Gött.), Sles vp ȝone caytifes. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* i. 16 If it be a maal, sleeth hym.

β. *Sing.* 2–4, 6 **sla**; 3–4 **slo**, 7 *Sc.* **sloe**. *Plur.* 4 **slas**, **slays**; **slo**, **slos**.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke iii. 14 Ne sla ȝe nanne man. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3505 Ne slo ðu noȝt. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2596 Slos up-on þe dogges. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6634 Slas vþ yon caitefs. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1163 (Petyt MS.), Spares non bot slo all faste. 1611 SIR W. MURE *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 10 Save then or sloe ane captiue.

γ. 6 **slaye**, 7– **slay**.

1535 COVERDALE *Judges* viii. 20 Stonde vp, & slaye them. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* iii. 27 In no wise slay it.

5. *Past Indic.* α. 1*st* and *3rd pers. sing.* 1, 3–4 **sloh**, 4 **slohw**; 1 **sloȝ**, **sloȝh**, 4 **sloȝ**, **slooȝ** (3 **sloþ**), 4–5 **sloȝe**; 3–4 **slog**, 4–5 **slogh** (5 **sloght**), **sloghe**, **sloch**; 4–5 **slo**. *2nd pers.* 1 **sloȝe**, 3 **sloȝe**. *Plur.* 1–2 **sloȝon** (1 -un), **sloȝan**, 1 **sloȝen**, 2 **sloȝhen**, 3–4 **sloȝen**, 5 **sloghen**; 4 **sloghe**, 5 **sloȝe**; 4 **slogh**.

sing. *Beowulf* 421 Þær ic..sloȝ niceras nihtes. *Ibid.* 1565 He..yrringa sloh. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 8 Ðu sloȝe alle wiðerbrocan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3590 Davibþ king sloh Goliat. *c* 1205 LAY. 10999 þa þu sloȝe Asclepidiot. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 1290 Manie he sloþ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6120 þat he ne slo an. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* c. 9, I slogh with hand Alle þe sinful. *c* 1385 *Prose Ps.* c. 9 Ich sloȝe..alle þe synȝers. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1046 (Gött.), His aune broþer abel he slohw. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxvii. 7 As he sloo3 the slayne men. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9728 Deffibus..oure folk sloght. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 193 He yn þat maner sloch hymself. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 395, I slogh my brother. *Ibid.* 433 He that slo his brother.

plur. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. 46 Þa wif..sloȝon þa hysecild. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Hie hine..mid bradre hand sloȝan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1138, [They] sloghen suithe micel of his genge. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 195 Hi sloȝen..Cristenemen inoȝe. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvii. 5 Þe iowes sloghe crist. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3213 (Dubl. MS.), Þees warryd wightez..þat Sloghen [*v.r.* sloȝe] so þair souerent.

β. *Sing.* 3–5 **slowe** (5 **sclowe**), 4–5 **sloue**; 4–5 **slow** (5 **sclow**), 4 **sloow**, **slou** (**sclou**). *Plur.* 3–5 **slowen**, 5 **slowyn**, 4 **slouen**; 4–5 **slowe**, **slow** (5 **sclow**).

sing. *c* 1205 LAY. 4355 Seoðden þu hine slowe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 458 Corineus..slou hom to gronde. *a* 1300 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 116 Slowe þu þe holi prophete? 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1221 þe kynges sunnes..he slow euer vchone. 13.. *Cursor M.* 14431 (Gött.), Dauid..sclou golias. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xiv. 20 Thou the puple sloow. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 528 Engystis Men þat..sclow þeyre kyn. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 174 The pepill..he slow. *c* 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1868) 102 Husbondes, which e the deuelle slow.

plur. *c* 1205 LAY. 1608 Alle heo slowen þat heo neih comen. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2432 Euerilk fot of hem [they] slowe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2502 (Gött.), Þair fas foluand þaim slow. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 35 Zacharie,..whom ȝe slowen. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 16666 Thei sclow ten thousand. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 135 in *O. E. Misc.* 215 [They] slowyn here childer. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 228 b/2 Where they slowe..many men.

γ. *Sing.* 3–4 **slouh**, 4–5 **slowh**, **slouȝ**, 5 **slowȝ**(e; 4–5 **slough**, 5 **sloughe**, **slowgh**(e. *Plur.* 5 **sloughen**; 4 **slowȝe**, 4–5 **slowhe**, 5 **sloughe**; 4 **slouȝ**, **slough**.

c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 136 Iudit, þet slouh Oloferne. 1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 441 Þis luþer best sone he slouȝ. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7280 Of þe Peytes þat he slough. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1608 (Lansd. MS.), I slowhe Sampson schakinge þe piler. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4046 He..þat hym slowghe. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 162 (Trin.), Heroude..slowȝe childer ȝonge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 352 Many thei sloughen. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. (1883) 76 For this cause he slough abel.

δ. *Sing.* 3 **sluȝ**, 5 **sluȝe**, 6–7 **slue**; 5 **slewȝ**, *Sc.* **sleuch** (**sleucht**), 6 **scleuȝe**; 4– **slew**, 5–6 **slewe**. Also *2nd pers.* 6–7 **slew'st**. *Plur.* 3 **sluȝen**, 5–7 **slue** (5 *Sc.* **sleuch**); 4 **slewen**, 5–6 **slew** (5 **sclew**), 6 **slewe**.

sing. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2685 He..sluȝ ðor manie. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 557 Modreyt..him slew. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* ii. 25 The which slewȝ hym. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* lxv, There hit sluȝe him als. 14.. *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 231 þat fadyr & modir bath sleucht. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxxiv. 468 Kynge Marke slewe hym. *a* 1500 *Pol., Rel., & Love Poems* 124, I scleuȝe my selue.

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Clifford* iii, That slue duke Richardes childe. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. vii, I slew him for your sake. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 138 But thou slew'st Tybalt. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 323 Saxa..slue himselfe. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 439 Who slew'st them many a slain.

plur. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3916 Oc he slugen king of basaan. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxi. 39 Thei kesten [him] out..and slewen. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2043 (Dubl.), þai..Slew downe ..seges. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlviii. 187 They kylled and slue..many one. 1490 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 131 Men..that sclew a man. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22 They slue foure of the best runners. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 104 They scaled the walles, [and] slue the watches.

6. *Past Subj.* I slo3e, *pl.* slo3en, 2, 5 slo3e, 3 slu3e, 4 slowe.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 196 Dæt hie slogen..kyning. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Swa hwa swa sloge heort. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3976 Had ic an swerd, ic slu3e ðe. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 467 Þo3 y slowe þe her in fi3t. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5351 If we þis lede slo3e.

7. *Past Part.* α. I ȝeslæȝen, ȝeslegen, 3 i-slæȝen, i-sleien, i-slein, 4 i-, y-slayn, 5 y-sclayn, y-slayne, 6 y-slaine; I slæȝen, sleȝen, 4–5 sleyn, 6 sleyne; 2–3, 6–7 slaine, 4–7 slayne, 5 slayen, 4–6 slayn (4–5 sclayn, 4 sclain), 4, 7– slain.

(*a*) *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 823, þær wæs micel wæl ȝeslæȝen. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xi. (1890) 190 þa wæs ȝeslegen..sum leornungmon. *c* 1205 LAY. 5584 Summe heore men [had] i-slæȝene. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Gostliche isleien. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 103 If alle fi3te and alle [be] i-slayn. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 162 Al the grecans..yslayne thay moght. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 566 Arthoures nevew..was þere y-sclayn. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 9 Of a forreine foe He is yslaine.

(*b*) *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P 287 *Percellitur*, bið slaeȝen. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ci. 5 Sleȝen ic eam. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Leirede and slaine. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23964 Hu þai haf þat saccles sclain. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 830 3if tristrem be now sleyn. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4612 þar sal he be slayn. 1399 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 113 Hus sones [being] slayen. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 4168 (Trin.), þat we haue sleyn him. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xvi. 754 There ..I was nere slayne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 159 b, Al they that folowed hym..were sleyne. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 2 Who was slaine by his owne men. 1655–60 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 48/2 Men slain By cruel Men.

β. 3 i-, hii-sleȝe, i-sleȝe; 4 sleie, sleye, slaye, 5 slay, scley.

c 1275 LAY. 10932 He hadde islehȝe moche of hire cunne. *Ibid.* 13602 Hii-sleȝe we habbeþ þane king. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 379 Sche wold haue sleie hire-self. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 275 Seynt thomas..in holychurche was sleye. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 223 þu hast scley frolle in fraunce.

γ. I ȝeslaȝen, 3 i-slaȝen, i-sclawen, i-slawen, 4 y-slawen; 3 slaȝen, 4 slawen, slaun, 5 slawn.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 124 Se ȝeslaȝena bið mid deaðe ȝegripen. *c* 1205 LAY. 965 Heora kun we habbet islaȝen. *Ibid.* 1047 Mine men ȝe habbeð isclawen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 591 Þo was ilc fleis on werlde slaȝen. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2681 þer were a þousind knihtes slawen. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4715 þo he hadde hem slaun ichon. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* vii. 8 The slawn offryng of brent sacrifice.

δ. 3 i-, 4 y-slaȝe, 3–4 i-slawe, 4–6 y-slawe; 6 y-slaw; 4–5 slawe (5 sclawe).

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1142 Hwenne þu hongest islawe. *c* 1275 LAY. 322 He his fader adde islaȝe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 889 þe stude þat he was on slawe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 223 Alle were y-slaȝe of þe dyeule. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 884 Both it hadde vs slawe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4308 Harald..was y-slawe at Hastyngus. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xvii. 61 How that he had slawe this brid.

ε. 3 i-slæn, 5 sleen, 6 slene.

c 1205 LAY. 8326 þine men we habbeð islæn. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d j/2 She hath sleen the fowle. *a* 1563 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 92 Ther wher dyvers of boyth partes slene.

ζ. *north.* and *Sc.* 4 slan, 4–6 slane, 6 y-slane.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 905 þou sal be slan wit duble dedd. 13.. *Ibid.* 4141 (Gött.), Wit his fader þat he be slane. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 190 Thai had slane mony ane. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XIII. ii. 3 Sepulturis Of his folkis yslane. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* v. 31 Nouther..hurt nor slane.

η. 4–5 slon, 5–6 slone, 5 sloon.

c 1375 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. IV. 587 God þat on þe Rode was slon. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1075 (Trin.), Whenne Caym had his broþer sloon. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 516 Whar þer fadur was slone. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* I. 361 He hath our children sloon!

B. Signification.

I. †1. *trans.* To smite, strike, or beat. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 20 Forðon [he] slog stan & fleowun weter. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 65 Ða embehtmenn mið fystum hine slogon. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* vii. 17 Nu ic slea mid þisse ȝirde..þises flodes wæter. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3964 [Balaam] wurð ðo for anger wroð, And ðis [ass] prikeð and negt [? *read* next] sloð. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2633 þe þredde so sore he slow, þat he made up-on the feld His lift arm fleye.

†**b.** *absol.* To deal a blow or blows (freq. with *on*); to knock; to strike. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1565 He ȝefeng þa fetelhilt,..yrringa sloh. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 Michael..slog on þæs huses duru. *c* 1205 LAY. 797 Ohtliche heom slæð on. *Ibid.* 16488 Aldolf his gode sweord adroh, & uppen Hengest sloh. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2596 Helpes me..And slos up-on þe dogges swiþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 311 And as the fisshere on his bait Sleth, whan he seth the fisshes faste.

†**c.** To strike or cut *off* (a limb). *Obs.*

a 1000 *Laws of Ine* § 18 Slea mon hond of oððe fot. *c* 1205 LAY. 3856 Per he of-toc Morgan.., & sloh he him of þat hæued.

†**2.** To strike (a spark, fire) from flint or other hard substance. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 290 ȝif mon on his weȝe biþ ȝedwolod slea him anne spearcan beforan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 36 Men herd nocht ellis bot granys & dyntis, That slew fire, as men dois on flyntis. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 2039 Flynt and fir-yren bath he hade, And fir ful sone thar he slogh. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 285 A gret hart has he slayne; Slew fyr on flynt, and graithit thaim at rycht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. iv. 33 First Achates slew fire of the flynt.

†**3.** To throw or cast; to bring *down* heavily. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. § 5 ȝif wit ȝiet uncru word tosomne sleað. *Ibid.* xxxviii. § 1 Þæt hio sceolde..þa men ..slean on þa racentan. *c* 1000 *Daniel* 344 He on andan sloh fyr on feondas for fyrendædum. *c* 1205 LAY. 2312 Corineus up ahof, & his eax adun sloh. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 90 The bodie among hem was hent; At the steres thei slough it doun.

†**4.** To pitch (a tent). *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxi. 25 Iacob sloh his ȝeteld on þære dune. *c* 1205 LAY. 7865 Heo slogen heoren teldes, wide ȝeond þa feldes.

II. 5. To strike or smite so as to kill; to put to death by means of a weapon; also generally, to deprive of life by violence.

In this sense (which is copiously represented in the illustration of forms above), and in other surviving uses, *slay* is now mainly confined to literary and rhetorical language, the common word being *kill*.

Beowulf 421 Ic..on ȝðum slog niceras nihtes. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. 46 Hi..on ðæt folc winnende wæron, & þa wæpnedmen sleande. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 On þa ilcan tid þa englas..ongunnan slean þa Iudeas. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1138, [They] flemden þe king æt te Standard, & slogen suithe micel of his genge. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8089 He..badd tatt mann hemm shollde slæn, Son summ he shollde deȝenn. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3630 þo þe king ar þure ysey þat me is men so uaste slou. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13890 As þe lyon for hunger snacches & sleþ þe best þat he first lacches. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 55 Men þat turmenten & slen þe bodi. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 25 And so xij made hem redy,..and ran on hym with swerdes and knyves, and slowe hym. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. iv. 165 The bore that the dragon slough. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 280 The nombre of them that were slaine..was accompted a thousand. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 215 Two fel at discord between themselves, and the one slue the other. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 619 Slaying man would cease to be an art. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. I. 633 Two persons..were found murdered; and it was universally believed that they had been slain by Kirke's order. 1888 MASSON *Med. France* 180 The order given by King Philip to slay the Genoese mercenaries.

fig. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 14 Goed wordis, þe whilk slas men fra synne, and makis þaim lifand til god. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1110 Sad souls are slain in merry company. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxii, Shooting death-glances at all the servant-girls who were worthy to be slain.

refl. c 1340 *Ayenb.* 34 He..himzelue slaȝþ ase despayred. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 462 If this man her[e] sle hem-self..In my presence. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. xvii. (1558) 11 b, Arbogast slough him selfe for drede. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 83 Thy love (she said) hath made the slea thy selfe. 1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 240 Their mother..slew hirselfe, dying with them.

†**b.** *To slay up* or *down*, to kill completely or outright; to annihilate. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6634 Slas vp yon caitefs al bidene! *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2043 (Dubl.), Manly þai feghtyn, Slew downe on ather syde seges owt of nowmbre. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 82 The Spanyardes..were quite slayne vp of the Turkes arrowes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 145 Gunnis ande cannons to sla doune the pepil. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 161 That same tyme..he slawe doune monye of the Nobilitie.

†**c.** To kill the inhabitants of (a country). *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4734 (Kölbing), þis four heþen kinges..þe cuntre aboute Lounde Slowen & brent to þe grounde.

6. *absol.* To commit slaughter or murder.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. viii. 92 Hie wæron þa burg herȝende & sleande buton ælcre ware. *a* 901 *Laws K. Ælfred* Introd. § 5 Ne sleah ðu. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark x. 19 Ne slyh [*v.r.* sleh] þu. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2668 Folc ethiopienes on egipte cam, And brende, & slu3, & wreche nam. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5215 Hii ne kepte hit holde no3t bote..destrue & berne & sle. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 61 Ful fast þai slogh and brend. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 207 His moste gloire Was forto sle and noght to save. *c* 1440 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 450 A castel that the Kyng and the Qwhene comen in for to see how Seint Jorge slogh. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* ix. 5 Go ye..thorow the cite, slaye, ouersee none, spare none. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvi. (Arb.) 188 The Nubiens..sleaing a farre with venim and with dartes. *c* 1700 PRIOR *To a Lady* viii, The Parthian turn'd his Steed,.. and as He fled, He slew. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 49 The hand that slew, till it could slay no more. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. x, We were slaying still without remorse. 1849 AYTOUN *Poems, Heart of Bruce* xxiii, The Moors have come from Africa To spoil and waste and slay.

7. a. Of the Deity: To deprive (man, etc.) of life; to bring death upon, to destroy.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii. 51 [He] slo3 ylc frum-bearn on eorðan [of Egypt]. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxvi. 251 Ðonne God hie slo3, ðonne sohton hie hine. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 322 God ælmihtig ferde on egiptena lande, hi sleande & alysende Israela bearn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6722 At þe king self he be-gan, þe forbirth slou o beist and man. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 33 Sloand þaim in body noght in saule; [the] riche he sall sla in saule. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, O Almightie God, whiche..didst slea with the plague of pestilence, lx and ten thousand. 1611 BIBLE *Hosea* ii. 3 Lest I..set her like a drie land, and slay her with thirst.

absol. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxxii. 39 Ic slea and ic hæle. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* 521, I sall sla and i sall make to lif. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* ii. 6 The Lorde slayeth, and geueth life.

b. Of natural forces, accidents, etc.

Still in current use in Lincolnshire dialect.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* ix. 25 Se haȝol sloh..ealle þa þing, þe ute wæron, æȝðer ȝe men ȝe nytenu. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 22 Flawme of the fijre slewȝ tho men. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* xli, Thay were..With wild waturs slone. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c viij b, The leest mysdyetyng and mysentendyng sleth her. 1611 *Stranton Par. Reg.* 26 June, Agnes..was buried, being slayne with a coupe wayne in the field. 1686 *Merrington Par. Reg.*, She was suddenly slaine with a sled in hay time. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 724 Th' Infection grew, Tame Cattle, and the Beasts of Nature slew. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 45 There was above thirty Persons..slain by a Blast. 1865 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VII. 31 His poor father was sla'ain [by a stay falling]. 1877 in *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*

absol. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* 236 There be certaine poysones which slee with the only touching. 1611 BIBLE *Job* ix. 23 If the scourge slay suddenly. 1904 MISS CORELLI *God's Good Man* xxxii, She was undergoing the operation, which was to save or slay.

†**8.** To put to death as a criminal; to execute.

c 1200 ORMIN 13782 [The Jews] slo3henn himm..All gilteläes o rode. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvi. 12 When þai sloghe crist. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 430 þat al þai þat sclew dere Ihesu, I sal sla. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4756 Ihesu suffrede þe Iuys hym to slen. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 238 So the lawe sleeth the gylty man, and not the iudge. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* x. 39 Iesus .., whom they slew and hanged on a tree. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 414 Naild to the Cross By his own Nation, slaine for bringing Life.

9. To kill (a domestic animal or beast of game), *esp.* for food or as a sacrifice; to slaughter. †Also, to take (fish).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxviii. 31 Mann slihð þinne oxan beforan þe and þu his ne abitst. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Swa hwa swa sloge heort oððe hinde. *c* 1205 LAY. 8105 Islaȝene weoren to þon mele, twælf þusend ruðeren sele. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3019 Quen he was spaned fra þe pap, His fader slou bath scepe and nete. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 48 Wan prestis slow þe offringis, and bests blod was remissioun of synnis. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ii. (1885) 111 As the Hunter takyth the wilde beste for to sle and ete hym. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxix. 20 As for the other ramme,..thou shalt slaye him. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Assisa*, Everie Boat that passis to the draue, and slayis herring. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* iv. 29 And he shall..slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sacrifice*, When the Victim was slain, they flead him. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 257 While a hunter is..cutting up the deer or buffalo he has slain. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 419, I have..slain this morning..the last rabbit within a circle of eight miles.

absol. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19869 Petre,..þou sla and ete. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* X. 13 And there came a voyce vnto him: Ryse Peter, slaye, & eate.

transf. 1483 *Presentmts. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 29 Flech..þat was sclayn of Setterday afor.

†**b.** To destroy (vermin, etc.) by some means. Also in fig. context. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 þe scorpiunes cundel þet heo bret in hire boseme,..slea hit mid dedbote. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 101 To slen lees [=lice]. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 912 Elebur blak with fatte..commyxt and offrid hem [mice and rats] wol sleen. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. XXV. (W. de W.) 241 Wormes of the teeth ben slayne [*Bodl. MS.* kilde] wyth Myrre and Opium. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 415 The same is good agaynst wormes,..for it slayeth them.

III. †10. To bring to spiritual death; to destroy with sin. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Heo slaȝeð heore aȝene saule, and bringeð heom in to þare eche pine of helle. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2092 Whase nile trowwenn þiss He slaþ hiss aȝhenn sawle. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Mest al þe world, þet is gostliche isleien mid deadliche sunnen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25697 Wit his ded he boght again, Vr sauls þat wit sin war slain. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisdom* i. 11 The mouth forsothe that lieth, sleth the soule. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bk. Three Foles* Wks. 1843 I. 202 O Enuy,..thou brennest the desyres, and sleeth the soule in the ende. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 199 What daily watch is made, the soule of man to slea. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* vii. 11 For sinne taking occasion by the commandement,.. by it slew me.

refl. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1526 þe bakbyter fyrst hym self sles.

absol. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* iii. 6 The lettre sleith, forsoth the spirit quykeneth. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ix. (Skeat) I. 107 The letter sleeth; the spirit yeveth lyfelich understanding.

†**11.** To overcome with affliction or distress. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 454 (Hengwrt MS.), Ye sleen me with youre sorwe verraily. — *Franklt. T.* 165 Thise Rokkes sleen myn herte for the feere. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2593 It makith me fulle of joyfulle thought, It sleth me that it lastith noght. *c* 1425 AUDELAY *XI Pains of Hell* 90 in *O. E. Misc.* 213 3if þai ferd wel her hertis bit slow, And of here losse were glad and fayne. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2311, I am wery of the worlde, for vnkyndnesse me sleeth. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxiii. 6, I am with sorrow slane, And dyis nicht & day.

12. To destroy, extinguish, put an end to, suppress completely (*esp.* something bad). Cf. KILL *v.* 4.

(*a*) *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 þe we beoð sari in ure heorte þet we isunezed habbeð, penne slaȝe we ure sunne. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6752 þa slast tu swa þin aȝhenn flesh & hire fule wille. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 90 For shrifte of mouth sleeth synne, be it neuere so dedly. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. (1872) 2 With this swerd shal I slen envie. *a* 1450 MYRC 36 But sle by lust for any thynge. 1538 BP. BALE *God's Promises* I, Her sede shall..Slee hys suggestyons, &

hys whole power confounde. 1560 BECON *Comm.-pl. Holy Script.* Wks. II. III. 68 To reconcile both vnto God in one body thorow the Crosse, and slewe hatred therby. 1763 J. GREGG in *Bk. Praise* (1866) 349 Thoughts must be slain that disobey. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CXLIX. v, O heavenly Lord, whose mercy can..Both slay the sins and save the man.

(*b*) *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Þe rihte bileue and þe soðe luue..ben leirede and slaine on his heorte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24692 Þo þou haf oþer vertus slain, In þe þou mai þam couer again. 1539 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1549) 99 As pride sleeth loue [etc.]. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 26 For this..Being tasted slayes all sences with the heart. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 144 To slay The reverence living in the minds of men Towards our ancient house. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 9 July 1/1 In the very act of slaying the Bill.

†b. In phr. *to slay care. Obs.*

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 695 But make we murie & sle care. *a* 1400 *Siege of Troy* 185 in *Archiv neu. Spr.* LXXII. 16 To Grece þey comen hom And maden murþe and slowe care. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlix, The king with a blythe chere Bade hom sle care! *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 111 Let vs sley care.

†13. To blight or destroy (vegetation). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Prose Ps.* lxxvii. 52 He sloȝe [L. *occidit*] her uines wyþ hail. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 453 Tholiues hit forsake; The rootes wol their oyl or slen [L. *necat*] or slake. *Ibid.* 1078 The rootes ek of reed and rish thei ete. When wynter sleth their fedyng, yef hem meete. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 63 Quhilk slayis the corne and fruct that growis grene. 1574 HYLL *On Weather* i, Extreme cold doth slea the trees.

b. *intr.* Of grain: To become affected by smut, blight, or the like. (Cf. SLAIN *ppl. a.* 3.)

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 55 But it is observed in wheate, that if the seed bee not chainged once in fower or five croppes it will slay extreamely. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 360/2 On muiry soils this [oat] crop is also not unfrequently lost by what is called '*slaying*'. This seems to result from the occurrence of frosty nights late in spring. *Ibid.*, This tendency to *slaying* in the oat crop.

†14. *Med.* a. To resolve (an impostume, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* ii. 650 in *Anglia* XVIII. 323 Þe powdir on ded flesch who so leye, Anon it sleth it. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 98 þis medicyne..wonderfully sleeþ þe antrax and vtterly cureþ it.

†b. To destroy the vitality of (a part of the body). *Obs.*—1

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 348 It choketh and troubleth all the inwarde partes,..and in fine it sleayeth the partie.

Slay, *v.*2 Also sley. [Back-formation from SLAYING *vbl. sb.*2] *trans.* To set (a warp).

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sleid*, to sley or prepare for use in the weaver's sley. 1888 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen & Worsted Cloth Manuf.* 139 The proper method of sleying any particular warp or specific make of cloth.

Slay·able, *a. rare.* [f. SLAY *v.*1] That may be (justly) slain.

1887 *Edin. Rev.* July 39 Alexander was a tyrant and therefore in all justice slayable.

Slayd, obs. Sc. pa. t. SLIDE *v.*

Slayer1 (slē·əɹ). Forms: α. 4–5 sleer, 4–6 sleere, 5–6 slear, 6 *Sc.* sleyar. β. 4 -slaer, -sloer, 5–6 slaar(e, slaer (5 sclaer). γ. 6– slayer (6 *Sc.* slayar). [f. SLAY *v.*1 + -ER 1; the compound MANSLAYER is found a little earlier. Cf. MDu. and Du. *slager*, MLG. *slegere* (LG. *slăger*), OHG. *slagari* and *slahari* (G. *schläger*).] One who slays or kills. Also in fig. context.

α. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 151 Þei schullen be dampnyd ..for sleeris of crist wiþ þe wickid iewis. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 373 Whan þe kyng was i-slawe, þe sleere flij. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 54 Opun slears and traytors of þe schep. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 227 Then Hispias ..commaundede the sleer of his brother to be taken. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 50 God for till honour,..no sleyar to be. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eirenarcha* II. vii. 239 Any other, betweene whom and the slear there is no speciall ligeance.

β. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 967 It gladis me..to ga þus to deth, To se my slaare..be sa sone 3olden. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1278 The fyrst has bene a gret slaar off men. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xviii. (S. T. S.) I. 200 Sum allegis his fader was þe slaar of him. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 210 The slaers of Drumm sulde be banist to France.

γ. 1547–64 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 185 Men ought not to weepe for him that guiltles is slain, But for the slayer. *c* 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann.) 121 Ane of the allegit slayaris of the king. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 24. 211 When he slayeth a malefactour he is not to be counted a slayer of men, but a destroyer of evill men. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* VI. viii, The slayers left off at the evening. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 536 The slayer o'er the maim'd Exulting. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 217 Each pestle's displayer, Who, living by drugs, proves humanity's slayer. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 May 5/5 The mutilators and slayers of pigeons.

Slayer2 (slē·əɹ). [f. SLAY *v.*2 + -ER 1.] One who sets warps.

1881 *Census Instr.* (1885) 64. 1899 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 2/1 Father,..Blacksmith. Boy,..Slayer.

†**Slay·eress.** *Obs.*—1 In 4 sleeresse. [f. SLAYER 1.] A female slayer.

1382 WYCLIF *Tobit* iii. 9 See wee no more of thee sone or doȝter vp on erthe, thou sleeresse [*v.r.* sleestere] of thi men.

Slaying (slē·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 Forms: α. 4 sleing, 5 sle(i)yng, 5–6 sleynge; 4–5 sleaynge, 6 sleaing. β. 4 slaing. γ. 6– slaying. [f. SLAY *v.*1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. SLAY; killing, slaughter.

α, β. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 6784 (Fairf.) Qua þat honoures goddis new, of his slaing [*Gött.* sleing] sal na mon rew. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 65 Sampson slow himsilf in sleyng of þe Philisteis. 1450 in *Cal. Pub. Rec. Office* IV. 327 That he wase never gelty of sleyng of the do [= doe]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* CXXXIV. 495 Then he commaundyd to sece the sleynge.

fig. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 9 The balance of vertues I haue mysweyed, With sleyng of tonge, or with wilfulnesse.

γ. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* Wks. 129 The slaying & murtheryng of Christen men. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. v. 4 *Clitus.* He is or tane, or slaine. *Brutus.* Slaying is the word, It is a deed in fashion. 1647 HEXHAM I. s.v., A slaying of parents. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XXXV, As a man zealous to slaying for every point of the Nazarene law. 1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 219 Their forefathers had a grand slaying of their enemies.

†2. *Path.* Mortification. *Obs.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 37 After þe sleyng of flessh putred. *Ibid.* 91 It is best remedi to þam þat haþe..þe fistule or oþer sleiyng.

Slaying (slē·iŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 Also sleying. [f. SLAY *sb.*2 + -ING 1.] (See quot. 1879.)

1613 J. MAY *Decl. Est. Clothing* v. 25 In slaying of their warps they will cast the yarne to proue fine about a foot broad by the listes. 1759 BARBOUR *Constr. Sleying Tables*, The disposing of the warp threads in the loom is termed sleying. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1056 The names of *examining*, *setting*, or *sleying*,..are used indiscriminately, and mean exactly the same thing. 1879 ASHENHURST *Weaving & Designing Text. Fabr.* (1893) 304 The slaying or setting of warps are terms used to denote the proportioning of the counts of warp to the different sets of slay, so as to preserve a uniformity of fabric in similar species of cloth.

attrib. 1759 R. BARBOUR (*title*), Essay on the Construction of Sleying Tables. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 235 Mathematical Sleaing Tables, or the..Mystery of weaving Linen Cloth, explained.

Slay·ing, *ppl. a.* Also 5 sleeng(e, sleing, 6 sleayng, slayeng. [f. SLAY *v.*1 + -ING 2.] That slays or kills. Also *transf.* and in fig. context.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Some beestes haue tunges medicinable,..and some haue sleing tunges and venemous. *Ibid.* XVIII. x, þissleingeaddre[Aspis]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 19 Certain giddy brained men, which..do scorn their simplicitie which still follow the dead and slayeng letter. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* C iv b, When as by loue eche sleayng beast abstracted thence shalbe. 1858 GLADSTONE *Studies Homer* III. 11 Achilles seems to refer with stinging, nay rather with slaying irony to this claim.

†**Slay·ster.** *Obs.*—1 In 5 sleestere. [f. SLAY *v.*1 + -STER.] A female slayer.

14.. [see SLAYERESS].

Slayt(t, obs. forms of SLATE *v.*

Sle, obs. form of SLAY *v.*1, SLY *a.*

Slead (slēd), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–6 slede, 7 sleede (9 sleed), 6–7 sleid(e, 6 sleydd, sleade, 6– slead (9 sleead). [a. MDu. or MLG. *slede* (Du. *slede*, *slee*, LG. *slede*, *slädе*, *slee*), = ON. and Icel. *sleði* (Norw. *slede*, Sw. *släde*, Da. *slæde*), OHG. *slito*, *slita* (MHG. *slite*): the stem *slid-* is the weak grade of the vb. SLIDE.] = SLED *sb.*1

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. i. 110 Þou..by my sledes shalt mowen retourne hool and sounde in to þi contre. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xx. 3 The puple..he ladde out, and maad vpon hem pestelis, and sledis, and prowd yren charis, to gon ouer. 1406–7 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 606, 1 slede empt. pro cariac. decimarum. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slede to draw wythe,..*traha*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 292 They trauayl in wynter on sleades. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 808 Those that in Ivory Sleads on Ireland Seas (Congeal'd to Crystall) slide about at ease. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 459 They are not drawn upon wheels, but like drays and sleads upon the earth. 1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes' Trial* App. 64 The streets blocked up with caskes, carts, sleids, stooles. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. xxi, You may make use of the cart or dray made of rough boards, or of a slead. 1877–89 in Linc. and Chesh. glossaries.

b. *Rope-making.* (Cf. SLEDGE 2 3.) Also *attrib.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 272/1 A Ropers Slead, a thing by which they Twist their Ropes. *Ibid.*, By the first is the Rope Yarn Spun, or turned in the Slead, when it is Laid for the making of a Cable; and is generally termed a Slead Hook.

Hence †**Slead** *v. intr.* (with *it*), to travel in a sledge. *Obs.*—1

1689 C. COTTON *Winter* XXXIII, Look where Mantled up in White, He sleads it like the Muscovite.

Sleahþe, obs. form of SLEIGHT *sb.*1

Sleak (slēk), *v.*1 Now *dial.* and *rare.* Also 4–5 sleke. [var. of SLECK *v.*: cf. *reke*, *reak* RECK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To quench, extinguish, assuage.

13.. *Cursor M.* 18020 (Göttl.), Aisel haue i blend wid gall, For to sleke his threist wid-all. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 708 Luf lowe hem bytwene lasched so hote, þat alle þe meschefez on mold moȝt hit not sleke. *a* 1400 in *Polit., Relig., & L. Poems* (1903) 135 Þou may þaim sleke, als is a sparke when it is put in myddes þe see; & þar may no man sleke my myse bot þou. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXVII. 120 (Add. MS.), As watir sleketh fire, so almesdede sleketh synne. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Sleak*, to quench. 1884 *Lays & Leg. N. Irel.* 76 Feelin' his drouth stud in need av a sleakin'.

2. To slake (lime). Hence Sleaked *ppl. a.*

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 217 Tak arpment, & slekyd lyme, & argoyle. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 714 They mix it with Chalk well sleaked.

3. *intr.* To give over or stop raining. *dial.*

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96.

Sleak (slēk), *v.*2 *dial.* [var. of SLAKE *v.*2]

1. *trans.* (See quot.)

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 41 To *Sleak* out the tongue, to put it out by way of scorn, *Chesh.* [Hence in Bailey, Grose, etc.] 1886–7 in Cheshire glossaries.

2. To lick.

1846 *Ballads & Songs of Ayrshire* I. 112 (E. D. D.), He louped up an' sleak'd her cheek.

Sleak(e, obs. forms of SLEEK *a.* and *v.*

Slealie, obs. Sc. form of SLYLY *adv.*

Slear, obs. variant of SLAYER *sb.*1

[**Slear**, error for *sleay* SLAY *sb.*1

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxiv. § 6 The great reede or cane ..is esteemed to make slearres for weauers. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 164 Of Cane-Reed are our..Angling-Rods or Canes made, also Slears for Weavers.]

Sleasie, Sleasy, obs. ff. SLEAZY *sb.* and *a.*

Slea-silk, variant of SLEAVE-SILK *Obs.*

Sleat (slēt), *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 slætan, 3 slæten, slat-, 3, 7 slete, 8–9 sleet, 9 sleeat. Also *pa. t.* 1 slætte, 3 sle(a)tte, 9 slett; *pa. pple.* 4 slat. [OE. *slætan*, f. *slát-* pret. stem of *slítan* SLITE *v.*, corresponding to ON. **sleita*, whence SLATE *v.*3]

†1. *trans.* To bait (an animal) with dogs. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lives Saints* xii. 72 Man slætte þa ænne fearr feringa bær-ute, and se fear arn him toȝeanes. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 52 (Royal MS.), Heo..sletten him wiþ hundes ant leiden to wiþ honden. *a* 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 289 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 67 Tho hede the wreche fomen i-nowe, That weren egre him to slete Mid grete houndes.

†2. *intr.* To hunt *after* something. *Obs.*—1

c 1200 ORMIN 13485 þatt time þatt teȝȝ [the apostles] tokenn swa To slætenn affterr sawless.

3. *trans.* To incite, set on (a dog, etc.).

a 1225 *Juliana* 53 (Bodl. MS.), Heo..sleatten on him hundes. 14.. *26 Polit. Poems* ix. 22 Synne to bay many a folde On soules helle houndes slete. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 To *Slete* a dog, is to set him at anything as swine, sheep, &c. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, To Sleat a Dog. 1878 *Yorkshireman* Nov. 394 (E. D. D.), I take a delight i' sleatin' 'em at one another. 1886 *Rochdale Gloss.* 80 *Sleat*, to send or urge, as a dog at cattle, particularly sheep.

Hence **Slea·ting** *vbl. sb.*, hunting; also *fig.*, baiting, instigation.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1087, Ælc unriht ȝeold he forbead, & ȝeatte mannan heora wudas and slætinge. *c* 1205 LAY. 12326 Þus Gratien þe king for ut an slæting. *Ibid.* 29170 Hit was in ane dæie, þat Gurmund mid his duȝeðe..riden a slatinge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 196 Pelleus..printed in hert Iff he might sleghly be sleght & sletyng of wordes, Gar Iason..the iorney vndertake.

†**Sleat,** *v.*2 *Obs.*—1 ? VAR. of SLAT *v.*2

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Hwon heo iherеð þet god, heo sleateð adun boa two hore eareu.

Slea·thy, *a. rare.* Also 9 sleethy. [? f. ON. *slóða* to drag, trail (so Norw. *slöda*; also, to work carelessly); cf. ON. *slóði* (Norw. *slode*) sloven, sluggard, whence perh. north-eastern Sc. *sleeth.*] Slovenly, careless.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 52 The combination of labourers and poor people may very much prejudice, besides their slothfull and sleathy slubbering of it. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Sleath* (Kentish dial.), He is a bit sleethy.

Sleave (slīv), *sb.* [See next and SLEAVE-SILK.]

†1. A slender filament of silk obtained by separating a thicker thread; silk in the form of such filaments; floss-silk. *Obs.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 955 Those slender sleaves (On ovall clews) of soft, smooth, Silken flakes. 1611 COTGR., *Cadarce pour faire capiton*, the tow, or coursest part of silke, whereof sleaue is made. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXIII. 318 Fair Benefield.., Which bears a grass as soft as is the dainty sleave. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* I. i, Her faire haire; no silken sleave Can be so soft the gentle worm does weave.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* (In modern use only as an echo of the Shaksperean passage.)

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. ii. 37 Sleepe that knits vp the rauel'd Sleeue of Care. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Seaboard Parish* III. ix. 190 He..began to smooth out the wonderful sleave of dusky gold. 1876 MISS BRADDON *Dead Men's Shoes* i, She has not seen the fair and shining fabric in life's loom, but the ragged sleave thereof. 1904 J. C. COLLINS *Stud. Shaks.* 317 To smoothe the tangled sleave of Shakespearean expression.

Sleave (slīv), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 sleyve, sleue, 7 sleeue, 9 sleeve; 7– sleave. [OE. *sléfan* (recorded in the comb. *tosléfan*, Napier *Holy Roodtree* 32/2), f. *sláf-*, pret. stem of *slífan* SLIVE *v.*]

It is possible that the pa. t. *slefte* (cf. SLEFT *ppl. a.*) should be read in the *Gest of Robyn Hode* III. st. 146, where the early editions have *sleste*, *slet*, and *cleft*.

1. *trans.* To divide (silk) by separation into filaments. Also *transf.* and *absol.*

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Cælica* I. (1633) 24 When light doth beginne These to retaile, and subdiuide, or sleeues Into more minutes. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 362 The more subtle, (and more hard to Sleave a two) Silken thred, of self-seeking. 1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 71 They use to sleave and spin to what finesse they please. 1890 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. *Introd.* Poet. Wks. 1890 II. 165 To sleeve silk means to divide or ravel out a thread of silk with the point of a needle till it becomes floss.

2. *dial.* To cleave, split, rend, tear apart.

1828– in dialect glossaries (Yks., Chesh., Heref.).

Hence **Sleaved** *ppl. a.* (also 7 sleyd), in *sleaved silk* (see sense 1).

1577–85 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 835 Eight wildmen all apparelled in greene mosse, made with sleued silke. 1592 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 103 Sleyved Silk, the lb. 1623 *Shakspere's Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 35 (fol.), Thou idle, im-

materiall skiene of Sleyd silke. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sleaved*, as Sleaved Silk, *i. e.* such as is wrought fit for Use.

† **Sleave-silk.** *Obs.* Also 6 slaye-, 7 slea-, 8 sleeve-. [f. SLEAVE *v.* 1.] Silk thread capable of being separated into smaller filaments for use in embroidery, etc.

a. 1588 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 373, ii ounce of slaye sylke, xvid. 1676 RAINBOW *Funeral Serm. C'tess Pembroke* (1677) 38 A Prime..Wit [*marg.* Dr. Donne]..is reported to have said of this Lady..That she knew well how to discourse of all things, from Predestination, to Slea-silk.

β. 1598 FLORIO, *Capitone*, a kinde of course silke called sleaue-silke. 1600–2 in Whitaker *Hist. Craven* 315 Paid for sleave silk, xxxiiis. 1672–3 GREW *Anat. Pl., Roots* (1682) 66 The Threds..stand collateral together; as the several Single Threds of the Silkworm do in Sleave-Silk. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3924/3 Sleeve and Twisted Silk.

Comb. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1633) 190 Let..curious traitors, sleave silke [*pr.* sicke] flies Bewitch poore fishes wandring eyes.

transf. and *fig.* 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 36 In the sleave-silke of her haire 'Twas hard bound up and wrapped. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, lxxxv, When..all faculties In y^t sleave-silke of Sleep soft-fettered Lay.

Slea·ving. *rare.* Now *dial.* [f. SLEAVE *v.* Cf. SLAVING *sb.*] A slip taken from a tree by splitting or pulling.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 163 Yf thow sette a plaunte or a sleuyng, Putte in a lytel moysty molde amonge. 1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref., Sleaving*, a twig sleaved off.

Slea·ziness. *rare.* [f. SLEAZY *a.*] The fact or quality of being sleazy.

1727 in BAILEY (Vol. II.). 1891 LANG in *Illustr. Lond. N.* 7 Mar., Mr. Lanier with his sleaziness condoning the immortal speeches of Achilles and Odysseus.

† **Slea·zy,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 7 Sleasie, 8 Slesey. [Abbreviated f. SILESIA.] = SILESIA 1.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Sleasie Holland*, That only is properly Sleasie or Silesia Linen cloth, which is made in [and] Comes from the Country Silesia in Germany. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 36, I shall now begin according to my promise to treat of Sleasie Lawns, it being a very useful Linnen here with us, it takes its name from a town called Slesia in Hamborough, and not for its wearing Sleasie, as a great many do imagine. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4226/4, 8 Pieces of Norwich Druggit,.. 4 Pieces of Hambrough Cloth, 1 Piece of Slesey.

Sleazy, sleezy (slī·zi), *a.* Forms: *α.* 7 sleasie, sleazie, 7–8 sleasy (9 *dial.* -ey), 8– sleazy (9 *dial.* slazy). *β.* 7 sleizie, 8 slesy, 9 sleezy. [Of uncertain origin; the evidence seems to be against any original connexion with prec.

The mod. dial. verb *sleaze, sleeze*, etc., to wear badly, may be merely a back-formation from the adj.]

1. (See quots.)

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxiv. § 1. 288 Some drye partes of such liquors, are of themselues as it were hairy or sleasy, that is, haue litle downy partes, such as you see vpon the legges of flies. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 It smooths down the sleezy and fuzzy fibers of the twisted rope. *Ibid.* 2207/1 *Sleezy*,..rough from projecting fibers, as yarn or twine made of inferior material.

2. Of textile fabrics or materials: Thin or flimsy in texture; having little substance or body.

α. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3) s.v., *Sleasie Holland*, common people take to be all Holland, which is slight or ill-wrought. 1696 J. F. *Merch. Wareho. laid open* 21 It..will not wear near so well.., by reason it is made of more sleasie thread than the former is. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 258 'Tis a sleasy sort of stuff, but thickens and contracts by being well pressed on the sea-sand. 1757 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 424 They were presented each with a suit made of thin, sleazy cloth without lining. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 306 *Slazy*, of loose and open texture, easily torn, and soon worn out. 1866 SALA *Trip to Barbary* 365 You know that Sleazy calico was made in a mill and by steam power. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Winter on Nile* i. 20 Their one sleazy skirt giving little protection against the keen air.

β. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 15 The silke sleizie and not Naples, which will soone grow rough, gather dust and sullie. 1706 DR. BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 376 A thin slesy Coat of Sarsenet. 1856 *Househ. Wds.* XIII. 99 A sleezy, cobwebby, hairy genus of coverlets. 1893 MRS. T. COKE *Gentlewoman at Home* vii. 102 'Sleezy' silks, wispy surahs, or cottony velvets.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Slight, flimsy, unsubstantial.

c 1645 HOWELL *Fam. Lett.* (1650) II. 2, I cannot well away with such sleazie stuff, with such cobweb compositions. 1648 *Petit. Eastern Ass.* 26 Their vain, and sleasy opinions about Religion. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* ii. (1861) 51 You shall not conceal the sleezy, fraudulent, rotten hours you have slipped into the piece. 1880 BLACKMORE *Erema* xvi. 96, I have only to deal with very little things, sometimes too slim to handle well, and too sleezy to be woven.

Sle-band, obs. f. SLEE-BAND *Sc.* **Slech** : see SLETCH *v.* **Sleck** (small coal): var. SLACK *sb.*[2]

Sleck, *sb. dial.* [Cf. MLG. and LG. *slick*, G. *schlick, schlich.*] Soft mud; ooze.

It is very doubtful whether *slec* (v.r. *slech*) in *Leg. Kath.* 1662 can be regarded as an early example of this.

1840 HODGSON *Hist. Northumb.* III. ii. 319/2 The main sewer or drain..was about one-third filled up with that sort of ammoniacal sleck or sludge which comes from kitchens. 1894 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.* 654 A slake is a large expanse of *sleck*. 'Sludge' is wet, muddy deposit, but not necessarily fine and smooth as *sleck*.

Sleck (slek), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 3 slecken (n, 5 sleckyn, 6 slecke, 5– sleck; 4 slekk-, 5 slekkyn, sclekke, 5–6 slek. [The northern form repr. OE. *sleccan* (see SLETCH *v.*), *f. slæc* SLACK *a.* See also SLEAK *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To extinguish or quench (a fire); to allay, assuage (thirst, etc.).

c 1200 ORMIN 5689 All hiss hunngerr & hiss þrisst Shall ben þurrh Drihhtin sleckedd. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1230 De water sleckede de childes list. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* III. xiii. (W. de W. 1494), The preest..shall put vnder styckes, so that it be not sleckyd. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12667 Troyle bad faste the fir be bet, But Thelamon bad his men hit slek With water of broke or of bek. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 169 As water slecketh fyer, soo dothe almesdede slake synne. 1530 PALSGR. 720/2 Whan you slecke a hoote fyre with water, it maketh a noyse lyke thunder. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 *To Sleck*,..to quench or put out the fire, v.g., or one's thirst. 1781– in northern dialect glossaries. *fig.* *c* 1200 ORMIN 10124 FOIT allmess dedess hafenn mahht To sleckenn þine sinness. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lxix. (W. de W. 1494), That the grounde of synne myghte.. somwhat be slecket in the. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 118 All temptacion þou sall ouercum, & all malesse slek.

† 2. To alleviate, moderate. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 331 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 273 þe fyrst slent þat on me slode slekkyd al my tene. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5489 Ector sorow myght no man sclekke.

3. To cool by means of water, etc.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Tak a gad of stele..; And in goode wyne sleck hit I say. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Sleck*, to cool in water. *a* 1900 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., The blacksmith is slecking a piece of iron.

4. To slack or slake (lime).

1530 PALSGR. 720/2, I slecke lyme, I put water to it, *je destayns.* 1548 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 75 The churche yarde..wherin lyme is slecked. 1617 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 219 Slecking and spreadinge six score lode of lyme, ij^s vj^d. 1849– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Hence **Slecked** *ppl. a.*, **Sle·cking** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slekkynge, or qwenchynge, *extinctio. a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) H vj b, The morter..ought not to be medled with sande and slecked lyme. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* 41 Ye must meddle it well also with..slekt Sope ashes about the roote. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Fusé, Chaux fusée*, slaked, or sleckt lime. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 447 The consistence of slecked lime.

† **Sleck,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [var. of SLEEK *v.*] *trans.* To make smooth.

1530 PALSGR. 720/2, I slecke, I make paper smothe with a sleke stone, *je fais glissant.* You muste slecke your paper if you wyll write Greke well.

Sle·cken, *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 4–6 sleken, 4–5 slekyn, sleckun, 9 slecken. [f. SLECK *v.*[1] + -EN[5]. In some examples perh. *slēken* is intended, f. *sleke* SLEAK *v.*[1]] = SLECK *v.*[1]

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3101 Alle þe waters, þat men may rekken, A spark þar-of may noght sleken. *a* 1340 — *Psalter* xii. 4 þe lyght of godis luf es grauen and slekynd in vs. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 98 Taking þe scheld of þe feiþ, in þe wilk we may sleckun all þe firun dartis of the enemy. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* lvii. 79 Cold water dronkyn yn wynter slekyns þe naturell hete. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 61/35 To Sleken, *extinguere.* 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'I ha'n't slecken'd mysel yet,' my thirst is not yet abated.

Sleck-trough. Now *dial.* [SLECK *v.*[1]] = SLACK-TROUGH.

1716 T. WARD *Eng. Reform.* 38 One who Anointed Had never been, unless his Dad Had in the Sleck-trough wash'd the Lad. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Sleck-trough*, the trough containing the water in which smiths cool their iron and temper steel. 1863 in Robson *Bards of Tyne* 413 A' wesh thersels clean i' the sleck troughs.

Sled (sled), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* Also 4–7 sledde, 5–7 sledd. [a. MFlem. or MLG. *sledde* (= MHG. *slitte*, G. *schlitten*), related to *slede* SLEAD *sb.*]

1. A drag used for the transport of heavy goods, etc., = SLEDGE *sb.*[2] 2.

1388 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xx. 3 He..made breris,..and sleddis, and ironе charis, to passe on hem. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. F viij, They cary theyr vytayles vpon the yce on sleddes. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6001 On a sledd it sulde be layde. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xxiv. 22 There is an oxe for a burnt offerynge, and sleddes. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A sled for a plough, and another for blocks. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 573 Some write, that Satyrus..conueied it to Alexandria by means of flat bottoms or sleds. 1677 YARRANTON *Engl. Improv.* 68 Fetching the Water being ready filled in Copper Tubs upon Sleds. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 42/1 Of Stones..some are big and unweildy, so that a Man..cannot manage them..without the assistance of Sleds. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* 1. 62 Those sleds are made of a single plank turned up at one end.., and the baggage is lashed on in bags and sacks. 1887 COX *Cycl. Common Things* (ed. 6) 542 In Canada the Indians make a kind of sled which they call a 'toboggan'.

† b. Used for dragging condemned persons to execution. *Obs.*

1576 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 3) 1901/2 He was layde vpon a Sled with an Hurdle on it, and drawen to the place of execution. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* ix. § 1 (1669) 268/1 If.. he should meet some of his fellow-Traytors on sleds, as they are dragging..to execution. 1667 L. STUCLEY *Gospel-Glass* xii. (1670) 107 How many have you seen drawn on Sleds, led to shameful and violent Deaths?

2. A sledge or sleigh used as a vehicle in travelling or for recreation.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. ii, With milke-white Harttes vpon an Iuorie sled Thou shalt be drawen. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. xvii. 431 He departed with Russes and Permacks for Slebotca in a sledde drawne with two deare. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 124/2 On Monday last their Imperial Majesties had their divertisements upon the Ice, attended by 76 Sleds. 1726–46 THOMSON *Winter* 773, Eager, on rapid sleds, Their vigorous youth, in bold contention, wheel The long resounding course. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Netherl.* I. 89 There is a greater number of sleds, which are a heavy unpleasant carriage, and fit for none but old women. 1857 B. TAYLOR *North. Trav.* viii. 75 The postilions fastened our sleds behind their own large sledges, with flat runners, which got through the snow more easily than ours. 1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy did at Sch.* x. 168 To help him to get down his sled, because he thinks it is going to snow.

3. *Rope-making.* (See SLEDGE *sb.*[2] 3.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 364/1 As the yarns are twisted into a strand they become shorter and draw the sled towards the head of the walk.

4. *U.S.* A kind of river-boat used on the Ohio.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 124/2 Of smaller vessels there were 'covered sleds', 'ferry flats', and 'Alleghany skiffs'.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sled-car, -load, -man, -mark, -runner*, etc.; also **sledful**, as much as a sled can hold.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xl, The Sledmen. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* ii. Wks. 1851 VIII. 484 In whatever place they find enough of white Moss to feed thir Sled-Stags. *Ibid.* v. 506 Chancelor had now gon more than half his journey, when the Sled-man sent to Court meets him on the way. 1701 in *Select Biog. Wodrow Society* (1846) II. 489 Two sledfuls of Sand. 1729 SWIFT *Answ. to Sev. Lett.* Wks. 1841 II. 93 The turf, which is now drawn upon sled-cars with great expense. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) I. 53 Broke one sled runner, and were detained by other circumstances. *Ibid.* II. 179 Obliged to halt and send back for the sled loads. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 42 The solitary sled-track running far up into the..wilderness. 1868 *Harper's Mag.* XXXVI. 422 The sled-tender is ready to raise the huge bodies of the fallen upon his sled. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xiii, I followed the track on the side of the hill..where the sledd-marks are.

† **Sled,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] [Alteration of SLEDGE *sb.*[1]] A sledge-hammer.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, They haue beheld the frolicke marriners..Pitch bars of silver, and cast golden sleds.

Sled, *v.* Chiefly *U.S.* [f. SLED *sb.*[1] Cf. MFlem. *sledden* in sense 2.]

1. *intr.* To travel in a sledge.

1780 A. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 377 The Bay has been frozen so hard that people have walked, rode, and sledded over it to Boston. 1784 P. OLIVER in *T. Hutchinson's Diary* II. 406 In March they sledded across the Delaware. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 586/1 We had sledded down the cobble road and got on board.

2. *trans.* To convey on a sled or sleds.

1718 in *Hist. Northfield* (Mass.) (1875) 148 Each man with his team shall cart or sled wood one day yearly for Mr. Doolittle. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* xxiv. (1885) 243 Logs..piled up square, in order to be carted or sledded away. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 207 Some widow's thirds, from which her ancestors have sledded fuel for generations.

3. *absol.* To admit of being sledded.

1869 MRS. H. B. STOWE *Oldtown* XXXVII, P'r'aps, ef you'd jest tighten up the ropes.., the hull load would sled easier.

Sle·dded, *a. rare.* [f. SLED *sb.*[1]] a. Mounted on sleds. b. Made like a sled.

1602 SHAKS. *Haml.* I. i. 63 So frown'd he once, when in an angry parle He smot the sledded Pollax on the Ice. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* lvi, Huge waggon, sledded car, and wain.

Sle·dder. [f. SLED *sb.*[1] or *v.*]

1. One who conveys heavy articles by means of a sled.

1649 *Sc. Acts, Chas. II* (1819) VI. 482 Haveing agriet with maissons, quarriouris, and sledderis. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 39 Fourteen Pence a Day for the other Banck's-Man, or Sledder.

2. A horse that draws a sled.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, Smiler (our youngest sledder) had been well in over his withers.

† **Sle·ddier.** *Obs.*[—1] [f. SLED *sb.*[1] or *v.*] One who drives a sledge.

1654 WHITELOCKE *Swed. Ambassy* (1772) I. 289 The ladyes and their sleddiers are very gallant.

Sle·dding, *vbl. sb. U.S.* [f. SLED *v.*] The action of using a sled; conditions favourable for this.

1755 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 272 Several falls of snow, and some sledding. *Ibid.* 284 Fine sledding; true winter since the 17th. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., Sometimes in New England, there is little or no good sledding during the winter. 1873 *Wisconsin Rep.* XXXI. 422 Scott is to..continue them as long as good sledding continues.

b. *fig.* Work or progress in any sphere of action.

1839 H. GREELEY in *Corr. Griswold* (1898) 26 Payments are slack still, and we have rather hard sledding. 1898 *N. York Evening Post* 21 Oct. 1 Professional labor agitators do not always have smooth sledding in the field of politics.

Sledde, obs. form of SLEAD.

Sledge (sledʒ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 sleeg, slege, 4–6 slegge, 5–6 slege, 7 sleage. *β.* 6–7 sleadge, 7 sledg, 6– sledge. [OE. *sleeg* fem., = MDu. and Du. *slegge*, closely related to ON. (also Norw. and Icel.) *sleggja* (MSw. *sleggia, slägga*, Sw. *slägga*; older Da. *slegge, slægge*). The stem **slag-* is derived from that of the wb. SLAY.] A large heavy hammer usually wielded with both hands, especially the large hammer used by a blacksmith; a sledge-hammer. (See also quot. 1548.)

a. a 1000 in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 21 We hit meaþe mid isernum hamerum and sleegum gefyldon. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 100 Hwæt sylst us on smiþþan þinre, buton..sweginga beatendra slegea. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1308 To bryngе with him anon anuyle, tange & slegge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 109 Slegges and hameres, wiþ þe whiche smythes smyteþ..gaddes of iren. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3000 In hys bosom [the giant] put thre gret slegges wrought. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII*

(1896) 40 Slegges of Iren, ij. 1549 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 350 Sleges, xxx; shovelles and spades, xvc. 1573 in J. C. Jeaffreson *M'sex County Rec.* (1886) I. 79 Duo mallua ferri vocata slegges.

β. 1548 Elyot *Fistuca*, an instrument, wherwith piles of wood be dryuen into the ground, called a water pile sledge. 1598 Barret *Theor. Wars* v. iii. 135 Eight great iron sledges to breake rockes. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* viii. (1892) 62 They make holes and with a woaden sleadge they sett these hurdels fast in the grounde. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 390, I saw a Smith make a Horse-shooe..almost as quick as if another had struck the Sledg to him. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 236 The solid Ore should be further disunited from the stony part, by spaling with sledges, or cobbing with hammers to a proper size. 1847 Longf. *Ev.* I. ii. 106 Nothing is left but the blacksmith's sledge. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 8 Some of the samples..stood 300 blows from a 39 lb. sledge before bending.

b. Used for throwing, as an athletic exercise.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 217 A yong wenche called Crocus, went forth into the fieldes with Mercurie to throw the sledge. 1600 *Maids Metam.* III. i, Among the games, myselfe put in a pledge, To trie my strength in throwing of the sledge. 1636 W. Denny in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 16 Some throw the Sledge, and others spurne the Barre. 1795 H. MacNeill *Will & Jean* ii, Wha wi' Will cou'd..Throw the sledge, or toss the bar?

Sledge (sledʒ), *sb.*[2] Also 7 **sledg.** [a. MDu. *sleedse* (mod.Du. dial. *sleeds*), related to *slede* Slead. The Du. forms are peculiar to Friesland and North Holland, and may be of Frisian origin.]

1. A carriage mounted upon runners instead of wheels, and generally used for travelling over snow or ice; a sleigh. Cf. Sled *sb.*[1] 2.

1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 42 We hired a sledge for eight stivers, and were drawne thither over the yce and snow. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 63 For Winter Travelling, the Muscovites make use of Sledges, made very low. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4507/2 The Diversions of the Carnaval began by a Course of Sledges. 1756 Nugent *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 208 The ladies take their recreation in sledges of different shapes. 1810 Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 6/1 They were liable to be..thrown into a sledge, and hurried off to the frontier, or to Siberia. 1886 Mabel Collins *Prettiest Woman* xi, Arthur accepted a seat in a sledge for the drive to the lake.

2. A simple form of conveyance, having runners instead of wheels, employed in the transport of goods over ice or snow or in heavy traffic unsuited to wheeled vehicles; = Sled *sb.*[1] 1. Rarely, a similar vehicle with low wheels; a trolley.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1904/1 The same Letters add, that 40 Sledges laden with Provisions, had in the night got into Newheusel. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 89 Take up the Tree..and carry it on a Sledge, or other Carriage, to the Place designed. 1760 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* II. 45 In Lancashire they use a sort of sledge that is made with thick wheels to bring their marle out with. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 146 The sledges have to be still commonly used in *putting* the coal along the face of the workings to the better roads. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 446/2 Two skids fastened together make a 'drag', or 'sledge'.

b. Formerly used for conveying condemned persons to execution. Cf. Sled *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 258 Being laid upon a Sledg in straw, he is drawn by a Horse to the place of Execution. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 May 1685, Oates..was this day plac'd on a sledge,..and dragg'd from prison to Tyburn. 1780 *New Newgate Cal.* V. 81 They were drawn to the gallows on a sledge, as is usual in the case of coiners. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxiii, The sledge is even now preparing to drag thee to the place of execution.

c. A form of drag or skid. *Obs.*—[1]

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 122/2 The sledge or retarder..is formed like a wedge.

3. *Rope-making.* A travelling structure of considerable weight to which the rope-yarns are attached at one end.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 56 *Sledges* are frames made of strong oak, clamped with iron... These sledges are loaded to such a degree as the rope in making requires. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 437 In some cases the rope is made to haul the sledge backwards, by fastening one end of it to the sledge. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 465/1 The sledge is pulled backwards to stretch the yarns tight.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sledge-boat, -crank, -dog, -driver*, etc.

1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXI. 22 Sailing on the ice in a *sledge-boat. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 486/1 (Rope-making), By the motion of the *sledge crank the top is forced away from the knot. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxix. 377 The instinct of a *sledge-dog makes him perfectly aware of unsafe ice. 1896 *Idler* 306/2 Becoming a proficient 'kayaker' and *sledge-driver. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 37 One of these two Men that guides the *Sledge-Horses. 1845 [C. H. J. Anderson] *Swedish Brothers* 14 The Norwegian looked in vain for a purchaser for his sledge-horses. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. viii. 84 A position which might expedite our *sledge journeys in the future. *Ibid.* xxiii. 288 Their *sledge-load of provisions. 1601 in *The Phœnix* II. 227 *Sledzmen, Carmen, Boatmen. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xv. 179 Too cold still..for our sledgemen to set out. *Ibid.* xx. 251 All the *sledge-parties were now once more aboard ship. 1762 Lloyd *Epist. Churchill* Poems 191 So have I seen, amidst the grinning throng, The *sledge procession slowly dragg'd along. 1678–82 in R. M. Fergusson *Logie* (1905) II. 65 Thence northward by a *sledge road up the brae. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xv. 176 A secure and level sledge-road. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3379 From its tusks are made..*sledge-runners. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. 380 The breach was large enough to admit a *sledge-team. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* II. 82 The *sledge-way..becomes so well beaten.

Sledge (sledʒ), *v.*[1] [f. Sledge *sb.*[1]] **a.** *intr.* To use a sledge-hammer. **b.** *trans.* To break or drive in (something) with a sledge-hammer.

1654 *Queen's Coll. Oxford Acc.* (MS.), Given to D.L. upon a barg for sledgeing. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 4 By their continued firing and sledging the door, they at last entered. 1863 B. Taylor *H. Thurston* iv. 51 Miss Dilworth little suspected how many rocks she had sledged into pieces.. through Bute Wilson's arm.

Sledge (sledʒ), *v.*[2] [f. Sledge *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* (See quot.)

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 34 We must haue two more Horses of a less Value, bought to sledge out with, or draw the Corves as they come out of the Pit on a Sledge.

2. To travel in a sledge. Also with *it*.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* vi. (1856) 45 They boat or sledge it from post to post. 1882 H. Seebohm *Siberia in Asia* 17 We sledged up one hill and down another.

3. *trans.* To carry or convey on a sledge.

1864 Wheelwright *Spring Lapl.* 204 We left him, intending to sledge him home the next day. 1900 *Jrnl. R. Archæol. Inst.* LVII. 73 The stone having been sledged down the hill.

Hence **Sle·dging** *vbl. sb.*

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 256 The crew had an hour of sledging. 1876 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 5/2 The wearisome sledging of a mile a day.

Sle·dge-hammer, *sb.* [Sledge *sb.*[1]] A large heavy hammer used by blacksmiths.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 194 Slege hamers of yron. 1791 Bentham *Panopt.* I. Postsc. 163, I would arm another part with another gentleman's sledge-hammers. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, The door was instantly assailed with sledge-hammers. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 398 Smiths will not care how long they detain horses, provided they can get the assistance of the ploughman at the sledge-hammer. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 317 The strikers with the sledge hammer were swept away.

attrib. 1844 Hood *Forge* 238 Some cumbrous sort Of sledge-hammer retort At Red Beard. 1887 R. N. Carey *Uncle Max* iii, I was used to this sort of sledge-hammer form of argument.

fig. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. i. 18 Johnson's sledge hammer smashes his flimsy platitudes to pieces. 1890 *Spectator* 12 July, The author demolishes his opponents, sometimes, with almost too heavy a sledge-hammer.

Hence **Sle·dge-hammer** *v. trans.*, to strike, work at, as with a sledge-hammer. Also **Sle·dge-hammering** *vbl. sb.*

1834 Sir G. C. Lewis *Lett.* (1870) 32, I send you..an admirable letter written by Sedgwick, in order that you may see what is meant by *sledge-hammering* a man. 1840 Whately *Let.* in *Life* (1866) I. 473, I have been to-day sledge-hammering your idea about Simeon into a sermon. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xv, I grant a sledge-hammering sort of merit in him. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 796 The concluding pages of one of his sledge-hammerings on the heads of his adversaries.

Sle·dgeless, *a.* [f. Sledge *sb.*[2] + -less.] Without a sledge.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 250 All expected to betake ourselves sledgeless to the ice.

Sle·dger. [f. Sledge *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2]] One who drives or draws a sledge.

1661 *Justiciary Rec.* (S. H. S.) I. 13 Thomas Neilson, sledger in Leith, indyted for stealling of a Horse. 1876 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 5/4 Greenland was explored far to the eastward. The sledgers all suffered from scurvy.

Sle·dgy, *a. rare.* [f. Sledge *sb.*[2]] Sledge-like.

1798 Miss H. M. Williams *Tour Switz.* II. 293 Her sledgy-car, with sparkling frost-work bright.

†**Sledo.** *Obs.*—[1] Some article of dress.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* I. (ed. 4) 354 Next then the slouching Sledo, and our huge Button, And now our Coats, flanck broad, like Shoulder Mutton.

Slee, obs. or dial. var. Slay *v.*[1], Sloe *sb.*, Sly *a.*

†**Slee·band.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* (See quot. 1825.)

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 274 Ane husband man ..Vpoun ane nycht his awin pleuch irnis staw, Baith sok and some, culter and sle-band. 1813 W. Leslie *Surv. Nairne & Moray* Gloss., *Sleeband*, the ancient muzzle of the plough. 1825 Jamieson *Suppl.*, *Sleeband*, a band of iron which goes round the beam of a plough, for the purpose of strengthening it at the place where the coulter is inserted.

Sleech (slīʃ), *sb. dial.* Also 8–9 **sleetch**, *Sc.* **sleitch.** [app. a later form of Slitch.]

1. Mud deposited by the sea or a river; soil composed of this.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1540/1 Wher the slub or sleech is fifteene foot deepe at the least, and the maine rocke immediatlie vnderneath it. 1623 *Tract Parlt.* in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 288 Then would all..the barren lands [be] mended by Marle, Sleech, Lime, Chalk, Seasand, and other means. *c* 1682 J. Collins *Making of Salt* 19 The Ground..ought to be a Sea-Mud, Oase or Sleech. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 103 As the sea left the marshes by degrees, the tides brought up the mud with them..; which mud we call sleech. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 298 The soil is composed of a heavy, moist sleech. 1844 Ld. Cockburn *Circuit Journ.* 27 Sept. (1888) 254 But when the sea..shrinks back, what a change! It becomes a world of sleech. 1899 G. Neilson *Annals of Solway* 44 The salty particles glittering on the sleech like hoar frost.

2. A stretch of mud on a shore.

1902 *Scotsman* 11 Feb. (E.D.D.), There were near Bo'ness wide expanses of flat muddy foreshore, known as 'sleeches', or 'slob-lands',..covered at high tide.

Hence **Slee·chy** *a.*, slimy, muddy.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* IV. 138 A very flat, clay or sleechy shore. 1844 Ld. Cockburn *Circuit Journ.* 27 Sept. (1888) 254 Dismal swamps of deep sleechy mud. 1877 G. Fraser *Wigtown* 192 The lands, fishings, sleechy grounds, and shores mentioned in the summons.

Sleech (slīʃ), *v. Cheshire dial.* [Of obscure origin.] (See quot.)

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 43 *To Sleech*, to dip or take up water. [Hence in Grose, etc.]. 1886–7 in Cheshire glossaries.

Hence **Slee·ching-net** (see quot. 1886).

1665 *Chesh. Farm Accs.* in *Sheaf* (1882) II. 333 For the iron frame for the sleeching nett. 1886 Holland *Cheshire Gloss., Sleeching-net*, a net fixed at the end of a long pole, for catching fish.

Sleek (slīk), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* Also **slick, slieck.** [prob. short for *sleek measure*: cf. Sleek *v.* 1 c, and MFlem. *sleec, sleic* (mod.Flem. *sleek, sleik*) adj., even with the top of the vessel.] A measure for fruit, etc. (see later quots.).

1705 in W. Hector *Judic. Rec. Renfrewshire* (1876) 42 Ten slicks of keeping apples, such as his lady shall choyce. 1793 in Ure *Hist. Ruthergln* 45 Each Slieck of Fruit, 4d. 1808 Jamieson Addit., *Sleek*, a measure of fruits, or roots, &c., containing 10rty pounds. 1820 Cleland *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* 167 Fruit is sold by the sleek of 20 Scotch pints. 1856 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1126 *Sleek* (Clydesdale), of apples or pears, a peck = 2½ gallons.

Sleek (slīk), *sb.*[2] *Sc. rare.* Also 8 **sleik.** [? Related to Sleech *sb.* or Sleck *sb.*] Mud; a mud-bank.

1774 D. Graham *Hist. Rebell.* Wks. 1883 I. 206 The pilot run her into a creek, Got past the breakers, 'mong sand and sleik. 1875 A. Smith *New Hist. Aberdeenshire* I. 32 The sleeks of the estuary of the Ythan.

Sleek (slīk), *sb.*[3] *Naut.* [f. Sleek *a.*] (See quot. and cf. Slick *sb.*[1] 3 a.)

1840 F. D. Bennett *Narr. Whaling Voy.* II. v. 202 Broad oily tracks, or 'sleeks' on the surface of the water, (produced by the recent passage of a party of cetaceans).

Sleek (slīk), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 6 **sleke, slieke, sleake,** 6–7 **sleik, sleeke,** 7– **sleek.** [Later variant form of ME. *slīke* Slick *a.*]

1. Of animals, their limbs, etc.: Having, or covered with, hair or fur which lies close and smooth, usually a sign of good condition or careful attention.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 3 While I..sticke muske roses in thy sleeke smoothe head. 1634 Heywood & Brome *Lanc. Witches* IV. H.'s Wks. 1874 IV. 223 You may see by his plump belly and sleeke legs he hath not bin sore travail'd. 1714 Gay *Sheph. Week* Monday 36 See this Tobacco Pouch that's lin'd with Hair, Made of the Skin of sleekest fallow Deer. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 91 No quadrupede is fatter, none has a more sleek or glossy skin [than the mole]. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* ii. (1877) 16 She rode a sleek white pony. 1859 Capern *Ball. & Songs* 148 The sleek and dappled kine.

b. Of hair, etc., in this condition.

1829 Lytton *Disowned* 7 Bright were the eyes and sleek the tresses of the damsel. 1841— *Night & M.* I. vi, His hair short, dark, and sleek. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* I. iv, He wore an odd little sleek crisp flaxen wig.

2. Of surfaces: Entirely free from roughness; perfectly smooth or polished.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. (Arb.) 251 Her bosome sleake as Paris plaster. *a* 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* III. (1878) 136 With a soft sleeke hand I'le clap thy cheeke. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 100 A very smooth and sleek surface, almost like the surface of black sealing wax. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 218 In hot dry weather the oat-straw will be so sleek, that it will be troublesome loading and tying it together so as not to slide off from the cart. 1754 Gray *Lett.* (1900) I. 254 The rock is cut up till it is as smooth and as sleek as sattin. 1807 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. xii, Using once more a discarded nutmeg-grater or a sleek file! 1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* 306 Their skin, though but an indifferent black, is always sleek and smooth.

b. Of the sea or sky: Unruffled, tranquil. *rare.*

1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* III. xlvii, On the sleeke waters waft her sayles along. 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 181 After a storme the face of heauen looks sleeke. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. I. iii, What sulphur-cloud is that that defaces the sleek sea?

3. Oily, fawning, plausible, specious.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. ii, Slieke flatterie and shee Are twin-borne sisters. 1605 Chapman, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* II. ii, They be the smoothest and sleekest knaves in a country. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 241 How sleeke and wanton Ye appeare in euery thing may bring my ruine! *a* 1789 Mickle *Siege of Marseilles* II. iv, With sleek adulterous smiles. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 541 After the war is fought, yield the sleek Russian That which thou canst not keep. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* iv, Being the sleek, subtle, religious sins they are.

b. Dexterous, skilful. = Slick *a.* 4.

1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. i, The waiter who is a sleek hand.

4. Of persons: Having a smooth skin, esp. as the result of being in good condition; plump.

1637 Milton *Lycidas* 99 On the level brine, Sleek Panope with all her sisters play'd. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* I. 7 How sleik their looks, how goodly is their Mien, When big they strut behind a double Chin. 1714 N. Rowe *Hor. Ep.* I. iv, Me..Batt'ning in Ease you'll find, sleek, fresh, and fair. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor. Ep.* I. iv. 28 Here, in sleek and joyous Case, You'll find..An Hog by Epicurus fed. 1820 Lamb *Elia* I. *Christ's Hospital*, Sleek well-fed blue-coat boys. 1877 L. Morris *Epic of Hades* 91 What were it to lie Sleek, crowned with roses.

fig. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres.* II. xi, Monachism itself.. lies sleek and buried. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 367 In a sleek and rural apathy.

5. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 *Sleek*, soft and troublesome, as applied to the state of the floor in steep seams.

6. As *adv.* In a smooth or sleek manner.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, The chub-fac't fop

Shines sleeke with full cramm'd fat of happinesse. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 494 Nor can his spotted Skin, Tho' sleek it shine,..Save the proud Pard from unrelenting Fate. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 161 The feathers, which lie so sleek and in such beautiful order. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. iv, His brown stockings fitted sleek and close.

7. *Comb.*, as *sleek-browed, -faced, -haired, -headed, -looking, -skinned.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 193 Let me haue men about me, that are fat, Sleeke-headed men. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 11 With most obsequious sleek-brow'd intertain. 1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 107 A fair sleek-faced courtier. 1661 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 49 You say a sleek-skinn'd Cat will ever go a Caterwawing. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 41 The advice of his sleek-headed ministry. 1823 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 290 This schoolmaster was a sleek-looking young fellow. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iv, An old-fashioned, thin-faced, sleek-haired, ..small-eyed little fellow. 1853 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) II. 221 Were I..a sleek-faced negotiator.

Sleek (slīk), *v.* Also 5 **slekyn**, 6 **sleke**, 6–7 **sleak**, 7 **sleeke**, **sleik**. [Later variant form of ME. *slīke(n* SLICK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make sleek or smooth by rubbing or polishing.

*c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slekyn, *licibricinnulo.* 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 72 They curiously sleeke their paper, which is thick. 1683 PEPYS *Diary at Tangier* in *Life* (1841) I. 422 When dry, they sleek it [calico] with smooth shells, and roll it up. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 33 The paper..was sleeked with a tooth or shell. 1852 MORFIT *Arts of Tanning*, etc. 375 The skin is..sleeked with a round-knife. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 175 A hide of leather is..sleeked down till the surface is perfectly smooth.

b. To reduce to smoothness; to invest with a smooth unruffled appearance.

1513 [see SLEEKED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. 47 Sleek eu'ry little Dimple of the Lake: Sweet Syrens, and be readie with your Song. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* xii, The moon that sleeks the sky. 1834 AIRD *Churchyard Eclog.* 119 Forth looks the sun,..and sleeks the slippery hills.

c. *Sc.* To fill to, make level with, the brim or top.

1863 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* (ed. 2) 126 Although the tears I shed behin' her Wad sleek a sheuch. 1882a *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v., 'Noo, sleek the stimpart,' i.e. smooth or level the grain in the measure.

2. To make (the skin, hair, etc.) smooth and glossy.

1508 *Mayd Emlyn* 49 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 85 Ofte wolde she sleke To make smothe her cheke, With redde roses therin. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn Bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 212 A round face sleekt and washt ouer with whites of egges. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 832 Fair Ligea's golden comb, Wherwith she sits..Sleeking her soft alluring locks. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXIII. 350 That wont to deck Their flowing manes, and sleek their glossy neck. 1786 *Pogmologia* 133 Thick beards sleeked in the same manner as their hair is. 1830 TENNYSON *A Character* ii, He smooth'd his chin and sleek'd his hair. 1895 A. NUTT *Voy. Bran* I. 238 Two great eagles come and sleek the great bird with their bills.

refl. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Purgat.* viii. 51 Licking like a beast that sleeks itself.

b. *To sleek up*, to make presentable, or of attractive appearance.

1618 FLETCHER *Chances* III. i, Sleek up your self, leave crying, For I must have ye entertain this Lady With all civility. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 241 There is such a man's servant, she is exceedingly sleeked up, see.. what a dress shee hath.

c. To lay *back*, to flatten.

1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* vi, The poor beast..stood most pitifully still, sleeking back its ears.

3. *transf.* or *fig.* To render sleek or smooth, in various senses: **a.** Denoting removal of agitation, disturbance, deep thought, etc.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 27 Gentle my Lord, sleeke o're your rugged Lookes, Be bright and Iouiall. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Commend. Verses*, So much fancy, as may sleeke My Lords brow, and dimple my Ladies cheeke. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 748 To sleek her ruffled peace of mind. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. ii. (1865) VII. 19 So very possible to sleek them down into peace, thought Majesty's Ministry.

b. Denoting the assumption of friendly or flattering looks or speech. Cf. SLEEKED *ppl. a.* 2.

1607 DEKKER & MARSTON *Northw. Hoe* I. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 17 Ile candy o're my words, and sleeke my brow. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 5 The perswasive Rhetoric That sleek't his tongue. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 109 So I wrapped my heart in guile And sleeked my tongue with sweetness.

refl. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. i. 80 He hath learnt..To sleek and supple himself to the king's hand.

c. To polish (a composition). Also with *over*.

1630 T. CAREW *To Ben Jonson*, Repine not at the taper's thrifty waste, That sleeks thy terser poems. 1635 PEMBLE *Grace & Faith* Pref. 1 Unto my apprehension, such Prologues, however sleeked over, doe yet feele rough and uneven.

d. To gloze *over*, put in a favourable light.

1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 391 Musing how to smoothe And sleek his marriage over to the Queen.

4. *intr.* To move, glide, sweep *on* smoothly.

1818 L. HUNT *Foliage, Nymphs* ii, For as the racks came sleeking on, one fell With rain into a dell.

Hence **Slee·king** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 116, I loath almost to thincke on..the sleeking of their faces. 1632 MARMION *Holland's Leaguer* III. iv, Wherefore are all your sleekings and your curlings..composed by art? 1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* lix, His sleeking hair Creeps o'er her knees. 1873 O'CURRY *Lect. Ancient Irish* III. 116 The sleeking stick or bone which weavers still use. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 368/1 After washing the grain with the grass-brush, it is followed by the sleeking-iron.

Sleeked (slīkt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Smoothed; having a glossy skin, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. xii. 15 All fischis..doith repair Ondir the slekit see of marbill hew. 1611 FLORIO, *Cartella*, a kind of sleeked pasteboord. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* viii, Sleeked limmes, and finest blood. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. viii, By reason of their..curled, frisling, sleeked smoothness. 1785 BURNS *To a Mouse* i, Wee, sleeket, cowran, tim'rous beastie. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 468 As a dove Trembling its closed eyes and sleeked wings About me. 1861 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secret* (1880) 199 Captain Merrifield's fine sleeked cows were licking each other.

2. *Sc.* Specious, flattering; artful; plausible.

*c*1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 1838 Oetus..Told a foule fenȝeit fortoune fals..With sleked wordis subtelly. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. x. 27 Now him withaldis the Phenitiane Dido, And cuilȝeis him with slekit wordis sle. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 547 With sleikit sophismis seiming sweit. 1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* xxvii, His sleekit speeches pass for true With ane and a'. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* I. xii. 131, I did nae think the sleekit sinner had art enough to play 't. 1895 'H. HALIBURTON' *Dunbar* 92 Sleekit he was, an' carefu' to conceal.

Hence **Slee·kedness.** *rare* —1.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 109 If that the polish'd sleekedness thereof be darken'd by gross Breathings.

Sleeken (slī·k'n), *v.* [f. SLEEK *a.* + -EN 5.] *trans.* To make smooth and glossy. Also *fig.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. 1. iv, The Eban stone which Goldsmiths use to sleeken their gold with. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 41/2 The Sleek stone, a ball made of glass, which Landresses and Drawers of Cloath use to polish or sleeken their Linnen with. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 150 Young gorbs which he did fin'..Whilk sleekened his skin. *c* 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Portrait* xviii, All voices that address her, Soften, sleeken every word. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 132 Society..sleekens the boy into a machine well-oiled, and superfinishes the girl.

Sleeker (slī·kəɹ). [f. SLEEK *v.* + -ER 1.] One who sleeks; an implement used for sleeking leather, cloth, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Estire*, the yron toole wherwith a Currier draynes the skins he receiues from the Tan-pit; some call it a Sleeker. *Ibid.*, *Polisseur*, a polisher; ..sleeker, smoother. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 368/1 The skin is..worked with a 'sleeker' or stretching-iron.

Sleekish (slī·kiʃ), *a.* [f. SLEEK *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat sleek.

1850 *New Monthly Mag.* Nov. 265 Drawn by a pair of sleekish horses.

Sleek-leaf. *U.S.* [SLEEK *a.*] The sand-myrtle, *Leiophyllum buxifolium.*

1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 219/2. 1855 J. DARBY *Bot. S. States* 421.

Sleekly (slī·kli), *adv.* [f. SLEEK *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sleek manner. Also *fig.*, smoothly.

1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Ape & Leopard* 12 My fur sae delicate and fine, With various spots does sleekly shine. 1826 HOOD *Irish Schoolm.* xxvii, The verdant sod, With tender moss so sleekly overgrown. 1877 'SAXON' *Galloway Gossip* 245 Things didn't move so sleekly in that house after.

Sleekness (slī·knės). [f. SLEEK *a.*] The quality of being sleek.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xxxii, I confesse, we may liue to..the sleekenesse of the declining crowne. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 138 P 10 They [*sc.* the horses] lost their sleekness and grace, and were soon purchased at half the value. 1771 H. MACKENZIE *Man of Feeling* xxi. 75 This coat.. spoke of the sleekness of folly, and the threadbareness of wisdom. 1811 *Self Instructor* 561 The glare and sleekness of the sattin. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* 31 He..was especially addicted to black satin waistcoats, which carried out the general sleekness of his appearance. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 322 The beautiful little gazelles.., white underneath, and satin-like in sleekness all over.

Slee·kstone. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **slek(y)-**, 5–6 **sleke-**, 6–7 **sleeke-**. [f. SLEEK *a.* or *v.* Cf. SLICKSTONE.]

1. A smooth stone used for smoothing and polishing.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 696 *Hoc lucinatorium*, a slekstone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slekyston,..*linitorium.* 1530 PALSGR. 720, I make paper smothe with a sleke stone. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 64 Stripe them [clouts] wyth a sleeke stone and make them smouthe. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 220 Shee that wanteth a sleeke-stone to smooth hir linnen, wil take a pebble. 1612 PEACHAM *Graphice* 94 Take of the fairest and smothest pastboord you can get, which with a sleeke stone rubbe as smooth, and as euen as you can. 1642 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 191 A toothlesse Satyr is as improper as a toothed sleekstone. 1688 [see SLEEKEN *v.*]. 1893–4 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 656 *Sleek-stone*, a polishing stone.

2. *transf.* (See quot.)

a 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 19 A Sleeke-stone or Smooth-boot (as we terme him) is hee, that saluteth a man as farre off as his eye can carry levell.

Sleeky (slī·ki), *a.* [f. SLEEK *a.* + -Y.]

1. Marked by sleek condition.

c 1725 THOMSON *Soporif. Doctor* 1 Sweet sleeky Doctor! dear pacific soul! 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 669 All intent to.. wind the sleeky Fleece. *Ibid.* III. 323 The grazier's sleeky kine obstruct the roads. *a* 1814 *Love, Honor & Interest* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 265 Like a sleeky snail That climbs into a hive. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 654 We feel him rubbing his sleeky person against our dexter leg.

2. = SLEEKED *ppl. a.* 2.

a 1800 in Cromek *Nithsdale Song* (1810) 187 Gane he has wi' the sleeky auld carle. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* II. 314 Sleeky Tam possesses both his own and his neighbour's farm at this day. 1863 HOLME LEE *A. Warleigh* III. 3 The most sleeky evil countenance she had ever beheld.

Sleely: see SLYLY *adv.*

Sleeness, Sc. variant of SLYNESS.

Sleep (slīp), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 **slæp**, 1, 3–4 (6 *Sc.*) **slep** (3 **sclep**), 1, 4– **sleep**; 1, 3 *dat.* **slæpe** 3 *dat.*, 6 **sleape**, 1–3 *dat.*, 4–6 **slepe** (5 **sclepe**, **sleppe**), 5–7 **sleepe**; 6 *Sc.* **sleip**(e. *β.* 1, 3 **slap**, 2, 4 **slape**, 4 **slope**. [OE. *slǽp* (*slâp*), *slēp*, = OFris. *slêp* (WFris. *sliep*, NFris. *slēp*), MDu. *slaep* (Du. *slaap*), OS. (MLG. and LG.) *slâp*, OHG. *slâf*, *sclâf*, *sclâph* (MHG. *slâf*, G. *schlaf*), Goth. *slēps* (wanting in Scandinavian), the sb. corresponding to SLEEP *v.*

On the relation of the rare OE. *slâp* to the usual *slǽp* see the note to the verb. The form is also scantily represented in ME., the following being the more important examples of it (cf. also the rimes in *King & Hermit* 196, 286):—

a 1000 in *Englische Stud.* IX. 40 Slape, *somno.* *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 77 [He] mineȝeð us..bidden þat he.. weche us of ure heuie slape. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1903 Crist ras upp off dæþess slap. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7201 Sampson wakend of his slape. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1995 My lady lis ȝit a-slape. *a* 1400 *Bone Flor.* (R.) 1632 When he wyste they were on slope, To Betres throte can he grope.]

1. The unconscious state or condition regularly and naturally assumed by man and animals, during which the activity of the nervous system is almost or entirely suspended, and recuperation of its powers takes place; slumber, repose.

Also, a similar state artificially induced, as *hypnotic* (or *magnetic*) *sleep*. For *dead sleep* see DEAD *a.* 2 b. The word is further applied to the more inert condition of certain animals during hibernation.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* CXXVI. 2 Ðonne seleð scyldum his slep. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* XXXIX. 283 Sio slæwð ȝiett slæp on ðone monnan. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke v. 9 Slep..ymb-salde hine & Alle ðaðe mið him weron. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* XV. 12 On æfnunge befeoll slæp on Abram. *c* 1205 LAY. 15707 Þenne ich wæs on bedde iswaued mid soft mine slepen. 12.. *Prayer our Lady* 9 in *O. E. Misc.* 192 Slep me hað mi lif forstole richt half oðer more. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 137 Goo..to Morpheus, Thou knowist hym well, the god of slepe. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. viii. (1544) 15 She gaue him milke, ye slepe fell in his hede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vii. 84 The plesand naturall slep..can he tak. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. viii. 38 Sleepe they sayd would make her battill better. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 46 My selfe being at all howers (but time of sleepe) admitted into his chamber. 1658 *Whole Duty of Man* ix. § i. 75 Sleep comes as a medicine to weariness, as a repairer of decay. 1742 GRAY *Propertius* ii. 17 If sinking into Sleep she seem to close Her languid Lids. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 139 Sleep is,..to some, a very agreeable period of their existence. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* IV. i, If Sleep shows such things, what may not death disclose? 1884 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. p. xix, Does sleep or a periodical season of repose for the organs of the senses, ever visit fish?

transf. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind & H.* 1207 Then a dead sleep fell on my mind. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 716 Among other notions which they had imbibed, was that of a sleep of the soul after death.

b. Freq. in prepositional phrases, as *to*, *in* or †*on*, *out of* or †*of*, *sleep*. (Cf. also ASLEEP *adv.*)

In some of the phrases with *to* it is not always clear whether the noun or verb is intended.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 1251 Siȝon þa to slæpe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20496 All þar fell to slepe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 271 The nyht, whan he was leid to slepe. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3347 When þai etyn and to slepe ȝode. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 The Sailers, who..commonly goe to sleepe ..in their wet clothes. 1764 REID *Inquiry* v. § 7 A child that has a good musical ear, may be put to sleep..by the modulation of musical sounds. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, Damn that boy, he's gone to sleep again. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *C. Kirkland* II. ii. 68 You..went happily to sleep.

transf. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 42 His fruyt in picched pottis me may kepe, In drosse of grape or applis leid to slepe.

(*b*) *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* XXVIII. 195 Ðonne hnappað he oð he wierð on fæstum slæpe. *c* 1200 ORMIN 8352 He comm till himm o nahht & fand himm þanne o slæpe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2074 Bot godd on night com to þe king, In slepe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 10 She fill on slepe on her bedde. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 62 To wake the wasps of Germaine, that were on sleepe. 1640 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1855) I. 156 In the morneing he found them on sleep by the fyer. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 156 Dreams be naturally but the fancies remaining in sleep. 1780 *Mirror* No. 73, A particular train of thought impressed upon us in sleep. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, The bold and buoyant spirit which forsakes them not even in sleep!

(*c*) *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 75 He of slæpe onbræȝd. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) 2 Nu is tima, þæt we of slepe arisan. *c* 1200 ORMIN 3136 Josæp..ras himm upp off slæpe anan. 1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 457 Þe fisches sturt up vor hor song, as hi awoke of slepe. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXVIII. 16 Whanne Jacob hadde wakyd of sleep. 1526 TINDALE *John* XI. 11, I goo to wake him out of slepe.

c. Personified (after L. *Somnus*, Gr. Ὕπνος).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 101 Sche bad Yris..To Slepes hous that sche schal wende, And bidde him [etc.]. *c* 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 2 Halfe in a dreme..The golden slepe me wrapt vndir his wyng. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.* Q iv, By him lay heavy slepe, the cosin of death. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* I. vi. 80 Kind Sleep, Nights welcome Officer. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XIV. 265 The cave of Death's half-brother, Sleep. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's D.* 263 Night..in her bosom bore the baby, Sleep.

d. The effects or signs of sleep.

1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 103 A drowsy maid with the sleep scarce brushed out of her hair.

2. With possessive pronouns, freq. in adverbial phrases, as *in his sleep*, etc.

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxv. 5 Slypton slep heara & nowiht ȝemoetton. *c1100 Canterb. Ps.* lxxv. 6 Hie slepon sleep *vel* swefne hiræ. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 328 Him þoȝte þe ymage in is slep tolde him is chance. *c1386* Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 188–9 This man out of his sleepe for feere abrayde; But whan that he was wakened of his sleepe [etc.]. *c1400* Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 64 The aungel of god apered to Joseph in his slepe. *c1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6259 When he of his slepe wakynd. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 131 In my very sleepe, I was adrempt in this wise. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. iii. 9 To hinder and break our sleep. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 3 His sleep Was Aerie light, from pure digestion bred. 1712 M. Henry *Daily Comm. w. God* (1822) 372 That will break a worldly man's heart, which will not break a godly man's sleep. 1820 Keats *Eve St. Agnes* xxxiv, She still beheld, Now wide awake, the vision of her sleep. 1852 M. Arnold *Tristr. & Iseult* 59 Hark! he mutters in his sleep.

†b. In *pl.*, of more than one person. *Obs.*

1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 160/1 Taking aduantage of the time, when men were wearie and in their sleepes. 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 105 All his family destroied in their sleepes by the mercilesse fire. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Gothic Wars* I. 25 The people of Rome..being put also to guard the walls, and want their sleepes.

†c. With allusion to sleeping together. *Obs.*—1

1612 Webster *White Devil* II. i, Fare you well, Our sleeps are sever'd.

3. A period or occasion of slumber.

c1200 Ormin 3152 And tær he ras upp off þatt slæp. *Ibid.* 7043 Cristess resste & Cristess ro & Cristess swete slæpness. 1340 *Ayenb.* 31 Hi hedden leuere lyese vour messen þanne ..ane slep. *c1374* Chaucer *Boeth.* II. metr. 5. 50 Þei slepen holesom sleepes vpon þe gras. *a1400–50 Alexander* 375 Qwen..folke was on þaire firste slepe. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxxix. 5 They are euen as a slepe, and fade awaye sodenly like the grasse. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 17 b, All your fantasies are but as..the sleepes of a sick man. *a1619* Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 56 His owne sleepes..are saide to haue beene very tumultuous, and full of affrightments. 1692 Prior *To Charles Montague* Wks. (Bell) I. 46 So, whilst in feverish sleeps we think We taste what waking we desire. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 69 His Sleeps are moderate enough, just to suffice Nature. 1764 *London Mag.* 417/1 She fell into a sleep which held four days. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* iii. 91 Towards morning I got a good sleep. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 412 Between the sleeps the general tendency is to quiet indifference.

b. As an indication or division of time.

1131 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1131, On an Monenniht æt þe forme slæp. *c1500 Melusine* 186 They departed about the first slepe. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Christi* III. App. (1852) 559 Their [the Indians'] division of time is by sleeps, and moons, and winters. 1893 *Arena* Mar. 495 Time is divided by them into 'sleeps', and in the same way they [the Indians] estimate distances and journeys.

4. *fig.* a. The repose of death. (Usually with qualifying terms or phrases.)

a900 Cynewulf *Crist* 890 Byman..hatað hy upp astandan sneome of slæpe þy fæstan. *c1200* Ormin 19254 He ras.. Off dæþess slæp to life. *a1400 Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 1230 Þe geaunt..þat wel a-wakeþ þe slepynge Of sleep of de þ so long. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 89 Help me..That suddand sleip of deide do me na teine. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 170 Till my last sleepe Doe close mine eyes. 1810 Scott *Lady of Lake* I. xxxi, Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking! 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 378 They slept the sleep from which they shall not awake until the Judgment Day.

b. A state of inactivity or of sluggishness (in persons or things).

Beowulf 1742 He þæt wyrse ne con..; bið se slæp to fæst. *c897* K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 431 Be ðæs modes slæpe wæs ær awriten on ðære ilcan Salomonnes bec. *c1200* Ormin 3148 þatt wass þurrh wanntrowwþess slæp. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 272 Þis nis buten ine slepe of ȝemeleaste & of slouhðe. 1710 Norris *Chr. Prud.* v. 250 The Agreement and Proportion that is between Sleep and Sin,..so that Sin is a kind of Spiritual Sleep. 1728 *Freethinker* No. 83, Many ..begin to slumber in their Manhood; and drop into a sound Sleep in their Age. 1782 Cowper *Expostulation* 637 Ere nature rose from her eternal sleep. *a1822* Shelley *With a Guitar* 46 While on the steep The woods were in their winter sleep. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* iv. § 5. 259 Men who had laid their ethical sense to sleep. 1889 A. Sergeant *Esther Denison* I. v. 51 He had put his doubts to sleep.

c. The condition of being quiet and peaceful; complete absence of noise or stir.

1807 Wordsw. *Song Brougham Castle* 164 The sleep that is among the lonely hills. 1821–2 Shelley *Chas. I*, II. 239 The innocent sleep Of templed cities. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaetou* xix. 274 The deep sleep of the landscape.

5. a. *Bot.* A condition assumed by many plants, esp. during the night, marked by the closing of petals or leaves.

After L. *Somnus Plantarum*, the title of a pamphlet published by P. Bremer in 1755.

1757 J. Hill *Sleep of Plants* 30 What is called the sleep of plants is the effect of the absence of light alone. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 419 This species is a notable instance of what is called the *Sleep of Plants*—for every night the leaves approach in pairs. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 129/2 During sleep the leaves of the sensitive-plant lose their peculiar sensibility. 1877 Darwin *More Lett.* (1903) II. 414 The cotyledons of Cassia go to sleep, and are sensitive to a touch.

b. A state of numbness in a limb, produced by prolonged pressure upon it. (Cf. Asleep *adv.* 4.)

1882 *Quain's Dict. Med.* II. 1649 There is numbness in the hands and forearms, with a sensation of 'going to sleep' in the fingers. 1893 Eccles *Sciatica* 18 In the cases of external pressure..the patients noticed that the limb had 'gone to sleep'.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib., as *sleep-disturbance, -land, -movement*, etc. Also *sleep-like* adj.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 49 Fatuity, mania, melancholy and *sleep-disturbance. 1874 Lisle Carr *Judith Gwynne* I. v. 149 Then her wandering mind went off into *sleepland. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xliii. 193 At night they regularly muster in a state of *sleep-like silence. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 262 The periodical movements of leaves thus provided have generally been amplified into so-called *sleep-movements. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* XI. 331 And now anigh it doth draw To the *sleep-tide. 1889 Browning *Asolando*, At the midnight, in the silence of the *sleep-time.

b. With agent-nouns, vbl. sbs., and pres. ppples., as *sleep-bringer, -dispeller; sleep-bringing, -causing, -compelling, -desiring*, etc.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. iv. 718 *Sleep-bringer, Pilgrim's guide, Peace-loving Queen. 1616 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iii, *Sleepe-bringing poppy. 1621 Cotgr., *Somnifique*, *sleepe-causing. 1762 Foote *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 205 Where the *sleep-compelling power will be experimentally demonstrated. 1874 L. Carr *J. Gwynne* I. i. 15 Surrounded..by drowsy, sleep-compelling influences. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* I. iv. 34 Dull gleams from *sleep-desiring eyes. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour* 116 Tub, *sleep-dispeller, welcome! 1816 H. G. Knight *Ilderim* 407 Onward the *sleep-disturbing triumph roll'd. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. vi. 88 The *sleep-inducing weavings and unweavings of political combination. 1748 Thomson *Castle Indol.* I. lviii, Where purls the brook with *sleep-inviting sound. 1611 Cotgr., *Soporifere*, soporiferous, *sleepe-procuring. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xviii. 306 *Sleepe-provoking poppy and soft paces. 1845 James *Smuggler* III. 37 Any *sleep-resisting powers of the human frame. 1748 Thomson *Castle Indol.* I. iii, *Sleep-soothing groves, and quiet lawns between.

c. With past ppples., as *sleep-bedeafened, -created, -dewed, -drowned*, etc.

1605 P. Woodhouse *The Flea* (1877) 11 The glut'nous Wolfe; and the sleep-fatted Beare. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vocation* 563 Blew Gladiol's juyce, Wherewith her sleep-swoln heavy lids she glews. 1631 Quarles *Samson* Wks. (Grosart) II. 146/1 Whose softer language, by degrees, did wake His father's sleepe-bedeafned eares. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* VI. ccxliii, To break her sleep-inthralled Spouse's chains. 1792 Cumberland *Calvary* (1803) II. 57 'Twas the voice As of a spirit..sleep-created in the troubled ear Of conscience. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 12 Three thousand years of sleep-unsheltered hours. 1839–48 Bailey *Festus* viii. 82 The recovering breath of earth, sleep-drowned. 1894 H. Nisbet *Bush Girl's Rom.* 148 While his sleep-filled eyes looked on..the morning.

7. Special combs.: **sleep-awake** adj., in a state between sleeping and waking (*nonce-word*); **sleep disease**, the sleeping sickness of Africa; **sleep-drink** [cf. Du. *slaapdrank*, G. *schlaftrunk*], a portion of liquor taken just before bed-time; also *fig.*; **sleep-palsy, -paralysis**, paralysis caused by pressure on a nerve during sleep; †**sleeprife** *a.*, bringing sleep, soporiferous; **sleep-sick** *a.*, excessively given to sleep; **sleep-stour** *Sc.* (*lit.* sleep-dust), signs of sleep; **sleep-stuff**, an opiate; **sleep-talker**, one who speaks during sleep; **sleep-talking**, speaking during sleep; **sleep-thorn** [tr. ON. *svefnþorn*], in Scandinavian legend, a thorn imagined as inducing sleep; **sleep-trap**, a church-pew readily inducing sleep (*nonce-word*); **sleep-waker**, a mesmerized or hypnotized person; **sleep-waking**, a mesmeric or hypnotic state; †**sleepward** *adv.* (see quot.).

1614 Sylvester *Bethulia's Rescue* VI. 77 For (*sleep-awake, blinde-seeing) while hee plyes T'untrusse his Points, them (fumbling) faster tyes. 1897 Miss Kingsley *W. Africa* 401 Among these are the smallpox, and the *sleep disease. *a1700* Shields *Faithf. Contendings* (1780) 308 That *sleep-drink of this Antichristian intoxicating toleration was then brewed in hell. 1861 Thackeray *Four Georges* i, Every evening they shall have their beer, and at night their sleep-drink. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 367 The commonest types of paralysis from injury to nerves are *sleep palsy, crutch palsy [etc.]. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 659 Hence it is a common form of *sleep paralysis. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* IV. ix. 28 Strynkland to hym the wak hony sweit, And *sleipryfe chesbow seid. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vii. 129 Thou rather sleep'st, thy self, When thou did'st forge thee such a *sleep-sick Elf. 1888 Buchanan *Heir of Linne* viii, I see the *sleep-stour in his eyes already. 1880 Browning *Dram. Idyls, Clive* 77 Let alone that filthy *sleep-stuff. 1794 *Sleep-talker [see Sleep-walker]. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 173 *marg.*, Hence *sleep-talking, sleep-walking, or somnambulism. 1889 R. B. Anderson *Rydberg's Tent. Mythol.* 164 Castles, where goddesses pricked by *sleep-thorns are slumbering. 1895 *Daily Telegr.* 9 Aug. 5/3 These *sleep-traps were in time superseded by high-backed pews. 1884 *19th Cent.* May 807 The *sleep-waker will continue to listen and reply. 1840 C. H. Townshend *Facts Mesmerism* II. I. 47 Mesmeric Somnambulism, or, more properly, *Sleepwaking. 1886 Myers *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. p. xlii, Induced somnambulism or the sleep-waking state. 1562 Bullein *Bulwarke, Sickmen & Med.* 55 b, Sometime medicen is giuen to *slepe-warde, or before slepe.

Sleep (slīp), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **slept**. Forms: (see below). [OE. *slǽpan, slēpan, slǽpan* (pa. t. *slǽp, slēpon*, pa. ppple. *-slǽpen*, etc.),—OFris. *slēpa* (WFris. *sliepe*, EFris. *slepe*, NFris. *slēp, slīp*), MDu. and Du. *slapen*, OS. *slâpan* (MLG. and LG. *slapen*), OHG. *slâfan* (MHG. *slâfen*, G. *schlafen*), Goth. *slēpan* (pa. t. *saislēp, -slēp*, pa. ppple. *slēpans*); wanting in Scandinavian. Besides the strong conjugation (with reduplicated pa. t.) OE. also had the weak forms *slǽpte, slēpte*; and after the 14th cent. the strong conjugation disappears from the literary language. A similar change has taken place in WFris., where the pa. t. is now usually *slepte*, pa. ppple. *slept*. The ME. *slēped* (mod.Sc. *sleepit*) may represent the northern OE. forms *slǽpade*, pl. *slǽpedon* (WS. inf. *slǽpian*).

It is possible that the weak forms *slǽpte, slēpte*, properly belonged to a causative verb corresponding to MHG. (*ent*)-*slæfen*, older or dial. G. *schläfen*, although no trace of this usage appears in OE. texts. The infinitive of this would have had the form **slǽpan*, Merc. and Angl. **slēpan*, and would consequently have been identical with the inf. of the strong verb, except where the latter had the special West Saxon form *slǽpan*. The strong pa. t. is frequent in ME., and the strong pa. ppple. is occasionally found (cf. also Aslopen); traces of strong conjugation appear in some mod. dialects, but it is possible that these are new formations.]

A. Illustration of forms.

1. *Inf.* (and forms connected with this): a. 1 **slapan, 2 slapen, 4 slape.**

c888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 11 Þonne we slapað. *c893* — *Oros.* IV. vi. 178 Þæt he..slapan ne mehte. *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 45 Slapað..& restað eow. *Ibid.* Luke xxii. 46 Hwi slape ȝe? *c1100 Canterb. Ps.* xl. 9 Se þe slapð. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Wenie men is lieft to slapen. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* 929 (W.), He..gan to slape. *c1350* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 145 Sum men in kirk slomers and slapes.

β. 1 **slæpan, 3 slæpen, 3, 6, sleape.**

c888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xlii, Ne slæpð he næfre. *971 *Blickling Hom.* 235 Swa he slæpende wære. *c1000 Ælfric's Gr.* (Z.) 211 (Harl.), Me lyste slæpan. *c1160 Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 45 Slæpeð..& resteð eow. *Ibid.* Luke xxii. 46 Hwi slæpe ȝe? *c1205* Lay. 733 Leteð slæpen þene king. *c1275 Ibid.* 18409 Supþe hii solle sleape. 1565 Cooper *Thes.* s.v. *Somnus*, To sleape quietly.

γ. 1 **slepan (slepp-), 2–3 slepen (3 sclepen, sleop-), 5 slepyn**; 3–6 **slepe, 4 sclep(e, 5 sleppe**; 5–6 *Sc.* **sleip(e, 5–7 sleepe, 6– sleep.**

c825 Vesp. Ps. lxvii. 14 Ȝif ȝe slepað. *Ibid.* cxx. 4 Ne slepeð se. *c897* K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 431 Swelce se stiora slepe. *c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 24 Þæt maiden..slepes. *c1000 Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxv. 5 [Hi] ongunnon..ȝeorne slepan. *c1100 Canterb. Ps.* xliii. 23 Forwæn slepest þu? *c1160 Hatton Gosp.* Mark v. 39 Þis mæden..slepð. *c1205* Lay. 966 In eorðe heo sleopeð. *Ibid.* 25582 Agan ich forto slepe. *c1275 Prov. Ælfred* 468 in *O. E. Misc.* 131 Litil sal he sclepen. *a1300 E. E. Ps.* iv. 9 In pees..Sal i slepe. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 344 We nolle sclepe in no sclowpe. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slepyn, *dormio*. *c1450 Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 41 What man in synne doth..scleppe. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* v. 347 Quhar he suld sleipe. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 70 To sleepe, *dormire*. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 314 Quhen he sleipis. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 46 He used to sleepe in the afternoones.

2. *Past Tense.* a. *Strong.* 1–4 **slep** (1 **sclep**), 1, 3 **slæp, sleap**, 2 **sliep**, 4 **sleep, slepp, slepe** (9 *dial.* **slape**). *Plur.* 1 **slepon, -un, -an**, 1, 3–4 **slepen** (4 **slupen**), 4 **slepe.**

The common dial. form *slept* is prob. for *slept*.

c888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xv, Hi slepon ute. *971 *Blickling Hom.* 235 Se halga Andreas þa slep. *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 5 Hnappudon hiȝ ealle & slepun [*c1160* slepen]. *c1100 Canterb. Ps.* lvi. 5 Ic slæp ȝedrefed. *a1200 Vices & Virt.* 51 He..reste and sliep. *c1205* Lay. 26009 Þe eotende lai and slæp [*c1275* sleap]. *c1220 Bestiary* 771 Ðre daies slep he. *a1300 Havelok* 2128 He slepen faste alle fiue. *a1300 E. E. Psalter* iii. 5, I slepe [*v.r.* slep] And I ras. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* VIII. 227 He sleep in his studie. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl. C.* XVI. 272 Seuene slepen [*v.r.* slupen].

b. *Weak.* a. 1 **slypte**, 1, 3 **slæpte**, 1, 3–6 **slepte** (1 **slepde**), 3 **slapte, sleapte**, 6– **slept**, 7 **slep'd.**

c825 Vesp. Ps. lxxv. 6 Hneapedun (*vel* slypton) slep heara. *c897* K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xvi. 101 Ða he æt ðæm stane slæpte. *c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 23 Rowundum..ðæm [he] slepde. *c975 Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 25 Þa hie..sleptun. *c1205* Lay. 25622 Þer ich lai and slapte [*c1275* sleapte]. *Ibid.* 26024 Lai and slæpte. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 24 As Nabugodonosor slepte. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xli. 5 And he slepte agayne. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 259 When we slept. 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* VII. ccvii, Our tender Flock, which slep'd.

β. 4, 6 **slepped**, 4 **slepped, slepet**, 5 **sleppit.**

a1300 Cursor M. 2551 Abram..Slepped. *c1375 Ibid.* 3796 (Fairf.), Ful soft..he sleppet þat niȝt. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 8225 He..sleppit euer after. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 863 As she slepped.

γ. 4–5 **sleped**, 7 **sleep'd**, 7–8 (9) **sleeped**; *Sc.* 5–6 **slepit**, 6 **sleipet**, 9 **sleepit**; 9 *dial.* **sleept.**

a1300 Cursor M. 6333 Þar he sleped þat mornetide. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 188 He slepit as foul on twist. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 93 Thay..sleipet sound. 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* VIII. xlvi, When they wak'd and sleep'd. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 18 He sleeped but indifferently. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, When I sleepit ayont the hallan. 1834 Southey *Doctor, T' Terrible Knitters o' Dent* (1848) 559 T' woman's doughter sleept we' us.

3. *Past Part.* a. 4 **y-slape, y-slepe, i-slepe, slepe**; 9 *dial.* **slepen, sleppen, slippen.**

c1310 St. Brendan 130 (Harl.), Þo hi hadde alle islepe ynou3. *c1330 Arth. & Merl.* 2367 (Kölbing), He hadde litel yslape. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 99, I wolde have leie and slepe stille.

β. 4 **i-sleped, 4–6 sleped, 5 scleped, -yd**, *Sc.* **slepyt**; 5 **sleppit** 4 **i-slept, 4– slept**, 9 *dial.* **slep.**

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 4 Þat I nedde sadloker I-slept [*v.r.* slept, sleped]. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 817 As he hade fast sleppit. *c1400 Land Troy Bk.* 12963 When thei hadde scleped. *c1470* Henry *Wallace* VI. 629 Quhen..the Scottis had slepyt. 1548 R. Hutten *Sum Divin.* R vij b, Them.. whych haue sleped.

B. Signification.

I. *intr.* **1.** To take repose by the natural suspension of consciousness; to be in the state of sleep; to slumber. Also occas., to fall asleep.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* iii. 6 Ic hneappade & slepan ongon. *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xlii, Symle he bið lociende, ne slæpð he næfre. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 186 Þa ġeswiġade he semninga & his heafod onhylde, swa swa he slapan wolde. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 149 Þa æfter þon þa arison ealle þa þe þær slepan. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, He ne myhte..sitten ne lien ne slepen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1605 He..slep and saȝ an soðe drem. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14206 If he mai slepe, hele es at hand. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 168 She wolde noght been ydel til she slepte. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 32 Aftir refetyng of mete and drink, he went into his bedde and sleped wele all þe niȝt. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 126/1 How many ben there..that slepen in the market place. 1530 Palsgr. 721/1 He that drinketh well slepeth well, and he that slepeth well thynketh no harme. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 38, I tooke him sleeping..And the Athenian woman by his side. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. v, We are never better or freer from cares than when we sleep. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 86 Nor do they ever sleep without their swords by their sides. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xviii. 66 Strange Hopes and Projects fill his Breast; He sleeps 'till Noon. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 124 The feathers of this bird..make the softest and the warmest beds to sleep on. 1841 Thackeray *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, I wonder whether the man sleeps easily and eats with a good appetite? 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 788 The tenrec..sleeps for three months in its burrow during the hottest period of the year.

Prov. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 13 b, He which sleepeth with the dogges, must rise with the fleas.

fig. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* I. 23 Ere Sol had slept three nights in Thetis lap. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* v. i. 109 Peace, how the Moone sleepes with Endimion.

b. Implying sexual intimacy or cohabitation.

a 900 *Laws Ælfred* Introd. § 29 (Liebermann), Ġif hwa fæmnan beswice unbeweddode, and hire mid slæpe. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxxix. 7 His hlæfdiġe lufode hine and cwæð to him: Slap mid me! *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 967 Forð siðen ȝhe bi abram slep, Of hire leuedi nam ȝhe no kep. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 78 An elf queene shal my lemman be, And slepe vnder my goore. *a* 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VII. 143 A clerk of þe court hadde i-sleped wiþ hire. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 63 Whilst she he loved was sleeping with his rival.

c. With *upon* or *on* (a matter), denoting the postponement of a decision till the following day.

In mod use also with *over* in the same sense.

1519 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, I. i. 3 His Grace.. sayd thatt he wold slepe and drem apon the matter, and geff me an answer apon the mornyng. 1600 Holland *Livy* XLII. xxv. 1129, I will sleepe upon it and bee well advised what to doe for the best. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xl. Wks. (1713) 289 It will not be amiss to consult with one's Pillow, as the Proverb is, and sleep upon't. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* I. xvi. 161 The Countess..assured him, that she would not let them sleep upon it. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* x, The deil of ony master's face he shall see till he has sleepit and waken'd on't. 1889 Froude *Chiefs Dunboy* xiii. 185 Colonel Goring slept upon his problem, and woke the next morning resolute.

d. In phrases denoting freedom from anxiety.

1637 Massinger *Guardian* II. ii, Sleep you Secure on either ear. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. viii. 126 Doubt not a perfect cure:..I am secure that you may sleep on either side.

e. *To sleep like a top* (cf. 3 c).

1693 Congreve *Old Bachelor* I. 8 Should he seem to rouse, 'tis but well lashing him, and he will sleep like a Top. 1793 *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 893/2 He sleeps like a top. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. cxxxiv, Juan slept like a top, or like the dead.

f. With *it*: To spend one's time in sleep. Also with *out*.

a 1652 Broome *Queenes Exch.* III, We'l..have him put in bed before he wakes..; and there, When he has slept it out, he will perhaps Be cur'd. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 58 These have nothing to do but to sleep it.

g. With *in*: To sleep in the house, or on the premises, where one is employed (contrasted with 'to sleep out'); also *Naut.*, to remain in one's berth all night; *Sc.* to oversleep.

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iii, The steward..and..the cook..are allowed to 'sleep in' at night, unless all hands are called. 1888 G. Macdonald *Elect Lady* 138, I had to be up early, and I was feared I would sleep-in.

h. With *in*, in passive, of a bed.

1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xvi, The bed ain't been slep in. 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Notes Nursing* (ed. 2) 55, I assure you the bed has been well slept-in.

2. *fig.* To lie in death; to be at rest in the grave.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 52 And byrġenna..untyned weron &..lichoma halȝa wæra ða ðe slepdon arison. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 566 Hwi sind ða deadan slapende ġecwedene?..Ealle hi moton slapan on ðam ġemænelicum deaðe. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xii. 4 Ne euer þat I slepe in dede. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 878 In pouder sal slepe ilk man, And wormes sal cover hym þan. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xiv. 18 Alle the kingus of Jentilis, eche slepten in glorie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8225 He slode doun sleghly, & sleppit euer after. 1548 R. Hutten *Sum Divin.* R vij b, Euen so wil god bring them wyth him whych haue sleped. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 164 The bodie sleipis, quhill Domisday. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 29 His owne people..buried him, where not a stones cast further, sleepes Tom Coriats bones. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 172 A Person is said to be dead to us,..though he only sleeps unto God. 1750 Gray *Elegy* 16 Beneath those rugged elms..The rude Forefathers of the hamlet sleep. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, Charlemagne sleeps at Salzburg, with truncheon grounded. 1888 Burgon *Twelve Good Men* I. Pref. p. xxviii, He sleeps..in Holywell cemetery.

3. *transf.* **a.** Of limbs: To be numb, to be devoid of sensation, esp. as the result of pressure.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 490 Ġif we to lange sittað, us slapað ða lima. *a* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 66 Ġif þeoh slapan, adelf niohoweardne secg,..læt reocan on þæt lim þætte slape. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 595 For drede my fote slepith. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Golden Bk. M. Aurelius* (1546) Gg vj, In moyste wethers one of my fyngers slepeth. 1562 Turner *Baths* 3 b, It is good for..suche membres as are num or slepe. 1895 'Sarah Tytler' *Macdonald Lass* xvii. 208 Oh, to be walking there, though our feet were frozen and our fingers sleeping.

b. Of plants: To be in a quiescent or drooping condition. (Cf. Sleep *sb.* 5 a.)

[1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* IX. iv. (1614) 843 There are hearbes which seeme to sleepe all night.] 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 274/2 Plants are said to sleep when the flowers or leaves are..folded together. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 325 These positions are not the same in the case of all leaves that sleep...Simple leaves that sleep are affected in their totality. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 111 In all such cases the cotyledons may be said to sleep. 1899 G. Massee *Plant-Dis.* 328 When this stage is reached the plant droops, or 'sleeps'.

c. Of a top: (see quot. 1854).

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* 245 A top sleeps when it moves with such velocity, and spins so smoothly, that its motion is imperceptible. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 106 It is the case of a common spinning-top,..not sleeping upright, nor nodding.

4. *fig.* To be dormant, inert, inactive, inoperative, or quiescent.

Very common during the 19th cent. in various contexts.

c 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* lvi. 431 Swa hit ġebyreð ðæt ðæt mod slæpð ðæs ðe hit wacian sceolde, & wacað ðæs ðe hit slapan scolde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 Hwon þe olde unwine isihð ure skile slepen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25855 Let þi sin noght wit þe slepe. 13.. *Polit. Songs, Song of Husbandman* (Camden) 152 Mi lond leye lith ant leorneth to slepe. *c* 1425 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1258 For he demyd sewerly hys sorow shuld nat slepe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 183 Not withstandynge yᵗ this errour hath sleped thus longe,..these presumptuous heretykes now of dayes wolde renewe yᵉ same. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Annexation*, Induring the time of the quhilk dissolution, the annexation ceases & sleepis. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 353 This title slept and lay as dead untill the time of King Edward the Second. 1650 E. W. *Virginia* (1844) 32 A man and a boy, if their hands be not sleeping in their pockets [etc.]. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 204 Violence can never longer sleep Than human passions please. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* III. iv. § 10 When any emotion not entirely wanting is yet allowed to sleep in the character. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1875) III. 113 The restless enmity of the Angevin never slept.

b. Of business, etc.: To cease to go forward; to remain in the same state.

1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 98 The said mater had slepit of langtyme. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 221 That tyme was the king occupyed with affaires of warre, & therfore the matter slept. 1649 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 165 There is a bussines hath slept some while in my hands, but I have not beene idle in itt. 1683 Temple *Mem. 1672–9* Wks. 1720 I. 380 That Matter slept for the present. 1712 Addison *Spectator* No. 297 § 10 He should certainly never let his Narration sleep for the sake of any Reflections of his own. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi, My suit should sleep there,..and with my suit my revenge. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 256 The question, having slept during eighteen years, was suddenly revived by the Revolution.

c. To rest peacefully and quietly; to remain calm, still, or motionless.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* v. i. 54 How sweet the moonelight sleepes vpon this banke. 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iph.* 342 The giddy ship..stops, and sleeps again. 1781 Cowper *Retirement* 536 Then, all the world of waters sleeps again. 1826 Disraeli *V. Grey* v. viii, The blue..sea was sleeping beneath a cloudless sky. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. vii, Past the river, on which a mist still lay sleeping. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 631 A sail sleeps when, steadily filled with wind, it bellies to the breeze.

5. *fig.* To be careless, remiss, or idle; to live thoughtlessly or carelessly.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 57 Ȝif eny..putteþ errour aȝenst us, he may take hede þat þe grete Homerus slepeþ somtyme. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 86 The duke of Yorke and his adherentes..determined..no lenger to slepe in so waightie a businesse. *c* 1600 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1560 Then let us remuve, And sleip nae mair in sleuth. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* I. i, So shall you find me Most ready to assist you; neither have I Slept in your great occasions. *a* 1731 Atterbury (J.), We sleep over our happiness, and want to be rouzed into a quick thankful sense of it.

II. *trans.* **6.** With cognate object: To take rest in, continue in (sleep).

To sleep a dog-sleep: see Dog-sleep 1.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxv. 6 Hneapedun (*vel* slypton) slep hiara. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lxxv. 5 Þai slepe þair napping. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* li. 39 Y shal drunkne hem, that thei..slepen an euere durende slep. *c* 1475 *Parteway* 5463 He ther slepte no slepe, manly waked ryght. 1552 Elyot s.v. *Edormiscere*, Whyle he dooeth sleape one sleape. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xiii. 3 Lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleepe of death. 1791 Cowper *Retired Cat* 48 She left the cares of life behind, And slept as she would sleep her last. 1870 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxxi, Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking! 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliii, Sir Michael was sleeping the sleep of the just. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* IX. vi, Turning into bed, [I] slept my first peaceful sleep since my trouble.

b. *To sleep a wink*, usually with negative.

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 316 A good vigilaunt Consul..whiche never slept one wynke duryng..his Consulship. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 260 Not one of us durst either sit downe, or sleepe one winke for very feare. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 13 Nov., I slept not a wink last night for hawking and spitting. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xlvi, I shall not sleep a wink the less sound. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* ix, He..did not sleep one single wink all night.

†**7.** To put off or delay; to disregard, pay no attention to. Also with *out*. *Obs.*

1470 *Paston Lett.* II. 398, I pray yow let not thys mater be slept. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cclxi. 385 So these companyons..slept nat their purpose, but rode in a day and a night. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 123 These valeaunt capitaines, not myndyng to slepe their busines, environed the toune with a strong siege. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXIII. xiv. 482 They might not sleepe their affaires and go slowly about their businesse. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* IV. 179 To persuade men to too much remisnes in wincking at and sleeping out the adulteries of their wives. 1792 T. Paine *Writ.* (1895) III. 79 It appeared to me extraordinary that any body of men..should commit themselves so precipitately, or 'sleep obedience'.

†**8.** To digest by means of sleep. *Obs.*[−1]

1481 Caxton *Reynard* (Arb.) 63 Is your bely ful?..haue ye slepte your dyner?

9. a. With *off* or †*out*: To get rid of, remove the effects of, by sleeping.

1552 Elyot, *Edormire crapulam*, to sleape out a surfet. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 31 For the life to come, I sleepe out the thought of it. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1822) II. 29 He had scarce slept off his debauch. 1780 *Mirror* No. 106, Thus were Clavius's nights spent in getting intoxicated, and his mornings in sleeping off that intoxication. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. viii, In the morning, after he had slept his wine off, he was very gay. 1871 G. Meredith *H. Richmond* xiii, This piece of nonsense helped us to sleep off our gloom.

b. With *away*: To remove, get rid of, lose, or waste by sleeping.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Crapula*, To vomitte or sleape away his dronkennesse. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. xv, Thou art ill aduiside To sleepe away what thou art warnd to watch. 1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To sleep away Sorrow. *Ibid.*, To sleep his Head-ake away. *a* 1716 South in Chambers *Cycl. Eng. Lit.* (1844) I. 444/1 He..may possibly go to bed with a wonderful stock of good-nature over-night, but then he will sleep it all away again before the morning. 1819 Scott *Bl. Dwarf* xiii, I am tired of a party that does nothing but form bold resolutions over night, and sleep them away with their wine before morning. 1828 H. Blunt *Lect. Hist. Jacob* (1832) 160 He will no more permit his children..to *sleep* away their souls, than..to *sin* them away.

c. *refl.* To make (oneself) *sober* by sleeping. Also simply, to sleep.

1565 Cooper s.v. *Crapula*, To sleape him selfe sober. 1619 Harris *Drunkard's Cup* 19 Hee hath slept himselfe sober. 1720 De Foe *Duncan Campbell* v. § 2 Whensoever he is drunk and has slept himself sober. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxiii, He retreated down to his own den to conclude his lamentations, or to sleep himself sober. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct. 3/2 [The cats] philosophically slept themselves through the two exhibition days.

10. With *out* or *away*: To pass or spend (a certain time) in sleep.

1565 Cooper s.v. *Edormiscere*, To sleape out one sleape. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* v. iii. 66 Shamefull hate sleepes out the afternoone. 1649 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Wand. West* 20, There I sleeped out the later end of the whole Moneth of July. 1766 C. Beatty *Tour* (1768) 37 Sleeped and waked the night away as well as we could. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 178 When a pair of men went under-ground formerly, they made it a rule, to sleep out a candle, before they set about their work.

b. Without adverb. *rare.*

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, Epil., Some come to take their ease, And sleepe an Act or two. 1647 J. Eliot *Day-Breaking Gosp.* 17 None of them slept Sermon or derided Gods messenger. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 77 These Birds, which sleep the Winter.

c. In nonce-uses (see quots.).

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 181 We did sleepe day out of countenaunce. 1655 Vaughan *Silex Scint.* (1900) 57 Yet never sleep the Sun up.

11. To cause to sleep or to fall asleep.

1815 Southey *Common-Pl. Bk.* IV. 402 He was in such pain that the doctors *sleeped* him to death. 1850 Latham *Eng. Lang.* (ed. 3) xvii. 445 When we say, *the opiate slept the patient*, meaning thereby, *lulled to sleep.*

12. To provide with sleeping accommodation.

1884 *Local Govt. Chron.* 8 Mar. 181 The new Patent Sanitary Hammock is superseding every other mode of sleeping Vagrants. 1895 *Sun* 29 Dec. 3/3 The parents, owing to poverty, had to sleep their children in the same bed as themselves.

Sleep-at-noon. (See quots.)

1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 127 The common yellow goat's-beard of our meadows, which by old authors was called Sleep at Noon, or, Go to bed at Noon. 1863 Prior *Brit. Pl., Sleep-at-noon*, from its flowers closing at midday, the goat's beard.

Sleeper (slī·pəɹ). Also 3–5 **slepar(e**, 4–5 **sleper(e**, 6 **sleaper.** [f. Sleep *v.* + -er[1]. Cf. Fris. *slieper*, (M)Du. *slaper*, (M)LG. *slaper*, *sleper*, MHG. *slâf-*, *slæfære*, G. *schlafer*. With the transferred applications of the word in branch II cf. Dormant *a.* 3 and *sb.* 1 and Dormer 3.]

I. 1. One who is inclined to sleep, or spends much time in sleep; one who sleeps (well or ill, etc.); also *fig.*, an indolent or inactive person.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Azean slowe & slepares is swuðe openlich his earlich ariste from deað to line. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 319 Ho-so hath of þe watere mest, he schal be..gret slepare and slow3 þar-to. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 71 Ye been a verray sleper, fy for shame! 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Prov.* 229 Heuy ey-liddys tokenyth good slepere.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* cclxxxv. 197 Cesarius tellis of ane olde monk þat was a grete sleper. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. I*, 13 b, The protectour came in emong theim about nyne of y^e^ cloke,..saiyng merely that he had bene a sleper that daye. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Regnard*, Morning sleepers seldome thriue. *a* 1711 GREW (J.), He must be no great eater, drinker, nor sleeper, that will discipline his senses, and exert his mind. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxii, The sound of ineffectual knocking at the doors of heavy sleepers. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxx, Being a great sleeper, and fond of his bed. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xv. i, I was always a sound sleeper.

†b. Used predicatively: Asleep. *Obs.*[-1]

1530 PALSGR. 441 Whan he thynketh leste, he may happe to be taken sleper.

2. One who is asleep. Also *fig.*, a dead person.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 43 He bids thee to him send..A fit false dreame, that can delude the sleepers sent. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ix. 31 Hearke the Drummes demurely wake the sleepers. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 49 Graues at my command Haue wak'd their sleepers. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 667 Full endlong from the roof the sleeper fell. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 639 Before the early dawn of midsummer, the sleepers were roused by the peal of trumpets. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* viii. 90 To place themselves at such a distance from the sleeper, that their low words could hardly disturb her.

b. *spec.* in *pl.* (See SEVEN *a.*)

1827 JEFFREY *Let.* xcvii. in Ld. Cockburn *Life*, I shall come back to you like one of the sleepers awaked. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. x. 518 By his orders the tomb of the holy sleepers at Ephesos was opened.

3. *Zool.* a. A dormouse. Now chiefly *dial.*

1693 RAY *Syn. Quad.* 220 *Mus Avellanarum Minor*...The Dormouse or Sleeper. [Hence in Chambers, Pennant, etc.] 1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversat.*, etc. I. 74 To make you ample amends, and add a little sleeper, as the country people call it, to your collection of minor poetry. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 221 Dormouse or Sleeper. 1880 MRS. O'REILLY *Sussex Stories* I. 4 Ralph the woodman had brought home a nest of 'sleepers'.

b. As the name of various fishes (see quots.). Also *attrib.*

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 135 *Excætus..Adonis*; the Sleeper. 1854 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* I. 502 *E[leotris] dormatrix*, the Sleeper, is a large fish. It is found in the West Indian marshes. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 15 *Somniosus microcephalus*, Sleeper Shark; Nurse. *Ibid.* 631 *Eleotris gyrinus*,..Sleeper. *Ibid.* 652 *Dormitator maculatus*, Sleeper. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 675 The Nurse Shark or Sleeper.

4. A thing in a dormant or dead state.

1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Of Judicature*, Let Penall Lawes, if they haue beene Sleepers of long,..be by Wise Iudges confined in the Execution. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 360 *Sleeper*, the dead stub of a tree, in a bank, etc. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sleepers*,..such grains of barley as do not vegetate whilst undergoing the process of malting. 1897 R. F. FOSTER *Compl. Hoyle* 623 *Sleeper*, a bet left or placed on a dead card at Faro.

5. A railway sleeping-car. Also *attrib.*

1882 G. A. SALA *Amer. Revisited* II. 2 The Cerberus of the 'sleeper' is always bringing you the wrong boots. 1892 HOWELLS *Mercy* 214 He recalled the long, all-night ride without a sleeper, which he had once made on that route.

II. 6. A strong horizontal beam or balk supporting a wall, joist, floor, or other main part of a building.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. 4 All along as your sleepers lye to which you pinne downe the boards, must a trench or sinke be digged. 1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-sozzo* 356 Had he used only Sycamores, they had never been turned into Cedars by being Sleepers in the wall. 1717 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* III. 199 For binding y^e^ sleepers about y^e^ eastermost pillar, o. 3. o. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 97 The..material for barn-floors in this district is, two-inch oak plank, laid on oak sleepers. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 47 In this way floors are made more secure, and freer from damps, than where they are nailed down to sleepers. 1851 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* 154 The sleepers and joists which bear on the walls should be shored up, so that..the partial fall of the walls may not of necessity be followed by that of the several floors. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 79/2 The heads of the piles are cut off at one level; sleepers are laid across and fastened to them.

†b. A valley-rafter in a roof. (See also quot. 1688.) *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 450/1 Sleepers [are] the two out pieces of the Dormant, which carrieth the Roof to overseil the Gable end, to secure it from Weather. 1703 R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 166 Hips and Sleepers, are almost the same; only the Sleepers lie in the Vallies. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. App., *Sleeper*, in building, a name used for the oblique rafter that lies in a gutter. 1811 *Self Instructor* 137 In sawing bevil work, as hipps, sleepers, &c. [1842 GWILT *Encycl. Arch.* 1049 The old writers called the valley rafters *sleepers*.]

7. a. *Shipbuilding.* A strong internal timber in a ship (see quots.).

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 9 For clamps, middle bands and sleepers, they be all of 6. inch planke for binding within. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 3 The sleepers run before and after on each side the keeleson, on the floore well bolted to the Foot-hookes. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 153 Sleepers are commonly three Strakes of Foot Waaling thicker than the rest, wrought over the Wrungheads. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Mar.* (1780), *Sleepers*, a name formerly given by shipwrights to the thick-stuff placed longitudinally in a ship's hold, opposite to the several scarfs of the timbers. It is now properly applied to the knees, which connect the transoms to the after-timbers on the ship's quarter. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 285 *Sleepers*, or *Engine-bearers*,..pieces of timber placed between the keelson or keelson-riders in a steam ship, and the boilers of the steam-engine to form a proper seat for the boilers and machinery. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 148 *Sleepers*, pieces of compass timber fayed and bolted upon the transoms and timbers adjoining, withinside, to strengthen the buttock of the ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 631 Sleepers..are particularly used in Greenland ships, to strengthen the bows and stern-frame.

b. *Naut.* (See quot. 1882.)

c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 76 The whole tops have the crosstrees, tops, and sleepers, bolted and secured before sending aloft. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 8 *Sleepers.*—Two cross-pieces over the top, to secure it down to the crosstrees and trestletrees.

8. a. *Mil.* A piece of timber forming one of the rests of a wooden platform for artillery.

1688 CAPT. J. S. *Fortification* 69 Platforms..where Timber and Wood is reasonable, are all made of Plank and Sleepers [and] Joyces to lay them upon. 1702 *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Battery*, It is laid with Planks and Sleepers for them [*sc.* the cannon] to rest on. 1794 NELSON 9 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 431 If sleepers can be got, the platforms are undoubtedly much the better for them. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Platform*, Planks of oak or elm..nailed or pinned on..beams, from 4 to 7 inches square, called sleepers. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 82 Where sleepers are used,..the five sleepers are laid at right angles to the hurter.

b. A piece of timber or other material used to form a support (usually transverse) for the rails of a tramway or railway.

In early railways *longitudinal* or *continuous sleepers* were frequently employed.

1789 BRAND *Newcastle* II. 687 *note*, After the road is formed, pieces of timber,..called sleepers, are laid across it...Upon these sleepers other pieces of timber, called rails,.. are laid. 1798 *Term Rep.* VII. 599 To the sleepers or dormant timbers they affixed railways or waggon ways. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 1/1 (Railways), The rails are.. fixed in cast-iron chairs,..which are spiked down to the sleepers. *Ibid.* 2/1 Longitudinal timber sleepers. 1862 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Apr. 216 The pony roads..are laid with sleepers, on which rails are placed for the corves to travel over. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Hist. Eng. Rlwy.* 46 The permanent way consists of wooden sleepers, laid transversely.

c. A strong longitudinal beam in a wooden bridge, supporting the transverse planks or logs.

1823 COOPER *Pioneers* xxi, A little bridge, formed of round logs laid loosely on sleepers of pine. 1841 EMERSON *Ess., Spiritual Laws*, One piece of the tree is cut for a weather-cock, and one for the sleeper of a bridge.

d. In general use: A horizontal beam, plank, etc., used to support any weighty body.

1848 LAYARD *Nineveh* xii. (1850) 290 These were placed upon sleepers or half beams,..laid on the ground parallel to the sculpture. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 407 Skids should be supported on soft ground by laying sleepers of planks or fascines for them to rest on.

9. In miscellaneous uses: (see quots.).

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 364 *Sleepers* are the great Iron bars crossing smaller ones which hinder the passing of the coals, but give passage to the descent of the ashes. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Slats*, the sleepers or rails to support the bed of a cart. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2206/2 *Sleeper* (Weaving), the upper part of the heddle of a draw-loom through which the threads pass. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* xviii. 181 We got inter the lock all right, shut the doors, and hulled up the sleepers to let the water out again.

10. *attrib.*, as *sleeper-block, -wall, -wood.*

1836 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (1850) I. 429 The walls which support these timbers are called sleeper-walls. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 93/2 Air Bricks, Sleeper Blocks, &c. 1893 *Archæologia* LIII. 551 The corresponding sleeper wall of the eastern colonnade.

Hence **Slee·pered** *a.*, furnished with sleepers.

1894 *Times* 13 Sept. 8/8 He does not think the accident could possibly have happened if the newly-sleepered portion of the line had become firm. 1900 *Daily News* 12 Mar. 5/4 The blundering of the mules along the sleepered platform.

Slee·pery, *a. north.* and *Sc.* Now *rare.* Forms: 6 slep(e)rie, -ry, sleipry, 6–7 slipp(e)rie, 9 sleep(e)ry, -ry. [prob. ad. MLG. *sleperich, slaperich*, or MDu. *slaperich* (Du. *slaperig*), = OHG. *slâfarag* (MHG. *slâf-, slæfric*, G. *schläfrig*).]

†1. Inducing sleep; soporiferous; characterized by a tendency to sleep. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. xiv. 52 This god smat baith his tymplis twane With a full slepry..grane. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 4 b, A slouggish or slepery disease.

2. Of persons: Inclined to sleep; sleepy.

1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* v. 27 There is not one faynt nor feble amonge them, no not a slogish nor slepery parsone. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 287 3e sulde nocht chuse vnto that cure..No sleprie hird. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK 1 *Thess.* (1606) 127 Of all sorts of men in the world a slipprie pastor, a carelesse man in the ministrie, is the worst. *c* 1802 SURTEES in Scott *Minstrelsy* I. 186 Sleep'ry Sim of the Lamb-hill,..my wae wakens na you. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, If you..are not very sleepry. 1894 in Heslop *Northumbld. Gloss.*

Slee·pful, *a.* [f. SLEEP *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Of persons or animals: Sleepy. *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Bestes þat haue to gret brayne been slepeful. 1635 W. SCOTT *Ess. Drapery* 138 Distrust will cure a Lethargie, of a sleepfull man it makes a wakefull one.

2. Marked by sleep; restful through sleep.

1827 MRS. OPIE in Brightwell *Life* (1854) 200 Had a sweet sleepful and favoured night. 1860 N. MCMICHAEL *Pilgr. Psalms* 101 Sleep is more sleepful for long tortures sore. 1884 MRS. S. C. VENN *Dailys of Sodden Fen* iii, Busy days and sleepful nights.

Hence **Slee·pfulness,** sleepiness.

1818 TODD, *Sleepfulness*, strong desire to sleep. 1853 MISS E. S. SHEPPARD *Ch. Anchester* I. 281 The feeling of a knife and fork you cannot manage for sleepfulness. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 30 Aug. 266/1 Dissipating..the last mists of my sleepfulness.

Slee·pifying, *ppl. a.* [f. SLEEP *sb.*] Inducing or causing sleep.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 338 Why are not hot things judged to be alike Stupefactive and Dormitive or Sleepifying? 1695 T. TRYON *Dreams* App. 288 Madness is nothing but an Erring Sleepifying Power, because every Madman dreameth waking. 1835 BECKFORD *Alcobaça & Batalha* 4 The old Marquis of Marialva's most sleepifying dormeuse, which had been lent to him expressly for this trying occasion.

Sleepily (slī·pĭli), *adv.* [f. SLEEPY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a sleepy manner, drowsily; also, calmly, quietly.

1607 S. HIERON *Wks.* I. 117 If it bee heard idlely, carelesly, scornefully, sleepily. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 9 He carries himself sleepily, and as if he were in a Lethargy, towards the Quietists. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxix. 384 The renewed chorus..mingling itself sleepily in my dreams. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* x. 161 That great extent of wooded plain, lying sleepily in its pale mists.

Sleepiness (slī·pinĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The state of being sleepy; drowsiness; inclination to sleep; sluggishness, indolence.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Endormissement*, sleepinesse, sluggishnesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. Wks. 1724 II. 680 Presenting a heavy sleepiness in her countenance. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 91 There is a sleepiness or dulness the next day in many that takes it. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* I. xliii. 97 Sleepiness shews Cold and Moisture of the Brain. 1773 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) IV. 147 The symptom of her sleepiness is very alarming. 1860 SENIOR *Conversat.* (1880) I. 112, I have pitied poor little things of four or five years old dying from sleepiness, but kept up till nine. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. vii. 233 [He] is mentally contrasting the sleepiness of the bishops with the virtues of Newton or Whitefield.

2. Numbness; absence of sensation. *rare*[-0].

1647 HEXHAM I, Sleepinesse or benummednesse of membres, *slaperigheyt der leden.*

3. Of cream: (see SLEEPY *a.* 1 c, quot. 1885).

1885 J. LONG *Brit. Dairy-Farm.* 85 What other change of the cream is connected with the 'sleepiness' he has not found out.

Sleeping (slī·pĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLEEP *v.*]

1. The fact, state, or condition of being asleep; an instance or occasion of this.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11583 þar ioseph on his sleping lai. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 10, I slumberde in a slepyng. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 57 Wille þou noght folowe þy delyces yn etynge and drynkynge,..ne longe slepynge. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 91 þis womman layde hur down..& slepyd, & in hur slepyng sho dyed. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 126 The visyons..& inspiracyons of the holy goost, eyther in slepynge or wakynge. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 221 As I say of this, so I say of nightly sleepings taken abusiuely. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 285 Often sleepings are so many tryals to dye. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 66 That you may better understand their several sicknesses or sleepings. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 270 The Fellow..was between sleeping and waking. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) III. 189 These frequent sleepings, exposed to the open air,..made more substantial cloathing necessary. 1886 GURNEY *Phantasms of Living* I. 389 These experiences, which occur on the borderland of sleeping and waking.

b. In *transf.* or *fig.* senses.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lvii. (Bodl. MS.), þey [that] haue þe stone in þe reynes feleþ in that place tyngling and slepyng for stopping of þe senewe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 344/2 Slepynge jn y^o^ lymmes, *artesis.* 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 163 You euer Haue wish'd the sleeping of this busines. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 919 *Sleeping of Process.* In the..Court of Session, a process..is said to be asleep, when a year and day have elapsed [etc.].

2. *attrib.* a. With words denoting places used for sleeping in, as *sleeping apartment, -box, -cabin, -car, -chamber*, etc.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., Receiving Damian de Lacy into her *sleeping apartment. 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* i, Into a wretched 'bunk' or *sleeping-box. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. xi, Here was the governor's *sleeping-cabin. 1839 *Mechanic's Mag.* 5 Jan. 240 The introduction of the newly-invented *sleeping cars on our railroads. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 30 July in *Lockhart* (1837) III. iv. 137 Then the kitchen of the people,..then their *sleeping-chamber. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. iv, A small chamber where.. Harry Esmond [had] his *sleeping closet. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Feb. 7/1 The passengers say that an axle first broke under a *sleeping coach. 1656 PHILLIPS *Purch. Pattern* (1676) 11 *Sleeping holes to defend them from..the weather. 1688 STRADLING *Serm.* (1692) 185 What are Church-yards but κοιμητήρια, *Sleeping-houses. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solitude* v. 98 An eating-house and sleeping-house for travellers. 1869 WALLACE *Malay Archip.* (ed. 10) 272 The skeleton of his little *sleeping-hut remained. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Dormitorium*, a dortour: a *sleapynge place. 1688 MIÉGE, *Dortoir*,..the sleeping Place in a Monastery. 1840 *Cottager's Manual* 35 in *Husb.* III. (L.U.K.), To keep the pigs dry, a sufficient slope must be given..to the floor of the..sleeping-place. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *Dortoir*,.. the *Sleeping Room in a Monastery. 1789 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 125, I often find..the air of the sleeping-rooms thick and ropy. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* II. xi. (1762) I. 52, I provided myself with a *sleeping waggon, and..took post for St. Petersburg.

b. With names of articles used for sleeping in, on, or with, as *sleeping-bag, -gear, -mat*, etc.

Hexham (1648), rendering Du. combs. in *slaep-*, has *sleeping-bank, -bed, -cap, -coif, -kerchief*, etc.

1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xvi. 196 We crawled into our reindeer *sleeping-bags. *Ibid.* viii. 89 We had buffalo-robes for our *sleeping-gear. 1836–7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xxv, A row of large hooks,..on each of which was hung the *sleeping-mat of a prisoner. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xvi. 168

Two buffalo-robes..forming *sleeping-sacks for the occasion. 1622 T. Scott *Belg. Pismire* 12 Salomon the Preacher.. rowseth him vp from that *sleeping-stoole of his. 1897 Capt.-Surg. Hughes *Medit. Fever* v. 178 The *sleeping-suit (be it pyjamas or night-dress). 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 335/2 An elk-skin contrivance, miscalled a 'sleeping-suit'.

c. In the sense of 'inducing sleep', as *sleeping cordial, cup, -draught*, etc. Cf. Sleeping *ppl. a.* 2.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. civ. (Bodl. MS.), Mandragora is a slepinge herbe. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 218 By the meane of a sleapyng poyson or drinke that he gaue to his kepers..he escaped. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 244 Then gaue I her..A sleeping Potion. 1709 E. W. *Donna Rosina* 120 Some sleeping Powders to be administered to Crispin. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* vii. 222 She gave her powerful sweet without remorse, The sleeping cordial. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* vi, Offer the sleeping cup to this holy man. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xix, To hand round to the company a sleeping-drink, or pillow-cup. 1838 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 97 Any sort of sleeping-draught, which had no opium in it.

d. Denoting morbid states, as *sleeping disease, evil*; **sleeping sickness**, now *spec.* a fatal disease prevalent in some parts of Africa (cf. Sleepy 2 b).

(*a*) 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Floures isode in oile awakeþ ham þat haue..þe slepinge yuel. 1580 Blundevil *Horsemanship* iv. xix, Of the Sleeping euill. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 69 The takings, sleeping-evil, madnesse, and the like.

(*b*) *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. (Sommer) 167 As I haue seene one that was sick of a sleeping disease, could not be made wake, but with pinching of him. 1899 Massee *Plant-Dis.* 328 The disease is indicated by the dull colour of the leaves [of the tomato], which commence to droop; this is quickly followed by a collapse of the stem, hence the name 'sleeping disease'.

(*c*) 1647 W. Jenkyn (*title*), A Sleeping Sicknes the distemper of the Times. 1875 Gore in *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 5/1 The Sleeping Sickness of Western Africa. 1897 Manson in *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 485 Sleeping sickness is a disease of the central nervous system; beri-beri of the peripheral.

e. In misc. use, as *sleeping-halt, hour, posture, stage, -tide, time.*

1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 390 Writan in my slepyng tyme at after none, on Wytsonday. *c* 1560 Bp. Pilkington *Exp. Nehem.* xvi. 21 At noone he must haue his sleeping time. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 8 While she was in her dull and sleeping hower. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s. v. *Dormant*, A Lyon..lying in a sleeping posture. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. xxix. 289 At one of our sleeping-halts upon the rocks. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* iv. 105 When memory maketh loathly my meat and my sleeping-tide. 1899 Massee *Plant-Dis.* 328 Shortly after the sleeping stage has been reached.

Sleeping (slī·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Sleep *v.*]

1. That is asleep; slumbering. Also *absol.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21075 And als a slepand aends oft, It bers þe pudre vp o-loft. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 1129 Þe geaunt..Þat wel a-wakeb be slepynge Of sleep of deþ so long. 1562 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 3 Sleuthfull marinaris and sleipand sterismen. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* ii. i. 170 The iuyce of it, on sleeping eye-lids laid. 1605 — *Macb.* ii. ii. 53 The sleeping, and the dead, Are but as Pictures. 1629 Milton *Hymn Nativity* xxvii, Her sleeping Lord with Handmaid Lamp attending. 1775 Sheridan *Duenna* i. i, My sleeping love shall know Who sings. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* xvi. 467 A sleeping boy the Mother held the while. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 260 Group respiration may frequently be seen in sleeping children.

Prov. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* iii. 764 It is nought good a slepyng hound to wake. 1562 [see Dog *sb.* 15 k]. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, i. ii. 174 Since all is wel, keep it so: wake not a sleeping Wolfe. 1623 Wodroephe *Marrowe Fr. Tongue* 505/2 Do not awake the sleeping Cat. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. xi, Best to let sleeping dogs lie. 1864–86 [see Dog *sb.* 15 k].

b. Occupying a bed or beds in a certain place. *Sleeping attorney* (see quot. 1809).

1809 Kendall *Trav.* I. 184 It has been found that a sleeping attorney may be rendered very profitable... His business is to secure a lodging in one of the many-bed-rooms, which at the public inns, happen to be chiefly occupied by a large part of the jury sworn to try the cause. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 32 We've a house full of sleeping company, you understand.

c. Of plants: (see Sleep *v.* 3 b).

1757 J. Hill *Sleep of Plants* 3 In what are called the sleeping plants. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xxv. 230 The sleeping plant, so called from its leaves..clapping close together from sun-set to sun-rise.

d. In specific names of animals, etc.

1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. 250 Sleeping Gobiomore..: supposed to take its name from the slowness of its movements. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 189/1 The eyes of the sleeping monkey (*nyctipithecus*). 1897 G. C. Bateman *Vivarium* 119 The Stump-tailed Lizard (*Trachysaurus rugosus*), also known as the Two-headed Lizard and the Sleeping Lizard, comes from Australia.

e. Seen in sleep.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1787) III. 139 The mind of Alaric was ill prepared to receive, either in sleeping or waking visions, the impressions of Greek superstition.

†2. Inducing sleep; soporific. *Obs. rare.* Cf. Sleeping *vbl. sb.* 2 c.

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 162 A few wellys..That made a dedly slepynge soun. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 447 One is called Solanum somniferum, that is to say Sleeping Nightshade. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* ii. li. 269 Dwale or sleeping Nightshade hath round blackish stalks.

3. Numb; devoid of sensation.

1562 Turner *Baths* 3 These baths are good for..the unfelinge and slepinge membres. 1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xii, On pretence of a sleeping leg. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 640 Pressure, not in itself severe, will in time produce the well-known sleeping foot.

4. Inactive, torpid, quiescent.

1538 Starkey *England* ii. iii. 208 Thys celestyal doctryne ..ys neuer gyuen to idul & slepyng myndys. 1598 J. Davies *Epigr.* ii, Whilst in his sheath his sleeping sword doth bide. 1702 Rowe *Tamerl.* i. i, The magic Numbers rouze our sleeping Passions. 1754 Gray *Pleasure fr. Vicissitude* 6 Till April starts, and calls around The sleeping fragrance from the ground. *a* 1822 Shelley *Fragm. Unf. Drama* 184 Those words in which Passion makes Echo taunt the sleeping strings. 1851 Brimley *Ess.* (1858) 119 As means, he may..use them to move and rouse the sleeping soul.

b. *Sleeping table*, an immovable apparatus on which ore is washed.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 815 The *grilles anglaises* are similar to the sleeping tables used at Idria. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 207 Then follow the picking, stamping, and washing on a kind of sleeping table.

c. *Sleeping rent*, a dead rent (see Dead *a.* 30).

1870 *Law Rep.* 5 Comm. Pleas 584 There is no stipulation that the tenant shall pay any sleeping rent or minimum rent, or any rent in the event of no clay being raised during the term.

5. *Sleeping partner*, a partner in a business who takes no share in the actual working of it.

1785 in Grose *Dict. Vulg. T.* 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* i, Your father, though his fortune was vested in the house, was only a sleeping partner, as the commercial phrase goes. 1887 W. P. Frith *Autobiogr.* I. xvii. 203 A sleeping partner in a cloth firm at Leeds.

transf. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. i. Introd., Associated (though only as sleeping partner) in a book. 1884 Rider Haggard *Dawn* xxxvi, His sole motive in consenting to become, as it were, a sleeping partner in the shameful plot.

b. (See quot.)

1889 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 66/2 A transfer of a 'sleeping quarter share', that is, a proportion of the property of the claim, involving a sixteenth of the entire profit, without the necessity of representing or paying for the services of an able-bodied miner.

6. Quiet, silent; motionless.

1784 Cowper *Task* i. 763 The moon-beam, sliding softly in between The sleeping leaves. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxviii, The lonely murmur of these woods, and the view of this sleeping landscape. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 257 The long lines of painted villas reflected in the sleeping canals. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xix. 276 The chimneys and slates of the sleeping houses.

Hence † **Slee·pingness**, sleepiness. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. v. (Bodl. MS.), 3if..þe woodenes dureþ þre daies with slepingnes,..þere is no hope of rekouerynge.

Slee·pingly, *adv.* [f. prec.] Sleepily.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 237, I doe not use to view the statues and images made by Art sleepingly and slenderly. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* (1722) 25 To jog sleepingly through the World in a dumpish, Melancholly Posture cannot properly be said to Live. 1862 S. Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 282 Allowing them to go on sleepingly, and comfortably. 1891 *Temple Bar* May 122 The *facchini*..struggled sleepingly upstairs for my luggage.

† **Slee·pish**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 slepy(s)she, -ish(e, sleapish. [f. Sleep *sb.* + -ish.] Somewhat sleepy.

1530 Palsgr. 324/1 Slepysshe, heavy of slepe, *sommeilleux.* 1551 Turner *Herbal* ii. 46 They shal fall into a forgetfull and a slepishe drowsines. 1633 Ford *Love's Sacr.* iv. i, Your sleepish and more than sleepish security. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 338 Temperance..puts activity and vigour into it, that it may not be a sleepish but heroick vertue.

Sleepless (slī·plės), *a.* Also 5 sleples, 6 slepelesse, 6–7 sleeplesse. [f. Sleep *sb.* + -less. Cf. (M)Du. *slapeloos* (Kilian *slaeploos*), OHG. *slâflôs* (G. *schlaflos*).]

1. Deprived of sleep; unable to sleep.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* i. 3546 To Medea he hath þe weye take, And sche abood sleples for his sake. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 344/2 Sleples, *exsompnis.* *a* 1542 Wyatt in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 80 The body still away slepelesse it weares. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxvii. iii, Whole troupes of busy cares..Tooke up their restlesse rest In sleepie sleeplesse eies. 1700 Ken in *Bk. of Praise* 272 When in the night I sleepless lie. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* i. 4 Which Thou and I alone..Behold with sleepless eyes. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xliii, He lay all that night sleepless and yearning to go home. 1888 Allies *Holy See & Wand. of Nations* 83 The monks, called from their never intermitted worship, the Sleepless.

2. Yielding no sleep; marked by the absence or want of sleep.

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* i. xxvi, That they may.. couch their head In soft, but sleeplesse down. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 12 We had a sleepless night of it. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Udolpho* xxxv, She started from a sleepless pillow, to welcome the day. 1815 Byron *'My soul is dark'* ii, It hath been by sorrow nursed, And ach'd in sleepless silence long. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xvii. vii. (1872) VII. 74 The Old Inn, hospitable though sleepless, stands pleasantly upon the River-brink. 1876 Miss Braddon *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 38 A sleepless night shed the sober light of reason upon those clouds of sentiment.

3. Continually active or operative.

1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* i. 194 Oh mark the sleepless energies of thought. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* i. 280, [I] thus devote to sleepless agony This undeclining head. 1848 Gallenga *Italy* I. p. xxv, Thought remained anxious, sleepless, rebellious. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* (1868) 8 The quivering nerves of a sleepless memory.

b. Unceasing in motion; ever-moving.

1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* ix. 212 The sleepless ocean murmurs for all ears. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* i. xiv, Winds are rude in Biscay's sleepless bay. *a* 1822 Shelley *To E. Williams* vi, The sleepless billows on the ocean's breast.

4. Used punningly: (see quot. and Sleepy 1 c).

1865 *Slang Dict.* 235 *Sleepless-hats*, those of a napless character, better known as wide-awakes.

Hence **Slee·plessly** *adv.*

1847 in Webster. 1896 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 5/3 He sleeplessly guards his maize during the whole night.

Slee·plessness. [f. prec.] The state of being sleepless; *esp.* inability to sleep, insomnia.

1646 Bp. Hall *Balm of Gilead* (1652) 221 In three years he [Mæcenas] slept not..an hour; which..Lipsius thinks good to mitigate with a favourable construction, as conceiving an impossibility of an absolute sleeplessenesse. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* ii. iii. vi, Convulsing with strange pangs the whole sick Body, as in such sleeplessness and sickness the ear will do! 1861 Flor. Nightingale *Notes Nursing* (ed. 2) 53 Sleeplessness in the early night is from excitement generally. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Feb. 5/4 A correspondent..provides a new remedy for sleeplessness.

Slee·p-walker. [Sleep *sb.* 7.] One who walks while asleep; a somnambulist.

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. Index, Sleep-walker, strange action of. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 106 A Sleep-walker and Sleep-talker perambulated and muttered. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Charmed Sea* iii. 38 Your life is like the adventure of a sleep-walker. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* i. vii. 108 The popular notion that sleep-walkers never hurt themselves is far from true.

So **Slee·p-walking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

(*a*) 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 534/2 A lad..subject to that singular affection or disease called *Somnambulism* or sleep-walking. 1855 Emerson *Misc.* 90 For they aspire to the highest, and this, in their sleep-walking, they dream is highest. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 157 Neuroses, such as headaches, night-terrors, sleep-walking or defect of self-control, should be noted.

(*b*) 1842 Lytton *Zanoni* vi. vi, Sleep-walking yet awake. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, He seems to let the waking or sleep-walking Prince come in under protest.

Slee·pwort. *Obs.* or *dial.* (See quots.)

c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558 *Lactuca*,..slepwurt. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* Gen. Table, Suppl., Sleepworte is Lettuce. [1863 Prior *Brit. Pl., Sleepwort*, from its narcotic properties, *Lactuca sativa.*] 1881 *Hardwicke's Science Gossip* XVII. 278 *Pinguicula vulgaris*, 'Sleepweed' or 'Sleepwort'; co. Antrim.

Sleepy (slī·pi), *a.* Forms: 3–4 slepi, 4–6 slepy, 5–6 slepie, 6 sleapie, 6–7 sleepie, 6–s·eepy. [f. Sleep *sb.* + -y. Cf. OE. *unslǽpig* sleepless, and NFris. *slïpig*, MDu., MLG. *slapich* (Du. dial. *slapig, slepig*), OHG. *slâfag, -eg* (MHG. *slâfec, -ic*, obs. G. *schlafig, schläfig*).]

1. Inclined to sleep; having a difficulty in keeping awake; drowsy, somnolent.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 871 He woren drunken and slepi. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 385 þe kyng werþe wonderliche slepy. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 94, I was noght slow ne slepi there. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxvi. 298 (Addit. MS.), The maiden wexe slepie, and sore vexed, and fille on slepe. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* vi. i. 183 For this viij yere I was not so slepy as I am now. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 250 Oh, I am so slepie, that I must make an end. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 152 She shifted thence with shame Her sleepie husbandes swords. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 321 There are some who take of it only once in two or three daies, which makes them sleepy. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 277 Hollow Murmurs of their Ev'ning Bells, Dismiss the sleepy Swains, and toll 'em to their Cells. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* ii. v, She soon grew sleepy, and retired to her own room. 1859 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 397 Fatigue, which makes an healthy human being sleepy. 1874 J. S. Blackie *Self-Culture* 49 Let a man sleep when he is sleepy.

b. Given to sleep; lethargic, heavy.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 75 There slepeth ay this god vnmerie, With his slepy thousande sones. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vi. xvi. (Bodl. MS.), He is slow, slepie and lusteles and forgendrith alle his lordis nedes. 1504 Lady Margaret tr. *De Imitatione* iv. vi. 269 So wakynge to fables, so slepy to holy vygyls. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* Ep. Ded. *iij, Those which are able..will not, because they are sleepy. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 184 Those quiet and sleepy Princes, who have no other thoughts, but for their own defence. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iii. 399 The sleepy Leacher shuts his little Eyes. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 298 By others, from its sleepy countenance, [it] is supposed to be designed for the emperor Commodus. 1869 Martineau *Ess.* II. 130 Men are too sleepy to look after it. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 319 Arithmetic stirs up him who is by nature sleepy and dull.

c. *transf.* or *fig.*, in general or specific uses.

For the latter see the quotations in (*b*).

(*a*) 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 206 Then his sleepie conscience awaked, and he fell into most horrible despaire. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. xxvii. 4 O the stupidity of seared sleepy consciences! 1700 Dryden *Cymon & Iphigenia* 29 Love..oft to virtuous Acts inflames the Mind, Awakes the sleepy Vigour of the Soul. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* iii. 107 Not loth the sleepy lance to wield, And greet the old paternal shield. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 16 Oct. 4/2 This district was not..sleepy on the question of political opinion and political action.

(*b*) 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 444 The iuyce with Capons grease anointed on, helpeth raw heeles and sleepy galles. 1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.* s.v., An apple or pear beginning to rot is said to be sleepy. 1796 *Ibid.* (ed. 3), *Sleepy*, much worn: the cloth of your coat must be extremely sleepy, for it has not had a nap this long time. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 1975 Where the conduit pipes are of great length..the water..is found to lose much of its strength, and become what is technically called sleepy. 1834 Marryat *P. Simple* (1863) 372, I expect her to drop every minute, like an over-ripe sleepy pear. 1885 J. Long *Brit. Dairy-Farm.* 82 Almost every one connected with the dairy knows what 'sleepy' cream is...The whole of the cream assumes the appearance of froth.

d. *Sleepy Lizard*, an Australian and Tasmanian lizard (*Tiliqua nigroluteus*), of sluggish habits.

1887 F. McCoy *Zool. Victoria* xiv. 120 Not uncommon

about Melbourne, where it is generally called the 'Blue-tongued Lizard', or 'Sleepy Lizard'.

2. Characterized by, appropriate or belonging to, suggestive of, sleep or repose.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 þene bimased gost þet in one slepie ȝemeleaste uorȝemeð him suluen. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 93 He routeth with a slepi noise. *Ibid.* III. 48 Of Daniel the slepi dremes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 175 When the sleepie time of the night coms in, they make lesse and lesse noise. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 211 Surely It is a sleepy Language; and thou speak'st Out of thy sleepe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 247 We..did in this sort passe the sleepy houres in the morning. 1650 VENNER *Censure* 39 If in use of the Water you shall finde a..sleepy disposition. 1775 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* I. 287 Rancour began to sleep with more tranquility.., his sleepy faculty not being now disturbed. 1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 Nov., I did not approach the Queen that night with much of a sleepy composure. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., In the true sleepy tone of a Scottish matron when ten o'clock is going to strike. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* vii, With a sleepy but affectionate look. 1891 BARING-GOULD *In Troubadour Land* xvi. 226 It does a little sleepy trade in salt.

b. Of morbid states. *Sleepy sickness* (see SLEEPING *vbl. sb.* 2 d).

1623 COCKERAM II, A Sleepie disease, *lethargie*. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Latin Unl.* 85 Continual [sleep]..or the sleepie-evil. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), *Sleepy-evil*, a Distemper in Swine, that takes them in Summer-time. 1707 (*title*), An Exact Relation of the Strange and Uncommon Sleepy Distemper of Dirk Bakker. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. § 1. 46 During Sleep and sleepy Distempers the Brain is particularly compressed. 1803 WINTERBOTTOM *Africans Sierra Leone* II. 29 The Africans are very subject to a species of lethargy..; it is called by the Soosoos, Kee Kóliee Kondee, or sleepy sickness. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 7/1 They ran the risk of introducing the 'sleepy sickness' into the Colony.

c. Of places. (Common in recent use.)

1851 MEREDITH *Love in the Valley* xix, Down the sleepy roadway Sometimes pipes a chaffinch. 1858 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fr.* i, The quiet streets and lonely squares of that sleepy Belgian city. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise 'Cachalot'* xxiv. (1901) 311 The whole place seemed a maritime sleepy hollow, the dwellers in which had lost all interest in life.

3. Inducing sleep; soporific. Now *rare*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 529 His slepy yerde in hond he bar. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXVIII. (Bodl. MS.), Popy hatte Papauere and is a slepye herbe. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 53 Morpheus the God of dreames, with his slepie rodde. 1598 STOW *Surv.* vii. (1603) 52 Giuing to his keepers a sleepie drinke. 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 391 Those that are poysonous in their whole substance, as sleepy nightshade. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 115 Sleepy Poppies harmful Harvests yield. 1760 *Impostors Detected* IV. vi. II. 209 At length we were forced to have recourse to some sleepy drugs. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iii. 123 Come, I will sing you some low, sleepy tune. 1898 CROCKETT *Red Axe* 41 The old clothes..gave off such a faint, musty, sleepy smell I could scarcely keep awake.

4. *Comb.*, as *sleepy-eyed*, *-headed* (also *-headedness*, *-headiness*), *-looking*; **sleepy-head**, a sleepy or lethargic person; a drowsy-head.

1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXX. 77 The '*sleepy-eyed' beauties of Lely. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXV, No sleepy-eyed animal. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 769 These *sleepie-heades haue nothing to alleadge for this their.. imagination of the sleepe of the soul. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxi, 'Here, sleepy-head,' said Joe, giving him the lantern. 'Carry this.' 1600 *Hosp. Incurable Fooles* 23 Negligent, sluggish, and altogither *sleepie-headed. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* v, Not to protect thee against this sleepy-headed Henry. 1841 CAPT. HALL *Patchwork* II. xiii. 252 The sleepy-headed manner of doing business in.. Sicily. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* (1887) 24 This charge of *sleepyheadedness seemed to discountenance her. 1841 CAPT. HALL *Patchwork* II. xi. 205 The *sleepyheadiness of the Maltese rowers. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxiv, A very *sleepy-looking gossoon entered.

Sleer, *v. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* ? To look askance. Hence **Sleering** *ppl. a.*

The form may be genuine, as mod. dialects have *sleer* to sneer, and *slire*, *slier*, etc., to look askance. In some instances, however, where editions of 17th and 18th cent. works have *sleer*, the original reading is *fleer*.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xlvi, Ecthros slie, Whose ..sleering eyes still watch and wait to spie When to return still-living injuries. 1680 T. OTWAY *Caius Marius* II. i, But then Marius's Eye agen! how 'twill sparkle, and twinckle, and rowl, and sleer?

Sleer(e, obs. variants of SLAYER[1].

Sleeresse, Sleestere: see SLAYERESS, -STER.

Sleet (slēt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 slet(h, 4–6 slete (4 slethe, sclete), 5–7 sleete, 4– sleet (6 *Sc.* sleit); 6 slyte, 8 slite. [Of doubtful origin, but prob. representing OE. (Anglian) **slēt* (:—*slētaz*-), related to MLG. *slête* (LG. *slöte*, *slāte*), MHG. *slōze*, *slōz* (G. *schlosse*) hail. Norw. dial. *sletta*, Da. *slud*, and Icel. *slydda* have the sense of 'sleet', but it is difficult to associate any of these phonetically with the Eng. word.]

1. Snow which has been partially thawed by falling through an atmosphere of a temperature a little above freezing-point, usually accompanied by rain or snow.

c 1300 *Land of Cokayne* 39 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 157 Per nis dunnir, slete, no hawle. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 729 Ner slayn wyth þe slete he sleped in his ymes. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1220 *Dido*, Doun cam the reyn with hayl & slet so faste. *c* 1460 *Towneley Plays* XIII. 61 Now in snaw, now in slete, When my shone freys to my fete. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* B. XXVI. (S. T. S.) I. 236 Incontinent fell sa hevy tempest with slete and snawis out of þe are, þat he was empeschet. 1553–4 *Lett., Doc.*, etc. *Cambridge* (1838) 228 On Sonday frost and som slyte. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 156 We have sometimes sleet; which is snow and rain together. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 564 Perpetual Sleet, and driving Snow, Obscure the Skies. 1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1695 Some slite in the night. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 140 Arrowy sleet, Skin-piercing volley, blossom-bruising hail. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* IX. 331 A tremendous storm of sleet and hail gathered from the east. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 83 The philosopher standing aside in the shower of sleet under a wall.

transf. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* CLXXXVI, The midmost Battels,..Who view, far off, the storm of falling Sleet; And hear their Thunder ratling in the wind. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 324 He saw..How quick they wheel'd, and..shot Sharp sleet of arrowie showers against the face Of thir pursuers.

b. A storm or shower of sleet. *rare.*

1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 20 Winter..bids his driving sleets Deform the day delightless. 1880 W. NEWTON *Serm. for Boys & Girls* (1882) 225 A sleet had fallen the day before and the pavements were very slippery.

2. *attrib.*, as *sleet air*, *blast*, *-flake*, *-shower*, *storm*, etc.

1832 WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Feb., The Wellington Arms is by no means an uncomfortable howf in a sleet-squash. 1866 WHIPPLE *Character & Char. Men* 34 The sharp sleet air is invigorating. 1877 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 6/1 The Russians are there, out in the sleet blasts. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxiv. (1892) 266 The cold dark clouds..burst upon us in a furious sleet storm. *Ibid.* xxix. 327 In a blinding sleet-shower.

†**Sleet,** *sb.*[2] *Mil. Obs.*—° [? Error for *cleet* CLEAT *sb.*] (See quot.)

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Sleets*, are the parts of a mortar going from the chamber to the trunnions, to strengthen that part. [Hence in later Dicts.]

†**Sleet,** *adv. Obs.*—° [Cf. A-SLET *adv.*] Aslant, slanting.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Sleet, or a-sleet, *oblique*.

Sleet (slēt), *v.* Also 4 slete, sleth-. [f. SLEET *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* a. *It sleets*, sleet falls.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 160 *Ore negge, ore cenuie*, sletez. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 585 Hit is slethe for hit slethuth. 1647 HEXHAM I, To Sleete, *sneeuwen*. 1687 MIEGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II, To Sleet, *plewvoir & neiger tout ensemble*. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sleet*, to snow in small particles, intermixed with rain. 1845 DICKENS *Chimes* iv. 142 So it's blowing, and sleeting, and threatening snow. 1902 *Speaker* 7 June 277/1 She's up to some deviltry or other When it storms, or sleets, or snows.

b. To fall as, or like, sleet.

1596 LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 15 Or like the snow at once that dries and sleeteth [*rime* fleeteth].

2. *trans.* a. To pour or cast like sleet.

1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 127 By my formidable art the clouds shall sleet hailstones in the faces of the assailants.

b. To drive *away* with sleet.

1891 W. F. MOULTON *Let.* in *Mem.* (1899) 247 Every lingering fragment of inflection would be blown, snowed, sleeted, rained and sunned away.

Hence **Sleeted** *ppl. a.*, beaten upon, or covered with, sleet.

1849 WHITTIER *To Fredrika Bremer* ii, Strong as Winter from his mountains Roaring through the sleeted pines. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 173/1 With..sleeted spars and frozen sails.

Sleetch(y, variants of SLEECH(Y.

Sleetiness. *rare*—°. [f. SLEETY *a.*] The fact or condition of being sleety.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sleetiness*, Raininess and Snowiness. 1847 in WEBSTER.

Sleeting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SLEET *v.*] The action of the vb. Also *concr.*, a sleety shower.

1775 ASH *Suppl.*, *Sleeting*, .. the act of falling in sleet. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* cix. 534 A thin sleeting of rain began to fall.

Sleeting, *ppl. a.* [f. SLEET *v.*] Falling as sleet; containing sleet; sleety.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 90 By litle and litle he consumed, as sleting snow against the warme sone. 1611 COTGR., *Vent verglas*, a sharpe freezing, or sleeting wind. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. x. 290 There is no Iris ever observed from a Snowy, yea or a Sleeting Cloud. 1778 *Love Feast* 33 Soft as the sleeting Snow. 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* XXVII, A sleeting drizzle beat against the panes.

Sleety (slē·ti), *a.* [f. SLEET *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].]

1. Of storms, wind, etc.: Laden with, accompanied by, sleet.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentl. Shéph.* III. iii, I've seen with shining fair the morning rise, And soon the sleety clouds mirk a' the skies. 1777 WARTON *Ode 1st of April* 7 The sleety storm returning still, The morning hoar, and evening chill. 1849 WHITTIER *Legend St. Mark* i, The day is closing dark and cold, With roaring blast and sleety showers. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 741/2 A cold sleety wind.

b. Resembling sleet; sleet-like.

1804 in Sir H. Davy *Rem.* (1858) 93 The sleety rain was still falling. 1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i, The water—being..in that slippy, shushy, sleety sort of state wherein it seems to penetrate through every kind of substance. 1892 H. HUTCHINSON *Fairway Island* 51 The flakes were at first small and sleety.

c. Suggestive of, produced by, sleet.

a 1821 KEATS *Stanzas* i, The north cannot undo them, With a sleety whistle through them. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* XXV. 253 The sprinkled sleety grey-green of the water-meadow.

2. Of weather or time: Characterized by the presence or prevalence of sleet.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. (1863) 466 It was mid-winter; snowy, foggy, sleety, wet. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* II, That dismal sleety morning. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* XXII. 567 At first it snowed and was sleety.

Sleeve (slēv), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 sliefe, slife, slyf(e, 5–6 slyue (5 sclyue, -ve). *β.* 1, 4–5 slefe, 6 *Sc.* sleffe (5 scl-), sleif. *γ.* 3–6 sleue, 4 slieue, 4, 6–7 sleeue, 6 *Sc.* sleiue; 4–7 sleve (5 slewe), 6– sleeve (6, 8 sleave, 6 *Sc.* sleive, sleyve, 7 sleev). *δ.* 5 skleve, 5–6 scleve, 6 *Sc.* sclewe. [OE. *slīefe*, etc. (Anglian *slēfe*) weak fem., and (*slīef*), *slȳf* str. fem., = EFris. *slēwe*, NFris. *slēv*, *slīv* sleeve, related to MDu. *slove*, *sloof* (Kilian *sloove*) covering, Flem. dial. *sloove* band of wood, leather, or metal, etc.]

1. That part of a coat, shirt, or other garment which covers the arm. In early use freq. a separate article of dress which could be worn at will with any body-garment.

See also FORESLEEVE, *hanging sleeve* (HANGING *ppl. a.*).

α. a 901 *Laws Ælfred* § 66 (Liebermann), Æghwelcere wunde beforan feaxe & beforan sliefan and beneoðan cneowe. *c* 960 *Rule St. Benet* lv. 92 Hosa, slyfa, gyrdel, seax. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 376 He bletsode ðone hlaf, and tobræc, and bewand on his twam slyfum. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3292 In this thevis sclyve [*rime* a-lyve] The knyff..was ȝistir-day I-found! *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. 231 A man is not sufficientli clothid..but if he haue on him his scho, his slyue, his coot. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 915 His gowne so wyde That he may hyde His dame and his syre Within his slyue.

β. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 181 Petrus hæfde þonne þone hlaf ȝesegnod..& hine ȝedyde on his twa slefan. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 111 For qua sa nehe wit hend or slefes Hate molten pic, on thaim it cleuis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 77 It has lang slefez and wyde. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 22, ij eine of satyne to lyne the Kingis riding govne scleffis. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 36 For ij eine wellus to be sleffis to ane cote to the King. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 93 Wyd sarkis, with mony bosumis, and wyde sleifes.

γ. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 [He] seiȝ þet heo mei iseon balde-liche holi men; ȝe nomeliche swuche ase he is, uor his wide sleuen. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1957 Comen her mo þan sixti þeues, With lokene copes, and wide sleues. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 93 Short was his gowne, with sleues longe and wyde. 1452 *Maldon Court Rolls* (Bundle 31, no. 2), A peyr of slevys of blanket, a peyr of furred glovys. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 433, I sawe a knyfe hyd in his one sleue. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* III. 18 Which made them..feel where their pursses were, either in sleeue, hose, or at girdle. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* III. i, See you not Goldylocks ..in her yellow gown and green sleeves? 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* I. 7 A Mill of iron..of such.. smalness, that a Monk could easily hide it in his sleeve. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* i. 147 Some fold the sleeve, whilst others plait the gown. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* i, 'The coat I have on,' said I, looking at the sleeve, 'will do'. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* iii. One sleeve of his vest was dark green. 1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume* (1885) I. 71 Widening their sleeves until they hung, not only over the entire hand, but several inches beyond it. 1873 C. ROBINSON *N. S. Wales* 104 If he is willing to..take off his coat, turn up his sleeves, and put his shoulder to the wheel of fortune.

Prov. 1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 17 A broken leeue holdth tharme backe. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ix. (1877) I. 207 The broken sleeue doth hold the elbow backe. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. ii, A broken sleeue keepes the arme backe.

δ. 1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 222 A peyre of breganderys and the sklevys,..xij. s. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 144 For ane elne of sattin to lyne the sclevis. 1511 *Ibid.* IV. 192 Ane coit with sclewiz. 1544 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 42 My beste paire off scleves.

b. Worn as a favour or token, or borne as a heraldic charge (cf. MANCHE[1] 2).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 1043 She made hym were a pencel of here sleue. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 63 b, The kyng had on his hed a ladies sleve full of Diamondes. 1596 SPENSER *St. Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 635/2 Knightes in auncient times used to weare theyr mistress or loves sleeve, upon theyr armes. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxiii, A lady's sleeve high-spirited Hastings wore. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 169 That Sleeue is mine, that heele beare in his Helme. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 602 He wore.. upon his helm A sleeve of scarlet, broider'd with great pearls, Some gentle maiden's gift. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 704 Bayard took a lady's sleeve and proclaimed it..as a prize to be contended for.

c. A piece of armour for covering and protecting the arm. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 190 The harnys Wyks delyveryd.. to hym..: Inprimis..a payr slyvys of plate. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 46 With sleeues of maile or chained with maile. 1603 *Inventory of Armour Tower Lond.* (Fairh.), Shirts of mail with sleeves. 1660 *Ibid.*, Sleeves of Male with a Velvet Coate to them. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXXV, Armed with cuirass and back-plate, with sleeves of mail, gauntlets and poldroons.

d. In University use: A gown having sleeves, or one who wears such a gown.

In quot. 1752 the reference is to the proctorship, and in quot. 1858 to the taking of a degree.

1752 MULSO in *Life G. White* (1901) I. 67, I think you have paid the University a great compliment in accepting of the Sleeves. 1851 THACKERAY *Last Irish Grievance*, And uphold,..to the world's daytistation, The sleeves that appointed Professor MacCosh. 1858 [J. C. THOMSON] *Almæ Matres* 9 Wait, sweet verdant, till you have put the sleeves on.

e. *Hippocrates' sleeve*: see HIPPOCRATES.

2. In figurative or allusive phrases:

a. *To hold, pull, shake, take*, etc., *by the sleeve*, in order to detain, attract attention, etc.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 391 For thanne is poverte ate gate And takth him evene be the slieve. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 67 Let not the Mercer pul thee by the sleeue For sutes of silke, when cloth may serue thy turne. 1592 GREENE *Philomela* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 173 Loue beganne to shake him by the sleeue. 1592 NASHE *Pierce Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 127 Who can abide a scuruie pedling Poet to pluck a man by the sleeue at euerie third step in Paules Churchyard. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. xvii. 364 Albeit Appius had given him his farewell and pasport, the weale publick & the armie held him still by the sleeve. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 176 Here I was about to lay down my pen, had not one passage more pulled me by the sleev. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. ix. 139, I then began..To..pull his Renegado Sleeve, That he would grant me a Reprieve. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 168 Devils pluck'd my sleeve.

b. *To have in* or *up one's sleeve*, to have in reserve, at one's disposal, or ready for some need or emergency. Also *to put up one's sleeve.*

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 68 Jok..Can now draw him ane cleik of kirkis, With ane fals cairt in to his sleif. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* K vij, He answered that he had contrary Edicts from the King in his sleeue. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 305 To haue a iourney or sicknesse in his sleeue, thereby to shake of other importunities of greater consequence. 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* xx. 312 Then the bishop brought forward another [plan] which he had in his sleeve. 1890 *Daily News* 19 June 6/1 At the finish Barrett had considerably more up his sleeve than the three lengths with which he finished.

†**c.** *To hang on, upon, of* (another's) *sleeve*, to depend or rely upon for support or assistance. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 69 That he would none of his seruaunte should hang on another mannes sleue, and that he was aswel able to maintein him as the duke of Buckyngham. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 238 b, I lyke it righte well that you saye howe Themperoure hangeth not of the Bisshop his sleve. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. viii. § 3 To them which ask why we thus hang our judgment on the Church's sleeve. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 369 You shall see..a third hanging vpon some lawyers sleeue, to plot and deuise how to perpetuate his estate.

d. *To laugh* or *smile in one's sleeve*: see LAUGH *v.* 1 b. Hence in other phrases (see later quots.).

1560 [see LAUGH *v.* 1 b]. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxv. 12 They lawgh in their sleeve, which content themselves with the secret feeling of their owne joy. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 259 b, Will they smile in their sleaves at this your folly? or will they laugh openly at it? 1603 DEKKER *Batchelors Banquet* Wks. (Grosart) I. 163 She..doth not a litle reioyce and smile in her sleeue to see it. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 36 They laughed, as we use to say, in the sleev at least. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 616 A disinterested zeal, which those who recommend it laugh at in their sleeve as a weakness. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VII. xviii, Forcing your lips close together in order to keep it a secret from a dull dog that you are yawning in your sleeve at his stupidity. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* I, 'No, not that woman,' said MR. Harding, enjoying his joke in his sleeve. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iv. 91 They had a dim impression that we might be smiling in our sleeves.

e. *To pin..on, upon*, or *to one's sleeve*: see PIN *v.* 4 b. Hence †*to pin one's sleeve upon* (obs.). Also, † to attach, assign, or attribute (something) to a person.

(*a*) 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* i. 10 How sharply are the Corinthians taken vp by the Apostle, for pinning themselues upon mens sleeues, saying, I am of Paul, and I of Apollos. 1599 [see PIN *v.* 4 b]. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 295 We may not..build our faith upon them.., nor pin our belief upon their sleeves. 1684 N. S. *Crit. Eng. Edit. Bible* 171, Yet am I not such a one as to pin my sleeve so passionately upon St. Jerome as every where to approve his Errors. 1712 M. HENRY *Popery* Wks. 1853 II. 342/1 They require men..to pin their faith upon the pope's sleeve. 1831 *The Remembrancer* 198 Men who pin their faith on the sleeve of their neighbour. 1873 J. G. HOLLAND *A. Bonnicastle* i. 35, I pinned my faith to my father's sleeve, and believed as fully and as far as he did.

(*b*) 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 28 Proud Meacock, make the world no more believe Gentility is pind vpon thy sleeve. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 289 What of other mens faults I have pinn'd upon his sleeve, let him shew. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xxi. (1713) 157 It seems a kind of disparagement, to pin Vertue and Divine Grace upon the sleeves of them that are unwilling to receive it.

f. Miscellaneous phrases (see quots.).

To wear one's heart upon one's sleeve, see HEART *sb.* 5 f.

1546 *St. Papers, Hen. VIII*, XI. 110 The other twoo be of so goodde and playne natures,..as the Kinges Highnes might be sure to carry them in his sleve. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 183 My maister your father, hath many a tyme and oft, wipte his nose vpon his sleeve: meanyng that his father was a Fishemonger. 1580-3 GREENE *Mamillia* Ep. Ded., Being blamed of Pausanias, for striuing further then his sleeue would stretch. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 See how they gird thee in their sleeues already. 1843 LOCKHART *R. Dalton* III. v, Few cut the sleeve by the arm the first trial they make of it. 1860 H. GOUGER *Two Yrs. Impr. Burmah* 212 Our..doctor had crept up the sleeve of the Chief of the prison so far as to draw from him the gift of a bamboo. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *S. Marner* 22 I'd advise you to creep up her sleeve again. 1894 G. DU MAURIER *Trilby* II. 158 But then there's Alice's papa—and that's another pair of sleeves, as we say in France.

3. [After F. *La Manche.*] The English Channel. *Obs.* exc. as *nonce-use.*

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xxii. (1577) 59 b, It is a dangerous place to hit or fal with, to enter into the sleue, comming homewardes out of Spaine or Portugall. 1620 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 79 At Boloigne..a narrow streit [*marg.* called the sleeve] ebbing and flowing. 1626-7 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 232 Many others have been likewise taken within the sleeve since the return of Captain Pennington. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 265 To fetch a wind..to bring us home into the Sleeve, our English Channel. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 14 Aug. 4/4 When he learned that a Frenchman had aeroplaned the Sleeve.

†**b.** A channel or strait. *Obs.*

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 220 If all that part of the Sleeve or Strait [in the Red Sea] had bin by the ebbe of a spring-tyde discovered. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Fam. Lett.* (1650) II. 113, I have already shot divers dangerous gulfs, ..while others sail in the sleeve of fortune. 1655 FANSHAWE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* II. 45 If Antenor with his ship did thred Th' Illyrian-Sleeve.

†**4.** *Mil.* A body *of* troops placed on the flanks of an army, battalion, etc.; a wing or flank. *Obs.*

After F. *manche*, used in this sense in the 16th cent.

1574 H. S. *Most Briefe Tables* G iij b, It remayneth that wee do intreat howe to make the sleeves of the harkabuzers and winges of the horsemen. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 41, I would wish all great sleeues of shot to be deuided into many small troupes. 1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* 81 A sleeue of archers is auailable against an enemie, aswell in such arrowes as do not hit, as in such as do hit.

5. = SLEEVE-FISH. ? *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Casseron*, the Sleeue, or Calamarie. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 242 Cuttles, called also Sleeves for their Shape, and Scribes for their inky Humour. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 855 The Sleave or Ink-fish *Lolligo*. 1722 J. JONES *Oppian's Halieut.* 231 Τευθὶς, Lolligo, the Sleve, a flying Fish.

†**6.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

Cf. F. *manche*, a leather or canvas hose used with a ship's pump, etc.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. iii. 618 Neither can the.. Rockes breake these yeelding Vessels. They haue also (as it were) a Sleeue in the bottome thereof, by which, with a subtile deuise, they conuey the water forth.

7. *techn.* **a.** (See quot.)

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 27/1 This elastic material [in a pump] is surrounded by a sleeve of cloth, which admits sand to pass up and around it.

b. A tube, or hollow shaft, fitting over or enclosing a rod, spindle, etc., and designed to protect or strengthen it, or to connect one part with another.

Also attrib. as *sleeve-axle, -coupling, -nut* (Knight).

a 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 32 The pump-rods, which are tough wooden rods fitted together by iron sleeves and screws. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. I 5, The two worms are united by a hollow shaft or sleeve. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 133 A groove is formed around the sleeve in which is a spring pressing the sleeve upwards.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1) *sleeve-band, -hole, knot, -link, -puff*; *sleeve-defended, -hidden, -like* adjs.

1775 ASH *Dict.*, **Sleeveband*, the band of the sleeve. 1830 HOWITT *Seasons* (1837) 216 The dame..with *sleeve-defended arms, scorns to do less than the best of them. 1886 *Daily News* 8 Apr. 5/3 *Sleeve-hidden aces! 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 223 Below the mask..are two *sleeve-holes with attached sleeves. 1775 ASH, **Sleeveknot*, a knot of ribband worn on the sleeve. 1611 COTGR., *Manche*, a *sleeue-like narrowing of the sea betweene two lands. 1886 PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xli. (ed. 3) 355 In the way of rings, *sleeve-links, scarf-pins, and the like. 1894 *The Season* X. 38/1 With elegant vest and *sleeve-puffs. 1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume* (1885) II. 369 *Sleeve-weight..; they weighed about two ounces, and were covered with linen, and fastened to the bottom of the large sleeves to make them hang well.

b. Special combs., as **sleeve-board**, a shaped board on which sleeves are ironed or pressed; **sleeve-creeper**, one who curries favour by mean or indirect methods (cf. 2 f); **sleeve-dog** (see quot.); †**sleeve-hand**, the wristband or cuff of a sleeve; †**sleeve-net** (see quot.); **sleeve-waistcoat**, a waistcoat having sleeves.

1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Rev. Fox's Bk. Mart.* II. 148 It would have been better for him if he had minded his thimble and *sleeve-board than dabble in theology. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* II. 6 Some of them..can discern between a soldier and a *sleeve-creeper. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Feb. 5/1 The quaint little Japanese terriers, called in their native island *sleeve dogs, because the ladies there carry them hidden in their sleeves. *c* 1550 in Leland *Collect.* (1774) IV. 323 A Surcoat of the same [crimson velvet] furred with Mynever pure, the Coller, Skirts, and *Sleeve-hands garnished with Ribbons of Gold. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 211 You would thinke a Smocke were a shee-Angell, he so chaunces to the sleeue-hand, and the worke about the square on't. 1611 COTGR., *Manche*, a *sleeue-net, a narrow and long fish-net. 1824 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 90 Pittaway had a *sleeve-waistcoat such as he wears now. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. viii, He..stands disclosed in a sleeve-waistcoat of white flannel.

Sleeve, obs. form of SLEAVE *sb.* and *v.*

Sleeve (slīv), *v.* Also 5 **slevyn**, 5-6 **sleve**, 6-7 **sleeue**. [f. SLEEVE *sb.*]

1. *trans.* **a.** To fit (a garment) with a sleeve or sleeves. Cf. SLEEVED *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Sleeve garmentys (*K.* slevyn or settyn on sleuys), *manico*. 1598 FLORIO, *Immanicare*, ..to sleeue a garment.

b. To clothe or cover (the arm, etc.) *with* a sleeve. In quot. *fig.*

1887 BLACKMORE *Springhaven* III. 61 Although M. Jalais' trees were leafless now, they had sleeved their bent arms with green velvetry of moss.

†**2.** To provide (a body of troops) with a wing or wings. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 41 So should I haue 10 ranks for to sleeue the one flanke of the battallion. 1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* II. i, Both our Armies Are cast in forme, well fronted, sleeu'd, & wing'd.

†**b.** *intr.* To draw or line *up* on the flanks or wings. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 40 Hauing passed the straight, to sleeue vp in file. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 73 He gaue the word, that the following companies should sleeue vp by the first. 1635 BARRIFFE *Mil. Discipl.* Ixxx. (1643) 229 The Musquettiers sleeve up file-wise, to the front.

†**3.** In pa. pple.: Pent *up*, confined. *Obs.*—1

Used with allusion to SLEEVE *sb.* 3.

1645 J. BOND *Job in West* 60 It is a Country partly hugg'd in the armes of the Ocean, upon the North; partly sleeved up by the narrow sea, upon the South.

4. To fix or fasten *on*, to couple, by means of a sleeve or tube.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1449 The chisels..have weighted pistons sleeved upon them. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 97 The motors are sleeved on the axles.

Sleeve-button. [SLEEVE *sb.*] A button for fastening the loose sides of a wristband or cuff, esp. the cuff of a shirt-sleeve; a sleeve-link.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2203/4 Four Turky Stone Sleeve-Buttons, sett in Gold, and Enamell'd. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 393 His watch,..snuff-box, sleeve-buttons and hat. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* vii, You are in a place where a man's life has been taken for the sake of his gold sleeve-buttons. 1848 MARRYAT *Little Savage* (Rtldg.) 167 Having felt great inconvenience for want of sleeve-buttons to hold the wristbands of my shirt together. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 245 Cuffs fastened with large oxydised silver sleeve-buttons.

Sleeved (slīvd), *ppl. a.* Also 5 **slevid**, 6 **slieved**, **sleued**, *Sc.* **slewit**. [f. SLEEVE *v.* or *sb.* Cf. OE. *geslēfed.*] Fitted or provided with sleeves; having sleeves of a certain kind.

See also *long-, short-sleeved*, etc.

a 1500 *Chron. London* (1905) 202 Which said ladyes rode vpon..white palfrays in gownys of white Satyn slevid. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* I. iv. 48 Longe garmentes downe to the foote, slieved, and close rounde about. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1367/1 Then I put on him a sleued coate of mine. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Jan. 1682, With leather socks.., a rich scymeter, and large calico sleeved shirts. 1823 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 386 A sleeved waistcoat of washing-leather. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xiv. 163 The same composition is repeated upon the sleeved jupon of the Earl. 1880 [A. J. MUNBY] *Dorothy* III. 1895 In her russet-grey frock,..Sleeved to the wrists, of course.

Sleeve-fish. [Cf. SLEEVE *sb.* 5.] A fish of the family *Loligo*; esp. the common calamary or squid, *Loligo vulgaris*.

1611 COTGR., *Taute*, a Calamarie, or sleeue-fish. 1710 SIBBALD *History of Fife* 54, I have found these Crabs, we call Keavies, eating the Slieve-Fish greedily. 1820 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 127 On a table or dish, There shall lie a sleeve-fish. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Animal Kingdom* 340 The Sleeve-fish..have in the back, instead of a shell, a horny lamina in the shape of a sword or lancet.

Slee·veful. *rare*—1. In 5 *Sc.* **sleiffull**. [f. SLEEVE *sb.*] The fill of a sleeve.

c 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S. T. S.) III. 151 With ane sleiffull of slak, þat growis in the slus.

Sleeveless (slī·vlès), *a.* [f. SLEEVE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Of a coat, jacket, or other garment: Having no sleeves; made without sleeves.

c 950 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer) lv. 89 Hæbban hy eac.. scapulare, þæt is ġehwæde cuzelan and slyflease. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 151 *Colobium*, sleſleas scrud. *c* 1430 HOCCLEVE *New Cant. T.* 56 Our lady clothid in a garnement Sleuelees, byfore him he sy appeere. 1532-3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 To weare..in their dublettes and sleuelesse cotes, cloth of golde of tissue. 1562 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 166 One sleveles coote of frees. *a* 1631 DONNE *Sat.* iv. (1633) 338 Sleevelesse his jerkin was, and it had beene Velvet. 1687 SHADWELL *Tenth Sat. Juvenal* 42 The Colour of the Mantle or Sleeveless Gown for the better sort was White. 1799 COWPER *The Salad* 23 Then baring both his arms—a sleeveless coat He girds. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* xxiv. 344 A red sleeveless waistcoat..hung slack round his person. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 65 One of those sleeveless, legless, circus-rider's tunics.

2. †**a.** Of words, tales, answers, etc.: Futile, feeble; giving no information or satisfaction; irrelevant, trifling. *Obs.*

Very common *c* 1570-1600, esp. in *sleeveless answer.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. of Love* II. viii. (Skeat) I. 77 A wyse man..loketh and mesureth his goodnesse, not by slevelesse wordes of the people, but by sothfastnesse of conscience. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 181 For summe, in schryfte, schal tarye þe preest wyth sleueles talys, þat no-thyng longyth to schryfte. 1524 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1822) V. 342 His Majesties awnswer unto such a sleveless messeage was [etc.]. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 61 For youe knowe ..how long youe laye there, and coulde have no answere butt a sleveles answere. 1579 W. FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 706 Fie vppon this horrible idolatrie which is defended with such a sleueles excuse. 1600 *Look About You* D ij b, You sent Iacke Daw your sonne..To tell a sleueles tale! 1650 MILTON *Eikon.* (ed. 2) vi. 54 With no more but No, a sleevless reason,..to be sent home frustrat and remediless. 1685 *Refl. Baxter* Pref. A 3 b, He moving a many sleeveless Questions, unseasonably, to ensnare him, and entangle him. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sleeveless story*, a Tale of a Tub, or of a Cock and a Bull.

b. Of errands: Ending in, or leading to, nothing; having no adequate result or cause. Now *rare.*

Very common *c* 1580-1700; sometimes used of pretended errands on which a person is sent merely to be out of the way for a time.

1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 14 And one mornyng tymely he tooke in hande, To make to my house, a sleeueles errande. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 284 So as all men might thinke that his prince made small account of him, to send him on such a slevelesse errand. 1603 DEKKER

Batchelors Banquet Wks. (Grosart) I. 214 Shee .. had of purpose sent them forth on sleeuelesse arrands. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 232 God never sent an Angel from Heaven upon a sleeveless errand. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 181 He was employ'd by Pope Alexander the third, upon a sleeveless Errand to convert the Sultan of Iconium. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apol.* (ed. 3) II. 165 He might have conveyed it to me in a letter; and not have brought me to town upon such a sleeveless errand. 1790– in dial. glossaries (Westm., Yorks., Suffolk, etc.). 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 306 His whole life is but a slieveless [*sic*], useless, errand!

c. In general use: Paltry, petty, frivolous; vain or unprofitable. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 106 Whan stryfes..were risen betwen monkes and their bishoppes for sleueleese matters. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 18 If we examine his Characters, Marks, and Scutchion of a Tyrant, which he would fasten on his Highness sleeve, we shall find them sleeveless, and altogether impertinent. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unl. Citizen* 208, I was arrested upon sleeveless and idle occasions, undeserved and unlookt for. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VIII. xi. P 2 You may perceive, I have not entangled you in a sleeveless concern. 1821 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xvii. 111 He..had no honourable mode of avoiding the sleeveless quarrel fixed on him. 1867 WAUGH *Tattlin' Matty* ii, He thinks o' nought i' th' world but race-runnin' an' wrostlin',..an' sich like sleeveless wark as that.

† d. Of a suit: Made in vain; futile. *Obs.*—1

1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* II. lxv, My suite was sleeueles, thy regard so colde, As if that I anothers tale had tolde.

3. *dial.* Of persons: Devoid of ability or character; shiftless, idle, incompetent.

1854– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Yorks., Northampton).

Hence **Slee·velessness.**

1882 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Nov. 687/1 The good-natured sleevelessness of Irish landlords. 1890 *Ibid.* 5 July 3/2 His easy-going sleevelessness might have led to the ruin of the whole expedition.

Sleevelet (slī·vlĕt). [f. SLEEVE *sb.* + -LET.] A small sleeve. Also, a detachable sleeve used to protect the ordinary one from dirt or wear, or to give additional warmth.

1889 *John Bull* 2 Mar. 150/1 Even the tiny sleevelets were edged with fur. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 3/2 The narrow little open sleeve, with close-fitting sleevelets.

Sleeven, var. of SLIVEN *ppl. a.*

Slee·ver. *local.* (See quots.)

1896 *N. B. Daily Mail* 7 Apr. 2 'The sleever,' containing 13 fluid ounces, or 2 3-5ths gills, imperial measure, was another customary Welsh measure. 1899 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. III. 8/1 A 'sleever' of beer..contains about three-quarters of a pint.

Sleeve-silk: see SLEAVE-SILK.

Sleeving (slī·vĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLEEVE *v.*]

1. The action of the vb.; the putting or fastening of sleeves to a garment.

1495–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 219 For new slevyng of vj awbis & for parelyng of iij. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1630) 22 For upper bodyeng, sleving, and lynyng of a gowne of blake velvet. 1527 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* 6 For sleuynge of an awbe.

2. *Agric.* A piece or ridge of ground on either side of a furrow. ? *Obs.*

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 56 The Horses..treading hard on the sleevings of the Stitch, causes the Ground to lie flat. 1759 — *Pract. Farmer* Gloss. s.v. *Combing*, Tho' a little sharp Ridge, or Sleeving be left, yet in a Manure [? *read* manner], this is neat clean Ploughing.

Sleezy, variant of SLEAZY *a.*

Sleft, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SLEAVE *v.*]

† 1. Slashed, cut. *Obs.*—1

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cclxxix, Here a sleft shoulder, there a clouen scull.

2. *Sleft silk,* sleaved silk.

1752 tr. *Gemelli-Careri's Voy. round World* IV. I. viii. (Churchill), Some being of a cane colour,..others yellow, but soft as any sleft silk.

Slegh, obs. f. SLY *a.* **Sleȝly,** obs. f. SLYLY *adv.* **Sleght,** obs. f. SLEIGHT. **Sleghte** (pa. t.): see SLETCH *v.* **Slehliche,** obs. variant of SLYLY *adv.*

† Sleided (also **sleded**), irreg. var. SLEAVED.

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 48 She .. Found yet mo letters sadly pend in blood, With sleided silke..enswath'd. 1608 — *Pericles* IV. Prol. 21 When they weaude the sleded silke With fingers long, small, white as milke.

Sleigh (slā), *sb.* Chiefly *U.S.* and *Canada.* Also 8 slay, sley. [Originally *U.S.*, ad. Du. *slee*, contracted form of *slede* SLEAD *sb.*]

1. A sledge constructed or used as a vehicle for passengers, usually drawn by one or more horses.

1703 S. SEWALL *Diary* II Dec., Corps is brought to town in the governours slay. 1705 *Ibid.* 12 Jan., The governour and his lady essaying to come from Charlestown to Boston in their slay, .. his four horses fell in[to the water], and the two horses behind were drown'd. 1721 *New Engl. Courant* 25 Dec., They went to church in a sley. 1768 *Francis Lett.* (1901) I. 82 The Amusements among the Ladies..is riding upon the snow in Sleighs, a kind of open coach upon a sledge, drawn by a pair of horses. 1805 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 31 The Canadian glows with delight in his sleigh and snow. 1838 STEPHENS *Trav. Russia* 70/1 An enormous sleigh, carved and profusely gilded, and containing a long table with cushioned seats on each side. 1878 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* 18 At the summit we found basket-work sleighs, each constructed to hold two people, and attended by a couple of men, lashed together.

2. A sledge or sled employed for the transport of goods over ice or snow.

1748 in Temple & Sheldon *Hist. of Northfield, Mass.* (1875) 259 The snow coming so soon after the river was froze.., and the river not strong enough to drive up provisions, that I was forced to have it carried upon Indian sleys. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 493 Upwards of 1200 sleighs entered the city daily.., loaded with grain of various kinds, boards [etc.]. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 208 The produce of these tracts is conveyed to market chiefly in sleighs. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 67 No better mode of transport than..through the worst possible roads with a waggon or sleigh.

b. *Mil.* (See later quots.)

1797 NELSON 17 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 414 The Theseus to make a slay for dragging cannon. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 663 Field artillery..has also been transported by sleighs, as in Canada. The sleigh is a platform placed on runners 16 inches high and 3 feet broad. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 388/2 The term *sleigh* is also given to the carriage on which heavy guns are moved in store.

3. The bone of the upper jaw in a sperm-whale.

1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals N. Amer.* viii. 75 Next to and above the bone of the upper jaw (which is termed the 'coach' or 'sleigh').

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sleigh-dog*, *-man*, *-ride* (also *vb.*), *-robe*, *-runner*, etc.; *sleigh-driving*; **sleigh-cutter** (see CUTTER *sb.*[2] 3).

1846 J. TAYLOR *Upper Canada* 33 *Sleigh-cutters are a simple but elegant carriage, without wheels. 1806 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 72 My *sleigh dogs brought me ahead of all by one o'clock. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Canada* 121 *Sleigh-driving, tobogganing, and skating are the pastimes of winter. 1884 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 5 Jan. 11/1 The *sleighman seats himself on one side of the sledge. 1845 JUDD *Margaret* III. (1851) 377 In winter, we *sleigh-ride, coast, skate, snow-ball. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* xii, Last week we had a sleigh-ride, with six white horses. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 7 He recollects perfectly the time when young ladies used to go a *sleigh-riding.. without their mammas. 1747 *Boston Gaz.* 22 Dec., A pair of handsome *slay runners. 1824 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. iii. 37 There was very little snow left beneath the sleigh-runners.

Sleigh (slē), *v.* Also 8 **slay.** [f. the sb.] *intr.* To travel or ride in a sleigh. Also with *it.*

1728–9 S. SEWALL *Letter-bk.* II. 264 They waited there for convenient snow to slay it to Salem. 1868 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 375, I have been sleighing about to that extent, that I am sick of the sound of a sleigh-bell.

Hence **Slei·gher,** one who rides in or drives a sleigh.

1830 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLII. 81 As much to the delight of the sleighers as to the annoyance..of those who make their way on foot. 1874 *Daily News* 19 Jan. 5/5 The sleighers and the occupants of the carriages.

Sleigh-bell. [SLEIGH *sb.*] One of a number of small bells (see quot. 1859) attached to a sleigh or to the harness of a horse drawing it.

1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* XXVIII, The chiming sleigh-bells, beating as swift and merrily as the hearts of children. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 414 *Sleigh-bell*, a small hollow ball, made of bell-metal, having a slit in it that passes half round its circumference, and containing a small, solid ball of a size not to escape. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 50 It was the sound of sleigh-bells.

b. Used for orchestral purposes.

1895 *Army & Navy Stores List* 1672 Sleigh Bells..Set of 12 on handle for Band or Orchestral use. 1898 *Eng. Mechanic* 8 July 481 'Sleigh-bells' are generally strung on a wire in ring-form, and fitted with a handle.

c. *Sleigh-bell duck,* the American black scoter.

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 107 In the vicinity of Rangely Lake, Me., this bird is the Sleigh-bell Duck.

Sleighing (slē·ĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLEIGH *sb.* or *v.*] Riding in or driving a sleigh, esp. as a pastime; also, the state of the ground when this is possible.

1780 HAMILTON *Wks.* (1886) VIII. 33 When the sleighing arrives, it will be an affair of two days up and two days down. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 403 The inhabitants are rarely furnished with good sleighing. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 15/2 The weather being unusually mild.., there was no sleighing. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 Some of the gentry in the West End have taken to sleighing.

attrib. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav.* 50 In the winter..it is usual to make what they call sleighing parties, or to go upon it in sledges. 1870 *Daily News* 22 Apr., Five pounds for what in Canada are known as 'sleighing rights'.

Sleight (slēit), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 3 **sleahþe,** 4 **sleiȝþe,** 4–5 **sleȝþe** (**sleghþe**); 4 **slyhþe, slyȝth, sliȝth**; also 3 **sleþþe,** 4 **sliþe, slythe, sleipe, sleyþe,** 4–5 **sleithe, sleyth**(e. *β.* 4–5 **sleȝt, sleghte,** 4–7 **sleght**; 4 **sleyhte, sleihte,** 4–5 **sleyȝte, sleiȝt,** 4–6 **sleyghte, sleighte,** 4–7 **sleyght,** 4– **sleight** (5 **slieght,** 6 **slaight**); also 4–7 **sleyte,** 5 **sleyt,** 6 **sleite.** *γ.* 4 **slyȝt, sliȝt, slyghte,** 5–6 **slyght** (6 **slyht**), 4–8 **slight**; *Sc.* 5–6 **slycht, slicht** (6 **slichte**). [Early ME. *sleȝþ*, ad. ON. *slœgð* (Icel. *slægð*, Norw. *slegd*; MSw. *slögdh*, Sw. *slöjd* SLOYD *sb.*), f. *slœg-r* SLY *a.*

For the change of the final *-þ* or *-th* to *t* cf. HEIGHT. The three leading types of ME. and later forms are illustrated under some of the senses below, and the following are instances of the chief variations from each of these:—

α. c 1275 LAY. 23345 Mid sleȝhe he mot slakie loþe his bendes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 177 Þey..fiteþ wiþ sleiȝe and wiþ cauteles. *Ibid.* IV. 317 Naso..techeþ slihe of love craft. *a* 1400 *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6 *Callidias*, a queyntyse or a slythe. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) II. xiv. (1859) 51 By falshede, sleyth, and by extorcion. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Sleythe, *astucia*.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7152 Knyghtes þat conne of sleytes. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1650 *Hyp. sipyle & Medea*, Thour the sleyte of hire enchauntement. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 111 Þis þout is sterid to him bi sleyt of þe fend. 14.. *Promp. Parv.* 64/1 (K.), Cavtele, or sleyte,.. *cautela*. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Warwick* viii, Tooke the towne by sleyte. 1577 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 56 To marke withall Ulisses Sleites. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* ii, Who playes a happy game with crafty sleyte.

γ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* V. 488 He thoucht to virk with slicht. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 177 With subtilitee or slycht. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 160 Gif that he culd be slicht or wit ingyne. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 295 Be sum slichte and quyet craft.]

1. Craft or cunning employed so as to deceive; deceitful, subtle, or wily dealing or policy; artifice, strategy, trickery. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

In very common use down to the 17th cent., and frequently contrasted with *strength*, *might*, or *force*.

α. c 1275 LAY. 17210 Hit was isaid wile, þat betere his sleahþe [*v r.* liste] þane vuele strengþe. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4610 Þe Bretons wist hit wel ynow, Bot of þer sleiȝe lystneþ now. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 301 To faren in þe feld & fonde wiþ slyhþe For to ȝefe þe brod of briddus of heuene. *a* 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 791 As wymmen conn mychel slyȝth.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8800 Strengþe ys god wyþ trauaille; þer strengþe ne may, sleyght wil availle; Sleyght & connyng doþ many a chare. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 931 *Dido.* Whan troye brought was to distruccioun By grekis sleyghte. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxii. 88 Sen thy fadir may þe fende be sotill sleghte. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 377/2 How they myght by sleyght and deceyte..falle on good crysten men. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 81 His kynsefolkes..shoulde haue taken eyther by sleyghte or force as many of owre men. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 45 Thear sleight and stratagems had beene discooued easlye. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 103 By which Kind of Sleight rather then Strategeme the Towne of Dam was taken. 1650 CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* (1654) I. 44 The Devil striving against him with all the might and sleight that could be invented. 1841 EMERSON *Lect., Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 270 Every interest did by right, or might, or sleight, get represented.

γ. a 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3158 It preveth wonder welle, Thy slight and tresoun every deelle. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13036 'Now,' seyde he, 'kythe ȝoure sleyght! Let se now ȝoure qwayntyse'. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 297 Satan used his subtle slight to discredit the miracles wrought by God. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iv. 395 Much wrought they with their power, much with their slight. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 212 Who by hook and crook,..slight and might, having feathered their neste to some purpose. 1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* 565 He endeavoured to ward this Blow, by Slight rather than Force. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 103 Some dire disaster, or by force, or slight.

† 2. Prudence; wisdom, knowledge. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* civ. 20 He lered his princes als himself reght, And his aldemen teched sleght. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7697 Þat wate he best thurgh wytt and sleght, What space þat way contened of heght. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 55 Of his [a king's] purueyance and his sleghte.

3. Skill, skilfulness, cleverness, or dexterity in doing or making something, in handling a tool or weapon, etc. Now *rare.*

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 127 With gret sleihte Of werkmanschipe it was begrave. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxix. 131 Þe whilk was made thurgh sleight and wirking of men. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. ix. 788 He..put his ryght hand and his suerd to that stroke, and soo putte it on syde with grete sleyghte. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* F viij, Tryflinge things, and things in dede of very slender sleight. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 b, And as it is not possible without great labour and sleight to take awaie the false imagination [etc.]. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) I. 215 To it they go, with great nimbleness, sleight, and discretion. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. iv, He manages with a sleight particular to himself. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. iv. 68 With what a sleight ..he pushed down my drawn sword. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xix, I have already given you a proof of sleight which has alarmed even your experience. *c* 1855 MRS. MOODIE in Borthwick *Brit. Amer. Reader* (1860) 185 The squaw with a peculiar sleight threw her papoose over her shoulder.

γ. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1289 Deuised he þe vesselment, þe vestures clene, Wyth slyȝt of his ciences, his souerayn to loue. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10673 Mony wondit þat wegh.., And mony slogh..with slight of his bowe. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 137 On the syde a doore with slyght be-neyth shal thou take. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 350 Suche as are doonne by the slight & arte of man. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* xi. § 1 (1689) 111 People stand and wonder at the slight, and strength, by which they see Salmons leap. 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* iii, His knife see Rustic-labour dight, An' cut you up wi' ready slight. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* XXX, As housewife's slight, so finely true, The lengthen'd thread from distaff drew.

b. Const. *in* or *at* (something).

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 250 The Romanis..in battell sic prattik had and slycht. *c* 1621 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 637 Thaumaciæ,..and Olison the cold, Duke Philoctetes gouerned, in darts of finest sleight. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 102 As these Western men do bear away the Bell for might and sleight in wrastling. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Travels* I. 174 They have a wonderful slight in stealing. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 204 Not knowing the Slight he had at packing the Cards. 1803 *Ann. Rev.* I. 31 Docility to instruction, sleight in the mechanic arts. 1896 *Dial. Notes* (Amer.) I. 424 She had a good slight at hoein'.

4. The precise art or method, the special knack or trick, *of* (doing) something. Now *dial.* † Also with other constructions.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 6662 A tabernacle all for to dight, þarof he sceud þam þe slight.

1547 HEYWOOD *Four P's* (Copland) B iij b, Ye knowe it is

no whit my sleyghte To be a iudge in matters of wayghte. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. XXXVII. 697 The Balears..do exceed and surpasse others in the cast and slight thereof. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelmas Term* II. ii, 'Tis the slight, To be remember'd when you're out of sight. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 368 Get once the slight of it (as we say) and then halfe the worke is at an end. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 210 As Scriveners take more Pains to learn the slight Of making Knots, than all the Hands they write. 1861 BARR *Poems* 10 (E.D.D.), Weel doon, my lass!..My word! Ye hae the slight o't. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v. *Slicht*, I hae the slicht o't noo.

b. *spec.* Skill in jugglery or conjuring; sleight of hand.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 4 Lookers-on feel most delight, That least perceive a Juglers slight. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* ii. *Poet. Wks.* (1875) 22 The juggler's sleight, That with facility of motion cheats The eye. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 25 Soon he 'gan to use his magic sleight: Into a lithe leopard, and a hugging bear He turned him.

5. Adroitness, activity, smartness, nimbleness *of* mind, body, etc.

In later use after or influenced by SLEIGHT OF HAND.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2084 *Ariadne*, Sende you grace and sleyght of hert also Yow to defende. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 167 He chastede þe Schytes þat myȝte nouȝt be overcome toforehonde by sleyþe of witte. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. XXIX. (Tollem. MS.), Also fische ben diuerse in scharpnesse of felynge and in slipe [1495 sleyghte] of wit. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 206 He has a foolish Slight of Wit, that catches at Words only, and lets the Sense go. 1744 FIELDING *Tumble-down Dick* Wks. 1784 III. 402 Gin's genius all these things reveals, Thou shalt perform, by slight of heels. 1829 MACAULAY *Misc. Writ.* (1860) I. 353 A new sleight of tongue to make fools clap. 1865 *Reader* No. 123. 506/2 Hawking all his old wares, performing his sleight-of-mind.

Comb. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 114 Mere empty disputants, sleight-of-word Jugglers.

6. A cunning trick; an artful device or design; a piece of subtle dealing or policy, intended to deceive or mislead; an artifice, ruse, stratagem, or wile. Now *rare*.

Common in the 16th and 17th cent.

β. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1181 Pride and pompe and covatyse, And vayn sleghtes, and qwayntyse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 293 þei bryngen up newe sleiȝtis of covetise. *c* 1400 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 142 3if thou wilt knowe the sleiȝtes of the deuel and be not begiled with his falsе suggestiouns. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 153 God takyth an othe after þe symple vnderstondyng, & noȝt after wyles & sleyȝtes. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 34 As Leo..in his boke of sleightes of warre telleth. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 15 This is a prettie sleight to deceaue the Purueyor. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* II. (Arb.) 19 He resolues therefore to make his entrance, not by the sword, but by some sleyght. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 230 The manner of guarding the Sea and the subtile sleights they made use of for that purpose. 1713 SWIFT *Upon Himself* Misc. (1735) V. 57 His watchful Friends preserve him by a Sleight. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 354 We are plain people, unpractised in the sleights and artifices of controversy. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. i. (1869) 13 A rare fellow..of infinite sleights and evasions. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* V. XXVIII. (1878) 463 The feminine sleights of forgetting or overlaying the daily remembrance of the terrible fact.

γ. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 161 Such slights also have the alewives for the utterance of this drinke. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 53 We haue found out a slight to hammer it to anie heresie whatsoeuer. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* IV. i, Let your slights be fine, facetious. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 747 All thy tricks and slights to cheat, And sell thy Carrion for good Meat. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 68 A variety of slights, deceits, impostures,..and depredations.

b. A feat of jugglery or legerdemain; a trick or action performed with great dexterity, esp. so quickly as to deceive the eye.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ix. 13 For he in slights and iugling feates did flow, And of legierdemayne the mysteries did know. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* VII. *comm.*, Other strange thinges done by enchanters..are not in deede true miracles, but..sleights, by quicknes and nimblenes of hand, called legier-demain. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* III. 33 That Jugler which another's Slight will show, But teaches how the World his own may know. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 145 Taking the largest Buds,..with a very quick Slight before the Sap is dry, put them into a little Incision..in the Bark. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 22 Sleights of art and feats of strength went round. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. iii. 158 The sleight of casting up a certain number of sharp instruments into the air, and catching them alternately in their fall. 1857 H. REID *Lect. Brit. Poets* iii. 108 A curious and elaborate representation of the sleights of alchemy. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 532 The various sleights [in card-tricks] above described.

†c. A design or pattern. *Obs.*–1

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 30 Thereby his mortall blade full comely hong In yuory sheath, ycaru'd with curious slights.

† **Sleight,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 1 sliht, slyht, -slæht, 1, 3 sleht, 3 sleȝht, slept, 4 sleȝte, sleiȝt. [OE. *slyht*, etc. = *sliht* (:—**sleahti*), from the stem of *sléan* (:—**sleahan*) SLAY *v.*1 Cf. SLAUGHT *sb.*] Slaughter.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* V. xi. 238 Æȝþer ge on þeoda forherȝiunge, ge on cyninga slihtum, ge on hungre. *a* 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* XV. 177 Sume ic slæpende beswac, ..sume mid slehte & sume on some. *c* 1205 LAY. 2544 Bitweonen him aræs..sleȝht [*c* 1275 sleht] & muchel seorwa. *Ibid.* 3995 Swiðe heo was sari for sorchfulle þan slehte. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM III. 245 Ofte þe mannes sleȝte aryst, Were man hyȝt weneþ wel lyte. 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6654 (Kölbing), Per was miche sleiȝt of man.

Sleight (slēt), *sb.*3 *dial.* Also 7 **slaight, slate.** [Of obscure origin.] A pasture, esp. one for sheep; chiefly in comb. *sheep-sleight.*

1670 AUBREY *Introd. Surv. N. Wilts* in *Misc.* (1714) 32 Anciently the Leghs (now corruptly call'd Slaights), i.e. pastures, were noble, large Grounds. 1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* Gloss. s.v. *Sleighting*, A sheep-down is frequently called a sheep-sleight. 1825– in south-western glossaries, etc. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 438 Much benefit is obtained by chalking those sheep sleights retained as permanent pastures.

† **Sleight,** *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 5 sleyghte, 6 sleyght, slight, 6–7 sleight. [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1]

1. Marked or characterized by subtle craft, cunning, or strategy; artful, crafty, wily.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIII. XXVI. 461 Some [fish] ben wonderly sleyghte [*Bodl. MS.* slyȝe] and wyly to scape. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CXLIX. (1811) 136 Gryffon hauynge suspeccion to ye Saxons..leste they wolde betraye hym,..made for that tyme, a sleyght agrement. 1547 *The Bk. of Marchauntes* b v b, In their practyke they be sowple and sleight. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 113 The Enemy..went on with all the cunning and slight meanes that possibly coulde bee deuised.

2. Skilful, skilled; expert, clever.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* (1811) 3 To remytte to theym that ben sleyght And sharpe in lecture, and haue kept theyr studyes.

3. Of juggling, etc.: Dexterous, deceptive.

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1098/2 Their false and abhominable blasphemous lyes vpon Chrystes woordes, ..their sleyght iuggelyng ouer the bread. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 81 Besides a crafty sleight legerdemaine, there concur two notable untruths. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* A viij, Who..at his hands coulde gayne A tallant by collusion and sleight ligerdemayne. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 155 (Cambr. MS.), Thus I herle My powder'd spells into the spungie air, Of power to cheat the eye with sleight illusion.

4. *Comb.*, as *sleight-eared, -handed.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* To Rdr. *iiij, Or if oure reader were not rather sleight earde, then cleareeyed. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IX. CLXX, There lay..quick mutations, Sleight-handed Tricks, importunate Courtesies.

Sleight, *v.* Now *dial.* [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1]

†a. *intr.* To deal guilefully. *Obs.* b. *trans.* To deceive, beguile, cheat.

1530 PALSGR. 721/1, I sleyght with one, I deale craftelye or subtelly with hym. *Ibid.*, Truste hym nat, he sleyghteth with every bodye he dealeth with. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 176/2 *Slyted*, or *Sleighted*, cheated.

Sleight, obs. form of SLIGHT *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*

† **Sleighter.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 sleiȝster, 6 slayhter. [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*2, after SLAUGHTER *sb.*] = SLAUGHTER *sb.* Also in comb. *sleighter-house.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merlin* 1879 (Kölbing), þo Angys al þis sleiȝster seiȝe, Wiþ al his miȝt anon he fleiȝe. 1585 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 25 A grete roppe for the wyndlas in the slayhter housse.

† **Sleightful,** *a.* *Obs. rare.* Also 4 slyhtful, 5–6 *Sc.* slichtfull, etc. [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1] Full of, characterized by, craft or artifice; crafty, cunning.

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 1220 þey be mysdoers, sotel, and slyhtful dysseyuers. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 7 The sweit abayd, the slichtfull trane, For to considder is ane pane. 1613–6 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv, Wilde beasts forsooke their dens on woody hils, And sleightful otters left the purling rils.

Hence † **Sleightfully** *adv.* *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 241 þe fals feynd..þat slichtfully begylyt þe. *Ibid.* xxxii. (*Justin*) 119 To dissawe men slichfully.

† **Sleightily,** *adv.* *Obs. rare.* Also **slyghtyly.** [f. SLEIGHTY *a.*] Craftily, cunningly.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol. C iij, Ye false doctours,..which slyghtyly bryng in pernicious sectes amonge the people. 1553 BALE *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* Pref. A v, Which coulde so advisedly saye yea than,..and so slightily recante and saye naye now.

† **Sleightly,** *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1 + -LY 1.] Crafty, cunning, subtle.

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Kt.* 255 And tonges false, through hir sleightly wile, Han gon a werre that will not stinted be. 1533 FRITH *Baptism* Wks. (1572) 97 Perceyue you not yet that they would keepe you in darcknes because you shoulde not espye theyr priuy practice and sleightly conueyaunce.

† **Sleightly,** *adv.* *Obs.* Also 5 sleght-, 5–6 sleyght-, 5 slyght-, 6 slyth-, *Sc.* slicht-, 6, 8 slightly, etc. [irreg. f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1 + -LY 2.]

1. With craft, cunning, or artifice; craftily, subtly.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7809 To come sleightly he scholde fonde, & litel folk wyþ hym brynge to londe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2870 (D.), þen slode he slyghtly away when he fra slepe rysys. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Coloss.* 6 Beware therfore, lest any man..falsly and sleyghtly deceyue you of that reward. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 946/1 So subtlely & sleightly these Catholicque prelates did vse their inquisitions. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* III. iii. 91 If thy enemies would bee reuenged of thee, no fitter meanes they might sleightly use, than [etc.]. 1626 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 281 Certainly the Earl hath not been sleightly deceived.

2. With ready skill, dexterity, or adroitness; by sleight of hand; adroitly, dexterously.

c 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 29/1 They doo all there thynges all sleyghtly. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 50 This spere was massy tymber & yet for al that he ..slightely avoyded it to hys great honour. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 126 Prouided it be done so slightly, and so discreetlie, that the artificial dealing be not seene. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 13 The father of their Church, who gladly would heale the soare of the daughter of his people softly and sleightly.

† **Sleightness.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 sleyght-, slight-. [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1 + -NESS.] Craftiness, adroitness, or subtlety of dealing or policy.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, Fraude, disceyte or sleyghtnes, periury,..with suche other. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) V vij, As occasion serueth wyth slightnesse to enter in fauour with hym. *Ibid.*, Aristotle so well knew the nature of Alexander, and with slightnesse framed himselfe so wel therafter.

Sleight of hand. Also **sleight-of-hand.**

1. Dexterity or skill in using the hand or hands for any purpose; expertness in manipulation or manual action.

[*c* 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 10306 Achilles..flange at the knight, [and] Slough hym full slawthly with sleght of his hond. *c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 24 Of hand to have such slight, To make ship less or mare.] *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXIII. 157 Let now se who dos the best with any slegthe of hande. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* VIII. Wks. 1709 III. 70 There's nothing to be learn'd there [at gaming-houses], unless it be Slight of Hand,..sometimes at the Expence of all our Money. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 90 ¶ 3 By slight of hand, or nimbleness of foot, all these wonders can be performed. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. ii. 87 A peculiar play of the muscles, or sleight of hand, is necessary to perform the simplest operation in the .. most expeditious manner. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 75 A power not fitful or got forth by any sleight-of-hand, but resolutely worked for.

transf. and *fig.* 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 50 Here Fools by Slight of Hand, are converted into Wits. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) II. 56 Were the public once to penetrate into this [a playwright's] sleight of hand, it were all over with him.

b. In reference to jugglery, conjuring, or performances of a similar kind.

1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* III. i, Will ye see any feats of activity, Some Sleight of hand, Legerdemain? 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2539/4 William Bradshaw..pretending to slight of Hand and swallowing Knives. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 395/2 Some of them were forced to get their bread by showing tricks of sleight of hand. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* XXII, You know my skill in sleight of hand: I might practise as a conjuror if I liked.

2. With *a* and pl. A dexterous trick or feat; a piece of nimble juggling or conjuring.

c 1605 ? ROWLEY *Birth Merlin* IV. i, I must keep some other company if you have these sleights of hand. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 22 While they pretend to lay one gift upon the altar, by a marvellous slight of hand they'll steal away another. 1717 tr. *Frezier's Voy.* 166 The Experiments that have been seen made..are fraudulent Sleights of Hand. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* II. *Vill. Ch.*, To make a murderer out of a prince, A sleight of hand I learned long since! 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 421 Fine sleights of hand And unimagined fingering.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In sense 'using or employing sleight of hand', as *sleight-of-hand man, professor*, etc.

1760 GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 185 The jugglers, or slight-of-hand-men greatly excel whatever I have seen or heard of them in Europe. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 209 The exhibitions of a slight-of-hand professor. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* XII. 66 A sleight-of-hand gentleman is selling purses with half-crowns in them for one shilling each.

b. In sense 'performed by sleight of hand, artifice, etc.', as *sleight-of-hand arrangement, juggling, trick*, etc.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, One of those slight-of-hand arrangements which still sometimes took place in that once lawless district. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. viii, You are a juggler; and the deceptions of your sleight-of-hand tricks depend upon instantaneous motions. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* vii, A punch and puppie-show business, and other slight-of-hand work. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* vi. § 26 Then there was some fairly good sleight-of-hand juggling of little interest.

Hence *ellipt.* **Sleight-hand.** Also *attrib.*

1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes* Wks. 1816 II. 390 Sweet are of slight-hand Barrington the tales. 1839 RAYSON *Poems* 62 'Tis whuspert by sleet-han' he's meade lots o' money.

Sleighty (slēi·ti), *a.* Now *rare.* Forms: 5 sleȝty, sleihty, sleiȝty, -ti, *Sc.* slichty, 5–6 sleyghty (6 -ye, -ie), 6 sleighthy, slighthie, 5–7, 9 sleighty (6 -tie). [f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1 + -Y. Freq. in Lydgate and from *c* 1530 to *c* 1580.]

1. Possessed of, making use of, sleight or craft.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 257 Schow wes vode, þat lente to hym a cloth sa gud, þat wes sa slichty a creatour. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 1869 Sche is so sleiȝty with hir gynny snare. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 158 The sleihty fox smal polayl doth oppresse. 1530 PALSGR. 629 Put your sonne to hym, he wyl make hym as sleyghty as an other. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 172 b, These toyes..haue the subtil sleighty Marchauntes beaten in to the eares ..of the common simple sorte. 1594 WEST *and Pt. Symbol.* § 171 Judglers and sleightie curers of diseases. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 56 You might sit in your Mount, and angle a peckled Trout, or sleighty Eele.

2. Characterized by, of the nature of, sleight or dexterity; crafty, subtle.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1947 þis Medea..From hir fader his tresour hath berafte þoru3 þe werchyng of hir sleiȝty gyle. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXVII. viii, By subtelty and his sleyghty gyn. 1532–3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 2 Dyers ..have used & exercised a false sleyghtie & deceyvable waye in dyeng. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 69 To..carry away the commons with od rumors, by flimflams, wily cranks, and sleightie knacks. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 82 It seemeth impossible for Antichrist to inuent a more sleighty, plausible and colourable deuice. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 534 Who did vse some sleightie trickes for his owne disports. 1676 CARLETON *Epist. Admon. & Adv.* 6 Learn not the sleighty words and cunning evasions of the deceitful

spirits of this world. 1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 74 Property, all of his own strong and sleighty getting.

Sleih, obs. f. Sly *a.* **Sleihschupe**: see Slyship *Obs.* **Sleit**, obs. f. Slight *v.* **Sleily, Slely**, obs. ff. Slyly *adv.*

Slem. *rare.* Now *dial.* [Cf. Sw. *slem* (MSw. *slemm-*, etc.), G. dial. *schlemm* (G. *schlamm*).] Slime.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 294 Mankynde was makyd of slem of þe erth. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., They sow rice in t' slem o' t' Nile.

† **Sleme.** *Obs. rare* −1. Weariness.

a 1300 *E. E. Ps.* cxviii. 28 For sleme [L. *prae taedio*] sleped saule myne.

Slench (slentʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 slensh, slinch; *pa. t.* 4 sleynt, 5 slent. [repr. OE. **slencan*, causative form from *slincan* Slink *v.*] *intr.* To slink, sneak.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2279 For sorwe he sleynt oway biside, And wepe with reweful chere. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 112 Moche mawgre mote thou have thus to frayn a frere, that slily wolde have slent aweye. 1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Slench*, to hunt privately for stealing food as dogs do. 1869– in northern dial. glossaries.

† **Slend,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 sclend. [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To slice or cut; to split.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 248 Þre hondred heuedes of a slende Wip is brond. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 128 If þat þe brayn panne be so myche I-slend [*v.r.* y-sclend] þat þe part þat is broke, entre vndir þe partie þat is hool. *c* 1580 Jefferies *Bugbears* III. iii, Fyrst slend thys square sticke length-wyse in to two.

Slender (sle·ndəɹ), *a.* (and *adv.*). Forms: *α.* 4–6 slendre, 5– slender (5 -yr, 6 -ar, slindir). *β.* 4, 6 sclendre, 5–7 sclender; 5 sklendire, 5–6 -re, 6 -ir, -ur, 5–6, 9 *dial.*, sklender; 6 scl-, sklinder. [Of obscure origin.

An AF. source appears the most probable, but Palsgrave (1530) seems to be the only evidence for a F. *esclendre*. Kilian's 'Slinder, *vet.* Tenuis, exilis' is not otherwise known, and his citation of 'Ang. *slender*' makes the entry of doubtful value.]

I. 1. Of persons (or animals), their bodies, etc.: Not stout or fleshy; slim, spare. (Freq. implying gracefulness of form, esp. in later use.)

α. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3530 He is fat, and thertoo tendre, And my men are lene and slendre. 1402 Hoccleve *Letter of Cupid* 171 Wheither his shap be outher thikke or slender. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* IV. x. 95 Colerik men be generally in the body longe and slendre. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 34 Kyng Henry was of stature goodly, of body slender. 1602 Holland *Pliny* I. 350 Females vswally in euery kind haue lesse & slenderer feet than males. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 132 You rub and grate your Back against the aforesaid Stone, unless you be a very slender Man. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 389 Having the body longer and more slender, the nose smaller. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 210 A German..of a sickly aspect and slender make. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii. 300 She's slender; but these yer slender gals will bear half killin' to get their own way! 1871 *Figure Training* 46 That most elegant female charm, a slender waist.

β. c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 587 The Reue was a sclendre colerik man. *c* 1400 Maundev. 291 Thei han a blak Hed.. and the Body is sclender. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 227 Her flessh whitter than snowe, and was not to fatte ne to sklender. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxx. (Percy Soc.) 146 Her armes sclender and of goodly body. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 152 Though thys body be weke, sklendur, and lakkyth natural strenghth. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Digitus, Exilus digiti*, sclender [fingers].

b. Denoting weakness or absence of robustness. † Also *transf.* of age, etc.: Tender, immature.

a 1500 *Abraham* 126 in *Brome Bk.* 54 To folow 30w I am full fayn, All thow I be slendyr. 1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* 44 So much the more diligently you preache him to them that be of slenderer age. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* I. xxvii. 50 Concerning his First Book..are these Two Things Remarkable,..First at what a Slender Age, it was written. 1798 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 7 His nerves are excitable, and constitution rather slender. 1848 Webster *Lett.* (1902) 604 Not that we suppose Julia is very sick, but she is slender.

2. Of things: Small in diameter or width in proportion to length; long and thin; attenuated.

α. a 1513 Fabyan *Chron.* V. lxxxiii. (1811) 60 Hengyste.. caused the sayd beests skyn to be cut into a small and slender thonge. 1590 Greene *Orl. Fur.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 95/1 Seek not..To..slice the slender fillets of my life. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 245 About the bottome of the bay, where the City is slender, and free from concourse of people. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 126, I being the tallest slendrest letter of the alphabet. 1733 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 69 Roundness makes it appear slenderer than it really is. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 190 The slender line, nearly four miles long, which your army must make. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxvi, The lighter pine-trees, over-head, Their slender length for rafters spread. 1876 Smiles *Sc. Natur.* iv. (ed. 4) 69 They squeaked like mice, and hung to..the slenderest twigs.

β. 1521 Fisher *Serm. agst. Luther* ii. Wks. (1876) 324 Euythe withouten hope is a sklender beme & of a lytle power. 1563 Shute *Archit.* F j b, The higher they stand, the lesser or sklenderer they muste be.

3. a. Having little thickness or solidity in proportion to extent of surface; slight or slim in size or structure.

1444 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 229 Hows of this smayl, the walys wer nat stronge, A slender shelle. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI*, 27 b, One [cannon] beyng weake and slender, brake in peces, and..slewe the kyng. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 194 Vnder a sclender veale of counterfeat liberalitie. 1655 M. Carter *Honor Rediv.* Ep. Ded., That I have preferred so slender a Volume to Your Honorable Patronage [etc.]. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 44 Striking through the slender partition of the Coal-wall. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. II. vii. 83 They were wont to slice their Marble into slender Pieces. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 123 They launched forth in their canoes, but soon found that the river had not depth sufficient even for such slender barks. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxii. 43 If a slender nail hath nipt his bloom. 1875 Manning *Mission Holy Ghost* Pref. p. vii, Nearly ten years ago I dedicated to you a very slender book.

† **b.** Of a thin consistency. *Obs. rare.*

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* F iij b, Wattrishe wine.. whose liquor is as sklender as water. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 130 The aire and water are clean, thin, and slender.

c. Of vowels: Narrow, close.

1755 Johnson *Dict.*, Gram., *A* has three sounds, the slender, open, and broad. 1821 O'Reilly *Irish Dict.* 1/2 The rule of writing a slender with a slender, and a broad with a broad vowel. 1828 Walker *Pron. Dict.* 19/1 The slender *a*, or that heard in *lane*. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Broad.*

4. Of small extent, size, or capacity.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 463 Bretenham a very slender little towne. 1614 J. Norden *Labyrinth Man's Life* L iij b, Of slender sparke ariseth mighty flame. 1669 Boyle *Contn. New Exper.* I. (1682) 4 If the Reciever be fitly stopt, and slender enough..to let out the air at the first exuction. 1827 Hood *Wee Man* ii, A slender space will serve my case, For I am small and thin. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 81 When a plague..Spent that slender city.

II. †5. a. Moderate or deficient in power or strength. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 45, I wot not þat I seid it, and mannis mynd is sclendre. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 249 The fire must be made very light and sclender, and encresed by litle and litle. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 174 And eke the winde so slender was To cause the ship to steare. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* II. 49 The inclinations..are then but very weake and slender.

† **b.** Deficient in energy or vigour; lax. *Obs.*

1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 19 The slender demeanours of such negligent ministers. 1598 Manwood *Lawes Forest* ii. (1615) 33 The slender and negligent execution of the Forest Lawes.

6. a. Of arguments, etc.: Lacking in cogency or conclusiveness; unconvincing.

a 1533 Frith *Disput. Purgat.* Prol. B j, Manye of his probacions are so slender, that they maye well be improued. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 27 Where as my resonys schal appere to you sklender and weke. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 15 This is a poore and slender argument. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. xiii, The proofs were as slender as the crimes gvoss. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist.* I. Wilts. 101 Though the Reasons alledged..be slender enough.

b. Having but slight foundation, ground, or justification.

1562 Winjet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 52 Breuelie considering.. thair titill to this thair supreme auctorite, I fand it..sclinder and licht. 1599 Thynne *Animadu.* (1875) 15 This ys a slender conjecture; for, as honorable howses..haue borne as meane armes as Chaucer. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 73 England has very slender pretensions to this original and engaging painter. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 154 To the applause of the sincere friends of the Established Church Rochester had, indeed, very slender claims. 1886 Pascoe *Lond. of To-day* xxxv. (ed. 3) 311 Some claim (generally of the slenderest kind).

7. Slight, small, insignificant, trifling.

Used in a variety of contexts, some of which are here distinguished by separate groups of quotations. In some cases the sense approximates to that of 8.

(*a*) 1530 Palsgr. 697/1 My wytte is to sklender to talke of so wayghty a mater. 1574 A. L. tr. *Calvin, Four Sermons* D viij, We haue not yet comprehended all, for our capacitie is to sclendre. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., He has but slender Parts. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Convers.* 92, I shall have a special Regard to..those of a slender sense... I shall think I am speaking to Persons of weak Capacities. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxvi. 285 The duke..knew the slender capacity of Suffolk. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 496 A young man of slender abilities, loose principles, and violent temper. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* I. 8 Attainable by the slenderest talent.

(*b*) 1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 36 Their commencement of the same in such slendre and sleight sorte.. hathe brought them furthe almost as slendre an answer. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Tenuiter*, To reason ..in a sklender style. 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* § 6. 77 But what a slender answer is this. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. vi, Full slender answer deigned he To Oswald's anxious courtesy.

(*c*) 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 230 To receive nothyng but as though it had been a large and high benefite, wer it in deede never so slendre. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A 5 b, You will stand your Countrie but in slender stead..if you bee no schollers. 1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* 15 Princes are too poor, and their power too slender to afford them their full merit. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* III. xi. 572 The Wound..was not to be clos'd by so slender a Remedy. 1779 J. Moore *View of France* (1789) I. ii. 11 They generally afford but a slender entertainment. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* I. xi. F 6 The anticipation of my slenderest wishes was his..study. 1837 Palgrave *Merch. & Friar* (1844) Ded. p. i, A production possessing such slender attractions. *a* 1866 Grote *Ethical Fragm.* iv. (1876) 96 A child feels that he has not the slenderest power of acting upon the fears of others.

(*d*) 1686 J. Scott *Christian Life* I. II. iii. 87 The Slenderest probability will Sway their Understanding to vote [etc.]. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Ess. Late Politicks* Wks. 1711 IV. 102 The slender Prospect we have of Success in the War against France. 1856 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 80 Proof of what slender grounds there are for calling Raleigh 'suspected'. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 56 Their only hope, however slender, was in victory.

† **b.** Of persons in respect of station or capacity.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* ii. 32 Be thei neuer so slender or lowe of degree. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* lxxii. 4 Not without cause dooth God take more charge of the slenderer sorte, whiche are moste subjecte too wrong and violence. 1651 *Rec. Communion* § 7 The abler sort of people, for the good example of the slender ones.

8. Small or limited in amount, number, range, etc.

1564 Haward *Eutrop.* II. 12 Although their wealth and substaunce was as yet but very sclender. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. Tales* 83 b, A iewell of no slender price. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* (1821) 146 This Armie is but very slender. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 373 In the plains then it never rains, all they ever have is a dew, which is so slender it never wets at all. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 150 Their stock of provisions..was extremely slender. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 283 The land is rich, but coarse,..and produces slender crops. 1825 Lamb *Elia* II. *Barbara S—*, Her slender earnings were the sole support of the family. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. iii, Taking the young gentleman's slender baggage.

b. Of sounds: Weak, lacking in fullness.

1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 78 The redbreast warbles still, but is content With slender notes, and more than half suppress'd. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 48 A very callow brood, chirping their slender notes. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 170 It gave one little slender squeak. 1859 — *Marble Faun* iv, Hilda with her slender scream.

9. † **a.** Of poor quality; meagre; lacking 'body'. *Obs. rare.*

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 22 A slendar and leuell ground, subiect to the water, would be fyrst plowed in the ende of August. *Ibid.* 45 The Pastures that lyes by the Lakes of Dumone..are but sclender.

b. Poorly supplied. *rare* −1.

c 1700 Philips (J.), The good Ostorius often deign'd To grace my slender table.

†**10.** As *adv.* In a slender manner; slightly. *rare.*

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* iv. (1887) 20, I could wishe the wittier child, the lesse vpon the spurre,..or the sklenderer kept at it. 1743 *Loud. & C. Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 88 Pale Malt has certainly most of the Grain in it, as being slenderest dry'd, and is therefore most nourishing.

III. 11. In specific uses, chiefly in the names of animals, fishes, plants, etc. (see quots.).

Shaw (1802–4) also gives *Slender Cæcilia, Fistularia, Hydrus, Snake, Sparus.* Rennie (1832) has *Slender Gold Tongue* and *Treble Bar* as moth-names; also *Livid, Nebulous, Rufous* (etc.) *Slender.*

(*a*) 1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 583 *Slender Bill Tern, *Sterna Tenuirostris.* 1859 Stainton *Brit. Butterfl. & M.* II. 1 Their ample wings, compared to the size of the bodies, have procured for them [*sc.* the *Geometrina*] the designation of *Slender-bodies, by contrast with the *Noctuina* and *Bombycina*, termed Stout-bodied moths. 1896 H. O. Forbes *Hand-bk. Primates* I. 208 The *Slender Capuchin. *Cebus flavus.* 1894–5 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 60 The *slender dolphin is a spotted species from the Atlantic and the Cape of Good Hope. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 260 The *Slender Goby, *gobius gracilis.* 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 50 The Lazy Monkeys..The second species is called the *Slender Loris, *Lemur gracilis.* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 247 The Slender Loris is very common in the lower country of the south and east of Ceylon. 1893 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 231 The Slender Loris..is the sole species of the genus to which it belongs. *Ibid.* 469 In South Africa..we have also a much smaller species, the *slender mungoose. 1865 Couch *Brit. Fishes* IV. 216 *Slender Salmon, *Salmo gracilis.* 1893 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 153 The *Slender Sapajou (*Cebus pallidus*)..inhabiting Bolivia. 1896 *Ibid.* V. 491 The earliest allies of the herring tribe seem to be the extinct *slender-scales (*Leptolepididæ*).

(*b*) 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 291 Thread Rush, or Slender Rush. *Ibid.* 297 Slender Spreading Rush. 1859 — *Brit. Grasses* 23 Slender Cotton-grass. *Ibid.* 56 Slender Fox-tail. 1889 Maiden *Useful Pl.* 71 *Agrostis scabra*, Slender Bent Grass. *Ibid.* 95 *Oplismenus setarius*, Slender Panic Grass.

12. *Comb.* **a.** Parasynthetic, as *slender-finned, -flowered, -footed*, etc., frequently in the specific names of animals, plants, etc.

1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 306 *Slender-finned Flounder. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 699 *Slender-flowered Thistle. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxii. 335 The *slender-footed *Cicindelidæ*. 1896 H. Woodward *Guide Fossil Reptiles Brit. Mus.* 6 The old type of long and *slender-jawed Teleosaurs. 1852 Mantell *Petrifactions* ii. § 2. 82 Numerous *slender-jointed simple tentacula. 1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot.* s.v., A *slender-leaved plant. 1889 'R. Boldrewood' *Miner's Right* (1899) 130/1 The foliage of the slender-leaved encalypti showed a tinge of softer green. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 320 Colts that are *slender legg'd. 1663 Cowley *Pindarique Odes, To Mr. Hobs* iv, The Caspian, And *slender-limb'd Mediterranean. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 500 These slender-limbed..Cancasians are..temperate. 1831 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* IX. 104 The *slender-muzzled Crocodile. 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 320 The *slender-nosed rhinoceros. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lynette* 3 A *slender-shafted Pine Lost footing, fell, and so was whirl'd away. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 115 *Slender-spiked Phryma. *Ibid.* 401 *Slender stalked Star Wort. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & Ital. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 4 *Slender-stemmed trees. 1882 Vines tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 936 In the genus *Vicia*..all the slender-stemmed species have leaf-tendrils. 1832 Rennie *Butterfl. & M.* 278/1 *Slender-striped Rufous. 1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* V. 82 Pouched Bat and *Slender-tailed Bat. *Ibid.* 126 *note*, The *Slender-toed Weasel. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4891/4 A fair, clear skin'd Woman,..and *slender Waisted. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 425 Slender-waisted women. 1647 J. Trapp *Comm. Acts* I. 18 Papias..was..a *slender-witted man.

b. Adverbial, as *slender-growing, -twined.*

1616 J. Hayward *Sanct. Troub. Soul* I. vii. (1620) 105 The slender-twined thred of this life. 1901 *Gard. Chron.* 16 Mar. 173/1 Cytisus filipes, a slender-growing species with tiny white flowers.

† **Sle·nder,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. prec.] *trans.* To attenuate.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 343 Thou maiest gather that whiche oyl strengtheneth, digesteth, and sclendereth.

Slender-beaked, *a.* [SLENDER *a.* 12 a.] Having a slender beak.

1824 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XII. I. 158 Slender-beaked Sandpiper. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 382 *Delphinus Rostratus* (Slender-beaked Dolphin). 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 41 Slender-beaked Bottle Sedge. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 197 The Slender-beaked Spider Crab (*Stenorhynchus tenuirostris*). 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 513 The slender-beaked sturgeon (*Psephurus gladius*).

Slender-billed, *a.* [SLENDER *a.* 12 a.] Having a slender bill; tenuirostral.

1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* xxvi, It ought, no doubt, to have gone..among your slender-billed small birds. 1801 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* Suppl. II. 165 Slender-billed creeper... Bill..very slender and moderately curved. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* V. 251 Slender-billed Guillemot, *Uria Townsendi*. *Ibid.* 333 Slender-billed Fulmar, *Procellaria Tenuirostris*. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 83 Slender-billed Nuthatch. *Ibid.* 332 Slender-billed Shearwater. 1895 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 109 The slender-billed cockatoos.

Slender-bodied, *a.* [SLENDER *a.* 12 a.] Having a slender body.

1611 COTGR., *Carpion*, a kind of long-headed, slender-bodied,..white-bellied Trout. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2298/3 A tall Man..and slender Bodied. *c* 1706 GARDINER tr. *Rapin, Of Gardens* II. 80 The tall slender body'd Pine. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 531/1 Some of the small slender-bodied subulate species [of calamaries]. 1859 STAINTON *Brit. Butterfl. & M.* Title-p., Vol. II. (Comprising the slender-bodied and small moths.)

Slenderish (sle·ndərĭʃ), *a.* [f. SLENDER *a.* + -ISH[1].] Rather slender.

1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* vi. 61 Silver Sand was a slenderish man, of middle height.

Slenderly (sle·ndərli), *adv.* Also 5–6 **sklenderly**, 6 **-lye**, **-lie**, **-urly**, **sclenderly**; 6 **slenderlye**, 6–7 **-lie**. [f. SLENDER *a.* + -LY[2].]

1. In a slight degree; to a slight or small extent; scantily, meagrely, poorly.

a. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 614 The whiche persone ..shewyd to hym that the castell of Coruyle was but sklenderly manned. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 274 We haue touched the vertues and the exercyse of yᵉ same but diminutely, breuely and sclenderly. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 36 Couer it how sclenderly you wyll, it careth not.

β. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 44 b, Take..sixe cloues lightly or slenderlye beaten. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 111 He to mercy movde, To see the poore diseasde soule so slenderly belovde. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 108 That..which is but slenderly perceiued of the gustatiue sense. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 174 How many others we are but slenderly acquainted with. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 118 It is better to water a Plant seldom and thoroughly, than often and slenderly. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 382 The prisoners..observed how slenderly she was manned. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Grace before Meat*, The slender, but not slenderly acknowledged, refection of the poor and humble man. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xlvii, My brothers and sisters will be but slenderly portioned. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* x. (1880) 355 The flies are..slenderly dressed.

† **2. a.** Feebly, ineffectively. *Obs.*

a 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purg.* B ij b, I wyll declare vnto you what solucyons he maketh to these seauen weake reasons,..for he auoydeth them so slenderlye, that [etc.]. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrat.* II. x. (1619) 257 He maintained their opinion very slenderly.

† **b.** Slackly, perfunctorily. *Obs.*

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 5 b, This [praying] must be done ernestly,..not slenderly. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 370 The request of Duke Moris was coldlye and slenderlye preferred vnto them. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 781 To see him deale so slenderly in a matter of so great importance.

† **c.** Ungraciously, coldly; slightingly. *Obs.*

1598 YONG *Diana* 66 If by chaunce he sent her anie thing by any of his other seruants, it was so slenderly accepted, that he thought it best to send none vnto her but my selfe. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* Wks. (Arb.) II. 587 Seeing.. how slenderly heretofore both had beene regarded.

† **d.** Easily; for little return. *Obs.*⁻¹

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 375 We must learn this skill, not too easily to give up our hopes, or to be prodigal of our interest in Christ, so as to part with it slenderly.

3. In a slender or slim fashion; delicately.

1591 SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat* 3 We.., like a cobweb weauing slenderly, Haue onely playde. 1844 HOOD *Bridge of Sighs* ii, Fashion'd so slenderly, Young, and so fair! 1885 *Cent. Mag.* Nov. 60 He was a youngish, slenderly made man, with a distinctly good bearing. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 28 A slenderly-built, red-nosed and dyspeptic patrician he was.

Slenderness (sle·ndərnės). Also 6 **sklendurnes**, **sclendernesse**; 6–7 **slendernes(se.** [f. SLENDER *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being slender in form or physical condition; slimness, spareness. Also in fig. context.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 72 In thys polytyke body, ther ys a certayn sklendurnes, debylyte, and wekenes therof. *Ibid.* II. i. 152 A syngular remedy for the sklendurnes of our polytyke body. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Menuiseté*, thinnesse, slendernesse. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 46/2 The legges, hippes and armes are thinner belowe then above; we must therefore on such slendernes apply some compresses. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 116 As for Small Whistles, or Shepheards Oaten Pipes, they give a Sound, because of their extreame Slendernesse. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 389 According to the bigness and slenderness of the neck. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* 191 Its extraordinary Length and Slenderness is very useful to some. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. viii. § 11 *note*, When shafts are used in the upper stories of buildings,..no such relative limits exist either to slenderness or solidity.

2. Pettiness, smallness, slightness, etc.

1542 BRINKLOW *Compl.* ii. (1874) 26 The court of the Marshyalsee, I can neyther thynck, speake, nor write, the slendernesse..of that court. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 50 The sclendernesse of theyr capacitie. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 303 The yeerely value is but small, the slendernesse wherof [etc.]. 1607 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 813 Mark well the slendernesse of this comparison. 1646 J. GREGORY *Notes on Script.* 133 The Coarsenesse of the Raiment,..the slendernesse of the dyet. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 320, I..have presumed, on the Slenderness of our Acquaintance, to send thee an Account thereof. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 112 Even if we should often doubt particular facts from slenderness of proof. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 3 A friend..knowing the slenderness of my purse.

† **b.** Limited knowledge or intellect. *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surgeon's Mate* Ep. Salut., Better documents then my slendernesse can vnfold. 1652 *Rec. Communion* § 2 Their slownesse and slendernesse..was very great.

† **Slenderwise,** *adv. Obs.*⁻¹ [f. SLENDER *a.* + -WISE.] In a slender or attenuated manner.

1542 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F iij b, The thre fyrste be longe and byg,..and brede sklenderwyse as a tayle.

† **Sleng,** *v. Obs.* Also *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* sleynt. [a. ON. **slengja* (Norw. and Icel. *slengja*, Sw. *slänga*, Da. *slænge*), = ONorw. and Icel. *sløngja*, *sløngva*, f. *slangw-* pret. stem of *slyngva* SLING *v.*1] *trans.* To sling, throw, cast.

a 1300 *Havelok* 1923 Summe leye in dikes slenget. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2073 He..hent him in his honden tvain, And sleynt him in the lake. 14.. *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 276 Crist on croys was sleynt; To hys fader he made a pleynt.

Hence † **Sle·nger,** a slinger. *Obs.*⁻¹

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2219 (D.), Hym-self with slengers & slyke he somned a mengе.

† **Slenk.** *Obs.*⁻¹ ? A side-blow.

The other MSS. have *slynge* and *slyeyng*.

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xlviii. (Douce MS.), He atteled withe a slenke haf slayne him in sliȝte.

† **Sle·nker,** *v. Obs.*⁻¹ [ad. G. *schlenkern* (LG. *slenkern*).] *trans.* To dangle, swing.

1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* v. 363 Children..carryed onely in the arm, and slencker'd up and down by lazy Maids, are easily hurt in that manner.

Slent, *sb.*1 Now *dial.* Also 4 **slente.** [a. ON. **slent* (Norw. *slent* a side-slip, *paa slent* aslant; Sw. *sländ* slope, slant, *på sländ* aslant), related to **slenta* SLENT *v.*1 (whence sense 3). See also SKLENT *sb.* and SLANT *sb.*1]

1. A slope or declivity. = SLANT *sb.*1 1.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 141 By-ȝonde þe broke by slente ober slade, I hoped þat mote merked wore. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 *Slent*, a gentle slope in the surface of the ground.

2. *On* (*the*) *slent*, aslant. Cf. SLANT *sb.*1 3.

13.. *Cursor M.* 6200 (Gött.), God þaim bad drau iner-mare Egain on slent þar þai ware. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., 'It's on the slent'—aslope.

† **3.** A sly hit or sarcasm. *Obs.* = SLANT *sb.*1 5.

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* cxix. 42 Fynd thus I maye to answere right and dul blasphemers slents. 1579 NORTH *Plut., Antonius* 982 b, When Cleopatra found Antonius ieasts and slents to be but grosse and souldier like, in plaine manner she gaue it him finely. 1612 *Ibid., Epaminondas* 1110 He was as pleasant a man to giue a fine slent in discourse, as could be possible to be found.

† **Slent,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* [a. ON. **slent* (Norw. *slett*), f. **slenta* (ON. *sletta*) to dash, throw, etc.]

1. A splash or sprinkling.

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 331 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881), þe fyrst slent [of water] þat one me slode slekkyd al my tene.

2. *Naut.* = SLANT *sb.*2

1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 53 Towards the euening [we] had a slent of a northerly winde that blew very strong. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 81 Advising them that with the first calme or slent of wind, they should come off. 1628 SIR K. DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 43 This day the wind and sea were verie high,..but att the euening a slent of calme came.

Slent, *v.*1 Now *dial.* Also 4 **slinte**, 5 **sclente.** [a. ON. **slenta* (Norw. *slenta*, older Da. *slente*; cf. MSw. and Sw. *slinta*) to slant, slope, slip. See also SKLENT *v.*]

1. *intr.* To slip, fall, or glide obliquely; to strike or lie aslant.

13.. *Sir Beues* 2539 Ascopard..Smot after Beues a dent gret, And wiþ is o fot a slinte And fel wiþ is owene dentte [14.. *Camb. MS. Ff. ii. 38* A fote yn to þe erthe hyt sclente]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. i. 689 The stroke was soo grete that it slented doume to the erthe. 1565 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 337 Though God takes his aim at man, and levels his arrows primarily at his very heart; yet as they go, they slent upon the creature. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slent*, to slant, to slope.

† **2.** To make sly hits or gibes. *Obs.*

Cf. Brockett (1829), '*Slant*, to utter sly jokes'.

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* 141 b, Slenting at their sortes of devises in woing. 1579 NORTH *Plutarch* 744 b, One Proteas, a pleasaunt conceited man, and that could slent finely.

3. *trans.* To cause to slant; to turn aside.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. xxiv. (1647) 210 Nimblenesse was also very advantageous to break and slent the downright rushings of a stronger vessel.

Hence **Sle·nting** *vbl. sb.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1160 þer myȝt mon se, as þay slypte, slentyng of arwes.

† **Slent,** *v.*2 In 4 **slente, slinte.** [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To strike *out*; to aim or deliver (a blow); to cast, throw.

13.. *Sir Beues* 813 Wiþ is sword out a slinte Twei toskes at þe ferste dent. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1615 Roland ȝerne him gan defende wyþ durendale is brond, And sturne strokes til hymen he slente. *Ibid.* 3313 Grete slabbes of styl & yre to þe walles þo wern y-slente.

Slent, *v.*3 Now *dial.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To split or cleave; to rend.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vocation* 857 With a steel Dart..[thou] Art 'twixt thy Cuirace and thy Saddle slent. *a* 1618—*Job Triumphant* III. 295 On Cliffs of Adamant hee laies his hands;..Slents them with sledges. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. xix, If one do well observe the quality of the Cliffs on both shores, his eyes will judge..that they were slented and shiver'd asunder by some act of violence. 1851 *Dorset Gloss., Slent*, to tear; to rend. 1897 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems, Valenciennes* vii, A shell was slent to shards anighst my ears.

absol. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 813 Whose two-hand Sword, at every veny, slent, Not through a single Souldier's feeble bones, But keenly slyces through whole Troops at once.

† **2.** *intr.* To burst or split. *Obs. rare*

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 188 Th' unsacred Altar sudden slent in twain. *a* 1628—*Job Triumphant* IV. 52 My brest is like a Wine-Butt..Ready to burst, or Bottles like to slent.

Sle·nting, *ppl. a.* Also 7 **slinting.** [f. SLENT *v.*1] Oblique, indirect.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. v. 66 Generally writing ingeniously, using sometimes slenting, seldome down-right railing. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, London* II. (1662) 217 This if literally true, deserved a down-right (and not only so slenting a) mention. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* XIX. xi. § 2 (1669) 510/1 So by a slinting blow they hit God himself in contemning his Ambassador.

† **Sle·ntwise,** *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. SLENT *sb.*1 or *v.*1] In a slanting manner.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XV. (1599) 692 The hurt was light, being but a blow slentwise.

† **Slep,** *v. Obs. rare.* [a. ON. (also Icel., Norw., MSw.) *sleppa.*] *intr.* To slip.

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3854 His hand sleppid and slode o-slante one þe mayles. *a* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xlviii. (Thornton MS.), The swerde sleppis on slante, and one the mayle slydys.

† **Slepe,** *v. Obs.*⁻¹ [a. MDu. *slepen*, = MLG. *slepen*, MHG. *sleifen.*] *trans.* To drag.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 27 They slepid hym and drewe hym ouer stones and ouer blockes wythout the village.

Slepe(r, obs. f. SLEEP(ER. **Slep(e)ry, Sleprie,** obs. ff. SLEEPERY. **Slepyr,** obs. f. SLIPPER.

Slerg, *v. Sc.* [More commonly written *slairg* (see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Cf. G. dial. *schlargen*, *schlergen* to smear, mess.] *trans.* To slabber.

a 1758 RAMSAY *Daft Bargain* 22 Rab..slerg'd the rest o't in his gab.

Slester, variant of SLAISTER *Sc.*

† **Slet,** *v. Obs.* In 3 **solette**, 4 **slette.** [app. a. ON. *sletta* to slap, etc.] **a.** *trans.* To flatten, lay flat. **b.** *intr.* To fall flat.

c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Heo sleated [*MS. C.* solette] adun boa two hore earen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2262 (W.), Heore hors hedlyng mette, That heo to grounde y-swowe sletten.

† **Sletch,** obs. var. of SLEECH *sb.* or SLITCH.

1743 MAXWELL *Sel. Trans.* 44 Sea-sletch, Clay and Lime. *Ibid.* 125 Indeed they chuse to have Mud with the Sand, and this they call *Sletch*.

Sletch (sletʃ), *v. rare.* Now *dial.* Also 5 **slech**; *pa. t.* **sleghte.** [repr. OE. *slæccan* (also *á-*, *geslæccan*), f. *slæc* SLACK *a.* Cf. OS. *slekkian* to weaken, Norw. *slekkja* to slacken (a cord, etc.).]

† **1.** *trans.* To render slack or relaxed; to assuage, mitigate. *Obs. rare.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2675 Lordes lenande lowe on lemand scheldes,..And some was sleghte one slepe with slaughte of þe pople. *a* 1500 *Tale of Basyn* 47 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 46 [Go] To the parson thi broder, that is so rich a wrech, And pray hym of thi sorow sum del he wold slech.

2. *intr.* To abate, slacken, stop. *dial.*

1847 in HALLIWELL (I. Wight). 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* s.v., It rained aal day without sletchun.

Sleuce, obs. form of SLUICE *sb.*

Sleugh, variant of SLEW *sb.*1

† **Sleuth,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **slæwð**, **slæwþ**, 2 **slewðe**, 4 **sleawþe**, 4–5 **slewthe**, 4–6 **slewth**; 1 **sleuð**, 3–4 **sleuþe**, 4 **sleuȝþe**, **sleauþe**, 4–6 **sleuthe** (5 **sel-**), 4–6 **sleuth**, 7 **slouth.** [OE. *slǽwð*, f. *slǽw* SLOW *a.* + -TH. In later use chiefly northern and Sc.]

1. Sloth; laziness.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. § 3 For heora slæwðe & for ȝimeleste & eac for recceleste. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* i. 224 We ne maȝon mid slæwðe.. þa ecan myrhðe mid Gode ȝearnian. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 *Desidia*, þet is slewðe on englisc. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7508 Þet folc..turnde to sleuþe & to prute & to lecherie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Efterward comþ sleuþe. *Ibid.*, Efter sleauþe is uoryetinge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 355 Þey.. ȝeueþ hem alle to idelnesse and to sleuþe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 228 A grete vssage and broode tokeayth slewthe in manere, as Oxeen and Assis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1749 Why er we þus in sleuth sett? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* X. vi. 46 Than na delay of sleuth, nor feir, ne bost,

Withheld Turnus. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 77 Slewth, gloteny, and other pleasurs. 1557 PAYNELL *Jugurtha* 92 There was neuer man whiche obtayned..eueriastyng name by cowardise or sleuth. *c* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1560 Then let us remuve, And sleip nae mair in sleuth. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifix* 3113 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 294 Not in the Bed of slouth Reposing.

b. As a 'proper term' (cf. SLOTH *sb.*1 3).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj, A Sleuth of Beeris.

2. Slowness, slow movement. *rare*—1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 207 By þe sleuþe of þe manere of tunes.

Sleuth (slūþ), *sb.*2 Forms: 3–4 sloþ, 4–5 sloth, 4 slotht, slog(t)h; 5 *Sc.* sloith, slouth, sluth(e, 5 *Sc.*, 9 **sleuth.** [In sense 1 a. ON. (and Icel.) *slóð* (Norw. *slod*, *slo*) track, trail. In sense 2 ellipt. for SLEUTH-HOUND.]

†**1.** The track or trail of a person or animal; a definite track or path. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 1194 3iff þu..follȝhesst a33 clænnessess slob, & læresst me to follȝhenn. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1254 In þat way sal þou find forsoth þi moders and mine our bather slogh [*v.r.* sloth]. *Ibid.* 1285, etc. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 44 Iohne of Lorn Persauit the hund the sleuth had lorn. 1429 in *Cal. Doc. rel. Scot.* (1888) IV. 404 Gif onny man.. makking lauchful sluthe as the trewis wil, be slayne. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 137 The sloith stoppyt, at Fawdoun still scho [*sc.* the dog] stude.

b. *attrib.*, as *sleuth-dog*, etc.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 96 Bot this sloth brache [*v.r.* sluth ratche]..On Wallace fute folowit so fellounе fast. 1802 SURTEES *Fray Suport* IX. in Scott *Minstrelsy*, Lang Aicky..Wi' his sleuth-dog sits in his watch right sure. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xli, The sleuth-dog, which, eager, fierce, and clamorous in pursuit of his prey, desists from it so soon as blood is sprinkled upon his path.

2. a. A bloodhound. Hence *sleuth-like* adj.

b. *U.S.* A detective.

1876 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 371 The quiet, untiring sluth-like assiduity with which Mr. Silden was ferreting out their wrong-doings. 1907 *Black Cat* June 11 The sleuths whose protection he had invoked. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 2/3 The 'sleuth' that tracks down the murderer.

†**Sleuth,** *a.*1 *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **slueth.** [irreg. f. SLEUTH *sb.*1] Slothful, slow.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 180 Wald thay na mair Impugne the treuth, Syne in thair office be nocht sleuth [1621 slueth]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* X. 92 Quhen pleisit God to send ȝow Scottis þe treuth, The same to further at Leith he was not sleuth.

Sleuth, *a.*2 *rare*—1. [Inferred from SLEUTH-HOUND.] Persistent, dogged.

1864 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* vii, A treacherous, blue, three-cornered blade,..sleuth as hate, and tenacious as death.

†**Sleuth,** *v.*1 Also 3 **sleuhþen,** 5 **slewthyn**; 5–6 **slewth,** 6 *Sc.* **sleucht, sluthe.** [f. SLEUTH *sb.*1 In later use only *Sc.*]

1. *intr.* To be slothful. *rare.*

c 1300 *Moral Ode* [37] in *Anglia* I. 9 Ne solde no man don a first, ne sleuhþen wel to donne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slewthyn, or sluggon, *torpeo, torpesco.*

2. *trans.* To delay, put off, neglect.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xc. (1869) 108, I slewthede it, and dide no more ther too;..and wel ofte bi me hath be many a good werk slewthed. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 175 That thys be not slewthed, for taryeng drawth perell. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. ix. 62 Mony ways him self he accusit, That he sa lang had slewthit and refusit To ressaue gladly the Troiane Enee. 1534 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 12 We do nocht sleucht nor contenow no manor thing yat concernis the King. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 135 Sieing all was sluthit, thair was no mischeif could befall our king bot was deliuerit wnto ws.

b. To waste in sloth.

1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 74 Men sould be warr, To sleuth the tyme that flees fra them so farr.

Hence **Sleu'thing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 78 With-out taryinge or slewthynge, al so sone as hyt myht lawfully be done. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 542 Persauis thou not quhat pretious tyme thy slewthing dois oreschute?

Sleuth (slūþ), *v.*2 [f. SLEUTH *sb.*2 2.] *trans.* To track (a person).

1905 *Review of Rev.* Sept. 254 Berton..has been sleuthed by the detectives. 1909 GUNTER *Prince Karl* 269 You sleuth the tyme that flees fra them so farr.

†**Sleu'thful,** *a. Obs.* Also *Sc.* 5 slouth-, 6 slewth-, 7 slueth-. [f. SLEUTH *sb.*1 In later use only *Sc.*] Slothful.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Govt. Lordsh.* 104 Man ys..wayk and sleuthfull as Bere. *Ibid.* 115 Sleuthful, and vnobeyssant. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 348 In thair brawnys sone slaid the sleuthfull sleip. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 9 How sleuthfull war þe maneris of romanis, quhen morall disciplynis began to failȝe. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 286 Mony of þair kinsmen and freindis, this law walde fettir, ydle, sueir, and sleuthfull. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 78 None sluethfull in the citty do remaine.

Hence †**Sleu'thfully** *adv.*, †**Sleuthfulness.**

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 3 Our antecessowris..We lat ourslide, throw werray sleuthfulnes. *Ibid.* II. 234 Our slouthfully our keparis leit him pass. 1520 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 50 Gyf it happynis..that the saidis landis fall throuch neclegens, wantounes, or slewthfulness of the chaplane. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 430 The samyn wes sleuthfullie left furth of the procurationis.

Sleuth-hound (slūþ-hound). Forms: 5 sloith-, slewth-, sleuth-, 5–6 sluth(e)-, 7 slewth-hund; 5 slwthound, 6 sleuthound; 7 slugh-, 7 (9) sluth-, 8 slothe, slooth, 7, 9– sleuth-hound (9 sleugh-). [f. SLEUTH *sb.*2 Originally northern and Sc.]

1. A species of bloodhound, formerly employed in Scotland for pursuing game or tracking fugitives. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 484 A sleuthhund had he thar. *Ibid.* VII. 40 The sleuth-hund maid stynting thar. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 135 Thair sloith hund the graith gait till him ȝeid. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/2 A Sluthe hunde, *sapifur, oderinsecus.* 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xlii, He that denyis entres to the sleuthound..sal be haldin participant with the crime and thift committit. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 7 Throuch thir woddis the gretter parte of the nobilitie hes thair maist recreatione in hunting with the sluthe-hundes. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 149 The second kind is called in Scotland a Sluth-hound. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 18 Tracing them ..by their footing..as quick senting Slugh-hounds doe lead them. 1674 N. COX *Genil. Recreat.* I. (1677) 29 The Blood-hound differeth nothing in quality from the Scotish Sluth-hound. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 7 Slough or slothe hounds. 1828 SCOTT *Tales Grandfather* Ser. I. I. viii, These bloodhounds, or sleuth-hounds,..were used for the purpose of pursuing great criminals. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* II. xi. 259 These persons Moore hunted like any sleuth-hound. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* iii, If I were a criminal, I would as soon have a sleuthhound on my track as Joseph Distin.

attrib. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 123 The remarkable feature of Mr. Carlyle's criticism..is the sleuth-hound instinct with which he presses on to the matter of his theme.

2. *transf.* A keen investigator or pursuer; a tracker; *U.S.* a detective.

1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 316 Cromwell..had his sleuth-hounds abroad, whose scent was not easily baffled. 1857 MRS. GASKELL *C. Bronte* (1860) 9 The West Riding men are sleuth-hounds in pursuit of money. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 209 The inspector and I followed..our sable sleuth-hounds.

†**Sleu'thy,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. SLEUTH *sb.*1] Slothful.

a 1400 in *Sel. Wks. Wyclif* (1871) III. 34 For defaute of good teching, not of God, but of sleuþi prestis.

Sleuuol: see SLEWFUL *a.*

Sleve, obs. form of SLEEVE *sb.* and *v.*

†**Sleve,** *sb. Obs.*—1 (Meaning unknown.)

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 Or he shall lode his corne, he muste haue a wayne, a copyoke, a payre of sleues, a wayne-rope, and a pykforke.

†**Sleve,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 5 slefe, *Sc.* slewe. [OE. *slēfan*, of uncertain relationship. Cf. SLIVE *v.*2]

1. *trans.* To cause to slip (*on, down, over*, or *into* something).

?*a* 950 *Guthlac* (1909) xvi. 153 Guðlac hine sylfne unȝyrede, and þæt reaf..he hit slefde on þone..man. 14.. *Master of Game* (MS. Douce 335) xxxiv. lf. 62 b, Thanne shold the hunter slefe doun the skyn as fer as he may. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 207 A rynnand cord thai slewyt our his hed. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. iv. 25 Sum slevit knyffis in the beistis throtis.

2. *intr.* With *over.* To slip past.

a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 187 Ȝe did greit miss..That sleuthfullie suld lat ȝour tyme our sleif, And come thus lait.

Slew (slū), *sb.*1 Also slue, sleugh. [Variant spellings of *sloo*, ME. *slō*: see SLOUGH *sb.*1]

1. *U.S.* and *Canada.* A marshy or reedy pool, pond, small lake, backwater, or inlet.

a. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 18 Dec., Got home well in my slay, had much adoe to avoid Slews. 1867 F. N. LUDLOW *Fleeing to Tarshish* 112 It's in my heart to believe we could get the Lord's charriat out of this slew. 1888 *Home Missionary* (N.Y.) Dec. 280 We came to a 'slew' full of water...The horse..sank deeper and deeper, until he came to a stand-still in the middle of the 'slew'.

β. 1870 J. ORTON *Andes & Amazons* (1876) xvi. 239 Beside a slue of sluggish black water. 1902 *Blackwood's Mag.* April 504/1 In the first 'slue' we crossed.

γ. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* vi. 80 At length we came to a very pretty sleugh, a pond of perhaps ten acres, surrounded by growing rushes and short willow bushes. 1894 C. L. JOHNSTONE *Canada* 47 The frog makes its voice heard in the ponds, or 'sleughs', as they are called out here.

2. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 *Slew*,..a basin or natural swamp in a coal seam, often running several hundred yards in length.

Slew (slū), *sb.*2 Also slue, slieu. [f. SLEW *v.*] The act of turning, or causing to turn, without change of place; a turn, a twist; the position to which a thing has been turned.

c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 49 The man in the crosstrees..keeps the yard on the right slue, that is with the jackstay up. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 22 The pack, the basket, and the pilot-coat would take an ugly slew to one side or the other. 1893 ALSTON & WALKER *Seamanship* (ed. 3) 241 The new sail has been swayed up, carefully kept on the right slue.

Slew (slū), *v.* Also slue. [Origin unknown; first recorded as a nautical word and with the spelling *slue*, which is still freq. employed.]

1. *trans.* To turn (a thing) round upon its own axis, or without shifting it from its place; also loosely, to swing round:

a. *Naut.* and *Mil.*

a. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *To Slue*, is to turn any cylindrical or conical piece of timber about it's axis, without removing it. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Manual* 56 Slue the boom with the block up. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 22 To slue up the other reefs. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 183 Slue the mast round.

β. 1859 GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 110 To slew a gun, or mortar,..is to turn it on its axis without moving it from the spot on which it rests. This is called slewing the trunnions. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 451 The trunnions may be slewed, to bring them horizontal or vertical [etc.]. *Ibid.* 452 To slew a Gun end for end.

b. In general use.

a. *c* 1825 J. CHOYCE *Log of a Jack Tar* (1891) 79, I'll slue your toplights or you'll not see the road to heaven. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, Now, my lads,..we must slue (the part that breeches cover) more forward. 1884 E. F. KNIGHT *Cruise Falcon* (1887) 23 A roller caught us and slued the boat round.

β. 1849 DE QUINCEY in *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 749 He slewed him round on the pivot of his hind legs. 1893 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Delectable Duchy* 120 The old woman.. slewed her head painfully round and stared at him.

c. *refl.*

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xiii, I gradually slewed myself, so as to lie more on my side. 1852 READE *Peg. Woff.* (1853) 212 Mr. Vane..slewed himself round in his chair into a most awkward position. 1872 G. MACDONALD *W. Cumbermede* I. xiii. 219, I..caught hold of one of the small pillars which supported the roof, and slewed myself in.

d. *fig.* To intoxicate (cf. SLEWED *ppl. a.*); also in *pa. pple.*, beaten, 'done'.

1888 CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 209 An awful chap to drink, but it took a tremendous lot to slue him. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 106, I was as right as ninepence, and then to be slewed that way, and all for the want of a strap or two.

2. *intr.* To turn about; to swing *round.*

a. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 301 The floe.. began to 'slue' or revolve. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. the Mast* XXV. 83 The martingale had slued away off to leeward. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Dec. 59/2 The two front skates, or runners, are made to slue round at the will of the driver.

β. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXV, They slewed round and were hove up. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 171 The giraffe..slewed round like a vessel in full sail. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mountain & Mere* XVI. 136 He was just within shot when his boat slewed round broadside to the waves.

Hence **Slew'ing** *vbl. sb.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2207 *Slewing*, in serving land artillery, turning the piece on the spot where it stands, equivalent to *training* on shipboard. 1892 *I'all Mall G.* 27 July 5/2 The railway disaster..was brought about by the slewing of the up line.

Slewce, obs. form of SLUICE.

Slewed (slūd), *ppl. a.* Also *dial.* sluy'd. [f. SLEW *v.*] Intoxicated.

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* XVIII, Poor Hause,..who was by this time pretty well slewed. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXVIII, He came into our place one night..rather slued, but not much. 1849 G. CUPPLES *Green Hand* I. (1856) 2 We'll all save our grog, and get slewed as soon as may be. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 250 I'll get drunk too or anyway half slewed.

Slew-eyed, *a.* [f. SLEW *v.*] Squint-eyed.

1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1811) I. 67 Another Caliban! —Vernon slew-eyed—people of Brunswick, of course, all squint.

†**Slew'ful,** *a. Obs.* Also 4 sleu-, sleauuol, sleawol. [app. f. SLEU(TH) + -FUL.] Slothful. Hence †**Slew'fully** *adv. Obs.*—1

1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Huanne he is sleuuol. *Ibid.*, Huo þet ys sleauuol, ofte uoryet. *Ibid.*, Hit nis no wonder þaȝ he hit do sleuuolliche. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. iii. (Tollem. MS.), Bestis þat haue to gret brayne ben ful slewful.

Slew-rope. *Naut.* Also slue-. [f. SLEW *v.*] A rope used in slewing an object.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Slue-Rope*, a rope peculiarly applied for turning a spar or other object in a required direction. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 64 Put two slue-ropes round the masts.

Slewth, var. SLEUTH. **Sley,** var. SLAY *sb.*1; obs. f. SLAY *v.*, SLEIGH *sb.*, SLY *a.* **Sleyar,** obs. Sc. var. SLAYER 1. **Sleyh,** obs. f. SLY *a.* **Sleyre,** var. SKLEIR *Obs.* **Sleythe,** obs. f. SLEIGHT *sb.*1 **Sli,** var. SLIKE *a.* (such), SLY *a.*

†**Slibber-sauce.** *Obs.* Also 7 sliber-. [? f. older Flem. *slibber* (Kilian), slime, ooze, = MDu. *slibbe*, Du. *slib*; LG. *slibb(e*: cf. SLIBBERY *a.* The relation to SIBBER-SAUCE and SLABBER-SAUCE is not clear.]

1. A compound or concoction of a messy, repulsive, or nauseous character, used esp. for medicinal purposes.

1527 TINDALE *Parab. Wicked Mammon* Wks. 65/1 His stomacke..longyng after slibbersause and swashe, at which a whole stomacke is readye to cast hys gorge. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 116, I loath almost to thincke on..all their slibber sawces, whiche bring quesinesse to the stomacke. 1602 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 423 Oftentimes also they make sliber-sauces of it selfe without any other mixture. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 288 [He] was but a weak spirited man, ..by such slibber-sauces, and drugs as Olympias had procured to be given him.

2. A preparation of this kind used as a cosmetic.

1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 137 There are no sortes of ointments and slibber sauces, which they will not proue, to make their haire of the brauest coulour. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* 55 To color their faces with such slibbersawces. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 413 For the face they used so much slibber-sauce, such dawbing and painting [etc.]. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xxiii. 98 Our gentlewomen..dirt-dawb their faces with their severall slibber-sauces and paints.

Hence †**Slibber-sauced** *a. Obs.*

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 147 Without any slibber-sauced ceremonies.

†Slibber-slabber. *Obs.* Also 7 -slobber. [Cf. prec. and SLABBER *v.*]

1. = SLIBBER-SAUCE 1. Also *attrib.*

1566 STUDLEY *Medea* III, The bryde..with slibber slabber sosse of chauntments shalbe tryde. 1591 R. TURNBULL *St. James* 184 We haue no children, and..we seek by some slibber slabber, or other deuice, to obtain them. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1632) 437 There is no poore Woman so simple ..whose slibber-slabbers and drenches we doe not employ.

2. = SLIBBER-SAUCE 2.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 12 The vsing of Complexions, and such like slibber-slabbers. 1631 — *Celestina* VI. 79 Only a little faire Fountaine-water..(without any other slibber-slabbers). 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Visions of Quevedo* 222 To see them..with their Menstruous Slibber slobbers, dawbing one another.

†Sli'bbery, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 3 slibbri. [ad. LG. (also Du. and Flem.) *slibberig.*] Smooth and slippery; lubric.

c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 Þe tunge is sliddri [*v.r.* slibbri], uor heo wadeð ine wete. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* III. v. 230 There is a moisture in joints, called by Surgeons a Gluten, because it maketh the joints slibberie.

Slicche, obs. form of SLITCH.

Slice (slɔis), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 4 sclyce, 5 sclice; 4, 7 sclise, 5 sclys(e, 6 *Sc.* sclyise; 5–6 sklyce, sklyse (6 -ss), 5, 7 sklice, 6–7 sklise. β. 5–7 slyce (6 slyese), 6 slise, 5– slice. [ad. OF. *esclice, esclisse* (mod.F. *éclisse*) splinter, shiver, small piece (of wood, etc.), vbl. sb. f. *esclicer*: see SLICE *v.*[1]]

I. †1. A fragment, a shiver, a splinter. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 3833 (Laud MS.), Hij braken speres alto slice [*v.r.* sclyces]. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxxi. 5153 A sklysse of þe schaft, þat brak, In til his hande a wounde can mak. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron., Hist. Scotl.* I. 278/1 This worthie prince James the second was slaine by the slice of a great peece of artillerie, which by ouercharging chanced to breake. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 102 At last in Paris, standing besyd a singular combatt, [the duke] is slane with a sklyse of a speir.

2. A relatively thin, flat, broad piece cut from anything. Freq. const. *of* or *from.*

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 48 In hom þou cast With sklices of bacon. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 133 in *Bann. MS.* 286 Fra his thowme thay dang a sklyss. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 752 If it be a wound hee healeth it after the same manner, applying a round slice of Beauers stones. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met., Baucis & Phil.* 65 High o'er the hearth a chine of bacon hung; Good old Philemon seiz'd it.., Then cut a slice. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Veneering*, The Wood intended for Veneering, is first saw'd out into Slices, or Leaves about a Line thick. 1811 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* II. 42 Having..taken a slice off my right thumb, whilst pruning a rose tree. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodland, Heaths & H.* (1866) 10 A transverse slice from the trunk of an immense tree. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 37 A parallel-faced slice of a uniaxial crystal is cut.

ellipt. a 1764 LLOYD *Dial. betw. Author & Friend* Wks. (1810) 109/1 Whether the Grecians took a slice Four times a-day, or only twice. ? 1780 COWPER *Love World reproved* 36 Each thinks his neighbour makes too free, Yet likes a slice as well as he.

fig. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *To take a slice*, to intrigue, particularly with a married woman. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* vi, We hae nae slices o' the spare rib here..except auld Martha.

3. *transf.* A portion, share, piece, part, etc.

1550 CROWLEY *Information & Petit.* Wks. 171 None can be buried but they wyl haue a slyese. 1622 FLETCHER *Span. Cur.* III. ii, A short slice of a Reading serves us, Sir. 1689 BURNET *Trav.* II. (1730) 89 A Slice of the Alps came down upon it, and buried it quite. 1743 WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. lxxx. 284 Your brother slipped a slice of paper into a letter which he sent me. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, A fellow..who has spent a good slice of his life here. 1876 HOLLAND *Seven Oaks* xxiv. 332 A heavy slice of his ready money had been practically swept out of existence. 1893 PEEL *Spen Valley* 55 A considerable slice of that side of the township.

II. †4. A spatula used for stirring and mixing compounds. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 347 Meue hem wiþ a sclise longe, for þe more þat þei ben stirid togidere þe bettir it wole be. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 31 Moue þam all wayse wiþ a sklyse þat þai cleue not to þe panne. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 62 b, Sturrynge them with a broade sklyse of woode. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. xxxiv. 16 b, Stirre them continuallie with a flat sticke, or slice, vntill they be throughlie mingled..togither. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 520 Calcin it ouer the fire in a pan, stirring and mixing it together with little slices or potstickes. 1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Course Chem.* (ed. 3) 220 Dry it by a small fire of Sand, stirring it with an Ivory or Wooden slice.

†b. (See quots.) *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Espatule*, a (Chirurgions, or Apothecaries) little slice. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* I. i. § 5 The Pellican hath a beake broade and flat, much like the slice of Apothecaries and Surgions, with which they spread their plaisters.

5. One or other of several flattish utensils (sometimes perforated) used for various purposes in cookery, etc. (see quots., and cf. *egg-, fish-slice*).

α. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 490 Item, j. fryeyng panne, j. sclyse. 1548 ELYOT, *Spatha*,..also an instrument of the kytchen to turne meate that is fried, a sklise. 1611 COTGR., *Friquette*, a lingell, smalle sklice, little scummer.

β. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rumming* 409 A fryinge pan, and a slyce. 1605 PLAT *Delightes for Ladies* liv, You must also haue a brasen slice to scrape away the sugar from the hanging bason. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 317/1 A Slice..to cut Dough into peices, called a Beater, a Break. *Ibid.* 396/1 A long piece of Wood cut after the manner of a Slice which Deary-women use about their Butter. 1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav. Cauc.* 131 An iron pot.., together with a large perforated iron slice. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Slice*,..a spatula for serving cooked fish. *a* 1887 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 201 Take the eggs out carefully with a small slice.

6. A form of fire-shovel; also, an instrument for clearing the bars of a furnace when choked with clinkers.

α. 1465 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 299, j quarell mell, j bochyng axs, j sclys. 1555 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 60 Paid for a sklyce to cary fyer to the churche. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. viii, Lay a peece of silver ore upon a sclise, plate, or firepan of yron red hot.

β. 1612 in *Antiquary* Jan. (1906) 28 In the Kytchin..a fire slyce, two fire shovells [etc.]. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 8 You must with the Slice clap the Coals upon the outside close together. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 153 Slices are used by the Smiths to clear and keep their Fire together. 1835 HAWTHORNE *Tales & Sk., Old Wom. T.* (1879) 178 It was a sort of iron shovel (by housewifes termed a 'slice'), such as is used in clearing the oven. 1879 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* I. 291 The workman with his 'slice' then spreads the charge over the bed, so as to thoroughly expose every portion to the action of the flames.

7. A flattish instrument, implement, etc., of various kinds (see quots.).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 322/2 A Sclice, *vertinella, est forceps medici, spatula.* 1541 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 176 Ane stuffin sclyise, with ane yeirning sclyise. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. cx. 51 Then with a flat slice of iron, loosen the skin within from the flesh. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* ii. 5 A meate offering baken in a panne [*marg.* on a flat plate *or* slice]. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Mar., Two large silver candlesticks and snuffers, with a slice to keep them upon. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 126 Then with a slice, without digging, you may force off all the under Slips. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4960/3 A silver Slice to fold Paper. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2207/2 *Slice*..2. (*Nautical.*) *a.* A bar with a chisel or spear-shaped end, used for stripping off sheathing or planking. *b.* A spade-shaped tool used in flensing whales. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 112/1 One of the workmen detaches the adhering crystals [of lead] by means of a long iron bar shaped at the end like a chisel, called a slice.

8. *Printing.* **a.** An ink-knife (cf. *ink-slice*).

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. P 11 The Slice is a little thin Iron Shovel about three or four Inches broad, and five Inches long; it hath a Handle to it. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 257/2 He beareth Argent, a Printers Slice, Sable. 1808 STOWER *Printer's Grammt.* 336 The Brayer and Slice. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 126 *Slice*, a flat wide iron knife used for lifting ink out of the can.

b. The sliding bottom of a slice-galley.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* v, The three Sides of the Frame..stand about three fifth parts of the height of the Letter above the superficies of the Slice. *Ibid.* xxii. P 6 He..draws the Slice with the Page upon it, out of the Galley. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 936/1 The galley sometimes has a groove to admit a false bottom, called a *galley-slice.*

9. *Ship-building.* (See quot. 1846.)

1791 *1st Rep. Comm. Woods & Forests* (1792) App. xxix. 143 The old Method..of launching Ships on a Curve Line, with short Bulgeways, and Slices under each end of them. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 285 *Slices*, in shipbuilding, tapered pieces of wood driven between the bilgeways, etc., preparatory to launching a vessel. 1884 *J. Peake's Naval Archit.* (ed. 5) 233 Large wedges called slices..are placed inside and outside of the bilgeways.

10. *attrib.*, as **slice-bar, -galley** (see quots.).

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 285 A slice or *slice bar also means a bar of iron with a sharp end, used to strip off sheathing, ceiling, etc. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 40 The straight grate-bars also clog with this coal, and the fireman has to use his slice-bar liberally. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Slice-bar*, a hooked poker for removing slag and cinders from grate-bars of furnaces. *Ibid.*, **Slice-galley*, a galley having a movable false bottom or slice. 1896 DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 407 Each compositor to make up his matter on a slice-galley.

Slice (slɔis), *sb.*[2] [f. SLICE *v.*[1]]

1. A sharp cut, a slash. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Taillure*,..a slice, cut, slit, slash, &c.

2. *Golf.* A slicing stroke.

1886 HUTCHINSON *Hints Golf* 27 The cut, or slice, is put on the ball by stretching the arms to their full length..as the club is raised [etc.]. 1890 — *Golf* (Badm.) 204 It is not this slice, but the slice from above downwards, which causes both the high loft and the back spin with its dead fall.

Slice (slɔis), *v.*[1] Forms: α. 5 sklyce, 5, *Sc.* 9 sklice, 6 sclyce, 7 sklise. β. 6 slyse, slies-, 6–7 slyce, slise, 6–slice. [ad. OF. *esclicer, esclisser*, etc. (mod.F. *éclisser*), to reduce to splinters or pieces, ad. OHG. *slîzan*: see SLITE *v.* In later use perh. partly from SLICE *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cut into slices; to cut into or through with a sharp instrument.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 43 Take befe and sklice hit fayre and thynne. *Ibid.*, þenne take þy rost, and sklyce hit clene. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. (1568) 150 The roote is sliced and layd up as Scilla is. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 112 Loe there goes the woman shall they say, that hath slyced & eaten her owne sonne. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 124 He would haue sliced his body into as many parts as there be dayes in a yeare. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 1 Dido, with his hide, might have had ground enough for her Carthage without slicing it into leashes. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 76 Slice a French roll thin, peel and slice a very large onion, pare and slice three or four turnips. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 259 Slice a penny loaf as thin as possible. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 503/1 The coagulum is first to be sliced in thin pieces with a sharp knife. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. iii. 213 Cells..may be made of vulcanite by slicing tubing made of this material. 1897 G. ALLEN *Type-writer Girl* xix. 205 Shops where red water-melons, sliced open,..adorn the slabs.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1500 *Little Gest of Robin Hood* ccxcii, Thryes Robyn shot about, And alway slist the wand. 1594 NASHE *Dido* 1181 Abourd, abourd,..And slice the Sea with sable coloured ships. 1602 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E iij, Ship slice the sea. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 343 Through their skin With scourges slyc't, must their bare bones be seen. 1690 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* IV. v. 162 Ambitious Princes and Tyrants, that slice the Earth amongst them. 1860 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary India* I. 55 Our sharp bow sliced the blue depths.

Comb. 1592 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 564 The winding Rivers bordered all their banks With slice-Sea [=sea-slicing] Aldars.

2. To cut *out* or *off* in the form of a slice or slices; to remove with a clean cut.

c 1550 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 76 Of bread, slyce out fayre morsels to put into your pottage. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 24 Soom doe slise owt collops on spits yeet quirilye trembling. 1607 HEYWOOD *Wom. Killed w. Kindn.* (1617) H ij, Heere's a knife, To saue mine honor, shal slice out my life. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. I. xix, They then slic'd off his Ears. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* I. IV. iii. (1803) II. 39 That ferocious adversary of yours, whose proud head I hope to slice off. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 111 One side of the pyramid had been sliced off. 1885 *Manch. Weekly Times* Suppl. 20 June 4/3 To lay the leather face downward..and slice away the back of it with a sharp.. knife. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* 44 A door panel sliced out and replaced was also put forward.

fig. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 51 Not sparing any price to please appetite, though the edge of it slice from the bosome of good old Abraham, very heauen it selfe. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 1016 By years, dayes, and houres, our life is Continuallie cut and sklised away. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ii. 76 One would slice off a letter at the end of a word.

b. To remove by means of a slice.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 11 He Slices the whole mass of Inck into the farthermost corner of the Inck-block. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 354/2 A workman keeps stirring the lead, and 'slicing', or freeing from the sides, the portions setting on them.

3. *intr.* To cut cleanly or easily. Also *transf.*

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 537 Boats do slide, where Ploughs did slice of late. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 334 A Cuttan; an Indian sword which slices easily. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, He stands..snipping and slicing at sheepskin. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 540/1 He watched the saw slice to the heart of a mighty spruce.

b. To use a slice or fire-shovel.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 8/2 They throw coal on and slice and rake until the ship shakes beneath them.

4. *trans.* To make (a way) by slicing.

1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 499 Knights, who sliced a red life-bubbling way Thro' twenty folds of twisted dragon.

5. *Golf.* To hit (the ball) in such a manner that it flies or curves off to the right. Also *absol.*

1890 HUTCHINSON *Golf* (Badm.) 104 It is..advisable in such circumstances..to play to slice the ball. *Ibid.* 178 We slice when instead of sweeping along the line of fire, we draw the club towards ourselves across it. 1894 *Times* 28 Apr. 13/3 Approaching the fifth Mr. Laidlay sliced his drive.

†Slice, *v.*[2] *Hawking. Obs.* Also 5 sclise, sklyse, 6 slyse. [ad. OF. *esclicier, esclisser*, etc. (mod.F. *éclisser*), to squirt, splash.]

1. *intr.* Of birds: To mute, so that the fæces are ejected to some distance. Also *transf.*

c 1450 *Bk. Hawking* in *Relig. Antiq.* I. 296 Ye schull say that your hawke mutith and not sclisith. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* a vj b, Ye shall say yowre hawke mutes-sith or mutith and not sklysith. 1575 [see MUTE *v.*[1]]. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VII. xliii. 706 Porkes flesh giuen them warme with a little Aloes, maketh the bird loose and to slice out readily. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv., Cranmer* 226 As the Herneshaw when unable by maine strength to grapple with the Hawke, doth Slice upon her. 1710 *Acc. Last Distemper Tom Whigg* I. 5 The Criminal had sliced immoderately on the Sign of the Old Bishop's Head in Lambeth.

2. *trans.* To eject in muting.

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 3 Our Herneshawes, slicing backward filth on those, Whose worths they dare not openly oppose.

Sliced (slɔist), *ppl. a.* [f. SLICE *v.*[1]]

1. Cut into slices; cut cleanly.

1589 in Hall *Elis. Age* (1886) 218/1 For slist bief, vj *d.* 1591 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinuile* CXXXIII, Streaming diuine blood from his sliced side. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. i, A dish of slic'd caviare, or so. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 137 Sliced Dates and good big pieces of Marrow..with sliced Lemon. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* I. 29 May, Devouring sliced beef. 1806 *Culina* 71 Put the meat into an earthen pot with plenty of sliced turnips. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 111 Add half a pound of sliced soap. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 372 The sliced specimen of some..stone.

fig. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 313 The schisme of a slic't prayer.

2. Having a slice cut or taken off.

1874 HEATH *Croquet Player* 25 Cylindrical Heads...Sliced Mallets. *Ibid.*, The majority of good players play with sliced mallets.

3. *Golf.* (See SLICE *v.*[1] 5.)

1890 HUTCHINSON *Golf* (Badm.) 104 All sliced balls start away high. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Sept. 4/7 In bents off a sliced drive, Herd again dropped two holes behind.

Slicer (slɔi·səɹ). Also 6 sclycer. [f. SLICE *v.*[1]]

1. An implement or instrument specially adapted or used for slicing.

Also in combs., as *bread-, turnip-, vegetable-slicer.*

1530 PALSGR. 267/2 Sclycer, *tournoyre.* 1575 TURBERV.

Falconrie 299 Take up the hawe handsomely and cut it with a little slicer. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1098 Slitting Mill or the Slicer, is a very thin sheet-iron disk, the edge of which is charged with diamond powder. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2208/1 The slicer is firmly clamped, like a circular saw, between two flanges on its spindle. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xlvi. (1900) 114/2 They were at some distance from the man who turned the slicer.

2. One who slices.

1598 FLORIO, *Tagliuzzatore*, a slicer, a cutter. 1709 *Tatler* No. 71 ¶ 8 When a Witling stands at a Coffee-house Door, and sneers at those who pass by, ..he is no longer Surnamed a Slicer, but a Man of Fire is the Word. 1778 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 124/2 This man, who is called the slicer,..pricks it with the slicing knife. 1864 SALA in *Daily Telegr.* 16 July, Young ladies..employed in the bureau as press feeders, stampers, slicers, trimmers. 1881 *Academy* 8 Jan. 30 A grand Zoologist and not a mere hardener and slicer of microscopic stuff.

‖ **Slich** (small ore): see SLICK *sb.*[2]

Sleight, Sc. form of SLEIGHT *sb.*[1], SLIGHT *a.*

Slicing (slə·isiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SLICE *v.*[1]] The action of the verb in various senses.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Decoupure*, a cutting, or slycing. 1611 COTGR., *Hachement*, a hacking, shredding, slicing. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 214 Grafting in the Rind, or Shoulder-grafting, likewise called slicing and packing. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iv, Amelia went away, perhaps to superintend the slicing of the pine-apple. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 2/1, I am convinced that this habit of following after is responsible for much of the slicing and pulling [in golf].

attrib. 1778 [see SLICER 2]. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arc. Regions* II. 175 A man..sliced it..and then pushed it into an adjoining receptacle, called a 'slicing cooler'. 1833 *Wauldby Farm Rep.* 102 in *Husb.* III. (L.U.K.), A roller with slicing-knives attached to it. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 78 The slicing-wheel..is a disc of cast-iron. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2208/1 Slicing-machine. (Pottery.)

† **Sli·cing,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SLICE *v.*[2]] Muting.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 31 Doe not you sometime ..talke both of putting a heron to the mount, and then of his slicing?

Slicing (slə·isiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SLICE *v.*[1]] Cutting easily or cleanly.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtly Controv.* 10 What Slicing blade doth cut my gale. 1590 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii, There sits imperious Death, Keeping his circuit by the slicing edge. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 190 Three Coosel-bashes..with their slicing Semiters whipt off their heads. 1641 BAKER *Chron., Edw. VI* (1643) 72 The rest were..well furnished with..slicing swords broad and thin. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* v. 35 A fragment of a leather rein..cut across with a clean, slicing cut.

Hence **Sli·cingly** *adv. rare.*

1598 FLORIO, *Sminutamente*, mincingly, slicingly.

Slick (slik), *sb.*[1] [f. SLICK *a.* or *v.*]

1. † **a.** A cosmetic, an unguent. *Obs.*

1626 tr. *Boccalini's New-found Politick* 233 My face..is done ouer with Ladies licks, slicks, and other painting stuffe of the Levant.

b. *Carpentry.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2208 *Slick*, a wide-bitted chisel, used by framers in paring the sides of mortises and tenons.

c. An implement used for slicking; a slicker.

1883 *Archæol. Cant.* XV. 103, I have..discovered..some elegant slicks or scrapers of peculiar form. *Ibid.*, When trimmed on one side only, such a flake [of flint] was used as a scraper or slick.

† **2.** *Card-playing.* (See quot. 1674.) *Obs.*

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 94 The Slick is when before-hand the Gamester takes a Pack of Cards, and with a slick-stone smooths all the Putt-Cards. 1711 PUCKLE *The Club* (1817) 23 The bent, the slick, the breef, the spur.

3. a. *U.S.* A smooth place or streak on the surface of water, usually caused by the presence of some oily or greasy substance. (Cf. SLEEK *sb.*[3])

1849 D. WEBSTER *Priv. Corr.* II. 333 You have seen on the surface of the sea, those smooth places, which fishermen and sailors call 'slicks'. 1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 228, I emptied the melted pork..into the lake, making what sailors call a 'slick'. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 210 They ..leave in their track similar 'slicks' of oil and blood.

b. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 *Slicks*, smooth partings or mere planes of division in strata.

c. A place on the hair or fur of an animal which has been made sleek by licking or the like.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

4. A dash or stroke.

1881 E. COXON *Basil Plant* II. 226 'Isn't it wonderful?' said one, 'painted with just two slicks of the brush'.

Slick, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [ad. G. *schlich*, related to *schleich* SLIKE *sb.*] Finely pounded ore. Also *attrib.*

The form *slich* occurs in E. Browne *Trav. Germ.* etc. (1677) 135, and hence appears in *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. (1753) and some later works of reference.

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. iii. 113 Of Gold Slicks. Further, know also that when the Gold Oars and Gold Slicks are cleansed for to quicken [etc.]. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 7/2 There were produced in Russia..in 1881, 2,382 poods (of 36 lb.) of slick-gold.

Slick (slik), *a.* Now chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 **slyke** (5 **slyk**), **slike.** *β.* 6 **slycke,** 6–7 **slicke,** 6– **slick.** [ME. *slike* (developing into *slick* and SLEEK *a.*), prob. representing an OE. **slice*, related to the vb. *slician* (see SLICK *v.*) and perhaps cognate with MFlem. *sleec*, *sleic* (see SLEEK *sb.*[1]).

An apparent OE. *slic* given in Dictionaries is the result of a misreading: see Napier *Contrib. O.E. Lexicogr.* 57–58. *Slykker* in Palsgr. 324/1 is prob. a misprint for *slykke*.]

1. Of skin, hair, etc.: Smooth, glossy, sleek.

α. 13.. *Cursor M.* 28026 (Cott. Galba), When ȝe to sight haue made ȝow slike þan say ȝe men will ȝow biswike. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 542 Hir flesh tendre as is a chike, With bent browis, smothe and slyke. *c* 1386 — *Wife's Prol.* 351 If the Cattes skyn be slyk and gay, She wol nat dwelle in house half a day. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/1 Slyke, or smothe, *lenis*. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & P.* x. vi. (W. de W. 1496) 379/2 The basynet..is clene furbusshed from ruste, and made slyke and smothe that shot may soone glyde of. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 Lyke the..adder..His tayle smoog thirling, slyke breast to Titan vpheauing. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 88 A skin as slike and soft as the backe of a swan.

β. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* B j, This other with the slicke skinne and fayre fedde bodie is called Delicacie. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 59 A deft conceite, a slicke forhead, a smugg countenaunce. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 8 Her hayre more slicke and close to her skin. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 137 A prone and plain path..not slick and smooth onely, but even steep and slipperie. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 335 He is all slick with Grease without. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Peach-Tree*, Those Peaches which are not slick, ought to be but indifferently hairy. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slick*,..smooth, shining. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xiii. 101 It struck that hard, slick, carpetless floor.

transf. 1679 *The Confinement* 49 More soft than a slick Gale, From Mountains top blown o're the flowry vale.

2. Of animals, etc.: Sleek in hair or skin; plump; well-conditioned. Now *rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 689 In dayes thries x, let make hem [*sc.* chickens] slyke And faat ynough. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 74 How a louer wise Delighteth more to touch Astarte slick Then Hecuba. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 680 The brauest mares..Both slicke and daintie. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 99 Meal of Garavance, which fattens all their Beasts of War, and makes them slick and fine. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* III. 287 As the slick Lev'ret skims before the Pack. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. 27 All of them selected as the fattest and slickest of the herd.

3. Smooth; plausible; = SLEEK *a.* 3.

For a doubtful example see *Havelok* 1157.

1599 JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. i, Slick flattery and she Are twin-born sisters. *a* 1600 *Nobody & Someb.* in Simpson *Sch. Shakс.* (1878) 355 Smoth spaniel, soothing grome, Slicke, oyly knave, egregious parasite! 1640 RAWLINS *Rebellion* IV. i, Whilst slick Favonius plays the fawning slave. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. iv. Wks. (1884) 226 To the people they're ollers ez slick ez molasses. 1876 HOLLAND *Seven Oaks* xx. 282, I hate a slick man.

4. Adroit, deft, quick, smart; skilful in action or execution.

1818 H. B. FEARON *Sketches Amer.* 5, I have been *slick* in going to the stand right away. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. ii. (1849) 148, I ain't..slick at the gruelling of sick folks. 1893 J. MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 43, I had been a pretty slick voyager in my time.

5. First-class, excellent.

1866 in BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs.* 1905 *M'Clure's Mag.* June 121/1 'They certainly gave us a slick time,' said the lad. 'Why our dinner cost nine dollars!

6. *Comb.*, as *slick-faced, -haired, -tongued.*

1598 MARLOWE & CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* III. 343 Slick-tongde fame, patcht vp with voyces rude. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 343 You slick-hair'd louer: you that hunt and fleere at wenches so. *c* 1680 COTTON *Morning Quatrains* xvii, The slick-faced school-boy satchel takes. 1879– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Slick-faced, -tongued).

Slick (slik), *adv.* Orig. *U.S.* [f. SLICK *a.*]

1. Smartly, cleverly; easily; quickly.

1825 LONGR. in *Life* (1891) I. v. 59 They manage things there so slick that the college saves annually three thousand dollars! 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 11 A woman's tongue goes so slick of itself..that it's no easy matter to put a spring stop on it. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt.-Royal* II. iv. 55 I'll just take a hurried look round and be back again slick.

2. As an intensive: Right, clean; completely.

1832 MACAULAY in *Trevelyan* 6 July, A Yankee has written to me...I guess I must answer him slick right away. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* iii, I was right slick up over head and ears in love with her at once. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* vi. 210, I..imagined they had bolted slick away.

Slick (slik), *v.* Forms: *α.* (1 -slician,) 3–4 **sliken,** 4 **slyken;** 4–6 **slike, slyke.** *β.* 6 **slycke, slicke,** 6– **slick.** [OE. *-slician* (in *nigslicod*): cf. SLEEK *v.* It is not clear how this is related to Icel. *slíkja*, Norw. *slikja*, to be, or to make, sleek.]

1. *trans.* To render smooth or glossy; to polish; to smooth with a slicker.

α. [*a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 17 Nov. 206 Heo glytenode.. swa scynende sunne oððe nigslicod hræzel.] *a* 1225 *Leg. St. Kath.* 1660 Istenet [is] euch strete mid deorewurðe stanes,..isliket & ismaket as eni gles smeðest. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 172 *Ka ele lusche*, (that she) slike. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 158 W[oman] oft with slikeston slikyth. 1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl.) 234 Silkes, silver and gold, the threed sliked flat, to illustrat the bewty therof.

β. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 90 b, Take a cloute or linnen cloth wete in water, wherwith you shall slycke and make smoth the said tables. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. XXVI. To slick, polish, and smooth them again with the pumy stone. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 75 Parchment dyed green, and slickt with a slick-stone. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 85 Some have a way to slick with a Slick-stone all the Honours very smooth. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 180 Make it up into a paste; slick white paper, roll your paste out [etc.]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 379 It is next slicked with a good grit-stone, to take out the wrinkles. 1852 C. MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 347 It [the leather] is then pared, slicked, and beaten out flat. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2208/1 Slickers..are used to slick down the curved surfaces of molds after withdrawal of the pattern.

b. *transf.* To polish up, make elegant or fine. Also with *off, up.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 99 He ne heþ none hede of longe ryote of tales y-slyked ne y-rymed. *Ibid.* 212 Wordes afaited and y-sliked ueleuold. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 4 With woordes so fitlye coucht, wyth verses so smoothlye slyckte. 1638 QUARLES *Elegies* iii, No farr-fetch'd Metaphor shall smooth or slick My ruffled straine. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 133 Now this grand house has only two rooms down stairs, that are altogether slicked up and finished off complete. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. i, The parson kind o' slicked off sum o' the last varses.

c. With *away* or *out*: To remove by smoothing or polishing.

1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 116 This clyster.. slicketh away all slimy substance. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 386/2 The superfluous moisture and the superficial bloom are now slicked out [with the slicker].

† **2. a.** To make specious or plausible. Also *absol.*, to use specious language. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 841 Alle þine wordes beoþ isliked, ..þat alle..weneþ þat þu segge soþ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 351 For so wel can ther noman slyke. *Ibid.* 365 He can so wel hise wordes slyke To putte awey suspecioun.

† **b.** To flatter, treat pleasantly. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Long Life* 43 in *O. E. Misc.* 158 Ȝef þe world wiþ weole þe sliked þat is for to do þe wo.

3. To make (the skin, hair, etc.) sleek or glossy, esp. by some special treatment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28026 Yee leuedis..Quen yee yow-self sua slight and slike, Yee sai þat men you wille besuike. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 98 To sitten and soupen..T'yl sleuth and slepe slyken his sides. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facious* II. viii. 181 No face painted, no skinne slicked, no countrefeicte countenaunce. *c* 1570 [JEFFERIES] *Bugbears* I. iii, He is coombed and slicked and wasshed. 1593 MUNDAY *Def. Contraries* 21 Oftentimes they..rub, slick, chafe and washe themselues, only to seeme faire. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Kt. Burning Pestle* II. iii, A gentle Squire..Who will our Palfries slick with wisps of straw. 1620–6 QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* 1089 He..Stayes not to bathe his weather-beaten ioynts, Nor smooth'd his countenance, nor slick't his skinne. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict., To slick*, to comb, or make sleek, the hair. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xiii. 98 Slicks down his long hair, and rubs his oiled limbs to a polish.

absol. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Epil., They neuer stande content,..But paint and slicke til fayrest face be foule.

4. *colloq.* (See quot.)

1860 *Slang Dict.* 218 *Slick*,..as a verb,..has the force of 'to despatch rapidly', turn off, get done with a thing.

Hence **Slicked** (slikt) *ppl. a.*

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* M j b, These Boare pigs and Beare whelpes,..for all their slickt coates and smooth tongues, vnderstand not what courteous behauiour and gentle deeds meane. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 952 A slicked tongue and a slacke hand keepe other companie. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 85 The rest..will slip off from the slickt Card. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4067/8 Lost .., a yellow coloured slick'd Greyhound Bitch.

Sli·cken, *v. rare.* [f. SLICK *a.* + -EN [5].] *trans.* To make smooth or polished.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* 442 The Eban stone which Goldsmiths vse to slicken their gold with. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 15 A Band..Starched, Slickened and Smoothed by the care of the Landress. *Ibid.* 292 A Shooemakers polishing stick..is that wherewith they polish and slicken their Leather. 1893–4 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss., Slickened*, polished. Used to describe the appearance found on the planes of bedding where a fault in the strata has occurred.

Slickens (sli·kėns). *U.S.* [? f. SLICK *sb.*[2]] (See quots.)

1882 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 337 It is the lighter soils of the hydraulic mines and the pulverized matter from the quartz-mills of the mining region which constitute 'slickens'. 1894 *New York Tribune* 2 Feb. 1/3 All of this [500-acres] will be covered with 'slickens', washings from the mines in the mountains, and thus be rendered valueless.

Slickenside (sli·k'nˌsəid). Also **-sides.** [f. dial. *slicken*, var. of SLICK *a.* + SIDE *sb.*[1]]

1. *Min.* A specular variety of galena found in Derbyshire.

1768 METTAM in Whitehurst *Formation of Earth* (1778) 188, I send you, by the bearer, two specimens of our slickensides, containing all the variety of minerals where the explosions happen. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *Derbyshire* I. 195 Slickenside with a smooth surface on each side...The crackling and explosions caused by scraping these slickensides with a pick-ax are well known. 1810 MILLAR *J. Williams' Min. Kingdom* II. App. 448 Slickenside, which is a variety of galena, or sulphuret of lead, is also a product of these [Derbyshire] mines. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. Gloss., *Slickensides*,..one of the ores of lead found in Derbyshire.

2. *Geol.* A polished (and sometimes striated) surface on the wall of a mineral lode, or on a line of fracture in a rock-mass; a smooth glistening surface produced by pressure and friction.

1822 CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Geol. Eng. & Wales* 401 These planes, when separated, are the slickensides of the mineralogist. 1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 164 The *Slickensides* evidently point to some sliding or grinding motion in the mass constituting the lode. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 459 A kind of universal slickenside, consequent upon the crushing of a rock consisting of thin laminæ of different texture.

attrib. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxxiv. 462 The direction of these joints (many of which have slickenside surfaces). 1884 *Nature* 13 Nov. 35 Parallel with the slickenside-lines. 1888 PRESTWICH *Geol.* II. 134 Extreme lateral

pressure, the result of which is the formation of slickenside surfaces, often strongly striated.

Hence **Sli·ckensided** *ppl. a.* and *pa. pple.*; **Sli·ckensiding** *vbl. sb.*

1875 Dawson *Dawn of Life* ii. 32 This graphite is composed of contorted and slickensided laminæ. 1883 *Science* I. 191/2 A roof of slickensided 'soapstone'. 1884 *Geol. Mag.* 553 The dissolution being unequal, caused bosses to be left standing up, which were then 'slickensided' by the downward movement of the chalk. *Ibid.* 552 This movement would be..amply sufficient to account for the slickensiding observed.

Slicker (sli·kəɹ). [f. Slick *a.* or *v.*]

1. a. A tool used for scraping or smoothing leather. (Cf. Sleeker.)

1851–3 Tomlinson *Cycl. Arts & Manuf.* (1867) II. 34/1 The cylinder drags the hide under the governor, which acts similarly to a slicker. 1860 — *Arts & Manuf.* Ser. II. *Leather* 20 It is..well rubbed with a smooth lump of glass called a 'slicker'. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 277 The hides are 'whitened' by scraping them with a whitening slicker.

b. A tool used for smoothing the surfaces of moulds in founding.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2208/1.

2. *U.S.* A waterproof overcoat.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 300/1 Carry..a rubber pillow, and a 'slicker'. 1888 *Home Missionary* (N. Y.) May 14, I put on my thick overcoat, then a duster, and over them my slicker.

Slicking (sli·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Slick *v.*]

1. The action of making sleek or smooth, etc.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 27 By crafty sliking they make the same Fustions to appere to the comen people fyne, bole and sounde. 1600 Abbot *Jonah* 592 Are there not which take more care of their slicking and of their platting, then of the Kingdom of Heaven? 1636 *Lyly's Euphues* F iij, I loath almost to thinke on..the sliking of their faces. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 The size is flour-paste,..and the operation on the rope is called *snugging*, *slicking*, or *finishing*. *attrib.* 1588 Churchyard in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 595 As it were rubde and smoothde with slicking-stone. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., A shoemaker talks about slicking the soles of his shoes with a slicking stick. 1896 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LIII. 46 Thumb-flints, or slicking-knives, also occur.

b. *spec.* In hat-making: (see quot.).

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2208/2 *Slicking*,..the attaching of the fur nap to the felt body.

2. *Mining.* In *pl.* Narrow veins of ore.

1843 J. Y. Watson *Compend. Brit. Mining* 81.

Slickly (sli·kli), *adv.* Also 6 **slickely.** [f. Slick *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. Sleekly, smoothly. *rare.*

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 93 Let their heads bee slickely comb'd.

2. Cleverly, deftly.

1893 *Daily News* 14 Apr. 2/2 Look..how slickly they are painted, with what knowledge and skill.

Slickness (sli·knės). [f. Slick *a.* + -ness.]

1. Smoothness. *rare.*

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 482 Some of which [stones, *Calculi*] were so bestow'd as to slide upon others, and had thereby worn their flats to a wonderfull slikness.

2. Smartness.

1872 *Daily News* 5 Aug., I know not whether the uniform ..gives him a greater appearance of what in the North is called 'slickness'.

3. Dexterity, cleverness.

1895 *Daily News* 5 June 7/2 A mere sketch, it is true, but with all his slickness and deftness of execution. 1899 *Ibid.* 22 Apr. 9/4 The slickness of the painting..is quite admirable.

Sli·ckstone. Now *rare.* Also 4, 6 **slike-**, 5 **slyk-**, 6 **slycke-**. [f. Slick *v.* Cf. ON. *slikisteinn* (Norw. *slikjestein*).] = Sleekstone.

*c*1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 172 A slikestone. *c*1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 158 W[oman] oft with slikeston slikyth. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 563 *Anuethon*, a slykston. *Ibid.* 593 *Litatorium*, a slykston. 1530 Palsgr. 271 Slyckestone, *lisse a papier.* 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 15 Their shooes shined as bright as a slikestone. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 75 Shining as parchment dyed green, and slickt with a slick-stone. 1674 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 85 Some have a way to slick with a Slick-stone all the Honours very smooth. *c*1711 Petiver *Gazophyl.* x. § 96 A large smooth shining Gowry, which is used for a Polish or Slick-stone. 1771 Mrs. Haywood *New Present for Maid* 267 Smooth them [ribands] with a glass slick-stone. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 242 Slick Stones, the 100—£0 8*s.* 0*d.* 1893–4 Heslop *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., Slickstones were sometimes made with a stalk or handle. 1895 *Stand. Dict.*, *Slickstone*,..Archeol., a prehistoric stone implement used in preparing skins.

Slick-worm. *Sc.* (See quot. and cf. Sleck *sb.*)

1796 *Statist. Acc. Scotland* XVII. 469 This brook has a rich muddy bottom, in which there is plenty of slick-worm (a species of food which the trout peculiarly delight in).

Slid, *sb.* Now *rare.* Also 6 **slidd, slydd-.** [Obscurely related to Sled *sb.* or Slide *v.*] A device by which something may be slid along the ground; a sled or sledge; a skid.

1513 *Life Henry V* (Kingsford) 111 A slidd laden with greate stakes and with other greate peeces of greene wood. 1519 Horman *Vulgaria* 244 b, This house may be remoued with tracles, & slyddis. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 112 If they pave the waies, between the Canes, for the Slids and Assinigoes to passe. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 203 The advantages of the high wheels, and troughs or slids, over common wheels. *Ibid.* 207 The troughs or slids which accompany the Carriage, are to be placed under the wheels. 1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 15 Aug. 6 The hay 'slipes' or 'slids' for shifting the coles or ricks to the shed.

b. ? A load sufficient for a sled.

1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* s.v., Thirty-four pollards produced a slid, and an average slid produced 13 faggots, or about 7½ slids to a hundred faggots.

Slid, *a. Sc.* Also 6 **slide, slyd(e.** [Related to Slide *v.*]

1. Slippery.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. ii, Ane passage..Hewin in the roche of slid hard marbell stone. 1513 — *Æneid* VII. vii. 29 Full slyde scho slyppis hir membris our allquhayr. 17.. Ramsay *Betty & Kate* iii, On a slid stane, or smoother slate. 1737 — *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 37 He has a slid grip that has an eel by the tail. 1808 Jamieson, *Slid ice*, ice that is glib. 1850 Struthers *Poet. Wks.* II. 239 The brawling burn We ploutered aft, slid eels to snare. 1899– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

2. *fig.* a. Mutable, changeable, uncertain.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. lv, The slide inconstant destenie or chance. *Ibid.* III. lxxviii, This warldis glorie, Maist inconstant, maist slid and transitorie.

b. Smooth, polished, sleek, sly.

1719 Ramsay *Ep. J. Arbuckle* 50 Something sae auld-farran, Sae slid, sae unconstrain'd and darin. 1721 — *Poems* Gloss. s.v., He's a slid lown. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Ye have sae saft a voice, and slid a tongue. 1896 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Slid, *ppl. a.* [f. Slide *v.*] Uttered with a kind of sliding tone.

1898 Kipling *Day's Work* 320 It was the unreproducible slid *r*, as he said this was his 'fy-ist' visit to England, that told me he was a New Yorker.

'Slid, *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 7 **slydd.** [abbrev. of *God's lid* (eyelid): see God *sb.* 14 a.] A form of oath, common in the 17th century.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iv. 24 Ile make a shaft or a bolt on't, slid, tis but venturing. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. ii, Slydd there's not one of them truely emphaticall. 1650 Cowley *Guardian* II. ii, Here's company; 'slid I'll fight then. 1689 *Dial. betw. Timothy & Titus* 6 Slid! this is insufferable. 1855 Kingsley *Westw. Ho!* iii, 'Slid, it seems half a life that I've been away.

Slidage (sləi·dėdʒ). *Canadian.* [f. Slide *v.*] The payment for the right of using a log slide.

1884 *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 411 A promise to pay slidage for the use and occupation of such works..could not be enforced.

Sli·dden, *ppl. a. rare.* [See Slide *v.* A. 3 b.] That has slipped or slid down.

1827 Hodgson *Northumberland* I. II. 165 *note*, The celebrated figure..cut in high relief upon a huge block of 'slidden' sandstone rock.

Sli·dder, *sb. dial.* [Cf. Slidder *a.* and *v.*] A trench or hollow running down a hill; a steep slope.

For other uses see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

*a*1793 G. White *Selborne, Obs. on Veget.* (1853) 301 One of the slidders, or trenches, down the middle of the Hanger ..is still called strawberry-slidder. 1842 *Dumfries Herald* Oct., Tearing and wearing his corduroys, up trees and down *slidders*, to very reasonable tatters. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Slidder*,..a track down the hill side for the water.

† Sli·dder, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Forms: α. 1–2 slidor, 2–6 **slider** (4 -ere, 5 -ur, -re), 4–5 **slidir,** 5–6 **slyder** (4 -ir, 5 -yr, -ere); 4 **sledyr,** 4–5 **sleder;** 1 **sliddor,** 5– **slidder** (6 -yr, **slydder,** -ir). β. 5 **solidere, -yr, sclydyr, sklyder.** [OE. *slidor*, f. *slīd-* weak grade of *slīdan* Slide *v.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Slippery; on which one readily slips. Also as quasi-*sb.* (quot. 1501).

a 1000 *Runic Poem* 29 Is byþ ofercealdd, ungemetum slidor. *c*1280 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 168 þe oþer was þat heo [a bridge] was so slider, þat me ne scholde þer on nogt gon. *c*1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 5260 þe plank þat on þe brygge was, was as sledyr as any glas. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 63 Somme may nouȝt clymbe on þe hilles, þe wey is so slider. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slydyr (or swypyr as a wey), *lubricus.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 322/2 Sclidere (*A.* Sclydyr), *labilis.* 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. lv, Thay na grippis thair micht hald for slidder. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1840, I trowe it be a frost, for the way is slydder. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxi. 31 Clyde banks..thay sall find slidder, Quhen kindlit is Gods ire.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) xxxiv. 7 Syn heora weȝas þystre and slidore. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 956 Þu schalt falle, þi wey is slidor. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* 22 He wol the lede in wayes slidre. 1533 J. Heywood *Mery Play* 296 The way to heven is very slydder.

c. *fig.* From which one may easily slip or fall; uncertain, mutable.

c 1480 Henryson *Fables, Wolf & Wether* xxii, Bewar in welth, for hall benkis ar richt slidder. 1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4977 Sen ȝe..Hes causit me for to consydder Quhow warldlye Pompe and glore bene slydder. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 151 Oft tymes thay find that seit most slidder That they haue keipit in the kingis menoritie.

2. Inclined to slip or fall. *rare.*

1388 Wyclif *Lam.* IV. 18 Oure steppis weren slidir in the weie of oure stretis. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving* 103 Men suld considyr That womenis honore is tendyr & slydder.

3. Of a smooth or slippery nature.

1388 Wyclif *Prov.* XXVI. 28 A slidir mouth worchith fallyngis. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* V. XXXVIII. (Bodl. MS.), ȝif he were slider and smoþe within by sliderneS mete schuld passe oute. *Ibid.* XI. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Eyer [air] is of slider kynde, and þerfore he entreþ and comeþ in to dennes of þe erþe. 1686 G. Stuart *Joco-ser. Disc.* 20 My Tongue is grown sae slip and slidder.

B. *adv.* In a sliding or unstable manner.

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* iii. 149 Mony folk slod to helle slider. *c*1400 *26 Pol. Poems* iv. 7 And hem-self stoden so slydere. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 49 In heuen blis ȝe stooden full slidir.

Slidder (sli·dəɹ), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 **slid(e)rian,** 5 **slideren, slyder(yn), slydre, slidre;** 3 **sliddren,** 7– **slidder,** 9 *Sc.* **scl-, sklidder.** [OE. *slid(e)rian*, = MDu. *slid(e)ren*, *sliddēren*, LG. *sliddern*, G. *schlittern*, a frequentative from *slīd-*, the weak grade of *slīdan* Slide *v.*]

1. *intr.* To slide, to slip.

For variations of sense see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* XXXVIII. 276 (Cotton MS.), Þonne hie on moniȝfaldum wordum slidriað. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) XVII. 35 Mine fet ne slideredon. *Ibid.* XXXVII. 16 Ȝif hy geseon þæt mine fet slidrien. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* A. V. 113 (Univ. Coll. MS.), I mai it not trowe þat he ne schulde slideren þeron, so was [it] þred bare. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7119 Yiff they slydre, or falle doun, Thys Emperesse..doth hem releue. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4152 So hard thei smote than to-gedre, Out of here sadils thei gan to slidre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459 Slyderyn (*K.* slidyn). 1697 Dryden *Æneid* II. 751 With that he dragg'd the trembling Sire, Slidd'ring through clotter'd Blood, and holy Mire. 1720 Pope *Iliad* XXI. 267 His feet, upborn, scarce the strong flood divide, Slidd'ring, and stagg'ring. 1806 Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* II. ix, Feeling your foot slidder over the back of a toad. 1851 G. H. Kingsley *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 508 Angular pieces of stone..'sliddering' down by the ton. 1879 *Trans. Dev. Assoc.* XI. 516 These tiny animals..creep and slidder under stones.

2. *trans.* To make slippery or smooth.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxxi. (1495) 903 Yf mylke is tomoche corrupte it slydereth the roughnesse of the stomak. 1891 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Hence **Sli·ddering** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 Vondunge is sliddrunge. 1866 Mark Lemon *Wait for the End* v. 54 Those were the dancing days of Old England, putting to shame our shambling, hopping, sliddering times.

† Sli·dderness. *Obs.* [f. Slidder *a.*] Slipperiness, smoothness. Also *fig.*

971 *Blickl. Gl.* (Ps. XXXIV. 6), Slidornis, *lubricum.* *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 4 Many men felden doun for slidirnesse of þis weie. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* V. XXXVIII. (Bodl. MS.), ȝif he were slider and smoþe within, by sliderneS mete schuld passe oute. *c* 1400 *Comm. Luke* I. 15 (MS. Bodl. 43), He is seid a perfit man whiche..feelip not þe slidirnesse or leccherie of ȝong wexinge age. *c* 1475 Henryson *Orph. & Eur.* 305 For slyddrenes skant mycht he hald his feit. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 323/1 A Sclidyrnes, *labilitas.*

Sli·ddery, *a.* Now *dial.* Forms: 3 **slid(d)ri,** 5 **slydrye,** 6 **slyddry,** -rie, 6–7 **slidrie,** 8 **slidd'ry,** 8–9 **sliddry;** 3–5 **slideri,** 4 **-ery, slydery, sledery** (6 *Sc.* **-erie**), 5, 7 (9) **slidderie,** 9 **sliddery.** [f. Slidder *v.* + -y. Cf. MDu. *sliderich.*]

1. Slippery; on which one may readily slip.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 To wel we hit wuteð hu þe wei of þisse worlde is sliddri. *c* 1280 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 221 Bi a luytel bosk he tok his hondlyng, And set his feet on a slidri bas. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 160 [The way is] slidery. 1382 Wyclif *Jer.* XXXVIII. 22 Thei han drenchid thee doun in the myre, and in the sledery thing thi feet. *c* 1480 Henryson *Fables, Preach. Swallow* XXXI, Slonkis and slaik maid slidderie with the sleit. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. XXXIX. 163 They can unuthe stande upon theyre fete so slydrye it is. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* X. vi. 42 Slyddry glar so from wallis went That oft thar feyt was smyttyn vp on loft. *a* 1724 in Ramsay *Tea-table Misc.* (1876) II. 219 Is not this warld a slidd'ry ball? And thinks men strange to catch a fall? 1827 J. Wilson *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 II. 9 Slimy and sliddery as the sea-weed. 1874 Hislop *Sc. Anecd.* 147 The floor was as sliddery as ice.

b. Uncertain, unstable, changeable, fleeting. (Cf. Slidder *a.* 1 c.)

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* XXIII. 980 þe esen of vr inward þouht Lyft vp from slideri þinge. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 102 Full slyddrie is the sait that thay on sit. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 292 Quhair may be seine how vnconstant and slidrie was the end of that battell. *c* 1610 Sir W. Mure *Sonn.* X. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 56 Quhose othe & promeis ar a slidrie ground To build vpon, to make a man assuird. 1640 *Canterburians Self-Convict.* 32 A full peace in tearmes so generall, so ambiguous, so slidderie. 1786 Burns *Farewell Brethren St. James's Lodge* i, Tho' I to foreign lands must hie, Pursuing Fortune's slidd'ry ba'. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* XV, It will be present service..which, in these sliddery times, will be expected by a man like the Marquis.

2. Inclined or prone to slip. *rare* —1.

1382 Wyclif *Lam.* IV. 18 Thei maden sliderȳ oure steppis in the weie of oure stretes.

3. Of a smooth or slippery nature. Also *fig.*, sly, deceitful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 74 þe tunge is sliddri, nor heo wadeð ine wete. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* XXVI. 28 The slideri mouth werchith fallingis. 1551 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* 76 Thai ar lyk to ane slederie eil. 1791 Learmont *Poems* 45 Unless some slidd'ry means he us'd. 1816 G. Muir *Clydesdale Minstrelsy* 8 (E.D.D.), Lawyers fam'd for slidd'ry gabs. 1868 W. Shelley *Flowers* 181 Some gleg-gabbit slidderie lier.

† Sli·ddy, *a. Obs.* = Slidderȳ *a.* 1.

1623 Wodroephe *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 107/2 It is sliddy (*glissant*) wether. *Il verglace.* It freeseth after a rayne, it is sliddy.

Slide (slәid), *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* **slyde.** [f. Slide *v.*]

I. 1. The act or fact of sliding; an instance of this; also, the manner in which a thing slides.

1596 Fitz-Geffrey *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 8 As some travel-tired passenger..Sits downe to view the sight-reviving slide, The wanton bubling-waters gentle glide. 1609 Dekker *Guil's Horn Bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 231 You may publish your suit..with the slide of your cloake from the one shoulder. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 58 My third Lieutenant broke his leg by a slide on the deck. 1860

TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 78 The edge of the precipice, to which less than a quarter of a minute's slide would carry us. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Pr. Deukalion* III. i, The bubble and slide of the rill Is heard.

b. *fig.* in various applications.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 23 Sen he hes maid sa mony slydis Trow ze he can be trew? 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Nobility* (Arb.) 196 Kinges, that have able Men of theire Nobilitye, shall finde ease in ymployinge them, and a better slyde in theire busines. 1625 *Ibid., Fortune* 381 Like Homers Verses, that haue a Slide, and Easinesse, more then the Verses of other Poets. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. vii, Thence, by a graceful slide down the family-tree, her ladyship traced out the consanguinity. 1884 GLADSTONE in *Spectator* 16 Feb. 220/1 When I saw his mind shaken, and, so to speak, on the slide.

c. *Music.* A kind of grace (see quots.); also = PORTAMENTO.

1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 152 The *Slide*, a grace in very frequent use. It generally consists of two notes gradually ascending or descending to the note it is intended to ornament; and to which it is attached by a curve. 1881 *Grove's Dict. Music* III. 534 *Slide*,..an ornament frequently met with in both vocal and instrumental music, although its English name has fallen into disuse. It consists of a rapid diatonic progression of three notes, either ascending or descending, of which the principal note, or note to be ornamented, is the third, and the other two are grace-notes.

2. An earth-slip, a landslip, an avalanche; a place on a hill-side, etc., where this has happened.

1664 *Maldon Borough Deeds* (Bundle 151 fol. 2), [To] amend and restore all such slides, decayes, or breaches, of and in the calcway. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* ii, He..was led..to believe that this rock marked the farthest extent of the slip or slide of earth. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xxxi, It proved to be not so much a slide as the breaking off and falling of a vast line of cliff. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U. S.) Apr. 157 Immediately following this tremendous slide came a crowd of people rushing in every direction.

b. A sliding mass or stretch *of* water.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* vii, I stood at the foot of a long pale slide of water.

3. *Mining.* **a.** A fracture in a lode resulting in the dislocation or displacement of a portion of it; a vein of clay, etc., marking such dislocation.

1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 82 That fracture which we call a slide or heave. *Ibid.* 83 The slide or heave of the Lode manifests the greater subsidence of the Strata. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 316 Clay veins; of which there are two sets, the more ancient, called *Cross-Fluckans*; and the more modern, called *Slides*. 1865 J. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 23 Walls of hardah..are dreaded, because they are generally accompanied by slides, which dip precipitously from east to west. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 16 June 6/1 Every main reef is cut by a slide dipping from west to east.

b. Matter dislodged by an earth-slip.

1841 WHITTIER *To a Friend* iv, Loose rock and frozen slide Hung on the mountain-side. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 296 The shaft passes 45 feet through 'slide', and then 155 feet on the vein.

4. a. A kind of sledge. (Cf. SLID *sb.*)

1685–90 COAD *Wonderful Provid.* (1849) 10 Reply was made that I was not able to go or ride; at which he ordered them to bring me on a slide. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 362 We frequently procure a slide, to be drawn by one horse, made of two poles about ten feet long. 1861 SMILES *Lives Engineers* I. 193 The slide or sledge is seen in the fields. 1896 *Pilgrim Missionary* (Boston) Sept. 10, I..borrowed a mule and a slide, and hauled to the house some planks and pickets.

b. A runner on which a gun is mounted.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* XXX, Their guns..were fixed on slides,..to enable them to be fired over the bows. 1833 — *P. Simple* (1863) 248 They all carried guns mounted upon slides, which ran fore and aft between the men.

II. 5. A sliding part of some mechanism; a device which slides or may be slid.

In various technical uses: cf. SLIDER *sb.*4. Ash (1775) gives the general definition, 'a part of an instrument or machine to be pulled in and out'. A few out of the many special applications are here illustrated.

a. *c*1608 *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (Swayne, 1896) 158 For the fiffth bell..a Rope Slide and other Implementes. **b.** *c* 1800 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Trumpet*, By the aid of a newly invented *slide* many other notes which the common trumpet cannot sound are now produced. 1872 H. C. BANISTER *Text-bk. Music* (1899) 228 The Trombone is a brass instrument with slides shortening or lengthening its tube. **c.** 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 46 Air should likewise be pretty freely admitted .. by means of slides or other contrivances. 1855 LARDNER *Mus. Sci. & Art* V. 25 The methods of opening and closing the passages by means of lids slipping over them called slides. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxii, These instructions Mr. Chivery .. called through a little slide in the outer door. **d.** 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 57 The slides are ledges of good dry oak, about two or two and a half inches wide, and one third of an inch thick. **e.** 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Slide*,..part of a forcing-pump. **f.** 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. H 10, This lathe has..a self-acting slide..for boring out..short lengths. 1893 SEON *Mechanic's Own Book* (ed. 4) 536, *a* is a slide which fits the lathe-bed very accurately, but will yet slide freely upon it. **g.** 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 490 The 'slide', or lock, receding from the spindles during the twisting of the threads, and returning to the spindle again during the winding on of the yarn. **h.** 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. r. 194 Attached to the framework let there be, close to the circumference of each cylinder, a slide or guide-rod to guide a moveable point, moved by the hand of an operator. **i.** 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 92 In full plate lever watches the slide is jewelled and supports the bottom pivot of the balance staff.

6. A kind of tongueless buckle or ring used as a fastener, clasp, or brooch; a small perforated object sliding on a cord, etc.

1779 *Ann. Reg.* 203 A gold slide, set with diamonds. 1824 JANE TAYLOR *Contrib. of Q. Q.* (1828) II. 149 If a slide broke in her frock,..instead of re-placing..she would exclaim—'there's that tiresome slide gone'. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 271 Tortoiseshell slides for the hair, 1/6.

7. a. A slip of glass or other material on which an object is mounted or placed to facilitate its examination by a microscope.

1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 14 That part of the old compound microscopes which used to carry the slide of object-glasses. 1895 G. E. DAVIS *Pract. Micros.* (ed. 3) 375 Objects are generally mounted upon glass slides, or 'slips', as they are sometimes called.

b. A picture prepared for use in a magic lantern or stereoscope.

1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i, He had even lost money..by getting up goblin slides for magic lanterns. 1858 *Edinb. Rev.* July 207 His history..passes before us like a series of slides in a magic lantern. 1890 ATKINSON *Ganot's Physics* 598 A stereoscope..which will give us, with the ordinary stereoscopic slides, a reversed picture.

c. *Photogr.* A flat case or receptacle within which plates are placed for the purpose of being inserted in a camera. Freq. *dark slide*.

1856 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 184 It is best to let the water dry off previously to the plate being placed in the slide. 1876 ABNEY *Instruct. Photogr.* 166 The sensitized plate in the dark slide. 1878 — *Treat. Photogr.* 216 The slide is divided into two parts, hinged so as to fold one against the other.

8. *Rowing.* A sliding seat.

1875 STONEHENGE *Brit. Rur. Sports* (ed. 12) 643/1 A well-known amateur who .. had never used the slide. 1894 LEHMANN in *Daily News* 6 Feb. 3/5 In 1871 a crew of professionals used a seat that slid on the thwarts, and beat a crew that was generally held to be superior, and from that moment slides, as we now know them, came into general use.

III. 9. A smooth surface, esp. of ice, for sliding on, or formed by being slid on; a slippery place.

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, *Slide*, a frozen place slid upon. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, Mr. Pickwick..took another run and went slowly and gravely down the slide. 1856 THACKERAY *Lett.* Wks. 1901 X. p. xxvii, A poor old gentleman slipped down and broke his thigh on a slide. 1899 B. CAPES *Lady of Darkness* xi. 91 A perfect little slide of grease that had formed on the boards below.

10. a. An inclined plane for the transit of heavy goods, esp. timber. Chiefly *Amer.*

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxviii. (ed. 3) 282 The mines of Bolanos .. are supplied with timber from the adjacent mountains by a slide similar to that of Alpnach. 1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 16 Mar., The logs are then placed in the trough of the slide and very easily drawn by horses to their destination. 1886 B. HARTE *Snowbound* 127 A slide was a rude incline for the transit of heavy goods that could not be carried down a trail.

b. *Amer.* A sloping channel constructed to facilitate the passage of logs down stream; a chute.

1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* 1880 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 7 Jan. 28 The government constructs 'slides' for the passage of timber around shoals or rapids where there are no canals. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Hdbk. Canada* 20 The streams for floating timber to market have been opened up by slides, booms, and dams.

c. The bottom of a gold-washing cradle.

1864 J. ROGERS *New Rush* II. 27 The heavier gold remaining on the slide.

11. A device of the nature of a bed, rail, groove, etc., on or in which a thing may slide.

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 897 The work to be continually moved to and fro upon the slide or railway, a distance equal to its own length. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 48 *Slides*, upright rails, of wood or metal, fixed in a shaft, for the purpose of steadying the cages, which have corresponding grooves attached to them. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. F 11, The hammer-head is of cast iron, and works in slides, which are firmly rivetted into the frames.

12. The track of an otter.

1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 95 These otters are usually caught in steel traps, which are set beneath the water where one of the 'slides' or tracks of the animals leads to the margin.

Slide, obs. variant of SLID *a.*

Slide (slәid), *v.* Pa. t. **slid.** Pa. pple. **slid** (**slided, slidden**). Forms: (see below). [OE. *slīdan*, = NFris. *slīde* (*slīre*), *sklid*, older LG. *sliden* (*slijden*), MHG. *slīten*: for related forms see SLIDDER *v.* and SLEAD *sb.*]

A. Inflexional forms.

In OE. the conjugation is more fully represented in the compound *ādlīdan* (*-slād, -slidon, -sliden*). In early ME. the short pret. stem appears in the subj. *slide* in the *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 212/427.

1. *Inf.* (and *Pres.*, etc.) 1 **slīdan,** 3 **sliden,** 4 **slyden,** 5 **slidyn**; 3– **slide** (4 **slid**), 4–7 **slyd(e,** 5–6 **slyde.**

a 950 *Guthlac* v. (1909) 123 Of þære lyfte slidan. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 3if eni uoð on uorte sliden. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1300 Flesches lustes hi makeþ slide. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8150 Þat makes þy werk slyden o slep. 13.. *Cursor M.* 894 Þou sal slid apon þi brest. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 789 He shulde slyde forth sleghly. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 7 Sclyde doune & comforth me. 1538 BALE *Brefe Comedy* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 206 Slouthfulnesse shall slyde. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 94 Let not this slide out of your memory. 1617 SIR W. MURE *Misc.* xxi. 99 Heir silver brooks doe slyd.

b. *3rd sing. Pres. Ind.* (1 **-slīt**), 3–4 **slit, slyt,** 5 **slitte.**

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 He slit & falleð sone. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Hit is muche wonder that he nadoun slyt. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 129 It slit awey so faste.

2. *Pa. t. a.* (1 **-slād**); *north.* and *Sc.* 4–5 **slad,** 5, 8– **slade**; 4–5 **slayd** (5 **slayde**), 4– **slaid,** 9 **slaed,** etc.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23222 (Edinb.), Þoh a firin fel..þar into slad. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 701 The schippys our the wawys slayd. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5456 Þa waters sone away slade. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 120 Ane serpent slaid..out of ane pillare. 1591 JAS. I *Poet. Exerc., Chorus Venetus*, Our enemies feet they slaid. 1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* xiv, I slade away wi' little din. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxvi, The wife slade cannie to her bed.

β. 4–5 **slood** (**slod**), 4–7 **slode**; 9 *dial.* **slod.**

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1182 In slomeryng he slode. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 237 He slood wiþ his oon foot. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xviii. 365 His swerd slode adoune. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxx. 403 He slode and fell downe. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 257 We slode step by step.

γ. 5–6 **slidde,** 6–7 **slidde,** 6– **slid.**

c 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 198 All thynges that slydde vnto them. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iv. 32 Whiles..they softly slid. 1598 JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. iv, I slidde downe ..into the streete. 1676–7 MARVELL *Corr.* cclxxxiii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 515 This slid over.

δ. 6 **slyded,** 5– **slided.**

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 345 The swerde slided vpon the helme. *c* 1580 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carew* in *Archæol.* XXVIII. 121 His foote slyded or slipped. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 187 Others slided along with a good Air. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 269 A number of parts..which slided. 1826 HOOD *Last Man* 20 Then down the rope..I slided.

3. *Pa. pple. a.* 3 **islide,** 4 **islyde,** 5 **(y)slide.**

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 686 Hit nis of horte islide. 13.. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 132 Hou sone þat hit is forþ islyde. *a* 1420 BIBLE *Prov.* xxiv. 10 Thou that hast slide [*v.r.* yslide].

β. (1 **-sliden**), 4–5, 7 **sliden** (4 **-un,** 5 **-on**), 4–5 **slyden** (5 **-yn**); 4 *Sc.* **sclyddyn,** 5 *Sc.* **slyddin,** 6 **slydden,** 6– **slidden** (9 *dial.* **sledden**).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 126 Sum ar slyddin our the wall. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* iii. 53 Slyden is in to a grene my lyf. 1392 in Fraser *The Lennox* (1874) II. 48 Throw errour sclyddyn. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lx, Sliden & viciat by þe first man. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 9 The truth whence ye haue slydden. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 14 Now changed and sliden backe. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Surrey* IV. 148 A great Part..is slidden down into the Grounds below. 1881 E. COXON *Basil Plant* I. 64 So easily had he slidden back into his old habits.

γ. 6 **slyded, -yd,** 7– **slided.**

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xxii. 37 Myne ankles haue not slyded. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXV. § 7. 301 Other spirits which..would haue slided downe more leisurely. 1776 SEMPLE *Building in Water* 36 This Block must be slided over to *c.* 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Chesterf. & Chatham*, We have slided into Cicero's language.

δ. 7– **slid.**

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* (Chandos Classics) 188 He had slid and fall'n. *a* 1751 BOLINGBROKE *Ess.* I. vii. Wks. 1754 III. 489 They have not only slid imperceptibly. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 95 Before I had slid a dozen yards.

B. Signification.

I. *intr.* **1.** To pass from one place or point to another with a smooth and continuous movement, *esp.* through the air or water or along a surface.

a 950 *Guthlac* v. (1909) 123 Ða comon semninga twegen deoflu to him of þære lyfte slidan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 701 The schippys our the wawys slayd. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xxii. 11 He..slood vpon the pennys of the wynd. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12690 [Þai] Letyn sailes doune slide sleghli & faire. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 302 Thus slided through our toun The subtil tree. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 43 Two fishes..Which through the flood before did softly slyde And swim away. 1629 QUARLES *Arg. & Parthenia* III. 2 April's gentle showers are slidden downe, To close the wind-chapt earth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 302 He took me rais'd,..over Fields and Waters, as in Aire Smooth sliding without step. 1712 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 369 P 9 The Gods..slide o'er the Surface of the Earth by an uniform Swimming of the whole Body. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 214 The vestige of the coal is sure to slide down the slope of the ground. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Gen. Kleber & French Officers* Wks. 1853 I. 43/1 The officer slided with extended arms from his resting-place. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 401 The metal could be made to slide upon itself without puckering. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xii. 364 Whitish-green spots..over which the pencil usually slid as if the spots were greasy.

b. To move in this manner while standing more or less erect upon a surface, *esp.* that of ice.

Formerly used of skating, now distinguished from it.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 164 M[an] sliduth vp-on hyse. 1530 PALSGR. 721/1, I have sene one in Hollande slyde as faste upon the yse as a bote dothe in the water whan it is rowed. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 58 b, [He] mounteth vpon your backe, and so with his feet slydeth vp and downe vpon you. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 34 The Virgins in Holland,..hand in hand with young men, slide upon the yce farre from their Fathers house. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* III. ii, As Boys [fear] to venture on the unknown Ice, That crackles underneath 'em while they slide. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 38 Those that Slide, Scate, or use any other violent Exercise in frosty Weather. 1776 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (Oxf. ed.) I. 41, I answered I had been sliding in Christ-Church meadow. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 4 Many thousands came sliding or skating along the frozen canals. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 93/1 'Do you slide?' 'I never have slidden much.'

c. To slip *off* something.

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 68 The Souldiers..vpon whom the Snow fell, and slid not off, became miserably distressed.

1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 300 A..white precipitate subsides to the bottom, and slides off the glass.

2. To streams, etc.: To glide, flow. Now *rare*.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 266 A wounde upon his side Sche made, that therout mai slyde The blod withinne. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11984 (Trin.), Ihesu soone in þat tide lett þe watir rynne & slide. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* v. xiii. 71 The flude Tibir throw Lawrent feildis slidis. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* xlvi. ii, A river streaming joy, With purling murmur safelie slides. 1633 P. Fletcher *Piscat. Eclogs* i. v, Where Thames and Isis heire By lowly Æton slides. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* i. xiii. 32 To suck out the wheyish Blood which slides along that way. 1738 *Common Sense* II. 176 It has neither rushed down the Rock, nor slided thro' the Plain. 1746 W. Mason *On the Cam* Poems 1830 II. ii. 49 Without a rill the even tide Slided silently away. 1819 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* 90 Ever from his lid a tear would slide. 1833 Tennyson *Eleanore* 109 As waves that up a quiet cove Rolling slide.

3. Of reptiles, etc.: To glide, crawl. Now *rare*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 894 þou worm,..þou sal slid apon þi brest. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxix. (*Cosmo & D.*) 261 As þe serpent had entre in at his mouth,..one þe sammyne wise it slad oute. *a* 1400 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 222 Neddre,..vppe þi breste þou schalt slyden. 1530 Palsgr. 721/1 It is a wondrouse thyng to se an adder or a snake slyde so faste as they do and have no fete. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* i. xiii. 44 These slippery snakes doe slide away. 1607 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 601 He espyed the Snake to slide up into the bed-straw. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 39 These thieves slide cunningly along upon their bellies like Snakes. 1856 [see Sliding *ppl. a.* 3].

4. To move, go, proceed unperceived, quietly, or stealthily; to steal, creep, slink, or slip *away*, *into* or *out of* a place, etc.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xx. 39 Keep this man; the which if were slyden aweye, thi lijf shal be for the lijf of hym. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4456 Quen ȝe ere slide hyne. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* viii. 1333 Slely he slayd throuch strenthis off Scotland. 1530 Palsgr. 721/2 Who wolde ever have thought it, that he shulde have slydden out at this narow hole. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. i. 54 So slyding softly forth, she turnd as to her ease. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* iii. Wks. 1856 I. 33 Then, noble spirit, slide, in strange disguise, Unto some gratious Prince. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* iv. 594 The slipp'ry God will..attempt to slide away. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. 365 You observe how he slid away..as soon as I open'd my Door. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 126 Slouching my hat, I slid out of doors. 1829 Lytton *Devereux* ii. iii, Steele slid into a seat near my own. 1839 D. C. Murray *Dang. Catspaw* 7 An officer of the court slid to the door of the judge's apartments. *fig.* *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 212 Hou þu had grace criste for to kene,..and þu fra hym þis [=thus] slad! 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iii. i, He slides More swiftly from mee then the Ocean glydes.

b. *colloq.* To make off. Orig. *U.S.*

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 415 *To slide*, to go, be gone, be off. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown*, etc. 85 She led William where he was covered by seventeen Modocs, and—slid!

II. 5. To pass away, pass by, so as to disappear, be forgotten or neglected, etc. Now *rare*.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 686 For Alured seyde of olde quide & yet hit nis of horte islide. 13.. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 132 Knowe þis worldly honoure Hou sone þat hit is forþ islyde. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 769 Bothe Troylus and Troye toun Shal knotteles thorugh out here herte slyde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4032 Frostes were faren,..The slippond slete slidon of the ground. 1503 S. Hawes *Examp. Virt.* xiv. ccxcviii, That his redolent buddes shall not slyde But euer encrease. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 60 Thus this slander slided away with the time. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 391 Presently the black hairs will fall and slide away, and in some short time there will come white. 1824 Lamb *Elia* ii. *Capt. Jackson*, Alack, how good men, and the good turns they do us, slide out of memory.

b. With *let* (or *allow*). In later use freq., to let (something) take its own course.

c 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 26 In his lust present was al his thoght,..Wel ny alle othere cures leet he slyde. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems from Vernon MS.* i. 492 [Let him] put his wylle in gode þewes, And alle wikked let slyde. *c* 1440 Capgr. *Life St. Kath.* i. 935 ȝe wyl not lete þis mater slyde, parde. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. (1590) 107 With a calm carelessness, letting each thing slide. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* Ind. i. 6 Therefore..let the world slide. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Chargé*, To take no thought, passe the time merrily, let the world slide. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 241 If California was going to cost the Union so much, it would be better to let California slide. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/1 The question at issue was not allowed to slide. 1897 *Field* 6 Feb. 166/1 The supine way we English have of letting things slide.

c. Of time: To pass, slip *away*, go *by*, imperceptibly or without being profitably employed.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 351 So sholdestow endure, and laten slyde The tyme. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 3 Thus have I lete time slyde For Slowthe. 1592 J. Davies *Immort. Soul* xxx. x, Since our Life so fast away doth slide. *c* 1600 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 824 The season With slowthing slyds away. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 147 Time slides away like the running streame. 1716–8 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett.* I. xii. 44, I need not..tell you how agreeably time slides away with me. 1734 Fielding *Old Man taught Wisdom* Wks. 1784 III. 119 How happily must my old age slide away. 1860 Hawthorne *Marble Faun* (1879) II. vii. 76 Let the warm day slide by. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* i. iv, In this manner about six weeks slid away.

6. † a. To fall *asleep*, etc. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8150 By-nebe þe erþe..Is a water rennyng dep, þat makes þy werk slyden o slep. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 59, I slode vpon a slepyng slazte. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 6 Off aunters [that] ben olde..And slydyn vppon slepe by slomeryng of Age. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* vii. 68 Apon a sleip he slaid full sodandly. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* vii. Prol. 111 On slummyr I slaid full sad.

b. To pass easily or gradually *into* some condition, practice, etc. † Also in early use with *to*.

In some contexts there is connexion with sense 9.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* ii. iv. (1495) 31 Aungels neuer slyde to vice nother to synne. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* i. xxv. 38 He þat eschuiþ not smale defautes, litel & litel shal slide in to gretter. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* i. ix, That ye to frayste shall not slyde. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 79 b, When they shall here any of the Familie slide into any of these affirmations. 1754 Young *Centaur* ii. Wks. 1757 IV. 137 Thus, looking out for some shadow of excuse, we naturally slide into groundless doubts. 1766 Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. vi. 230 She will.., when her province is enlarged, slide into the duties of it with readiness. 1802 Mrs. J. West *Infidel Father* II. 128 Even Lord Glanville, while he made his bow, so far slided into equivoque [etc.]. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. iii. 36 When an honourable man..slides into some dishonourable action. 1871 Carlyle in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* I. 144, I had slid into something of correspondence with Lockhart.

c. To pass by easy or gradual change or transformation into some other form or character.

a 1500 *Sir Cawline* xxii. in Child *Ball.* II. 59/1 The timber these two children bore Soe soone in sunder slode. 1731 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 66 Parts answ'ring parts shall slide into a whole. 1763 J. Brown *Poet. & Music* vii. 143 The Narrative..did easily slide into dramatic Representation. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. vi. 96 The great danger..of representative government, is lest it should slide down from representative government to delegate government. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VIII. lxiv. 99 Rhetorical amplifications slid swiftly into direct mis-statements. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 503 It was an easy step for the patron to slide into the beneficiary.

7. To move, pass, make way, etc., in an easy or unobtrusive manner.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iii. pr. xii. (1868) 106 The deuyne substaunce..ne slydeþ nat in to outerest foreine þinges. *c* 1386 — *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 129 That science is so fer vs beforn, We mowen nat..It ouer-take, it slit awey so faste. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* liii. 149 Mony folk slod to helle slider. *c* 1450 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 198 Righte so the holy goste vouched safe to slyde in to the hartes of the prophetes. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legend.* C ij b, Seeking ..to slyde in among the princes, and beare the like port as they. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* i. vii. 255 The Fall Of Eden's old Prince; whose luxurious pride Made on his seed his sin for ever slide. 1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 14 The which places of the Sunne are now changed and sliden backe in the Iulian Kalender. 1697 Collier *Ess.* (1702) ii. 183 A good Conscience..makes him slide into the Grave by a more gentle and insensible Motion. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. i. 2 So desirous..of sliding through life to the end of it unnoted. 1792 Mary Wollstonecr. *Vind. Rights Wom.* 8, I shall try to avoid that flowery diction which has slided from essays into novels. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 136 The poet's verse slides into the current of our blood. 1858 Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iii. 25 All lecturers..have ruts and grooves in their minds, into which their conversation is perpetually sliding.

b. Of speech or music, or with reference to these; *spec.* (see quot. 1875).

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 3 Euery Orator should earnestly labour to file his tongue, that his woordes maie slide with ease. 1864 Browning *Abt Vogler* xii, I feel for the common chord again Sliding by semitones. 1875 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., To slide is to pass from one note to another without any cessation of sound, or distinction between the intervals.

c. Of the eye or sight: To pass quickly from one object to another.

1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* iii. xv, The deceitful maze, through which the unsteady eye slides giddily. 1784 Cowper *Task* i. 511 The weary sight..slides off, Fastidious, seeking less familiar scenes.

III. 8. To slip; to lose one's foothold.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 þer on geð him one in one sliddrie weie, he slit & falleð sone. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* i. 212 Heo was so slider, þat man ne miȝte þare-oppe gon bote he slide and felle a-doun. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 596 For hapnyt ony to slyde or fall, He suld be soyne to-fruschit all. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* 18 Hys hors slode and thenne geffroy overthrewe to the erthe. 1530 Palsgr. 721/2 He slydde and bothe his fete folded underneth him. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 213 To the entent that the horses should not slide on the Pavement. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* (Chandos Classics) 187 Capt. Wray's horse..slid downe a frightfull precipice. 1763–5 Churchill *The Times* Poems 1767 II. 19 So sure, they walk on ice, and never slide. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* iii. i. 12, I see a woman..motionless, whilst I Slide giddily as the world reels.

fig. 1388 Wyclif *Lam.* iii. 53 My lijf slood in to a lake. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 241 He makth a treigne, Into the which if that he slyde, Him were betre go besyde. 1624 Massinger *Renegado* v. vii, Tho' the descent Were steep as hell, I know I cannot slide. 1668 Bp. Hopkins *Serm.* (1685) 45 We are apt to slide off from the smoother part of our lives, as flies from glass. 1795 Burke *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. 1907 VI. 399 It is not possible that the downhill should not be slid into.

b. Of the foot: To slip. Also *fig.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 149 Huanne þe on uot slyt, þe oþer him helpþ. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxxii. 35, Y shal ȝeeld to hem in tyme, that the foot of hem slyde. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 147 b/1 Hys foot slode so that he fyl in to the Ryuer. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* xxii. 37 Thou hast enlarged my goinge vnder me, and myne ankles haue not slyded. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. xi. 45 His nigh forwearied feeble feet did slide, And downe he fell. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xx, His foot sliding in the blood of the young victim.

c. In general use: To slip. Also with advs. and preps.

1388 Wyclif *Deut.* xix. 5 The yrun slidith fro the helue, ..and sleeth his freend. *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 617 The swerde sleppis on slante, and one the mayle slydys. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* i. xvi. 58 The swerd slode doune by the hauberk behynde his back. 1610 Barrough *Physick* ii. xii. (1639) 90 Their temples be slidden downe, their eyes be hollow. 1680 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 228 Its point will not describe a Circle on the greatest Extuberances of the Globe, but will slide off it. 1748 Johnson *Vis. Theodore* Wks. 1796 II. 399 The declivities grew more precipitous, and the sand slided from beneath my feet. 1834 W. Godwin *Lives Necromancers* 340 Just as he thought he had caught him by the hand, the miserable wretch slided from between his fingers. 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 737 The snake of gold slid from her hair.

fig. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxii, Muttering these last words, which slid from him, as it were unawares.

9. *fig.* To lapse morally; to commit some fault; to err or go wrong.

a 1000 *Salomon* 378 Đonne he ȝeong færeð, hafað wilde mod,..slideð ȝeneahhe [etc.]. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1390 Nis wunder nou þah he abide, Vor fleysses lustes hi makeþ slide. 1382 Wyclif *Ecclus.* xix. 16 Ther is that slideth in his tunge, but not of inwit. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 182 When grace shynethe sone are wee slydynge. *c* 1540 Coverdale tr. *Calvin's Treat. Sacrament* C ij, The rule, whyche yf we folowe, we shall neyther slyde nor erre. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 266 The strong and just God, that consumed Nineveh slidden back. 1606 Carpenter *Solomon's Solace* vi. 23 No man so wise but he may by an occasion slide. 1738 Wesley *Ps.* v. 5 Lead me in all thy righteous Ways, Nor suffer me to slide. 1779 Cowper *Olney Hymns* xli, I find myself a learner yet, Unskilful, weak, and apt to slide. 1868 Edmeston in *Sacred Poetry* 143 The Saviour suffers when his children slide.

10. *Sc.* (See quot.)

a 1814 Ramsay *Scotl. & Scotsmen 18th c.* (1888) II. 68 It was imagined they would *slide—i.e.*, 'lose beef and tallow'—by the change of food.

IV. *trans.* **11.** To cause to move with a smooth, gliding motion; to push over a level surface.

c 1537 J. London in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. iii. III. 132 Then must they putt in to the trowgh a peckke of oots, and when they wer oons slydyd vndre the Awter [etc.]. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* ii. xvi. 93 Then slide your Sight-Vane a little higher towards V. 1683 Moxon *Printing* x. iv. 43 The Tennants of the Till being slid in through the Cutting-in aforesaid. *Ibid.* xv. i, They may be slid forwards so far. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 225 *note*, We slid the stones to their respective places. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 80 The cheeks must be of such a height, that the cutter-frames can be slidden along upon them. 1843 Holtzapffel *Turning* I. 211 The right hand being slided towards the head in the act of lifting the hammer. 1877 W. R. Cooper *Egypt. Obelisks* viii. (1878) 35 The obelisk was slid off from the deck of the galley, on to a low cart.

fig. 1779 Sheridan *Critic* i. i, Haven't we the signors and signoras calling here, sliding their smooth semibreves? 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxxvii, Sliding his whisper from between his lips, which were as little unclosed as possible. 1844 Kinglake *Eothen* viii. (1878) 109 Madly sliding his splendid army, like a weaver's shuttle, from his right hand to his left.

12. With *in* or *into*: To introduce quietly or dexterously; to slip (something) *into* one's hand, etc.

1627 Donne *Serm.* v. (1640) 51 Slide wee in this note by the way. 1677 Miége i. s.v. *Glisser*, To slide his hand into ones pocket. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 8. 50 He was..to slide the Letter into her Hand, but let no Body see. *a* 1748 Watts (J.), Little tricks of sophistry by sliding in, or leaving out, such words as entirely change the question, should be abandoned by all fair disputants. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xviii, Sliding into the butler's hand the remuneration, which..was always given by a departing guest. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xlviii, Gashford slid his cold insidious palm into his master's grasp. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* (1877) I. 44 He slides in immediately a very favourite maxim of the religious know-nothing school.

13. To move over, traverse, descend, etc., in a sliding manner.

1621 Speght in Farr *Sel. Poet. Jas. I*, 200 Like a ship that ..slides the sea. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* iv. iii, The idle vessell slides the watry lay. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* i, Frederick Foretop and I were carelessly sliding the Ranelagh round. 1773 — *Bankrupt* i, I flatter'd myself with [the prospect of] gently sliding the down-hill of life.

14. With *away*: To spend in sliding.

1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 3 Or seeking bright glib ice to play And slide the wintry hours away.

Slide-, the verbal stem or the sb. in combs. (sometimes not hyphened): **a.** With names of apparatus, implements, parts of machines, etc., characterized by a sliding action, as *slide-bar*, *-block*, *-bolt*, *-car*, etc.

For technical descriptions of some of these, and of two or three others, see Knight *Dict. Mech.*

c 1886 Kipling *Railway Folk* 63 A *slide bar about red hot. 1869 Rankine *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. F 9, An inclined groove is formed in the tup, in which a *slide block is fitted. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* 225 Push the lattice ..; of course The *slide-bolt catches. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 94 These loads are carried in baskets fixed on *slide-cars. 1881–2 *Ulster Jrnl. Archæol.* IX. 145 Some time after.. what were called slide-cars were used, that is, carts without wheels. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 291 The *slide-clutch, with a slide-rib, being now placed on the shaft. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* I. 228, *g* is the charcoal-meter, with a *slide door. 1879 Stevenson *Ess. Trav., Amateur Emigrant* (1905) 23 Through the open slide-door we had a glimpse of a grey night sea. 1875 Martin *Winding Mach.* 84 It is of very great importance not to multiply..such things as slide-valves and *slide-faces. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 293 A *slide-frame in which two leading pulleys, mounted in a case, are fitted to slide in the vertical direction. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl.* vi. 106 The draught is regulated commonly by *slide-gates, but various methods may be employed. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 241 [The] *Slide Gauge..[is] a measuring instrument consisting

of one fixed and one sliding jaw. 1869 RANKINE *Machinery & Millwork* 571 In this machine the tool-holder .. slides vertically in a guiding groove in the *slide-head. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Slide-joint*, a connection acting in rod-boring, like the jars in rope-boring. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 239/2 There are two kinds of plough in use..termed respectively 'bolt knife' and '*slide knife'. 1833 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 142 An ingenious contrivance, known as the *slide-lathe. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 528 The slide-lathe, and..the planing-machine and many other most invaluable tools. 1791 *Selby Bridge Act* 34 The *slide leaf or leaves of the said bridge. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 634 The back-stay is fixed to the *slide plate. 1844 *Slide-rib* [see *slide-clutch*]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 446, *h*, the *slide rod, on which the knife *f* is fixed. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 172 The slide rod being removed, the iron pole is fixed in its place. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 633 The nut of the *slide screw..is made with two tails. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 324 For turning faces of wheels, hollow work, &c. where great accuracy is wanted, Mr. Maudslay has contrived a curious apparatus, which he calls a *slide-tool. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 594/1 The *slide trumpet is mentioned by T. E. Altenburg [1795], who compares it, and with reason, to the alto trombone. *Ibid.*, The slide trumpet is still used in England in a somewhat modified form.

b. Denoting something along which objects may slide or be slid, as *slide-ladder, -way.*

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 226 The slide-ladder, which was very strongly lashed down to eye-bolts. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 12 The slide-ladder used by brewers in loading and unloading their carts. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 550 The boat came to the shore at the foot of a plank slide-way. 1883 *Scotsman* 11 July 5/2 The ways were new, and made of oak and pine, with guide-battens on the inner edges of the slideways.

c. Misc., as *slide-blowing* adj.; *slide-centerer, -coupler, -maker*; *slide-movement, -principle.*

In most of these *slide-* represents the sb. in senses 5 and 7.

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 471 The employment of the two, or the three slide movements, to which method Mr. Nasmyth has judiciously applied the term 'Slide Principle'. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 109 In this instrument is an arrangement called the 'Slide Coupler'. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 356, I would suggest to slide-makers a more extended use for their work. 1890 BAUERMAN *Metallurgy Iron* 178 The so-called slide-blowing engines, where the flap valves are replaced by a slide similar to that used in steam engines. 1895 G. E. DAVIS *Pract. Micros.* (ed. 3) 376 In mounting objects, a slide-centerer should be employed.

Sli·deable, *a. rare* $^{-1}$. [f. SLIDE *v.*] Liable to slide or alter.

1662 CHANDLER tr. *Van Helmont's Oriat.*, It desired a more stable and quiet Inn, than that which should be slideable every hour.

Sli·deableness. [Cf. prec.] Fitness for sliding.

1886 MISS BROUGHTON *Doctor Cupid* II. 159 The glassy slideableness of the turnpike road.

† Slide-groat. *Obs.* [f. SLIDE *v.* + GROAT.] Shove-groat, shovelboard.

1552 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 102 Dyce, slyde grote,..or any other maner of game. 1586 HOOKER *Giraldus' Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 86/2 On a night, when the lieutenant and he for their disport were plaieng at slidegrote, or shoofleboord. 1605 ARMIN *Foole upon F.* (1880) 21 All alone he playd at slide groate, as his manner was: peeces or counters he had none. 1635 *Maldon Borough Deeds* (Bundle 124 No. 9) [He] continued there about three quarters of an hour, and plaied two games at slidegroat.

Slider (slə·idəɹ). [f. SLIDE *v.* + -ER ^{1}.]

1. One who slides; † a skater.

1530 PALSGR. 225/2 Glydar, a slyder. 1598 FLORIO, *Sbrisciatore*, ..a slider vpon the yse. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Dec. 1662, The strange and wonderful dexterity of the sliders on the new Canal. *a* 1851 MOIR *Poet. Wks.* (1852) II. 386 The ring of the slider's heel. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, The skaters and sliders had brushed the snow away.

transf. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xiii. 297 The rocks of Britain bear to this day the traces of these mighty sliders [*sc.* glaciers].

b. *Rowing.* One who uses a sliding seat.

1880 *Daily News* 22 Nov. 5/3 Hanlan, the Canadian,..is a great slider.

c. *U.S.* The red-bellied terrapin. Also *attrib.*

1883 *Science* I. 149/2 The heart of the 'slider' terrapin. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 155 The 'Red-bellied Terrapin', *Pseudemys rugosa*,..is also known under the names 'Potter', 'Red-fender', and 'Slider'.

2. A beam or plank on which something heavy may be slid; also *dial.*, a sledge.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 Thee wheels wee prop with a number Of beams and sliders. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 680 In the Hill country..the hay is always carried in upon *slitters* or *sliders*. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 679 Two lines of 'sliders', consisting of heavy oak plank..are placed..on each side of the keel, and one line of sliders under the keel.

3. *Mining.* (See quot. 1828.)

1653 MANLOVE *Customs Lead-Mines* 257 (E. D. S.), Bunnings, Pollings, Stemples, Forks, and Slyder. 1746 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s.v., Sliders are cut of such a Length as the Miner designs the Square of his Shaft to be. *Ibid.* s.v. *Squarewood*, This consisteth of two Sliders and two Forks. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Sliders and forks*, timbers for the support of shafts and sumps in mines.

4. A thing or part which slides or may be slid; *esp.* a sliding part or device in some mechanical apparatus.

1681 GREW *Museum* IV. ii. 366 A Slider, with a thin Plate-Spring, which plays against the said Teeth. 1692 *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Grant.* II. xxiv. 130 A small Line must be drawn quite thro' the Slider. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 339 (Dubl.), To fix in this Wreath from coming off, we make use of the Slider. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 78 The aperture in the floor of the third cell is shut by means of the slider. 1790 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 27 The front of this vessel is a plate of glass, and the back a tin-plate slider. 1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 751/1 In a groove under the dovetail is a slider L, moved by a wire K. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 983 Betwixt these guides, friction-roller sliders are placed,..to which sliders the corves are suspended. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 8/1 An upright rod, up and down which worked a slider which contained the cartridge.

fig. 1825 HAZLITT *Spirit of Age* 64 He has only to draw the sliders of his imagination, and a thousand subjects expand before him.

b. *Organ-building.* (See quot. 1875.)

1781 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VIII. 5747/2 R, R, are the rollers, to move the sliders, by help of the arms *cf*, *cf*. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* 43 The pallets and sliders of the several sound-boards. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Organ*, We now apply the word slide or slider only to that strip of wood which, passing under a row of pipes from right to left, admits the air to a particular row of pipes or stops. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 56 The sliders are long pieces of wood, usually made of mahogany.

c. *Locksmithing.* A tumbler that moves horizontally.

1796 *Repertory Arts* V. 227 In these notches are placed six sliders or small bars. 1833 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 268 The form of these levers, sliders, or other movables.. may be varied without end. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 242/2 In these slits are inserted little pieces of steel, called sliders.

d. Part of a guillotine. Also *fig.*

1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* Wks. VIII. 109 Fitting to their size the slider of his guillotine! 1798 *Loves of Triangles* in *Anti-Jacobin* (1799) 141 To the pois'd plank tie fast the monster's back, Close the nice slider, ope the expectant sack. [1903 MORLEY *Gladstone* x. ii. (1905) II. 618 The report next fell under what Burke calls the accursed slider.]

5. a. A device for holding, and inserting in a microscope, the glass or other plates with the objects to be studied. ? *Obs.*

1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1357 The Sliders with the plain and concave Glass plates for Objects [are] very convenient. 1740 *Ibid.* XLI. 515 Making use of fine transparent Muscovy Talc or Isinglass, placed in Sliders, to inclose Objects in. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* I. 280 You may change the objects in your sliders for what others you think proper. 1855 LARDNER *Mus. Sci. & Art* VI. 94 The wings..of this gnat ..make very beautiful objects when mounted under thin glass in sliders.

b. A lantern-slide. ? *Obs.*

1793 W. & S. JONES *Catal. Optical* (etc.) *Instr.* 3 Small magic lanthorns, with twelve sliders complete. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 246 A second face coming across us, like the sliders of a magic lantern. *c* 1865 *Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 64/1 One of these sliders will give a picture upon the white screen.

† **6.** A sliding ring, loop, or similar device, used to fasten an article of dress, the hair, a long purse, etc. *Obs.*

The sense in quot. 1699 is uncertain.

1699 J. DICKENSON *Jrnl. Trav.* 64 The Governour..gave us a Shirt and Sliders, a Hat, and a pair of Silk-Stockins. 1742 A. MONRO in *Med. Ess. Edinb.* V. 455 Till the Slipring or Slider is thrust towards the End of the Handles. 1782 [T. VAUGHAN] *Fashionable Follies* II. ccxiv. 138 A purse, with brilliant sliders, and a pair of very fine shoe buckles. 1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 81 Drawing the sliders of his weighty purse,..he threw down two guineas.

7. A stand or holder for a bottle or decanter, intended to be slid along the table; a coaster.

1770 tr. *Mme. du Bocage's Lett.* I. 67 Little round vessels called sliders, of the same [Indian] wood, serve to hold the bottles. 1895 'SARAH TYTLER' *Macdonald Lass* ix. 123 There are the sliders and the cruet, and father's tankard. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 6/6 Two chased and pierced decanter sliders.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slider-crank, -holder, -pump, tube.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XI. 713/2 The slider-holder should be removed when you are going to view opaque objects. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 51 A..lens fastened to the slider tube. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microg.* 13 The slider-holder..must be very small. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Slider-pump*, a form of Rotary Pump. 1884 COTTERILL *Appl. Mech.* 113 Mechanisms derived from the slider-crank chain.

Sli·de-rest. Also **slide rest.** [f. SLIDE *v.*] An appliance for holding tools in turning, enabling the tools to be variously held in relation to the material worked on.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 268 The pieces of wood..are placed upon the slide-rest of the..machine. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. H 4 The slide rest, which carries the cutting tools, is provided with as many holders as there are tools required. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 62/1 The slide-rest is really an iron hand which holds the tool and enables it to be turned towards the work, or from it.

attrib. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 426/1 Slide-rest screw. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* 93 Diminish their size by moving the slide rest screw backwards half a turn.

Sli·de-rule. [f. SLIDE *v.*] A sliding rule.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Apr., I walked to Greenwich, studying the slide rule for measuring of timber. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 122/1 To assist in facilitating the use of the slide rule among working mechanics. 1876 *Handbk. Scientif. Appar.* 30 The slide rule,—an apparatus for effecting multiplications and divisions by means of a logarithmic scale.

attrib. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* IV. 209 The system of circular slide rule calculators.

† **Sli·de-thrift.** *Obs.* [f. SLIDE *v.*, after SLIDE-GROAT.]

1. Shovelboard, slide-groat.

1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Newe and craftie games and plaies, as..slide thrift, otherwise called shoue groat. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 79 Some of the Townesmen were..bowling: some at slide-thrift, or shouel-board.

2. A spendthrift.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866) I. 327 So you depart from our sermons like a slide-thrift's purse, which will hold no money.

Hence † **Sli·dethrifter,** one who plays at shovelboard. *Obs.*

1579 RICE *Inuective agst. Vices* D ij b, Neither..Slidethrifters, Scailers, nor Darters.

Sli·de-valve. Also slide valve. [f. SLIDE *v.*] A valve having a sliding plate for opening and closing an orifice; *spec.* one which does this alternately and regularly.

1802 *Specif. M. Murray's Patent* No. 2632, My new invention..consists in application of one slide valve. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 298 On one side of the cylinder is this casing which..confines the slide-valves. 1892 LOW *Machine Draw.* 74 Slide valves are generally made of brass, bronze, or cast iron.

attrib. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 311 The other eccentric moves the slide-valve-rod. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 298 Slide-valve Casing.

† **'Sli·dikins,** *int. Obs.* [f. 'SLID *int.* Cf. 'SBODIKINS.] A form of minced oath.

1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* II. i, Slidikins, can't I govern you? What did I marry you for? 1710 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 25 Slidikins, I have been the best boy in Christendom. *c* 1755 MURPHY *Apprentice* II. ii, Slidikins, this is a letter from the unfortunate young fellow.

Sliding (slə·idiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLIDE *v.*]

1. The action of the verb in various senses (chiefly intransitive).

(*a*) *c* 1325 *Prose Ps.* lv. 13 Þou deliuered..myn fete fram slydynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xx. 20 The slidyng of the false tunge [is] as he that is falling in the pament. *c* 1460 *Contin. Brut* II. 460 The stretes were strawed thurghout for slidyng of theire horses. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. l. 263 The wombe is greuyd with slidynge and slipperneese. 1561 NORTON & SACKVILLE *Gorboduc* II. i, So slow a slidynge of his aged yeres. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poet.* (Arb.) 70 The Dutch..[is so full of] Consonants, that they cannot yeeld the sweet slyding, fit for a Verse. 1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* II. i, Lying, malice, envie, are held but slidyngs. 1683 MOXON *Printing* x. ix, Extuberancies of Nail-heads would hinder the free sliding of the Quoins. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. 78 Sliding is but little practised, except by children. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxviii. 395 A sliding of the particles of ice past each other. 1882 *Standard* 9 Dec. 2/8 The crew rapidly fell to pieces, the sliding being short, the time bad.

(*b*) 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xv. (1739) 82 This way of the Parliament tended to a tacite sliding him out of the Government of the Kingdom.

2. *attrib.* **a.** In sense 'on which sliding is performed', as *sliding-place, -surface, -way.*

1611 COTGR., *Baboüin*,..a frozen place, whereon boyes vse to slide; a sliding place. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een glijdbaen*, a Sliding path. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampshire* III. 157 On the top of the dam..[beavers] always leave a sluice or passage..; and when the stream is large, they leave two or three, which the hunters call sliding-places. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 48 The exterior of the valve slightly projects..in a line with the sliding surfaces. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2210/2 The sliding-ways are the inclined planes down which the vessel slides, and are made of planks 3 or 4 inches wide, laid on blocks of wood.

b. In sense 'of the nature of, connected with, sliding', as *sliding contact, motion, principle.*

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 664 The lights.. should be of the usual sliding construction. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 378 A very considerable amount of the sliding motion of the metal would be called into play. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Millwork* 114 The acting surfaces of a pair of pieces in sliding contact. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2210/2 The gages used by carpenters and artificers generally are on the sliding principle.

Sliding (slə·idiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SLIDE *v.*]

I. 1. *fig.* **a.** That slides or slips away; transitory; unstable, inconstant; passing.

a 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 22 Aug. 150 Ne do ic bæt, for ðon þe þeos mennisce tyddernes bið swa slidende swa þæt glæs. *a* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* I. p. lviii, Fleoð þu wesan ealdor slidendes plezan. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. v. (1868) 22 Whi suffrest þou þat slidyng fortune turneþ to grete vtter chaungynges of þinges. *c* 1386 — *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 179 That slidynge science hath me maad so bare, That I haue no good. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 5 The slydand joy, the glaidness schort. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. xxx, The slyding faith of those That cannot long their resolution hold. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. ix, We dye with doing that, for which only, our sliding life was granted. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 62 His Name who made the Sphere, And shew'd the Seasons of the sliding Year. 1765 [E. THOMPSON] *Meretriciad* 11 Erase thy vices with the sliding day.

† **b.** Of persons: Slippery, unreliable; apt to fall or transgress. *Obs.*

c 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 45 A man, the which is nat slyding in his tunge. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. iv. 6 Þei knowiþ mannys infirmite redy to euel & sliding ynow in wordes. *Ibid.* III. xxii. 90, I am so slidyng & so weike to wiþstonde passions.

2. Slippery; steeply sloping. *rare.*

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 160 *Le chimyn trop lidaunt*, slidery (sclidinde). 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 704 By fertil vale of Pelethun his sliding road. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, A hill, whose sliding sides A goodly flocke, like winter's cov'ring, hides.

3. That moves by sliding or slipping; flowing, gliding, etc.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. metr. ii. (1868) 152 Þe flowynge ordre of þe slidyng water. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2976 The slydande spere of his hande sleppes! 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 323/1 Sclydynge, *labens*. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvi. 3 Quhat is this lyfe bot..A slyding quheill ws lent to seik remeid. 1562 PILKINGTON *Exposit. Abdyas* Pref. 8 Safelye slips away the slyding shippe. 1604 B. JONSON *Entertainm.* Wks. (1616) 882 The many falls Of sweete, and seuerall sliding rills. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 892 By the rushy-fringed bank..My sliding Chariot stayes. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 126 Thy throne A sliding car, indebted to no wheels. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mech.* 664 The laws which regulate the friction of rolling and sliding bodies. 1856 BRYANT *Prairies* 107 Sliding reptiles of the ground, Startlingly beautiful.

b. Accompanied by a sliding movement.

1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 198 Lord Rivers advancing to Edward with a sliding bow. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxii, Craigengelt..made a sliding bow to the Marquis. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. vi, Mrs. Merton, with a sliding bow, had already quitted the room.

4. Of language or music: Flowing easily.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 207 Dainty Sands that hath to English done, Smooth sliding Ouid. 1678 L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 376 His Speech was rather Easie, and Sliding, than Quick. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 560, I think that they With sliding voices lean from heavenly towers. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Sliding relish*, a grace in old harpsichord music. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Books* Ser. II. 156 His attempts to naturalize the sliding rhymes of Sannazzaro in English.

II. In special uses.

5. Of a knot: Made so as to slip along a cord; running.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Corrediza*, a sliding knot. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 34 b/2 We must tye the endes of the threde together, and with a slidinge knott binde the same together. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 253, I..knit a sliding knot vpon the instep of one of his feete. 1818 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) III. 26/1 If one or many of the fixed knots..be replaced by sliding knots, or moveable rings.

6. Designating parts of apparatus or machinery which slide, or are characterized by some sliding device, as *sliding-bar, -collar, -joint*, etc.

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 54 *note*, The *Sliding bar..ought to be set at such a depth, as.. to have a collection of mould before it. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 293 By means of the sliding-bar..this instrument can be adapted to reduce from negatives of almost any size. 1849 *Mech. Mag* Apr. 314 The *sliding carriage in or upon which is to be placed any log..intended to be cut. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiv. 239 The Neck of the *Sliding Collar. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 125 The balls will fall towards each other, and let down the sliding collar. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 225 **Sliding Joint*, a boring rod made in two portions, one sliding within the other. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. L 2 The spindle is keyed by a *sliding key. 1711 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4855/4 A Silver Jewel Watch,..the *sliding Piece on the Dyal-plate. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 175/1 Instead of fixing the wire to the telescope tube, it is stretched across a sliding-piece. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 325 The nuts of the screws..are not screwed fast to the *sliding plates. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* x. 49 The same process by the aid of the lathe and the *sliding-rest. 1833 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 44 Some very handsome pruning instruments of the *sliding-shears description. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 862 Small wires and other pieces are also held in a species of pliers,..called pin-tongs, or *sliding-tongs. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 350/2 The method of reading the figures of the stave itself, instead of the *sliding vane.

b. Designating doors, lids, panels, etc., which are opened or shut by sliding.

1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 96 There must be *sliding Boards, or Doors. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 983 At the pit mouth, where shutters or sliding boards must be used. 1829 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 104 They must all admit of communication..by *sliding Double Doors. 1887 *Times* 14 Oct. 3/6 A short tramcar,..having a sliding door at each end. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* Gloss., **Sliding hatches*, covers or shutters fitted in grooves. 1894 DOYLE *Memoirs Sherlock Holmes* 100 A small wooden box, with a *sliding lid. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xi. 275 The chess-player may be introduced into the chest through the *sliding panel. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 93/1 Later in the reign, the royal carriages had sliding panels. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Sluice*,..a description of *sliding shutter made in a lock or flood-gate. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xii. 131 The air can enter into the various compartments through sliding shutters or *louvres*.

7. *Naut.*, etc. a. *Sliding keel*, an extra deep keel which slides vertically through the bottom of a vessel. Also *attrib.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 376/1 Captain Schank's vessel with three sliding keels beat the other vessel. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VII. 40 The idea of sliding keels is taken from the *balza* of South America. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navv.* (Weale) 148 *Sliding keels*, an invention of .. Captain Schank, of the Royal Navy, to prevent vessels being driven to leeward by a side wind. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 251 'That one you saw was a cutter..,' he replied. 'Built on the sliding-keel principle.'

b. In various uses (see quots.).

For *Sliding Gunter* see GUNTER 2.

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, As bold a smuggler as ever ran out a sliding bowsprit. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 34 The planks fitted under the bottom of the ship to descend with her upon the bilge-ways, are termed sliding planks, sliding baulks, or bilge coads.

c. *Sliding seat*, a seat in an outrigger which moves backwards and forwards with the action of the rower; also, a seat which can be slid out beyond the gunwale of a yacht.

1874 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 36 The sliding seats, which were used for the first time in this race, must be pronounced a complete success. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 29 Mar. 6/1 University crews have rowed the course on sliding seats. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 463 'Sliding-seats' began to get longer and longer, until the champion sailed, not in his boat, but stretched entirely outside of it.

8. *Sliding rule*, a mathematical gauging or measuring instrument consisting of two graduated parts, one of which slides upon the other, and so arranged that when brought into proper juxtaposition the required result may be obtained by inspection.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Apr., Reading of my book of Timber measure, comparing it with my new Sliding Rule. 1684 T. EVERARD (*title*), Stereometry made easie, or the description and use of a new gauging rod or sliding-rule. 1701 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 19 Sliding Rules, for ganging and measuring; ingeniously contrived and applied. 1798 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* I. 450 On the Advantage of inverting the Slider in many operations on the Common Sliding Rule. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xi. 294 The figures..were not exhibited to the eye as in sliding rules and similar instruments. 1895 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 9/4 A small sliding rule gives the value of any required number of shares at the above fractions at any necessary numerator.

†b. So *Sliding gauge*, *Gunter* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Printing* XII. iv, The Sliding Gage is..a Tool commonly used by Mathematical Instrument-Makers. ..Its Use is to measure and set off Distances between the Sholder and the Tooth, and to mark it off from the end, or else from the edge of your Work. 1701 — *Math. Instr.* 18 Sliding Gunter, made of Box, with a middle piece that slides between 2 pieces, with Lines to answer Proportions by inspection: chiefly used by Mariners. 1727–41 [see GUNTER 1 b].

9. *Sliding scale*: a. A sliding rule.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sliding-Rules* or *Scales*, are Mathematical Instruments [etc.]. 1788 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 126 A small thermometer with a sliding scale. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2210/2 **Sliding-scale*, a rule with a sliding member.

b. A scale or standard (of payments, wages, etc.) which rises or falls in proportion to, or conversely to, the rise or fall of some other standard.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* II. iii, Neither do we ascertain what kind of Corn-bill he passed, or wisely-adjusted Sliding-scale. 1859 ROGERS *Hist. Gleam.* I. 183 The agricultural interest suffered...and we owed the latest sliding-scale to their importunities. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 226 *Sliding Scale*, a mode of regulating the amount of wages in mining districts by taking as a basis for calculation the market value of coal or iron.

attrib. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xiv. (1876) 192 During the existence of the sliding-scale system of duties. 1882 *Daily News* 3 June 6/4 The leaping prizes..are arranged on a sliding-scale principle.

Sli·dingly, *adv.* [f. SLIDING *ppl. a.*] In a sliding manner; with a smooth, gliding movement.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xiv. §7. 120 They come slidingly one ouer an other. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 23 What a slidingly musical use he makes of the sibilants.

Sli·dingness. *rare*—[1]. [f. as prec.] Sliding quality; easy movement or flow.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 200 In Tragedies..he had learned, besides a slidingnes of language, acquaintance with many passions.

Sli·dness. *Sc. rare.* [f. SLID *a.*] Smoothness.

a 1758 RAMSAY *To Duncan Forbes* iii, Enjoy..and judge the wit And slidness of a sang.

Slie, obs. f. SLY *a.* **Slieghly**, obs. f. SLYLY.

'Slife (slaif), *int. Obs.* exc. *arch.* An abbreviation of *God's life* (see GOD *sb.* 14 a) used as a petty oath or exclamation.

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Rev. Hon.* III. ii, 'Slife, a prince, And such a hopeful one, to lose his eyes..is cruelty prodigious. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. i, Hold hold, 'slife that's the wrong. 1740–1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 324 'Slife—I'll thresh my Jades..when I come home. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii, Behind the screen! 'Slife, let's unveil her! 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slife*, an exclamation. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Holmby Ho.* vii, 'Slife, Frank,..you've the devil's luck and your own too.

†**Sliffe.** *Obs.*—[1] [Of obscure origin; perh. an error for SLUDE.] ? Mica.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 24 It was clear and diaphanous like a thin film of Sliffe or Muscovy-glass.

Slift [1]. Now *dial.* or *Obs.* [Related to SLIVE *v.*[1]; cf. *rift* and *rive*.] (See quot. 1823, and cf. SLEAVING.)

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 252 These slifts, which have been taken from you, are grown up to a wonderful height. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Wds.* 361 *Slift*, a slip off a growing plant or shrub, rent, not cut off.

Slift [2]. *E. Angl.* [Of obscure origin.] The fleshy part of a leg of beef.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 The grand round of beef is the upper and under slift together. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IV. 33 A sirloin of beef, roast ribs of beef, and a boiled slift of beef. 1897 RYE *Norfolk Songs*, etc. 70 Nor is slift of beef preferred by Norwichers to sirloin.

Slifter (sli·ftəɹ). Now *dial.* [Related to SLIFT [1] and SLIVE *v.*[1] Cf. also obs. or dial. G. *schlifter* gully, watercourse.]

1. A cleft or crack; a crevice.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 21 The chapping, clefts, or slifters, in the body, which come by cold. *Ibid.* 536 There are also certain slifters or clifts in the hoofs of Horses, which are cured in one nights space. 1611 COTGR., *Fente*, a cleft, rift, slifter, chinke. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 21 Oth Leawp-hoyles, on th' Slifters ith Leath Woughs. *a* 1800 in PEGGE *Suppl. Grose.* 1828 in CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1874 WAUGH *Chimney Corner* (1879) 170 There isn't a slifter, nor a ginnel, nor a gorse-bush.

†2. A splinter. *Obs.*

1606 G. W[OODCOCK] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* Ll 5, Henry the French king was slaine by the slifter of a speare broke vpon him.

Hence **Sli·ftered** *ppl. a.*, riven asunder, cloven.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I, Straight chops a wave, and in his sliftred panch Downe fals our ship. 1866 WAUGH *Lanc. Songs* (1870) 50 He toots abeawt, i' th slifter't cleawd To find a bit o' sky.

Sligh, obs. f. SLY *a.* **Slight**, obs. f. SLEIGHT *sb.*[1] and *a.*

Slight (slait), *sb.* Also 6–7 **sleight**. [f. SLIGHT *a.* and *v.*]

†1. A very small amount or weight; a small matter, a trifle. *Obs.*

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* lxii. 9 The sonnes of men deceitfull are, on ballaunce but a sleight. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxix. (1631) 35 No lawes being so excellent as those that..being slights produce the weightiest and best effects. 1647 H. MORE *Poems* 130 The same sleights By turns do urge them both in their descents and heights. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* IV. 66 Yet it is but a sleight to those Practice hath inur'd the Hand to.

†b. In phr. *to make a* (etc.) *slight* (*of*). Cf. SLIGHT *a.* 5 d. *Obs.*

c 1619 R. JONES *Serm. Resurrection* (1659) 11 His Disciples were..such tall fellows with their weapons, that they made it but a sleight either to withstand or assault a whole multitude. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Moham.* ix. (1738) 190 He made a slight of that. 1730 BURDON *Pocket Farrier* 38 There is a Lameness..; Our Farriers make great Slight of it.

2. Display of contemptuous indifference or disregard; supercilious treatment or reception of a person, etc.; small respect *for* one.

1701 PENN in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 48 Pray don't hurt him by an appearance of neglect, less of slight. 1740–1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 268, I don't care..that such a Proposal should be received with undue Slight. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 359 The subjects he has written on..incurred the slight of the cavillers of his day. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* 250 Treating him with good-natured slight. 1897 — *Landlord at Lion's Head* 374 He knew too well his mother's slight for Whitwell to suppose that he could have influenced her.

3. An instance of slighting or being slighted.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) V. 57 This Slight bred sad domestic Strife. 1780 *Mirror* No. 91, We see daily examples of men..who meet with slights where they demand respect. 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 23 Dec., He was kindly treated, but..suspected slights..where no such thing was meant. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iii. 267 They revenged the studied slight which had been passed by Henry on themselves. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 123 He could hardly have passed upon them a more unmeaning slight.

Slight (slait), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 4 **sli3t, sly3t**, 4– **slight** (6 **slighte**), 7 **slite**; *Sc.* 6 **slycht, slichte**, 6– **slicht**. *β.* 4 **sle3t**, 5 **sleizte**; 4–5 **sleght**, 4–7 **sleight**. [ME. (orig. northern) *slight, sleght*, ad. OScand. **sleht-* (ON. *sléttr*, Icel. *sléttur*, Norw. *slett*; Sw. *slät*, Da. *slet*), = OE. **sliht* (only in *eorðslihtes* adv.), OFris. *sliucht* (WFris. *sljucht*), OS. *sliht*, MDu. and MLG. *slecht, slicht* (Du. *slecht*, LG. *slicht, slecht*), OHG. and MHG. *sleht* (G. *schlecht, schlicht*), Goth. *slaihts*; the relations of the stem are uncertain.]

A. *adj.* 1. Smooth; glossy; sleek. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4562 Me thoght..Þat i com in a medu slight. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3063 The slote of hir slegh brest sleght for to showe, As any cristall clere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 344/1 A Sleght stone, *lamina, lucinitorium*. 1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Sleight or smothe, *alis*. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xvii. 40 He..chose fyue slighte stones out of the ryuer. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 4 The contentments;..if we catch them they proue but like Eeles, sleight and slipperie. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* 33 Vpon the same place rubbe a sleight stone, and then with it sleight all the swelling. 1866 EDMONDSTON *Shetl. & Orkn. Gloss.* 108 *Slight*, smooth, unruffled, applied to the sea. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* 465. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 372, *fig. a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 26582 Noght wit wordes fayr and slight Agh þou for to plane þi plight.

2. Slender, slim, thin; of a small and slender form or build.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 190 Þat gracios gay..So smoþe, so smal, so seme[ly] sly3t. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7257 Beggers.. With sleight [*MS.* steight] and pale faces lene. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 28 The roote is sleight or single. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 46 They had only little Skiffs, the Keels and Footstocks whereof were made of slight Timber. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xviii, E'en the slight hare-bell raised its head. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxviii, Some fine slight fingers have a wondrous knack at pulverizing a man's brittle pride. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 10 A slight dark girl is singing an old English Ballad.

b. *The slight falcon*, = FALCON-GENTLE.

1591 FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl.) 14 They have.. great store of hawkes, the eagle, the gerfaulcon, the slight faulcon, the goshawke. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 17 Although the Faulcons gentle, or slight Faulcons, are by nature all of one kind. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Hawk*, The Long-wing'd, which last Hawks are the Faulcon or Slight-Faulcon. 1828 SEBRIGHT *Obs. Hawking* 3 The slight falcon ..and the goshawk..are the two species generally used in falconry.

3. Of light, thin, or poor texture or material; not good, strong, or substantial; rather flimsy or weak.

1393–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 322/2 [Dont les Leyns cressantz es ditz Countees sont unes maneres des Leyns appellez] sleght wolle. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 242, xxxv boltes of Sleght Canvas price of euery bolte x^{s}. 1505 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 80 Ane cheseb of rede chamlot to the Gray Freris of Air, with cors of slicht gold. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 17 Howe many maskes, and whether riche or slite. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 18 He that could make a garment slightest and thinnest carried it away. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 145 The soile of the countrey for the most parte is of a sleight sandie moulde 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 91 For which price, but very slight work hath been furnished. 1790 Bruce *Source Nile* I. 105 This slight structure of private buildings seems to be the reason so few ruins are found. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. ii. I. 69 Their infantry were..armed..with slight shields, short spears, and handy daggers.

b. Lacking in solid or substantial qualities.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xi. 90 b, The Turks do content themselues with slight meates and easily dressed. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 180 The slightest kind of musick..are the vinate or drincking songes. 1603 Drayton *Odes* i. 86 To those that with despight Shall terme these Numbers slight Tell them their Judgement's blind. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. § 3 Slight Rhetorications, no sound Arguments. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 414 He has published many books,..but all full of faults; for he was a slight and superficial man. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. v. Wks. 1874 I. 211 This may be but a slight ground to raise a positive opinion upon. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., Every species of author-craft, slighter than that which compounds a folio volume of law or of divinity. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Nov. 3/3 Fiction is represented by a good but rather slight story.

†c. Foolish, unwise. *Obs.*—1

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 775 But no Beast ever was so slight, For Man, as for his God, to fight.

4. Of persons: †a. Of little worth or account; mean, low; humble in position. *Obs.*

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 235 Hard I neuer..that a knafe so sleght Shuld com..and refe me my right. 1586 Lupton *Notable Things* (1675) 271 It would be a disparagement to him and to her to marry such a sleight fellow. 1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 268 Ane grite nowmer of slicht men and invyous personis. 1651 Weldon *Crt. K. Chas. I*, 206 Otherwise it had been impossible so many grave Judges should have been over-ruled by such a slight and triviall fellow. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 8 Apr. 1685, Very meane and slight persons (some of them gentlemen's servants, clearkes, and persons neither of reputation nor interest).

†b. Unworthy of confidence or trust. *Obs.*—1

1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* IV. i, He that knows great men's secrets, and proves slight, That man ne'er lives to see his beard turn white.

†c. Loose in morals. *Obs.*—1

1685 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 159, I having..been suspicious of her being a slight person, would goe into no room with her.

5. Small in amount, quantity, degree, etc.

1530 Palsgr. Introd. p. xvi, For the same cause, they gyve somtyme unto theyr consonantes but a sleight and remisshe sounde. 1588 Lambarde *Eirenarcha* III. iv. 368 By a sleight view and rehearsall of the most part. 1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm. Paul's Cross* 48 That sleight feares make women shrike. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* x. (1687) 58 If he knew that he conceived so much joy from such slight appearances and shadows of comfort. 1726 Gay in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 591, I have been very much out of order with a slight fever. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 14 Their Toils could raise But slight Returns of Gratitude and Praise. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 111 The effect is very slight, and at thirty feet it would probably be altogether imperceptible. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. 581 It has also a slight, peculiar, but not unpleasant odour. 1871 C. Davies *Metric Syst.* III. 177 A slight attention will give thirds, sixths, and twelfths.

b. Unimportant, trifling.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V*, 17, I doubt not some man wyl thynke this woman to be to slight to be written of emong graue and weyghtie matters. *Ibid., Hen. VIII*, 18 The lordes of Englande..made report to their capitain accordyng, whiche thought it verie sleight. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 146 Are we furious upon every sleight occasion? 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 8 Slight is the Subject, but the Praise not small. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xiii, I do no injustice..when I say he is too slight to be weighed with the Douglas. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 109 O for such, my friend, We hold them slight. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxvi, Therefore I am glad to take this slight occasion—this trifling occasion,..to say that I attach no importance to them in the least.

c. Used emphatically in the superlative.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 272, I will goe on the slightest arrand now to the Antypodes that you can deuise to send me on. 1750 *Student* I. 57 The cautious father..was upon the watch..on every the slightest occasion. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 244 Those loose theories to which none of them would chuse to trust the slightest of his private concerns. 1825 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indications* (1830) 43 Of the extortion..not any the slightest intimation. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxv, He never had had the slightest liking for her. 1879 R. K. Douglas *Confucianism* iii. 72 The Sage..pursues the heavenly way without the slightest deflection.

d. *To make slight of*, to regard or treat as of little importance or consequence.

1606 G. W[oodcock] *Hist. Iustine* IX. 39 But they..made slight of his defiance and hostile forces. *a* 1632 T. Taylor *God's Judgem.* II. iii. (1642) 40 Though men make slite of these..butcheries. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country Maid* (1742) I. 53, I was startled, but my Governess and her Niece made slight of it. 1796 J. Moser *Hermit of Caucasus* II. 58 He at first made slight of his indisposition.

e. Wanting in fullness or heartiness.

1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 237 The King..asking him what he was, received but a slight answer. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* 27 Jan., Y^{e} Duke..receiv'd them after a slight manner. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 238 Slight was his answer 'Well—I care not for it'.

f. Performed with little exertion.

1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 181 He..in contempt, At one slight bound high overleap'd all bound Of Hill or highest Wall.

†6. Slighting, contemptuous. *Obs. rare.*

1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* II. ii, Recant your stern contempt and slight neglect Of the whole court and him. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 245 Saying you may command the Judges,..and other slight and scornfull Expressions he vsed.

7. *Comb.*, as *slight-billed, -bottomed, -limbed*, etc.; also *slight-seeming*.

1660 Brett *Threnodia* viii, Slight-bottom'd Passion's quickly spent. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Brief Lives* (1898) II. 241 Sir John [Suckling] was but a slight timberd man, and of midling stature. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3942/4 A black slight Limb'd Mare,..narrow Ey'd. 1803 Beddoes *Hygëia* IX. 196 How essential it is to check even slight-seeming nervous disorders in their commencement. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* VII. 249 If she be small, slight-natured, miserable, How shall men grow? 1895 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 117 The slight-billed parraquet,..the sole representative of its genus.

B. *adv.* 1. Poorly, slightly; contemptuously.

1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 56 Is Cæsar with Anthonius priz'd so slight? 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 109 Think not so slight of glory. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 313 In this corrupt Age..perhaps Oaths are thought much slighter of than ever they were in former Times.

2. Slimly, slenderly. Chiefly in *Comb.*

1667 Primatt *City & Co. Builder* 69 A plain Balconie,..made very slight, may not be worth above three pence half penny the pound. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* IV. 19/1 The Hindûs of the lower provinces are a slight made people. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, That other, his slight-built comrade, and craft-brother.

3. Slightly; to a small extent.

1671 Milton *Samson* 1229 Come nearer, part not hence so slight inform'd. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1590 The neck slight-shaded, and the swelling breast.

Slight (slait), *v.* Forms: α. 4– slight, 7 slyght, 8– *Sc.* slicht; 4, 7 slite. β. 5 sleght, 7 sleight, slaight. [In sense 1 f. Slight *a.* 1, or a. OScand. **slehta* (ON. and Icel. *sléttа*, Norw. *sletta*, Sw. *slätta*, Da. *slette*). In sense 2 ad. Du. *slechten*, LG. *slichten*, or G. *schlichten* to level. In senses 3–4 f. Slight *a.* 5.]

†1. *trans.* To make smooth or level. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28026 Leuedis,..Quen yee yow-self sua slight and slike, Yee sai þat men you wille besuike. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 344/1 To Sleght, *lucibrucinare*. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Calendrer vne toile*, to slighte a webbe, or linnen. 2613 Markham *Eng. Husb.* I. I. ix. (1635) 51 You must not at any time sleight or smooth your Corne, but after a shower of Raine. 1620 — *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 50 After your ground is sowne and harrowed, you shall then clotte it, sleight it, and smooth it.

†2. To level with the ground; to raze (a fortification, etc.). *Obs.* (common *c* 1640–80).

1640–4 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 368 That the works may be slighted, and the places dismantled. 1667 Temple *Let. to Ld. Holles* Wks. 1720 II. 37 When the Works were about half slighted,..came seven or eight hundred French Horse. 1698 T. Froger *Voy.* 28 A Council was held to determine, whether the Fort should be kept or slighted.

fig. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angels* 187 Till you have overcome your enemie and sleighted his workes. 1676 Cudworth *Serm. 1 Cor. xv.* 72 Christ our Lord..slighted and dismantled that mighty Garrison.

3. To treat with indifference or disrespect; to pay little or no attention or heed to; to disregard, disdain, ignore.

α. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, V. ii. 94 Heare your owne dignity so much prophan'd, See your most dreadfull Lawes so loosely slighted. 1619 Drayton *Odes* xii. 22 The time I knew She slighted you, When I was in her fauour. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. 131 The Count slighted his Excommunication, conceiving his Head too high for Church-Censures to reach it. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Indies* II. I. 225 He..told me, that he had taken much Pains to serve me, but that I slighted his Service. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 419 We slight the precious kernel of the stone, And toil to polish its rough coat alone. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Napoleon*, He delighted in the conversation of men of science,..but the men of letters he slighted. 1865 Dickens *Our Mut. Friend* III. iv, The confidences of lovely women are not to be slighted.

β. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 84 Like him which in hast sleighted his good friends. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 120 Neither is that to bee sleighted here which wee find in the letters of David. 1673 Cave *Prim. Chr.* III. iv. 333 Do my Souldiers think thus to Sleight my Royal Orders?

†b. To put *off* disdainfully. *Obs.*

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 5 Wherein my Letters, praying on his side,..was slighted off. 1627 S. Ward *Life of Faith* 66 Many gulls and gallants we may heare sometimes slight off death with a iest, when they thinke it out of hearing.

†c. To throw contemptuously. *Obs.*—1

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. v. 8 The rogues slighted me into the riuer with as little remorse, as they would haue drown'de a blinde bitches Puppies.

†d. *intr.* with *at*. To be indifferent. *Obs.*—1

1618 Wither *Juvenilia* (1633) 538 When to bar me ought He sees it fit, He doth infuse a Mind to sleight at it.

4. To gloss or pass (a thing) *over* carelessly or with indifference. ? *Obs.*

1620 R. Waller in *Lismore Papers* (1887) Ser. II. II 248 Though I coniectured the busynes yet I sleighted it ouer with a kinde of pretended ignorance. 1632 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 470 This his Majestie takes for an high point of his Soveraigntie, and will not have it slighted over in any fashion whatsoever. 1656 Phillips *Purch. Pattern* 144 But this must not alwayes be so slighted over, lest you run into great errour. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. x, I lodge a complaint before you as a magistrate, and you will find it serious to slight it over.

5. *dial.* To do (work) carelessly or negligently.

1854 [see Slipstring 2].

†**'Slight,** *int. Obs.* An abbreviation of *God's light* (see God *sb.* 14 a), used as a petty oath or exclamation.

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. ii, 'Slight, an it had come but four days sooner. 1605 Chapman *All Fools* Plays 1873 I. 119 Slight hence, the olde knight comes. 1668 Sedley *Mulb. Gard.* II. ii, 'Slight here's Sir John.

Slighted (slai·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Slight *v.*]

1. Treated with indifference or disdain.

1619 A. Newman *Pleas. Vis.* 33 The slighted outcast, he did lye. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reff.* III. vi. (1848) 44 By the meanest Creatures, and slighted'st object. 1719 Young *Busiris* I. i, The slighted altars tremble. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 51 Not to understand a treasure's worth Till time has stol'n away the slighted good. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* ix, His breast was full of interest for the slighted child. 1870 Bruce *Life of Gideon* ii. 43 You will..fall into the..hands of a slighted and therefore grievously insulted God.

†2. Levelled, razed. *Obs.*

1636 Denham *Poems, Virg. Æneis* II. 28 All through th' unguarded Gates with joy resort To see the slighted Camp, the vacant Port. 1716 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 218 High o'er their slighted trench our steeds shall bound.

†**Sli·ghten,** *v. Obs.* Also 7 sleighten. [f. Slight *a.* or *v.*] *trans.* = Slight *v.* 3.

1605 B. Jonson *Sejanus* V, It is an odious wisdome to blaspheme, Much more to slighten, or deny their powers. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* IV. ii, She, as 'tis said, Slightens his love, and he abandons hers. 1646 Featly *Dippers Dipt* 37 The custome of our Mother the Church..is no way to be slightned [1645 sleighted] or rejected.

Slighter (slai·tər). Also 7 sleighter. [f. Slight *v.* + -er 1.] One who slights or disdains.

1646 Saltmarshe *Groans for Liberty* 29 Sermon sleighters. 1651 Baxter *Saints' R.* (ed. 2) IV. 65 Unworthy sleighters of Christ and glory. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) III. 151 Italians (the admirers only of themselves and the slighters-general of all other nations). 1747 Doddridge *Mem. Col. Gardiner* (1808) 72 The miserable condition of those that are slighters of pardoning grace. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* 67 The breaker through and slighter of the apparitions of sense.

†**Sli·ghtfully,** *adv. Obs.*—1 [f. Slight *sb.*] Slightingly.

1627 W. Sclater *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 169 And why so slightfully regard we euidences or authorities brought to auouch doctrines as being *de fide*?

†**Sli·ghtily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Slighty *a.*] a. Carelessly. b. Slightingly; disdainfully.

1679 Penn *Addr. Protestants* I. 6 Sin gives the deadliest of all Wounds to Mankind; I grieve to say it, but 'tis too true; there is no Wound so slightily healed. 1740 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 459 We make no Doubt, however slightily he may treat us [etc.].

†**Sli·ghtiness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.] Carelessness, indifference.

1662 Newcome *Diary* (Chetham Soc.) 111 A sudden crosse had God brought on mee..for my sleightyness and neglect of meditation. 1678 *Young Man's Calling* 19 Neglect and slightiness in the means of our salvation.

Sli·ghting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Slight *v.* + -ing 1.]

†1. The action of levelling (ground). *Obs.*

1613 Markham *Eng. Husb.* I. I. ix. (1635) 50 A Rouler..is for this purpose of sleighting and smoothing of grounds of great use and profit. 1615 — *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 130 So fine a mould as you can possibly break with your harrows, clotting beetles, or sleighting.

†2. The action of razing or demolishing. *Obs.*

1640 *Kirkcudbright War-Committee's Minute Bk.* (1855) 66 In obedience of the warrand..for slighting of the hows of the Threive. *c* 1645 Tullie *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 14 Daily skirmishes..and now and then the sleighting of a work. 1707 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 39 The immediate slighting the said castle and demolishing..the outworks thereof.

3. The action of treating with disdain, disregard, or indifference.

1622 Fletcher *Beggar's Bush* III. iv, Yet will ye love me? Tell me but how I have deserv'd your slighting? 1659 C. Noble *Mod. Answ. Immod. Queries* 6 To charge him with neglects and slightings and disregardings to his friends. 1711 *Brit. Apollo* No. 15. 2/1 She has return'd to her former Reservedness and..slighting of me. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. v. 104 Prone to believe he is the subject of any intentional slighting.

4. The action of glossing *over*. ? *Obs.*

1617 Hieron *Wks.* II. 325 My silence, my conniuence, my slighting ouer of these things.

Sli·ghting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.]

1. Conveying or implying a slight; of a contemptuous or disdainful character.

1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* I. i, To hear yourself..glanced at In a few slighting terms. 1641 Baker *Chron., John* 96 In this slighting humour he returnes into England. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 405 [It] was generally looked upon as a scornful slighting and very unfair way. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xviii, The Constable felt the full effect of this slighting reception. 1892 *Athenæum* 21 May 658/2 A slighting allusion to one of his literary productions.

2. Acting contemptuously or disdainfully.

1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 85 Never did a slighting Lover So much cruelty discover As this Tyrant doth to me. *a* 1697

AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. 277 A squeamish, disobliging, slighting, insolent, proud fellow.

Slightingly (slə·tiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a slighting manner; contemptuously, disdainfully; with little regard or respect.

1636 DAVENANT *Wits* Wks. (1673) 208 You speak slightingly of it, As if 'twere a poor thing. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 51 Ormond replied, 'perhaps his Lordship had a faculty to make any thing good', and slitingly neglected him. 1740–1 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 291 Hush! said he: I will not bear to hear her spoken slightingly of! 1790 BEATSON *Naval & Milit. Mem.* I. 42 By failing in this hazardous exploit, which he had treated so slightingly. 1831–3 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* xvi. (1845) 359 The passages ..might lead us to think slightingly of his candour. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* iii. 65 Dryden speaks slightingly of these University prologues.

So **Sli·ghtingness**, disdainfulness. *rare*—1.

1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Greg. Naz.* 328 The Emperor quickly discern'd the slightingness of his carriage.

Slightish (slə·itiʃ), *a.* [f. SLIGHT *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat slight, slender, or small.

1761 *Ann. Reg., Useful Projects* 128/2 She..only complained of a slightish pain and heaviness in her head. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 269 Charles himself was a swart, slightish, insipid-looking man. 1881 WATSON in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XV. 265 *Operculum* testaceous, scored with slightish radiating lines.

Slightly (slə·itli), *adv.* Also 6 **slyghtly, sleyghtly, sleightlie**, 6–7 **-ly.** [f. SLIGHT *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. MDu. and MLG. *slechte-, slichtelik(e,* MHG. *slehtlîch(e,* G. *schlechtlich.*]

1. Slimly, slenderly; flimsily, unsubstantially.

1521 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 673 That they put sufficient stuf in them.., and that they make them not slyghtly. 1529 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 1 Traces, halters and other tacle ben by the said persons sleyghtly and deceyvably made. 1549–50 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*. c. 2 § 1 The same Clothes soe sleightlie and subtillye made. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 22 So that my Arrowes Too slightly timbred for so loud a Winde, Would haue reuerted. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 325 That fatal net, Which though but slightly wrought, was firmly set. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 148 To raise the prices..and manufacture the said goods more slightly and fraudulently than before. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. I. 197 A well of good water, from which the city is supplied by an aqueduct very slightly built. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xi, She was quite a child,..slightly built.

b. Loosely, slackly.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 289 The guardes are but slightly basted on. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 967 The facil gates of hell too slightly barrd. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, The flower had been stuck so slightly into the cap.

2. Without much care or attention; carelessly; lightly.

a 1557 MRS. BASSET *Let.* in *More's Wks.* 1435/1 For the instruction of my conscience in the matter, I haue not sleightly looked, but by many yeres studied & aduisedly considred. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* I, [Fortune] slightly sowes that sildom taketh roote. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 197, I slightly passe over the places described in my former passage those waies. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VII. 120 He that knows how to work curiously, may when he lists work slightly. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III, I know they are too valuable to be so slightly kept. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 36 Affection may try to..pass slightly over the darker evidence against him.

b. Without much interest, insistence, or heartiness; indifferently.

1599 DRAYTON *Idea* viii, I say I loue, you slightly aunswer I? 1709 SWIFT *Vind. Bickerstaff* Wks. 1757 II. I. 174 There is one objection..which I have sometimes met with, though indeed very slightly offered. 1779 JOHNSON *L. P., Mallet*, When Mallet entered one day, Pope asked him slightly what there was new. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugger* I. v. 78 Mrs. Draper slightly returned the farewell of her visitors.

c. With slight exertion or effort. *rare.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 112 You haue by Fortune.. Gone slightly o're lowe steppes. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 58 He catched at the upmost bar with his left hand, and, throwing himself slightly over, opened the gate.

3. Easily, readily; weakly.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* II, He that retyres not at the threats of death, Is not, as are the vulgar, slightly fraied. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 167 You were too blame,..To part so slightly with your wiues first gift. *c* 1605 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* IV. i, Is it the weakest part I found in thee To doubt of me so slightly? 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 4, I should wrong goodnesse.., if I should sleightly give that title to unknown persons. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xix, She has..advisers, who may not..recommend to her to sit down slightly with this injury.

4. With little respect or ceremony; disparagingly, slightingly. Now *rare.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. ii, I'le censure it slightly, and ridiculously. 1623 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 244 The sending of the young Prince and ould gentlleman so slightly from the Kinge is by some conjectered to bee a plott. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 136 Walter Montague doth proceed to speeke very slitly of the Kings comands. *a* 1779 WARBURTON *Wks.* (1811) IX. 260 Learned Men, who have affected to think slightly of the Religion of their Country. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* XV, I am not to be treated as an ordinary person, who may be received with negligence, and treated slightly with impunity. 1892 LUMSDEN *Sheep-head* 289 The country lass they'll slightly pass, An she were dirt.

5. In a slight or small degree; to a slight extent.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* V. 331 O radiant Sunne that slightly guildst our dayes. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Liberty*, I do but slightly touch upon all these particulars of the slavery of Greatness. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXVIII, He bade her good morning, and, bowing slightly to the count, disappeared. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXXVI, As the Duke tapped slightly at it, a person..unlocked the door. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. II. VI, He had breakfasted but slightly. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 17 Sometimes worn down to the surface of the mud, sometimes projecting slightly above it.

b. Used to qualify a following pple. or adj.

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xiii. 70 My cause, but slightly knowne, May mooue the harts of warlike Myrmydons. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 June 1666, The Duke of Albemarle was slightly wounded. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 8 Those who are even slightly read in our philosophy. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 108 A slice of Apple slightly boiled. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 22/1 A servant maid, who from her childhood had been slightly deaf. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 126 The outer edge of the elytra is slightly sinuated at the apex. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 371 To William he was already slightly known. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 419/2 After a heavy rain the stream was..slightly darker in hue.

c. Forming attributive collocations with ppples. or adjs., and frequently hyphened.

1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 245 Slightly hairy Trichechus. 1804 *Ibid.* V. I. 48 Slightly gilded Salmon. 1829 W. ELLIS *Polynesian Res.* I. ii. 55 Resembling..the white of a slightly boiled egg. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 311 Slightly-worn and angular flints. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vical's Mortars* 26 A large disengagement of hot slightly-caustic vapour. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 54 Slightly-used guns of their cheaper qualities.

Slightness (slə·itnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being slight, in various senses of the word.

1. Lack of substance, strength, thoroughness, etc.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 148 It must omit Reall Necessities, and giue way the while To vnstable Slightnesse. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 104 The service and firmness of the Cast-Lead, and the sleightness and the charge of the other. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sleaziness* (of Cloth), Slightness of Workmanship. 1788 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xiv. (1842) 254 The slightness which we see in his [Gainsborough's] best works cannot always be imputed to negligence. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. II. iv. 163 It is treated with a negligence and slightness due to a matter of subordinate importance. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. i. x. § 3 It is..easy to know the slightness of earnest haste from the slightness of blunt feeling, indolence, or affectation.

2. Smallness in amount, degree, etc.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 206 A mild fever, through the slightness of the inflammation. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses fr. Manse* II. xii. (1864) 254 Glancing with imperceptible slightness at the artist's small and slender frame. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Dec. 5/2 The slightness of the change is duly appreciated elsewhere. 1889 *Law Rep.* 14 P. D. 109 The absence or slightness of the evidence.

3. Slimness, slenderness.

1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* V. 128 He had a fixed redness in his face, and had lost the slightness of his person.

Slighty (slə·iti), *a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **sleighty.** [f. SLIGHT *a.* + -Y.]

† 1. Superficial; lacking in thoroughness. *Obs.*

1619 J. DYKE *Caveat* (1620) 19 If so slighty and easie a performance will discharge it. 1650 BAXTER *Saint's R.* III. viii. (1654) 156 The neglect or slighty performance of that great duty. 1671 EACHARD *Obs. Answ. Cont. Clergy* 129 Where any thing is advised or commanded after this slothful and slighty way.

† b. Of persons: Negligent, careless. *Obs.*

1655 GURNALL *Chr. Compl. Arm.* VII. 200/1 Till this be done, thou wilt be but sluggish and slighty in thy endeavours for faith. 1661 NEWCOME *Diary* (Chetham Soc.) 8, I was slighty in secret prayer this morninge.

† 2. Slighting, contemptuous; light. *Obs.*

1642 J. BALL *Answ. Canne* i. 118 In his other writings.. he is insolent, censorious, scornfull and slighty. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., Should I say I had slighty thoughts of it [etc.].

3. Slight, unimportant, trivial; also, unsubstantial, slender, weak.

1669 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* XXIV. § 4. 317/2 Thou mayst not think thou goest upon a slighty errand. 1679 MANSELL *Narr. Popish Plot* Addr. c 2, Nor does it argue more of Wisdom, to rear such a Massive..Structure..upon so slender and sleighty a Foundation. 1713 M. HENRY *Wks.* (1855) I. 132/1 To neglect them or make but a short and slighty business of them. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 *Slighty*, slim, weak. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slighty*, slight, feeble, insufficient, unenduring. 1882 in *W. Worc. Gloss.*

† **Sligo.** *slang. Obs.*—1 (See quot. and TIP *v.*)

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* lxxii. (1783) III. 34, I tips Slappim the sligo, and nudges the elbow of Trugge, as much as to say, Soho!..I have him in view.

Slike, *sb.* *Sc.* and *north.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Forms: 5, 8 **slyk** (5 **slyik**), 5–6 **slyke**; 5–6, 9 **slike** (6 **slik**); 9 **sleyk.** [? OE. **slîc*, = Fris. *slyk*, MDu. *slijc, sliec* (Du. *slijk*), MLG. *slîk, slyk* (LG. *slîk*), OHG. *slîch* (G. dial. *schleich*): see SLITCH and cf. SLICK *sb.*2] Mud, slime, sludge.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 352 Bannokburne, that sa cummyrsum was Of slyk, and depnes for till pas. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. iii. 263 Slyk and claye mycht þan be seyn Qwhar wattyr deip befor had beyn. *c* 1500 KENNEDIE *Passion of Christ* 230 In cauld and hunger rynand throw slik and clay. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 525 To bere the tymer furth of the slyke that came up fra the Margret. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. viii. 83 Drivin to land By force of storme, the slyke thai ws deny. 1704 in *Ess. Witchcraft* (1820) 143 William was desired to bring some slyk. 1812 W. HALL *Local Hist. Fens* II Seeing rudds run by shoals 'bout the side of Gill sike, Being dreadfully venom'd by rolling in slike. 1870 ROBSON *Evangeline* 356 An' in the sleyk poor Feely stuck.

† **Slike,** *a.* *Obs.* Chiefly *north.* Also 4–5 **slyk, slyke, slic,** 4 **slik, sli.** [a. ON. *slík-r* (Norw. and Sw. *slik*, Da. *slig*), for earlier **swa-líkr*, = Goth. *swa-leiks* 'so-like': see SUCH *a.*] Such. Also with numerals (cf. SIC *a.* 1 b).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen slike. *Ibid.* 7472 Ilk dai he come in place, And batail bede wit sli manace. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 1092 (Harl. MS.), To spek of his pouste, yhe may meruaile slyke fyue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 253 Wha herkned euere slyk a ferly thyng? 1446 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1900) XLVI. 527 Slike distress was never seen within the said town. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 344/2 Slyke, *huius modi.*

Hence † **Slikins,** of such a kind. *Obs.*—1

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12010 Ioseph sun Slikins maistris do was won Bifor þe folk of israel.

Slike, obs. form of SLICK *a.*

† **Slike,** *v.* *Obs.*—1 [Cf. MLG. and LG. *slîken* (NFris. *slike*), OHG. *slîhhan* (MHG. *slîchen*, G. *schleichen*) to slide, glide, creep, etc.] *intr.* To slide, glance.

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xlviii, The squrd slippus on slonte, and on the mayle slikes.

Slily: see SLYLY *adv.*

† **Slim,** *sb.* *Obs.* [f. SLIM *a.*] A lanky, lazy, worthless, or despicable person.

1548 ELYOT *Longurio, -onis*, a longe slymme. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. (1602) 153 Lesse mannerd, and worse gated than this Saturns-Eue-made Slim God neuer made. 1611 COTGR., *Couille*,..a heartlesse, faint-hearted, or white-liuered slimme. *Ibid.*, *Longue eschine*, a luske, slimme, long-backe, or slow backe.

Slim (slim), *a.* [a. Du. or LG. (also Fris.) *slim*, repr. MDu. *slim(p, slem(p,* MLG. *slim(m, slym(m, slem,* = MHG. *slîm, slîmm-* (G. *schlimm*), OHG. **slîmb* crooked, perverse, bad, mean, etc.]

1. Slender, (gracefully) thin.

Said of persons (or animals), less freq. of things.

(*a*) 1657 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 61 He's small and slim, and so will slip and steal away. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. lv. 55 A Slim, Thin-Gutted Fox made a Hard Shift to wriggle his Body into a Hen-Roost. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266, I was jogged on the Elbow..by a slim young Girl of..Seventeen. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi. 83 Imagine the slim figure of a Mercury, every where neatly formed for the utmost light agility. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ii, A man somewhat above the middle size, of a slim and graceful figure. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 90 The swiftest and slimmest wolves would have the best chance of surviving.

(*b*) 1824 DIBDIN *Library Comp.* 564 Who possess the interminable slim quartos. 1827 HOOD *Tim Turpin* 38 With a cudgel in his hand—It was not light or slim. 1886 MRS. EWING *Mary's Meadow* 69, I put them into a slim glass on my table.

transf. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 241 An organ..capable equally of the trumpet's ardors or the slim delicacy of the flute.

b. Small, slight; of little substance; poor.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 326 If this be all they are good for, it is..a very slim benefit they afford. 1717 KILLINGBECK *Serm.* 376 Now how vain and slim are all these, if compared with the Solid..Encouragement which our Religion offers. 1862 MAURY in Corbin *Life* (1888) 214 The chances of your getting this [letter] are slim. 1877 G. FRASER *Wigtown* 370 They seemed to have rather slim faith in the stability of the structure.

c. *dial.* Of fabrics: Flimsy, thin.

1813 PICKEN *Poems* I. 123 To weer slim trash o' silk. 1880 WATT *Poet. Sk.* 39 (E.D.D.), His claes were the slimmest that ever ye saw.

d. Meagre, scanty, sparse.

1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 130 We had a very slim audience, not more than a dozen. 1892 *Nation* 1 Sept. 156 Various reasons are given for the slim attendance.

e. Delicate; not robust.

1877 S. O. JEWETT *Deephaven* (1893) 205 She's had slim health of late years.

† 2. Of jests: Sly, malicious. *Obs. rare.*

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. xxx. (1713) 65 He does indeed say so, but by way of a slim jear to their ignorance. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. (1682) 161 It cannot be said by any man in his wits, unless by way of sport or some slim jest.

3. Of persons, their actions, etc.: Sly, cunning, crafty, wily, artful.

In recent use adopted from S. African Dutch.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 *Slim*...It's a word generally used in the same sence with Sly. 1703 THORESBY *Lett. to Ray* 5 v., A slim customer. 1768 Ross *Rock & Wee Pickle Tow* 67 She was never ca'd chancy, but canny an' slim. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ix, I wish I may be cust, Ef Bellers wuzn't slim enough to say he wouldn't trust! 1899 *Times* 26 Oct. 5/2 The issue of the proclamation by the Boers..is regarded..as a 'slim' (crafty) move on the enemy's part.

4. *Comb.* a. Parasynthetic, etc., as *slim-ankled, -built, -leaved*, etc.

1824 DIBDIN *Library Comp.* (1825) 729 Out of 333 slim-waisted quartos and octavos. 1834 WRANGHAM *Homerics* II Him..Pitying, slim-ancled Ino spied. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. I. 371 The slim-leaved trees against the evening sky. 1870 *Ibid.* III. iv. 16 Close by that a slim-trunked tree did grow. 1873 HOWELLS *Chance Acquaintance* I. (1883) 22 Villages,..each clustering about its slim-spired church. 1885 BLACK *White Heather* I, A slim-built and yet muscular young man.

b. **Slim-cake,** a kind of plain cake used in Ireland.

1847 *Paddiana* (1848) I. 219 His share of the slim-cake

alone would have furnished him with indigestion for a month. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 318 Where we found tea and Irish slim-cakes provided for us.

Slim, *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [f. SLIM *a.*]

1. *trans.* With *away*: To waste (time) in idling. 1812 THOM *Amusem.* 35 (E.D.D.), Bids them mind their meat and wark, And not to slim their time away.

2. To scamp (work). Also with *over*. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., In the very same sense we say, *To slim o'er*, to do one's work in a careless and insufficient way. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 393 Postie had also helped to beat the carpets, considering that Eaves was rather slimming them. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., A shoemaker, who brought his apprentice up before the magistrates, complained that 'he slimmed his work so, he could put up with it no longer'.

3. To make slim or slender. 1862 MRS. NORTON *Lady of La Garaye* I. 115 The rich purple of her velvet vest Slims the young waist, and rounds the graceful breast.

Slime (slәim), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3 **slim,** 3–5 **slym,** 5 **slyym,** 3–7 **slyme**; 5– **slime.** [Common Teut.: OE. *slīm,* = Fris. *slym, slīm, slim,* MDu. *slijm, slym-* (Du. *slijm*), MLG. *slym, slim* (LG. *slīm*), MHG. *slīm* (G. *schleim*), ON. *slīm* (MSw., Norw., Da. *slim,* †*sliim*). The stem is prob. related to that of L. *līmus.*]

1. Soft glutinous mud; alluvial ooze; viscous matter deposited or collected on stones, etc. *a* 1000 in WR.-WÜLCKER 195 *Borbus, cena,* slim. *c* 1050 *Ibid.* 439 *Limus,* slim. *c* 1150 *Cant. Ps.* lxviii. 2 Afestnod ic æm on..slim dipee. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 338 Anonriȝt þe se wende aȝein, with watur and with slyme. *a* 1300 *E. E. Ps.* lxviii. 2, I am festened in slime [that] depe esse. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 133 Nilus..bycause of slym þat renneþ þerwith..makeþ þe londe fatte. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 191 God wold not fourm woman of the Slyme as he dud man. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 762 See slyme..and slyme of flood, With other donge ymynged, is right good. 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* 7 b/1 Slime or mudde in water, *dicitur limus.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 21 As when old father Nilus gins to swell..His fattie waues do fertile slime outwell. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Let him feed on slime That smeares the dungeon cheeke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 474 The teeming Tide..Makes green the Soil with Slime, and black prolific Sands. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 432 The struggling of the fish, in order to extricate itself at first from the slime. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 24 An oily slime, found in the bottoms of ditches and of weedy pools. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxxiii, A greenish slime overspread the lower portions of the wall, and coated the uneven pavement. 1894 S. WEYMAN *Lady Rotha* xxiii, The clinging slime and the reek of the marsh.

b. Applied to bitumen. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. to Five Bks. Moses* Wks. 6/2 That slyme was a fatnesse that issued out of the earth, like vnto tarre; and thou mayst call it cement, if thou wilte. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xi. 3 They toke bryck for stone, & slyme for morter. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. xv, The very clammie slime Bitumen. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 298 The rest his look Bound with Gorgonian rigor..And with Asphaltic slime. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* iii. § vii. 97 Norden describes the Ægyptian..architecture as differing from the Roman, being of mud and slime. 1853 LAYARD *Nineveh & Babylon* 202 To bring fresh slime to the surface, the Arabs threw large stones into the springs.

2. A viscous substance or fluid of animal or vegetable origin; mucus, semen, etc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Nert tu icumen of ful slim? *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 191 Þare feol out of eiþer eiȝe Fuylþe ase þei it were slym. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 334 Þei coruen hit of me & wosch awei mi slym. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9115 A lyknesse off ordure, And a statue off slyym vnclene. 1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Slyme of fysshe, *lymon.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 291 The Decoction of Betonie..doth clense and scoure the breast and lunges from flegme and slyme. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 434 Tenches..with their glutinous slime. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 219 Like that slime which the snaile leaues when it creepes. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 195 Too frequent Rains infect them with Slime and Snivel. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 167 The earth-worm ..takes hold by the slime of the fore part of its body. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 110 Branches shaped like a worm, filled with slime containing granulations. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 227 The discharge thrown up consists of acrid slime and porraceous bile. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 180 The masses of starch containing slime..have not yet been discovered in the plants in question.

b. Applied to star-jelly (see JELLY *sb.* 2 b). 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashm. *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 191 The Slyme of Stemrs that falleth to the grownde. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. I. i. 2 Like to a Meteor, whose materiall is low unwieldy earth, base unctuous slime. 1656 COWLEY *Misc., Reason* ii, So Stars appear to drop to us from skie,..But when they fall..What but a sordid Slime is found?

3. *fig.* **a.** Applied disparagingly to the human body, to man in general, or to single persons. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 112 Þat doþ þat mannes body ybered Nys bote a lyte slym. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 565 Saynt Bernard seys..Þat 'man here es nathyng elles Bot a foule slyme'. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 2 He ys not but a wrycche and slyme of erth. 1504 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xiv. 209 Lerne, thou erth & slyme, to humble the. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 50 What time th' eternall Lord in fleshly slime Enwombed was. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. v, *Ant.* Scum of the mud of hell! *Alb.* Slime of all filth! 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* v. xv. 63 Dares mortal Slime..expresse What ev'n Celestials do confesse Is inexpressible? **b.** Applied to what is morally filthy or otherwise disgusting. 1575–85 SANDYS *Serm.* 156 Now that Christ hath cleansed vs from our sinne, let vs not swinelike returne to wallowe in that slime againe. 1593 NASHE *Strange Newes* K j, Art, like yong grasse.., was glad to peepe vp through any slime of corruption. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 70 Drunkennesse, whose putrefactious slime Darkens the splendour of our common wealth. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iii. (1869) 66 It is varnished over with the slime of servility. 1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 15 What raised This wallower in old slime to noblest heights.

4. *Mining.* Finely crushed or powdered metallic ore in the form of mud. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 180 Thus the slimes are finished, and brought to as great a degree of purity as the size of the tin..will permit. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 226 Leavings of Tin..consist of slime and tails. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 751 The metallic slime being first floated in the water of the trough, then flows out and is deposited in the tank. 1855 J. R. L[RIFCHILD] *Cornw. Mines* 205 The ore, on issuing forth, deposits its *rough* in the first basin, and its *slimes* in the following basins. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 415 By slimes or slums I do not mean to include any slimes whatever from the pan-tailings. *Ibid.*, The slimes here spoken of..have never been worked at all.

5. *techn.* (See quot.) 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1164 The thin stuff, called *slimes,* upon the surface of the starch, is removed by a tray of a peculiar form.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense 1, as *slime-bank, -bath, lagoon*; *slime-browned,* etc. 1597 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* III. v, Floud with reede-growne slime bankes. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 421 Here is also..a muddy bath. [*marg.*] Slime bath. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IX. 370 Each joyful sailor.. with firm tugs the rollers from the brine, Reluctant dragg'd, the slime-brown'd anchors raise. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxviii, I saw the boat..waiting for them at the slime-washed stairs. 1877 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* I. ii. 23 The crocodile,..slime-begotten of old. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 338 More specimens of those awful slime lagoons.

b. In sense 2, as *slime-gland, -pore, -track*; *slime-secreting* adj. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 24 As the snail cannot but leave a slime-track behind it. 1883 *Science* I. 433/2 A terminal slime-gland accentuated by a short deep groove. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 570 A ciliated slime-secreting band. *Ibid.* VI. 344 The hinder end of the foot.. terminating in a conspicuous mucus or slime-pore.

c. In sense 4, as *slime-ore, -table, -tin, -yard*; *slime-coated* adj., *-separator,* etc. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 238 It still retains much dirt and mud, whence it is called Slime Ore. *Ibid.*, It may be trunked..the same as slime Tin. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 414 The shaking collects the floured and slime-coated quicksilver. *Ibid.* 415 In such cases it is necessary to build slime-yards outside the mill. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2210/2 Slime-separator.

7. Special combs.: **slime-eal** (see quots.); **slime-flux,** a slimy excretion on trees; **slime-fungi,** = MYXOMYCETES; **slime-head,** a fish of the sub-family *Berycoidea*; **slime-moulds,** = *slime-fungi*; **slime-sponge** (see quot.). 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* v. 129 The *Slime Eel (*Myxine glutinosa*) bears a great likeness to the Lamprey. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 681 The 'Slime Eel'..is found on the Atlantic coast north of Cape Cod. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 141 According to Ludwig, species of Endomyces have much to do with the *slime-flux of trees. *Ibid.* 523 The vegetative body of the *Slime-fungi consists of naked protoplasm without a firm membrane. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 353 The Berycoids or *Slime-Heads. *Ibid.*, The slime-heads..are all marine fishes, with a practically cosmopolitan distribution. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 170 Even in the lowest plants, the *Slime Moulds..will contract into rounded masses. 1899 *Nature* 21 Dec. 173/2 We do not think that the adoption of the name 'slime moulds' is a happy one. 1883 W. S. KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 38 The skeletonless *Slime-sponge (*Halisarca Dujardinii*) more usually resembles..dabs of red-currant jelly scattered upon the surface of the rocks or seaweeds.

Slime (slәim), *v.*[1] [f. SLIME *sb.* Cf. Fris. *slymje,* LG. *slīmen,* G. *schleimen* to give out slime, clean from slime, etc.]

1. *trans.* To smear or cover with slime. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxi, Like the Crocodile, he slimes thy way, to make thee fall. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Duke of Guise* III. i, Daubing the Inside of the Court like Snails, Sliming our Walls, and pricking out your Hornes. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VIII. 415 Your lawless Mississippi, now who slimes And drowns and desolates his waste of climes. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 264 The snake..commenced, with his forked tongue,..to slime his victim all over. 1872 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 471 The knights..sank his head in mire, and slimed themselves. *fig.* 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 189 Gifts of grace be forged, And snake-like slimed his victim ere he gorged. 1897 BLACKMORE in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 369 The trivial wormcasts of rank and money which cannot even slime the scythe of death.

2. a. To make (one's way) in a slimy fashion. **b.** *intr.* To crawl slimily; to become slimy. 1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 374 Stealthily, serpently, he slimed his way Unto the pay-master. 1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 533 The happy *insouciance* of a snail 'sliming' up the side of the Parthenon.

3. *techn.* To clear (skins, fish, etc.) of slimy matter by scraping. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* V. 203 The skins are removed to a beam and there 'slimed', that is, scraped on the flesh side to remove a slimy substance which exudes from the pores.

Slime (slәim), *v.*[2] *Harrow slang.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To move in a gliding, stealthy, or sneaking manner. 1898 HOWSON & WARNER *Harrow School* 282 His 'house-beak' 'slimed' (went round quietly) and 'twug' him. 1905 VACHELL *The Hill* i, When he does come over on our side of the House, he slimes about in carpet slippers.

† **Slime,** *v.*[3] *Obs.*[-1] (Meaning uncertain.) *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8096 Hit pleaside hir priuely, playntyde ho noght, Let hit slip from hyr slyly, slymyt þerat.

Slimed, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SLIME *sb.* or *v.*[1]] Full of, covered with, slime; slimy. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VIII. 1 Tho cam sleuthe al by-slobered with two slymed eyen. 1563 A. NEVELL in Googe *Eglogs,* etc. (Arb.) 83 For thou..Dost by thy Snares and slymed Hooks entrap the wounded Harts. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 785 A certain glutinous kinde of Jelly, or slimed juice.

Sli·meless, *a. rare*[-1]. [f. SLIME *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from slime or filth. 1672 *Life & Death of Jas. Arminius & Simon Episc.* I. 22 Those pure and slimeless Fountains.

† **Sli·mely,** *a. Obs.*[-1] Slimy. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* O j b, A tenche..is a freshe water fysshe, whose skynne is slyppery and slymely.

Sli·me-pit. Also **slime** pit. **1.** In or after Biblical use: A pit or hole yielding asphalt or bitumen. 1530 TINDALE *Prol. 5 Bks. Moses* Wks. 6/2 Slyme was their morter, chap. 11. and slyme pittes, chap. 14. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xiv. 10 Yᵗ brode valley had many slyme pyttes. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xiv. 10 And the vale of Siddim was full of slime-pits. 1737 WHISTON tr. *Josephus, Antiq.* I. ix, They pitched their camp at the vale called the Slime Pits. 1853 LAYARD *Nineveh & Babylon* 202 In an hour the bitumen was exhausted for the time,..and the..moon again shone over the black slime pits. 1895 SAYCE *Patriarchal Palestine* iv. 178 Here were the 'slime-pits' from which the naphtha was extracted.

2. *techn.* A pit or reservoir in which metallic slimes are collected. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 234 The slimy earthy parts are carried by the water into a slime pit just below. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 752 Slime pits or labyrinths, called buddle holes in Derbyshire, are employed to collect that matter. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Met.* 610 A copper miner..would tell you ..what a large proportion would go to enrich the slime pits.

† **Sli·mikin,** *a. Obs.*[-1] [f. SLIM *a.*] Small and slender. 1745 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 383 You know I am a little slimikin thing, not unlike a perch or an eel.

Slimily (slәi·mili), *adv.* [f. SLIMY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a slimy manner; with accompaniment of slime. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 117 They are slippery Eles indeede,..being so slimily and sordidly ginen, as they may not be handled. 1878 BLACK *Macleod of Dare* I. 180 The inside of this glass box was alive with snakes..slimily crawling over each other. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* July 422/2 At length, the long submerged streets..rose slimily out of the retreating waters.

Sliminess (slәi·minės). Also 6 **slymy-, slymines.** [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being slimy; slimy character or consistency. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regiment* O j b, Greatte estates haue them [carps] sodde in wyne, and so the slymynes is done away. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 184 The slymines of the earth and water. 1615 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 51 This is prooued by..the lentor or sliminesse of their substance. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 9. 5 We find it so potent in cleansing all Windiness, Sliminess, Stone or Gravel. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. x. 122 The Sliminess of the Eel will immediately foul the Glass. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 253 The sliminess [of the snail] is considered as the greatest delicacy. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses fr. Manse* I. vii. 139 It impressed the beholder with an association of sliminess.

Sli·ming, *vbl. sb.* [f. SLIME *sb.* or *v.*[1]] (See quots.) 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* Gloss., *Sliming,* is when a Hawke muteth from her longwaies in one intire substance; and doth not drop any part thereof. 1895 ELWORTHY *Evil Eye* 41 [The cobra] then gave [the hawk]..another sliming and soon made a meal of him.

Sli·ming, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. SLIME *sb.*] Defiling with slime; slimy. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4456 Þus make ȝe vessels in vayne to ȝoure foule corses,..Þat iik slymand slugh, quen ȝe ere slide hyne.

† **Sli·mish,** *a. Obs.*[-0] Somewhat slimy. 1648 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Slijmachtigh,* Slimish water.

† **Sli·mishness.** *Obs. rare.* Sliminess. 1574 T. N[EWTON] tr. *Gratarolus' Direct. Health* Lj, Suche fishes..neuer are embroyned with anye filth or diertie slimishnes. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guilleman's Fr. Chirurg.* 32/1 Washinge the sayed horseleeches with your handes, from all ther viscositye and slimishnes.

Slimly (sli·mli), *adv.* [f. SLIM *a.* + -LY 2.] **1.** Artfully; cunningly. 1682 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. 124 This man certainly is either delirant and crazed, or else plays tricks, and slimly and obliquely insinuates that [etc.].

2. Slenderly; delicately. 1832 TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* cxiii, A little white-faced, slimly-formed sickly girl. 1865 J. CAMERON *Malayan India* 274 She is not a slimly built vessel,..but is of thorough man-of-war build.

3. Scantily; sparsely; thinly. 18ox–67 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1886 *Daily News* 13 Dec. (Cassell), The farewell all-night meetings which were held in a small church here were slimly attended.

Sli·mmish, *a. rare*[-1]. Somewhat slim. 1841 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* (1852) I. 314 He's a slimmish chap.

Slimness (sli·mnės). [f. SLIM *a.* + -NESS.] **1.** Slenderness; (graceful) thinness. 1727 in BAILEY (vol. II). 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 334

The slimness of their bodies, and great length of tail. 1816 KEATS *Ep. to C. Cowden Clarke* 87 To see..morning shadows streaking into slimness Across the lawny fields. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I. ii, An effect which was due to the slimness of her figure. 1893 F. F. MOORE *I Forbid Banns* xi, Young ladies, who, with all the insolence of slimness, called her stout.

2. Artfulness, wiliness, cunning.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Dec. 1/2 Courage is no good unless it is backed up by what the Boers themselves call 'slimness'. 1900 *Daily Telegr.* 2 Oct. 6/1 A double dose of original slimness.

Sli·mskin. *U.S.* [f. SLIM *a.* + SKIN *sb.*] A sea-elephant in an emaciated state.

1884 in Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 73 The animal.. sometimes becomes very thin, and is then called a 'slimskin'.

† **Slimslack.** *Obs.*—1 [f. SLIM *a.* + SLACK *a.*] A person mentally or physically defective.

Cf. Forby (1825), '*Slimslacket*, of very thin texture, loose and flaccid'.

1600 *Hosp. Inc. Fooles* 25 These poore slimslacks, who haue need of internal remedies for the restitution of their disturbed braine.

Slimsy (sli·msi), *a. U.S.* Also **slimpsy.** [app. f. SLIM *a.*] Flimsy, frail.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. viii, The building is old and slimsy. 1895 *Missionary Herald* (Boston) Dec. 493 These ladies have to stay in that slimpsy shed day and night. 1899 *Milwaukee Sentinel* 14 May 4/2 Of the same slimsy material the..claim is constructed.

Slimy (slə·mi), *a.* Forms: 4–6, 8 slymy (6 sleymy), 6–7 slymie; 6 slimye, 6–7 slimie, 6– slimy. [f. SLIME *sb.* + -Y. Cf. MDu. *slimich* (Du. *slijmig*), MHG. *slîmich* (LG. and NFris. *slimig*, older Da. *slimig*), MHG. *slîmic* (G. *schleimig*).]

1. Of the nature or consistency of slime; viscous.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Slymy water and glewye..stauncheþ rennyng of blood. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 65 A Calcedonie in Slymy substance. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 92 The poulse called *Lenticula*, and they that are slymy like malowes. 1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Bk. Compounds* 9 b, This doen, presse forthe the slymie sappe of them. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 238 They annoint themselves with a certain slimie oyntment. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 441 From their Groins they shed A slimy Juice. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 370 Th' insinuating Eel, that hides his Head Beneath the slimy Mud. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 25 That slimy substance with which it is so copiously furnished. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* lviii, His foot slips in their slimy oil. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 460 It is concealed by a brownish slimy secretion.

b. *techn.* Of ore: In the form of slime.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 227 Moving the slimy Tin to and fro with a light hand.

2. Characterized by the presence of slime; covered with slime.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 392 Þanne come sleuthe al bislabered wiþ two slymy eiȝen. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 7 The hole herbe is very sleymy and full of a slepery iuice. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. xxvii. 582 The fire..was of the wood of fat and slimy firre-trees. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 36 In this slimy Animal..are very many rare and excellent Observables. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. x, Yea, slimy things did crawl with legs Upon the slimy sea. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xi. (1879) 239 The stem is round, slimy, and smooth. 1885 BUCHANAN *Annan Water* iii, Down the broken walls clung slimy weeds and mosses.

b. *esp.* Of rivers, shores, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. v. (Bodl. MS.), [The Nile is] troublye, erþy, slymy, and wosie. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. xx, That rich land, where over Nilus trailes Of his wett robe the slymy seedy train. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 211 The Saxons..that had giuen vp the ghost, in those slymie plashie fieldes of Gorlstone. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 493 A pit of standing water..wherein euery morning they wash themselues, although it be greene, slimie, and stinking. 1650 VENNER *Via Recta* 98 In slimy and muddy rivers. 1818 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 311 On the slimy shores, And weed-overgrown continents of earth. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 18 A slimy, poisonous-looking swamp. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* XV. 123 The black slimy sides of the ditch.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* Morally defiled or objectionable; vile, disgusting.

1575 tr. *Luther's Galat.* iii. 1 The slimy Body and the Remnants of Sin remain still in us. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xv. 7 If thou want'st slime, behold thy slimy faults. 1602 *2nd Pt. Ret. fr. Parnass.* I. vi. 482 What slimie bold presumtious groome is he? 1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* xiv. (1697) 347 The rest are all by bad Example led, And in their Father's slimy Track they tread. 1796 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 432 The locust-fiends that crawled And glittered in Corruption's slimy track. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *Man of Destiny* 165 I'll spoil his beauty, the slimy little liar!

4. *Comb.*, as *slimy-born, -coated.*

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 311 A slimy-born and sun-begotten Tribe. 1833 *Rédgemont Farm Rep.* 139 in *Husb.* III. (L.U.K.), These slimy-coated insects are all abroad in the night.

Sline (slain). *Coal-mining.* Also slyne [Of obscure origin.] (See quots.)

Gresley (1883) also gives 'potholes in the roof'.

1811 FAREY *Derbyshire* I. 181 The Slines, or lengthway joints which naturally divide the Coal-seams vertically, generally range about ESE and WNW. 1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Min. Eng.* I. 304 In some seams the slines, smooth planes of cleavage parallel with the face, are much closer together than in others. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 815 The smooth clean surface of the coal coinciding with this well-defined set of joints is known as the cleat, face, or slyne.

Sliness, obs. form of SLYNESS.

Sling (slin), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4– **sling** (4 **seling**), 4, 6 **slinge**, 4–6 **slyng**(e, 5 **sclyng**(e; 4 **sleng**(e. *β. Sc.* 5 **slong**, 6 **sloung**, 5–6, 9 **slung.** [app. of Continental origin, but the precise source is not clear. The forms in the cognate languages which correspond most closely to the usual *sling* are MLG. *slinge*, OHG. *slinga* (*slinka*, MHG. *slinge*, G. dial. *schlinge*), older Da. *slinge*, *slynghe* (Da. *slynge*); cf. also OF. *eslingue* (*elingue*, mod.Norm. and Pic. *élingue*). The rare ME. *sleng* answers to MLG. *slenge*, OHG. *slenga* (MHG. *slenge*, older or dial. G. *schlenge*, *schlenke*). The Sc. *slung*, † *slong*, resembles the MSw. *slonga* (*slionga*, *sliunga*), Sw. *slunga*, but it is difficult to assume direct connexion.

ON. *slyngva* (Icel. *slanga*) would normally have given ME. **siang*, but the form might have been modified under the influence of the vb. There is no independent evidence of the Flem. *slinge* 'funda' given by Plantin and Kilian along with the usual *slinger*.]

1. An implement or weapon for hurling stones or similar missiles by hand with great force or to a distance, consisting of a strap attached to two cords or strings, or to a stick or staff (= STAFF-SLING); the impulse is given by rapid whirling of the sling before discharging it. Also locally, a boy's catapult.

Freq. in allusions to the slaying of Goliath by David (1 Sam. xvii. 40, 49–50).

α. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7528 His arms fra him did he suing, And tok bot a staf and a sling [*Gött.* slenge]. 13.. *Ibid.* 14431 (Gött.), Dauid..þat sclou golias wid his scling. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 455 [He] was anon i-smyte wiþ a stoon of a slynge. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 52 Dauid orthrewe hym sone with his stone and his slyng. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. ix, Alle the men came to gyder, somme with slynges, and somme with bowes. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Slynge made in a shepherdes staffe, *fonde hollette.* 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 47 In war their weapons are slings, and swordes made of base iron. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 333 Twenty Moores broke out vpon me, with shables and slings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 415 With Balearick Slings, or Guossian Bow, To persecute from far the flying Doe. 1737 WHISTON tr. *Josephus, Antiq.* VI. ix. § 5 Taking one of the stones..and fitting it to his sling, he slang it against the Philistine. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 3 Not allowing their children any food until they struck it from the top of a pole with a stone from a sling. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 34 Pebble from sling Prostrates a giant.

β. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 169 David..vencust that grete Goulyas, with..his slong and his slong stanis. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xvii. (S.T.S.) I. 95, xxx centuries quhilkis war commandit to bere sloungis and casting stanis. 1535 STEWART *Chron. Scot.* II. 19 With bow and slung to cast arrow and stane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 145 Young men soulde vse for waepinis a slung with a bow. 1808 in JAMIESON (and still in common use).

b. *fig.* or in fig. contexts.

c 1315 SHOREHAM VI. 25 Þou ert þe slinge, þy sone þe ston Þat dauy slange golye op-on. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1126/1 Yong foolishe Dauid, that hath..with the slyng of hys hereseyes slonken [*sic*] hymselfe to the deuill. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par.* Pref. a iij b, Out of the slyng of his Regall autoritee [he] cast the corner stone. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 58 The Slings and Arrowes of outragious Fortune. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 123 If he [a horse] would not be a Sap-whistle, he might be a Sling at any time. [1874 S. Cox *Pilgrim Ps.* ii. 42 The slings and arrows of adversity.]

c. A machine or implement for hurling large stones or missiles; a ballista.

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxvi. 9 His slynges & batelrammes shal he prepare for thy walles. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* vi. 51 He placed there..instruments to cast fyre,..and scorpions to shoote arrowes, and slings [L. *fundibula*]. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 232 The Kings Captains had brought with them several slings, and two or three Battering-Rams. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II, *Cestrosphendone*, a sling, an engine of war to throw darts.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sling-caster, -maker, -thrower*; *sling-bullet, -cord*; † **sling-bone** (see quot. 1730).

1535 COVERDALE *Judith* vi. 12 Whan they drew nye vnto the mountaynes, the slynge casters came out agaynst them. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* II. v. (1622) 39 The Captaine ..commaunded the sling-casters and stone-casters to let freely at them. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Kings* viii. *comm.*, These were archers and sling-throwers of the guard. 1647 HEXHAM I, A Sling-maker, *een slinger-maker.* 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Ballistæ Os*,..the Sling Bone, the same with *Astragalus.* 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* ii. 13 A pebble moved round in a sling..will fly off the moment it is set at liberty, by slipping one end of the sling-cord. 1890 *Academy* 2 Aug. 94/1 A small haematite weight, resembling a barrel or sling-bullet in shape.

Sling (slin), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4 **sleng**(e, **slyngg**, 4–5 **slyng**, 4–6 **slynge**, 7– **sling.** [Perhaps ultimately the same word as prec. The senses correspond to some extent with those of LG. *sling*(*e*, G. *schlinge*, Sw. *slinga* noose, knot, snare, armsling, etc.; also OF. *eslingue* (1322), Sp. and Pg. *eslinga*, Romansch *slinga*. The immediate source of the word in English is not obvious.]

1. A device for securing or grasping bulky or heavy articles while being hoisted or lowered, usually a belt, rope, or chain formed into a loop and fitted with hooks and tackle (cf. quots. 1627, 1769); a loop of this kind by which heavy objects are lifted, carried, or suspended.

1323–4 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 47 In slyngg emendand. 2d. Item in uno corrio equino empt. pro le Slyngg, 1s. 4d. 1338 *Roll* in Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* (1847) II. 475 La nief appelle la carake,..un bowe-pret, ove ii. polyves, ..ii. slenges, un trusse. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 37 Bote and Cokke slyngs, vij. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 12 Some wounde at yᵉ capstayne..; Some stode at yᵉ slynge. 1551–60 *Invent.* in H. Hall *Eliz. Age* (1886) 153 In the Brewehouse...A paier of slynges ij^{li}. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 21 Slings are made of a rope spliced at either end into it selfe with one eye at either end, so long as to bee sufficient to receiue the caske;..another sort are made much longer for the hoising of ordnances. 1649 in *Archæologia* X. 401 One outward wine celler..fitted with..one payre of slinges. 1743 *London & C. Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 186 The heavy Burden of a Barrel of Drink on the Slings. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slings*,..a rope whose ends are fixed in such a manner to it's other part, as to encircle a cask, bale, or case, and suspend it whilst hoisting or lowering. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* IV. 56/1 Slings were then prepared, and Mrs. Harris and the child were lowered into the boat. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 351 When the horse is deposited in the hold, and released from the slings. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 389/1 A sling for lifting a gun off its carriage. *Ibid.* 389/2 *Shot Sling*, a sling for carrying heavy shot or shell.

2. *Naut.* a. (See quots.)

c 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (MS Harl. 2302) s.v., There are first slings to sling casks in..; a third sorte is anie Roape or Chaine wherewith wee binde fast the yards [a]loft to the Cross Trees. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 21. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 632 *Yard-slings*, the rope or chain used to support a yard which does not travel up or down a mast.

b. The middle part of a yard (see quot. 1846).

1670–1 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. 159 Broke our Main Topsail-Yard being rotten in the Slings. 1689 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2505/3 The *St. Albans*..breaking her Fore-yard in the Slings. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Yard*, The distance between the slings and the yard-arms..is..divided into quarters. 1797 JERVIS in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) II. 335 The Colossus..had her fore and fore-top-sail yards wounded, and they unfortunately broke in the slings. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xvi, The fore-yard of the Frenchman was divided in the slings. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 286 *Slings*, that part of a yard encircled by the sling-hoop, which suspends it from the mast, or by which it is hoisted and lowered. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 76 Topsail yards..are..strengthened by four battens in the slings and quarters.

c. (See quots.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slings of the Buoy*, the ropes which are fastened about it, and by which it is hung. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 632 *Buoy-slings* are special fittings adopted in order that a buoy may securely ride on the wave.

3. A leather strap attached to a rifle, etc., enabling it to be carried slung over the shoulder, or on the arm.

1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.*, *Slings* are Leather Thongs, made fast to both Ends of the Musket, and serving for the Men to hang them by on their Shoulders. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The sling consists of three straps of leather. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* vii, A short gun..with a sling to be used on a march. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 1632 Brown Leather Golf Sling. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 124 The lance..is provided with a sling, through which the trooper passes his right arm when the lance is carried slung.

b. A strap, band, wire, etc., forming a kind of loop by which something is suspended or hung.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* II. 10 July, The leather sling [in a coach]..cracked. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 348 The flask..can be then turned round in the slings..to enable it to be repaired. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 49 On the lower end of the palate..there is a sling of iron or metallic wire. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvi. 262 This iron is furnished with a shoulder which carries the iron-wire sling.

c. A piece of cloth or other material, formed into a loop and suspended from the neck so as to support an injured arm (or foot).

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vi. (1840) 97 The sling his arm hung in. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* II. He wears his arm in a sling. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed 5) 114 The arm is to be kept perfectly quiet in a sling. 1860 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 51 He came..with his arm in a sling. 1895 ARNOLD & SONS *Catal. Surg. Instr.* 681 Foot Sling, with strap for neck.

† **4.** A noose or snare. *Obs.*

This is a prominent sense of G. *schlinge.*

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1208 in *Macro Plays* 113 *Luxuria.* I may soth synge: 'Mankynde is kawt in my slynge'.

† **5.** ? A quantity (of match) made up in the form of a loop or skein. *Obs.*

1644 PRYNNE & WALKER *Fiennes's Trial* App. 29 Two Barrells of Musket and Carabine shot, and two slings of Match for the use of the said Tower Harris.

6. *techn.* in *Pottery.* (See quot.)

1851–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* (1867) II. 343/2 As the clay issues from the pug-mill it is cut into lengths of about 2 feet with a sling, or wire-knife, consisting of a piece of wire with two handles.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sling-bolt, -rope, -socket*; **sling-cart,** *Mil.* a two-wheeled cart to which a cannon is slung in order to be transported; **sling-dog, -hoop, -life-buoy** (see quots.); **sling-sleeve,** a form of sleeve for mantles, etc., sug-

gestive of a sling for the arm; **sling-wagon**, *Mil.* a wagon for the same purpose as a sling-cart.

In some cases the first element might be taken as the stem of SLING *v.*[2]

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. (ed. 2) 223 Toggle it with a stretcher through the aftermost of the foremost *sling bolts. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Ropes*, Drags for the gin, for the *sling-cart and waggon. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 123 *Sling Cart.* This cart is used for moving heavy guns, not exceeding 65 cwt., on hard, level roads, and for 8-inch, and 10-inch mortars. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 510 There are two descriptions of sling carts in the service, both of wood, the one..will carry 3½ tons; the other..56 cwt. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 130 Two of this latter kind fastened together through the eyes by a rope..are called *Sling-dogs. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Sling-dog*, an iron hook with a fang at one end and an eye at the other for a rope. Used in pairs for hoisting, hauling, rafting, etc. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 286 A lower yard is hung by chains, called slings, attached to the *sling-hoop and mast head. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Sling-Hoop*, that which suspends the yard from the mast, by which it is hoisted and lowered. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 572/2 The rescuers haul off the hawser, to which is hung the travelling or *sling lifebuoy. 1325–6 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 59 In *slyngeropis empt. 1s. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 91 Slyng Ropes. 1888 *Bow Bells Weekly* 10 Oct. 6/3 Sling sleeves are to be seen,..with some fur capes and coats. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 222 Yron hookes, from which there hangeth a *sling-socket of tow or yron. 1802 JAMES *Mil. Dict.* s.v. *Rider*, A four-wheel carriage, such as the..block-carriage, and *sling-waggon. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 664 The sling waggon is composed of a body and limber, and fitted with windlass arrangement so that guns can be slung up underneath.

Sling (slɪŋ), *sb.*[3] Also 6 **slyng**. [f. SLING *v.*[1]]

1. The act of slinging, throwing, etc.; a cast, fling, or throw.

The first two examples are somewhat doubtful.

1530 PALSGR. 271/1 Slyng of an horse, *ruade.* 1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. N iij b, And now the right hand stroks, and now the left hand sends the slinges. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 635 At one sling Of thy victorious Arm . Both Sin, and Death, ..Through Chaos [were] hurld. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. 1854 IV. 355 With one sling of his victorious arm, he might snatch thee back from ruin. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 58 If with wise sling the merchant fling Into the greedy sea A part to save the whole.

b. The swing *of* a gallop. Cf. SLING *v.*[1] 6.

1852 LEVER *Maurice Tiernay* ix, He took them [*sc.* fences] in the 'sling' of his stretching gallop.

2. *slang.* A drink or draught; a 'pull'. *rare.*

1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 26 A case-bottle..filled with Hollands, of which each of us took a sling.

† Sling, *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **slung.** [var. of SLANG *sb.*[1], perh. influenced by SLING *sb.*[1]] A serpentine or culverin.

Southey's use of the word in his *Joan of Arc* v. is merely an echo of Drayton (quot. 1627).

1566 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Yks.* (1872) 93 Munition or ordinaunce..abord his shipp,..one saker, 2 quarter slings. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 251 Quarter fallcouns, slingis, pestelent serpitantis and doubill doggis. 1594 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 93 Twa peice of artaillzeirie, callit twa half slungis. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* xciv, Their brazen slings send in the wilde-fire balls. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 66 Chambers is a charge made of brasse or iron which we use to put in at the britch of a sling or Murtherer. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Slange*, a Culvering, or a Sling.

attrib. 1547 in Meyrick *Ancient Armour* (1824) III. 9 Slinge shotte, 20. Demi-slinge shotte, 40. 1644 N. DRAKE *Siege of Pontefract* (Surtees) 7 During all this time there was 15 sling-peeses shott. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. v. 162 Two sling pieces, and one small drake.

Sling (slɪŋ), *sb.*[5] [Of doubtful origin: cf. SLING *sb.*[3] 2.]

1. An American drink composed of brandy, rum, or other spirit, and water, sweetened and flavoured. Cf. GIN-SLING.

1807 JANSON *Stranger in Amer.* 299 The first craving of an American in the morning is for ardent spirits mixed with sugar, mint, or some other hot herb, and which are called slings. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* (1863) 271 You won't take a glass of sling this fine night with a countryman? 1853 WOLFF *Pictures Sp. Life* 38 Beverages..unequalled even in Paris, or in the land flowing with sling and coblers. 1871 MRS. STOWE *My Wife & I* ix, When the public call for hot brandy sling.

attrib. 1807 J. HARRIOTT *Struggles thro. Life* II. 110 Mr. Miles..served his customers with sling-drams, grog, or cider, himself. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s.v. *Liquor*, Slingflip.

2. The juice of the sugar-cane, as obtained in the manufacture of sugar.

1826 H. N. COLERIDGE *Six Months W. Indies* (1832) 65 There is so much trash, so much scum, and sling, and molasses, that my nerves have sometimes sunk under it. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, If..care were taken..not to spoil the preserves..by swamping them with sugar or sling. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 263/2 The difficulty is determining the exact moment when the boiling of the 'sling' in the striking-teach must cease.

Sling (slɪŋ), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pple. **slung** (slʊŋ). Forms: *Inf.* 4–6 **slynge** (6 **sklynge**), 5–6 **slyng** (5 **sclyng**), 5– **sling.** *Pa. t.* 3–6 **slong** (5 **sclong**), 3–5 **slonge**, 7– **slung**; 4–8 (9 *dial.*) **slang**, 4–6 **slange** (5 **slange**); 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **slinged.** *Pa. pple.* 5 **slongyn**, **-ene**, 6 **-en**; 5 **slungyn**, **-in**, **-en**, 7– **slung**, 9 *dial.* **slinged.** [prob. ad. ON. *slyngva* (pa. t. *slyng*, *slungu*, pa. pple. *slungenn*) in the same sense; cf. Norw. *slyngja*, Da. *slynge* (Sw. *slunga*).

A strong verb *slingan* (*slang*, *slung*-) is also found in OHG. (and OE. ?), and is represented by MHG., (M)LG., and MDu. *slingen* (G. *schlingen*), but usually has the sense 'to creep, wind, twist', etc., although the sense 'to throw, sling' appears in MHG. and mod.G. dialects. (Kilian's '*slinghen*, funda jacere' is not otherwise certified as a Flemish use.) OF. *eslinguer*, *eslinder* (mod.Norm. and Pic. *élinguer*) is of Teutonic origin, but its immediate source is not clear.

A weak verb from the stem *slang-* is represented by ON. *slængva*, *-ja* (Icel. and Norw. *slengja*, Sw. *slänga*, Da. *slænge*), and by LG. *slengen*, G. *schlengen*. The ON. form would have given early ME. **sleng*, and this would subsequently have become *sling*.]

I. *trans.* **1. a.** To strike, to bring or knock *down*, by means of a sling. *rare.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 63 (Bodl. MS.), þe lutle dauið..slong & of-sloh wið a stan to deaðe þe stronge Golie. 1699 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. iv. II. 52 We are told by some..that young Children were not allow'd any Food by their Mothers, 'till they could sling it down from the Beam, where it was plac'd aloft.

b. To throw or cast (stones, etc.) by means of a sling. Also *fig.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM vi. 26 Þou ert þe slinge, þy sone þe ston þat dauy slange golye op-on. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1126/1 An heauy thing it is to here of hys yong foolishe Dauid, that hath thus..with the slyng of hys heresyes slonken [*sic*] hymselfe to the deuill. 1539 BIBLE 1 *Sam.* xvii. 49 Dauid put his hande in his bagge, and toke out a stone, and slange it. 1560 — (Geneva) *Judges* xx. 16 All these colde sling stones at an heere breadth, and not faile. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 26 One of which [stones] being sling'd against the face of that uncircumciz'd Philistine, made him measure his length on the earth. 1737 [see SLING *sb.*[1] 1]. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iv, A hail-storm of shafts, javelins, and stones, shot, darted, and slung by the Welsh. 1861 C. READE *Cloister & H.* xliii, The besiegers kept constantly slinging smaller stones on to the platform.

c. *absol.* To cast or discharge missiles by means of a sling; to use a sling. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyngyn, *fundo*, *fundibalo.* 1530 PALSGR. 721/2, I holde the a penye I slynge as farre as thou. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 30 They vexed one another, they slinged one at another, but there was none to bridle them. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 53 The Rhodians slinged further, than the Persians could sling. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* xliii, The besieged slung at the tower, and struck it often.

2. To throw, cast, hurl, or fling (a person or thing) in some direction or to some point. Usually const. with preps. or advs.

Common in 14–15th cent. Now chiefly *dial.* or *colloq.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 355 þat bodi..into ane diche man it drovȝ,..and þare-inne man it slong. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8930 þar was a stank bot littel fra,..þar-in þe king[es] tre þai slang. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manc. T.* 202 To þe crowe he stert..and out at dore him slong. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3217 Sum þat were slayne & slungen to ground. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxx. (Harl. MS.), That we shulde..take him, and sling him in our ovyn. 1530 PALSGR. 721/2 And thou medell with me, I wyll slynge the in the fyre. *a* 1547 SURREY in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 4 The adder all her slought awaye she slinges. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 196 He slingis the ansingie out of his hand. 1684 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* I. xii. 166 How were these great bodies slung thorough the Air from their respective Seas. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 36 The Platform of the City mounted with Brass Pieces that slung their Shot an incredible way. *c* 1715 RAMSAY *Vision* xix. in *Evergreen* (1761) I. 224 Pan foryets to tune his Reid, And slings it cairless bye. 1825 CROCKETT *Tour Down East* 37 When the captain told them I was [on board], they slung their hats, and gave three cheers. 1880 F. W. BURBIDGE *Gardens of Sun* xi. 209 The imp took up one of the chocolate cups..and then slung it out at the open door. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 215/1 A..spud, with which lumps of earth were dug up and slung at straying sheep.

fig. *a* 1834 LAMB *Three Graves*, Rivers of blood from dripping traitors spilt, By treachery slung from poverty to guilt.

† b. To cast away. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 321 As touchyng þis money..þat Judas..has wauyd away,..Howe saie ȝe þerby? *Anna.* Sir, sen he it slang, we schall it saue. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4557 Gude men had grace, schrewes ware slongen, To drery dede doune war þai dongen.

c. Of sheep: To cast (a lamb). Cf. SLINK *v.* 3. So LG. *slengen*, G. *schlingen* (see Grimm).

1750 [see SLUNG *ppl. a.*[1] 1]. 1794 *Young's Annals Agric.* XXII. 225 Ewes are apt to sling their lambs.

d. *absol.* To strike or launch *out* in boxing.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 174 He seems to have copied from Crib, as he slings out well with the left hand in retreating.

3. In various colloquial or slang uses.

a. To utter (words). **b.** To hand round, distribute, dispense. **c.** *To sling ink*, to write articles, etc. **d.** *To sling one's Daniel* or *hook*, to make off, clear out. **e.** To use or relate to a person. **f.** (See quots.) **g.** To give up, abandon.

a. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6581 But Eneas be war, he abyes The bolde wordes that [he] dede sclyng. **b.** 1860 *Slang Dict.* 218 *Sling*, to pass from one person to another. 1889 H. O'REILLY *50 Yrs. on Trail* 7 As junior waiter..I could sling dishes around with the best of them. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Aug. 3/4, I have a friend in Beira,..who 'slings drinks' in a saloon. I believe he slings them very efficiently. **c.** 1870 'ARTEMUS WARD' *Wks.* 305 You ask me, sir, to sling ink for your paper. **d.** 1873 J. GREENWOOD *In Strange Company* 338 [He] swore..that if we did not that instant 'sling our Daniels',..he would [etc.]. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 295 *Sling your hook*, a polite invitation to move-on. 1897 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 2/2 If you don't sling yer hook this minute, here goes a pewter pot at yer head. **e.** 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* I. xii. 220, I am awfully sorry if I slung you any slang. 1904 *Strand Mag.* Mar. 254/1 Maybe you think I am just slinging you a yarn. **f.** *c* 1890 *5 Years' Penal Servitude* ii. 56 'Slinging his hook' is the professional term for picking pockets. *Ibid.* 59 His 'mate' soon finds out who the 'blooming screw' is that 'slung the smash'—i.e. brought in the tobacco. **g.** 1902 H. LAWSON *Children of Bush* 240 Just you sling it [i. e. drink] for a year and then look back...Sling it for good, Joe.

† 4. To beat or whip (the white of an egg). *Obs.*

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 196 [Take] þe whyte of viij. eyren, & slyng hem wel..,& euer styre faste. *Ibid.* 197 [Take] ix. whytes of eyron, & slyngge hem, & mak hem in gleyr.

II. *intr.* **5.** To move with some force or speed; to fly as if thrown by a sling; to fling oneself.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5538 (Laud MS.), On þe destrer onon he slang, Als arewe of bowe forþ he sprang. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14252 He let his stede to him flyng Als harde as he myght slyng. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 120 Thorowe the strength off þe wynd Into the Welken hitt schall slynge. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* (Arb.) 137 From whence, with flownce furye slinging, Stoans, and burlye bulets, lyke tamponds, maynelye be towring. 1790 BEATSON *Naval & Mil. Mem.* I. 214 The ship, for some time, was ungovernable, and slung up in the wind. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 65 Thou corner-chair, In which I've oft slung back in deep despair.

6. To advance, walk, etc., with long or swinging strides. Chiefly *Sc.* or *north.* and *Austral.*

1808 in JAMIESON. 1818 J. HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* iii, I slings aye on wi' a gay lang step. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s. v., 'My horse slings away at a girt rate,' that is, he quits the ground with apparent ease. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* vi. 48 All day they was very sulky and slinged along, and wouldn't feed. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 17, I saw the man slinging off into the scrub.

7. Of a millstone: To swing from side to side.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1020/1.

Sling (slɪŋ), *v.*[2] Also 6 **slyng**. [f. SLING *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To place in, or secure with, a sling or slings in order to admit of or facilitate hoisting or lowering; to raise up or let down by means of a sling or slings.

1522 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For the dyner of iij men that holp slyng and lyft the cow that broke her legg. *c* 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (MS. Harl. 2301), *Sling* is to make faste anie Caske, Ordnance, Yarde, or ye like in a paire of Slings. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 [He may] have himself [let] down..to the bottom of the Sea..and sling the Ship, and Guns. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 327 He..slings the Stone in two strong pack-threds, placing one towards either end of the Stone. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 322 The ship being in the fore-mentioned state,..I next proceeded to sling her; which was done with two nineteen-inch cables. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. O 3, It terminates with the usual hook and swivel for slinging the load.

b. With adverbial complement.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 60 Let vs..sling a man ouer boord to stop the leakes. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i, Amidst the shouts Of mariners, and busy care to sling His horses soon ashore, he saw not me. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. xi, The horses were slung down into the stalls. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* xv, Horse after horse was slung by main force up from the barges.

2. *Naut.* To pass chains or lashings round (a sail or yard) to secure it to the mast.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 6 Fore-mast men, to take in the Topsayles,..Furle, and Sling the maine Saile. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 Sling our Main Yard, with the Chains in the Main-top. 1777 COOK *Voy. S. Pole* III. ii. II. 17 The yard is slung nearly in the middle, or upon an equipoise. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 632. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2211/2 To sling the yards for action is to secure them at the slings by iron chains fitted for the purpose.

3. To hang or suspend, to fix or fasten (something) about the person in a sling or in a loose manner so as to be carried easily.

Usually const. with preps., as *across*, *from*, or *over* (the shoulders or back); *at*, *by*, (*up*)*on*, *to*, etc. (the side, arm, etc.); *about* or *round* (the neck or person).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 153/1 Granadeers haue a care. Sling your muskets. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* I. 55 The God,..with his radiant bow And his full quiver o'er his shoulder slung, Marched in his anger. 1814 S. ROGERS *Jacqueline* I. 41 He slung his old sword by his side. 1833 *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 169 The lance is slung on the left arm. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 82 A guitar slung round her neck by a blue ribbon. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q.B.D. 795 A police constable saw the appellant..with some rabbits slung over his back.

4. To hang up or suspend, esp. from one point to another; to put up (a hammock).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 150 From Rivers drive the Kids, and sling your Hook. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Dissected* (1708) 97 Sling him up in a Hammock, and he shall lie a whole Night. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 18 These Theatres were not founded in the Ground, but slung, and supported in the Air; that is, they both rested on Hinges and Pivots. 1779 *Mirror* No. 17 The poor little creatures sleep..in a hammock, slung up to the roof. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* II. 213 Attendants [were] slinging their grass woven hammocks. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 354 The platform or road-way is slung, by vertical tackles, to points equidistant from each other. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q.B.D. 506 The dock owner supplied..an ordinary stage to be slung..outside the ship for the purpose of painting her.

b. *To sling the monkey*, a kind of game played by sailors.

1838 *Bentley's Miscell.* III. 588 But I say,..did you ever

play *sling the monkey*? *Ibid.* 589 I'm bless'd, shipmates, if we didn't sling the monkey in fine style. 1893 Sloane-Stanley *Rem. Midshipm. Life* II. iii. 51 Whilst we Middies were playing sling the monkey the ship's company were diverting themselves in a variety of ways. [A full description of the game is given on page 50.]

5. *techn.* in *Pottery*. (See quot.)

1851–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Arts* (1867) II. 343/2 If the clay be very foul, or full of stones, it is slung; that is, as the clay issues from the pug-mill it is cut into lengths of about 2 feet with a sling, or wire-knife.

Sling, *v.*[3] *U.S.* [f. Sling *sb.*[5] 1.] *intr.* To drink or take sling.

1836–8 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 444, I ordered a pint o' the best [toddy], and so we slinged. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 632 On the American coast..the custom of *slinging* prevails..extensively, even where intoxication is despised.

Sling-, the stem of Sling *v.*[1] used in combs., as †**sling-dart**, a military engine for throwing darts; **sling-fruit**, a fruit which forcibly ejects the seeds when ripe; †**sling-net**, a casting-net; **sling-shot**, *U.S.* a catapult; **sling-snake**, *Zool.* a name given to a genus of snakes belonging to the Colubrine group of the *Colubridæ*; **sling-spear**, a spear hurled with a throwing-stick; **sling-trot**, a loose swinging trot or pace.

1600 Holland *Livy* xlii. lxv. 1154 Most hurt they had by certaine weapons called Cestrosphendonæ (*sling darts*). A new kind of dart this was and lately devised. *a* 1899 Oliver tr. *Kerner's N. H. Plants* II. 833 The fruits of *Dorycnium* and *Acanthus* may be taken as types of a large group designated by the name of *Sling-fruits. 1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* I. 6 Now one with *slingnet beats vpon the riuer brode and large, Reaching vnto the very depth. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 51/1 The natives, who now and then throw stones from a *sling-shot at the bolder birds. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 205 We mention as a second genus of this group the *sling-snakes, of which there are about twenty known species. 1888 Andrews *Temple Mystic* 79 None further the *sling-spear threw. 1860 W. H. Russell *Diary in India* I. xvi. 247 Stewart and I at once started off at a *sling trot. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Daughters* xxix, The long sling-trot, so well known to the country people as the doctor's pace.

Slinge (slinʒ), *v. dial.* Also **slindʒ, sleenge.** [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To slink, skulk, lounge, loaf, etc.

1747 Relph *Poems* Gloss., *To slinge*, to go creepingly away, as ashamed. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Slinge*, to skulk, to sneak, to creep about. 1834 Lover *Leg. Irel.* Ser. II. 232 What are you slindging there for, when it's minding your work you ought to be? 1842 — *Handy Andy* xiv, Idle blackguards who were slingeing about the place eternally.

Slinger (sliŋəɹ), *sb.*[1] Also 5–6 **slynger, -a:(e.** [f. Sling *v.*[1] + -er. Cf. OHG. *slingâri, -eri*, etc. (MHG. *slingære, -er*, G. *schlinger*), MDu. *slinger*, MSw. *sliungare* (Sw. *slungare*); also OF. *eslingour, -ur*, etc.]

1. One who casts missiles by means of a sling, *esp.* a soldier armed with a sling. Now chiefly *arch.* or *Hist.*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* iii. 25 The cyte is enuyroumd of slyngers. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 1599 (W.), Spermen, slyngers, and arblasteres. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyngare, *fundibularius*. *c* 1550 N. Smyth tr. *Herodian* III. 33 All the Mauritanyan Slyngers that were in his seruyce. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 211 The Inhabitants [of Dorset] of all English-men were the cunningest slingers. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1619 Behind [him] Archers, and Slingers, Cataphracts and Spears. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Wars Jews* I. vii. § 3 The slingers of stones beat off those that stood above them. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. V. 241 The heights had been occupied by the archers and slingers of the confederates. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* iv, Their own archers..were supported by numerous bodies of darters and slingers. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Sol., Work & Days*, The sympathy of eye and hand by which..a practised slinger hits his mark with a stone.

2. One who flings or throws. (Cf. *Ink-slinger.*)

1902 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 12/2 Last year he was a mere slinger, to-day he bowls a capital length.

Slinger (sliŋəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. Sling *v.*[2]] A workman employed in slinging.

1881 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 7/1 A slinger in the employ of Messrs. Maudslay, the engineers,..who was killed by the fall of a boiler plate which he was..slinging.

Slinger (sliŋəɹ), *sb.*[3] [f. Sling *sb.*[5]] One who is given to drinking sling.

1807 Janson *Stranger in Amer.* 299, I know of no custom more destructive than that which is practised by slingers and eleveners.

†**Sli·nger,** *v. Sc. Obs.*[—1] [ad. Du. *slingeren* (Fris. *slingerje*) or LG. *slingern* (Da. *slingre*, G. *schlingern*), frequent. of *slingen*: see Sling *v.*[1]] *intr.* To swing, roll.

1767 Meston *Poems* 129 As ships, that bear more sail then ballast, Slinger before the very smallest Unequal blast.

Slinget (sli·ŋɛt). *dial.* [dim. of *sling* var. of Slang *sb.*[2]] = Slang *sb.*[2]

1790 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Slinget*, a narrow slip of ground. 1826 *Rep. Comm. Inquiry Charities* (1827) XVII. 832 A slinget of ground. 1839– in dial. glossaries (Heref., Worc., Glouc., etc.).

Slinging (sli·nin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Sling *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of the vb. in various senses.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1616 (Laud MS.), Wib gredyng, & wib bretyng, And wilde fire slyngyng. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6006 Myche slaghte in the slade, & slyngyng of horse! *Ibid.* 7693 Gret slaght in be slade, & slyngyng to ground. 1648 Wilkins *Math. Magic* I. xvii. 120 The mother would not give any meat to her child, till he could hit it with slinging. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* II. ii. 65 The art of Slinging or casting of stones with a sling, is of high antiquity.

b. *attrib.*, as *slinging-cast, -engine, -machine.*

1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 5 Archimedes..caused a slinging Engine to be made of a wonderfull height and greatness. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xii. 93 The..slinging Casts of the Vulcanian Thunderbolts. 1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 640/1 The *mate-griffon* and *mate-funda*, both slinging-machines. 1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* xliii, The besiegers turned two of their slinging engines on this monster.

Sli·nging, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Sling *v.*[2]] The act of securing, suspending, lifting, etc. by means of a sling.

c 1635 Capt. N. Boteler *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 165 The third sort of Slings, is that which is here mentioned in the slinging of the Yards. 1833 *Regul. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 169 The slinging of the lance on either side..requires much practice. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 351 Horses are much less liable to be injured by the operation of slinging after having undergone moderate exercise.

attrib. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2203/2 Hog-slaughtering apparatus consists of scalding-tubs and slinging devices.

Sli·nging, *ppl. a.* [f. Sling *v.*[1] + -ing[2].] Of a trot or pace: Characterized by long swinging strides; loose and swinging.

c 1843 M. J. Higgins *Ess.* (1875) 65 Off he goes at a slinging trot, clearing every obstacle which presents itself. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* 888/1 The priest walked onward at a long, slinging pace. 1897 W. H. Thornton *Reminis. W.-Co. Clergyman* I. I We boys..started away at a slinging trot.

Sli·ng(s)man. [f. Sling *sb.*[1]] A slinger.

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 627 Two thousand archers and slingmen. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Vocation* 825 A band of Sling-men he anon doth force. 1768 Baretti *Manners & Customs Italy* II. 241 One of the slingsmen had the insolence to fling a stone where she was. 1895 Sir H. Maxwell *Duke of Britain* ix. 133 The ordinary spearmen, slingsmen,..bowmen, or mounted troopers.

Sli·ng-stone. Also **slingstone, sling stone**; *Sc.* 5 **slong,** 8 **slung stane.** [Sling *sb.*[1] Cf. older G. *slingen-, schlingstein*, ON. *slyngusteinn*, MSw. *slyngo-, slongasten* (Sw. *slungsten*), older Da. *slynge-, slingesten.*]

1. A stone or pebble used as a missile to be cast by a sling.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* II. 941 (Corpus MS.), Who hath ben wel Ibete To-day with swerdes and with slyng stones [*v.r.* slynke stones]. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 608 *Risidus*, a slyngeston. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 169 David..vencust that grete Goulyas, with..his slong and his slong stanis. 1535 Coverdale *Zech.* ix. 15 They shall consume and deuoure, and subdue them with slynge stones. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* (1905) 373 The sling-stones were to him and his like Hornets. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 78 Tho' I'm amo' you cast like a slung stane, I was like ither fouk at hame ye ken. 1865 Lubbock *Prehist. Times* 76 That some have really served as slingstones seems to be indicated by their presence in the peatmosses. 1866 Laing *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 22 Several round pebbles or slingstones about the size of an apple.

2. A stone used as an anchor; a killick.

1865 J. C. Wilcocks *Sea-Fisherman* 117 A stone for mooring is termed a sling stone or killick, and should be attached to a piece of hali-worn rope.

Slink (sliŋk), *sb.* Also 7 **slinke, slincke,** 8 **sclink.** [Related to Slink *v.*]

I. 1. An abortive or premature calf or other animal. Chiefly *dial.*

1638 Peacham *Valley of Varietie* 32 The Germans loath to eate of a Slinke (or yong Calfe, cut out of the Cowes belly before it be calved). 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Slink*, a cast Calf. *a* 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose.* 1826– in dial. glossaries (Yorks., Lancs., Chesh., Derb., Nhp., Wilts., etc.). 1895 *Melbourne Argus* 26 Nov., As to 'slinks' a great scare seemed to have been created, but from a health point of view they were merely indigestible.

† b. *transf.* An illegitimate child; a bastard.

1702 Comberbach in Byron & Elms *Life* 391 (Cent.), What did you go to London for but to drop your slink?

c. The skin or flesh of a premature calf or other animal. Also *transf.* (quot. 1816).

(*a*) 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. i. 57 Take liquid Styrax, spread it thin upon Sclink, or some very fine Kid's Leather. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Slinks*, the skins of prematurely born lambs, calves, etc.

(*b*) 1808 Jamieson s.v., When this [flesh] is palmed on an ignorant purchaser for veal, it is called *slink.* 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xv, He hasna settled his [butcher's] account wi' my gudeman..for this twalmonth—he's but slink, I doubt.

2. *attrib.* **a.** Designating the skins or meat obtained from premature or abortive animals.

Sometimes also applied to inferior, bad, or diseased meat.

(*a*) 1607 T. Cocks *Acc.* 23 May (MS.), For ij payre of slincke skynne gloves ij *s.* viij *d.* 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1308/4 A Slink skin Purse. 1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 26 § 1 All Slink Calve-skins..dressed..with the Hair on. 1794 in Scott *Statist. Acc. Perth* (1796) 38 A good many small and slink kid, and mort lamb-skins. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 108 Slink Foal Skins are always entered, and the Duty charged thereon, as Horse Hides.

(*b*) 1770 P. Skelton *Wks.* V. 599 Would they indulge in bear bread and slink veal, while their master lives on leeks and cold potatoes? 1820 C. R. Maturin *Melmoth* I. i. 10 There was the slink-veal flanked with tripe. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Oct. 4/3 Preston was deluged with 'slink' meat, owing to the laxity of their sanitary system. 1895 *Melbourne Argus* 26 Nov., In some countries unborn calves were sold as 'slink' meat.

b. Designating animals of this kind.

1750 *Student* I. 340 This membrane does not properly appertain to dogs, etc. yet it may be found in slink calves. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 *Slink-calf*, the abortion of a cow. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Slink-lamb*, one that has been dropped or born prematurely.

c. In sense 'trading in or selling slink or diseased meat', as *slink-butcher.*

1832 *Examiner* 89/2 On Sunday morning last a number of slink butchers from Manchester fetched it away in a cart. 1886 *St. James' Gaz.* 14 May 4 (Cassell), The protection of our own slink-butchers from any dishonourable competition ..with their industry.

d. *Slink-weed*, rose-bay, willow-herb. *U.S.*

1889 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 401/1 This species [*Epilobium angustifolium*] with several others is common in North America, where it is sometimes called..slink-weed, from a belief that it causes cows to 'slink' or miscarry.

II. 3. *dial.* or *colloq.* A sneaking, shirking, cowardly fellow; a sneak or skulk.

1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 398 Tho' ye were an unco slink, I'm sad without ye. 1830 *Examiner* 813/1 He had given Sack a turn because he was such a d—d slink. 1862 *Morning Star* 24 Jan. 6/5 He had been called a skulk, a slink, a moral coward.

Comb. 1842 Lover *Handy Andy* xiv, He's blackguardin' and blastin' away about that quare slink-lookin' chap.

b. *dial.* and *U.S.* (See quots.)

1863 Wise *New Forest* Gloss. s.v., 'A slink of a thing'.. means either a poor, weak, starved creature, or anything which is small and not of good quality. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Slink*,..a thin or poor and bony fish, especially such a mackerel.

4. A slinking, sneaking, or stealthy pace or tread.

1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* I. 151 He decamped, with a sort of half slink, half swagger. 1896 F. A. Steel *Face Waters* II. i, Those who went forth with the dog's trot might return with the cat's slink.

b. A downcast or furtive glance or look. *rare.*

1863 Mrs Whitney *Faith Gartney* xxxvi, The boy showed a slink in his eyes, like one used to shoving and rebuff.

Slink (sliŋk), *a.*[1] *dial.* [? Related to Slink *sb.* and *v.*] Lank, lean, poor, ill-conditioned.

1673 Mrs. Behn *Dutch Lover* III. ii, Do you remember.. when instead of a Periwig, you wore a slink, greasie hair of your own. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xxvii, It was a slink beast, and wad hae eaten its head aff, standing at Luckie Flyter's at livery. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 361 *Slink*, lank, slender; combined with awkwardness. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Mackerel, Slink mackerel*, a poor thin mackerel taken among schools of fat ones in the fall of the year. 1892 Ewing *Poems* 16 (E. D. D.), Their coachman freen', leen, slink and lang.

Slink, *a.*[2] (or *adv.*). [f. Slink *v.*] Slinking, furtive, submissive.

1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Ode to Ld. Lonsdale* Wks. 1812 III. 45 Juries before the Judges won't look slink. No, No; they fancy they've a right to think.

Slink (sliŋk), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **slunk** (slʊŋk). Forms: 1 **slincan,** 4 **slynke,** 6 **slynk, slinck-,** 7 **slinke,** 6– **slink**; 5 **sclynk,** 6 **sclink**; 5 **slenk.** *Pa. t.* 1 **scluncon,** 6 **slo(o)nke,** 7 **slonk, slunke,** 7– **slunk,** 7, 9 **slank, slinked.** *Pa. pple.* 7– **slunk,** 9 *dial.* **slunken, slinked.** [OE. *slincan* to creep, crawl (of reptiles), = LG. *slinken* (MSw. and Sw. dial. *slinka*), G. *schlinken* (see Grimm). Cf. MDu. and MLG. *slinken* to sink, subside. See also Slench *v.*]

1. *intr.* Of persons or animals: To move, go, walk, etc. in a quiet, stealthy, or sneaking manner. Usu. const. with preps. and advs.

For OE. examples, in the sense 'to creep or crawl', see Bosworth-Toller, s.v. *Slincan.*

a. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1535 He softe into his bed gan for to slynke To slepe longe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3334 Som of 3ew shall be riȝt feyn to sclynk a-wey & hyde. 1448 *Paston Lett.* IV. 19 He slenkyd behynd and toke his master on the hepe suyche a stroke that..brake his hepe. 1557 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 105 She..commeth againe steeling and slinketh into his companie. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 Antenor was habil, from Grekish coompanye slincking, Too passe through Greceland. 1624 J. Gee *Foot out of Snare* iii. 22 The poor husband is fain to slink away hungry to his rest. 1671 Flavel *Fount. of Life* xxiii. 69 The Wretch slinked away from him into the city. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 184 The wily Fox..slinks behind And slily creeps thro' the same beaten Track. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xlix, A withered, old, lean man,..slinking about Gray's Inn of mornings chiefly, and dining alone at clubs. 1857 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 28, I think I should slink into a corner and cry. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 373 He had to slink into Thessalonica incognito and by night.

β. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1162/2 Then left them their gamesters and slily slonke awaye. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxxiii. (1592) 534 When a plague was begunne [Apollonius] gaue warning of it: and when it grew strong, he sloonke away. 1600 Holland *Livy* xliv. xlv. 1199 The Thracians durst not goe abourd.., but slunke every man away to his own home. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 602 For Beast and Bird, They to thir grassie Couch, these to thir Nests Were slunk. 1725 De Foe *Voy. r. World* (1840) 40 Will Jones slunk in among the rest. 1786 Han. More *Florio* II. 183 The din alarm'd the frighten'd deer Who in a corner slunk for fear. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* ii, He slunk from college by the most secret paths he could discover. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xxi, We all slank back to our places.

γ. 1656 S. Holland *Zara* III. v. 198 The Champion therefore, having imbraced Soto,..slank down into his bed the second time. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Southey & Porson* Wks. 1853 I. 17/2 There were some few who slank obliquely from them as they passed. 1856 'C. Bede' *College Life* 155 Wall-time came, and I slank across the Quad. for my dinner. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 145 The false brethren secretly introduced, who slank in to spy out our liberty.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* in various contexts.
An OE. example occurs in *Be Domes Dæge* 240.
1533 More *Debell. of Salem* Wks. 968/1 To hide the trouthe oute of syght, [and] slinke into lurkes lane. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* I. v. Whom fretful gaules of chance..Makes not his reason slinke. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* II. 104 Being by Christ told what to do, he slinks back from Christ. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 112 When Brass and Pewter hap to stray And Linnen slinks out of the way. 1806 Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. xxxv, Seeing the sun quietly slink behind a mass of black clouds. 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. vi. (1869) 136, I should not be pleased to see him slink out of his acknowledged opinion. 1858 Holland *Titcomb's Lett.* viii. 241 Temptations that..slink from him without attack.

†c. To skulk, hide oneself. *Obs. rare.*
a 1575 *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden, No. 36) 71 Catus Decianus..slinkinge in the middest of this feare, passed into Fraunce.

2. *trans.* a. To draw quietly: to slip. *rare*—1.
1626 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 137 Perceiveing the President..more forward then himself, upon faire and equall tearmes which cutt off his advantagious devices, he slonk his head out of the coller, and so the project dying [etc.].

b. To avoid, shirk, evade. *rare*—1.
1657 G. Starkey *Nature's Explic.* Ep. Rdr. 30 If I slink the proof of experiment, let me be reputed what they please.

†c. To hang (the head). *Obs.*—1
1682 Dryden & Lee *Dk. Guise* III. i, Yet Spight of all this Factor of the Fiends Cou'd urge, they slunk their Heads like Hinds in Storms.

3. Of animals, esp. cows: To bear or bring forth (young) prematurely or abortively. Cf. Cast *v.* 21, and Sling *v.*1 2 c.
1640 Gower *Ovids Festivalls* IV. 91 Beasts slunk their young with most untimely throws. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* II. 222 To prevent a Mare's slinking her Foal. 1794 Washington *Lett. & Writ.* (1892) XIII. 15, I was told.. that almost all the mares had slunk their foals. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 438 Over exertion in walking..may ..make her slip calf,—or to *slink the calf*, as it is usually termed. 1886 *Field* 13 Feb. 205/3 Sometimes all cows in a dairy slink their calves.
fig. a 1658 Cleveland *Char. Diurn. Maker* (1677) 104 He is the Embryo of a History slink'd before Maturity.
absol. a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 282 To let a cow keep company with other cows, after she has slunk her calf, will be apt to make some of the others slink also. 1885 *Field* 16 Jan. 86/2 Swedes have not proved a cheap food when ewes in lamb have 'slinked' after living on them. 1889 [see Slink *sb.* 2 d].

†b. With *away*: To reduce by miscarriage.
1664 Pepys *Diary* 17 Aug., Lady Castlemayne, who he believes has lately slunk a great belly away.

Slinker (sli·ŋkəɹ). [f. Slink *v.* 3 + -er 1.] An animal which slinks or casts its young.
1810 in W. H. Marshall *Rev.* (1818) II. 62 The quantity [of cheese] may be stated at 300 lb. from each cow, 'slinkers' (such as cast their calves) and bad milkers included.

Slinkiness. [f. Slink *v.*, or the dial. and colloq. *slinky* sly, stealthy, etc.] Furtiveness or stealthiness of manner or bearing.
1894 A. T. Pask *Eyes Thames* 238 The hereditary paupers can be picked out at a glance. There is a lazy 'slinkiness' about them.

Slinking (sli·ŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Slink *v.*]
1. The action of moving quietly or stealthily, etc.; also *attrib.*
1611 Cotgr., *Regnarderie*,..a stealing, slipping, or slinking aside. 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A Slinking (or stealing) away. 1806 A. Douglas *Poems* 78 I'm no sae foolish as aver,..That they alike disposed are, To flatt'rin' an' to slinkin'. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. xiii, As the time so passed, this slinking business became a more and more precarious one.

2. The action or fact of bearing prematurely.
1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 440 The actual diseases of gestation..occasion always a tendency to slinking, or the cow slipping her calf. 1886 *Field* 13 Feb. 205/3 Unwholesome water is..a common cause of slinking amongst animals on the farm.

Sli·nking, *ppl. a.* [f. Slink *v.* Cf. OE. *slincende* creeping (things).] That slinks; moving, walking, etc. in a furtive or stealthy manner; marked or characterized by stealth or secrecy.
1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxxv, His manner was smooth and humble, but very sly and slinking. 1859 W. H. Gregory *Egypt* I. 176 The mangy, growling, but slinking pariah, the denizen of the dirt-heaps about Fellah villages. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 148 Such traces of albumin ..I have often found in anæmic, slinking youths.
So **Sli·nkingly** *adv.*
1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* v. viii, He was slowly and slinkingly moving towards his own house. 1889 Gissing *Nether World* III. ix. 185 He went slinkingly, hurrying round corners, avoiding glances.

Slinte, -ing, variants of Slent(ing.

Slip (slip), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 **slipa**, 1, 5 **slype**, 1, 5–6 **slyppe**, 5 **slyp(p, slep**, 7– **slip.** [OE. (see sense 1), of doubtful form and obscure origin. Cf. Norw. *slip*, *slipa* slime, as on fish; G. dial. *schlipper* curdled milk.]
†1. A soft semi-liquid mass. *Obs.*
Cf. the second element in Cowslip and Oxlip.
c 1000 *Sæxon Leechd.* II. 18 Genim sealh & ele, do ahsan, gewyre þonne to slypan. *Ibid.*, Do þonne on þone slipan. *Ibid.* III. 38 Wyrc slypan of wætere & of axan, genim finol, wyl on þære slyppan.

2. Curdled milk. Now *U.S.*
c 1425 *26 Pol. Poems* 110 My hert shulde be stedefast, þou hast lopred as mylk, and slep in þoust, Rist as chese þou croddest me fast. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 416 *Slip*, milk turned with rennet, etc., before the whey separates from the curd.

b. *Slip cheese, curd*: (see quots. 1784, 1854).
1784 Twamley *Dairying Exemp.* 31 When the whole is in a state of Slip Curd, or Slippery Curd, which is a state all Curd is in, before it becomes solid Curd. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 207 Some dairy-maids now add the slip curd. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slip-cheese*, soft cheese, plate-cheese: that which is made without crushing out the whey.

†3. Mud, slime. *Obs.*
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyp (*S.* slype, *P.* slypp), *idem quod* slyme. *a* 1500 *Adrian & Epolys* 167 in *Brome Bk.* 30 Slyppe of þe erthe wos on off thoo, Watyr of the see god toke ther-too.

4. *techn.* A semi-liquid material, made of finely-ground clay or flint, etc., mixed with water to about the consistency of cream, and used for making, cementing, coating, or decorating pottery, tiles, etc.; also, clay suitable for making this.
1640 in Entick *London* II. 178 Slip, the barrel,..*id.* 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 122 This they call Slip, and is the substance wherewith they paint their wares. *Ibid.*, Red Slip, made of a dirty reddish clay, which gives wares a black colour. 1778 *England's Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Horsley*, A reddish earth, called slip, with which they paint the vessels made at Wednesbury. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 299 Under this [is] white slip, that is, potter's clay. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 484 The inside is rendered white by a wash of slip, flint, and porcelain clay. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 451 The clay, which is used in a semi liquid state about the consistency of cream and called 'slip'. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* III. 295/2 Some 'slip', or finely-ground flint used in glazing earthenware.

b. *attrib.*, as *slip-house*, *-kiln*, *-room*; *slip-inlay*, *-state*, etc.
1752 *Gentl. Mag.* XXII. 348 The slip and treading rooms. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 457 The whole is passed through fine lawn into a reservoir, from whence it is pumped upon the slip-kiln. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 40 The place where this evaporation is performed is called the slip-house. 1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v. *Tiles*, The clays..are passed through lawn sieves in the liquid or *slip* state. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 188/2 When the 'slip' inlay has become nearly of the same consistency as the tile itself.

c. *Comb.*, as *slip-maker*, *-making*, *-strainer*.
1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 459 The slip-maker carefully attends to the evaporation. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 450/1 *Slip making.*—In the preparation of the clay for best flint ware [etc.]. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Slip-strainer*,..a strainer of any form through which the slip is passed.

Slip (slip), *sb.*2 Forms: 5–7 **slippe**, 6–7 **slipp**, 6–slip; 5 **slyp**, 6 **slyppe**, **sleppe**. [app. a. MDu. or MLG. *slippe* (Du. and Flem. *slip*, LG. *slipp*, *slippe*, G. *schlippe*, *schlipfe*) cut, slit, strip, lappet, skirt, etc. The first sense of the Eng. word, however, is not recorded in any of these languages.]
I. 1. A twig, sprig, or small shoot taken from a plant, tree, etc., for the purpose of grafting or planting; a scion, cutting.
1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxviii. 682 Propago is a yonge braunche of a vyne that spryngith of a slippe. 1530 Palsgr. 271/2 Slyppe of an herbe, *branche*. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 80 b, Geve me some slippes of that tree that I might set them in some orcharde. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 38 To be set of the slippes. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 39 My fairest Apple-tree was such a Slip. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 38 The Lab'rer cuts Young Slips, and in the Soil securely puts. 1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 224 Propagate them by cuttings, or slips of the young shoots. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxxvi, Blighted stumps and flourishing young slips. 1872 H. Macmillan *True Vine* iii. 116 A slip taken from a tree dying of old age.

b. In fig. context. (Common *c* 1600.)
1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 64 Bastard slippes shal neuer take depe roots. 1570–76 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 299 This suppressed house..was some slippe of that tree which one James did first plant in Spaine. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 368 Beautie was no niggard of hir slippes in this gardein. 1613 Dekker *Devil's Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) III. 353 Because he is a slip of mine owne grafting, I likewise bequeath to him my best Slippers. 1643 *Myst. of Iniq.* 17 These Southerne plants, being slips of an Italian Stocke, could not endure this Northerne Climate.

c. A scion or descendant.
1588 Shaks. *Titus A.* v. i. 9 Braue slip, sprung from the Great Andronicus. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1651) 340 Julia a little before dying,..together with an infant she bare, ..and she gone without any slip remaining [etc.]. 1764 Churchill *Gotham* II. Poems 1772 III. 114 Any Slip of Stuart's tyrant race. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* XX. 247 He talk'd of bastard slips, and cursed his bed. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 292 No doubt..that slip [=daughter] of the country parson, keep's the whip-hand. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* I. 110 Even rosy little slips out of the nursery who cluster round his beloved feet.

d. *fig.* An offshoot, outgrowth.
1626 R. Bernard *Isle of Man* (1627) 214 Covetousness is..indeed a slip of Thrift. 1831 Carlyle *Misc. Ess.*, *German Poet.* (1888) III. 238 Some small slip of heathendom.

2. A young person of either sex, esp. one of small or slender build.
1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 97 The slip Ascanius.. Shee cois for the father. 1589 Nashe *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 163 The good health and wellfare of these two yong Slipps his sonnes. 1822 Scott *Kenilw.* xv, We know how that matter fell out, and we have corrected for it the wild slip, young Raleigh. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* xciv, Shusey Dogherty was a good-looking slip. 1879 Browning *Ivan Ivanovitch* 139 He was puny, an undersized slip,—a darling to me, all the same!

b. With *of* (introducing descriptive term), esp. in *a slip of a girl*. (Cf. 8.)
a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 38 This slippe of a boye Sir Walter Dungan. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* ii. Tony hath but a slip of a daughter. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits* xv. Wks. (Bohn) II. 120 Every slip of an Oxonian or Cantabrigian who writes his first leader. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, There was his wife, and the slip of a girl.

c. A thin or slender person.
1703 Steele *Tender Husband* IV. ii, My Lady Shapely has by that thin Slip eight Children. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. i, She was a tall slip of a woman.

3. a. *dial.* A young store-pig.
1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* II. 31 His mother..had a cow, and a slip of a pig. 1885 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 679 A store pig of older growth would be described as a 'hard slip'.

b. A sole of intermediate size.
1881 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 4/6 Small soles,..under the name of 'slips', were introduced into the *menus* of Greenwich hotels. 1884 *British Alm. & Comp.* II. 31 Small soles, known in the trade as 'slips' and 'tongues'.

II. †4. The edge, skirt, or flap of a robe or garment. *Obs. rare.*
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyp, or skyrte, *lascinia*. 1648 Hexham II, *Heft u Slippen op*, take up the Edge or Slip of your Kirtle.

5. A spoon-handle having the top cut off obliquely; a spoon with a handle or stem of this form. (Cf. Slipped *ppl. a.*2 1.) Now *Hist.*
c 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 312 Twoo doson of Sponnes with Slippis un gilte. 1552 *Will G. Hynde* (Somerset Ho.), Sixe silver sponnes cally'd slyppes. 1583 in Cripps *Old Eng. Plate* (1901) 281, xij spones called slippes weying xxiiij ownces and a half.
Comb. 1580 in Cripps *Old Eng. Plate* (1901) 281 Dosen spones, theis spones being sleppe endyd. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 May 8/1 A set of James I. slip-top spoons. 1908 Macquoid *Plate Collector's Guide* 103 Spoons called 'slip-topped' originated in the second half of the sixteenth century.

6. A long and relatively thin and narrow piece or strip of some material. Freq. with *of*.
1555 Eden *Decades* (Arb.) 140 Such as were brused they tyed fast with theyr gyrdels with slippes of the barkes of trees. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. i, Out at doores I hyed mee, And caught a slyp of bacon, when I saw that none spyed mee. 1645 *Loc. S. Paul's* (Camden) 144, 218 carved narrowe slipps [of wood]. 1665 *Roxb. Ball.* (1887) VI. 437 The burly fat Dutchmen being cut out in slips. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 252 Let..the joint [be] covered with a slip of canvas smeared with lute. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 97 It was steadied in that position, by..two slips of deal. 1823 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 322 This joint is connected with the nut by means of two steel slips...The other ends of these slips turn..on pins. 1863 Huxley *Man's Place Nat.* ii. 93 One slip of the muscle is attached..to the tendons of the long flexors. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 25 A glass slip is now placed on the hot plate.

b. In special uses (see quots.).
1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 387 We always begin an Index upon an uneven page, and put a Slip or double rule at the Head thereof. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arc. Regions* II. 209 The harpooners..divide the fat [of the whale] into oblong pieces or 'slips'. 1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 82 To put.. jambs, slips (sides of the jambs), and shelves to both the fireplaces. 1875 Sir T. Seaton *Fret Cutting* 8 Slips are pieces of Turkey or other stone about four inches long and one and a quarter wide. 1895 G. E. Davis *Pract. Microscopy* (ed. 3) 375 Objects are generally mounted upon glass slides, or 'slips' as they are sometimes called.

c. An excised piece of this form.
1704–15 *Maryland Laws* vii. (1723) 22 With a Slip cut down the Face of the Tree near the Ground.

7. A strip, a narrow piece or stretch, *of* land, ground, etc.
1591 Fletcher *Russe Commw.* (Hakl.) 7 A little isthmus or narrow slippe of lande. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 6 The long slip of Rocks..is..stored with many curious Plants. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 14 Aug. 1668, A lease of a slip of ground out of Brick Close. 1745 P. Thomas *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 67 Acosta..divides the country into three long narrow Slips. 1775 Romans *Hist. Florida* App. 72 The island..is a narrow slip of sand-hills. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 48 The slip of barren country between the Indus and the plain of Peshawer. 1846 M'Culloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 525 Cottiers, who pay for their small slips of land by working for the principal lessees.

8. An example or specimen *of* something having an elongated or slender form. (Cf. 2 b.)
1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 303 There is also a small Loop-Hole besides the Slip of the Window. *Ibid.* 312 The Light..comes from certain Slips of Windows. 1762 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 132/2 These children were kept to work in a small slip of a room. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, When he found himself ushered into a neat sanded slip of a coffee-room. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Briery Creek* iii. 57, I have a slip of a garden,..and, though it is but a slip, it is of rare mellow mould. 1881 H. James *Portrait of a Lady* xxxvi, Her anxious eyes, her charming lips, her slip of a figure.

9. A window, apartment, passage, etc., of an elongated form.
1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 302 A high and narrow Window, or a Slip, as we shall call it. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* I. 330 A narrow slip about five feet wide, separated from the rest of the room by a transverse partition.

b. *U.S.* A narrow, doorless church-pew.
1828–32 in Webster. 1858 *Rev. Statutes Wisconsin* 200 All houses of public worship,..and the pews or slips and

lrniture therein. 1878 Mrs. Stowe *Poganuc P.* iii. 23 Why, ..if there ain't the minister's boys down in that front slip!

c. *pl.* (See quot. 1874.)

1805 Sir R. Wilson in *Life* (1862) I. 345 Those ladies who had not boxes sat in what would be termed in England one shilling slips. 1836–7 Dickens *Sk. Boz* (1850) 165/2 They thought they couldn't do better than go at half-price to the slips at the City Theatre. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 19/1 When the gallery is well packed,..on the partition boards, dividing off the slips, lads will pitch themselves, despite the spikes. 1874 *Slang Dict.* 296 *Slips*, the sides of the gallery in a theatre are generally so called.

10. A piece of paper or parchment, esp. one which is narrow in proportion to its length. Freq. with *of*.

1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., It is called Slip in English, from its Shape, it being printed in a long Slip of Paper. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Scroll*, a slip or Roll of Parchment, &c. 1724 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) III. 112 If that worthy person will let me know by post or a slip, wherein I can serve him here. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 154 I'll find a slip of sheep-skin that will do his business. 1846 Sir F. Madden *Lazamon* I. Pref. p. xli, After writing near 50,000 slips, it was found impracticable to carry the design [of the glossary]into execution. 1886 *Weekly Notes* 188/2 The registrar made a note of this declaration on a slip of paper.

†b. A newspaper (or part of one) printed in the form of a long slip of paper. *Obs.*

1687 [see prec.]. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 417 It is said in one of the French slips, that they design to land some 1000 men in Scotland in May. 1699 (*title*), The London Slip of News, both foreign and domestick. [Continued as, The London Post.] 1727 Bover *Dict. Royal* I, *Lardon*, (*supplement de la Gazette de Hollande*) the Slip that comes from Holland with the Gazette.

c. *Insurance.* (See quots.)

1816 G. J. Bell *Comm. Laws Scotl.* (1826) I. 603 The policy is preceded by a Slip, which is merely a jotting or short memorandum of the terms, to which the underwriters subscribe their initials. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 184 It is customary for the underwriter to sign a 'slip', or short memorandum of the insurance, until the stamped policy can be completed.

d. *Typog.* A proof pulled on a long slip of paper, for revision before the type is made up into pages.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 250 Bate only the correcting in the slip Never was easier Conductorship. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xxi. (ed. 3) 208 The present work was set up in slips. 1878 Huxley in *Life* (1903) II. 253, I have received slips up to chap. ix. of Hume. 1880 Britten *Old Country & Farm. Wds.* Introd. p. vii, He has read the extracts in slip.

11. A certain quantity *of* yarn, etc. Now *dial.*

1647 Hexham I, A Slip of yarne, *een stuck garens*. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* II. 308 A stone of the finest [wool]..will yield 32 slips of yarn, each containing 12 cuts. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* 322 *Slip*, ..a hank of silk or yarn before it is wound on the quills or pirn. [Cf. Slipping *vbl. sb.*² 1.]

†12. A slit or cut. *Obs.*—1

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 20/2 In the pen there is the nick or slip or slit called the neb.

III. 13. *attrib.* a. In senses 1–3, as *slip-graft, -plant*; *slip-pig.*

1657 R. Austen *Fruit-Trees* I. 136 They have an innate spirit from the seede.., which makes them grow better then slip-plants. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Gardiner*, The Master Shoot of a slip Graft. 1844 in Caroline Fox *Jrnls.* (1882) 187, I have three cows, three slip pigs. 1882 *West. Morn. News* 25 Nov. 1/5 Two large slip pigs.

b. In senses 6–10, as *slip-centre, -room, -window*; *slip-chase, -galley, -song, -ticket.*

1833 Loudon *Encycl. Archit.* § 249 Twenty-three *slip centres to the arches (a slip of deal cut to the intended line of the soffit of the arch). 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 126 **Slip chases*, long narrow chases made specially for 'heading' work. 1882 J. Southward *Pract. Print.* (1884) 1 Newspaper *slip-galleys are made with either zinc or brass bottoms. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 126 *Slip galley*, a long galley the reverse of a quarto or square galley. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xliv, A baldheaded cobbler who rented a small *slip-room in one of the upper galleries [in the Fleet]. 1878 Ebsworth *Bagford Ball.* 918 Much less rare are the Garlands and *slip-songs which swell the volume to 918 leaves. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. lxvi. II. 493 A *slip ticket is a list, printed on a long strip of paper, of the persons..recommended by the same party or political group for the posts to be filled up at any election. 1882 H. C. Merivale *Faucit of Balliol* II. I. xxiv. 110 A narrow strip of a chamber opening into the drawing-room only, and like it facing the street through a *slip-window.

Slip (slip), *sb.*³ Forms: 5 **slypp** (**slepe**), 5–6 **slyppe**, 5–7 **slipp(e**, 5– **slip.** [f. (or related to) Slip *v.*¹ Cf. OHG. and MHG. *slipf* (G. dial. *schlipf*, also *schlipfe*) a sliding, slip, error, etc.]

I. 1. An artificial slope of stone or other solid material, built or made beside a navigable water to serve as a landing-place.

1467 *Ordin. Worcester* in *Eng. Gilds* 374 That the slippe and the keye, and the pavyment ther, be ouerseyn and repared. *Ibid.* 397 That the keye Slippes, and the pavyment of the grete Slippe, be made in hast. 1475 *Waterf. Arch.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 372 That no..man..putte..fyith into the ryvere over no key nor slippe of the citie. 1644 Prynne & Walker *Fiennes' Trial* 64 On the Key side next the City, there is a wall of stone ..which no horse can enter,..unlesse at a slip or two. 1704 in *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 291, I designed to build a granary on part of that slip that comes down to the dock. 1776 G. Semple *Building under water* 3 They came to the Slip, where one of the Horses broke his Traces and swam out. 1855 Longf. *Birds of Passage* 1. *My lost youth* iii, I remember the black wharves and the slips. 1885 Warren & Cleverly *Wanderings 'Beetle'* 91 We made for a ferry-slip, where the Commander and Doctor landed to forage.

b. *Shipbuilding.* An inclined plane, sloping gradually down to the water, on which ships or other vessels are built or repaired.

Hence Sw. *slip*, G. *slip, schlipp, schlippe.*

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Slip*, a place lying with a gradual descent on the banks of a river convenient for ship-building. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. & Pol. Thames* xiii. 371 No Slips, dry Docks, &c. for building or repairing Vessels shall be made. 1850 Longf. *Building of Ship* 95 'Thus,' said he, 'will we build this ship! Lay square the blocks upon the slip'. 1894 *Times* 1 Mar. 7/5 At Chatham, where the largest of the available building slips is being prepared for the reception of the new vessel.

c. A contrivance (patented in 1818) for hauling vessels out of the water in order to repair them.

1830 *Edinburgh Encycl.* XVIII. 256 Slips have also been sent by Mr. Morton to France and Russia. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 470 Slips are the contrivance of the late Mr. Thomas Morton of Leith, and consist of a carriage or cradle working on an inclined railway [etc.].

2. †a. A stairway. *Obs. rare.*

a 1490 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 175 Item at the begynnyng of the bakk, there the fyrst gryse called a slypp, ben twey weyes, the fyrst wey ys the seyd slepe of..yerdes long. *Ibid.* 218 Longitudo de 'le slip', anglice 'a steyre' de lapidibus..a summitate viæ desuper le bak usque ad ultimum gradum.

b. At Bath: A means of descending into one of the public baths (see quots.).

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) II. 1053/2 The person intending to bathe..is carried in a close chair..to one of the slips which open into the bath. There he descends by steps into the water. 1791 Collinson *Hist. Somerset* I. 40 There are slips by which the bathers descend, and adjoining to them are dressing-rooms. 1806 *Guide to Watering Places* 27 Sufficient fires..to be made in the slips,..and to be continued the usual hours of bathing.

c. *local.* A narrow roadway or passage.

Cf. Slype, and G. *schlippe* (also *schlupf, schlupfe*).

1739 Labelye *Piers Westm. Bridge* 2 The Slip or Passage commonly call'd by the Name of Mathew's Causeway. 1788 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 427 Came through Dunning's Slip, where the river divides Dunning Mountains, and in a short distance passed through another Slip, which divides Turris Mountain. 1868 *Exeter & Plymouth Gaz.* 13 Mar., The slip or roadway..down to the Parlor had always been a parish road.

II. 3. A leash for a dog, etc., so contrived that the animal can readily be released; esp. one used for a couple of greyhounds in coursing, by which they can be let go simultaneously.

1578 Bullein *Dial. agst. Pest* (1888) 91 He hath a Lyon in a chaine on the one side, and a Fox in a slippe on the other side. 1592 Greene *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 93, I looke for a grey-hound that hath broken my slip, and is run into this house. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 366 The lion was given unto him..who led him up and down the streets in a leam or slip. 1657 G. Thornley *Daphnis & Chloe* 69 Bind his hands behind him with a dog-slip. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Greyhound*, They must also be kept in a Slip, while abroad, till they can see their Course. *a* 1774 Goldsm. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 60 His men walking all the way by his side, like a greyhound in a slip. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 61 The dogs are now loosed from slips of a better construction than those formerly in use. 1839 *Laws of Coursing* in Youatt *Dog* (1845) App. 260 All courses shall be from slips, by a brace of greyhounds only. 1862 H. H. Dixon *Scott & Sebright* III. 254 Their talk is all of dogs..and fine young puppies coming forward or lost for ever to the slips.

transf. 1854 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 156 He has never yet sent the Old Dessauer in upon them; always only keeps him on the slip, at Magdeburg.

†b. A cord provided with a running knot; a noose. *Obs.*

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 41 They use a certain Slip with a running-noose, which they can cast.. about a Mans Neck, when they are within reach of him. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 535 The Students did not forbear to whisper among themselves, that..he sent up his soul to heaven thro a slip about his neck.

†c. A cord or string. *Obs.*—0

1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A hempen slip, *une corde.* 1727 Bover *Dict. Royal* II, A Slip, (or Silk-string), *Corde de Soye.*

d. *Bookbinding.* (See quots.)

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2211/2 *Slip*,..the end of the twine to which the sheets are sewed, serving to attach the book to the boards. 1894 *Amer. Dict. Print. & Bookmaking* 511 *Slip*, a cord used in fastening the back of a book.

e. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 604 *Slips*, ropes with toggles, shackles, and tongues, and various contrivances for letting go quickly.

4. †a. The neck-opening in a shirt. *Obs.*—0

1648 Hexham II, *Hoofd-gat*,..the Hole or the Slip of a Shirt through which one puts his head.

b. A child's pinafore or frock. Now *dial.*

1690 C. Ness *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 417 Sport with them as children do with their slips, or as monkeys with their collars. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* lxxvii. (1783) III. 75 Her infants were habited in slips, or robes, evidently made by a maternal hand. 1825– in northern glossaries (Northumbld., Cumbld., Yks., etc.).

c. An article of women's attire, formerly an outer garment, now worn under a gown of lace or similar material. Also *transf.*, an infant's garment of this nature.

1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 228/2 His..sister the princess,.. drest also in a slip with hanging sleeves. 1780 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* Ser. II. II. 527 The coat maker advises girts to be fastened on y^e top of the stays,..w^ch will not appear, being under her slip. 1816 *Med. Chirurg. Trans.* VII. 480 His daughter was one day dressed in a pink slip. 1824 Miss L. M. Hawkins *Annaline* I. 206 A damsel arrayed in a green bonnet and yellow slip. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Slip*,..a woman's muslin or satin under-skirt or petticoat. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List*, Baby Linen—Infant's Long Slip...American Satin Slip. 1904 *Queen* 30 Jan. 178/3 Entire lace gowns hung over chiffon slips made graceful toilettes.

d. A pillow-slip, pillow-case.

1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 337 Pillows, and slips.

e. *Upholstery.* A slot-hem in which a wire or the like may be inserted. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

5. *pl.* The sidings of a theatrical stage, from which the scenery is slipped on, and where the actors stand before entering.

1812 J. & H. Smith *Rej. Addr., Theatr. Alarm-bell* (1873) 152 Soldiers will be stationed in the slips. 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* iv, She nodded to all her friends on the stage, in the slips. 1855 — *Newcomes* xx, Raddled old women who shudder at the slips.

†6. a. A division in a pocket-book. *Obs.*—1

1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* I. 69 An elegant pocket-book, the private slip in which was furnished with bank-notes.

†b. *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Slip*, the slash pocket in the skirt of a coat behind.

7. A cylindrical iron case, in which wood for making gunpowder is charred.

1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 389/2 In each slip there are two holes, which correspond with similar holes in the retort. *Ibid.*, If of large size, the slip will hold 150 lbs.

III. 8. *To give (one) the slip*, or variants of this: To evade or escape from (a person); to elude, steal off or slip away from unperceived.

1567 in Ellis *Orig. Leti.* Ser. III. III. 326 This sayd Faithfull gave them all the slipp, and never appeared afterwards. 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 242 Not satisfied wyth the slippe he hath giuen the Vniuersities and Lawes of learning. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. xliv. 661 Hee..gave him the faire slip, & escaped out of his hands. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 193 There he found means to give them all the slip. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. iii. 237 Salem gave his imperious Guests the Slip, and retired among his Arabs in the Country. 1773 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* July, He said he had rode the whole way,.., having given the Colbourns the slip. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* IV. iii. II. 98 One of the principal officers of finance ..had given the slip to his guards. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* III. iv, [I] thought to put an end to myself, and so give my woes the slip. 1884 G. Moore *A Mummer's Wife* (1887) 78 [They] discussed how the slip should be given to Mrs. Ede.

transf. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 207 If it is to give us the slip, after a sowing or two more, there will be but little chance left of our ever falling in with it again.

†b. Without personal object. *Obs. rare.*

1596 H. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 231, I perceived two of his charge gave the slip. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxxix. xli. 1050 Many of them..made not appearance, but gave the slip.

†c. With punning allusion to Slip *sb.*⁴ *Obs.*

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 50 What counterfeit did I giue you? *Mer.* The slip, sir, the slip, can you not conceiue? 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Humour* II. v, Let the world thinke me a bad counterfeit, if I cannot giue him the slip, at an instant. *c* 1613 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* III. i, You have given me a ninepence here, and I'll give you the slip for't.

d. An act of evading or escaping; *spec.* in horsemanship (see quot. 1607). *rare.*

1607 Markham *Caval.* III. (1617) 59 By giuing him slippes in winding and turning seeke to ouertoile him. *Ibid.* 75 If hee come vpon your right hand,..hurle your horse roundly about vpon your left hand: this is cald a slippe. 1669 Pepys *Diary* 4 Feb., This morning I made a slip from the Office to White Hall.

9. An act of slipping, sliding, or falling down.

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 48 At aduantage him at last he tooke, When his foote slipt (that slip he dearely rewd). 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Pas*, *Vn faux pas*, a slip, or misse, in footing. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Feb. 1645, Not without many untoward slipps which did much bruise us. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 471 By..some Slip of my Foot ..I fell down. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 61 A slip, is losing the foot. 1833 Nyren *Cricket. Tutor* 43 The long stop..is required to cover many slips from the bat, both to the leg and the off-side. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Thought 18th Cent.* II. 376 A fop who has spoilt his fine clothes by a slip in the kennel. 1892 A. Oldfield *Man. Typog.* iii, Sometimes a page may be inadvertently squabbled in correcting, by a mere slip of the hand.

fig. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* v. 191 Bursts of great heart and slips in sensual mire.

b. *Prov.* (Cf. Cup *sb.* 12.)

1850 Thackeray *Pendennis* lxxii, There's many a slip between the cup and the lip! Who knows what may happen. 1861 Trollope *La Beata* II. xv. 131 There are fewer slips between cup and lip in such matters in continental life. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* II. III. 39 But yet befell a grievous slip Betwixt that fair cup and the lip.

c. The difference between the pitch of a propelling screw, and the actual advance of the vessel which it drives.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 84/1 The amount of 'slip' of the screw in the water..was stated not to exceed 5 per cent. 1877 W. H. White *Man. Naval Archit.* 525 From 15 to 20 per cent. appears to be a fair average for the slip of paddle-wheels. 1895 *Mod. Steam Eng.* 78 A certain part of the advancing power is lost, which loss is called the *slip* of the screw.

d. An act of slipping or stopping; an intermission.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 941 Recurrent slips unmistakeably indicate dilapidation of the heart.

10. An error in conduct; *esp.* an instance of moral fault or transgression.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 94 Peters fall, Abrahams slips, Salomons weaknesse, &c. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* CXXX. iv. 650 His pardoning of the frailties and slips of our lives. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 98 Let Christian's slips before he came hither..be a warning to those that come after. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 99 ¶ 2 A Slip in a Woman's Honour is irrecoverable. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* IV. v, I hope, notwithstanding this fatal slip, I do not appear to you in the light of a profligate. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 306 O'Brien, who then called to mind what a slip of decorum he had been guilty of, immediately rose. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. 364 Eyes watching for any slip which might betray their antagonists to the powers of the law.

b. A mistake or fault in procedure, argument, inference, etc.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 42 Beyng not to ..get out of so manifest a slip, he returneth the fault vpon me. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 43 Only out of the affection I have for him, I would wish him to correct here one slip. 1700 *Pennsylv. Arch.* I. 136 Through that unhappy Slip of neglecting the Register, both Ship and Cargoe were condemned before my Arrival. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. Wks. 1825 III. 12 No advertency is sufficient to guard against slips and contradictions. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, Since the hour that my policy made so perilous a slip, I cannot look at her without fear. 1885 *Law Reports* 29 Chanc. Div. 527 There must be some error, some slip in the decision.

c. A mistake or fault, esp. one of a slight or trivial character, inadvertently made in writing, speaking, etc.; an unintentional error or blunder.

1620 BRINSLEY *Virg. Eccl.* Direct., Though the slips in this..be very many, the difficultie..may pleade for me. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. i, Such slips are incident to the pens of the best authors. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* XXXV. 59 It was an ill Slip, to put our *Condemning them*, for *Commending them*. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 285 ¶ 2 A good-natur'd Reader sometimes overlooks a little Slip even in the Grammar or Syntax. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* v. § xiv. 228, I will not however press this, since it seems to be merely a slip of the translators. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. iv. § 159, I have commented upon very few, comparatively, of the slips which occur in his pages on this subject. 1885 *Law Reports* 29 Chanc. Div. 827 An error arising from an accidental slip or omission.

d. In the phrases *a slip of the pen, tongue*, etc.

1659 COWLEY *Let. to Ormonde* 7 Oct., Hopeing that his Majesty..will pardon the slip of that man's pen in one expression. 1677 R. CARY *Palæol. Chron.* II. I. XX. 153, I am apt to think that the Number..was originally the Transcriber's slip of the Pen. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 334 In Matters so sacred there is Danger in a Slip of the Tongue. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* vi. § 3 Things once committed to writing are secure from slips of memory. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xliv, It was a slip of the tongue; I did not intend to say such a thing. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 42/1 A casual mistake, a slip of the press. 1849 LD. MAHON in *Croker Papers* (1884) 31 Dec., This second letter ..is caused by the foolish slip of memory in my first. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) I. vi. 203 A slip of the pen, such as happens to real historians.

†**11.** An abortion. *Obs.*—1

a 1657 HARVEY *Opera* (1766) 576 Nostrates *false conceptions* et *slips* nominant.

12. a. *Geol.* A slight fault or dislocation caused by the sinking of one section of the strata.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 9 The coal is thrown either up or down by one of those slips. *Ibid.* 11 In a slip the strata are all cut or broke asunder, frequently in a straight line. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 13 The projecting heights display, in various slips, precipitated strata of reddish clay. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 203 The district is greatly traversed by faults or 'slips'. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 226 *Slip*,..a smooth joint or crack in strata.

b. The slipping or subsiding of a mass of earth, etc., from a higher level; the quantity of earth which has thus fallen; = LANDSLIP.

1838 F. W. SIMMS *Publ. Wks. Gt. Brit.* II. 10 These slips measuring altogether 4383 cube yards. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiv. (1879) 303 The inhabitants thought that when the rains commenced far greater slips would happen. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 22 Should any slips take place in the cutting during the excavation of the material.

13. *Coursing.* **a.** The act of letting a dog go in order to pursue a deer, hare, etc.; also, the length of the start given to the hare.

1602 *2nd Pt. Ret. fr. Parnass.* II. v. (1886) 108 The Buck broke gallantly: my great Swift being disaduantaged in his slip was at the first behinde. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 211/1 Length of Slip.—In all cases..the hare ought to have from 70 to 100 yards' law. *Ibid.* 213/2 An awkward or wilfully-bad slip is also guarded against.

†**b.** A trip or jerk. *Obs.*—1

1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. vii. (1668) 43 If after the turn be given, there shall be neither coat, slip, nor wrench extraordinary.

14. *Cricket.* One or other of the fielders who stand behind and on the off-side of the wicket to which the ball is bowled.

For the origin of this use cf. quot. 1833 in sense 9.

1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 44 The situation for the [short] slip is between the wicket-keeper and point of the bat. *Ibid.* 45 The long slip is generally placed between the short slip and point, and near enough to save the run. 1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 216 Box's favourite hit was a smart cut between the slips. 1894 *Times* 25 May 11/2 With the total at 70 Mr. Murdoch played the ball into slip's hands.

b. The ground or position occupied or guarded by these players.

sing. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 79 Each usually played in the slip when the other was not present. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide Cricketers* 22 A third man in the slip at times is required. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxi, You should have seen Henderson caught at slip from a 'skyer'.

plur. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 101 His mode of cutting the ball into the slips..is..peculiar. 1882 *Daily Telegr.* 19 May, Being caught in the slips when he had put on 29.

IV. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1 b) *slip-dock*; (sense 2 b) *slip-apartment*; (sense 3) *slip-steward*; (sense 4 c) *slip-bodice, -body* (Sc.); (sense 12 a) *slip-cleavage, -dyke, -trouble, -vein.*

1791 COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* I. 40 The hours of bathing are from six to nine.., during which time fires are kept in the *slip apartments. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 1226 Long Cloth *Slip Bodices and Camisoles. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* viii, When he grew out o' it, she made a *slip-body o't for hersel. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 226 **Slip cleavage*, the cleat of the coal running in planes parallel with slips. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2212/1 **Slip-dock*,.. a dock whose floor slopes toward the water [etc.]. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 32 There are indeed some dykes which throw the coal, etc. a little off the former level, and these I will, for distinction's sake, call *slip dykes. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 203/2 The *Slip-Steward, if there is one, regulates the proceedings of the dogs at the slips, and sees that the next brace is ready. 1887 MRS. DALY *Digging & Squatting* 133 There was a coursing club, of which my husband was slip-steward. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Slip-trouble. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 270 The *slip veins are seldom wider above than below, but are generally narrower.

†**Slip,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin; perh. a special use of prec. or of *sb.*[2]] A counterfeit coin.

1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 260 He went and got him a certaine slips, which are counterfeyt peeces of mony being brasse, and couered ouer with siluer, which the common people call slips. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 115 A counterfet peece of gold and a false peece of siluer (which we call a slip). 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 5/2 So, their Folly flies abroad the World, like Slips, that shame their Mint. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 111 To take a slip for a currant piece, or brass for silver.

attrib. 1618 T. ADAMS *Fool & his Sport* Wks. 1861 I. 247 This is the worldling's folly, rather to take a piece of slip-coin in hand than to trust God for the invaluable mass of glory.

transf. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 40 Aie me, she was but a counterfet slip. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 43 She, which thee deceaues With copper guilt is but a slip. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knight* v. i, An't please your majesty, we have brought you here a slip, a piece of false coin.

b. In phr. *to nail up for a slip*, with reference to the exposure of spurious coin (cf. NAIL *v.* 1 d). Also *transf.*

1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i, I shall goe for siluer though, when you shall bee nailed vp for slips. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iii, Your nose is a copper nose, and must be nail'd up for a slip. *a* 1634 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 108 But (here) they Naile him up, for a Slippe (a Brasen Counterfeit;) one, that did but say hee was a King.

c. With punning allusion to SLIP *sb.*[3] 8.

1618 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 32 Hee was desirous to ride before to showe his horse, which indeed was only to pay them with a slippe, for from that daie to this wee never heard more of him.

†**Slip,** *sb.*[5] *Obs.* In 7 **slipp, 8 slippe.** [app. a. older Flem. *slip* (Kilian), = MLG. *slip*, G. *schliff*, †*sliff*, related to Flem. and Du. *slijpen* to sharpen, polish, SLIPE *v.*[1]] (See quots.)

1667 SIR W. PETTY in Sprat *Hist. Roy. Soc.* 296 The Filings of Steel, and such small particles of Edge-tools as are worn away upon the Grindstone, commonly called Slipp, is used to the same purpose in dying of Silks. 1791 HAMILTON tr. *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. II. I. 13 Some dyers.. use..the powder found in the troughs of cutlers' grindstones. [*Note.*] This is known among our workmen by the name of slippe.

Slip (slip), *v.*[1] Also 4–7 **slyppe, slipp,** 5–7 **slippe**; 5 **slipe,** 5–6 **slype.** [prob. ad. MLG. *slippen* (LG., Du., Flem. *slippen*, G. *schlippen*), = OHG. *slipfan* (MHG. *slipfen*, G. dial. *schlipfen*) to slip, slide, glide, etc., related to the ON. strong verb *sleppa* (Norw. and Icel. *sleppa*; in Sw. *slippa* and Da. *slippe* the vowel has been influenced by LG.). The stem *slip-* appears in OE. in the adj. *slipor*: see SLIPPER *a.*]

**Intransitive senses.* (See also LET *v.*[1] 25.)

I. 1. To escape, get away, make off. *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4001 If þou wil, sal i slip And fal noght in his hand grip. 13..*E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1785 Segges slepande were slayne er þay slyppe myȝt. 1572 *Satir. P. Reform.* XXXVI. 64 Lyndsay..tuik þair geir, and luit thame selfis slip. 1621 ELSING *Lords' Deb.* (Camden) App. 131 A motion that Fowles should be closely keept in, otherwise it is thought hee will slipp. 1865 BRODEN *Prov. Lincs., Slip*, to run away.

2. To pass or go lightly or quietly; to move quickly and softly, without attracting notice; to glide or steal. Used with various advs. and preps.

In some cases the prominent idea is that of escape; more usually it is that of quick, easy motion.

a. With *away, off, out; from, out of.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5931 Gif þir theues away slipp, ȝe haue grete los parfay. 1530 PALSGR. 721/2 Who wolde ever have thought that a theefe coulde have slypped out here. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 64 Hold you my duitye so sclender, Too slip from Troytowne. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 44 There is no way to get out of the Church, except they slip out of the doores. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 216 When slipping from thy Mothers eye thou went'st Alone into the Temple. 1709 PRIOR *Hans Carvel* 24 So in a Morning..[she] Slipt sometimes out to Mrs. Thody's. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 44, I took that opportunity to slip away. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xlix, Some say he's slipped off, to join his friend abroad. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* v. viii, So I came downstairs without any noise and slipped out. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 31 At the end of two or three hours..most of those present had slipped away for luncheon.

transf. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. III. ii 324 These Nerves slip out of the Marrow about the Saddle of Sphœnoides.

fig. 1872 W. D. HOWELLS *Wedding Journ.* 279 You must slip out of it some way.

b. With *by, past, through*, etc. Also in fig. contexts.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 985 þay slypped bi & syȝe hir not þat wern hir samen feres. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 23 In the Spanish inquisition the protestants are examined, but the papists slip by. 1705 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* III. *Pain* 16 That they should slip through Torture without Pain. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 174 There might be less danger of any of the enemy's ships slipping by unobserved. 1821 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xix, Bertram slipped clear of his English friend. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. x. 347 Some idiot..who has somehow managed to slip past us in the race of life.

transf. 1875 *Daily Tel.* 4 Aug. (Cassell), There is always a certain proportion of Bills which may be said to slip through both Houses.

c. With *in, into.* Also *fig.*, and in slang use *to slip into*, to give (one) a good blow or beating.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4703 þai..Let sailes doune slide, slippit into botes. 1535 COVERDALE *Joel* ii. 9 They shal clymme vp vpon the houses, & slyppe in at the wyndowes like a thefe. 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* II. iii, Even now as I came home, he slipt me in. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil, Life* (1721) I. 61 When People crouded to see him, he would slip into the next Shop..to avoid them. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 59 He would slip into the cellar, and gauge the casks. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 25 July, I heard the King's voice. I slipped into my room, but he saw me. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* XXVI, The strangers had slipped in before us. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. viii. 65 I'll have a chair for you..You can slip into it and say nothing to nobody. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. li. 292 If the voters are apathetic and let a bad man slip in.

transf. 1643 BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 17 When unexpected accidents slip in, and unthought of occurrences intervene. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* (1846) II. 93 Curiosity slips in among you before the passions are awake. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* III. § 2. 185 Huge assumptions have been allowed to slip into the process of the argument, and to vitiate the proof.

slang. 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairlegh* (1894) 3 When you know how to use your fists,..slip into him. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conscience* II. xi, If you would oblige us all by slipping into Cabbage with a stick for half a minute.

d. With *back, home, over, to*, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IX. viii. 31 The weyngit messengeir..slippand come to thy moder. 1560 DAUS *Sleidane's Comm.* 270 They serued vnwyllyngly, and..forsakyng their enseignes, slyppe home euery man. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 101 If the formost be weary, then slippeth he back to rest his head upon the hindmost. 1664 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 315 You will hear of Lord Chamberlain from Kimbolton, who slipped thither last week. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 3 June 1666, So having been much wearied with my journey, I slipp'd home. 1781 COWPER *Retirement.* 436 Then swift descending..[he] Slips to his hammock. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. vi, [He] privily..slips over to the Townhall to whisper a word. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. 17 Mrs. Waldo slipped to the door and peeped in. 1865 J. HATTON *Bitter Sweets* iii, I'll slip up with some bread and milk for you.

fig. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 377 Her memory..Went slipping back upon the golden days.

3. †**a.** With *on* or *upon*: To fall or sink into (sleep). Cf. SLIDE *v.* 6 a. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 186 He..Slypped vpon a sloumbe slepe. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 244 As al were slypped vpon slepe, so slaked hor lotez. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2378 Sleghly on slepe I slypped be-lyue.

b. To enter gradually or inadvertently *into* a theme, digression, opinion, etc.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* iii. 206, I am not slipt into that Anabaptisticall conceit and tenet..that all warres were utterly unlawfull under the Gospel. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* iv. 119, I perceive I have slipped into a somewhat long digression.

c. To pass *into* a certain state. Also with *off.*

1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 6 Which at a touch of light ..Slipt into ashes, and was found no more. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, She began to cry weakly, and at last slipped off into a dead faint.

4. To pass *out of*, escape *from*, the mind, memory, etc. Also without const.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* CXVIII. 93 It may noght slip out of my mynde. *c* 1430 HOCCLEVE *Minor Poems* XVIII. 46 Let me nat slippe out of thy remembrance. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 21 It will neuer let it sincke or slip out of minde. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 28 If I could haue remembred a guilt counterfeit, thou would'st not haue slipt out of my contemplation. 1676 RAY *Corresp.* (1848) 125 The experiments ..were quite slipt out of my memory. 1724 WATTS *Logic* I. v. (1726) 73 The Mind is ready to let many of them slip, unless some Pains and Labour be taken to fix them upon the Memory. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxix, The idea of her mother's presence seemed to have slipped from the unhappy girl's recollection. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 300 Important truths had slipped out of the consciousness of the Church.

5. To break or escape *from* a person, the tongue, lips, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3891 Ector..warpit neuer worde of wrang with his mowthe. Ne sagh þat was vnsemond, slip-

ped hym fro. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 41 Ane blast of wind soun fra hir slippis. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 20 *Pain.* You are rapt sir, in some worke, some Dedication... *Poet.* A thing slipt idlely from me. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Polit.* 39 Hasty rash words slip often from us inconsiderately. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) 215 This last clause sure slipped from him unawares. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 42 The reply..slipp'd as glibly from my Tongue, as if in reality I had known no other [name]. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage Geraint* 446, I will not let his name Slip from my lips if I can help it. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xv, Lest ..he should let anything slip that might give a clue to the place or people.

b. To leak *out*, become known.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, When one side or the other had written any particularly spicy despatch, news of it was sure to slip out.

6. Of time: To go by quickly or imperceptibly; to pass unmarked; to run. Chiefly with advs., as *along*, *away*, *by*.

1564–78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 19 By little and little tyme doth slip awaie. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 48, I neuer thought how some of that time is slipt away. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 190 Perceiving the day slipp'd away without any hope of relief. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* x. 312 The season for publishing it is slipt. 1793 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 93 Time slipped along. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xv, As time was slipping by, and he had none to lose, he felt that he must act. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 468 Trying his truth..Till half-another year had slipt away.

7. a. To pass *over* (a subject or matter) without adequate attention or notice; to neglect, overlook.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 439 Last of all I will not slip ouer this difference, although it bee of little weight. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 70 That no man's matters should slightly be slipped over. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. *Medit. Lord's Pr.* 138 Slipping over it in thy Prayer without a particular animadversion upon it. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 300 The circumstance might not have been slipped over, without my knowledge.

b. To progress or travel *across*, *down*, *over*, a stretch of ground, etc., quickly.

1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 527 Yet unvext She slipt across the summer of the world. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) I. viii. 290 No man seems on the whole to have slipped down the stream of life more smoothly. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 188 A ten-mile stage..having been slipped over.

II. 8. Of the foot: = SLIDE *v.* 8 b.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps., Comm. Canticles* 520, I sall 3eld þaim ..in tyme..þat þaire fote slipp. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xvi. 5 Ordre thou my goynges in thy pathes, that my fote steppes slippe not. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vii. 48 His foote slipt (that slip he dearely rewd). 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Glisser*, Better the foot slip then the tongue trip. 1827 WILLIS *Saturday Aft.* 23 My feet slip up on the seedy floor. 1864 *Law Times Rep.* X. 719/2 His foot slipped and he fell into the street.

b. To slide or glide, esp. on a smooth or slippery surface; to lose one's foothold; = SLIDE *v.* 8. Also in fig. context.

1530 PALSGR. 721/2 Syt nat there, I rede you, leste you slyppe downe or you beware. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 582 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 304, I saw him slip..Doun our the stair. *a* 1618 J. DAVIES *Wit's Pilgr.* I. ii, From it (being moist, and slippie) she doth slipp To thy faire Teeth. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 59 Suddenly he slipt downe forty steps or degrees. 1779 E. CLARK *Poems* 193 Our wife yence slippit i' this sliddry gate. 1841 THACKERAY *Great Hoggarty Diamond* iii, 'Hadn't you better come into the carriage,..Mr. Preston?'..'Oh, I'm sure I'll slip out, ma'm,' says I. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 581 As this spot was rather steep, and the ground moist.., he slipped down.

fig. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 167 He folowyth not the ordynance of God, but..blyndyd wyth ignorance, flythe from hyt and slyppyth from hys owne dygnyte. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 63 He slippeth down presently into a dirtie comparison of a dutch Mule and an english mare.

c. To fall into mistake, fault, or error; to err, † to sin. Also with *into* (error, etc.).

(*a*) *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxviii. 1 Oure tonge..lightly ..slippis, as we doe when we ga in skliþer way. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 83 It wer meruayl if he to so grete wrongis suld slype. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* 64 b, There liueth no mortall man that doth not oft slippe in doing his dutie. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 477, I am sorry, one so learned, and so wise,..Should slip so grosselie. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 34 Great Masters..slip sometimes unawares. 1658 CROMWELL *Sp.* 20 Jan. (Carlyle), Therefore it is that men yet slip, and engage themselves against God. *a* 1702 J. POMFRET *Love Triumphant* 145 The best may slip, and the most cautious fall. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Jan. 4/2 Either Mr. Goldwin Smith's memory has slipped, or he has been..misreported.

(*b*) 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 504, I may seeme to slip into an errour. 1777 TYRWHITT in *Chatterton's Rowley Poems* App. 321 It might seem invidious to point out living writers..who have slipped into the same mistake.

d. *U.S.* With *up*: To fail; to make a mistake.

1856 B. HARTE *Dow's Flat* iii, He slipped up somehow On each thing thet he struck. 1888 *Cent. Mag.* June 279/1 Slip up in my vernacular! How could I? I talked it when I was a boy with the other boys.

9. To move out of place with an easy sliding motion; to fail to hold or stick; to slide. *To slip off the hooks*: see HOOK *sb.* 15 e.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xix. 5 The yren, slipt of fro the haft, smytith his freend. 1530 PALSGR. 721/2, I slyppe, as a thyng dothe that is thought to be tyed and holdeth nat faste, *je me lasche*. *Ibid.*, I can take no holde upon hym, my handes slyppeth so. 1641 BAKER *Chron.* 173 A Garter ..slipping off in a Dance, King Edward stooped and tooke it up. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. ii. 53 Fasten the Scale of Equal Parts, and the Scale to be made together, so as they may not slip. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 172 The Bark will be prevented slipping up, as it is very apt to do.., when the Sticks or Cuttings are forced into the Ground of themselves. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 605 It should have grooves crossing each other..to prevent the bones from slipping aside. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 157 My axe slipped out of my hand, and slid..away from me. *Ibid.* II. iv. 249 The snow upon steep mountain-sides frequently slips and rolls down in avalanches. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxix, The sudden movement uncovered the letters, which slipped down and strewed the carpet.

b. To enter or fall *into* by slipping or losing hold.

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 157 Lest with the Grain the edge of the Adz should slip too deep into the Board. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 22 A place where the bank has slipped into the river.

10. To glide or pass easily *out of* (or *from*) *one's hand* or *grasp*, *through* (or *between*) *one's fingers*, etc., so as to escape or be lost. In later use chiefly *transf.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 72 In liknesse of an Eddre he slipte Out of his hond, and forth he skipte. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 100 They slypped owte of their handes. 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* III. ii, Hold her fast, She'll slip thorow your fingers like an Eel else. 1668 HOPKINS *Serm. Vanity* (1685) 85 All our treasures are like quicksilver, which strangely slips between our fingers, when we think we hold it fastest. 1746 *Rep. Conduct of Sir J. Cope* 110 How this Person.. slip'd out of his Hands. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. 132 Wealth by various means slips from the possessor's hands. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 125 So, between them, the lady generally slipped through their fingers. 1853 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 19 To exercise the authority in the land which slips from the grasp of the monarch. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. xcviii. 379 Not only has the direction of politics slipped in great measure from their hands [etc.].

b. Similarly with *away*, or without const.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Passer*, Good lucke vnheeded quickly slips away. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VII. Wks. 1813 I. 503 Elizabeth did not suffer such a favourable opportunity to slip. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 22 The rhet'ric they display Shines as it runs, but, grasp'd at, slips away.

11. To allow oneself to drop or fall with an easy, gliding motion; to slide *down*.

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xl. 404 So whanne syr Dynas wente oute on huntynge she slypped doune by a tuell. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* VII. 172 Now folds the lily all her sweetness up, And slips into the bosom of the lake. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 633 *To slip by the board*, to slip down by the ship's side.

12. Of rivers, etc.: To run smoothly or gently; to flow, glide; to pass *into* the sea.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 189 It..falleth.. to Rotherbridge,..from whence it soon after slippeth into the sea. 1598 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. xiii, Swift Nile in his large channell slipping. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 192 The softer voice..of rills that slip Through the cleft rock. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 629 The silent water slipping from the hills. 1885 STEVENSON *Child's Garden, Foreign Lands* iv, To where the grown-up river slips Into the sea among the ships.

transf. 1748 THOMSON *Castle Indol.* I. xx, Yet they [*sc.* vibrations] slipt along In silent ease.

13. a. To get *out of* or *into* a garment, etc., in an easy or hurried manner.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 106 He schewre his feddreme that was schene, And slippit owt of it full clene. 1609 FIELD *Woman is a Weathercock* II. i, Then my lord (like a snake) casts a suit every quarter which I slip into. 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 206 Slipping into a pair of fur boots. 1893 KEITH *'Lisbeth* II. ii, He's slipping into a clean shirt as fast as he can.

b. To slide *in* or *into* a socket, etc.

1815 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. xii. 401 The thistle..is entirely detached, in working, from the figure, and slips into a socket. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* 75 A groove, in which one end of the tool slide..slips and is firmly fixed..by a nut underneath.

14. To move easily and smoothly.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 179 So oft as the Workman has occasion to oyl the Centers of his Work, to make his Work slip about the easier. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. I 3, The cord wheel slipping within its encircling cord.

b. To admit of being taken *off*, or put *on*, by a slipping process.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 63 Before you paste your Paper on the form, first Tallow him, so will the Canvas and Paper slip off without starting or tearing. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiv. 227 You must boil your beans so that the skin will slip off. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* x, I am grown somewhat fatter.., and my leathern coat slips not on so soon as it was wont.

c. Of bark: To peel off.

1788 DEANE in *M. Cutler's Life*, etc. (1888) I. 388, I have had chairs bottomed with the rind [of basswood], which will slip finely in June. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at Home* 61 When the sap is rising, the bark of the smaller shoots of the lime-tree 'slips' easily.

** *Transitive senses.*

III. 15. To cause to move with a sliding motion; to draw or pull in this manner.

In quot. 1850 prob. suggested by Du. *slepen*.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. vii. 28 Full slyde scho slyppis hir membris our allquhayr. 1633 HERBERT *Temple, Praise* vi, After thou hadst slipt a drop From thy right eye. 1688 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I. s.v. *Dérober*, To slip beans out of their skins. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* II June 1652, It was long before I could slip the cord over my wrists to my thumb. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 187 Their Bark must never be slip'd up at their putting into the Earth. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* VII. 77 Make every one knock that wants to come in. If they won't obey,..slip the bolt. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 149, I..despatched men with a span or team of oxen to slip the wildebeest to camp. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 161 One of the men slipped a brand from a bundle of wood.

fig. 1795 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. (1892) 268 Having therefore slipped the persons, with whom we are to treat, out of view.

b. With *off* or *on*. (Cf. 2.) Also *refl.*

1662 BOYLE *Spring of Air* 114 Since..such Surfaces are as easily slipt of, and extended in the end of the depression as in the beginning. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 188 On this Crook is slipt the Noose of a Leather Thong. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 197 A Cinnamon-Tree..bears none but its Bark, which Slips itself off every Year. 1778 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekeeper* 25 Take the cloth carefully off, and slip it on to your dish. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. vi, On the President's chair [can] be slipped this cover of velvet. 1885 *Law Reports* 15 Q. B. Div. 360 The belts..could be slipped off the drum of the shaft..at pleasure.

c. *Sc.* To go or take (one's way) in a quick and quiet manner. With advb. compl.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxviii, If I were to..slip my ways hame again. — *Rob Roy* xxii, I..came slipping my ways here to see what can be dune anent your affairs.

16. a. To strip or take off (a garment, etc.); to cast (the skin, etc.). Occas. with advs., as *down*, *off*. Also in fig. context.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satire* 2172 Slip doun 3our hois. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 454 As a man slippeth off his clothes, ..so we must slip off all our sins. 1603 DEKKER *Whore Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 244 The snake slips off his skinne. 1673 *Humours Town* 45 They ought now, like the Serpent, to slip their Skin. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, To slip (or pull) off one's Shoes, *tirer ses Souliers*. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 188 When that, which breathes within the leaf, Could slip its bark and walk. 1901 J. WATSON *Life Master* ix. 87 He slips his past and puts on a new shape.

b. To put *on* (an article of apparel) hastily or carelessly.

1590 LODGE *Rosalind* (1592) H iij, With that she slipt on her peticoat, and start vp. *c* 1660 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 213 Come slip on your slippers, and trip down the stairs. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To slip his Clothes on, *s'habiller*. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 92, I jumped out of Bed, slipp'd my Coat on, and..called the Chamberlain. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 17 July, I was obliged to slip on my morning gown, ..and run away as fast as possible. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vii, Porteous might, however, have eluded the fury,..had he thought of slipping on some disguise. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. ix. 95 The watch-officer slips on his bear-skin.

17. To withdraw (one's head or neck) *out of* or *from* a collar, etc. Also *fig.* (cf. COLLAR *sb.* 8).

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* CXXV. 772 Albeit we.. would slippe our heades out of the coler seeking to shift off y' matter. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 112 My burthen'd yoke, From which, euen heere I slip my wearied head. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To slip his Neck out of the Collar.

18. To insert or introduce gently or surreptitiously. Const. *in*, *into*.

1688 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I. s.v. *Couler*, To slip mony into his pocket. 1713 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 76 He had tried to slip a powder into her drink. 1748 H. ELLIS *Voy. Hudson's Bay* 136 When they want to lay their Child out of their Arms, they slip it into one of their Boots. 1852 MRS. H. B. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxi. 219 The choicest peach or orange was slipped into his pocket to give to her when he came back. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* iii, He took the loose cushion..and slipped it under Lassie's head.

transf. 1837 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 155 A— quoted all the old divines, and I slipped in texts. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 55 The time when he slipped three leaden pills into 'Blue Shirt' for winking at a new chum behind his..back.

b. *Cards.* To palm (a card); † *absol.*, to cheat in this manner in playing. *To slip the cut* (see quot. 1879).

1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 239, I am..an adept in their science, can slip, shuffle, cog, or cut with the best of 'em. 1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 197 Few could more dextrously slip a card or cog a die. 1836 in Curtees *Rep. Cases Eccl. Courts* I. 414 *note*, He..detected him slipping the king, commonly called 'palming', for the purpose of cheating..him. 1879 *Sporting Exam.* 19 Aug. 262 The usual method of slipping the cut is to pick up with your right hand the cards removed from the top of the pack, and place them in the open palm of your left hand [etc.].

c. To give quietly or slyly.

1841 S. HAWKINS *Poems* V. 25 (E.D.D.), The cannie lass whiles..slips me down a bit o' bread. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* X. v. III. 256 The Custom-house people..were pacified by slipping them a ducat.

19. To cause to slip or lose hold; *esp.* to undo (a knot) in this way. Also in fig. context.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 156 The bonds of heauen are slipt, dissolu'd, and loos'd. 1674 FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 74 Should but any one pin of it be misdriven, or the running of its least wheel slipt or jostled. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. x, Tight, hard knots,..in which there is no quibbling provision made..to get them slipped and undone by. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* iii, The manner in which my father slipt a knot, usually esteemed the strongest which binds society together. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. v, 'Kate's knot' thought Pete...He slipped it, and opened the lid.

b. To dislocate (a joint).

1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. xiii, May my pistols miss fire, and my mare slip her shoulder while I am pursu'd, if I ever forsake thee! 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) II. 45 Who rode against him, and slipped his shoulder. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxvii, My horse, I fear, has slipped his shoulder. 1868 *Daily News* 18 July, This boar..slipped its hip last Saturday while it was being washed.

c. To suffer an accidental slipping or sliding of (one's foot).

1769 *Middlsx. Jrnl.* 15–17 June 4/4 A carpenter..coming down stairs..slipped his foot and got..a desperate fall. 1813 *Examiner* 5 Apr. 215/2 A..man..unfortunately slipped his foot, and fell. 1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble World* II. vi. (1878) 365 He slipped his foot and fell.

IV. 20. †**a.** To allow to pass idly or unprofitably; to waste or lose (time). *Obs.*

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 88 Woo be to bame qwhos days ar slippyd & passyd in vanite. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 82 Poor crauling Emmetts! in what busie toyle Wee slip away our Time? 1687 *Hist. Sir John Hawkwood* iv. 7 To slip no time, lest he should be anticeeded, he sits him down.

b. To allow (an occasion, opportunity, etc.) to slip or pass by; to neglect or fail to take advantage of.

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* v. ii, Slip not thine oportunity. 1597 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. xlvii, Here, my sou'raigne, to make longer stay..May slippe th' occasion, and incense their will. 1647 N. WARD *Simp. Cobler* 35 If this market be slipt, things may grow..deare. 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 187 The consciousness of his own guilt made him slip this fair occasion of traducing me. 1721 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 175 Advantages slipt in war are never recovered. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 193 He could not slip the opportunity. 1831 SHENNAN *Tales* 164 (E.D.D.), Then slip not the chance when it is in your power.

†**c.** To fail in keeping (a prescribed time). *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 52 He did command me to call timely on him, I haue almost slipt the houre. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 395, I slipt my Time.

21. To pass over, omit in speaking; to avoid mention or consideration of. Also with *over*.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. i, I do slippe No action of my life, thus, but I quote it. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* IV. i, Some divines you might find foulded there; But that I slip them o're for conscience sake. 1690 *Andros Tracts* II. 63 We had almost slipt the Notice of a Bawl or two these Libellers make about Damnifying their Church. 1748 WASHINGTON *Jrnl.* 25 Mar., Writ. 1889 I. 3 Nothing remarkable on Thursday...So shall slip it. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* CXXII, Like an inconsiderate boy,..I slip the thoughts of life and death.

b. To neglect; to omit or fail to prosecute, perform, employ, etc.; to skip, to miss.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. ii, Wert not a serious thing we go about, It should be slipt til I had fought with thee. 1620 *Hist. Frier Rush* 22, I pray thee..briefely to make an end of thy enterprise, and slip it not. 1711 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 259 Our ministers are too negligent of such things: I have never slipt giving them warning. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ-Fil.* No. 10 (1726) 51 Whether it was usual now and then to slip a lecture or so. 1728 RAMSAY *General Mistake* 137 [He]changes, lends, extorses, cheats and grips, And no ae turn of gainfu' us'ry slips.

V. 22. To elude or evade, esp. in a stealthy manner; to escape from; to give the slip to.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. vi. 41 Bot lo! Panthus, slippit the Grekis speris,..Cummis like ane wod man to our 3et rynning. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* III. vi, Why was't not my inuention, brother, To slip the Judges. 1669 PENN *No Cross* I. iii. § 6 No, not a Thought must slip the Watch. 1702 VANBRUGH *False Friend* v. i, He sees me; 'tis too late to slip him. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 107 To prevent the rebels slipping the Duke. 1891 ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 198 That very night I slipped him while he was asleep, and got clear away.

b. To pass by, get in front of; to outdistance.

1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* xiii. 324 He had slipped all the rest of the field. 1896 *Sportsman* 10 July 3/8 The metropolitan crew managed to slip their doughty antagonists at the start.

c. With *up*. To defraud or swindle; to disappoint. *Austr. slang.*

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 9 Aug. 4/2, I'd only be slipped up if I trusted to them. 1891 NAT. GOULD *Double Event* 92 It's deuced hard lines..to be slipped up like this.

d. To escape from the grasp of (a person).

1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 62 She swung the sword for centuries: in a day It slipped her.

23. To disengage oneself or get loose from (a collar, halter, etc.). Freq. *fig.* (cf. COLLAR *sb.* 8).

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. of Love* 16 He can not slippe the coller with me as erst he did, in leauyng the former sentence. 1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i, I hope you shall neuer slip string, but hang steddie. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 5 Mammonets..are tied by the hips, that they slip not collar. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 309 They also fasten them..that, in case they should break or slip their Halters, they may not get away. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiii, Hobgoblin..is like to play the devil in the world, if he can once slip the string. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Converz. Whale Fishery* 38 [The whale] must be struck in the proper way or he will slip the harpoon. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. x, Rascality has slipped its muzzle. 1890 *Spectator* 28 June, An overworked man who has contrived for a week or two to slip the collar of professional responsibility.

24. To escape from (one's memory); to elude (one's notice, knowledge, etc.).

1652 COLLINGES *Caveat for Prophanen.* XXVII. (1653) 112 Reasons..which have slipt my memory. 1709 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 188 Very few..remarkable Passages..of the Ancient..Writers slip your Observation. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 140 Several good Properties of this Tree having slip'd the Knowledge and Notice of Authors. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Le Dimanche*, Le Fleur..let as few occasions slip him as his master.

25. To pass or escape inadvertently from (the pen, tongue, etc.).

1751 WARBURTON in W. & Hurd *Lett.* (1809) 82 The word Hutcheson slipped my pen before I was aware. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ball. & Poems* 148 Weak words he has, that slip the nerveless tongue.

VI. 26. To allow to slip (from one's hand, etc.); to loosen one's hold or grasp of; to let go.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. xi, He slipt the raines to east and southerne wind. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 67 Jacke all this while had an eye to the Bitch, and determined at last to slip her haulter. 1684 R. H. *School Recreat.* 59 Caveating or Disengaging. Here you must..slip your Adversaries Sword, when you perceive him about to bind or secure yours. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* ii. 13 A pebble moved round in a sling..will fly off the moment it is set at liberty, by slipping one end of the sling-cord. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 104 These..slipped the ropes and did battle with their assailants. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 332 The tow-rope of the tug was slipped.

fig. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. iii. 22 Wee'l slip you for a season, but our iealousie Do's yet depend.

b. To allow to escape; to utter († or commit) inadvertently. Also with *out*.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 12 That they may forget themselves at such a time, and step too far, and slip a sin. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To slip out a Word, *lâcher une parole*. 1723 *Pres. State of Russia* II. 151 But I was drunk,..and I slipt those Words, trusting to my Servants. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* ix, They once or twice mortified us sensibly by slipping out an oath.

c. *To slip one's breath* or *wind*, to expire; to die. *collog.*

a 1819 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1830) 69 (Davies), And for their cats that happed to slip their breath, Old maids ..might mourn. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 282 He thinks I am slipping my wind now—but I know better. 1856 READE *Never too late to mend* I. x. 180 You give him the right stuff, doctor,..and he won't slip his wind this time.

d. To emit, send out (light, etc.). *rare*$^{-1}$.

1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 122 Each pullet-egg Of diamond, slipping flame from fifty slants.

e. *Knitting.* (See quot.)

1880 *Plain Hints Needlew.* 14 To decide whether it should be done by knitting 2 loops together, or by slipping a loop (i.e. taking it off without knitting).

f. To detach (the end carriage or coach) from an express or non-stopping train while running, in order to allow passengers to get out at a certain station.

1856 *Bradshaw's Railw. Guide* Jan. 39 A carriage slipped at Slough at 10.45 aft. 1884 *G. W. R. Time Tables* July 48 Carriage slipped at Reading at 2.4. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Oct. 8/1 The Great Western..were slipping coaches in 1865.

27. To release (a greyhound or other dog, or a hawk) from a leash or slip. Also *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 52 Oh sir, Lucentio slipt me like his Gray-hound. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Women Pleas'd* II. ii, When they grow ripe for marriage They must be slipt like Hawkes. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccxlix, The Age (it seemes)..broke in the Cell; Slipt her Rebellions, like rude Molaes forth. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She wou'd if she cou'd* II. i, Indeed methinks they look as if they never had been slip'd before. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Coursing*, The mungril greyhound, whose business it is to drive away the deer before the greyhounds are slip'd. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 126 The horsemen are instantly at full speed, having slipped the dogs.

absol. 1893 *Times* 18 Dec. 10/3 W. slipped well. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 220/2 Wright I have rarely seen slip better.

b. With *after*, *at*, or *upon* (game, etc.).

1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greyb.* 8 He has stood three or four courses already; the first..that was slipt at him made more hast than good speed. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Coursing*, If a proper deer come out, and it is suspected that the brace or leash of greyhounds slip'd after him, will not be able to kill him. 1816 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 21 Dec. (1894) I. 387 Maida is a little lame, but if he gets better I would like to slip him at a fox. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 177 Grey-hounds were slipped after such as were wounded. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 654 Our falcon yesterday, Who lost the hern we slipt her at. 1903 SIR M. G. GERARD *Leaves fr. Diaries* vii. 213 A friend of mine saw thirteen of these dogs slipped upon a wounded tiger.

fig. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* II. i, I am going to slip the boy at a mistress. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 218 The Roman army hungered..to be unmuzzled and slipped upon these false friends.

c. To unyoke, release.

1859 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 41 The ploughman slips his weary team.

28. *Naut.* To allow (an anchor-cable, etc.) to run out, freq. with a buoy attached, when quitting an anchorage in haste; to drop or disengage (an anchor) in this way.

1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1643/1 The Tripolines slipped their Anchors and made what haste they could into the Port. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* A 4 b, Found three anchors slipped in the Bay. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* xviii, She immediately slipped her cable, and put herself under sail. 1790 BEATSON *Naval & Mil. Mem.* I. 173 Few of them lost any time in weighing their anchors, but either cut or slipped them. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiv. 35 We made sail, slipped our cable,..and beat about, for four days.

absol. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 203/4 One of them..was forced to come to an Anchor, but the night proving stormy obliged her to slip. 1683 *Ibid.* No. 1787/4 Several other Vessels in this bad Weather slipt, and went to Sea. 1793 SMEATON *Eddystone L.* § 226 The Weston..was therefore ordered to slip and make her best port. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii, Vessels are obliged to slip and run for their lives on the first sign of a gale.

b. *To slip one's cable*, to die.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxxix, I told him [a doctor] as how I could slip my cable without his..assistance. 1868 YATES *Rocks Ahead* Prol. ii, Our poor friend, who has, as it were, slipped his cable before my arrival.

29. Of animals: To miscarry with; to drop, bring forth, or cast prematurely. Also *transf.* of persons.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 31 Mar., My Lady Castlemaine is sick again; people think slipping her filly. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 536 As appears by the cows with calf not slipping their calves. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 52 These [dogs] have sometimes caused them [sows] to slip their pigs. 1827 *Sport. Mag.* XXI. 38 My grey mare had slipped a fine horse foal.., and my best cow her calf. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vi, The cheese may swell, or the cows may slip their calf.

Slip (slip), *v.*^{2} Also 6 slyppe. [a. MFlem. or MLG. *slippen* (LG. *slippen*, MSw. *slippa*; obs. G. *schlipfen*), to cut, incise, cleave, etc.]

†**1.** *trans.* To cut (a spoon-handle) obliquely at the end. *Obs.*

1498 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) IV. 142, xij coclearia argentea, Slipped in lez stalkes. 1538 *Ibid.* VI. 81, ij spones of sylver slipped at the endes. 1549 *Inv. Edw. VI* in Jackson *Hist. Eng. Plate* (1911) 497 Fourtene Spones well gilt slipped at thendes.

2. To part (a slip or cutting) from a stock, stalk, or branch, esp. for the purpose of propagation; to divide (a plant, root, etc.) *into* slips.

1530 PALSGR. 721/2, I slyppe an herbe a [? *read* or] stryke slyppes of it, or leaves from the stalke. 1597 *2nd Pt. Good Housew. Jewel* B viij, Put these..into an earthen pot with ..Time and rosemary slipped. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 39 If he be little, slip him, and set him, perhaps he will take. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 157 The Branches also may be slipped and planted. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 93 Sow scorzonera salsfy, and slip skerrits of the last year's growth. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 273 Burnet—may be planted and slipped. 1808 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 67 When the plant had tillered, I took it up, and slipped or divided it into four sets of slips.

absol. 1614 BRETON *I would & I would not* XXXVIII, I would I were a Gardiner, and had skill To digge and rake, and plant, and sowe, and slippe.

b. With *off* or *from*. Also to cut, gather (a flower, etc.).

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 107 Then do the Gardners slip them off from the greater stalkes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 55 The branches being slipped off, and set in the spring. 1663 BP. GRIFFITH *Four Admirable Beasts* 20 We can slip a cluster of Grapes from a Vine. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To slip off a Flower, *cueillir une Fleur*. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Skirrets*, The side roots should be slipped off with an eye or bud to each. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 81, I slipped off several offsets from the heads of large plants. 1825 *Greenho. Comp.* II. 190 Leaves slipped off and planted in moist moss will root, and become plants.

c. In fig. contexts.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 367 When ye flower of their youth (being slipped too young) shall fade before they be olde. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* VI. i. (1818) II. 111 Every branch which was slipped off from the primitive stock.. would..take root, and grow into a separate clan.

†**3.** *Dicing.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1711 PUCKLE *The Club* 31 The Doctors, the Fulloms, Loaded Dice.., High-Slipt, Low-Slipt. [*Note.*] Dice with their Edges polish'd off, so as to make them run high... Ditto, so as to make them run low.

Slip, *v.*^{3} *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SLIP *sb.*^{1} 4.] *trans.* To paint or ornament (pottery) with slip.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 These also being dry, they then Slip or paint them with their several sorts of Slip.

Slip, *v.*^{4} [f. SLIP *sb.*^{2}]

1. *trans.* To face *with* a slip of some material.

1885 SPON *Mech. Own Book* 353 The shelves and divisions..are slipped with rosewood on the fore edges. *Ibid.* 373 The proper way is to 'slip' them with good mahogany, at least ¼ in. thick.

2. To note or enter upon a slip or slips.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 7/2 He is sure to be near winning the first event for which he is 'slipped'. 1902 *Athenæum* 23 Aug. 256/1 Miss Betham-Edwards's new story..is being 'slipped' by Dr. Wright..for his 'Dialect Dictionary'.

Slip-, the stem of SLIP *v.*^{1} in combination, as **slip-bend** (see quot.); **slip-buoy**, a buoy attached to a cable when slipping an anchor; **slip-coat**, ? a coat which slips on readily; **slip-cord**, a cord with a slip-knot made on it; **slip-finger** *a.*, that has slippery fingers; in quot. *fig.*; **slip-gibbet**, a scape-gallows (now *dial.*); †**slip-groat**, = SLIDE-GROAT; †**slip-halter**, = *slip-gibbet*; **slip-hook** (see quots.); **slip-jig**, some kind of dance; **slip joint**, **-link** (see quots.); **slip-noose**, a noose which tightens and slackens by means of a slip-knot; **slip-rope**, **-screw**, **-shackle** (see quots.); **slip-shelled** *a.*, ? having the outer covering removed; †**slip-skin** *a.*, slippery, evasive; **slip sole** *Sc.*, **slip spear** (see quots.); †**slip-sprung** *a.*, illegitimately born; **slip-stitch** *sb.* (see quot.); hence *slip-stitch* vb., *slip-stitcher*; †**slip-stocking**, ? a short stocking, a sock; **slip-stopper** (see quots.); **slip thong**, a thong which operates by means of a slip-knot; †**slip-thrift**, shovel-board; a spendthrift; cf. SLIDE-THRIFT.

Various other accidental or trivial combs. of this and the following types appear in recent use.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 633 **Slip-Bend*, when a man makes a false step, and slips down a hatchway, or overboard. 1798 CAPT. MILLER in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clviii, We hove up to our best bower..and got a *slip buoy on the end of our sheet cable. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* IX. Cc ij, You must haue..gay ioly Jerkins, saffron shirts,

Your *slipcoats must haue sleeues. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 166/1 Let the *slip-cords be applied to the fore-legs, and held by an assistant. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 428 The empty, tattered Past,..the greased *slipfinger Present. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Scapegallows*, A *slip gibbet, one for whom the gallows is said to groan. 1521 in Inderwick *Cal. Inner Temple Rec.* (1896) 63 [None of the society shall play within the Inn at the game called] shoffe boorde [or] *slypgrote. 1659 *Lady Alimony* IV. vi, As I hope for mercy, I am half-persuaded that this *slip-halter has pawned my clothes. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 356 **Slip hook*..is 'especially useful on shipboard in securing and slipping towing cables, etc.' 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2212/1 [The] Slip-hook..may be disengaged or *slipped* by the motion of a trigger, a sliding ring, or otherwise. 1895 *Cath. News* 13 July 2/3 He would not let her go until she had finished the *slip jig. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 234 If the pipes are iron, one of them has to be broken; where this is unavoidable a *slip joint is afterwards employed to protect it—that is to say, two half pipes..are placed one over and the other under the break; they are screwed together and the ends tightly packed. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2212/1 **Slip-link*, a connecting link which allows a certain freedom of motion. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 166/1 It may be necessary to put a *slip noose on each fore limb. 1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Veterinarium* 225 A properly-contrived slip-noose. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 136 'Slip Ropes for triseing up the Bites of the Cable to the Rails of the Head. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 287 *Slip-rope*, a rope bent to any thing in such a manner that it may be slipped when required. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 117/1 A '*slip-screw', viz., one in which the threads do not bite, and the screw turns round in its receptacle. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 633 **Slip-Shackle*, a shackle with a lever-bolt, for letting go suddenly; yet, when ringed, is sufficient to secure the ship. 1826 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 1352 Walnuts *slip-shelled are heaped in a basket. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 205 A pretty *slip-skin conveyance to sift Masse into no Masse, and Popish into not Popish. 1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. 90 **Slip Sole*, the term in some parts of Scotland for a step. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 **Slip Spear*, a tool for extracting tubing from a borehole. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 21 Altogether forgetful..that they preferred before him a Bastard, *slip-sprung from an unlawful coition. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlwk.* 125/1 **Slip Stitch*, a stitch much used in Raised Crochet, both in joining together detached sprays, and in passing from one part of a pattern to another at the back of the work. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 3/3 The silk should be turned over on the right side and *slip-stitched. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 7 Aug. 10/7 Ties.—Good *slipstitchers for derbys, outdoors. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. P. Greybeard* 242 Plung'd themselves into perplexities, or into Parson *slip-stockins extravagancies. *a* 1680 BUTLER in D'Urfey *Pills* (1710) III. 334 Slip-stocking Similitudes. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* ii. 60 This lady's fancy is just slip-stocking-high, and she seems to want sense more than her breakfast. 1831 *Ann. Reg.* LXXIII. 445 The apparatus [for releasing the life-buoy] is kept in place by what is called a *slip-stopper, a sort of catch-bolt, which can be unlocked at pleasure, by merely pulling a trigger. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 54 The slip stopper..is used for stoppering the cable,..to prevent the cables running out of the hawse-hole. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 367 All carry lances, which, when on horseback, by means of a *slip thong, they sling to a rest in the stirrup. 1579 RICE *Invective agst. Vices* B ij b, What to dooe there? To Bowle, or to plaie at Dise, or Cardes, Penipricke, or *slipthrift? 1621 GRANGER *Eccles.* 273 Thus it is in the house of prodigals, drinking slipthrifts, and Belials.

b. Applied generally to devices that may be slipped or slid aside, back, in, out, etc., or to things provided with these, as *slip-bar* (*-gate*), *-board*, *-bottom*, *coffin*, *-coupling*, *-door*, *-feather*, *-feathering*, *gap*, *ladder*, *-panel*, *-ring*, *-shave*. Also SLIP-RAIL.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 143 The **slip-bar-gate* is a form of gate often used. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, I..ventured to draw back the *slip-board on the roof. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 285 In square wicker-work panniers with *slip-bottoms. 1900 J. J. VERNON *Parish of Hawick 1711–1725*, 167 Interring tramps..by means of 'a *slip coffin', *i. e.*, a coffin which upon being lowered..by ropes attached to it, could be recovered, the body being left in the grave. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 927 The spindle may be attached to another shaft..by means of a *slip-coupling. 1764 LLOYD *Actor* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 19 But in stage customs what offends me most is the *slip-door, and slowly-rising ghost. 1881 *Mechanic* § 444. 194 The *slip feather that is to be pressed into the grooves to hold the boards. *Ibid.* 193 The modes..adopted for this juncture of pieces of wood are..known respectively as rebating,..grooving and *slip feathering [etc.]. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 167 A **Slip gap* is a place provided in a fence, where the bars may be slipped aside and let down. 1795 HOLCROFT in Kegan Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) I. 149, I fell from a *slip ladder, and broke it fairly in two. 1864 ELIZ. MURRAY *Ella Norman* I. 161 Jock..rode on, until he came to some *slip panels; these he let down. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensland* II. xxviii. 107 His step, as he bowled up to the slip-panel, was brisk and energetic. 1742 A. MONRO in *Med. Ess. Edinb.* V. 455 A Spring which keeps the Handles [of a needle-holder] asunder..till the *Slip-ring or Slider is thrust towards the End of the Handles. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 823/2 **Slip Shave*, a point or shave made to slip over the nose of the mold-board.

c. In the sense 'detached, or intended to be detached, from a railway train while running', as *slip-carriage*, *-coach*, *-compartment*, *-portion*.

Hence *slip-guard*, the guard of such a carriage, etc.

1869 *Echo* 23 Aug., A 'slip' carriage placed in the rear of the train, which is dropped at Hatfield. 1884 *G. W. R. Time Tables* July 33 Slip Coach detached at Bridgewater. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Oct. 8/1 Entering the slip compartment, one finds little to differentiate it from a small guard's van. *Ibid.*, Where the detached slip-portion has collided with the train it has just left.

2. In comb. with advs., as **slip-along** *a.*, slip-shod; slip-down *dial.* (see quot. 1828); slip-in *a.*, admitting of a person or thing slipping in, or being slipped in, easily or readily; slip-on, something that may be slipped or put on readily, *esp.* a great-coat or overall; also *attrib.*; **slip-out** *a.*, that one may slip out of in a convenient manner.

1815 [MRS. JOHNSTONE] *Clan-Albyn* xiii. (1853) 66 Hugh flung his slip-on around him. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slip-down*, old milk, a little curdled, which readily slips down the throat. 1849 MAITLAND *Reformation Eng.* xx. 559 It would be less worth while to read Fox's slip-along stories. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxii. 252 He knows all the slip-in and slip-out public-houses in London. 1904 *Ladies Field* 14 May 426/1 The 'Slip-on' coat for all weathers. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 18/2 Both slip-in and paste-on mounts, upon which the photographs can be mounted with the minimum of trouble.

Slip-cheese, -curd: see SLIP *sb.*[1] 2 b.

Slip-cloth. Also slip cloth.

1. A coat used to protect a coursing-dog while in the slips.

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* I. III. vii. 200/2 These particular patterns are called 'slip cloths'. [Description follows.]

2. A narrow cloth used to protect a table-cloth, table, or side-board.

1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* (1892) 209 They dine on the table with slip-cloths. 1899 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 6/2 Then on the white slip cloths the dishes can be laid.

Slip-coat. [Cf. SLIP *sb.*[1] 2 b.] A kind of soft cream-cheese. Chiefly in *slip-coat cheese*.

a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1669) 270 My Lady of Middlesex makes excellent slipp-coat cheese of good morning milk, putting cream to it. 1682 HARTMAN *Direct. Cookery* 53 To make slip-coat cheese, as Sir Kenelm's housekeeper made them for him. 1736 BAILEY *Household Dict.* s.v. *Cheese*, To make slip Coat Cheese otherwise call'd Cream Cheese. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exemp.* 58 The way to make soft Cheese, or slip-coat Cheese. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Slip-coat*, new-made cheese; a small and very rich variety of Yorkshire cheese, not unlike butter but white.

Slipe (slaip), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *north.* Also 5 *Sc.* slyp, 6 slype. [app. a. LG. *slîpe* (cf. MSw. *slipa* to drag, draw), var. of the usual *slîpe*, = MHG. *sleife* (G. *schleife*) sledge, train, loop, knot, etc., related to LG. *slîpen* to whet, and *slêpen* to drag (see *Grimm's Wbch.* s.v. *schleifen*).]

For various dialect uses see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1. A sledge or drag.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1625 He..Graithyt him a drawcht, on a braid slyp and law. *Ibid.* 1633 To ground the slyp can ga. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 124 Item, to Will, wryth, that past to bryng the bott fra the Blaknes and makyng of hir slyp, iiij li. 1739 SIR J. CLERK in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) II. 92 [At Whitehaven] the Coal when brought up to the level of the sea, is putt on slips [? *read* slipes], and conveyed into the cavity of a hill. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 64 A great many things they carry on slipes, for instance barrells. They have slipes of a great length. 1807 *Ann. Reg.* 868 A sledge without poles, moved by drag-ropes, and termed a slipe. 1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 79 *Slipes*, the sledges at the bottom of the skip, used to draw the coals upon. 1880– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Sc., Irel.).

b. Part of a plough (see quots.).

1616 SURFL. & MARKHAM *Country Farme* v. vi. 532 Then the slipe to keep the plow from wearing. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 157 The sole or under plate, and the curved side or slipe, formerly called the earth-board,..are of iron or cast metal. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Slipe*, the flat sheet of iron on the land or left side of a plough. 1891 in *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl.

c. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1860 *Eng. & Foreign Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 44 *Slipes*, flat pieces of iron for the corves to slide on. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Slipes*,..sledge-runners, upon which a skip is dragged from the working breast to the tramway.

†2. a. ? A flap or lappet. b. A noose or halter. *Obs.*

1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 113 My bonnet with slipes. 1587 *Shuttleworth Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 41 A corde to make slypes for horsies to tye them in, v[d].

Slipe, *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* (and *U.S.*). Also 6 slype. [Of obscure origin: cf. SLIP *sb.*[2] and SLYPE.] A slip or slice; a long narrow piece or strip. Also *fig.* (quot. 1597).

1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 72 A Soyle Champayne on every Syde, in the whiche as in Slypes, were some prety Groves and Woods. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 5 (1611) 420 Deuiding their charge into slipes, and ordaining of vnder-officers. 1624 *Maldon Borough Deeds* (Bundle 108 fol. 3), One kitchin or building (with a little Slipe of ground therunto in Al Sets. parish). 1854 in MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* 1876– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Cumb., Yks., Bedf., Som.). 1896 *Amer. Dial. Notes* I. 66 (E.D.D.), Cut me a slipe of bacon.

†**Slipe,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.*[–1] [? var. of SLIP *sb.*[1]] (See quot.)

1716 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 472 The Cliffs consist of great ragged Sand-Stones till we come to near a Yard..of the Bottom; then we meet with what they call a Slipe, *i. e.* a slippery sort of Clay always wet.

Slipe (slaip), *sb.*[4] [f. SLIPE *v.*[2]] A certain quality of skin-wool.

1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 448 Silesian slipes and skins in bundles. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 2/4 Bales marked with the names of the stations upon which the wool was grown, or the breed of sheep, such as 'Bridgwater Cheviot, Lincoln Slipes', &c.

†**Slipe,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* In 4–5 slype. [a. MDu. *slîpen* (Du. *slijpen*) or MLG. *slîpen* (LG. *slîpen*, Sw. *slipa*, Da. *slibe*), = OHG. *slîfan* (G. *schleifen*) to whet, etc.] *trans.* To make smooth, to polish; to whet or sharpen.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 347 His mouth upon the gras he wypeth, And so with feigned chiere him slypeth. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 46 Pro slypyng gladiorum domini. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. xxvii. in Ashm. (1652) 167 Whych lyke a sworde new slypyd then wyll shyne. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XXVIII. 107 A swerde well sharpe slyped, myghte haue broughte the two susters to deth bothe atomes.

Slipe, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 4 slype. [Of obscure origin. For the various dialect uses see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

1. *trans.* To strip, peel, skin; to take *off* by peeling or stripping, etc.

? *c* 1390 *Form of Cury* in Warner *Culin. Antiq.* (1791) 5 Take the whyte of lekes, slype hem, and shrede hem small. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Slipe*, to strip off the skin or bark of any thing. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 To *Slipe off*, to draw off superficially; as skin from the body, bark from a tree, &c. 1824– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Sc. and northern).

2. *intr.* To fall *over* softly.

1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* xii, Till sprittie knowes wad rair't an' risket, An' slypet owre.

†**Slipe,** *v.*[3] *Obs.*[–1] In 5 **slype.** (Meaning not clear.)

a 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) I. 1072 Than shall hys hosen be stryped, Wyth corselettys of fyne velvet slyped Down to the hard kne.

Sliper, obs. f. SLIPPER *a.*; see also SWORD-SLIPER. **Slip-in**: see SLIP- 2.

Slip-knot (sli·pnɒt). Also **slip knot.** [f. SLIP *v.*[1]] a. A knot which may readily be slipped or untied. b. A knot so constructed as to slip along the cord or line round which it is made; a running knot; also, a noose.

1659 TORRIANO, *Cáppio*, a slipknot that may be untied. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VII. 126 They..fasten the rest of the Line there, upon the Line Rowl with a Slip-knot, that no more Line turn off. 1710 *Managers' Pro & Con* 40 They labour to make the Crown hang upon Her Head, only by that Slipknot of Hereditary Right. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. x, Knots,—by which..I would not be understood to mean slip-knots. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 55 Elephants..are caught in Nepaul..by *phauns* (nooses made with slip knots). 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 166/1 By dexterous manipulation, the slip-knot of a cord may be fastened round each leg. 1888 *Archæol. Rev.* Mar. 25 The youngest of these princesses is caught while bathing, by means of a magical slip-knot.

transf. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Charac.* v. 135 A free woman of the world,..retaining her virtue only by a slip-knot. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* July 320/2 Hasty marriages —slip-knots tied by one justice to be undone by another.

Slip-on: see SLIP- 2.

Slippage (sli·pėdʒ). [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + -AGE.] a. The act of slipping or subsiding. b. Amount or extent of slip.

1850 MALLET in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 61 The sudden slippage under water of large masses of submarine banks of sand or mud. 1898 T. THORNLEY *Draw & Fly Frames* 71 This, of course, is the effect produced by slippage of cone belt alone.

Slipped (slipt), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SLIP *v.*[1]] That has been let go, cast off, etc.; that has slipped or slid down.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, CCXXXII, Singlie Slipt Greyhounds chase Whole-Burnish't Herds. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* x, I will leave them the slipp'd collar in their hands on the first opportunity. 1829 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. Yks.* 98 The bay beyond is overhung by a broken slipped cliff.

Slipped (slipt), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SLIP *v.*[2]]

†1. Cut obliquely. *Obs.*

1618 in Cripps *Old Eng. Plate* (1901) 281 Spoons with slipped ends.

2. *Her.* Of plants, etc., used as charges: Represented as torn off from the stem.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. x, The field is Sable, three Lilies slipped. *Ibid.*, He beareth..three Gilliflowers Slipped. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 448/1 Gules on a Bend Argent, three Trefoils slipped proper. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xi. 70 [Trees are] slipped, when irregularly broken or torn off. 1868 CUSSANS *Heraldry* vi. (1893) 106 The Trefoil is usually blazoned as *Stalked* and *Slipped*.., *Slipped*, applied to a plant, is the same as *Erased* to the limb of an animal.

Slipper (sli·pəɹ), *sb.* Also 5 **sclypper**, 5–6 **slyppar, -er**; 6 **slep(p)er.** [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

I. 1. A light and usually heelless covering for the foot, capable of being easily slipped on, and chiefly employed for indoor wear.

1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 237, ij. schyrtes, and a peyer of sclyppers. 1479 *Ibid.* 240 In the whyche letter was viij *d.* with the whyche I schuld bye a peyer of slyppers. *c* 1496 *Sermo pro Episcopo puerorum* (W. de W.) b iij, Euyll fassh-ened garmentes & deuyllysshe shoon & slyppers of frensmen. 1509 BARCLAY *Ship of Fools* (1570) 85 Some with their slippers to and fro doth prannce, Clapping with their heeles in Church and in queare. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 405 You should..come tripping to mee in your silcken sleppers. 1607 DEKKER & MARSTON *Northw. Hoe* III. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 41 What a filthy knaue was the shoo-maker, that made my slippers, what a creaking they keepe. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 Their Shoes are of the same colour, and made almost like Slippers. 1716 LADY MONTAGU *Lett.* I. i. 8, I walked almost all over the town.. in my slippers, without receiving one spot of dirt. 1756

tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 444 Within the altar is kept a slipper of his of red velvet, with a very low heel. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxxi, Her small snow feet had slippers, but no stocking. 1859 DICKENS *Tale Two Cities* II. v, He had his slippers on, and a loose bed-gown.

b. In phrases, etc. See also *Hunt the slipper* s.v. HUNT *v.* 13 b, and LADY'S SLIPPER.

?*c* 1570 [JEFFERIES] *Bugbears* IV. v, I cannot [tell] what you cal being with child: She hath trode her slipper awrie. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 42, I am loth to touch here, or to meddle beyond my slipper. [Cf. LAST *sb.*[1] 2 c.] 1767 Shuffle the slipper [see DRAW-GLOVE 1]. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 35, 'Twas here we chased the slipper by the sound.

c. [After F. *pantoufflier*.] The hammerhead shark.

1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 589 The seal, the sea-dog, the shark, the slipper, the thornback.

d. *transf.* The lip or labellum of an orchid.

1902 F. BOYLE *Greenhouse Orchids* 92 Dorsal sepal—that which stands upright above the slipper. 1905 R. HAGGARD *Gardener's Year* Sept. 328 What the bee or other insects do when they enter the slipper of a Cypripedium.

†2. *Her.* (See quot. 1610 and cf. FUSIL 1.)

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vii, This is called a wharrow spindle, where the other are called Slippers that passe thorow the Yarne as this doth. 1680–4 DINGLEY *Hist. fr. Marble* (Camden) II. p. cclxxxvii, Hobye who beareth argent three Fusils upon slippers gules.

†3. *Arch.* = PLINTH 1. *Obs. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Plinthe*, a Plinth, or Slipper; a flat, and square peece of Masonrie, &c. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 244 *Slipper*, the same as Plinth. [Also in later Dicts.]

4. a. A form of skid used to retard the speed of a vehicle in descending a hill.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 267 The 'Nimrod' coach with a skid, or slipper. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Slipper*, a skid-pan. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 212 A slipper or 'skid' which can be placed under a wheel.

b. *Mining.* (See quots.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Skids*, slides or slippers upon which certain coal-cutting machines travel along the faces whilst at work. *Ibid., Slippers*, ..steel or iron guides fixed to the ends and sides of cages, to fit and run upon the conductors.

c. A device for conveying electricity from a conductor rail to a tram or train.

1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 747/2 A slipper is placed on each carriage, so that one end of the train makes a contact before the other runs off.

5. 'A kind of apron for children, to be slipped over their other clothes to keep them clean' (Webster, 1828–32).

II. 6. One who slips; also with *away*.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een glipper*, a Stealer away, or a Slipper away. 1860 WORCESTER, *Slipper*, one who, or that which, slips.

b. As a fish-name: (see quot.).

1866 BUCKLAND in *Life* (1885) 171 Curious eel-like fish, with an ugly, pert-looking head, and frill down the back, ..and a spotted and exceedingly slimy body; their local name is 'slippers' because they slip from the hand so easily.

7. *Coursing.* The person appointed to slip the hounds at the proper moment.

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 268 The slipper should be a horse's length in advance of the beaters. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 209 If a judge or slipper be in any way connected with a dog..entered in a stake [etc.]. 1885 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/7 The first pair of animals handed over to..the slipper were R. Halliday and Mayflower.

8. *dial.* (See quot.)

1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop Ant.* Gloss., *Slipper*, a mare who casts her foal.

III. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *slipper-like* adj., *maker, manufacturer, shape, -shaped*, †*-shoe*.

1568 *MS. Depositions* (Cant. Cath. Libr. 161), With a pair of slipper showes on her feete. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* XIX. (1813) 340 The flower..is esteemed only for the curiosity of its slipper shape. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 275 The central fleshy slipper-like body from within which the stamens proceed. 1847 STEELE *Field Bot.* 164 Lip of corfolla] slipper-shaped. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Slipper manufacturer*, a maker of carpet shoes, or light thin indoor leather shoes. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Oct. 7/1 There are slipper makers..engaged in it.

10. Special combs.: **slipper animalcule**, a common infusorian of the genus *Paramecium*; †**slipper barnacle** (?); **slipper-bath**, a partially covered bath shaped somewhat like a slipper; **slipper-brake, -drag**, = sense 4 a; **slipper limpet** (see quot. 1890); **slipper-orchid, orchis**, an orchid of the genus *Cypripedium*; †**slipper-pear** (?); **slipper-plant, shell** (see quots.); **slipper spurs**, = *slipper-plant*; **slipperwort**, the calceolaria or campanula.

1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 355 They are about four times as long as broad, and their shape has given them the name of *Slipper animalcules. 1891 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 754/1 Paramecium, or Slipper Animalcule, an Infusorian very common in pond water or in vegetable infusions. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 432 The shelly bases of the ..Worm-shell, the Tree Oyster, and the *Slipper Barnicle. 1829 COOPER *Good's Study Med.* I. 388 The occasional use of..the *slipper-bath and fomentations. 1898 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 10/7 Four large swimming-baths and a large number of private or slipper-baths. 1884 *Ibid.* 2 Sept. 2 He was under the impression..that the *slipper-brake was attached all right. 1883 *Good Words* 186 When we stop to adjust the *slipperdrag before rushing full speed down a break-neck precipice. 1861 *Chambers's Encycl.* II. 528/1 Bonnet Limpets, and *Slipper Limpets. 1890 *Ibid.* VI. 638 The family Acmæidæ..are often called 'slipper-limpets', from the presence of an internal flange on the incipiently spiral shell. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 158 The brown *slipper-orchid, fit *chaussure* for Cinderella or a fairy-queen. 1889 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 642/2 Cypripedium, or *Slipper-orchis. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 213 Windsor, Sovereign, Orange, Bergamot, *Slipper-Pear. 1848 CRAIG, **Slipper-plant*, the common name given to plants of the genus Pedilanthus. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* I. 95/1 Of the genus *Crepidula*, or *slipper shell, forty recent species are known. 1887 G. NICHOLSON *Dict. Gardening* III. 58 *Pedilanthus*, ..*Slipper Spurs. 1819 *Pantologia* II, *Calceolaria*, *Slipperwort. 1885 G. NICHOLSON *Dict. Gardening* I. 253 *Campanula*, ..Bell-flower; Slipperwort.

Slipper (slɪ·pəɹ), *a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **slipor**, 3 **sluper**, 1, 4–6 **sliper** (5 **scliper, slipir**, 6 **-ar**), 4–6 **slipre, slyper**, 5–6 **sleper** (5 **slepyr**); 5– **slipper** (5 **slippyr**, 6 *Sc.* **-ar**), 5–6 **slypper**, 9 *dial.* **slepper, slipper**. [OE. *slipor*, = MLG. *slipper* (MSw. *slipper*), G. *schlipfer*, related to SLIP *v.*[1]]

1. Having a smooth slippery surface or exterior; readily slipping from one's grasp or out of place, etc. Also *fig.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* lxxviii. (1889) 210 Deofol sceal ðe slipor. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 393 þei ben so slipre and so hard þat Goddis word takiþ not in hem. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery Bks.* 23 Wasshem..wyth Ale & Salt, an do so whele þey ben slepyr [*v.r.* sliper]. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 103 Thenne was his body also glat and slyper, that the wulf sholde haue none holde on hym. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 71 The whiche do make the waye slypper, sople, & easy for it to procede, with ye oyles or oyntmentes spoken of before. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 138 The melancholicke haue euer their mouth full of froath and spittle, through which disposition their tongue is moyst and slipper. 1847 H. BAIRD (N. Hogg) *Poet. Lett.* (1858) 26 Ma staff wis za slipper. *fig.* 1591 LODGE *Catharos* vi. 52 Their wordes..are more slipper than oile, but in the ende they are steeled arrowes to destroy.

b. Of a hold: Liable to slip.

1460 in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1866) 60 He..of his hert also hathe sliper hold. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 501 A slipper holde the taile is of an ele. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 170 Slyper as an eeles tayle is the holde of it.

c. Readily passing through the body.

1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 46 Moreouer take hede, that slypper meates be not firste eaten.

2. Slippery; difficult to stand upon.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 426 Him þoughte he sai3 a sluper brugge swyþe fayr and hei3. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxiv. 7 Mi3kenes and sliper be þare wai. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1074 Howe be hyt, the slepyr grasse made many of hem fall. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vii. 32 Fortune..imposed vnder the feet of the righte chaste quene, thyng slypper & lubrick, for to make hir to ouerthruwe. *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) C j, As on a slipper grounde, oft man doth fall or slide. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* Aa v, Thei were easelie beaten downe, by reason the Rocke hadde so slippar and unstable standing. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* I. iv. (1848) 84 Ice is at once the smoothest and slipperest of ways. 1718 S. SEWALL *Diary* 28 Jan., 'Twas Foggy and slipper and Rain, and the Slay fail'd. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 680 The road's so slipper's glass.

3. Of a shifty, unreliable character; deceitful, insincere: a. Of disposition, conduct, actions, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 92 þwyrlice ðing ðe heora hlafordas doð ðeswencte fram carum, and slipere þurh unstæðignysse. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvi. 28 The slideri [*v.r.* slyper] mouth werchith fallingis. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Resou & Sens.* 3295, I..haue espyed eke ful wel, How of slyper conscience Thow yaf a doom. *c* 1450 in *3rd Rep. Roy. Comm. Hist. MSS.* 280 Therfore he hath by slypper eschaunge the lordship and castell of Glaxton. 1547 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1349/2, I haue charitablye monished you in a secret letter of your slipper dealinge, and such like misbehauiour. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 262 A thousand sortes of slipper deuices and idle words.

b. Of persons.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1641 Ther-in dwellid a Burgeyse, þe moste sclipper man Of al the town þurh-out. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 283/1, I know they bee slipper that I haue to doe wyth, and there is no holde of them. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 189 Thus waiters on, doe nought but friends beguile, And slipper lads, as false and fine as those, For no offence, become most mortall foes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 246 A slipper, and subtle knaue, a finder of occasion.

4. Of memory: Not retentive; forgetful.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 5 For schort lyfe..and a slipper memory lete vs to knowe mony thynges. 1509 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cxlii. Wks. (1876) 240 Many haue so slypper a mynde that can not kepe in memory a thynge shewed vnto them by the space of an houre. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 75 Wherof do happen unstablenesse of wytte and slipper remembraunce.

5. Of conditions: On which one cannot depend; having no stability or certainty.

c 1430 HOCCLEVE *New Cant. T.* (E.E.T.S.) 14 In thys slypre-lyf and perylious, Staff of comfort & help to man ys she. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 96/1 Thys lyf..is so sleper and fleeyng that whan one weneth to holde it it fleeth away. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a v b, Theyr vayne glorie and slypper prosperitee, endured but two daies. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 161 For slipper welth will not continue, plesure will weare away. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* I. xv. (1622) 29 The higher he should clime, the slipperer his estate should be.

6. Insignificant, trifling. *rare*[−1].

1567 HARDING in Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 463 These be smal and slipper faults which if they were alone might be winked at.

7. a. Easily uttered or pronounced.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iv. (Arb.) 24 The vtterance in prose..is also not so voluble and slipper vpon the tong. *Ibid.* II. xiii. 134 Such letters as be by nature slipper and voluble and smoothly passe from the mouth.

b. *dial.* Fluent, voluble; given to talk.

1842 H. J. DANIEL *Bride of Scio*, etc. 177 Yer tongue..'s too saucy, and too slepper. 1900 J. H. HARRIS *Our Cove* xi. 150 Wimmen's tongues es too slipper in what doan't consarn 'em.

8. Light, wanton. (Cf. SLIPPERY *a.* 5.)

1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 29 She began to make relation of the slipper prankes of the Dutchesses Gentlewomen, and had neuer done with her reprochfull reportes.

9. *Comb.*, as *slipper fast, -tongued, -witted.*

1550 BALE *Image both Ch.* II. xvi. 106 b, The folyshe, fantastycall, and slypper wytted sort. 1569 *Bl. Letter Ball. & Broadsides* (1867) 221 Ye knowe, whyles louers are vnbounde, The knotte is slyper faste a. 1586 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 89/1 The lord Thomas..answered, as one that was somewhat slipper toonged, in this wise.

†**Sli·pper**, *v.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [ad. MDu. *slipperen* (= obs. or dial. G. *schlippern, schlipfern*), f. *slippen* SLIP *v.*[1]] *intr.* To slip or slide.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 21 b, The shot which can but slippering passe ouer it. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Slibberende*, Slippring. *Ibid., Een slibberinge*, a Slippering, or a Sliding.

Slipper (slɪ·pəɹ), *v.*[2] [f. SLIPPER *sb.* 1.]

1. *trans.* To beat or strike with a slipper.

1682 HEDGES *Diary* 2 Nov. (1887) I. 45 Ye same day [he] was brought forth and Slippered. 1683 *Ibid.* 17 Apr. I. 78 Ye same person who slippered ye Merchant. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii, Slipper him on the hands! 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 78 That yellow desert-bred girl from Cutch, who..slippered the young prince across the mouth.

2. To provide or cover with slippers.

1856 MRS. OLIPHANT *Zaidee* I. 9 The small feet which Mrs. Vivian slippers so handsomely.

3. *intr.* To walk or shuffle along in slippers.

1888 MAYNE REID *Child Wife* xxix, The man slippered off towards the office, in the interior of the hotel.

Slipper coal. [? f. SLIPPER *a.*] A variety of coal (see quot. 1877).

1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 541 Coal, less black and shining than the former, called Slipper-Coal. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 66 A smaller drift for ventilation..is carried above it in one of the upper beds called the slipper coal. *Ibid.*, The coal is first cut to the top of the slipper coal from below.

Slippered (slɪ·pəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SLIPPER *sb.*]

1. Wearing or shod with slippers.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 158 The sixt age shifts Into the leane and slipper'd Pantaloone. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xv, Tom sat with his slippered feet on the fender. 1879 SALA *Paris herself again* (1880) I. xv. 228 Her poor old slippered legs disappeared in the darkness.

2. Associated or connected with the wearing of slippers.

a 1817 R. L. EDGEWORTH in *Life* (1826) II. 419 By the assistance and solace afforded to him in his slippered decrepitude. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* XIII. iii. (1860) II. 268 He leaned back in his arm-chair enjoying slippered ease. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 431/1 They heard the colonel's slippered tread.

3. Retarded by means of a slipper-brake.

1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highw. & Byeways Derby.* 380 A road where the slippered wheels..have dug great trenches.

Slipperily (slɪ·pərɪlɪ), *adv.* [f. SLIPPERY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a slippery manner. Chiefly *fig.*

1603 *Adv. Don Sebastian* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 401 He missed certain papers..which were slipperily conveyed away. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Conf. Christ & Mary* (1636) 36 When we have..dealt slipperily with him. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* vi. 196 Many shall joyn themselves to them slipperily, not firmly and sincerely. 1736 in AINSWORTH I. 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* xlii. 295 Hoofs clattered slipperily.

Slipperiness (slɪ·pərɪnɛs). Also 6 **slippri-**, 7 **slypperi-, sliperi-**, 8 **slipperyness**. [f. SLIPPERY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being slippery, in literal senses: a. Of substances, or of objects in respect of their surface.

Formerly common of food liable to produce laxity of the bowels, or of the latter in a relaxed state.

1562 TURNER *Baths* 8 b, The slipperines of the stomack, whych maketh that it can not well holde any meat. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 115 They must be taken, by reason of the moysture and slipperinesse of their substance, before meat. 1699 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 614/2 It is a slippery thing, and cleanses and smooths the Passages from the Reins by its slipperiness. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. ii. (1734) 128 Few..can bear the Slipperiness, and violent Cholicks and Gripes, which it brings on. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Muræna*, The manner in which its slipperyness makes it roll about, and escape the catcher. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Literature*, The Englishman..takes hold of things by the right end, and there is no slipperiness in his grasp. 1859 *Habbk. Turning* 25 A little chalk..will give it a firmer hold, and prevent the slipperiness.

b. Of the ground or other footing. Also in fig. context.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 111 Scarce able to stand by reason of the slipperinesse of the bloud there shed vpon the pauement. 1674 tr. *Schaffer's Lapland* 86 That neither mice nor wild beasts could be able to climb up for slipperiness. 1743 *Lond. & C. Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 186 The great Danger that attends such a wooden Floor in its Slipperiness when wetted. 1754 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 127 A season in which horses cannot travel over the mountains on account of..slipperiness of the roads. 1836 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) 29 Dec., For years there has not been seen here such snow and slipperiness. 1860 W. WHITE *All round Wrekin* 369 With the steepness and slipperiness of the turf from dry weather. 1872 *Times* 23 Oct., The slip-

periness of the political ground upon which they have been trying to keep their footing.

2. a. Inclination to babble or talk. *rare.*

1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 93 It is thought that one Pope or other, mistrusting the slipprines of my tounge, blest me into a stone to stoppe my mouth. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* 108 We do not only fall by the slipperiness of our tongues, but we deliberately discipline and train them to mischief.

b. The quality of being unreliable, shifty, insincere, or deceitful.

1636 J. TRAPP *Expos. Ephes.* iv. 25 Shall we not abhor sleights and slipperiness in contracts and covenants? 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 145 It is the slipperiness of our hearts, in reference to the world, that causes so many slips in our lives. 1681 H. MORE *Expos. Dan.* Pref. p. xc, Our wantonness and slipperiness in matters of Doctrine. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 260 So prudential an indeterminateness and slipperiness. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 606/1 They are conscious of illusion and slipperiness, of a sort of imposture. 1897 MRS. OLIPHANT *W. Blackwood* II. xxi. 357 Politicians..coming to shake their heads over the slipperiness of Peel.

3. a. Instability, uncertainty.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Rem.* (1661) 119 The gliding slipperinesse, and running streams of our uncertain life. 1621 DONNE *Serm.* lxx. 710 To note the Slipperinesse of our times. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 187 Although by reason of the slipperiness of things our circumspection somtimes disappointeth us. 1781 COWPER *Lett.* 21 Aug., I experience as you do, the slipperiness of the present hour and the rapidity with which time escapes me.

b. Aptness to slip or go wrong.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 7 Young men for the slipperines of their age, need the benefit of good example.

c. Liability to be forgetful.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref., The slipperiness or delusion of our Memory. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) II. 231 Slipperiness in our memories; forgetting God's goodness to us.

Sli·pperish, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. Somewhat slippery.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Slibberende*, Slippring, or Slipprish.

†Sli·pperishness. *Obs.*$^{-1}$ Slipperiness.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 36/1 In the water streames we may see that the stones, through the slipperishenesse of the water, are carried away.

†Sli·pperly, *adv. Obs.*$^{-1}$ In 5 **sliper-.** [f. SLIPPER *a.* + -LY 2.] Insecurely.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1357 He sliperly stant who þat þow enhauncest.

†Sli·pperness. *Obs.* Also 1 **slipor-,** 5 **sliper-, slipir-,** 5–6 **slypper-,** 6 **sleper-.** [f. SLIPPER *a.*] Slipperiness, in lit. or fig. senses.

(*a*) *a* 1000 *Durham Hymn.* (Surtees) 36 Beon ut anydde ..slipornysse. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 99 Writyng was ordeyned for slipernes of mynde. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 941, I fynde schal as frendly slipirnesse As tho men now doon, whos frendeschipe is rote. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xlviii. Wks. 925/1 Of a lightnesse of wit and slippernesse of tonge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 193 b, The disceiptefullnes, uncertentye, & slyppernes of woordly thynges. 1590 GREENE *Mourning Garment* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 206 All his affects are slippernesse, and the effects full of preiudiciall disparagement.

(*b*) 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. l. (Bodl. MS.), Also þe wombe is igreued wiþ sliderne and slipernes. 1495 *Ibid.* XI. ii. (W. de W.) 385 Wynde..wypyth of slyppernesse and vnclennesse. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 37, I felle with sleperne of the stayre. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 24 Gourdes, by reason of the slypperness of their substance, lyghtly passe forth by the bealye. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* xxxiv. 6 Let their way be made darkenesse and slippernes.

†Sli·pperous, *a. Obs. rare.* [Cf. SLIPPER *a.* and next.] Smooth, slippery.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 The slipperous glyding of the oyle dropping vpon the dead leather.

Slippery (sli·pəri), *a.* Also 6 **slypery, slepery,** 6–7 **slyppery, slipperie**; 7 **sliperye.** [Alteration of SLIPPER *a.*, possibly after LG. *slipperig* (G. dial. *schlipperig*), = MHG. *slipferic, slipfrig* (G. dial. *schlipferig*).]

1. Having a smooth, polished, or slimy surface which renders foothold insecure.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxxiv. 6 Let their waye be darcke and slippery. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. v. 43 But foolish Mayd.. Through slipperie footing fell into the brooke. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 65 The Riuer rough with many great and slipperie stones. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 168 Many steep and slippery places to be climb'd up. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. lii. 73 The descent is.. steep and slippery. 1779 FLETCHER *Lett.* Wks. 1795 VII. 226, I..ride out every day when the slippery roads will permit me. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi, Forming a slippery and precarious passage for two men abreast to cross the moat. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iii. 79 The rocks were steep and slippery.

b. In fig. contexts.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1605) 235 The ground he stood vpon being..slippery through affection, he could not hold himselfe from falling into such an error. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 631 Bloud is a slippery foundation, and pillage a pill'd wall. 1654 Z. COKE *Logicke* Pref., Greatness without goodness is a slippery height. 1707 J. NORRIS *Treat. Humility* x. 396 The more slippery the ground is, the more circumspectly should we walk. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. vii. 132 [He] will find the ground upon which he stands very unstable and slippery. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* II. i. 135 Does it disappoint thee To find there is a slipperier step or two Than what was counted on? 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 273 He speedily made his mark, and climbed higher and higher up the slippery tree.

2. Of a soft oily or greasy consistency; having a smooth surface, so as to slip or slide easily; slipping readily from any hold or grasp.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. B i, The hole herbe is very sleymy and full of a slepery iuice [*pr.* -nuce]. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 84 b, The chiefest that is marked in the Ele is that it is slipperie. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 151 A good strong Lixivium made with fresh water and ashes till it be slipperie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 88 The Line..being rubbed over with soft Sope to make it slippery. 1738 J. KEILL *Anim. Œcon.* Pref. (ed. 2) p. x, The different Junctures of the Bones,..which are slippery and exceedingly moveable. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 869 Leaf oblong, indented, slippery. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 215 The maiden dreamt That..this diamond..was too slippery to be held. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xc. 6 Melting lapt in flame fatly the slippery caul.

b. Of persons: Able to slip away or escape easily; difficult to catch or hold.

1573 G. HARVEY *Lett. Bk.* (Camden) 126 Mye very mistrisse..Moughte yit be woon agayne, like a slippery elfe. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 13 Harvey was with her there, And held this slippery Proteus in a chain. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 586 The slipp'ry God will try to loose his hold. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 204 Before he could seize him, however, the slippery savage, eluding his grasp, was bounding through the trees.

†c. Of the bowels: Lax, loose, open. *Obs.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 242 By moistning of the belly it maketh it the more slipperie. 1733 G. CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. ii. (1734) 129 Cinnabar of Antimony..seldom keeps the Bowels slippery.

d. *Slippery elm*, the North American red elm, *Ulmus fulva*, or the inner bark of this, used medicinally; also, a Californian shrub, *Fremontia Californica*, with similar bark.

1824 TORREY *Flora U.S.* I. 299 Slippery Elm, Red Elm. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 152 The bark of..the Slippery or Red Elm of the United States and Canada.

e. In names of fishes: (see quots.).

1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 48 The 'Slippery Dick' and the 'Skip-jack' of the fishermen probably belong to this family. 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 318 Whistler or whistle-fish,..slippery-Jemmy, Dalkey, Dublin Bay. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 188 The Slippery Sole—*Glyptocephalus pacificus.*

3. Of conditions, affairs, etc.: Unstable, uncertain, insecure; that cannot be relied upon as lasting or assured. (Cf. 1 b.)

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Peter* 2 Rewardes that are transitory and wage that is slyppery. 1573 G. HARVEY *Lett. Bk.* (Camden) 1 In so slipperi a case as I am, I am enforcid to do as I do. *c* 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 13 Were not this high estate of his very slipperye, and subject to sudden destruction. 1632 STRAFFORD in Browning & Forster *Life* (1891) 302 To hold him faste by the slipperye ties of feare and strained professions. 1704 TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. i, O slipp'ry State Of Human pleasures. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 341 That their future fidelity in a slippery concern might be established. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Intell.* III. ii. § 37 The logical Caution..is still more requisite in the slippery regions of Analogy. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Politics* (1876) 24 An aggregate of families owning even a slippery allegiance to a single head.

†b. Of knowledge: Inexact, imperfect. *Obs.*$^{-1}$

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 81 b, Not contented with a slippery knowledge, but mooued with desire to learne the truth.

4. Of persons: Inclined to be fickle or faithless; not to be depended on; shifty, deceitful.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 100 *note*, Women are slippery cattayle. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 26 Some of them are as Sapho was, subtile to allure, and slippery to deceiue. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. i. 164 That most false and slippery man..was betrayed into the hands of Sulla. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 10 But the Deponent standing by, said, what if the Duke should prove slippery! 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 35 He's a slippery chap, you know. 1805 SCOTT in *Lockhart* 12 Apr., He is hard and slippery, so settle your bargain fast and firm. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 248 By degrees this slippery penitent was induced to make other confessions. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxii. 378 The slippery politicians in the capital were on the watch.

b. Of actions, etc.: Characterized by shiftiness, deceitfulness, or want of sincerity.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 200 Long time he vsed this slippery pranck. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skiad.* (1878) 43 She Will one day shew thee a touch as slippery. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. (1715) 83 Th' slippery Trick he meant to play her. 1713 J. WARDER *True Amazons* 142 Not knowing what a slippery Trick you have play'd them. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iii. (1876) 84 He exercised a slippery perseverance, and a vindictive resolution. 1872 M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* ii. (1902) 84 Some..refer all his slippery actions to a sincere desire for the good of Christendom.

5. Licentious, wanton, unchaste; of doubtful morality.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 478 He shall cause hir..to become slipperie & lascivious. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 33, I giue thee..a counterfect coyne, which is good inough for such a slipperie wanton. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 273 Ha' not you seene Camillo?..or heard?..or thought? ..My Wife is slipperie? 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Convers.* 54 She began to tell the slippery Pranks of the Dutchess's Gentlewomen. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 135 A slippery Love calls lightly, but yet refrain. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 48 Unnecessary and slippery luxuries, such as drink and tobacco.

6. Liable or prone to slip; readily giving way. Also of the memory, forgetful.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1st Ep. Timothy* 14 The vowe of continencie is not to be committed vnto fraile slypperye age. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 63 Leaste I shulde bestowe my slippery yeares in vnprofitable Idlenesse. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 84 When they fall, as being slippery standers [etc.]. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 107 The party is a vain babler, perfidious, and of a slippery memory. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xviii. (1729) 86 This profound fixing of Aquatick-trees being to preserve them steddy..in their liquid and slippery Foundations.

7. Of the tongue: Talking too freely.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, A slippery (or free) Tongue, *une Langue trop-libre, qui dit tout, qui ne cache rien.*

8. Quasi-*adv.* Smartly, closely.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 19, I found him in the yard, looking pretty slippery after the strappers.

9. *Comb.*, as *slippery-bellied, -breeched, -shod, -tongued*; also *slippery-looking, -sleek*; **slippery-back,** a West Indian skink (*Cent. Dict.*).

1611 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* IV. i, She is shewing Some slippery breech'd courtier rare faces In a bay-window. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Map of Man* Wks. (Grosart) II. 97 Though shee simper, though shee smile,..Shee is alwayes slippery-sleeke. 1682 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 85 It was a frost and snow, my horse slippery shod. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Peasant's Stor.* 299 By and by evidence began to appear of Jock's being tarry-fingered as well as slippery-tongued. 1852 'NIGHTLARK' *Meanderings Mem.* I. 64 Thou silvery-backed, and slippery-bellied Eel. 1903 SIR M. G. GERARD *Leaves fr. Diaries* viii. 262 The only approach to these is by a slippery-looking pathway.

†Sli·ppet[1]. *Obs. rare.* [f. SLIP *sb.*[2] + -ET.] A slip or strip.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cccxii, One long hollow Flower,..with a long piece or slippet, as it were, at one side. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 180 These five slippets do now contain the whole Multiplication Table of Pythagoras.

Sli·ppet[2]. [f. SLIP *sb.*[3]] (See quot.)

1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. I. 407/2 In mining operations..a slippet is a sand-slide in the bore-hole or excavation...A slippet is a source of danger to workmen, occurring without warning.

Sli·ppiness. *rare.* [f. SLIPPY *a.*[1]] Slipperiness.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, She leaned on him somewhat more than the slippiness of the way necessarily demanded.

Sli·pping, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SLIP *v.*[1]]

1. The action of the verb in intransitive senses. Also with advs. or preps., as *away, into, out, up.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Ps.* xlix. 21 It likes þe to speke ill, not for slipynge of þi tonge or in chawnce, bot wiþ study. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 55 b, Other also..durst not hasard themselues for feare of galtropes or slippynge into ye fyer. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. vii. 23 Many accidentes stayed the purpose; fearefull messages, the slippings away of his friendes [etc.]. 1602 CAREW *Survey Cornwall* II. 127 b, The thankful acknowledgement of many corrected slippings in..my notes. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* VII. ii. 480 The Ancients called it a Slipping of the Head of a Bone out of its Cavity. 1840 [ETHERIDGE] *Life Adam Clarke* 255 He had met with a serious accident by the slipping of his study ladder. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. x. 278 The place was watched for some time, but the slipping was not repeated. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* vii, There was the usual splintering of lances and slipping up of horses.

b. *spec.* (See quot.) *U. S.*

1896 HOWELLS *Impress. & Exp.* 9 The 'slippin',' as the sleighing was called,..lasted from December to April with hardly a break.

2. The action of the verb in transitive senses.

1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 125 Nane of the saidis partiis salbe interessit throw slipping of the occasioun and tyme of warning. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 235 *Slipping*, a trick of card-sharpers, in performance of which, by dexterous manipulation, they place the cut card on the top, instead of at the bottom of the pack. 1885 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/7 The slipping and judging gave entire satisfaction. 1898 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 8/1 The practice of 'slipping', that is, of mechanically detaching coaches from off express trains.

3. *attrib.*, as *slipping-apparatus, system.*

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* I. III. vi. 194 Thus alternately using the slipping system and the horse-exercise. 1895 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 7/5 He was riding in the front van of a first-class coach, in which the slipping apparatus was fitted.

Sli·pping, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SLIP *v.*[2]]

1. A skein or hank of yarn. Cf. SLIP *sb.*[2] II. ? *Obs.*

1541–2 *Inv.* in *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* (1857) 81, xxv teir of hempe slippingis, xxij canvis slippingis, x flaxen slippingis. 1599 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 251 Certen slippinges of hardne yarne. 1603 *Shuttleworth Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 152 Delivered to her xxviij haspes or slippinges of line yearn,..and v haspes or slippinges of canves yearne. 1615 G. MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 137 Divide the slipping or skean into divers Leyes, allowing..twenty leyes to every slipping. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 107/1 A *Slipping*, is as much as is wond upon the Reel at a time, which is generally about a pound of Yarn. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropshire Word-bk.* 389.

2. The action of taking slips from a plant.

1548 ELYOT, *Frondatio*, a slyppyng of leaues or bowes, loppyng of trees. *c* 1614 CAMPION *2nd Bk. Ayres* Wks. (1909) 144 Thriue faire plants e'er the worse for the slipping? 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 133 Calamint is raised by Slipping, or parting of the Roots.

b. A cutting of a plant; a slip.

1638 PEACHAM *Valley of Variety* xii. 103 It was planted like unto our vines, by setting the slippings into the earth. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 15 Such slippings or cuttings as the receiver might chance 'to grow'.

Sli·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. SLIP *v.*[1]] That slips, in senses of the intransitive verb; also *fig.*, transient, passing quickly.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4032 The slippond slete [was] slidon of the ground. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 64 þat vaynglory of slippand praysynge þe sawle may not seyk. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 258 The slipping ioyes that worldly wights possest. 1636 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) II. 18 To cozen all Strangers by those slipping Conveyances. 1726 SWIFT

Gulliver II. viii, The slipping-board that I had lately opened. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 175/2 We should recommend fixing the position micrometer upon a slipping-piece.

† b. *Slipping knot*, = SLIP-KNOT. *Obs.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 29 þat þe þrede ..be so bonden..þat it may be loused without kuttyng, þat is with a lache knotte or slyppyng knotte. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 67 Apron-string tenure is very weak, tyed but of a slipping knot.

Hence **Sli·ppingly** *adv.*

1830 GALT *Laurie T.* IX. (1849) 233 Without retiring from the scene he had come slippingly behind us.

Slippy (sli·pi), *a.*[1] Also 6 slyppie, 6–7 slippie. [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + -Y[1]; cf. MHG. *slipfec*, *-ig*, obs. G. *schlipfig*. Not directly connected with OE. *slipig* viscid.]

1. = SLIPPERY *a.*, in various lit. and fig. senses.

(*a*) 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xix. 154 It pleased him..to mocke the glory of this worlde, shewing howe vaine it is and howe slippie to trust to. *Ibid.* 1 *Tim.* iii. 11 Not bablers, or women of slyppie credence. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'A slippy chap,' an unfair dealer, in whom is no confidence or security.

(*b*) *a* 1618 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Wit's Pilgr.* ii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 6 From it (being moist, and slippie) she doth slipp, To thy faire Teeth. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 79 Because the waters ebb and flow the sand Is slippy. 1772 J. R. FORSTER *Kalm's Trav.* II. 132 The side of the bark which has been upon the wood .. is smooth and slippy. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz* (1837) III. 313 Those slippy, shiny-looking wooden chairs peculiar to places of this description. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xi. 352 Turning short, particularly in slippy weather. 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 166 The hill was steep, and whortle-berry bushes slippy to the feet.

2. *dial.* or *colloq.* Of persons: Nimble, spry; sharp, quick; *esp.* in phr. *to be* or *look slippy*.

1847 HALLIW., *Slippy*, very quick. *Var. dial.* 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Come, be slippy. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 212, I don't know what may happen, so you'll have to look slippy. 1889 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 30 Get out the lot we've just branded,..and just slippy.

3. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Slippy Backs*, vertical planes of cleavage occurring every four or five inches in the seam of coal.

Slippy (sli·pi), *a.*[2] [f. SLIP *sb.*[2] + -Y[1].] Slim; slender.

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 4/1 Mdlle. Julie has a slight, slippy figure. 1892 *Daily News* 6 June 2/2 This tall, lithe, slippy figure has much in common with the graceful reeds which bend all round about her.

Sli·p-rail. *Austr.* [SLIP- 1 b.] A fence-rail, forming one of a set which can be slipped out so as to leave an opening. Chiefly *pl.* Also *attrib.*

1828 CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* II. 171 These patches might..communicate with the fields by means of slip-rail entrances. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 198 The greater part of our route lay through bush-roads.., through scores of slip-rails—the primitive gate of Australia, and along the bush-ranges. 1885 MRS. PRAED *Austral. Life* 79 Many men rode thro' the slip-rails and turned out their horses.

Slipshod (sli·pʃɒd), *a.* Also 6 slippeshood, 7 slip-sho'd, 7– slip-shod. [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + SHOD *ppl. a.*, after SLIP-SHOE.]

1. Wearing slippers or very loose shoes, in later use esp. such as are down at the heel. Also *fig.*

pred. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 334 Thinking it .. if one suffer you to treade awry, no shame to goe slipshad [*sic*; 1581 slippeshood]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. v. 12 Thy wit shall not go slip-shod. 1682a N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 220 Another durst not stay to tye his shooes, But slip-sho'd hobbl'd, lest he Breakfast loose. 1747 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Ep.* II. i. 233 Dossennus slip-shod shambles o'er the Scene. 1782 COWPER *Hope* 75 To rise at noon, sit slipshod and undress'd. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 340 One of those..who shuffle thro' the serious duties of life—slip-shod. 1851 MELVILLE *Whale* xv. 74 With each foot in a cod's decapitated head and looking very slip-shod.

attrib. 1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* III. v, Out a' th' house, you slip-shod, sham-legged..rascal! 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. liv. 236 Here enter not vile bigots, hypocrites,..Slipshod caffards. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 15 A slip-shod Sibyl led his steps along. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 144 The shiv'ring urchin,.. With slip-shod heels. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxii, At intervals were heard the tread of slipshod feet. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* xxxiv, Dick..descried a small slipshod girl in a dirty coarse apron and bib. 1887 SIR R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* I. 9 A slipshod stable-helper holds the hired horse by the head.

transf. 1861 SALA *Dutch Pictures* vi. 76 All you hear of her [is]..the slipshod scuffling of her shoes about the house.

b. Of shoes: Loose or untidy; in bad condition; down at the heel.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 37 As they do who go with their shoes slipshod. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvii, His feet were thrust into old slip-shod shoes, which served him instead of slippers. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, The slipshod shoes.

c. In shabby condition.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, A sort of appendix to the half-bound and slip-shod volumes of the circulating library.

2. *fig.* Slovenly, careless: a. Of style or language.

1815 L. HUNT *Notes Feast Poets* 47 Between the lameness of Cowper and the slip-shod vigour of Churchill. 1831 CROKER *Boswell's Johnson* I. 417 The following slipshod but characteristic epitaph. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 331 The fashionable jargon of the day..seems to have been a sort of slipshod English, continually helped out with the newest French phrases. 1891 *Spectator* 18 Apr., Her style is occasionally slipshod, so much so that in certain passages it is difficult to discover the nominative.

absol. 1842 J. STERLING *Ess.* (1848) I. 436 In the latter half of the poem,..the lax shapelessness of structure, the endless slipshod,..become very disagreeable.

b. Of statements, arguments, etc., or of writers in respect of these.

1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* (1842) 479 You also find..even more slipshod writers just as much in vogue. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 63 This is the sort of slipshod dilemma by which Elizabeth is proved to be wrong. 1877 CONDER *Basis of Faith* iv. 183 The slipshod inaccuracy of those who really know better.

c. Of habits, methods, etc.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 204 Men..who lead a sort of facile, slipshod existence, doing nothing, yet mightily interested in what others do. 1863 ANSTED *Ionian Isl.* 193 The case is singularly illustrative of the slipshod and unpractical habits of the people. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xi, She reigned supreme in a slip-shod household.

Hence **Sli·pshoddiness**; **Sli·pshoddy** *a.*; **Sli·p-shodism**; **Sli·pshodness.**

a 1849 POE *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 583 The *slip-shodiness is so thoroughly in unison with the nonchalant air of the thoughts. 1887 *Jrnl. Education* Dec. 520 The chief fault..was the 'scrappiness' and 'slipshoddiness' of the answers. 1888 *Spectator* 22 Apr. 534 Such *slipshoddy statements may be of little account. 1897 *Naturalist* 269 *Slipshodisms in phrase abound. *a* 1877 BAGEHOT *Lit. Studies & Mem.* (1879) I. p. xlvi, A number of small inaccuracies, harshnesses and *slipshodnesses in style. 1883 *American* VI. 183 A continual confusion, largely due to bad writing, careless proof-reading, and other slip-shodness.

Sli·p-shoe. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 slippe, 7 slip(p)-shooe. [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + SHOE *sb.* Cf. OE. *slypescó* 'soccus'.] A light or loose shoe; a slipper.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* II. xi. 250 They vse a maner of slippe shooes, that may lightly be putte of and on. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i, For in his slipshoe did I find some rushes. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* (1637) 63 The rest ..going in yellow or red slip-shooes, picked at the toe. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. 122 He went not out of the College gates,..but was in slip-shoes. 1719 S. SEWALL *Diary* 15 Sept. (1882) III. 228 Going out to call the Fisherman in Slip-shoes, I fell flat upon the pavement. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xix, The open shoe. The close shoe. The slip shoe. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 416 A loose shoe or slipper is called a slip-shoe in Norfolk [England]. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 680 *Slip-shoes*,..an old loose pair of shoes worn at night after taking off the half bats.

Hence † **Slip-shoed** *a.*, slipshod. *Obs.*

1702 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (1709) 385 A Gentleman.. having strain'd his Ankle..went lame and slip-shoo'd for at least a Year and a half. 1726 G. ROBERTS *Four Yrs. Voy.* 30, I..was Slip-shoe'd, and without Stockings, being just as I turn'd out of my Cabin. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 156 They were all slip-shoed.

† **Slipshot,** *a. Obs.*[-1] (Meaning uncertain.)

a 1635 CORBET *Poems* (1807) 218 Saturne crawls much like an iron catt, To see the naked moone in a slipshott hatt.

Slip-slap (slip,slæp), *sb.* [f. SLAP *v.*[1], with usual variation of vowel.]

† 1. ? A slipper. *Obs.*[-1]

1669 PENN *No Cross* xvii. § 5 (1682) 336 Shoes and Slipslaps lac'd with Silk or Silver-Lace.

2. The repeated flapping sound caused by loosely-worn shoes.

1890 D. GERARD *Lady Baby* vi, The well-known slip-slap of the lodging-house servant's down-trodden shoes.

Slip-slap, *v. rare*[-1]. [See prec.] *intr.* To slap repeatedly in rapid succession.

1721 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Artifice* III, I ha' found her Fingers slip-slap, this a-way, and that a-way, like a Flail upon a Wheat-sheaf.

Slip-slop (sli·p,slɒp), *sb.* Also 7 (8 *Sc.*) -slap, 9– slipslop. [f. SLOP *sb.*[2], with variation of vowel. In sense 2 with allusion to the mistakes in language made by Mrs. Slipslop in Fielding's *Joseph Andrews* (1742).]

1. A sloppy compound used as a food, beverage, or medicine.

1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 49 No, thou shalt feed, instead of these, Or your slip-slap of Curds and Whey, On Nectar and Ambrosia. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 241 Such Cordials, and other compounded Slip-slops as the Sick are forced continually to swallow down. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 151 To run to Apothecaries Shops for this or that whimsical Slip-slop, which may be told him as a Nostrum. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 19, When the jellies and slip-slops were coming in, the beef was carried off. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Augelina* I. 148, I hate slip-slops, I never taste tea. 1821 COMBE *Syntax, Search Wife* I. (Chandos) 260 At length the coffee was announc'd,.. And since the meagre slip-slop's made, I think the call should be obey'd.

2. A blunder in the use of words, esp. the ludicrous misuse of one word for another; the habit of making mistakes of this nature.

1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Jan., Then he told us a great number of comic slip-slops of the first Lord Baltimore, who made a constant misuse of one word for another. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 220 One of the party (amongst other slipslops) saying instead of *Pasticcios*, he liked *Pistachios*. 1837 J. MORIER *Abel Allnutt* xxxii. 187 Mrs. Goold Woodby would usually exert her talent in slip-slop, by calling the last [*sc.* Curius Dentatus] 'Curious tatoes'.

b. A person given to making such blunders.

a 1792 GROSE *Olio* xxii. 93 These slip-slops are frequently of the rank he has drawn his lady. 1857 LADY CANNING in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) II. 202 What by some old official slip-slop is called Provincial (meaning Provisional) Commander-in-Chief.

3. Twaddle; loose or trifling talk or writing.

1811 J. CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) I. vii. 149 No one observation the Regent has made yet out of the commonest slip-slop. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 185 Some man..cleaned up the slovenly sentences, and gave the lax maudlin slipslop a sort of consistency. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 559/3 In..his history this style is wanting, and is replaced by modern slipslop.

b. A tag or phrase.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xlvii, '*Cosi viaggino i Ricchi*' (Excuse a foreign slipslop now and then).

4. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 416 *Slip-slops*, old shoes turned down at the heel.

Hence **Sli·p-slo·ppery**, slipslop condition or methods; **Sli·p-slo·ppish** *a.*, of the nature of slip-slop; **Sli·p-slo·ppism**, = sense 2; **Sli·p-slo·ppy** *a.*, wet, sloppy.

1797 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 223 'Engages the eye,' applied to a gibbet, strikes me as slipsloppish. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 135 A body of excavators (navigators our villagers by an ingenious slip-slopism were pleased to call them). *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasphemer's Warning*, There was no taking refuge too then,..On a slip-sloppy day, in a cab or a *'bus*. 1848 *Illustr. Lond. News* 12 Feb. 88/3 The general slip-sloppery of its warehouses.

Sli·p-slop, *a.* [See prec.]

† 1. Characterized by, given to, blundering in the use or forms of words. *Obs.*

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 105 Memorandums..become, as Captain H— expressed it once, by a lucky slip-slop Phrase, Remorandums. 1776 G. COLMAN *Posth. Lett.* (1820) 335 Her dialect is particularly vulgar,..not by murdering words in the slip-slop way, but by a mean twang in the pronunciation. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 252 A slip-slop Colonel having sent for an architect to construct a mausoleum. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Mem.* I. 140 *note*, Is the reply of Quin to a slip-slop milliner at Bath very trite?

2. Having no substance or solidity; sloppy, feeble, trifling.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 84 We may again expect in the slip-slop prints the usual selection of important incidents. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 2, I..have abandoned her to the slip-slop attentions of the shame-faced George. 1879 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 6 Sept. 561 A system of swindling..arising out of the loose slip-slop legal procedure.

b. Of discourse, writings, style, etc.

1827 A. W. FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 27 Like the slip-slop, wishy-washy..speeches of Lords in the Upper House. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 635 The abstruse sciences are reduced to slip-slop literature for the young. 1874 S. WILBERFORCE *Ess.* (1874) II. 238 A loose slip-slop style of English composition.

Sli·p-slop, *v.* [Cf. SLIP-SLOP *sb.*]

1. *intr.* (See quots. and cf. SLIP-SLOP *sb.* 2.)

a 1792 GROSE *Olio* 93 There is a grosser misapplication of words, which, from a character..delineated by Fielding,.. has been called slip-slopping. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Slipslopping*, misnaming and misapplying any hard word.

2. To drink a sloppy beverage.

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* I. 297 The Capitol..was quite deserted, the world, thank Heaven, being all slip-slopping in coffee houses.

3. To slip or move about in a sloppy manner or with a flapping sound. Also used adverbially.

1870 FARJEON *Grif* I. viii. 167 The dirty broken bluchers in which Grif's feet slip-slopped constantly. 1887 JEFFERIES *Amaryllis* vi, So they paddled along to the fair, slip-slop, in the dust. 1891 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 47/1 At the farther end the great churn could be seen revolving, and its slip-slopping heard.

Sli·p-string. Now *dial.* Also 6 slypstryng, 7 slipp-string(e, 6–7, 9 slipstring. [f. SLIP *v.*[1] + STRING *sb.*]

1. One who deserves to be hanged; a rogue or rascal, a shifty person.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1562) I iiij, Euery good thyng, Thou lettest euen slyp, lyke a waghalter slypstryng. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes, Supposes* Wks. (1587) 25 If he spie a slipstring by y^e^ way, such another as himselfe, a page, a lakey or a dwarfe. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 85 She not only gaue me the slip, but had welnie made me a slipstring. 1611 COTGR., *Pendardeau*, a little crackrope, young slipstring. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* v. iii, Now if thou bee'st wyse drawe thy neck out of the collar, doo, Slipp-stringe, doo. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slip-string*, a knave, a mean rascal, one whom the gallows groans for.

2. *attrib.* Of persons or actions: a. Roguish, rascally. b. *dial.* (See quot. 1854.)

1629 DEKKER *Londons Tempe* Dram. Wks. 1873 IV. 123 We are making arrowes for my slip-string sonne. 16.. *MS. Bright* 170 fol. 1 (Halliw.), Such a slipp-string trick As never till now befell us heeretofore, Nor shall, I hope, befall us any more. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. vi, You are a sort of a slip-string gentleman. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slip-string ways*, careless, slovenly ways; applied almost exclusively to servants who slight their work.

Slip-top(ped : see SLIP *sb.*[2] 5.

Slip-way (sli·pwe‹). Also **slipway.** [f. SLIP- + WAY *sb.*]

1. A sloping way leading down into the water; a slip.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 431/1 Two flat-bottomed boats..were brought to the slipway, at the back of the mast-houses. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. iii. 42 Slip-ways and berthing for vessels.. 1879 *Cassell's Techn.*

Educ. IV. 189/1 Ships are usually built on *slip-ways*, sloping down to the water.

2. An inclined roadway leading into a mine.

1863 *Cambrian Jrnl.* 151 The Austrian mines have circular slip-ways, viz., without steps, of an inclined plane, winding round a newel.

Slirt (slɜːt), *sb. U. S.* [f. next.] A slight sweep or jerk.

1870 S. GREEN *Trout Culture* vii. 63 The female diving down at intervals against the gravel, and as she comes up giving it a slirt to one side with her tail.

Slirt (slɜːt), *v. U. S.* [Of obscure origin: *slirt* 'to squirt water' is recorded as Yorkshire dialect.] *trans.* To sweep or jerk lightly.

Slirted, given by Richardson (s.v. *Slur*) in a quot. from Ben Jonson, is an error for *flirted*.

1870 S. GREEN *Trout Culture* vii. 63 She would slirt with her tail all the stones of proper size to be found near her nest. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 20 July 385/2 Slirting (Seth Green's word) her spawn over the same spot at every turn.

Slish. *rare* $^{-1}$. [Jingling alteration of SLASH *sb.*!] A slit.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 90 Heers snip, and nip, and cut, and slish and slash, Like to a Censor in a barbers shoppe.

† **Sliss,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. Du. and Flem. *slissen.*] *trans.* To slake or slack (lime).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 330/2 Take vnslissed lime, slisse him 8 or 9 times with water. *Ibid.* 331/1 Then take of the slissede lime, a little oyle, and both the waters.

Slit (slit), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **slytte, slitte,** 6 **slyt,** 6–7 **slitt,** 4, 6– **slit.** [f. SLIT *v.* Cf. OE. *geslit* tearing, biting, = ON. (Icel., Norw., MSw.) *slit* (Da. *slid*), G. *schliss*; OE. *slite*, = MDu. and MLG. *slete* (Du. and LG. *sleet*); also MDu. *slitte, slette* (Du. *slet*), and OHG. *sliz* (G. *schlitz*).]

1. A straight and narrow cut or incision; an aperture resembling a cut of this description: **a.** In clothing; † sometimes in specific senses, as the opening in the front of a shirt, a pocket, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1118 If hi mowe i-seo þe sitte, Stones hi doþ in heore slytte. *a* 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 348 Þu most habbe redi mitte Twenti Marc ine þi slitte. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1406 (Kölbing), Þe king was wondred out of witt & toke þe messanger bi þe slit. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Slytte of a womans gowne, *fente, dune robe a femme.* 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1076/2 A close hoode, with two holes for his eyes..& a slit for his mouthe to breath at. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 432 Hee put the sword into the fire,..and so thrust it into the slit of his shirt. 1796 W. MASON *Birth of Fashion* Poems (1830) II. 32 To show her legs (inglorious thought) By well-chose slits in petticoat. 1855 BELL *Wks. Chaucer* VII. 41 *note*, The fashion of.. cutting it [*sc.* the dress] in slits so as to show the undergarment or lining.

b. In general use.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cii. (Bodl. MS.), Droppinge þat comeþ oute atte kenes & slittes þat beþ made þerein is acounted lasse worþe. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1120 With brymstoon resolute ypitte Aboute in euery chynyng, clift, or slitte. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The hynder ende of the ploughebeame is put in a longe slyt. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxii. G iij, A thinne plate halfe an ynche broade,..and in the middes a fine slytte. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* IV. ix. 166 A long slit is made in each of them. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 106 Just in that space a narrow Slit we make. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 57 Take a large leg of lamb, cut a long slit on the back. 1769 *Lloyd's Even. Post* 20–2 Sept. 283/3 Quills thus..hardened, bear longer Slits, which Slit is always free. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 157 When the cutting had once commenced, it was easily continued until a deep slit was produced in the steel. 1856 G. WILSON *Gateways Knowl.* (1859) 12 When Pussy is basking in the sun..she shows..only a narrow slit for a pupil. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* (ed. 2) § 19 The thermometer is inserted through a closely fitting slit in a thick piece of india-rubber.

c. A long narrow aperture in a wall; a window of this form. Also *transf.*

1607 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 119 To a joyner for a great casement for one of the longe slitts, 3s. 4d. 17.. RAMSAY *Up in the Air* ii, Nae starns keek throw the azure slit. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 70 An aisle pierced by twenty-four mere slits of round-headed windows. 1894 J. MACINTOSH *Ayrshire Nights Entert.* xvii. 304 On the right-hand side is an ivied slit commanding the outer doorway.

2. *fig.* A schism, division, split. *rare* $^{-1}$.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 In holy cherche of such a slitte Is for to rewe unto ous alle.

3. *Agric.* A part of a field which has been 'split' in ploughing. *rare.*

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 25 Oct. 1775, A level field, plowed in gathers and slits with a fixed-wrist plow.

4. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 44 *Slit*, a communication between two adits. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Slit*, a short heading put through to connect two other headings.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slit-like, -shaped, -ways, -wise*; **slit-eyed** *a.*, having long and narrow eyes; † **slit-graft,** a graft inserted in a slit in the stock, or intended for this purpose; † **slit-grafting,** grafting performed by means of a slit in the stock; **slit-limpet** (see quots.); **slit-planting, -setting,** a mode of planting or setting in which mere slits are made in the ground with a spade or similar implement.

1894 *Daily News* 18 June 6/3 Bands of *slit-eyed Chinamen. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 44 That slit-eyed pagan..found me out. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. II. xii. 164, I desire you would tell me how a *Slit-graft should be cut. *Ibid.* 159, I shall only mention Three different Sorts of Grafting, *viz.* Scutcheon-grafting, *Slit-grafting, and Crown-grafting. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 213 Cleft-Grafting, called also Stock, or Slit-grafting. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 137 To draw the opaque lens out of the eye through a *slit-like opening. 1901 E. STEP *Shell Life* 193 The *Slit-limpets (*Fissurellidae*)..have a slit which serves the purpose of an excretory orifice. *Ibid.* 195 Common Slit-limpet (*Emarginata fissura*). 1832 *Planting* 35 in *Husb.* (L. U. K.) III, *Slit planting is the most simple mode, and is practised on soils in their natural state. 1843 J. SMITH *Forest Trees* 64 What is called slit-planting I consider best on shallow ground. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 253 The injury is less than that of the same kind incident to *slit-setting, by means of a spade. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* XXIX, The narrow *slit-shaped openings at either side of the ponderous gate. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Grafting*, The Azerole or small Medlar may particularly be grafted *Slitwise [1727 Slit-ways] upon the white Thorn.

Slit (slit), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **slit.** Forms: (see below). [ME. *slitte* weak vb., obscurely related to OE. *slītan*: see SLITE *v.*

It is very doubtful whether there is any direct connexion with the ONorthumb. forms *-slitten* for the pa. pple. *-sliten*, and *-slittes, -slitted, -slittad* for *-slites*, etc., which belong to the verb (*to*)*slītan*. The ME. weak verb may rather correspond to OHG. *slizzan* (MHG. *slitzen*, G. *schlitzen*): — **slītjan*. The earliest example occurs in the pa. pple. *i-slit*; for slightly later instances see To-SLIT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To cut into, or cut open, by means of a sharp instrument or weapon; to divide or sever by making a long straight cut or fissure; also, to take *off* or *out* in this way.

a. Inf. (and *Pres.*) 4–6 **slytte;** 4–5 **slitte** (5 **sclitte, slitt**), 4, 6– **slit.**

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 532 To doon his diligence,.. Or with a sword þat he wolde slitte his herte. 1530 PALSGR. 721/2 Slytte this stycke in twayne. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 134 Ile slit the villaines nose that would haue sent me to the Inile. 1637 W. CARTWRIGHT *Royal Slave* III. iii, Let's slit this graver weazen. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 114 They slit the Noses of all their Asses, to make them breath more freely. 1747–96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* v. 53 Slit them in two, and put the yolk of an egg over. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. li. 85, I was going to slit the picture from the top to the bottom. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 280 To slit the branch of a sapling tree.

β. Pa. t. 4 **slitte,** 5 **slytte, slyt,** 4–5, 7– **slit;** also 4–5 **slitted,** 5 **slytted.**

(*a*) 13.. *Sir Beues* 866 Sum vpon þe helm a hitte, In to þe sadel he hem slitte. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 39 Þan sche kutte and slitte here clopes. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. ix. 55 Thenne sawe I yet another companye of whiche fowle Sathanas slytte the throtes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* vii. 118 He slyt a-sonder the sadell and the chyne of the horse. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 55 We slit a black Horse's Hair with a Razor, and perceived it to be hollow. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. iv. I. 27 The figure drew a sword and slit Arbues through the elbow.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxix. 14 Þou slitted mi sek in twa. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 298 Þe turmentourys .. slytted hym & his herte a-sunder. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 421/1 As hys cook dressyd and slytted it [*sc.* the fish].

γ. Pa. pple. 3 **i-slit,** 4 **i-slitte,** 5–6 **slitte,** 5 **slyt(t, sclyt,** 6– **slit** (7 **slitt**); also 7, 9 **slitted.**

The mod. north. dial. *slitten* is perh. a new formation, but may be a survival of the pa. pple. of SLITE *v.*

(*a*) *c* 1205 LAY. 14221 Þa al islit wes þe þong, he wes wunder ane long. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 443 Þe bowels were i-slitte and y-turned to seche gold wiþ ynne. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3204 With that cam þe vomman,—hir tunge was nat sclyt. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 34 This same Innocent ..had a greuous sor, whech sor myth not be hol..with-outen þat it wer slitte. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 47 V^n skinne beyng pretely slit. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* B iij b, Your tongue will be slitte if you take not heede. *a* 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. I. ii. (1642) 29 Many..flying to the Enemy, were taken and slit in pieces. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 29 Their Shirt (which hath sleeves like our Womens Smocks, and is slit in the same manner) comes over their Drawers. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 164 P 4 Sirrah, you deserve to have your Nose slit. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 88 Crystals which might be conceived to have been slit in a particular direction. 1884 J. GILMOUR *Mongols* XXIV. 296 The tongue they had slit and hung up to dry.

(*b*) 1602 FULBECKE *Pandects* 79 The nostrils of the adulteresse were slitted. 1900 *Daily Mail* 26 Apr. 4/4 The earth is all slitted with trenches.

b. *fig.* To divide, separate, sever.

a 1300 *E. E. Ps.* lxxviii. 24 (Eg.), I sal slit [*Harl.* slitte] fra his face his ille-wiland. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 76 Comes the blind Fury with th' abhorred shears, And slits the thin spun life. 1645 — *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 358 Now hee comes to the Position,..and like an able text man slits it into fowr. 1798 *Poet. Anti-Jacobin* No. 24. 127 'Till deadly Atropos with fatal sheers Slits the thin promise of the expected years.

2. *techn.* To cut (iron) into rods or (wood) into thin deals.

1522– [see SLITTING *vbl. sb.* 1, and SLITTING-MILL 1]. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 420 The slitting-mills in this district, it is said, annually slit 600 tons of iron. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 146 The practice of slitting, as it is termed, sheets of metal into light rods. 1873 RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 114 Carriage saws, such as are used for jointing floor boards or slitting very long stuff.

3. *Agric.* To 'split' in ploughing.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, In March the same year ..he slit the ridges with the plough.

Slit, *ppl. a.* [f. prec.]

1. Of garments: Rent, torn; slashed.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 297 Cloþed in slitte clobis and foule. 1438 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 111 A gowne..with slyt slynes y-furred. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 30 Thei were the furst that brought up this astate that ye use of gret purfiles and slitte cotes. 1706 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4257/4 A brown Coat, with slit Sleeves. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 P 10 A Coat with long Pockets, and slit Sleeves.

2. Naturally divided or cloven.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 99 The face of this beast is fleshy,..his ears..are slit. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 2 His feet are slit into claws or talons. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 170 Its tongue..is forked or slit at the end like that of serpents.

3. Cut with a sharp instrument; divided by slitting.

1611 COTGR., *Fendu*, the slit, or clouen side of a thing. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Gesliste ooren*, Slit or Cropped eares. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 254 Canute..took the hostages.., and with slit Noses..setting them ashore, departed into Denmarke. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Grafting*, Loam and slit Osier. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 240/2 Looking along the slit-side of the vessel. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. I The weights that pull the slit ears in long nooses to the shoulder. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* I, Poniarded, slit-throat, rope-dependant figures.

b. *spec.* Of deals: (see quot. 1842).

1632 in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 The dividing of..Chambers and other roomes..with slitt or whole deales. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* iv, The Bearers are made of Slit-Deal. 1703 STANTON in De Foe *Storm* (1896) 329 We are obliged to make use of slit deals to supply the want of slats and tyles. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 26 Lay a piece of slit deal over the trap. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. s.v. *Board*, Fir boards of this sort, one inch and a quarter thick, are called whole deal, and those a full half inch thick, slit deal. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2212/2 *Slit-deal Plane*, a tonguing or grooving plane.

c. In various special collocations (see quots.).

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 107 Wether, hogget, ewe, weaner, *slit-ear. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 188 These rods are also made of larger sizes, when they are called *slit iron. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 96 An oblong hole, into which a *slit-nail is put. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 540 The nose-bit,..called also the *slit-nose-bit,..is slit up a small distance near the center. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 47 The third [school] is for Boys painting the Toys and *slit Pictures. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 503 A circular rack..that holds the curb or *slit-piece. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 270 This slit-piece [in a silk-winding engine] is called the cleaner. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 319 '*Slit rods,' which are used for nail-making. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 18 Slit rods for making into nails. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 216 Genus *Pleurotomaria*, '*Slit-shell'. 1897 WOODWARD in *Concise Knowl. Nat. Hist.* 632 The Pleurotomidae, or slit-shells, have conical, spiral shells with a notch in the outer lip at the periphery. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 18 Such as were the *Slit-stones, or Slates which succeeded the stately marbles. 1799 S. FREEMAN *Town Officer* 124 All boards, plank, timber and *slitwork..shall be surveyed.

4. *Comb.*, as *slit-eared, -footed, -nosed.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 176 Cloven- or slit-footed into many claws. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* XXXV, Al Adha or the slit-eared, the swiftest of his camels. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idyls, Muléykeh* 32 You feed young beasts .. of famous breed, Slit-eared, unblemished. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 733 *Gaviæ*, Slit-nosed Longwings.

Slitch (slitʃ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 **slicche, slycche,** 5–6 **sliche, 6 slich, slyche, slytche, slitche,** 7– **slitch.** [app. representing an OE. **slicc* (see SLIKE *sb.*); for the phonetic development cf. *ditch, stitch.*] = SLEECH *sb.* (See also quot. 1794.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5763 The Troiens dong hom doun in the depe sliche. *Ibid.* 13547 Thurgh the slicche and the slyme in þis slogh feble. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 133 Nilus.. makethe the londe plentuous thro slycche that hit drawethe with hit. *c* 1585 PILKINGTON *Expos. Nehemiah* ii. 27 b, For the wickednes of Sodom..that pleasant ground .. is now barren, full of filthie mire, slitche, tarre, &c. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 985 They may..get admirable Slitch, wherewith to Manure all their uplands. 1794 HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumb.* I. 564 Lime is chiefly used as a manure, with clagg or slitch, as the farmers call it, being the wreck left by the tide on the shore. 1878 in *Cumberld. Gloss.*

Slite (slɜit), *sb.* Now *E. Angl. dial.* Also 9 **slight, sleight.** [f. SLITE *v.*, or ad. Du. *slijt* (cf. G. *schleiss*), f. *slijten* (see next).] Impairment through use; wear and tear.

1614 GENTLEMAN *Way to win Wealth* 36 But the yearely slite and weare of her tackell and war-ropes and nets will cost some eighty pounds. 1879 *Norfolk Archæol.* VIII. 173, I have a wonderful sleight for shoes with my children. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.* 200, *Slite*, wear and tear.

Slite, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 5 **slityn,** 5, 9 **slyte.** *Pa. t.* 6, 8–9 *Sc.* **slate, slait.** *Pa. pple.* 5 **slityn.** [Representing either OE. *slītan* (*slīt*, etc.) or ON. *slíta* (Icel. *slíta*, Norw. and Sw. *slita*, Da. *slide*), corresponding to OFris. *slīta* (WFris. *slite*), MDu. *slīten* (Du. *slijten*), OS. *slītan* (MLG. and LG. *slīten*), OHG. *slīzan* (G. *schleissen*).

Common in OE., but rare in the later language; the mod. dial. pa. pple. *slitten* is now associated with SLIT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To slit or split; to cut or rip up.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 226 Þe o feend slyteth wyth a swerd my body, & begynneth at myn heued dounwarde. 1536 BELLENDEN *Chron. Scot.* Prob. (1541) A vij, Duke Hannibali.! Brak doun the wallis, and the montanis slait. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl. To Slite, Slyte*, to rip up any thing that

is sewed. 1841 in R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 156, I sewed a pair o' sheets, and I slate them.

2. To impair by wear; to wear out. Hence **Sli·ting** *vbl. sb.* (Cf. SLITE *sb.*)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slytyn, or weryn, *attero, vetero. Ibid.*, Slytynge, *veteracio, consumpcio.*

3. *Sc.* To whet or sharpen.

17.. *Gil Morrice* xviii. in Percy *Reliques* III. i, Now he has drawn his trusty brand, And slaited [*read* slait it] on the strae. *a* 1800 in Child *Ballads* IV. 491 Johnny drew forth his good braid glaive, And slate it on the plain. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Slait*, *Slite* is used in this sense [*sc.* to whet] in Lanarks[hire] and also in Loth[ian].

Slite, obs. form of SLEET *sb.*

† Slithe, *v. Obs.* Also 5 slythe; *pa. t.* **slathe.** [app. an alteration of SLIDE *v.*, on the analogy of SLITHER *v.* or under Scand. influence.] *intr.* To slip, slide. Hence † **Sli·thing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* lv. 13 Mi saule dede toke þou fra, Mi fete fra sliþinge als-swa. *Ibid.* cxiv. 8 He toke..Mi fete fra slithing þer i ga. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb) 17 Than sithen be slithing gudes the werld wold vs betrayse. *Ibid.* 46 A stone with out mans hande was kytte And in the feet of the ymage or mawmet doun slathe itte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 122 It is euer in drede and brekyll as glas, And slythys.

Slither (sli·ðəɹ), *sb.* Also *Sc.* **sclither.** [f. SLITHER *a.* or *v.*]

1. *pl.* 'Loose stones lying in great quantities on the side of a rock or hill' (Jamieson). *Sc.*

1805 J. NICOL *Poems* II. 103 (Jam.), Fir'd wi' hope, he onward dashes, Thro' heather, sclithers, bogs, an' rashes. 1884 SPEEDY *Sport Highl.* xiii. 220 They will often be seen running among the grey stones or 'sclithers'.

2. *local.* (See quots.)

1811 J. FAREY *Derbyshire* I. 145 The Slither, or indestructible rubble of Limestone. *Ibid.*, It slips from beneath the feet of an animal which attempts to cross it, whence the name Slither, or sliding gravel. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 49 Patches of slither are the most barren spots that can be imagined.

3. *techn.* (See quot.) Also *fig.*

1830 *Examiner* 419/2 Slither is, we believe, the technical term..[given] to the cuttings and rubbish put in between the outer and the inner soles of shoes. *Ibid.*, Even the slither of O'Doherty is inserted, while matter of real importance from O'Connell is omitted.

4. A slipping or sliding.

1861 TROLLOPE *Tales of All Countries* 67 Then there was a great slither, and an exclamation, and the noise of a fall. 1897 W. WESTALL *Red Eagle* xxvi, A slither down a slope that would have tried the nerve of a chamois-hunter.

Slither (sli·ðəɹ), *a.* Now *dial.* and *rare.* Also 4 **skliper,** 5 **slyther.** [Later variant of SLIDDER *a.*] Slippery. Also as *adv.*, smoothly.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxiv. 7 þe way of þaim be made merknes and skliper. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 1 Lightly it slippis, as we doe when we ga in skliper way. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxiv. 89 The grasse wher vpon he trad was sore weet & slyther. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Bogland* (1893) 54 Whinever there's little that ails ye, An' all goes slither as grase.

Slither (sli·ðəɹ), *v.* Forms: 2 **sleðren** (?), 4 **sliper,** 5 **slyther,** 8– **slither**; 4 **sklythir,** 9 *Sc.* **sclither.** [Later variant of SLIDDER *v.*, with normal change of *d* to *th*: cf. *gather, hither*, etc.]

1. *intr.* To slip, slide, glide, esp. on a loose or broken slope or with a clattering noise; † to fall gently. Freq. with *down.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 þis is þe holi manne þe ure drihten sende alse snow sleðrende. *a* 1340, *c* 1360 (see the *vbl. sb.*). *a* 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 109 Yf 3e sey þat I lye, I xall make yow to slyther. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 To *Slither*,..to slide; as down a rope, a ladder, or the side of a hill. 1825– in many dial. glossaries. 1861 DODSON in *Peaks, Passes, & Glac.* I. 199 He slithered down the polished surface of the gully, like a tree down a timber shoot. 1880 *19th Cent.* Sept. 455 The way they [Colorado horses] will climb up places, and slither down places.., is marvellous. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xiv, On these [smooth rocks] the men with their nailed boots slithered and clattered to an awful extent.

fig. 1878 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. xxxiii. 502 You go slithering down avalanches of work.

b. *trans.* To make or cause to slide.

1892 *Daily News* 1 Oct. 2/1 It is many a long day since Meg and Margery took a hand each and slithered him down hill. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 307 She slithered her feet along the ground.

c. To make (one's way) by slipping or sliding.

1888 F. COWPER *Caedwalla* 223 Quite safely the man slithered his way over the mud.

2. *intr.* To walk in a sliding manner; to slip along or away.

1848 A. H. CLOUGH *The Bothie* iv. 30 The streets of the dissolute city, Where dressy girls slithering by upon pavements give sign for accosting. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* III. 183 Gay girls slithered past him, looked round at him, but in vain. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 36 Philip slithered softly through the dairy door.

3. Of reptiles: To creep, crawl, glide.

1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 262 How horrid it [a snake] did look, slithering over the road. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 563 Feeling an unpleasantly cold something slithering down my right leg. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life in Tigerland* 29 An odious, repulsive-looking *Sáp go* (a species of iguana) slithered noiselessly through a gap.

4. Of things: To move in a slipping or sliding manner.

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 600 The rope had 'slithered' through his hands. 1869 *Echo* 9 Mar., The blades slither on the water, which at times made the boat roll.

Hence **Sli·thering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxiv. 8 In þe sensualite 3it we fele sklythiryngе[*v.r.* scliteryng] and lust. *c* 1360 *E. E. Ps.* lv. 13 (Eg.), þou toke mi saul dede fra, Mi fete fra sliþeringe als-swa. 1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 219 His [a viper's] quiet, slithering gait. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 241 We continued to descend with a rapidity of 'slithering' and sliding, which might have considerably alarmed a timid Amazon. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 596/1 His wheel shot past me with a slithering, vertiginous pace.

Sli·therness. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. SLITHER *a.*] Slipperiness. In quot. *fig.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 5 b/2 Wylte thou be now chaste and relygious, Thou whyche haste all thy lyfe lyued in slythernesse of the worlde?

Slithery (sli·ðəri), *a.* Chiefly *dial.* Also **slithry,** *Sc.* **sclithery, -ie.** [Alteration of SLIDDERY *a.*] Slippery, in various senses.

1825 in JAMIESON s.v. *Sclitherie.* 1861 J. F. HARDY in *Peaks, Passes, & Glac.* I. 390 The rock..in general..was well covered with snow. This in parts was very dry and slithery. 1884 SPEEDY *Sport Highl.* xix. 375 The 'sclithery' rock giving way, we slid down again into the bottom of the 'rut'. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 3/2 The Jesuit..was mysterious, elusive, not to say slithery.

† **Sli·thy,** *a. Obs.*$^{-1}$? var. of SLEATHY *a.*

1622 W. WHATELY *God's Husb.* II. 116 We make no great matter of the lower degrees of sinne, and so grow slithy, and fashionable, and dead in our confessions.

Sli·tless, *a.* [f. SLIT *sb.*] Of a spectroscope: Made without the usual slit for admitting the light.

1881 C. A. YOUNG *Sun* 235 By examining the eclipse with a so-called slitless spectroscope. 1885 CLERKE *Pop. Hist. Astron.* 223 Making separate trial of a 'slitless spectroscope' devised for the occasion.

Slit-mill. *rare.* [f. SLIT *v.* 2.] A slitting-mill.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. i. (1869) I. 277 The furnace, the forge, the slit-mill are instruments of trade.

Sli·tted, *ppl. a. rare.* = SLIT *ppl. a.* 3.

1797 MATON *West. Counties Eng.* I. 120 A candle stuck in a piece of slitted stick.

Slitter (sli·təɹ), *sb.* [f. SLIT *v.* + -ER^{1}.] One who, or that which, slits; *spec.* as the name of various implements.

1611 COTGR., *Tailleur*, a cutter, slitter, hewer. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* xxv, The slitters slit the four fingers, and shaped the thumbs and forgits. 1865 BAUERMAN *Catal. Mining Models* 21 *Pick* (*Slitter*), a double-armed pick,.. used for slitting out the vein. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Slitter*, a machine for shearing up sheet-iron into slips for nail-rods, etc. 1895 G. E. DAVIS *Pract. Microscopy* (ed. 3) 280 The slitter is a thin wrought-iron disc about 11 inches in diameter,..and when used its edge is charged with diamond dust.

† **Sli·tter,** *v.*^{1} *Obs. rare.* Also 4 **slyter.** [A frequentative from SLIT *v.*] *trans.* To cut (a garment) with ornamental slits. Hence **Sli·ttered** *ppl. a.*, wearing clothes so ornamented.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 840 Wrought was his robe in straunge gise, And al to-slytered for queyntise. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 121 þei wasten hem in..pelure & costelewe clobis & proude slitterede squyerys & haukis & hondis.

Sli·tter, *v.*^{2} Now *dial.* Also 4 **scliter.** [Obscurely related to SLIDDER *v.* and SLITHER *v.*] *intr.* To slide, slip, glide.

a 1400 [see SLITHERING *vbl. sb.*]. 1825– in dialect use (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

† **Slitterkins.** *Obs.*$^{-1}$ [Cf. 'SLIDIKINS.] A form of minced oath.

1786 *Microcosm* in Sydney *Engl. in C.* I. 54 Mincing blasphemy into odsbodikins, slitterkins, and such like.

Slitting (sli·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLIT *v.* + -ING^{1}.]

1. The action of making a slit or slits, or of cutting in this manner. Also with *up.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Hunger and þurst and chele and feonda bitinga and neddre slittinga. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. vii. (Bodl. MS.), Auripigmentum..haþ kinde of slittinge and fretinge. 1522 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For slyttyng of xliij fote of tymber. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 14 § 14 Imprisonment, Loss of Ears, slitting and searing of Nose. 1611 COTGR., *Coupement*, a cutting,.. cleauing, slitting. *a* 1712 KING *Art of Love* 713 Zoe..sav'd the slitting of his nose, By timely changing of her cloaths. 1750 *Act* 23 *Geo. II*, c. 29 § 9 No mill or other engine for slitting or rolling of iron. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 761 If phymosis coexists with warts..the slitting-up of the prepuce, or circumcision, is advisable.

2. *attrib.*, as *slitting-disk, -file*, etc.

In most of these *slitting* might also be taken as the *ppl. a.* For descriptions see Knight *Dict. Mech.*

1819 *Pantologia* X. s.v., By passing it [*sc.* iron] through the slitting rollers, it is..slit up. *Ibid.*, A slitting machine. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 822 Round files, square, equalling, knife and slitting files. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2212/2 [Slitting-file, -gage, -machine, -plane, -roller, etc.]. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 241 A screw slitting file, used principally for cutting the slits in screw heads. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 23 To draw the clamped stone against the edge of the slitting disc.

So **Sli·tting** *ppl. a.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 163 Al þe longage of þe Norþhumbres..is so scharp, slitting, and frotynge and vnschape [etc.].

Sli·tting-mill. [SLITTING *vbl. sb.*]

1. *Metall.* A mill or machine by which iron bars or plates are slit into nail-rods, etc.

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 8 A Slitting-Mill, which is for the forming of Iron into some fashion, as into Iron-rods, Nails, and such like things. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 163 Those they intend to be cut into rodds, are carryed to the slitting Mills. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4862/7 Leases of two Forges, Furnace and Slitting Mill. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 49 The slitting and rolling mills of Pennsylvania. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 56 The operations of..the slitting-mill, the flatting-mill, &c.

2. *Gem-cutting.* A slicer, slitting-disk.

1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1098 Slitting Mill or the Slicer, is a very thin sheet-iron disk, the edge of which is charged with diamond powder, and lubricated with brick oil.

3. A saw-mill for slitting deals.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl.

Slive (sləiv), *sb.* Also 6 **sliue.** [f. SLIVE *v.*1]

1. A piece cut off; a slice. Now *dial.*

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful News* III. (1596) 103 This fruit.., being so grated they put it into a sliue of palme. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 37 Shread, snip, slive, slice, collop, cut. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s.v., A slive off a cut loaf will not be missed. 1854– in dial. glossaries (Yks., Northampt., Leic., Warw.).

† **2.** A cut, a stroke. *Obs. rare.*

1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 138 You brag you haue giuen M. D. Bancroft such a sliue ouer the shoulders, as the credite of hys Chaplenship shall not recouer. 1747 POCOCKE *Journ. Scot.* (1887) 1 He gave me such a slive as a dog that has done some mischief.

Slive (sləiv), *v.*1 Now *dial.* Forms: 5 **slyvyn, slyfe,** 5–6 **slyve, slyue,** 6 **sliue,** 6, 8– **slive.** *Pa. pple.* 4 **sleuyne,** 5 **sleuene,** 6–7 **sliuen,** 7 **sleeven,** 7, 9 *dial.* **sliven,** 8–9 *dial.* **sloven.** Also *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 6 **slyved, sliu'd, sliude,** 7 **sliued,** 6– **slived.** [OE. **slīfan* (the pa. t. occurs in the compound *tō-slīf*), app. not represented in the cognate languages.]

1. *trans.* To cleave, split, divide.

13.. in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 455 þaire cotis ware al to-reuyne And þaire lymmes in sondir sleuyne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 450/2 Slyvyn a-sundyr, *findo, effisso.* 1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. 96 With their stemmes y° seas thei sliue. 1589? LYLY *Pappe w. Hatchet* E ij, Hee sliues one, has a fling at another. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xlvii. 520 All trees which through force of winde..shall be clouen..or sliuen must be cured with mire. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 135 They did cut downe a branch..and slived or cleft the same into slips. 1647 HEXHAM I, To Slit, cleave, or slive, *klieven ofte splijten.* 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, To *Slive*,..to rive. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *Sloven*, The honours are sloven; i. e. equally divided. Spoken at the game of whist. 1819– in dial. glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

b. *absol.* To cut *through* something.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* v. M iij, The fomy waters through thei sliue.

2. To separate or remove by cutting or slicing; to take *off* in this manner.

a 1400 *Sir Cleges* 211 A lytyll bowe he gan of slyve, And thowght to schewe yt to his wife. 1530 PALSGR. 722/1, I slyve a gylowfloure or any other floure from his braunche or stalke. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. p. lxxi, He sliude the gentle slippe, which could both twist and twind. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 139 For hauing sliu'd the gentle slip, his loue was turnd to hate. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. xxxiv, The trees may be replanted of the very truncheons, ..slived and divided from the very brain (as it were) of the green tree. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 76 When the knife has penetrated to about the half [of the potato], the other half should be slived or broken off. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slive*,..to cut away in slices, strip bark from a tree. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slive*, to..slice off any thing.

Hence **Slived, Sliven** *ppl. adjs.*

† *Sliued* or *sliuen silk*: see SLEAVED *ppl. a.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 55 b, Sodainly came oute ..viii wyldemen, all apparayled in grene mosse, made with slyved sylke. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 214 They cannot flee or stirre their wings by mean of some broke or slived feathers. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 86/1 A Sliven, Shivered, or Cloven Tree. *Ibid.* III. 99/1 *Gum Work*, is by Gumming of several colours of sleeven Silk together.

Slive (sləiv), *v.*2 Now *dial.* Forms: 5 **slyue,** 6, 9 **slyve,** 8– **slive.** *Pa. t.* 5 **slafe,** 9 **slove** (*dial.* **sluv, sliv**). *Pa. pple.* 5 **sliven,** 6 **sleaven,** 9 *dial.* **slivven.** Also *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 5, 9 **slived,** 6 **slyued,** 8 **sliv'd.** [app. a variant of SLEVE *v.* (OE. *slēfan*), with conjugation assimilated to prec.]

1. *trans.* To cause to slip *down, over*, etc.; to slip *on* (a garment), put *on* hastily or carelessly.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, þenne shulde þe hunter slyue [*v.r.* slefe] doune þe skynn as fer as he may. 1494 in *Househ. Ordin.* (1790) 121 With his furred hudd sliven over his head and rolled about his necke. *Ibid.* 130 Yf he weare not his robe, he must have his hoode slived about his necke. 15.. *Bk. of Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 25 Nether may any weare hoodes with a Rowle slyued ouer there heades, or other wayes being of that fashon. 1593 *Rites & Mon. Church of Durham* (Surtees) 79 All the pippes of it was of Sylver to be sleaven on a long speare staffe. 1820 CLARE *Poems* (ed. 3) 145 When, unknown to her parents, Nell slove on her hat. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., I'll slive my gown on and gang wi the. 1868 in *Cleveland Gloss.*

b. To convey furtively or quietly.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 54 Where her long-hoarded groat oft brings the maid, And secret slives it in the sybil's fist. *Ibid.* II. 88 To slive her apron corner to her eyes.

2. *intr.* To slide; to slip. *rare.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 323 When he was at mes and sulde lifte, as þe vse is, his lyn slevis slafe bakk. 1530 PALSGR. 722/1, I slyve downe, I fall downe sodaynly, *je coule.*

b. To slip *off* or away; to move quietly or slyly in some direction; to sneak or hang about; to loiter, idle.

1707 Mrs. Centlivre *Platonick Lady* iv, I know her Gown agen—I minded her when she sliv'd off. 1725 Bailey *Erasm. Colloq.* 33 What are you sliving about you Drone? 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *To slive*, to sneak. 1820 Clare *Poems* (ed. 3) 59 Sun bid 'good night', and slove to bed. 1821 — *Vill. Minstr.* I. 88 The cowboy oft slives down the brook. 1871 Peacock *Ralf Shirl.* II. 109 They'll believe he'd slive off into th' west country.

Sliver (sli·vəɪ, slәi·vəɪ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 slivere, sleyvere, 6 sleuer, slyuer, 6–8 sliuer, 6– sliver (9 *dial.* slivver). [f. Slive *v.*[1]]

1. A piece cut or split off; a long thin piece or slip; a splinter, shiver, slice. Also *fig.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 1013 Allas, that he, al hool, or of him slivere, Shuld have his refut in so digne a place. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xvi. 42 Ther spers brake to ther handes, so that ye sleuers flew a hye in ye ayer. 1575 Turberv. *Faulconrie* 308 Which marreth their beakes, so as it is enforced to fall away in slivers and peeces. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 35 What they can bring us now..that can cut Tacitus into slivers and steaks, we shall presently hear. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 45 A small sliver of Iron. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. iv. vii. 168 They were wont to cut them [tortoise shells] into certain Slivers, and to cover their Tables or Beds with them. 1747–96 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xviii. 291 When it is cold, it will cut in slivers as Dutch beef. 1811 Scott in *Lockhart* (1839) III. 353 A sliver of the wood run a third of an inch between my nail and flesh. 1874 Mrs. Jay *Holden with Cords* 454 A delicate and difficult surgical operation, to remove pus, sliver of bone, or other foreign matter.

b. Applied to parts of trees or plants.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. vii. 174 An enuious sliuer broke, When downe the weedy Trophies, and her selfe, Fell in the weeping Brooke. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 31 Onyon, Garlick, and Leek, and these bulbous herbs have slivers instead of leavs. 1861 Lytton & Fane *Tannhäuser* 81 A maze of shrubs, Whose emerald slivers fringed the rugged way.

c. *U.S.* The side of a small fish sliced off in one piece for use as bait.

1880 G. B. Goode *Hist. Menhaden* 201 (Cent.), The slivers (pronounced *slyvers*) are salted and packed in barrels.

2. A continuous ribbon or band of loose, untwisted, parallelized fibres of wool, cotton, flax, or other textile material, ready for drawing, roving, or slubbing.

1703 *Wakes Colne* (Essex) *Overseers Acc.* (MS.), Paid for woollen sliuers to wrap him in, £o. o. 8. 1738 L. Paul *Pat. Specif.* No. 562. 2 A strict regard must be had to make the slivers of an equal thickness from end to end. 1805 Luccock *Nature of Wool* 225 It produces..a sliver more compact than the old wools of either the Leicester or the Lincoln district. 1845 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Emp.* (1854) I. 675 After passing through the second pair of rollers, the reduced sliver is attached to a spindle and fly. 1894 *Times* 12 Mar. 13/5 The ordinary tow sliver..is fed into the machine.

attrib. 1864 *Riddel & Co. Catal. Mill Furnishings*, Sliver Cans. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2213/2 Sliver-box. 1891 R. Marsden *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 129 The sliver cans being taken and placed at the back.

3. In various technical uses: (see quots.).

a. 1842 *Archæologia* XXIX. 271 *note*, The little wooden instruments called slivers used in yarn spinning in the West of England. **b.** 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 287 *Sliver*, in shipbuilding, any thin piece of wood used as a filling. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 820 Wedges..called slivers or slices, by which means the ship's weight is brought upon the 'launch' or cradle. **c.** 1851 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 48 *Sliver*, a thin lath, placed within two grooves, cut lengthways for the purpose, in the edges of two planks intended to be joined together, for the purpose of making the joint airtight. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Slivers*, strips of wood or iron fitted in between the edges of boards in wooden bratticing, to make the joints air-tight.

4. A slashing cut or stroke.

1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* III. xxxv, Becoming so tired of your own timidity in paring the paper too little, as to spoil all by one rash sliver. 1897 Trotter *Life J. Nicholson* xx. 249 Nicholson..clove him..literally in two. 'Not a bad sliver that!' he remarked.

5. *attrib.* in **sliver-edge**, a very fine edge on a piece of timber.

1874 Thearle *Naval Archit.* 57 An efficient caulk not being obtainable when the deck plank snapes off to a 'sliver edge'.

Sliver (slәi·vəɪ), *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* [f. Slive *v.*2]

†**1.** *pl.* (Meaning doubtful.) *Obs.*[-1]

1572 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees, 1835) 373 A pair of Buffins with the slyuers to the same, one doblat of white bombasyne.

2. *dial.* (See quots.)

1847 Halliw., *Sliver*,..a short slop worn by bankers or navigators. *Linc*[*oln*]. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Lincs.*, *Sliver*, a workman's linen jacket, a short blowse. 1908 Miss Fowler *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 54 A sliver was an over-all, an' they was made o Drabette an' Cantoon.

Sliver (sli·vəɪ, slәi·vəɪ), *v.* Also 7 sliuer. [f. Sliver *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To separate or remove as a sliver; to cut, split, or tear into slivers.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* iv. ii. 34 She that her selfe will sliuer and disbranch From her materiall sap, perforce must wither. 1605 — *Mach.* iv. i. 27 Slippes of Yew, Sliuer'd in the Moones Ecclipse. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* iv. xxv. 282 They sang aloud, good Lord de-liver us, And suffer not this Don to sliver us. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *To Sliver*, to cut into Slivers, or thin Slices. 1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 882 People delight to sliver lettuces into bowls. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* I. iii, The floor of the room was warped in every direction, slivered and gaping at the joints. 1885 Runciman *Skippers & Shellbacks* 213 Down with the other ten or I'll sliver you.

b. *intr.* To split, or split off.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* May 79/1 The planks being cut across the grain to prevent slivering. 1896 Kipling *Seven Seas* 64 The splinter slivered free.

2. *trans.* To convert (textile fibres) into slivers (see Sliver *sb.*[1] 2).

1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* I. 543 Machinery to sliver, rove, and spin flax and hemp into thread. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* 848 Improvements in slivering and preparing hemp, flax [etc.].

Hence **Sli·vering** *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib.*, as *slivering-knife*, *-machine*.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2214 *Slivering-machine* (Woodworking), a machine for cutting splints, slivers, or shreds of wood for various purposes. 1880 G. B. Goode *Hist. Menhaden* 147 (Cent.), The operation of slivering is shown. *Ibid.* 201 The knife used is of peculiar shape, and is called a 'slivering knife'.

Sli·verly, *a.* *dial. rare.* Crafty, deceitful.

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 43 (Lincoln), A sliverly fellow, *vir subdolus*, *vafer*. [Hence in Grose, etc.] 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 228/2 He's a real down sliverly chap.

Slivery (sli·vəri), *a.* [f. Sliver *sb.*[1] 1.] (See quot.)

1832 *Planting* 91 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III, *Slivery*.—Small, straight shoots of large ash, &c., cleft into hoops for the purposes of the cooper.

Sli·ving, *vbl. sb.* Now *dial.* [f. Slive *v.*[1]]

1. A slash; the action of cutting.

c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xlviii. (Ireland MS.), He wend with a slyuyng, hade slayn him with slyȝt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyvynge, cuttynge a-wey, *avulsio*, *abscisio*.

2. A slip or cutting; a scion; a shoot or branch cut off. (Cf. Slaving *sb.* and Sleaving.)

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) vii. 26 Men take plantes or slyfynges þeroff and sett þam in oþer placez. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slyvynge, of a tre or oþer lyke, *fissula*. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 76 Some are also set of the slips, or sliuinges. 1580 Frampton *Joyful News* (1596) 134 There dooeth come from them [*sc.* buds] many round coddes or slyuinges. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 390 The term *sliving* is more especially applied to a branch—usually of hedge-row trees—sliced off with the hatchet in 'pleaching' the hedge.

3. A slice.

1796 Pegge *Derbicisms* Ser. I. 64 (E.D.S.), A great sliving of bread. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 *Sliving*, a slice of flesh.

Sliving (slәi·viŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Slive *v.*[2] + -ing[2].] Slow-moving, dilatory; sneaking; stealing imperceptibly.

Also in dialect use as a *sb.*, explained by Thoresby (1703) as 'a lazy fellow' and by Hutton (1781) as 'a slovenly clown'.

1662 K. W. *Conf. Charac. Conceited Coxcombs* (1860) 67 He would prove an unmatchable piece of sliving policy. 1710 Mrs. Centlivre *Man's Bewitched* III. i, The sliving baggage will not come to a resolution yet. *a* 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose* s.v., A sliving fellow, one who loiters about with a bad intent. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 22 Ere sliving night around his journey threw Her circling curtains.

†**Sli·vings.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. Slive *v.*[2]] Loose or wide breeches.

1601 T. Wright *Passions* (1604) VI. 332, I have seene Tarleton play the Clowne, and vse no other breeches, than such slops or slivings, as now many Gentlemen weare.

Sliz(e, obs. forms of Sly *a.*

Slize (slәiz), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 5 slyse. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To look askance.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14043 Troylus eyen be-gan to slyse, The Gregeis sone he gan dispyse. 1825 Britton *Beauties Wiltsh.* 378 *Slize*, to look sly. 1883–93 in Hampsh. and Wiltsh. glossaries.

Slo, obs. form or var. of Slay *v.*, Sloe, Slough *sb.*[1]

Sloak, variant of Sloke[1].

Sloam, variant of Sloom.

Sloan (slōun). *Sc. rare.* [Of obscure origin: the form in northern English dialects is *slon*.] A severe snub or reproof; a 'taking-down'.

1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* i, None so likely as Meg to give them what in her country is called a *sloan*. 1828 — *Hrt. Midl.* Note xix, To have an opportunity of reviling the Judges to their faces, or giving them, in the phrase of his country, 'a sloan'.

Sloap, **Sloath**, obs. ff. Slope, Sloth.

Sloat, variant of Slote.

Slob (slɒb), *sb.*[1] [Mainly a. Irish *slab* (slɒb) mud, Slab *sb.*[2]; but cf. also Slobber *sb.* and Du. *slobbe*, Fris. *slobbe*, *slob* clout, swab, slut.]

Chiefly in Irish use, or with reference to Ireland.

1. Mud, esp. soft mud on the sea-shore; ooze; muddy land.

1780 Young *Tour Irel.* II. 75 Under the slob or sea ooze he dug some very fine blue marle. 1828 Croker *Leg. S. Irel.* II. 188 Being very near plumping into the river..and being stuck up to the middle..in the slob. 1879 W. H. Dixon *Royal Windsor* II. xv. 163 Landing on the Essex shore, he hid himself in the slob. 1882 Payne-Gallwey *Fowler in Irel.* 26 When the birds gather on an island of slob..at about half-tide.

b. A stretch of mud or ooze.

1842 S. C. Hall *Ireland* II. 178 The same master Ned I tended duck-shooting over the slobs. 1860 *Athenæum* 28 Jan. 134 Those vast tracts..were then extensive slobs, covered with water at every tide. 1884 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 357 Like some fair river which..ends its course amid dull flats and muddy slobs.

c. A sloppy mass; a mess.

1885 *Reports Provinc., Devon* 108 (E.D.D.), That gravel, when wet, will make a slob.

2. A large soft worm, used in angling.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 96 A gentleman was angling with the maiden slob for trout. 1890 in D. A. Simmons *S. Donegal Gloss.*

3. A dull, slow, or untidy person; a careless or negligent workman.

1861 Clington *Frank O'Donnell* 101 A heavy-looking poor slob of a man. 1863 Le Fanu *House by Church-yard* I. v. 65 The Lord Mayor, a fat slob of a fellow. 1887 T. E. Brown *Doctor* 187 The dirty mob Of a cap that was at her—Aw a reglar slob. 1894 *Union Printer* (N.Y.) 21 Apr. 5/3 (Standard Dict.), It is easier for a good man to set 40,000 ems a night than it is for a slob to set 20,000.

4. *attrib.* (in sense 1), as *slob-weir*.

1851 Newland *The Erne* p. viii, The destruction of the intrusive slob-weirs.

Slob (slɒb), *sb.*[2] *rare.* [var. of Slab *sb.*[1]] A slab of timber.

1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 32 You may Spike on the Slob or Plank. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slob*, an outside board, 'a shide'.

Slobber (slɒ·bəɪ), *sb.* Also 5 slober(e, slobur. [Related to Slobber *v.* Cf. Slabber *sb.*[1] and Slubber *sb.*[1]]

1. Mud or slime; slush, sleety rain; a sloppy mess or mixture.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12529 In the Slober & the sluche slongyn to londe, There he lay. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slobur, or slobere, *feces immunde*. *Ibid.*, Slobur, or blobur of fysshe and oþer lyke, *burbulium*. 1841 Carlyle *Let.* in *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 450/2 For a week past there has been nothing but sleet, rime and slobber, the streets half an inch deep with slush. 1879 *Shropshire Gloss.*, *Slobber*, thin, cold rain, mixed with snow; a sloppy sleet. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., 'A slobber o' reen an' snow'..is a slight downfall of rain mixed with snow.

2. Slaver, slabber. Also *pl.*, a disease in rabbits marked by excessive salivation.

1755 in Johnson. 1775 Ash, *Slobber*, liquor spilled, slaver. 1889 K. W. Knight *Book of the Rabbit* (ed. 2) 274 That unpleasant and often fatal complaint, slobbers—*i.e.*, running at the mouth. 1902 C. G. Harper *Cambridge Road* 73 Lips running with the thin slobber of the drunkard.

3. A jelly-fish.

1863 J. G. Wood *Illust. Nat. Hist.* 743 We now come to a very large order of acalephs,..familiar under the title of Jelly-fishes, Slobbers, and similar euphonious names.

Slo·bber, *a.* [f. prec. or next.]

1. Clumsy, awkward.

1866 C. Spencer *Mod. Gymnast* 43 This [the short swing, or circle] is designated by the euphonious name of the 'Slobber Swing', as it is rather a clumsy way of doing it.

2. Wet and flabby.

1895 *Daily News* 12 July 6/3 The crushed nose, the slobber lips, all red and wet.

Slobber (slɒ·bəɪ), *v.* Also 5 slober. [Related to Slabber *v.* and Slubber *v.* The vowel corresponds with that of Du. *slobberen* (Fris. *slobberje*) to slap up, to eat or work in a slovenly manner.

There is little evidence for the simple word before the 18th cent., but the compound *by-slober* Beslobber occurs in ME. In the *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 186 the form *sloberande* is prob. an error for *slomberande* slumbering. Modern dialects exhibit some minor variations of sense not illustrated here: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

1. *intr.* **a.** To feed in a slabbering or slovenly manner. Now *dial.*

14.. in Wright *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 63 Nor bryng us in no dokes flesche, for thei slober in the mer. 1847 in Halliw. 1877–89 in Sheffield and Linc. glossaries.

b. To slaver. Cf. Slabber *v.* 4.

1733 Swift *Life & Charac. Dean S.* Wks. 1745 VIII. 125 But, why would he, except he slobbered, Offend our patriot, great Sir Robert. 1755 Walpole *Lett.* 29 Sept. (1857) II. 472 As at present there are as many royal hands to kiss as a Japanese idol has, it takes some time to slobber through the whole ceremony. 1825 Scott *Fam. Let.* 21 Feb. (1894) II. 239 Think how many antiquarian chops have slobbered over the fiery trial. 1826 — *Woodst.* xxii, Bevis slobbered and whined for the duck-wing. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 74 It was no light thing that..royalty should be exhibited to the world stammering, slobbering, shedding unmanly tears. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* II. 231 The old gentleman slobbered in a most infantine way.

c. *dial.* To blubber, to cry.

1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.* 89/1 He slobber't an' yool't like a barn. 1893 Cozens-Hardy *Broad Norf.* 35 The terms for crying, such as slobber and blare.

2. *trans.* To wet in a dirty or disagreeable manner; to beslaver, befoul. Cf. Slabber *v.* 1 and 2.

1709 W. King *Art of Cookery* 29 The Cook that slobbers his Beard with Sack Posset. 1732–8 Swift *Polite Convers.* 210 It is not handsome to see one hold one's Tongue; Besides I should slobber my Fingers. 1835 *Politeness & Good-breeding* 67 Never cram your mouth so full, that.. the contents..slobber your own cheeks and chin. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 241 They all wear pinafores; as if the British female were in the invariable habit of wearing this outer garment, or slobbering her gown without it. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* I. iii. (1872) I. 26 He..took to investigating one of his shoe-buckles; would..slobber it about in his mouth.

b. To make wet with kissing.

1724 Swift *Corinna* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 154 She made a song, how little miss Was kiss'd and slobber'd by a lad. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. 51 She..slobbered my cheek, and parted from me. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. 474 Whose cheek he slobbered with kisses.

3. To utter thickly and indistinctly.

1860 Forster *Gr. Remonstr.* 98 He not only slobbered his words when he talked, but drank as if he were eating his drink. 1890 *Tablet* 4 Jan. 10 Some person or other with

unctuous eloquence slobbering out the shibboleth of civil and religious freedom.

4. a. To execute carelessly or in a slovenly way. Usu. with *over*.

1694 Locke in Ld. King *Life* 204 Our Company of Stationers, having the monopoly here.., slobber them over as they can cheapest. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 339/1 [Water-colours] exceedingly rough and sketchy, not to say slobbered. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., To do work in a slovenly, untidy manner, is to slobber it over.

b. To slur *over*. *rare*—[1].

a 1734 North *Examen* III. vii. § 99 (1740) 581 But see what false disingenuous Dealing here is to slobber over a base Business that will remain an eternal Shame to his Party.

c. To deal *out* in a clumsy manner. *rare*—[1].

1859 Trollope *Bertrams* xxii, She went on slobbering out the cards, and counting them over and over again.

d. To muddle *away* (a thing).

1889 *Daily Express* (Dublin) 4 Feb. 2/7, I frankly owned that they had slobbered away the money since in an unjustifiable manner.

Hence **Slo·bbered** *ppl. a.* (also with *on*).

1811 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXV. 142 They did not, however, tolerate any slobbered work. 1862 Scrope *Volcanos* 429 Overflowing waves of slobbered drops of highly viscid lava. 1863 Whyte Melville *Gladiators* 329 Syllables that drop like slobbered wine from the close shaven lip. 1880 *Paper & Print. Trades Jrnl.* xxxi. 37 It was dulled and ruined by the slobbered-on paste.

Slo·bber-chops. [f. prec. Cf. Slabber-chops.] One who slobbers in eating, etc. Also *dial.*, a variety of pear.

1667 Davenant & Dryden *Tempest* III. i, I have Other affairs to dispatch of more importance betwixt Queen Slobber-Chops and my self. 1832 W. Stephenson *Gateshead Local Poems* 66 I'll tell you slobber-chops, You'll find that sooner said than done—perhaps. 1857 Holland *Bay Path* xvii. 192 What do you mean, you little Slobber-chops?

Slobberer (slɒ·bərəɹ). [f. Slobber *v.* + -er [1].]

1. One who slobbers.

1744 Ozell tr. *Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* 99, I have observed a great many of your gigantic People..to be mere Dolts, Slobberers and Oafs, both by Nature and Art.

2. (See quots.)

1787 W. H. Marshall *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Slobberers*, slovenly farmers. 1847 Halliw., *Slobberer*, a jobbing tailor.

Slobbering (slɒ·bəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Slobber *v.* + -ing [1].]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses.

1784 J. Barry *Lect. Art* vi. (1848) 226 Amidst all his [Titian's] dashing and slobbering, there is still remaining [etc.]. 1839 Hood *Literary & Literal* 14 The slobbering of a hungry Ursine Sloth. 1883 Simcox *Latin Literature* IV. ii. II. 36 The expression of such feeling came easy as slobbering. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 736 There is rarely any affection of swallowing, although slobbering is not uncommon.

attrib. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Aug., The kissing and slobbering scene went on again.

2. *Slobbering bib*, a slabbering bib.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 149 [He] advanced without a mask in petticoats, a slobbering bib, and apron. 1792 Young *Trav. France* 9 Giving a babe a blue slobbering bib instead of a white one! 1826 Scott *Woodst.* x, A band as broad as a slobbering bib under his chin.

Slobbering (slɒ·bəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Slobber *v.* + -ing [2].] That slobbers, in senses of the verb; characterized by slavering.

1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* III. iv, 'Twill teach you to kiss closer, Not like a slobbering Dutchman. 1782 Mason *Dean & Squire* Wks. (1810) 422/1 When, bless each little slobbering mouth, It had not cut a single tooth. 1787 Beckford in *Italy*, etc. (1834) II. 133 A good-natured, slobbering greybeard. 1830 [E. Hawkins] *Anglo-Fr. Coinage* 154 The prince is a slobbering idiot. 1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* xxi, She found the baby in a great state of slobbering splendour. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. 464 His big head, his slobbering tongue.

Slo·bberness. [f. Slobber *sb.* or *v.*] Slovenliness; slovenly writing.

1880 *Papers Manch. Lit. Club* vi. 193 The influence of this facility on lesser men has simply rendered all this kind of slobberness hateful.

Slobbery (slɒ·bəri), *a.* Also 4–6 slobery. [f. Slobber *sb.* or *v.* Cf. MDu. *slobberich*, Du. dial. *slobberig*.]

1. Characterized by slobber or slobbering; disagreeably wet, slimy, or dirty.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), An olde hounde is ofte slowe and slobery. 1541 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* 96 b, Lykewyse no more do I alowe fylthy and slobery rayment. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. v. 13, I will sell my Dukedome To buy a slobbry and a durtie Farme. 1710–11 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Jan., The weather had given a little, as you women call it, so it was something slobbery. 1712 *Ibid.* 18 Dec., We have terrible snowy slobbery weather. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. ix, A watery, pulpy, slobbery freshman and new-comer in this Planet. 1848 Walsh *Aristophanes, Clouds* I. i, Slobbery kisses, Profusion, gluttony and Venus'es. 1887 W. P. Frith *Autobiogr.* I. 27 Sucking an orange in a loud slobbery fashion.

2. Of a soft, yielding texture.

1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 178 You keep tugging at the lang slobbery worsted till it comes aff.

3. Slovenly, careless.

1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IX. ii. (1872) II. 406 His continual haste, and slobbery manner of working up those Hundred and odd volumes of his. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.* s.v., A very slobbery job, John.

Slobby (slɒ·bi), *a.* [f. Slob *sb.*[1] + -y.] Muddy. 1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slabby* or *slobby*, muddy, sloppy. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Feb. 5/1 There now only remained the geese, far up on the slobby ooze. 1897 Butler *Brit. Birds* IV. 155 The grasses which grow on the slobby foreshores.

Slob-furrowing, *vbl. sb.* [Cf. Slob *sb.*[2]] Rib-furrowing; ribbing. Also **Slob-furrow** *v.*

1787 W. H. Marshall *E. Norfolk* (1795) I. 142 In slob-furrowing, the flag is turned toward the plowed ground, the coulter passing fifteen or sixteen inches from the last plow-furrow. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 346 There the old grass-fields, when it is proposed to burn the sward, are *rib* or *slob furrowed* about the beginning of winter. *Ibid.* 579 This in some places is termed by farmers *rib-furrowing*, and in others *slob-furrowing*.

Slob-land. Also slob land. [f. Slob *sb.*[1] I.]

1. Muddy ground; *esp.* alluvial land reclaimed from the water.

1861 *Times* 4 Oct. 7/4 A large acreage of slob land..Slob land varies in character, but here it is a rich marine alluvium. 1881 *Ibid.* 10 Feb. 4/3 He..enclosed from the tide a considerable area of useful slob-land.

2. A stretch of ground of this kind.

1862 *Limerick Chron.* 8 Feb., The people's thoughts.. became fixed on the slob lands of Corkanree. 1890 J. Healy *Insula Sanctorum* 139 The slob-lands of the harbour have been reclaimed.

Sloch, Sc. form of Slough *sb.*[2]

Slock (slɒk), *v.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 4–7, 9 sloke, 6 sloik, 9 sloak; 5 slok, 5, 9 slokk-, 8– slock. [f. ON. *slokinn*, pa. pple. of *sløkkva* (Norw. *sløkka*, Sw. dial. *slökka*) to be extinguished, go out; the stem is related to that of Slack *a.* Cf. Slocken *v.* and *pa. pple.*]

†**1.** *intr.* **a.** To slacken, cease. *Obs.*—[1]

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kt.* 412 For þou may leng in þy londe, & layt no fyrre, bot slokes.

†**b.** Of fire: To go out. *Obs.*—[1]

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 161 Quhen men takis the brandis fra the grete fyre, it slokis the sonar.

2. *trans.* To put out, extinguish, quench (fire, thirst, etc.). Also *fig.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 34 Fore be withdrawine of acces Is slokit oft sic wantones. *Ibid.* xlix. (*Tecla*) 85 Slete & snaw..slokit þat fir alsone as men a candel suld haf done. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving* (1870) 24 Þow sal finde the froyt thar-of mony ȝere efterwart, and sal slok mekle syne. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* II. xi. 13 Watter to sloik the haly fyr. 1755 in Johnson. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 100 Untill his hail-life's drowth were slockit. 1842 Vedder *Poems* 232 The rain in torrents poured, It slockit at ance the witch's fire.

†**b.** To suppress, bring to an end. *Obs.*—[1]

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 126 The autoritee of the grete officer ryale slokis as than, and gerris cess, the autoritee of the smallare officer.

†**c.** To slake (lime). *Obs.*

1655 in A. Laing *Lindores Abbey & Burgh of Newburgh* (1876) 238 He was slokin ye lym and mixing it with sand.

Slock (slɒk), *v.*[2] Now only *south-western dial.* Also 5–7 sloke, 9 sloke. [? ad. AF. **esloker*, *esloquer*, OF. *eslochier*, etc. (see Godef.), to move, shake, stir.]

1. *trans.* To entice away; to draw or lead *away* by some allurement.

Also *dial.*, to convey clandestinely, to pilfer.

1483 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 336 That none of the said crafte slocke ony manis prentise. 1604 Babington *Notes Exod.* xxi. 5 To slocke away (as wee speake) a mans seruant..was a grieuous sinne with God. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., The chillern..be all a-slocked away wi' prizes..and that to the meetin-house. 1897 Hocking in *Christian World* Xmas No. 3 They're trying to slock (entice) away others who do come.

2. To entice, allure, lead on, tempt.

1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 10 What so may slocke or pricke a courage stout. *Ibid.* 113 In vaine she sought to slocke, or with mortall Sweetnings t'enroll him in Cupidos pay. 1850 *Beck's Florist* 50 The bright sun of February..*slocks* (in Cornish vernacular) the young and eager buds to unfold their premature growth.

Slock-dolager: see Sock-dolager.

Slocken (slɒ·k'n), *v. north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–9 sloken, 4–6 slokyn, 5–6 (9) slokin (6 -yne); 4, 6 slokkin, 4 (9) slokken, 6 slo(o)kne, 6– slocken (9 -an, -in). [a. ON. *slokna* (Norw. *slokna*, *slokkna*, Sw. *slockna*, older Da. *slogne*, *slugne*), f. *slokinn*, pa. pple. of *sløkkva*: see Slock *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To quench, extinguish, put *out* (fire, flame, etc.). Also in fig. context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28641 Als þe water it slokkens glede. *c* 1340 Hampole *Prose Treat.* (1866) 3 Sothely na thynge slokyns sa fell flawmes, dystroyes ill thoghtes [etc.]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 593 Vndyr þam sprange vpe a well & sloknyt sone..þai brynnand platis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 287 Þan þai, wenand a fyre to slokyn, þai fand þe house no thyng bryn. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 20 To rais amang us ane flame that sall nevir be sloknit. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 219 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 292 Be bissy als, and slokkin out the fyre. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 171 Watter slokins out burning fyr. 1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Slocken*, to quench. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* V. 276 It is not customary to sloken one fire by kindling another. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Slocken*, .. to quench.

2. To suppress, put down, do away with, destroy, stamp *out*. Also with adjectival compl.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18360 Lauerd.., sua þou slockens al vr sin. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 14 When he..slokens þe temptacioun wiþ sorowe of pyne. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iii. in *Anglia* VIII. 158/6 Þe whiche good man..was casten downe and slokenyd nere for sorowe. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 522 And kindill agane his curage thocht it wer cald sloknyt. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sages* 7 Ane meik answer slokins Melancolie. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 352 The Quene with litle labour slokned out this seditioune.

3. To quench or allay (thirst).

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxliii. 7 Slokyn my threst. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* 69 My drye thrist with teris sall I slokin. 1535 Coverdale *Wisd.* xi. 4 Their thirst [was] slockened out of yᵉ harde stone. 1584 Hudson *Judith* III. (1613) 37 That bottell sweet..serued..not to slocken thirst. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 444 Sone Slae..May satisfie to slokkin Thy drouth now. 1786 Burns *Dining w. Ld. Daer* ii, When mighty Squireships..Their hydra-drouth did sloken. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xiii, Get the blue bowl;..that will sloken all their drouth.

absol. 1684 *Yorks. Dial.* 161 (E.D.S.), Heve you ought that will slocken weel?

b. To slake the thirst of (a person, etc.).

1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xiv, Wasted was baith cash and tick, Sae ill were they to slocken. 1795 H. Macneill *Scotland's Skaith* I. xxvii, Slockned now, refresh'd and talking. 1858 E. B. Ramsay *Scot. Life & Char.* ii, It weets the sod, it slockens the yowes. 1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* xx, Here's a cappy full of water, see if that'll sloken you.

4. To sate or satisfy (desire). *rare.*

1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 283, I had a lufsummar leid, my lust for to slokyn. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 151 Thay could nocht al..slokne his vnquencheable..appetite.

5. To soak, wet, or moisten; to slake (lime).

1487, 1609 [see the *vbl. sb.*]. 1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 173 The rain that falleth upon the earth, whether it moisten it kindly,..or whether it choak or slocken and drown it. 1822 Scott *Pirate* v, I could never away with raw oatmeal, slockened with water, in all my life.

6. *intr.* To go out, be extinguished.

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* III. 407 Ony fyre that he culd bring thairtill, It sloknit ay ilk tyme of the awin will.

Hence **Slo·ckening** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloknynge, or qwenchynge,.. *extinctio*. 1487–8 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 651 Et eidem pro le Sloknyng ejusdem [limekiln] et portacione dicti calcis, vj s. viij d. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 115 The slokning out of a certane commoune flame of burneng. 1609 *Churchiv. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 61 Item payed for slokening of the lime, vs. 1829 Hogg *Shepherd's Cal.* vi, I hae muckle need o' a slockening.

†**Slo·cken,** *pa. pple. Obs.* Also 5 slokyn. [a. ON. *slokinn*: see Slock *v.*[1]] Extinguished; soaked, immersed.

c 1400 *York Manual* (Surtees Soc.) p. xvii, Be thare lantern slokyn fro yᵉ blys that euer schall last. 1643 A. Tuckney *Balm of Gilead* 21 That she which hath suckled you with her milk, may not be slocken in her own blood. 1647 H. More *Minor Poems, Cupid's Conflict* lvi. Wks. (Grosart) 173/1 Back she returns.., Drown'd, chok'd or slocken by her cruell nurse. 1653—*Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 224 When it is ..slocken and drowned in sensuality and intemperance.

† **Slo·cker:** see Slockster (quot. 1706).

Slo·cking-stone. *Cornish dial.* [f. Slock *v.*[2]] (See quots.)

1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* Gloss. s.v., *Slocking-Stone*, a tempting, inducing, or rich stone of Ore. *Ibid.*, There have been .. instances of Miners who have deceived their employers by bringing them Slocking-Stones from other Mines. 1854 Mrs. Lloyd *Ladies of Polcarrow* 89 These deceptive specimens are called 'slocking-stones' by the mining community. 1880 *E. Cornw. Gloss.* s.v. *Slock*, Slocking stones are tempting, selected stones shown, to induce strangers to adventure in a mine.

Slo·ckster. Now *dial.* [f. Slock *v.*[2] + -ster.] †**a.** (See quots.) *Obs.* **b.** *dial.* A pilferer.

Cotgrave is prob. the only source of the later quots.

1611 Cotgr., *Plagiaire*,..a stealer, or suborner of mens children, or seruants,..(in which sence we tearme him a Slockster). 1647 Hexham I, A Slockster that by alluring causeth servants to forsake their maisters. 1677 in Miége. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Slocker* or *Slockster*,..one that entices away other Mens Servants; a Kid-napper.

Slod(e, obs. or dial. pa. t. Slide *v.*

Slodge (slɒdʒ), *v. dial.* [? Imitative.] *intr.* To trail or drag the feet in walking; to walk slouchingly.

1829 Cooper *Good's Study Med.* I. 554 He slodged and reeled about as he walked. 1877 in *Holderness Gloss.* 1902 C. G. Harper *Cambridge Road* 295 The slodger slodges among the dykes.

Slodger (slɒ·dʒəɹ). *dial.* [? f. prec.] An inhabitant of the Fen district. Also *fen-slodger*.

1827 Hone *Table-bk.* 139 His ancestors..were all 'fen slodgers'. 1856 P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* 644 The Fenmen..were..known as Slodgers or Fen-Slodgers. 1893 Baring-Gould *Cheap Jack Zita* I. 74 The tract over which the ancestral slodger..had exercised more or less questionable rights.

Sloe (slōu). Forms: *a.* 1 slah (slach-), slaȝ (slaȝh-), 1, 5 sla, 3–7 slo, 4–6 sloo, 6 sloa, 6– sloe (9 *dial.* sloo, slue, slew). *β. pl.* 1 slan, 4 slon, 5 sloon, 5–6 sloen, 7 slone, slane. *γ.* 6–7 slow(e. *δ.* 6– *Sc.* and *north.* slae, 9 *north.* sla(a, slaigh, slay, slea, slee, etc. [OE. *slā(h)*, etc., = Fris. *slé*, MDu. *slee*, *slie* (Du. *slee*, Flem. *slei*, *sleie*), *sleeu* (Kilian *sleeuwe*), MLG. *slee* (LG. *slē*, *slē*), OHG. *slēha* (MHG. *slēhe*, G. *schlehe*, †*schlee*), perh. related to OSlav. and Russ. *sliva*, Lith. *slyvas* plum.

The original plural in *-n* (OE. *slān*, ME. *slōn*) is recorded down to the 17th cent., and is the source of the sing. forms

now current in southern dialects (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Slone*). A similar transference appears in MDu. *sleen* (Flem. *sleen, slene*), MLG. *slên, slein* (LG. *slên, slein, siltn*, also *slôn*, whence probably Da. *slaaen*, Sw. *slån*).]

1. The fruit of the blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), a small ovate or globose drupe of a black or dark-purple colour and sharp sour taste.

a. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* B 75, *Bellicum*, slaȝ. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 196 *Brumelu, bellicum, vel* sla. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 32 ðenim onwære slah .. & wring þurh clað on þæt eaȝe. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 679 Appul, pere, and slo. ? *c* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 928 Blak as bery, or any slo. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459/2 Slo, frute, *prunum, vel spinum.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 342/2 A Sla, *spinum, mespilum.* 1558 PHAER *Æneid* III. H iv, For hunger, sloes hath ben my food. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 My self I dieted with sloas. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 118 The iuyce of them, especially of Sloes, .. is of excellent efficacy. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 215 He knew to .. tame to Plumbs, the Sourness of the Sloes. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 7. 47 He will swallow, with Transport, what was squeezed from the Sloe. 1774 PENNANT *Tours Scotl.* 214 Sloes are the only fruits of the island. 1842 *Dumfries Herald* Oct., Sloes .. are almost always plentiful. 1885 TENNYSON *The Flight* iv, The blackthorn-blossom fades and falls and leaves the bitter sloe.

β. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 269 *Moros*, slan. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4983 (Laud MS.), Oþer mete þai ne habben Bot hawen, hepen, slon, & crabben. 14.. *MS. Harl. 3388* in Cockayne *Saxon Leechd.* III. 345/1 *Succus prunellarum immaturarum*, grene slane wose. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 86 Take and gedre þe a good quantite of sloon, þat bene rype. 1573 BARET *Alv.* (1580) F iij, Hawbearies, sloen, gooseberries and such like. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 169 Bulleis, Skegs, and Slone (which are the berries, as it were, or fruit of the wild Plum tree). 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xvi. 63 Plummes .. are of two sorts, either wilde, called sloes or slane [etc.].

γ. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 86 Slowes blacke as ieat. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 702 The Hip, the Haw, the Slow, the Bramble-berrie. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 11 As far .. as the best Abricot is beyond the worst Slow or Crab.

δ. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 322, I saw .. A bush of bitter Slaes. [See also SLOCKEN *v.* 3.] 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* iii, Their visage wither'd, lang an' thin, An' sour as ony slaes! *a* 1802 *Cospatrick* xx. in Scott *Minstrelsy*, To the grene-wood I maun gae, To pu' the red rose and the slae. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slaa*, sloe. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 75 To feast on the bramble-berries brown An' gather the glossy slaes. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.*, *Slaigh*, the fruit of the black-thorn.

b. As the type of something having little or no value. (So OF. *parnele*. = F. *prunelle*.)

c 1250 *Orison our Lady* 28 in *O. E. Misc.* 160 Þis liues blisse nis wurð a slo. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2051 Of hem ne yeue ich nouht a slo. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 141 Þer nas man in al þis londe .. þat bireft him worþ of a slo [*C.* sloo]. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1120 Þou schalt do so, And by desir of good, nat sette a slo. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 7152 Al availled hit hem not a slo.

c. *transf.* The apple *of* one's eye.

1884 *Graphic* Xmas No. 13/2, I loved him .. like the sloe of my eye.

2. The blackthorn, *Prunus spinosa.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sloe-worm*, That of the sloe is of a greyish hue, and its spines longer. 1791 BURNS *Lament Mary Queen of Scots* iii, The hawthorn's budding in the glen, And milk-white is the slae. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 51 [This lichen is] whitest on the sloe. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 68/2 Of the Plum genus, thus restricted, there is in common use the Garden Plum, .. the Bullace, .. and the Sloe. 1882 *Garden* 15 Apr. 247/1 We are grateful to the Sloe for the way which it adorns hedgerow, rock, or copse .. in spring with its fearless bloom.

b. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 303 *Viburnum prunifolium*, Black Haw, Sloe. 1882 F. B. HOUGH *Elem. Forestry* 269 Haw : Sloe : Arrow-Wood (Genus *Viburnum*). 1898 L. H. BAILEY *Evol. Native Fruits* 224 The black sloe of the southern states, *Prunus umbellata*, attains a height of twelve to twenty feet.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sloe-black, -blue, -bush, -eyed, -feeder, gin, -juice, -leaf, -stem, -worm.*

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 241 His large *Sloe-black Eyes Melt in soft Blandishments. 1882 BLACK *Shandon Bells* i, Those soft, large, sloe-black eyes. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childr.* (ed. 4) II. 183 A *sloe-blue or leaden colour of the lips. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 104 Our *slobush or blak thorn is one kynde. 1894 E. CLODD *FitzGerald's Grave* 8 The hedges, in their tangle of sweetbriar and sloe-bush and bramble. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xii, This *sloe-eyed, peony-faced girl. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of a Novelist* 133 Hook-nosed, sloe-eyed and greasy of complexion. 1855 *Zoologist* XIII. 4846 It is probable that many other *sloe-feeders will be found also to occur on the plum. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 104 Sampling some of his famous *sloe gin. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* I. i, Poison yourself with *sloe-juice. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Charact.* (1852) 140 His evening paper and sloe-juice negus. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, A small amount of dried *sloe-leaves. 1708 PHILLIPS *Cyder* I. 19 The *Sloe-Stem bearing Sylvan Plums austere. 1753 *Chambers's Cycl.* Suppl., **Sloe-worm*, .. the name of an insect found on the leaves of sloe, or black-thorn, and sometimes on those of the garden-plum.

Sloe, obs. variant of SLAY *v.*

Sloe-thorn. Forms: (see quots.); also 9 *north.* **slaa-**, *Sc.* **slae-**. [f. SLOE *sb.* + THORN *sb.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *sleedorn*, MLG. and MHG. *slêdorn*, G. *schleh-*, † *schlee-*, † *schleh(e)ndorn*, Da. *slaaentorn.*] The blackthorn. Cf. SLOE 2.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* N 119 *Nigræ spina*, slaȝhðorn. *Ibid.* S 474 *Spina nigra*, slahðorn. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 86 Wice, ac, slahþorn, bircean, elebeam. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 *Le fourder*, slo-thorne. *c* 1450 *M.S. Sloane 4* fol. 80 The kanker yᵗ bredyth yn the Slothorne. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 290 Sad Philomela .. sung with a pricking slothorne at her brest. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxiii, Small eminences .. overgrown with hazel, sloethorn, and other dwarf shrubs. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Sclm.* (1858) 404 A dreary moor, bristling with furze and sloe-thorn.

attrib. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 98 Nim þonne apuldor rinde, .. slahþorn rinde, & wir rinde. 1804 GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1808) 62 He hid beneath the milk-white sloe-thorn spray. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, She .. had in her hand a goodly sloethorn cudgel.

Sloe-tree. Forms: (see quots.); also 9 *Sc.* and *north.* **slae-**. [f. SLOE *sb.* + TREE *sb.*] = prec.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 655 Slotre, birche, and ellertre. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* xiii. 54 Vndir a sloo tree. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 613 *Spinus*, a Slotre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 343/1 A Sla tre, *spinus, mespila.* 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 65 Prunus syluestris is called in english a slo tree, or a sle tree. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* IV. 61 Slo trees bearing damsons now. 1598 FLORIO, *Prugno*, .. a plum tree, damzon tree or slow tree. 1647 HEXHAM I. (Trees), A Sloe tree, *een wilde Pruymen boom.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Spinus*, the Sloe-tree, or Bullace-tree. 1777 JACOB *Catal. Plants* 90 *Prunus spinosa*, the Black Thorn, or Sloe Tree. 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* 44 Pous-setting with a sloe-tree. 1882 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* I. 117 Under their thickets of the prickly sloe-tree.

Sloe-worm(e, obs. forms of SLOW-WORM.

Sloff, *v.* Now *dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* (See quot. 1841.) Hence **Slo·ffing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459 Sloffynge, or on-gentyll etynge, *voracio, devoracio, turcacitas.* 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Sloff*, to eat greedily, dirtily, or slovenly.

Slog (slɒg), *sb. colloq.* [f. the vb.]

1. Hard, steady work; a spell of this.

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 127 When a person is working hurriedly he is said to have a 'slog on'. 1903 MᶜNEILL *Egregious English* 172 That one way amounts to sheer mechanism and slog.

2. A vigorous blow; a hard hit at cricket.

1895 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 3/5 Ford sent a ball straight into point's hands. Peel tried a blind slog. 1897 H. W. BLEAKLEY *Short Innings* vi. 94 Sixey made a mighty slog, but failed to strike the ball.

Slog (slɒg), *v. colloq.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. SLUG *v.*[4]]

1. *trans.* To hit or strike hard; to drive with blows. Also *fig.*, to assail violently.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* xi. 106 His whole person [had been] put in chancery, stung, bruised, fibbed, .. slogged, and otherwise ill-treated. 1884 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Melb. Memories* iv. 32 We slogged the tired cattle round the fence. 1891 *Spectator* 10 Oct. 487/1 They love snubbing their friends and 'slogging' their enemies.

b. *Cricket.* To obtain (runs) by hard hitting.

1897 H. W. BLEAKLEY *Short Innings* iii. 49 Mr. Dolly slogged sixes and fours until he had made about eighty.

2. *intr.* To walk heavily or doggedly.

Halliwell's '*Slog*, to lag behind' probably belongs to SLUG *v.*

1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1903) 119 Then *abiit* .. off slogs boy. 1876 *Mid-Yorksh. Gloss.*, *Slog*, to walk with burdened feet, as through snow, or puddle. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Oct. 2/1 Overtaking the guns, we 'slogged' on with them for a mile or more.

3. To deal heavy blows, to work hard (*at* something), to labour *away*, etc.

1888 *Daily News* 22 May 5/2, I slogged at it, day in and day out. 1894 HESLOP *Northumberland Gloss.* s.v., They slogged away at the anchor shank. 1903 *19th Cent.* Mar. 392 They have no incentives to slog and slave.

Slogan (slōu·găn). Forms: *α.* 6 **slogorne**, 6–7 **sloggorne, sluggorn**(e, 8 **slugorn, slogurn**; 6 **sloghorne**, 6, 8 **slughorne**, 7, 9 **slughorn.** *β.* 8 **slughon**, 7– **slogan**, 9 **slogen.** [ad. Gael. *sluagh-ghairm*, f. *sluagh* host + *gairm* cry, shout.]

1. A war-cry or battle-cry; *spec.* one of those formerly employed by Scottish Highlanders or Borderers, or by the native Irish, usually consisting of a personal surname or the name of a gathering-place.

α. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. xi. 87 The slogorne, ensenȝe, or the wache cry. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 59 That nane of thaim name thair capitane with ony uthir sloggorne, bot with the auld name of that tribe. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 87 Great was the noyse .. that was heard, whill that everie man calles his awin sloghorne. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 263 Thay hard ane slughorne cryand on the gait in this maner 'ane hammiltowne', 'ane hammiltowne'. 1680 MACKENZIE *Sci. Her.* 97 Not unlike these Motto's are our Slughorns, which are called *Cris de guerre* in France. 1683 MARTINE *Reliq. Divi S. Andreæ* (1797) 3 They .. go about begging, and use still to recite the sluggornes of most of the true ancient surnames of Scotland, from old experience and observation. 1723 W. BUCHANAN *Acc. Fam. Buchanan* 165 The isle of Clareinch was the slogurn or call of war, proper to the family of Buchanan. 1851 M. A. DENHAM *Slogans N. Eng.* 1 Occasionally, as in Scotland, the name of the rendezvous was used as a Slughorn.

β. 1680 MACKENZIE *Sci. Her.* 97 The Name of Hume have for their Slughorn (or Slogan, as our Southern Shires terme it) a *Hume, a Hume.* 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* IV. xxvii, To heaven the Border slogan rung, .. The English war-cry answer'd wide. 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Irish Hist.* 67 An Act .. was passed to abolish the words Crom-a-boo and Butler-a-boo, the Slogans of these two clans. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* III. 3 Edward had struck the Genoese, .. Monmouth the French to one great Slogan, that of St. George of England.

b. *transf.* The distinctive note, phrase, cry, etc. of any person or body of persons.

1704 in Maidment *Scott. Pasquils* (1868) 384 Your slughorn are falsehood and plunder. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxv. V. 301 The popular slogans on both sides were indefatigably repeated. 1880 MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* xiv, 'Duty, God, immortality'—the very slogan of the pulpit. 1887 A. LANG *Bks. & Bookmen* 114 Printers and authors had their emblems and their private literary slogans.

2. *attrib.*, as *slogan-cry, song, yell.*

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. iv, Nor harp, nor pipe, his ear could please Like the loud slogan yell. 1849 AYTOUN *Lays Scottish Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 46 That day through high Dun-edin's streets, Had pealed the slogan-cry. *c* 1860 J. R. RANDALL *Maryland* vi, Come .. And ring thy dauntless slogan song, Maryland!

Slogardie, etc., obs. variants of SLUGGARDY.

Slog-dollager: see SOCK-DOLAGER.

Slogger (slɒ·gəɹ), *sb.* [f. SLOG *v.* + -ER[1].]

†1. *Cambridge slang.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1852 J. F. BATEMAN *Aquatic Notes* 47 In this year [1844] so many boats appeared that it was determined that only twenty-eight should row on the regular race-days, and the rest on alternate days; the first boat in these trial or 'slogger' races being entitled to row last on the regular race-days. 1860 *Slang Dict.* 218 *Sloggers*, i. e., slow-goers, the second division of race-boats at Cambridge.

2. *colloq.* One who delivers heavy blows; a pugilist, prize-fighter. Also *fig.*

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, He was called Slogger Williams, from the force with which it was supposed he could hit. 1866 *Reader* 28 July, He is the patron and often the familiar friend of the pet 'Slogger' of the day. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Nov. 2/1 Sir William Harcourt was the slogger of the fight.

b. One who slogs at cricket.

1864 *Slang Dict.* 235 A hard hitter at cricket is termed a Slogger. 1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 11 A rough and ready slogger.

3. *Rogues' slang.* A heavy weight on a string; a slung-shot.

1892 *Daily News* 12 Apr. 7/1 The prisoner .. said if he did not go away he would fetch his 'sloggers' to him. 1904 *Times* 8 Jan. 10/5 Striking him about the head with an instrument called a 'slogger'.

Slogger (slɒ·gəɹ), *v. dial.* [Of obscure origin: cf. LOGGER *v.*] *intr.* To hang loosely; to go about untidily, etc. Hence **Slo·ggering** *ppl. a.*

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Sloggering*, loose, untidy 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* iii. 8 Sloggering, baggy-breeched, slangey-gaitered fellows. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin* xvii. 228 Perse with his great sloggering frame, and low beast-like face.

Slogging (slɒ·gĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOG *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb; vigorous striking; hard hitting.

1859 *Slang Dict.* 95 *Slogging*, a good beating. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 16 May, For a long time to come .. their hitting [at cricket] will be 'slogging'. 1871 *Daily News* 23 Jan., The *status quo* of steady slogging at the forts and batteries of junction is steadily maintained. 1895 *Month* Mar. 432 All sporting men remember the hard slogging of the 'Cleresly Chicken'.

Slogging (slɒ·gĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SLOG *v.* + -ING[2].] Hitting or striking hard. Also *fig.*

1871 *Daily News* 12 Jan., To tempt our batteries forward, till .. the time has come when slogging blows can be dealt. 1882 *Cornhill Mag.* May 535 His slogging style of controversy. 1895 *Forum* Apr. 235 As what may be called a 'slogging' debater, he has perhaps no fellow in Parliament.

Sloggy, obs. variant of SLUGGY.

Slogh(t)e, obs. forms of SLOUGH *sb.*[1]

Slo·gster. [f. SLOG *v.*] A slogger.

1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free-Lance* I. vi. 269 With no more hesitation .. than the slogster Mendoza exhibited when he stepped into the ring.

Slog-wood. (See quot.)

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Slog-wood, *Hufelandia pendula.*

Sloh, obs. form of SLOUGH *sb.*[1]

Sloid, Slöjd: see SLOYD.

‖ Sloka (slōu·kă). Also 8 **sloca.** [Skr. *śloka* sound, noise, call, hymn, stanza, etc.] A couplet or distich of Sanskrit verse, each line containing sixteen syllables.

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* I. 80/1 Divine authority revealed to Menu the sacred principles in a hundred thousand slocas, or verses. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xviii. (ed. 3) 571 The great Hindoo epic .. which contains one hundred thousand slokas, or distichs. 1895 R. W. FRAZER *Silent Gods* (1896) 56 The wide Brâhman street .. which once echoed with the sacred sound of the Sanskrit sloka.

Slokan. *Anglo-Irish.* Also 8 **slukane**, 9 **slocaun, sloukawn.** [ad. Ir. *sleabhacán*: see next and SLAWK.] = next.

1758 [see SLAWK 1]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Slokan, Sloke*, names for the edible sea-weed .. also called laver. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1065/1 *Sloak, Sloke*, or *Slouhawn.*

Sloke[1] (slōuk). Also 9 **sloak.** [var. of SLAWK.] = SLAWK 1 and 2.

1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* II. 967 *Ulva umbilicalis* .. Navel Laver, *Anglis.* Sloke or Slake, *Scotis.* Upon the sea rocks frequent. *Ibid.* 970 *Ulva Lactuca*, .. Lettuce-Laver, or Oyster-Green, *Anglis.* Green Sloke, *Scotis.* 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* i. (1849) 41 Mr. Drummond informs us that *P[orphyra] laciniata*, called Sloke in Ireland, is gathered during the winter months only. 1851 *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal., Veg. World* II. p. iv, The so-called Irish moss, which is the *Chondrus crispus*, and the *Ulva* or sloke, both British plants. 1876 *Mid-Yorkshire Gloss.* s.v., A farmyard pond will be alluded to as being 'all slime and sloak'.

Comb. 1907 D. S. SHORTER *Collected Poems* 6 He saw one

gleam of foam-white arms, Of sea-green eyes, of sloak brown hair.

Sloke[2], Anglicized form of SLOKA.

1841 R. N. CUST in *Hailebury Observer* III. 21 The history of the coward, of which this is the first sloke.

Slom(b,er, etc., obs. forms of SLUMBER.

Slommack, *dial.*: see SLAMMAKIN.

Slo·mmacking, etc., varr. SLAMMAKIN *a.*

1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slommacking*,.. unwieldy, clumsy. ?*c* 1850 H. & A. MAYHEW *The Good Genius* xvi, A nasty slommicking bit of goods, with her things all hanging about her anyhow. 1873 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 5/6 His high cheek bones and slommocking gait.

Slon(e, obs. inf. and pa. pple. SLAY *v.*; obs. pl. or dial. ff. SLOE. **Slong:** see SLING *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Slonk (slɒŋk), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Of doubtful origin: cf. Da. dial. *slûnk*, *slunk* a hollow or depression in the ground, and MLG. *-slunc*, LG. *slunk*, G. dial. *schlunk*, *schlonk* gullet, gorge, abyss.] (See later quots. and cf. SLUNK *sb.*)

The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* also records the word from Kent.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 4 Baith erbe and froyte, busk and bewis, braid Haboundandlye in euery slouk and slaid. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. xi. 84 In dern sladis and mony scroggy slonk. 1563 WINȝET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* ii. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 19 Sa grete dangerous slonkis of sindry errouris. ?16.. *Lindesay's* (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (1728) 90 She standing in a slonk [*v.r.* slake] bringing home water. 1728 RAMSAY *Poems* Gloss., *Slonk*, a Mire, Ditch, or Slough. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Slonk*,..a ditch; a deep, wet hollow in a road. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss., Slonk*, a depression in the ground, like a 'swallow hole'.

Slonk, *v. rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Du. *slokken* to swallow, and the G. forms cited under prec.] *trans.* To swallow greedily.

Caxton may have read *slont ende at* in place of *stont ende at* in the Dutch original.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 55 The false keytyf ete and slonked her in so hungerly that he lefte neyther flessh ne bone. [1897 F. S. ELLIS *Reynard* 131 A cynic grin His face bore while he slonked her in.]

Sloo, obs. f. SLAY *v.*; obs. or dial. f. SLOUGH *sb.*[1]

†**'Slood,** variant of 'SLUD. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. iii, S'lood what have you to doe? 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* II. i, Slood me thinks a man Should not of meere necessitie be an Asse.

Sloom (slūm), *sb.*[1] Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 1 **sluma, 3 slume, 4 sloumbe, 8–9 sloum, 9 slowm, sloom, slum**; 8–9 **slome, 9 sloam**; 8–9 **slaum, 9 slawm,** etc. [OE. *slûma*, related to SLOOM *v.*[1] Cf. Fris. *slûm*, *slom(me*, older Da. *slum* slumber, doze.] A gentle sleep or slumber; a light doze. Also *attrib.*

In the *Destr. Troy* 13281 *slym* is prob. an error for *slum.* *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 314 (Gr.), Pæt hine æreste elne binoman slæpa sluman. *c* 1050 *Be Domes D.* 240 Se earma flyhð uncræftiza slæp, sleac mid sluman. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 186 He..Slypped vpon a sloumbe slepe, & sloberande he routes. *Ibid.* 466 He slydez on a sloumbe slep, sloghe vnder leues. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Sloum*, or *slaum*, a gentle sleep, or slumber. 1785 — *Bran New Wark* 150 A third [will be] nodding his head in an easy slome. 1829– in northern dial. glossaries. 1863 ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* 359 When weary wi' weepin I sink to a slum. 1868 W. SHELLEY *Flowers by Wayside* 256 Whyles when I'm in a quiet sloom my Willie's hame to me.

Sloom, *sb.*[2] *local.* Also slum(b, sloam. [Of obscure origin: the variant forms indicate an original *slūm-*.] (See quots.)

1803 PLYMLEY *Agric. Shropshire* 54 *Slumbs*, black-slaty earth, and a heaving measure. *Ibid.* 56 Top-coal and pound stone. Slums. Foot-coal. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1123/1 *Sloam*, layers of clay between those of coal. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Sloom*, a softish earthy clay or shale often underlying a bed of coal. *Ibid.* 228 *Slum, Slums, Slumbs.* 1. A blackish, slippery, indurated clay. 2. A soft clayey or shaley bed of coal.

Sloom (slūm), *v.*[1] Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 3 **slume(n, slumme, slomme,** 5, 9 **slowm,** 8–9 **sloum, 9 sloom, slum, sloam,** etc. [ME. *slûmen, slummen,* = Fris. *slûmje, slomje,* MDu. *slûmen* (*sluymen*), MLG. *slûmen, slomen, slommen*, MHG. *slummen*, obs. G. *schlummen*, older Da. *slumme* (*slome*): cf. SLUMBER *v.*] *intr.* To slumber; to doze.

c 1205 LAY. 17995 Merlin gon to slume swulc he wolde slæpen. *Ibid.* 32058 Þa gon he to slepen, þa gon he to slumme. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5174 Ser Telomew..Fand him slowmand on slepe & sleely him rayses. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 58 Whiles slouming, whiles starting wi' her fright. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 124 To tell th' unpillow'd crowds that lie Souffin' and sloomin' round. 1828– in northern dial. glossaries. 1860 ROBSON *Song Solomon* vii. 9 Garrin' the lips o' a' thae that slum to speak. 1868 W. SHELLEY *Flowers by Wayside* 54, I laid me down And sloomed aneth the Roden Tree.

Sloom (slūm), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [app. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *sluma* to run up into long weak straw, and see next.] Of grain, grass, etc.: To become laid or lodged through being soft and heavy in growth; to begin to decay on this account. Hence **Sloomed** *ppl. a.* (see quot. 1824).

1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 440 A strong crop of pease, or any other kind of corn laid down, and what is commonly called *slooming*. 1824 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 329 Those places where the weight and softness of the grass has flattened it with the earth...No other spot..offered as much verdure at this time as these seemingly *sloomed* places.

1875 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. III. 147 Ulster Words...'Sloam', applied to corn crops when the stalks are too luxuriant in growth.

Sloo·my, *a. dial.* Also 7 **sloumie, 9 slowmy, sloamy, slaumy.** [f. SLOOM *v.*[2]]

1. **a.** Of grain: Not properly filled.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 54 The stemme will bee stronge and steare, and the barley itselfe sloumie and not pubble. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sloomy corn*, a phrase used with respect to grain, when it is not well filled.

b. Of corn, etc.: Laid or lodged through being soft and heavy; beginning to rot.

1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* 1877–86 in Cheshire and Cumberld. glossaries.

2. Sluggish, dull, spiritless. Also as *adv.*

1820 CLARE *Poems* (ed. 3) 127 O'er pathless plains, at early hours, The sleepy rustic sloomy goes. 1821 — *Vill. Minstr.* II. 103 They then, like school-boys that at truant play, In sloomy fear lounge on their homeward way. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial., Sloomy*, dull and gloomy. 1880 TENNYSON *Northern Cobbler* vii, An' Sally wur sloomy an' draggle tääil'd.

Sloon, obs. pa. pple. SLAY *v.*; obs. pl. SLOE.

Sloop (slūp), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **slope, sloope.** [ad. Du. *sloep*, = Fris. and LG. *slûp*, Da., Sw., Norw. *slup*, G. *schlup*; also older Du. *sloepe* (Kilian), LG. *slupe*, Da. *sluppe*, G. *schlupe*. The history of the Du. and LG. word is obscure, but it appears more probable that it is an adoption of F. *chaloupe* or Sp. *chalupa* than that it is the source of these. (F. has also *sloop* or *sloupe* from Eng. or Du.) Cf. CHALOUPE, SHALLOOP, and SHALLOP.]

1. A small, one-masted, fore-and-aft rigged vessel, differing from a cutter in having a jib-stay and standing bowsprit.

1629 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 315 They keepe allways some 5 or 6 sloopes and junks trading..from porte to porte. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 45 Some persons that belonged to a Sloop and a Shallop..were over desirous to save some of their Provision. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 285 The Trade from that Island to New Spain, is carry'd on generally by Sloops. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Isl.* Wks. X. 486 Sloops are loaded with the concreted ashes. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* ix, The vessels..are generally small luggers or sloops, from forty to sixty tons burthen. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 98 The little old sloops were generally family concerns.

b. A relatively small ship-of-war, carrying guns on the upper deck only. Also in full *sloop-of-war.*

(*a*) 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1130/4 St. Ann of Ostend, Burthen 16 Tuns,..a square stern'd open Sloop, with 2 Guns, and 20 Men. 1707 *Ibid.* No. 4379/3 Her Majesty's Ship Somerset, with..the Weesel Sloop, and Isabella Yacht, is sail'd for the River. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 190 A short view of the whole royal navy..; 68 sloops, from 8 to 14 [guns] besides swivels. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 96 A flotilla of sloops and gun-brigs was attached to it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2214 War-vessels of 2000 tons and upward,.. carrying 12 to 22 heavy guns, are now termed sloops.

(*b*) 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Hh 3, The sloops of war carry from 18 to 8 cannon. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 255 A number of frigates and sloops of war. 1836 MARRYAT *Midship. Easy* vii, He had succeeded in obtaining his appointment to a sloop of war.

†**2.** A large open boat; a long-boat. *Obs.*

1631 J. TAYLOR *Turne of Fortune's Wheele* (Halliw.) 22 In Zealand where our forces all were broake, Sloops, punts, and lighters, seventy-eight confounded. 1699 *Laws Nevis* XXVII. (1740) 21 If any Person..steal..any fishing or other Boat, Canoe, Shallop, Sloop, Bark-log, or any other Vessel. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 518 Five Sloops or Boats,.. full of Men...We..could see the Boats at a Distance, being five large Long-Boats.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sloop-broker, load, -man, -model, -rig, -rigged.*

1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* (Bohn) 281 A sloop load of ..hogs and stores. 1769 Sloop-rigged [see RIGGED *ppl. a.*[1] 1 b]. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 69 What is the nature of your business as a sloop-broker? 1849 G. CUPPLES *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 22 The saucy *Iris*—as perfect a sloop-model ..as ever was eased off the ways of Chatham. 1862 *Zoologist* XX. 8087, I saw three of them which a sloopman had towed behind his vessel. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 146/1 The sloop-rig—jib and mainsail—is better than a single sail. 1894 N. BROOKS *Tales of Maine Coast* 33 The 'Whisper' was a sloop-rigged craft.

Sloop (slūp), *sb.*[2] *Canada.* [Of obscure origin.] A simple form of drag used in lumbering. Hence **Sloop** *v. trans.*, to draw on a sloop.

1891– in American Dicts.

Sloor, obs. form of SLUR *sb.* **Sloot,** var. SLUIT.

Slop (slɒp), *sb.*[1] Also 4–7 **sloppe, 4, 6 slope, 7 slopp.** [Of obscure history. Sense 2 corresponds to MDu. *slop*, OIcel. *sloppr*, and appears earlier in the OE. compound *ofersloppr* (MDu. *overslop*, OIcel. *yfirsloppr*): see OVERSLOP. The relation of the other senses to this is not clear.]

†**1.** A charmed bag employed to steal milk from cows. *Obs. rare.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 522 Þere was a wycche, and made a bagge...Þys wycche here charme began to sey, Þe slop ros up, and 3ede þe weye. *Ibid.* 537 Þe sloppe lay stylle, as hyt ded wore.

2. An outer garment, as a loose jacket, tunic, cassock, mantle, gown, or smock-frock.

For modern examples cf. the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Slop* sb.[2] 1.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 422 The..scantnesse of clothyng as been thise kutted sloppes or haynselyns. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 77 Se þat my sloppe be wele sittande. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloppe, garment, *mutatorium*. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 466 Gyve me a newe sloppe and a large hode. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxvi. 213 He armed hymselfe with secrete armour, and dyd on a sloppe aboue, and a cloke aboue that. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 55 b, The mantels had great capes like to the Portingal slopys. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Hymn of Alms* 195 Wks. (Grosart) II. 210 To see some painted face, Or Fire-new Fashion in a Sleeve or slop. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *News fr. Plymouth* IV. i, I will embrace thy long loose slopp and kiss Thy drivell'd Beard. 1825 KNAPP & BALDWIN *Newgate Cal.* III. 448/2 A slop or shirt over it. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. i, He was dressed in a coarse waggoner's slop. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* 12 The clothes of the amateur..should be protected at least by a loose 'slop' or jacket of canvas.

†**b.** *spec.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[1]

15.. *Bk. of Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 28 A slope is a morning Cassock for Ladyes and gentile wemen, not open before.

†**c.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 395/2 A Womans face proper, with a Slop on her head..; the attire..makes me judge it to be rather some kind of Slop or Maunch for the head... Some term this a French Hood pendant.

†**3.** *pl.* Some kind of foot-wear. *Obs. rare.*

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 118 A paire of sloppes of blac leder, v d. 1483 in *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 42, ij pair of shoon, ij pair of slops, and viij paire of botews of Spaynysh leder.

4. *pl.* Wide baggy breeches or hose, of the kind commonly worn in the 16th and early 17th cent.; loose trousers, esp. those worn by sailors. Now chiefly *dial.*

In the Geneva, Bishops', and Douay Bibles *sloppes* is employed in rendering Isa. iii. 20, where the AV. has 'the ornaments of the legges' and the RV. 'the ankle chains'. For some particulars relating to the history of the garment, see Fairholt *Costume* I. 237, 263, etc., and cf. the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Slop* sb.[2] 3.

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 518 For the same Magnus a whyt cote, a payre sloppes. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Sloppes, bosyn, *brayes a marinier*. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 19, viii paire of Sloppes parted, the one legge of the said blewe clothe of golde and the other of greene clothe of Silver. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 60 He had nothing vpon him but a paire of sloppes, and vpon his bodie a Goate-skinne. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 656 The two sloppes or breeches were tied and knit together about the middle. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Commenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 109 Below the girdle are the breeches, that is, either slops,..or trusses somwhat strait. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Slops*, a wide sort of Breeches worn by Seamen. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvi, Two pair black silk slops, with hanging garters of carnation silk. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer* (1905) 338 He would give an occasional hitch, Sailor-like to his 'slops'. *transf.* 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ii, Sirrha, you ballad-singer, and slops, your fellow there, get you out.

†**b.** *sing.* in the same sense, or denoting only one leg of the garment. *Obs.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 193 The man..Werth on eche legge, one male, for his sloppes are, Eche one sloppe one male. 1565 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 306 A lyning of Cotton stytched to the Sloppe over & besydes the lynnen lynyng straytt to the legg. 1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* I. Wks. (Grosart) II. 19 Their narrow shoulders must haue a quilted Dublet of a large sise:..their crooked legges, a side sloppe. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 61 When I see ..another wallowe in a greate sloppe, I mistrust the proportion of his thigh. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 175/1 His gay slop hath no sooner kist the Cushions, but.. he hath neuer left Roaring, row, row, row. 1652 *News Lowe-Co.* 2 The French Trunck sometimes doth him house, The Dutch Slopp, and the Irish Trouse.

†**c.** The loose or wide part of a pair of breeches of this kind. *Obs. rare.*

1592 R. GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. 5 So quaintly and artificially made, that it may bee put in y^e slop of a mans hose. 1592 — *Upst. Courtier* (1871) 10 A plain pair of Cloth-Breeches.., straight to the thigh,..without a slop.

5. *pl.* Ready-made clothing and other furnishings supplied to seamen from the ship's stores; hence, ready-made, cheap, or inferior garments generally.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Mar., Advising upon the business of Slopps, wherein the seaman is so much abused by the pursers. 1764 COMM. BYRON *Voy.* in *Hawkesworth* I. 9 The men..who had contrived to sell not only all their warm clothes, but their bedding,..now applied in great distress for slops. 1799 NELSON 16 Feb. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 267 Slops are not to be purchased here but at an enormous price. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. ii. 22 A young sailor, with a face innocent of everything but a pride in his slops. 1878 BESANT & RICE *By Celia's Arbour* XXX, He used to sell his slops for brandy, and cobble his old garments with the brown canvas of the sandbags.

fig. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* Proemium, That a Monarch's wife yclept a Queen May not..be a downright Slop, Form'd of the coarsest rags of Nature's shop? 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 348 In the Roman law, the clergy had been used to see a sort of warehouse, in which slops of all sorts were to be had ready-made.

b. *sing.* in collective use, or denoting a single garment of this kind.

1798 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tales of the Hoy* Wks. 1812 IV. 385 When the Men of Slop The Jew and Gentile turn towards their shop In alleys dark. 1887 BESANT *The World went* X. 84 He wore a common sailor's petticoat or slop.

6. Used as a term of contempt. *rare.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 240 Not a slop of a ropehaler they send forth to the Queenes ships, but hee is first broken to the Sea in the Herring mans Skiffe or Cock-boate.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In senses 2 and 4, as *slop-frock*, †*-hose* [cf. MDu. *slophose*], *-pouch*.

1530 PALSGR. 251 Payre of sloppe hoses. 1565 R. ONSLOW in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 306 A sloppe-hose not cutte in panes. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iv, This purse has all that is left of as round a sum as a man would wish to carry in his slop-pouch. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 68 With slop-frock suiting to the ploughman's taste. 1837 *Lincoln Herald* 17 Jan. 2/2 John Cowley, indicted for stealing at Binbrook, one slop frock and one hat. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial.*, *Slop-frock*, a smock-frock.

b. In combs. relating to seamen's slops, or to cheap ready-made garments, as *slop-boat*, *-book*, *-chest*, *-clothes*, etc.

1823 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 21/2 A large stock of rum was immediately laid in from the circumambient *slop-boats. 1755 *Abstr. Act* in *M.P.'s Let. on R. N.* 14 Five ..Pay-books shall be..made out.., and a *Slop-book. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 633 *Slop-Book*, a register of the slop clothing, soap, and tobacco, issued to the men; also of the religious books supplied. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix. 102 Having begun the voyage with very few clothes, he had taken up the greater part of his wages in the *slop-chest. 1874 *Law Times' Rep.* XXXI. 20/2 They had each received .. 6 dollars from the slop chest on the voyage. 1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 493 The deduction of 12*d.* in the pound by the paymaster for *slop cloaths..is without warrant. 1745 *Proj. Manning of Navy* 11 Sea-mens Wages are not Half consum'd in..Slop-Cloths. 1819 J. H. VAUX *Mem.* II. 109 After putting on each a suit of coarse *slop-clothing, we were ironed and sent below. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 416/1 One pound sterling is paid..as the price of his bedding and slop-clothing. 1884 *Spectator* 737/2 Their cheapness is due to the fact that they are really "slop goods"—goods, that is, produced at a price which cannot give the worker a decent maintenance. *c* 1645 in *Archaeologia* LII. 134 A *slopmaker for Seamen neare Billingsgate. 1897 G. ALLEN *Type-writer Girl* xvi. 170, I told him of my work among the East-End slop-makers! 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Oct. 2/4, I, John Brown, of Kingston-upon-Hull, *Slopman. 1812 *Examiner* 4 May 280/2 F. Richmond,..taylor and slopman. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* II. iv, He did appear Like a *slop-merchant from Wapping. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 231/1, I could not meet with one woman 'working a *slop-needle'. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 149 **Slop-room*, the place appointed for the purser to keep the ship's slops in. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 62 Slops and marine necessaries in the slop-room. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VII. 447 The *Resolve* *slop ship was laid up in ordinary. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 74 His vessel was kept at the Nore .., serving as a slop and receiving ship. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 231/1 Working for *slop shirt-makers, &c., upon the coarser sorts of work. 1851 *Ibid.* II. 23/1 The garret-master buys lasts to do the *slop-snobbing cheap. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xl, He was at present dressed in a seafaring *slop suit. 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 132 His mother had had no *slop-waistcoat finishing to do for three or four days. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5272/9 Anne Lee, of Gosport .., *Slop-woman. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk* 633 A short *slop wrapper, formerly called a *sliving*.

c. **slop-builder**, a jerry-builder; **slop-built**, jerry-built; loosely-made.

1835 *Edinb. Rev.* LX. 343 The temptation to construct what are called slop-built ships..is therefore quite irresistible. 1869 *Latest News* 5 Sept. 7 They were only contract built edifices by 'slop builders'. 1903 W. CRAIG *Adv. Austral. Goldfields* 39 He was slop-built.

Slop (slɒp), *sb.*[2] Also 8 (9 *dial.*) **slap.** [prob. representing an OE. **sloppe* (cf. *císlsloppe*, var. of *císlyppe* COWSLIP), related to *slyppe* SLIP *sb.*[1], and to *slúpan* to slip.]

1. †**a.** A muddy place; a mud-hole. *Obs.*[-1]

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3923 He..Slippes in in the sloppes o-slante to the girdylle.

b. ? A splash of mud or slush.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 332 To walk through Rag Fair in dirty weather,..a jostle in one place, a slip in another, a slop in a third.

c. Liquid mud; slush.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 605 The inhabitants have to walk in almost perpetual slop. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 207/1 In wet weather the dirt swept or scraped to one side is so liquified that it is known as 'slop'. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Jan. 1/2 Every one..viewed the accumulating slop..with a pious faith in its restoration in a few days.

2. An act of spilling or splashing; a quantity of liquid spilled or splashed.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *Faire un Gâchis*, to make a slap, to wet a Room. 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 28 Dec., When she came there happened to be a great slop on the table. 1796 — *Camilla* IV. 116 Don't mind it, I beg,..a little slop's soon wiped up. 1836 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 15 On the other side of it there was an immense slop oozing out from something. 1874 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi. 121 There never was a slop on the stove, or a teaspoonful of anything spilled.

3. Liquid or semi-liquid food of a weak, unappetizing kind; applied contemptuously to invalids' spoon-food, tea, etc. Now usually *pl.*

sing. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 174 It is not every ridiculous slop that is a Medicine. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 14 Aug., [She] exclaimed, 'Oh dear, you've got no tea!' Then pouring out a dish of slop, added [etc.]. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* III. 59 The old woman ..went down to prepare the slop. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 498 Full of slop as he is, the patient burns with thirst.

pl. c 1672 WOOD *Life*, etc. (O.H.S.) I. 177 Much physick and slops being taken in the winter following. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 332 He physicked himself out of his Life—He would be always taking Slops. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 183 Tea, and thin chocolate, and such like enervating slops. 1829 COBBETT *Adv. to Youth* xxxi, Experience has taught me that those slops [tea, coffee, etc.] are injurious to health. 1863 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 158 The cold first came into my tongue, swelling it...I had to live on slops.

4. Refuse liquid of any kind; rinsings of tea, coffee, or other beverages; the dirty water, etc., of a household. Usu. *pl.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii, He..threw the slops..into the sugar-dish instead of the slop-basin. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* ii, The removal of slops to be ornamentally treated. 1882 LADY BLOOMFIELD *Remin.* (1883) I. xi. 336 The slops had never been emptied, so the rooms were anything but odoriferous.

5. *Pottery.* = SLIP *sb.*[1] 4.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 154/1 The halves of the mould are then put together, and the slop intended for the ground poured in.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (senses 1 c and 4) *slop-barrel*, *-bucket*, *-dirt*, *-pail*, etc.; (sense 3) *slop-diet*, *-fed* adj.; (sense 5) *slop-clay*; also **slop-moulding**, **-wash** (see quots.).

1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. vii. 84 Emptying .. some twelve to fifteen bucketfuls from the *slop-barrel. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 233/2 Sugar-bowl,..and *slop-bowl. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. vii. 83, I am thankful that I am here, able to empty a *slop-bucket. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 268/2 The expense of *slop-cartage. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operatic Mechanic* 459 When the proper proportions of *slop clay and flint have been well blunged together, the liquid is pumped out of the reservoir on the top of the slip-kiln. 1829 COOPER *Good's Study Med.* II. 58 Pale thin men, relaxed by sedentary habits and a spare *slop diet. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 399 In severer febrile attacks a slop-diet is advisable. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (1864) II. 270/1 When in combination with a greater quantity of water, so that it is rendered almost liquid, it is known as '*slop-dirt'. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 56 *Slop-fed unhealthy cows. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Slop-hopper*, the basin of a water-closet or sink. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Dec. 261/2 The slop-hopper is generally a receptacle for rags and rubbish. 1855 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. vi. 178 Celestial *slop jars, heaps of clean towels, etc. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 348/1 '*Slop-moulding,' in which process the mould is dipped into water previous to its receiving the clay. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2215 Slop-molding.. requires several molds; pallet-molding only one. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. v. (1872) VI. 172 Of Hanbury's News-Letters from Foreign Courts, four or five..are like the contents of a *slop-pail. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 60/2 Tip-up Lavatory, Urinal, or *Slop-sink combined. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 307 **Slop-wash*, an occasional and hasty washing of small linen.

Slop (slɒp), *sb.*[3] *E. Anglian dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Growing underwood.

1784 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* 173 *Slop*, the underwood in a wood. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, *Slop*, under-wood when growing. Norf. and Suffolk. 1804 *Survey Gestingthorpe* (Essex) 6 (E. D. D.), The slop of the respective occupiers pay tithe per acre when cut in the said grounds. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 90 Four acres of low slop, brambles, shoots, and blackthorns.

Slop (slɒp), *sb.*[4] *slang.* [Modification of *ecilop*, back-slang for *police*.] A policeman.

1859 in *Slang Dict.* 95. 1868 *Morning Star* 4 June, I saw the b— slops by the public-house. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conscience* II. xxi, You'd better cut—the slops are after you.

Slop (slɒp), *v.*[1] [f. SLOP *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To provide with slops or cheap ready-made clothing.

1803 *Naval Chron.* X. 257 After being furnished and slopped with new cloaths, previous to their being sent on board.

Slop (slɒp), *v.*[2] Also 6, 8 (9 *dial.*) **slap.** [f. SLOP *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To spill or splash (liquid); to dash or lay *on* carelessly. Also with *over*.

1557 TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* (1878) 229 Their milke slapt in corners, their creame al to sost. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 61 As hogs are apt to slop over and spill a part of their food. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., If you don't mind you'll slop half your beer out of the mug. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* III. 21 Now and then she would slop tons of water on her deck. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photog.* XLI. 8 It must only be just moistened, not slopped on.

b. To wash or tumble (one) out of some place.

1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* xxiii, Mrs. Snell Was slopp'd out of her seat. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 18 You get fooling about with the boat, and slop me overboard.

2. To lap *up* greedily or noisily; to gobble *up*. Now *dial.*

1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. i, Thy mylk slopt up, thy bacon filtched. 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Scourge of Folly* cvi. Wks. (Grosart) II. 20/2 Some foule-mouth'd Readers then ..So slop them vp that it would make one spew. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 88 They make Meshes for their Cows,..which the Cows will slop up like Hogs. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 190 (E.D.S.), Nif et be Loblolly, tha wut slop et oll up. 1886 in ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 682.

3. **a.** To slobber (one). *rare*[-1].

1696 T. SOUTHERNE *Oroonoko* II. i, Such fine folk are not used to be slopt and kiss'd.

b. To make wet with spilled liquid.

1721 BAILEY, *Slop*,..to dash with Water. 1736 AINSWORTH, To slap, or slop a place with wet, *madefacio*. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. xv, A large round deal table, well slopped with beer. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slop*,..to wet or dirty.

4. *intr.* To prepare or drink any weak liquid.

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. xiii, She had just done drinking it [*sc.* tea], and could not be slopping all day. 1771 [see SLOPPING *vbl. sb.*].

5. To walk or travel *through* a place in mud or slush. Also with *along* or *on*. Also *fig.*

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* I. 7 Anybody might slop through the Low Countries that pleased. 1851 NEWLAND *The Erne* 187, I really have no fancy to go slopping through the wet grass and muddy roads for nothing. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* ii. 51 Hour after hour we slopped along by the roaring torrent.

6. To run or flow *over*; to flow or dash *up*.

1853 N. HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood. T.* (Chandos) 193 The king's hand trembled so much that a great deal of the wine slopped over. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 393/1 A fine wash..slopping up into the..summer-houses overhanging the river.

b. *fig.* With *over*. To run to excess. *U.S.*

1859 'ARTEMUS WARD' *Wks.* (1865) 124 Washington.. never slopt over! The prevailin weakness of most public men is to slop over. 1896 *Daily News* 17 Nov. 5/2 The 'Herald' has 'slopped over' this time, but it will steady itself as soon as it gets the facts.

c. To pass *over* suddenly.

1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 30 Boys 'slop over' from the good into the bad..in such illogical ways, that there is no setting them down under definite heads.

Slop, obs. var. SLAP *sb.*[2] and *v.*[2] *Sc.*

Slop, obs. or dial. form of SLOPE *a.* and *v.*[1]

Slop-basin. [f. SLOP *sb.*[2] 4.] A basin for holding slops. Also in fig. phrase (cf. TEA-CUP c).

1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 628 A couple of slop-basons full of the grounds of old quass. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* II. 228 Is it tea? It looks prodigiously as if just imported out of the slop basin. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* 16 Raising her hand to a shelf on which stood an Indian slop-basin. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxvii, Splashing it into the slop-basin. 1878 FROUDE *Table-Talk* 159, I have got into Cæsar, and think no more of this storm in a slop-basin.

Hence **Slop-basinful.**

1858 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* II. xvii, A slop-basinful of mustard.

Slop-dash. *rare*[-1]. = SLIP-SLOP I.

c 1810 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Rose, Thistle, & Shamrock* III. ii, Does he expect tea can be keeping hot for him to the end of time? He'll have nothing but slop-dash.

Slope (slōup), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **sloop**, 8 **sloap.** [Aphetically f. ASLOPE *adv.*

The adv. was freq. written and printed as two words, and occurs in contexts which would readily admit of taking *a* as the indefinite article, e.g. 1551 MORE *Utopia* II. (1895) 129 An other ryuere..runneth downe a slope.]

1. A stretch of rising or falling ground; a portion of the earth's surface marked by a gradual ascent or descent, whether natural or artificial.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 537 The growing [of moss] upon Slopes. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard* I. 167 These Banks or Slopes are very useful..for producing Early and Hasting Peas. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 603 Falling fast from gradual slope to slope. 1799 YOUNG *View Agric. Lincoln.* 19 A slope of country..very well wooded. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 88 The very large garden that occupies the whole slope of the hill on which the house stands. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 11 My eyes were fixed upon a white slope some thousands of feet above me. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 340 The village stood on a gentle slope.

transf. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 202 The self-complacent actor, when he views..The slope of faces, from the floor to th' roof.

fig. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxiv, On Fortune's crowning slope. 1887 BESANT *The World went* II. 14 We are now nearing three score years, and on the downward slope of life.

b. An inclined surface of the nature of a bank, *esp.* one artificially constructed, as in fortification or engineering.

1702 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (1711) s.v. *Counterscarp*, Counterscarp is properly the *Talus*, or Slope of the Ditch, on the farther side from the Place. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 12 You may lower the Ground on each side with a slope two Foot deep. 1774 *Hull Dock Act* 8 At any time after that the said slope or batter is made. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* (1837) VII. 638 Some time must elapse before a slope will be made in it by battering. 1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 19 The slopes of the excavation shall be finished as the cutting advances. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 390/1.

c. *Mining.* An inclined roadway.

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 41 To get down to these [seams] there are at present two slopes and one tunnel...Each of the slopes is furnished with hoisting-engines. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 5/8 A dozen men escaped..in the long slope some distance away from Cook's slope.

2. Upward or downward inclination; deviation from the horizontal or perpendicular.

1611 COTGR., *Talus*, a slope, sloping, slopenesse. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* iii. 16 Its extraordinary projecture, which is after a sort augmented by the sloops which the Architect has given to the drops which compose the ornament of the nether face. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Talus*, The Talus of a Bastion or Rampart, is the Slope allowed to such a Work. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* II. i. (1762) 125 Where the ground had not slope enough for the water to run off. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 117 The slope of the countries on each side of the mountains, is pointed out by the direction of the streams. 1863 BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 139 The frame timbers are then cut by the sawyers to the slope required by the moulds. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiography* 15 The rapidity with which a river flows will depend upon the amount of slope in its bed.

b. *Mil.* A position between perpendicular and horizontal.

1868 *Regul. & Orders Army* § 615 e, The crowbar is carried at the Slope resting on the right Shoulder. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 28 Oct. 18/4, I..brought the rifle from the 'slope' to the 'port'.

3. A slant; an inclined surface of any kind.

1707 MORTIMER *Husbandry* 397 [In] those Boughs that lean from the Head, cut the sloap on the lower side. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 98 Shell triangular,.. cartilage slope rather protruded. 1837 GORING *Microgr.* 91 Two pieces of wood carved out to fill the slope of the upper part of the face.

b. A desk, or substitute for this, having a sloping top.

1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride, The Widow* xi, A small writing-desk, or as it is technically called by cabinet-makers, a slope. 1897 *Army & Navy Stores List* 742 Blotting Desk Slopes.., room under the pad for loose papers.

4. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Slope of Wind*, a breeze favouring a long tack near to the required course, and which may be expected to veer to fair.

Slope (slōup), *sb.*[2] *colloq.* [f. SLOPE *v.*[2]] An act of making off, running or slinking away, etc.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 416 *Slope*, a running away, elopement, escape. 1897– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* ('to do a slope').

Slope, obs. var. SLAP *sb.*[2] *Sc.*, SLEEP *sb.*

Slope (slōup), *a.* Now *poet.* Also 6 **sloape,** 8 **slop.** [f. as SLOPE *sb.*[1]]

1. Sloping, slanting.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 64 Thou most..kitt it soo with a slope draught. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* App. 315 But se there be none ascence ther vnto by staiers, but onely..by a slope banc̃que of Turfes. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. ii. (1636) 295 What is the Zodiaque? It is a broad, oblique, or slope Circle. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 880 There the Water Rowleth, and Moveth,..with a Sloper Rise, and Fall. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 46 The slope Teeth of the Worm wheel will gather into the slope Grooves of the Spindle. 1724 SIR W. HOPE *Vind. Art. Self-defence* 131 Cross his sword..by a slop or squint motion of your sword-hand. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 440 To drain the stagnate Fen, to raise the slope Depending Road. 1811 *Self Instructor* 27 For the slope hands, turn your left side a little towards the desk. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* II. ii, Holy Church..will not wreck, nor our Archbishop Stagger on the slope decks.

† **2.** *Obs. rare.*

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Forrex* xviii. 6 For hope is sloape, and hold is hard to snatche.

Slope (slōup), *v.*[1] Also 6–8 **sloap** (7 **sloape**), 7 **sloop-**, 8 **slop.** [f. SLOPE *a.*]

1. *intr.* To take, to move or proceed in, an oblique direction.

In some cases with suggestion of sense 2.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 538 He..sloaping swiftly overthwart those Seas..Makes double haste to finde some happy strand. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 319 Where Titan's..Chariot sloaps. 1633 *Cal. of State P., E. India & P.* VIII. 380 The houses being so near the waterside that a man coming ashore may presently slope into one and find chapmen. 1798 COLERIDGE *Ball. Dark Ladie* iv, The sun was sloping down the sky. 1825 W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 1 Crossing Lord Carnarvon's park,..and sloping away to our right over the downs. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 22 The sun was sloping to the west. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* iv, The [setting] sun that was now sloping into the Atlantic.

2. To assume, to have or be in, a sloping or slanting position or direction.

α. 1709 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. II. 88 The burning Island.. runs from the Sea a little sloaping towards the Top. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 226 That the first coulter be set almost perpendicular..; that the second slope but a little. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. India*, etc. (1893) 128 On the left of the fire-place was a sofa, which sloped across the room. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 106 The canal ..should slope about four inches in the first 200 yards. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xviii. 478 The corner where the mountain slopes down to the river.

β. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* (1714) 11 His Sword's Point must slop towards the middle part of his Adversary's advanced Thigh.

3. *trans.* To bring into, to place or put in, a sloping or slanting position; to bend down; to direct downwards or obliquely.

1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* IV. i. 57 Though Pallaces and Pyramids do slope Their heads to their Foundations. 1638 MILTON *Lycidas* 31 Till the Star..Toward Heav'ns descent had slop'd his westering wheel. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 223 The flames..slope their pointing spires. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lviii, When Dan Sol to slope his wheels began. 1833 ELLIS *Elgin Marbles* I. 14 They come.., sloping their way. 1844 LD. HOUGHTON *Mem. Many Scenes* 104 His spirit of splendour has gone forth, Sloping wide violet rays.

b. *spec.* To bring (a weapon) into, or hold (it) in, a sloping position. Also *transf.*

1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 24 Sloape your Musquet. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. i, Face to your left hand;—Feather your hat;—slope your hat;—now charge. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 147/2 Slope your pike, is to draw the But end of the pike (being shouldred) almost to the ground and the point aloft. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* 13 He must, as the thrust is coming home, slop his point to make a cross. 1796 *Cavalry Instr.* (1813) 243 In general swords will be carried with the blade resting on the hollow of the shoulder, and by the word *Slope Swords.* 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 346 Till.. the meeting ranks Slope their strong bayonets. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 34 The leading division will.. slope arms.

4. To cut, form, or make, with a slope or slant.

1611 COTGR., *Taluër*, to slope, to set, cut, or make aslope. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 122 Let both be bezell'd or sloap'd. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 216 The first [way] is, to slope the cion off a full inch, or more. 1797 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XV. 288 The bank and ditch being properly laid out and sloped. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 216 Each side..should be sloped off, to receive the bond of the adjoining work. *a* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 249 Mouldings which received much rain.. were very much more sloped than in Classic work.

b. *absol.* To give a slope to the letters in writing.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiv, The lines they used to rule in the copybooks at school, to make the boys slope well.

Slope (slōup), *v.*[2] *colloq.* [Originally *U.S.*; perh. formed by wrong analysis of *let's lope* (see LOPE *v.*), but cf. some of the uses of SLOPE *v.*[1] **1.**]

1. *intr.* To make off, depart, decamp.

1839 MARRYAT *Diary America* Ser. I. II. 232 Here are two real American words:—'Sloping'—for slinking away; 'Splunging', like a porpoise. 1857 *Slang Dict.* 19 *He sloped*, he went off. 1866 MISS BRADDON *The Lady's Mile* i, We may as well slope,..it's nearly 7 o'clock. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 80 You may go straight ..to the..police station as soon as I slope.

b. With advs., esp. *off.*

1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* vi. 50 We can't go on to Washington—what can we do but slope home again? 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 629 If it is pretty lively, they stay; if it is dull, they slope off. 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Collect. & Recoll.* xxxiv. 477 Whoever slopes homewards, the Government must stay.

2. *trans.* To leave (lodgings) without paying.

In the sense of 'cheat, trick', *slope* is recorded in dialect use from 1828 onwards.

1908 *Reminis. Stonemason* 100 They had 'sloped' their lodgings.

† **Slope,** *v.*[3] *Obs.*[—1] (Meaning obscure.)

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 772 And 3if þe luste riȝt wel slope, Cum whon he doþ of his Masse-cope.

Slope (slōup), *adv.* [Aphetic for ASLOPE *adv.*] In a sloping or slanting manner or position. (In later use only *poet.*)

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Cæsar* v. (1530) 8 Theyr horsys ronne in placys slope steepyng. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 73 Ye shall bore slope a hole with an Auger, in the biggest part of the bodie of the Tree. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 129 Both sortes must be laied slope, that the water may run away. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lv. (1663) 217 The Temple..is built all slope fifteen fathom high. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 591 That bright beam, whose point now raisd Bore him slope downward to the Sun. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 188 Steep before them stood, Slope from the town, a heaven-illumined road. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 204 Hyperion..Came slope upon the threshold of the west.

Slope- in combs., representing either the sb. or adj., or the stem of the vb. **a.** With nouns, as *slope-block, -board, -desk*, etc. (see quots.).

1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1860) 206 The *slope-block is a cube of wood, whose side is made equal to the intended difference of level. 1648 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Galmi*, The *Slope-board-windowes in a Steeple of Bells, to give them the better sound. 1884 YATES *Recoll.* iii, On the edge of his green *slope-desk. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 389 Machines..for scooping out *slope drains, where necessary, in a field. 1828 STEUART *Planter's G.* (ed. 2) 199 No water can stagnate..where the entire bottom of the space.. is worked to a uniform level, that is, a *slope-level. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2214/2 The slope-level or clinometer is used for determining the angle of embankments, the grade of roads, pitch of roofs [etc.]. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 67 The Turf must be laid so that..the *Slope-line be kept without Elbows and Inequalities. 1859 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* IV. 108 A system of contour lines and steepest or slope lines. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. ¶ 3 The *Slope-sholdering of the Counter-Punch. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xvi. 96 This Distance from B to H is the true Length of the *Sloap-side BE. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 469 A gay-striped tent Just raised upon the slope-side. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 38 These *slope-swards are often so large, that it takes more than a day to work them out.

b. Forming parasynthetic adjs., as *slope-browed, -eared, -roofed, -toothed.*

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 129 Thou satest up till midnight; which..None that cards wooll with sloap-tooth'd wyre would do. 1813 J. N. BREWER *Beauties Eng. & Wales* XII. II. 116 It has a very ancient church with a slope-roofed tower. 1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* II. 153 The slope-eared bat (*vespertilio emarginatus*) is another of the bats of Europe. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. ii, A bald, rude, slope-browed, infuriated visage of the canine species.

Sloped (slōupt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **sloapt,** 8 **sloap'd.** [f. SLOPE *v.*[1]] Formed with a slope; cut, raised, placed, etc., in a sloping position.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 10 Turning the Ball about by its Handle, [he] presses it hard against the sloapt edge of the Ball-knife. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 167, I will make into Sloped Banks the 15 Toises or Fathoms of Augmentation to the South. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Engrafting*, Almost as long as the sloap'd Part of the Cyon. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, An index, which is a large ruler of wood..having a sloped edge. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 319/1 The sloped work had been destroyed. 1859 RUSKIN *Perspective* xviii. 132 Cut a piece of strong white pasteboard.., and dip it in a sloped position into water. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 73 Two Kashmiri soldiers..marching along with sloped arms.

† **Slo·pely,** *adv. Obs.*[—1] In 6 **sloaply.** [f. SLOPE *a.*] Slopingly; aslope.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 312 The next, which there beneath it sloaply slides.., is called the Zodiac, the Planet's path.

† **Slo·peness.** *Obs.* [f. SLOPE *a.*] The condition of having a slope; sloping form or position.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., If he kepe not a.. iuste slopenesse in the sides.., the diche shall be faultie many waies. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 251 Pendent, is the bending or slopenesse of the Parapet outward. 1611 COTGR., *Biseau*,..such a slopenesse, or slope forme, as is in the point of an yron leauer, chizle, &c. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 269 The Italians are very precise in giving the Cover a gracefull pendence of sloapnesse.

Sloper (slōu·pəɹ). *U.S.* [f. SLOPE *sb.*[1]] An inhabitant of the Pacific slope of the United States.

1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 14 Apr., All other 'slopers'..can avoid this evil and at the same time contribute to the prosperity of the slope.

Slopeways (slōu·pwēiz), *adv.* [f. SLOPE *sb.*[1] or *a.*] In a sloping manner or position.

1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 25 Setting them upright, or slope ways, or flatt. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iii. § 4 (1689) 20 From the inside to the back of the hook slope-ways. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. cvi. 459 The beets should be put into the canals slope-ways. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 18 The rigging, which ran criss-cross and slopeways.

Slo·pewise, *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* = prec. In common use *c* 1530 to 1770.

1530 PALSGR. 702/1, I shedde, as an hyll dothe slopewyse downwardes to the valley. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 84 But Plinie would haue them slope wise. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 61, I should rather cut off a convenient height from the ground, slope-wise. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 244 Prick the Rods sloap-wise against the Wind. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 418 It had the Appearance which a Tube, or rather a Cone, would make cut slopewise. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 211/2 Large iron cards, placed slopewise.

† **Slop'rall.** *Obs.*[—0] A cord or rope fastened to the front frame of a loom in order to support the weaver when bending to the shuttle.

1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6711/2.

Slopiness. *rare*[—0]. = SLOPENESS.

1611 COTGR., *Talus*,..slopenesse, or slopinesse. 1650 *Cotgrave's Dict.* (ed. 3), *Glacis*,..a sloaping, sloapinesse, gentle bending downewards.

Sloping (slōu·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOPE *v.*[1]] The fact of being or forming a slope; degree of slope; a sloping surface.

1611 COTGR., *Glacis*,..a sloaping, sloapenesse, gentle bending downewards. 1645 N. STONE *Enchiridion Fortif.* 3 On the inward side they gave them [*sc.* the walls] a *Talud* or slooping. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 204 If the sloaping of the Tun be not much. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 27 The great Walk in the middle..is supposed to be a gentle Sloping. 1794 SULLIVAN *View of Nature* II. 145 The different sloping of the ground. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 30 Where all The sloping of the moon-lit sward Was damask-work. 1903 DAVIDSON *O. T. Prophecy* ix. 138 The stair-like sloping to heaven of the land.

Sloping (slōu·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] That slopes, in senses of the vb.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 727 Mountaines, whose sloping sides in some places beare good grass. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* III. I. vi, Many thousand sloping sunnes have set. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 25 Where there are no Steps there is a sloaping descent to the Bason. 1765 A. DICKSON *Agric.* (ed. 2) 211 A curved mold-board with a sloping sheath. 1797 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. xii, With sloping masts and dipping prow..The ship drove fast. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 189 The ligament ..is inserted in the sloping depression in each valve. 1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret-Cutting* 94 The extra wood..given by the sloping cut can be pared away afterwards.

b. In quasi-adverbial construction.

1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magick* III. xvii. 98 Bore a hole sloaping into the body of a Tree. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 45 These Crucibles are laid sloaping. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 124 In such manner, that it may open sloping within the Funnel. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 218 The course of the water..ran sloping with a rapid but uniform motion. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 342/1 The stock is cut over, sloping, above a smooth and straight part.

Slopingly (slōu·piŋli), *adv.* [f. prec.] In a sloping manner or position; obliquely, slantingly.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xi. § 7. 92 These atomes do not descend alwayse perpendicularly, but sometimes sloapingly. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 115 Raise the Merry-thought from the breast, and lace it down sloppingly. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. x. 241 A great number of mats, which.. they place slopingly against the gunwale. 1809 *Ann. Reg.* 346 A regular descent will be made, by cutting away the earth slopingly. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LX. 770 The partridge glances slopingly through the trees. 1887 *Cent. Mag.* XXIII. 593 A long straight shaft, cut slopingly through the solid stone.

† **Slo·pingness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.] Sloping condition or position.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxx. § 6. 266 The litlenesse of the angle and the sloapingnesse of the line. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Slopingness*, Slantingness, going diagonally.

Sloppage (slǫ·pĕdʒ). *rare*[—1]. [f. SLOP *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2]] Slops collectively; slopped matter.

1884 *Cent. Mag.* Dec. 264/1 Sloppage, leakage, and the tainted air..make this space untidy and in every way objectionable.

† **Slopped,** *ppl. a.*[1] *Obs.*[—1] In 7 **slopt.** [f. SLOP *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Dressed in slops; wearing wide breeches.

a 1601 *Pasquil & Kath.* (1878) I. 125 Nor doe I enuie Polyphemian puffes, Swizars slopt greatnesse.

Slopped (slǫpt), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SLOP *v.*[2] + -ED [2].] Soiled or marked with slops; sloppy.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IX. i, Coarse, grimed, slopped, scanty table cloth. 1864 M. EYRE *Walks S. France* IX. (1865) 104 The tables..were all dusty, and all slopped.

† **Slopper,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.*[—1] = SLOP *sb.*[1] 4.

1549 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 131 It'm I gyue to Robert sawer a payre of frese sloppers.

† **Slopper,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] A scupper.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Obs. Voy. S. Sea* xvii. 40 The *Iesus of Lubecke*..had beene burnt without redemption, if that my Father..had not commaunded her Sloppers to be stopt, and the men to come to the Pumpes.

Slopper (slɒ·pəɹ), *sb.*[3] [f. SLOP *sb.*[1] + -ER 1.] A dealer in slop-clothing.

1854 *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Dec. 624/2 The old system of making clothes by the wholesale sloppers.

†**Slopper** (also -are), obs. variant of SLIPPER *a.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxiii, The sudayn weltering Of that Ilk quhele, that sloppare was to hold. *c* 1540 *Boke of fayre Gentylwoman* A iv, Cast up thyne eye and seke howe slopper chaunce Illudeth her men.

Sloppery (slɒ·pəri). [f. SLOP *sb.*[2] + -ERY.] Sloppy matter.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. iii. (1872) III. 11 A ragout of old bones full of hairs and slopperies.

Sloppily (slɒ·pili), *adv.* [f. SLOPPY *a.* + -LY [2].] In a sloppy or slovenly manner.

1898 *Daily News* 11 Oct. 6/4 His broadly but not sloppily touched landscapes.

Sloppiness (slɒ·pinės). [f. SLOPPY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being sloppy.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Slubbiness*, Sloppiness, Fulness of Plashes. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Sloppiness*, wetness of the earth; muddiness. 1862 MISS YONGE *C'tess Kate* xii, The sloppiness of a grey November day. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 12 Jan. 6/2 The general sloppiness of the handling [in a painting].

Slopping (slɒ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOP *v.*[2]] The action of the verb in various senses.

1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. (1778), When I am got out of one fit, how the devil am I to gather strength to encounter the next? Do you think it is to be done by sipping and slopping? 1881 *Daily Telegr.* 28 Jan., The slopping of the water outside made a strange sound. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* III. 427 It prevents slopping, but on the other hand makes it hard to pour.

So **Slo·pping** *ppl. a.*

1839 HOOD *To St. Swithin* vii, Milkmaids, and other slopping benefactors!

Sloppy (slɒ·pi), *a.* Also 8 (9 *dial.*) **slappy.** [f. SLOP *sb.*[2] + -Y [1].]

1. Of ground, etc.: Very wet and splashy; covered with water or thin mud.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sloppy*,..plashy. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal, Gacheux*,..slabby, slappy, plashy. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 207 Notwithstanding some trifling inconveniences of sloppy roads. 1798 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 215 It is snowing fast at this time, and the most sloppy walking I ever saw. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* III. ix, Cricket on very sloppy ground. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li, The streets were wet and sloppy. 1890 F. W. ROBINSON *Very Strange Family* 4 A wet, sloppy, windy, October day.

2. Of a semi-liquid consistency; watery and disagreeable: a. Of snow, etc.

1794 GISBORNE *Walks in Forest* vi. (1796) 98 Sloppy pools In the surrounding pulp lay stagnant. 1830 *Q. Rev.* XLII. 81 You have the varieties of deep and fresh snow, soft and sloppy, or covered with a crackling coat of ice. 1846 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VII. 10 The rain began to fall, the ice to get sloppy. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 27 A glacier, the ice of which was covered by sloppy snow.

b. Of articles of diet.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 412 Pure indeed!..Nasty, sloppy stuff. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 209 She has lived on sloppy mashes and green meat. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* xl, Having had to eat sloppy puddings with a fork instead of a spoon.

3. Splashed or soiled with liquid; wet from slopping; covered with slops; messy.

1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* x, A silver coffee-pot, an egg-shell, and sloppy china for one. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, Idlers, playing cards or dominoes on the sloppy, beery tables. 1882 B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* I. viii. 155 Passing a very sloppy cup recklessly towards her.

4. Weak, feeble; lacking in firmness or precision; slovenly.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 73 Each after a fashion of his own—more or less dignified or sloppy, as he is more or less afraid of being caught. 1881 *Academy* 15 Oct. 289 Too prone to indulge in sloppy English. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 123/2 Seventeen sloppy and scandalously inaccurate pages.

5. Of dress: Loose, slack, ill-fitting.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Sloppy*, loose, wide. 1852 MAITLAND *Eight Ess.* 236 Adorned with a sloppy dressing-gown. 1882 *Queen* 7 Oct. (Cassell), It must not be imagined that, to be easy, dress must necessarily be sloppy.

†**Slopsauce**, variant of SLAPSAUCE 1. *Obs.*

1595 *Locrine* III. iii, You..cockscomb, you slopsauce, lick-fingers, will you not heare?

Slo·p-seller. [f. SLOP *sb.*[1]] A dealer in slop-clothing.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Mar., A couple of state-cups..from Burrows the slopseller. 1691 MAYDMAN *Naval Specul.* 129 The Slop-seller, is a Person crept into the Navy, I mean to Monopolize the vending of Cloathing solely. 1758 *M.P.'s Let. on R. N.* 12 The Surgeons, Pursers, and Slopsellers,.. are put to great Trouble. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* I. xii, Encouraging Slop-Sellers to come on board, when the men are paying. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 249 The slop-sellers, and other sharks, at this port. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxx, Nicholas hurried into a slopseller's hard by, and bought Smike a great-coat. 1882 SERGT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xxxiv. 331 A little Hebrew slopseller from the Minories.

So **Slo·p-selling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer* Wks. (1905) 339 Addressing those slop-selling females afloat. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxii, One of those convenient slopselling establishments..at the eastern end of London.

Slo·p-shop. [f. SLOP *sb.*[1]] A shop where slop-clothing is sold.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/11 John Lees,..Slopshop. 1796 *Modern Gulliver* 175 From the whole stock of a slop-shop, I procured linen sufficient for a pair of trowsers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 369/1 The old coats and trowsers are wanted for the slop-shops; they are to be 'turned', and made up into new garments. 1879 SALA *Paris herself again* (1880) I. iii. 29 There yet remain slop-shops in the Palais Royal; but they are few in number.

fig. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 375 When Philosopher Hume..set up a kind of slop-shop of morality in the suburbs of Atheism. 1853 LOWELL *Moosehead Jrnl.* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 39 So we all go to the slop-shop and come out uniformed, ..with habits of thinking and doing cut on one pattern.

attrib. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xl. (1856) 365 Legs in sailor pants of pilot cloth, slop-shop cut. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* XXVIII. 549 Brown and I will back you up in it, and so will the slop-shop man.

Slo·p-work. [f. SLOP *sb.*[1]]

1. The making of slop-garments; the articles thus made.

1849 *Knife & Fork* 34 A charge of illegally pawning slop-work. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xviii, The waistcoat of sprigs—mere slop-work, if the truth must be known. 1890 *Spectator* 4 Oct., The girls do not retain the use of their needle..: and the slop-work is so cheap.

attrib. 1885 *Queen* 26 Sept. (Cassell), Worse done than if sent to the worst slop-work shop in the East-end.

2. Work cheaply and imperfectly done.

1861 SMILES *Lives Engineers* II. 216 He would not risk his reputation..on slop-work. 1870 J. B. BROWN *Eccl. Truth* 267 The starvation wages on which it [capital] can get its slop-work done.

So **Slo·p-worker**, one who does slop-work.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (1864) II. 342/2 The slop-workers ..will make nine such sized mantles in a week. 1859 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 133 The little sleeping slop-worker who had pricked her tiny finger so. 1890 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 438/2 That slop-workers should be trained to sew, does not enter into their programme.

Slopy (slōu·pi), *a.* [f. SLOPE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -Y [1].] Sloping.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 229 When they see the dead Corpse of the unhappy Pamela dragg'd out to these slopy Banks. 1793 G. WHITE *Selborne, Invitation to S.*, Here Nature hangs her slopy woods to sight. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P.* xxxvi, A green slopy bank of land. 1866 *Amer. Newsp.* in *Sat. Rev.* 14 July 40/1 The tender meetings on the slopy swards of the park.

Slore, obs. or dial. form of SLUR *sb.*[1]

Slorp (slōɹp), *v. dial.* and *Sc.* [Cf. Du. and MLG. *slorpen* in the same sense. See also SLURP *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To drink, sup, or eat greedily, noisily, or coarsely.

1802 in SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. Poet.* IV. Gloss. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1825– in northern and western dial. glossaries. [See *Eng. Dial. Dict.* for other senses.]

Slorry, slory, dial. and obs. ff. SLUBBY *v.*

Slosh (slɒʃ), *sb.* [Cf. next and SLUSH *sb.*[1]]

1. Slush, sludge.

1814 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 342 Now that it is converted into good wholesome *slosh*, I resume my morning walks. 1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Sept. 395/2 High fur-trimmed boots, the very things for American sloughs and slosh. 1887 ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstr.* (1892) 50, I care not a feather for slime or for slosh!

2. Watery, weak, or unappetizing drink.

1819 'R. RABELAIS THE YOUNGER' *Abeillard & Heloisa* 198 A pow'rful dose of slosh administer'd by way of emetic. 1861 F. W. ROBINSON *No Church* viii, 'Beer, brandy, rum, gin, anything but slosh,' he muttered, as Mary placed a cup of tea at his side. 1899 'A. RAINE' *Berwen Banks* 156 Ay don't want her cup o' tea! Never could bear the slosh.

b. Weak and trifling work or writing.

1896 *Q. Rev.* July 194 Rossetti in confounding all previous schools under the term 'slosh' is as much out of court as Ruskin in ignoring Dutch painting.

3. A quantity of some liquid.

1888 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 375 Corn-cake washed down with a generous slosh of whisky.

Slosh (slɒʃ), *v.*[1] [f. prec. or imitative.]

1. *intr.* To splash about in mud or wet.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* ii, Then on we went, dripping and sloshing. 1847 LORD HADDO *Mem.* (1866) I. 16 We ..slosh through the moor to a shepherd's house. 1894 SIR J. D. ASTLEY *50 Yrs. Life* I. 286, I then slipped, slid, and sloshed down into Balaclava.

2. *U.S.* To move aimlessly; to hang or loaf about.

1854 in BARTLETT (1859). 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 29 Aug., I am the rather loafing about Canada. I am 'sloshing around', as the Louisiana negroes..are said to 'slosh'. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* vi. 26, I was just sorter sloshin' around loose-like.

3. To make a splashing sound. Hence **Slo·shing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1888 F. COWPER *Caedwalla* 54 They could just hear the sloshing sound made by his feet as he got into the mud. 1894 *Times* 12 Apr. 13/3 She next heard a 'sloshing' of water. *Ibid.*, All the time that she was listening she heard the 'sloshing' of water.

†**Slosh,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* In 6 **sloss(h)e.** [Imitative: cf. prec. and SLOFF *v.*] *trans.* To lap up or swallow greedily.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Ep. Peter* II. 19 The dogge slosseth vp agayn that he hath once caste vp. 1553 BALE *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* B iiij, Ye bishop of Rome ..will easyly content himselfe, specially whan there is one morsell or other layde to him to slosshe.

Slosh-wheel. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2610/2 *Trammel-wheel.* Sometimes called a *slosh-wheel.*

Sloshy (slɒ·ʃi), *a.* [f. SLOSH *sb.*] Slushy.

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sloshy*, in a state of slosh. 1862 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* (1900) 379 London the foggy, with its dirty, sloshy, melting snow. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* xiii. 118 The sound of a footstep on the sloshy gravel walk.

Hence **Slo·shiness.**

1894 *Amateur Gardening* 4 Feb. 391 The drainage of such a path will be imperfect, hence 'sloshiness' in wet weather.

Slot (slɒt), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Also (4) 5–6 **slotte,** 5–7 (9) **slott,** and SLOTE *sb.* [a. MDu. or MLG. *slot* (so Du. and LG.), = OHG. *sloz* (G. *schloss*) door-bolt, lock, from the weak grade of the stem **slūt-, sliut-* to close (MDu. *sluten*, Du. *sluiten*; OHG. *sliozan*, G. *schliessen*).]

1. A bar or bolt used to secure a door, window, etc., when closed. Now *dial.*

a 1300 *E. E. Ps.* cvi. 16 He forgnod yhates,..And slottes irened brake he þare. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 471 *Sere, veroil et cerrure*, Barre, slot and stapul. 1391 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 108 In iij slottes ferri pro camp's (?) figend. 3*d.* 1424–5 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 272, j fenestra in domo carbonum, cum j slott, j stapill. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Slot, or schytyl of a dore, *verolium*. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 13 Expensis..on lokkis, irne slottis, bandis of irne..for reparing and dichting of the palice. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 176 Y^e^ Slot of a doore, *pessulus*. 1652 *Depos. York Castle* (Surtees) 49 Who assaulted his house, attempting to break in by opening two slotts or boults. 1663 in *Scottish N. & Q.* (1902) July 2 [They] did bring..ane number of yrons, bolts or slotts and caused put the samen vpon the doores. 1695 KENNETT *Paroch. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Slade*, In Northumberland the *slot* of a door is the bolt. 1825– in many northern dialect glossaries. 1855 AINSLIE *Land Burns* (1892) 243 Our cadger..slippit in, Syne cannilie shot the muckle door slot. 1874 J. CRAWFORD *Mem. Alloa* 76 He drew the slot, an'..In..the stranger passed.

b. A bolt forming part of the mechanism of a lock.

1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* 325, I did my best to put back the slot of one of the locks.

2. A metal rod; a flat wooden bar, esp. one forming a cross-piece.

1399 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 133 In slot de ferro empto pro prædicto baner, 4*d.* *c* 1400 in Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* (1847) II. 444 Slot of iron [for the guns]. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 334, iij serpentinis gunnis..; with ilkane tua chameris, thair mykkis and thair slottis. 1542 *Extr Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 185 Menzes and..Nicholsoune to be maisteris of the artillierie, and to provyd boolis, slottis, and all vder munitionis requirit thairto.

1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 *Slot*, any broad, flat wooden bar. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1316 A bridge [in a cider-press]..is suspended at each end by two slots (cross bars) playing on a rim. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 336 Bridges formed of four or six rough trees, secured at their crossings by the cross-pieces (slots in carpentry). 1892 *Daily Telegr.* 17 June 4/8 He noticed that the 'slot' worked from the next box was down.

b. *spec.* One of the cross-bars connecting the bulls of a harrow.

Occurs much earlier as *slote*: see SLOTE *sb.* 2.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 15 June 2/2 Timber. For sale,.. harrow bulls and slots. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 527 Four longitudinal bars,..with four lighter transverse bars, or *slots*. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 359 The 'slots' or cross-pieces of thin ash.

Slot (slɒt), *sb.*[2] Also 5–6 **slote,** 5, 8–9 **slott.** [ad. OF. *esclot* in sense 1 (see examples in Godefroy, wrongly explained), of obscure origin.]

1. The slight depression or hollow running down the middle of the breast. Now *Sc.* and *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1330 Syþen þay slyt þe slot, sesed þe erber. *Ibid.* 1593 þe mon..Set sadly þe scharp in þe slot euen, Hit hym vp to þe hulte, þat þe hert schyndered. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2254 O-slante doune fro þe slote he slyttes at ones! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3063 The slote of hir slegh brest [was] sleght for to showe. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* I. i. 43 If a Child..has Pain in the Back, or Slot of the Breast. 1808 JAMIESON, *Slot of the breast*, the pit of the stomach; where the breast-bone slopes away on each side, leaving a hollow. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

2. An elongated narrow depression or perforation made in the thickness of a piece of timber, etc., usually for the reception of some other part or piece, whether fixed or movable.

Slot hole occurs earlier (1485) in this sense: see 6.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 4 At the ploughe-tayle, where be two wedges, that be called slote-wedges: the one is in the slote above the beame, the other in the saide slote, vnder the plough-beame. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xi. (1877) I. 227 A square blocke of wood.., which dooth ride vp and downe in a slot, rabet, or regall betweene two pieces of timber. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* S iv, Formerly the Fork[s] were used to be Tennerd, and the Sills made with Slotts to put them in. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 435 The catch-box has a slot, fitting a feather on the spindle. 1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 33 A brass guard, in which there was a slot for a pin to slide in. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* 76 Mortising machines and others for boring and making slots in timber.

b. The opening in a slot-machine for the reception of a coin. Also *fig.*

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 5/1 'Drop a penny into the slot' and you can..obtain a cigarette. 1893 *Times* 28 Apr. 9/3 The Chancellor..has had recourse to the latest automatic invention, and has put a penny in the slot.

3. (See quots.)

1590 COCAINE *Treat. Hunting* Dj, Diuers Buckes haue sundrie slots in their palmes: some haue slots on both sides: other some are plaine palmed. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* 373 The slots or divisions of the hoofs now showed very deep and distinctly in the soft earth.

4. *dial.* (See quots. 1796 and 1882.) Also *attrib.*, as *slot-hem.*

1796 F. LEIGHTON *MS. Letter*, To the Yorkshire words add *Slot*, meaning the open hem in which the strings run of a purse, work-bag, night cap, &c. 1828– in dialect glossaries (Yks., Lanc., Linc.). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 508 A couple of tapes drawn tight in a slot-hem. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlwk.* 452/2 *Slot*, an inelegant term, employed in the eastern counties of England to denote a casing formed either by a double Running, or by a Hem, for the reception of a ribbon or tape, to be used as a Running-string.

5. *Sc.* (See quot.)

This sense is also recorded for Norw. *slot* (Ross), and may represent a different word.

1808 JAMIESON, *The slot of a hill*, a hollow in a hill, or between two ridges.

6. *attrib.* (in sense 2), as *slot-arm, -bar, -bearing, hole*, etc.; *slot-wedge* (see 2, quot. 1523).

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 392/2 As the *slot-arm [in a lathe] oscillates, it gives a reciprocating motion to the shaping slide. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 331 The *slot-bar..is for the purpose of adjusting the length of the fourth foot of the machine to any inequalities of the barn-floor. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. J 2, The bottom of the slot bar is arranged with a capped bearing. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1109 The spindles with their bobbins revolve in two *slot-bearings. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. J 2, These carriages and *slot heads are quite independent of each other in all their motions. 1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 244 For boryng of ij. *slott holes in a bote stake. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. H 9, The tools are fixed..in square slot holes. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Slot-hoop*, the same as truss-hoops. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Millwork* 167 The axis..of the *slot-lever. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Eng. Terms* 285 The *slot link..of an engine, which, through the medium of the eccentrics, alters the valve for forward or backward motion. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 119 The *slot-piece *b* adjusts the roller *a*, and a similar slot-piece..adjusts the roller *b*. 1891 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 3/1 In the concrete..are embedded at intervals cast iron tube frames, to which the *slot rails are bolted. 1892 LOW *Machine Draw.* 108 What is the object of the *slotway in the upper part of the ram?

b. *Slot-machine, -meter*, a machine or meter which is operated by inserting a coin in a slot.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June 1/3 An ostrich's stomach is not filled with mechanism like a slot machine's. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Aug. 2/2 A reduction of 2d. per thousand to those using the slot meter.

7. *Comb.*, as *slot-borer, -boring, -drilling, -headed.*

1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Millwork* 169 Crank and Slot-headed Sliding Rod. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2215 Slot-drilling Machine. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 823/2 *Slot Borer*, a tool used for opening the cut in connection with slotting machines. *Ibid.*, Slot-boring Machine.

Slot (slɒt), *sb.*[3] Also 6 slotte. [ad. AF. and OF. *esclot* (pl. *escloz, esclos*) hoof-print of a horse, etc., by Godefroy identified with *esclot, esclop* wooden shoe, but more prob. ad. ON. *slóð* track, SLEUTH *sb.*[2]]

1. The track or trail of an animal, esp. a deer, as shown by the marks of the foot; sometimes misapplied to the scent of an animal; hence generally, track, trace, or trail.

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 36 Take your Bloudhoundes and with them finde out the view or Slotte of the Harte or Bucke. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 35 To dogge them a little, ..and so discouer by slotte where the Deare taketh soyle. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 115 The Huntsman by his Slot, or breaking earth, perceaves..Where he hath gone to lodge. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* I. ii, By his slot, ..His frayings, fewmets, he doth promise sport. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedding* v. iv, If he had had as much hoof as horn, you might have hunted the beast by his slot. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 472 See here his Slot; up yon green Hill he climbs. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* I. 7 They were called..slothe hounds, from their following the slot or track of men or cattle. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* II. xxiii, The Deer Hath left his slot beside the way. 1865 BONER *Transylv.* 154 The slot of the bear is quite like that of a human being. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 161 We found in the sand where an hyena had lately passed: Sâlih asked if I knew the slot.

fig. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 372 This odious fool..leavs the noysom stench of his rude slot behind him. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* ix, We know Norman a true blood-hound, who will never quit the slot. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 10 Oct., The Emperor, who rarely quits the slot of an idea. 1884 *19th Cent.* Oct. 558 The most viciously virtuous reviewer that ever gave tongue on the slot of an imaginary scandal.

2. A deer's foot.

1876 *World* I. No. 121. 15 As to what is the correct name of a deer's foot,..I never heard it called anything but 'slot'. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Sept. 2/2 Another spoil of the chase of the wild red deer is the foot or 'slot', as it is called, and these slots may be found serving as bell-pulls, or even as door-knockers and ink-stands.

3. *Comb.*, as *slotwise* adv.

1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Laus Veneris* 255 And tracking ever slot-wise the warm scent. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Colonial Reformer* (1891) 126 Following the track (slotwise) at dawn of day.

†**Slot,** *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare.* In 5 sclot(t. [Of obscure origin.] A muddy place; mud.

Perh. a var. of SLOTH *sb.*[2]: the same vocab. has *paytt* for 'path'. Halliwell's '*Slot*, wet sticky clay. *Linc.*' (copied by Brogden) is of very doubtful genuineness.

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 797 *Hic limus* [=*limus*], a sclott. *Ibid.* 798 *Hoc volutabrum*, a selot [*sic*].

†**Slot,** *sb.*[5] *Obs.*[—1] [a. Du. or LG. *slot* (G. *schloss*): see SLOT *sb.*[1]] A castle.

1578 RICHE *Allarme to England* To Rdr., Thou paydst for building of a slot, that wrought thine owne decay.

Slot (slɒt), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* [f. SLOT *sb.*[1] 1.]

1. *trans.* To bolt (a door).

The entry in Johnson (1755) 'To *Slot*, v. a. (*slughen*, Dutch), to strike or clash hard' is prob. an echo (through Bailey) of Skinner, who connects the word with Du. *sluyten*.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 139 3our scoleris..hes in thare imaginatioun cloisit vp, slotit, and neidnalit the samin 3ettis of our hæretage. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol.* s.v., To Slot a door, *vox agro Linc. usitatissima, (i.e.) januam claudere.* [1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 To *Slot* a door, Lincoln, i. e. to shut it. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *To slot a door*, to shut it hastily, or in a passion.] 1811 H. MACNEILL *Bygane Times* 18 Whan they see The door, tho' slotted, budge a wee. 1825– in dialect glossarie (Nhb., Yks., Linc., Shropsh.).

b. (See quot.)

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Slade*, In the South to *slot* a lock is to thrust it back.

2. To secure (a lock) by shooting a bolt.

1904 A. GRIFFITHS *50 Yrs. Public Service* xxi. 318 He found that his skeleton-key would open the lock, even when 'on the double' or slotted.

Slot (slɒt), *v.*[2] [f. SLOT *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** *trans.* To pierce through the 'slot'. *Obs.*[—1]

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3853 He schokkes owtte a schorte knyfe.., And scholde haue slottede hyme in, bot no slytte happenede.

2. To cut a slot or slots in; to furnish with a slot. Also with *out*.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Qiij, The Sliders are Slotted at both Ends to receive the Forks. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Hand-tools* Pl. J 2, This machine is intended to slot the sides of connecting rods. *Ibid.* J 4, The tool holder, X, is provided with a circular motion..for slotting out curves. 1892 LOW *Machine Draw.* 54 After it is turned, planed, and bored it is slotted across.

b. *Coal-mining.* To hole.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227.

3. To drop (a coin) through a slot in a slot-machine.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 5/1 All the would-be purchasers who have carelessly slotted their pence.

Slot (slɒt), *v.*[3] [f. SLOT *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To trace by the slot; to follow the track of (a stag, etc.).

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 23 Three stags sturdye wer vnder Neere the seacost gating, theym slot thee clusterus heerdflock. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Hart*, If the Way is too hard to slot, be sure to try far enough back. 1838 *Sporting Mag.* Aug. 342 The hounds could own no such thing, neither could the knowing ones 'slot' the animal. 1884 *Longman's Mag.* IV. 489 The ground may be so wet ..that it is impossible to 'slot' a deer.

Slote (slōʊt), *sb.* Also 5 sloot, 7 sclote; 8–sloat. [var. of SLOT *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** A door-bolt. *Obs.* = SLOT *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloot, or schytyl of sperynge, *pessulum*. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* V. 11 Ane grete slote to monsure Sanct Romanis chalmour. 1614 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 170 For makinge two holes in stones for the sclotes goinge in our church dore. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 105, I have gotten now..the gate to open the slote and shut the bar of His door. 1721 RAMSAY *Poems* Gloss., *Slote*, a Bar or Bolt for a Door.

2. A bar; a cross-bar; also in special senses (see quots. and cf. SLOT *sb.*[1] 2).

a. 1485 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 87 Les tyers et slotes pro eisdem altaribus, 4*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15 [The] harowe-bulles..haue slotes of wode put through theym lyke lathes,..and the formest slote must be bygger than the other. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 The *Slote* of a ladder or gate, the flat step or bar. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 339/2 The Slotes are the vnder peeces which keepe the bottom of the Cart together. *Ibid.* 340/1 The several parts of a Wagon...The Slotes [are] the cross pieces which hold the Shafts together. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slote*, a kind of bolt for bottoms or sides of wagons, 'tumbrels', or harrows. 1879–87 in Shropshire and Cheshire glossaries.

β. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Cart*, The Sloats are the under pieces which keep the bottom of the Cart together. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* III. v. 78 The Sloats of a Gate or Hurdle. 1853 WAYLAND *Mem. Judson* II. 340 The openings in the sloats above the windows. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Sloat*, a piece of wood used as a stretcher, as the bar of a chair, the sloats of a cart.

3. A trap-door in a theatre stage.

1853 *Punch* XXIV. 128/2 The working of various mysterious engines of machinery, called 'sloats' and 'scruto-pieces'. 1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

Hence **Slo'ted** *ppl. a.*, furnished with slots or cross-bars; having (so many) slots.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15 The horse-harrowe is made of fyue bulles,..not soo moche as the other, but they be lyke sloted and tinded. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* IV. IV. 65 (E.D.S.), The open five-sloted hurdle.

Sloth (slɔuþ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 2 slauðe, 3–5 slaupe, 5 slaw(e)th(e, slauth (6 slaughte). *β.* 3 slouhðe, 4 slouȝte, slougthe, 5 sloughe, slought. *γ.* 4–5 slouþe, 4–6 slouthe, 4–6 slouth; 4 s(c)lowþe, 4–5 slowthe, 5, 7 slowth. *δ.* 6–8 sloath. *ε.* 5 slothe, 6– sloth. [Early ME. *slāwð(e, slōwð(e*, directly formed on *slāw, slōw* SLOW *a.* in place of OE. *slǽwð* SLEUTH *sb.*[1]]

1. Physical or mental inactivity; disinclination to action, exertion, or labour; sluggishness, idleness, indolence, laziness.

α. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Þe licome luuað muchele slauðe and muchele etinge. *c* 1205 LAY. 27039 Stið imodede men & swifte, slaupe bidæled. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B 178 For fele fautez may a freke forfete his blysse,..ben for slaupe one. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4293 Surfet, surquidry, & slawth.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 Heo wule scheken of hire slep of vuel slouhðe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 200 Oure owene necligence & slouȝte. 1437 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 187 Nowe here be ware..That for sloughe and for rach[l]eshede [etc.]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 117 Me semeth that..slougthe is amonge vs.

γ. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 344 We nolle sclepe in no sclowþe til we hem sclain haue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 15 Ofte is sen that mochel slowthe, Whan men ben drunken of the cuppe, Doth mochel harm. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 42 Another ensaumple..of hem that for slouthe lessethe her masse. *c* 1535 ELYOT *Educ. Children* B j, For Slouth destroyeth the power of nature. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. § 17 Slouth and fulnesse in peaceable times at home.

δ. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Paradox agst. Libertie* 225 Wks. (Grosart) II. 57 Not one of them will brook his Son in sloath to lurk. 1628 PRYNNE *Censure Cozens* 42 Their sloath and lasinesse is so great. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 190 Himself did..Arts ordain; Nor suffer'd Sloath to rust his active Reign.

ε. 1575–85 SANDYS *Serm.* xvii. 298 To withdraw men.. from sloth. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* Wks. (Grosart) II. 50 This nastie, and loathsome sin of Sloth. 1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. ii. 8 These arts..admit not either of sloth or wearinesse. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* I. i, Sloth and folly Shiver and shrink at sight of toil and hazard. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 247 The same lazy but restless disposition, which loves sloth and hates quiet. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Church* vii. 64 Ease has a natural tendency to engender sloth. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. v. 366 Deposed by his subjects on account of his sloth and luxury.

b. Personified.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 69 In al þe seruyse of Sloube I sese hem to-gedere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 9 Bot Slowthe mai no profit winne, Bot he mai singe [etc.]. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 898 in *Macro Plays*, Lechery, Slawth, & Glotonye, to mans flesch 3e are fendis Fre. 1609 DEKKER *Warres* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 115 Sloth, by reason that he is troubled with the gout, busies himselfe little with State matters. 1769 GRAY *Ode Installat.* 4 Dreaming Sloth of pallid hue.

c. *Comb.*, as *sloth-jaundiced, -loved, -promoting, -shunning* adjs.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 868 What can be hard to a sloath-shunning Spirit? 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 530 Down in my sloath-lov'd bed again I shrink. 1754 'J. LOVE' *Cricket* I. 64 Of sloth-promoting sports, forewarn'd, beware! 1794 COLERIDGE *Lines on Friend* Poems (1907) 27 Energic reason and a shaping mind...Sloth-jaundiced all!

2. Slowness; tardiness.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 313 Þus many men for sich slowþe of sharp reprouyng synnen meche. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *2nd Nun's T.* 258 If it so be thou wolt with-outen slouthe Bileue aright. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 21 Augustin be-gan to accuse him-self sor..of þe sloauth of his returne to God. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* V. i, Wherefore drop thy words in such a sloth? 1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* v. 379 [To] fill all his..Fuzes or Trains of Communication with a Composition whose Sloth he has been assured of. 1815 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 265 From sloth of proceedings, an embargo was permitted to run through the winter.

3. As a 'proper term', by later writers taken to mean: A company *of* bears (or erroneously, boars).

c 1452 in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1909) III. 52 A Slouthe of Beerys. *Ibid.* 53 A slothe of bayris. *c* 1470 *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (Roxb.) 31 A slouth of beres. [Cf. SLEUTH *sb.*[1] 1 b.] 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Exp., Slowth*, a heard or company of wild Boares together. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 132/1 The Proper terms given to Beasts when they are in Companyes. ..Beares, a Slowth. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* 17 A sloth of bears.

4. An edentate arboreal mammal of a sluggish nature, inhabiting tropical parts of Central and South America.

Two genera of sloths are recognized, viz. *Bradypus*, with three toes on the fore-feet, and *Choloepus* with only two.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 704 *note*, The Spaniards call it..the light dog. The Portugals Sloth. The Indians, Hay. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. II. i. 11 The Sloath...An Animal of so slow a motion, that he will be three or four dayes, at least, in climbing up and coming down a Tree. 1699 WAFER *Voy.* (1729) 401 The Sloath. Is a very slow-paced Animal, taking a whole Day in going fifty Paces. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 343 Of the sloth there are two different kinds, distinguished from each other by their claws. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 93 The Sloths have cylindrical molars, and sharp canini longer than those molars. 1894–5 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 207 Sloths are mainly nocturnal; and in their usual attitude they hang suspended back downwards.

fig. 1826 HOOD *Last Man* 160, I..never was one of the sloths. 1852 H. ROGERS *Eclipse of Faith* (1864) 140 Man has been gradually crawling up, a very Sloth in 'progress', from the lowest Fetichism and Polytheism.

b. Applied, usually with distinguishing epithets, to other animals, as the sloth-bear, the koala or koolah, the slow lori or lemur, and the mylodon or megatherium.

See also *ground sloth* s.v. GROUND *sb.* 18 b.

(*a*) 1790 SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* II. pl. 58 The Ursine Bradypus, or Ursiform Sloth. 1793 PENNANT *Synop. Quadr.* (ed. 3) II. 243 Ursiform Sloth with a long and strong nose, truncated at the end. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 160 The Ursine Sloth is about the size of a Bear. 1827 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* II. 238 The *Ursus Labiatus*, placed erroneously by Pennant and others among the Sloths, under the name of the Ursine Sloth.

(*b*) 1813–27 [see KOOLAH]. *a* 1862 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 468 The name of Australian Sloth..has been applied to it [the Koala, *Phascolarctos cinereus*] because it is able to cling with its feet to the branches after the manner of the sloths.

(*c*) 1827 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* I. 229 The Slow Loris, or Sloth of Bengal (*Lemur tardigradus*, L.). 1903 LYDEKKER *Mostly Mammals* 314 The name 'sloth' is not infrequently misapplied by travellers to the slow-lemurs of India and the Malay countries, or to their cousins the galagos of Africa.

(*d*) 1842 OWEN (*title*), Description of the Skeleton of an Extinct Gigantic Sloth, *Mylodon robustus*. *Ibid.* 147 The osseous frame-work of the gigantic extinct Sloths.

c. A species of Protozoa (see quot.).

1859 P. H. GOSSE *Evenings Microscope* (1877) 392 Two more species of this extensive genus [*Euglena*]..have received the appellations of the Pear (*E. pyrum*) and the Sloth (*E. deses*.)

5. Special combs.: **sloth-animalcule** (see quots.); **sloth-bear**, an Indian species of bear (*Melursus labiatus* or *ursinus*); **sloth-monkey**, the slow lori or lemur; **sloth-tree**, the South American trumpet-tree (*Cecropia peltata*), whose leaves are eaten by the sloth.

1871 *Carpenter's Zool.* II. 230 A number of minute creatures, well known to microscopic observers as *Sloth or Bear-Animalcules. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evolution of Sex* vi. § 5. 72 The degenerate water-bears or sloth-animalcules (*Tardigrada*). 1835 *Penny Cycl.* IV. 90/2 Labiated Bear, or *Sloth Bear. *a* 1862 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 407 The Aswail, or Sloth Bear. 1894 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 26 The sloth-bear may be regarded as one of the most characteristic..mammals of India. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Sloth-monkey. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* I. xx. 324 The two species of Sloth-monkeys (*Pithecia*) are found. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *Trades* 29 Among them was the *sloth tree (*Cecropia*), all arms and legs.

† **Sloth,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also **slothe.** [app. an alteration of *slogh* SLOUGH *sb.*[1] The examples are E. Anglian.] A miry or muddy place; a slough.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Slothe, where fowle water stondythe, *lacuna*. *Ibid.*, Slothe, where swyne or oþer bestys han dwellyd, *volutabrum*. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 125 But thi goddys..Or ben of bras..Or ellys of stonys wych in a sloth to laye Wer bettyr to skepyn from the foul weye.

† **Sloth,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 5 **slouth(e, slought.** [f. SLOTH *sb.*[1] Cf. SLEUTH *a.*[1]] Slothful, slow.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3646 Of þe future slouth and necligent. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 367 A! ȝe fonnys and slought of herte For to beleve in holy Scrypture. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 48 God is a good God,..and very sloth to reuenge hys blasphemie. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 138 What? are ye growne so sloth?

Sloth (slōuþ), *v.* Now *rare.* Forms: *α.* 5 **slawth.** *β.* 4–5 **slowth** (5 **slowȝth**), 4–6 **slouthe,** 7– **sloth.** [f. SLOTH *sb.*[1] Cf. SLEUTH *v.*[1]]

† **1.** *trans.* To allow to slip through slothfulness or delay; to neglect. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 2 Som time he slowtheth in a day That he nevere after gete mai. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 286/2 Diverses matiers..have be slowthed and throwen into grete..omission. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 Slouthe nor delay not that thou must nedely execute. 1500 *Will of Catelyn* (Somerset Ho.) My tithes necligently forgoten or slowthed. 1708 M. BRUCE *Lect.* 13, I do not bid you cast away your Callings nor Sloth them neither.

† **b.** To waste, pass *away* (time) in idleness.

1523 *State P., Hen. VIII*, VI. 171 Whiche thinges must nedes geve the more occasion to thEmperour not to slouthe any time that may be taken for avauncement of this enterprise. 1676 BUNYAN *Strait Gate* 69 The most of professors are for imbezzeling, mispending and slothing away their time.

2. *intr.* To be or become indolent or lazy.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 116 Yit ne wol he noght travaile.., Bot slowtheth under such a drede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 281 þat þou schalt not̄ dullyn and slawthyn in þi labour of þi prayers. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 279 Strenuous solitary men, whose unquiet mettle moves them from slothing in the tent's shadow to prowl as the wolf in the wilderness.

Hence **Slo·thing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1690 JAS. FRASER in Wodrow *Scl. Biogr.* (1847) II. 239 Mispending of time, excess in lawful comforts, slothing of private duties.

Slothful (slōu·þfůl), *a.* (and *sb.*). Forms: *α.* 5 **slouthe-,** 5–7 **slouth-,** 6 **slought-**; 5 **slowt-,** 6 **slowth-.** *β.* 6 **slothe-,** 6– **sloth-,** 7–8 **sloath-.** Also 5–7 **-full.** [f. SLOTH *sb.*[1] Cf. SLEUTHFUL *a.*]

1. Of persons, etc.: Full of sloth; indisposed to exertion; inactive, indolent, lazy, sluggish.

α. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. viii. 55 Sloutheful haue they ben aboute theyr owne hele. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. xiii, I am so sloutbfull that I maye not ete. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Lord's Prayer* vii. 56 God tempteth us for exercyse sake, that we should not be slouthfull. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xxv. 26 Naughtie and sloughtfyl servant. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 18 The slouthfull waue of that great griesly lake.

β. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Slowe or slothfull, *lente, tardif.* 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 194 Least the residue shulde waxe slothefull with Idlenes. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* IV. (Arb.) 33 Hee is the true Slothfull man that does no good. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. II. 119 Admit not a sloathfull person unto your doctrines. 1717 POPE *Iliad* X. 74 Still, with your Voice, the sloathful Soldiers raise. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 290 A nation..cannot maintain..its fleets and armies from the industry of such slothful members. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii, You shall not find Patrick Charteris slothful in a matter of this importance. 1876 B. MARTIN *Messiah's Kingd.* VI. ii. 301 The church has been slothful.

b. *absol.* (chiefly as *pl.*).

1630 B. JONSON *Disc.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 752/2 He is grown to active men an example, to the slothful a spur. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* Introd., It will make the sloathful active be. 1781 *Scot. Paraphrases* XII. v, Ye indolent and slothful rise.

c. As *sb.* A lazy person, a sluggard.

1648 HERRICK *Hesp., Dissw. fr. Idlenesse*, Toiles, or Manicles Set on purpose to enthrall Men, but Slothfulls most of all.

2. Of habits, etc.: Characterized by sloth or disinclination to exertion.

c 1400 *Pol., Rel., & L. P.* (1866) 5 Fy on slowtfull contenewaunce. 1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 The slouthfull and ungodly lief wch hathe bene used emonges all those sorte wch have borne the name of religious folke. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Mempricius* vi. 1 Then wickedly I fell to slouthfull ease. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Mar. 1689, The slothfull, sickly temper of the new King. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. iv, His peaceful day was slothful ease. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Emp.* (1854) I. 303 They have also been obliged to lay aside their slothful habits.

Slothfully (slōu·þfůli), *adv.* Also 6 **slought-,** 6–7 **slouth-,** 7 **sloath-.** [f. prec.] In a slothful manner; lazily, sluggishly.

1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 3 Is it any merueille that the taxes..haue bin so sloughtfully, ye painfully leuied? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 He hath hitherto wrought slouthfullye. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Perezosamente*, slothfully. 1741 BP. BERKELEY in Fraser *Life* (1871) viii. 274 If I tamely and slothfully gave myself up to be ridden..by the Pope. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 194 Not too slothfully tarrying, Thou art here.

Slothfulness (slōu·þfůlnės). Also 6 **slought-,** 6–7 **slouth-, sloath-.** [f. SLOTHFUL *a.* + -NESS.] The state or character of being slothful; sluggishness, laziness.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 131 All slouthfulnes, all negligence. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 55 Inexcusable slothfulnesse and negligence. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 24 Such occasions as may serve for an excuse of slouthfulnesse. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni apud Scotos* 61 [They] prefer a quiet sloathfulness to honest hazards. 1736 AINSWORTH I. s.v., The refusing of labour is a proof of slothfulness and laziness. 1878 SPURGEON *Treas. David* cviii. Introd., To use the same words continually..would show great slothfulness.

† **Slo·th-head.** *Obs.*[−1] In 4 **sloghþhede.** [f. SLOTH *sb.*[1]] Slothfulness.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5075 3yt ys þyr an vnkynde sloghþhede, þat a man vnneþ..wyl wurschep God derwrþly.

† **Slo·thly,** *aav. Obs.*[−1] In 5 **slowthlyche.** [f. SLOTH *a.* + -LY [2].] Sluggishly, lazily.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xiii, Other manere of rennynge houndes þer bee þe whiche hunteth somdele more slowthlyche and heuyiich.

Slo·t-hound. [f. SLOT *sb.*[3]] A sleuth-hound.

1537 *St. Papers, Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 97 Diverse of his tenauntes pursewed the trade with a slott hownd. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxviii, The misfortunes which track my footsteps like slot-hounds. 1839 J. SNOWE *Rhine* I. 352 The wrath of the archbishop, which still tracked them like a slot-hound. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. xiii. (1872) VI. 298 The slot-hounds [being] uncoupled and put on his trail, poor Cameron was unearthed.

† **Slot-staff.** *Sc. Obs.*[−1] [? f. SLOT *sb.*[1] 2.] Some form of staff used as a weapon.

1561 *Burgh Recs. Prestwick* (Maitl. Club) 66 Ane slot staf, or ane pow ax, suerd and buklar.

Slotted (slǫ·ted), *ppl. a.* [f. SLOT *sb.*[2] 2 or *v.*[2]] Having a slot or slots.

1849 *Mech. Mag.* Oct. 327 A pin..which takes into a slotted piece which slides up and down in a curved groove. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Hand-tools* Pl. I 4, The reversing lever..is carried..through the slotted lever. 1881 A. G. BELL *Sound by Radiant Energy* 11 The beam of light is interrupted by its passage through the two slotted disks.

Slo·tter, *sb.* [f. SLOT *v.*[2]] One who makes slots; also, a slotting-machine.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 42 Engine and Machine Making:..Slotter. Screwer. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Nov. 7/2 Planers, slotters, turners, smiths, and men engaged in skilled work.

Slotter (slǫ·tər), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 4–5 **sloter(yn).** [Of obscure origin: cf. Du. *slodderen*, LG. *sluddern*, G. *schlottern*, some senses of which come near to those of the English word.]

1. *trans.* To make foul or dirty; also, to spill or splash about, to slop.

The sb. *slotter* spilled liquor, a filthy mess, etc., is also recorded in dialect use from 1787 (Grose) onwards.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2367 þan aght þe saul of synful with-in Be ful foule þat es alle slotered in syn. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7066 'Abide,' she seid, 'so mot I thee, More slotered thei most be'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloteron, or defowlyn, *maculo, deturpo*. 1825– in dialect glossaries, etc. (Sc. and South-western).

2. *intr.* To be slothful or slovenly. *Sc.*

1553 *Douglas's Æneid* IV. Prol. 164 Thou auld hasard leichoure,..That slotteris [*Small's ed.* flotteris] furth euermare in sluggardry. 1808 JAMIESON, *Slotterin, slutterin*, acting in a slovenly manner; Loth[ian].

Hence † **Slo·tterbug,** a dirty or filthy person.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460 Sloturburgge [*other texts* slotyrbugge], *cenulentus, maurus, obcenus*.

Slo·ttery, *a. Sc.* and *dial.* Also *Sc.* **slottry.** [f. SLOTTER *v.*]

Todd (1818) gives *slottery* from Urry's ed. of Chaucer (*Knt.'s T.* 2025), but the correct reading is *flotery*.

1. *Sc.* Sluggish, slothful.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. iv. 87 The slottry Sleip, Deidis cusing of kynd. 1808 JAMIESON, *Slottry*, slumbering, drowsy, inactive; Loth[ian].

2. *dial.* Of weather, etc.: Wet, dirty.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Slottery weather*, foul, wet weather. 1866 G. W. THORNBURY *Greatheart* II. 244 The roads [round Boscastle, Cornwall] are slottery.

Slo·tting, *sb. rare.* = SLOT *sb.*[3] 1.

1909 B. GROHMAN *Master of Game* 262 All of which may lead his slotting to be mistaken for the tracks of a hind.

Slotting (slǫ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOT *v.*[2]]

† **1.** *Sc.* The practice, on the part of butchers, of 'scoring' flesh. *Obs.*

1647 *Extr. Burgh Recs. Stirling* 193 The actis and ordinances..anent slotting and spuilyeing of flesche.

2. The action of making or cutting a slot or slots.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 689 There is no slotting, as in the common harrow, but the bulls and bars are simply crossed. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 20 When fairly voiced, the slotting may be commenced.

b. *attrib.*, as *slotting auger, bar, machinery.*

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 234/1 Improvements in slotting machines. *Ibid.*, The fourth part is an improvement in the slotting bar. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 298 The planing, slotting, or turning machinery of these factories. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Hand-tools* Pl. P 17, The ordinary turning, planing, and slotting tools. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 185/1 The Slotting Auger cuts laterally.

3. *Coal-mining.* (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 *Slottings*, coal cut away in the process of holing.

Slottysshe, obs. form of SLUTTISH *a.*

Slouch (slauʧ), *sb.* Forms: 6 **slouche, sloutche,** 7 **slowch(e,** 7– **slouch** (8 *dial.* **zlouch).** [Of obscure origin: cf. SLOUK, and dial. *slotch* in the same sense. Senses 3 and 4 are from the vb.]

1. An awkward, slovenly, or ungainly man; a lubber, lout, clown; also, a lazy, idle fellow.

Freq. in 16th and 17th c. as a term of disparagement without precise significance.

1515 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshman* Prol., A lordes stomake and a beggers pouche Full yll accordeth, suche was this comely slouche. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in S.'s Wks. (1843) I. p. lxv, A cobler..which was a tall man and a greate slouen, otherwyse named a slouche. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 1077 The louzie Couch Of some base Ruffon, or some beastly Slouch. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. iii. 8 A foul great stooping slouch with heavie eyes, And hanging lip. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 61. 3/2 A Capacious Pouch, Which look'd like Tail at Rump of Slouch. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* I. 39 Begin thy Carrols then, thou vaunting Slouch. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Slouch*,..a negligent slovenly fellow. 1808 J. STAGG *Misc. Poems* 143 Ye'd luok but silly slouches. 1881– in dial. glossaries (I. of W., Berks., Lancs.). 1884 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1901) I. 342, I recognise myself, compared with you, to be a lout and slouch of the first water.

b. *U.S. slang.* A poor, indifferent, or inefficient thing, place, person, etc. Chiefly in the negative phrase *no slouch of* (something); also const. *at.*

(*a*) 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* iv. 27 It..became a most lamentable 'slouch of a journal'. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* 308 The mare..was no slouch, either. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxxiii. (1892) 366 We came to Spokane Falls, which seemed to be 'no slouch of a city'.

(*b*) 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl.* viii 139, I guess you a'n't much of a 'slouch' at shooting. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise 'Cachalot'* x. 107 He was no 'slouch' at the business either.

2. *ellipt.* A slouch hat or bonnet.

1724–28 in *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XI. 247/1 Paid 20s. for a ribbon and slouch for Molly. *c* 1754 GARRICK *Epil. Fielding's Fathers*, The high-cocked, half-cocked quaker, and the slouch, Have at ye all! 1867 F. H. LUDLOW *Fleeing to Tarshish* 189 With his long grey hair streaming from under his slouch. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian* 107 His hat is either small, round and hard, or a black slouch.

3. A stooping, or bending forward of the head and shoulders, in walking; a loose, ungainly carriage or bearing; a walk or gait characterized by this.

1725 SWIFT *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 579 He hath a sort of a slouch in his walk! 1771 MACKENZIE *Man of Feeling* xi, He was known by the slouch in his gait, and the length of his stride. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* iii, The slouch in the back is taken out, their heavy walk is changed to a firm.. tread. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xii, Making himself more round-shouldered..by the sullen and persistent slouch. 1885 J. RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 258 The slight slouch that most of our men cultivated.

b. Const. *of* (the shoulders, etc.).

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 881 The carter..plods with double slouch of shoulder. 1892 STEVENSON *Across Plains* v. 176 The very slouch of the fellows' shoulders tells their story.

4. The fact or condition of slouching or hanging down loosely.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* ix, Fierce glances lower under the slouch of broad sombreros.

Slouch, obs. Sc. f. SLOUGH *sb.*[2]

Slouch, *a. rare.* [f. the sb. or v., or back-formation from combs. like *slouch-eared.*]

† **1.** Drooping or hanging loosely; slouching.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 207/1 Temptation or Sathan ..is drawn with a Dragons head and Wings, to the middle like a Man with slouch hanging Breasts. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4540/8 A..Bay Gelding,..hath large slouch Ears. 1829 WIDOWSON *Pres. St. Van Diemen's Land* 142 A very large head, Roman nose, slouch ears.

2. *dial.* Clownish, loutish; slovenly. Also *Comb.*

1837 THORNBER *Hist. Blackpool* 110. 1886 *Spectator* 1587 An educated loafer, the aimless, shiftless, slouch-souled dependant.

3. Slouched. (Cf. SLOUCH HAT.)

1844 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Béarn & Pyrenees* I. x. 179 All the bathers..were in cloaks and slouch bonnets.

Slouch (slauʧ), *v.* [app. f. the sb., or the ppl. a. (SLOUCHING), which is found earlier. Cf. dial. *slotch* in sense 1.]

For dialect forms and senses, see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1. *intr.* To move or walk with a slouch or in a loose and stooping attitude. Const. with advs. or preps.

1754 FIELDING *J. Wild* I. xiv, They with lank ears and tails slouch sullenly on. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 151 The circumstance of slouching through mire. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingold. Leg.* Ser. III. *Jarvis's Wig* (1905) 502 In a few minutes his tiny figure was seen 'slouching' up the ascent. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* II. vii. 179 He slouched to and fro on his beat in the dockyard. 1886 JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 42 A genuine idler..is not a man who slouches about with his hands in his pockets.

fig. 1880 *Times* 30 Aug. 4/3 They slouched through their lives with a look of cheerful ignorance on their faces.

b. To carry oneself with a slouch or stoop; to droop the head and shoulders.

1755 JOHNSON, *Slouch*, to have a downcast clownish look. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., To slonch*, to hang down one's head. 1884 *Cambridge Rev.* 10 Dec. 131 He slouched over his oar very badly at the finish. 1900 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 54, I am going to be like her, and not like the women at Nazeby (who all slouched).

c. Of a hat: To hang down, droop.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, Even the old hat looked smarter;..instead of slouching backward or forward on the Laird's head [etc.]. 1845 BROWNING *Flight of Duchess* x, What signified hats if they had no rims on, Each slouching before and behind like the scallop?

2. *trans.* To put on, or pull down, (one's hat) in such a way that it partly conceals the face.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 126 Slouching my hat, I slid out of doors. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, The villains wore their hats much slouched. 1818 — *Br. Lamm.* ix, His hat was unlooped and slouched. [1828–32 in WEBSTER; hence in later Dicts.]

b. Const. *over* (the face, brow, etc.).

1806 SURR *Winter in London* I. 165 Slouching his hat over his face, he motioned Edward..to depart. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do?* II. xiv, He wore a large hat of foreign make, slouched deep over his brow. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Paradise* III. iv. 41 [He] slouched down his hat Yet farther o'er his brows.

3. a. To go or make (one's way) in a slouching manner. In quot. *fig.*

1861 GEO. ELIOT *S. Marner* 58 Having slouched their way through life with a consciousness of being in the vicinity of their 'betters'.

b. To stoop or bend (the shoulders).

1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* II. xi. 170 The Wake slouched his shoulders, and looked as mean a churl as ever.

c. To make (a bow) with a slouch or stoop.

1897 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* viii, Woodseer passed him, slouching a bow.

Slouch-eared, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [app. f. SLOUCH *sb.*] Having loose hanging ears.

1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 11 That men maye se what a slowche eared asse he is. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Qui a les Oreilles lasches & pendantes*, hanging eares, or slouch eared. 1607 BREWER *Lingua* III. vi, There was an old..slouch-eard slaue that looking himselfe by chance in a Glasse died for pure hate. 1793 PENNANT *Quadr.* (ed. 3) II. 313 Slouch-eared Bat with large pendulous ears, pointed at the ends.

Slouched (slaʊtʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. SLOUCH *v.*]

1. *Slouched hat*, a slouch hat. Also, one worn in such a manner that the brim hangs over the face.

1779 *Mirror* No. 47 ¶4 Dressed in a short coat, and an old slouched hat with a tarnished gold binding. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., A slouched hat*, a hat whose brims are let down. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vi, Others in large loose-bodied great-coats, and slouched hats. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiii, Every common ruffian-looking fellow, with a slouched hat. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 34 His hair falls down From 'neath a wide slouched hat of brown.

2. Slouching, slouchy.

1858 *Chambers's Jrnl.* IX. 106 Men..standing in groups, in slouched attitudes, and slouchingly attired.

Sloucher (slaʊ·tʃəɹ). [f. SLOUCH *v.*] One who slouches, or walks with a slouching gait; a slouch; *spec.* in *Horse-racing*, a jockey who intentionally rides slowly in the early stages of a race.

1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* II. iv. 102 The sloucher took up his quart, and said that he saw 'no call' to hurry. 1897 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 8/3 Well-dressed gentlemen are seen alongside the sloucher, with neck hidden in a shawl.

Slouch hat. [Cf. SLOUCHED *ppl. a.*] A hat of soft or unstiffened felt or other material, esp. one having a broad brim which hangs or lops down over the face.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iii, A grand controversy which there was, as to 'slouch-hats or slouched-hats'. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. 1. i. 11 A celebrated doctor who wore a slouch hat. 1891 MRS. CLIFFORD *Love-Lett. Worldly Woman* vii. 92, I prefer..thick muddy shoes and a slouch hat to a slim umbrella and a frock-coat.

So **Slouch-hatted** *a.*, wearing or having a slouch hat.

1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* v, A slouch-hatted, long-cloaked, sour-faced fanatic. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. i, Much may remain unfixed..in the Slouch-hatted heads, in the French Nation's head. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Oct. 5/3 A group of slouch-hatted warriors.

Slou·chily, *adv.* [f. SLOUCHY *a.*] In a slouchy or slovenly manner.

1890 SARA J. DUNCAN *Social Departure* 79 Wearing their European jackets still a little slouchily. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 5/5 Two..slouchily dressed policemen.

Slou·chiness. [f. SLOUCHY *a.*] The state or condition of being slouchy or slovenly.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Amer. Ann. Deaf* Sept. 334 Certain personal habits of our pupils,..slouchiness when sitting or standing.

Slouching (slaʊ·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOUCH *v.*] Ungainly walking, lounging or loafing, etc.

a 1764 LLOYD *Dial.* 285 As some take stiffness for a grace,.. And others, for familiar air Mistake the slouching of a bear. 1891 SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 80 The men you see standing in groups..are branded lazy fellows, who prefer slouching to any other condition.

Slouching (slaʊ·tʃiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Hanging down, drooping; heavy. *rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Oreilles lasches*, slowching, or hanging eares. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* III. 76 A famisht Norman.. fell into such a passion against the Pastry-man,..that he flung all the Crust of the Pye at his slouching Chops. 1886 *Westm. Rev.* CXXV. 85 He had..rather rough-hewn slouching features.

2. Of persons: Having an awkward, stooping, slip-shod carriage or gait; walking or moving with a slouch.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xxi. (1713) 157 The forcing of a rich, beautiful and vertuous Bride upon some poor slouching Clown. 1845 DICKENS *Chimes* iii. 126 A slouching, moody, drunken sloven. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* vii. (1876) 146 It did not..enable him to perceive a timid, slouching figure. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xi. 95 A slouching young man..touched his hat to me.

3. Of a hat: Having a brim which hangs over the face. Also *transf.* of other garments, etc.: Hanging down in a loose untidy manner; slovenly.

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 406, I go to the Lawyers..with my great Slouching-Hat. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* I. 354 Next then the slouching Sledo, and our huge Button, And now our Coats, flanck broad, like Shoulder Mutton. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxiv, Enveloped from head to foot in an old, frowsy, slouching horse-cloth. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxiii, They wear the sombrero, or broad slouching hat of Spain. 1878 BRET HARTE *Man on Beach* 115 His thought was not always clothed in the best language, and often appeared in the slouching, slangy undress of the place and period.

4. Marked or characterized by a slouch or clumsy stooping carriage or bearing.

a 1773 CHESTERFIELD (Todd), The awkward, negligent, clumsy, and slouching manner of a booby. 1774 in Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 523 Formerly they had a slouching, slovenly air. Now every peasant..is erect and soldier-like. 1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* xliv, The man..lingered with slouching steps by the wayside. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., He was followed by the dumb man with bent head and slouching gait.

Hence **Slou·chingly** *adv.*, in a slouching or slovenly manner.

1858 *Chambers's Jrnl.* IX. 106 Men lounging about..in slouched attitudes, and slouchingly attired. 1889 MARY E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* II. ii. 141 Man and dog advanced slouchingly.

Slouchy (slaʊ·tʃi), *a.* [f. SLOUCH *sb.* and *v.* + -Y.] Slouching, in various senses; slovenly, untidy. Freq. in recent *U.S.* usage.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 What meaneth this..wagging of her slouchy Chaps? 1854 I. TAYLOR in *Good Words* 227 The ample auburn locks are in part huddled up within a broad-bordered slouchy cap. 1868 M. H. SMITH *Sunshine & Shadow N. York* 283 His dress slouchy and countrified, his oratory uninviting. 1882 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 176 Looking like a slouchy country bumpkin.

Slough (slaʊ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1, 3–4 sloh, 1 slog(h, 5 slogh, 4–5 sloghe (5 sloghte); 4 slowh, slow3 (5 -e); 4 slouhe, slou3(e, 4–slough (6 -e), 5 sclough, 9 *Sc.* slouch. *β.* 4, 6–7 slowe, 4–8 slow. *γ.* 1, 3, 5 slo, 4–5, 9 *dial.* sloo. (See also SLEW *sb.*[1]) [OE. *slōh* (*slōg*, *slō*), of doubtful origin; perhaps ultimately related to SLONK.]

1. A piece of soft, miry, or muddy ground; *esp.* a place or hole in a road or way filled with wet mud or mire and impassable by heavy vehicles, horses, etc.

a. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 400 Þæt hors..sume sloh on þæm wæge mid swiðþran ræse oferhleop. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlvi. (1883) 239 Þeah se man nime ænne stan and lecge on ful sloh. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 142 Of the welles brinke Or of the pet or of the slowh. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13547 Wanto the lond, Thurgh the slicche and the slyme in þis slogh feble. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 15826 (Trin.), Forþ þei ihesus drowe And lugged him..ouer hilles, dale, & slowȝe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/1 A Sloghte, *tesquum, vel tesqua, volutabrum. c* 1500 *God Speed the Plough* 14 By downe and by dale and many a slough. 1577 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* xix. in *Holinshed* I. 114 Manie a slough [would] proue hard ground that yet is deepe and hollow. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 78 Many a time enclos'd in the midst of sloughs and quagmires. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 9 They drew near to a very Miry Slough..The name of the Slow was Dispond. 1732 SWIFT *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 682 Every meadow a slough, and every hill a mixture of rock, heath, and marsh. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 5 One who.., having long in miry ways been foil'd.., from slough to slough Plunging [etc.]. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, An old-fashioned road, which, preferring ascents to sloughs, was led in a straight line. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, The sloughs were exceedingly murky.

transf. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xvi. 187 And then piloted my dogs out of their slough. 1890 E. H. BARKER *Wayfaring in France* 27 Sand sloughs into which they may step unawares.

β. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6075 (W.), Into theo mores they heom drowe. To quede paththes, to quede slowe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 64 (Hengwrt MS.), He hath also todo moore than ynow To kepen hym and his capil out of the Slow. 1537 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 132 Mendyng the fowle slowys betwene thys my howse and Reuyttes gate. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 558 To lie as a beast in a slow. 1678 [see above]. 1710 *Acc. Distemper Tom Whigg* II. 44 Breaking his Horse's Back as he plung'd into a Slow.

γ. a 1000 in Birch *Sax. Chartul.* I. 530 Of þan slo to þan lytlan beorhe. *Ibid.* II. 41 In readan sloe. *c* 1250 [see b].

a 1300 *Assump. Virg.* 507 Cast we it in a foule sloo. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 267 Now is my cart out of the sloo parde! *c* 1425 *Castle Persev.* 2242 in *Macro Plays*, Lete slynge hem in a fowle slo. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13597 By brookys and by sloos fowle, A-mong the clay they hym dyffoule. [1891 *Hartland Gloss.* s.v. *Slough*, A bye-road at H. is called *Sloo Road*, and an adjoining field *Sloo Park*.]

b. *fig.* A state or condition (esp. of moral degradation) in which a person, etc., sinks or has sunk.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1394 Vor mony wymmon haueþ mysdo þat aryst vp of þe slo. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxix. 3 Wha sa gifis þaim til lustis of fleysse.., þai light in þe sloghe, and þai ere enmys of Jesu crist. 1415 HOCCLEVE *Sir J. Oldcastle* 105 Ryse vp, a manly knyght, out of the slow Of heresie. *c* 1425 *Castle Persev.* 2757 in *Macro Plays*, þus hast þou gotyn, in synful slo, of þyne neygboris, be extorcyon. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. pr. iii. 81 See you not in what a great slowe [L. *cæno*] wicked thinges be wrapt in. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 105 For this man Carrier when he talks of religion he is in a slowe. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 222 Ambition, av'rice; the two daemons these, Which goad thro' ev'ry slough our human herd. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 149 To take the adventurous leaps of folly, or plunge into the sloughs of vice. 1823 ROSCOE tr. *Sismondi's Lit. Europe* (1846) I. viii. 257 A disgusting slough swallows up those, who abandon themselves to choleric passions. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* IV. ix. (1877) III. 35 The clergy sank into a deeper slough of popular hatred. 1888 H. MORTEN *Hospital Life* 22 It had.. lifted her out of the miserable slough in which marriage had landed her.

c. *Slough of Despond*, after Bunyan's use (see 1 a and DESPOND *sb.*).

1776 TWINING in *Country Clergyman of the 18th C.* (1882) 31, I remember slumping all on a sudden into the slough of despond, and closing my letter in the dumps. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, The miry Slough of Despond, which yawns for insolvent debtors. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 12 If one individual..were to raise himself out of such a slough of despond. 1884 HAWEIS *My Musical Life* I. 137 Musical criticism has been in the same Slough of Despond.

2. The matter of which a slough is composed; soft mud or mire. ? *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1662 Euch strete..bute sloh & slec, eauer iliche sumerlich. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIII. 179 Bote yf þe sed þat sowen is in þe sloh sterue, Shal neuere spir springen vp. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1964 (Trin.), Also 3e ete of no flesshe elles þat in slouȝe & erþe dwelles. 1732 SWIFT *Epist. Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 682 You can't ride half a mile..without being in slough to your saddle-skirts. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. iv. (1862) II. 261 Covered over with weeds, slough, and all the filth of the sea. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 71 A Hole, which was immediately filled up with Slough.

3. A ditch, dike, or drain; also, a cart rut. ? *Obs.*

1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Treat. Househ.* (1768) 67 Thinke you than that we do not make the dyches and sloughes in the fieldes for a good cause? 1598 FLORIO, *Carreggista*, the rut or slough of a cart wheele. 1640 G. ABBOTT *Job Paraph.* 169 By his labour and skill he cuts out passages and sloughs in the hard stony rocks. 1685 *Phil. Trans.* XV. 956 In the Bog, observe which way the little Sloughs run; be sure to cut their drains across them.

4. *U. S.* (slɪ̄). = SLEW *sb.*[1]

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* etc. (1821) II. 142 The slough will be covered with a causey; and the marsh by draining be converted into a meadow. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl.* viii. 128 Mallards breed in small numbers in the various swamps and sloughs of the Western country. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 109 Oftentimes the current cuts out a deep 'slough', or sluice, within reach of high water mark...It forms a space of smooth water between the outer and inner breakers. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 29, I went over head and ears into a slough, a long narrow stretch of water formed by a depression in the prairie.

5. *attrib.*, as *slough-cake, -water*, etc. Also **slough bass, grass** (see quots.).

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, The great blunderbuss..was choked with a dollop of slough-cake. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl.* ix. 150 Lager-beer..is much better to drink than slough-water. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 455 *Muhlenbergia glomerata* and *M. Mexicana* constitute the 'Fine Slough Grass' of the Mississippi valley prairies. 1881 J. A. HENSHALL *Bk. Black Bass* 142 Slough Bass. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 56 'Marsh Bass,'..'Slough Bass,'..are other names applied to one or both species [of black bass].

Slough (slʊf), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4 slohu, slouh, 5 slo3, 4, 7 slow; 4–5 slughe, 4 slught, 5, 7 slugh; 5 slouȝe, 6–7 sloughe, 6 slougth, 6–slough, 8 sluf, 9 *dial.* sluff; *Sc.* 6 slouch(t, slowch, sluich, 9 sloch. [ME. type *sloh*, *slo3*, of uncertain origin, perh. related to LG. *sluwe*, *slu* husk, peel, shell.]

1. The outer or scarf skin periodically cast or shed by a snake, adder, or similar reptile; also generally, the skin of a serpent, eel, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 745 þis nedder forth þat he ne blan Bot in his slught [*v.rr.* slohu, slouȝe] was self satan. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5085 Fellis of fischis..with lions on lyue & lamprays slogis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/2 Slughes of eddyrs. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. viii. 60 Lyke to the eddir..[that has] Now slippit hir sloucht with schyning skyn new brerd. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 229 As the Snake, roll'd in a flowring Banke, With shining checker'd slough. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1653) 810 The slow of the viper cureth the ring-worm. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. III. 49 The Slough of an English Viper. 1713 DERHAM *Physico-Theol.* IX. i. 438 Although he missed seeing the Serpents Yet he saw great numbers of their *Exuviæ*, or Sluffs. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 99 If the old slough be then viewed, every scale will be distinctly seen. 1852 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 138 The continuity is well seen in the cast skin or *slough* of the Snake. 1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Vivarium* 182 A slough when perfect is an exact copy of the exterior of the Snake from which it came.

b. The skin of a caterpillar, locust, etc. cast in the course of transformation, as from the nymphal to the imago stage.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. VII. iii. 176 A very large Aurelia and Slough of a Silk-Worme. 1818 KIRBY & SP. *Introd. Entom.* xvi. (ed. 2) II. 16 The moisture that remained upon them [i. e. locusts] after casting their sloughs.

c. *fig.* A feature, quality, etc. which is thrown off.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxxi. 744 Vnlesse she..haue put her old bringing vp quite out of her minde, yea and euen cast her slough as they say. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 9 Can man by no meanes creepe out of himselfe, And leave the slough of viperous griefe behinde? 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Taxation* Wks. I. 175 Are we to give them..the slough of slavery, which we are not able to work off, to serve them for their freedom? 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. xiv. 121 He casts the slough of sedentary confinement. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 131 The barbarians..had early cast off the slough of their rude manners. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 177 The mountain there has cast his cloudy slough.

d. Apparel, clothing.

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. vii, For now that sable slough is shed,..I scarcely know me in the glass. 1820 — *Monast.* xviii, I did but wait to cast my riding slough. 1821 — *Kenilw.* XXX, While those..get rid of their slough, and doff their riding-suits.

2. A skin, caul, or membrane, enclosing or covering the body or some part of it.

13.. *Hampole's Pr. Consc.* 520 Bot a rym [*v.rr.* slow, slouh] þat es ful wlatsome,..þat es noght bot a blody skyn þat he [man] byfor was lapped in. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4456 Þus make ȝe vessels in vayne to ȝoure foule corses,..Þat ilk slymand slugh. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 385, I was flayd with a swevyn, My hart out of sloghe. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hunting* f iij b, Than shall ye slyt the slough ther as the hert lith. 1599 JAS. I *Dæmonol.* 125 As to their [werwolves] having and hiding of their hard and schelly sluiches. 1599 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 385 Na creature ..can tak aff the slouch of thy hart to let thee see.

b. An enclosing or covering layer, coat, or sheath of some kind.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 556 By reason that under the upper crust of the earth there is limestone which supplyeth a batling fruitfull slugh, or humour. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* III. i, No slough of falling Star did ever hit Upon this bank. ? *c* 1730 RAMSAY *Horace to Virgil* 12 With heart hool'd in three sloughs of brass.

c. *dial.* The outer skin of certain fruits; a husk.

c 1660 in *Select. Biogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 265 Such a crosse is mine, and the sweet kirnell of the blessing under the sour slough that is without. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 65 A *Slough*, a Husk; it is pronounced *sluffe*. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.*, *Sluffs*, the skins of all such fruit as gooseberries and currants are called sluffs or sloughs. 1869– in dial. glossaries (Yks., Lancs., Linc.); also in Sc. use.

3. *Path.* A layer or mass of dead tissue or flesh formed on the surface of a wound, sore, or inflammation; a sphacelus.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. x. 83 The clud..That on ȝour mortale ene..Lyke to ane wattery slowch standis dyme about. 1612 WOODALL *Surgeon's Mate* Wks. (1653) 409 The first eskers or Cadaverous sloughes being removed. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* I. xxi. 98 The matter of the Humour ..may be arsenical, as appears by the Sloughs we sometimes find made in a night. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 97/2 Gun shot wounds are commonly covered from the beginning with deep sloughs. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 61/2 The inflammation..producing..sloughs of the adipose tissue. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 49 A slough is formed, which becomes isolated from the living textures and undergoes a process of separation.

fig. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Simeon Stylites* 2 From scalp to sole one slough and crust of sin.

Comb. 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Let. High Lat.* 116 Crumpled shreds and shards of slough-like incrustations. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 488 The discharge appears so to cling to the sore surface as to form a thick slough-like yellow pellicle.

† **Slough,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.*[–1] (See quot.)

1647 J. CLEVELAND *Poems, King's Disguise* 33 The false scabberd of a Princes tough Metall, and three-pil'd darknesse, like the slough Of an imprisoned flame. [*Note.*] A damp, in Cole-pits usuall.

Slough (slʊf), *sb.*[4] Also **sluff.** [app. f. SLOUGH *v.*[2]] (See quots.)

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 144/2 Preventing those sloughs, or slipping at the foot of the materials, which may be observed on most large embankments. 1839 MURCHISON *Silurian Syst.* I. xxix. 376 The cliff vein..terminates in what the miners here [Pembroke] call a 'slough', i. e., it is bent suddenly downwards, accompanied on each side by the usual measures. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 16 Dec. 1/2 Two seconds afterwards the sluff came down in hundreds of tons.

Slough (slau), *sb.*[5] Also 9 sloo, sloe. [Corresponds to Norw. *slo*, Icel. *slá* (whence the Shetland form *sloe*), but the currency of the word in south-western dialect is remarkable.] (See quots.)

1721 BAILEY, *Slough*,..the spungy or porous Substance in the Inside of the Horns of Oxen or Cows. 1844 BARNES *Poems Rural Life* Gloss., *Sloo of a horn*, the inner bony prominence from the skull, or quick part of a cow's horn, which bleeds when broken. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 200/2 Dry materials:..Horn 'sloughs' (the pith or core of horns). 1890 in *Gloucester Gloss.* 142.

Slough (slau), *v.*[1] [f. SLOUGH *sb.*[1]] *trans.* In passive: To be swallowed *up* in a slough.

1904 ELEANOR ORMEROD *Econ. Entomologist* v. 38 Another time somebody..got nearly sloughed up in one of the great marsh ditches.

Slough (slʊf), *v.*[2] [f. SLOUGH *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* Of diseased skin, tissue, etc.: To come *away* or *off*, to be shed, as a slough.

1720 QUINCY tr. *Hodges' Loimologia* 138 Those which went no further than the skin, would oftentimes slough off.

1787 *Med. Comm.* II. 160 A large portion of the integuments ..sloughed away. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflamm.* 269 The injured part of the artery sloughed off with the ligature. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 160/2 The diseased part..sloughs away, and new and healthy skin is reproduced.

transf. and *fig.* 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* vii. 131 Every one of these scars indicates where a leaf has grown..and whence, after death and decay, it at length sloughed away. 1886 *Boston Jrnl.* 7 Aug. 1/9 The situation improved up to the time the eight-hour agitation began, when trade sloughed off and became dull.

b. To become covered or encrusted with a slough; to form or develop necrosed tissue.

1787 *Med. Comm.* II. 160 It was evident that some part of the urethra had also sloughed. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 54 The exposed tumour inflamed and sloughed progressively, till it entirely came away. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 319 The columna..sloughed from the fourth day, and was removed with the scissors. 1880 MACCORMAC *Antiseptic Surg.* 14 In the other case of protracted recovery, a large portion of skin sloughed.

fig. 1861 LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 49 [To] seek from gross hearts, slough'd in sin, Approval of pure Love to win.

2. *trans.* To eat *away*, to throw *off*, by the formation of a slough or sloughs.

1762 R. GUY *Pract. Obs. Cancers* 48 Four large Ulcers were sloughing the Breast away. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 612 The portion of the vertebra which has been cut through will have to be sloughed off before the wound can heal.

3. Of a serpent or similar reptile: To cast or shed (the skin) as a slough; to exuviate.

1845 [see b]. 1854 MARY HOWITT *Pict. Cal. Seasons* 427 About the middle of the month [September] the common snake sloughs or casts its skin. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* i. 13 Reptiles..slough their old covering, or in other words cast their skin.

absol. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. iii, The serpent that hath slough'd will slough again. 1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Vivarium* 231 Young Snakes slough more frequently than their older relatives do.

b. *fig.* To cast off, drop, discard, give up, get rid of (something). Also with *off*.

(*a*) 1845 DE QUINCEY *Susp. de Prof.* I. in *Blackw. Mag.* LVII. 283, I saw a ewe suddenly put off and abjure her own nature, in a service of love—yes, slough it as completely, as ever serpent sloughed his skin. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxii. 226 With such change, he cannot but slough much of the bad reputation..fixed upon him. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* II. xvi. 287 Nevil will slough his craze.

(*b*) 1848 MILNES *Life, Lett.*, etc. *Keats* I. 23 The wonder is rather that he sloughed off so fast, so many of his offending peculiarities. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geogr.* (ed. 8) ii. § 112 Why does the Gulf Stream slough off and cast upon its outer edge, sea-weed, drift-wood [etc.]? 1873 T. HARDY *Pair of Blue Eyes* II. 3 She could slough off a sadness and replace it by a hope.

4. To take *off* in grinding.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 353 The small bran..is only generated after the large bran has been sloughed off.

Hence **Sloughed** (slʊft), *ppl. a.*

1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* ix. 248 *note*, The rattle is cast annually 'with the sloughed skin.

Slough-dog, -hound. *Sc.* and *north.* [See SLEUTH *sb.*[2]] = SLEUTH-HOUND 1

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in 1772* 68 The inhabitants of the marches were obliged to keep such a number of slough dogs, or what we call blood-hounds. *a* 1784 *Hobbie Noble* xv. in Child *Ballads* IV. 3 Aft has he beat your slough-hounds back. 1842 JEFFERSON *Allerdale Ward* 23 The dogs appointed to be kept for defence were called slough dogs. 1843 *M. A. Richardson's Historian's Table-bk., Leg. Div.* I. 159 The slough dogs of the Borderers.

Sloughful(nesse, varr. SLOWFUL(NESS *Obs.*

Slou'ghiness. *rare*[–1]. [f. SLOUGHY *a.*[2]] The condition of being sloughy.

1788 *Med. Comm.* II. 178 Its [*sc.* erysipelas] termination ..is never in suppuration, but in..sloughiness, or gangrene.

Sloughing (slʊ·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLOUGH *v.*[2]]

1. *Path.* The process of forming a slough.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 548 On a subsidence of the swelling, there was a sloughing. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 52 When sloughing and ulceration have actually taken place, some surgeons apply lint. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 289 After first week there was some sloughing about amputation wound.

b. *attrib.* in *sloughing process, state.*

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 454 Their gangrenous sloughs once removed, and the sloughing process..corrected. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 473 The sloughing and gangrenous states.

2. The action or process of casting a slough; exuviation. Also *attrib.*

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 238 When the sloughing process begins for shifting their skins. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* viii. 216 A great many periodical sloughings of the crust [of a crab] must have occurred. 1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Vivarium* 180 The sloughing of a Snake is a very interesting operation to watch.

fig. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 194 The sloughing-off of the imperfection ingrown as it were with the soul.

Slou'ghing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] *Path.* Developing or forming a slough or sloughs.

1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 649 The too-long-continued use of stimulating remedies in sloughing burns. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 71 The sloughing ulceration in acute dysentery. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 434 Charcoal poultices..usually ordered for sloughing wounds.

Comb. 1869 LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 30 In the majority of cases..a sloughing looking ulcer is left.

Sloughishnesse, obs. form of SLUGGISHNESS.

Sloughtful(ly, obs. forms of SLOTHFUL(LY.

Sloughy (slau·ri), *a.*[1] [f. SLOUGH *sb.*[1] + -Y[1].] Of the nature of, resembling, slough or soft mud; abounding in or full of slough; miry, muddy.

1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* vii. Wks. 1755 V. II. 152 Low ground, with a thin green sward, and sloughy underneath. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 71 That they may not lean either to the one Side or the other in that sloughy Ground. 1813 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 102 The path very bad and sloughy. 1872 S. MOSTYN *Perplexity* I. ii. 45 He will..kneel in sloughy banks. 1890 STANLEY *Darkest Africa* II. xxii. 57 Belts of sloughy mud, disparted by small streams.

Sloughy (slʊfi), *a.*[2] Also 5 **slughy.** [f. SLOUGH *sb.*[2] + -Y[1].]

1. Consisting or formed of slough or cast skin. *rare.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/2 Slughy, *squamosus*. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* X. 71 The sloughy Spoils from his sleek Back depos'd.

2. *Path.* Of the nature of, resembling, a slough; marked or characterized by the presence of a slough or sloughs.

c 1720 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. iv. (1738) 12 A disease proceeding..from some viscid sloughy matter. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 436 The wound..made but an indifferent appearance; the edges of it were very sloughy. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 232 The whole surface..was found in a sloughy and putrid state. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 329 During the following three days, the stump assumed a sloughy condition.

Comb. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 55/1 A large sloughy-looking opening. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 339 A ragged excavated sore, having a white sloughy-looking base.

Slougish, obs. form of SLUGGISH *a.*

Slouk. *dial.* and *rare.* [Cf. Norw. *slök*, Icel. *slókr*, in the same sense.] An idle, lazy fellow.

A verb, *slouk* to slouch, occurs in *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* (1886).

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 217 A Slouke, *iners, ignarus*. 1867 J. POOLE *Gloss. Wexford* 68 *Slouk*, an idle, heedless person.

Slounge, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 7– slunge, 9 sloonge. [Cf. LOUNGE *v.*] *intr.* To move, or hang about, in a lazy or slouching manner.

The sb. *slounge* or *slunge*, a slouching fellow, idler, etc., is also current: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 1680 F. SEMPILL *Banishm. Poverty* in *Poems Sempills* (1849) 54 The morn I ventur'd up the Wynd, And slung'd in at the Nether-bow. 1788 JAMES MACAULAY *Poems* 131 (E.D.D.), Thou lazy, slounging, donart sot. 1808 J. STAGG *Misc. Poems* 143 Ye'd luok but silly slouches,..heame wi' empty pouches, To slounge this day. 1808 in JAMIESON. *c* 1860– in dialect glossaries, etc. (N. Irel., Yks.).

Slour, *v. Cant.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Slour*, to lock, secure, or fasten; to *slour up* is also to button up; as one's coat, pocket, &c. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, No slour'd hoxter my snipes could stay. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 95 *Slour'd hoxter*, an inside pocket buttoned up.

Slouse (slauz), *v. dial.* Also **slouze.** [perh. suggested by *sluice* and *souse.*] *trans.* To wash with a copious supply of water.

1726 in *Evesham Jrnl.* 8 Mar. 1902 (E.D.D), Slousing y^e^ pavement. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 2/3 After a big catch, especially of herrings, they [*sc.* the nets] are also given a slouzing.

Sloush (slauʃ), *v. dial.* [Cf. prec. and SLUSH *v.*] *trans.* To slush or sluice (something) in washing; to dash or throw (water) *over.*

1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* VII. 102 You..sloush the things about in the water. 1900 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 63 You'd put the clothes in a trough..and then sloush the water over them. *Ibid.*, Sloush them again.

Slouth, obs. form of SLOTH.

Slovak (slo·vāk, slŏvā·k), *sb.* and *a.* Also slovac(k. [a. Slovak and Czech *Slovák* (pl. *Slováci*), Pol. *Słowak*, Russ. СЛОВАКЪ, G. *Slowake* (pl. *Slowaken*), f. the stem *Slov-*: see SLOVENE].

A. *sb.* 1. A person belonging to a Slavonic race dwelling in the north-western part of Hungary.

1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 397/1 The Walachians.. multiply in Eastern as the Slovacs do in Western Hungary. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 125/2 This literary movement was shared by the Slovaks of Hungary. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 153/2 For a long time the Slovaks employed Chekh in all their published writings.

2. The language or dialect spoken by this people.

1862 LATHAM *Elem. Comp. Philol.* 628 The Slovak, with a minimum amount of literary culture. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 150/2 Slovenish exhibits an older form of Slavonic than Servian, just as Slovak is earlier than Bohemian.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to the Slovaks, or their language; Slovakian.

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 153/2 The first Slovak grammar was published..at Presburg in 1790. 1905 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 584 The Slovak nation in Hungary numbers more than 2,000,000.

Hence **Slovakian** (slŏvā·kiăn), *a.* and *sb.*; **Slovakish** (slŏvā·kiʃ), *a.* and *sb.*

1829 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XX. 397/1 The Russniacs..mix but little with their Slovachian neighbours. *Ibid.*, The dialect spoken by the Slovachians. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 365 Hungarian was used in 7024 [schools],..Slovakian in 1901. 1883 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXVI. 546 The annexation of the Slovakish territory of Hungary. 1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* I. 9 The dialect, Ugro-Slovenish.., shows some connexion with Slovakish.

Slovan (slōu·văn). *Mining.* [? Cornish.] The end or termination of an adit, lode, etc.

1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 133 An open trench, like the tail or low slovan of an adit. 1886 J. W. ANDERSON *Prospector's Handbk.* 124 *Slovan*, the 'cropping out' of a lode or strata.

Slove, obs. or dial. pa. t. of SLIVE *v.*

Sloven (slʊ·v'n), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5 sloveyn, 6 slovayne, slouеyne, slovein; 6 slouyn, -in, slovyn, slooven, 6–7 slouen, 6– sloven. [Of doubtful origin; perh. an AF. formation on Flem. *sloef* dirty, squalid, shabby (see Kilian), or Du. *slof* careless, negligent.]

A. *sb.* †**1.** A person of low character or manners; a knave, rascal. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxiii. (Shaks. Soc.) 218 Com forth, thou sloveyn! com forthe, thou scolde! 1515 BARCLAY *Ecloges* ii. (1570) B iij b, If thou one manchet dare handle or els touche,..Then shall some slouen thee dashe on the eare. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Slovyn, a knave, a rybaude, *ribauldeau.* 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iii. 29 He wandered up and downe with a sort of rascal slouens, and vile felowes following him at the heles. *c* 1680 *Delect. Hist. of Poor Robin* v, How poor Robin served one of his Companions a slovens trick.

†**2.** A person of slothful or indolent habits or way of life; a lazy, idle fellow. *Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 191 Some sluggyssh slouyns, that slepe day and nyght. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Sloven or luske, *bovcanier.* 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 355 I.et vs abhorre to resemble that slouthfull slouen, who..differed nothing from a dead carkasse.

attrib. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 574/2 Not a litle child, but a great slouen slouche.

3. One who is careless or negligent in respect of dress, personal appearance, or cleanliness; an untidy or dirty person.

1530 PALSGR. 424 Thou shalte be but a slovayne and thou were clothed in clothe of golde. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 164, I can call them by none other name but slovens, that maie have good geare, and neither can nor yet will once weare it clenly. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. v. (1651) 83 Madrit,..a pleasant site; but the inhabitants are slovens, and the streets uncleanly kept. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. & Myst. O. & N. Test.* I. 77 Good meat may be disowned for being dress'd up by some nasty sloven. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. Wks. 1709 III. I. 63 Marriage..often melts down a Beau into an errant Sloven. 1796 BURKE *Regicide Peace* Wks. II. 365 The committee for foreign affairs were such slovens, and stunk so abominably, that [etc.]. 1825 SIR J. BOWRING *Autobiog. Recoll.* (1877) 319 She came in—a dirty sloven, her hair tangled, a common cotton gown on. *c* 1850 MACAULAY *Biog.* (1860) 88 Being frequently under the necessity of wearing shabby coats,.. he [Johnson] became a confirmed sloven.

†**b.** Used allusively in *Sloven's Hall, Inn, press. Obs.*

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 5 Patrycke peuysshe, a conynge dyrte dauber, Worshypfull wardayn of slouens In. 1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 258 They haue beene layd vp in slouens presse, and with miscarriage and misgouernment are so fretted and galled [etc.]. 1600 — *Summer's Last Will* 682 That pride is not my sinne, Slouens Hall where I was borne, be my record.

4. One who works, etc. in a careless, perfunctory, or slipshod manner; a writer who is careless in style or composition.

1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 113 The baker..that negligent sloven Had shut out the pasty on shutting his oven. 1799 A. YOUNG *View Agric. Linc.* 138 There are some slovens remaining, who either hoe but little, or.. execute it in a very insufficient manner. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 24 He that in Blank-Verse a sloven can be, Must slur every flight of divine Poesy. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 224 It must be conceded that we moderns are but slovens in composition. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 306 The painter who desires ..to reach perfection will excel the sloven who never knew the compulsion of a pure ambition.

B. *adj.* Slovenly. Also *U.S.*, uncultivated; untrained.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 54 This sloven way of touching the component parts of a landscape. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 73 In sloven garb appears each bawling boy. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Stonehenge*, There, in that great sloven continent, in high Alleghany pastures,..still sleeps and murmurs..the great mother [Nature]. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 156 The sloven imagination of people who received no religious instruction.

Sloven (slʊ·v'n), *v. rare.* [f. SLOVEN *sb.*]

†**1.** *intr.* To be slothful or indolent. *Obs. rare.*

1560 PILKINGTON *Aggeus* E viij b, Is it tyme for you to lye slouenyng in your couches night and day, and Gods house vnbuylded? *Ibid.* F iiij b, The sluggarde..is a slouen styll and lyes slouenynge in hys bed, takyng no paynes to doo good.

†**2.** *refl.* To dress in a slovenly or untidy manner. *Obs.*—1

a 1592 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1622) 37 They care not how they slouen themselues, so their Wiues jet like Peacockes.

3. *trans.* To expend, to treat, in a slovenly or careless manner. *rare.*

1824 C. WELLS *Joseph & Brethren* I. i, I cannot bear To see thy dotage sloven'd on a child. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xix. 487 No one, I should think, would be so hardy as to maintain..that Shakespeare slovened his insignificant characters in order to throw his principals into high relief.

So † **Slo·vening** *ppl. a.*, idle; indolent. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jude* II. 23 Doe not they sinne after like sorte, which being deluded with slouening dreames of false pleasures [etc.]. *Ibid., James* II. 38 Your golde and your siluer is marred with rust in the custody of a nygarde & slouening heyre.

Slovene (slōvī·n), *sb.* and *a.* [a. G. *Slovene* (*Slowene*), pl. *Slovenen*, ad. Styrian, etc. *Slovenec*, pl. *Slovenci*; the name is a survival of the old native designation of the Slavs, which appears in OSlav. as *Slověne*, and is supposed to be derived from the stem of *slovo* word, *sloviti* to speak.]

A. *sb.* A member of the Serbo-Croatian group of Slavonic peoples, dwelling in Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, and adjacent parts; a Wend.

1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* x. 248 The Slovenes belong to the eastern..branch of the great Slavonic family. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 147/2 The Slovenes have preserved an old form of the family name.

B. *adj.* Slovenian; Slovenish.

1902 *Q. Rev.* July 169 The equalisation, in all public offices, of the Czech and Slovene languages with the German.

Slovenian (slōvī·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging or pertaining to the Slovenes. **b.** *sb.* The language of the Slovenes.

1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 273 The corresponding tense of the Slovenian dialect. 1862 LATHAM *Elem. Comp. Philol.* 628 The Illyrian or Slovenian of Carinthia and Carniola, closely akin to the western dialects of the Servian group.

Slovenish (slōvī·nĭʃ), *a.*[1] and *sb.* [f. SLOVENE *sb.* + -ISH.] = SLOVENIAN *a.* and *sb.*

1883 MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* i. 8 The geographical extent of the territory over which..Slovenish and its dialects are spoken. *Ibid.* ii. 35 To this day..the name Windish is frequently given by the Germans to what would be more correctly called the Slovenish language.

Slo·venish, *a.*[2] *rare*—[1]. [f. SLOVEN *sb.* + -ISH.] Of or pertaining to slovens.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XII. clxxxvi, To be betray'd To slovenish Altars, and to clownish Rites, By fained Zeal's irreverent Deceits.

Slo·venlike, *a.* and *adv.* [f. SLOVEN *sb.*] = SLOVENLY *a.* and *adv.*

1800 in *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IV. 252 To give myself a slovenlike appearance. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxviii, I will have a look into this letter, however, which he hath sealed so slovenlike.

Slovenliness (slʊ·v'nlinĕs). [f. SLOVENLY *a.*] The quality or state of being slovenly or untidy; *esp.* habitual neglect or carelessness with regard to dress, personal appearance, or cleanliness.

1611 COTGR., *Grobianisme*, grobianisme, slouenlinesse. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 46 Old Writers reproch..the Suevians with Slovenlinesse. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* x. § 1. 148 Out of it, there is a Dominion of Passions, war, fear, poverty, slovinlinesse...In it, the Dominion of reason, peace, security, riches, decency. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* II. 612 In eating, their slovenliness is shocking. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* I. v. 147 He rallied Walter..on the slovenliness of his dress. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. ii. 68 No slovenliness claiming to be excused as artistic disorder.

b. Carelessness or negligence in work, style, etc.; an instance of this.

1641 BP. HALL *Def. Humble Remonstr.* § 16 Whether the multitudes of Sects, and professed slovenlynesse in Gods service,..have not bin guilty of the increase of profanenesse amongst us. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 178 Negligence, Slovinglyness, &c. which we are to look upon as the Monsters of Kitchen Gardens. 1767 YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 291 Bad management..through slovenliness, idleness, or other obstructions to any profitable husbandry. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Table T.* (1836) 247 When he gets..into a sentence of five or six lines long, nothing can exceed the slovenliness of the English. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1324/2 Certain inconsistencies of matter and slovenlinesses of manner which are of little consequence.

Slovenly (slʊ·v'nli), *a.* Also 6 slouin-, slouing-, 7 slovin-, 7–8 **slovingly.** [f. SLOVEN *sb.* + -LY [1].]

†**1.** Low, base, rascally; lewd. *Obs. rare.*

a 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 3 Cocke dyde set them there as knaues sholde be, Amonge the slouenly sorte. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 40 Neither with Amorous gesture wounding the eye: nor with slouenly talke hurting the eares of the chast hearers.

2. Of persons: **a.** Habitually or naturally careless in dress or personal appearance; untidy.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 65 He that is borne vnder Capricornus shall be a slouenly, ill sauoured, and vncleane fellowe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 44 The Germanes ..are..more slovenly in their apparrell, in their Stoves and all manner of linnen. 1682 S. PORDAGE *Medal Rev.* Ep. p. 3 The one being a much slovenlier Beast than the other. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 22 These Slovingly Fellows all over daub'd with Blood. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xxii, A thin, elderly man, rather threadbare and slovenly. 1831 SCOTT *Castle Dang.* i, Do you suffer your youthful pupils to be indeed so slovenly and so saucy?

b. Careless or negligent in work of any kind.

1781 COWPER *Table Talk* 682 Churchill.., Surly and slovenly, and bold and coarse, Too proud for art, and trusting in mere force. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, The ground was partly cultivated, and partly left in its natural state, according as the fancy of the slovenly agriculturists had decided. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 29 Some slovenly and covetous brewers adopt the following dangerous and unfrugal practice.

3. Of dress, appearance, habits, etc.: Marked or characterized by untidiness or want of attention to neatness and cleanliness.

In older use occas., 'nasty, disgusting'.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 54 Yet som warlike signe must be vsed, either a slouinglie busking, or an ouerstaring frounced hed. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* Induct., As slovenly as the yeasty breast of an ale-knight. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 285 A heav'n, like Bedlam, slovenly and sad. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 456 This..offends me more Than in a churchman slovenly neglect And rustic coarseness would. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 78 Railings..which are generally in a condition to give the country not only a naked but a slovenly appearance. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 111 (L.U.K.), Although the common class of Irish farmers are generally accused of slovenly habits. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* 58 His person showed marks of habitual neglect; his dress was slovenly.

4. Marked or characterized by want of neatness, care, precision, or thoroughness. (Frequent with *manner* or *way*.)

1621–3 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* II. ii, Hunger and pleasure, they'll command sometimes Slovenly dishes. 1693 DRYDEN *Ded. Juvenal* Ess. (Ker) II. 93 There is still a vast difference betwixt the slovenly butchering of a man, and the fineness of a stroke that separates the head from the body. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 416 Inventing the most slovenly legend that ever was devised. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* July, You must suppose it spoke in a very slow and slovenly voice. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 58 Many such proofs..shew great carelessness and the slovenly want of attention that seems so generally to prevail. 1819 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, This slovenly and imperfect mode of cultivation left much time upon his own hands. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* viii. 148 Careless or slovenly handling of language.

5. *Comb.*, as *slovenly-dressed*, *-minded* adjs.

1880 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 5/4 What Mr. Lowe would call a rather slovenly-minded person. 1885 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 236 The 'cafetier'..was peremptorily addressing a sleek, slovenly-dressed waiter.

Slo·venly, *adv.* Also 7 **slovingly.** [f. SLOVEN *sb.* + -LY [2].] In a careless, negligent, or untidy manner.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 311 Let not your gowne sitt vppon your backe too nicely, nor yet weare it too slouenly. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. 177 Lewd Precisians Who ..take the symbole vp, As slouenly, as carelesse Courtiers slup Their mutton gruell. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 77 They will heal their hurts very slovingly, slowly, and ill-favouredly. 1713 SWIFT *Frenzy of J. Denny* Wks. 1755 III. I. 139, I..hang my clothes on somewhat slovenly. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* II. 614 The churches are full of pictures slovenly painted on parchment. 1870 ROCK *T'ext. Fabr.* Introd. II. 100 Every part was done in the feather-stitch, slovenly put down.

†**Slo·venness.** *Obs.* [f. SLOVEN *sb.* + -NESS.] Slovenliness.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 88 The Gentlemen are proud of nothing but slovennesse, unbeseeming familiarity, and disorder. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vi. 165 Yet 'tis more pardonable to be proud even of cleanly rags, then..of affected slovennesse. 1786 *New London Mag.* May 230 Sloth and slovenness are said to be often the cause of scurvy.

Slovenry (slʊ·v'nri). Also 6 **sloovenry,** 6–7 **slovenrie.** [f. SLOVEN *sb.* + -RY.] The quality or condition of being slovenly; neglect of neatness or cleanliness; slovenliness, carelessness, negligence.

Common *c* 1600–1650; now *rare.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 74 Persones yᵗ dooe glorie & braggue of their niggyshe sloovenry. 1586 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 86/2 The onelie meane..whereby hir husband his countrie was reclamed from sluttishnesse and slouenrie. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. clxii, Never did Slovenry more misbecome Nor more confute its nasty self than here. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 198 It is a barbarous Slovenry after we have blown our Nose, to look on the Snot in our Handkerchief.

1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII. 662 It has a little dash of slovenry. 1895 *Sotheran's Catal.* Jan. 11 This first edition of the two novels is curiously mis-titled through the publisher's slovenry.

Slow (slōu), *sb.* Also 1 **slawa,** 4–5 **slowe.** [f. SLOW *a.* or *v.*]

In the *Rom. Rose* 4751 it is very doubtful whether *a slowe* can be taken to mean 'a moth'; it is more probable that it is due to some misunderstanding or misreading. In *Leg. Holy Rood* (1871) 214 the sense of *with-oute slow* is not clear, perh. 'without delay'.

1. A slow or slow-going person; a sluggard.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xviii. 190 Đu slawa, ga ðe to æmethylle. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xx. 4 For cold the slowe wolde not eren. *Ibid.* xxiv. 33 Hou longe, slowe, thou slepist? *c* 1450 in *MS. Douce 52* lf. 21 Lothe to bedde and lothe fro bedde, men schall know þe slow. 1861 PYCROFT *Agony Point* (1862) 191 Only one year before, he would have numbered with 'the old fogies' and the slows.

2. A slow-paced horse.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 213 Our 'slows' are certainly quicker than most of that genus whom I have observed in other countries. 1832 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* 17 Lest Gilbert should think that the Hereford horses have a monopoly of the slows.

3. *Cricket.* **a.** A slowly-bowled ball. **b.** A slow bowler.

1862 *Sporting Life* 14 June, Some of the slows seemed to puzzle him sorely. 1881 *Standard* 14 June 3/8 This was due to the condition of the wicket, on which the fast bowling bumped and the slows popped about a great deal. 1895 *Strand Mag.* Aug. 141, I have met some capital bowlers in the past. I should class them in two sections, the slows.. and the fasts.

4. *pl.* (See quot.) *U.S.*

1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 12) 564/1 *Milk Sickness*, Sick stomach, Swamp sickness, Tires, Slows...A disease occasionally observed in..Alabama, Indiana, and Kentucky, which affects both man and cattle, but chiefly the latter. *Ibid.* 792/2 *Slows*, Milk-sickness.

5. [f. the vb.] *Slow-down, slow-up,* an act or instance of slowing a train, etc.

1891 *Cent. Dict., Slow-up*, the act of slackening speed. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 77 Each slow-down caused delay of one minute. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Aug. 4/1 Including two slow-ups, an average speed of 50.9 sec. per mile was maintained.

Slow, obs. variant of SLOUGH *sb.*[1]

Slow (slōu), *a.* Forms: *α.* (Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 1, 3– slaw, 1, 4–6 slawe, 3, 6 slau, 9 sla. *β.* 2– slow (5 sclow), 4–6 slowe, 3–4, 7 slou; 6 slo, sloo. *γ.* 3 slov3, 3–4 slou3, 4 slou3e, 5 slow3, slough(e; 4 slouh, 4–5 slowh, 5 sclowh; 4 slo3, sloghe. [Common Teutonic: OE. *slāw* (:–OTeut. *slaiwaz*), =MDu. and Du. *sleeuw*, *slee*, OS. *sleu* (MLG. and LG. *slē*), OHG. *slēo* (MHG. *slē*, *slēw-*, G. dial. *schleh*, *schlehe*), ON. *slǽr*, *sljár*, *sljór* (Norw. *sljo*, *slje*, etc.; Sw. *slö*, Da. *slev*), blunt, dull, etc. The stem is perh. the same as in L. *lævus*, Gr. λαιός left.]

I. 1. Not quick or clever in apprehending or understanding a thing; obtuse, dull: **a.** Of persons. Also with *in* or *of*.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvii. § 4 Þone sænan þe bið swa slaw [L. *stupidus*] þu scealt hatan assa ma tonne man. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 255 (MS. γ), Constatyn.. was slou3 and dol of wyt. *c* 1475 *Prompt. Parv.* (K.), Slaw, dulle of wyt, *ebes*. 1611 Cotgr., *Pucelle nicette*, a slow, dull, simple, foolish, or nice girle. 1825 Scott *Betrothed* xiii, My nephew..hath a fancy like a minstrel. Myself am but slow in imagining such devices. 1858 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 73, I thought them a dull and slow audience. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 228, I am slow of understanding.

b. Of the mind, etc.

a 1100 *Ags. Hymns* (Surtees) 37 Mod..ðæt slawe, *Mens.. torpida*. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xii. (Bodl. MS.), It is a token of dulnes and of slowe witte and vndirstonding. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 231 Tho that..haue moisti flesh and lytill hette, bene..of slow vndyrstondynge. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. viii. 32 A slow Imagination maketh that Defect..which is commonly called Dulnesse. 1727 Boyer *Dict. Royal* II, A slow (heavy or dull) Wit, *un Esprit lent ou pesant*. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 11 Such reasoning had no effect on the slow understanding and imperious temper of James.

2. Naturally disinclined to be active or to exert oneself; constitutionally inert or sluggish; lacking in promptness or energy.

α. *c* 897 [see sense 15]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 26 Þu yfela ðeow & slawa. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* (1883) 72 Se ðe wære full slaw, weorðe se unslaw. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 To gode þu ware slau and let, and to euele spac and hwat. *c* 1425 *Castle Persev.* 1033 in *Macro Plays*, He is provd, wrathful, & Envyous; Glotons, slaw, & lecherous. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 343/1 To be Slawe, *..pigrare, pigrescere*. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 74 Þai held þe king of Romanis for ane slaw and effemynate prince. *c* 1600 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 943 Nothing he saw In age, but anger, slack and slaw.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Longe we habben lein on ure fule synnes..alse slou man doð on swete slape. *c* 1250 *Ten Abuses* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 184 Proest þat is wilde, Bischop slou. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He is the sloweste mon that ever wes y-boren. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* xx. 4 A slow man nolde ere for coold; therfor he schal begge in somer. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lvi. 239 (Harl. MS.), He that is the sloweste of yow, or most slewthe is in, shall have my kyngdom after my discese. 1538 Starkey *England* I iii. 79 Lyke as in a dropcy the body ys vnweldy, vnlusty, and slo, no thyng quyke to moue. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 60 Is not Lead a mettall heauie, dull, and slow? 1824 [see Slowish *a.*]. 1831 *Society* I. 321 A clever hint to show slow personages what is expected from them.

γ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Hwo mei beon, uor scheome, slummi & sluggi & slouh, þet bihalt hwu swuðe bisi ure Louerd was on eorðe? *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 319 Ho-so hath of þe watere mest, he schal beo..gret slepare and slov3 þar-to. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 51 (Corpus MS.), And he þat is ydel & slowh, can neuer fynde couenable tyme for to doon his profyte.

b. Characterized by, of the nature of, sloth or sluggishness.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 1778 Ye maisty Swyne, ye ydel wrechhes, Ful of roten, slowe techches. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 92 Ther ben othre vices slowe, Whiche unto love don gret lette. *a* 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. xcvi, Slow heauinesse in both holds one degree.

c. Having a dull edge; blunt. Now *dial.*

This sense is prominent in the cognate languages.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/1 Slaw, or dul of egge, *ebes, obtusus*. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., T' knife is slow.

d. *Med.* Torpid; sluggish.

1896 *Daily News* 26 May 6/4 In the case of one's having a slow liver..the jerking might, perhaps, be of some service. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 259 Producing a high blood-pressure..and a slow heart.

3. Not quick, ready, prompt, or willing *to* do something.

c 1200 Ormin 9885 Stunnt & stidi3, dill & slaw To sekenn sawless seollþe. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9327 He is..Slou to fi3te & quic to fle, & þat nis no manhede. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 188 To listen and lere þai er ful slaw. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 110 He schal be..slouh and lustles to travaile In thing which elles myhte availe. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s.v. *Piger*, Slow to write: loth to take the paynes to write. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 3, I am nothing slow to slack his hast. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* I. 37 Freedom..came at length, tho' slow to come. 1781 Cowper *To Protestant Lady* 20 How slow to learn the dictates of his love. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* xxi, As some have not been slow to tell their lords. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/3 They will not be slow to return him like for like.

b. With *in*.

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xii. 11 Not slow in bisynesse, feruent in spirit. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 151 When the peple was slawe þer in [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 Not slowe in commynge therto, nor sluggysshe therin. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* I. 166 The wrath of heauen..is slow In punishing the euils we haue done. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* I. s.v., He is naturally slow in speech, and very dull. 1831 Scott *Ct. Rob.* iv, These men, quick in malice, though slow in perilous service. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx. (1878) 517 The people were very slow in dispersing.

c. With *of*.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xxiv. 25 A! foolis, and slowe of herte for to bileue. 1555 Harpesfeld in Bonner *Hom.* 30 b, Fooles and sloo of beleſe. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 69 Pray you.., giue it me, for I am slow of studie. 1611 Bible *Exod.* iv. 10, I am slow of speach, and of a slow tongue. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Tardiloquious*, slow of Speech.

4. Tardy or dilatory in action; displaying a lack of promptitude or energy under particular circumstances; spending a comparatively long time in the performance of some act; doing something in a slow or deliberate manner.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1464 Now er we smert, now er we slawe. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 149 But þe peple was slow3, and þerfore Daniel prayed to God þat [etc.]. *a* 1400 *Arthur* 365 He was not sclowh, But to þe hulle hym drowh. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 128 Hyt wyllbe whel done for goude detturs ar sclow payars. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. xii. (S.T.S.) II. 90 3e ar full of mynassing in tyme of pece, and richt slaw in tyme of batall. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 451 Quhen he tariet lang in Paris, and in cuming furth was ouer slawe. 1648 Milton *Ps.* lxxxv. 55 Then will he come, and not be slow; His footsteps cannot err. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 736 The Victim Ox..Sunk of himself,..Preventing the slow Sacrificer's Hand. *a* 1722 Sir J. Lauder *Decis.* (1759) I. 14 Ordinarily Mr. Gideon was in the rear of all their [witches'] dances, and beat up those that were slow. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 505 Experience, slow preceptress, teaching oft The way to glory by miscarriage foul. 1822 Lamb *Elia* II. *Thoughts on Bks. & Reading*, Seldom-readers are slow readers. 1833 Nyren *Yng. Cricketer's Man.* (1902) 122 He was a slow bowler, and a pretty good one.

5. Not readily stirred or moved *to* something (esp. anger, revenge, etc.); not too ready, willing, or susceptible. Also with infin.

1382 Wyclif *James* i. 19 Slowe to wrathþe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* I. xxix. 189 Be ryghtfull to al men, Slow to be wroth, Redy to mercy. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 115 Mercyfull is he, Slaw to reuenge, and to forgiue reddie. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 166 There is a certaine kind of good sloth, as to be slowe to anger, slowe to iudgement, slowe to reuenge. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xciv, Vnmooued, could, and to temptation slow. 1648 Milton *Ps.* lxxxvi. 55 Thou Lord art..Slow to be angry. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 547 Heav'n, tho' slow to wrath, Is never with impunity defied. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xii. (1878) 234 A clergyman of all men should be slow to take offence.

b. Without const., or with *in*.

1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 55 So is it with slow, heavy, and timorous humors, they must have time to increase their choller. 1818 Scott *Br. Lamm.* xxix, We know that maiden's ears must be slow in receiving a gentleman's language.

c. Inattentive *to* something.

1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 193 To prayer, repentance, and obedience due,..Mine eare shall not be slow. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 236 Rough to Reproof, and slow to future Cares.

6. Of things, actions, etc.: Marked or characterized by slowness or tardiness.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 319 Ho-so hath of þe eorþe mest, he is..Of slou3 wreche and Aru3 mouth. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* iv. 10, Y am of more latsum and of more slow tonge. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 44 Al hire mod was overtorned, Which ferst sche hadde of slow manere. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. xiii. (1554) 23 Slowe credence Hath in some be founde full noyous. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* iv. 10 For I haue a slowe speach, & a slowe tunge. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. viii. 40, I haue not..posted off their suites with slow delayes. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. i. 64 That..the search [should be] so slow That could not trace them. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 697 Few words he said, but..those..More slow than Hybla drops, and far more sweet. 1754 Gray *Poesy* 36 Slow melting strains their Queen's approach declare. 1782 Cowper *Charity* 471 With slow deliberation he unties His glitt'ring purse. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* II. xii. 462 The style..of *Tom Jones*..is feeble, costive, and slow. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* xix. 3 The like slow speech was his. 1814 Byron *Corsair* Ep. Ded., The stanza of Spenser is perhaps too slow and dignified for narrative. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 96 The first movement..is succeeded generally by one in a slow tempo.

b. *Med.* Of the pulse: Below the average rapidity.

1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Pulse*, A slow Pulse denotes.. That the Contractions of the Heart are slow. 1818–20 E. Thompson tr. *Cullen's Nosologia* 214 First with lassitude, ..afterwards with slow pulse. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 635 A slow pulse, slowness of cerebration.

c. Of trade, business, etc.: Slack; not brisk.

1887 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 2/5 Good sound samples not plentiful,..and the trade slow all round. 1903 *Times* 1 Dec. 35 Business in flannel was slow.

7. Of a fire: That burns gently or slowly; gentle. Also *transf.* of heat.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 96 Gold and silver, which wee refine with quicke-silver, the fire being small and slow. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 64 Being rather a moderate slow heat than an excessive scorching. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 26 Let it stew on a slow fire. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 670 Distilling the charge..by a slow and gradually increased heat. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxix. 98 We..made a slow fire of charcoal, birch bark, brimstone, and other matters.

fig. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 118/1 The slow-fire of restlessness, doubt and curiosity.

8. *colloq.* **a.** Slow-going; behind the times; out of fashion; not smart or up-to-date.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 29 Long courtships are stupid things, and voted slow. 1842 C. J. Apperley *Life Sportsman* ii, John Hawkes and myself always ride in leathers, though people say 'it looks slow'. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. iv, Slow place, sir; slow place; off the main road.

b. Dull or tedious in character; tiresome; apt to bore one.

1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* xxix, How very slow, all this! thought I. 1848 *Punch* XV. 19 All books are slow,..all domestic, all quiet enjoyments are slow. 1887 Smiles *Life & Labour* 332 It must..be admitted that angling is a very 'slow' amusement to persons of active habits.

c. Of persons: Having no briskness or animation; dull, lifeless, insipid; humdrum.

1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* xxix, Slow fellows, like them, must find any place stupid. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 281 He was a good creature, but too 'slow'.

II. 9. Taking or requiring a comparatively long time; tardy in progress, growth, etc.; very gradual.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 His waxunge se lat, & se slaw his prifti. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Exitus segnis*, slow death. 1574 W. Bourne *Regiment for Sea* xxii. (1577) 60 These markes be very yare..: and those markes very slowe and asketh some distance in sayling. 1604 Shaks. *Ham.* I. ii. 58 (Q2), Hath my Lord wroung from me my slowe leaue. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 692 These changes in the Heav'ns, though slow, produc'd Like change on Sea and Land. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xix. (1787) II. 156 He had recourse to the slower but more certain operations of a regular siege. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxii, The bridge was long and narrow, which rendered the manœuvre slow as well as dangerous. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 108 Variation ..is apparently always a very slow process. 1876 J. Parker *Paraclete* I. x. 154 Intellectual illumination is sudden, but intellectual education is always slow.

b. With various complements implied, as (slow) in growing, coming in, rising, going off, etc.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, II. iv. 15, I would not grow so fast, Because sweet Flowres are slow, and Weeds make hast. 1775 De Lolme *Eng. Const.* Advt. p. xiii, These profits I indeed thought to be but scanty and slow. 1798 Landor *Gebir* III. 251 Some Sowed the slow olive for a race unborn. 1857 Emerson *Poems* 67 Slow structures, stone by stone, Built in an age. 1861 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* IV, Held out at arm's length at frequent intervals and soundingly slapped, like a slow lot at a sale.

10. a. Of fevers, etc.: Not rapidly developing into a serious form; not acute.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 76 A slou3 feuere him cam on, þat ne nam him nou3t ful strongue. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 5 That sair seiknes..cam nevir till ws, nochtthelesse, continual caldes, albeit slawe. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 291 Of the Cure of slow Fevers, attended with Hectic Heats. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xiii. (1782) I. 467 He soon contracted a slow illness. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 237 The first variety..has..been commonly distinguished by the name of low or slow nervous fever. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 82 A dull slow swelling appears in the menaced joints.

b. Not rapid in operation or effect.

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. v. 10 These most poysonous Compounds, Which are the moouers of a languishing death: But though slow, deadly. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* lv, A slow poison was administered. 1796 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 401 The work will be new, and slow in its operation, but it is certain in its effect. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 418 Touch-paper or slow port-fire, which consists of paper soaked in a weak solution of saltpetre and dried.

c. *Photogr.* Of a plate, etc.: That takes or receives impressions with comparative slowness; not quickly affected by light, and therefore requiring a longer exposure.

1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 161 With a slow plate it is better..to leave the trees alone. 1890 Abney *Photogr.* (ed. 6) 125 Plates prepared with it are slow and give thin images.

11. Of time: Passing slowly or heavily. Also *transf.* of a dial.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Anni segnes*, slow yeres passyng away in idlenesse. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 150 The slye slow houres shall not determinate The datelesse limit of thy deere exile. 1611 Sir W. Mure *Misc. Poems* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 17 The too slou day To steil away. 1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* I. 102 When the slow dial gave a pause to care. 1818 Shelley *Julian* 489 As slow years pass, a funereal train. 1842 [see Hour 2].

b. *Slow time*, a rate of marching in which only 75 paces, of 30 inches each, are taken in a minute.

1802 in James *Milit. Dict.* 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. I. xii, There is wheeling and sweeping, to slow, to quick and double-quick time. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 390/1 The instruction given in manual and firing exercises is performed in slow time.

12. Of clocks, etc.: Indicating a time in retard of the true or standard time; behind in time. Also of the sun: Behind mean time.

1696 W. Derham *Artificial Clockmaker* (1759) 158 By the Table, you see how many Minutes, and Seconds, the Dial is too fast, or too slow. 1742 R. Long *Astronomy* II. III. xii. 509 In the common equation tables it is sometimes said the clock is too fast or too slow. 1855 Lardner *Mus. Sci. & Art* V. 135 From the 25th December to the 15th April the sun is always slow. 1886 J. Merrifield *Naut. Astron.* 165 The chronometer..is..fast when it shows a later time, and slow when it snows an earlier time than the true Greenwich mean time.

b. Of local time: Less advanced than the standard to which it is referred.

1894 *Amer. Ann. Photogr.* 22 The local time of a place 3° 50 West of the [Eastern Standard] meridian..would be 15 m. 44 sec. slow.

III. 13. Moving, flowing, etc., in a slow or sluggish manner; taking a long time to go a

comparatively short distance; having a relatively low speed or velocity.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. xv. (1839) 162 Saturne is sloughe and litille mevynge. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clv, The slawe ase, the druggare beste of pyne. 1565 COOPER *Thes., Segnipes*, slow of foote: goyng slowly. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 117 [They] would haue reft the Fishers of their prey, Had not their barke beene very slow of saile. 1605 — *Macb.* I. iv. 17 Swiftest Wing of Recompence is slow, To ouertake thee. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 173 Satan had journied on, pensive and slow. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 293 The slow canal, the yellow-blossom'd vale. 1774 — *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 180 The viper, that is but a slow, feeble bodied animal, makes way in a heavy undulating manner. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. vi, In those days letters were slow of travelling. 1871 PRINCESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 274 The train .. is the slowest I was ever in in my life.

b. *Slow lemur, loris, monkey*: (see quots.).

1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 81 Slow Lemur, *Lemur Tardigradus*. 1833 *Zool. Soc. Trans.* I. 69 Future observers of these *slow monkeys*, as M. F. Cuvier denominates them. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 443 *N[ycticebus] tardigradus*, the common slow lemur or loris.

14. a. Of pace, movement, etc.: Leisurely; not quick, fast, or hurried.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 235 Whoso hath the Paas large and slow, he is..wel spedynge in al his dedys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. vii. 7 With steppis slaw furth stalkand all in feyr. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xi. (S.T.S.) I. 64 Mecius..fled with slaw passage to þe montanis. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 132 To climbe steepe hilles Requires slow pace at first. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 648 With wandring steps and slow. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 192 The motion of this serpent is slow. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 301 That journey itself became visibly slower and slower. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* xiii, He understood it was the purpose..to proceed by slow marches and frequent halts. 1833 *Reg. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 16 This is the slowest step at which troops are to move. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 52 Hence the slow motion of these glaciers.

b. Characterized by slowness of motion, progress, etc. (In later quots. after Pope.)

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 357 A needless Alexandrine..That, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* IV. 192 The slow length of a sickly and desponding host was heavily dragged along the Flaminian way. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 269 Three, four, and five years did cases drag their slow length along. 1868 J. S. MILL *Eng. & Irel.* 36 This great undertaking must not drag its slow length through generations.

c. Causing or tending to cause slowness of movement or speed; retarding, heavy.

1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiards* 77 On a slow table a No. 2 is required. 1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, With..time allowance for 'slow' track. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 202/3 A system..lacking directness on a slow and heavy turf.

d. Of a railway track: Utilized for traffic of low speed.

1898 *Daily News* 1 Mar. 5/5 In passing from the slow to the main line the engine fouled the points.

IV. 15. *absol.* as *pl.* Those who are slow in any sense. (Cf. SLOW *sb.* 1.)

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxix. 280 Ða slawan sint to manianne ðæt hie ne forielden ðone timan for hiera slæwðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Azean slowe & slepares is swuðe openlich his earlich ariste from deað to liue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 13, I am al beknowe That I have ben on of the slowe. *Ibid.* 44 Thus sche was on of the slowe As of such hertes besinesse. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. i. 96 The valued file Distinguishes the swift, the slow, the subtle. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiv, The fastest of the fast and the slowest of the slow.

V. 16. *Comb.* a. Parasynthetic, as *slow-blooded, -gaited, -hearted*, etc. Also *slow-heartedness*.

1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 91 It is a quakerish thing.., Tame and *slow-blooded. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Left Hand* A 5 To helpe the *slowe conceited. 1744 AKENSIDE *Ode on Leaving Holland* 23 The *slow-eyed fathers of the land. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 56 He is verie *slow gated. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* I. ix. 187 She ..sauntered back behind the patient slow-gaited creatures. 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xlii. (1887) 257 If the maister be verie sharp witted..and the boy *slowheaded. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 28 To convince the *slow-hearted and distrustful World. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 743 The frequent rebukes of their *slow-heartedness. 1705 S. DALE *Pharmacologia Suppl.* 332 *De Blatta*,..the *slow leg'd Beetle. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3136/4 A very strong bay Mare, 8 years old,..*slow mettled. 1530 TINDALE *Exod.* IV. 10, I am *slowe mouthed and slowe tongued. 1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xxi, Persons..slow-mouthed at making, or taking, a joke. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1731/4 A thin Melancholy Man,..*slow Speeched. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 60 Proque it when you will, you *slowe spirited Saturnists. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 365 One came near..*Slow-stepp'd. 1530 *Slow-tongued [see *slow-mouthed*]. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 123 And slow-tongued Moses rule by eloquence of deed! 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 208 Oh *slow wing'd Turtle, shal a buzard take thee? 1897 *Outing* XXX. 354/2, I watched the slow-winged clouds floating far above. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* viii. 8 There is no man so dull and *slowe-witted. 1909 *Expositor* Aug. 134 The more slow-witted and less versatile Romans.

b. With verbs, as *slow-foot, -march, -time*.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 10 At last she has A damzell spyde slow footing her before. 1760 *Lett. to Hon. Brigadier General* 9 Lord George slow-marched the Cavalry at the Battle of Minden. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 105 A resolute attempt to slow-time the machinery.

c. With adjs., as *slow-sudden, -sure*.

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 384 Beware, Lorenzo! a slow-sudden death. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. viii, An epigrammatic slow-sure Mannel. 1863 GROSART *Small Sins* (ed. 2) 70 If man would but mark the slow-sure advance of the very least sin!

d. With sbs., as *slow-combustion, -contact*, etc.

1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* 305 To enable the operator to grasp the slow-motion focussing-screw. 1885 SPON *Mech. Own Bk.* (1893) 663 Improved Economic Slow Combustion Hot Air Stove. 1907 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 101 Gas-light or Slow-contact Papers.

Slow (slōu), *adv.* Also 6 slaw(e, slau. [f. SLOW *a.*]

1. In a slow or tardy manner; slowly.

a 1500 *Adrian & Epotys* 22 in *Brome Bk.* 25 Than seyd þe Emprore, note slawe, 'Arte thow wysse wysdam to teche?' 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vii. 105 The mychty God of fyr..als tyte, And no slawer,..Furth of his bed startis. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 3 But oh, me thinkes, how slow This old Moon wanes. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 76, I hear the far-off Curfeu sound,..Swinging slow with sullen roar. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 209 In large and heavy Work the Tread comes slow and heavily down. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 109 It grew so slow, as provoked him to take it up. 1762 SIR W. JONES *Arcadia* Poems (1777) 103 Slow he approach'd; then wav'd his awful hand. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xli, As the stately vessel glided slow Beneath the shadow. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, We drove very slow for the last two stages on the road. 1858 *Edin. Rev.* July 207 The narrative moves slow.

2. *Comb.* a. With pres. pples. and ppl. adjs., as *slow-burning, -circling, -creeping*, etc.

Combinations of this type are extremely common from *c* 1725; many examples from 18th century poetry are collected by Jodrell.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 286 Then Slow-growing Babes should instantly be Men. 1630 MILTON *Shakes.* 9 Whilst to th' shame of slow-endeavouring art, Thy easie numbers flow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 843 The slow creeping Evil eats his way. *Ibid.* IV. 689 Baleful Styx.. With Nine slow circling Streams. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 223 Being Burnt alive in a slowburning Fire. 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 301, I shall..come in a steel-springed slow-driving hack on Friday. 1833 RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 59 The pike,..which likes to prowl about in slow-running, weedy waters. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 103 The case of slow-breeding animals. 1891 ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 237 The big slow-sailing turkey buzzards.

b. With pa. pples., as *slow-breathed, -developed*, etc.; *slow-drawn, -run, -spoken*.

1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1646 Yonder slow-extinguish'd clouds. 1798 MISS H. M. WILLIAMS *Tour Switz.* I. 21 Responsive to the solemn, slow-breathed chant. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, Some slow-spoken, long-breathed brother of the congregation? 1849 ROCK *Ch. Our Fathers* II. 495 The sullen splash of slow-drawn oars. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 3/4 In a slow-run race he was defeated by Sheridan.

Slow, obs. form of pa. t. of SLAY *v.*[1]

Slow (slōu), *v.* Also 6 slowe. [f. SLOW *a.* Cf. OE. *slǽwian* to be or become slow, and the compound *forslǽwian* FORSLOW *v.*]

I. *trans.* †**1.** To lose (time) by delay; to put off. *Obs.*—[1]

? 1522 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 223 Assoone as God shall sende weder any thing mete for men to goo to the see, I shall slowe no tyme.

†**2.** To be slack or tardy in performing (business). *Obs.*—[1]

1586 HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 142/2 The lord deputie, not slacking, nor slowing his businesse, followed out of hand the foresaid rebels.

3. To delay, check, retard; to make slower in some respect.

1557 N. T. (Genevan) *Luke* xii. 45 My master sloweth his commyng. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* V. 67 The meat is left destitute of concoction, and distribution therof in the body slowed. 1624 T. HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 117 Their speed may bee slackned though not stay'd, and their pace slowed though not quite stopt. 1645 in Carte *Ormonde* (1735) III. 399, I doubt..that this will be neglected, or so far slowed that the season will be lost. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* iii. 146 A bird can, of course, allow itself to fall backwards by merely slowing the action of its wings. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 138 Digitalis is capable of slowing the beat of the isolated heart of the frog. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 123 The arterial current becomes therefore relatively slowed.

b. To reduce the working rate or speed of (an engine); to ease. Also with *down*.

1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 138 The engine should always, except in case of absolute necessity, be *slowed* or eased, before it is stopped. 1859 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* (1860) VII. 46 By slowing her engines, she can stop and take soundings. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* xiv, The engines were 'slowed down'..and a minute later the revolutions of the propeller ceased.

c. To cause (a vessel, vehicle, or train) gradually to slacken in speed. Also with *down* or *up*.

1864 WEBSTER s.v., To slow a steamer. 1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 16 Nov. 103/1 The ship was now slowed, for we could not cross the bar that night. 1899 *Expositor* Jan. 55 We do not want men..to..slow the advancing chariot by hanging on listlessly behind.

II. *intr.* **4.** To slacken in speed; to move or go more slowly.

1594 R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 33 To the King she came, Nor for he angry seemes, one step she slowes. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* v. 118 The world Slow'th, Readie to take the Fillup of a Hand Must cure her Dropsie. 1870 *Daily News* 28 Dec., They came on very steadily for about a quarter of a mile, then they slowed, and finally halted. 1894 *Law Times' Rep.* LXXI. 102/2 The *Diana* also.. slowed, so as to permit the tug to pass her.

b. With advs., as *down, up*.

1881 *Cent. Mag.* XXIII. 184 Slowing up, the..Cunarder ..drew towards us. 1885 W. D. HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 61 He brought the mare down to a walk, and then slowed up almost to a stop. 1891 *Cornhill Mag.* Jan. 15 He slowed down into a shambling walk.

c. Of a railway train: To move with slackening speed *into* a station, etc.

1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxi, He caught sight of her just as the train was slowing into the station. 1881 *Times* 28 Feb. 11/4 A Watford up train..was slowing into Dalston, where it was to stop.

†**5.** To suffer delay; to be deferred. *Obs.*—[1]

1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 750 The wicked..may thinke that their condemnation sloweth.

6. To become slower, less active or vigorous, etc. Also with *down*.

1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 23 Aug., The chances were that the boom company would be obliged to slow down for a few days. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 161 The oscillation quickened—to slow again, however. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 202/3 The game slowed down a little after Hobbins had scored once more.

Hence **Slow·ing** *ppl. a.*

1890 HUMPHRY *Old Age* 5 A smaller supply of fuel.., not enough to choke the slowing fires.

†**Slow·back.** *Obs.* [f. SLOW *a.* + BACK *sb.*[1]]

1. A slothful or sluggish person; a sluggard.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 266 For God doeth not assist slouthfull persons and idle slow backes. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XVII. ii. 93 Rayling at him as a slow-backe and coward. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 234 Slow-backs, whose hand is no sooner from under the Governours eye, but that it is also off from the work.

2. *transf.* A drone-bee.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 314 They [*sc.* bees] mark and note the slow-backs, they chastise them anon.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Laggard; sluggish.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* I *Thess.* (1630) 256 How much adoe haue we..to bale on our slow-back Nature to perfection. *Ibid.* 572 God be mercifull to this declining Age, this slow-backe, or rather backsliding generation.

Slow-bellied, *a. rare.* [Cf. next.]

†**1.** Sluggish; indolent. *Obs.*

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 281 Marke..the grosse iugling that these slowe bellyed Syres used to delude the world withall. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 4 Slowbellyed Monkes, who haue made escape from their Cloysters.

2. That moves or crawls slowly.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 4 The unknown kind of Serpents in Brasil, the slow-bellied creature of the Indies [etc.].

Slow-belly. [f. SLOW *a.*] A lazy, idle, or indolent person; a sluggard, laggard. Chiefly *pl.*

After Gr. γαστέρες ἀργαί, in the line attributed to Epimenides and quoted in the Epistle to Titus. Tindale's rendering is followed by Coverdale, etc.; but the Rheims version has 'slothful bellies', and the R.V. 'idle gluttons'.

[1526 TINDALE *Titus* i. 12 The Cretayns are..evyll beastes, and slowe belies.] 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 271 The maintenance of a sort of slow-bellies, whose seruice to Gods church was altogether vnprofitable. 1656 BAXTER *Reformed Pastor* 248 To be a Bishop or Pastor is not..as idle slow-bellies to live to our fleshly delight and ease. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 170 He derides and tells him he is no slowbelly, to desire to expire lazily on a Bed. 1865 *Athenæum* 20 May 681/2 They are no longer slow-bellies, for in many places they had eaten up all that could be called food. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 27 Such boys,..evil-speakers, liars, slow-bellies —yea, incipient drunkards.

attrib. 1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 619 'Rebuke them sharply,'..saith S. Paul of those slow-belly Cretians.

Slowche, obs. form of SLOUCH *sb.*

Slow·-coach. Also **slowcoach, slow coach.** [f. SLOW *a.*] One who acts, works, or moves slowly; a slow, idle, or indolent person.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, What does this allusion to the slow coach mean?..It may be a reference to Pickwick himself, who has..been a crimmally slow coach during the whole of this transaction. 1837 MARRYAT *P. Keene* xii, He's not very quick in temper, or anything else; he's what we call a slow coach. 1886 JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 42 There are plenty of lazy people and plenty of slow-coaches, but a genuine idler is a rarity.

Hence **Slow·-coaching, Slow·-coachish** *adjs.*

1844 THACKERAY *Crit. Rev.* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 209 A venerable bald-headed gentleman, with a most benignant tho' slow-coachish look. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* I. 3 None of your old slow-coaching days for me; life's not long enough for dreaming.

†**Slowde.** *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning uncertain.)

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3719 Thane was it slyke a slowde in slakkes fulle hugge.

Slow·er, *sb. rare*—[1]. [f. SLOW *v.*] That which checks or impedes; a retarding influence.

a 1610 BABINGTON *Wks.* (1622) 82 Making Gods mercy a spurre to his..diligence, and not a slower of him as no doubt many would.

Slow·er, *v. rare.* [f. SLOW *a.*, perh. after LOWER *v.*] *trans.* = SLOW *v.* 3 c.

1881 M. REYNOLDS *Engine-Driving Life* 17 To take the bulk of the momentum out of the train with the brake, and then to slower the train under control to the platform.

Slow·-foot, *a.* [f. SLOW *a.*] Slow-footed; slow-paced. Also *transf.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. ii. 57 The slow-foot beasts on which we rode. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 479 Telling the wondrous ways of slowfoot time. 1891 — *Poems by the Way* 114 The slow-foot hope of the poor.

Slow-footed, *a.* [f. SLOW *a.*] Slow of foot; that walks or goes slowly; slow-moving, slow-paced. Also *transf.*

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. ii. 148 Although full loth I were Slow-footed eld the journey should command. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charact.* (1737) II. 301 Ask not merely, why man is..slower-footed than the beasts. 1775 Adair *Hist. Amer. Ind.* 133 He who feeds on venison is..swifter..than the man who lives on..the slow-footed tame cattle. 1873 Morley *Rousseau* II. 135 A man who handles sets of complex facts is necessarily slow-footed. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* 271 The pace of a regiment is the pace of its slowest-footed soldier.

†Slow·ful, *a. Obs.* Also 5 sloweful(l, slouful, 5–6 slowfull, 6 slowghfull, sloughful, *Sc.* sclawful. [f. Slow *a.*, perh. after Slothful *a.* (cf. Slewful *a.*).]

1. Slack, slow, sluggish.

14.. in *Alexander* (1886) 279, I..pray you..be most obeyssiant to hym þat..shall not be slowefull to kepe & defende you. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 427 b/1 He was neuer founde sloweful ne neglygente. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 53 The dull and slowfull asse. 1539 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. 561 The slowghfull and ungoulyy lyff which hath bene usid among all those sects.

2. Showing or marked by ingratitude; thankless, ungrateful. Also const. *of.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* [VI.] xi, None ought to be slowful of the good whiche he receyueth of other. — *Fables of Poge* iv, The studye of the huntynge and hawkynge is a slouful cure.

†Slow·fulness. *Obs.* [f. prec. + -ness.]

1. Sloth; slowness.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 78 By cause he fille fro the loue of god..vnto the coolde of worldly slowfulnes. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. lxxx. [lxxvi.] 239 They be lytel worth, for we haue sene suche slowfulnes in them that we haue no grete trust to them. 1552 Latimer *Serm. Linc.* ii. 71 What shall be their reward for their sloughfulnesse?

2. Ingratitude; thanklessness.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* [VI.] xi, None ought to forgete the benyfyce whiche he hath receyued of some other, for slowfulnesse is a grete synne.

Slow·-going, *a.* [f. Slow *adv.*]

1. Indisposed to be active or enterprising; inclined to take things easy.

1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 57 His Majesty, with a profusion of slow-going gentry. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. ii, This love at first sight has often been a subject of ridicule amongst slow-going people. 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. v. 205 Was his one of those slow-going intellects we sometimes..read of? 1866 *Daily Telegr.* 16 Jan. 7/4 The Dutch are a slow-going people.

2. That moves or goes (comparatively) slowly.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 190/1 The load of a *heavy* or slow-going camel. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 382/1 The wild and unusual gesticulations of that slow-going old pacer had broken the harness.

Slowh(e, etc., obs. ff. pa. t. of Slay *v.*[1]

Slow-hound (slōu·hound). [prob. a variant of Slough-hound, with first element assimilated to Slow *a.*] A sleuth-hound.

Slow hound is given by Skinner (1671) as an explanation of '*Slouth* or *Sleuthound*', but it is not clear whether he knew it to be really in use.

1796 Lauderdale *Poems* 97 (E.D.D.), Slow-hound, pointer, tarrier, colley. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* iii, He had the scent of a slow-hound, sir, and the snap of a bull-dog. 1856 Miss Manning *Tasso & Leonora* 141 He had tracked it out like a slow-hound. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* II. iv. 68 It was the contrast between the slow-hound and the grey-hound.

Slow·ing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Slow *v.*] The action of becoming or making slow(er); an instance of this. Also with advs.

1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 326 This slowing of the circulation. 1879 Proctor *Flowers Sky* iv. (1883) 15 The gradual slowing of the earth's rate of turning on her axis. 1884 *Nature* 26 June 212/1 The pulse showed slowings after the exhibition of ergotin. 1889 Skrine *Mem. Thring* 53 Slowing-down would not have improved its action.

Slowish (slōu·iʃ), *a.* [f. Slow *a.* + -ish [1].] Somewhat slow or dull.

1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 176 George Harris..Slowish—slow but sure. 1851 Carlyle *J. Sterling* III. i, The cabman, sensible that his pace was slowish, took to whipping. 1885 *Field* 3 Oct. 486/1 A slowish kind of sport, all things taken into consideration.

Slowly (slōu·li), *adv.* Forms: α. (latterly *north.* and *Sc.*) 1 **slawlice, slaulice, -lece,** 2 **slawliche**; 4–5, 9 **slawly,** 6 **slawlie, slaulie.** β. 4–5 **slowliche,** 5 **-lich**; 4–5 **slowli,** 5 **slouly,** 5–6 **slowely,** 7 **slowlye,** 6– **slowly.** [f. Slow *a.* + -ly [2]. Cf. MDu. *sleulijch,* ON. *slǽ-, slíá-, slíðliga* (MSw. *sliolica*).]

†1. In a remiss or negligent manner; sluggishly; slackly. *Obs.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 190 Dæt hie to slawlice ðara ne ziemen þe him befæste sien. *a* 950 in *Anglia* X. 143 Ne dyde he þat naht slaulice ac he hine eallum middan ȝeardas ehtum ongerede. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Ðe þridde is þat man..slawliche ariseð and late to chireche goð. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 314 Hely þe heyȝ prest was dampned, for he reproued hise sones but to softliche & slowliche. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 b, Perfeccyon, whiche they slowly & weykly or fayntly desyre. 1563 Winȝet tr. *Vincent. Lirinensis* xxviii. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 60 That afore wes precheit slawlie, the samin thing eftir to be precheit mair feruentlie.

2. Not quickly, rapidly, or hastily: **a.** Of processes, operations, etc.

c 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3193 Þai brin mar slawly als hay brynnes. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Moche ayer is slowlich ymeued. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 81 Now qwhykliar, now slawlyer, it warmes. 1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regiment* G iv, The grape that hath the thynnest huske descendeth sonest from yᵉ stomake: and the thycker huske the slowelyer. 1595 Spenser *Epithalamion* 280 How slowly do the houres theyr numbers spend? How slowly does sad Time his feathers moue? 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* VI. 12 The businesse with the Prince of Orange went slowlyer on. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 237 Violent Courses..will Slowly and meanly Commend yᵉ policy of their Authors. 1761 Gray *Odin* 26 From out the hollow ground Slowly breath'd a sullen sound. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 280 If it volatilizes..slowly, its evaporation is protracted. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xviii. 326 Crevasses, on their first formation, are..narrow rents, which widen very slowly.

b. Of movement, advance, etc.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvii. 7 Whanne many dayes we seiliden slowli. 1587 A. Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 982/1 The armie went on, but so much the slowlier, bicause the waie was somewhat narrow. 1628 Hobbes *Thucydides* (1822) 78 They marched the slowlier for the rain which had fallen the same night. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 541 The setting Sun Slowly descended. 1712 *Spect.* No. 316 ₱ 4 Indolence is a Stream which flows slowly on. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xlviii, Presently he sees him come slowly down the avenue. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. v, They ride slowly Eastward. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) II. xix. 306 The English war-fleet..moved slowly out of the bay.

c. Of personal actions.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cli. 136. I..aroos ayen. Slowliche it was: for j was feeble. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 126 þe more þat god smyteth hem.., þe slawlyere [they] gon to goddys seruyse. 1573 J. Tyrie *Refutation,* etc. (S.T.S.) 8 Quhou slaulie he ansueris thairto. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 269, I coniure thee but slowly: run more fast. 1802 Wordsw. *Resolution & Indep.* 86 A gentle answer did the old Man make, In courteous speech which forth he slowly drew. 1818 Shelley *Rosalind* 1171 Slowly now he turned to me.

3. *Comb.* **a.** With ppl. adjs., as *slowly-acting, -churning, -dripping,* etc.

c 1742 Gray *Ignorance* 3 Rushy Camus' slowly-winding flood. 1744 Mason *Musæus* Poems (1764) 10 All these slowly dripping rills, That tinkling wander o'er the pebbled floor. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 181 The meandering brook, or the slowly-flowing river. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. viii. 59 We can prove the effects to be due to slowly-acting causes. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* xv, The slowly-churning chances of his mind.

b. Misc., as *slowly-dittied, -painful, successive.*

1744 Mason *Musæus* Poems (1764) 3 Till with harmonious teen Ye sooth his shade, and slowly-dittied air. 1842 Tennyson *St. Simeon Stylites* 56 More slowly-painful to subdue this home Of sin. 1845 Parnell *Chem. Anal.* 278 So as to allow the gas to escape in slowly successive bubbles.

Slow match. Also slow-match. [f. Slow *a.*] A rope-match made so as to burn very slowly (see Match *sb.*[2] 2).

1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Match,* Slow match is made of hemp or tow, spun on the wheel like cord, but very slack; and is composed of three twists. 1828 J. M. Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 275 During the Siege of Gibraltar, slow-match was made there in the following manner. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* I, [She] ignored the very existence of a mere Negro like Jamaica Joe, as she sat by her cigars, and slow-match.

attrib. 1887 G. Nicholson *Dict. Gardening* III. 442 Slow-match tree. A common name for *Careya arborea.* ['The bark..is said to be used in some parts of India as a slow match for firelocks'—*Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Careya.*]

Slow-moving, *a.* [Slow *adv.*] That moves or goes slowly; slow-going.

predic. 1720 Pope *Iliad* XXII. 494 Be this the song, slow-moving toward the shore. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 160 Thence with what pleasure have we just discern'd The distant plough slow moving. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* II. xxvii. 75 Overhead a meteor came, Slow-moving, tinging..The murky clouds.

attrib. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 697 The statesman of the day, A pompous and slow-moving pageant, comes. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 54/2 The arteries of the limbs in several slow-moving animals. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 308 Large droves of patient, slow-moving cattle arrived.

b. *transf.* Making slow progress; advancing or acting slowly.

1644 Milton *Areopagitica* (Arb.) 76 The slow-moving Reformation we labour under. 1878 Morley *Carlyle* 160 Our slow-moving and unimaginative public. 1899 Mackail *W. Morris* II. 237 At last the slow-moving arm of authority came down upon it.

Slowness (slōu·nés). Forms: α. *Sc.* and *north.* 4 **slau-,** 4–6 **slawnes** (5 slawe-), 5 **slawnesse,** 9 **slawness.** β. 4 **slogh(e)-,** 5 **slouȝnes**; 5–7 **slownes, -nesse,** 7– **slowness.** [f. Slow *a.*]

†1. Sloth, indolence, sluggishness. *Obs.*

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10110 Slaunes, and wreth, and pride. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iii. 5, I ristid me first in synful lyfe and in slawnes. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* 88 Qwher lufe kelys not, nor vnto slawnes may not bowe. *c* 1600 A. Hume *Chr. Precepts* Poems (S.T.S.) 81 Thou knawes what hurt and grief thy slawnes and slouthfulnes hes wrought thee.

β. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 4237 Now shul we speke of sloghnes; Among þe toþer ful wyk hyt ys. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 62 Slownes is a cursid thing: For it is evere weri of weel doyng. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* I. s.v., He reflected upon him by reason of his slowness and sluggishness.

2. Dullness of intellect or comprehension; lack of acuteness, promptitude, or readiness.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* (W. de W.) v. x. 115 Yf the forehede be tomoche, it tokenyth slownes that draweth to foly. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. iii. 10 The complaints I haue heard of you I do not all beleeue, 'tis my slownesse that I doe not. 1651 *Rec. Communion* § 2 Their slownesse and slendernesse..was very great. 1755 Johnson, *Dulness,* stupidity;..slowness of apprehension. 1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Old Actors,* In expressing slowness of apprehension, this actor surpassed all others. 1897 Miss Kingsley *W. Africa* 527 The acknowledged slowness of men in putting two and two together.

†b. Bluntness of edge. *Obs.*—°

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458/2 Slawnesse, or dulnesse of egge, *ebetudo, obtusitas.*

c. Lack of animation; dullness, tediousness.

1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., The slowness of an entertainment.

3. The quality of being slow in respect of action, progress, or accomplishment.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), þe heuynes of voice folowith þe slownes þereof. *Ibid.* xxxvii, For slouȝnes of breeþ tokeneþ defaute of þe vertu of out putting. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 246 b, A pronite or redynesse to all vyce, and a slownesse to all goodnes. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 441 The greit delay and slawnes of justice within this realme. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* ₱ 14 Fearing no reproch for slownesse, nor coueting praise for expedition. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advis. fr. Parnass.* I. lii. (1674) 67 Slowness could not consist with swiftness. 1731 *Swift's Corr.* (1766) II. 149 The slowness of my answers does not come from the emptiness of my heart. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 171 From the slowness I saw at first in the working I could scarcely believe that the work was done. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* I. 30 The oxidating influence of which can be applied with sufficient slowness and regularity. 1879 Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xxvii. 541 Another lamented the slowness of the work.

fig. a 1742 Bentley *Serm.* (J.), Because of the hardness and slowness of their hearts.

4. The quality of being slow in motion.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 458 Slawnesse, of mewynge, *morositas, tarditas.* 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* III. v. 168 This Fooles speede Be crost with slownesse. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 56 All Planets give unto him their light..by reason of his slowness. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Pulse,* A Slowness of the Influxes of the nervous Juice from the Brain into the *Villi* of the Heart. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* vi, The extreme slowness of his pace made St. Aubert look again from the window to hasten him. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxii. 158, I had descended with extreme slowness and caution for some time. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 164 This beats any funeral procession for slowness.

b. A soft or heavy condition of ground or turf which does not permit of swift riding or running or of good play.

1881 *Chicago Times* 4 June, Three well known and distinguished horsemen..are to adjudge the 'slowness' of the track. 1899 *Oakham School Mag.* 29 The slowness of the ground quite precluded that possibility.

Slow-paced, *a.* [Slow *a.*]

1. Having a slow pace, gait, or motion: **a.** Of persons or animals. *Slow-paced lemur* or *loris,* the slow lemur.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. i, The sleepie Waine-man softly droue His slow-pac'd Teeme. *c* 1605 Wallington *Optick Glasse* 40 Heare what the poet affirmes in an epigram vpon a slowpac'd lurdaine. 1664 H. Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 36 This Slimy Animal (the slow-paced Engine of Nature) The great Black Snail. 1737 Pope *Hor. Epist.* I. i. 16 *note,* Like the sober and slow-paced Animal generally employed to mount the Lord Mayor. 1784 Cowper *Task* V. 32 Patient of the slow-pac'd swain's delay. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* I. I. 81 *Lemur Tardigradus,* Slow-paced Lemur. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* VI. I. 203 Achilles the swift-footed slew them all Among their slow-paced bullocks.

fig. and *transf.* 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XIV. xli, The Judge may know Whether his Sentence more by Passion's haste, Than slow-pac'd Reason's Rules he has not past. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 503 Our slow-pac'd Natures cannot travel from one to the other.

b. Of inanimate objects.

1617 Drumm. of Hawth. *Forth Feasting* Wks. (1711) 37/2 Some few Years And Revolutions of the slow-pac'd Spheres. 1713 Swift *Elegy on Partridge* Wks. 1755 III. II. 80 That slow-pac'd sign Bootes.

2. Of time, etc.: Slow in coming or passing; tardy, lingering.

1629 Massinger *Roman Actor* V. ii, How slow-paced are these minutes! 1667 Milton *P. L.* X. 963 This days Death denounc't,..Will prove no sudden, but a slow-pac't evill. *a* 1700 Ken *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 262 Each slow-pac'd Minute seems to be a Year. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* IV. vii. 14 Yet Summer dies in Autumn's fruitful Reign, And slow-pac'd Winter soon returns again. 1878 B. Taylor *Pr. Deukalion* II. iii. 70 Slow-paced is Fate.

Slow-worm (slōu·wɜ̄m). Forms: α. 1 **slawerm, -wyrm,** 5 **-worme,** 9 *north. dial.* **slaa-, slea(a)-worm,** *Sc.* **slayworm.** β. 2 **slowurm,** 5 **-wurme, -werme,** 6 **-worme,** 6, 9 **-worm**; 6 **slooworme**; 6 **sloewourme,** 7 **-worme,** 7, 9 **-worm.** γ. 6 **slowe worme,** 6–7 **slow-worme,** 7–9 **slow worm, slowworm,** 7– **slow-worm.** [OE. *slá-wyrm*; the obscure first element appears also in MSw. *slā* (Sw. *slå,* dial. *slo*; also in comb. *ormslå*), Norw. *slo* (and *ormslo*), *sløa, sleva,* etc., a slow-worm. Association with the adj. *slow* is not apparent before the 16th cent.]

1. A small harmless scincoid lizard, *Anguis fragilis,* native to most parts of Europe; the blindworm.

In early glossaries, etc., the word is used to render various Latin names of serpents and lizards. Shaw (1802) used *slow-worm* as a generic name for the *Angues.*

α. *a* 900 *Kentish Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 80 *Regulus*, slawerm. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxviii. (1889) 105 Snacas & ealswa slawyrm [L. *regulus*] attru hit tosend oþþe ongytt. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 50/1856 *Spalangii*, *musci uenenosi*, pære scortan næddran, slawyrmes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 343/2 A Slaworme, *secula*. 1821 *Ayr & Wigton Courier* 22 Mar. (Jam.), Tho' slayworms and adders be coiled by thy rills. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slaa-worm*, a blind worm. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.* 88/2 *Slea worm*, ..the so-called blind worm, slo-worm.

β. 11.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544 *Stellio*, slowurm. 14.. *Ibid.* 571 *Cecula*, a Slowerme. *c* 1475 *Ibid.* 766 *Hic calus*, a slowurme. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Sloo worme. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Ivel.* (1883) 35 Behold you not the Sloworme there, with Vipers generation? 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 176 The Stork delighteth in Newts, Water-snakes, Adders, and Sloe-worms. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 365 *Slow worm*, or *Sloe-worm*, .. the blind worm. 1878 [see α].

γ. 1558 W. WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 30 b, A certayne litle Serpent called a Slowe worme. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 86 Thine eyes are like the slowworms in the night. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 153 So are slow-Wormes accounted blinde, ..although their eyes be evident. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. III. 48 The greater Slow-worm, .. Called also the Blind-worm. 1762 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 475 As to the slow-worm, I have had two fair trials, to conclude, that his bite is quite harmless. 1791 BURNS *Let.* in Wks. (Globe) 495 When I matriculate in the herald's office, I intend that my supporters shall be two sloths, my crest a slow-worm. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 852 Where the two contrived their daughter's good, .. The slow-worm creeps .. and all is open field. 1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Vivarium* 114 The Slow-worm has made itself famous by being the first to reveal to science the mysterious pineal, or median, eye.

transf. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 23 Avoidyng the slowe worme and deadely Dormouse called Idlenes. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 62 Was euer .. Ledgerdemaine a slow-worme, or Viuacitie a lasie-bones?

2. Used to render L. *scytale* in its original or modern application.

1611 COTGR., *Scytale*, the Scytall; a dangerous Sloe-worme. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 31 *Scytale*, .. the slow Worm. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 590 Seban Slow-worm, *Scytalæ Americanæ*, .. a small species, figured and slightly described in the work of Seba.

3. (See quot.)

1897 G. C. BATEMAN *Vivarium* 129 The Spotted Slow-worm (*Acontias meleagris*).—The general shape of this Lizard is not unlike that of the Common Slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), hence its English name.

†Sloy. *Obs.*—[1] An opprobrious epithet for a woman.

1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxii. (1597) 288 How tedious were a Shroe, a Sloy, a Wanton, or a Foole.

Sloyd (sloid), *sb.* Also slöjd, slojd, sloid. [ad. Sw. *slöjd*, corresponding to ON. *slægð*, whence SLEIGHT *sb.*[1]] A system of manual instruction or training in elementary woodwork, etc., originally developed and taught in Sweden.

The verb *sloyd* (*slöjd*, etc.), and the sbs. *sloyder*, *sloydist*, have also been occasionally employed.

α. 1885 *Pract. Teacher* Oct. 357/2 Slöjd. A Short Description of a System of Handiwork taught in many Elementary Schools in Sweden. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 107/2 In Sweden 'slojd', or elementary woodwork, .. is taught with considerable success to children of both sexes.

β. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 14/1 'Sloyd' .. aims at establishing handicraft as one of the subjects generally taught in schools. 1893 *Athenæum* 8 Apr. 437/3 Sloyd .. is by no means the same as carpentry; tools, objects, methods, are different in the two pursuits.

attrib. 1885 *Pract. Teacher* Oct. 358/2 [We] spent a week in Stockholm, visiting nearly every Slöjd school there. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 14/1 The kindergarten system of Frœbel may be regarded as the precursor of the Sloyd movement.

Slub (slœb), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *dial.* Also 7 slubb(e. [? ad. MDu. *slubbe* in the same sense.] Thick sludgy mud; mire, ooze. Also *attrib.*

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* IV. 853 His wall .. consisting onlie of slub and beach shoveled together. 1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 6 The lande .. fortefies it selfe with heaped mountes of sande, slub, and pibble stones. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 24 Ouer-flowing them with Fords or Land-flouds, affording a fatte and slimie substance or slubbe. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. iv. in *Hargrave's Law Tracts* (1787) I. 17 The exaggeration of sand and slubb, which in process of time grow firm land. 1823 [see SLUBBY *a.*]. 1892 MRS. OWEN & D. JORDAN *Within an Hour of London* (ed. 2) 162 To the stranger, the slub looks like a level flat. *Ibid.*, The 'gripes' and gullies of the slub ooze. *Ibid.* 163 If he is on the slub flats, .. his situation is not to be envied.

Slub (slœb), *sb.*[2] [Of obscure origin.] A lump on a thread.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 395 Taking out the slubs .. left in the silk by the negligence of the foreign reeler. 1897 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 23 Oct. (E.D.D.), Pike thi slubs off.

Slub (slœb), *sb.*[3] Also slubb. [f. SLUB *v.*[2]] A slubbing of cotton or wool; a roving.

1851 *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. v**1/2 By the revolution of the spindle and flyer the cotton slub receives its twist. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 265/1 The spindles upon which these slubbs or slubbings are wound.

Slub (slœb), *v.*[1] *dial.* [f. SLUB *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To cover or plaster with mud.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 365 Walls raised from the ooze of rivers require to be slubb'd over. 1886 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 187 Those who try to go through get 'slubbed' up to their knees.

Slub (slœb), *v.*[2] Also slubb. [Of obscure origin; the vbl. sb. is found earlier.] *trans.* To draw out and twist (wool, cotton, etc.) after carding, so as to prepare it for spinning. Also *absol.* Hence **Slubbed** *ppl. a.*

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLI. 527 Machinery for roving and slubbing cotton and wool. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 107 The 'slubbed' wool is taken from the mill to the house of the clothier, there to be spun. 1864 A. JEFFREY *Hist. Roxburghshire* IV. 116 The manufacturers were forced to get two women from Leeds to teach them to slubb and spin.

Slubber (slœ·bəɹ), *sb.*[1] *dial.* [Cf. SLUB *sb.*[1] and SLOBBER *sb.*] Mire, mud; ooze, slime.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 76/42 Slubber, *limus*. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 365 *Slub*, *Slubber*, mire, mud, the thick puddle on roads. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Slubber*, any gelatinous substance. 1890 HARTLEY *Clock Alm.* 29 (E.D.D.), He mud as weel ha' tried to climb up a hill side o' slubber.

Slubber (slœ·bəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. SLUB *v.*[2]]

1. One who manipulates a slubbing-machine.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 8 Slubbing is a handicraft operation, depending on the skill of the slubber. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 552/1 The workman or 'slubber' .. elongates the 'carding' into 'slubbing'. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 14 Dec. 2/4 If he wanted to borrow, he would apply to his weavers and not his slubbers.

2. A slubbing-machine.

1897 *Traill's Social Eng.* VI. 73 In the preparing frames, known as slubbers or rovers, the bobbins were necessarily large and weighty.

Slubber (slœ·bəɹ), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* Also 6 sloubber. [Probably of Du. or LG. origin: cf. MDu. *overslubberen* to wade through mud, LG. *slubbern* (hence Da. *slubre*), G. *schlubbern*, *schluppern* to gobble, to scamp in working, etc.]

1. *trans.* To stain, smear, daub, soil.

1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Sloubberde with wepyng, *esplouré*. *Ibid.* 722/1 Fye, howe you have slubbred your geare for one dayes wearyng. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 182 They were .. so slubbered and darkned with a black colour, that they became unprofitable for publick sight. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 75 That face that is slubbred & starched with so many ointments & drugs. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* lxviii. § 739 Let him not slubber (soile) or slurry his books, but use them cleanlily. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 55 (1713) II. 95 Thou couldst not think that Glass wanted new-foiling, .. and thou hast slubber'd it only to cover the foul *Plagium*. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slubber*, to smear, or obscure with dirt.

b. *fig.* To sully (renown, etc.).

1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 185 Going about to slubber our renowne. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieutenant* IV. i, If it be an honest end, That end's the full reward and thanks but slubbers it. 1641 MILTON *Reform. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 33 There is no art that hath bin .. more soyl'd and slubber'd with aphorisming pedantry then the art of policie.

c. To obscure, darken. *rare*—[1].

1605 *1st Part Ieronimo* II. iv, The euening to[o] begins to slubber day.

d. *intr.* To become indistinct. *rare*—[1].

1665 REA *Flora* 53 It is a little apt to run, that is, in one or two hot days the colours to slubber and run one into the other.

2. With advs. **a.** With *up*, = sense 1. *rare*—[1].

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 7 Each place handsome .., not so daintie as not to be trode on, nor yet slubbered vp with good fellowship.

b. To wear *out* by dirty handling. *rare*—[1].

1621 S. WARD *Life Faith* 97 Wilt thou dye before thou hast liued, as Boyes slubber out bookes before they learne their Lesson?

c. To daub *over* so as to cover or conceal. Chiefly *fig.*, to gloss *over*.

1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* VIII. 150 Richard had much adoe to colour over his Cruelties, which not being to be Denied, hee slubber'd them over, not naming them. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, 63 The Court-trick to daub and slubber over things that may be perspicuous. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* I. 11 A lepry .. which may be sullied or slubbered over with palliativ salvs. *a* 1797 WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1822) I. 238 The blemishes which these varnishers have slubbered over.

3. With *up*: To perform, make, concoct, deal with, etc., in a hurried and careless manner.

1550 LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 65 He minisheth Gods sacraments, he slubbers vp his seruice. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* 20 That some stitcher, Weauer, .. or Fidler, hath shuffled or slubberd vp a few ragged Rimes. 1602 CAREW *Surv. Cornw.* II. 127 b, Many a bad mariage bargaine is there yerely slubbred vp. 1610 J. DOVE *Advt. Seminaries* 2 It doth appear they slubber up many things negligently, and performe them loosely. *a* 1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Captain* v. v, If a marriage should be thus slubberd up in a play.

b. So without *up*.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. viii. 39 Slubber not businesse for my sake Bassanio. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) II. xviii. 226 Matters of less moment .. may be slubbered and slighted. 1664 JER. TAYLOR *Dissuas. Popery* I. i. § 3 The Council of Trent .. slubber'd the whole matter both in the question of Indulgences and Purgatory. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IX. i, Knife and fork slubbered through the general knife-cloth. 1827 HOOD *Legend of Navarre* xvi, Her servants stow'd him, (I am asham'd to think how he was slubber'd,) Stuck bolt upright within a corner cupboard!

4. To run or skim *over* hurriedly and in a careless or slovenly manner.

In very common use in the 17th century.

1592 *Consp. Pretended Reform.* Pref. p. iii, Matters .. are so sleightly and ignorantly slubbered ouer by such Preachers. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 80, I dare say, one Acre of Corne thus throughly husbanded, may be worth two Acres, nay three, slubbered over. 1670 BAXTER *Heav. Medit.* 23 Which may be lost by hasty breaking off, and slubbering over so great a business. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 194 I am encumbred with much Business, so that sometimes I forget, and at other times am forc'd to slubber over my Prayers. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 166 Anxiety to have the business slubbered over as fast as possible.

5. To gobble *up* slobberingly.

1640 BRATHWAIT *Lanc. Lovers* iv, Slubber up a sillibub.

6. *intr.* To be lubberly; to slabber or slobber.

c 1820 HOGG *Tales, Basil Lee* (1866) 239/2 When I see a young chap lying slubberin' an' sleepin' a' the day in a heather bush. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 3 The bloated kings .. Shall slubber and snore.

Slubberdegullion (slœ·bəɹdĭgœ·lyən). [f. SLUBBER *v.*, with fanciful addition; cf. SLABBERDEGULLION.] A slobbering or dirty fellow; a worthless sloven.

a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Custom of Country* I. ii, Yes they are knit; but must this slubberdegullion Have her maidenhead now? 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Laugh & be fat* Wks. II. 78 Contaminous, pestiferous, .. slubberdegullions. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 886 Although thou hast deserv'd, Base Slubberdegullion, to be serv'd As thou did'st vow to deal with me. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Slubberdegullion*, a slovenly, dirty, nasty Fellow. [Hence in later Dicts.] 1866 G. W. THORNBURY *Greatheart* III. 92 Do you take us for green hands, you sluberdegullion? 1891 FORD *Thistledown* xvi, This slubberdegullion o' a maister. 1905 R. GARNETT *Shaks.* 55 Aroint thee, .. vagabond, wretch, base Slubberdegullion!

Slubbered (slœ·bəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. SLUBBER *v.*]

1. Soiled, smeared; dirty; sullied.

1588 CHURCHYARD *Sparke of Frendship*, etc. D iiij, All slubbred things must needes be washt anue. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* Wks. (Grosart) II. 33 Wyping their slubberd cheekes with wispes of cleane Strawe. 1642 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 83, I see Religion in torn ragged weeds, and with slubber'd eyes sitting upon weeping-Crosse.

fig. 1619 FLETCHER *False One* II. iii, Pompey I overthrew; what did that get me? The slubber'd Name of an authoriz'd Enemy.

2. Hastily put together; hurriedly gone through; done or performed carelessly, etc.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* Prol. 22 What we present I must needes confesse is but slubbered inuention. 1669 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 77 These .. induced me to apply myself, with these not slubbered supplications, to your Honour. 1690 C. NESSE *Hist. O. & N. Test.* I. 77 Neither will the King of Heaven accept of thy slight and slubberd services.

Slu·bberer. [f. SLUBBER *v.*] One who works hastily and carelessly. Also with *over*.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Brouilleur*, .. a tumbler togither, a slubberer. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866) I. 444 The physician which doth but almost cure, is but a slubberer. 1611 COTGR., *Boiffeur*, a bungler vp, or slubberer ouer, of things in hast. 1638 A. READ *Chirurg.* ix. 62 By want of this [neatness] a slubberer and sloven is discerned from a cleanly workman. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 42 Idle Practitioners, and Slothfull impatient Slubberers.

Slu·bbering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SLUBBER *v.*] The action of the VB., in various senses.

1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xii. 74 A servant woman is put to office and worke of travaile, toylyng, and slubbering. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 143 By their slubbering of the Word (for want of study and meditation). 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xi. 238 To paint the face and bodies of themselves and their idolls .., which they call slubbering. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* iii. (1657) 21 A careless debasing and slubbering of the body.

Slu·bbering, *ppl. a.* [f. SLUBBER *v.*] That slubbers; working in a dirty or slovenly manner; showing haste and carelessness.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1886) I. 314 The Jews abhorred the sacrifice for the slubbering priests. 1594 *Zepheria* ii, My slubbring pencil casts too grosse a matter. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 325 Who ingrosse many pluralities under a non-resident and slubbring dispatch of soules. 1682 H. MORE *Expos. Daniel* Pref. 17 His Expositions are .. so dilute, shallow and slubbering. 1731 FIELDING *Grub St. Op.* III. x, Go, and like a slub'ring Bess howl, Whilst at your griefs I'm quaffing. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 89 A sort of scumming, smearing, slubbering way of sketching. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., A [slovenly] servant is called 'a slubbering thing'.

Hence **Slu·bberingly** *adv.*

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxi. 168 Such as .. slubberingly patch up some slight and shallow rhime. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 284 The Verse .. which he brings to testify his tenet expressely, but, by omitting it slubberingly, bids it say nothing.

†Slu·bberly, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. SLUBBER *v.*] Dirty, foul; muddled.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) P vij, For it were better for thee to eat brown bred, .then cause thy husband to fall unto any slubberlie work, or stinking occupation. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greybeard* 268 Brother Wild has now made his brains as foul and slubberly with his Guzling as are the fore-skirts of his doublet.

Slubbery (slœ·bəɹi), *a.* [f. SLUBBER *v.*] Lacking in neatness; slovenly.

1880 *Daily News* 20 Mar. 5/5 Whether the clumsy 'slubbery' style of Cambridge is more telling than the regular .. form in which the Oxford men row.

Slu·bbing, *vbl. sb.* Also 8 slobbing. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A process of drawing and twisting by which cotton or wool slivers are prepared for spinning.

1779 R. PEELE *Pat. Specif.* No. 1212. 1 My Invention of a Method for the .. Slobbing, Roving and Spinning of Cotton, Silk, Worsted and Woollen. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mech.* 386 A machine called the billy, or roving-billy, the

operation of which is called roving or slubbing. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 8 There is a process between carding and spinning the wool, called slubbing. 1876 I. WATTS in *Brit. Manuf. Industr.* V. 135 The operation which follows the drawing is that of slubbing, where the sliver has a certain amount of twist imparted to it.

2. One of the loosely-compacted threads obtained by this process.

1786 J. ROYDS *Pat. Specif.* No. 1564. 2 This machine being for the purpose of passing at once two or more slubbings betwixt the rollers. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 171 It..thus forms what is called a slubbing or roving—a soft thread to be thereafter spun, on the mule-jenny, into yarn fit for the loom. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 123 The slubbing should be strong enough to pull out easily when stretched by the hands.

3. *collect.* Cotton or wool which has been slubbed.

1836 *Bingham's New Cases* II. 451 Manufacturers..took their wool..to the mill for the purpose of being..made into slubbing. 1891 R. MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 162 Two strands of slubbing are put up, and by a draught of two are united into one.

4. *attrib*, chiefly with names of apparatus, as *slubbing billy, -frame, -jenny, -machine*; also *slubbing-thread, -waste.*

1795 *Edinb. Advertiser* 6 Jan. 15/3 One slubbing jeanny, with one mule jeanny. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 9 The long wooden rod from his slubbing-frame. *Ibid.* 171 The Slubbing Machine, or Billy, performs the next operation. *Ibid.* 175 It might be supposed that the slubbing threads would be apt to coil round the spindles. 1891 R. MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 221 The slubbing billy..in a modified and improved form..still exists in the woollen trade. 1894 *Times* 17 Aug. 9/5 Slubbing waste, roving waste,.. and all waste or rags composed wholly or in part of wool.

Slubby (slʌ·bi), *a. dial.* [f. SLUB *sb.*[1]] Muddy; sticky or slippery with mud.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 107/13 Slubbie, *lubricus.* 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 365 Wet, poachy ground, recently trodden by cattle, is said to be slubby, or all of a slub. 1886 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 187 The lanes and the gateways in the fields they say are slubby enough in November.

Sluce, obs. form of SLUICE *sb.* and *v.*

†**Sluch.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **slucht.** [Of obscure origin.] A suit (of clothes).

1582 *Records of Elgin* (1903) I. 165 Item thre schillingis four penneis for ane sluch of clais to Johne Innes. 1598 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Aberd.* (1848) II. 163 To Alexr. Checkum, ..fyve pundis to help to by him a slucht of blew.

Sluchched: see SLUTCH *v.*

Slucy, obs. form of SLUICY *a.*

†**'Slud,** *int. Obs.* App. a variant of 'SBLOOD. (Cf. 'SLOOD.)

1601 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Revels* IV. i, 'Slud, I never saw him till this morning. 1608 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* v. iii, 'Slud, 'tis all false! 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. iii, Slud! then..I tell you I have power, and I will fulfil it.

†**Slu·dden.** *Obs.*[-o] A sleuth-hound.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 61 A Sludden, *pedisequus, sanguisecus, canis.*

Sludder (slʌ·dəɹ), *sb. dial.* [Cf. LG. *slueder* lather, G. dial. *schluder* slush, mud, etc.] (See quot. 1796.) Hence **Slu·dder** *v. intr.*, to wallow.

1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* (ed. 2) II. 345 *Sludder*, or *Sluther*, loose, broken, slippery, pappy matter; as curds and whey, loose fat, mud, &c. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 144 Transfixing them as they lay 'sluddering' on the mud or sand.

†**Slude.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Russ. слюда *slyúda* (locally *slúda, slud*; Czech *slída*) mica.] Russian mica in thin transparent plates.

1591 FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl.) 13 In the province of Corelia..there groweth a soft rocke which they call *slude.* This they cut into pieces,..and so use it for glasse-lanthorns and such like. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 45 This needle and semicircle would be covered with some glasse and slude, as dials use to be covered. 1662 *Irel., Statutes at Large* (1765) II. 407 Muscovy glass or slude the pound, 2[s].

Sludge (slʌdʒ), *sb.* Also 8 **sluge.** [var. of SLUTCH *sb.*]

1. Mud, mire, or ooze, covering the surface of the ground or forming a deposit at the bottom of rivers, etc.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 143 A Mud, or Sludg, that lyeth frequently in deep Rivers, which is very soft. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 70 In that Water I put the Earth.., so as to make it a meer soft Sludge or Mud. 1745 *Beverley Beck Act* ii. 2 Choaked and warped up by the sludge and soil brought in by the tides. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 364 When we saw it, the moist filth, or sludge, at bottom..was two or three inches deep. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, The natural scent of the ooze and sludge left by the reflux of the tide. 1875 SMILES *Boy's Voy. r. World* xi. 113 A wide stretch of ground was covered by a thick deposit of sludge.

b. *Naut.* Ice imperfectly formed, or broken up into minute pieces (cf. quots.).

1817 SCORESBY in *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 534 The first appearance of ice whilst in the state of detached crystals, is called by the sailors sludge. 1820 — *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 227 Sludge consists of a stratum of detached ice-crystals, or of snow, or of the smaller fragments of brash-ice floating on the surface of the sea. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 328 The ice first forms in thin, irregular flakes called 'sludge', and when this is compact enough to hold snow it is known as 'brash'.

2. Any earthy or slimy matter or deposit; a mixture of some finely powdered substance and water.

1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 60 Sluge or Fine Dirt..will do my Engine no Injury. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 123 To prevent any sludge, &c. from issuing out at the mouth of the pipe, and falling on the decks of the vessel. 1840 HODGSON *Hist. Northumb.* III. II. 319/2 That sort of ammoniacal sleck or sludge which comes from kitchens. 1883 HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 53/2 They [sulphites] act well with salt water, giving a soft sludge, which should be readily removed by the blow-pipe.

b. *Metall.* Finely crushed ore mixed with water; metalliferous slime.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 341 All these cobalds or pyrites must previously be parted from the barren minerals, by stamping and washing, and made into a pure sludge. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 226 Some have concluded, that Tin in the state of sludge or slime, by length of time, must grow and increase. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 752 It is impossible to prevent some of the finely attenuated portions of the galena called sludge, floating in the water. 1898 *Daily News* 5 July 9/5 Further tenders have just been accepted for a quantity of sludges valued at over 1,000*l.*

c. The precipitate in sewage tanks.

1877 J. B. DENTON *Sanit. Engineering* 266 The third gradation of the solid matter in sewage known as 'sludge'. 1887 *Times* 26 Aug. 9/4 The sediment or sludge left at the bottom of the precipitation tanks.

3. *local.* (See quot.)

1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref., Sludge*,..a wet or muddy place.

4. *attrib.*, as *sludge-acid, -door, -hole, -ice*, etc. (see quots.).

1885 *American* IX. 222 Around New York *sludge acid ..is doing deadly work among the bivalves. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Sludge acid*, acid which has been used for the purification of petroleum. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, **Sludge-doors*, in boilers, closed openings by which the matter deposited at the bottom..can be taken out. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 313 There are also *sludge-holes at the ends of the water passages between the flues, by which the deposit can be raked out. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XXXI. (1856) 268 Suddenly a seal rose close by him in the *sludge-ice. 1896 *Durh. Arch. Trans.* (1901) 26 A circular tank or cistern provided with an outflow or '*sludge'-pipe at the bottom. 1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. s.v., **Sludge pit*, a cesspool. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 227 **Sludge pump*, a short iron pipe or tube..with which the boremeal is extracted from a borehole. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 31 July 6/1 It will then..be pumped through pipes extending along a jetty into the *sludge ships, for conveyance and discharge into the German Ocean. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xliv, Here and there the ice was fibred with the trail of *sludge-weed, slanting from the side.

Sludge (slʌdʒ), *v.* [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To convert into sludge (2 b).

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 42 A native metal may lie ..in so light and tender a form..as that the noble metal cannot be sludged, but be carried away by the stream.

2. To stop up, fill the crevices of (an embankment), with liquid mud.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2217.

3. To clear from sludge or mud.

1890 *Eastern Morning News* (Hull) 26 Sept. 1/4 For mowing the sides and bottom of Newland Beck,..also to sludge same.

Sludger (slʌ·dʒəɹ). [f. SLUDGE *v.*] An appliance for removing the sludge from a bore-hole, or for boring in quicksand.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 966 The sludger, for bringing up the mud. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durham* 9 Sludgers..are used when a bore-hole is so wet that the borings would..be washed out of the cylinder. 1871 W. MORGANS *Mining Tools* 134 A sludger which is fitted with an inside piston..in order to suck the sludge into the cylinder.

Sludgy (slʌ·dʒi), *a.* [f. SLUDGE *sb.*+-Y.]

1. Muddy, miry, oozy.

1782 W. GILPIN *Obs. on Wye* (1789) 53 Sludgy shores too appeared on each side. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 220 A rich sludgy mixture of fine earth and clay. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 560 The man should remove any wet sludgy matter from the bottom of the drain with a scoop. 1878 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 326 The whole coming off in a sludgy mess, and leaving the paper quite bare.

2. Consisting of newly formed particles of ice; full of sludge-ice.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* XXXVIII. (1856) 348 No sludgy streams of pancake. 1856 — *Arctic Expl.* I. XXXI. 423 The rise and fall of the sludgy water.

†**Sluds.** *Obs.*[-o] (See quot.)

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Sluds*, a term used by the miners in Cornwall for half-roasted ores. [Hence in some later Dicts.]

Slue, freq. variant of SLEW *v.* and *sb.*[2]

Slue, obs. pa. t. SLAY *v.*[1]

Sluff, obs. or dial. form of SLOUGH *sb.*[2]

†**Slu·ffer,** *v. Obs.*[-1] [Imitative. Cf. SLOFF *v.*] *trans.* To gobble *up* noisily.

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 32 Ye slvfferd vp sowse In my lady Brewsys howse.

Slug (slʌg), *sb.*[1] Also 5–7 **slugg(e.** [Related to SLUG *v.*[1]: cf. Norw. dial. *slugg* a large heavy body, *sluggje* a heavy slow person.]

1. A slow, lazy fellow; a sluggard. †Also personified, slothfulness.

c 1425 *Castle Persev.* 2341 in *Macro Plays*, A, good men! be-war now all of Slugge & Slawthe, þe fowle þefe! *a* 1500 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1866) 32 The slugge lokyth to be holpe of god that commawndyth men to waake in the worlde. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 159 Do this as often as she useth to fishe or to play the base slugge on that fashion. 1615 *Curry-Combe for a Coxe-Combe* I. 14 Hee that is lumpish at his meales, will proue but a slug in his more serious affaires. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. viii. 256 Nature is a Slugg, and doth nothing at the sight of a Whip. 1778 *Learning at a Loss* II. 149 My Uncle you know is a devilish Slugg in Conversation at best. 1812 TENNANT *Anster Fair* III. x, For who like arrant slugs can keep their heads In contact with their pillows now unstirr'd? 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 90 A loiterer at his labour and a slug in the morning.

†**2.** A slow-sailing vessel. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 26 b, His shippe was but a slugge. 1624 *Cal. State P., Col.* 260 [The Rose,] being a slug, will never make a good man-of-war. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 59/4 All the rest of our ships, besides the heavy sluggs.., are come in to the Gunfleet. 1687 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 456 They will certainly be Sluggs, not near so good Sailers as Ships made of Timber fell'd later in the Year. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 92 The characters of the several vessels.., some windwardly, some not stay well, some slugs.

fig. 1622 C. FITZ-GEFFRY *Elisha* 37 Flie Boates for their owne profit, very Sluggs for the Republique. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Church* 381 Presbytery..soon grew a slug, when once the North-Wind ceased to fill its sailes.

3. An animal, vehicle, etc., of a slow-moving or sluggish character; (see also quot. 1727).

1618 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 7 The slower flying Hawke or slugge doth winne what she gets most by her policie. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. viii. 177 Massie iron [chariots] (such would have been slugs in fight). 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* s.v. *Garde-boutique*, A Commodity that grows a Slug, a Commodity that sticks by one. 1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 4 Dec. 1775, He has not worked harder than the rest of the [ox-] team,..for he was always a slug, 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. *Stage Coaches* II. Travelling..in a stage-coach—I beg pardon—in a '*Slug*'. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 276 Manelle, my other nag, is an incorrigible slug. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 171 When not excited, an Arab horse is a slug.

†**b.** A relaxed or weak bow. *Obs.* (Cf. SLUG *v.*[1] 4, quot. 1600.)

1614–25 BOYS *Wks.* (1629) 487 Cupid shoots in a slugge, and hits none but the sluggish.

4. A slow-moving slimy gasteropod or land-snail (of the type represented by the families *Limacidæ* and *Arionidæ*), in which the shell is rudimentary or entirely absent.

1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* II. § XVII, This resembles our small Slug, and like it, is whitish below, but brownish above. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Mushroom*, Garden Snails, the large black Dew Snails, and others without Shells call'd Slugs. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 358 Moles..are carnivorous animals, preying on the slug, the great enemy of horticulture. 1844 EMERSON *New Eng. Ref.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 259 A society for the protection of ground-worms, slugs, and mosquitos. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 206, I feel as if a slug had crawled over me.

b. With distinguishing epithets.

1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VI. 4235/2 The black slug, the white slug, the reddish slug, the ash-coloured slug, &c. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* (1813) II. 93 The depredations of the white slug or snail. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 486/2 This section consists of the Grey Slugs. *Ibid.*, The supposed virtues of a decoction..of Red Slugs. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Limax*, The variegated slug. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 187 Cellar Slug (*Limax flavus*). 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 187/2 The larger black slugs are species of Arion.

c. (See quot.)

1863 WOODWARD in *Intellect. Obs.* Nov. 229 Every collector of fossils has heard of the 'Fairy-loaves'..and 'Slugs' (palatal teeth of *Ptychodus*, etc.).

5. a. A slug-worm; a caterpillar or larva resembling a slug (see quots. 1868 and 1892).

1799 W. D. PECK *Nat. Hist. Slug Worm* 13 The viscous coat of the Slugs seems to be their sufficient defence in the larva state. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Inj. Veget.* 517 Others have a dark-colored slimy skin, which has caused them to be called slugs, or slug-worms. 1868 *Q. Rev.* CXXIV. 466 The caterpillars of two moths of the genus *Agrotis* are often called slugs. 1892 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 512/1 The name Slug is often applied by gardeners to the larvae of saw-flies (*Tenthredinidæ*).

b. A sea-slug.

1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 114 A group of milk-white slugs (*Cucumaria hynumanni*), from two to six inches long. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* viii. 188 A protecting apparatus, into which the slugs can withdraw their soft bodies on the approach of danger. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* I. 23 On the green *Ulva* creeps the lovely little slug..called *Acteon viridis.*

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slug-eaten, -eater, -killer, -like*, etc.; †**slug-beetle** (?); **slug-caterpillar,** a caterpillar of the genus *Limacodes*; **slug-fly,** the fly of the slug-worm; **slug-snail,** = sense 4.

c 1721 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* X. § 92 Black Pounc'd Madras *Slug-beetle. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Inj. Veget.* 420 The most common of these *slug-caterpillars, in Massachusetts, live on walnut-trees. 1867 *Gard. Chron.* 7 Sept. 937 A large portion was *slug-eaten. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 149/2 Thrushes are..great *slug-eaters. 1799 W. D. PECK *Nat. Hist. Slug Worm* 11 The *Tenthredo Cerasi* or Saw-fly of the Cherry-tree has the greatest affinity to the *Slug-fly. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Inj. Veget.* 529 This slug-fly is of a glossy black color. 1883 *Sutton's Cult. Veget. & Fl.* 281 Lime, salt, soot, and nitrate of soda, are certain *Slug Killers. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXX. III. 140 The larvæ of Haworth's genus,..remarkable for their *slug-like shape and appearance. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 23 Another common form progresses rapidly with a slug-like movement. 1867 *Gard. Chron.* 7 Sept. 937 The *slug-pest is this year in full vigour. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, *Slug-snail, *un Limaçon.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Slug* or *Slug-Snail*, a Dew-snail that has no Shell. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 211 The

frequent ploughings..effectually prevent the depredations of the slug-snail.

Slug (slʌg), *sb.*[2] Also 7–8 slugg(e, 7 sluge. [Perhaps the same word as prec.]

1. A piece of lead or other metal for firing from a gun; a roughly-formed bullet.

1622 *MS. Sessions Roll, Durham*, Unum tormentum anglice a gun oneratum cum quadam plumbea machina vocata *a Slugg*. 1645 in Rushw. *Hist. Collect.* IV. I. 58 They were pelted with Granadoes and Slugs of hot Iron. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. r. World* 263 All our small shot was expended, which oblig'd us to fall astern to make some slugs. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxxvi. 163 One of the pieces went off, and carried two sluggs through the top. 1803 WITTMAN *Trav. Turkey* 201 The wounded man was brought off; and the balls and slugs afterwards extracted. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 375 Cutting lead from the roof of the Marquess's house and shaping it into slugs. 1879 STANLEY *Through Dark Cont.* XXIV. (1889) 440 We.. replied with shot, slugs, and bullets.

fig. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1700 I. 356 Discharging sluggs against our neighbours reputation.

b. *slang.* Some kind of strong drink (*obs.*); a dram; a drink. Now *U.S.*

1756 W. TOLDERVY *Hist. Two Orphans* (1765) II. 112 Gunpowder, slug, wild-fire, knock-me-down. 1762 SMOLLETT *Sir L. Greaves* xvii, He ordered the waiter..to..bring along-side a short allowance of brandy or grog, that he might cant a slug into his bread-room. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., *To fire a slug*, to drink a dram. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

† **2.** A heavy gun or cannon. *Obs.*—[o]

1677 in MIÈGE *Fr. Dict.* II. (Hence in some later Dicts.)

3. a. A heavy piece of crude metal, usually rounded in form; a nugget (of gold).

a 1891 *Elect. Rev.* (Amer.) XVI. viii. 2 (Cent.), 'That is platinum, and it is worth about $150.' It was an insignificant looking slug. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 7/1 Rumours were current..as to the finding of a 17lb. 'slug' of gold at Kurnalpi.

b. *Pottery.* (See quot.)

1880 JANVIER *Pract. Keramics* xii. 132 The coarser sorts [of stoneware] are..piled up, only separated by 'slugs'—rolls or pieces of sandy clay.

4. a. A hatter's or tailor's heating-iron.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

b. *Printing.* A metal bar used as a division (see earlier quots.), or one produced by a Linotype machine for printing from. Orig. *U.S.*

Hence *slug-machine*, a Linotype machine.

1871 RINGWALT *Amer. Encycl. Printing* 416 *Slugs.*—Pieces of metal of various lengths and thicknesses, but always thicker than leads, which they resemble in other respects. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2217/2 Slugs are used to fill out a short page or between display lines. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Slugs*, numbered divisions of metal between different takes of copy. 1896 *Linotype Co.'s Specimen Bk.*, The Linotype produces and assembles, side by side, metal bars or slugs.

c. *U.S.* A heavy gold piece privately coined in California in 1849, subsequently prohibited.

1890 *San Francisco Bulletin* 10 May (Cent.), An interesting reminder of early days in California, in the shape of a round fifty-dollar slug. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 554 A small hillock of gold in 10 and 50 dollar slugs.

d. A thick boot-rivet or sprig.

1892 [see SLUGGER[3]].

5. The core of an ox-horn (cf. SLOUGH *sb.*[5]); a stunted horn.

1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 395 The slug or core on which the horn is moulded. 1878 SIR B. T. B. GIBBS in *Rep. Paris Exhib.* II. 347 There shall be no horns, slugs, abortive horns. *Ibid.*, Occasionally some have small 'slugs' or stumps which are not affixed to the skull.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slug-bullet, -cartridge, -shot*; *slug-loaded* adj.

1665 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Feb., This message he sent in a slugg-bullett, being writ in cypher, and wrapped up in lead. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlem. Mag.* May 355 To make use of the slug-loaded pistols first. *Ibid.* 356 The slug-shot had entered his arm. 1901 H. SEEBOHM *Birds of Siberia* xxi. 222, I put a slug-cartridge into my gun.

Slug (slʌg), *sb.*[3] *north.* and *U.S.* [f. SLUG *v.*[3]] A heavy or hard blow; a beating.

1830 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* III. XXXVII, We'll spend wor hin'most p'nack, Te gi'e them iv'ry yen a slug. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 659 A *slug* or a *sluggin* is a dire beating.

† **Slug**, *a.* *Obs.* [Cf. SLUG *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]]

1. Slow, sluggish, inactive.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Slugge, *deses, segnis.* 1589 A. FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* 1 Thou Tityr slug in shade Dost teach the woods to sound so shrill. 1626 SHIRLEY *Brothers* V. iii, *Carlos*, Will none deliver me? *Lu.* They are somewhat slug. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* I. xiii., Lord, when we leave the world and come to thee, How dull, how slug we are.

2. Of vessels: Slow-sailing.

c 1626 *Dick of Devon* v. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* II. 86 Slug shipps can keepe no pace. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 59/1 The *St. Paul*, and two other Slug Ships, that seemed unserviceable.

Slug (slʌg), *v.*[1] Now somewhat *rare.* Also 4 **sluggyn**, 6 **slogge**, **sloug**, 6–7 **slugg**(e. [Perh. of Scand. origin: cf. Sw. dial. *slogga* to be slow or sluggish, and the Norw. forms cited under SLUG *sb.*[1] Earlier evidence for the occurrence of the stem in English appears in FORSLUG *v.* (*c* 1315) and SLUGGY *a.* (*a* 1225).]

1. *intr.* To be lazy, slow, or inert; to lie idly or lazily. Also with *it*.

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. v. in *Anglia* VIII. 166/21 She..slugged neuer wip sloupe; she defayled in trauayle neuere or seldom. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Sluggyn, *desidio, torpeo, pigritor.* 1530 PALSGR. 722/1 Whye slogge you nowe more than you have be wont to do? *c* 1560 INGELEND *Disobedient Child* (Percy Soc.) 50, I would most commonly slugge in my bed, Untyll it were verye farre forth daye. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 340 The Souldier, slugging long at home in Peace, His wonted courage quickly doth decrease. 1625 BP. SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 129 Men account him no wiser than he should be, that sluggeth in his own business, or goeth heartlesly about it. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. xxii. 256 When he mispendeth an hour, or sluggeth on his bed. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Christi* III. II. iii. (1852) 374 He complained, 'I lie slugging a bed, when others are at work'. 1869 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 157 How often do I slug in bed on the long bright summer mornings.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* 31 Of like sorte doubtles shall the profession of faith..bee vnauayleable, but lyeth slugging like as it were deade. 1567–9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 557 If they, whiles the Pope and his Prelats slug and sleep,..do bridle the Priests sensuality. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Pl. Mans Plough* 207 These ungodly..slug on the waves of this world, slumber as in the darke night. *a* 1646 J. BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* ix. (1652) 312 The Lord offereth deliverance and we lie slugging on our beds.

c. To withdraw through laziness. *rare*[−1].

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 45 The Lord..suffered him not to slug out of the worke, till he had finished it.

2. To move slowly; to loiter or delay.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 84 Their destruction sluggeth not. 1646 W. PRICE *Mans Delinquencie* 14 Like a Bowle, he began to slugge toward the end of the Alley. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (1694) 362 There were two men together on a journey. One of them went slugging on...T'other jogg'd merrily away. 1812 TENNANT *Anster Fair* II. xlii, Others..ride, Slugging on their slow-gaited asses stout.

3. *trans.* To pass (time) in inactivity or idleness. Also with *out*.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 177 Wherfore losyng no tyme nor sluggyng one houre he sayled from Deuelyne to Chester. 1621 R. BOLTON *Statutes Irel.* 313 Who losing no time, nor slugging one houre, hath so actually followed the warre that [etc.]. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 224 How may your lubbers slug out these long days till evening?

4. To relax or slacken; to make inert or sluggish.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. xli. 968 Moreouer, the dropping weather slugged their bowes, softned their slings. 1641 MILTON *Reform. Eng.* 4 It is still episcopacy that.. wolsens and slugs the most learned and seeming religious of our ministers. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 18. 321 Contending..that it..would weaken and enervate Mans natural Faculties, by slugging them.

5. To hinder, retard, delay.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 7 They are..but Remoraes and hindrances to stay and slugge the Shippe from furder sayling. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* xiv. 24 When a bowl runs down-hill, every rub quickens it; whereas if up-hill, it would slug it. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 69 Several of these Rays..will be slugged or stopped by the tinging particles. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 176/2 *Slug*, to hinder; to retard progress.

Slug (slʌg), *v.*[2] [f. SLUG *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To load (a gun) with slugs.

1831 *Examiner* 273/2 They would scarcely applaud..Tyburn Jack for slugging the blunderbuss up to its expansive muzzle. 1864 in WEBSTER.

2. *trans.* and *intr.* Of a bullet: (see quot.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2217/2 The bullet, when forced to assume the sectional shape of the bore in the act of firing, is said to *slug* or to be *slugged*.

Slug (slʌg), *v.*[3] Chiefly *north.* and *U.S.* [Cf. SLOG *v.*] *trans.* To strike (also, to drive, throw, etc.) heavily or violently; to slog.

1862 in ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 413. 1869 *Echo* 8 Mar., He has several times been told by unionists on strike that he would be 'slugged' if he went on as he was going. 1883 *The Bread-Winners* (1884) 213 'Who's afraid of half-a-dozen cops?' said a burly ruffian, who carried a slung-shot..'We'll slug 'em this time!' 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* I. (1892) 11 They mean..to slug him, crush the wind out of his body, and leave him battered and bruised.

Slug (slʌg), *v.*[4] [f. SLUG *sb.*[1] 4.] *intr.* To hunt for slugs.

1887 BARING-GOULD *Golden Feather* IV, She went with him to see the garden and help to 'slug'.

Slug-a-bed (slʌ·găbĕd). Also 7, 9 **sluggabed**, 9 **slugabed**. [f. SLUG *v.*[1] 1 + ABED *adv.*] One who lies long in bed through laziness.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 2 Why Lambe, why Lady, fie you sluggabed. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp., Corinna's going a Maying*, Get up, sweet Slug-a-bed, and see The Dew-bespangling Herbe and Tree. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccIII. (1694) 367 But these People are Hearing Causes too, with our Slug-a-bed in the Apologue. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Slug-a-bed*, a drone, one that cannot rise in the morning. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 90 Thomson, who was a notorious slug-a-bed, is peculiarly eloquent on the subject of early rising. 1897 W. HURTON *Doomed Ship* xxii, I found Oriana, as usual, up before me, for I always was a sad slug-a-bed.

attrib. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 289 Many ordinary Country People..have nothing the trouble at such times as our fine lazy sluggabed-Dames. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 42 Even the slug-abed snail upon the thorn.

Sluggard (slʌ·gărd), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *α.* 5–6 **slogard**(e, 5–6 **sloggarde**. *β.* 5 **sluggarde**, 6 **slougarde**, **slugerd**, 6– **sluggard**; *Sc.* 5, 7 **sluggart**, 6 **slug**(**g**)**ird**. [f. SLUG *v.*[1] + -ARD.]

A. *sb.* One who is naturally or habitually slow, lazy, or idle; one who is disinclined for work or exertion of any kind; a slothful or indolent person.

α. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. viii. (Bodl. MS.), Also scharpenes of winter make men slogardes and slowe to worching. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* VIII. 297 Such dotards never shall, ne no sleeping slogard, make my right title cease! *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 249 b, If thei be slogardes and geuen to slothe.

β. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lviii, Sluggart, for schame! lo here thy goldin houre. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 86 Luve makis sluggirdis fresche and weill besene. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* 27, I runne not lyke a slougarde, as they are wonte to doe which hasten to no certayn marke at al. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 251 Least your delayes gett you the report of a sluggarde or idle lubber. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 4 But it is the part of an industrious man, to act their affaires in the world, tho sluggards lie by the fire. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 358 This is the effect of the Sermon which that Excellent Man made to Drones and Sluggards. 1738 WESLEY *'Let us go forth, 'tis God commands'* ii, If any now to Work refuse, Let not the Sluggard eat. 1819 COBBETT *Eng. Gram.* viii. (1847) 72 Read it early, while your mind is clear, and while sluggards are snoring. 1877 LADY BARKER *Housek. S. Africa* iv, Our garden is precisely in the condition of the sluggard, gate and all.

transf. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* III. iii. 143 Even light..is but a sluggard when compared to thought.

Comb. 1706 A. PHILIPS *Past.* IV. (1710) 16 He that late lies down, as late will rise, And, Sluggard-like, till Noon-day snoring lyes.

† **b.** *spec.* A sloth. *Obs. rare.*

See also POTTO 1, quot. 1705.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 16 *Ai, sive Ignavus*, the Sluggard. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 294 The sluggard, or sloth, likewise has hands.

B. *adj.* Sluggish, slothful, lazy.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 84 Awake thou sluggard Maiestie, thou sleepest. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1278 The more to blame my sluggard negligence. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 177 For sprightly May commands our Youth to keep The Vigils of her Night, and breaks their sluggard Sleep. 1867 R. PALMER *Life P. Howard* 25 The still more dreadful lukewarmness that hag-rode the sluggard orders. 1874 WILBERFORCE *Essays* II. 113 The old sluggard slumberers of the last generation.

Hence **Slu·ggarding** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of playing the sluggard.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. XIV. (1873) VI. 112 By slumbering and sluggarding over their money tills.

† **Sluggardise.** *Obs.* [f. SLUGGARD *sb.* + -ISE[2].] Slothfulness, laziness.

1532 HERVET *Xenophon Treat. Househ.* (1768) 5 Slouthfulnes, sluggardise, lacke of stomacke and quickenesse. 1555 [WATREMAN] *Fardle Facions* App. 345 Banishyng sluggardise, and kieping your mindes in continuall exercise. 1606 *Choice, Chance & Change* (1881) 51 Mistris, quoth I, shall the seruant be in bed after his Mis? that wer to much sluggardise.

Slu·ggardish, *a.* *rare*[−1]. [f. SLUGGARD *a.*] Somewhat slothful.

1649 SCLATER *Comm. Malachy* (1650) 166 If those sluggardish fooles amongst us..would consider this.

Sluggardize (slʌ·gărdəiz), *v.* [f. SLUGGARD *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make idle or lazy.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* I. i. 7 Liuing dully sluggardiz'd at home. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Feb. 92 To continue..dully sluggardized in that dismal torpor.

2. *intr.* To play the sluggard.

1837 LOFFT *Self-formation* II. 230 An enervating lethargic spirit, that kept my soul abed, idly sluggardizing.

Sluggardly (slʌ·gădli), *a.* [f. SLUGGARD *sb.* + -LY[1].] Lazy, indolent, slothful.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XX. iii. (1872) IX. 53 Astonishment at unjust fortune, or at his own sluggardly cunctations. 1877 *Tinsley's Mag.* XXI. 609, I feel bitterly ashamed of selfish sluggardly humanity. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 25 Feb. 5/2 The sluggardly and inefficient way in which the Irish railway companies..do their business.

Sluggardness (slʌ·gădnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Slothfulness, laziness.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxix. (Bodl. MS.), [Light] wakep men of slepe of slogardnes and of slewthe. 1538 ELYOT, *Secordia*,..sluggardnesse, vnaptnesse. 1550 HOOPER *Serm. Jonas* vi. 162 b, To put awaye the slugerdnes of hys people. 1866 ROSE *Virgil* 59 He chaseth sluggardness forth from his reign. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 6/2 A duet in which jolly Friar Tuck..twits the Black Knight upon his sluggardness.

† **Slu·ggardry.** *Obs.*[−1] = next.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* IV. Prol. 164 Thow ald basart lychour..That flotteris furth euermair in sluggardry.

† **Slu·ggardy.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **sloggardye**, 5–6 **slogardy**(e, 5–7 **slogardie**. *β.* 5 **slugardie**, 4, 6–7 **sluggardie** (6 **-dye**), 6 **slougardie**, 5– **sluggardy**. [f. SLUGGARD *sb.* + -Y.] Slothfulness, indolence, laziness.

α. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 184 (Camb. MS.), For may wele haue no slogardye on ny3t. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10223 Slowh and ful off slogardye. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 658 'Der schyr,' he said, 'ye leiff in slogardy'. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 23 The bryttel fleshe, nourisher of vyces, Under the shadowe of evyll slogardy, Must need haunte the carnall delices. 1545 *Primer Hen. VIII*, 70 Thee to praise and magnifie Of night we leave the slogardie. 1616 J. LANE *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* x. 558 Truith without Justice is slogardie.

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 92 [He] seith that for no Druerie He wol noght leve his sluggardie. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxix. 342 [Light] wakyth men of slepe and sluggardy. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 92 In the preservation of helth, sluggardy is the greattest mischiefe.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 87 b, The same much auailleth ..to quicken the slouggardie of others. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.*, etc. (1878) 54 The foule staine of beastly sluggardie. 1606 HOLLAND *Suetonius* 155 The olde infamous note of sluggardie and foolishnesse.

Slugged (slʌgd), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 5 **slughed, sluggid, sluggyd.** [f. SLUG *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]] Sluggish.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 Thou hast noon so gret lettinge..as of that he is so slugged. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Where sluggid Idilnes myght not vprise. *c* 1450 [see SLUGGISH *a.* 2].

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 728 His intelligence, usually slugged and lazy,..acts with..rapidity.

Hence **†Sluggedly** *adv.*; **†Sluggedness.** *Obs.*

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 151/39 As a prikke, lest she shulde be slowe þurgh sluggednesse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Sluggydnesse, *torpor, segnicies, ignavia.* *c* 1450 Sluggedly [see SLUGGISHLY]. *a* 1500 *Polit., Relig., & L. Poems* (1866) 32 Sluggednes & myshappe be seldome dyssevyrde.

†Slu·gger[1]. *Obs.* [f. SLUG *v.*[1]] A sluggard.

1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 40 With sluggers or unhardye persons, it is alwayes holy daye. *c* 1560 BP. COX in *Abp. Parker's Corresp.* (Parker Soc.) 130 Satan is no slugger, nor Judas no sleeper.

Slugger[2] (slʌ·gəɹ). *U.S.* [f. SLUG *v.*[3]]

1. = SLOGGER *sb.* 2.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 300/1 Let the young disciple beware of those teachers [of boxing] who are known as 'sluggers'. 1895 *Daily News* 6 Mar. 6/4 The champion slugger at football.

2. A flat-surfaced boss, knob, or projection on a roll for crushing ore. Also *attrib.*

1903 R. H. RICHARDS *Ore Dressing* I. 105 These sluggers and knobs are cast upon segments. *Ibid.*, The slugger roll has 16 knob segments and two slugger segments.

Slu·gger[3]. [f. SLUG *sb.*[2]] (See quot.)

1892 *Labour Commiss. Gloss., Slugger*, a machine which makes and drives into the bottoms of boots very thick rivets or sprigs called slugs, muds, or studs, to make the soles wear longer.

†Slu·gginess. *Obs. rare.* [f. SLUGGY *a.*] Sluggishness, slothfulness.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 111 He was wery for trauayle, &, for sluggynes & slewthe, thouȝte to haue esyd hym wyth schortere travayle. *Ibid.* 114 ȝif it be omytted for heuynes & sluggynesse. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* P j b, Let this persuade you to cast off your slugginesse.

Slugging (slʌ·gin), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SLUG *v.*[1]] The fact or practice of playing the sluggard.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 686/1 If rebellion be no pride,..nor slugging a bed no slouth. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 15 b, By vacaunt tyme of leasure he mened not slouggyng, loitering or slouthful idlenes. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 343 Nowe, after their long sleepe and slugging, they are awaked. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* iii. 3 The sluggard quits himself from pragmatical meddling, the busy-body from lazy slugging.

Slugging (slʌ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *north.* and *U.S.* [f. SLUG *v.*[3]] Slogging; hard hitting; a beating.

1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 413 Gi'e him a good slugging lad! 1884 *Science* IV. 473 Even pugilism would have no charm if it were mere slugging. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* i. (1891) 13 The slugging and scrimmaging.. had been something awful.

Slugging (slʌ·giŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SLUG *v.*[1]] Slothful, sluggish.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lv. (1869) 97 Yit ȝ seye thee that slough thou shalt fynde him and slugginge. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep.* 27 b, Nor durst his slugging Hulks approch the strand. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Dormir*, The slugging or sleepie Cat at length awakes.

Hence **Slu·ggingly** *adv.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. v. 27 After the procession, they went sluggingly into the fratry room.

Sluggish (slʌ·giʃ), *a.* Forms: 5 **slugis(sh, -ys(s)h, sluggyssh, -us(s(h, -isshe, 6 -ysshe, -ysh(e, -ysch, -ische** (5 **-esch,** 6 **-essh**), 6– **sluggish**; 6 **slogish, slo(u)ggysshe, slouggish,** 7 **slougish.** [f. SLUG *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -ISH.]

1. Of persons: Indisposed to action or exertion; inclined to be slow or slothful; not easily moved to activity.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 20 Fro thens furth, he was neuer slugissh to rise & go vnto Goddis serves. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii. 18 Ne be he not slouthful, sluggyssh, ne slepy. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* vi. 9 How longe wilt thou slepe, thou slogish man? 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1146 They were sluggish and sought not that which was for the edification of the people. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 429 The Turke, and the Irish-man, are the least industrious, and most sluggish liuers vnder the Sunne. 1678 WANLEY *Wonders Lit. World* v. i. § 90. 467/2 He was sluggish and careless. 1780 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Porter* 8 Apr., I am indeed but a sluggish correspondent. 1807 CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. Pref. p. vii, The scholars of Scotland remained sluggish, and silent. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 37 A sluggish Englishman will often catch the American look in a few years.

absol. 1614–25 [see SLUG *sb.*[1] 3 b].

b. Of animals; also *spec.* (see quot. 1884).

[1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 214 There is one kind of snake in India of a sluggish nature.] 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 27 Compared with the torpid and sluggish reptile, the active..quadruped requires..a much larger quantity of nutriment. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 241/1 The sluggish puff-adder (*Clotho arietans*) is common and very dangerous.

2. Of the mind, disposition, etc.: Characterized by or exhibiting lack of vigour, alertness, or energy; slow in apprehension or decision; dull.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. iii. Dedly mennes hertes waxe sluggussh [*v.r.* slugged]. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. (1878) 214 For sluggysch myndys lyue in cornarys and content themselfys wyth pryuate lyfe. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 88 That the mynde be not made sluggish by crommynge in meate. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. § 10. 419 They..manifested thereby a luskish, sluggish disposition. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 31 This will prepare you ..to throw out the sluggish humour which is in all our natures. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 56. ¶ 5 Men, whose perceptions are languid and sluggish. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iii, Ill policy it is to plant such sluggish natures in our borders. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* ix. (1894) 207 Sluggish imaginations require strong stimulants.

3. Of conditions, etc.: Characterized by want of, or disinclination to, action or exertion.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 4 b, A slouggish or slepery disease. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xi. 111 Remuif all sluggische slewth away. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 446 This sluggish and idle husbandry. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* vi. Wks. 1851 V. 244 Ethelred, whom no adversity could awake from his soft and sluggish life. 1788 REYNOLDS *Disc.* 250 Either a vain confidence, or a sluggish despair. 1798 EDGEWORTH *Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 116 It is of consequence to distinguish between slow and sluggish attention. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. 25 A life of sluggish inaction. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* I. iii. 21 Each of us has a little cleverness and a great deal of sluggish stupidity.

4. Of things: Not readily stirring or moving; slow to stir, act, or make progress in any way.

1640 WILKINS *New Planet* ix. (1707) 250 Matter is of it self a dull and sluggish thing. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 213 This poor Atom, sluggish and unactive as it is, doth involve Necessity of Existence. 1764 CHURCHILL *The Ghost* Poems I. 329 The sluggish Oars suspended hung. 1785 CANNING *Poet. Wks.* (1827) 4 Pale ivy throws its sluggish arms around. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 420 A very sluggish species of land is formed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 406 Bacon had sown the good seed in a sluggish soil and an ungenial season. 1897 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 2/6 Yarns are sluggish, and..the tendency in some directions favours buyers.

b. *Med.* Of the pulse, liver, etc.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 100 Sluggish and dilated, or else extremely contracted pupils. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 172 Pulse..sluggish, exceedingly compressible. *Ibid.* 317 The bowels are sluggish. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 25 A symptom of 'sluggish liver'.

c. *Med.* Slow in responding to treatment.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 519 An effect similar to that of nitrate of silver in sluggish ulcers.

5. Moving, flowing, etc., very slowly or tardily; slow in movement.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 205 To shew what Coast thy sluggish c[r]are Might'st easilest harbour in. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 33 These Glass Drops..being exceeding hot, and thereby of a kind of sluggish fluid Consistence. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 147 The river dwindles into a sluggish, little, bull-rush stream. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xx, To waste on sluggish hulks the sweetest breeze! 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 166 Germany being a flat country, and the rivers..sluggish. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 192 A hot mud which rolls down the hill in a sluggish stream.

fig. 1891 *19th Cent.* Dec. 858 The currents of public life.. are sluggish and slow in Germany.

b. Of motion, etc.: Very slow or tardy.

1648 WILKINS *Math. Magic* I. xx. 141 That orb being the lowest of all, and consequently of a dull and sluggish motion. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* v. ii, His wry looks and sluggish pace always proclaimed his ill will to the task. 1826 SAMOUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 38 The former have a sluggish flight. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 252 Its motions are so sluggish, that it may be said to drag itself along rather than walk. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 379 Their velocity is..contrasted with the sluggish pace of the continental posts.

6. *Comb.*, as *sluggish-minded, -moving* adjs.

1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iii. (1854) 34 The most sluggish-minded man craves amusement. 1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* 68 The broad sluggish-moving river.

Sluggishly (slʌ·giʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a sluggish or torpid manner; lazily, slowly.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxi, Þe eselier þou shalt bere it, made redy þerto nat sluggusly [*v.r.* sluggedly] in herte & by use. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Somniculose*, dreamingly: negligently: sluggishly. *c* 1650 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 52 Who, sluggishlie gapeing and stretching himself, lyeth lusking on the downe. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 189 To do my Work sluggishly by halfs. 1784 REYNOLDS *Disc.* xii. (1842) 201 To go sluggishly about a prescribed task. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* III. xvii. 45 Our men at first paddled sluggishly. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 33 Hence the compass-needle..oscillates more sluggishly.

Sluggishness (slʌ·giʃnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being sluggish, torpid, or slow: **a.** Of persons (or animals).

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 20 A monk..tempyd with sleuthe & slugisnes. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xviii, O þe sluggussnes & þe negligence of oure tyme, þat we..are wery to lyue for sluggussnes and werynes! 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 48 b, Sluggyshenes dulleth the body. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 2 b, We loose the healthfullest and sweetest time with sluggishnesse. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 160 Hay, whereof they make little for sluggishnesse. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 41 Nor can this be called slothfulness or sluggishness in them,..but a decay of their spirits. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 127 Thanks to the cold sluggishness of our national character, we still bear the stamp of our forefathers. 1842 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 187 The time was one neither of sluggishness nor of performance, but of active and earnest preparation. 1875 H. G. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 156 The first symptom manifested is sluggishness, as shown by a disposition to be quiet.

personif. a 1610 HEALEY *Cebes* (1636) 129 To defie desperation the daughter of sluggishnesse.

b. Of things, their motion, etc.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 135 Lest this Motion should languish by degrees on account of the sluggishness of Matter. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 525 The part [has] put on that degree of sluggishness and livid hue, as to require a very different mode of treatment. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. xxiv. 322 The sluggishness of the compass..in the Arctic seas. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii. 24 A sluggishness in the flow of the blood.

†Slu·ggy, *a.*[1] *Obs.* Also 3 **sluggi,** 5 **sloggy.** [See SLUG *v.*[1], and cf. Norw. *sluggjen* slow, backward.] Sluggish, indolent.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Hwo mei beon, uor scheome, slummi & sluggi & slouh, þet bihalt hwu swuðe bisi ure Louerd was on eorðe? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 706 Thanne cometh Sompnolence, that is sloggy slombrynge. 1408 tr. *Vegetius De re milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 184 b/1 It most be vsed & asayed byfore in ȝoupe or þe body be made sleuthful & sloggy by age. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 289 þat þou schalt noȝt be wery, heuy, ne sluggy, ne fayle þer-in. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C c j b, The more I slept, the more sluggy I was. 1608 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* IV. ii, As if sleep had caught him, Which claimes most interest in such sluggy men.

Sluggy (slʌ·gi), *a.*[2] [f. SLUG *sb.*[1] 4.] Abounding in slugs, or shell-less snails.

1882 *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 25 They let the slugs in that very sluggy year, 1879, abound around them. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 636, I not only gave them 'cawed' mutton, but also 'sluggy' cabbage.

Slug-horn[1]. [Erroneous use of *slughorn*, the earlier form of SLOGAN.] A trumpet.

a 1770 CHATTERTON *Battle of Hastings* II. 99 Some caught a slughorne, and an onsett wounde. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* xxxiv, Dauntless the slug-horn to my lips I set, And blew.

Slug-horn 2. [Cf. SLUG *sb.*[2] 5.] (See quots.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 308 *Slug-horn*, a short and ill-formed horn of an animal of the ox kind, turned downwards, and appearing to have been stunted in its growth. 1878 SIR B. T. B. GIBBS in *Rep. Paris Exhib.* II. 346 A 'slug' horn..gives an indication of the original blood.

Hence **Slu·g-horned** *a.*

1899 RIDER HAGGARD in *Longman's Mag.* June 136 Six of these..not polled, but 'slug-horned', that is, with horns about the size and shape of a large sausage.

†Slu·gly, *adv. Obs.*[—1] [f. SLUG *a.*] Sluggishly; lazily.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 203 God yeve us grace..slugly not to slepe In shame of synne.

†Slu·gness. *Obs. rare.* [f. SLUG *a.*] Slothfulness; indolence.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 111 As þe feend wryteth & noumbryth þi slauthe, slugnes, & ydelnes. *Ibid.* 116, etc. *a* 1500 *Promp. Parv.* (K.) 460/2 Slugnes, *torpor, segnicies, ignavia.*

†Slu·gplum. *Obs.* [f. SLUG *a.*; *plum* is perh. = PLUMB *sb.*] A sluggard.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Superer.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 283 Was..Viuacitie a lasie-bones, or Entelechy a slugplum? *Ibid.* 323 Though my Pen be a slugplum.

†Slu·gring, *ppl. a. Obs.*[—1] [? f. **slugger* vb., f. SLUG *a.* or *v.*] Sluggish.

1566 STUDLEY *Medea* iv, Made Morpheus locke thy sleepy liddes and shut thy slugring eyne.

Slug-worm. [f. SLUG *a.* or *sb.*[1] 4.] One or other of the slug-like and slimy larvae of certain saw-flies (esp. those formerly classed in the genus *Selandria*).

1799 W. D. PECK (*title*), Natural History of the Slug Worm. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* vi. (1818) I. 198 In North America a second species nearly related to it, known there by the name of the *slug-worm*, has become prevalent. 1890 E. A. ORMEROD *Injurious Insects* (ed. 2) 324 The Slug-worms feed on the upper surface of the leaves of the Pear and Cherry.

attrib. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Inj. Veget.* 525 The slug-worm saw-fly.

Sluice (slūs), *sb.* Forms: α. 4–7 **scluse,** 5–7 **scluce,** 6 **sklus.** β. 6 **sleuss, sleuse, slewse, slowese.** γ. 6 *Sc.* **slus,** 6–7 **sluse,** 6–8 **sluce.** δ. 6 **sluyce,** 7– **sluice.** [ad. OF. *escluse* (*-clusse, -clouse*, etc.; mod.F. *écluse*), = Sp. and Pg. *esclusa*, late and med.L. *exclusa* (also *sclusa*, etc.), fem. sing. of L. *exclūsus*, pa. pple. of *excludere* to shut out, EXCLUDE *v.*

OF. is also the source of MDu. *sluse, sluyse, sluus* (Du. *sluis*, WFris. *slûs*), MLG. *sluse, sluze* (LG. *sluse, slûs*, G. *schleuse*), Da. *sluse*, Sw. *slus*. For the English forms which represent the late L. *clūsa* see CLOW *sb.*[1]

The spelling with *ui* (cf. *juice*) did not come into general use until the 18th century.]

1. A structure of wood or masonry, a dam or embankment, for impounding the water of a river, canal, etc., provided with an adjustable gate or gates by which the volume of water is regulated or controlled. Also, rarely, the body of water so impounded or controlled.

Falling sluice: see FALLING *ppl. a.* 5 b.

α. 1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Zome uolk..byeþ ase þe melle wyþoute scluse þet alne-way went be þe yernynge of þe wetere. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 149/1 Geteys, Keyes, Scluces, Bankes, and other reparations. *c* 1480 *Reg. Oseney Abbey* (1907) 76 To an scluse to be maade, or locke if þey will. 1558 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 388 The sklus or dame, besyde the said myll. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Wars Lowe C.* III. 107 Some of these souldiers chose rather to leape from the scluse into the water. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXIV. i. 241 The scluces or floudgates made of stone worke, to let out or restraine the waters. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 245 Being brought within a Lock of the River or Scluse, near the Castle.

β. 1533 *MS. Rawl. D.* 776 fol. 175 Makyng of Certayne

new slewssis vnder the kynges new whalke. 1541-2 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 33 The maintenance of other Clowes, sloweses, gettiez, gutters, goottes. 1582 in *Archæologia* XXVIII. 20 A sufficiente sleuss shalbe made for the water-course. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 9 Whether the water be kept up by Art, in slewces.

y. 1538 ELYOT, *Emissarium*, a sluse [1548 sluce]. 1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 403 Ane sleiffull of slak that growis in the slus. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 172 b, Some greate streame..which by Fludde or Sluse, may let in alwaies fresh water. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 157 The fresh and salt water would meete,..were it not kept asunder by a sluce. 1648 J. RAYMOND *It Merc. Ital.* 183 We went through nine..Machines not much unlike our Sluses, to keep up and let down the water. 1695 PRIOR *Ode after Queen's Death* xxiii, As Waters from her Sluces, flow'd Unbounded Sorrow from her Eyes.

δ. 1596 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 148 A Pent and Sluyce hath been made, which both open the mouth, and scowre the bottome of the hauen. 1611 COTGR., *Escluse*, a Sluice, Floud-gate, or Water-gate. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* I. (1700) 3 While from each Sluice, a briny Torrent pours. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 189 It was necessary to set a great Number of Sluices to work. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Nav.* p. ix, When the water is..like to overflow.., they take care to open the sluices to convey it away. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Isle of Axholme* 78 A sluice was erected at Misterton to prevent the tides from flowing beyond that point. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Addit. Notes Coins* 3 The citizens were prepared to open the sluices and dykes in order ..to flood the country.

transf. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 97 The beavers always leave sluices, or passages near the middle, for the redundant waters to pass off.

b. *fig.* or in fig. contexts. (Common in 17th cent.)

sing. 1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Ac þe wise zetteþ þe scluse of discrecion uor to of healde þet weter of fole wordes. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 268 The number of them being verie small, who would not willinglie make (as we say) a sluce to their consciences. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 288 His margent, which is the sluce most commonly, that feeds the drouth of his text. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* V. iv, She's the very sluce to her Lady's secrets. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxiv, I have..drained every sluice of compassion. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* x. (1877) 120 On receiving the ball which opened in his breast the crimson sluice of life. *a* 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) IV. 63 If the sluice of expenditures was stopped in one place, it was sure to burst through another.

pl. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 32 If so be the sluses or floodgates of heaven were not shut. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 402 Heare him..reckoning up the many Sluces of his Treasury. 1672 CROWNE *Chas. VIII*, 1, To my window streight I did repair, And setting wide those sluces of the air [etc.]. 1718 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 581 So from the sluices of Ulysses' eyes Fast fell the tears. 1754 YOUNG *Centaur* I. Wks. 1757 IV. 111 Thus the sluices are set open for all sensuality..and studied arts of excess, to pour in uncontrouled. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. iii. 119 The execution of Lentulus and his associates would reopen the sluices of bloodshed.

c. A paddle or slide in a gate or barrier by which water is held back. Also *fig.*

1616 *Pasquil & Kath.* III. 287 Haue I drawne the sluce Of life vp? and..set my prisoned soule at large? 1791 W. JESSOP *1st Rep. Navig. Thames* 12 A Bar of Sand or Gravel, which is most easily to be removed by drawing the Sluices of the Lock. 1857 P. COLQUHOUN *Compl. Oarsman's Guide* 32 The sluices, otherwise called the paddles, are slides travelling in a slot or groove in the gate.

d. A device by which the flow of water, esp. into or out of some receptacle, is regulated; a valve, pipe, etc., by which water may be let in or run off.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 137 The medicinall Baths..are shut up certaine howers of the day, that no man should enter them till by their sluces they be purged of all filth. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 5 About 2 yards off the doore is severall pipes..that with a sluce spoutts water up. 1798 J. HUTTON *Course Math.* (1806) II. 344 To determine the Time of emptying a Vessel of Water by a Sluice in the Bottom of it. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1243 The cast-iron trough for the water is marked *b*, and the sluice, also of iron, *c*. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 79/2 Water was admitted by sluices into the caisson, which then sank.

2. A channel, drain, or small stream, *esp.* one carrying off overflow or surplus water.

1538 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 66 Ther goith a sluse out of this Bath, and servid in Tymes past, with Water derivid out of it, 2 Places in Bath Priorie. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 38 b, Towards the South it is enuironed with the scluses of Nilus. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 8 A meare or fluxe of the Sea,..swelling in 100 armes or sluces. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. r. World* (1840) 289 The little streams and sluices of water. 1848 BOKER *Calaynos* I. i, Ere it flows Past the foul sluices that Seville outpours. 1888 [see SLOUGH *sb.*1 4].

transf. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 3 While wee have sluces of warm bloud running through our veins. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 172 By those secret sluces or channels in the air.

†**3.** A gap, breach, opening, or hole; a gash or wound. *Obs.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xi. 40 He made a sluce, or breach of halfe a league of length. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* 187 P 250 Unlesse it were repelled out at another sluice or *exit*. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 39 The Lamprey hath seven holes or cavities..and no gills at all—these holes or sluces do indeed supply the defect of gills. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* I. ii, Certain open sluices on his own head, sufficiently showed whence all the scarlet stream had issued.

†**4.** A drawbridge. *Obs. rare.*

a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. i, Some run unto the Walls, some draw up the Sluce, Some speedily let the Perculless down. 1642 *Lanc. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 22 The King swore he would..take the towne..; but Sir John Hotham drawing up the sluce, his Majesty retreated.

5. In gold-washing: An artificial channel or flume, usually consisting of a long sloping trough, or series of troughs, fitted with riffles or grooves, into which a current of water is directed in order to separate the particles of gold from the auriferous earth.

1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abroad* Ser. II. 144 The sand [is swept] into a long sluice. Here it is still further agitated by means of riffles [etc.]. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 70 The gold-saving method is the simplest—amalgamation in battery, copper-plate, riffle-boxes, and a tail sluice. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec. Metals* 629 The sluices are several hundred and sometimes several thousand feet in length.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** With names of things, as *sluice-block, -cock, -door, -house, -valve, -work.*

1819 *Pantologia* s.v., The level of the sluice-work. 1829 HOOD *Epping Hunt* iv, In a sluice-house box He took his pipe and pot. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 27/1 Certain improvements in the construction of Sluice Cocks for Water-works. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 87 Some difficulty may exist as to keeping open the sluice doors. 1882 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Metals* 101 They overhauled and refitted the flume, putting in new sluice-blocks. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* xi. 127 The water being conducted..through vertical sluice valves.

b. With agent-nouns, etc., as *sluice-keeper, -maker, -master*; also *sluice-employing* adj.

a 1725 LD. WHITWORTH *Acc. Russia in 1710* in Dodsley *Fug. Pieces* (1761) II. 214 Contrary to the Opinion of all the Ship-Carpenters and Sluice-makers. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 622 Many sluice masters..are accustomed to shut their gates next the sea a little after half flood. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 142/1 Many self-acting sluices have been contrived..to save the expense of a sluice-keeper. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 118/2 The dams and water-races of the sluice-employing miner.

Sluice (slūs), *v.* Forms: 6–7 **sluce**, 6–7 (9) **sluse**, 7 **sluyce**, 8– **sluice**. [f. the sb. Cf. OF. *escluser*, MDu. *slusen*, to shut in, by, to provide with, a sluice.]

1. *trans.* To let *out*, to cause to flow *out*, by the opening of a sluice. Freq. *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 103 [I say] that he did plot the Duke of Glousters death,..And..like a Traitor Coward, Sluc'd out his innocent soule through streames of blood. 1599 *Warning Faire Women* D ij b, Then stand close George, and wih a luckie arme, Sluce out his life. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 26 Every drop of it..sluced out from every part of his body. 1660 W. SECKER *Nonsuch Prof.* 6 You cannot..imagine that I should sluce out a bitter stream from so sweet a spring. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 257/1 It is proposed that this quantity of water shall be sluiced out through the great embankment.

refl. 1850 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. iv. 105, I must sluice out myself into canals, And lose all force in ducts.

b. To let out or draw *from* some source or place in this manner. Usu. in pa. pple. Freq. *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 170 More relishsome..then the nectarized *Aqua cælestis* of water-mingled blood, sluced from Christs side. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 2 The vnpolluted blood from him was sluc'de. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 702 Veins of liquid fire Sluc'd from the Lake. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* VII. 106 A well That boiling pours itself down to a foss Sluiced from its source. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 26 A broad canal From the main river sluiced.

c. To lead or draw *off* by, or as by, a sluice.

1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. xv. 89 When a stream is sluiced off into several channels, there is the less fear that it will overflow its banks. 1790 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 68 The National Assembly,..whose pure streams..will soon be sluiced off into the other realms of Europe. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* II. vii, He will not survive it above a month, unless his accumulations be sluiced off in some other way. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 170 By what other means..could so many members of the human family have been sluiced off..into those stagnant pools?

2. To draw off or let out water from (a pond, lake, etc.) by means of a sluice or sluices. Freq. *fig.* and *transf.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 119 If by rain..those ponds were so full they need to bee sluste or let out. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourning Bride* v. iii, I'll sluce this Heart, The Source of Woe, and let the Torrent loose. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 678 Led by this arm thy sons shall hither come,..Nor sluice their lakes, nor form their soils in vain. 1819 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 39 My veins have been sluiced so often that they give me pain in writing. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 799/2 A project for sluicing the universities, called university extension.

b. Const. *into* (one or more streams, channels, etc.) or *in*. Also *fig.*

1596 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxv. (1602) 310 The once ship-bearing Ley by Alfred slu'ste in Three. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 45 Germany..is like a great River sluced into sundry Channels. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* I. i, Let Honour Call for my Bloud; and sluce it into streams. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 119 Where..the Tuscan tide Into th' Avernian friths is sluiced. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Notebks.* (1879) II. 34 Avenues by which the commonplace world is sluiced in among the Highlands.

c. To drain of blood, to kill. *rare*—1.

1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* IV. ii, To sluice them in th' unguarded hour of rest! Infernal sacrifice!

3. To cast, fling, or pour (something) as if through a sluice.

1610–11 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Paper's Compl.* 20 Wks. (Grosart) II. 75 What a dewce Meanst thou such filth in my white face to sluce? 1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 88 Profanity was sluiced down, as it were, by pailfuls.

b. *Lumbering.* To send or float (logs) down a sluice-way.

1877 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 17 Nov. 309 The Chippewa will sluice down on the river mills at least 400,000,000 feet of logs. 1879 *Ibid.* 15 Oct., The last of the logs..will probably be sluiced through the dam some time this week.

4. To throw or pour water over (a person or thing); to swill with water, esp. in order to clean or wash; to flush or scour with a rush of water. Also, to fill with water.

(*a*) 1755 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* 19 Oct. (1840) III. 161, I have told you what I think ought to sluice my public eye; and your private eye too will moisten, when I tell you [etc.] 1793 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 17 The ground spouts up water,..and..you get completely sluiced for curiosity and amusement. *a* 1803 C. L. LEWES *Mem.* (1805) I. 26 He was (at the moment I sluiced him) either dosing or fast asleep. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* xii. Wks. 1900 V. 686 Water so fresh..never sluiced parched throats before. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiii, His neck and face, which he had been sluicing with cold water.

(*b*) 1798 CAPT. MILLER in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. clvii, I had the Ship completely sluiced, as one of our precautionary measures against fire. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 28 Oct. 2/4 On slusing Grimsby dock..the body..was found in the mud. 1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 211 Jack Horsehide, who, as usual, was sluicing the flags with water. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* II. vii. 195 To scrub the pannikins, and sluice out the tubs with water.

b. *slang.* (See quots.)

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Sluice your Gob*, take a hearty drink. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 236 *Sluicing one's bolt*, drinking.

c. *U.S.* and *Austr.* To wash (auriferous ore) in a gold-miner's sluice. Also with *out.*

1859 [see SLUICING *vbl. sb.* b]. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 350 In sluicing out the ore now on hand. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 7 The area of ground sluiced is much in excess of previous quarters.

5. *intr.* To flow or pour *out* or down as through a sluice. Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 61 The siluer gates of the Temple..were..but slimy flood-gates for thicke iellied gore to sluce out by. 1834 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 292/1, I fear me, for once, all his wisdom would sluice out in vain. 1855 A. W. COLE *Legends in Verse* 3 The rain on the windows kept..Sluicing and dashing.

Hence **Sluiced** (slūst), **Slui·cing** *ppl. adjs.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* 156 The other with a double-sluced eye Did sacrifice his teares. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxii, This here sluicing night is hard lines to a man as lives on his condition.

Sluice-box. [SLUICE *sb.* 5.] One of the long troughs of which a gold-washing sluice is composed; a riffle-box.

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 17 The long tunnel becomes a sluice-way, through the whole length of which sluice-boxes are laid at once. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip to Boërland* 114 A long square trough, termed a 'sluice-box', about a foot in width and 20 feet long. 1882 *U.S. Rep. Prec. Metals* 642 Below this tank, and running down the bed of the ravine, are the sluice boxes.

Sluice-gate. [SLUICE *sb.*] The gate of a sluice, the part which can be opened or shut to let out or retain the water; also, the upper gate of a lock.

1781 *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v. *Lock*, Lock is..a kind of canal inclosed between two gates; the upper called by workmen the sluice-gate. 1802 BLOOMFIELD *Rural T.* 41 To raise the sluice-gates early every morn. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, Not a sluice gate, or a painted scale upon a post or wall, showed the depth of water. 1893 *Archæologia* LIII. 540 A singularly constructed sluice-gate in the city wall.

b. *fig.* or in figurative contexts.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 153 Those who opened the sluice-gates of their wrath against Mr. Wynne's Bill. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Charact.* (1852) 137 The..sinews of the war of life lie at his disposal. At his nod, the sluice-gates close or open which control the fate of a country. 1897 MISS KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 4 Having opened upon myself the sluice gates of advice, I rapidly became distracted.

Sluicer (slū·sə1). [f. SLUICE *v.*] **a.** One who attends to a sluice; a sluice-keeper. **b.** *U.S.* and *Austr.* A gold-miner who works at a sluice.

1873 *Daily News* 4 Oct., This money..was what I earned at Daylesford...I was a sluicer. 1890 *Goldfields of Victoria* 22 The puddlers and sluicers are gradually decreasing in number. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 715 Sluicer's boot, with calks.

Sluice-way. [f. SLUICE *sb.*] A channel or waterway fed or controlled by means of a sluice or sluices. Also in *Lumbering* (see quot. 1851).

1851 *Harper's Mag.* III. 517 For taking logs down mountain sides..we construct what are called dry sluice-ways. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability*, A mill is built, a banking-house is opened, and men come in, as water in a sluice-way. 1874 [see SLUICE-BOX]. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 16 July 5 The bark is thrust into sluice-ways to the chains and carried by them outside.

fig. 1858 E. D. PROCTOR *Beecher's Life Th.* (1860) 114 A drain or sluiceway by which the heavenly stream of God's favour escapes from them.

Sluich, obs. Sc. form of SLOUGH *sb.*2

Sluicing (slū·siŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLUICE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* viii, They wanted a sluicing. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 327 The all-important drawback is the lack of water for sluicing, or even for simple washing. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 373 A good sluicing of the eyes in cold water every morning will be found beneficial.

b. *attrib.*, as *sluicing claim, company.*

1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 328 The St. Andrew's Mining and Sluicing Company. 1882 *U. S. Rep. Prec.*

Metals 105 The Fox Creek and Boulder Creek sluicing claims have uniformly done well. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 293 A great sluicing claim, where the water.. spouted clear and strong over heaps of auriferous earth.

Sluicy (slūˑsi), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* Also 7 slucy. [f. SLUICE *sb.* + -Y [1].]

1. Of rain, etc.: Falling or pouring copiously or in streams, as if from a sluice; streaming, drenching.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 437 Oft whole sheets descend of slucy Rain. 1715 POPE *Iliad* V. 122 While Jove descends in sluicy sheets of rain. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. v. 443 Rapid rivers, swelled by sluicy showers. 1863 *Pilgr. over Prairies* I. 148 The deluges of rain that in compact, sluicy sheets now descended.

2. Resembling a sluice; acting like a sluice. *rare.*

a 1703 POMFRET *Last Epiphany* iii, Such were the boding Times, Ere Ruin blasted from the sluicy Sky. 1706-7 FARQUHAR *Beaux' Strat.* IV. i, That hospitable Seat of Life ..open'd all its sluicy gates to take the Stranger in.

3. Of sand: Wet, soaking.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 946 'Tis the grot..where her tender hands She dabbles, on the cool and sluicy sands.

Sluit (slūt). *S. African.* Also sloot, sloet. [(Cape) Du. *sloot* ditch, = LG. *sloot*, OFris. *slût* (WFris. *sleat*).] A channel, ditch, or gully, usually one formed by heavy rain and dry during the greater part of the year.

a. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 30 On coming into a mud sluit..the sudden check of the wagon threw me off. 1882 *Times of Natal* 8 June, About 3,900 yards of the sluits remain uncovered. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xvii, One evening I heard the old brute moving in the sluit, close to the camp.

β. 1889 FR. OATES *Matabele-Land* 198 In crossing a small 'sloot' one of the wheels gave way. 1897 ANNA HOWARTH *Jan* xxiv, Beds of wild yellow marigolds glorified every little hollow and sloet.

Slukane, variant of SLOKAN.

Slum (slʌm), *sb.*[1] [Of cant origin, and in all senses except 2–4 only in canting use.]

I. †1. A room. *Obs.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Slum*, a room. 1823 BEE *Dict. Turf* s.v., Thus we may have 'the little slum',..'the back slum', and a slum in front. 1824 *Hist. Gaming* 28 Regaling..in the back parlour (*vulgo* slum) of an extremely low-bred Irish widow.

2. A street, alley, court, etc., situated in a crowded district of a town or city and inhabited by people of a low class or by the very poor; a number of these streets or courts forming a thickly populated neighbourhood or district where the houses and the conditions of life are of a squalid and wretched character. Chiefly *pl.*, and freq. in the phrase *back slum(s)*.

(*a*) 1825 WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* II. 32 The back slums lying in the rear of Broad St. 1851 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 251 When the back slums are going to be invaded. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) ix. 203 The unspeakable ugliness of a back slum in London. 1880 R. S. WATSON *Visit Wazan* iv. 72 The back slums are not more inviting than those of many European towns.

(*b*) 1845 *Athenæum* 18 Jan. 75 In the thick of the once renowned 'slums' of St. Giles's. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 74. 570 An obscure cabaret—say pothouse—lying in a slum. 1889 JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 117 A little mite sitting on a doorstep in a Soho slum. 1894 SALA *London up to Date* vi. 79 Large tracts of indescribably dirty, profligate, and felonious slums.

fig. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 84 The slums and stews of the debauched brain.

b. *Theatr.* (See quot.)

1886 *Stage Gossip* 69 Such lowly edifices of the drama as wooden buildings of humble erection and booths are frequently designated 'slums'.

3. Representation of slum life or conditions.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Apr. 10/1, I should like to know who would stand five acts of 'slum'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slum-burrow, -literature, -people*, etc.; **slumland**, the slums; **slum-sister**, a woman devoted to charitable and educative work in the slums.

Many combs. of these types occur in recent newspaper usage.

1863 B. JERROLD *Signals of Distress* 7 It is a genuine bit of slum-literature. 1878 GORDON *Frnl.* in Hill *G. in C. Africa* (1881) 326 These slum people liked their visitor. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 772 That class rarely stray..from their slum-burrows and dens. 1890 *Guardian* 31 Dec. 2096/1 This 'slum-sister' gathers children for instruction on Sunday afternoons. 1893 *Graphic* 25 Mar. 298/3 The appearance of respectability..deprives him of the glamour of slumland.

II. †5. Nonsensical talk or writing; gammon, blarney. Also, gipsy jargon or cant. *Obs.*

1820 in *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (1823) s.v., And thus, without more slum, began..To settle..The rigs of this here tip-top nation. 1822 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambros.* iv, He may have written some pretty things, but he is taken now to slum, scissorsing, namby pamby, and is quite spoiled. 1823 BEE *Dict. Turf* s.v., The gipsey language, or cant, is slum. *Ibid.*, Loose, ridiculous talk, is 'all slum'. 'None of your slum,' is said by a girl to a blarneying chap.

b. *Up to slum*, knowing, wideawake; not to be 'taken in' or 'done'.

1857-9 in *Slang Dict.*

c. 'An insinuation, a discreditable innuendo.'

1865 *Slang Dict.* 256.

6. A begging-letter.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 224 A slum's a paper fake. *Ibid.* 311 Of these documents there are two sorts, 'slums' (letters) and 'fakements' (petitions).

7. 'A chest or package' (*Slang Dict.* 1859).

Slum (slʌm), *sb.*[2] *U.S.* [? ad. G. *schlamm* in the same sense.] = SLIME *sb.* 4.

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 350 The discharge near the top carries off light particles and slums. 1877 *Ibid.* 97 This material..is like the slum or tailings from a mill.

Slum, variant of SLOOM *sb.*[1] and *sb.*[2]

Slum (slʌm), *v.* [Cf. SLUM *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans. Cant.* (See quots.)

1859 *Slang Dict.* 96 *Slum the gorger*, to cheat on the sly, to be an eye servant. 1874 *Ibid.* 297 *Slum*, to hide, to pass to a confederate.

2. To do (work) hurriedly and carelessly.

1865 *Daily Telegr.* 25 Aug., The builders were not men to 'slum' or 'scamp' their work.

3. *intr.* a. To go into, or frequent, slums for discreditable purposes; 'to saunter about, with a suspicion, perhaps, of immoral pursuits'.

a 1860 in Oxford use. 1865 *Slang Dict.* (as Cambridge Univ. slang).

b. 'To keep to back streets to avoid observation' (Barrère and Leland, 1897).

4. To visit slums for charitable or philanthropic purposes, or out of curiosity, esp. as a fashionable pursuit. Freq. in phr. *to go slumming* (see SLUMMING *vbl. sb.* 2).

1884 *Referee* 22 June (Cassell), A wealthy lady went slumming through the Dials the other day. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Oct. 2/3 A party of young fashionable people of New York thought they would go a slumming. 1887 *Good Words* 238 He had taken tea hundreds of times in workmen's houses; he had 'slummed' so far back as 1846.

Slumber (slʌˑmbəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 slomur, -owre, 6 slommer, 5–6 *Sc.* slummer (9 *dial.*), -ir. *β.* 5–6 slomber (5 -bre, -bir), 6 sloumber, 6– slumber. [f. SLUMBER *v.* Cf. Fris. *slommer, slûmer*, Du. *sluimer*, LG. *slümer*, late MHG. *slummer* (G. *schlummer*), Da. and Sw. *slummer*.]

1. Sleep, repose. Chiefly *poet.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3221 He..fore slewthe of slomowre one a slepe fallis. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Slommer, *somme, sommeil.* 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 75 With slumber is holden Eche liuing creature. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 123 Ere theise eyes of mine take themselues to slomber. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 1001 Young Adonis..Waxing well of his deep wound In slumber soft. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 583 His Eyes with heavy Slumber overcast. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 23 Quench'd in dark clouds of slumber. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VII. iv, There was no further thought of slumber that night. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 122 When her eyes lay bound in slumber's shadowy prison.

b. With possessive pronouns.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 630 This carpenter out of hese slombir sterte. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 16 With a sigh I gan for to abreyde Out of my slombre. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 1 Devysing in my slummer, How that this realme [etc.] 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v, Let this her slumber..Make her beleeve our love was but a dreame! 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ix, The next instant, her slumber was broken.

2. A period or occasion of sleep or repose; freq., a light or short sleep.

a. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13285 Thai have no dainty of drynk, ..But derkon euon down on a depe slomur. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 71 In that slummir, cummand him thocht he saw Ane agit man. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 9 For weirines on me ane slummer soft Come. *a* 1599 A. HUME *Poems* (S. T. S.) v. 91 He makes the physicke take effect, the slummers soft he geifis.

β. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* I. (Percy Soc.) 7 Thus as I satte in a deadly slomber, Of a great horne I harde a royal blast. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1178 He fell in a sloumber. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* V. i, No, my Lord. Nor sleepe nor wake. But in a slumber troublesome to both. 1661 DRYDEN *Panegyrick Coronation* 42 Officious slumbers haste your eyes to close. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 319 If he takes none the first Night, his Slumbers may be more compos'd the following. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* I, Madame La Motte found her sunk in a disturbed slumber. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. II. 27 His youth..passed away in a preternatural slumber. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 304 The Mons Vultur, which sheltered Horace's infant slumbers.

3. *fig.* A state or condition of repose, rest, inactivity, or quiescence.

1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6300 Dreid nocht to dee; for deith is bot ane slummer. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 17 b, Your imagination is but the shadow of a slumber. 1605 G. POWEL *Refut. Ep. Puritan-l'apist* 85 It was by reason of impunitie and slumber of Iustice. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXIX. (1787) III. 132 The son of Theodosius passed the slumber of his life, a captive in his palace. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 37 The human mind awoke from a slumber. 1822 SHELLEY tr. *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 239 Thou canst not Restore it [a sword] to the slumber of the scabbard. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 650/1 Those who teach that the powers of man woke at once from a deep slumber just at the beginning of the XVth Century.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *slumber-bed, -land*, etc.; *slumber-bound, -closing, -wrapt* adjs.

c 1445 LYDG. *Nightingale* 57 Oute of thy *slombre-bed of slouth & sleep. 1820 SHELLEY *Two Spirits* 30 Look from thy dull earth, *slumber-bound. *c* 1840 MRS. BROWNING *Isobel's Child* ix, The little mouth so slumber-bound. 1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 162 Strive to unbolt their *slumber-closing eye. 1882 SWINBURNE *Tristr. of Lyonesse* VI. 109 The great good wizard..Takes his strange rest at heart of *slumberland. 1887 *Illustr. Lond. News* 20 Aug. 217 We are half way to Slumberland. 1838 ELIZA COOK *Sailing Song* I. 6 The *slumber-wrapt might of the waves.

Slumber (slʌˑmbəɹ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 slumeren, 4 slomyr, 5 -yre, -eron, 5–6 slom(m)er, 6 *Sc.* slummer. *β.* 4–6 slombre, 5 sloumbre, 6 slomber; 4– slumber. [ME. *slümeren*, etc., f. *slūmen* SLOOM *v.*[1] or *slūme* SLOOM *sb.*[1], corresponding to Fris. *slûmerje*, MDu. *slum-, sloem-, sluymeren* (Du. *sluimeren*), MLG. *slômeren* (LG. *slommern, slümern*), late MHG. *slum(m)ern, slommern* (G. *schlummern*); Da. *slumre*, Sw. *slumra* are of G. origin. The development of the *b* between *m* and *r* is in accordance with English phonetic tendencies.]

1. *intr.* To sleep, *esp.* to sleep lightly; to doze or drowse.

a. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 576 in *O. E. Misc.* 18 Sipmen..slumeren and slepen, and to late waken. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxv. 6 Þai slomyrd þat steghe horsis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8428 As þis burde was in bed.., slomeryng a while, Sho was affrayet full foule. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Slomeron, *dormito, nictitor.* 1561 WINJET *Tract.* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 6 He nother slepis nor slummeris quha behaldis al 3our doingis.

β. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 10 As I lay..and lokede on þe watres, I slumberde in a slepyng. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4005 He slombred, and a nappe he toke. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 302 To sle and morder yong children þat in þer cradell slumber. 1530 PALSGR. 722/1 He dothe nat slepe nowe, he dothe but slomber. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 56 He neyther slombrethe nor slepethe, but alwayes watchethe. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, *Corb.* Does he sleep well? *Mos.* No wink, sir, all this night, Nor yesterday; but slumbers. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 447 Like a Lion, Slumb'ring in the way, Or Sleep dissembling, while he waits his Prey. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 488, I..hold it for a Fault..If honest Homer slumber o'er his Muse. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXXV, He ate without refreshment, and slumbered without repose. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* Introd. ii, Soul that canst soar! Body may slumber.

transf. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* I. 320 Her..tooth-brush and nail-brush slumbered together in one small tray.

b. *fig.* To lie at rest in death or the grave.

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iv. 15 That I may slumber in eternall sleepe. ? 1809 SHELLEY *Death, a Dial.* 6 Say, victim of grief, wilt thou slumber with me? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, The Dead all slumbering round it. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* (1856) 58 Underneath this mouldering tomb..Slumbers a great lord of the village.

2. *fig.* To live in a state of inactivity or negligence; to remain or be sunk *in* sin, sloth, etc.; to be dilatory or tardy *in* doing something.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 395 For siche occupacions and chargis maken prestis sleynyge & slumbrynge in synne. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2576 Whyl thou so slomrest in that thought, That is so swete and delitable. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 58 Tho sawles..slomers noghte no slepis noghte in þe slowthe of fleschly lustes. 1515 BARCLAY *Eclogues* iv. (1570) C iij b, In sloth thou slombrest as buried were thy song. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. vi. 78 *Ber.* But you must not now slumber in it. *Par.* Ile about it this euening. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 161 P 3, I have always thought it unworthy of a wise man to slumber in total inactivity. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* li. V. 366 The successors of Alaric had slumbered in a long peace. 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* (1851) 459 That fatal security which had.. allowed the Lombards to slumber on the mere fame of their exploits.

3. Of things, faculties, etc.: To be dormant, inoperative, or quiescent.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 2 *Peter* ii. 3 And their perdition [1611 their damnation] slumbereth not. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 24 Now conscience wakes despair That slumberd. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iii. (1840) 23 As the Scripture says in another case, his damnation slumbereth not. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 460 The might that slumbers in a peasant's arm. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* v, As my kinsman's politeness seems to be still slumbering. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 383 We see the lowering tempest which slumbered behind this appearance of confidence.

b. To be calm, peaceful, or still.

1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 312 Dull as their lakes that slumber in the storm. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXXIII, The clouds of mist which might otherwise have slumbered till morning on the valley. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* 79 The gardenbowers and grots Slumber'd.

c. To flow, move *along*, sleepily or peacefully.

1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 69 The stream ..slumbers along.

†4. *trans.* To cause to sleep; to render inactive or inoperative; to dull or deaden. *Obs.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 922 O fortune, sorowe increasyng, and slombryng all delyces. 1547 *Bk. of Marchantes* b vj, They haue so slombred, blinded, and abeasted the poore woulde. 1622 DONNE *Serm.* 24 Feb. (1626) 22 To smother sinne from the eye of the world, or to slumber the eye of our owne conscience from the sight of sinne. 1642 WOTTON *Dk. Buck'm.* in *Reliq.* (1672) 232 To honest a deed after it was done, or to slumber his conscience in the doing.

† b. To render still, calm, or quiet; to muffle (a drum), silence (a noise). *Obs.*

1622 DONNE *Serm.* 15 Sept. 4 This Song of Deborah were enough..to slumber any storme, to becalme any tempest. 1647 FARINGDON *Serm.* I. 18 This is it, which alone is able to slumber this noise.

5. To pass, spend, or waste (time) in sleep or slumber. Const. *away, out, through*; rarely without adverb.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. ix, She had slumbered

away the day in order to sit up all night. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 33 ₱ 9 Rest..reposed herself in alcoves, and slumbered away the winter upon beds of down. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* vi, He would in other times have slumbered out his term of preferment with as much credit as any other 'purple Abbot'. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. i. 31 They slumbered away their remaining years in idleness.

b. To drive *away*, get rid of, by slumbering.

1829 H. BLUNT *Hist. S. Peter* (1832) 169 These reflections ..had been slumbered fruitlessly away.

Hence **Slu·mbered** *ppl. a.*, wrapt in slumber; unconscious. *rare.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 15 Then vp he tooke the slombred sencelesse corse.

Slumberer (slv·mbərəɹ). Also 4 slomerer, slomrer, 5 slummerare; 4 slombrer. [f. SLUMBER *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. Du. *sluimeraar*, G. *schlumm(e)rer*, Da. *slumrer*, Sw. *slumrare*.] One who sleeps or slumbers; one who is asleep; a slothful or indolent person.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* (1880) 395 Bischoppis, persones and vikers, þat ben slepers & slombreris in lustis of þe fleysch. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 91 Swiche slomerers [*v.r.* slomrers] in slepe slaupe is her ende. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Slummerare, *dormitator, dormitatrix.* *a* 1631 DONNE *Progr. Soul* xv, As a slumberer stretching on his bed. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. xxiv. 3 Such mysterious dream As makes the slumberer's cheek with wonder pale. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* (1886) 2 A hard rider, deep drinker and heavy slumberer.

Slu·mberful, *a.* [f. SLUMBER *sb.* + -FUL 1.] Marked by slumber.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama Exile* Wks. (1904) 134 Your bodies shall lie smooth in death, and straight and slumberful. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 203 In slumberful stupor.

Slumbering (slv·mbərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLUMBER *v.* Cf. MDu. *slumer-, sluymeringhe* (Du. *sluimering*), MHG. *slommeringe, slummerunge* (G. *schlummerung*), Sw. *slumring*).]

1. The state, condition, or fact of being in a slumber; sleeping; sleep.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kt.* 1182 As in slomeryng he slode, sle3ly he herde A littel dyn at his dor. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ₱ 705 Thanne cometh Sompnolence, that is, sloggy slombrynge, which maketh a man be heuy and dul, in body and in soule. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 12364 He ne slepte..tyl that lady was fallen in Slombring. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 42 Whan nede drew hem to slombryng or slepe. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 30 Whylis I stode musynge.., In slumbrynge I fell and halfe in a slepe. 1592 KYD *Span. Trag.* III. xv, For in vnquiet quietnes is faind, And slumbring is a common worldly wile. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxii. 196 A man..not having well observed his own slumbering. 1864 [see SLUGGARDING *vbl. sb.*].

b. An instance or occasion of this; a slumber or slumberous condition; a sleep.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 67 Ever lay Pandare a bedde, half in a slomeringe. *Ibid.* v. 246 Whan he fil in any slomeringes. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxx. 324 (Harl. MS.), Per com vpon him such a slombring, that.. he most nedis slepe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. iv. 165 As the kyng laye in his caban in the shyp he fyll in a slomerynge. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xxxiii. 15 In slumbrings vpon the bed.

2. *attrib.*, as *slumbering bed, cup, posture*, etc.

1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* li. 17 Thou that hast..sucked out the slombringe cuppe to the botome. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* II. E iv b, And other some to stiffle quight in slumbryng bedde that lyes. 1595 BARNFIELD *Cassandra* xxxii, Heerewith awaking from her slumbring sleepe. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xv, Rising from his slumbering posture.

Slu·mbering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That slumbers or is asleep; dozing.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 103 With mochel wo..His slombrende yhen he upcaste. *c* 1742 GRAY *Ignorance* 16 Dost thou..Still stretch..The massy sceptre o'er thy slumb'ring line? 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 830 Th' expecting people view'd their slumbering priest. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. iv, I have..Startled the slumbering birds from the hush'd boughs. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL *Duke of Britain* I. 4 We stroll through the slumbering camp.

b. Marked or characterized by slumber; idle, indolent; drowsy.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 5 For the mayntenaunce of theyr idul and slomeryng lyfe. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 567/1 Sprightly I start, and free from slumb'ring yawn, Leave the soft bed. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 774 Her, whose winking eye And slumb'ring ocsitancy mars the brood.

2. Quiet, peaceful; calm, still, motionless.

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 54 Oft list'ning how the Hounds and horn Cheerly rouse the slumbring morn. *c* 1635 — *Arcades* 57 Ere the odorous breath of morn Awakes the slumbring leaves. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xliii, When..slumbering ocean faint and fainter glows. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* VI. § xx. 182 An influence from the silent sky and slumbering fields. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1892) 161 At no great distance lay the slumbering sea-lake.

3. Dormant, inoperative, quiescent; torpid.

1703 ROWE *Ulysses* II. i, And thou Revenge! Shoot all thy Fires, and wake my slumb'ring Rage. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxviii, When Montoni absolutely refused it, her slumbering mind was roused. 1818 BYRON *Corsair* I. xi, The slumbering venom of the folded snake. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 223 In Franconia the slumbering fires of discontent burst forth. 1898 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 195 Its shape led hardly any one to suspect that the mountain was a slumbering volcano.

Hence **Slu·mberingly** *adv.*, in a slumbering manner; **Slu·mberingness,** *rare*[−0].

1647 HEXHAM I, Slumberingly, *sluymachtighlick.* 1648 *Ibid.* II, *Vaeckerigheydt*, Sleepienesse, Slumbringnesse. 1847 WEBSTER, *Slumberingly.* [Hence in later Dicts.]

Slu·mberless (slv·mbəɹlés), *a.* [f. SLUMBER *sb.* + -LESS.] Obtaining or yielding no slumber; sleepless.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 563 The present is spread Like a pillow of thorns for thy slumberless head. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 88 The overstraining and almost slumberless labor of the last days and nights.

†**Slu·mberness.** *Obs.* [f. SLUMBER *sb.*] Sleepiness, somnolence; sloth, indolence.

c 1440 in *Roy's Reule me* (Arb.) 164 Parsones, vicaries, þat ben slepers in lustes of ye flesshe and in slomebernes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* (W. de W.) VII. xxxii. 246 Of quakinge of the herte kynde heete fayllyth and therof bredeth slombrenesse and slouthe.

Slumberous (slv·mbĕrəs), **slu·mbrous,** *a.* Also 5 slombrous, 8–9 slumb'rous. [f. SLUMBER *sb.* + -OUS. The older form is *slumbrous* (cf. *wondrous*), but that with the *e* is the one given by Johnson (1755) and has been the commoner spelling during the 19th cent.]

1. Inclined to slumber or sleep; unduly given to slumber; somnolent, lethargic.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xiii. 872 In theym whyche doon slepe tomoche, and in slombrous men, the body is pale and dyscoloured. 1733 P. WHITEHEAD *State Dunces* 82 At length a slumbrous Briton clos'd his Eyes. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 9 July, Rather slumbrous to-day from having sat up till twelve last night. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* vi, My sister clutched me, as a slumberous offence to the company's eyesight, and assisted me up to bed. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* III. xi, Behind a casement a slumbrous old crone snuffed herself.

b. Of the eyes, or eyelids: Heavy or drooping with slumber or sleep.

1828 LANDOR *Wks.* (1876) II. 121 Her eyes, slumberous with content. 1845 LONGF. *Belfry of Bruges, Carillon* v, He ..finds his slumbrous eyes Wet with..tears. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* I. viii, The man lifted his slumbrous eyelids.

2. Bringing or inducing sleep; soporific.

a. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 615 The timely dew of sleep Now falling with soft slumbrous weight inclines Our eye-lids. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 444 Ev'ry eye with slumbrous chains she bound. 1751 CAMBRIDGE *Scribleriad* V. 30 The senseless chief the slumbrous potion quaft. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxxii, While our slumbrous spells assail ye. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream, Sleeping Beauty* i, The slumbrous light is rich and warm. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* IV. 486 Over them moist sweet honeys and slumbrous poppies to pour.

β. 1839 LONGF. *Voices of Night* Prel. iv, A slumberous sound, a sound that brings The feelings of a dream. 1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* viii. 52 Scarcely a leaf stirred in the slumberous air; and giving way to the delicate languor [etc.]. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* XXXVII, The continuous, monotonous murmur of sound was soothing, slumberous, dreamlike.

3. Moving very slightly or slowly; lying quiescent or at rest; calm, still, peaceful.

1765 BEATTIE *Judgm. Paris* CXV, Faint heaves the slumberous wave. 1794 W. BLAKE *Songs Experience* Introd. 15 Morn Rises from the slumbrous mass. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 13 Some [streams] thro'..shadows broke, Rolling a slumbrous sheet of foam below. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* xvii, Across a shining, slumberous landscape. 1898 G. F. R. HENDERSON *Stonewall Jackson* I. 390 The buzzards sailing lazily above the slumbrous woods.

4. Appropriate to, characterized by, suggestive of, slumber or sleep.

1818 WORDSW. *Pilgrim's Dream* 18 The murmur of a neighbouring stream Induced a soft and slumbrous dream. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 12 Mar., I was interrupted by a slumberous feeling which made me obliged to stop once or twice. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* viii. (1856) 59 There was something about them [icebergs] so slumberous and so pure. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 632/1 The slumberous condition in which the mental faculties grow torpid.

5. *transf.* Marked or characterized by inactivity, indolence, or sluggishness.

a. 1809 IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 100 The tempestuous times..which overhang the slumbrous administration of the renowned Wouter Van Twiller. 1885 *Contemp. Rev.* July 13 The slumbrous reign which gradually became intolerable to the commonalty.

β. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* I. 7 The great Anglican revival has doubtless awakened that slumberous old parish-church into new life and vigour. 1889 *Times* 17 Jan. 9/4 The British plantations would have remained ..as slumberous as they have been in the past.

b. Of places, etc.: Quiet, sleepy, tranquil.

1863 HAWTHORNE *Old Home* (1879) 130 She liked the old slumberous town. 1869 *Daily News* 23 Jan., In slumbrous country towns or quiet country houses people go to bed early and get up early. 1883 *American* VI. 282 This quiet corner of a sleepy town in a slumberous land.

Slu·mberously, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a slumberous, drowsy, or sleepy manner; quietly, tranquilly, indolently, etc.

a. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* VII. xv. 2 A printer's boy, ..Fell slumbrously upon one side. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 1 July, I wrote a page or two last night slumbrously.

β. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* III. 490 She was used to leave her cares Without, and slumberously enjoy the airs. 1827 N. P. WILLIS *Widow of Nain* 13 Upon his spear the soldier lean'd..And slumberously dozed on. 1898 BODLEY *France* III. i. II. 40 As a rule the rural municipalities slumberously perform their useful functions.

Slumberousness. [f. as prec.] Sleepiness, drowsiness.

1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 95 A slumberousness without a dream. 1863 SALA in *Temple Bar* VIII. 72, I have carried my slumberousness about with me.

Slumbersome (slv·mbəɹsŭm), *a.* [f. SLUMBER *sb.* + -SOME.] Slumberous, sleepy.

1884 *Bath Jrnl.* 19 Apr. 8/1 Who could persuade it to be lulled into slumbersome silence. 1892 *Black & White* 27 Aug. 255/2 My inventive genius was slumbersome.

Slumbery (slv·mbĕri), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 4, 6 slombry, 6 slombre, 6, 7 slumbry; 5 slomry. [f. SLUMBER *sb.* + -Y. Cf. Fris. *slomm-, slûmerich*, MDu. *slumerich* (Du. *sluimerig*), G. *schlummerig*, Sw. *slumrig*.] Slumberous, sleepy; of the nature of slumber.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ₱ 724 Thanne wexeth he slough and slombry. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 252 If any.. sluggeschly slepe, or be slomry, in any conuentual acte. 1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Slombrye, slepysshe. *pesant.* 1578 PHAER *Æneid* VI. Q iij b, On the ground himself he spred ..and groueling lay with slumbry head. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 26 That..shadie couert, whereas lay Faire Crysogone in slombry traunce. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* V. i. 12 In this slumbry agitation, besides her walking,..what..haue you heard her say? 1616 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* B j b, Lampe of Heauens Christall Hall,..who makes the vglie Night At thine Approach flie to her slumbrie Bowrs. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 406 Tenderly unclos'd, By tenderest pressure, a faint damask mouth To slumbery pout.

Slumbrous, variant of SLUMBEROUS *a.*

Slumdom (slv·mdəm). [f. SLUM *sb.* + -DOM.] Slums collectively; the inhabitants of the slums.

1882 *Church Rev.* XXII. 187 We have wandered through slumdom. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 16 July 2/1 To reform our prison system, to plant out slumdom in the country. 1896 *Night & Day* Feb. 2/3 Lodging houses in the deeps of London slumdom.

Slumgu·llion. *slang.* [Probably a fanciful formation.]

1. (See quot.)

1874 *Slang Dict.* 297 *Slumgullion*, any cheap, nasty, washy beverage.

2. *U.S.* a. 'Offal or refuse of fish of any kind; also, the watery refuse, mixed with blood and oil, which drains from blubber' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

b. A muddy deposit in a mining sluice. In quot. *transf.*

1894 BRET HARTE in *My First Book* 264 A quantity of slumgullion which really belongs to the sluices of a placer mining camp.

c. A kind of watery hash or stew.

1904 E. ROBINS *Magnetic North* iv. 59 'Mix 'em with cold potaters in a salad.' 'No, make slumgullion,' commanded O'Flynn.

Slummer (slv·məɹ). [f. SLUM *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]]

1. One who visits the slums, esp. from charitable or philanthropic motives.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 3/2 The risk of giving a violent shock to literary slummers. 1889 J. HATTON *J. L. Toole* I. 20 'Slumming' is a modern fashion, but both Irving and Toole were always slummers. 1894 SALA *London up to Date* 2 The writer who is ambitious to become an efficient 'slummer'.

2. An inhabitant of the slums.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Oct. 3 Gaffs, those penny places of amusement patronized by slummers. 1889 *The Voice* (N. Y.) 7 Mar., Had this wanton insult..come from some shirtless slummer it would have signified little.

Slu·mmery. *rare.* [f. SLUM *sb.*[1]] Slums collectively; slumdom.

1892 LD. ROSEBERY in *Daily News* 16 Dec. 2/4 Cleaning out the Augean stables of slummery.

Slu·mminess. [f. SLUMMY *a.* + -NESS.] The state of being slummy.

1888 BLACK *Adv. Houseboat* xxiv, We had encountered next to nothing of the slumminess that is supposed to be characteristic of canals.

Slumming (slv·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SLUM *v.*[1]]

1. *slang.* (See quots.)

1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Slumming*, passing bad money. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Slumming*, a slang term used to describe the secreting of type or sorts.

2. The visitation of slums, esp. for charitable or philanthropic purposes.

1884 *Chr. World* 22 May 391/3, I am not one of those who have taken to 'slumming' as an amusement. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelist* 87 Slumming had not become the fashion at that time of day.

b. *attrib.*, as *slumming expedition, party.*

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Oct. 2/3 The slumming party engaged in conversation audibly. 1888 *Cath. Press* 18 Aug. 272/3 The Isle of Dogs has recently been the scene of some new slumming expeditions for the ladies.

So **Slu·mming** *ppl. a.*

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Mar. 6 One of my recently acquired slumming friends. 1892 *Tablet* 30 July 171 Sir Rufus.. is an admirable foil to a slumming Marquis.

Slu·mmock, *v.* Also slummuck. [var. of the common dial. *slommack, slammack*: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

1. *trans.* To eat up greedily.

1854 P. B. SH. JOHN *Amy Moss* 64 They must be in force. They've slummucked the pigs and the cow-beef, and left no mark.

2. *intr.* To move about awkwardly or clumsily. Also *transf.* of speech.

1883 A. E. T. WATSON *Racecourse & Covert Side* 291 Don't let his head go too loose, or else he'll slummock all over the place. 1893 KIPLING *Many Inventions* 234 His speech, which up to that time had been distinct,..began to slur, and slide, and slummock.

Slu·mmocky, *a.* Also **slummacky.** [Cf. prec., and see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Slammocky.*] Slovenly, untidy.

1897 Miss Kingsley *W. Africa* 120 This tidy, carefully minute way, so entirely different from the slummacky African methods of doing things. 1899 — *W. African Stud.* i. 23 It had too its varying moods of tidiness, now neat and dandy coiled, now dishevelled and slummocky.

Slummy (slʊ·mi), *a.*[1] [f. Slum *sb.*[1] + -y.]

1. Given to frequenting the slums.

a 1860 in Oxford use. (Cf. Slum *v.* 3 a.)

2. Of the nature of a slum; abounding in or possessing slums. Also *absol.*

1873 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* I. 352 Out of Goldsmith's Row, which is slummy,..turns a court which is slummier still. 1885 M. Pattison *Mem.* I. 14 Oxford, not then overbuilt and slummy, looked .. charming. 1892 *Spectator* 5 Mar. 332/1 Where the street verges on the slummy.

b. Dealing with the slums or slum-life.

1906 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Mar. 4 The slummy novel, probably, is no longer fashionable.

3. Slovenly, careless.

1881 in *Pall Mall G.* 8 Sept. (1886) 13/2 It was to draw and to paint most carefully, and to avoid slummy, sloppy work,..that we banded ourselves together.

†**Slu·mmy,** *a.*[2] *Obs.*[—1] [f. ME. *slumme*, var. of *slume* Sloom *v.*[1]] Drowsy; inclined to slumber.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 Hwo mei beon, uor scheome, slummi & sluggi & slouh.

Slump (slʊmp), *sb.*[1] *Sc.* [a. LG. *slump* heap, mass, quantity (*im slump kŏpen* to buy in the lump), = Du. *slomp*, Fris. *slompe*. The LG. word is also the source of Da., Sw., and Norw. *slump.*]

1. A large quantity or number; chiefly in phrases *by* or *in* (*the*) *slump*, rarely *in a slump*, as a whole, not separately or individually, collectively; in the lump.

(*a*) 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XV. 344 The brae farms, and the pasture land, are let by slump; it is impossible to say what they rent per acre. 1808 Jamieson s.v., Coft by slump. 1851 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 742 The grain is..paid in slump or advance at the middle of the year's engagement.

(*b*) 1814 Scott *Diary* 10 Aug., Marriages and baptisms are performed, as one of the Isles-men told me, *by the slump.* 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 893 We would not give General Holt..for all the Greek chiefs in a slump. 1866 Blackie *Homer & Iliad* I. 29 There is a tendency to fling away honest old traditions in the slump.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †**slump number,** a large or round number; †**slump reckoning,** a reckoning in round numbers; **slump sum,** a lump sum; **slump work,** = *lump work* (Lump *sb.*[1] 8).

1718 Wodrow *Corr.* (1843) II. 397 At a slump reckoning of 900 ministers at 1000 merks per piece. 1721 — *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1830) III. 341 The slump number he has taken..from the Scots Mist. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *Slump wark*, work taken in the lump. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 1052 In hiring,..it is not unusual to give a slump sum for the harvest. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* v. iv. II. 334 From this transaction alone a slump sum of fifty lacs..had been obtained. 1877 Dawson *Orig. of World* viii. 189 Creation was not a sort of slump-work to be perfected by the operation of a law of developement.

Slump (slʊmp), *sb.*[2] [f. Slump *v.*[2]]

1. *Stock Exchange.* A heavy fall or sudden decline in the price or value of commodities or securities.

1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 22 Dec. 4/2 There was another slump in oil on the Consolidated Exchange to-day...Opening at 89¾,..the price dropped to 87¼. 1895 *Tablet* 19 Oct. 623 In a single week there has been a slump to the extent of twenty-two million sterling. 1895 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 8/3 The Glasgow Commercial Exchanges to-day took a gloomy view, and prices fell with a slump.

2. *transf.* A sudden or heavy decline or falling off; a collapse.

1888 Howells *A. Kilburn* xxv, What a slump!—what a slump! That blessed short-legged little seraph has spoilt the best sport that ever was. 1896 *Westm. Budget* 3 Jan. 3/1 There is clearly no 'slump' in the matrimonial market. 1897 *Leeds Mercury* 10 July 11/4 It..became apparent that a slump in the demand for cycles had set in.

Slump (slʊmp), *v.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* [f. Slump *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To lump; to put, place, regard, deal with, etc., as one quantity, mass, or group. Freq. *to slump together.*

(*a*) 1822 W. J. Napier *Pract. Store-farming* 147 No farmer ever gives in an offer, first, for the value of the pasture, and then, for the landlord's improvements. He may say that he slumps them all together. 1856 Ferrier *Inst. Metaph.* 61 The inconceivable as here laid down, is thus slumped together..with the absolutely inconceivable. 1873 J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* i. 4 The deposits, which were at one time slumped together,..are really the records of a long series of changes.

(*b*) 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 14 Jan., I have let my cash run ahead since I came from the Continent.—I must slump the matter as I can. 1828 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1848) I. 314 He slumps the whole under one head. 1890 Cochran-Patrick *Evid. Mining Royalties Commiss.* No. 7613, Copper, lead, tin,..are mentioned by name, and the others are slumped.

2. *intr.* To club *together* in paying.

1849 G. Cupples *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 25 Slump together for the other guinea, will ye?

Hence **Slu·mping** *vbl. sb.*

1822 W. J. Napier *Pract. Store-farming* 147 This 'slumping'..will never serve to pay to the landlord that identical interest [etc.]. 1850 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 23 Mar. 191/2 The *slumping* of the whole loss into the arbitrary..sum of five pounds. 1873 J. C. Maxwell in L. Campbell *Life* (1882) 439 The slumping together of multitudes of cases.

Slump (slʊmp), *v.*[2] Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* [Probably imitative: cf. Plump *v.*[1] Norw. has *slumpa* in sense 1, as well as in that of Sw. *slumpa*, Da. *slumpe*, from LG. *slumpen*, G. *schlumpen* to come about, happen by accident.]

1. *intr.* To fall or sink *in* or *into* a bog, swamp, muddy place, etc.; to fall *in* water with a dull splashing sound. Also in fig. context.

a 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1686) III. 191 [The young men] walk upon a bottomless quag into which unawares they may slump. 1684 I. Mather *Remark. Provid.* (1846) 28 Being in this swamp that was miry, I slumpt in and fell down. 1776 T. Twining in *Country Clergyman of the 18th C.* (1882) 31, I remember slumping on a sudden into the slough of despond, and closing my letter in the dumps. *a* 1828 Bewick *Mem.* (1862) 116 Thinking the bog she had to pass through, might be frozen hard enough to bear her, she 'slumped' deep into it. 1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 159 We dreaded to meet even a single sleigh, lest in turning out, the horses should 'slump' beyond their depth, in the untrodden drifts. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 52 This enables the birds to run lightly over the floating leaves of aquatic plants, by so much increase of breadth of support that they do not slump in.

fig. 1835 Gilchrist *Bards Tyne* 476 (E.D.D.), Newcassel hes fairly slump't into disgrace.

b. Const. *through*, *beneath*, etc. Also *fig.*

1856 Lowell *Lett.* I. 296 No danger of her slumping through the clouds. 1871 — *Study Wind.* (1886) 44 The man may slump through,..where the boy would have skimmed the surface. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 337/1 But one awful night Kampen..simply 'slumped', as they say in the far west, beneath the waters and mud that ingulphed it.

2. a. Of the wind: To fall, drop.

1855 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 36 (Norfolk words), The wind slumped. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 376/2 The breeze had been gradually dying for an hour, and now it bid fair..to slump entirely at midnight.

b. To slide *off* heavily; to plump down.

1884 Burroughs *Pepacton* 217 Its body slumps off, and rolls and spills down the hill. 1889 'Mark Twain' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* v, Clarence had slumped to his knees before I had half finished.

c. Of stocks, values, etc.: To fall heavily or suddenly. (Cf. Slump *sb.*[2] 1.)

1896 *Daily News* 9 Dec. 10/7 The market again slumped down on further indications of a heavy crop movement. 1898 *Ibid.* 8 Mar. 3/6 Prices slumped from 2 to 5 points generally.

3. To move or walk in a clumsy, heavy, or laborious manner. Also *fig.*

1854 Lowell *Jrnl. Italy* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 115 He..paces the deck..much as one of those yellow hummocks goes slumping up and down his cage. 1887 — *Old Eng. Dramatists* (1892) 18 In such collections as Dodsley's 'Old Plays', where we slump along through the loose sand.

4. *trans.* To throw *down* heavily; to slam.

1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 126 She slumped down her nittin, and clawed off her spectacles. 1853 G. J. Cayley *Las Alforjas* I. 233 Some shivering adorer, who stands in the night air till John has slumped the tight door into the panel.

b. *local.* (See quots.)

1874 C. J. Palmer *Perlust. Gt. Yarmouth* II. 260 *note*, The suitor who lost his cause was said to be 'slumped'. *Ibid.*, 'Slumped agin', was shouted derisively to one who had been a second time unsuccessful.

c. To cause to depreciate suddenly. Hence **Slu·mping** *ppl. a.*

1899 *Church Times* 13 Oct. 421/1 Suppose some 'bear' determines to 'slump' the market. *Ibid.*, The vicious operations of the slumping bear and the tossing bull.

Slumper (slʊ·mpəɹ), *v. rare.* [Probably imitative: cf. prec. 3, and G. *schlumpern* to go about in a slovenly or slipshod condition.] *intr.* To move or travel heavily or with difficulty on account of miry or muddy roads; to flounder *through* or *along.*

1829 G. Robertson *Rural Recoll.* 38 In wet weather they became mere *lairs*, (sloughs,) in which the carts or carriages had to slumper through in a half-swimming state. 1894 Smiles *J. Wedgwood* x. 92 The lanes were scarcely sufficient for the slumpering along of packhorses, let alone for carts.

Slu·mpy, *a.*[1] *Sc.* [f. Slump *sb.*[1]] Taking things in the lump; rough, general.

1864 R. Reid *Old Glasgow* 35 Here nothing is said about square yards..; but half-acres, or thereby, are set forth in a fine slumpy manner.

Slumpy (slʊ·mpi), *a.*[2] Also **slumpey.** [f. dial. *slump* a marshy or muddy place; cf. LG. *schlump* in the same sense.] Marshy, swampy, muddy, boggy.

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* 366 Such a meadow is said to be slumpy. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 250 A large extent of rushy ground, either dry and hard, or slumpy and wet. 1883 E. H. Rollins *New Eng. Bygones* 79 The slumpy drifts had to be cut down beforehand to make the roads passable.

Slu·mward(s, *adv.* [f. Slum *sb.*[1] 2.] In the direction of the slums.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct. 2/2 It was the Congregationalists..who set much of the current of assistance slumward in recent years. 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise 'Cachalot'* 318 Draggled branches borne slumwards by tramping urchins.

†**Slu·nchin,** obs. variant of Luncheon 1.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 274 For our last course..we had a thinne slice of cheese,..alleaging that those thicker slunchins would dull our wits.

Slung (slʊŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Sling *v.*[1]]

†1. Of an animal: Dropped or cast prematurely.

1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 82 It should be wrapt in the skin of a calf, or a slung hart, and bound to the left arm.

2. Thrown by means of a sling.

For Sc. *slung stane* see Sling-stone.

1893 Huxley *Evol. & Ethics* 3 It may be likened to the ascent and descent of a slung stone.

Slung (slʊŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Sling *v.*[2]] Placed in, hung or suspended by, a sling or slings.

1773 J. Jacob *Obs. Wheel-Carriages* 84 Of the method of hanging coaches, and other slung vehicles. 1868 *U.S. Rep. Munit. War* 242 To fire a slung rocket..from a ship against a ship would not be very difficult. 1891 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 5/7 Her great, open fireplace, with its slung kettle.

Slunge, variant of Slounge *v. dial.*

Slung-shot. *U.S.* [f. *slung*, pa. pple. of Sling *v.*[2]] A shot, piece of metal, stone, etc., fastened to a strap or thong, and used as a weapon (cf. quot. 1848).

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, *Slung-shot*, an offensive weapon formed of two leaden or iron bullets fastened together by a piece of rope five or six inches long. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 27 A slung-shot could not have brought her down better. 1883 A. K. Green (Mrs. Rohlfs) *Hand & Ring* i, The man..having evidently been hit on the head by a slung-shot.

Slunk (slʊŋk), *sb. Sc.* [var. of Slonk *sb.*] A muddy or marshy place; a miry hollow.

1665 J. Fraser *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 346 Not adverting to a slunk or breach in the sea bank, his horse tumbled. 1727 P. Walker in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 18 Lying in the Dear-slunk, in Midst of a great flow Moss. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 88 Amang the harbour's sludge and mud; They row'd [= rolled] thegither in the slunk. 1892 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Antrim).

Slunk, *v. Sc. rare.* [Cf. prec.] *intr.* To wade in mud or mire.

17.. Ramsay *To W. Starrat* 28 Feckfu' folk can..slunk thro' moors, and never fash their mind.

Slunk (slʊŋk), *ppl. a.* [f. Slink *v.* 3.] Of calves: Cast prematurely.

1837 Whittock *Bk. Trades* (1842) 371 Drum-heads are made..from abortives, or at least very young sucking calves called 'slunk' by the workmen.

Slu·nker. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1903 Goode & Gill *Amer. Fishes* 527 These spent females [*sc.* sturgeons] are called 'slunkers', and are of little value.

†**Slup,** *v. Obs.*[—1] [Cf. Slop *v.*[2] 2, and G. dial. *schluppen* to suck.] *trans.* To sup, swallow.

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. C 3, Lewd Precisians.. take the simbole vp As slouenly, as carelesse Courtiers slup Their mutton gruell.

Slur (slɚ), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 5 **sloor,** 5, 9 **slore,** 7 **slurre.** [Of obscure origin. Cf. MDu. *slore* (Du. *sloor*, *sloerie*) a sluttish woman.] Thin or fluid mud. Cf. Slurry *sb.* Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloor [*v.r.* slore], or sowr.., *cenum, limus.* *a* 1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Selfe-Deceiving* (1614) 382 Yet it [work] may not be foule, being soyled, and slubbered with the slurre of a rotten heart. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 308 *Slur*,..loose, thin, almost fluid mud. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Slore*, dirt, sump. 1878 Miller & Skertchly *Fenland* iv. 131 *Slur*—thin washy mud.

Slur (slɚ), *sb.*[2] Also 7 **slurr.** [f. Slur *v.*[2]]

1. †a. A gliding movement in dancing. *Obs.*

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* III. x. H 3, In discoursing of the gracefull slur: Who euer heard spruce skipping Curio Ere prate of ought, but of the whirle on toe. 1667 Dryden *Secret Love* v, I can..walk with a courant slurr, and at every step peck down my Head. 1673 Wycherley *Gent. Dancing-Master* iv. i, One, two, three, and a slur.

b. *dial.* A slide; a sliding course.

1854– in Lanc. and Northampt. dialect.

†2. A method of cheating at dice (see Slur *v.*[2] 1). *Obs.*

a 1643 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* II. iii, Your hollowed thumb join'd with your wriggled box, The slur, and such like are not to be talk'd of. 1662 J. Wilson *Cheats* IV. i, Did not I..teach you, your Top, your Palm, and your Slur?..And generally, instructed you from Prick-penny, to Long Lawrence? *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 143 Rooking Gamesters..venture all their Bets Upon the Slurs, and cunning Tricks of ablest Cheats.

3. A sliding piece of mechanism in a knitting-machine, serving to depress the sinkers. Also *attrib.*

1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 279 To move the catches from the end of the jacks, and let them fall, the slur..passes behind them. *Ibid.* 280 The slur is composed of two pieces screwed together. 1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 747/2 A straight iron bar,..called the slur bar, is extended beneath all the jacks, and upon this a piece of metal, called the slur, travels with rollers to reduce the friction. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1237/2 The sinkers..are at the same time depressed, one after another, by the cam or slur above them.

Slur (slɚ), *sb.*[3] Also 7 **slurr(e.** [f. Slur *v.*[1]]

1. a. A deliberate slight; an expression or suggestion of disparagement or reproof.

1609 [Bp. W. Barlow] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 287 The Count..would bee inraged at this Slur and mockage. 1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VII. xvi. 346 Which is a scurvy slur to these Astrologers. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 4 Nov., My Lord Generall is become mighty low in all people's opinion, and ..hath received several slurs from the King. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* lvi. (1865) VII. 105 Vitellius seems to have felt this officious zeal as a slur on his own torpidity.

1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. xix. 25 A district would think it a slur to be told that it ought to look beyond its own borders for a representative.

b. A mark, stain, or blot; a discredit (incurred by or cast upon a person, etc.). Const. *to* or *upon*.

1662 Glanvill *Lux Orient.* viii. 85 It would have been a slurre to the divine goodnesse not to have given being to such creatures. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (J.), No one can rely upon such an one..without a slur to his reputation. 1722 De Foe *Moll Flanders* (1840) 101 Not to get the least slur upon my reputation. 1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* I. ii, Who ..on the honour of..my wife..Left a base slur to pass from mouth to mouth. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) III. iii. 148 Whose revolting predilections are not only a slur upon the age which tolerated them, but a disgrace.

c. In the phrases *to cast, put, throw* (etc.) *a slur on* or *upon* (a person or thing).

1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 151 Some say there was never such a slur put upon the Jesuits. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VII. 404 It would cast a slurre on the credit of such Bishops. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* (1840) I. xi. 155 Provoked at the slur that was put upon him. 1785 B. Harrison in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 90 They..would sensibly feel any slur cast on your reputation. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 239 Tourville would not consent to put such a slur on his profession. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis Faith* iii. 96 To cast an intolerable slur and disgrace upon human intellect.

†2. A fault, mistake, blunder. *Obs.*

1662 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. § 14 That Nature should implant in Man such a strong propension.., is such a Slur committed by her as there can be in no wise excogitated any Excuse. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 167 That desire, which makes to the perfection of all goodness, must infinitely avoid every slur and miscarriage as unclean.

3. *Printing.* (See quots.)

1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 501 *Slur*, when the impression of the sheets appear smeared. 1882 Southward *Pract. Print.* (1884) 427 The letters may print double—this is caused by a 'slur'. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Slur*, when a printed sheet is blurred or smeared—also called a 'shake'.

4. *Mus.* A curved line placed over or under two or more notes of different degrees to show that they are to be played or sung smoothly and connectedly.

1801 Busby *Dict. Mus.*, *Slur*, a character..drawn over or under the heads of those notes which are meant..to be blended by a kind of smooth, gliding progression. 1848 Rimbault *Pianoforte* 63 The chief marks of expression are the Slur, the Tie, and the Dash or Point. 1875 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., In violin music a slur directs that the notes under it are to be played with one bow.

attrib. 1818 Busby *Gram. Mus.* 148 A manner commixed of that indicated by the Slur Curve, and that implied by the Staccato Dash.

5. A slurred utterance or sound.

1861 Reade *Cloister & H.* I. 60 There were none of.. those whining slurs, which are now sold so dear by Italian songsters. 1894 Sweet *Anglo-Sax. Reader* (ed. 7) p. lxxxvi, Two short syllables..constituting a slur,..which must be uttered very rapidly. 1898 G. Meredith *Poems* 111 He [the lark] drops the silver chain of sound..In chirrup, whistle, slur and shake All intervolved.

6. The act or habit of slurring, or doing hurriedly and imperfectly. Also *Comb.*

1882 Blackmore *Christowell* xxii, As every one who does good work, in this age of slur, gets overworked immediately. 1884 Jefferies *Life of the Fields* (1893) 234 Country people have not yet got into the habit which may be called slur-reading.

7. A blurred atmosphere.

1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* II. xv. 272 After the fog and the slur of the day, to see the sky at all was joyful.

Slur (slɚ), *v.*[1] [f. Slur *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To smear, stain, smirch, sully. Also *fig.* Now *dial.*

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, Her cheekes not yet slurd ouer with the paint Of borrowed crimsone. 1614 Latham *Falconry* (1633) 47 A piece of Flannell or Cotten, ..foule and slurred. 1658 Owen *On Temptat.* viii. Wks. 1852 IV. 145 Its beauty would be slurred, its good things reviled. 1716 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 239 This Gent. hath many good Qualities, tho' they were all slurr'd by his complying with the Rebells in opposition to K. James. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 187 Pennant,..Whose pages, though slurr'd with the dear *egomet*, Demand from a public warm gratitude's debt. 1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* ii. 46 The most pernicious and virulent heart has no power of ejecting its venom upon a fair surface;—it must slur whatever it means to poison. 1854– in dialect glossaries (Northampt., Derby, Yks.).

b. *Printing.* To smudge or blur.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P 4 The Broad Shouldering..receiving the Ink..slurs the Printed Paper. *Ibid.* xxiv. P 15 The Plattin..shoves the Sheet upon the Face of the Letter, and sometimes Slurs, and sometimes Doubles it. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 534/3, I do not find the proof slurred.

c. *U.S.* To coat or cover (a wall) with plaster or rough-cast.

1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 531/1 The rear wall is slurred, and from it three windows open into a garden.

2. To disparage, depreciate, calumniate, asperse.

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* IV. i, Coming into the World on purpose to slight and slur that which is of the greatest esteem..with the Natural Man. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 35 It is an aggravation of impiety..that it slurs (as it were) and defames God. 1707 Humfrey *De Justif. Baxteriana* 4 That you appear to slur, what I and Mr. B. have wrote, by terming it Arminianism. 1770 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 231 The idea of a triennial parliament, which the jury of London..thought proper to fasten upon him in order to slur us. 1805 Scott *Let.* 10 Feb. in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Commiss.* 431/2 Hardly anything was so likely to be of advantage to the Lancastrians as to slur the descent of the house of York. 1867 J. B. Rose *Virgil's Æneid* 322 Think not I blame or slur your bravery.

3. To pass over lightly, without proper mention or consideration.

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* v. xvii. 203 By slurring the main Scope of the Apocalypse, and pretending [etc.]. 1678 Cudworth *Intellect. Syst.* 684 Triumphing to see the cause of theism thus betrayed by its professed friends.., and the grand argument for the same totally slurred by them. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 555 Beneath well-sounding Greek I slur a name a poet must not speak. *c* 1850 Kingsley *Misc.* (1859) I. 19 Biographers have slurred a few facts in their hurry to carry out their theory of favourites. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* i. 8 To silence a doubt, or slur a difference.

b. Freq. with *over*. Also with ref. to utterance.

1725 Swift *Let. to Stopford* 26 Nov., Your other correspondents tell me that Mr. G...lost 200*l.* in money, which to me you slur over. 1775 Sheridan *Art Reading* 212 The little word, as, which is always slurred over. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 216 The very laconic manner in which the great Sir Noodle slurs over the above topics of literature. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* vii. 330 Carlyle has gone far to spoil the story by slurring it over.

c. To disguise, conceal. *rare*[−1].

1826 Lamb *Elia* II, *Conf. Drunkard*, Those juggling compositions, which..slur a great deal of brandy or other poison under less and less water continually, until they come..to none at all.

†4. To put *off with* something trivial or unsatisfactory. *Obs.*

1749 *Power of Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 28 Whilst the longest Syllable or the most emphatical Word shall be slur'd off with a Crotchet or a Quaver. 1751 J. Brown *Shaftesb. Charac.* 157 Thus, we see how dextrously he puts the change upon the unwary reader; and..slurs him off with an accidental consequence.

5. *Mus.* To sing or play (notes) in a smooth and connected manner; to mark with a slur.

1746 [see Slurred *ppl. a.*]. 1782 [see sense 6]. 1873 H. C. Banister *Music* 256 Exception would be made to this ..in the case of a series of notes included in one phrase, especially if slurred. 1881 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* III. 536/2. The notes included within its limits are said to be slurred.

6. To render confused or indistinct; to blur.

1782 Sir J. Reynolds *Notes Mason's tr. Dufresnoy* lvi, The parts [of the human figure] never appearing uncertain or confused, or, as a Musician would say, slurred. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Method* 120 Lax imagination slurs and confuses the lineaments of living character.

b. *intr.* To become indistinct through imperfect articulation.

1893 Kipling *Many Invent.* 234 His speech, which up to that time had been distinct, began to slur.

7. To go through hurriedly and carelessly. Also *intr.* with *through*.

1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. ix, They only slurred through their fagging. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 13 Having slurred his early dinner with his usual zest.

Slur (slɚ), *v.*[2] Also 7–8 slurr, 9 *dial.* slir. [? Related to LG. *slurrn* (G. *schlurren, schlorren*) to drag the feet, to shuffle: cf. MLG. *slûren* (LG. *sluren*), MDu. *sloren* (Du. *sleuren*), to drag, trail.]

†1. *trans.* To slip or slide (a die) out of the box so that it does not turn. *Obs.*

1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 3 If he slur a die. 1660 Harrington *Pres. Pop. Govt.* I. xi. (1700) 294 A man that has read my Writings..cannot chuse but see how he slurs his Dice. 1674 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 11 On a smooth table..it is usual for some to slur a Dye two yards or more without turning. *c* 1700 Prior *Cupid & Ganymede* 32 The usual Trick: Seven, slur a Six; Eleven: A Nick.

†b. In fig. uses or contexts. *Obs.*

a 1680 Butler *Charact.* (1908) 90 He [the quibbler] commonly slurs every fourth or fifth Word, and seldom fails to throw Doublets. 1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I. 128 But then, Sir, by the by, does he slur in upon them his State Enthusiasms. 1685 F. Spence tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medici* 304 Piero de Medici thought Bentivoglio had talk't thus..to slurr upon him a Bravade.

†2. To cheat or cozen. *Obs.*

1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 192 What was the Publick Faith found out for, But to slur men of what they fought for? 1679 *Hist. of Jetzer* 30 The Fathers design'd to put a trick upon him, but in the event they would be slurred themselves. 1731 Fielding *Lottery* Epil., This too may turn me off to-morrow morning. If that should happen, I were finely slur'd.

3. *intr.* To slide, slide about. Now *dial.*

1617 Assheton *Jrnl.* (Chetham Soc.) 62 To Portfield: ther paid up and made merrie. Tables slurring almost all night. 1675 Teonge *Diary* (1825) 78 Severall tumbles wee had, wee and our plates, and our knives slurrd oft together. 1796– in many dialect glossaries, etc.

4. To drag, move heavily.

1889 *Cent. Mag.* June 250 Her soft, heavy footsteps slurred on the stairway as though her strength were failing.

†**Slurbow.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 -bowe, 7 -bo. [The first element is obscure.] A species of cross-bow commonly used for discharging fire-arrows, perh. one having a barrel attached to the stock. Also *attrib.*

1588 *Cal. State Papers, 1581–90* (Dom. Ser.) 562 For slurr bows 20;..for 20 dozen of firework arrows for the said slurr bows. 1599 in *Archaeologia* (1800) XIII. 399 Crossbowe arrowes 500 decaied. Slurbowe arrowes with fierwoorkes 184, inde 19 without fierwoorks. 1615 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 75 He desired to have the slurbo to take a sample by to make an other. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* liii. 127 The brasse Balles of Artificiall fire, to be shott with slurbowes.

†**Slurf.** *Obs. rare.* ? Error for Scurf *sb.*[1]

1674–7 J. Molines *Anat. Obs.* (1896) 13 A little excoriation ..as though there was a slurfe. *Ibid.*, To pull off the slurfe.

†**Slurg,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Cf. G. dial. *schlurgen* to go about in a slovenly manner.] *intr.* To lie sleepily or sluggishly.

1557 Phaer *Æneid* VI. Q iij b, Æneas toke the place, while thus the porter slurging was. 1562 *Ibid.* IX. Aa iv b, They themselues in wynes and sleepe Resolued, slurg on grounde.

Slurp, *v. rare.* Also 9 *dial.* slurrup. [= Du. *slurpen* (Norw. *slurpa*), G. *schlurfen, schlürfen*: cf. Slorp *v.*] To drink greedily or noisily.

1648 Hexham II, *Zuypen, Slorpen, ofte gulsigh drincken*, to Sup, or Slurpe, or to Drinke too much. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* 308 *Slurrup*, to swallow any liquid greedily and with a noise of the lips or in the throat.

Slurred (slɚ̄d), *ppl. a.* [f. Slur *v.*[1]] Run together, rendered indistinct, blurred, etc.

1746 Tansur *New Mus. Gram.* 99 Ty'd or slur'd Notes. 1827 Tate *Grk. Metres* in *Theatre of Greeks* (ed. 2) 446 It may justify our adoption of slurred Anapest and slurred Dactyl, as terms not inappropriate for that purpose. 1843 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. IV. ii. § 16 It is quite a mistake to suppose that slurred or melting lines are characteristic of distant large objects. 1883 S. C. Hall *Retrospect* I. 5 They are faded and gone—places of slurred paper, nothing more.

Slurring (slɚ̄·riŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. as prec.] The action of Slur *v.*[1] in various senses.

1661 R. Burney *Chas. II. Presented* 32 A King most properly commands Free Subjects, without the violation of their priviledges, or slurring of the Leaves of Magna Charta. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 19 This is rather slurring than Doubling.., but when it is real Doubling, it happens generally on the whole Sheet. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), *Slurring*, performing in a smooth gliding style. 1866 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 22 In Old-North English this slurring was still more prevalent. 1871 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 243 Slurrings-over and runnings-together of syllables.

Slu·rring, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Slur *v.*[2]] The action of Slur *v.*[2] in various senses.

1668 Head & Kirkman *Eng. Rogue* IV. xvi. 226 Slurring, is when you throw your Dice so smoothly on the Table that they turn not. 1673 Head *Cant. Acad.* 17 Three parts of every nights dream is spent..in topping, slurring, palming. 1675 Teonge *Diary* (1825) 78 It could not stand on the table for the ship's tossing ..; som securing themselves from slurring by setting their feete against the table.

attrib. 1674 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (1680) 85 That is done by lying a fore-finger on the top indifferent hard, and giving a slurring jerk to the rest.

Slu·rring, *ppl. a.* [f. Slur *v.*[1]]

1. Of utterance: Indistinct.

1848 Keightley *Notes to Horace* Introd., Hence..their rapid slurring pronunciation, as is shown by the metre of their comic poets. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, 'Yes, said Headstone in a slurring way. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 903 My speech was slurring, my gait ataxic.

2. Careless, hurried.

1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* 279, I never allow myself to do things..in a slurring, slipshod way.

3. Slighting; depreciatory.

1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 227 This decidedly slurring description of the belle of Newport's last season makes the girl think every one despises her.

Slurry (slɚ·ri), *sb.* Also 5 slory, 9 slorry. [Related to Slur *sb.*[1]]

1. Thin sloppy mud or cement.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 203/2 Gore, or slory, *limus, tessequa*. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 492 A nearly semi-fluid mass of 'slurry', which settles down like glue to the bottom of the wagon. 1886 *Cycl. Tour. Club Gaz.* IV. 187/2 The sand..should be watered until it..can be worked up into slurry with brooms. 1901 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 396 Its sluggish streak of creeping slurry miscalled a creek.

2. In technical use: (see quots.).

a. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 462 (Pottery), The thrower..forms the inside of the vessel.., and smoothes it by removing the *slurry*, or inequalities. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Glass* 46 By the assistance of one of these [instruments] the inside is smoothed and any inequalities, technically called *slurry*, are removed.

b. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slorry, Slurry*, the levigated matter which forms under a grindstone.

Slurry (slɚ·ri), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 5 slory, 6 slorye, 7 slorie; 6, 9 *dial.* slorry, 7 slourry; 6–7 slurrie, 7, 9 slurry. [Cf. prec. and Slur *v.*[1]] *trans.* To dirty, soil, smear, daub, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/1 Sloryyd, *cenosus, cenolentus, lutulentus*. 1552 Huloet, Slorye or make fowle, *sordido*. 1555 Bradford in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 252 Though you lye in the darke, slorryed wyth the bishoppes blacke cole dust, yet [etc.]. 1592 R. Turnbull *S. James* 231 b, Malicious persons, who..soyle, slurrie, and file the garmentes of our neighbours. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 195 As they that soile and slourry writing tables when they be faire scoured and clensed. 1635 J. Swan *Spec. M.* vi. (1643) 293 Amiantus..being put into the fire, is not hurt nor slurried. 1647 Hexham I, To Slorie, or make foule. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.*, *Slurry*, to daub, to dirty. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., *Slorry*, to plaster, daub over.

fig. 1647 Trapp *Marrow Gd. Authors* in *Comm. Ep.* 717 Divinity..that had been shamefully obscured and slurried with needlesse and endlesse doubts. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 191 All the Great..things of this world, are slurried and disgraced, comparatively with the Life of Christ. 1736 Ainsworth I. s. v. *Slur*, To slur, slurry, or cast a slur on one's reputation.

Hence **Slu·rrying** *vbl. sb.*

1600 Abbot *Jonah* 363 That slurrying which was used toward him,..hath made him shine the brighter. 1611 Cotgr., *Souillement*, a soyling, slurrying, durtying.

Slush (slʌʃ), *sb.*[1] Also 8–9 *dial.* **sluss.** [Of doubtful origin: cf. SLUDGE and SLUTCH (both from the 17th cent.) and the more recent SLOSH.

The late appearance of the word makes it doubtful whether there is any connexion with such forms as older Da. *slus* sleet, mud, or Norw. *slusk* slops, sloppy ground or weather.]

1. a. The watery substance resulting from the partial melting of snow or ice.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 76 This speedy thowe caused a wonderfull slush. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. v, The ice proving treacherous and bedding you in slush to the hip. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 456 Whenever there was a temporary thaw, this mass of ice and snow became a pond of slush. 1876 DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* v. 118 A great deal of snow fell during the day, forming slush upon the surface of the water.

b. Liquid mud or mire.

1772 *Hartford Merc.* Suppl. 18 Sept. 2/2 The new inclosures, which formerly were almost covered with water and slush. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. I. 126 There is another term also in use..in that county [Norfolk], namely, *sluss* or *slush*, to express the mire of the highway in its most liquid state. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 13, I mean dirty puddle,..slush from the ditch that's in rear of the mountain. 1860 WYNTER *Curios. Civilis.* III. 106 The wart hog,..which wallows up to its eyes in slush and mire. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 12 They reared.., mid the slush and ooze Of yon low islet.., a temple.

fig. 1853 W. JERDAN *Autobiog.* III. xviii. 282 His literary career was..through the usual mud and slush of its miry obstacles. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. ii, Your rights and charters hobnail'd into slush.

2. *Naut.* The refuse fat or grease obtained from meat boiled on board ship.

1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 419 He..used much slush (the rancid fat of pork) among his victuals. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* 21 Tars whose Stomachs are not very squeamish, and who can bear to paddle their Fingers in stinking Slush. 1812 J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 143 A great quantity of liquid fat which the men called slush. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxviii. 364 With a copper lamp, a cooking-basin, and a liberal supply of slush for fuel.

fig. 1833 CARLYLE *Cagliostro* in *Misc. Ess.* (1888) V. 78 Wheresoever..a slush of so-called vicious enjoyment [is] to be swallowed. 1898 *Chr. Herald* (N. Y.) 23 Feb. 144/4 That the people of this country demand moral slush instead of healthy and intellectual food.

3. a. (See quot. and cf. SLUTCH *sb.* 2.)

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 191 The top is covered.. with the waste or slush from the grindstone trough.

b. A mix ure of grease and other materials used for lubricating. 1847 in WEBSTER.

c. A mixture of white lead and lime, used for painting parts of machinery to preserve them from oxidation. 1864 in WEBSTER.

4. Rubbishy discourse or literature.

1896 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 6/1 Two stout volumes of what the American editor would have called 'delirious slush'.

5. *dial.* a. A slovenly or dirty person; a slut.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Slush*, a reproachful term for a dirty person. 1836 *Wilson's Tales Borders* II. 163 Dinna speak o' the slush to me..; for he's a speeritless hash.

b. A drudge.

1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* c 1861– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1883 MISS BRADDON *Gold. Calf* xxi. 235 He told her she was cook, slush, and bottle-washer.

6. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *slush-ice*; (sense 2) *slush-bucket* (also *transf.*), *-lamp*, *-tub*.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, **Slush bucket*, a foul feeder, one that eats much greasy food. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 634 *Slush-Bucket*, a bucket kept in the tops, to grease the masts, sheets, &c. *Ibid.*, **Slush-Ice*, the first layer which forms when the surface is freezing. 1883 KEIGHLEY *Who are You?* 45 The *slush-lamp shone with a smoky light. 1893 J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 41 A tin which he had just taken from over the big slush lamp. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xl, D—n you, and your *slush-tub too! 1858 SIMMONDS, *Slush-tub*, a vessel for holding grease.

Slush (slʌʃ), *sb.*[2] [Imitative, or f. SLUSH *v.*]

1. A heavy splashing sound. Also *slush-slush*.

[1848 *Life in Normandy* (1863) I. 111 Slush, slush, went the two wheels into two holes.] 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* I. xviii. 321 The hollow of the rocks received the first billow with a thump and a slush. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xxvii, The faint *slush-slush* of horse-hoofs striking sodden earth.

2. A copious wash; a sluicing.

1902 ALICE TERTON *Lights & Shad. Hospital* viii. 118 A stable bucket I could give myself a good slush in.

Slush (slʌʃ), *v.* [Partly f. SLUSH *sb.*[1] and partly imitative; the senses belonging to the two sources are not clearly separable.

An early use of the word is given by Thoresby (1703), '*To slush through work*, to do much, but slimly, carelessly'.]

I. *trans.* 1. To splash or soak with slush or mud.

1807 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. viii. 262 We were quite slushed in the mire. 1819 'R. RABELAIS THE YOUNGER' *Abeillard & H.* 122 Feeling his garments and himself slush'd. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. VI. viii. 355 All slushed and soiled with the November rain.

2. a. *Naut.* To grease (a mast) with slush. Also with *down*.

1823 J. F. COOPER *Pioneers* xv, I larnt how a topmast should be slushed. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii, The officer..ordered me to slush the mainmast. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 170/1 He ordered him aloft with a bucket of grease to 'slush down' the mast.

b. To paint (machinery) with a mixture of white lead and lime. 1864 in WEBSTER.

c. To fill *up* or cover by dashing on mortar and cement.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2219 *Slushed-up*, the joints and intervals between the bricks and courses filled with mortar. 1902 R. STURGIS *Dict. Archit. & Building* s.v., Slushed work permits bricks to be laid dry..in the interior of a wall, and makes inferior work.

3. To wash with a copious supply, or with dashing on, of water; to sluice.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Slush*, to wash with much water without rubbing. 'Slush it in the river.' 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xvi, So he were there skilfully rubbed down and slushed and sluiced, and polished and clothed.

b. To dash (water) *over* one.

1889 'Q.' [QUILLER COUCH] *Splendid Spur* 213 Stand thee so, an' slush the water over me.

II. *intr.* 4. Of pigs: To eat greedily and noisily.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii. (1859) 289 Like so many pigs slushing at the same trough.

5. To go or walk through mud, etc., with a dull splashing sound. Also with cognate object, and *fig.*

1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.*, *To Slush on*, to proceed or persevere in one's course of life, as the saying is, 'through thick and thin'. 1888 F. COWPER *Caedwalla* 214 The raft.. slushed its way through the water. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 223/2 As for horses, they slushed in and slushed out of the wet compound.

6. To descend or degenerate *into* something.

1882 *Good Words* 99 Conversation which..by and by *slushed* into unexpected and not very profitable discussion about legitimate and illegitimate children.

7. To rush (*down*) with a splashing sound.

1883 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1901) I. 272 The filthy gutter slushes. 1889 TENNYSON *Owd Roa* xxi, The snaw slushin' down fro' the bank to the beck.

8. To dash *at* something in heavy splashes.

1900 STRAIN *Elmslie's Drag-net* 227 Slushed at by the waves, buffeted by the wind, she battled her way across the road.

Hence (or f. the *sb.*) **Slu·shing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* x, Philip went.. through keen black east wind, or driving snow, or slushing thaw. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 363 Moony workings, and slushings hither and thither..in the muddy tide-currents.

Slusher (slʌ·ʃəɹ). *Austr.* [f. prec.] The cook's assistant on a station during shearing time.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/6.

Slu·shiness. [f. SLUSHY *a.*] The quality of being slushy.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Apr. 2/2 Water-colour drawings that cherish inordinate ambitions almost invariably fall into either dryness or slushiness.

Slushy (slʌ·ʃi), *sb.* [f. SLUSH *sb.*[1] or *v.*]

a. A ship's cook. b. = SLUSHER.

1859 in *Slang Dict.* 96. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* x, The cook, better known as the slushy. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 135 As the shearers' 'slushy' hates the shearers' cook.

Slushy (slʌ·ʃi), *a.* [f. SLUSH *sb.*[1]]

1. Covered with, consisting of, having the character of, slush (in senses 1 a and 1 b).

(*a*) 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 178 They bury themselves in the slushy bottoms of rivers and ponds. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 309 *Slushy*, miry. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepul. & Syrian Shrines* I. 220 We..continued our road on the soft slushy sand along the edge of the wave. 1884 *Good Words* 156 Stepping through the sedges, regardless of the slushy footing.

(*b*) 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v., *Slushie*, abounding with snow in a state of liquefaction; as, 'The streets are very slushie.' 1857 B. TAYLOR *North. Trav.* xvii. 174 Mud under foot, alternating with slushy snow. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* 42 The snow slips and comes down in slushy, icy fragments.

b. Marked by the prevalence of slush.

1848 THACKERAY *Contrib. to 'Punch'* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 203 [He] came over ten miles to Squattleborough in the most slushy weather, and delivered four lectures. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. x. 304 There are slushy splashy raw comfortless mornings in..winter.

2. Weak, washy.

1839 MCDOWALL *Poems* 117 (E.D.D.), Can slushy tea ere be compared Wi' cogs o' brose? 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxv, Something stronger and better than water or slushy tea.

b. *fig.* Rubbishy, trivial.

1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 15 Aug., That is a slushy sentiment. 1894 *Times* 3 Jan. 7/5 A large portion of the British public is steeped in a sloppy and slushy sentimentalism.

3. Thick, indistinct.

1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* III. 250 He spoke in a slushy voice.

Sluss, dial. form of SLUSH *sb.*[1]

Slut (slʌt), *sb.* Also 5 **slotte**, *north.* **slute**, 5–6 **slutte**, 7 **slutt**. [Of doubtful origin: cf. G. (now dial.) *schlutt*, *schlutte*, *schlutz*, in sense 1. Forms having some resemblance in sound and sense also occur in the Scand. languages, as Da. *slatte* (? from LG.), Norw. *slott*, Sw. dial. *slåtta*, but connexion is very doubtful.]

1. A woman of dirty, slovenly, or untidy habits or appearance; a foul slattern.

1402 HOCCLEVE *Letter of Cupid* 237 The foulest slutte of al a tovne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 273 Ful ferd is hit for touching of vnclene Wymmen—and slottes y suppose hit mene. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/2 A Slute, *vbi* foule. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Slutte, *souilliart*, *vilotiere*. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 137 b, I haue noted often those dames which are so curious in their attire, to be verie sluttes in their houses. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. 24 Women are all day a dressing, to pleasure other men abroad, and go like sluts at home. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 98 Nor was she a Woman of any Beauty, but was a nasty Slut. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Odes* Wks. (1765) 190 She's ugly, she's old,..And a slut, and a scold. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. viii, Almshouses For sluts whose husbands died. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 249 She looked the part of a ragged, slatternly, dirty slut.

fig. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 26 Would'st thou have us sluts and never Shift the vestur of our thoughts? 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xii, Did Rome herein look upon the dust behind her own doores, she would have but little cause to call her neighbour slut.

b. A kitchen-maid; a drudge. *rare.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 233 The quene her toke to make a slutte, And to vile services her putt. 1855 J. D. BURN *Autobiogr. Beggar Boy* (1859) 68, I lived with him.. for nearly six months, and acted the part of cook, slut, butler, page, footman, and *valet de chambre*.

† c. A troublesome or awkward creature. *Obs.*—1

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 158 Crabbe is a slutt to kerve & a wrawd wight.

2. A woman of a low or loose character; a bold or impudent girl; a hussy, jade.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 218 Com forth, thou sloveyn! com forthe, thou slutte! *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 Sluttes, drabbes, and counseyll whystelers. 1577–82 BRETON *Flourish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 6/2 To haunt the Tauernes late,..And swap ech slut vpon the lippes, that in the darke he meetes. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. i. (1651) 143 A peevish drunken flurt, a waspish cholerick slut. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 375 Disputes of their Religion, in which he found the crafty Slut would involve him. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. iv, I never knew any of these forward sluts come to good. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip to Scarborough* IV. i, These lords have a power of wealth indeed, yet, as I've heard say, they give it all to their sluts and their trulls. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* xviii, Never let anybody who is a friend of mine speak to her; a slut, a hussy. 1848 — *Dombey* xliv, Does that bold-faced slut intend to take her warning, or does she not? 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fl.* I. xii, My lord shall marry this extravagant slut.

fig. 1602 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xii *a*, Night is a murderous slut, That would not haue her treasons to be seene.

b. In playful use, or without serious imputation of bad qualities.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 21 Feb., Our little girl Susan is a most admirable slut, and pleases us mightily. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 112 As the Mother cries out against her Child in her lap, when she calleth it Slut and naughty Girl, and then falls to hugging and kissing it. 1710–1 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 79 Ah! you're a wheedling slut, you be so. 1740–2 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 207 Well did the dear Slut describe the Passion I struggled with. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 233 Nanny, thou art a sweet slut. 1884 GORDON *Jrnls.* (1885) 115 Why the black sluts would stone me if they thought I meditated such action.

transf. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xiii, You see I gave my cousin this dog,..and the little slut remembers me.

3. A female dog; a bitch. Also *attrib.*, as *slut-pup*. ? Orig. *U.S.*

1845 G. LAW in *Youatt's Dog* (ed. Lewis, 1858) iii. 88 The dog-pup..and the slut-pup. *Ibid.* 89 The dog was of a dingy red colour, and the slut black. 1853 W. IRVING in *Reader* No. 57. 131/3 My little terrier slut Ginger..having five little Gingers toddling at her heels. 1893 J. INGLIS *Oor Ain Folk* (1894) 10, Sluts were not so frequently used for shepherding purposes as dogs, being less tractable.

4. A piece of rag dipped in lard or fat and used as a light.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 151 Matches are made of linen rags and Brimstone, after the manner that maids make Sluts. 1852 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 363 Writing by the light of what Irish Jenny called 'sluts'—twisted rags, dipped in lard, and stuck in a bottle. 1886 L. M'LOUTH in *Library Mag.* Aug. (1887) 64 Sometimes..there were for additional light, lard 'sluts', or tallow 'dips'.

b. The guttering of a candle.

a 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 92 The melted material overflows, and bears with it the name of 'slut'.

5. Special collocations, as **† slut's corner**, a corner left uncleaned by a sluttish person; also *fig.*; **slut-, slut's-hole**, a place or receptacle for rubbish; also *fig.*; **† slut's-pennies**, hard pieces in a loaf due to imperfect kneading of the dough; **slut's-wool**, the fluff or dust left on the floor, etc., by a sluttish servant or person.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 167 Sluts corners auoided shall further thy health. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxxxiii. 814 Our house shalbe swept, & we will take good heed y^t^ no sluts corner be left. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 779 Rubbing, brushing, spunging, making clean sluts-corners. 1710 SWIFT *On a Broomstick* Wks. 1755 II. I. 181 He sets up to be..a remover of grievances, rakes into every slut's corner of nature [etc.]. 1750 W. ELLIS *Country Housew. Comp.* 21 There is often what we call slutts-pennies among the bread, that will appear and eat like kernels. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 298 There are a good many slut-holes in London to rake out. 1893 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 17 She would also.. see that floors were scrubbed, and corners clear of 'slut's-wool', and spiders well kept down.

† Slut, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **slute, slutt.** [f. prec.] Sluttish, untidy.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 71 Mony slute daw and slepy duddroun. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 290 The foullest slutt husies and seruandis. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* II. (1818) 53 An hostesse none more slutter.

Slut (slʌt), *v.* Also 7 *Sc.* **slute.** [f. SLUT *sb.*]

† 1. *trans.* To render sluttish. *Obs.*

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 585 Wks. (Grosart) II. 272 Don Tobacco's damnable Infection, Slutting the Body, slaving the Affection. 1645 Z. BOYD *Holy Songs* in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 12/1 Words..Which slute the body, and als slave the affection.

2. *intr.* To act as a drudge.

1829 *Examiner* 18/1 The Professional morality..rendered

it a point of pride to stop short of 'slutting for all work' for the attorneys.

Slutch (slʌtʃ), *sb.* [Of uncertain origin: cf. SLUDGE *sb.* and SLUSH *sb.*[1]

It is doubtful whether *sluche* in the *Destr. Troy* 12529 is an early example of this, as the form in other passages of the poem is *slic(c)he* SLITCH; but cf. SLUTCH *v.* 1.]

1. Mud, mire, slush. Now *dial.*

Cf. also *sea-slutch* (SEA 18 e) and *star-slutch*.

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1062 A blackish Slutch mixt with the Sand, which infects the whole Spring. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 73 All that soft Slutch would be thrown out, and a firm Stone-work put in the Place of it. 1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 2) IV. 66 Discovered by an aperture in the slutch. 1800 W. CHAPMAN *Facts & Rem. rel. Witham & Welland* 49 A great portion of rich slimy mud or slutch. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Slutch*, mud. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 92 Mucked up fro' heel to hat wi' slutch (mud) as thou art.

2. = SLUSH *sb.*[1] 3 a.

1889 W. MARCROFT *Ups & Downs* 58, I gave orders..that the grinding slutch must be wheeled out before breakfast time each morning.

Slutch (slʌtʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 4 sluchche. [Cf. prec.]

1. *trans.* To cover or soil with mud; to bemire. Hence Slutched *ppl. a.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P. C.* 341 Penne he swepe to þe sonde in sluchched clopes. 1868 WAUGH *Sneck Bant* i, He was 'welly (well-nigh) slutched up to th' neck ' with peat mire.

2. To clean out by removing mud.

1690 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 288 It is order'd in Councel y^t no allowance be given him to slutch y^e frosse lake. 1735 *Cheshire Farm Acct.* in *Sheaf* (1879) I. 330 By lading and slutching. 1886 HOLLAND *Cheshire Gloss.* 324 To 'slutch a pit' is to clean out the mud from a pond.

3. *intr.* To wade about *in* mud, etc.

c 1861– in dialect use (Lanc., Yks.).

Slutchy (slʌ·tʃi), *a.* [f. SLUTCH *sb.* + -Y.] Muddy, slushy.

1701 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 291 Pan-tiles ..requiring a blew slutchy clay. 1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 2) IV. 66 Lodged under slutchy ground, near low-water mark. *a* 1890 WAUGH *Heather* (1892) Ser. II. 95 The highway was full of slutchy ruts.

Sluth(e : see SLEUTH *sb.*[2] and *v.*[1]

Sluther (slʌ·ðəɹ), *v. dial.* [var. of SLITHER *v.*] *intr.* To slide, slip.

1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* Ser. II. 122 *Slither*, or *Sluther*, to slide; to slip. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Sluther down the hill. 1888 DALBY *Mayroyd* II. 165 He.. wriggled his body, and was about to 'sluther' down.

† **Slu·tly**, *adv. Obs.*[–o] [f. SLUT *sb.* or *a.*] Sluttishly, foully.

c 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.), Slutly, *cenulente*.

So † **Slu·tness**, sluttishness, foulness. *Obs.*[–o]

a 1500 *Promp. Parv.* (K.), Sluthnes, *cenositas*.

† **Sluttered**, *ppl. a. Obs.*[–1] [Cf. next.] Befouled, dirtied.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* B ij b, That those that neuer tasted of any thing saue the excrements of Artes..shoulde preferre their sluttered sutes, before other mens glittering gorgious array.

Sluttery (slʌ·təri). Now *rare.* [f. SLUT *sb.*]

1. Sluttishness, filthiness, dirtiness, untidiness.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1590) 389 Yet let not sluttery, The sinke of filth, be counted huswifery. 1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 153 Cleannesse..is the thing that bringeth her into most estimation: as contrariwise slutterie and filthinesse breeds her most hatred. 1627 DRAYTON *Nimphidia* ix, These make our Girles their sluttery rue, By pinching them both blacke and blue. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Dec., I took occasion..to fall out with my wife and my mayde for their sluttery. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 200 They are not to be taxed..with Sloth or Sluttery in respect of their Bodies. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* in *Lockhart* (1839) IV. 235 They are a long lived race, notwithstanding utter and inconceivable dirt and sluttery. 1818 MARY CARLYLE in Froude *Life C.* (1882) I. v. 58 It shall be my earnest desire never to imitate the abominable slutteries of Mrs. Maclarty.

† **b.** *concr.* Dirt, filth, impurity. *Obs.*

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* F 4*, We can but immure Those Sp'rituall Guifts with Fleshes sluttery. 1644 HAMMOND *Serm.* ix. Wks. 1684 IV. 530 All the debaucheries in the world could no more vitiate them, than the..gold by the sluttery it may be mixt with. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 158 How..any man should be so sullied with the sluttery of uncleanness, as that he dare publish those obscenities.

† **c.** A slut. *Obs.*[–1]

a 1652 BROME *City Wit* IV. ii, You burden smock'd sweaty sluttery, that couldst love a fellow that wore worsted stockins footed, and fed in Cooks shops.

† **2.** Work appropriate to a slut; drudgery. *Obs.*[–1]

1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* 266 She is a receiver to all professions, and acquainted by experience with cookery or sluttery.

† **3.** Vile or criminal conduct. *Obs.*[–1]

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 357 She..poisoned him,..and to cover this sluttery of hers, she caused one Artemon, who was very like him, to lie in his bed.

4. An untidy room; a work-room.

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 150 There is a little store-room..—I may have that for my sluttery, I dare say.

Slu·ttikin. *rare*[–1]. [f. SLUT *sb.*] A little slut.

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* 29 Aug., But what care you who is privy-seal, saucy sluttikins?

Sluttily, -ness : see SLUTTY *a.*

Sluttish (slʌ·tiʃ, *a.* Forms: 5 slottisch, 6 -ysshe, slouttish; 5 sluttissh, 6 sluttys(s)h(e, -ishe, 6– sluttish. [f. SLUT *sb.* + -ISH.]

1. Of persons: Dirty and untidy in dress and habits, esp. to an extent which is repulsive or disgusting. Now *spec.* of women.

(*a*) *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 83 Why is thy lord so sluttissh, I the preye, And is of power bettre clooth to beye? 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xxxi. 92 Then he shewed them..the nature of the Spanyardes, howe they are sluttysshe and lousy. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 513 A woman gaily attired,..before whom marched an euill fauoured sluttish vsher. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 26 They of the vulgar kind are both ignorant, sluttish and greedy. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 269 Their Rusticks are truly..Sluttish and Slothful.

(*b*) 1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. iv, If well attyred, thou thinks I will be gadding; If homely, I seeme sluttish in thine eye. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 107 Their women are most forlorne and sluttish. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 97 We observed the sluttish women, washing their clothes in a great tub with their feet. 1709 *Tatler* No. 75 ¶ 9 Jenny's only Imperfection is an Admiration of her Parts, which inclines her to be a little, but a very little, sluttish. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 15 ¶ 4 The..maid..is as lazy and sluttish as her mistress. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall* (1845) 276 Venting their direful wrath..upon the sluttish dairy-maid. 1850 KINGSLEY *A. Locke* i, The coarse men and sluttish women.

fig. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lv, Vnswept stone, besmeer'd with sluttish time. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 140 This gallant..espouses the sluttish mother church of Geneva.

† **b.** Of a low or lewd character. *Obs.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* III. iii, Stand to it, thou dastard,..Ise teche the, a sluttish toye! 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 62 Set them downe, For sluttish spoyles of opportunitie; And daughters of the game.

2. Of things: Unclean, dirty; grimy; untidy.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Tim.* 23 In sluttishe clothes, with a countrefaicte grauitie of countenaunce,..they conueye them selues in to other mens houses. 1553 *Respublica* III. vi. 853 Suche hongrye doggs will slabbe vp sluttishe puddinges. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* Introd. xxxiii. (1714) 9 The Man loves least at Home to be, That hath a sluttish House. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 280 Their wives..are attired in a sluttish gowne. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 311 Some boil the cream in a raw skin, so as it is commonly very sluttish, full of hairs and unsalted. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 798 This Foul and Gross Body of ours..remaining still Nasty, Sluttish and Ruinous within. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvii, Two or three miserable tubs with suds, or such like sluttish contents.

3. Appropriate to, characteristic of, a slut or sluts: † **a.** Low, despicable, immoral, lewd. *Obs.*

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* 22 Not to vse sluttish and Ruffianlike pranckes with anye man. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 123 Both God and man such sluttysh sutes detest, The lawfull love is ever counted best. 1694 CROWNE *Married Beau* IV. 44 Who play'd this sluttish trick with these gentlemen?

b. Partaking of, marked or characterized by, gross slovenliness or untidiness.

a 1601 *Pasquil & Kath.* (1878) I. 82 In hot pursuit Of cold abhorred sluttish niggardise. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* II. xiv. (1635) 245 The sluttish carelesnesse of the one, and the cleanly neatnesse of the other. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Aug., The fill, improvident, disquiett, and sluttish manner that my father and mother and Pall live in the country. 1728 PRIOR *Epitaph* 28 Sluttish plenty deck'd her table. 1727 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Clear-Starching*, Some stir the Starch about with a Candle,..but this is rejected as a sluttish way. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* II. 21 The same air of departed gentility and sluttish housekeeping. 1843 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 269 A drowsy life, of ease and sluttish abundance.

Sluttishly (slʌ·tiʃli), *adv.* Also 5 sluttisshly, -ysshly, 6 -ishely, -yshely. [f. prec.] In a sluttish manner; untidily, dirtily; carelessly.

c 1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* (1902) 129 Who so euer neclygently or sluttisshly entretyth ony thyng of the place, anone be they rebukyd & punysshid. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 14 Moch people in smal roume living unclenly and sluttishely. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 160 Mustie or sluttishely kept loues of bread. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* IV. (Arb.) 34 It is all sluttishly ouergrowne with Mosse on the out-side. 1661 K. W. *Charac. Conceited Coxcombs* (1860) 78 So that she is finely sluttish and sluttishly fine. ?*a* 1729 in Chappell *Pop. Mus.* II. 649 Whether decently clothed or sluttishly dress'd. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 254 Without leaving any [dust] sluttishly in corners.

Sluttishness (slʌ·tiʃnés). Also 5 slwttisnes, 6 scluttishnes. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The character or state of being sluttish; dirtiness; gross slovenliness or untidiness.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 345/2 Slwttisnes; *vbi* fowlnes. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* lxviii, That thou eschewe With sluttishness thyselfe for to offend. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Peter* 2 Which can neither be corrupted with death,..ne yet fade away by age or sluttishnes. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Fooles Cap* xxxviii, Shee that is giuen to Ease and Sluttishnesse, And trifles out the time in Trompery. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. xxx. 382 Christ compares an Hypocrite to a piece of sluttishness. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxxviii. (1804) 251 She neglects her person even to a degree of sluttishness. 1776 *Euphrosyne* I. 18 My study is, I must confess The sacred shrine of sluttishness.

fig. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 80 The scluttishnes, filthines, and foulnes of the soule. 1637 PRESTON *Mount Ebal* (1638) 42 Suffer not any sluttishnesse..to rest in your hearts. 1893 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 6/7 That sluttishness of financial prosperity which has been denied to art in all ages.

Slu·tty, *a.* Now *dial.* [f. SLUT *sb.* + -Y.] Dirty, foul; slovenly.

a 1400 in Horstman *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 303 If þou gafe a gret lorde drynke in a slutty coppe & foule. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Slutty, *cenulentus*. 1897 G. FORD *Larramys* 102 You'm a slutty, poor varmer,..sure 'nough.

Hence † **Slu·ttily** *adv.*; **Slu·ttiness.**

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Sluttyly,..*cenulente*. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 46 In summe men we lakkyn þe grete cost of aray, and with summe ar we wroth with her sluttynesse.

Sly (slәi), *a., adv.,* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 sleh, 4 sle3, slee3, 4–5 sle3e, slegh(e, 5 scle3, sclegh; 3–4 sleyh, 4 sleih; 3 slei3h, 3–4 slei3e, 4 sleei3, 5 scley3; 4 sleigh(e, sleygh(e. *β.* 3–5 sley, 4–5 sleye, 5 scley; 4, *Sc.* 5–6 sle, 5, *Sc.* 7–9 slee. *γ.* 4 slyh(e, sli3, 4–5 sli3e, sly3(e, 4–5 slygh, 4–6 slyghe, 4–7 sligh. *δ.* 4–5 sli, 5 sclie, 5–8 slie; 4–7 slye, 4– sly. [ME. *slēȝ*, ad. ON. *slœg-r* (Icel. *slægur*, Norw. *sløg*; MSw. *slögh*, older Da. *sløff*) clever, cunning, originally 'able to strike', f. *slóg-* pret. stem of *slá* to strike. The later development into northern *slee*, midland and southern *sligh, sly*, is normal. The corresponding abstract noun is SLEIGHT *sb.*[1]]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of persons: Skilful, clever, dexterous, or expert in doing something; possessing practical skill or ability; skilled, knowing, wise. (Also occas. of animals.) *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.*

α. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13498 Her wass wiss Filippe sleh & sæp & haȝherr hunnte. *c* 1275 *Five Joys Virgin* 32 in *O. E. Misc.* 88 Þer þe schulen engles grete, for þu ert boþe hende and sleyh. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 378 A carpenter..ich am, quoynte and sleiȝh. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7570 Als clerkes says, þat er wise and sleghe. *c* 1350 *Lybeaus Disc.* 351 As a noble knyght, As werrour queynte and sclegh. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Be sle3e and powre in water þenne.

β. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 1084 Hwere mithe i finden ani so hey So Hauelok is, or so sley? 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 335 He gert get vrichtis that ves sle. 14.. in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. IX. 228 Apone the nose..Schall thowe lete blode, if thowe be sle. 1807 STAGG *Misc. Poems* (1808) 93 When Seymie..was as slee as onny Danniel. *c* 1859 T. MOORE *Song Sol.* VII. 1 A slee warkman.

γ. 13.. *Sir Beues* 579 Þe king him louede also is broþer, And þe maide, þat was so sli3. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 10 He is makir of my kynde, as a sli3 werkman. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 2 God..hath hid many thingis fro wise men and sli3e whiche he vouchesaf afterward for to shewe to symple men. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5333 Generides was hardie and sligh, And saw hem flee, and drogh him nigh.

δ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8695 Þe king, þat was sa sli a clerc. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (1849) 78 So slye and crafty they shull byn alle, That they shull do all thyng that in here hert doth falle. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. liii. 812 Amptes ben full lytyll and ben neuerthelesse more slye [*Bodl. MS.* sli3e] and besy than many grete beestys. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* X. xli. 187 You..(whom grauer age And long experience hath made wise and slie). 1865 *Danby Gloss.* s.v., He war a desput sly chap wha fost thow't o' thae sun-pict's.

† **b.** Const. *in* or *of* (also *at, on*) something. *Obs.*

(*a*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 27280 In spiring loke þe preist be sli, Noght ouerbald bot als on drei. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2662 Parfor þou man in þi werk be slyghe. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 690 Þe gentill Grauntere In Batayle þat was so sleghe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V. v. 76 Of Creit.. born was sche, And in the craft of Mynerve wondir sle.

(*b*) *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7251 For he was sle on [*Gött.* sly of] harpingleu. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 938 He send for masonis..That sleast wes of that misteir. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXIII. 163 This sleuthe was sleyh of werre and a slynge made. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 375 Off that labour as than he was nocht sle. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* l. 30 Gy of Gysburne, na Allan Bell,..At schot war nevir so slie.

† **c.** With infinitive. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27290 þat þe preist be slei To gar þe man him-seluen wrei. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 11112 He.. asked hem..'Whether thei were alle so sly To saue Ector with-oute poudre'. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 300 in *Babees Bk.*, With woso men..The falle to go, loke þou be slegh To aske his nome. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VI. xv. 2 The peple..Bene ..moir sle To forge and carve lyflyk staturis of bras.

† **2.** Marked or characterized by skill or dexterity; showing skilfulness or ingenuity; cleverly or finely made. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7187 Louerd he sede þat ech þing madest quointe & sley. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2258 Atte laste he wolde fleye, Feþer-hames he made hym sleye. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (Bodl. MS.), Here [i. e. ants, bees, etc.] workes beþ slie and sotel. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* V. 154 Wher the swarmes dwelle, is craft tespie...Se heer the craft, and truly hit is sligh. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 883 Thai hynt of his harnese, to helyn his wound; Lechis war noght to lait, with sawis sa sle. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. Prol. 108 Reid oftair than anis, Weill at ane blenk slee poetry nocht tane ys. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 46 Lids deuiz'd of substance sly, That readily they shut and open might. 1721 RAMSAY *Elegy on Patie Birnie* i, In sonnet slee the man I sing.

3. Of persons: Adept or skilful in artifice or craft; using cunning or insidious means or methods; deceitful, guileful, wily, underhand.

α, β. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 12 Þu hauest grimliche ibrobt mi broðer to grunde, þen slehest deouel of helle. *c* 1275 LAY. 14366 Þe worse was þare wel neh, þat to soche game his wel sleh. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 731 (Fairf.), þat wyly deuel was ful sley. *a* 1450 MYRC 1401 Wayte þat þow be slegh & fel. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* V. 740 He was full sle, and ek had mony cast. 1535 W. STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 281 Ane subtill man and of ingyne richt hie, In all his tyme he wes baith fals and slie. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-Table Misc.* (1733) I. 85 Little did her auld minny ken What thir slee twa togither were say'n. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Slee*, sly, cunning.

γ, δ. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 24 He hadde a Somonour

redy to his hond, A slyer boye was noon in Engelond. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 235 Thei ben slyhe in such a wise That thei be sleihte..Of Fals witnesse bringen inne [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 381 þus Danes weren fulle fals and slyȝe. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 230 The traytours wene they bene so sly, That no mane can hem aspy. 1530 PALSGR. 324/1 Slye, crafty, subtyll, *cautelleux*. *Ibid.*, Slye, wylye, *fyn*. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Ep. Ded. *ij b, The subtle assaultes of so slye and cruell enemyes. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 16 A master having a slie servant, oft drunken and carelesse. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i, Some slie Court-Devil has seduc'd your Mind. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i, He was, indeed, a little inquisitive; but I was sly, sir; devilish sly! 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Feb. 162/2 He is slyer, less easy to fix with the responsibility of his actions. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* I. ii. 131 Smoothest and sliest of diplomatists.

b. Of animals, etc. *To run sly* (see quot. 1845).

1640 Sir W. MURE *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 6 This slie fox, hunted from hole to hole. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 613 So talk'd the spirited sly Snake. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 119 Whatever might be his fidelity to the duke, he [a wolf] was very sly and malicious to others. 1776– [see SLY-GOOSE]. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 29 A sly old fish, too cunning for the hook. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* ii. 38 The Scotch greyhound.., instead of depending on his speed alone,..has recourse to occasional artifices in order to intercept the hare, in sporting language, he runs sly.

c. Of looks: Expressive of slyness.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Varney has a sly countenance, and a smooth tongue. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xiv, The grim sly faces in the squares and diamonds of the floor-cloth..peeped out at him with less wicked eyes.

4. Of actions, things, etc.: Marked or characterized by, displaying or indicating, artifice, craft or cunning; of an insidious or wily nature.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 321 Freris bildyng..is comuneliche makid bi slyh robbyngis of þe fend. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 395 A colfox, ful of sly Iniquitee. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 808 Wherfore I thenke a slyere weye to renne, That hir purpos shal not thus encrees. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 153 By this pratye cautele and slyghe imposture, was the towne..taken. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXV. iii, Let their sly witts unwares destruction gett. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 98 Still disappointing all the slie designes of the Popes. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 115 Satan with slye preface to return Had left him. *a* 1755 WATTS (J.), Envy..works in a sly and imperceptible manner. 1782 COWPER *Conversation* 744 A mere mask of sly grimace. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley* I. iv. 78 The buyers and sellers will make any kind of sly and circuitous bargain. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 69 The Celt found many opportunities of taking a sly revenge.

† **b.** Of words, etc.: Full of duplicity or wile; subtle; disingenuous. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 371 Wily and sly silogismes. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 27998 (Cotton Galba), If þou euer ..wowid hir with wordes sleghe. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 150 Thruȝ slye woordys & fayre to make a man wene þat he hath vertu..whan he hath non. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* 150 Tak gude keip To thame that cumis to the..With subtell Sermonis slie. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. v. 88 A sly equivocation, turning the question from the *potentia operata* to the *potentia operans*. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. v, He knows not what sly conclusions may be drawn from his premises.

5. Marked or characterized by secrecy or stealth; working, moving, etc., in a stealthy or underhand manner. Also of places: Quiet, secret.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 472/1 Stalkynge, or soft and sly goynge, *serptura*. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 150 The slye slow houres shall not determinate The datelesse limit of thy deere exile. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 699 Slie poyson takes the marrow, and eating fire Burning the bowels warm till all consumed. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. iii, That severe assise of survaying and controuling the privatest and sliest manners of all men. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Poet. Professors* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 35 At some sly corner in the Strand. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* vi, I therefore approached my chair by sly degrees to the fire. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VII. 184 With..the sly watchword whisper'd from the tongue. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Thou canst give a friend a sly place at a mask or a revel now. 1895 A. FORBES *Mem. War & Peace* 102 One of a 'sly patrol' which I was accompanying one July morning.

b. *slang.* Illicit, illegal; esp. *Austr.* in *sly grog (seller*, etc.).

1844 *Port Phillip Patriot* 11 July 2/5 An information.. against a party for sly grog selling. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 294/2 A sly trade's always the best for paying, and for selling too. 1858 MCCOMBIE *Hist. Victoria* x. 127 Convicts, who erected huts, and became 'sly grog' sellers. 1875 *Melbourne Spectator* 21 Aug. 190/1 Several vendors of sly-grog were fined.

6. Playfully mischievous or malicious; roguish; waggish.

1764 GRAY *Y. T.* 1 When sly Jemmy Twitcher had smugg'd up his face. 1785 BURNS *1st Ep. to Y. Lapraik* xiv, A spunk o' Allan's glee, Or Ferguson's, the bauld an' slee. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 156 Looking, with a sly wink, at Emma. 1805 N. NICHOLLS *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 45 The sly, delicate, and exquisitely elegant pleasantry of La Fontaine. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Daughter* 133 And so it was—half-sly, half-shy, You would, and would not, little one.

7. In special collocations, as **sly bread, -bream, -cake, silurus** (see quots.); also † **sly-cap**, a sly or cunning person.

1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* IV. i, Ah, villain! Ah, sly-cap! have I caught you? 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 403 The Sly Silurus, *Silurus glanis*. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 181 The sly-bream (*Sparus insidiator* of Pallas). 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss., Sly-cakes*, tea-cakes plain and uninviting on the outside, but when eaten are found full of currants and richness within. They are also called Cheats. *a* 1887 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* s.v., Sly Bread, or Bread Fritters (an economical..sweet dish).

8. *Comb.*, as *sly-tongued.*

c 1730 RAMSAY *Fables, Fox & Rat* 30 Dragon, lord chief treasurer, must pay To sly-tongu'd Fleechy.

† **B.** *adv.* In a sly, skilful, or cunning manner; slyly. Also *Comb.*, as *sly-couched. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8420 Þow do him for to foster slei, To be lered him-self to lede. 1370-80 *Visions St. Paul* 125 in *O. E. Misc.* 226 þe Aungel seide to him ful sleih, 'þei vsuden Ocur and vsuri'. *a* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7449 For semblant was so slye wrought, That falsnesse he ne espyed nought. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. XXXV, Satan began first hesitations, and his sly-couch'd Oratory. *a* 1802 *Katharine Jaffray* vii. in Child *Ball.* IV. 220/2 Up then spak Lord Faughanwood, An he spak very slee.

C. *absol.* or as *sb.* **1.** *pl.* Skilful or crafty persons. † Also *sing.*, one who is skilled or cunning.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7405 A monek he sende him in message, & dude as þe sley. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 271 And euer he dede as þe sleiȝe. *Ibid.* 379 O lond þai sett þat sleiȝe. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 94 Þou spekis nogt as þe sleye. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 382 On the fyllat full sternly straik that sle.

2. *On* (*upon, under*, or *by*) *the sly*, in a secret, clandestine, or covert manner; without publicity or openness; secretly, covertly, stealthily.

(*a*) 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., Any business transacted, or intimation given, privately, or under the rose, is said to be done *upon the sly*. 1866 READE *G. Gaunt* (ed. 2) III. 102 A certain farmer's man, who wired hares upon the sly.

(*b*) 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 330 We should find them ever on the 'sly', as it is called. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 387/1 They sold it..to ladies that liked a drop on the sly. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. xc. 234 Prominent politicians came to seek favours from him on the sly.

(*c*) 1840 LONGF. *Span. Student* III. v, As soon as you see the planets are out, in with you, and be busy with the ten commandments, under the sly.

(*d*) 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* vii, Mrs. Poyser..continually gazed at Hetty's charms by the sly. 1861 *Rom. Dull Life* xxx. 218 It seems to me disgraceful to do things by the sly, that you dare not have known.

Sly (slәi), *v.* *Sc.* and *U.S.* [f. SLY *a.*] *intr.* To move, go, etc., in a sly or stealthy manner; to slip unobserved; to slink.

For other Scottish dial. senses, see *Jamieson's Dict.* s.v. *Slee* and *Sly*.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, To *Sly*, to go or approach silently and slily. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xi. (1871) 64 She would creep from her room and sly into the street. 1888 *The Advance* (Chicago) 6 Dec., Nobody noticed Caddie slying along to the desk where the teacher had laid the switch.

† **Sly**, var. of *sli* SLIKE *a.*, such. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 12052 (Fairf.), Quy dos þou, sone, on sly manere.

Sly, obs. form of SLAY *v.*

† **Sly-band**, variant of SLEE-BAND *Obs.*

1762 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* I. 256 This [Rotherham] plough, of which AB is the beam,..NP the bridle, S the sly-band.

Sly-boot(s. Also **slyboot(s.** *colloq.* [f. SLY *a.* + BOOTS[1] 3.] A sly, cunning, or crafty person; one who does things on the sly. Freq. in mild or jocular use, and usually in plural form.

pl. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sly-boots*, a seeming Silly, but subtil Fellow. 1701 CIBBER *Love Makes a Man* II. i, Look, look,—look, o' Sly-boots; what, she knows nothing of the Matter! 1774 GOLDSM. *Retaliation* 28 That sly-boots was cursedly cunning to hide 'em. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. ii, Had there been any body to watch the venerable sly-boots. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 49 But, Ithel, you are a slyboots too; pretending to read for the law!

transf. 1838 EMERSON *Address Literary Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 212 Truth is such a flyaway, such a slyboots. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. xxi, 'Oh, but the sun is an old sly-boots', she answered.

sing. ? 1730 SWIFT *Dan Jackson's Reply* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 256, I much suspect you mean the latter, Ah sly-boot! 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 97 Yes you do,..you young slyboot, only you won't understand.

Sly-goose. *Orkney.* Also **slygoose.** [f. SLY *a.* + GOOSE *sb.*] The sheldrake, *Tadorna cornuta* or *T. vulpanser*.

1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 2) II. 500 From this instinctive cunning..the natives of the Orknies to this day call them [sheldrakes] the *sly goose*. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl., Orkney* VII. 546 The dunter or eider duck, the sly goose, the awk. 1822 HIBBERT *Desc. Shetl. Isl.* 408 The shieldrake, or slygoose, builds in these rabbit burrows.

Sly-grog: see SLY *a.* 5 b.

Slyish (slәi·iʃ), *a.* [f. SLY *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat or rather sly; roguish.

1828 *Mirror* X. 348/2 This chap was a slyish young dog. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* 31 A..smooth-faced man of fifty, with something of a slyish cast perhaps.

Slyly, slily (slәi·li), *adv.* Forms: *α.* 3 slah-, 4 slehliche, sleȝlych; 4–5 sleȝ-(4 sleeȝ-, 5 sleȝe-), 5 sleghly, -li; 4 sleiȝli, 5 -ly; 5–6 sleighely. *β.* 4–5 sely (5 scle-), 6 slelie; 4 sleyli, -ly; sleili, 5 -ly, 6 -lye, *Sc.* slealie, -lye, 5–6, *Sc.* 8– sleely. *γ.* 4 slyh-, slihly, 4–5 sliȝli (4–5 -lich), 5 slyȝly, 6 slygh(e)-, slighly. *δ.* 4 slilich, 4–slily (6 slilye, 7 sliely). *ε.* 4 slylich, 4– slyly (5 slyely). [f. SLY *a.* + -LY[2]. Cf. ON. *slœgliga*, MSw. *slögeliga*.]

1. † **a.** Cleverly, skilfully, dexterously; wisely. *Obs.* **b.** Cunningly, artfully; covertly, secretly, stealthily, quietly.

α. c 1205 LAY. 8586 He ferde ut of Doure..in to ane muchele slæde & slahliche his folc hudde. ? *c* 1370 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 83 He ful soft and sleighely gan hire seye, 'Now hold youre day'. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3509 þan þay be-speken how he myȝt Sleȝlych a-scape out of þe syȝt. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 107 For to slee hym slehliche sleihthes ich by-þenke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12690 [Pai] letyn sailes doune slide sleghli & faire. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 4 Answere he sleiȝly to thingis y-asked, that he be not y-take in his wordes.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9404 In paradis he did him rest, And sleili slepe apon him kest. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 538 On the ferrer syd Toward thame slely can he ryd. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 913 The lady rauȝte A fair ymage and him by-tauȝte, And bad him sicely with him bere. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxi. 390 (Addit. MS.), Was neuer soule so slely wonne and sauyd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. vi. 77 Slelie with ane knyfe, Or he was war, [he] reft Sicheus the lyfe. 1584 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 909 Maister Jhone Dowglass weill can tell, How slealie he deceavit him sell. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* IV. 5 [She] sleely, when he did appear, About his success 'gan to speer.

γ. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* (ROXB.) 29 He slod sliȝli a doun a slepe ful harde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 130 So slihly cam it noght aboute That thei ne ben discoevered oute. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4507 Lo, how þe serpent of discord can glyde Ful slyȝly in. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 194 The feend hath deceyued sliȝli and wijlily men..whiche han worschipid ymagis. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. lxiv. 108/2 How pryuely and how slyghely they may begyle her euen crysten. 1580 SIR H. COBHAM in *Cal. State Papers, For., Eliz.* 143 [There are ways and means used] slieghly.

δ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11231 (Gött.), Bot slilliker he come and ȝede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 41 Me may nouȝt seile by þis swolwe but slily at þe ful see. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 266 Dauid þe douhty þat deuynede how vrye Mighte slilokeste be slayn. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 3 Heere in these Confines slily haue I lurkt. 1676 HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 58 Yet doth this sin slily insinuate it self into the heart of the forwardest Professors. 1728 MORGAN *Hist. Algiers* II. iv. 273 The Letter dropped under the Bank on which he sate rowing,..but a Spanish Renegado..took it up slily. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 78 They slily crouded behind the door,..ready to issue, in an instant. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* vii. 111 But would they not be slily kept for money? 1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 205 The Chorus, secretly reassured and slily hopeful.

transf. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. ii. 17 Beneath that shade Two Rivers slily steal. 1686 J. MOYLE *Abstract Sea Chyrurg.* x. 113 A Catarrh is a Rhume that has taken a habit of trickling slily down the *Aspera arteria*.

ε. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2045 *Ariadne*, So slyly & so wel I shal me gye. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 91 þey feyneþ for to flee..þat þey mowe þe slyloker here enemyes wynne and slee. *a* 1450 MYRC 554 Thenne moste þou slyly Aske of hem [etc.]. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. (1883) 168 Hit is necessarye that he goo temperatly and slyly. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 190 Death dayly stealeth slyly on thee. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 3 While we pursu'd the Horsmen of yᵉ North, He slyly stole away. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 185 Which he slyly passeth by, and maketh not a word of. 1738 J. FISHER *Value of Divine Truth* (1803) 10 These set themselves in opposition to all Confessions, whether more openly or more slyly. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xiii. 297 So we can slyly our amusements take. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 87 A boy is slyly appropriating the money which the apostle has thrown down. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 32 Fate follows faster And snares us slyly from behind.

2. In a playfully mischievous or malicious manner; with a touch of malice or ridicule; roguishly, waggishly.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXI, The clerk winked slily at Mr. Pickwick. 1873 M. COLLINS *Sq. Silchester's Whim* I. iii. 42 'It might tempt some people', said Mrs. Silchester slyly.

† **3.** Used for SLIGHTLY *adv.* 4. (Perh. an error.)

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 103 Why the Lauin regions, and stock, he so slilye reputeth? *Ibid.* 104 You buyld a cittye, youre owne state slilye regarding.

Slyne, variant of SLINE *sb.*

Slyness (slәi·nės). Also 4 slegh-, 5 sleey-, 8–9 *Sc.* slee-, 7 sliness(e. [f. SLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being sly († or wise).

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* 424 The fift vertu..[is] slegh[t]e or sleghness [L. *prudencia*]. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XIX. 22 Ther is certeyn sleeynesse, and it is wicke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 459 Slynesse, *idem quod* sleythe. 1530 PALSGR. 271 Slynesse, *finesse*. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1130 Most good men detesting the lightnes of the one, the ambition of the other, and the slinesse of the third. *c* 1718 SWIFT *Sheridan's Submission* iv, Then, with wonted wile and slyness, They left me in the lurch. 1791 A. WILSON *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 23 In Allan's verse sage sleeness we admire. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* I. iv. 86 The eye turned round to look at you without turning the head indicates generally slyness or suspicion. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Sept. 5/3 There is a certain slyness and caution about him.

b. A sly or covert allusion. *rare.*

1823 MOORE *Fables* ii. 106 And satires at the Court they levelled, And small lampoons, so full of slynesses.

† **Slyp.** *Obs.*[–1] (Meaning uncertain.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1264 He..brestes vp þe ȝates, [they] Slouen alle at a slyp þat serued þer-inne.

Slype (slәip). *Arch.* [Perhaps a special sense of SLIPE *sb.*[2], but cf. WFlem. *slipe, slijpe* a secret path.] A covered way or passage, esp. one leading from the transept of a cathedral or monastic church to the chapter-house.

1861 G. G. SCOTT *Westm. Abbey* 37 It occupies a space which is very frequent in abbeys, intervening between the transept and the entrance to the chapter-house, and often called by the expressive name of 'the slype'. 1865 *Ecclesiologist* XXV. 207 The Slype was the passage which led to the cemetery lying usually between the transept and chapter house. 1884 *19th Cent.* Jan. 104 Where the transept

ended there usually came a narrow passage called a slype. 1888 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 6/5 The stones form part of the vaulting of the slype or corridor leading to the old burial ground of the monks.
attrib. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/1 Examples of twelfth-century work..may be seen on the slype door of the south transept of St. Alban's Abbey.

Slyper: see SWORD-SLIPER.

† Slyre. *Sc. Obs.* [ad. LG. *sleier, slijer*, G. *schleier* fine linen, veil.] A fine kind of linen or lawn. Also *slyre-lawn*.
1621 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 626/1 That no persoun..weare vpoun þair bodies tifneis, Cobwebe, Lanes, or Slyires. 1661 *Ibid., Chas II* (1820) VII. 254 Slyreland [=-lawn] ilk hundreth ells, three ounces.

† Sly·ship. *Obs.*—[1] In 4 **sleihschupe, -schipe.** [f. SLY *a.* + -SHIP.] Skill, cleverness.
c 1320 *Cast. Love* 801 Foure vertues cardinals þer beoþ: Þat is, strengþe and sleihschupe [*v.r.* sleihschipe], Rihtfulnesse and worschupe.

Slyte, obs. form of SLEET *sb.*[1]; var. of SLITE *v.*

Slyther(nesse, obs. forms of SLITHER(NESS.

Smack (smæk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 smæc, 3–4 smac (*Orm.* smacc), 4–6 smak (6 smake), 5–6 smakke, 4–7 smacke, 6– smack. [OE. *smæc*, = OFris. *smek*, MDu. *smac*, MLG. *smak* (LG. *smakk, schmakk*; also Sw. *smak*, Da. *smag*), OHG. and MHG. *smac, smach* (G. dial. *schmack*; cf. G. *geschmack*). Slightly different in formation are OFris. *smaka* (WFris. *smaek*), MDu. *smake* (Kilian *smaeck*; Du. *smaak*), MLG. *smake* (LG. *smâk, schmaak*). See also SMATCH *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. A taste or flavour; the distinctive or peculiar taste of something, or a special flavour distinguishable from this.
a 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker 225 *Dulcis sapor, i. dulcis odor*, swete smæc. *c* 1050 *Ibid.* 455 *Nectar*,..þone swetan smæc. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1653 Forr witt and skill iss wel inoh þurrh salltess smacc bitacnedd. *Ibid.* 14294 Swa summ þe33 waterr wærenn, Off wikke smacc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 112 Þet is kynges mete huerinne byeþ ech manyere lykinges and alle guode smackes. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* ii. 608 in *Anglia* XVIII. 322 Of hennebane arn spycys iij..Alle wyll sauour an hidhows smak. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S. T. S.) III. 152 It wilbe þe softar and sweittar of þe smak. *a* 1536 *Proverbs* in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 128 Thowgh peper be blak, it hath a good smak. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxv. 263 The leaues..are of a very strong and pleasant sauour, and good smacke or taste. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xxviii. 118 Those vessels will long retaine and yeeld the smack of that liquor which was in them first steeped. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 29 Every plant has a smack of the Root. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 1 Midling Ale..that hath no burnt, musty, or otherwise ill smack. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Wks. 1763 I. 24 And Boniface, disgrac'd, betrays the smack..of Falstaff's sack. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 21 It possesses a dull, acidulous, offensive smack, and an empyreumatic smell. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 245 And now, for perfume, pour Distilment rare,..Till beverage obtained the fancied smack.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.
1340 *Ayenb.* 177 Efterward me ssel lete þane smak of zenne. 1593 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 451 Experience bids me..champe the bridle of a bitter smacke. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, He's constant to a handsome family; he knows when they have a good smack with them. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xli, There are works of all tastes and smacks.

† c. Pleasant or agreeable taste or relish. *Obs.*
1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 132 Least Doue and the cadow, there finding a smack, with ill stormie weather doo perish thy stack. 1600 TOURNEUR *Trans. Metam.* xxix. 202 If this sweet sinne still feedes him with her smacke.

† 2. Scent, odour, smell. *Obs.*
a 1000 [see sense 1]. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 823 Þenne is þes hundes smel fordo; he not þurh þe meynde smak hweþer he schal vorþ þe abak. 1549 E. ALLEN *Par. Rev.* 19 A cat of y^e^ mountayne..., whiche with her smacke and savour, draweth many beastes unto her.

3. *transf.* A trace, tinge, or suggestion *of* something specified.
Common *c* 1570–1680, and in mod. use.
1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 173 To powre in som smak of the pure lernyng of Cristes doctrine amonges them. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 138 b, Whatsoeuer commeth of an olde stocke, hath lightly a smack of his olde parentes imperfection. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi, Good faith, the boy begins to haue an elegant smack of my stile. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. viii. (1840) 191 The others were suspected to have a smack of the imperial faction. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 233/1 The Orcadians..use the Gothish Language, which they derive from the Norwegians,..of whose qualities they still have a smack.
1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Reform.* II. 75 Graceful poems—not the less attractive for a slight smack of the workshop. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxix. 280 A smack of real earnestness in his tone.

† b. A slight or superficial knowledge; a smattering. Chiefly in phr. *to have a smack of, at*, or *in* something. *Obs.*
(*a*) 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 9 If it be one that hath a lytell smacke of learnynge. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 144 Bycause they haue some petie smake of their booke. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. 229 Hauing gott a smacke of the grownds of our lawe. 1685–90 J. COOD *Wonderful Provid.* (1849) 104 A very young man..who had got a smack of the Latin tongue. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* (1820) I. 66, I learned a smack of boxing of that Englishman.
(*b*) 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 151 Whereby he may..haue in al sciences a smacke, whereby he may readily dispute of any thing. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. i, He hath also a smacke in poetry. 1679 M. MASON *Tickler Tickled* 2 For Padge hath a Smack at Latin, but let them English it that will.

c. A mere tasting, a small quantity, *of* liquor; a mouthful. Also *fig.*
1693 DRYDEN *Persius* iv. 69 He 'says the wimble, often draws it back, And deals to thirsty servants but a smack. 1759 GARRICK *High Life below Stairs* II, He has had a smack of every sort of wine. 1766 ANSTEY *New Bath Guide* (ed. 2) 135 May I venture to give Her a Smack of my Muse? 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* I. 18 A relish of the Marquis's well-known kitchen, and a smack of his superior Champagne and Burgundy. 1865 J. HATTON *Bitter Sweets* iii, We'll just have one smack of the liquor before you're off to Helswick.

d. A touch or suggestion *of* something having a characteristic odour or taste.
1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, There was a smack of stabling in the air of Princess's Place. 1886 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 34 A rough smack of resin was in the air. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 320 A gentle breeze, sweet with the smack of the country.

II. † 4. a. The sense or faculty of taste. *Obs.*
So OFris. *smek*, G. (*ge*)*schmack*, etc.
a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Ȝesihthe, Ȝeherhþe, smac, and smell, and tactþe.

† b. *fig.* Delight or enjoyment; inclination, relish. Chiefly in phrases. *Obs.*
1340 *Ayenb.* 33 He..to-ualþ ine þa slacnesse þet he ne heþ smak, ne deuocion, wel to done. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 254 So quyckelye they haue taken a smacke in couetesenes. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 426 Philautus had taken such a smacke in the good entertainment. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. i, I haue no appetite at all to liue in the countrie.., now, as they say, I haue got a smacke on the Cittie. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* III. xi. I. 231 She hath a very great Smack of Courtship, and plays with every one.

Smack (smæk), *sb.*[2] Also 6 **smacke.** [Related to SMACK *v.*[2] Cf. MDu. *smack* (Kilian *smacke*; Du. and Fris. *smak*), LG. *smacke*, G. dial. *schmacke*; also Da. *smæk*, Sw. *smäck*.]

1. A sharp noise or sound made by separating the lips quickly, esp. in kissing, and in tasting or anticipating food or liquor.
1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 5 Y^e^ smacke of a kisse, *suauium*. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* III. ii. 180 Hee..kist her lips with such a clamorous smacke, that at the parting all the Church did eccho. 1679 DRYDEN *Limberham* I. i, She has a notable Smack with her! I believe Zeal first taught the Art of Kissing close. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 508 ¶ 3 Tasting the Wine with a judicious Smack. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 142 The Dogs may lick it with a sav'ry Smack. 1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Character* (1851) 10 She ..gave me such a salute, a team two fields away went gallop off at the smack. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 116 With smack of lip, and long-drawn sigh through teeth Close clenched o'er satisfaction.

b. A loud or sounding kiss.
1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 24 The slave..bussed the bawd for joy: when presently I left them in the midst of their wicked smack. 1651 J. CLEVELAND *Poems* 2 Love prints her Signets in her smacks, Those Ruddy drops of squeezing wax. 1729 GAY *Polly* II. ix, Come, noble captain, take one hearty smack upon her lips, and then steer off. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 97 Giving the females first a warm smack round. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, 'Whisht! whisht! gudewife,' said her husband, with a smack that had much more affection than ceremony in it.
transf. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. viii. ¶ 3 Bestowing such hearty smacks upon the bottle, as to empty it very shortly.

2. The crack *of* a whip, lash, etc.
1781 COWPER *Expost.* 519 Thy soldiery..Were train'd beneath his lash, and knew the smack. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* II. 10 Five or six smacks of a whip roused their attention. 1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 36 Old coachmen..like a smack of the whip. 1901 *Daily Express* 28 Feb. 6/7 At the first swishing smack of the lash.

3. A sounding blow delivered with the flat of the hand or something having a flat surface; a slap.
Also fig. *a smack in the face*, a sharp rebuff.
c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 58 Th' bigger rascot should ha' th' bigger smacks on moor on um. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to falling Minis.* Wks. 1812 II. 127 Just now and then a gentle smack To inform his Royal Colt what Being rode him. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 128 A naughty or saucy boy, at school, often gets a smack on the face. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii, He jumped up..and hit me a smack upon the shoulder.

b. A vigorous or powerful hit with a cricket-bat.
1875 *Lillywhite's Cricketers' Ann.* 26 Two tremendous 'smacks' over the chains sent the crowd into raptures.

c. *colloq.* A slap or go *at* something.
1889 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Dec. 2/2, I am longing to have a smack at these Matabeles.

† 4. (See quot.) *Obs.*—[1]
1798 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 169 The ball on Thursday was a very small one indeed, hardly so large as an Oxford Smack.

Smack (smæk), *sb.*[3] *Naut.* Also 7 **smacke.** [prob. a. Du. *smak*, earlier *smacke* (Kilian), = LG. *smakke, smak* (Da. *smakke*, Sw. *smacke*), G. *schmack*(*e*. The source, and the relation to F. *semaque*, Sp. *esmaque*, Pg. *sumaca*, are uncertain.]
1. A single-masted sailing-vessel, fore-and-aft rigged like a sloop or cutter, and usually of light burden, chiefly employed as a coaster or for fishing, and formerly as a tender to a ship of war.
1611 [see 2]. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 12) 245 The Gravesend Smack. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2468/4 Yesterday came in here a Ketch and a small Smack from the Fleet. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 350 Plenty of large Soals, taken in Troul-Nets, the Smacks being under Sail trailing them along. 1740 WOODROOFE in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvii. 74 They had..on the stocks..five smacks of one hundred and eighty tons. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 150 Smacks are necessary Transporting Vessels, with one Mast and half Spreet-sail. 1801 NELSON 4 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 440 Pray send one of the Smacks to Hosely Bay with my letter to Sir Edward Berry. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 169 A small smack of about fifteen tons burden. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxix, Not dangerously for ourselves, but for the anchored schooners and smacks.

b. *U.S.* A fishing-vessel having a well in which fish may be kept alive.
a 1891 *Fisherman's Memorial Bk.* 70 (Cent.), Many of them were made into smacks, so-called, which was done by building a water-tight compartment amidships, and boring holes in the bottom to admit salt-water, and thus the fish were kept alive.

2. *attrib.*, as *smack commander, -master, -owner*; *smack-load*; *smack-sail, vessel*, etc.; **smack-boat** *U.S.*, = sense 1 b (*Cent. Dict.*).
1611 COTGR., *Catepleure*,..a smacke, or mizzen sayle. 1683 HEDGES *Diary* 25 Aug. I. 105, 2 Sloops of about 25 Ton apiece, with Smack Sailes. 1688 SIR C. SHOVEL in *Naval Chron.* VI. 32, I may have..some other smack vessell. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 67 A Smack Commander. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 149 Shoulder of Mutton, Square, Lugg, and Smack Sails. 1871 *Daily News* 22 Sept, The principal ship-owners and smack-owners of the port of Ipswich. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Feb. 4/7 Three Yarmouth smackmasters charged with piracy on the high seas. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 94 In the year 1831.. a smack-load of Scuppaugs arrived in Boston.

Smack (smæk), *v.*[1] Also 4, 6–7 **smacke,** 4–5 **smakke.** [f. SMACK *sb.*[1] Cf. MHG. *smacken* (G. *schmacken*), NFris. *smak*, Icel. *smakka* (from G.). For variant forms see SMAKE *v.* and SMATCH *v.*]

1. *trans.* Of persons: To perceive by the sense of taste. † Also *fig.*, to experience; to suspect.
1340 *Ayenb.* 93 Huo þet hedde wel ytasted and ysmacked þe ilke zuetnesse þet god yefþ to his urendes. *Ibid.* 106 Huanne þe man onderuangþ þise yefþe he..smackeþ and ueleþ þe zuetnesse of god. *a* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* I. 48 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 414/1 We..Must sey that white is blacke, Or elles they sey we smacke, And smell we wote not what. 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* I. Wks. (Grosart) X. 17 If he smack the setter, and smels a rat by his clawing,.. then away goes the setter. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Smaecken ende Proeven*, to Tast, or to Smack a proofe of wine, &c. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 175 He soon smacked the taste of physic hidden in this sweetness.

2. *intr.* Of food, liquor, etc.: To taste (well or ill); to have a (specified) taste or flavour; to taste or savour *of* something.
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (Bodl. MS.), Som bitter þinges..þat smakkeþ [1495 smackyth] of aloye. 1530 PALSGR. 722/1 This veneson smacketh to moche of the pepper. 1573 BARRET *Alv.* s.v., [It] Smacketh like pepper. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Smaeckelick*, that Smacks, Savours, or Tasts well. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 271 Your fingers smack of vinegar! 1846 *Edin. Rev.* LXXXIV. 175 The best Xeres that ever smacked of the skin. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 73 Tea..had been left a whole night in contact with its leaves, and smacked strongly of tannin.
fig. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 18 Indeede my Father did something smack, something grow too; he had a kinde of taste. [1813 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. ii. 64 Our little friend..is, notwithstanding his many excellent qualities, a little on the score of old Gobbo—doth somewhat smack—somewhat grow to.]

b. *fig.* To partake or savour *of*, to be strongly suggestive or reminiscent *of*, something.
Very common in the 19th cent.
1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 208 He is but a bastard to the time That doth not smacke of observation, And so am I whether I smacke or no. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 5 All Sects, all Ages smack of this vice. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* v. 60 An argument smacking more of the Beast than rational Creature. 1748 THOMSON *Castle Indol.* I. vi. 53 Whate'er smacked of 'noyance, or unrest, Was far far off expelled. 1778 HAN. MORE *Florio* I. 177 A mass of knowledge, Which smacks of toil, and smells of college. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 147 On the other hand, however, this scheme smacks of centralization. 1892 G. S. LAYARD *C. Keene* iii. 65 It was part of his nature to love everything that smacked of antiquity.

c. With adjectival complement.
1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* VI. v, He always calls her a moon or a star; that smacks nocturnal and somewhat sombre.

† 3. To have a trial *at* something. *Obs.*
a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* v. 69 He smacks at everie Science; and præscribes Rules as he had Quarter'd 'em, into Tribes.

Smack (smæk), *v.*[2] Also 6–7 **smacke.** [Corresponds to MDu. and MLG. *smacken* (Du. and LG. *smakken*, Fris. *smakke*), G. dial. *schmacken*, prob. of imitative origin.]
1. *trans.* To open or separate (the lips) in such a way as to produce a sharp sound; to do this in connexion with eating or drinking, esp. as a sign of keen relish or anticipation.
1557 SEAGER *Sch. Vertue* in *Babees Bk.* 344 Not smackynge thy lyppes As comonly do hogges. 1736 AINSWORTH I, To smack one's lips, *labiis strepitum edere*. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* VI. i, As he smacked his lips after dashing off his glass. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, Tom.. smacked his lips over the long-necked glass. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* viii. 214 The Australians smacked and clacked their mouths at the sight of his horses.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* Also with *at*.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schisme* 744 The King..Dreams of the dainties he hath had yer-while, Smacks, swallows, grindes both with his teeth and jawes. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 71 Do not smack like a Pig, nor make any other noise which shall prove ungrateful to the company. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxi, She had praised detestable custard, and smacked at wretched wine. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Fam. Ep. to Friend* 280 Wks. (1790) 280 In vain I taste, and sip and smack, I find no favour of the Sack. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, *Mr. Gann.* (Smacks.) 'A fine fruity wine as ever I tasted.'

fig. a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1687) I. xvii. 248 He that pleasingly relisheth and smacketh at it, or expresseth a delightfull complacence therein,..is a sharer in the guilt.

c. *trans.* To taste (wine or liquor) with keen relish or satisfaction.

Perh. influenced by or confused with SMACK *v.*[1]

1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* vii. (1877) 65 Said the general ..as he smacked a glass of rich burgundy. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxi, George,..filling himself a glass of wine, smacked it. 1850 — *Pendennis* viii, 'But of course', added the Major, smacking the wine [etc.].

2. To kiss noisily or loudly. Now *Obs.* or *dial.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 5/28 To smacke, kisse, *suauiare.* 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 288 Abusing the lips..in smacking and kissing the upper leather of an olde shoe, reserved for a Relique. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. II. x. 73 God blesse thee Mouse the Bridegroome sayd, and smakt her on the lips. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Old Man Courting* 49 Wks. (1687), Come smack me then my pretty Dear. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. v. 134 Your prudent honourable Spouse, It seems, was faithful to her nuptial Vows. But had she..smack'd Her Cully [etc.]. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 368 Smacking the lips of all fair ladies the which he did meet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Smack,* to kiss with a noise.

†**b.** *To smack calf-skin* (see quot. 1785). *slang.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., To smack calves skin, to kiss the book, i. e. to take an oath. *a* 1791 — *Olio* (1796) 231 But smacking calf-skin to an alibi, I..brought her off. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xx, Why, I have smacked calf-skin fifty times in England for a keg of brandy.

3. To crack (a whip, thong, etc.).

a 1700 [implied in *smacking-cove*: see SMACKING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* v. 126 As she guides it [a horse] thro' th' admiring throng, With what an air she smacks the silken thong. 1780 *Mirror* No. 84, The noise of somebody below, who hooted and hollow'd, smacked his whip. 1826 W. ROBINSON in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* xi. (1837) 194 The whip is of very great length..; it requires both hands to smack it. 1843 LEFEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. ix. I. 197 The four postilions smacked their whips in concert.

absol. 1812 COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* XXII. 208 The coachman smack'd, and off they bounc'd.

4. To bring, put, or throw *down* with a smack or slap; to clap (the hands) *together*; to slam (a door) *to*. Also *fig.*

1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* II. 200 The attending servant having smacked to the door, they drove off in a moment. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 73, I smacked my little kingdom of Gombroon down into the tropics. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iv, Says the guard, smacking his hand down on his knee. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* v. (1889) 44 He smacked his hands together.

5. To strike (a person, part of the body, etc.) with the open hand or with something having a flat surface; to slap.

1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* ii, The unfeeling girl..never offered to smack her mamma's hands,..or to restore her with a glass of water. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* 167 Won't she smack you all over? 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fl.* I. iv, He smacked his leg with his hand, and burst out laughing.

b. To hit (a ball) vigorously with a cricket-bat. Also *absol.*

1882 *Daily Telegr.* 24 June, Steel supplemented this by smacking the same bowler to the on for a quartette. 1894 GALE *Cricket Songs* 59 The Champion smacked, and the Terror's reign Could not bring his wicket under.

6. *intr.* To make or give out a sharp smacking sound; to crack.

1890 *Fishing Gaz.* 13 Dec. 321/2 Eels are smacking all round in the star-lit water. 1892 LUMSDEN *Sheep-head* 38 The crowd gart muskets smack there.

7. Used with adverbial force. **a.** With, or as with, a smack; suddenly and violently; slap. Also with *down, through*, etc.

1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 41 Smack went the whip, round went the wheels. 1799 GEO. [IV] in *Paget Papers* (1896) I. 150 He..tumbled..smack on his face. 1806 H. SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II. 101 Smack comes a ball from the enemy and carries away his head. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. 239 So away I went—smack bang into a quaker's shop to buy myself a pair of gloves. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* v. 141 As I ducked under on the lower side he came smack through.

b. Completely, entirely; directly.

1828 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 90 We have got a decision which is smack against us. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table T.* II. 128 The wind being smack in their teeth the greater part of the voyage. 1864 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* III. 387 [Cardan] made the bishop smack whole in twenty-four hours.

Sma·cker, *sb.*[1] *rare*—[0]. [f. SMACK *v.*[1]] One who takes, or has, a smack or taste.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Smaecker*, a Taster, a Smacker, or a Savourer.

Sma·cker (smæ·kəɪ), *sb.*[2] [f. SMACK *v.*[2]]

1. One who, or that which, smacks or gives a smack; one who kisses loudly.

1611 COTGR., *Baiseur*, a kisser, smoutcher, smacker. 1860 WORCESTER, *Smacker*, one who, or that which, smacks.

2. A smack.

1775 ASH, *Smacker*, a loud kiss; a smart sounding blow. 1847– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

†**Sma·cker,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.*—[1] In 6 **smaker.** [Cf. next.] Smack, taste, savour. In quot. *fig.*

1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, P vj, They felte y[e] smaker of thys worlde, a perillous thing.

†**Sma·cker,** *v. Obs.*—[0] [f. SMACK *v.*[2] Cf. G. dial. *schmackern.*] To kiss; to smack the lips.

1598 FLORIO, *Baciare*, to kisse, to smacker. *Ibid.*, *Biasciare*, to smack or smacker in chawing.

†**Sma·ckering,** *vbl. sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **smak-.** [perh. an alteration of SMATTERING *vbl. sb.*, after SMACK *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]; but cf. SMACKER *sb.*[3]]

1. A slight or superficial knowledge *in* or *of* something; a smattering.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 286/1 When a man beginneth to haue some taste and smakering in any matter whatsoeuer, he thinketh himselfe a greate doctour. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1589) 3 After he had indifferently taught his schollers the Latine toong, and some smackering of the Greeke. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 268, I haue some little smackering also in the Liberall Arts. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 112 As the Satyrist scoffes at those who had a smackering of the Greeke Tongue.

2. An inclination *towards*, a hankering or longing *after* or *for*, a person or thing.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (Sommer) 106 Mopsa (who already had had a certaine smackring towardes me). 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* II. i, The duke has a smackering towards you. 1662 COKAINE *Trag. Ovid* v. iii, I must confess I have some smackering that way. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To have a smackering after a Thing. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II) s.v., To have a Smackering for a Thing, to long for it.

†**Sma·ckering,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.*—[0] [f. SMACKER *v.*] (See quots.)

1598 FLORIO, *Bacio*, a kisse, a smackering. *Ibid.*, *Bichiacco*, a smack or smackring with the toong. *Bichiacchie*, iestes, toyes,..flim-flam tales, smackrings.

Sma·ckful. [f. SMACK *sb.*[3]] As much or as many as a (fishing-) smack can hold or carry.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 25 June 2/1 When he went to Bremen with a smackful of fish.

Sma·cking, *sb.* [f. SMACK *sb.*[3], after *shipping.*] *attrib.* Owning or employing smacks.

1887 *Standard* 16 Mar. 3/4 Members of large smacking firms.

Smacking (smæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SMACK *v.*[1]] The action of tasting; a taste, etc.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Proevinge*, a Proving, a Tasting, or a Smacking. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Prol. 89 Strange was the sight and smacking of the time.

Smacking (smæ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SMACK *v.*[2]] The action of the vb. in various senses; kissing, or the sound made by this.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 41 His smacking of a Gentle-woman is somewhat too sauory. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 22 He heard..the smacking of their kisses. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* Prol. 10 Like the faint smackings of an after-Kiss. 1841 HOOD *Tale of a Trumpet* 492 Smacking of vulgar lips. 1870 R. BROUGH *Marston Lynch* ii. 10 A little hard smacking occasionally would be no bad discipline.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 689 From time to time it makes a peculiar smacking noise with its lips.

Sma·cking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That smacks, in senses of the vb.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 94 b, My minde still fixed upon delightfull pleasures and their smacking kisses. 1598 FLORIO, *Baciózzo*, a smacking kisse. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Smacking-cove*, a Coachman. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Lett. to Gentl. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 91 Thou hast the daintiest of smacking Lips in the Universe. 1715 POPE *2nd Ep. to Miss Blount* 26 Some Squire..Who..presents you birds, Then gives a smacking buss, and cries,—'No words!' 1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 131 Leary's great fists shot into his face with smacking reports.

2. Of a breeze: Blowing strongly or vigorously; spanking.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 6 The wind was blowing a smacking breeze, and we were going at a great rate. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii, We had a smacking breeze for several hours.

3. *dial.* Exceptionally or unusually large or fine.

1888 *Berks. Gloss.* 150 Ther' be zome smackin' big apples on our tree. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* 175 You've got some smacking load on there.

Hence **Sma·ckingly** *adv.*

1598 FLORIO, *Basciuccare*, to kisse smackingly. 1611 COTGR., *Succoter*, to sucke gently, and smackingly.

†**Smackly,** *adv. Obs.*—[1] [irreg. f. SMACK *sb.*[2] + -LY [2].] With a smack or loud kiss.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 40 Queene Dido shal col the, and smacklye bebasse thee.

Sma·cksman. [SMACK *sb.*[3]] One of the crew of a smack, esp. of a fishing-smack; the owner of a smack.

1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 Dec. 6/1 As the object of the smacksman is to clear his ship and start again. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* vi, A smacksman who has fished in the North Sea in winter.

Smack-smooth, *a.* and *adv.* Chiefly *dial.* or *colloq.* Also **smack smooth.** [f. SMACK *v.*[2] 7 + SMOOTH *a.*]

1. *adj.* Perfectly smooth, level, or even with the surface. Now *dial.*

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* IV. 29 Their faces smack-smooth as if they had been clean shaven. 1798 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1799) II. 29 In fine, the bleeding trunk, smack smooth, with the head only remaining to the body, was immersed in the styptic. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 634 *Smack-smooth*, level with the surface; said of a mast which has gone by the board. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 229/1 Why, it's as smack-smooth as a gress-plat.

b. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 409 *Smack smooth*, at the West, a term applied to land which is thoroughly cleared.

2. As complement or *adv.* So as to leave a smooth or level surface.

1788 DIBDIN *Poor Jack* i, Though the tempest top gallant mast smack smooth shall smite. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. i, My master..hated trees; down he had them smack, smooth. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* xxix, A hurricane swept us smack smooth fore and aft.

b. *fig.* Smoothly; without any impediment or obstruction.

1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* I. 188 A tour in former times was pleasant enough; went on smack smooth, except a rough road, now and then an Alps, or a Pyrenees.

c. *dial.* In a reckless or random manner; recklessly. 1847– in Lincolnshire dial.

Smad, *v. Sc. rare.* [Cf. LG. *smaddern* (G. dial. *schmaddern*) to befoul, f. *smadder* (*schmadder*) mud, filth.] *trans.* To cover with dirt or grime; to stain, discolour.

Jamieson (1808) also gives *Smad* 'a stain of any kind'.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 825 The barde, smaddit lyke a smaik smorit in a smedy, Ran fast to the dure, and gaif a gret rair. 1808 in JAMIESON.

Smaik. *Sc.* Now *arch.* Also 6 **smaike, smayk, smaick, smak**(e. [perh. ad. MDu. or MLG. *smēker, smeiker* (=OHG. *smeichâri*, G. †*schmeicher*), f. *smēken, smeiken* to flatter.] A low, mean, or contemptible fellow; a rascal, rogue.

c 1450 [see SMAD *v.*]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. Prol. 133 Quod I, Smak, lat me sleip; sym skynnar the hing. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 571 Quhen I wret to 3our Lordschip to do for Salmond, I knew nocht þat smaikis falset. 1584 J. CARMICHAEL *Lett.* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 438 Triumphing over the ministers, and calling them lownes, smaicks, seditious knaves. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, He was nane o' the smaiks that had been on their quarters on the moss. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* viii, I thought that smaik's name had been Robert. 1897 PRYDE *Queer Folk* 55 Low-born smaik,..to scandaleese his betters!

attrib. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit wemen* 113 Quhen the smy on me smyrkis, with his smake [*v.r.* smaik] smolet. 1525 *Aberdeen Reg.* XV. 613 (Jam.), Smaik carll, I sell lay vpoun thi lyppis.

†**Smaikry.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. prec.] Mean or contemptible conduct; roguery, trickery.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 189 Thair febill smaikrie I think ill to tell, With luik lyke Lyounes, and sa lytill done. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 199 When Holie-glass is deid and rotten, His smaikrie sall nocht be forgett.

Smake, obs. form of SMACK *sb.*[1]

†**Smake,** *v. Obs.* [ME. *smaken* (f. *smak* SMACK *sb.*[1]), = OFris. *smakia* (EFris. *smake*), MDu. and Du., MLG. and LG. *smaken* (hence Sw. *smaka*, Da. *smage*); later supplanted by SMACK *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To perceive by scent or smell.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 4 in *O. E. Misc.*, Þe leun stant on hille, and he man hunten here, Oðer ðurȝ hise nese smel Smake ðat he neȝe [etc.].

2. *intr.* To smell, give out a (sweet) smell or odour. Also *fig.*, to be redolent *of* something.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2443 Iosep dede hise lich..riche-like smeren, And spice-like swete smaken. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1313 The bysschop..seyþ, 'tak and by-come redere Of word þat of god smakeþ [L. *redolet*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smakyn, or smellyn, *odoro.*

3. *trans.* To taste, or taste of (something). In quots. *fig.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1600 He hedde y-brout forþe hys bearm-team Wyþ-oute senne i-smaked. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* (1880) III. 411 Suche beggynge moste smake synne, ouþer in hym þat begges, or in hym þat first schulde helpe hym.

4. *intr.* To have a (certain) taste.

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 207 (MS. U.), Þe hungriest hound..Ne durst lape of þat laueyne so vnloveli it smakith.

Smaker: see SMACKER *sb.*[3] *Obs.*

Smalca·ldian, *a.* [-IAN.] =next.

1679 NESS *Antichrist* 185 The slaughter of the witnesses ..fulfilled in the Smalcaldian war. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 323 During the Smalcaldian War the city sustained a long siege with great heroism.

Smalca·ldic, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Smalcaldic-us*, f. *Smalcaldia*, ad. G. *Schmalkalden*, a town of Thuringia.] Of or pertaining to Schmalkalden in connexion with the early history of Protestantism.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. XXXVII. (1713) 395 The condition..of the Reformation in Germany before the Smalcaldick War. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 36 Cromwell..joyning his Master's Interest with that of the Protestant Smalcaldick League in Germany. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1575 After the end of the Smalcaldic war. 1902 GAIRDNER *Hist. Eng. Ch. 16th C.* xii. 237 The princes and cities of the Smalcaldic League..agreed to support each other..in defence of the Augsburg Confession.

†**Small,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [OE. *smæll* (=MIcel. *smell-r*, Norw. *smell*, Sw. *smäll*, Da. *smæld*, also †*smald*), related to **smellan* str. vb. (cf. Icel. *smella*, etc.) and *smyllan* wk. vb., of imitative origin.] A smack or blow; an onset, shock.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 22 An astod ðara ðeȝna salde dynt *vel* smæll miðˉ honde uutearde ðæm hælende. *c* 1205 LAY. 27052 At þan uorme smællen Romanisce vecllen: fiftene hundred folden to grunden.

Small (smɔ̄l), *a.* and *sb.*[2] Forms: 1 smæl, 1, 3 smel, 1, 3–7 smal; 3–7 smale, 5 *Sc.* smaill; 5 smalle, 5– small; 6 smaul(e, 5–6 *Sc.* smaw, 8–9 *Sc.* sma', sma. [Common Teutonic: OE. *smæl*, = OFris. *smel* (WFris. *smel*, NFris. *smēl*), MDu. (Du.), OS. (MLG., LG.), OHG. (MHG.) *smal* (G. *schmal*), ON. *smal-r* (rare; Norw., Sw., and Da. *smal*, are perh. mainly from LG.), Goth. *smal-s*; connexion with ON. and Icel. *smá-r* (Norw. and Da. *smaa*, Sw. *små*) small, OHG. *smâhi* (MHG. *smæhe*) insignificant, is doubtful, and relationship to forms outside of Teut. (as OSlav. *malŭ*) somewhat uncertain. In the later Continental languages the prevailing sense is that of 'slender', 'narrow'.

The form *smale*, representing OE. disyllabic forms, is common in ME. and occurs as late as the 17th cent.]

A. *adj.*

I. 1. Of relatively little girth or circumference in comparison with length; not thick, stout, or fleshy; slender, thin. Now *dial.* exc. of the waist.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* G 155 *Graciiis*, smel. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxix. § 1 Him..ne hangað nacod sweord ofer ðæm heafde be smale þræde. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* (Rolls) II. 122 Wiþ þam smalan wyrme. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Smiten of smale longe ȝerden. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 73 Þi body is scort, þi swere is smal. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 With middel smal ant wel y-make. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 48 Fair was the yonge wyf, and therwithal As eny wesil hir body gent and smal. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smalle, as a wande, *gracilis*. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxix. 113 Dydo..[had] handes soupple and thynne, with long fyngers and smalle. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Small, lyke a fyne threde or a heare, *delye*. Small as a woman in the waste or a wande, *gresle*. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 4 Rapier blades being so narrow, and of so small substance. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. vi. (1651) 22 A like skin.. struck upon by certaine smal instruments like drum sticks. 1683 MOXON *Printing* xi. ¶ 23 They..prick the Oynion fast upon the end of a small long Stick. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5022/2 An Allowance shall be made..in consideration of wast in reducing the same ['big wire'] to small Wire. 1779 *Mirror* No. 25, Now that small waists have come into fashion again. 1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* i, Like an hour-glass, exceedingly small in the waist. 1870 J. HARTLEY *Budget* 119 (E.D.D.), He wor soa small he luk'd like a walkin' clooas prop.

b. *spec.* Applied to the more slender portions of the intestines; esp. *small gut(s)*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 159 *Ilia*, smælebearmas. *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 152 in *O. E. Misc.*, Ne beo þe þarm ne so smel, Eft heo werpeþ al in al. 1486 [see GUT *sb.* 2]. 1548 ELYOT s.v. *Lactes*, Some saye that they bee caules, wherein the small bowelles dooe lye. After other, the small guttes, by the whiche the meate passeth. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iv, The guts, or *intestina*,.. are divided into small and great, by reason of their site and substance, slender or thicker. *a* 1625 [*Comb.*; see GUT *sb.* 2 e]. 1668 DRYDEN *Essen. Love* II. i, I'll give them leave to make fiddle-strings of my small-guts. 1767 [see INTESTINE *sb.*]. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Knights* IV. i, Slices too Of the small-guts, the belly and the paunch. 1885 HUXLEY *Elem. Physiol.* vi. 161 The rest of the small intestines is no wider than the duodenum.

†**c.** Of persons, etc.: Slender, slim; graceful. Chiefly in *gent(le) and small. Obs.*

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 204 Þeyh..leof hym w[e]re Nihtingale, And oþer wyhte gent & smale. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13738 His broþer dogther, gent and smal. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) liv, The lordes and the ladés small That comon wer of gentyll blode. 15.. *Batayle of Egyngecourte* 28 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 94 Grete well, he sayd, your comely kynge, That is bothe gentyll and small. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* II. iii. 23 My sister..is as white as a lilly, and as small as a wand.

2. Having little breadth or width in proportion to length; narrow. Now *rare.*

847 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 434 Fram smalan cumbes heafde to græwanstane. *c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. 18 He sæde ðæt Norðmanna land wære swyðe lang and swyðe smal. *Ibid.*, Norðeweard he cwæð, þær hit smalost wære, þæt hit mihte beon þreora mila brad to þæm more. *a* 1000 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 600 Andlangan þes smalan paðes. *c* 1205 LAY. 5867 Scradieð eower sceldes al of þe smal enden. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 329 Girt with a ceint of silk, with barres smale. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 165 Dido..kutte þe hyde into a þong þat was ful long and ful smal. 1424 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 152 Item pro ij payr smale bandis ad ostia in campanili, 6*d*. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 16, viij elne of smale rybbanis for the King. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 183 Cornwall..waxeth smaller and smaller in manner of an horne. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 252 Ye rest is filled with haire, Jewells and gold, and white small Ribon. 1803 PLYMLEY *Agric. Shropshire* 339 The small cloth is about one-eighth of a yard narrower than the other.

II. 3. Of limited size; of comparatively restricted dimensions; not large in comparison with other things, esp. of the same kind.

Also used to qualify such words as *dimensions, size.*

a. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. § 2 Ða smalan wyrmas ðe ðone mon æfter ȝe innan ȝe utan wyrdað. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 154 An angel myd a naked swerd..hew it al to smale peces. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 63/329 Wilde foules, smale and grete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 375 Þe light wit sternes, gret and smale. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 49 Ther spryngen herbes grete and smale. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 Þai hafe twa smale holes in steed of eghen. 1488 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 494 A dyche of smale thornes and breres. *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) F. iij, The rauen neuer shall sing..like other birdes smale. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 220 Smaill sweit smaragde. 1578 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 52 An ironmonger of smale made wares, videlicet, of nayles, horse shues [etc.].

β. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 180 Flæsc..lytelra wuhta, smælra fuzla. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 319 Ho-so hath of fuyre mest, he is smal and red. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1445 [It was] smallare sum part..þane þe todire leg had bene. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrolabe* I. § 21 Euery smal deuysioun in a signe. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 14 Take peions and hew hom in morselle smalle. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 271 In noon smal boke thei may be writen. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Small as a massyfe thing is of quantite, *petit*. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 26 Ane proper sterne he saw, That was richt cleir perfite and wonder smaw. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 290 Abundance of cattell here are both great and small. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 63 Whereas young trees of a smaler sise may be removed with all their Roots. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *Mem. G. di Lucca* (1738) 174 Their Horses, as I observed before, are but small. 1751 D. JEFFERIES *Treat. Diamonds* (ed. 2) 20 Small Stones (which means Stones under the weight of a carat). 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 140 The top of the small cylinder, should have a communication with the bottom of the larger cylinder. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXVI, A very small comfortable house in Curzon Street. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 627 The smaller bodies attract the larger ones.

b. Of places, countries, etc.

a 1000 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 210 þat lond at Silham.. and alle þe smale londe þat þere to bereth. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiv. 21 Go out soone in to grete stretis and smale streetis of the citee. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 427 To thee, that born art of a smal village. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 All of them [*sc.* islands] being but little or small. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* xxxii. 41 Iair..tooke the small townes. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 373 This small City is neighbour to two others. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 166 Rutland, the smallest of the English counties. 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* (1902) xix. 221 A small country like Holland..having possession of a very small island.

c. Of children, etc.: Not fully grown or developed; young.

Small boy has become fairly common in recent colloquial use, but is felt to differ in connotation from *little boy*, usually by suggesting greater activity and independence.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 656 Of his kin bi his liue dai;..wel fowre and .xx. ðhusent men,..wið-uten wif-kin and childre smale. 14.. W. PARIS *Cristine* 141 (Horstm. 1878), What hathe Cristyne, my doughter smalle, Done with oure goddes? 1484 CAXTON *Fables Æsop* V. x, He fond a sowe, and her smal pygges with her. 1796 H. MCNEILL *Waes o' War* III. v, Monster! wha could leave neglected Three sma' infants and a wife. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ix, There was a garden that certain *small people* might play in when they came. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 1/3 To the great delight of various small boys. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 5 Jan. 6/7 In some cases the parents may threaten to leave our employ unless we give work to their small children.

d. Of words: Short, simple. †Also of language: Simple, plain.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 18 Ðan man hem telled soðe tale Wid londes speche and wordes smale. 1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inq.* I. iii. 135 As if we were not as much obliged to tell the People their duty as God our wants in small English. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii. 511 Your first small words are taught you from her lips.

e. *local.* Of a river, water, etc.: Low, shallow.

1791 W. H. MARSHALL *W. England* (1796) II. 258 Some days ago..the water was unusually low—provincially and not improperly 'small'. 1886 in Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., I an't a zeed our water zo smaal, not's years.

4. Used with collective nouns, denoting the limited size of the individual things, pieces, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. i. (Bodl. MS.), Bestes þat eteþ smal gras and herbes. 1479 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 425 All smalwodde to be dischargid at the Bak. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 11 A pece of londe full of small corne. *c* 1588 in J. Morris *Troubles Our Forefathers* Ser. II. (1875) 310 A very large narration.., which contained six-and-fifty sheets of paper written..in a very small letter. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* iv. (1697) 83 No Baker can preserve the pure white Colour in his fine small Bread, if he be not quick about it. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 50 A small Print might easily be read by it. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Lenton*, Round ore, small ore, and smithum. 1879 *London Society* Christmas No. 64/1 A brilliant little flirt..who condescended to waste on me a good deal of small artillery. 1893 SPON *Mechanic's Own Book* (ed. 4) 330 Smaller wood is got from the branches of trees. 1902 OWEN WISTER *Virginians* xxiv, The quaking-asps..are in small leaf.

b. Of money: Of little size and low value; consisting of coins of low denomination. *Small change*: see CHANGE *sb.* 7.

1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vocab.* (1869) 55 Thou hast shewed vs none but small money. 1624 GATAKER *Good Wife* II. 9 The Kings Almoner may cast small siluer about. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* I. xxi. 249 Paid in small Money to discharge the Accounts of the Shoemaker, Taylor [etc.]. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *St. Ives* (1902) ix. 65 Here are four pounds of it in..notes, and the balance in small silver. *fig.* 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* XXXIII, If we are not to be beloved, spare us the small coin of compliment on character.

c. Of a family: Consisting of young children. *Small help* (see quot. 1903).

1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., In our Northern phraseology, a small family means a family of young children, however numerous. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 422 For the sake of her unborn babe and her large small family. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 5 Jan. 6/7 One official of a mill-owning company..admits that 'small help'—*anglice* 'child labour'—is a great mistake.

5. Little in amount or quantity: **a.** Of material things, or properties naturally connected with these, as number, quantity, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5394 Ac is gode moder ofte smale ȝiftes him tok. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 972 Qui sal þi parte be sa smal? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 128 My wages been ful streite and ful smale. *c* 1450 *Merlin* XV. 257 Thei ete soche vitaile as thei hadde, but it was full small. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1340 His wynnyng was in Scotland bot full smaw. *a* 1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of the Wether* 1116 (Brandl), This nomber is smale, there lacketh twayne of ten. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresb. Husb.* (1586) 146 Seeing that..the profit of the Milk is not smal. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 20 This small inheritance my Father left me. 1626 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* (1907) IV. 171 The necessitie of useing some smale quantitie of bay salt therein. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 323 [I did] in all my trauells prosecute the like course of a small diet,..often too small against my will. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July 1684, Some small sprinkling of raine. 1779 *Mirror* No. 12, I am a plain country-gentleman, with a small fortune and a large family. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 25 This should certainly be the smallest dose I would use in this disease. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 287 The revenue of England, under Charles the Second, was small. 1890 WORMELL & WALMSLEY *Electr. Serv. Man* 139 The comparatively small currents passing through a single incandescent lamp.

b. Of immaterial things, as actions, faculties, feelings, etc.

The exact sense varies to some extent with the sb., and in some cases the reference is rather to effect, force, or capacity than to amount.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16946 Alle þe pines o þis werld to tell þai war ful small [*v.r.* to his ner but smalle]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 My wittes ben to smale To tellen every man his tale. 1523 LD. BERNERS tr. *Froissart* I. xcvi. 118 They.. fledde to the market place, but they kept but a small order. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* vi, My travayle was not smal. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* xix. 26 [They] were of small power. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 33 His appetite was but small, considering how active he was. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, I had gotten a small cold. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 262 They consider the loss of them as but a small misfortune. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 80 His spirits low, and his exertions small. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 170 As culpable as her small faculties enabled her to be.

c. Denoted by a number which is among the least of a series; of low numerical value or ordinal rank; low.

1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 21 For so gret a latitude or for so smal a latitude is the table compowned. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 112 Small Latitudes, or Countreys betwixt the Tropicks. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* I. ii, Like the small cards..; when the play begins, you should be put out as useless. 1748 HOYLE *Games* (1778) 94 Three small Clubs or Spades, Queen and two small Hearts, King and one small Diamond. Play a small Trump.

6. Only a little or slight amount or degree of (something); not much; hardly any.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 84, I kan but smal grammeere. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. iv. 442 It schulde not bicome me or eny man, having ful smal witt and discrecioun [etc.]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Some may be excellently lerned, & yet haue but small felyng of these thynges. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 35 b, It wil also grow wel yenough..in any ground with small labour. 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 97 But small confidence could be long among reconciled enemies. *a* 1693 ASHMOLE *Antig. Berksh.* (1719) I. 151 The small need the Lady had of Physick. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 They had indeed small Hope of their Lives. 1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* XXV, Sma' need has he to say a grace. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* V, You do but small credit to your fame, Sir Prior! 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. x. 619 They had paid small attention to the etiquette of courts. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* I. i. 28 He had small love for the pleasures of the table.

b. *No small*, great, considerable, marked; much, a good deal of. Cf. No *a.* 2 b.

1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 50 b, He tooke there newes as a matter of no small momente. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 52 The plucking downe of Images, hath procured us no smale displeasure. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* a j b, This variety being no small attractive. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 49 To the no small joy of the Prince and Princess. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. xi. 217 It is no small impertinence to take hold of the attention of others. 1779 *Mirror* No. 62. 211 There, to my no small surprise, I found the Dean. 1843 MACAULAY *Ess.* III. 552 There was..no small curiosity to know how he would acquit himself.

c. Used in the superlative for emphasis: The least; the slightest.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 159, I will dye a hundred thousand Deaths Ere breake the smallest parcell of this Vow. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 188 Not from mine owne weake merites will I draw The smallest feare, or doubt of her reuolt. 1716–8 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. xxxi. 104, I never can forget the smallest of your..Commands. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 382 He risked..life, if he betrayed the smallest suspicion. *a* 1828 BENTHAM *Wks.* (1843) I. 240 In the most direct terms, and without any the smallest doubt, disguise, or reserve. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 2/2 The court, without the smallest hesitation, made absolute the rule for a *habeas corpus*.

d. *In the smallest*, in the least. *rare.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 179, I may make my case as Claudio's, to crosse this in the smallest. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 276 The best wives will complain of their husbands to a stranger, without in the smallest liking them the less on that account. 1864 — *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 35 Not molesting Prince Karl in the smallest.

7. Of no great length; short, brief: **a.** Of time.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. v. (1558), But a small season last his prosperite. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 32 The duke of Somersets battayl..wer wythin a smal season,

shamefully dyscomfited. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 b, Within this small time I indeuoured..to see..the things most notable. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* liv. 7 For a small moment haue I forsaken thee, but with great mercies will I gather thee. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 91 Within a small time he found the Captaines promise and performance different. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 25 Their Fragility and small Duration. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 27 The small Stay we made here..lost us at least 60 or 70..able Men. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlii, A letter to compose, about which he wasted no small time. 1874 W. S. JEVONS *Princ. Sci.* xiii. (1900) 299 The duration of the spark was immeasurably small.

b. Of journeys, distance, etc.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 10137 (E.E.T.S.), Smale jornes they gonne to ryde The contre to serchen in that tyde. 1579 NORTH *Plutarch, Cæsar* (1612) 729 The souldiers ..by small iourneys came at length vnto the citie. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 23, I suppose twenty yards distance is small enough betwixt tree and tree. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* v, At a small distance from the house. 1885 W. K. CLIFFORD *Common Sense Exact Sci.* iii. (1892) 96 Instead of counting feet we count inches, which are smaller than feet.

transf. a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 229 The flesh of wild animals and the green fat of the turtle..went but a small way.

8. Composed or consisting of, containing, few individuals or members; numerically little or weak. †Also of years: Few.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 807 Our power is to smaw;..To few we ar agayne yon feilone staill. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Man's Est.* xi. (1580) 69 Where thei found that sillie Shepherde with his smal flocke. 1594 PARSONS *Confer. Success.* I. 189 He being a child of so smale yeares. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Chron.* xxiv. 24 The armie of the Syrians came with a small companie of men. 1682 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 914 A small but faithful Band Of Worthies. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* vi. (1894) 80 A small party of the musketeers followed me. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. V. 185 The right of peace and war is now confined to a small, and the actual exercise to a much smaller, list of respectable potentates. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Guard*, Quarter Guard is a small guard commanded by a subaltern officer. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl. 1342/2 A small group of plants from New Grenada and Peru. 1889 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 80 Species of large genera vary more than species of small genera.

9. a. Constituting a lower standard (of weight, size, etc.) than another having the same designation. **b.** Falling somewhat short of the proper or usual standard.

1554 HASSE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1886) III. 94 They divide the small pound into 48 parts. 1640 in Entick *London* (1776) II. 166 Catling, the great gross, qt. 12 small gross of knots. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. 4 Schedule s.v. *Bosses*, Bosses for Bridles the small groce, cont. 12 dozen. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 47 The island of St. Ann,..from which they are distant two small leagues. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* II, I have travelled above three small days Voyage upon it. 1753 R. CLAYTON in Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* 18 After an ascent of a small half hour we came to a most delicious fountain of cold water. 1834 *Lowndes' Bibliogr. Man.* I. 84 Austin's Urania..London, 1629. small 8vo. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. *Long-hundred*, A hundred of five score is called a small-hundred. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Small post*, a size of writing paper, 16½ × 13¾ inches.

III. 10. Composed of fine or minute particles, drops, etc. In later use chiefly of rain.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* lvii. 437 Swiðe lytle beoð ða dropan ðæs smalan renes, ac hi wyrceað ðeah swiðe micel flod. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* (Rolls) I. 240 Genim of ðyssre wyrte..swyþe smæl dust. *Ibid.* II. 86 Genim bonne smæl beren mela. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Þe ilke þe foleȝeð þes fleisces lust, Alse deð þet smalchet þe winde. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxx. 36 Whanne thow hast pownede alle..into moost smal powdre. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Boyle mastyke and sence in smale poudre. *Ibid.*, Take water and smale salte. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 406 The exhorbitant derth of small salt within this realme. 1583– [see SALT *sb.* 1 b]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xviii. xi, I bett these folkes as small as dust. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1853) I. 209 The Rebecka,..two days before, was frozen twenty miles up the river; but a small rain falling set her free. 1676 WOOD *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 177 Thick Fogs with small Rain. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* I. xxii. 262 A small Rain happened to fall that damped my Powder. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* i, Heaven, who works by the tempest as well as by the soft small rain.

b. Fine, as opposed to coarse, in various applications.

a 1000 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl.* 158 Tu hund greates hlafes and þridde smales. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 357 *Artocobus*, smæl hlaf. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 226 As smylt mele vnder smal siue smokes for-þikke. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* liii. 32 Some metes are smale, and some metes are grete, and some are mene. 1742 *Lond. & Co. Brewer* I. (ed. 4) 72 If high dried, a gross Grinding is best, otherwise a smaller may be done. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 193 This is to be done by sieves just smaller in the mesh than the size of the grain. 1891 *Hartland Gloss., Small-sieve*, a fine-meshed wooden sieve used in Rewing.

†**c.** Of air: Thin, rarefied. *Obs.*[-1]

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xiv. xlv. 483 The ayre is ..more smalle and clere than in ualleyes.

11. Of cloth, yarn, garments, etc.: Fine in texture or structure. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In the case of cloth it is sometimes difficult to decide whether examples belong to this sense or to 2.

c 900 tr. *Bæda* IV. xxv. 354 Ða fæmnan..swa oft swa hio æmtan habbað, þæt hio smaelo hræȝel weofað and wyrcað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 His alter cloð [is] great and sole, and hire chemise smal and hwit. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 13, xiij elne of smale Hollande clath for iij sarkis and a curche. 1488 *Ibid.* 150 For viij elne of small braide clayth to be sarkis to the King. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxvi, In the vale of Esk is sa quhit and small wol, that it hes na compair in Albion. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xi. 123 b, They bring..smal clothes of diuers sorts and colours..from.. Cambaye and Ormmus. 1637 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 169 There is some sixe and thirtie grosse of small yarne. 1901 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Small weft*, a very fine sort of yarn. Lanc[ashire].

12. Of low alcoholic strength; light, weak:

a. Of specific liquors, as ale, wine, etc., or diluted forms of these. See also SMALL BEER.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smal wyne, *villum.* 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* 382, iij. galons of smale ale for j.*d.* 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxv. 13 O I ȝe heremeitis.., That..drynkis no wyn confortatiue, Bot aill and that is thyn and small. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 53 b, Theyr vynes brynge forth but temperate and small wynes, as reed, claret, and whyte. 1605 *London Prodigal* I. ii, Let me haue sacke for vs old men: For these girles and knaues small wines are best. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded., It being at best, like small Wines, to be drunk out upon the Place. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 336 If your Fruit be unripe, or your Cyder small. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 270 Small Ale without Hops. 1789 BUCHAN *Domest. Med.* (1790) 149 His drink may be small negus,.. and sometimes a little weak punch. 1827 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 170 The drink [should] be small brandy and water. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 17 Mar., Customers, who had contrived to make themselves uncommonly merry with pots of the smallest ale. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 33 The wine is of the smallest.

b. Of drinks, beverages, or liquors in general, sometimes applied to such as are non-alcoholic.

In quot. 1471 said of water in contrast to spirit.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* I. xi. in Ashm. (1652) 131 The better therefore shall be Solucyon, Then yf thou dyd it wyth Water small. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) I vj, To abstayne from all kyndes of wyne, & to use himselfe to small drinke. 1626 BACON *Nat. Hist.* § 394 By Making Drinks, Stronger, or Smaller with the same Quantity of Mault. 1675 E. WILSON *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 86 Stronger Stomachs must be content with smaller Beverages, and Wine diluted. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4108/3, 16 Tuns, and 2 Hogsheads of Small Beveridge and Anjue Wine. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. 372 Cheated by a stronger liquor for a smaller. *a* 1800 in *Good's Study Med.* (1829) V. 573 Encouraging the eruption, by taking small warm liquors, as tea, coffee, wine-whey, broth, and nourishing meats.

c. In general use: Weak, thin. *rare.*

1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* 488 His drink was *decoct. sarsæ* [sarsaparilla], but so small, as it was little better than water. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 68 The leaves of it boiled in small Broth.

13. Of sound or the voice: Gentle, low, soft; of little power or strength; not loud, harsh, or rough.

c 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 4056 Luuelike and wið speche smale, To wenden hem fro godes aȝe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 688 A voys he hadde as smal as hath a goot. — *Miller's T.* 174 He syngeth in his voys gentil and smal. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 281/1 After the stroke of the fyre descended a swete sowne of ayer softe and smalle. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Vox tenuata*, a small voyce. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* xix. 12 After the fire, a still small voice. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. xviii. (1715) 351 They proposed their Question in a small whispering Voice. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 73 In still small accents whisp'ring from the Ground. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* II. ii. (1811) 129 Throw a languidness into your countenance; let your voice grow small. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxviii, So still was it, that he could hear the small crumbling sound of the dying embers as they decomposed. 1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Sec. Thoughts* I. xii, 'Thank you,' she says, in a small voice.

b. Of vowels: Narrow, close; *spec.* in Gaelic phonology of the vowels *e* and *i*, and of certain consonants when in contact with these.

1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Gram.* 6, E..in Spanish..must neuer be so small as the English ee, as fee, wee. 1707 LHUYD *Archæol. Brit.* 299 That as the Vowels are divided into Broad and Small; so the Diphthongs and Triphthongs ending in *a*, *o*, or *u*, are Broad; and those in *e* or *i* Small. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *I*, The next small vowel *e*. 1801 A. STEWART *Elem. Galic Gram.* 20 They [*l*, *n*, *r*] have the small sound when..they are preceded or followed by a small vowel. 1830 MACLEOD & DEWAR *Gael. Dict.* s.v. *Leathan*, Upon the same principle, the rule 'Caol ri caol' regulates the small vowels.

14. Of wind: Light, slight, gentle.

1542 *Lament. & Piteous Treat.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 235 A smal and softe wynde. 1671 tr. *Frejus' Voy. Mauritania* 9 We held on our course..with a small West-wind. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 154 We had a small gale that was favourable enough. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 162 A small breeze springing up from the W.N.W. 1802 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 108 Small wind, nearly ahead.

15. Of the pulse: Beating weakly.

1755 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 50 The pulse small, the mouth and tongue foul. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 230 A quick and small pulse. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 544 If a pulse be exceeding hard, and at the same time small, then it has been called a wiry pulse. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 849 The pulse is small, rapid, and thready.

IV. 16. Of persons: Low or inferior in rank or position; of little importance, authority, or influence; common, ordinary. Now *rare.*

In early use with ref. to military importance.

c 1205 LAY. 436 Al þat smale mon-kun he dude ȝeond þea muntes. *Ibid.* 21803 His smale uolc he setten alle bi weste siden. *c* 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 569 His small folk gert he ilk deill Vith-draw thame till a strate neir by. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* I. ii. 128 To deme..euynly betwene grete men and Smale, ryche and Power. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 187 All the small people had ben all dead for hungre. 1517 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 397 That every tope man paye xl.*s.* and every small man xx.*s.* 1561 WINȜET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 6 The smallaste ane that sall perise throw ȝour negligence. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 129 Your Enemies are many, and not small. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. vii, At dinner, some of the smaller neighbours were invited. 1863 MISS MULOCK *Mistr. & Maid* xxii, She was altogether a very great lady, and Hilary..felt an exceedingly small person beside her.

b. Having but little land, capital, etc.; dealing, doing business, etc., on a small scale.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vii. 99 Philip next Morn our honest Pedlar found, Dealing his Iron Merchandise around To his small Chaps. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. i. 16 The property all about his original farm had been in the hands of various small holders (Scottice *cock-lairds*). 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 480 Two beasts, such as the small yeomen of that time were in the habit of riding. 1887 HINDLEY *Hist. Catnach Press* 257 From a small beginner in the world, Catnach was soon able to see his way clear to amass a fortune.

17. Of minor rank, note, or importance, in respect of some specified office, function, etc.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 27 Þe smale kynges of þe lond all were þei comen. 1382 WYCLIF *Prol. Bible* I. 1 Alle these xij smale prophetis ben o book. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 126 The autoritee of the grete officer..gerris cess the autoritee of the smallare officer. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 57 The haill bischopis, pryouris, and wther small preistis. 1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 311 The small barronis and freehaldaris of this realme. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. ii, A speciall gentle, That ..Consorts with the small poets of the time. 1763 CHURCHILL *Ghost* III. 860 Confine thy rage to weaker slaves, Laugh at small Fools, and lash small Knaves. 1765 GRAY *Shaks.* 6 Fumbling baronets and poets small. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* II. xii, A small author, and smaller wit. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 260 All their confederates, from Cæsar ..down to the smallest Margrave.

b. That is (such) to a small or limited extent, degree, etc.

Sometimes used to suggest the converse of the noun.

1523 LD. BERNERS tr. *Froissart* I. cccxxxii. 519 He was but a small gentylman,..for a very gentylman wyll neuer set his mynde on so euyll an entent. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* 207 Where there is nowe putte no difference betwixte small offendours and moste greuouse sinners. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 71 Zenall Chawn..(our small friend, at our being in his Citie). 1653 H. COGAN *Scarlet Gown* 125 They were but small friends to Pamphilio, and as such, they shewed themselves obstinate against his elections.

c. With negative, in emphatic use.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 83, I remember of an other, and that no small birde, whiche was better learned then wise. 1657–61 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* I. ii. § 4. 38 This Master Cook ..was apt enough to think himself no small fool at a joynt of Divinity. 1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* II. 72 The master of the inn..was no small body, for he was the owner of the vessel we came in.

18. Of things, etc.: Of little or minor consequence, interest, or importance; trifling, trivial, unimportant.

With quot. 1483 cf. Cotgrave's '*Menues pensées*,..idle, priuate, or prettie thoughts'

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5702 Noght anly of gret dedes of elde, Bot of smale dedes of þair youthe. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vii. (1868) 59 Ȝe seken ȝoure gerdouns of þe smale wordes of strange folke. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (1910) 8 Thus lerned he þe smale scienses, as spellyng, reding and constrewyng. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* m j b, She shalle euer be in melancholye and in smalle thoughtes. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lvi. 2 Think that small partis makis grit seruice. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 8 He..conferred the same vnto the Normanes and that for very small and light causes. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* Wks. 1839 III. 552 We have heard of Death upon small occasions and by scornful Instruments. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* (1839) 85 How a man should..pick his teeth before company, and such other points of the *small morals*. 1734 FIELDING *Intrig. Chambermaid* I. iv, She sent me, Sir, of [=on] a small message to you. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iii, And then walk majestically out again, to embroidery, small-scandal, prayers, and vacancy. 1893 *Academy* 13 May 412/1 The fact..accounts, no doubt, for certain small recurrent defects in it.

19. Not prominent or notable; humble, modest; unpretentious. In later use chiefly in the phrase *in a small way.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 381 Al were it so she were of smal degree, Suffiseth hym hir yowthe and hir beautee. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 65 Therfore I over passyng small names and muche doyng, wil returne [etc.]. 1611 BIBLE *Job* viii. 7 Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase. 1809 *European Mag.* LV. 19 An emporium no less respectable in a small way. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iii, She lived with her single daughter in a very small way. 1872 T. HARDY *Unaer Greenw. Tree* Pref., A composer in a small way.

20. a. Base, low; mean, ungenerous.

1824 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 52 The pitiful propensity ..to vent their small spite at their [the American] character. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* 755 The smaller passions, the meaner impulses of the world around him. 1890 *Spectator* Oct. 468/1 That is trickery, not statesmanship; and..it is small trickery too.

b. Incapable of large views or great actions; small-minded, mean-souled.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, A man unfit for Revolutions? Whose small soul..could by no chance ferment into virulent *alegar*? 1871 SMILES *Charact.* iii. (1876) 84 Small men may be envious of their fellows, but really great men ..love each other. 1881 J. F. CLARKE *Self-Culture* 258 Among the flippant and the frivolous, we also become small and empty.

c. As complement with *feel*: Humiliated, mortified, injured in self-respect.

1840 Mrs. Trollope *Widow Married* xix, I should feel a little small at being seen in such a place. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets* 190, I felt very small, for the scoundrel had been within my grasp, and I had let him slip.

V. 21. Special collocations.

Small-Back, Death, imagined as a skeleton. *Small balls*, a variety of ironstone. *Small body*, in Printing (see quot.). *Small capitals*, in Printing, capital letters differing little in size from the lower-case letters of the same fount. *Small cattle*, cattle below the size of oxen, as calves or sheep. *Small chisel* (see quot.). *Small circle*, in spherical trigonometry (see quot.). †*Small figures*, Arabic numerals. *Small folk*, = small people. *Small-hand* (see Hand *sb.* 16). *Small hand-paper* (see quot.). *Small helm*, Naut. (see quots.). *Small holding*, a holding smaller than an ordinary farm; also *spec.* (see quot.). †*Small meat*, ? meat sold in small quantities. *Small paper*, in Printing, paper of the ordinary size, as distinct from *large paper* (Large *a.* 8 b). *Small part*, a minor part or character in a play. *Small people*, in local use, the fairies. †*Small play*, play for low stakes. *Small round, sail(s*, Naut. (see quots.). *Small stuff* (see quots.). †*Small-world*, = Microcosm. See also Debt *sb.* 4 f, Hour 3 b, Pica[1] 2, Potato 5 a, Raisin 2 b, Tithe, Trunk, etc., and Small arm(s, beer, -clothes, etc.

1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxvii, Men have queer fancies when old *Small-Back is griping them; but Small-Back must lead down the dance with us all in our time. 1793 A. Young *Agric. Sussex* 13 A marl sets on, in the different depths of which the iron-stone comes on regularly in all the various sorts as follows: 1. **Small balls*, provincially *twelve foots*, because so many feet distant from the first to the last bed. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 20 Long-Primer and downwards are accounted *small Bodies. 1770 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 250 *Small Capitals are mostly used to denote, that a more particular stress and emphasis is intended by the Author. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Small capitals*, the smaller capitals laid in the upper case, distinct from the full capitals. 1593 *Benefits Observ. Fish-days*, The number of Beefes aforesaid,..and other *small Cattel, as Calues, Sheepe, and Lambes innumerable. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2219 **Small-chisel*, a burin or graver used by engravers. 1873 Pryde *Pract. Math.* 365 Circles, whose planes pass through the centre of the sphere, are called great circles; and all others, *small circles. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 110 He makes *small Figures to be as old as A.D. 1050. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* (1896) 118 The gardens of the Small People, or, as they are called by the natives, *Small Folk. 1860 W. Collins *Woman in White* xi, The handwriting.. was..in the cramped, conventional, copybook character, technically termed '*small hand'. 1888 Jacobi *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Small hand paper, a common machine-made paper, generally straw-coloured, used for post wrappers and such purposes. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 634 **Small-Helm*. One of the principal results of sound seamanship is the proper trim of the vessel and the sail carried; by which means the action of the rudder is reduced to a minimum. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 604 *Small helm*, when the sails are well balanced and the rudder but little used. 1892 *Act* 55–56 *Vict.* c. 31 § 1 The expression '*small holding'.. shall mean land acquired by a council..which exceeds one acre and either does not exceed fifty acres, or..is of an annual value..not exceeding fifty pounds. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Britain* (ed. 3) I. 24 [Ipswich] has five Market-days weekly; Tuesday and Thursday for *small Meat; Wednesday and Friday for Fish. 1708 *Small paper [see 22]. 1798 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* iv. i, Drill the servants that I've given the *small parts to. 1865 R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. I. 65 The *Small People are believed by some to be the spirits of people who inhabited Cornwall many thousands of years ago. 1629 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* 7 [He] is willing rather to play *small play, then to giue out. 1863 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 358 **Small round*, that end of the shank of an anchor which is next the stock. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 16 Take in your Main and Main-top-sail, Steering-sails [etc.]..Thus you have all the *small Sails in. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 634 **Small-Sails*, topgallant-studding-sails and the kites. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 604 *Small sail*, and *snug sail*, low and reduced, ready for bad weather. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 634 **Small Stuff*, the term for spun-yarn, marline, and the smallest kinds of rope, even for yarns. 1897 *Daily News* 18 June 5/2 The scarcity of spoons, forks, and knives,.. called '*small stuff' in the catering business. 1612 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 64/1 Whose soule did animate thy *small-world too To be the soule of all that here I doe.

b. In the specific or popular names of plants, as *small basil, bugloss, chaffweed*, etc.

A large number of other examples occur in Lyte (1578) and Miss Pratt *Flowering Pl.* (1855).

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 240 Busshe Basill, or *small Basill gentle. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flowering Pl.* IV. 245 *Small Chaffweed, or Bastard Pimpernel. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 264 *Small Currants. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* 15 The third kinde [of Aristolochia] is called Clematites & it may be called in english *small Hertworte. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 287 *Tordylium officinale* .., Small Hartwort. *Ibid.*, Fine-leaved Bastard Parsley. *Small Hensfoot. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 478 The Pinke is called..in English Pinkes, and *Smal Honesties. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 612 *Solatrum i. morella*, *smalmorell. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 75 Set chestnut and walnut, set filbeard and *smalnut. 1842–59 *Small-reed [see Reed *sb.*[1] 5]. 1900 *G. Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* Suppl., *Calamagrostis*. Smallreed. This genus..was formerly included under *Arundo*. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flowering Pl.* III. 158 *Small Woodruff, or Squinancy-wort.

c. In names of fishes, birds, insects, etc.

Further examples may be found in special works, as Shaw *Gen. Zool.* (1801–11), Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* (1832), etc.

1754 Catesby *Carolina* I. 80 The *small Bittern. 1846 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 171 The *Small Copper [Butterfly] again made its appearance. 1840 F. D. Bennett *Whaling Voy.* II. 72 That curious fish, the *Leptocephalus*, or '*small-head'. 1884 Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 550 '*Small Herring', 'Anchovies,' 'Skarp Herring.' 1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 104 The Palmers. 6. The *small Red Spinners. 6. 1734 Albin *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 67 The *small Water-Hen.

22. a. With sbs. forming combs. used attributively, as *small-boat, -calibre, -college*, etc.

Combs. of this type are very numerous in recent newspaper usage.

1897 *Outing* XXX. 333/1 The annals of *small-boat sailing. 1896 *Spectator* 31 Oct. 589/1 If it be suitable, the *small-calibre bullet will do much more damage. 1840 Thackeray *Shabby-genteel Story* viii, Tufthunt was a *small-college man of no family. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 919 The statute 39 and 40 Geo. III. c. 46, commonly called the *Small Debt Act. *Ibid.* 923 A case..remitted ..to the small debt court. 1659 R. Wilde *Poems* (1870) 1 Our *small-drink times Must be contented, and take up with rhymes. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 544 Alarm, excitement, fear, fright, and all those *small-fry emotions. 1840 J. Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 197 The *small-grain crops are the greatest exhausters of the fertility of the soil. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 261 Of these *Small-letter Sorts, some are lodged in the Upper-case. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 331/2 The last mentioned of the several modes..is the '*small-master system'. 1823 W. Cobbett *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 387 The injury recently done to about forty thousand poor families..by the *Small-note Bill. 1708 Hearne *Collect.* 8 Apr., 3 *small-paper Livys. 1904 Mrs. Alec Tweedie *Behind Footlights* xi. 204 Those in the rank of 'principals', or '*small-part ladies'. 1836 Dubourg *Violin* ix. (1878) 270 Lorenzio Guadagnini..copied the *small-pattern fiddles of his master. 1852 C. W. H[oskins] *Talpa* 151 It is very fine..to connect one's own *small-scale improvements, after this fashion. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 44 *Small-size garnets are found ..in this claim. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A *small tooth Comb. 1732 *Acc. of Workhouses* 40 Their heads combed with small tooth combs every morning. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Small-tooth comb*, a comb of ivory or bone with small teeth on each side.

b. In combs. of the type *small-boyhood, -boyish, -colleger*, etc.

1841 Roscoe *Swift's Gulliver* I. iv. *note*, Papists and protestants are the big-endians and small-endians. 1852 Bristed *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 127 The idea of a Small-Colleger beating all Trinity was deemed preposterous. 1864 J. C. Atkinson *Stanton Grange* 40 Tom subsided into small-boyhood again. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* 96 This dreary pastime found way into his small-boyish being.

c. Forming verbs, as **small-hoe**, to clean with a small hoe; **small-gang**, *slang*, to mob.

1786 Abercrombie *Gard. Assist.* 139 Salsafy, scorzonera, skirrets—small-hoe, and thin six inches distance. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 420/2 They '*small-ganged' me; and afterwards I went seven days to prison. 1892 P. H. Emerson *Son of Fens* 162, I see 'em kind o' looking and talking low; so, think I, they're going to small-gang me.

23. In parasynthetic combs., as *small-bodied, -boned, -brained*, etc. Also *small-mindedness*.

Only a few of the earlier or more important examples of this type are here given.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2019/8 A brown bay Nag,...full Haunched, and *small Bodied. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* iii. 50 He soon display'd his skill In *small-boned Lambs. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 566/1 The *small-brained and cold-blooded classes of Vertebrata. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Path.* (ed. 2) 170 The groups of epithelial elements are always surrounded by a *small-celled ('indifferent') tissue, the small-celled growth preceding the epithelial invasion. 1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* 1437 Flowers..which turn into *small cornered bladders of winter cherries. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 330 The Crop becomes hopper, *small ear'd, and will not yield like the large one. 1772 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 226 The same Letter..being adjudged too *small-faced for..Small Pica. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* vi, How much moor, ye *smalfaithed men, wil he cloth yow? *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) I. 71 The leading counsel in a *small-fee'd case. 1603 Breton *Mad World my Masters* Wks. (Grosart) II. 8/1 A..faire-handed, *small-footed, straight-bodied .. gentlewoman. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 105 The *small-grained Sand is esteemed the best. 1851 Glenny *Hdbk. Fl. Gard.* 21 They grow exceedingly well, especially all the *smaller-habited kinds. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 50 Graceful tufts Of *small-leaved ferns. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. v. 85 *Small-minded people carry their narrow notions and their acidity into their benevolence. 1886 Besant *Childr. Gibeon* II. xv, That kind of *smallmindedness was impossible. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 293 A fine *small-pored white enamel. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 98 We must have a great care of comparing our *small-preferr'd clergy with those but of the like fortune in the church of Rome. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* Pref., In those *small reasoned persons [is] a certaine kind of reverence toward wisdome and reason. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. App. p. xxxvii, I have never succeeded in killing any rabbit (even the *smallest-sized one) with it. 1830 M. Donovan *Domest. Econ.* II. 107 The flesh is inferior to that of the *small-tailed sheep. 1640 Gataker *Whitgift in Fuller's Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 203 He was a man of middle stature,.. *small-timbered. 1802 *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 350 Each row looks somewhat like a *small-toothed comb.

b. Freq. in the specific names of animals, birds, plants, etc.

1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 290 *Mniotilta varia borealis*, *Small-billed Creeper. 1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* V. 178 *Phoca Leptonyx* (*Small-clawed Seal). 1752 Hill *Hist. Anim.* 268 The *small-eared, very thin Pecten. 1789 Pilkington *View Derbyshire* I. 439 *Malva parviflora*, *small-flowered, or dwarf Mallow. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 507 Small-flowered Crowfoot. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 86 *Leonurus Marrubiastrum*. Small-flowered Motherwort. 1894 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* II. 293 The *small-horned gazelle (*Gazella leptoceros*) of the Sudan. 1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* V. 80 *Rhinopoma Microphylla* (*Small-leaved Rhinopome Bat). 1889 Maiden *Useful Pl.* 561 *Laportea photiniphylla*...Small-leaved Nettle. *Ibid.* 466 *Eucalyptus hæmastoma*...In the extreme south a variety sometimes goes by the name of 'Rough', or 'Small-leaved Stringybark'. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 241 The *Small-nailed Seal (*Phoca leptonyx*). 1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 514 *Small-Scaled Labrus, *Labrus Microlepidotus*. 1831 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* IX. Syn. 63 Small scaled Zonurus, *Zonurus Microlepidotus*. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 367 The *Small-spotted Dog-fish. 1766 *Compl. Farm.* s.v. *Radish* 6 I 1/2 The *small topped,..the scarlet, and the long topped striped radish.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*[2]

1. Persons or animals of small size or stature; little ones, children. (Now only with *the*.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 515 in *O. E. Misc.*, Þe smale he wile ȝus biswiken, ðe grete maiȝ he noȝt bigripen. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xvi. 16 Þar leuinges to þair smale left þai. 1388 Wyclif *Matt.* xviii. 6 Who so sclaundrith oon of these smale, that bileuen in me. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1556 'A lytulle lower, Syr,' seyde hee, 'And let us smalle go wyth thee'.

2. Persons of low or inferior rank or position, or of little ability or attainment. Chiefly in phr. *great and small*, or *small and great*.

13.. *E. E. Psalter* cxviii. 130 Schirenes of þi speche lightes wit, Vnderstanding to litel [*Egerton MS.* smale] giues it. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6014 (Gött.), Þair king þai banned, gret and small. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 115*a* Heil þou..Kyng of gret and smalle. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 96 All spake of hym, bothe grete and smalle. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxiii. 12 Yee he blesseth all them that feare the Lorde, both small & greate. 1597 I. T. *Serm. Paules Crosse* 29 The cause of the smalle, as well as the greate. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 97 Quacking Mountebanks are admitted in the Bed-chambers of great and small. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 375 Envy, ye great, the dull, unletter'd small.

3. †**a.** Little, not much. Also with *of*. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 279 Touchende Usure I have al herd, Hou thou of love hast wonne smale. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 18246 (Trin.), Now is oure kyngdome fordone al Of monkynde gete we ful smal. 1444 Lydg. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 215 To thynke mochyl, and seyn but smal. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 86 Small haue continuall plodders euer wonne. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 20 Hauing small, yet doe I not complaine Of want. 1640 *King & Poor North. Man* 144 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 298 Let me in, Ise give thee a good single penny. I see thou wilt ha small, ere thou't doe for nought.

Comb. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 253 There did I see.. that vnlettered small knowing soule.

†**b.** *By small and small*, by degrees; gradually, slowly. *Obs.*

1558 Phaer *Æneid* I. C ij b, He..by smal and smal doth make The Queene forget her husband dead. *Ibid.* VI. 128 By small and small to landward than I swamme. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 198, I play the Torturer, by small and small To lengthen out the worst, that must be spoken.

4. †**a.** *In* or *to small*, in fragments. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1309 Quen it was smeten in small.. Ilka gobet his gate glidis fra othire. *a* 1450 Myrc *Par. Pr.* 256 Leste to smale þey done hyt breke.

b. *In small* (rarely *the small*), on a small scale; in little. In early use in reference to painting, etc.: In miniature.

(*a*) 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, You have giuen me her picture in small. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Oct. 1644, The Labours of Hercules in massy silver, and many incomparable pictures in small. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1823) III. 259 His soul; that noble copy and resemblance of its Maker, in small indeed, but [etc.]. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 132 Vandyck actually made the design, but..it was executed only in small by Ph. Frutiers.

(*b*) 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxii. 273 Let him beware of trying experiments from books, except in small. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 219 *note*, I have made trial of this method, both in small and in large. 1847 H. Bushnell *Chr. Nurture* (1861) II. v. 316 We are infants too, men and women in the small. 1855 Browning *Old Pictures in Florence* xxi, Where the strong and the weak..Repeat in large what they practised in small.

†**5.** With *a* and pl. A small quantity or amount; a little piece, a morsel. *Obs.*

1373–4 Chaucer *Compl. to his Lady* 113 And ye lete me thus sterve, Yit have ye wonne ther-on but a smal. 1566 Drant *Horace, Sat., Wail. Jeremiah* v. L j b, That we might haue a smal of bred, our carcas to contente. 1567—*Horace, Ep.* I. x. E j, For that he will not knowe to vse and lyue vpon a small. 1624 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 243 Can there be greater unthankfulness, than to grudge Him a small, who hath given us all?

b. In or after proverbial use. (Also without plural ending.) ? *Obs.*

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2366 Many smale makeþ a grete. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* § 362 The prouerbe seith that manye smale maken a greet. 1542 Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 30. 1553 *Respublica* I. i. 109 Yet manye a smale makith a greate. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 68 b, The stock, which by many smalls, growth to a meetly greatnes. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 305 All which are but as Suburbs to the new Caire, that of many smalles make vp a Country, rather then a City. 1737 Ramsay *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 73 Mony sma's make a great.

c. *In* (or *by*) *smalls*, in small amounts, portions, or sums. *Sc.*

1529 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) 8 At na personis.. regrait nor by meill to sell the samyn agane in smallis. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 649 His haill vicarage is bot tuelf pundis or thairby, pait to him in smalis, in iii *s* and iiii *s* in sum placis. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 287 Fifty merks (whilk he confessed..he had at sundrie tymes stollen out of the boxe in smalls). 1825 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 114 God's blessings are aye God's blessings, though they come in sma's and driblets. 1865 *Glasgow Her.* in *Pall Mall G.* 3 Aug. 10/1 Some speculating genius who saw a chance of turning a dishonest penny by retailing it in smalls.

6. The small, slender, or narrow part *of* something: **a.** Of the leg.

1489 in *Ann. Reg.* (1772) *Antiq.* 151 After that a Gounne had borne away his foote by the small of the legge. 1523

FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 15 They be two yardes longe, and as moche as the small of a mannes legge. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 459 A long coate of white veluet, reaching to the small of his legge. 1623 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) 47 The smals of his fore-legs, vnder his knees, and for the smals of his hinder legges somewhat below the spauin ioynts. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 32 A piece of Cotton Cloath about the small of their Leg, from the Ankle to the Calf. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, His Excellency, having mounted on the small of my right leg.

ellipt. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 645 *Lon.* His legge is too big for Hector. *Boy.* More Calfe certaine. *Dum.* No, he is best indued in the small. 1630 DRAYTON *Muses Elizium* Nymphall i. 107 A swelling Calfe, a Small so fine, An Ankle, round and leane. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5328/4 Large Legs, the Small pretty big.

b. Of the back († or belly).

? 1536 LATIMER in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 148, I am in a fayntt werynesse over all my body, butt cheffly in the small of my backe. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 51 The marrow of a Bul beaten and drunk, cureth the pain in the smal of the belly. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 215 ¶ 7 Our best Customers show but little above the Small of their Backs. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 528 Severe pain in the head and small of the back. 1884 HUNTER & WHYTE *Ducats & Dau.* xviii, His eyes fixed on the small of the coachman's back.

c. Of a whale (= the part of the tail in front of the flukes).

1725 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 256 With those Fins they clasp about her Small, and so hold themselves on. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* v. (1849) 230 The head gradually sinks, the 'small' is projected from the water, and presently the 'flukes' of the tail are raised high in the air. 1903 *Strand Mag.* Nov. 536/1 His blubber..being..nine inches [thick] on the belly and six inches on the 'small'.

d. Of things (see quots.).

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 779 *Hic stilus*, a smal of a pelyr. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, The Small of the Sword, *le foible de l'Epée.* 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 22 The right hand grasps the small of the butt. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Small*, ..that part of the anchor-shank which is immediately under the stock. 1893 F. C. SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 133 Holding the small of the stock in my right hand, and the barrel in my left.

7. *The small*, that which is trifling, petty, or unimportant.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Al so schal þe þet schriueð him, efter þe greate, schuuen ut þet smele. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 54 These pretended plans of universality, ..which make her descend into the infinitely small. 1836 EMERSON *Nature* 67 To magnify the small, to micrify the great.

8. Small coal; slack. In recent use also *pl.*, varieties of small coal. Also *Comb.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 83/2 Frequently they mix them up with 'the small' of north country coals of better quality. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durham* 48 *Small Leader*, a lad employed to put away small, to a stow-board, from the hewer working by separation in a narrow place. 1898 *Daily News* 21 Mar. 3/6 Not for some years have best steam smalls been in such demand.

9. *pl.* **a.** Small clothes; breeches.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvi, A difficult process it is to bow in green velvet smalls. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, Her footman, in large plush smalls and waistcoat. 1886 JEROME *Idle Th.* 133 An eager, bright-eyed boy, with.. dandy shoes and tight-fitting smalls.

b. Parcels or consignments of comparatively little weight (see quots.). Also *attrib.*

1889 *Manch. Exam.* 4 May, The word 'smalls'..is used to represent the thousands of small parcels which are daily forwarded from the warehouses of Manchester and other large cities to shopkeepers throughout the kingdom. *Ibid.*, A firm whose 'smalls' traffic is very extensive. 1890 *Times* 4 Dec. 11/2 Then with regard to 'smalls', or quantities of less than 3 cwt.;..hitherto in Birmingham 'smalls' had been defined to be quantities less than 2 cwt.

c. Small kinds of bread; fancy bread, rolls, etc.

Freq. in advertisements.

1892 *Glasgow Her.* 22 Apr. 2/1 Baker..; one well up in smalls and pastry.

d. In miscellaneous uses (see quots.).

1883 *Good Words* July 443/1 Small broken rice, known as 'smalls'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Dec. 9/1 He saw him have several halves of whisky—'smalls' they were called there. *a* 1891 *Engineer* LXX. 126 (Cent.), The ore..is tipped from trucks on to a grating of iron bars about 2½ in. apart; the 'mine smalls' pass through. 1895 J. W. ANDERSON *Prospector's Handbk.* (ed. 6) 166 *Smalls*—Small-sized pieces of ore and gangue.

10. *pl.* At Oxford: The colloquial term for the examination officially called Responsions.

The evidence is not sufficient to show whether the name is due to the old expressions *in parvisiis* or *in parviso* (see PARVIS 2), through association with *parvis* abl. pl. of *parvus* small; cf. however the use of *parvis disputationibus* in the Laudian Statutes, App., III. § 9, p. 271.

1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 92 The Little Go (at Oxford the Smalls). 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* x, I ought to be going up for smalls myself next term. 1880 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* ii, He had been 'ploughed' for 'smalls' and everything else.

11. *The smalls*, in theatrical use (see quot. 1891).

1891 *Ardrossan Her.* 11 Sept. 4 Having travelled much through the smalls (a theatrical term applied to towns not boasting a regularly built and properly appointed theatre). 1907 H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* xxx, Wanted..Smart Young Gent to tour the smalls.

12. *Small and early*, a small evening party not intended to continue to a late hour.

[1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* xi, For the clearing off of these worthies, Mrs. Podsnap added a small and early evening to the dinner.] 1880 LD. BEACONSFIELD *Endymion* lxxvii, Well, there are not many dinners among them, to be sure...Small and earlies. How I hate a 'small and early!' 1888 H. JAMES *Partial Portr.* 360 To the afternoon tea, to the fashionable 'squash', to the late and suffocating 'small and early'.

Small (smɔ̄l), *adv.* Forms: 1, 4–5 **smale**, 5 **smalle**, 4–7 **smal**, 5– **small**. [f. SMALL *a.*]

1. Into small pieces or morsels.

In some examples perh. the adj. used predicatively.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiii, Þeah ðu hi smale todæle swa dust. 1381 in Knighton *Chron.* (Rolls) 138 Iakke Mylner..hath grounden smal smal. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 6 Þan choppe hem smale. *Ibid.* 10 Tese it smal an bray it in a morter. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 278 The floures are blewe,..with five little leaves underneath them, very small cut and jagged. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Levit.* xvi. 12 This incens smal-beaten might figure Christ in his Agonie. 1653 WALTON *Angler* I. iii. (1896) 57 Bruise or cut very smal into your butter, a little Time. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farm.* 81 Geese will..fatten well on carrots cut small. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 811 A quarter of an ounce avoirdupoise of the finest white soap, grated small.

†**2.** To a small extent or degree; little, not much; slightly. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Peter*) 411, I dred rycht small þine angelis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 592, I wepte but smal. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 11 He trompit nocht small, quhen he send his Apostlis our all the warld to ger schawe the cristyn faith. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* Prol. ii, I knew small quhat hir mater did mene. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1273 If thou dost weep.., it small avails my mood. 1637 STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) II. 83 But in Truth, this moves me very small.

†**b.** Const. *to* one's gain or profit. *Obs.*

1582 A. MUNDAY *Eng. Rom. Life* 61 Promising..hee would informe the Pope of it, which should bee but small to their profite. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1808) III. 94 The Frenchmen..sometimes made issues foorth, but small to their gaine.

3. Quietly, gently; in a small or low voice.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7239 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder gynneþ leighe smale. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 49 That's all one, you shall play it in a Maske, and you may speake as small as you will. 1598— *Merry W.* I. i. 49 She has browne haire, and speakes small like a woman. 1887 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* viii, The reposing toiler, thoughtfully smoking, talking small, as if in honour of the stillness.

†**b.** Slyly; wantonly. *Obs.*—1

c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 16 She helde not her astate.., for she loked smal and wynked ofte.., and euer loked ouer the shuldre.

4. *To sing small*: †**a.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—0

1623 COCKERAM I, *Minuriae*, to sing small, to faine in singing.

b. *colloq.* To adopt a humble tone or manner; to use less assertive language, or to qualify or withdraw a previous statement; to say nothing, to be silent or dumb.

See also the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* for dialect usage.

1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1812) I. 120, I must myself sing small in her company; I will never meet at hard-edge with her. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sing small*, to be humbled, confounded, or abashed, to have little or nothing to say for one's self. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Row in Omnibus*, Fiddle-de-dee's at the top of the tree, And Dol-drum and Fal-de-ral-tit sing small! 1880 GLADSTONE in Morley *Life* VIII. vii. (1905) II. 354 Sir R. Peel endorsed the remonstrance and I had to sing small.

5. In a fine or small manner; on a small scale, etc. Also in *small-set* adj.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 197 It would be no art.. to spin small, and make hypocrisy a goodly web, and to go through the market as a saint among men. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3944/4 Also John Simonds, a small-set Fellow. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 47 Her open eyes, Where he was mirror'd small in paradise.

Small (smɔ̄l), *v. rare.* Also 5 **smalyn, smale.** [f. SMALL *a.* Cf. OE. *smaligan* (rare), MDu. *smalen* (*smallen*), MLG. *smalen, smelen*, MHG. *smaln* (G. dial. *schmalen*) and *smeln* (G. *schmälen*), older Da. *smale, smalle.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To make small; to lessen, reduce. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 85 Smale þe lippis of woundis þat ben greate. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smalyn, or make lesse, *minoro.* 1611 COTGR., *Apointi*, ..sharpened, or smalled, at the point.

2. *intr.* To become small; to diminish, grow less. Hence **Sma·lling** *ppl. a.*

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Woodman's Bear* liv, I saw, ..Smalling down by measure's law, Her straight comely shapen back. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 36 By sucking at the smalling Pipe, more of the Air..may be suck'd out. 1899 T. HARDY *Departure* Poems (1902) 7 The broad bottoms rip the bearing brine—All smalling slowly to the gray sea line.

Smallage (smɔ̄·lédʒ). Forms: *a.* 3 **smal**, 4 **smale ache**, 5–6 **smalache**, 5–7 **-ach**, 6–7 **small-ach(e.** *β.* 5 **smalege, -edge**, 6–7 **smalledge**, 7 **-adge**, 6– **smallage.** [f. SMALL *a.* 21 b + ACHE *sb.*²] One or other of several varieties of celery or parsley; *esp.* wild celery or water parsley, *Apium graveolens.* Now *rare.*

a. c 1290 *St. Cuthbert* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 360 'Nim,' he seide, 'þe milk of one kov.., luys of smal-Ache do þar-to'. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 11 *Apium simpliciter*, ..smale ache. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 94 Leie on þis confeccioun maad of flour of wheete & hony & ius of smalache. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 101 Take smalache, reed fenel, rewe, verueyne [etc.]. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 134 The decoction of rosemarye,..alexander, smallach, &c. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 606 Smallache hath shyning leaues of a darke greene colour. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* 719 Afterwards when these [Isthmian] Games were accounted, they translated thither..the chaplet of Smallach.

β. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 711 *Hoc apium*, smalege. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Smallage an herbe, *ache.* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 40 Smallage hath suche a strong savor,..that no man can..eat it with hys meate. 1636 W. LENNY in *Ann. Dubrensia* (1877) 13 Each three yeeres Victor was with Smallage crown'd, Whose pendant leaves, his head enshadow'd round. 1685 TEMPLE *Ess. Gardens* Wks. 1720 I. 178 The Plants he mentions, are the *Apium*, which tho' commonly interpreted *Parsly*, yet comprehends all Sorts of Smallage, whereof Sellery is one. 1712 *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 2 The large Smallage, which the Gardiners falsly call Macedonian-Parsley. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvii. (1794) 236 Our wild Smallage,..which is common by ditches and brooks, cannot be rendered esculent by culture. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 248 The *cicuta virosa*, or water-hemlock, the leaves of which have been mistaken for smallage. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 290/2 Celery,..a biennial plant..which, in its native condition, is known in England as smallage.

attrib. c 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* g iv, Smalladge rote hanged aboute thy necke doth alay the tooth ache. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1677) 130 Smallage-Gruel. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1063 Give in Wine the decoction..of the Cyprus Nut, Smallage-seed. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 141 When it is cooked, add pepper and smallage seed.

Sma·ll-arm. Also **small arm.** [Back-formation from SMALL-ARMS, at first in attrib. use.]

1. *attrib.* **a.** Using or provided with small-arms.

1805 E. P. *Let.* in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II 577, I acted both in the capacity of a commanding officer,.. small-arm-man, and powder-boy. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xv, Fire, small arm men, and take good aim. 1892 BRIGHTON *Sir P. Wallis* 67 The Chesapeake had attached much importance to her small-arm force.

b. Intended or adapted for small-arms.

1807 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 219/2 Small-arm ammunition. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 390/2 Small-arm Cartridge.

2. A fire-arm which may be carried in the hand.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2219/2 *Small-arm*, a term including muskets, rifles, carbines, and pistols. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 113 Owing to the introduction..of the Snider breech-loader, which prevented the general use of the Whitworth small-arm in military circles.

Hence **Sma·ll-armed** *a.*, provided with small-arms; **Sma·ll-a·rmoury**, an armoury for small-arms.

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 340 Two..rooms, one of which is a small-armoury for the sea-service. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 50 Their force consisted of 80 marines, and 180 small-armed seamen. 1812 *Examiner* 31 Aug. 553/1 To disperse some small armed men collected on the shore.

Sma·ll-arms. [f. SMALL *a.* + ARM *sb.*² 2.] Fire-arms capable of being carried in the hand, as contrasted with ordnance.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2702/2 Powder, small Ball, and small Arms. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 379 Her topmen..made prodigious havock with their small arms. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 756 During the war no less than three millions of small arms had been manufactured there for the use of the Allies. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 267/2 The fire of modern small-arms has become so infinitely more deadly.

attrib. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 10 Dec., The Government small-arms establishment at Enfield. 1905 H. NEWMAN in E. Candler *Unveiling of Lhasa* x. 192 Then followed several hours of cannonading and small-arms fire.

Small beer. [SMALL *a.* 12 a.]

1. Beer of a weak, poor, or inferior quality.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 359 For drinke, they had none but small Ale or Beere. 1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 242 His Poetry more spiritlesse than smal beere. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* II. ii, Such as eat store of beef..may preserve their healths With that thin composition called small beer. 1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege Londonderry* 56/2 That every Soldier..shall be allowed a quart of small Beer *per diem.* 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* (1726) App. 317, I think there ought to be something allow'd besides small-beer and apple-dumplings. 1770 MASSIE *Tax upon Malt* 6 The Quantity of small Beer annually brewed for Sale in England and Wales, is about Two Millions Three Hundred Thousand Barrels. 1822 IMISON *Sci. & Art* II. 168 The liquor in this state is pretty nearly of the colour of small beer. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Bl. Mousquetaire* 535 The Black Mousquetaire was as dead as Small beer!

2. *transf.* **a.** Trivial occupations, affairs, etc.; matters or persons of little or no consequence or importance; trifles.

[1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 161 To suckle Fooles, and chronicle small Beere. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Examiner* No. 4 ¶ 5 As rational Writings have been represented by Wine; I shall represent those Kinds of Writings we are now speaking of, by Small Beer.] 1777 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 464 The torment of hearing eternally reflections upon my constituents, that they are..smallbeer,.. is what I will not endure. 1844 THACKERAY *B. Lyndon* xiv, All the news of sport, assize, and quarter-sessions were detailed by this worthy chronicler of small-beer. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Sept. 379 A twice-told tale, or a chronicle of small beer.

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 23 Our farmers..call even the second running [of the water] by the significant name of small-beer.

c. *To think small beer of*, or variants of this: To have a poor or low opinion of (oneself or others). Chiefly with negatives. *colloq.*

1825 C. WESTMACOTT *English Spy* I. 32 He was not thought small beer of. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxxix, She thinks small beer of painters, J. J.—well, we don't think small beer of ourselves, my noble friend. 1873 *Punch* 18 Jan. 30/2 Is it consistent for..a teetotaller to think no small beer of himself?

3. *attrib.* **a.** In sense 1, as *small-beer allowance, firkin, wort, yeast.*

1743 *Lond. & Co. Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 157 The small-beer-firkin being 9 Gallons. 1746 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* (1757) 47 The Fleet sailed without Small Beer Allowance. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 275, I recommended them to procure some small-beer yeast. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 741 Litmus blue is prepared by boiling litmus in small-beer wort.

b. In fig. uses (cf. sense 2), as *small-beer air, character, chronicle*, etc.

1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* iii. 262 Eudæmon, still..in Small-beer ayre [you] Flutter with feeble wings. 1682a MRS. BEHN *City Heiress* 29 That..Puritanical, Phanatical, Small-beer face of thine. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* (1726) App. 318 A lad may..chop logic as glibly in a college, where they eat and drink like christians, as in any small-beer hall whatsoever. 1789 GOUVR. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 92 If the reigning prince were not the small-beer character that he is. 1824 *Westm. Rev.* July 181 The second volume [of *Redgauntlet*] contains a diary, or small-beer journal. 1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Small-beer Chronicle*, In the House of Commons what small-beer orators try to pass for strong?

4. *Comb.* (sense 1), as *small-beer brewer, drawer, -drinker.*

1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 31 When as water or small-beere-drinkers looke like Apes rather then men. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 25 (1726) 132 Under pain of having his said lucubrations burnt..by the hands of the small-beer drawer. 1743 *Lond. & Co. Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 159 Two considerable Small-Beer Brewers.

Small-clothes. Also **smallclothes.** [SMALL *a.* 3.]

1. Breeches; knee-breeches. (Cf. SMALL *sb.* 9 a.)

1796 J. HUNTER *Trav.* 297 The immensity of their breeches, (for, in spite of the fashionable phrase, it would certainly be a perversion of terms to call them small-clothes). 1812 W. COMBE *Syntax, Picturesque* XX, One who was in full fashion drest,..His small-clothes sat so close and tight. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* iii, Two great footmen, with red whiskers and yellow plush smallclothes. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* I. 84 He leaned back in his chair, with one hand in the pocket of his small-clothes.

2. *transf.* One who wears breeches.

1825 COLERIDGE *Lett., Convers.*, etc. II. 210 An audience of respectable smallclothes and petticoats.

Small coal. Also **small-coal.** [SMALL *a.* 4.]

1. Charcoal. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1638 FORD *Fancies* v. i, Your suds and pan of small-coal. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 88 Smal-coale is commonly known unto all, and for this use is made of Sallow, Willow, Alder, Hasell, and the like. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4094/3 The Bran and Smallcoal made at their Office on Tower-hill. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Coal*, An Artificial Fuel made.. by half burning the Branches and Roots of Trees; properly call'd *Charcoal*, and *Smallcoal.*

2. Coal of small size; slack.

1665 DUDLEY *Mettall. Martis* (1854) 8 Knowing that if there could be any use made of the Smal-coale.., then would they be drawn out of the Pits. 1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 898 The Men..hid themselves as well as they could in the loose sleck or small Cole. 1755 JOHNSON, *Slack*, small coal; coal broken in small parts. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 205 Small-coal is thrown..into the hollow fire to replace that which is burned. 1891 *Weekly Notes* 136/2 The small coal was mainly produced by the friction of the blocks while being brought to the surface.

3. *attrib.*, as *small-coal man, question, trade*, etc.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 129 He lookt like a Small-Coal-man. 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 103 Thomas Britton..set up the Small-coal Trade. 1847 THACKERAY *Curate's Walk* Wks. 1900 VI. 552 The Curate was very deep in conversation with a small-coalman. 1898 *Daily News* 6 May 2/7 At the same time there was a vehement dispute on the small coal question.

Small-craft. [See CRAFT *sb.* 9 a.] In attrib. use, as *small-craft man, vessel*, etc. Also *transf.*

1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* iii. (1697) 51 He..whom t'other Day A small-craft Vessel hither did convey. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 97 We essay-writers are of the small-craft or galley-kind. 1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 33 On board some small-craft man of war. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 143 Captain Jerry had the habit, which small-craft men are apt to get, of consulting aloud with himself.

Small-eyed, *a.* [SMALL *a.* 23.] Having small eyes. Also *transf.* of spectacles.

1630 DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* 481 The small-ey'd slow-worm held of many blind. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2176/4 A black Negro Man,..small in the Waste, small Ey'd. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. ii. 502 Small Eyed Cachalot, *Physeter Microps.* 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 433 The Small-eyed Ray, *raia microcellata.* 1840 DICKENS *B. Rudge* iv, Sim..was an old-fashioned,..sharp-nosed, small-eyed little fellow. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 9/3 Small-eyed spectacles made at the suggestion of Sir Isaac Newton.

Small fry: see FRY *sb.*[1] 4.

Small-headed, *a.* [SMALL *a.* 23.] Having a small head.

1611 COTGR., *Sauge*, a small-headed,..vnwholesome sea-fish. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 113 The great, thick, small-headed Testudo. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 13 A tall small-headed tree. 1812 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VI. 62 Small-headed Flycatcher, *Muscicapa minuta.* 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 221 *Pleuronectes microcephalus*, Small-headed Dab. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 320 A tall, large-bodied, small-headed man.

Smalling, *ppl. a.*: see SMALL *v.*

Smallish (smɔ̄·liʃ), *a.* [f. SMALL *a.*] Somewhat small; rather little.

† *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 826 His shuldres of a large brede, And smalish in the girdilstede. 1611 COTGR., *Menuet*, smallish. 1763 COLE in *Collect. Topogr. & Gen.* (1837) IV. 48 The 4th coffin has nothing on y^e^ plate, and is a smallish one. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 24 Dec., I send you a decent smallish muff, that you may put in your pocket.

1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 440 The pieces of ice were fortunately of smallish dimensions. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. v. (1872) I. 42 Small troubles, the antagonism to which is apt to become itself of smallish character. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 385 These cattle are smallish and weak.

Small-mouth, *a.* [SMALL *a.* 22.] Of bass: Small-mouthed.

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 401 The Big-mouth Black Bass,..and the Small-mouth Black Bass, *micropterus dolomieï.* 1909 *Daily Chron.* 22 Sept. 1/6 Bass of the small mouth variety live better in fresh water.

b. *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 401 The Small-mouth shares with the Large-mouth in the Southern States the names 'Jumper', 'Perch', and 'Trout'. *Ibid.* 402 The Small-mouths found their way into the Hudson in 1825 or soon after.

Small-mouthed, *a.* [SMALL *a.* 23.] Having a small mouth; *spec.* of certain fishes (see later quots.).

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 78 The .ix. propertyes of an asse. The fyrste is to be small-mouthed. 1611 COTGR., *Derbro*, a kind of small-mouthed..Sea-fish. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 445 Small-mouthed Sparus, *Sparus Microstomus.* 1839 YARRELL *Suppl. Brit. Fishes* 36 The Small-mouthed Wrasse, *Crenilabrus exoletus.* 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 485 *Micropterus dolomieï*, Small-mouthed Black Bass.

Smallness (smɔ̄·lnés). Also 4–7 smal-, 6–7 smale-, 7 smalle-; 4–7 **-nesse**, 5–7 **-nes** (5 **-nez**). [f. SMALL *a.*]

† **1.** Slimness; slenderness. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 181 Whan þe lymes beeþ ..as they schulde be in schappe,..quantite, and gretnesse and smalnesse. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 60 If þe pacient of emoroidez be of malencolious complexion, þise bene toknez:—smalnez of body [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346 A Smalnes, *gracilitas.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Exilitas*, sclendernesse: thinnesse. *Foliorum exilitas*,.. the smalnesse. 1623 COCKERAM II, Smalnes, *tenuitie.* 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* i. (Dubl.) 7 The Roots, tho' very weak and slender, are easily supported.., notwithstanding their Length, Smallness and Flexibility. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xiii. 336 Notwithstanding the great length and smallness of his legs.

2. The fact or quality of being small, in various senses: **a.** In size or extent.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (Bodl. MS.), Treen beþ diuers..in gretenes and in smalnes and in strengþe. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 § 14 Nott regardyng the.. greatnesse or smalnes of the same penyes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 31 Not vnlyke the Beechemast both in colour and fourme, differing onely in the smalenesse. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 425 The Sea Oxe differeth nothing from the Land Oxe, save in smalnesse of stature. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 212 According to the height you raise the Water, may you proportion the greatness or smallness of your Engine. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 138 The Smallness of my Boat. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 399 The great evil is the smallness of farms. 1802 DIBDIN *Edit. Classics* Advt., The smallness and closeness of the type. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 221 Proportional to the smallness of the pieces into which the sphere is divided. 1884 G. F. BRAITHWAITE *Salmonidæ Westm.* ii. 7 They are easily distinguished..by the smallness of their scales.

b. In capacity, ability, etc.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 96 þe smalnes certan of my mynde can-not opyn itt. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* Author's Prol., That..the smalnes of my eloquence..shold be lytle regarded. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 291 God..abaseth himselfe to our smallnesse. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 9 The embassadors..being the apter to bear with the smallness of his sufficiency.

c. In strength, quality, or vigour.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Exilitas*, The smalnesse of a womans voyce. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 39 There is great difference to be found in Beere, according to the strength and smalnesse of it. 1662 R. LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge e v b, Sadnesse doth by degrees dissolve the spirits,..and cause..palenesse, and smallenesse of pulse. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., The smallness of a female voice. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *The Ox* 133/1 Let not the smallness of the pulse deter from bleeding.

d. In amount, quantity, etc.

1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* iii. 12 The greatnes of his work for us to the smalnes of ours unto him. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 107 By reason of the..smallness of the Rains ..most Rivers are much wanting in Water. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) I. 241/1 They never considered the smallness of his supplies. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Hist. Vermont* 299 Encouraged by the smallness of the taxes. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 554 The smallness of the booty disappointed the plunderers. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Apr. 4/6 The smallness of the work achieved.

e. In respect of numbers.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxix. (1787) III. 127 Such was the smallness of their establishments, or the difficulty of recruiting. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 469 A large growth of grass, ..owing to the comparative smallness of stock kept, remains ..to be consumed. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, The smallness of his party—on his biggest expedition he only had five men..—may partly account for this.

3. Littleness of mind; meanness, pettiness.

1813 *Examiner* 321 May 350/1 There is a stiff smallness about his mind. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xiii, That was honest enough, and no smallness of me there. 1883 *Good Words* 196 Not one of hi+children but tried to conquer self and smallness when he was by.

4. With pl. A small part, portion, etc. *rare.*

1832 L. HUNT *Poems* (1860) 269 Compound of lovely smallnesses.

Small-pock. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also **small pock.** [SMALL *a.* 3.] One of the pustules which appear on the skin in the disease of small-pox; the disease itself. Also *attrib.*

14.., 1530 [see POCK *sb.* 2 β]. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II, *Pustula*,..a small pock. 1797 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVII. 207 The upper part..was a little concave, like the head of a turned small-pock. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 339 Master T—, the first subject mentioned with Small-pock, died on the 27th. 1825 *Q. Rev.* XXXIII. 238 Valli diluted the pestilential matter with small-pock matter.

Small-pox (smɔ̄·l,pɒks), *sb.* Forms: α. 6–7 small pockes (6 pokkes, 7 pocks), 7–9 small-pocks. β. 7 small poxe, 7– small pox, small-pox, 8– smallpox. [f. SMALL *a.* + POX *sb.*, earlier *pocks* (POCK *sb.* 2 α). Long written as two words, the adj. being employed to distinguish the disease from the pox proper, or *great pox.*]

1. The pox or pustules on the skin which form the most characteristic feature of the acute contagious disease sometimes called variola; hence commonly, the disease itself. **a.** With *the.*

It is only in certain contexts that the two senses can be clearly distinguished. In later use, when denoting the disease, the word is construed as a singular.

α. 1518 PACE in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII* (1864) II. II. 1333 They do die in these parts [Wallingford]..of the small pokkes and mezils. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* CCXVI. 74 There be many sodein sickenesses, as the pestilence,..the small pockes, the crampe. 1608 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* xi-xii. 81 They are as willing that the small pockes should deforme theyr faire faces. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 569 The third Epidemical Constitution..was that of the Small-pocks. 1788 *Med. Comm.* II. 183 The small-pocks are often confluent upon the face and head, whilst they are distinct every where else.

β. 1623 HART *Arraignm. Ur.* iii. 46 Small wheales like the small poxe. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 39 Prince Maurice..hath lately been much disfigured by the small-pox. *c* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 45 This yeare he had the small pox so much that he was for a time blinded with them. 1764 REID *Let.* Wks. 1863 I. 40/2 The street we live in..was infested with the smallpox, which were very mortal. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 306 The small-pox was not to be named in his presence. 1843 ABDY *Water Cure* 180 Thirty or more of the boys..fell sick of the small-pox. 1891 C ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 87 The small-pox was making fearful havoc with the country.

b. Without article.

α. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Pustulæ*, Small pockes. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 335 The disorder of small-pocks or measles.

β. 1676 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg* IV. ii. ix. (1685) 213 Custom tells us, that those large Pustles..are called Small-Pox. 1784 *New Spectator* No xvii. 3 A young man of some little education, pitted with small pox. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 143/1 Small-pox according to its severity, is distinguished by authors into two varieties, the *distinct* and the *confluent.* 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med* (ed 3) I. 149 Small-Pox is very easily conveyed from one individual to another by inoculation, contact, and infection. 1889 G. GRESSWELL *Dis. Ox* 311 'Small pox in Sheep ..is known scientifically under the name of *Variola ovina.*

2. *attrib.*, as *small-pox case, epidemic*, etc.

1775 ASH s.v., Smallpox hospital 1834 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* III. 736/1 The pestilential vapour of small-pox pustules. *Ibid.* 744/1 Medical men who visit small-pox patients. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxxi, Are you aware that..this building is assigned to small-pox cases? 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* 2 The appalling smallpox epidemic.

b. *Small-pox cowry, shell* (see quots.).

1796 NEMNICH *Polyglot.-Lex.* V. 896 Small-pox shell, *Cypraea caurica.* 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 257/1 *Cypræa pustulata*, Lam., commonly called by collectors the Small-pox Cowry.

Hence **Sma·ll-pox** *v.*; **Sma·ll-poxed** *a.*, marked by or suffering from small-pox.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 281 A man must have a daring front to attack these small-poxed Muses. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 9 The present of 300 smallpoxed prisoners. 1897 GUNTER *S. Turnbull* xvi. 196 'What do you say to taking a tour of the hospitals?' 'Gad! Do you wish to smallpox me?' growls Philip, angrily.

Small shot: see SHOT *sb.*

Small-sword. [SMALL *a.* 2.] A kind of light sword, tapering gradually from the hilt to the point, and esp. used in fencing.

1687 [see below]. 1707 HOPE *New Method Fencing* p. ix, A sufficient Guard and Defence, against all the Thrusts of the Small-Sword. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* v. ii, Isn't it a wound with a small-sword? 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxii, He accepted the challenge, but having no knowledge of the small-sword, refused to fight unless with pistols. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. v, Father Holt was an expert practitioner with the small-sword.

b. *attrib.*, as *small-sword exercise, logic, man*, etc.

1687 HOPE (*title*), The Scots Fencing-Master, or Compleat Small-Sword-Man. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, The *pro* and *con* goes as smart as hits in a fencing-match. It is, indeed, a sort of small-sword logic. 1803 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 525/2 If he would take a foil and indulge him with a lesson in the small-sword exercise. *a* 1814 *Manœuvring* IV. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 117 All this sparring and small-sword play of wit.

Small-talk, *sb.* Also **small talk.** [SMALL *a.* 18.] Light talk or conversation; chit-chat, gossip.

1751 CHESTERF. *Let.* 20 June, A sort of chit-chat, or *small-talk*, which is the general run of conversation..in most mixed companies. 1762 LADY S. LENNOX in *Life & Lett.* (1901) I. 122, I have wrote a great deal of *small talk*, as Mercadie calls it. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iii. 70 As your tea you sip, While the town small-talk flows from lip to lip. 1885 PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 18 The mere offer..may lead to volumes of small-talk.

Hence **Small-talk** *v. intr.*, to engage in small-talk; **Small-talkable** *a.*, **-talker, -talking.**

1782 G. K. (*title*), The Festival of Wit; or, [the] Small Talker. 1785 COLMAN in *European Mag.* IX. 370 Small wit, small plot—and last—not least, small-talking. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* v. 116 Thou in the palace, its author, art dining, small-talking and dancing. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. in White* i. vi, A flirtable, danceable, small-talkable creature of the male sex.

†Sma·llum, *adv. Obs.*—° [f. SMALL *a.* Cf. LITLUM *adv.*] In small pieces or quantities.

Smallums, 'small quantities', 'small sums', occurs in modern north. dial. use.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 Smallum,..*minutim.*

Small-ware(s. [SMALL *a.* 3.] (See quot. 1839.) Chiefly in pl.

1617 MINSHEU *Ductor,* An Habberdasher of small wares... In London also called a Millenier. 1630– [see HABERDASHER *b*]. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Decl. Advs.* Wks. 1730 I. 40 Achilles..fell..into a great huff with Alexander Magnus, haberdasher of small-wares. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 216 A spruce Haberdasher first spoke me fair, But I would have nothing to do with small-ware. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1141 *Small Wares,* is the name given in this country to textile articles of the tape kind, narrow bindings of cotton, linen, silk, or woollen fabric; plaited sash cord, braid, &c. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/4 Hosiery, Haberdashery, Smallwares, Wools, &c.

fig. 1720 SWIFT *Adv. to Young Poet* Wks. 1841 II. 299 Every one knows Grub-street is a market for small ware in wit.

b. *attrib.,* as *small-ware dealer, merchant, shop.*

1834 *Picture of Liverpool* 73 Smallware dealer. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xiv, I..set up a small-ware shop. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Smallware-dealer, Small-ware-merchant,* a shop-keeper who keeps small wares; a merchant who supplies them.

Smally (smō·li), *a.* [f. SMALL *a.* + -Y.]

†1. Of liquor: Weak, small, thin. *Obs.*—1

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 88 b, They make a drinke called Cyder, and a smaly drinke beside with water.

2. Of persons or animals: Puny, little; smallish. *Sc.* and *north dial.*

1808 in JAMIESON. 1820 *Glenfergus* II. 267 On the swaird before the mansion, two smally dry haired ponies were feeding. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., A poor smally creature. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 359 But Jane was our only daughter,..a wee, smally bit thing.

†Sma·lly, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 4 **smalliche,** 5–7 **smally,** 6 **smallye, -ie, smaly.** [f. SMALL *a.* + -LY 2.] In very common use *c* 1525–1650.]

1. In or into small or minute pieces, fragments, etc.; finely, minutely.

1340 *Ayenb.* 111 Þet me ssel recordi zueteliche and smalliche be little stechches alle þe guodnesses of oure lhorde. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 Smally, *minutim.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 301 His leaves are not so smally cut. 1598 FLORIO, *Pioueli*care, to drizle, to mizle, or raine smallie. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. lii. 299 Water wherein..the hearb of arsmanarck hath bin wel sod in, and smally chopt. 1662 CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* To Rdr., Gold and Silver, how smally soever they may be divided.

2. By a small number; sparsely, scantily.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. (1811) 111 This swerdman..fand yᵉ kyng smally accompanyed. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* (1809) 196 Besieged the citie of Arques,..whiche was smally defended and sone gotten. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. ix. 32 Although it bee in a climate more commodious.., yet is it smally peopled and inhabited.

3. In only a slight or small degree; to a small or limited extent; not much, very little. Freq. preceded by *but.*

(*a*) 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froissart* I. ccxxxviii. 343 This courtesy..dyde the prince to the kynge, the whiche after was but smally rewarded. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* III. 39 The hurt of his shoulder, whereof the skin was but smally perished. 1622 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. ii. 11 Which you doe but smally credite. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxv. 42 Seneca quitted the Audience with this but smally satisfactory resolution.

(*b*) 1532 in J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* (1868) I. 221 We think this answer..will smally please you. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* Q iij b, In case ye smally beleve myne, marke, I praie you, his owne woords. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 541 It is needlesse, or at least smally to the purpose. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 109, I cannot prove..that a man smally beneficed must of necessity be dissolute.

b. With verbs of considering, regarding, etc.

Very common from *c* 1550 to *c* 1630.

1532 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. 213 All such acts made for reformation..be smally regarded. 1562 MOUNTGOMERY in *Archæologia* XLVII. 220 Ower natiue Inglishe sowldior,..whome wee smallie consider. 1609 R. BARNARD *Faithf. Sheph.* 16 They smally account of our translations. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 303 Smally valuing either Gold, or Pearles as I doe.

c. *Not smally,* greatly, very much.

1562 LEIGH *Armory* (1597) A iv b, Rome eke was not smally inriched by her Orator. 1578 J. JONES *Preserv. Body & Soul* I. xxx. 60 Not a little auayleable to his.. immortall glory, not smally beneficial to yᵉ Romane Empire. 1610 R. TOFTE *Honour's Acad.* 2 Not smally fortunate did he thinke himselfe.

4. In small form or compass; slenderly.

1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse-Race* Wks. (Grosart) III. 336 As that nut-shell held all Homers Iliads smally written in a peece of Vellum. 1630 *Tom Thumbe* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 179 His shirt..Both light and soft for those his limbes that were so smally bred.

Smalm (smām), *v. dial.* Also sma(a)m, smawm, smarm. [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To smear, bedaub.

1847 HALLIW., *Smæum,* to smear. *Dorset.* 1890 JESSOP *Trials Country Parson* iv. 160 Mummies smalmed over with tawdry pigments.

Smalt (smōlt), *sb.* (and *a.*). Also 6, 8 **smalte,** 7 **smaut(e.** [a. F. *smalt* (cf. Du. *smalt,* G. *schmalte*), ad. It. *smalto* SMALTO.]

1. A species of glass, usually coloured a deep blue by oxide of cobalt, etc., and after cooling finely pulverized for use as a pigment or colouring matter.

1558 W. WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* I. vi. 118 b, Take white smalte well beaten in poulder. 1573 *Art of Limming* p. iiij, Smalte or florrey being tempered in a shell with gumme water maketh a blewe. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 83 The principale blewes..are Blew bice, Smalt. 1618 *Patent Specif.* (1856) No. 7. 1 And shall also make the same Smaulte as good..as the Smault heretofore brought from beyond the Seas. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 149/2 *Smalt,* some call it blew Starch; because much used by Landresses in their Starch to make it blew. 1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 325 Being strewed upon oil paintings for a sparkling black in the same way as smalt is strewed for blue. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. Notes 52 The Saxon mines have till very lately almost exclusively supplied the rest of Europe with..zaffre and smalt. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 302 The.. nickel..must not be suffered to become oxidized, lest it should spoil the colour of the smalt. 1852 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ii. § 3 (ed. 2) 102 The starch is washed, mixed with a little smalt, to give it the blue tinge preferred in the market. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 225/2 The beauty of the blue colour, upon which the value of smalt depends.

b. *pl.* Various kinds of this. *rare.*

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomatius* III. 106 Azures and smaltes shaddow those skiecolours, which are made of them and white mixed together.

2. A deep blue colour like that of smalt.

1881 *Spectator* 2 July 860 Red and yellow, and emerald-green and smalt, all figure together on the same ribbon or dress piece. 1904 *19th Cent.* July 136 The cruder smalts and chromes and dead gold of old illuminators.

3. A piece of coloured glass. Cf. SMALTO.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 581/2 The pieces of glass of every shade of colour are technically called *smalts*; they are generally opaque. 1887 SIR G. W. COX *Cycl. Comm. Things* (ed. 6) 391 Roman Mosaics are pictures composed of little pieces of coloured glass called *smalti* or smalts. *Ibid.,* The smalts are made in long slender rods of many thousands of different colours and shades.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *smalt-blue* adj., *furnace, -glass,* etc.; **smalt-blue,** powder blue.

1681 GREW *Museum* IV. III. 376 A piece of Smalt-Glass. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., The necessity of having expert workmen for the smalt-making. *Ibid.,* Intelligent persons are necessary in the smalt-works. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 27 Smalt blue,..paler than the preceding [azure blue]. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xx. 174 A smalt-blue finger glass. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 302 A round smalt furnace. 1855 J. R. L[EIFCHILD] *Cornw. Mines* 216 An ore of cobalt,..from which the beautiful blue glass and smalt-blue are made.

b. As *adj.* Of the colour of smalt; deep blue.

1880 MRS. C. READE *Brown Hand & W.* I. 2 A courtyard roofed in by the smalt heaven of Italy.

Smaltine (smō·ltəin). *Min.* [f. SMALT *sb.* + -INE 5.] Tin-white cobalt.

1837 DANA *Min.* 402 Smaltine usually occurs in veins, accompanying other ores of cobalt and ores of silver and copper. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 81 Smaltine or speiss cobalt, an arsenide of the isomorphous bases, cobalt, nickel, and iron.

Sma·ltite. *Min.* [f. SMALT + -ITE 1 2 b.] = prec.

1868 DANA *Min.* 71 *Cobaltite*..and smaltite afford the greater part of the smalt of commerce. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 635/1 The ores employed in the metallurgy of arsenic are..arsenical pyrites, smaltite, and cobaltite.

‖ **Sma·lto.** Also *pl.* **smalti** (8 **smalte**). [It. (cf. med.L. *smaltum,* from 9th cent.), of Teutonic origin and related to SMELT *v.* Cf. AMEL *sb.*] Coloured glass or enamel used for mosaic work, etc.; a small cube or piece of this.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 377 Old Roman Mosaic, compos'd of little Pieces of Clay half vitrify'd, and prepar'd at the Glass-Houses, which the Italians call *Smalte.* 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 80 These *smalti* are vitrified but opaque, partaking of the nature of stone and glass, or enamels. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 14 Buttons of repoussé work, or ancient smalto. 1896 *Daily News* 27 Mar. 2/1 The work of producing the 'smalto', or choice opaque glass of various colours.

Smalts (smōlts). [app. the plural of SMALT taken as a sing.] = SMALT *sb.* 1.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art Surv.* II. vi. 57 Pasture would be put into a deeper Greene made of the mixture of Azure and Smalts with Pincke. 1669 STURMY *Mar. Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 With Blew Smalts strew very thick the Border while it is wet. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 257 The substance termed smalts, used as a colouring substance. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 64 The calx of Cobalt has the property, that it can be melted into a blue glass, called smalts. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 82/2 The principal use of smalts is for bluing paper.

Smaragd (smæ·rægd). Now *rare.* Forms: *a.* 3–8 **smaragde,** 4– **smaragd** (6–7 **smarag**). *β.* 6 **smaradg,** 6–7 **smaradge.** [a. OF. *smaragde* (more commonly *esmaragde, esmeraude, -alde*: see EMERALD), or ad. L. *smaragdus* SMARAGDUS. Cf. MDu. and Du. *smaragd,* MHG. *smaragt* (G. *smaragd,* † *schmaragd*).] A precious stone of a bright green colour; an emerald.

a. a 1272 *Lnue Ron* 174 in *O. E. Misc.,* Smaragde, Beril, and crisopace. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5683 (Bodl. MS.), Safyres, Smaragdes, & Margarites. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 135 In þe whiche londe beeþ..smaragdes, and oþer precious stones. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 25 Þare þai fynd ..þe fairest smaragdes þat er ower whare. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 265 Habergeownys also with smaragdis grene, & helmys with iacinte clere. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 158 The Smaragde is the trew emerode. 1580–3 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43 What is more pleasaunt to the sight, then a Smaragde, yet what lesse profitable, if it be not vsed? 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 178 The famous sealing-ring of Polycrates was a Smaragde. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 55 Borax or green Earth..is the better, by how much the nearer it comes to the colour of a true Smaragd. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cyc. I.* s.v., The Oriental Smaragds are..the hardest, and their Splendor the most vigorous. 1847 THACKERAY *Novels by Eminent Hands, Codlingsby* III. xxiv, Ruby, amethyst, and smaragd. 1885 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (1887) III. 41 Its skirts were set with the greenest smaragds.

transf. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 220 Cherie maist chaist,..Smaill sweit smaragde, smelling but smit of smot.

β. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 20 The Smaradge hath his name of his excellent and fresh greene colour. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 804 It is also said that, if a viper do behold a good smaradge, her eyes will melt. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* (1670) 259 The Emerald is a precious stone of a green colour, something like unto the Smaradge. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 41/1 The Smaradge, is of an excellent fresh green, far passing any Leaf.

Smara·gdian, *a. rare.* [f. SMARAGD + -IAN.] (See quot. and SMARAGDINE *a.* 2.)

1673 *Two Strange & Wonderful Prophets,* etc. Title-p., A New Prophecy lately discovered, written on a Smaragdian Table, by a Learned Rosy Crusian.

Smaragdine (smăræ·gdin, -əin), *sb.* and *a.* Also 5 **smaragdin, -yn(e, -en, -an, -one,** 6 **smaradine.** [ad. L. *smaragdin-us* of emerald, a. Gr. *σμαράγδιν-ος,* f. *σμάραγδος*: see SMARAGDUS. Cf. OF. *smaragdine* sb., mod.F. *smaragdin, -ine* adj.]

A. *sb.* = SMARAGD.

This use is due to a misunderstanding of the Vulgate text of *Rev.* iv. 3 'similis visioni smaragdinæ', which in turn is an inaccurate rendering of the Gr. ὅμοιος ὁράσει *σμαραγδίνῳ.*

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* iv. 3 The reynbowe was in the cumpas of the seete, lijk to the sigt of smaragdyn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 112 Ther sitten fyve Stones mo: The smaragdine is on of tho. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 924 Þis stone full of strenght,.. smaragden hit hat. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* clv, Off bestis sawe I mony diuerse kynd:..The pantere, like vnto the smaragdyne. 1584 R. W. *Three Ladies of Lond.* D iv, Besides I haue Diamondes, Rubyes, Emerodes,..Smaradines, ..and almost of all kinde of precious stones.

B. *adj.* 1. Of or belonging to, consisting of, a smaragd; resembling that of a smaragd; of an emerald green.

1591 LODGE *Catharos* F j b, He putteth a Smaragdine stone in his nest, against venemous beastes of the mountaines. 1611 H. BROUGHTON *Req. Agreement* 56 Now what meaneth this: A Rainbow was about the throne, in sight Smaragdine. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 170 If gold and silver together, a Smaragdine colour. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 283 Smaragdine (*Smaragdinus*), the green splendour of the emerald. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* 29/1 The spiritual sun, The Heavenly Earth smaragdine,..still exist. 1855 — *Mystic,* etc. 91 That smaragdine mirror (their chief toy Which all the angels wrought).

Comb. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 168 A smaragdine-greene. 1842 W. HOWITT *Life Germany* 349 Lakes and floods of the most lovely smaragdine-coloured waters.

2. *Smaragdine Table,* a mediæval Latin work on alchemy, *Tabula Smaragdina* (publ. 1541), attributed to the Egyptian Hermes Trismegistus.

1597 tr. *Hortulanus* (J. de Garlandia), A brief Commentarie upon the Smaragdine Table of Hermes of Alchemy. 1652 H. P. (*title*), Five Treatises of the Philosophers Stone. ..To which is added the Smaragdine Table. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 426 P 6, I shall never forget the venerable Air of his Countenance, when he let me into the profound Mysteries of the Smaragdine Table of Hermes.

Smaragdite (smăræ·gdəit). *Min.* [a. F. *smaragdite* (Saussure, 1796), f. Gr. *σμάραγδ-os* SMARAGD + -ITE 1 2 b. Cf. Gr. *σμαραγδίτης* (*λίθος*).] A brilliant grass-green or emerald-green variety of amphibole or hornblende.

In early use occasionally identified with diallage, to which it bears some resemblance.

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 306 The triple identity of the smaragdite, or diallage, the schiller spath, and the labrador hornblende. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 71 Smaragdite is of a brilliant or emerald green colour, and of a silky or pearly lustre. 1873 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XIII. 373 The grains of smaragdite are very indistinct in form.

‖ **Smaragdus** (smăræ·gdŭs). Now *rare.* [L., a. Gr. *σμάραγδος,* first recorded in Herodotus; the form *μάραγδος* also occurs in poets. The word is probably foreign to Greek, and connected with Skr. *marakata, marakta* emerald.] = SMARAGD.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxi. 19 The first foundement, iaspis;.. the fourthe, smaragdus. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 45 In þis hille is founde a preciouse stone þat is cleped þere smaragdus; and þis stoon..is kitte out of þis hille. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a ij b, The secunde stone is cald Smaragdus, a grauely stone signifiyng vert in armys. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 23 The precyous stone called Smaragdus (which is ye true Emerode). 1592 LODGE *Euphues Shadow* B iij, Who so liueth in Passan, must beare the stone Smaragdus with the Griphon against the stinging of Serpents. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. I. iv. 287 The Smaragdus, growing together with a pale Amethyst in one Matrix. 1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 596 The Gem, call'd by the antients Smaragdus, or the Emerald, was evidently the same with that we now know by that name. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* viii. 196 Color, taste, and smell, smaragdus, sugar, and musk.

†Smarald. *Obs.*—1 [var. of SMARAGD, after Fr. forms in *-alde.*] A smaragd; an emerald.

1599 R. LINCHE *Fount. Anc. Fiction* K iij, His shoes are made of the greene Smarald.

Smarm : see SMALM *v.*

Smart (smāɪt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3 smi(e)rte, 3–6 smerte (4 -tte), 4–6, 9 *Sc.* smert, 7 *Sc.* smairt; 5–6 smarte, 5– smart. [ME. *smierte, smerte*, app. :—OE. **smiertu*, f. *smeart* SMART *a.* Cf. Fris. *smert*, MDu. and MLG. *smerte, smarte* (Du. and LG. *smart*, Da. *smerte*, Sw. *smärta*), OHG. *smerza* fem., also *smerzo* masc. (MHG. *smerze, smerz*, G. *schmerz* masc.).]

1. Sharp physical pain, esp. such as is caused by a stroke, sting, or wound. Also with *a* and pl.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 114 Wa se seiδ þet he bo hal him solf wat best his smirte [*Trin.* smierte, *Eg.* smerte]. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1153 For vre woke þouȝtes he þolede smerte. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxx. (Bodl. MS.), þe touche of senewes haþ no feeling of soore and of smerte. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6242 For eny wo or smerte..I wist hym neuer onkynde. *c* 1491 *Chastysing Goddes Chyldern* 15 It felt no smerte sharply tyll the rodde came. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 204 b, Yf he had pretended to suffre payne, and had feled no smarte. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vi. 36 She procureth present death without any smart. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 46 He ..inflicted both corporall smart and pecuniary mulcts upon them. 1681 BAXTER *Apol. Nonconf. Min.* 58 We knew it by our smarts, being sure to be whipt. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XI. 574 Raging with intolerable smart, He writhes his body. 1792 COWPER *Stanzas Bill Mortality* IV, Strange world, that costs it so much smart. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. XI. 374 Patroclus..applied a root Of bitter flavor to assuage the smart.

b. Const. *of.* Also in fig. context.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 33/29 Y^e^ Smart of a wound, *æstus.* 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* iii. 142 Euen the Prophets..haue felt the smart of hunger. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 32 Ireland..felt little smart of the Romane sword. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, When I felt the smart of their arrows upon my face. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 262 For the smart of the stick I confessed, 'It was I who stole it'.

c. Degree of smarting or painfulness.

1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* v. 114 The discipline, ..at its highest possible smart, never equalled..the sting of such a caning.

2. Mental pain or suffering; grief, sorrow, affliction; sometimes, suffering of the nature of punishment or retribution.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3964 3yf þou..felyst weyl yn þy herte Of a lytyl sorow or smerte. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2204 Alweye contunyng in his smerte For þe loue of feire Polycene. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1632 To tel you hou I caght this smert, And al myn evel how it began. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 921 A man doutfull..is sone converted and tourned in smerte. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. I. 54 Ne let vaine feares procure your needlesse smart, Where cause is none. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Loves Visibility* V, The very Eye betrays our inward smart. 1679 BUNYAN *Fear of God* Wks. 1855 I. 460 Sorrow is the effect of smart, and smart the effect of faith. 1766 GRAY in *Corr. G. & Nicholls* (1843) 63 Time..will cure the smart, and in some hearts soon blot out all the traces of sorrow. 1808 H. MORE *Cœlebs* II. 333 Examine your own heart;..it will be a salutary smart. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 3, I love the oaks of Derry, And to leave them gives me smart.

b. Const. *of.*

c 1500 *Lancelot* 1051 So prikith hyme the smart Of hevynes, that stood vnto his hart. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 186 He came when man had sinned, and had felt the smart of sin. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 58. 298 No marvell then that they..be made sensibly to feele the smart of their folly. 1702 *Eng. Theophr.* 141 All parties blame persecution when they feel the smart on't. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. i. 21 Some were sent to prison for hasty words, to which the smart of injury excited them. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. ix. (1855) 147 There is a diseased sensitiveness which shrinks from the smart of acknowledgment.

†**c.** *pl.* Loss, damage; adversity. *Obs.*

1552 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1824) VI. 486 Yf chance should fal..that a ship should be lost, the halls might easily bear the smarts therof. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lxiv. 90 Neither did shee..participate any thing els of hir sonnes estate, saue onely the smarts of hir house when it fell.

3. *ellipt.* = SMART MONEY.

1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict., Smarts*, the different sums which are received by recruiting parties under the head of *Smart money*, are frequently so called. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl. 321/1 He listed.., but paid the smert and wan hame.

4. *attrib.* a. **Smart-ticket** (see quot. 1846).

1801 NELSON 11 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 504, I will send to the Gannet for Smart Tickets. 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 184 Making a pretext of being ruptured in the service, and thereby obtaining smart-tickets, which will entitle them to pensions for life. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Smart-ticket*, a certificate granted by the surgeon..in favour of any person who has been wounded or hurt in the service, in order that he may receive a single gratuity, or a pension from Greenwich Hospital.

b. *U.S.* **Smart-grass**, = SMARTWEED.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, May-weed, smart-grass, and Indian tobacco.

Smart (smāɪt), *sb.*[2] [f. SMART *a.*]

1. One who affects smartness in dress, manners, or talk. (Common in 18th cent.; now *Hist.*)

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 442 ¶ 3 All Beaux, Rakes, Smarts, ..and all Sorts of Wits. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 46 (1726) 254, I have given great offence to a large body of fine gentlemen there, call'd Smarts. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 491/2, I put on a sword,..stipped every night at a tavern,.. and was universally confessed to be improved into a Smart. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xiv, The word passed through among the young Templars, and the wits, and the smarts. 1859 GREEN *Oxf. Stud.* ii. (O.H.S.) 47 The smart of the day [18th cent.] rises late in an age of early risers.

2. Smartness in talk or writing.

1845 TENNYSON in *Life* (1897) I. 228, I said something that offended him; and..he..told me that I was 'affecting the smart'. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 3/2 This needless introduction of the presumably 'smart' would ruin the art of any novel.

Smart (smāɪt), *a.* Forms: 1–2 **smeart**, 3 **smært**, 3–5 **smerte** (5 **smyrte**), 4–5 **smert** (5 **-tt**); 3– **smart** (4 **-tt**), 4–6 **smarte**. [OE. *smeart*, related to *smeortan* SMART *v.* Not represented in the cognate languages.]

I. †**1.** Of a whip, rod, etc.: Inflicting or causing pain; sharp, biting, stinging. *Obs.*

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 295 Ic wylle swingan eow mid þam smeartestum swipum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 Þu ahst to habben..Stede and twei sporen and ane smearte ȝerd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15785 Wit maces and wit neues smert vn-rekenli on him [they] ran. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 929 He was yschote With an arewe kene ant smert. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 940 The Greek seith eek that if a cloude arise Of bresis smert [L. *locustarum*], men must in house hem hide. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 47 Whan he on ye crosse..Heng nakyd fastnyd wyth nayles smerte. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 325 Their softest Touch, as smart as Lyzards stings. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* xvi. (1836) 143 Sometimes he spares their outward, and afflicts their inner man, which is a much smarter rod.

†**b.** Sharp or rough to the touch. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 924 Þis stone.., Be it smethe owþer smert, smaragden hit hat.

†**c.** Severe or hard *on* or *upon* one. *Obs.*

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xxxii. 4 Thy hand on me so grievous was and smart. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* (1851) 164 When thy hand hath been smart and heavy upon me.

2. Of blows, strokes, etc.: Sufficiently hard or severe to cause pain. (In later use approximating to sense 5.) Also in fig. contexts.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Þenne me hine pined mid.. smerte smiten of smale longe ȝerden. *c* 1205 LAY. 21364 [They] uppen Colgrime smiten mid swiðe smærte biten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25543 Iesu..Sufferd..Dintes sare and smert. 13.. *Sir Beues* 2883 Beues þanne wiþ strokes smerte Smot þe dragoun to þe herte. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 22 Yef any be tane ofte in faute,..wyd smerte beting sal sho be chastyd. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2572 Smert boffettes they yeldyd there. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 50 How smart a lash that speech doth giue my Conscience? 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iv. (1736) 45 The smartest Strokes of Affliction leave but short Smart upon us. 1764 REID *Inquiry* v. § 6 Suppose him first to be pricked with a pin—this will, no doubt, give a smart sensation. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 12 Take a good-sized stick, and give her a smart thrashing. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* XXX, When a man's got his limbs whole, he can bear a smart cut or two.

†**3.** Of pain, sorrow, wounds, etc.: Sharp, keen, painful, severe. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 58 Wyt chaunce of ded, or chaunce of hert, þat soft began has endyng smart. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 507 Hym thought hys sorwes were so smerte. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1787 Of goddus Passion..& of his wo & of his woundys hard and smert. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 192 The sorow of your harte Makes my passion mor bitter & mor smarte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* V. xii. 63 The fadir Eneas, smyt with this smart cais. 1678 *Lively Oracles* III. § 5. 264 That long train of smart calamities which succeeded his sin. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 64 The gospel..threateneth them with the heaviest and smartest judgments.

4. Of words, etc.: Sharp, severe; cutting, acrimonious. Now *rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3034 Abraham..thoght þis wordes war to smert. 13.. *Ibid.* 12084 (Gött.), Thoru bolning of his hert, To ioseph spac he wordes ouer smart. 1625–8 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. (1688) 269 A Book which was written.. against the Marriage in a smart and stinging Style. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxiv, He would often give a smart jest, which would make the place both blush and bleed where it lighted. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, He seldom failed of a smart word or two upon my littleness. 1751 *Narr. H.M.S.* 'Wager' 128 This smart Remonstrance touch'd the Lieutenant to the very Heart. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 397 'To start' is to apply a smart word to an idle or forgetful person. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, The crowd ceased its noise when the two Squires were seen engaged in exchanging smart words.

†**b.** Sharp in criticism or comment *upon* one.

1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People Eng.* iii. Wks. 1851 VIII. 75 The Lawyer, whoever he be, that you are so smart upon, was not so much out of the way. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 390 He fansied, he was very smart upon me; but as it generally happens with him, he lashes himself.

5. Brisk or vigorous; having a certain degree of intensity, force, strength, or quickness: a. Of natural forces or processes.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1184 (Bodl. MS.), To moupe he sett his Olyfaunt, He bloweþ smert & loude sounes. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3257 Thai er dungen..With smert stormes als of wynd and rayn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 215 What sholde I tellen..of the esy fir, and smart also, Which that was maad? *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1309 Quen it was smeten in small with þe smert wapes. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Lett. Friend.* xii. 136 Sepulchral fires and smart flames. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1732) 107 A smart and continued Rain. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 31 Jan., We are here in as smart a frost for the time as I have seen. 1726 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 265 This has been a very smart, close winter. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 32 They..had a smart fever for three days, and then an eruption. 1808 *Ibid.* XIX. 106 Leaving for him two smart purges of calomel and jalap. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 463 It demonstrates its presence both by a sudden flash and a smart report. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1055 The assistant must look to the oil, and bring it to a smart simmer.

b. Of liquor, with reference to its effect on the palate.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IX. lxxxi, A flood, to which.. smart Gall is dropping Myrrh. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 33 Both in the keenest and smartest, as well as in the weakest and most watrish Vineger. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 3 The smarter and staler [ale is], the more it openeth and detergeth. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lv. (Globe) 177/1 It will eat best with some smart bottled beer. 1818 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 166 We have now begun upon whisky,..very smart stuff it is.

c. Of encounters, attacks, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 July 1685, There was a smart skirmish. 1716 CHURCH *Philip's War* (1865) I. 125 In the Evening they heard a smart firing at a distance from them. 1791 GOUVR. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 137 A good smart action would be useful rather than pernicious. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 68 Cooper planted a smart hit on his adversary's neck. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. Ind.* II. 51 A smart affair with the enemy took place. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Mar. 6/2 A smart passage at arms between his Grace and Lord Bramwell.

6. a. Pretty steep. Now *dial.* or *colloq.*

a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 44, I went up a smart hill called Mount Aurigo. *a* 1904 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

b. Sharp, abrupt, clearly outlined. *rare.*

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xiii. 182 These objects which ..come forwardest to the view, must have large, strong, and smart oppositions. 1784 J. BARRY *Lect. Art* V. (1848) 187 The cast and manner of their several foldings, some more smart and frequently interrupted, others more flowing.

7. a. Considerable (in number, amount, extent, etc.). Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.*

Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1848) 313 gives various quotations, including three for *a smart chance* in the sense of 'a good deal, a large quantity', etc.

1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref.* s.v., 'A smart few' means a considerable number. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lxxx, Madame..left a smart legacy to the..children. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Temptation* I. 276 Hope you will get a smart fee with it.

b. So *Right smart*; also as *sb.*, a good deal. *U.S.*

1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* II. xvi. 162, I sold right smart of eggs des yere summer. 1857 OLMSTED *Texas* 301 A 'right smart chunk of bacon'. 1863 S. L. J. *Life in South* I. vii. 91 We have read right smart of that book. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* (1880) 88 Directing the work, and, Yankee-like, 'doing right smart of it' himself, as they say here.

II. †**8.** Pert, forward, impudent. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 4160 (Bodl. MS.), Darrie was wel sore anoyede..And seide, 'of tale þou art smart'. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. i. 5 In this trowing and holding thei ben so kete and so smert and so wantoun. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 114 The curst, sharp, smart,..implacable and wanton-rowling-eyed Women.

9. Of persons: Quick, active; prompt.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7168 Sampson, þat was selcuth smert, Vte o þair handes son he stert. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5575 þe Sarzyn, þat was fers & smert, howel oppon þe helm he gert. *a* 1500 *How good wife taught her daughter* 194 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 50 When þi seruantes haue do þer werke, To pay þer hyre loke þou be smerte. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Smarte, swyfte, *soudayn.* 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. iii. § 1 This year began the smart and active Councel of Basil. 1687 tr. *Sallust* (1692) 96 All the while Catiline, with the most active and smartest of his followers kept still in the head of his Men. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* iv, Bessie Lee.. was smart in all she did. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Seawaif* 342 We were mighty smart getting under way.

b. *transf.* Of things.

a 1325 tr. *Stat. Westm.* II c. 26 (MS. Rawl. B. 520 lf. 20 b), þer nis no writ..ware þoru þe plaintifs habbez smarttere riȝt þane þoru þe writ of nouele disseisine. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* Introd., Water hath proved the smartest Grave; which in Forty Days swallowed almost Mankind.

10. Clever, capable, adept; quick at devising, learning, looking after oneself or one's own interests, etc. In later use chiefly *U.S.*

1628 LE GRYS *Barclay's Arg.* 81 For he a smart young man, and of great iudgement,..held vp the Kings side. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 525 Being..loath to engage in fight with Fimbria, who was both a smart fellow, and a Conqueror to boot. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 26 ¶ 5 [He] is what we most justly call, a Smart Fellow. 1786 M. CUTLER in *Life, Jrnls.*, etc. (1888) I. 189 Those of my subscribers who are smart, able men, I have told shall have an equal chance with other proprietors. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 215 The Opossum is held in great respect by the Yankees, as a particularly 'smart' animal. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* (1890) II. lxv. 484 In America every smart man is expected to be able to do anything he turns his hand to.

b. Marked by special skill or dexterity.

1895 *Daily News* 17 May 3/7 Chatterton being out to a very smart catch at mid-on.

11. Clever in talk or argument; capable of making witty remarks; good at repartee.

1639 MASSINGER *Unnatural Combat* IV. ii, A smart quean! 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 514 The younger Vossius is a smart advocate for the Septuagint. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 109 It is by virtue of this style that..Tully is as short and smart as Seneca. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art of Torment.* (1811) 194 This, I have been told, is what they call being smart in company. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxiv, You're so smart there's no speaking to you. 1895 *19th Cent.* Aug. 324 He is decidedly smarter as an all-round talker.

b. Of sayings, etc.: Clever, pointed; witty.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lv. (1674) 72 We find some Histories..abounding in smart Politick Precepts. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 19, I acknowledge this Expression to be nice and smart. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VI. xv. 2 Cicero, who ascribes this saying

to Timæus, declares it a very smart one. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 194 ₱ 11 He mistakes the question, that he may return a smart answer. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 539 A short, but smart notice of him. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. x, She has a reputation for giving smart accounts of things. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. vi. 188 Mandeville.. passes off his smart sayings upon the public as serious.

12. Alert and brisk; esp. combining briskness with neatness or trimness of appearance.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 37, I..Strook a faire wench with a smart speaking eye. 1683 WOOD *Life* 9 Sept., The smart lads of the city march'd downe the streets with cudgells in their hands. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 648 He hates the field,..And sighs for the smart comrades he has left. 1827 O.W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 80 Sufficient [room] for a smart vessel to work in or out. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* v, To a tight smart Viking's son. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Aug. 1/2 The Egyptian soldier is..smart, clean, and cheap.

b. Neatly and trimly dressed.

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 204 We observed ..how the town was become neater, the ordinary people smarter. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xxiii, Walking out to dinner, clean and smart. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ix, He became a little smarter in his dress. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 127 Adela had noticed how smart he looked.

c. Of dress, etc.: Neat and trim; stylish.

(*a*) 1716 DARRELL *Gentl. Instr.* (ed. 3) III. i. 476 Nothing would please his Worship, but Smart Shooes, Smart Hats, and Smart Cravats...The truth is he had been bred up with the Groom, and transplanted the Stable-dialect into the Dressing-room. 1754 FIELDING *J. Wild* I. x, A blue plush coat,.. a smart sleeve, and a cape. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, The smart blue bonnet..was already recognized as the Scottish head-gear. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 23 The man..had a collection of smart little boots and shoes.

(*b*) 1823 CT. DE SOLIGNY *Lett. Eng.* II. lxviii, Looking out on the smart shops, the nicely paved streets. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Twice-t. Tales* I. xvi. 252 There, in a smart chaise, a dashingly dressed gentleman and lady. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* I. 94 We put up at a very smart hotel.

(*c*) 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor.* 3 One of them..is bound in smart red leather. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 8, I will make a cover for them,..a smart one of blue velvet.

13. Fashionable, elegant, esp. in a very high degree. (Common in recent use, from *c* 1882.)

The reappearance of the word in this sense has been the subject of much comment and criticism in newspapers, etc., from about 1885, and the phrases *smart people, smart society, the smart set*, etc., have been commonly used as a general designation for the extremely fashionable portion of society (sometimes with implication of being a little 'fast').

1718 *Freethinker* No. 158 A Cluster of smart Men, in tawdry Dresses, with little Rapiers. 1793 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) III. 275 This beach..covered with smart people, and with equipages. 1845 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) 24 They..got my wife invited to several very smart balls. 1881 MALLOCK *Romance 19th Cent.* I. 97, I have seen plenty of smart society. *Ibid.* II. 254 Many smart people were shy of Mrs. Crane.

14. *Comb.*, as *smart-looking, -tongued, -witted.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. v, A good smart-tongued Goddesse. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) s.v., A powerful smart looking chunk of a pony. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 2/1 That friendly, but smart-witted Power.

Smart (smāːt), *adv.* Forms: 3–4 smerte, 4–5 smert; 4 smarte, 4– smart. [f. SMART *a.*] = SMARTLY, in various senses. (Common in 14th c.)

a 1300 *Havelok* 215 Þe king..dede him sore swinge, And wit hondes smerte dinge. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1643 Þey..smyten to-gyder al so smert. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 426 Þere smit no þinge so smerte ne smelleth so soure. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5515 Þan made he smythis to gaa smert & smethe him a chaiere. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 180 Thes newely come me shale moche more Smertre assayle. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 541 The Stars shine smarter. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) I. 141 Dressed as smart as my close mourning would permit me. 1794 NELSON 19 July in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 449 The Enemy have fired smart since daylight. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ii. 10 He'd..put him to hoeing and digging, and 'see if he'd step about so smart'. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Nov. 3/1 It is better for tenants to be compelled to pay up smart than to allow them to heap up a great burden of arrears.

Comb. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* A iv b, Fenced..with sharp-pointed brambles and smart-stinging briers. 1752–3 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 22, A laced Coat, and smart-cocked Hat. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 379 Smart-dressing servant-maids, perhaps, are my best customers. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 97 We want a smart-built craft like yon.

Smart (smāːt), *v.* Forms: 1 -smeortan, 3 smeorte(n, 4 smurte; 2–5 smerten (5 -yn), 2–5 smerte, 4–5 smert, 7 *Sc.* smairt; 5–6 smarte, 5– smart. *Pa. t.* 2 smeart, 3 smart, 3–4 smert, 4 smurte; *pl.* smo(u)rte, smerte. [OE. *smeortan* str. vb., = Fris. *smerte*, MDu. *smerten, smarten* (Du. *smarten*), MLG. and LG. *smerten* (hence Da. *smerte*, Sw. *smärta*), OHG. *smerzan* str. vb. (MHG. *smerzen* str., G. *schmerzen* wk.); the ablaut-stem *smert-, smart-, smurt-* is perh. the same as that of Gr. σμερδνός, σμερδαλέος terrible, and L. *mordēre* to bite. Cf. SMART *a.*]

1. *intr.* Of wounds, etc.: To be a source of sharp pain; to be acutely painful.

[*c* 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. vii. 36 Gnættas comon..mid fyrsmeortendum bitum.] *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Win makeð wunde smerte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 Þeo hwule þet þichinge ilest, hit þuncheð god for to gniden: auh berefter me iveleð hit bitterliche smeorten. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2647 Þe dint bigan ful sore to smerte. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1317 Yhit es happe of welthe to drede mare þan chaunce of angre, þat smertes sare. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1544 Here woundis sore did smerte. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 126 Sche answerd me schortly with wordys þat smartyd. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 228 b, Besyde this angre ther came the next daye another corsey that smarted a littell sorer. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 168 They basted him with a mixture..which smarted to the very soule of him. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlv, He saw that this..rankled and smarted in her haughty breast, like a poisoned arrow.

†**b.** To be heavy or hard *upon* one. *Obs.*

1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxxvi. (1631) 122 This smarted doubly upon the taxed people.

2. With dative: To cause pain, be painful, to (a person, etc.).

†**a.** Impersonally (*him, her*, etc., *smarts*). *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 21 Swo þat hire ne oc ne ne smeart. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 206 He criede anon to ihesu crist, þo him smert so sore. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 433 Sore me meneþ, for me smert, Miche care is in mine hert. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 161 For þe pore may haue no pouwer to playne, þauȝ hem smerte. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1025, I dar wel seyn it smerteth hym ful sore In euery veyne and place of his body.

b. With sbs., passing into *trans.*: To affect with pain or smarting.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 326 Nis þing i þisse worlde þet smeorteð him so sore ase him doð swuch beatunge. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv. 70 Thi suete body to-toren y se, Hit maketh heorte to smerte me. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iv. (1868) 39 Þis is a þing þat gretly smertiþ me whan it remembreþ me. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xx. 65 So sore as this martirdom smertith me. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6075 Mi woundes smert me so sore With you may I fight nomore. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. 30 Than pardon we for pity gaue, this wayling smartes us so. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 50 Thay swoun to se 30w smartit. *a* 1653 ADAMS *Serm.* Wks. 1862 II. 195 A goad that pricks the skin and smarts the flesh—affliction. 1787 *Minor* III. viii. 188 My wound..still continued to smart me. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 505 It is better that the effluvium be so strong as to smart the eyes. 1884 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild H.* 109 There was not enough moisture in the air to take the sting out of the smoke, and it smarted the nose.

3. *intr.* To feel sharp pain or distress; to suffer acutely or severely. Freq. with preps., as *at, beneath, by, from, under.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Þenne wile his heorte aken and smerten. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 322 Þe bodie..þat in strong Anguysche deth smeorte [*v.r.* smurte]. 13.. *Sir Beues* 631 Þo his bodi be-gan to smerte, He gan plokken vp is hertte. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xv. (Bodl. MS.), Smoke þat dymmeþ þe yȝen and [maketh them] smerte. 1421–2 HOCCLEVE *Dialog* 650 Smertith the fool for lak of good auys. 1496 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 575 Which I dought not I shall haue ayen or Lammasse day, or ells iij or iiij of þe best of yowe shall smart. 1530 PALSGR. 722/1 If thou ytche, care nat, but if thou smarte, beware. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxiv. 17, I speik expart, suppois I smart. 1609 BP. HALL *Passion Serm.* (1627) 432 Thou strikest: Christ Iesus smarteth, and will reuenge. 1670 COTTON *Life of Espernon* II. VIII. 371 Countreys that yet smarted with the last years War. 1782 BURNS *Stanzas Prosp. Death* 9, I..justly smart beneath his sin-avenging rod. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 200 The just indignation of the public was inflamed by many who were smarting from his ridicule. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. Jungle* xxiii. 268 The salt perspiration ran into my eyes and caused them to smart.

b. To bear the penalty, to suffer severely, *for* some offence, misdemeanour, etc.

1548 SOMERSET *Epist. to Scots* A vij b, If you doo then.. smart for it, whom can you blame, but youre awne eleccion? 1579 W. FULKE *Conf. Sanders* 585 Balthasar abused the holy vessels, he smarted for it. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenh. well lost* I. Wks. 1874 IV. 104, I shall ne're smart for't, what is't to me? 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 78 Away, I say, else I'll make you smart for it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxii. 243 Offences against warning ought to be smarted for. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'You shall smart for this,' gasped Mr. Pickwick. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 5/2 He has done us a wrong, and should be made to smart for it.

†**4.** *trans.* To atone for (an offence) by suffering. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7057 He shal in prisoun dye; But if he wol..smerten that that he hath do.

Smarten (smāːtn), *v.* [f. SMART *a.* In U.S. colloq. the form *smart* is also employed.]

1. *trans.* To make smart or spruce; to improve in appearance. Usually with *up.*

1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* x, The vicarage..had been very much smartened up by the present proprietor. 1833 SIR F. B. HEAD *Bubbles fr. Brunnen* 127 The..fashion of smartening up us old people with the teeth and hair of the dead. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* (1876) II. 54 We must think of smartening the old rooms a little bit.

refl. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* III. 201 Tom..smartened himself as best he could, went up to the great house, and found Miss Mary. 1887 'MARK RUTHERFORD' *Revol. Tanner's Lane* xvi, When the 'things were washed up', servant and mistress began to smarten themselves.

absol. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxvi, He has smartened up, and wears as good a coat as I do. 1881 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & J.* (1883) 246 We are now running into Gibraltar bay, and smartening up to go ashore.

2. To brighten *up*, make livelier. Also *intr.*

1864 *Realm* 15 June 8 The dialogue has been smartened up. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 372 The clerk smartened up noticeably at the entrance of the pretty girl.

3. With *up.* To accelerate.

1888 *Times* 30 June 17/1 The 10.30 p.m. is smartened up 70 minutes.

Hence **Smartened** *ppl. a.*; **Smartening** *vbl. sb.*

1864 *Gentl. Mag.* II. 222 The recent 'smartening up' of the front of the George Hotel. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* III. xiv, The people dancing in smartened morning-dress.

†**Smartful**, *a. Obs.* [f. SMART *sb.*[1]] Painful, distressing.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* lxvii. 12 What naturall father can se [this]..Without his hart smarting, in most smartfull smart. 1600 ABBOT *Jonah* 595 He maketh the wildernesse tedious and bitter and smartfull to us. 1660 *Plea for Ministers in Sequestration* 4 Their smartful experience speaks it enough.

†**Smarthead.** *Obs.*—[1] [f. SMART *a.*] Severity.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 306 Þorgh smerthed of þe law he did þam justise.

†**Smarthole.** *Obs.*—[6] [f. SMART *v.* + HOLE *sb.* 8.] Smartweed.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 108/1 Culrache, smerthole, herbe, *persiccaria.*

Smart-hoop. [perh. f. SMART *sb.*[1] or *a.*; but cf. also older Da. *smert, smært*, Sw. *smärt* slender, slim.] (See quot.)

1832 *Planting* 90 in *Husb.* III. (L.U.K.), *Smart-hoops.*—Shoots of the hazel, six feet in length; they are cleft for hoops, and are used..for salmon kits, small tubs, and other purposes of the cooper. [Cf. Peacock *Lonsd. Gloss.* (1869) 77/1 *Smarts*, small rods cut down in coppice woods.]

Comb. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 82 Smart Hoop Maker, Bender, Shaver.

Smarting (smāːrtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMART *v.*] The fact or sensation of feeling a sharp pain, such as is caused by a wound, sore, burn, or the like.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Win makeð wunde smerte. Ah þe smertinge clenseð þe wunde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 294 3if þi sulf..one smerte discepline, & drauh..þet swete likunge into smeortunge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 29101 Oft for þam smerting sendis he. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Furste he makeþ icching and tekeling, & after þat greete ache and smerting. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 27 Þis enoyntment do þe away alle smertyng and fleyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 207 Not hauyng there ony sensible payne or smartyng. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 6 Wounds how to cure, and smartings to allay. 1605 ARMIN *Foole upon F.* (1880) 23 In an enuious spleene smarting ripe, [he] runnes after him. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 41 It causes a smarting also in Animals. 1815 *Hist. J. De Castro* I. 22 Nothing will cure this crack-brain'd coxcomb but a good smarting. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 742 He suffers bad smarting and itching.

Smarting (smāːrtiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Causing to smart; painful; sharp, acute.

1548 ELYOT, *Aestus ulceris*, the smartyng peyne of a sore, or byle. 1575 FENTON *Gold. Ep.* (1577) 63 They crucified him vnder a most smarting and infamous death. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Elisa* I. xi, Some fault..Hath forc't thee frown, and use thy smarting rod. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 207 He..flung Athwart the fiery steeds the smarting thong. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, The old man winced, as one whose smarting sore is suddenly galled. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 741 She complains of excess of perspiration, ..and much of smarting pain.

2. Feeling sharp pain. Also *fig.*

1754 DODSLEY *Agric.* II. 266 Since oft Its cruel twigs compel the smarting youth To dread the hateful seat. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. i, With smarting eyes and irritated lungs. 1882 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 3/3 A financial crash would at once be laid at its door by the smarting holders of worthless security.

Smartingly (smāːrtiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] Painfully.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 200 Miseries..which..we have smartingly felt. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Smertelick*, Smartingly, or Painfully. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 667 A covenanting slug still stuck smartingly in his shoulder. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* iv, I got so smartingly touched up by these moral goads. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conquerors* II. iii. 41 Those unaccustomed musical tones..were so smartingly persuasive.

Smartish (smāːrtiʃ), *a.* [f. SMART *a.* + -ISH.] Hexham (1648) has '*Smertigh*, Smartish, or Full of Paine', perh. f. the sb.

1. Somewhat smart, in various senses.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xx. 32 Two pairs of ordinary blue worsted hose, that make a smartish appearance, with white clocks. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 173 Prettier entertainment..than sitting with a too smartish daughter. 1807 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 328, I flatter myself I have constructed a smartish letter, considering my want of materials. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxvii, The most rascally, but *smartish* trick in the world. 1860 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mkt. Harborough* 107 It takes a smartish nag..to win a steeple-chase.

Comb. *c* 1816 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* xii. 102 A smartish looking woman went up to their door and knocked. 1852 C. W. H[OSKINS] *Talpa* 131 Dobson said he seemed smartish like.

2. Considerable in amount, degree, extent, etc.

1799 R. WARNER *Walk* (1800) 65 What with smartish work, ..I began to find my legs give out. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. xiii, The housemaid..had a smartish bilious attack. 1858 HUGHES *Scour. White Horse* 18 Pretty nigh ever since King Alfred's time, which I reckon is a smartish time ago.

Smartism. [f. SMART *a.*] Smartness in talk; a smart saying.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 236 Talking endless smartisms of wearisome wit. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 39 The self-complacent smartism of the satirist.

†**Smartle**, *v. Obs.*—[6] (See quot.)

1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, To *Smartle* away, to wast[e] away. [Hence in Kersey, Grose, Brockett, etc.]

Smartless, *a. rare.* [f. SMART *sb.*[1]] Free from smart.

1593 R. BARNES *Parthenopil* Sonn. xlvii, Whether he rest at ease, in joys and smartless. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Trag. Hen. Gt.* 607 Wks. (Grosart) II. 244 Hee must be heart-less that is smart-less found.

Smartly (smā·ɹtli), *adv.* Also 3–4 smert(e)liche (4 *comp.* -loker), 4 smartliche, 4–5 smertli, 4–6 smertly, etc. [f. SMART *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Vigorously, forcibly; sharply (in respect of physical action).

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1990 Almihti godd..smit se smertliche herto, þat alle þeos fowr hweoles tohwiðerin to stucchen. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3485 Asaileþ hem smerteliche. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 711 Hem to smyte..smartly I þenk. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6217 Many of Troye in his defence At that tyme ful smartly stryues. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, Thrice had the golden Sun his hote steedes.. smartly lasht Out of the baulmy east. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 146 We went to supper, were very merry, and drank smartly. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. viii. 80 Thus the Nurse..Kisses the Wanton..when it ought..to be Smartly Whipt. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 761 A breeze..which blows smartly from the land. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* xiv. (1880) 487 The fish played smartly for a minute. 1883 HUXLEY *Pract. Biol.* 8 Pressing smartly with the handle of a mounted needle.

b. Sharply (in respect of treatment, language, etc.); severely; curtly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21496 Me war leuer..þan dempt sua smertli to be. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. ix. 47 Of this same mater it is quikli and smertli spoken in a litil book therto.. maad. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) II. 165, I admired much that a man of his age, could write, so smartly, so solidly, so significantly. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* II. 84 He answered smartly [L. *mordaciter*] again, I had indeed believed it, if thou couldst still have held thy Tongue. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxvii. 382 Haddow smartly answered, this was too impudent an hyperbole. *Ibid.* 390 He treated his adversary now more smartly than he had done before. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 258 Mrs. Younge replied very smartly to some questions of her husband. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, I let him one day know pretty smartly, that I was..a considerable shareholder in the Company.

c. Sharply (in respect of feeling); keenly; also, heavily, largely.

1677 in *Lauderdale Papers* (1885) III. 96 Therfor the fynes to be exacted wold be such as may be smartlie felt by the transgressors. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 255/2 The air proved here as cold.., and having no shelter from trees, was the more smartly felt. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 May 5/2 Foreigners will not be allowed to share in this advantage without paying pretty smartly for the privilege.

2. Promptly, quickly, briskly (and trimly).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17810 Quen þat þai herd þis word be said, Ful smertli þai þam þider graid. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3323 Þarfor þai swippe þurgh purgatory Als a foul þat flyes smertly. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxiii. (1859) 37 That bylle whan it was leyd in the balaunce peysed so sore, that smartely that other syde aroos. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 324 Thei ronne to armes hastely, and peyned hem harde to be smartly armed and soone. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 563 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 303 Vpoun his feit he stude, And throw the myre full smertly than he 3ude. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 P 3 A Trip which was given him so smartly that I could scarce discern it. 1833 *Reg. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 112 Come smartly to the position of 'Attention'. 1849 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxv, The horsemen wheeled smartly round. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. 281 They walked smartly past the door.

3. Cleverly, neatly; wittily.

1673 *Remarques Humours Town* 46 He replied handsomely and smartly. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 204 And Tertullian himself, briefly and smartly [says] *Omnis Spiritus ales est.* 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1759) II. 115 Smartly put, Betty. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Transformation* ii, What old man..could have turned a silly compliment more smartly than that!

4. Handsomely, elegantly, fashionably.

1836 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* xxxvi, He expended all his earnings on dressing himself smartly, and making presents to her. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* i, Upon this..the two managed to live pretty smartly, and to maintain an honourable reputation. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 27 Apr. 4/7 The guests dressed very smartly, and the wedding was a really pretty one.

Comb. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxii, Dressed in a smartly-cut snuff-coloured coat. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 236 Two smartly dressed girls came to the door.

Sma·rt-money. [f. SMART *sb.*1]

1. A sum of money paid to sailors, soldiers, workmen, etc., as compensation for disablement or injuries received while on duty or at work.

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2836/3 Smart-Money to such Seamen as have been Wounded in Their Majesties Service. 1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 28 No seaman..not registred shall have any smart money. 1758 J. BLAKE *Mar. Syst.* 62 To say nothing of smart-money, those in the navy are entitled to short allowance money. 1809 LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 112 Also to all such pensions, salaries, smart-money,..which..may be due. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 262, I do hope..that the King of Prussia will double that poor fellow's smart-money. 1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 63 *Smart money*, money paid weekly by the owners to persons who have received an injury in the work.

b. Any compensation made for injury or the like; also *spec.* in *U.S. law* (see quot. 1851).

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. viii, Mr. Allworthy gave Tom Jones a little horse, as a kind of smart-money for the punishment. 1851 A. M. BURRILL *New Law Dict.* II. 936 *Smart-Money*... Damages beyond the value of a thing sued for, given by a jury in cases of gross misconduct or cruelty on the part of a defendant. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. i, He..sent Adam Fairbrother an instant warning, with half-a-year's salary for smart money.

2. Money paid to obtain the discharge of a recruit who has enlisted in the army.

1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 144 This Sum the Officer generally divides among his Recruiting Party,..and the more there are who pay this Smart-money, as they call it, the more they share. 1778 *Ann. Reg.* 196 The law..gives a certain time for those who are inlisted to get off, upon returning the inlisting money and what is called the smart money. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 390 When Recruits are set at liberty by a magistrate, on the payment of smart-money. 1894 *Daily Telegr.* 11 Jan. 5/7 When a young man he enlisted, but his father paid the smart money,..and secured his release.

b. Money paid on account of cancelling or not fulfilling a bargain or agreement, or in order to free oneself from some disadvantage, recover some lapsed privilege, etc.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, He accomplished the exchange ..; nor did I hear further of his having paid any smart-money for breach of bargain.

†3. (See quot. and cf. GARNISH *sb.* 5.) *Obs.*

1856 DE QUINCEY *Conf.* Wks. 1862 I. 151, I have always looked upon this fine of five or seven shillings (for wax that you do not absolutely need) as a sort of inaugural *honorarium* entrance-money, what in jails used to be known as *smart* money.

Smartness (smā·ɹtnės). Also 4 smartnes, 5 smertnesse. [f. SMART *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Pain, smarting. *rare.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2226 Disceyt, and..inward fikilnesse, Bulteth out schame, and causeþ gret smartnesse. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Intell.* II. ii. § 7 (1864) 184 A sensation of smartness is produced.

2. That which induces pain or distress; sharp discipline; severity (*of* something).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4966 To chastyse hem wyþ fyn awe And with þe smartnes of þe lawe. 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 561 If you find not the Smartness of the Gospel..ye are yet in your Sins. 1666 *Phil. Trans.* I. 359 They [waters] had a rough smartness, as if they carried Sand or Gravel into the Eye. 1706 Z. CRADOCK *Serm. Charity* (1740) 17 Mov'd by the smartness of a present calamity.

3. Vivacity and wit in conversation or writing.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 111 Those sharp, Satyricall, and popular invectives..To which your Ladyship hath given as much (or more) edge and smartnesse, as ever I found from any. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded., The sudden smartness of the answer. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 132 P 2 The Quaker, who happened to be a Man of Smartness, answered. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 174 P 8 With no other hope than that of gaining the reputation of smartness and waggery. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. viii. 39 His letters to Strafford display some smartness, but no great capacity. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 3/2 He has been led astray by that passion for smartness which is the bane of contemporary criticism.

4. Trimness or fashionableness in dress, etc.

1752–3 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 17, The more humble, whose Genius does not exceed the Smartness of a Cut Bob. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Mysterious Husb.* IV. 164 She..had an air of smartness which rather prepossessed the Prince's household in her favour. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 578 Several of the complaints refer to undue smartness in dress. 1892 MALLOCK in *N. Amer. Rev.* July 29 Smartness..represents the perfection of superficial living, and it has a natural..influence over persons of a certain temperament.

5. Briskness, activity, alertness.

1867 MACGREGOR *Voy. Alone* (1868) 34 Hasty smartness is slowest. 1873 *Daily News* 27 Aug., Their thorough efficiency and soldierly smartness in a cavalry soldier's best work.

b. *Mil.* Neatness of dress and person combined with brisk orderly bearing.

1861 *Times* 24 Sept., A want of the..soldierly spirit which begets attention to personal smartness. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Oct. 4/3 Keep your person and accoutrements always neat, and acquire that quality..'smartness'.

6. Extreme cleverness or shrewdness, esp. for one's own advantage. Chiefly *U.S.*

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 171/1 This smartness has done more in a few years to impair the public credit.. than dull honesty..could have effected in a century. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxxvi, I was perfectly *au fait* to all the tricks of Arkansas' smartness. 1890 *Spectator* 26 Apr., Mr. Blaine..instructed his supporters in the Press and on the platform to proclaim the 'smartness' of his scheme.

Sma·rtweed. Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. SMART *sb.*1 or *a.*] A name given to various species of *Polygonum*, esp. the arsesmart or water-pepper (*Polygonum Hydropiper*).

1787 W. H. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Smart-weed*, biting and pale-flowered persicarias; arsmart. 1848 *Amer. Jrnl. Med. Sci.* XVI. 247 The Smart-weed as a Remedy for Mercurial Salivation. 1883 E. H. ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 50 About my grandfather's gate smart-weed and dock-weed and plantain grew profusely. *Ibid.* 181 The smart-weed bed underneath them was always hunted by eager children.

Smarty (smā·ɹti). *U.S.* [f. SMART *a.* II.] A would-be smart or witty person.

1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxiii. 198 The village smarties recognized a treasure in Nicodemus, right away—a butt to play jokes on. 1902 OWEN WISTER *Virginians* xxvii, 'He is a smarty,' said he, once or twice.

Smash (smæʃ), *sb.*1 [f. SMASH *v.*1]

1. *dial.* or *colloq.* A hard or heavy blow. (In earliest quots. *fig.*)

1779 T. TWINING in R. Twining *Recr. & Stud.* (1882) 68 This last American smash of Sir George Collier's. 1780 *Ibid.* 79, I want nothing but one good smash at the French fleet. 1816 G. MUIR *Minstrelsy* 24 (E.D.D.), Their shoon wi' tackets Were ca'd as fu' as cobler's smash Cou'd get them thacket. 1886 WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* (1887) 21 Seizin' a hoe..he made a smash at the beast. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 7/3 Sharkey came back with his right, delivering several smashes on Corbett's wind.

b. *Lawn-Tennis.* A hard and fast overhand volley.

1882 *Daily Telegr.* 18 July 2 Fourth game: Won by E. Renshaw, after some grand play, 'smashes' being frequent. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 297/2 One of Hovey's smashes brought an end to the situation.

2. †a. *slang.* Mashed turnips. *Obs.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., Leg of mutton and smash. 1799 *Sporting Mag.* XIII. 360 W. S. Green,..for a wager of a leg of mutton and smash, drank three pints of Cogniac brandy in half an hour.

b. A shivered or broken-up condition. Chiefly in phrases *to break, knock*, etc., or *go, to smash.* Also used *fig.* (cf. 4 a).

(*a*) 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 124 She *rayally* thought her *carridge* would have been broke to smash. 1807–8 IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 203 He determined to do the thing genteelly, to go to smash like a hero, and dashed into the limits in high style. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. iv. (1849) 54 It beats Shedry and Abendy to immortal smash. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* v, [It] had..knocked his figure-head all to smash. 1874 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. xxviii. 413 The..arrangements all went to smash.

(*b*) 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. ii, The door panels were in a normal state of smash. 1883 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* v, You cannot imagine a house in such a state of smash.

3. A loud sound of breaking or crushing; a severe or extensive crushing, shivering, or breaking of anything, esp. accompanied by a crashing sound; a violent collision or impact.

1808 JAMIESON, *Smash*,..the sound of breaking, a crash. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* i, I could distinctly hear a heavy *smash* as the large and ponderous blocks..struck the doomed sailor. 1853 LOWELL *Moosehead Jrnl.* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 4 The last great railroad smash. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xiv, One of the dim floating lights disappeared with a smash from a stone. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 113 A smash of the leg.

b. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 775 The Lower Chalk formation..contains many ruptures and dislocations, 'smashes' as they are now commonly called.

4. a. Commercial failure; stoppage through insolvency; bankruptcy. (Cf. CRASH *sb.*1 2 b.)

1839 LOCKHART *Ballantyne-humbug* 114 He was careful enough to give his wife £250 on the very morning of the smash! 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* x, A commercial smash kills a hundred men's houses for them. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xxxix. 341 There is no saying what day a smash may come.

b. A crushing defeat or overthrow.

1888 *Spectator* 30 June 878 A smash of Sir E. Watkin by an instinctive vote of the House. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* v, It was a final smash to the enemy in the north.

c. A break-up of some kind; a revolution.

1890 *Spectator* 2 Aug., The 'smash' at Buenos Ayres, which has been expected for the last six weeks,..took place last Saturday.

5. An American beverage made of spirit, ice, water, sugar, and flavoured with mint.

1859 F. FOWLER *Southern Lights* 52 *A Smash*, ice, brandy, and water. 1861 *Times* 10 July, Thirsty souls, who have hastened on board..for a julep, a smash, or a cocktail.

Smash, *sb.*2 *Cant.* [Of doubtful origin: not clearly connected with prec.]

1. Counterfeit coin. Also in comb. *smash-feeder* (see quot. 1860).

1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant, Smash*,..bad coin. 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Smashfeeder*, a silver spoon. 1860 *Ibid.* 219 *Smash-feeder*, a Britannia metal spoon,—the best imitation shillings are made from this metal.

2. (See SLING *v.*1 3 f.)

Smash (smæʃ), *v.*1 [Probably imitative: cf. Norw. dial. *smaska* to crush, *slaa i smask* to knock to smash (Ross).]

1. *trans.* †1. *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Smash*, to kick down Stairs.

2. To break (anything) in pieces violently; to dash to pieces; to crush, shatter, or shiver.

1778 FOOTE *Tailors* II. iii, While others shall assault each house of call, Smash all their slates, and plunder every box. 1786 in R. Twining *Recr. & Stud.* (1882) 139 To have his legs and arms smashed. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiii, The first person he met was Frank Kennedy, all smashed and gory. 1820 SHELLEY *Vis. Sea* 145 Some hideous engine whose brazen teeth smash The thin winds and soft waves into thunder. 1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 530 The bottle is smashed, smashed to atoms! 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. Jungle* xviii. 198 Nearly every bamboo..had been pulled down and smashed to splinters.

b. In imprecations, with or without object expressed.

1819 MIDFORD in *Coll. Songs* 47 Smash! Jemmy, let us buss, we'll off, And see Newcassel Races. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Smash*, a kind of oath among the pitmen near Newcastle. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, Smash my eyes, man, but them barrels be full of pimento. 1894 CLEGG *David's Loom* 181 Smash me! I won't be guilty of bragging.

c. *Bookbinding.* To flatten or compress (the sheets of a book) before binding.

1875 [implied in *Smashing machine*].

3. To dash or fling (anything) with noise and violence; to batter; to cause to strike hard.

c 1800 *The Earl o' Bran'* xxviii. in Child *Ball.* IV. 444/2 An he smashed them doun a' bane by bane. 1822 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* 200, I reft at the rock.., an wou'd hae geen a warl' to been able to lift it, an smash't it in amang them. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* viii. 55 If you give me one word out of your head, I'll smash your face in. 1864 BR.

WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1882) III. v. 137 My mare..smashed my head on the gravel. 1872 SPURGEON *Treas. David* lviii. 6 It is asked that their grinders may be smashed in, broken off, or dashed out.

b. *Lawn-Tennis.* To strike (the ball) violently and swiftly in an overhand volley. Also *absol.*

1882 *Daily Telegr.* 18 July 2 W. 'smashing' a ball into the net, left the game and sett in his brother's favour by six games to two. 1890 *St. Nicholas* Sept. 921 He told them..when to 'smash' a ball.

4. To defeat utterly; to crush completely; to overcome, overwhelm, or destroy.

1813 Sir R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* (1862) II. 443 It is difficult to smash above one hundred and eighty thousand men resting on fortified bulwarks. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 226, I am told..that the police were regularly smashed. 1865 *Examiner* 18 Mar. 162 Suddenly to set aside the spirit and substance thereof for the purposes..of 'smashing' a particular bill is an act of suicidal wrong. 1884 *Western Daily Press* 28 May 8/5 To join in a British expedition to 'smash' the Mahdi.

b. To render insolvent or bankrupt.

1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* xli, My father did his best to smash the Bank of England by passing forged notes, and I did my best to assist him. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix, Folks rich once,—smashed up.

II. *intr.* **5.** To move rapidly with shattering effect; to dash or smite violently; to crash.

1835 J. MONTEATH *Dunblane Trad.* (1887) 122 Headlong he over hillocks rush'd, And wet through bogs and mosses smash'd. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xviii, You may smash away as hard as you can. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxv. 314 Picking up the silver dollar, he sent it smashing through the window-pane out into the darkness. 1898 Sir W. CROOKES *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 25 The quick moving molecules, smashing on to the surface, have their energy reduced.

6. *colloq.* To fail financially; to be ruined; to become insolvent or bankrupt. Also with *up.*

1839 HOOD *My Son & Heir* xix, A Glazier?—what if he should smash! 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. vii. 142 A firm that had smashed for so tremendous an amount. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* (1877) 211 The Republic..cannot hope to pay its dividends—Must smash up, in short.

7. To break or fly in pieces, esp. as the result of a blow or impact.

1904 W. W. JACOBS *Dialstone Lane* ii. 27 The pipe fell from the listener's fingers and smashed unheeded on the floor.

III. 8. Used adverbially, as in *to go smash.*

1823 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1824) 204 The last went smash through the shop window into the street. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* vi, Here the hens flew against the dresser, and smash went the plates and dishes. 1888 VEITCH *Dean's Dau.* I. i. 25, I saw the great egg go smash against her head.

Smash, *v.*[2] *Cant.* [Cf. SMASH *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To pass (counterfeit money).

1811 in *Lexicon-Balatronicum.* 1851 *Household Words* 25 Jan. 423, I [a bad shilling] remained to be 'smashed' (passed) by my master.

2. (See quot.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, To *smash* a guinea, note, or other money, is, in a common sense, to procure, or give, change for it.

Smashable (smæ·ʃăb'l), *a.* [f. SMASH *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] Capable of being smashed.

1884 YATES *Recoll.* iv, The complete smash of everything smashable. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C. 1887* iii. (1892) 31 He..smashed all the smashable furniture.

Smashdom (smæ·ʃdəm). [f. SMASH *sb.*[1] + -DOM.] The state of being (financially) smashed.

1859 SALA *Twice r. Clock* (1861) 201 It was indeed the great knell of universal railway smashdom.

Smashed (smæʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. SMASH *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Crushed; broken to pieces.

1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd.* I. xv, Smashed glass—and nothing more! 1857 JANET HAMILTON *Lessons fr. Gt. Biogr.* (1859) 289 A pile of smashed pillars and scorched timbers. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 251 A mass of slimy gray abomination on a bit of plantain leaf—smashed snail.

Smasher[1] (smæ·ʃəɹ). [f. SMASH *v.*[1]]

1. *slang.* Anything uncommon, extraordinary, or unusual, *esp.* unusually large or excellent.

1794 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIV. I. 216/1 *Smasher*..signifies any thing larger than common. *a* 1800 in PEGGE *Suppl. Grose.* 1853 MOODIE *Life Clearings* 106 If you make it twelve and a half cents, you'll have a *smasher* [=a full house]. 1894 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 5/1 Lord Rosebery's colt, who, if not the 'smasher' which his precipitate admirers declared him to be.., is above the average of high-class three-year-olds.

2. *colloq.* **a.** A severe or crushing reply, article, review, etc.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 189 His reply..was a complete smasher. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxxi, He's a tremendous hand at a smasher. 1864 *Reader* No. 100. 674/1 The Edinburgh Review had 'come down a smasher on Robert Browning'.

b. A bad or damaging fall; a heavy blow.

1875 BUCKLAND *Log-Book* 4 The horses will come a terrific smasher. 1897 *Daily News* 1 June 8/2 Before I could consider,..I had fetched him the smasher.

3. An appliance or machine which smashes or crushes; *spec.* a bookbinder's compressing-machine; a form of embossing-press.

1822 W. JAMES *Naval Hist.* (1826) I. 47 Its destructive effects..induced its ingenious inventor to give it the name of smasher. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 44 The folded sheets are sometimes condensed in another American machine called 'The Smasher'. 1882 J. B. NICHOLSON *Art Bookbinding* 44 A powerful embossing press, technically called a smasher.

4. One who smashes.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 July 1/2 Every day the smashing is postponed..the more likely will it be that the Mahdi will be the smasher and we the smashed.

5. *attrib.* in *smasher hat,* a slouched hat.

1899 G. H. RUSSELL *Under the Sjambok* x. 107 The men ..are content to put a piece of crape round the arm and smasher hat.

Smasher[2] (smæ·ʃəɹ). Orig. *Cant.* [f. SMASH *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2]]

1. One who passes or utters counterfeit coin or forged notes.

1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant, Smasher,* a passer of counterfeit coin. 1796 COLQUHOUN *Police Metropolis* 107 The Dealer.. for the most part disposes of it to the utterers, vulgarly called Smashers. 1836 *Lincoln Herald* 20 Dec. 4/2 Several individuals have been imposed upon by the smashers. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* xli, When I said that my father was a smasher, I meant one who passes forged notes. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 3/1 Most frequently the single-handed 'smasher' contents himself in passing one coin in an evening.

fig. 1872 *Punch* 2 Mar. 97/1 Some smashers have lately been trying to pass the base word 'cablegram'.

2. A counterfeit coin. *rare* —[1].

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (1864) II. 488/2 Every bit of it, every coin,..was bad—all smashers.

Smashery (smæ·ʃəri). [f. SMASH *v.*[1]] A smashing or destruction; a state of smash.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* III. i. (1849) 84 Having a smashery among his crockery ware. 1849 E. FORBES in Wilson & Geikie *Life* xiii. 465 It is the most singular mince-meat smashery of about eight feet of shales and chert-bands. 1854 LEVER *Dodd Family Abroad* xxxii, The smaller details are, a universal smashery, with occasional vestiges of that part of the creation consigned to hair-dressers..and milliners.

Smashing (smæ·ʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SMASH *v.*[1]]

1. The action of SMASH *v.*[1] in various senses.

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxii, There was such a smashing of the poor weans, as had not been known for an age. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Marquess Wellesley* Wks. 1858 VIII. 28 The last great political act of Lord Wellesley was the smashing of the Peel ministry in 1834. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 285/1 Mere smashing of windows was held not to be a felonious demolition. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eyewitness* 285 That they..endure smashing after smashing, is..as admirable as it is marvellous.

2. *attrib.*, as *smashing branch, capacity, power*; **smashing-machine,** a heavy press used by bookbinders (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **smashing-press,** an embossing-press (*Ibid.* Suppl. 1884).

1849 *Punch* XVII. 214 A Bankrupt..to superintend the smashing branch. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Feb. 2/3 The smashing capacity even of a lion is..limited. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 152 The increased range and smashing power of the large shot.

Sma·shing, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. SMASH *v.*[2]] (See quot. 1812.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Smashing,* uttering counterfeit money; *smashing of queer screens,* signifies uttering forged bank notes. 1891 M. WILLIAMS *Later Leaves* xii. 144 When once a man commences smashing or passing, he never gives up the practice.

Smashing (smæ·ʃiŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SMASH *v.*[1]] That smashes, in various senses.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* i, A heavy smashing thump against our bows. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* xcii, A smashing volley was poured into the squadron. 1853 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) IV. 124 Thackeray..said the Bostonians had published a smashing criticism on him. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 1/2 [To] deal them a smashing blow by an appeal to the country.

Hence **Sma·shingly** *adv.*, in a smashing manner.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Mar. 2/1 A man..who is too keen to pause unless he is hit smashingly.

Sma·shing, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. SMASH *v.*[2]] **a.** Counterfeit, forged. **b.** Engaged in 'smashing'.

1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* xli, My father had paid for the horses with his smashing notes. 1899 *Pall Mall G.* 15 May 7/3, 98 per cent. of the 'smashing' fraternity make silver and not gold money.

Sma·sh-up. [f. SMASH *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]] A complete smash. Also *fig.*

1858 HOLLAND *Titcomb's Lett.* viii. 74 Follow it, and see how long it will be before you come to a stump and a smash-up. 1890 S. W. BAKER *Wild Beasts* I. 16 A hollow bullet..is intended..to secure an expansion and smash-up of the lead upon impact with the animal. 1892 *Cath. News* 27 Feb. 5/5 May this smash-up of his facts remain as a warning to him.

Smatch (smætʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 2 **smecch,** 3 **smech;** 4, 6–7 **smach,** 5–6 **smache, smatche,** 6– **smatch.** [ME. *smech, smach,* app. an alteration of OE. *smæc* SMACK *sb.*[1], under the influence of SMATCH *v.*]

1. Taste, smack, flavour; † also, the sense of taste.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 9 On his hehe hokede neose preaste smeorðrinde smoke ut smecche forcuðest. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Þis smech and tis cnowunge kumeð of gostliche sihðe. *Ibid.* 276 Bitweonen smech muðes and neoses smel. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 461 He hade þe smelle of þe smach & smoltes þeder sone, Fallez on þe foule flesch [etc.]. 1563 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 536 Those that be distilled in mettall, haue some smatch of the mettall. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* A v j, But it is not errour forthwith that hath somewhat a bitter smatch, and is unsavory to every queysie stomacke. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* v. xx. 713 The meal of the corne of Champagne, craueth a newer made leauen,..because it hath a smatch of the earth. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. I. 353 These Salts have also somewhat of a Nitrous Tast, but mixed with a smatch of a Vitriolick. *a* 1764 R. LLOYD *Author's Apol.* 92 Whosoe'er, though slightly, sips, Their grateful flavour with his lips, Will find it leave a smatch behind. 1853 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxv. 148 We had a bottle with a queer smatch the other night. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Mar. 7/3 Not the least smatch or bad taste has ever been imparted to the liquor.

fig. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxxi. 746, I haue yet.. this smatch of my wicked bringing up..remayning in mee.

b. A mere tasting. *rare.*

c 1456 PECOCK *Bk. Faith* (1909) 205 Whiche bokis, if 3e wolen rede diligentli..and not forto take an hasti smel or smatche in hem. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxi. xviii, If God should withdraw his grace, when men haue tasted but a little smatch of it. 1755 T. H. CROKER *Orl. Fur.* XXXIII. iii, The monsters..Which did his victuals spoil,.. Nor suffer'd him to taste, or have a smatch.

2. A slight indication, suggestion, or tincture *of* some quality, etc.

c 1525 *Tale of the basyn* 25 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 45 A wyfe that has an yvell tach, Ther of the husbond shalle haue a smache. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 6 He hath in sundry woordes and phrases sum smatche of his natiue countrey phrases, that he was borne in. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 44 Hee passes the more plausibly because all men haue a smatch of his humour. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 59 Some Nations may be found to have a peculiar Guttural or Nasal smatch in their Language. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 174 A Smatch of that Respect he has forfeited by his fatal Transgression. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 56 Has not your Pegasus some smatch of the qualities of the famous Rosinante? 1788 COWPER *Let.* Wks. 1836 VI. 155 In the style of the lady's note to you, I can easily perceive a smatch of her character. 1808 LAMB *Charac. Dram. Writ.* 531 She speaks the dialect of despair; her tongue has a smatch of Tartarus. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., He has gotten a smatch of London in his talk. 1889 *Archaeol. Æliana* XIII. 313 A smatch of the old lawless spirit of their ancestors.

b. A slight touch *of* illness, pain, etc.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xliv. 243 Not that moment when first the Patient felt a Smatch of it. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 143 It was resolved to give him a smatch of the cat-o'-nine-tails. 1865 BANKS *Wakefield Words* 65 'Hez he gotten t'feaver?' 'Noa, bud he's a smatch on it.'

3. A slight knowledge, a smattering, *of* something. † Also, a slight turn or trial *at* a thing.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xl. iv, As yit we comprehend it not perfectly, but onely have a little smatch of it. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 26 If he haue leasure to be idle.. he ha's a smatch at Alcumy. 1703 DE FOE *Reformat. Manners* Misc. 102 A little smatch of Modern Blasphemy. 1719 — *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 549 They have..a Smatch of the Knowledge of the Mathematicks. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 365 We give some Latin, and a smatch of Greek. 1825 A. HEADLEY in J. Raine *Mem. J. Hodgson* (1858) II. 66 If you can get Joe Fenwick to give him a smatch of the value of the land it will be of great service to him.

† **Smatch,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **smatche.** [Of obscure origin.] The wheatear, *Saxicola œnanthe.*

Turner appears to be the only real authority for the name, and the statement in quot. 1753 is very doubtful.

1544 TURNER *Avium Hist.* C v j, Κναφός, *Cæruleo,* Anglicé, a clotburd, a smatche, an arlyng, a steinchek. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* 100 The Clotbird (called sometimes a Smatch, or an Arling) is as big almost as a Thrush. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 88 *Cæruleo,* the Clot-bird, Smatch, or Stone-Check. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Smatch,* in zoology, a name by which the common œnanthe is called in many parts of England.

† **Smatch,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **-smeccan, 3 smecchen, smechen;** *pa. t.* **smeihte,** *pa. pple.* **i-smeiht, i-smecched.** *β.* 1 **smæccan,** 4 **smache,** 5–6 **smacche,** 4, 6 **smatche,** 4, 6–7 **smatch** (7 **smach**); *pa. t.* 3 **smachte,** 4–5 **smauȝt**(e; *pa. pple.* 3 **i-smaht, i-smauht.** [OE. (*ge*)*smeccan* and *smæccan,* f. *smæc* SMACK *sb.*[1] Cf. OFris. *smekka, smetsa* (WFris. *smeitsje*), MLG. and LG. *smecken,* OHG. *smecchen* (G. *schmecken*). Finally supplanted by the later SMACK *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To have a (specified) flavour or taste; to smack (in some way).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) xxviii. 166 *Sapio,* ic wat oððe ic smæcce. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1526 Mi swete lif, se swoteliche he smecheð me & smealleð. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 955 Al in smolderande smoke smachande ful ille. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 363 Is non so hungri hounde..Durst lape of þe leuynges, so vnlouely þei smauȝte [*C.* smauhte]. 1682 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Wks. 1716 II. 152 Revenge..to a polluted Palate..relishes and smach's more sweet..than Muscadine and Eggs.

b. *fig.* To smack *of* something.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 393 Þe whiche smachen of symony and extorcion. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* II. 226 Many men wenen þat al þes newe sectis..smatchen sumwhat of heresie. 1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding* (1611) 327 This terme, All, heere smatcheth of spight. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 22 Allowing his description therin to retain and smatche of veritie. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Ireland* (1809) 15 The Hebrewes by reason of their peregrination and captivities do smach of the Chaldees, Syriack and Arabick tongues. 1613 DAY *Festivals* viii. (1615) 242 The new Cask will ever smatch of that wherewith it hath beene seasoned.

c. *trans.* To smack of (something).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 27 So eche secte smatchiþ many synnes. *Ibid.* 28 Al þes þree sectis mote nedis smatche errour. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 64 Sith alle that is not groundid smacchith grete synne. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiv. (Arb.) 140 They smatch more the schoole of common players than of any delicate Poet Lyricke or Elegiacke. *Ibid.* III. xix. 243 Such as smatch morall doctrine and teach..good behauiour.

2. *trans.* To taste, feel the taste of. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Hit is a derne healewi þet no mon ne icnoweð þet naueð hit ismecched. *Ibid.* 106 He smeihte

galle on his tunge, uorto leren ancren þet heo ne gruchie neuermore uor none mete. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Al þet ich abbe..mid muþ ispekin oþer ismaht. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3122 He held it nat al foly þat Geffrey did clatir,..For parcell of his wisdom to-fore he had smaught.

Hence †**Sma·tching** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Spellunge & smecchunge beoð ine muðe boðe, ase sihðe is iðen eien. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Hire fif wittes, sihðe & heringe, smecchunge & smealunge & euch limes felunge.

†**Sma·tchcock.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] **a.** A collop. **b.** A spitchcock.

14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 584 *Frixa*, a colhoppe, or a smachecok. 1746 *Mouffet & Bennet's Health's Impr.* 276 Either to broil them [*sc.* lampreys] as Smatchcocks [1655 Spitchcocks], or to bake them.

Smatchet (smæ·tʃĕt). *Sc.* Forms: *a.* 6 **smachart**, 6, 9 **smatcher**, **-ert**, 9 **-art**, **-ard**. *β.* 7 **smatched**, 9 **smatchet** (**-it**). [Of obscure origin.] An insignificant contemptible person; a chit.

a. *c* 1582 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* (Tull.) 623 For schismes, and Symonie, þat smachart [*Harl.* smatched] wes schameit. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 996 Bot ay the mair this smatcher gettis, The closer garris he keip the yettis. 1846 W. CROSS *Disruption* xxxii, Some other smatchert they call Duncanson it seems is coming. 1878 'SAXON' *Galloway Gossip* 98 (E.D.D.), A sort of misleer't kind of a smatchart.

β. 16.. *Montgomerie's Flyting* (Harl.) 473 Where that smatched hade sucked, so sair it was to shed it. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 428/1 These Oxford smatchets too, singing through their noses, in mockery of the Dissenters! 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 118 Impident smatchet that he is.

†**Sma·tchless,** *a. Obs.*[−1] In 3 **smechleas.** [f. *smech* SMATCH *sb.*[1]] Devoid of savour.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Al ure deden, & al þet we wurcheð wiðuten salt, þet is, wisdom, al þuncheð God smechleas.

Smatter (smæ·tər), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. Superficial knowledge; a smattering.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 205 Unskilfulness, bungling,.. slubber, smatter. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess. Learning* Wks. 1720 I. 297 Other Sciences..were in a manner extinguish'd.., excepting only a Smatter of Judicial Astrology. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 6 An' than jog on wi' rhymin smatter To toom my noddle. 1881 THOMPSON *Proc. U. S. Superintendents' Conv.* 35 The mistake lies in the substitution of smatter for knowledge. 1883 ADAMS *College Fetich* 27 That worthless smatter of the classics.

2. *pl.* Scraps, trifles, fragments; small sums. *Sc.*

1766 A. NICOL *Poems* 76 He can pray, and tell long scrifs of Greek, And broken smatters of the Hebrew speak. 1808 in JAMIESON.

Smatter (smæ·tər), *v.* Forms: 4 **smatre**, 4–6 **smater**, 6 **smatyr**, 5– **smatter.** [Of uncertain origin. Similar forms occur in Sw. *smattra* to patter, crackle, rattle, etc., G. *schmettern* to dash, resound, etc., but real connexion is very doubtful. In dialects there is also a verb *smatter* to smash: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To dirty, smirch, pollute, defile. *Obs.* The sense in the Chaucer passage is not quite certain.

13.. in *Relig. Antiq.* I. 240 Swarte smekyd smethes smateryd with smoke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ℙ 857 Yet wol they Kisse..and smatre [*v.r.* smater] hem. 1575–6 *Durham Deposit.* (Surtees) 278 They of St. Margaret's wolde not smatter ther own church yard with thoise that then died in the plage. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 110 To say the Iesuits are all smattred with Atheisme, I will not. *Ibid.* 245 More odious stuffe then I haue handled, or am willing to smatter my pen withall.

†**2.** *intr.* To talk ignorantly or superficially, to prate or chatter, *of* something. *Obs.*

c 1440 LOVELICH *Merlin* 3167 Where-offen with sorwe smateryth he of ony thing that to vs longeth for to be? *c* 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 711 For I abhore to smatter Of one so deuyllysshe a matter. But I wyll make further relacion. 1571 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 41 Damon smatters as well as he, of crafty philosophy. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* 51 Of State-Affairs you cannot smatter, Are aukward when you try to flatter.

†**b.** Without const. *Obs.*

c 1475 in Wright *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 89 Trow ye that they lyst to smatter, Ore ageynst ther husbondes to clatter? 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1194 How Cowntrefet Cowntenaunce..With Crafty Conueyaunce dothe smater and flater. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 172 Good Prudence, smatter with your gossip, go. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 263 Such rules..your nurses teach children, when they can scarce smatter. 1691 E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Phil.* 204 No Tongue or Pen can more than smatter, at the recital of the love-inspired Words.

3. To have a slight or superficial knowledge or practice *of*; to dabble, to be a smatterer (*in* or *at* something).

1530 PALSGR. 722/2, I smatter of a thyng, I have lytell knowledge in it. *Ibid.*, He smattereth a lytell of the lawe. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* Pref. 2 Fooles and incipient persons..wyl enterpryse to smatter and to meddle to mynyster medecynes. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 218 If a man can but smatter in six or seven languages he is noted to be a rare fellow. 1805 G. MᶜINDOE *Poems* 151 That's no' to hinder me to smatter..At making rhyme. 1827 HOOD *Craniology* 39 Just as in making broth they smatter By bobbing twenty things in water. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 595, I never knew you to smatter.

b. To go *through* in a superficial manner.

1881 MAHAFFY *Rep. Irish Schools* 26 The system makes it far more lucrative to smatter through all these things than to learn the great subjects.

4. *trans.* To talk or utter without proper knowledge or proficiency.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Woman* IV. ii, The barber smatters Latin, I remember. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 185 In proper terms, such as men smatter When they throw out and miss the matter. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 68. 3/1 So harsh and so mean are the Lines that you smatter. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 253 A man..who could at least smatter a little French. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* i, He smattered words in not a few foreign languages.

5. To dabble in (a subject); to study or learn superficially.

1883 *American* XXVI. 281 Then I smatter botany some. 1885 STEVENSON *Dynamiter* Wks. 1907 VI. 191, I have smattered law, smattered letters, smattered geography, smattered mathematics.

Smatterer (smæ·tərəɹ). Also 6 **smaterar**, **smatrer**, 6–7 **smaterer.** [f. SMATTER *v.*] One who has only a slight or superficial knowledge *of* (now rare) or *in* a matter; a dabbler. Also used without const.

(*a*) 1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 41 b, Smaterars or bunglers of physyke. *Ibid.* 92 b, He is a smaterar of grammar. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 844 The captious smatterers of Rhetorique. 1810 D. STEWART *Philos. Ess.* 162 A degree of celebrity among the smatterers of science.

(*b*) 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 244/2 Some proude smaterer in learning. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 342 A man..would thinke that in versifying he is but a smatterer. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. i, Smatterers in other mens matters. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 104 More mischiefe cometh from such Smatterers in Physick, than those more ignorant. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 58 ℙ 13 For the Benefit of our modern Smatterers in Poetry. *a* 1763 W. KING *Lit. & Polit. Anecd.* (1819) 150 A bare smatterer in the Latin tongue. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) III. 283 Chilperic..was a smatterer in several kinds of literature. 1893 JESSOPP *Stud. Recluse* Pref. p. ix, A clergyman with a cure of souls..must give up all hopes of being anything but a smatterer in science.

(*c*) 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 20 Noble Poetry, pittifullie mangled and defaced, by rude smatterers. 1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* D ij, Such hurt..ensueth by..medling with medlers or common smatterers. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng.-Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 138 Every smatterer among them hath this much in his mouth. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 213 As Smatterers prove more arrogant and pert, The less they truly understand an Art. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* (1812) I. 257 No smatterer could read as I had done. 1805 D'ISRAELI in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. ii. 48 Could you secure the numerous Smatterers of this age, you will have an enviable body of subscribers. 1882 *Manch. Guard.* 5 Sept. 6 Once off a very special line of his own Dr. Richardson is, we fear, no better than a smatterer.

Sma·ttering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SMATTER *v.*]

1. A slight or superficial knowledge *in* or *of* something. Also without const.

(*a*) 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 17 Such haue only a lytyl smateryng in gud lernyng. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Almanack-maker* 14 Wherein, trust me, hee ha's a pretty smattering. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 55 Known to every one who has but the least smattering in Distillations. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IV. i, Your utter incapability of ever arriving at the slightest smattering in any of the infernal dialects. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 255 It is the only alternative to a superficial smattering in all things.

(*b*) 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 10 Euerie priuate Scholler ..beganne to vaunt their smattering of Latine. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 785 Onely a little smattering of learning he had. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 43, I propose to give you a Smattering of the French and Italian. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* iv, I soon obtained a very fair smattering of my profession. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. ii. 33 He had..given his son the chance of acquiring a smattering of 'scholarship'.

(*c*) 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 219 It were a great deale better that they had no learning at all and knew their owne ignorance, than any little smattering, vnperfit in his kinde. 1612 BRINSLEY *Ludus Lit.* 108 They who haue had but a smattering, or some little beginning. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 3 That dangerous and so much fear'd station, which is call'd Smattering. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* 161 There is a wide difference between elementary knowledge and superficial knowledge—between a firm beginning, and a feeble smattering.

†**b.** A slight trace or symptom. *Obs.*[−1]

1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 197 The patient, at the usual time for the return of his fit, felt some smattering of his distemper.

2. The action of discoursing or studying in a superficial manner. *rare.*

1649 MILTON *Observ. Articles Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 564 The changing forsooth of Monarchy into Anarchy, sounds so like the smattering of some raw Politician. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 70, I would advise them to leave off this dabbling and smattering in Philosophy.

Sma·ttering, *ppl. a.* [f. SMATTER *v.*]

†**1.** ? Ready for smacking or kissing. *Obs.*[−1]

a 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 597, I wyll..geett me a lemman wyth a smattrynge face.

†**2.** Given to prating or talking. *Obs.*[−1]

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2121, I warne you beware of to moche lyberte;..[of being] To flatterynge, to smatterynge, ..To clateryngе, to chateryngе [etc.].

3. Dabbling; imperfectly learned.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1887) 236 Simple coniectures of some smattering writers concerning the matter of his traine. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 93 A bookish smattering Grecian. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 140, I, who am but a smattering Novice in Divinity.

4. Slight, superficial, imperfect.

c 1589 *Theses Martinianae* 31, I haue a prety smattering gift in this Pistle-making. 1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* 32 Having attained any little smattering knowledge. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 124 Writers of Travels, who understood not the Eastern Languages or at least had but a smattering understanding of 'em. 1828 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* ix. 481 My French..Is, on the whole, but weak and smattering. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XI. ii. 406 That smattering acquaintance with questions of religion, politics, and literature which the world calls 'well-informed'.

Hence **Sma·tteringly** *adv.*

1849 MAURY in Corbin *Life* (1888) 52 To see how smatteringly they are taught, look at the great majority of middle-aged women. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 433 As we task ourselves To learn a language known but smatteringly.

Sma·ttery, *sb.* [f. SMATTER *sb.* or *v.*] Smattering; superficial knowledge.

1892 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Jan. 77/2 Freedom from sciolism and 'smattery'.

Sma·ttery, *a.* [f. SMATTER *sb.*] Superficial; of a smattering character.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 2/2 A small library of the popular literature of the subjects, some of which was as smattery as Madame herself.

Smaw, obs. Sc. variant of SMALL *a.*

Smay (smē), *v.* Now *dial.* [Aphetic for DISMAY *v.*[1] or ESMAY *v.*] *intr.* To shrink, to flinch; to feel disinclined, etc. Hence **Smay·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 8 But Cyrus,..not smaying at all,..readily came upon him againe with a reply. 1667 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 205 He was of a strong healthy constitution, not smaying for cold in school, like other children, as his master hath told me. 1678 BP. CROFT *Second Call* 30 Men in Duels..receive deadly wounds one after another without any smaying, as if they felt them not. 1841 in Cheshire and Shropshire glossaries.

†**Sma·zky,** *a. Obs.*[−1] (Meaning obscure.)

1599 MIDDLETON *Micro-cynicon* A 5, Auant,..Ile anger thee inough, And fold thy firy-eyes in thy smazkie snufe.

Smeach, variant of SMEECH *sb.*

Smear (smĭəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **smeoru**, **-o**, **smeru**, **-o**, **-a**, 3–5 **smere** (4 **smer**), 7 **smeer**, 6–7 **smeare**, 8– **smear** (9 *techn.* **smeir**). [In sense 1 common Teutonic: OE. *smeoru*, *smeru*, etc., = OFris. *smere* (EFris. *smiri*, *smēr*, NFris. *smēr*, *smör*, WFris. *smoar*), MDu. *smere*, *smeer* (Du. *smeer*), and *smare*, *smaer*, OS. *smero* (MLG. *smere*, *smer*), OHG. *smero*, *smer* (MHG. *smer*, G. *schmer*) fat, grease, ON. *smjǫr* (Icel. *smjer*, Sw. *smör*, Da. and Norw. *smør*) butter:—OTeut. **smerwa* neut. The stem *smer-*, with different suffix, is represented in Goth. by *smairþr* neut., fat. Cognate forms outside of Teut. are Lith. *smarsas* fat, OIr. *smir* (Gael. *smior*) marrow, and perh. Gr. *μύρον* ointment. The later senses are mainly, if not entirely, f. the vb., like G. *schmiere.*

In OE. the *w* of the stem appears regularly in the genitive and dative *smeor(u)wes*, *-we*, *smer(e)wes*, *-we*, etc.]

†**1.** Fat, grease, lard; ointment. *Obs.*

c 725 *Corpus Gl.* U 257 *Unguentum*, smeoru. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xvi. 10 Smeoru his [hie] bilucun. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 74 Cnucige wið eald smeoru. *Ibid.* II. 68 Heorotes smera oþþe gate oþþe gose. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13244 Nohht þurrh nan eorþliȝ smere, acc all þurrh Haliȝ Gastess sallfe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1573 In heuene deu, and erðes smere, [Esau] Gatte him bliscing. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1306 (Kölbing), Newe schon þat man haþ bouȝt,..And smere, to smere hem al about. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. vii. (Tollem. MS.), þe fatnesse þerof..is mad white and turnid in to talowe and smere. 1447 BOKENHAM *Lyvys Seyntys* (Roxb.) 78 Full of pyke rosen oyle and smere. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 201 Tak þe crotyng of a goot, & old smere of a red swyn. 1611 COTGR., *Oing*, (Hogs) grease, or seame; smeare. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Smeeren*,..to Rub with Grease or Smeare.

†**b.** A 'company' *of* curriers. *Obs.*

c 1476 in *Hors, Shepe, & Ghoos* (Roxb.) 4 iv b, A Smere of coryers. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj b, A Smere of Coryouris.

†**2.** Smeared or dirty condition. *Obs.*[−1]

1600 *Hosp. Incurable Fooles* 79 Neither was he like a tinker in any thing, but only the smeare and collour of his beard.

3. A mark, smudge, or stain made by smearing, or suggestive of this; a layer or patch of some substance applied by smearing.

1611 COTGRAVE, *Macheure*, a blacke..smeare. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiogr.* xliv. 225, I see through his disguise, as I should the hand of a great master through the smear of varnish. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 50 As the figures were moving, no trace of them is seen [in the stereograph], except a light smear along the shops. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, Roof, and walls, and floor, alike abounding in old smears of flour, red-lead, and damp. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-forming Min.* 25 The smears of balsam being ultimately cleaned off with a piece of rag or silk moistened with benzol.

fig. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. iv. (1872) III. 20 Here is the unprecise but indubitable fact, as the Prussian Dryasdust has left us his smear of it.

b. A small quantity of some substance prepared for microscopical investigation by being smeared upon a slide.

1903 *Med. Record* 7 Feb. 209 Gonococci were demonstrated..by smears only. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* Sept. 599 A smear from the red marrow in the case appeared identical in character with the picture of the blood film.

†**4.** *slang.* A painter; a plasterer. *Obs.*

c 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd*, *Smeer*, a painter. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Smear*, a Painter, a Plaisterer, &c. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Smear*, a plaisterer.

5. a. An application for smearing sheep.

1802 C. FINDLATER *Agric. Surv. Peebles* 190 *note*, He proposes a smear composed of butter, train oil, and turpentine. 1870 G. ARMATAGE *Every Man his own Cattle Doctor* 559 Arsenical dips and mercurial smears,

b. A product in the making of sugar.

1843 G. R. PORTER *Sugar Cane* (ed. 2) 220 The wet heads are cut off and put into a large mould; these are called bastard heading or smear.

c. *Fishing.* (See quot.)

1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 241 Pollack are often attracted round the boat by what the fishermen call 'smear', that is, offal of fish and bilge-water, which they occasionally throw overboard.

d. *Pottery.* A mixture used for glazing.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2220/1 *Smeir*, a semi-glaze on pottery; common salt added to an earthenware glaze. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 221/1 'Smears' and 'flows' are glazes applied by volatilization. 1897 [see *semi-glaze*, SEMI- 7 j].

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) †*smear-gavel* (see GAVEL *sb.*[1]), *-monger*; (sense 4 b) *smear preparation*; †**smear-dock**, *Sc.* **-docken**, English Mercury; †**smear-gelt** (see quot.); **smear-glaze**, = 5 d; †**smear-nep**, bryony; **smear-shading**, a method of shading used in glass-painting; so *smear-shadow*.

1297 *Placita coram Rege* m. 11 (1897) 65 Johannes le Smeremongere. 1304 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 32 *Edw. I*, 284 Ralph le Smermonger. 13.. *Eug. Gilds* (1870) 359 Euerych sellere of grece and of smere and of talw3 shal..to þe kynge a peny, in þe name of smergauel. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 162 *Mercurial*, smerowo[r]t (smerdocke). *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 43 *Vitricella*, smernepe. 1775 TIPPERMALLUCH *Receipts* 12 (Jam.), Rub the person over with the juice of All-good (called in Latin Bonus Henricus, others call it the Smear-docken). 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Smear gelt*, a bribe. 1847 WINSTON *Hints Glass Painting* (1867) 284 A stipple shadow is..always more transparent than a smear shadow of equal depth. 1848 — *Glass Painting* (1865) 80 The first and oldest kind of shading may be called Smear shading, and the second Stipple shading. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* Sept. 602 Smear preparations were also made in order that the form of the individual cells might be more closely studied.

Smear (smī·ɪ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 **smirian (smiran)**, 3 **smirien**, 4 **smyrie**. *Pa. t.* 1, 3 **smirede** (1 **-ide**), 4 **smired, smyrede**. *Pa. pple.* 3 **i-smiret**. *β.* 1 **smyrian** (**-iʒan**), 1–3 **smurien**. *Pa. pple.* 3 **i-smured**. *γ.* 1 **smerian**, 3 **smeorie**, 4 **smerie**; 3 **smeren**, 4–6 **smere** (4 **smer**), 6–7 **smeere**, *Sc.* **smeir**, 7 **smeer**; 6–7 **smeare**, 6– **smear**. *Pa. t.* 1–4 **smerede**, 3–4 **smered** (5 **-yd**), 4 **smerd**. *Pa. pple.* 2–3 **i-**, 2–4 **y-smered** (4 **-smerd**), 3, 6 **smered** (*Sc.* 6 **smerit, smeiret**). [Common Teutonic: OE. *smir-, smyr-, smerian* (also *smir-, smerwan*), f. *smeoru, smeru* SMEAR *sb.*, = OFris. **smera* (EFris. *smēre, smüri*, NFris. *smēr, smerri, smīore*, WFris. *smarre*, †*smerre*), MDu. *smeren, smieren, smaren* (Du. *smeren*), MLG. *smeren* (*schmären, schmirn*), OHG. *smirwan* (MHG. *smirwen, smirn*, G. *schmieren*, †*schmeren*), ON. *smyrva, -ja* (MSw. *smyrja, smöria*, Sw. *smörja*; MDa. *smørie*, Da. *smøre*).]

1. *trans.* To anoint with oil, chrism, etc., as a symbolic ceremony. In later use only with contemptuous force.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxxviii. 21 In ele halʒum minum ic smirede hine. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 2457 Cristene folc..ben smered ðor quiles he liuen, Wið crisme and olie. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9377 Vr lige louerd þat yeled is, & ismered to Ihesu Crist. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7377 Vn-to king þou sal him smer. 1340 *Ayenb.* 93 Of þise oyle byeþ ysmered þo þet god heþ ymad kynges and lhordes of þe wordle. 1550 CROWLEY *Inform. & Petit.* Sel. Wks. (1872) 154 So long as ydle bealies may come to the bishope and be smered for money. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxx, What will be left to the descendant..of Charlemagne,..save to be smeared with oil at Rheims, and to eat their dinner under a high canopy?

fig. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xliv. 8 Smirede ðec god..mid ele blisse. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 33 For ði haueð ðin lauerd ismered þe mid ða ele of blisse.

2. To anoint, to rub or daub (a part of the body) with oil, grease, or some similar preparation. Said also of the oil, etc. In later use with suggestion of sense 4.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxl. 5 Ele..synfulles ne smireð heafud min. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 69 Maria ʒenam an pund deorwyrþre smerenesse, & smerede þæs Hælendes fet. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 17 Þonne ðu fæste, smyra þin heafod, and þweah þine ansyne. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Alswa doð monie of þas wimmen heo smurieð heom mid blanchet, þet is þes deofles sape. *c* 1305 *Judas Iscariot* 126 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 110 Wiþ þis swete oignement heo smired oure louerd þer. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 374 For oyle smereþ þane champion, þat me ne schel him festne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 775 The Groom..stript for Wrestling, smears his Limbs with Oyl. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* II. 454 The Indian Fair Is nicely smear'd with Fat of Bear. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) I. 33 Their..foreheads..being generally smeared with brown and red paints. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xi. 231 Their foreheads were smeared with white flour. 1885 CLODD *Myths* I. vi. 105 They smear themselves with black paint in memory of that tradition.

fig. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 73 Ðif we nu willaþ ure saula smerian mid mildheortnesse ele. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Beoden smurieð him mid swete oluhnunge, auh teares prikieð him.

†**b.** To prepare (a dead body) with unguents before burial. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 8 [Hia] forecuom to smiriane [*Rushw.* smiranne, *Cp.* smyrianne, *Hatt.* smeriene] lichoma min on bebyrgennise. *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 299 Mid þam man smyrað ricra manna lic. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 372 Nicodemus brouhte smuriles uorte smurien mide ure Louerd. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2442 Iosep dede hise lich..Wassen, and riche-like smeren.

3. To anoint medicinally; to treat (a wound, etc.) with a copious application of some thick or greasy medicament.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 11 Monn..lam worhte & smiride eʒo mino. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 114 Smure þæt sar ʒelomelice mid. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 An helendis Mon..wesch his wunden mid wine and smerede mid oli. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1600 Þe engles wið smirles of aromaz smireden hire wunden. *a* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 277 He let is heued of-smyte, and smeorie [*Harl.* smyrede] him with is blod. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13547 Wit þis vn-to þe erth he spitt,..And smerd þar-wit his oþer ei. 14.. *Sir Beues* 3857+16 (MS. C.), [He] smeryd hur with oyntment. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 446 Mischief must extend, although the injured parts be smeared with turpentine. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 331 We were in the habit of smearing it [*sc.* the skin] with zinc ointment for several days successively. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 269 We smear him with grease and gunpowder in lieu of sulphur.

fig. *a* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 7 And bringue with him þe eoyle of milce..to smeorie þare-with and bringe of pine þine fader and alle his.

b. To rub (sheep) with a mixture fitted to keep wet out of the fleece and prevent disease or vermin.

c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* III. i. (Thynne, 1542), Ne Christes apostels were never so bold No such lordshippes to hem enbrace; But smeren hir sheep and kepe hir fold. 1561 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 94 Sic sanctitude was Sathanis sorcereis, Christis sillie scheip and sobir flok to smeir. 1684 [see SMEARED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1796 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XVIII. 570 In..November the whole stock is smeared; a practice which..is found to be..beneficial. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1115 When the skin of sheep is covered with such substances they are said to be *smeared*. 1884 L. F. ALLEN *New Amer. Farm Bk.* 439 Smearing, or salving sheep, is a custom little practiced in this country.

4. To spread, daub, cover thickly or in patches, *with* some unctuous, greasy, sticky, or dirty substance. Sometimes said of the substance. Also rarely with *in*.

(*a*) 971 *Blickling Hom.* 73 Þæt næfre ne afulaþ þæt mid hire ʒesmered biþ. *c* 1200 ORMIN 994 Bulltedd bræd..smeredd wel wiþþ elesæw. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 599 (Kölbing), Were 3our werk ysmerd þer wiþ, Euer it wold stond in griþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Hy smerieþ þane way of helle mid hony. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 68 The fende alweye wolde smere her in the face with the brennynge piche, grese, oyle, lede, and terre. *a* 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 88 Her shone smered wyth talowe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 196 These they smere or annoint with the pytche of molten Bitumen. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* IV. 161 All their bits were smeared ore With dusty dryed frothy gore. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 727 A Vessel of huge bulk..Smeard round with Pitch. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 9 Stems of trees, smeared over with tar, are preserved thereby from being hurt by.. goats. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 123 The unctuous substance with which it is smeared. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lanm.* xxxiv, The fatal weapon was found in the chamber, smeared with blood. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* i, I don't suppose he smears his hands with treacle.

(*b*) 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i, Sweete Arden, smeard in bloode and filthy gore. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. vi. 69 If any such be heere..that loue this painting Wherein you see me smear'd. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* v. 204 His troops..smear their paths in blood.

b. Without const.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 He strecche∂ him touward us ase þing þet is ismured. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* 1151 (W.), In ech [hole] he pelt a dosele, And smerede the holes al aboute. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Men vseth to smere þe iointe of an Elephant to dry þe better. 1531 TINDALE *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 82 One..had nede of greace to grease shues or smeere bootes. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Let him feed on slime That smeares the dungeon cheeke. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1638) 302 Other Temples have other Pagods;..some of them are painted or smeered black; others red. 1763 CHURCHILL *Proph. Fam.* Poems 1767 I. 90 Slugs, pinched with hunger, smear'd the slimy wall. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XXI. 8 Tenacious pitch, to smear Their unsound vessels. 1900 *Daily News* 4 June 6/2 The youngsters were smeared to the eyes.

c. *fig.* Chiefly const. *with*, and usually implying something base or discreditable.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* II. 37 Why are you smeared with the vaine pleasures of this world? 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 296 Sche smeiris baith his mynd and eires with thir wordes. 1598 BARKCLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 171 Happi's the man..whom glory does not smeere With lying drosse. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. iii, If the least soyle of lust smeers my pure love. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XIII. lvii. 243 After Nights soot smears Heav'n, day gilds its face. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iv. 63 People smearing each other over with stupid flattery. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *Ho. by Works* II. 165 She would not smear his memory by any falsehoods now.

d. *techn.* To glaze (pottery) by a process of evaporation.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1019 The operation called *smearing*, consists in giving an external lustre to the unglazed semi-vitrified ware. 1893 *Handbk. Brit. Pottery & Porc* (Mus. Pract. Geol.) 58 Certain compositions may also be placed in the bottom of the closed saggers, and by their evaporation the ware in them may be smeared or semi-glazed.

5. To lay *on* in a thick or greasy layer.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6077 Þis lamb blod..On aider post þer hus to smer. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Illino, illinio*, to smeir on. 1847 WINSTON *Hints Glass Painting* (1867) 284 A coat of enamel brown smeared smoothly and evenly on the glass. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-forming Min.* 23 The [slab] of lead or cast-iron, on which rather, but not very, coarse emery is smeared with water. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 550 If some of the exudation from the brain be smeared on these media.

6. To rub *out* with a smear or smudge; to rub or draw in a smeary manner.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, If he did by accident form a letter properly, he immediately smeared it out again with his arm. 1848 — *Dombey* iii, You go a smearing your wet face against the expensive mourning that Mrs Richards is a wearing for your ma. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* IV. xv, Smearing his sleeve across his mouth.

Smear-case. *U.S.* [ad. G. *schmierkäse* (Du. *smeerkaas*), f. *schmieren* to smear + *käse* cheese.] (See quot. 1848.)

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 314 *Smear-case*, a preparation of milk made to be spread on bread, whence its name; otherwise called Cottage-cheese. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 231/1 The man held a knife-load of smear-case in front of his mouth.

Smear-dab. [? f. SMEAR *sb.* or *v.*: see quot. 1882.] A variety of dab, also called lemon or smooth dab.

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 189 The Smear-Dab, *Rhombus lævis. Ibid.*, We found one of this species at a fish-monger's in London last winter, where it is known by the name of the smear-dab. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 221 *Platessa microcephalus*, Smear Dab. 1864 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 188 The Smear Dab in comparison with the Common Dab is a larger and thicker fish. 1882 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 29 Smear-dab, due to its being frequently covered with slime.

Smeared (smī·ɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. SMEAR *v.* + **-ED** [1].]

1. In contemptuous use: Anointed.

1550 BALE *Apol.* 17 The popes Smered presthod. 1554 HILARIE *Resurr. Masse* A viij, My smered Chaplens..I make them to be called Syrs euery one. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 70 Being a greasie priest, and smered prelate.

2. Dirtied or soiled by smearing; bedaubed.

1584–7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 62 Pasiphæ preferred a Bull before a King, and Venus a smeered Smith before Mars the God of battaile. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* v. (1626) 92 Nor could he fall; but.. Hung by the hand against the smeared post. 1684 SYMSON *Descr. Galloway* (1823) 72 The most part of their laid-wool, call'd in other parts smear'd wool, is..so called, because ..they melt butter and tar together, and therewith they.. smear their sheep. 1795 in Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 533 The smeared kind at 7s. or 8s. per stone; and their white wool from 8s. to 10s. 1840 BARRET *Water Colour Painting* 16 While the smeared part is being cleaned with India-rubber. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, Holding out his smeared hand.

b. *Smeared dagger*, a species of moth.

1883 W. SAUNDERS *Insects Inj. Fruits* 325 The Smeared Dagger, *Apatella oblinita*...This peculiarity being partly obliterated in this species, it has received the common name of the 'smeared dagger'.

3. Laid on in a smearing manner.

1820 KEATS *Isabella* li, The smeared loam With tears, as chilly as a dripping well, She drench'd away.

Smearer (smī·ərəɪ). [f. SMEAR *v.* + **-ER** [1].] One who smears.

1632 SHERWOOD, A smearer, *patrouilleur*. 1881 *Instruct. Census Clerks* (1885) 78 Fur Dyeing...Smearer. Grounder. 1884 *United Presbyt. Mag.* Apr. 156 He was to maintain the smearers of the sheep.

Smea·riness. [f. SMEARY *a.* + **-NESS.**] The condition or character of being smeared or smeary.

1866 COCKAYNE *Sax. Leechd.* III. 345/1 Neither of these plants [smearwort and smeardock] have any smeariness about them. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 June 7/5 There is a general smeariness, a want of proper and thorough cleaning.

Smearing (smī·rɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMEAR *v.* + **-ING** [1].] The action or process of anointing, daubing, etc., with some unctuous substance; a substance used for this purpose; a layer of ointment, paint, etc., smeared on.

c 1000 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* xvi. 36 Æniʒ þing..on smyrunge oððe on wyrtum..þæt ðu myhtest myne wunde myd ʒehælan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 174 Balzaman smiring wiþ eallum untrumnessum. 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 He ssel þerto do þe smeringes and þe plastres of zuete warningges. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvi. (Bodl. MS), Þe cure is resting and smering by somme vnguementes. 1611 COTGR., *Linition*, a smearing, annointing,..rubbing. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 247 Smearing, daubing. *c* 1790 IMISON *School Arts* II. 54 Lay a piece of clean paper upon it, to prevent smearing. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1154 They are collected together,..in order to undergo the operation of smearing or salving. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxxvi. (1856) 326 A smearing of red sealing-wax. 1893 *Handbk. Brit. Pottery & Porc.* (Mus. Pract. Geol.) 58 Smearing..is produced by the evaporation, or volatilisation, of certain glazes in closed saggers.

attrib. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlv, The hovel..seemed to be intended for what is called, in the pastoral counties of Scotland, a *smearing-house*. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1117 The sheep should be laid on the smearing-stool. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 397 The smearing material is a salve composed of tar and butter.

Smea·rless, *a.* [f. SMEAR *sb.*] Free from smears; not smeary.

1885 SPON *Mech. Own Book* (1893) 462 The surface..is smearless, hard, and brilliant.

†**Smearwort.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **smeoru-, smerowyrt**, 4 **smerowo(r)t**, 5 **smerw(o)rt, smerewourt**. [OE. *smeoruwyrt* (see SMEAR *sb.* and WORT *sb.*), = MDu. *smere-, smeerworte* (Du. *smeerwortel*), MHG. *smerwurz* (G. *schmeerwurz, schmerwurz*).] One or more plants of doubtful identity (see quots.).

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* U 98 *Ueneria*, smeoruwyrt. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 114 Đeos wyrt þe man aristolochiam, & oðrum naman smerowyrt nemneð. *c* 1325 [see SMEAR *sb.* 6]. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 565 *Aristologia*, Smerwort. *Ibid.* 596 *Mintuosa*, Smerwort. *a* 1400–50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* fol. 203 Mercurie or papwourtz or þe more smerewourt: *mercurialis*. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 193 *Unctuosa*,..selhele *uel* smerwrt.

Smeary (smī·ri), *a.* Also 6 smery, smearye, 6–7 smeerie, smearie. [f. SMEAR *sb.* or *v.* Cf. NFris. *smēri*, *smörig*, WFris. *smoarrich*, *smoarch*, MDu. *smerich* (Du. *smerig*), MLG. *smerich* (LG. *smerig*, G. dial. *schmêrig*, G. *schmierig*), MSw. *smörug* (Sw. *smörjig*), MDa. *smerugh*, *-ig*.]

1. Marked or characterized by smears; showing smears or dirty marks; bedaubed, begrimed.

a 1529 SKELTON *Ware the Hawke* 324 Masyd, wytles, smery smyth, Hampar with your hammer vpon thy styth. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 78 You shal be so gaunted in hunger, That youre smeary tabils you wyl most greedelye swallow. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1769 The said place being all black, smeerie, and foule therewith. 1844 THACKERAY in *Fraser's Mag.* XXIX. 710 The Wilkie-like pictures of Mr. Fraser, with their peculiar smeary manner. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xliii, A smeary newspaper long out of date. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* I. 226 A crying woman whose eyes were actually growing smeary whilst she wept.

2. Tending to smear or soil; of a greasy or unctuous nature.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 9 That bast theyre papers with smearie larde sauoring al too geather of thee frying pan. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 35 b/1 Her sweat is fattye, axungiouse, and smearye. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 23 Trane-Oyl..[makes the ink] dull, smeary and unpleasant to the Eye. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* III, A smeary foam works o'er my grinding jaws. 1718 — *Lucan's Pharsalia* III. 1015 The smeary Wax the bright'ning Blaze supplies. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 317 If again exposed to the air, it becomes smeary, moist, and fluid. 1816 W. SMITH *Strata Identified* 9 Moulder ing when dry; smeary when wet. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 252 A good housekeeper who does not like to set her butter on the table in a smeary state, keeps it in summer on ice.

† **Smeat,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *smǽte*, of obscure origin.] Of gold: Refined, pure.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* O 24 *Obrizum*, smaetegold. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 27 Dec. 8 Hie wurdan sona to þam golde þe man hateð *abritsum*, þæt is smæte gold. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070, Þe kynehelm..eall of smeate golde. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 11 Guldene ȝerde alre gold smeatest. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1655 Glistinde & gleaminde, as hit were seoluer oðer gold smeate.

Smeath (smīþ). *local.* Also 7 smieth, 7, 9 smethe, 9 smeeth. [Obscurely related to SMEE.]

1. The smee. Also *smeeth duck.*

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXV. 67 The gossander..With whom the widgeon goes, the golden-eye, the smeath. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 17 Two pellstarts, two smeathes, two shovelars. *Ibid.* 23 Smeathes he keeps in a hut..covered with a net. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Engl.* 101 But of Ducks there be many more sorts, as...Puets, Plovers, Smethes, Wilmotes [etc.]. 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 47 *Smee*—Widgeon, Smeeth Duck.

2. *U.S.* In New Jersey: The pintail duck.

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names & Portr. Birds* 38 Others refer to it as Smethe.

Smec(c)he, obs. forms of SMATCH *v.*

Smech(e, obs. forms of SMEECH *sb.*

† **Smec(k,** abbrev. forms of *Smectymnuus*: see SMECTYMNUAN.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1166 The Handkerchief about the neck Canonical Crabat of Smeck. 1664 *Ibid.* II. ii. 524 Remember how..We..New-modell'd th' Army, and Cashier'd All that to Legion Smec adher'd.

Sme·ctic, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *smēcticus* (Pliny), ad. Gr. *σμηκτικός*, f. *σμήχειν* to wipe, cleanse; cf. SMEGMA.] Cleansing, abstersive, detergent.

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 40 Smooth to the touch, as the most Smectic Earths and Marles themselves. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 124 The Smectic and Figuline Earths. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Smecticus*, cleaning;..smectic.

‖ **Sme·ctis,** *rare.* [ad. Gr. *σμηκτίς*, a kind of fuller's earth.] (See quots. and next.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Smectis*, .. Fullers-Earth. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 227 It feels like hard soap, or rather like that kind of stone which the mineralogists call *Smectis*. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nature* II, How is a clay to be distinguished from the smectis or soap-rock? 1905 *Oban Advertiser* 19 Aug. 3 By different authors, the 'lapis nephriticus' has been considered as an agate, a jasper, a gypsum, and a smectis.

Smectite (sme·ktəit). *Min.* [See prec. and -ITE[1] 2 b.] A kind of fuller's earth.

1811 J. PINKERTON *Petral.* I. 278 [Iconite contains] a combination which nearly corresponds with the smectite of Cimolus. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Smectite*, a term.. applied..more particularly to an argillaceous mineral from Cilly in Lower Styria,..and another from Condé in France.

† **Smectymnist,** obs. variant of next.

1648 E. SYMMONS *Vind. Chas. I* Pref., He then, and the Smectymnists since, and Pim after them, took great pains.

Smectymnuan (smekti·mniuăn), *sb.* and *a.* [*f. Smectymnuus* (*-vvs*), a fictitious name made out of the initials of the five authors of *An Answer to a Book*, etc. (1641).

The writers thus indicated were Stephen Marshall, Edmund Calamy, Thomas Young, Matthew Newcomen, and William Spurstow. The book was written as a reply from the Presbyterian side to Bishop Hall's *Humble Remonstrance*.]

A. *sb.* One or other of the authors of the work published under the name of Smectymnuus; also, one who accepted the views of these writers.

1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burden Issachar* 56 A sufficient evidence, to evince this truth against the Smectymnuans. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., From thence they and their Followers were called Smectymnuans. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 400 The Smectymnuans admit that our blessed Saviour taught his disciples a form of prayer. 1874 MASSON *Milton* I. p. xxx, There were other pamphlets, of retort and rejoinder, between Hall and the Smectymnuans, in all of which Milton advised and assisted the five Smectymnuans.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to, connected with, or characteristic of the Smectymnuans.

1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 182 How little.. sufficiently appears..by the great Smectymnuan labours. 1678 *Pol. Ballads* (Wilkins, 1860) I. 205, I would as soon turn back to mass..As buckle to Smectymnuan laws. 1882–3 SCHAFF *Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1417 He was one of the chiefs in the Smectymnuan Controversy with Bishop Hall in 1641. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 329/1 The famous Smectymnuan pamphlet in reply to Hall was mainly Young's.

Smeddum (sme·dŭm). Forms: 1 smeodoma, -uma (smetuma?), smed(e)ma, smidema, 8 smedim, smeadum, 8–9 smeddum (9 -am). [OE., of obscure origin.]

1. A fine powder; *esp.* fine flour. (For other late examples see SMITHAM.)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P 497 *Polenta*, smeodoma. *a* 900 *Leiden Gloss.* 74 *Simila*, smetuma. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 258 Ȝemin ðas wyrte butan wyrttruman, cnuca mid smedman. *Ibid.* II. 132 Ȝenim acrinde, & drige, & wirc to smedman. 1808 JAMIESON, *Smeddum*, the powder or finest part of ground malt; also called *malt smeddum.*

b. A powder used for medical purposes, or as a vermin-killer.

1786 BURNS *To a Louse* v, O for some rank, mercurial rozet, Or fell, red smeddum. 1828 *Examiner* 35/1 We cannot touch precious ointment without scenting of smeddam.

c. *Mining.* = SMITHAM 2.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 37 'Undressed smeddum,' being what has passed through the sieve of the hotching-tub. *Ibid.*, 'Smeddum,' after being dressed or cleared from all foreign substances.

2. *Sc.* Spirit, pith, 'go'; alertness of mind and vigour in action; energy.

1790 D. MORISON *Poems* 4 He has nae smeadum. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 215 A guidly band Did smedim shaw on ilka strand. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* XXX, Lacking somewhat of that birr and smeddum that is the juice and flavour of books of that sort. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 129, I was fairly tongue-tied; For I had na the smeddum to chide her. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* iii, He had been harmlessly expending all the pith and smeddum of his blows upon a.. bolster.

Smedy, obs. Sc. variant of SMITHY *sb.*

Smee (smī). *dial.* and *U. S.* [Prob. a later form of SMEATH. It is not clear how either form is related to early mod.Du. *smeente* (Du. *smient*), LG. *smênt* widgeon, G. *schmi-*, *schmü-*, *schmeiente* a small wild duck.]

1. A name variously assigned to the smew, widgeon, pochard, and scaup-duck.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas Mergens*, the Diving Widgeon; *in Norfolcia*, the Smee. 1889 H. SAUNDERS *Brit. Birds* 463 The Smew, or Smee—sometimes called Nun..is the smallest member of the genus. 1893 [see SMEATH 1].

b. *Smee-duck*, a pochard.

1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 516 On some parts of the coast of Norfolk I found that they are included with the Wigeon under the common name of 'Smee-Duck'.

2. *U.S.* In New Jersey: = SMEATH 2.

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names & Portr. Birds* 38.

Smeech (smīʧ), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1–2 smec, 2–4 smech, 3–4 smeche, 9 smeech, smeach. [OE. *smēc*, variant of *smīc*, *smȳc* (see SMITCH *sb.*), from the stem of *smēocan* SMEEK *v.* For the equivalent northern forms see SMEEK *sb.*] Smoke; dense or thick vapour, etc. Also in fig. context.

Also in mod. south-western dial. 'fine dust', 'stench', etc.: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

c 825 *Vesp. Hymns* xii. 11 Clæne ȝeleafa coelende slepes smec ȝemetȝie. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvii. § 3 Hi losiað swa swa sceadu oððe smec. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) ci. 3 Dagas mine ȝedroren syndan, smece ȝelice. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 177 Eure þer is vuel smech, þusternesse and eie. *c* 1250 *Old Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 We mowe sigge þet stor signefieth þe herte, and se smech luue of gode. *c* 1325 SHOREHAM III. 192 Þou ert a sot, and myȝt do bet, And so siȝst yn þe smeche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 Al alsuo huanne me alyȝt þet uer, lhapþ þet smech efter þe layt. 1847 HALLIW., *Smeech*, ..obscurity in the air, arising from smoke, fog, or dust. *South and West.* 1875 M. G. PEARSE *D. Quorm* 38 A faggot o' green furse 'pon the fire..fillin' the house with smench and smoke. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 684 Your bakehouse chimley do make such a smeech.

Smeech, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 smeetch, smeechy. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To blacken or soil with smoke. ? *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Patrouiller*, to smeech, begrime,..besmeere.

2. *intr.* To send off smoke, vapour, or the like; to smoke. 1837– in south-western dialects.

3. *trans.* To perfume or scent.

1897 F. T. JANE *Lordship* xxvii, The hawthorn smeetched the air all round.

Hence **Smee·cher; Smeeching** *vbl. sb.*

1611 COTGR., *Patrouilleur*, a smeecher, begrimer, besmearer. *Ibid.*, *Patrouillement*, a smeeching, begriming, besmearing. 1907 *Sci. Amer.* Suppl. 5 Oct. 210 (Cent. Dict. Suppl.), While the kiln is in operation, the escape of the arsenic fumes can be detected here and there in the form of little jets, which the workmen describe as 'smeeching'.

Smeek, *sb.* Latterly *Sc.* and † *north.* Forms: *α.* 2–5 smeke, 3 smec, 4 smek, 5–6 smeik, 5, 8– smeek. *β.* 2–4 smike, 5 smyk(e. [The more northern forms representing OE. *smēc* and *smīc*, *smȳc*: see SMEECH *sb.* and SMITCH *sb.*1]

1. Smoke arising from burning or smouldering matter; reek. Also in fig. context.

Also in mod. Sc. use, 'a strong or foul smell'.

α. c 1200 ORMIN 1088 Þær wass swa mikell smec Off recless att tatt allterr. *c* 1250 *Moral Ode* 9 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 22 Ne myht ic isen be-fore me for smeke ne for myste. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 104 Rekeles..gifs smek that smelles wele, And fer men mai the smek fele. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xix. 18 The smeek steyde vp of it as of a furneys. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 191 But inwarde brent of hate..The hoote fyre, & ȝit ther was no smeke. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 69 Yf the smeke Perpetuel vppon thee dwellyng reke. *c* 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* XXV. 2, I grein to sie the sillie smiddy smeik. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* Poems (1845) 35 Heathery truffs the chimney fill And gar their thickening smeek salute the lift. 1785 BURNS *Vision* iii, The spewing reek, That fill'd, wi' hoast-provoking smeek, The auld clay biggin. 1874 W. ALLAN *Hame-Spun Lilts* 160 Wi' smeek, I thocht they'd baith been smored.

β. a 1200 *Moral Ode* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 161 Ne michte ich seon bi-fore me for smike ne for miste. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2742 Þe smike it reches to þe scki. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 362 Let vessel hit, & sette hit vp in smyke. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.) 459 Smore with smyk, *fumigo*.

b. In *pl.* Also in fig. context.

a 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 129 Hwanene cumeð manies kennes smekes of unpolemodnesse. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 856 With quhilk birnyng now it reikis, As wele apperis by þe smeikis. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* XV, So nyȝe discumford was hee, For smelle other smekis.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *smeek-house*; *-like* adj.

a 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 129 Đe þu wunest on ðe smec-huse of ðine likame. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* ii. 951 in *Anglia* XVIII. 330 Dun-red is his flour, þe erbe smek lik in colour.

Smeek, *v.* Latterly *Sc.* and † *north.* Forms: 1 smeocan, 2 smeken, 5 smekyn; 3–4 smeke, 9 smeak, smeik, 9– smeek. [OE. *smēocan* str. vb. (pa. t. *smēac*), = MDu. *smieken* (rare), G. dial. *smiechen*, related by ablaut to OE. *smocian* SMOKE *v.* and to MDu. *smōken*, G. *schmauchen*. Perh. also partly repr. OE. *smēcan*, *smīcan*: cf. prec.]

1. *intr.* To emit smoke; to reek; to send out or give off steam or vapour. Also in fig. context.

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 244 *Fumigabunt*, smeocaþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xix. 18 Eall Sinai munt smeac [L. *fumabat*]. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 338 Heortes mearh ȝebærned oð þæt hyt smeoce. *c* 1325 *Prose Ps.* ciii. 32 Þe which touche þe mounteyns, and hij shul smoken [*v.r.* smeke]. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4380 For hatred olde to brenne can nat lete With newe flawme..; ȝif it nat smeke, it is þe more to drede. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smekyn, or smokyn, *fumo*, *fumigo*. *Ibid.*, Smekyn, or smokyn as hote lycure, *vaporo*.

2. *trans.* To apply smoke or fumes to, esp. in order to cleanse, cure, dry, etc.; to fumigate.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 352 Wið cyrnla sare, smeoc þone man mid gate hærum. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlix. (*Thecla*) 111 Þe fire þat ves dycht to bryne me, to brule & smeke. 1808 JAMIESON, *Smeik*, *Smeek*, to dry by smoke. 1815 *Pennecuik's Tweeddale* 90 *note*, Smeeking our heads o'er the fire a' winter. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 303/1 *To smeek fish*, i.e. to cure them. *Ibid.* 303/2 To smeek yarn, to smeek the room.

b. To suffocate (bees), to drive out (an animal), by means of smoke.

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xviii, Elshie's skeps o' bees..shall ne'er be smeekit by ony o' huz. 1821 — *Pirate* xxxv, My bees were as dead as if they had been smeaked. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 219 Smeek in his hole the snoozing badger.

† **3.** To scent with incense; to cense. *Obs.*—1

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxiv. 21 And as torax, and galban, and vngula,..I smekede my dwelling; and as balsame not mengd is my smel.

Hence **Smeeked, Smee·king** *ppl. adjs.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 20 Smeocende [*Hatt.* smekende] flex he ne adwæsc þ. 13.. in *Reliq. Antiq.* I. 240 Swarte smekyd smethes smateryd with smoke.

Smee·ky, *a. Sc.* Also 6 smeikie, 9 smeekie. [f. SMEEK *sb.* + -Y.] Emitting, full of, filled with, smoke; smoky.

c 1590 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* XXX. 13 The smeikie smeithis cairs not his passit trauel. 1811 A. SCOTT *Poems* 144 (Jam.), Thro' smeekie flame they him addrest. *a* 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 96 (E.D.D.), The smeeky hames o' our toun.

Smeetch, dial. variant of SMEECH *v.*

Smeeth (smīþ, smīð), *a.* and *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 smoeðe, 1–3 smeðe, 2–4 smeþe, 4–5 smethe, smeth (4 smith), 9 *dial.* smeeth, smeath, smeede, smee. [OE. *smōðe* (:—**smōþi-*), related to *smōð* SMOOTH *a.*, which is rare in OE, but from *c* 1400 has almost entirely supplanted *smeeth.*]

A. *adj.* Smooth; free from roughness.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P 511 *Politis*, smoeðum. *c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* xii. 7 Đec stefn smoeðu hlydeð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xix. 23 Cyrtil unruh *vel* smoeðe. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke iii. 5 Unȝerydu [beoð] on smeðe wegas. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Þat he [a rod] be riht and smal and

long and smeþe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 2 Þe on riwleð þe heorte, þe makeð hire efne & smeðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3490 Þe first was born was rogh as hare, þe toþer child was smeth and bare. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxv. (Bodl. MS.), Þe flessch of þe lunges is nassche and smeþe. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 47 Thou hit sethe With otene grotes, þat ben so smethe.

1808 JAMIESON s.v., *Smeeth in the mou*, a phrase applied to a horse that has lost mark of mouth. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss.* 89/2 *Smeeth, Smee*, smòoth. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 661 *Smeede*, smooth. .. This often occurs in place-names.

B. *sb.* A level space. *E. Anglian dial.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smethe, or smothe, ..*planicies*. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Smeath*, an open level of considerable extent. [*Rye* (1895) *adds*, commonly pronounced and printed *Smee*.] 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 70 *Smeaa*—used for marshland, as 'Down by the carnser and over the smeaa'.

Smeeth (smīð), *v.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 smeðian, smeðan, 2 smeþien, 3 smeðen, 4–5 smeþe, 4–6 smethe, 8 smeath, 9 smeeth. [OE. *smeðian* and *smēðan*, f. *smeðe* SMEETH *a.*] *trans.* To make smooth. Also *absol.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 210 Ærest him is to sellanne þæt þone innoð stille & smeþe. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 47/2 *Salebrosos complanans anfractus*, woȝe smeþiende hylcas. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 He wile seggen and foxliche smeþien mid worde, Nabbe ic nawiht þer-of. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Rihten hire & smeðen hire is of euch religiun..al þe strengðe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Ah Ichulle scheawen hit al wið falschipe ismeðet. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. lviii. (Bodl. MS.), Enula..haþ vertu to plane and to smethe..and to comforte senewes. *Ibid.* xix. xlv, Bitter þinges..bi..drynes..beþ made smeþinge & softinge. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorks.* II. 353. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Smeeth*, to smooth. 1886 HOLLAND *Chester Gloss.*, *Smeeth*, to iron linen. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 661 *Smeeth* (the *th* as in *seethe*), to smooth.

Smee·thly, *adv.* ? *Obs.* Also 3 smeðeliche, 4 smeþelyche, -lich, -ly, 4 smetheliche, 5 *Sc.* smeth(e)ly. [f. SMEETH *a.* + -LY 2.] Smoothly.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 356 Þeos meiden..smirkinde smeðeliche ȝef him þullich onswere. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kt.* 1789 Smeþely con he smyle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 259 þe kyng excused hym self smeþeliche. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 5072 (Wemyss), And he, as bourdand, said smethly: 'Man, will þov haif of me iusting' [etc.]. 1808 in JAMIESON.

Smee·thness. ? *Obs.* Also 1 smeðnysse, smeþnys, 4 smeþe-, 4–5 smethenes. [f. SMEETH *a.*] Smoothness.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 26 He forȝeaf..hreoflium smeðnysse. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 177 *Planities*, smeþnys. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* vi. 18 And al the hows.. hadde hise smethenessis, and hise ioynyngis maad suteli. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Þe same bones..meue þe more spedefullich by smeþenes and softenes. *c* 1470 *Promp. Parv.* (K.) 460/2 Smethenes, *planicies*. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Smeethness*, smoothness, Clydes[dale].

‖ **Smegma** (smeˑgmă). *Phys.* [L. *smēgma*, a. Gr. σμῆγμα a detergent, soap, or unguent, f. σμήχειν: cf. SMECTIC *a.*] A sebaceous secretion, *esp.* that found under the prepuce.

Phillips (ed. Kersey), Bailey, etc., give '*Smegma*, soap, or any thing that scours; a wash-ball', but there is no evidence that the word was ever current in English in these senses.

1819 *Pantologia* X, *Smegma*,..soap; any concrete substance resembling it, as the hardened matter often found, in the morning, on the lachrymal caruncle. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 108 In the newly-born infant, the smegma serves a valuable physiological function. 1899 tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagnosis* viii. (ed. 4) 407 The microbe of smegma readily loses its colour under the action of that substance.

† **Smegma·tic,** *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* Also 7 smegmatick(e. [ad. mod.L. *smegmatic-us*, f. Gr. σμῆγμα, σμήγματ-: see prec.]

A. *sb.* Anything that cleanses; a cleanser, a detergent.

1623 COCKERAM 1, *Smegmaticke*, any thing hauing the power to cleanse and scoure as Sope doth. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 192 Smegmaticks, mundifiers, cleansers, adorners, are useful.

B. *adj.* Detergent; abstersive.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Smegmatic*, that hath the power or strength to scoure or cleanse, as soap. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Smegmatick*, belonging to Soap, of a scouring faculty. 1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 23 Bolus's, Rubrics, and Okers, Figuline, Stiptic, Smegmatic, &c. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 344 Smegmatic Pills.

† **Smeigh,** *a.* *Obs.*—1 [Early ME. *smēgh*, related to OE. *smēagan* to consider.] Clever, cunning. Hence † **Smeighly** *adv.*; † **Smeighness,** wisdom, skill.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 195 Ðe man..þat is smegh oðer man to bicharren, and to bi-swiken. *Ibid.* 71 Gif it was erfeð to forðen, and smeihliche bicharede. *Ibid.* 205 Þat clene..kinde þat god haueð þer-on broht þureh his smehnesse.

† **Smeke,** *v.* *Obs.* *rare.* [a. MDu. or MLG. *smēken* (OHG. *smeichan*, G. *schmeichen*, etc.).] *intr.* To flatter, fawn. Hence † **Smeking** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smekynge, or mevyn wythe plesaunte tokenys. *Ibid.* 476/1 Styryn, or mevyn wythe plesaunte tokenys, þat ys clepyd smekynge, *blandior*. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 91 They flatre and smeke, and plese the prynce for theyr synguler auayl.

Smelite (smēˑləit). *Min.* [f. Gr. σμήλη soap + -ITE 1 2 b. Named by E. F. Glocker, 1845.] = KAOLINITE.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol.*, *Min.*, etc. 188 The following are, also, hydrous silicates of alumina—Pholerite,..Gröppite, and Smelite. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, *Smelite*, an aluminic silicate from Telkebanya in Hungary.

Smell (smel), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2–7 smel (3 smeal, 4 smeol), 3–6 smelle, 4– smell. *β.* 2–4 smul, 4 smil, smyl, 5–6 smyll. [Related to SMELL *v.* The OE. equivalent is *stenc* STENCH.]

1. The sense of which the nose is the organ; the faculty of smelling. Now usually in *sense, organ*, etc., *of smell.*

(*a*) *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 Hie..biniineð þe eien here sene,..muð here smel. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 104 Smel of neose is þe ueorðe of þe vif wittes. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 106 He is not onely of most swift pace, but also of smell. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XVII. i. (1714) 72 In the Nostrils she doth use the Smell. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 35 He who hath a quicke smell, is troubled with more stinkes, then he is refreshed with sweet odours. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 44 Wild Thyme and Sav'ry..Sweet to the Taste, and fragrant to the Smell. 1712–3 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Jan., I have no smell yet, but my cold something better. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 317 He stops to examine, by his smell,..the emanations that may come either from his enemy or his prey. 1805 A. DUNCAN *Mar. Chron.* III. 145 A certain brackish flavor, offensive both to the taste and smell. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 324 Smell was impaired on the side of the lesion.

(*b*) 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 179 The Power of exciting the Sensation of Smell in us. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 549 The lower Mammalia, in which the organ of smell is highly developed. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* viii. 194 The organ of the sense of smell is the delicate mucous membrane which lines a part of the nasal cavities. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* ii. 40 Elephants have a very keen sense of smell.

2. That property of things which affects the olfactory organ, whether agreeably or otherwise; odour, perfume, aroma; stench, stink.

α. a 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þurh þe sweote smel of þe chese he bicherreð monie mus to þe stoke. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 747 in *O. E. Misc.*, Ut of his ȝrote cumeð a smel. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1588 Swiðe swote smeal com anan þrefter. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1014 Flours þar es wit suete smelles. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 114 þe hous was fillid of smel of þe oynement. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 84 þe water chaungez diuersely his sauour and his smell. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 96 Sownd of watir rynyng, & syngyng of burdis, and gude smell of flowris. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 33 Fragrant, all full of fresche odour fynest of smell. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 90 Muske though it be sweet in ye smel, is sowre in the smacke. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 5 The streets are broad, but very filthy and full of ill smels. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 379 The Silvan Lodge..that like Pomona's Arbour smil'd With flourets dec't and fragrant smells. 1747 *Tricks of Town laid open* (ed. 3) 19 He's distinguishable from the rest of his Species, both by his Smell, Garb, Shape and Aspect. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 184 As smells are often rendered agreeable by habit, so also tastes may be. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iii. 33 There was such a rich smell of pines. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 74/2 There was a nasty smell about the premises.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 On þe holi fleis bileueð þe shap and hiu and smul of ouelete, and on þe holi blod hew and smul of win. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 8 A suote smul þare cam of heom þat smelde in-to al þat lond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1009 Hii deieþ þoru smul of þe lond. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 137 þe smyl þerof slouȝ boþe bestes and foules. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 70 The herbers of so soote smyllis.

b. An aromatic substance, or the use of this. *rare.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1535) Dd ij b, The vices that they brought [from Asia] to Rome:..The patritiens bearyng Measques, the Plebeyens usynge smelles. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 480 All Methods of Cure in the Paroxysm [of apoplexy], are ridiculous and useless, except Smells, and Blooding in the Jugular.

3. *fig.* **a.** A trace, suggestion, or tinge *of* something. Also without article, or with adj.

c 1475 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 25 Off forebearis thay tuke tarage and smell. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 140 This saiyng hath scacely any smelle or sauour of Diogenes, although he beareth the name of it. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 151 To haue a smack and smel of auncient Latium. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* 129 There is with Thee not so much as any smell or shadow of iniustice. *a* 1688 BUNYAN *Saints' Privilege* Wks. 1855 I. 669 Without the least smell or tang of imperfection. 1702 S. SEWALL *Diary* (1882) III. 398 Mrs. Thacher..troubled at her Marriage to Mr. Kemp,..some smell of Relation between them. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 59 The methods have a German 'smell'.

b. That quality by which anything is felt or suspected to be near at hand.

1691 J. NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 36 They..won't so much as come within the Smell of Danger. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxx, My spirit likes the smell of gold as well as yours.

4. An act of smelling; a sniff. Also *fig.*

c 1560 INGELEND *Disobedient Child* (Percy Soc.) 16 He hath of knaverye tooke such a smell. *Ibid.* 45 After that I had taken a smell Of their good wyll and fervent love. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 16 So many hundred poor Souls, that would reckon it a Blessing to have but one savory Smell at his Flesh-pots. 1817 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. ii. 66 What do you think Constable would give for a smell of it? 1878 J. S. CAMPION *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 25 The winner gets a drink and the losers a smell at the cork of the bottle.

5. *attrib.*, as *smell-reach, -sense*; **smell-trap,** a trap to intercept and carry off bad smells.

a 1652 BROME *Mad Couple well matched* IV. i, Out of the smell-reach of your Lord's perfum'd gloves. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* vi, Among high art and painted glass, spade farms, and model smell-traps. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Aug. 5/1 A guardian affected by anosmia, or absence of the smell-sense.

Smell (smel), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 smellen (5-yn), 3 smeallen; 2–6 smelle, 4–7 smel, 4– smell. *Pa. t.* 4–6 smelde (4 smeld), 5– smelled (6 *Sc.* smellit), 6– smelt. *Pa. pple.* 3 i-smelled, 3, 6– smelled, 5 -id, 7– smelt. *β.* 2–4 smullen, 4 smille, 4–5 smylle. *Pa. t.* 4 smulde, smilde. [Early ME. *smellen* and *smüllen*, no doubt of OE. origin, but not recorded, and not represented in any of the cognate languages.

In the pa. t. and pa. pple. both *smelled* and *smelt* are in use, but the latter is now the more frequent of the two.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To have perception of (an object, odour, etc.) by means of the olfactory sense.

To smell powder: see POWDER *sb.*1 3 b. *To smell a rat*: see RAT *sb.*1 2 a.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Hwenne þe nose bið open to smelle unlofne breð. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 189 Of al þet ich abbe..wið neose ismelled. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23456 (Edin.), In þis lif hauis man gret liking..Swet speceri to thef and smel. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 57 Anon þer com so swete a smul..þat al hit smulde wiþ gret loye þat in þe cuntre weren þere. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 372 Whan mawgis had passed over the water bayard smelled hym & began to crye. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIV. (Percy Soc.) 109 The nose, also, every ayre doth smel. 1589 NASHE *M. Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 80 As good a Hound for his sent to smell a feast as euer man sawe. 1611 BIBLE *Tobit* viii. 3 The which smell, when the euill spirit had smelled, hee fled into..Egypt. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Observ. Journ. Naples* 89 The Mole, it seems,.. no sooner had smelt the Oar, but crept into another Hole near to it. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 209 Paris may be smelt five miles before you arrive at it. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 830 Civeted fellows, smelt ere they are seen. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* iii, A boy, who had seldom smelt powder fired in anger before. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xvii, I can smell the heavy resinous incense as I pass the church.

b. To inhale the odour or scent of (a thing); to sniff at; to examine in this way.

1830 G. CRUIKSHANK *Gentl. in Black* i. (1832) 5 'Confound this head-ache.'..'Pshaw! pshaw! smell this bottle,' said the stranger. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 241/1 To smell each other's head or neck is the only mode of salutation practised. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 343 They import from Paris. flowers so natural that one is tempted to smell them.

2. To perceive as if by smell; *esp.* to detect, discern, or discover by natural shrewdness, sagacity, or instinct; to suspect, to have an inkling of, to divine.

To smell the ground, of ships: see GROUND *sb.* 2 b.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 216 Men schullen in spirit smelle þe swettenesse & þe holynesse of iesu crist & his lif. 1382 — *Job* xxxix. 25 Aferr he smellith bataile. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 136 b, He secretly smelled, that some men priuely disdained his aduancement. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. iii, If I beginne first, he will smell all my purpose. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* II. vi. (1636) 61 Lest the Lay people should smell their Idolatrie. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Aug., Lord Brouncker,..I perceive, and the rest, do smell that it comes from me, but dare not find fault with me. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 56 We were overjoyed ..not smelling what was at bottom of the plot. 1798 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tales of the Hoy* Wks. 1812 IV. 408 The people never smelt the cheat. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. vii, A victorious Parlement smells new danger. 1885 A. B. ELLIS *W. African Isl.* xi. 267 The reverend father at once smelt a miracle.

3. To search or find *out* by, or as by, the sense of smell. Chiefly *fig.*

1538 BALE *Three Laws* III, And hast thou so longe dyssembled thus with me. *Infidelitas.* Yea, for aduauntage, to smell out your subtylyte. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* June 25 They woulde..smell out the vntruth. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* viii. 84 Smelling vs out to be English, [they] made vs rise out of our beds. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instruction* (1897) 29 Humility and want of Learning (which Children are apt to smell out). 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 339 The Scots folks have an excellent nose to smell out their Countryfolks. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 76 To smell out a little bargain. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, I never smell out a secret, but I try to be either at the right or the wrong end of it. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* 12 A rich man.. had lost some cattle, and came with gifts to Noma, praying him to smell them out.

4. To distinguish (one thing *from* another) by the smell. Chiefly *fig.*

1582 in Scoones *Four C. Eng. Lett.* 39, I know your L. will soone smell deuises from simplicity, trueth from trecherie. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. ii, I can smell a knave from a rat. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 7/2 The judges there can smell silver from gold through a Russia-leather portmanteau.

5. To find or make (one's way) by the sense of smell. Also *fig.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 93 Go thrust him out at gates, and let him smell His way to Douer. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Clouds of Aristoph.* 82 He and his school were provided with noses, which smelt their way into sources of knowledge.

II. *intr.* **6.** To exercise, employ, make use of, the sense of smell in relation to a specified object. Const. *at, of* (now *U.S.*), † *on*, or *to* († *unto*).

The const. *to* is by far the most frequent down to the 19th cent., during which *at* has become usual.

(*a*) *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 Mid þe nose þarto te smullen. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1669 To pulle a rose of al that route..And smellen to it wher I wente. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashmole (1652) 71 It is not wholesome to smell to some Cole. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 132 Let the chyld smell to rue, and to asafetida. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV 191 b, Lord William,

..in taking of the Cup, did smell to the wine. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 32 This Saddle when you first present to the Horse, let him smell to it. 1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivʼd* 213 The Root smelled unto is good for the same purpose. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Adv.* 20 Dogs..would not even smell to it. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 99 The patient drank tea..and smelt to a tuberose. 1890 O. CRAWFURD *Round the Calendar* 147 Their flowers can be plucked or smelled to without bending the back.

(*b*) 1530 PALSGR. 722/2 Smell at my coller, and you shall parceyve whether it be I that stynke or nat. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxviii. § 5. 333 If the smell do please it, the beast will alwayes be smelling at it. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 280 He bid some of his Priests..smell at the French-men's Hands. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* v. vi. 10 But You..at Crusts are smelling. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Aspasia* CXXXI. Wks. 1853 II. 406/2 She smells at it and turns away. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* III. 115 She smelt at her salts, and soon recovered that weakness.

(*c*) 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* XV. 4 When I smelt of my returned hand. 1815 MRS. INCHBALD *Child of Nature* I. iii, Here—smell of this bottle—it will do you good. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XV. 130 She recommended to him to smell of hartshorn. 1852 G. W. CURTIS *Lotos-eating* 3, I have not yet done..smelling of all the flowers.

(*d*) 1626 J. YATES *Ibis ad Cæsarem* II. 77 Error is the weed we so much smell on. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilg.* II. 25 Fetch something, and give it Mercie to smell on, thereby to stay her fainting. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 207 To which hole they bring the Mare for the Horse to smell on. 1784 *New Spectator* No. 3. 3 Having examined and smelled on the leaves, she was satisfied.

†**b.** *fig.* To take or get a slight touch or taste *of*, to pay some slight attention *to*, a thing. *Obs.*

(*a*) 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 165 The unlearned or foolishe phantasticall, that smelles but of learnyng. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* II. 46 b, Not without his great domage, which hee shall both feele, and smell of againe. 1600 ? WEBSTER *Weakest goeth to Wall* G iij b, And dogs keepe out of the Chauncell, ye shall smell of the whip else.

(*b*) *c* 1580 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carew* in *Archæologia* XXVIII. 98 He in noe wise coulde frame the younge Peter to smell to a bo[o]cke. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 152 Were there never so sweet..flowers gathered,..these supercilious novellers will not vouchsafe to smell to them.

7. Without const. To possess or exercise the sense of smell; to be able to perceive odours, or to be engaged in doing this. Also *fig.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxiii. 6 Nese-thirles þai haue, and smel sal noght. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* CXV. 6 Hij ne shul nouȝt smullen. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 87 Ere and yhe and nase and mouth, Wherof a man mai hiere and se And smelle and taste in his degre. *a* 1500 *Adrian & Epotys* 68 in *Brome Bk.* 27 The joy [of heaven] may no tonge telle, Tyll domys day thow he woll smell. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 153 Doth not the Lyon for strength..excell Man? Doth not.. the Vulter smel better. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 160 Downe with the Nose..Of him, that his particular to foresee, Smels from the generall weale. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 411 Every lower facultie Of sense, whereby they hear, see, smell, touch, taste. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, Two rats..ran smelling backwards and forwards on the bed. 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 283 We walked and smelt for half an hour. 1898 *Daily News* 23 July 6/2 It will be the object of this Committee..to go smelling in Shoreditch.

III. 8. *intr.* To give out, send forth, or exhale an odour; to have a smell, scent, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 He..bret hine [the cheese] for þon þet he scolde swote smelle. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 751 in *O. E. Misc.*, Al ðat eure smelleð swete. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1526 Mi swete lif, se swoteliche he smeche ð me & smealle ð. *c* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXX. 88 Hire erbes smulleth suete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 505 He cheweth greyn and lycorys To smellen sweete. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 514 Chaunge hit ofte vntil hit better smylle. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. xx, Hit smelleth lyke bame. 1530 PALSGR. 722/2 Take away this fysshe, it smelleth nat very well. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 126 Sage is a long bushe,..smellinge wounderfully. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 26 Hee smels like a fish. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 319 Herbs of every leaf, that..made gay Her bosom smelling sweet. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. viii, I observed the young animal's flesh to smell very rank. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 486 The whole matter smelt very sour as it was dug. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 294 A combustible gas, smelling like bisulphuret of carbon. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Yrs. Jungle* XXVI. 304 It smelled like sulphuretted hydrogen.

b. *spec.* To give out an offensive odour; to stink.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 14322 (Fairf.), He smellis, for iiij. dayes ar gane syn he was lokin vnder a stane. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* 263 When the Waters and feelds smoke and smell. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 80 Beeing told that his breath did smell. 1684 *Contempl. State Man* I. iv. (1699) 35 If he reach old Age..his Breath smells.

c. *fig.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 426 Pere smit no þinge so smerte, ne smelleth so soure, As shame. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Artaxerxes* (1896) VI. 122 Me thinketh this smelleth like a lye. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 36 Oh my offence is ranke, it smels to heauen. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 339 The hope of torturing him smells like a heap Of corpses, to a death-bird after battle. (*a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. iii. 157 That corrupt and tyrannical dynasty whose offences smelt to heaven.]

9. To exhale or emit the odour *of*, to have the smell *of*, something. Also rarely *on* (now *dial.*).

(*a*) 1526 [cf. b]. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ps.* xlv. 8 All thy garments smell of myrrhe and aloes, and cassia. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XVII. ii. (1714) 72 They smell best, that do of nothing smell. 1662a J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 94 They gave him a bottle that smelt of Oyle. 1711 W. KING tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 109 The answer of a peasant to King Henry, that The pouch will always smell of the herring. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 443 Calcined until it no longer smelled of arsenic. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXXI, One of the..men already smells of sherry. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. VI. vi, That oil'd and curl'd Assyrian Bull Smelling of musk and of insolence.

(*b*) 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xix. F vij, All nighte to sprall and stryue with wyne, all day on it to smell [L. *putëre*]. 1758 BINNELL *Descr. Thames* 179 Its observable that he is thought by some to feed on Water-Thyme, and that he smells on it, at his first being taken out of the Water.

b. To have or exhibit a touch, tinge, or suggestion *of* something.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 77 b, Not for..promocyon or other profyte,..for all these smelleth of ypocrisy. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 3 *marg.*, He supposeth that both their victories will smell of crueltie. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvi. Wks. 1851 III. 503 Praises in an enemy are superfluous, or smell of craft. 1671 J. DAVIES *Sibylls* II. xxiv. 137 That the Relation of his Adventures smell (as much as may be) of a Romance. 1741 BERKELEY *Wks.* (1871) IV. 270 Most modern writings smell of the age. 1756 LAW *Lett. Important Subj.* 115 Such a free way of speaking.. of my own books may have been suspected of smelling too much of self-esteem. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. i, Some..seem to hint afar off at something which smells of Agrarian law. 1887 *Spectator* 17 Sept. 1241 Proposals smelling of confiscation.

c. Of literary work, in the phrases *to smell of the candle, lamp, oil*, etc., to show signs of being laboured and artificial.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 333 Pythias obiected..that his argumentes of rhetorike smelled all of the candle. 1579 [see LAMP *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1616 HIERON *Wks.* I. 586 It is an honour to a sermon, when (as the saying is) it shall smell of the candle. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* Prol. (for the Court), A work not smelling of the lamp. 1650, 1675 [see OIL *sb.*[1] 3 d]. 1732, 1768 [see LAMP *sb.*[1] 1 b]. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. vii. § 17 Even his letters to his sister, smell too much of the lamp. 1871 LOWELL *Study Windows* (1886) 282 His sentences..smell of the library.

10. *trans.* To have or emit a smell of (something).

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLV. iv, Mirrh, Aloes, Cassia, all thy robes doe smell. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 70 He smels April and May. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 194 She smelt browne-bread and Garlicke. 1854 THACKERAY *Wolves & the Lamb* Wks. 1899 XII. 16 There's..crumbs on your cheek, and you smell sherry, sir!

11. *colloq.* To cause to smell; to fill or affect with an (offensive) odour.

1887 *Aberd. Evening Express* 5 Sept. 2/6 Parts [of a whale] which are still in such a condition that they would smell the whole museum.

Smellable (smeˑläbʼl), *a.* [f. SMELL *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being smelt.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 162 Marie Magdalen..vsid the oynement as a seable and a smelleable rememoratijf signe. *Ibid.*, Smelleable signes as encensis. 1843 *Commissioner* 104 It seemed as if he was being pelted with everything eatable, drinkable,..smellable, thinkable, that the world ever produced. 1881 GRANT ALLEN *Evolutionist at Large* 12 [Ants] probably think of most things as smellable only.

Smeˑllage. *U.S.* *? local.* [f. SMELL *sb.* or *v.*] Officinal lovage.

1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 120/2 *Ligusticum levisticum*, (smellage).

Smelled, *a. rare.* [f. SMELL *sb.*] With qualifying terms: Scented; smelling.

1617 *Extr. Aberd. Burgh Rec.* (1848) II. 350 Weele washine and weele smellit naprie. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 52 A red ungratefully smell'd moist pulp or paste.

Smeller (smeˑlər). Also 6–7 smellar. [f. SMELL *v.* + -ER.]

1. One who has or exercises the sense of smell; one who smells *out*, etc.

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 45 They that haue nostrellis strayght forth be good smellars. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 258 The smellers or felers therof hath thought them selfe rauysshed as yf they had ben in paradyse. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 171 The smeller of smellers then, thou art euyn he. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magick* VIII. i. 218 Adding a little Musk, to gain an easier reception of the Smeller. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. i. § 12 The first smellers out of so great a design. 1888 H. W. PARKER *Spirit of Beauty* (1891) 92 Calderwood shows how the sensationalists would evolve a whole philosophy of mind and morals from a smell, and that, too, without a smeller.

b. *slang.* 'A prying fellow; one who tries to smell out something; a sneaking spy (*Cent. Dict.*).

2. †**a.** *Cant.* A garden. *Obs.*—[o]

1610 ROWLANDS *Mart. Mark-all* E iv, Smellar, a garden; not Smelling cheate, for thats a Nosegay.

b. One who has a smell; a stinker.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, Such nasty smellers, That..They might have cudgell'd me with their very stink.

3. A feeler; a slender tactile organ, hair, etc.; *esp.* one of the whiskers of a cat.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 180 Of the Eyes and Head of a Grey Drone-Fly...As concerning the horns.., the feelers or smellers.., the Proboscis [etc.]. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 378/2 Smellers, or kind of Whiskers, at his Nostrils. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Smellers*, a cat's whiskers. 1840 *Peter Parley's Ann.* I. 266 Mosette felt her smellers crackle close to her nose. 1899 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 8/2 A black tom cat...White chest, white hind legs, and white smellers.

4. *slang.* **a.** The nose; *pl.* the nostrils.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 594 Here was..a hit on the wind—a douss on the smeller. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. xvi, Come on..and let me have a rap at your smellers. 1894 *Nation* 29 Nov. 399/3 He would rather not have to draw his claret and close his peepers and mash his smeller and break his breadbasket.

b. A blow on the nose. Also *transf.*

1824 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 38 He swore he would tip me a smeller. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 3 Sept., The Metacomet, which was hitting out wildly,..delivered to the Hartford a 'smeller' intended for the rebel ram. 1872 *Punch* 6 Apr. 150/2 What in low fighting slang is called a smeller.

Smeˑll-feast. Also 6 smellefyeste, smelle-, smel-feast(e. [f. SMELL *v.* (or *sb.*) + FEAST *sb.*]

1. One who scents out where feasting is to be had; one who comes uninvited to share in a feast; a parasite, a greedy sponger. Now *arch.* (very common *c* 1540–1700).

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 77 Smellefyestes, lyckedysshes, and franchars come vncalled. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 199 Parasites, wer called suche smellefeastes as would seeke to bee free geastes at riche mennes tables. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 13 Our Smell-feast will be sure to haunt the Houses and Tables of Rich and great Men. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Inq.* 21 Like so many smell-feasts they hankered near the Altars to enjoy the nidorous fumes. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (1694) 33 The Fly is an intruder and a common Smell-feast that spunges upon other people's trenchers. 1708 O. DYKES *Refl. upon Eng. Prov.* 163 The Flatteries of Sicophants and Smell-Feasts. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Book* VIII. 39 The Smell-feasts rouse them at the hint There's cookery in a certain dwelling-place. 1884 DILLWYN *Jill* II. ix. 135 That smell-feast of a Sue meanwhile had profited by the commotion.

b. *attrib.* Parasitic, sponging.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. vii. F ij, I am a smelfeaste belly-god, idle and full of slouthe. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 339 These smel-feast-parasites in comedies. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xx. 343 These smell-feast birds..came to feed on their carcases. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Friar Gerund* II. 67 Some smell-feast friars of different communities.

2. 'A feast at which the guests are supposed to feed upon the odors only of the viands' (Webster, 1864.)

Smellfungus (smelˌfʊŋgŭs). Also 8 smelfungus. Pl. -fungi (-fʊnd͡ʒəi). [The name by which Sterne designated Smollett on account of the captious tone of the latter's *Travels through France and Italy* (1766).] A discontented person; a grumbler, faultfinder. Also *attrib.*

[1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., In the Street, Calais*, The learned Smelfungus travelled from Boulogne to Paris,..but he set out with the spleen and jaundice, and every object he pass'd by was discoloured or distorted.] 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 15 Let the grumbling smellfungi..rail at the extravagance of the age. 1842 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Visit Italy* II. xxiii. 380 Smellfungus people, who love to torment themselves.

Smelliness (smeˑlinės). [f. SMELLY *a.* + -NESS.] The condition of being smelly.

1892 *Critic* Mar. 139 The chronic smelliness of undrained China.

Smelling (smeˑliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMELL *v.*]

1. The sense of smell. Cf. SMELL *sb.* 1.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Hore loking, hore blawing, hore smelling, heore feling wes al iattret. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 13 Sihðe & heringe, smecchunge & smeallunge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17017 Hering, sight, smelling and fele. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xii. 17 If al the body be heeringe, where is smellinge. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 7 Thi heryng, thi seyng,..thi smellyng, here be iij [senses]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1444 It was odour wondir swete, þat þar with his smellyng mete. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I ij b, He had a good and a quycke smellyng. 1592 WYRLEY *Armory, Ld. Chandos* 95 Sweet is fresh aire to lost prisoners smelling. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Med.* § 93 Smelling, is one of the meanest, and least useful of the senses. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 101, I have lost as well my smelling as my taste. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 72. 3/1 He lost his Smelling. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 105 His senses of smelling and hearing are in no less perfection.

b. The act or fact of smelling. Also with *out.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIV. (Percy Soc.) 109 Whan that the nose therof hath smellinge. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Odor*, The smellyng..of a thyng. 1611 COTGR., *Halenement*,..a smelling, or searching out. 1709 *Tatler* No. 66 P 15 They cannot ever after come to the Use of their Teeth, or get smelling of a Crust. 1869 SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* III. iv. I. (1872) 304 Smelling obviously implies the contact of dispersed particles with a specially modified part of the organism. 1893 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 5/4 A smelling-out case by witch doctors. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Swallow* ix, She never took part in the 'smelling-out' of human beings for witchcraft.

†**2.** Odour, scent, smell. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 2573 (Laud MS.), Swete is þe smellyng of þe flore. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* 337 (Harl.), Lo, þus by smellyng and by þredbare array If þat men list, þis folk þey knowe may. *c* 1480 J. WATTON *Spec. Christiani* 46 b, Ther of come swete smellyng; Sweter felt neuer man here lyuyng. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 A Smellynge, *odor*. 1611 COTGR., *Senteur*, sent, odor, smelling, sauor.

3. *attrib.* †**a.** *Smelling cheat* (see quots.). *Cant.*

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 84 A smelling chete, a garden or orchard. 1610 [see SMELLER 2 a].

b. *Smelling-hair, -organ*, etc. (cf. SMELLER 3).

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Almost as slender ..as a Catts smelling haires. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. ix. 328 Thread-like bodies, which are believed to act as smelling-organs. 1872 — *Orig. Spec.* (ed. 6) ii. 33 The other has antennæ much more abundantly furnished with smelling-hairs.

c. *Smelling-bottle*, a phial or small bottle for containing smelling-salts or perfume ready for use.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 259 My sister began to..use her smelling-bottle. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* Concl., When tea had been carried round, handkerchiefs and smelling bottles prepared [etc.]. 1842 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 150 He..bought me a very nice smelling-bottle. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. xii. 285 Ethel's smelling-bottle revived one or two..ladies.

d. *Smelling-salts*, a preparation of carbonate of ammonia and scent for smelling, used as a restorative in cases of faintness or headache.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvi, Vinegar, hartshorn, and smelling-salts. 1892 Mrs. CLIFFORD *Aunt Anne* I. 35 She thought he was ill, and..offered him some smelling-salts.

Smelling (sme·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SMELL *v.*]

1. Giving out a smell or odour. Chiefly with qualifying term (see also SWEET-SMELLING).

13.. *Cursor M.* 3695 (Gött.), Quen he had felt his smelland clath.., 'þis voice,' he said, 'þat i here, Is of Iacob'. 13..in *Reliq. Antiq.* I. 40, I lilie of the valeyes, that is most white chast love and moste smelȝene. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) ii. 11 Therfore thei made that pece [of the cross]..of Cypres; For it is welle smellynge. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 Smellynge, *odorabilis, odorifer*. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Smellyng, that maye sone be smelled, *odoratif*. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 b, A..viall ful of sweete and smelling water. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Frutes* Ep. Ded., Some..pronosticate of faire, of foule and of smelling weather. 1611 COTGR., *Regnard*, a long-tailed, and ranke-smelling fish. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, It was not, naturally, a fresh-smelling house. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* x, A particularly nasty smelling ferret.

2. Having the sense of smell, or the faculty of perceiving by smell. *rare.*

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* IV. 150 But Grillus subtile-smelling swinish snout Must sent,..and needes will finde it out. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 121 Unto all these smelling Dogs I may also adde the water Spagnel.

Smell-less (sme·l,lès), *a.* [f. SMELL *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Giving out no smell; scentless.

1612 *Two Noble Kinsmen* I. i, Dazies smel-lesse, yet most quaint. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* II. 516 An almost colourless, smell-less, tast-less Liquor. 1855 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Chem. Common Life* I. xiii. 331 The nearly smell-less juice acquires a fetid..odour. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 187 Methyl alcohol, in a state of purity, is smell-less.

2. Having no sense of smell.

1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 113 They may..abort altogether, as is the case in the probably smell-less Porpoises.

Sme·ll-smock. [f. SMELL *v.* + SMOCK *sb.* 1.]

† 1. A licentious man. *Obs.*

In early use employed suggestively as a surname.

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. xi, Ser Saunder smell smock, our parish priest. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* 98 So can our belligoddes, the Popes Sir Jhon smell smocke, smel a feast in all parishes nere him. 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* II. iii, To prevent this smell-smock, I'll to my friend. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenh. well lost* II. Wks. 1874 IV. 125, I thinke you'le proue little better then a smell-smocke, That can finde out a pretty wench in such a Corner. 1673 R. HEAD *Cant. Acad.* 147 These attractions..drew on a number of Smell-smocks, which courted her.

2. *dial.* As a plant-name, applied to (*a*) the cuckoo-flower, (*b*) the wood-anemone, and (*c*) the wood-sorrel.

1876- in dialect glossaries, etc. (cf. Britten & Holland *Plant Names* and the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Smelly (sme·li), *a.* [f. SMELL *sb.* + -Y.] Emitting a bad smell or smells; stinking.

1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 398 Down the centre runs a straight canal 'awful smelly'. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* 192 They can't abide anything smelly or foul. 1879 HARE *Story Life* (1900) V. xx. 219 It was a crowded, rolling, smelly steamer.

Smelt (smelt), *sb.*[1] [OE. *smelt*, = obs. G. *schmelt*, *schmelz* (Gesner), Da. *smelt* (from *c* 1600): cf. Du. *smelt*, Flem. *smelte*, G. *schmelte* sand-eel, also Norw. *smelta* a small species of cod or whiting. Relationship to OE. *smolt, smylte* is very doubtful.]

1. A small fish, *Osmerus eperlanus*, allied to the salmon, and emitting a peculiar odour; the sparling or spirling.

c 725 *Corpus Gl.* S 72 *Sardas*, smeltas. 1328–9 *Exch. K. R. Memoranda* m. 125 Quoad capcionem piscis qui vocatur smelt. *c* 1358 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XXIV. 742 Item in smelt ij[d]. 1421 *Contin. Brut* 447 Gurnard rosted...Smelt ffryed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smelte, fysche. 1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Smelte, a fysshe, *es[er]lang*. 1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 17 § 4 Places where Smelts, Loches,..Gudgions or Eels, have been used to be taken. 1602 R. CAREW *Surv. Cornw.* 30 Of round fish there are Brit, Sprat,..Smelts, &c. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 282 Smelts are so called because they smell so sweet. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 285 The smelt are a very small sort of fish,..used for garnish to those that are larger. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 264 The smelt inhabits the seas of the northern parts of Europe. 1825 S. & SARAH ADAMS *Compl. Servant* 86 Smelts, when fresh, have a fine bright appearance,..and a fragrant smell, like a cucumber. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 503 The beautiful and delicately flavoured little fish known as smelts are represented by three species.

fig. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (Oxf. ed.) II. 567 Sir, you were a Cod surrounded by smelts. Is not this enough for you?

b. A fish of a related species, esp. *Osmerus mordax* of the American coast.

1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 189 A daughter of the one-eyed potentate Comcomly, who held sway over the fishing tribe of the Chinooks, and had long supplied the factory with smelts and sturgeons. 1839 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* Suppl. II. 16 The Hebridal Smelt. 1868 *U. S. Rep. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 330 Spawn..of the white fish,..the Belgrade smelt, and the wall-eyed pike. 1883 SIR A. SHAW *Newfoundland Fisheries* 7 The American 'smelt' swarms on all parts of the coast.

c. Applied to various other small fishes, in the south of England freq. to the atherine or sand-smelt.

1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) III. 287 Atherine...This species is very common in the sea near Southampton, where it is called a Smelt. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 224/1 *Retropinna* contains but one species, *R. richardsonii*, which is known as the New Zealand Smelt. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 421 *Smelt*, name given, in Melbourne, to the fish *Clupea vittata*. *Ibid.*, The *Derwent Smelt* is a Tasmanian fish, *Haplochiton scalii*.

† 2. a. *transf.* A simpleton. *Obs.*

In quot. 1607 there is allusion to 2 b.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, What's he, Mercurie? *Mer.* A notable smelt. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* IV. ii, To see how plaine-dealing women can pull downe men: Moll, you'le helpe vs to catch Smelts too? *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* v. ii, Talk what you will, this is a very smelt.

† b. Used allusively in the phrase *Westward for smelts* (see quots.). *Obs.*

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* II. ii, But wenches, with what pullies shall wee slide..out of our husbandes suspition, being gone Westward for smelts all night. 1608 *Great Frost* in Arber *Eng. Garner* (1895) I. 85 Say, have none gone 'westward for smelts', as our proverbial phrase is? 1619 (*title*), Westward for Smelts: or, The Waterman's Fare of mad-merry Western Wenches.

3. *north. dial.* A smolt. See SMOLT *sb.*[1] 1.

a 1633 COKE *On Litt.* II. xlvii. (1642) 478 Yong Salmons, or Salmon peals, or Salmon Smelts. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* IV. iv. 189 Nostratibus in fluvio Ribble agri Eboracensis Salmones primo ætatis anno *Smelts* dicuntur; secundo *Sprods*. 1677, 1769 [see SMOLT *sb.*[1] 2β]. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Smelts*, the fry of the salmon; generally called salmon-smelts. 1842 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 4 He took Smelts of the Salmon with their silvery sides.

4. *attrib.*, as *smelt-boat, family, fishery, -fishing, -leap, net.*

1384–5 *Cal. Lett. Bk.* 'H' *Lond.* (1907) 255 [Eight nets called] smelt net [of unlawful mesh]. 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* IV. iii, She would not stay for oars; but took a smelt-boat. 1630 in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 78 That no Peter-man do fish with any Hagan or Smelt Net below London Bridge. *Ibid.* 79 No Fisherman..shall lay down in the River..any Smelt-Leaps before St. Paul's Day yearly. 1795 COLE *Yng. Angler's Comp.* Title-p., The Best Method of Smelt-Fishing. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 543 The Smelt Family, *Microstomidæ*. 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 492 The smelt fishery is increasing yearly in importance.

† **Smelt,** *sb.*[2] *slang. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A half-guinea.

1635 SHIRLEY *Lady of Pleasure* v. i, He..pays the rooks That went their smelts a piece upon his hand. 1688 SHADWELL *Sq. Alsatia* I, Pr'ythee, noble Squire, equipp me with a couple of Meggs, or two couple of Smelts. [1822 SCOTT *Nigel* xxiii, That noble Master Grahame, whom you call Green, has got the *decuses* and the *smelts*.]

† **Smelt,** *a. Obs.*[–1] [? a. ON. *smelt-r* enamelled.] ? Enamelled, polished.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1667 A tabill..all of triet yuer, Bourdurt about all with bright Aumbur, þat smelt is & smethe.

Smelt (smelt), *v.* [prob. ad. MDu. or MLG. *smelten* (*smilten*), whence also MSw. and Sw. *smälta*, Norw. *smelta*, Da. *smelte*, = OHG. and MHG. *smelzen* (G. *schmelzen*), a weak trans. verb corresponding to a strong intr. (of the type *smeltan, smalt*) found in the same languages. The stem appears to be a variation of that of MELT *v.*[1] *trans.* To fuse or melt (ore, etc.) in order to extract the metal; to obtain or produce (metal) by this process.

1543 in *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 403 For smelting one pece leade. 1602–3 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham) 149 To Henry Orrell, bellfounder of Wyggan, for smeltinge the lead ashes, xx[s]. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 165 Which they Smelted..not far off, where they had Mills, &c. for the purpose. 1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 32 This Slag is afterwards smelted again with Cowke only. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views of Louisiana* (1814) 148 The floats have no tiff, and are the most easily smelted. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 317 It was not then the practice to employ coal for smelting the ore. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 10/1 The best plan of smelting brass is to melt the copper in a black-lead crucible first.

absol. 1831 [see *smelt-furnace* below].

fig. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* viii. (1872) 277 Who will smelt..these scandalous bewildering rubbish-mountains. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* IV. § 6. 272 God ..will scorch and smelt the true metal in the furnace.

Smelt-, the stem of SMELT *v.* in combination, as **smelt-furnace, -house** [Du. *smelthuis*, G. *schmelzhaus*], **-mill,** places where smelting is carried on.

1684 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 741 When the Smelt-Houses were up at Keswick,..this Work was left good. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* 90 Destroying the wear of Mr. Smith's smelt-mill. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. vi, Those jingling sheet-iron Aprons, wherein your otherwise half-naked Vulcans hammer and smelt in their smelt-furnace. 1860 *Indenture*, The cottage, shop, and buildings formerly a smelthouse.

Smelted (sme·ltèd), *ppl. a.* [f. SMELT *v.* + -ED[1].] Fused, melted.

1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 44 This deception is made..chiefly from smelted glass. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nature* II. 142 The fusion and fluidity of smelted lavas. 1895 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 9/5 The quantity of stone crushed..has yielded 1,632 ounces of smelted gold.

Smelter (sme·ltəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. SMELT *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. Du. *smelter*, MSw. and Sw. *smältare*, G. *schmelzer*.]

1. One who smelts; a workman engaged in smelting; also, an owner of smelting-works.

1455 in *Mem. Fountains Abbey* (Surtees) 364 [Nicholas Bucke employed by the abbot as a] smeltar [at his lead mines]. 1582 in *Trans. Jewish Hist. Soc.* (1903) IV. 93 All manner of Charges of fireworke and smeltars wages. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 68 The smelter having taken to himself perhaps one part more for his expence. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 149 The miners usually..dispose of their ore to the smelters. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. ii. § 1 (1876) 19 The miners and smelters who extracted or prepared the iron. 1891 *Daily News* 6 July 2/6 Manufacturers and smelters are not disposed to accept forward contracts at the current rates.

b. *Smelter's fume* (see quot.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2220/1 *Smelter's Fume*, the metallic fume resulting from the smelting of lead, the sublimation of zinc from ore, mercury from cinnabar, etc.

2. Smelting-works; a smeltery. Orig. *U.S.*

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 235 Several smelters are in course of construction to reduce these ores to ingots at home. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 3/2 On completion of eight additional smelters and other works.

3. *attrib.*, as *smelter-man, returns.*

1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 4 Sept., The millionaire smelterman. 1898 LIEBOLD *Woman Proposes* 68 We tax the gross output of the mines based on the mill and smelter returns.

Smelter (sme·ltəɹ), *sb.*[2] [f. SMELT *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who fishes for smelts; a smelt-catcher.

1845 *Zoologist* III. 1080 A smelter may be deemed the personification of patience. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norf. Broads* iii. 23 The smelter passes the night in his boat.

Smeltery (sme·ltəri). [f. SMELT *v.* + -ERY. Cf. Du. *smelterij*, G. *schmelzerei*.] A place where ores are smelted.

1814 in Cleland *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* (1820) 267 Brass founderies and lead smelteries. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 592 The product of the smeltery in 1886 had a money value of $1,105,190·76. 1893 C. G. LELAND *Mem.* II. 57 The slag or débris of an iron smeltery.

Smelting (sme·ltiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMELT *v.*]

1. The action of the verb SMELT.

1531–2 *Durh. Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 78 Et Nicholao Kyrchus et socio pro smeltynge 110 ma. petr. plumbi 6s. 6d. 1582 in *Trans. Jewish Hist. Soc.* (1903) IV. 94 Takeinge the said vitriall or Coppris from the ure before it Come in to the first smeltinge. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref., Smelting..seems capable of being improv'd. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Wks.* (1772) V. 741 What Tools are used in smelting, their Figures, use, &c. 1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 32 The Dross of the Ore on smelting is called Slag. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 86/2 In the smelting of copper ores, quartz is used. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* II. III. ii. 85 Smelting and working of iron with fires of wood. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 26/1 The smelting, conducted in large blast furnaces, disengages the metal from the oxygen and earths of the ores.

fig. 1882 FROUDE *Carlyle* II. 130 The incompleteness of the smelting shows all the more the actual condition of his [Carlyle's] mind.

b. A process or product of smelting.

1872 *Daily News* 12 Oct., The sulphur smoke of the smeltings kills vegetation.

2. *attrib.*, as *smelting bellows, fire, -furnace, -hearth, -house, mill*, etc.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 767 Minerall men, who have their smelting house by Derwent side. 1664 OLDENBURG in *Boyle's Wks.* (1772) VI. 150 It is like the smelting miln-smoke. 1667 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 35 Five Pair of large Smelting Bellows. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Smelt*, A..Furnace..call'd, The smelting-Furnace. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 68 It has been carried to the smelting-house, as it came out of the earth. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 819 The mixture is calcined over a smelting fire. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 106/2 In the time of the Romans smelting works were carried on in the neighbourhood. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 339 What are known as smelting-ores in this district are the richer grades carrying usually 300 ounces of silver and upwards per ton. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 100 The air driven into the smelting-hearth was cold.

Smere, obs. form of SMEAR *sb.* and *v.*

† **Smere,** *adv. Obs.* Also 4 **smare.** [Representing OE. *smêre*, found only in *gâlsmêre* given to laughing. Cf. OHG. *smierôn* (MHG. *smieren*, obs. G. *schmieren*, LG. *smeren*) to smile.] *To laugh smere*, to laugh lightly, merrily, or contemptuously.

c 1275 LAY. 14981 þane king hit þohte game inoh, for hire speche he smere loh. *c* 1290 *Childhood Jesus* 984 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 34 His Moder..gret Joye hadde and lou; smere a non. 13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXII. 409/22 Sysin þo for gladnesse gan to leyȝe wel smere. *c* 1380 *Ferumb.* 386 þe Sarzyn gan to lawe smere, & to Olyuer sayde þan [etc.].

† **Smeri·glio.** *Obs.*[–1] [a. It. *smeriglio* a merlin.] A certain piece of ordnance.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 137/2 The Rabbenett or Rabnett or smeriglio is 300 weight.

Smerk(e, Smerky, obs. ff. SMIRK, SMIRKY.

† **Smerl,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **smerle, smerel.** [Back-formation from SMERLES, taken as a plural: cf. RIDDLE *sb.*[1]] Ointment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7334 þis saul haue þai mad þair king, Wit smerl and als wit coruning. *Ibid.* 11503 A smerl o selcuth bitturnes. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxxxii. 2 Als þe smerle in heued onon Falles in berde..of Aaron.

Hence † **Smerl** *v. trans.*, to anoint. Also † **Sme·rling** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7328 He sal be smerld þair king to be. *Ibid.* 9338 Quen he þat haliest es cumen, Your smerling sal fra yow be nummen.

Smerle (smə·ɹl). [a. Flem. *smerle*, prob. a special application of older *smerle* (now *smerlijn*) merlin.] A variety of the domestic pigeon.

1869 TEGETMEIER *Pigeons* iv. 47 We had a pair of Smerles, or Short-faced Antwerp cocks. 1879 L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 210 A really Belgian pigeon called the Smerle.

†Smerles. *Obs.* Forms: 1 smyrels, 3 smuriles, smirles; 3–4 smerieles, smerles (4 -lis). [OE. *smyrels*, f. *smyrian* to SMEAR *v.* Cf. MSw. *smyr-*, *smörilse* (Sw. *smörjelse*), MDa. *smørielse* (Da. *smørelse*).] Ointment.

In Small's *Metr. Hom.* 17 the form *smersles* may either be an error for *smerles*, or the pl. of *smersel*,=ON. and Icel. *smyrsl.*

a 1000 *Canons Edgar* 66 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 258 We lærað þæt preosta gehwilc ægðer hæbbe ge fulluht-ele ge seocum smyrels. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 508 He gehælde an mæden, mid halwendum smyrelse gehalgodes eles. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 [Mary Magdalene] nam ane box..and hine fulde mid derewurðe smerieles. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1599 þe engles wið smirles of aromaz smireden hire wunden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14003 A bost sco has o smerles nummen. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 97 The thrid gift thai him tok Was a smerlis, als sais the boc. 1340 *Ayenb.* 187 He ne may nazt þolye þane guode smel of þe ilke smerieles.

†Smerlin. *Obs.* [ad. G. *schmerling*. Cf. Da. *smer-*, Sw. *smärling.*] A loach or groundling.

[1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 81 They have one most delicate kinde, called Smerling, which in Prussen I did eate.] 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 157 *Cobites Aculeata*,..the Smerlin. [Hence in Ainsworth (1736) and later Dicts.]

Smert, obs. or dial. variant of SMART.

†Smeth. *Obs.*—° (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Smeth* or *Smoothery*, a medicine or physical Ointment to take away hair.

Smeth(e, obs. forms of SMEETH *a.* and *v.*

Smeuse (smiūz, smiūz), *sb.* Also **smeuce, smewse, -ss, smu(i)ce, smuse,** etc. [Alteration of MEUSE *sb.*] A hole in a hedge, wall, etc.: see MEUSE *sb.* and cf. SMOOT *sb.*[1]

A common dialect form, esp. in N. Midland counties.

1819 in C. W. Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 70 By the aid of his dark lantern he knew every smeuce in Wharncliffe or Tankersley parks. 1871 PEACOCK *Ralf Shirl.* I. 255 There was a smuice through the hedge just again' where I was stan'in'. 1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream of Leicestersh.* 304 There was only one hole—and that a mere smeuse—in the next blackthorn wall.

Hence **Smeuse** *v.* =MEUSE *v.*

1851 R. HILL in Gosse *Nat. Jamaica* 388 The terrier.. smuicing it under the brushwood. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Inside Bar* x, The hounds threw their tongues merrily enough, when they were 'smeusing' through a fence.

Smew (smiū). [Origin and relation to SMEE uncertain.] A saw-billed duck (*Mergus* or *Mergellus albellus*) belonging to the merganser group; the white nun. The female is known as the *red-headed smew.*

1674 DENT in *Ray's Lett.* (1718) 21 A Pocker, a Smew, three Sheldins. 1678 RAY tr. *Willughby's Ornith.* 338. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 466 *Mergus major cirratus*, the Smew, or White Nun. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 439 Red-headed Smew. The head is slightly crested, and of a rust colour. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. II. 429 The Smew is seen in England only in winter. 1838 AUDUBON *Ornith.* IV. 350 The Smew is a bird of extremely rare occurrence in the United States. 1891 *Nature* 4 June 106/2 Last January a friend showed me a smew..shot on the Dee, near Chester.

attrib. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 626 Smew Merganser, *Mergus Albellus.*

Smewk, obs. form of SMOOK, smoke.

Smiche, obs. or dial. form of SMITCH *sb.*

†Smick, *v. Obs. rare.* [prob. a jingling modification of SMACK *v.*[2] Cf. SMICK-SMACK.] *trans.* and *intr.* ? To kiss.

1572 *Schole ho. Women* 132 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 110 Haue you once turned your eye and back, An other she wil haue to smick and smack. 1685-8 in *Bagford Ballads* (1876) 68 You smack, you smick, you wash, you lick, you smirk, you swear, you grin.

†Smicker, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 smicer, 3 *Orm.* smikerr, 6–7 smicker. [OE. *smicer*: cf. OHG. *smehhar*, *smechar* (MHG. *smecker*) elegant, delicate.]

1. Beautiful, elegant, fair, handsome. In later use only of persons.

c 725 *Corpus Gl.* (Hessels) E 141 *Elegans*, smicre. *a* 1000 in Cockayne *The Shrine* (1864) 163 þat he mage windan manigne smicerne wæn & manig ænlic hus settan. *a* 1000 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 536 Hio..bit þæt hi findon betweox him twa smicere scencingcuppan into beodern for hi. *c* 1200 ORMIN 13679 þurrh whatt he fell.. Inntill nip hellepine, & warrþ till atell defell þær Off shene & smikerr enngell. 1590 TARLTON *News Purg.* (1844) 114 The Smith seeing what a smicker wench the Coblers wife was,..sorrowed at the good fortune of the Cobler, that he had so faire a wife. 1590 LODGE *Euphues* (1592) P iv b, A smicker boy, a lyther Swaine, heigh ho a smicker Swaine: That in his Loue was wanton faine, with smiling looks straight came ynto her.

absol. 1639 J. SMYTH in *Glouc. Gloss.* (1890) 201 Smoke will to the smicker: meaninge, If many gossips sit against a smokey chimney the smoke will bend to the fairest.

2. Of looks: Smirking, gay.

1589 PEELE *Eclogue Gratulatory* 4 Why bin thy looks so smicker and so proud?

3. Loose or lax; wanton.

1606 FORD *Fame's Memorial* xxx, Reguardfull of his honor he forsooke The smicker vse of court-humanity.

Smicker, *v.* Now only *Sc.* Also 9 **smikker.** [app. f. prec.]

†1. *intr.* To look amorously or wantonly *at* or *after* a person. *Obs.*

1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* III. i, Must you be smickering after Wenches, while I am in Calamity? 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* II. i, No, no, I see I may make love long enough before you smicker at me.

2. *Sc.* To smile or smirk.

1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* Gloss., *Smikker*, to smile in a seducing manner. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 70 At him, my grandsher, and the Vicar,.. The god o' gaups did laugh and smikker. 1888 DELDAY in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* 12th Ser. 41 To pass the time and have a chat, And see them sweetly smicker.

Hence **†Smickering** *vbl. sb.*, an amorous inclination. *Obs.*

1699 DRYDEN *Let. to Mrs. Steward* 28 Sept., We had a young doctour, who rode by our coach, and seem'd to have a smickering to our young lady of Pilton.

Smicket (smi·ket). Now *dial.* Also 7–8 **smickit.** [app. dim. of SMOCK *sb.*] A woman's smock or chemise; a small smock.

In use during the 19th cent. in many dialects.

c 1685 *Adv. to Maidens Lond.* ii. in *Bagford Ballads* (1878) 935 Susan and Joan they will have a Top-Knot, although they have never a Smicket. *c* 1690 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1883) IV. 439 Stripping of all their Cloaths, their Gowns, their Petticoats, Shoes and Hose, Their fine white smickits then stripping. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 219 Over this Smicket they wear a large smock. *Ibid.*, Thus are their richest Smickets no better than a penitential Shirt. 1772 BRYDGES *Hom. Trav.* (1797) I. 337 His dear Nelly, who had scarce An undarn'd smicket. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleom.* 141 Misses..Who, drench'd, ne'er catch cold, though without change of smickets. 1820 COMBE *Syntax, Consol.* v. II. 199 The white smickets wave below, While.. The petticoats appear'd as banners. 1897 E. PHILLPOTTS *Lying Prophets* 177, I found the whole fortune hid beneath her smickets.

†Smickly, *adv. Obs.*—[1] [Cf. SMICKER *a.*] Elegantly, finely.

1624 FORD *Sun's Darling* II. i, *Ray.* What's he that looks so smickly? *Fol.* One that loves mutton so well, he always carries capers about him.

Smick-smack, *sb.* and *a.* [Cf. SMICK *v.* and SMACK *sb.*[2]]

†A. *sb.* A smacking noise; a smacking or frequent kissing. *Obs.*

c 1550 *Lusty Iuventus* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 85 What a hurly-burly is here! Smick smack, and all this gear! 1677 MIÈGE *Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Smack*, Smick-smack, *baisotement.*

B. *adj.* Elegant, first-rate. *rare*—[1].

1802 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* VI. 186 The Bacchanalian glees were loudly applauded, and the smick smack repast went off with its usual *eclat.*

Smiddie, -dy, north. and Sc. varr. SMITHY *sb.*

Smi·ddum. *Mining.* [varr. of SMEDDUM.] =SMITHAM 2. Also *attrib.*

1821 W. FORSTER *Section Strata* (ed. 2) 341 The Ore, that collects at the bottom of the Tub, is called *Smiddum.* 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Smiddum-tails*, in mining, the sludge or slimy portion deposited in washing ore. 1892 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.*, *Smiddum*, small particles of lead ore [etc.].

Smie, dial. variant of SMY (fish).

Smifligate, -ation, variants of SPIFLICATE *v.*, SPIFLICATION.

1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxvii, Mr. Pyke threatened with many oaths to 'smifligate' a very old man. *Ibid.*, Conjecturing..that smifligation and bloodshed must be one and the same thing.

Smift. *Mining.* [Of obscure origin.] A kind of fuse or slow match used in blasting.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 836 Paper rubbed over with gunpowder or grease, for the smifts or fuses. *Ibid.*, A paper smift..is then fixed to the top of the rush-tube. 1871 W. MORGANS *Mining Tools* 137 A 'smift', which is variously made of either a bit of touch-wood, touch-paper, greased candle-wick or paper,..is attached by a bit of grease or clay to the outside end of the train.

Smig. Also **smigg.** [Of obscure origin.] (See quot. *a* 1880.) Also attrib., as *smig bait, herring.*

1879 *Standard* 17 July 3/7 The mackerel were so intent upon chasing shoals of smigg, that numbers of them were stranded on the beach. *a* 1880 BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 281 If a basket of whitebait be examined in April there will be found a large number of minute fish 1 in. to 1½ in. long, perfectly transparent, with a large eye and no scales visible, the body being covered with a few black spots. These are called 'smig herring'. *Ibid.* 282 The spratty stuff and the 'smig' bait comes up the river first.

Smiggins. *Cant.* (See quots.)

1825 KNAPP & BALDWIN *Newgate Cal.* III. 489/1 The Water in which the beef was boiled is thickened with barley, and forms a mess called smiggins. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 63 Descanting upon the sorrows of sour *smiggins* (cold-meat hash). 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Smiggins*, nickname for a soup given on board the hulks.

Smiggot. *rare*—[1]. *Devon.* A particle, atom.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 502 Deuce a smiggott of aught wonderful saw we.

Smight, obs. form of SMITE *v.*

Smil, obs. form of SMELL *sb.*

Smilacin (smə·lăsin). *Chem.* [a. F. *smilacin*, f. *smilac-*, stem of SMILAX + -IN[1].] Parillin.

1836 BRANDE *Chemistry* (ed. 4) 1047 The parillin and smilacin of Palotta and Folchi, I have not been able to identify. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 137 Smilacin is obtained from the root of the Smilax sarsaparilla. 1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 336 Sarsaparilla contains..a peculiar principle occurring as a white powder, *Smilacin*, of which little is known.

Smilax (smə·læks). *Bot.* [a. L. *smilax* (Pliny), a. Gr. σμίλαξ bindweed, etc.]

1. A large genus of liliaceous plants typical of the order *Smilaceæ*, or a species of this genus, the tuberous rootstocks of which constitute the sarsaparilla of commerce.

In earlier writers, as Morwyng (1559) and Turner (1562), *smilax* is used in other senses of the L. and Gr. word, after passages in Pliny or Dioscorides.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 190 Some haue said that Smilax is of 2 sorts: the one..climbing trees, & tufted in the head with clusters..of berries. *c* 1610 FAIRFAX *Eclogues* IV. xv, Bay, Smilax, Myrtle..Grew there. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 432 Smilax,..Bindweed; it opens the belly, dissolves hard swellings. 1710 W. KING *Heathen Gods & Heroes* xxvii. (1722) 134 The Ivy, the Smilax, or Ropeweed, ..were the Vegetables that he [Bacchus] delighted in. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 30 There was also an abundance of small prickly vines entwined among the bushes, of a species of smilax. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* I. 302 The Green Briar, or Round-leaved Smilax,..is common along fences. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 162 The ravines overgrown with smilax and brambles.

attrib. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* xi. 124 A mass of thorny shrubs woven into an almost solid block by a growth of convolvulus creepers and of the twining smilax yam.

2. A climbing species of asparagus, *Myrsiphyllum asparagoides*, much used for decorative purposes.

1870 *Daily News* 13 June, The sprays of smilax, the roses and violets, bloomed from baskets in the windows. 1887 *The Lady* 20 Jan. 38/3 A large square of pink plush was outlined against the white damask, with a broad, graceful border of smilax.

Smile (smæil), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **smyle,** 7 *Sc.* **smyl.** [f. SMILE *v.* Cf. MHG. *smiel*, Da., Sw., Norw. *smil* (NFris. *smiil*, from Da.).]

1. An act of smiling; a slight and more or less involuntary movement of the countenance expressive of pleasure, amusement, affection, etc., or of amused contempt, disdain, incredulity, or similar emotion.

1562 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 78 Better is the last smyle, than the fyrst laughter. 1591 NASHE *Pref. Sidney's Astr. & Stella* in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* II. 228, I will leaue you to..offer your smiles on the Aulters of Venus. 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems*, *Esther* (1638) 105 Where are thy maiden-smiles, thy blushing cheeke? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 239 This sweet intercourse Of looks and smiles. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. xliv. 20 Every smile is waited for with impatience and envied by those who cannot obtain it. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vii, St. Aubert gave him a friendly smile for his compliment. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xiii, The duke was all smiles and courtesy. 1875 GRINDON *Life* xiv. 173 There are more smiles in the world than there are tears.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 23 To see if the Continent were as full of smiles, as the seas were of fauours. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 187 Me thought I stood not in the smile of Heauen. 1727 DYER *Grongar Hill* 82 Transient is the smile of Fate. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 82 Fell Thirst and Famine scowl A baleful smile. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. vi, The sun..Now tinged them with a parting smile. 1831—*Cast. Dang.* xi, A knight, who..was poor in worldly goods, and in the smiles of fortune. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage of Geraint* 350 Turn, Fortune, turn thy wheel with smile or frown.

c. Const. *of* (some quality, feeling, etc.).

1779 *Mirror* No. 64, I discovered a smile of satisfaction in the countenances of most of the guests. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvi, Where he was surrounded with plenty, elegance, and smiles of welcome. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxx, At this moment another smile of deep meaning passed between Dalzell and Claverhouse. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, Beyond the first smile of recognition. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 246, I never yet saw a smile of pity or sympathy on his face.

2. *colloq.* A drink, *esp.* of whisky. Orig. *U.S.*

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 420 *Smile*, a drink, dram. 1888 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) vi. 186 You just take a 'smile' of the real, old, blue-grass Bourbon. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ii, Harris..proposed that we should go out and have a smile.

3. *Comb.*, as *smile-covering, -frowning, -peopled, -tuned, -wreathed* adjs.; *smile-maker.*

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn.* i. Wks. (Grosart) II. 50 Eyes cloudy-clear, smile-frowning, stormy-calm. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* II. i, I cou'd not sit to a vain young Smile-maker tho' he flatter'd me. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxiv, The tranquil strength which cradled lay In her smile-peopled rest. 1825 HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 123 A consequent smile-covering frown from the young lady. *c* 1845 MRS. BROWNING *An Island* xxv, Yea, soon, no consonant unsmooth Our smile-tuned lips shall reach. 1895 in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 7/3 His sparkling eyes and smile-wreathed face telling of the zest with which the novelty was enjoyed.

Smile, *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also **smale.** [Representing OE. *smygel* 'cuniculus' (only in glosses), related to *smūgan* to creep.] (See quot.)

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Smile*, the same, I believe, or nearly, as Smale; the form or fourm, or seat of a hare.

Smile (smæil), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **smylle,** 4–6 **smyle,** *Sc.* 5–6 **smyll,** 7 **smill,** 4– **smile.** *β.* 6–7 **smoyle,** 7, 9 *dial.* **smoile.** [ME. *smīlen*,= OHG. *smīlan* (in pres. pple. *smīlenter*; MHG. *smielen*), also Da. *smile* (hence NFris. *smile*), Norw. and Sw. *smila*; these are prob. adoptions from a MLG. **smīlen*, which may also have been the source of the English word.]

I. *intr.* **1.** Of persons: To give to the features or face a look expressive of pleasure or amusement, or of amused disdain, scorn, etc.

To smile in one's sleeve: see SLEEVE *sb.* 2 d.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2731 'Thar þe noght in hethyng smylle.' Sco said, 'for soth smild i noght'. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 185 Philip held him stille, & bigan to smyle. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 14 For with a goodly lok sche smyleth. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* cccl. 241 So þis Cardinall smylid, & commendid hym for his gude tale. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 711 The King preuilie smylit, Quhen he saw that bald. 1530 Palsgr. 722/2, I smyle, I make a countenaunce towarde laughyng and laughe nat outryght, *je me souburis.* 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 128 b, He..began to smile, & contempne theyr answere. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* iv. i. 50 Some that smile, haue in their hearts I feare Millions of Mischeefes. 1670 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xiii. § 4 They.. reprehended him very sharply if he smiled on those days. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 5 He can smile when one speaks to him, and laughs easily. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) II. 107 She hung at Sir William's arm, Smiling in his Face. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lvi, He..would smile when George came down late for breakfast. 1898 J. Arch *Story Life* xv. 357 Chamberlain was smiling all over his face.

β. 1599 Breton *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 49/1 And, ..like an olde horses neyghing, would he be smoyling. 1614 — *I would & I would not* lxxix, I would I were an honest Countrey-Wench, That only could make Curtsey, smoile, and blush. 1864 Tennyson *N. Farmer* i. xiv, Loook 'ow quoloty smoiles when they seeäs ma a passin' boy.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1594 *1st Pt. Contention* viii, In that I intreat you to vse her well. The world may smile againe and I may liue, To do you fauour if you do it her. 1596 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* i. ii. 63 When inward ioy enforc'd my heart to smile. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 480 Then let me not let pass Occasion which now smiles; behold alone The woman [etc.]. 1747 Gray *Fav. Cat* 28 Malignant Fate sat by, and smil'd. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxii, Thy soothing strains the pensive heart beguile, And bid the visions of the future smile. *a* 1822 Shelley *Mutability* (2) 1 The flower that smiles to-day To-morrow dies. 1825 Hook *Sayings* Ser. ii. *Sutherl.* I. 110 Now indeed was the crisis of his fate at hand, every thing smiled.

c. In the slang phrase *I should smile*, used to ridicule an idea.

1891 *Youth's Companion* 138 Sing for nothing? Well I should smile!

2. a. To look *on*, *upon*, *at*, or *to* a person with a smile or pleasant expression.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 228 Achilles..upon himself to smyle Began, when he was so besein. *c* 1440 *Bone Florence* 1790 He at them can smyle. 1558 Phaer *Æneid* i. A iiij, The maker of the Gods and men to her all swetely smyles. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* ii. (1586) 73 b, To smile upon euerie man, is rather a signe of a vaine minde, then of a cheerefull countenance. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* (1677) 15 His mother on him smil'd. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 69 ¶ 2 Sir Andrew, who often smiles upon me as he sees me bustling in the Crowd. 1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* xii. xiii. (1782) IV. 268 At these words of my god-daughter, I smiled to her father. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* lii, Ludovico smiled at Annette, and bowed to Emily. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* viii, Edward..smiled upon the little girl. 1896 Mrs. Steel *Face Waters* ii. iii, They had smiled on little Sonny Seymour as he passed them.

transf. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* 499 In the Spring time, the medowes arraied with pleasant flowers smile upon the beholders. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 124 When fair Morning first smiles on the World. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxxii. 8 On the withering flower The killing sun smiles brightly.

b. To look *on* or *upon* one with favour, approval, or encouragement. Freq. *fig.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4355 It is of Love, as of Fortune,..Which whylom wol on folke smyle, And gloumbe on hem another whyle. 1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 218 Fair Calling did oft apon me smyle, And Cherising me fed wyth wordis fair. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, v. v. 20 Smile Heauen vpon this faire Coniunction, That long haue frown'd vpon their Enmity. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 220 Yet was it [i.e. a palace] able to smile upon Alexander, when hee extracted thence to pay his Soldats. *c* 1657 Sir W. Mure *Hist. Ho. Rowallane* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 250 At y^t^ time the Court seemed to smill vpon him. 1709–10 Steele in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 345 My Lord Hallifax has smiled upon his labours. 1748 Gray *Alliance* 16 If equal Justice with unclouded Face Smile not indulgent on the rising Race. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Tale of Tyne* iii. 60 It is the duty of government to smile on undertakings which favour the industry of the people. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 281 Circumstances..seemed to smile on the project.

c. To show by the features one's amusement (or pleasure) *at* something.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Mary Egypt*) 509 Sone ȝonge man..at myn fule speke smylit in hy. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2123 *Ariadne*, This lady smylith at his stedefastnesse. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* xi. 1384 Than Wallace smyld a litill at his langage. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 3 Time it is when raging warre is done, To smile at scapes and perils ouerblowne. 1623 Camden *Rem.* (1636) 245 Our first finest Poets may smile at the verses of that time as succeeding ages..will haply smile at theirs. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 912 While he withdrawn at their mad Labour smiles. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* ii. (Globe) 356 The Spaniard only smil'd at that, and made him no Answer. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* ii. xxxix, Wherefore dost thou smile At what I say? 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 60 Though they may smile inwardly at your ways,..they will never allow the smile to be outwardly seen.

3. Of physical features, things, etc.: To have or present an agreeable or pleasing aspect.

Common in 18th cent. poetry.

1594 Kyd *Cornelia* iv. ii, O Faire Sunne, that gentlie smiles From the Orient-pearled Iles. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 165 Cheard with the grateful smell old Ocean smiles. 1703 Rowe *Fair Penitent* ii. i, A better Order of succeeding Days Come smiling forward, white and lucky all. 1769 Sir W. Jones *Palace Fortune* Poems (1777) 26 Each meadow blossom'd, and each valley smil'd. 1805 Wordsw. *Elegiac Stanzas* 19 A sea that could not cease to smile. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 11 A country smiling with cornfields and gardens.

4. Of wine, beer, etc.: To sparkle. ? *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Mantles*, When Drink is brisk and smiles. 1721 Mortimer *Husb.* (ed. 2) II. 325 It flushes violently out of the Cock..and then stops on a sudden, and pearls and smiles in a Glass like any bottled Beer. 1828 in Carr *Craven Gloss.*

5. (*U.S.*) *slang.* To drink; to have or take a drink.

1858 [see Smiling *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1865 J. C. Hotten in 'Artemus Ward' *His Book* 18 *note*, 'Let us take a tod' was formerly a common phrase. Recently, however, 'To Kiss the Baby' and to 'Smile' have taken its place. 1870 *Daily News* 7 Feb., This 'gentleman'..asked me to 'smile'. I had learned by experience that this is the slang phrase for 'taking a drink'.

II. *trans.* **6. a.** To bring or convert into a specified condition by smiling. Const. *in*, *into*, *out of*, etc.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 465 Som Dick That smiles his checke [=cheek] in yeares. 1601 — *Twel. N.* iii. ii. 84 He does smile his face into more lynes, then is in the new Mappe. 1608 — *Pericles* v. i. 139 Thou doest looke like patience..smiling extremitie out of act. 1728 Young *Love of Fame* i. 46 What author shall we find..The courtly Roman's smiling path to tread, And sharply smile prevailing folly dead?

b. To dismiss, get rid of, drive *away* (something) with a smile or smiles; to while *away* (time), dry *up* (tears), in or by smiling.

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 142 The great ones of thy court have audaciously smiled away the gloom and horrors of guilt. 1792 S. Rogers *Pleas. Mem.* ii. 78 When sober Judgment has his throne resigned She smiles away the chaos of the mind. 1803 Visct. Strangford *Poems of Camoens* Sonn. xx. (1810) 106 Those charming eyes, within whose starry sphere Love whilom sat, and smil'd the hours away. *c* 1850 Mrs. Browning *Hector & Andromache* 102 She received him straight To her bosom's fragrance—smiling up her tears. 1885 'L. Malet' *Col. Enderby's Wife* i. iii, A woman's reputation must not be smiled away.

transf. 1827 Hood *Hero & Leander* xxviii, The drowsy world shone brighten'd in reply; And smiling off her fogs, his slanting beam [etc.].

†**7.** To treat with contempt or disdain; to deride, laugh at. *Obs.*—1

1605 Shaks. *Lear* ii. ii. 88 A plague vpon your Epilepticke visage, Smoile you my speeches, as I were a Foole?

8. a. To answer or repeat by smiling.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* iii. (1632) 91 Thou smil'st my smiles: when I a teare let fall, Thou shedd'st an other.

b. To exhibit, indicate, or express by smiling; to grant, bestow, etc., with a smile. Also *fig.* and with *in* (quot. 1860).

1646 J. Hall *Poems* 29 Yet it is midnight still with me, Nay worse, unless that kinder she Smile Day. 1803 W. R. Spencer *Year of Sorrow* 46 Thy Susan..Smiled no sweet sunshine on thy closing day. 1814 Byron *Lara* ii. xvii, He ..sadly smiles his thanks to that dark page. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xlvi. (1856) 423 They cannot be said to smile a welcome upon the navigator. 1860 Lever *One of Them* iii, 'The very remark I was about to make, my Lord,' smiled in Mrs. Morris. 1880 *Daily Telegr.* 21 Feb., She smiled disbelief.

c. With cognate object: To give (a smile, esp. one of a specified kind).

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxiii, Mr. Weller junior smiled a filial smile. 1862 Miss Braddon *Lady Audley* xl, She smiled the queerest smile. 1868 Helps *Realmah* ii. (1876) 21 The Caliph smiled a grim smile.

Hence **Smi·leable** *a.*, at which one may smile; **Smiled** *ppl. a.*, spoken or given with a smile; also with *out*.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 893 All speak,..or smile, of all the speakable..and smileable little interesting affairs. 1850 W. C. Bennett *Baby May* Poems 12 Tiny scorns of smiled reprovings That have more of love than lovings. 1892 C. E. Norton *Dante's Parad.* i. 5, I was divested of my first doubt by these brief little smiled-out words.

Smi·leful, *a.* [f. Smile *sb.*] Full of smiles; smiling.

1609 Armin *Maids of More-Clacke* E iv, Be smilefull, and expresse no griefe in sithes. 1850 in Ogilvie. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 1 Aug. 157/1 The epoch is signalized with garlands and high festival, with assemblies tearful and smileful.

Hence **Smi·lefulness.**

1887 F. Wilson *Alma Murray as Juliet* 13 The flickering smilefulness with which she uttered the lines.

Smileless (sməi·l,lés), *a.* [f. Smile *sb.*]

1. Of persons, the features, expression, etc.: Exhibiting no smile; never smiling; grave, severe.

1719 Lady Wardlaw *Hardyknute* xxxiv, With smyless luke, and visage wan, The wounded Knight replied. 1837 Wordsw. *Night thought* 11 Ingrates who wear a smileless face The whole year through. 1838 Lytton *Alice* xi. i, Pale, wan,..smileless, she was the ghost of her former self. 1882 C. D. Warner *W. Irving* x. 295 The smileless prig has begun to weary even the popular fancy. 1892 G. Hake *Mem.* xxxv. 115 That free, smileless expression.

b. Of words, etc.: Uttered without a smile.

1810 S. Green *Reformist* I. 208 She either replied not at all, or only answered her by a smileless monosyllable. 1877 *Daily News* 30 Nov., It is a fearfully impressive thing to listen to his smileless, unaltering harangues.

2. Devoid of brightness or cheerfulness; dark, dull, cheerless.

1858 Lytton *What will he do?* vi. ix, And so the old man, whose life had been so smileless, died smiling. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakfast-t.* iv, That smileless eternity to which they look forward. *a* 1873 Lytton *Pausanias* 60 The very moonlight upon these waters, cold and smileless.

Hence **Smi·lelessly** *adv.*; **Smi·lelessness.**

1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* xxvi, Not only smileless herself, but the cause of smilelessness in others. 1869 Aldrich *Story Bad Boy* 68 At seven o'clock my grandfather comes smilelessly down stairs.

Smiler (sməi·lər). [f. Smile *v.*]

1. One who smiles.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1141 Ther saugh I..The smyler with the knyfe vnder the cloke. 1668 Dryden *Even. Love* Epil. 5 Where a lot of Smilers lent an Ear To one that talk'd. 1694 *Poet Buffoon'd* 1 Much like the Losers and the Winners, One Smiler and two hundred Grinners. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* i. 315 Know, smiler! at thy peril art thou pleas'd. 1795 Aikin *Even. Home* xxix. (Dove) 507 Through her pale and emaciated features, he saw something of his little smiler. 1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* i, A..pleasant smile it was too.., making the smiler look particularly handsome. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 279 Noticing that a few Gallic smilers were gathering round.

b. As a moth-name: (see quot.).

1832 Rennie *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 77 The Smiler (*Polia Polymita*).

2. *slang.* A kind of shandy-gaff.

1892 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 2/3 A singular mixture of beer and lemonade known in Manchester as a smiler. 1900 *Ibid.* 30 Apr. 5/1 To take these generous liquors in the diluted forms of 'shandy-gaff' or 'smiler'.

Smi·let. *rare.* Also 6 **smylet.** [f. Smile *sb.*] A little or slight smile.

1592 Fraunce *C'tess Pembroke's Ivychurch* ii. ii, I..knew her face to be framyng Now with a smylet's allure, and now to repell with a frownyng. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* iv. iii. 21 Those happy smilets, That play'd on her ripe lip. 1906 E. Phillpotts *Portreeve* 8 Her pretty mouth was sunny with smilets.

Smiling (sməi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Smile *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; an instance of this, a smile. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 129 Scho..at his vordis mad smylyng in manere of scornyng. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 119 A Nonne..That of hir smylyng was ful symple and coy. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smylynge, *subrisus.* 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 230, I turne it in a tender luke,..And him behaldis hamely, with hertly smyling. 1553 Bale *Vocacyon* 27 They flonge vp their cappes..with smylinges and laughinges most dissolutely. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* iii. vii. 167 The beere will be sower for the Suns smiling on it. 17.. Ramsay *Marriage of Lord G.* vi. Wks. 1877 II. 218 I'll study thy delight..And..Fix throughout life a constant smiling. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1788) 268 May the gift of smiling never depart from him! 1812 Cary *Dante, Parad.* iii. 24 Wonder not thou..at this my smiling.

attrib. *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* in Speght (1598) 359/1 That smiling signe Was token that the hart encline Would to requests reasonable.

2. *U.S.* Drinking, tippling.

1858 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1859) 420 There are many more fast boys about—some devoted to the sex—some to horses—some to 'smiling'. 1864 *Reader* 7 Apr. 451/3 Tobacco-chewing..and smiling (the new Yankee phrase for liquoring-up).

Smiling (sməi·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That smiles; covered with or wearing a smile or smiles.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11509 Ful suetlik wit smiland chere, [He] biheild þaa giftes riche and dere. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc.) 12 Anone came our Lorde.. And her saluted, with swete and smylynge chere. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xx. 24 b, A smiling and dissembling countenance. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* i. v. 106 Oh Villaine, Villaine, smiling, damned Villaine! 1663 S. Patrick *Parable Pilgr.* xxvii, He thought he saw a Man coming to him with a very smiling aspect. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 222 That house..Where grey-beard mirth and smiling toil retired. 1812 Combe *Syntax, Picturesque* xx. 12 His hat a smiling face o'erspread. 1820 Scott *Monast.* xxi, I can judge of the dark purpose, though it is hid under the smiling brow. 1840 Thackeray *Cox's Diary* June, One of the meekest, smilingest little men I ever saw.

b. *transf.* or *fig.*

1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* Wks. 1910 II. 182 But smyling lucke, bewitcht This peerelesse Prince to thinke, That [etc.]. 1692 Norris *Curs. Refl.* 22 These indeed are pretty smiling sentences. ? 1713 Parnell *On Q. Anne's Peace* Posth. Wks. (1758) 260 Here smiling Safety..Securely walks, and chearful Plenty there. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* III. 154 Your own talents,..and smiling time of life, render your election certain. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* IV. i. 17 By..representing every thing in the most smiling colours.

2. Characterized by smiles or a smiling manner; accompanied by a smile or smiles. Also *fig.*

1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus*, Her smiling tears spoke more than her lips. 1842 Browning *Incident French Camp* iii, Then off there flung in smiling joy, And held himself erect By just his horse's mane, a boy. 1901 G. Douglas *Ho. Green Shutters* 207 The cunning old pryer went on, with a smiling suavity in his voice.

3. *transf.* Of physical features, etc.: Looking bright or cheerful; pleasant, agreeable to the sight.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* x. 108 Smiling calmness silver'd o'er the deep. 1742 Gray *West* i In vain to me the smileing Mornings shine. 1750 — *Elegy* 63 To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land. 1805 Wordsw. *Elegiac Stanzas* 38 Not for a moment could I now behold A smiling sea. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xvi, The grand..desert of Andalusia, once a smiling garden. 1879 *Edinb. Rev.* CL. 436 The hill above is populous with smiling villas.

4. Of beer, etc.: Sparkling. ? *Obs.*

1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bottling of beer*, Scum off the same again, and while it is in a smiling Condition, put three Spoonfuls to each Bottle.

5. *Comb.*, as *smiling-featured*, *-sweet.*

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* ii. iv. *Columnes* 710 Those

eyes so smiling-sweet. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* (1854) 207 Ye smiling-featured daughters of the sun!

Smi·lingly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a smiling manner; with a smile or smiles.

*c*1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 138 Than seide he smylyngly [etc.]. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 38 She began thus smilingly to assault him. 1624 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 174 Nay then, smilingly quoth I, your Majestie will [etc.]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 18 His Feet,.. he often pulling up into his Cott or Couch, would smilingly cross them. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 117 He smilingly shook hands with all the domestics. 1828 MOORE *Swiss Air* i, He Into his bark leaped smilingly. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 40 The Queen looks smilingly around her as of old.

b. *transf.* Pleasantly, agreeably, cheerfully.

1806 WORDSW. *Horn Egremont Castle* 70 Bold Hubert lives in glee: Months and years went smilingly. 1846 H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Horace* II. vi, Most smilingly on me that nook, Beyond all others, seems to look. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do?* I. iv, How smilingly the stream flows on.

Smi·lingness. [f. as prec.] A smiling condition or expression.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xvi, The very knowledge that he lived in vain..Had made Despair a smilingness assume. 1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIII. 73 The kindness of the eye, the smilingness of the lip, are no more there.

† Smilt, *a. Obs.*[−1] In 4 smylt. ? Fine.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 226 As smylt mele vnder smal siue smokes for-þikke.

† Smilt, *v. Obs.*[−1] [? Cf. dial. *smilt* the milt of a fish.] *intr.* (See quot.)

1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 2) I. 341 Many Corns will smilt, or have their Pulp turn'd into a substance like thick Cream.

Smily (smə·li), *a.* Also **smiley.** [f. SMILE *sb.*] Inclined to smile; readily smiling.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. *The Courtin'* x, All kind o' smily round the lips An' teary round the lashes. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 120 How they contrived to be so laughy and smiley on pumpkin-seeds and cold water I cannot conjecture.

Smirch (smɜ·rtʃ), *sb.* Also 7 **smyrch.** [f. next.]

1. A dirty mark or smear; a stain; a smudge; also, that which smirches or dirties.

a 1688 BUNYAN *Saints' Privilege & Profit* Wks. 1855 I. 647 That men might see their smyrches when they came to wash. *a* 1688 — *Water of Life* (1838) 430 Crystal..is without those spots and streaks and smirches that are in other precious stones. 1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems, Wayside Well* viii, Sheltered cool and free from smirch In thy cavelet shady. 1863 J. THOMSON *Sunday at Hampstead* I. v, Away from the smoke and the smirch. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* iv, The fellow was but a brown smirch upon the yellow road.

2. *fig.* A moral stain or flaw; a blot or blemish; a fault or defect.

1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* iii, One who had blemished the fair escutcheon of the family by a smirch of heresy. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic of Hades* III. 241 Before the soil And smirch of sadder knowledge..Sully its primal whiteness. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 559/2 That strange insensibility to the sufferings of animals which draws such an ugly smirch across the whole Latin race.

Smirch (smɜ·rtʃ), *v.* Also 5–6 **smorch,** 7 **smerch, smyrch.** [app. ad. OF. *esmorcher* to torment, torture (as by the application of hot metal), with slight transference of sense.]

1. *trans.* Of things: To make dirty, soil, sully, or discolour (something) by contact or touch.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxxx. 579 Leed hathe a manere nesshnes, and smorcheth his honde that towchyth it. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 77 The stalke therof broken, smorcheth them that touche it all with yealow. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 268 Chaos and ragg'd stone Smircht with blacke Pumice, there reioyce, ore-growne with mournfull Cypresse. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XIX. 12 [Weapons] smirch'd and sullied by the breath of fire. 1791 — *Iliad* XXIII. 338 A cauldron of four measures, never smirch'd By smoke or flame. 1805–6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* XV. 26 His parch'd looks.. smirch'd with fire. 1834 TAYLOR *Philip van Artevelde* I. v, Twinkles the re-illuminated star, And all is out of sight that smirched the ray. 1844 HOOD *Workho. Clock* 28 Dingy with smoke..And smirch'd besides with vicious soil. 1894 SALA *London up to date* I. vii, The rain beats down on the smoke, and the smoke on the fog; and all three..smirch your face and hands.

b. To tan (the face). *rare*[−1].

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* x, The sun was high, It smirch'd her cheek, it dimm'd her eye.

2. Of persons (or animals): To stain, smear, or befoul (the face, person, etc.) *with* or by means of something dirty or having staining properties. Also *refl.* and with adjectival complement.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 114 Ile put my selfe in poore and meane attire, And with a kinde of vmber smirch my face. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 215 By chance his dog.. smerched his lips with the tincture. 1853 ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 721 He seiz'd..the dust which lay around, And threw it on his head, and smirch'd his hair. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* II. xi. 166, I will go..and smirch myself brown with walnut-leaves.

3. *transf.* To cast discredit or disgrace upon (a person, his honour, etc.); to bring into ill-repute; to taint or tarnish. Said of actions, etc., or of persons.

(*a*) 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXV, In public opinion, their names will be smirched and sullied with a stain which his tardy efforts cannot entirely efface. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* 216 Their infamy spreads abroad, smirching the whole class to which they belong. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* II. x. 273 Those lower thoughts as well as lower passions which smirch the human soul.

(*b*) 1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. xv, They durst not so have wronged their blood, And smirched their fair renown. 1870 DIXON *Tower* II. xxxi. 319 No man's name..had yet been smirched by Carr. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xix, He changeth dynasties, and on the head Of duteous heroes..Smircheth the laurel that can never die.

Hence **Smi·rcher; Smi·rching** *vbl. sb.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvii. 327 He [*sc.* the moon] semyth not wemmyd wyth noo specles and smorchynge. 1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* ii, Unrevealed smirchings of noble names. 1888 *Scottish Leader* 11 July 4 There will soon not be a place left in his character on which the amateur smircher may operate.

Smirched (smɜ·rtʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] Marked, soiled, made dirty, etc., with a smirch or stain.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 17 Impious Warre,..with his smyrcht complexion. 1599 — *Much Ado* III. iii. 145 The smircht worm-eaten tapestrie. 1746 SMOLLETT *Advice* 72 From the smirch'd scullion to th' embroider'd Peer. 1833 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 489 He hung motionless across the rope like a smirched and half burnt fleece. 1863 WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady* 157 Here a smirched artisan who merely bolts The plates of iron fortress.

Smi·rchless, *adv.* [f. SMIRCH *sb.*] Without leaving a smirch or stain.

1848 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 739 The thrice royal robe of ermined proof Whence stain glides smirchless, shame ashamed flies.

Smi·rchy, *a.* [f. as prec.] Marked with a smirch or smirches.

1889 WRIGHT *Chalice of Carden* XXVII, [His] smirchy countenance was irrigated with watercourses of tears.

† Smi·ring. *Obs. rare.* [ad. G. *schmiering.*] A variety of sandpiper.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* 99 *Ochropodes.* Smirings live in watrish Copses with worms, and are a fine and delicate meat.

Smi·ris. ? *Obs.* Also 7 **smyris.** [a. Gr. *σμίρις* or *σμύρις.*] = EMERY *sb.* I.

1610– [see EMERY *sb.* 1]. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge e 8 b, All may have Sculpture by the powder of smiris, except the adamant. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 74 The best sort of Smiris serves for several uses. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 65 Those which are mistaken by many for distinct sorts of Fossils, are the Hæmatites, or Bloodstone; ..the Smiris, or Emery. 1803 *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 82 It is not..improbable, but that some other substance has been occasionally denoted by the term smiris, emeril, or emery.

Smirk (smɜ·k), *sb.* [f. SMIRK *v.*]

1. An affected or simpering smile; a silly, conceited, smiling look.

*c*1560 INGELEND *Disobedient Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 297 How many smirks and dulsome kisses! 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. *Palinode,* From Spanish shrugs, French faces, smirks, irpes, and all affected humours. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* IV. i, He has the canonical smirk, and the filthy clammy palm of a chaplain. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. liv. 81 A jolly face, and a stupid smirk in his countenance. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. i, He was regarding her with a facetious smirk. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxi, Fortunately the bride, all smirk and blush, had just entered the room. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt.-Royal* III. viii. 164 'It is a poet's privilege to worship the beautiful, Leo,' said the Baron, with a self-satisfied smirk.

† 2. *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*[−ᵒ]

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Smirk,* a finical, spruce Fellow.

Smirk (smɜ·k), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 **smyrke,** 6–7 **smirke.** [app. f. SMIRK *v.*; but perh. partly suggested by SMICKER *a.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Neat, trim, spruce in dress or appearance; pleasant, agreeable. Also *U.S.*, smug. Now chiefly *dial.*

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Love* (Brandl) 349, I am at one poynt with women all, The smotest, the smyrkest, the smallest [etc.]. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 72 Seest, howe brag yond Bullocke beares, So smirke, so smoothe, his pricked eares? 1598 FLORIO, *Trisciato,* smooth, vp-straight, smug, smirke, handsomlie drest vp. 1614 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Ecl. betw. Yng. Willie & Old W.* 159 Thy past'rall Minstralsy Beating the aire, atweene resounding Hils, Draw to thee Bonibels as smirke, as hy. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp., Nuptial Song Sir C. Crew* vii, The smirk Butler thinks it Sin, in's Nap'rie, not to express his wit. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 43 Shaws whilk road is best to follow Fu' sweet an' smirk. 1847 HALLIW., *Smirk,* neat; trim. *Oxon.* 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarèl* II. 246 Italy cannot be trim and smirk in modern wise and modern gear.

† 2. Of mental faculties: Quick, ready, smart.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Gl.* xii. 67 A nimble dexterecall, smirke, prægnant, extemporary invention. *Ibid.* 82 A smirke, quick, & dexterecall wit.

† 3. Eager, ardent. *Obs.*[−1]

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 129 According as the begetter is hotter and smirker, or cold and listlesser.

† B. *adv.* Smirkingly. *Obs.*[−1]

1556 HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* xii. 13 Wherat the spider, smirke, and smothlie smiled.

Smirk (smɜ·k), *v.* Forms: 1 **smearcian,** 1–2 **smercian,** 6–7 **smerk(e;** 3– **smirk,** 5 **smyrke,** 6 *Sc.* **smyrk,** 7 **smirke,** 8–9 *dial.* **smurk,** etc. [OE. *smearcian, smercian,* app. not represented in any of the cognate languages.]

1. *intr.* To smile; in later use, to smile in an affected, self-satisfied, or silly manner; to simper.

*c*888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 4 Ða ongon he smearcian & cwæð to me. *Ibid.* xxxiv. § 10 Ða smearcode he & cwæð. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 189 Þa Neron þæt gehyrde, þa smercode he. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 140 Þonne þu smercodest and hlozæ, þonne weop ic biterlice. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 356 Þeos meiden lette lutel of al þet he seide, & smirkinde smeðeliche 3ef him þullich onswere.

a 1500 in *Ratis Raving,* etc. (1870) 108 [Let her] kep her [self] in kirk To kek abak, to lauch, or smyrke. 1577–82 BRETON *Toyes Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37/1 But who so smirking smiles with merry cheare, That countenance shewes that some good newes is neare. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 500 A sober Matron weeping, and a light Courtesan smirking. 1604 *Friar Bacon's Proph.* 131 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 273 He would smirke and she would smile. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Smirk,* to smile, or look pleasant. 1747 RELPH *Poems* Gloss., *To Smurk,* to smile. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 327 The young perfumer came, smirking and scraping, into the room. 1833 TENNYSON *The Goose* 20 The parson smirk'd and nodded. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* I. iii. 51 The little man comes smirking and bowing up to her. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 63 He had a projecting under-lip, with which he continually smiled, or rather smirked.

b. Const. *at, on,* or *upon* a person, etc.

a 1500 in *Ratis Raving,* etc. (1870) 86 With mekil langag but mesure, Smyrkand one euery creature. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 762 He wyll set men a feightynge and syt hymselfe styll, And smerke, lyke a smythy kur, at sperkes of steile. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* A iij, The cheares of men as theie will smerke on those that vse to smyle. 1707 *Refl. upon Ridicule* 207 An Old Dotard smirking upon a Young and Handsome Woman. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* iii, Gentlemen smirking at each other out of blue and brown skies. 1880 W. H. DIXON *Windsor* III. xiv. 130 Dick smirked at Alice.

transf. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 121 Any vices or follies..rather than those that..smirk on us in silks and satins at our churches.

† 2. *trans.* To trim up, to make neat or spruce.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. cij b, Will it please you to bee cosmologized and smirkt?

3. To utter with a smirk. *rare*[−1].

1879 BROWNING *Martin Relph* 129 Till the first knave smirked 'You brag Yourself a friend of the king's?'

Hence **Smi·rker,** one who smirks.

1756 COWPER *Connoisseur* No. 138 ¶ 4 The Smirkers and Smilers, who so prettily set off their faces..by a *je-ne-sçai-quoi* between a grin and a dimple.

Smirking (smɜ·rkiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SMIRK *v.*]

1. That smirks or smiles affectedly; simpering. Said of persons, or their features.

*c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 430 Hine befran ða Decius mid smercigendum muðe. *c* 1510 BARCLAY *Mirr. Gd. Manners* (1570) E v, Their smerking paynted chin. 1593 HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 7 Some smirking minions are fine fellowes in their owne heades. 1606 DRAYTON *Pastorals, Eglog* ix, I met a smerking bony lasse, They call her Daffadill. 1673 *Humours Town* 39 This is the wondrous Mystery,—that Smirkin Monsieur wears so many badges of the Ladies Favours. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* II. iii. (1811) 156 It is easy to guess, my dear, by your smirking countenance, who is expected to-day. 1825 HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 123 Grace, whose back was turned towards the smirking group, did not perceive this evolution. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fruit* vi, A smirking young man pounced immediately upon the stranger.

2. Accompanied or characterized by, associated with, a smirk; affected.

1577–82 BRETON *Toyes Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37/1 The smyrking looke declares a merry minde. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* Address p. ii, What amorous glaunces, what smirking Oeyliades. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* II. i, He ever had a notable smerking way with him. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* V. 513 Her grizzled locks assume a smirking grace. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 160 The smirking commonplace of his countenance. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Ho. Warming* (1905) 477 With a sort of smirking, self-satisfied air.

† 3. Of wine, etc.: Sparkling. *Obs.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesp., The Hock-Cart,* If smirking Wine be wanting here, There's that, which drowns all care, stout Beere.

Smi·rkingly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a smirking manner; with a smirk.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. vi. D ij, Thou thy selfe moste smerkinglye .. Saye father, brother, to eche one. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 147 Hanging smirkingly upon all I said. 1773 BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 89 It would do you good to see how smirkingly they go to church in summer. 1856 W. WHITE *Through Tyrol* xiii. 273 The bridegroom..looked as smirkingly jovial as could be expected.

Smi·rkish, *a. rare.* [f. SMIRK *a.* or *sb.*] Smiling, pleasant; somewhat smirky or simpering.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., Tickled into such a laughing briskness, and fudged up into such a smirkish liveliness. 1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 368 The fair Naiads, comfortably fat, and most invitingly smirkish.

Smi·rkle, *v. Sc.* Also 6 **smyrkle,** 9 **smerkle.** [f. SMIRK *v.* + -LE 3.] *intr.* To smirk or smile. Hence **Smi·rkling** *ppl. a.*

The sb. *smirkle* is also illustrated by Jamieson (1825).

? *c* 1590 *Knox's Hist. Ref.* IV. (Wodrow) II. 409 As this wes said, Ledingtoun smyleit [*MS. G.* smyrklit], and spak secreitlie to the Quene in hir eare. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 925 (Waldegrave), Experience then smyrkling smyld. 18.. *Lord Dunwaters* iii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 117 He gave a smirkling smile. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 19 The friskier for the flytin', they Gaffaw and smirkle in their play. 1839 CHALMERS *Mem.* (1851) IV. 74 The minister I saw smiling and smerkling, in his own characteristic way, at the more ludicrous passages.

† Smi·rkly, *adv. Obs.*[−1] [f. SMIRK *a.* + -LY 2.] Smirkingly.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1622) 258 Venus was glad to heare Such proffer made, which she well shewed with smiling cheare...And smirkly thus gan say [etc.].

Smirky (smə·rki), *a. Sc.* and *U.S.* Also 8–9 **smerky.** [f. SMIRK *sb.* or *a.* + -Y.] Smart, neat, smiling; simpering; of the nature of a smirk.

17.. RAMSAY *To Duncan Forbes* v. Wks. 1877 II. 318 How

smirky look'd the little wight. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 229 A very haughty dame among her fellow-servants of her own sex, but rather smirky and sly with the men. 1848 [A. B. Longstreet] *Georgia Scenes* 197, I overtook a swarthy, bright-eyed, smerky little fellow. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* ii. 92 He introduced himself, smiling a smirky smile borrowed from the courtiers of the stage.

Smirles, var. of Smerles, ointment, *Obs.*

Smirr, Sc. variant of Smurr.

Smi·rtle, *sb. Sc.* [f. next.] A smirk.

1813 W. Beattie *Poems* (1871) 9 Ilka face a smirtle put on.

Smi·rtle, *v. Sc.* Also 7 smirtell, 8–9 smurtle. [var. of Smirkle *v.*] *intr.* To smirk or smile. Also *transf.*

1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 240 Lethington smirtelled, and rounded in her eare. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* I. iii, Then Wallace did revive, And leugh, and smirtl'd at them in his sleeve. 1768 Ross *Helenore,* etc. 144 Now I think I may be cocky, Since fortune has smurtl'd on me. 1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 296 'Hech l' quo' Will,..And smurtled at Dory Maclean.

Smish. *Cant.* [App. a later form of Mish *sb.*] (See quots.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Smish,* a shirt. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 237 *Smish,* a shirt or chemise.

Smit (smit), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 smitte, 4, 7–8 smitt, 5 *Sc.* smyt(e, 5– smit. [OE. *smitte* (related to *smittian* Smit *v.*[1]), = MDu. *smitte,* MLG. and LG. *smitte* (hence MDa. and Da. *smitte,* MSw. and Sw. *smitta*), MHG. *smitze* (G. *schmitze*). Cf. MDu. *smit,* LG. *smit* (MSw. *smit,* Sw. dial. *smitt*), OHG. *smiz, bismiz* (MHG. *smitz,* G. *schmitz*); also MDu. and MLG. *smette,* MDu., Du., Fris., LG., and Sw. *smet,* OHG. *bismez.* All of these forms have the senses 'spot, stain, smear', etc. In later use the word is northern and Sc.]

†**1.** A sullying spot or stain; a taint or blemish. Freq. *fig.* of moral taint. *Obs.*

c 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 4 Se ðe ingæþ butan smittan, swylce wyrcð rihtwisnesse. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 93/2 *Inluuiem, i. inmunditiam,* wom, smittan. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9462 Þat sin..nan of left, wit-vten smitt, þat euer was vnder heuen born. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 867 Blowmand bewte but wane or smyt of sawle and body to-giddir knyt. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* ix. 1858 Bot qwhat at sal be put in wryte Off falssit sal ber nakyn smyte. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving,* etc. (1870) 92 For lesing is sa foul a smyt, That quhay sa euer be taynt with It [etc.]. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 220 Smaill sweit smaragde, smelling but smit of smot.

†**2.** Smut in grain. *Obs.*—°

1585 Higins tr. *Junius' Nomenclator* 144/2 The smit, blasting, or burned blacknes of the eares of corne.

†**3.** (See quot. and Smut *sb.* 3.) *Obs.*—[1]

1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 65 Those unripe mines which the cole-miners often..find and call Smitts, as being an imperfect cole.

4. A soft reddish earth or clayey ore, esp. used for marking sheep. ? *Obs.*

a 1728 Woodward *Fossils* 2 The softer Ruddle, or, as 'tis call'd in the North, *Smitt.* 1789 J. Williams *Min. Kingd.* I. 440 Kidney ore is found in small masses blended in a red, staining, soft clay or earth, called smit, which is also an iron ore. 1794 Hutchinson *Hist. Cumb.* I. Catal. 52 The reddle, called by the country people clayey iron ore, rud, and smit.

b. A mark of ownership put upon sheep.

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Smit,* a sheep mark. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Aug. 4/1 A 'Shepherds' Guide' setting forth the tar marks, smits, and ear-slits peculiar to the sheep of each farm in the township.

5. A particle of soot; a smut, black spot.

a 1825 in Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v. *Smut.* 1862 C. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 413 'Smitted' clothes, or rather the 'smits' themselves, are the plague of the housewife on the washing day.

6. Infection; contagion.

1829– in northern and Sc. dialect glossaries, etc.

†**Smit,** *sb.*[2] *north. Obs.* In 4 smitt(e, smite, 5 smyte. [Possibly related to next and to Smite *v.*, and orig. denoting a small piece struck off: cf. Norw. *smitt* (Ross) and G. *schmitzen* in the same sense. In the later quots. the rime-words indicate the form *smite*: the common mod. dial. *smite* does not quite correspond to this.] A very small piece or portion; a little bit.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18735 Left he noght þar-of a smitt, Of all þe lagh, þat he ne held it. *a* 1325 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 146 Ich comand þe..þat þi fader lif be write, & min also, eueri smite. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 1959 The Emperour..wende hit were al gospel That the clerkys dyden hym to wite, And al was fals every smyte.

Smit, *sb.*[3] Now *dial.* Also 5 smytt. [Related to Smite *v.* Cf. MLG. *smit,* G. *schmiss, schmitz,* in the same sense.] A blow; a stroke; also, the sound of striking. Cf. Smite *sb.*[1] 1.

c 1430 *Sir Tryam.* 1565 Tryamowre on the hedd he hytt, He had gevyn hym an evylle smytt, But his swerde braste. *a* 1803 *Lord William* ii. in Scott *Minstrelsy,* She heard a smit o bridle reins. 1895 *Longman's Mag.* Oct. 641, I have got the death smit.

Smit (smit), *v.* Latterly *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 4–5 smyt. *Pa. t.* 1 smittode, 5 smytted, *Sc.* smyt(t)it, 7– smitted. *Pa. pple.* 1 smittud, 4 smetted, smyttid, 5 -ed, 5– smitted; *Sc.* 5 smyttit, smitit, 5–6 smittit; 3 i-smitte, 9 smit, smitten. [OE. *smittian* (f. the weak grade of *smitan* Smite *v.*), = MDu. and MLG. *smitten* (hence MDa. and Da. *smitte,* MSw., Sw., and Norw. *smitta*), OHG. (*pi*)*smizzan* (MHG. *smitzen,* G. *schmitzen*). Cf. also MDu., Du., and LG. *smetten,* Fris. *smette.*]

1. *trans.* To stain or mark in some way; to colour or tinge; to smut. Also in fig. context.

a 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 244 *Funestauere, maculauere,* smittodan. *c* 1205 Lay. 17701 Iblæcched he hæfede his licame, swulc ismitte of cole. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 272 Of his hals firste milk out ran, þe knychtis clathis þat smyttit þan. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. iii. (Tollem. MS.), The brayne haþ but litell of blood leste he were infecte and smetted [1495 smytted] with þe coloure þerof. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 28 Thai ar all smyttit with that ilke myrknes, of the quhilk the sternis was blekkit. 1876 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* 177/1 *Smitted,* ..dotted all over; specked on the surface.

†**b.** To contaminate, taint, or infect with sin, guilt, etc. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cv. 36 Dropen es þe land in blodes swa; And smitted in werkes of þa. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 198 He was not smyttid wiþ pryde ne wiþ coveityse. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* iii. iii. 616 Bot Mempris Smyttit wes with [*v.r.* of] mony vice. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving,* etc. (1870) 3 The trespas that Adam and Eue commytyt,..quhar-throw al mankynde was smitit. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 157 Giff thow persave sum senȝeour it hes smittit, Solist þame softlie nocht to perseveir.

absol. a 1500 in *Ratis Raving,* etc. (1870) 92 For lesing is sa foul a smyt,..It smytis sa sare it partis neuer.

c. To tarnish or sully; to bring into disgrace or discredit.

c 1386 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 1545 As regnes shal ben flitted Fro folk to folk, or whan they shal ben smitted. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* viii. v. 854 (Cott.), His litil leaute neuirþeles He smyttit þar in his processe. 1786 Burns *Farewell to Ȝ. Kennedy* 3 If e'er Detraction shore to smit you, May nane believe him!

d. To mark (sheep) with smit or ruddle.

1828 Carr *Craven Gloss., Smit,* to mark sheep. 1895 Ellwood *Lakeland & Icel.* 56 Lambs are so smitted when first put upon the fell, and sheep at clipping time.

2. Of contagious diseases, etc.: To infect, affect by contagion. Also in fig. context. Freq. in pa. pple. with *with.*

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Gloss.* 120/2 *Caccabatus morbo,* smittud mid adle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 521 Þane amesit sum thing his care, quhen his seknes smytit hym sare. 1427 *Sc. Acts, Jas. I* (1814) II. 16/1 Item at þe bischoppis..inquire diligently in þare visitatiounis ..gif ony be smyttit with lippir. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* l. 178 Thir thingis..Wyll smyt men that are hail & fere. 1585 R. Parsons *Chr. Exerc.* Ep. Ded. 3 The readers of them that are before smitted with that kinde of infection. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 353 To *Smit,* to infect. 1829– in dialect glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

b. Of persons or animals: To convey or communicate a disease to (another); to infect.

1877– in dialect glossaries, etc.

Smitch, *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 1–2 smic, smyc, 3 smyche, 3, 9 smiche, 9– smitch. [OE. *smíc, smýc,* var. of *sméc* (see Smeech *sb.* and Smeek *sb.*), with development of form as in *díc* ditch.] Smoke arising from burning or smouldering matter; also *dial.,* grime, dirt, dust, smut, etc.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* iii. xi. 142 Swelce se bitresta smic upp astige. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xix. 28 Abraham..ȝeseah, hu þa ysla up fluȝon mid þam smice. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 108/1 *Ut fumus euanescens,..*swa swa ȝewitende smyc. *c* 1250 *Hymn* in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 He vs bouchte..of bitter helle fur & of þe fule smiche. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 95 in *O. E. Misc.,* Heo schule..in helle smyche Acoryen hit ful wraþe.

1847 Halliw., *Smitch,* dirt, but generally applied to smoke or dust. *West.* 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* 52/2 *Smitch,* the smell or smoke arising from anything burnt in frying.

Smitch (smitʃ), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *U.S.* [Of doubtful origin: cf. Smit *sb.*[2]] A particle, bit.

Smitchel is also used in the same sense in *U.S.*

c 1840 J. Ramsay *Eglinton Park Meeting* xxxv, Every smitch o't was a kin' o' red. 1884 *Advance* (Chicago) 10 July, A little smitch of an island.

Smitch (smitʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* [f. Smitch *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To affect with smoke or smut.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* v. (1626) 101 That soile..Now barren grew...Now, too much drouth annoys; now, lodging showres: Stars smitch, winds blast. 1878 E. W. L. Davies *Mem. Ȝ. Russell* 71 The country-people..left their milk-pans on the fire till the cream was 'smitched', or perhaps burned.

Smite (sməit), *sb.*[1] Also 4–5 smyt-, 5 smote. [f. Smite *v.* But the ME. examples represent *smite,* of similar formation to *bite* Bit *sb.*[1]]

1. A stroke or heavy blow with a weapon, the hand, etc., or the sound made by this. Now chiefly *rhet.* (Cf. Smit *sb.*[3])

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Þenne me hine pined mid hunger,..and smerte smiten of smale longe ȝerden. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9013 Þo þe smite [*v.r.* smytyn] of lance was ido to þe suerd hii nome. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9774 (Kölbing), It carf so wel, men miȝt delite, þat witeþ þe geaunce of þis smite. 1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Ase zone ase he y-hyerþ þane smite of þe lodes-manne. 14.. *Sir Beues* (S.) 4145+16 þat þouȝt Beues a good smyte [*v.r.* smete].

1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 205 The Mainkirk rang wi' slaps and smites. 1828–32 in Webster. 1905 Vachell *The Hill* xii, We used to think you a slogger, but you never came anywhere near that smite of Scaife's.

†**2.** A slight indication or intimation *of* something. *Obs.* (Cf. Cast *sb.* 9.)

1640 G. Him in N. Wallington *Notices Reign Chas. I* (1869) I. 128, I might say more, but this I do to give you a smite of our condition.

†**Smite,** *sb.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* In 5–6 smyte. [ad. MDu. *smiete* or MLG. *smite* (Du. *smijt,* LG. *smite,* Norw. *smit, smitt,* G. *schmeite, schmiete*), of obscure origin.] A rope attached to one of the lower corners of a sail.

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 253 Item, fra Will Forstar, tua smytis and ane peis of auld toll [=tow, rope], xviij *s.* 1512 *Ibid.* IV. 304 Tua smytis of gret ȝarne of viij^{c}xlv pund wecht.

Smite, *dial.* a particle: see Smit *sb.*[2]

Smite (sməit), *v.* Forms: (see below). [OE. *smítan* (*smát, smiton, smiten*), = OFris. *smíta* (WFris. *smite,* EFris. *smite, smít,* NFris. *smit*) to throw, MDu. *smiten* (Du. *smijten*) to throw, strike, MLG. and LG. *smíten* to throw, OHG. *smîzan* to smear (also *bismîzan* to smear, sully, *úzsmîzan* to cast out; MHG. *smîzen,* G. *schmeissen* to throw, strike, smear, excrete), Goth. *bi-, gasmeitan* to smear. In the Scand. languages represented by MSw. and Sw. *smita* (*smeta*), Norw. *smita,* Da. *smide,* which are prob. from MLG. The development of the various senses is not quite clear, but that of throwing is perh. the original one.

The compound *besmítan* is common in OE., and Forsmite occurs in ME.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*) 1 -smítan, 3 smiten (-enn), 3–4 smyten, 5 smytyn; 3– smite (4 *north.* smete), 4–6 smyte (5 smyit), 5–6 *Sc.* smyt, 5, 7 smytt, 5 smyght, 6–7 smight; 4 smit, *north.* smett, smitt(e.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 14 Smite mon ða sealfe..on þæt heafod. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 Ȝif hwa þe smite on þin swiðre wænge. *c* 1200 Ormin 14677 To smitenn itt to dæde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 He wile smite mid ..swuerde. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 78 Al þat þu myht.. smyten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5656 He sagh an egypcien.. Smit a juu. *Ibid.* 15798, I wil noght þat þou smete. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* viii. 21, I shal smyte no more. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smytyn, *ferio, percutio. Ibid.,* Smyte fyyr, *frigillo. c* 1450 *MS. Douce 55* fol. 3, Smytt it in feyre pecys. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* xx. 35, I praye the smite me. 1539 Bible (Cranmer) *John* xviii. 23 Why smyttest thou me? 1570 Levins *Manip.* 151 To smyte, *percutere, ferire.* 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. iv. 21 For him likewise he quickly downe did smight. *c* 1635 Sir W. Mure *Ps.* cxli. 5 Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 218 Me let the righteouse smytt. 1641 Hinde *Ȝ. Bruen* 18 Smighting their consciences. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgrim* xxxi. (1687) 379 To have a Dead Palsie smite your loyns.

b. *3rd pers. sing.* 2–4 smit, 4–5 smyt, 5 smytt(e.

a 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 13 Se ðe smit under ða eare. *c* 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 188 Man with hamur smyt on the anfelde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 40 Whan..the spore The horse side smit to sore, It grieveth ofte. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) v. 45 This Ryvere comethe rennynge..; and aftre it smytt unto Londe.

2. *Pa. t.* **a.** *Sing.* (latterly also *pl.*) α. 1–2 smát, 3–6 smat (3 smæt), 4–6 smate. (After 1300 *north.* and *Sc.*)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* I 352 *Inpingit,* smat, ȝemaercode. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 68 Hwæt ys se þe þe smat. *c* 1205 Lay. 20317 Me hine smæt mid smærte ȝerden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20957 A jugelur wit blindnes he smat [*v.r.* smate]. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 516 With his spere he smate hym thrugh. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* ix. xii, Quhou Turnus the big Pandarus smat [*v.r.* smate] down.

β. 3–7 smot, 4 smoth, 5 smotte, 6 smott; 4– smote (also 4–5 *pl.* smoten), 4–5 smoot, smoote (also 5 *pl.* smooten), 5 smoitte, 6 *Sc.* smoit, 7 smoat(e.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2925 Oc Moyses wirm hem alle smot. *a* 1300 *Havelok* 2654 Ubbe..smoth Godrich. *a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* lxviii. 31 Hym þat tou smote. *c* 1340 *Ayenb.* 48 þeruore smot god..onam. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 415 Petir.. smoot of Malcus eere. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1796 Thay.. smoten down right al a-boute. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xv. 237 Anoon thei smote to-geder fercely. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* lvi. 152 She smotte grete strokes. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxiv. 5 It smote him..in his hert. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* iii. i. 28 She ..downe him smot. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 356, I..smoate him, thus. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 30 The Lord smot him with the plague. 1714 Young *Force Relig.* Wks. 1752 I. 87 She smote her lovely breast.

γ. *2nd pers.* 1–3 smite, 3–4 smete. *3rd pers.* 4 smite, 5 smete.

c 1150 *Canterbury Ps.* iii. 8 Þu ofsloge *vel* smite. *c* 1205 Lay. 8157 Þu me smite [*c* 1275 smete]. *a* 1325 *Prose Ps.* iii. 7 Þou smete alle þat were oȝains me. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 942 Gij oȝain to him smite [*rime* hete]. 14.. *Ibid.* (C.) 1196 He..smete in a grete swowne.

δ. 3–5 smette, 5 smet; 3 smatte, 4 smat.

These would normally represent an OE. **smætte,* pa. t. of **smætan,* corresponding to MHG. *smeizen.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2684 He bi-loc hem & smette a-mong. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 607 Þe sarazins he smatte þat his blod hatte. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8540 Hengist ageyn anoþer smat [*rime* sat]. *Ibid.* 16371 Þey smette to-gedere so bitterlyke. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 4187 Lamedoun...smet A riche cercle from his basenet. 1470 *Maldon Court Rolls* (Bundle 47, No. 4), Turned that other ende of the forke and smette hym.

ε. 6 smytt, smitt, 6–7 smit.

1561 Machyn *Diary* (Camden) 259 [It] smytt downe serten grett stones. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ii. 18 Vpon his

crest With rigour..he smitt. 1614 Gorges *Lucan* III. 115 The rowers one another smit. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 110 Great-heart..smit the head..from his shoulders.

b. *Pl. a.* 1 **smiton, 3–5 smiten, smyten, 4 smyton, 5 -yn; 3–4 smite, 4–5 smyte; 3–4 smitte(n, 4 smytte(n.**

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* F 387 *Funestauere*, smiton. *c* 1205 Lay. 5183 Heo smiten to-gædere. *Ibid.* 30097 Mid longe sweorden heo smitten. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 388 in *O. E. Misc.* 48 Hi..smyten [him] vnder þat ere. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xiv. 5 The kingis..smytyn Raphaym. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxii. (Arb.) 86 His seruauntis..smyten and bete the asse.

β. 3–5 **smete, 4–5 smeten, 5 smetin, -on.**

c 1275 Lay. 5183 Hii smete to-gaderes. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3988 They schotte to hem, and hard smeten. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 2897 On þer helmes þey smete. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 27 They smeton, beten, and wounded hym.

c. *Weak forms.* 5 **smit-, smytide, 9 smited.**

1388 Wyclif 2 *Kings* ix. 27 Thei smytiden hym. 1858 Kingsley *The Red King* 54 Tyrrel he smited..that day.

3. *Pa. pple. a.* 4 **y-, 5 i-smyten; 4–6 smyten (4–5 -yn, 5 -on, -un); 3–5 smiten (4 -in, -on).**

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3690 Ðor wurð ȝhe..wið lepre smiten. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iii. 7 Þou has smyten all contrari- and til me. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 378 Ysmyten wiþ goddis vengance. 1382 — *Gen.* xli. 6 Smytun with meldew. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 249 He..The Princes hefdes..Hath smiten of. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xv. 239 Than were the saisnes.. harde I-smyten. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* a vj, A crysten man had his hede smyten of.

β. 3 **hii-, 3–4 y-, 3–5 i-smite; 4 i-, 4–5 y-smyte; 4 (6 *arch.*) smite; 4–5 (6 *arch.*) smyte.**

c 1275 Lay. 10855 Hii smite he was in fihte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6186 Þer were duntes ariȝt ismite. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8047 (Kölbing), Mani paien to deþ [were] ysmite. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1323 As hyt hadde smyte oures twelve. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 123 He was i-smyte wiþ a palsy. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 117 Nowe hathe age y-smyte me. *c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* 366 þat boþe her hedis schulde be smyte of. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* II. vii. 17 Sum Greikis victouris war smyte [*v.r.* smite] deid.

γ. 4–5 **i-smeten; 4–5 smeten, -yn, 5 -on.**

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 477 He was i-smeten wiþ þe vice of pride. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 91 After prime be smeten. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 173 Now hathe age smetyn..My thryd feder. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 44 Roulland..had smeton hys vncle.

δ. 4 **i-, 5 y-smete; 4–5 smete, 5 smet.**

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11920 A lymme..smete yn pallesye. 13.. *Coer de L.* 4956 How the batayle was i-smete. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 369 Þe enemyes.. were i-smete wiþ blyndenesse. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* 35 With thys bytel be he smete. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smet, or smytyn, *percussus*.

ε. 4, 6- **smitten, 5–6 smytten (5 -yn, 6 -yne, smyttin).**

a 1400 *Cursor M.* 7603 Saul has smitten a thusand. *a* 1483 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 59 That the messes be smyttyn [etc.]. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* IV. iv. 238 To make theyre hedes to be smytten of. 1551 Bible *Isaiah* l. 2 Was my hande cleane smitten of? 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 65 Hys hond was smyttyne of. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 84. 340 By Saul they were..smitten.

ζ. 5–6 **smytte, 5 i-smyt, 5–6 smyt(t; 4, 6- smit.**

a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xliii. 144 Al for my misdede Was he so felli smit! 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lviii, Artow seke, or smyt with Ielousye? *c* 1425 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* 5254 (Digby MS.), Heueden þet were of smytte. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 123, I hope this gonne was well smytt. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 29 Smit with the love of sacred song.

η. 6–7 **smot, 6–9 smote; 7 smotten.**

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 46 Till thou in open field adowne be smot. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgm.* (1612) 309 To be smote with the edge of the sword. 1607 Hieron *Wks.* I. 473 Elah, smotten and killed while he was drinking. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 523 Turning the right cheek to him that has smote the left. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* II. VI. 676 What cities have they smote!

B. Signification.

I. *trans.* †**1.** To pollute, blemish. *Obs.*—[1]

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* F 387 *Funestauere*, smiton.

†**2.** To smear (a substance) *on* something. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Exod.* xii. 7 Nymon of his blode and smiton on æsðer gedyre.

II. 3. To administer a blow to (a person, etc.) with the hand, a stick, or the like; to strike or hit; to beat or buffet; to slap or smack. Now *rhet.* and *rare*.

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. v. 39 ðyf hwa þe smite on þin swiðre wænge. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 503 He smot him a litel wiȝt & bed him beon a god kniȝt. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxvi. 67 Thanne thei spitten in to his face, and smyten hym with buffetis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 3 He makith sorowe nowe ..For he smot not þe ymage [with the arrow]. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 29 Dispituouslie syne [they] did him smyt. *a* 1608 Dee *Relat. Spirits* (1659) I. 82 He smit the round Table with his rod. 1675 J. Owen *Indwelling Sin* xii. (1732) 147 The Case was the same with Asa in his Anger, when he smote the Prophet. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 109 The Fairy..smote him on the Shoulder with a Golden Wand. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* IX. 708 Oft would she smite the earth. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* viii, Half pausing for an instant now and then to smite his pocket. *Ibid.* xxxix, He smote Mr. Tappertit on the back.

fig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Smit him anonriht mid to ȝerde of tunge schrifte. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 310 To smyte hem with the same rodd With which I am of love smite. 1611 Bible *Jer.* xviii. 18 Come and let vs smite him with the tongue. [Also in earlier versions.] 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *To smite one's tutor*, to get money from him.

b. To strike with the foot († or spur). Also said of the foot. Now *rhet.* or *poet.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4059 Mani he smot of fot & fest. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3398 Sire Morice of Mounclere His stede smot [*v.r.* prekyd] aȝenes Sabere. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Wallace* xxxvii, And proudly smote the ground with firmer tread. 1829 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 110 Happy that the virago's foot did not even smite him. 1842 Tennyson *Morte d'Arth.* 190 Juts of slippery crag that rang Sharp-smitten with the dint of armed heels.

c. To strike or touch (a harp, etc.) so as to produce musical sounds. Now *poet.*

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 777 Eke whan men harpe strynges smyte,..Loo with the stroke the ayre to-breketh. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d j b, Then smyte youre tabur, and cry huff, huff, huff and make the fowle to spryng. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 682 Ah, tinkling cymbal,..Smitten in vain! such music cannot charm [etc.]. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 34 Love took up the harp of Life, and..Smote the chord of Self. 1847 — *Princ.* IV. 38 A maid, Of those beside her, smote her harp, and sang.

†**d.** *Naut.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[o]

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) s.v. *Smitting*, This Line is called a Smitting Line. Soe they smite the missen, that is pull the Roape that the Saile maie come downe. [Hence in Harris and later Dicts.]

4. Of the Deity, in or after Biblical use: To visit with death, destruction, or overthrow; to afflict or punish in some signal manner. (Cf. 8 b.)

c 1150 *Canterbury Ps.* iii. 8 Forðæn þu ofsloze *vel* smite ealle wiðerȝiende me. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* civ. 34 He smate al firstkinned in land of þa. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 189 The hond of hevene him smot In tokne of that he was forswore. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 126 þe more þat god smyteth hem wyth his wreche. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxv. 38 The Lorde smote him, so yᵗ he dyed. 1611 Bible *Ps.* lxix. 26 Let none dwell in their tents. For they persecute him whom thou hast smitten. *a* 1737 Abp. Wake (J.), Let us not mistake God's goodness, nor imagine, because he smites us, that we are forsaken by him. 1784 Cowper *Task* VI. 464 The Governor of all..has interpos'd, Not seldom, his avenging arm, to smite Th' injurious trampler upon nature's law. 1843 Whittier *C. Southwick* 142 The Lord shall smite the proud, and lay His hand upon the strong.

5. To strike with a weapon, etc., so as to inflict serious injury or death; also, to strike hard with a cutting tool. Now *rhet.* or *poet.*

Freq. const. *through*, *upon*, etc. (a certain part). *To smite ..hip and thigh*: see Hip *sb.*[1] 2 d.

c 1205 Lay. 6503 þe king droh his sweord,..and þet deor he smat a-nan uppe þat hæued-bæn. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4473 Lucye þe senatour was mid a spere þoru ysmite. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6671 Qua smites man in wil to sla, He sal him-self be slan alsua. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* VI. 136 He smat the first sa rygorusly Vith his spere,..Till he doun to the erd hym bare. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi. 43 In þat place sawe Dauid þe aungell smytand þe folk with a swerde. *c* 1450 *Contin. Brut* 423 There this persone smote this ffrere Randulf, and sloue hym. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VI. iii. 46 Smyte with the ax did rair the aikis hie. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. ix. 29 Ne yeelded foote,..But being doubly smitten likewise doubly smit. 1641 G. Sandys *Paraphr. Song of Solom.* v. ii, The Watch..In this pursuit the Afflicted found: Smot, wounded [etc.]. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* IV. 427 He smote was with a Spear into the Brain. 1842 Tennyson *Morte D'Arth.* 25, I am so deeply smitten thro' the helm That without help I cannot last till morn. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama Exile* 64 This the sword..That smote upon the forehead, Lucifer The angel.

refl. c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 915 *Thisbe*, To the herte sche hire self smot. 1514 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 103 The said Ranalde, with a small knyff that he had secrett, smott hym self.

fig. c 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 66 Deeth menaceth euery age and smyt. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 35 That blinded God, which hath ye blindly smit, Another arrow hath. 1813 T. Busby *Lucret.* I. III. 1250 Great Homer lives no more, Smote, like the rest, by Time's relentless power. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* III. 176 From my breast the involuntary sigh Brake, as she smote me with the light of eyes.

b. With compl. *to death* (cf. Death *sb.* 12) or *dead*. Also in fig. context.

c 1200 Ormin 14677 Abraham..hoff þe swerd..To smitenn itt [*sc.* Isaac] to dæde. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8047 (Kölbing), Mani paien to deþ [were] ysmite Wiþ swerdes of stiel. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 322 What smyth þat ony [weapon] smytheth be smyte þerwith to dethe. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* V. ix. 91 In the skyis [he] smate hir deid. 1819 Shelley *Lines Castlereagh Admin.* ii, The abortion with which she travaileth Is Liberty, smitten to death. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxviii. 113 When those monster birds..his arrow Smote to the death.

c. In or after Biblical use: To strike, or strike down, in battle; to kill, slay.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3971 þat quils esau smat an o þe tua þe toþer party suld scape him fra. 1382 Wyclif *Josh.* vii. 5 The whiche..ben smyten of the men of the cytee of Hay. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Josh.* x. 19 Followe after your enemies, and smite all the hindemost. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 309 He caused..the Citie of the Priests to be smote with the edge of the sword. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 84. 340 By Saul they were once, and again smitten: and finally by David they were utterly vanquished. 1754 Young *Centaur* II. Wks. 1757 IV. 136 Not Babylon alone has been smitten at a banquet, and perished in its joys.

†**6.** Of birds or animals: To strike with beak, claw, horn, hoof, etc. *Obs.*

c 1205 Lay. 20172 Hauekes hine [the crane] smiteð. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 78 Al þat þu myht myd clyure smyten. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. vii. (1868) 80 þe bee..stynge þ þe hertes of hem þat ben ysmyte. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxi. 28 If an oxe with the horn smyte a man. 14.. *Lat. & Eng. Prov.* (MS. Douce 52) fol. 16 While þe hors kykys war that he the ne smyte.

7. a. Of hail, lightning, flame, etc.: To strike and injure; to destroy, blast.

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* ix. 25 The hawle smoot..alle that weren in feeldes,..and al erbe of the feelde smoote the hawle. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 63 Romulus was i-smyte wiþ liȝtnynge. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3755 Whan the flawme of the verry brond..Had Bialacoil with hete smete. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 343 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 233 A man had ben as good as haue be smytten with thonder, As to haue a stroke of hys hand. 1535 Coverdale *Exod.* ix. 31 Thus the flax and the barlye were smytten. *c* 1630 Milton *Arcades* 52, I .. heal .. what the cross dire-looking Planet smites. 1760 Sterne *Serm.* III. 136 The hopeful youth..; some cruel distemper lays him prostrate upon the earth, smit and shrivelled up with a malignant blast. 1813 T. Busby *Lucret.* II. VI. 676 Eruptive winds, what cities have they smote! 1820 Shelley *Vis. Sea* 61 Six the thunder has smitten, And they lie black as mummies.

b. To beat or dash against (something).

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 248 þe more grauel & sonde is smet & betyn wyth flodys of þe se, þe more salt & bytter it is. 1624 Quarles *Job Militant* III. 43 Which [wind] with a full-mouth Blast Hath smote the House. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* I. 440 With the din Smitten, the precipices rang aloud. 1839 Longf. *Hyperion* ii. 6 The storm-wind smites the wall of the mountain cliff.

c. Of sunlight, etc.: To beat or shine strongly upon. Also in fig. context.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 28 As thy eye beames, when their fresh rayse haue smot The night of dew [etc.]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 244 Where the morning Sun first warmly smote The open field. 1788 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) II. 107 On an open plain smote by the summer's sun. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 54 Far up the solitary morning smote The streaks of virgin snow. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 43 A broad beam of the garish light Smote with a glory her golden hair.

8. Of diseases, distempers, etc.: To attack, affect suddenly or grievously. Freq. in pa. pple., and const. *by* or *with* (a malady, etc.).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3690 Ðor wurð ȝhe ðanne wið lepre smiten. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11920 A lymme þat ys..smete yn pallesye. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 123 Constantyn was i-smyte wiþ a strong meselrie. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11817 (Trin.), þe palesy smoot his oon side. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxi. (1687) 379 You may as well desire..to have a Dead Palsie smite your loyns. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 446 Abbot Mannig..had been smitten by paralysis.

transf. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 179 A province considered even at Petersburg as smitten with sterility. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. I. i, A France smitten..with plague after plague.

b. Of personal agents, or of the Deity (cf. 4).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20957 A jugelur wit blindnes he smat. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 126 þey se noȝt how god smyt hem in here body, wyth sykenes & tribulacyoun. 1535 Coverdale *Zech.* xiv. 12 This shalbe the plage, wherwith yᵉ Lorde wil smyte all people. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 30 He forgat himselfe, till the Lord smot him with the plague.

9. To infect, imbue, impress, strike suddenly or strongly *with* some feeling or sentiment. Chiefly in pa. pple.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15643 Wit strang dred he smiton was. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 136 Withoute good discrecioun This king with avarice is smite. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lviii, Artow seke, or smyt with Ielousye? 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxi. 6, I am afrayed, and my flesh is smytten with feare. 1622 Fletcher *Prophetess* III. i, 'Twas I that..smote ye all with terrour. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 562 But Satan smitten with amazement fell. 1718 Pope *Iliad* I. 354 Smit with love of honourable deeds. 1829 Hood *E. Aram* 50 The Usher took six hasty strides, As smit with sudden pain. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 7 Tyrants, who, when at the height of greatness, were smitten with remorse.

10. Of the heart, conscience, etc.: To discompose or disquiet (one); to affect painfully.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Sam.* xxiv. 10 The herte of Dauid smoot hym, aftir that the puple is noumbred. 1611 Bible 1 *Sam.* xxiv. 5 Dauids heart smote him, because he had cut off Sauls skirt. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 5 May 1659, My heart smote me for it. 1805–6 Cary *Dante's Inf.* XIX. 121 Meanwhile, as thus I sung, he, whether wrath Or conscience smote him, violent upsprang. 1886 'H. Conway' *Living or Dead* II. v, I said good-bye with a coldness for which my heart smote me.

b. To distress or perturb (a person, the mind, conscience, etc.).

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1366 Thi febyll wordis sall nocht my conscience smyt. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxiv. 5 It smote him afterwarde in his hert, because he had cut of the typpe of Sauls garment. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 104 A greefe that smites [*pr.* suites] My very heart at roote. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* VII. xxii, Her flight..smote my lonesome heart more than all misery.

11. To strike or impress (the mind, etc.) favourably or attractively. Chiefly in pa. pple. and const. *with*.

1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 158 They note the pretty stories,..and here and there a small sentence which smites their fancy. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* III. 229 See now, what Dulness and her sons admire! See what the charms, that smite the simple heart. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 560 Smit with the beauty of so fair a scene. 1847 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* (1857) 3 Smit by the singular ingenuity of the philosophic infidel. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 191 Plato is smitten with some features of government which he finds in Egypt.

b. To inspire or inflame with love; to enamour. Chiefly in pa. pple. and const. *with* or *by*.

1663 Pepys *Diary* 1 Jan., Lord Chesterfield..is..put away from Court upon the score of his lady's having smitten the Duke of Yorke. 1677 Miège *Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To smite a man, or cause him to fall in love with her. 1687 — *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To be smitten with a Woman, to be passion-

ately in love with her. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ¶ 3 Phillis one Day..smote the Heart of a gay West-Indian. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. xiv. 243 He soon gave me to understand he was smitten with the Landlady. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xvii, Young Lieutenant Spatterdash..was evidently and quickly smitten by Mrs. Crawley. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. iii. (1875) II. 32 Hath one of you a girl with whom he's smitten?

12. Of thoughts: To strike or occur suddenly to (a person).

1870 W. M. BAKER *New Timothy* 104 (Cent.), A sudden thought smote her.

III. 13. To strike or cut *off* (the head, a limb, etc.) with a slashing blow. (Common in ME.)

c 1205 LAY. 9204 He lette smiten him of þæt hæfde. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 198 in *O. E. Misc.* 43 Seynte peter.. smot of Malkes ere. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1817 *Lucrece*, Men myghte smyte of hire arm or hed. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 222 He and Frelent were besy to smyte of his heed. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 674 He..commaunded his heade there to be smitten off. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 203 With his own hands cut his throat and smoat off his head.

b. To strike or knock, to drive or force with a blow or stroke, *away*, *back*, *from*, *off*, *out*, *over*, etc. (Common in ME.) Also *transf.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6705 Qua smites vte his thains eie. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* x. 14 Smytith awey the dust fro 3oure feet. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 438 How he lost hys steris-man, Which that the stere..Smote ouer borde. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 73 Now hathe age y-smete me fro My pryncipall feder of Iolyte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* III. vi. 106 Syre gauayne smote hym of his hors. 1535 COVERDALE *Susanna* i. 25 Then ranne there one to the orcharde dore, & smote it open. 1559 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 207 Hytt brust in pesses, and on pesse..smott on of ys leg[s] a-way. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 393 Repressing or smiting backe the swelling incident to wounds. 1684 [see A. 2 a. e].

14. To knock, beat, or strike *down* († *adown*), *to the earth* or *ground*. (Common in ME.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 316 Hov is þat hit..smit a-doun wel grete treon? *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 639 Hi gonne me assaille, ..I smot hem alle to grunde. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1185 Thre stedes heoddes doun ryght, He smot at strokes thre. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 172 To ground he smat him quhar he stud. 1530 PALSGR. 723/1 This wynde hath smytten downe almost all my corne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 28 With that her mortall speare She mightily auentred towards one, And downe him smot. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* xx. 39 Surely they are smitten downe before vs. 1858 SEARS *Athan.* II. xii. 250 He..smote him blind to the earth beneath the blaze.

fig. *c* 1330 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 339 That is muchel reuthe to wite, That alle manere godnesse is thus adoun i-smite. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxliii[i]. 3 For the enemie ..smyteth my life downe to the grounde. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. 249 The last hopes of the House of Godwine had been smitten to the ground.

†**b.** With *down*. To droop or lower (one's head or countenance). *Obs.*

c 1305 in Wright *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 193 When the Kyng of Fraunce y-herde this tydynge, He smot doun is heved. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 540 With that he smot his heed adoun anone, And gan to motre. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 80 Downe she smote her visadge.

15. a. To hew, cut, chop, or break in pieces, fragments, etc. Const. with preps., as *a*, *in*, *on*, *to*. Also in fig. context. (Common in ME.)

a 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 495 Þe chine he smot atvo. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 21593 (Fairf.), In foure pecis þai hit smate. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 109 A firy thonder sodeinly He sende, and him to pouldre smot. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxii. 126 Smite the gurdill [of lechery] in thre, *scil.* in prayer, fastyng, and almesdede. 1530 PALSGR. 723/1 He hath smytten his harnayes al to peces. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* xxxvi. 10 Smite in sunder the heads of the rulers.

b. To bring *into* a certain condition by, or as by, striking. Also with adj. compl. *rare.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 46 Þei were a partie smyten in to elde. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 67 If we look not wisely on the Sun it self, it smites us into darknes. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. vii, Rabidity smites others rabid.

†**16. a.** To strike (fire) from a stone or other hard substance. Cf. SLAY *v.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 237 He brouȝte a fuyr-Ire ant a ston, Þare-with to smite me fuyr. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxvi. 298 Whan þe nyȝt com, þe maide..smot fire at a stone. 1616 B. JONSON *Barriers* Wks. 966 When in a day of honour fire was smit. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* vii. 115 He nameth four of other colours, forth of which fire is smitten.

†**b.** To let out (blood) by lancing. *Obs.*[—1]

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 58 Take a bloud-yren, and set it streight vppon the vayne, and smyte him bloudde on bothe sydes.

17. To strike, deal, or give (a blow, stroke, etc.).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4441 Vewe duntes hii smite. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1148 Grete boffetes among me him smot. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 72 Thei smyten strokes bot a fewe. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 424 Merlin..drough that wey..smytinge grete strokes from oke to oke. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* lvi. 152 She smotte grete strokes with her swerde. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Snow Image*, etc. (1879) 84 A terrible blow shall be smitten.

†**b.** To engage in or fight (a battle). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 269 Hii smite þer an bataile hard an strong inou. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 14 Under Elendoune þe bataile was smyten. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXVII. i. 6 Syxe batayles agayne King Knout he smote. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XL. l. 1091 [He] smit a brave and fortunate battaile with the Vaccei. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 317 This battell was smitten in the yeare of Grace 457.

†**c.** To make or produce (a wound, etc.) by smiting. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* i. 298 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 ȝif a gret wounde..be..with a wepyn wyckydly smetyn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arth.* II. xviii. 97 They hadde eyther smyten other seuen grete woundes. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xix. 8 Dauid wente forth..and smote a greate slaughter, so that they fled before him. 1582 MUNDAY *Brief Discourse* in Arb. *Garner* VIII. 215 *note*, Drawing his dagger, he smit a great hole in it.

18. To drive, hammer, knock, strike (a thing) with some degree of force *against*, *into*, *on*, etc., something else.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6261 In þe see his wand he smat. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4422 Nemny bar þe scheld o sker, & Iulius smot his sword ouer fer. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3678 Smeten was smaragdans in-to þe smeth werkis. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 165 Make pinnys of wylowe and smyte them faste in. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 176 His falchion on a flint he softly smiteth. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* iv. 21 Then Iael..went softly vnto him, and smote the naile into his temples. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 Then the Smiter of Irons..smites them upon the Monie. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. ii, Large clubs, which they smite angrily against the pavement! *Ibid.* II. I. xii, Each smiting heartily his palm into his fellow's.

b. To strike, dash, or clap *together* († *samen*) or *against* each other.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11998 Iesus samen [*Trin.* togider] his handes smat. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxliii. (1495) 946 Cymbales..ben smytte togider and sowneth and ryngeth. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xiii. 2 Yf y^e^ one be smytten agaynst the other, it shal be broken. 1611 BIBLE *Numb.* xxiv. 10 Hee smote his hands together. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* vi. 102 Which rubbed hard or smitten together forcibly,.. give sparks of fire. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 86 But when he saw the wonder of the hilt, ..he smote His palms together.

†**c.** *refl.* (Cf. sense 24.) *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25605 Þes drake and beore..smiten heom togaderen mid feondliche ræsen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8323 Hii bisegede vaste the toun, so þat the þridde day þe cristine ost smot him out. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 120 So that ayein a Roche of Ston..He smot himselfe til he was ded. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* lx. 158 [They] ranne soone to fetche theyr armures. And thenne Turnus smote hym selfe in to the troians.

†**d.** In pa. pple. Stuck (*full*) *of*, studded or set thickly (with). *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5424 With corouns on hede, As it smytten ware all..of smaragdens fine. *c* 1460 *Contin. Brut* 518 His brigantines smytten ful of gylted nayles.

†**19. a.** To make or contract (an agreement, etc.).

c 1325 *Lei le Freine* 322 Treuthe [was] plight. Allas! that he no hadde y-wite, Er the forward were y-smite. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxi. 27 Bothe thei smyten a boond of pees. 1596 H. CLAPHAM *Brief Bible* I. 31 Iehovah appeareth and smiteth a Covenant with him.

†**b.** To strike or coin (money). *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 238 Edward did smyte rounde peny, halfpeny, ferthyng. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 138 Er gold was smite In Coign. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 258/1 That the Maister of the Mynte do smyte.. half nobles. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* xv. 6, I geue the leaue to smyte money of thine owne.

†**c.** To hew or cut (a step). *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3342 Of a Smeth smaragadane Smyten was þe toþir [step].

†**d.** To cut off (a helping of meat). *Obs. rare.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 59 That the messes..be smyttyn in a suffycyaunt and according manner.

†**20. a.** To strike (an hour); to announce or notify by sounding a bell. *Obs.* (Cf. 21 c.)

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1323 In the castell ther was a belle, As hyt hadde smyte oures twelve Therewyth I a-wooke my selve. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 60 Ho-so komys aftyr prime be smytyn, he xal pay..j. *d.* *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 373 Whylst..the president smytethe allign [*sc.* all in], the couente schal stonde in the freytour.

†**b.** To discharge (a cannon). *Obs. rare.*

c 1450–75 in Halliw. *E. Eng. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 52 That gonne was welle smet, Thoȝ it had be with a stonne.

IV. *absol.* or *intr.* **21.** To deal or give a blow or blows; to strike, deliver strokes. Also with advs., as *on*, *out*. †Of a horse: To kick or fling.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Bute we turnen to gode..he wile smite mid bredlinge swuerde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 316 No wonder þei it smite harde. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 404 A lokeþ, as a wolde smite Wiþ is bat. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* iv. 8 If he seie to smyten, thei smite. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 10248 Mases of yron .. for to smyte wele. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 363 'Smyt on,' he said, 'I defy thine actioune'. 1530 PALSGR. 723/1 You smyte to harde. 1535 COVERDALE *Luke* xxii. 49 Lorde, shal we smyte with the swerde? 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* 178 If he see that he beginne not to smite and snort,..he shall leade him by the reines out of the stable. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 250 Satan..Saw where the Sword of Michael smote. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iii, Louis..clutched the tongs, and even smote with them. 1890 DOYLE *White Company* vii, There was one, indeed,..who smote out like a true man.

fig. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1456 Yeur wyff woll sikirliche..smyte with hir tunge. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* II. xix, That God that smit, oh, mooue that God to heale.

b. To strike *with* a hammer in doing smith-work; now *spec.* to strike with the sledge.

1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xli. 7 A smyth of metal smytynge with an hamer. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ibid.*, So the workeman comforted the founder, & he that smote with the hammer, him that smote by course. 1881 T. HARDY *Laodicean* I. iv, The husband used to smite for Jimmy More the blacksmith. 1888 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 685 The smith *hammers*, the assistant *smites*.

†**c.** Of a clock: To strike, chime. *Obs.*

1448–9 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 383 He wold ..neuer go to werke till the clocke smyte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIV. xii. 681 Thenne he herde a clok smyte on his ryght hand. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Order of Church in Denmark* in tr. *Calvin's Treat. Sacrament* E iij b, Whan the clocke smyteth (which is comenly .vii. in Sommer, & .viii. in wynter).

22. To strike, deliver a blow or stroke, etc., *at*, *on*, or *upon* (also † *to*) something.

c 1205 LAY. 23963 Frolle..a-dun riht sloh, and smat an Arðures sceld. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 231 He gan i-mete þis luþere fisch, and smot to him faste. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1043 So harde þe smitest vpon me kroun. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) I. 99 So ofte must men on the oke smyte, til the happy dent have entred. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 1204 [Menelaus] smette at him with his scharpe swerde Vp-on þe hede. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxxi. 624 Ye shull smyte vpon hem of that other partye. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxxi. 19, I shall smyte vpon my thee. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* vii. 17, I will smite with the rod..vpon the waters which are in the riuer.

transf. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 33 Love took up the harp of Life, and smote on all the chords with might.

b. Of things, in lit. or fig. uses.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 5075 On hillis hiȝe gan his bemys smyte. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 298 The torrid Clime Smote on him sore besides. 1837 WHITTIER *Fountain* 88 Iron clang and hammer's ringing Smote upon his ear. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 15 The words smote heavily on Eliza's heart.

†**23.** To come *together* (or *samen*) in conflict.

c 1205 LAY. 5183 Heo smiten to-gædere; helmes þere gullen. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2109 Þe ranc he hauen ðo ouercumen, To-samen it smiten. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* ii. 22 Kingis and cites smitende togidere. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 1893 Now þey smyten faste samen: I wot, ther was lytull gamen. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xviii. 142 [They] smote to gyders with her swerdes that her sheldes flewe in cantels. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 8 As when a Gryfon..A Dragon fiers encountreth..: With hideous horrour both together smight.

b. To come *together* with some degree of force; to strike or dash *on* or *against* something.

c 1275 LAY. 1788 Þe sipes smiten o þan strond. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 69 And euere þat watur bi-hinden him smot to-gadere þere. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), By hardenes of boones þat smyteþ and meueþ togedres. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 6 His knees smote one agaynst the other. 1611 BIBLE *Nahum* ii. 10 The heart melteth, and the knees smite together. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IV. i, The old man took the oars, and soon the bark Smote on the beach.

†**24.** To shoot or move rapidly; to dart, rush.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 507 in *O. E. Misc.*, Vt of his ðrote it smit an onde. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ase swifte..ase is þe sunne gleam, þet smit from east into þe west. 13.. *K. Alis.* 494 (Laud MS.), Þe lyoun smoot in to þe Est. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* CXXX. 194 Thyse thre smote in emong the .xxx. turkes.

25. To strike, to pass or penetrate, *in*, *into*, or *through* something.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 316 ȝwane þe wynd and þat fuyr smiteth þoruȝ þe watur-cloude. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 362 The deeth he feeleth thurgh his herte smyte. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 323 Þe smoke and þe smorþre þat smyt in oure eyen. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 377 In my face the levening smate. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11824 (Trin.), Þe fester smoot þour3e his body. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xix. 10 The iauelynge smote in the wall. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vi. 187 From whence the objects of dread and admiration..smite and insinuate themselves into their senses. 1869 TENNYSON *Coming Arthur* 57 But Arthur..Felt the light of her eyes into his life Smite on the sudden.

†**b.** To give pain *to* one's heart. *Obs.*

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1481 Hit smot to hornes herte So bitere þat hit smerte. *c* 1450 *Coventry Myst.* 81 3our swemynge smytyht to myn hert depe.

†**c.** To occur suddenly to one. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 20 It smate in his mynd þat it was bod ane illusion of þe devull.

†**26.** To change, pass, fall, *into* something. *Obs.*

c 1305 *St. Dunstan* 74 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 36 Treoflinge heo smot her and þer in anoþer tale sone. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1763 With smoþe smylyng & smolt þay smeten in-to merþe. 14.. *Guy Warw.* (C.) 1196 To þe erthe he felle downe And smete in a grete swowne.

Smiter (sməi·tər). Also 3 **smitar**, 4 **smitter**, 4–7 **smyter**, 5 **-ere**. [f. SMITE *v.* + -ER[1]. So Fris. *smiter*, Du. *smijter*, G. *schmeisser*, etc.]

1. One who smites, strikes, or buffets; a beater, striker.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Heo wule..aȝein þe smitare beoden uorð hire cheoken. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6685 Þe smiter sal quite his lechyng, And þe scath of his liging. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* l. 6 My bodi I ȝaf to the smyteres, and my chekes to the pulleris. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxv. 280 Whan a lyon is wounded he..resyth on the smyter. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* xxvii. 7 Smyteth he not his smyter, as euel as he is smytten himself? — *Lam.* iii. 30 He offreth his cheke to the smyter. 1608 A. WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 477 The smiter was to bee apprehended. 1664 J. TOMBES (*title*), Saints no Smiters; or, Smiters Civil Powers not the Work of Saints. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* III. viii, Therefore came I..To smite the smiter with the scimitar. 1870 JEBB *Sophocles' Electra* (ed. 2) p. vi, Pelops, smiter of horses.

fig. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. 118 Lanfranc shone forth as the irresistible smiter of heresy.

†**b.** [After L. *percussor*.] An executioner. *Obs.*

a 1380 *Virg. Antioch* 253 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 30 A smiter ȝif þer beo to day, Me to sle, nou icomen in [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 61 The batayl of my stryf fulfylled, I abyde the swerd of the smyter. *c* 1440 CAPGR. *St. Kath.* v. 1885 The mayde leyde foorth hir nekke fayr & white, And thus she seyde on-to the smytere thoo.

c. One who applies a thing by striking. *rare*[—1].

1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 41 Then the Smiter of Irons, after they be graved, smites them upon the Monie.

d. *dial.* (See quot.)

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words, Smiter*, one who does any thing with energy; or in a striking manner.

2. †**a.** A weapon with which one smites; a sword, a scimitar. *Obs.*

Partly, if not entirely, suggested by *simiter* 'scimitar'.

1591 Lyly *Endym.* I. iii, It is my Simiter; which I by construction often studying to bee compendious, call my Smyter. 1593 Nashe *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 202 Put vp thy smiter, O gentle Peter. 1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* IV. iii, Put thy smiter up, and hear; I dare not tell the truth to a drawn sword. 1648 *Leg. Capt. Jones* 2 His fatall Smiter thrice aloft he shakes.

b. *Cant.* An arm. *rare* —⁰.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* [Hence in Bailey, Grose, etc.]

3. A variety of fancy pigeon (see quot. 1778).

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 76 *Gyratices*,..Clappers, & Smiters. 1676 Willughby *Ornith.* II. xv. 132 *Percussores, Anglicè* Smiters. 1678 Ray tr. *Willughby* 182 Smiters.. do not only shake their Wings as they fly: But also..clap them so strongly, that [etc.]... Our Country-men distinguish between *Tumblers* and *Smiters*. 1778 G. White *Selborne* lxxxiv, Pigeons, and particularly the sort called smiters, have a way of clashing their wings, the one against the other, over their backs, with a loud snap. *c* 1800 D. Girton *Pigeon Fancyer* 107 The smiter..nearly resembles the tumbler, the size excepted, it being a much larger bird. 1854 Meall *Moubray's Poultry* 277 *Smiter.*—This sub-variety, if it ever existed as distinct, has now entirely disappeared.

attrib. 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. II. 614 Smiter Pigeon, *Le Pigeon batteur.*

Smith (smiþ), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **smiδ**, 4 **smiþ**, 3– **smith**, 5 (7) **smithe**; 2 **smyδ**, 3–4 **smyþ**, 4–7 **smyth** (5 **smyȝt**), 5–6 **smythe**; 4–5 **smeth**, 6 *Sc.* **smeith**. [Common Teut.: OE. *smiδ*, = OFris. *smeth*, *smid* (WFris. and EFris. *smid*, NFris. *smet*, *smer*, *smas*), MDu. *smit* (*smet*), *smid* (Du. *smid*), MLG. (and LG.) *smid*, *smed*, OHG. *smid*, *smit* (MHG. *smit*, *smid-*, G. *schmied*, † *schmid*), ON. *smiðr* (Icel. *smiður*, Norw. *smid*; MSw. *smiþer*, *smidher*, etc., Sw. and Da. *smed*); Goth. *smiþa* (in *aiwasmiþa* coppersmith) differs in declension. The relations of the stem are doubtful. The original sense was app. craftsman, skilled worker, in metal, wood, or other material, and this general use still remains in Icelandic.]

1. One who works in iron or other metals; *esp.* a blacksmith or farrier; a forger, hammerman.

Also freq. as a second element in combs., as *black-*, *copper-*, *gold-*, *gun-*, *iron-*, *lock-*, *silver-*, *tin-*, *whitesmith.*

In the early examples referring to Joseph, the word does not mean 'carpenter', but is simply used to render L. *faber.*

Beowulf 1452 Swa hine fyrndagum worhte wæpna smið. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 55 Ah ne ðis is smiðes *sel* wyrihta sunu? *c* 1000 Ælfric *Gramm.* xxxvi. 216 Syf ðu cweðst *hic cudo*,..ðonne byð hit nama, smið. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 51 He was buhsum ane deadliche manne, Iosepe ðe smiðe. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 59 in *O. E. Misc.*, Hi seyden, he is a smypes sune, ne beo we noht his frend. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23238 Als it war dintes on a stepi þat smythes smittes in a smeþey. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 159 He was a Smith With Jupiter, which in his forge Diverse thinges made him forge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxiii. 427 The Emperour..sente to seche a smyth to bynde hym in chaynes and feteres. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. xii, The forge of a smythe. 1530 Palsgr. 187 A farrer or a smythe that shoeth horses. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 193, I saw a Smith stand with his hammer (thus) The whilst his Iron did on the Anuile coole. 1657 Baxter *Call to Unconverted* (1666) 187 Like the Smiths dog, that is brought by custom to sleep under the noise of the hammers. 1704 T. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 49 By incessantly following his Blow, the Smith can bring Heat into his Bar of Iron. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 219 The first smith was the first murd'rer's son. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. ii. 83 The excellence of the ancient Celtic smiths.

fig. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. i. 237 True, every man is, *fortunæ suæ faber*, the Smith to beat out his own fortunes. 1687 Dryden *Hind & Panther* III. 1268 The Doves repented, tho' too late Become the Smiths of their own Foolish Fate.

2. In special collocations, as **smith's coal, craft, dust, water, work** (see quots., sense 3, Smithy *sb.* 4, and Smith-work).

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 175 It groweth..whereas there hath bene myning for Iron and *Smithes cole. 1881 Young *Every Man own Mechanic* 649 The fuel used is fine coal generally called 'Smith's coal' or 'slack'. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 229 Tubalcain fonde first *smythes craft and grauynge. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 69 A man may say they haue practised smithes craft all their lyfe. 1614 Ralegh *Hist. of World* I. I. vi. § 4 Tubal and Tubalcain (inuentors of pastorage, smiths-craft, and musick). 1568–9 *Sarum Churchw. Accs.* (Swayne, 1896) 283 Sande and *smythes dust, ad. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 33 Smiths-Dust is either the Scales beaten off at the Anvil, or Iron Filings. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) H iiij b, Julep of roses with a litle of *smiths water. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Ferraria aqua*, smithes water in the cole trough wher in they quench yron. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 84 Smiths water or other Metalline water. 1714 *French Bk. Rates* 331 Iron-Axels, Hinges, Axes, and such like *Smiths Work. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 381 Most of the smith's work is taken by weight.

†**b.** *Smith's balm* (see quot.). *Obs. rare.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 561 Smithes Bawme, or carpenters Bawme, is most singular to heale vp green wounds...: Dioscorides and Pliny [call]..this kind of Bawme..Iron woort.

3. *attrib.*, as *smith-shop*, *-tool*; also †**smith-coal**, smithy-coal; †**smith-man**, an iron-smelter; **smith ore** (see quot.); †**smith-water**, smithy water; †**smith-wife**, a female smith.

1521 *Maldon Liber B.* fol. 58 (MS.), Due naves onerate cum *Smythcoll. 1645–52 Boate *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* (1860) 124 In the place where this Mine standeth, do lie little Smith-coals above the ground. 1408 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XIV. 519 In stipendio Johannis Gylle, *smythman alias blomer. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 228 *Smith Ore, ..a rich brown hæmatite iron ore. 1899 *Daily News* 17 Nov. 5/2 At last there came a deputation from the boiler-shop and *smith-shop. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. I. i, He sends for his *smith-tools. 1541 Copland *Guydon's Forme.* R iv, [To] be put with *smyth water..tyll it be thycke. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 692 *Hec fabrissa*, a *smyth wyfe.

Smith (smiþ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 **smiðian**, 3 **smiðien**, **smipien**; 3 **smiðie**, 4 **smythye**, 5 **-ie**; 4–5 **smith-**, **smyth-**, 5 **smyþ-**, 7– **smith.** *β.* 1 **smeoðian**, 3 **smeodðien**, 4–6 **smeth-**, 5 **smeþ-**, **smethe.** [Common Teut.: OE. *smiðian*, *smeoðian*, = OFris. **smithia* (WFris. *smeije*, EFris. *smīthi*, NFris. *smēde*, *smēre*), MDu. and Du. *smeden*, MLG. *smeden* (LG. *smêden*, *smêen*), OHG. *smidôn* (MHG. *smiden*, G. *schmieden*, † *schmeden*), ON. and Icel. *smiða* (Norw. and Sw. *smida*, Da. *smede*), Goth. *gasmiþôn*, f. the stem of *smiþ-* Smith *sb.*

There is little evidence for the word from the 15th to the 19th cent., and the modern instances may be derived anew from the sb.]

1. *trans.* To make, construct, or fashion (a weapon, iron implement, etc.) by forging; to forge or smithy.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* III. 126 He..het him smiðian on smætum golde anre culfran anlicnysse. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 14/2 *Fabricata*, smeoþud. *c* 1205 Lay. 1563 Wa wrðe auer þene smið þa þe mid honden smeodðede [*c* 1275 smiþede]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Ofte a ful hawur smið smeoðið a ful woc knif. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 576 (Ellesm.), A smyth..That in his forge smythed plough harneys. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5515 þan made he smythis to..smethe him a chaiere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 To smethe, *fabricare*, *cudere*. 1647 Hexham I, To Smith, *smeden*. 1833 Keightley *Fairy Mythol.* I. 258 Sigurd took the very best sword That the Dwarfs had ever smithed.

fig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Al þes world is Goddes smiðde, uorte smeoðien his icorene.

b. To fashion articles out of (iron, etc.); to forge or hammer *into* an implement. *rare.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 136 *Homme forge fer et quiuere*, Man smethuth Irun and copur. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. III. 305 Alle þat bereth baslarde..Shal be demed to þe deth but if he do it smythye In-to sikul or to sithe.

c. To deal with by heating and hammering; to hammer or beat (a blade, etc.) on an anvil.

c 1400 *Vis. Tundale* (Wagner) 1077 Hem tought, þai were not smethed [*v.r.* smyþyd] inowe, But throwe a fire efte hem drowe. 1831 Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 281 The whole [penknife blade] is then smithed, or smartly hammered after it has ceased to be soft. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 683 The blade..is smithed or hammered, so as to make the saw quite flat. 1851–4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) I. 483/1 After forging, the blade is smithed, or beaten on an anvil.

2. *intr.* To work at the forge; to practise smith-work. Also *fig.*

c 1205 Lay. 30743 Brien enne smið funde, þe wel cuðe smiðie. *a* 1300 *E. E. Ps.* CXXVIII. 3 Ouer mi bak smithed sinful ai. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* CXXVIII. 3 Abouen my bak synful smythid. 1893 *Month* Feb. 198 Others sail-making, carpentering, smithing [etc.].

Hence **Smithed** *ppl. a.*

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 Pinnes..shalbe double headed,..wel smethed, the shanke wel shauen.

Smitham (smi·dăm). Forms: 7 **smithom**, 8–9 **smithum**, 9 **smithem**, 7–8 (9) **smytham**, 8–9 **smitham.** [var. of Smeddum, in sense 2 perh. associated with Smith *sb.* or *v.*]

1. The finest particles or dust of ground malt. Also *attrib.* Now *dial.*

1620 Markham *Farew. to Husb.* (1625) 61 Your Malt-dust which is the sprout, come, smytham, and other excrements of the malt. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improver Impr.* (1652) 127 That so it may receive part of Smithom-Meale. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 123 *Smithum*, the smallest of malt.

2. *Mining.* The finest part of lead ore, usu. obtained by passing through a sieve, and afterwards ground to powder.

1653 Manlove *Customs Lead Mines* 274 Trunks and Sparks of oar. Sole of the Rake, Smytham, and many more. 1681 T. Houghton *Compl. Miner* Gloss., *Smytham* is Lead Ore stamp'd and pounded down [etc.]. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* s.v. *Buddle*, They must have clear Water enough, otherwise the Smytham will look bad. 1778 Pryce *Min. Cornub.* 244 To separate and cleanse the Ore, which they call Smitham. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 751 The sediment called *smitham* is taken out, and piled up in heaps. 1865 Meteyard *Y. Wedgwood* I. 125 After the vessels are painted, they lead them with a sort of lead ore they call 'Smithum'.

3. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 228 *Smithem* or *Smytham.* 1. Fine slack. 2. Clay or shale between two beds of coal. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl. 53 *Smithum*, small coal, slack.

Smithcraft. Also 9 **smith-craft.** [f. Smith *sb.* Cf. OE. *smiðcræft.*] The work, craft, or art of a smith.

In Johnson's quotation from Raleigh the genuine reading is *smiths-craft* (see Smith *sb.* 2).

1755 in Johnson. 1860 *Artist & Craftsman* 425 If your locks want..picking to pieces, my old smithcraft may stand us in some stead. 1889 P. A. Bruce *Plantation Negro* 233 It is in smithcraft alone that he would have a wide..field.

†**Smithe.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **smiþþe**, **smiðþe**, 1, 3 **smiððe**, 3 **smiðe**, 4 **smyþþe**, **smyþe**; 1 **smeðe**, 5 **smeþe.** [OE. *smiþþe*, *smiððe* (:—**smiþjōn*, f. the stem of Smith *sb.* or *v.*), = OFris. *smithe*, *smitha*, MDu. and Flem. *smisse*, *smesse* (Du. *smidse*), OHG. *smiththa*, *smidda*; also OFris. *smitte*, *-a* (Fris. *smitte*), MDu. *smitte*, *smit*, OHG. *smitta*, *-e*, *-i* (MHG. *smitte*, G. dial. *schmitte*), and MLG. *smede* (LG. *smede*, *smê*), OHG. *smida* (obs. G. *smide*, *schmide*, now *schmiede*). Some of these forms are due to the influence of the word for *smith.* For the Scand. forms see Smithy *sb.*] = Smithy *sb.* 1.

a 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* V. xv. (1890) 442 He..gewunade in his smiðþan dæges & nihtæs sittan & licgan. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* I. 64 Gað to smiððan, and fandiað þises goldes. *c* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 23 Smeðe þær we ealle þas ðinc geornlice wyrcean. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Vrom mulne & from cheping, from smiðe,..me tiðinge bringeð. *c* 1305 *St. Dunstan* 60 in *E. E. P.* 36 A priuei smyþþe bi his celle he gan him biseo.

fig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 Al þes world is Goddes smiðde, uorte smeoðien his icorene.

Smi·ther, *sb. rare.* Also 5 **smythar.** [f. Smith *v.* + -er [1].] A smith or smithier; a hammerman.

1435 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 185 The Jorneymen..of all oþer Crafftes..except hakmen and smythers wurche in hur own houses and nott in hur masters housz. 1881 *Instruct. Census Clerks* 45 Cutlery:..Blade Smither. *Ibid.*, File Making: Forger. Heater. Striker. Smither.

†**Smi·ther,** *a. Obs.*—[1] ? Agile, active.

Perhaps an error for *swyper* Swipper *a.*

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xliii. 543 (Ireland MS.), Gauan was smyther and smerte, Owte of his steroppus he sterte.

Smithereens (smiðərī·nz), *sb. pl. colloq.* and *dial.* [var. of next, with Irish diminutive ending, and either adopted from, or the source of, mod. Ir. *smidirín.*] Small fragments; atoms. Usually in phrases *to knock*, *split*, *blow* (etc.) *to* or *into*, *to go to*, *smithereens.* Also *fig.*

1841 S. C. Hall *Ireland* I. 68 The harness that was broke into smithereens. *Ibid.* III. 303 The sun..split it into smithereens. 1861 Clara F. Bromley *Woman's Wand.* 189 A celestial worthy..whose prowess and exploits..seem to have beaten Saint George and the dragon quite to smithereens. 1883 Black *Shandon Bells* xxxiii, He'd have knocked the whole town to smithereens.

Smi·thers, *sb. pl. colloq.* and *dial.* [Of obscure origin; cf. prec.] = Smithereens.

1847 Halliw., *Smithers*, fragments; atoms. *Linc.* 1847 FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 171 One brother is a rascal—another a spend-thrift..—the family all gone to smithers. 1857 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 341 Having one's nerves 'all gone to smithers'. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiii, Blowed us into shivers and smithers.

Smithery (smi·þəri). [f. Smith *sb.* + -ery. Cf. Fris. *smidterij*, *smitterij*, Du. *smederij*, G. *schmiederei.*]

1. The trade, occupation, or art of a smith; smithcraft, smithing, smith-work.

1625 A. Gill *Sacr. Philos.* II. xxiv. 188 All the objects of Smithery, locks, guns, swords, and the like. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Somerset.* III. (1662) 21 More I have not to say of Dunstan, save that..his skill in Smithery was so great [etc.]. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 128 Their chief Handicraft, with which they are acquainted, being the Smithery. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Lock*, The Lock is reckon'd the Master-piece in Smithery. 1841 Faraday in Bence Jones *Life* (1870) II. 146, I love a smith's shop and anything relating to smithery. 1850 K. H. Digby *Compitum* III. 201 Different labours, such as..masonry, carpentry, smithery, and saddlery.

attrib. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. 128 Leave we him at the Furnace in Smithery-work.

b. In fig. uses.

1796 Burke *Let. to Noble Lord* Wks. II. 271 The din of all this smithery may some time or other possibly wake this noble duke. 1831 De Quincey *Whiggism in Relat. to Lit.* Wks. 1859 VI. 33 From all this sonorous smithery of harsh words..nothing adequate emerged.

2. The forge or workshop of a smith; a smithy; *esp.* in British Admiralty dockyards, the building in which the smith-work is done.

1755 in Johnson. 1861 *Times* 24 May 7/8 The ironworks at Chatham consisted of a mere wreck of a smithery. 1871 *Daily News* 5 Sept., An extensive range of black sheds near the sawmills in the Royal Arsenal..are about to be removed, and replaced by a large smithery.

Smithfield (smi·þfīld). [The name of a locality in London (orig. *Smethefield*, f. *smethe* smooth), long celebrated as a market for cattle and horses, and now the central meat-market.]

1. A cattle- or meat-market. *rare.*

1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 154 Hercules, to whom the Romans dedicated two temples, one of them in the Roman Smithfield or *Forum Boarium.* 1900 *N. & Q.* Ser. IX. VI. 389/2 In a Welsh paper I have just read that a certain lady..has offered to provide 'a free library and a Smithfield' for the town of Newton.

†**2.** *Smithfield bargain*, a sharp or roguish bargain, one 'whereby the purchaser is taken in' (Grose); also *transf.*, a marriage of interest, in which money is the chief consideration. *Obs.*

1662 J. Wilson *Cheats* V. v, Is not this better, than a Smithfield bargain? 1710 *Brit. Apollo* No. 77. 3/2 Sure Apollo will not encourage Smith-field Bargains. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* VI. x, The hearts of us women..are pleaded with to rise against the notions of bargain and sale.

Smithfield bargains you Londoners call them. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* v. i, To find myself made a mere Smithfield bargain of at last!

† b. So *Smithfield match*. *Obs.*—1

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. vi, He resolved never to marry his daughter on a Smithfield match; that whoever had love for her to take her, would, when he died, find her share of his fortune in his coffers.

Smithian (smi·þiăn), *a.* [f. the surname *Smith* (see defs.).]

1. Devised or suggested by William Smith (1769–1839), the founder of stratigraphical geology.

1819 *Phil. Mag.* LIV. 133 A stratigraphical or Smithian arrangement of the fossil shells.

2. Of or pertaining to, accepting or holding the principles of, Adam Smith.

The sbs. *Smithianism, Smithism*, have also been recently employed.

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 365/2 The successive rise and reign of three doctrines—the mercantile, the physiocratic, and the Smithian. 1891 W. S. LILY *Shiboleths* 198 The whole Smithian school of political economists.

Smithier (smi·ðiəɹ). Now *arch.* and *rare*. Also 5 **smythier**(e. [f. SMITHY *v.* + -ER, or in early use f. SMITH *v.* + -IER.] A smith. Also *fig.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxlviii. (1869) 134 Dame justice, the smythiere of vertues, and the forgeresse. 1435 *Coventry Leet Bk* 182 Then the Cardwirdrawers and the myddelmen most nedes bye the wire..of the smythiers. *Ibid.*, And then the smythier, lest he lost his Custemers, wolde make true goode. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. (1898) 89 And there was I, I Regin, the smithier of the snare.

Smithing (smi·þiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMITH *v.*] The action of the verb SMITH; the art or process of fashioning or forging metals; forging.

1435 *Coventry Leet Bk* 181 He..may..do myche harme.. in the smethyng, yif he be necligent & mysrule his Iron, that he wirkithe. *Ibid.* 184. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/1 A Smethynge, *fabricatura*. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc* Pref., I intend to begin with Smithing, which comprehends not only the Black-Smiths Trade, but takes in all Trades which use either Forge or File. 1831 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 89 In the forging of the blades just named, there is a final hammer process called smithing. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 227 *note*, Wheels for railways display many curious examples of smithing.

attrib. 1714 J WYETT *Suppl. to Ellwood's Life* (1765) 400 Not to use his own smithing Metaphors of *clinching* and *rivetting*. 1889 E. MATHESON *Aid Book Engin.* (ed. 2) 722 Hydraulic smithing-machines.

Smi·thsonite. *Min.* [Named by Beudant (1832), after James *Smithson* (1765–1829), who had distinguished it from calamine.]

1. Silicate of zinc.

c 1835 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 520/1 *Smithsonite*. Electric Calamine. *Ibid.* 527/1 *Smithsonite*. Silicate of Zinc. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallog.* 55 Smithsonite..is zinc silicate crystallised with one equivalent of water.

2. *U.S.* Carbonate of zinc.

For the difference between the English and the U.S. use of the word, see note on CALAMINE.

1856 DANA *Rudim. Treat. Min.* 86 Carbonate of Zinc (Calamine, Smithsonite). 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.* 251 *Smithsonite*,..found in drusy incrustations or in botryoidal or stalactitic forms.

Smi·th-work. [SMITH *sb.* Cf. MDu. *smedewerck* (Du. *smeedwerk*), MHG. *smidewerc* (G. *schmiedewerk*).] Work performed or done by a smith; also, the work or occupation of a smith.

1720 in *Jrnl. Derbysh. Archæol. Soc.* (1905) XXVII. 215 For smith worke, [£]o 3 2. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, He..determines on a little smith-work; and so..is learning to make locks. 1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Hand-tools* App. 56 The fitness of bar iron for shipbuilding and smith-work is tested by bending and punching it cold.

Smithy (smi·ði), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 **smiþi**, 5 **smyþi**; 5 **smythie**, 5–6 **-y**, 6 **-ye**, **smithee**, 6–7 **smithie**, 7– **smithy**; 4 **smeþi**, **smethi**, **smeþey**, 5–7 **smethey**, 5–6 **smethy**, 7 **smethie**. *β. Sc.* and *north. dial.* 6–7 **smydy**, 8 **smidy**; 5–6 **smyddy**, 6–9 **smiddie**, 6– **smiddy**; 5 **smede**, **smedye**, 6 **smedie**, 5–7 **smedy**, 6 **smeddy**. [ad. ON. *smiðja* (Icel. *smiðja*, Norw. *smidja*; MSw. *smidhia*, *smidia*, Sw. *smedja*, Da. *smedie*), = OE. *smiðde*: see SMITHE *sb.*]

1. The workshop of a smith; a blacksmith's shop; = FORGE *sb.* 2. Also occas., a portable forge.

a. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 23238 (Edin.), Als it war dintes of a stiþi þat smiþis smitis in þair smiþi [*Cott.* smeþey, *Gött.* smethi]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smythy, *fabricia*. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 289 Item, for bering of xxx waw of irn fra the marchant buthis to Thom Barkaris smythy, xlv d. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 247 One cotage or smythye and a garthyne. 1562 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 207 The Smethey. One paire of bellowes [etc.]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 572 In the smithies where brasse is made and wrought. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* XII. 390 His blazing Locks..hiss'd, like red hot Iron within the Smithy drown'd. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 10 July, Finding the tools of the defunct, together with some coals, in the smithy. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 486 It proved to be a moveable smithy, furnished with all tools and materials necessary for repairing arms and carriages. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 229 Not when I pass a smithy; for then the iron bars make a tremendous noise.

fig. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 204/1 The extent to which rivals in Paris, Liege, or Elberfield, were likely to supplant the great British smithy [Birmingham]. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* vii, They hammered at each other in the devil's smithy.

β. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 228 Quhar men war wirkand at a smedye [*v.r.* smyddy]. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 328 For tua laid of colis, in Melros, to the smyddy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 56 For smowking of the smydy. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 320 Item, in the smiddie, ane irne studie [etc.]. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment. Two Tales* 50 Those antient Verses..That Scholar well deserves a Widdie, Who makes his Study of a Smiddie. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 19 At Kirk or Market, Mill or Smiddie. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 122 Like..a vice in a smiddy. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 243 Kit had trysted with the orra-man to meet him at the smiddy.

† b. = BLOOMERY 1. *Obs. rare* —1.

1565 in West *Antiq. Furness* (1774) App. IX, The queen's majestie's woods..are like to fall into great decay..by reason of certain iron smithies there lately erected and demised.

2. Smithcraft; smith-work. *rare.*

1804 W. TAYLOR in *Crit. Rev.* III 541 Important inventions; as that of clothing, of fire, of smithy, of foundery. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 178 Details of the Expenses, ..Smithy, Carpentry, and Sawing, £1,701 19 0.

3. *attrib.*, as *smithy ashes, bellows, cur, dust, fire, vice, work*, etc.

1469–70 *Durh. MS. Rolls* (Surtees) 642 Le Smethyhouse infra Abbathiam. 1495 *Naval Accs. Hen. VII* (1896) 158 Smythy Bellowes. ij payer. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 762 Lyke a smythy kur. 1556 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 73 My smithie geare. 1611 COTGR., *Escume de Mareschal*, the refuse, or drosse of yron; smithie dust 1669 *Records Baron Crt. Stitchill* (S.H.S.) 54 For smydy werke, one pund eight shillings. 1677 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 241 Item for smiddy ashes, 1s. *a* 1837 NICOLL *Poems, The Smith* i, His grip was like a smiddy vice. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. vi, Smithy-fires..for the manufacture of arms.

4. Special combs.: **smithy-coals**, a kind of small coal used by smiths; **smithy-coom** (see quot. 1855); † **smithy-craft**, smith-craft, smith-work; **smithy-dander**, a forge cinder; **smithy lime**, a limestone layer of Aldstone Moor in Cumberland; † **smithy-man**, an iron-smith; † **smithy-miln**, a smithy in which the work is partly performed by water power; **smithy-slack, slag**, the shale or iron dust of a forge; † **smithy-water**, the water in which a smith cools his heated irons.

1482 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 169 Of ilk chaldir of *smethy colis vi d. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 157 The smithy coal of Balmule and Rosebank. 1611 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 161 Paide for beringe sand and *smethie come to the same lyme, xij d. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Smithycome* or *Smitticome*, the smith's iron dust or sweepings mixed with hot pitch as an impervious composition for the tops of wooden sheds. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vii. 107 The mychty God of fyr..to his *smyddy craft and forge hym spedis. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* iii, You cannot suppose that Harry Gow cares the value of a *smithy-dander for such a cub as yonder cat-a-mountain? 1833–4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 585/2 *Smiddy lime. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 410 A *smethymane thus was he thore..And blewe thaire belyes bloo. 1533–4 *Durh. Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 329 Cristofero Willey, le smedyman. 1583 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 9 b, Cutlersmylnes, *smethymylnes & all suche other. 1831 HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 194 This larger mass being generally..imbedded in *smithy-slack. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 1 Another looked upon *smithy slag and iron-dross as the finest ingredients. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 43 [The water] was blacker than *smythy water.

Smithy (smi·ði), *v.* Also 3 **smiðien**, 5 **smyþ-**, **smyth-**. [f. SMITHY *sb.* With the early examples cf. SMITH *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make or fashion by smithing; to forge or smith.

c 1205 LAY. 30749 Þe smið gon to smiðeȝe ane pic swiðe long. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 576 (Lansd.), A smyþe.. þat in his forge smyþeiþ plouhe hernays.

1839 BYWATER *Sheffield Dial.* 33, 1st. He moods t' blade. ..3rd. Then he smithies it. 1892 BROOKE *E. E. Lit.* II. 27 A famous coat of mail that Weland the great forgeman had smithied.

b. To weld *together* by forging.

1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 185 In others only every other ring is riveted, the alternate ones being smithied together.

2. *intr.* To practise smithing.

1866 DASENT *Gisli* 11 Gisli sat in the hall and smithied.

Hence **Smi·thied** *ppl. a.*, **Smi·thying** *vbl. sb.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xviii. 256 An hamer forto make a knyf in smythiyng. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 185 Each clinch ring grasps four smithied and..each smithied grasps four riveted. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 142 To do a bit of smithying up at the forge.

Smiting (sməi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMITE *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; beating, striking. Also *fig.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8874 (Kölbing), Wiþ smiteing & wiþ skirminge. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* xv. 6 Y suffre thee for to make smytyng, or printe, of thin own money. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 51 Þe skyn was noȝt cleuen alsone after þe smytyng. *c* 1491 CAXTON *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 74 Say thries this verse with smyting on the brest. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) 1 *Kings* xx. 37 The man smote him, and in smiting wounded him. 1660 J. TAYLOR *Worthy Comm.* i. iii. 55 It was not that smiting that beat the Syrians. 1694 J. KETTLEWELL *Comp. Penitent* III Father, let thy smiteing reclaim and amend me. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxv, It is but the smiting of an Egyptian when all is said out. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* ii. (1848) 29 Who does not feel within the smiting of conscience. 1887 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 417/3 It is not everybody..who could take such friendly smiting in this spirit.

attrib. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 188 The inflammation and smiting pain of the head.

b. With *a* and pl. An instance of this.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age Ch.* (1840) 32 Smyttingis to-gidere of folkis and hurtlynge to-gidere of rewmes. *a* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 A Smytyng, *iccio, percussio*. 1615 HIERON *Wks.* I. 598 No doubt our hearts would smite vs herein,..and happy should such secret smitings be. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 131 Least they be..severe beyond Gods smitings. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. v, Accelerated..by smitings, twitchings,—spurnings. 1860 PATMORE *Faithful for Ever* I. vii, In smitings as of silver bars.

2. *Smiting-line* (see quots.).

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) s.v., [The] Smitting-line is a small Roape which is made fast to the Missen yard arms. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 22 The missen hath but one [furling-line] called the smiting line. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Smiting-Line*, a line by which a yarn-stoppered sail is loosed, without sending men aloft. If well executed, marks the seaman.

Smiting (sməi·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 4 **smytende**. [f. SMITE *v.*] That smites, strikes, or beats.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xix. 29 Greithid ben to scorneres domes; and smytende hameres to the bodies of foolis. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* v. 57 Dire, as the Smiting Haile to new-ean'd Lambs. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1906) 93 One smiting word; and then there is silence. 1869 T. T. LYNCH *Church & St.* 10 The smiting strength of the lightning of God.

† **Smi·ttable**, *a. Sc. Obs.* In 5 **smytable**. [f. SMIT *v.*] Capable of being infected.

a 1500 in *Ratis Raving*, etc. (1870) 108 It kepis thaim oft tymis fra ill. Fore ful women are so smytable, And till al wykit wycis able.

Smitten (smi·t'n), *ppl. a.* [See SMITE *v.* A. 3 c.] That has been smit; beaten, struck. Also *absol.* with *down*.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3867 Ut of ðe smiten ston Ynoȝ hem sulde water gon. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlv. 7 Lord vprightys þe smytyn down. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 202 Sudden as the spark From smitten steel. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* XXX, Her voice just vibrating..like a smitten vase. 1888 H. JAMES *Reverberator* II. v. 122 A violation of sanctities,..a burning of smitten faces.

Smi·tting, *ppl. a.* Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* [f. SMIT *v.*] Infectious; contagious.

1562 TURNER *Baths* 2 If he be sieke in a smitting or infective disease. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Contagio*, an infection or smitting-sicknes. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* X xx b/1 Smiting, *pro* Contagious, Infectious, *vox agro Linc. usitatissima*. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 *Smitting*, infectious; catching, as a disease. 1858–61 RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (1870) 118 Gantin' may be *smittin'*. 1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorks. Folk-Talk* 73 But she did not think the complaint was smitting.

Smi·ttle, *a. north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 6 **smittel**(l, 9 **smittal**. [f. SMIT *v.* + -LE 1. Cf. MSw. *smitlol* in the same sense.] Infectious; contagious. Esp. of diseases, etc.

Smittle has also dialect currency as sb. and vb.; the latter is given by Ray (1674). The adj. *smittlish* is also recorded by Grose (1787) and others.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 760 Thair wald this halie bischope byde, Saying, forsuith, it was not smittell. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 38 The covetous infatuation Was smittle out o'er all the nation. 1781 in J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96. 1811– in dialect glossaries, etc. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* XXXVI, Get thy saddles off, lad, and come in; 'tis a smittle night for rheumatics.

Smoak, -ing, -y: see SMOKE, etc.

† **Smoch**, *a. Sc. Obs.*—1 (Meaning uncertain.)

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 364 Thou wald be fayn to gnaw.. smoch banis behynd doggis bakkis.

Smock (smɒk), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3 **smoc**, 3–5 **smok**, 4– **smock**, 5–6 **smokk**; 4–8 **smocke**, 5–6 **smokke**; 5–7 **smoke**, 6 **smoake**. [OE. *smoc*, = ON. *smokkr* (once, and perh. from OE.), OHG. *smoccho* (once); cf. also NFris. *smok* woman's shift (Helgoland, perh. from E.), neck-ruff (Sylt). The stem is probably related to that of OE. *smúgan* to creep, ON. *smjúga* to creep into, put on, a garment.

The sense of ON. *smokkr* is however not certain; it may be some special application of the later Icel. *smokkr*, Norw. *smokk*, sheath, sheath-formed case or receptacle, finger-stall, etc.]

1. A woman's undergarment; a shift or chemise. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (common down to 18th cent.).

For the use as a plant-name see LADY-SMOCK.

a 1000 in WR.-WÜLCKER 210 *Colobium*..., loþa, hom, *uel* smoc, mentel. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* Ibid. 125 *Colobium*, smoc, *uel* syrc. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire chemise [is] smal and hwit,..and hire smoc hwit. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 182 Are hire smok were of i-nome. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 1788 Þour smock was solwy to sen, Bi mark þo ȝe schuld ly. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 52 Whit was hir smok, and browdid al byfore And eek byhynde on hir coler aboute. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 377 A smokke was her wede, garnysshyd curyously. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 371/1 He..wold not relece hir obedyence tyl that she was despoyled to hir smocke. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 173 Their shirtes and smokes are saffroned. 1591 GREENE *Farew. Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 316 Shee.. standing in hir smocke by the bed side. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 200 The women..weare but three cubits of cloth in their smocks. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* xvii. 89 The use of smocks is no more known among women than the use of shirts among men. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 24 Agrees as ill..As Sappho's di'monds with her dirty smock. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Look at the Clock*, You may sell my chemise (Mrs. P. was too well-bred to mention her smock). 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* XV, I would sooner have her in her smock than any other woman with a dower.

Prov. 1461 *Paston Lett.* I. 542 Nere is my kyrtyl, but nerre is my smok. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræmiologia* 254 Neare is my petticoat, but nearer is my smock.

transf. 1677 GREW *Anat. Pl., Anat. Seeds* (1682) 201 This sticks not to the midle Coat,..but commonly, remains entire, after those are stripp'd off, being as it were, the Smock of the Seed.

b. Offered (formerly) as a prize in races to be run by women or girls.

1722 MRS. BRADSHAW in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 98 The Colonel gave a smock for the young wenches to run for. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* I. 225 See here this Prize, this rich lac'd Smock behold. 1812 in Holland *Cheshire Gloss.* (1886) 325 A race for a good Holland smock by ladies of all ages. 1859 HUGHES *Scour. White Horse* v. 91, I see, Sir, that 'smocks to be run for by ladies' is left out.

†c. Used allusively to denote a woman or womankind. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* I. Wks. (Grosart) X. 60 The Collier..said he would be tried by the verdit of the smock. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-cap* (1877) 7 If his sweet worship.. Scrape fauour with some female-wedded smocke. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* III. i, Thou wert a pretty Fellow, to rebel all thy Life-time against Princes, and trail a Pike under a Smock-Rampant at last!

2. = SMOCK-FROCK 1.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. iv, The broad button of Birmingham spelter in a Clown's smock. 1882 SERGT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* 16 A man..clad in one of the ordinary white smocks worn by labourers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *smock-dowry, -linen, -petticoat, -shirt, -skirt, -sleeve*; also *smock-like* adj.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 635/2 The deepe smock sleeve hanging to the grounde. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *An Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 90/2 Her nether smockes or smock-like Petticotes. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* v. ii, A wench with her smock-dowry, no portion with her but her lips and arms. 1627 *Lismore Papers* (1886) II. 222, 2 smock petticoats of worsted for my mother and my wife. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 165 From the loftie Quoyfe to the lowly..Smockeskirt. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlwk.* 452/2 *Smock linen*, the linen of which our peasants' Smockfrocks are made, which is a strong even green linen, employed also for articles designed for embroidery. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Nov. 74/2 Blue smock-shirts have it all to themselves.

b. In allusive terms, usually suggestive of loose conduct or immorality in, or in relation to, women, as *smock-agent, -council, -employment, -fair*, etc.

Examples are very common in 17th cent. dramatists.

1632 MASSINGER *Maid Hon.* II. ii, I hope, sir, You are not ..employed by him As a *smock-agent to me. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* III. i, I'll be hang'd if this Doctor be not of her *smock-councell. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* II. i, 'Tis but procuring; A *smocke empoliment. *a* 1652 BROME *Novella* III. i, What make you here i' th' *Smock-Faire, precious Mistris? 1611 L. BARRY *Ram Alley* IV. i, A knight, and never heard of *smock-fees? 1681 DRYDEN *Sp. Friar* II. i, Now Plague and Pox on his *Smock-Loyalty! 1640 SHIRLEY *Imposture* v. iii, I was the agent 'twixt them: he was pleased To choose me his *smock-officer. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* IV. ii, Keep these women-matters, *Smock-secrets to ourselves. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. Pref. A 3 b, Great Kindred, *Smock-Simony, and Whores, have advanc'd many a Sot to the Holy-Chair. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii. 175 Lust fiered, Attended only with his *smock-sworne Page. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 102 This *smocktoy Paris..with falling woommanish hearelocks. 1612 B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. v, There are of us can be as exquisite traitors, As e'er a male-conspirator of you all. *Cethegus.* Ay, at *smock-treason, matron. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Brother* III. ii, These *Smock-vermine, how eagerly they leap at old mens kisses.

Smock, *a.* [prob. an attributive or elliptic use of prec.] (See quots.)

1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 290 In 1823, he [a game-cock] was milk-white, or 'smock', as the English term it. 1854 MEALL *Moubray's Poultry* 111 [Sub-varieties of Game-Fowl.] White, or Smock (vulgar).

Smock (smɒk), *v.* [f. the sb.]

†1. *trans.* To render effeminate or womanish.

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* III. 28 Here would the Mede show..that no pomp..Had ever power his Manly mind to smock.

† 2. *intr.* To consort with women. *Obs. rare.*

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 126 Then we all agree; To.. Smock and Knock it, Under the Green-wood Tree. 1731-8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 176 You don't smoke, I warrant you, but you smock.

3. *trans.* To dress in a smock.

1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 228 This is proper to the clown, Tho' smock'd, or furr'd and purpled.

4. *Needlework.* To gather by means of sewing done in lines crossing each other diagonally, after a pattern common on smock-frocks.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 30 May 11/1 Her gown is of Liberty silk,..smocked here and gathered there.

Smo·ckage. *nonce-wd.* [Allusively f. SMOCK *sb.*, after *socage.*] (See quot.)

1612 CHAPMAN *Widowes T.* I. Wks. 1873 III. 21 Thou shalt hold thy Tenement to thee and thine eares for euer in free smockage, as of the manner of Panderage.

Smocked (smɒkt), *ppl. a.* [f. SMOCK *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Of persons: Provided with, clothed in, a smock. (Cf. *hurden-smocked* s.v. HARDEN *sb.* b.)

1897 G. ALLEN *Type-writer Girl* xviii. 195 While the smocked milkman still stood..in the meadows.

2. Of a garment: Gathered and worked after the fashion of a smock-frock.

1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 7/6 The New Smocked Yoke Jersey.

Smocker (smɒ·kəɹ). [f. SMOCK *sb.* or *v.*]

†1. One who consorts with women. *Obs.*

1708 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. (1737) 217 Leachers, Shakers, Smockers. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 605/2 Henry..had formerly been a Cocker, Smocker, and Foxhunter.

2. One who smocks blouses or the like.

1892 *Star* 13 May 4/8 Smockers.—Experienced workers wanted at once.

Smock-face. Now *rare.* [f. SMOCK *sb.*] A pale and smooth or effeminate face; a person having a face of this description.

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* v. i, [Fortune gives] Some wealth without wit, some nor wit nor wealth, But good smocke-faces. 1696 VANBRUGH *Relapse* 1st Prol., Perhaps there's not a smock-face here to-day But 's bold as Cæsar to attack—a play. 1786 J. A. D. *Pogonologia* 51 You pretty fellows of the present day,..and all you with smock-faces and weak nerves. 1820 W. TOOKE *Lucian* I. 398 Who does that smock-face belong to there? 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 354 Who could have expected it from that smock-face! 1874 *Slang Dict.* 298 *Smock-face*, a white delicate face,—a face without whiskers.

Smo·ck-faced, *a.* Now *rare.* [Cf. prec.] Having a pale smooth face; effeminate-looking.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. (1726) 158 But your Endymion, your smooth, smock-fac'd Boy,..shall a beauteous Dame enjoy. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* II. i, A smock fac'd Rogue, with..a great deal of Impudence. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 49 That poor smock-faced thing of a doctor. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiii, A little old smock-faced man,..soft-haired as well as beardless, appeared. 1855 A. BYWATER *Shevvild Ann.* 24 (E.D.D.), Working men look rayther too smock-faced for beards. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs., Smock-faced*, pale.

transf. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, With a hundred smiling smock-fac'd guineas.

Smo·ck-frock, *sb.* [SMOCK *sb.*]

1. A loose-fitting garment of coarse linen or the like, worn by farm-labourers over or instead of a coat and usually reaching to mid-leg or lower.

a 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Smock-frock*, a coarse linen shirt worn over the coat by waggoners, &c., called in the South a Gaberdine. 1805 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 420/2 He pulled off his jacket or smock-frock. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xix, Men had lounged about all night in smock-frocks, and leather-leggings. 1883 T. HARDY in *Longm. Mag.* July 258 The genuine white smock-frock..and the whity-brown one..are rarely seen now afield.

Comb. 1891 *Catholic News* 29 Aug. 8/4 It is smockfrock-like in shape, with a hole for the neck.

2. A man wearing a smock-frock.

1898 J. ARCH *Story Life* II. 31 Regular pitched battles they were of smock frock against cloth coat, in which smock frock held his own right well.

Hence **Smo·ck-frock** *v. intr.* (with *it*), to wear a smock-frock; **Smo·ck-frocked** *a.*, wearing a smock-frock.

(*a*) 1808 COBBETT *Political Reg.* XIV. 20 Aug. 257 Among the smock-frocked politicians. 1885 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Aug. 739/1 The stolid smock-frocked peasantry.

(*b*) 1840 HOOD *Ye Tourists & Travellers* 6 Play dominoes, smoke, wear a cap and smock-frock it.

Smo·cking, *vbl. sb.* [f. SMOCK *v.* 4.] The action of gathering and working a garment after the fashion of a smock-frock; the ornamental pattern so formed.

1888 *Bow Bells* 9 Mar., This was..shaped by means of the 'honeycombing' or 'smocking'. 1890 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 2/4 Smocking is still largely used for the yokes.

Smo·ckless, *a.* Also 5 **smocles.** [f. SMOCK *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no smock or chemise.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 819, I hope it be not youre entente That I smocles out of your paleys wente. 1873 STEPHENS *Black Gin* 16 Lo, by the 'humpy' door a smockless Venus!

Smo·ck-mill. [f. SMOCK *sb.*, with reference to the shape.] A windmill having a revolving top.

1802 *Hull Advertiser* 18 Dec. 3/2. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 124 The other method of bringing the windshaft and sails into..position..is by what is called the smock-mill. 1838– in dialect glossaries and technical dictionaries. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599 The post mill was succeeded by the tower, smock, or frock mill.

Smo·ck-race. Also **smock race.** [SMOCK *sb.* 1 b.] A race in which a smock was offered as a prize to be run for by women or girls.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4356/4 The next Day will be a Smock Race run for by Maids in the same Park. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* x, I don't like to see my daughters..red with walking, and looking for all the world as if they had been winners at a smock-race. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 304 A smock-race and a jingling-match were to take place. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., There used to be frequently, in my recollection, smock races among the young country wenches in the North.

So **Smo·ck-racing** *vbl. sb.*

1878 LECKY *England in 18th C.* iv. I. 566 Among other amusements, smock-racing by women was kept up there [Pall Mall] till 1733.

†Smo·ckster. *Obs.*—[1] [f. SMOCK *sb.*] A go-between, a bawd.

1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* v. ii, You're a hired smocksters; here's her letter, In which we are certified that you're a bawd.

Smock windmill. = SMOCK-MILL.

1795 *Lond. Chron.* 11 Aug. 143 To be Sold, all the Working Geer of a capital Smock Windmill. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 1259 Another kind of vertical windmill is called a smock, or tower windmill.

†Smod. *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. SMAD *v.*] Stain, filth.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 711 Hem to smyte for þat smod smartly I benk þat wyȝes schal be by hem war, worlde with-outen ende.

Smogue: see SMUG.

†Smoi·liness. *Obs.*—[1] (See quot.)

1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Smoylynesse, fylthynesse, *honnieur.*

Smokable (smō·kăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also **smokeable.** [f. SMOKE *v.* + -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* That may be smoked; fit or suitable for smoking.

1839 R. M. MARTIN *Stat. Colonies Brit. Emp.* 366 The smokeable extract which each quantity of opium contains. 1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* lii, You'll..find it smokeable. 1879 SALA *Paris Herself Again* iv, Very smokable little weeds.

B. *sb. pl.* Things which may be smoked.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 2 Bills of fare of the various eatables, drinkables, and smokables, of which the author partook. 1890 *Yacht Racing Calendar* 185 It is exasperating..to have one's drinkables and smokeables sealed up.

Smoke (smōuk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **smoca** (**smocca**), 2– **smoke**, 5 **smokke**, 6–7 **smok**; 6 *Sc.* **smoik**, 6–8 **smoake**, 6–9 **smoak.** [OE. *smoca*, f. the weak grade of the stem represented by OE. *smēocan* SMEEK *v.* To a different grade (*smauk-*) belong MDu. *smoock* (Du. *smook*), MLG. (and LG.) *smōk, smök* (hence Da. *smøg*), MHG. *smouch* (G. *schmauch*). See also SMOOK *sb.*]

I. The visible volatile product given off by burning or smouldering substances.

a. c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xvii. 9 Astah smoca on yrre his. *c* 1000 in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 43 Ut æt his nosu eode micel smocca. *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, Me henged up bi the fet & smoked heom mid ful smoke. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 9 On his hehe hokede neose þreaste smeorðinde smoke ut. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 491 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 233 Strong was þe stunch and þe smoke. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4727 Þat es blode and fire and brethe of smoke. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9512 The smoke of þe smert loghys.. waivet in the welkyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smoke, reke, *idem quod* Reke. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 100 In the smoke of the gunnes let us entre the gate. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 133 It cannot be spoiled either by smoke, or too much heat. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 522 As smoke that rises from the kindling fires Is seen this moment, and the next expires. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 156 A large fire..filling the whole place with smoke. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. viii, Don Diego, inhaling the fragrant weed,..replied to the request of his petitioner by smoke. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. v, The smoke was pouring out thick and black from the tall red chimney.

β. 1591 GREENE *Farew. to Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 343 [He] was tied to a post and choaked with smoake. 1660 BOYLE *New Exper.* xxx. (1682) 113 Filled the Reciever with smoak. 1787 WINTER *Syst. Husb.* 47 Soot may be rather deemed the smoak itself. 1810 VINCE *Astron.* xvii. 159 He compared them to smoak and clouds.

†b. *ellipt.* The fumes of incense. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1450 *Myrr. Our Lady* 327 Mercifull virgyn,..rodde of smoke, but swete smellynge. *a* 1627 SIR J. BEAUMONT *Poems, The Epiphany* 35 Who lift to God for vs the holy smoke Of feruent pray'rs.

c. The fact of smoke coming out into a room instead of passing up the chimney.

1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 69 We shall..shew of what service the..passage of Air behind the Back is, for hind'ring Smoke. *Ibid.* 72 When you wou'd prevent Smoke.

d. *The* (*big, great*) *smoke*, a colloquial name for London.

1864 *Slang Dict.* 237 Country-people when going to the Metropolis say they are on their way to the Smoke. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise 'Cachalot'* XXV. (1901) 330, I desired to know what brought him so far from the 'big smoke'.

e. *transf.* The pollen of the yew when scattered in a cloud.

1868 LADY TENNYSON in *Life Tennyson* (1897) II. ii. 53 There has been a great deal of smoke in the yew-trees this year. 1869 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 15 A gustful April morn That puff'd the swaying branches into smoke.

2. With *a* and pl. A volume, cloud, or column of smoke. In Amer. and Austr. use *spec.* one serving as a signal, sign of an encampment, etc.

sing. 1388 WYCLIF *Rev.* ix. 2 A smoke of the pit stiede vp. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 67 Þe feend, as a smoke, vanysched awey. 1594 R. WILSON *Coblers Prophesie* G j b, From one part let a smoke arise. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 228 Being succeeded by a Smoak, which..resembles fired Gun-powder. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 209, I was afraid of making a Smoak about my Habitation. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 361 On being touched throwing up the seeds in form of a smoke. 1802 BARRINGTON *New South Wales* vii. 224 Mr. Bass discovered a smoke that they had made to draw his attention.

pl. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21585 A-mong the smokys blake, Ther he gan hys bed to make. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxi. 421 They can nat..put you out of your realme by their smokes. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* II. xvii. (1668) 76 In seed time make great smoaks in your Corn-fields. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 252 We..leave them a sign to know where we are by making one or more great Smoaks. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 271 The enemy..were ..incamped in the woods about us; for we could see their smokes. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xli. 55 Their smokes were seen in various directions. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 26 July 4/4 By-and-by answers came from smokes away in the bush.

b. The smoke arising from a particular hearth or fire-place; hence, a hearth, fire-place, house. Now *rare.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 1097 Leading all his life at home in Peace, Alwayes in sight of his own smoak. 1610 in *Council Bk. Youghal Corp.* (1878) 11 A scavenger.. shall be paid yearly out of every smoak, 4*d.* at Michalmas and Easter. *a* 1687 PETTY *Polit. Arith.* ii. (1691) 42 In Ireland wherein are..near 300 Thousand Smokes or

Hearths. 1792 *Stat. Acc. Scott.* IV. 316 For 6 miles in a well inhabited extent,..there was not a *smoke* remaining. 1883 *Good Words* XXIV. 717 There are [on Minglay] in all thirty houses, or 'smokes', as they are called.

3. Fume or vapour caused by the action of heat on moisture.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), þat þe lunges mowe open and close þe hoote smoke of þe herte. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 218 Dronknesse makyth for-yetynge..by reyson that the grete smokkes gone vp to the brayn. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 9 They that woulde use the smooke or vaperouse ayer of this water. 1584 LYLY *Alex. & Camp.* II. i, Steeds..whose breathes dimmed the sun with smoake. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. II. (1651) 239 To purge the heart and brain from ill smoakes and vapours that offend them. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvii. 312 Demanding payment for the Smoak of his Roast-meat. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xi. 136 You ought to have sense enough not to knock smoke out of fresh horses before we begin.

b. A mist, fog, or miasma (see later quots.).

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Roock der aerden*, a Smoake, a Mist, or Dampe, rising out of the earth. 1788 FALCONBRIDGE *African Slave T.* 51 Together with what they call *the smokes* (a noxious vapour, arising from the swamps about the latter end of autumn). 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 635 *Smokes*, dense exhalations, mixed with the finer particles of sand, on the Calabar shores and borders of the Great Zahara desert, which prevail in autumn. 1897 MISS KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 94 Those thick wool-like mists called smokes, which hang about the whole Bight from November till May.

4. In proverbial, figurative, or allusive uses:

a. In miscellaneous applications or phrases.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 211 Whan every thing was fulli spoke, Of sorwe and queint was al the smoke. 1526 *State Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 542 Of whom..I have lernyd many strange thinges, wherof I smelt a smoke at Calays. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 287, I perceiue..where the least smoake is, there to be the greatest fire. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 13 His eyes looke as if they had bene hung In the smoake of his nose. 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 20, I..took my leave, as perceiving him fuller of smoak than of meat. 17.. in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. XII. 163/2 Never out of the smoke of your own chimney. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 109 Their *summum bonum* lies in drinking themselves dead drunk,..playing smoak with the girls. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., If a lent horse has been over-ridden, it is commonly remarked, 'He played smoke with that horse, he has been good for nothing since'. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 228 The first lesson of literature, no less than of life, is the learning how to burn your own smoke.

b. In the proverbs *There is no fire without smoke*, and *no smoke without fire*, or variants of these: (see FIRE *sb.* 1 h).

c 1450 *MS. Douce* 52 lf. 20 Where no fyre is no smoke. 1546– [see FIRE *sb.* 1 h]. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill to purge Formality* 133 There is no fire but there will be some smoak. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 11 There is seldom anie smoak, but where there is some fire. 1705 WYCHERLEY in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. 14 You must allow there is no Smoak but there is some Fire. 1820 COLERIDGE *Lett., Conv.*, etc. I. 118 They..then exclaim: There is no smoke without some fire.

† **c.** *Out of the smoke into the fire*, etc., out of a small danger into a great one. *Obs.* (Cf. L. *de fumo in flammam*, Ammianus.)

1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* f iv b, Leaste by fleynge the smoke, we fall into the fyre. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 299 Thus must I from the smoake into the smother. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. ii. 25 Hee..went just as the old proverbe saith, out of the smoke into the light fire.

d. Used to designate anything having no real value or substance, or a mere shadow *of* something.

1548 tr. *Papius' Conc. Apothecaries* in Records *Urinal Phys.* (1651) 243 That the selfe-conceited..may learne to..brag and vaunt forth their vanities and smokes. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) I v, Our kyngdomes are but cares,..our power a smouldring smoke. 1601–3 DANIEL *C'tess Cumberland* 35 The all-guiding Prouidence..mocks this smoake of wit. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiæ Flagellum* D 3 Their Pride is..A smoake, a bubble. 1705 WYCHERLEY in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. 14 If Compliment be the Smoak only of Friendship. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* x. i, Preferring the smoke of public applause to the real advantages which my friendship prepared for him. 1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVIII. 279 In his opinion it was all smoke. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 122 The ambitious man will think knowledge which is without honour all smoke and nonsense.

e. Denoting a clouding or obscuring medium or influence.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Fuligo*, To speake obscurely: to cast a darke smoke or miste before their eies. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 273 b, Why shamed he not to blind the eyes of the people with such smoakes? 1594 T. B. tr. *De la Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 333 Their eies dimmed with some smoake of honours. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 78/1 The Eyes that ..smoke of praise Doe dimme, are feeble-sighted. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 167 Truth will not be discerned through the smoak of wrathful expressions. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 672 Thro' the smoke, The blight of low desires. 1873 FARRAR *Silence & V.* Ser. I. 22 Reading them..through the lurid smoke of sectarian hate.

f. Denoting fraudulent dealing in the fulfilment of bargains or promises; esp. *to sell smoke* (after L. *fumum vendere*), to act dishonestly, to swindle.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 106 You get but a handfull of smoake to the bargaine. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 306 That for your selling smoake you may be courtiers. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* IV. 24, I abandoned their conversation, because I found they were but sellers of smoak. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* Pref., To relieve the necessities of Nature..by selling of Smoke, as thou dost.

g. *To come to, end in, vanish into, smoke*, to come to nothing, be unrealized, be without result.

1604 E. GRIMSTONE *Siege Ostend* 184 Their subtill deuises are come to smoake. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 44 The ill successe of the Queenes affaires (whose..Royall Army they had seene vanish into smoke). 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1720 I. 470 Thus ended in Smoke the whole Negotiation. 1704 *Collect. Voy. & Trav.* III. 699/2 His Designs vanished into Smoke. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 168, I take it for granted, this whole affair will end in smoke. 1853 MRS. CARLYLE in *New Lett. & Mem.* II. 68 One might let him scheme and talk, hoping it might all end in smoke.

h. *Like smoke*, very quickly, rapidly.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* x, Sail was made, and..she began to snore through it like smoke. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* vi, Away we all went like smoke. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, His brandy-balls go off like smoke. 1860 WHYTE MELVILLE *Market Harb.* 86 The hounds are running like smoke!

5. a. Tobacco. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 20* A small Gallon of Sack, and a pipe of the best smoake. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 71 Every skull And skip-iacke now will have his pipe of smoke And whiff it. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. West* 19 They gave me smoake and drinke in Plimouth. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. vii, That if Mr. Larkyns was no smoker himself, he at least kept a bountiful supply of 'smoke' for his friends.

b. A cigar or cigarette. Also *fig.*

1882 BESANT *All Sorts* 112 The twopenny smoke, to which we cling, though it is made of medicated cabbage. 1893 C. G. LELAND *Mem.* I. 158 She was,..as we used to say at college of certain unpopular people, a 'bad smoke'.

6. [f. the vb.] A spell of smoking tobacco, etc.

1837 W. IRVING *Adv. Capt. Bonneville* II. 286 A crowd of visiters awaited their appearance, all eager for a smoke and a talk. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 241 It was considered reasonable to devote half an hour to rest..and a smoke for the stockmen.

7. *Cape smoke*, a cheap kind of brandy drunk in South Africa.

1849 E. E. NAPIER *Exc. S. Afr.* II. 9 A young Hottentot, ..as fond of 'Cape Smoke'..as any of his tribe. 1880 GILLMORE *On Duty* 366 He produced a bottle of smoke (Cape brandy). 1893 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 297 'Cape Smoke' is the most poisonous of all alcoholic drinks.

8. A Persian cat of a deep cinder-colour, with a white under-coat.

Also in combs., as *smoke-breeder, -fancier*, etc.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 4/3 Miss Brigden's cat should not be overlooked among the 'smokes'.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **9.** Attrib., in the sense of 'consisting of smoke', as *smoke-atmosphere, -burst, -cloud, -drift*, etc.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, It will burn..its whole *smoke-atmosphere too. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 417 Through the black, rushing *smoke-bursts, Thick breaks the red flame. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. iii, From yonder White Haven rise his *smoke-clouds. 1884 *Athenæum* 6 Dec. 739/1 Bars of light and shade belonging to the mist and *smoke-drift of London. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 8 Nor did the *smoke-palm of Vesuvius stand more erect and fair. 1890 SIR R. S. BALL *Star-Land* 335 We can make many experiments with *smoke-rings. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. Wks. (1876) 19 His stature, on the mighty plan Of *smoke-tower o'er the burning pile. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, Thou seest the *Smoke-vapour. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ix. 219 Belch impious blasphemies,..Snuffe vp *smoak-whiffs. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. XXX, The *smoke-wreaths..That round her sable turrets flow.

b. Used for, or promoting, the escape of smoke, as *smoke-flue, -funnel, -pipe*, etc.

1840 *Cottager's Manual* 7 in *Husb.* III. (L. U. K.), Vertical strata of gravel..alternating with *smoke-flues. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* 143 A sort of funnel, like a *smoke funnel to an oven. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 105 The *smoke-pipe of a subsidiary fire. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. XXXI. 424 The *smoke-tubes of the stove.

c. Due to, or caused by, smoke, as *smoke-blackness, -nuisance, -smell*, etc.

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 386 Smoke nuisance in large towns. 1874 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* XXXIX. 56 Golden light and song..are better than smoke-blackness. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 81 Sniffing extraordinary smoke-smells which she discovered in all nooks and crannies of the rooms.

d. With names of colours, as *smoke-blue, -brown, -grey*, etc. (used as sbs. or adjs.).

London smoke: see LONDON.

1807 AIKIN *Dict. Chem. & Min.* II. 98/1 Its colour is ash or smoak-grey. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 388 Their ordinary tint verges upon yellow, or smoke-yellow. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *Birds* iii, There the smoke-brown Sparrow sits. 1901 CLIVE HOLLAND *Mousmé* 284 Overhung with smoke-blue mosquito curtains.

e. Having the colour of smoke; of a brownish or bluish grey colour. *Smoke quartz*, smoky quartz.

1872 E. HULL *Build. & Ornament. Stones* 175 *Smoke quartz.* This is a clouded variety [of rock crystal], with a brownish tint. 1884 *Western Daily Press* 11 Apr. 7/6 There are jackets of the finest cloth, geranium-red, electric-blue, smoke,..and brown. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 3/2 The smoke fox, a blue-grey colouring which is really dyed. 1903 F. SIMPSON *Bk. Cat* xiv. 185 Perfect smoke cats..should be black, shading to smoke grey.

10. *Comb.* **a.** Objective, with pres. pples., adjs., agent-nouns, or nouns of action, as *smoke-burner, -burning, -consumer, -consuming, -consumption, -consumptive*, etc.

Many of these have been in common use from *c* 1840.

(*a*) 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 96 O let our smoake-exhalinge breaths enfold A mightie cloud of sighes. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* XI. I. 139 Those foggie mists of error, and smoake-selling imposture. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 42 This..furnace operates not upon the smoke-preventive, but upon the smoke-consumptive principle. *Ibid.* 131 The..furnace is in reality a smoke-burning and not a smoke-preventing. *Ibid.*, Some new smoke-consuming theory. 1891 MORRIS *News Nowhere* 7 The soap-works with their smoke-vomiting chimneys were gone.

(*b*) 1604 JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 111 Of so many smoke-buyers, as are at this present in this kingdome, I neuer read nor heard. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 168 The adaptation of the patent smoke-consumer to a locomotive engine. *Ibid.* 344 The only effectual smoke-burner I have ever seen. 1851 *Catal. Grt. Exhib.* I. 328/1 Smoke condenser. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Smoke-washer*, a device for purifying smoke by washing as it passes through a chimney-flue.

(*c*) 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 42/1 An incarnation (so to speak) of the principles of smoke-prevention. 1851 *Catal. Grt. Exhib.* I. p. xcix, Apparatus for effecting Smoke-consumption. 1882 (*title*), Official Report of the Smoke-Abatement Committee.

b. Instrumental, with past pples., as *smoke-begotten, -bleared*, etc.

1872 C. W. KING *Antique Gems & Rings* 148 *Smoke-begotten theories of modern German sciolists. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. V. vi, A..dwarfish individual, of *smoke-bleared aspect. 1720 *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 157 Their painted or rather *smoak-bound hides. 1822 LAMB *Elia* I. *Distant Correspondents*, Elms,..[with] *smoke-dyed barks, the theme of jesting ruralists. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxx, Then *smoke enrolled Their oracles break forth. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1862) I. 463 Those streets..so black and *smoke-grimed. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, The daily passage of so many *smoke-pennoned steam-boats. 1879 *19th Cent.* No. 31. 401 The swarming bustle of our *smoke-smothered towns. 1833 TENNYSON in *Life* (1897) I. 130 They are so *smoke-sodden. 1602 CAREW *Cornw.* 72 Hanging me thus vp, to be *smoke-starued ouer your chimnies. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 429 There Fabrickes are..of *smoke-torne straw..and Raine-dropping watles.

c. With adjs., as *smoke-like, -proof, -tight.*

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast.* xxviii. 98 We calked and pasted, and, so far as we could, made the ship smoke-tight. 1849 THOREAU *Week Concord Riv.* (1894) 4 Skirted..with alder-swamps and smoke-like maples. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 7/2 One of the firemen donned a smoke-proof suit and helmet.

11. Special combs.: **smoke-arch** *U.S.*, the smoke-box of a locomotive (Webster, 1864); **smoke-bell, -board** (see quots.); **smoke-glass**, an eyepiece or spectacle of smoked glass; **smoke helmet**, a helmet used by firemen, enabling the wearer to see and breathe freely in the midst of smoke; † **smoke-hen**, a hen accustomed to perch in the smoke; **smoke-loft**, a loft in which the smoking of bacon, etc., is done; **smoke-mantle**, part of a furnace for roasting tin-ores; † **smoke-merchant**, a tobacconist; † **smoke-money**, money paid by householders as a due or tax (see quots. and cf. *smoke-penny*); **smoke night**, an evening meeting accompanied by smoking; **smoke-pence, -penny** (see quots. and *smoke-money*); **smoke-plant**, the Venetian sumach, *Rhus cotinus*, which has a feathery inflorescence suggestive of smoke; **smoke-proof**, an impression taken from a smoked type-punch, etc.; **smoke respirator** (see quots.); **smoke-sail** (see quot. 1846); † **smoke-seller** (see SMOKE *sb.* 4 f); also, a tobacconist; † **smoke-shop**, a tobacconist's shop in which accommodation for smoking was provided; † **smoke-silver**, silver paid as smoke-money **smoke-talk** *U.S.*, a social meeting accompanied by smoking; **smoke test**, a method of testing the state of drains and pipes by means of smoke; **smoke-tree**, = *smoke-plant*; (also the American species *Rhus cotinoides*); **smoke-wood** (see quot.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2223/2 **Smoke-bell*, a glass bell suspended over a gas-light, to intercept the smoke. 1850 OGILVIE, **Smoke-board*, a board hung in front of a fire-place, to keep the smoke from emerging into the apartment. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 334 These two observers looked directly at the Sun, having their instruments armed with *smoke-glasses. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 373 A pair of light-tinted smoke glasses will afford great relief. 1900 *Daily Mail* 24 Apr. 3/2 An officer of the brigade donned a *smoke helmet. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 162 b, The cause that the old people made choise in their quitrentes of *smoke Hennes, as of the best. 1657 H. CROWCH *Welsh Trav.* 11 Unto the *smoake-loft clim'd he than, and to the bacon crept. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1246 The *smoke-mantle or chimney-hood, at the end of the furnace. *a* 1618 *Smoke-merchant [see *smoke-seller*]. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 86 Of all the accumulative excises, that of hearth-money or *smoak-money seems the best. 1778 *England's Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Brighthelmstone*, The vicar here..claims the old episcopal custom of a penny per head (commonly called Smoak-Money, or the Garden-Penny). 1850 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 120/2 Smoke Money.. under this name is collected every year at Battle in Sussex. 1891 *Melbourne Punch* 2 June 378/3 The Mutual Store '*Smoke night' was held at the Vienna Cafe on Thursday evening. 1584 R. WILSON *Three Ladies London* I, For here were *smoke-pence, Peter-pence, and Paul-pence to be paid. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 176 Parsons, and Impropriators of Churches, at this day in many places of England, are payed this pennie vnder the name of a *Smoke pennie. 1652 *Answ. Petit. Poor Husbandmen* 19 The Parishioners do commonly blow away all the tithes due for firewood with a smoak penny. 1850 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 174/2 Smoke pennies are also yearly levied from most

of the inhabitants of the New Forest. 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 76 Sumach...Leaves (simple in R. Cotinus, the **Smoke-Plant* of gardens). 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 699 The flame..blackens the letter, and thus enables an impression, called a **smoke proof*, to be stamped on paper. 1902 De Vinne *Title-pages* 79 Pleasing as a new ornament in this style might appear in the smoke-proof, it was sure to be a blotch in the print. 1866 C. F. T. Young *Fires, Fire-Engines*, etc. 44 About the year 1824 one John Roberts..invented a '*smoke-respirator' or hood, by means of which a fireman could enter a burning building or room. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 60/1 Tyndale's Smoke Respirators are to enable the wearer to enter into most dense and pungent smoke with perfect safety. 1805 *Naval Chron.* XIII. 379, 90 yards of canvass were purchased to make her *smoke-sail. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Smoke-sail*, a small sail put up for the purpose of preventing the smoke of the galley from going aft to the quarter-deck, when the ship is riding head-to-wind. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Tobacco Battered* 812 Wks. (Grosart) II. 274 'Let the *Smoak-seller suffocate with Smoak': Which our Smoak-Merchants would no lesse befit. 1649 W. M. *Wandering Jew* (1857) 25 And when the miserable smoke-sellers die, how are they buried? 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 194 The chit-chat of a Birmingham *smoke shop. 1802 Beddoes *Hygëia* VIII. 31 Among..the artisans that croud the smoke-shops. 1664 Spelman *Gloss.* s.v., By the payment of *Smoke Silver to the Sheriff yearlie. 1698 in *Ho. of Lords MSS.* (1905) III. 257 The duty commonly called Smoak Silver, Peter Pence or Common Fine. 1893 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 2/2 The Association of Railroad and Steamboat Agents..held a *smoke-talk..last evening. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 716 The '*smoke test'..consists of filling the house-drain, soil-pipes, and waste-pipes with a dense and pungent smoke. 1860 Worcester, **Smoke-tree.* 1887 G. W. Cox *Cycl. Common Things* (ed. 6) 573 The Venetian Sumach of Southern Europe is the common smoke tree or fringe tree of the gardens. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.*, **Smoke-wood*, from children smoking its porous stalks, *Clematis vitalba*.

Smoke (smōuk), *v.* Forms: 1 smocian, smokian, 3 smokien, 3–4 smoken (5 smokyn), 4– smoke; 6–7 smoake, 6–9 smoak. [OE. *smocian*, f. *smoca* Smoke *sb.* Cf., with different ablaut-grade, MDu. and Du., MLG. and LG., *smoken* (WFris. *smoke*), G. *schmauchen*; also the trans. LG. *smöken* (whence Da. *smøge*), G. *schmäuchen* (†*schmeuchen*) :—**smaukjan*. See also Smeek *v.*]

I. 1. *intr.* To produce or give forth smoke.

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xv. 17 Þa sloh þær micel mist and ferde swilce an ofen eall smociende. *c* 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* ciii. 32 Se þe æthrinð muntas & hiȝ smociað. *c* 1205 Lay. 25734 Þa isezen heo..a muchel fur smokien uppen ane hulle. *c* 1200 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 233/490 Al þe se þare aboute barnde and smokede faste. 1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xv. 17 A furneis smokynge apperide, and a laumpe of fier. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smekyn, or smokyn, *Jumo, fumigo.* 1530 Palsgr. 723/1 This woode smoketh to moche, it is nat drye ynoughe. 1591 Savile tr. *Tacitus, Agricola* 261 The houses fired and smoking farre of. 1647 Cowley *Mistr., Discovery*, The Gods may give their Altars o're; They'll smoak but seldom any more. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met., Baucis & Philemon* 52 With Leaves and Barks she feeds her Infant-fire: It smoaks. 1743 Davidson *Æneid* VII. 203 The torch smoaking with grim horrid light. 1815 Scott *Guy M.* x, They perceived that she [the ship] grounded, smoked, and, finally, took fire. 1905 F. Young *Sands of Pleasure* II. iii, The cigarette smoked unheeded in her fingers.

b. In fig. uses or contexts.

1535 Coverdale *Deut.* xxix. 20 His wrath and gelousy shall smoke ouer soch a man. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV*, 29 b, Where hertes still burne and malice continually smoketh. 1575 Gascoigne *Glasse Govt.* III. i, These young gallants are caught without a net..; no man gladder then I, for as long as that chimney smoketh, I..shall not go hungrie to bed. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 80 Glory is a perfume fit to smoake no where but before the Altar of vertue. 1677 Hubbard *Narr.* 48 To cause his jealousie to smoak against those of his own heritage. 1834 De Quincey in *Tait's Mag.* I. 196/1 Ireland was still smoking with the embers of rebellion.

c. Of a room, chimney, lamp, etc.: To be smoky, to emit smoke, as the result of imperfect draught or improper burning.

1663 Pepys *Diary* 13 Jan., The dining-room smokes unless I keep a good charcoal fire. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 31 Every little cranny may be stopp'd up close without fear of the Room smoaking. *c* 1725 Pope *Upon Dk. Marlborough's House at Woodstock* 8 The chimneys..never smoke in any wind. 1807 Gass *Jrnl.* 176 We found our huts smoked; there being no chimnies in them except in the officers' rooms. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xxi, It is best sitting near the fire when the chimney smokes. 1906 H. Wales *Mr. & Mrs. Villiers* xxiii, The lamp had been smoking in his room.

2. To give off or send up vapour, dust, spray, etc.; *esp.* to steam.

With quot. 1869 cf. Smoke *sb.* 1 e.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 226 As smylt mele vnder smal siue smokes for-þikke. 1533 J. Heywood *Mery Play* 21 (Brandl), Whan I haue beten her tyll she smoke. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 176 Their labour smokes and all of time [= thyme] doth smell, The Hony sweete that in their Coames they lay. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 97 These often heated meats, which smoaked on the outside, yet were cold on the inside. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 274 The lab'ring Yoke and shining Shares, that make the Furrow smoak. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 360 Two puddings smok'd upon the board. 1782 Cowper *T. Gilpin* 127 Which made his horse's flanks to smoke. 1802 Pinkerton *Mod. Geogr.* (1811) 329 The water smokes continually. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* ii. 57 It rained incessantly the whole night, and we..lay smoking and steaming. 1869 Tennyson *Holy Grail* 18, I have seen this yew-tree smoke, Spring after spring, for half a hundred years.

b. To rise, spread, or move, like smoke.

In later quots. with suggestion of next sense.

1595 Shaks. *John* v. iv. 34 This night whose blacke contagious breath Already smoakes [etc.]. 1726–46 Thomson *Spring* 194 A yellow mist, Far smoaking o'er th' interminable plain. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 238 See where it smokes along the sounding plain, Blown all aslant, a driving, dashing rain. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 106 Where the thin clouds smoke along the sky. 1904 J. Conrad *Nostromo* i, They [clouds]..smoke in stormy trails across the snows of Higuerota.

c. To ride, drive, sail, etc., at a rapid pace or great speed. Const. *along* (prep. or adv.).

1697 Dryden *Æneid* VII. 909 Proud of his Steeds he smoaks along the Field. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 615 The coursers..held Their equal pace, and smoak'd along the field. 1735 Somerville *Chase* II. 232 Then like a foaming Torrent, pouring down Precipitant, we smoke along the Vale. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* iii, Smoking along in his travelling chaise-and-four. 1894 *Times* 6 Aug. 5/2 The Vigilant came smoking along in style past Ryde.

d. *Austr. slang.* = Slope *v.*[2] 1.

1893 in Morris *Austral Eng.* s.v., 'Do not say we were here. Let us smoke.' 'Smoke'..is the slang for the 'push' to get away as fast as possible.

3. *fig.* †**a.** To fume, be angry. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV*, 212 The Duke..so fumed and smoked at the matter. *a* 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 47 Evyn so was she commaundyd to avoyde the court..; whereat she smoked.

b. *School slang.* To blush.

1862 Farrar *St. Winifred's* iv, 'Why, you're smoking now,' said Henderson, as Walter..began to blush a little.

†**4.** To smart, to suffer severely. *Obs.*

In early use with allusion to actual burning; quot. 1773 partly belongs to sense 2.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 64 b, For feare to bee called heretike, and then they would make hym smoke or beare a faggot. 1595 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 352 The farewell was he would make hym smoake for yt before he departed the towne. 1679 Dryden *Limberham* v. i, Now I am resolv'd I will go see 'em, or some-body shall smoak for't. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* v, No such bad driving; the poor beasts have smoked for it.

II. 5. *trans.* To expose (a person, place, etc.) to the smoke of some curative, purifying, or aromatic substance; to fumigate, esp. as a means of disinfecting.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* I. 116 Ȝenim þu þas ylcan wyrte, & smoca hit [*sc.* the child] mid. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 83 [Let him] after smoke him with ensens couenable to þe tyme. 1530 Palsgr. 723/1, I wyll medyll me with no garmentes that were his tyll they be well smoked. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 92 b, They are..Censed, Smoked, Perfumed and Worshypped. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* I. iii. 60 As I was smoaking a musty roome. 1665 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 32, I smoke your house twice a week. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1215 The ship was smoaked between decks with gunpowder. 1796 C. Marshall *Gardening* (1813) 398 Orchards, dung, dress, prune, or smoak them. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxix, The next day was Sunday, and a good day for smoking ship.

b. To expose or subject to smoke, so as to suffocate, stupefy, or make uncomfortable.

It is doubtful whether quots. 1824 and 1825 are based on real knowledge of the phrase they illustrate.

a 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, Me henged up bi the fet & smoked heom mid ful smoke. 1617 Brathwait *Smoaking Age* 87 That Alexander Severus would have smoaked such sellers of smoake. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. Temper* I. 44 Others inverted..were so smoaked and suffocated to death. 1686 W. Harris tr. *Lemery's Course Chym.* (ed. 2) 483 Tabaco kills serpents..if you should smoke them with it. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 358 ¶ 1 After which they have gone in a Body and smoaked a Cobler. [1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. i, Who taught me to smoke a cobbler? 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Smoke-the-Cobbler*, a mischievous pastime among children.] 1900 Pollok & Thom *Sports Burma* vi. 202 They then smoke the bees until they are stupid.

fig. 1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 139 Ile smoake your skin-coat and I catch you right. 1601 B. Jonson *Every Man in Hum.* IV. ii, It vanished away like the smoke of tobacco; but I was smoked soundly first. 1680 V. Alsop *Mischief Imposit.* xii. 98 They formed themselves into separate bodies for Government, and were soundly smok'd for it in the high Commission.

c. To fill with, expose to, smoke, esp. so as to blacken, discolour, or render obscure. Also const. *through* (quot. 1846).

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* V. v. 398 Let's quit this ground, And smoake the Temple with our Sacrifices. 1631 A. Wilson *The Swisser* II. i, With some quaint oath in 's mouth, smoaking his nostrills. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk r. Lond.* Wks. 1709 III. III. 64 Others..sat smoaking their Noses, and drinking Burnt-Brandy. 1748 Johnson *Van. Human Wishes* 85 The painted face..Smoak'd in kitchens, or in auctions sold. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 274, I now took two green glasses; but found that they did not intercept light enough. I therefore smoked one of them. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 730 The new piece is laid upon the original, the interstices of which are smoked through with a lamp. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 849/1, I copy pictures and he smokes them and sells them as old masters.

d. To cure or preserve (bacon, fish, etc.) by exposure to smoke; to smoke-dry.

1757 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 413, I have directed the provision..to be smoked, if there are conveniences for doing it. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 284 The herring..when salted and smoked. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 251 Having no other food, she killed the two horses, and smoked their flesh. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 311 Smoking the bacon is much better than merely drying it.

6. †**a.** With *out* or *away*: To convert into smoke. *Obs. rare.*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Chron.* ii. 4 To brennen encense beforn hym, and to swote thingis to ben out smokid. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 154 The three Grains of Incense.., were strew'd upon a few Embers, and smoak'd away.

b. To drive *out* or *away* by means of smoke. Also *fig.*

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 230 In smoaking this..trade out of his starting-holes. 1624 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 115 The magistrate..that would speedily smoke away these gnats that swarm about the courts of justice. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* xv. (1840) 259 William..proposed, that they should..smoke them out. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xxv, Till we smoke out of his earths the old fox Louis. 1870 Miss Bridgman *R. Lynne* I. iv. 57 He drew out a second cigar, with the..view..of 'smoking her out'.

†**7.** To cause to smoke; to urge at a high speed. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1658 Cleveland *May Day* ii, Whiles Phœbus..Smoaks his bright Teem along on the Grand Paw.

8. To get an inkling of, to smell or suspect (a plot, design, etc.). Now *arch.* (in common use *c* 1600–1850).

1608 Chapman *Byron's Consp.* Wks. 1873 II. 201 Least so he might haue smokt our practises. 1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* I, Sir John, I fear, smokes your design. 1733 Fielding *Quix. in Eng.* I. viii, Let me tell you,..I begin to smoke a plot. I begin to apprehend no opposition, and then we're sold, neighbour. 1770 Dibdin *Deserter* II. i, Oh, Oh, I smoke this business.—Comrade, I'm off, I'm off. 1812 Combe *Syntax, Picturesque* x. 214 An honest 'Squire, who smok'd the trick, Appear'd well-arm'd with oaken stick. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Monstre Balloon* vi, Such a trumpery tale every one of us smokes. 1886 Burton *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 48 The man, not..smoking the plot, waxed exceeding wroth.

b. *absol.* To have an inkling or idea; to understand. Now *arch.*

1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* III. iii, Peace, they smoak. 1688 Shadwell *Sq. Alsatia* IV, I am sharp, sharp as a needle; I can smoak now, as soon as another. 1757 Foote *Author* II, Oh, now I begin to understand..; ecod, I begin to smoke. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay of St. Medard* xxix, St. Medard paused,—he began to 'smoke'.

9. To make fun of, to jest at; to ridicule, banter, or quiz (a person). Now *arch.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Smoke him, Smoke him again*, to affront a Stranger at his coming in. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 54 ¶ 4 The Bucks..sat in another box, to smoke their rusty wigs and brown cassocks. 1772 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) I. 159 He..suffered us to laugh at his affectation.., even joining in our mirth and seeming happy to be smoaked. 1818 Keats *Lett.* (1895) 245 We hated her and smoked her and baited her and I think drove her away. 1859 Thackeray *Virginians* lxxxix, Our young men were accustomed to smoke her, as the phrase then was.

10. To observe, take note of, 'twig'. Now *arch.*

1715 Addison *Drummer* III. i, Thou'rt very smart, my Dear. But see! smoak the Doctor. 1762 Foote *Orator* II, Smoke the justice, he is as fast as a church. *c* 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 199 Kit, smoke his eyes, how they glare. 1856 'T. Gwynne' *Young Singleton* viii, 'Smoke the big-wig Lund!' whispered Fotheringay.

III. 11. *intr.* To inhale (and expel again) the fumes of tobacco, or other suitable substance, from a pipe, cigar, or cigarette. †Also with *it.*

1617 Brathwait *Smoaking Age* 174 The sleeping Dormouse..sleepes but all Winter, but this Man i' th' Mist smoakes it all the yeare long: hee proportions his nose [etc.]. 1687 Montague & Prior *Hind & Panth. Transv.* 17 Your Pipe's so foul, that I disdain to smoak. 1721 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 208 Even children were oblig'd to smoak. 1777 Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* xvii, I declined the favour, but the others smoaked about. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* I. 7 Smoking vehemently on his black stump of a pipe. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xi, Mr. Addison was..smoking out of his long pipe, and smiling very placidly. 1900 Pollok & Thom *Sports Burma* v. 171 He was..never better pleased than when smoking away at a long Shan pipe.

12. *trans.* To use (tobacco, etc.) as material for smoking. Also *fig.* (quot. 1840).

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 259 Some..have in the mean while smoaked Tobacco, when it was given them. 1716 Church *Philip's War* (1865) I. 28 Capt. Fullers party being troubled with the..lust after Tobacco, must needs strike fire to Smoke it. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* II. 85 They also smoke tobacco to excess. 1811 [see Hashish]. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Odille* xiv, So put that in your pipe..and smoke it. 1878 Stanley *Dark Cont.* xviii. (1889) 324 The bandits' custom of smoking banghi (wild hemp).

b. To use (a pipe, cigar, etc.) in the act of smoking; to take (so many whiffs).

1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* I. i, He..smoaks his Pipe Eight and forty Hours together sometimes. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VI. vi, My uncle Toby..lighted his pipe, and smoak'd about a dozen whiffs. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* II. 338, I found him..smoking his pipe in the..evening sunshine. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xl, Send down word that he's to spend the change in cigars...I'll smoke 'em. 1902 Eliz. Banks *Newspaper Girl* 179, I never saw a woman smoke a cigarette till I came to London.

c. With *out* (= to the end, completely).

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 306 Which Pipe thus filled they without ceasing can easily smoak out. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* xl, See, I have smoked out your cigar. 1871 M. Collins *Marq. & Merch.* II. vii. 216 She smoked one [cigarette] out right seldom.

13. To wear *out*, waste (*away*), bring *into* a certain state, etc., by smoking tobacco or some similar substance.

1604 Jas. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 106 If a man smoke himselfe to death with it (and many haue done),

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 72 He..smokd out all his living at his nose. 1617 Brathwait *Smoaking Age* 195 Sweet Youth, Smoake not thy time; Too precious to abuse. 1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 294/2 He who smoaks away the chief of his time. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., I gradually ..smoked myself into a certain degree of acquaintance with [him]. 1844 *N. Brit. Rev.* II. 81 Newton smoked himself into a state of absolute etiolation. 1893 C. G. Leland *Mem.* I. 131 To go to their rooms..and smoke them sick or into retreating.

14. *intr.* Of a pipe: To draw.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 174/2 These 'church-wardens' smoke freely and softly.

Smo·ke-ball. [Smoke *sb.* 1.]

1. *Mil.* A paper shell filled with a preparation which, when ignited, sends out clouds of smoke.

The ball is fired from a mortar, and the smoke serves to drive men out of mines, conceal manœuvres, etc.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Ball, Smoak..Balls,* those which..darken a place, to prevent discoveries. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 146/1 A smoke-ball burst in General Desagulier's hand, and shattered his arm. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Ball,* Smoke-balls..continue to smoke from 25 to 30 minutes. 1828 Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 52 Balls..are of three descriptions, viz.—lead, light, and smoke-balls. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artill. Man.* (1862) 86 The 8 in. Smoke ball burns about 4 minutes.

fig. 1796 *Gentl. Mag.* LXVI. II. 1011 When Christianity is assaulted..by the smoke-balls and stink-pots of English vagabonds.

attrib. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 286 Every rocket contains smoak-ball composition.

2. A ball used in trap-shooting, which, when struck by a shot, emits a puff of smoke.

1881 Greener *Gun* 504 The latest improvement is the American smoke-ball, consisting of two hemispheres of paper placed upon a wooden ball.

3. A ball emitting smoke when ignited, used by thieves.

1899 *Daily News* 21 Mar. 7/2 Raising an alarm of fire by means of smoke balls ignited on the various floors. The smoke balls went beyond their commission and kindled a flame.

Smo·ke-black, *sb.* [Smoke *sb.* 1.] A form of lamp-black obtained by the combustion of resinous materials.

1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 204 The black sealing Wax is ting'd or colour'd with Smoak Black. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 130 An inferior kind is the smoke-black produced by burning the shells of almonds. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Smoke-black,* a substance prepared by the combustion of different resinous bodies. 1896 De Vinne *Moxon's Printing* 412 The crude smoke-black of commerce.

Smo·ke-black, *v.* [Smoke *sb.* 1.] *trans.* To blacken with smoke.

1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (Bohn) II. 302 The counterfeit frankincense which smoke-blacks the favourite idol of a Catholic village.

Smo·ke-box. [Smoke *sb.*]

1. A receptacle for smoke. *rare* —1.

1614 W. Barclay *Nepenthes* A 8, Not as the English abusers [of tobacco] do, which make a smoke-boxe of their skull.

2. *techn.* A chamber in a steam boiler between the flues and the chimney stack; in a locomotive placed at the base of the funnel.

1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 670/1 That construction of engine in which the cylinders are placed at the bottom of the smoke-box. 1855 Lardner *Mus. Sci. & Art* VI. 127 The tubes..through which the hot gases..and smoke pass from the fire-box to the smoke-box. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 354 The exceptional height of the Smoke-box..rendered it necessary to adopt a dwarfed funnel.

attrib. 1855 Lardner *Mus. Sci. & Art* VI. 128 The smoke-box door, opening on hinges at the top. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 652 The smoke-box door did not fit tight.

Smoked (smōukt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **smoakt, smoak'd,** 8 **smoaked.** [f. Smoke *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Dried or cured by exposure to smoke; impregnated with smoke.

1603 Dekker *Wonderf. Yeare* B ij b, For..some smoakt gallant, who at wit repines, To dry Tobacco with my holesome lines. 1648 Hexham II, *Een Sore,* a smoakt red Heering. 1700 T. Brown tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 117 The best smoak'd Beef in Christendom. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physick* (1762) p. xix, Pickled or smoaked or salted Food. 1830 M. Donovan *Domest. Econ.* II. 233 Smoked provisions are..apt to disagree with some persons. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 370 Smoked Eels,..Smoked Plaice,..Smoked Herrings.

2. Obscured, made dark, by smoke.

1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 37 This small Telescope, in which I have put a smoaked Glass. 1819 Shelley *Œdipus* I. 400 I'll wager you will see them..With pieces of smoked glass. 1885 Goodall *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 383 A slowly revolving cylinder covered with smoked paper.

3. Tainted or spoiled in taste through contact with smoke.

1761 Colman *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 123 The water is smoaked, the butter rank, the bread heavy. 1857 Elton *Below Surface* ix, A cup of smoked coffee and a dubious egg.

4. Of a smoke-colour. (Cf. Smoke *sb.* 9 e.)

1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* II. 75 *note,* The Smoked Kangaroo, the gray of which is somewhat deeper. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 447 The shells usually present a dark colour about the edges, like that of 'smoked pearl'. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Nov. 3/2 Dark brown fox fur, that which is called 'smoked fox'.

5. With *-down* or *-out*: Exhausted or consumed by being smoked.

1859 Dickens *Tale Two Cities* II. xvi, He put down his smoked-out pipe. 1904 Benson *Challoners* (1906) 76/2 Martin lit a cigarette from a smoked-down stump.

Smo·ke-dried, *ppl. a.* [Smoke *sb.* 1.] Dried or cured by exposure to smoke.

1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxiv. (1663) 256 Onyons and some smoak-dried flesh. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 118 Such a swarthy metamorphosis as neer resembled smoke-dryed Bacon. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk r. London* Wks. 1709 III. III. 3, I made my Smoak-dry'd Infidel shew his Ivory Teeth. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* II. x. 106 Our smoke-dried cabin is a scene worth looking at. 1882 De Windt *Equator* 72 The bunch of smoke-dried human heads.

transf. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 17 Jan. 47/1 The smoke-dried trees of our parks.

Smo·ke-dry, *v.* [Smoke *sb.* 1: cf. prec.]

1. *trans.* To dry or cure (meat, fish, etc.) by exposure to smoke.

1704 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Chesnut,* It is best to beat the Fruit down from the Tree,..or if you don't, you must Smoke-dry 'em. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xx. 111 They even took out the jaw-bones, which they smoke-dried. 1843 Bethune *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 62 He even spoke of having an old woman..hung up in the chimney, and smoke-drying her for three weeks. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 174/2 Boiled, smoke-dried, and packed in bags.

2. *intr.* To become dried by the action of smoke. In quot. *transf.*

1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* ii, You've been smoke-drying in London..till you're out of condition.

Hence **Smo·ke-drying** *vbl. sb.*

1812 Miss L. M. Hawkins *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 265 The discipline of a smoke-drying in one of the closest streets of the city.

Smo·ke-farthing. *Hist.* [Smoke *sb.* 2 b.] An offering made at Whitsuntide by the householders of a diocese to the cathedral church; also, a hearth-tax (see quot. 1765).

1444 [see Lincoln 1]. 1524 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* (ed. Nash) 22 To the Official for smoke farthyngs, iiij^{s} j^{d}. 1575 in North *St. Martin's, Leicester* 144 For peterpence or smoke farthynges sometyme due to the Anthecriste of roome, xd. 1609 in W. Money *Hist. of Newbury* (1887) 529 P[aid] for Pentecostalles, otherwise called smoke farthings. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Smoke-farthings,* the Pentecostals, or Customary Oblations offered by the Inhabitants within any Diocess, when they made their Processione to the Mother or Cathedral Church. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 323 As early as the conquest mention is made in domesday book of fumage or fuage, vulgarly called smoke farthings; which were paid by custom to the king for every chimney in the house. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 503 An 'Ale' held at the time of paying the 'Smoke-farthing' or Wax-silver. 1876 [see Fumage 1].

Smoke-ho, -oh. *colloq.* Also **smoko.** [f. Smoke *sb.* 6.] A stoppage of work in order to rest and smoke. Also *attrib.*

1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise 'Cachalot'* viii, This done, it was 'Smoke-oh!' The luxury of that rest and refreshment was something to be grateful for. 1898 Davitt *Life & Progr. Austral.* lxxvi. 424 There is a 'smoke-ho' time allowed in a few of the prisons. 1900 H. Lawson *On Track* 133 We go through the day..in runs of about an hour and 20 minutes between smoke-ho's.

Smo·ke-hole. [Smoke *sb.* 1.]

1. The vent or external orifice of a flue; a hole in the roof of a hut through which the smoke of the fire escapes.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 479 For smoke a smoke-hole. 1493–4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 201 In expences whane sartayne of þe paryshe yede to Awew þe smoke holys. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 22 Cover the top of Chimneyes..; the smoake holes can be..made on the sides. 1825 Lockhart in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 298 The smoke-hole..in the roof. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxx. 406 A smoke-hole passed through the roof. 1891 Rider Haggard *Nada the Lily* xxix. 240 Zinita..had climbed the hut, and now lay there in the dark, her ear upon the smoke-hole, listening to every word.

b. = Fumarole.

1899 *Daily News* 18 Nov. 7/2 No lava is flowing, and even the fumarole, or smoke-holes, give forth no sign.

†2. *transf.* or *fig.* **a.** An imposture, trick. **b.** A smoking-room. **c.** The mouth of a smoker. *Obs.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Fourbe,* We may easily iudge of this stuffe, or smokehole, or guile. 1673 *Charac. Coffee Ho.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) VI. 468 The arch devil, wherewith this smoke-hole is haunted, is the town-wit. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Walk r. Lond.* Wks. 1709 III. III. 59 Which unsavory Compliment was thus retorted.., viz. Stop your Smoak-hole Nincompoop.

Smo·ke-house. [Smoke *sb.*]

†1. A dwelling-house. *Obs.* —1

1672 Petty *Pol. Surv. Irel.* (1719) 9 The simple Smoak-houses are..184,000.

2. A room in a tannery, heated by smouldering spent tan, where hides are unhaired.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 306/2 The stoutest and heaviest ox hides..are then hung on poles, in a close room called a smoke-house, in which is kept a smouldering fire of wet tan. [So in Ure *Dict. Arts* (1839) 764, *Penny Cycl.* (1842) XXIV. 37.] 1837 Hebert *Eng. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 60 In some places, the hides were formerly piled wet one upon another..(or otherwise kept warm in what was called a smoke-house).

3. A house or room used for curing meat, fish, etc., by means of smoke.

1860 Mayne Reid *Hunter's Feast* xiv, A part of the bacon furnishes the 'smoke-house' for home consumption during the winter. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 201/1 A rusty key that probably belonged to some smoke-house of long ago.

attrib. 1901 Cable *Cavalier* liii, The servants were loading the smoke-house meat into a waggon.

Smo·ke-jack. [Smoke *sb.*]

1. An apparatus for turning a roasting-spit, fixed in a chimney and set in motion by the current of air passing up this.

1675 Evelyn *Let.* in Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Surrey* (1719), The Smoke-Jack in my Brother's Kitchen-Chimney; which has been there, I have heard, near a hundred Years. 1754 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) 301, I think I will have a smoke-jack; the man says he will..keep it in order for nothing. 1777 in *Crts. Europe at Close of Last Cent.* (1841) I. 180 Did you never see a smoke-jack, with a little man in red working away, and seemingly turning the wheel? 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* iv. (ed. 3) 36 The common smoke-jack is an instrument in which the velocity communicated is too great for the purpose required. 1884 Jefferies *Red Deer* ix. 172 In how few, even of the most ancient houses, are smoke-jacks still at work!

attrib. 1758 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 536 This property of chimneys might, by means of smokejack vanes, be applied to some mechanical purposes.

†b. *transf.* The head, as the seat of confused ideas. *Obs.*

1761 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xx, As for my uncle Toby, his smoak-jack had not made a dozen revolutions, before he fell asleep also. 1808 E. S. Barrett *Miss-led General* 54 That part of the human frame which, in rational mortals, is denominated the Seat of reason; in others, a Smoke-jack.

2. *U.S.* A cowl or hood for the end of a railway-carriage stove-pipe (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

3. A cargo-steamer.

1892 *Daily News* 3 Feb. 5/5 It may do for a 'smoke-jack' to lay off and wait for the fog, but not for a passenger ship with mails.

4. A smoke-nuisance inspector.

1898 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 8/6 The officer who carried out this duty was called a Smoke Jack.

Smokeless (smōu·klės), *a.* [f. Smoke *sb.* + -less.]

1. Emitting or producing no smoke.

1582 T. Watson *Poems* (Arb.) 134 A Shipwracke of mans life; a Smoaklesse fire. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 191 Tenants with sighs the smoakless tow'rs survey. 1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excurs.* VII. 54 The smokeless chimney-top. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxx. 405 The lamps were cheerful and smokeless. 1868 *Daily News* 2 Sept., It was found that the coals of the Aberdare collieries were comparatively smokeless. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept., One of the important attributes of a smokeless powder.

2. Free from, clear of, smoke.

1631 Brathwait *Whimzies* 53 To leave his smoakelesse house in the country..to riot in the citie. 1802 Wordsw. *Westminster Bridge* 8 All bright and glittering in the smokeless air. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. I. ii, The Sun shines; serenely westering, in smokeless mackerel-sky.

Hence **Smo·kelessly** *adv.*; **Smo·kelessness.**

1877 *Echo* 18 July 1/1 Its Smokelessness, Cleanliness, and Great Economy over all other descriptions [of coal]. *a* 1891 *Engineer* LXIX. 357 (Cent.), The appliances for..consuming coal smokelessly are already at work.

Smoke-oh: see Smoke-ho.

Smoker (smōu·kəɹ). [f. Smoke *v.* + -er 1. Cf. Du., Fris., MLG. *smoker,* LG. *smöker* (Da. *smøger*), G. dial. *schmaucher, schmöcher, schmeucher.*]

1. a. One who cures fish, bacon, etc., by means of smoke.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuff* Wks. (Grosart) V. 278 Our Herring smoker hauing worn his monsters stale throughout England. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2331/4 A Smoaker in Philpot-lane, London. 1699 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 530 Jeffery Jefferyes, esq. the smoaker. 1831 Jane Porter *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* III. 29 Another had been a sausage-maker, or a beef and ham smoker. 1883 F. A. Smith *Swedish Fisheries* 6 Scotch curers and smokers have, by private enterprise, been sent to Bohuslän.

b. One who jests at, or ridicules, others.

1812 Colman *Broad Grins, Two Parsons* lxxxv, These wooden wits, these quizzers, queerers, Smokers.

2. Something which emits smoke: **†a.** A war-vessel employed to conceal or assist hostile operations by discharging volumes of smoke. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Smoker,* a Vessel to Blind the Enemies, to make way for the Machine to Play. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. r. World* 321 To bring me away in case I should have occasion to make use of mine as a Fire-ship, or a Smoaker. 1811 *Self Instructor* 587 Vessels of war are.., a machine-vessel, a smoaker.

†b. *colloq.* A steamer. *Obs.* —1

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 211 We walked four miles early in the morning to the smoker.

c. A smoky chimney, locomotive, etc.

1883 J. Martin *Reminisc. Old Haddington* 29 Dr. Welsh's kitchen chimney was an inveterate smoker. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 77 Strangers might suppose that American locomotives are inveterate smokers.

d. A contrivance for smoking bees.

1875 J. Hunter *Man. Bee-keeping* (1884) 150 The simplest smoker of all is a roll of cotton rags.

3. One who smokes tobacco, opium, or the like.

1617 Brathwait *Smoaking Age* 171 Yet of all these, none to me so profest enemies as these smokers of our Age. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 302 A great smoker, &c., that never spit in his life. 1727 De Foe *Protestant Monast.* 10 He had been from his Youth a great Smoaker. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geogr.* II. 86 Both sexes are great smoakers. 1820 Byron *Juan* III. xxxiv, Afar, a dwarf buffoon stood telling tales To a sedate grey circle of old smokers. 1882 Sala *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 389 The deficient accommodation provided for smokers.

b. *Smoker's heart, throat,* a diseased condition of the heart or throat caused by excessive smoking. *Smoker's patch,* a smooth, bare white patch on the tongue due to excess in smoking.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 110 Smoker's Patch. *Ibid.* VIII. 553 Catarrh and hoarseness are so frequent as to give rise to the name 'smoker's throat'. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 16 June 4/4 Nicotine..causing irregular action, and producing the condition known as smoker's heart.

c. *U.S.* A grade of tobacco for smoking.

1880 *U.S. Census, Rep. Culture Tobacco* 15 Class 1. Domestic Cigar Tobacco and Smokers.

4. a. A railway carriage or compartment assigned for the use of those travellers who wish to smoke.

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* II. 140 The car known as the 'smoker' is usually relegated to the least eligible part of the train. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 116/1 We threw our bundles upon the platform of the smoker and climbed up after them.

b. A concert at which smoking is permitted.

1891 *Wheeling* 25 Feb. 4/1 The Upperthorpe C.C. held a very enjoyable smoker on Thursday evening last.

5. *School slang.* One who blushes.

1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 217 If you happen to blush, he whispers in your ear 'smoker'.

Smo·ke-room. [SMOKE *sb.* or *v.*] A room in a club-house, hotel, or the like, set apart for the accommodation of those who wish to smoke.

1883 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 3/2 A young man..in the smoke-room on the night of sailing from Queenstown. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* ix. 125 We smokers left them and took up our quarters in our proper place, the smoke-room.

Smokery (smōu·kəri). [f. SMOKE *sb.* or *v.* Cf. Fris. *smokerij* smoking.]

1. In contemptuous use (see quot.).

1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 97 From the publick Ministery or Steeple-houses, (be it so) to private mysteries or smokeries, rather of their Chimney-houses.

2. Articles or materials used in smoking.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 86 Pipes of all sorts...—all nations and all people were represented in this vast arsenal of smokery.

3. A place used for smoking; a smoking-room, an opium-den, etc.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 May 5/6 The immorality of the 'smokeries' will probably suffice to close them as disorderly.

Smo·ke-stack. [SMOKE *sb.*]

1. *U.S.* a. The funnel of a steam-boat.

1862 RUSSELL *Diary North & S.* I. 166 The funnel, *Yankeeicé* smoke stack. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 30 Aug., The Tennessee..surrendered, her rudder disabled, her smokestack carried away.

b. The chimney of a locomotive.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2227/1. 1890 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 5/5 The locomotive's smokestack was just out of the water.

2. The chimney of a stove; a chimney-stack.

1871 *Daily News* 9 Feb., Carrying the smoke-stack of a stove through the aperture. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Jan. 7/1 The brick smoke-stack of the stoke-house.

Smo·kified, *ppl. a.* [f. as from *smokify.*] Discoloured or blackened by smoke. Also *transf.*

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 732 Scrawlings of chalk spread each smokified wall. 1863 B. SAVILE *Man* ii. 75 Have you heard of the smokified Essays?

Smokily (smōu·kili), *adv.* [f. SMOKY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a smoky manner; hazily.

1611 COTGR., *Fumeusement*, smoakily, fumingly, reekingly. 1755 JOHNSON, *Smuttily*, blackly; smokily. 1847 WEBSTER, *Smokily*, so as to be full of smoke. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 2/1 Obfuscations that move smokily across the face of truth.

Smokiness (smōu·kinės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being smoky.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. (1592) 222 Our minde..is after a sort troubled..by the smoakiness of the imaginations. 1611 COTGR., *Fuligine*, soot, sootinesse; smoakinesse. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Fumidity*, smoakiness. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Smokiness*, a being smoky, or infected with Smoke. 1881 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/3 The marked characteristic of last night's fog was its smokiness.

Smoking (smōu·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMOKE *v.*]

1. The action or fact of emitting smoke, giving off steam or vapour, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Smokyng, *fumiere.* 1611 COTGR., *Fumement*, ..a smoaking. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 6 To prevent the smoaking of Chimneyes. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5392/4 Any smoaking of Chimneys. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vi, The smoking and steaming of the heated horses.

2. The action of inhaling and exhaling smoke from a pipe, cigar, or the like.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 709 Given more to bibbing and smoaking than the duty of his Office. 1762 GOLDSM. *Beau Nash* 24 Smoaking in the rooms was permitted. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 369 Nowhere was the smoking more constant than at Will's.

† 3. A bantering or quizzing. *Obs.*

1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* June, What a smoking did Miss Burney give Mr. Crutchley. *Ibid.* Aug., Whether he ..took the opportunity to give us all a smoking.

4. The curing of meat, etc., by exposure to smoke.

1819 in *Pantologia* s.v. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 224 The efficacy of smoking depends on certain chemical products. 1901 BLACK *Carp. & Build.* vi. 65 The barrel..is covered over at the top, and the smoking proceeds.

5. *School slang.* Blushing.

1862 FARRAR *St. Winifred's* iv, Smoking is the name fellows give to blushing.

6. *attrib.* a. In combs. relating to the curing of provisions by smoke, or the production of smoke for some special purpose, as *smoking-house, knife, loft, pot, vessel, works.*

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een rook-vat*, a Censoir, or smoaking vessell. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Thuribulum*, a Censer, or Smoaking-Pot, to burn Incence in. 1736 N. BAILEY *Household Dict.* Ll 2 A Smoking Closet for drying Tongues. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 61 Curing bacon..by smoking lofts or closets, adjoining to the funnels of their chimneys. 1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* IX. 136 The smoking works being erected at the foot, and the tar-funnel higher up the hill. 1805 LINDLEY *Voy. Brasil* (1808) 260 Flesh.. which they salt, and dry in the sun and smoking-houses. 1839 *Mag. Dom. Econ.* IV. 118 The hams..are smoked in smoking-houses. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 62 New and Improved Smoking Knives for Fishermen.

b. In terms denoting things or places used for, or in connexion with, the smoking of tobacco, etc., as *smoking apparatus, -cap, -carriage*, etc.; **smoking-bean** *U.S.*, the catalpa bean, the pods of which are smoked by boys.

1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feeling* xxi, He took from his pocket a particular *smoaking apparatus. 1872 CALVERLEY *Charades* III. ii, Nor work *smoking-caps for cousins. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* III. ii. 67 The..gentlemen were..ensconced in a *smoking-carriage. 1891 PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 138 He put on a *smoking coat. 1878 H. SMART *Play or Pay* i, Appearing in a radiant *smoking-jacket that matched the cigar-case. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 161 Meerschaum, Amber,..are principally used for *smoking-pipes. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 885 In competition with the *smoking-shops, there are now shops where injections are to be had at so much the syringeful. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 57/2 The *Smoking Temple in the Classic style, with niches and divans in colour. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 259 Snuff, chewing and *smoaking tobacco. 1880 *U. S. Census, Rep. Culture Tobacco* 15 Other cigar and smoking tobacco.

c. In the sense of 'at which smoking takes place or is allowed', as *smoking-concert*, etc.

1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 209 In smoking-feasts, or feasts of the pipe, or calumet, held in honour of the spirits. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* vi. (ed. 3) 78 The smoking concert..with its genial Bohemianism. 1895 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 5/3 The annual meeting of the club would be held.. as a smoking 'At Home'.

Smoking (smōu·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SMOKE *v.*]

1. Emitting or giving out smoke.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. metr. iv. (1868) 12 Þe vnstable mountaigne þat hyȝt veseuus, þat wirche þ oute..smokyng fires. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 20 He shal nat quenche smokynge flax. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* III. vii. (Caxton, 1483) 55 The forneis was al enflammed with smokyng fyre. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. i, Ere Sol had..slakte his smoaking charriot in her floud. 1611 COTGR., *Fumeau*, a brand, or smoaking sticke. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1666, Clambering over heaps of yet smoking rubbish. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxx. (1787) III. 171 The prospect of the smoking ruins. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* viii, This day have ye quenched seven smoking hearths. 1894 DOYLE *S. Holmes* 93 The chaplain stood with a smoking pistol in his hand.

fig. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 331 Lanfrank.. despisede þe smokynge..speche of mysbyleved men. 1587 GREENE *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 176 Hir heart offred smoaking thoughtes to Venus. 1677 W. ROW *Suppl. Life R. Blair* (1848) x. 171 Our smoking desires for a more strict union..did break forth into a vehement flame.

b. Of a chimney: = SMOKY *a.* 1 b.

1667 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 482, I have been troubled with smoking chimneys. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* 77 A House with Smoaking Chimneys. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Smoak*, There are various Inventions for preventing and curing Smoaking Chimneys.

2. Giving out steam or vapour, sending up fine dust or spray, etc.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 21 Their Steeds, That stain'd their Fetlockes in his smoaking blood. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iv. 11 That we with smoaking swords may march from hence. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 794 'Tis Time to set at Ease the smoaking Horse. 1716 POPE *Iliad* VII. 382 The victim falls; they strip the smoaking hide. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 517 The smoaking manure. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* li, They have hot suppers every night,..with smoking drinks upon the board. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 184 The *Good Hope* continued to tear through the smoking waves.

b. quasi-*adv.* in *smoking-hot.*

1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* (1817) I. 219 The paunch of a goat.. cut out, and applied..smoking hot, to the part. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, Where tea and coffee, toast and muffins,.. were all smoking-hot together.

3. Characterized by, addicted to, the smoking of tobacco. Also *transf.* and *absol.*

1617 BRATHWAIT (*title*), The Smoaking Age, or The man in the mist: with The life and death of Tobacco. *Ibid.* 174 More guerdon doe I receive of my love from the sleeping Dormouse, than the smoaking Gallants. 1888 G. TRUMBULL *Birds* 21 [The Widgeon is] known to voyageurs throughout the Fur Countries as Smoking-Duck. [*Note.*] Probably because its note was thought to resemble the puffing sound made while smoking. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Sept. 3/3 The lazy, the drunken, the smoking, the thriftless.

Hence **Smo·kingly** *adv.*, smokily.

1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 334, I told you she was uncomfortably, smokingly lodged.

Smo·king-room. [SMOKING *vbl. sb.*] A room in a house, hotel, club, etc., set apart as a place for smoking in.

1689 SHADWELL *Bury Fair* III. i, We'll into my Smoaking-room and sport about a Brimmer. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 48 ¶ 3, The Squire gets drunk..in the smoking-room. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xiii, Most of those who prefer smoking collect in..the smoking room. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 147 The same deserted library, the same populous smoking-room.

attrib. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Oct. 4/3 Jotting down short smoking-room stories.

Smokish (smōu·kiʃ), *a.* [f. SMOKE *sb.* + -ISH.] Resembling smoke; somewhat smoky.

1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 69 Odor is a smokish vapour resolved with heate. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Smokysshe, *fumeux.* 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 202 Their Water brackish, their Aire foggie and their Fire smokish. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Roockachtigh*, Smoakish, or Fumie. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 47 A yellowish, whitish, smokish, dirty-coloured shawl.

Hence **Smo·kishness.** *rare*—°.

1530 PALSGR. 271/2 Smokysshnesse, *fumevseté.*

Smoko : see SMOKE-HO.

Smoky (smōu·ki), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4, 6–7 smokie, 7, 9 smokey; 6–7 smoakie, 6–9 smoaky. [f. SMOKE *sb.* + -Y.]

A. *adj.* 1. Emitting smoke in considerable volume.

1310 *St. Brendan* (Bälz) 472 Þo seie hi..a lond derk inou3 Smokie as it smypes were. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 4122 Than is the fire..Of smoky Ethna the mounteyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smoky, *fumosus.* 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* Wks. 1910 II. 198 A Swallowe..builds in smoky chimney toppes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 127 To set up a percher, a taper, or a smoakie torch. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 775 They vse smokie fires in their rooms. *c* 1663 COWLEY *To Light* xv, In Sympathizing Night he rowls his smoaky Fires. 1726 GAY *Fables* I. xxiii. 11 A wrinkled Hag..Beside a little smoaky flame Sat hov'ring. 1818 BYRON *Beppo* xliii, Where reeking London's smoky caldron simmers. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 25 July 4/2 Letting off a quantity of the noisiest and smokiest fireworks procurable.

b. Of a chimney: Inclined to send out smoke into the room.

1639 J. SMYTH in *Glouc. Gloss.* (1890) 201 If many gossips sit against a smokey chimney the smoke will bend to the fairest. 1785 FRANKLIN (*title*), Observations on Smoky Chimneys. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* II. *Nature*, It..cured the smoky chimney, silenced the creaking door. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 141 The down current coming in puffs is one cause of smoky chimneys.

2. Of vapour, mist, etc.: Having the character or appearance of smoke; resembling smoke; smoke-like.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 628 Every maner womman that was there, Hadde of that smoky reyn a verray fere. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Þe breeste ..putteþ oute smoky vapour þat is ibred in þe hert. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11034 Two ful vnkouth skyes..off smoky mystes & vapours. *a* 1542 WYATT *Ps.* li. 20 There had owt off the sowth A lewk warme wynd browght forth a smoky rayne. 1662 H. HIBBERT *Body of Divinity* I. 205 By breathing..the gross and more smoky spirits are exhaled out of the breast. 1743 DAVIDSON *Æneid* VII. 203 The Smoaky Fluid in Foam overflows. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 105 The light and smoky mist. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 259 The atmosphere..becomes hazy, or what they term smoky. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxix. (1856) 246 The frost-smoke was in smoky banks to the north-west.

3. Full of, or charged with, smoke; rendered offensive or disagreeable by the presence of smoke.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. iii. (Bodl. MS.), Þerefore here mewes moste be ferre fro smoky places. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6638 Anoon as he his torche hath queynt, The smoky air..Ran..in lengthe and brede. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 161 O, he is..Worse then a smoakie House. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 39 To lodge within the inclosure of a smokie roofe. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusements* 116 At the Bar..a charming Phillis or two, invite you..into their smoaky Territories. 1749 BERKELEY *Word to the Wise* Wks. III. 440 It takes the peasant from his smoky cabin into the fresh air. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 366 Ozanne received them in a smoaky hut. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 107 The effect of smoky town atmospheres in producing lung affections. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 18 All through a smoky evening I spent in that inn parlour.

b. Blackened or begrimed by smoke.

1552 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Fumosæ imagines*, olde smoky images. 1588 GREENE *Metamorphosis* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 50 Wilt thou..seeke with the smoky Cyclops to kisse Venus hand? 1634 MILTON *Comus* 324 In lowly sheds With smoky rafters. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, The two trees with the smoky trunks were blighted high up.

4. *fig.* Having the obscuring, objectionable, or unsubstantial qualities of smoke. *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1035/1 The pestilent contagion of al such smoky communicacion. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 277 b, Besides vayne crakes of smoky speeches, ye shewe no demonstration of sounde proofe. 1624 SKINNER in Parr *Life Usher* (1686) 358 Other points these devilish Spirits of the Jesuits..by their smoaky Doctrine do resist. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* II. xiv. 193 Their smoakie promises not being seconded by answerable events.

5. Having the flavour or odour of smoke; tasting or smelling of smoke.

1542 BECON *Potation for Lent* Wks. 1564 I. 1. 45 From a smokie pece of Bacon. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 332 The smoaky Bitters, Cichory, Carduus. 1892 WALSH *Tea* 93 The 'smoky' and 'tarry' flavors possessed by many of them.

6. Of the colour of smoke; dark, dusky; *spec.* of a brownish or bluish shade of grey.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 280 Halfe an houre after the rysynge it appeareth troubeled dymme and smoky. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iii, Ib conceale such reall ornaments..as a Millaners wife do's her wrought stomacher, with a smokie lawne, or a black cypresse. 1647 HEXHAM I. (Colours), A Smokie colour, *een roock verwe.* 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 38 Blackness is occasion'd by a smoaky and adust terrene. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 196 The red and smoky colour of their flowers. 1855 BREWSTER *Life Newton* I. vii. 171 A

large crystal of quartz of a smoky colour. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 288 If it is present in small quantities only, the urine will be smoky.

b. In names of stones, esp. *smoky quartz.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 82/1 Blackish brown, smoky topaz, or *rauch topaz* of the Germans. 1837 DANA *Min.* 340 Smoky quartz is a transparent, or translucent crystalline variety, having a smoky color. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 389 The brown or Smoky Quartz (coloured by a substance containing carbon and nitrogen).

c. In names of moths, bats, birds, etc.

1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* V. 63 *Molossus Fumarius* (Smoky Bulldog Bat). 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 87 The Smoky Wainscot. *Ibid.* 142 The Smoky Wave. 1871 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 320 The Smoky Mastiff Bat is a well-known South American species. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 419 *Psilorhinus*, Brown Jays. Smoky Pies.

7. Qualifying names of colours.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* A 4 All smokie blacke as Pitch. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Enfer*, A darke, and smoakie browne. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 182 The three [leaves] that stand upright [are] of a smoakie yellow. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4249/4 Lost.., a smoaky gray Horse. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 26/2 Upper part of the neck smoky red. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 194 The belly smoky-gray in some localities.

8. Steaming, reeking; rising in fine spray.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* 1448 My limbes may issue from your smoaky mouthes. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 323 Fro the wound the smoky blood ran bubling. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* v. 185 Lash'd with their Oars, the smoaky Billows rise; Sparkles the briny Main, and the vex'd Ocean fries. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 150 Their oars they seize, And sweep with equal strokes the smoky seas. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 523 [They] then part the smoky flesh, enjoy the feast.

9. Addicted to, associated with, the smoking of tobacco.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 158 And to approue his Heraldrie, scutchend out the honourable Armes of the smoakie Societie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 827 To which opinion, for the excellence of the Tobacco there found, he should happily have the smokie subscriptions of many Humorists. 1806 LAMB in Ainger *Life* (1882) 65 A smoky man must write smoky farces. 1893 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 5/1 The sodden and smokey young men who may be found watching football matches.

†10. Quick to suspect or take note; shrewd, sharp, suspicious. *Obs.*

The *Dict. Cant. Crew* (*a* 1700) also gives 'jealous'.

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* III. i, They shall find me a smoaky Thief. *Ibid.* IV. iv, I am sharp and smoaky. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 132 ¶ 3 Thou art, I see, a smoaky old Fellow, and I'll be very orderly the ensuing Part of the Journey. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. (1782) 23 This old brother of ours tho' is smoaky and shrewd, and tho' an odd, a sensible fellow. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 132 She is what you call a smoky damsel.

11. *U.S.* Of horses: Vicious.

1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 13/2 Cow-boys often call vicious horses 'smoky' horses.

12. *Comb.*, as *smoky-bearded, -flavoured, -tinted; smoky-looking, -seeming, -waving.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 133 Small, smoaky-waving clouds. 1610 B. JONSON *Alchemist* IV. vi, This Doctor, Your sooty, smoakie-bearded compeere. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* (1614) 121/1 Certaine thicke and smoky-seeming mists. 1611 COTGR., *Enfumé*, .. smoakie-coloured. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* viii. III. 124 The dingy, ill-smelling, smoky-looking coffee-room. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 7/1 The smoky-flavoured Glenlivet toddy. 1862 DANA *Min.* 134 A smoky-tinted quartz crystal.

B. *sb.* 1. *dial.* The hedge-sparrow.

1889 H. SAUNDERS *Brit. Birds* 85 The Hedge-Sparrow is known by a variety of names, such as.. 'Smokie', and 'Shuffle-wing'. 1894 in HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.*

2. *Sc.* A smoked haddock.

1891 W. GORDON in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. XIV. 243 Will ye buy ony fish—Bonnie smokies, as cheap as they're clean?

3. A smoke or smoke-blue cat.

1898 *Ladies' Field* 6 Aug. 378/2 The two smokies, Cossy and Jetterina.

Smolder, *sb.* and *v.*: see SMOULDER.

†**Smolet, -lat.** *Sc. Obs.*[-1] (Meaning uncertain.)

1508 DUNBAR *Tua mariit wemen* 113 Quhen the smy on me smyrkis, with his smake smolet [*v.r.* smollat].

Smolt (smōlt), *sb.*[1] Orig. *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: *α.* 6 smolte, 6–7, 9 **smolt**, 9 **smoult**. *β.* 6–7 **smowte**, 7 **smowt**, 8–9 **smout**, 9 **smoot**. [Of doubtful origin: connexion with SMOLT *a.* is not clear. A later form is *smelt*: see SMELT *sb.*[1] 3.]

1. A young salmon in the stage intermediate between the parr and the grilse, when it becomes covered with silvery scales and migrates to the sea for the first time.

α. 1469 *Sc. Acts, Jas. III*, c. 13 (1814) II. 96 All mylleris þat slais Smo[l]tis with crelis or ony vthir maner of way. 1510 *Reg. Magni Sig. Scot.* I. 730 Cum piscationibus, exceptis salmonibus, le keppir, et smolts. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 581 That thay tak smoltis or salmond in the miln-dammis. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 97 Sicklike smolts, sould not be taken..fra the middes of Aprill, to the nativitie of Saint John the Baptist. 1804 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* II. 513 At this period of time they are from four to six inches in length only, being in some places called smoults. 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 97 § 2 'Salmon' shall .. include .. sea trout, bull trout, smolts, parr, and other migratory fish of the salmon kind. 1881 *Standard* 10 Sept. 2/1 The migratory instinct does not occur till the young fish have become what are called 'smolts'.

attrib. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 224 The young salmon, as soon as the smolt stage is reached, migrates down the rivers to the sea.

β. 1523–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 The yonge frie, spaume, or broode of any kinde of salmon, called lakspinkes, smowtes, or salmon pele. 1677 JOHNSON in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 127 In Cumberland, the fishers,..after the first summer, call them free, or frie, as we [in Yorkshire] smowts or smelts, before they come to be lackes. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 242 The young [salmon]..gradually increase to the length of four or five inches, and are then termed Smelts or Smouts. 1803 J. WALKER in *Prize Ess. Highland Soc.* II. 351 They are called samlets,..but are generally known among our country people by the name of salmon smouts. 1866 C. W. HATFIELD *Notices Doncaster* I. 99 The young of the salmon..was known only as a smolt or 'smout'.

b. *transf.* A small person or thing.

1808 JAMIESON, *Smolt*, metaph. used to denote a child. 1868 W. SHELLEY *Flowers* 199 Mamma's pet, Smirkin' smout. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Smout*..,anything small.

2. 'A small trout of the speckled kind' (*Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* 1882 s.v. *Smout*).

†**Smolt,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* Also 5 smolte. [OE. *smolt*, = MLG. and LG. *smolt* (hence MDa., Norw., Icel. *smolt*, Sw. *smult*), MDu. and Du. *smout*, related to MLG. (and LG.) *smalt*, OHG. *smalz* (G. *schmalz*); both stems are ablaut-grades of **smeltan* to melt: see SMELT *v.*] Lard, fat.

In the later quots. perh. after MLG. or MDu.

a 1000 in *Anglia* XIII. 404 *Pinguedo*, smolt. *a* 1100 in Napier *O. E. Lex.* 58 Þær sculan eac ii fætte swyn up arisan to smolte. 1430 *Maldon Court-Rolls* (Bundle 18, No. 3), 1 barell. de smolte, et dimid. barell. de smolte. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 74 Salt smolt, for the barel, iii d.

Smolt (smōult), *a.* Now only *dial.* Also 6, 9 *dial.* smoult, 6 *Sc.* smowt. [OE. *smolt*, = MDu. *smolt*, *smout* (WFris. *smout* sheltered), Da. *smult*; cf. OS. *smultro* quietly, calmly, MSw. *smultna* (Sw. dial. *smyltna*) to become calm. A commoner form in OE. was *smylte*.]

†1. Of weather: Fair, fine, calm. *Obs.*

Halliwell's '*Smoult*, hot; sultry. *Kent.*' is not otherwise certified. In Norfolk dial., *smoultin'* is used to denote the calming down of a stormy sea during the ebb-tide.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 2 [ζ]e cueðas, 'smolt bið, read is..beofon'. *c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 2 On æfen ge cweðeð, 'to-morgen hit beoð smolt weder'. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XIII. viii. 30 Makand the hevynnis fayr, cleyr, and scheyne, The weddir smowt, and firmament serene. *a* 1550 *Peblis to Play* vi. in Pinkerton *Sc. Ballads* (1783) II. 4 Mirrie Madinis, think not lang; The wedder is fair and smolt.

†2. Pleasant, agreeable, affable. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1763 With smoþe smylyng & smolt þay smeten in-to merþe. 1553 *Respublicæ* III. iii. 80 (Brandl), *Respub.* This ys Honestee. *People.* A gaye smoult smirking howrecop tis, zo mot I þee!

3. Bright, shining; smooth, polished.

1837 *Wilson's Tales Borders* III. 304/2 He saw their smolt spirits scour awa to heaven like fire flaughts! 1852– in dial. glossaries (Sussex, Hants.).

Smolt (smōult), *v.*[1] [f. SMOLT *sb.*[1]] *intr.* Of young salmon: To pass into the smolt stage.

1855 J. WILSON in *Mem.* (1859) viii. 315 The female parr 'smolt' soon after the completion of the first year.

†**Smolt,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To make off, go, escape, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 461 He hade þe smelle of þe smach & smoltes þeder sone. *Ibid.* 732, I schal forgyue alle þe gylt..& let hem smolt al unsmyten smoþely atonez.

Smooch (smūtʃ), *sb. U.S.* [Cf. SMOUCH *sb.*[4] and SMUTCH *sb.*] A smutch or smear.

1842 MOTLEY *Lett.* (1889) I. 136 The body of the Child is a mere smooch of lamp-black. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* iii. (1873) 58 A smooch of stove-polish across her arm.

Smooch (smūtʃ), *v.* Latterly *U.S.* [Cf. prec. and SMUTCH *v.*] *trans.* To sully, dirty. Hence **Smooched** *ppl. a.*

1632 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* I. v. i, Must your black face be smooching my Mistresses white lips with a moorian? 1828 WEBSTER s.v. *Smutch*, In New England ..*smooch*.. signifies to foul or blacken with something produced by combustion or other like substance. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* I. xix. 137 Attracting the attention and courtesies of every smooched petticoat far and near.

Smook (smūk), *sb. Sc.* and *north.* Now *rare.* Also 6 smooke; *Sc.* smowk, smuke, **smuik**(e, **smeuk, smewk.** [prob. ad. older Flem. *smuik* (Kilian *smuyck*): cf. next.] Smoke, reek, vapour.

α. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXVI. 120 He smorit thame with smvke [*v.r.* a smuik]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 The reik, smeuk, and the stink of the gun puldir. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* v. 8 The altar..is sprinkled be the lew, He makis a smuike.

β. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 41 b, Of the fyer and smolder did ryse suche a smooke. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/31 V^e^ Smooke, *fumus*. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. xxii, Of glorie vaine to gaine an idle smooke [*rimes* forsook, betooke].

Smook (smūk), *v. Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 6 smooke, 9 smook; 6 smowk, smewk (8 **smuke**), 9 **smuik.** [prob. ad. Flem. *smuiken, smuken* (Kilian *smuycken*, earlier *smuycken*), obscurely related to SMOKE *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To smoke, in various senses. Hence **Smoo'king,** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXIII. 56 On him come nowthir stole nor fannoun, For smowking of the smydy. *c* 1520 NISBET *N. T.*, *Matt.* xii. 20 He sal..nocht slokin a smewkand brand. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/34 To Smooke, *fumare*. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (*c* 1850) 49 Auld Marget in the fauld she sits, And spins, and sings, and smuiks by fits. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *To Smook, Smuik*, to suffocate by means of sulphur; a term applied to the barbarous mode of destroying bees in order to gain their honey.

Smoor (smūəɹ), *sb. Sc.* [f. next.] A stifling or suffocating atmosphere, smoke, etc.; smother.

1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xiii. 124 Our cave..was full of the white smoor of gunpowder smoke. 1895 — *Men of Mosshags* 106 In the smoor of the snow.

Smoor (smūəɹ), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6, 9 smure, 6 smuyr, smuir(e; 6–7 smoore, 6–9 **smoor**, etc. [perh. ad. MDu. or MLG. *smōren* (Du. *smoren*, LG. *smoren*, *smören*; G. *schmoren*, G. dial. *schmoeren*, *schmuren*), = OE. *smorian* SMORE *v.* The vowel is not a normal native variant of the *o* of *smorian*.] To smother, in various senses.

1. *intr.* To undergo smothering (*lit.* or *fig.*).

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1204 It war syn, but recure, The knightis honour suld smure, That did me this honoure. 1550 LYNDESAY *Sqr. Meldrum* 45 That his hie honour suld not smure, Considering quhat he did indure. 1791 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 90 By this time he was cross the ford, Whare, in the snaw, the chapman smoor'd.

2. *trans.* a. *fig.* or *transf.* To conceal or hide; to suppress; to deaden, stupefy, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. Prol. 48 He..nevyr dar vndertak a douchty deyd, Bot doith all curage and all manheid smuyr. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 188 Hurt not 3our honouris, the samin to smuire. 1636 *Montgomerie's Cherrie & Slae* (Wreittoun) 261 But ay the more I shoope to smoor'de The bolder it brake out. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xxiii, They drank, 'Till a' their sense was smoor'd. 1792 BURNS *Duncan Gray cam' here to woo* v, Swelling pity smoored his wrath. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii, Ye maun smoor my first born puir conscience atween ye.

b. To smother, stifle, suffocate; *esp.* to deprive of life by suffocation.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* iii. 19 This womans sonne died in the nighte (for she smoored him in the slepe). 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* v. iv, Ile smoore some of them. 1656 in W. ROSS *Pastoral Wk. in Covenanting Times* (1887) 73 James Tailzor laitlie haid all his horses smoored. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Nine braw nowt were smoor'd. 1787 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 33 The bees..Are doom'd by Man, ..The death o' devils, smoor'd wi' brimstone reek. *a* 1800– in many northern dial. glossaries. 1832 R. SURTEES in G. Taylor *Mem.* (Surtees) 282 Nic. Ward was smoor'd in his father's own draw well. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 530 The sheep had been smoored by scores in the drifts.

c. To put out or extinguish (a light or fire). Also in fig. context.

1721 RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* xv, The quacks wha that fire smoors, And puts nae out. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Smore, Smure the candle*, put it out. 1903 *Q. Rev.* July 25 When kindling or 'smooring' a fire.

Smoot, *sb.*[1] *north. dial.* Forms: 7 **smought, smoute,** 9 **smout,** 8–9 **smoot,** etc. [Of Scand. origin: cf. ON. *smōtta*, Norw. dial. *smotta*, *smott*, Sw. dial. *smott*, *smutt*, Da. *smutte* narrow passage, hole, etc.] A hole or opening at the foot of a wall, the bottom of a fence or hedge, etc., esp. one allowing the passage of hares, rabbits, or sheep; a narrow passage or entrance in a beehive. (Cf. SMOOT-HOLE.)

1615 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (1906) III. 154 Thomas Langhorne shall make his Smoughts three quarters high and three quarters broad to receive the water which cometh down by the Righouse. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 62 Then are yow to sette downe the hive on the sieve, leavinge an open smoute for them to goe in just towards the South, and to cover the backside of the hive.. on all sides but onely wheare you make the smoute. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 *Smoot*, a hare muce; or any small gap or hole in the bottom of a hedge. 1869– in north. dial. glossaries (in forms *smeut*, *smeyut*, *smut(e*, etc.). 1891 J. C. ATKINSON *Moorland Parish* 84 The hare had run through the smout into Nanny's garth. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 58, I scanned the smoots and gates through which she [a hare] passed.

Smoot, *sb.*[2] *Printing slang.* In 9 **smout.** [f. SMOOT *v.*[2]] (See quot.)

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 127 *Smout*, a compositor who seeks odd jobs in various houses.

Smoot (smūt), *v.*[1] *north. dial.* [f. SMOOT *sb.*[1] Cf. Da. *smutte* to creep, slink.] *intr.* (See quots.)

1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 To *Smoot*, to creep under or through, as a hare or sheep through a hedge. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Smooting*, A young man is said to smoot after a girl when he dares not appear openly in the courtship.

Smoot (smūt), *v.*[2] *Printing slang.* Also smout. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To do casual work in a printing-house where one is not regularly employed (see quots.). †Also const. *on* (a firm). So **Smoo'ting** *vbl. sb.*

1683 MOXON *Printing* 360 If a Journey-man Smout more or less on another Printing House. *Ibid.* 390 Workmen when.. out of constant Work, do sometimes accept of a Day or twos Work..at another Printing-house: this By-work they call Smouting. [Hence in Holme and Luckombe.] 1757 FRANKLIN in Lockwood *Amer. Dict. Printing* (1894) 513 If a fat old fellow should come to your printing-house and request a little smouting. 1865 C. KNIGHT *Shadows Old Booksellers* 82 Gent..got no regular employment, but laboured here and there without settlement, upon what was called 'smouting work'. 1892 SOUTHWARD & POWELL *Pract. Printing* (ed. 4) 569 '*Smooting*.'—No member of the [Typographical] Association is permitted to work for any other employer than the one by whom he is engaged.., except in case of accident... Transgression of this rule is called 'smooting'.

Smoot, obs. form of SMUT *sb.* and *v.*

Smooth (smūð), *sb.* Also 5–6 smothe. [f. the adj.]

1. † a. A level space, = SMEETH *sb. Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 460/2 Smethe, or smothe, . . *planicies.*

b. *U.S.* A meadow; a grass field.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ii, Get some plantain and dandelion on the smooth for greens. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 314.

c. *Naut.* A stretch of comparatively smooth or calm water in a rough sea.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlii, You will find that two waves will run into one another, and . . neutralize each other, so that for a few seconds you have what they call a smooth. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Smooth,* a Cornish term applied when the surf abates its fury for a short space. Also, the lee of a ship or of a rock. 1878 D. KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 245 If there is much sea, a 'smooth' should be watched for, to tack in.

d. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 228 *Smooth,* the line of face of a stall. *Ibid., Smooths,* planes of cleavage more or less vertical.

2. The smooth part or surface *of* something; smoothness.

1551 BIBLE *Gen.* xxvii. 16 She put y^e^ skynnes vpon his handes, & vpon the smothe of hys necke. 1805 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IX. 339 Like the silver-wing'd dove was the smooth of her hair. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idyls* Ser. II. *Pan & Luna* 13 See how the sluggish jelly . . Turns marble to the touch of who would loose The solid smooth.

b. Smooth water or ground.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 409 On smooth the Seale And bended Dolphins play. 1799, 1821 [see ROUGH *sb.*[1] 2].

c. The agreeable or pleasant part, side, or aspect of anything. Used in contrast to *rough.*

1612– [see ROUGH *sb.*[1] 6 b].

† 3. A polite or veiled rebuke or retort. *Obs.*—[1]

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1595) 80 *Asteismus,* a smooth, as we call it, as when one tels a thing repugnant to the present matter or company, to say, 'I had as lieue he told me it snew'.

4. An act of smoothing.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxv, She . . gave one smooth to her hair, and finally let in her visitor.

5. An implement for smoothing or reducing the roughness of a surface; a smoother; a smooth file.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 414/1 When cooled, the roughnesses were taken off with a 'smooth' or scraper, and it was ready to receive the silver. 1881 GREENER *The Gun* 245 The bents are then cut in the tumbler with a small saw, and finished with files and smoothes. 1895 *Model Steam Eng.* 92 'Smooth,' Dead Smooths, the finest of all, complete the various forms of files.

6. a. A species of moth (see quot. 1832). b. A smooth-coated dog.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 110 The Smooth (*Cleora tenerraria,* Stephens) appears the end of June or beginning of July. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 May 4/3 He owns a brace of smooths named Dame Fortune and Dona Fortuna.

Smooth (smūð), *a.* Forms: 1 smōð, 4 smope, 4–6 smothe, 5 smoth; 4 smuth, 5 smvythe; 5 smowth, 6 smouth(e, 7 smoath(e; 6–7 smoothe, 6– smooth. [OE. *smōð,* found only once (the usual form being *smēðe* SMEETH *a.*), and not clearly represented in any of the cognate languages.]

1. Having a surface free from projections, irregularities, or inequalities; presenting no roughness or unevenness to the touch or sight.

In the first example the sense is 'unruffled, serene'.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* i. (1889) 6 Se þe mid soðre lufe full ys mid smyltum mode . . & mid smoþestum andwlitum forðstæþþ. 13 . . *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 6 So smal, so smoþe her sydez were. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 542 Hir fleshe tendre as is a chike With bent browis, smothe and slyke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smothe, pleyne, *planus. Ibid.,* Smothe, or softe, *lenis. a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & P.* x. vi. (W. de W. 1496) 379/2 The basynet . . is . . made slyke and smothe that shot may soone glyde of. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Smothe as a borde is that is well planed, *hony.* 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 143 My smooth moist hand . . Would in thy palm dissolve. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 67 Women of elegant beauties, for the most part . . cleare, and smooth as the polished ivory. 1682 K. DIGBY *Chym. Secr.* II. 171 Cast this Matter upon a smooth stone. 1763 GOLDSM. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) II. 493 These inequalities serve the better to grind . . their food, but they grow smoother with age. 1779 *Mirror* No. 11, We are not . . to wonder if the smooth enamel of the gentleman has received some little injury from the collision of such coarse materials. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 148 It is . . of a black colour, rather smooth and glossy. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 70 Brows as pale and smooth As those that mourn . . In deathless marble. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 48 Smooth ivory glossy from Indies.

absol. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* III. xxi. (W. de W.) 67 For the vertue of groping the soule knowith . . nesshe and hard, smothe and rough.

b. Free from hairs or bristles.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 690 No berd hadde he, . . As smothe it was as it were late shave. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxvii. 11 Beholde, my brother Esau is rough, and I am smooth. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Glaber,* smooth without heare. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 6 On their under side they are thin and smooth, but their upper outer edge is parted into two hairy edges. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 221 The caterpillar . . is of a jetty black, smooth as to a privation of hair, but covered with innumerable wrinkles.

c. *Bot.* Of leaves, etc.: 'Free from asperities or hairs, or any sort of unevenness' (Lindley).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 88/2 Bacchar hath a long smooth leaf. 1776 LEE *Introd. Bot.* 379 *Lævis,* smooth, free from Protuberances or Inequalities. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 356 Leaves flat and smooth. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 11/2 A perennial plant . . having one or two smooth . . leaves. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 593 The Gentian Order . . Usually smooth herbs.

2. Of ground, ways, etc.: Not rugged, rough, or broken; free from obstructions; easy to traverse. Also in fig. contexts.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 29 Lat thyn Astrelabie kowch adown euene vpon a smothe grond. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. viii. 525 Whanne the sitter knowith weel the same ambuler be . . redi into stumbling, thou3 the wey be smothe and euen. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* iii. 5 The rought wayes shalbe made smoth. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. 1851 IV. 383 The right path of a vertuous . . Education; laborious indeed at the first ascent, but else so smooth, . . so full of goodly prospect. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 256 Our Fortune rolls as from a smooth Descent. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 528 The traitor led him by a way that was smooth and easy at first. 1847 JAMES *Woodman* iii, The road was . . sandy enough, in all conscience, and not so smooth as it might have been. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 291 Hesiod . . says that the road to wickedness is smooth and very short.

† b. *To make smooth work of,* to level with the ground, to demolish. *Obs.*—[1]

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VIII. 433 Biddes battries all, and musketes wholie shoote, and make smoothe worke of th' seaun mountes and the towne.

3. Of water, the sea, etc.: Not broken or turbulent; free from big waves or roughness; running or flowing evenly, calmly, or gently.

Smooth chance or *spell,* a stretch of calm water in a rough sea.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. metr. ii. (1868) 8 Þe causes whennes þe soundyng wyndes moeuen . . þe smoþe water of þe see. 14 . . LYDGATE *Churl & Bird* xxvii, Smothe waters been ofte tyme depe. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 34 The Sea being smooth, How many shallow bauble Boates dare saile Vpon her patient brest! 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 450 While smooth Adonis from his native Rock Ran purple to the Sea. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 106 It being smooth Water, she work'd very well. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 8 Now the rich stream of music winds along Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XII. xix, A river deep, which flies with smooth but arrowy speed. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* v, Seeing what he thought was a 'smooth spell', [he] started to go forward. *Ibid.* xxv, Watching for a 'smooth chance'. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic of Hades* II. 101 Summer sea, Which gently heaved, and surged, and kissed the ledge With smooth warm tides.

b. Of a passage, voyage, etc.: Accompanied by or performed in good weather.

Common in recent colloq. use.

4. Of wind or weather: Not rough or stormy; agreeable, pleasant. Now *rare.*

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 57 The eyre attempre, and the smothe wind Of Zepherus, among the blossomes whyte. *c* 1430 — *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 The ayre attempered, the wyndes smowth and playne. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, Air . . as fresh and sweet, As where smooth Zephyrus plays on the fleet Face of the curled Streams. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 260 We had a smooth Gale of Wind at West.

5. Of liquids, etc.: Having a uniform or even consistency; free from lumps or knots. † Also of light: Uniform, equable.

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 77 Take vinegre and wyne, & stepe þe brede therein, and drawe hit thorgh a streynour . . til hit be smoth. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 189/2 A fiery light, which being smooth and in some manner thick, they conceived of kin to diurnal light. 1747-96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiv. 211 Pour it between two vessels, out of one into another, till it is quite smooth. 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 588 Stir in the curdled sauce by degrees until the whole has become very smooth. 1872 HARLAND *Common Sense in Househ.* 183 Put the flour and salt in a bowl, and add a little at a time of the water or milk, working it very smooth as you go on.

b. Of liquor: Soft or pleasing to the taste; free from sharpness or acidity.

1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xxi. 12 Corvinus, Guest divine, Bids me draw the smoothest Wine. 1746 *Ibid., Epist.* I. xv. 26 At Sea-port Towns I shall expect to find My Wines of generous and of smoother Kind. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. i, More tuns of marsh water, I warrant, than combs of smooth ale.

6. Of looks, words, etc.: Pleasant, affable, polite; seemingly amiable or friendly; having a show of sincerity or friendliness.

The unfavourable sense is the more usual, as in next.

(*a*) 13 . . *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 1763 With smoþe smylyng & smolt pay smeten in-to merþe, þat al was blis & bonchef [etc.]. 1606 DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* v. (Arb.) 36 They knew howe smooth soeuer his lookes were, there was a diuell in his bosome. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 745 Colour'd with a smooth pretence Of specious love and duty. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. i, With such smooth looks, and many a gentle Word The first fair She, beguil'd her easie Lord. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 853 Where fashion shall not sanctify abuse, Nor smooth good-breeding . . ape the work of love! . 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xii, [Oliver spoke] in his smoothest manner, and in a tone more insinuating than that which he usually employed.

(*b*) 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 97 b, Softe wordes and smothe be to be mynystred to idiottes and fooles. *c* 1590 GREENE *Frier Bacon* iii. 22, To sooth me up with such smooth flatterie. 1628 in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 272 Knox had withdrawne the harts of the people craftily from the Catholik faith, by his smoath language. 1704 TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* III. i, I . . with smooth Words Persuaded him t'intrust me with his Letter. 1754 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. (1889) 86, I doubt not but they will indeavour to amuse you with many smooth stories, as they did me. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. i. 58, I cannot shape my tongue To syllable black deeds into smooth names. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ix, The General . . speaks vaguely some smooth words to the National President.

b. Of the tongue, or of persons: Speaking fair or smoothly; using specious or attractive language; plausible, bland, insinuating, flattering.

Usually with implication of insincerity or selfish designs, but occas. in a better sense.

(*a*) *c* 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 675 Whysperyng tounges, . . Smothe afore folk, to fawnyn and to shyne, And shewe two facys in oon hood. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 230 A Smouth tong, *lingua compta.* 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 79 This Leatherne lerkin, . . Smooth tongue. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* I. i, A Chastitie, That neither pleasing Age, smooth tongue, or Gold, Could ever break upon. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. vii, Bertrand-Moleville has a smooth tongue, . . gall in his heart. 1863 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gladiators* I. 32 She is not to be won by a smooth tongue and a beardless face.

(*b*) 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* E iij b, These kinde of burnished and smooth fellowes do they know not what. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* V. iv. 46, I haue bin politicke with my friend, smooth with mine enemie. 1653 MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. § 2 That sly, smooth Physician, and faithful Patron of Witches. 1708 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 103 A smooth Preacher, and a rank Whigg. 1781 COWPER *Friendship* 23 That man, when smoothest he appears, Is most to be suspected. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* V. 376, I saw That equal baseness lived in sleeker times With smoother men. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IV. 119 He found the smooth of speech Nestor, the Pylian orator.

Comb. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Tropheis* 584 Those smooth-slie Aspicks, with their poysony sting Murder mine honor.

7. Of style or diction: Flowing gently or easily; nicely modulated; not harsh or rugged; polished.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 207 And our speech is made melodious or harmonicall . . by choise of smoothe words. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* (1848) 342, I some times . . tri'd my Pen in a smoother and more florid style. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 26 Who then shou'd sing the Nymphs, or who rehearse The Warres gliding in a smoother Verse! 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, Their style is clear, masculine, and smooth, but not florid. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VI. 522 Smooth verse, inspired by no unlettered Muse. 1874 CHAPPELL *Hist. Music* I. v. 99 Plato [described the Phrygian mode] . . as smooth and fit for prayer.

b. Of writers: Having an easy, polished style.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* I. Wks. 1851 V. 11 Joseph of Exeter, the only smooth Poet of those times. 1805 G. ELLIS in Lockhart *Scott* (1837) II. i. 31 Indeed, who is so unequal as Dryden? It may be said that he was not intentionally so—but to be very smooth is very often to be tame.

8. Making smooth; producing smoothness.

a 1596 *Sir T. More* IV. iii, I haue had A smoothe courte shauing. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Smooth Boiling of Sugar,* (among Confectioners) is when the Sugar is Boil'd to such a Degree, that [etc.].

9. Free from disturbance or excitement.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* Wks. I. 32 That smooth and voluptuous satisfaction which the assured prospect of pleasure bestows. 1807 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* 48 Hence have I Smooth passions, smooth discourse, and joyous thought. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iii, Majesties' Apartments closed in smooth rest.

10. Free from, unaccompanied by, obstruction, interruption, impediment, or difficulty. Also in phr. *to make smooth.*

1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 371 If government is perfectly in earnest, every thing ought to be made smooth for them. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iv, Consider too whether he had smooth times of it. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 5/3 The progress of the measure through Committee should . . be fairly smooth and speedy. 1890 MARTINEAU *Authority in Relig.* I. i. 10 Except where the evolution was smooth and the order eternal.

11. Of sounds: Soft; not harsh or grating.

In quot. 1887 used to render L. *tenuis.*

1830 DUBOURG *Violin* ix. (1878) 267 It is not age, but constant use, that is the means of producing a smooth, clear tone. 1887 COOK *Sievers' OE. Gram.* 111, c is the character for the smooth guttural and the smooth palatal.

12. Special collocations.

Smooth calf-skin (see quot.). *Smooth coat,* a smooth-coated dog. *Smooth-file* (see quots. 1875); hence *smooth-file* v. trans. *Smooth grace,* Mus. (see quot.). *Smooth-head,* Mining (see quot.). † *Smooth-pate,* a smooth-headed person; *Obs. Smooth-plane* (see quots.). *Smooth-sayer,* U. S., a smooth-tongued or plausible person.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 264/2 Coloured calf-skins may be bought almost as cheaply as '*smooth' calf (uncoloured ones). 1890 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 2/3 This is the best show . . ever held by the club, especially of the *smooth coats. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 15 The *Smooth file is to take out those cuts or file-stroaks that the fine file made. 1683 *Ibid., Printing* xi. P15 These Ribs must be purely Smooth-fil'd and Pollish'd. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2227/1 *Smooth-file,* 1, A finishing-file, whose teeth are of a grade of coarseness between the second-cut and the dead-smooth. . . 2. The rubbing-tool used by the needle-maker in pressing and rolling a pack of wires, cut for needles. 1659 C. SIMPSON *Division Violist* 9 Graces done with the Fingers, are of two sorts: viz. *smooth and shaked. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 228 **Smooth-heads.* See Bright-heads [backs or slines]. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV,* I. ii. 43 The horson *smooth-pates doe now weare nothing but high shoes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2227/2 **Smooth-plane,* a smoothing or finishing-plane; the last used of the series of bench-planes. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 825/2 *Smooth Plane,* one the bit of which is set at a relatively more obtuse angle than that of a block plane. 1872 C. D. WARNER *Backlog Studies* 132, I should rather, ten times over, dispense with the flatterers and the *smooth-sayers than the grumblers.

b. In the names of animals, esp. fishes and reptiles, as *smooth anemone, blenny, dab, flounder, hound,* etc. (see quots.).

1858 G. H. Lewes *Sea-side Stud.* i. 16 The common *Smooth Anemone may be had not far from high-water mark in many places. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 169 The *Smooth Blenny..on the rocky coasts of Anglesea. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 99 The Smooth Blenny (*Blennius pholis*) is commonly known as the Shanny. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* II. 221 The Lemon Dab, or *Smooth Dab, is not of such frequent occurrence as the common Rough Dab. 1884 Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 183 The *Smooth Flounder..is very similar in habits and appearance to the Flat Fish. 1603 *Smooth hound [see Hound *sb.*1 5]. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 91 The Smooth Hound..is called smooth, not that the skin is really so, but because it wants the spines on the back. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 9 The *Smooth Perch, *Perca channus*, a fish..frequently occurring on the coast of Cornwall. *Ibid.*, The *Smooth Serranus. *Serranus cabrilla.* 1713 Jago in *Ray's Syn. Pisc.* 164 *Cataphractus lævis Cornubiensis.* *Smooth Shan. 1836 Yarrell. *Brit. Fishes* I. 230 The Shanny, or smooth Shan, *blennius pholis. *Ibid.* II. 393 *Squalus mustelus*, *Smooth shark. 1880 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 61 It is known as the Sapphirine gurnard..: sea crow:..*smooth sides. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 515 *Smooth Snake,.. *Coronella Austriaca.* 1897 Bateman *Vivarium* 273 The Smooth Snake..is by far the most interesting of our three English snakes. 1769 Pennant *Brit. Zool.* III. 191 The *Smooth Sole..is extremely thin, pellucid, and white. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 69 The Scald-fish, or Megrim, or Smooth Sole (*Arnoglossus laterna*).

c. In the names of plants or trees, as *smooth acanthus, archangel*, etc.

1812 *New Botanic Garden* I. 2 Both the *Smooth and Prickly Acanthus are found to succeed in any common soil. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 88 *Laminm Lævigatum.* *Smooth Archangel. 1790 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. 434 *Smooth Cadlock; *brasica napus*, wild rape. 1887 G. Nicholson *Dict. Gard.* III. 446 **Smooth flower*, a popular name for *Leianthus longifolius*, and other species. 1889 Maiden *Useful Pl.* 554 *Hedycarya angustifolia...* 'Native Mulberry', '*Smooth Holly'. 1882 F. B. Hough *Elem. Forestry* 239 The *Smooth Maple (*Acer glabrum*). 1859 Miss Pratt *Brit. Grasses* 211 *Smooth Rock Spleenwort. 1882 F. B. Hough *Elem. Forestry* 297 The *Smooth Sumach (*Rhus glabra*).

13. With sbs. used attributively, as *smooth-face, -tongue*. See also Smooth-bore 2.

1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* xii. 18 Therfore for the smooth-face cut he calles. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Feb. 1686, Lawyers..whereof one was the smooth-tong Solicitor. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Apr. 3/3 Some are in handsome smooth-face cloth.

14. *Comb.* Forming parasynthetic adjs., as *smooth-bellied, -browed, -cheeked, -chinned*, etc.

Only a few of the earlier or more important examples of this type are given.

1607 *Lingua* III. ii, And your *smooth-bellied..drones are never without him. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* iii. 122 The *smooth-brow'd Plain..doth bid The lark to leave her bow'r. 1633 Ford *'Tis Pity* I. iii, All that *smooth-cheek'd virtue could advise. 1623 Massinger *Dk. Milan* II. i, The *smooth-chinned courtiers are abroad. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3243/4 Lost,..a Liver colour and white Spaniel Setting Dog,..*smooth Coated. 1885 C. Scott *Sheep-Farm.* 198 Amongst the smooth-coated beauties in the kennel..[is] 'Lady Help'. 1634 Milton *Comus* 86 His soft Pipe, and *smooth-dittied Song. 1668 Wilkins *Real Charac.* 78 That of *smooth edged leaves: or that whose leaves are..curled or waved about the edges. 1598 Jonson *Ev. Man. in Hum.* v. i, Lets all be *smooth fore headed once agayne. *Ibid.* II. ii, That land..Which to *smooth-fronted peace is most proclive. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 631 Nor Box, nor Limes, .. *Smooth-grain'd, and proper for the Turner's Trade. 1634 Milton *Comus* 716 Millions of spinning Worms, That in their green shops weave the *smooth-hair'd silk. 1871 M. Legrand *Cambr. Freshman* 30 A smooth-haired terrier. 1656 Cowley *Misc., Elegie upon Anacreon* 21 The *smooth-pac'd Hours of every day Glided numerously away. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 93 Naked they came to the *smooth-swarded bower. 1834 J. S. Knowles *Beggar of Bethnal Green* III. (Rtldg.) 1. 380 The *smoothest-temper'd fellow in Christendom.

b. In the specific names of birds, fishes, etc.

1787 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* Suppl. I. 67 *Smooth-billed Toucan. 1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VII. 467 Smooth-billed Barbican, *Pogonias Levirostris.* 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 306 The *smooth-bodied Raia. *Ibid.* 125 The lesser, *smooth-clouded .. Cochlea. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 1. 118 *Smooth-legged Eared Owl,..having the legs bare of feathers. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 154 The yellow, gibbose, *smooth-mouthed Porcellana. 1831 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* IX. Syn. 37 *Smooth-necked Guana, *Iguana Delesatissima.* 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 28 The *smooth-nosed Shrimp. 1893 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 474 The Smooth-nosed Mungooses. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 81 The *Smooth-tailed Stickleback, in which the lateral plates extend no farther than the ends of the rays of the pectoral fin. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 91 The second sub-family of the Hirundinidæ.—*Smooth-winged Swallows.

c. In the specific names of plants or trees.

1889 Maiden *Useful Pl.* 441 The former [was called] by the colonists 'Rough-barked Bloodwood', and the latter '*Smooth-barked Bloodwood'. *Ibid.* 476 The 'Smooth-barked Ironbark' from Brisbane. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 240 *Gramen cristatum*..is in English called *smooth-crested grass. 1887 G. Nicholson *Dict. Gard.* III. 35 Buckeye; *Smooth-fruited Horse Chestnut. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 7 Long *Smooth-headed Poppy. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 587 A small species of vetch, called the *smooth-podded tare. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 160 *Biscutella Lævigata.* Smooth podded Buckler Mustard. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 621 *Smooth-stalked meadow-grass thrives best in dry situations. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 398 The prevailing vegetable is the *smooth-stemmed tangle—*Laminaria saccharina.*

Smooth (smūð), *adv.* Also 5 smothe. [f. prec.]

1. Smoothly, in various senses.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 177 This worthy lorde began to smothe lagh. 1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* I. i. 134 The course of true loue neuer did run smooth. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 53 Smooth runnes the Water, where the Brooke is deepe. *c* 1655 Milton *Sonn.* xx, Time will run On smoother, till Favonius re-inspire The frozen earth. 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. x. 62 Smooth flow his Lines, and elegant his Style. 1799 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 41, I well know your conciliating manners will make every thing go smooth.

2. *Comb.* a. With pa. pples. used attributively or predicatively, as *smooth-bedded, -combed, -cut*, etc.

1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 148 The third step..*smooth bedded...And the sixth smooth bedded, and all the dovetails roughed out. 1579 North *Plutarch, Cæsar* (1612) 739 Those fat men and *smooth combed heads. 1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xiv, As I paced along the *smooth-cut velvet walks. 1631 Weever *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 778 White *smooth hewen Asheler stone. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 180 His perfum'd she-goat *smooth-kemb'd and high fed. 1854 tr. *Pereira's Polarized Light* 17 When a beam of light falls on a *smooth-polished surface. 1799 Wordsw. *Poet's Epitaph* 29 One to whose *smooth-rubbed soul can cling Nor form, nor feeling. 1820 Keats *Eve of St. Agnes* xxxiii, Upon his knees he sank, pale as *smooth-sculptured stone. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 66, I walk unseen On the dry *smooth-shaven Green. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xii, The Flemings..prided themselves on their civilised and smooth-shaven chins. 1756 Dyer *Fleece* IV. 86 Copious webs arrive, *Smooth wov'n, of other than Britannia's Fleece. 1678 J. Norris *Misc.* (1699) 37 Who with a *smooth-wrought Pipe shall play the Song.

b. With pres. pples., as *smooth-flowing, -gliding, -going, -sliding*, etc.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. ii, Parliamentary Eloquence, in bursts, or in plenteous *smooth-flowing floods. 1603 Daniel *Def. Rhime* G v b, We admire them not for their *smooth-gliding words. 1882 Black *Shandon Bells* xvi, The Hansom (..was not quite so *smooth-going as that of Dr. Bude). 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 117 That never gutter-gorging durty muds Defil'd the chrystall of *smooth-sliding floods. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 86 Smooth-sliding Mincius, crown'd with vocall reeds. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 682 *Smooth-soothing vows, deep sorrows soon appeas'd. 1753 Young *Brothers* I. i, *Smooth-speaking, insincere, insulting boy! 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. ii. 20 Th' uxorious River glides away,..*smooth-winding to the Sea.

Smooth (smūð), *v.* Forms: 4 smope, 5–6 smothe; 6 smouthe; 5, 7, 9 smoothe, 6– smooth. [f. Smooth *a.*, taking the place of the earlier *smēðen* Smeeth *v.* The earliest instance occurs in sense 4 a.]

I. 1. *trans.* To make (a surface or substance) smooth, even, or level; to remove or reduce the roughness, irregularity, inequality, or unevenness of; to give a smooth or glossy surface to.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 430 Of the claue Is best an handful greet..Er eyther ende ysmothed is to haue. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* III. xiv. (W. de W.) 58 This vertue *informatiua* thyrilyth what shall be thirlled, and smotheth what is rough. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 58 It surpasseth..all images of the caruer or grauer smothed and fined with his chosen instruments. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. ii. 13 To smooth the yce, or adde another hew Vnto the Raine-bow. 1630 Drayton *Muses Eliz.* Nymphal vii. 102 Here be fine night Maskes, plastred well within, To supple wrinckles, and to smooth the skin. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 261 Let the weighty Rowler run the round, To smooth the Surface of th' unequal Ground. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. viii, His Majesty's ship carpenters..helped me in smoothing them after I had done the rough work. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* IV. 217 The head of the stock being cut off and smoothed. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* Introd., An immense *assiette* of spinage, not smoothed into a uniform surface. 1881 H. James *Portr. of Lady* XXXV, Rosier got up, and stood smoothing his hat.

absol. 1611 Bible *Isaiah* xli. 7 The carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheth with the hammer, him that smote the anuill.

fig. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 97 What tongue shall smooth thy name, When I thy three houres wife haue mangled it. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* I. 200 Time, that smooths All things, hath smoothed the front of my offence.

b. To iron (linen, etc.). Now *dial.*

1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 172 They have little skill in washing, starching, or smoothing linnen. 1654 *Nicholas P.* (Camden) II. 58 The girle at that present..being smoothing of Lynnen. 1755 Johnson, *Heater*, an iron made hot, and put into a box-iron, to smooth and plait linnen. 1828– in dial. glossaries and texts (Yks., Lancs., Linc., Derby., etc.).

c. To cause (feathers, hair, etc.) to lie smooth and even. Also in fig. context.

1634 Milton *Comus* 251 How sweetly did they float upon the wings Of silence,..At every fall smoothing the Raven doune Of darknes till it smil'd. 1784 Cowper *Task* V. 692 To smooth The shag of savage nature. 1859 Tennyson *Elaine* 345 There to his proud horse Lancelot turn'd, and smooth'd The glossy shoulder. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* viii. 81 Sylla himself had to smoothe the ruffled plumes of his aspiring follower.

d. *transf.* To reduce to a simple vowel.

1894 Sweet *Anglo-Sax. Rdr.* (ed. 7) p. xxiv, In Angl. *c* (*æ*), *h*, *g*..'smooth' a preceding diphthong.

2. To make (a way) easy or plain; to free from obstruction, difficulty, or impediment. Chiefly in fig. contexts.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 83 Thee fats thee passage shal smooth. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 65, I would remoue these tedious stumbling blockes, And smooth my way vpon their headlesse neckes. 1628 Earle *Microcosm., Graue Diuine* (Arb.) 24 Hee counts it not profanenesse..to smooth his way by Aristotle to Schoole-diuinitie. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 41 The more effectualy to smooth my Way. 1717 Pope *Eloisa* 322 Thou, Abelard! the last sad office pay, And smooth my passage to the realms of day. 1779 *Mirror* No. 32, A qualification extremely useful for smoothing a man's way through the world. 1865 Burritt *Walk to Land's End* 99 Intending to smoothe the way to matrimonial happiness. 1882 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 249 His earliest work was to smooth the way for Cardinal Pole's return to England.

b. To diminish or clear away (an obstruction, difficulty, etc.).

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 188 We doubt not now, But euery Rubbe is smoothed on our way. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* v. 147 Those who had so kindly..smoothed for her all the difficulties of her journey.

3. To render (the brow) free from wrinkles, lines, frowns, etc., by natural effort; to invest with, replace by, a calm or placid expression. Also in fig. context.

1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 32 Good fortune bids vs pause, And smooth the frownes of War, with peacefull lookes. 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. i. 9 Grim-visag'd Warre, hath smooth'd his wrinkled Front. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 36 How I clap my hands, and smooth my brow! 1671 Milton *P. R.* II. 164 To..smooth the rugged'st brow. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xxix. 24 Such Scenes have charm'd the Pangs of Care, And smooth'd the clouded Forehead of Despair. 1825 Scott *Talism.* ix, The Grand Master,..on exchanging a glance with the Marquis, smoothed his frowning brow as well as he could. 1895 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 28 She smoothed a startled look. *refl.* 1819 Scott *Leg. Montrose* vi, The deep-knit furrows of his brow relaxed and smoothed themselves.

4. a. To make smooth, plausible, or specious.

1340 *Ayenb.* 57 Hit biualþ þet þe speche is grat zenne uor þet hi deþ grat kuead þa hy by uayre and ysmoþed. *c* 1600 ? Shaks. *Passionate Pilgr.* 306 And when thou comest thy tale to tell, Smooth not thy tongue with filed talk. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 66 She will deliuer him from the strange woman, which smootheth her words. 1653 Milton *Ps.* v. 28 An open grave their throat, their tongue they smooth.

b. To refine (a person or his manners); to free from rudeness or rusticity. ? *Obs.*

1644 Milton *Educ.* Wks. 1851 IV. 391 The solemn and divine harmonies of Musick..have a great power over dispositions and manners, to smooth and make them gentle from rustick harshness. 1749 Chesterf. *Lett.* cxcviii. (1792) II. 246, I am very glad that you like good company so well. I already imagine that you are a little smoothed by it. *Ibid.* cxcix. 250 Such a share of them left, as may contribute to smooth and polish you.

c. To render smooth to the ear; to polish.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 626 Harmonie Divine So smooths her charming tones, that Gods own ear Listens delighted. 1697 Dryden *Virgil* Note on Æneid IX. 853–4 Both verses are very rough; but of choice; for it had been easy for me to have smoothed them. 1724 L. Welsted *Epist.*, etc. 43 Great Spencer first..Smoothed our old Metre, and refined our Lays. 1754 Cowper *Ep. R. Lloyd* 74 Matthew..with endless pains Smooth'd and refin'd the meanest strains.

†**5.** To use smooth, flattering, or complimentary language to (a person). *Obs.* (Cf. 9 a.)

1591 Greene *Maiden's Dr.* ix, The poor he smooth'd, the proud he kept in awe. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* II. i, Slie deceits smooth Bel-imperias eares. 1623 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 162 A scholler smoothed him with this foolish allusion. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* III. XI. 572 Some expressions of Civility, and Complement, to smooth him withal, at his departure. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *Kettlewell* I. xxi. 44 He could Smooth or Flatter none upon any Consideration whatsoever.

†b. *absol.* To be smooth or plausible in one's language or bearing to others. *Obs.*

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Sir N. Burdet* iii, Fortunes guyle, Which smirking though at first, she seeme to smoothe and smyle. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 48 Because I cannot flatter,..Smile in mens faces, smooth, deceiue, and cogge. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Job Triumphant* I. 823 Or, ween you, smoothing, these Deceits to smother?

†c. So *to smooth it. Obs.*

1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 427 We must smooth it, and sooth it, and carrie two faces vnder one hoode. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 22 Pernitious Protector, dangerous Peere, That smooth'st it so with King and Common-weale.

d. *refl.* To put on smooth ingratiating airs.

1868 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 251 At the worst, I never smoothed myself for Belial or for Mammon.

6. a. To allay, assuage, mitigate the force of (passion, trouble, etc.).

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 23 The King thus smoothing the heate of his cares. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* II. ii. 81 Such smiling rogues as these..smooth euery passion That in the natures of their Lords rebell. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 120 Whereof hee soon aware, Each perturbation smooth'd with outward calme, Artificer of fraud.

absol. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. II. vi, All is dissolution, mutual rancour, gloom and despair: till National Assembly Commissioners..gradually levelling, strive in all wise ways to smooth and soothe.

b. To render (the mind, etc.) calm or tranquil; to soothe.

1604 Earl Stirling *Cræsus* v. ii, What could the world afford, or man affect, Which did not smooth my soule. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Nature* iii, O smooth my rugged heart, and there Engrave thy rev'rend law and fear. 1830 Tennyson *Leonine Elegiacs*, The ancient poetess singeth, that Hesperus all things bringeth, Smoothing the wearied mind. 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* II. v, What has roughened your temper? Put some punch to it and smooth it again.

7. To hush up, gloss over, make less conspicuous or offensive.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* III. x, This that I did was for a policie, To smooth and keepe the murder secret. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 240 (Q.1), Oh had't beene a stranger, ..To smooth his fault I should haue beene more milde. 1697

PRIDEAUX *Life Mahomet* (1716) 125 Which raising a great Noise, and many being offended with him for it, to smooth the matter again, he hath recourse to his old Art.

8. *intr.* To become smooth, calm, or tranquil.

1837 LOCKHART *Scott* lxiv. (1845) 570/1 Mrs. Coutts's brow smoothed, and..she was as..easy as ever she was in her life. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 384 Once within the friendly shelter of the pier, the water smoothed rapidly. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* 241, I trust that things are smoothing now.

II. With advs. and preps.

9. *trans.* With *up*: †**a.** To flatter, encourage.

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 100 b, Hector,..whome it behoued not to smooth vp his brother in hys filthy leachery. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 275 He that neither cockereth himselfe, nor loueth to be lulled, or smoothed-up of freindes. 1652 BP. HALL *Invis. World* III. § 5 He smooths us up in the good opinion of our own gracious disposition.

†**b.** To cover or hush up; to conceal. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 92 Al things was smoothed vp so cunningly, y^t^ he suspected nothing lesse then y^e^ reuenge intended against him. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal*(1673) 12 She..went to her husband with much flattery,..to smooth-up the matter.

†**c.** To contrive smoothly. *Obs.*—[1]

1603 DANIEL *Def. Rhime* G v b, To delight an exterior sense, wee smoothe vp a weake confused sense.

d. To polish up, improve.

1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lii. (Globe) 171 A squire from the country..desirous of..smoothing up the rudiments of his rural minuet.

10. With *over*: †**a.** To win over, appease. *Obs.*—[1]

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 708 For the Dragon being smoothed over with these gifts,..was contented to forsake the old place.

b. To make smooth or smoother in some way, esp. by the removal of a difficulty.

1611 COTGR., *Calendré*,..sleeked, or smoothed ouer. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. vi. P 4 They were politic enough to smooth over the corrugations of their contempt. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* IV. i. 75 The high moon..Serenely smoothing o'er the lofty walls Of those tall piles and sea-girt palaces. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* XXV. 418 These minor inconveniences were soon smoothed over.

c. To gloss over, minimize.

1684 BAXTER *Cath. Comm.* 40 By hiding, or smoothing over publick sins. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* V, This he smoothed over to his conscience. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* XXIV. 233 There was something about her that Eva never could make out; and she always smoothed it over with thinking that, after all, it was mamma.

11. With *out*: **a.** To take out, remove (a fold or crease) by pressure or rubbing.

1683 MOXON *Printing* XXIV. P 15 As he comes to a Token-sheet, he..smooths out the Crease with the back-side of the Nails of his Right Hand. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXX, He has had a hard task replacing the folios..; smoothing out the creases and dogs-ears. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* XXIX, The creases left by the wet [were] smoothed out.

b. To spread out smoothly or evenly.

1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* II. 19 Some batter, which she smoothed out with a wooden spoon until it was of about the thickness of a pancake.

12. With *down*: **a.** To make smooth by pressing down. Also in fig. context.

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To smooth down with the Nail, as Taylors and Seamstresses do. 1768 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 150 However,..I am to see him to-morrow, and will smooth down the feathers. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVII, She had an infant in one arm, and with the other she smoothed down her apron. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* II. 432 One In this hand held a volume as to read, And smoothed a petted peacock down with that.

b. *intr.* To become smooth by settling down.

1884 *Field* 6 Dec. (Cassell), The falls were smoothing down.

13. With *off, away*, etc. (see quots.).

1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. i, The superstitious States-man has his sneer To smooth a poor man off with that can't bribe him. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 560 Th' indented stick, that loses day by day Notch after notch, till all are smooth'd away. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell 3rd* VII. iii. 5 From his mean front..Smoothing away the unmeaning furrows. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. VIII A moment,—which one had to smooth off with oratory. 1893 'Q.' [QUILLER-COUCH] *Delectable Duchy* 25 Their wives smoothed all intelligence out of their faces as soon as I began to hint at it.

Smoothable (smū·ðăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. SMOOTH *v.*] Capable of being smoothed or made smooth.

1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unl.* 27 One verie hard, and yet smoothable, Marble.

†**Smooth-boot(s.** *Obs.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* + BOOT *sb.*[3] Cf. SLY-BOOT(S.] One who uses flattering, ingratiating, or plausible language; a bland or smooth-tongued person. Usually in pl. form.

1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict., Halagadôr*, a smoothbootes, a flatterer, a faire spoken man, a cunning tongued fellow. *a* 1610 [see SLEEKSTONE 2]. 1692 WOOD *Life* 21 Apr., Dr. Nathaniel Foy bishop of Waterford;..a smooth boots. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 8 The V.C. (whom some Waggs call a second Smoothboots). 1709 *Ibid.* 175 Old Smoothboots the Vice-Chancellor.

Hence †**Smooth-booted** *a.*, flattering, fawning, soft-spoken. *Obs.*

1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 232 Just such another smooth-booted Complyer. 1708 *Ibid.* II. 102 Y^e^ last smooth booted, sneaking Oxford Address. 1710 *Ibid.* III. 28 That old smooth-booted, self-interested,..paultry Lancaster.

Smooth-bore. Also **smoothbore, smooth bore.** [f. SMOOTH *a.* + BORE *sb.*[1]]

1. A cannon or gun of which the barrel is made with a smooth or unrifled bore.

In first quot. with punning allusion to BORE *sb.*[2]

1848 LOWELL *Fable for Critics* 1229 I divide bores myself, in the manner of rifles Into two great divisions..;—There's your smooth-bore and screw-bore [etc.]. 1859 'STONEHENGE' *Shot Gun* 306 A ball from a smooth bore (that is, from a barrel not rifled in any way). 1897 *Century Mag.* Aug. 587 A powerful double-turreted monitor, carrying two 18-inch smooth-bores.

fig. 1883 PAYN *Thicker than Water* XXIII, One thought expelling another in the narrow smoothbore of her mind.

2. *attrib.* **a.** Having a smooth or unrifled bore.

1859 *Musketry Instr.* 31 During the passage of the spherical ball through the smooth-bore barrel. 1860 TENNENT *Story Guns* (1864) 228 These trials were made with the old smooth-bore cannon. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 65 For many years the arm of the British soldier was a smooth-bore musket.

b. Adapted for guns having a smooth bore.

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 203 Smooth-bore projectiles.

Hence **Smooth-bored** *a.*, = prec. 2 a.

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 203 Smooth-bored guns. 1890 *Nature* 18 Sept., At short distances..the smooth-bored guns were reasonably accurate.

Smoothed (smūðd), *ppl. a.* [f. SMOOTH *v.*]

1. Rendered specious or plausible. *rare.*

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 101 Nor he that files his smoothed speeche. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Weedes* Wks. (1587) 152 Their smoothed toongues are lined all with guile.

2. Made smooth, even, placid; unruffled, etc.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 124 The Duke Hath banisht moodie discontented fury, As by his smoothed Browes it doth appeare. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Perpins*, Stones made iust as thicke as a wall, & shewing their smoothed ends on either side thereof. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 772 They..on the smoothed Plank..expatiate. 1713 YOUNG *Last Day* II. 368 How the smooth'd spirit into goodness glides! 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. V. i, With cheerfully smoothed countenances. 1897 MISS KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 168 Masses of smoothed rock rise up out of the whirling water.

†**3.** Indulged, pampered. *Obs.*

1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Fooles Cap* lxxiii, Such smoothed Godsons shew in Wisdomes schoole, A Milk-soppe Babie is more halfe a Foole.

Hence †**Smoothedness,** smoothness. *Obs.*—[1]

1573 GOLDING in Baret *Alv.* To Rdr. ix, The natiue propertie Of brode North speech and Sowthren smoothednesse.

Smoothen (smū·ðn), *v.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* + -EN [5.]] In frequent use *c* 1820–30, esp. by Landor.

1. *trans.* To reduce the force, harshness, or violence of (something); to assuage, mollify, tone down (a passion, etc.).

1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 55 The heate of warre..was rather smoothened than any firm peace knit. 1724 WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 403 The government of our appetites..must needs smoothen and civilize any temper. *c* 1816 FUSELI *Lect. on Art* (1848) 515 The general tone..smoothens the whirlwind that fluctuates on the foreground, and gives an air of temperance to the whole. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 559/1 For the foundation of civility it is requisite that all malignity be smoothened.

2. To make easy or plain; to clear (a way), to free from difficulty, obstruction, etc.; to lighten or lessen (a difficulty).

1648 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 375 To smoothen and facilitate things, thereby to open a passage, and pave the way to a happy peace. 1795 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 108 [It] would have smoothened the road to a general pacification. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 443/1 That I may smoothen the path to arrangements of great advantage to thee. 1857 CANON FLANAGAN *Hist. Ch. in Eng.* II. 426 To smoothen matters to the uttermost Dr. Milner made an ample apology.

3. To make (a surface, substance, etc.) smooth, level, even, calm, etc.; to free from roughness or inequality.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 73 [The paring-chisel's] office is..to pare off and smoothen the irregularities the Former [plane] made. 1683 *Ibid., Printing* XIII. P 3 He goes about to Flat and Smoothen the Face. 1772 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav.* I. 341 They..scraped off the burnt part of the wood, and smoothened the boat within. 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* Wks. 1853 II. 490/1 There spreads a marble squared And smoothen'd. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 354 The remarkable property of oil in smoothening the surface of the sea. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 142 Then we see the furrows smoothened on a stone wheel.

transf. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abroad* I. ii. 91 In France..the sharp contour of their name [*sc.* Kennedy] was smoothened into Cenedy. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. I. 1181 Language that goes as easy as a glove O'er good and evil smoothens both to one.

b. Const. *away, down, off, over.*

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exer.* xiii. 221 They cut down and smoothen away the Extuberances left by the Sharp-pointed Grooving Tool. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 111 Some may..cut-hedge and lawn adore, Which his shears have smoothen'd o'er. *Ibid.* II. 66 Oft I've seen thy little leg..Smoothen down thy silken sides. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 57 This [pile] is called the 'cast-shadow', and must not have its lower edge smoothened off.

4. *intr.* To become smooth.

1888 MCCARTHY & PRAED *Ladies' Gallery* I. i. 15 His chest expanded, his skin smoothened.

Hence **Smoothened** (smū·ðnd), *ppl. a.*; **Smoothening** (smū·ðnin), *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 45 Every bit of the smoothened, polished..body, thanks a different artist for its ornament. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* Poems (1905) 176 The soft-rinded smoothening facile chalk That yields your outline to the air's embrace. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 61/2, I should be sorry to destroy..or even to remove the smoothened plank. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 435 The first step in improvement gained from the chard beets was a smoothening of the root.

Smoother (smū·ðəɹ). [f. SMOOTH *v.*]

†**1.** One who uses smooth or flattering language; a flatterer. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Blandisseur*, a blandisher,..smoother, flattering sycophant, or claw-backe. [*a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iii. 38 My Claw backs, my Smoothers, my Parasites.]

2. One who or that which smooths in some respect; a refiner, mollifier, pacifier, etc. Also with *down.*

Freq. in recent newspaper use as in quot. 1902.

1611 COTGR., *Polisseur*, a polisher..; sleeker, smoother. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (1670) 473 [Honesty] preserveth the Magistrate free from..bribes, which is the plague, and smoother of truth. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 71 A seasonable report of some invasion..; which is a great smoother of rubs in publick proceedings. 1767 PERCY *Anc. Eng. Minstrels* in *Reliq.* (ed. 2) I. p. XX, A word which denotes 'Smoothers and Polishers of language'. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XIX. 265 A sunset is a wonderful smoother-down of these artificial features in a landscape. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/2 Last March Mr. Lehmann..was very angry with the 'smoothers', as he was pleased to call the peacemakers in the Liberal Party.

b. A worker employed in smoothing linen; a calenderer or ironer.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. i. (1869) I. 7 The bleachers and smoothers of the linen. 1898 *Daily News* 12 July 6/6 Maggie Atkinson, a smoother in Castlereagh Laundry.

3. An implement, tool, or machine for smoothing (see quots.).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 352/1 The third..is termed a *Smoother*, with which all their Leather is *stickened*, as they call it. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Bookbinding*, The book, being put in the press,..is scraped with a knife called a *scraper*; and after that with another called a *smoother*. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Smoother*, a smoothing iron. 1885 *Trans. Lanc. & Chesh. Antiq. Soc.* III. 256 These [glass] mullers or smoothers were in use for centuries. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 154 They [*sc.* pieces of wood] then pass on to the 'smoother', a fixed knife, against which they are driven.

Smoother, obs. form of SMOTHER *sb.* and *v.*

†**Smoothery:** see SMETH. *Obs.*

Smooth-faced, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* 14.]

1. Of persons: Having a face free from hair, wrinkles, etc.; clean-shaven, beardless.

?*c* 1580 in Nichols *Topographer* II. 400 Thomas Myeld in whight armours faire, and smooth-fased. 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* xi. 42 A smooth-facte Nunne is all the Abbots wealth. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* iv, Hopefull Princes (ill-aduis'd By young, and smooth-fac'd Councell). 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2056/4 John Randall,..smooth faced, aged about 20. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. x. (1826) II. 81 The smooth-faced [L. *pulcher*] Hermogenes. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Hours w. Mystics* (1860) I. 89 No shavelings,.. like the smooth-faced sanctities of the later calendar. 1883 *Standard* 16 May 5/6 Marks of small-pox were so prevalent that it was common to distinguish one free from them as a smooth-faced person.

transf. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. v. 33 Let thy Heires..Enrich the time to come, with Smooth-fac'd Peace, With smiling Plenty.

b. *fig.* Having or assuming a bland, ingratiating, or insinuating expression; plausible in manner.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 573 He that winnes of all..: That smooth-fac'd Gentleman, tickling commoditie. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* Wks. (Grosart) I. 43/2 Rogh-cast the skin of smooth-fac'd glozing Guile With burning blisters. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) 170 Nor could the treacherous smile Of smooth-fac't Wares tempt one poor man to toyl. 1812 SHELLEY *Address* Prose Wks. 1888 I. 228 Take care then of smooth-faced impostors. 1862 SALA *Ship Chandler* II. 22 How much has that smooth-faced hound given you to stand in with him?

2. *fig.* Of words, etc.: Specious, plausible.

1620–6 QUARLES *Feast for Worms* 415 They whose smooth-fac'd words become the Altar. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 194 Weak heads cannot see the far end of a smooth-faced doctrine.

3. Of things: Having a smooth face or surface.

1647 H. MORE *Poems* 177 The rough Earth, one smooth-fac'd Round would show. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. CXXXIX, For his rich Ring of smoothfac'd Diamond. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 68 Other smooth-faced and stuccoed edifices. 1896 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 6/4 A smooth-faced cloth in a soft tone of heliotrope.

Smooth-headed, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* 14.] Having a smooth head. Chiefly in the names of animals, plants, etc.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 326 The variegated-backed, smooth-headed Strix. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 7 *Papaver Dubium.* Long Smooth-headed Poppy. 1831 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* IX. Syn. 65 Smooth-headed Gerrhonote, *Gerrhonotus Leiocephalus.* 1893 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* I. 156 The Smooth-Headed Sapajou (*Cebus monachus*)..is a species from Rio Janeiro.

Smoothification. [Cf. next.] A smoothing.

1799 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 291 These [verses] I meant to have returned you with some proffered smoothifications.

Smoothify, *v.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To render smooth. In quot. *fig.*

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. xix. (1737) 85 They flatter the Devil here, and *smoothify* his Name.

Smoothing (smū·ðiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMOOTH *v.*]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1527 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 33 b, The Meale which the people in olde tyme dyd vse for the smoothing of their skinnes. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* d iij, Some of them Bear-like-whelps (by licking and smoothing) have gotten some fashionable like shape. 1676 ROW *Contin. Blair's*

Autobiog. xi. (1848) 291 After some smoothings of it, it was approven. 1738 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 120 A new sort of cast metallick Boxes for the smoothing of Linen. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 253 Every degree of resolution, from..destroying the finest striæ to the smoothing of ridges. 1885 'LUCAS MALET' *Col. Enderby's Wife* III. vi, She..slowly settled her mantle into its place, with sundry dainty pattings and smoothings.

b. *Phonology.* (See quot. 1888.)

1888 SWEET *Eng. Sounds* 22 'Smoothing' or the levelling of the two elements of a diphthong under a monophthong is the result of absorption. 1894 — *Anglo-Sax. Reader* (ed. 7) p. xxiv, When these smoothings occur in WS and Kt texts they may..be due to Angl. scribes.

2. *attrib.* in the names of appliances, implements, etc., used in smoothing, as **smoothing-board** (see quot.); **smoothing-box**, a box-iron (now *dial.*); † **smoothing-leather**, a razor-strop; **smoothing-mill, -stone** (see quots.); **smoothing-trowel**, a kind of trowel used in plastering.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 249/1 Four Instruments belonging to the Art of a Lanthorn maker...The second..is called a *Smoothing Board. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Oct. 1672, A thick piece of yron, such as laundresses use to put in their *smoothing-boxes. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 409 It will be proper to rub the smoothing-box or iron with a little wax. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 496, I passed the same Razor over my Strop or *Smoothing-Leather. 1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1302 For soft stones the *smoothing mill is sometimes a plain disk of willow wood or mahogany. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2227 *Smoothing-mill*, the polishing-mill of the lapidary. *Ibid.*, **Smoothing-stone*, a substitute for a smoothing-iron, made of steatite, attached to a plate and handle of metal. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 612 This coat is spread with a *smoothing-trowel. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 121/2 The setting is spread with the smoothing trowel.

b. *Smoothing-iron*, a flat-iron (also *fig.*); an iron slicker used for smoothing leather.

(*a*) 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* IV. iii. 63 The lace is so thicke...I know not what can foule it, vnlesse the smoothing-iron cast a rusty colour through the paper. 1755 JOHNSON s.v. *Iron*, A flat iron, box iron, or smoothing iron. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *M. Barton* viii, The smoothing-irons that hung before the fire. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 275, I drew the smoothing-iron over all, by expressing as fully..as I knew how, my admiration of his glorious country.

(*b*) 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 370 The wrinkles in the skin are flattened by means of a mallet or a smoothing iron.

c. *Smoothing-plane*, a small fine-set plane used in finishing (see quots.).

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 72 The Fore-Plain is used before the Smoothing-Plain. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 150 The Smoothing-plane..is a thick Plate of Polish'd-brass, about 9 Inches square, a little turn'd up, on all the 4 edges. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 110 The smoothing-plane is about seven inches in length, it has no tote or handle, and otherwise differs in shape from any of the planes yet mentioned. 1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret-Cutting* 83 The smoothing-plane must be set very fine, and the upper iron should come quite low down towards the edge.

Smoo·thing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That smooths or makes smooth; having the effect of smoothing.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xlvii. (W. de W.) 890 Bytter thynges..bi grete drynesse..be made smothyng and softynge. 1650 VENNER *Via Recta* 103 It induceth a smoothing delectation to the gullet. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. vii, It made her anxious..to be operated upon by that smoothing hand.

† **2.** Plausible, blandishing, flattering. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, I. i, Princes rather choose a smoothing tongue, Than men of art that can accept the time. 1592 — *Groat's W. Wit* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 114 He learnd likewise with smoothing words to faine. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 892 Thy secret pleasure turnes to open shame, ..Thy smoothing titles to a ragged name. 1675 OTWAY *Alcibiades* III. i, Fine smoothing Terms to cloke a Passion in.

Hence **Smoo·thingly** *adv.*

1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cross* (1898) I. 186 You seem an honest, intelligent sort of man, continued Mr. Bolster smoothingly. 1884 E. FAWCETT *Rutherford* vi, One of his white hands fluttered smoothingly about his yellow beard.

Smoothish (smū·ðiʃ), *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.*] Somewhat or rather smooth; slightly glabrous.

1681 GREW *Musæum* II. I. iv. 205 The Skin smoothish. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 103 The smoothish straw, and the creeping root, are obvious distinctions. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* III. 320 Having made, even in smoothish water, several experiments. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 920/2 A fast-growing tree, with a smoothish grey bark.

Smooth-leaved, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* 14.] Of plants: Having smooth leaves. Chiefly in specific names.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Acanthus*, The smooth-leav'd Garden Bear's-breech. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 456 The pinnated smooth-leaved Sorbus, The Quicken-tree. 1825 *Greenho. Comp.* I. 95 A smooth-leaved plant of easy culture. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 172/2 The Smooth-leaved Pine (*Pinus leiophylla*). 1841 *Ibid.* XIX. 485/1 *Rhus glabra* (Smooth-leaved Sumach). 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 108 Smooth-leaved Alpine Willow.

Smoothly (smū·ðli), *adv.* Forms: 4 **smopely**, 5–6 **smothely**, 6 **smothly**, 6– **smoothly**, 7 **smouthly.** [f. SMOOTH *a.*]

1. In a smooth manner; with smooth, easy, or gentle movement or motion; gently.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 407 þou me smopely has smyten. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 732, I schal..let hem smolt al unsmyten smopely atonez. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 1254 The forecastell of my shyp Shall glyde, and smothely slyp Out of the wawes wod. 1594 KYD *Cornelia* IV. ii, Thine easie streames That glide as smothly as a Parthian shaft. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 2 To make a Launcet himself which will enter smoothly. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* VI. i. (1848) 340 A belief that the toothsome would make the nutritive part go smoothly down. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 47, I brushed smoothly, but closely by the man. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 262 That winds and waters..May bear us smoothly to the Gallic shore. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* IV. 62 Where, smoothly urged, the vapours sweep Along. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Jan. 6/1 The sleighs skim along very smoothly and lightly.

transf. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep., Q. Kath. to O. Tudor* 137 The British language..runnes as smoothly from those lypps of thine, As the pure Thuskan from the Florantine. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. ii. 33 Carpet-mongers, whose name yet runne smoothly in the euen rode of a blanke verse.

Comb. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* II. 108 A gallant, stately Man-of-war, Fixed on a smoothly-sliding car. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* XXX, The broad surface of the now smoothly-flowing Kootenay.

2. So as to present or leave a smooth, even, or level surface; evenly, regularly.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxiii. 71 A longe trayne of men of armes al clos togyder and renged full smothely. 1641 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Song Sol.* IV. i, Thy Teeth like Sheep in their return From Chison, washt, and smoothly shorn. 1713 *Guardian* No. 168, Beneath the Shade of flowing Jet The lv'ry Forehead smoothly set. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 449 A bandage..should be applied, as smoothly as can be possibly performed. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 121 The rocks they contain, generally smoothly worn, but not fully rounded, are [etc.].

Comb. c 1730 SAVAGE *Wks.* (1775) II. 198 Her soft attendants smooth the spotless skin, And, smoothly oval, turn the shapely chin. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* v. 71 The wall with its smoothly-sloped facing.

b. With clothes of smooth or fine texture.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 39 They were smoothly appareled, soft lodged, daintely feasted.

3. In a bland, mild, or plausible manner; blandly, suavely.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 504 Some lokyd full smothely, and had a fals quarter. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. v, Thou hast..spoke as smoothly as an orator. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 8 Heer he smoothly seeks to wipe off all the envy of his evill Government upon his Substitutes. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* 226 The Serpent..looking so smoothly and innocently on't,..and so deceiving them. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vi, Despardieux! This is smoothly said to soothe a sick man. 1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* iv, Did he speak smoothly and civilly?

4. Without impediment, obstruction, or complication; without any trouble or difficulty arising. (Common in 19th cent.)

1668 CHAS. II in Cartwright *Madame* (1894) 260 Things should go on smouthly. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 59 It could not reasonably be expected that the government would proceed smoothly. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1766 (Oxf. ed.) I. 336 Goldsmith..mentions Luke as a person well known, and superficial readers have passed it over quite smoothly. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 135 The ceremony passed smoothly without demur or scruple. 1881 LADY HERBERT *Edith* 6 For the first few months all went on smoothly.

Smoothness (smū·ðnės). Also 4 **smope-**, 5–6 **smothnesse.** [f. SMOOTH *a.*]

1. The quality of being smooth or of having a smooth, level, or even surface; calmness (of water).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. met. 4 (1868) 166 Lettres emprentid in þe smopenesse or in þe plainesse of þe table of wex. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. XX. (W. de W.) 615 Boxe..for smothnesse of matere..is able to receyue wrytynge of letters. 1548 ELYOT, *Lævitas*, playnnesse or smothnesse. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. i, His lofty browes in foldes do figure death, And in their smoothnesse, amitie and life. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 405 Smoothness, roughness,..refer to figure, and are therefore common both to touch and sight. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Morality* (1731) 61 Democritus..makes one of them to consist in Roughness and Ruggedness, the other in Smoothness and Evenness of Parts. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 86 If the Card of the Compass can be made to stand at Rest in the Boat, either by Art, or the Smoothness of the Sea. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 31 The last degree of smoothness can only be obtained by grinding. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xv. 101 The water was of a glassy smoothness.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1247 Their [*sc.* women's] smoothness, like a goodly champaign plain, Lays open all the little worms that creep. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XV. (1687) 124 The roughness of your way, and the asperities of mens manners, must not spoil the smoothness of your soul. 1845 PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 3 A deficiency of moral energy, arising chiefly from the smoothness with which the current of social life runs down.

c. The fact of having a smooth or hairless skin.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 680 The Cause of the Smoothness in Men, is not any Abundance of Heat and Moisture, though that indeed causeth Pilositie.

d. A smooth place or part.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk. & Selv.* 86 The pieces of a body ..are only clapt together at their little smoothnesses.

2. Easy flow, elegance, or polish (of language, diction, etc.).

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. vii. (Arb.) 93 The smoothnesse of your words and sillables running vpon feete of sundrie quantities. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 9 In the verie Torrent..and (as I may say) the Whirle-winde of Passion, you must acquire and beget a Temperance that may giue it Smoothnesse. 1666 DRYDEN *Pref. Ann. Mirab.* 42, I affected the softness of expression and the smoothness of measure. 1781 COWPER *Table-talk* 513 That verse, whatever fire the fancy warms, Without a creamy smoothness has no charms. 1836 *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xvi. 385 His sentiments and arguments flow from his lips with a smoothness and facility..seldom witnessed. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Mar. 5/4 The Cabinet, lulled to repose by the smoothness of Lord Clarendon's flowing periods.

b. Polish, refinement, ease (of manners, bearing, etc.).

1832 LYTTON *E. Aram* I. vi, Judge for yourself if I be fit for the smoothness, and confidence, and ease of social intercourse. 1838 — *Alice* 60 She acquired self-possession and the smoothness of society.

3. The quality of being bland, ingratiating, or plausible; assumed or simulated friendliness, civility, or amiability.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 79 She is too subtile for thee, and her smoothnes.., and her patience, Speake to the people. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* IV, I want smoothness To thank a man for pardoning of a crime I never knew. 1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* iv, Dry, of Long-soaken, was all smoothness and civility. 1858 W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heaven* ii. 22 Smoothness is not an equivalent for truth.

4. Easiness, facility (of working).

1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 133 Many such devices work with great smoothness and certainty.

Smoo·t-hole. *dial.* Also smout-. [f. SMOOT *sb.*[1] Cf. Da. *smuthul.*] (See quots. and SMOOT *sb.*[1])

a 1828 BEWICK *Mem.* (1862) 39 The entrance to these last was always by a 'smout hole', or small opening, through which we crept on hands and knees. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Smoot-hole*, a hole in a fence, through which a hare is accustomed to pass. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 133 A smoot-hole in the fence through which the rabbits run.

Smooth-skinned, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* 14.] Having a smooth skin.

1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. v, I do not like these phlegmatic smooth-skinned, soft-fleshed fellows. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 128 *Galeus Lævis*,..the smooth-skinned Dog-fish. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2454/4 A smooth skinn'd little Spaniel Bitch. 1798 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVI. 329 The fruit is of various shapes and sizes,..some smooth skinned. 1881 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 41 The Homelyn Ray is a smooth-skinned species.

Smooth-spoken, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *adv.*] Smooth-tongued, soft-spoken.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, Now, a plague upon all smooth-spoken hosts! 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vii, You corroborate my own opinion of that smooth-spoken gentleman. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 255 The landlord, a smooth-spoken, little old man, striving hard to conciliate him.

Smooth-tongued, *a.* [f. SMOOTH *a.* 14.]

1. Smooth or plausible in speech; using fair or flattering words; smooth-spoken.

1592 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. v, Spencer..Is with that smoothe toongd scholler Baldock gone. 1603–35 BRETON *Mad World my Masters* Wks. (Grosart) II. 8/1 A very artificiall faire, sharpe-witted,..and, as I after found, smooth-tongued gentlewoman. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, What a smooth-tongu'd little Rascal 'tis. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 253 The smooth-tongued rascal found no difficulty to insinuate himself into the place of her heart. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. xiii, Those Jesuits are so smooth-tongued to women. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* viii. 552 His once smooth-tongued friend, with whom he had taken sweet counsel.

b. Of a poet or writer: Polished, refined. *rare*[−1].

1658 COKAINE *Poems* 11 Here smooth-tongu'd Drayton was inspired by Mnemosynes's manifold progenie.

2. Marked or characterized by, of the nature of, plausibility or speciousness.

1761 CHURCHILL *Night* 162 Poems 1767 I. 68 By slavish methods must he learn to please, By smooth-tongu'd flatt'ry, that curst court-disease. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stories* 298 Almost from infancy he had been noted for smooth-tongued falsehood.

Hence **Smooth-tonguedness.**

1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. 113 The smooth-tongudness of the Adversary.

Smooting, *vbl. sb.*: see SMOOT *v.*[2] and SMUTTING. **Smooty**: see SMUTTY. **Smorch,** obs. variant of SMIRCH *v.*

Smore (smōə1), *sb.* Now *Sc.* Also 4 **smorre.** [f. SMORE *v.* Cf. Du. and Flem. *smoor*, G. (rare) *schmor.*] Smother, smoke, etc.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XX. 303 (MS. Cott. Vesp.), þe smoke and þe smorre þat smyth in oure eyne. *Ibid.* 323. 1866 W. GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 171 *Smore*, a stifling smoke;.. a close, stifling atmosphere [etc.].

Smore (smōə1), *v.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **smorian**, 4– **smore** (4 **smor**, 6 *Sc.* **smoir**), 7–9 **smoar**; 9 *dial.* **smor**(r, **smur**(r. See also SMOOR *v.* [OE. *smorian*, = WFris. *smoarje, smoare*, MDu. and Du. *smoren* (Flem. also *smooren*), MLG. and LG. *smoren* (hence G. *schmoren*), of uncertain relationship. The stem is the base of early ME. *smorðer, smorðren* SMOTHER *sb.* and *v.*]

1. *trans.* To suffocate, smother.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 558 *Sffrlangulat*, wyrȝeð, *uel* smorað. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 7 Sume þonne ȝefetun in þornas & wexon þa þornas & smoradun hiæ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8670 Mi felaw smord hir barn in bedd. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7601 All suld be smored with-outen dout, War ne þa hevens ay moved obout. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 145 As hur fadur was slepand vndernethe a matres, sho smoryd him odead. *a* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVIII. xx, Thei smored were by their contrariaunce. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 84 Smored and styfled, theyr

breath failing, thei gaue vp to God their innocent soules. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 39 A rauing cloude, Which threatnes..To smore and drowne him. ? *a* 1800 *Lady Diamond* in Child *Ballads* V. 37/2 Bring here to me that bonny boy, And we'll smore him right quietlie. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Thow, Smore Thow*,..a heavy snow, accompanied with a strong wind, which..threatens to *smore*, smother, or suffocate one.

b. To suffocate or smother *in* or *with* smoke, or implying this.

14.. *Smyth & his Dame* 380 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 215 Whan he had smored her in ye smok. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 825 Lyke a smaik smorit in a smedy. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 120 In the depest pot of hell He smorit thame with smvke. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* III 124 Some other vndertooke To fire the gates, or smore the towne with smoke. *c* 1755 R. FORBES *Jrnl. from London* 2 He was like to smore us a' i' the coach wi' the very ewder [of his pipe].

c. *intr.* To choke, be suffocated.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 452 Sum neuir rais, bot smoryt quhar thai lay. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlvi. 55, I smore if I conceill, I wrak if I reveill, My hurt. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., 'I was like to smore': I was in danger of being suffocated.

2. *fig.* To smother, suppress, keep in obscurity or concealment, put or keep *down*, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 156 Sa þat þe science lent to þe be nocht tynt na smoryt in þe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1436 Gret harm I thocht his gud deid suld be smord. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 164 Yf the same shuld be smored or mysordered after your decease. 1599 JAS. I *Βασιλ. Δωρον* (1603) 47 Vntill yee roote out these barbarous feides, that their effectes may bee..smoared downe. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* Ep. A iij b, The true life of godlinesse is smoared downe and suppressed by the burthen of these human inventions. 1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 179 'Till now, I smoar'd my joy within my breast.

† 3. To smear, bedaub. *Obs.*—°

1530 PALSGR. 723/2 Where have you ben, you have all to smored your face.

† 4. To cook in a close vessel. Also *intr. Obs.* This sense is prominent in Du., Flem., LG., and G.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 76 They put it [slauke] in a poot, and smore it, as they call it, and then it looketh blake. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 67 Set it on a gentle fire, and let it stew, and smoar till the hearbs and onyons be soft.

5. *intr.* To smoulder. *rare.*

1651 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 17 Melancholy, that lies at first smoaring in the Heart and Blood. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Smore,* to burn without flame. 'The fire smores.'

Hence **Smo·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/1 Smorynge, *fumigacio.* 1586 *Rec. Elgin* (Spald. Cl.) II. 6 To prowe the death of hir tua bairnis to have bein without violence and smoiring. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. iii. 38 There lyes A little spark.., But smoreing filth so close it doth comprize That it cannot flame out. *Ibid.* II. III. ii. 15 Let fall that smoring mantle. 1647 — *Exorcismus* ii, Thou fast-bound ball Of smoring darknesse!

Smorther, etc., obs. ff. SMOTHER *sb.* and *v.*

‖ **Smorzando** (smortsa·ndo), *adv.* and *sb.* [It., pres. pple. of *smorzare* to extinguish.] (See quot. 1801.) Also **Smorzato** (smortsā·to) *adv.* [pa. pple.]

1800 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IV. 3 Mesdames Crouch,..De Camp, &c. will warble their dulcet tones, semitones,.. diminuendo's, rallentando's, and smorzando's, in due time and place! 1801 BUSBY *Dict. Mus., Smorzando,* or *Smorzato,* an expression implying that the sounds of the passage over which it is placed are to be gradually diminished in the *legato* style.

Smot, *sb.*[1] *Sc.* and *dial.* Also 6 **smoit,** 8 **smott,** 6, 9 **smote.** [f. SMOT *v.* Cf. G. dial. *schmotz,* var. of *schmutz.*]

1. A spot, stain, mark, blot. Also *fig.*

1532 *Sc. Acts, Jas. V* (1814) 335/2 Obedient sonnis to.. be auctorite apostolik, without ony manere of smot, violacioune, or defectioune. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 26 That I may be clein fra all smot of blame. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 277 Ever trew and obedient ..without any smote. 1899 'A. RAINE' *Berwen Banks* 104 The same brown smot on the nother ear, and that's the only smot upon her!

2. A distinguishing mark put on sheep; a flock of sheep marked in one way.

a 1672 LIVINGSTONE in *Sel. Biog.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 340 You must have the tarr pigg by your belt, and be ready to give a smott to every one of Christ's sheep as they come in your way. 1808 in JAMIESON. 1857 AITON *Domest. Econ.* 225 No man will break his 'smote', as it is called, but at a loss, even when a fair price is given.

† **Smot,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*—[1] [Irreg. f. *smot(e,* pa. t. of SMITE *v.*] A stroke, blow.

1566 STUDLEY tr. *Seneca, Agam.* G viij, Thryse aboute to smyte, He staide the smot.

Smot, *v.* ? *Obs.* In later use *Sc.* [Related to MHG. *smotzen* (? hence Du. *smotsen*), var. of *smutzen* (G. *schmutzen*): see SMUT *v.*] *trans.* To besmirch, defile, befoul. Also *fig.*

Also 'to mark with ruddle, tar, &c.' (Jamieson, 1808).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 359 þey be i-smotted wiþ þe schrewednesse and bycomeþ traytours also. *a* 1400 *Apol. Lollards* 18 þe kirk..forbediþ him comyn feleschip.. þat he mend þe raþer, and smot not oþer. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 97/2 The sergeants that sawe hym so black and smotted bete hym wel wyth roddes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. vii. 91 Behald thaim smottit quyte Of his reid blude. *a* 1568 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxx. 52 Ladeis suld all thingis eschew That ma thair honor smot.

† **Smo·terly,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [Cf. SMOTRY *a.* and SMOTTER *v.*] ? Besmirched in reputation.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 43 And eeck, for she was somdel smoterlich, She was as digne as water in a dich.

Smother (smv·ðəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2 **smorðer,** 3 **smurðre,** 4 **smorþre,** 5 **smorþur, -thour, -ther.** *β.* 3–4 **smoþer,** 6– **smother,** 6–7 **smoother.** *γ.* 5 **smodyr, -er,** 6 **smooder,** 9 *dial.* **smudder.** [Early ME. *smorðer,* f. the stem of OE. *smorian* SMORE *v.*]

1. Dense, suffocating, or stifling smoke, such as is produced by combustion without flame. (Freq. coupled with *smoke.*)

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 þet þridde [was] fur,..þe siste smorðer. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 272 þes feones chef þet nis to none þinge nouht bute to helle smurðre. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 303 When smoke and smorþre smyt in hus eyen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11796 Hit fest was on fyre, & flappit out onone, Vnto smorther & smoke.

β, γ. a 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 339 þe erþe it openede anon, smoke and smoþer op it wal. 13.. *Adultery* 87 in Herrig *Archiv* LXXIX. 420 Smoþer & smoke þer come owte wylde. *a* 1400 *Stockh. Medical MS.* ii. 598 in *Anglia* XVIII. 322 3if vnder nethyn þer hennys sate Of hennebane a smoþer thou make. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) VI. xxii. 270/2 There shall be brennynge fyre and smoder without ende. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Urania* lxxxii, A thick, dark, pitchy Cloud of smoak, That round-about a kindling Fire suppresses With waving smother. 1657 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 33 When a fire is first kindled there's a great deale of smoke and smother. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 381 The great smother and smoke of the oakum. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* vii, Nothing is to be seen but smother and desolation. 1828 PLANCHÉ *Descent Danube* i. 25 The distant dome of Saint Paul's rising above the smother of our huge metropolis. 1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* l, Filled with blue sulphureous fog, and smother of bitumen.

Prov. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 299 Thus must I from the smoake into the smother. 1890 *Daily News* 25 June 5/1 They had gone from the smoke into the smother.

fig. 1565 JEWEL *Reply Harding, Answ. Concl.* (1611) 651 Now the Sonne is vp; your smooder is scattered. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 12 A great smother of foggie fumes, raised by slanderous tongues. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* (1709) II. 2 Why else do they..spend their Taper in Smoak and Smother? 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. i. (Rtldg.) 337 The mad blockhead was so suffocated by the smother of authorship.

b. A smouldering state or condition; a smouldering or slow-burning fire. Also *fig.*

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 172 It lieth happely in a smother and smoak a long time before it breaketh out. 1625 BACON *Ess., Suspicion* (Arb.) 528 Men should remedy Suspicion, by procuring to know more, and not to keep their Suspicions in Smother. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Smother,* a weed and rubbish fire in a garden. 1899 BALDOCK *Cromwell as Soldier* 363 This [liberty] he employed in fanning the smother into flame.

2. Dense or suffocating dust, fog, etc., filling the air.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 827 Where clouds of dust arise,—Amid that smother, Neptune holds his place. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* IV. xlii, Rubbish, flying smother, tumbling bricks, &c. of a half-ruined house. 1845 BROWNING *Flight of Duchess* xi, The Duke..Stood for a while in a sultry smother. 1886 STEVENSON *Dr. Jekyll* 50 Through the muffle and smother of these fallen clouds.

b. A confused turmoil or welter of foam or water. Also const. *of.*

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii, We..brought the boat to in a smother of foam. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 183 The horror of that great salt smother and welter under my foot here. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *My Shipmate Louise* II. xx. 108 It made one think..of the smother one falls in with on the edge of the Gulf-Stream.

c. A wild profusion *of* flowers, etc.

1883 *Daily News* 2 July 5/8 The smother of roses along the river fronts.

d. A smothered or indistinct noise.

1904 H. B. M. WATSON *Hurricane Island* i. 7 A smother of sound came to me, as if the swimmer was under water, and his voice stifled.

3. *slang.* (See quots.)

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 34 A 'lick-up' is a boot or shoe re-lasted..,and the bottom covered with a 'smother'. *Ibid.,* This 'smother' is obtained from the dust of the room.

4. *Comb., as smother-burned, -dangled.*

1597 *Pilgr. Parnassus* I. 87 Those Amorettoes that doe spend theire time In comminge of their smother-dangled heyre. 1849 JOHNSTON *Exp. Agric.* 265 Such burned sulphury shales (smother burned) may be tried with advantage.

Smother (smv·ðəɹ), *v.* Forms: *α.* **smeorðren,** 5 **smorther.** *β.* 3 **smoðren,** 5– **smother,** 6 **smowther,** 6–7 **smouther,** 6–8 **smoother,** 7 **smuther.** *γ.* 6 **smoder,** 6–7, 9 *dial.* **smudder.** [f. SMOTHER *sb.*]

I. *trans.* 1. a. To suffocate with smoke.

a 1200– [see SMOTHERING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 220 b, They were smothered with smoke and burnt all. 1579 WALSINGHAM in *Victoria Co. Hist., Surrey* (1902) I. 391 A fyre made..by hunters that had earthed a badger, and thought to have smouthered him. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* (1629) 85 But the poore Salvage..was so smoothered with the smoake he had made..that we found him dead. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 496 The House, which was by this time all of a light Flame, fell in upon them, and they were smothered or burnt together. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 314 That the inky stream may smother or drive away mosquitoes.

fig. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* To Rdr., With the verie smoke the consciences of diuers are smothered. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Persius imit.* Wks. 1730 I. 54 By the thick fogs, which from his diet rise, His sense is smothered.

b. To suffocate by the prevention of breathing; to deprive of life by suffocation. (Freq. in passive without implication of personal agency.)

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII,* 55 [Certain criminals] the same Richarde Hun feloniously strangeled and smodered. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 51 The thirde was smothered in the water. 1665 MANLEY tr. *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 221 They that escaped slaughter..were smother'd in the Mud. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. vi, The helpless traveller.. smother'd in the dusty whirlwind dies. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. I. vi. 27 Being surrounded, and almost smothered by the crowd. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. i. 143 How just it were to..smother me when overcome by wine. 1864 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xviii, What does the chap in the play get for his trouble when the blackamoor smothers his wife?

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 147 Is it in the flight of threescore years, To..smother souls immortal in the dust? 1781 COWPER *Truth* 316 He begs their flatt'ry,..And, smother'd in't at last, is prais'd to death! ? 1813 SHELLEY *Falsehood & Vice* 50 She smothered Reason's babes in their birth. 1897 MISS KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 472, I therefore used to smother those twins by leading the conversation off.

absol. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xlix, I am Pestilence... I flit about, that I may slay and smother.

c. Used hyperbolically to denote an effusive welcome, etc., or the gaining of a complete or overwhelming victory.

(*a*) 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* IV. i, She..smothered me with a thousand tasteless kisses. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnicastle* v. 98 In a moment I was smothered with welcome. (*b*) 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec. 1/3 If there is one club more than another which Notts County would care to smother it is Aston Villa. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 2/2 They have simply smothered every scratch that has rowed against them.

2. † a. To conceal by keeping silent about; to suppress all mention of, to hush up (a matter, etc.). *Obs.* (Now with *up*: see 6 a.)

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 70 b, I lyke not to smother sinnes. 1591 GREENE *Maidens Dr.* ix, Bribes could not make him any wrong to smother. 1642 GAUDEN *3 Serm.* 48 As much as we defalk or smother of an inquired Truth. 1699 BENTLEY *Phalaris* 203 Somebody's artifice in suppressing and smothering what he thinks makes against him. 1704 HEARNE *Ductor Hist.* (1714) I. 344 Great Care has been taken to smoother his Name, but Theopompus.. tells us, he was called Erostratus. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, [Her story was] Smother'd by the king; And wisely too.

b. To cover up, so as to conceal or cause to be forgotten.

c 1585 *Faire Em* I. 295 Where neither envious eyes nor thought can pierce, But endless darkness ever smother it. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. 357 It was in their hearts, though hid and smothered in the wrinkles of their crooked hearts. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Eliz.* 120 Richard Hooker,..who with too much meeknesse smoothered his great Learning. 1722 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* I. ii, I am afraid..there's something I don't see yet, something that's smother'd under all this Raillery. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. vii. 100 So he began to turn this way and that, in order that by turmoil he might smother the past.

c. To repress, refrain from displaying, (feeling, etc.) by the exercise of self-control.

1591 SHAKS. I *Hen. VI,* IV. i. 110 Your priuate grudge my Lord of York, will out, Though ne'er so cunningly you smother it. 1593 — *Lucr.* Arg.t., Smoothering his passions for the present, [he] departed with the rest. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. iii. 52 Smothering his distast to avoyd the Saluages suspition. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 245 The Gentleman..was a little troubled at it, but smother'd his indignation. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 263 ¶ 6 Both your Sisters are crying to see the Passion which I smother. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* III. 43 Smothering the glow of shame. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* III. vii. (1850) II. 190 Almagro..had seemed willing to smother his ancient feelings of resentment towards his associate. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 101 She smothered her own grief.

3. To cover up so as to prevent from having free play or development; to suppress or check in this way.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 35 My earthie grosse conceit: Smothred in errors. 1605 — *Macb.* I. iii. 141 Function is smother'd in surmise. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.,* etc. (1656) 108 You..by your slubbering and barbarous translating..smother the fitnesse of the Sense. 1762 COWPER *To Miss Macartney* 7 Dwells there a wish..To smother in ignoble rest At once both bliss and woe? 1780 *Mirror* No. 71, These exertions..would soon have been smothered by cold political prudence. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiv, Ridicule..often checks what is absurd, and fully as often smothers that which is noble. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Lect. Clin. Med.* 371 You may smother the disease while it is merely local. 1882 SERG. BALLANTINE *Experience* I. 9 Ability..smothered by pomposity and vulgar pride.

b. To prevent (words, etc.) from having full utterance; to render indistinct or silent.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 164 The fore-teeth..yeeld a distinction and varietie in our words,..drawing them out at length, or smuddering and drowning them in the end. 1797–1809 COLERIDGE *Three Graves* IV. xiv, No power Had she the words to smother. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 161 Contented she smother'd her sighs on his breast. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* vii. 176 Suddenly the voice seemed smothered.

c. To stop (a cricket-ball) by placing the bat more or less over it.

1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 4 May 496 How the twists should smothered be Before they reach the middle stump.

4. a. To deaden or extinguish (fire, etc.) by covering so as to exclude the air; to cause to smoulder. Also *fig.*

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 727 Many have smothered

their light so long that the dampe hath put out the candle. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 61 Smother the fire with wet cloathes. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* II. 143 Heat pent up and smoothered for a time. 1758 Reid tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 141 If care be taken to smother them, so as to prevent their flaming while they burn. 1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 322 A fire, which, though smothered of necessity for the present moment, will probably never be quenched but by signal revenge. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, A fiery fuliginous mass, which could not be choked and smothered, but would fill all France with smoke. 1856 Kane *Arctic Expl.* I. xxxii. 444, I succeeded in smothering the fire.

b. To cook in a close vessel. (Cf. Smore *v.* 4.)

1706–7 Farquhar *Beaux' Strat.* I. i, They'll eat much better smothered with onions. 1748– [see Smothered 3].

5. To cover up, cover over, densely or thickly by some thing or substance. (Common in recent use.)

1598 E. Guilpin *Skial.* (1878) 21 To..shew good legs, spite of slops smothering thies. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxxi. 113 In a few minutes the sails [were] smothered and kept in by clewlines and buntlines. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* II. 34/2 When dry and finished, we take what is called a 'soft-heel-ball' and 'smother' it over. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xxi. 297 The small stations we passed were smothered in green foliage.

6. With *up*: **a.** To conceal, suppress, hush up (a matter, etc.). Cf. sense 2 a.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* B iv b, Hee woulde not smoother vp sinne, and deale in hugger mugger against his Conscience. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* ix. Wks. 1851 III. 401 The suspected Poysoning of his Father, not inquir'd into, but smother'd up. 1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., The Business was smothered up. 1827 Scott *Surgeon's Dau.* Pref., It was thought best to smother it up at the time. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* xiii, He's as anxious as you and I to smother things up.

b. To cover up in a close, dense, or suffocating manner, etc.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* xiv, A nunne?..Twere injurie to me, To smother up such bewtie in a cell. 1592a Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 1035 And there [the snail] all smother'd up, in shade doth sit. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* iv. § 13. 391 This fire..lay ..smothered up. 1644 J. Fary *God's Severity* (1645) 23 The Lords wrath lies long smothered up, but at last it kindles. 1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 106, I am smother'd up, And buried from all godlike exercise.

7. With *down*, *out* (see quots.). *rare.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 371 The..ingeniosity of their best styles..is ecclipsed, and smothered downe. 1863 *Gardener's Chron.* 23 May 493 The next year it may be noticed that the wished for crop has been smothered out.

II. *intr.* **8.** To be suffocated or stifled; to be prevented from breathing freely by smoke or other means.

c 1520 *Everyman* 796 What, sholde I smoder here? 1648 Hexham II, *Ick Smoore van den roock*, I Smoother with the smoake, or, I am Choaked with the Vapour. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* V. iv. (1875) II. 283 Ah, the good old father, mother, Doomed among the smoke to smother. 1895 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 628/2 One opinion was that he would not go into his hole because he was too hot and would smother.

9. To smoulder; to burn slowly. Now *dial.*

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* 558 Set on fire a quantitie of haye, after quench it againe by and by,..and whiles it is smoothering and smoaking, spread it vpon a plate of iron. 1667 Pepys *Diary* 29 July, The fire..lies smothering a great while..before it flames. 1729 G. Adams tr. *Sophocles, Antig.* IV. i. II. 56 The Fire shone not from the Sacrifices, but in the Ashes the Flame smothered. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 79 She will burn and smother to the Water's edge. 1825 E. Hewlett *Cottage Comforts* vi. 42 Let the fire be banked up..with turves, which will smother on for hours. 1881– in dialect use (Notts., Leic., Warw.).

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1579 L. Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 447/1 He will not haue our sinns couered, and lie smothering so, yᵗ they may not be knowen. 1588 Greene *Pandosto* (1607) 4 These ..thoughts a long time smothering in his stomacke, began at last to kindle..a secret mistrust. 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 357 Heere began the harme to smother like wet hay in fire. 1679 Mansell *Narr. Popish Plot* 5 When their old animosity did yet smoother. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1709) 65 A Man had better talk to a Post, than let his Thoughts lie Smoking and Smothering in his Head.

c. To die *out* in smoulder. *rare*⁻¹.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 63 The heate of passions in youth beginning to coole and smoother out in old men.

10. Of smoke: To escape slowly.

1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 262 We saw a smoke indeed *in* the house, rather than coming *out* of it; and the little that did, smothered through a hole in the roof instead of a chimney.

Hence **Smo·therable** *a.*, that may be smothered.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 664 A woman who is not over fastidious in all her personal arrangements..is to me the most justifiably smotherable.

Smotheration (smɒðərēi·ʃən). [Jocularly f. Smother *v.* + -ation: cf. *botheration.*]

1. The action of smothering; the state or condition of being smothered; suffocation.

1826 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 242 Nor shall we ever forget our horror on being within an ace of smotheration in the cellar. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 235 Accidental death, by natural smotheration in the snow. 1882 W. M. Williams *Sci. in Short Chapters* 360 To return the carbonic acid..to the already suffocated fire can only add smother to smotheration.

2. *U.S.* 'A sailor's dish of beef and pork smothered with potatoes' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Smothered (smɒ·ðərd), *ppl. a.* [f. Smother *v.*]

1. Of fire, flame, etc.: Not allowed to burn freely or break out. Also *fig.*

1594 Willobie *Avisa* xiv. 17 The smothered flame, too closely pent, Burnes more extreame for want of vent. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VIII. 150 Break out ye smother'd Fires, and kindle smother'd Love. 1734 R. Erskine *Gospel Sonn.* (1782) 252 My praise is now a smotherd fire. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 217 That the mass..may be still kept burning with a smothered flame.

2. Suppressed, concealed, restrained, kept down or under in some manner.

1607 Earl Stirling *J. Cæsar* III. ii, Whil'st smothred sorrow by a habite smokes. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1661) 75 Their known uncleanness, smother'd mischiefs [etc.]. 1728 Eliza Heywood tr. *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 229 Angry with himself, that he had so long concealed the smother'd Anguish. 1752 Young *Brothers* I. i, I've partly heard Her smother'd story. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. 552 While smother'd envy rises in the breast. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. 222 They must have heard something of the growls of smothered anger.

b. *Smothered mate* (see quot. 1847).

1822 W. Lewis *Chess* 24 The Knight is the only piece that can give a smothered mate. 1847 Staunton *Chess-Player's Handbk.* 25 *Smothered mate*, a checkmate which is sometimes given by the Knight when the adverse King is hemmed in, or *smothered*, by his own forces.

3. Cooked in a close vessel.

1748 in Omond *Arniston Mem.* (1887) 108 Dinner...Roast goose. Smothered rabbits. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* X. iii. P 10 A smothered rabbit on one side, and a fricasseed capon on the other.

4. Of sound: Suppressed, rendered indistinct.

1810 Southey *Kehama* XI. x, A sound, like smother'd thunder, Was heard. 1823 W. Price *Gram. 3 Oriental Langs.* Pref. p. v, The Persians..seldom give the smothered sound of *u* to the short vowels. 1862 Burton *Book Hunter* I. 9 It is told in a smothered whisper..to the horrified family.

5. Thickly or densely covered up.

1902 'Linesman' *Words Eyewitness* 89 The red tongue of flame which told that the smothered piece was countering the blow.

Hence **Smo·theredly** *adv.*

1656 Duchess of Newcastle *Nature's Pictures* 117 She perceived his Amorous Humour not to quench, but rather to burn, though smotheredly.

Smotherer (smɒ·ðərəɹ). Also 7 smootherer. [f. Smother *v.* + -er¹.] One who or that which smothers.

1648 Hexham II, *Een Smoorder*, a Smoocherer, or a Sweater out. 1687 in Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. 1897 *Columbus Dispatch* 20 Nov. 4/1 There is but one course..and that is to call upon the smotherers of the protest and petition for an explanation.

Smo·ther-fire. [f. Smother *sb.* or *v.*] A smouldering or smoky fire. Also *fig.*

1625 Gill *Sacr. Philos.* viii. 139 That dampish smother-fire of heresies, which the devill did kindle among his brands. 1905 *Daily News* 27 Jan. 4 If any ashes are to hand from a smother fire this will be found a grand fertiliser for onions.

Smo·ther-fly. *dial.* [f. Smother *v.*] A species of aphis.

1781 G. White *Selborne* xcvii, The people..were surprised by a shower of *aphides*, or smother-flies, which fell in these parts. 1796 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Midl.* (ed. 2) II. 386 The very 'Black bug' 'Negro'—here provincially 'Smother fly'—with which beans are frequently infested. 1851 *E'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Dec. 239 The Plum stocks in particular being infested with smother-fly.

Smo·theriness. [f. Smothery *a.*] The 'state of being smothery' (Webster, 1847).

Smothering (smɒ·ðəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Smother *v.*] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1602 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 83 If any Judge..shall partially demeane himself in the smothering of that fault. 1624 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 241 All vain boasting of the gifts of God..is a kind of smothering of the receipt. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 382 Any attempt to shut this out..is but a smothering of the inquiry.

b. *attrib.*, as *smothering-hole, -pan, -process.*

1648 Hexham II, *Een demp-kuyl*, a smothering-hole. *Ibid.*, *Een Smoor-panne*, a Smoothering-pan. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 376 The smothering process..cannot be so perfectly accomplished.

Smothering (smɒ·ðəriŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Smother *v.* + -ing².] That smothers, in various senses.

1. a. Of smoke, etc.: Stifling, suffocating.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 9 In his ihurnd heauet..preaste smeorðrinde smoke ut, smeeche forcuðest. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 54 Ther rose smotheryng smoke, and brese therinne. *Ibid.*, The smorthering smoke is 3our dymme doctrine. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 3303 The smoky fume smorthering so was, The Abbay it toke. 1575 Churchyard *Chippes* Mvj b, A second hell For smothryng smoke, for shot and fiery flame. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 340 The whirling ship is..all in clouds of smoth'ring sulphur lost. 1832 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xvii, Free from the smothering atmosphere which had before oppressed her like that of a charnel-house. 1863 Princess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 57 We went..to see the different machines at work, in a crowd close round us and a smothering heat.

b. Smouldering; burning slowly.

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1048/1 Greene woode, and other smotheryng rather then burnyng fewel. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1626) 167 Who stird abroad the glowing coles, that lay In smothering ashes. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* II. xiv, What fenny trash maintaines the smoth'ring fires Of his desires! 1681 Flavel *Method Grace* x. 229 Let not your troubles lye like a secret smothering fire always in your own breasts.

2. Covering (or suppressing) completely and overwhelmingly. Also *fig.*

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, The spring is hindred by your smoothering host. 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl.) 257 The innocent bloud spilt in that smotheringe tyme of tiranie. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 370 If ground can be covered with such smothering crops of the fallow kind. 1851 Trench *Poems* (1862) 19 As from beneath the smothering earth The seed strives upward to a birth. 1899 Rodway *Guiana Wilds* 113 Fire..covered with green leaves; unable to escape from its smothering burden.

3. Characterized by suffocation from smoke, etc.

1864 *Daily Telegr.* 30 Aug., The Tennessee..surrendered, ..[with] her crew in an exhausted and smothering condition.

Hence **Smo·theringly** *adv.*

1778 *Exmoor Gloss.*, *Smuggle*, to hug violently, smotheringly. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 72 Two little arms tight round her neck, smotheringly expressing a wealth of love.

Smo·ther-kiln. [f. Smother *sb.* or *v.*] A kiln in which pottery in process of firing is blackened by smoke. Also *attrib.*

1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. 13 The rude vessels of the smother kiln. 1865 *Intellect. Obs.* No. 39. 233 What some antiquaries have termed 'smother-kilns'. 1894 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 8/1 Fragments of Upchurch pottery, blackened by process of firing in smother kilns. 1898 *Berks., Bucks. & Oxon. Archæol. Jrnl.* Apr. 12 The coarse 'smother-kiln' ware, probably made in the district.

Smo·therly, *adv. Obs.*⁻¹ (Meaning doubtful.)

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 259 The Sarazyn laughes full smothirly.

Smothery (smɒ·ðəri), *a.* Also 7 smoothrie. [f. Smother *sb.* or *v.* + -y¹.] Tending to smother.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 339 Now else should not ..The plough beame hang aloft in smoothrie smoke. 1840 Browning *Sordello* III. 717 We and you in smothery chafe, ..stumbled thus far into Zin The Horrid. 1893 *Pall Mall Mag.* I. 781 The softly smothery effect of her manner.

† Smo·try, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. the stem *smotter-* (see Smotter *v.*) + -y¹.] Smutty, grimy.

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 3791 Vulcanus Was to hir so odious For his smotry, swarte face. 1412–20 — *Chron. Troy.* II. 5803 Þis smotry smyth, þis swarte Vlcanus.

† Smo·tter, *a. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] ? Pretty, handsome.

a 1500 Medwall *Nature* (Brandl) II. 194, I shall shew you the smorterst place [? *read* smotterst face] That euer ye saw wyth eyes. *c* 1515 *Interlude of Four Elements* B vij, We wyll haue bounsynge besse also, And two or thre proper wenchis mo, Ryght feyr and smotter of face.

Smo·tter, *v. Sc. rare.* [f. Smot *v.* + -er⁵: cf. Smotry *a.* and Besmottered.] *trans.* To bespatter; to soil or stain.

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VI. v. 13 His smotterit habit, our his schulderis lidder, Hang prevagely [etc.]. 1819 Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 182 Big bluidy draps..Barst out and smotter't a' the stane.

Smouch (smautʃ), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Also 8 *dial.* smeawtch, 9 smoutch. [Cf. G. *schmutz* (MHG. *smuz*) in the same sense.] A kiss, a buss.

1578 Whetstone *Promos & Cass.* I. iv. vii, Come smack me, I long for a smouch. 1634 Heywood & Brome *Lanc. Witches* II. H.'s Wks. 1874 IV. 194 I'le have one smouch at thy lips. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 66 Let meh ha one smeawtch at parting. *a* 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose*, *Smouch*, a kiss. North. *a* 1825– in dial. glossaries (Yorks., Lanc., Chesh., Linc., Northampt., E. Anglia, etc.).

Smouch (smautʃ), *sb.*² Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also smoutch. [Alteration of Mouse *sb.*]

1. A Jew.

1765 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1794) III. 60, I hate them [the Inquisitors] mortally ever since I saw them roast some poor Smouches at Lisbon because they would not eat pork. 1785 Cumberland *Observer* No. 38 P 2 Smoke the Jew!..Throw him over, says another, hand over the smoutch! 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* I. 137, I took lessons of oil painting..from a little Jew animalcule; a smouch called Burrell. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Merch. V.* (1905) 246 You find fault mit ma pargains, and say I'm a Smouch.

2. *S. African.* An itinerant trader.

1849 E. E. Napier *Exc. S. Africa* II. 391, I dare say.. you have heard that I have turned a regular 'smoutch', the Colonial term for trader.

† Smouch, *sb.*³ *Obs.* (See quot.)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Smouch*, dried leaves of the ash tree, used by the smugglers for adulterating the black, or bohea teas.

Smouch (smautʃ), *sb.*⁴ [? var. of Smutch *sb.* Cf. Smooch *sb.* and *v.*] A smudge, a dirty mark.

The vb. *smouch* 'to daub, dirty, stain', is given by Sir G. C. Lewis *Gloss. Heref.* (1839) s.v. *smirch.*

1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* III. 192 A huge smouch of black under each of their eyes. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 379 They keep carefully away from the smouch of the cigarette trays.

Smouch (smautʃ), *v.*¹ Also 6 smowtch, 6–7 smoutch. [Cf. G. dial. *schmutzen* to kiss, to smile.] *intr.* and *trans.* To kiss, buss.

(*a*) 1588 E. D. tr. *Theocritus Six Idillia* A vij, Thinkst thou..mee to kisse? I haue no will After the Countrie guise to smouch. 1600 Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, III. i, I had rather than a bend of leather She and I might smouch together.

(*b*) 1595 *Eng. Tripe-wife* (1881) 165 Kisse and smowtch the Widdow neuer so much: there is one..must carrie the wench away. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxi. 72 Chill zmouch thee every morn, before the Sun can rise. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. 235 The Knights..did so smouch them, that the lippe-frolicks were heard into the Kitchin. 1811 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 21 The little hideous Duc de Berri smouches us all. *a* 1825– in dial. glossaries (E. Anglia, Lanc., Cheshire, etc.).

Hence **Smou·cher**; **Smou·ching** *vbl. sb.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abuses* M viij b, What kissing and bussing, what smouching & slabbering one of another. 1611 COTGR., *Baiseur*, a kisser, smoutcher, smacker.

Smouch (smaʊtʃ), *v.*[2] Now *U.S.* Also smoutch. [? f. SMOUCH *sb.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To acquire dishonestly; to pilfer.

1826 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1830) 514 The far greater part of them are..getting or expecting loaves and fishes... They smouch, or want to smouch, some of the taxes. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxx. 289 Odds and ends smouched from half-a-dozen learned tongues. 1888 *New Princeton Rev.* V. 49 (Cent.), The rest of it was smouched from House's Atlantic paper.

2. *intr.* To deal unfairly or dishonestly.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 314 *To Smoutch*, to gouge; to take unfair advantage. Colloquial in New York.

Smou·chy, *a. rare* —[1]. (Meaning not clear.)

1803 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 19 Feb., The Tartars, really, are a cold, insipid, smouchy set.

Smought, obs. form of SMOOT *sb.*[1]

†**Smould.** *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] The sand-eel or launce.

1605 *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 12 Every person which..shall fish with any Draw-net or Drag-net..except for the Taking of Smoulds in Norfolk only.

Smoulder (smōu·ldəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4–7, 9 *U.S.*, smolder, 6, 9 smoulder. [Of obscure formation; the first syllable may be related to LG. *smölen*, *smāulen* (also *smälen*, *smelen*), Du. *smeulen*, to smoulder, Flem. *smoel*, *smul* hot.]

Discontinued about (or shortly after) 1600, and revived in the 19th cent.: see the note to the vb.

1. Smother; smoky vapour; the result of smouldering or slow combustion.

c 1325 *Body & Soul* 435 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 345 The eorthe openede up anon, Smoke and smolder up ther wel. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 321 Whan smoke & smolder smyt in his syȝte. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 929 The fired nuttis smolder throgh shal fle This grettist hole. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xv. 248 Men myght se the smolder of the fire x myle longe. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 49 The smoulder stops our nose with stench, the fume offends our eies. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm., Holy Ghost* xi. (1661) 472 From blood and fire and the smolder of smoke.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. viii, Lille too, black with ashes and smoulder. 1851 G. BORROW *Lavengro* III. 355 The smoulder and smoke of that fire-ball have rather bewildered my head. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 315 That driving smoulder of fire..indicates the mouth of the fatal cave.

2. A slow-burning fire or the ashes of this.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 41 b, Of the fyer and smolder did ryse suche a smooke. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 115 b, It ascendeth..as a smoke out of great smolder. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* (1889) 398 A barrow-load of the smoulder.

Smoulder (smōu·ldəɹ), *v.* Forms: 5–7, 9 (now *U.S.*) smolder (7 -ther), 6 smoolder, smow(l)-der, smoulther, 6– smoulder. [f. prec.]

During the 17th and 18th cents. both sb. and vb. fell into disuse, although poets continued to employ the ppl. adj. *smouldering*, of which Johnson (1755) says 'This word seems a participle; but I know not whether the verb *smoulder* be in use'. The revival of the verb in the 19th cent. was evidently due to Scott.

†**1.** *trans.* To smother, suffocate. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 98 Hit stanke that I was almost smoldred therof. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* I. xxiv. 77 The hete of the sonne was so brennynge hoot that almost hyt smoldred the rommayns. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 292 The most commyn opinyon was, that they were smolderyd betwene two fetherbeddes. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 157 b, Other some..doe smoolder the men wythin them wyth the flame. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* II. vii. (1589) 24 Some stumbling on the bodies dead are smoldred so and die.

†**b.** To smother, in various fig. uses. *Obs.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* li. 12 Although the giftes of the Holy Ghoste were smoldered in him. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* v. ii, How-euer the thing he clockes or smolders. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 68 Which indignitie..as then..smouldered up in respect of the common cause,.. afterwards brake out againe.

2. *intr.* To burn and smoke without flame. Also *transf.* (quot. 1851).

1529 MORE *Suppl. Souls* II. Wks. 321/2 The tone is a light flame sone ended, the tother smowdreth much lenger. 1530 PALSGR. 723/1, I smolder, as wete wood doth. *Ibid.*, This woode burneth nat clere, it dothe but smolder.

1851 TENNYSON *E. Morris* 147 The light cloud smoulders on the summer crag. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* ix. 574 Baryta salt..when burned in open air smoulders like tinder till the naphthalin is consumed. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 55 The floor was smouldering in several places.

b. In fig. contexts.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 88 Nor yet [can] my fancie make such flame, that I may smoulder in the same.

1814 SCOTT *Lord Isles* II. xxvi, He waked a spark, that, long suppress'd, Had smoulder'd in Lord Ronald's breast. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 188 The civil war.., after it had ceased to flame, had continued during some time to smoulder.

c. *fig.* To exist or continue in a suppressed state.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xv, Still..Smoulders in Roderick's breast the feud. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. 3 For wise ends, God suffers this rebellion to smoulder in His Kingdom. 1888 FAGGE *Princ. Med.* I. 185 Intestinal lesions may smoulder on without giving rise to any symptoms.

†**3.** To be feeble or languid. *Obs.*[—1]

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* IV. 55 It [the midriff] beyng wounded the hart smoldreth, like the lampe that dyeth for lacke of eyle.

Hence **Smou'ldered** *ppl. a.*

1796 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 258 Aside the beacon, up whose smouldered stones The..ivy-trails crept thinly.

Smouldering (smōu·ldəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMOULDER *v.*] The action of the verb.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 156/3 They made therin a grete smolderyng of smoke for to dysease hym. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxviii. 2 The smooldering itself will compel him to let in the water. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Forty years of that smouldering. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Oct. 2/2 Smouldering is often more difficult to deal with than open flame.

Smou'ldering, *ppl. a.* [f. SMOULDER *v.*]

†**1.** Smothering, suffocating, stifling. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 955 Al in smolderande smoke smachande ful ille. 1577 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 199 His acts be like the smoldring smoke. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 3 The smouldring dust did round about him smoke. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xvii, While the red fire, and smouldring clouds out brake. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 740 Clouds of smouldring Smoke forbad the Sacrifice. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 492 Sulphureous odours rose, and smouldering smoke.

†**2.** Smoky; giving out smoke. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 210 Least while hee goeth about to auoide the smoulthering cole-pitte hee happe to fall into the scalding lime kill. 1767 JAGO *Edge-Hill* III. 491 From russet Lawns, and smould'ring Furnaces, To trace the Progress of thy steely Arts.

3. Burning slowly and without flame.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Weal & Woe* ii. 18 The widow.. applied more fuel to her smouldering fire. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiv, When any stray drops of rain fell hissing on the smouldering embers. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xlv. (1878) 362 He only stared into the smouldering wood before him.

b. In fig. contexts.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xxxv, All the smouldering embers of womanly feeling flashed up. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 243 It is not a pleasant duty to rake up the smouldering embers of ancient controversies. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxv. 343 The smouldering fires of Arthur's wrath.

c. *fig.* Existing or continuing in a state of suppression or restraint.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xi, I subdued it into a sort of smouldering heart-burning. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* ii, A little smouldering vague anxiety. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 56 The continuous smouldering activity of the true rheumatic process.

d. Glowing with a dull light.

1898 DOYLE *Trag. Korosko* iv, Belmont, looking with smouldering eyes at the wretched Mansoor. 1904 BENSON *Challoners* i, The dusky smouldering gold of her hair.

Hence **Smou'lderingly** *adv.*; **-ness.**

1849 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. Introd., A smothered smolderingness of disposition seldom roused to open flame. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Poems* 76 The verge shrivelled inward smouldering.

†**Smou'ldery,** *a. Obs.* Also smouldry. [f. SMOULDER *v.* + -Y[1].] =SMOTHERY *a.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 13 Through smouldry cloud of duskish stincking smoke. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 185 As Gods hand wee will not take it, but..the hand of close smouldry ayre. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. ii. 8 The high arch'd roof of heaven with smouldry smoke they taint.

Smoult *v.* (dial.): see SMOLT *a.*

Smouse (smaʊz), *sb.* [ad. Du. *smous* Jew, usurer, supposed to be the same word as G. dial. *schmus* talk, patter, ad. Jewish *schmuoss*, Heb. *shʾmūʿōth* tales, news, the reference being to the persuasive eloquence of Jewish pedlars. Cf. SMOUCH *sb.*[2]]

†**1.** *slang.* A Jew. *Obs.*

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 190 They are as Impertinent and Noisie as the Smouse or German Jews at their Synagogue at Amsterdam. 1762 COLMAN *Genius, Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 35 [Earring-] bobs or drops.., which also the insinuating Smouse soon provided for her. 1785 MACKLIN *Man of World* II. 30, I honour the smouse;..it was devilish clever—the Jew distilling the Beeshop's brains.

2. *S. African.* An itinerant trader. Also *attrib.*

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 13/2 Here we met a 'smouse', or trader, coming down the country. 1883 OLIVE SCHREINER *Story Afr. Farm* II. iii, A spray of orange-blossom which she had bought from a smouse. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 112, I..did a little in the 'smouse' line.

Hence **Smou'sing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Smou'ser.**

c 1876 SIR B. FRERE in J. E. Carlyle *S. Africa & Mission Fields* (1878) 103 This process of smousing, as it is termed in local slang. 1903 E. GLANVILLE *Diamond Seekers* 225 We are smousers (traders), said Amos.

Smouse (smaʊz), *v.* Also 8 smouze. [app. ad. G. *schmausen* (LG. *smūsen*) to feast, to drink or eat luxuriously.] **a.** *intr.* To feast. **b.** *trans.* To eat up, consume, as a delicacy.

1775 *Election Ball.* 64 Let me, my dear, quaff my Beer, Smouze and carouze. 1840 J. H. FRERE *Aristophanes' Acharnians* Wks. III. 50 Some that require Quickly to be broil'd, devour'd and smoused, On the spot, piping hot.

†**Smout,** *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.*[—1] [ad. MDu. *ghesmouten*, pa. pple. of *smelten* to smelt.] Smelted.

1595 D. WEDDERBURNE *Compt Buik* (S.H.S.) 30 Ane schip pund gad Iron and...four lib. round wecht smout iron.

Smout: see SMOLT *sb.* and SMOOT.

Smoutch, variant of SMOUCH *sb.* and *v.*

Smowk, obs. form of SMOOK, smoke.

Smowt, obs. form of SMOLT *sb.* and *a.*

Smuckle(r, obs. forms of SMUGGLE(R.

Smudge (smʊdʒ), *sb.*[1] [Related to SMUDGE *v.*[1] Cf. the earlier SMUTCH *sb.*, to which this has the same correspondence as *sludge* to *slutch*.]

1. A dirty mark or stain, esp. such as is caused by a smear or by trying to rub out a previous mark.

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 596 A long sooty smudge upon the lining of my coach. 1846 D. JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle* xviii, And you think I didn't see the smudges of court plaster about her face? 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 95, I rubbed the circle and the pentacle away,..leaving but an undistinguishable smudge behind. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* vi. 48 Like a smudge from a lead pencil.

fig. 1891 HARDY *Tess* (1900) 38/1 The smudge which Tess had set upon that nobility.

b. *transf.* A blurred indistinct mass or area.

1871 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* 3 Mixing earth and sky in one settled 'smudge'. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 5/7 Wales and Scotland [in common maps] are simply smudges of mountains.

2 A smeary condition, substance, etc.; the result of smearing or dirtying.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxvi The master..finds one day that his sextant-case is all of a smudge. 1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 260 The oil, the grease and consequent 'smudge' incur a good portion of uncleanness. 1864 *Soc. Sci. Rev.* 165 The countryman who..declared that it [a picture] was nothing but 'smudge'.

b. *techn.* The scum of paint.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 411 The scum is called smudge, and is used for outside work. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 207/1 Smudge, which consists of the refuse from paint and varnish pots, and therefore contains a number of fatty, oily substances.

3. Very small coal; fine slack, coal dust.

1883 in GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 228. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 7/2 Small coal, such as smudge and slack, are plentiful.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *smudge-faced*, *-pot*; also smudge-coal, blind-coal, stone-coal (*Imperial Dict.* 1882).

1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Sept. 455 Huge poles..smeared over by a property-man with a smudge-pot. 1891 H. HERMAN *His Angel* v. 96 A grimy, smudge-faced, half-ragged urchin.

Smudge (smʊdʒ), *sb.*[2] [Related to SMUDGE *v.*[2]]

1. A suffocating smoke. Now *U.S.*

1767 MASON in *Corresp. w. Gray* (1853) 401, I will sacrifice the first stanza on your critical altar, and let it consume either in flame or smudge as it choose. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Smudge*, a suffocating smoke. 1879 BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* 125 No smoke or smudge. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 63 A small fire of green wood was making a smoke—or 'smudge', to use the Floridan vernacular.

2. A heap of combustibles ignited and emitting dense smoke, usually made with the object of repelling mosquitoes, etc. Chiefly *U.S.* and *Canada.*

1842 MRS. C. M. KIRKLAND *Forest Life* xviii. I. 183, I have had a 'smudge' made in a chafing-dish at my bed-side. 1880 MARY FITZGIBBON *Trip to Manitoba* x. 114 A smudge (a fire of chips mulched with wet hay or green twigs when well started, to create smoke). 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 346 We had three or four smudges made, the smoke from which nearly blinded us.

attrib. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 724 The most effectual of these is to kindle smudge fires about the vineyard.

Smudge (smʊdʒ), *sb.*[3] [f. SMUDGE *v.*[4]] A slight sign or indication (*of* laughter, etc.).

1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 126 A bright dimpling chuckle sometimes (smudge of laughter, the Scotch call it). 1898 G. A. SMITH *H. Drummond* i. (1899) 3 There was never a glimpse of a phylactery nor a smudge of 'unction'

†**Smudge,** *a. Obs.*[—1] [Related to SMUDGE *v.*[3] Cf. SMUG *a.*] Smart, trim.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 138 A smudge piece of a handsome fellow it hath beene in his dayes, but now he is olde and past his best.

Smudge (smʊdʒ), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 smoge, 6 smoudge, 7 smodge, smooge, 6–7, 9 smudge. [Of obscure origin; cf. the later SMUTCH *v.*]

1. *trans.* To soil, stain, blacken, smirch; to mark with dirty stains or smears.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* (1860) 744 Kepe thyn hondes, fayr and wel, From fowle smogynge of thy towel. 1548 ELYOT, *Atratus*, blacked or smudged [1565 *Cooper* smoudged]. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* D j b, The Sheetes smudged so durtily. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* v. Epil., The God whose face is Smoog'd with smoke and fiar. 1637 — *Pieces. Dial.* iv. Wks. 1874 VI. 157 To be smudg'd and grim'd with soot. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Smudged*, begrimed. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* II. 195 His coat..smudged for several inches up the sleeve of the left arm with the wipings of his pens. 1887 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. i. 30 With face and hands smudged and stained by explosive powders and virulent acids.

fig. 1602 *How to choose a Good Wife* v. ii, The beauty of the mind, Which neither time can alter..nor the black hand of envy Smudge and disgrace. 1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 29 Feb. 5/1 Halifax Chronicle smudged [=charged with libel].

b. To rub out or in, to paint or lay on, etc., in a smearing or daubing manner.

1865 *Slang Dict.* 237 *Smudge*, to smear, obliterate. 1878 [G. N. BANKS] *About some Fellows* 26 [He] made a considerably worse mess trying to smudge it out. 1899 J. G. MILLAIS *Sir J. E. Millais* II. xvii. 213 The critics insisting ..that it was a stuffed bird, just smudged into the picture. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build.* 42 Everybody, even the youngest boy, imagines he can 'smudge' paint.

c. *absol.* To make or leave a stain.

1902 *Longman's Mag.* May 4 The soil here, coloured by old Devon Sandstone, smudges red, not brown.

2. To bungle, make a mess of (something).

1864 WHYTE MELVILLE *Brookes of Bridlemere* xviii, He *smudged* it awfully, but we got over without a fall!

Hence **Smu·dging** *ppl. a.*

a 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Par. Theocritus* Poet. Wks. (1904)

584 One shaggy eyebrow draws its smudging road Straight through my ample front, from ear to ear.

Smudge (smʌdʒ), *v.*[2] Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* †a. To cure (herring) by smoking. *Obs.*—1 Halliwell's '*Smudge*, to stifle. *North.*' is not otherwise certified.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 239 In the craft of catching or taking it, and smudging it (marchant-and chapman-able as it should be), it sets a-worke thousands.

b. *U.S.* To make a smoky fire in (a tent, etc.); to fill with smoke from a smudge.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *intr.* To smoulder.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Smudge*, to burn without a flame, or any appearance of fire, except smoke. 1892 *Whitby Gaz.* 13 May 2 The bed and bed-clothes which burned and smudged for a considerable time before the fire was extinguished.

†**Smudge,** *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; the sense agrees with that of SMUG *v.*[1] For the form cf. SMUDGE *a.*] *trans.* To make smart or trim; to deck or trick *up.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 92 Doron smudgde himselfe vp, and iumpde a marriage with .. Carmela. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 279 White wine ..is good for nothing, but to wash sores in, and smudge vp withered beauty with. 1596 — *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 135 He..stood..by the glasse,..currying and smudging and pranking himselfe vnmeasurably.

Smudge (smʌdʒ), *v.*[4] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **smoodge.** [Of obscure origin; connexion with G. dial. *schmutzen* (MHG. *smutzen*) to smile, is very doubtful, but cf. next and SMOUCH *v.*[1]] *intr.* To laugh quietly or to oneself.

1808 JAMIESON, To *Smue*, or *Smudge*, to laugh in one's sleeve, to laugh in a clandestine way. Loth[ian]. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 312 Ye needna smudge and laugh at me now. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xvii, Arm-and-arm together, smoodging and laughing like daft. 1861 QUIN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 96 Weel may he smudge within his sleeve At our attempts his snares tae leave.

Smudge (smʌdʒ), *v.*[5] *rare.* [Cf. SMOUCH *v.*[1]] *trans.* To smouch, to caress.

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xliv, She smudged them and kissed them so very naturally.

Smudged (smʌdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. SMUDGE *v.*[1]] Marked with smudges; smeared, besmirched; applied in a smeary manner.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* IV. 199 To bee seene..with a smodged face. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1037 Having a black smudged face. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* vi, Uncurled wigs, smudged rouge, blear eyes. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 122/2 A smudged half sheet of paper with bald facts.

Hence **Smu·dgedly** *adv.*, in a smudged manner.

1889 *Fabian Ess.* 217 We shall see as in a glass, darkly, or smudgedly,..that confrontation of rich and poor.

Smudger (smʌ·dʒəɹ). [f. as prec.] One who smudges.

1884 *Punch* 13 Sept. 129/1 Away with all your 'turps' and tubes, oh, smudgers on the shore. 1887 H. PRATT *Jesus, Bar Rabba*, etc. 311 And the man called the name of his wife *Chavah* (smudger), for she was the stainer of life.

Smudgily (smʌ·dʒili), *adv.* [f. SMUDGY *a.*[1]] In a smudgy manner.

1864 *Athenæum* No. 1891. 121/2 The details..are carelessly, even smudgily, put in. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 229 Are we to..ignore the picturesque wholly for.. the smudgily suggestive?

Smudginess (smʌ·dʒinĕs). [f. as prec.] The state, character, or quality of being smudgy.

1864 *Spectator* 31 Dec. 1511 Some of the smudginess that here and there disfigures the *fac-similes*. 1881 *Academy* 13 Aug. 128/2 These reproductions..are pervaded by an unpleasant smudginess.

Smudgy (smʌ·dʒi), *a.*[1] [f. SMUDGE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

1. Grimy, dirty; marked with smudges.

1859 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) I. 32 Some one..who can paint without having her fingers always smudgy. 1867 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* i, The young man with the smudgy nose was an author.

Comb. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 213/2 As if by magic hundreds of smudgy-faced love-pledges surround you.

2. Smeared, smeary; blurred, indistinct.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Dec. 675/1 It does not follow that, because an etching is black and smudgy, it has depth and power. 1875 *Zoologist* X. 4485 Dull, smudgy brown..lends security to the brooding bird.

fig. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* vi. 170 A smudgy surface of dreary, dismal, dull, dead-alivism.

Smudgy (smʌ·dʒi), *a.*[2] [f. SMUDGE *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2]]

1. *dial.* a. Stifling, stuffy. b. Thick, foggy.

1847 HALLIW. s.v., The fire is so large that it makes the room feel quite hot and smudgy. 1871 PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 182 If it wasn't so..smudgy we should see 'em.

2. Giving out much smoke; smoky.

1878 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XIII. 267 If more light was needed, other smudgy lamps were added. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 768/1 He built a fire—a smouldering smudgy fire.

†**Smug,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SMUGGY *a.*] A blacksmith.

1600–9 ROWLANDS *Knave of Clubbes* (Percy Soc.) 34 A smug of Vulcan's forging trade. 1629 DEKKER *London's Tempe* 123 Worke, my fine smugges. 1709 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. 133 'You're an impudent slut,' cries the smug at his bellows.

Smug (smʌg), *sb.*[2] [f. SMUG *a.*]

Smug (and *Sir Smug*) is used as a suggestive personal name by Cowper *Hope* 413 and 438.

1. *Univ. slang.* A quiet hard-working student.

1882 *Daily News* 23 Mar. 4/7 A 'smug' was always unpopular, but all unpopular persons were not smugs. The quiet smug was generally not a rich man. 1884 RADFORD in Birrell *Obiter Dicta* 212 He had many friends at Clement's Inn who were not smugs, nor, indeed, reading men in any sense.

transf. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 1/1 The Conservative free and easy voters—unlike the Liberal smugs—'would have their holidays'.

2. A smug or self-satisfied person.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 13 June 701 The ocean of silly cant which has been poured forth on the occasion by smugs and prigs.

Smug (smʌg), *a.* Also 6 **smogue, smoog,** 6–7 **smugg(e.** [Of doubtful origin; the form is against its being ad. LG. *smuk* (whence Da. *smuk*, Sw. *smukk*, G. *schmuck*) pretty, nice, as the change of *k* to *g* would be very irregular.]

1. Of male persons: Trim, neat, spruce, smart; in later use, having a self-satisfied, conceited, or consciously respectable air.

The word has been in very common use from the 16th cent., and the earlier sense shades imperceptibly into the later, so that quotations cannot be separated.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 11 They be so smugge and smoothe, that they haue not so much as one heare of an honest man. 1581 RICH *Farew.* K j, The Duke.. perceiuyng him to bee a proper smogue yong man, gaue hym entertainment. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brazen Age* II. iv, I was when I was borne A pretty smug knaue. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Mar., To the Office with Tom, who looks mighty smug upon his marriage. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Example* v. i, Thou hast a handsom smug Neighbour that I believe knows her as well. 1740 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* I. 124 He is a patrician too, and a smugger gentleman than Livy or any of his heroes. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxix, Then thy spruce citizen, wash'd artizan, And smug apprentice gulp their weekly air. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* II. 337 A smug officer of the United States Government. 1884 SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* i. 2 The..smug undertakers of the neighbouring Soho.

b. Of women or girls. (Common *c* 1590–1650 in the older sense of the word.)

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 98 Nowe Gods blessing on thy heart (quoth Callena) for louing such a smugge lasse. 1627 FELTHAM *Low Count.* (1677) 47 As smug as a Lady that hath newly lockt up her Colours, and laid by her Irons. 1677 OTWAY *Cheats of Scapin* I. i, She is indeed a good smug lass. 1701 STEELE *Grief a la Mode* III. i, Oh, that smug old woman! There's no enduring her affectation of youth.

2. Of the face (person, etc.): Smooth, sleek; also, in later use = sense 5.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 His tayle smoog [L. *lubrica*] thirling, slyke breast to Titan vpheauing. 1592 LYLY *Midas* IV. i, Cross-gartred Swaines, & Dairie girles, With faces smug, and round as Pearles. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 59 A slicke forehead, a smugg countenaunce. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VI. iv, Those dangerous Sirens whose smug maiden face Is ugly mortal Treason's burnish'd Glass. 1712 STEELE *Spectator* No. 428 P 1 The Instrument which is to make your Visage less horrid and your Person more smug. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* XV. 404 Sleek their heads And smug their countenances. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. x, It was edifying to behold him, fresh shaved and with smug face, singing out 'Amen!' 1892 MRS. OLIPHANT *Hist. Sk. Q. Anne* v. (1894) 237 Jeremy Bentham, in whose smug countenance Mill divined unspoken offences.

3. Of things: Smooth, clean, neat, trim, or tidy; in later use, having an appearance suggestive of complacency or respectability.

1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, III. i. 102 The smug and Siluer Trent. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* Wks. (Grosart) I. 84 The skie..lookte smug and smoothe, and had not so much as a wart sticking on her face. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* II. xviii. (1668) 88 The Come..falls away and leaves the corn clean and smug of itself. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary, Journ.*, Putting on clean linnen, a tidy gown, and smug cap. 1841 DE QUINCEY *Rhetoric* (1860) 376 The smug and scanty draperies of his style. 1872 J. HATTON *Memorial Window* II. 262 To them, the smug signboards have been coffin plates.

†4. Of language: Smooth, neat. *Obs.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 129 A smug neate stile,.. vernished phrases. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVII. clxxxviii, His soft smug words tickle your wanton ear. 1682 *Annot. on Glanvill* 184 That trim and smug saying.

5. Indicative of, characterized by, complacency or conscious respectability.

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xi. 103 Human arrogance,..in the smug belief of its own election,..looks upon its fellow ..as irrevocably lost. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. 102 Addressing the audience..in the most smug and self-satisfied tone. 1885 *Athenæum* 30 May 688 A man of smug expediency and polite compromise.

6. *Comb.*, as *smug-faced, -looking, -skinned.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Herbs* Wks. 173, I coulde haue brought a noble regiment Of smugskinnde Nunnes into my countrey soyle. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* II. 252/1 The fourth that entred .. Was .. a smugfaced furie. 1720 RAMSAY *Wealth* 123 Thrice lucky pimps, or smug-fac'd wanton fair. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 2 The smug-faced deacons, in their glossy Sunday coats. 1895 'IAN MACLAREN' *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush* I, A trim, smug-looking teacher's house.

Smug (smʌg), *v.*[1] Also 7 **smugg(e.** [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To smarten up (oneself or another, one's appearance, etc.); to make trim or gay. Freq. with *up.*

(*a*) 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* To Rdr., To enter parlee with his wife, smugd vp in her best apparrell. 1599 DEKKER *Shoemaker's Holiday* III. iv, Mistress, smug up your looks; on with your best apparel. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* IV. i, Smug up your beetle-brows, none look grimly. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* III. ii, If she has smugged herself up for me, let me prune and flounce my peruke a little for her. 1750 F. COVENTRY *Hist. Pompey* I. ix, Your..master..has been smugging up his pretty face. 1772 tr. *F. de Isla's Friar Gerund* IV. iii. 68 He had smugged himself up, it is evident, with the utmost prolixity. 1888 *Blackw. Mag.* June 788 This worthy tutor, doubtless 'smugged up' in his Sunday suit.

(*b*) 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 65, I must craue A little labour to be smug'd, and haue A blessing of Rose-water. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 37, I have put on good cloathes, and smugd my face. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. xvii. 260 But to the Pole annex your Brasen Bason, 'Tis not to smug one then, but to amaze one. 1772 tr. *F. F. de Isla's Friar Gerund* II. v. 362 Our Friar Gerund was so shaved, and combed, and smugged, and spruced, that it was a delight to behold his face. 1841 *Peter Parley's Ann.* II. 234 Poor old Goody Clackett had little thoughts of ever being smugged..to make a guy on the fifth of November. 1841 L. HUNT *Seer* (1864) II. 74 All the thoroughfares in towns near London..have wonderfully plucked up, and *smugged* themselves of late years.

b. *absol.* To put on a smart or smug expression.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccxcii, The Bloat Face of Rusticitie, Smuggs, looking in A Mirrour. 1729 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 74 You smug, you trick, You toss a twire, a grin.

2. To smarten up (a thing); to fit *up* (a room, etc.) neatly or nicely. *rare.*

1598 FLORIO, *Brandire*, to trick, smug, spruce, or trim vp any thing. 1745 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 64 The moment I have smugged up a closet or a dressing-room, I have always warning given me, that my lease is out. 1751 *Ibid.* 399 The chapel is very pretty, and smugged up with tiny pews.

Hence **Smugged** *ppl. a.* (also *Comb.*); **Smu·gging** *vbl. sb.*[1]

1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 217 Dr. Green was a little spruce smugg'd fac'd..Chaplain. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 319 Drapers smugg'd Prentices. 1736 AINSWORTH 1, A smugging up, *ornatus nitidus.*

Smug (smʌg), *v.*[2] *slang.* [Of doubtful origin.]

1. *trans.* To steal, filch, run away with.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Friends* I. 320 Some cold cream, which she had *smugged* from Mrs. Abberly. 1834 R. H. FROUDE *Rem.* (1838) I. 386, I have had a horse, which I have been cool enough to smug from the Bishop's stables. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* I. 421/1 After that he used to go 'smugging' (running away with) other people's things.

2. *intr.* To copy surreptitiously; to crib.

a 1860 ALB. SMITH *Med. Stud.* (1861) 54 Copying out their notes in little, that they may smug from them when locked up in the examination-room.

3. *trans.* To hush up (a matter).

1857 *Morning Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/3 She wanted however a guarantee that the case should be smugged, or, in other words, compromised.

4. To arrest, put in prison.

1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 247 His father had been smugged.

Hence **Smu·gging** *vbl. sb.*[2] (See quots.)

1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 253 When any game was out,..it was lawful to steal the thing played with; this was called smugging. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 58 Landlord (collaring the bell). Smuggings! pursession is nine points of the law! 1864 *Slang Dict.* 237 *Smuggings*,.. shouted out by boys, when snatching the tops, or small play property, of other lads.

Smug-boat. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Smug-boats*, contraband traders on the coast of China; opium boats.

Smu·ggish, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. SMUG *a.*] Somewhat smug or trim. Hence **Smu·ggishly** *adv.*

1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* I. s.v.

Smuggle (smʌg'l), *v.*[1] Also 7 **smuckle,** 8 **smugle.** [App. of LG. or Du. origin. The earlier form *smuckle* corresponds to LG. *smukkeln* (G. dial. *schmuckeln, schmucheln*) or Du. *smokkelen*, while the slightly later *smuggle* agrees with LG. *smuggeln* (G. *schmuggeln*, Da. *smugle*, Norw. *smugla*, Sw. *smuggla*). The origin of the term, and the precise relationship of the two types, is not clear. Cf. SMUGGLER, which appears earlier.]

1. *trans.* To convey (goods) clandestinely into (or out of) a country or district, in order to avoid payment of legal duties, or in contravention of some enactment; to bring *in, over*, etc., in this way.

a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* IV. (1691) 84 Two Hundred thousand pounds smuckled by the Merchants. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To Smuckle. See to Smuggle. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Smuggle Goods*, to run them ashore, or bring them in by stealth, without paying the Custom. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 36 In order afterwards to smuggle them back again into this country. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. v, Weapons, military stores can be smuggled over (if the English do not seize them). 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Emp.* (1854) II. 397 The means of preventing its being smuggled or the duty evaded.

b. *intr.* To practise smuggling.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 308 The Spaniards can and will Smuggle (as our Seamen call Trading by stealth) as well as any Nation that I know. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxiii, We don't mean to smuggle any more. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. vi. (1852) 251 The temptation to smuggle was diminished.

†2. *To smuggle the coal* (see quot.). *slang. Obs.*

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, *To smuggle the Coal*, to make people believe one has no Money when the Reckoning is to be paid.

3. *transf.* a. To get possession of by stealth.

1766 GRAY *Kingsgate* 3 The pious resolution To smuggle a few years. *c* 1790 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 832, I shall prove the Excise Office to be the greatest smuggle[r] in the nation, for they smuggled the ground from the public.

b. To convey, etc., in a stealthy or clandestine manner. Const. with advs. and preps., as *away, in, into, off, out of, through*, etc.

1783 W. GORDON *Livy* v. ii. (1823) 400 Among all that number a single Plebeian could not be smuggled in. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* x, She smuggled him out of the garrison through the pantry window. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XII. xxxi, I have two private bills I want to smuggle through Parliament. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xiii. 177 On our entrance the document was hastily folded up and smuggled away.

c. *intr.* To make *off* stealthily.

1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* (Tauchn.) X. 263 These good people are smuggling off. Let them go in peace.

†**Smu·ggle,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SNUGGLE *v.*] *trans.* To cuddle, fondle, caress.

1679 PRANCE *Narr. Popish Plot* 36 This pretious Saint.. hath been seen to..kiss her many times over, as if it had been part of her Penance to be most filthily smuggled. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, Oh, the little Lips!—and 'tis the best natur'd little dear.—(Smuggles and kisses it.) 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 75. 3/1 He was smugling Blouze. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 195 He Smuggled her, and Squeez'd her. *absol.* 1709 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. 68 You may smuggle and grope.

Smu·ggleable, *a.* [f. SMUGGLE *v.*[1]] Capable of being smuggled.

1805 SOUTHEY in *Life* (1850) II. 332 Only a box at a time, of such a smuggleable size that a man can easily carry it.

Smuggled (smʊ·g'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Imported, brought in, conveyed, etc., by stealth.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 68 Many a Boat-Load of smuggl'd Ware has he popt forth at his Gun-room Ports. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 178 By smuggled news from neighb'ring village told. 1836 MARRYAT *Pirate*, etc. (Rtldg.) 169 [They] handed up all the smuggled goods. 1894 MRS. DYAN *Man's Keeping* (1899) 8 The consciousness of that smuggled paper made her nervous.

Smuggler (smʊ·glə1). Also 7 **smuckellor, smuckler.** [ad. LG. *smukkeler*, Du. *smokkelaar*, or LG. *smugg(e)ler* (G. *schmuggler*, Sw. *smugglare*): see SMUGGLE *v.*[1]]

1. One who smuggles commodities; *esp.* one who makes a trade or practice of smuggling.

1661 *Proclamation* 9 Aug., A sort of leud people called Smuckellors, never heard of before the late disordered times, who make it their trade..to steal and defraud His Majesty of His Customs. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Smugglers*, are stealers of Customs; well known upon the Thames. 1740 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 289 He declared before us all that he was a Smuggler. 1779 *Mirror* No. 62, He had served with *eclat* in the corps established for repressing smugglers of tobacco. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iii, Smugglers of salt go openly in armed bands. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 36 It had the reputation..of being the haunt of smugglers.

transf. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 134 The infectious stuff which is imported by the smugglers of adulterated metaphysics. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VIII. l. § 30. 150 An immense annual profit for the behoof of the great Imperial Smuggler in the Tuileries.

2. A vessel employed in smuggling.

1799 *Naval Chron.* II. 443 The *Assistance* Smuggler, from Guernsey. 1836 MARRYAT *Pirate*, etc. (Rtldg.) 164 This vessel..must be a smuggler. 1894 K. HEWAT *Little Scottish World* I. 12 The casks landed from the smuggler were safely deposited.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *smuggler boat, devil, dogger, -hunting.*

1776 *Ann. Reg.* 135 His majesty's sloop Princess Anne fell in with a smuggler dogger in the frith of Forth. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, Thae smuggler deevils. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 333 He beat about year after year in all sorts of smuggler boats. 1899 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Irish R. M.* 202 He had taken up the unprofitable task of smuggler-hunting.

Smugglery (smʊ·glərі). [f. SMUGGLE *v.*[1] Cf. Da. *smugleri*, Sw. *smuggleri*, Du. *smokkelarij*; also LG. *smugg-*, G. *schmuggelei.*] Smuggling.

1895 *United Service Mag.* 212 This time, as doubtless often before, Mrs. S. succeeds in her smuggлery.

Smuggling (smʊ·glіŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMUGGLE *v.*[1]] Clandestine importation of goods, etc.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Smuggling*, a cant Term for the Running of Goods. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. 155 Smuggling, or the offence of importing goods without paying the duties imposed thereon by the laws of the customs and excise. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. ix. (1852) 330 The true way to suppress smuggling is to render it unprofitable. 1894 J. MACINTOSH *Ayrshire Nts. Entert.* vii. 109 The smuggling of tea, tobacco, and brandy formed one of the staple industries of the place.

attrib. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 409 Mr. David Barrau, committed to Newgate for the smuggling trade, has paid his fine. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ix. 85 These smuggling engagements are doubtless very extensive. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, I readily joined Wilson in a perilous smuggling adventure.

Smuggling (smʊ·glіŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SMUGGLE *v.*[1]] That smuggles, or is engaged in smuggling:

a. Of persons.

1816 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. I. 10 A pirate, or an outlaw, or a smuggling bandit. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. xxiii, 'Is this the smuggling fellow?' demanded Redgauntlet. 1884 PAE *Eustace* xix. 244 Every smuggling rascal of them has fled to his hole.

b. Of vessels.

Perh. properly an attributive use of the *vbl. sb.*

1813 *Examiner* 22 Feb. 122/2 The prisoner..was mate of a smuggling cutter. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, A smuggling lugger from the Isle of Man. 1836 MARRYAT *Pirate*, etc. (Rtldg.) 174, I..have sent them in the smuggling vessel.

†**Smuggling-ken.** *Cant. Obs.* [Cf. SMUGGLE *v.*[2]] A brothel.

1725 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v. *Clicketting*, He has pick'd up the Blowse, and they are pik'd into that Smuggling-Ken a Clicketing.

†**Smu·ggy,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **smoggy.** [Cf. SMUG *sb.*[1]] Grimy, smutty.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 11 With smoggy colyers, and stynkynge gonge fermers. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* I. 124/2 Noble Vulcan, a mad smuggy Smith.

Smugly (smʊ·glі), *adv.* [f. SMUG *a.*] In a smug, complacent († smart or trim) manner.

1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 30 Hiz beard smugly shauen. 1598 FLORIO, *Nettamente*, neatly,..handsomely, smugly. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 146 Dragons may now securely sleep, and ugly Deformed Orks seem to look smooth and smugly. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. iv, Though she be never so ugly, Lillies and roses will quickly appear And her face look wond'rous smuggly. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 207 Instead of looking smugly..The votaries are all so old and ugly. 1892 *Spectator* 16 Jan. 84/1 Just consider what the smugly respectable man has done for himself

Smugness (smʊ·gnės). [f. SMUG *a.*] The condition or quality of being smug.

1632 SHERWOOD, Smugnesse, *netteté*. 1677 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, She looks like an old Coach new painted; affecting an unseemly Smugness. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1903) III. 341, I like the smugness of the cathedral, and the profusion of the most beautiful Gothic tombs. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 78 No smugness..ever crossed the fancy of Schidone. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 491 It has been..smoothened, and tamed down to smugness, by cultivation, enclosing, and planting. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 602 There is probably no smugness in the world comparable to the complacent smugness of our insular ignorance.

Smuik(e, Smuke, obs. Sc. forms of SMOOK.

†**Smu·lkin.** *Obs. rare.* [? Irish.] (See quot. 1617.)

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. v. (1633) 84 Indebted to the Citizens of Divelin..a thousand poundes, whereof he payde not one smulkin. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 284 They [*sc.* the Irish] had also brasse farthings, called smulkins, whereof foure made a penny.

†**Smult,** *pa. pple. Obs.*[—1] (Meaning doubtful.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 911 With a smorther & a smoke smult through his nase.

Smur (smɜ1), *sb. dial.* and *Sc.* Also **smurr, smir(r.** [Of obscure origin.]

1. Fine rain; drizzle.

1808 JAMIESON, *Smurr*, a drizzling rain. Ayrs. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Smur*, small rain. 1878 *Good Words* 245 Sunday morning, which was grey with mist and 'smur'.

2. A drizzle *of* rain, etc.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* VII. iii. (1849) 315 During the afternoon a smur of rain came on. 1872 YOUNG *Lochlomond* (E.D.D.), A cannie smir O' a refreshing simmer shower. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xix. 176 The morning broke with a little wind and a slight smurr of rain.

Smur (smɜi), *v. dial.* and *Sc.* Also **smurr, smir(r.** [Cf. prec.] *intr.* To drizzle.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., It's Smurrin*, it rains slightly. 1838 HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict., To smur*, to rain lightly and mistily. 1881 FITZGERALD *Lett.* I. 472 It has been what we call down here 'smurring' rather than raining. 1898 N. MUNRO *J. Splendid* 290 Whenever rains are smirring and mists are blowing.

Smurien, obs. form of SMEAR *v.*

Smu·rlin. *Shetl. dial.* [app. an error for *smurslin* (cf. *smircelin* in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), corresponding to Icel. *smyrslingr.*] A species of clam.

1806 NEILL *Tour Orkney & Shetl.* 93 They have abundance of what are called *cutleocks* and *smurlins*. The *smurlin* or *smuthlin* is the Mya truncata, remarkable for a shrivelled leathery process at one end. Both these shellfish are highly relished by the Shetlanders.

Smu·rry, *a.* [f. SMUR *sb.*] Drizzly.

1888 BLACK *House-boat* x, The cold hues of green through which we had been sailing on this smurry afternoon.

†**Smush,** *a. Sc. Obs.*[—1] (Meaning uncertain; perhaps a later form of SMOOCH *a.*)

1629 Z. BOYD *Balm of Gilead* 107 He..seeth him gaping for lyfe lyke a hungry dogge gaping for a smush bone.

†**Smuss,** *v. Obs.*[—1] [f. MUSS *sb.*[1]; the verb *muss* occurs in Linc. dial. For the prefixed *s-* cf. SMEUSE *sb.* and *v.*] *trans.* To take by force; to grab, seize, or snatch.

1736 ELIZA STANLEY tr. *Hist. du Prince Titi* 14 He denied himself the Enjoyment of such Knicknacks as were given him, and would scramble for and smuss [F. *grapiller*] those of other Children his Playfellows.

Smut (smʊt), *sb.* Also 7-8 **smutt,** 8-9 **smoot.** [Related to SMUT *v.* Cf. LG. *schmutt*, G. *schmutz*, in sense 1; also MHG. *smuz, smutz* fat, grease, G. *schmutz* (Sw. *smuts*, Da. *smuds*) dirt, filth. See also SMOT *sb.*[1]

The adj. *smutty* is recorded earlier in most of the senses, and the sb. may be mainly a back-formation from this.]

1. A fungous disease affecting various plants, esp. cereals, which are spoiled by the grain being wholly or partly converted into a blackish powder; also, one or other of the fungi (species of *Ustilagineæ*) causing the disease.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 93 Meldew, Blasting, Smut. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 214 Smut seems to proceed from the same cause. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 132 Such grain was apt to carry a smut. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) IV. 388 This is the Smut, so frequently found upon the ears of different sorts of growing corn, and also upon grasses. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 379 (L.U.K.), The practice of steeping seed-wheat..applies rather to smut, than to rust or mildew. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 555 The Smut of Indian Corn (*Ustilago maidis*) appears to have active medicinal properties.

b. A smutted grain. *rare*—[1].

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 23 Feb. 1/1 These machines..do not crush the smuts or bunt in wheat.

2. A black mark or stain; a smudge. Also *fig.*

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 474 That there is not the least smutt of Antichristianism in Episcopacy itself. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. ii. 12 All that is fair..in this world, is but a smut with a cole. 1830 'B. MOUBRAY' *Dom. Poultry*, etc. 163 The smut consists of a black spot on the side of the rabbit's nose. 1861 *Fraser's Mag.* June 772 A black mark on his [*sc.* a rabbit's] nose, which is called a butterfly smut.

3. *Coal-mining.* Bad, soft, earthy coal.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 146 Above ground they look for a *smut* as they call it, i.e. a friable black earth. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 51 Smut seems also a variety of this species [*sc.* inflammable mineral carbon], but more impure. 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* 292 The uppermost seam of coal is commonly soft and dusty, it is vulgarly called *smut*. 1806 *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 346 Smoot and Fire Clay. 1829 GLOVER *Hist. Derby* I. 59 Measures of strata:..Soft coal or smut 2 ft. 10 in. 1860– in mining glossaries.

4. Soot or sooty matter.

1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* vi. (1726) 71 The steam of Lamps still hanging on her cheeks In ropy Smut. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 45 Spotted down the Cheeks with white Clay, and some black Streaks of Smut. 1790 BURKE *Let. Noble Lord* Wks. VIII. 97 Our most salutary and most beautiful institutions yield nothing but dust and smut. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* II. 91 The furnace is mere smut, and no bellows to blow the embers. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 778/1 The remotest articles of furniture are rife with infinitesimal smut.

b. A particle of sooty matter.

1806 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 375 That cursed composition of smoke, dust, smuts, human breath, and marsh vapour. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XIV. ii, A joyous dance of those monads, called vulgarly *smuts*. 1894 MRS. RITCHIE *Chapters Mem.* viii. 106 A lady sitting with an umbrella in the drizzle of rain and falling smuts from the funnel.

c. A very minute insect.

1899 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 6/4 A trout..grubs in the weeds, chases larvæ, and revels in almost invisible smuts.

5. Indecent or obscene language.

1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* i. (1730) 4 The Modern Poets seem to use Smut as the old Ones did Machines, to relieve a fainting Invention. 1707 *Refl. upon Ridicule* 206 'Tis a miserable way of Pleasing, to scatter Smut in all your Stories. 1760–2 GOLDSMITH *Cit. W.* xlix, The gentlemen talked smut, the ladies laughed and were angry. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* ii, Drunken freaks, and drunken quarrels, and smut, and blasphemy. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. iv. (1872) II. 173 Discourse of a cheerful or of a serious nature,..and not the least smut permitted. 1886 *Spectator* 4 Dec. 1621 The public must have titles, or smut, or murder, and wishes in its heart always to have two of them together.

†6. *slang.* (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Smut*, a copper boiler, or furnace.

7. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *smut bag, corn, fungus, machine, spore*, etc.; (sense 5) *smut-note*; **smut-grass** *U.S.*, a rush-grass (*Sporobolus Indicus*), the spikes of which are usually blackened by a smut.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 361 P 13 He teaches the Smut-note, the Fustian-note, the Stupid-note. 1731 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 119 A new Machine for cleaning Wheat ..is contrived to take away the stains, smut bags, and other trumpery. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 32 Wheat, sown too long on the same spot, without changing the seed, will generally become smutt and hen-corn. 1852 *Appleton's Dict. Mach.* II. 588 Smut Machine..for cleaning all kinds of grain. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 37 A few cattle in Massachusetts have died from eating 'smut corn'. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 275 The Ustilagineae or Smut-fungi are distinguished by their dark-coloured or black chlamydospores. *Ibid.* 276 In this way any adherent smut-spores are killed.

Smut (smʊt), *v.* Also 7 **smutt, smoot.** [Cf. SMOT *v.*, and MHG. *smutzen* (G. *schmutzen*) to smear, dirty.]

1. *trans.* To mark with some black or dirty substance; to blacken, smudge.

a. 1587 HARMAR tr. *Beza's Serm.* 195 No man can like to be smutted and blatched in his face. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. i, *W. Pawn.* White quickly soils you know. *B. Y. Pawn.*..Get thee gone then, I shall smut thee. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. iv. (1713) 187 A Company.. whom some unlucky Wag has smutted with his sooty and greazy fingers. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Pavia* 26 The Inside is so smutted with Dust, and the Smoak of Lamps. 1752 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 188 P 12 Contriving to smut the nose of any stranger who was to be initiated into the club. 1836 WHATELY in Miss E. J. Whately *Life* (1866) I. 366 He who wrestles with a chimney-sweeper is sure to be smutted. 1877 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 6/1 The dingy whitewashed walls, smutted by the smoke of the tottering stove.

β. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή xxxiii. 306 To keep my cloaths from being smootted by a Chimnie-sweeper.

b. *fig.* To stain with some fault or imperfection.

a. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 202 What is the cause why some one sinne doth so blot and smut the most excellent men? 1674 COTTON in *Flatman's Poems* 47 You no prophane, no obscene language use To smut your paper or defile your Muse.

β. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 102 Considering the sottishness of superstition in the age he lived in, he is less smooted therewith than any of his contemporaries.

2. To affect (grain) with smut.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 497 There falleth also Mildew upon Corn and smutteth it. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 325 Having often observed in his wheat fields, a few ridges alternately clean and smutted. 1841 HOOD *Tale Trumpet* 761 Though the wishes that Witches utter Can.. Smut and mildew the corn on the stalk.

b. *intr.* Of grain: To be affected by smut.

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 143 Corn thus imbibed, and then sown without lime, will not smut. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 244 Wheat following the dung Cart on their best Land, is the more liable to smut. 1745 *Gentl. Mag.* 31 Corn managed in this manner is not apt to smut or mildew.

3. *trans.* To make obscene.

1722 WELSTED *Prol. Steele's Consc. Lovers* 11 Another smuts his Scene (a cunning Shaver), Sure of the Rakes and of the Wenches Favour.

4. *intr.* Of fish: To rise at, or feed on, smuts.

1889 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 612/2 These demonstrations are made by trout bulging, tailing, smutting, or minnowing. 1892 *Field* 4 June 838/2 The fish were smutting or bulging on the shallows.

Smut-ball. [f. SMUT *sb.* 1.] A single grain of wheat or other cereal affected by smut or bunt; a cohesive body of smut.

1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* IV. iv. 130 (E.D.S.). *a* 1761 S. HALES in Mills *Pract. Husb.* III. 128 The moisture that was equal to the weight of the smut-balls and smut that was washed from the wheat. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 154 The grains were..rubbed between the hands, in such a manner as to break the whole of the smut balls. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 954 A longitudinal section of a smut-ball taken when the stamens are fully formed within the corolla. 1883 *Good Words* Nov. 736/1 Bunt..is known by various names in different parts of the country, as smut-balls, bladder-brand, stinking-rust, &c.

Smutch (smʌtʃ), *sb.* Also 6 **smutche**, 7 **smuch**. [Of uncertain origin; related in some way to SMUDGE, which is recorded earlier as a vb. though much later as a sb. More recent forms are SMOOCH *sb.* and SMOUCH *sb.*[4]]

1. A black or dirty mark; a stain; a smudge.

1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Smutche on ones face, *barboyllement.* 1637 DOW *Answ. H. Burton* 125 Though it bee not needfull to wipe off every smutch. 1652 CRASHAW *Wks.* (1904) 360 Those durty smutches, w^ch their faire fronts wore. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 608 The palm is hardly clean—But here and there an ugly smutch appears. 1844 LOWELL *Hunger & Cold* v, He recks not a bloody smutch On his gold. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* II. xiii. 256 He in whose eyes even a smutch on her face would have lowered a woman.

b. *fig.* A moral stain.

1648 EARL WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 15 Our Souls, which before did lye Defil'd through th' smutch of Sin. 1688 BUNYAN *Solomon's Temple* xxxiii, Hence the word of God is compared to a glass,..by which we see..our smutches. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 5/1 The work of cleansing the city from the smutch of Croker and his fellow-ruffians.

c. A slight mark or indication; semblance; also, a slight or light touch.

1776 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 98 Without a shadow, a relish, a smutch, a tinge,..of anger. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 506, I never envied Graham his breadth of style, Which gives you, with a random smutch or two,.. Such delicate perspectives of full life.

2. Soot, smut, grime, dirt.

1790 COWPER *Odyss.* XVIII. 34 Collied with chimney smutch! 1790 — *Iliad* XVIII. 513 His arms and brawny neck Purified, and his shaggy breast from smutch. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* III. 13 The soil, the smutch the toil and ache and wear.

3. *attrib.*, as *smutch box, pan.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 145/1 Stainshall, of some called a Smuch Box; it is a Tin with a bottom and three sides, in which Oil Pencils are put with their points in Oil to keep them from drying. *c* 1896 *Rowney's Price List* 20 Oil Slant and Smutch Pan.

Smutch (smʌtʃ), *v.* [See prec. and cf. SMOOCH *v.*] *trans.* To blacken, make dirty, smut, smudge. Also in fig. context.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 121 Why that's my Bawcock: what? has't smutch'd thy Nose? 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 275 It would not do well to have the Collier and Fuller live together; what one cleanseth, the other will crock and smutch. 1690 C. NESS *Hist. O. & N. Test.* I. 20 The brightest ivory, if smutched with the fire, contracteth a filthy blackness. 1790 COWPER *Odyss.* XIII. 536 A cloak And kirtle..foul And smutch'd with smoke. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 90 As though afraid to smutch Even with mealy gold the waters clear. 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* xiv, Under the foot they could not smutch, Lay all the fleshly and the bestial. 1876 HOLLAND *Seven Oaks* xv. 210 Puppies that might..fawn before her, but might not smutch her robes with their dirty feet.

b. *fig.* To stain, sully, besmirch, etc., morally or otherwise.

1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* To Rdr., Some, who must quarrell ..with my Booke..and smutch it with a scorne of my Profession. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 134 The Fumes.. from his Spleen..have..smutched and sullied his Brain. 1858 MORRIS *Old Love* 158 This love is not so hard to smutch. 1865 J. SKELTON *Campaigner at Home* ix. 264 The passion is always pure. It is never smutched by sensuality.

Hence **Smutching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Souillement*, a..slurrying, durtying, smutching. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 3 He is but your scullion to make your integrity shine the brighter by all these reproachfull smutchings. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* III. (1875) II. 182 The black blood's horrible and smutching stains.

Smutched (smʌtʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. SMUTCH *v.*]

1. Smudged, smutted, stained, sullied.

1784 COWPER *Task* II. 491 The bow Respectful of the smutch'd artificer. 1848 KEIGHTLEY *Notes to Horace, Sat.* I. ii. 36 The smutched face of the prostitute. 1899 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 35 A..woman..with a lawless tongue and a smutched reputation.

† 2. Of corn: Affected by smut. *Obs.*

1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* (1625) 108 When it is blacke at both ends, yet full and sound in the middest, and this is called smutcht corne, being disfigured in part, and not in all.

† **Smutchin.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Ir. *smuiteán, smúiteán* powder, fine ashes, soot, = Sc. Gael. *smuidean* a mote, particle of dust.] Snuff.

1650 HOWELL *Lett.* III. 12 The Spaniards and Irish take it [tobacco] most in powder or smutchin, and it mightily refreshes the brain. *Ibid.*, Their boxes of smutchin.

Smutchless, *a.* [f. SMUTCH *sb.*] Unsmirched.

1853 W. CADENHEAD *Bon-Accord* 177 (E.D.D.), Gar me stain my smutchless name, Wi' lawless pleasures.

Smutchy (smʌ·tʃi), *a.* Also 6 **smutchie.** [f. SMUTCH *sb.*] Smudgy, smeary, dirty.

1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* I. xlii. 60 The woorkemanshyp of a smutchie and filthie woorkeman. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* IV. iv, You are in hope to filch a point from my breeches, Which..you will wear About your smutchy wrist for a bracelet. 1867 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. iv. 423, I have no fear that these smutchy backdoors of hell shall prevail against her. 1883 *Nation* (N.Y.) 20 Dec. 517/1 The illustrations..have that heavy and smutchy effect in the closely shaded parts which is a constant defect in mechanical engraving.

Smutted (smʌ·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SMUT *v.*]

1. Begrimed, smirched, dirtied, etc.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXV. 34 Whence that infernal Flood, the smutted Acheron Shoves forth her sullen head. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 37 There was left on the Wall a smutted Scar or Trace. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 27 The swain, mistrustless of his smutted face. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 318 Till every smutted feature swell with joy. 1850 P. CROOK *War of Hats* 47 Those heavers, too, of coals, with smutted face.

2. Of grain: Affected by smut.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Smut*, I..have sown smutted wheat..and have not had one smutted ear from the produce. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 155 Some smutted ears, of rather an unusual appearance. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 339 The Corporation of Bakers at Perth, have a wooden tub for cleaning smutted wheat. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vi. (1870) 118 Myriads of seeds are shed from the smutted ears long before the corn is ripe.

Smutter (smʌ·tə1), *sb.* [i. SMUT *v.*]

1. One who smuts or stains.

1611 COTGR., *Barbouilleur*,..a blotter, spotter, smutter, besmearer of.

2. A smutting-machine for cleaning grain. Hence *smutter room.*

1887 *Daily News* 3 May 6/6 A fire happened at the steam flour mills.., which occasioned the subjoined damage: Smutter room and contents burned out and the roof off.

3. A fish that rises at, or feeds on, smuts.

1889 *Sat. Rev.* 18 May 612/2 'Never take under-sized or ill-conditioned fish' (bulgers and smutters probably).

Smutter (smʌ·tə1), *v.* [f. SMUT *sb.* 4 c.] *intr.* = SMUT *v.* 4.

1899 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 6/4 There are three provoking habits of trout—'bulging'..'tailing'..and 'smuttering' when only a minute not imitable fly is being taken.

Smuttily (smʌ·tili), *adv.* [f. SMUTTY *a.*] In a smutty manner; indecently, obscenely.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* (1673) II. 10 Theodorus somewhat smuttily asked him, whether he had seen her without her shift. 1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* i. (1730) 5 The Poets make Women speak Smuttily. 1710 *Tatler* No. 269 P 5 It is the same poverty which makes men speak or write smuttily, that forces them to talk vexingly.

Smuttiness (smʌ·tinĕs). Also 7 **smootiness.** [f. SMUTTY *a.*]

1. A smutty condition of grain.

a 1659 SPEED *Adam out of Eden* xiv. 106 It..doth.. totally prevent the Smuttiness of Wheat. 1660 SHARROCK *Veget.* 102 The change of seed from grounds of a contrary nature..is thought to prevent smootiness. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xii. (Dubl.) 143 Smuttiness is when the Grains of Wheat instead of Flour are full of a black stinking Powder. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. lxviii. 223 Good wheat is so often spoiled by smuttiness and sprouting.

2. Indecency, obscenity of language.

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Smuttiness, *impureté, impudicité.* 1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* i. (1730) 4 Smuttiness is a Fault in Behaviour as well as in Religion. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 26. 135 They begin with satire and funeral lamentation; but end with love, smuttiness, and a song.

3. Sootiness, griminess.

1881 *Globe* 30 June 2/1 The..kettle cannot..taunt the veriest heathen pot with smuttiness.

Smutting (smʌ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SMUT *v.*]

1. The action of the verb in various senses, or the result of this.

1621 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* 165 Slander..being..the smutting of a mans good name. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Middlesex* (1662) 189 A help hath been found out against the smooting of Wheat,..I say the smooting of Wheat which makes it a Negro, as Mildew makes it a Dwarfe. 1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 171 The smutting or blackness thence arising.

2. *attrib.*, in terms relating to the cleaning of grain from smut, as *smutting device, machine, room.*

1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 431/2 The screening or smutting machine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2228/1 The outer shell of the conical smutting-device. 1892 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 3/2 The mills consisted of five blocks used as mills, warehouses, smutting rooms, store rooms, and engine and boiler house.

Smutting, *ppl. a.* [f. SMUT *v.*]

1. Making black or gloomy.

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. vi, This is better farre, then to weare Cypresse, Dull smutting gloues, or melancholy blacks.

2. Of fish: Rising at, or feeding on, smuts.

1899 *19th Cent.* Jan. 122 There is the 'smutting' fish [trout], greedily taking down the tiniest of insects.

Smutty (smʌ·ti), *a.* Also 6–7 **smootie**, 7–8 **smooty**, 7 **smuttie.** [f. SMUT *sb.* or *v.* Cf. G. *schmutzig.*]

1. Of grain: Affected by smut.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. l. 70 That corne where it is, is called smootie corne. 1637 REMNANT *Disc. Bees* Title-p., The Causes and Cure of Blasted Wheat,..together with the Causes of Smutty Wheat. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 142 Usually if one stalk hath the ear smutty, all that arise from the same root are infected. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xii. (Dubl.) 143 The Wheat Plants in the Field, from whence these were taken, brought very few smutty Grains. 1769 REID *Wks.* (1863) I. 49/1, I put some smutty oats in water. 1803 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* I. 182 There was a great deal of smutty wheat that year. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 401 The following experiment was made..on a smutty sample of wheat.

2. Soiled with, full of, characterized by, smut; dirty; blackened.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. IV. v, I pray [you] leave the smutty Ayr of London, and com hither to breathe sweeter. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 3 Like smutty daubings on a matt or uneven floor. *a* 1704 *Compl. Servant-Maid* (ed. 7) 119 Though your employment be greasie and smooty. 1716 POPE *Let. to Earl Burlington*, He was a smutty dog yesterday, and cost me near two hours to wash the ink off his face. 1812 SIR W. ELFORD in *Friendships Miss Mitford* (1882) I. iii. 85 On turning the corner, I see my paper is very smutty. 1880 'VERNON LEE' *Italy* II. iii. 57 A smutty portrait of her dressed in brown brocade.

3. Of the colour of smut; dusky; dark.

1648 EARL WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 148 The smooty shadows of some one Or others Trophees carv'd in stone. 1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 302 Smooty and discoloured clouds. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 91 A smutty black, or black grey Crystal. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 288 It seems of a smutty yellow. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* (1874) 40 Four or five smutty little cubs. 1890 *Spectator* 30 Aug. 274 His once smutty plumage now showing rich colouring of black and white and brown.

4. Having the appearance or form of smut.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 817 The Smuttie graine With sudden blaze diffus'd, inflames the Aire. 1714 GAY *Trivia* III. 383 The nitrous Store is laid, the smutty Train With running blaze awakes the barrell'd Grain.

5. Indecent, immodest, impure, obscene.

1668 PEPYS *Diary* 20 June, I saw this new play my wife saw yesterday, and do not like it, it being very smutty. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 I. 146 It is very culpable to be facetious in obscene and smutty matters. 1706 J. H. BROWNE *Pipe of Tobacco* Poems (1768) 124 The smutty tale Of country justice o'er his ale. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lit. Nat.* (1834) II. 124 He..puts the women to the blush with his smutty jokes and rude jeers. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 629 Mr. Hunt's smutty story of Rimini. 1851 TH. PARKER in Weiss *Life* (1863) I. 390 He is smutty, and vulgar and low. 1894 *Tablet* 16 June 920 It is only when the details are sensational or smutty that room is found for them in the columns of the great dailies.

6. *Comb.*, as *smutty-face, -faced, -nosed.*

1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* I. 60 Ha! ha! old *Smutty-face, well said. 1899 F. W. BOURNE *Billy Bray* 99 (E.D.D.), He told the tempter, 'old smutty-face', to do this himself. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* v. 96 The *smutty-faced crew. 1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 7 June 4 The pride of Mr. Tory's farms are his..'smutty-faced' Dorset Down sheep. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 425 *Perisoreus canadensis fumifrons*, .. *Smutty-nosed Jay. *Ibid.* 783 *Priofinus melanurus*, Smutty-nosed Shearwater.

† **Smy** [1]. *Sc. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A knave or rascal.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. lxiv, Than suddanelie Venus.. Answerit thus, 'Thow subtell smy [etc.]'. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 113 Quhen the smy on me smyrkis. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 648 Sen all is suith that's said of this smy.

Smy [2]. ? *Obs.* Also **smie.** [Of obscure origin.] A small fish (see quots.).

1552 ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Aphya*, In Essex is a fishe called a Smie, whiche if he be longe kept, will turne to water. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 265 The Apuæ, which are the groundlings and Smies, [come] of the fome of the sea set in an heat & chafed after some good shewer. 1611 COTGR., *Melette*, a very small, soft, and fat sea-fish, bred of raine, and water, and called the Smie, or sea-Groundlin. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 143 *Apua*,..the Spirling, Smy, or Sea-Dace. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx. (1737) 246 Craylings, Smys.

Smyddy, obs. Sc. variant of SMITHY *sb.*

Smyris, variant of SMIRIS.

Smyrna (smə·rna). [A place-name (see def.); L. *Smyrna*, Gr. Σμύρνα.] The chief port of Asia Minor, situated at the head of the gulf of the same name, used *attrib.* in the names of various things produced in the vicinity of or connected with the city, as *Smyrna cotton, earth, kingfisher, opium, runt, wheat* (see quots.).

1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 44 The Smyrna Runt..is middle siz'd and feather-footed. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Saponacea terra*,..a kind of native alkali salt, of the nature of the nitre,..called by some Smyrna earth. *Ibid.* s.v. *Wheat, Smyrna Wheat*, a peculiar kind of Wheat that has an extremely large ear. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. II. 615 Smyrna Kingfisher..inhabits the environs of Smyrna. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 203/2 The physical

characters of the best Smyrna opium. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 482/2 One of these [Indian cottons] is cultivated to a considerable extent in the Levant, and is known in the market as Smyrna cotton.

b. *ellipt.* Smyrna raisins.

1845 G. Dodd *Brit. Manuf.* V. 102 The 'Black Smyrnas' [produce] a strong-bodied wine, and the 'Red Smyrnas' and 'Valencias' a rich and full wine.

Smyrnæan (smɔmĭ·ăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 Smyrneaan. [f. L. *Smyrnæ-us* (ad. Gr. Σμυρναῖος, f. Σμύρνα: see prec.) + -AN.]

A. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of (ancient) Smyrna. (Cf. SMYRNIOTE *sb.*)

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* III. xiii. (1622) 83 The Smyrnæans alleaged an oracle of Apollo. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 103 After which sort did the Lacedæmonians..when they had sent corne unto the Smyrnæans. 1807 Robinson *Archæol. Græca* III. xix. 308 The Athenians, Smyrnæans, Macedonians. 1840 tr. *Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* v. § 1 Pindar's statements, who in one place called Homer a Smyrnæan by origin. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lett. Seven Ch.* xix. 255 The Smyrnaeans were specially proud of the beauty of their city.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Smyrna.

1807 R. Semple *Observ. Journ. Spain*, etc. II. 204 An old bridge..completes the scenery of this Smyrnean paradise. 1840 tr. *Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* v. § 2 The Smyrnæan river Meles. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lett. Seven Ch.* xx. 278 The Smyrnaean letter is not without similar reference.

Smyrnian, *sb.* and *a. rare.* Also 6 Smir-. [f. Smyrn-a + -ian.] = Smyrnæan *sb.* and *a.*

?1580 Lodge *Sch. Abuse* A 6, Why seke ye Smirnians to recouer from ye Salaminians the prais of Homer? 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 85 The most famous of all the Smyrnian Presbyters. 1728 Prideaux *Connexion O. & N. Test.* II. II. (1799) III. 72 The Smyrnians did the same for Stratonice.

Smyrniote (smɔ̄·rnĭŏt), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 Smyrneot. [f. Smyrna + -(I)ote.]

A. *sb.* An inhabitant or native of Smyrna, esp. in modern times. (Cf. Smyrnæan *sb.*)

1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 133 The inhabitants of Smyrna..are called Smyrniotes. *a* 1700 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 292 That Smyrneots may thy glorious Godhead own. 1849 *New Monthly Mag.* Oct. 162 The best lawyers,..if not Germans, are Ionians or Smyrniotes. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 111 A Smyrniote of low extraction.

B. *adj.* Smyrnæan.

1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 114 The multitude of Smyrniote and Alexandrian merchants. 1881 *Athenæum* 2 July 12/3 The English, French, Italians..form the rest of the Smyrniote community.

† **Smyth(e,** ME. variants of Smite *v.*

c 1440 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 38 Oconnoghur..let smyth of [the] sonnes heed. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 28 That at twelve of the clokke..he do the chymes smythe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 To smythe fyre, *fugillare*. *Ibid.*, A Smythynge,..*iccio, percussio*.

Smy·trie. *Sc. rare.* [Cf. Fris. *smite*, used in the same sense.] 'A numerous collection of small individuals.'

1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 76 A smytrie o' wee, duddie weans.

Snaast, dial. form of Snast.

Snab. *Sc.* [perh. related to Nab *sb.*[1]; but cf. MFlem. (1460) *snabbe*, app. point of land, later Flem. *snabbe*, *snab* beak, OFris. *snabba* mouth (Fris. *snabbe* mouth of a purse-net).] A steep place or ascent; a rugged rise or point.

1797 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIX. 554 There is a tradition.. That at the Snabs of Drimmie, it [*sc.* the Tay] sent off a portion of its waters. 1811 A. Scott *Poems* 122 (Jam), Then knees an' elbows like a crab, Spraul up yoursel yon dizzy snab. 1883 J. Martine *Reminisc. Haddington* 402 His steady sure-footed cob always took him safe home in a dark night, although he had steep snabs to climb and go down.

Snab, Sc. variant of Snob, a shoemaker.

† **Snabble,** *v. slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Snabble*, to rifle, to strip, or plunder. Also to knock down; to cause to reel or stagger by a Blow on the Head. *Snabbled*, is also used sometimes for being apprehended, seized, or taken.

† **Snack,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 1–2 snacc, 3 snak. [Late OE. *snacc*, obscurely related to OHG. *snacga*, *snaga* (G. dial. *snacke*, *schnake*), ON. *snekkja*, etc. Cf. also OF. *esneque*, *esneke*, med.L. (*e*)*snecca*.] A species of ship.

1052 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C), Þa let Eadward cyng scyppian xl. snacca. *c* 1200 *Ibid.* an. 1066 (MS. D), He for to Scotlande mid xii. snaccum. 1299 *Stat. & Ordin. Irel.* (Rolls) 216 Quod solueruntper preceptum Regis pro fretto cuiusdam nauis que vocata fuit le Snack. 1300 *Liber Quotid. Garderobæ* (1787) 275 Johanni Kittey, magistro del snak de la Rye. *Ibid.*, Johanni Mauekyn, magistro del snak Sancti Thome.

Snack (snæk), *sb.*[2] Also 5 snake, 6 snacke, *Sc.* snak. [*f.* Snack *v.* Cf. MDu. *snac(k*, WFlem. *snak*, in sense 1.]

1. A snap, a bite, esp. that of a dog. Now *dial.* In quot. 1402 *fig.*, with approximation to sense 3.

1402 Hoccleve *Letter of Cupid* 109 She, behinde thy bake, So lyberal ys, she wol no wyght with-seye, But smerully of another take a snake. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* XII. xii. 150 The swipir Tuscan hund..With hys wyd chaftis at hym makis a snak. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 5/14 Y^e^ snacke of a dog, *morsus*. 1831 Miss Ferrier *Destiny* xx, The honest man who found a snail in his [broth]. 'Tak ye that snack, my man,' says he, 'for looking sae like a plum-damy'. 1896 Lilburn *Borderer* vi. 39 The bitch overtook the hare and gave a snack at its hinder parts.

b. A sharp or snappish remark or jibe.

1555 tr. *Latimer's Protest.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxiv. 92, I coulde..not be suffered to declare my faithe befor you..without snakkes, reiagges,..rebukes, and tauntes. 1896 Chanter *Witch of Withyford* x. 121 She fancied 'twas a snack at the Squire, as he hadn't been near her since the storm.

† 2. A short time; a snatch. *Obs.*—[1]

1513 Douglas *Æneid* VIII. vii. 86 As he had slummerit bot a snak.

3. A share, portion, part.

1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 112 Because the first, if they are humoured, giue them some snacks out of unjust gain. 1699 E. S—cy *Country Gentl. Vade M.* 98 If any body has any right to a Snack, 'tis this Gentleman, who saw me take it up. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 79 It will go plaguy hard, if he miss a Snack of it. 1777 Eliz. Ryves *Poems* 159 I'll never lose scent of thee, until I have at least had snacks in the reward for apprehending thee. 1855 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) IV. 339 None of them without some snack of principality taken from the main lot.

b. In phr. *to come* (or *put*) *in for a snack*, etc.

1693 Chauncy *Rej. Williams* 10 But there is another Righteousness..that puts in for a snack, viz. that of the new Law. 1700 Earl Bellomont *Let. to Sir J. Stanley* 5 Mar. (Welbeck MSS.), I am told that..I have a right to a third part of them, but if the rest of the Lords come in for snacks, I shall be satisfyed. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 141 The landlord would take all if we did not come in for snacks.

c. *To go snacks* († or *snack*), to have a share (*in* something), to divide profits.

1693 Dryden, etc. *Juvenal* vii. (1726) 98 If one piece thou take, That must be cantled, and the Judge go snack. 1701 Farquhar *Sir H. Wildair* IV. ii, Well, monsieur! 'tis about a thousand pounds; we go snacks. 1748 Smollett *R. Random* (1812) I. 106 A present to the Secretary with whom some of the commissioners went snacks. 1788 Cowper *Pity for poor Africans* 16 While they get riches.., Pray tell me why we may not also go snacks? 1829 Creevey in *Creevey P.* (1904) II. viii. 201 To go snacks himself in the acquisition of power and profit. 1862 *Temple Bar* VI. 10 The Princesses..were mean enough to go snacks in the profits.

4. a. A mere taste, a small quantity, of liquor. In quot. 1685 perh. simply in sense 3.

1685 J. Dunton *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 11 As he was sure to supply us with Drink even without asking, so he would always thrust himself in for a snack, in helping to drink it. 1721 Ramsay *Lucky Spence* xvi, My malison..On them that drink and dinna pay, But tak a snack and run away. 1848 Kingsley *Saint's Trag.* III. ii, And take his snack of brandy for digestion.

b. A mere bite or morsel of food, as contrasted with a regular meal; a light or incidental repast.

1757 *Monitor* No. 90, When once a man has got a snack of their trenchers, he too often retains a hankering after the honey-pot. 1763 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 174 We have but just time for a snack. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* III. 134, I didn't eat nothing but a bit of a snack at noon, and I am hungry. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xii. (1886) 126 Our friends took a slight snack of cold bread and meat. 1874 Lisle Carr *J. Gwynne* I. ii. 46 Just to take a snack of dinner, before going over the outlying parts.

fig. 1817 Keats *Let.* Wks. 1889 III. 75 Having taken a snack or luncheon of literary scraps. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. 76 He craved more for spiritual snacks between meals than for physical.

c. *attrib.*, as snack-house, a restaurant.

1820 T. Cromwell *Excurs. Irel.* vii. 2 Partaking of the snack at one or other of the Snack-houses which abound in these villages. 1895 *Amer. Dial. Notes* I. 374 There's a right chance o' snack houses down to Bakerval.

† **Snack,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.*—[6] (See quot.)

1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss.*, *Snack*, or *Spunk*, a dried fungus, used as tinder.

Snack, dial. variant of Sneck, latch.

Snack, *a.* and *adv. Sc.* [? Related to Snack *v.* Cf. also Norw. dial. *snak* greedy.]

A. *adj.* 1. Quick, alert, clever, smart.

1710 in Ruddiman *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Snak.* 1719 Ramsay *First Answ. Hamilton* x, Europe had nane mair snack and snell At verse or prose. 1789 Ross *Helenore* (ed. 3) 16 By this time Lindy is right well shot out,..And snack and plump. 1791 J. Learmont *Poems* 280 Weel I ken ye're snack. 1808 Jamieson s.v., *Be snack*, be quick, do not lose time.

2. Snappish, peevish; greedy.

1883 *Good Words* 652 It is..the being grasping, or what Scotch people would call 'snack', over every trifle. 1894 *Longm. Mag.* May 9 You needn't be so snack: I can't stop to pick my words when I'm worried.

B. *adv.* Quickly, sharply, smartly.

1739 A. Nicol *Nature without Art* 60 She answered me chastly and snack Why do you impose on me so? 1801 Beattie *Poems* 22 (E.D.D.), Trump about gade on as snack As we'd been lairds. 1828 in Buchan *Ball. N. Scotl.* II. 260 The lassie..ran to the door fu' snack.

Snack (snæk), *v.* Also 4, 6 snak, 6 snacke. [Of doubtful origin: cf. MDu. or Flem. *snacken* to snap (of a dog), Norw. dial. *snaka* to snatch (of animals). The LG. and Du. *snakken* (G. dial. *schnakken*) to gasp, desire, etc., to talk or chatter, which agree in form, do not correspond in sense. The later senses are partly from Snack *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To bite or snap (esp. *at* a thing). Also *fig.* Only *north.* and *Sc.*

13.. *Peter & Paul* 310 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 79 Sone come þare forthe dogges blak, & on Peter gon þai snak. ? 1520 *Dial. Creatures Moralysed* xlvi, Euery of them began to snak at othir & wolde haue torn eche other on smale pecys. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 5 To Snacke, byte, *mordicare*. 1635 D. Dickson *Pract. Writ.* (1845) I. 24 God will not ..Captiously snack at his words. 1895 Crockett *Bog-Myrtle* v. ii. 366 He'll no as muckle as snack at a flee that lichts on his nose. 1902 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., The pony had never shown any vice..beyond snacking at the collar when put on.

b. *trans.* To snap *up*, seize upon, etc. *Sc.*

1871 Waddell *Ps.* lxxviii. 63 His ain youngsters, the lowe snacket up. 1891 Barrie *Little Minister* xvii, In the tail o' the day ane o' them snacked him up.

2. *trans.* To share, divide. ? *Obs.*

1707 E. Ward *Hud. Rediv.* II. x. 26 Unless they are allow'd to snack The Booty which they jointly take. 1733 *Revolution Politicks* VII. 73 'Tis to be feared, the Guards and the Highwaymen snack'd the Booty. 1745 *Life B. M. Carew* 105 At this Alehouse they tarried some Time, and snack'd the Argot, *i. e.* shared the Money.

absol. 1675 Wycherley *Country Wife* III. ii, Who is that that is to be bubbled? Faith! let me snack. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Crossbite*, to draw in a Friend, yet snack with the Sharper. 1768 [W. Donaldson] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* I. iv. 41 If our ministers were as poor and beggarly as the Dutch, they might have snack'd with these illegal executors. 1853 Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* 76 *Snack*, to share or be in partnership with.

3. *intr.* To lunch, to take a snack.

1807 Sir R. C. Hoare *Tour Irel.* 35 At Birr is a good inn, ..where I snacked. [*Note.*] *Snack* is in Ireland synonimous with *lunch* in England. 1894 A. Morrison *Mean Streets* 90 The snacking women resumed their talk.

† **Sna·cket.** *Obs.*—[6] [Cf. *snack*, dial. var. Sneck *sb.*] A casement hasp.

1611 Cotgr., *Targette*, a kind of snacket, or haspe, wherewith casemates, &c., are closed. [Hence in Sherwood and some later Dicts.]

† **Sna·ckle,** *a. Obs.*—[1] [prob. a var. of *snaggle* in Snaggle-toothed *a.*] ? Snaggy.

? 1567 Studley tr. *Seneca, Hipp.* v. (1581) 74 b, [Let] eke the snackle wheele That whirleth stil enforce my limmes thy swinging swift to feele.

Sna·ckle, *v.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To secure, make fast.

1887 Doyle *Study in Scarlet* II. vi, This young man here had the bracelets on my wrists, and as neatly snackled as ever I saw in my life.

Sna·ckly, *adv. Sc.* [f. Snack *a.*] Smartly.

1728 Ramsay *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 61 How snackly cou'd he gi'e a fool reproof.

Sna·cky, *a. Sc.* [Cf. Snack *a.*] Clever, acute, sharp.

1806 Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* I. 297 Tam Tod was..Slee, snackie, and wilie, and quirkie. 1866 J. Smith *Merry Bridal* 3 Snacky Rab, an' pawky Hab.

† **Snacot-fish.** *Obs.*—[6] The garfish.

1611 Cotgr., *Aryle*, a Hornefish, Hornebeake, Snacotfish, Ganefish. *Ibid.*, *Esguille*, ..a small fish called a Hornebeake, Snacot-fish,..Piper-fish. [Hence in Beck (1657), Ainsworth (1736), Johnson, etc.]

Snad(e, obs. forms of Sned *v.*

Snade. *Cornish dial.* [? Related to Sned *v.* Cf. Snode *sb.*] A piece cut from the tail of a mackerel for use as bait.

1901 Aflalo *Sea & Coast Fishing* 134 Matt pushes the 'snade' well down on the bend of the hook, from which it presently dangles [etc.].

Snade, northern form of Snode *Obs.*, morsel.

Snaffle, error for *snaste* Snast.

Snaffle (snæ·f'l), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 snafle, snaffel (6 -ell, -ul). [Of doubtful origin: connexion with (M)Du. and (M)LG. *snavel* (late OFris. *snavel*, *snaul*, WFris. *snaffel* mouth), OHG. *snapal* (MHG. *snabel*, G. *schnabel*), beak, bill, mouth, is not clear; but cf. the use of G. *schnabel* for a forked instrument used in training hunting-dogs to keep the head up.]

1. A simple form of bridle-bit, having less restraining power than one provided with a curb.

1533 Frith *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* A vj b, I verye well lyken yow to him that hath a wilde horse to tame,..when he perceiueth that he can not holde him with a scottyshe snafle. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 15 b, Geue a Horse the whip, an Asse the snaffell, and a Foole the rodde. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. i. (1903) 48 Their bridles are like our snafles but commonly sett with Copper studds guilded. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 377 They make also great variety of bridles, both Snaffles and Bitts: such as the wheel and joynted Snaffle, the neck-Snaffle [etc.]. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. 252 They are rid generally in a snaffle, without spurs. 1833 *Reg. & Instr. Cavalry* I. 75 Great care must be taken not to press the horse too suddenly up to the snaffle. 1882 B. D. W. Ramsay *Rough Recoll.* I. v. 95 Finding [the horse]..would bear no pressure on his mouth, I at last tried him with a plain light snaffle.

b. *fig.* or in fig. contexts.

1542 Brinklow *Compl.* xii. (1874) 28 This were a good snafful for the tyrannes and oppressers. 1579 North *Plutarch* (1896) V. 168 Rome also not being used to be brideled with the snaffle of such insolencie. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. xxvii. (1840) 167 Being a place of such importance, it would always be a snaffle in the mouth of the Egyptian king. 1679 Aesop *Melius Ing.* II. v. 264 The Ἄνομος or Lawless person, who has a curb for every mans Conscience, but will not endure a snaffle upon his own. 1813 Moore *Post-bag* i. 49 His Lordship proposes 'The new Veto-snaffle to bind down their noses'. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* II. vii, Give your own passions the curb, and allow mine the snaffle.

c. *To ride* (one) *in, on,* or *with the snaffle*, to rule easily, to guide with a light hand.

1577 Holinshed *Chron., Hist. Scotl.* I. 249, I perceyue this man will neuer obey my commaundements, till he be rydden with a snaffle. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* To Rdr., He..ride him with a snaffle vp & down the whole realme.

a 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 281 Such a wanton Courser as Naples is not to be ridden with snaffles. 1844 Ld. Ashburton in *Croker P.* (1884) III. xxiii. 18 As old Hunt said of Manners Sutton as Speaker, he rode them in a snaffle. 1904 Benson *Challoners* i, The world has begun ..to ride life on the snaffle instead of the curb.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snaffle-bit, -bridle, -rein*; *snaffle-bridled, -mouthed* adjs.

1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl., Philomene* (Arb.) 90 A snaffle Bit or brake, Bebost with gold. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 272/4 He took away with her a deep skirted Saddle..and a snaffle Bridle. 1814 Earl Dudley *Lett.* 7 May (1840) 35 There is no riding the French in a snaffle-bridle. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 395/1, I have never yet ridden a snaffle-bridled horse comfortably through a run. 1856 Lever *Martins of Cro' M.* xv, An old worsted bell-rope formed the snaffle-rein of his bridle. 1862 H. H. Dixon *Scott & Sebright* IV. 308 Early in the ensuing year, Becher was again on the snaffle-mouthed Grimaldi. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2228/2 Price's bridle-bit..combines the snaffle-bit with a lever-bar.

† **Snaffle**, *sb.*[2] *Cant. Obs.* [perh. the same word as prec., but cf. Snaffle *v.*[4]] (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Snaffle*, a Highwayman that has got Booty.

Snaffle (snæ·f'l), *v.*[1] [f. Snaffle *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To put a snaffle on (a horse, etc.); to restrain or guide with a snaffle. Freq. *fig.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) L iv, For hytherto slye wryters wyly wittes..Have been lyke horses snaffled with the byttes Of fansye, feares or doubtes. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 139 If thou wylt brydell me, I wyll snafell the. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 295 Their arrogaunt insolency, beyng a long tyme reasonably well snafled by the Greeke and Frenche Emperours. 1603 Dekker & Chettle *Grissil* 2622 Asse, Ile haue you snaffled. 1679 Bunyan *Fear of God* Wks. 1855 I. 478 The guilt and terror that thy sins will snaffle thee with. *a* 1849 Mangan *Poems* (1859) 279 The animal snaffled by Boileau. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* v. iii, If you marry Philip, Then I and he will snaffle your 'God's death', And break your paces in.

2. *slang.* To arrest; to seize.

1860 *Slang Dict.* 220 *Snaffled*, arrested, 'pulled up'. 1902 *Essex Weekly News* 24 Jan. 2 6 On one occasion we snaffled a Cape cart in which were two females dressed in male attire.

Hence **Snaffled** *ppl. a.*, bridled.

1877 Blackie *Wise Men* 335 Their powers .. discharge Their snaffled wrath at Jove's high beck.

Snaffle, *v.*[2] ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To saunter.

1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 208, I haue gon snaffling vp and downe by your dore this houre to watch for you. *a* 1743 Relph *Poems* (1747) 5 Mun I still be..shamefully left snaffles by my sell?

Snaffle (snæ·f'l), *v.*[3] Now *dial.* [Imitative: cf. WFris. *snaffelje* and Snuffle *v.*] **a.** *trans.* To utter through the nose. **b.** *intr.* To speak through the nose; to make a snuffling noise.

1616 Holyday *Persius* I. B 4 If forsooth one clad in purple cloth's Snaffle some mustie stuff through's muffling nose. 1647 Corbet *Poems* (1807) 95 To Saint Denis fast we came To see the sights of Nostre Dame, The man that shews them snaffles. 1826 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 549 A hare-lip..caused him to speak through the nose, or to *snaffle*, as they term it in Yorkshire. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* (1889) 286 Snorting, snaffling, whinnying and neighing.

Hence **Snaffling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 259 The snafling through the nose made all the edification that I saw in it.

Snaffle (snæ·f'l), *v.*[4] *dial.* or *slang.* [Of obscure origin; cf. Snaffle *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To steal, purloin.

1725 *New Cant. Dict., Snaffle*, to steal, to rob, to purloin. *c* 1850 Bagnall *Songs* 24 (E.D.D.), He cud snaffle the raisins an' currins away. 1897 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 372 Archy did not 'snaffle' £6000 and invest it in business.

† **Snaffler**[1]. *Cant. Obs.*[-0] (See quot.)

c 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd, Snafflers*, highwaymen.

Snaffler[2]. *dial.* [f. Snaffle *v.*[3]] One who talks through the nose.

1885 *North Star* 1 July 3/2 Like the snarling snafflers such people generally are.

Snaffles. ? *Obs.* [Cf. Snaffle *v.*[3]] A form of catarrh affecting respiration; the snuffles.

1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) II. 590 Whence in common language it is called emphatically *the distemper*, though vulgarly the *snaffles*,..from the state of the nostrils.

Snaffling, *ppl. a.* [f. Snaffle *v.*[3]] Snuffling; speaking through the nose.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 569 Contagious cankers carues his snafling snout. 1620 Shelton *Quix.* III. vi. I. 164 He stopt his nose very well between his Fingers, and then said with a Snaffling voice. 1651 Lilly *Chas. I* (1774) 211 An obstinate King, wholly led by the nose by these snaffling Priests. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 135 The snaffling fellow..will tell you another story of this statue through the nose. 1793 Southey *Juv. & Minor P., Chapel Bell*, The snuffling, snaffling Fellow's nasal tone. 1805 in 'Geo. Paston' *Side-lights Georgian Period* (1902) 251 Such a little snaffling man, if I may use the expression, I hardly ever heard.

† **Snaffling-lay.** *Cant. Obs.* [Cf. Snaffle *sb.*[2] and Snaffle *v.*[4]] The trade of highwayman.

1752 Fielding *Amelia* I. iii, I thought by your look you had been a clever fellow, and upon the snaffling-lay at least.

Snag (snæg), *sb.*[1] Also 6–7 **snagge**, 8–9 **snagg**. [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. dial. *snag* sharp point, projection, stump, spike, etc., also *snage* in the same senses = Icel. *snagi* peg. The stem is also found in OIcel. *snag-hyrndr*, said of an axe having a sharp point. For the retention of *g* in the English word cf. Flag *sb.*[2]]

1. A short stump standing out from the trunk, or from a stout branch, of a tree or shrub, esp. one which has been left after cutting or pruning; † also, a fruiting spur.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* (1808) IV. 644 Artificiallie made gates raised of ragged staues, and vpon euerie snag stood a small wax candle burning. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 7 In his hand a tall young oake he bore, Whose knottie snags were sharpned all afore. 1623 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 420 An Ewtree with the Berries, and a great N. hanging upon a snag in the midst of the tree. 1674 Josselyn *Voy. New Eng.* 138 They make their..fire near to a great Tree, upon the snags whereof they hang their kettles. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Ribes*, These Plants produce their Fruit..also upon small Snags which come out of the old Wood. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 89 Old weather-beaten trees, hoary and barbed, with the long moss hanging from their snags. 1811– in many dialect glossaries. 1859 Delamer *Flower Gard.* 167 Above all, do not leave a long snag to die down to the bud. 1898 Card *Bush Fruits* 363 The top being cut down in spring and the snag removed afterward. *fig.* 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 177, I shall make each of these important topics a head, or rather a snag, in my Pastoral Calendar. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 357 A man who has many crotchets..must be a conglomeration of snags and snarls.

b. A trunk or large branch of a tree imbedded in the bottom of a river, lake, etc., with one end directed upwards (and consequently forming an impediment or danger to navigation). Orig. *U.S.*

1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 31 About 12 one of the periogues run against a snag which broke a hole in it. 1817–8 Cobbett *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 294 The wheels are made to work in the stern of the boat, so as not to come in contact with the floating trees, snaggs, planters, &c. 1877 H. Dixon *Diana* III. iii, A snag, jammed in the stony bed, throws up a jet of water.

c. *fig.* An impediment or obstacle.

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* IV. ix, I guess he's a snag in the Devil's way. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 3/1 Our extradition treaty with the United States has run up against its first snag, to use an expression familiar on the Mississippi. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 8, I was continually running against some snag in the shape of an unwritten law.

2. A sharp, angular, or jagged projection.

1586 Bright *Treat. Melancholy* xxvi. 149 The rowels of the neckbone with their snagges hinder that inclination. 1611 Cotgr., *Barbelé*,..full of snags, snips, iags. 1692 Ray *Disc.* II. ii. (1732) 102 Hailstones..like great pieces of Ice with several Snags or fangs issuing out of them. 1757 Wilkie *Epigoniad* II. (1769) 28 A ponderous mace ..with snags around Of pointed steel. 1799 E. King *Mun. Antiqua* I. 105 They [stone arrow-heads]..have snaggs, or as they are called beards on each side. 1817 Kirby & Spence *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 220 The legs, as well as the head, having their little snags and knobs. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 103 Blowing snags and splinters [of lava] into cairnlike heaps all around.

b. A broken piece or stump of a tooth; a large or unshapely tooth.

1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 11 Crowes bils..are only used to take hold of any snag of a tooth. 1676 *Poor Robin's Intell.* 4 Apr. 1/2 As old folks when they have but a snag or two left pass for Children. 1717 Prior *Alma* II. 428 In China none hold Women sweet, Except their Snags are black as Jett. 1792 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Wolves, Bear*, etc. Wks. 1812 III. 74 It is the wish of many a beast, That you consent your teeth may all be pull'd; Damn me, if I would lose my snags, my Lords. 1825– in many dial. glossaries (esp. of south-western counties). 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 375/2 Their old snags will stick tight in them till they rattle in the coffin.

c. A tine or branch of a deer's horn, *spec.* one which is short or imperfectly developed.

1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 27 The Horns have no Brow-Antlers, but only a broad palm with several Snags upon it. 1842 Brande *Dict. Arts* s.v. *Deer*, The points between the notches are developed into long branches or *snags*, of which a single antler sometimes sends off as many as fourteen. 1872 Nicholson *Palaeont.* 437 This extraordinary ..species..having horns which have a snag in front.

3. *dial.* A rent or tear, such as is made by a sharp projection.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Snag*, a rent at right angles.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snag-toothed* adj., *-voyage*; **snag-boat, -pruning, -scow** (see quots.).

a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 138 What smith then toils so hard? Or who, that wool with snag-tooth'd wire does card? 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words* s.v. *Snags*, That mode of pruning which leaves the snags is called snag-pruning, in distinction from close pruning. 1851 Eliza Cook *Jrnl.* VI. 100 A snag voyage up the yellow Missouri for some 400 miles, is no joke. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Snag-boat*, a steam-boat fitted with an apparatus for removing snags, or obstructions to navigation in rivers. 1895 Zangwill *Master* II. vii, The grotesque snag-toothed hags in the crowd. 1907 C. D. Stewart *Partners of Providence* xiii. 176 The white snag-scow..did keep the snags pulled out of the mouth of the Missouri anyway.

Snag, *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* and *rare.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Skeg *sb.*[2], Scad [2].] A sloe.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 719 The wilde Plummes are the least of al, and are called Slose, Bullies, and Snagges. 1611 Cotgr., *Prunelle*, a Sloe, or Snag. 1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 70 *Snags*, small sloes. 1901 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 363 'I'were made o' nought but the snags what grows in the hedges.

attrib. 1598 Florio, *Spino*, a sloe tree, a black-thorne, a snag tree. 1617 Holyoke *Dict. Etymol., Spinus*,..a blacke thorne, the snagge tree. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss.* 149 Snag-bush, *Prunus spinosa*, the Sloe.

Snag, *sb.*[3] *dial.* and *rare.* [Later form or var. of Sneg *sb.* See also Snag-greet.] A snail.

1674 Ray *S. & E. Co. Words* 77 A *Snagge*, a snail. *Suss.* [Hence in Kersey, Bailey, Grose, etc.] *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Snaggs*,..Snails 1862 Lower in *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 281 When my occasional gardener talks of the ravages of 'them snags' on a peach-tree.

Snag (snæg), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* [perh. related to Snag *sb.*[1], but the sense has more connexion with Nag *v.*] *intr.* To carp, cavil, sneer, nag. Also const. *at.* Hence **Snagging** *vbl. sb.*[1]

1554 J. Bradford in Coverdale *Lett.* (1564) 326 You are one of hys liuely stones: be contente therefore to be hewen and snagged at. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 14 How much more then should ye beware of snagging and snarling at Gods secrets. *Ibid.* 291 Let us..be so farre from snagging or nipping of such, that rather we marke them for peculiar ones. 1806 A. Douglas *Poems* 121 Sic snaggin' an' braggin' An' randy-beggar jaw. 1839 Sir G. C. Lewis *Gloss. Heref., To snag*, to teaze, to repeat the same thing several times. 1866 Brogden *Prov. Lincs., Snag*, to irritate or scold in an 'aggravating' manner.

Snag (snæg), *v.*[2] [f. Snag *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* **a.** In passive: To be caught, pierced, or damaged by a snag. Chiefly *U.S.*, and esp. of river-steamers.

(*a*) 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 229 One of our best horses got snagged to day, and was left here.

(*b*) 1839 De Quincey *Milton v. Southey* Wks. 1862 XI. 196 One does not altogether like being snagged by the Mississippi. 1850 Lyell *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 267, I afterwards learnt, that in the course of her voyage she was snagged. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 6 Apr., It is no light matter to be 'snagged' on a dark night in Virginia.

(*c*) 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 211 Feeling no pull I started to haul my line in, but found I was snagged.

b. *fig.* To occupy or block as with a snag.

1863 W. Phillips *Sp.* iii. 38 A great mind, anchored in error, might snag the slow-moving current of society.

2. To cut roughly, or so as to leave snags.

1811 Willan in *Archaeologia* XVII. 158 *Snag*, to hew, or cut rudely with an axe, &c. 1812 Henry *Camp. agst. Quebec* 24 Blazing the trees and snagging the bushes with our tomahawks. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 216/2 Whether the branches..should be cut close to the stem at once,..or whether they should first be *snagged*.

b. To tear on or by a sharp projection.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 258, I have snagged my gown. 1897 *19th Cent.* Feb. 242 My knickerbockers and stockings were snagged to pieces by these hidden stumbling blocks.

3. To clear (a river, etc.) from snags.

1882 *Law Rep.* 9 App. Cases 429, I got much useful information from him when snagging the river. 1889 *New York Times* 21 July (Cent.), Both of these parties..are engaged in snagging the waterways.

Hence **Snagging** *vbl. sb.*[2]

1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abroad* I. 83 He..had gone to bed, with his head filled with impending snaggings, and explosions, and conflagrations.

Snagged (snægd), *ppl. a.* [f. Snag *sb.*[1] or *v.*[2]]

1. Having projecting points or jagged protuberances; jagged, ragged.

1658 Rowland tr. *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 964 The edge of the wings like the Bats snagged, and as it were prickly. 1662 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. iii. 49 Howlings and shoutings of poor naked men belabouring one another with snag'd sticks. 1741 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 563 The Roch, or snagged Wheel, being herein accounted as Part of the great Wheel. 1791 W. Bartram *California* 247 Having provided ourselves with a long snagged sapling, called an Indian ladder. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Apr. 1/3 By this time his trouser knees were torn in snagged rents.

† **b.** Of teeth: = Snaggled *a.* 1. *Obs.*-[0]

1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A snagged Tooth, that does not stand even.

2. Caught or impaled upon a snag.

1872 C. King *Sierra Nevada* viii. 174, I made a dash for the snagged mule.

Snagger. *dial.* [f. Snag *v.*[2] 2.] (See quot.)

1847 Halliw. s.v. *Snag*, A snagger..is a simple bill-hook without the usual edge on the back. 1877–99 in dial. glossaries (Cumb., Yks.).

Snaggle, *v. slang.* (See quots.)

1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Snaggling*, driving geese into a corner in a stubble-field. 1864 *Slang Dict.* (Hotten) 238 *Snaggling*, angling after geese with a hook and line, the bait being a worm or snail.

Snaggled, *a. U.S.* [Cf. next.]

1. Of teeth: Uneven, irregular, projecting.

1884 J. G. Bourke *Snake Dance Moquis* xxxii. 360 His snaggled teeth, projecting tusk-like from an unnecessarily large mouth. 1889 'C. E. Craddock' *Despot Broomsedge Cove* xxii. 396 He glanced at Jepson with a lively little grin, all his snaggled teeth on parade.

2. Knotty, intricate.

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 26 Mar. 457/1 Snaggled problems grew plain as light, under the gentle explanations which she could give.

Snaggle-tooth. [Cf. next and Snag-tooth.] An irregular or projecting tooth.

1825 Jennings *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 71 *Snaggle-tooth*, a tooth growing irregularly. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 96 *Snaggle teeth*, uneven, and unpleasant looking dental operators. 1897 S. Watson *Life's Look-out* 67 Every building had its own lurch inwards or outwards, like a mouthful of snaggle teeth.

Snaggle-toothed, *a. rare.* [app. f. Snag *sb.*[1]] Having snaggle-teeth.

1585 Higins tr. *Junius' Nomencl.* 452/1 s.v. *Dento*, 1688 Holme *Armoury* II. 427/1 *Snaggle*, or *Rake toothed*, is when the teeth stands at a distance, one from the other. 1884 J. C. Harris *Nts. Uncle Remus* 105 I'm snaggle-toofed an' double j'inted.

†Snag-greet. *Obs.* [app. f. SNAG *sb.*3 + *greet* GRIT *sb.*1] (See quot. and cf. *snail-cod.*)

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 34 Snag greet: which is a kind of earth taken out of the Rivers, full of small shels. [Hence in Worlidge (1669) and some later works.]

Snaggy (snæ·gi), *a.*1 [f. SNAG *sb.*1 + -Y.]

1. Having snags or sharp protuberances; jagged, knotty; snag-like.

1581 STUDLEY *Seneca, Medea* 134 Cause yee the snaggy wheele to pawse that rentes the carkas bound. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 10 His stalking steps are stayde Vpon a snaggy Oke. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* ii. (1632) 62 Envie..a snaggy staffe..tooke Wreathed with thornes. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 735 A multitude of blackened snaggy shapes protruding above the water. 1895 JANE BARLOW *Lisconnel* ix. 212 His snaggy stick lay at a little distance.

fig. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 358 We do not think that your genuine snaggy fellow belongs to any class in particular.

2. Of teeth: Suggestive of snags.

1703 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) III 210 Her Teeth..seem'd to be thin and snaggy.

3. Abounding in, full of, snags.

1864 J. K. HOSMER *Color-Guard* xii, We passed into snaggy lakes at last. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Oct. 2/1 The river is..a turbulent, snaggy stream to navigate.

Snaggy, *a.*2 *Sc.* and *dial.* [Cf. SNAG *v.*1] Ill-tempered, peevish, snappish, cross.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snaggy,* tetchy, peevish. 1806 A. DOUGLAS *Poems* 130 Quo' Maggy fell snaggy, 'Ye lie, you loun, an' joke'. 1823– in dial. glossaries (Suffolk, E. Anglia, Lincs.). 1898 B. GREGORY *Side Lights* 405 The stalwart President..had become spasmodic, snatchy, and at times snaggy.

Snag-tooth. [f. SNAG *sb.*1 Cf. SNAGGLE-TOOTH.] A snag-like tooth.

1655 COTGRAVE *Wits Interpr.* (1662) 253 How thy snag-teeth stand orderly, Like stakes which strut by th' water side. 1727 in BAILEY (vol. II.). 1890 *Amer. Anthropologist* Oct. 316 Projecting canines or 'snag teeth' are so common in low faces as to be universally remarked.

Snail (snēl), *sb.*1 Forms: α. 1 sneġel, sneġl, snæġel, snæġl, 4–7 snayl, 5–7 snayle (5 snaylle); 3, 5– snail (6 snaill), 5–7 snaile, 6–7 snale. β. 1 snél, snéel, 5 snele, snyle, 9 *dial.* sneel. γ. 4 snawile. [OE. *snegel, snægel,* etc., = MLG. *sneil* (LG. *snäl, sniel,* etc.), OHG. *snegil* (MHG. *snegel,* G. *schnägel,* now dial. with variants *schnäl, schnel,* etc.), ON. and Icel. *snigill* (Norw. and Sw. *snigel,* Da. *snegl*).]

1. One or other of the terrestrial or freshwater gasteropods having a well-developed spiral or whorled shell capable of housing the whole body; also formerly (and still *dial.* and *Sc.*) a slug.

The common types of the true snail belong to the genus *Helix* (esp. *H. aspersa* or *hortensis,* the common garden-snail, and *H. pomatia,* the edible snail) or *Clausilia,* of the family *Helicidæ.*

α. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 630 *Cocleae,* lytle sneġlas. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 110 ðif næddre slea man, þone blacan sneġl awærc on haliġ wætre. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 121 *Limax,* sneġl. *Testudo,* gehused sneġl. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 87 Snayles Mus and fule wihte Beoþ þine cunde. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3836 Anon they..gunne to drawen in her hornes, As a snayl among the thornes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 169 Thei anoynten here Hondes and here Feet with a juyce made of Snayles. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 3313 Wrinkled double, like an hornyd snail. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* viii. (1870) 249 Beware that you do not lye in..such chambres as myse, ratles, and snayles resorteth vnto. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1033 As the snail, whose tender horns being hit, Shrinks backward in his shelly cave. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* § 29 See there two snails. One hath a house; the other wants it: yet both are snails. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 226 If People were sensible of the hurt they do, they would no more eat them, than they would Frogs, Snales. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxiv, A snail, Beneath his house, with slimy trail Crawls o'er the grass. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 113 The noise which the snail makes in moving the water. 1813 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (ed. 4) III. 467 The garden snail, hedge snail, and grove snail. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 566 The common Snails..not unfrequently become formidable pests to the horticulturist, from the ravages caused by their voracity.

β. *c* 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 611 *Limax,* snel. [*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 122 *Chelio,*..sæsnæl.] *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 96 Þer er in þat land so grete snyles þat in þaire schelles three men or foure may be herberd. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 157 He commandid þat þis vglie burth..sulde be closid in a stone, as a snyle is in hur shell. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 A Snele, *lis iax.* 1828– in dial. glossaries (Yorks., Chesh., Linc., Leic.), in form *sneel.*

γ. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 40 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 157 Þe lond is ful of oþer gode..Þer nis dunnir, slete, no hawle, No non vile worme no snawile.

transf. 1579 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 58 They were wont, in olde time, to haue paynted snayles in their houses. 1851 PLANCHÉ *Pursuivant of Arms* (1873) 125 Snails are borne by the family of Shelley.

fig. 1590 NASHE *M. Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 245. I wonder how these seelie snayles, creeping but yesterdaie out of shoppes and Graumer-schooles, dare thrust out theyr feeble hornes. 1596 — *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., It shall neuer put foorth his snayles hornes againe.

† b. A tortoise or turtle. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 377 Whan þis snayl was i-roted, þe senewes were i-streyned with ynne þe skyn of þe snayles bous. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cvii. (Bodl. MS.), Þere beþ foure manere [snails], londe snailles & see stronde snailles & venny snailles..[1495 and ryuer snayles].

c. Applied to various animals allied to, or resembling, the snails or slugs. (Cf. SEA-SNAIL.)

1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iij, The moste dyfference is of blode lettynge, for it draweth the blode deper than the boxynge or the snayles [=leeches]. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 78 There is a kind of Snailes, called by the French *Soldats* that is Souldiers, because they have no shells proper and peculiar to themselves. 1731 MEDLEY tr. *Kolben's Cape Good-Hope* II. 209 The Nabel-Snail has an upper and an under Shell, like a Muscle. *Ibid.* 208 The Shell of the Sea-Porcupine Snail is..arm'd on almost every Part with long Prickles. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 114 On the coast of Guayaquil..are found those snails which yield the purple dye so celebrated by the antients. 1794 *Reports Agric. Survey* Camb. 111 In the first stage of this disease [*sc.* the blood-rot] the liver has not been infected with the snails, or plaice [=liver-fluke]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 337/1 The *Janthina,* or Oceanic Snail. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* i. 23 As we gather a bunch of seaweed, we shake out dozens of a pretty little snail called Rissoa. 1884 [see *snail-bore* in sense 7].

2. Used with reference or allusion to the exceptionally slow motion of the snail.

a 1000 *Riddles* XLI. 70 (Gr.), Me is sneġl swiftra. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Mery Play* 422 (Brandl), Go and hye the, as fast as a snayle. 1599 PORTER *Angry Women Abington* (Percy Soc.) 105 A man may bee as slowe as a snaile, but as fierce as a lyon. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 252, I..went forward like a snaile, till despairing of going further I fell upon the ground. 1652 COLLINGES *Caveat for Prof.* xiii. (1653) 71 Sure..our Saviour *drave snails* as he went, he reckons so long for his journey! 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxv, During our whole ride, I thought the carriage drawn by snails. 1821 COMBE *Syntax, Search Wife* III. (Chandos) 303 He, by degrees, would seldom fail T' adopt the gallop of a snail. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 406 As slaw as a sneel. 1881 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Letters* (1895) II. 244 Riding..at the pace of a snail.

b. *Snail's gallop, pace,* an excessively slow or tardy pace, rate of progress or motion, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4095 Þan snyȝes þar, out of þat snyth hill as with a snayles pas, A burly best. 1565 COOPER, *Testudineus gradus,* a slowe pase: a snayles pase. 1707–91 [see GALLOP *sb.* 3 c]. 1793 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 12 Sept., That snail's pace with which business is done by letters. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVII. 32 Every thing short of eight miles per hour is accounted *snail's pace.* 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xvi, The snail's pace at which we were proceeding. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Nov. 6/8 For a time they were able to get along at a snail's gallop, men leading the horses with torches and lanterns.

c. A slow or indolent person; a sluggard.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 196 Dromio, thou Dromio, thou snaile, thou slug. *a* 1593 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) II. 83 Every snail shall step before thee, and take thy crown from thee. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* IV. i. When he comes, he comes apace; he's no snail, I assure you.

† 3. a. A structure or formation resembling a snail-shell; a testudo. *Obs.*

1408 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* IV. xiv. (MS. Laud 416), The gynne that is clepid the snaile or þe wilk is a frame made of good tymbyr. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 66/2 Cercle, clepyd the snayle, as of pentys, and other lyke, *spira.* 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* 44 Ground-plots are..externall, as Groves, Arbours, Bowers, Mounts, Mazes, Snailes.

† b. *Mil.* A formation resembling the letter D; = LIMAÇON 1. *Obs.*

1579 NORTH *Plutarch* (1895) III. 57 As for the order of their battelles, they knewe not what it ment, nor to cast them selves into a snaill or ringe. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* I. 67 How to bring them into a Ring, an Esse, or a Snaile, verie profitable for young Souldiers. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 87 This order of a D. otherwise called a snaile.

4. *pl.* A species of medick (usually *Medicago scutellata*) having snail-shaped seed-pods.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 339 *Medica spinosa altera.* Small thorney Buttons, or Snailes. 1730 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Medica Cochleata,* The Snail-Trefoil, commonly call'd in the Seed-shops *Snails.* 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. iii. 371 Sow these dwarf annual Flowers.., Snails and Catterpillars. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 229 *M. scutellata* (Snails)...This curious plant derives its name from the singular nature of its fruit, which is twisted like the shell of a snail. 1858 R. HOGG *Veget. Kingdom* 269 Some years ago..some..were admitted into the annual flower borders under the singular names of Snails, Bee-hives,..and similar names suggested by the fancied resemblance of their pods to these subjects. 1866 [see *snail-plant* in 7].

5. *Mech.* A flat, spirally curved piece of metal; *esp.* a toothed disc of this shape forming part of the striking mechanism of a clock; a spiral cam.

1696 W. DERHAM *Artificial Clockm.* (1759) 7 The Snail, or Step-Wheel in Repeating-Clocks. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* I. 79/1 The quarter and half quarter snail. *Ibid.,* The hour snail and star. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 38 The collar..is formed like a snail or camm, which will act upon either of the levers. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 942 The punch being driven through the plate by one revolution of a snail or cam. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 252 Clockmakers generally mark off the snail on the clock itself after the rest of the striking work is planted.

b. (See quot.)

1834–6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 280/1 The German snail is an apparatus of nearly the same kind [as the Archimedes' screw]; it consists of a cylinder with its spiral projections detached from the external cylinder or coating within which it revolves.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In sense 1, as *snail-broth, -culture, -eater, -feast, -garden,* etc.

1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 41 *Snail Broth. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* XII. 46 Any one desiring a lesson in *snail-culture, may learn all about it in the Tyrol. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 281/1, I would suggest that conchologists pay some attention to..these *snail-eaters. 1875 *Chambers's Jrnl.* XII. 46 The Newcastle glassmakers hold an annual *snail-feast. 1895 A. H. COOKE *Molluscs* iv. 119 *Escargotières,* or *snail-gardens, still exist in many parts of Europe. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 19 Turbinated Shell-Fish of the *Snail Kind. 1883 *Science* I. 492/1 A small open square used as a *snail-market. 1887 JEFFERIES *Amaryllis* xxxii, My sister, as was in a decline, used to have *snail-oil rubbed into her back. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 85 A *snail paste which enjoyed a certain amount of repute. 1900 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 6/6 Circular lines of fine black braid following each other in what is called the *snail pattern. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) VI. 4572/1 With small yellow flowers, succeeded by small, round, *snail-shaped fruit. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* v. (1858) 56 *Medicago orbicularis* (Snails). Legumes unarmed, snail-shaped, orbicular. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) III. 580 The Romans..kept these animals in what were called *Cochlearia,* or *Snail Stews. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 355 This Slug is a small whitish Insect..of the *Snail Tribe. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* VI. 345 The Snail Tribe,—Family *Helicidæ.* 1682 G. HARTMAN *True Preserver & Rest. Health* 21 Dr. Harvey his excellent *Snail-water against Consumptions and Hectick Feavers. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 206 Mix it with Snail-Water, or Bean-Flower-Water, to make a Virgin's Milk, or Wash of.

b. Used attrib. to denote: Exceptionally tardy or slow.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 163 So may it run, runnyng but a snayle pace. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Snail-gallop,* a very slow motion, like that of a snail. 1845 E. HOLMES *Mozart* 29 The Court delayed to pay them, and their affairs, in German phrase, travelled 'by the snail post'.

c. In senses 3 and 5, as *snail-cam, -mount, -movement, -piece, -work.*

1591 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1779) XLIX. 81 The 3. and last was a Snaylmount, rising to four circles of green priuie hedges. 1803 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXI. 399 The snail-piece to raise a weight somewhat similar. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 19 The wedge, placed on the internal face of the circle,..causing..the obstacle..to approach nearer to the centre..; this is called the snail movement. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 149 This traverse movement is effected by an endless screw and toothed-wheel, or snail-work. 1902 W. J. DIBDIN *Public Lighting* 77 Motion was given to the reflecting screen by a fine chain wound upon a snail cam.

7. Special combs.: **snail-bore** *U.S.,* a shell-fish (*Urosalpinx cinerea*) which injures oysters by boring; **†snail clover,** (*a*) lucerne; (*b*) sainfoin; **† snail clover-grass,** sainfoin; **† snail-cod,** a kind of fertile mud or sludge obtained from rivers; hence *snail-codding* vbl. sb.; **† snail-crawled** *a.,* crawling as slow as a snail; **snail-creep, -creeping** (see quots.); **snail-eater** *Ornith.,* = OPEN-BILL; **snail-fish,** a fish related to the lump-sucker; **snail-flower** (see quots.); **snail-house** *dial.,* a snail-shell; **snail-leech,** a species of leech which eats snails; **snail-plant** (see quot. 1866 and sense 4); **snail sea-cucumber** (see quot.); **snail-seeded** *a.,* having seed-pods resembling snails in form; **snail-stone** (see quots. 1611, 1797); **†snail-trefoil,** (*a*) lucerne; (*b*) snail-plant; **snail-wheel** (see quot. and sense 5).

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 696 These small 'Snails', 'Drills', 'Borers', and '*Snail-bores', as they are variously called. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclxxxv. 1029 Of Medick fodder, or *Snaile Clauer,..*Trifolium Cochlearum..: the flowers are very small, and..turne into round wrinckled knobs, like the water snaile. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* V. xviii. 697 There is not..any pulse..more pretious for the feeding of beastes then snaile clauer, called in French *Sainct foin.* 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 327 Snail Clover, *Medicago.* 1726 *Dict. Rust., Sainfoin,..*otherwise call'd..*Snail or Horned Clover-grass. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improver* xix. 112 A Mudde or Sludg, that lyeth frequently in deepe Rivers,..which is very Rich...They Call it **Snayle-Cod,* and it hath in it many Snayles and Shells, which is conceived occasioneth the Fatnesse of it. [Hence in later agricultural works.] *Ibid.* xvii. 100 And in thy Tillage are these special Opportunities to Improve it,..by Liming, Marling,..Mudding, *Snayle-codding. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *To T. C.* 13 Wks. (1687), If thou wilt needs to Sea, O must it be In an old Galliasse of sixty three; A *Snail-crawl'd Bottom? 1592 *Will of Kelleway* (Somerset Ho.), One dozen of *snaile creepe worke. 1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. 96/2 *Snail creep.* The common form of pointing granite or limestone uncoursed walls. 1792 *Young's Annals Agric.* XVIII. 41 The ends of the beams [of the *Royal William*]..had been gouged in a manner then [in 1719] practised, which was called **snail-creeping.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 635 *Snail-Creeping,* gouging out the surfaces of timbers in crooked channels, to promote a circulation of air. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 655 Shell-eater, Shell-Ibis, and *Snail-eater. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 324 There are one or two British species [of *Leparus* or *Liparis*], some of which are called '*Snail-fishes', from their soft and unctuous texture. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 114/2 *Snail Flower, or rather Snail Seed Vessel, is a kind of Pod, in form like a Snail house. 1856 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Snail-flower, *Phaseolus Caracalla.* 1688 *Snail-house [see *snail-flower*]. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 393 *Snail-housen,* snail-shells. 1865 *Intellect. Obs.* No. 44. 81 The different species of *snail-leech. 1767 J. ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man own Gardener* (1803) 735/2 *Snail Plant,..Caterpillar Plant. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Snail-plant. *Medicago scutellata,* and also *M. Helix*; the pods of these are called snails from their resemblance to those mollusks. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci., Psolus phantapus,* the *snail sea cucumber, is a British species. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1116/1 *Salsola Kali,..* the *snail-seeded glasswort, or saltwort. 1611 COTGR., *Pierre de Limaçon,* the *Snaile stone; found in the heads of some (dew) Snailes; it shall worke transparent, and rugged. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. I. i. 262

Divers others Snail-Stones; some of them of a Limy substance, others perfect Flint. 1700 E. Lhwyd in Rowlands *Mona Antiqua* (1723) 338 Besides the Snake-Stones,..the Highlanders have their Snail-Stones, Paddoc-Stones,..to all which they attribute their several Virtues. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 76/2 It is in its [*sc.* the slug's] head and back that the snail-stone is found; which is a small pearled and sandy stone, of the nature of lime stones. 1548 Turner *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 51 Medica.. maye be called in englishe horned Clauer or *snail Trifoly. 1731 Miller *Gard. Dict., Medica cochleata*, Snail-Trefoil. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 279 The Plant commonly called La Lucerne is a Medic Clover, or by some called Snail Trefoyl. 1771 R. F. Forster *Flora Amer. Sept.* 32 *Medicago virginica*, Snail Trefoil. 1846 Holtzapffel *Turning* II. 891 The *snail-wheel of a striking clock..has an edge formed in twelve steps, arranged spirally, the positions of which determine the number of strokes of the hammer on the bell.

†Snail, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [app. an assimilation of *chenille* to prec., perh. through the dial. form *sneel*. Cf. Snailing *sb.*] = Chenille. Also *attrib.*

1741 Lady Pomfret *Lett.* (1805) III. 216 The dress of the nuns here is all white, with a black silk snail-string about their necks. 1744 Mrs. Montagu *Lett.* (1906) I. 194, I have brought down a screen to work in snail for the Duchess. 1773 *Ann. Reg.* 124, I'm compass'd now With worms instead of lovely snails.

†Snail, *sb.*[3] *Obs.*[–1] (See quot. and Snouting 2.)

1662 *Irish Statutes* (1678) 628 Snouting, alias snayl, or drest towe, the twelve pound, o. 5ˢ. o.

Snail (snēl), *v.* Also 6 **snayle, 6–7 snaill, 7 snaile.** [f. Snail *sb.*[1]]

†1. *intr.* Of soldiers: To form into a 'snail' or 'snails'. *Obs.*[–1]

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 235 b, All the gonnes seuered themselues into one place,..and likewise the byllmen, and there rynged and snayled, which was a goodly sight to beholde.

2. To move, walk, or travel lazily or sluggishly; to go very slowly. Also with *on*.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 118 Shee trots on snayling, lyk a tooth shaken old hagge. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 124 Draw in your horns, and resolve to snail-on..in a track we are acquainted with. 1813 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1861) II. 238 The Crown Prince is *snailing* towards the Elbe. 1903 A. Adams *Log Cowboy* xviii. 275 The herd was snailing along the North Platte. *Ibid.* xxiii. 365 We snailed on westward at our leisurely gait.

b. With *it*.

1628 Feltham *Resolves* I. xciv, You shall finde, that every thing, as farre as the Abilitie will give it Line, does Snaile it after Deitie. *Ibid.* II. xliv, When the grave Vespasian came to snail it, and be leaver'd in the throngs slow march. 1893 W. C. A. Blew *Brighton* 48 From Clayton Hill the coach *snailed it on* towards Cuckfield.

3. *trans.* To make or construct after the spiral form of a snail-shell. Now *spec.* in clockmaking.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 637 God plac't the Ears ..As in two turrets, on the building's top, Snailling their hollow entries so a-sloap [etc.]. 1885 Glasgow *Watch & Clock Making* vi. 73 The arbor should be snailed, so that when the spring is wound on to it, it will take a spiral form.

b. To finish off with curved eccentric lines.

1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 242 Fusee caps, steel keyless watches, &c., are snailed with a copper mill.

4. To clear of, keep free from, slugs or snails.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Glouc.* I. (1662) 349 Many got great [tobacco] estates thereby, notwithstanding the great ..cost in..watering, snailing, suckering,..and rowling it.

Hence **Snai·ling** *vbl. sb.* (see 3 b).

1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 242 Snailing requires a sharp polishing material. 1891 Tripplin & Rigg *Watchmaker's Hdbk.* (ed. 3) 119 A beautiful snailing can be obtained with Arkansas stone mud.

attrib. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 242 The snailing mill is fixed in nearly the right position. 1885 Glasgow *Watch & Clock Making* ix. 119 The snailing roller [is] held in the fingers and prevented from turning.

Snailery (snē·lĕri). Also 9 **snaillery.** [f. Snail *sb.*[1] + -ery.] A place where (edible) snails are bred or reared.

1725 in *Archit. Soc. Dict.* (1887) VII. 96/2 [That] a snailery and a place for breeding tortices be made at Kensington for his majesty's service. 1834 W. H. Smyth *Roman Medals* 210 The luxury and profusion of Roman gastrology were attested by..their lepories, their lobsteries, and their snaileries. 1874 Wood *Nat. Hist.* III. 406 There are.. on the Continent several snaileries, where the inmates are abundantly supplied with food.

Snail-horn. Now *dial.* [Snail *sb.*[1]]

1. A snail-shell; a snail.

1672 C. Hoole tr. *Comenius Vis. World* xxxii, The Snail carrieth about her Snailhorn [*testa*]. 1747 [see b]. 1820 Clare *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 10 The snail-horn searching, or the mossy nest. 1828– in dial. glossaries (Yks., Northampt., Leic., Lancs.).

b. *Snail-horn stone* (see quot.).

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* U j b, Snailhorn Stone is a course Stone, having mixt Knotts within it, much like Snailhorns when it is broken, and hard to break.

2. (See quot. and next.) *? Obs.*

1749 W. Ellis *Exper. Impr. Sheep* 94 If..a lamb is gelt at a week or fortnight old, it will cause it to have a thin, short, and what we in Hertfordshire call a Snail-Horn.

So **Snai·l-horned** *a.* (See quot.) *? Obs.*

1787 W. H. Marshall *E. Norfolk* (1795) II. 388 *Snail-horned*, having short, down-hanging horns, with blunt points, and somewhat bent, in the usual form of the snail; spoken of cattle.

†Snailing, *sb. Obs.*[–1] *?* = Snail *sb.*[2]

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 16/1 The lower Valens..fringed for state..either with..Tufted fring, snailing fring, Gimpe fring.

Snailing, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. Snail *sb.*[1] or *v.*] Winding spirally, or like the tracks of snails.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 94 Wherein the snaking and snayling diuarications of the vessels do craule all ouer the belly. *Ibid.* 456 Some of these snailing paths are deeper.

Snailish (snē·liʃ), *a.* [f. Snail *sb.*[1] + -ish.] Somewhat resembling (that of) the snail; slothful, slow, sluggish.

1581 Nuce tr. *Seneca, Octavia* I. iii, And snaylish age in going soft Unto her thews is not ybounde. 1623 Wodroephe *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 245/2 O, what snailish heart hast thou! *cœur de limaçon*. 1889 C. Edwardes *Sardinia* 130 The snailish movements of the dance.

Hence **Snai·lishly** *adv.*

1889 *Punch* 1 June 257/2 Your progress may also be snailishly slow.

Snail-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. Snail *sb.*[1] + -like.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Like or resembling a snail in appearance, habits, etc.

1607 J. Davies (Heref.) *Summa Totalis* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/1 And though it be..steepe,..Yet (Snaile-like) cling to it, and climbing creep, But fall not off it. 1611 Cotgr., *Limaceux*,..Snaile-like. 1665 Brathwait *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 45 Must I Snayl-like, keep still under roof. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 82 Those snail-like animals that receive the name of testaceous fishes. 1881 Grant Allen *Evolutionist at Large* 57 The truest and most snail-like snails. 1901 E. Step *Shell Life* xix. 347 The snail-like slugs are succeeded by the genus *Helix*.

2. Characterized by slowness of progress, etc.; slow, tardy.

1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. v. (1840) 122 The snail-like siege of Ptolemais, still slowly creeping on. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 29 July 1/6 The snail-like progress of the English Reform Bill.

B. *adv.* With the slow motion characteristic of a snail; tardily, sluggishly.

1825 Scott *Talisman* xxi, The marabout..glided on gradually and imperceptibly, serpent-like, or rather snail-like. 1898 J. Arch *Story Life* vii. 162 They would crawl snail-like, to the feet of the squire.

Snail-paced, *a.* [Snail *sb.*[1]]

1. Slow, sluggish, or tardy in pace, progress, or motion; slothful, slow-moving. Also *fig.*

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iii. 53 Delay leds impotent and Snaile-pac'd Beggery. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 18 Goe..bid the snaile-pac'd Aiax arme for shame. 1646 W. Jenkyn *Remora* 9 Doth that winged speed..deserve a snail-paced Reformation? 1770 Armstrong *Misc.* I. 154 Thus they lash on The snail-pac'd Hyperborean nights. 1862 Christina Rossetti *Goblin Market*, etc. 6 The whisk-tailed merchant bade her taste In tones as smooth as honey,..and the snail-paced even was heard. 1874 J. Robertson in Gordon *Life* xv. (1908) 117 We left here..with a snail-paced horse.

2. Marked or characterized by tardiness, slowness, or sluggishness.

1601 Chester *Love's Martyr*, etc. (1878) 123 Snaile-paced gate. 1818 Keats *Endym.* IV. 25 In very scorn Of our dull, uninspired, snail-paced lives.

†'Snails, *int. Obs.* Also 7 **snailes, snayles, 'snayles.** An abbreviation of *God's nails* (see God *sb.* 14 a), used as a petty oath or exclamation.

1599 Hayward *Hen. IV*, I. 19 Sir Hugh swore, swownes, and snayles, let vs set vpon them. 1605 *London Prodigal* v. i. 222 Snailes, is there such cowardice in that? 1617 Middleton & Rowley *Fair Quarrel* v. i, Snailes shees the Phisicians Bronstrops, Trim. [1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiv, Nay, 'snails! I think his horse will take the matter in his own hand. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* xii, 'Snails!..were any neighbour to meet me.., what could they think?]

Snail-shell. [Snail *sb.*[1]]

1. The shell or house of a snail; = Cochlea 3.

1530 Palsgr. 272/1 Snayle or snayle shell, *lymacon*. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 311 They entred..with the sound of drummes, snaile-shelles and other instrumentes of Musicke. 1611 Cotgr., *Limace*,..any thing that winds or turnes like a Snaile-shell. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 594 Turn'd helically like a Snail-shell. 1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. iv, *Valvata*,..Small waved Snail-shell. 1775 Ash, *Cochlea*,..a genus of shell fish, a snail-shell. 1822 J. Parkinson *Outl. Oryctol.* 248 The exterior characters of the snail-shells of the present day. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 18/1 The lower step..bore witness to the frequent visits of the thrushes, for it was covered with broken snail-shells.

b. *attrib.*, as *snail-shell pattern*; **snail-shell medick,** (*a*) heart-clover; (*b*) snail-plant.

1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 660 *Medicago arabica*,..Snailshell Medick. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* II. 92 The Snail-shell Medick of the South of Europe (*Medicago scutellata*). 1898 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 6/2 Richly braided in a snail-shell pattern.

†2. = Cochlea 2. *Obs.*[–1]

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 262 The Small-bones,..the Snail-shell,..have the same figure and..bulk in Infants which they have in men.

Snail-slow, *a.* [Snail *sb.*[1]]

1. That is as slow as a snail; very sluggish or tardy in motion, progress, etc.

1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. v. 47 The patch is..a huge feeder: Snaile-slow in profit. 1803 *Pic Nic* No. 1 (1806) I. 13 France is..cold and snail-slow in redress or justice. 1812 Tennant *Anster F.* III. viii, The son, impatient, leaves his snail-slow sire. 1901 E. Phillpotts *Striking Hours* 114 Off goes Squire snail-slow.

2. Marked by excessive slowness of progress.

1900 *Daily News* 12 July 6/2 The era of military reform, which may be said to have begun its snail-slow course in 1870.

Snaily (snē·li), *a.* (and *sb.*). Also 6–7 **snailie,** 7 **snayly,** 9 **snailey.** [f. Snail *sb.*[1]]

1. Like a snail; resembling that of a snail; snail-like.

1596 *Edw. III*, I. i, But I will make you shrinke your snailie hornes. 1611 Cotgr., *Limaceux*, Snailie, Snaile-like. 1627 Drayton *Agincourt*, etc. 187 These Dialls.., Whose Snayly motion of the moouing hand, (Although it goe) yet seeme to me to stand.

2. Infested by snails; covered with the slime of snails.

1870 Furnivall in *Boorde's Dyetary* (1870) 249 *marg.*, Don't lie in ratty and snaily rooms. 1882 Blackmore *Christowell* xii, The rooks began to caw,..the young lady, reading in a snaily chair, to gaze about.

3. *Austr.* Slightly curled after the manner of a snail-shell; having horns of this description. (Cf. Snail-horn 2.)

1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melb. Mem.* xvii. 123 That black bullock,..him with the snaily horn. 1891 — *Sydney-side Saxon* viii. 133 There's a snailey Wallanbah bullock I haven't seen this two years.

b. As *sb.* A kind of bullock characterized by having such horns.

1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melb. Mem.* ix. 68 Snaileys and poleys, old and young, coarse and fine, they were a mixed herd in every sense.

†Snaip, *a. Obs.*[–1] (Prob. an error for Snarp *a.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7753 (Cott.), Ful snaip [*v.rr.* snaipe, sharp, scharp] it was þair stur and snell.

Snaip, Snair: see Snape, Snare.

Snake (snēk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **snaca,** 2– **snake,** 6 **snayke, snack.** [OE. *snaca*, = MLG. *snake* (LG. *snake, snaak*): cf. ON. *snákr* (poet.), Sw. *snok*, Da. *snog*, which may be from LG.]

I. 1. One or other of the limbless vertebrates constituting the reptilian order *Ophidia* (characterized by a greatly elongated body, tapering tail, and smooth scaly integument), some species of which are noted for their venomous properties; an ophidian, a serpent. Also, in popular use, applied to some species of *Lacerta*, and to certain snake-like amphibians.

The various species are freq. distinguished by a prefix denoting colour or marking, habitat, or other characteristic feature, as *black-, carpet-, coach-whip-, coral-, corn-, diamond-, grass-, hooded, rattle-, ribbon-, ringed, tiger-, whip-snake*, etc. (see these words).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 19 Ic sealde eow anweald to tredenne ofer næddran & snacan. *a* 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* (1883) 192 Sy Dan snaca on wege and næddre on pæðe. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Hi dyden heom in quarterne þar nadres & snakes & pades wæron inne. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 273 Þeor beð naddren and snaken, euelen and frude. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2805 It warp vt of hise hond, And wurð sone an uglike snake. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5972 For hij libben by addren, and snaken. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xiii. 5 Tricherously þai wroght venome of snakis vndire þe lippes of þa. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 3347 Whos vertu is al venym to distroye,..Of dragoun, serpent, adder & of snake. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C ij, Ther be in woddys ..wormys calde edders..and also ther be snakys of the same kynde. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 173 Edder, Snack, swift, or such like. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 198/16 A Snayke, *anguis*. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 202 Th' Eft, Snake, and Dipsas (causing deadly Thirst). 1606 Shaks. *Ant & Cl.* II. v. 42 Thou shouldst come like a Furie crown'd with Snakes. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Bacon.* 73 No Snakes or Adders are to be found about Badminton. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 167 That horrible *fator*, which even the commonest and the most harmless snakes are still found to diffuse. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* I. xiii. 236 Then..would the Snake Relax his suffocating grasp. 1847 L. Leichhardt *Overland Exped.* i. 16 A carpet snake and a brown snake with yellow belly. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* ix. 217 A peculiarity, seen in some snakes, namely a joint in the middle of the jaw enabling its sides to expand. *transf.* and *fig.* 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxii, Swift as a Thought by the snake Memory stung. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* III. 27 At these words the snake, My secret, seem'd to stir within my breast. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 753 The Apostle first tramples on the snake of any mere personal annoyance. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 18 Sept. 14/3 There must be snakes of some sort in each earthly Eden.

b. A representation, image, or figure of a snake.

1579–80 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* II. 290 An armering of golde,..being a snake with a mean white saphire on the hedd. 1688 [see sense 5]. 1818 R. P. Knight *Symb. Lang.* (1876) 15 The winged disk of the sun is placed between two hooded snakes (or asps). 1859 Tennyson *Merlin & V.* 737 She hung her head, The snake of gold slid from her hair. 1903 J. E. Harrison *Study Grk. Relig.* vii. 331 The snakes sculptured on the top round the hollow cup.

c. In *pl.* as an exclamation, esp. *great snakes!*

1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 293/1 Why in snakes should anybody want to be a sculptor, if you come to that? 1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise 'Cachalot'* i. (1901) 4 Great snakes! why, here's a sailor man for sure.

2. In figurative or allusive uses:

a. With reference to the ingratitude or treachery displayed by the snake in Æsop's fable (I. x).

1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, III. i. 343, I feare me, you but warme the starued Snake, Who, cherisht in your breasts, will sting your hearts. 1671 Milton *Samson* 763 Drawn to wear out miserable days, Entang'l'd with a poysnous bosom snake. 1688 Sir S. Morland in *Pepys' Diary & Corr.* (1879) VI. 160 To assure me that I was taking a snake into my bosom. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* I. ix. 214 The wild Viking would have crushed the growing snake in his bosom.

b. Used to denote some lurking danger, suspicious circumstance or person, etc.; esp. in the phr. *a snake in the grass* (after Virgil *Ecl.* III. 93 *Latet anguis in herba*).

1621 W. Barksted *Hiren* (1876) 109 O could this diuell my soule so transforme That I must eate that snake in him did lurke. 1659 Haslerig in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 337 Consider what a snake lies under this fair Declaration. 1677 Yarranton *Eng. Impr.* 101 Hold, hold, you drive too fast; there is a snake in the Bush. 1696 [C. Leslie] (*title*), The Snake in the Grass. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 173 There is a Snake in the grasse, and the designe is mischievous. 1881 Evans *Leic. Gloss., Sneck-i'-the-gress*, a sneak; a traitor; a treacherous deceiver.

†c. *To eat* (or *feed on*) *snakes*, as a means of renewing one's youth or vigour. *Obs.*

1603 Dekker *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 103, I eate Snakes, my Lord, I eate Snakes. My heart shall neuer haue a wrinkle in it. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Elder Brother* IV. iv, That you have eat a Snake, and are grown young, gamesome, and rampant. *a* 1640 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* v. i, He hath left off o' late to feed on snakes; His beard's turn'd white again.

d. *To wake snakes* (see quot. 1872); *to have snakes in one's boots, to see snakes*, to have delirium tremens. *U.S. slang.*

1872 De Vere *Americanisms* 212 The other meaning.. makes *waking snakes* equivalent to 'running away quickly'. 1877 J. Habberton *Barton Exper.* ix, He's been pretty high on whisky for two or three days,..and they say he's got snakes in his boots now.

3. Applied to persons, esp. with contemptuous or opprobrious force; in early use freq. *poor snake*, a poor, needy, or humble person; a drudge.

(*a*) 1590 Greene *Mourning Garment* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 193 The Gentleman..seeing such a poore snake to hinder his attempt, thought to checke him with a frowne. 1597 Tofte *Laura* (1880) p. xliii, Then Cupid worke that I (poore Snake in loue) This sdainfull Snake for to be kinde may moue. 1616 R. C. *Times Whistle* (1871) 71 A poore snake, whose best of meanes Is but to liue on that he dayly gleanes. 1665 Brathwait *Comment. Two Tales* (1900) 42 These poor Snakes of hers were far from challenging any property in either. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* ix, This Doctor Dobobie had a servant, a poor snake, whom he employed in trimming his furnace,..compounding his drugs [etc.].

(*b*) 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 71, I see Loue hath made thee a tame snake. 1643 Baker *Chron., Hen. III*, 112 The Dragon once appeased or destroyed, these lesser Snakes will soone be trodden downe. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* vii, Don't provoke me to try, you yellow snake, you! 1897 Gunter *Susan Turnbull* xvi. 193 Do you remember a little toadying snake who used to be at school with us?

4. Applied to various things resembling a snake in some respect.

†a. A long curl or tail attached to a wig. *Obs.* b. The long flexible tube of a hookah. c. A kind of firework burning with a snake-like movement or having a snaky form. d. In miscellaneous transf. senses.

a. 1676 Dryden *Ep. Etheredge's Man of Mode* 24 His Sword-knot this, his Crevat this design'd; And this the yard long Snake he twirls behind. 1728 Swift *On Five Ladies at Sot's Hole* 34 Misc. 1735 V. 456 We who wear our Wigs With Fan-Tail and with Snake.

b. 1865 *Reader* No. 123. 508/2 The tube, or 'snake', as it is conventionally called, of a hookah. 1875 in W. Hamilton *Poems Tobacco* (1889) 122 Here's to the hookah with snake of five feet.

c. 1891 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 509/1 When the lower portion [of the rocket] is burned, the upper..takes fire and sets off its garniture of stars, snakes, and other ornaments.

d. 1891 Haggard *Nada* xviii, Chaka watched the long black snake of men winding..across the plain. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* iv. (1899) 40 The floor was strewn with scraps of torn lace, curling snakes of ribbon. 1896 Mrs. F. A. Steel *Face Waters* III. iv, That snake of fire flashing to the powder magazine.

†5. Some dicing game. *Obs.*—o

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 68/1 A snake board vert; there on a snake depicted, with houses, birds and the like fixed on his back all proper...This is a bord whereon is playd the game of Snake.

6. A kind of man-trap used in Ireland. ? *Obs.*

1835– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1857 *Chronicle* 13 July 38/1 The 'snakes' in question are iron barbs, theoretically maintained as a terror to trespassers, but hardly existing in fact.

7. A species of mediæval war-vessel.

Used as a rendering of OE. *snacc* Snack *sb.*[1] or ON. *snekkja*.

1864 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 275 He was left with only twelve snakes or war-galleys. 1880 Dawkins *Early Man* 306 These boats are to be looked upon as the precursors of the long ships, snakes, and sea-dragons.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* 8. a. Simple attrib., as *snake-bite, -broth, family, -poison, -skin*, etc.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 161/1 It is also one of their remedies for *snake-bites, but is no doubt inefficacious. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 323 The population being dense, it is reasonable to expect that great mortality would occur from Snake bites every year. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets*, etc. 73 She knows as much about snake-bite as any doctor. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 81 Viper or *snake-broth is also powerfully deobstruent. 1885 Hornaday *2 Yrs. Jungle* xxxii. 388 The Dyak proceeded to roast the serpent,..preparatory to making a *snake curry. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 302 All the species of the *Snake family..have minute vestiges of hind limbs. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 178 A single meal, with many of the *snake kind, seems to be the adventure of a season. 1883 *Science* I. 260/2 It acted like *snake-poison, especially on birds. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 810 Snake-poison is a clear limpid fluid of a pale straw to yellow colour. 1874 (*title*), Report on the Effects of Artificial Respiration..in Indian and Australian *Snake-Poisoning. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xx, A straight broadsword, with a handle of box-wood, and a sheath covered with *snake-skin. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 270 Each man..loosened his knife in its snake-skin sheath. 1888 G. Meredith *Poems* (1898) II. 191 The *snake-slough sick of the snaky sin. 1805 Southey *Madoc* II. vi. 192 *note*, *Snake worship was common in America. 1883 Monier Williams *Relig. Th. India* I. xii. 319 Many..believe that snake-worship was the earliest form of religion prevalent among men.

b. Attrib., with terms denoting persons or things connected with the catching, selling, exhibition, or worship of snakes, as *snake-boy, -man, -player*; *snake-dance, -temple*, etc.

1873 Leland *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 60, I did quite a business with that *snake-boy, for I was interested in the study of his ware. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Nov. 12/1 A *snake dance of Savages. 1901 *Athenæum* 11 May 599/2 He saw snake-dances and fire ceremonies, of which he preserved an accurate report. 1836 [Miss Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 36 Eight cobras and three other snakes.., and the *snake-men singing and playing..to them. 1859 Sir J. G. Wilkinson in Rawlinson *Herodotus* III. 151 *note*, The *snake-players of the coast of Barbary. 1889 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 507 The *snake-staff is used to handle snakes. 1891 Miss Gordon-Cumming *2 Yrs. Ceylon* (1892) I. v. 127 There was a very ancient *snake-temple..near Jaffna.

c. Appositive, as *snake-girdle, -god, -idol, -king, -lock*, etc.

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 912 A Mantle..round about him ty'd With a Snake-girdle biting off her tail. 1805 Southey *Madoc* II. vi. 192 A temple ..where the Snake-Idol stood. *Ibid.* II. vii. (*heading*), The Snake God. 1866 Conington *Æneid* VI. 185 Her [Discord's] snake-locks hiss. 1871 Alabaster *Wheel of Law* 136 If a snake-king he will sink into the earth. 1901 *Athenæum* 13 Apr. 475/2 The influence of the snake-woman, gorgeous in beauty and irresistible in allurement.

d. Used to designate things having the form of a snake, as *snake-arrow, -bow, -knot, neck*, etc.

1895 Haddon *Evol. Art* 25 A *snake-arrow which has lost all trace of its saurian ancestry. *c* 1660 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 300 Lac'd bands and tassell or *snake-bow band-strings. 1856 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 327 The intertwining arabesques have everywhere a tendency to the regular *Snake-knot. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* ii, His long *snake neck and cruel visage wreathing about in search of prey. 1625 in *Rymer's Fœdera* (1726) XVIII. 239 One Paire of Goulde Cupps with Covers, haveinge blewe *Snake Rings in the Topp of theire Covers. 1891 M. Williams *Later Leaves* v. 63 A gold snake ring.

9. Objective and obj. genitive, as *snake-bearer, -catcher, -charmer, -eater, -worshipper*, etc.; *snake-devouring, -eating* adjs.; *snake-killing*.

1620 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 383 Æsculapius was.. called..the *Snake-bearer. 1796 T. Twining *Trav. India*, etc. (1893) 164 The exhibition of the *snake-catchers near Benares. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 306 The Cobras are the favourites of the snake-catchers. 1836 [Miss Maitland] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 36 Those *snake-charmers are most wonderful. 1891 Miss Gordon-Cumming *2 Yrs. Ceylon* (1892) I. v. 129 Professional snake-charmers, who go about with a basket full of these wriggling reptiles for exhibition. 1621 Quarles *Esther* vii, Enuie did ope her *Snake-deuouring lawes. 1835 J. Duncan *Beetles* 189 If it enjoyed an inferior degree of veneration to the snake-devouring Ibis [etc.]. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 56 This bird [the secretary-bird] was called a *snake-eater, by those who brought it from India. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 393/1 Such a creature as a snake-eater is man's best friend. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 307 A *snake-eating Snake. 1887 Mrs. Daly *Digging & Squatting* 94 The reptile known as the *Ophiophagus elaps* or snake-eating cobra. 1895 J. G. Millais *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 29 As for his *snake-killing exploits, I think he is a bit of a fraud. 1880 G. C. M. Birdwood *Indust. Arts India* 83 The Nagas are a mythical type of the Scythic race of *snake-worshippers.

10. With pa. ppples. or (ppl.) adjs., forming parasynthetic, similative, or instrumental combs., as *snake-bitten, -bodied, -bred, -drawn, -encircled, -engirdled, -eyed, -haired, -headed*, etc.

Freq. in allusion to the snake-like hair of the Furies.

1807 Gass *Jrnl.* 20 One of our people got *snake bitten but not dangerously. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 471/2 *Snake-bodied Batrachians. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xvii. (1592) 271 This Diuell.., whom he calleth ὀφιογενῆ or ὀφιώνεον, that is to say *Snakebread or Adderbread. 1876 A. S. Murray *Mythol.* iii. (1877) 42 [Demeter] giving..to his son, Triptolemos, the seed of barley and her *snake-drawn car. 1765 Goldsm. *New Simile* 32 His hand Fill'd with a *snake-encircled wand. 1873 Symonds *Greek Poets* vii. 227 Hound not Those blood-faced, snake-encircled women on me. 1866 J. B. Rose *Ovid's Met.* XII. Tisiphone..*snake-engirdled issued forth in air. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 168 *Snake-eyed..lizards differ from all their kin in having no movable eyelids. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 330 From the barre The *snake-hayrd Sisters dragge the prisoner. 1634 T. Carew *Cœlum Brit.* 19 Thus I charme ..The Snake-heard Gorgon, and fierce Sagittar. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 65 These—long, lank, bony, *snake-headed, hairy, wild beasts. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* 33 The walking, or snake-headed fishes, *Ophiocephalidæ*, of India. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. i, They are a square-headed and *snake-necked generation. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 255 The Snake-necked Tortoises of Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, and Southern Brazil. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. 230 Come *snake-trest Sisters, come ye dismall Elves. 1605 *Ibid.* II. iii. III. *Law* 428 Smiting the Waves with his *Snake-wanded wood. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 85 A corner'd Cap her *Snake-wigg'd Head did cover.

11. Special combs.: †snake-board (see sense 5); **snake-boat**, a form of canoe used in the East (see quot. 1882); **snake-box**, (*a*) a box or case for keeping snakes; (*b*) a faro-box fraudulently made so that a slight projection called a snake warns the dealer of the approach of a particular card (*Cent. Dict.*); †**snake-button**, a snake-stone, adder-stone; **snake-doctor**, one who cures snake-bites; †**snake-foot** *a.* (rendering L. *anguipes*), snake-footed, as a poetic epithet of giants; **snake juice**, *Austr. slang*, whisky; **snake-line, -piece** (see quots.); **snake-pill**, a pill used as a remedy for snake-bite; **snake-poison** *U.S.*, whisky; †**snake-proof** *a.*, proof against snakes; in quot. *fig.*; **snake-spit** *dial.* (see quot.); **snake story, yarn**, an incredible tale about a snake, esp. in regard to its great length or size.

1882 Annandale *Imperial Dict., Pamban-manche*, a canoe of great length, used on the Malabar coast...Called also Serpent-boat, *Snake-boat. 1900 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 4/4 They have fifteen steam launches and a great number of snake boats at their service. 1886 P. Robinson *Teetotum Trees* 92 Very much like the showman's *snake-box in which each reptile had swallowed the one next to it in size. 1699 E. Lhwyd in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 98 The *Snake-button is the same described..in Camden, by the Name of Adder-beads. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 325 A specimen was brought me by a *snake-doctor. 1598 Chapman *Hero & Leander* vi. 46 To *snake-foote Boreas next she doth remoue. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 3/2 This whisky, or *snake juice, as bushmen often call the hell-broth prepared for them. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2229 **Snake-line*, line used in worming a rope. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Snake-pieces*,.. stout props, placed obliquely to the timbers of whalers, to sustain the shock of icebergs. 1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* III. 125/1 So much I can say for the arsenic *snake pills, the only other remedy recommended. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 4 It was variously called for as tangle-foot, *snake-poison,.. chain-lightning, or other fancy name, but it was never called for as *whisky*. 1609 Dekker *Gull's Horn-bk.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 203, I am *Snake-proof: and..it is impossible for you to quench..my Alpine-resolution. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words*, **Snake-spit*, small masses of delicately white frothy matter, seen on leaves of weeds or wild flowers..; popularly believed to be the saliva of snakes. 1885 Hornaday *2 Yrs. in Jungle* xxvii. 331 All the big *snake stories I had heard. 1891 E. Kinglake *Australian* 97 If anyone told a good anecdote with a dash of the *snake yarn about it.

b. In the specific or popular names of animals, birds, fishes, etc. (see quots.).

A large number of combs. of this type are given in recent American Dicts., as *snake-blenny, -doctor, -feeder, -hag* (=lizard), *-mackerel*, etc.

1881 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 330 Snedden... At St. Ives the fishermen term the adult *snake-bait, and the young naked-bait. 1869–73 *Cassell's Bk. Birds* II. 49 About noon the *Snake Buzzard [*Circaëtus gallicus*] appears upon the river banks. 1863 S. L. J. *Life in South* I. vii. 93 The cat-bird, or *snake-charmer. 1869–73 *Cassell's Bk. Birds* IV. 91 The *Snake Cranes (*Dicholophus*) constitute a group of remarkable birds. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 113 *Hoactzin*,..the *Snake-eater of America. 1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VI. 68 The Snake-Eater, or Secretary (*Serpentarius*). 1803 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IV. i. 23 *Snake Eel. *Anguilla Serpens*. 1866 *Carpenter's Zoology* II. 75 The *Ophisurus*, or Snake Eel (so called from its strong resemblance to a serpent) of the Mediterranean. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 42 *Serpentisuga*,..the *Snake-fly. 1817 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 309 A kind of snake-fly (*Raphidia Mantispa*, F.) is said to walk upon its knees. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 15 The Snake-flies, or Camel-flies (*Rhaphidiæ*) form a small genus. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. i. 61 Swallow-tailed Falcon..inhabits Carolina in the summer months; where it is called *Snake-hawk. 1863 Russell *Diary North & S.* I. 216 The young gentleman was good enough to bring over a snake hawk he had shot for me. 1816 Keatinge *Trav.* (1817) I. 344 They have a remarkably swift..race of horses, which, from the lankness of their bodies,..are called *snake-horses. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 189 *Geococcyx*,..Road Runner. *Snake Killer. 1902 P. Fountain *Mountains & Forests South America* iv. 89 A hawk seen on all parts of the river [Purus] was a beautiful black and white one, known in the States as the *snake-kite, on account of its preying largely on those reptiles. 1802 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 305 *Snake-Lizards, with extremely long bodies, and short legs. 1866 *Carpenter's Zoology* I. 564 The Four-toed *Saurophis*, or Snake-Lizard, which is a native of the southern part of Africa. 1863 S. L. J. *Life in South* I. vi. 87 That's a *snake-maid [=dragon-fly]. 1883 J. Curtis *Farm Insects* vii. 201 Linnæus gave them the generic name of Julus; and from the typical species resembling snakes in miniature,..I have applied to them the English appellation of *snake-millipedes. 1900 Davis tr. *Bos' Agric. Zool.* (ed. 2) 195 The Snake Millipedes..or 'False Wireworms'. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 200 The Darters (*Plotus*)..are also called *Snake-necks, from the habit they have of swimming with the body submerged and only the neck exposed above the water. 1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. 16/32 *Solen Angainus*,..*Snake pipes. 1804 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* V. II. 453 *Snake Pipefish,..*Syngnathus Ophidion*. 1883 Day *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 261 Ocean pipe-fish and snake pipe-fish. 1868 Darwin *Var. Anim. & Plants* xv. II. 87 Some *snake-rats (*Mus alexandrinus*) escaped in the Zoological Gardens. 1713 Petiver *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. xii, *Serpentulus*,..*Snake-shell. 1800 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* III. i. 72 *Snake Tortoise. *Testudo Serpentina*.

c. In the names of plants, etc. (see quots.).

Various others occurring in dialect or local use are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and recent American Dicts.

1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 275 *Cereus flagelliformis*, ..*Snake Cactus. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 652/1 *Kunthia*, a genus of palms..of New Grenada, where the natives call it *Cana de la Vibora*, i. e. *Snake Cane, from the resemblance of its stem to a snake. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 219/3 Packets of seed of various plants, including Water Melons and *Snake Cucumbers. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 170 The fritillaries, the chequered red or pale '*snake-flowers', are grass-lovers. 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.* II. s.v., *Snake-gourd. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 479 The Snake-gourd, *Trichosanthes anguina*, is eaten in India. 1901 Bailey & Miller *Cycl. Amer. Horticult.* II. 874 The long curved forms [of *Lagenaria vulgaris*] are often called snake gourds in this country. 1883 A. K. Green (Mrs. Rohlfs) *Hand & Ring* I, The ground is marshy and covered with *snake grass. 1845 Lindley *Sch. Bot.* 154 *Lycopodium clavatum*

(Clubmoss, *Snakemoss). 1845-50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 144 *Pogonia ophioglossoides* (*snake-mouth arethusa). 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 383 The nut of a Demerara tree, called the *Snake-nut, in consequence of the large embryo, resembling a snake coiled up. 1849 Balfour *Man. Bot.* § 807 *Ophiocaryon paradoxum*, is the Snake-nut-tree of Demerara. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 277/1 The best variety is known under several names, as those of the *snake osier [etc.]. 1883 W. Robinson *Eng. Flower Garden* (1901) 436 *Arum Dracunculus* (Dragons, *Snake Plant). 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 152/2 *Strychnos colubrina*, Snake-wood, or *Snake-poison Nut, is a climbing plant with simple tendrils. 1832 Don *Gen. Syst. Gard. & Bot.* II. 60/1 *Ophispermum Sinense*..., China *Snake-seed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 815/2 The fruits [of *Ophiocaryon paradoxum*] are often sent to this country as curiosities, under the name of Snake-nuts or Snake-seeds. 1880 Jefferies *Gt. Estate* 87 The *snake-skin willow, so called because it sheds its bark. 1632 Sherwood, Snake-weede, *snake-wort, *bistorte.*

12. In collocations with **snake's**, chiefly in plant-names (see quots.).

Cf. also the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and recent American Dicts.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 *Snake's-beard, *Ophiopogon.* 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 659 Buglosse...is called..in English vipers Buglosse, *Snakes Buglosse. 1611 Cotgr., *Ail Sauvage*, Wild Garlicke,..Stags Garlicke, *Snakes Garlicke. 1887 G. Nicholson *Dict. Gard.* III. 447 *Snake's-mouth Orchis...*Pogonia ophioglossum.* *c* 1675 R. Cromwell *Let.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 93 He hath sent of the *Snakes root of Verginnia..as the best of cordialls. 1879 *Folk-Lore Rec.* II. 81 The..*snake's-spit, or wood-sear of England and Scotland,..is a froth discharged by the young froghoppers. 1863 Prior *Plant-n.* s.v., *Snake's tail, from its cylindrical spikes, *Rotböllia incurvata.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Snake's-tail, *Lepturus incurvus. *Ibid.*, *Snake's-tongue, *Lygodium.* 1902 Bailey & Miller *Cycl. Amer. Hort.* IV. 1673 Snake's Tongue, *Ophioglossum.*

Snake (snēk), *v.*[1] [f. Snake *sb.*]

I. 1. *trans.* To twist or wind (hair) into the form of a snake. *rare*—[1].

1653 J. Hall *Parad.* 114 Who would not be sooner smitten with Tresses curiously snak't.

b. *Naut.* (See quot. 1846.)

1815 Burney *Falconer's Dict. Marine* 487/1 Snaking the Stays, or Ropes on the Quarters, instead of Netting. 1840 Adm. Winnington-Ingram *Hearts of Oak* (1889) 27 Put ratlines on the backstays, snaked the stays, slung the topmasts with chain. 1846 A. Young *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Snake*, to pass small stuff across a seizing at the outer turns by way of finish. To attach lengths of rope between two stays or backstays.

c. To move, stretch out, (the head, etc.) after the manner of a snake. Also *refl.*

1887 D. C. Murray & Herman *Traveller Returns* i, The girl snaking her head hither and thither in the eagerness of her regard. 1890 L. C. D'Oyle *Notches* 60 Then falling down full-length upon the ground he began to crawl, or rather 'snake' himself, up to the brow.

d. To cover or decorate *with* spirals or coils.

1887 *Sporting Life* 22 June 6/5 The portico pillars of the Mansion House were 'snaked' with richly coloured illumination lamps.

2. *intr.* To move in a creeping, crawling, or stealthy manner suggestive of the movements of a snake.

1848 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 315 There's some fellows who..are snaking up to the Grand Jury, on their bellies in the grass, kind of trying to hear what the Jury are talking about. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. I. ix, Pomp he snaked up behin', An' creepin' grad'lly close tu,..grabbed my leg. 1893 Capt. King *Foes in Ambush* 187 Unseen Indians would come skulking, spying, 'snaking' upon their refuge. *fig.* 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* viii. 57, I b'lieve.. I could get along and snake through, even if justices were more particular than they is.

b. *spec.* (see quots.).

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 378 An arrow is said to snake when it works itself under the grass. 1876 Voyle & Stevenson *Milit. Dict.* 391/1 Projectiles subject to this influence [i. e. spiral motion of rotation round their original direction] are technically said *to snake*.

3. To wind, twist, curve, etc., in a snake-like manner.

1875 Miss Bird *Sandwich Isl.* xxi. 302 The track..snaked along the narrow tops of spine-like ridges. 1888 Clark Russell *Death Ship* II. 206 The hacked ends of the shrouds snaking out into the hollows and swellings over the side. 1902 A. E. W. Mason *Four Feathers* (1903) 2 A coil of white smoke from a train snaked rapidly in and out amongst the trees.

4. *trans.* To make (one's way) in a sinuous or creeping manner.

1879 Miss Bird *Rocky Mountains* 5 The monster train snaked its way upwards. 1894 D. C. Murray *Making of Novelist* 28 One by one we snaked our way..into the hole.

II. 5. *U.S.* To drag, pull, or draw; *spec.* in *Lumbering*, to haul (logs) along the ground lengthwise by means of chains or ropes.

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 316 A farmer in clearing land, attaches a chain to a stump or log, whereby to draw it out; this he calls, *snaking it out*. 1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 26 Jan., Where the haul is very short, and so close to the streams that the logs are 'snaked' in without being skidded. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 206/1 The..cattle snake the log endwise down the hill.

fig. 1833 [Seba Smith] *Lett. of J. Downing* (1835) 26 We snaked him out of that scrape as slick as a whistle. 1883 *Philad. Times* No. 2810. 4 Some legal loophole..through which an evasion or extension can be successfully snaked.

b. *transf.* To drag or pull forcibly or quickly.

1897 F. T. Bullen *Cruise 'Cachalot'* xxvii. (1900) 359 One of the small London tugs..would have snaked those monsters along at the rate of three or four knots an hour. 1899—*Log Sea-waif* 341 How we did snake the hatches off.

6. *U.S. slang.* To beat, thrash.

a 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 421 Any gal like me ..ought to be able to snake any man of her heft.

7. *U.S.* To take *out* surreptitiously.

1862 Lowell *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iii, Ef You snake one link out here, one there, how much on 't ud be lef'?

Snake, *v.*[2] *dial.* (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*). Also snaik. [prob. a. ON. *snaka* (Norw. *snaka*, MDa. *snage*) to go snuffing or searching about; cf. G. dial. *schnaken* (*schnacken*) to creep.]

1. *intr.* To skulk or sneak.

1818 Hogg *Brownie of Bodsbeck* vii, Some o' thae beasts that gang snaiken about i' the derk. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*, To *snaik*, to sneak, in walking, working, or speaking. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* IV. xvii, Young Ross snaked out of the house same as a cur.

2. *trans.* To get or obtain (a thing) furtively or surreptitiously; to steal or pilfer; to cheat (a person) *out of* something.

1881– in dial. texts and glossaries (Yorks., Lancs., Notts., Somerset).

Snake-bird. Also snakebird, snake bird. [Snake *sb.*]

1. A bird belonging to the genus *Plotus*, esp. the American species *P. anhinga*, characterized by its long snake-like neck; the darter or water-turkey.

1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 132 Here is..in the waters all over Florida, a very curious and handsome bird, the people call the Snake Birds. 1814 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* IX. 79 Black-bellied Darter, or Snake-bird, *Plotus melanogaster*. 1838 Audubon *Ornith.* IV. 136 Anhinga or Snake-bird, *Plotus anhinga*. 1883 *Fish. Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 152 The Darter, sometimes known as the snake bird, is not at all uncommon in Bengal. 1895 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 280 The darters, snake-birds, or snake-necks, form a group of four species.

2. *dial.* The wryneck, *Iynx torquilla.*

1831 Rennie *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 576 Long Tongue. Emmet Hunter. Snake Bird. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 449 The bird .. proved to be what is here [in Kent] provincially called a 'snake-bird', and only known among the lower orders by that name. 1848 *Ibid.* VI. 2186 The wryneck [in Norfolk] is the 'cuckoo's leader' and 'snake-bird'. 1889 H. Saunders *Brit. Birds* 262 When disturbed, the sitting bird makes a loud hissing,..which has led to the popular name of 'Snake-bird'.

Snaked (snēkt), *ppl. a.* [f. Snake *sb.*] Polished with snakestone.

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 185/1 The snaked or finely rubbed [slabs of slate]..when oiled have the appearance of black marble.

Snake-fence. *U.S.* [Snake *sb.*] A fence made of roughly split rails or poles laid in a zigzag fashion; a worm or zigzag fence.

1830 Galt *Lawrie T.* VII. i. (1849) 303 The American regions of stumps and stones, log-houses and snake-fences. 1864 Charlotte M. Yonge *Trial* II. 173 An untidy desolate-looking region, with a rude snake fence. 1887 I. R. *Ranche Life Montana* 61 They are called 'snake' fences because they don't go straight, but form an angle, where the poles overlap each other.

Snake-fish. [Snake *sb.*] One or other of certain fishes (see quots.) having some resemblance to a snake.

1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xviii. 60 The snake-fish takes its name from its resemblance to that reptile: this is a black eel with a white belly. 1836 Yarrell *Brit. Fishes* I. 195 The red Bandfish, or Red Snakefish, *cepola rubescens*. 1876 Goode *Fishes of Bermudas* 68 *Synodus Lacerta*,.. Snake-Fish. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 438 Snake-fishes. The typical genus *Ophidium*..has the pelvic fins replaced by a pair of barbel-like filaments. 1899 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* Nov. 985 The two Snake-Fishes (*Polypterus senegalus*) from the River Gambia.

attrib. 1884 Goode *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 548 The Snake-fish family, *Synodontidæ*.

Snake-head. Also snakehead. [Snake *sb.*]

1. a. The North American plant *Chelone glabra.*

1845-50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 88/2 *Chelone glabra* (snake-head). 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 400 Snake-head. Salt-rheum Weed.. A plant of brooks and wet places,..with flowers shaped much like the head of a snake.

b. The snake's head or common fritillary.

1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 146 'Has your brother ever sent you any of the fritillaries?' 'What? snake-heads?'

2. *U.S.* (See quots. and cf. Snake's-head 3).

1848 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 315 *Snake-head*,..the end of an iron rail, which sometimes is thrown up in front of the car wheels, and passes through the cars. 1848–71 W. M. Gillespie *Man. Road-making* 305 Most American roads with longitudinal timbers have been laid with plate rails, so thin that their ends sometimes spring up so as to form 'snake-heads'.

3. A representation of a snake's head. Also *attrib.*

1865 Kingsley *Herew.* iii, Two ships..whose long lines and snake-heads..bore witness to the piratical habits of their owner. 1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. 96/2 Snake head Molding.

4. A fish (*Ophiocephalus*) or turtle having a snake-like head. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Snake-keless, *a.* [f. Snake *sb.*] Free from, not infested by, snakes.

1881 Tennyson *To Virgil* v, Summers of the snakeless meadow. 1893 *Voice* (N. Y.) 2 Feb., In snakeless regions [alcohol is supposed] to bring snakes and in snaky regions to cure their bites.

Snake-let. *rare.* [-let.] A small snake.

1887 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXX. 167 Dozens of young snakelets have been seen crawling into the open jaws..of certain pythons.

Snake-like, *a.* [f. Snake *sb.*] Like or resembling a snake or that of a snake; having the characteristic form of a snake; long and slender.

Common in the 19th cent.

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* ii. 34 Aloft where Chesil lifts Her ridged snake-like sands, in wrecks and smould'ring drifts. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 83 My own pet May..is sliding her snake-like head into my hand. 1839 Lever *H. Lorrequer* xiii, The long procession wound its snake-like length down the narrow stair. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 301 Many of the smaller Colubrine Snakes resemble some of the Snake-like Lizards.

fig. 1821 Byron *Juan* IV. ix, A long and snake-like life of dull decay. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 99 This is a snakelike world, And always hath its tail within its mouth.

Snake-keling. [f. Snake *sb.* + -ling.] A young snake. (Cf. Snakelet.)

1868 J. Fergusson *Tree & Serpent Worship* 38 There they laid their eggs and nursed their snakelings. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 78 In these little snakelings the instinct of self-defense was born.

Snakeology (snēikǫ·lŏdʒi). Also snakology. [f. Snake *sb.* + -ology.] The study of snakes.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 27 English snakology and its correlatives. *Ibid.*, His former practical experience in snakology. 1882 Hopley *Snakes* xii. 207 Not being specially interested in snakeology.

†Snaker, *v. Obs. rare.* [Cf. Snake *v.*[2] and -er 5.] *intr.* To approach stealthily; to sneak.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 290 So sone so þu euer underȝitest þet tes dogge of helle kumeð snakerinde niid his blodie vlien of stinkinde þouhtes, ne lie þu nout stille. *Ibid.* 380 þet te best of helle, hwon he snakereð toward ou uorto biten on ou.

Snake-root. Also snake root, snakeroot. [f. Snake *sb.*]

1. The root or rhizome of one or other of several American plants reputed to possess properties antidotal to snake-poison, *esp.* the dried root of *Polygala Senega* and *Aristolochia serpentaria* used largely in medicine; the medicinal preparation obtained from this.

1635 *Relat. Maryland* iii. 17 An excellent preseruative against Poyson, called by the English, the Snake roote. 1679 Moreau in Perry *Hist. Coll. Am. Col. Ch.* I. 30, I make bold to send a small quantity of snake root, the best sudorific..and counter poison that nature..can afford. 1703 Dampier *Voy.* III. i. 72 Drugs of several sorts, *viz.* Sassafras, Snake-root, &c. 1783 *Med. Comment.* I. 143 He was ordered to take a decoction of bark and snakeroot. 1822–7 Good *Study Med.* (1829) I. 675 Bark, valerian, snake-root, conium, and the various preparations of the hop. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2.

b. One or other of these plants.

1712 *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 26 Snake-Root..is called by some Dittany, by others Contrayerva of Virginia. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. *App.*, Snake-root, *aristolochia*,..a genus of plants, otherwise called birthwort. 1832 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* XIV. 60 The spathes of the snake-root..are often covered or filled with sylphs. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 378 Of these the most celebrated is a North American herb called Snake-root, *Polygala senega*. 1861 G. F. Berkeley *Eng. Sportsman* xi. 173 Only a flower here and there to be seen [on the prairie], consisting of the snake-root and the wild sun-flower.

c. Used with specific names, as *American, black, button, Canada* or *Canadian, Red River, Samson's, Seneca, Texan, white, wild snake-root*; **Virginia(n) snake-root**, the root of *Polygala Senega* or *Aristolochia serpentaria*, the medicinal preparation made from this, or either of the plants producing it.

1857 Henfrey *Bot.* 257 *Polygala Senega*, the *American Snake-root. 1755 Johnson s.v. *Ducksfoot*, *Black snake-root, or Mayapple. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* 325 Root, Snake, black or wild, of America, *Actæa*. 1812 *New Botanic Gard.* I. 19 [*Actæa Racemosa*] is a native of North America, where it is often distinguished by the title of Black Snake-root. 1858 R. Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 380 *Sanicula marilandica*, called in the United States Black Snake-root. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* App. 101 *Eryngium aquaticum* (*button snake-root). 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 151 *E. yuccæfolium* (Rattlesnake-Master, Button Snake-root). *Ibid.* 184 *Liatris*. Button Snakeroot. 1849 J. H. Balfour *Man. Bot.* 491 *Asarum canadense*, Wild Ginger, or *Canada Snake-root, is used as a spice in Canada. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 189 The rhizome of *Asarum canadense*, L., passes under the name of Canadian Snake-root. *Ibid.*, The root of *Aristolochia reticulata*,..which is known in the United States as *Red River or Texan Snake-root. 1892 F. P. Foster *Med. Dict.* IV. 2660 *Psoralea eglandulosa*. *Samson's snakeroot. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 180 We find here Polygala, one species of which is called *Seneca snake-root. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 258/2 The Sudorifick Tincture, or Tincture of *Virginia Snake-root. 1720 tr. *Hodge's Loimologia* 165 Virginian Snake-Root, when fresh and fragrant is the most efficacious. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 481 Take of Virginian snake-root in powder, half a drachm. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 448/1 A deficiency of saliva..is removed by the Virginian snake-root. 1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 188 *Eupatorium ageratoides* (*White Snake-root).

2. One or other of several plants so called from a fancied resemblance to a snake in some respect (see quots.).

1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 55 The Snake-root, *Arum dracunculus*, or Dragon Arum, is often found in old flower-gardens. 1858 A. Irvine *Handbk. Brit. Plants* Index 832 Snake-root,..*Polygonum Bistorta*. 1895 Oliver tr. *Kerner's Plants* I. 708 The creeping stems of the Snake-root (*Calla palustris*).

Snakery (snē·kəri). [f. SNAKE *sb.* + -ERY 2.] A snake-house.

1885 *Voice* (N. Y.) 30 Dec. 2 No man can be a successful snake-killer as long as he owns a snakery. 1888 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 651 The late king of Oude had built a snakery in the gardens of his palace.

Snake's head. Also **snakeshead, snake's-head.** [SNAKE *sb.* 12.]

1. *attrib.* a. *Snake's-head iris*, an iris of the Mediterranean region, *Hermodactylus tuberosus*.

1739 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II, *Hermodactylus*, the Hermodactyl, commonly called Snakes-head Iris. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr.* in *Gard. Assist.* 59 Tuberous-rooted, or snake's head iris. 1825 *Greenho. Comp.* I. 117 Chalcedonian and Snakeshead Iris. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 176/1 The Snake's-head Iris..is not a new, but a very old, plant.

b. *Snake's-head fly* (see quot.).

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 527 *Raphidia*, the snake's-head fly.

c. *Snake's-head fritillary, lily* (see 2 b).

1899 *Gardening Illustr.* 29 Apr. 112/1 The beautiful Snake's-head Fritillary..that grows in the Oxfordshire meadows. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 180 Butterburs and wild snake's-head lilies.

2. a. *U.S.* = SNAKE-HEAD 1.

1834 AUDUBON *Ornith.* II. 150 The Snake's Head [*Chelone glabra*] grows on the banks of rivers and swamps, in the Middle and Southern States. 1856 *Treas. Bot.* 1067.

b. The common fritillary, *Fritillaria meleagris*; so called from the fancied resemblance of the bud to the head of a snake.

1859 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 277 Common Fritillary, or Snake's-head. 1859 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 87 It chequers itself into a snake's head, and secretes in the deep of its bell ..honey-dew. 1897 *E'ham Weekly Post* 17 Apr. 4/7 Snakes-heads, our wild flower is sometimes called, from the shape of the buds.

3. *U.S.* (See quots. and SNAKE-HEAD 2.)

184. in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 315 The road to Petersburg consists of an iron strap laid upon pine timber, and is beautifully diversified with that peculiar half horizontal, vibrating rail, known as 'snake's head'. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 223 *n.*, As the ends of the bars became loose and turned upwards they were known as 'snakes' heads'.

Snakeship (snēi·kʃip). [f. SNAKE *sb.* + -SHIP.] The personality of a snake. (Used as a mock title or humorous designation.)

1839 F. BARHAM *Adamus Exul* 14 Thus unknown, My lubricating snakeship will I wind Cunningly onward. 1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2459 Captain Adams, not feeling partial to an encounter with his snakeship, ordered the vessel to be kept off. 1876 E. W. CLARK *Life Japan* 90 One of my bearers poked him [a snake] gently with a stick, whereupon his snakeship moved slowly away.

† **Snakesman.** *Cant. Obs.* (See quot.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Little, Little snakesman*, a little boy who gets into a house through the sink hole, and then opens the door for his accomplices.

Snake-stone. Also **snakestone, snake stone.** [f. SNAKE *sb.*]

1. An ammonite. Now *dial.*

1662 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Bacon.* 77 In this too they agree with the Snake-stones of Keinsham. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 267 *Sceleton Serpentis*,..*Ophiomorphites*, Snake-stone. 1696 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts.* (1847) 45 About two or three miles from the Devises are found in a pitt Snake-stones (*cornua ammonis*) no bigger than a sixpence. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 78 The Sayler or (as 'tis commonly call'd) the Snake-stone. 1758 [see AMMONITE 1]. 1828 G. YOUNG *Geol. Surv. Yorksh. Coast* 138 The well known Whitby snake-stones. 1854- in dialect glossaries (Yks., Linc., Northants., Leic.).

2. A porous or absorbent substance regarded as efficacious in curing snake-bite or as a remedy against poison; a serpent-stone.

1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 128, I think they all recovered, to which he applyed the Snake-stones. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 53 A Factitious Stone (which we call a Snake-stone) is a Counter-poyson to all deadly Bites. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 128 In some parts of the Union, what are called snake-stones are relied on as certain cures for the bite of the reptile, and of mad dogs. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 17 The vagrant Scholar to his Sage at home Sends..Three samples of true snake-stone. 1903 SIR M. G. GERARD *Leaves fr. Diaries* x. 376 A snake-stone is..a secretion which occasionally forms on the palate of a snake's mouth.

3. A small perforated stone (cf. *adder-stone*, ADDER *sb.*² 5).

1700 LHWYD in Rowlands *Mona Antiqua* (1723) 338 Besides the Snake-Stones,..the Highlanders have their Snail-Stones, Paddoc-stones [etc.], to all which they attribute their several Virtues. 1872 J. EVANS *Anc. Stone Impl.* 391 In Harris and Lewis the distaff and spindle are still in common use, and yet the original intention of the stone spindle-whorls, which occur there as elsewhere, appears to be unknown. They are called *clach-naihrach*, adder-stones, or snake-stones.

4. *techn.* (See later quots.)

1850 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* III. 1040 Marks are then made with a piece of snake-stone, blue-stone, or even common slate pencil. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Snake-stone*, a kind of hone slate, or whetstone obtained in Scotland, and also known as Ayr stone. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 7 Jan. 417/3 The snakestone..used by lithographers..is a carbonate of lime, and is found in Germany and in India. The snake stone used by marble polishers is a fine *grit*, and is found at Water of Ayr.

Snake-weed. Also **snakeweed.** [SNAKE *sb.*]

1. The plant bistort, *Polygonum bistorta*.

In dial. use the name has also been applied to other species of *Polygonum*, as *P. lapathifolium* and *P. viviparum*; and to the plants *Mercurialis perennis*, dog's mercury, and *Cicuta maculata*, an American hemlock.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxxi. 323 *Bistorta* is called in English Snakeweede. *Ibid.*, Broade leafed Snakeweede. 1601 R. CHESTER *Love's Martyr* (1878) 90 Dwarfe gentian, Snakeweed, and Sommer Sauory. 1611 COTGR., *Bistorte*, Bistort,..Snakeweed. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 284 Mountebanks..instead of Mandrakes..sell the Roots of Bryony or of Snake-weed. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 327 Snakeweed, *Polygonum*. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 40 Certain annual plants—as the septfoil and bistort, or snake-weed. 1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* Feb. 424 The rhizome of snake-weed..is successfully used by the Lithuanian peasantry as a prophylactic in cases of bite by rabid animals.

2. = SNAKE-ROOT 1.

1631 WINTHROP *Hist. New Eng.* (1825) I. 62 He always carried about with him match and a compass, and in summer time snake-weed. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 392 Snakeweed. The root of the Virginian cures the Plague, poyson, Pox [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Fryars-Balsam*, Infuse in it..one Ounce of Virginia Snake-weed cut small. 1855 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sci.* (ed. 12) 100 *Aristolochia Serpentaria*,..Virginian Snakeroot,..Snake-weed.

Sna·kewise, *adv.* [f. SNAKE *sb.*] In the manner of a snake; with a snake-like movement.

1874 LANIER *Poems, In Absence* ii, The mottled formulas of Sense Glide snakewise through our dreams of Aftertime. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of a Novelist* 29 It was so low that we had to go snakewise.

Sna·ke-wood. Also **snakewood.** [SNAKE *sb.*]

1. a. A tree or shrub belonging to the genus *Strychnos*, esp. *S. colubrina* of the East Indies; the wood of one or other of these trees used as a remedy for snake-poison. b. The East Indian plant *Ophioxylon serpentinum*.

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. lxxv. 121/1 Snakewood is most in the Island of Seylon: it is a lowe Tree: the roote thereof being the Snake-woode is of colour white. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 507 Snakewood groweth in Seylon, and is good against the stinging of Snakes and other poyson. 1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 347 The first Figure is of a Wood from India,..*Lignum Colubrinum*, or Snake-Wood. 1835 G. T. BURNETT *Outlines Bot.* § 4614 *Ophioxylon serpentinum* is one of the snake-woods, which in various parts of India are affirmed to be antidotes to the bites of poisonous reptiles. 1836 J. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 6 Nux vomica, the Javanese poison, and the snake-wood all owe their violent action on animals to strychnia [and] brucia. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 592 The wood of *S[trychnos] colubrina* and *S. ligustrina* is employed in certain parts of Asia as an antidote to the bites of poisonous snakes, hence it is known under the name of *Lignum Colubrinum* or Snake-wood.

2. One or other of various trees formerly classed under the genus *Colubrina*, or of the West Indian trees *Cecropia peltata*, the trumpet tree, and *Plumieria rubra*, the red jasmine.

1832 DON *Gen. Syst. Gard. & Bot.* II. 36/1 *Colubrina ferruginea*...This tree is called *Bois couleuvre* or Snake-wood in Martinique. *Ibid.*, Reclined-branched Snake-wood [and many other species]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Snake-wood*, a name applied both to the *Cecropia peltata*, and the *Plumeria rubra*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Snake-wood,..*Colubrina ferruginosa*.

3. The wood of the South American timber-tree *Brosimum Aubletii* (or *Piratinera guianensis*), so called from its snake-like markings; letter-wood; also, the tree producing this wood.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 106 Snake-wood is scarce in England, and chiefly used for the most expensive walking-sticks. 1851 *Art Jrnl. Illust. Catal.* II. p. vii/1 The beautiful snake-wood is the timber of a *Brosimum*. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 490 The beautifully mottled and streaked Snakewood, much prized by cabinetmakers, and for making bows.

Snakily (snēi·kili), *adv.* [f. SNAKY *a.* + -LY 2.] In a snaky or snake-like manner; windingly.

1870 W. THORNBURY *Tour r. Eng.* I. xv. 308 The Orwell.. snakily winding between flat muddy reaches. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* III. ix. 179 Foul Furies..hissing and snakily lashing, hounding her to expulsion.

Snakiness (snēi·kinės). [f. SNAKY *a.*] Snaky character or appearance.

1842 *Peter Parley's Ann.* III. 143 There was a sort of sleight-of-hand in his face—a snakiness about his jaws. 1881 *Spectator* 19 Feb. 258/2 In the description of Narcissa ..her snakiness is expatiated upon to a needless extent.

Snaking (snēi·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNAKE *sb.* or *v.*1]

1. *Naut.* (See quots. and SNAKE *v.* 1 b.)

1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* 287/1 *Snaking*..is the act of winding small ropes spirally round a large one, ..and is frequently termed Worming. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 635 *Snaking*, the passing of small stuff across a seizing, with marline hitches at the outer turns. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 *Snaking*,..stoppers passed alternately from one stay or rope to another throughout their length in a parallel direction.

2. A snake-like curl or coil.

1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* xli, Heights of the sea.. spouting their prodigious lengths alongside, sometimes tumbling in thunder upon her forward decks, sometimes curling in blown snakings ahead of her.

3. *U.S.* The action of dragging *out*.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 206/1 The snaking out of these logs is another source of casualty to the lumberman.

Snaking (snēi·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [Cf. SNAKE *v.*1] Winding, twisting, sinuous.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 81 The flowry Plains.. Laced about with snaking silver brooks. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 94 Wherein the snaking and snayling diuarications of the vessels do craule all ouer the belly. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 June 2/1 From that height,..the city took an odd look, with its snaking quays and its many domed churches.

Snakish (snēi·kiʃ), *a.* [f. SNAKE *sb.*] Of or pertaining to a snake; snake-like, snaky.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 512/1 These Heretiques ..whose snakish and serpentine generacions haue..hadde theyr heades troden downe by Godde. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1593) 97 Before this snakish shape do whole my body over-run. *Ibid.* 98 On their snakish heads grew crests. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 26 So gentle seemd a while, the Snakish brood. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* B j b, The hissing of snakish Papists. 1825 *Examiner* 560/1 The sneaking, snakish, and vile token of displeasure, hissing. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XV. xi. IV. 168 If you will withdraw your snakish notions, will guarantee Silesia,..he will march home.

Hence **Sna·kishness.**

1901 S. DARK *Stage Silhouettes* 18 Mrs. Campbell's subtlety and snakishness as Lady Macbeth.

Snaky (snēi·ki), *a.* Also 6–7 **snakie,** 7 *Sc.* **snaiky,** 8 **snakey.** [f. SNAKE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Formed or composed of snakes.

Chiefly in allusions to the serpent hair of the Furies.

1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 64 b, All ye that Ladies are of Lymbo Lake With hissing haire, and Snakie bush bedect. 1595 SPENSER *Sonn.* LXXXV, The Furies fell Theyr snaky heads doe combe. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii. 1735 Megæra with her snakie twine. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. lxv, The Furies flung their snakie whips away. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 559 Thicker than the snakie locks That curld Megæra. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 154 ¶ 3 The Gorgon with Snakey Hair. 1862 COX *Tales Gods & Heroes* 203 Pegasos, the child of Gorgo with the snaky hair. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 290 He drew the head out by the snaky hairs.

b. *The snaky sisters*, the Furies.

1728 RAMSAY *Fables, Miser & Minos* 31 The three-pow'd dog of hell Gowl'd terrible a triple yell; Which rouz'd the snaky Sisters three.

2. Entwined with snakes. Said of the caduceus.

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1292 In his hand He tooke Caduceus his snakie wand. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. i, What? vse the vertue of your snakie tip-staffe there vpon vs? 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid, Metamorphoses* I. 928 In his Hand He holds the Virtue of the Snaky Wand. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* II. s.v. *Mercury*, A *caduceus*, or snaky staff, *viz.* a slender wand, about which two snakes did annodate.

3. Of or pertaining to a snake; freq. in allusive use, venomous, guileful, deceitful, treacherous.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* V. (1605) 455 O snakie ambition, which can wind thy selfe in so many figures. 1596 COLSE *Penelope* (1880) 162 Knowne trueth ne sneky enuies spite, Nor wrath can touch. 1612 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* V. v. 208 Hide, hide thy snaky head! to cloisters fly. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 120 So to the Coast of Jordan he directs His easie steps; girded with snaky wiles. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* III. 125 Can the dove's bosom snakey venom draw? *c* 1840 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1862 IV. 65 The oiliness and snaky insinuation of his demeanour. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* vi, His thin Punic lips curved into a snaky smile. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 215 Have at the snaky tongue! That's the right way with wolves!

4. Resembling the form of a snake; long and winding or twisting; sinuous, tortuous.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 92 Those crisped snakie golden locks Which make such wanton gambols with the winde. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 769 The crooked armes Meander bow'd with his so snakie flood. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* II. 153 Their watry Train in Snaky Windings slides. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1840) I. 15 No story proceeds without..voluminous tagrags rolling after it in many a snaky twine. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 126 The black sand lay thick between the snaky ridges of lava. 1887 PALGRAVE *Ulysses* 4 Huge woolly camels..thrust out their shaggy snaky necks.

5. *Snaky letter*, a sibilant. *nonce-use.*

1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Gram.* 8 One of the *Culebrinas letras*, the snakie or hissing letters.

6. Of places: Infested with snakes.

1856 LADY CANNING in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) II. 121 A charming ride round jungly lanes, with..tangles—very snaky, I should fear. 1883 ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* 185 The place was said to be snaky.

7. Relating to snakes. (Cf. *snake-story.*)

1882 *Daily News* 18 Jan. 5/5 'Snaky' stories are only fit for that presently-to-vanish corps, the Marines.

8. *Comb.*, as *snaky-footed, -haired, -headed*, etc., *snaky-sparkling* adjs.; *snaky-like* adv.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Rome* 178 Nor swelling streames of that God [Tiber] snakie-paced. 1596 — *F. Q.* VII. vi. 18 He on her shoulder laid His snaky-wreathed Mace. 1596 FITZ-GEFFREY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 96 The snaky-hayred Furies loathsome cell. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 60 The snaky-headed Furies tearing..and thrusting a hand-full of hissing serpents. 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* 1, Snaky handed, or snouted (as an elephant), *anguimanus*. Snaky footed (as the fabulous giants), *anguipedes*. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. iv, May not Murder come; and, with her snaky-sparkling head, illuminate this murk! 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 181 He persuaded that snaky-tailed monster to accompany him. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. iii. 134 Her smooth braids, snaky-like, intwine.

Snap (snæp), *sb.* Also 5–7 **snappe.** 7 (9) **snapp.** [Related to SNAP *v.* Cf. Du. *snap*, LG. *snap, snapp*, late MHG. *snap* (G. *schnapp* masc.; also *schnappe* fem.) in the same or related senses.]

I. 1. A quick or sudden closing of the jaws or teeth in biting, or of scissors in cutting; a bite or cut made in this way. Also *fig.* and in fig. context.

1495 in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. (1908) 506/1, I bay mare, a snappe in the left ear and in the right ear a ferthyng. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 170 Whiche cutteth a man in sunder ..at one snappe with his teethe. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. XI. 247 At euery word a snap with your

sissors. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 20 Craving to be put into one of the priests' offices, that he may have a snap at a crust of bread. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. r. World* (Bohn) 299 He took the scissors, and at one snap set them at liberty again. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, He had the scent of a slow-hound..and the snap of a bull-dog. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* iv. 51 The huge jaws opened once and shut with a vicious snap.

2. *slang.* A share (cf. SNACK *sb.*[2] 3); something worth securing or getting hold of; an odd chance; a good place or job.

1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 4 An Vpright man.. may cal them to accompt, & commaund a share or snap vnto him selfe, of al that they haue gained by their trade in one moneth. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s.v., To go snaps is to go halves in anything. 1864 *Slang Dict., Snapps*, share, portion; any articles or circumstances out of which money may be made. 'Looking out for snapps,' waiting for windfalls or odd jobs. 1893 *Dispatch* (Columbus) 20 Feb., 'A public office is a public trust.' The clerks regard it rather as a public 'snap'. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 259 He's on the lookout for snaps.

b. *Theat.* A short engagement.

a 1891 FREUND *Music & Drama* XIV. xvi. 3 (Cent.), Actors and actresses who have just come in from 'summer snaps' to prepare for the work of the coming season.

3. A small piece or portion; a scrap, fragment, or morsel: **a.** In emphatic use, as *not a snap, every snap.* Now *dial.*

1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* IV. i, Come, come, you would know it;..but not a snap, never long for't, not a snap dear Ladie. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 423 They leave not a snap i' th' dish; i. e. eat all up; every bit and snap. 1837 *Wilson's Tales Borders* III. 257 The puir hungry wratches will eat it up, every snap, afore morning. 1875 DICKINSON *Cumbriana* 10 Then he choppt up a drinkin' glass an' eat it ivery snap.

b. In general use. ? *Obs.* (freq. in 17th cent.).

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. v, Hee's a nimble Fellow! And alike skil'd in euery liberall Science. As hauing certaine snaps of all. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xiv. 411 He may get some almes of learning, here a snap, there a piece of knowledge, but nothing to purpose. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 260 Our Burses being but Snaps of Buildings to these famous Buzzars.

4. A slight or hasty meal or mouthful; a snack. Now *dial.* or *spec.* (cf. quot. 1883).

Not always clearly distinguishable from prec.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xii. 5 It is one thing to laugh at them *in transitu*, a snap and away, and another to make a set meal in jeering them. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* XI. ii. 59 Henry Burton..rather took a snap then made a meal in any University. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* x. (1672) 251 The Egyptian dogs do taste the waters of Nilus for fear of the crocidiles, a snap and away. 1700 MOTTEUX *Quix.* (1733) II. 55 The Curate's Provision..was but a Snap among so many, for they were all very hungry. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* XXX, First taste a snap of right Hollands. 1858 GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Clerical Life, Janet's Repentance* i, Two hearty meals that might have been mistaken for dinners, if he had not declared them to be 'snaps'. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snap*,..food taken by a collier during his shift.

5. A sudden snatch or catch at something; a quick movement or effort. †*To lie at* (or *upon the*) *snap*, to lie in wait. †*By snaps*, fitfully, spasmodically.

1631 T. POWELL *Tom of All Trades* 42 A Sea Soldier may now and than chaunce to haue a snapp at a bootie. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Luymer, ofte Loerer*, one that Lies upon the Snap, or Leers what one saith. *c* 1660 *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy Soc.) 152 With sugared words they lye at snap, But I'le be sure to watch 'um. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Josephus* (1733) 860 Now Apollonius does not carry on his Malice..in a continu'd set Discourse, but now and then by Snaps as the Humour takes him. 1755 JOHNSON, *Snap*,.. a catch; a theft. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Snap*,.. any sharp, quick, short motion. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict., Snap*, a sudden..grip, or seizure of any kind.

b. *Angling.* One or other of different methods of fishing for pike (see quots.).

1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 23 There is a way to take a Pike, which is called the taking of a Pike by snap, for which angling you must have a pretty strong rod. *Ibid.* 28 That other fine trick, Which our Artists call Snap, with a Goose or a Duck. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 45 Angling for the pike at the snap is to let him run a little, and then to strike him, the contrary way from whence he runs, with two strong jerks. 1847 T. BROWN *Mod. Farriery* 902 At both troll and snap some persons have two or more swivels to their line.

c. *In a snap*, in a moment, immediately.

So WFris. *yn ien snap*, G. *in einem schnapp*, LG. *mit én(em) snapp.*

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 119 An' now the fead [=feud] is softn'd..The face o' things is alter'd in a snap. 1802 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* IX. 381 I'll put you to rights in a snap.

d. A card-game, in which the call of 'snap' under certain conditions gives to one player the right to take cards from another.

1903 *Cassell's Bk. of In-door Amusem.* 125 Snap..may be played either with the ordinary whist cards, or with a special pack manufactured for the purpose. [Description follows.]

6. A curt or sharp speech or manner of speaking; an angry dispute.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Snap*, a Snap, or a Taunt. 1745 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 395 The least disapprobation, or snap, from the person I wish to oblige. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxiv, The moment I ventured to speak I was at once contradicted with a snap. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 245 'Beg your pardon,' answered Tibbs, with a sharp snap, which makes the words sound like 'Don't be a fool!' 1897 W. BEATTY *Secretar* 254 It was while I was watching this game..that we had a bit snap with one another.

7. A brief and sudden spell *of* cold, winter, etc. Orig. *U.S.*

1740 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 268 We had..two or three snaps of cold weather, else constantly warm. 1776 *Ibid.* 279 A dismal cold snap of weather. 1885 H. C. MCCOOK *Tenants Old Farm* 114 If there comes a snap of cold. 1899 *Daily Telegr.* 31 Mar. 6/5 She felt the effects of the snap of winter last week.

b. A sharp and sudden frost; a short spell of cold weather. Chiefly in *cold snap* (very common in recent use).

1829 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 9 A determined 'black snap'...Harbour all ice. 1830 *Ibid.* 14 The tightest snap on record. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 316 'A cold snap,' i. e. a period of sudden cold weather. A common expression. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 237 The cold snap continued for several days.

8. *Mus. Scotch snap*: (see quots. and SCOTCH *a.* 4).

1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* IV. 272 The *Scots snap* seems to have been contagious in that School [the Neapolitan] at this time. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Scotch, Scotch snap*, a peculiarity of the comparatively modern Scotch melodies in which a short note precedes a long one.

9. = SNAP-SHOT *sb.* 1.

1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 526 Before I had recovered my senses sufficiently to take a desperate snap at him. 1860 W. H. RUSSELL *Diary India* I. xxi. 346 Fellows took snaps at us from balconies, from doors on the roofs of houses.

b. = SNAP-SHOT *sb.* 2.

1894 *Amer. Ann. Photogr.* 251 The exposures were mostly 'snaps'.

10. *Wrestling.* A throw made when the hold of one of the wrestlers on the other is broken.

1868 J. ROBINSON & S. GILPIN *Wrestling* 57 The stewards were inclined to bring the fall in a 'snap', but the vanquished man very honourably declared himself to be fairly thrown.

11. Alertness, energy, vigour, 'go'. Orig. *U.S.*

1872 BEECHER *Lect. Preaching* x. 185, I like to see a man who has got snap in every part of him. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 286/1 There are few..factories which have not 'snap' enough to make a..pair of samples at half a day's notice. 1894 DOYLE *Sherlock Holmes* 60 A young, pushing man with plenty of snap about him.

b. *transf.* Of writings, etc.

1885 G. S. MERRIAM *S. Bowles* II. 375 The vigorous vernacular, the pithy phrase of the Yankee farmer, gave zest and snap to many a paragraph. 1896 *Peterson's Mag.* Jan. 111/1 A delightful little tale, full of romance, snap, and brightness.

II. †12. a. *Thieves' Cant.* = CLOVER[2] 1. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* Pref. p. iv, When the Foist, the picke pockets (sir reuerence I meane) is cros-bitten by the Snap, and so smoakt for his purchase. *Ibid.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 38 He that bringeth him in, a Nip, He that is halfe with him, the Snap. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 220 Then there's a cloyer, or snap, that dogges any new brother in that trade, and snappes, will haue halfe in any booty.

†b. A sharper or swindler; a sly or treacherous fellow. *Obs.*

Freq. in 17th c. in *cunning* or *subtle snap.*

1622 FLETCHER *Sp. Curate* II. i, Take heed of a Snap, Sir, ha's a cozening countenance, I do not like his way. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I*, 288 Butler being a subtle Snap, wrought so with his companion that he got the possession of it. 1699 R. L'ESTRANGE *Colloq. Erasm.* (1711) 206 There were a great many cunning Snaps that had the Plot in the Wind.

c. Applied to persons in somewhat slighting use, but without implication of bad qualities.

1653 WHARTON *Comets* Wks. (1683) 141 Why do I discourage the poor Snap? 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, A merry Snap,..*alacer, lepidus, agilis.* 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* II. i, Come, lady, pray snap up this young snap at first. 1703 THORESBY *Let. Ray, Snap*, a lad or servant; now mostly used ludicrously.

d. *dial.* (See quot. and *snap-dog* s.v. SNAP-.)

a 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 123 *Snap*, a mongril greyhound with a short tail, excellent at *snapping*, or jumping on a hare.

III. 13. †**a.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[6]

1611 COTGR., *Pelican*,..a Snap, or Dog; the toole wherewith Barbers pull out teeth.

b. A pistol. *nonce-use.*

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. i, For your curst sharps and snaps, I never knew any good come of 'em.

c. A snap-hook.

1839 SALTER in T. C. Hofland *Brit. Angler's Man.* v. 125 This snap-hook is a double hook, or two single hooks, No. 6, tied back to back, on gimp; to bait this snap, use the baiting-needle. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. v. iii. 256 The plain snap is made in several ways, as follows.

d. A device or implement used for rounding the head of a rivet.

1869 RANKINE *Mach. & Hand-tools* Pl. P 14, The snap, *c*, has a conical projection at the end, which fits exactly into a corresponding recess in the die. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 48 The rivet was inserted from the inside, and held in position by the holder, and the snap outside. 1900 HASLUCK *Mod. Eng. Handy-bk.* 124 Rivet with a small hammer, and, for appearance sake, finish with a snap.

attrib. 1869 REED *Shipbuild.* xvii. 329 The snap-point is sometimes formed on snap-headed rivets, and nearly always so in machine riveting. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 127 This snap tool consists of a hollow cup of steel welded to a punch head for striking upon. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iv. 75 'Snap punch'—a tool provided with a hemispherical hollow at one end.

e. In miscellaneous uses (see quots.).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 *Snap*,..an implement used in making glassware. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snaps*, a haulage clip. 1888 ADDY *Sheffield Gloss., Snaps*, a horizontal vice. 1888 NICHOLSON *Coal Trade Gloss., Snap*, a small flat pointed pick, used on the screens.

†**14. a.** An ear-ring, fastened with a spring-catch. *Obs.*—[1]

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 29 A pair of diamond snaps in her ears.

b. A spring-catch, clasp, or fastening, or one closing with a snapping or clicking sound.

c 1815 *Houlston's Juvenile Tracts, Cork Jacket* 4 She took off her spectacles, and put them carefully into an old fish skin case with a snap to it. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* iv. 179 Rows of pearls, confined by a diamond snap, are beautiful in every [evening] dress. 1903 F. J. GARRARD *Watch Repairing* 156 Bottoms and bezels are sometimes jointed to the case band, and sometimes are loose, being merely snapped tight. These circular snaps, as they are called, are much more dust tight than a joint can be.

IV. 15. A quick, sharp sound or report.

1611 COTGR., *Niquet*,..a knicke, clicke, snap with the teeth, or fingers. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., It gave such a snap, that it made me startle, *cela fit un si grand bruit* [etc.]. *c* 1710 C. FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 153 Set the Coales together with some fire and it shall give a snap and burn up light. 1767 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 414 In our small experiments, we call this light and sound the electric spark and snap. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iv, A spring bolt,..the snap of which resounded through the place. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xii. 136 With a crack like the snap of a gigantic whip, the ice opened. 1880 MRS. RIDDELL *Myst. Palace Gard.* XXX, Edwina shut the book with a snap.

b. In negative phrases denoting complete disregard or indifference.

1859 FARRAR *J. Home* ii. 19 Should you care the snap of a finger for the opinion or the acquaintance of a man [etc.]? 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 60 Never caring a snap of the fingers whether it offended or whether it pleased. 1897 HENTY *Irrawaddy* 338, I don't care a snap for the titles.

16. The act of snapping or breaking suddenly; a break or fracture.

1755 JOHNSON, *Snap*, the act of breaking with a quick motion. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Snap*, a sudden breaking or rupture of any substance. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 73 In the majority of cases the snap is so clean that a green hand would most likely pass it by.

17. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* A small, usually round, cake or biscuit of crisp gingerbread; a ginger-snap.

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xii, She will gie ye a ginge-bread snap for your pains. 1852 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* II. 110 The main panes round, and about the size of a biggish snap. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss., Snaps*, thin round gingerbread cakes for children.

b. *attrib.*, as *snap-machine, -wife, -woman.*

1831 R. SHENNAN *Poems* 42 The auctioneers and snap-wives too, Had staid to try what they could do. 1871 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 110 Beggars, ballad-singers, snap-women, &c. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826/1 *Snap Machine*, a machine for cutting a blanket of dough into snaps.

18. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 316 *Snaps*, young kidney-beans in the pod. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 410 Such are the beans, known in England as Kidney-beans or French-beans, while here they are called String-beans .. or Snaps, and occasionally Snap-beans.

Snap (snæp), *a. Sc.* [Cf. MDa. *snap* quick, smart.] Quick; smart; sharp.

Jamieson's Sc. Dict. (1882) also gives: 'short-tempered, surly'; 'brittle, short-grained, crisp'; these senses may be derived from SNAP *v.*

1790 SHIRREFS *Poems* 352 She is a lass fu' snap To grant her patronage. *a* 1796 BURNS *Poem Pastoral Poetry* ix, Nae snap conceits, but that sweet spell O' witchin' love.

Snap (snæp), *v.* Also 6 **snappe, snoppe, 7 snapp.** [app. ad. MDu. or MLG. *snappen* (so mod.Du. and LG.; Fris. *snappe*), = MHG. *snappen* (G. *schnappen*); Da. *snappe*, Sw. *snappa* are also from LG. The stem is prob. based on that of MHG. *snaben*, MLG. *snaven*, of similar meaning; cf. MHG. *snabel*, MLG. *snavel* beak, bill.]

I. 1. *intr.* Of animals: To make a quick or sudden bite *at* something; to feed *on* in this way.

1530 PALSGR. 723/2, I snappe at a thyng to catche it with my tethe. *Ibid.*, His horse snapped at myne arme. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* v. ii, Like the Asse..That labours with a load of bread and wine, And leaues it off to snap on Thistle tops. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer Moon* 2 This makes the mad bandog snap at all hee meets. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* iii. 13 Fair baits, whereby dangerous hooks are covered over to entice silly fish to snap at them. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 120 ¶ 3 A little Lap-Dog, that barked and snapped at every one. 1832 IRVING *Alhambra* II. 261 The seven dogs..snapping at the heels of the terrified friar. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 14 The fox turns and snaps viciously at his relentless pursuer.

fig. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 357 If the young Dace be a Bayt for the old Pike, I see no reason..but I may snap at him.

b. Without const.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 236 The hounde..approcheth so neare hym snappynge and grynnynge. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. xxv, A gentle greyhound set around With little curres, which dare his way molest, Snapping behinde. *a* 1692 L'ESTRANGE (J.), All mungrel curs bawl, snarl, and snap. 1858 HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* viii, Settle snapping-turtles snap..before they are out of the egg-shell.

fig. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 122 The Preachers of the faction..begin to snappe and to turne. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. i, Never mind, my chick,.. more to be had; if one won't snap, another will. 1884 *Kendal Mercury* 3 Oct. 5/2 All the newspapers abroad have been set a-barking and snapping, big dogs and little dogs alike.

2. To utter sharp, tart, or cutting words or re-

marks; to speak or reply irritably or abruptly. Usu. with *at*.

1579 L. Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 1002/1 By this word, he snappeth at them which haue their eyes so dazeled with these flitting thinges. 1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* To Rdr., Let him confute the maine plot..and not snap and cavil onely at some particulars in it. 1666 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 89 Dr. Fell..snapt up and told me 'I should pay [etc.].' 1693 *Ibid.* 13 July, He would not suffer him to speak for snapping and snarling. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 68 He was afraid of being snapped at by Shaban his tutor. 1825 E. Hewlett *Cottage Comforts* xii. 193 They humour the child till they are out of patience with him, and then snap at him. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* xxiv. 286 Every now and then speaking a word, and restraining himself from snapping at his rival.

b. *trans.* To utter (words) in an angry, sharp, or peevish manner or tone.

1683 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. i. (ed. 4) 6 Whereupon I presently snapt this upon her; *Non, non, Madam* [etc.]. 1853 Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 297 'You *can't* know all about it!' snapped Mr. Sponge. 1884 Browning *Family* 36 The next in age snapped petulant: 'Too rash!' 1897 Rhoscomyl *White Rose Arno* xxviii. 298 He tore into the long reaches behind, panting and snapping curses.

c. Similarly with *out*.

1888 F. Hume *Mme. Midas* I. ii, Slivers was just going to snap out a refusal. 1902 R. Bagot *Donna Diana* viii. 99 She snapped it out, however—the plain, vulgar word *porco*.

3. †a. *Thieves' cant.* To go shares with a thief or sharper. Cf. Snap *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1609 Field *Woman's a Weathercock* IV. ii, Thou snapp'st besides with cheats and cutpurses. 1611 [see Snap *sb.* 12 a].

b. To snatch, to make a quick or eager catch, *at* a thing. Also *fig.*

1673 Dryden *Marr. à la Mode* I. i, A man in these hard times snaps at them as he does at broad gold. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 313 Such..are apt to snap at anything to please themselves. 1741 *Chinese Lett.* vi. 34 They delay to take a Revenge,..and when they find an Opportunity, they snap at it greedily. 1778 Mme. D Arblay *Diary* 3 Aug., Any bookseller will snap at what you write. 1827 Scott *Jrnl.* 10 July, His resignation was eagerly snapped at. 1898 Pr. Ranjitsinhji *With Stoddart's Team* x. (ed. 3) 198 Storer in his eagerness snapped at the ball which otherwise would have landed safely into short slip's hands.

c. *To snap short*, to fail to get or obtain.

1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. v. 95 Lay-men may not tast the Cup at all...Their Clergy..will not snap short as the Laity must. 1732–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* 109 Snap short makes you look so lean, Miss.

† d. *Sc.* To attempt *to* do something. *Obs.*

1766 A. Nichol *Poems* 19 If some auld swinger snap to speak Of pink-ey'd queans, he gives a squeek.

†4. a. To strike or stab *at* one. *Obs.*–1

1626 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* II. Interm. (1905) 54 I'ld not giue a rush for a Vice, that has not a wooden dagger to snap at euery body he meetes.

† b. To pounce *upon* a person or thing. *rare.*

1648 Hexham II, *Een Snap-haen*, a Robber that Snaps upon one in the high way. 1679 Puller *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 41 Those who love not to be contained in any good bounds when they read the Bible, choose to do it out of all canonical order, or generally snap upon the chapters fortuitously.

II. 5. *trans.* To catch, capture, or seize quickly, suddenly, or by surprise.

Common in the 17th c.; now chiefly *dial.*, or spec. in *Cricket*.

1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 86 And shall I thus an wofull wretch, be snapt in sugred snare? 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 46 My coosen was snapt by wycked Vlisses. 1625 Fletcher & Shirley *Nt. Walker* II, The chest is of some weight, and we may make Such noise ith carriage we may be snap'd. *c* 1645 Tullie *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 6 They..failed in snapping Col. Graye's small regement of horse at Stanwick. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 103 The Doctor finds Stesichorus in danger of being snapt in his intended Journey. 1720 De Foe *Capt. Singleton* x. (1840) 182 We should snap her in the morning. 1798 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* v. i, I wish we could snap any straggler to bring before her. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxxvi, She is not quite goose enough to fall in love with the fox who has snapped her. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo* 76 As I was stealing back again..You snap me of the sudden. 1898 Pr. Ranjitsinhji *With Stoddart's Team* x. (ed. 3) 195 Iredale also secured an 'egg', Storer snapping him at the wicket.

transf. and *fig.* 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Prendre au piad leué*, to snappe one in wordes, to take him at aduantage. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 104 Alexander was snapt in the flower of his age and glory. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 303 A Daughter who by chance snap'd a Gentleman Commoner..of a considerable Estate. 1859 *Watson's Bards Borders* 73 If disease them didna snap, He wad ha'e plenty tatties.

b. To snatch for one's own use; to take to oneself with a quick movement; to steal or purloin in this manner. Also with *away*.

1624 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1651) 88 There was near Bayon, an Herd of Goats..upon which sight the said Sir R. Greham tells the Marquess, he would snap one of the Kids. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* III. 24 Did I not see you, Rascal,.. When you lay snug to snap young Damon's Goat? *c* 1756 in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1875) 57 A simple hare, had he but snapt, Or partridge in the wood. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xx, See that he snap them [gold buttons] not away. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* II. xiv. (1872) I. 129 Neighbouring potentates..snapped away some convenient bit of territory. 1899 S. MacManus *In Chim. Corners* 133 Doesn't one of the king's men snap the shoe off his foot.

c. To catch or seize with a quick bite or snap. Also in fig. context.

1687 Miège *Dict.* II. s.v., An unlucky dog snapt my leg. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1717) IV. 162 He who has escaped in many Battles,..by playing too often at the Mouth of Death, has been snapped by it at last. 1760 Jortin *Erasmus* II. 153 The Ægyptian dogs, when they drink at the Nile, are said to run all the while, for fear of being snapped by the Crocodiles. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 499 Now a trap did snap him:..A rafter down did fa', Which catch'd a leg. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* vi. 161 They think it a mere flouting at the gifts of Providence if they do not snap the bait like gudgeons.

d. To secure, obtain, take up, quickly or readily. More frequently with *up*: see 6 c.

1798 O'Keeffe *Wild Oats* II. iii, Oh, here he is! *Trap.* Snap him at any terms. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Feb. 9/1 Recent issues have been readily snapped.

e. To secure the passing or giving of (decisions, legislation, etc.) without allowing due time for consideration or discussion.

1883 Gibson *Sp. in Parlt.* 14 Aug., To snap legislation..which they were not gravely asked to pass at the time when it could have been carefully considered. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 453 He was defeated by the Defendant going to another Court and managing to snap a judgment first. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 9/4 They were strong enough..to prevent hasty decisions being snapped behind the backs of the people.

6. With *up*: a. = senses 5, 5 b, and 5 c.

1550 Coverdale *Spir. Perle* x. 84 Whan we liue in ydlenes, in al lust and pleasure, the deuyl snappeth vs vp. 1601 J. Wheeler *Treat. Comm.* 59 The single Merchant..is many times snapped vp and made a praye to Dunkerkers, and other Sea rouers. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 427 A yatch..is missing, and 'tis feared is snapt up by some French privateer. 1732 *Tricks of Town* 9 The Dog is instantly snapp'd-up, and convey'd away..to some filthy Cellar or Garret. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* vii, Tristan but pretends to mistake, that he may snap up the kindly Scots that come over to see their kinsfolks. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 33 We snap up anything in the way of a scientific bone that has meat on it. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1287/2 Merchant-steamers..would be snapped up by the fast cruisers of the enemy.

fig. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IX. vi. (Rtldg.) 320 Then..I snapped up the words out of his mouth. To be sure, my tongue did run at a fine rate against him.

b. To secure (a girl) in marriage.

1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Merch. V.* (1905) 245 Portia..Is not to be snapp'd up like little potatoes. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* x. 116 The conquest of Clara would not be too facile. She was a woman of value, not to be snapped up easily. 1889 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* xxxvi, All the girls about here are getting snapped up quick.

c. = sense 5 d.

1873 *Punch* 20 Sept. 118/1 When you see one at that price, don't wait to write, but snap him up—buy him for me. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* vii. 196 Every little outlying farm was snapped up and bought by country gentlemen. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 402 Cattle..were snapped up at eight-pounds-ten a head.

d. To eat up quickly or hastily.

1808– in dial. glossaries (Sc., Lanc., Wilts., Somerset, etc.).

7. With *off*: a. To bite off (a limb, etc.) sharply and quickly. Also *transf.*, to drink off quickly.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* iii. 34 We will to the tavern and snap off a pint of wine or two. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. i. 116 Wee had likt to haue had our two noses snapt off with two old men without teeth. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 16 The Carpenter..had his Arm and Shoulder snap'd off. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 241 The shark darted upon him..and snapped off his leg.

b. *To snap one's nose*, or *head*, *off*, to speak or reply to (a person) in a curt, sharp, ungracious, or angry manner.

1709 [see Nose *sb.* 9 c]. 1742 Mrs. Delany *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 166 Old G. snapped my nose off for saying I had sent for him. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxvii, Do you ever snap people's noses off, or tell them you think them very foolish. 1886 F. Robinson *Courting May Smith* I. xiv, If I had not been quite sure he would have snapped my head off.

8. To catch or take (one) *up* with an abrupt or sharp remark. Also with *short*.

1647 Hexham I, Snapped him up,..*berispte hem.* 1649 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 156 The King grew very cholerick and angry and did snap him up very short. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 185 William Earl of Exeter..snapped him up for a begging scholar. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxii, You always snap me up so short at the beginning. *Ibid.* xxiii, I don't much like to be snapped up so. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xliv, 'Susan Nipper,' snapping her up particularly short, 'a month's warning from this hour'. 1883 J. Payn *Thicker than Water* xx, If I am snapped up in this manner, and not permitted to go on,..argument is impossible.

b. To interrupt or snub, to cut *short*, in an abrupt or peevish manner. Also with *off*.

1687 Miège s.v., To snap one, or to speak roughly to him. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* ii. (1840) 30 He snapped me short, Why, says he, how shall I get them to him? 1796 Mrs. M. Robinson *Angelina* III. 172 To be sure your ladyship did snap and snub her confoundedly. 1837 Hood *United Family* i, One liking this, one hating that, Each snapping each, like dog and cat. 1899 W. Raymond *No Soul above Money* II. i, Never waiting to snap a body off short who had any little favour to ask.

9. a. To bring *down* by a quick shot.

1828 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 342 The only plan was ..to snap down the birds as they rose.

b. To take (an instantaneous photograph); to snap-shot.

1890 *St. Nicholas* Oct. 1034 A hand camera, with which he followed the babies about, 'snapping' them in their best positions. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Apr. 6/1 The privilege of 'snapping' photographs from the pier.

c. *intr.* To take instantaneous photographs.

1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* IV. 202 Perhaps the circus has been in town, and you've snapped on the elephants. *Ibid.*, Why, you were snapping away for dear life. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 7/3 The photographers.. were busily at work snapping at everything and anything.

III. 10. *trans.* a. To close (the jaws, mouth, etc.) suddenly or with a snap.

1573 Twyne *Æneid* XII. Nn ij b, He [a dog] snoppes his iawes, and is deceaued [h]is bit by half an inche. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* viii. 57 Tom, whose great heavy mouth had stood ajar,..now suddenly snapped it together. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 208/1 He snapped his beak with a noise like pistol shots.

b. To wink or blink (the eyes) quickly or angrily (cf. 14).

1847 Halliw. s.v., To snap the eye, i. e. to wink. 1907 W. W. Jacobs *Short Cruises* 205 Mr. Wragg, snapping his eyes nervously, threatened in vain.

11. To pull the trigger of or fire (a pistol); to strike (a flint, etc.).

1673 *Justiciary Proc.* (S.H.S.) 131 [They] saw the gun presented and snapped. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 307, I, snapping an uncharg'd Pistol. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 83 The Lieutenant, bringing a Pair of Pistols to the Carpenter,..did not imagine they were loaded, snapping the first it miss'd Fire. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 42 He..will be taught to snap caps. 1857 Holland *Bay Path* xxvi. 334, I..drew the old charge, and snapped it two or three times, to let the children see the fire roll.

b. Const. *at* a person or thing.

1798 Ld. Auckland *Corr.* (1862) III. 418 He snapped a pocket-pistol at him, which missed him. 1825 Hone *Everyday Bk.* I. 1288 He had the imprudence to snap an unloaded pistol at him. 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* I. v, The officer, drawing a pistol, snapped it at his lordship.

c. To fire off (questions).

1874 R. Tyrwhitt *Sketch Club* 39 They are apt to flash or snap questions at each other as in a French novel.

12. To cause (something) to make or give out a sharp sound of the nature of a click or crack; to close or fasten, to open or shut, etc., with this sound; to crack (a whip); to jerk *out* with a snap.

1714 Mrs. Manley *Adv. Rivella* 82 The Man..got up nimbly into his Coach-box, snapt his Whip. 1747 Richardson *Clarissa* xxxi. (1749) I. 198 Many a fan have I caused to be snapped at a sister beauty. 1781 Cowper *Table-T.* 477 Tyranny..Slips the slave's collar on, and snaps the lock. 1853 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 153 Snapping his toothpick against the frame of his chair. 1889 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XXXVI. 605/2 How can any one snap his shutter at the right moment unless he is carefully watching the object. 1893 Kipling *Many Invent.* 196 Gisborne snapped out the empty shells [from his rifle].

absol. 1880 'Mark Twain' *Tramp Abr.* xxiv. 206 She got to snapping the lid of her smelling-bottle,—it made a loud sharp sound, but..she snapped and snapped away.

b. To cause (the fingers) to make a sharp noise by striking against the ball of the thumb, esp. as a sign of delight or contempt. Also *fig.*

[1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* X xx j b, To snap with ones fingers,..*digitis concrepare, vel crepitare.* 1721 in Bailey.] 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xvii, He then snapped his fingers,..and took two or three turns about the room in an extacy. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Columbus* xlviii. 20 The..Indian..foots the ground like vaunting child, Snapping his thumbs with anticks wild. 1839 T. Mitchell *Frogs of Aristoph.* 66 *note*, At its conclusion he snaps his fingers in sovereign contempt. 1886 Jerome *Idle Th.* 36 It is not until you have snapped your fingers in Fortune's face..that she begins to smile upon you.

c. *To snap one's fingers at*, to treat with indifference or contempt; to disregard or ignore.

1806 Scott 11 Feb. in *Lockhart*, I hope I shall be very soon able to..snap my fingers at the bar and all its works. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, You'll..be able to snap your fingers at them all. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxiii, The men of his country..would have snapped their fingers at the Court of Session.

d. *absol.* To strike *at* with a snapping sound.

1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* iv. 22 He set her on his broad shoulder, and began capering and dancing with her, while Mas'r George snapped at her with his pocket-handkerchief.

13. *intr.* Of things: To make or emit a sharp cracking sound or report; to crack, crackle.

1673 *Justiciary Proc.* (S.H.S.) 131 He heard not the gun snapp. 1727 Boyer *Dict. Royal* II, To snap, (or to give a snap), *éclater, faire du bruit.* 1768 J. Byron *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 74 Cedar..makes a brisk fire, but is.. subject to snap and fly. 1789 Coleridge *The Nose* iv, Hear ye my entrails how they snap? 1855 Browning *Old Pictures in Florence* i, No flash snapped, no dumb thunder rolled. 1884 E. P. Roe *Nat. Ser. Story* ii, My caps only snapped.

b. To move or slide *into* place, to close or shut, to fit *home*, with a snap.

1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 241, I..gave it a violent pull, upon which it snapped into its place. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2229/2 *Snap-lock*,..a lock with a spring latch which snaps shut. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 217 The studio door snapped behind her. 1892 Greener *Breech-Loader* 63 They are liable to miss fire if the lever does not snap 'home'.

14. a. Of the eyelids or eyes: To open and close quickly in an angry manner.

1870 E. E. Hale *Ten Times One* ii. (Cent. Dict.), How Caroline's eyes snapped and flashed fire! 1899 Capes *Lady of Darkness* ii, Ned..saw his Madonna jerk erect, her eyelids snapping.

b. Of jaws, etc.: To close with a snap.

1899 F. V. Kirby *Sport E. C. Africa* iv. 51 The great jaws snapped like the teeth of so many wolf-traps.

IV. 15. *intr.* To break suddenly and (usually)

with a sharp noise or report; to give way or part suddenly owing to strain or tension.

Du. *snappen* and Fris. *snappe* have also this sense.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 14 What a slender waste he hath! Heele snap in two at every little straine. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems*, *The Storm* (1633) 58 Our tacklings Snapping, like too-high-stretched treble strings. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 236 Scotch oak..is found to snap over when used as ribs to a ship. 1819 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. iii. 76 Four or five glasses snapped, one after another. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xiv. (1858) 198 Another line was taken on board, which immediately snapped. 1897 W. H. THORNTON *Rem. W.-Co. Clergyman* vi. 181 Even strong harness snaps when subjected to a sudden jerk.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1822 SHELLEY *Triumph Life* 158 The fiery band which held Their natures, snaps. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. i, When the so-called Bonds of Society snap asunder. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* xviii. 137 When your power of arresting mischief snaps. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* ix, Sharp the link of life will snap.

c. To be broken *off* with a snap.

1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 497 Such a violent spasm of the jaw that a piece of one of the incisor teeth snapped off. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlvii, The butt-ends of the muskets snapped off like tobacco pipes. 1892 STEVENSON *Across Plains* ii. 87 Without a nod of warning, the huge pine-tree snaps off short.

16. *trans.* To break (something) suddenly and cleanly; to break in two; to cause (a rope, etc.) to part or give way.

1679 *Trial Lord Cornwallis* 12 My Lord..holding the white Staff..in both hands..,snapt it in two. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect.* (1685) 52 There is the Herb Ossifraga..which snaps the bones of Cattel that tread upon it. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 668 Full endlong from the roof the sleeper fell, And snapped the spinal joint and waked in hell. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 638 They found no difficulty in snapping short the single sticks. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 33 The shock proceeding from inertia snaps the teeth of the wheels. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. II. iv, The shock Of cataract seas that snap The three decker's oaken spine. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. of Patmos* xxv. 347 Its moorings are snapped as tow.

slang. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *To snap the glaze*, to break shop windows, or shew glasses.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1771 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 71 At length a trifle snapped our connexion. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VI. x, And now this spell was snapt. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. i. 82 There arose a PowerWhich grasped and snapped the threads of my device. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* II. v, She had been strong enough to snap asunder the bonds she had accepted in blind faith.

c. To break *off* with a snap.

1808 [see *snapwood* s.v. SNAP-]. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* III. 109 A northern whirlwind..Shook the boughs..And snapped them off. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, A five pound fish .. had snapped off the top-joint of his .. rod. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 101 If it be forcibly snapped off, it will shoot out the wider.

V. 17. a. Adverbially: With, or as with, a snap; quickly, smartly. Freq. in phr. *to go snap.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 Then snap go the fingers, ful brauely, god wot. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. v. 3 What wouldst thou haue?..speake, breathe, discusse: breefe, short, quicke, snap. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 28 On coom snap, on axt meh whot he wantut? 1844 N. PATERSON *Manse Garden* 64 Snap goes the branch, making a very unseemly fracture. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 175 Snap went the noose.

b. In phr. *to cry snap.*

In quot. 1782 in allusion to the crying of 'Snap!' in the game *Snip-snap-snorum.*

1694 JOHNSON *Notes Past. Lett.* I. 13 This is an Argument which cries snap like a Mousetrap, but will catch nothing. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, I suppose he'll shilly-shally till somebody else will cry snap, and take her.

Snap-, the stem of SNAP *v.* in combination, as **snap action gun** (see quot. 1884); so *snap-actioned* ppl. a.; **snap-apple** (see quot. 1823); †**snap-bag**, = SNAPSACK; **snap-bean** *U.S.* (see SNAP *sb.* 18); **snap-beetle**, a click-beetle (cf. CLICK *sb.*[1] 4); **snap-block** *Naut.* (see quot. 1884); **snap-bug**, = *snap-beetle*; **snap-cap** (see quot. 1876); **snap-dog**, *local*, a lurcher; **snap-dyke** *Sc.* (see quots.); †**snap-fig**, = BECCAFICO; **snap-flask** (see quot. 1875); **snap-jack**, *dial.* the stitchwort; **snap-plough**, *local* (see quots.); †**snap-rod** (see quot.); **snap-sound** *Path.*, a snapping sound heard in auscultation; **snap-thought** *attrib.*, used for noting ideas as they occur; **snap-tree**, **-weed** (see quots.); **snap-willow**, *local*, the brittle or crack willow, *Salix fragilis*; **snapwood** (see quot.).

Other examples of this type occur in recent use, esp. *dial.* or *U.S.* Similar formations are also employed in Dutch and German.

1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* III. 56 Top lever *snap action gun. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826 *Snap Action*, as distinguished from a lever gun; one which as the hinged barrel closes is fastened by a spring catch. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. ii. 26 Patents for slight modifications of this *snap-actioned 'central fire'. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, **Snap apple*, a mirth exciting frolic; in which catching..an apple in your mouth, while twirling on a stick suspended on its centre, with a candle at the other end of it, is the jest of the sport. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boys' Ann.* Oct. 583 Who's for snap-apple? 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 17/2 The Port Mantle, of some termed a Bugett, or Snapsack, or *Snapbag. 1870 LANIER *Poems*, *Nine from Eight* 48 Hit gobbled me up like *snap-beans. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 383/2 The supper consisted of fried ham and snap-beans. 1698 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 397 A peculiar species I have seen in England, and call *Snap-Beetles, from their elastick or springing Faculty. 1702 — *Gazophyl.* I. § 10 The Velvet-eyed Virginia Snap-Beetle. 1889 G. NICHOLSON *Dict. Gard.* IV. 213 The names ..Click Beetle and Snap Beetle refer to the sound produced in the leap. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 15 A *snap blocke is seldom vsed but in heauing of goods and ordnances. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826/1 *Snap Block*, a block with an opening in the side at which the rope may be laid in the sheave without the trouble of reeving it in. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 350 *Elater noctilucus*..; dusky brown, with a cinereous down...North America is extremely rich in this genus. The insect is usually called a **Snap-bug*. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 96 *note*, Muzzle-Stoppers, *Snap-Caps. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 391/1 *Snap-cap*, a small leather cylinder with a metal top of the size of the hammer of a percussion musket, and fitting closely to the nipple. 1877 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.* 230 **Snap-dog*, a half-bred greyhound. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Dec. 6/3 Rabbit Coursing Sweepstakes for so many 'snap-dogs'. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotland* VI. 104 A kind of stone fence, called *Snap-dykes, peculiar to Carrick and the north parts of Galloway, is admirably fitted for sheep parks; being from 4 to 6 feet in height, strong and firmly locked together at the top. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 42 Among the various sorts of stone wall usual in Scotland, there is one, known under the name of the Galloway or snap dike. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. (1894) 565 The dainty bird beccafico or *snapfig deserveth to bee eaten whole at one morsell. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 **Snap-flask*, a two-part flask having its halves joined together by a butt-hinge at one corner and a latch at the diagonally opposite corner. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 252/1 Most malleable castings are .. moulded in snap-flasks. 1867 ROCK *Jim & Nell* xlix. (E. D. S.), Whit-zindays, *snap-jacks, goosey-vlops. 1894 WHITBY *Mary Fenwick's Daughter* I. 57 Bird's-eye and snap-jack, ragged robin and hemlock. 1798 J. MIDDLETON *View Agric. Middlesex* 91 A swing turn-wrest plough..in which the wrest is moved in half the usual time... This farmer calls them *snap ploughs. 1875 W. D. PARISH *Dict. Sussex Dial.* 108 *Snap-plough*, a plough with two wings, so fixed as to snap or move from one side to the other, though only one projects at a time. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 103 A Snapper, or *Snap-Rod, is a strong Pole, peculiar for a Pike. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1021 The *snap sound and the thrill may be observed in some cardiac cycles. 1738 WEDDELL *Voy. Thames* 83 Taking every Opportunity to put down Notes in his *Snap-thought Leger. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* x. § 91 *Luzone Adhatoda* or *Snap-tree with a Jasmin Flower. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Adhatoda*, The Willow-leav'd Malabar Nut, commonly call'd, The Snap-tree. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, Snap-tree, *Justicia hyssopifolia. *Ibid.*, *Snapweed, *Impatiens*. 1899 STEP *Romance Wild Fl.* 135 The handsome Jewel-weed, or Snap-weed (*Impatiens fulva*). 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 87 The '*snap-willow', which is so brittle that every gale breaks off its feeble twigs. 1808 VANCOUVER *View Agric. Hants.* (1813) xii. § 4. 389 A claim..of taking what is called **snap-wood*, that is, all the fallen branches, and such as they can snap off by hand.

b. In the names of things or appliances operating, closing, fastening, fitting, etc., with a snap or by means of a catch, as *snap-bolt*, *-catch*, *-gun*, *-harness*, etc.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. ii. 33 Mr. W. W. Greener's is also a good *snap-bolt. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 285/2 The breech is closed sharply on the hinge and is held by a *snap-catch. 1644 *Sc. Acts, Chas. I* (1870) VI. 65 Their foote men haveing *snap gunnes and suordis sall have the pay of foote souldiers. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 206 [Mr. Needham's] first snap gun..was so constructed that upon depressing the lever for opening the gun, the hammers were raised to half-cock. 1888 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 3/5 The *snap harness which enables the horses to be harnessed in less than ten seconds. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/2 **Snap-link*, an open link with a spring, for the purpose of connecting parts of harness, chains, etc. 1775 G. WHITE *Selborne* lxiii, *Snap mouse-traps baited with tallow or suet. 1886 *Longm. Mag.* VII. 632 Years ago an immense number of salmon used to be taken by means of these *snap-nets. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Mar. 7/1 *Snap-purses, writing cases, pearl necklets. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 99 A loud humming symphony of *snap-reel and spinning-wheel. 1903 *Sci. Amer.* 14 Feb. 110 These last [=packing rings] are called '*snap rings', from the fact that they are sprung into the piston. 1875 *Zoologist* X. 4662 Rats caught in *snap-traps. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. I. ii. 36 The hook in which the *snap-wedge enters to keep the gun closed.

c. In combs. relating to or connected with the use of a snap-hook in fishing, as *snap-angling* [cf. G. *schnappangel*], *-fishing*; *snap-bait*, *-tackle.*

1792 OSBALDISTONE *Sportsman* 606 Snap-angling is with two large hooks tied back to back, and one smaller to fix your bait on. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* III. 247 The directions for snap-fishing. 1839 HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* V. 124, I generally resort to my snap-tackle. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. V. iii. 254 Snap-fishing must be practised with the top joints of the rod reduced in length and of greater stiffness. *Ibid.* 257 The Snap-Bait is employed only when the fish are wary and inclined to eject the ordinary kind.

d. Formed, taken, performed, etc., hastily or rapidly, as *snap exposure*, *-firing*, *judgement*, etc.

In this and the next group passing into *adj.*

1861 *N. York Tribune* in *Times* 19 Nov., A traveller's snap-judgement formed on the most superficial observation. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xxviii, After..a great deal of snap-firing, the skart was at last stretched on the water. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 255 For snap exposures a different course is necessary. 1894 *Amer. Ann. Photogr.* 137 The real necessities for snap photography.

e. In Parliamentary usage, as *snap dissolution*, *division*, *vote*, one obtained or taken unexpectedly or when comparatively few members are present.

1879 MCCARTHY *Own Times* xx. II. 96 It was evident that this was only what is called a 'snap' vote. 1884 *Nonconformist* 7 Feb. 129/2 The majority was the result of a 'snap division'. 1892 *Rev. Reviews* V. 3/2 Administrations have tried by a snap dissolution..to capture a fresh majority.

Snapdragon (snæ·pdrægən). Also **snap dragon**, **snap-dragon**. [f. SNAP *v.* + DRAGON [1].]

1. A popular name for one or other of the plants belonging to the genus *Antirrhinum*, esp. *A. majus*, a hardy plant bearing showy flowers, freq. grown in gardens.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 96 Roses of all sorts...Snap [*pr.* snag] dragons. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 438 The flowers [are]..fashioned like..a dragons mouth; from whence the women haue taken the name Snapdragon. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 269 There is some diuersity in the Snapdragons, some being of a larger, and others of a lesser stature and bignesse. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 93 Those flowers, that..shut hard and close at the top or lips,..as Toads-flax, Snap-dragon, Fox-gloves. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 372 Antirrhinon..takes the Stile Of Lion's Mouth, sometimes of Calf's-Snout vile, By us Snap-Dragon call'd. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* iv. (1794) 45 Having the two lips not usually open, or gaping, but closed and joined, as you may see in the snap-dragon. 1847 JAMES *Convict* x, Those old walls, time-worn, and lichen-covered, and loaded with snapdragon. 1882 *Garden* 26 Aug. 183/2 Truly the Snap-dragon is one of our finest open-air flowers.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xii, This raft supports the little scape of yellow snapdragon-like flowers. 1872 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (ed. 4) 412 In the path of the bean is interposed this snapdragon light. Alcohol and water are here mixed with a quantity of common salt.

b. With distinguishing terms.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 438 The purple Snapdragon hath great and brittle stalks. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 269 Variable Snapdragon...Yellow Snapdragon. *c* 1710 PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* XXXV, Small Snap-Dragon. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Antirrhinum*, The Broad-leav'd Snap-dragon. *Ibid.*, The strip'd Snap-dragon. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 549 Ivy-leaved Snapdragon...Round-leaved Snapdragon. *Ibid.* 550 Creeping Snapdragon [etc.]. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Garden* (1861) 74 Garden Snapdragon.

c. Applied to various other plants having personate flowers (see quots.).

Also *dial.* the foxglove, the columbine, and the common fumitory (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Linaria*, The species of toad flax..called by authors the lesser snapdragon...Stone snapdragon. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* 327 Snap Dragon of America, *Ruellia*. 1859 MISS PRATT *Flowering Pl.* IV. 125 Lesser Snapdragon. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Snapdragon, *Ruellia tuberosa*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Snapdragon,..*Silene Antirrhina.*

2. A figure or representation of a dragon, esp. one so constructed as to open and shut the mouth, used in mayoral or civic shows or processions. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1611 FLORIO, *Mandúco*, a disguised or vglie picture to make children afraid, as wee say, a snap-dragon, a turke, a bug-beare. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 234 Antick Figures with wide Mouths, like our Snap-dragons for Mayor's Shows. 1726 in *Hist. Norfolk* (1829) II. 1202 Great preparations are making in this city for the guild on Tuesday next, and the old snap dragon being dead, a young one..will make his first public appearance.

†**3.** ? Burnt brandy. (Cf. next.) *Obs.*

1676 *Poor Robin's Intell.* 22–29 Aug. 1/1 An old Crony.. with whom he drank Snapdraggon so plentifully [etc.]. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* I. i, I swallow oaths as easy as snap-dragon.

4. A game or amusement (usually held at Christmas) consisting of snatching raisins out of a bowl or dish of burning brandy or other spirit and eating them whilst alight; a bowl or quantity of the liquor, etc., used in this game. (Cf. FLAP-DRAGON 1.)

1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* xi, He bore a strange kind of appetite to snap-dragon, and to the livid snuffs of a burning candle. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 85 ¶ 2 We got into a dark Corner with a Porringer of Brandy, and threw Raisins into it, then set it on Fire...This fantastical Mirth was called Snap-Draggon. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *More Money* Wks. 1812 II. 505 He hates snap-dragon; 'tis a game of danger. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xvii. 273 The exhibition of snap-dragon..produced also great surprise. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. xi. 275 The recollections of last night's snap-dragon and blindman's-buff. 1894 *Times* 12 Jan. 9/2 An accident arising from an explosion of methylated spirits used in a snapdragon.

fig. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* v. (1870) 141 His Muse is, in fact, a giddy wanton flirt, who spends her time in playing at snap-dragon.

5. *techn.* (See quots.)

1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 11 A snap-dragon..is a sort of screw nippers placed in an ordinary vice, and opening horizontally to hold a horn or other scale while being flat filed. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 *Snap-dragon*, a kind of tongs used by glass-blowers to hold their hot hollow ware.

Snape, *sb.*[1] *dial.* [f. SNAPE *v.*[1]] **a.** A snub, rebuke, or check. **b.** A check to growth; a change to cold or bad weather.

1828– in dial. glossaries and texts (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Snape, *sb.*[2] *rare.* [f. SNAPE *v.*[2]] A tapering, a bevel; an act of snaping.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 23 The lower ends [are] haunched away with a snape, resembling the bill of a duck. *Ibid.* 28 The lower ends are..thinned with a duck's-bill snape.

†Snape, *sb.*[3] *Obs.*—[1] (Meaning uncertain.)
In south-western dial. *snape* denotes a spring or boggy place in a field; it is very doubtful if this can be the same word.
a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1560 As blaȝt ere þaire wedis As any snyppand snawe bat in þe snape liȝtis.

Snape (sn*ē*ip), *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 4 (9) snaip (4 snaipe), 4–5 snayp- (5 snaypp-), 5–snape, 6 snep, 9 snaap, etc. See also SNEAP *v.* [a. ON. *sneypa* to outrage, dishonour, disgrace (Icel. *sneypa* to chide, snub, Norw. *snoypa* to withdraw, draw in, pinch, etc., MSw. and Sw. *snöpa* to castrate).]

†1. *trans.* To be hard upon; to harm, damage, or injure in some way. *Obs.*
13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2003 þe snawe snitered ful snart, þat snayped þe wylde. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* vii, þe slete and þe snawe, þat snayppede þame so snelle. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3995 Sire Porrus with a proude sweord him on þe pan strikis, So snelle at he snatirs with, nere snaypid him for euire.

2. To rebuke or snub (a person, etc.) sharply or severely; to check, restrain, or curb (a child); to call off (a dog). Now *dial.*
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13027 Vte of desert þar he was in, He com to snaip þe king sinn. *Ibid.* 22103 Vr lauerd snaips þir tua tuns, And þus he sais in his sermuns. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 To Snape, *corripere.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 26 To Snape, *redarguere.* 1601 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Defence* 201 Durand snaped, about originall sinne, and merite in the workes of grace. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words*, To *snape* or *sneap*, to check [a child]. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 353 To *Snape*, to silence, check, or at least threaten, as a barking dog, or a mischievous child. 1811– freq. in dial. glossaries (Cumb., Durh., Yks., Lancs., Staffs., Shrops., etc.).

b. To check or stop (growth); to blight, nip, or mar the growth of (a plant, etc.). Now *dial.*
1630 CRAVEN *God's Tribunal* (1631) 12 Magistrates, have you laboured to snape the growth of sinne. 1828– in dial. glossaries (Cumb., Yks., etc.).

3. *dial.* To stint *of* food.
1847 HALLIW., A step-mother snapes her step-children-in-law of their meat. 1869– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Hence **†Sna·ping** *vbl. sb.*, rebuking, snubbing.
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18853 In his snaiping [*Trin.* snybbyng] auful was he. *Ibid.* 24007 Mi spirite for yeild i wend, þair snaiping was sa smert. 1555 *Inst. Gentleman* C ij b, To correcte them in wordes, which manye fonde mothers doo call snepping of a childe, dyscoraging his boldnes.

Snape (sn*ē*ip), *v.*[2] *techn.* [Possibly the same word as prec.: cf. SNEIPE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To cause or make to taper; *spec.* in *Shipbuilding* (see quot. 1846).
(*a*) 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 10 *Snaping*, reducing the ends of any piece to a less substance. *Ibid.* 24 Short fillings are remedied by snaping their ends. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Snape*, or *Flinch*, in shipbuilding, to bevel the end of any thing so as to fay upon an inclined surface. [Hence in Weale, Smyth, etc.] 1869 REED *Shipbuild.* xiii. 144 The butts of the plates were each snaped away with the hammer.
(*b*) 1841 HAMILTON *Nugæ Lit.* 354 The handle of a knife is *snaped*. 1888 ADDY *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., A blacksmith is said to snape a piece of iron to a point when by hammering or some other process he tapers it off to a point.

2. *intr.* To taper (*off*).
1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 24 The lower end of the long filling snapes. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Arch.* 57 The deck plank snapes off to a sliver edge.

Hence **Snaped** *ppl. a.* (See quot.)
1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 *Snaped Timber*, timber cut beveling, so that one face is narrower than the other.

†Snapely, *adv.* In 5 **snaypely.** [Cf. ON. *sneypiliga*, MSw. *snöppelica*; but the text is doubtful (cf. SNAPE *v.*[1] 1).] Sharply, severely.
c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* vii. (Ireland MS.), The snyterand snaue, that snaypely [*v.r.* snartly] hom snellus.

†Sna·per. *Obs.* (Of uncertain meaning.)
c 1550 *Pryde & Abuse Women* 200 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 243 Rubbe a galde horse on thee backe, And he wyll kicke and wynse; And so wyll wanton wylyons When they have anye snaper or twynche.

Snaphance, snaphaunce (snæ·phans). Now *Hist.* Forms: α. 6–7 snaphanse, 6–7, 9 snaphance (6 snapp-), 7 snaphansh; 6–7, 9 snap-hance; 7 snap hance, hans. β. 6–7 snap-haunse, 6–7, 9 snaphaunce; 7 snap-haunce, 7, 9 -haunch; 6 snap haunce. [Of Continental origin, repr. Du. and Flem. *snaphaan* (in Kilian *snap-haen*), MLG. *snaphân*, LG. *snapphân*, G. *schnapphahn* (†-*han*), f. *snappen*, *schnappen* SNAP *v.* + *haan*, *hahn* cock. It is not quite clear whether the sense is 'snapping cock' or 'cock-snapper' (i.e. cock-stealer). In English the second element may have been confused with the personal name *Hans*; but Heyne (in Grimm's Dict.) cites an early example of G. *schnaphons*.]

†1. An armed robber or marauder; a freebooter or highwayman; a desperate fellow or thief. *Obs.*
α. 1538 TONSTALL *Serm. Palm Sunday* (1539) D viij b, To make this realme a praye to al venturers, al spoylers, al snaphanses, all forlornehopes. 1541 PAYNELL *Catilina* xxiii. 43 Thynkynge..that huge routes of snaphances and hopelosses, from all partes of Italy wolde resorte to hym. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 684 He therefore required the prince to rid the realme of those snaphances.
β. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 37 Euen as thoughe a sorte of snaphaunses set all on mischiefe..would make this peticion. 1609 ARMIN *Maids More-Cl.* (1880) 73 He that shall marry thee, is matcht y'faith, To English rash, or to a Dutch snap-haunce.

2. An early form of flint-lock used in muskets and pistols (cf. 3); also, the hammer of this.
Freq contrasted with *firelock* (= wheel-lock), but the distinction is not always observed.
α. 1588 in *Norfolk Archæol.* (1847) I. 16 To Henry Radoe, smyth, for making one of the old pistolls with a snapphance. 1594 LYLY *Mother Bombie* II. i, These old huddles haue such strong purses with locks, when they shut them they go off like a snaphance. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xlviii. 157 A pistoll to which belong so many seuerall partes, as powder, stone, locke, snap-hanse [etc.]. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. iv, Daggs with fire lockes or Snaphances. 1680 HARFORD tr. *Gaya* in *Eng. Milit. Discipl.* 22 Upon which, when one intends to fire, he puts down the Snaphaunce, which in stead of a Flint, ought to be provided with a true Mine-stone.
β. 1594 BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* 22 A Harquebuze with a snaphaunce. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 120 A pistoll which goes with a Snaphaunce. 1642 SIR E. HARWOOD *Advice* D j, Whether their Peeces to bee with Firelocks or Snaphaunces, is questionable.

†b. *transf.* A spring catch or fastening. *Obs.*
1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* Wks. (Grosart) I. 138 A leatherne pouch..that opened and shut with a Snap-hance. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 194 His heart goes with the same snaphance his purse doth. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* i. 4 In a countryman's budget, shut up with Snaphance?

¶ **c.** A spring trap. *Obs.*
1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* v, There are such traps and snap-haunches as may cost you a limb.

3. A musket, gun, etc., fitted with a lock of this kind, in use in the 16–17th centuries. Now *Hist.*
So Du. and Flem. *snaphaan*, G. †*schnapphahnrohr.*
α. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 47 [Not] to strike iust vpon the wheeles being firelockes, or vpon the hammers or steeles, if they be Snap-hances. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. xii. 93 Three hundred Muskets, Snaphances, and Firelockes. 1651 in H. Cary *Mem. Civ. War* (1832) II. 289 We have left us in store but..two thousand and thirty muskets, whereof thirty snaphancies. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* vi. I. 316 [He] had borne a snap-hance on his shoulder as a volunteer. 1882 *Standard* 10 Feb. 5/3 The seafaring man with his snap-hance, his flint lock, or his steel lance was upon them.
β. *c* 1580 J. HOOKER *Life Sir P. Carew* in *Archæol.* XXVIII. 139 Sir Peter..hade with hyme a case of excellente snaphaunses. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 129 If the horse men use firelocke peeces, or snap haunces. 1655 MARKHAM *Hunger's Prevention* 44 Tis better it be a fier locke or Snaphaunce then a cocke and tricker. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Snaphaunse*, a fire-lock, or Gun that strikes fire without the use of a match. 1821 SCOTT *Nigel* xxvii, 'Let me see those pistols.' 'Ye are not so unwise as to meddle with such snap-haunches?' 1840 GRESLEY *Siege of Lichfield* 287 The snaphaunce differed from the modern fire-lock, in the hammer not forming the covering for the pan.
fig. 1608 J. DAY *Law Trickes* v. i, A parlous Girle; her wits a meere Snaphaunce, Goes with a fire locke.

†b. A soldier armed with this form of gun.
1645 N. DRAKE *2nd Siege of Pontefract* (Surtees) 47 Capt. Joshua Walker with..about 20 snaphanches went out through the howses.

†4. *fig.* Ready answer or argument. *Obs.*—[1]
1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iv. 190 And old crabb'd Scotus..Pay'th me with snaphaunce, quick distinction.

†5. A woman of low character. *Obs.*—[1]
a 1625 FLETCHER *Women Pleased* III. ii, 'Faith wholsome women will but spoil ye too, For you are so us'd to snap-haunces.

6. Attrib., as *snaphance bag, hate, lock, musket, pistol, satirist.*
1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 77 It is your dooing..that these stal-fed cormorants..must bung vp all the welth of the Land in their snap-haunce bags. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 65 The sharp tart veriuice of his snap-haunce hate. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal. Sat.* ii. Wks. 1856 III. 217, I, that even now lisp'd like an amorist, Am turn'd into a snaphaunce Satyrist. 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 67 The hundred Snaphance muskets and ..other small things. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 135/1 A snaphaunch Lock is the generall name for all fire Locks. 1898 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* Mar. 107 The President exhibited a snaphaunce pistol of the year 1619.

Snap head. Also snap-head. [f. SNAP *sb.*]

1. A round head to a rivet, bolt, etc.
1869 REED *Shipbuild.* xvii. 328 The common form of rivet head employed for shipbuilding is that known as 'pair' head; but hemispherical or Snap heads are also used. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iv. 75 For machine-riveted work, and occasionally for that put together by hand, snap heads and points..are employed.
attrib. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Arch.* 128 The snap head rivet, used in machine riveting of beams, boilers, etc.

2. A tool used to shape the head of a rivet.
1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1947/2 The end is swaged down by striking directly with a riveting-hammer, or a species of die called a snap-head is interposed.

Hence **Snap-headed** *ppl. a.*
1869 REED *Shipbuild.* xvii. 329 The snap-point is sometimes formed on snap-headed rivets.

Snap-hook. [f. SNAP-.]

1. *Angling.* A device consisting of three or four hooks connected in a special manner.
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 277/2 The first is termed a Snap Hooke or a Gorge Hooke. 1741 *Compl. Family Piece* II. ii. 344 Your Snap-hook..should be made thus; Take two Salmon-Hooks..; turn the Hooks back to back, and place the Ginp in the Middle [etc.]. 1820 T. F. SALTER *Troller's Guide* 90 *Snap hooks*, dead or plain, are synonimous terms; meaning all hooks used in Jack fishing that are made without springs. 1839 [see SNAP *sb.* 13 b]. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. v. iii. § 10. 256 The snap-hook is either the plain or the spring snap hook. [Description of several varieties follows.]

2. (See quot. 1875.)
1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/1 *Snap-hook*, a hook with a spring mousing by which it is prevented from accidental disengagement. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 9 July 3/2 A stout leather strap, with a buckle fastening it in front, and snap hooks projecting from each side at the back.

Sna·ply, *a. Sc.* (and *Ir.*). *rare.* [Cf. SNAP *a.*] Sharply, smartly, quickly.
In *Cursor M.* 18228 the Gött. MS. has *snapli*, but the correct reading is no doubt *snarpli* as in the Cott. MS.
1768 ROSS *Helenore* 43 They shot him in before In a dark hole, an' snaply lock'd the door. 1880 in *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 94.

Snappable (snæ·păb'l), *a.* [f. SNAP *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be snapped or broken.
1856 BLACKMORE *C. Nowell* xlvi. (1883) 306 Our life is but a thread at any moment snappable.

†Sna·ppage. *Thieves' cant. Obs.* [f. SNAP *sb.* or *v.*] A share in the proceeds of a theft or robbery claimed by a snap or cloyer.
1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 16 They can no sooner draw a bung but these come in for their tenths, which they generally tearm snapping, or snappage. *Ibid.*, If the cut-purse denie snappage, his cloyer or follower forthwith.. bewrayes him.

Snapped (snæpt), *ppl. a.* [f. SNAP *v.*] Broken with a snap; also *colloq.*, abrupt, sudden.
1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xii, Snapped harness, broken carriage, torn flesh, and strained joints. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* II. 293 A lively incident which was to put a snapped end to this humbugging. 1900 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 5/1 A cart..loaded with snapped branches.

Snapper (snæ·pəɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. SNAP *v.* Cf. Fris., Du., LG. *snapper*, G. *schnapper.*]

†1. *Cant.* ? An accomplice or sharer. (Cf. SNAP *v.* 3 a). *Obs.*
1532 *Use of Dice Play* (Percy Soc.) 29 This new nurtured novice..is become so good a scholar, that he knoweth readily his flats and barris, and hath been snapper with the old cole at 2 or 3 deep strokes.

2. A thing which snaps or produces a sharp cracking sound: **a.** A pistol. *rare.*
1577–87 HARRISON *England* II. xvi. (1877) I. 283 The honest traueller is now inforced to ride with a case of dags..., or with some pretie short snapper, whereby he may deale with them further off in his owne defense. 1785 in GROSE *Dict. Vulgar Tongue.*

b. *pl.* Bones (see BONE *sb.* 5 b); castanets. ? *Obs.*
1605 *Entert. of Earl Nottingham* 18 Those six Ladies.. danced a country dance with snappers on their thumbs. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 172 The instruments [of music] no other than snappers, gingles, and round-bottomd drums. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 84 They hold them both in the right hand..as our Boys do their Snappers. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 268 Like two pieces of Wood stroke against each other, or a pair of Snappers. 1742 C. OWEN *Serpents* III. vi. 239 Whether this Custom be not the Original of Castanets or Snappers in Dancing.

†c. *pl.* Prince Rupert's drops. *Obs.*—[0]
1788 HOWARD *New Roy. Cycl.* II. 1738.

d. A cracker-bonbon.
a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Wedding-day* (1905) 428 Nasty French lucifer snappers with mottoes.

e. *U.S.* A word, sentence, verse, etc., used as a finishing touch or wind-up.
App. *transf.* from next, though recorded earlier.
1857 J. G. HOLLAND *Bay Path* xiv, You'd 'a said twenty lashes, and she'd got 'em, and Mr. Moxon would 'a said twenty Amens on the end on 'em for a snapper. 1892 CHILD *Pop. Ballads* IV. 393/1 A copy..with the addition of one stanza for a 'snapper'.

f. *U.S.* A cracker on the end of a whip-lash. Also *fig.*, a sharp or caustic remark.
1882 PENTECOST *Out of Egypt* iii. 60 She brought out the last end of that question like the snapper on the end of a whip. 1890 O. W. HOLMES *Over the Teacups* xii, If I had not put that snapper on the end of my whip-lash, I might have got off without the ill temper which my antithesis provoked.

3. One who snaps *up* or seizes upon a thing quickly.
1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 26 My Father..was likewise a snapper-vp of vnconsidered trifles. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxvi, The possibility of those erratic Countesses of Croye ..falling into the hands of some wild snapper upon the frontiers. 1887 JEFFERIES *Amaryllis* x, From Berlin and Vienna come the eager snappers-up of much considered trifles. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 11/1 The snapper-up of such things should glance at the Mexican Eastern Railway 5 per cent. debentures.

4. A snappish person; one who speaks or answers snappishly or roughly.
1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Versnauwer*, a Snapper, or a Taunter. 1847 HALLIW., *Snappers*, waspish persons that answer crossly or peevishly. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* li, What a nasty way you have of telling the very commonest piece of news!..What man will ever fancy you, you unlucky little snapper? 1908 *Daily Chron.* 17 Aug. 5/7 We are told that though these mischief-makers, these snappers and snarlers, may be few, yet they are very influential.

5. †**a.** *Angling.* A snap-hook or snap-rod. *Obs.*
1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 103/1 A Snapper, or Snap Rod, is a strong Pole, peculiar for a Pike. *Ibid.* xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 This is by some termed a cod fish hooke; but by Fishers and Anglers it is termed a Snapper, being made with a loop at the top.

b. *local.* (See quot.)
1892 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 83 Some of the men were armed with long wooden 'snappers', not unlike blacksmith's tongs, ..thickly set with wire points or projecting nails,..and with

these cruel implements they struck at and secured the stupefied fish [=eels].

6. a. One or other of various fishes, esp. the West Indian *Lutjanus Blackfordii* or *L. vivanus* or other fish of this group, the N. American rose-fish, *Sebastes marinus*, and the Australian *Pagrus unicolor* (see quots. and b).

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 88 Fish, particularly Snappers and Rock-fish, are..plentiful. *Ibid.* 91 The Snapper is a Fish much like a Roach, but a great deal bigger,..the back is of a bright red. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 114 Silver Fish, Snappers, Bonito's and very large Craw-fish. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1370 There are also snappers, parrot-fish, and a brown spotted rock-fish. *a* 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 104 Nothing can be less tempting than the sounds of Jew-fish, hog-fish, mud-fish, snappers, and grunts. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 23 They were chiefly of the kinds known as 'rock-cod', 'snappers', or gilt-heads. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 73 The Snappers and Grunts are among the most highly colored of the tropical fishes.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 395 The Snapper Family—*Prisipomatidæ*. 1888 — *Amer. Fishes* 76 Snapper-fishing is usually carried on with a bottom bait. *Ibid.*, A trip to the Snapper banks is a favorite summer recreation.

b. With distinctive epithets, as *alligator, bastard, black, brown, grey snapper*, etc.

Many different species are mentioned by Goode *Fishes Bermudas* (1876), *Nat. Hist. Aquatic Anim.* (1884), and *American Fishes* (1888).

1775 ROMANS *Hist. Florida* App. 52 The fish caught here ..are such as..red, grey and black snappers, dog snappers, mutton-fish. 1822–27 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 241 Fishes of a few other kinds, as..gray-snapper (*coracinus fuscus major*). 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 34 They ..soon caught plenty of groupers, red and silver snappers. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xv. (1859) 365 A red snapper for all the world like a gigantic gold fish was hauled on board. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 176 Snappers, red and brown.

c. A snapping-turtle.

1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 388 The Snapping Turtle.., also called simply Snapper, is a ferocious kind, snapping at everything, and inflicting a painful bite. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 255 One of these aquatic Emydes..preys upon small fish, and is called Temminck's Snapper. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 458 The family of *Chelydridæ* includes freshwater tortoises, which are known under the names of Snappers or Alligator Terrapins.

d. A woodpecker (Halliwell, 1847).

e. *U.S.* A flysnapper (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

7. *dial.* Something exceptionally large, heavy, etc.

1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xv, We get a fine day, and then down comes a snapper [of rain] at night. 1902 *Ardrossan Herald* 3 Jan. 4 That's a snapper o' an orange they've gi'en ye.

8. *dial.* **a.** The greater stitchwort, *Stellaria Holostea*. **b.** The bladder campion, *Silene inflata*.

1882 in FRIEND *Gloss. Dev. Plant-n.* 1886 in BRITTEN & HOLLAND.

Sna·pper, *sb.*2 *Sc.* [f. SNAPPER *v.*1] A stumble or trip. Freq. *fig.*, a slip in conduct; a fault or error; a scrape or difficulty.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 79 Forresse war runne upon the day to Smallame..and such place nere about, but many snapparis thei gate. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 340 This king dies..throuch the vehement snapper of a Wantount horse. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 190, I am not like these sinners which but trip and stumble, and rise again after a snapper. 17.. RAMSAY *Epil. to 'The Drummer'* 8 Men of sense will kindly praise us, And, if we make a little snapper, raise us. *a* 1732 BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 164 They were only so [over-rash] in applying the time to the promise; a snapper that saints in all ages have made. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xx, Advocate Laingtale has brought folk through waur snappers than a' this.

Sna·pper, *a. Sc.* Also 9 **snappert.** [app. f. SNAP *v.*] Sharp, snappish.

1673–4 EARL KINCARDIN in *Lauderdale P.* (Camden) III. 30 The K. gave him a snapper ansuer. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., A snappert answer.

Sna·pper (snæ·pəɹ), *v.*1 Chiefly (and now only) *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–5 **snaper** (-ere, 5 -ir, 6 -yr), 5 **snap(p)re**, 6 **snappar** (*Sc.* -ir), 5– **snapper.** [app. a frequentative from a stem **snap*, corresponding to older and dial. G. *schnappen* to stumble, to limp, related to MHG. *snaben*, MLG. *snaven*, whence MDa. *snave*, MSw. *snava* (Sw. *snafva*), Norw. *snaava*, to stumble, Icel. *snáfa* to sneak, slink.]

1. *intr.* To stumble or trip. †Also, to fall through stumbling.

13.. *Metr. Hom.* (MS. Ashm. 42) fol. 70 b, Full radde he was to snapir rathe, To drowne him & his childir bathe. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* (Hall) x. 16 Wight men of þe west neghed þam nerr, And gert þam snaper in þe snare. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* iv. 90 Many can stomble at a stre; þey nyl not snapere at a style. *c* 1425 *Thomas of Erceld.* 381 Stedes shall snapre throwght tresoun. 1530 PALSGR. 723/2 My horse dyd nat stumble, he dyd but snapper a lytell. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s.v. *Cathorius*, Quhen ane horse.. snappers or fallis with his maister. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. 134 Or els setting downe his feete vncertainly [he does] both often stumble and snapper. 1650 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* VIII. 233 He snappered and lighted upon ane cart wheele. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Improv.* (1756) I. 349 He will not..be so apt to snapper and stumble. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* x, Wouldst thou snapper now and break my neck? 1871 W. ALEXANDER *J. Gibb* (1873) 226 Only Samie's shaltie snappert.

Prov. 1641 FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* No. 105, A horse may snapper on foure feet. 1721 KELLY *Prov.* 26 A Horse with four Feet may snapper, by a time.

2. *fig.* or *transf.* To stumble or make a slip in action or conduct; to fall into error.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 367 Mannis affeccioun.. shulde stonde stalworþly, lest þe soule snaperide afiir. 1388 — *Jer.* xviii. 15 My puple hath forȝete me..and snaperiden in her weies. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving* 23 The foly of the ful garis hyme snapyr. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 217 Count ye your selfe good clerkes, And snapper in suche werkes? 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 227 He appeiret to snapper, anent the celebratione of the Pasche day.., at quilke stane snappired lykwyse Bischope Aidane. 1731 *Reasons for Presbyterians dissenting* 101 He hath miserably snapper'd upon Hazael for a pattern. 1794 BURNS *'Contented wi' little'* iv, Blind Chance, let her snapper and stoyte on her way.

Hence **Sna·ppering** *ppl. a.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 319 To bring..tua bald snapring horsses [L. *summæ pernicitatis equos*] for the flicht.

Sna·pper, *v.*2 *rare.* Now *dial.* [A frequentative of SNAP *v.* Cf. MLG. *snapperen*, G. *schnappern*, to chatter.]

1. *intr.* ? To snap the beak.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 333 This Image was made to snapper and chatter something like that Bird [the magpie].

2. To snap or crackle; to give out a sharp snapping sound.

1852–88 in Berkshire glossaries.

Sna·ppering, *vbl. sb.*1 [f. SNAPPER *v.*1] Stumbling. Also *attrib.*

1591 R. BRUCE *Serm.* R ij, I am sory to see, that the maist parte of this countrie shuld mak a snappering stane of that precious corner. 1599 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 326 When we sall walk in the hevins,..then na snappering neither to this side nor to that.

Sna·ppering, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SNAPPER *sb.*1 5 a.] The action or pastime of fishing for snappers.

1870 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* iii. (1900) 57 Sharking and snappering.

† **Sna·ppery.** *nonce-wd.* [f. SNAP *v.*] The action of cutting with a snap.

1639 *Crabtree Lect.* 57 With thy snippery and snappery thou thinkest to go shear away with all.

Sna·ppily, *adv.* [f. SNAPPY *a.*] Snappishly.

1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* xvii, 'I may and I may not,' he says shortly and snappily. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Aug. 4/7 The 'Post' to-night snappily remarks [etc.].

Snapping (snæ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNAP *v.*]

1. The action of the vb. in various senses:

a. In intransitive senses.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 When they come to the cutting of the haire, what snipping and snapping of the cycers is there. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* Pref. (1740) 14 Such Snapping and Quarrelling would not clearly answer his Book. 1812 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 196 The only way to account for the fire is by the snapping of the hemlock wood. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 196 If a person not electrified held his hand near the tube while it was rubbed, the snapping was very sensible. 1892 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 47 The snapping and snarling [of wolves], varied by a howl. 1891 *Daily News* 7 Nov. 6/4 In consequence of the snapping of an axle.

b. In transitive senses. Also with *up*.

1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 113 Hee playes not well at draughts, that onely can avoyd snapping when it comes to a pinch. 1741 *Compl. Family Piece* II. ii. 344 You must remember in Snapping, that you never give a Fish time to run.., but hook and draw him out directly. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, There's me, and my twa brothers,..will be wi' you..in the snapping of a flint. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* CXXXIX. III. 115 An abiding arrangement, opening its capacious jaws for the snapping-up of the guilty. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 453 There was no snapping of a judgment in the Irish action.

† **2.** *Thieves' cant.* The proceeds of a theft or robbery; a share of stolen goods claimed by a snap. (Cf. SNAPPAGE.) *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 122 When he hath the window open and spyes any fat snappings worth the Curbing, then streight he sets the Warp to watch. *Ibid.*, Which stolne parcells, they in their Art call snappinges. 1602 [see SNAPPAGE].

3. *attrib.*, as *snapping movement, noise, sound*, etc.; **snapping time, -tool** (see quots.).

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 193 A sharp pain ..which was accompanied by a snapping noise. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 30 A vivid spark will dart between them, accompanied by a sharp snapping sound. 1870 H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* (1880) 375 Keeping up a constant snapping movement. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2229/2 *Snapping-tool*, a stamping-tool used to force a plate into holes in a die. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snapping Time*, a short period of rest during a shift in which a collier takes his snap.

Sna·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Sharp, curt, snappish; peevish, petulant.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 255 His designe was..with quips and snapping adagies to vapour them out. 1718 OCKLEY *Saracens* (Bohn) 177 Omar..grew very angry: ..at last he wrote a short snapping sort of a letter. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 106 Go, ye rearing, snapping, tedious, cutted Snibblenose! 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* III. 17 Snapping creatures are thought so sweetly sincere.

2. That snaps or breaks suddenly.

1823 LAMB *Elia* II, *Amicus Redivivus*, Marvellous escapes —..by orchard pranks, and snapping twigs. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* xx. 218 Our ears were gladdened by the sound of a snapping branch.

3. That snaps with the jaws or beak.

1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xiv. 116 Such screaming and laughing as they pulled the struggling snapping brutes ashore. 1890 S. W. BAKER *Wild Beasts* II. 29 The force of the snapping jaws would crush any human bone.

b. *Snapping-turtle*, one or other of the North American freshwater tortoises of the family *Chelydridæ*, esp. *Chelydra serpentina*, the alligator terrapin. (Cf. SNAPPER *sb.*1 5 c.)

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 316 *Snapping-turtle*, a reptile common to all parts of the United States, so named from its propensity to snap at everything within its reach. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 205 On the shore of the lake we caught a tortoise, called here the snapping-turtle. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 153 The more northern species, *Chelydra serpentina*, known everywhere throughout the United States as the 'Snapping Turtle'.

c. *Snapping beetle* (or *bug*), *snapping mackerel* (see quots.).

1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 93 These insects [sc. *Elateridæ*] are known in Europe by the common name of 'skip-jacks',..and in America as 'snapping beetles', and erroneously 'snapping bugs'. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 433 The Bluefish, *Pomatomus saltatrix*,.. [is] in some parts of New England called 'Snapping Mackerel' or 'Snappers'.

Snappingly (snæ·piŋli), *adv.* [Cf. prec.] With a snap or snaps; snappishly.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* B vij, He redeth them so fearse, And doth theire workes so snapingly and snatchingly rehearse. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 13 When was 'Good-bye' said quite snappingly and briefly and with abruptness? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 1 Numerous dogs of every breed and aggressiveness career snappingly about.

Snappish (snæ·piʃ), *a.* Also 6 **snappyshe, -ishe,** 7 **snapish.** [f. SNAP *v.* + -ISH.]

1. Of persons: Using, or apt to use, sharp, harsh, or uncivil language; peevish, testy, or ill-natured in speech or reply.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 319 b, He found his wife coumbresome, crabbed & snappyshe unto hym. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* i. in *Holinshed*, Here percase some snappish carper will..snuffingly snibbe me, for debacing the Irish language. 1626 R. BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 20 Scrupulosity..is an unsociable and snappish fellow. 1672 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1883) III. 119 Clark..was churlish and snappish. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 47 Our Cook.., who is a little snappish and cross sometimes. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xlii. I found him morose and snappish. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 400 [Dyspeptics] are likely to become irritable and snappish.

b. Of manner, etc.: Marked or characterized by sharpness or curtness of speech.

1836 *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xiv. 334 The contemptuous and snappish manner in which he spoke to deputations. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* li, 'Well,' says Mrs Pipchin, in her snappish way, 'he's pretty much as usual'. 1885 *Manch. Even. News* 16 July 2/3 A most femininely snappish tone of voice.

c. Of the sea: Somewhat choppy or rough.

1867 MACGREGOR *Voy. Alone* (1868) 85 When we..met the short, snappish sea in the bay, every wave dashed over me.

2. Of words, language, etc.: Sharp, curt, peevish, ungracious.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 10 Aferd that at euery snappishe worde theire nose shalbe bitten of. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 277 b, Your crabbed and snappish accusation agaynst Luther. 1603 BRETON *Packet Mad Lett.* I. lxviii, I haue receiued your snappish Letter. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Dec., Vexed at a snappish answer Madam Williams did give me. *c* 1740 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 35 No one ever heard him say a snappish or cross thing to me. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 198 The smart And snappish dialogue, that flippant wits Call comedy. 1896 H. M. B. REID *Cameronian Apostle* viii. 122 The snappish criticisms recorded in the Presbytery minutes.

† **3.** Bold, forward, impudent. *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 783 If any wedlock-breakers ..dare be so snappish to enter..into anothers house [etc.].

4. Of a dog, etc.: Inclined or prone to snap.

a 1700 in B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* *a* 1710 POPE *Init. Eng. Poets, Spenser* 19 The snappish cur..Close at my heel with yelping treble flies. 1727 GAY *Fables* xlvi. 13 A village-cur, of snappish race. 1862 H. H. DIXON *Scott & Sebright* 199 He [a horse] went to Malton, and a very rough snappish customer they thought him.

b. *transf.* (Cf. sense 2.)

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xv, The snappish barking of the pets was returned by one hoarse bay from 'Bloodybones'.

5. Breaking with a snap; 'short'.

1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXIX. 297 The crust..is exceeding crisp, dry, and snappish.

Sna·ppishly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a snappish manner; in or with sharp, ungracious, or peevish language; curtly, abruptly.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* ii. 39 So did he also at an other time more snappishly make aunswere unto theim. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* III. iii, You cannot 'scape without a pardon here, if you take us up never so snappishly. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 266 The other making answer somewhat too snappishly. *c* 1765 FLOYD *Tartarian T.* (1785) 45/1 'What is that to you!' said the porter very snappishly. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXXI, He said rather snappishly: 'Who is with me in this case?' 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Aug. 6/1 The hon. member..had been rather snappishly put off.

Sna·ppishness. [f. SNAPPISH *a.*] The fact or quality of being snappish; sharpness, curtness, or peevishness of language or speech.

1598 FLORIO, *Proteruità*, frowardnes,..skittishnes, snappishnes. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Snappishness*, Crossness, Peevishness, Crabbedness in Speech. 1757 RUTTY *Spiritual Diary* (1776) 2nd month, no. 26, Cursed snappishness,..on

a bodily indisposition. *a* 1801 WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I. 25 He threatened with great snappishness to flog me. 1836 HOOK *G. Gurney* III. 174 The cause of my old lady's snappishness to-night. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* xi, A little extra snappishness on the part of Judith.

Snappy (snæ·pi), *a.* [f. SNAP *v.* + -Y.]

1. = SNAPPISH *a.* 1.

1834 in B. Gregory *Side Lights* (1898) 157, I am inclined to be snappy when I am told [etc.]. 1858 E. B. RAMSAY *Scot. Life & Char.* iv, Snappy and disagreeable..in their replies. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 155 Harris and George and I were quarrelsome and snappy and ill-tempered.

b. = SNAPPISH 1 b.

1890 *Star* 13 Oct. 4/1 Hard work..doesn't improve Sir Peter's temper, and consequently he was in a particularly snappy mood to-day. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 16 This request..is given in an off-hand, snappy kind of a way.

2. = SNAPPISH *a.* 2.

1886 *St. James' Gaz.* 25 Sept. 5/1 The Queen's Speech..might even be called curt and snappy. 1897 W. H. THORNTON *Rem. W. Co. Clergyman* iii. 84 We grew warm, and our conversation snappy.

3. *Sc.* (See quot.)

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Snappy*, keen in business, disposed to take the advantage of another, *Ang*[*us*].

4. = SNAPPISH *a.* 4.

1881 *Harper's Mag.* LXIII. 496 Sharing the vehicle with a snappy terrier. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* II. 701 Dogs inoculated..fell into emaciation, foamed at the mouth and became snappy.

5. Of the nature of, producing or emitting, a snap or crack; crackling.

1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* 120 Short sharp snappy sounds. 1894 *Outing* June 190/2 The birch..makes a hot, snappy, cheerful fire.

6. *colloq.* Cleverly smart, bright, or pointed; full of 'go'; brisk.

Freq. in recent use, esp. with reference to language.

1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy did at Sch.* vi. 88 We'll never use the whole name..: we'll say, 'the S.S.U.C.' That sounds brisk and snappy. 1901 *Athenæum* 17 Aug. 209/3 Mere stage back grounds for snappy tales, generally realistic.

b. Neat and elegant; smart, 'natty'.

1881 *Punch* LXXX. 310/3. 1887 W. RYE *Norfolk Broads* 57 The frame of a very 'snappy' little pleasure wherry. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 108/1 A snappy team of grays.

c. Having a brisk smack or flavour.

1892 WALSH *Tea* 164 Many..teas are full and round in body, pungent and 'snappy'.

7. Quick, sudden, instantaneous; jerky.

1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet at Breakf.-t.* viii. 216 The dry-goodsman's life behind his counter is a succession of sudden, snappy perceptions. 1882 [LEES & CLUTTERBUCK] *Three in Norway* xxiv. (1888) 182 It was almost impossible to get even the snappiest of snap-shots at the agile bird. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 212 To give her a snappy hand-shake.

‖ Snaps. Also snapps. [a. Du., Da., or Sw. *snaps*.] = SCHNAPPS.

1845 [C. H. J. ANDERSON] *Swedish Brothers* 8 A trifling scratch,..which a snaps will soon cure. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 238 *Snapps*, Hollands gin.

Sna·psack. Now *dial.* Also snap-sack. [ad. LG. *snappsack* (hence G. *schnappsack*), f. *snappen* SNAP *v.*] A knapsack.

Common from *c* 1650 to 1700.

1633 SHIRLEY *Contention* D j b, She cannot eat a Snapsacke, Nor carry baggage. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 515 Mithridates sent all the prisoners..home, with provision in their snapsacks. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2097 A very large Heart, ..the figure of which was not Conical, but like a Souldiers *pera* or Snapsack. 1716 CHURCH *Philip's War* (1867) II. 22 He finding..three Snapsacks of Powder, went immediately to the Army. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 7 If you put nothing into my Snapsack but Healths, I shall carry them with ease. 1881 *Isle Wight Gloss.* 33 *Snapsack*, a knapsack. *fig.* 1643 J. P. (*title*), A Spirituall Snapsacke for the Parliament Souldiers, containing cordiall encouragements.

† Sna·psauce. *Obs. rare.* [f. SNAP *v.* + SAUCE *sb.*] = SLAPSAUCE 1. Also *attrib.*

1611 COTGR., *Fripe-sauce*, a snap-sauce, licke-dish, lickorous fellow. [1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxx, Hector, a Snap-sauce Scullion.]

† Sna·pshare. *Obs.* [f. SNAP *v.* + SHARE *sb.*] A share or portion obtained as an extra emolument.

1538 COWLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 95 They gayne yerely iij^l M. markes by their fermes and fees besydes their snap shares. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 32 A porcion of the parties goodes beyng seased as a forfaict, may come to their snapshare in rewarde of theyr false accusacion. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 20 A patrone of a benefice will haue a poore yrigrame soule to beare the name of a persone for xx marke, and the patrone hymself will take up for his snapshare as good as an .c. marke.

Snap-shooter (snæ·p,ʃuːtəɹ). [f. SNAP-.]

1. One who practises or is skilled in snap-shooting.

1887 *Field* 8 Jan. 41/1, I cannot but believe that our brilliant snap-shooters..are born, not made.

2. One who takes snap-shot photographs; a camera suitable for this.

1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* III. 200 It may become a 'snap shooter', by taking the cork out. 1896 J. ASHBY STERRY *Tale Thames* ii, [It] won't go down in these days of the universal kodak and perpetual snap-shooter.

Snap-shooting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNAP-.] The practice of firing or taking snap-shots.

1872 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 664 Snap shooting, as it is termed, is very effective sometimes by experienced gunners. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 493 Snap-shooting is generally understood to consist in putting the gun to the shoulder and firing the instant it is in position.

Snap-shot (snæ·p,ʃɒt), *sb.* Also snap shot, snapshot. [f. SNAP-.]

1. A quick or hurried shot taken without deliberate aim, esp. one at a rising bird or quickly moving animal.

1808 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 11 Almost every pheasant I fired at was a snap shot among the high cover. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 164 Were a bird to spring in a situation where we could get only a snap shot. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* iii. 42, I got in a snapshot, tumbling her over like a rabbit.

fig. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 1 Our courts of law are distinguished from those of other countries by taking snap-shots at justice.

b. One who fires such shots; a snap-shooter.

1887 *Field* 8 Jan. 41/1, I myself am a snap-shot.

2. An instantaneous photograph, esp. one taken with a hand-camera.

[1860 HERSCHEL in *Photogr. News* 11 May 13 The possibility of taking a photograph, as it were by a snap-shot—of securing a picture in a tenth of a second of time.] 1890 *Rev. Reviews* II. 489/2 The annexed snap-shots were taken with a hand camera.

transf. 1897 *Daily News* 3 May 8/3 Your Yankee interviewer is a snap-shot incarnate. 1902 A. DOBSON *Richardson* vii. 196 The language of literature seems to tend..towards the cultus of the short-cut and the snap-shot.

3. *attrib.*, as *snap-shot photograph*(*y*, *system*, etc. Freq. in recent use.

1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 266 Dr. Carver shoots on the snap-shot system, shooting both barrels in quick succession at the pigeon. 1893 HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 15 What is popularly called 'snap-shot' photography. 1894 *Daily News* 26 May 6/1 The book is illustrated with..interesting views, some of them from snapshot photographs.

Hence **Sna·p-shot** *v.*: **a.** *intr.* or *absol.* To take snap-shots with a camera. **b.** *trans.* To photograph (a person, etc.) by means of a snap-shot. **Sna·p-sho·tter, -sho·ttist,** one who takes snap-shot photographs.

Freq. in recent newspaper use.

1894 *Amer. Ann. Photogr.* 63 Many..think it just the thing to commence with a detective camera and *snap-shot. 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 29 One of our party desired to 'snap-shot' the scene. 1899 C. G. HARPER *Exeter Road* 211 All trooped back to Amesbury, the *snapshotters disgusted beyond measure. 1891 *Scottish Leader* 28 Sept. 6 The Shah of Persia is an enthusiastic *snap-shottist.

† Snap snorum, obs. f. SNIP-SNAP-SNORUM.

1622 *MS. Archd. Oxon. c. 157* fol. 85, Edward Camell for playing at Snape snorum on the Sabaoth day.

Snap-work. Also snapwork. [f. SNAP-.]

†1. *Sc.* A firelock. *Obs.*

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 53 Snapwark, adew, fra dagmen dow nocht stand. 1676 ROW *Contin. Blair's Autobiog.* xi. (1848) 298, 400 men with bows and long Snap works. *a* 1689 W. CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 12 (Jam.), Right well mounted of their gear:—With durk, and snap-work, and snuff-mill. *Ibid.* 34 Some with snapwarks, some with bowes.

attrib. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. lv, The buts and marks for shooting with a snap work-gun [Fr. *l'arquebuse*].

2. Snap-shot photography.

1889 *Photogr. News* XXXIII. 266/2 A very necessary thing in quick snapwork in the streets.

Sna·py, *a.* Now *dial.* [Cf. note to SNAPE *sb.*3] Of land: Wet, marshy, boggy.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Pl. Mans Plough* 143 The husbandman..brings..into snapy and wet places hotte lime. 1846 in BARNES *Poems Rural Life.* 1883 in Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 688 Snapy ground containing small springs, and requiring to be drained.

Snar (snāɹ), *sb. rare.* Now *dial.* [Of doubtful origin: cf. Norw. dial. *snar* a twist or knot.]

†1. A knot in wood. *Obs.* (Cf. SNARL *sb.*1 4.)

1611 FLORIO, *Nocchio*, any bosse,..node, snag,..snar, or ruggednesse in any tree or wood.

2. A stump or stub. (Cf. *hag-snare* HAG *sb.*3 2.)

1892 M. C. F. MORRIS *Yorks. Folk-talk* 254 A ploughing field with old stumps or snars.

† Snar, *v. Obs.* [Corresponds to Du., Flem., (M)LG., MHG. *snarren* (G. *schnarren*, Sw. *snarra*, Da. *snærre*, †*snarre*) to rattle, whirr, snarl, etc., prob. of imitative origin.] *intr.* Of dogs, etc.: To snarl or growl.

1530 PALSGR. 723/2 Take hede of your dogge, alwayes as I come by he snarreth at me. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 91 b, As uncomely as a dogge dothe when he snarreth. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 27 Tygres, that did seeme to gren, And snar at all, that euer passed by.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* Of persons.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 91, I maruaile sir what you meane to be euer snarringe at me. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* To Rdr. (1880) B 5 b, Such as shall snarr and snatch at the Englishe abrydgement. 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 126, I have written it..not to sette you a snarrying or grudgying against me.

Hence **† Sna·rring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1565 COOPER, *Litera aspera*, snarryng. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 30 This Dogge, .. by furious iarring, snarring, and such like meanes, betrayeth the malefactour.

† Snarche, *v. Obs.* In 3 *pa. t.* snarchte, snerote. [app. related to Du. *snerken* to crackle, fry, LG. *snerken* to fry, singe, ON. *snerkja* to sputter, wrinkle, MSw. *snärkia* to wrinkle.] *intr.* To become scorched; to frizzle.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 18 þet te hude snaw hwit swartete as hit snarchte [*v.r.* snercte] ant barst on to bleinen.

Snare (snɛəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 2 sneare, 4– snare, 5 snayr, 6 snayre, 6–7 *Sc.* snair 4 snarr, 5–6 snar.

[In sense 1 a. ON. *snara* (Icel. *snara*, Norw. *snara*, *snora*, *snuru*; MSw. and Sw. *snara*, Da. *snare*) noose, snare, = OHG. *snarahha* snare, and related to OHG. and MHG. *snar* (obs. or dial. G. *schnarre*), OS. *snari* (MLG. and LG. *snare*, *snar*), MDu. *snare*, *snaer* (Du. *snaar*), string. Sense 2 is probably from the Du. or LG. forms.]

1. A device for capturing small wild animals or birds, usually consisting of a string with a running noose in which a foot or the head may be caught. Also in fig. context.

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* (1900) 26/2, *Tenticulam*, *i. decipulam*, þelman, snearan, wocie. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* ix. 16 In þis snare whilk þai hid swa Gripen es þe fote of þa. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 70 Lorde, what thyng sall passe qwyte, And be noght in this snarres tane. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Ofte by swete soune þe fouler bringeþ hem to grenes and snares swetlich. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snare, *laqueus*, *pedica*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 A Snare.., *vbi* A gylder. 1535 COVERDALE *Amos* iii. 5 Taketh a man his snare vp from the grounde, afore he catche somwhat? 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 202/40 A Snayre, *laqueus*, *pedica*. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 413 The proper time..For stalking Cranes to set the guileful Snare. 1731 MEDLEY tr. *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 149 Several Snares, made of Horse-Hairs, twisted together, are hung between the Branches. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 167 They either catch them in snares, or take them by surprize. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 218 The nightingale, Rapt in her song, and careless of the snare. 1885 HORNADAY *2 Years Jungle* ix. 99 They..set no snares, dig no pitfalls, nor capture game in any way whatever.

b. In fig. and allusive uses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29532 þat þou mai lightloker þam here, Ar þou be laght in findes snarr. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxiii. 6 þe swetnes of þis life is snare þat þe deuyl gildirs men with. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3648 Blendid with lust,..Til in þe snare þei ben englued faste. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 12 Faustus, a grete snare of þe deuele, for þis man was þe moost famous heretik of all þe Manicheis. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 156 The daungerys and snarys of the world. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* Wks. 1910 II. 182 Bewtie was the guileful bayte, which caught their lives in Snare. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 30 Such commands were no commands, but snares. 1710 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* lxvii. 112 Ignorance..exposes them to the snares of any..extreme. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. France* (1789) I. i. 5 He who has the vigour to disentangle himself from the snares of deep play. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxvii, Their very virtues become snares to them. 1844 LD. DENMAN *Judgment O'Connell* 1 Trial by jury itself, instead of being a security to persons who are accused, will be a delusion, a mockery, and a snare. 1866 MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 235 Dr. Mansel falls, we think, into the same snare.

† c. A noose, a halter. *Obs.*[−1]

1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 5 He passide forth, and 3ede, and hongide hym silf with a snare [L. *laqueo*].

d. *Surg.* A device, on the principle of a snare, for removing morbid growths.

1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 269 Snares have been used for many years for the removal of polypi. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 690 The larger growths..are best removed by the cold snare. Many advocate the use of the incandescent snare.

2. One of the strings of gut or rawhide which are stretched across the lower head of a side-drum.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 61/1 The seuerall parts of a drumme...The Snares, which is made of Bowell strings. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Snares*, the cords which pass across the diameter of one hoop at the end of a drum. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Side-drum*, The lower [surface] having catgut strings called snares, stretched across to check the reverberation.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense 1, as *snare-cord*, *-trap*; *snare-wise* adv.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 288 Resone wald þat his throt ware vith a snar cord hangyt ful sare. 1611 COTGR., *Auses*.., th' ends of ropes tyed snare-wise, or made into nooses. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Sept. 6/3 They manufacture a clever snare-trap for the wild geese.

b. In sense 2, as *snare-drum*, *-head*, *pin*, etc.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 61/1 The seuerall parts of a drumme...The Snare head. *Ibid.*, The Snare pin, or Screw. 1704 [E. SMITH] *Athenian Oracle* III. 423 Their drums..received several small shot in the batter heads, which they went through, but immediately struck out again by the Rims, and touch'd not the snare heads. 1875 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Drum*, The lower head has occasionally strings of catgut stretched over its surface, and then it is called a snare drum. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 513/2 The little snare-drum trotted bravely along.

Snare (snēəɹ), *v.* Also 5 snarre, 6–7 *Sc.* snair, 6 snayre. [f. SNARE *sb.* Cf. Norw. *snara*; MSw. *snära* (Sw. *snärja*), MDa. *snerie*, *snerge* (Da. *snære*), in similar senses.]

1. *trans.* To capture (small wild animals, birds, etc.) in a snare; to catch by entangling.

1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxviii. 13 That thei..falle backward, and be al to-brokun, and be snarid, and be takun. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snaryn, or snarlyn, *illaqueo*. 1530 PALSGR. 723/2, I snare, I catche in a snare, *je prens au las*. 1548 ELYOT, *Laqueus*, an halter, any thynge that one is snared or intangled in. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 202/44 To Snayre, *illaqueare*. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 174, I..will ..show thee a Iayes nest, and instruct thee how to snare the nimble Marmazet. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 365 To fire the Brambles, snare the Birds. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 401 To carve his rustic name upon a tree, To snare the mole. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* III. iii, I should not be surprised if you snared one of Squire Nixon's hares by the way. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 422 The cultivated portions..swarm with quails, vast numbers of which are snared in nets by the natives.

absol. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 813 He poach'd the wood, and on the warren snared. 1863 [H. W. WHEELWRIGHT] *Spring & Summer in Lapland* 144 Where every one shoots and snares just as he pleases.

b. *fig.* To entangle, entrap.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 55 Cauteles and sleigtes, ech intrikid in other, to snarre symple soules. *c* 1430 *Life St. Katherine* (ROXB.) 31, I se wel þat þou woldest wyth þy venoms sotyltees snare vs. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* x. 7 How longe shall we be snared after this maner? 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S.T.S.) 216 Be thow not snairde in Venus snair. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 38 Cast downe thy looke, Least prides bait snare thee on the devils hooke. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 16 Those ten tribes were justly snared by Jeroboams calves. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. xxviii, Themselves in bloody toils were snared. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 780 Who wove coarse webs to snare her purity.

refl. *c* 1550 COVERDALE *Fruitful Lessons* (1593) O iij, Who so goeth about to bind the truth, dooth knitte and snare himselfe with vnlowsable bands. 16.. SIR W. MURE *Sonn. to Margareit* iv, Alace!..To snair myselfe in hope to be reliued. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 26 Adore it, but snare not thyselfe with it.

2. *Surg.* and *Path.* To catch in a loop, *esp.* in order to remove; to cut off with a snare.

1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 355 An instrument for snaring nasal polypi. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 794 A peritoneal adhesion by which a loop of bowel is snared and acutely strangulated.

Hence **Snared** (snēəd), *ppl. a.*; **Sna·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snarynge, or snarlynge, *illaqueacio.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVIII. ii, To my snaring grave to goe. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Enlazamiento*, intangling, snaring. 1605 EARL STIRLING *Alexandr. Trag.* II. Chor., Then snaring laws did not extend The bounds of Reason. 1640 T. CAREW *Willing Prisoner* ii, Her murdring glances, snaring haires,..so please me. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. v, Driven mad like the snared lion. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 160 Meditating the snaring of a hare. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 899 The artificial snaring of tumours.

Snare, variant of SNATH(E *v. dial.*

†Sna·reful, *a. Obs.*[−1] [f. SNARE *sb.*] Full of snares; insidious.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Cup of Consolation* 35 Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 All the snarefull Wiles, And cunning Colours of mysterious Guiles.

Sna·reless, *a.* [f. SNARE *sb.*] Free from snares.

1823 CAROLINE B. SOUTHEY *Poet. Wks.* (1867) 139 Stopt was the busy mill-wheel now, Snareless the rippling brook.

Snarer (snēə·rəɹ). [f. SNARE *v.*] One who sets snares or traps. Also *fig.*

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xvii. 14 Snare without snarer, net without a bait. 1623 — *More Dissemblers* II. i, He..has broke through the net..And left the snarer here herself entangled. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 178 Snarers and smugglers here their gains divide. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 327/1 The proviso did not apply to snarers like Gilham, who captured birds on certain lands.

Snark (snāɹk), *sb.* [Invented by 'Lewis Carroll' (C. L. Dodgson) in *The Hunting of the Snark* (1876).] An imaginary animal. Also *Comb.*

1879 *Temple Bar* Nov. 391 Hunting for snarkes is a very pleasant occupation, if you do but make-believe strong enough. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* xxvi. (1892) 297 There is quite a Snark-hunting ring about it. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 90 Some sinuous and snarklike conflict on the mat.

Snark (snāɹk), *v. dial.* [Corresponds to MLG. and LG. *snarken* (NFris. *snarke*, Sw. and Norw. *snarka*), MHG. *snarchen* (G. *schnarchen*, †*schnarken*), of imitative origin: cf. SNORK *v.*]

1. *intr.* To snore; to snort.

1866 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. X. 248/1, I will not quite compare it [a sound] to a certain kind of snarking or gnashing. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 4/1 All of a sudden she (the mare, I suppose he meant) snarked an' begun to turn round.

2. *intr.* and *trans.* To find fault (with), to nag.

1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 314/2 To *Snark*,..to fret, grumble, or find fault with one. 1904 E. NESBIT *Phœnix & Carpet* x. 183 He remembered how Anthea had refrained from snarking him about tearing the carpet.

Snarl (snāɹl), *sb.*[1] Also 4, 7–8 snarle, 9 *dial.* snarrel. [f. SNARE *sb.* or *v.*: see -LE 1.]

1. A snare, gin; a noose. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also *fig.*

c 1380 *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LVII. 247/1 Lord, what þing schal passe quite And in þeos snarles not beo tan. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 385 Maydens of Athene were compelled as it were to snarles and grenes. *Ibid.* VI. 27 To brynge þe peple þat was so bygiled þe faster in snarl. 1601 BRETON *Blessed Weeper* xxi, Shame bad me weepe..to feele how I was feltred in The wretched snarles of wicked nature's knots. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Snarl*, the snare itself, made of wire. 1893 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., They put this snarl or snirrup roond t'gills an' click t'fish oot.

2. A tangle, knot, ravel.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. Curle not the snarles that dwell upon these browes. 1611 COTGR., *Grippets*,..the rufflings, or snarles of ouer-twisted thread. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* II. ii. 331 Let your Hair be round,..twist it neatly without Gaping or Snarles. 1750 GLANDVILLE in W. Ellis *Mod. Husb.* IV. II. 73, I found it [the hairworm] to twist itself all up into a close Snarle. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* xviii. (1862) 79 To wind off a snarl of ravellins as slick as if it were on a reel. 1854 SUSAN WARNER *Old Helmet* I. 113 The green silk was in a great snarl. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 434/2 The worm..lying upon the bottom like a snarl of black thread.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1631 QUARLES *Samson* xii, The day's at hand, wherein thou must untie The Riddle's tangled Snarle. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* I. 18 Here was..a snarle in his fortune requiring the aid of a Divine Solution. 1710 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 73 That men and women shou'd be..in a continu'd snarle, contradiction, hatred, and infinite disorders. 1860 [MRS. M. C. HARRIS] *Rutledge* 111 Dorothy has got her account with the grocer in a great snarl. 1889 *Spectator* 13 Apr., Our children will see how this Irish snarl is unravelled.

3. *U.S.* A swarm, large number.

1855 MRS. WHITCHER *Widow Bedott P.* xxiii, A cheaper minister, and one that hadn't such a snarl o' young ones.

4. A knot in wood. (Cf. SNARLY *a.*[1] 2.)

1881– in dial. glossaries (Leic., Warw.). *a* 1891 *Tribune Book of Sports* 12 (Cent.), Let Italian or Spanish yew be the wood, clear of knots, snarls, and cracks.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snarl-headed* adj., *-knot*, *-preventer*.

1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* II. ii. (1887) 39 The snarl-headed curs fell a-kicking and cursing of me. 1847 HALLIW., *Snarl-knot*, a very intricate one. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Snarl-Knot*, a northern expression for a knot that cannot be drawn loose. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. N.* 27 Sept. 291/1 Mr. Brooks's 'Snarl preventor' is a new form of thread-wire which pounces on snarled threads.

Snarl (snāɹl), *sb.*[2] [f. SNARL *v.*[2]] An act of snarling; a display of the teeth accompanied by an angry sound. Freq. *fig.*

1613 SIR E. HOBY (*title*), A Counter Snarle for Ishmael Rabshacheh. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 4, [I] content my self to incur all the Currish Snarls..of the envious. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 178 With the wary side glance of a cur..ready for a snap and a snarl. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 393 A sum..which he took with the savage snarl of disappointed greediness. 1885 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* 147 The mocking snarl and ruthless blow of the Puritan.

transf. 1889 DOYLE *M. Clarke* 189 The blare of trumpets and the long deep snarl of the drums.

Snarl (snāɹl), *v.*[1] Also 5 snarlyn, 5–7 snarle. [Cf. SNARL *sb.*[1]]

In R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* 4629 (Ropes ryueled, & swerued in lyne) the reading *snarled* cited from the Petyt MS. should prob. be *snarled* in sense 2 or 3; the construction is not quite clear.

1. *trans.* To catch in a snare or noose; to entangle or secure with a cord, rope, etc.; to strangle. Now *dial.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xv. (Bodl. MS.), þee hunter..knowyþ þat þe beeste is i-snarled and faste yholde. *Ibid.* lxxix, *Sicut orix allaqueatus*, as Orix is isnarled. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snaryn, or snarlyn, *illaqueo.* *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1493) IX. vii. G ij b, They [*sc.* sheep] ben so..snarled amonges brembles and thornes that they may nat go away. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1255/2 He made him priuely to be snarled, and his flesh to be torn. 1565 COOPER, *Laqueus*, an halter: any thyng that one is snarled or tied with. 1602 ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 36 With his necke snarled in an hempen halter. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IX. cclxxv, So may all Rebels find their shameless feet Snarled for evermore in their own Net. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Snarl*, to insnare; as to snarl hares. 1849– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Northumb., Durham, Cumb., Leic., etc.).

refl. 1530 PALSGR. 723/2 My grayhounde had almost snarled hym selfe to night in his own leesse 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. 60 b, A Horse..being laid, and the halter slacke about his feete,..he snarleth himselfe, so as he is not able to get vp.

b. *fig.* To ensnare, entangle, entrap.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 431 þe kyng..snarlede hem wiþ sotil sophyms. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. i. (1859) 2 That no pylgrym escape, that he ne shal be snarlyd in my trappe. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (ROXB.) 192 Wyth þi treccherous sotylte Us to snarlyn þou besyist þe. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* viii. Siv, To studye by what engyns mennes myndes might be trapped and snarled. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 148 Their wealth, they make no other vse of but to snarle and enwrappe men with. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii. 121 Foreseeing how his owne words would snarle him, if he should grant them all Bishops.

refl. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1493) IX. vii. G ij b, They snarle themself so in dett & in false richesses. 1552 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* 168 You snarle youre selfe into so many and heynouse absurdites. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 37 Let vs not..snarle and intangle our selves with ouer moche toyle and care of the world. *c* 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* I. Wks. 1716 I. 37 They lose themselves, and snarl themselves and the Holy Text, so that they never find the right end.

2. To tangle; to twist together confusedly; to make a tangle of. Now chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 439/1 Ruffelyn, or snarlyn, *inodo.* *c* 1440 *Partonope* 2300 Hys swerde is broken; the other tweyn [swords] be Snarled in the sheeldes ryght fast. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 32/21 To Snarle, *contrahere.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 97 It bringeth forth many tender branches full of knotty joynts, entangled and snarled, or wrapped one in another. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 22 The mudde of this place doth pollute the nette, snarle it, and hurte it. *a* 1687 H. MORE *Cont. Remark. St.* (1689) 424 The Daughter had..her Hair snarled and matted together. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Snarl*, to twist, entangle, and knot together. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* (1855) II. 165 Mangrove trees with their complicated roots snarled into formidable coils under the water. 1894 *Outing* XXIII. 404/1 The head tide had snarled the trawls badly.

absol. 1850 BYNNER *Begum's Daus.* xxxvii, The begum made bad work of her embroidery in those days; she snarled and knotted, and cut and ravelled.

b. *fig.* To render complicated or confused.

1653 tr. *Przipcovius' Diss. de Pace* 15 You do not comprehend doctrines snarled and entangled with so many knots. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. App.* I. 44, I would thus unty these knots with which he snarles this story. 1702 J. NORRIS *Ess. Theory Ideal World* I. 424 'Tis the want of this Distinction..that has..so snarl'd and perplex'd this Question. 1901 *Jrnl. Sch. Geogr.* Nov. 340 His starting point..being different.., everything else must be snarled hopelessly.

3. *intr.* To become twisted or entangled; to get into, or form, tangles or knots.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXI. XXXIX. 797 Their speares.., snarling within the boughes and branches of trees..hindered them verie much. 1613 DENNIS *Secr. Angling* I. x, Then twist them finely...But not too hard or slacke,..Least slacke they snarle, or hard they proue vnsound. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* XXX. § 5 (1689) 177 Which will cause the wyre to be more tough and not so apt to snarl, or break. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 226 To cause it to snarl into a knot when left free to turn on itself. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* 155 The yarn tends to 'snarl' and curl, and cannot be drawn out straight.

Snarl (snāɹl), *v.*[2] Also 6–8 snarle (7 snarlle). [f. SNAR *v.*: see -LE 3, and cf. GNARL *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* Of dogs, etc.: To make an angry sound accompanied by showing the teeth.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 9 Yf he snarle like a cur at vs, why should not we prouide a Bastinado for him? 1631 QUARLES *Samson* XV, T'one skulks and snarles, the t'other tugges and hales. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 602 The gaping three-mouth'd Dog forgets to snarl. *a* 1732 BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 38 A dog snarls at a stone, but looks not at the hand that cast it. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. XXXII, While o'er those caitiffs, where they lie, The wolf shall snarl. 1861 *Morn. Post* 12 Nov., The bear snarled, but crawled on. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. 48 Their dogs barked and snarled irreconcileably.

fig. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. i, Such Patriotism as snarls dangerously and shows teeth. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley H.* 106 Nations..snarling at each other's heels. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poems, The Test* 414, I hear the angry trumpet snarling.

2. Of persons: To quarrel; to grumble viciously; to show strong resentment or ill-feeling.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 188 What? were you snarling all before I came,..And turne you all your hatred now on me? 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. 1653 Pref. 12 Hee is not ignorant, that a large broode of pregnant wits ..will snarl. 1689 *Muses Farew. to Popery* 28 When Servants snarl, we ought to kick 'em out. 1709 PRIOR *The Ladle* x, Kissing to Day, to Morrow snarling. *a* 1776 in Herd *Anc. & Mod. Sc. Songs* II. 208 The surly auld carl did naething but snarl. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ii, Don't let me find you snarling with a gentleman's servants again. 1894 G. M. FENN *In Alpine Valley* I. 6, I should have snarled, written my cheque, and paid.

b. Const. *against* or *at* a person or thing.

1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 196 Thy hot-spirited brother Richard..snarld priuily at Pap-hatchet, Pasquill, and others. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 39 Lest the Heretiques should be snarling at us. *c* 1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 154 No man giveth a fillip for the Gospel, but all do snarl against it. 1715 CHAPPELOW *Right Way Rich* (1717) 161 Let wicked men snarl and grin at you now. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 245 Jane snarls an' snags at Lizzy.

c. To give *out* a snarling noise.

1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 246 The manner of the Christians buriall here is much the same; all have the *Præficæ* [hired mourners], who sing (or rather howl and snarle out).

3. *trans.* To utter in a harsh, rude, or ill-natured manner.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. iv, Where hast thou been snarling odious truths, and entertaining company..with discourse of their diseases? 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* III, 'Who, indeed!' snarled Ralph. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* XIV, When the wicked Tempter is tired of snarling that word failure in a man's cell. 1893 *Times* 18 May 9/4 They would..confine themselves to snarling complaints.

4. To put *down* with snarling.

a 1873 LYTTON *K. Chillingley* IV. ix, I can't bear to see a man snarled and sneered down..by..rivals.

5. *refl.* To bring into a certain condition by snarling.

a 1849 SOUTHEY in *Life*, etc. I. v. 306 He has a most critic-like voice, as if he had snarled himself hoarse.

Snarl (snāɹl), *v.*[3] *techn.* [? f. SNARL *sb.*[1] 4.] *trans.* To raise, or force *up*, into bosses or projections by the use of the snarling-iron.

1688 [implied in SNARLING *vbl. sb.*[3]] 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 412 If from the shape of the works swage tools ..cannot be employed for raising the projecting parts, they are *snarled-up*. 1852–3 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* II. 431/1 With them the snarled-up parts are corrected.

Snarled (snāɹld), *ppl. a.* [f. SNARL *v.*[1]]

†1. Ensnared, entrapped. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snaryd, or snarlyd,..*illaqueatus.* 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIV. lxvii, There A snarled Ram untwisted Isaac's fate.

2. Entangled, twisted, complicated. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 439/1 Ruffiyd, or snarlyd, *inodatus.* 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* XXXVII. 25 Out of the matter itselfe there springeth a difficult and snarled question. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Edan* 723 Adam's self..Could scant unwinde the knotty snarled clew. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XVIII. cxliv, Through a thousand snarl'd Meanders, to A goodly Room he soon conducted her. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* VII. § 3. 259 Whose confus'd snarl'd consciences render it difficult, thus to pull out thred by thred. 1883 W. C. SMITH *N. Country Folk* 78 More tangled thrums,.. More snarled hasps. 1884 [see SNARL *sb.*[1] 5].

b. Mentally confused.

1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* VIII. 42 The returned rover was a trifle snarled in his top-hamper.

†Sna·rler I. *Obs.*[−1] [app. f. SNARL *v.*[1]] A species of pedlar or hawker.

1398 in A. F. Leach *Beverley Town Doc.* (Selden Soc.) 42 Homines mercenarii forinseci, vocati Snarlers et haukers, vagantes per stratas ville.

Snarler [2] (snā·rlər). [f. SNARL *v.*2]

1. One who snarls; an ill-tempered, grumbling, or fault-finding person.

1634 CAREW *Cælum Brit.* 7, I shun in vaine the importunity With which this Snarler vexeth all the gods. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* I. i, 'Tis the Snarler Æthon, A priviledg'd Talker. 1779 *Ann. Reg.* II. 52 The snarlers against Mr. Garrick's management of the theatre. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 555 A plain good woman, neither blue-stocking nor snarler. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 253 Shakespeare..was much too great to take vengeance or damn the ill-natured snarlers to immortal disgrace.

2. A dog or other animal addicted to snarling.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 536 Their doors guarded by large and very surly dogs. The women were no great admirers of those snarlers.

Snarler [3] (snā·rlər). [f. SNARL *v.*3]

1. One who works with a snarling-iron.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct., A snarler.. is a worker in teapots, and may..be compared with the leaf bumper who bumps up the leaves commonly seen in metal work.

2. A snarling-iron.

1903 H. WILSON *Silverwork & Jewellery* 59 This causes the point of the snarler to strike against the inner side of the cup.

Sna·rley-yow. *Naut.* [After the name of the dog in Marryat's novel *Snarleyyow, or the Dog-Fiend* (1837).] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Snarley-yow*, a discontented, litigious grumbler. An old guard-ship authority who knows when to play the courtier.

Snarling (snā·rlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. SNARL *v.*1]

1. The action of snaring, entangling, or twisting. Also *attrib.* in *snarling-net.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snarynge, or snarlynge, *illaqueacio.* 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 83 This world is..a snarling net, wherein thousands are taken. 1615 MARKHAM *Pleas. Prin.* ii. (1635) 8 Twist your hayres..without eyther snarling, or gaping one from another. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 831 Thus preventing a snarling or damage of the yarn.

2. (See quot.) *rare*—1.

1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* III. iii. 88 Some [sheets] are made of the worst sort of hemp, called Snarlings.

Snarling (snā·rlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SNARL *v.*2] The action of the vb., in various senses; the sound produced by this.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Gañido*, the snarling of a dogge. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv, We three vnto the snarling Iland hast, And there our vexed breath in snarling wast. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 401 The bussing of Bees, or snarling of Wolues. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* 143 His sober contempt of the world wrought..no laughing or snarling at it. 1806 SIR C. BELL *Anat. Expression* 90 This action of snarling is quite peculiar to the ferocious and carnivorous animals. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxii, There was no care that certain snarlings..should be strictly inaudible.

attrib. 1806 SIR C. BELL *Anat. Expression* 90 In the carnivorous animal the muscles of the lips are so directed as to raise the lip from the canine teeth...The former I would take the liberty of distinguishing by the name of *Ringentes*, snarling muscles.

Snarling (snā·rlĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*3 [Cf. SNARL *v.*3] A method of producing raised work in metal by means of indirect percussion. Chiefly *attrib.* in *snarling-iron, -tool.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 259/2 Terms of Art used by the Gold-smiths...*Snariing* is to set or punch it [the metal] out as the shape is drawn. *Ibid.* xxi. (Roxb.) 267/2 He beareth ..three snarling Irons Argent...These snarling Irons haue sharp ends. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 412 When the snarling-iron is struck with a hammer..the re-action gives a blow within the vessel. 1877 G. E. GEE *Silversmith's Handbk.* 122, Fig. 32 and 33 represent the snarling-tool.

Snarling (snā·rlĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SNARL *v.*2]

1. That snarls; given to snarling: **a.** Of dogs or other animals.

1595 *Locrine* v. iv, The snarling curres of darkened Tartarus. 1612 FIELD *Woman is Weathercock* I. i, The snarling dogs were mute. 1675 MARVEL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 489 Not at all..dejected or much concerned with such snarling currs. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. i. (1811) 28 Little snarling lap-dogs. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Growler*, a snarling cur.

b. *transf.* Of persons.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 69 b, Nought but sharpe discipline, is a fitte disputant with snarling Scismatiques. 1635 BARRIFFE *Mil. Discipl.* bcx. (1643) 187 Snarling Cynicks, I know, will carpe at my curiositie. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 28 A pack of snarling sour bigots. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* v, All admired it hugely, except that snarling Scotchman. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 19 June 594/2 This perpetual worrying, by snarling busybodies,.. of the greatest statesman of the age.

2. Of the nature of, accompanied or characterized by, snarling.

1599 (*title*), Micro-cynicon: Sixe Snarling Satyres. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Med.* (1851) 25, I had justly drawn on..this snarling importunity. 1667 TEMPLE *Wks.* (1720) II. 44 Such a snarling Peace as that at Breda. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 2 P 9 Long this uncomfortable Life they led, With snarling Meals. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 504 That polite language and supreme urbanity which characterize these snarling productions. 1855 J. D. BURN *Autobiogr. Beggar Boy* (1859) 184 It may be supposed that I have made these observations in a snarling temper.

3. Having or producing the sound of a snarl.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., Snarling gusts nibble the juyceles leaves. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. 81 Each snarling blast shot through me. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* iv, Soon, up aloft, The silver, snarling trumpets 'gan to chide. 1850 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert's Career* iv. 67 The snarling, grinding din of the gearing was hushed. 1900 ST. BARBE *Mod. Spain* 59 The rain drove with an angry, snarling hiss.

Hence **Sna·rlingly** *adv.*

1862 SALA *Acc. Addresses* 35 He..denied, snarlingly, that he was worth a penny. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. xv. (1872) VI. 313 Whose reflections on it..are stingy, snarlingly contemptuous.

Snarlish (snā·rlĭʃ), *a.* [f. SNARL *sb.*2 or *v.*2] Somewhat snarly or ill-tempered.

1819 *Pantologia* VII. s.v. *Menippus*, He wrote some snarlish satires, for which reason writings of that stamp have been sometimes called Menippean. 1848 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. 376 This excellent Henry accuses me..of being snarlish and quarrelsome. 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 12 A snarlish fellow weak in the head.

Sna·rly, *a.*1 Now *dial.* [f. SNARL *sb.*1 or *v.*1]

1. Tangled, ravelled.

1647 G. W. *Grand Pluto's Progr. thro. Gt. Brit.* 15 Thy snarly haire, thy cheeks as red As paint that they on signes do spread. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 178/1 *Snarly*, knotty or twisted, as entangled thread.

2. Full of snarls or knots.

1770 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1889) II. 311 Walnut, cherry, and some other woods that grow snarly and neither tall nor large. 1890 *Gloucester Gloss.* 144 *Snarly*, knotty, cross-grained; of wood.

Snarly (snā·rlĭ), *a.*2 [f. SNARL *sb.*2 or *v.*2] Inclined to snarl; irritable, cross. Also *transf.*

1798 *Monthly Mag.* VI. 346 My wine's a cure for anguish, My sword for snarly puppies. 1827– in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 400/2 He [a mad dog] grows sullen and snarly; he..runs about wildly, biting at whatever approaches him. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxii, We all know that..the hyena [is] snarly and fretful. 1879 E. M. COLE *Place-names* 31 The weather is said to be 'snarly' when there is a keen cutting wind in Winter.

Snar-noise. *nonce-word.* [f. SNAR *v.*] A snarling or angry noise.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 25 Rough the sea floas forward, thee land with snarnoise enhaunting.

† **Snarp,** *a. Obs.* [a. ON. *snarp-r* (Norw. *snarp*).] Sharp, keen.

Snarp should prob. be read in *Cursor M.* 7753: for the quot. see SNAIP *a.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 547 Snarpe [*so MS.*] swerdis scherand in al syde.

Hence **Sna·rply** *adv.*, sharply.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18228 And selcut snarpli [*Gött. MS.* snapli, *Land & Trin. MSS.* sharpiy] snibbed him.

Snarring: see SNAR *v.*

† **Sna·rry,** *a. Obs.*—1 [f. SNAR *v.*] Snarling.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 84 Whear curs barck bawling, with yolp yalpe snarrye rebounding.

† **Snart,** *adv.* and *a. Obs.* [a. ON. *snart* neut. (also as adv.) of *snarr* (Norw., Sw., Da. *snar*) quick, prompt, sharp, etc.] **a.** *adv.* Sharply, severely. **b.** *adj.* Severe, strong.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2003 Þe snawe snitered ful snart, Þat snayped Þe wylde. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3633 Þire Olifantis ..sone was snaypid on Þe snowte with Þe snart hetis.

Hence † **Sna·rtly** *adv. Obs.*

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* vii. (Douce MS.), Þe sneterand snawe snartly hem snelles.

Snary (snē·ri), *a.* [f. SNARE *sb.* + -Y.] Of the nature of, resembling, a snare; ensnaring.

1592 DANIEL *Sonn. Delia* XIV. Wks. (Grosart) I. 45 Those snary locks are those same nets..Wherewith my liberty thou didst surprise. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 361 Spiders in the Vault their snary Webs have spred.

Snash (snaʃ), *sb. Sc.* (and *north. dial.*). [Related to SNASH *v.*] Abuse, impertinence, insolence.

1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 96 Poor tenant bodies,..How they maun thole a factor's snash. 1832–53 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 55 Xantippe's sel', wi' snash sae snell, Was but a lamb compared wi' Betty. 1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 102, I doubt if they'd put up with yer *snash* elsewhere.

Snash (snaʃ), *v. Sc.* [prob. imitative. Cf. W.Fris. *snasje, snaskje*, Sw. *snaska*, in sense 2; MLG. *snascherie* eating of dainties.]

1. *intr.* To use abusive or impertinent language.

1802 GALLOWAY *Adm. Crichton*, etc. 77 Until he get ye by degrees To snash and snarl. 1818 W. MUIR *Poems* 25 Wae worth them, wha jeering snash.

2. To bite *at* hastily and noisily.

1856 *Deil's Hallowe'en* 29 (E.D.D.), Ilk deevil, dippin' in his headie, Snashed at the apples unco greedy.

Snaste (snāst), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 7, 9 snast, 9 snaast, snaist, sneest(e; 6 snase, 9 snace, snaice, sneeze. [Of obscure origin: cf. GNAST.] A candle-wick: freq. the burning or burnt part of a wick, a snuff.

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G iv b, After your weeke or snast [*pr.* snaft] is stiffened, you dip it in filthy drosse. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 203 His stinking breath, (which smells like the greasie snase of a candle). 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 369 Till some part of the Candle was consumed, and the Dust gathered about the Snaste; But then it made the Snaste big, and long, and to burn duskishly. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 140 In our daies doe men practise to make long-lasting Snasts for lampes. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words*, *The Snaste*, the burnt Week or Snuffe of a Candle. *a* 1825– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Northampt., E. Anglia, Essex).

† **Snaste,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To snuff (a candle). Also *fig.*

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 51 He had the charge ..of seuen candels, for those must he pourge and snaste. *Ibid.*, He..snasteth and pourgeth by faithe, what thinge so euer hath nede to be pourged.

† **Snat,** obs. variant of SNOT *sb.*

1573 BARET *Alv.*, Sneuell, the snat or filth of the noze.

Snatch (snæʧ), *sb.* Also 4 snacche, snasche, snache, 6 snach, snatche. [f. SNATCH *v.*]

† **1.** A hasp, catch, or fastening. *Obs. rare.*

1341–2 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 118 In factura..lasches snasches et rening barres pro hostio pro les nouises. 1527–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 343 Paid for mending of a snach in the morrow mas prestes chist.

† **2.** A trap, snare, entanglement. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6559 (Laud MS.), No man ne may hym [*sc.* the unicorn] lacche, Bot by gyle & by snacche. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 43 By dailie doome these precepts vewe, to scape the bayted snatch. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 20 b, You are caught..and so entangled in this snatch, that ye cannot escape. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* III. i, The Chevalier del Febo, being taken in a Gin like unto a Snatch that slipped under his feet. 1655 BAILY *Life of Fisher* xxi. 162 They think to take me in a Poppes snatch, but they are deceived.

3. A hasty catch or grasp; a sudden grab or snap *at* something. Freq. *fig.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 514 At which words George Buchanan giveth a snatch. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 22 Like dastard Curres, that..rome from place to place, To get a snatch, when turned is his face. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* ¶ 2 Happy is he that is least tossed vpon tongues; for vtterly to escape the snatch of them it is impossible. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. (1739) 175 What was gotten by the snatch was lost by the catch. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xx, The fawning wile of the spaniel, the determined snatch of the mastiff. 1866 *Morn. Star* 21 Aug. 3/2 He saw him..walk a few steps in advance of her, then suddenly turn and make 'the snatch' in question. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 226 Here and there he made guesses and snatches at the truth.

b. A catch, check, or hesitancy. *rare*—1.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 105 The snatches in his voice, And burst of speaking were as his.

c. A sudden twitch or jerk. *rare*—1.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 477 The movements of his arms were indeed in ungraceful snatches, and the muscles of the neck frequently evinced a like convulsive start.

4. *By*, or *in, snatches*, by hasty, unsustained efforts; hurriedly, by fits and starts; intermittently, interruptedly, not continuously. Also rarely *at.. snatches.*

(*a*) 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 48 By snatches (as it were) and not throughly. 1625 *Commons Deb.* (Camden) 101 What is it..to get or lose a towne by snatches? 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 507 Hitherto all that was done, was by snatches and intervals, as it were at a breathing. 1733 POPE *Let. to Swift* 28 May, I have begun two or three letters to you by Snatches, and been prevented from finishing them. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) VII. 182 When..she now-and-then could look up, which she did by snatches, as it were. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* (1839) IX. 59 The little that he read of new books..was done by snatches in the course of his meals. 1898 BARING-GOULD *Old Eng. Home* xi. 250 He has to take his victuals and his rest by snatches.

(*b*) 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 169 The business.. must often..be done in snatches, or not done at all. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 74 Passing gales in snatches bore me Their evening talk. 1897 MISS KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 287, I went in again and slept in snatches.

(*c*) 1692 BURNET *Life & Death Rochester* 138 He told me as his strength served him at several snatches.

5. A brief period, short space (*of* time).

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1187/2, I wene we shall haue a snatch of rebellion euen now. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* li. (1878) 113 Then after a shower to weeding a snatch. 1619 HIERON *Wks.* II. 451 By day is not meant now and then a snatch, or a piece of the forenoone only. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* To Rdr., In this work attempts will exceed performances; it being composed by snatches of time. 1663 BUNYAN *Praying in Spirit* Wks. 1855 I. 623 One [vizard] for an appearance before men, and another for a short snatch in a corner. 1825 LAMB *Elia* II. *Superannuated Man*, The..tedious weeks that must intervene before such another snatch [of holidays] would come. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxix. 339, I was scarce so miserable the next days but what I had many hopeful and happy snatches.

b. *esp.* A short spell *of* sleep or slumber.

1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* xiv, The most relishing snatch of slumber out of bed. 1863 MRS. OLIPHANT *Salem Chapel* xxi, Snatches of momentary sleep..had fallen upon her.

c. A brief manifestation or display *of* something.

1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Est.* 32 The sunshine broods warm over the mead. It is a delicious snatch of spring. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 5/1 Those snatches of fitful energy which mark the movements of the East.

6. a. A hasty meal or morsel; a snack.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* lxxvi. (1878) 168 Call seruants to breakefast by day starre appere, a snatch and to worke. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burning Pestle* II. i, Believe me, To sleep without a snatch would mickle grieve me. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* III. ii, I fear you'll have cold entertainment..; and 'twere discretion To take a snatch by the way. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vi, After we had pretty well staid our Stomachs with some tight Snatches. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1831) II. 490 Our kind host and hostess would not let us go without a snatch as they called it; which was in truth a very good dinner. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, *Snatch*, a mouthful between meals. 1893 WALKER *Three Churchmen* vii. 76 He took only a snatch or light refection, returning immediately to his desk.

† **b.** In allusive use (see quots.). *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Upst. Court.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 256 Tush! what bawdry is it he wil not suffer, so he may have mony and good chere, and, if he like the wench well, a snatch

himselfe. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Pain, Prendre vn pain sur la fournée*, to get a snatch at his wench thats readie to be maried. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. II. v. iii. 648 They had rather go to the stewes, or haue now and then a snatch.., then haue wiues of their owne.

†c. A share; a portion seized on. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 368 And not only these haue a share, but also..other seruitors pill and poll, and euery one hath a snatch. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 51 Those which sacrifice and feast he makes great love to, hoping to get a snatch.

7. A small amount or portion (†taken hurriedly); a mere fragment or disconnected piece.

1592 HARVEY *Four Lett.* iv. 57 A snatch, and away, with..the common sort of studentes, may please a little, but profiteth nothing. 1656 BAXTER *Reformed Pastor* 20 It is not now and then an idle snatch or taste of studies that will serve to make a sound Divine. 1673 *Remarques Hum. Town* 124 You will hear..some snatches of occurences, whose beauty you are not able to perceive without the knowledge of the whole. 1732 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1903) I. 1 That little snatch of conversation was so agreeable. 1780 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (Oxf. ed.) II. 347 Snatches of reading..will not make a Bentley or a Clarke. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vi. P 5 The barber..had heard some little snatches of my story from Fabricio. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. iv. (1872) V. 43 We had better give the snatch of Dialogue in primitive authentic form. 1890 STEVENSON *Vailima Lett.* (1895) 12, I returned to begin this snatch of a letter before dinner was ready.

b. A brief view; a glimpse.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* II. 133 For leafy was the road, with ..distant snatches of blue hills between. 1842 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Auvergne* I. 319 Planted with gigantic trees, from openings between which are charming snatches of country.

8. A short passage, a few words, *of* a song, etc.; a small portion, a few bars, *of* a melody or tune.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 178 Which time she chaunted snatches of old tunes. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* I. 569 He..whistled many a snatch of merry tunes. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl, Madge was..singing her own wild snatches of songs and obsolete airs. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. viii, Not a musical Patriot can blow himself a snatch of melody from the French Horn. 1834 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 10 It was quite natural that he should.. begin to sing a snatch of the tenor air to me.

b. *ellipt.* in the same senses.

1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *New Year's Coming of Age*, Singing ..a number of old snatches besides, between drunk and sober. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* v.i. (1879) 65 Having carolled which snatches, he played a kind of symphony. 1890 SAINTSBURY *Elizab. Lit.* i. 9 Sometimes..both syntax and prosody..recall the ruder snatches of an earlier time.

†**8.** A quibble; a captious argument. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 6 Come sir, leaue me your snatches, and yeeld mee a direct answere. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Dissenter* 33 There are several Snatches in This Paper, that are either Founded, or Pretend to be Founded upon the Resolution, and Obligation of Laws.

10. That which is obtained in snatches.

1879 J. D. LONG *Æneid* p. v, This, the snatch and pastime of the last year, is not printed because there is want of it.

11. *ellipt.* (See quot. 1867 and SNATCH-BLOCK.)

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 98 The hawser is hauled in through the snatch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 636 *Snatch*, any open lead for a rope: if not furnished with a sheave, it is termed a *dumb snatch*, as on the bows and quarters for hawsers. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 180 The snatch for the mast rope must be fitted with a bolt.

12. *Mining.* (See quot.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 79 *Snatch*, a small chimney at surface,..used to ventilate very limited underground workings by means of one shaft.

13. An illicit line used in fishing.

1899 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Charged with using a snatch for the purpose of catching salmon.

Snatch (snætʃ), *v.* Also 3 **snecchen**, 4–5 **snacche**, **snache**, 6 **snach**, **snatche**; 7 *pa. t.* **snaught**. [Of obscure origin: perhaps related to SNACK *sb.*2]

1. *intr.* **a.** To make a sudden snap or bite (*at* something).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Ase ofte ase þe hund of helle keccheð ei god from þe,..smit hine so luðerliche þet him loðie to snecchen eft to þe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxvi. 788 Whan þei [flies] fleeþ aȝens his face, he [a hounde] snaccheþ after [1495 snatchyth at] hem wiþ his moupe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 651 The dogg lay evir grownyng, redy for to snache. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii, *Esau.* If I had thee, I woulde eate thee, to God I vowe...*Ragau.* Fall ye to snatching at folkes: adieu, I am gone. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 117 And, like a dogge that is compell'd to fight, Snatch at his Master that doth tarre him on. 1718 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* 6 In that Madness..the Person will Bark, and Snatch at those that are near. 1828 [see SNATCH- b].

fig. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. To Rdr., I thinke there is no man, that hath ben snatched at, bitten, & torne in sonder with moe sclaunders than I. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 59 b, You come at the length to our Church, the orders whereof you do captiously snatch at.

b. To make a sudden catch *at* a thing, in order to secure hold or possession of it. Also *fig.*

1530 PALSGR. 723/2, I snatche at a thynge hastelye to take it, *je happe apres.* 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 29 Briars and thornes at their apparell snatch. 1604 — *Oth.* V. ii. 275 This looke of thine will hurle my Soule from Heauen, And Fiends will snatch at it. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low-C. Wars* 375 The Government..was snatched at on the one side by the Wife..: On the other side, by some Noblemen. 1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 6 Jan., I had previously entreated my father to snatch at any possible opportunity of expressing his satisfaction. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* I, All..snatched at bushes and rocks by which to secure themselves. 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* XIX, To snatch at any such occasion as shall be ministered to me. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 93 The Apostles did not snatch at praise for themselves.

2. *trans.* To seize, to take or lay hold of, suddenly, smartly, or unexpectedly.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13889 Þe lyon for hunger snacches & sleþ þe best þat he first lacches. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1170 Snatche a puddyng tyl the rost be redy. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ii. 17 The Sarazin..Snatcheth his sword, and fiercely to him flies. 1616 J. LANE *Contin. Sqr.'s T.* VII. 262 Algarsife..snaught his swoord, and with a loftie whiff, rann vppon Camball. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 60 He snatches a man, and jumping into the water with him, carries him over to the other side. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 47 Will no superior genius snatch the quill, And save me, on the brink, from writing ill? 1765 *Ann. Reg.* I. 215 It was agreed that Matthews and Byfield should that night pick pockets or snatch hats. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. iv, All green things are snatched, and made cockades of. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 83 The fisherman hastily snatched the sealed leaden stopper.

fig. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. v. 192 It seem'd in mee, But as an Honour snatch'd with boyst'rous hand. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* i, Those advantages, which..the Duke would have snatched with an armed hand.

b. With immaterial object: To take, obtain, acquire, etc., in a hasty or improper manner, or so as to take advantage of a momentary chance.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1367/1, I could wyshe more faythfull dealyng with Gods woorde, and not to..snatche a part here and another there. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroical Ep.* viii. 98 My lips haue waited,..And snatch'd his words, ere he could get them forth. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 30 What should shee doe? but..snatch a parting kisse? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 1025, I fear least Death So snatcht will not exempt us from the paine. 1726 BERKELEY *Let.* Wks. 1871 IV. 138, I shall nevertheless snatch the present moment to write you short answers. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. xi. 212 Let not.. persons.. pretend to snatch those graces which are beyond the reach of art. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* 40 Let us snatch what happiness is yet in our power. 1879 *19th Cent.* No. 32. 665 He seeks, at times, to snatch a verdict for his client by ignoring..evidence. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss., Snatching a victory* by getting an advance in wages. The method employed is to choose a time when the masters are divided in opinion.

†**c.** *refl.* To catch or entangle (oneself). *Obs.*—1

1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers*, etc. Wks. 1907 I. 99 His wayting still to snatch himselfe in snare.

3. To seize, catch, or take suddenly *from* or *out of* one's hands, etc.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 43 Out of her gored wound the cruell steele He lightly snatcht. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 219 They sent out their boyes to scorne us, who..snatched from us our hats and other things. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxiii. (1687) 244 She sometimes..threw it abroad among the people; and then again snatched it out of their hands. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *Mem. G. de Lucca* (1738) 106 He snatch'd it out of my Hands with a prodigious Eagerness. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* III. 109 [Men] Forth snatch'd me from the pleasant cloister's pale. 1878 M. A. BROWN *Nadeschda* 35 He hurries off, with the intent to snatch The savage garland from her locks.

fig. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 441 The Moones an arrant Theefe, And her pale fire, she snatches from the Sunne. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 33 Such as they have, that entring into any discourse, are snatched from their purpose. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 689 He snatch'd it [the laurel] rudely from the muses' hand. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* viii, Nor befits it our fame that a brave adversary be snatched from our weapon by such a disease. 1848 GALLENGA *Italy* I. p. xxvi, The sons of the north are snatching from your hands the sceptre of the arts.

absol. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., While we ..snip here and snatch there from some of them.

b. With immaterial object. (Cf. 2 b.)

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 382 It were a fault to snatch words from my tongue. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 13 Oh, snatch some portion of these acts from fate, Celestial Muse! 1755 JOHNSON *Let.* 4 Feb. in *Boswell*, Snatch what time you can from the Hall, and the pupils [etc.]. 1795 COLERIDGE *Sibyl. Leaves, Eolian Harp* 10 How exquisite the scents Snatched from yon bean-field! 1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* IV, All were anxious to snatch a few hours from the gloomy thoughts that hung over the times. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. 116 That a new English host was coming to snatch the victory from the conquerors.

c. To remove or avert hastily. Const. *from.*

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 316 She snatched her hands from her face. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 101 But Katie snatch'd her eyes at once from mine.

4. With adverbs: †**a.** With *down*: To devour hastily. *Obs.*—1

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 39 b, Beware snatche nat thy meate downe to gredelye.

b. To catch, pick, or take *up*, suddenly or smartly.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 173 One of these wylde men.. soodenly snatched vppe a childe of therse. 1592 *Arch. of Feversham* v. i, Chast Diana Would..Fling down Endimion and snatch him vp. 1638 F. JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 112 So were they taught that Art whose instruments they had snatched up. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 276 The Women..never are snatch'd up for their Great Fortunes. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 49 His dog..snatches up the drifted snow With iv'ry teeth. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. iii, Scarcely..could they snatch up their 'enormous hoops'.

transf. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Certain Notes Instruct.* (Arb.) 33 The light accent is depressed or snatched vp.

c. To seize and take *away* suddenly.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i 24 Why do you make us love your goodly gifts, And snatch them straight away? 1684 *Contempt. State Man* I. ii. (1699) 15 That which Time spares, is often snatcht away by the covetousness of the Thief. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. xvii. 332 The Devil is here said to snatch the wood away from such persons. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* XXIX, And from the portion..I will snatch my share away.

d. To pull or tear *off* quickly (and roughly).

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They snatch it quickly off of the fire, or stir it. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 45 P 7, I snatched his Hat off his Head. *a* 1763 W. KING *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 63 One of Cromwell's soldiers snatched off Sir William Smyth's hat. 1847 SARAH AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 371 Those who were standing near snatched off the wax of the seal.

5. To remove quickly *from* sight, etc.; to hide or conceal suddenly.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 20 Thee clowds snach gloomming from sight of Coompanie Troian Both Light and welken. 1711 POPE *Temple Fame* 354 A sudden cloud strait snatch'd them from my sight. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. xii. 90 The long herbage, and the winding descent, soon snatched her ill-omened apparition from the desolate landscape. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* I. 88 Clouds snatch from the Teucrians' sight Sunlight and sky.

6. To remove suddenly from this world or life. Used in passive and freq. with *away* and *from.*

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlvi. § 1 Rather to bee taken then snatched away from the face of the earth. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 154, I am a-feard the life of Hellen (Ladie) Was fowly snatcht. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. 110 William Bradbridge..was snatcht away with a sudden death. 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* ix. 335 The covetous rich fool, that trusted in his riches,..was suddenly snatched from them to give account of his stewardship. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. Tar-water* Wks. III. 501 Several who are snatched away by untimely death. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 167 They ..,unregretted, are soon snatch'd away From scenes of sorrow into glorious day. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. vii, Wailing..that a Sovereign Man is snatched away. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Good Men* I. Pref. p. xiv, He was snatched away while affording..fresh promise of a truly brilliant Professorial career.

b. To cut off *from*, by sudden removal.

1799 COWPER *Castaway* 63 When, snatch'd from all effectual aid, We perish'd, each alone.

7. To save or rescue *from* or *out of* danger, etc., by prompt or vigorous action.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 394 This youth that you see heere, I snatch'd one halfe out of the iawes of death. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* cxliv. 7 And snatch me from the stormy Rage. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* VI. vi. 169 They snatched him out of the danger he was in. 1791 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 215 The men who..snatch the worst criminals from justice. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 22 Every soul snatched from darkness and death was a rich harvest. 1893 MATHESON *About Holland* 10 A great part of it has been snatched from the sea.

8. In miscellaneous uses (see quots.).

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. CXXIV, Through the air they snatch'd their greedy way. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινη* XVI. 256 The Spartan valour, who being struck down by a mortal blow, used to snatch their mouths full of earth [etc.]. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 209 But Edith's eager fancy hurried with him Snatch'd thro' the perilous passes of his life.

9. *Naut.* To place (a line) in a snatch-block.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) E ee, To snatch the main-bowline, or put it into the snatch-block. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* XXXVI. 136 The line is snatched in a block upon the swifter. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 181 Snatch the top-gallant sheets.

Hence **Snatching** *ppl. a.*

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* VI, Those naked, snatching mountaineers, who are ever doing us wrong.

Snatch-, the verb-stem used in combs.: **a.** *Naut.* Denoting devices capable of rapid attachment, or to which a rope can be quickly attached, as *snatch-cheek, -cleat, -hook,* †*-pulley, -sheave* (cf. SNATCH-BLOCK).

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 50 Snache poleis, ij. 1495 *Ibid.* 192 Snache poleyes with oon shever of brasse to ye same. 1842 R. BURN *Fr. Techn. Dict.* 162 *Taquet à guenle*,..snatch-cleat. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 73 A snatch cheek on the after side of the..yard arm. *Ibid.* 76 Rove..through a snatch sheave. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Snatch-cleat*, a curved cleat or chock round which a rope may be led.

b. In objective combs., as *snatch-apple,* †*-cly, -grace,* †*-pasty* (see quots.).

1687 MIÉGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.*, A Snatch-pasty, *un Voleur de Pâtez.* 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Snatch cly*, a thief who snatches women's pockets. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Snatch-apple*, an apple suspended by a string, with which children amuse themselves by snatching at it with their teeth. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* (1885) 65 No scape-grace? Then, rejoice Thou snatch-grace safe in Syria!

c. = SNAP- c.

1889 *Spectator* 7 Dec., He secured a snatch-vote in favour of a permanent system of arbitration. 1893 *Times* 21 June 9/4 It is impossible to suppose the snatch-division..has settled the point. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 June 5/3 What Ministerialists regard as a snatch reverse in Supply.

d. Denoting the practice or use of snatching, as *snatch-thief.*

1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Nov. 3/7 A snatch thief arrested. 1903 *19th Cent.* Mar. 507 The snatch-thief who relies on his swiftness of foot.

Snatchable, *adj.* [f. SNATCH *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be snatched or seized.

1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 167 Hoping for a temporary absence of the shop-keeper, which might leave something snatchable. 1899 W. JAMES *Talks to Teachers* vi, The child sees a snatchable object in some one's hands.

Snatch-block. Also snatchblock, snatch block. [SNATCH- a.] A block having a hole in one side to receive the bight of a rope.

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (MS. Harl. 2301), *Snatch block* is a greate Block with the Sheever in it and a Notch cutt through one of the Cheeks of it by which Notch they receve anie Roape into it. [Hence in Harris, *Chambers' Cycl.*

Suppl., etc.] 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Block*, A snatch-block; a top-block; a voyal-block [etc.]. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XI. 173 Passing through proper snatch-blocks. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 97/2 A car.. is suspended to the top round of the ladder by means of a chain passing over a pulley of a snatch block. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 145 This line, when the boat is launched, passes through..a snatch-block.

Snatched (snætʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. SNATCH *v.*] Hurriedly or hastily obtained or taken.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 84 Full boules Of wine powr'd on; and goblets (gladding soules) Of blacke bloud, and snatcht [L. *raptî*] milke. 1834 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Helen* (Rtldg.) 129 These snatched moments..enhanced the enjoyment. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* vi, I remember..a hastily snatched visit to Athens. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Jan. 6/3 This is no snatched victory.

Snatcher (snæ·tʃəɹ). [f. SNATCH *v.*]

1. One who or that which snatches; a thief, a robber. (Also with *at* or *away*.)

1575 *Mirr. Mag., Tresilian* xi, So catchers and snatchers toyle both night and daye, Not needy but greedy, still prolling for their praye. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29, I am kind Æneas, from foes thee snatcher of housgods. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 143 We do not meane the coursing snatchers onely, But feare the maine intendment of the Scot. 1611 COTGR., *Grippeur*, a griper; catcher, snatcher. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Rucker*, a Puller, or a Snatcher away. 1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* I, A snatcher at, *captator*. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. iv, Full oft the Tynedale snatchers knock At his lone gate. 1866 *Morn. Star* 21 Aug. 3/2 There having lately been a great many 'snatchers' in the neighbourhood of Whitechapel. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 461 The snatchers..Lurked round the gates of less well-guarded folds.

b. A body-snatcher. (See BODY *sb.* 30.)

1831 *Ann. Reg., Law Cases*, etc. 321/1 A person in the room..told him that he must mind what he was at, as they were snatchers. 1884 A. GRIFFITHS *Chron. Newgate* II. vii. 331 The snatchers brought a hamper which contained a body in a sack.

c. One who takes fish by 'snatching'.

1878 *Standard* 21 Oct. (Davies), Some 'snatchers' will use two, three, or even four triangles.

2. *pl.* 'A book-name for the Raptores' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1887).

Snatchery. *nonce-wd.* Snatching.

1553 *Respublica* v. ix, Thou saiest even trueth, tis a bagg of Rye in dede:..briberee, snatcherie, catcherie [etc.].

Snatchily (snæ·tʃili), *adv.* [f. SNATCHY *a.*] By or in snatches.

1880 MISS BROUGHTON *Sec. Th.* I. xii. 204 The book-case on whose ladder she has so often stood in cramped discomfort, snatchily reading.

Snatching, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNATCH *v.*]

1. The action of the verb.

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1143 *Fan.* Where the Deuyll gate he all these hurtes? *Fol.* By God, for snatchynge of puddynges and wortes. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) A iij, Soft maisters, faire plaie and no snatching. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 73 Our rapacity,..our snatching, and catching, at far more then is our own. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* ix. (1862) 207 Snatchings on the part of the creature at honours which of right belonged only to the Creator. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurture* II. iii. (1861) 282 The casual snatching and feeding at all hours.

2. Twitching.

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) IV. 477 The limbs were in a state of constant snatching and trepidation.

3. The practice of catching fish by means of hooks which are pulled sharply through the water.

1878 *Standard* 21 Oct. (Davies), 'Snatching' is a form of illicit piscicapture for which it is impossible to entertain ..sympathy. 1884 JEFFERIES in *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 1/2 The fish..are also protected by regulations..; snatching, for instance, is unlawful.

4. *techn.* (See quot.)

1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict., Snatching.* The term for making laths break bond for plastering.

Snatchingly, *adv.* [f. *snatching*, pres. pple. of SNATCH *v.*] In a snatching manner; hurriedly; by snatches.

1552 HULOET, Bytynge one an other, or as snatchyngelye, *morsicatim*. 1588 UDALL *Diotrephes* (Arb.) 8 You seeme to bee so possessed with discontentment that it maketh you to speak (as it were) snatchingly. 1629 H. C *Disc. Draining Fens* A ij b, The prosecution of this businesse was..so snatchingly persued, that little fruit came thereof. 1647 HEXHAM I, Snatchingly, *haestelick, ofte snellick*.

Snatchy (snæ·tʃi), *a.* [f. SNATCH *sb.* or *v.*] Consisting of, characterized by, snatches; irregular; spasmodic.

1861 *N. Brit. Rev.* May 351 The haste in which so many people live..tends to foster a shallow and snatchy habit of mind. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xiv. I like monosyllables. I like brief, snatchy talk. 1886 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 515 Some books lend themselves to a snatchy method of perusal. 1898 [see SNAGGY *a.*²].

b. *spec.* Of rowing.

1865 *Sk. from Cambridge* 16 The modern style [of rowing] seems short and snatchy; it has not the long majestic sweep of former days. 1893 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 2/6 He does not keep a very even stroke, and to this is largely attributable the 'snatchy' form in the boat.

†**Snater,** *v. Obs.*⁻¹ [? Error for *snapir* SNAPPER *v.*¹] *intr.* To stumble.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3995 Sire Porrus with a proude swerd him on þe pan strikis So snelle at he snatirs with.

Snath (snæþ). Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* Forms: α. 6 snythe, 9 snithe. β. 7– snathe, 9 snaythe, snaith. γ. 8– sneath, 9 sne(a)the, sneeth, δ. 8– **snath.** [Variant of SNEAD *sb.*, but all the forms are irregular and difficult to account for.] The pole or shaft of a scythe.

α. 1574 R. SCOT *Hop Garden* (1578) 28 Thys helue shoulde boowe somewhat lyke to a Snythe, or to the steale of a Sythe. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Snathe, Snithe*, the crooked handle or long shank of a mowing scythe.

β. 1691 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 114 *A Snathe*, the handle of a Sithe. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 317 Snathe. 1888 ADDY *Sheffield Gloss.* 224 Snaith or Snathe. 1899 DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.* 301/2 Snaythe.

γ. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Snead, Sneath*, the handle of a Scithe, or the like Tool. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 849 The handle, or sned or sneath,..is made either curved..or straight. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 314 No Sithe could be handled without its pole or shaft or sneath or sned. 1907 'J. HALSHAM' *Lonewood Corner* 150 The two 'doles' or grips on the sneath.

δ. 1782 J. SCOTT *Amœb. Ecl.* ii. Poet. Wks. 119 There crooked snaths of flexile sallow make. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 231/1 An improvement in the Scythe Snath. 1864 WHITTIER *Wreck Rivermouth* 89 O mower, lean on thy bended snath. 1881 *Metal World* No. 22. 343 Suppose the centre of gravity of the snath be..4 in. from the body of the snath.

Snath(e, *v. dial.* Also 7 sneath, 7, 9 snare, 8 snaze (?). [app. ad. ON. *sneiða* (Norw. *sneida*; MSw. *snetha*) to cut, slice; but the sense is more precisely that of OE. *snædan* SNED *v.*] *trans.* To prune or lop (trees, etc.); to remove by lopping. Hence **Sna·thing** *vbl. sb.*; also *attrib.*

1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 230 For snathing of treez. *Ibid.*, For makyng of a m!cccc. xl. kyddez of oke of þe seid snathinges. 1609 *Burgery of Sheffield* 312 A payne laid that every person do snaith and brush ther hedges. 1641 H. BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 122 Yow are to snath off all the small twigges and boughes. *Ibid.*, Hee hayth for this purpose a little broad snathinge axe. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 65 To *Snathe* or *snare*, to prune Trees, to cut off the Boughs of Ash or other Timber trees. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snaze*, clip an hedge. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Snathe*, to prune, to lop. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Lincs., Snare*, to cut large boughs off a tree.

†**Snat-nosed,** *a. Obs.* [Cf. SNATTED *a.*] Snub-nosed.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 31 All mooris and men of Ynde be snatte nosed: as be gootis, apis, and beeys. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 223 Silenus..was an eiuill disfigured apyshe bodye, croumpe shouldreed, shorte necked, snatnosed.

†**Snat·ted,** *a. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Snub.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6447 (Laud MS.), Hij haue visages euelong, And snatted nosen, þat ben wrong. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 285 Ze stryveþ for a man wiþ snatted nose. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xcvi. (1495) 842 The ape hight Simea in grewe and hath that name of snattid nose: for thei ben snattyd in the nose. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snattyd, or schort nosyd, *simus*.

†**Sna·tter,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. Du. *snateren* (so in MDu., MLG., and MHG.) or LG. *snat(t)ern* (G. *schnattern*, Sw. *snattra*), of imitative origin.] *intr.* To chatter.

1647 HEXHAM I. (Birds), The Pie snatters, *den Exter snattert*. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 189 Many will be angry and snatter at it.

†**Snattines,** obs. variant of SNOTTINESS.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 377 From hence commeth spettle, snattines of the nose, catharres, & distillations.

†**Sna·ttock.** *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A scrap, fragment.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. xi. 148 From rags, Snattocks, Snips, irreconcilable and super-annuated Smocks and Shirts. *Ibid.* xiii. 160 The Letter . crumbled into such miserable Snattocks, that the Divell could not piece it together.

†**Snatty,** obs. variant of SNOTTY *a.*

1545 ELYOT, *Mucosus*, snatty or sniueled. 1647 HEXHAM I, Sneevelly or snatty, *snotachtigh*.

†**Snavel,** *v. Sc. Obs.*⁻¹ In 5 snawil. [Imitative: cf. SNAFFLE *v.*, and Sw. dial. *snavla*.] *intr.* To snuffle.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 459 Þe child cane snawil þan, & grape þe modyr pape, for fud to tak.

Snaw(e, Snawy, Sc. and north. variants of SNOW, SNOWY.

Snawish: see SNOWISH *a.*

Snayballe, obs. form of SNOWBALL.

Snaype, obs. form of SNAPE *v.*¹

Snead (snīd), **sned** (sned). Now *dial.* Forms: α. 1 sneed, 3 snede, 7–9 sneed, 9 sneyd, sneid; 7– snead. β. 9 sned. See also SNATH. [OE. *sneḍ*, of obscure origin and not represented in the cognate languages.] The shaft or pole of a scythe.

α. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 162 Hwilon eac befeoll an sióe of ðam snæde into anum deopan seaðe. 1235–52 *Rentalia Glastonb.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 165 Et [habebit] de herba quantum potest levare cum sidsnede. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xii. § 2 These Hedges are..kept in order with a Scythe of four foot long..; this is fix'd on a long sneed or streight handle. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 357 A short strong Sithe.. fitted with a strong Snead. 1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* in *Archæol. Rev.* (1888), Scythe, or Sive—The handle [is] called the snead. 1825– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Somerset, Northampt., Chesh., Warwicks.). 1885 *Calendar of Prisoners at Mids. Sessions, Taunton* 30 June, William Chorley.. stealing a scythe and snead.

β. 1825– in dial. glossaries (Northumb., Shropsh., Northampt.). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 849 The curved sned is usually made of willow. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 8/7 He sent his servant .. for a scythe sned.

Sneak (snīk), *sb.* Also 7 sneake. [app. f. SNEAK *v.*]

By earlier writers used as a suggestive personal name:— 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 12 See if thou canst finde out Sneakes Noyse. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* v. viii, Was she..wench to that Sneake-Iohn?

1. a. A sneaking, mean-spirited, paltry, or despicable person; one who acts in a shifty, shabby, or underhand manner.

Jerry Sneak: see JERRY *sb.* 6.

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. v, I'll suffer no such sneaks As you to offend this way. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Mar., When all is done, he is a sneake; who owns his owing me £10..and yet cannot provide to pay me. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. x. 159 The Devil,..being baffled, packs away, like a silly Sneak as he was.

1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iii, We call him tuft-hunter, lickspittle, sneak. 1848 — *Van. Fair* v, The sneak of an usher jeered at him no longer. 1848 B. D. WALSH tr. *Aristophanes' Knights* II. iii, I knew not..that you had been so long..a sneak and a shuffler. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) II. v. 174 A penitent is generally a bit of a sneak.

b. One who robs or steals in a sneaking manner, or who enters places clandestinely for that purpose. (See also *Area-sneak* s.v. AREA 2 b.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Sneak*, a pilferer. 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Sneaks*, boys who creep into houses, down areas, or into shops, etc. to enter the premises. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 June 2/3 The genuine poacher—the real article we mean, not the commercial midnight game sneak.

2. *Cant.* a. The act or practice of stealing in unperceived in order to rob; a robbery effected in this manner. Usu. in phr. *upon the sneak.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Ken-miller*, '*Tis a bob Ken, Brush upon the Sneak*, 'tis a good House, go in if you will but Tread softly. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Gammon*, A thief detected in a house which he has entered, upon the sneak, for the purpose of robbing it. *Ibid., Morning-sneak*, going out early to rob private houses or shops by slipping in at the door unperceived [etc.].

b. The act of stealing away or running off in a sneaking manner.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., One or more prisoners having escaped..by stealth, without..alarming their keepers, are said to have..*given it to 'em upon the sneak.* 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 478/1 Geronimo and his bloodthirsty cut-throats had 'made a sneak', that is, left their reservation and were on the war-path.

3. *Cricket.* A ball bowled so as to roll along the ground; a daisy-cutter.

1862 PYCROFT *Cricket Tutor* 52 Sneaks jump about and twist with the ground. 1886 — *Oxford Mem.* II. 93 Once, when good bowling was unsuccessful, they put in Tailor Humphreys to bowl twisting sneaks. 1899 LUBBOCK *Mem. Eton* xviii. 278 A long hop to leg would have been a more suitable ball than a straight sneak.

4. *slang.* A soft-soled, noiseless slipper or shoe.

1883 GREENWOOD *Strange Company* (ed. 2) 321 'Sneaks'..are shoes with canvas tops and indiarubber soles. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Public Service* xiv. 204 His footsteps were..deadened by the 'sneaks', or cloth slippers, worn to conceal his whereabouts.

Sneak (snīk), *v.* Also 6 sneke, 7 sneek, sneake. [Of doubtful origin: the form does not agree with that of early ME. *snīken*, OE. *snīcan* to creep, crawl (cf. ON. *snikja*, Norw. *snikja*, Da. *snige*, in senses similar to 'sneak'), and the historical gap is very great. The stem *sneak-* appears a little earlier in SNEAKISH(LY *a.* and *adv.*]

I. *intr.* 1. To move, go, walk, etc., in a stealthy or slinking manner; to creep or steal furtively, as if ashamed or afraid to be seen; to slink, skulk:

a. With advs., as *away, down, in, off, out*, etc.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 58 A poore vnminded Outlaw, sneaking home. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 138, I hope he will not sneake away with all the money. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv, Where's Madrigall? Is he sneek'd hence? 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 9 P 3 Miss having heard enough, sneaks off for Fear of Discovery. 1740–2 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xix. 31 [The cook] was hot with her work; and I sneaked away. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xlvii, To avoid people, and sneak on unobserved. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* i, The two women were sneaking off by themselves.

fig. and *transf.* 1643 WITHER *Campo-Musæ* 72 That Delusion Which had so hotly charg'd me, sneaked thence. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Sussex* III. 96 When the Sun ariseth the Moon sneaketh down obscurely. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* xii. 159 Towards dusk a small canoe sneaked out, under the plea of fishing.

b. With preps., as *about, after, from, into*, etc.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 171 To her vnguarded Nest, the Weazell (Scot) Comes sneaking. 1607 FLETCHER *Woman Hater* v. iv, There are they still poor rogues,.. sneaking after cheeses. 1609 ROWLANDS *Dr. Merrie-man* (Hunterian Cl.) 20 The Rusticke..softly sneaking out of doores, About his message goes. 1714 POPE *Let. to Caryll* 25 Sept., I have..sneaked along the walks with that astonished and diffident air [etc.]. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. xiii, But I made no reply, and very wisely condescended to sneak into the straw. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 51 They..sneaked from my door with every mark of..servile cowardice. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* II. 22 Appearing disorderly and dirty, as they..sneaked about the ship. 1879 E. K. BATES *Egypt. Bonds* II. viii, 191 Like truant schoolboys who sneak into the busy schoolroom.

fig. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. v, Being ashamed, as well as discouraged, they sneaked out of the world as well as they could. 1838 EMERSON *Address, Cambridge* Wks. (Bohn) II. 200 Now man is ashamed of himself; he skulks and sneaks through the world. 1871 BROWNING *Balaustion* 1549 To thee who livest now Through having sneaked past fate apportioned thee.

c. Without const. (Freq. used to denote want of courage, independence, or straightforwardness, without reference to place or movement.)

1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 358 As these Russians could not take a better way than that of not sneaking, to avoid the having their Rites and Persons undervalu'd. 1682 N.O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 184 For he..scorn'd to stand, and sneak with hands in Pocket. 1699 Bentley *Phalaris* xi. 266 He sneak'd like a Cock, that hangs down his wings when he's beaten. 1732 Pope *Ep. Cobham* 154 Tom struts a Soldier,..Will sneaks a Scriv'ner, an exceeding knave. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Pope*, Pope was reduced to sneak and shuffle, sometimes to deny, and sometimes to apologize. 1845 *Nonconformist* V. 133 Law..may allow..them to sneak—but law cannot wipe away the reproach of sneaking. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* ix, If you know where he's sneaking..you may tell him to spare himself the journey o' coming back home.

fig. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Militant* 121 Thus Sinne in Egypt sneaked for a while. 1692 *Vindication* 15 Vice..always sneaks when bravely born up to. 1765 Beattie *Judgm. of Paris* cii, Coward Office..sneaks secure in insolence of state. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 83 How blest she'd been,..If, ere want sneak'd for grudg'd support from pride [etc.].

d. *U.S. colloq.* To make off quietly.

1901 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 409/1 When you get over the fence,..yell fire till the crowd comes, then sneak.

2. To cringe or be servile *to* (a person, etc.).

c 1660 South *Serm.* (1715) I. 32, I need salute no great Man's Threshold, sneak to none of his Friends or Servants. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Oxford Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 10 Pitiful curates and chaplains, that must sneak to the groom and butler. 1796 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 383 We sneak to the regicides, but we boldly trample on our poor fellow-citizens. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap.* iv. 257 Why else to me.. Sneak, cap in hand, now bribe me to forsake My maimed Léonce, now bully, cap on head.

transf. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 30 Sept., Our Bishops sneak to the old Cause.

3. *School slang.* To peach, inform, tell tales.

1897 *Daily News* 3 June 7/2 Sneaking, in the ethics of public school boys, is the unpardonable sin. 1902 *Spectator* July 46/2 The boys..usually prefer to suffer rather than 'sneak' of one of their companions.

II. *trans.* 4. To turn or draw *aside*, to put or thrust *in* or *into*, to move or slide *to*, etc., in a stealthy manner.

1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* I. xlvii, Stout Trees..From this dire Breath sneak'd their faint heads aside. 1684 Otway *Atheist* III. i, Sneak what Ready-mony thou hast into my Hand. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 32 ¶3, I see a man every minute stealing out a dirty muckender, then sneaking it in again. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 253/1, I lay stirless, softly sneaking my right hand to the pistol. 1892 Gunter *Miss Dividends* (1893) 275 When Lawrence's name comes up for membership, he sneaks in a black-ball, as many another prig ..has done before.

refl. 1680 *Advice to Soldier* ii. in *Harl. Misc.* (1753) I. 467, I have seen some of those Gallants..in the Middle of a Sea-fight,..sneak themselves behind the Main-mast.

b. To keep out of sight; to hide. *rare*—1.

1701 Wake *Ration.* 222 (Todd), Some sins dare the world in open defiance, yet this [*sc.* slander] lurks, and sneaks its head.

c. To pass *through* in an underhand or stealthy manner.

1891 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 2/4 Mr. Stephens..objected.. to this cruel and unjust Bill being 'sneaked' through Parliament. 1896 *Voice* (N. Y.) 5 Mar. 2/4 A most important measure is being sneaked through the general assembly.

†5. To do or act (one's part) in a sneaking or cringing manner. *Obs.*—1

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccxcii, Something hidden lifts the Thought To Noble Actions, when they heare 'em told, And Hee who Sneaks his part, will praise 'em bold.

6. a. *Cant.* (See quot.)

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s.v., To sneak a place is to rob it upon the sneak. *Ibid.*, One or more persons having escaped from their confinement by stealth, without.. alarming their keepers, are said to have *sneak'd 'em.*

b. *colloq.* To steal in a sneaking or stealthy manner; to filch.

1883 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 3/7 The various kinds of people who visit public libraries for other than legitimate purposes, such as..those who sneaked umbrellas, and those who stole books. 1889 Jerome *Three Men in Boat* ix. 142 Somebody must have sneaked it, and run off with it.

Sneak-, the sb. or verb-stem used in combs., as **sneak-boat**, *U.S.* a boat by which one may readily move or approach unobserved; *esp.* a sneak-box; **sneak-box**, *U.S.* a small, flat, shallow boat used in wild-fowl shooting, and when in use masked with brush or weeds; **sneak-current**, *Electr.* current which escapes or strays owing to leakage or imperfect insulation (1904 in *Cent. Dict.* Suppl.); **sneak-pasty** *a.*, insidious, sneaky; **sneak-shooting**, the shooting of wild-fowl from a sneak-boat (*Cent. Dict.*); **sneak-thief** (orig. *U.S.*), one who steals or thieves by sneaking into houses through open or unfastened doors or windows; hence *sneak-thieving* vbl. sb.

1882 D. Kemp *Yacht Sailing* xvi. (1884) 258 The home of the *sneak-boat, or sneak box, or devil's coffin, as the contrivance is indifferently termed, is Barnegat Bay. 1889 Bucknill *Submarine Mines* 232 The Howell [torpedo]..is inferior only as an arm for a sneak boat, or for a vessel attempting to run a blockade. 1879 N. H. Bishop *4 Months in a Sneak-Box* (1880) 1 The comical-looking..Barnegat *sneak-box, or duck-boat. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826/2 The New Jersey sneak box is from 12' to 14' in length.

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 15 (1713) I. 101 Some creeping *Sneakpasty Schismatick would have informed against you. 1877 Talmage *Serm.* 58 The meanest *sneak-thief that comes up..at the Tomb Court. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Mar. 653/2 The offences are nearly all trivial, most of them being petty larceny and *sneak-thieving.

Snea·kaway. *rare.* [f. Sneak *v.* 1 a.] One who makes off in a sneaking manner.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 1/3 Men who know themselves beaten already, but are not the cowards and sneakaways we sometimes make them out to be.

†**Snea·kbill.** *Obs.* Also 6 sneke-, sneek-, 7 sneake- (and Sneaksbill). [Of obscure origin: cf. Sneaksby.] A mean or paltry fellow; a starved or thin-faced person. Also *attrib.*

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 Why will ye.. I shall folow hir will? To make me Iohn drawlache, or such a snekebill. 1577 Kendall *Flowres of Epigr.* 9 Perchaunce thou deemst me in thy minde, Therefore a sneekbill, snudge vnkinde. 1611 Cotgr., *Chiche-face*, a chichiface, micher, sneake-bill, wretched fellow. *Ibid.*, *Visage de bec*, a sneake-bill, sharp-nose, chittiface. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. liv, Here enter not base pinching Usurers,..chichie sneakbil rogues.

Sneak-cup, app. an error for Sneak-up *sb.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 99 *Falst.* How? the Prince is a lacke, a Sneake-Cuppe. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 99 You will but cry like Falstaff (when the Prince asked him if he had said he was a Sneak-Cup).

Sneaker (snī·kəɹ). [f. Sneak *v.*]

1. A person or animal that sneaks; a sneak.

1598 Florio, *Origlione*, an eauesdropper, a listner,..a sneaker, a lurking knaue. *c* 1613 Middleton *No Wit like Woman's* IV. ii, I thought they were some such sneakers. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. iv. i. (1651) 519 A long lean rawbone, a skeleton, a sneaker. 1715 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 66 He being one of the Sneakers and terribly afraid of disobliging the debauched Court of K. George. *a* 1734 North *Examen* III. viii. § 37 (1740) 611 The Courtiers that were more used to Sneakers, than to Men of clear Courage. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolomini* II. xiv, Not a sneaker among us, thank heaven. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 7 Mar., We have more sneakers after Ministerial favour than men who love their country. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* vii. 161 He soon departed and we heard no more of the majestic sneaker.

2. †a. A small bowl (*of* punch). *Obs.* (Common from *c* 1710 to *c* 1740.)

(*a*) *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sneaker*, (of Punch) a small Bowl. 1726 G. Roberts *Four Yrs. Voy.* 71 He would take me on Board the Scooner with him, to treat me with a Sneaker of Punch before parting. 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* II. iv, He called for a sneaker of punch. 1772 in Jas. Forbes *Oriental Mem.* (1813) IV. 217 He then ordered five sneakers of a mixture which he denominated punch.

(*b*) 1714 *Spect.* No. 616 ¶4, I have just left the Right Worshipful and his Myrmidons about a Sneaker of Five Gallons. 1742 Fielding *J. Andrews* I. xiii, Mr. Barnabas ..having..drank a bowl of punch.., returned to take the other sneaker; which when he had finished [etc.]. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* Ixxxviii. (1783) III. 157 A little snug place..where we might take a friendly sneaker together.

b. A glass *of* brandy.

1805 Ramsay *Scotl. & Scotsmen 18th C.* (1888) II. 293 He had a small sneaker of brandy before retiring to his bedroom. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 60 Step to the corner and fetch me a sneaker of brandy.

3. *U.S. colloq.* = Sneak *sb.* 4.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

4. *Cricket.* = Sneak *sb.* 3.

1909 in *Cent. Dict.* Suppl.

Sneaker-snee, variant of Snickersnee *v.*

Sneakiness (snī·kinės). [f. Sneaky *a.*] The character or quality of being sneaky.

1859 Boyd *Recreat. Country Parson* (1862) 63 Sneakiness ..is worse than the most indiscreet honesty. 1865 — *Crit. Ess.* (1867) 3 His sneakiness as a patriot, his corruption as a judge.

Sneaking (snī·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Sneak *v.*] The action of the vb. in various senses. Also with preps. and advs.

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II*, cxliv, But sneaking smells of Peasant, though they weare Blue Ribbands. 1656 *North's Plutarch* Add. Lives 43 He built a house without his Camp for all strangers.., whereby he prevented their sneaking into his Camp. 1706 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 217 By his Sneaking and Cringing. 1772 T. Simpson *Vermin-Killer* 20 They appear shy, but that is from your sneaking after them. 1829 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 23 An assiduity..which sometimes almost verges towards sneaking. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 403/2 By hard sneaking it was possible to get within about two hundred and fifty yards.

Sneaking (snī·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 7 sneeking. [f. Sneak *v.*]

1. That sneaks; moving, walking, acting, etc., in a furtive or slinking manner. Also *transf.*

1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 98 Hee is such a sneaking fellowe, that..touch him and he will scrike. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* B iij, They will..call him a sneaking Eauesdropper. 1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 71 Where is then the anarchy, the sneaking oligarchy? 1673 A. Walker *Lees Lachrymans* 26 He had a great mans mind, not a little sneeking, servile, narrow, soul. 1710 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 34 Authoriz'd to be printed by our sneaking Vicechanc[ellor]. 1726 Dyer *Country Walk* 75 The sneaking tribe of Flattery. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 227 Lurking footpads and sneaking pickpockets. 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* xiii, A nasty, ungrateful, pig-headed, brutish, obstinate, sneaking dog. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 99 Several of these sneaking beasts [coyotes] were prowling round.

Comb. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 292, The same sneaking-looking animal, whether you meet with it in a palace or a jail.

†b. *Sneaking-budge*, one who steals or robs alone; also *erron.* (quots. 1743–51), stealing, pilfering. *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* I. viii, Wild..looked upon borrowing to be as good a way of taking as any, and, as he called it, the genteelest kind of Sneaking-budge. 1751 — *Amelia* I. iii, I find you are some sneaking-budge rascal.

†c. Niggardly, mean, near. *Obs.*

1696 W. Mountagu *Holland* Pref. 2 We were not Sneaking..but thriftily Liberal. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* X. iii, He had some few blemishes.., yet being a sneaking or a niggardly fellow, was not one of them. 1773 Foote *Bankrupt* III, No gentleman can accuse me of being sneaking. Dingey, give him six pence.

transf. 1697 Tryon *Way to Health* vi. 116 How many stingy sneaking Names will they call us?

2. Marked or characterized by, partaking or suggestive of, sneaking; hence, mean, contemptible.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 84 But Scylla in cabbans with sneaking treacherye lurcketh. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XIII. xxiii, No Conventicle's sneaking Cloisters hid Those Doctrines. 1658 *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 73 He has an extraordinary sneaking countenance and way with him. 1724 Welton *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 223 It was, methinks, as sneaking a submission..as it was a false assertion. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* I, An absolute monarch to sink into the sneaking state of being a slave to one of his subjects. 1845 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* lxxiii. (1857) III. 402 They, in a sneaking and paltry manner, pretended that they were not prepared. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. i, It's worthy of the sneaking spirit that robs a live man.

†3. Mean in appearance or amount; petty, paltry, contemptibly poor or small. *Obs.*

1703 R. Neve *City & C. Purchaser* 87 Sometimes little sneaking ill-contrived Stair-cases are built in a good comely large Structure. 1733 Fielding *Quix. Eng.* II. i, For a sneaking fee he pleads the villain's cause. 1779 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 20 Oct., A meaner, more sneaking and pitiful wig..did I never see.

4. Of feelings, affection, etc.: Unavowedly cherished or entertained; not openly declared or shown; undemonstrative. Freq. in *a sneaking kindness.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) III. 303, I believe I have a sneaking kindness for the sneaking fellow. 1753–4 — *Grandison* (1812) I. 250 (D.), You..shall reveal to me your sneaking passion, if you have one. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 244 Some sneaking virtue lurks in him, no doubt. 1842 Thackeray *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* vii, I can't help having a sneaking regard for him. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* ix. (1894) 204, I have a sneaking..belief in the virtues of the scrambling Briton. 1897 Miss Kingsley *W. Africa* 676, I have a sneaking sympathy with these good people.

Snea·kingly, *adv.* Also 6 **snekingly**, 7 **sneekingly.** [f. prec.]

1. In a sneaking manner; not openly or boldly.

1598 Florio, *Gatto gatto*, groping, creeping,..sneakingly as a cat. 1599 Linche *Anc. Fiction* M iij, The Serpent.. snekingly conueyeth her selfe away. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Ch. Porch* xxi, Doe all things like a man, not sneakingly. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* IV. i, How sneakingly will he look when he shall find his mistake. 1726 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 17 June 1, I shall not..sneakingly hang my Head, under the smartest Strokes..of Adversity. 1778 Mrs. Scott in Doran *Lady of last Cent.* (1873) x. 243 If she ever does ill, she will do it sneakingly. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 377 Certain senators, who, having boldly given the lie, give sneakingly the hand of reconciliation. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* I. 80 We hurriedly and sneakingly enter the drawing-room.

†2. Meanly; niggardly. *Obs.*

1695 De la Pryme *Diary* (Surtees) 74 He behaved himself the sneakinglyest to him that can be imagined.

3. Without open declaration; unavowedly.

1730 [A. Hill] *Progr. Wit* 7 Unborn to cherish, sneakingly approves, And wants the Soul to spread the Worth, he loves. 1879 Browning *Martin Relph* 141 Suppose I had sneakingly loved her myself, My wretched self.

Snea·kingness. *rare.* [f. as prec.] Sneaking quality; sneakiness.

c 1647 Boyle *Agst. Swearing* Wks. 1772 VI. 16 Such persons are deeply accessary..by a sneakingness, which.. implies a guilt. [1687 in Miege. 1727 in Bailey (vol. II).]

Sneakish (snī·kiʃ), *a.* [Cf. Sneak *sb.* and *v.*]

†1. ? Farcical, ludicrous. *Obs.*—1

1570 Levins *Manip.* 145 Sneakish, *bardus*, *mimus.*

2. Somewhat sneaky.

1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 302 The sneakish courtly gentleman. 1897 'Tivoli' *Short Innings* xv. 227 Well, it was a beastly, sneakish trick.

Hence **Snea·kishness.**

1895 A. H. S. Landor *Corea* 114 It is generally associated with sneakishness, treachery, and perfidy.

Snea·kishly, *adv. rare*—1. In 6 **sneky-shely.** [See Sneak *v.* This is the earliest example of the stem.] Meanly, despicably.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 270 b, All men..cried out upon Duke Maurice, whiche serued him so sneky-shely, whome he oughte to haue honoured as his father.

†**Sneaks,** *sb. Obs. rare.* = Sneak *sb.* 1.

1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 17 Domineer abroad, be a sneaks at home? 1687 Miege *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A poor Sneaks, or a poor Sneaksby (that is a pitiful Fellow, that scarce dares shew his Head). *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Peeking Fellow*, a meer Sneaks.

†**'Sneaks,** *int. Obs.*—1 An abbrev. of *God's neaks* (see God *sb.* 14 b and Neakes), used as a petty oath. (Cf. 'Snigs.)

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, S'neaks, and I were worth but three hundred pound a yeare more, I could sweare richly.

†Snea·ksbill. *Obs. rare.* = SNEAKBILL.

1602 DEKKER *Satiromast.* I iv b, Come Grumboll, thou shalt Mum with vs; come, dogge mee sneakesbill. *a* 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* III. ii, A base thin-jaw'd sneaksbill, Thus to work gallants out of all.

Snea·ksby. Now *rare.* Also 6 snekesbie, 7 sneaksbie, etc. [Of obscure origin: see -BY 2, and cf. prec. and SNEAKBILL.] A mean-spirited person; a paltry fellow.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Niez*, an idiote,..a simple soule, a snekesbie. 1611 COTGR., *Coquefredouille*, a meacocke, milkesop, sneaksbie. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 III. 274 To be termed..a demure Sneaksby..Men can hardly brook. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* II. ii. There is no comparison between my master and thee, thou sneaksby. 1785 in GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* *a* 1877 COWDEN CLARKE in Rolfe *Shaks. Two Gent.* 28 A woman..will cling to a ruffian,..but she will despise and shun a pettifogging sneaksby.

Snea·ksman. *Cant.* [f. SNEAK *sb.* or *v.*] (See quots. 1812, 1859.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Sneaksman*, a man or boy who goes upon the sneak. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, There was no such sneaksman..going. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 97 *Sneaksman*, a shoplifter; a petty cowardly thief.

Sneak-up (snī·kˌʌp), *sb.* [f. SNEAK *v.*; see also SNEAK-CUP.] A mean, servile, or cringing person; a sneak; a shirk.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 99 (Q.), The prince is a lacke, a sneakeup. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlv. 299 You must set other manner of Coltes vpon me then this poore nasty sneake-vp. 1775 ASH, *Sneaksby*, a sneakup. 1798 T. MORTON *Secrets* III. 1 But he is such a Sneakup! Were he a boy of mettle, I would adopt him.

attrib. 1851 JERROLD *St. Giles* (1852) I. 305 It's only your sneak-up chaps, that are afraid of the glass, that get into trouble,..and catch rheumatism.

Sneak-up, *v. pseudo-arch.* Alteration of *snick-up* (see SNICK *v.*[1]), under the influence of prec.

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxx, Here's a fellow..talks about failing..! Blurt for him, sneak-up! say I. *Ibid.*, Marry, sneak-up! say I again.

Sneaky (snī·ki), *a.* [f. SNEAK *sb.*]

1. Of persons: Like or resembling a sneak; mean, paltry, sneaking.

1833 *Christmas Improvement* ii. (1841) 32 She is a nasty sneaky thing, for she is always trying to make us say things that are not true. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 142 'Did you ever see such a fool as I look?' say I, feeling very sneaky.

2. Characterized by, partaking of, sneaking.

1860 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 224 The blue hare ..pestering your pointers and setters with his sneaky draws, and foolishly astute meanderings. 1865 BURRITT *Walk Land's End* 333 We attribute a mean, sneaky, hypocritical mind to Mr. Pecksniff. 1868 BOYD *Less. Middle Age* 256 That sneaky way in which some people are able to insinuate evil against their neighbours.

Sneap (snīp), *sb.* Now *arch.* [f. SNEAP *v.*] A snub or check; a rebuke, reproof.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 135 My Lord, I will not vndergo this sneape without reply. 1876 WEISS *Wit, Humour*, etc. iv. 149 A charter from Providence to give Falstaff his first sneap of retribution. 1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 365 He might have spared us this sneap, seeing that his own queen had been enamoured of an ass.

Sneap (snīp), *v.* Now *dial.* and *arch.* Also 7 sneep. [Later form of *snaip* SNAPE *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To nip or pinch.

1588- [see SNEAPED, SNEAPING *ppl. adjs.*] 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 65 Herbs and Fruits sneapt with cold weather.

2. To check, repress; to snub, reprove, chide.

1611 *Sec. Maiden's Trag.* III. i, Nay I am gon, Ime a man quickly sneapt. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* IV. ix, Doe you sneap me too my Lord?..I had No need to come hither to be sneapt. 1659 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 391 They set him at light,..and made the poor man retire sneaped to his colonel. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 65 Children easily sneaped. 1865 S. EVANS *Brother Fabian's MS.* 5 My lord Archbishop sneaps us for our sloth. 1886- in dial. glossaries, etc. (Lincs., Staffs.).

fig. and *transf.* 1623 BP. HALL *Works* (1837) V. 141 That we do enough hate our corruptions; when, at our sharpest, we do but gently sneap them. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. iii. 18 Life that's here, When into it the soul doth closely wind, Is often sneep'd by anguish.

Hence **Sneaped** *ppl. a.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 333 To ad a more reioysing to the prime, And giue the sneaped birds more cause to sing.

Sneaping (snī·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SNEAP *v.*] Of the wind, etc.: Checking growth; nipping, biting. Also in fig. context.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 100 Like an enuious sneaping Frost, That bites the first borne infants of the Spring. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 13 No sneaping Winds at home. 1882 L. CAMPBELL *T. C. Maxwell* 45 His activities were apt..to take odd shapes, as in a healthy plant under a sneaping wind. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* July 119 Sheltered..from the sneaping winds of ill-usage or mischance.

†Sneap-nose. *Obs.*[-1] [f. SNEAP *v.*] One who has a pinched nose. (Cf. SNEIPE *v.*)

1649 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* II. Must I be thus slighted ..by a Runnagate, a Sneap nose, a thin gut?

Sneath, dial. var. of SNATH, scythe-pole.

Sneb, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 5–7 snebbe. [var. of SNIB *v.*[1]] *trans.* To reprimand, reprove, or check; to snub. Also *absol.*

In Chaucer *Prol.* 525 (see SNIB *v.*[1] 1) two or three manuscripts have *snebbe.*

c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* III. 261 (MS. Arundel), Therfore youre grace wyth pytous voys I pray To punyshe and snebbe youre-self as ye lest. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 126 Which made this foolish Brere wexe so bold, That ..he cast him to scold, And snebbe the good Oake, for he was old. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* xxxiii. 22 (Grosart) II. 98 Thou heardst euen now a yong man sneb me sore. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 157 So was Dauid by Nathan.. snebbed in this sort for his euill example. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. of Ely* II. x. 515 The Nurse her selfe may waken the child..; chide it and sneb it, as well as giue it the dugge. 1846 W. DRUMMOND *Muckomachy* 18 The man thus snebbit Lost too his tebbit. 1867- in dial. use (Lancs., Yks.).

Sneck (snek), *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 **snekke**, 5 **snekk**, 5–7, 9 **snek**, 5–6 **sneke**; 6– **sneck**, 7 **snecke**; 7, 9 **snack**; 8 **snake**. *β.* 8– **snick**. [Of obscure origin: cf. SNATCH *sb.* 1.]

1. The latch of a door or gate; the lever which raises the bar of a latch; †a catch (cf. 2 a).

a. 1324 *Acc. Exch., K. R.* Bd. 165 No. 1 m. 4, Pro xxviij snekkes cum xxviij stapulis ad tenendum trendles ligni pro springaldis tendendis. 1419 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 147 Et in j snek ad ostium pulpiti, *id. c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snekke, or latche, *clitorium, pessulum. c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 306 *Mak.* Good wyff, open the hek!.. *Vxor.* I may thole the dray the snek. 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Sneke, latche, *locquet, cliquette.* 1560 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Peebles* (1872) 258 To vphald substantiousle thair portis in..stapillis, snekkis and all irne graith necessare. 1600 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 133 For mending the North church gate, and also an iron sneck. 1638 *Ibid.* 302 A snecke for the ministers sette. *c* 1725 in J. J. Vernon *Parish of Hanwick* (1900) 80 Paid for 2 Snecks for Quire doore. 1770 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 303 Any one, by Night or by Day, can lift the Sneck and come in. 1781- in many dial. glossaries and texts (Sc., N. Ir., N. Cy., E. Ang., Derby, Warw., etc.). 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxiii, The sneck was drawn, and the Countess..entered my dwelling. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 216 Sometimes the demons will undo the sneck of the gate. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 50 The old man lifted the 'sneck' quickly and caught us.

β. 1786 BURNS *The Vision* vii, When click! the string the snick did draw. 1889 A. MUNRO *Siren Casket* 169 He raised the snick Of Allan's cottage door.

b. *To draw a sneck*, to act cunningly or stealthily. *a* 1500 in *Ratis Raving*, etc. 89 Thar word is fyrst in awdiens, With fenȝeand falsat ay reddy To draw a snek rycht subtely. 1786 BURNS *To G. Hamilton* iii, I ken he weel a Snick can draw, When simple bodies let him.

c. *On the sneck*, latched. So *off the sneck.*

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxviii, I'se warrant it a twa-handed ghaist, and the door left on the sneck. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv. 167 The door was on the sneck that day. 1897 CROCKETT *Lads' Love* iv. 43 Then..leave the lang window o' the ben room off the sneck, after the lairds are awa'.

2. *techn.* a. A catch or device for holding the lever of a spinning-machine.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 426 When in geer they [i. e. levers] are held firm by the sneck. *Ibid.*, The machine is put in motion by raising the main lever into the sneck by hand.

b. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snecks*, appliances for diverting wagons from the main line into a siding.

3. *dial.* or *techn.* in various senses (see quots.).

1810 S. SMITH *Agric. Surv. Galloway* 86 Besides the improvement of locked tops [in stone walls], he invented also snecks or hudds, i. e. spaces built single at short intervals. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sneck*, a small piece or tongue of land, abutting on or intersecting an adjoining field. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Sneck*, a carving [=air-way].

4. *attrib.*, as *sneck-fastening, -lock*; **sneck-band** (see quot. 1828); **sneck-bend**, a form of fish-hook (see quots.); **sneck posset**, a cold reception or greeting; a discharge or dismissal; **sneck-string**, a sneck-band.

The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* contains a number of other examples.

1483 *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 733 *Hec mastiga*, a *sneck-bank [? *read* -band]. *Hic gumfus*, a dorbande. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Sneck-band*, the string fastened to the latch, and passed through a hole to the outside of the door. 1855 WAUGH *Life & Local.* 106 The door is still opened from without by a 'sneck-bant'. 1816 BAINBRIDGE *Fly Fisher's Guide* 31 The *Sneckbend, as it is commonly called, diverges from the parallel lines from the bend upwards. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* I. v. ii. 235 Many Scotchmen use what is called the sneckbend, differing slightly from both of the above [hooks], in being made of a more square shape. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* I. 204, 10 Pairs of crooks and bands for feeding-holes. 10 *Sneck-fastenings for ditto. 1570 *Wills & Inv.* (Surtees, 1835) 312, I do geve vnto An Jaxssonn one woode Cheast which haithe a *sneck locke. 1876 J. RICHARDSON *Cumbld. Talk* Ser. II. 65 A *sneck posset I gat. 1885 HALL CAINE *Shadow Crime* 8 He had his own reasons for not quitting Wythburn after he had received his very unequivocal 'sneck posset'. 1758 W. RECKITT *Jrnl.* (1799) 59 They did not so much as pull in their *sneck-string when they went to bed and had neither lock nor bar.

Sneck, *sb.*[2] *Sc.* [f. SNECK *v.*[2]] A sharp cut; a snick or snip.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 84 The gully..may chance to gee's a sneck into the hand. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xli, If there's a pair of sheers in the Highlands that has a bauider sneck than her's ain.

Sneck, *sb.*[3] [Imitative.] A sharp clicking sound. Cf. SNICK *sb.*[3]

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iv, Back went the girth buckles with a 'sneck'. 1861 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Sc. Life* Ser. II. 116 An industrious house too, wherein the brr of the wheel and the sneck of the reel had sounded.

Sneck (snek), *v.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 5 **snekk-**, 9 **snek.** [f. SNECK *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To latch (a door or gate); to close or fasten with or by means of a sneck.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 284/2 Latchyn, or snekkyn, *pessulo.* 1560 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 239 The deponar..fand the dur snecked and vnbarred and sche barred the dur. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 43 *Snock* [1691 *Sneck*] the door: Latch the door. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 36 Sae out she slips, an' snecks the door behind. 1787- in dial. glossaries and texts (Sc., N. Cy., Notts., Linc., Warw., etc.). 1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 175 Sneck the door, laddie. 1889 *Carlisle Patriot* 1 Mar. (E.D.D.), If the gate had been snecked, the cattle could not have got on the line.

b. To lock or shut *up.* In quot. *fig.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxix, The secrets of grit folk..are just like the wild beasts that are shut up in cages. Keep them hard and fast snecked up, and it's a' very weel.

c. *intr.* Of a door or gate: To latch, shut.

1871 MRS. EWING *Brownies*, etc. 107 The gate opened for them and snecked after them. 1889 TENNYSON *Owd Roa* xxxii, I'd clear forgot..thy chaumber door wouldn't sneck.

2. *trans.* (See quot. 1808.) *Sc.*

1792 *Stat. Acc. Scotl.* II. 534 Farm-houses and Cottages.—..A very few of them have been stob-thatched, or covered with a deep coat of straw,—and snecked or harled with lime. 1808 JAMIESON, *To sneck* with lime, to make indentations in a wall, filling the blanks with lime; or, in building, to insert a small quantity between the stones in the outer side.

Sneck (snek), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [Origin, and relation to SNICK *v.*[2], uncertain.] *trans.* To cut (*off*).

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 103 He tuik hir be the nek, And with ane knife hir heid he did of snek. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxii, Do the folk think I hae another thrapple in my pouch after John Highlandman's sneckit this ane wi' his jocteleg? 1835 CARRICK *Laird Logan* (1854) 156 Mony a ane o' my acquaintances hae gotten the thread o' life sneckit.

Sneck, *v.*[3] Now *dial.* [Origin obscure.] *trans.* To snatch; to take or seize quickly.

1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* I. ii, *Pursn.* Her Chaine of Pearle. *Boy.* I sneckt it away finely. 1873 MURDOCH *Doric Lyre* 43 When rent day comes ye're unca fain To look us up an' sneck the siller.

Sneck-drawer. Now *Sc.* and *north.* Also 9 snick-. [f. SNECK *sb.*[1] + DRAWER *sb.*[1]: cf. *latch-drawer* and DRAW-LATCH.] One who draws or lifts a sneck or latch (in order to enter stealthily); a crafty, flattering, or sly fellow (cf. quot. 1808).

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 98 Ȝoure prowde losengerie that rune abowt as snek-drawers. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 295 Whan the tittlin ald snick-drawers fell to. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., *An auld sneck-drawer*, one who, from long experience, has acquired a great degree of facility in accomplishing any artful purpose. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xiii, Doited idiot!—that auld clavering sneck-drawer wad gar ye trow the moon is made of green cheese. 1846 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1852) IV. xxiv. 457 He was just too much of a sneck-drawer.

So **Sne·ck-draw**; also **Sneck-drawing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, **Sneck-drawn** *a.*

1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xvi, There's many a lying *sneck-draw sits close in kirk. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxi, I ken the Maxwell lads and I ken the hill sneck-draws. 1785-6 BURNS *Addr. to Deil* xvi, Ye auld, *snick-drawing dog! 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, The old sneck-drawing whigamore her father. *c* 1830 HOGG *Bridal of Polmood* vii, Onye sikkan wylld sneckdrawinge and pawkerye. 1820 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* I. liii, If aw din't her bottle fill, Aw's then a skint-flint, *sneck-drawn dog.

Snecke, obs. form of SNICK *v.*[1]

Snecked (snekt), *ppl. a. Building.* [app. f. SNECK *sb.*[1]] Built of squared stones, but of different sizes and not laid in regular courses.

1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 48 The abutments, ..foundations and parapets are to be constructed in accordance with the General Specification for Snecked or Fitted Rubble. 1883 *Alnwick Mercury* 17 Nov. 2 The building is of snecked walling.

Sne·cket. [Dim. of SNECK *sb.*[1]] A sneck or sneck-band. Also *transf.*, a noose, halter.

1611 COTGR., *Loquet d'vne huis*, the latch, or snecket of a doore. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, The Sneck or Snecket of a door, *funiculus obicis* [etc. Hence in Ray, Grose, etc.]. 1788 *New London Mag.* 494 Then over his head let the snecket be got, And under one ear be well settled the knot. 1869- in Cumbld. dial. glossaries.

Sned, *sb.*: see SNEAD.

Sned, *v.* In later use *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **snædan** (*pa. t.* **snædde, snedde**), 6– **sned**, 7 **snedde, snad, snead**, 8 **snade.** [OE. *snǽdan*, related to *sníðan* SNITHE *v.* For the shortening of the vowel cf. KEP *v.*]

1. *trans.* To cut or lop off (a branch). Also in fig. context, and with *off.*

a 800 *Leiden Gloss.* 249 in *O. E. Texts* 117 *Putat*, snædit. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxiii. 222 Hit bið unnyt ðæt mon hwelces yfles boȝas snæde [etc.]. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 8 Sume þonne sneddun telgran of treowum & strætdun on þæm wege. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. i. 14 Ane akin tre,..The branchis sned and kut abowt alquhair. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 192 Otheris sned the branches of the Papistrie, but he stryckis at the roote. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. ii. 26 Whereby they did in some sort snedde the reviving twigs of old superstition. 1645 in *Baillie's Lett. & Jrnls.* (1775) II. 94 Which [writing], although it took not away the root, yet did it sned many of the branches of the evils complained of. 1735 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 II. 337 The Lord of the Vineyard sneds the luxuriant branches. 1829 in BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2). *c* 1870 W. GRAHAM *Lect. Ephes.* 351 The branch sned off from the vine becomes a sport of the winds.

transf. 1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* vii, He..legs, an' arms, an' heads will sned, Like taps o' thrissle. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 199 First his richt ear he clean affcleft, And then he sneddit aff his left.

b. To prune (a tree); to divest of branches.

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Puto, autumno*,..to sned trees. 1640 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1881) II. xxxv. 438 He is only lopping and snedding a fruitful tree. 1689 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 116, I resolve rather to give it over and go home and snad trees at Polwart House. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Sneith*, To sned, i. e. to prune timber-trees. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 664 After a tree is cut down it is *snedded*, or divested of all its branches.

2. To cut; to form, or sever, by cutting.

In ME. this sense occurs in the comb. *to-snēden.*

1789 BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* vi, But I'll sned besoms—thraw saugh woodies. 1888 YEATS *Folk Tales* 268 He..pulled up the fir-tree,..and having *snedded* it into a walking-stick [etc]. 1889 A. MUNRO *Siren Casket* 239 Heart I've not.. To sned your thrad of life.

Hence **Sne·dded** *ppl. a.*; **Sne·dder**; **Sne·dding** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1584 in *Melvil's Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 177 The snedders and delvers of the wyneyeard. *c* 1670 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 269 The smith..finding the fresh sneaded branches, makes search under the tree. 1720 T. BOSTON *Fourf. State* (1797) 279 He that would ingraft, must needs use the snedding-knife. 1725 A. JERVISE *Epit.*, etc. (1879) II. 39/1 With spade and Raik,..The snading ax and pruning knife. 1735 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. 1871 II. 337 The snedding of the tree contributes to the..growth of the branches. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sneddins*, the prunings, or twigs, lopped off from trees. 1825 — *Suppl.*, *Snedder*, a pruner, one who lops off branches.

†Snede. *Obs.* [OE. *snǽd*, = ON. *sneið*, related to OE. *snīðan* SNITHE *v.*] A small piece, morsel.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 268 Ȝenim rædices .iii. snæda. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* I. xii. 62 Þa hwile ðe se bisceop mæssode and began to etenne he feoll þa æt ðære forman snæde. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Enes he [Adam] þar-offe bot, and wearð þar mide acheked, and þureh þat one snede wearð al his ofspring acheked.

Snee (to cut): see SNICK OR SNEE.

Snee, variant of SNY (to swarm), *dial.*

Sneeker-snee, variant of SNICKERSNEE *v.*

Sneer (snīəɹ), *sb.* Also 8 **snear.** [f. the vb. Cf. NFris. *sneer* a scornful remark.]

1. An act of sneering; a look or expression implying derision, contempt, or scorn; a disdainful or scornful remark or utterance, esp. one of a covert or indirect nature.

1707 *Refl. upon Ridicule* 107 He is applauded with a Sneer. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 251 He looks upon Atterbury's Complement as a Snear. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* III. i, A sneer at my understanding. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) p. xvii, By making this confession I shall incur the sneers of those..who have strong prepossessions and few scruples. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 113 Halifax..answered with a sneer that there was no danger. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* II. iii. (1881) 121 Amid the scoffs..and the sneers that stab like knives.

b. Without article: Sneering, scorn.

1791 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 396 He speaks even of those who are opposed to his government..without either sneer or acrimony. 1841 in *Leic. Gloss.* (1881) 246 He could not bear To see her treated with such scorn and sneer.

2. *Sc.* A snort.

Jamieson (1825) also gives 'the act of inhalation or inspiration by the nostrils'; 'the act of a horse, when colded, in throwing the mucus from his nostrils'; 'the hiss of an adder'.

17.. *Lochmaben Harper* in Child *Ballads* IV. 18/1 When she came to the harper's door, There she gave mony a nicher and sneer.

Sneer (snīəɹ), *v.* Also 7 **sneare**, 7–8 **snear.** [prob. of imitative origin. The relation to NFris. (Sylt) *sneere* to scorn, is not clear.

Apparent examples of *snere*, *snered*, and *snering* occur about 1300 in the *E. E. Psalter* ii. 4, xxxiv. 16, lxxviii. 4, and lxxix. 7, as renderings of L. *irridebit*, *deriserunt*, and *derisus*; but two of the MSS. have variants *swere*, *swered*, *swering*. The translator was evidently influenced by the OE. glosses *bismeraþ*, *bismeradon*, *bismerung*, and it is very doubtful whether he was using a word which was really known to him.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: To snort. Now *dial.* †Also *trans.*, to send *out* with snorts.

1553 *Douglas' Æneid* VII. v. 101 With twa sterne stedis.. At thair neis thyrles the fyre fast furth snering out. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* (1617) VI. 12 If..you doe now and then spirt a little Vinegar into his nostrels,..it will both make him sneare and neese. 1814 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1115 The colt..scampered off sneering, with his tail on his 'riggin'. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss.* s.v., If a horse sneers efter he coughs he's nut brokken windit.

b. *Sc.* Of an animal: To make a twitching movement with the nose.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 447 On the extrusion of the calf, the first symptom it shews of life is a few gasps.., and then it opens its eyes, and tries to shake its head, and sneer with its nose.

2. To smile scornfully or contemptuously; to express scorn, derision, or disparagement in this way; to speak or write in a manner suggestive or expressive of contempt or disparagement:

a. Const. *at* a person or thing.

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 357 The Wits of this age that are ready to snear and flear at any such profession. *a* 1744 POPE (J.), I could be content to be a little sneered at in a line. *a* 1763 W. KING *Polit. & Lit. Anecd.* (1819) 20 The French seemed to sneer at this behaviour of the German officers, and looked on them with a kind of contempt. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* liv, Flora, observing the Lowland ladies sneer at the comparison, produced some reason to shew that it was not altogether so absurd. 1858 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) III. i. 30 Luther was sneered at because of his little German tracts. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours Libr.* (1892) I. x. 361 Walpole sheltered himself behind..a pension to sneer at the tragi-comedy of life.

b. Without const.

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 202 Damn with faint praise, assent with civil leer, And without sneering, teach the rest to sneer. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 182 The fear Lest fops should censure us, and fools should sneer. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind* 655 Men wondered, and some sneered to see One sow what he could never reap. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, Philosophedom sneers aloud, as if its Necker already triumphed. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I, If authors sneer, it is the critic's business to sneer at them for sneering. *fig.* 1835 L. HUNT *Poems* (1844) 96 Sneereth the trumpet, and stampeth the drum.

†3. To laugh foolishly or smirkingly; to grin.

1683 WOOD *Life* 17 Feb., They..stand silent, while their abbettors sneare and grin. 1695 *Ibid.* 23 Mar., With Mr J. Ecc. at the house next the Half-Moon: two snearing and laughing wo[men]: he sneared and laughed with them. 1705 R. BEVERLEY *Virginia* II. xviii. (1722) 121 A Fourth would fondly kiss, and paw his Companions, and snear in their Faces, with a Countenance more antick, than any in a Dutch Droll. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 558 Our.. Pilot, who had always something or other to say to make us merry, came sneering to me, and told me [etc.].

b. *dial.* (See quot.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Sneer*, to make wry faces, without intention of expressing contempt or insult.

c. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., To 'make all sneer again' is to carry canvas to such an extent as to strain the ropes and spars to the utmost.

4. *trans.* To utter with a sneer or in a sneering tone.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* I. iv, I confess I have not been sneering fulsome lyes and nauseous flattery. 1864 TENNYSON *Voyage* 78 'A ship of fools,' he sneer'd and wept. 1904 A. E. GLOVER *1000 Miles of Miracle* x. (1908) 126 He sneered some contemptuous word.

5. To speak or write of (a person or thing) with scorn, contempt, or disparagement; to deride or decry. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1707 *Refl. upon Ridicule* 94 When People ridicule and sneer you. 1740–2 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 41 Wedlock, which used to be very freely sneered by him. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 64 Blackmore's Banter on the Philosophers..proved more his own than their Ignorance, when he thus sneers them. *a* 1900 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., He sneered me shameful.

6. To curl *up* (the lip) in contempt or scorn. *rare.*

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* iii. (1783) II. 136 A pennyworth, sir!—cried the steward, (sneering up his upper-lip, till it touched the tip of his nose..) a pennyworth!

7. To affect in a certain way by sneering; to drive or force by means of sneers or scornful speech or manner:

a. Const. with preps., as *from*, *into*, *out of.*

1737 SAVAGE *Of Public Spirit* 325 Careless of Whispers meant to wound their Name, Nor sneer'd nor brib'd from Virtue into Shame. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 243 Who contradicts us flatly, and sneers us into insignificance. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xviii, The world has not sneered it [feminine constancy] entirely out of existence. *refl.* 1841 THACKERAY *Sec. Funeral Napoleon* iii, It sneaks and bullies and sneers itself into place.

b. Const. with advs., as *away* or *down.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xii, But dinna ye sneer awa the lad Lovel. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VI. ii, Proclaimed a sublime genius in the same circles which sneer down Voltaire. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* xlviii, Very likely they were laughing over his infatuation and sneering her fair fame away. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* viii. (1876) 237 Sneering can do a great deal: you can sneer down, at any rate for the moment, truth, honour [etc.].

refl. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. iv. 68 He mutters to himself sarcastically, sneering himself up as it were to the attack.

Sneerer (snīəɹəɹ). [f. prec.] One who sneers.

1713 *Guardian* No. 29, The Sneerers..always indulge their mirth at the expence of their friends, and all their ridicule consists in unseasonable ill-nature. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) II. 795/2 The laughter of these sneerers has cost their country many a tear. 1824 BYRON *Def. Transformed* I. ii, Oh, thou everlasting sneerer! Be silent! 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* ii, The sneerers and scoffers at religion do not spring from amongst the simple children of nature. 1874 B. TAYLOR in *Life* (1884) II. 652 The sneerers and cavilers are growing silent one by one.

Sneerful, *a.* [f. SNEER *sb.*] **a.** Of persons: Given to sneering. **b.** Of words, etc.: Of the nature of a sneer; scornful.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Economy* III. Wks. 1764 I. 303 Cell ever squalid! where the sneerful maid Will not fatigue her hand! 1844 TUPPER *Heart* xi. 120 Out-swearing and out-threatening our sneerful stock-jobber. 1880 *S. Wales Daily News* No. 2514. 6/6 We had a sneerful and insulting answer.

Hence **Snee·rfulness.**

1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 204 Cherishing no feeling of scorn or sneerfulness against them.

Sneering (snīə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNEER *v.*] The action of the verb SNEER.

1687 MIÈGE II, *Sneering*, a kind of ridiculous Laughter. 1847 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (ed. 3) 345 Sneering is commonly found along with a bitter, splenetic misanthropy. 1868 [see SNEER *v.* 7 b]. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 421 The Baron was equal with her in the matter of sneering.

b. *attrib.*, as **sneering match**, *E. Angl. dial.* a grinning match (Forby, *a* 1825); **sneering muscle**, a muscle instrumental in producing a sneering expression on the face (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Sneering (snīə·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That sneers; wearing a sneer.

1681 N. N. *Rome's Follies* 17, I believe the sneering sluts laugh'd at me. 1695 WOOD *Life* 23 Mar., Two sneering and laughing wo[men]. 1716 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 114 Lord Townshend is the sneeringest, fawningest knave that ever was. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* vii. 285 Thou startest from a dream, only to face a sneering frowning world. 1823 LAMB *Elia* II. *Poor Relations*, The streets of this sneering and prying metropolis. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* Poems (1905) 168 White sneering old reproachful face.

fig. 1832 L. HUNT *Poems* 173 The harsh bray The sneering trumpet sends across the fray.

2. Of the nature of, marked or characterized by, a sneer; scornful, contemptuous, disparaging.

1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. clvi, The Fox in a Sneering Way advis'd him..not to Irritate a Prince against his Subjects. *c* 1695 H. ANDERSON *Court Convert* 221 You must.. With sneering Praise guild o'er his blackest Crimes. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1788) 293, I..will not descend to answer the little sneering sophistries of a collegian. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, His countenance presenting..the habitual expression of sneering sarcasm. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 316 They were received with a sneering indifference. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 78 Greene's sneering allusion to Shakespere in the 'Groatsworth of Wit'.

Snee·ringly, *adv.* [f. prec.] In a sneering or scornful manner; with a sneer.

1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 127 This he spoke sneeringly and by way of derision and Contempt. 1740–2 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 227 Well, Child, said she, sneeringly, how dost find thyself? 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* I. v, Sneeringly these accents fell. 1865 MISS BRADDON *H. Dunbar* ii, James Wentworth laughed sneeringly. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 243 'They now rejoice in the aristocratic name of Desewffy,' said he sneeringly.

Snee·rless, *a.* [f. SNEER *sb.*] That does not sneer; free from sneers.

1884 BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* 157 A sneerless Gibbon and an impartial Macaulay.

Snee·ry, *a.* [f. SNEER *sb.*] Of a sneering or scornful character.

1872 LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* lix, The summary..was acrimonious and sneery.

Sneesh (snīʃ). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 9 **sneish;** 8–9 **snish.** [? Back-formation from next: but cf. SNUSH *sb.*, of which the Gloucester dial. *snish* is probably a variant. Ir. Gael. has *snaois.*]

a. Snuff. b. A pinch of snuff.

The verb *sneesh* to snuff, and *sneesher* a snuffer, are also current in mod. Sc. dial. (recorded from 1801–9).

1786 *Har'st Rig* xix, Led on by Malcolm,..Wha taks his snish. 1817 [R. D. C. BROWN] *Lintoun Green* 57 Whaa takan' o' a sneesh. 1874 HISLOP *Scot. Anecd.* 6 She did not care one pinch o' snish!

attrib. 1825 [see SNEEZE *sb.* 1 b].

Snee·shing. *Sc.* (*Jr.*) and *north. dial.* Forms: *α.* 8 **snishon**, **-en**, 9 **-an** (8 **snichen**, **snitian**), 8–9 **snishin**(**g**. *β.* 7, 9 **sneeshon**, 9 **-an**, 8–9 **sneeshin**(**g**, **sneeshin'**, 9 **sneechin**(**g**, etc. [Alteration of SNEEZING *vbl. sb.* 2 b, perhaps after Highland or Irish pronunciation: cf. Sc. Gael. *snaoisean*, Ir. *snaoisin.*]

1. Snuff.

α. 1714 R. SMITH *Poems* (1853) 12 Thy vile snichen, and thy brose. 1720 PENNECUIK *Helicon* 65 A Mill with Snitian, to pepper her Nose. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 91 A Mill of good snishing to prie. 1761 in Hull *Select Lett.* (1778) I. 314, I have sent you a little Provision of the best Preston-Pans Snuff,.. with one Bottle of Highland Snishon. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xii, Bid her fill my mill wi' snishing. 1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 213 Take a pinch iv the snishin.

β. 1808 JAMIESON, *Sneeshin*,..the vulgar name for snuff. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxi, A' the siller I need is just to buy tobacco and sneeshin. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, Will ye try my sneeshing? 1900 CROCKETT *Little Anna Mark* xxi, The noblest sneeshan in the worl'.

2. A pinch of snuff. Chiefly with negatives, used to denote something of very slight value or significance.

1686 G. STUART *Joco-ser. Disc.* 13, I drew my Box, and teuk a sneeshon. 1723 MESTON *Knt. of Kirk* Poems (1767) 25 Else they are not worth a snishen. 1787– in Scottish use (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

3. *attrib.*, as *sneeshing-box*, *-horn*, *-mill* or *-mull.*

1717 RAMSAY *Elegy Lucky Wood* x, To the sma' hours we aft sat still, Nick'd round our toasts and snishing-mill. 1780 W. FORBES *Dominie* I. 79 His fishing-wand, his sneeshing-box. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 133 The luntan pipe, an' sneeshin mill, Are handed round wi' right guid will. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiii, I could take my aith to that sneeshing-mull amang a thousand. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Sneeshin-Horn*, a horn used for holding snuff. 1898 POITEOUS *Souter Johnny* 28 I'm Souter Johnny's sneeshin'-Box.

Sneevel, Sc. var. SNIVEL *sb.* and *v.*

Sneeze (snīz), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. A powder or preparation for inducing sneezing; snuff. *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.*

1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 7 A sneeze of bastard Pellitory, Pepper. *c* 1746– [see b]. *a* 1800 in PEGGE *Suppl. Grose.* 1857– in Lanc. dial. (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

b. *attrib.*, as *sneeze-box*, *-horn*, *-lurker* (see quots.).

c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 40 [Sneeze-horn]. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Sneeze-horn* or *Sneesh-horn*, a common sort of snuff-box, made of cow's horn. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xliii, To think of..the Artful

Dodger going abroad for a common twopenny-halfpenny sneeze-box! 1864 *Slang Dict.*, *Sneeze-lurker*, one who throws snuff in a person's face and then robs him.

2. An act of sneezing; a sudden and involuntary expiration of breath through the nose and mouth, accompanied by a characteristic sound.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. ix. 199 Upon a sneeze of the Emperour of Monomotapa, there passed acclamations successively through the city. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 458 As inconsiderable, And harmless, if not wholsom, as a sneeze To mans less universe. 1839 Dickens *Nickleby* IV, The little boy on the top of the trunk gave a violent sneeze. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. i. (1879) 17 Whilst the act of coughing can be excited by a mandate of the will,..we cannot thus execute a true sneeze.

Sneeze (snīz), *v.* Forms: 5 snese, 6–8 sneese (6 scniese), 6– sneeze, 7 sneez. [app. an alteration of Fnese *v.*, due to misreading or misprinting it as */nese*, after the initial combination */n-* had become unfamiliar.

Fnese had app. gone out of use early in the 15th cent., its place being mainly supplied by *nese* Neeze *v.* The adoption of *sneeze* was probably assisted by its phonetic appropriateness; it may have been felt as a strengthened form of *neese*.

In the following places where *sn-* is printed in modern editions the correct reading is */n-*:—Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 389; Chaucer *Manciple's Prol.* 62 (Camb. MS. Gg 4. 27); *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 197; Caxton's *Trevisa* (Rolls) V. 389 *footnote*; Caxton *Golden Leg.*, *Litanies* (= fol. xxii/1 of ed. 1483). See also the variants in the quots. below.]

1. *intr.* To drive or emit air or breath suddenly through the nose and mouth by an involuntary and convulsive or spasmodic action, accompanied by a characteristic sound.

In quot. 1493 = to snort.

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W.) 108 b, Whan he herde ony man speke of theym anone for grete angre he wolde snese [1483 *Caxton* fnese] at the nose. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvii. xxxviii. 625 Yf it [*sc.* cummin] is..blowen in to the nosethrilles,..it makith a man snese [*Bodl. MS.* fnese]. 1540 R. Jonas *Byrth Mankynde* 30 b, Let her be prouoked to sneese with the pouder of eleborus or pepper. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 211 To Sneeze, *sternutare*. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xvii. 44 b, To spit or to scniese. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xxviii. ii. II. 297 If one chaunce to sneese after repast. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 403 One custom which prevails generally in foreign countreys..is to salute those that sneez. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 35 ¶ 3 Being unused to Snuff, some Grains from off her upper Lip made him sneeze aloud. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Nov. 544/2 They bowed with a graceful simper to a lady who sneezed. 1849 Lytton *Caxtons* 61 You certainly have caught cold; you sneezed three times together. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* lxii, There are conditions under which the most majestic person is obliged to sneeze.

b. *refl.* To bring (oneself) *into* a certain state by sneezing.

1668 R. L'Estrange *Vis. Quev.* vii. (1702) 268 By how much it is more Honorable to Dye upon a Swords-point.. than for a Man to snivel and sneeze himself into another World.

2. *colloq.* With *at*: To regard as of little value, worth, or consideration; to despise, disregard, underrate. Chiefly in the negative phrase *not to be sneezed at.*

(*a*) 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* II. 90 It's a sort of thing a young fellow of my expectations ought to sneeze at. 1838 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *B. Maguire's Acc. Coronation* viii, If any bould traitour..Sneezes at that, I'd like to see the man! 1902 *Daily Chron.* 12 June 9/3 Supposing this fire had occurred in Hackney,..it would have been 'sneezed' at, if I may so put it.

(*b*) 1813 Scott 24 Aug. in *Lockhart*, As I am situated, £300 or £400 a-year is not to be sneezed at. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* I, She was a prize 'not to be sneezed at'. 1891 N. Gould *Double Event* 82 A thousand pounds..was not a thing to be sneezed at.

3. *trans.* To eject or cast by sneezing.

1677 Johnson in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 128 Horsemen are not agreed what that is the foal is said to sneeze, which they call a milt.

4. To utter with a sneeze. Also with *out*.

The allusion in the first quot. is to Catullus xlv. 9–10.

1851 Tennyson *E. Morris* 80 Shall not Love to me, As in the Latin song I learnt at school, Sneeze out a full God-bless-you, right and left? 1873 Ld. Houghton *Monogr.* 260 The preacher..at once *sneezed* out the name *Ker-shaw* several times in various intonations.

Hence **Snee·zing** *ppl. a.*

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. I. i. 22 Swift as the levin from the sneezing skie.

Sneezer (snī·zəɹ). [f. Sneeze *v.*]

1. One who sneezes.

1648 Hexham II, *Een Nieser*, a Sneeser. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 65 The Ancients said, that Sneezers..were indicated by excrementitious humours..in the Ventricles.. of the Brain. 1801 *Monthly Mag.* XII. 224 He proves from Petronius..that the custom of blessing sneezers was established among the Romans. 1882 Lubbock *Orig. Civil.* App. 495 A sneeze..is evidence..that the sneezer was possessed by some evil-disposed spirit.

2. In various slang, colloq., or dial. senses: **a.** A snuff-box. **b.** The nose. **c.** A dram or drink, esp. a stiff one. **d.** A pocket-handkerchief.

The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* gives other purely dial. uses.

a. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Cog a Sneezer*, Beg a..Snuff-box. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash. Dict.* 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 b. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 271 Hawkins put a tremendous nobber on the tip of Paddy's sneezer. c. 1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words*, *Sneeser*, or *Sneezer*,..also..means a dram. 1841 J. T. Hewlett *Parish Clerk* I. 290 He knew he should get a sneezer of something short for his trouble. 1868 Dickens *Lett.* (1880) II. 363 My New York landlord made me a 'Rocky Mountain sneezer'. d. 1857 *Slang Dict.* 19.

e. Something exceptionally good, great, strong, violent, etc., in some respect (cf. quots.).

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Words*, *Sneeser*, or *Sneezer*, a severe blow. 1836 Haliburton *Clockm.* I. viii, It's awful to hear a minister swear; and the only match I know for it, is to hear a regular sneezer of a sinner quote Scripture. *Ibid.* xiii, I have one [horse] a proper sneezer, a chap that can go ahead of a rail-road steamer. 1855 F. Francis *Newton Dogvane* (1888) 242 What a fine breeze we have! a regular sneezer. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Sneezer*, a stiff gale of wind. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 July 3/1 The ball he bowled Fry with..was what he would himself describe as a 'sneezer'.

Snee·zeweed. Also sneeze-weed. [f. Sneeze *v.*]

1. *U.S.* The plant *Helenium autumnale*, or other species of the same genus.

1856 A. Gray *Man. Bot.* 224 *Helenium autumnale*, L. (Sneeze-weed). 1857 — *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 130 In the Sunflower..it consists of two thin scales..; in the Sneeze-weed, of about five very thin scales. 1885 J. M. Coulter *Bot. Rocky Mt. Region* 196.

2. *Austr.* (See quots.)

The two quotations refer to the same plant.

1877 F. von Mueller *Bot. Teachings* 58 The Sneeze-weed (*Cotula* or *Centipeda Cunninghamii*). A dwarf, erect,..odorous herb;..can be converted into snuff. 1889 Maiden *Usef. Pl.* 195 *Myriogyne minuta*,..'Sneezeweed' of Southern New South Wales.

Snee·zewood. Also sneeze-wood. [f. Sneeze *v.*, probably after Cape Du. *nieshout*.] A South African timber tree, *Ptæroxylon utile*; also, the wood of this tree.

1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 219 A saffron-coloured timber, called sneeze-wood, from the effect of its pungent scent when newly cut. 1854 Pappe *Silva Capensis* (1862) 5 *Ptæroxylon Utile*... From the fact of its producing violent sneezing when sawn or otherwise worked at, it has received the name of *Sneeze-wood*. 1880 *Silver & Co.'s S. Africa* (ed. 3) 130 Melkhout, Olive-wood, and Sneezewood.

b. *attrib.*, as *sneezewood spade*, *stump*, *tree*, etc.

1877 J. A. Chalmers *Tiyo Soga* i. 7 The sneezewood spade gave place to the crooked plough-share. *Ibid.* 11 The branches of the sneezewood tree. 1880 Bessey *Botany* 535 *Ptæroxylon utile*, the Sneezewood Tree of the Cape of Good Hope, furnishes a hard and durable timber. 1887 Miss E. Money *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 229 Nodding away on his sneeze-wood stump.

Snee·zewort. Also 6 sneesewoort, 7 -wort, 8–9 sneeze-wort. [f. Sneeze *v.*]

1. The plant *Achillea Ptarmica*, bastard or wild pellitory, the dried leaves of which are powdered and used as a sternutatory.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* 484 The small Sneese woort hath many rounde and brittle braunches..The smell of this plant procureth sneezing. *Ibid.* 607 Sneesewoort is called of some Ptarmica. 1629 Parkinson *Parad.* 288 We vsually call it double wilde Pelletorie, and some Sneesewort, but *Elleborus albus* is vsually so called. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 47 There is also a Pseudopyrethrum which is call'd *Ptarmica* or Sneezewort which grows in Meadows. 1786 Abercrombie *Arr.* in *Gard. Assist.* 48 (*Ptarmica*) or sneeze-wort double flowered. 1858 R. Hogg *Veget. Kingdom* 455 *Ptarmica vulgaris*, or Sneezewort, is also a native of Great Britain. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Nov. 8/1 The sneezewort is remarkable for its pungent qualities.

attrib. 1855 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* III. 323 Sneeze-wort Yarrow. 1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 306 The sneeze-wort yarrow (*Achillea ptarmica*).

2. Applied to other plants: **a.** The white hellebore, *Veratrum album* [cf. Neeze-wort].

1629 [see 1]. 1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, *Bot.*, Neese, or Sneese-wort, *Helleborus albus*. 1799 W. Tooke *View Russ. Emp.* I. 383 Wolf's bane and sneeze-wort [note, *Veratrum*] are taken against almost all accidents.

b. *American*, *Austrian sneezewort* (see quots.).

1611 [see Sneezing *vbl. sb.* 3 b]. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Sneeze-wort, Austrian, *Xeranthemum*. 1846–50 A. Wood *Class-bk. Bot.* 342 *Helenium autumnale*, American Sneeze-wort.

Sneezing (snī·zĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 5 snesynge, 6 sneesyng, 6–8 -ing, 7 *Sc.* sneisin(g, snising, snizing. [f. Sneeze *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; an instance of this.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxxi. 688 Powder therof [*sc.* of pepper] makyth snesynge [*Bodl. MS.* fnesinge]. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 67 Farthermore she muste be prouoked to sneesyng. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Esternuëment*, a sneesing. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 523 In sternutations or sneezings. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 200 Aristotle hath a Probleme, why sneezing from noone unto midnight was good, but from night to noon unlucky. 1707 Floyer *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 220 Sneesing promotes the Motion of the Blood, and excites the Pulse. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1851) I. 138/1 A Sneezing was heard from the right. 1818 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosologia* (1820) 203 Contagious inflammatory fever with sneezing. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xiv, He was taken with a violent fit of sneezing. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 98 Abnormal visceral or reflex movements, such as..sneezings, yawnings, or hiccoughings.

fig. 1691 Beverley *1000 Yrs. Kingd.* 31 From Time to Time..there have been Sneesings by a Power of God, as I may so express it, of this Prophecy.

b. *pl.* Matter emitted in sneezing. *rare*—1.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 431 The sneezings of a Musk-cat is an excellent remedy against the resolution of the sinews or the Palsie.

†**2.** A preparation or powder inducing sternutation; an errhine or sternutatory. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. v. II. iv, Sneesings, masticatories and nasalls, are generally receiued. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 61 A sneezing of pepper, Hellebore. 1653 W. Ramesey *Astrol. Restored* 119 Of the administration of gargarisms, or sneezings, and such like.

†**b.** Snuff. *Obs.* (Cf. Sneeshing 1.)

1648 *Dunfermline Kirk Sess. Rec.* (1865) 25 Those that offers and takes snising in the kirk. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden Soc.) 7 Who euer sells Ale, Tobacco, Sneezinge Broges, &c. is an Irish Merchant. ?*c* 1680 F. Sempill in *Poems Sempills* (1849) 70 A mill of good snizing to prie. 1720 Swift *Irish Feast* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 27 Give us a pinch Of your sneezing.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *sneezing-coffer*, *-maker*, *-mill*, *-powder*, *-tobacco*.

1611 Cotgr., *Sternutatoire*, a sneezing medicine, or powder. *a* 1616 Beaum. & Fl. *Kt. of Malta* II. iv, Bring a little sneezing powder in your pocket. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 38 Sneezing-powder and other powders or Liquors (which the Physitians call Errhines). 1643 *Dunfermline Kirk Sess. Rec.* (1865) 12 Those who..taks y^r sneising tobacco in the most remott..pairt of y^e said yle. 1659 in Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 377 Walter Denune, sneisin maker. 1681 Colvil *Whig's Supplic.* II. 134 And there his Sneezing Milne and Box lyes. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Sneezer* or *Sneezing-Coffer*, a snuff-box.

†**b.** *Sneezing-wort*, = Sneezewort. *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Esternuer*, Sneesingwort, or sneesewort of Austria, wild Pellitorie of Spaine. 1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* III. 219 With long sharp leaves, with streight Nerves, in shape like Sneezing Woort. 1741 *Compl. Family Piece* II. iii. 397 You have now in Flower the..double Ptarmica or Sneezing-wort.

c. *Sneezing brick* (see quot.).

1887 *Archit. Soc. Dict.* VII. 97 *Sneezing Brick*, one of the names given to the burnt bricks which case the clamp before burning.

Sneezy (snī·zi), *a.* [f. Sneeze *sb.* + -y.] **a.** Of persons: Inclined to sneeze. **b.** Of things: Causing one to sneeze; dusty.

1839 Hood *Sweep's Compl.* 41, I find my suppress'd voice very uneasy, And comparable to nothing but having your tissue stopt when you are sneezy. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* lvii, They..have signed their names in one of the old sneezy registers. 1896 *Punch* 7 Mar. 112/1 East winds always make me feel snappy and sneezy.

Sneg, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [ME. *snegge*, = MLG. *snigge*, MHG. *snegge*, *snecke*, G. *schnecke*.] A snail. Cf. Snag *sb.*[3]

1340 *Ayenb.* 32 Þo anlikneþ þan þet ne dar naȝt guo ine þe peþe uor þane snegge þet sseaweþ him his hornes. 1880–7 in Kentish and Cornish glossaries.

Sneg, *v. Sc.* [Of obscure origin: cf. Sneck *v.*[2]] *trans.* To cut.

Jamieson (1808) also gives *sneg* as a sb.

1718 Ramsay *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xii, [She] sneg'd the raips fow snack, We' er knife that day. 17.. — *Address of Thanks* xviii, Bring to the warld the luckless wean, And sneg its infant thrapple. 1808–57 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Sneg-stone. [? f. Sneg *sb.*] (See quot.)

1815 W. Smith *Map Strata* Mem. 17 The clay, with some modifications (and in some parts of it beds of Sussex Marble or sneg stone).

Sneipe, *v. Obs.*[–1] [perh. identical with Snape *v.*[1] and *v.*[2]] *intr.* ? To become pinched.

c 1300 *Old Age* vii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I snurpe, i snobbe, i sneipe on snovte. [Cf. Sneap-nose.]

†**Sneir,** *v. Sc. Obs.*[–1] [app. repr. OE. *snyrian*, *snyrzan* to hasten, if not an error for *steir*.] *intr.* To sail.

a 1568 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) I. 190 This ȝeir bayth blythnes and abundance bringis, Naveis of schippis out-t[h]roch þe sea to sneir.

Sneith, *a. Sc.* ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Smooth, polished. Also *fig.*

1513 Douglas *Æneid* XI. i. 94 The gapand deidly wound ..Amyd his sneith and fair slekyt breist bane. 1808 A. Scott *Poems* 121 This put the dame in perfect wrath; Her words they werena sneith.

†**Sneke.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 snyke. [Of obscure origin.] A cold in the head.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Sneke, or the poose,..*catarrus*. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 616 All tho y^t haue y^e poose, y^e sneke, or y^e tyseke. 1530 Palsgr. 272/1 Sneke, pose, *rime*. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* cccvi. 100 The 306 chapitre doth shewe of the Pose or Snyke.

Snell (snel), *sb. U.S.* [Of obscure origin.] A short line of gut or horsehair by which a fish-hook is attached to a longer line.

1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 238 *Leader*, a length of finely twisted hair, gut, or grass, for attaching an angler's hook to the line; a bottom. Called also a Snell. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* July 381/2 Reeling up his line to the snell of the hook. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 452/2, I..rigged the strongest leader and the heaviest snell and hook in my box.

Snell (snel), *a.* and *adv.* In later use *Sc.* and *north.* Also 1–5 snel, 3 snœll, 4–5 snelle. [Common Teut.: OE. *snel*, *snell*, = OS. (MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du.), OHG. (MHG.) *snel*, *snell-* (G. *schnell*), swift, quick, active, etc., ON. *snjallr* (Icel. *snjallur*, Norw. *snjall*, *snjell*, *snell*; Sw. *snäll*, Da. *snild*); the Scand. languages exhibit a great variety of senses.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of persons: Quick in movement or action; prompt, smart, active, strenuous; †good.

In ME. freq. as a general epithet of commendation. In later Sc. use tending towards the sense of 'sharp, keen'.

Beowulf 2971 Ne meahte se snella sunu Wonredes ealdum eorle hondslyht ȝiofan. *a* 1000 *Bi Monna Cræftum* 52 (Gr.), Sum bið rynig,..sum on londe snel, fepespediȝ. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 13 Þat man be waker, and liht, and snel,..and

erliche rise. *c* 1250 *Meid. Maregrete* lv, Olibrius heitte þe mai ut of prisun don; Đe sergaunz were snelle ant broutten hire son. *a* 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* 334 3were ben thine cokes snelle, that scholden gon greithe thi mete? 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 132 Of messengers fulle snelle he sent hider to loke. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 316 The messangers were ful snelle, Hastilich the way thay nomen. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xii. (Shaks. Soc.) 121 Byd hym with Mary abyde and dwelle, For it [is] my sone ful snelle That she is with i-wys.

1720 Ramsay *Edinb.'s Salut. to Ld. Carnarvon* vi, That in ilk action, wise and snell, You may shaw manly fire. 1721 — *Elegy Patie Birnie* ix, Jove's nimble son and leckie snell Made the first fiddle of a shell. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 9 Fu' o' good nature, sharp an' snell with a'. 1817 [R. D. C. Brown] *Lintoun Green* 91 The Smith, black, bardy, wee, and snell, Served round the nappy ale. 1859 J. Brown *Rab & Fr.* (1891) 10/2 That horny-handed, snell, peremptory little man. 1889 J. Robertson *Early Relig. Israel* (1892) iii. 57 Amos is a lithe, keen, *snell* man.

absol. *a* 1000 *Judith* 199 (Gr.), Þa wearð snelra werod snude ȝeȝearewod. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 526 Þanne erest hit is isene Hwar is þe snelle, hwar þe kene.

b. Similarly of animals (or things). ? *Obs.*

a 1000 *Phœnix* 123 (Gr.), Se haswa fuzel..fareð feþrum snell fyhte on lyfte. *a* 1000 *Andreas* 505 On brim snoweð snel under seȝle. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 918 Þu farest so doþ on yde[l] wel þat springeþ bi burne þat is snel. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4668 Mi stede þai han, þat is so snelle. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2234 Stedys that were bolde and snelle. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* xxxix. (Arb.) 106 So subtyl and snelle was the foxe, that many tymes whan the wulf wende wel to be sure of hym, he sterte thenne bytwene his legges. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 25 Thay [*sc.* solan geese] ar sa snell and suift of flicht.

† **c.** Const. *to* (with sb. or inf.). *Obs.*

c 1150 *Canterb. Ps.* xiii. 3 [6] Hiræ fet hræþe *vel* snelle to ægiotænæ *vel* to scedende blod. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 41 in *O. E. Misc.* 73 Ne may no tunge telle..of þare pyne of helle; þar-to we beoþ to snelle. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 437 Hie boldus to bulde be we not snelle. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* (1901) 558 To fleo folye be snelle. *c* 1400 *Rowland & O.* 403 To arme hym wele þay were full snelle.

2. Keen-witted, clever, sharp, acute, smart.

c 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 53 The mayster was wys and snel. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 111 Melachiell, that proffett snell, Hais tolde vs of that babb so bright. *a* 1450 Myrc 121 Teche hem alle to be war and snel, That they conne sey þe wordes wel. 1719 Ramsay *First Answ. Hamilton* x, Europe had nane mair snack and snell At verse or prose. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs.* II. 273 He had no want..of quick, snell remark, often witty and full of spirit.

3. Severe, sharp, unsparing.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 16628 (Trin.), Sore þei auȝte him drede: Þe folke þat were so snelle [*Cott.* fell]. *a* 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* iv. 184 [To] caus Ladeis to..be haldin..Baith odious, and snell as ane serpent. 1742 R. Forbes *Ajax* (1755) 17 Fa wi' snell words him sair did snib. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxi, He's snell and dure eneugh in casting up their nonsense to them, as if he had nane o' his ain. 1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* xii, Conscience is a rough lad,..and I am keen and snell also.

4. Of weather: Keen, bitter, severe.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6018 Þe seuend on-sand þat siþen fell, Was a weder ful selcut snell [*Gött.* fell]. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* III. 377 Sa hard anoy thaim then assayit, Off hungir, cauld, with schowris snell. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. Prol. 139 Chiverand for cauld, the sessoun was so snell. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* I. 342 The snaw so snell ay dryvand with sic drift. 1677 Nicolson in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 319 *Snell*, sharp, bitter. 1785 Burns *To a Mouse* iv, Bleak December's winds ensuin, Baith snell an' keen! 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 119 The wintry air is snell and keen. 1881 R. Buchanan *God & the Man* III. 209 We ..passed the snell season without the loss of a single soul aboard.

5. Grievous, heavy, stinging; rigorous; painful.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7759 O þis batail þat was sa snell, Þe force a-pon þe king it fell. 13.. *Ibid.* 16638 (Gött.), Þai gaue him buffetes snell. 14.. *Sir Beues* (E) 4312+147 In hys hand a mase ful snel, þat was maad off good steel. 1755 Ramsay *To Y. Clerk* 88 [He] gave the scarlet whore a box Mair snell than all the pelts of Knox. 1790 A. Wilson *2nd Ep. to Kennedy* Poet. Wks. (*c* 1846) 117 This is the last, the snellest lick, That I'll e'er get frae Fortune's stick. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xi, That was a snell law. 1879 J. White *Jottings* 154 (E.D.D.), Bear life's rebuffs, Tho' they're aft unco snell.

b. Sharp-tasted; pungent.

1835 Carrick *Laird Logan* 172 (E. D. D.), That's just the mustard I mean, an gay snell mustard he is whiles.

6. Shrill, clear-sounding.

c 1730 *Robin Hood & Bp. of Hereford* vii. in Child *Ballads* III. 198/2 He put his horn in to his mouth, And a snell blast he did blow. *c* 1820 Beattie *Arnha'* (1826) 58 Douff like drum, and snell like cymble.

B. *adv.* **1.** Quickly, promptly, swiftly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14946 Wat yee breþer qui..I weind again sua snell? 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 801 His ost him answerd snelle, 'Of þat turnament y schal ȝou telle'. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 556 Hom aȝeyn he come fulle snelle. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss Hags* xlvii, We held fast and snell to the eastward.

2. Vigorously, strongly, keenly, etc.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1322 (Kölbing), Þe messangers bad him þo telle, Whi it was he lou3 so snelle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 519 3et wes lewit hym a schele to schrape his scabbis rycht snel. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3995 Sire Porrus..him on þe pan strikis So snelle at he snatirs with. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 250 He saw, As to hys sycht, dede had him swappyt snell. 1728 Ramsay *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* (1877) II. 5 Ae rough night the blatt'ring winds blew snell. 1773 Fergusson *Auld Reekie* 35 Poems 1789 II. 93 Antrin fock may ken how snell Auld Reikie will at morning smell. 1884 R. Buchanan *The Lights of Leith* I. i, While the wintry gale..Blew snell thro' sail and shroud.

Snell, *v. U.S.* [f. Snell *sb.*] *trans.* To tie or fasten (a hook) to a line.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 *Outing* XXII. 123/2 Well-made, securely wrapped, double-snelled Aberdeen..are very satisfactory hooks.

Snelly (sne·li), *adv.* Also 1 snellice, 4 snellich, -lik. [f. Snell *a.* Cf. MDu. *snellike, -lijc* (Du. *snellijk*), MLG. *snellik(en,* OHG. *snellîcho,* MSw. *sniälle-, sniellelika.*] In a snell manner; quickly, smartly, severely, etc.

a 1000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 82 (Gr.), Sum sceal..snellice snere wræstan. *c* 1305 *Land Cokayne* 163 And euch monke him taketh on, And snellich berith forth har prei. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 59 His sawel..bes felaw wit the fend, That snellik sal it scham and schend. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2524 (Laud MS.), Vche bare xij. oþer xvj. kniȝth, Wel arenged snelly to fiȝth.

1790 Shirref *Poems* p. xix, At first he frown'd, and said, right snelly, It's gryte presumption. *c* 1790 Pickering in *Burns' Wks.* (ed. Chambers, 1857) IV. 91 The snaw drives snelly through the dale. 1836 M. Mackintosh *Cottager's Daughter* 70 The thumbkin was maist snelly screwed. 1881 J. Ballantine in *Modern Scot. Poems* III. 30 Snelly the hail smote the skeleton trees.

Snepe, *a. rare.* [Of obscure origin; *sneep* and *snape* in the same sense are given as current in Linc.] Foolish, silly.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 225 Hit þincheþ beþe wise & snepe, Nouht þat þu singe, ac þat þu wepe.

Snercte: see Snarche *v.*

† **Snese,** *v. Obs. rare.* [OE. (*á*)*snǽsan,* f. *snás* spit, skewer. Cf. ON. *sneisa* to spit.] *trans.* To run through with a weapon.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Hwu þe deoflen schulen..mid helle sweordes alsnesien [*v.rr.* snesen, sneasin] ham þuruhut.

Snet(te, error in Phillips (1658) and some later Dicts. for Suet.

† **Snetched,** *a. Obs.*–1 [? Related to Sneck *v.*2] Slaughtered.

1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* v. (1593) 108 Like a snetched ox Strait tumbling downe against the ground his groveling face he knox.

Sneuel, -ill, etc., obs. forms of Snivel.

† **Sneve,** *v. Obs.* [Cf. Icel. *sneffa* to scent out; Norw. *snev* (also *snevl,* Icel. *snefill*) scent, hint, suspicion.] *trans.* To smell or smell at. Hence **Sne·ving** *vbl. sb.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Alse swin þe uulieð and wroteð and sneuieð aure fule. *Ibid.* 183 Hie..binimeð..Eien here sene,..nose here sneuenge, and muð here smel. *Ibid.* 207 He haueð..mid his eȝen bihelden þat he ne sholden..and alse mid nose sneued.

Snevel(l, etc., obs. forms of Snivel.

Sne·ver, *a. dial.* [ad. ON. *snǽfr* (stem *snǽfr-,* MSw. *snäfr-,* Da. *snæver*; also MSw. *snäfw-,* Sw. *snäf,* Norw. *snæv, snev*) narrow, tight.] Narrow; slender, slight; neat.

1640 Brathwait *Lanc. Lovers* iv. 18 We han store of goodly Cattell;..peepe here and peepe there, aw the wide dale is but snever to them. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 43 A *Snever-sþawt,* a slender stripling. 1691 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 66 *Snever,* slender: an usual Word. 1788 W. H. Marshall *Yorksh.* II. 354 *Snevver,* slender and neat. 1855 [Robinson] *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., Snever, Sneever.

Snevyll, Snevylysshe, obs. ff. Snivel(lish.

Snew, *v.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 1 sniwan (sniu-, sniuw-), 3–4 snywe(n, 3 sniuw-, 4 sneuw-, 4–6 snewe. [OE. *sníwan,* = WFris. *snije* (*sneie, snïe*), NFris. *sni, sneie, snaie,* MDu. *sniwen, snien,* MLG. *snîghen, snygen,* OHG. *snîwan* (MHG. *snîwen, snîgen, snîen,* G. *schneien,* dial. *schneuen, schneiben,* etc.) :—**snigwan-,* related by ablaut to Snow *sb.*1

The evidence for survival in mod. dial. is very slight; it is doubtful whether *snew,* to swarm, is the same word.]

1. *intr.* To snow.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N 117 *Ninguit,* sniuwiȝ. *c* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xiii, [If] hit rine & sniwe & styrme ute. *a* 1000 *Epist. Alex.* in Cockayne *Narrat. Angl.* (1861) 23 Ða cwom þær micel snaw and swa miclum sniwde swelce micel flys feoll. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 620 His hou [=hue] neuer ne uorlost, Wan hit sniuw [*v.r.* snywe] ne wan hit frost. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6450 (W.), Whan hit snywith [*Laud MS.* snoweþ], other rayneth. *a* 1325 *Orfeo* 245 Þei it comenci to snewe and frese. *a* 1400 *Launfal* 293 Sche was as whyt as..snow that sneweth yn wynterys day. 1530 Palsgr. 130 *Il neige,* it sneweth. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 124 Whan [it] snewth, or blunketh, or doveth, or in scatty Weather.

fig. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 347 It snewed in his hous of mete and drynke.

2. *trans.* To sprinkle like snow.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 332 On kadis thre Of wyn a certeyn of this flouris snewe.

Hence † **Snewed** *ppl. a.*; † **Snew·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1300–1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. xx. 248 Temese was þo ifrore harde..& was swiþe whit aboue of þe snywede snou. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 7318 The wynd sesid the gret blast, The snewyng then no lenger last.

Snew, obs. or dial. pa. t. of Snow *v.*

Snib, *sb.*1 Latterly *Sc.* Also 5 snybb, 7 snibbe. [f. Snib *v.*1 Cf. Da. *snibbe,* Sw. *snybba,* in the same sense.] A check, sharp rebuke, or snub.

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 392 When Hillarion .. was giffen alonelie vnto his prayers, he sufferd many snybbis of þe fend. 1587 Churchyard *Worth. Wales* (1876) 61 No sorer snib, nor nothing nips so neere, As feele much want, yet shewe a merrie cheere. *a* 1601 *Pasquil & Kath.* (1878) I. 267 Then may one..Rule all pay all, take all, without checke or snib. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1067 Tart reproofs; Biting and taunting snibs. *c* 1740 Skinner *Poems* (1809) 128, I thought he might hae gott'n a snib. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 13 Sick snibs as that, may sair to let us see, 'Tis better for us to be loose an' free.

† **Snib,** *sb.*2 *Cant. Obs.* A petty thief.

1607 Dekker *Jests to make you Merrie* Wks. (Grosart) II. 300 Some horse-stealers, some snibs, some foysts. 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Snib,* a prig. *Scotch cant.*

Snib, *sb.*3 Chiefly *Sc.* [Of doubtful origin: perh. a. LG. *snibbe* (G. *schnippe*), *snib* (Sw. *snibb*) beak, beak-like point, etc.] A catch or fastening for a door, window, lock, or the like.

1825 Jamieson *Suppl.* s.v., The snib is the small bolt placed under the latch, and fastening the door so that it cannot be opened from without. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IV. 467/2 Most doors have both a snib and a sneck. 1891 Barrie *Little Minister* xxii, An unearthly hand presses the snib of the window, the latch rises.

Snib (snib), *v.*1 Now *dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4–5 snybbyn, snybbe(n, snyb (6 *Sc.*), snybe; 4, 6–snib (4, 6 *Sc.*, snibe), 6 snibb, 6–7 snibbe. See also Sneb *v.* [Of Scand. origin: cf. older Da. *snibbe,* MSw. *snybba,* related to *snubba* Snub *v.*1]

1. *trans.* To reprove, reprimand, rebuke, check sharply or severely: a. A person.

Common in literary use down to *c* 1675.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18228 Hell hint þan þat gerard grim And selcut snarpli snibbed him. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 525 Hym wolde he snybben sharply for the nonys. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2825 But to þe pore, is denyed al grace; He snybbyd is. *c* 1450 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* 6 Desiryng of him þat he schuld snybbe þe maydenes þat þei schuld not be redy to telle swech tales. 1515 Douglas *Lett.* Wks. 1874 I. p. xxxviii, He is..the instrument of mekyll harm, and I dreyd sall yit be of mayr and he be nocht snybbyt. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* i. in *Holinshed,* Here percase some snappish carper will..snuffingly snibbe me, for debacing the Irish language. 1607 Middleton *Five Gallants* II. iii, You have snibbed the poor fellow too much; he can scarce speak. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. 139 Hence it was that many Bishops..were checkt and snibt by this great favourite to their no small..disceuragement. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 169 Christian snibbeth his fellow for unadvised speaking. 1742 [see Snell *a.* 3]. 1836 Carleton *Fardorougha* vi, If Honor comes to be snibbin' an' makin' little o' me afore them. 1851 W. Hay in *The Lintie o' Moray* 64 No termagant tongue..Dares rattle around us, or scold us, or snib. 1854– in dial. glossaries (Northampt., Leic., Rutland). [1888 Doughty *Arabia Deserta* I. 240 In bitterness of a displeasure he will snib his disobedient son with vehement words.]

absol. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* III. 261 (MS. Rawl.), Therfor ȝour grace..I pray To punch & snybe, ȝourself as ȝe lest.

b. A thing, action, conduct, etc.

In later quots. passing into sense 2.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26233 Spous-brecking, and als hordom,.. þe biscop agh þaa for to snib. 1435 Misyn *Fire of Love* II. ix. 95 If any of slyke þingis ȝee ful seldum wald snyb, to scorne he is laghyd. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 133, [I] wald snibe the same [conduct] and schaw thame that law of god. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 361 She snibbit the hauiest offences of al men in that cuntrie. 1631 J. Done *Polyderon* 3 Satyricall Poetry..Snibbing filth in others but retayning it in itselfe. 1648 T. Hill *Dying Saints* Ep. Ded. B iij b, Far bee it from mee to snib the movings of God's Spirit in the weakest..of his saints. 1720 Wodrow *Life R. Bruce* (1843) 93 Mr. Bruce wrote..that he was ready to snib the sinister interpretations the people were running to.

2. To check by some repressive action.

c 1500 *Lancelot* 3387 As at the stok the bere Snybbith the hardy houndis that ar ken, So farith he. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* X. Prol. 15 Wyntyr to snyb the erth wyth frosty schouris. *a* 1607 Brightman *Bright. Rediv.* (1647) iv. 117 Though it [hope] moderate the desire..yet it quenches not, nor snibs the earnestnesse thereof. 1663 R. Blair *Autobiog.* (1848) iv. 63 All the corns were thrown down and fully dried, the growing thereon snibbed. 1674 Bp. Ward *Serm. 30 Jan.* 13 The seeds of Piety..may be trampled on and kept under, crop'd and snib'd by the bestial part.

b. *Sc.* (See quot.)

1808 Jamieson, *To Snib a candle,* to snuff it.

Snib, *v.*2 *Sc.* [Cf. Snib *sb.*3]

1. *trans.* To fasten (a door, etc.) by means of a snib or catch; to shut *in* in this way.

1808 Jamieson, *To Snib a door,* to fasten it with a small bolt. 1861 Ramsay *Remin.* Ser. II. 185 Quite a vulgar body, so much so as to ask any one leaving the room to 'snib the door'. 1864 J. Brown *Horæ Subs., Jeems,* Hurrying them to their appointed place, Jeems snibbed them slowly in. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. IV. 467/2 When a door is *snibbed* it cannot be opened from the outside.

2. To catch, secure.

1813 Picken *Poems* I. 59 I'se..reveal to you How..I [*sc.* a rat] maist was snibbit. 1819 R. Gall *Poems* 134 The Dutchmen endeavoured to rin for't, But fand themselves snib'd in a girn.

Hence **Sni·bbing-bolt.**

1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 218 Fine water-closet latch, with snibbing-bolt and 5-inch joints.

Sni·bbing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Snib *v.*1] The action of rebuking, reprimanding, or checking sharply.

a 1300 *E. E. Ps.* xvii. 18 Groundes of ertheli werld vnhiled are For þi snibbing, lauerd myne. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xv. 7 Alswa oure neris, þat is, oure fleschly delites, makis vs worthi snybynge. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiv. 285 From his wrabþe vs schilde, þat we fele not þat harde snibbyng. 1452 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* viii. 73 To encrese of religion and snybbyng of vices. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 226 This Columban was scharpe in snibbing of maneris. 1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Pet.* iii. 1 The man of a pure mind is

always of a cheerful look, because there are no secret snibbings within him. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 94 Others by their snibbing and chiding..doe blast that bud. 1891 *Rutland Gloss.* 32 Them fox-terriers takes a deal of snibbing.

Sni·bble, *sb. Mining.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SNIB *sb.*3] (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snibble*, see *Locker* [a short iron or wooden bar for scotching tram wheels on inclined roads].

Hence **Sni·bble** *v. trans.*, to scotch.

1880 J. NICOL *Poems & Songs* 79 Away they go, Though snibbled wheels may slip.

Snibel, variant of SNIPE-BILL 4.

Snichel: see SNITCHEL.

Snick, *sb.*1 *slang* or *dial.* [Cf. SNICKING *vbl. sb.*] A snack or share. Usu. *pl.*

1723 DE. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 59, There is no Room for the Encouragement of Industry where the Snicks will hardly pay for a Saturday's Supper. 1888 *Berkshire Gloss.* 151 *Snicks*, shares, halves. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-bk.* (1901) 51 *To go snicks*,=to go snacks.

Snick (snik), *sb.*2 [f. SNICK *v.*2]

1. A small cut; a nick, a notch.

1775 ASH, *Snick*,..a small snip or cut as in the hair of a beast. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Snick*, a cut, a hollow, a notch. 1897 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 4 Dec. (E.D.D.), Mak' a bit of a snick in 't.

b. An act of snipping or slight cutting.

1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin* v. 67 Just a snick of the shears and a dab of walnut juice.

2. *Cricket.* A light, glancing blow given to the ball by the batsman, sending it in the direction of the slips or to leg; a ball so hit.

1879 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 21 Standing at short-leg to stop a snick, he caught Mr. Studd off a leg hit. 1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 258 He [short-slip] has to run after most of the snicks which pass the wicket-keeper.

Snick (snik), *sb.*3 [f. SNICK *v.*3 Cf. SNECK *sb.*3] A sharp noise; a click.

1894 DOYLE *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 241 Suddenly there came from the window a sharp metallic snick. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* ii. 23, I pressed the trigger; but only the 'snick' of the striker answered the touch.

Snick, *sb.*4 *techn.* [? f. the first element of SNICK-SNARL.] (See quot. and cf. SNICKEY *a.*)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2230/1 *Snick*,..a knot or irregularity on yarn, removed by passing it through a slotted plate.

Snick, variant of SNECK *sb.* (latch).

Snick (snik), *v.*1 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **sneik**, 7 **snecke**. [Of obscure origin.] Used with *go*, or imperatively, and always followed by *up*, in the sense of 'go hang'.

(*a*) 1599 H. PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 8 And his men be good fellowes, so it is; if they be not, let them goe sneik [*v.r.* snick] vp. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burning Pestle* III. i, Give him his money George, and let him go snick up. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* I. Wks. 1874 II. 268 Goe, let your Master snick-up. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play-Ho. to be Let* Wks. (1673) 116 He may go snick-up if he hates Nymphidious. [1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxix, Bidding the steward go snick up, if he came to startle us too soon from our goblets.]

(*b*) 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iii. 101 We did keepe time sir in our Catches. Sneckе vp! 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* IV. i, I have been believed of your betters, marry, snick up! 1605 *London Prodigal* v. i, Wherefore to prison? snick vp, I owe you nothing. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Snickup*, begone; away with you! 1883 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (West Yks.).

Snick (snik), *v.*2 Also 8 **snic**. [prob. suggested by SNICK AND SNEE, etc. Connexion with SNECK *v.*2, or with Norw. and Icel. *snikka*, Sw. dial. *snicka*, to carve, whittle, is very doubtful.]

1. *trans.* To cut, snip, clip, nick. Also with *off*, *out*.

c 1700 *Street Robberies Consider'd*, *Snic*, to cut. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Snech*, *Snick*,..to cut with a sudden stroke of a sharp instrument. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* lxiii, He began by snicking the corner of her [*sc.* the doll's] foot off with nurse's scissors. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 422 The third case-maker..quickly snicks out, with a pair of scissors, the superfluous cloth at each of the four corners.

b. *intr.* (Cf. SNICK *v.*3 2.)

1863 READE *Hard Cash* III. 22 The heavy scissors were heard snick, snick, snicking all day long.

2. *trans.* To strike or hit sharply.

1880 WEBB *Goethe's Faust* II. v. 130 But we nick 'em and we snick 'em, Wherever they may stick. 1891 MRS. J. A. OWEN *On Surrey Hills* v. 158 He..lets drive, or, as he says, 'snicks him', killing him at once.

b. *Cricket.* To strike (the ball) lightly so that it glances off in the slips or to leg; to obtain (so many runs) in this way.

1880 *Daily Telegr.* 23 Sept., Bates drove him finely for 4, and snicked him another 4. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Aug. 7 [He] snicked the first ball he received for 3.

3. *colloq.* To cut or slip across or along (a road) quickly or sharply.

1883 PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 343 The two former jumped an uncompromising piece of timber abreast into the field beyond;..the rest snicked the road for the corner immediately at hand.

Snick (snik), *v.*3 [Imitative.]

1. *trans.* To cause to click or sound sharply.

1828 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 25/1 They snicked their guns, but I saw no flash. 1900 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* 9 He stood ..drawing it an inch from its sheath and snicking it back again.

2. *intr.* To make a sharp, clicking noise. Hence Sni·cking *vbl. sb.*

1892 KIPLING *Barrack Room Ball.* 76 Ye may hear a breech-bolt snick where never a man is seen. 1893 RAYMOND *Gent. Upcott* xiv, The snicking of the flint and steel sounded hard and vicious.

Snick and snee. ? *Obs.* Also 7 **snic** (**snik**) **and snee**, **snick and sneer**. [See SNICK OR SNEE.]

1. a. *vb.* To thrust and cut. b. *adv.* With thrusting and cutting. c. *sb.* = SNICK-A-SNEE 1.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xli, None must carry a pointed Knife about him; which makes the Hollander, who is us'd to Snick and Snee, to leave his Horn-sheath and Knife a Ship-board when he comes ashore. 1665 MARVELL *Charact. Holland* 96 When, stagg'ring upon some Land, Snick and Sneer, They try, like Statuaries, if they can, Cut out each other's Athos to a Man. 1697 DRYDEN *Virgil* Note on Georg. IV. 660 The monks .. were at *snic* and *snee* with their drawn knives. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Snick and snee*, a combat with knives, such as the Dutch carry.

2. *attrib.* (with *knife*), = SNICK-A-SNEE 2.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii, The Spaniard..sprang up like a tiger,..unsheathing instantly a snick and snee knife.

So † **Snicking and sneeing** *vbl. sb. Obs.*—1

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., If the humor of huffing be but a little further cocker'd,..snicking and sneeing will be nothing else in the world but writing of Book *a la mode d'Angleterre*.

Snick-a-snee. ? *Obs.* Also 7 **-sne**. [Cf. prec. and SNICK OR SNEE.]

1. A combat with cut-and-thrust knives.

1673 MRS. BEHN *Dutch Lover* III. iii, There lies my sword, and..I tell you I am as good at Snick-a-sne as the best Don of you all. 1688 B. WILLY *On Dutch War* in Jane Barker *Poet. Recreat.* II. 56 But they'll e'er long come to themselves you'll see When we in earnest are at Snick-a-snee. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* II. 115 We may.. possibly have a few bouts at snik-a-snee.

2. A cut-and-thrust knife. Also *attrib.*

1760 *Brit. Chron.* 6 Aug. 127 One Turner..with a snick-a-snee stabbed her several times in her body. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlix, Flemish seamen, with their long snick-a-snee knives. 1837 — *Snarleyyow* liv, Jansen stepped forward with his snickasee [*sic*], the rope was divided at once. 1865 in *Slang Dict.* 238.

Snicker (sni·kəɹ), *sb.*1 Also *Sc.* **snicher**. [f. SNICKER *v.*] A smothered laugh; a snigger.

1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* iv, That individual..gave utterance to an explosive snicker. 1881 *Daily News* 5 Apr. 6 There's an audible snicker up above. 1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xiv. 175 There comes a cruel silence, broken only by a snicker from Van Cott.

† **Sni·cker**, *sb.*2 *slang. Obs.* (See quot.)

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Snicker*, a glandered horse.

Sni·cker, *sb.*3 [f. SNICK *v.*2 The passage is burlesque.] A knife.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, If they screak, out with your snickers and slick!

Snicker (sni·kəɹ), *v.* Also 9 *Sc.* **snicher**. [Imitative: cf. NICKER *v.* and SNIGGER *v.*1]

1. *intr.* To laugh in a half-suppressed or smothered manner; to snigger.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lii, While he said this, the Maidens began to snicker at his Elbow, grinning, giggling and twittering among themselves. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Snickering*, Laughing in his Sleeve or privately. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* II. 251 'You may sneer and snicker, and look grand'; cried Sir Edward. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. vi, The neighbours snickered a good deal, and the Elder felt pretty streaked. 1855 BROWNING *Heretic's Trag.* viii, John, snickering, crook'd his wicked thumb. 1880 J. HAWTHORNE *Ellice Quentin*, etc. I. 255 One or two persons snickered, and others joined in, and almost immediately there was a universal explosion of derisive mirth.

transf. and *fig.* 1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* xii. 144 And the ripples came up, one after another, and whispered and snickered in his ears. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 922/1 A squirrel barked and 'snickered'. 1897 *Outing* XXX. 172/1 Every wee water-course seems to snicker gleefully as it romps along.

2. Of horses: To neigh, nicker.

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. i, The rascal knows me already, and snickers whenever I cross the threshold of the stable. 1880 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 217/2 The sturdy colt that hinnied and snickered round his mother in the pasture.

Hence **Sni·ckering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Sni·ckeringly** *adv.*, in a snickering manner.

1775 ASH *Dict.*, *Snickering*, a silly kind of laugh. 1872 HOLLAND *Marble Prophecy* 78 Much as if for a snickering fit or a sneeze. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* 142 Yes, I'm Macrais, and somebody beside, You snickering monkey! 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 485/2 They silently—and snickeringly—arose and left the theatre. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Nov., There had been..a snickering and chuckling in the further part of the room.

Snickersnee (sni·kəɹsnī), *sb.* Also **snicker-, snikker-snee**. [Alteration of SNICK OR SNEE.]

1. = SNICK-A-SNEE 1.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, *Snicker-snee* (the Dutch way of fighting with pointed Knives). 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Snikker-Snee*, a combat with knives.

2. A large knife.

1775 ASH *Dict.*, *Snickersnee*,..a long kind of knife. 1791 G. HUDDESFORD in *Salmagundi* 86 He pulled out his Snicker-snee With imprecations horrid. 1809 IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 171 A host more, armed..with swords, hatchets, snicker-snees,..and what not. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Snicker-snee*, a large clasp knife. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* xiv, Drawing his snickersnee, he plunged it in the bailiff's chest. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Mikado* II. 37 As I gnashed my teeth, When from its sheath I drew my snicker-snee.

† **Snickersnee**, *v. Obs.* Also 8 **snigger-, sneaker-, sneeker-**. [f. as prec.] *intr.* To fight with knives; to use a knife as a weapon. Hence † **Snickersneeing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

Cf. the mod. Linc. dial. *snickersneeze*, used in threatening children ('If you do that, I'll snickersneeze you').

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 119 Boxing among the English; Snicker-Sneeing among the Dutch. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 16 But when the Officers came to inforce the Execution of this Decree upon the Dutch, they were ready to fall to Snigger Snee with 'em about it. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. vii, He pull'd out a Case-knife, with which he used to sneaker-snee, and threaten'd to cut his own Throat. 1738 [G. SMITH] *Curious Relat.* I. iii. 443 He that acted the Character of the Insolent Sailor, humour'd it to the Life..: He wanted to fight, or Sneeker-snee. 1778 BRYDGES *Homer Trav.* (1797) II. 268 An ugly dream, Wherein a Dutch-built thief did seem To shake a snickersneeing knife.

Sni·ckey, *a. rare*—1. [? f. SNICK *sb.*4] ? Full of knots or irregularities.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 72 'Soul alive, but those Shuffle and Screw are rotten, snickey, bad yarns,' said Mistress Carey.

Sni·cking, *vbl. sb.* [Cf. SNICK *sb.*1] The action of getting surreptitiously.

1673 R. HEAD *Cant. Acad.* 103 She hath half share of her own Gettings besides a little *Snicking* by the by.

Snickle (sni·k'l), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 9 **snikkle**. [Cf. next.] A snare or gin; a noose.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 30 (1713) I. 197 This was a way of Man-catching which our Friend Hick ne'er thought on, for a Man to run his own Head into the Snickle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 104/1 For Pike [fishing], ..Snap, Gorge, Snare or Snickle. 1819 in Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 71 Thou hast got a gun this morning, I see, and a pocketful of snickles. 1828 HEBER *Jrnl.* I. 173 The capture of a very beautiful iguana;..one of the boatmen caught it in a snickle. 1862– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Yorks., Nhp., Leic.). 1902 CUTCLIFFE HYNE *Thompson's Progress* 183 A fine cock pheasant with..a wire snickle tightly round its neck.

Snickle (sni·k'l), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 7 **snickell**. [Of obscure origin.]

In Marlowe *Jew of Malta* IV. v. 1941 the reading is uncertain and the meaning obscure.

1. *trans.* To catch with a snickle or noose; to snare. Also with *up*.

1615 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princ.* vi. (1635) 34 There be some which take great delight to snickell or halter the Pike. 1616 SURFL. & MARKHAM *Country Farme* VII. iii. 648 Some spring-trappes, to snickle or halter either bird or beast. 1674 J. W[RIGHT] *Mock-Thyestes* 128 Seeing his advantage pat, He snickles up the eldest cat. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, *Snickle*, to take a hare in a gin. Derb. 1813 in Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 67 [A] game-keeper..was..ill-treated by three men who were snickling hares. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.*, *To Snickle*, to snare with a draw-loop as hares are entangled or snickled.

refl. 1675 ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* III. ii. 249, I know no Obligation [that] lies upon me to cut the Rope, as often as he will Snickle himself.

fig. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. iii. 248 It seems the Blessed Apostle had not yet learnt to snickle the private Conscience with his publick Authority. 1770 JENNER *Placid Man* VI. v, If I don't see you both fairly snickled before I go, I'll never forgive either of you.

2. To draw *out* by means of a noose.

1865 *Sheffield Indep.* Jan., After..making a new opening into the cave, one hound was 'snickled' out with a noose over his head, after about 24 hours' imprisonment.

† **Snick or snee,** *v.* and *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **steake or snye, stick or snee, 8 snic or snee**; 7–8 **snick-or-snee**. [orig. ad. Du. *steken* (G. *stechen*) to thrust, stick, and *snijen*, *snijden* (G. *schneiden*) to cut, with subsequent assimilation of the *st-* of the first word to the *sn-* of the second.

In the first quotation the form *snye* indicates a pronunciation of *snijen* similar to that in mod. standard Du.; the later *snee* represents a variant pron. still widely current in Du. and Flem. dialects.]

1. a. As *vb.* To thrust or cut in fighting with a knife; to use a knife in this manner.

a 1613 ROWLAND *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 31 Let falchion, polax, launce, or halbert try, With Flemings-knives either to steake or snye. 1635 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* I. i, It is our Countrie Custome onely to Stick or Snee. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1730) IV. 17 Let the dull-pated Boors Snic or snee at their Punch-Bowls, or slash for their Whores. 1704 D'URFEY *Hell beyond Hell* 55 Fish-wives whom rage does enflame To snick-or-snee at Rotterdam.

b. As *sb.* The practice of fighting with cut-and-thrust knives.

1670 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 87 [They] fell upon him with knives (one was found afterwards of the Duch fashon, for their snick or snee). 1695 DRYDEN *Parall. Poetry & Paint.* Ess. (Ker) II. 132 The representation of a Dutch kermis, the brutal sport of snick-or-snee. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead* Wks. 1711 IV. 33 The noble Combats of *Snick* or *Snee*, or some illustrious Sea-fight.

2. *transf.* Used to denote one or other of two possible alternatives or courses.

1675 ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* 324 Yet that is interpreting Scripture by the sound of words also; so that we are in a Fork, Snick or Snee; and both wayes equally undone. 1680 — *Mischief Imposit.* viii. 75 The Question now is, Snick or Snee: Turn or Starve: Conform or Hang: Use the Cross or bear the Cross. [1681 *Reply 'Mischief of Imposit.'* 6 One would guess this man has an aking tooth to be at it again, though with snick or snee, as he calls it.]

Sni·ck-snarl. Now *dial.* [f. SNARL *sb.*1, with obscure first element; cf. the common north. dial. *snock-snarl*.] A tangle, knot, twist. Also *fig.*

1649 LIGHTFOOT *Battle Wasp's Nest* Wks. I. 383, I could deduce such conclusions from these premises, that would make his opinion..run so on snicksnarles, that..he would find enough to do to unknot it again. 1675 ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* 277 It were tedious to instance..how they run their Enemies all on Heaps, and perplex their Discourses all into Snicksnarles. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Snick-snarles*, the complication of thread, yarn, &c., the state of its being entangled. 1862 *Oldham Standard* 5 Apr. 2/4 (Cassell), Somebody must unravel the snick-snarls in the hank which somebody else had no more wit than to tangle. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining* 145 *Kank*, a twist or snick-snarl in a rope.

†**Snick-up**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [? f. SNICK *v.*[1]] A hangman's rope; a halter.

1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* 15 A Tiburne Hempen caudell well will cure you;..in Sparta it ycleped was Snickvp, which is in English Gallow grasse.

Snick-up[2]. Now *dial.* Also 9 snickeup. [Imitative: cf. LG. *snik-up* hiccup, Du. *snik* gasp, sob.] A sneeze, sneezing-fit.

1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (1694) 397 If there had been but a Snick-up in the case, you'd have cry'd 'The Lord bless ye Sir'. 1879 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. XII. 45/2 The turkeys in his neighbourhood [Essex] were dying very much this season of the 'snickups'. By this he meant a kind of sneezing fit.

Snick-up, *v.* : see SNICK *v.*[1]

Snid. *slang.* ? *Obs.* A sixpence.

1839 *Slang Dict.* 34.

Sni·ddle. *dial.* Also 5 snythill. [prob. f. the stem of OE. *sníðan* to cut: see SNITHE *v.* WFris. has *snyl* (from **snidel*) or *snile* in the same sense.] Coarse grass, rushes, or sedge.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4095 A dryi meere..full of gladen & of gale & of grete redis. Þan snyȝes þar, out of þat snyth hill [*read* snythill]..A burly best. 1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 57 Before the cheese is brought into the rooms, the floors are mostly well littered with what the farmers here call 'sniddle'. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Sniddle*, long grass; also stubble. Lanc. 1845 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. I. 119 The floor of the cheese-room is generally covered with ..a coarse grass resembling rushes, called 'sniddle'. 1886 HOLLAND *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Sniddle*, any kind of sedge, *Carex*.

Snide (snəid), *a.* and *sb. Cant.* Also snyde. [Of obscure origin.]

A. *adj.* Counterfeit, sham, bogus.

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 652 [To] get ready for the trial, and look up the 'snyde witnesses'. 1868 *Temple Bar* XXIV. 538 *Snyde*..means counterfeit or bad. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 5 Oct., When stripped of their gay apparel..the most of them were very snide religions. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* 309 A holdout in the vest is more use than snide jewelry in the pocket.

B. *sb.* 1. Counterfeit jewelry; base coin.

1885 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 27 Mar. 5 They pass by the jewels and take 'the snide', for that is all they know. 1887 *Times* 22 Dec. 14/2 Witness caught hold of Clark and said 'Bill, I think you have a little snide (base coin) on you'.

2. *Comb.*, as *snide-pitcher*, *-pitching*; *snidesman*.

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 649 Every professional thief is considered as belonging to the branch of thieving in which he excels the most, and he is named after it:..a snyde pitcher, a magsman,..as the case may be. 1868 *Temple Bar* XXIV. 538 *Snyde-pitching* is passing bad money. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 111 An outer fringe of such dippers—such pickpockets—as could dress well, welshers, and snidesmen.

Snider (snəi·dəɹ). [See def.] *Snider rifle*, a form of breech-loading rifle invented by Jacob Snider († 1866). Also *ellipt.* for this.

1868 *U.S. Rep. Munit. War* 32 The Snider rifle..has attracted perhaps as much attention as any breech-loader in Europe or America. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 27/1 The Snider or converted Enfield rifle cartridge. 1890 KIPLING *Soldiers Three* (1891) 65 The good and virtuous people who hardly know a Martini from a Snider.

Snidge. Now *Lanc. dial.* Also 6 snydge. [var. of SNUDGE *sb.*] A greedy or miserly person.

1548 FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 97 For suche solayne snydges [do thou] caste reformation by forfeture too the poores sustentation. 1855 J. DAVIES in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 272 *Snidge*, a greedy, sordid person.

Sniff (snif), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

The phrase *in a sniff* 'in a moment' occurs slightly earlier in dial.: see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1. An act of sniffing; a single inhalation through the nose in order to smell something, usually accompanied by a characteristic short snuffling sound; the sound made in doing this.

1767 WARTON *Oxford Newsman's V.* 34 Oh, cou'd I but have had one single sup, One single sniff at Charlotte's caudle-cup! 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* II. i, Rain over—quite fine—I'll take a sniff of the open air too. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. i, Then he made a sort of a sniff with his nose, because he could smell the dinner. 1868 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* I. vi. (ed. 2) I. 109 When the sniffs have been continued for some time, scarcely any scent can be perceived. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* i, [He] was taking his evening sniff of the Neckar breeze.

transf. 1860 MAYNE REID *Hunters' Feast* vi, It was a sort of prolonged hiss, that all except Ike believed to be the snort of the black bear. Ike..declared that it was..the 'sniff', as he termed it, of the 'painter' (cougar).

b. A smell or scent.

1844 HOOD *The Turtles* 34 All whiffs, and sniffs, and puffs and snuffs,..That, as we walk upon the river's ridge, Assault the nose.

c. Sniffing distance.

1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* xx. 216 We were within sniff of Paris, it seemed.

2. An act of sniffing in order to express or show contempt, disdain, incredulity, or similar feeling.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii, Lambeth..is met..by nothing but Royalist *brocards*; sniffs, huffs, and open insults. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xli, Miss Miggs gave a great sniff to the same effect. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Dec. 5/2 A look and a sniff which express as clearly as articulate words a homely rejoinder [etc.]. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xii, 'She is downstairs, and I think she's come to stop,' with a sniff of disgust.

3. An act (or habit) of clearing the nose by a short inhalation.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 75. 588 An elderly woman labouring under a chronic sniff. 1883 H. DRUMMOND in G. A. Smith *Life* (1899) viii. 188 The creature..gives vent to a tremendous sniff, as if he had just caught a severe cold in the head.

4. *U.S.* A contemptible or insignificant person.

1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* xii, Her mother..cries out, astounded: 'Going to marry that little sniff?'

Sniff (snif), *v.* Forms: 4–5 snyff, 6 sniffe, 8– sniff. [Imitative: cf. SNIFFLE *v.* and SNUFF *v.*]

1. *intr.* To draw air through the nose with short or sharp audible inhalations; to clear the nose in this way, esp. when under the influence of emotion.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 88 Man snyffyth and snyuelith. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 39 She snyffith, sighith, and shooke hire hede, and made rouful chere. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 284 Pike not youre nose.., Snyff nor snitynge hyt to lowd lest youre soueravne hit here. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 231 It shall be good..to skowre the head alone, and purge it with some deuise, to force hir snyte and sniffe as men do accustome to sneze. *Ibid.* 232 To discerne this disease of the head, the hawke will sniffe often. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* iv, The little boy beyond alternately sniffing and choking, gave no further vent to his emotions. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 6/2 The ladies were all weeping wildly,..dozens of men were sniffing suspiciously.

2. To do this in smelling; to smell with a sniff or sniffs. Said esp. of animals.

1788 COWPER *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bullfinch* 40 He [*sc.* a cat]..something in the wind Conjectur'd, sniffing round and round. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, Some dogs.. that sniffed upon the road. 1874 C. KEENE *Let.* in *Life* (1892) vii. 160 [A] little animal, always sniffing about for mice. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 341 The patient in smelling sniffed with one nostril only.

fig. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiv, If he came sneaking and sniffing about the property.

b. Const. *at.*

1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 27 June, She..sniffed at her flowers with a sort of ecstatic engerness. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 239 After sniffing at it two or three times, I knew it to be otto of roses. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iii. 45 The Fijians, who used to salute by smelling or sniffing at one another. 1883 OLIVE SCHREINER *Story Afr. Farm* I. i, A curious old ewe came to sniff at him.

3. To show or express contempt, disdain, disparagement, incredulity, or similar feeling, by sniffing:

a. Const. *at* a person or thing.

1729 SWIFT *Grand Question* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 109 So then you look'd scornful, and snift at the dean. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. iv, Camille Desmoulins, and others, sniffing at him for it. 1864 — *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. x. (1872) VI. 262 Our Shopkeepers of the Rue St. Honoré would sniff at such a lodging. 1888 *Times* 6 July 9/3 Superior persons..will doubtless sniff at the expression of opinion upon these topics by the House of Lords.

b. Without const.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VI. ii, Dusky D'Espréménil does nothing but sniff and ejaculate. 1871 MRS. WHITNEY *Real Folks* xvii, She did not sniff; she was a great deal too much a lady. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 91 Mrs. Gambitt sniffed disdainfully.

4. *trans.* To take *up*, draw *in*, (air, etc.) by inhaling through the nostrils.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 147 Seeing he was sniffing up the *eau suave* without looking at her. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 189 Cold water may be sniffed up the nostrils. 1828 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 29 July (1894) II. 29, I sniffed up country air, and felt better and better every mile. 1873 AGNES MATHESON in *Mem. Minister's Wife* (1881) vii. 98, I can sit and sniff in the sea-breezes.

b. Without adv.

1843 SIR C. SCUDAMORE *Med. Visit Grafenberg* 75 Head-bath twice a day; and to sniff water freely several times in the day. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xiii. 138 Dr. Hayes..came aft and crawled upon deck to sniff the day-light. 1870 R. BROUGH *M. Lynch* x, [He] could sniff the sea breeze through the counting-house window.

c. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1864 DK. MANCHESTER *Crt. & Soc.* I. vii. 106 Sniffing a far-off scent of battle with the restless craving of the war-horse. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* II. x, His turn-up nose seemed so joyfully to sniff the incense of praise.

5. a. To smell (a thing).

a 1845 HOOD *Town & Country* v, For meadow-buds I get a whiff of Cheshire cheese,—or only sniff The turtle made at Cuff's. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. iii. (1875) II. 28 The platter-licker, he sniffs the roasting.

b. *fig.* To perceive as if by smell; to smell or smell out (a plot, etc.); to suspect.

1864 C. KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. iii. 175 Lord Sidmouth, as was his wont, had sniffed a plot from afar. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. London* (1876) 43 It is not only Rome that sniffs heresy in independent thought or action. 1899 C. SCOTT *Drama of Yesterday* I. xvi. 538, I sniffed more prey.

6. To regard (something) with contempt or scorn; to sneer at.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. V. viii, Thus some, with up-turned nose, will altogether sniff and disdain Sansculottism.

7. To utter with a (scornful) sniff; to express by means of a sniff.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xl, 'Are you cold?' she would ask, smiling charitably. 'I am.'..'You always appear to be,' the bosom sniffed and snapped. 1865 A. SMITH *Summer in Skye* i. 24 Fastidious Edinburgh sniffs disdain. 1870 MRS. RIDDELL *Austin Friars* iv, 'Of course you would forgive anything from her,' sniffed Melinda.

Hence **Sni·ffer**, one who sniffs (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1864 *Realm* 1 June 8 Sniffer and snorter. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Jan. 3/1 Those who are deaf and those who are sniffers.

Sniffing (sni·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIFF *v.*] The action of the vb.; an instance of this, a sniff.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 231 You may rubbe..the pallate of your Hawke with the saide powder, and not feede hir after it, vntill such tyme she haue lefte snyting and sniffing. 1842 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle's Conf.* Wks. 1869 XXII. 229 People looking and making a strange nasal noise (it is called sniffing). 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* iv. 90 Sniffing is a more rapid inspiratory act, in which the mouth is kept shut, and the air made to pass through the nose. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 421 Sometimes these sniffings were very loud.

attrib. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 870 Obstructive diseases of the nose..occasion sniffing movements of the face.

Sni·ffing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] That sniffs, in senses of the vb.; characterized by sniffing.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. x, To him thou, with sniffing charity, wilt protrusively proffer thy hand-lamp. 1837 — *Fr. Rev.* II. I. x, What a humour the once sniffing mocking City of Paris..had got into.

Hence **Sni·ffingly** *adv.*, with a sniff (esp. of scorn or contempt).

1873 BAYNE in *Contemp. Rev.* XXI. 411 He glances at Cromwell's speeches jauntily, sniffingly, in a mood of pleasant indifference dashed by cynicism. 1893 K. GRAHAME in *National Observer* 23 Sept. 487/1 Charlotte turned away sniffingly.

Sniffle (sni·fl), *sb.*[1] [f. SNIFFLE *v.*]

1. *The sniffles*, the snuffles. Also *U.S. slang*, a fit of low spirits.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Sniffles*, that difficulty of breathing through the nostrils, which is caused by cold in the head. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* xviii. 279, I hope you won't get the sniffles and tell any [*sc.* gloomy tales].

2. An act of sniffling; a slight snivel or snuffle.

1880 MEREDITH *Trag. Com.* (1881) 195 'You have been a little weak,' the phantom said to her, and she acquiesced with a soft sniffle. 1885 MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* (1886) II. I. v. 174 A curve in the nose, a colour of the hair, a sniffle in the voice.

Sni·ffle, *sb.*[2] *Weaving.* [Origin obscure.] A form of ravel or separator.

1805 J. AUSTIN in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXIII. 242 An universal ravel or sniffle, useful at the beaming of all kinds of webs. This machine is of itself complete, and will beam from the coarsest to the finest web.

Sniffle (sni·fl), *v.* Also 9 *dial.* snifle. [Imitative: cf. G. (now dial.) *schniffeln*, † *schnifeln*, and see SNIVEL *v.*, SNUFFLE *v.*] *intr.* To snivel or snuffle slightly; to sniff. Also (with *that* and compl.), to say with a sniffle.

The vbl. sb. and ppl. a. are recorded much earlier.

1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montr.* xiv, So saying, and..sniffling a little to swallow his grief, he turned from the heart-rending spectacle. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 II. 228/2 He does not sniffle: to my ears he speaks plain English. 1883 L. A. LAMBERT *Notes on Ingersoll* vi. 57 And yet you sniffle that He killed art.

b. *transf.* Of a breeze. (Cf. next.)

1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 143 About nine it began to sniffle and blow a bit.

Sniffler (sni·flәɹ). [f. SNIFFLE *v.*]

1. A strong, smart, or brisk breeze or wind.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 32 Wi weet an wind sae tyte into my teeth,..I gat na sik a teazle this seven year...I maun na ilka day be coming here, To get sic sniflers [1789 snifters]. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, At length the sniffler reached us, and the sharp little vessel began to speak. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Sniffler*, a capful of wind.

2. One who sniffles.

1887 W. S. GILBERT *Ruddigore* II, Sniffler, snuffler, wailer, weeper.

Sniffling (sni·fliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIFFLE *v.*] Snivelling; snuffling; † canting discourse.

1653 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 6 This answer not satisfying them they went to the Councell of State with another peticion, where they had much more sniffling but went away free men. 1836 HOWARD *R. Reefer* xiii, You will ..oblige me by not taking snuff..., the sniffling is abominable. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* ii, The tip of her nose as red as fire with sniffling and weeping. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 13 There now—stop that sniffling.

Sni·ffling, *ppl. a.* Also 7 sniffeling, 7–8 sniffing. [f. SNIFFLE *v.*] That snivels or snuffles; characterized by sniffling.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 40 A sniffling conuenticle or companie of proud Sectaries. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. ii. 181 Notwithstanding his sniffeling example of Amadis Du Gaull, or any other puling Knight. *a* 1796 PROOR *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 123 A *sniffling* cold, a slight running disorder in the nose. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xlvii, When you were a little spalpeen, with a sniffling nose. 1890 MRS. BARR *Friend Olivia* xiv, A pretty crowd of sniffling, sneaking varlets he has been feeding and pampering!

Sniffy (sni·fi), *a. dial.* and *colloq.* [f. SNIFF *v.*] Prone or inclined to sniff; scornful, contemptuous, disdainful; disagreeable, ill-tempered.

Sniffily and *Sniffiness* have also been used in recent periodicals, etc.

1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* xx, Her curt sniffy manner did not alter in the least. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Dec. 2/1 When Lothair's sniffy I keep out of his way.

Snift, *sb. techn.* [f. SNIFT *v.*; cf. dial. *snift* a scent, whiff, etc.] (See quot. and SNIFTING *vbl. sb.*)

1890 *Times* 7 Aug. 10/2 The whole of the 'snift' (which is the waste in bottling aerated waters) is saved by this machine.

Snift (snift), *v.* Now chiefly *dial.* [Imitative: cf. SNIFTER *v.*, and older Da. *snifle*, *snyfte* (Da. *snøfle*), Sw. *snyfta* (MSw. *snypta*, *snöpta*).]

1. *intr.* To sniff, in various senses.

The vbl. sb. is recorded much earlier.

1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Snift*, to draw the wind smartly up the nose. 1744 DESAGULIERS *Exp. Philos.* II. xii. 474 The Air makes a Noise..like a Man snifting with a Cold. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. v, He shall neither..hawk, or spit, or snift. 1801 H. F. CARY *Mem.* I. 186 With her mouth and nose drawn up on one side, and snifting through the latter, which..is the highest elevation of her mirth and gladness. 1828– in dial. glossaries and texts (N. Cy., Yks., Lancs., Leic., Northampt., Warw., etc.). *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingoldsby Leg.* Ser. III. *Brothers of Birchington* lx, Father Richard..At once began coughing, and snifting, and sneezing. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 13 More steamers came along snorting and snifting at the buoys.

b. *fig.* (With *after* or *at*.)

1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Bp. Burnet & Humphrey Hardcastle* Wks. 1853 I. 46/2 It now appears that they were still snifting and hankering after their old quarters. 1824 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* (1825) 304 He has seen 'Life', and *dum vivimus vivamus* is a motto not to be snifted at.

c. Of an engine, etc.: To blow out air or steam.

1865 SMILES *Lives Boulton & Watt* 135 The machine snifted at many openings.

2. *trans.* To draw *up* by sniffing; to sniff the smell of. *rare.*

1736 AINSWORTH I, To snift up, *mucum resorbere.* 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. viii, I would sooner snift thy farthing candle once a day, than sustain that nasal cadence ever more.

Snifter (sni·ftəɹ), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. the vb.]

Various other dial. senses are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*

1. A strong or rough breeze or wind.

1789 [see SNIFFLER 1]. 1866– in northern dial. glossaries. 1886 BRET HARTE *Snowbound* 121 This is no blizzard, but a regular two-days' snifter. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise 'Cachalot'* 350 There came a 'snifter' from the hills that caught her unprepared, making her reel again.

2. *pl.* A bad cold in the head, or the stoppage of the nostrils caused by this; the snuffles. Also, a disease of poultry (see quot. 1844). *Sc.*

1808 JAMIESON, *Snifters*, a stoppage of the nostrils from cold, which occasions frequent sniffing. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xvii, I asked him..about..curing the sturdie, and the snifters. 1837 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 71 The blessedness of having a head clear of snifters. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 260 The only disease [among fowls] I can remember to have seen in winter is what is vulgarly called the *snifters*, that is, a discharge of matter from the nose, which causes a noise in the nose like stifled breathing.

3. A sniff. Chiefly *dial.*

a 1835 HOGG *Good Man Alloa* xxxiii. Poems (1865) 309 The palfrey dash'd o'er the bounding wave, with snifter and with stenne. 1866– in Sc., Yks., Lancs. dial. glossaries and texts (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1884 *Good Words* May 324/2 With a snifter of the nostrils he emits a dry, respiratory sound.

Snifter (sni·ftəɹ), *v.* [Imitative: cf. SNIFT *v.*] Other purely dial. senses are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, as, to giggle, to snow slightly, etc.

1. *intr.* To sniff, snivel, snuffle.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 152 Man snyfterith and nose snyt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 To Snyfter, *reumatizare, fleumaticare.* 1611 COTGR., *Brouffer*, to snurt, or snifter with the nose, like a horse. *Ibid.*, *Nifler*, to snifter, or snuffe vp sniuell; to draw it vp by drawing in the wind. 1719 RAMSAY *2nd Answ. Hamilton* xii, Gin I can snifter thro' mundungus. 1825– in Sc. and north. glossaries and texts (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1835 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 266, I was obliged to..snifter like a whipped boy. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 550 He would have lain snifftering if he was a coward.

2. *trans.* With *out*: To utter (words) in a snuffling manner. *rare.*

1880 W. GRANT *Christ our Hope*, etc. p. xx, He is indeed a forcible speaker, sniftering out his words with the quaintest, queerest accent.

Hence **Sni·fterer**; **Sni·ftering** *ppl. a.*

1790 A. WILSON *Rabby's Mistake* Poems 1876 II. 41 Nae sniftering dog had he, I wat, To air't him to the lanely spat Whare ony creature lay. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Sniftering* fellow; a shuffling sneaking fellow. Lanc. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss., Snifle*,..to have the habit of puffing in audible successions through the nostrils, as a 'snifterer'.

Snifting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIFT *v.*] **a.** The action of sniffing; also *attrib.* b. (See quot. 1890 and SNIFT *sb.*)

c 1430 *Freemasonry* (Halliw. 1840) 36 From spyttynge and snyftynge kepe the also. 1755 JOHNSON, *Snuff*,..resentment expressed by snifting. 1849 CRAIG s.v. *Snift*, The snifting noise made by the air in making its escape. 1890 *Star* 5 Nov. 4/1 There is no necessity for what under the ordinary system is called 'snifting'—the process by which the air in the bottles is allowed to escape.

Snifting, *ppl. a.* [f. SNIFT *v.*] *Snifting valve*, a valve through which air may be expelled from the cylinder of a condensing steam-engine. So † *snifting clack*, *pipe.*

(*a*) 1744 DESAGULIERS *Exp. Philos.* II. 474 This is call'd the Snifting Clack, because the Air makes a Noise every time it blows thro' it, like a Man snifting with a Cold. 1812 SMEATON *Keep.* I. 227 The steam, finding a passage at the snifting clack..blows out thereat. [1873 EVERS *Steam & Steam Eng.* iii. 50 A valve to preserve the vacuum, which valve, from the peculiar noise it made, was called the snifting valve, or snifting clack.]

(*b*) 1759 H. WOOD *Pat. Specif.* No. 739. 2 If the hot air be driven into the cylinder with a force superior to the pressure of the atmosphere, that force will drive out the condensed air through what is now called the snifting pipe.

(*c*) 1822 J. ROBISON *Syst. Mech. Phil.* II. 61 The steam from the boiler will immediately rush in, and..will force the air to issue by the snifting-valve. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 302 The tail-valve, or snifting-valve, is at the opposite side of the air-pump from the condenser. 1878 THURSTON *Growth of Steam-Eng.* 138 A snifting-valve, *k*, opens when the engine is blown through.

† **Sni·fty,** *sb. Sc. Obs.*–1 [f. SNIFT *v.* Cf. SNIFF *sb.* 4.] An insignificant person.

1660 BAILLIE *Lett.* (1842) III. 412 To..be accounted poor feckless snifties, who has no witt nor action to end what he has so magnificentlie begun.

Snifty (sni·fti), *a. U.S. slang.* [f. SNIFT *v.*] Having a pleasant or agreeable smell.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Snig (snig), *sb.*1 Also 5–6 snygge, 6, 8–9 snigg. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A young or small eel; a grig. In later use a distinct species of eel (see quots.).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 A Snygge, *vbi* a ele. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 118/44 A Snig, *anguillæ genus.* 1586–7 *Shutilworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 35 Syxtene snygges, ij*s* iij*d*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* IX. li, Those scrapings (as it were) which are fretted from them [*sc.* eels], in time come to take life, and prove snigs. 1664 H. POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 32 Eels in Vinegar..appear like small Silver-Eells, or little Snigs. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 325/1 An Eel, first a Fausen, then a Grigg, or Snigg, then a Scaffling, then a little Eel [etc.]. *c* 1746 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1775) 43, I feel hoose os fat os o Snig. 1787– in dial. glossaries (N. Cy., Lanc., Chesh., Warw., Wilts., Hants., etc.). 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 302 The Hampshire Snig differs from our other Eels in its habit of roving and feeding during the day. 1863 H. C. PENNELL *Angler-Naturalist* 400 The Snig, or Medium-nosed Eel (*Anguilla mediorostris*). 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxi. (1884) 242 The grig or snig, a yellowish eel with a projecting under-lip.

fig. 1582 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 384 b, This heroycall Gyant..despising and loathing these small snigges of Babish Haddon.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snig-eel*, *-pie*, *-pot*, etc.

Other examples are given in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 301 *Anguilla mediorostris*, Snig Eel. 1861 WAUGH *Rambles Lake Cy.* 24 They'd etten so mich snig-pie..that [etc.]. 1865 G. F. BERKELEY *Life & Recoll.* II. 316, I was looking at some snig-pots..in my fishery. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 242 Sharp-nosed-eel, Dublin-eel, Broad-nosed-eel, Snig-eel.

† **Snig,** *sb.*2 *Obs.*–1 [Cf. SNIG *v.*, and NIG *sb.*1] A covetous or avaricious person.

1629 GAULE *Holy Madnesse* 322 A Couetous Man..hath more Names, than euer he was christend with. The Best call him no better, than you would call a Wretch;..Cark, Snig, Gripe, Sharke [etc.].

† **Snig,** *sb.*3 *Obs. rare.* [? Dim. of SNAG *sb.*1] A slight projection or process.

1649 J. BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. i. 59 The other [muscle] ariseth from the Snig of the seventh Vertebre of the Neck. *Ibid.*, The knob of the first vertebre of the Neck, which holds Analogy with the Snigs of the other vertebres of the Back.

† **Snig,** *v. Obs.*–1 (Sense not quite clear: cf. SNIG *sb.*2)

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 211 Others are so dangerously worldly, snigging and biting, usurers, hard and oppressing.

Snigger (sni·gəɹ), *sb.*1 [f. SNIGGER *v.*1 Cf. SNICKER *sb.*1] An act of sniggering; a slight or half-suppressed laugh; a snicker.

1823 BEE *Dict. Turf* 162 *Snigger*, ill-suppressed laughter. 1830 *Examiner* 677/2 He appeared to have a constant snigger lurking under his frown. 1855 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* (1890) 64 Juba..indulged himself from time to time in an inward laugh or snigger. 1882 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versa* VI. 127 Suspecting that the faint sniggers he heard were indulged in at his own expense.

fig. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XX. V. (1872) IX. 77 Ages.. which have lost their mirth, and become all one snigger of mock-mirth.

Sni·gger, *sb.*2 *local.* [f. SNIGGER *v.*2] A kind of grapple used by salmon poachers.

1901 *Scotsman* 29 March 7/1 Labourers .. poached for salmon on the Don..by means of sniggers.

Snigger (sni·gəɹ), *v.*1 [Imitative: cf. SNICKER *v.*] 1. *intr.* To laugh in a half-suppressed, light or covert manner; to snicker.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Snicker* or *Snigger*. 1728 MORGAN *Hist. Algiers* I. 188 This, and other such Jokes, set most of the Assembly a sniggering. 1771 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* July, Mr. Featherstone enjoyed it prodigiously, sniggering and joking. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, So they let me go, and rode a' sniggering, laughing, and rounding in ilk ither's lugs. 1867 CARLYLE *Reminis.* (1881) II. 15 He never laughed loud, and indeed oftener sniggered slightly than laughed in any way. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* IV. 112 They snigger and grin sometimes, and then turn away as if ashamed of themselves.

fig. 1894 MRS. OLIPHANT *Hist. Sk. Q. Anne* VII. 364 The younger world..still sniggers in its sleeve [etc.].

b. Const. *at* or *over*.

1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* xxxiii, Fools, sniggering at you because they won't understand what you mean. 1859 THACKERAY *Virginians* lxxviii, She..sniggered over the faults of the self-styled righteous with uncommon satisfaction. 1887 JEFFERIES *Amaryllis* xiv, He kind of sniggered in a foolish way at Amaryllis. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 487 Norwich has ceased to snigger over the youthful indiscretions of George Borrow.

c. *dial.* (See quots.)

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Snigger, Sniggeren*, exulting, boasting, jeering. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Snigger*, to sneer ill-naturedly.

2. *trans.* To utter with a snigger.

1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. 96 'Don't you wish yours was, Doctor?' 'Eh, eh, eh,' sniggered Heale. 1905 P. WHITE *Patient Man* xiv, 'Then he has the oddest way of keeping it,' sniggered Mrs. Archie.

Sni·gger, *v.*2 *local.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SNIGGLE *v.*1] *trans.* To catch (salmon) by means of weighted hooks.

1886 *Fishing Gaz.* 30 Jan. 58/1 In the way of grappling—or sniggering, as it is more politely termed—i. e., dragging the river with huge grapples and lead attached for the purpose of keeping them to the bottom of the pool. 1898 *Scotsman* 19 Nov. 6 The bailiffs..said they had no doubt, from the position and movements of the accused and his companions.., that they were 'sniggering' salmon.

Sniggerer (sni·gərəɹ). [f. SNIGGER *v.*1] One who sniggers or laughs covertly.

1860 DICKENS in *All Year Round* 5 May 87 The sniggerers tempt him to secular thoughts of marbles. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 182 Gourlay ceased to care a rap for the sniggerers.

Sniggering (sni·gəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIGGER *v.*1] The action of the vb.; half-suppressed laughter.

1775 ASH *Dict.*, *Sniggering*,..a silly kind of laugh. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Oct., I..had been obliged to turn my head another way, that my sniggering might not sooner make him see his mistake. 1823 [see SNIGGER *v.*1 1 c]. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Mar. 245 The sniggering of everybody around one over indecorous inuendos. 1876 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. viii. 144 The sniggering only shows what a move it was.

Sni·ggering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Of the nature of, accompanied or characterized by, a snigger or sniggers.

1793 in W. Roberts *Looker-on* No. 54 (1794) II. 312 Hip here, jade, and bring with thee Jokes and sniggering jollity. 1876 *World* V. 21 The writer's innuendoes and sniggering asides..are coarse and disgusting. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* 44 You saw his sniggerin', sneerin' way with me.

2. That sniggers; snickering.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 68 No doubt there is plenty of gaping and sniggering fools who will say [etc.]. 1860 DICKENS in *All Year Round* 5 May 87/1 The aunt and nephew in this City church are much disturbed by the sniggering boys. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* X, He had almost lifted his hand to fell the sniggering waistrel.

Hence **Sni·ggeringly** *adv.*

1886 JEROME *Idle Th.* 111 Glancing round with an imbecile smile, you sniggeringly observe that [etc.].

'Sniggers, *int.* ? *Obs.* [Cf. 'SNIGS and NIGS.] A form of minced oath.

1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* I. i, Sniggers! what does the devil and a saint both in a sign? 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. xvii. ¶ 3 Odd 'sniggers! this smells strong of intrigues! 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxi, I sniggers if you didn't frighten us properly.

Snigger snee, variant of SNICKERSNEE *v.*

Sni·gging, *vbl. sb. techn.* (See quot.)

1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Snigging*, term used in the hosiery industry to describe cases in which the thread is partly cut and escapes the notice of the menders.

Sniggle (sni·g'l), *sb.*1 [f. SNIGGLE *v.*1] A baited hook or other device used in sniggling for eels, etc.

1837 HOOD *Ode to Dr. Hahnemann* iii, When Anhalt-Coethen babies wriggle, Like eels just caught by sniggle. 1848 [W. F. CAMPBELL] *Life in Normandy* (1863) I. 183 There may be one [lobster there] now. I will make the girl try, if she has brought her sniggle with her. *Ibid.* 184 He saw that she had a sniggle stick stuck into the string of her petticoat.

Sniggle (sni·g'l), *sb.*2 [f. SNIGGLE *v.*2] A snigger or snicker.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* viii. 54 Marks patronised his joke by a quiet introductory sniggle. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* xxxii, A fierce sound—half sniggle, half laugh.

Sni·ggle, *sb.*3 *dial.* [Dim. of SNIG *sb.*1] A snig or small eel.

1863 WISE *New Forest* xii. 125 The Avon flows close by, famous for a peculiar eel, locally called the 'sniggle' (*anguilla mediorostris*). 1879–83 in dial. glossaries (Hants., Shrops.).

Sniggle (sni·g'l), *v.*1 [See SNIGGLING *vbl. sb.*] Fletcher's *Thierry & Theod.* II. ii. 'I haue snigled him' is cited by Todd and later Dicts. as an early example of this verb; but the correct reading is doubtless 'singled' (cf. SINGLE *v.* 2 and 3).

1. a. *intr.* To fish *for* eels by the method known as sniggling.

1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, To Sniggle, *vox Piscatoribus satis nota.* 1775 ASH, *Sniggle*, to fish for eels by putting a bait to the holes in which they conceal themselves. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 275 How to sniggle for Eels. 1833 *Bowlker's Art of Angling* 96 To sniggle for Eels procure a strong top rod, or a long hazel stick [etc.]. 1867 BURNARD *Happy Thoughts* iii. 17, I ask 'Sniggle for chub?' He..answers, 'No, sniggle for eels'.

b. *trans.* To fish for, catch, pull out (an eel or eels) in this way.

1844 BADHAM *Prose Halieutics* 390 As wily anglers sniggling eels The approved device employ. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. (1880) 89 Sniggling an old eel out of his hole.. is not altogether unamusing.

2. *trans.* To catch (fish) by means of striking a hook into them.

1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 197 Charters has since sniggled abundance of trout. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Jan. 15/1 These noble salmon, netted, speared, sniggled, very likely.

Hence **Sni·ggled** *ppl. a.*

1844 TUPPER *Crock of G.* xlvi. 294 He wriggled like a sniggled eel.

Sniggle (sni·g'l), *v.*[2] [Imitative.] *intr.* To snigger or snicker.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii, As for the Dominie,..he looked at Lucy—he whimpered—he sniggled—he grinned. 1840 C. BRONTË in Mrs. Gaskell *Life* (1857) I. 215 [The preacher] did not whine; he did not sniggle. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* vi, At which flattery the other sniggles and calls him a wit.

Hence **Sni·ggling** *ppl. a.*

1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xii, Wildrake laughed without ceremony,..and was joined by a sniggling response from behind the cupboard.

Sni·ggle, *v.*[3] *dial.* or *colloq.* [Of doubtful origin. Cf. Norw. *snygla* to sponge, beg.]

1. *intr.* **a.** (See quot. 1837). **b.** To wriggle, crawl, creep stealthily.

1837 J. F. PALMER *Gloss. Devon Dialogue, To Sniggle,* (at taw) to shuffle the hand forwards in an unfair manner; *Unde* Sniggler. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* 247 *Sniggle,*..to wriggle away. 1900 FLORA A. STEEL *Hosts of the Lord* xxiii, There's a brute trying to sniggle along the wall.

2. *trans.* To get (a thing) *in* surreptitiously.

1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss.* 98 *Sniggle in,* to get anything in an underhand manner. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* vi. 190, I calculated that if I were successful in my application I could sniggle in those two days as well.

Sniggler[1] (sni·glə1). [f. SNIGGLE *v.*[1]] One who fishes for or catches eels or salmon by sniggling.

1840 J. T. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* i, Like an eel in a wall, politely declining a sniggler's offer of a lobworm. 1864 *Q. Rev.* CXV. 186 Towards evening the juvenile sniggler knows that he has the best chance of success. 1890 *Daily News* 6 Nov. 5/1 The truth is that the apparent sportsmen are snigglers, not anglers.

Sni·ggler[2]. [f. SNIGGLE *v.*[2]] A sniggerer.

1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Sniggler,* a derider. 1886 in ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Wordbk.*

Sni·ggler[3]. [f. SNIGGLE *v.*[3]] One who plays in a manner not quite fair or correct.

1837 [see SNIGGLE *v.*[3] 1]. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* i, It has been affirmed..that the pool-players..break out into mild revelry; that derisive cheers overwhelm the 'sniggler'.

Sniggling (sni·glin), *vbl. sb.* [? Related to SNIG *sb.*[1]]

1. The action or practice of fishing for eels by means of a baited hook or needle thrust into their holes or haunts.

1661 WALTON *Angler* xiii. (ed. 3) 193 Because you..know not what *snigling* is, I will now teach it to you..; take a strong small hook tied to a strong line.., and then into one of these holes,..or any place where you think an Eele may hide or shelter her self, there with the help of a short stick put in your Bait. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 260 Eels commonly abscond themselves under stones.., and under Timber, Planks, or such-like.., where you may take them by this way of Snigling. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* I. xl. 85 Snigling or Brogling for Eels is another remarkable Method of taking them. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 55 There are two ways to take them in the day time called sniggling and bobbing. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 258 Sniggling is another mode of taking eels,..and the apparatus consists in a strong needle [etc.]. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Nov. 673/1 'Sniggling'..is one of the most favourite ways of catching eels.

attrib. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 103/1 A Sniggleing, or Prokeing Stick, is a forked stick, and a short long Line with a Needle Bated with a Lob Worm. It is only for Eels in their holes. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. (1880) 91 A sniggling stick or rod.

2. In salmon-fishing (see quots.).

1890 *Scottish Leader* 20 Nov. 5 'Sniggling,' means fishing with rod and line and artificial fly, but the hook is made to sink in the water where fish are supposed to be, and the rod so jerked that they are hooked and quickly landed. 1891 *Ibid.* 13 Nov. 4 'Sniggling'..is a mode of fishing by which the hook takes the fish, and not the fish the hook.

Snight, obs. f. SNITE (the snipe).

†'Snigs, *int. Obs.* An abbrev. of *God's nigs* (see GOD *sb.* 14 b and cf. NIGS), used as a minced oath. Cf. 'SNIGGERS.

a 1643 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* III. ii, 'Snigs, another! *Ibid.* IV. i, 'Snigs, I would fain now hear some fighting news. 1675 COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 72 S'nigs, well remembred! I'le be gone.

† Snigsnarl, obs. var. SNICK-SNARL.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 288/2 The Yarn..is..tied up with a Lay Band, to keep it from ravalling or running into Snigsnarles or Knotted up.

Snik-a-snee, variant of SNICK-A-SNEE.

† Snike, *v. Obs.* [OE. *snícan,* prob. related to ON. *snikja* (Da. *snige*) to sneak.] *intr.* Of reptiles: To creep, crawl.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past.* 311 On ðinre wambe & on ðinum breostum ðu scealt snican. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 34 Wyrm com snican. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 251 Þe laðe helle wurmes, tadden ant froggen, Þe.. snikeð in ant ut.

Snikker-snee, obs. form of SNICKERSNEE.

† Snileh, *v. Cant. Obs.* (See quots.)

1676 COLES, *Snilches,* sees or eyes you. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Snilch,* to Eye or See any Body.

Snip (snip), *sb.* Also 6–8 snippe, 6 snypp, 7 snipp. [Related to SNIP *v.*, and in some senses perh. directly of LG. origin: cf. LG. *snip* (G. dial. *schnipf, schnipp*) and *snippe* a small piece, etc., Du. and Fris. *snip* a snappish girl or woman.]

I. 1. A small piece or slip, esp. of cloth, cut off or out; a shred.

1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 27 In to Iagges and Snippes for defacinge of torche bearers. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. I. *Tropheis* 1103 Her lips two snips of crimsin Sattin are. *c* 1620 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. 489 To weare a litle snipp of yellowe lace vpon the left syde of their Clokes. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 95 Cut a snip from the thickest and thinnest part. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 115 P 7 A snip of hair, or the portrait of a cherry-cheeked gentleman,..are the only remaining proofs of those beauties. 1787 COWPER *Let.* 10 Dec., I thank you for your snip of cloth commonly called a pattern. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. viii, Patriotism has torn their red coats into snips. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 24 Snips of the metal used in packing tea. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 542 A snip of paper.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* (Freq. in Fuller.)

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 370 No snip, or shred of empty space cut off from the squareness of the Oracle. *a* 1661 — *Worthies* (1840) III. 391 Yorkshire hath..Lancashire and a snip of Cheshire on the west. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 280 There might be some Mediterranean Snip of Land, running down between Ionia and Lydia.

† **c.** *spec.* Of glass: (see quot.). *Obs.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 385/2 A Snip, is the upper halfe, and sometymes a quarter or lesse of a Quarry, Three Snips goes for a quarry.

2. A white or light mark, patch, or spot on a horse, esp. on the nose or lip.

Cf. G. dial. *schnippe* a horse with a mark on the nose, *schnipp* a horse or cow with a narrow blaze.

1562 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 202 A younge baye geldinge with a whyte snypp off [=on] ye nose. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* II. (1617) 3 Your redde Sorrell, and your darke Chesnutte, are much graced, if..they be accompanied with any white markes, as..white snippes on the nose. 1679 *Poor Robin's Intelligence* in *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 61 Her colour was now coal black, with a star, snip, and one white foot. 1726 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 3 A Brown Bay Nag, with..a white Snip in one of the hinder Feet. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 10 Aug. 2/2 A stout handsome chesnut gelding,..a white snip on his nose. 1820– in Sc. and north. dial. use (Jam. and *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian* 118 That brown horse over there with a snip. 1893 M. H. HAYES *Points of Horse* xx. (1897) 222 A white or pink patch on either lip is called a 'snip'.

3. A small amount, piece, or portion, a little bit (*of* something). *Every snip,* every bit.

(*a*) 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 22 Keepe not too long in one tune, but a snip and away. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *New Gagg* iii. 42, I like not that the ancient Fathers should be ..sent away like school boys with snips. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* VII. xii. (1782) III. 89 Let me know what is the business, and I promise you shall get some snips out of the minister. 1833 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) III. 185 Picking up a few residuary snips.

(*b*) 1624 J. GEE *New Shreds* Pref. p. ii, Some snips of.. their legerdemaine trickes..here I display. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* II. i, May not a man see a snip of her face? 1700 DRYDEN *Epilogue Dryden's Benefit* 14 The Poets..Tainted the Stage for some small Snip of Gain. 1831 CARLYLE in *Froude* (1882) II. 179 Sunday morning had a snip of a note from Empson. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 50 My hair is such a trouble, I have half a mind sometimes to cut off every snip of it.

b. Applied to persons in depreciation or contempt. In later use: A young, slight, or diminutive person.

1625 MASSINGER *New Way* II. ii, This term-driver, Marrall, This snip of an attorney. 1838 [MISS MAITLAND] *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 221 Half the experienced men are kept in subordinate situations, and young raw snips placed over their heads. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Feb. 5/1 Why, this snip is no better than anybody else when he lands here.

† 4. A share or portion; a snack. *Obs.*

1625 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* I. 13 The Justice of the place..not willing to lose his Snip [etc.]. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* I. ii, He watches them like a younger brother that is afraid to be mumped of his snip. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 140 The Governor distributing to the Officers, and they to the Soldiers, every one having their Snips. 1702 STEELE *Funeral* III. ii, Take care of their Young Ladyships; you shall..have a Snip in the Sale of 'em.

b. *To go snips* († or *snip*), to go shares (*with* some one, or *in* something), to share or participate in the profits. Now *dial.*

In very common use *c* 1680–1690, esp. by Hickeringill.

(*a*) 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* v. i, Pray, Sir, let me go snip with you in this Lie. 1687 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fairfax' Tasso* Pref. A 2, I recommend it to the Bookseller, for the common benefit, and..I go no snip with the Stationer.

(*b*) 1677 THORESBY *Corr.,* etc. (1830) II. 408 Some of our company went snips with them. 1682 TOPHAM *Rome's Tradit.* 209 The Subtil Old Gentleman..offered him (if he would promote the Trade) to go Snips. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. 202 Those that go Snips with their Apothecaries, are Villains of the first Magnitude. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 322 The Gamester..promises I shall go Snips with him in what he shall win. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose* s.v. *Snaps.* 1861– in Sc. and north. dial. use (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

II. 5. A small cut or incision made by, or such as that made by, a pair of scissors; a wound of this nature. Also *dial.,* a small hole or crack.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 89 What's this? a sleeue? ..Heers snip, and nip, and cut, and slish and slash. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. XXV. 159 If there be any snips in their skins, you shall apply vnto them melted waxe. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 219 Long sharp leaves.. without snips at the Edges. 1698 J. CRULL *Muscovy* 136 Bonnets, with a little snip open before and behind. 1775 ASH, *Snick,* a small snip or cut as in the hair of a beast. 1867 WAUGH *Tattlin' Matty* ii. 24 Squirtin' wayter into my ear through a snip i' th corner o' th window. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep Farm.* 149 The snip and hole are used alternately, to designate..the exact part of the ear intended to be marked.

b. *Pottery.* A small projection on the lip of a vessel, the place for which is prepared by cutting a notch.

1834–6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 455 These manipulations fix on the clay vessels their handles, snips, spouts [etc.]. *Ibid.,* For snips of jugs, &c., a piece is cut out of the upper edge of proper size and shape.

6. An act of snipping; a single cut or clip *of* scissors, etc.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg. Treat.* 256, I laid it open by a snip of a pair of Scissors. *c* 1765 FLLOYD *Tartarian T.* (1785) 103/2 Four snips of a pair of scissars will initiate you. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* I. v, Every snip of the Scissors has been regulated..by ever-active Influences. 1886 *Daily Telegr.* 14 Jan. (Cassell), A few snips of the scissors..and last year's robe will do duty for this.

b. A nip, pinch, bite, etc.

1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* II. 41 He has a snip, or a flip, or a sting, or a fling, at almost every body! 1840 HOOD *Miss Kilmansegg, Education* 509 He got..Scratches, and pinches, snips, and snaps, As if from a Tigress or Bearess. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxxix, The bruising snip a hungry cow makes.

7. *slang* or *colloq.* A tailor. Also employed as an allusive personal name for a tailor.

(*a*) 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. v [iv], Well, now, master Snip, let mee see your bill. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking Gl.* IV. iii, Sir, here's Snip the Taylor Charg'd with a riot. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lii, At Paris..Snip Groignet the Taylor had turn'd an old Clementinæ into Patterns and Measures. 1824 W. E. ANDREWS *Rev. Fox's Bk. Martyrs* I. 252 Both Snip and Snob were burned for their pains. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 206 Snip can do more—he can make you an impeccable pair of inexpressibles by simply taking the girth of your thumb. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* II. iii. 56 Well done, Snip; go it again with the wax and thread.

(*b*) 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* v. i, Hang him, poor snip, a secular shop-wit! He hath nought but his sheers to claim by, and his measures. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking Gl.* IV. ii, *Lug.* Where's my wife? *Colax.* Shee's gone with a young Snip, and an old baud. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Snip,* a taylor. 1808 J. MAYNE *Siller Gun* III. xxi, 'A ring, a ring!' the sutors cried; 'A ring, a ring!' the snips replied. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 26 'Very neat, sir; would look remarkably well on you, sir,' replies the obsequious snip. 1871 MISS BRADDON *R. Godwin* II. i. 6 Shall I give you a line to my snip?

8. *pl.* (See quot.)

1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 915 Hand shears..are often called snips, to distinguish them from bench shears.

9. *pl.* Handcuffs. *slang.*

1891 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 21 Feb. 3/2 Accused did not offer to go quietly till the police had the 'snips' on him. 1895 A. PATTERSON *Man & Nat.* 141 In a moment the slop..had the snips (handcuffs) on me.

10. *slang.* Something easily obtained or won; a sure thing, a certainty.

1894 ASTLEY *50 Yrs. Life* II. 181 The event looked a dead snip. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 5/3 The half-mile was described by the supporters of the Americans as a 'snip' for their men.

III. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *snip-like, snip-nosed* adjs.; **snip-bag,** a bag for holding snips of cloth, etc.; **† snip-cabbage,** a tailor; **snip-faced** *a.* (of a horse), marked with a snip; **snip-jack,** a person of little account or worth (cf. quot.); **snip-nose** (see quot. 1753); **† snip-work,** *Glazing* (cf. I c above).

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 154 Ordinary Houses ..are Glazed with Quarries, which is Bevel Work, so likewise is a great deal of Fret, and all Snip-work. 1708 E. WARD *Terræfil.* v. 35 The Gentleman and yonder Snip-Cabbage, his Taylor, [were] Commended for their Ingenuity. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xv. iv. 420 This man was from that time called *binnie buride,* or snip-nose. 1814 MOORE *New Cost. Ministers* v, While Y-rm-th, with snip-like and brisk expedition, Cuts up..a large Cath'lic Petition. 1846 MARRYAT *Privateer's-man* xiv, 'I can do without such snip-jacks as you are.' 'Snip-jacks!'..replied I, 'if I must say it, we are better born and better bred than you or any of your connections'. 1878 DICKINSON *Cumbld. Gloss., Snip feasst.* 1880 *Plain Hints Needlewk.* 35 Take one yard of 'cheese cloth'..out of the snip bag. 1880 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 130 *Trachinotus Cumberlandi,*..the fisherman's name is Snip-nosed-mullet.

Snip (snip), *v.* Also 6 **snyppe.** [prob. of Du. or LG. origin: cf. Du., Flem., and LG. *snippen,* G. dial. *schnippen, schnipfen, schniffen,* to snip, snatch, etc.]

† 1. *trans.* To take (something) quickly or suddenly; to snap or snatch. *Obs.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 83/1 One of your horssemen promised me a choise horsse, if I snip one haire from your beard. Well, quoth the earle, if thou plucke anie more than one [etc.]. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midnight* II. i, Well, and she be snipped by threescore and ten, may she live six-score and eleven. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* i. (1840) 7 The captain seldom ordered anything.. but I snipt some of it for my own share.

absol. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 96 They wil to snip and snap, that al the reuersion goes into hel. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., While we..snip here and snatch there from some of them.

2. To cut, to cut up or off, by or as by scissors or some similar cutting instrument.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit.* (Camden) Pref. p. xiv, They have snippers wherwith they snyppe and pare their plates. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II,* xlii, Hee takes the Measure of his Maister's stuffe, And Snips it to a Size ..Convenient for his Fashion. *a* 1687 H. MORE *Cont.*

Remark. Stories 420 They would be snipt and slasht full of holes. 1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 445 It was snipt a good deal, and several holes were worn in the middle. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xl, He found Becky and her companion..busy cutting, ripping, snipping, and tearing all sorts of black stuffs. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 599 If one of these muscular capsules be snipped by means of a pair of very fine scissors.

fig. 1628 JACKSON *Creed* VI. Wks. VI. 83 For snipping this secret hypocrisy..this exercise of the civil sword hath no force or dint. 1674 J. B[RIAN] *Harvest-Home* ii. 5 Th' impartial Fates..With keenest Scissars snip lifes thread asunder. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 11 May, While the 'Higher Criticism' is laboriously snipping the book of Genesis into 'Elohistic' and 'Jehovistic' fragments.

b. *absol.* To make a cut or cuts with or as with scissors, etc. Also, of scissors: To cut.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 138 Like a Barber's Scissars, which are always snipping, as well when they do not cut, as when they do. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 7 Dec., I wish I have not made that article too long, and Lockhart will not snip away. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxix, Miss Tox, ..arming herself with her scissors, began to snip and clip among the leaves. 1872 PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* xxiv. 322 One can snip round the borders of a region until its size has been reduced.

c. To injure by chipping or taking small pieces out of.

1822– in north. dial. use (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 22 Oct. 5/5 The granite pedestal may be snipped; or a thousand other disasters may occur.

d. *Cricket.* To hit (the ball) lightly; to snick.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 6/3 Maclaren soon opens his account.., but gently snipping a ball from Streatfeild he is easily caught by Abel in the slips.

3. To cut *off* by means of scissors or other sharp instrument. Also *fig.*

1611 COTGR., *Mordiller*, to nibble, gnaw, fret, snip off. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 214 Hee should have done well ..to have snipt off or concealed at least, the last clause. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Fair Maid Inn* IV. i, Because I will not afflict you with any large bill Of circumstances, I'll snip off particulars. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 339 He takes hold of the fore-skin with two sticks and with a pair of Scissors snips it off. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. x. 122 A piece of the..Membrane..snipped off with a Pair of sharp Scissars. 1846 S. COOPER *First Lines Surgery* (ed. 5) 349 The new opening..is then to be enlarged by snipping off the flap of the iris. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. 79 He has snipt off as much as he could pinch from every author of reputation. 1888 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. x. 380, I simply had my uvula snipped off.

b. With *away, from, out of*, etc.

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 101 By snipping away the superfluities of the paper from her figure. 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 60 He is perpetually snipping pieces out of newspapers. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 16 A bullet snipped a corner from my hat.

c. To cut *out* by snipping. Also *fig.*

1800 *Asiatic Ann. Reg.* II. 113/2 He next proceeded very accurately to snip out their suspicions into four and twenty parts. 1855 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 137 Boys..Who, for a very trifling sum, Will snip one's picture out.

4. To snub, check, repress. Now *dial.*

1601–24 [see SNIPPING *vbl. sb.* 3]. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. Worse T.* 24 If I were curb'd and Snip't in my younger yeares by feare of my parents, from those vicious excrescencies. 1823– in dial. use (Suffolk, Somerset, Devon).

5. Used adverbially to denote either sound or action.

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 189 How many towns he owns, who went snip, snip; As his quick sizzers my young beard did clip!

Snipe (snəip), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **snype**, 4, 6 **snyppe** (7 **snippe**), 6 **sknipe**, 7– **snipe**. [Of doubtful origin: the ME. type *snipe* corresponds to a Scand. *snipa* recorded in Icel. *mýrisnipa*, Norw. *myr-, strandsnipa*. It is not clear how this is related to MDu. *snippe* (Du. and WFris. *snip*), MLG. and LG. (also older Da.) *snippe*, G. dial. *schnippe*, and MDu. *sneppe* (Du. *snep*), MLG. and LG. *sneppe* (hence Da. *sneppe*, Sw. *snäppa*), OHG. *snepfa* (*snepfa*) and *snepfo* (G. *schnepfe*, obs. or dial. *schneppe*).]

1. One or other of the limicoline birds of the genus *Gallinago* (formerly included in the Linnæan genus *Scolopax*), characterized by having a long straight bill, and by frequenting marshy places; esp. *G. cælestis* or *media*, the common English species.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 *Un oysel he est dist becax*, a snype (snyte). *c* 1350 *Wynnere & Wastoure* 349 Barnakes and buturs and many billed snyppes. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 35 To wodcok, snype, curlue also, The betore in fere with hom schalle goo. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snype, or snyte, byrde, *ibex*. 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Snyppe, a byrde, *cigogne*. 1551 *Sc. Acts, Mary* (1814) II. 484/1 Item the snype and qualȝie,..ij d. 1565 COOPER, *Gallinago*, a wodcocke or a snype. *Ibid.*, *Rusticula minor*, a sknipe. 1611 COTGR., *Beccassine*,..a Snite, or Snipe. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 179 Where they perceive a Worm's Hole, as I have seen Snipes to do, there they thrust in their Bill. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 P 16 Went to the common-room, and supped on the snipes with Dr. Dry. 1794 GISBORNE *Walks in Forest* vi. (1796) 104 The snipe flies screaming from the marshy verge. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 36 The Calcutta market is well supplied with..snipes. 1865 TENNYSON *On a Mourner* ii, Nature..greens The swamp, where humm'd the dropping snipe.

b. With adjs., denoting species of this bird.

See also *double snipe*, GUTTER-, HALF-, JACK-, MIRE-, WOOD-SNIPE.

a 1705 RAY *Syn.* (1713) 193 *Gallinago Maderspatana*,.. the Partridge-Snipe. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 471 Finmark Snipe, *Scolopax Gallinaria*. 1813 BINGLEY *Anim. Biogr.* (ed. 4) II. 302 It is stated, that the Common Snipes never frequent woods. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* V. 583 Common American Snipe, *Scolopax Wilsoni*. 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 621 *Scolopax grisea*, Brown Snipe. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 788/1 The Great Snipe, or Solitary Snipe (*Scolopax* or *Gallinago major*),..abounds in the extensive marshes of continental Europe.

c. Applied to various species of birds resembling the snipe. Chiefly with distinguishing epithets.

See also *duck-snipe*, JACK-SNIPE, *painted, red-breasted, robin snipe*, SEA-SNIPE, *stone-, summer-snipe*.

1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. i. 154 *Brown Snipe. ..The head, neck, and scapulars, of a fine uniform cinereous brown. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 788/1 The Red-breasted Snipe, or Brown Snipe (*Macrorhamphus griseus*) of North America has been occasionally seen in Britain. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. i. 155 *Dusky snipe. 1849 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 387 Red-shank, or *Gambet Snipe, *Tringa Gambetta*. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 200 The so-called *Pin-tailed Snipe *Gallinago stenura*. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 469 *Semi-palmated snipe, with a bill two inches long. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* V. 585 Semipalmated Snipe or Willet, *Totanus semipalmatus*. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. i. 148 *Spotted Snipe.

d. Without article, in collective sense.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* I, The delighted pointer would ..dash forward to the well-known 'bottoms' in eager expectancy of ducks and snipe. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* iii. 29, I have often seen flocks of snipe crossing the bay. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 249 In woodcock and true snipe the ear appears below and not behind the eye.

2. † **a.** The Egyptian ibis. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 323 Bryddes callede snypes, odious to serpentes and amiable to men.

b. As a moth-name (see quot.).

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 66 The Snipe (*Xylophasia scolopacina*, Haworth) appears in June.

3. As an opprobrious or abusive term.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 391 For I mine owne gain'd knowledge should prophane, If I would time expend with such [a] Snipe. 1730 SWIFT *Panegyric on the Dean* Misc. 1735 V. 133 Sir A—r, since you set the Pattern, No longer calls me Snipe and Slattern. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* xii. 84 The Earl had set a little snipe of a raggetty loon to stir her up.

4. *slang.* **a.** *pl.* A pair of scissors.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Snipes*, scissors. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v. (1878) 200 No slour'd hoxter my snipes could stay.

b. (See quot.)

1864 *Slang Dict.* 238 *Snipe*, a long bill or account; also a term for attorneys—a race remarkable for their propensity to long bills.

5. *ellipt.* = SNIPE-BILL 1.

1873 *Iron* 1 Feb. 78/2 Planes...Side snipe, per pair, 7/-.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snipe-bog, -dust, -shooter, -shooting, -shot*, etc.; also **snipe-eel**, (*a*) a species of fish belonging to the deep-sea family *Nemichthyidæ*; (*b*) the sea-pike or garfish, *Belone vulgaris*; **snipe-fly** (see quot.); **snipe's-head** (see quots.); † **snipe-knave**, a half-snipe, jack-snipe; **snipe-shell** (see quot. and cf. SNIPE-BILL 2).

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xi, The road across the marshes and *snipe-bogs. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* viii, Those five miles of heather and snipe-bog. 1861 *Times* 12 July, A creature who carries a smaller charge of *snipe dust in his head. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 365 *Nemichthyidæ*. (The *Snipe-Eels.) 1887 'J. BICKERDYKE' *Angling in Salt Water* 99 The Garfish,..Snipe Eel, or Sea Needle, is a long, slender fish [etc.]. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 6 One of the larger *snipe-flies, the *Empis tesselata*. Notwithstanding the long snipe-like tongue or proboscis of the highly predatory Empis [etc.]. 1887 W. RYE *Norfolk Broads* 13 The finest *snipe ground in England. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 54/2 Species with a very long tube and without spines. .. Example, *Murex Haustellum* (*Snipe's or Woodcock's head of collectors). [Cf. SNIPE-BILL 2.] 1889 *Cent. Dict.*, *Caput gallinaginis*, the snipe's head; the crista urethræ. 1590 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 60 Fourtene snypes and five *snype kneves xj^{d}. *Ibid.* 61 Seventene snype kneves and foure snypes ix^{d}. 1611 COTGR., *Deux pour vn*, a Snipe-knaue; so called, because two of them are worth but one Snipe. 1889 *Loudon's Nat. Hist.* 532 The *Snipe Shell (*Murex haustellus*, or *cornutus*), so called on account of the length of the prominency coming out of the shell. 1833 W. H. MAXWELL *Field Book* 494/2 When these birds are very plenty, the *snipe-shooters never make use of a dog. 1850 *All Year Round* No. 53. 66 The Analogist had the opportunity of studying the snipe-shooter of Albion. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 7 Are not such lies themselves..equal to *snipe-shooting? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iii, A fine, lonely, marshy, jungly district, famous for snipe-shooting. 1822 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 174 The best *snipe-shot complained that he had not killed more than sixty of these birds. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* ii. (ed. 3) 23 A gun loaded with a quantity of sand, equal in weight to a charge of snipe-shot, kicks still more. 1854 BAKER *Rifle & Hound in Ceylon* vi, I had been firing snipe shot at him. 1805 BINGLEY *Anim. Biogr.* (ed. 3) II. 471 The *Snipe Tribe.

b. Forming adjs., as *snipe-beaked, -faced, -nosed*; *snipe-like* (also as adv.).

1812 *Pennant's Brit. Zool.* III. 190 Trumpet Fish..[*marg.*] Snipe nosed. 1850 JAMES *Old Oak Chest* III. 45 A little snipe-faced man. 1857 J. MILLER *Alcohol* (1858) 55 He who lives thus snipelike by suction. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 252 A very snipe-like bird. 1895 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 494 Snipe-beaked sandpipers.

Snipe (snəip), *v.* [f. SNIPE *sb.* 1.]

1. *trans.* To shoot or fire at (men, etc.), one at a time, usu. from cover and at long range; to pick off (a person) in this manner. Also *fig.*

1782 G. SELWYN *Let.* in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* VI. 621 Now people have been shot by platoons and in corps, the individual will be popped at or sniped, as they call it, from time to time. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 14 The Indian soldier has been called on to be 'sniped' by fugitive dacoits. 1900 *Daily News* 30 Apr. 5/4 The other positions were sniped.

2. *intr.* To fire as in snipe-shooting; to shoot at an enemy in this manner (cf. prec.). Also with *at* and *away*.

1832 *Oriental Sporting Mag.* May (1882) II. 291/2 They were all found among high cliffs, and we generally sniped at them from a considerable height. 1844 tr. *Mir Hussain Ali's Life Tipu* xiv. 179 The Kuzzaks..remained all night attacking, or sniping and throwing rockets into the English camp. 1897 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 5/4 The enemy sniped away all day without effect. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Apr. 9/5 Three hundred Boers hung on the rearguard, sniping but refusing battle.

Snipe-bill. Also **snipe's bill.** [SNIPE *sb.* 1.]

1. A kind of narrow moulding-plane with a sharp arris, for forming or cutting quirks. Also *attrib.*

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 70 Plains in use among Joyners, called Molding-plains; as, the Round,..the Snipes-Bill. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Plane*, Moulding-Planes,.. as the Round Plane, the Hollow, the OG, the Snipe's Bill, &c. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Snipe's Bill Plane*, one with a sharp arris for getting out the quirks of mouldings. 1873 *Iron* 1 Feb. 78/2 Planes...Snipe bills, per pair, 5/.

2. *Conch.* The snipe-shell or snipe's head.

1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* iv, *Haustellum*,.. Snipes-bill.

† **3.** *Naut.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 154 Snipe Bills are a Sort of Hooks used for fastening the Axle-trees of the Chain Pumps to the Bitts.

4. *U.S.* (See quots. Also written *snibel.*)

1860 WORCESTER, *Snipe-bill*, the bolt which connects the body of a cart with the axle. (Local, U.S.) 1902 *Webster's Suppl.*, *Snipe-bill*, a hinge beneath the body of a dumping cart, consisting of two interlinked eyebolts.

5. *attrib.* Resembling the bill of the snipe.

1795 J. WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 186 Her nose of snipe-bill race Which took a deal of stuff.

Snipe-fish. [SNIPE *sb.*]

1. Any fish of the genus *Centriscus*; esp. the trumpet-fish, bellows-fish, or sea-snipe, *C. scolopax*.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 123 *Scolopax*,..the Snipe-fish. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. v. i. 101 The figure of his Bill, which is an entire Pipe, shaped almost like that of the Snipe-Fish. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 302 *Centriscus scolopax*, Snipe-fish. 1867 *Chambers's Encycl.* IX. 568/1 Trumpet-fish, or Snipe-fish (*Centriscus*), a genus of fishes..remarkable for the elongated and tubular snout. 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 250 The trumpet, bellows-fish, woodcock or snipe-fish.

2. The snipe-eel (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Sniper (snəi·pəɹ). [f. SNIPE *v.*]

1. One who snipes, or shoots from concealment, etc.; a sharp-shooter.

1824 *E. India Mil. Cal.* II. 541 Several sepoys were killed and wounded by the enemy's snipers. 1897 *Daily News* 30 July 5/2 It is impossible to see the snipers, who generally stalk the sentries from behind stones. 1900 *Daily Telegr.* 27 Feb. 9/3 The artillery keep the Boer snipers down.

2. A snipe-shooter.

1840 E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. Foreign Lands* II. v. 140 With his brandy flask by his side, and his well filled bag, the sniper still wanders through his old haunts.

3. *U.S.* A prospector for gold or the like.

1902 *U. S. Geol. Surv., Prof. Paper 10*, 51 Some unsystematic work [searching for gold] was done during the fall of 1901 by snipers, usually working with rockers.

Snipey, freq. variant of SNIPY *a.*

Sniping (snəi·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIPE *v.*]

1. The action of the verb.

1773 *Let. fr. India* in J. W. Fortescue *Hist. Brit. Army* III. 141 [The soldiers...put their hats on the parapet for the enemy to shoot at, and] humorously called it sniping. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 2/1 The sniping of the outposts against each other. 1898 B. BURLEIGH *Sirdar & Khalifa* x. 162 Our camps upon the right bank of the Atbara were exceptionally open to sniping by night.

2. Snipe-shooting.

1875 *Ibis* 15 The doctor..was not accustomed to sniping, and our bag was not so full at the end of the day as it might have been. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 174 The pleasures of Bay bird shooting should not be spoken of in the same sentence with cocking or sniping.

b. *attrib.* Engaged in snipe-shooting.

1840 E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sp. Foreign Lands* II. v. 142 Frequently the slaughter committed by a sniping party is so great, that..nothing but the brains and trail are eaten, the rest being cast away.

Sniping (snəi·piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SNIPE *v.*] That snipes, or shoots from cover. *Sniping fire*, individual and irregular shooting from a concealed position.

1821 V. BLACKER *Mahratta War* II. i. 179 But even this advantage was greatly reduced, by their being exposed to a sniping fire from neighbouring walls. 1899 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 5/5, I was..able to help him out of range of this sniping fire.

Sni·pish, *a. rare.* [f. SNIPE *sb.* + -ISH.] Somewhat resembling the beak of the snipe.

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 297 A priest or two with enormous spectacles on their thin snipish noses.

Snipocracy. [f. SNIP *sb.* 7 + -(O)CRACY.] The tailoring profession or its leading members.

1861 G. MEREDITH *Evan Harr.* xiv, By Jove! this comes it strong. Fancy the snipocracy here! 1912 *Nation* 20 Apr. 84/1 The glorified tailor,..the Marquis of Snipocracy.

Snipped (snipt), *ppl. a.* Also 6 snipte, 7- snipt. [f. SNIP *v.*]

1. *Bot.* Irregularly notched or serrated; incised.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 15 The lesser Clote Burre hath grayish leaues,..iagged or snipte round about the edges. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXV. vi. II. 220 The leaves..snipped and cut about the edges ordinarily in five parts. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 67 A fair leaf,..snipped about the edges with sharp-pointed teeth, like a great saw. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 575 Stem-leaves snipt.

2. That has been subjected to snipping; jagged or irregularly cut.

1601 SHAKS. *All's W.* IV. v. 2 Your sonne was misled with a snipt taffata fellow there. 1611 COTGR., *Passe-poil*, a snipped, or iagged welt of Taffata, &c. in a garment. 1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 446 The snipt edges were hard. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* lviii. (1879) 491 There were no cheerless grates filled up with snipped silver paper.

3. Of style: Clipped, disjointed.

1806 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 506 Persons who write in a hurry are very liable to contract a sort of snipt, convulsive style.

Snipper (sni·pəɹ). [f. SNIP *v.*]

1. *pl.* A machine or instrument for snipping or clipping; scissors.

1593 J. NORDEN *Spec. Brit.* (Camden) Pref. p. xiv, They have snippers wherewith they snype and pare their plates, which snippers .. are so artificially placed, .. that by the mocion of the water also the snippers open and shut. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. ii. (1632) 192 When in Josephus we heare a childe all to rent with bitting snippers. 1647 HEXHAM I, A paire of snippers, *een snip-schaerken*.

2. One who snips or clips; *spec.* a tailor.

1611 COTGR., *Tondeur*, a sheerer,..barber, vermine-snipper. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Knipper*,..a Snipper. *Ibid.*, *Een snipperaer*, a Snipper or a Cutter off. 1684 DRYDEN tr. *Maimbourg's Hist. League* Postscr. 35 As our Snippers go over once a year into France, to bring back the newest Mode, and to learn to cut and shape it. 1827 *Lancet* 10 Nov. 223/2 For the snippers of broad cloth and calf-skin I had little compassion. 1865 S. EVANS *Brother Fabian's MS.* 156 You'd be delighted to murder the snipper Who measures my waist for a skirt.

3. A cattle-dealer on a small scale.

1869 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 12 The snippers and provincial jobbers..furnish the raw material to the Aberdeen dealers and butchers.

†Sni·ppering, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare.* [Cf. LG. *snippern* (G. *schnippern*) to snip, cut small.] *pl.* Parings.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 143/1 The poulder of combured cobblers snipperinges of ould shoes. [1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Snipperings*, payrings.]

Snipper-snapper. Now *dial.* [Of fanciful formation: cf. WHIPPER-SNAPPER.] A young insignificant or conceited fellow.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Dr. Faustus* xi. 1161 Ile seeke out my Doctor..: O yonder is his snipper snapper. 1600 DEKKER *Shoemaker's Holiday* iv, Quick snipper-snapper, away Firke, Scour thy throat. 1638 FORD *Fancies* I. ii, Thou'rt a prick-ear'd foist,..a knack, a snipper-snapper! 1677 *Poor Robin's Vision* 12 Having ended his discourse, this seeming gentile snipper-snapper vanisht. 1835 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 108 Far better worth listening to than many of the young snipper-snappers of his profession. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Snipper-snapper*, a small, insignificant, effeminate, self-conceited young man.

†Sni·ppery. *nonce-wd.* [f. SNIP *v.*] Snipping. 1639 [see SNAPPERY].

Snippet (sni·pĕt). [f. SNIP *v.* + -ET.] A small piece cut off; a small fragment or portion.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 824 Witches Simpling, and on Gibbets Cutting from Malefactors snippets. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. 272 [She] used to cut her dress into snippets with a pair of scissors. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *In the Trades* 120 The droll little heaps, and dabs, and snippets in which everything was sold. 1897 F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 135 Snippets and waste From old ancestral wearings.

attrib. 1909 *Nation* 30 Oct. 191/1 One of them bears the tell-tale snippet-mark of a leaf-cutter bee.

b. In *transf.* or *fig.* uses.

1880 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Oct. 438/1 The mere sticking on to his dialogue of snippets from Elizabethan phraseology is a vain thing. 1882 F. HARRISON *Choice of Books* (1886) 296 The love of beauty is nothing of dilettantism to be cut into snippets and shreds. 1886 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* II. iv, That is a poor snippet of malicious gossip.

c. *spec.* A short passage taken from a literary work; a short scrap of literary matter of any kind.

1864 *Spectator* 12 Mar., These paragraphs and snippets from the Saturday Review. 1884 *Ibid.* 4 Oct. 1309/2 It is the latest stamp of the true 'classic' to be cut up into snippets for a birthday-book. 1897 *Month* Oct. 435 The text is in fact largely made up of a kind of patchwork of snippets which often amalgamate ill.

attrib. 1899 *Daily News* 5 July 8/2 He..reads nothing but sporting papers and 'snippet weeklies'.

Sni·ppetiness. [f. next.] The state or condition of being snippety; scrappiness.

1878 *Spectator* 16 Feb. 220/2 The defect of Fraser's Magazine..is snippetiness, a habit of publishing so many articles that they are none of them exhaustive. 1890 *Athenæum* 7 June 730/1 A certain snippetiness of style and arrangement, which is too suggestive of paste and scissors.

Sni·ppety, *a.* Also -etty, -ity. [f. SNIPPET.] Of the nature of, suggestive of, a snippet or snippets; composed of snippets or scraps.

1864 *Spectator* 1406 The snippety style of American reporting. 1865 *Ibid.* 25 Nov. 1307/2 A..very clever, but somewhat snippety magazine. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 June 1/1 More or less snippetty instalments of our Special Commissioner's Report.

Snipping (sni·pin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNIP *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; cutting, clipping. Also with *off*.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 When they come to the cutting of the haire, what snipping and snapping of the cycers is there. 1611 COTGR., *Retaillement*, a shredding, clipping, snipping. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een snipperinge*,..a Snipping off, or a Snip. 1867 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* XXXVII, She heard the horrible snipping of crape and bombazine going on all day.

attrib. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Knip-schaerken*, Snipping Cicers.

2. A part or piece snipped or cut off; a clipping, cutting. Usu. in *pl.*

1611 COTGR., *Retailleures*, shreds, clippings, snippings, parings. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Lucian & Timotheus* (1891) I. 321 Give me all the shreds and snippings you can spare me. They will feel like clothes. 1870 PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 41 These little snippings of bright coloured raiment.

fig. and *transf.* 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 23 The remaining snippings from our author's book of ethical commonplaces. 1884 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 21/2 By complete essays or sections, and not by mere snippings here and there.

†3. A snibbing, snubbing, or reproving. *Obs.*

1601 BRETON (*title*), No Whippinge, nor Trippinge: but a kinde friendly Snippinge. 1614 J. TAYLOR (*title*), The Nipping or Snipping of Abuses.

†Sni·pping, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* In 5 snypp-, 6 snypand. [Of doubtful origin; the verb *snip* is not recorded till much later.] Nipping, biting with cold.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1560 As blaȝt..As any snyppand [*v.r.* snappand] snawe þat in þe snape liȝtis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. Prol. 50 Scharp soppis of sleit, and of the snypand snawe.

Snippy (sni·pi), *a.* [f. SNIP *v.* Cf. Du. *snippig* (Fris. *snippich*) snappish.]

1. *dial.* Parsimonious, mean; covetous.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Snippy*, parcimonious, niggardly. 1825– in dial. glossaries, etc. (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

2. *dial.* and *colloq.* Fault-finding, snappish, sharp.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 318 *Snippy*, finical; and substantively, a finical person. A woman's word. 1887 GUNTER *Mr. Barnes* XX, So dictatorial!..And so snippy! 1896 *Harper's Mag.* June 23/2 She's too snippy for me.

3. Scrappy, fragmentary, snippety.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 20 May 2/1 Paragraphs and very short articles which may fairly be regarded as 'snippy' bits.

Snip-snap (snip,snæp), *sb.* [f. SNIP *sb.* + SNAP *sb.*, used with imitative effect.]

In Bale *Thre Lawes* (1538) 1474 Hypocrisy addresses Infidelity as 'brother snyp snap'.

†1. The action of snipping or clipping with a pair of scissors or the like; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming T. Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 72 If heere I haue been too prodigall in snip snaps, tell me of it. 1638 FORD *Fancies* V. ii, The fashion of gentry, which is never complete till the snip snap of dexterity hath mowed off the excrements of slovenry.

2. Smart remark or reply; sharp repartee.

1727 POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 109 It is by virtue of this style that..Marcus Aurelius is excellent at snip-snap. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 246, I have amused myself with..playing a game at snip-snap, with Beatrice in Benedick. 1811 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 149 Letters should assimilate to the higher style of conversation, without the snip-snap of fashionable dialogue. 1872 TENNYSON in *Life* (1897) II. iv. 113 *note*, To print the names of the speakers..over the short snip-snap of their talk.

†3. = SNAPPER *sb.*[1] 2 b. *Obs.*[—6]

1736 AINSWORTH I, A snip snap, or snappers, *crotalum*.

Snip-snap (snip,snæp), *a.* [Cf. prec.]

†1. Making a snipping sound; working or acting by snipping or clipping. *Obs.*

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 120 These snip-snap sheers. 1643 *Mercurius Brit.* No. 28. 211 Barbers and every Snip-snap Jack which can tell the King a faire tale in his eare.

2. Of the nature of snip-snap; characterized by snip-snap or smart repartee.

1673 R. LEIGH *Transp. Reh.* 139 His snip-snap wit, hit for hit, and dash for dash. 1702 MOTTEUX *Prol. to Farquhar's Twin-Rivals*, With volleys of small shot, or snip-snap wit. 1752 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 5, Run off from the Point, in a snip-snap Stile, with pert Question and Answer. 1830 H. LEE *Mem. Manager* I. iv. 152 A snip-snap mode of expression. 1861 S. BROOKS *Silver Cord* viii. (1865) 45 It is not a bit of snip-snap impertinence..that will frighten me. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 785 The snip-snap dialogue about prodigies.

b. Of persons: Given to snip-snap. *rare*[—1].

1785 [R. GRAVES] *Eugenius* II. xix. 126 He found she..was not that pert, snip-snap formidable Beatrice, which he at first had some reason to think her.

3. Snappish, quarrelsome, irritable. *rare*[—1].

1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* IV. iii. II. 23 In this kind of snip-snap disposition the family arrived in town.

Snip-snap (snip,snæp), *v.* [Cf. SNIP-SNAP *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To indulge in snip-snap or smart repartee; to speak in a snappy manner.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 313 If any whosoeuer will needes be offering abuse in fact, or snip-snapping in termes. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 367, 'I believe..that you think I have nothing better to do than to read novels.' And so she snip-snaps to the end of the visit. 1845 JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, Pluck snip-snaps with his wife, cracks on Hash, shows his white teeth to Margaret.

2. To snip; to clip with a snipping sound. Hence **Snip-snapping** *vbl. sb.*

1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 2/2 Scissors join in, with their snip-snapping, as a third bodice is cut out.

Snip-snap, *adv.* (and *int.*). ? *Obs.* [Cf. prec.] With snip and snap; with a snipping, snapping sound.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. i. 63 A sweet tutch, a quicke venewe of wit, snip snap, quick & home. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., To torment him, and deal as snip snap snappishly with him, as euer he was delt withall. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* II. i, My sister shoots him off, snip-snap, at her pleasure. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* III. i. (Arb.) 67 For you shall see 'em come in upon one another snip snap..as fast as can be. 1793 L. WILLIAMS *Children's Friend* I. 16, I will..come with my bill-hook, and snip-snap, cut all those briars down to the ground.

Snip-snapper. *rare*[—1]. [Cf. SNIP-SNAP *v.*] A tailor.

1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* II. ii, Not a word more, goodman snipsnapper, for your ears.

Snip-snap-sno·rum. [a. LG. *snipp-snapp-snorum* (also *-snurr*), = G. *schnipp-schnapp-schnorum* (or *-schnurr*), on which see the article in Grimm's Dict.] A round game of cards, played (esp. by the young) in various ways, in which the players on turning up the requisite cards respectively call 'snip', 'snap', and 'snorum'.

In R. Hardie *Hoyle made familiar* (1830) 80 the game is called 'Snip, Snap, Snore 'em', and in describing it the words *snip*, *snap*, and *snore* are employed.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 52 P 6, I saw these strange women place themselves at a huge round table..to play..at Pope Joan and Snip snap-snorum! 1784 *Laura & Augustus* I. 98 The..enlivening snip-snap snorum; which game they were then playing. 1820 MRS. TRENCH *Rem.* 439 His wife, his children, his garden,..fill up his day; as snip-snap-snorum does his evening. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1837) IV. 72 It had been found convenient to set down the children.. to Pope-Joan, or snip-snap-snorum, which was to them a more amusing because a noisier game. 1887 BESANT *The World Went* XXIV, Bess..could play All-fours, Put, Snip-snap-snorum.

Snipy (snəi·pi), *a.* Also snipey, *Sc.* snipie. [f. SNIPE *sb.*]

1. Characterized by having a long pointed nose or muzzle suggestive of a snipe's bill. Also *Comb.*

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Snipie-nebbit*, having a nose resembling a snipe's neb or bill. 1884 G. STABLES *Our Friend the Dog* VII, *Snipey*—Applied to the muzzle when peaked like a fox's. 1902 *Fur & Feather* 19 Sept. 232/3 Brindle [cavy] with white blaze,..rather snipy. 1904 H. COMPTON *20th Century Dog* II. 341 The long-legged, snipey-faced,..flat-sided specimens.

2. Resembling a snipe; snipe-like.

1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* XVII. (1892) 183 In flight they [dowitchers] were not so snipey as the genuine article.

3. Frequented by snipe.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 368/1 The chief characteristics of this essentially snipey tract.

Snirt (snəɹt), *sb.* Chiefly *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 8–9 snert. [f. next.] A suppressed laugh; a snicker.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snert*, an ineffectual effort to stifle a laugh. 1825 in JAMIESON *Suppl.* 1828– in north. dial. glossaries, etc. (see also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1899 HALL CAINE *Shadow of Crime* xxiv, 'Saucer een,' said Mrs. Garth with a snirt.

Snirt (snəɹt), *v. north. dial.* and *Sc.* Also 8–9 snert. [Imitative: cf. SNURT *v.*] *intr.* To laugh in a suppressed manner; to snicker.

1724 RAMSAY in *Evergreen* (1761) II. 15 Now let his snirt, and fyk her fill. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 2 They gang by ye wi' sic a huff, An' pridfu' caper, snirt, an' snuff, As gif Death ne'er meant them a cuff. 1829– in north. dial. glossaries. 1871 BLACK *Daughter of Heth* (1872) 94 The Whaup grew very red in the face and 'snirted' with laughter.

Snirtle, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. prec. + -LE 3.] *intr.* To laugh in a quiet, suppressed, or restrained manner; to snigger.

1785 BURNS *Jolly Beggars* XIII, But though his little heart did grieve.., He feigned to snirtle in his sleeve. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 112 The Dominie..fain wad fa' a laughing; He snirtles wi' his neb and snirks. 1887 J. SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* IV. 26 Her auld' worl' cracks and stories often mak me snirtle and laugh.

Snish, snishing: see SNEESH, SNEESHING.

†Snit. *Obs.*[—1] In 5 snytte. [Related to SNITE *v.*] The glowing part of the wick of a candle when blown out.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1277 þis mayde..blewe out þe leyȝt anone sodanly—Bot þe weke hulte stylle þe snytte.

Snitch, *sb. slang.* [Of obscure origin.]

†1. A fillip (on the nose). *Obs.*

1676 COLES, *Snitch*,..a fillip. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Snitch*,..a Filip on the Nose.

2. The nose.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Suite his Snitch*, Wipe his Nose, or give him a good Flap on the Face. 1895 RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.* 204 Pull her snitch for her. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 July 2/1 As the..egg..broke on the 'snitch' of the Socialist candidate.

3. An informer; one who turns King's evidence. In the phr. *to turn snitch.*

1785 in GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* *c* 1800 in BYRON *Juan* XI. xix. Note 14, She'll surely turn snitch for the forty—That her Jack may be regular weight.

Snitch (snitʃ), *v.* [Of obscure origin: cf. prec.]

1. *intr.* To inform *upon* a person; to peach, turn informer.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 88 A man who is now in Chester Gaol and has been snitching about me. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., To impeach or betray your accomplices, is termed *snitching upon* them. 1839 A. SOMERVILLE *Hist. Brit. Leg.* v. 105 How one of these had frequently threatened to *snitch*—or tell who stole the bridle. 1867 *Crim. Chronol. York Castle* 189 Wright,..finding that Norburn had been snitching, also made a confession.

b. *trans.* To inform or give evidence against (a person or accomplice). *rare*—1.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 88 Nadin asked him, how he knew the man had snitched him?

2. To catch by means of a noose or loop.

1900 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 8/2 The pike..is killed anyhow, 'shot at sight', or snitched with a wire loop, or netted.

Hence **Sni·tching** *ppl. a.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Snitch*, An informer, or tale-bearer in general, is called a *snitching* rascal.

† **Sni·tchel**, *sb. slang. Obs.* [Cf. SNITCH *sb.*] A fillip (on the nose).

1676 COLES, *Snitchel*, a fillip. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Snitchel*, a Filip on the Nose.

Hence † **Sni·tchel** *v. Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* s.v. *Gig*, *Snichel the Gig*, Fillip the Fellow on the Nose.

† **Snitch'ems.** *Obs.*—1 A card-game.

1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 150 The game of snitch'em's. This game may be ranked among the fairest games on the cards. [Description follows.]

Snitcher (sni·tʃəɹ). *slang.* [f. SNITCH *v.*]

† **1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1761 *Ann. Reg.* II. 51/1 He was a respectable member of ..the Bucks,—Bloods,—Snitchers,—Choice Spirits.

2. An informer, peacher; = SNITCH *sb.* 3.

1827 *Examiner* 796/2 He had committed hundreds of robberies, but would not confess them, as it might implicate other parties, and he scorned to be a snitcher. 1859 in *Slang Dict.* 97. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 415 Ah nivver wor a snitcher.

3. *pl.* Strings used by policemen in place of handcuffs. *Sc.*

1864 *Slang Dict.* 238 In Scotland Snitchers mean handcuffs. 1887 SERVICE *Life Dr. Duguid* xxvi. 168 The policeman never had the snitchers in his pooch.

Snite (snəit), *sb.*1 Now *dial.* Forms: 1, 6– snite, 4–7 (8) snyte, 5 snyghte, snyhte, sny3t, 6–7 snight. [OE. *snite* (also in comb. *wudusnite*), apparently not represented in any of the cognate languages.]

1. = SNIPE *sb.* 1.

Some distinction between *snite* and *snipe* is implied in the following entries in MS. Cott. Nero A. vi. (early 15th cent.):—fol. 165 *v*, Plouer, snytys, snypys, larkys; fol. 177 *r*, Plouere, snytes, quaylys, snypys.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 138 *Acegia*, snite. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 132 *Aceta*, snite, *uel* wudecocc. *c* 1325 [see SNIPE *sb.* 1]. 1363 in Riley *Memorials London* (1868) 312 A snyte, 1½d. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxxiv. 11 The snyte [L. *ibis*] and the crowe dwelle shul in it. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 323 With deynty meates that were dere;.. Both storkes and snytes ther were also. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Churl & Bird* in *Minor P.* (Percy Soc.) 192 A downghille doke [is to thee] as deynte as a snyghte. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C v b/2 A shamfull rable..presumeth to indite, Though they have scantly the cunning of a snite. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 374 Ill may the Snight the Woodcock twight for his long bill. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 947 The witlesse Wood-cocke, and his Neighbour Snite. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 713 These passages are also in the Heads of Snites. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lix. (1737) 244 Snytes...Thistle-Finches. 1837– in Devon and Cornwall glossaries, etc. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Mrs. Curgenven* xlix, Widgeon, nor wild goose, hearn, and snite.

† **b.** Applied to species of birds resembling the snipe. *Obs.*

1694 *Martens' Voy. Spitsbergen* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 72 This Snite, which is also called the Strand-runner.., is no bigger than a Lark.

† **2.** As a term of abuse. *Obs.* Cf. SNIPE *sb.* 3.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. liv, Here enter not vile bigots, hypocrites, Externally devoted Apes, base snites.

3. *attrib.*, as † **snyte-knave**, a jack-snipe (cf. *snipe-knave* s.v. SNIPE *sb.* 6).

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Un, Deux pour vn*, the Snyte-knaue; tearmed so, because two of them are worth but one good Snyte.

† **Snite**, *sb.*2 *Obs.*—1 Also snyt. [Cf. WFris. *snjil*, *snitte* a spit or sprinkling of rain.] (See quot.)

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI*, 186 b, Their fell a small snyt [*Grafton* snite] or snow, which by violence of the wynd was driven into the faces of them.

Snite (snəit), *v.* Now *dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 1 snytan, 5 snytyn, 5–7, *dial.* and *Sc.* 9 snyte (5 snyth-), 5– snite (5 snete); 6 snytte, 7 snit, snett. *Pa. t.* 4 snytte. *Pa. pple.* 4 y-snyt, 7 snit. [OE. *snýtan*, = ON. and Icel. *snyta* (Norw. and Sw. *snyta*, Da. *snyde*), OHG. *snûzan* (MHG. *snûtzen*, *sniuzen*, G. *schneuzen*, *schnäuzen*), MLG. *snûten* (LG. *sniiten*), Du. *snuiten* (WFris. *snute*): the stem *snût-* is prob. the same as that of SNOUT *sb.* Cf. also SNOT *sb.*]

1. a. *intr.* To clean or wipe the nose; to cast away mucus. **b.** *trans.* To remove by wiping, etc.

a 1100 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lexicog.* 58 Hræce & snyte bæftan him oððe adun be his sidan. *Ibid.*, Swa hwæt swa man him fram hræce oððe snyte, fortrede hit mid his fotum. *a* 1586 in *Maitland MS.* (Pinkerton, 1786) 185 They snyte, thoch thair na mister be, That ye may thair trim napkyne see. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i, So looks he like a marble toward rain, And wrings and snites, and weeps, and wipes again. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* VIII. ii. 181 Hee inured them to this, neither to spit nor snit openly in sight. *a* 1779 GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 154 A weel blooded hissie..that..snites the snotter frae their nose.

2. *trans.* To clean or clear (the nose) from mucus, esp. by means of the thumb and finger only; to blow. Also *fig.*, to tweak or pull.

c 1305 *St. Dunstan* 85 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 36 Mid his tonge he snytte hire nose, and tuengde hire sore. *Ibid.* 91 As god þe schrewe hadde ibeo atom ysnyt his nose. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 189 Therfor sayth Salamon, whoso ouer-harde Snythyth the noos, he draueth blode. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 284 in *Babees Bk.*, Pike not youre nose.., Snyff nor snitynge hyt to lowd. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 Snytte thy nose, or thou shalte eate no buttered fysshe with me. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. xi. II. 550 Theodorus drew one snetting his nose. 1632 — *Cyruþædia* 6 Even yet among the Persians it is held a shamefull thing..to snit the nose. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Snite his Snitch*, Wipe his Nose, or give him a good Flap on the Face. 1701 GREW *Cosmol. Sacra* I. v. 26 Nor would any one be able to snite his Nose, or to Sneeze. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Snite*, to wipe, or slap. 1804 COUPER *Poetry* II. 61 (E.D.D.), Tibb snyted Madge's muckle nizz Till out the purple sprang. 1828– in many dial. glossaries, etc. (Cumb., Westm., Lancs., Chesh., Yks., Derby, Linc., Leic., Heref., Glos.).

† **b.** *Falconry.* Of a hawk, etc.: To wipe (the beak or bill) after feeding. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hawking* a vj, An hawke snytith or sewith hir beke and not wipith hir beke. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 289 Let hir tire against the Sunne, snyting and sewing hir beake a little at your discretion.

3. To snuff (a candle). ? *Obs.*

Cf. next for evidence of this use in OE.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snytyn..a candyl, *emungo*, *mungo*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 To Snyte..a candelle, *mungere*. ? *a* 1800 in Gordon *Bk. Chron. Keith* (1880) 65 [He could not] snite [the candles and attend to his Psalm Book at the same time.] 1808 in JAMIESON s.v.

† **Sni·tel(s.** *Obs. rare.* In 1, 4 snytels, 5 -ele. [OE. *snýtels*, f. *snýtan* SNITE *v.*] = next 1.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 126 *Emunctorium*, candelsnytels. 1388 WYCLIF *Numb.* iv. 9 The candilstike, with hise lanternes, and tongis, and snytels. *c* 1460 *Promp. Parv.* (Winch.), Snytele of a candel, *munctorium*.

Sni·ter. Also 5, 7 snyter. [f. SNITE *v.*]

1. *pl.* A pair of candle-snuffers.

1382 WYCLIF *Numb.* iv. 9 The candelstik, with the lanterns, and her toonges, and snyters. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 247.

2. One who wipes or snuffs.

1611 COTGR., *Moucheur*, a snyter, wiper, snuffer.

Snithe, *a. north. dial.* Also 9 snyde. [Related to next.] = SNITHING *ppl. a.*

1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, *A Snithe-wind*, vox elegantissima agro Linc. usitatissima. Significat autem Ventum valde Frigidum & Penetrabilem,..ut nos dicimus, *a Cutting wind*. [Hence in Ray.] 1683 *Yorkshire Dialogue* 39 It is varra Snithe, And Ise flaid, Wife, it will be Frost Belive. 1828– in north. dial. use (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1884 STREATFEILD *Linc. & Danes* 265 At the fore-end of the year the winds are often hask and snyde.

Snithe, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Common Teutonic: OE. *sníðan*, = OFris. *snítha* (*snida*, *snia*, WFris. *snije*), MDu. *snîden* (Du. *snijden*), OS. *snîdan* (LG. *snîden*), OHG. *snîdan* (MHG. *snîden*, G. *schneiden*), ON. *snîða* (Norw. and Sw. *snida*), Goth. *sneiþan*. The mod. dial. use may be from ON.] *trans.* To cut; † to kill by cutting.

c 725 *Corpus Gl.* (Hessels) D 342 *Dolatum*, gesniden. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* 377 ȝif hwelc god læce bið, ðe wel cann wunda sniðan. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 40 God..het niman anes geares lamb æt ælcum hiwisce, and sniðan on Easter-tide. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1338 Þe preost..toc & snaþ þatt oþerr bucc. *Ibid.* 14666 Tacc Ysaac þin wennchell, & snip itt, alls itt wære an shep. 1888 ADDY *Sheffield Gloss.* 226 Snithe a piece off with thy knife.

Snithe, dial. var. SNATH, scythe-pole; obs. f. SNY *v.* to swarm.

Sni·thing, *ppl. a.* Now *dial.* [f. SNITHE *v.*] Of wind, etc.: Nipping, cutting; piercing, sharp. (Cf. SNITHE *a.*)

a 1350 *St. Martin* 24 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 152 It was cald with weders wete, Snythand frost with snaw and slete. 1851 STERNBERG *Dial. Northampton* s.v., A snithing wind. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 247 *Snithing*,..applied to weather. 'A bloshing and snithing day.'

Sni·ting, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNITE *v.*]

1. The action of the verb; a blowing or wiping of the nose or beak; the snuffing of a candle.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 162 *Sternutatio*,.. snytinge, *uel* sneosung. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461 Snytynge, of a nose or candyl, *munctura*. *c* 1460 *Vrbanitatis* 19 in *Babees Bk.*, Fro spettyng & snetyng kepe þe also. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 306 And ye may perceive this disease by your hawkes often sniting & by making a noyze twice or thryse in hir snyting. 1611 COTGR., *Mouchement*, a snyting, or wiping of the nose. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 57 The snivel..is detained by the hairs in the nostrils, that it may not flow down before sniting.

† **2.** The snuff of a candle. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snytynge, of a candel, *munctorium*, *emunctorium*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 A Snytynge of a candelle, *licinus*, *licinum*.

3. *Comb.*, as † *sniting hole*; † sniting instrument, † iron, † tongs, candle-snuffers.

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxvii. 23 He made also seuene lanternes, with her snytyng tongis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. ii. (Tollemache MS.), Þat þe open fumositeis and boystous filþe may be voyded and clensid by open and snytynge holes. *c* 1475 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 (K.), Snytinge instrument, *munctorium*, *emunctorium*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 A Snytynge yren, *emunctorium*.

† **Sni·tling,** *ppl. a. Obs.*—1 ? Trifling.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 80 And now for that snitling Dilemma of the eager Opposer of Pre-existence.

Sni·tter, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4 sniter-, 5 snyter-, sneter-. [Of obscure origin: cf. SNITE *sb.*2] *intr.* Of snow: To fall. Hence **Sni·ttering** *ppl. a.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2003 Þe snawe snitered ful snart, þat snayped þe wylde. *c* 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* vii, Thay ran to the roches,..For the snyterand [*Douce* sneterand] snaue, that snaypely hom snellus. 1888 ADDY *Sheffield Gloss.* 227 *Snitter*, to snow.

† **Sni·tting,** *vbl. sb. Obs.*—1 (Meaning doubtful.)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 147 Þei beeþ i-cleped Pictes by cause of peyntynge and snittynge of woundes þat beeþ i-sene on hire bodies.

Sni·ttle, *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 7 snitle. [Of obscure origin.] A loop with a running knot; a noose, snare; a slip-knot.

1611 COTGR., *Laqs courant*, a noose, grinne, snitle, running knot. 1642 *Proceedings at Banbury* 7 Till they had all their necks in a snittle. 1862 in C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 415. 1895 RYE *E. Angl. Gloss.* 203 *Snickle*, *Snittle*, a slip-knot.

Snive, variant of SNY *v.* to swarm.

Snivel (sni·v'l), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 snevel, -yl, 6 -yll, 6–7 -il, 7 -ill; 6 sneuyll, -il, 6–7 -ill; 6 sneeuel, -ill, 9 *Sc.* sneevel, -il. *β.* 6 snyuell, sniuil, -yll, 6–7 -ell; 7 snivell, -ill, 7– snivel. [f. SNIVEL *v.*]

1. Mucus collected in, or issuing from, the nose.

α. 14.. *Parts Body* in Wr.-Wülcker 631 *Pus nasi*, snevel of þe nose. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 247 Wype wyth þi tunge oute of my nase þe snevyl þat hangyth þer-inne. 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Snevyll whan it hangeth at ones nose, *roupie*, *boe.* 1540 — *Acolastus* I j, He wolde throwe the sneuyll of his nose into it. 1626 BRETON *Pasquil's Madcappe* xi, As sower, As beldam's milke that turned with her sneuill. 1671 W. SALMON *Syn. Med.* I. liv. 136 Without avoiding any thing, except bloody or filthy Matter, like Snevil.

β. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 28 b, Thy nose is full of snyuell. 1548 ELYOT, *Mucosus*, snattye,..fulle of sniuyll. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 238, I will..squise thy braine to sniuell, whereof it was curdled. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. iii. (1651) 562 Snot and snivell in her nostrils, spittle in her mouth. 1682 *Eng. Elect. Sheriffs* 46, I will sooner worship the Sun, than..the Snot and Snivel of Loyala's Nose. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 11 If with your Elbow you wipe off the Snivel, No Man alive shall be esteem'd more civil. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxiii. 17 Thee sweat frets not,..Frets not snivel or oozy rheumy nostril.

b. A condition of the nose marked by the accumulation of mucus. Also *the snivels.*

1600 SURFLET *Countrey Farme* I. xxviii. 188 For the sniuell, take orpin and brimstone [etc.]. 1844 LOWSON *Mod. Farrier* 209 This affection is termed the snores or snivels. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* 132/1 *Snivels*, a cold, accompanied by a difficulty of breathing, and a running at the nose.

† **2.** Saliva. *Obs.*—1

1697 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 50 The Snivel or Drivel that comes from the Mouth of a Dog..when mad.

† **3.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 195 Grounds ..that being colder and stronger or heavier, easily infect them [lettuces] with slimy Snivel [='a sort of rotting moisture, hanging about some plants'].

4. A slight sniff indicating, or intended to suggest, suppressed emotion.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxix, Rob..took up the pieces one by one with a sob and a snivel for each. 1866 GILPIN *Songs Cumbld.* 280 Sae wi' snuffs an' sneevils [he] Rair't out. 1890 *Daily News* 18 Feb. 5/2 A carefully arranged and expressive 'snivel' is regarded as their most valuable acquirement.

b. A show or pretence of emotion; hypocritical expression of feeling.

1878 E. JENKINS *Haverholme* 194 Lords and ladies.. penned elegiacs to his praise in tears and snivel. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 9 Feb. (Cassell), The cant and snivel of which we have seen so much of late.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snivel-bottle*, *-guts*, *-monger*, *-nose.*

1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* III. i, A received opinion, snivelguts. 1778 *Exmoor Scolding* Gloss., *Snibble-nose*, or rather *Snivel-nose*, one who snuffs up the Snot. 1792 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. Sir W. Hamilton* Wks. 1812 III. 185 More snivel-bottles, jordens, and old jugs. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child Jago* 149 He preferred the frank rogue before the calculating snivel-monger.

Snivel (sni·v'l), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4 snevele, 5–6 sneuel, 6 -il, snevel(l, -ill, -yll; 9 *dial.* sneavel, *Sc.* sneevil. *β.* 4 snyvele, 5 -elle, 6 snyuel, 7 sniuel, 7– snivel (9 *dial.* snivvel). [OE. **snyflan* (implied in *snyflung* SNIVELLING *vbl. sb.*), f. *snofl* mucus. Cf. Da. *snøvle* (older *snevle*) to snuffle.]

1. *intr.* To run at the nose; to emit mucus from the nose; also, to draw up mucus audibly.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 173 Ely autre ne pout parler Une parole sanz nasyer, [*glossed*] snevelet, snyvele. *a* 1450 *Langland's P. Pl.* B. v. 135 (MS. Bodl. 814), Now awakiþ wratthe, wiþ two white eiȝen, And sneuelyng wiþ his nose. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 To Snyvelle, *naricare*. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 550 Out! out! I schout, apon that snowt that snevillis. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1865 The snyte snyueled in the snowte and smyled at the game. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. v, Dos't so, snotty nose? Good Lord! are you sniueling? 1649

QUARLES *Virgin Widow* II, Must I be still yawling, and calling,..whilst y'are..potting, and piping, and driveling and sniveling! *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 319 When they are sheared they catch cold, and will be glandered, and snivel very much.

b. *trans.* (See quot.) *rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 723/2, I snevell, I beraye any thynge with snyvell, *je amorue.* Se howe this boye snyvelleth his cote.

c. To clear (the nose) by snuffling.

1835 *Politeness & Gd.-breeding* 104 Never.. snivel and snort a wet nose.

2. *intr.* To make a sniffing or snuffling sound expressive of real or assumed emotion; to be in, or affect, a tearful state.

1690 DRYDEN *Prol. to 'Mistakes'*, I left our young Poet sniveling and sobbing behind the Scenes, and cursing somebody that has deceiv'd him. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 364 P 4 To take a Lad from Grammar and..send him crying and sniveling into foreign Countries. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 329 And whip thee hence Home to thy galley, sniveling like a boy. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiii, What signified his bringing a woman here to snotter and snivel, and bather their Lordships? 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Every woman in the house was snivelling at the time. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt.-Royal* III. i. 22 Why do you stand there snivelling about him?

3. *trans.* **a.** To affect in some way by snivelling; to address in a snivelling manner. *rare.*

1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1702) 268 To snivel and sneeze himself into another World. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* I. ix, Let 'em snivel and cry their Hearts out. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 25. 168 Thus they Whine and Snivel the Multitude, to enrich themselves and help forward the Faction.

b. To utter with a snivelling or sniffing sound; to shed (tears) snufflingly. Also with *out*.

1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 310 Ye novelists, who mar what ye would mend, Sniv'ling and driv'ling folly without end. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxx, I heard the former snivel out, in a very subdued tone, 'And ye'll ask her' [etc.]. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* vi. (1876) 308 That fine flower of love..over which Sterne snivelled so many tears. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *Summer in Skye* I. 237 The doctor saluted Flora and snivelled his compliments.

†Snivelard. *Obs. rare.* In 4–5 sneuel-, 5 snyvelard. [f. SNIVEL *v.*] A sniveller.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xiii. (Tollemache MS.), The nose is sum tyme let..by bredynge of superfluite..in þe holis of the nose, as it fareþ in sneuelardis. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 606 *Pusio*, a sneuelard. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 461/2 Snyvelard, or he þat spekythe yn the nose, *nasitus.*

Sni·veldom. *nonce-wd.* [f. SNIVEL *sb.* or *v.*] A slight cold causing one to snivel.

1767 C'TESS COWPER in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* Ser. II. I. 91, I caught the first cold I have had this year..; but it was only a 'sniveldom' and is gone off.

Sni·velled, *ppl. a.* [f. SNIVEL *sb.* or *v.*] Soiled or foul with snivel.

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* (Parker Soc.) 124 That men should shrine his snivelled napkin, and not to believe his preaching. 1576 R. PETERSON *Galateo* (1852) 13 They spare not to snot their sniueld noses vppon them. 1581 G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 43 He woulde through negligence suffer his nose alwaies to be sneueled, and tooke no care to wipe it. 1619 R. WEST *Bk. Demeanor* 46 in *Babees Bk.* 292 To wipe thy snivelled nose Vpon thy cap. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Convers.* 78 He was so negligent, as always to go with a snivell'd nose.

Sniveller (sni·v'lər). Also 5 sneveler. [f. SNIVEL *v.*]

1. One who snivels or whines. Also in fig. context.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 396, I schal snarle tho sneveleris wyth rith scharp schouris. 1731 SWIFT *On his Death* Wks. 1755 III. II. 244 [He would] more lament, when I was dead, Than all the sniv'lers round my bed. 1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Ld. Lonsdale* Wks. 1812 III. 13 Despise that thing call'd Meekness; 'tis a sniveller. 1905 *Speaker* 25 Feb. 512/2 Savonarola and his Piagnoni or snivellers..had a fatal influence on art.

2. A cold breeze (causing one to snivel).

1834 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 69 The pinching 'sniveller' was changed to a tempest. 1846 *Ibid.* 271 A chill that I took in a deadly cold 'sniveller'.

†Sni·velliness. *Obs.*—1 [f. SNIVELLY *a.*] A soft glutinous state.

1662 CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 147 The Eggs of Fishes are at first more hard, and straightway..wax tender into a snivelliness.

Snivelling (sni·v'liŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 2 snyflung, 5 -ynge; 5 sneuelyng, 6 -ing, etc. [See SNIVEL *v.*] The action of the vb. in various senses.

a 1100 in Napier *Contrib. O. E. Lexicog.* 58 Ðif heora ænegum for unhæle hraca of breoste oððe snyflung of nosa derige. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* (Halliw. 1840) 711 From spyttynge and snyflynge kepe the also. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Sheepe* (1627) 220 Sheep oftentimes wil haue the glaunders, and a sneuelling at their noses. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* (1746) 380 Spitting, Sniveling and Yawning, are only the Fruits of Fulness or Idleness. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 15 They never thought Sniveling necessary to make a great Saint. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* lxi. (1804) 436 After a good deal of snivelling and sobbing. 1782 COWPER *To the Rev. Mr. Newton* 11 There is nothing but sniv'ling and blowing of noses. 1815 *Hist. Ÿ. Decastro* I. 44 Come, John,..let us have no more sniv'ling. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Social Aims* x. 256 Meantime we hate snivelling.

attrib. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *G. Bateman* II. 115, I war'nt there was fine sniveling work when ye parted. 1816 GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 52 They only require a gentle grunt through the snivelling organs, to soothe dainty ears with much sweet melody.

Snivelling (sni·v'liŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 3 snvuelinde, 5 snyvelande; 4 snyvelinge, 5 sneuelyng, snevyllynge, etc. [f. SNIVEL *v.*]

1. Of the nose, etc.: Discharging, or full of, snivel. Also of persons, given to snivelling or snuffling.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 319 Snvuelinde nose and wet mouth. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 Snyvelande (*A.* Snevyllynge), *naricans, naricus.* 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 175 Stooping as she goes, With driveling mouth, and with a sniveling nose. 1615 *Baud, Ruffe, & Cuffe* (Halliw.) 16 He is a most filthy snivelling fellow..; he will wipe your nose of all, if you put the case to him. 1823 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* 72 A snivelling fellow he's call'd by his foes, For he can't raise his paw up to blow his red nose. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 380 Another, whom he remembers a little snivelling boy. 1902 *Times* 16 July 13/6 The wonderful picture of leering, chuckling, snivelling senility.

transf. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxiii, The landlady brought a snivelling mould candle into the cheerless.. little inn-parlour.

b. Of a cold: Accompanied by snivelling.

1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A snivelling Cold, *un Rûme.*

2. Sounding through the nose. *rare.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 21 At the laste he thus owt abrayde Wyth a sneuelyng vooys & to hyr sayde. 1816 GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* xvii, To see this good, plain dialect superseded by snivelling, flippant, senseless French.

3. Displaying emotion or the semblance of it; mean-spirited, weak: **a.** Of persons.

1647 J. C[LEVELAND] *Char. Lond.-Diurn.* 8 Two of Mars his Petty-toes, such snivelling Cowards, that it is a favour to call them so. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 84 The snivling Presbyterians..did not stick to report that he died no better than a Brewers Clerk. 1732 FIELDING *Covent Gard. Trag.* I. vii, Without wine all human kind wou'd be One stupid, sniveling, sneaking, sober fellow. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Advice to Future Laureat* Wks. 1812 II. 343 The little snivelling spirit. 1805 DIBDIN in *Naval Chron.* XIII. 394 The snivlingest scoundrel that ever was seen. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvi, Why not have kept him here among the rest, and made a sneaking, snivelling pickpocket of him at once? 1860 EMERSON *Conduct of Life* ii. Wks. (Bohn) II. 335 These Hoosiers and Suckers are really better than the snivelling opposition.

b. Of discourse, writings, etc.

1673 HICKERINGILL *Gregory F. Greybeard* 276 Pickt the peoples pockets with canting long snivelling sermons. 1707 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 19 A poor, sniveling discourse. 1767 STERNE *Tristram Shandy* IX. xii, That snivelling virtue of Meekness. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 4, I have received a snivelling letter from Griffin, offering to make a public submission, and pay costs.

†Sni·vellish, *a. Obs.*—0 [f. SNIVEL *sb.*]

1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Snevylysshe, full of snevyll, *morueux.*

†Sni·velly, *a. Obs.* Also 6 snevelly, sniuely, -elie, 6–7 sniuelly (7 -ie). [f. SNIVEL *sb.*]

1. Of the nature of snivel or mucus.

1576 T. NEWTON tr. *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 175 A thicke, filthy, and snevelly Phlegme. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 620 A foul, stinking, glutinous, and snivelly matter. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1109 Nothing else but snotty matter..or snivelly flegm.

2. Foul with snivel or mucus.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Morveux*, snotty, sniuelly. 1598 FLORIO, *Moccicoso*, snottie, sniuelie. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. xiii. 89 [The cow's] wide nostrels and sniuely.

Snoach (snōʊtʃ), *v. dial.* Also 4, 9 snoche, 9 snōtch. [Imitative.] *intr.* To snuffle; to breathe or speak through the nose, etc. Hence **Snoa·ching** *vbl. sb.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 11, I..schamede and dradde after so noble spekers..to putte forþ my bareyn speche, hosnes and snochynge. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems* Gloss. 350 *Snôtch*, to speak or breathe hardly through the nose. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* 33 *Snoche*, to speak with a nasal twang. 1886 *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. *Snoachy.*

Snoak, variant of SNOKE *v.*

Snoar, obs. form of SNORE *v.*

Snob (snɒb), *sb.*[1] Also 9 *Sc.* snab. [Orig. slang, of obscure origin.]

1. *dial.* or *colloq.* A shoemaker or cobbler; a cobbler's apprentice.

a. 1781 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 837 Sir William Blase, a snob by trade. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T., Snob*, a nick name for a shoemaker. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 249 Tom Jenkins was known as a cobbler or snob. 1824 W. E. ANDREWS *Rev. Fox's Bk. Mart.* I. 252 Both Snip and Snob were burned for their pains. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 642 Even among the snobs the custom of the trade is against giving credit.

β. 1808 JAMIESON, *Snab*, a cant term for a..cobler's boy. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* II. 132 To flame as an author our Snab was sae bent. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xiv, Rory Skirl, the snab, and Geordie Thump, the dyer. 1896 W. HARVEY *Kenneth-crook* 38 (E.D.D.), He had entered the craft in the usual way by being what the villagers called a 'snab'.

†2. *Cambridge slang.* Any one not a gownsman; a townsman. *Obs.* (Cf. CAD[2] 4.)

c 1796 in Whibley *In Cap & Gown* (1889) 87 Snobs call him Nicholson! Plebeian name. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 428 A capital front rank of 'tassells'.. all eager for a 'slap at a snob'. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* Sept. 298/2 Happily the annals of Oxford present no instance of a 'snob' murdered in the streets.

3. A person belonging to the ordinary or lower classes of society; one having no pretensions to rank or gentility.

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 22 July 3/6 The nobs have lost their dirty seats—the honest snobs have got 'em. 1834 W. H. BROOKFIELD in F. M. Brookfield *Cambridge 'Apostles'* (1906) iv. 66 *Snobs* go early [to the Grand Opera, Paris], buy pit tickets.., and beset comers at a quarter past seven to give them 5½ francs for their tickets. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* III. 165 In the presence of a tail of snobs who accompanied him on his way. 1852 EARP *Gold Col. Austr.* 9 The majority of the colonists are essentially snobs, and they are justly proud of the distinction.

b. One who has little or no breeding or good taste; a vulgar or ostentatious person.

1838 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry Milner* III. ix. 175 He is a genteel young man—no snob—quite the gentleman. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk. Bk.* Wks. 1879 XVIII. 111 A vulgar man in England..chiefly displays his character of snob by ..swaggering and showing off in his coarse dull stupid way. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 97 *Snob*, a low, vulgar..person.

c. One who meanly or vulgarly admires and seeks to imitate, or associate with, those of superior rank or wealth; one who wishes to be regarded as a person of social importance.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* i, I mean by positive [Snobs] such persons as are Snobs everywhere,..being by nature endowed with Snobbishness. 1860 H. MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* iv. i. 183 So necessary..are the professional titles considered by the supreme Snob of an authority from whom we quote. 1863 MISS BRADDON *J. Marchmont's Legacy* I. ii. 42 'What a snob I am,' he thought; 'always bragging of home'. 1882 MRS. RIDDELL *Pr. of Wales's Garden-Party* 127 He was..such a snob, he felt pleased his clerks should hear a butler ask for a situation.

4. = BLACK-LEG 3.

a 1859 DE QUINCEY (Webster), Those who work for lower wages during a strike are called snobs, the men who stand out being 'nobs'.

5. *attrib.*, as *snob ambition, -land, nature, ore*; **snob-stick,** = sense 4 (cf. KNOBSTICK 2).

Other examples occur in Thackeray's *Book of Snobs.*

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* Pref., It is Beautiful..to sink shafts in society and come upon rich veins of Snob-ore. *Ibid.* xxxii, O you pride of all Snobland! O you crawling, truckling..lacqueys and parasites! 1860 *Slang Dict.* 221 *Snob-stick*, a workman who refuses to join in strikes, or trade unions. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 189 What of snob ambition there might be in me. 1883 *Congregationalist* May 377 The snob nature comes out in strange ways.

Snob (snɒb), *sb.*[2] [Of obscure origin.] A game of cricket played with a soft ball and a thick stick in lieu of a bat.

1892 *Daily News* 6 May 5/2 They are subject to very dangerous accidents at cricket, and might well confine themselves to 'snob'. 1894 *Ibid.* 10 May 6/1 Snob, or stump cricket, is indeed an excellent game.

Snob, *v.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 3–5 snobbe. [Imitative.] *intr.* To sob. Hence **Sno·bbing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1300 *Old Age* vii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I snurpe, i snobbe, i sneipe on snovte. *a* 1380 *St. Ambrose* 940 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 23 He wept and snobbed and ofte abreid. 1388 WYCLIF *Lam.* iii. 56 Turne thou not awei thin eere fro my sobbyng [*v.r.* snobbyng] and cries. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1865 He with sore sykyng & snobbyng bothe Vnswered þe monke. *Ibid.* 1986 Þus ladyes alle.. snobbedone & sykedone fulle sore. 1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. ii, She cannot hear me for snobbing. 1668 L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 124 There was such Blowing, Snobbing, Sniveling,..that there was no enduring the House. 18.. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., She neither sighed, nor snobbed, nor spoke, nor nothing. 1884– in dial. glossaries (Worc., Glouc.).

†Snob, *v.*[2] *Obs.*—1 [? var. of SNUB *v.* Cf. SNOBBERLY *adv.*] *intr.* To gird *at* something.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 107 A few words being spoken to Sancho, snobbing at his Insensiblenesse.

Snobber (snɒ·bəɹ). *colloq.* [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 1.] A shoemaker, cobbler.

1900 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 6/4 She takes up with a worthy 'snobber' (shoemaker).

†Sno·bberly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [app. related to SNOB *v.*[2]] Snubbingly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24024 Vn-reufulli þai can him raipe, Ful snoberli [*Edinb.* snubnerlik] him for to snaipe.

Snobbery (snɒ·bəri). [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.]

1. The class of snobs.

1833 *Lincoln Herald* 15 Jan. 3/6 In 'talking conversation' with some of the Snobbery of Brummagem. 1887 *Twin Soul* II. xvi. 198 The admiration of all the 'snobbery' of London.

2. The character or quality of being a snob; snobbishness; vulgar ostentation.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 232 Snobbery, like murder, will out; and, if you do not happen to be a gentleman born [etc.]. 1853 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* I. 315 They are two capital people, without any snobbery. 1892 *Speaker* 11 July 36/1 A type of snobbery which regards the established religion as a stepping-stone to respectability.

b. An instance of this; a snobbish trait.

1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 632 Arms sometimes indispensable in mixed societies against the pushing snobberies of vulgar wealth. 1880 *Cope's Tobacco Plant.* Oct. 536/2 Hence youth rivals with youth.. in varying vulgarest snobberies with maddest absurdities.

Sno·bbess. Also snobess. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] A female snob.

1869 *Punch* 14 Aug. 62/2 Reporters in front, snob and snobess behind! 1887 *Truth* 16 June 979 The crowd of snobs and snobesses.

Sno·bbiness. *rare.* [f. SNOBBY *a.*] Snobbishness.

1851 MILLAIS in J. G. Millais *Life* (1899) I. iv. 142 Revelling in snobbiness at having such distinguished persons at the farm.

Sno·bbing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 1.] The cobbling, or partial making, of boots.

1880 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 643 It has become a custom to endeavour to get the necessary 'snobbing' done between Friday evening and Monday morning. 1900 ANNIE WAKEMAN *Autobiog. Charwoman* viii. 111, I could see meself a-learnin' the easy parts of shoe-makin'—sech as doin' the uppers, called snobbin'.

Sno·bbing, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see SNOB *v.*[1]

Snobbish (snǫ·biʃ), *a.* [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a snob.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lvi, This form of inquiry he held to be of disrespectful and snobbish tendency. 1846 THACKERAY *Snob Papers* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 332, I can conceive nothing more dangerous, insolent—Snobbish, in a word—than such an opposition. 1854 *Illustr. Lond. News* 8 July 7/2 The snobbish display of plush breeches. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* VII. iii. 242 You will not suspect me of a snobbish desire to pay compliments to royalty.

absol. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* Pref., It is Beautiful to study even the Snobbish; to track Snobs through history.

Comb. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian* 144 It is doubtless not pleasant for the snobbish-minded man..to remember an origin of the kind.

2. Having the character of a snob.

1849 SAXE *Poems, Proud Miss M'Bride* xv, Depend upon it, my snobbish friend, Your family thread you can't ascend. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* xv. 325 Snobbish sons of fathers lately rich. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 714/2 Julian is..vain, cowardly, snobbish, and untrustworthy.

Hence **Sno·bbishly** *adv.*

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* iii, It encourages the commoner to be snobbishly mean. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Myst.* iv. 51 One whom he seems snobbishly anxious to claim as a friend.

Sno·bbishness. [f. prec.] The character or quality of being snobbish.

1846 THACKERAY *Snob Papers* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 318 This ..shameful caricature of a man which Snobbishness has set up to worship it. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 274 So the insolent young sham-aristocrat was punished for his snobbishness. 1881 HUXLEY *Hume* v. 106 One of the most curious peculiarities of the dog mind is its inherent snobbishness.

Sno·bbism. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] The characteristic qualities of a snob; snobbishness.

1856 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 267 As long as snobbism runs in the blood, why should it not run in our speech? 1869 *Daily News* 2 Sept., All that has been said latterly about the snobbism of our countrymen..on their travels. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 545 Is there any society..where such a piece of snobbism could be represented as possible.

Sno·bbite. *rare*—[1]. In 8 snobite. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 2.] A townsman.

c 1796 in Whibley *In Cap & Gown* (1889) 87 Plebeian name Which ne'er would hand a Snobite down to fame.

Sno·bby, *a.* [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] Snobbish.

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 128 Thither comes the snobby gig, conveying red-faced individuals. 1858 RAMSAY *Remin. Sc. Life & Char.* 60 If we can't get in with the nobs,..we will never take up with any society that is decidedly snobby. 1888 *Temple Bar* Aug. 539 Perhaps he was snobby enough to object to my earning money.

Sno·bdom. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] The aggregate of snobs; snobs collectively.

1846 *New Monthly Mag.* Sept. 32 The congress of *mauvais sujets* from all parts of Snobdom, who infest Wiesbaden. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxvi. 196 In savage as in civilized life there is a 'snobdom'. 1873 W. S. MAYO *Never Again* iv. 48 We must go..to England,..where a more rigid tabooism gives a wonderful exaltation to the idols of snobdom.

Sno·blet. *rare*—[1]. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] = next.

1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* li. (1879) 439 He looked as good a type of the party snoblet, as could be imagined.

Sno·bling. [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3.] A little, young, or petty snob. Also *attrib.*

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xii, You see, dear Snobling, that..he might have been excused from interfering. 1876 *World* V. 13 Every brainless bank-clerk and snobling sub-inspector of constabulary. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* II. iii. 149 The contemptuous usage every little snobling..thinks himself privileged to give us.

Snobocracy (snǫbǫ·krăsi). [f. SNOB *sb.*[1] 3 + -OCRACY.] The class of snobs, as having some power or exerting some influence.

1854 LEVER *Dodd Family Abr.* lxvii, The fun derived from watching the 'snobocracy' I have mentioned. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 138 Soliciting the votes, not of the people, but of the Snobocracy. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Apr. 4/4 The Orange flag..would be floating over the houses of the Dublin snobocracy.

Snobo·grapher. [f. as prec. + -(O)GRAPHER.] A writer on, a describer of, snobs. So **Snobo·graphy,** the description or delineation of snobs. **Snobo·logist, Snobo·nomer,** a student of, a specialist in, snobs.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxv, Up that long avenue the *Snobographer walked in solitude. 1868 *Imperial Rev.* Mar. 272, I may mention..that Thackeray, the great Snobographer, hated a Cad much more than he hated a Snob. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxviii, In the Country *Snobography my poor friend Ponto has been held up almost exclusively for the public gaze. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Jan. 76/1 The safer and wiser way in this infancy of the science of snobography is to refrain from the attempt at absolute aphorism. 1888 E. A. PARRY *Lett. Dorothy Osborne* Introd. 158 Both the circumstance and the doggerel should be very instructive to the *snobologist. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxiii, Some telescopic philosopher will arise one day, some great *Snobonomer [etc.].

Snochynge: see SNOACH *v.*

Snock. *dial.* [prob. imitative.] A knock; a smart blow.

1825 in JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. West Eng.* 71. 1898 T. HARDY *Wessex Poems* 46 Such snocks and slats since war began Never saw raw recruit or veteran.

Snod (snǫd), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 7 snoode (?). [Of obscure origin: the stem may be the same as that of ON. *snoðinn* bald (Norw. *snoden* bare).]

1. Smooth, sleek; even. Also *absol.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Wolf & Sheep* viii, He wald chais thame baith throw rouch and snod. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. xiii. 24 His awin heid warpit with a snod olive, Heich in a schippis forcastell [he] did stand. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 562 Foot-foundred beasts.. Hes not their hair sa snod as other good. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 4 Howe to choose a good Tuppe. Lett him bee ..of a snoode and goode stapple. 1692 A. SYMSON in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Coll.* (S.H.S.) II. 102 The long beards and awnds are separated from the corne; and the corne made, as they terme it, more snod and easie to pass through the mill. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Snodde*, Wheat ears are said to be *snod* when they have no beard or awns. And a tree is *snod* when the top is cut smooth off. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snod*, smooth. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westm. Dial.* (1821) 18 A lile stiff fello, wie a varra snod feace. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 416 A snod piece o' cloath—as snod as a bit o' silk!

Comb. 1855 WAUGH *Life & Local.* 201 Rough and free as so many snod-backed young modiwarps. 1898 A. OLLIVANT *Owd Bob* xiii. 117 Ye ox-limbed, snod-faced profleegit!

2. Of persons: Neat, tidy, trim, smart, spruce.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 66 *Snod*,..neat, handsome. 1719 RAMSAY *To Arbuckle* 71 A black-a-vic'd snod dapper fallow. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 194 The niece was a little, snod, fair lass. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxvi, A tight and snod serving lassie. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* 14 Here comes the minister himsel', an' very snod he is.

b. Of things: Neat, trim, in good order.

1717 RAMSAY *Elegy Lucky Wood* iv, She..kept her housie snod and bein. 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* 3 The gentleman that treads in black snod pumps. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 41 His velvet breeks,..The snoddest pairt o' his attire. 1837 R. P. GILLIES *Recoll. Scott* III. ix. 199, I see ye're admiring how *snod* the library looks there. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxii. (ed. 3) 195 My clothes were clean brushed and exceedingly neat and snod.

3. Comfortable, snug, cosy. Also as quasi-*adv.*

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* Gloss. s.v. *Snodde*, To lie snod and snug. 1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* (1900) 91/2 'Ay,' he said, with a chuckle, 'but I've a snod bit cornery up there for mysel'.

Snod (snǫd), *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make smooth, trim, or neat; to tidy, put in order. Also with *down, off, up.*

1584 HUDSON *Judith* IV. 269 On stake and ryce, hee knits the crooked vines, And snoddes their bowes. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 7 Ye saw yoursel how weel his mailin' thrave, Ay better faugh'd an' snodit than the lave. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 85 The ploughman cultivates the field, The mower snods the common. 1819 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) IV. viii. 251, I have planted a number of shrubs,..and am snodding up the drive of the old farm house. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* xxvi. 115 The.. tallow candles..had..to be *snodded* laboriously.

† Snode. *Obs.* Also 4 *north.* snade. [app. repr. OE. **snád*, unrecorded variant of *snæd* SNEDE, related to *sníðan* SNITHE *v.*] A piece or bit (of bread or other food); a morsel.

a. c 1150 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 548 *Offa*, snode. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 108 in *O. E. Misc.*, [Judas ate the bread] And þe veond him on bi-com myd þerylke snode. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxlvii. 17 He sendes als snodes [L. *frusta panis*, or *buccellas*] his cristal. 1340 *Ayenb.* 111 Þe lecherous .. þet .. uorzuelȝþ þane guode snode wyþ-oute chewynge. *Ibid.* 218 Hy..eteþ þe blodi snoden.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 15387 (Gött.), þe morsel laght iudas, wid þat ilk snade..croupe in him sathanas. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig *Archiv* LVII. 313 Was neuere Beggere þat þer bade At his hous gete bite or snade.

Snodly (snǫ·dli), *adv. Sc.* [f. SNOD *a.* + -LY 2.] Neatly, tidily, trimly.

1721 RAMSAY *Scribblers Lashed* 75 'Till by degrees it creeps right snodly, On hips and head-dress of the godly. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 304 Here's something here..will mak life's road to me fu' snodly sleekit. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* lxxii, A clean cambric handkerchief very snodly prined over her breast. 1850 W. HOWSON *Cur. Craven* 118 Shadows flicker On the snodly whitewesh'd wa'. 1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 19 Aug. 6 We took the short road by Burns' Monument and the snodly theekit hoosie at the wayside.

‖ Snoek (snūk). Also snook. [Du. *snoek* pike: cf. SNOOK 2.] At the Cape of Good Hope, the common name of the fish *Thyrsites Atun.* Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1853 PAPPE *Edible Fishes C. Good Hope* 24 *Thyrsites Atun.* Cuv. and Val. (Snook; Snoek). 1872 HUTTON & HECTOR *Fishes N. Zealand* s.v. *Thyrsites Atun*, This is, I believe, the fish called snook in Cape Colony. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 50 The unhappy snoek-eaters wander about like so many grown children afflicted with mumps. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* i, Old Cape Town just the same as ever..Malays and snoek fish everywhere.

Snoff. *Cornish mining.* [A survival of the early form of SNUFF *sb.*[1]] (See quots.)

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 23 *Snoff, or Match*, ..brown paper, or other slowly combustible substance, which is ignited at one end, the other being in contact with the rush or train in blasting. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Snoff*, a short candle-end, put under a fuse to light it. 1891 J. H. PEARCE *Esther Pentreath* I. i, Dick having charged the hole with powder, set fire to the train with a 'snoff' from his candle.

Snoffe, obs. form of SNUFF *sb.*[1] and *v.*

Snog (snǫg), *a. north. dial.* and † *Sc.* [app. a. ON. *snøggr* smooth, short-haired, etc. (cf. the etym. note to SNUG *a.*[1]).] Smooth, sleek; neat, tidy. Hence **Sno·gly** *adv.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XII. Prol. 186 All snog and slekyt worth thir bestis skynnis. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 1111 Thin they are and conuex, that they might lye more snogly vpon the fingers. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 66 *Snog*, neat, handsome: as *snogly gear'd*, handsomely drest. *Ibid.*, *Snog* Malt, smooth with few Combs. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, Thou wouldst be a mettle lass enow, an thou wert snog and snod a bit better. 1855 [ROBINSON] *Whitby Gloss.*, *Snod and Snog*, smooth and compact.

† **Snog,** *v. Obs.*—[0] [Cf. next.] *intr.* To bristle.

1530 PALSGR. 724/1, I snogge, *je herisonne.*

† **Sno·ggy,** variant of (or error for) SNAGGY *a.*

1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 141 They were all short, snoggy trees, much loaded with boughs.

Snogly, *adv.*: see SNOG *a.*

Snoif, obs. form of SNOOVE *v. Sc.*

Snoir(e, obs. Sc. forms of SNORE *sb.*

Snoke (snōuk), *v.* Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 4–5, 9 snoke (5 snokyn), 6 *Sc.* snokk-, 9 snoak. *β.* 6 snooke, 7– snook (8 *dial.* snooac). *γ.* 7– snouk, 8– snowk. [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. dial. *snōka* to snuff, smell.] *intr.* and *trans.* To snuff or smell; to go snuffing or smelling (at); to poke about with the nose. Also *fig.*, to sneak about, to keep watch *over*, etc.

α. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 83 Disciplis of Crist wenten into þe citee to bie hem mete; for þei snokiden not fro hous to hous and beggiden mete, as freris doon. *c* 1475 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 (MS. K.), Snokyn, or smellyn, *nicio*. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.* BB vij, *Nicto*,..to snoke as a honde dos. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. ii. 99 The drink, and eik the offerandis gret and small, [the snake] Snokkis [*v.r.* snokis] and likkit. 1831 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 III. 98 After smellin an' snokin an' snortin at it for a while. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xxi, He lay still, with the beast .. poking down its head, and snorting and snoking at him.

β. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/35 To Snooke, *olfacere*. 1608 HIERON *Defence* II. 8 Whether he snooketh not as right into Rheames and Rome as maie be [etc.]. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 74 The hogges went snuffinge and snookinge from heape to heape. *a* 1652 BROME *New Acad.* II. i, I must not lose my harmlesse recreations Abroad, to snook over my wife at home. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To Snook, or ly lurking for a thing. 1722 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* III. viii. II. 449 The Dogs would snook and smell about the Stones under which they were hid, and yet they remained undiscovered. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 354 To *Snooac*, to smell in a snuffing manner. 1834 [SEBA SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* (1835) 106 All we've got to do is to open that, and snook among old papers. 1891 R. FORD *Thistledown* ix. 163 That we do not gang..snookin' amang the snaw like mowdiewarts.

γ. 1624 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 241 Like swine under the oaks, we grouze up the acorns, and snouk about for more. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 39 Wi' social nose [the dogs] whyles snuff'd an' snowket. 1862 QUIN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 76, I snouk aboot For 'tatty peels and banes o' herrin'. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xlv. 384 Gin ony o' Agnew's men were gaun snowkin' roond, it micht cause misunderstandings.

Hence **Sno·king** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snokynge, *olfactus.*

† **Snoke-horn.** *Obs.*—[1] ? A sneaking fellow.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 80 Then were my worshyp lorne, If sych a swayn, a snoke horne, Shuld thus be my suffrane.

Sno·key, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. SNOKE *v.*] Adapted for snuffing or poking.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 865 Nuzzling with that snokey nose of his.

Snood (snūd), *sb.* Forms: 1 snod, 6– (*Sc.* and *north.*) snude (9 sneud), 7– snood (9 snoud); *north.* 8 snead, 9 sneiad; *Sc.* 9 snid, sneed, etc. [OE. *snód*, of obscure origin.]

1. A fillet, band, or ribbon, for confining the hair; latterly, in Scotland (and the north of England), the distinctive hair-band worn by young unmarried women.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 137 *Cappa*, snod. *a* 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker 204 *Cinthium, mitra*, snod. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 28 Þa lærde hi sum iudeisc man, þæt heo name ænne wernæzel..and becnytte to anum hringe mid hire snode. *c* 1150 in Wr.-Wülcker 540 *Uitta*, snod.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 377 ȝone ma nocht saif thair bodie with ane snude. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 177 ȝe said vnto hir that ȝe haid Vrsulla Alexanderis snood, quhilk ȝe haid keipit since ȝe put hir in hir winding sheit. 1677 NICHOLSON in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) IX. 319 *Snude*, a fillet, or hair lace. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, The rashes green..Of which..For thee I plet the flow'ry belt and snood. 1771 PENNANT *Tour in Scotl.* (1794) 213 The single women wear only a ribband round their head, which they call a snood. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. v, No hunter's hand her snood untied, Yet ne'er again to braid her hair The virgin snood did Alice wear. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Bloudle Jacke of Shrewsberie* (1905) 322 While her tresses are bound with a snood. 1889 R. BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* vii, Her hair was bound up in a simple snood.

† b. ? A skein. *Obs.*—[1]

1425 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1695) Gloss. s.v. *Snodde*, In viii snoden de Pakthred.

2. a. In sea-fishing: One of a number of short lines, each carrying a baited hook, attached at regular distances along the main line.

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 112 To each of these are fastned 20 Snoods, *alias* Nossels, which are small Lines, with Hooks and Baits at them. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) III. 205 The hooks are fastened to the lines upon sneads of twisted horse hair 27 inches in length. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* VII. 204 The quantity of line..contains ..720 hooks,..one yard distant from each other, on snoods of horse hair. 1848 *Chambers's Information for People* I. 699 These are long lines, with hooks fastened at regular distances..by shorter and smaller cords called *snoods*. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 7 Simple Machine, for making Norsels or Snoods of any length.

b. *Angling.* A hair or catgut line attaching the hook to the rod line.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Snood*, that part of an angler's line to which the hook is affixed. 1832 W. H. MAXWELL *Wild Sp. West* I. 263, I..lost time, hooks, and snouds. 1873 W. GRAHAM in *Harp of Perthshire* (1893) 149 My licht thrown snood scarce touched the flood When doun it flew like lichtnin'.

Snood (snūd), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To bind *up*, fasten *back*, or secure (the hair) with a snood.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Her cockernony snooded up fou sleek. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* IX. 325 At home they went bareheaded, with their hair snooded back on the crown of their head, with a woollen string in the form of a garter. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, Her hands trembled as she snooded her fair hair beneath the riband. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. ii, Her sweeping tresses snooded by glittering antique fillet. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Jan. 6/3 The new fashion of wearing the hair snooded low on the nape of the neck.

transf. 1856 S. DOBELL *Eng. in Time of War, Home, Wounded* 27 Where The larch is snooding her flowery hair With wreaths of morning shadow.

2. *Angling.* To attach (a hook) to a snood.

1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* vi, He was snooding a hook.

Snooded (snū·dĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. SNOOD *sb.* or *v.*] Wearing a snood; bound by a snood.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. XX, And plaided youth, with jest and jeer, Which snooded maiden would not hear. 1847 WHITTIER *Barclay of Ury* 81 The snooded daughter.. Smiled on him who bore renown. 1898 R. BUCHANAN *Father Anthony* xvii, Her hand stole up to her head and touched the snooded folds of the locks.

Snooding (snū·diŋ). [f. SNOOD *sb.* 2.] The material used for fishing-snoods.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 153 Hempen snooding I always have sold, That will ne'er lose the fish, while the hook have her hold. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xix. 176 At short intervals were hooks attached to lengths of snooding. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 603/1 The amateur, provided with his..Manchester snooding, his gut trace, and his artificial spinner.

† Snook, *sb.*[1] *north.* and *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 3 snoc, snoke, 4–5 snuk(e, snwk, 7 snewke. [Of obscure origin: cf. NOOK *sb.*] A projecting point or piece of land; a promontory.

c 1236 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 55 In illa parte agri quæ vocatur le Snoc. ? 1297 *Documents Illustr. Hist. Scotl.* (1870) II. 160 In factura pontis castri Berwyci, muri lapidei juxta mare subtus le Snoke. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 188 Fra Weik anent Orknay To Mullyr-snwk in Gallaway. *Ibid.* IV. 556 On Turnberyis nwk [*v.r.* snuke] he may Mak a fyre. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 1044 Furth thai fle Till Dwnottar, a snuk within the se. 1648 BLAEU *Atlas Engl., Map of Insvla Sacra*, The Snewke or Conny warren.

Snook (snūk), *sb.*[2] [ad. Du. *snoek* pike: cf. SNOEK.] A name given to various fishes, esp. the sergeant-fish, *Elacate canada*, and the robalo, *Centropomus undecimalis*.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 243 The Fish I observed here mostly, were what we call Snooks, neither a Sea fish nor fresh Water fish, but very numerous in these salt Lakes. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 288 Snook. It was taken at Passage fort. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 156 It [Caratasca Lagoon] abounds in various sorts of fish of the finest description, particularly mullet, calapaner, snoak, cavallee, and also manatee. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Snook*, a common fish, both of the sea and the rivers of the West Indies, the *Centropomus undecimalis*. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 170 Model of Fresh-water Fishpot, for taking mullet, snook, &c.

Snook, variant of SNOKE *v.* and SNOOKS.

Snooker (snū·kəɹ), *sb.*[1] *Woolwich slang.* A newly joined cadet.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 148/1 These embryo generals..were called by the somewhat sneering terms of 'snookers' or 'last-joined'.

Snooker (snū·kəɹ), *sb.*[2] [Of obscure origin.] A game, played with balls on a billiard table, combining pool and pyramids. Also *snooker('s) pool.*

1889 DRAYSON *Pract. Billiards* 110 The game of snooker. 1896 W. BROADFOOT *Billiards* xiii. 424 Snooker—or to give it its full title, Snooker's Pool—is a hybrid game, half pool and half pyramids. 1905 GLASFURD *Rifle in Ind. Jungle* 70 The old Doctor and we two, after several games of 'Snookers', had passed into the ante-room.

Hence **Snoo·ker** *v.* (See quots.)

1889 DRAYSON *Pract. Billiards* 111 If each pool ball is covered by a pyramid ball, the player is said to be 'snookered'. 1896 W. BROADFOOT *Billiards* xiii. 426 If the striker is by law obliged to play on a red ball or on a coloured ball, but..is unable to do so directly, he is said to be snookered.

Snooks (snūks). Also **snook.** [Of obscure origin.] A derisive gesture, = SIGHT *sb.*[1] 7 c.

1879 A. J. C. HARE *Story Life* (1900) V. 218 If I put my hands so (cutting a snooks), they might reproach me very much indeed. 1904 *Times* 24 Sept. 8/3 The young monkey puts his tongue in his cheek and cocks a snook at you. 1906 DRURY *Men at Arms* 36 Her Majesty's ship..cocked her jibboom snooks-fashion at her late enemy the sea.

Snool (snūl), *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8– *Sc.* snule, snuil, 9 *north.* snuol. [Of obscure origin.] A tame, abject, or mean-spirited person.

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xvi, Ye silly snool, Wae worth ye'r drunken saul. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 4 [They] lead ye on like arrant snools, 'Lang error's road. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 13 Your snools in love, and cowards in war, Frae maiden grace are banish'd far. 1822 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* II. 51 You or any one of us will never be a snool; we have not the blood of snools in our bodies. 1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 87 Crouching snools are kin to gangrel bodies.

Snool (snūl), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To keep in subjection; to snub.

17.. RAMSAY *Address of Thanks* iv. Wks. 1877 I. 258 Our dotard dads, snool'd wi' their wives. *a* 1796 BURNS *'An' O for ane-and-twenty, Tam!'* ii, They snool me sair, and haud me down. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IX. i. (1849) 406 The arrogance and high hand with which Mr. Bell was attempting to snool us all.

2. *intr.* To submit tamely; to cringe; to crawl meekly or humbly.

1786 BURNS *Bard's Epitaph* i, Owre blate to seek, owre proud to snool. 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 141 Never snool beneath the frown Of any selfish roggie. 1833 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. 391 We had to snool back to London the way we came. 1895 'G. SETOUN' *Sunshine* IX. 198 Sandy 'snooled' through life with bovine equanimity.

Snoop (snūp), *v. U.S.* [ad. Du. *snoepen* (LG. *snōpen*) in sense 1.]

1. *intr.* To appropriate and consume dainties in a clandestine manner.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 318 A servant who goes slyly into a dairy-room and drinks milk from a pan, would be said to be snooping.

2. To go *around* in a sly or prying manner.

1864 KIMBALL *Was he successful?* 178 Don't come snooping around to find out whether you sometimes go to the theatre. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* XX, I see the gells snoopin' around with their eyes as soft as velvet. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 744 He had no right to come snoopin' around where I was at work.

Hence **Snoo·per,** one who pries or peeps.

Snoop is also used as a sb. in the same sense.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 3/1 Artists sketching whenever they can get a chance, and surrounded by 'snoopers'.

Snoore, obs. variant of SNORE *v.*

Snoove (snūv), *v. Sc.* Also 6 **snoif,** 9 **snuive,** snuve. [a. OScand. (east) **snóa* (MSw. *snoa*, Sw. *sno*, Da. *snoe*), = ON. and Icel. *snúa* (Fær. *snúgva*, Norw. *snu*). For the development of the *v*, cf. the etym. note to RO *sb.*]

1. a. *trans.* To twirl, cause to turn. **b.** *intr.* (See quot. 1808.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vii. 100 To werk the lyne, To snoif the spyndill, and lang thredis twyne. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* III. 80 A wife that snooves a spindle. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., A boy's top is said to *snuve*, when it whirls round with great velocity, preserving at the same time an equal motion.

2. *intr.* To move or advance steadily, or with a steady pace; to glide. Also *fig.*

1719 W. HAMILTON *Ep. to Ramsay* III. ii, The pleasure counterpois'd the cumber..And snoovt away like three-hand Ombre. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* xiv, But just thy step a wee thing hastet, Thou snoov't awa. 1830 *Memorabilia Curliana* 106 Come snooving down white ice. 1882 R. BUCHANAN *God & the Man* III. 212 Many a sharp rap did the old ship get [from the ice] as she snooved along.

Snooze (snūz), *sb.* Also **snoose.** [Cf. next.]

1. *colloq.* A sleep; a nap, a doze.

a. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* II. 315 That Shuter's self might heave his head From drunken snoozes. 1813 SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) II. 177, I..had not had my snooze half out, when a courier arrived. 1845 W. H. MAXWELL *Hints Soldier* I. 51, I question whether I could manage to obtain a snooze. 1886 J. R. REES *Pleas. Bk.-Worm* v. 178 With a warm ejaculation on his tongue, the interrupted sleeper returns to his snooze.

β. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Tale Drury Lane* 51 Starting from short and broken snoose, Each sought his pond'rous hobnail'd shoes. 1869 *Daily News* 8 Oct., Seals like nothing better than a snoose on the sand.

2. *slang.* (See quots.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., A snooze sometimes means a lodging; as, where can I get a snooze for this darky, instead of saying a bed. 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 *Snooze*, a bed. 1865 *Ibid.* (Hotten) 239 *Snooze-case*, a pillow-slip.

Snooze (snūz), *v. colloq.* [app. a cant or slang word of obscure origin.] *intr.* To sleep; to slumber, to doze.

1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* (*c* 1800) 138 The cull with whom she snooz'd. 1795 POTTER *Dict. Cant* (ed. 2), *Snooze*, to sleep. 1813 MOORE *Diary* VIII. 136 If..I had nothing to do but put on my nightcap and snooze quietly by their side. 1842 MRS. GORE *Fascination* 37 She withdrew, leaving him to snooze beside the fire. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 2/3 A swarm of literary drones, who go there to lounge, snooze, and gossip.

Hence **Snoo·zer,** one who snoozes.

1878 P. ROBINSON *In Ind. Garden* 32 A bird—perhaps the middle one of a long row of closely-packed snoozers. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 2/3 The non-workers..may be divided into two classes—the snoozers and the talkers. The snoozer, if he reads at all, is an aimless reader.

Snoo·ziness. [f. SNOOZY *a.*] The state of being snoozy or sleepy.

1887 *Temple Bar* Oct. 209, I was just beginning to realise a sense of comfort, and (if I may say so) downy snooziness.

Snoo·zing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNOOZE *v.*] The fact of dozing or sleeping. Also *attrib.*

1811 *Lexicon-Balatronicum, Snoozing ken*, a brothel. 1851 MELVILLE *Whale* I. XXXIX. 274 Grand snoozing tonight, maty. 1867 BRIERLEY *Marlocks* 39 Old Makapenny had made several journeys from his 'snoozing crib' to the door.

Snoo·zing, *ppl. a.* [f. SNOOZE *v.*] Dozing, sleeping, slumbering.

1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trumpet* (1876) 183 What snoozing hum Ascends to thee?—what pæans, what adorings? 1883 STEVENSON *Merry Men, Treas. Franchard* V, The same snoozing, countryfied existence.

Snoozle (snū·z'l), *v. colloq.* or *dial.* [Cf. SNOOZE *v.* and NUZZLE *v.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To nestle and sleep or doze; to nuzzle.

1831 *Westm. Rev.* XV. 196 Comfortably snoozling like other birds deep in the fertilizing warmth of their downy boxes. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* I. vii. 177 The little dog, snoozling on the hearthrug, lifted up his blinking eyes. 1881 G. D. LESLIE *Our River* 12 There were a lot of black Berkshire pigs snoozling in the straw.

2. *trans.* To thrust affectionately.

1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* iii, A dog..that snoozled its nose over-forwardly into her face. 1894 'G. EGERTON' *Discord* 187 The dog..snoozles her snout into the palm of his hand.

Hence **Snoo·zledom,** the state of nestling and dozing in bed.

1865 D'ARCY THOMPSON *Odds & Ends* iii. 6 How precious are the last five minutes of snoozledom!

Snoo·zy, *sb. slang.* (See quot.)

1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T., Snoozy*, a night-constable.

Snoozy (snū·zi), *a.* [f. SNOOZE *v.*] Drowsy, sleepy, slumberous.

1877 C. KEENE in Layard *Life* (1892) ix. 255 This sea air.. makes me snoozy sometimes in the day. 1886 J. R. REES *Pleas. Bk.-Worm* v. 178 [He] sits in a stupid snoozy state.

Snop, *sb. dial.* [Imitative: cf. next.] A sharp blow or impact; the sound made by this.

1849 *Boy's Own Bk.* 12 Spans and snops. This is a very simple game; one player first shoots his marble, the second then endeavours to strike or *snop* it, or otherwise to shoot his own within a span of it. 1871– in south-western dial. glossaries. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* II. iv. 110 His body.. rebounded with a snop, and he fell disabled and insensible to the earth.

Snop, *v. dial.* [Imitative.] *trans.* To strike sharply and smartly; to break in this way. Also *absol.*

1849 [see SNOP *sb.*]. 1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* x, I see a man do that once..A' had a gate-hinge snopping um. *a* 1887 — *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 141 To stand there swinging that heavy bit of wood all day meant meat and drink..for themselves and families..: but only a few of them could get barns to snop away in.

Snore (snō·əɹ), *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* **snor, snoir(e.** [f. the vb.]

† 1. A snort; snorting. *Obs. rare.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1821 Þeyr teþ gnaisted wiþ nose snore, Hurtlede hedes set ful sore; Ilk oþer pulled, ilk oþer schok. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* X. x. 72 For feir thai [*sc.* horses] start abak..And brak away with the cart to the schor, With stendis feyll and mony bray and snor.

2. A disease or affection which causes snuffling; the snivels.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 302 (Tullib.), The snuf, þe snoir, þe scheippisch, the schanker. 1844 W. JAMIE *Muse* 157 (E.D.D.), May he ne'er be subject unto snors. 1844 LOWSON *Mod. Farrier* 209 This affection is termed the snores or snivels.

3. An act of snoring; a harsh or noisy respiration through the mouth, or through the mouth and nose, during sleep.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. ii. 6 The surfeted Groomes doe mock their charge with Snores. I haue drugg'd their Possets. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 218 Thou do'st snore distinctly, There's meaning in thy snores. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 133 The snores and snorts that came from them [a man and his wife]. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 213 Then with a loud snore, he again sank into sleep. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 21 The sound rose and fell for several minutes, like a kind of intermittent snore. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 418 One of them has an abominable quavering, hysterical, falsetto snore.

b. *All of a snore,* filled with the sound of snoring. *rare.*

1834 BECKFORD *Italy* II. 244 Dark vestibules and guard-chambers (all of a snore with jaded equerries).

4. *transf.* A sound resembling that of a snore; a loud roaring or droning noise.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 41. 3/1 She wak'd from Bag-pipe snore. 1832 DENNISTON *Craignilder* 60 Now dark December's wintry snore Rang through the leafless wood.

5. *Mining.* A snore-piece.

1875 J. H. COLLINS *Met. Mining* 89 The suction pipe *a*, now called the 'wind-bore' or 'snore'.

Snore (snō·əɹ), *v.* Also 7 snoar, 7–8 snoore. [prob. imitative: cf. SNORE *v.* and SNORT *v.*]

1. *intr.* Of animals, *esp.* horses: To snort. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7738 The horses snored as it hadde thondred. 1530 PALSGR., 724/1, I snore, as a horse dothe. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Ruchelen*, to Grunt, or to Snoore like Hoggs. 1778 G. WHITE *Selborne* LXXV, They [owls]..can snore and hiss when they mean to menace. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* VIII, How thou wad prance, an snore, an' scriegh, An' tak the road! 1898 C. SPENCE *Poems* 57 He [a bull]..roared and bored and sniffed and snored.

b. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Of things, wind, etc.: To make or give out a roaring or droning noise.

1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xiv, I never hear my ain bellows snoring at a gaud o' iron in the fire, but [etc.]. 1842 VEDDER *Poems* 75 A score of rival steamers..Hiss, flap, and snore, like river monsters. 1886 W. ALEXANDER *S. Augustine's Holiday* 135 The wind..Humming and snoring thro' rigging and spar.

c. Of a ship, etc.: To move or cut *through* the water with a roaring sound; to sail or travel quickly. Chiefly *Sc.*

1830 WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 540 Our cut-water snores through the swell. 1834 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* x, She began to *snore* through it like smoke. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* iii. (1856) 36 The pilot-boat snoring off close-hauled to windward.

2. To make harsh or noisy sounds in sleep by breathing through the open mouth or through the mouth and nose; to breathe in this manner during sleep. Also *poet.* or *rhet.*, to sleep heavily.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snoryn, yn sleep, *sterto.* 1530 PALSGR. 724/1, I wylle nat lye with hym, he snoreth so in his slepe. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 284 Nature hath not giuen unto men their essence & being..to slugge and snore in the couche of carelessnesse. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXVII. xii. 323 Whiles the centinels by reason of securitie were found asleepe that they snored againe, the citie gate was set open. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* III. ii. 222 Sound peoples sleep is not alike, some snoar in their sleep, others without a noise. 1695 PRIOR *Prol. Dryden's 'Cleomenes'* 20 Most of you snor'd whilst Cleomenes read. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IX. 440 Then nodding with the fumes of wine, [he] Dropt his huge head, and snoring lay supine. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 90 The nurse sleeps sweetly, hir'd to watch the sick, Whom snoring she disturbs. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* XXX, [He] tumbled himself into one of the cribs.. and soon was heard to snore soundly. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XVI. 107 He assured me..that he did not snore, and we lay down side by side. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* 286 A solitary tusker elephant sound asleep and snoring loudly.

fig. 1660 N. INGELO *Bentivolio & Urania* II. (1682) 89 The Soul, having snor'd many hundreds or thousands of years.

b. *I snore*, used as a mild expletive. *U.S.*

1790 *Mass. Spy* 30 Dec. (Thornton), In one village you will hear the phrase 'I snore',—in another, 'I swowgar'. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xii, Now its fairly run out, that's a fact, I snore. *Ibid.* XXXVI, You will, I snore.

3. *trans.* With *out* or *away*: To spend or pass (time) in snoring.

1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. V. 28 Sleepe with it now, Yet not so sound..As hee whose Brow..Snores out the Watch of Night. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk r. Lond., Tavern* Wks. 1709 III. III. 9 Where she Surfeits upon Sack,..and Snoars away the Remainder of her Life. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* I. iii. 24 He drank the Night away Till rising Dawn, then snor'd out all the Day. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 510 The full-gorg'd savage at his nauseous feast Spent half the darkness, and snor'd out the rest. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xix, Some ..snored away the interval between their own arrival and that of the expected repast.

4. To bring into a certain state by snoring (cf. quots.).

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 97 Sleep Of lazy nurse, who snores the sick man dead. *a* 1793 J. PEARSON *Polit. Dict.* 10 If the House are too sleepy to cough him down, they'll soon snore him down.

5. To utter with a snore or with a sound resembling this. Also with cognate object.

1790 COLERIDGE *Inside the Coach* 22 Till ere the splendid visions close We snore quartettes in ecstasy of nose. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* ii, Maurice..is already asleep and snoring the snores of an exhausted manhood. 1891 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/2 Some good people seemed to snore prayer; they were so sleepy.

Snore-, the stem of the vb. in comb., as *snore-hole, -piece* (see quots.).

1860 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 63 **Snore-holes*, the holes in the windbore to admit the water. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 45 The pumps frequently got choked by the sand drawn in at the bottom of the well through the snore-holes, or apertures through which the water to be raised is admitted. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 180 The lowermost portion [of the pump] is the so-called wind-bore, or *snore-piece, where the holes in the bottom..are of such size as to prevent the entry of chips or stones. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Snore-piece*, the lowest end of a pump sett through which the water passes.

Snoreless, *a.* [f. SNORE *sb.*] Of sleep: Unaccompanied by, free from, snoring.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVII. 423 The snoreless sleep of the last upper-earth journey. 1845 *Ibid.* LVII. 391 The printer's devil..indulged in snoreless sleep.

Snorer (snōˑrəɹ). [f. SNORE *v.*]

1. One who snores.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snorare, *sterlor.* 1611 COTGR., *Ronfleur*, a snorer, a snorter. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* xliii. (1737) 174 Old Goodman Æolus, the Snorer. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* (1779) II. lvii. 155 The face of the gaping snorer. 1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) I. 49 Our friend..is not the Club snorer whose feats he recalls so painfully. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Social Aims* I. 40 This unwritten play.., composed by the dullest snorer on the floor of the watch-house.

2. A stiff breeze or wind.

1871 *Daily News* 6 Nov., We lay our course famously, running..before a regular snorer—a strong sea on [etc.].

Snoring (snōˑrin), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNORE *v.*] The action of the vb.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snorynge, *stertura.* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 906 The snowring, *le ronfler.* *a* 1616 BEAUMONT *Charme* v. Poems (1640) H iv b, Sable Midnight makes all dumbe, But thy jealous husbands snoring. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 208 ¶ 6 We have a Member of our Club, that when Sir Jeffery falls asleep, wakens him with Snoring. 1781 R. BURKE in *Burke's Corr.* (1844) II. 404 The meditations of the judge, the snoring of jurors. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxiv, The dormitory, where.. a concert of snoring began to be executed. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. v, It was the snoring of Wynne in a drunken sleep: it filled the entire cottage.

b. *spec.* in *Path.* (see quots.).

1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 537 *Rhonchus Stertor.* Snoring. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 49 We can distinguish five principal kinds of rhonchi:..3. the dry sonorous rhonchus, or snoring.

Sno·ring, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That snores. Also *fig.*

1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Ronfleur*,..a snoring Man. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* vi. 36 Cic'ly, brisk maid, steps forth.., And kiss'd with smacking lip the snoring lout. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 131, I was lying at one end of a dirty room, the other being occupied by the snoring landlord. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* I. 118 He is of those Who steal the keys from snoring Destiny. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 119/2 Great rocks which resemble the snouts of snoring humans.

2. Of a breeze: Strong, stiff.

1822 A. CUNNINGHAM *Mariner's Song* ii, But give to me the snoring breeze, And white waves heaving high. 1885 J. RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 78 A snoring breeze came away from the southward.

3. Having the characteristic sound of a snore; loud and harsh.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. IV. iii, Sleeping Paris is now.. silent except for some snoring hum. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 610 On the left side the respiration was loud and 'snoring'...Posteriorly the 'snoring' breathing was audible everywhere. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1018 Most frequently it [a presystolic murmur] is snoring or rolling.

Hence **Sno·ringly** *adv.*

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 593 A set of prosy lines slumber along snoringly.

Snork (snȭk), *sb. dial.* [f. the vb.]

1. A snort or grunt; a noisy sniff or inhalation.

1814 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1115 The pig..gave a snork. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 430 *Snork*, the snort of an affrighted horse. 1876–99 in Mid-Yks. and Cumbld. glossaries.

2. A young pig; a pigling.

1891 'SON OF MARSHES' in *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 651 The farm lad who leads a family of snorks from one part of a wood..to another. 1895 — in *Month* Oct. 248 The little nose-twisting,..curly-tailed, winking, and blinking snorks.

Snork (snȭk), *v.* Now *dial.* [prob. ad. MDu. or MLG. *snorken* (still Du. and LG.; hence Da. *snorke*), variant of *snarken* SNARK *v.*]

1. *intr.* To snore.

1531 TINDALE *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 98 We..lye snorkyng lyke sloggardes. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 121 b, Thou shalt not heare there the seruauntes snorke.

2. To snort or grunt; to breathe noisily. Said esp. of horses and pigs. Hence **Sno·rking** *vbl. sb.* Other dial. senses are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1807 HOGG *Pedlar* xxiv. Poems (1865) 66 The horses they snorkit for miles around. 1814 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1113 The pig ran snorking and grunting after her. 1868– in Sc. and north. glossaries and texts (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* xii, The old grouting wretch kept up such a snorking.

Hence **Sno·rker**, = SNORK *sb.* 2.

1891 'SON OF MARSHES' *On Surrey Hills* iii. 96 He reckoned it was one o' his young snorkers hed got out.

† **Sno·rkle.** *Obs.*—[1] [Cf. G. *schnörkel* curve, flourish.] ? A wrinkle, crease.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlvii. 5 Of þaim..cristis kirtil sall be made, wipouten spot and snorkil.

† **Snorl**, *v. Obs.*—[1] (Meaning uncertain: perh. a misprint for *snarl.*)

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* II. ii, Doe you mutter: Sir, snorle this way; That I may heare.

Snort (snōɹt), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

† 1. A snore. *Obs. rare.*

1619 H. HUTTON *Follies Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 22 At noontide to concoct he takes a snort, His drowsie sences hudwinkt in a cap, Leaning upon his chaire do take a nap. 1622 [see SNORE *sb.* 3].

2. An act of snorting; a loud sound made by a horse or other animal in driving breath through the nostrils with some force. Also *transf.*

1808 JAMIESON, *Snocker*, a snort. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXXVI, Wishing..good-night in a tone resembling the snort of a shy horse. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* xvii, Inarticulate groans and snorts, like those of a dying boar. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vi, He overturned Sam, and, giving two or three contemptuous snorts,.. was soon prancing away. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* I. i. 77 Now and then the snort of steam Sounds from the headland far away.

b. A similar sound made by persons in order to express contempt, disdain, or other feeling.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. x, Medusa..follows every lively remark made by that dear creature, with an audible snort. 1885 R. BUCHANAN *Annan Water* vii, The old man uttered a low snort of defiance. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xvi, The lawyer gave a contemptuous snort and turned on his heel.

Snort (snōɹt), *v.* Also 6–7 snorte. [prob. imitative: cf. SNORE *v.* and SNORK *v.*]

† 1. *intr.* Of the nose: To turn *up*, as in sniffing.

a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 257 Hir nose snorted vp for tene, Ful hidous was she forto sene.

† 2. To snore; to sleep heavily or sluggishly. *Obs.* Common from *c* 1590–1650 in this and the next group.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 243 This Millere hath so wisely bibbed Ale That as an hors he snorteth in his sleepe. — *Man of Law's T.* 692 He slepeth and he snorteth in his gyse. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* lvi. 10 They are slepery: slogish are they, & lie snortinge. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 96 All winter long he snorteth, and is as he were deade. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 809 Their Watch within their Corps de Garde About the fire securely snorted hard. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. i, Strotzo, to bed: snort in securest sleepe. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 141 Thus do they soundly sleep, and loudly snort after a dayes work. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 534 Some rise out of their ..beds..at the first,..others lie snorting longer.

fig. 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* 208 The spark of Divinity that dwels within is quenched, and the mind snorts, dead with sleep.

† b. In various fig. contexts. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osorius* 25 Truly you sleape so soundly, that you snorte agayne. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 20 Many a one snorteth in palpable ignorance all daies of their life. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 14 Haue we not read..that although themselues slept and snorted in pleasure, yet their damnation slept not? 1630 DYKE *Myst. Self Deceiving* 353 Dauid lay snorting in his owne sin. 1642 *Vind. of the King* 2 The same malignant party..hath been supinely snorting.

† c. *refl.* To convert (oneself) *into* something by idleness. *Obs.*

1650 J. HALL *Parad.* 15 The King employed the people that way, who else might have sunke into Luxury, or snorted themselves into implacable enemies.

3. Of a horse: To make a characteristic loud or harsh sound by violently driving the breath through the nostrils, esp. when excited or frightened. Also said of other animals.

c 1386 [see 2 above]. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 This jade snorteth as were a courser of ten pounde. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 116 If farr away There happen a noise,..he snuffes, and snortes at the same. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XX. XXIX, He fomes, snorts, neies, and fire and smoake breaths out. 1601 HAKLUYT *Galvano's Disc. World* 85 Certaine fishes which make a noyse like vnto hogs, and will snort. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 392 The Stallion ..snorts and trembles for the distant Mare. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 162 Snorting they breathe, their shining Hoofs scarce print The grass unbruis'd. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 70 The horses snorted, stamped the ground, ..and plunged about without mercy. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXIII, His horse..suddenly interrupted its steady and composed pace, snorted, reared, and..refused to proceed. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* II. 41 The fat poodle snorting and wagging his little lionized tail. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* XXI, The horses were steaming and snorting with exertion.

fig. 1891 BARING-GOULD *In Troubadour Land* xviii. 252 The Crusaders were snorting for plunder and murder.

b. To rush *past* with snorts.

1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E.C. Africa* xi. 122, I obtained a glimpse of his dark grey hide as he[a rhinoceros] snorted past.

4. *transf.* Of things, esp. in later use of a railway engine: To make or emit a sound resembling or suggestive of a snort.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 The riuer..Through the breach owt spurging...It brayeth in snorting. 1822 SHELLEY *Faust* II. 50 The giant-snouted crags,..How they snort, and how they blow! 1879 SALA *Paris herself Again* (1880) II. XXI. 320 The little circular railway puffed and screamed and snorted. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eyewitness* 196 The lyddite shells, snorting slowly through the air like a goods train up a gradient.

5. Of persons: a. To express contempt or indignation by a snorting sound.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvi, Duncan..snorted thrice, and prepared himself to be in a passion. 1827 — *Two Drovers* i, Ye needna snort, none of you Highlanders. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 300 Upon this conclusion, his reverence snorted, and turned upon his heel in dudgeon.

b. *dial.* and *U.S.* To laugh loudly or roughly.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Snort*, to laugh outright. 1834 [SEBA SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* (1835) 27 We all snorted and snicker'd. 1835 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xix, I thought I should have snorted right out two or three times.

6. *trans.* a. To utter with a snort; to give *out*, drive *away*, etc., by snorting († or snoring).

a 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses Looking-gl.* IV. iii, Your pittifull Worship snorting out pardons To the despairing sinner. 1796 BURKE *Reg. Peace* I. (1892) 27 The..tyrant Carnot shall have snorted away the fumes of the indigested blood of his Sovereign. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Apr., 'Dat is gut! haw! haw!' snorted the Baron. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* 376 He snorted defiance, challenging us, as it were, to approach nearer.

b. To eject or discharge through the nostrils with a snort; to spout *out* in this way.

1818 KEATS *Endymion* II. 885 Fish-semblances, of green and azure hue, Ready to snort their streams. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* iii. (1856) 28 Great..wallowing sea-hogs, snorting out fountains of white spray. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* I. 901 The old Triton..A spray of sparkles snorted from his conch High over the caritellas.

c. To clear (the nose) with a snort.

1835 *Politeness & Gd.-breeding* 104 Never..snivel and snort a wet nose.

Snorter[1] (snōɹtəɹ). [f. SNORT *v.*]

1. One who or that which snorts († or snores); a person who utters a snort in scorn, indignation, etc.; also, a pig.

1691 HAKLUYT *Galvano's Disc. World* 85 Besides these there be certaine fishes which make a noyse like vnto hogs, and will snort, for which cause they be named snorters. 1611 COTGR., *Ronfleur*, a snorer, a snorter. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 213 Surely that thing..renders the Snorters of the Schooles unexcusable. 1827 in Evans *Letc. Gloss.* s.v., To labourer Tom I give the swine: Snorters collected with great pains. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Aug. 1/3

Suppose, then,..that the Welsh 'snorters' had carried their point.

b. *dial.* The wheatear.

1802 MONTAGU *Ornith.* s.v. *Wheatear.* 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 87.

2. In various slang or colloq. senses: **a.** *U.S.* 'A dashing, riotous fellow' (Bartlett). **b.** A stiff or strong wind; a gale. **c.** Anything exceptionally remarkable for size, strength, severity, etc. **d.** A blow on the nose (*Slang Dict.* 1874).

a. 1846 T. B. THORPE *Myst. Backwoods* 182, I am a roaring earthquake in a fight,..a real snorter of the universe. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 224 If animal spirits are a little too prominent, and assert themselves with vehemence, they procure for the owner the name of snorter. **b.** 1855 H. A. MURRAY *Lands Slave & Free* I. vii. 110 My..regret..that I could not see her under the high pressure of a good snorter. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 424 The skipper said ..we must make all snug, for we're going to have a snorter. 1900 MRS. STEEL *Hosts of the Lord* xix, We had a regular black snorter. **c.** 1859 J. LANG *Wand. India* 399 The Commander-in-Chief..certainly did put forth 'a snorter of a General Order'. 1886 MRS. E. KENNARD *Girl in the Brown Habit* i, Some of these fences are regular downright snorters. 1899 *Daily News* 19 July 5/5 It is a leader of the kind which we used to describe as 'a regular snorter'.

Sno·rter 2. *Naut.* [Variant or earlier form of SNOTTER *sb.*2] A snotter.

1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 154 *Snorters*, the Smiths put them on one End of the Beak Iron, to turn any of their Work with. 1886 *Field* 27 Feb. 251/2 The lower end or heel has been known often to part or jump out of the becket or snorter, which supports it and confines it to the mast.

Sno·rter 3. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 424 *Snorter*, the edge pieces of tortoise-shell, called also toe-nails or nails.

Snorting (snɔ̄·rtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNORT *v.*] The action of the vb.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 61 Assone as ever shee is laid she falleth on snorting. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXX. 51 Her Lubber now was snorting ripe. 1601 DENT *Pl. Man's Pathw.* 164 The properties of drunkards:..their staggering, their reeling, their snorting. 1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* VII. i. 147 Asthma is a great and often breathing..joyned with snorting and wheesing. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. xiii. (1734) 246 A constant Snorting or Snoring in the Throat and Nostrils. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 15 At each snorting the animal spouted out large streams of blood. 1864 *Reader* 16 Jan. 68 The snorting of a tiger (for the sound this animal makes singularly resembles that of an enormous..pig). 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Oct. 5/7 The snorting of the postal steamer.

b. *spec.* in *Path.*

1887 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 2 Apr. 730/1 Rhinitis with Spasmodic 'Snorting'.

Snorting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.]

1. That snorts; † snoring.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 17 To raise betimes the lubberlie, both snorting Hob and Margerie. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Arke* 553 He wallowes on the ground His shame-lesse snorting trunk, so deeply drown'd In self-oblivion. 1601 HAKLUYT *Galvano's Disc. World* 85 *marg.*, Snorting fishes. 1602 HERING *Anat.* 2 A laizie, drowzie, and slothfull-snorting Thersites. 1767 JAGO *Edge-Hill* III. 110 Oft will his snorting Steed, with Terror struck, His wonted Speed refuse. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 83 The snorting beast began to trot. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 233 Encountering a shoal of snorting porpoises. 1875 in F. T. Buckland *Log-Book* 84 *note*, A steam-ship is not a huge snorting monster trying to run over sailing ships.

2. Of the nature of, or resembling, a snort; characterized by snorts.

1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.* s.v. *Snirt*, A snorting noise from the nostrils. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvii, One of the three men .. sounded a short snorting note on a..horn. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxiv, Mrs. Kelly..uttering indignant ejaculations in a sort of snorting manner.

3. Of weather or wind: Severe, rough, violent.

1824 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 450 When I have told you that it is snorting weather. 1888–9 OSBOURNE in G. Balfour *Life Stevenson* (1911) xiii. 196 When..we got our wind, it was a snorting Trade, and we ran into the harbour like a steamboat.

Hence **Sno·rtingly** *adv.*, in a snorting manner; with a snort.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xx. (1856) 160 They invariably rose after plunging, and looked snortingly around.

Snortle (snɔ̄·rt'l), *v.* [f. SNORT *v.* + -LE.]

1. *intr.* To snort. Now *dial.*

1577–82 BRETON *Flourish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 6/2 To wallow almost like a Beare, and snortle like a Hog. 1635 SWAN *Spec. Mundi* viii. § 1 (1643) 370 It is supposed that these monsters [i. e. mermen] are very devils..by their howling and snortling under the waters. 1807 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* XX. II. 244 Where long she lies tumbling,..And snortling, and grumbling. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Snortle*, to puff through the nostrils as a person with a cold.

2. *refl.* To bring (oneself) into a certain condition by snorting.

1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VI. (ed. 3) I. 120 The Monster—when..he has finally pumped, and panted, and snortled himself into tranquillity.

Snorty (snɔ̄·rti), *a.* and *adv.* [f. SNORT *v.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Accompanied or characterized by snorting or snoring; given to snorting.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 His nodil..droups to the grownd ward..vometing with dead sleape snortye the collops. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 494 What a snout he [the drunkard] turns up to the morning air, inflamed, pimpled, snubby, and snorty.

2. *colloq.* or *slang.* Ill-tempered, captious, disagreeable.

1893 'KATE WIGGIN' *Cathedral Courtship* 122 She found Mrs. Gooch very snorty, very snorty indeed.

B. *adv.* In a snorting manner.

1892 'Q.' (QUILLER COUCH) *I saw Three Ships* i, At the word 'whales', let the music go snorty.

Snory (snō·ri), *a.* [f. SNORE *v.*] Inclined to snore; sleepy, drowsy.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 266 Sleepy and snory, full of godless slang.

Snot (snɒt), *sb.* Also 5–6 snotte, 6 snott. [ME. *snotte* or *snot* (cf. OE. *gesnot*), = Fris. *snotte*, *snot*, MDu. *snotte* (Du. *snot*), MLG. (and LG.) *snotte*, *snot* (hence Da. *snot*, † *snaat*, *snet*), in sense 2; cf. also LG. *snut*, MHG. *snuz* (G. dial. *schnutz*). The stem is related by ablaut to that of SNITE *v.*]

1. The snuff of a candle; the burnt part of a candle-wick. Now *north. dial.*

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 38 Also tongis to do out the snottis. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1281 þe snotte fast brende, þe clothys caust hete & by-gonne to brenne ful fast. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Snot*, used by the common people to designate the burnt wick of a candle. 1836 *Wilson's Tales Borders* II. 163 That lang black snot that's hangin' at the candle. 1888– in dial. glossaries (Northbld., Cumbld., Durh., etc.).

2. The mucus of the nose. Now *dial.* or *vulgar.* Common in the 17th cent.

c 1425 *Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 636 *Hic polipus*, snotte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snothe, fylthe of the nose (*S.* snotte). 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Snotte of the nose, *rovpye*. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 81 That no man should draw snott oute at hys nosethrilles. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 154 His snot and spittle a hundred tymes he hath put ouer to hys Apothecarie for snowe water. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. iii. (1651) 562 Snot and snivell in her nostrils, spittle in her mouth. 1662 H. STUBBE *Indian Nectar* vii. 126 The Blood is more naturally purg'd.. by spittle, and snot, then by any Purges. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. 421 A great deal of Snot from his Nose. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. i. (1862) I. 500 From the nose there is always seen issuing a snot. 1808 in JAMIESON s.v. *Snotter*. 1824– in dial. glossaries (Sc., Cumbld., Yks., Lanc., Linc., Somerset, etc.).

3. *dial.* and *slang.* Applied to persons as a term of contempt or opprobrium.

[1607 DEKKER & MARSTON *Northw. Hoe* I. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 19 Farewell father Snot.] 1809 DONALDSON *Poems* 171 Ye're a dozen'd, stupid snot. 1825– in dial. glossaries (Cumbld., Yks., Somerset, etc.). 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Ain Folk* 207 There's Briggies, the aul' snot, at the ga'le [gable] o' the hoose.

4. (See quot. and cf. next.)

1860 *Slang Dict.* 222 *Snots*, small bream, a slimy kind of flat fish. Norwich.

5. Attrib., as **snot-fish,** (*a*) the lump-fish, *Cyclopterus lumpus*; (*b*) a species of dace, *Cyprinus* (*Leuciscus*) *dobula* [so G. *schnottfisch*]; **snot-gall,** † (*a*) the nose; (*b*) a Tasmanian fish, *Seriolella brama* (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909); † **snot-hole,** a nostril.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Het Snot-gat*, the Snot-hole, or Nostrill. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 156 Lumps are of two sorts,..either of them is deformed, shapeless and ugly, so that my Maides once at Ipswich were afraid to touch it; being flayed they resemble a soft and gellied substance, whereupon the Hollanders call them Snot-fishes. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 154 Hisce annumeravit Gesnerus *Orbem Britannicum*, sive *Muconem*,..the Snot-fish. 1685 *Poor Robin's Almanack* C vij b, Three Kisses, four Busses, and five licks under the Snot gall.

Snot (snɒt), *v.* Now *north. dial.* and *Sc.* [f. prec. Cf. older Flem. *snotten*, *snutten* (Kilian), G. dial. *schnutzen.*]

1. *trans.* To snuff (a candle).

1388 WYCLIF *Exod.* XXV. 38 Also..where tho thingis, that ben snottid out, ben quenchid, be maad of clenneste gold. 1877 EGGLESTONE *Betty Podkins' Lett.* 7 Noo snot t' candle, Peter. 1888– in dial. glossaries (Northbld., Durh.).

2. To blow or clear (the nose). Also *refl.*

1576 R. PETERSON *Galateo* (1892) 13 They spare not to snot their sniueld noses vppon them. 1611 FLORIO, *Smoxicare*,..to snot ones nose. 1632 SHERWOOD, To snot (or blow) his nose, *se moucher le nez*. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxi, Then he..sneezed and snotted himself.

3. *intr.* To sniff or snivel; to snort.

1662 *Rump Songs* (1874) II. 199 They cheat us all with their looks, And snivell and snot by roate! 1899 LUMSDEN *Edinb. Poems & Songs* 73 Your father's gane three hour an' mair, An' still ye snot, an' snotter there.

† **Snoter,** *a. Obs.* [OE. *snot(t)or*, *-er*, = OHG. *snottar*, ON. *snotr*, Goth. *snutrs*, in the same sense.] Wise, learned, skilful. Also *absol.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 34 Witzo & snotre menn & uŏ-unto. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 107 Þe zeonge ze ealde, ze snottre ze unwise. *c* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 995, Þes Ælfric was swyðe zewis mann, þet nas nan snotere man on Engla lande. *c* 1200 ORMIN 7087 [The Magi that] unnderrstodenn manizwhatt þurrh snoterr gyn bi sterrness.

Snotter (snɒ·tər), *sb.*1 *Sc.* and *north.* [A derivative from SNOT *sb.*, corresponding to MDu. *snoter*, MLG. *snotter*, G. dial. *schnotter*, *schnodder*: cf. Du. and LG. *snotterig* snotty. Sense 3 is prob. f. SNOT *v.*]

1. Snot or nasal mucus. Also used *fig.* to denote something of little or no value, significance, or importance.

Various other dial. senses and attrib. uses are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

a 1689 CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 109 (Jam.), Hence I infer.. No help nor gloss can weigh a snotter. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 110 Coachmen, grooms, or pasment trotter, Glitter'd a while, then turn'd to snoter. *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 154 A weel blooded hissie..that carefully combs the young things' heads,..snites the snotter frae their nose [etc.]. 1808– in Sc. and north. dial. glossaries. 1836 J. STRUTHERS *Dychmont* II. Wks. 1850 II. 70 Brats in rags, inch thick with snotter.

attrib. a 1779 ?D. GRAHAM *Yng. Coal-man's Courtship* (1787) 4 His mither..blew her snotter box, primed her nose, kindled her tobacco pipe [etc.].

2. *altrib.* and *pl.* (See quots.)

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snotter-gob*, the red part of a turkey's head. 1832 GOODRIDGE *Voy. S. Seas* 30 The parts [of the sea-elephant] we made use of for food, were the heart,..the snotters, (a sort of fleshy skin which hangs over the nose,) and the flippers.

3. *slang.* (See quots.)

1823 BEE *Dict. Turf, Snotter*, a ragged, dirty kerchief. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 239 *Snotter*, or *wipe-hauler*, a pick-pocket who commits great depredations upon gentlemen's pocket-handkerchiefs.

Sno·tter, *sb.*2 *Naut.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SNORTER 2.] (See quots.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Sprit*, The lower end of the sprit rests in a sort of wreath or collar called the snotter, which encircles the mast in that place. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine* 487/2 *Snotter*,..a short rope spliced together at the ends, and served with spun-yarn, or covered with hide. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Snotter*, a rope going over a yard-arm with an eye forming a becket to bend a tripping-line to, in sending down topgallant and royal yards. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 149/2 The upper end fits into a cringle or eye in the peak of the sail and the lower end into a snotter on the mast.

Sno·tter, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Cf. SNOTTER *sb.*1]

The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* contains other dial. uses.

1. *intr.* To breathe heavily; to snuffle, snore, or snort.

1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Virgil* s.v. *Snokis*, Perhaps it may signifie smels or snuffs by sucking in the breath at the nose; which..also we call Snottering, or Snokering, or Sniftering. 1724 RAMSAY *Health* 288 All day he snotters, nods, and yawns. 1776 HERD *Collect. Songs* II. 98 Thou turns sleepy and blind, And snoters and snores far frae me. 1849– in dial. glossaries and texts.

2. To snivel or snuffle in weeping.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snotter*, to sob or cry. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiii, What signified his bringing a woman here to snotter and snivel, and bather their Lordships? 1825– in northern dial. glossaries, etc.

† **Sno·ttery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. SNOT *sb.*] Snot; hence, filth, filthiness.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. ii, O what dry braine melts not sharp mustard rime, To purge the snottery of our slimie time? 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, Teach thy incubus to poetize; And throw abroad thy spurious snotteries.

Sno·ttily, *adv.* [f. as next.] In a snotty manner. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Sno·ttiness. *rare.* [f. SNOTTY *a.*] The state or condition of being snotty.

1530 PALSGR. 272 Snottynesse, *moruevseté*. 1728 BAILEY, *Muculency*, snottiness. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Sno·ttinger. *slang.* [f. SNOT *sb.*] (See quot.)

1864 *Slang Dict.* 239 *Snotlinger*, a coarse word for a pocket handkerchief.

† **Sno·ttish,** *a. Obs.*–° [f. SNOT *sb.*] Somewhat snotty.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Snotachtigh*, snottish.

Sno·tty, *sb. slang.* A midshipman.

1903 in FARMER & HENLEY. 1904 KIPLING *Traffics & Disc.* 109 He was the second cutter's snotty—*my* snotty—on the Archimandrite.

Snotty (snɒ·ti), *a.* [f. SNOT *sb.* Cf. MDu. *snottich*, NFris. *snottig*, older Da. *snottig*, obs. G. *schnutzig.* The variant SNATTY appears earlier.]

The word occurs also as a sb. in dial. use; see the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*

1. Foul with snot or nasal mucus.

Freq. in the 17th cent. of the nose.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 112/9 Snotty, *purulentus*. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 797 [They] vsed them..as the Papists did with y^e^ snottie napkins of Thomas Becket. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iii, *Amoretto.* Her nose is like a beautious maribone. *Page.* Marry a sweete snotty mistres. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 77 A defluxion from his nittie Hed, into his snottie Nose. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 12 Your snotty Fingers..Shall well supply the polish'd Mirror's Place. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. cclxxxii. 296 One day his nose was very snotty, upon which I..wiped it for him. 1867 A. DAWSON *Rambling Recoll.* (1868) II There was a knot of bare-legged snotty striplings. *prov.* 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Morveux*, Better a snottie nose then none. 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prud.* Wks. (1862) 328 Better a snotty child than his nose wiped off.

b. Dirty, mean, paltry, contemptible, etc. Now *dial.* or *slang.*

1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 199 Let the confident Sophister know that he is but a snotty Charlatan. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 193 He babbles out his snotty slanders. 1712 *Odes of Horace* II. 27/1 Horace is no such snotty author as to have this putid Stuff put upon him. 1828 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* (1843) 26 Ye snotty dog, Put in yor tram. 1828– in dial. glossaries (Northbld., Cumbld., Yks., Wilts., Som., etc.).

c. *dial.* or *slang.* Angry, curt, short-tempered; pert, saucy, impudent; proud, conceited.

1870– in various dial. glossaries and texts.

2. Consisting of snot; mucous; of the nature of, or resembling, snot; viscous, slimy. ? *Obs.*

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 88 That snotty white matter is not the fat. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. xxii. 137 Cooling Ointments..of Oyls and other snotty and greasie things. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 111 The snotty Excrements of the Brain. *c* 1720 GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. xxviii. (1738) 100 All that snotty matter comes from thence.

Snotty-nose. ? *Obs.* [See prec.] One whose nose is dirty with snot; hence, a paltry, mean, or contemptible fellow.

1602 DEKKER *Honest Whore* I. II. i, Hang him, Mole catcher, it's the dreamingest snotty nose. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. v, Dos't so, snotty nose? good Lord! are you sniueling? 1712 *Odes of Horace* V. 12/2, I own he is no Snotty-Nose.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Snotty-nosed.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* II. i, Our puling, snotty-nose lady sent me out likewise. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* ii, A snotty-nose boy, whom I myself have ordered to the gun, for stealing eggs.

Sno·tty-nosed, *a.* Now *dial.* [Cf. prec.] Having the nose running or dirty with snot; also, mean, paltry, contemptible.

1610 SELDEN *English Janus* Pref. 25 Let snotty nosed Fellows..approve what I write, or let them flout and fleer. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xv, My Husband took him in, a dirty, snotty-nosed Boy. 1721 BAILEY, *Snivelling*, peaking, snotty-nosed, childish. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 690 A snotty-nosed boy. 1894 J. HARTLEY *Clock Alm.* 2 (E.D.D.), Snotty-noased lads 'at aw remember.

Snouch, *sb.* [f. next.] A jibe, jeer, or scoff.

c 1780 in *Gentl. Mag.* (1848) June 616/1 The taunts and snouches which the two English regiments had thrown upon the Virgin Mary's Guards.

Snouch (snauʧ), *v.* ? *Obs.* Also **snoutch.** [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To snub; to treat scornfully. Also *absol.*

1761 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *S. Biddulph* (1796) III. 156, I am glad of it, said he (very quick); I'll be here to snoutch them. Dear Sir, said I,..you cannot conceive how humbled they are. 1809 *Ann. Reg.* 40 They may pun and epigrammatise, they may sneer, or they may snoutch. 1819 *New Whig Guide* 131 Then at last they might discover 'Tis not well to *snouch* me so.

Snouk, variant of SNOKE *v.*

Snout (snaut), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–4 **snute,** 4–6 **snoute,** 4–7 **snowte,** 7 **snoote;** 4– **snout** (6 **snought**), 6–7, *Sc.* 8–9 **snowt,** 9 *Sc., north.* (and *U.S.*) **snoot.** [ME. *snūt(e,* = WFris. *snút, snute* (NFris. *sniit, snit*), MDu. *snūte, snuut* (Kilian *snuyte,* Du. *snuit*), MLG. *snūt(e,* G. *schnauze* († *schnausze, schnaus*), MSw. and Sw. dial. *snuta,* Da. *snude,* Norw. and Sw. *snut.*

The early history of these forms is somewhat obscure. There is no example of an OE. or ON. *snút* or *snút-*, although the existence of the stem is proved by the verbal derivatives, OE. *snýtan,* ON. *snýta* (see SNITE *v.*), and it is possible that both in English and the Scand. languages the sb. has been adopted from LG. A variation of the stem appears in the synonymous older G. *schnotz(e.*]

1. a. The trunk of an elephant. Also *transf.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 669 in *O. E. Misc.*, Rennande cumeð a gungling,..his snute him under puteð, and..ðis elp he reisen on stalle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 159 Þe snowtes of olyfauntes and his hors eren were..ful of gnattes. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3633 Þire Olifantis of ynde..was snaypid on þe snowte with þe snart hetis. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 196 b, [The elephant] with his snoute tendrely plucked out of his maister's body all the said dartes. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 72 Also y^e^ long snout of an Elephant is called an hand or an arme, for that by that instrument he worketh manie things. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 337 If the Elephant intendeth to hurt any man, he casteth him on the ground with his long snout or trunk. 1676 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 349 Crest unicorne head..between elephants' snowtes. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Elephant,* The Elephant this author [Linnæus] distinguishes by his snout. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Trunk,*..the snout or proboscis of an elephant.

b. The projecting part of the head of an animal, which includes the nose and mouth (= MUZZLE *sb.*[1] 1); the proboscis or rostrum of an insect; † the beak or bill of a bird, etc.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6534 (Laud MS.), On his snoute an horne he [the rhinoceros] beres. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 200 Whanne þei bigynen to ioule, þei turnen her snowte to hevene ward. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 326 This Leoun..A beste..Hath slain, and with his blodi snoute [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snowte, or bylle, *rostrum.* *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S.T.S.) III. 151 With þe snowt of ane selch, ane swelling to swage. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xi. 22 Like a ryngе of golde in a swynes snoute. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 228 Y^e^ Snoute of a dog, *rostrum.* *Ibid.,* Y^e^ Snout of a fish, *rostrum.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 390 Only the little pretty snouts end of a mouse. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 245 They have a long sharp Snout, full of long and sharp Teeth, but no Tongue. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Boar,* In the Choice of this Animal, you must pitch upon one..having..a thick Head, long Snout. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Rostrum,* The *rostrum* or snout in fishes varies very much in figure. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 50 His dog..snatches up the drifted snow,..or ploughs it with his snout. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 587 Greenish-black Slow-Worm..with elongated snout. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* ix. 380 An extra median ossicle may be developed in the snout, as e. g. in the mole. 1901 FOUNTAIN *Deserts N. Amer.* ix. 283 The large fleshy snout of the moose.

2. Contemptuously: The nose in man, esp. when large or badly shaped; † the face or countenance.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1082 He lokede him abute, Wiþ his colmie snute. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1760 A boȝ adoun on þat tyde and cauȝte hym [the Saracen] by þe snoute. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7942 Some lefft his hed, and som his snout. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/1 A Snowte, *vbi* A nese. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 550 Out! out! I schout, apon that snowt that snevillis. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 26 The sturdie holders up of their snoute he hath cast downe. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks.(Grosart) XI. 242 Betweene the filthy reumicast of his bloudshotten snowt, there appeared smale holes. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 368 But what should a man say more to a snout in this pickle? 1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* x. (1697) 250 What Ethiop Lips he has, How foul a Snout, and what a hanging Face! 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 38. 2/1 Her Chin and Snout are so firmly united. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 72 A young fellow,..when he first thrusts his snout into the world, is apt to be surprised at many things. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxvi, Sae I said it wad prove since I first saw the false Southron snout of thee. 1905 G. H. LORIMER *Old Gorgon Graham* 220 Just as he got good and ready to strike, I pasted him one in the snoot.

† **b.** In asseverations or imprecations. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11935 We schal..reue hym his regne, maugre his snoute. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 1595 What? evel thedom on his monkes snowte! 14.. *Sir Beues* (MS. C) 1622+65 Then seyde the portar, 'Be my snowte, Thys was Befyse, that y lete owte'.

3. The end of a ship's prow; the beak or rostrum of a vessel.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 237 Schippes of werre wiþ yren snowtes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. xii. 2 The weyrly schippis wyth thair snowtis of steyll. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 120 Upon Sounday..ordered thei thare schippis so that a galay or two lade thare snowttis to the craiggis. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 61 Metaneone..hastened to grapple with the Galley; and..tearing off her snout,..bruised her all-over. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) II. 84 The Rostra or brazen snouts of the ships won from the Antiates. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxiii. (1856) 182 Five black masses [*sc.* ships]..are seen with their snouts shoved into the shore of ice. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 12 Scarcely the forward snout tore up that wintery water.

4. A structure, formation, projecting part, etc., resembling or suggestive of a snout; a nozzle or the like. Also with *of.*

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. 9 A snowted nedle..ow to be no gretter ne lenger in þe snowte þan as it is paynted. *Ibid.* 24 Putte..þe poynt of þe rasour in þe holwnes of þe snowte. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 27 My penne also gynnyth make obstacle,..For I so ofte have maad to penne Hys snowte up on my thombys ende. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 12 Your glister pot should be made with a snout or lip. 1623 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict., Limon del cárro,* the long snout that goeth between the oxen in a waine. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Tuiau de Soufflet,* a Bellows-Snout. 1755 JOHNSON, *Snout,*..the nosel or end of any hollow pipe. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1535/1 The snout of a pair of bellows or a tuyere. 1902 'LINESMAN' *Words Eyewitness* 198 The heavy naval ordnance begin to cock their long snouts higher..into the air.

b. A projecting point of land, rock, etc.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxviii, Galloway rinnis, with ane gret snout of craggis..in the Irland seis. This snout is callit be the peple, the Mulis Nuk. 1773 FERGUSSON *Poems* II. (1789) 35 The bonny wa'-flowers sprout On yonder Ruin's lofty snout. 1867 N. MACLEOD *Highland Parish, Spirit of Eld* 362 The black raven..sat on a snout of rock above him. 1873 BRUCE in Morley *Gladstone* VI. xi. (1905) II. 47, I see no other rock ahead; but sometimes they project their snouts unexpectedly.

c. The front portion or termination of a glacier.

1841 B. HALL *Patchwork* I. vii. 107 The glacier;..its enormous snout ploughs up the ground before it. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvii. 322 The snout of the glacier abuts against the ground. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 161 At the end, or snout, of the glacier, the water issues forth.

† **5.** *slang.* A hogshead. *Obs.*—[o]

1725 in *New Cant. Dict.* (Hence in Grose.)

6. One or other of various species of moths characterized by having abnormally long palpi projecting in front of the head; esp. the snout-moth, *Hypena proboscidalis.*

1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Comp.* 424 *Herminia albistrigalis.* The white-line Snout. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 145 The Snout. *Ibid.* 146 The Small Snout. *Ibid.* 147 White-line Snout...Rib-striped Snout. 1888 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 66 The 'Snout' (*Hypena proboscidalis*), a brown Moth, with rather slender body, and very long palpi, resembling a beak.

7. *attrib.,* as *snout-bone, -end, -nose, -piece;* **snout-beetle,** one or other of several species of beetles characterized by having the head prolonged into a rostrum or proboscis; † **snout-flower** (see quot.); **snout-horn,** a rhinoceros (*poet.*); the horn of a rhinoceros or beetle; **snout-moth** (see sense 6); **snout-ring** (see quot.).

1868 *Rep. U.S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 308 The *Curculionidæ,* "snout beetles, or weevils, infest grain, seeds, or fruits. 1889 *Cent. Dict., Otiorhynchidæ,* an important family of rhynchophorous *Coleoptera,* or snout-beetles. 1846 YOUATT *Pig* (1847) 118 Between the supplemental, or "snout-bone, and the proper nasal. 1682 GREW *Museum* I. II. i. 18 From his "Snout-end to his Tail. 1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 269 *Plantæ Nasifloræ.* "Snout-flowers. 1625 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* 28 The "Snout-horne large, The rinde-hide Elephant, the Camel. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VII. § 70 Sawing thro' the Bark by the Help of their Snout-horn. 1819 SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Comp.* 253 "Snout moth. 1887 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., Snout-moth, *Hypena proboscidalis.* Body slender, wings broad and triangular, colour mainly brown. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* VI. 118 The snout-moths (*Hypenæ*). 1775 ASH, *Silo,* ..one that has a "snout nose. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. IV. ii. 702 A modest virgine..to such a faire "snout piece is much to be preferred. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.,* "*Snout-ring,* a ring or staple placed in the nose of a hog to deter him from rooting.

8. *Comb.,* as *snout-bearing, -holy, -horned, -like.*

1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* 4 The painted poison of snout-holy deuotion. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 302 That same snowt-horned Rhinoceros. 1883 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v. *Curculionidæ,* Sub-tribe Rhynchophora (Snout-bearing Insects). 1909 *Daily Chron.* 18 Jan. 5/3 A very remarkable snout-like head.

Snout (snaut), *sb.*[2] *slang.* [Of obscure origin.] Tobacco.

1896 *Wesim. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 Here, mate, give us a bit of the snout. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *50 Yrs. Public Service* xi. 154 The 'snout'..is introduced in small quantities, and distributed by the prisoners themselves.

Snout (snaut), *v.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To finish *off* with a snout.

1753 *Songs & Poems Costume* (Percy Soc.) 230 Hang a small bugle cap on, as big as a crown, Snout it off with a flower *vulgo dict.* a pompoon.

2. *trans.* and *intr.* To root, dig up, or grub, with or as with the snout.

1857 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 452 He would ..snout and jigger about the stones in a most unsalmon-like manner. 1884 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) I. vi. 306 The brutal and licentious public, snouting in Mudie's wash-trough. 1888 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 3/2 Snouting, grubbing, and biting their ditch..deep enough for great ocean ships to sail through.

Snouted (snau·tėd), *ppl. a.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]]

1. Of things: Furnished with a snout or distinct terminal part.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula,* etc. 9 Anoþer instrument, þat is called 'Acus rostrata', a snowted nedle, for it hath þe tone heued like a snowte. *Ibid.* 32. 1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 53 They had..no beaked or snowted shippes armed with a pyke or stemme of iron. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1623) 200 Their shooes and patens are snowted and piked more then a finger long crooking vpwards. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1903 All of them wear a sort of oval snouted cap, made of wood. 1869 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., The neat clogs of the factory girls are snouted with brass.

2. Of persons or animals: Provided or furnished with a snout, muzzle, or rostrum. In early use predicative with *like.*

Also freq. in combs., as *long-, sharp-, short-snouted.*

a 1536 *Songs, Carols,* etc. (E. E. T. S.) 113 Sum [people] be snowted like an ape. 1565 J. PHILLIP *Patient Grissell* 23 (Malone Soc.), A Horse which to my Judgement..Was snowted like a wodcoke. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Chenin,* A kind of Badger, that is..snowted like a dog. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 503 The Rhinoceros is..snouted like a Hogge. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 June 1657, A sort of Catt..snouted much like the Egyptian racoon. 1796 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 194 [To] feed a couple of snouted and grunting cousins from the refuse. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. II. 587 Snouted Slow-worm. *Anguis Nasuta.* 1804 *Ibid.* V. I. 87 Snouted Salmon. *Salmo Nasus.* 1855 WHITTIER *The Barefoot Boy* 53 For my sport the squirrel played, Plied the snouted mole his spade. 1859 N. P. WILLIS *Convalescent* xxxii. 181, I spied the snouted invader rooting busily in the velvet sward.

3. Shaped or fashioned like a snout; snout-like.

1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 89 Lycabas..appeared with gaping jaws and snouted nose. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 100 By this snouted crag will blow Oft a sudden whiff. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 89 Adorned a smooth head with a snouted countenance.

Snou·ter. [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]] (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2230/1 *Snouter,* a cutting shears with one curved blade approximating to the shape of a hog's snout, and used for removing at one cut the cartilage wherewith he roots.

† **Snout-fair,** *a. Obs.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1] Cf. MSw. *snutofagher,* Sw. *snutfager.*] Having a fair countenance; fair-faced, comely, handsome.

Freq. in 16th and early 17th cent., usually with some disparaging suggestion.

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* F ij, If he come in to an house, & the wiff be snoutefayre he will rote him self there. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 111 Who list excuse? when chaister dames can hyre Some snout-faire stripling to their apple-squire. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 34, I knowe a snowt-faire, selfe-conceited asse. 1649 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* I, True, She's snout faire; yet by her favour I Would scarce turn tables with her, though I say't.

† **Snou·ting**[1]. *Obs.*—[1] [? f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]] A variety of apple.

1651 CHILD in Hartlib *Legacy* (1655) 19 In Biscay..they make Cider of a certain sweet Apple, which hath a little bitterness in it, and is like to our snouting.

† **Snou·ting**[2]. *Obs.*—[1] [app. f. Du. *snuit* tow.] (See quot.)

1662 *Irish Statutes* (1765) II. 416 Snouting, alias snayl, or drest towe, the twelve pound, [£]o. 5^s^ o.

Snou·tish, *a.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1] + -ISH.] Somewhat resembling a snout.

1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *Candida* 88 He is podgy, with a snoutish nose.

Snou·tless, *a. rare.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]] Destitute or devoid of a snout or point.

1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. iv. *Festina Lente,* Here snoutless tails, there tailless snouts: The only gainers were the pouts.

Snouty (snau·ti), *a.* [f. SNOUT *sb.*[1]]

1. Resembling a snout or muzzle; having a pronounced or prominent snout.

a 1685 OTWAY *Compl. Muse* xii, The Nose was ugly, long, and big, Broad, and snowty like a Pig. 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place in Nature* iii. 147 The skull..is called 'prognathous'; a term which has been rendered, with more force than elegance, by the Saxon equivalent 'snouty'. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* iii. (1892) 25 The hairy, hoofy, snouty evil one.

2. *colloq.* Overbearing; insolent.

1858 *Times* 29 Nov., Her manner was so domineering that he could not imagine she was his wife:—her manner was perfectly 'snouty'.

Snow (snōu), *sb.*1 Forms: α. (Latterly *north.* and *Sc.*) 1– snaw, 4–6, 8–9 snawe; 1 snauw, 1–4, 6 snau, 5 snaue; 1, 9 sna, 9 snaa. β. 3– snow (3 snou, snov), 3–7 snowe (5 sknowe), 9 *dial.* sno, snoo. γ. 3–4 snouh, 3 snov3, 4 snowh, snow3, sno3. [Common Teutonic: OE. *snāw*, = OFris. **snê* (WFris. *snie*, EFris. *snē*, *snö*, NFris. *sne*, *sni*, *snïe*), MDu. *sneeu*, *sneu*, *snee* (Du. *sneeuw*, dial. *snee*), OS. *snêu*, *snêw-* (MLG. and LG. *snee*), OHG. *snêo*, *snêw-* (MHG. *snê*, G. *schnee*), ON. *snær*, *snjár*, *snjór* (Icel. *snjór*, Norw. *snjo*, *snjø*, *sno*, etc.; MSw. *snyo*, *snyö*, etc., Sw. *snö*; MDa. *sno*, *sne*, Da. *sne*), Goth. *snaiws*:—OTeut. **snaiwaz*. Various grades of the pre-Teut. stem are widely represented in the cognate languages, as Lith. *sniẽgas*, OSlav. *sněgŭ* (Russ. *snieg'*), OIr. *snechta* (Ir. *sneachd*), L. *niv-is* (*nix*), Gr. *νίφει* it snows, etc.]

I. 1. The partially frozen vapour of the atmosphere falling in flakes characterized by their whiteness and lightness; the fall of these flakes, or the layer formed by them on the surface of the ground.

α. *c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxlvii. 16 Se seleð snaw swe swe wulle. *a* 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxix. 63 Swylce hagal & snaw hrusan leccað On wintres tid. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1046, On þis ylcan ȝeare..com se stranga winter mid forste & mid snawe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Ic walde fein pinian and sitten on forste and on snawe up et mine chinne. *c* 1205 LAY. 27459 Flan al swa þicke swa þe snau adun ualleð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22692 A stormi dai..Bath o frost, and hail, and snau. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 128 This wes eftir the Martymes, Quhen snaw had helit all the land. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 265 Peple..whiche haue plente of snawe in the tyme of somer. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 59 The snau is ane congelit rane. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 31 How deip saeuir be the snawe,..thay nevir thair heid sett vndir the ruffe of ony hous. 1781 BURNS *Winter* i, The stormy North sends driving forth The blinding sleet and snaw. 1863 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (ed. 2) 196, I..saw Puir Robin 'midst the driftin snaw.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 þis is þe holi manne [=manna] þe ure drihten sende alse snow sleðrende. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 413 Þu singest so doþ hen a snowe. 13.. *Fall & Passion* 13 in *E. E. P.*, Seue daies a seue nigt as ȝe seeþ þat falliþ snowe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 110 A dongehul, þat were bysnewed with snowe. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10971 Of cleane white, As the glyssenond glemes þat glenttes on þe sknowe. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2642 in *Macro Plays* 156 It [riches] flyet a-wey, as any snow. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 140 Let vs stande there in yᵉ rayne or snowe, all thus storuen for colde. 1562 HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 51 Snow is white And lyeth in the dike. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 179, I could hardly keepe him..from being drowned in the snow. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 50 The Snow lies not long in the lower ground of Ireland. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 372 Some vapours that ascend to great heights, will be frozen into snow. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 209 Snow and ice are bad conductors of heat. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 19 A vast quantity of snow fell during the night. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 155 Snow is white and opaque in consequence of the air entangled among its crystals.

γ. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 430 Hwanne snouh liþ þikke & wide. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 209 þat..caldore was þane ani ys oþur snov3. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 722 þe snow3 [*v.r.* snowh] þat is sneuwynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvi. 1 What maner sno3 in somer, and reyn in rep time [etc.].

b. Taken as a type of whiteness or brightness. See also DRIVEN *ppl. a.* 2.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* l. 9 Ofer snaw ic biom ȝehwitad. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 2 Wedo his ȝeworden weron huita sua sna[*Rushw.* snau]. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 147 Heo hæfde seofon siþum beorhtran saule þonne snaw. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 83 Ðanne wurð ic..hwittere ðane ani snaw. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9514 Wite clopes heo dude hire on, as wo seiþ, ilich þe snowe. *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 558 Hir throte, al-so whyt of hewe, As snow on braunche snowed newe. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxvii, Hir faire fresche face, as quhite as ony snawe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxx. 239 He chaunged coloure and waxed as whyte as snowe. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Licia*, etc. (Grosart) 106 So is my sweet, much paler than the snowe. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 25 The Ocean was as white as snow. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 916 How, white as hyperborean snow To form the lucid lawn. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. liv, Some, whose white hair shone Like mountain snow.

c. In various fig. or allusive uses.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 43 Why you .. so sore laboured and entyced me to passe ouer the Sea, promysynge mountaines of Golde, whiche turned into snowe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 19 Thou wouldst as soone goe kindle fire with snow. 1594 — *Rich. III*, I. iv. 249 *Cla.* O do not slander him, for he is kinde. [*First Murderer.*] Right, as Snow in Haruest. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 43 He was not only a professed imitator of Horace, but a learned plagiary of all the others; you track him every where in their snow. 1738 *Wesley's Hymns*, '*Come holy Spirit, send down those Beams*' iii, Warm with thy Fire our Hearts of Snow. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., He looks as cold as snow in harvest. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxiii, When one has been a year at Oxford, there isn't much snow left to soil. 1862 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1897) IV. 241 Here..we seem to be so familiar with our evils as to acquiesce in them, sleeping in the snow, which is death.

d. With adjs. of colour, denoting snow tinged by various foreign substances, or the alga, etc., to which the colouring is due.

1678– [see RED SNOW 1]. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 168/1 A field of green snow. *Ibid.*, Martius arrived at the conclusion..that the green snow (*Protococcus viridis*) and the red (*P. nivalis*) are one and the same plant. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 7/2 Black snow in the Lake district...On Tuesday,..it is stated, there was a sharp fall of perfectly black snow. 1909 *Cent. Dict.* Suppl. s.v., Golden snow.

2. A fall of snow; a snowstorm. Now *rare.*

Not always clearly distinguishable from sense 3.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiii, Norðanwindas & micle renas & snawas. 1408 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) 186/2 Sodeyn snowes..rysyng & encrees of ryuers & flodus. 1489–90 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 90 At my departing I rode..a full troubleous way in that great snaw. 1562 *Child Marr.* 112 Apon a saturday afore that tyme, beynge a gret snowe. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 106 At Christmas I no more desire a Rose, Then wish a Snow in Mayes new fangled showes. 1694 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 Mar., A great Snow falls. 1717 *Ibid.* 20 Feb., Another Snow coming on. 1740 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 268 We had only two snows and sledding but about three weeks. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* II. 92 Her good man..walked through a very thick snow, to inform her [etc.]. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xxi, Next come the snows, and rain, And frosts, and storms.

transf. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 262 How calm he sits at ease, 'Mid snows of paper and fierce hail of pease. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xix, Great white tassels..tossed in their faces a fragrant snow of blossoms. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Poems, Poet's Jrnl.* 31 The bosom of the lawn Whitened beneath her silent snow of light.

b. As marking a period of time; a winter.

1825 LONGF. *Burial of Minnisink* iv, Thirty snows had not yet shed Their glory on the warrior's head. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xx. 147 The notches he had recorded for the snows (or years) of his life. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxii. 4 Thro' four sweet years.., from snow to snow.

3. An accumulation, mass, expanse, or field, of snow.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* V. 10 The golden-tressed Phebus.. Thryes hadde alle with his bemes shene The snowes molte. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 5 [There are] mony weitis, deip snawis. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 347 There is a large river.., which some Spanish were about to crosse, but could not for snows. 1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 127 When Winter shuts the Seas, and fleecy Snows Make Houses white. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 125 This River .. was much increas'd by the melting of the Snows when Cæsar pass'd it. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 77 O'er Libya's deserts and through Zembla's snows. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxi, The snows of that Mont Blanc which we saw together. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* II. xxix. 294 The most conspicuous group of snows seen from Khasia. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 24 Yonder, where the far snows blanch Mute Mont Blanc.

b. *pl.* The regions of perpetual snow; the Arctic regions.

1844 EMERSON *Young American* Wks. (Bohn) II. 296 To men legislating for the area betwixt..the snows and the tropics.

II. 4. Applied to various things or substances having the colour or appearance of snow:

a. *Cookery.* A dish or confection resembling snow in appearance, esp. one made by whipping the white of eggs to a creamy consistency.

1597 *Bk. Cookerie* F b, How to make Snowe. Take a quart of thicke cream, and fiue or sixe whites of eggs [etc.]. 1864 *Englishw. in India* 173 Whip the whites of six eggs to a hard snow. *a* 1887 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 375 Lemon snow. *Ibid.* 887 Recipes for the following snows will be found under their respective headings. *Ibid.*, Apple snow may be iced.

b. *Chem.* One or other of various substances having a snow-like appearance (see quots.).

1802 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. I. 240 A white powder, formerly called snow or white flowers of antimony. This is the white oxyd of antimony. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 401 Argentine snow, or flowers of antimony. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 317/1 A small piece of this carbonic acid snow was placed on the surface of water.

c. *poet.* White marble.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* Procem (ed. 3) p. vii, Ere new marmoreal floods had spread their couch Of perdurable snow.

5. a. The white hair of age. Chiefly in phrases. Also *pl.*

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 57 If my passions be cooled by the snow of my head, I have then never a white hair [etc.]. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* v. xvii. 30 Thy fragrant Odours on my Head More than the Snows of Age have shed. 1757 DUNCOMBE tr. *Horace, Odes* II. xi. 9 Age drops her Snow upon our Heads. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ii, Attiring herself like summer though her head was covered with snow. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 309 Wreaths sat on each hoar crown, whose snows flush'd rosy beneath them.

b. *slang.* (See quots.)

1811 *Lexicon-Balatronicum, Snow*, linen hung out to dry or bleach. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Snow*, clean linen from the washerwoman's hands, whether it be wet or dry. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 97 *Snow*, wet linen.

c. White bloom or blossom; spray or foam.

1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* i, The elder-bushes which were spreading their summer snow close to the open window. 1885 J. H. DELL *Dawning Grey, Songs of the Surges* 97, I stood looking forth o'er the surges,—Looking forth o'er their squadrons of snow. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Apr. 2/3 With the May rain still on their petalled snow.

d. In some popular names of plants, as *snow-in-harvest, -in-summer, -on-the-mountain* (see quots.).

1878–80 T. MEEHAN *Native Wild Flowers U. S.* Ser. II. I. 79 This Euphorbia marginata..is called by the people here 'Snow on the Mountain'. 1881 *Leicester Gloss.* 247 Snow-in-harvest,.. a flower, *Cerastium tomentosum.* 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant Names* 440 Snow-in-harvest,..(2) *Clematis Vitalba*...(3) *Alyssum maritimum. Ibid.*, Snow-on-the-mountain. (1) *Arabis alpina*..(also Snow-in-summer)...(2) *Cerastium tomentosum.*

6. The pure white colour of snow; snow-white. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1745 BROOME in *Fawke's Anacreon, Ode* liii. 33 (1760) 126 The Graces more enchanting show, When rosy Blushes paint their Snow. 1760 MACPHERSON *Fragm. Anc. Poetry* xiv. 65 The youth with the breast of snow! 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, The daughters of the land were beautiful, with blue eyes and fair hair, and bosoms of snow. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 163 Her eye sae bright and womanly—Her breast o' mountain snaw.

b. *pl.* White breasts.

1803 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Poems of Camoens* (1810) 41 Starlight eyes, and heaving snows.

III. 7. *attrib.* **a.** In the sense of 'consisting or composed of snow; covered, filled, or mixed with snow; derived from, due to, made in, snow', etc.; as *snow-bank, -bed, -berg, -blast*, etc.

Many combs. of this type occur in works specially dealing with Alpine or Arctic regions, as Kane *Arctic Explor.* (1856), Tyndall *Glaciers* (1860), etc.

1803 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Poems of Camoens* (1810) 106 Like *snow-banks scatter'd with the blooms of May. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* xxiv. 139 The Crocus,..not unfrequently blossoming in the neighbourhood of a snow-bank. 1857 M. ARNOLD *Rugby Chapel* 100 The unseen *snow-beds dislodge Their hanging rain. 1884 *Good Words* Jan. 43/1 We now hastened..across the old snow-beds. 1840 BREMNER *Excur. Denmark*, etc. I. 219 Its towers turned into *snow-bergs. 1773 *Cook's Voy.* I. iv. 47 The cold was now become more severe, and the *snow-blasts more frequent. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 210 A snow-blast fell upon them, to Devonians almost an unknown thing. 1871 PROCTOR *Light Sci.* 110 Observing the earth's polar *snow-caps must lead to several important conclusions. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 318 A light haze of *snow-cloud obscured the lesser stars. 1871 WHYMPER *Scrambles Alps* xii. (1900) 246 These *snow-cornices are common on the crests of high mountain ridges. 1820 SHELLEY *Liberty* xiii, The cold *Snow-crags by its reply are cloven in sunder. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 789/1 The different prismatic rays issuing from the minute *snow-crystals. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. xxi. 267 The fine impacted *snow-dust of winter. 1797 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* Marg. Notes 3 A great sea-bird ..came through the *snow-fog. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 368/2 The shadowy forms of birds rapidly vanished in the snow-fog. 1827 SCOTT *Diary* 28 May, As ideas..flag and something like a *snow haze covers my whole imagination. 1882 *Imperial Dict.*, **Snow-hut*,..a hut built of snow. 1844 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 332/2 If the latter freezes, the result is '*snow-ice', which is of no value. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. 110 Snow-ice is formed above the snow-line, but may descend in glaciers far below it. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* II. 513 Out of what planet have these people dropped into Muscovy's frozen *snowland? 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 114 Daylight, bred between Moon-light and *snow-light. 1872 C. KING *Sierra Nevada* vi. 126 Rosy peaks, with dull, silvery *snow-marblings. 1866 WHITTIER *Snow-Bound* 96 The sun through dazzling *snow-mist shone. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XIII. II. 40 Seen from afar, like a *snow-mountain's peak. 1882 *Garden* 7 Jan. 5/2 Alpine flowers..striving to bloom in the *snow-ooze on the Alps. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Chamois Hunter's Love* Poems (1875) 450 Where the *snow-peaks gleam like stars. 1837 J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 201 *note*, The wreath might terminate..in a *snow-plain. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* VI. 161 Hail, sleet and *snow-rack far behind him fly. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 13 When..the driving snow-rack cleared up. 1857 EMERSON *Poems* 41 *Snow-ridges masked each darling spot. 1884 *Congregationalist* June 493 A *snow river crashing down the sides of the mountain. 1880 BURBIDGE *Gardens of Sun* i. 9 Here and there the surface is rippled like a *snow-ruck. 1827 CLARE *Skeph. Cal.* 85 Like spots of *snow-shine in dark fairy rings. 1887 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* 3rd Ser. (1897) 3 As the sunshine quenches the snowshine. 1807 GASS *Jrnl.* 181 There were several *snow showers during the day. 1850 E. BRONTE *Wuthering H.* ii, The first feathery flakes of a snow-shower. 1841 WHITTIER *Funeral Tree of the Sokokis* 12 Where the..*snow-slide left its dusky streak. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* x. 138 High precipitous mountains..scored with snow-slides. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 69 *Snow-slips, well known, and greatly dreaded by travellers. 1898 *Speaker* Oct. 410 The snow-slips are very destructive in this narrow valley. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 96 Precipitous *snow-slopes, fluted by the descent of..avalanches. 1878 HOOKER & BALL *Morocco* 263 We had kept close to one of these long and..narrow snowslopes. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. III. iv, In the *snow-slush of last winter. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 96 Our way lying in part through deep snow-slush. 1888 *Nature* 2 Feb. 333 Copeland..was almost completely thwarted by *snow-squalls. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, There are *Snow-statues raised by the poor in hard winter. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* I. ix. 95 The *snow-streams or gullies that led to a gorge. 1819 L. RICHMOND in Grimshawe *Memoir* (1828) xiii. 432 Illuminated with *snow-sunshine. 1877 BRYANT *Poems, Little People of the Snow* 106 The little maiden.. climbed the rounded *snow-swells. 1765 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 189 The den where *snow-tracks mark the way. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 1708 As the *snow-wind beats blindly on the moorland.

b. In the sense of 'used for, or in connexion with, snow', as *snow-boot, -fence, spectacles*, etc.

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 225 Each of the three species of Tetras..; it is usually said with us, that they have in winter their *snow-boots. 1768 *Ibid.* LX. 109 *note*, *Snow-eyes, which..are most excellently contrived for preserving the eyes from the effect of the snow in the spring. 1885 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 423 These cuttings had not been protected..with *snow..fences. 1902 *Nature* 4 Sept. 454 Snow-fences are commonly erected in Canada to check the rate of snow-drifting. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826 **Snow Flanges*,..a bar of iron or steel attached to a car or engine to scrape away snow and ice on the sides.. of the rails. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 257/1 Glaisher's rain and *snow gauge. 1887 *19th Cent.* Nov. 672 Mr.

Murdock .. found an Eskimo *snow-goggle. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* I. 59 The reflection..off the snow would have been positively blinding had we not been provided with snow goggles. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 622 A **snow-harrow* or a *snow-plough* will be found a useful implement. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* 401 In the South the men have..*snow-knives, ice-chisels [etc.]. 1875 Wood & Lapham *Waiting for Mail* 36 We found him lying beside the *snow-pole just on the hill. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 688/1 It is then only accessible with dog-sleighs and *snow-raquets. 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor.* II. i. 21 A *snow-saw. 1864 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VI. 454/1 The Icelanders have their *snow-shades, but a reader has no protection from paper glare. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Snow-shed*, a protection for a railway-track in exposed situations. 1882 Pidgeon *Engineer's Holiday* I. 275 The track is covered by snow-sheds. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 233 A wooden 'mallet', and '*snow-shovel'. 1854 R. G. Latham *Native Races Russian Emp.* 84 The *shide* (pronounced *she*) is a *snow-skate upwards of six feet long. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 357/2 For this purpose nothing could be better than the snowshoe and snowskate, or ski, of to-day. 1793 Holcroft tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* xix. 97 The effusions of light from the snow (to guard against which the Esquimaux wear *snow-spectacles). 1901 H. Seebohm *Birds of Siberia* v. 47 The glare of the sunshine on the white snow forced us to wear snow spectacles. 1886 *Daily News* 28 Dec. 5/7 Yesterday morning the *snow-sweep, drawn by six horses, was got to work early. 1885 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 425 About nine o'clock the 'snow outfit' steamed in. The *snow-train was made up of six vehicles.

c. In the sense of 'snow-like, white as snow'.

1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 94 It has a brown or iron colour, sprinkled over with snow spots. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. cxxi, Her small snow feet had slippers, but no stocking.

d. *Cookery.* (Cf. 4 a.)

1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 887 Snow Cake... Snow Cheese... Snow Cocoa-nut [etc.]. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 8/2 Recipe for Snow Eggs.

8. *Comb.* **a.** With pa. ppples. (chiefly with instrumental force), as *snow-beaten, -blown, -bound, -choked*, etc., or in parasynthetic combs., as *snow-bearded, -capped, -coloured, -crested*, etc. Also *snow-rub, -swathe* vbs.

c 1745 Armstrong *Misc.* (1770) I. 150 Thro' the *snow-barricadoed cottage door. 1827 Darley *Sylvia* 7 The *snow-bearded tenant of a wilderness. 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Clouds* I. iii, On the *snow-beaten peak Of Olympus. 1800 Hurdis *Favourite Village* 118 Isles desolate and horrid, *snow-besprent. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* ii. 192 From his *snow-besprinkled tresses. 1866 Whittier *Snow-Bound* 118 The sun, a *snow-blown traveller, sank From sight. 1814 Byron in L. Hunt *Autobiogr.* (1850) II. 318, I have been *snow-bound..for nearly a month. 1894 Gladstone *Odes of Horace* II. ix. 20 'Mid snow-bound mountains of the Medes. 1797 Tweddell *Rem.* xxvii. (1815) 150 All the *snow-capt hills of the canton of Berne. 1879 Wallace *Australasia* xii. 242 Its higher mountains are snow-capped. 1857 Emerson *Poems* 62 Wading in the *snow-choked wood. *c* 1580 in *P. M. Barnard's Catal.* No. 30 (1909) 12 Thy trumpet..and thy *snow colourd swan. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cxxxix, Soe may Thessalia..Envy the still *Snow-Couer'd Rhodope. 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor.* II. xxii. 218 Emerging from the snow-covered roof. 1834 J. Phillips in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 705/2 The *snow-crested Alps. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xvi. 106 Those glorious mountains,..snow-crested and star-gemmed. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* VI. lxiv, From the *snow-crown'd Skidos lofty cleeues. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 99 This fine chain of snow-crowned Alps. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. i. 14 The deficiency of accommodation for travelers on those bleak and *snow-drifted heights. 1616 J. Lane *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VII. 225 A plume of *snowe-driva white. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* 115 *Snow-drowned fields, obstructed roads. 1808 Scott *Marm.* v. Introd., Our *snow-encircled home. 1596 Fitz-Geffrey *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 76 *Snowe-feath'red swan, the Nestor of the West. 1726–46 Thomson *Winter* 995 A thousand *snow-fed torrents. 1820 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* I. 120 Rock-embosomed lawns, and snow-fed streams. 1818 Bucke *Italians* III. ii, The *snow-hair'd sire shall recognize his son. 1866 Whittier *Snow-Bound* 99 Woods of *snow-hung oak. 1808 Scott *Marm.* v. Introd., Carriers' *snow-impeded wains. 1850 Marg. Fuller *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 312 That..freezing, *snow-laden winter. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. App. 99 *Snow-limb'd, rose-cheek'd. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. xviii. iii, Shadowing the snow-limb'd Eve. 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor.* II. vii. 80 After a walk over a heavy *snow-lined country of thirty miles. 1820 Shelley *Prometheus Unbound* I. 434 Yon huge *snow-loaded cedar. 1798 Miss H. M. Williams *Tour Switzerland* II. App. 292 The modest, *snow-mantled nymphs. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 2 Sept. 5/2 As the ball..is rolled over the snow-mantled earth. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 213 His pure *snow-molded soft fleshe. *Ibid.* 207 Theyr heads, with thayr..*Snow-resembled siluer curlings. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 140 Thine are the *snow-robed mountains circling earth. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xxxiv. (1856) 306 The crew have been *snow-rubbing their blankets. 1885 Black *White Heather* iii, A large and fleecy cloud that clung around the *snow-scarred peak. 1898 *Edinb. Rev.* Jan. 55 On the *snow-sprinkled braes of Yarrow. 1843 Browning *Return of Druses* II, Dost thou *snow-swathe thee kinglier, Lebanon, Than in my dreams? 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 63/2 While, with *snow-tipp'd feet, The..waves she sports among. 1883 F. S. Renwick *Betrayed* 36 One snow-tipped..feather graced his hair. 1596 Drayton *Bar. Wars* VI. lxiv, From *snow-topd Skidos frostie cleeues. *c* 1750 Johnson *Ode Winter* 12 The snow topt cot, the frozen rill. 1823 Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 The snow-topped Apennines. 1879 Browning *Ivan Ivanovitch* 33 A village,..*Snow-whitened everywhere except the middle road. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 1073 O how I love thee, My *Snow-winged Dove! 1729 Savage *Wanderer* I. 55 His Robe *snow-wrought, and hoar'd with Age.

b. Objective, etc., with vbl. sbs. and pres. ppples., as *snow-casting, -clearing, -dropping*, etc., or with agent-nouns, as *snow-breaker, -gatherer, -melter*, etc.

(*a*) 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 243 The *snowe casting season nowe coming in place. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 5/1 He was in charge of the *snow-clearing party. 1838 Miss Pardoe *River & Desert* II. 44 The majestic tamarind tree overshadowed the *snow-dropping acacia. 1849 J. Forbes *Physician's Holiday* viii. (1850) 75 The waters..overflowed their banks during the *snow-melting season. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* IV. 466 White Imaus, whose *snow-nodding crags Frighten the realms beneath. 1616 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* A iv b, *Snow-passing Iuorie that the Eye delights. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Snow-sweeping Engine*, a plough or other contrivance for removing snow from railways and common roads. 1892 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 5/5 Matters..have reached such a point that snow-sweeping is the one harvest they hope for.

(*b*) 1791 *Young's Annals Agric.* XVI. 431 The sheep are often obliged to procure their food by scraping the snow off the ground with their feet..; hence they have obtained the name of *snow-breakers. 1856 Kane *Arctic Explor.* I. xxxi. 424 To reduce our effete *snow-melter to its elements. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 826/2 *Snow Scraper. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 114 Two snow ploughs, and a gang of 75 *snow shovellers. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2231/2 **Snow-sweeper*, a vehicle or apparatus adapted for removing snow from paved streets.

c. With adjs., chiefly in the sense of 'as or like snow', as *snow-bright, -brilliant, -fair*, etc.

1572 *Bossewell's Armorie* Prelim. Verses, Whose *snow-bright skil by snow procurde the Fates to hast thy fate. 1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* XII. xli, I saw its marge of snow-bright mountains rear Their peaks aloft. 1853 F. W. Newman *Odes of Horace* 148 The slave Briséis With hue *snowbrilliant. 1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Linc.* 328 Mr. Hyde seldom corn feeds, unless turnips are rotten or *snow deep. 1895 Nutt in Meyer *Voy. Bran* I. 176 *Snowfair the bodies from top to toe. 1818 Keats *Endym.* II. 79 Some *snow-light cadences Melting to silence. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* Poems (1905) 166 One flash Of the pale, *snow-pure cheek and black bright tresses. 1596 W. Smith *Chloris* (1877) 8 Tripping vpon the *snowe soft downes I spide Three nimphs. 1625 Milton *Death Fair Infant* 19 Down he descended from his Snow-soft chaire. 1867 Gilfillan *Night* I. 12 With the *Snow-still foot of thought.

9. Special combs.: **snow-blanket, -blink** (see quots.); † **snow-blossom**, a snowflake; **snow-bones** *dial.* (see quots.); **snow-break**, (*a*) a rush of loose or melting snow; (*b*) a narrow strip of forest serving as a protection against snow; (*c*) the breaking of trees by the weight of snow; an area over which this happens; **snow-bucking** *U.S.*, the action of forcing a railway-train through a snow-drift; **snow-craft**, the art of traversing or dealing with snow in mountaineering; **snow-creep**, the gradual movement of snow down a slope; **snow-cripple**, a tree injured by the weight or pressure of snow; **snow-dropper** *Cant*, = snow-gatherer (*Slang Dict.* 1864); **snow-dropping** *Cant*, † **-fire** (see quots.); **snow-foot**, (*a*) an accumulation of snow at the foot of steep Arctic sea-coasts; (*b*) a foot adapted for walking on snow; **snow-gatherer** *Cant* (see quot.); **snow-hole**, a hole or opening in the burner of a pyrites kiln; **snow-house**, (*a*) a house in which snow is preserved in warm weather; (*b*) a house or hut built of snow; **snow-limit**, the limit (towards the equator) for the fall of snow at sea-level; **snow-merchant**, one who deals in snow (for cooling purposes); **snow-scape**, a snow scene, a landscape covered with snow; **snow-sheen**, = *snow-blink*; **snow-sleep**, a somnolent condition induced by walking in snow; so *snow-sleepiness*; † **snow-stone** (see quot.); **snow-tan**, a tanned complexion produced by exposure to snow; **snow-time**, the time of snow, winter.

1863 D. Page *Introd. Text-bk. Phys. Geogr.* 154 In the higher latitudes, .. snow forms a warm covering for the soil (the **snow-blanket*, as it is termed by farmers). *Ibid.*, Within the polar circle, also, the darkness of the long winter is..diminished by the *snow-sheen* or **snow-blink*. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 734 As hard..as to shew a specifical difference betwixt several *Snow-blossoms. *a* 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose*, **Snow-bones*, remnants of snow after a thaw. 1862 C. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 416 *Snow-bones*, the patches of snow seen stretching along ridges, in ruts, or in furrows, &c., after a partial thaw. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. iv, And so, like *snowbreak from the mountains, ..it storms. 1885 *Longman's Mag.* Feb. 422 '*Snow Bucking' in the Rocky Mountains. 1892 C. T. Dent *Mountaineering* 217 *Snowcraft consists largely in the avoidance of difficulties and dangers. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 23 It [mountaineering] consists of two main divisions, rock-craft and snow-craft. 1908 *Science* 28 Feb. 339 Small trees are directly broken and abraded by weight of snow or by *snow creep. *Ibid.*, *Snow-cripples possess the spire-form, with flourishing upper shoots, but the lower branches and foliage are dying or dead. 1839 *Slang Dict.* 34 **Snow-dropping*, stealing linen off a hedge. 1771 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav.* II. 81 We observed a meteor, commonly called a *snow-fire. [*Note.*] Probably nothing but an Aurora borealis. 1881 tr. *Nordenskiöld's Voy. Vega* I. ii. 75 A steep escarpment..below which there is formed during the course of the winter an immense snow-drift or so-called '*snow-foot'. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 4/2 This peculiarity of '*snow-feet' is not so well marked as in the reindeer or caribou. 1859 *Slang Dict.* 97 **Snow gatherers*, rogues who steal linen from hedges and lines. 1880 J. Lomas *Alkali Trade* 48 So adjusted..that..the tongues of flame just show a decided direction towards the exit, or '*snow' hole. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 303 Having made as much [ice] as they desire, they .. put it up into *Snow-Houses, whereof there are so many at Ispahan. 1827 J. Holmes *Hist. United Brethren* ii. (ed. 2) 80 The Esquimaux now began to build a snow-house, about thirty paces from the beach. 1881 Geikie *Prehistoric Europe* 19 He may even have occupied temporary snow-houses, like those made by the Eskimo. 1705 Addison *Italy* Wks. 1721 II. 84 The Banditti .. often put the *Snow-merchants under contribution. 1886 *Christian Leader* 17 June, Charmed by the beauty of the *snow-scape, with the feathery flakes clinging to the twigs. 1891 Atkinson *Moorland Par.* 372 The unaccustomed eye is fairly bewildered with the strange pale beauty of the snow-scape. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 456/2 He had been overcome by that worst of all enemies to the Australian Alpine traveller—*snow-sleep. 1896 Merriman *Sowers* xxxii, It was quite dark,..and I had *snow-sleepiness. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., **Snow-stone*,..a name given by some to a very beautiful stone found in America; of which the Spaniards are very fond. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 458/2 Almost unrecognisable from *snow-tan and exposure. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 20 Benaia..slewe a lyon at a well in the *snowe tyme. 1844 Ld. Houghton *Palm Leaves, Kiosk* II. 17 In the bleak snow-time, when the winds rung shrill.

b. In names of animals, insects, etc., as **snow-fish** (?); **snow-flea, -fly, -gnat, -insect**, one or other of several species of small insects frequenting snow (also *snow-fly*, an artificial fly used in angling); **snow-leopard**, the ounce; **snow-mouse** (see quots.); **snow-panther**, the ounce; **snow-worm**, a worm frequenting or living among snow.

1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xxix, Not cribbled up like a *snow-fish, chucked out on the ice of the river St. Lawrence. 1888 Comstock *Introd. Entom.* 61 Our common *snow-flea is *Achorutes nivicola*. This is sometimes a pest where maple sugar is made, the insects collecting..in the sap. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 48 *Oripæ*,..*Snow-Flies. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* x. (1880) 379 There is a singular fly used on the Beauly, which is there termed the Snow Fly. 1879 E. P. Wright *Anim. Life* 491 In America we find that these little creatures [*sc.* spring-tails] are at this day called snow-flies. 1894 *Amateur Gardening* 3 Mar. 422 The insects..are known as the Cabbage Powder Wing or Snow Flies (*Aleyrodes proletella*). 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Snow-gnat. *Ibid.*, *Snow-insect. 1866 A. Murray *Geog. Distrib. Mammals* 99 The Ounce or *Snow Leopard represents the Leopard in the high regions of Thibet. 1902 T. W. Webber *Forests Upper India* vi. 54 Prowling snow leopards, white like the weather-beaten rock. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 117 The *Snow Mouse (*Arvicola nivalis*), lives on the Alps and Pyrenees, at elevations of 4,000 feet and upwards. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Snow-mouse,..a lemming of arctic America which turns white in winter, *Cuniculus torquatus*. 1884 Sterndale *Mammalia India* 184 The Ounce or *Snow Panther. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* 816 Old snow..will look somewhat dun..: and therefore the *snow-worms are of the same hiew. 1835 Burnes *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) III. 209 The most singular phenomenon of nature on Hindoo Koosh appears to be the snow-worm, which is described to resemble the silk-worm in its mature state. 1895 *Cambridge Nat. Hist., Insects* I. 194 The occurrence on snow and glaciers of Insects spoken of as snow-fleas, or snow-worms.

c. In names of birds, as **snow-cock**, a snow-partridge, snow-pheasant, *Tetraogallus*; **snow-flight**, the snowflake or snow-bunting (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); **snow-fowl**, the snow-bunting; **snow-grouse**, the ptarmigan; † **snow-hammer** [ad. G. *schneeammer*], the snow-finch; † **snow-hen**, the ptarmigan; **snow-lark**, ? the snow-finch; **snow-owl**, the snowy owl; **snow-partridge**, (*a*) the snow-pheasant, *Tetraogallus*; (*b*) a Himalayan gallinaceous bird, *Lerwa nivicola*; **snow-petrel** (see quot. 1905); **snow-pheasant** (see quots.); **snow-pigeon**, a pigeon of Northern India and Tibet, *Columba leuconota*; **snow-quail** *U.S.*, the white-tailed ptarmigan, *Lagopus leucurus*; **snow-sparrow**, any passerine bird of the genus *Junco*. Also Snow-bird, -bunting, -finch, etc.

c 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 146 The finest representatives of the Partridge are, undoubtedly, the *Snow Cocks or Snow Partridges. 1897 Lydekker, etc. *Conc. Knowl. Nat. Hist.* 232 The snow-cocks, or snow-pheasants.., are the largest of the partridge group. 1813 Montagu *Ornith.* Suppl. s.v. *Snow-bunting*, *Snow-fowl. Oat-fowl. 1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 585 *Lagopus*, Ptarmigan. *Snow Grouse. 1888 Roosevelt in *Cent. Mag.* XXXVI. 210 Up above the timber line were snow-grouse and huge, hoary-white woodchucks. 1802–3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 52 During the whole of our journey..we were accompanied by small flights of *snow-hammers. 1648 Hexham II, *Een sneeuw-hoen*,..a *Snowe-hen, or a Shoveler so called because of her w[h]itnesse. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Hist. Lapland* 138, I call it *Lagopus*..., the Germans..term it *Schnaehuner*, i. e. Snow-hens. 1832 J. Bree *St. Herbert's Isle* 48 There never sings the *snow-lark as she soars. 1811 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* Pref. p. xi, *Snow Owl. The largest of his tribe; white, spotted with small brown spots. 1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 510 *Nyctea*, Snow Owls. 1853 *Zoologist* II. 3861 The great *snow-partridge of Persia. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 146 The Himalayan Snow Partridge (*Tetraogallus himalayensis*). 1895 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 406 The snow-partridge (*Lerwa nivicola*), inhabiting the higher Himalayan ranges. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 61 The bird called the *snow petrel by sailors. 1905 E. A. Wilson in Capt. Scott *Voy.* '*Discovery*' II. App. II. 483 The Snow petrel (*Pagodroma nivea*) is perhaps the most beautiful of all the Southern petrels;..it is pure white all over. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 341 Among the birds [in Nepal] are the..*snow pheasant (*Tetraogallus himalayensis*), snow partridge. 1885 *Ibid.* XVIII. 733 The fine Snow-Pheasants, *Crossoptilum*—of..which..there are several species. 1902 T. W. Webber *Forests Upper India*

xii. 148 A remarkable bird, the snow pheasant or snow cock (*Tetraogallus Tibetanus*). 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Snow-pigeon. 1905 E. CANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* iii. 59 Another common bird is the snow-pigeon. 1895 W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT *Game Birds* I. 45 In the Rocky Mountain region it is generally known by the very appropriate name of 'White' or '*Snow' Quail. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 377 *Junco*, *Snow Sparrows. 1895 *Times* 22 Feb. 3/1 The sight of a snow sparrow, the first of the season.

d. In names of plants or fruits, as **snow-apple**, a variety of apple (Ash, 1775); **snow-bush**, one or other of various shrubs bearing a profusion of white flowers (*Cent. Dict.*); **snow-gem**, = next (*Ibid.*); **snow glory**, a hardy garden-plant of the genus *Chionodoxa*; **snow-grass**, -mould (see quots.); **snow-pear** [G. *schneebirne*], a variety of pear; esp. *Pyrus nivalis*, which comes into season after snow has fallen; **snow-plant**, (*a*) a snow-alga; (*b*) a plant of the Sierra Nevada in California (see quot. 1905); **snow-rose**, a species of rhododendron (*Cent. Dict.*); **snow-tree** (see quot.).

1887 *G. Nicholson's Dict. Gardening* III. 447/2 *Snow Glory, a common name for *Chionodoxa Luciliæ*. 1865 *Reader* No. 151. 575/3 The common *snow-grass (*Schœnus Pauciflorus*). 1875 WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 31 Tethering my good old horse to a tussock of snow-grass. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 425 Snow-Grass, *Poa cæspitosa*,.. another name for Wiry-grass. 1902 *Webster's Suppl.*, *Snow grass*,..a coarse tall grass (*Danthonia Raoulii*) of New Zealand. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, **Snow-mould*, a fungous plant, the *Lanosa nivalis*, which grows beneath snow, on grasses or cereal crops. 1860 HOGG *Fruit Manual* 212 *Snow [Pear]. See White Doyenné. 1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 232 Snow-Pear—*Pyrus nivalis*. This variety of pear is cultivated in Austria, in the north of Italy, and in..France. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 15 The red and green *Snow-plants, which have been described as Confervæ, and assigned to the genus Protococcus. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 114/3 The Snow Plant of California with its rich colour. 1905 A. R. WALLACE *My Life* II. xxxi. 161 The strange Snow plants (*Sarcodes sanguinea*)..with a dense spike of flowers of a blood-red colour. 1899 *Gardening Illustr.* 3 June 181/2 The *Snow-tree (*Ozothamnus rosmarinifolius*).

Snow (snōu), *sb.*[2] Also 7–8 **snaw**. [ad. Du. *snauw*, *snaauw*, or LG. *snau* (hence Da. and Sw. *snau*, G. *schnau*, *schnaue*, and F. *senau*), of doubtful origin.] A small sailing-vessel resembling a brig, carrying a main and fore mast and a supplementary trysail mast close behind the mainmast; formerly employed as a warship.

a. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1079/3 Ostend, March 29. On the 25 instant,..appeared off of this Harbour..two Snaws of four Guns each. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 441, 28 sail of French ships,..and among them 6 or 8 snaws of 8 or 10 guns each. 1710 *Ibid.* VI. 532 A French snaw, with 33 men and 4 guns.

β. 1721 S. SEWALL *Diary* 14 Apr., A Letter from Capt. Tuthill,..giving me an account of the Arrival of the Snow Anna. 1763 JANSSEN *Smuggling Laid Open* 263 A Snow of 120 Tons, and 48 Men,..Mounting 12 Carriage Guns, besides Swivels. 1784 COLMAN *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) III. 255 Majestick navies in her harbours ride, Skiffs, snows, and frigates anchor by their side. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* i. 52 Far other craft our prouder river shows, Hoys, pinks and sloops; brigs, brigantines and snows. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 50 A Brig bends her boom-sail (or..trysail) to the mainmast, while a Snow bends it to a trysail mast: in other respects these two vessels are alike. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* II. iv. 193 The whole ocean ..was covered by..brigs, snows, tartans, schooners, pinks.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1790 BEATSON *Naval & Milit. Mem.* II. 183 The James & Thomas tender..was attacked by a large snow privateer. 1860 *Merc. Mar. Mag.* VII. 148 She was a two-masted vessel,..and snow-rigged.

Snow (snōu), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. **snowed** (snōud). Forms: *a. Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 **snawe**, 5– **snaw**; 4 snou-, 5–7 snowe (5 -yn), 4– **snow**. *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4, 8– **snawed**, 9 snaa'd, snaa't; 6– **snowed**. *β. Pa. t.* 4 sneu, 4– (now *dial.*) **snew**, 6 **snewe**. *Pa. pple.* 5 **snawen**, 9 *dial.* **snawn**; 6 **snowen**, 9 *dial.* **snown**, **snewn**. [f. SNOW *sb.*[1], taking the place of OE. *sniwan*, SNEW *v.* Cf. MDu. *sneuwen*, *sn(o)uwen* (Du. *sneeuwen*), LG. *sneen*, *schneen*, ON. *snjóva*, *snjóva* (Icel. *snjóa*, Norw. *snjoa*, *snjoa*, etc.; Sw. *snöga*, *snöa*, Da. *sne*). The strong conjugation, formerly common, was no doubt due to the influence of BLOW *v.*[1]]

1. *intr. It snows*, snow falls. Also occas. with *snow* as subject.

Examples of the strong forms are given under *β*.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6450 (Laud MS.), Whan it snoweþ, oiþer rineþ. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1644 Sche koude make..to hayle and snowe, And frese also. *c* 1425 *Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 665 *Floctat*, snawes...*Ningit*, snawes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snowyn, *ningit*. 1486 *Eng. Misc.* (Surtees, 1890) 57 And ther schall it snaw by craft, to be made of waffrons in maner of snaw. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 In wynter, whan it snoweth, it is good syttynge by a good fyre. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i, As we went, it snowed al the way. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 45 Where it is counted for a wonder, that..it was cold or snowed. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 4 Though it were very bad weather, and snow'd all night. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 322 The Barometer sunk to the bottom, it Rain'd and Snow'd. 1772 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 287 Though it has snowed very often this month, there has been no deep snows. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xvi, Glad to hear it rained, or snowed, or blew, or froze. 1864 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 237 If it..snows as hard there as here.

β. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13551 Also þikke as snow þen [*v.r.* þat] snew, Or al so hail þat stormes blew. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. 342 Also it rayned, blewe, & snewe, that it was a mervayloure yvell wether. *c* 1540 COPLAND *Hye Way to Spyttel Ho.* 99 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 27 For it had snowen, and frosen very strong. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 80, I had as lieue he told me it snew. 1640 E. DACRES tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* 279 Always and in all seasons, whether it rain'd or snew, he went with his head uncover'd. 1695 WOOD *Life* 30 Jan., On T[uesday] the 29 of Jan. it snew all the day. *a* 1800 PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, *Snew*, the Preterit of *snow*. York. 1870 VERNEY *Lettice Lisle* 295 It never snew once last winter. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* 131/2 It's snawn all way here.

2. To fall, descend, etc., in the manner of snow. Also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6381 It sneu to þam als it war flur. 1833 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 139 A hundred winters snow'd upon his breast, From cheek and throat and chin. *c* 1860 F. W. FABER *Hymn*, '*The House of Mourning*' xviii, That unrestful gloom, Where the light snows in. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Queen of Love* I. 153 Away shot the cards,..snowing upon the audience in the front rows.

3. *trans.* To let fall as snow; to cause to descend in the manner of snow; to shower down.

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 558 Hir throte al so white of hewe, As snawe on braunche snawed newe. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1355 It hailed small confects, rained rosewater, and snew an artificiall kind of snow. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 22 Let the skie raine Potatoes: let it thunder..,haile kissing Comfits, and snow Eringoes. 1608 CHAPMAN *Dk. Byron* v. iii. 233 As a savage boar..holds his anger up, And snows it forth in foam. 1613 HEYWOOD *Brax. Age* II. ii. Wks. 1874 III. 192 Where the Boare Hath in his fury snow'd his scattered foame. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., The theatrical mechanist, who, when the white paper which represented his shower of snow was exhausted, continued the storm by snowing brown. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 60 He..tore the king's letter, snow'd it down. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xvi, A sweep of chilly air passed by,..snowing the flaky ashes broadcast about the fire.

b. In figurative use. Also *absol.* (quot. 1751).

a 1631 DONNE (J.), 'Till age snow white hairs on thee. 1684 N. LEE *Constantine* II. 15, I'll stay till Age Has Snow'd a hundred Winters on my Head. 1751 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 602 Time on this head has snow'd. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 166 'Snowing' old inflation speeches over the Eastern states. 1905 SOLLAS *Age of Earth* iii. 65, [The] Eiffel Tower, snowing post-cards from its summit all over the civilized world.

4. To strew or cover with or as with snow. Also *transf.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 65 Waters and maracez..whilk a man may noȝt passe, bot if he hafe riȝt hard frost and þat it be wele snawen abouen. 1635 HEYWOOD *London's Sinus Salutis* 295 Even the Horse,..When the most curb'd, and playing with the bit,..snowes the ground. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* IV. xiii. 12 Scar'd at thy Wrinkles,.. And Head snow'd o'er with Grey. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xciv, Three virgin Sisters, who,..Their heads with flour snowed over white and new, Sit in a vale. 1873 SYMONDS *Greek Poets* x. 312 Cherry trees and apricots snow the grass in spring with a white wealth of April blossoms. 1887 F. ROBINSON *New Religio Medici* 133 The mantle..of the Star of India drapes a coffin whose lid is snowed with flowers.

5. To cause (the hair, etc.) to turn white like snow; to invest with white hair.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 761 Thou (tender Mother) will not suffer Age To snow my locks in Forrein Pilgrimage. *a* 1689 MRS. BEHN tr. *Cowley's Plants* C.'s Wks. (Grosart) II. 245 In Youth severe, Before the Winter-Age had snow'd their Hair. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 275 He is a goodly Reverend Old Man, snowed with Age. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 1/3 Yamagata stays in Tokio,..snowed with seventy years.

6. a. With *up*. To block, obstruct, incommode, imprison, etc., with snow. Usu. in pa. pple.

1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xiii, I was snowed up at a friend's house once for a week. 1862 SALA *Seven Sons* I. v. 95 News came from the country of trains snowed-up. 1873 SMILES *Huguen. France* (1881) I. iv. 67 He wrote.. from some remote place where he was snowed up.

transf. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. i, It is a sheer snowing of pamphlets; like to snow up the Government thoroughfares!

b. With *under*: To bury in snow; *fig.* to submerge, overwhelm, overpower, etc. Orig. *U.S.*

1880 E. KIRKE *Garfield* 32 Democrats vied with Republicans..in snowing him under with congratulations. 1894 *United Service Mag.* Oct. 28 Mercier was snowed under by a majority greater than had ever been known in Canadian history. 1911 WEBSTER s.v., The train was snowed under.

c. To drive *out*, take *away*, by means of snow.

1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. Wks. (1904) 345 [To] prove that all the winters which have snowed Cannot snow out the scent..Of a sincere man's virtues. 1891 W. F. MOULTON *Let.* in *Mem.* (1899) 247 Every lingering fragment of inflection would be blown, snowed, sleeted, rained and sunned away.

Snowball (snōu-bǫl), *sb.* Also 5 **snoweballe**, 6 **snowbal**(le, 7– **snow-ball**; 5 *north.* **snayballe**, 8–9 *Sc.* **snawbaw**, 9 **-ba'**. [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] + BALL *sb.*[1] Cf. WFris. *sniebal*, MDu. *snee(u)-*, *sneubal*, Du. *sneeuwbal*, G. *schneeball*, Da. *snebold*, Sw. *snöboll*, Norw. *snjoball*.]

1. A ball of snow, esp. one made of a size convenient for throwing by hand.

c 1400 *Brut* cxcviii, Meny of þe citee..caste oppon him meny snoweballes, and meny oþer reproues dede him. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 Snayballe, *floccus*, *nivenodium*. *a* 1530 HEYWOOD *Play of Wether* 1011 (Brandl), All my pleasure is in..makynge of snow ballys and throwyng the same. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 24 My bellies as cold as if I had swallow'd snowbals. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Job* xxxviii. 22 We see..what paines they take to rake and scrape together snow to make a Snow-ball. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. 149 As wise an act, as to hope to be warm by ..surrounding thy self with snow-balls. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 281 If I take a snow-ball into my hand, I shall be satisfied of its coldness by my sensation. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 25 *note*, If a piece of Camphor be immersed in a snow-ball. 1816 BYRON *Swiss Jrnl.* Wks. 180/2, I made a snowball and pelted Hobhouse with it. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxx. (1856) 258 By-and-by the sludge which we passed through..became pancakes and snow-balls. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 158 When a schoolboy makes a snowball, he squeezes a handful or two of light snow into a hard compact lump.

b. In allusive use. (Common in the 17th c.)

(*a*) 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* IV. iii. 114 Your good heart gathers like a snow-ball, Now your affection's cold. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 519 They passed through Fraunce, Germanie, Hungarie, their company (like a snow-ball) encreasing as they went. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* vi. 75 For reports we know like snow balls gather still the farther they roule. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 163 For they are like a snow-ball, and intend to gather company as they go. 1828 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 610 His army, increasing like a snowball. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 43 The Caravan like a snow-ball, increases in bulk as it rolls on.

(*b*) 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 35 The rebels took their way toward York,..but their snow-ball did not gather as it went. 1645 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1647) 3 Before this snowball grew greater by rolling, Count Mansfield raiseth forces. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xix. Wks. 1851 III. 473 Such a Snowball hee might easily gather by rowling through those cold and dark provinces of ignorance and leudness.

†**c.** *Sc.* In the fig. phr. *to cast snowballs*, to be reserved or distant. *Obs.*

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, I trow sae,..lasses will come to at last, Tho' for a while they maun their snaw-baws cast. 1821 LIDDLE *Poems* 236 The lasses a' their snaw-baws cast, For fear we should betray.

d. The pastime of snow-balling.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 55. 3/2 A Game at Snow-ball.

2. *Cookery.* One or other of various dishes or confections intended to resemble a ball of snow in appearance.

1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 263 To make Snow Balls. Pare five large..apples, make a little good hot paste, and roll your apples in it,..make iceing for them..and ice them all over with it about a quarter of an inch thick. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* xxx, A dozen loaves of cake, and ever so many snow-balls. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 887 Fry the snowballs till they are lightly set.

3. *slang* or *jocular.* (See quots.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Snowball*, a jeering appellation for a negroe. 1819 MOORE *Tom Crib's Memor.* (ed. 3) 45 *note*, *Lily-whites* (or *Snow-balls*), Negroes. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlvi, The sweep was passing by, and I called him 'snow-ball'.

4. a. The Guelder rose, *Viburnum opulus*, or one of its clusters of white flowers.

1799 SOUTHEY *Eng. Ecl.* Poet Wks. III. 4 In spring the lilac and the snow-ball flower. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Snow-ball*, the Guelder Rose. 1850 *Beck's Florist* July 171 Here's snowballs, and waxberries, and mock-orange flowers, and lilacs. 1880 BESSEY *Botany* 518 Many species [of *Caprifoliaceæ*] are ornamental—e.g...*Viburnum*, the Snowball.

b. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1834 AUDUBON *Ornith.* II. 121 The Swamp Snowball, *Hydrangea quercifolia*,..found on the broken sandy banks bordering small watercourses. 1902 *Webster's Suppl.*, *Wild snowball*..., the New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus Americanus*), so called from its clusters of small white flowers. 1909 *Cent. Dict.* Suppl., *Little snowball*, the button-bush, *Cephalanthus occidentalis*.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Miscellaneous, as *snowball chrysanthemum*, *fritters*, *-like* adv., *-war*.

1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* I. 188 Fame, snow-ball like, *crescit eundo*. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 887 Snowball Fritters. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 4/1 Giant snowball chrysanthemums. 1901 'IAN MACLAREN' *Yng. Barbarians* iv, As the snowball war was a serious affair.

b. *Snowball-tree*, the Guelder rose (cf. 4 a).

So WFris. *sniebalbeam*, Du. *sneeuwbalboom*, Sw. *snöbollsbuske*, *-träd*.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Snowball-tree, *Viburnum*. 1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8713/2 This tree when in bloom exhibits a singularly fine appearance; the flowers..are collected numerously into large globular umbels round like a ball; hence, it is sometimes called *snowball-trees*. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 168 The well-known Snow-ball Tree..is a cultivated state, with the whole cyme turned into large sterile flowers.

c. Used to denote increase by a kind of geometrical progression, as *snowball contribution*, *letter*, *system*, etc.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 7/2 An anonymous 'snowball' contribution has been started. 1899 *Ibid.* 28 Jan. 6/1 The scheme of old-age pensions on the snowball system... They offer magnificent terms to any assurer who gets them ten other assurers,..and so on, like the rolling snowball.

Snowball (snōu-bǫl), *v.* [f. prec. in sense 2 perh. a back-formation from *snow-balling*: but cf. Fris. *sniebalje*, G. *schneeballen*.]

1. *intr.* To form balls or masses of snow.

1684 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1883) III. 343 It fell a considerable snow...I..found it very dangerous way, for it snow-balled on my horses feet.

2. *trans.* To throw a snowball at (a person); to pelt with snowballs. Also *fig.*

1855 in Hyde Clarke *Dict.* 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Feb. 2/3 The..Opposition..could do nothing but snowball the other side with Pigott all the evening. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Apr. 10/1 To hear the old gentleman tell how he had actually snowballed Keats.

3. *intr.* To throw snowballs.

1860 in Worcester. 1866 Miss Yonge *Dove in Eagle's Nest* ix, Christina..had been watching them snowballing in the castle court.

So **Sno·wba·lling** *vbl. sb.*, the action or pastime of making and throwing snowballs.

1870 Aldrich *Story of a Bad Boy* xii. 124 Snow-balling at school, skating on the mill-pond,..were sports no less exhilarating. 1887 H. Smart *Cleverly Won* iv. 28 They skated,.. and at times even relaxed so far as to fall to snowballing. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 30 Dec. 10/1 The mobbing and snowballing of Mr. Gladstone's party.

Snowberry (snōu·be:ri). [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneebeere* (Nemnich).] A name given to various plants or shrubs bearing white berries, or to the fruit of these.

When denoting the plant or shrub, freq. used attrib. with *bush* (or *tree*). In the earliest example the identification is doubtful:—1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Snowberry-bush, *Lonicera.*

1. A rubiaceous shrub (*Chiococca racemosa*), native to the West Indies and Florida, cultivated as a greenhouse or hothouse plant.

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 678 Hothouse Plants...Snow-berry. 1839 R. Sweet *Hothouse & Greenh. Man.* (ed. 6) 54 *Chiococca racemosa* or Snow-berry-bush, thrives well in a mixture of loam and peat. 1864 Grisebach *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Snowberry, *Chiococca racemosa.*

2. A caprifoliaceous shrub (*Symphoricarpus racemosus*), native to North America and Mexico, commonly grown in gardens and shrubberies.

(*a*) 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 69 The late Governor Lewis first brought to this city seeds of the snow-berry bush. 1872 Christina Rossetti *Sing Song* 10 A song-singing thrush, Dead at the foot of a snowberry bush. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* I. 16 The branches of a snowberry tree.

(*b*) 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 69 Snow-berry is a very ornamental shrub. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* 313 The berries..of *Symphoricarpus*, the Snow-berry of our shrubberies, appear to be harmless. 1882 *Garden* 25 Feb. 134/1 The Snowberry..stands almost alone as the representative of the white fruited section.

b. The fruit of this shrub.

1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 245 Smart mulatto girls, with snow-berries in their hair. 1861 Mrs. Stowe *Pearl of Orr's Island* 7 The cheek was white and bloodless as a snowberry.

3. *U.S.* **a.** *Creeping snowberry*, a trailing evergreen plant (*Chiogenes hispidula*) common in bogs and woods.

1856 Gray *Man. Bot.* (1860) 250 *Chiogenes*, Creeping Snow-berry. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 125 Creeping snow-berry, painted trillium. 1872 De Vere *Americanisms* 404 The queen of them all is said to be the lovely, creeping snowberry (*Chiogenes hispidula*).

b. The wintergreen, checkerberry, or tea-berry.

1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 789/2 The name Snowberry is also given to *Gaultheria serpyllifolia*, a native of the bogs of North America.

4. *Austr.* The wax-cluster, *Gaultheria hispida.*

1880 Mrs. Meredith *Tasmanian Friends & Foes* 11 The 'Snow-berry' or 'Wax cluster' is also called native Arbutus.

Snow'-bird. Also snow bird, snowbird. [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *sneeuwvogel*, G. *schneevogel.*]

1. One or other of various small European or American birds, *esp.* the snow-bunting (*Plectrophanes nivalis*), snow-finch (*Montifringilla nivalis*), or snow-sparrow (*Junco hiemalis*).

In the first group of quotations there is some indication of the precise bird intended.

(*a*) 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 996 The Snow-bird which I take to be much the same with our Hedge Sparrow; this is so called because it seldom appears about Houses but against Snow or very cold Weather. 1709 J. Lawson *Hist. Carolina* 146 The Snow-Birds are most numerous in the North Parts of America, where there are great Snows... They are like the Stones Smach, or Wheat-Ears. 1750 G. Edwards *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. Pl. 126 The Snow-Bird from Hudson's-Bay. This Bird..agrees exactly in Size and Shape with our great Pyed Mountain-Finch, or Brambling. 1771 J. R. Forster tr. *Kalm's Trav.* II. 81 The Swedes call a species of little birds, *Snofogel*, and the English call it Snow-bird. Snow-flake. 1810 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* II. 129 Snow-Bird, *Fringilla nivalis. Ibid.* 131 The Snow-bird is six inches long, and nine in extent. 1839 Audubon *Sym. Birds N. Amer.* 106 *Niphæa*, Snow-Bird. *Ibid.* 107 *Niphæa Oregona*, Oregon Snow-Bird. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xli. (1856) 379 Crowds of little snow-birds (*Emberiza* and *Plectrophanes*), with white breasts and jetty coverts. 1884 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 377 *Junco*, Snow Sparrows. Snow-birds. *Ibid.*, *Junco hiemalis*,.. Eastern Snow-bird. Black Snow-bird.

(*b*) 1798 Miss H. M. Williams *Tour Switzerland* II. App. 293 Her sledgy-car..O'er the pellucid ice her snow-birds drew. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Regions* I. 535 The snow-bird, though so delicate in its appearance, is almost as ravenous as the fulmar. 1841 Bryant *Poems, Winter-Piece* 30 The snow-bird twitter'd on the beechen bough. 1880 W. Newton *Serm. for Boys* (1881) 358 The little snow-birds seem to enjoy it all. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Sept. 681 From the first nest..to the last, which was that of a snow-bird.

2. The ivory gull, *Pagophila eburnea.*

1831 Rennie *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 470 Snow Bird, (*Larus eburneus*). 1843 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* III. 449 *Larus candidus*, The Snow-bird.

Snow'-blind, *a.* Also snowblind. [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. Du. *sneeuw-*, G. *schnee-*, Da. *sne-*, Sw. *snöblind.*] Having the eyes or sight affected by exposure to the glare of snow.

1748 H. Ellis *Voy. Hudson's Bay* 189 [Indians] frequently become Snow-blind in the Spring of the Year. 1865 *Times* 5 Feb., When the day at length dawned there was a thick fog, and I was rapidly becoming snow-blind. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* 728/2 Every man in the party but myself was more or less severely snow-blind.

So **Snow-blinded** *a.*

1839–52 Bailey *Festus* 316 As tired wanderer, snow-blinded, sinks And swoons upon the swelling drift.

Snow-blindness. Also snowblindness. [Cf. prec.] Blindness or defective vision caused by exposure of the eyes to the glare of snow.

1748 H. Ellis *Voy. Hudson's Bay* 137 This Invention prevents Snow-Blindness, a very grievous and painful Distemper, occasioned by the Action of the Light strongly reflected from the Snow upon the Eyes. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 202 The glare of the snow..gave them what was called the snow blindness. 1862 *Peaks, Passes & Glac.* II. 377 Snow-blindness, which..is not blindness at all, but merely a painful affection of the eyes. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Apr. 5/1 There were thirty cases of snowblindness and twenty-six cases of frostbite.

fig. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis Faith* Pref. p. xiii, The snow-blindness of moral insensibility.

Snow-broth. Also *Sc.* snaw-broo, -bru. [f. Snow *sb.*[1]] Melted snow; water produced or obtained by the melting of snow, esp. from natural causes.

α. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxi. xxxvi. 413 They were faine to go upon the bare yce underneath, and in the slabberie snow-broth. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 58 A man, whose blood Is very snow-broth. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* viii. § 2 (1689) 89 In cold, frosty or snowy Weather or where store of Snow-broth is in the River. α 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Snow-broth*, Snow-water. 1845 Judd *Margaret* I. vi, This is none of your snow-broth,..it's warming. 1862 C. C. Robinson *Dial. Leeds* 416 *Snow-broth*,.. snow melted in a vessel is so called. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Apr. 5/1 The bitter east winds of March,..and the almost certain 'snow-broth' in the water.

β. 1787 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 120 In mony a torrent down the snaw-broo rowes. 1803 *Prize Ess. Highl. Soc.* II. 400 Until the melted snow (snaw bru) is out of the water. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Jan. 7/2 Fishing will almost certainly be temporarily stopped on account of the 'snaw-broo'.

Snow-bunting. [f. Snow *sb.*[1]] A fringilline bird, *Plectrophanes nivalis*, widely distributed in Arctic regions.

1771 Forster *Catal. Anim. N. Amer.* 11 Snow-bunting. *Emberiza Nivalis.* 1783 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. i. 161 Snow Bunting. Size of the Chaffinch. 1811 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* III. 39 The Snow Bunting derives a considerable part of its food from the seeds of certain aquatic plants. 1843 Yarrell *Brit. Birds* I. 426 The Snow Bunting may be generally considered as only a winter visitor to this country. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 29 Titmice, redpoll linnets, snow buntings and other northern *Fringillidæ.*

Snow-clad, *a.* [f. Snow *sb.*[1]] Clad or covered with snow.

1809 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. lx, Oh, thou Parnassus!..soaring snow-clad through thy native sky. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 10 Whence it stretched..to snow-clad mountains separating it from China. 1865 *Proc. R. Geogr. Soc.* 16 Mr. Thornton made numerous observations of the snow-clad peak.

transf. 1839 Sterling *Poems, Coleridge* 153 With sybil eyes, and brow By age snow-clad, yet bright with summer's glow.

Snow-cold, *a.* [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. OE. *snáw-ceald*, G. *schneekalt.*] As cold as snow.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 67 The Sonne of God hath sought to resolue thy snow-colde hart into water. 1832 Tennyson *Œnone* 140 Over her snow-cold breast and angry cheek. 1844 Louisa S. Costello *Béarn & Pyrenees* II. 88 In its snow-cold water I dipped my travelling-cup. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* (ed. 2) 14 Æternal silence laid her snow-cold hand Upon his lips.

† **Snowcrie.** *Obs.*[−1] (Meaning uncertain.)

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 111 Not in Goddis gospel, but in Sathanas pistile, wher of sorowe and of snowcrie noon is to seken.

Snowdon (snōu·dən). Forms: (see quots.). [See note.] *Snowdon herald*, one of the six Scottish heralds. Also *ellipt.*

Snowdon was occ. used as a name for Stirling, but Jamieson cites statements that the designation of the herald was derived from 'Snowdoune castle of the county of Rosse': cf. his note on Barbour's *Bruce* (1820) III. 410 (=IV. 181), and the entry in his Dictionary s.v. *Snawdoune.*

1450 *Excheq. Rolls Scot.* V. 382 Et per solucionem factam Snawdoun heraldo, equitanti..ad regem Anglie,..*xli.* 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 45 Gevin to Snawdone,.. passande to Anwic [on] secrete materis of the Kingis, xl*s.* 1568 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 47/2 Johne patersone snadoun herauld. 1592–3 *Excheq. Rolls Scot.* XXII. 308 To Snawdoun,..Rothissay, Merchimont herauldis, every ane of thame takand in the yeir £20. 1636 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VI. 100 James Law, Snadoune herald, charged him to..render his house of Arradoull within fifteen days. 1710 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* II. 414 There are Six Heralds [in Scotland], Albany, Rothesay, Snadown, Marchmont, Yla, and Ross. 1863 [see Ross *sb.*[1]].

Snowdonian (snōudōu·niăn), *a.* [f. the place-name *Snowdon* (see def.) + -ian.] Of or pertaining to Snowdon, a lofty mountain in North Wales; relating to, found at or near, Snowdon.

1820 Shelley *Let. Maria Gisborne* 239 The milk-white Snowdonian Antelope. 1829 H. L. Jones (*title*), Illustrations of the Natural Scenery of the Snowdonian Mountains. 1855 A. Sedgwick *British Palæozoic Rocks* Introd. p. xli. *note*, The Snowdonian fossils were both embedded amongst, and overlaid by, contemporaneous plutonic rocks. 1897 Watts-Dunton *Aylwin* xii. iv, Those Snowdonian spirits which her music was supposed to have evoked from the mountain air.

Snow-drift. Also snowdrift. [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. Norw. dial. *snjodrift, -driv*, ON. *snjódrif*, Sw. *snödrifva*, Da. *snedrive.*]

1. A heap or mass of snow driven together, or piled up, by the action of the wind.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 9932 Wit-in þis castel þat sua es tift, þat quitter es þan snau drif [*read* drift, *but the Gött. MS. has* on drift]. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xx. cxxxvi, As against the warm'th of Titans fire, Snow drifts consume. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxxv, I would rather keep watch on a snow-drift. 1860 G. A. Spottiswoode *Vac. Tour* 96 We were soon planted in a snow-drift, fifty or sixty yards long, higher than the carriage. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* ii. § 4. 72 He..helped with his own hands to clear a road through the snowdrifts.

transf. 1864 *Daily Telegr.* 16 July, There are snowdrifts of pearls of great price.

2. A driving mass or cloud of snow; snow driven before the wind.

1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 200 He.. never walked farther from the ships than a mile, for fear of being overtaken by a snow-drift. 1892 J. Lumsden *Sheephead & Trotters* 137 The snawdrift, o'er Soutra, in tempest was blawing.

Snowdrop (snōu·drǫp). Also snow-drop. [f. Snow *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneetropfen, -tröpfchen, -tröpflein*, Sw. *snödroppe*; also G. *schneeglocke*, Du. *sneeuwklokje*, Da. *sneklokke*, Sw. *snöklocka* 'snow-bell'.]

1. An early-flowering bulbous plant (*Galanthus nivalis*), having a white pendent flower; also, a flower, bulb, or single plant of this.

1664 Boyle *Colours* 264 Those purely White Flowers that appear about the end of Winter, and are commonly call'd Snow drops. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 81 December... Flowers in Prime,..Snow flowers or drops, Yucca, &c. 1728–46 Thomson *Spring* 529 Fair-handed Spring..Throws out the snowdrop, and the crocus first. 1763–5 Churchill *Gotham* I. Poems 1767 II. 12 The Snow-drop, who, in habit white and plain Comes on the Herald of fair Flora's train. 1796 Withering *Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) I. 21 The Snow-drop, though not frequent in a wild state, is to be found in almost every Garden. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* I. 13 The snowdrop, and then the violet, Arose from the ground with warm rain wet. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Garden* (1861) 42 There are single and double snowdrops. 1872 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 220 The snowdrop only, flowering thro' the year, Would make the world as blank as winter-tide.

attrib. 1811 W. R. Spencer *Poems* 66 The snow-drop paths of innocence. 1865 Allingham *50 Mod. Poems, Vernal Voluntary*, Snowdrop-flow'r, and crocus. 1894 *Daily News* 1 June 8/1 The cold and rather trying purity of snowdrop white.

b. *transf.* Applied to a girl.

1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, Our little snow-drop, as I call her, is the cause. 1884 *Milnor* (Dakota) *Teller* 27 June, A photograph gallery where the boys will gather with their little Dakota snowdrops.

2. With distinctive terms, or *attrib.* (see quots.).

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Narcisso-Leucojum*, Lesser Bulbous-violet or Snow-drop. *Ibid.*, Greater Snow-drop or Bulbous-violet. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 50 *Anemone sylvestris*, Large white flowered or Snow Drop Anemone. 1848 Craig II. s.v. *Snow*, The *placid snowdrop* is the Galanthis plicatus, a native of the Crimea. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Royena, R. lucida*, known as *African snowdrop*, or *African bladder-nut*, is a pretty greenhouse species.

3. Used as a name for a variety of wheat or potato.

1844 C. Hillyard *Pract. Farm. & Grazing* (ed. 4) 89 The Whittington, and my snowdrop white wheat. 1900 *Daily News* 23 July 2/5 Potatoes: Early Puritans,..Snowdrops.

Snow'drop tree. [f. prec.]

1. The Virginian fringe-tree, *Chionanthus virginica.*

1731 Miller *Gard. Dict.*, *Arbor Zeylanica*,..the Snow-drop Tree...This Tree is very hardy in respect to Cold, standing abroad in the open Air. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Snow-drop-tree*, a very beautiful American tree, which bears the cold of our climate in the open air. *Ibid.*, App., *Snow-drop-tree*, the English name of a genus of trees, called by botanists *chionanthus.* 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 327. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 270/2 *Chionanthus*, the Snowdrop tree of North America [etc.].

2. A North American styraceous tree or shrub, *Halesia tetraptera.*

1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.* s.v. *Halesia*, Four-winged Halesia, or Snow-drop Tree. 1831 Audubon *Ornith. Biog.* I. 123 The Snow-Drop Tree, Silver-Bell Tree, or Wild Olive. 1857 Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* § 509 *Halesia tetraptera*, another North American plant, is called the Snowdrop-tree, on account of its numerous white bell-shaped blossoms. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 320 The snow-drop tree..is one of the hardiest of North American trees.

3. A West Indian tree (see quots.).

1864 Grisebach *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Snowdrop tree, *Hæmanthus incrassatus.* 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Linociera, L. incrassata* of Jamaica, a large tree with panicles of white flowers, is called *snowdrop-tree.*

4. *African snowdrop tree*, = Snowdrop 2 (quot. 1891). 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Snowed (snōud), *ppl. a.* [f. Snow *sb.*[1] or *v.*]

1. Cooled with snow. *rare*[−1].

1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* II. § 1 Nero..lingring after his snowed water, hardly got down an ordinary cup of *Calda.*

2. Covered with snow.

1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. 184 The sweep of snowed mountains to the eastward. *Ibid.* II. 60 It..flowed amongst little snowed mountains.

3. *Snowed-up*, blocked, stopped, or covered with snow.

1836 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administ.* (1837) III. 302 Not one of the *Standard's* snowed-up sixty has found his way to the House of Commons. 1881 *Times* 19 Jan. 10/2 Passing the night in the snowed-up train. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 364 The valley..contained every few miles a snowed-up village.

Snowfall (snōu·fǫl). Also **snow-fall.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneefall*, Da. *sneefald*, Sw. *snöfall*, ON. *snæ-*, *snjófall.*]

1. A fall of snow; a quantity of snow falling during a certain time.

1821 W. C. WELLS *Ess. Dew* (1866) 42 Immediately after a considerable snowfall had ceased. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 149 During melting snow-falls, turkeys will travel very great distances. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Oct. 4/6 In various parts of the country..there was a rather heavy snowfall.

2. The amount of snow falling at a particular place.

1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* 382 The fact..proves that the snowfall must be great. 1889 F. G. WRIGHT *Ice Age N. Amer.* 13 There is abundance of snow-fall.

Snow-field. Also **snowfield.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneefeld*, Sw. *snöfält.*] An extensive stretch or expanse of snow.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, The snowfields seemed to bloom with glowing sorrel-flowers. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xxiii. 224 The snow-fields before us to the south. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) v. 120 The sun had long touched the higher snow-fields.

Snow-finch. Also **snow finch.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1]] A species of mountain-finch. (See also quot. 1839.)

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* II. I. 264 Snow Finch.. inhabits various parts of the European continent. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VII. 139 The Snow Finch, *Fringilla Nivalis*. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* V. 68 Oregon Snow-Finch, *Fringilla Oregona*. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 676 The Snow-Finch of the Alps, *M[ontifringilla] nivalis*, so often mistaken by travellers for the Snow-Bunting, *Plectrophanes nivalis*. 1894–5 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 388 The snow-finches form a small group possessing the characteristic form of the true finches.

Snowflake (snōu·flēk). Also **snow-flake.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] + FLAKE *sb.*[2]]

1. One of the small masses in which snow commonly falls.

1734 *Cupid & Psyche* 28 Soft as the cygnet's down his wings, And as the falling snowflake fair. 1822 SHELLEY *'We meet not as we parted'* ii, That moment is gone for ever,..Like a snowflake upon the river. 1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* III. ii. (1850) II. 39 A white cloud of pavilions was seen covering the ground as thick as snow-flakes. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 63 The largest snow-flakes fall when the temperature is near the freezing point.

2. The snow-bunting. (Cf. SNOW-FLECK.)

1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 17 Snow Flake. These birds appear in hard weather on the Cheviot Hills, and in the Highlands of Scotland, in amazing flocks. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 547 The snowflake, the rail or corncrake. 1837 DUNN *Ornith. Orkn. & Shetl.* 79 The Snowflake appears regularly in both countries. 1845 *Zoologist* III. 822 In hard winters snowflakes come from the North by thousands. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 133 Snow Bunting. Snowflake. In breeding plumage, pure white, the back, wings and tail variegated with black.

3. One or other variety of *Leucojum.*

1798 CURTIS *Fl. Londinensis* II. pl. 72 As it differs very essentially in its fructification from the *Galanthus* we have thought it necessary to give it the new English name of *Snowflake*. 1806 J. GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 168 *Leucojum æstivum*, summer snow-flake. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Spring Snowflake, *Erinosma*. 1882 *Garden* 28 Jan. 56/3 The Snowflake..is in full bloom, but owing to want of sun, has not expanded its flowers. 1899 *Gardening Illustr.* 27 May 167/1 In the earliest spring..the Spring Snowflake (*L. vernum*) is flowering in southern gardens...Later on comes the taller-growing Summer Snowflake (*L. æstivum*).

4. (See quot.) Also *attrib.*

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew.* 452/2 *Snow-flake*, a term employed to denote a particular method of weaving woollen cloths, by which process small knots are thrown upon the face. 1890 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 1/6 A Large Lot..Snowflake Costumes, all Pure Wool.

5. A name for a variety of potato.

1882 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 2 Potatoes,..foreign Snow-flakes.

Snow-fleck. Also **snowfleck, snow fleck.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. prec. 2.] The snow-bunting, or Lapland bunting.

1683 A. GARDEN in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Coll.* (S.H.S.) II. 142 In winter there is great abundance of the small bird called the Snowfleck. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* XXVIII, Your account of the greater brambling, or snow-fleck, is very amusing. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 304 The fieldfare,..snowfleck, and other birds of passage. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 153/1 The Lapland Bunting.., often called the Snow-fleck. 1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 46 *Snow fleck*, snow bunting.

Snow-flower. Also **snowflower.**

†**1.** = SNOWDROP 1. *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 81 December,..Flowers in Prime, ..Snow flowers or drops, Yucca, &c.

2. (See quot.)

1836 *Backwoods Canada* 240–1 The hepatica is the first flower of the Canadian spring...[They] call it snow-flower, from its coming so soon after the snow disappears.

3. = SNOWDROP TREE 1.

1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* IV. 527/1 The Common Fringe tree or Snowflower..has..very numerous snow-white flowers in panicled racemes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1067/2 Snowflower, *Chionanthus virginica.*

†**Snowge,** obs. form of SNUDGE *sb.* 1.

c 1570 *Durham Deposit.* (Surtees) 106 Sainge that the said Bartram was a covetous snowge. *Ibid.* 107.

Snow-goose. Also **snow goose.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. Flem. *sneeuwgans* (Kilian) wild goose, G. *schneegans* (MHG. *snēgans*) wild goose, snow-goose, pelican.] A northern (American) goose of the genus *Chen*, esp. *C. hyperboreus*, characterized by its pure white plumage.

1771 FORSTER *Catal. N. Amer. Anim.* 16 Snow Goose, *Anas nivalis*. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 549 Snow Goose, *Anser Grandinis*..: head, neck, and body of a snowy whiteness. 1814 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VIII. 76 Snow Goose, *Anas hyperborea*. 1838 AUDUBON *Ornith.* IV. 562 The geographical range of the Snow Goose is very extensive. 1860 MAYNE REID *Hunter's Feast* xxvii, We had also a pair of Canada geese, a snow-goose, and three brant. 1884 LATHROP *True* x. 113 The snow-goose had already been heard piping in the air, on its southward flight.

Snowily (snōu·ili), *adv.* [f. SNOWY *a.*] In a snowy manner; with or through snow; as snow.

1852 M. ARNOLD *Youth of Nature* 40 Afar rose the peaks Of Parnassus, snowily clear. 1862 THORNBURY *Life Turner* I. 15 The wig is frizzed and snowily powdered. 1887 BOWEN *Virg., Ecl.* II. 16 Dark though he be of complexion, and thou all snowily fair!

Snowiness (snōu·inės). [f. as prec.]. The state or condition of being snowy; whiteness.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sleetiness*, Raininess and Snowiness. 1868 M. C. LEA *Photogr.* 210 These last may..give an effect of snowiness in the high lights. 1894 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 6/5 The cool dining room..with its glossy snowiness of napery.

Snow·ing, *vbl. sb.* [f. SNOW *v.*] The fact of snow falling; the result of this. Also with *in*, and *fig.*

a 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1355 A brid brist þai ches As blod opon snoweing. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646, Because by the frequent snowing the tracts are continualy fill'd up. 1801 MOORE *Bk. Follies* 21 White as the snowings of that Heaven By which those hours of peace were given. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. i, It is a sheer snowing of pamphlets; like to snow up the Government thoroughfares. 1885 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 170 Soon the snowfalls become more heavy, and the 'snowing-in' begins. *Ibid.*, The 'snowing-in' period is often supposed to be an extremely objectionable and almost intolerable time.

Snowish (snōu·iš), *a.* Also 4–5 **snowisse,** 5 **-ych,** 6 **-yshe, snawishe,** 7 *Sc.* **-isch.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** Resembling snow in whiteness; snowy, snow-white. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1250 Her snowisse throte, hir brestis rounde and lyte. 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund* App. 189 A dowe with snowych fetherys whight. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXVII. 9 This angellis weid wes snawith [*read* -ich] in cullour. 1540 PALSGRAVE *Acolastus* II. ii, O Festyuall daye, worthy a snowyshe lytell stone. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. XX, Her Snowish necke with blewish Vaines. 1603 *Philotus* lxi, Your snawisch cheiks lyke quhytest Allabast.

2. Characterized by the presence or prevalence of snow; somewhat snowy.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. vi. H vj b, Though whiskinge wyndes do shaue the earth, and though the snawishe day Be shorte, and sharpe.

†**3.** Covered with snow. *Obs.*[-1]

1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* IV. 75 Tanais floud all snowish (or all ouerlaid with snow), And grounds at no time void of frosts.

Snowk, variant of SNOKE *v.*

Snow·less, *a.* [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneelos*, Da. *snelos*, Sw. *snölos*, etc.] Free from snow; characterized by the absence of snow.

1828–32 WEBSTER (citing Tooke). 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. iv. 249 A belt, below which, in summer, snowless valleys and plains would extend. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* LXX. 206 It was a black and snowless winter until late in January. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 395 The higher summits by midsummer are snowless.

Snow-like, *a.* and *adv.* [f. SNOW *sb.*[1]]

A. *adj.* Like or resembling snow in colour, appearance, etc.

1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XXXV. (1687) 433 But after their resurrection they were of a pure white snow-like colour. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 209/1 With a Glass Spoon take off the Snow-like Cream as it arises. 1820 SHELLEY *Prom. Unb.* II. iv. 95 Cities then Were built, and through their snow-like columns flowed The warm winds. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* 526 Another portion is frozen into a white snow-like solid. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sketches* 126 A motionless drift of snow-like cloud.

B. *adv.* In or after the manner of snow.

1850 MRS. BROWNING *Man's Requirem.* iv, Their lids, that fall Snow-like at first meeting.

Snow-line. Also **snowline.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneelinie*, Sw. *snölinie.*]

1. The general level on mountains, etc., above which the snow never completely disappears; the lower limit of perpetual snow, or (more rarely) of snow at a particular season.

1835 *Partington's Brit. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* II. 712/2 The snow-line, or plane of perpetual snow, is the elevation at which mountains are covered with perpetual snow. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* XI. (1852) 245 As the snow-line is so low in Tierra del Fuego, we might have expected that many of the glaciers would have reached the sea. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* II. 28 If those currents were warm, they would elevate the snow-line above themselves.

fig. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 468 My thought of thee Above all passionate fire-peaks and above The sacred snowline of my heart. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Dec. 2/2 Mr. Haldane.. viewing men and things from above his snow-line.

2. (See quot.)

1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 425 In pastoralists' language of New Zealand, 'above the snow-line' is land covered by snow in winter, but free in summer.

Snow-man. Also **snowman.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. Fris. *snieman*, G. *schneeman*, Da. *snemand.*]

1. A mass of snow made into the figure of a man. Also *transf.*, a man dressed so as to represent or imitate this.

1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 3 Making rude forms of various names, Snow-men, or aught his fancy frames. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/2 Six men, dressed in wadding and representing musical snowmen.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1902 *Academy* 27 Dec. 712/1 The daylight passed in snowman-making on the meadow. 1908 S. A. COOK *Relig. Anc. Palestine* iii. 31 Small idols..in the clumsy 'snow-man' technique.

2. *dial.* The snow-bunting.

1893 COZENS-HARDY *Broad Norf.* 49.

Snow·manship. *nonce-wd.* [Cf. ICEMANSHIP.] Skill in traversing snow.

1869 FRESHFIELD *Central Caucasus & Bashan* vii. 194 We spent a pleasant hour on our lofty perch, and then, by a rapid act of what may be called 'snowmanship', rejoined Paul and Alexis.

†**'Snowns.** *Obs.* (See NOUNS and OD 2.)

1594 R. WILSON *Coblers Proph.* I. i. 63 Course me, snowns, I would thou durst come out of dore.

Snow-plough. Also **snow plough,** *U.S.* **-plow.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneepflug*, Da. *sneplov*, Sw. *snöplog.*] An implement or machine for clearing away snow from a road, railway track, etc.

A number of the various makes are described in Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2230–1 and *Suppl.* 826.

1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New-Hampshire* III. 79 When a deep snow has obstructed the roads, they are in some places opened by an instrument called a snow plough. It is made of planks, in a triangular form, with two side boards to turn the snow out on either hand. 1829 D. CONWAY *Journ. Norway*, etc. 148 Immediately after the snow has ceased the snow-plough is used. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Snow-plough*, a machine for clearing away snow from railway tracks. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C. 1887* XXXIV. (1892) 379 The huge snow ploughs (driven sometimes by six or eight locomotives) had been at work.

†**Snowre,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To frown or scowl. So †**Snowring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 326 And if þou be wed þou may happen wed a shrew at will be þi maister, and þou bus..suffer many grete wurd & say nothyng agayn, & hafe a snowryng cowntenance. 1508 *Mayd Emlyn* 177 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 89 Whan she dothe loure, And begynneth to snowre. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 210 Small diffrence betweene lowryng and snowryng.

Snow·-shoe, *sb.* Also **snow shoe.** [f. SNOW *sb.*[1] Cf. G. *schneeschuh*, Sw. *snösko.*]

1. a. A kind of foot-gear enabling the wearer to walk on the surface of snow, *esp.* one of a pair of racket-shaped frames of light wood, strung and netted with narrow strips of raw hide, used by the Indians and others in North America.

1674 JOSSELYN *Two Voy.* 55 A crust upon the snow sufficient to bear a man walking with snow-shoos upon it. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. iii. 375 A Snow-Shooe, used in Greenland, and some other places. 1707 in *Sewall's Diary* (1879) II. 60 They made her put on Snow Shoes, which to manage, requires more than ordinary agility. 1773 *Hist. Brit. Dom. N. Amer.* II. 59 In winter, when the snow would bear, they put on snow-shoes, which were made like a large tennis-racket, and laced them to their feet with the guts of deer. 1806 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 69 Who.. went so fast as to render it difficult, for the men with snow shoes, to keep up with them. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. xxx. 254 The snow shoes are made in a great many forms,..of a hoop or hoops, bent around for the frame [etc.]. 1884 DAWSON *Hdbk. Canada* 230 It is quite usual in Montreal for young ladies to walk on snow-shoes [etc.].

b. One of a pair of ski.

1864 DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 185, I can..ride, swim, glide on snowshoon. 1901 H. SEEBOHM *Birds of Siberia* v. 44 On snow-shoes we got along comfortably... They were about seven feet long and six inches wide.

2. *U.S.* The snow-shoe rabbit (see 3).

1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C. 1887* XXIII. (1892) 261 The Snowshoe..is the largest kind of alpine hare.

3. *attrib.*, as *snow-shoe excursion, expedition, step, track*, etc.; **snow-shoe disease,** evil (see quot. 1809); **snow-shoe foot,** a foot (in certain animals) adapted for walking on snow; **snow-shoe rabbit** (see quot. 1889).

1760 *Lett. to Hon. Brigadier General* 5 The Snow-Shoes Expeditions of America. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 68, I was now troubled with a disorder, called the snow-shoe evil, proceeding from an unusual strain on the tendons of the leg, occasioned by the weight of the snow-shoe, and brings on inflammation. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Rabbit, Snow-shoe rabbit*, that variety of the American varying hare which is found in the Rocky Mountains...It has been described as a distinct species, *Lepus bairdi*. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 271/2 A scuffling, sliding, snow-shoe step. *Ibid.* 357/1 In a mild climate the snowshoe foot might frequently be a serious drawback.

Hence **Snow'-shoe** *v. intr.*, to travel on snow-shoes or ski; **Snow'-shoed** *a.*, wearing snow-shoes; **Snow'-shoeing** *vbl. sb.*, the action or practice of travelling on snow-shoes, esp. as an exercise or sport; also *attrib.*; **Snow'-shoer**, one who uses, or travels on, snow-shoes.

1880 C. B. Berry *The Other Side* 214 As we *snowshoed over Lake Joseph. 1890 Hibbs in *Big Game N. Amer.* 41 The depth of snow..does not enter into account when snow-shoeing. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 726/2 The spectacle of a *snow-shoed Indian chasing the fleetest quadruped on earth. 1885 *Cent. Mag.* XXIX. 523 The vicissitudes of lacrosse, *snow-shoeing, and tobogganing. 1887 *Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 267 Which outings are the snowshoeing events of the season. 1884 Dawson *Hdbk. Canada* 230 A strong turn-out of *snow-shoers..is a very picturesque sight. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 360/2 Two fine club-houses..where snow-shoers have long fraternized.

Snow-storm. Also snowstorm. [f. Snow *sb.*1 Cf. G. *schneesturm*, Sw. *snöstorm*.] A storm accompanied by a heavy fall of snow.

a 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose, Snow-storm*, a continued snow so long as it lies on the ground. *North.* 1813 Shelley *Q. Mab* VIII. 60 Those wastes of frozen billows that were hurled By everlasting snowstorms round the poles. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiv. 170, I..climbed amid a heavy snow-storm to the Cleft station. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* 17 Bidding care Keep outside with the snow-storm.

fig. 1893 F. F. Moore *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 141 The next day there was a snow-storm, with invitation cards for flakes, on her table. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 7/2 He lived in a snow-storm of letters asking him for money.

Snow-water. Also snow water. [f. Snow *sb.*1 Cf. Fris. *sniewetter*, MDu. *snee(u)water* (Du. *sneeuwwater*), MHG. *snêwazzer* (G. *schneewasser*), etc.] Water derived or obtained from melted snow. Also *transf.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 Þe ter þet mon schet for his emcristenes sunne is inemned snaw water, for hit melt of þe neche horte swa deð þe snaw to-3eines þe sunne. 1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* 122 If I be waschyd with snaw watyr. 1535 Coverdale *Job* ix. 30 Though I wasshed my self with snowe water. 1599 Minsheu *Span. Dial.* 18 In Spaine they coole their wine by setting the flagons in snow water. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* Introd. 10 Snow-waters are grosse and ouer-cold. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) I. 74 Several streams of Snow-water run down in the Cliffs of the Hills 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* III. 454 He rejects snow water for the same reason. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 67 The inhabitants of the Peak of Derby..have large tumours or wens on their necks. This disease is generally imputed to the snow water. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 278 We supped on wild beef and snow-water. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 299 Even rain and snow-water are far from pure. 1903 A. C. P. Haggard *Sport. Yarns* 273 The snow water used to come down the Don every afternoon.

Snow-white (snōʊ'hwəit), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: (see Snow *sb.*1 and White *a.*). [f. Snow *sb.*1 Cf. Fris. *sniewit*, MDu. *sne(e)wit* (Du. *sneeuwwit*), MLG. *snewit*, MHG. *snêwîz* (G. *schneeweiss*), ON. *snæ-*, *snjóhvítr* (Sw. *snöhvit*, Da. *snehvid*).]

A. *adj.* 1. White as snow; pure white.

a. c 1000 Ælfric in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* iv. 186 Ða gesloh hine sona se snawhwita hreofla. *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 18 The hude snaw hwit swartete as hit snarchte. *c* 1205 Lay. 24521 Þreo snau-white culueren. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2443 Heo..strahte forð swiftliche þe snawhwite swire. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 29 Oxne and Bules snawquhyte with a mane thick. 1791 Burns *Tam o' Shanter* 154 Snaw-white seventeen hunder linnen!

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 115 Þe engles þe wið þe apostles stoden mid snouwite shrude. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Efter his deaðe, he com one niht.., ine snou hwite cloðes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Sec. Nun's T.* 254 Tuo corunes han we, Snow white and Rose reed, that shynen cleere. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 306 That ther he was snow whyt tofore, Evere afterward colblak therfore He was transformed. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 17 Þat we ben cladde in a snow-whyȝt stole. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 87 Heere..fowre fayre steeds snow whit I marcked. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 39 She thought she brought forth a snow-white doue. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 14 Feb. 1645, With her statue ouer it in snow-white marble. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 97 It has a body like a gnat, snow-white. 1807 Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 277 Camphoric acid thus obtained is in snow-white crystals. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. iii. 30 Above all rose the snow-white cone of the Ortler. 1877 Black *Green Past.* ii, Two snow-white and waxen hyacinths.

Comb. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Linaria*, The snow-white flowered creeping toad flax. *Ibid.* s.v. *Plumeria*, The snow-white-flowered plumeria, with..pointed leaves.

b. Clad in robes of pure white. *rare.*

1847 Emerson *Poems, Each & All*, Her beauty's best attire Was woven still by the snow-white choir.

2. In the specific names of fishes, birds, or moths (see quots.).

1804 Shaw *Gen. Zool.* V. I. 73 Snow-white Salmon. 1809 *Ibid.* VII. I. 149 Snow-White Falcon. *Ibid.* 240 Snow-white Owl spotted with black. 1832 J. Rennie *Butterfl. & Moths* 224 The Snow White Spot (*Uncuvaria spuria*). *Ibid.* 230 The Snow-white Plume (*Pterophorus niveidactylus*).

B. *sb.* a. Pure white. b. A kind of wool of this colour.

1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 170 The flowers varied in colour from snow-white to green and white flushed with crimson purple. 1896 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 9/4 Cape and Natal wools meet with good competition, and medium to superior snow-whites..have advanced.

Hence **Snow-whiteness.**

1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. iii. § 24. 53 The authority for using snow-whiteness as a type of purity.

Snow-wreath (snōʊ'rīþ). [f. Snow *sb.*1]

1. A heap of snow blown together by the wind; a snowdrift.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The tenants..were not actually turned out of doors among the snow-wreaths. 1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. ix. 139 The outer ranks melted like snow-wreaths on the river's brink. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* xi. 357 The oxen came Down from the mountain through the snow-wreaths deep.

2. As a plant-name (see quot.).

1901 Bailey & Miller *Cycl. Amer. Horticult.* III. 1079 [*Neviusia*] *Alabamensis*, Gray. Snow Wreath.

Snowy (snōʊ'i), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 snawiȝ, 3 snawi, 5, *Sc.* 8– snawy, 8 snawie. *β.* 6–7 snowie, snowey, 6– snowy. [f. Snow *sb.*1 Cf. Fris. *snieich*, MDu. *sneeich*, *sneeuwich* (Du. *sneeuwig*), OS. *snêgig* (MLG. *snêyg*, *snyig*), MHG. *schnêîg* (G. *schneeig*), Sw. *snöig*, *snögig*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of weather, time, etc.: Characterized by the presence or prevalence of snow.

c 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* III. 274 Se feorða heafod wind.. blæwð norðan cealde & snawlic [*v.r.* snawiȝ]. 1600 Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 333 It ouerfloweth not but in rainie and snowie weather. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 155 Your experienced husbandman desireth that the winter may be cold and snowie. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xviii. 133 It was a Snowy day. 1701 O. Heywood *Diaries* (1885) IV. 175 This is a snowy morning. 1748 T. Smith *Jrnl.* (1849) 270 A cold, snowy, uncomfortable month. 1800 Campbell *Ode to Winter* 53 Milder yet thy snowy breezes Pour on yonder tented shores. 1830 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 143 Let the weather be sunny or snowy. 1884 E. P. Roe *Nat. Ser. Story* vii, The snowiest day of winter.

2. Composed of melted snow; consisting, formed, or made of snow.

a. a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 251 Þer is.. toðes hechelunge iþe snawi weattres. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 346/2 Snawy, *niueus*. 1785 Burns *Addr. to Deil* xii, When thowes dissolve the snawy hoord.

β. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Niueus liquor*, snowy water. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 862 The lower Mountaines ..haue more Giantly ouer-lookers, with Snowie lockes and Cloudie lookes. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Sleetiness*, .. snowy Rain. 1754 Gray *Pleasure* 26 The sullen year Saw the snowy whirlwind fly. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 98 On the flood, Indurated and fixt, the snowy weight Lies undissolv'd. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxi, As the snowy flake, They melt. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 90 The Glacier..thrust through the black pines its snowy tongue.

3. Covered with snow; abounding in snow.

1548 Elyot, *Niualia loca*, snowy places. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* IV. i. 83 Neck, whiter then the snowie Apenines. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 98 We continually did see the snowy toppes of those Mountaines. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 137 Thence to Ayscarth, from a mountaine ..cliffs steep and snowy..saw I. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 2 Nov. 1644, Monte Mantuamiato..peeping above any clowds with its snowy head. 1784 Cowper *Task* v. 7 His slanting ray Slides ineffectual down the snowy vale. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* IV. 2 The splendour falls on castle walls And snowy summits old in story. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* ii. (1894) 49 The snowy ranges of California..seem to be unpleasantly bare and chill.

transf. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* XIII. xlv, That fire of leacherous rage Which burnt ev'n in their cold and snowy age.

4. Of or resembling the pure white colour of snow; snow-white, niveous.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 48 That godly aged Sire, With snowy lockes. *Ibid.* III. i. 38 Which staines his snowy skin with hatefull hew. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 50 So shewes a Snowy Doue trooping with Crowes. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 16 Many antient Men, venerable for their long snowy beards. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 594 Ev'n though a snowy Ram thou shalt behold. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XXIV. 93 We then collect thy snowy bones. 1786 Burns *To Mountain Daisy* v, Thy snawie bosom sun-ward spread. 1833 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Loire* 21 Towering caps of the snowiest muslin, enriched with lace. 1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 224/3 A charming little plant..with dense tufts of snowy blooms.

transf. 1646 Bp. Hall *Poems* 95 There did he loose his snowy Innocence.

b. Used to qualify *white* or *whiteness*.

1785 Pennant *Arct. Zool.* II. 549 Of a snowy whiteness. 1791 Cowper *Yardley Oak* 128 A splinter'd stump bleach'd to a snowy white. 1838 Dickens *Nicholeby* I, Stained rotten canvas looked a snowy white. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* v. 50 That snowy whiteness which I so much admired in the Breton caps. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 308 Some Alpine buttercups are snowy-white.

5. a. In the specific names of birds or animals (see quots.).

1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 557 *Snowy Auk, *Mormon Glacialis*. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, **Snowy egret* or *heron*, an entirely white egret (*Ardea candidissima*) ranging from New York to Chile. 1829 Griffith tr. *Cuvier* VI. 44 *Snowy Falcon, *Falco niveus*. 1827 *Ibid.* V. 265 *Lepus Glacialis* (*Snowy Hare). 1785 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. I, 92 *Snowy Heron, *Ardea nivea*. 1813 A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* VII. 120 Snowy Heron, *Ardea candidissima*. The Snowy Heron seems particularly fond of the salt marshes during summer. 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 267 Little White Egret. Snowy Heron. .. Plumage always entirely white. 1885 *Snowy lemming [see Lemming 2]. 1781 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. I. 132 *Snowy Owl..The whole plumage is white as snow. 1876 *Nature* XIV. 562/1 The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens..include ..two Snowy Owls (*Nyctea nivea*). 1895 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 162 The great snowy owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*) cannot be confounded with any other member of the order, being the only representative of its genus. 1777 Forster *Voy. round World* I. 96 Its colour induced us to call it the *snowy-petrel. 1895 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* IV. 525 The snowy petrel (*Pagodroma nivea*). 1872 Coues *N. Amer. Birds* 245 *Snowy Plovet..; several lateral tail feathers entirely white. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Snowy plover, *Ægialites nivosus*, a small ring-plover of the Pacific and Mexican Gulf coasts of the United States.

b. In names of flowers, etc.

1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 392 *Tussilago Nivea*. Snowy Colt's-foot. 1889 R. A. R. Bennett *Marine Aquaria* viii. 71 Snowy Anemone, ..*Sagartia nivea*. 1901 *Gardener* 12 Jan. 1047/3 In cultivation the Snowy Crowfoot [*Ranunculus amplexicaulis*] generally blooms in April or May.

c. *Snowy pear*, the snow-pear (see Snow *sb.*1 9 d).

1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 233 The snowy pears cultivated in France to make the drink called perry have become wild in the woods here and there.

6. *Comb.*, as *snowy-banded*, *-bosomed*, etc.

a 1618 Sylvester *Cup of Consolation* 10 Wks. (Grosart) II. 263 Where Snowie-winged Victory doth wun. 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* III. cxviii, Pure and snowy-countnanc'd Linen. 1717 Rowe *Ode for New Year* ii, Snowy-headed Winter leads. 1744 Akenside *Pleas. Imag.* III. 434 On the brink of Ganges waits The snowy-vested seer. 1760 Fawkes tr. *Anacreon, Ode* v. 19 With snowy-bosomed Sappho gay. 1830 Howitt *Bk. Seasons* (1837) 145 The verdurous, snowy-flowered elder. 1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Clouds* I. iii, Mimas's snowy-capped summit. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. VIII, I heard no longer The snowy-banded..priest intone. 1889 Doyle *M. Clarke* 227 A great herd of snowy-fleeced sheep.

B. *sb.* a. *slang.* Linen. b. The snowy owl.

1877 J. W. Horsley *Jottings fr. Jail* 6 We used to go and smug snowy (steal linen) that was hung out to dry. 1904 P. Fountain *Great North-West* xiii. 144 If these are European snowies, the North-West Territory bird is probably a distinct variety. *Ibid.*, The snowy made the feathers fly.

Hence **Snow'yish** *a.*, somewhat snowy.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 570 It is..rawish—coldish—icyish —snowyish.

Sno'zzle, *v. rare.* [Cf. *nozzle*, variant of Nuzzle *v.*1] *intr.* = Snuzzle *v.* 1.

1881 *Spectator* 3 Dec. 1534 The pig snozzles in the gutter.

Snub (snʊb), *sb.*1 Also 6 snobbe, snubbe. [f. Snub *v.*1 Cf. MSw. and Norw. *snubba* in sense 1; Sw. dial. *snubba* a short-stemmed pipe, short-horned cow.]

I. 1. An act or instance of snubbing; a remark or action intended to repress or rebuke a person.

1537 Cranmer in *State Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 562 Although in the meane season you suffre some snubbes..for the same, yet one day He will requite altogether. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* (1590) 209 When euer any snubs and checkes in worde or countenance vndeserued arise. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 470 In which Tragedie London..had now and then a part, and had many a snubbe at the kinges hand. *a* 1688 Bunyan *Israel's Hope Encouraged* Wks. 1852 I. 589 This word 'let' is sometimes used by way of rebuke and snub. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 10, I..must have been accustomed to snubs and rebuffs from the affluent. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 269 When we endeavour to analyse it, the immediate effect of a snub is to induce a feeling of deprivation and exposure. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Mar. 5/5 Mr. Gladstone ..administered to the most presumptuous member of the House a proper snub.

† 2. A check, stop, stay, hindrance. *Obs.*

1581 T. Lawson *Orchett* (MS. Lansd. 208 lf. 142 b), Mortimer in all haist pursued y^e^ Saxons, And gaue thame snobbes with his Britons. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 18 Thriuing without snub he will ouerlay your grafted Stocke much. 1672 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 248 Exchequer stopt from issuing forth moneyes to pay debts for this year, a snub to trade.

3. *U.S.* A sudden check given to a rope or cable in running out; a post or stake enabling this to be done. 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

II. † 4. A snag or stub. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. viii. 7 Lifting vp his dreadfull club on hight, All arm'd with ragged snubbes and knottie graine.

5. *Mech.* ? = Snug *sb.*1 2.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 19/2 The swings are attached to the frame by means of snubs.., which are bolted vertically to the lower ends of the swings.

† **Snub,** *sb.*2 *Obs.*—1 [Cf. Snub *v.*2] A sob.

1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* xxiv, He..with snubs profound, and heaving breast,..does declare His grievous wrong.

Snub (snʊb), *sb.*3 and *a.* [See Snub nose.]

A. *sb.* A snub nose.

1830 Marryat *Pacha Many T.* xv, As my father's nose was aquiline, and mine is a snub. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg* Ser. II. *Aunt Fanny* vii, She turn'd up her dear little snub at 'the Man'. 1862 Sala *Seven Sons* I. xi. 266 Her nose between the mild retroussé and the decided snub.

B. *adj.* 1. Of the nose: Short and turned up.

1844 Dickens *Mart. Chus.* xvi, That order of nose on which the envy of mankind has bestowed the appellation 'snub'. 1853 Mrs. Gaskell *Cranford* i, Her nose was unformed and snub. 1886 Welldon *Aristotle's Rhet.* 30 The aquiline or snub character of a nose.

2. Snub-nosed.

1883 G. Meredith *Poems of Joy of Earth* 39 The snub kids Upon hindlegs went sportive.

Snub (snʊb), *v.*1 Also 4 snube, 5–6 snubbe, 7 snubb. [a. ON. *snubba* (MSw. *snubba*, *snobba*), recorded in sense 1; mod. Norw. and Sw. dial. *snubba*, Da. *snubbe*, have also the sense of cutting short, making stumpy, etc. See also Snib *v.*1]

1. *trans.* To check, reprove, or rebuke in a sharp or cutting manner; in later use, to treat or receive (a person, suggestion, etc.) in a way calculated to repress or mortify.

(*a*) *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lviii. 17 They sal snube [*v.r.* snyb] þaim, þat will not be converted. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/2 To Snubbe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 181 To Snubbe, *arguere, culpare*. *a* 1610 BABINGTON *Whs.* (1622) 48 We see the great .. goodnesse of God, .. neuer snubbing any child of his for imperfection of faith. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. ii, Do not you fall on him, Medley, and snub him. Sooth him up in his extravagance! 1727 DE FOE *Protestant Monastery* 6 When they see the Son curbing the Father, or the Daughter snubbing the Mother. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 9, I often snub Hal..for fear of his getting out of my hands. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* xv, Mr. Turnbull occasionally throwing in a word, and each time snubbed by his wife. 1882 B. D. W. RAMSAY *Rough Recoll.* I. viii. 187, I ventured to address him, and was most decidedly snubbed.

fig. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 146 The force of natural conscience .. will be sometimes snubbing, and stinging, and lashing, and vexing him.

(*b*) 1861 HOLME LEE *Warp & Woof* I. 30 Ursula..snubbed it as she would have snubbed any plan that did not originate with herself. 1882 in *R. Geog. Soc. Suppl. Papers* I. i. 117 The stream now..runs in rock-strewn whirls and races which snub any question about its navigability. 1891 *Spectator* 2 May, Nothing could be more foolish than to snub voluntary effort.

b. *absol.* To employ snubbing; † to scold.

1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* III. vi, I acquiesce, my Lady, but don't snub so loud. 1787 [see SNUBBEE]. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 269 But there need be nothing cruel in the man who snubs. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 678/1 The power to snub is a weapon of defence.

† **c.** To take *up* sharply or severely; to order *about* in a sharp fashion. *Obs.*

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* IV. i. (Arb.) 95 A fierce Hero, that frights his Mistriss, snubs up Kings, ..and does what he will. 1711 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. v. ii. 271 To censure merely what another Person writes, to twitch, snap, snub up, or banter. *a* 1797 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Posth. Whs.* (1798) I. 160 She did not like to go to service, to be snubbed about, after being her own mistress.

2. † **a.** To check or restrain (a thing); to prevent from having free course or development. *Obs.*

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 251 Euery Christian is to take heede..to snub the course of Sathan at the first. 1592 — *Notes Genesis* xxxviii. § 8. 151 Beware we then euer of discontent, and snubbe it betimes. *a* 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* 186 Wisedome..snubbeth and crosseth all vnlawfull designes. *a* 1688 BUNYAN *Christ a Compl. Saviour* Wks. 1853 I. 217 He is holy, and so will snub their lusts.

b. *Naut.* and *U.S.* To check or stop (a rope or cable) suddenly while running out; to stop or bring *up* (a boat, etc.) sharply or suddenly, esp. by passing a rope round a post; to fasten or tie (*up*).

(*a*) 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 124 *Snub*, to check a rope suddenly. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Snubbing her*, bringing a ship up suddenly with an anchor. 1887 *Century Mag.* Aug. 483/2 A deck-hand forward to 'snub' her in the locks and take a line to the tow-path.

(*b*) 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 660/1 He is taught this by being violently snubbed up..the first two or three times that he feels the noose settle round his neck. 1895 *Outing* XXVII. 224/1, I kept him snubbed up too closely for him to get a start. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* x. 153 We took a guy line from the wagon and snubbed it to a tree.

3. To check the growth of; to shorten; to cut, nip, or break *off*, the end of (a thing). Now *rare*.

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 35 Either snub his top with a nip betwixt your finger and your thumb, or with a sharpe knife. 1641 H. BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 The yeere was (as yett) but younge, and the field indifferent good, and not much snubbed. 1704 RAY *Creation* I. (ed. 4) 96 The Trees..whose Heads and Boughs I have observ'd..to be so snub'd by the Winds, as if their Boughs and Leaves had been par'd or shaven off on that side. 1832 JANE PORTER *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* I. 161, I therefore hung the handkerchief on the branch of a tree, that I snubbed off short for the purpose. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* 136 You should ha' putten some salt on, it would ha' snubbed them [*sc.* weeds] anyhow.

b. To make snub-nosed or snub.

1796 *Mod. Gulliver* 186 Get snubb'd i' th' nose—or haply singe our beards. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xiv, They laughed, and snubbed their noses with their handkerchiefs.

† **4.** To cheat or defraud. *Obs.*

1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 93 For th' old Men ha' now open'd a Passage for my Tricks to make Incursions, and snub 'em o' their Mony.

5. *intr.* To press bluntly.

1846 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* (1912) s.v., I felt the cold nose of the captain of the band [of sharks] snubbing against my side.

Hence **Snu·bbable** *a.* (Cf. UNSNUBBABLE *a.*)

1908 L. A. TOLLEMACHE *Old & Odd Mem.* 130 So wholesomely snubbable as just to stop short of being bores.

Snub, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [var. of SNOB *v.*[1]] *intr.* To sob.

1621 T. BEDFORD *Sin unto Death* 50 He striveth, struggleth, roareth, sobbeth, snubbeth, and ready he is to burst for anger. 1671 in SKINNER. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* June 300/2, I heerd her a-cryin' an' a-snubbin', all night.

Snub-, the stem of SNUB *v.*[1] used in a few combs., as † snub-devil, a clergyman (*obs. slang*); snub-line, -post, *U.S.* a snubbing-line or -post.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Snub devil*, a parson. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2231/2 *Snub-post*, a form of bitt or mooring-post on a raft or canal-boat. 1908 H. DAY *King Spruce* xxvi, The snub-line down the steep quarter-mile.. made a cut-off that doubled the efficiency of the teams.

Snubbed (snʌbd), *ppl. a.* [f. SNUB *v.*[1]]

1. Checked, restrained; repressed by snubbing.

1596 BABINGTON *Brief Conf.* 20 Their snubbed harts would call their snubs to remembrance. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 228 The snubbed children of a family are often better than the spoiled ones. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* xii, O but she was a snubbed young woman last night!

2. Turned up and flattened at the tip.

1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* I. 70 Mr. Isaac now saw beyond his nose, (no great distance, by the bye, for it is vulgarly snubbed). 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* viii, His nose [was] snubbed. 1862 BORROW *Wales* cviii, A broad face, grey eyes, a snubbed nose [etc.].

Snubbee. In 8 snubee. [f. SNUB *v.*[1]] One who is snubbed.

1787 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to C'tess Ossory* II. 298 You tell me too that I snub and sneer; I protest I thought I was the snubee.

Snubber (snʌ·bəɹ). [f. SNUB *v.*[1]]

1. One who administers a snub or snubs.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 269 Either the snubber has authority on his side, .. or perhaps we have given way to enthusiasm, and are met by ridicule. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* III. 18 The disagreeable snappers and snubbers and snarlers.

2. *U.S.* One who snubs a rope or boat; a device for snubbing or checking.

1853 in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* (1912) II. 825 A snubber.. snubs the boat when she heaves to on the heel-path shore. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2231/2 *Snubber*, a cable-stopper.

Snubbiness (snʌ·binés). [f. SNUBBY *a.*[2] and *a.*[3]] The character or quality of being snubby.

1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 183 The snubbiness and obstinate stupidity of the Irish nose. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Daughters* xxviii, At last there came a day when Mrs. Gibson went beyond her usual negative snubbiness, and.. was guilty of positive rudeness.

Snubbing (snʌ·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNUB *v.*[1]]

1. The action of checking, repressing, or rebuking, esp. by means of a snub.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VI. xxii. 778 At the least by snubbing and checking of naturall heat. 1693 BAMPFIELD *Reply to Wallis* 55 Other snubbing of Sunday..I remember none, but he often calls the Lords Sabbath by a reflecting addition. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* IV, I did hear him say, a little snubbing, before marriage, would teach you to bear it the better afterwards. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 268 By cultivating the art of snubbing. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* III. xxv. 302 The kind-hearted little spinster endured a vast amount of snubbing.

attrib. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew*, etc. xiii. (1878) 231 On that occasion,..being in a snubbing humour, [she] had snubbed him.

b. An instance of this.

1841 J. H. NEWMAN in *Apologia* (1864) 241, I have managed to take out on my side my snubbing's worth. 1857 S. OSBORN *Quedah* xii. 153 They got a severe snubbing for doing so. 1896 A. J. C. HARE *Story Life* II. viii. 99, I was more free from family snubbings than I had ever been before.

2. *Naut.* and *U.S.* (See SNUB *v.*[1] 2 b.)

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 288 *Snubbing*, checking or easing off a little of a ship's cable or hawser, in order to prevent a sudden jerk when bringing the vessel up, or on other occasions. 1889 A. T. PASK *Eyes Thames* 69 The snubbing of the chain gives a disagreeable jerking which is trying to the system.

b. *attrib.*, as *snubbing-line, -post.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2231/2 *Snubbing-line*, the line on the bow of a canal-boat [etc.]. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 21 May 326/2 A stout line is carried forward, and the ends are attached .. to snubbing posts. 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 655/2 The high, circular horse-corral, with a snubbing-post in the center. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 665 The checking of the ship when afloat is done exclusively by snubbing lines.

Snu·bbing, *ppl. a.* [f. SNUB *v.*[1]] Of the nature of a snub; repressing by a snub or snubs.

1887 [? MISS INGHAM] *Poor Nellie* (1888) 120 He hoped Adela had not thought his abrupt departure rude and snubbing. 1900 ELEANOR GLYN *Visits Elisabeth* (1906) 20, I was not once agreeable, or anything but stiff and snubbing.

So **Snu·bbingly** *adv.*, in a snubbing manner.

1861 MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* I. xi. 205 The chairman welcomed them a trifle snubbingly. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. vi, 'You never do anything but what you wish yourself?' asks Rivers snubbingly.

Snubbish (snʌ·biʃ), *a.* [f. SNUB *a.* and *v.*[1]]

1. Somewhat snub.

1828 *Ann. Reg., Law Cases* 365/2 A short snubbish nose. 1848 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. vi. 310 His eyes are not so prominent as yours, nor is his nose so snubbish.

2. Repressive; inclined to snub.

1840 HOOD *An Open Question* 146 Have we not had enough To make Religion sad, and sour, and snubbish?

Hence **Snu·bbishly** *adv.*; **Snu·bbishness.**

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LVIII. 526 Miss Biggs..turned up her snub-nose more snubbishly. 1848 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. vi. 310 He has a strong resemblance to you..in the *snubbishness* of his nose.

Snu·bby, *a.*[1] *rare*[−1]. [f. SNUB *sb.*[1] 4.] Knotty.

a 1758 M. MENDEZ *Seasons, Summer* 1 in *Coll. Poems* (1770) II. 233 Beneath yon snubby oak's extended shade.

Snubby (snʌ·bi), *a.*[2] [f. SNUB *a.* Cf. Sw. dial. *snubbug, snubbi*, Icel. *snubbóttr* (Norw. *snubbutt*) in same sense.] Somewhat snub; short, stumpy.

(*a*) 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 494 What a snout he turns up to the morning air, .. pimpled, snubby, and snorty. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* I. 108 Her little straight nose, not at all snubby. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 69 If Cleopatra's nose had been..a little more snubby or a little more aquiline.

(*b*) 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., What a snubby point you've got to your pencil. 1865 WHITNEY *Gayworthys* iv, The snubby end of her little freckled nose.

Snubby (snʌ·bi), *a.*[3] [f. SNUB *v.*[1]] Inclined to snub; repressing with snubs.

1867 E. V. B. in *Cornhill Mag.* (1907) Feb. 196 She would not understand. She was just a little snubby, I thought.

1889 'F. ANSTEY' *Pariah* I. iii, You were so very snubby to that poor Mr. Chadwick.

Snubnerlik: see SNOBBERLY *adv. Obs.*

Snub nose. Also snub-nose. [f. SNUB *v.*[1] 3. Cf. Norw. dial. *snubbnos* (Ross).] A short stumpy nose turned up and flattened at the tip.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6251/3 He is a thick-set Boy, with a snub Nose. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* xvii. 87 [I know] the Russians by the snub nose. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. clx, With prying snub-nose, and small eyes, he stood, Following Antonia's motions. 1838 BARHAM Ser. I. *Hand of Glory* (1905) 28 The very snore froze, In his very snub nose. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 235 He has a snub nose, and projecting eyes.

Snu·b-nosed, *a.* [f. as prec.] Having a snub nose.

1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 44 Can you fancy that..Snub-nos'd, Sparrow-mouth'd, Paunch-belly'd Creature? 1758 *Ann. Reg., Poetry* 439 A snub-nos'd dog to fat inclin'd. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. ii, I was taught to believe you a little black, snub-nosed fellow. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* (1863) 187 The lieutenant, who was a little snub-nosed man, with a pimply face. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 126 The snub-nosed effigy on his coins.

b. In specific names (see quots.).

c 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 255 The Short-headed Whale, or Snub-nosed Cachalot. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 807 *Simorhynchus cristatellus*, .. Snub-nosed Auk. 1892 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Simenchelys, S. parasiticus*, the only species, is known as the pug-nosed or snub-nosed eel.

Hence **Snu·b-nosedness.**

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 228 The snubnosedness of Theaetetus..is characteristic both of him and Socrates.

† **Snuch.** *Obs.*[−1] [Related to *snudge* in the same way as *sluitch, smutch*, to *sludge, smudge*.] = SNUDGE *sb.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 135 But in the ende..this bribing wretch was forced for to hold a typling booth, most like a clowne or snuch.

† **Snu·ddle,** *v. Obs.*[−1] [perh. an error for *suddle*, but cf. G. *schnudeln* to snotter, *beschnudeln* to befoul, etc.] *trans.* To defile, dirty.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* (1860) 87 She's a fine dirty hieroglip[h]ick of her pigsty recreations, snuddled and kennel'd over with the dirty sackcloth of her gloomy harding.

Snudge (snʌdʒ), *sb.* [Cf. SNUDGE *v.*[1], and see also SNOWGE, SNUCH.]

1. A miser, a mean avaricious person, a niggard; a sneaking or sponging fellow. Now *dial.*

Very common from *c* 1550 to 1610.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 28 Thus youre husbandrie me thinke, is more like the life of a couetouse snudge.., then the labour of a good husband. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1567) 82 Some riche snudges hauyng greate wealthe, goe with their hose out at heeles. 1608 DEKKER *Work for Armourers* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 160 Those snudges and miserable cormorants that now feede vpon thee. 1677 MIÈGE *Dict.* II. s.v., A Snudging man, or a Snudge, a man that has a curmudging way with him. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xvi. (1737) 72 The filthy Snudge is..mischievous. 1877–88 in Cheshire and Sheffield glossaries.

transf. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 8 He plaid the veri snudg then that had so much lerning and shoud so litle. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 254 Histories are no snudges in matters of note. 1600 DEKKER *Fortunatus* II. ii, O I feare that deitie Hath stolne him hence, that snudge his destinie.

Comb. 1576 T. NEWTON tr. *Lemnie's Complex.* 103 b, Who Snudgelike to his frend..Not one poore draught thereof would send. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 232, I heard your father say that he would marry you to Peter Plod-all, that puck-fist, that snudge-snout.

† **2.** *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.* (Cf. SNUDGE *v.*[2])

1676 COLES, *Snudg*, one that hides himself in a house to do mischief. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Snudge*, one that lurks under a Bed, to watch an opportunity to Rob the House.

Snudge (snʌdʒ), *v.*[1] [Of obscure origin.]

† **1.** *intr.* To be miserly, stingy, or saving. Also with *it. Obs.*

c 1540 COPLAND *Hye Way to Spyttel Ho.* 25 That man that..euer is bare, hungry and indygent, Scrapynge and snudgynge without any cease. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 139 Good husbandry snudgeth, for fear of a dout. 1611 FLORIO, *Spilorcidare*, to grudge, to snudge, to dodge or play the slouenlie niggard or pinch-pennie. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Avoine*, To snudge it; or churlishly to eat all his meat all alone.

2. To walk in a stooping or meditative attitude. Freq. with *along*. Now *dial.*

1677 MIÈGE *Dict.* II. s.v., To Snudge about business, *aller d'un air rampant, comme font les grands avares.* 1687 — *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To Snudge along, or go like an old Snudge, or like one whose Head is full of business. 1828– in dial. glossaries (Yorks., Northampt., E. Anglia, Surrey, Sussex).

Hence **Snu·dging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 145 Snudgyng wittely rebuked. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Ire.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 23 Some of his friends, that were snudging penie-fathers, would take him up verie roughlie for..his outragious expenses. 1677 [see SNUDGE *sb.* 1]. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A Snudging along, *demarche de Faquin.* 1713 PRIOR in *Bolingbroke's Corresp.* (1798) II. 445, I cannot imagine how you came to know that snudging boy.

Snudge (snʌdʒ), *v.*[2] Now *dial.* [Of obscure origin: perh. related to SNUG *v.*] *intr.* To remain snug and quiet; to nestle.

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Giddinesse* iii, Now he will fight it out, and to the warres; Now eat his bread in peace, And snudge in quiet. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. (1858) 124

The Age, the present times are not To snudge in, and embrace a cot. 1686 F. Spence tr. *Saint Euvremont's Misc.* Pref. C 3, Tragedy, like the Aristotelian virtue, is to lie snudging betwixt them both. 1755 Johnson, To *snug*, to lie close; to snudge. 1823– in dial. glossaries (Westm., Yorks., Derby, Suffolk).

†Snu·dgery. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Snudge *sb.*] Miserliness.

1599 Nashe *Lent. Stuffe* 3 Those graybeard huddle-duddles..were stroke with such stinging remorse of their miserable Euclionisme and snudgery.

Snuff (snʊf), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–6 snoffe, 5 snof, 9 *dial.* snoff; 4–7 snuffe, 7 snuf; 6– snuff. [Of obscure origin: G. *schnuppe* (†*snupe*), which agrees in sense, does not correspond phonetically.]

I. 1. That portion of a wick, etc., which is partly consumed in the course of burning to give light, and in the case of candles requires to be removed at intervals; †a candle-end.

Also *Mining*, a smift (Gresley, 1883): cf. Snoff.

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxv. 38 Candelquenchers, and..where the snoffes ben quenchid. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxxix. (MS. Bodl.), 3if a mare..smelleþ þe snoffe of a candel sheo casteþ here foole. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snuffe, of a candel, *muco*. 1530 Palsgr. 272/1 Snoffe of a candell, *mesche, limignon, lumignon*. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) E iij, Ye must lay to yᵉ nose..assafetida, or the snuffes of candels. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1208/1 Through negligence of a maiden with a candell, the snuffe falling in an hundred pounds weight of gunpowder. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxi. 58 In som this light goes out with an ill-favor'd stench; But others have a save-all to preserve it from making any snuff at all. *a* 1687 H. More *Cont. Remark. Stories* (1689) 406 Striking the Candle..and afterwards making three Scrapes on the Snuff to put it out. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, Snuff,..*bout de Chandelle*. 1705 Addison *Italy, Antiq. near Naples* 230 A Torch, Snuff and all, goes out in a Moment when dipp'd into the Vapour. 1756 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 185 Hence the suffocating nature of air impregnated with burnt grease, as from snuffs of candles, and the like. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 347 On letting it down again, it will be perfectly lighted from the spark of the snuff. 1843 Keightley *Notes Virg., Georg.* I. 390 The thick snuff which gathers on the wick [of the lamp]. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* II. 161 A candle with a long snuff burnt on the table.

collect. a 1400–50 *Bk. Curtasye* 829 in *Babees Bk.*, Of wax þese candels alle..; þo snof of hom dose a-way With close sesours. *a* 1631 Donne *Sat.* ii. 78 As a thrifty wench..barrelling the droppings, and the snuffe, Of wasting candles.

Comb. 1733 Lady G. Baillie *Househ. Bk.* (1911) 381, 2 Snuff pans. 1758 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1887 III. 8 There are also snuffers, a snuffstand, and extinguisher, of steel.

b. In comparisons, used to describe what is faint, feeble, or on the point of extinction.

1534 More *Conf' agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1172/1, I can not licken my life more metely now than to the snuffe of a candle. 1589 *Pappe with Hatchet* (1844) 36 A wit worn into the socket, twinkling and pinking like the snuffe of a candle. 1631 Quarles *Samson* viii, The other are but blasts, That faintly blaze like Oyle-forsaken snuffes. 1654 Warren *Unbelievers* 252 His Arguments should go out like a snuffe of a candle in the socket. 1730? Swift *Clad all in Brown* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 269 Thy soul, which through thy hide of buff, Scarce glimmers like a dying snuff. 1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 6 Oct., All the poor attendants..drop off, one after another, like so many snuffs of candles. 1869 Trollope *He Knew*, etc. lxxxix. (1878) 494 Some said..that she was going out like the snuff of a candle.

c. *fig.* or in fig. context (see quots. and cf. prec.).

1589 *Hay any Work* 39 Why thou vnsauorly snuffe, dost tow thinke that men know not D. Bridges? 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. ii. 59 Let me not liue..After my flame lackes oyle, to be the snuffe Of yonger spirits. 1652 N. Culverwel *Lt. Nature* I. xviii. (1661) 166 The Lamp of a Moralist..may go out in a snuff. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 525 Were such filthy snuffs fit of themselves to be kindled by..a gospel beam? 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 410 The Buffel soon trod out the small remainder of the Snuff of his Life. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VIII. 467 How mean that snuff of glory fortune lights, And death puts out!

d. Used to denote something of no value.

1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* lxxxii, Who..cares the snuff of a candle? 1887 W. S. Gilbert *Ruddigore* II, You don't care the snuff of a candle.

2. The nozzle of a lamp, in which the wick burns.

1611 Cotgr., *Bec de la lampe*, the socket, or snuffe of the lampe. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 507 There is also a little portative lamp, having only one snuff.

†3. A heel-tap; a portion of a drink left at the bottom of a cup. *Obs.*

1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 83 Rather keepe a snuffe in the bottome of the glasse to light you to bed withall. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 60 Then each must haue his bout And drink vp all; to leave a litle snuffe Is petty treason. 1647 [H. Neville] *Parliam. of Ladies* Title-p., Either malice, or want of wit, hightned with snoffes of Ale or stayned Claret. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* II. i. 218 Drinking many in the same cup; and many times the snuffs left by the former. 1731–8 Swift *Polite Conv.* 163 (*Miss* drinking part of a Glass of Wine). *Neverout.* Pray, let me drink your Snuff.

fig. a 1640 Jackson *Creed* XI. xix, The devil still labours to glut men..; then he vents his snuffs or refuse upon them.

II. 4. †a. *To take..in (the) snuff* (or *to snuff*), to take (a matter) amiss, to take offence at, to be annoyed or indignant at, to resent. *Obs.*

The original reference was no doubt to the unpleasant smell proceeding from the smoking snuff of a candle, but there may also have been association with Snuff *sb.*² or *v.*² The phrase was especially common between 1580 and 1660.

1560 Daus *Sleidane's Comm.* 463 A brute went that the Pope toke it in snuffe [L. *indigne tulisse*] that this truce was made. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* 2281/1 This matter the Justice tooke sore to snuffe, and was very angry. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 41 Hee..taketh it greatly in the snuffe, that his stuffe..should be brought to light. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 28 Englishmen, especially being young and unexperienced, are apt to take all things in snuffe. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 6 Oct., Mr. Mills.., I expect, should take it in snuffe that my wife did not come to his child's christening the other day. 1716 T. Ward *Eng. Reform.* 129 Pray take it not, you old Cur-mudgeon, So much in snuff and evil dudgeon.

b. *To take snuff*, to take offence or umbrage (*at* a thing). *Obs.* exc. *arch.*

In quot. 1821 associated with Snuff *sb.*² (cf. Pepper *sb.* 4 b).

1565 Allen *Defence Purg.* xiv. 262 Aërius,..taking snoffe that he could not get a bisshoprike, fell in to the hæresy of Arius. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 195 The yonker taking snuffe thereat, Why (said hee) takest thou thought for me? 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* II. 211 Which the Manksmen hearing, tooke such a snuffe and indignation thereat that they sent for Olave. 1640 Fuller *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 51 Let us heed how we take snuff at the simplicity of God's ordinance. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* I. clxxxv. 156 Jupiter took Snuff at the Contempt, and Punish'd him for't. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v., *To take Snuff*, to take Pet. [1821 Scott *Kenilw.* i, But take no snuff in the nose about it. 1876 G. H. Kingsley *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 322 With hearty hoping that North Britons will not take huffe nor snuffe at these kindly criticisms.]

5. A fit of indignation; a huff, pet, rage, passion. Used with *a*, *the*, or without article. Now *Sc.*

(*a*) 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 279 These were going away in a snuff, for beeing thus plainly taunted. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. i. 26 Either in snuffes, and packings of the Dukes, Or the hard Reine which both of them hath borne Against the old kinde King. *c* 1620 Br. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* XIV. (1628) 1145 Abners duty..not to flye out in a snuffe.

(*b*) 1607 S. Collins *Serm.* (1608) 184 Smothering the talent that he lent thee..in snuffe, and pelting discontent. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* IV. v, He went away in snuffe, and I followed him. 1665 Pepys *Diary* 19 Sept., I find they go up in snuffe to bed without taking any manner of leave of them.

(*c*) 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* iii. 18 Dinnae fly up in the snuff at me. 1898 Cobban *Angel of Covenant* xi. 124 The mighty high snuff and dudgeon ye gaed aff wi'.

†6. *attrib.* Angry, violent. *Obs.*⁻¹

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 Now me the Myrmidones for captiue prisoner hold not, Nor sterne snuff Dolopans.

Snuff (snʊf), *sb.*² Also 6–7 snuffe. [f. Snuff *v.*²] Cf. MDu. and Du. *snuf*, *snof* snuffing, snuffling, cold in the head, scent (of a thing), G. *schnuff* scent, nose, LG. *snüff* nose, snout; also MDu. *snuuf*, *snuyf*, LG. *snüf* snuffing, snuffles.]

1. An (*or* the) act of snuffing, esp. as an expression of contempt or disdain.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* 10 Other (perchaunce) with a proud snuffe will disdain this litle. 1593 Abp. Bancroft *Daungerous Positions* IV. iii. 140 These points are..passed ouer with a snuffe, and with great disdaine. 1629 Gaule *Holy Madnesse* 198 Nought but a glance, a puffe, a snuffe, a frown. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. viii. P 9 That hound-like snuff at an ill construction, with which the devil has armed the noses of the most charitable. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 178 Ere a horrible reek..Set the dogs on the snuff. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* viii, His nostrils emitted a derisive and defiant snuff. 1866 [see Snivel *sb.* 4].

b. A persistent snuffling; a disease in sheep.

a 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 308 The snuff and the snoire, the chaud-peece, the chanker. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 June 10/2 A sheep affected soon becomes thin and languid, and its painful snuffling has led farmers to call the disease 'snuff'.

†2. A puff, blast. *Obs.*

1613 J. Davies (Heref.) *Muse's Tears* Wks. (Grosart) I. 15/1 Then, let Fates Snuffes and Puffes as winds of Grace, Serene the Heauen of your Maiestick Face. 1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 439 Though it lye long in the moulds by reason of cold snuffes of weather.

3. Smell, odour, scent.

1763 Stukeley *Palæogr. Sacr.* 93 The immortal, the eternal,..wants not the snuff of mortal incense, for his, but for our own sakes. 1844 Hood *The Turtles* 34 All whiffs, and sniffs, and puffs, and snuffs, From metals, minerals, and dyewood stuffs.

4. An inhalation, a sniff, *of* something.

1822 Galt *Sir A. Wylie* lxxv, Take a snuff of caller air on the brow of the hill. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* 151 One snuff of anything disagreeable being..sufficient to put an end to all her earthly trials.

Snuff (snʊf), *sb.*³ [prob. ad. Du. and Flem. *snuf* or *snuif* (WFris. *snuf*) in the same sense, app. an abbreviation of *snuiftabak* (cf. LG. *snuvtobak*, G. *schnupftabak*, for which Swiss dial. has *schnupf*, *schnopf*): cf. prec. and Snuff *v.*²]

1. A preparation of powdered tobacco for inhaling through the nostrils.

The practice of taking snuff appears to have become fashionable about 1680, but prevailed earlier in Ireland and Scotland (see Smutchin and Sneezing *vbl. sb.* 2 b).

1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1800/4 James Norcock, Snuffmaker and Perfumer,..sells all sorts of Snuffs, Spanish and Italian. 1703 *Ibid.* No. 3963/3 Tobacco at 2d. per *lb.* Snuff 4d. 2q. per *lb.* 1724 Swift *Reasons agst. Exam. Drugs* Wks. 1755 III. I. 127 The makers of snuff, who..employ by far the greatest number of hands of any manufacture of the kingdom. 1796 Mme. D'Arblay *Camilla* III. 142 She perceived him, a few yards off, taking a pinch of snuff. 1815 Elphinstone *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 307 Their snuff is a dry and fine powder like Scotch snuff. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* II, He took snuff with everybody. 1884 F. M. Crawford *Rom. Singer* I. 23 Ercole takes snuff when he is not smoking.

transf. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* No. 4. 4/2 A Most Excellent Cephalick Water, or Liquid Snuff.

fig. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* V. 90 A Wench..Gave Snuff to me, Out of her Placket box. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell 3rd* III. xix. 3 Sometimes the poor are damned indeed To take.. Cobbett's snuff, revenge.

b. Any powder used like snuff, esp. for medical purposes; a sternutatory or errhine. *rare.*

1861 S. Thomson *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 306 Of one, the sneeze-wort yarrow (*Achillea ptarmica*), the leaves..are used as a snuff in head affections.

2. A pinch of snuff. [So WFlem. *snuuf.*]

17.. Ramsay *Vision* xxi. Poems 1877 I. 127 Gallus sneerd and tuke a snuff. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* Prol., I will enrich..thy nose with a snuff from my mull. 1863 A. H. Charteris *Life Robertson* x. 308 A snuff between his finger and thumb which he had no time to take. 1897 Pryde *Queer Folk Fife* 87 In his excitement he took four or five snuffs consecutively.

b. Used to denote something of small value.

1809 Donaldson *Poems* 72 My memory, man, 's no worth a snuff. 1844 W. Cross *Disruption* xviii, I wadna gie a snuff for ony minister but a parish minister. 1881 W. Walker in Edwards *Mod. Sc. Poets* Ser. III. 106 They'll care nae a snuff though grim poverty shake ye.

c. A pinch, a very small quantity, *of* something.

1842 J. Aiton *Domest. Econ.* 258 Put a snuff of the carbonate of soda into the broth pot when it first comes to boil. 1883 *Cassell's Bk. Sports & Pastimes* 50 A snuff of sand, or tuft of grass, to give the requisite elevation.

3. In colloquial phrases: **a.** *Up to snuff*, knowing, sharp, not easily deceived. Also *attrib.*

1811 Poole *Hamlet Trav.* II. i, He knows well enough The game we're after: Zooks, he's up to snuff. 1823 Egan *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v. *Up*, Up to snuff, and a pinch above it. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* xxxi, An up-to-snuff old vagabond. 1879 Howells *L. Aroostook* xxii, You American ladies are so—up to snuff, as you say.

b. *To beat to snuff*, to beat utterly.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 638 All other Colleges, thou beat'st to snuff.

c. *In high snuff*, in high feather; elated.

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xvi, The Sandwich-Islanders rode down, and were in 'high snuff'.

d. *To give* (one) *snuff*, to deal sharply or severely with; to punish.

1890 [R. C. Lehmann] *Harry Fludyer* 30 He rather gave me snuff about my extravagance. 1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* vii, Then with eager haste..he dashed up the rocks to 'give the nigger snuff'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snuff-bottle*, *-colour*, *hand*, *-handkerchief*, *-mundungus*, *-rasp*, *-shop*, *-spoon*, *-stick*, *-work*; obj. and obj. gen., as *snuff-grinder*, *-maker*, *-manufacturer*, *-merchant*, *-taker*, *-taking*, *-using*; instrumental and parasynthetic, as *snuff-clad*, *-headed*, *-stained*; similative, as *snuff-brown*. Also Snuff-box, -coloured, etc.

1884 Gilmour *Mongols* 90 After *snuff bottles had been exchanged. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* Prol., A new coat (*snuff-brown, and with metal buttons). 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xvii. 319 He had on a snuff-brown coat. 1790 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Elegy to Apollo* Wks. 1812 II. 278 In proud disdain their *snuff-clad noses rise. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 461 Down of a dark yellowish *Snuff-Colour. 1883 T. Hardy in *Longman's Mag.* July 256 Her dress and that of the children were mostly of faded snuff-colour. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* July 337/1 He next took up salt with the finger and thumb of his *snuff hand. 1695 Motteux tr. *St. Olon's Morocco* 65 His Face muffled up in a *Snuff-Handkerchief, of a dirty hue. [1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 May, I have been a mighty handkerchief-monger, and have bought abundance of snuff ones since I have left off taking snuff.] 1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2393 The pochaid is a '*snuff-headed wigeon'. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1800/4 *Snuffmaker and Perfumer. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 108 A dreadful fire broke out in the workshop of a snuff-maker. 1822 (*title*), The British Perfumer, *Snuff-Manufacturer, and Colourman's Guide. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* XXXV, My worthy *snuff-merchant. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 1006 After h'had ministred a Dose Of *Snuff-Mundungus, to his Nose. 1711 Swift *Wks.* (1824) II. 407 A fine *snuff-rasp of ivory. 1859 Fairholt *Tobacco* (1876) 244 A similar snuff-rasp to this. 1767 S. Paterson *Another Trav.* I. 192, I had recruited myself at one of the best *snuff-shops in Bruges. 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 109 Doomed to quiet repose in a snuff-shop. 1892 Rider Haggard *Nada* xx. 166 Watching the two of them over the edge of my *snuff-spoon. 1791 Wolcot (P. Pindar) *Magpie & Robin* Wks. 1812 II. 473 With *snuff-stain'd neckcloth. 1879 Tourgee *Fool's Err.* (1883) 43 She had a *snuff-stick in her mouth. 1710 *Tatler* No. 141 P 6 The Whetter is obliged to refresh himself every moment with a liquor, as the *Snuff-taker with a powder. 1857 E. B. Ramsay *Reminisc. Scot. Life & C.* iii, The inveterate snuff-taker. 1775 Ash, **Snuff-taking*, the act or practice of taking snuff. *a* 1797 in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 565 Allowing 16 hours to a snuff-taking day. 1801 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 174 As I have written a reasoning defence of snuff-taking. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 318/1 The reader has heard of his inordinate snuff-takings. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Aug. 11/3 *Snuff-using..is on the decline. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1821) 259 No Tobacco Stalks or *Snuff-work allowed to be imported on penalty of forfeiture.

5. Special combs.: **snuff-bean**, the tonka-bean, used for scenting snuff; one of these kept in a snuff-box for this purpose; **snuff-dipper** *U.S.* (see quot. 1859); also *snuff-dipping*; **snuffman**, a dealer in snuff; **snuff-paper** (in contemptuous use), bank-notes; **snuff-swab** *U.S.* (see quot.).

1898 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., In the corner o' his mull there aye lay buried a scentit *snuff-bean. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 424 **Snuff-dipper*, one who makes a practice of chewing snuff. 1896 *Amer. Missionary* Oct. 324 One sister who had been a snuff-dipper for more than twenty years. *Ibid.*, The vile habit of *snuff-dipping. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6195/7 Abraham Carcas,..*Snuffman. 1852

SAVAGE *R. Medlicott* III. i, The shop of a snuffman of the present day. 1826 SCOTT *Mal. Malagr.* iii. 8 The want of gold, to supply the place of that *snuff-paper of yours. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 63 The dipping-stick is also called *snuff-swab.

Snuff, *int. Sc.* = STUFF *int.*

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Spin ! Snuff !—Gae break your wheel. 1807–10 R. TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 21 Toot, snuff ! 'bout news ye needna be sae thrang.

Snuff (snʌf), *v.*[1] Also 5–6 snoffe, 6–7 snuffe. [f. SNUFF *sb.*[1] LG. *snuppen*, G. *schnuppen*, are used as in sense 1.]

1. *trans.* To free (a candle, wick, etc.) from the snuff, by pinching or cutting this off, or removing it with a special instrument.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 367 To lyghte and quenche the tapers and candles, and snoffe them. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 492 Item, the same day my master bowt a snoffer to snoffe wyth candeles. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 Snoffe the candell, I can nat se to write els. 1573 R. LEVER in Luckombe *Hist. Print.* (1771) 111 The first lighteth the candle..and the second doth but snuff it. 1652 N. CULVERWEL *Lt. Nature* I. ii. (1661) 9 Some unskilful ones, while they go about to snuff the Candle,..put it out. 1691 T. BIRCH *Life Boyle* B.'s Wks. 1772 I. p. cxxxiv, When the candles are newly snuffed and so the light increased. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* III. xxxiii. (1762) I. 151 In the middle of the room..was one large wax-candle ; which they snuffed with scissers. 1793 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 100 The candle being occasionally snuffed when it appeared to stand in need of it. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 316 The candle or lamp..should have a thick wick, which should be snuffed clean. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, John..placed a pair of..candlesticks on the table, and snuffed the lights they held. 1887 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. i. 26 Two tallow candles, requiring to be snuffed by snuffers lying in a little plated tray.

absol. 1637 HEYWOOD *Pleas. Dial.* Wks. 1874 VI. 321 To cleare the taper, if you snuffe too deepe, Out goes the light.

b. *fig.* To make clearer or brighter ; to purge.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 355 It shall not be ouermuch..euerie weeke..once or twice to purge and snuffe the soule. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 348 The ministers of Christ must be..throughly snuffed from all affections of the flesh. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. v. 22 By exact definitions first snuffed, and purged from ambiguity. *a* 1715 HALIFAX *On C'tess Dowager of* *** 5 Mopsa..Sets up for charming, in her fading days; Snuffs her dim eyes to give one parting blow.

c. To suppress temporarily. *rare*[−1].

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. x. 33 The Babylonish captivity did onely snuffe Judah for seventy years.

2. With *out*: † a. To remove by snuffing. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Wycliffite Bible* Exod. xxv. 38 Where tho thingis, that ben snottid [*v.r.* snuffid] out, ben quenchid.

b. To extinguish, put out; to cause to go out or disappear from sight.

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To snuff out the Candle. 1818 BYRON *Juan* XI. lx, 'Tis strange the mind, that fiery particle, Should let itself be snuff'd out by an article. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, Slight yellow specks, that seemed to be rapidly snuffed out one by one. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 271 During these occultations the light of the star is instantaneously snuffed out, as it were, when overtaken by the moon's limb.

c. To eclipse, efface, wipe out.

1852 HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 340, I hope to see the Minié snuffed out, no matter by whom. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorthodox London* I. 46 At first the attempt was made to 'snuff out' 'The Sling and the Stone'. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. v. 149 A silly coxcombry to be.. snuffed out by the worldly cynicism of the new generation.

3. *intr.* With *out*: To die. *slang* or *colloq.*

1865 *Slang Dict.* 239 *Snuff out*, to die. 1895 A. C. BICKNELL *Trav. N. Queensland* xxi. 186 The old man was very feeble, and looked like snuffing out before he had completed his story.

b. With *it*: = prec. *slang.*

1885 SIMS *Rogues & Vagabonds* iv. 21 Josh Heckett isn't going to snuff it just for a crack on the head. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 6/4, I have the pleasure to inform you that your mother-in-law snuffed it.

Snuff (snʌf), *v.*[2] Also 6 snoffe, 6–7 snuffe. [prob. ad. MDu. *snoffen*, *snuffen* to snuffle, etc., corresponding to G. dial. *schnuffen*, † *schnüffen* (cf. also LG. and MHG. *snûfen*, G. *schnaufen*), either of imitative origin, or related to MDu. *snuven*, etc.: see SNUVE *v.* In sense 8 perhaps directly from SNUFF *sb.*[3]]

I. *trans.* **1.** To draw *up* or *in* through the nostrils by the action of inhalation.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* D iv, The same water snuffed upward in the nose is very good to puryfye the hede. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 101 Snuffinge vp into theyr nosethryls the pouder. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 75 *Venteth*, snuffeth in the wind. 1608 D. T. *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 59 b, For euen so likewise may those little Atomies be snuft vp with the ayre. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 151 We will make a powder..and snuffe this vp into the nose. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 681 The Juice of this Weed being snuft up the Nose, is good to make one sneeze. 1746 BERKELEY *Sec. Let. Tar-water* § 15 Tar-water hath been snuffed up the nostrils. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. i, Then I take a walk..and snuff in a little fresh country air. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxviii, Snuffing up his breath through his nose. 1872 HUXLEY *Physiol.* viii. 197 When we wish to perceive a faint odour more distinctly, we sniff, or snuff up the air.

fig. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 224 These Pontificians..snuffing vp the winde of vaine opinions. 1639 G. DANIEL *Vervic.* 485 Like to those Who put on Sullen lookes, and grumble short, Who Snuffe poore Women vp, with a hot Nose.

2. To inhale, draw up, into or through the nostrils.

To snuff pepper: see PEPPER *sb.* 4 b.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* § 264 The pouder of Peper.. snuft or blowen into the nose doth make quycke sternutacions. 1615 ROWLANDS *Melancholie Knt.* 13 Snuffe some into your nostrils till you neese. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. I. xxix, The nostrills snuff perfumed wind. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 508 The pack impatient snuff the tainted gale. 1774 NICHOLLS in *Corresp. w. Gray* (1843) 175 There I snuffed once more the fragrance of that air. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* XXXVIII, The leading Highlander snuffed the wind like a setting spaniel. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 239 The Persian merchants stood and snuffed the scent Of frankincense.

fig. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IX. VI. 325 They snuffed the factious air, and felt the coming storm.

b. To draw *out* by snuffing. *rare*[−1].

1648 HEXHAM II, *Snuyven, ofte snuffen*, to Snuffe out the Snot or Filth out of ones Nose.

† **3.** To clear (the nose) by inhalation. *Obs.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 If he can not snoffe his nose. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. XX, Master Janotus with his Adherents vowed never to blow or snuffe their noses, until judgement were given.

4. To detect, perceive, or anticipate, by inhaling the odour of. Also freq. *fig.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 519 The Cow..from afar can find The Change of Heav'n, and snuffs it in the Wind. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xxii. 82 E'en now the villain snuffs his wonted prey. 1790 P. FRANCIS in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 307, I snuff it [i. e. mischief] in the wind. I taste it already. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* VI. i, What if the hungry tiger..Should snuff his banquet nigh? 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 287 The high church and the tories snuff the possibility of another revolutionary war. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ii. 41 The old bull snuffed danger in the wind.

5. To smell at, examine by smelling.

1859 BROWN *Rab & Fr.* § 11 He [a dog]..snuffed him all over. 1874 BLACKIE *Self Cult.* 29 Like the racing of some little dog about the moor, snuffing everything and catching nothing. 1888 T. FROST *Country Journalist* iii. 34 He observed a dog..snuff the earth at the edge of the swampy ground.

II. *intr.* **6.** To draw air, etc., into the nostrils by an effort of inhalation; to do this in order to smell something. Also const. *after*, *at.*

α. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1, I snoffe, as a man doth, or a horse, *je renyffle*. Herke how he snoffeth. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* ii. 23 Like a wilde Asse..that snoffeth and bloweth.

β. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 163 Than sir Isembarte..snuffed in the nose, and bette togyder his teth. 1553 *Respublica* III. iv. 775 Come the devill, yf hym luste, staring and snuffing. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* II. v, Go, snuffe after your brothers bitch. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. (Arb.) 43 So Boar and Sow, when any storm is nigh, Snuff up, and smell it gath'ring in the Skie. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) II. VII. 61 But the bull snuffing, went a little back. *a* 1761 CAWTHORNE *Antiquarians* 265 Quick to his side he flies amain, And peeps, and snuffs, and peeps again. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* iii, The good hound..continued to snuff around Joseph Tomkins's cloak. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 389 He elevated head and tail, snuffed, trotted, and snorted. 1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* iv. 61, I woke, roused by some horse which..was snuffing at me curiously.

b. Const. *up* one's nose.

1714 in Addison *Lover* No. 10, He will also snuff up his nose and spit it out as he eats. 1741 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 25 July, Tricks such as snuffing up his nose. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. vii. (1826) II. 161, I am easily seduced by my appetite ; I snuff up my nose at a savoury smell.

7. To express scorn, disdain, or contempt by snuffing; to sniff. Freq. const. *at* a thing or person. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

(*a*) 1544 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) A ij, Suche..will doo nothinge but detract and iudge other, snuffing at all that offendeth the noses. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 69 That one being ignorant of that others punishment, shall never grudge or snuffe at the same. 1643 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) V. 139 Being snuffed at by some great ones, none of the rest wold signe. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol. Sacra* (1867) 107 Satan first presented these services as a wearisome burden, then they snuffed at them.

(*b*) 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* De Arte Poet. A vij, The noble, honorable rytche..will snuffe, and take it peper in the nose. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 61/2 Curssed shall he be, that shal dare to snuffe against his creator. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 332 When the word of God is preached,.. many worldlings begin by and by to snuffe. 1674 BUNYAN *Christ. Behaviour* Wks. 1852 II. 568 It argueth pride when ..thou snuffest and givest way to thy spirit to be peevish. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. VI. (Rtldg.) 431 If any of my acquaintance should snuff or snigger when they call me Don.

8. To inhale powdered tobacco ; to take snuff.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii. Prol., The auld anes think it best..to..Snuff, crack, and take their rest. 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* v. ii, 'Do you snuff?' and here he extended to Vivian a gold box. 1858 E. B. RAMSAY *Reminisc. Scot. Life & Char.* v, I hope you do not let him *snuff* so much as he did. 1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Midnight Sun* II. 92 The men and women smoked and snuffed a great deal.

Snuff, *v.*[3] *Cant.* [f. SNUFF *sb.*[3] 1.] *intr.* To blind (a shopkeeper) with snuff in order to steal.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Snuffing.*

Snuff, *v.*[4] *techn.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To smooth (leather) in the process of currying.

1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* 429 The leather is then set out either by machine or hand, and hung to dry, and when dry..is taken down and snuffed with a buffing slicker.

Snuff-box. [SNUFF *sb.*[3] 1.]

1. A box for holding snuff, usually small enough to be carried in the pocket.

1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, A Snuff-box, *une Tabatiere*. 1707 *Refl. upon Ridicule* 207 The Snuff-boxes she has in Pockets, and the Profusion she makes of Snuff. 1711 'J. DISTAFF' *Char. Don Sacheverellio* 4, I have heard the Lid of a Beau's Snuff-Box crack in his Pocket. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 25 July, She had brought the Queen's snuff-box, to be filled with some snuff. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, Colonel Bulder and Sir Thomas Clubber exchanged snuff-boxes. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 293 Those beautifully jointed and varnished wooden snuff-boxes, long in universal demand. 1882 SERGT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xxiii. 221 The owner of the snuff-box is the proprietor of the hall.

b. *Musical snuff-box*, one fitted with mechanism capable of playing tunes.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* ix. III. 139 It was actually handed round the room like a musical snuff-box, or any other indifferent trinket. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* I, The child, who had been wound up like a musical snuff-box, then went off as follows. 1881 *Grove's Dict. Music* III. 542.

c. A puff-ball or similar fungus ; usually *devils' snuff-box* (see DEVIL *sb.* 25 c.).

1883– in Hampshire and Somerset glossaries.

2. *slang.* The nose.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. xvi, There's a crack on your snuff-box.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *snuff-box maker, painting, wright*; **snuff-box bean,** a species of sea-bean used medicinally, or the plant producing this ; **snuff-box gourd,** a species of *Lagenaria.*

1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5268/10 Snuff-box-maker. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1840) V. 68 Snuff-box-wrights, milliners, &c. 1884 *Athenæum* 9 Aug. 183/3 After a trial of snuff-box painting at Mauchline, Leitch came to London. 1884 *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 245 Other less common varieties have a flattened, very small fruit, like the snuff-box gourd.

Hence **Snuff-boxer,** a seller of snuff-boxes.

a 1871 DE MORGAN *Budget Parad.* (1872) 153 Fifty years ago a fashionable snuff-boxer would be under inducement ..to have a stock with very objectionable pictures.

Snuff-coloured, *a.* [SNUFF *sb.*[3] 1.] Of the colour of snuff ; brown, brownish.

Cf. *snuff-colour* s.v. SNUFF *sb.*[3] 4.

1787 LATHAM *Suppl. Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 129 Snuff-coloured Creeper...The head, neck, and back, are of a deep cinnamon, or snuff-colour. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Delphine* Wks. 1859 I. 45 A grave old gentleman, in a peruke and snuff-coloured clothes. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 65. 351 A man in a high and long snuff-coloured coat. 1892 E. REEVES *Homew. Bound* 80 Dressed in deep snuff-coloured trousers and loose blouse or coat.

Snuff-dish. [SNUFF *sb.*[1] 1.] A dish to hold the snuff of candles or lamps ; a snuffer-tray.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Exod.* XXXVII. 23 And he made for it seuen lampes with ye snuffers, & snufdishes thereof of pure gold. 1611 — *Exod.* XXV. 38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuffe dishes therof shalbe of pure gold. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Feb., This night comes home my new silver snuffe-dish, which I do give myself for my closet. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4379/4 One Pair of Snuffers and Snuff Dish. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Parent's Assist.* (1831) II. 207, I was hunting for the snuff-dish ; as I knew it must be for candles.

Snuffer[1] (snʌ·fəɹ). Also 5–6 snoffer. [f. SNUFF *v.*[1]]

1. An instrument used for snuffing, or snuffing out, candles, etc. In later use only in plur. form (also *a pair of snuffers*).

α. 1465 *Mann. & Housch. Exp.* (Roxb.) 492 Item, the same day my master bowt a snoffer to snoffe wyth candeles. 1517–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 296 Paid..for Snoffers of plate for to put owte the tapurs. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* XXV. 38 Snoffers and out quenchers of pure golde. 1574 *Churchw. Acc. St. Edmund's, Sarum* (Wilts. Rec. Soc.) 82 The makynge of the Snoffer to serve candelles in the churche.

β. 1538 ELYOT, *Emunctorium*, an instrumente [etc.]..., a snuffer. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 106 Like to the snuffers or extinguishers wherewith we put out a candle. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 225 The snuffers ready at hand, to snuff the wick ever and anon. 1687 CHERNOCK in *Magd. Coll.* (O.H.S.) 232 Why did you tear the Buttery book with the snuffers? 1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 72 We light candles, just blown out, by drawing a spark among the smoke between the wire and snuffers. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* iii. 33 To this kind of lever may be reduced several sorts of instruments, such as scissars, pinchers, snuffers. 1860 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* Introd. 3 Here it is that our eyes are still cheered with the sight of a pair of snuffers. 1885 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 189 In [Hogarth's] 'Night' the small man..is known by the snuffers hanging at his girdle to be a drawer at a tavern.

fig. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. Pref. 6 Sounding him to the quick, entring into him with a candle and a snuffer. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 77 If these Lights grow dim, there is a Trienniall Snuffer for them. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 10 A critic should be a pair of snuffers. He is oftener an extinguisher.

b. *transf.* The finger and thumb as used for clearing or wiping the nose.

1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* XXVII, Employing..the pair of snuffers which natural instinct has supplied him with.

2. One who snuffs candles. (Cf. CANDLE-SNUFFER 2.)

1611 COTGR., *Moucheur*, a snyter, wiper, snuffer. 1722–7 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I. s.v. *Mouchenr*, The Snuffer, He that snuffs the Candles at the Play-house. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Poems 1769 I. 14 Then came..snuffer, sweeper, shifter, soldier, mute. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 191 What is all this business about here? *Snuffer.* Can't say, Sir. 1814 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. Churches* IV. 78 Betty Gray had been a snuffer of candles at the playhouse.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *snuffer(s)-dish, -pan, -tray ; snuffers-maker.*

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1260/4 Two large silver Candlesticks, and Snuffer Pan. 1686 *Ibid.* No. 2203/4 A Silver Snuffer-dish and Snuffers chain'd. 1773 *Lond. Chron.* 7 Sept. 248/3 The following articles were assayed and marked;..bottle stands, snuffer pans [etc.]. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. i. (1849) 42 He took his cigar out of his mouth,..trimming it on the edge of the snuffer-tray. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 130 Moulded per gross, like..snuffer-dishes, inkstands, metal buttons, and brads! 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Snuffers'-maker*, a manufacturer of metal snuffers.

Snuffer 2 (snʌ·fəɹ). [f. SNUFF *v.*2]

1. One who snuffs, or who sniffs disdainfully.

a 1610 BABINGTON *Wks.* (1622) 102 Let all snuffers and brow-beaters of honest men consider this. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Snuyver*, a Snuffer.

†**2.** *slang* or *dial.* In *pl.* The nostrils. *Obs.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Sing-song* xxvi, Sybill so sweet, Whose Cheeks on each side of her Snuffers did meet, As round and as plump as a Codlin. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Snuffers*, for the nose, or nostrils.

3. One who takes snuff.

1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 99, I knew an elderly gentleman who was a great snuffer. 1903 R. LAWSON in R. Wallace *Life & Last Leaves* 628 He was an inveterate snuffer.

4. *U.S. local.* A porpoise.

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 14 On the Atlantic coast occurs most abundantly the little Harbor Porpoise, *Phocæna brachycion* Cope, known to the fishermen as 'Puffer', 'Snuffer', 'Snuffing Pig'.

Snu·ffiness. [f. SNUFFY *a.*2] The state of being snuffy.

Jamieson *Suppl.* (1825) gives '*Snuffiness*, sulkiness'.

1834 CARLYLE in Froude *Hist. First 40 Years* (1882) II. 449 A tendency to pot-belly and snuffiness. 1885 *Even. Standard* 14 Nov. (Cassell), There is a snuffiness, a stuffiness, a general seediness about the former. 1891 *Daily News* 20 June 5/5 Pocket-handkerchiefs only came in with snuff, and were of coloured foulard to hide snuffiness.

Snuffing (snʌ·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. SNUFF *v.*1]

1. The action of removing the burnt part of a wick from a candle or lamp.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Despauesadura*, the snuffing of a candle. 1638 QUARLES *Hieroglyphics* IV. i, Too much snuffing makes a wast. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή xxi. 209 If the lights burn dimme, it is a wildness instead of snuffing to put them out. 1763 W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Arts* 28 The Lamps require frequent snuffing and smoke much. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 360 The candle burns with a clear and brilliant flame, and the wick needs no snuffing. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 44 Tallow-candles, which required snuffing..about every quarter of an hour.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 22 The dim Taper of this Emperours age that had such need of snuffing.

b. The burnt part of a wick which is removed with snuffers or otherwise. Also *fig.*

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 357 The bason of gold, wherein they should bestow the snuffings of the lampes. 1652 N. CULVERWEL *Lt. Nature* I. xviii. (1661) 164 The snuffings of Nature, and Reason will never make up a Day. 1789 BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 155 Many dirty things,..as spiders, cobwebs, snuffings of candles, &c. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxxv, These unquench'd snuffings of the midnight taper.

attrib. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Porte-mouchettes*,..a snuffing pan.

2. The action of putting *out* or extinguishing.

1881 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 442 The snuffing out of the school by a parietary regulation. 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 29 July 144/1 The great triumph of Parnell, and his sad, inglorious snuffing-out.

Snuffing (snʌ·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.*2 [f. SNUFF *v.*2]

1. The action of drawing in air through the nose; sniffing, snuffling.

1540 MORYSINE tr. *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* F iij b, What snuffynge of the nose, what grennynge of the tethe. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moon* (1849) 11 He..keepeth such a snuffing and puffing. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Custom of Country* IV. iv, You seem to have a snuffing in your head Sir, A parlous snuffing. 1661 EVELYN *Fumifugium* (1825) 225 Is there under heaven such coughing and snuffing to be heard, as in the London churches and assemblies of people? 1860 MAYNE REID *Hunters' Feast* xxii, I heerd now and then the snuffin' o' the bar.

fig. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 32 Seeming nether to be ignorant of the contents of them [letters] nor of M. Nuces snuffing at them. *c* 1584 *Robinson's Handful Delights* (Arb.) 35 And do not snuffe though I be plaine,.. For huffing and snuffing deserueth blame.

b. *pl.* Mucus collected in this way. *rare*−1.

1598 FLORIO, *Mocci*, the snots or snuffings of ones nose.

2. The action or practice of taking snuff.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 419 Intoxicated with bibbing, but more with talking, and snuffing with powder. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxv, Snuffing's a vile habit,—I wish I could leave it off. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* vii. 252 Sneezing brings me to snuffing, which is an obsolete custom, retained only by a few old gentlemen. 1860 TRISTRAM *Grl. Sahara* xii. 203 Hence the prohibition of smoking, snuffing, and coffee.

Snuffing (snʌ·fiŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 6 snoffyng. [f. SNUFF *v.*2] That snuffs, in various senses.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 242 He was a man, that..could not abide the snoffyng pride of some prelates. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* II. 1360/1 These snuffing Prelates.. hee could neuer abyde. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Yob Triumphant* IV. 590 Canst thou his tongue with steely Crotchets thrill; Or with a Thorn his snuffing Nose, or Gnill? 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1800/4 At the [sign of the] Jessamine-Tree and Snuffing-Gentleman. 1744 E. MOORE *Fables* vi. 90 Fear wings his flight; the marsh he sought, The snuffing dogs are set at fault. 1884 [see SNUFFER 4].

Hence **Snu·ffingly** *adv.*, in a snuffing manner.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* i. in *Holinshed*, Here percase some snappish carper will..snuffingly snibbe me. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 228/1 The dogs..went about with inquisitive, drooping noses..amongst the various gear which they snuffingly recognized.

Snu·ffish, *a. rare*−1. [f. SNUFF *v.*2] Somewhat snuffy or touchy.

1689 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 11 Commonwealth Wildman is Jack out of office, Sidney and Norfolk are grown very snuffish. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Snuffish*, apt to take Exceptions at.

†**Snu·ffkin.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 snwf-, 5–7 snuf-, 6 snof-, 6–7 snuft-, 7 snuff(e)kin; also 5–6 -kyn. [Of obscure origin.] A muff.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/2 A Snufkyn [*v.r.* Snwfkyn], *pellicudia, nebrida.* 1598 FLORIO, *Manicone*, a great sleeue, manchon, muffe or snufkin. 1599–1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1805) III. 135 One snofkyn of crymson satten. 1602 *Entert. Harefield* in Lyly's Wks. 1902 I. 500 'Tis sommer, yet a snuffkin to your lott, But t'will be winter one day, doubte you nott. 1611 COTGR., *Bonne grace*,..a snufkin, or Muffe. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lii. (1737) 214 The Crepines of their Hoods, their Ruffles, Snuffekins, and Neck-Ruffs, new wash'd, starch'd, and iron'd.

† **Snuffle,** var. of (or error for) SNAFFLE *sb.*1

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 12 She will prepare a boisterous snuffle, for such boisterous head-strong Jaddes, as will be wincing.

Snuffle (snʌ·fl), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

†**1.** Surf or surge. *Obs.*−1

1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* 54 Such a snuffle of the Sea goeth on the shore, ten may better defend than fifty assault.

2. An (*or* the) act of snuffling.

a 1764 LLOYD *Actor* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 16/3 With shrug, wink, snuffle, and convulsive limb. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xii. P 3 What is a prison above-ground, after so brimstone a snuffle as thou hast had of the regions below? 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* iii, It was an intellectual nose...Its snuffle was consequential, and its sneeze oracular. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* viii. 126 She hears the tramping of his approaching feet, and the snuffle of his breath.

3. *pl.* A stopped condition of the nose, through a cold in the head or otherwise, causing a snuffling sound in the act of respiration.

1770 MRS. DELANY *Life & Corr.* Ser. II. (1861) I. 317 She has at present a little London cold, but her Grace says it is 'only the snuffles'. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Child.* (ed. 4) III. 107 The slightest symptom..is that called the Snuffles, or stoppage of the nose. 1845 DICKENS *Chimes* IV. 139 The nose afflicted with that disordered action of its functions which is generally termed the Snuffles. 1878 BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* II. 6 The snuffles in infancy are very characteristic.

4. A nasal tone in the voice.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* V, With a hypocritical snuffle, and a sly twinkle of his eye. 1830 H. LEE *Mem. Manager* I. ii. 61 His spectacles..being rather too small for him..increased his natural snuffle. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* I. 3 The monotonous whine and snuffle of the children in the National School as they read.

Comb. 1889 DOYLE *M. Clarke* 94 Half-a-dozen broad-brimmed snuffle-nosed preachers.

Snuffle (snʌ·fl), *v.* [prob. ad. Du. and Flem. *snuffelen* (also † *snoffelen*), = Fris. *snuffelje*, LG. *sniffeln* (whence G. *schnüffeln, schnuffeln*) in similar senses: see SNUFF *v.*2 and -LE.]

I. *intr.* †**1.** To show dislike or disdain by snuffing; to sniff *at* a thing in contempt. *Obs.*

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 128 The young colt, at the first breaking, snuffles at the snaffle. 1600 BRETON *Strange Fort. Two Princes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12/2 The wicked wretch..in a great rage, snuffling at his cold entertainment. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXV. iv. 268 Making a speech on a time to his souldiors all armed, when they snuffled and became unruly. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 165, I know nice noses will snuffel at this Oyl as a thing most detestable.

2. To draw air into the nostrils in order to smell something; to snuff or smell *at* a thing.

c 1600 CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 12 Their cry soon reacht his ear, And he came snuffling toward them. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* B iij b, I dream'd I wore a garland of greene willow. But snuffling low, I prickt me with a fether. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, The steeds..neighed and snuffled fondly around their masters. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, [The dog] went trotting about the room, and snuffling at Schloss's legs. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* 278 The oxen..were very restless—they kept snuffling and blowing.

3. To speak through the nose; to have a nasal twang.

Sometimes taken as indicating hypocrisy or canting.

c 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* III. ii, There's an odde fellow snuffels i' the nose that shows a motion about Bishopsgate. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* XXIII. iv. (1678) 526 They cannot pronounce their words distinctly, but obscurely and snuffling. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* II. III. viii, Would it not have been better..to cut off half their noses, even though they should snuffle in their speech? 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 126 P 6 Snuffling through the nose with an harmonious twang. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, You would have thought it was the Countess's own Roman nose through which she snuffled. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 154 He snuffled in his holy talk like an honest Roundhead.

4. To draw up air or mucus through the nostrils in an audible or noisy manner.

c 1600 *Tarlton's Jests* (1628) A 4, Who falling vpon his nose, broke it extremely, that euer after he snuffled in the head. 1611 COTGR., *Renifler*, to snuffle, or snifter often. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 435 He.. was gan'd and snuffled [Sp. *con matadduras y muermo*] because they had thrown Feathers into his Manger. 1835 *Politeness & Gd.-breeding* 53 Remember never to whisper, or snuffle and laugh. 1857 C. BRONTE *Professor* vii, How he did snuffle, snort, and wheeze! 1898 *Hutchinson's Arch. Surg.* IX. 141 The child, a girl,..at the age of a month began to snuffle.

†**5.** Of the wind: To blow in fitful gusts. *Obs.*

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 24 In the after-noone it began to snuffle and blow. 1781 ARCHER in *Naval Chron.* XI. 286 At eleven at night it began to snuffle, with a monstrous heavy appearance.

II. *trans.* **6.** To inhale, to clear, to search out or examine, by snuffing.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 11/2 Mixe all these.., & snuffle heerof a little in your Nose in the Morninges. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* II. 18 She shed no tears,..But onely snuffling her Trunk Cartilaginous, From scaling Ladder she began a story. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xxii. 199 He snuffles all he snuffle can; 'He scents the Jesuits' traces'.

7. To utter, say, declare, etc., in a snuffling or nasal tone.

1641 in Nalson *Collect. Affairs State* (1683) II. 809 Those That snuffle their unlearned Zeal in Prose. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxxiii, 'I profess I do...' snuffled the corporal. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 108 Even the old Marquis snuffles approval. 1865 — *Fredk. Gt.* VII. vi. (1872) II. 321 Seckendorf..snuffled into him suggestions of mercy. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 128 The scarecrow who shambled along snuffling 'Old clo'.

b. Similarly with *out* or *forth.*

1828 CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* II. 205 On being questioned how he had existed, he snuffled out [etc.]. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, She..snuffled forth at the astonished boy, 'Get out o' that, you dirty cur!' 1891 GOSSE *Gossip Libr.* iii. 33 A whining ballad snuffled out in the street at night by some unhappy minstrel.

Snuffler (snʌ·fləɹ). [f. prec. Cf. Du. *snuffelaar*, LG. *sniff(e)ler*, G. *schnüffler, schnuffler.*] One who snuffles or speaks through the nose; one who speaks cantingly.

1642 *Tom Nash his Ghost* Title-p., To the three scurvy Fellowes of the upstart Family of the Snufflers, Rufflers and Shufflers. 18.. T. MOORE *Canonization of St. B-tt-rw-rth* xiii, Call quickly together the whole tribe of Canters,.. Bring Shakers and Snufflers and Jumpers and Ranters. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xliv, I never was a snuffler; but this sort of life makes one serious. 1879 A. REED *Alice Bridge of Norwich* 211 'Down with canting snufflers!' began to be heard.

Snu·ffless, *a.* [f. SNUFF *sb.*1 I.] Of candles: Having no snuff.

1895 *Army & Navy Stores Price List* 10 Dips...Palmer's Snuffless.

Snu·ffliness. [f. SNUFFLY *a.*] The quality of being snuffly.

1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 14 Speaking..with a snuffliness of tone, engendered by much crying.

Snuffling (snʌ·fliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNUFFLE *v.*] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* IV. iv. 3 b, Lowd snuffling in the nose, and casting out vapors at his nostrils. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 29 They made a great noyse with their snufflinge, and, in the ende, went Runing awaye. 1614–8 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 138 As you shall see cause, first in the head by snuffing or sniting, or any other signes. 1702 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (1709) 383 To speak without snuffling is hardly genteel. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 530 The coryza, or snuffling of old age, is precisely analogous to its ptyalism or drivelling. 1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 747 The first indication..is the characteristic snuffling.

Snuffling (snʌ·fliŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SNUFFLE *v.*]

1. That snuffles; drawing air up the nose, or characterized by this.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 216 A water spaniell.. came downe the river, shewing that he hunted for a duck, & with a snuffling grace. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 324 His Heart Beats quick; his snuffling Nose, his active Tail Attest his Joy. 1760 *Cautions & Adv. Officers of Army* 98 Little Good can be expected from him whose snuffling Nose, unbraced Nerves, and rotten Carcase, denote him fitter for his Grave..than for his Duty. 1800 HURDIS *Favourite Village* 33 What time the snuffling spaniel, as he runs, Pants freely. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (1854) 64 Little shrews peered with perking snuffling noses.

fig. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* XI. 1502 Whose swine-like snuffling greed and grunting lust I had to wink at.

2. Speaking through the nose; canting, hypocritical, sanctimonious.

c 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. i, I think this snuffling slave flouts us. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 124 A Pox of all these snuffling Knaves, That do our Sports despise. 1793 [see SNAFFLING *ppl. a.*]. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 69 The service was performed by a snuffling well-fed vicar. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 399 The straight-haired, snuffling, whining saints, who christened their children out of the Book of Nehemiah. 1868 BP. WILBERFORCE in R. S. Wilberforce *Life* (1882) III. ix. 271, I have infinitely more sympathy..with his views concerning the Church than with those of the snuffling Puritan clique.

3. Coming or uttered through the nose; nasal. Also *fig.*

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* vii, Answered the Prior, in a sort of snuffling tone. 1841 THACKERAY *Sec. Funeral Napoleon* iii, They chanted something in a weak, snuffling..manner. 1871 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 278 He bewails..in snuffling heroics.

Hence **Snu·ffingly** *adv.*, in a snuffling manner.

1619 R. WESTE *Bk. Demeanor* 57 in *Babees Bk.*, Nor practize snuffilingly to speake. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* L. 413 James shuffled, and snuffled,..and snufflingly said [etc.].

Snuffly (snʌ·fli), *a.* [f. SNUFFLE *v.*] Characterized by snuffling.

1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* III. 3, I still speak in a

subdued and snuffly voice. 1883 — *Belinda* I. vi, He has the threatenings of a snuffly cold.

Snuff-mill. [SNUFF *sb.*3 I.]

1. *Sc.* A snuff-box, snuff-mull.

a 1689 W. CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 12 (Jam.), Right well mounted of their gear:—With durk, and snap-work, and snuff-mill. 1707 LADY G. BAILLIE *Household Bk.* (1911) 18 For 3 snuf milnes £4. 1715 *Mar's Lament* in *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 621 Each man unto the spoyl he gat, some got plaids and snuff-mills in their pack. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Rhymes* 27 (E.D.D.), His snuff-mill was the horn o' ram.

2. A mill, or machine, for grinding tobacco into snuff.

1758 in *Jedburgh Gazette* (1906) 29 Sept. 3 Snuff and Waulk Miln, [rent] £7:0:0. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1255 The sides of the snuff-mill have sharp ridges from the top to near the bottom. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2232/1 The snuff-mills of Holland are on a very large scale, and are impelled by wind.

Snuff-mull. *Sc.* [See prec. I, and MULL *sb.*6] A snuff-box.

1827 SCOTT *Two Drovers* i, Some thrust out their snuff-mulls for the parting pinch. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* v. (1857) 97 A number of curious little articles...Among the rest, Highland snuff-mulls. 1887 MCNEILL *Blawearie* 101 He..drew his snuff-mull from his waistcoat pocket, gave three vicious taps on the lid of it [etc.].

Snuffy (snʌ·fi), *a.*1 [f. SNUFF *v.*2 or SNUFF *sb.*1 4.] Annoyed, displeased; ready to take offence.

1678 MRS. BEHN *Sir Patient Fancy* IV. i, She left me in the very middle on't so snuffy I'll warrant. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Captious*, Touchy, Snuffy. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl., Snuffie*, sulky, displeased; often *Snuffie-like*, Clydes[dale]. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xiii, Don't be snuffy, Molly, none of your mulligrubs.

Snuffy (snʌ·fi), *a.*2 [f. SNUFF *sb.*3] Bailey (1727, vol. II) gives '*Snuffy*,..dawbed with Snuff', an earlier instance of either 2 a or 2 b.

1. Like, or resembling, snuff or powdered tobacco in colour or substance.

1789 T. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 285 A brownish ferruginous soft soil, of a snuffy appearance. 1860 SALA *Baddington Peerage* i, They were mostly bright yellow, or of that peculiar shade of green known as 'snuffy'. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 290 Head snuffy-brown, and no white patch in front of the eye. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 522/2 A black or snuffy dust.

2. a. Of persons: Given to taking snuff; bearing marks of the habit of snuff-taking.

c 1790 A. WILSON *Watty & Meg* Poet. Wks. (*c* 1846) 151 Nasty, gude-for-naething being! O ye snuffy, drucken sow! 1826 DISRAELI *V. Grey* III. vii. 118 A little odd-looking snuffy old man, with a brown scratch wig. 1848 THACKERAY *Trav. Lond.* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 349 Dinners where you meet ..a Knight, and a snuffy little old General. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* 309 Two well-known English antiquarians —very learned, very jealous, and very snuffy.

b. Of things: Soiled with snuff.

1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A snuffy shirt-frill, and enormous breast-pin. 1856 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* i. (1874) 46 His old snuffy black clothes,..and his thread-bare blue great-coat. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 563/2 [She] pulled out a snuffy pocket-handkerchief.

3. 'Tipsy, drunk' (*Slang. Dict.* 1864).

1891 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 30 Jan. 4/6 He considered, if a member got 'snuffy', he should go home, and not come there to annoy the meeting.

Snuff, *sb. dial.* [variant of SNUFF *sb.*1] †a. (See quot. 1611.) *Obs.* b. The snuff of a candle or the like.

1611 COTGR., *Camouffiet*, a Snuff, or cold Pie; a smoakie paper held vnder the nose of a slug, or sleeper. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 126 The candle doth yet give a glorious light, we are loth to think of the snuft. 1874 WAUGH *Chimney Corner* (1879) 146 He went out as quiet as th' snuft o' a candle. 1881– in dial. glossaries (Lanc., Chesh., Nott., Leic.).

Snuft, *v. dial.* [var. of SNUFF *v.*2] *intr.* To smell, sniff.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 107 As snifting and snufting the clodhopper goes. 1854– in dial. glossaries (Northampt., Leic., Chesh.).

†**Snufter,** *sb. Obs.* [Cf. SNUFF *sb.*] A snuffer.

1558 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham) I. 176 On snufter for candelle.

Snufter, *v. dial.* [var. of SNIFTER *v.*] *intr.* To sniff, snuff. Hence **Snufftering** *vbl. sb.*

1611 COTGR., *Esbrouëment*,..a snurting, or snuftering with the nose. *Esbrouër des narines*, to snurt, or snufter. 1632 SHERWOOD, To snuffle, or snufter often, *renifler, ressimer.* 1876– in dial. glossaries (Northumbld., Yorksh.).

Snuftkin, variant of SNUFFKIN.

Snug (snʊg), *sb.*1 [Of obscure origin: cf. SNAG *sb.*]

1. A rugged projection; a hard knob or knot; a snag. *rare.*

1665 BUNYAN *Holy City* xv. (1669) 107 There shall be a smooth Face upon the whole Earth, all Snugs, and Hubs, and Hills..shall now be took away. *a* 1800 *Devon Gloss.* in Halliw. s.v. *Snag*, A snagg, *vel* snugg, a hard wooden ball, commonly some gnurre, knobb, or knott of a tree, which they [boys] make use of at the play of bandy instead of a ball. 1808 JAMIESON, *Snugs*, small branches lopped off from a tree.

2. *techn.* A projection or ridge cast on a plate, bolt, etc., in order to keep something in position, prevent rotation, or for some similar purpose.

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 138/2 Instead of the flanges there are 'snugs' on the tumbler between the chains to keep them on. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 214 On the top bar of the frames there are two strong snugs..cast, sufficient to resist the pressure of the rollers. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 17 The snug fits into a short groove cut in the side of the hole.

attrib. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 134 *Deck nails*..have snug heads.

Snug (snʊg), *sb.*2 [f. SNUG *a.*1]

1. *The snug*, that which is comfortable, quiet, or private. *Upon the snug*, privately. *rare.*

1768 *Woman of Honor* I. 187, I escaped from those scenes of tasteless enjoyment..into the snug of life. 1861 [MRS. M. A. PAUL] *Two Cosmos* I. iv, A bye thing [*sc.* a prize-fight] got up upon the snug at Kilburn Wells.

2. *dial.* or *slang.* The bar-parlour of an inn or public-house; = SNUGGERY 1 b.

1864 BRIERLEY *Layrock* xiii, Who would have followed him into the snug. 1890 *Eastern Morn. News* (Hull) 16 Apr. 4/9 Charged with having wilfully broken a window in the snug of the Shepherdess Inn. 1894– in dial. glossaries and texts (Northumbld., Cumbld., Lanc., Warw.).

b. *Sc.* One of the compartments in the tap-room of an old-fashioned inn.

1891 *Scottish Leader* 18 Sept. 5 He came out of one of the 'snugs' or boxes.

Snug (snʊg), *a.*1 and *adv.* Also 6–7 **snugg.** [Of doubtful origin; first recorded as a nautical term. In later use app. associated with the early senses of SNUG *v.*, but it is possible that there is no original connexion between the two.

There is resemblance in form, and some correspondence in sense, to LG. *snügger* (*snigger*), *snögger* slender, smooth, clean, dainty, smart, etc., older Du. *snuggher*, *snoggher* (Kilian), slender, slim, active (Du. *snugger* lively, sprightly), but evidence of connexion is wanting. Cf. also Sw. *snygg*, Da. *snyg*, neat, tidy, etc., which may be from LG.; but Da. dial. *snag*, Sw. dial. *snögg* (*snägg*), Norw. dial. *snegg* (*snegg*) represent ON. *sneggr* (Icel. *snöggur*) short, short-haired, sudden, quick, etc., which is app. represented in English by SNOG *a.*]

A. *adj.* 1. *Naut.* Of a ship or her parts: Trim, neat, compact; adequately or properly prepared for, or protected from, bad weather.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakluyt Soc.) 58 A verie fine snugg long shipp, having on each side vi. portes open, beside her chase and her sterne peeces. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 358 She will overtop a lower and snug Ship. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 50 The streighter and snuger the Sheer lies, the less Wind is held to hinder the Motion of the Ship. 1799 *Naval Chron.* II. 304 The stern is..plain, and snug, without much carving. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* ii. 3 Soon all was snug aloft, and we were again allowed to go below. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 46 It would not form so snug a lashing. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 447/2 She will be..snug for any gale.

fig. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The shop seemed almost to become a snug sea-going, ship-shape concern.

b. In phrase *to make snug.*

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 380 Captain Read..ordered the Carpenters to cut down our Quarter Deck to make the Ship snug and the fitter for Sailing. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 9 [To] make everything snug and close, that the Ship might ride as easy as possible. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 70 To ease our bows, and make everything as snug as possible. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* ii, We'll make her all snug...Furl the fore and mizen-topsail. 1851 KITTO *Daily Bible Illustr.* LII. iv. (1867) 445 Their next care was to make the ship 'snug', by lowering the sail, and bringing down upon deck her spars and rigging. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 385 We let go the anchor, make all snug and go ashore.

c. *transf.* Of persons or things: Neat, trim. Now *Obs.* or *dial.*

1714 STEELE *Lover* No. 15, There was seated just before her a pretty snug Academick. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, He kames his hair, indeed, and gaes right snug. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 126 P 5 Flowers of rhetoric, injudiciously scattered over a sermon, are as disgusting in his discourse, as the snug wig and scented white handkerchief in his dress. 1789 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 90 Sometimes an orator closes with a good snug resolution which is carried with a huzza.

d. Close-fitting; tight.

1838 in HOLLOWAY *Prov. Dict.* 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 7/2 The corsage of the gown should not be too snug, but it should be shapely and 'tailor made' to the last degree.

2. In a state of ease, comfort, or quiet enjoyment. Chiefly pred., and freq. with *in* (a place).

1630 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* vi. 5 (Ashm. MS.), Now Chaunticleere..the poise of his clockes watch at twoe gann sterr,..Yet snugg binn they in cabins. 1706– [see b]. 1783 COWPER *Lett.* Wks. (1876) 144 There is hardly to be found on Earth I suppose so snug a creature as an Englishman by his fire-side in winter. 1798 SOUTHEY *Pious Painter* II. xi, Released from his prison,..The Painter is snug in his bed. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Horace in London* 173 Tho' all the while my proper self Is snug at home, My pen shall roam. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* (1875) 50, I made a blazing fire..and sat down to tea, as snug and comfortable as possible. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 131 He found ..the Colonel's groom making the animals snug for the night.

b. In phrases of comparison (see quots.).

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 58 He sits as snug as a Bee in a Box, making his Honey. 1769 *Stratford Jubilee* II. i, If she [a rich widow] has the mopus's, I'll have her, as snug as a bug in a rug. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x. P 23 You will be as snug there as a bug in a blanket. 1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride* vi, You might sit as snug as a bug in a rug.

c. With *lie* vb. Also, securely caught or imprisoned. (Cf. 6.)

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To lie snug in a Bed. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 79 On southern banks the ruminating sheep Lay snug and warm. 1796 NELSON 1 Aug. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 224 This blockade is complete, and we lay very snug in the North Road. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, While Becky Sharp was on her own wing in the country..Amelia lay snug in her home of Russell Square. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Relph* 51 Safe in the trap would they now lie snug, had treachery made no sign.

3. Of places, buildings, etc.: Comfortable and warm, cosy; esp. combining comfort with neatness and compactness.

c 1718 PRIOR *The Ladle* 68 A Country Farm, Where all was snug, and clean, and warm. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 513 Then snug enclosures in the shelter'd vale..Delight us. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* III. vii, Your snug warm bed. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ii, Those inside had risen from their snug seats, and were making room in the snuggest corner for the honest locksmith. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* i, Heathcote inherited a snug little estate near Bodmin. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* 141, I know no..snugger hostelry than the Swan.

b. *Comb.*, as *snug-box, -chair, -parlour.*

1702 FARQUHAR *Twin-Rivals* IV. i, Presently enters Mr. Moabite, followed by a snug-chair, the windows close drawn. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 76 That neat snug-box of mine in Surry. 1817 KEATINGE *Trav.* II. 5 The snug-parlour travellers of the critic.

c. Of climate: Agreeable, pleasant, genial.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 562/1 Duluth has a cool, salubrious summer and a snug winter climate.

4. a. Enabling one to live in comfort and comparative ease.

1735 FIELDING *Mod. Husb.* II. v, Have you no friend that could favor you with some comfortable snug employment, of a thousand or fifteen hundred per annum? 1780 *Mirror* No. 78, Looking out for some snug office, or reversion, to which my interest with several powerful friends might recommend me. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. (1869) 97 A few hundreds a year are something snug and comfortable. 1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 79 A good snug business they've got.

transf. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Lett. Catholics* (1808) 130 An endless series of snug expectations and cruel disappointments. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* v, The snug probability of succeeding to his father's office.

b. Moderately well-to-do; comfortably off; 'warm'. Chiefly *Irish dial.*

1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xv. 121 He was a very cautious snug man, and he did not choose to interfere. 1828 CROKER *Leg. S. Irel.* II. 222 Tim himself would have been snug enough sometimes but that he loved the drop. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* viii, You're a snug man, Mat; you ought to be able to give a husband a trifle with them. 1900 E. PHILLPOTTS *Sons of Morning* III. iii, 'Twenty pounds ban't much.'..'Not to your faither, as he be a snug man enough by accounts.'

c. Fairly large or substantial.

1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S.* iv. 65, I shipped a snug package of velvets, which certain great folks are at this moment wearing. 1848 THACKERAY *Vanity Fair* xl, Having a snug legacy from Miss Crawley. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 40 This gentleman had made a snug fortune during the felicitous prevalence of a severe epidemic.

5. Marked or characterized by ease or comfort; comfortable, cosy.

(*a*) 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* xiii. 16 No Lady in London is half so expert At a snug private Party, her Friends to divert. 1781 HAN. MORE in Roberts *Mem.* (1835) I. 210, I was on Monday night at a very snug little party...We had a snug day. 1824 IRVING *Tales Trav.* I. 185 They did occasionally give snug dinners to three or four literary men at a time. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* i, The club-room, and the snug hand at whist. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* XXXVII, He liked snug dinners of all things in the world.

(*b*) 1823 *Examiner* 15 Feb. 102/2 Denmark and Sweden.. had kept themselves in a very snug neutrality. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XLVI, A sort of snug and comfortable penitence.

†b. *Cant.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1725 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v., *All's snug*, all's quiet; used by Villains, when every thing is silent, and they hear no body stir to oppose their intended Rogueries.

c. Of a borough: Close. (See BOROUGH 3 c.) *rare.*

1844 P. HARWOOD *Hist. Irish Rebell.* 41 *note*, The other boroughs, which were close or snug, sent the remainder.

6. In concealment or hiding; out of sight or observation. Chiefly with *lie* vb. (Cf. 2 c.)

1687 tr. *Sallust* (1692) 185 The Numidians kept themselves and their Horses snug within the Trees and Bushes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 24 Did I not see you, Rascal, did I not? Where you lay snug to snap young Damon's Goats? 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 187 Be sure at Will's, the following day, [To] Lie snug, and hear what criticks say. 1797 F. REYNOLDS *The Will* III. i, When a man is in debt, the Capital is the place to lie snug in! 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. I. P 4 A hue and cry was raised.., but I lay snug, and they missed me. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* XXXIII, But you must remain snug at the Point of Warroch till I come to see you. 1862 BORROW *Wales* LXXII, Lying snug in cave by day and going out at night to rob.

† b. Marked or characterized by privacy, secrecy, or concealment; private, secret. *Obs.*

1710 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 37 Methinks when I write plain..all the world can see us. A bad scrawl is so snug. 1766 *Life of Quin* i. 7 James had..carried on what he thought a very snug intrigue with Mrs. L.

c. *To keep* (. .) *snug*, to keep quiet, to refrain from talking about or alluding to (something). Now *dial.*

1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 26 Aug., My conduct has been as uniform in trying to keep snug as my words. 1796 — *Lett.* 10 July, He,..laughingly, said, 'So you keep it quite snug'. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* 508, I take it for granted that he'll be as glad of a settlement that keeps all 'snug', as ourselves. 1877 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* 231/2 Doctors an' lawyers is beholden to keep things snug, folks tells 'em.

7. Used as an interjection asking for or commanding secrecy, esp. in phrase *snug's the word.*

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* I. ii, If throats are to be cut, let swords clash! snug's the word, I shrug and am silent. 1748 FOOTE *Knights* I. Wks. 1799 I. 65 You could give us a little news if you would; come now!—snug!—nobody by! 1809–12 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Vivian* viii, There's a man who could tell you more than any of us, if he would; but snug's the word with Wicksted. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, Whisht,..not a word...Good-bye, you'll hear more about it to-morrow—snug's the word.

B. *adv.* Snugly.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 128, I take the seed..to be a cluster of bubbles wryed up snug. 1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* vi. 27 So they hoisted her down just as safe..And as snug as a Hod'mandod rides in his shell. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epil., He eyes the centre, where his friends sit snug. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 9 Sept. 3/6 It is calculated to button across snug up to the neck. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exped.* xxix. (1856) 252 The provisions and stores of all sorts are packed snug. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 34 To see you succeed in getting your son and my nephew put snug into the estate.

†**Snug**, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [Cf. SNUG *sb.*[1]] ? Snub.

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of News* III. ii, It is an Automa, ..With a snug nose, and has a nimble taile.

Snug (snʌg), *v.* [Of obscure origin: in later use associated with, and partly f., SNUG *a.*[1]]

1. *intr.* Of persons (or animals): To lie or nestle closely or comfortably, esp. in bed; to snuggle. Now *rare* or *dial.* (Cf. SNUDGE *v.*[2])

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxvii. 411 In stead of setting forward we retire backe, or els sit snugging stil in our owne slothfulnesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 84 Betwixt them two the peeper tooke his nest, Where snuging well he well appear'd content. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* vi. 5 While snugginge they in cabbins lay each one. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* (1694) 61 The loving couple lay snugging together. 1824 LAMB *Lett.* (1888) II. 118 Let 'em all snug together, Hebrews and Proselytes of the gate.

transf. and *fig.* 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. vi, The Summer Clouds, snugging in laps of Flowers. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Upon Roses,* Under a Lawne..Some ruffled Roses nestling were: And snugging there, they seem'd to lye As in a flowrie Nunnery. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 86 The pieces of a body..are only clapt together at their little smoothnesses as close as they can snug.

b. With *to* or *into.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selvedge of the World* 110 [An atom] so snugs to another, as not to be in another. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To snug to his Bed-fellow. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., A child snugs to its mother or nurse. 1888 EDMONDSTON & SAXBY *Home Naturalist* 85 After she and Wildie had snugged into bed.

2. With *down*: To nestle, settle down; to make oneself snug or comfortable.

1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissill* 100 Then this eye lookes vp, yet downe I snug againe. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 3/1 They turn into the Home for Asiatics, and snug down till Mr. Johnston..gets them a ship. 1904 'E. NESBIT' *Phœnix & Carpet* II. 26 'I'm a baby bear!' said the Lamb, snugging down.

3. *trans.* a. To place or put snugly, neatly, or comfortably.

1754 GOLDSM. in Forster *Life* (1871) I. 437 Every woman carries in her hand a stove with coals in it, which, when she sits, she snugs under her petticoats.

b. *U.S. slang.* 'To conceal from the owner, to purloin' (Bartlett).

a 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 424 I'd stuff watches, drop pocket-books,..but I'd never condescend to snug dogs.

4. *refl.* To make (oneself) comfortable, secure, or safe (cf. quots.); to bring (oneself) *into* something comfortable.

1795 *Gazette of the U. S.* (Phila.) 7 March (Thornton), [He will] keep up his credit and character, till he has snugged himself into a good estate. 1822 MRS. E. NATHAN *Langreath* I. 5 His steward, who has snugged himself pretty well by robbing his master and oppressing the poor. 1856 *Leisure Hour* 28 Aug. 559/1 We hear voices and steps just outside, but snug ourselves in the security of our retreat.

5. To make snug, comfortable, or tidy; to set nicely in order. Freq. with *up* or *down.*

(*a*) 1787 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 27 Potatoe-bings are snugged up frae skaith Of coming Winter's biting, frosty breath. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxxv, What the dickens was them two great rolls o' canvass for, I seed snugg'd up and tied to your crupper? *Ibid.* xxxvii, Whenever you see a place all snugged up.., depend on it the folks are of the right kind. 1888 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 617/2 The tent was shut, and everything snugged up. 1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sketches* I. 44 We snugged things down quite elegantly, in expectation of visitors.

absol. 1885 *Field* 19 Dec. 870/3 We snugged up for the night.

(*b*) 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* iv, I snugged her in rugs. 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 18 Mar. 342/1 They have become an 'Army of Occupation', with huts snugged for winter.

b. To put or stow *away* snugly.

1859 H. W. BEECHER *Life Thoughts* Ser. II. 55 He knows very well where it is snugged away. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 516 He beheld Esther,..a small figure snugged away under her father's lap-robe. 1897 *Daily News* 21 June 4/5 You are comfortably snugged away under a wide-spreading arch.

6. *Naut.* To make (a ship, etc.) snug or trim, esp. by lashing or stowing movables, furling or reducing sails, lowering topmasts, etc., in preparation for bad weather; to furl (a sail).

1881 *Daily Telegr.* 28 Jan., Bit by bit the canvas was snugged until the brig had nothing on her but her lower maintopsail [etc.]. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* II. 177 The men were employed in snugging the decks. 1890 — *Ocean Trag.* I. ix. 189 They had snugged the 'Bride' to very small canvas.

b. Similarly with *down.* Also *absol.*

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 10/3 Having hove in their trawl they were all forward..snugging the vessel down, as they were threatened with more wind. 1899 'Q.' (Quiller Couch) *Ship of Stars* xxiv, [Taffy] gave the order to snug down and man the cradle for shore.

Snugger (snʌ·gəɹ). [f. prec.: cf. SNUGGING *vbl. sb.* 1.] A device by which cordage is made smooth and uniform.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 The cordage..is drawn slowly between closely pressing reciprocating *rubbers* and *snuggers.*

Snuggery (snʌ·gəɹi). Also 9 -erie. [f. SNUG *a.*[1] + -ERY.]

1. A cosy or comfortable room, esp. one of small size, into which a person retires for seclusion or quiet; a bachelor's den.

1815 *Zeluca* I. 171 You must come and dine, and..play whist in a snuggerie with Lady Whitelock. 1825 LOCKHART in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) II. xxvii. 229 Habits which render it difficult for me to do any serious work out of my own snuggery. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlii. 230 Each particular apartment..down to the smallest bachelor snuggery, was replete with elegance and comfort. 1892 BARING-GOULD *Trag. Caesars* I. 192 On the top of the house was a snuggery, into which he retired when he wanted to be entirely alone.

attrib. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Tom..soon managed to place on the snuggery table better materials for a meal. 1898 W. WHITE *Jrnls.* 72 An attempt to make a Cambridge snuggery affair of it.

b. *spec.* The bar-parlour of an inn or public-house; = SNUG *sb.*[2] 2.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* x, There's these here painted tops in the snuggery inside the bar. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Chr. Tadpole* xxix. (1879) 259 The bar did not differ from others of its class,..but the snuggery behind was remarkable.

2. A snug, comfortable, or cosy house or dwelling.

1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. ii, It [the cottage] was one of the prettiest things imaginable: its interior was a perfect snuggery. 1847 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 402 Converting what was once rather a make-shift little mansion into one of the most complete snuggeries in the country. 1893 LADY BURTON *Life Burton* I. 440 The Diplomats have snuggeries here [i.e. Petropolis], and form a pleasant society.

b. A snug place, position, feature, etc.

1850 *Lit. Gazette* 16 Nov. 849/2 The zeal of your modern squire, ensconced in his curtained snuggery of a pew. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 254 A friend had given us his suburban residence, with all its conveniences, elegancies, and snuggeries. 1867 E. YATES *Forlorn Hope* viii, Lady Muriel rose from the soft snuggery of her cushioned chair.

3. A snug company or party. *rare*[−1].

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 1 July 4/5 Let not this snuggery of literary dunderheads imagine that they are all ambushed.

4. An easy comfortable position or post; a sinecure. *rare.*

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 767 Another puts his bastard son into a splendid snuggery for life. 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* iii, Here was a nice man to be initiated into the comfortable arcana of ecclesiastical snuggeries.

Snugging (snʌ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SNUG *v.*]

1. *techn.* The operation of rubbing down a rope in order to give it a smooth finish.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2192/1 The size is flour-paste mixed with other ingredients, and the operation on the rope is called *snugging, slicking,* or *finishing.*

2. *Naut.* The action of making snug or trim. Also with *up.*

1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 61 The washing out and snugging-up of a boat at her moorings for the night. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Sept. 4/3 With a sloop no corresponding order could have been given which would have led to such smart snugging of canvas.

Snu·gging, *ppl. a. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec.] Snug, quiet, sheltered.

1701 SEDLEY *Happy Pair* Wks. 1722 I. 23 He slily flies to copses, where he finds The snugging woods secure from blasts and winds.

Snuggish (snʌ·giʃ), *a.* [f. SNUG *a.*[1]] Somewhat snug; rather comfortable.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 404 We had chanced ourselves to cram Into a snuggish treckschuit. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dangerous* II. vii. 233, I accompanied him to the 'Admiral Benbow', a snuggish little hostelry. 1866 CARLYLE *E. Irving* in *Remin.* (1881) II. 260 The Irvings had a dim but snuggish house.

Snu·ggle, *sb. rare.* [f. next.] An act of snuggling. Also with *down.*

1901 'R. CONNOR' *Man from Glengarry* xx. 328 'You are sure you are comfortable?' 'Quite,' she replied, with a cosy little snuggle down among the cushions.

Snuggle (snʌ·g'l), *v.* [Cf. SNUG *v.* and -LE.]

1. *intr.* Of persons, esp. children: To lie snug or close, esp. for warmth or comfort; to settle down cosily or comfortably; to get or press close to a person, esp. as a mark of affection; to nestle.

1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To Snuggle, or to snuggle together, *se serrer dans un lit.* 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *To Snuggle,* to lie close together; to embrace one another in Bed. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Snuggle,* to lie snug in bed—or to get close together in bad weather. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lviii, She coaxed and snuggled and smiled. 1854 — *Newcomes* I, We were friends in a minute—young Newcome snuggling by my side. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, I snuggled under a little shawl, and it was warm there. *fig.* 1879 'E. GARRETT' *Ho. by Works* I. 25 It was a wealthy household,..where virtue..snuggled in broad cloth and satin.

b. To nestle *close* or near *to* a person or thing.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xiv, Children snuggled to their parents. 1884 *Ordnance Gaz. Scotl.* II. 394 A collie snuggles to his foot. 1900 R. J. MUIR *Myst. Muncraig* xxi. 260 'Don't say that, moaned the girl, snuggling close.

c. With *up* or *down.* Also, to curl up snugly or comfortably.

(*a*) 1840 HALIBURTON *Letter Bag* i. 11, [I] unbooted, unstayed, and snuggled up like a kitten, in bed. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xlii, He..dashed downstairs into the drawing-room, where he snuggled up and dropped asleep. 1880 *19th Cent.* Sept. 451 That is the time to appreciate the comfort of a warm weather-proof house, to snuggle up in your blanket [etc.].

(*b*) 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 61, [I] put my revolver ready to my hand, and snuggled well down among the sheepskins. 1886 MISS MULOCK *King Arthur* viii. 311 When the old birds are flown we must snuggle down in the empty nest.

2. *transf.* Of buildings, etc.: To lie in a sheltered or snug situation; to nestle.

1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 301 Under these bastions snuggle small wood tenements. 1892 *Black & White* 26 Nov. 614/1 The towns..snuggle among foliage. 1898 BARING-GOULD *Old Eng. Home* I. 18 In a dip in the land,..snuggling into the folds of the down,..lies this lovely old house.

3. *trans.* To clasp or draw (a person, etc.) to one closely or affectionately; to hug or cuddle.

1775 ASH, *Snuggle,* to receive into the bosom, to receive into a snug place. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* s.v., A nurse hugging a child warmly and kindly, would be said to snuggle it. 1874 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Poems, Speaking Likenesses* 92 She snuggled it tenderly to her.

b. To wrap *in* some warm garment, etc. Also with *up.*

1867 ALGER *Solitudes Nat. & Man* III. 169 To lie amid the clover..; or, snuggled in furs, to trudge [etc.]. 1893 *Advance* (Chicago) 30 Nov., Little boys whom doting mammas have snuggled up in leggings, mittens and mufflers.

c. To push or press, to place or settle, (the head, etc.) in a snug or affectionate manner.

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 94/1 He..patted the little hand snuggled in upon his arm. 1899 DOYLE *Duet* [xiv.] 185 She snuggled her head up against his knee.

d. To fit or push closely *into* something.

1902 *Temple Bar* May 578 As he snuggled the weapon into the groove of the parapet.

4. *refl.* To settle or nestle (oneself) *in* a place snugly or comfortably.

1876 W. WHITE *Holidays in Tyrol* x. 82 Nests erected on poles in which the watchers snuggle themselves.

Snu·gify, *v.* [f. SNUG *a.*[1]] *trans.* To make snug or comfortable.

1796 LAMB in Talfourd *Life & Lett.* ii. (1840) 12, I devoutly wish that Fortune..may..throw you into London,..and there snugify you for life.

Snugly (snʌ·gli), *adv.* [f. SNUG *a.*[1]] In a snug or comfortable manner; cosily, comfortably.

1611 *Tarlton's Jests* (1844) p. xl, Being thus under saile, going so snugly downe, it made us all so merry. 1732 J. WHALEY *Poems* 180 You,..the reigning Toast, may snuggly err, secure from Harm. 1799 CAMPBELL *The Harper* 15 How snugly we slept in my old coat of gray. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* liii, Even in winter it was a sheltered and snugly sequestered spot. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii. 117 She found herself snugly tucked up on the bed with a blanket over her. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 220 He..professed himself to be snugly lodged.

b. Neatly, trimly; closely, securely.

1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 134 These balls..might be stopped up snugly to the beams. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build.* 68 A..piece of heavy galvanized sheet iron is fitted into the groove with white lead, and then the parts are brought snugly together.

Snugness (snʌ·gnés). [f. as prec.]

1. The state, condition, or quality of being snug or comfortable; cosiness. Also *personif.*

1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iv, My house..was covered with thatch, which gave it an air of great snugness. 1766 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 11, I rejoice with you in the snugness of your situation. *c* 1790 WARTON *Phaeton & One-horse Chair* 70 O'er me soft Snugness spreads her wings. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 179 The fields..are so small as to give them a peculiar air of snugness. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet Letter* Introd. (1879) 12 All the softness and snugness of an eider-down pillow. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XII. iii. 447 There is a well-known objection to extensive views as wanting in snugness and comfort.

†2. Secrecy, reticence. *Obs.*

1778 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Sept., Had I been allowed to preserve the snugness I had planned, I need not have concerned myself at all about its fate.

3. Neatness, trimness; compactness, closeness.

1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Linc.* 325 Though the Lincoln had the thicker pelt, and more wool, the thickness and snugness of frame of the Leicester made amends. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VII. 178 She..has all the snugness on the water of a large frigate.

†**Snur**, *v. Obs.*[−1] In 6 snurre. [Imitative, or ad. MLG. *snurren* (hence Da. *snurre*, Sw. and Norw. *snurra*), MHG. *snurren* (G. *schnurren*).] *intr.* To snort.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1472 Apollo that whirllid vp his chare, That made sum to snurre and snuf in the wynde.

Snurl, *sb. dial.* Also 9 snirl, snerl, etc. [Cf. WFlem. *snorrelen* to snuffle or snort.]

†1. (See quot.) *Obs.*[−?]

1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 77 *A Snurle*, a Pose or Cold in the head...Suff. [Hence in Coles, Kersey, Bailey, etc.]

2. A nostril.

1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 137 *Snurles*, Nostrils. 1876– in northern glossaries.

Snurl, *v. dial.* Also 9 snirl, snerl. [Cf. SNARL *v.*[1]]

Some other senses in northern dial. and Sc. are recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1. *trans.* To ruffle or disturb.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. Hamilton* vii, When northern blasts the ocean snurl.

2. To turn *up* (the nose) in disdain.

a 1833 R. ANDERSON *Cumb. Ballads* (1881) 138 She snurl'd up her neb. 1873 in *Swaledale Gloss.* 24/1.

Snurp, *v.* [app. the same as the mod. dial. *snurp* (more commonly *snirp*, *snerp*), of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. dial. *snurpa*, *snyrpa* to draw together in wrinkles.] *intr.* To become shrivelled or wrinkled.

c 1300 *Old Age* vii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149, I snurpe, i snobbe, i sneipe on snovte.

Snurt, *v.* Now *north.* and *Sc.* Also 5 snvrtyn, 6, 8 *dial.* snourt, 6 snowrt. [prob. imitative.]

1. *intr.* To snort; † to sneer; to snore.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Snvrtyn, or frowne wythe þe nese for scorne or schrewdenesse, *nario*. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Thess.* 7 That we watche in the dayelight and not lye snourtyng in darkenesse. 1551 *Dr. Haddon's Exhort.* in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 325 Yet snowrteste thow, & sleapeste sownd. 1611 COTGR., *Brouffer*, to snurt, or snifter with the nose, like a horse. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) App. 2 They [fish] snourt when they com out oth girt dub like thunner. 1887 DARLINGTON *Folk Sp. S. Cheshire, Snurt*, to snort; but used only of a horse.

†**2.** *trans.* To eject or cast *out* with a snort or clearing of the nose. *Obs. rare.*

1600 *Minte of Deformities* (Halliw.), One snurts tobacco, as his nose were made A perfum'd jakes for all scurrilities. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterpiece* II. xxii. 256 Giue him liberty to hold downe his head, and to snurt out the filthy matter.

Hence **Snu·rter**, a snorer; **Snu·rting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Peter* II. 12 So as he that is the more watchefull, maye rayse vp the drowsye snourtour. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* I. xiv. E v, Swetely by the hussching brookes to take a snurting nap. 1611 COTGR., *Esbrouëment*,..a snurting, or snuftering with the nose. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl. 54 A man who was blowing through his tobacco pipe said that 'it made a snurting noise'.

†**Snush**, *sb. Obs.* [perh. imitative of a sneezing sound, but cf. Da. and Sw. *snus*. See also *snish* SNEESH *sb.*]

1. Snuff. (Freq. *c* 1680–1700.)

1672 CROWNE *Juliana* III. 33 Some snush would purge your simple brain. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 7 He had Snush on his Hand, as if just ready to take it. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* II, [Stage direction] Throws snush into his eye. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. Diss. Drama 31 To see six or seven Spanish and Italian Priestly Converts ..Carrying of Snush, like Jews, from Door to Door. 1767 MESTON *Poems* (ed. 6) 82 Bedaub'd with soot, and snush and bubblings. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Snush*, snuff; a term still used by old people; Aberd[een].

2. A pinch, or small quantity, of snuff.

1703 M. MARTIN *Desc. Western Islands* 14 They will tug at the Oar all day long upon Bread and Water, and a snush of Tobacco.

3. *attrib.*, as *snush-box*, *-tobacco*.

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1757/4 A round Gold Snush-box. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Observ. Journ. Naples* 204 The Gentlemen that Travell'd with me, having presented them with a Paper of Bononia Snush-Tobacco. 1702 T. MORER *Short Acc. Scotl.* 20 They are fond of Tobacco, but more from the Snush-Box than pipe. 1709 PRIOR *Cupid & Ganymede* 13 A Snush-Box, set with bleeding Hearts, Rubies, all pierc'd with Diamond Darts.

†**Snush**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To snuff, snuff *up* (tobacco); to take as snuff.

1703 M. MARTIN *Desc. Western Islands* 40 She took a Quill with which she ordinarily snushed her Tobacco. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Wks.* (1720) 126 Then filling his short Pipe, he blows a Blast, And does the burning Weed to Ashes wast, Which, when its cool, he snushes up his Nose.

†**Snute.** *Obs.* In 7 snewtte, snut(t)e, snuyt. [ad. Du. *snuit* or Flem. *snuite*, *snute*: cf. SNOUTING **2.**] (See quots. 1651.)

1649 *Rec. Merchant. Adv. Newcastle* (Surtees) I. 157 A little hempe, snute and sope. 1651 *Ibid.* 174 Snutte, a comodity made out of flax. *Ibid.*, In which manufacture there are these 3 partes, that is, the flax.., the snewtte which is the combeings of the tow which was heckled of the flax. 1663 *Ibid.* 59 Tow or snute the c weight, iij d.

†**Snut-nose.** *Obs.* [Cf. SNAT-NOSED *a.*] A snub-nose. Also †**Snut-nosed** *a.*, snub-nosed. *Obs.*

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 666 If men be jested at, for that they be long-nosed.., or otherwise have short snut-noses. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Silo*, An Ape-Nosed or Snut Nosed Fellow.

†**Snu·ttering**, *vbl. sb. Obs.*[–1] [Imitative: cf. SNATTER *v.*] Chattering.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 107 The..snarling of Messens, rantling of Rats..snuttering of Monkies.

†**Snuve**, *v. Obs.*[–1] [= WFris. *snuve*, MDu. *snuven*, *snuyven* (Du. *snuiven*), LG. *snuven*, MHG. *snuben* (G. *schnauben*), etc., in similar senses.] *trans.* To snuff or sniff.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 þe werse..secheð..at te nose ȝif it beoð open to snuuende unluuede breð.

Snu·zzle, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 8 snuzle. [? variant of NUZZLE *v.*[1] Cf. SNOOZLE *v.*]

1. *intr.* **a.** Of swine: To rout *about* with the snout or nose.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 130 Swine will thrive best when they have the Opportunity of..snuzling about, and picking up the Oats, &c.

b. Of a dog: To sniff or poke with the nose.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxford* iii, A way he [a dog] had of going 'snuzzling' about the calves of strangers.

2. *dial.* Of persons, esp. children: To nuzzle, snuggle, or settle down comfortably.

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss. 96 *Snuzzle*, to hide the face in the bosom as children. [Hence in Grose (1790), Holloway, etc.] 1869– in dial. glossaries, etc. (Yks., Lanc., Chesh., Nott.).

Sny (snəi), *sb. Shipbuilding.* [Cf. SNYING *vbl. sb.*] (See quots. 1846 and 1875.)

a. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 54 In working up a round Buttock of a Ship, the lower Edge of the Planks will have a sudden Sny aft. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 288 In shipbuilding, a plank is said to have sny, when its edge has an upward curve.

b. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 149 The great sny occasioned in full bows..is..to be prevented by introducing steelers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2232/1 *Sny*,..the trend of the lines of a ship upward from amidship toward the bow and the stern.

†**Sny**, *v.*[1] *Obs.*[–1] In 5 snyȝe. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To move, proceed.

a 1450–50 *Alexander* 4095 Þan snyȝes þar, out of þat snyth hill.., A burly best.

Sny (snəi), *v.*[2] Now *dial.* Forms: 7 snithe, 9 snive; 7, 9 snie, 8–9 sny, 9 snye; 7, 9 snee. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To abound, swarm, teem, be infested, *with* something.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 44 To *Snee* or *snie*, to abound or swarm. He *snies* with Lice, he swarms with them. 1675 V. ALSOP *Anti-sozzo* 503 Certainly never did man so snithe with prejudices against Truth. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Gloss., *Snye*, to swarm. 1849 HOWITT *Year Bk. Country* 242/32 The villages in the forest sny with children. 1882 *Echo* 16 Jan. 4/1 The place literally 'snives' with rabbits. 1897 J. PRIOR *Ripple & Flood* xix, The watter snies wi' fish.

Snye (to cut): see SNICK OR SNEE.

Snying (snəi·iŋ), *vbl. sb. Shipbuilding.* [Of obscure origin: cf. SNY *sb.*, and dial. *sny*, *snigh* to turn up the nose.] (See quots.)

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 47 As much as possible keep your Work from extream Snying or Cambering. *Ibid.* 164 *Snying*, an arching upwards, where the Middle of the Plank appears higher than the Ends. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Mar. Dict.* 488/1 *Snying*, among shipwrights, a term used for a circular plank, edgeways, to work in the bows of the ship.

So **Sny·ing** *ppl. a.*, having an upward curve or sny.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 47 You will likewise be obliged to have snying (or crooked) Planks. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.) 48 A stick or bat of timber is said to be a snying piece, when it bends or is somewhat curved. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Nav.* (Weale) 149 *Snying*, a term applied to planks when their edges round or curve upwards. *Ibid.* 152 Its use is to take out the snying edge.

Snythe, obs. variant of SNATH, scythe-pole.

Snyth-hill: see SNIDDLE.

So (sōu), *adv.* and *conj.* Forms: (see below). [Common Teut.: OE. *swa*, *swā* (also *swǣ*, *swē*, etc.), = OFris. *sa*, *so* (Fris. *sa*, *so*, *sô*, *sû*, etc.), MDu. *so*, *soo*, *soe* (Du. *zoo*), OS. *sô* (MLG. *so*, LG. *so*, *sou*), OHG. *sô*, *suo* (MHG. *sô*, *sû*, G. *so*), ON. *svá* (Icel. *svo*, †*so*, Norw. and Da. *saa*, Sw. *så*), Goth. *swa* (also *swē*). The precise relation of some of these forms to each other, and the ultimate origin of the stem, are uncertain.]

In OE. frequently strengthened by a preceding *eall* (*all*): for the subsequent history of this see ALSO and AS.

A. Illustration of forms.

1. α. 1 suæ, suæ (suoæ), swæ.

c 725 *Corpus Gl.* (Hessels) Q 18 *Quantisper*, suae suiðe. 805 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 442 Suæ hueðer hiora suæ leng lifes. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 9 Swæ me ðincð. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 32 Suoæ þæt fiezendo heofnes cymes.

β. 1 sue, suue, 1, 3 swe.

c 700 CÆDMON *Hymn* 3 Sue he uundra ȝihuaes..or astelidæ. *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ii. 9 Swe swe fet lames. *c* 875 *Erfurt Gloss., Quacumque*, suue suidae. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Swe we nu ȝecearnian willaþ. *c* 1205 LAY. 29805 And swe he dude seoððe.

γ. 1–3 se (2 sæ).

c 831 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 446 Suelc mon se ðet lond hebbe. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, War sæ me tilede. *Ibid.* an. 1140, Ware se he com. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 49 Se wide se þet lond wes.

2. (Only *OE., north.*, and *Sc.*) α. 1–7 swa (5 swaa), 1, 4–7 sua, 4 squa; 6 sway, suay, swae.

Beowulf 29 Swa he selfa bæd. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 31 Sua hua forletas wif his. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 107 Þatt he't write swa. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 6 That it be sua. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 522 (Fairf.), Squa yis þe firmament. *a* 1400 *Syr Perc.* 524, I rede at it be swaa I. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 250 Thai left him swa. 1537 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 413 And swey to continue. 1539 *Lib. Officialis Sti. Andree* (Abbotsford Cl.) 85 Suay þat þe said mareage cum nocht to effect. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 274 Sua sal ȝe find na place. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* (ed. 2) 502 Thou sal sie it swae. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spalding Cl.) I. 88 Right sua Caithness, Sutherland [etc.]. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxi. ii. (1699) 111 In swa far as he came.

β. 5–7, 9 sa, 6 saa.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 259 Sa clere a witt & sa clene. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. i. 16 Sa feill dangeris. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 104 Althoch neuir saa Just. 1673 *Yorkshire Dial.* 4 (E.D.S.), Thou stayes sa lang. 1801 *Lonsdale Dial.* 4 (E.D.S.), I sat up sa lang yesternete. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* I. i, The..days you crack on sa often.

γ. 5–6 say, 7– sae; 6, 9 sea, 7 seay; 6, 9 see, 9 seea.

14.. *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Mary Egypt*) 290 Lyand say one athyr syd. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 102 Say greit faith. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* S.'s Wks. 1843 I. p. lviii, In gewd faith, saith the Kendallman, do see. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 899 Threttie pundis he conqueist sea. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* 17 Sae soft a mynt. 1684 *Yorkshire Dial.* 15 (E.D.S.), What need thou be seay flaid? 1728 RAMSAY *Anacreontic on Love* 12, I thought it sae. 1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. Lapraik* vii, Sae I've begun to scrawl. 1808 J. STAGG *Misc. Poems* 143 Suld ye..be sea daft. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, Do sae, minister—do sae.

3. α. 2–3 swo, 3 suo, 4 zuo.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 33 Swo he mai me folȝin. *c* 1275 *Passion our Lord* 543 in *O. E. Misc.*, Iesus crist þet suo aros. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Zuo by hit.

β. 3– so, 4–6 soo, 5–7 soe; *dial.* 8–9 soa, 20, 9 soo, zoo, zaw, etc.

a 1240 in *O. E. Hom.* I. 203 Nere þe heorte so cold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16762+41 Mony grete clerkez..Seghen þe son fare soo. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 43 Þat his broþer..was so i-slawe. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4772 Þat þai suld wax soo. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxiv, Is hit soe? 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 131, Y would nott a wreten so. 1557 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 463 The fynes..soo by hym not executed. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 71 Which was soe done. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 195 (E.D.S.), And more an zo. 1785 W. HUTTON *Bran New Wark* 421 (E.D.S.), Soa far fra loving the man. 1867 ROCK *Jim an' Nell* XCV, Zo let us muve along.

B. Signification.

I. 1. In the way or manner described, indicated, or suggested; in that style or fashion.

Contextually the sense may be 'in the same way', 'by that means', etc. For the elliptic phrase *so please you*, etc., see PLEASE *v.* 3 c.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ȝelefst ðu þæt..auht godes swa ȝeweorðan mæȝe butan þæm wyrhtan. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 44 Icc hafe sett her..manig word þe rime swa to fillenn. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 350 So me may þane loþe lengust lede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19005 Fra dede to lijf nu resin es he,.. Raisd sua wid godds might. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prologue* 102 A Yeman had he, and servantes nomoo At that tyme, for him luste ride soo. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 26 A well yn Rome of watyr turned ynto oyle and ran soo all þat day. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Right Use Ch.* I. (1859) 154 His heavenly grace, wherewith he..endueth his people so there assembled. 1580 in W. H. Hale *Prec. Causes of Office* (1841) 85 They had in their church a godly interlude..Dominus monuit that herafter they do not so prophane their churche. 1643 DENHAM *Cooper's Hill* 202 For so our Children, thus our Friends, we love. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 159 So moves ..The silver-shafted goddess of the chace! 1780 *Mirror* No. 106, A person, engaged in the ordinary business of life, ..and, while so engaged [etc.]. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* viii, There was the woman at Pau; and that girl..at Vienna. He went on just so about them all. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xx, 'You don't hold the shears right, miss...Incline the edge so,' he said.

2. With the verbs *do*, *say*, *think*, etc., latterly assuming the function of an object and passing into the sense of 'that'.

Placed either after or before the verb; but the latter order is now only literary and archaic, as in the phrase *so to do* (after quot. 1552).

(*a*) *c* 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxlvii. 20 Ne dyde swe ylcre cneorisse. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 22 Andswarast ðu swa? *c* 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 301 Do eall swa be eallum þam oðrum. *c* 1205 LAY. 2348 Ah ne dude he nawiht swo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13056 Qui sais þou sua? 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 90 Þe Tixt telleþ not so. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 224 Offreþ þe lombes of Innocensye, For he comaundet so. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Hist. Syon* (1840) 251, I hane not in mende that I seyd so or dyd so. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E. E. T. S.) 21 Pesse, dere son, tell me not soo. 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xx. 2 And he did so, walking naked. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 24 When the Princess asked him, who taught him so? he said, Lewis. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, 'I must believe so, sir,' replied Emily. 1828 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiii, It was now the presiding Judge's turn to address the jury. He did so briefly and distinctly. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Confess. Eng. Spirit* iii. (1840) 37, I cannot doubt that they think so. 1892 *Law Times Rep.* LXVII. 252/1 If this had not been true, the pilot would have taken very good care to tell us so.

(*b*) *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656, Þa seonde se kyning æfter þone abbode, þet he seuestlice scolde to him cumon, & he swa dyde. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 292 ȝif he for-swunken swoti wuere, swo hie ne þochte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4933 Sa þai me tald. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 123 Yf ye So do, ye may haue hoppe [etc.]. 1496 *Cov. Leet Book* 572 Þat they may be compelled so to do. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* vi. 17 He tolde them..how Holofernes people wolde haue slayne him for so sayenge. 1552 *Bk. Common Prayer, Morning Prayer*, Yet oughte we most chiefly so to doe, when [etc.]. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 16 You must not sow them too thick, for so doing hath lost many a peck of seed. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xiv, So exclaimed Ellieslaw. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* v. iii, So saying, the secretary effected his escape. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* I. xxxiv. 321 Some State legislatures have affected so to do.

b. With auxiliary verbs in elliptic use (requiring the addition of *do* or *to do*). Sometimes emphasizing a previous statement (quot. 1777).

Beowulf 797 Dær hie meahton swa. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 49 Me thunketh myn herte breketh a tuo; Suete God, whi shal hit swo? *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 57 In 3outhe I maye bothe ryde and goo, When I ame alde I may nott so. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9342 (Trin.), Kyngis anoynt 3e haue to-fore; So shul 3e þenne no more. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 127 Now must I telle in shorte, for I muste so [*i.e.* in brief], Youre observaunce that ye shalle done. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 262 *Brut*[*us*]. Repaire to th' Capitoll. *All.* We will so. 1777 SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* III. iv, It's well I have a husband a-coming, or ecod I'd marry the baker, I would so. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. § 81 All England may, if it so chooses, become one manufacturing town. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 97 Forth, fair bride, to the people, if So it likes you.

c. In this way; thus; as follows.

a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 405 For so seyde Salomon, þe wise: 'Þe mon þat her wel deþ' [etc.]. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1. 480 For when it es born it cryes swa: If it be man it says 'a. a' [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462 So, or on thys wyse, ..*sic, siccine.* 1611 BIBLE *Isaiah* xviii. 4 For so the Lord sayd vnto me; I will take my rest [etc.]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* vi, How Amelia trembled as she opened it! So it ran—[etc.]

3. Used as predicate with the verb *be*.

In literary use still placed before the verb for emphasis, or in archaic phrases, as *so be it* (formerly used as a rendering of AMEN).

(*a*) *Beowulf* 1471 Ne wæs þæm oðrum swa. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 7 Ac ðeah hi his nu næfre ne gelefen, ðeah hit is swa. *a* 1000 *Rel. Ant.* I. 35 Ic ge-lyfe on ..þat ece lif. Sy it swa. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 55, I praye God, if it were so, I strangle of þis brede. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 179 Sen it is sett to be soo, & slipe it ne may. 1530 PALSGR. 586 I holde you a noble it is nat so. 1611 BIBLE *Judges* vi. 38 If the deaw be on the fleece onely... And it was so. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1703) 164 You argue from fact to necessity; 'Tis so, therefore it must be so. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* Wks. I. 27 It is always so; but was here emphatically so. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xviii, If this be all so, is it not reasonable [etc.]. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxiii, I pray that it may be so, but I cannot think that it is so—I cannot even hope that it is so. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* xxvii. 246 No! Is that so?

(*b*) *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* x. 11 Hit ne mæg na swa beon. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Ich bidde þe hit by my sseld..al to mi lyues ende, zuo by hit. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 1148 (Fairf.), For if I walde for-gif hit þe, hit nys noȝt worþi so to be. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 1015 Gif it swa be, we mon all obey till his lare. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* xiii. 15 That thou mayest se that it so is, beholde, this is y^e^ heade of Holofernes. 1536 *Primer Salisb. Use* 48 As it..euer shalbe. So be it. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 8 And his men be good fellowes, so it is. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* Wks. 1768 II. 7 No reason being annexed, but so I will have it, so it shall be. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xviii, If he On aught determined, so it was to be. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. ix, How the conversation took that particular turn, I do not presume to know—so it was.

b. With auxiliary verbs in elliptic use (requiring the addition of (*to*) *be*, (*to*) *have it*, etc.).

Beowulf 2091 He mec bær on innan..ȝedon wolde..: hyt ne mihte swa. *c* 1205 LAY. 131 Mid wintre he wes biweaued; Swo hit wolde godd. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 83 And Saynt Petur wolde nevur so, it myght nevur com samen agayn. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 392 Ye saye well, .. and I am soo contente. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* G.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 130 You are a welcome guest, if so you please. 1701 J. NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 95 We need but.., instead of *I affirm so if so*, say *If so I affirm so*. 1732 POPE *Let. to Hill* 15 Feb., I am very desirous to leave out that note if you like so.

c. Followed by a clause introduced by *that*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11725 Quer it es sua, yee wat it noght, þat handes mine þis tre has wroght. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 3569 Sith þat it so is, That of the first pleyntyff wee have sikirnes. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2517 The knyghtis..said..that so them thought That syr mordred the sekereste was. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 10 Though hyt be so that man abusyth the..cumpany of man. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 474 Yet so it was, that one day he seriously told his Friend. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 144 ¶ 1 Yet so it is, that People can bear any Quality in the World better than Beauty. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* v. 61 How came it so to pass, that the first Race of Men were..of a stronger Turn to Poetry?

d. In clauses of supposition (sometimes with omission of *that*). *By so* (*that*): see BY *prep.* 23 d.

13.. in Horstman *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 169 If so be þat þo haf les schame with þi foule herte þen with þi foule body. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 48 That can I do wel, Be so my lif therto wol laste. *c* 1482 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* II. (1830) Pref. 64 If it hadde be soo that the forsaide John Ferrers hadde not made feithfull promyse. 1495–1611 [see IF *conj.* 8 f]. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 193 Thus love I thee, so be thou loue me. 1665–1861 [see IF *conj.* 8 f].

4. Representing a word or phrase already employed: Of that nature or description; of or in that condition, etc.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* II. xxix. 52 Paulus..gemette ænne blindne mann, se wæs ȝeboren swa. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 85 A preste þat trowid he was a passand gude synger, not-with-stondyng he was not so. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Fasting* I. (1859) 284 Which works..are called good works, and are so indeed. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 128 Some come, some go, This life is so. *a* 1640 MASSINGER *Old Law* IV. ii, He's merry As if he had no such charge: one with that care Could never be so. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* II. ii. 1. 338 If the Devil be a Beast, that which makes him so is the wickedness of his nature. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* I. vi. 2 To make men happy, and to keep them so. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii, He was half intoxicated, and soon became three parts so. 1885 *Law Reports* 15 Q.B.D. 316 The catch..was worn away, and probably had been so for months.

b. With verbs of thinking, considering, etc.: To be such, as such.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27573 Man es..prode for halines, And lates oft lightly o þaa Men þat er noght funden sua. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* x. *comm.*, It was not in the kings powre to make Jonathas highpriest, but..the king..did so account him. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 195 They taking us to be their friends, and wee them so too. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 126 ¶ 1 Her Attractions would indeed be irresistible, but that she thinks them so. 1784 J. POTTER *Virtuous Villagers* II. 179 Though I am afraid it is not always considered so. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* ii, 'Silence! This violence is all most repulsive;' and so, no doubt, she felt it. 1896 *Law Times* C. 358/1 R. became a lunatic, and was so found by inquisition.

c. As object after *have*.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* iii. 52 The first is the having a mean and low opinion of our selves, the second is the being content that others should have so of us. 1662 STILLINGFLEET *Orig. Sacræ* II. iii. § 4 Whether the person..hath divine authority for what he saith. What ground can I have to believe that he hath so?

d. With *call, name*, etc.: By that name or designation. (Cf. 6.)

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. iii. 13 My..babe Marina, Whom, for she was borne at sea, I haue named so. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* To Rdr. p. ix, Hee maruells that the Papists should be so called [*sc. novitii*]. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 446 The..Scriptures..term him plainly and expressly so. 1728 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii, My son Johnny, named so after his uncle. 1803 WORDSW. *Blind Highland Boy* 11 A Highland Boy! —why call him so? 1859 HADLEY *Ess.* x. (1873) 194 This mode of 'futurizing' (if we may so call it).

5. In various elliptic uses:

†**a.** = Yes. *Obs.*[-1]

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13560 (Trin.), Somme seide nay & somme so.

b. After adverbs and conjunctions, as *how so? not so, if so*, etc.

a 1300 [see How *adv.* 17]. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 60 Not soo, but he shalbe called Jhon. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 155 This hath nothing lesse then that. Why so? 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 312 If Foxes bene so crafty, as so. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. ii, That Edmund laid a plot To set his brother free, no more but so. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i, *Dor.* I am glad he pitcht upon Lovelt. *Bell.* How so? 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxviii, He will not die unless we abandon him; and if so, we are indeed answerable for his blood. 1842 TENNYSON *Lady Clare* xi, 'Nay now,..keep the secret all ye can.' She said, 'Not so'. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxxxv. 1 Half I hate, half love. How so? one haply requireth. 1896 GUY BOOTHBY *Dr. Nikola* i, 'I know China as well as any living Englishman.' 'Quite so.'

c. As an introductory particle. Also *so, so*.

This and the two following uses are common in Shakspere's plays.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 330 So so, quoth he, these lets attend the time. 1602 *How to choose Gd. Wife* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 55 So, let me see: my apron. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* I. i. 77 So, so, Andrea must be sent imbassador? 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 251 And I say..So, my good Friends!—I am glad to see you. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. ii, So, so, ma'am! I humbly beg pardon.

d. As an expression of approval, or a direction to do something in a particular manner. Also in phr. *so best*.

(*a*) 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 109 Giue me thy hand (Celestiall) so. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 38 Steare steady & keep your course, so, you go wel. 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 112 Where now one *so so* spatters, t'other: *no!* 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 So, thus, keep her thus. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, Walk through the apartment...So; feel you not now that you are possessed of the full use of your limbs? 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. i, Here, let me just turn that curl—there, so. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 637 *So!*, an order to desist temporarily from hauling upon a rope, when it has come to its right position.

(*b*) 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. Wks. (1904) 372 Shaking Austria's yoke He shattered his own hand and heart. 'So best'. 1860 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* LXI. 164 It is to be an omnium-gatherum, and if this be practicable, so best.

†**e.** = Let it be so; it is well. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* II. i. 137 If it please you, so: if not: why so. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 16 If you can penetrate her with your fingering, so.

f. With ellipse of 'says' or 'writes'.

1613 F. T. *Suppl. Discussion of Barlowe's Answer* 220 So he; doubting as you see, of the truth of his witnesses. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* i. 9 So Bale; but Pits places him ten years later.

6. In combinations: **a.** With past (or present) pples., as *so-caused, -formed, -named, -titled*, etc., *so-seeming*.

See also SO-CALLED, -STYLED, -TERMED.

c 1430 HOCCLEVE *Minor Poems* 124 If so-causid seeknesse on me fil As dide on the. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 629/2 The which soo named brode sette Clothes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 41, I will..plucke the borrowed vaile of modestie from the so-seeming Mist[ress] Page. 1602 W. WATSON *Decacord.* 181 The so authorized deprives the authorizer of his superioritie over him. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 135 Whom now the so-instructed sisters led Into his chamber. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 63 Forbidding all his subjects to pay taxes..to the so-titled imperial government. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* III. iv. 304 The multiplication of so-considered elementary bodies. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 326 The so-formed superphosphate.

b. With vbl. sbs., as *so-doing, -saying*.

1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 444 Farnando Duke and the do[ctor] de Puebla had byn dysstroyed for theyre so doyngys. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* I. 110 What! asleep yet, sluggard!..And with so saying, pinched his ear. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Confess. Eng. Spirit* iii. (1840) 37 Because the so thinking supersedes the necessity of all after-thought.

c. *Sc.* With advs., as *so-like, -wise*. Cf. SO-GATE(S.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 104 To cal thayme selff..successours of the apostlis, o say lik? say lik? 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 428 Salyke sic Pryde pertenis to trew teaching. 1819 TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 158 Sae-wyse the Papists..Did scatter aff.

7. As *adj.* (See quot.)

1867 J. F. DIMOCK *Giraldus Cambrensis' Opera* V. 431 Perhaps it was something like the modern Scotch plaid, wrapped round the body; the so use of which is certainly very ancient.

II. Placed at the beginning of a clause with continuative force, and freq. preceded by *and*.

8. Used to confirm or strengthen a previous statement.

(*a*) 1154 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135, Men..sæden ðæt micel þing sculde cumen herefter; sua dide. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 9817 Þe clerk Merlin..dede hem liȝt,..So þai dede & blisse made. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1284 'Lo, yond he rit!' Quod she, 'ye, so he dooth'. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 798 Abyde, syr, quod he! mary, so I do. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 58 *Ab.* You should for that haue reprehended him. *Adr.* Why so I did. 1611 BIBLE *Ezra* iv. 24. 1653 WALTON *Angler* ii, Now have at him with Killbuck, for he vents again. *Venator.* Marry! so he does. 1757 FOOTE *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 142 You had better hold your chattering, so you had. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* IV. iii, My father's birthday? Why, so it is!

(*b*) *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 256 He bad þis whik man lay þe dead man ouerthwarte befor hym..; and so he did. 1510 *Sel. Cas. Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 72 Intendyng..to have drowned the same Shipp, and so hadd doon hadd nott the mariners..made great..defence. 1602 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. iv. 192 My abode at this present is, and so hath been for some years, altogether in London. 1864 BROWNING *J. Lee's Wife* IV. i, You wanted my love—is that much true? And so I did, love, so I do.

9. Denoting similarity or parallelism in some respect between two facts, actions, etc.

(*a*) *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxv, Swa doð eac wudufuglas. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 146 Ful wombe mei lihtliche speken of hunger..swa mei of pine þe ne cnauð hu þe scal a ilesten. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 308 Mony appel is bryht wiþ-vte, and bitter wiþ-inne; So is mony wymmon [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Childhood Jesus* 91 in Horstm. *Aitengl. Leg.* (1878) 102/2 'Certes, me thrystyt wonder sore.' 'Certes,' seyt Josep, 'so do I'. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) 24 The sonne chaungith, so doth the pale mone. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 213 So again was Cyrus by Tomiris, who slue him and all his host. 1671 MILTON *Samson* Pref., For so in Physic, things of melancholic hue and quality are us'd against melancholy. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 7 Sae, th' heedless heir.. Lets ilka sneaking fellow take a pluck. 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* ix, The Mayor looked blue; So did the Corporation too. 1890 *Law Times* LXXXIX. 165/1 If the lienors may insure, so may the owners of the injured ship and cargo.

(*b*) *a* 890 *Charter* in *O. E. Texts* 452 In þissum life ondwardum, & eac swa in þæm towardan life. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 130 Auh Dauid wende þider..& so deð þe gode ancre. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 11395 He sclow oure kyng Archilogus,..And so he did kyng Archomene. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. vi. 348 Thenne was sir Bryan ful gladde and soo was his lady & alle his knyghtes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* v. ii, Thou..in endles hatred hast The murd'rous man, and soe the fraudulent. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xv. 142 Leeches will move both waies; and so will most of those animals, whose bodies consist of round and annulary fibers. 1786 BURNS *Ded. to G. Hamilton* 7 When I'm tir'd—and sae are ye, Wi' monie a fulsome, sinfu' lie. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 26 But in my time a father's word was law, And so it shall be now for me. 1884 *Longman's Mag.* Mar. 492 All other branches of athletic sport..have their ruling bodies, and so has cycling.

10. For that reason, on that account, accordingly, consequently, therefore.

The causative force is sometimes very slight, the use approximating to that in b.

(*a*) *c* 1250 *Old Kentish Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 32 Hise deciples hedde gret drede of þise tempeste, so hi a-wakede hine. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1233 Fayn he wolde dye, So on a day he leyde him doun to slepe. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 434 So forthe yn he went & spake wordys fell. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Sacrament* I. (1859) 440 So then, as of necessity we must be our selves partakers of this Table [etc.]. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VI. 334 What all pleasures dothe containe is greater, so is pleasures soveraigne. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 31 The cry'r was order'd to dismiss The court, so made his last O yes! 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* i, A shelter..is all I seek for. So name your rent. 1896 GUY BOOTHBY *Dr. Nikola* v, We leave at daybreak for Pekin, so I will wish you goodbye now.

(*b*) *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 35 Karitas is heiȝest and betst of ðese prie, and swo hie is ouer alle oðre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2091 Maximian was suþþe aslawe,..& so þei ssrewe robeours abbe hor wille an stounde. *a* 1390 *Wycliffite Bible* (1850) II. 738 And so alle the salmys of Dauid ben maad in noumbre of an hundrid and fifti. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 164 He had not money enogh to pay for þaim; & so he frustid hym. 1549 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. (1907) IV. 282 Quere yf this be not againste the profitt of the common people, and so voide. 1604 *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 11/1 All these Bills had the royal assent, and so were enacted. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 566 He must love God with all his heart and soul, and so above all things in the world. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. v, But then they shone not on the poet's page, And so have been forgotten. 1888 *Law Times* LXXXV. 133/1 A mortgagor's tenant is emphatically a person interested in the equity of redemption, and so entitled to redeem.

b. As an introductory particle, without a preceding statement (but freq. implying one).

1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Sept., So you have got into Presto's lodgings; very fine, truly! 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* II. iii, Well—so one of my nephews is a wild rogue, hey? 1809 BYRON in R. C. Dallas *Corr. of B.* (1825) I. 95 So Lord G* is married to a rustic! Well done! 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 42 And so we have met at last, but with what difficulty!

II. Denoting sequence, freq. without implication of manner, and hence passing into: Then, thereupon, thereafter, subsequently.

(*a*) *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2858 Thanne he hauede sikernesse Taken.., so dide he calle þe erl of Cestre. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VIII. 232 So [*earlier texts* þenne] shalt þow come to a court. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 794 Sa come the Ruke. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 72 Achates only he his convoy makes, Swa journey taks where fortune guides the way. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 29 The Princess thought it high time to have him taught to walk regularly, so by degrees to dance.

(*b*) 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. v. 82 Balyn hyt hym thorugh the sheld, and the hauberk perysshed, & so percyd thurgh his body. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 2 The thursday I went to Seynt Denys.., and so retornyd a gayne the same nyght to Parys. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vi. 4 b, The Ambassadour shewed hym his commission, and so tooke his leaue of him. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 349 But for a tast and so away. 1715 *Maryland Laws* vi. (1723) 20 Stakes..with Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and so to an Hundred. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* ii, Thence by a whaling vessel to Lerwick, and so to Jarlshof. 1892 A. J. BUTLER tr. *Memoirs Marbot* I. iii. 17 Then we marched out as we had come in, to the drum, and so to bed.

† **12.** Following on conditional clauses: Then.

a 1536 TINDALE *Doct. Treat.* (Parker Soc.) 433 If thou believe not.., so is it impossible that [etc.]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 18 Will thow thy sinfull lyfe confes,..Sa ar ze worthie, small and greit.

III. To that extent; in that degree.

For *ever so, never so*, in emphatic use, see EVER *adv.* 9 b, c, and NEVER *adv.* 4.

13. With adjs. or advs. (or equivalent phrases), in negative and interrogative clauses.

(*a*) *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. § 3 Ne ȝelyfe ic no þæt hit ȝeweorþan meahte swa endebyrdlice. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 10 Swa micel ȝeleafa ne ȝemette ic in Israhele. *c* 1205 LAY. 600 Nes castel nan swa strong. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7551 Þer nas prince in al þe world of so noble fame. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 54 In suilk apparaille dight, þat so riche armes was neuer sene with sight. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 15509 In al this world is non silke, So noble werk, ne so riche. 1501 *Plumpton Corr* 157, I was never so werie & soferd of my life, since I was borne. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 22 The great Bistorte hath long leaves like Patience, but smaller, and not so smothe or playne. 1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 335 A meaner man, of whose spirituality the patient hath not so high..conceits. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 46 They neither wrestle, sing, or paint so well. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vi. 38 Men were no longer shut up in so narrow boundaries. 1803–5 WORDSW. *Solitary Reaper* 13 A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 89 The Cavaliers..were by no means disposed to revive an institution so odious.

(*b*) *c* 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* v. ix. (1890) 410 Forhwon segdes ðu Ægbrihte swa ȝemeaslice & swa wlæclice þa ðing..? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 340 And if a man wol aske hem prively Why they been clothed so unthriftily [etc.]. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 24, I..asked who had .. brought her in so drowpyng chere. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 281 Is his worship of so litel peys? 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. ix, Why lookes neat Curus all so simpringly? 1611 BIBLE *John* xiv. 9 Haue I bin so long time with you? 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. v. § 9 The reason why I take so particular notice of this. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 215 Whence is it that Barbs and Arabs are so good horses? 1780 *Mirror* No. 95, She..asked me, with her usual good-humour, what made me look so grave? 1850 NEWMAN *Difficulties Anglicans* I. v, What am I to say in answer to conduct so preposterous?

b. Followed by a relative clause or equivalent complement. (Cf. 24.)

Rarely when the antecedent clause is affirmative.

1581 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 17 Is it possible to find xii so wicked..men in this citye..that will finde us guiltie togeather of this one crime? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 853 No perfection is so absolute, That some impurity doth not pollute. 1601 — *Jul. C.* I. ii. 316 Who so firme, that cannot be seduc'd? 1610 — *Temp.* v. 269 A Witch..so strong That could controle the Moone. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xli. 10 None is so fierce that dare stirre him vp. 1753 L. M. tr. *Du Boscq's Accompl. Woman* 26 There is no design so black, which Ambition scruples to conceive. 1780 *Mirror* No. 92, There is nothing so absurd or extravagant, which riches..will not tempt him to commit. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* viii, He..came not thither so private but what he was espied by one who told me.

14. In affirmative clauses, tending to become a mere intensive without comparative force, and sometimes emphasized in speaking and writing.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 347 Ȝif he us ȝeunnan wile, þæt we hine swa godne gretan moton. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXV. § 3 Nu ðu þæt swa openlice ongiten hæfst, ne ðearfe ic nu.. ymb ðæt swincan. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 171 Þe wrecches þet ha seh swa wraðe werkes wurchen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 590 Þat king Iotrin..dude al his wille, vor he lokede so rowe. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4073 Þe empire, þat was swa myghty, Es now destruyed a grete party. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 1 This vice, which so out of rule Hath sette ous alle, is cleped Gule. 1412 *26 Pol. Poems* xi. 50 God dede þe make, Put soule of resoun in flesche so frele. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* XII. 238 Amonge the floures so swete of ayre. 1626 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 297 The bones of so dogged Contentions. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* III. i, I fear'd he loved her:..For 'twere impossible that two, so one, Should not have lov'd the same. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 168 My Face..was hid in my Bosom, and I looked so silly! 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 183 To see herself escap'd from so sore ills. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 208 The Norman! so noble, and stately and tall. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 302 The absence of ruined buildings, which so invariably form the major part of a Persian town.

(*b*) 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, My dear brother is *so* good. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* i, A man is *so* in the way in the house. 1875 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 369, I am *so* glad (as the Gushingtons say) that you like the Carlyle.

b. Preceded by *a, the, this*, etc., or possessive pronouns. Now rare except in combs.

c 1205 LAY. 3812 Þu eært a swa hende gome. 13.. in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 75 Of a so ȝong þing. 1340 *Ayenb.* 100 To by zone to ane zuo greate emperur. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* 19 Nothinge performing his so large promyses. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* 18 Ye may set to reforme thes so wicked lawes. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madnesse* 329 You may see your face in his so transparant cheeks. 1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 81 The reason of our so long silence. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* June 1645, Divers statues.., amongst which is the so celebrated Eve. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 57 The one weakness of his so mighty love. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xxxix, The so heavy burden thou bearest.

c. With adj. and singular sb., in cases similar to next, but without *a*. Now *rare*.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1490 Vor he was so god kniȝt & al so so noble king, He bed vor to ȝiue him is doȝter in spousing. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 66 Thei seyn, that thei scholde not entre in to so holy Place. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1417 Syth they so long tyme haue made me so madde. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* 110 In the time of so great and excellent philosopher. 1814 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. ix. 292 So short time have I been absent. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* ix. § 40 In so apparently desultory manner.

d. With adj. followed by *a*. † Sometimes preceded by *this*.

(*a*) 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1538 Gret is þe gode gle,.. Þat..ȝe wolde..pyne yow with so pouer a mon. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1855 Hector, þat was so noble a knyȝt. 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 56 b, Yf we dye so glorious a death in so good a quarell. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Sonn.* viii. 4 To kisse the lips of so, so faire a Bride. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95, I thought I had never beheld so interesting an object. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Brothers Birchington* lxvi, So barefaced a blunder. 1902 GAIRDNER *Hist. Eng. Ch. 16th Cent.* viii. (1903) 140 So insulting a message was clearly out of the question.

(*b*) 1611 BIBLE 1 *Kings* iii. 9 Who is able to iudge this thy so great a people? 1632 HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 169 Of such as were privy to this so important a secret. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Apr. 1694, How this so young a gentleman..could live in such an expensive manner. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii, This so remarkable an Establishment.

† **e.** With *a* or *an* inserted before the adj. (cf. SUCH *a.*). Also *so very a*. *Obs.*

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 66 b, The feeble definition of so an approved philosopher. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 148 Vpon so an apparant diminution of the peoples libertie. 1657 FULLER *Notes Jonah* i. 5 So an unnatural sin was atheism. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Jan., We are all glad, so very a known rogue he was.

† **f.** With *a* inserted between the two parts of a combination. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 27 Putting on so new a fashion'd robe. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You list* II. i, Was there ever So sweete a temperd Roman? 1682 A. MUDIE *Pres. St. Scotl.* Ep. Ded. A iiij b, The constitutions of so well a Governed Kingdom. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* III. 173 So jealous a pated fellow.

15. With verbs. Now usually intensive.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlviii. (*Juliana*) 245 For þe desert þat þu can ma to god, þat þe a-wansit sa. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 5290 (Trin.), He haþ delyuered me of my woo, And put me to welþe, no mon so. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 15 What payne doth thee so appall? 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 1 Celebrated for quarries of excellent marble, which do so adorne the Venetian palaces. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 436, I cannot so harden my hart, but that it may be softned. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 2 O father, my knees have been aching so all day. 1849 [EASTWICK] *Dry Leaves* 22 The waves, which..did in this place so confound and toss about the triremes of Alexander. 1884 C. GIBBON *Fancy Free* xiv, I held back because I loved you so.

† **16.** Equally; to the same extent. *Obs.*[1]

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 228 The Tree or Shrub that bears it is like the Prickle-Pear-Tree, about 5 foot high, and so prickly.

IV. Introducing one or both of two clauses expressing comparison or correspondence.

† **17.** In the way that; as much as; as. *Obs.*

Soon so, as soon as: see SOON *adv.*

Beowulf 490 Site nu to symle,..swa þin sefa hwette. *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIX. § 12 He..swincð þonne ymb þæt swa he swiðost mæg. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 19 Cleopian we nu in ęxlum mode.., swa se blinda dyde. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016, Se here..slogon & bærndon.. swa heora ȝewuna wæs. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 608 Sone min so dere, do so ich þe lere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6260 (W.), A folk.. Al blak so cole-brond. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5383 Gweynes flez forþ so wynd and rayn.

† **b.** After numerals: As. *Obs.*

In OE. also in other forms of expression.

a 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* I. 190 Syx swa micel. *c* 1330–*c* 1420 [see TEN C]. 1587 MASCAL *Govt. Cattle, Sheepe* (1627) 203 Others with twise so great a stocke.

† **c.** As if. *Obs.*

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 850 Nu is þon ȝelicost, swa we on laguflode..ceolum liðan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 And þa fotlastas wæron swutole..on þæm stane, swa hie on weke wæron aðyde. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 142 Heo song so lude.., Ryht so me grulde schille harpe. *c* 1275 *Passion Our Lord* 542 in *O. E. Misc.* 52 Hi vellen so hi were ded. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 594 Also lith was it þer-inne, So þer brenden cerges inne.

† **d.** After relative pronouns or advs.: So ever.

In OE., and very early ME., the pronoun or adverb was preceded as well as followed by *swa*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Hwa se wile cume efter me. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* III. 2595 In what state swa he be þan. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2565 What man so vs metes, may vs sone knowe. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 28788 (Cott. Galba), Whether so askes more rightwisly, Sall be herd of god. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1406 Dredde shalt thow be, wher so thow become. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 34 Promysyng hym to do what þing so he commanddid hym. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) B iv, Whom so they take they slay. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, I. i, Commaund What so thy mind affectes.

† **18.** *So . . so.* **a.** = So . . as (see 20). *Obs.*

In OE. also *swa swa* without intervening words, and sometimes *swa . . swa swa*.

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* XXXIX. § 4 Swa hit is swa þu sægst. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 137 Hit wæs þa swa leoht swa se merzenlica steorra. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 193 Heo beoð so read so rose, so hwit so þe lilie. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5369 Þat londfolc to him com so þikke so it miȝte go. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6827 Þe arewes come so þykke so reyn. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIV. 188 Ich see noone so ofte sorfeten, Soþliche so mankynde.

† **b.** = As . . so (see 22). *Obs.*

In OE. also *swa swa . . swa*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cii. 13 Swe mildsað feder bearnum, swe mildsiende beð dryhten ondredendum hine. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Swa se hyhtenda ȝigant, swa Drihten on middangearde bliðe wunode. *a* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Swa se þu forȝeuest..swa þin drihten forȝeueð þe þine misdede. 13.. *K. Alis.* (Laud MS.) 2210 So on þe shyngel liþe þe haile, Euery kniȝth so liþ on oþer. [1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 288 So high as heav'd the tumid Hills, so low Down sunk a hollow bottom.]

† **c.** With comparatives: The . . the. *Obs.*

c 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. § 4 Swa him mon mare seld, swa hine ma lyst. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Swa hie him swyþor styrdon, swa he hludor cleopode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 So þe sicnesse is more, se þe goldsmið is bisegure. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 215 Þet hit ontende me..in þine luue, so lengre so more. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. v. 47 Hym þouȝte euere so leng so wors.

19. In adjurations or asseverations.

So has here the sense of 'in that way' or 'to that extent', the complementary clause being omitted. The two usual types are here illustrated separately. For *so help* see also S'ELP, S'HELP, and SWELP.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 435 Ic þæt þonne forhicge, swa me Higelac sie ..modes bliðe, þæt [etc.]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Swa me helpe drihten. *c* 1205 LAY. 3041 Iheren ich wlle,..sua þe helpe Appolin, hu deore þe beo lif min. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* x. 10 So the Lord be with ȝow, what maner thanne Y shal leeue ȝow? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 931 This schal ben doon.., So wisly God my soule bringe in blisse! [See also SAVE *v.* 2 b.] *c* 1440 LOVELICH *Merlin* 12034, I wolde, so god me spede, that pes purchaced were betwixen vs two. 1480 in Gross *Gild Merch.* II. 71 Soo god yow help and holydome. 1508 [see HELP *v.* 1 c]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Ita*, So god saue me. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 572 So helpe me great Mahomet it shall not so be. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxviii, This seat..I claim as my right—so prosper me God and St. Barr! 1868 [see HELP *v.* 1 c].

(*b*) *a* 1300–*c* 1386 [see THEE *v.*[1] 1 b]. *c* 1400 [see THRIVE *v.* B. 2]. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 515 And I wil kepe þe dore, so ever here I masse. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Þis seȝe I preved, so have I blys. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 53 'Sa mot I thrife,' said the King, 'I speir for nane ill'. *c* 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* 753 (Brandl), The scald capper sware sythyche [= so thee ich] That yt cost hym euen as myche. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. v. (Arb.) 56 The selfe same that I wrote out of, so mote I go. 1598 [see THEE *v.*[1] 1 b].

20. *So . . as, so as*, in such or the same way, manner, etc., as.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1055 Unweoten, þe weneð þet hit beo swa as hit on ehe bereð ham. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* i. 3 Al his liue swa sal it be, Als it fares bi a tre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 5, I thenke forto touche also The world..So as I can, so as I mai. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 85 þis preste askid hur whi sho wepud so as sho did. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 119 Soo well clothed & arrayed, as I have tolde you above. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xviii. 5 Do euen so as thou hast spoken. 1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 8 § 52 Hereditaments, so to be amortized as is aforesaid. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1811 He with the Romans was esteemed so As silly-jeering idiots are with kings. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* lxiii. 2 To see thy power and thy glory, so as I haue seen thee in the Sanctuary. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxix. 496 They must so walk, as he walked. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 407/1 Lay the bend mould upon it, so as may best answer the round.

† **b.** In adjurations. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 493 Sche to the sergeant preyde, So as he was a worthy gentilman, That [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 310, I..beseche Unto the mihti Cupido,..So as he is of love a godd [etc.]. 1463 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 197, I charged ham so as they will answere afore God.

† **c.** With *as = as if*. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. viii. 5 So ran they all, as they had bene at bace.

21. *So . . as*, to the same extent, in the same degree, as:

a. In negative or interrogative clauses.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Þenne nis hit to nout so god ase to þe fure of helle. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 167 Bote trustene to Trienals..Is not so syker for be soule, sertes, as do-wel. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 45 Who is so trewe and eek so ententyf To kepe him..as is his make? 1582 ALLEN *Apol.* 122 Death and dungeons be not so terrible things..as they seeme. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. iii. 1 For a man by nothing is so well bewrayd As by his manners. 1646 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 343 Women were never soe usefull as now. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. II. i, His victories we scarce could keep in view, Or polish them so fast as he rough-drew. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* I. 260 This is not so strange or ingrateful as it may appear. 1779 *Mirror* No. 58, Emilia,

[1] 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) I. 228 The Tree or Shrub that bears it is like the Prickle-Pear-Tree, about 5 foot high, and so prickly.

who now observed that her husband was nowhere so happy as in the country. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 156, I never saw..So great a miracle as yonder hilt. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 667 Never..had the condition of the Puritans been so deplorable as at that time.

b. In affirmative clauses: As . . as. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (except in such phrases as *so far as, so much as*: see 35 b, etc.).

So long as: see LONG *adv.* 1 b. † *So soon as*: see SOON *adv.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 154 So seker as I have a lif, Thou scholdest thanne be my wif. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* (1885) 128 A prince double so myghty as was thair old prince. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xix. 32 Barsillai was very olde, so good as foure score yeare olde. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* A vj b, Smockes as snow so white. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 252 The one is become so old as the other. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 14 This Way of arguing is so frivolous, as the Supposition of itself is false. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Arts* I. 303 This planet being but a fifth part so big as the earth. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, Although I readily gave my uncle the advantage of my pen..so often as he desired to correspond with a neighbour. 1876 PEARSE *Daniel Quorm* 155 'Tis a'most so good for ourselves as 'tis for those we try to save.

c. Preceding the citation of a special example or instance.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* 123 So small a kingdome as that is of Portingale. 1664 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 167 Seeing upon so extraordinary occasions as these, the boldest eloquence would lose its speech. 1779 *Mirror* No. 63, It was impossible that a girl so amiable as Emily Hargrave could fail to attract attention. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 321 Have I rous'd Your spleens with so few simple words as these? 1861 PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 37 The interest excited in England by events passing in so distant a quarter as Moravia. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iii. (1890) 399, I am not fit for town life—so very rural and silly as I always have been.

d. With *as* taking the place of an object to the following verb.

1555 J. PROCTOR *Hist. Wyat's Rebellion* 37 It is so straunge a case as the world neuer saw. 1629 DRAYTON in *Sir J. Beaumont's Bosworth Field* 14 So lasting Pillars to prop up thy Praise, As time shall hardly shake. 1676 DRYDEN *State of Innocence* IV. i, Is our Perfection of so frail a Make, As ev'ry Plot can undermine or shake?

† **e.** With a comparative: So much. *Obs.*–1

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 46 Their Arch may come ..so lower as you think fit.

22. *As . . so*: **a.** Denoting more or less exact correspondence, similarity, or proportion.

Ormin has *all swa summ..swa* in this use.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17465 Als þai war for-boght sua þai did. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 32 Als he was ay God in trinite Swa he es, and ay God sal be. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 14 For as þaire wittis ere with-in, so þer will folowis. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvii. 232 Such as the mayster was so was the seruuant. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Prol. (1580) A v b, As it was, so it is, and so be it still hereafter. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xxiii. 7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 7 In proportion as there are more Follies discovered, so there is more Laughter raised. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* I. 260 Even as thou vanishest so shall I die. 1830 TENNYSON *Poet* xiv, And as the lightning to the thunder..So was their meaning to her words. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* XI. 586 For as often as stooped the elder when he longed for the water sweet So often it waned.

b. Denoting a simple parallelism between two different acts, concepts, etc., and sometimes approaching the sense of 'not only . . but (also)'.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 2 Als ded slaas all, Swa lufe ouer-comes all. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Sacrament* I. (1859) 439 As of old time God decreed.., so our loving Saviour hath ordained [etc.]. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 67 As it vald be verray lang, sa is it verray hard. 1619 in W. Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1906) I. 79 As itt is an unsupportable wrong, soe itt inthralleth us to many other inconveniences. 1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 549 As he loved not to make work, so not to leave it imperfect. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* iv, As we rose with the sun, so we never pursued our labours after it was gone down. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* § 6009 As the planters differ in the number of hills.., so are they no less capricious as to the manner of placing them. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 45 As in the arts, so also in politics, the new must always prevail over the old.

V. 23. *So that* († rarely *so* alone), denoting result or logical consequence; also sometimes = 'in order that'.

(*a*) *Beowulf* 1508 Bær þa seo brimwylf..hringa þengel to hofe sinum, swa he ne mihte no..wæpna ȝewealdan. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 64 Thanne seide I to my-self, so Pacience it herde. (*b*) *c* 888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i, He ȝehet Romanum his freondscipe, swa þæt ni mostan heora ealdrihta wyrðe beon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 31 [He] ȝelæcnade hea.., sua þæt ðreatas wundradun. *c* 1200 ORMIN Ded. 293 Swa þatt he mannkinn wel inoh Off helle mihhte lesenn. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 216 Þe king..dede him sore swinge,..So þat þe blod ran of his fleys. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Þe ilke..wylleþ hyealde hire fole uela3redes, zuo þet hi ne conne ne hi ne mo3e healde mesure. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 65 Such weddur þat stroyed all þe vynys,..so at þer wyne had nowder colour nor savor. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV*, 28 b, [They] had conveighed their shippes in to the havens, so that he could not fight with them on the sea. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 280 Of..flesh heere is great scarcitie, so that they are constrained to eate camels flesh onely. 1670 *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 21 The under pettycoatt very richly laced.., so that 50 or 60 pounds [is] but an ordinary price. *c* 1760 CHALLONER in E. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xxiv. 28 We will spend our evenings..at our own lodgings, so that we may be found. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiv, So that Mary Avenel..was regarded with a mysterious awe. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xiv, The turf roof of it had fallen entirely in; so that the hut was of no use to me.

24. *So . . that*, in such a way, to such an extent, that: **a.** With adjs. and advs., or equivalent phrases.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 323 Hio..ece stondað..swa beclysed þæt nænig oþer..hy æfre ma eft onluceð. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 183 [Thou art] swo leoflic and swa lufsum þet te engles a bihaldeþ þe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2207 Þe romeins beþ anud of hor trauail so sore ..þat hii nolleþ come here nanmore. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 324 Swilk men er ay swa unstedfast, þat na drede may with þam last. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 37 The water maketh so grete bruyt that all that is made a-boven it moste nede falle. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 151 Theyr cotes be so syde, that they be fayne to tucke them vp whan they ryde. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1584) 165 You aske me histories so straunge.., that my wits may not in anye wise but needes goe on Pilgrimage. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1138 The wind..came with so great gales, that it raised the sands of the coast very high. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. iii, The Squire was so delighted with this conduct of his daughter, that he scarce eat any dinner. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral Tales* (1816) I. iv. 21 So ill that she could hardly speak. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* viii, He sat so long in this attitude, that Robert turned round at last.

b. With verbs.

In verse (more rarely in prose) sometimes placed after the verb, and immediately followed by *that*, but separated from it by a pause.

(*a*) *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iii. 16 Suæ..lufade god ðone middangeard þætte sunu his ancende ȝesalde [etc.]. *c* 1320 *Cast. of Love* 1523 God leeue vs here so ende, þat we ben worþi to heuene wende. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 32 So hadde I spoken with hem..That I was of here felawschipe anon. 1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 651/1 The same Loord the Roos schall so doon to hem, that they schall tellen hem wel payed. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 437 To so direct that your said Oratours haue all þat..shall accorde with right. *a* 1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* I. i, Now a days so irksome idless' sleights..have witch'd each students mind, That death it is [etc.]. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* ii. 130 The example doth so suite the Text, that I could not pretermit it here. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 719 So frownd the mighty Combatants, that Hell Grew darker. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* v. 75 This Answer and the Present so provok'd Mahomet..that [etc.]. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 905/2 To so cut down his power..that he would be inclined [etc.].

(*b*) *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 231 Þa be-fel hit swa þat him a þance befell. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3503 Wurð ðin fader and moder so, ðat ðu hem drede and helpe do. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7509, I..scok þam be þe berdes sua þat i þair chafftes raue in tua. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 12 Whil the lawe is reuled so That clerkes to the werre entende. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* iv. 4 It stode so vpon the bullockes, that thre were turned towarde the north [etc.]. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxi, I loue you so That I in your sweet thoughts would be forgot, If [etc.]. 1697 *Protestant Mercury* No. 189, A Porter's Wife..Beat her Husband so, that she forced him to leap over a Balconey.

† **c.** Expressing a contrast: Although ... yet.

1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Isaiah* xlii. 2 Yet so shall he be gracious to the penitently dejected, that he shall not beare with the obstinate sinner.

d. With *but* (= that..not).

1842 MACAULAY *Horatius* xviii, There was no heart so bold, But sore it ached.

25. With omission of *that*, = sense 24.

a 1310 in Wright *Spec. Lyric P.* 74 Thou art so god a mon, Thi love y 3yrne also y con. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3458 (Kölbing), A dint he 3af him so hard, þe launce ran þe brini þurch. *c* 1440 *Contin. Brut* II. 583 Caleis was so ferd of you, þey shitte neuer a gate. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* ii. in *Bann. MS.* 283 Thay wer so nyss..Thay squeilit lyk ony gaitis. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi, A plant, so unlike a Rose, it hath been mistaken..for Amomum. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 308 He..treads so light, he scarcely prints the Plains. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 135 So man is made, nought ministers delight But what his glowing passions can engage. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xviii, Once so near me he alit, I could have smote. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xiii, Hetty was blushing so, she didn't know whether she was happy or miserable.

b. With the *so*-clause placed after that stating the consequence or result.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 222 He bihalt on oðre þet he ne mei nones weis makien vuele iðoncked, so lufful & so reouðful is hire heorte. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2317 Out of witte þan þai shuld men flay, Swa orrible and swa foul er þai. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xliii. 104 His herte þoruȝ-out his syde He ȝiueþ vs, he is so fre! 14.. HOCCLEVE *Minor Poems* xvi. 4, I may nat deliure hem by no weye, So me werreyeth coynes scarsetee. *c* 1500 *Melusine* vi. 28 Raymondin..herd ne saw nought, so sore was hys wit troubled. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* iii. 11 Then coulde he not answere him one worde agayne, he feared him so. 1626 SIR E. CECIL in *J. Glanville's Voy. Cadiz* (Camden) p. xliii, The shipp had sunke in the sea, she proved so leakie. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 813 Friends he has few, so high the madness grows. 1787 BURNS *Halloween* iv, A runt was like a sow-tail, Sae bow't that night. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* x, Habits..to young men are like threads of silk, so lightly are they worn, so soon broken. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xvii, The azure mantle..seemed to melt in air, so dim were its graceful outlines.

26. *So* (*that*), in limiting sense: On condition that, provided that, so long as, if only. Cf. 30.

(*a*) *c* 1000 *Apollonius of Tyre* (Thorpe) 20 Nim nu lareow appolloni, swa hit þe ne misliczge. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 5991 (Fairf.), To-morne þe fleys sal be þe fra, so þou be-gyle vs na mare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 423 He had y-swore to hire..That so she saved hym hys lyfe, He wolde haue take hir to hys wife. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 587 All my couandys holden shall be, So I haue felyship me abowte. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 43 Butter and swynes grease..are good, soo they be not salte. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. 453 The proofe were good, so it could be proued. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* § 2 (1736) 18 Ulysses cared not how meanly he lived, so he might find a noble Tomb after Death. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 208 ¶ 4 It is no Matter how dirty a Bag it is conveyed to him in,..so the Money is good. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 81 ¶ 2 Which duty ought to be most esteemed, we may continue to debate..; so all be diligently performed. 1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* IX. 22 So but the suppliant at my feet implore. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiii. *song*, I'll swiftly go..; Nor care what land thou bear'st me to, So not again to mine.

(*b*) *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Numb.* xxii. 20 Far mid him, swa þæt [L. *ita duntaxat ut*] þu do, þæt ic þe bebeode. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1042 Al þis wyde world I chul ȝeuen þe, So þat þou bouwe and honoure me. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 89, I forȝiue him þat gult.., So þat ȝe assented beo. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 8 Oft þe prince hym profred to delyuer hym out of prison, so þat he wold be his helppe to werry vpon þe kynge. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlviii. 188 Yf nedes I shal dey, I were..wel content soo that it were in the absence of her. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 202, I offer to make you amendes..so that ye wyl ayde me. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 85 You condemne not funerall sermons then, so that they be good. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IX. 211 Writing I am well contented to permit; So that I see your Letter. 1755 *Monitor* No. 8, Let us not regard by what name it shall be called, so that it be carried on vigorously. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 154 To M. it was.. indifferent who was found guilty, so that he could recover his money. 1859 TENNYSON *Marriage Geraint* 304 So that ye do not serve me sparrow-hawks For supper, I will enter.

b. In the event that, in case that. *rare.*

c 1000 *Charter* in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Sax.* (1865) 202 He him þet land forbead, swa he æniges brucan wolde. 1872 TENNYSON *Gar. & Lyn.* 268 But, so thou dread to swear, Pass not beneath this gateway.

VI. † 27. *So as*, although. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 337 Þat hire haued in sorwe brouth, So as sho ne misdede nouth!

28. *So..*, or *so . . as, so as*, followed by an infinitive denoting result or consequence.

The omission of *as* is now regarded as irregular.

(*a*) *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* I. 373 Peter was never so great a fole To leve his key with such a lorell. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 943 The Ryvers..so myghty and so large To bere a gret ship or a barge. *c* 1450 *Merlin* i. 6 How shulde I be so hardy to do as ye telle me. 1526 TINDALE N. T. *Prol.*, Who ys so blynde to axe why lyght shulde be shewed to them that walke in derckenes. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 65, I am not so childishe to take euery bushe for a monster. 1658 ROWLEY, FORD, etc. *Witch of Edmonton* II. i, If you'll be so kind to ka me one good turn I'll be so courteous to kob you another. 1709 SWIFT *Vind. Bickerstaff* Wks. 1755 II. I. 171 He hath been indeed so wise to make no objections against the truth of my predictions. 1767 WILKES *Corr. w. Friends* (1805) III. 223 Be so good to continue to favour me with your letters. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 161 She enquired if Mrs. Aubrey had been so kind to procure the child a new wardrobe.

(*b*) 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 271 Nevir the[e] she so diseasyd as oonys..To folowe her wille. 1558 KENNEDY *Comp. Treat.* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 97 That I..durst be sua baulde, as to attempt sua heych ane purpose. 1648 HEVLIN *Relat. & Observ.* I. 78 Whosoever shall dare to be so good a Patriot as to oppose their Tyranny. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 747 A crop so plenteous, as the land to load. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 ¶ 7, I hope you will not be so apparently partial to the Women, as to let them go wholly unobserved. 1779 *Mirror* No. 17, Our shop was so well frequented, as to require the constant attendance of both of us. 1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 98 The others were so broken into small fragments as to be useless. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 785/1 It is impossible to say that any one case is so in point as to carry this case.

(*c*) *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) II. 283 They all run, but not so as to obtain. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 716/1, I think it impossible to amend it..so as to make it a Bill fit for being passed. 1853 *Zoologist* II. 3724 Dismounting and hobbling the horse so as to allow him to feed. 1896 *Law Times* C. 488/1 To repair the drain so as to abate the nuisance complained of.

b. With infinitive preceded by a sb. *rare.*

1709 SWIFT *Merlin's Prediction* Wks. 1755 II. I. 177 The river Thames frozen twice in one year, so as men to walk on it.

c. With pa. pples. (*to have* being omitted).

1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 17 Hadst thou but been sae wise, As ta'en thy ain wife Kate's advice! 1797 in C. Kegan Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) I. 237 You might have been so good as told me a few more particulars.

29. *So as*, in such a way that, so that. Now *dial.*

1523 LD. BERNERS tr. *Froissart* I. xiii. 13 The quene..dyd gyue great Jewelles to eche of them,..so as they all helde them selfe ryght well content. 1609 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 82, I understood of the infection lately come to some houses there adjoining, so as I forbear to go thither. *c* 1651 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 304 This summer we also whited the church and choir, ..so as our Monastery was made very handsome. 1752 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 217 So as the great and small shall be under mutual obligations to each other. 1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. Notes & Illustr. p. lxxvii, Then you desire to complete your square so as it shall amount to one whole square. 1905 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 541 So as he could go and see his sweetheart.

b. *So . . as*, in similar use, with the subject of the second clause either expressed, or implied in the previous context.

(*a*) 1548 WISHART *Conf. Faith* in *Misc. Wodrow Soc.* (1844) 13 We attribute so free wyll to man as we,..wyllynge to do good, fele experience of euyll. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 50 The words..beeing so set, as one word cannot be lost. 1608 E. GRIMSTONE *Hist. France* 702 The Emperour..so terrifies the Pope, as hee abandons his vassall Octauio. 1654 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 42 This sounded so plausibly in every man's ear, as it was soon embraced. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 327/2 They had Guards so posted, as they were not to be surprized.

(*b*) 1611 Sir W. Mure *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 9 Greedie to behold So rair perfectioune as cannot be told. 1678 Walton *Life Sanderson* 11 Changes those cares into so mutual joys, as makes them become [etc.]. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 66 With so heavy rain, as penetrated the new roof of the vessel. 1784 Miss Carter *Lett. to Miss Talbot* IV. 341 My wretched head has been so thoroughly uncomfortable.., as rendered me quite unfit for writing.

c. *So..as that, so as that,* = prec. (*a*).

1583 Stocker *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 1 b, The officers went so neere the consciences of men, as that they spared not to torment pore miserable soules. 1634 Milton *Comus* 366, I do not think my sister so to seek, Or so unprincipl'd in vertues book,..As that [etc.]. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Mar. 1675, 2 distinct keeles crampt together.., so as that a violent streame ran betweene. *a* 1774 Goldsm. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 55 When both flames have approached so near as that they join. 1817 H. T. Colebrooke *Algebra,* etc. 258 Here the least square quantity must be so devised, as that the second may be an integer.

30. *So as,* provided that, etc. Cf. 26.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. i. 114 b, To be preferred vnto the gouernment..,so as they had passed their time..without reprehension. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* III. i. (1622) 64 Which was to him..honourable, so as there were a meane vsed. 1635 R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 136 Henry Percy offered..to free the Queene of Scots out of prison so as Grange and Carre..would receive her at the borders. 1807 E. S. Barrett *Rising Sun* I. 127, I care not how you come by them, so as they are ready to supply my wants. 1853 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxvi, He could play 'em a tune on any sort of pot you please, so as it was iron or block tin.

VII. In various phrases.

So to say: see Say *v.*[1] 11. *So to speak*: see Speak *v.*

† 31. Than so, than that. *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 23568 (Trin.), Mony þingis may we do þat better were vndone þen so. 1525 Ld. Berners tr. *Froissart* II. 754 Kyng Henry was more gentyll than so; for he had some pytie on hym. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI,* III. iii. 104 Lord Aubrey Vere Was done to death, and more then so, my Father. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. v. 96 'Tis reasonable to suppose, that the Sacrament may be celebrating in more places than so, at once. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 213 If it be not more than so, it will not be such an Obedience as God will accept.

32. † a. And so, = next. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1565 Sum with sensours & so with siluеryn cheynes. *Ibid.* 2551 If þai were sary & so, na selly me thingke. 1602 [see 33 a].

b. And so on, used as an abbreviating phrase to avoid further description or the enumeration of further details.

And so forth: see Forth *adv.* 9 b. *And so forward*: see Forward *adv.* 1.

1724 Welsted *Epist.,* etc. 123 Till, in time, the English we now speak is become as obsolete and unintelligible as that of Chaucer, and so on. 1837 P. Keith *Bot. Lex.* 258 An incipient stem,..which in the following year is augmented in height as before, and so on in succession as long as the plant grows. 1847 *Howitt's Jrnl.* II. 201/2 While the East London Water Company is supplying an impure water at 5*l.* 12*s.*, and so on, per house. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 488 There may be high fever,..nausea, vomitings, smart diarrhœa and so on.

33. Or so: a. Or something of that kind; or the like.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* II. 212 *Ber.* Is she wedded, or no? *Boy.* To her will sir, or so. 1602 — *Ham.* v. ii. 157 Girdle, Hangers or so [*Qq.* and so]. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 49 He..therefore bore it not about; Unless on Holy-days, or so. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 44 Sometimes he pores upon a Pack of Cards, or so. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, I used to think nothing on earth could fluster them, unless, indeed, it was a ghost, or so. 1818 Byron *Juan* Ded. iii, And then you overstrain yourself, or so. 1842 Tennyson *Day-dream, Revival* iv, My joints are somewhat stiff or so.

b. Or about that amount or number; or thereabout.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 50 For an eternall moment, or so. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. ii. 59 Some two thousand strong, or so. 1814 Scott *Diary* 17 Aug. in *Lockhart* (1837) III. vi. 207 A King's ship about eighteen guns or so. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* III. ii. 35 He returned in an hour or so. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/3 A Sunday or so ago.

34. So or so, after this or that manner; this or that. Also with *many* (cf. 37 e).

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. 350 For that so or so or so (and in noon other wise) it is writun in storie or cronicle. 1570 Googe *Pop. Kingd.* (1880) I. 3 b, For no man dare demaunde of him, why dost thou so or so. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden's Plays* 85 I'le die a thousand deaths before I'le do so or so. 1749 Richardson in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr.* (1804) IV. 291 From her air and..her face, he sets her down in his mind as *so* or *so.* 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 189 A clock, of such a construction, kept or altered its rate *so* or *so.* 1835 T. Mitchell *Aristoph. Acharn.* 307 *note,* Wine.. is said..to bear or admit so or so many portions of water.

† b. *Neither* (also *nothing*) *so nor so,* neither the one nor the other; neither this (way) nor that; not at all the fact or case. *Obs.*

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 34 They persuade the buier it is good, and that it is worth the money, whereas indeed it is nothing so, nor so. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* VI. i. 90 Making you beleeve a thing which is neither so nor so. 1610 A. Cooke *Pope Joan* 12 As though that Temple had had a spire steeple like ours; which is neither so, nor so. 1611 Cotgr., *Rien rien,* no no, neither so nor so. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 73 (1713) II. 198 *Earn.* Most of 'em are said to have either a Competency, or another Trade... *Jest.* This is neither so nor so.

VIII. With various adjs. and advs. of quantity, number, etc.

35. So far, in literal and transferred senses (see Far *adv.* 6 and Far-forth *adv.* 2): **a.** Without correlative word or clause.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2253 Now we haue vs sped sa ferr, Vr wil may he noght vs merr. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 33 Yit so fer cowthe I nevere finde Man that..Me cowthe teche such an art. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cii. 12 Loke how wyde the east is from the west, so farre hath he set oure synnes from vs. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxii. 1 Why art thou so far from helping me? 1696 *A. Telfair's New Confut. Sadd.* Pref. A 2 Having once gone so far, they will easily be induced to believe, that there's no Resurrection at all. 1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1812) I. App. I. 198 He [the King] was even, so far, on a level with the people. *a* 1797 H. Howard in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 433/2 Every place given to an Englishman is so far a loss to the people. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxvii, Will you so far trust me? 1832 Greville *Mem.* 27 Mar. (1874) II. 273, I have no doubt that all the ultras will be deeply mortified..at the success so far of 'the Waverers'. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 288/1 Nothing has, so far, been allowed to transpire as to its name and contents.

Comb. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 407 This so-far improved feature of temperature.

b. Followed by *as,* with various constructions. Examples of the literal sense are placed under (*b*).

(*a*) [*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16386 Sacles es he sa feir se sum i can (=so far as I can see).] 1485 *Sc. Acts, Jas. III* (1814) II. 172 Þe Custumaris at þair comptis making..to be dischargit of safer as þai deliuer to þe said wardan & changeour. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Staphylus' Apol.* 148 Some are..courtly protestants, which admit Luther so farre as them list. 1723 Sir R. Blackmore *Hist. Conspiracy* Pref. A 8 b, Some..only advanced so far as to excite Popular Jealousies. 1742 Ld. Hardwicke in *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 161 The law..is however to be so far fixed, as that every man may know his own condition. 1779 *Mirror* No. 14, I had actually gone so far as to write three introductory sentences. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 39 So far as I can now recollect. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xviii, Who played the part of steward so far as it was not performed by old Mr. Donnithorne himself. 1876 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) II. 313 So far as we can gather, a sober estimate prevails.

(*b*) 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VI. iii. 83 Sa fer before Achates and Enee As thai mycht weil behald thaim with thair E. 1675 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 247 Cleanseing the shallowes in the river so farre as Crane Bridge. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* I. 76 Have you in your rambles, ever reached so far as the Park, Edward? 1898 E. P. Evans *Evol. Ethics* vi. 216 He sees clearly so far as his lantern casts its rays.

c. In the phrase *In so far as* (see In *prep.* 38).

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 31 In safer as concernis the said Williamys awine part. 1581 Burne in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 140 In safar as thay confes Christ to be the sone of the leuing God. 1672 *Justiciary Rec.* (S.H.S.) 117 The complainer was no Magistrate in swa far as he had not taken the Declaration. 1780 *Mirror* No. 96, In so far as my improvement was concerned, they spared no expence. 1846 H. W. Torrens *Rem. Milit. Hist.* 11 The hieroglyphic inscriptions.., in so far as their characters have been decyphered. 1876 L. Stephen *Hist. Eng. Th. 18th C.* II. 418 Wesley..differs from Warburton and his like in so far as God is regarded as an active administrator.

d. Followed by *that.*

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* ii. 60 Sith that it is soo ferre come that ye wyll not here vs, we shall kepe owr peas. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* II. (1877) 259 One of the accusers..had gone so ferre, that he spake moche what these wordes folowing. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 5 ¶ 3 This strange Dialogue awakened my Curiosity so far, that I immediately bought the Opera. 1845 Stephen *Comm. Laws Eng.* II. 577 It is also so far a source of strength.. that it gives [etc.].

e. *So far from,* used to give emphasis to a different statement following. Also with *that.*

(*a*) 1547 *Homilies* (1859) 112 David was so far from rejoicing at these news, that..forthwith he rent his clothes. 1677 Miége *Dict.* II. s.v. *Far,* I am so far from loving her, that I hate her. 1736 Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.* I. s.v., They were so far from selling, that they bought. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 479 So far was it from doing so that it caused a rapid under-current of reaction.

(*b*) 1779 *Mirror* No. 33, Which, so far from being inconsistent.., is the most probable means of accomplishing it. 1813 Milner in *Suppl. Mem. Eng. Cath.* 305 As to..the Bible, the Catholic Church, so far from locking that up, requires her Pastors to study the whole of it. 1870 Ruskin *Arrows of the Chace* II. 225 So far from wishing to give votes to women, I would fain take them away from most men.

f. In the phr. *So far, so good,* used to express satisfaction with matters up to a certain point.

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VI. i. ¶ 11 So far, so good! said the worshipful commissioner; we have only to proceed in our examination. *a* 1843 Southey *Doctor* ccxxxix. (1848) 650 So far so good, but this once influential writer makes an erroneous conclusion. 1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* lxi. 11 So far, so good, Nature and facts are beginning to assert themselves.

36. So long: (see Long *adv.* 1 b, 1 c).

37. So many. a. Such a (large) number (of). *attrib.* *c* 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 2 Þonne hi.. heora God on swa monige dælas todælað, þonne [etc.]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 8 [It] deð hire in to drechunge,..& to se monie earmden. 13.. *St. Augustin* 1731 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 91 Þer weore laft so mani Signes of wax, .. þat seint Austines chapel [etc.]. 1508 Dunbar *Poems* vii. 66 Thow suld be hye renownit, That did so mony victoryse opteyn. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 110 How shall it be capable of so many and so great ioyes? 1639 Burton *Will* in *Anat. Mel.* (1893) I. p. xxx, Because there be soe many casualties to which our life is subjecte. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 257 Peradventure lying among so many his Writings and old Letters. 1780 *Mirror* No. 104, It is..a melancholy circumstance..to find so many noble palaces deserted by their illustrious owners. 1820 Keats *St. Agnes* xxxviii, Here will I take my rest After so many hours of toil and quest. 1878 Swinburne *To Victor Hugo* xv, Hast thou seen time, who hast seen so many things?

absol. *c* 897 K. Ælfred tr. *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 191 Buton he..sua monige ȝecierre sua he mæsð mæȝe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 162 Þe folk..þat saw..he gerte but resone sa mony sla, Raisit in hym sedicione. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 237 Confess cleir can I nocht..The maner, nor the multitud, so mony thar was. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 8 Loiterers I kept so meanie, both Philip, Hob, and Cheanie. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 360 We are not so many of us, here is Room enough for us all. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* ii. 142 Believe it..glorious to prevail, And stand in safety where so many fail.

b. *So* (or *as*) *many..,so many,* used to express equality in numbers. (See also How *adv.* 14 c.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Prol. Matt. 1 Swæ moniȝ aron bissena..swa monige boec. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV,* 12 b, Verifiynge the olde Prouerbe, so many heades, so many wittes. *a* 1633 J. Austin *Medit.* (1635) 149 So many men, so many minds (saies the proverb): but here they were of one accord. 1718 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 181 When a Bassa is in march, so many robbers taken, so many heads off in an instant. 1735 Berkeley *Free-think. in Mathemat.* § 44 As many men, so many minds.

c. Followed by *as* († or the relative *that*).

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 441 Þat by strength of her strife þei straught to foote All so many as his menne mighten areche. *c* 1400 *Brut* ccxxvii. 299 Ȝet were þey threfold so meny of hem as of Englisshe men. 1489 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 131 Samony of the..cuschingis, weschale, and seruiotis, as aucht to be deliuerit. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* 163 Sa mony of ȝou that ar defensabil men sal pas in propir person in battel. 1597 Jas. VI in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 422/2 Sa mony as are yet in hands sal be distributit. 1621 Bp. Montagu *Diatribæ* 426 In this passage there are so many particulars obseruable concerning tithing, as there bee words in the same. 1685 *Caldwell P.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 150 A man..gives notice..by so many windings of his horn as there are horsemen coming. 1735 Johnson *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* x. 98 Every Man being allowed so many Wives as he hath hundreds of Cows. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxviii, Had I not brought up unexpectedly so many Arabs as rendered the scheme abortive.

Comb. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 15 To be a so-many-sided Figure as there are Segments wanting.

d. As many; an equal number (of). Freq. in vaguer sense, a number (pack, etc.) of.

(*a*) 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 263 Thai and samony of thair freindis being present. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 43 Hauing with him onely ten horsemen, with so many Archers on horsebacke. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII,* v. iv. 79 We are but men; and what so many may doe,..we haue done. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. § 97. 468/1 In twenty eight Battels he became Master of so many Kingdoms.

(*b*) 1600 Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 348 The ostriches wander vp and downe..in orderly troupes, so that a far off a man would take them to be so many horsemen. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* V. § 11. 422 A few couragious men to great armies of cowards, are as so many Lyons to whole heards of deere 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 50 ¶ 3 Pillars that stand like the Trunks of so many Trees. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Oct., The carriage, the house in town, the West India fortune, were only so many lies which I had blindly believed. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/1 They turned upon him like so many curs let loose.

e. Used to denote an unspecified number.

1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 3 That thay..suld haiff sa mony thousand zeris of pardone. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Chete,* The ship is so many foot deepe in hold. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* I. § 29. 44 Papists..going barefoot so many miles. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87, Creeping on his knees up the steps of St. Peter's so many times a day.

38. So mickle, =next. (See also Insameikle.)

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* i, Þa hit ða ȝelomp þæt se arwyrða wæs on swa micelre nearanesse. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 Nu he swa mycel for ure lufan ȝeþrowode. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 Ne mahtic ȝelden swa muchel swa ic habbe idon to herme. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 357 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.,* He haueð sswo muchel þat he ne bit no more. *c* 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6013 Swa mykel folk com never togyder.. sythen þe werld bygan. 14.. *26 Pol. Poems* xxvi. 217 Hym was nat lefte so mekyll a clothe Hys naked body for to hele. 1503 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Crt.* (1904) 48 The said corn was samekle of waile in tyme of the spoliacioun therof. 1581 Hamilton *Cath. Traictise* Ep. 2 Not samekle for the present calameteis.., as for [etc.]. 1609 [see Mickle B. 1 c]. 1820 Scott *Monast.* Introd. Ep., There were few folk kend sae muckle about the Abbey.

39. So much. (See also For-, Insomuch.)

adj.* **a. So great, extensive, or abundant; so large a quantity or number of, etc.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1345 Godes sune, þet se muche godlec cudde us alle on eorðe. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1032 (W.), Alle the innes of the toun Haddyn litel foisoun,..So muche people with hire was. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 431 Siche signes drawen fro love of Crist þo þat setten so meche trist in hem. *c* 1400 Love *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 49 Thowh there was so moche nede, I fynde no mynde of furres or pilches. *a* 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 443 So myche newe makyng,.. So myche translacion in to Englyshe confused. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII,* I. i. 167 This last costly Treaty.., That swallowed so much treasure. 1651 Howell *Venice* 31 Seeing the English buy so much Currans. 1780 *Mirror* No. 110, A performance, the reception of which was liable to so much uncertainty. 1812 Crabbe *Tales* v. 178 That so much beauty..Raised strong emotions in the poet's mind. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 28 Some soda is often put into..potash soaps just because it will hold so much water.

b. So largely possessed *of* something.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* III. (Percy Soc.) 15 The fayre tower so muche of ryches Was all about sexangled. 1549–62 Sternhold & H. *Ps.* lxxxvi. 10 For why? thou art so much of might.

c. An equal sum or amount of (something).

1557 in Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) II. 72, I..do owe unto John Levytt..for so moche redy money of him resayved..the some of fyfty pownds. 1695 TELFAIR *New Confut. Sadd.* (1696) 3 He took up the Threshold, found the Tooth, and threw it into the Fire, where it burnt like so much Tallow. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. § 90 Whenever you buy a copy, you buy so much misunderstanding of the original. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *C. Kirkland* I. 219 Even my languages..were merely so much literary furniture.

** *adv.* d. Followed by *the* and a comparative (and sometimes with *by* preceding): To that extent, in that degree.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 413 And swa muche þe swiðere þet he bihet to medin ham mid swiðe heh mede. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 6 He..soiourned thar a whill; & so mych the blethelier, for þer com oft shippes theder. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 216 b, He was brent in a small fire, that hys torment might be so mutch the greater. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 179 By how much the more thou excellest others in honours, by so much the more thou oughtest to exceed them in honestie. 1611 BIBLE *Mark* vii. 36 The more hee charged them, so much the more a great deale they published it. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 95 It is so much the worse, by how much it deviates from Equality. 1741 CHALLONER *Mem. Missionary Priests* Pref. (1803) A 2 Which appeared.., by so much the more wanting, by how much the less [etc.]. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 574 Others frequently concur to this end so much the better, the more that they seem to deviate from it. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vii. 77 If the lady remained at Syracuse for a day or two, so much the better.

e. To such an extent; in such a degree.

1388 WYCLIF *Eccl.* ii. 13 And Y sigh, that wisdom 3ede so mych bifor foli, as miche as li3t is dyuerse fro derknessis. 1519 *Interlude Four Elements* in Hazlitt *Dodsley* I. 22, I marvel greatly, That ever ye would use the company So mich of such a knave. 1580 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 26 Rage man or devil never so much. 1692 *E. Walker's tr. Epictetus' Mor.* (1737) To Mr. E. W. on his Transl., Nor is your Author had in less esteem Than that great Man so much admir'd by him. 1742 LD. PERCIVAL in *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 265 In so much a better manner than I thought myself able to do. 1768–74 A. TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 59 How much we desire an absent positive good, so much we are in pain for it. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ii, But wherefore..so much displeased but now at my young friend Charles? 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxxvi, Villages, and market-towns—all so much alike to her indifferent eyes.

Comb. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Jan., Saw the so much cried-up play of 'Henry the Eighth'. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* I. II. vi. (1841) I. 45 These so-much-boasted politicians. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, The so-much-to-be-astonished chicken. 1860 E. FALKENER *Dædalus* Introd. 2 The so-much-talked-of trabeated ceilings of the ancients.

*** *sb.* f. An equal amount; as much.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3440 Thei prayed him alle that viage to take, To do so moche for her sake. *c* 1400 *Brut* civ. 105 If 3e so miche..haue y-wonne, an C. tymes so miche..3e hauen loste. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in Lyly's Wks. 1902 III. 407 This is a good settled speech, a Diuine might haue seemd to haue said so much. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 32, I never saw him angry.., and have heard so much of him for many years before. *a* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* I. vii. 14 More, is so much, and somewhat besides. 1780 *Mirror* No. 94, I cannot say so much for his acquaintance C. D. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ii. 55 *note*, I would answer, that I understand so much. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxi, He kissed her hand. Except when she was married, he had not done so much for years before.

g. A certain unspecified amount, sum, etc.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 8 Womman, seye to me, if 3e solden the feeld for so moche? And she seide, 3he, so moche. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 23 That such a thing cost them so much, and so much, and it is woorth this much and that much. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 269 This..behaviour..is as so much of the best Sugar for you Italians, and as so much of the bitterest Poyson for the Spanish Nation. 1696 *Caldwell P.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 171 They have..soe much a day for their pocket money. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 552/1 They have nothing to do but to work them off as fast as They can, at so much a thousand. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Cry of the Human* v, Each soul is worth so much on 'Change. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 88 Life is lost, By so much, when you lose a perfect sense.

h. Thus much, thus far. (Used to sum up or dismiss a matter.)

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 240 So much for the time When. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 10 And so much for this second Hypothesis. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 350 So much for that; do you take me Sir. 1794 SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vii. 220 So much for public news. 1840 *P. Parley's Ann.* 364 So much for the love of slaughter! 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 11/1 So much for Norman blood unaided by Victorian lucre.

i. Such an amount, quantity, etc.

See also EVER *adv.* 9 b, 9 c, and NEVER *adv.* 4.

1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* XXV. 93 There was so much of merit in him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 120 ¶ 1 Sir Roger is very often merry with me upon my passing so much of my Time among his Poultry. 1732–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 131 (Footman fills him a Bumper.) Why do you fill so much? 1816 SHELLEY *Mt. Blanc* 117 So much of life and joy is lost. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxiii, So many worlds, so much to do, So little done.

40. So much as, that, etc. a. With *as* (or †*so*), in ordinary comparative use.

adj. *c* 1275 LAY. 25351 Folk þar com wel sone.., so moche so þar neuere hear [= ere] no man ne gadere[de]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1249 The multitude was so much as menys vs þe writtez. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 18 Somuch grownd as might receyue..his poore Carkas. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 263 *Bene.* You take pleasure then in the message. *Beat.* Yea iust so much as you may take vpon a knifes point. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 339 The other Affix..is not of so much use or necessity as the rest. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxix, Take so much leisure as to peruse this letter. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 80 Of half so much importance as [etc.].

sb. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3306, I..Has no3t o maistri so meche as mi3t of my-selfe. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) I, He wold gif hom..so muche..As any lord wold. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* 330 Often times it fortuned that a man can not attayne to do so muche as he would do. 1559 *Boke Presidentes* 9 That ye will do so muche as..to present A. B. to the same. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 18 Others account so much to Paradise as those foure Riuers doe water. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1214 'Tis most true None bring him in so much as you. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 522 Casaubon knew of his own age so much as the average of educated men know. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* i. (ed. 3) 24 The poorest memory..will retain so much as that.

adv. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 16 He hatede nothynge so mych as that me shold spek of his stalwardnes. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iii. 13 A man schulde loue..his neiȝbore as him silf, thouȝ not so miche as him silf. 1530 PALSGR. 567/1, I gave hym counsayle to the contrarye so moche as lay in me. 1595 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 336 All the way he prayed,..so much as he might. 1634 SIR T. HAWKINS *Pol. Observ.* 13 To these turmoyles, so much weighty as they were new, crosse omens of predictions were added. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 466 ¶ 3 With a Design to please no one so much as her Father. 1780 *Mirror* No. 79, Not so much by the class of people..as by the kind of sentiments. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xviii, Her attendant..kept herself modestly in the background, so much so as hardly to be distinguished.

b. Used to emphasize a negation.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 16960 (Trin.), He þat neuer synne dud, ne so muche as hit þou3t. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 197 Not so muche as putting pen to paper. *c* 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 124 Without giving me so much as the least warning. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 144 There was not so much as a Meal of Victuals left for them. 1713 STEELE *Englishman* No. 40, I do not remember to have seen any small Birds, nor so much as a Crow or Magpye. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. viii, I should not expect any lady would so much as look at him. 1854 MRS. OLIPHANT *Magdalen Hepburn* II. 51 The priest's *benedicite* was not accompanied by so much as a glance. 1887 BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 151 [He] never so much as attained to a seat in the Cabinet.

c. With *that*, denoting result or consequence.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1794 Lordes han for to done So mych for hem-self, þat my mateere Out of hir mynde slippith away soone. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 119 Soo moche abode the foure sones of Aymon, that the nyghte came. 1595 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 290 He..was so muche greeved that..he went presently to Confession. *c* 1670 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 45 This yeare he had the small pox so much that he was for a time blinded with them. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* iii, My attention was so much taken up..that I scarce looked forward. 1811 BYRON in R. C. Dallas *Corr. of Byron* (1825) II. 26, I feel myself so much a citizen of the world, that [etc.]. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvi, So much so, that one afternoon..she..shook hands with him.

d. Followed by infinitive without *as*.

1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. i, I had so much wit to keepe my thoughts Vp in their built houses. 1874 SWINBURNE *Bothwell* II. ix, Though I have not so much grace To bind again this people fast to God.

So, var. SOE; obs. infin. and pa. t. pl. of SEE *v.*

So., abbrev. of SOUTH.

Soader, obs. f. SOLDER *sb.* and *v.*

Soak (sōuk), *sb.* Also 6–7, 9 *dial.*, **soke.** [f. the vb.]

1. a. The condition or process of being or becoming soaked; a spell of soaking. Chiefly in the phr. *in soak*: cf. A-SOAK *adv.*

1598 FLORIO, *Abombare*,..to steepe or lay in soke. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Soke*, You need give it but one good Soke. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 350 He also lays the Ball Leathers in soak to supple them. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 283, I am not without hopes that a good rod is in soak for Prussia. 1887 BROWN *Doctor* 47 Fixin the die, very slow in the soak,..But takin the colour through and through!

b. A liquid used for maceration; a steep.

1850 ALLEN *Amer. Farm Book* ii. 48 As a soak or steep for seeds..there is no doubt of their possessing some value.

c. A vat in which hides are macerated.

1876 tr. *Schultz' Leather Manuf.* 17 Before any portion is put into the soaks. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* vi. 80 Dry salted hides, kips, etc.,..are generally put into a pit of water kept for the purpose, called a soak.

d. A heavy saturating rain.

1893 *Daily News* 20 Aug. 5/1 The long steady soak that finds out the weak spot..in canvas.

2. A percolation of water; water which has oozed through or out of the ground, strata, etc.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 191 In dry Ground that is not annoyed with any Spring or soak of Water. 1821 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 4 A sort of river;..the water proceeding from the soak of the higher ground on both sides. 1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 19 Springs, soaks, or streams of water. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 22 Wherever springs, soaks, or streams appear and issue from the face of the slopes.

b. *spec.* in Lincolnshire. (Cf. SOCK *sb.*[3] 2.) Also *attrib.*

1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Linc.* 15 The sock or soak among the silt is sometimes brackish. *Ibid.* 235 Through all the fens of Lincolnshire we hear much of the soak,..the subterranean water which is found..usually but a very few feet below the surface. *c* 1818 BRITTON *Lincolnshire* 557 The sea water.., unable to pass by the drains, rises on the surface, and is known by the name of soak. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. i. 285 Upon digging down into the sharp silt the soak oozes from the side of the hole.

c. *dial.* A piece of marshy, swampy ground.

1839 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Gloss. Heref.* s.v., A 'green soak', or 'a warm soak', is a small spot of marshy ground in which a spring rises. 1849 J. LLOYD *Eng. Country Gentleman* 6 Where the soak its emerald fringe displays. 1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial.*, *Soke*, a patch of marshy land.

d. *Austr.* A depression holding moisture after rain; a damp spot where water may be obtained.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 4/2 A prospecting party comes along to one of the clay-pans or soaks. 1899 *Times* 24 Feb. 13/1 The rock holes and soaks on which the lives of themselves and their animals depended.

3. A heavy drinker; a tippler.

1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* (ed. 3) 93 And hearty soaks oft hand the bottle round. 1889 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 15 Feb. 2/5, I think I'll corral a lot of chronic old soaks,..and experiment with them.

4. A prolonged draught or drinking-bout.

1851 STERNBERG *Northampt. Dial.*, *Soke*,..a long draught. 'A good soke.' 1855 C. G. PARSONS *Inside View Slavery* iv. 51 When the Southron intends to have a 'soak', he takes the bottle to his bed-side.

Soak (sōuk), *v.* Forms: 1 **socian**, 4–8 **soke**, 6–7 **soake**, 7– **soak.** Also *pa. pple.* 6–7 **soken**, 8–9 **soaken.** [OE. *socian*, f. the weak grade of the stem represented by *súcan* to SUCK, = WFlem. *soken* and *zoken* (De Bo).

The following are examples of the strong pa. pple. (see also SOAKEN *ppl. a.*):—1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xiv. 72 Whose braines are soken. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 176 Dirt soken with blood. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* Ps. CXXXVII, Our heart-strings broken, Throats drown'd, and soken With tears. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 196 So that the pores might be thoroughly soaken with water. 1886 J. ASHBY-STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* 126 Shiny is each mackintosh, Each hat and coat well soaken.]

I. *intr.* 1. To lie immersed in a liquid for a considerable time, so as to be saturated or permeated with it; to become thoroughly wet or soft in this manner.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 240 Dweorge dwostlan weorp on weallende wæter, læt socian on lange. *Ibid.* 252 Asete þonne on hate sunnan..þæt hit sipige & socige.

c 1440 [see SOAKING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 314 The other water which did cure the Palsie, when the little Image of Montague..had soakt in it. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* s.v., To lay a Thing a-soking. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 313 The Sea, in which they soak every Tide. 1833 RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 68 Before using them let them soak about half an hour in water. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 160 As soon as the goose was killed, the liver was put to soak in milk and honey. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 234 A spoonful of water in which a clove of garlic has soaked for half an hour.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. xx, Ryse, fresch Delyte, lat nocht this mater soke. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I. s.v. *Mitonner*, This Potage must be kept soaking upon a Chafing-dish, or the like. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 65 ¶ 8 Because it is Vulgar to Lye and Soak together, we have each of us our several Settle-Bed. *a* 1791 WESLEY *Serm.* xcviii. (1825) II. 475 By *soaking* (as it is emphatically called) so long between warm sheets, the flesh..becomes soft and flabby. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 241 The work.., should be allowed ample time to get hot, or as it is called, to 'soak'. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* viii. 142 Now, put these little hints 'to soak', as they say out here.

c. To allow moisture to percolate. *rare*—1.

1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 981 It being Sandy Land, soaks and drains admirably well.

2. To percolate; to penetrate by saturation or infiltration; to ooze. Also with *in*, *through*, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sokyn yn, as lycure yn dyuerse þyngys, or drynkyn yn. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 47 For weede and the water so soketh and sucks, that [etc.]. 1587 GASCOIGNE *Flowers*, etc. Wks. 1907 I. 116 [Floods of tears] Whose fountaine..soketh so, that all my face is styll on flowe. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 188 When the rain descended, it filled the horns, and soked to the root of the Vine. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 64 A Barrow full of Rotten Muck,..the fatnesse whereof will soke in among the roots. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 677 If Sweat remains Unwash'd, and soaks into the empty Veins. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 74/2 The Structure..may..be rotted by the moisture lying continually soaking upon it. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 42 The Pit..quite free from Water, except some small Quantity that soaked from the Bed of the River. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, A narrow channel, through which soaked, rather than flowed, a small stagnant stream. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 229/2 The water..soaked under the wall and wetted the mud below it.

b. *fig.*

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xiii. 14 b, God will make them to soke away like water. 1599 BRETON *Miseries of Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 36/1 Sorrow sokes long ere it slayes. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 3 The grace of that spirit..might soke and sinke into the soules of men. 1675 J. SMITH *Christian Religion's Appeal* II. 6 To repel the thought of future Judgment, from soaking into the Spirits. 1881 *Times* 21 May 11/4 The controversialists have separated to give time for them to soak into the minds..of nations.

†c. Of currents: To flow slowly. *Obs.*

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. viii. 103 The Sea-Breezes and the Currents, that soak down between Africa and Brazil.

d. With cognate obj.: To make (way) by percolation.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxviii, The rivulet beneath..soaked its way obscurely through wreaths of snow. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiv, The nearest of the little rivers soaked its way into the anchorage.

3. To drink immoderately; to saturate oneself with liquor.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 78 You keep soak-

ing in Taverns, and come and make such Complaints to me. 1766 Goldsm. *Vicar* xxi, You do nothing but soak with the guests all day long, whereas..I never touch a drop. 1828 Ruddiman *Sc. Parish* (1889) 69 The sodger gentry..sit soaking and drinking. 1883 *19th Cent.* Oct. 594 The shambling and scrofulous shirk whom you may find any night soaking at the pothouse.

II. *trans.* **4.** Of liquid or moisture: To permeate thoroughly; to saturate with wet. Freq. in passive.

(*a*) *a* 1340, *c* 1440 [see *fig.* below]. 1544 Phaer *Bk. Childr.* (1553) S iij b, Stepe it in suffycyent rosewater, tyll it bee wel soked. 1577 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 156 The ..barleie..is steeped in a cesterne..vntill it be throughlie soked. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 567 The ground standeth not drenched and soked with water. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1726 Let us go find the body where it lies Sok't in his enemies blood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 219 Several of her casks had rotted, and her bags were soaked through. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 334 The herbage and the trees are soaked in water. 1876 Bristowe *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 280 Not when the marshy ground is thoroughly soaked, but when, after it has been thus soaked [etc.].

(*b*) 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 187 Where..deep Galesus soaks the yellow Sands. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 215 When Winter soaks the fields. 1800 tr. *Legrange's Chem.* II. 303 The quantity..should be sufficient to soak the grain. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 730 Hyperidrosis ..soaking the boots and stockings with a stinking material.

b. *fig.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iii. 5, I am soked in my synne. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 234 The kyng..was febyll and sokyd with sekenesse. 1600 Breton *Daffodils & Primroses* Wks. (Grosart) I. 14/1 My tree of true delight is sokde with sorrow. 1630 J. Preston *Serm.* 30 Soaked and surfetted with pleasures. 1902 B. Grundy *Thames Camp* 88, I am literally soaked in sunshine.

5. To lay or place in, to wet with, a liquid so as to produce thorough saturation; to steep.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 It availeþ mich þat þe yuel or sore be wele fomented or soked wiþ vinegre and watre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sokyn yn lycure.. to be made softe. 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 39 b, Beate the Saffron in poulder, stiepe, and soke it. 1652 J. Maine tr. *Donne's Epigr.* 94 The ground..Her Temples now steept in sea-water sokes. 1659 H. More *Immort. Soul* III. vii. § 8 It is not unlikely, but that they soak their Vehicles in some vaporous or glutinous moisture or other. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 52 If you put Wormwood into the Brine you soak your Corn in. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 350 The purpose of soaking them is only to supple them. 1831 Davies *Mat. Med.* 260 It is..covered over with lint, which is afterwards soaked with the same caustic liquid. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 443 It consists in soaking the positive or negative on glass in a special solution.

absol. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 49 If you must soak, be sure to go over the face of the plate with a wet pledget.

b. *fig.*

1648 G. Daniel *Eclog* iii. 193 You soake your soules, and by too large a flood. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* x. 183 We soak our children in habits of contempt. 1895 Zangwill *Master* 439 He must soak himself in Paris and forget her.

c. *refl.* with reference to excessive drinking.

1818 Scott *Rob Roy* xii, Habitual topers..acquire the power of soaking themselves with a quantity of liquor [etc.]. 1891 E. Roper *By Track & Trail* xvii. 256 Even..where people can get what they choose to drink, they do not soak themselves in beer.

6. To bake (bread, etc.) thoroughly. Also *fig.*

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. vi. 22 The One baketh, the Other as it were soketh (that I may use Pastery Terms) the Fruits of the Season. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 333 A Haunch of 12 Pounds Weight will take up three full Hours to be well soaked. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Soak*, to bake thoroughly. It is particularly applied to bread. 1872 De Vere *Americanisms* 548 Bread..is said 'to be well soaked', if it is dry and thoroughly well baked.

7. *colloq.* or *slang.* **a.** *To soak one's clay* (or †*face*), to drink (heavily).

1704 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Am. Col. Ch.* I. 180 Sober and meek under disgrace,..Now he's advanced he soaks his face. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 559 He is said to..[have] Soaked his face. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Look at the Clock* iv, Mr. David Pryce had been soaking his clay.

b. To ply with liquor. Also in passive.

1822 J. Banim *O'Hara Tales, Peggy Nowlan*, Well? you pumped him? and soaked him? 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Aug. 4/1 He was..so drunk he could not stand. His friend.. was also pretty well soaked.

c. To spend (money) in drink.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Aug. 3/4 When you meet him give him sixpence...He will soak it, of course, but that is long past mending.

d. To put (something) in pawn.

1882 Sala *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 382 'Soak my gems,' and 'Walker my diamonds'.

e. *U.S. slang.* To punish, beat, pummel, strike hard, etc.

1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 29 July 1 Embezzlers Soaked. The Fines and Sentences Given the Pittsburgh Defaulters. 1904 Lorimer *Old Gorgon Graham* 18 The unspeakable Turk hadn't been soaked hard enough to suit him [*sc.* an Armenian].

III. 8. To draw *out*, cause to ooze *out*, by means of soaking.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 25 Take howhys of Vele, & ley hem on water to soke out be blode. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Clear-Starching*, Lay it in a dry Cloth to soak out the Sudds. 1733 W. Ellis *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 114 Put half the Planks into Water, two or three Weeks, to soak out their Sap. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 179 The bichromate of potash is next soaked out by immersion in water for about four hours.

b. To draw or suck *out*.

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 22 b, Sowe it with lighter seede, that soketh out lesse the substance of the ground. 1626 Bacon *Nat. Hist.* § 346 As well by Strengthning the Spirits, as by Soaking out the loose Moisture. 1846 Landor *Imag. Conv.* I. 88 The people you describe to me soak out all the juices of our dialect.

†**c.** To drain, exhaust, impoverish. Also *to soak dry* or *up*. *Obs.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 165 And sucks & sokes the marow bones vntill they feeble waxe. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 35 Whereby they might..soake his pursse to reape commoditie. 1605 *1st Part Ieronimo* I. iii, His bounty amongst souldiers sokes him dry. 1626 Bacon *Nat. Hist.* § 480 All Plants that doe draw much Nourishment from the Earth, and so soake the Earth, and exhaust it. 1661 *Sir Harry Vane's Politicks* 9 It fares with those.. as it doth with Gaming Houses, where the Box soaks the Gamesters. 1687 Miège *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II, To soke (or drain) ones Pockets, *épuiser les Poches*. *Ibid.*, A Woman that sokes up a Man,..*qui épuise un Homme*.

d. To allow to drain or ooze *away*.

a 1764 Lloyd *Poet. Professors* Wks. 1774 I. 34 Fellows! who've soak'd away their knowledge, In sleepy residence at college.

9. To allow to sink in; to absorb; to take in by absorption.

1553 *Short Catech.* in *Lit. & Doc. Edw. VI* (1844) 518 He ought..[to] endeavour himself to hear and soak into his mind the word of the Lord. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 16/2 Rather we follow the spider in soking the poison, than in imitating the bee by sucking the honie. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 33 The paper..was sleeked..; and this kept it from soaking the ink. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 33 Losing the water soaked by its Crystals.

b. With *up*.

c 1550 [? G. Walker] *Detect. Dice-Play* D ij b, Sone after yᵗ this likor was..dried, & soked vp in the boies face. 1588 Kyd *Househ. Phil.* 187 Wks. (1901) 244 They soke up the superfluous humours of the earth. 1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 22 Plants..dried..betwixt sheets of paper, which help to soak up the superfluous moisture. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 35 When dry, throw it into the composition,..and stir it about, till it has soaked it up. 1854 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* (1864) 286 One great mountain that soaked up all the rose of sunset.

c. To drink, imbibe, esp. to excess.

1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1729) I. 419 The Men come home fat with soaking this Liquor. 1865 *Reader* No. 117. 339/3 The quantity of port soaked there.

†**10.** To cause to sink in. *Obs.*—1

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 28 They cast about gently to soake and settle them in mens..consciences.

Soakage (sōu·kédʒ). [f. prec. + -age.]

1. Liquid which has filtered or oozed out.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Turnep* 7 P 3/2 Water which happens to be the soakage of a dung-yard. 1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Linc.* 244 He could, by taking the whole soakage of the hill, produce a river capable of turning a considerable mill. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. I. 118 They have to throw out the great soakage of water from the rivers Welland and Glen. 1884 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 3/4 The water in it gets contaminated by soakage from the gutter.

attrib. 1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Linc.* 284 A soakage drain on each side of it.

b. *Austr.* A soak, a waterhole.

1898 *Geogr. Jrnl.* XI. 261 A small pool of water, evidently a soakage from the surrounding country. 1898 Morris *Austral Eng.*, *Soak*, or *Soakage*, a Western and Central Australian term.

2. Liquid or moisture absorbed.

1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 205 The original twenty gallons come off less by the soakage.

3. The process of percolating or soaking through.

1867 Baker *Nile Trib.* v. 102 The escape of the rainfall was by simple soakage. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. v, I'm afraid there may have been soakage from that manure-heap into the well. 1904 A. St. H. Gibbons *Africa* I. ii. 25 In so thirsty a country as Africa evaporation and soakage must be very considerable.

4. The fact of lying in soak.

1855 Ogilvie *Suppl.*, *Soakage*, act of soaking; state of being soaked. 1863 *Possibilities of Creation* 188 His flesh, converted into a species of spermaceti..by long soakage in running water.

5. *Electr.* The residual charge of a cable or condenser (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl., citing Houston).

Soaked (sōu·kt), *ppl. a.* [f. Soak *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. *transf.* Dull, lacking in animation.

1600 *Hosp. Incurable Fooles* 19 Melancholike persons of this kinde, haue pale faces, soaked and hollow eies.

2. Steeped, macerated; saturated, drenched.

Also as second element in *rain-*, *water-soaked*, etc.

1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 197 If there be brought into contact two wetted or soaked bodies. 1841 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* viii, Is it soaked gunpowder, or blazing oil? 1879 Proctor *Pleas. Ways Sc.* xvii. 368 The soaked slopes of great hills give way.

†**Soa·ken,** *v. Obs.* In 6–7 soken. [f. Soak *v.* + -en 5.] *trans.* To soak.

1577 Frampton *Joyful News* I. (1596) 20 They leaue it so vntill the water bee sokened into it. 1580—*Dial. Yron & Steele* 155 When it is well sokened. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 36 The pith of bread sokened in Spanish wine.

Soaken (sōu·k'n), *ppl. a.* [f. Soak *v.*] Soaked, saturated; intoxicated.

1651 Manton *Exp. James* iv. 16 The soaken Adulterer [can boast] of so many acts of uncleanness. 1846 Landor *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1853 II. 299/2 He spake as bigly and fiercely as a soaken yeoman at an election feast. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 4/7 Bits of soaken drapery.

Soaker (sōu·kəɹ). Also 6–8 soker (6 sooker?). [f. Soak *v.* + -er 1.]

†**1.** A drainer, exhauster. *Obs.*

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 40 It is a great soker of the grounde. 1610 Folkingham *Art Surv.* I. x. 31 Wheate, Barley, Woade,..are great impairers and soakers of the soyle. 1629 Massinger *Picture* III. iv, I found By sad experience there is no such soaker As a young spongy wife. 1641 Day *Parliament of Bees* x, He's a male polecat; a mere heart-blood soaker.

2. An immoderate drinker; a drunkard. Cf. 3 b.

1593 *Bacchus Bounti*e in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) II. 265 The greatest soakers shal be least controulde. 1652 *Charac. Low Countries* 60 The Dutchman would still be the perfectest soker. 1679 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 460 The black pot men carried it for Perot, a thorough paced soaker. 1770 *Ann. Reg.* II. 240 'Tis Soakers like me..That enable you Brewers to ride in your Coaches. 1837 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Look at the Clock* iv, Amusing himself..With a couple more soakers, Thoroughbred smokers. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 865 In the case of a soaker on the verge of delirium tremens.

fig. 1593 Nashe *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 242 A scholler in nothing but the scum of schollership, a stale soker at Tullies Offices. 1665 Brathwait *Comment. Two Tales* (1901) 52, I know you for a notable Soaker; you cannot endure a Sharer. 1700 Congreve *Way of World* IV. ii, The sun's .. an honest soaker; he has a cellar at your Antipodes.

3. *Old soaker*: **a.** An old hand at anything; an old stager.

Perh. originally with allusion to drinking (cf. b and 2), but this does not appear in the quotations.

1589 R. Harvey *Plain Perc.* (1590) 9 An olde sooker, that caries such Pottical verses of the State of Flanders, in a linnen bag. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 295 He was an old soaker indeede: and had more witt in his hoary head, then six hundred of these floorishing greene heads. 1614 Meriton *Christian Mans Assuring-house* 35 A young sinner is easily converted; but olde soakers are hardly reclaimed. *c* 1670 Newcome *Diary* (1885) 142 These old soakers with their Record's Arithmetic.

b. An old hand at drinking; a regular toper.

1665 Pepys *Diary* 15 Feb., A very good dinner among the old sokers. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 31 A task.. that would much better fit some old soker at Parnassus, than his sipping unexperienc'd bibbership! *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, An old Soker*, a true Pitcher-man. 1829 Scott *Anne of G.* xix, Some quiet old soakers, who were already beginning to think of the reckoning. 1863 *Mortons of Bardom* I. 177 Thus assailed, the old soaker was compelled to withdraw.

4. a. One who soaks something.

1611 Cotgr., *Trempeur*, a dipper; wetter, moistener; soaker, steeper.

b. A drenching rain.

1839 Hood *To St. Swithin* v, Mother of all the Family of Rainers! Saint of the Soakers! 1857 A. Mayhew *Paved with Gold* II. v, The rain came down in streams of water... 'Here's a soaker!' thought the young Bohemian.

5. A sheet of lead used in roofing to keep out heavy rains.

1895 *Jrnl. R. Inst. Brit. Archit.* Mar. 351 Hips should have hip-tiles and not soakers.

Soak-hole. [f. Soak *v.*] **a.** *Austr.* An enclosed place in a stream, used for sheep-washing. **b.** A hole into or from which water, etc., soaks or drains away.

1881 A. C. Grant *Bush Life in Queensland* I. 82 Parallel poles..forming square soak-holes. *Ibid.*, A stage was built, from which the sheep could be allowed to slide easily into the water of the first soak-hole. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 124 The holes where it [*sc.* liquid manure] collects in the yard are called *soak-holis*.

Soaking (sōu·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Soak *v.*]

1. The action of the vb. in various senses.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sokynge, or longe lyynge in lycure, *infusio, inbibitura*. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 442 These beautifull shapes..not consuming by the soaking of sicknesse. 1611 Cotgr., *Tremprement*, a..steeping, soaking. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 288 This soaking so long in your Bed, weakens all the Members. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* ii, If we were catched, we run the risk of being ducked or pumped, which we call soaking. 1770 H. St. John in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 3 The servants were half dead with the soaking and fatigue. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 307 The company got a complete soaking from the inclemency of the weather. 1881 Abney *Photogr.* 122 Long soaking of the..emulsion is greatly detrimental.

b. *pl.* Liquid which has soaked through.

1846 Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 39 By pumping back the soakings the soluble salts are preserved.

2. In iron-working: A special process by which the heat of an ingot is equally distributed through the mass, in order to fit it for rolling.

1884 Greenwood *Steel & Iron* 383 Comparatively little heat escapes during the process of soaking.

3. *attrib.*, as (sense 1) *soaking solution, tub, vat*; (sense 2) *soaking operation, pit*; †**soaking club,** a drinking club.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. § 35 The tickling of his palate with a glass of wine, or the idle chat of a soaking club. 1853 *Nicholson's Operat. Mech.* (ed. 4) 408 Other trays ..are to be piled or placed upon this,..until the soaking-tubs or boilers are sufficiently filled. 1882 Gjers in *Iron & Steel Institute* 568 During the soaking operation, a quantity of gas exudes from the ingot. *Ibid.*, Some of this heat ..is lost by radiation before the ingot enters into the soaking pit. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 134 For this purpose a soaking vat has to be put up. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* III. 29 The second amendment relates to the soaking solution.

Soaking (sōu·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Soak *v.*]

†**1.** Taking in moisture, absorbent; *fig.*, drawing to oneself, tending to drain or exhaust. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sokynge grownde, as sondy grownde and other lyke. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 159 b, A sokynge consumcion, where in a man complayneth of feblenes and of fayntynes. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 186 But loe my skill,..For soaking soores, a soueraigne salue could finde. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* II. metr. iv. 30 [He] Shuns soking Sandes. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 224 Thy Conceit is soaking, will draw in More then the common Blocks.

† b. *transf.* Of persons. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER, *Barathrum*,..a soking or wasting queane. 1584 LODGE *Alarum* B ij, They finde out..some olde soaking vndermining Solicitour.

† c. *Soaking doe*, 'a barren doe, that going over the year is fat, when other does have fawns' (Halliwell). *Obs.*

1588 *Presentment* in *Essex Rev.* XV. (1906) 64 A soaken doe found hurt cominge out of the Purliewe.

2. † a. Of a fire: Slow. *Obs.* (Cf. SOAK *v.* 6.)

c 1450 *Douce MS. 55* fol. 129 Rost hym with sokynne fyre. *c* 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 67 Rost hym long with a soking fyere. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 73 Then spit it and rost it by a soaking fire.

b. *Printing.* (See quots.)

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 5 A long or a Soaking or Easie Pull, is when the Form feels the force of the Spindle by degrees, till the Bar comes almost to the hither Cheek of the Press. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 128 *Soaking pull*, a long and easy pull over of the bar-handle of a printing press.

3. Percolating; sinking in; flowing slowly.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Euseb.* I. iii, A certain soaking slumber of drunkenness. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xx. lx, The heav'nly Dew Into Earth's thirsty mouth drops soaking Joy. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. 102 To the East of Cape Roman..you meet only a soaking faint Current.

4. Drenching; wetting thoroughly.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 59 A good soakinge shower aboute the latter ende of September. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 193 Rub Moss off your Trees after a soaking Rain. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 76/2 Though drench'd his..hide with soaking rain. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xiv, A soaking torrent of rain. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. vi, The rain was coming down in a soaking drizzle.

transf. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* I. 11 The..cause of many a miserable soaking night to myself and others.

5. Saturated, drenched.

1864 ABP. TAIT in *Reminisc. Lady Wake* (1909) xxiv. 280 It was voted dangerous for any one to fall asleep in our soaking state. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip to Boërland* 260, I..stripped off my soaking clothes. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 181 When the suns of August sucked up the venom from the emerald soaking swamp.

6. Quasi-*adv.*, in *soaking wet*.

1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* V, All underfoot was still soaking wet with the floods of yesterday. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 94 Three miserable soaking-wet days.

Soakingly (sōu·kiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec.]

† 1. Slowly, gently, gradually. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 51 Ye shul geten hem with-outen greet desir, by good leyser, sekyngly [*v.r.* sokyngly] and nat ouer hastily. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 119 þo all we may not gedir our hartis to-gidyr as we wold, 3it may we not leef, bot sokandly stody we to grawe, þat at þe last Ihesu criste may stabil vs. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sokyngly, *idem quod* esyly. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 309 A mannes enemies in battaill, are to be ouercomed..sokingly one pece after an other. 1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. ii. 30 The heate of thaier sokyngly warmeth the cold ground. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 5 This is also call'd a Soft Pull; because it comes Soft and Soakingly and easily down.

† b. On or with a slow fire. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 72 Lete hit boile sokingly on a faire charcole til hit be ynogh. *c* 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 36 Rost it sokingly. 1530 PALSGR. 595/1 It is rosted sokyngly, *il est cuit*, or *rosty tout a loysir*. 1598 *Epulario* Biv, Let it bake sokingly in the ouen till it be throughly baked. 1638 SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* IV. ii, Oh! the Generall Belizarius for my money;..hee will roast soakingly within and without.

2. So as to saturate or drench.

In the 16th cent. quots. sense 1 may be implied.

1540 R. JONAS tr. *Roesslin's Byrth Mankynde* I. iv. 19 Then with a sponge or other cloth dypped in the foresayde bathe, let her sokyngly washe her feet. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 521 The broth of Rapes is good for the same purpose, [the heels] being washed and bathed therein sokingly. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 100/2 The driving rain, which now poured down more soakingly than ever.

b. *fig.* Deeply, profoundly.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 63 You..may closely sitt, or sokingly ly at your bookes. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* iv. 9 Savouringly and soakingly, with a deep and down right sorrow.

Soak-mill, var. of *soke-mill*: see SOKE *sb.*1 4.

Soal(e, Soall, obs. forms of SOLE *sb.* and *v.*

Soam (sōum). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: *α.* 5 soym(e, 5 somme, 6 so(l)me, 8– soam. *β.* 5–7 sowme, 6 soume, sovme, 8 sowm. [prob. a. OF. *some, somme, soume, saume* (med.L. *sauma, sagma*: see SEAM *sb.*2) pack-saddle, horse-load; but the difference in the sense is not accounted for by the existing evidence.]

1. A rope or chain, attaching a draught-horse or other animal to a wagon, plough, etc.; a trace-rope. Also *attrib.* in *soam-chain*.

α. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 180 Hastyly He suld stryk with the ax in twa The hede-soyme. *Ibid.* 233 He..hewit in twa the soym in hy. *c* 1459 *Reg. Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Cl.) II. 108 Owr bailye..straik the sommys in twa and hewyt the plwche. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 171 Thair wapynis.. [they] maid thame all in somes to thair pleuche. 1582 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1860) 46, ij plewes..with socke and culter, viij draught yokes, viij somes. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 255 The soam of the pair immediately before the hindmost must be fixed..to the beam. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 103 That inconvenience is prevented in the plough by using a long chain (provincially a soam). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Book of Farm* I. 626 The leading horses are thus yoked by a second set of common swingtrees to the end of the soam. *Ibid.*, The middle horse pulling by the soam-chain.

β. 1404 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, ij cultris,..iij plogherbandis, viij sowmes. 1451 *Durh. Depos.* (Surtees) 30, iij crokes, j sowme. 1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 513 For xx stane of towis to be soumes for the gunnys. 1572 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 350, ix sowmes, iiij plewes, iij cowters. 1662 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 603 Paddokis did draw the plewgh, as oxen; qwickens wer sowmes. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Cl.) I. 465 Sowms, thramels, rigwoodies,..and all other.. work of..straw, bent or rushes.

2. *Coal-mining.* (See quots.)

1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 681 In low seams, [the coals are drawn] on trams, pulled by two small cords, called soams, by a boy. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms, Northumb. & Durh.* 30 A little boy, who performs his part by pulling the tub by a couple of ropes or traces..called *soams*. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Soams*, a pair of cords about three feet in length, by which foals and half marrows pull tubs along the roads.

Soa·ming, *ppl. a.*? error for *sowning*, sounding.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. ii. 31 A dead glasse.. shapes as they passe As well may see; Lutes heare each soaming diapase.

So-and-so, *sb., a.*, and *adv.* Also so and so.

A. *sb.* An indefinite phrase (='such a thing, person, number,' etc.) used in place of a more lengthy statement, or as a substitute for an expression or name not exactly remembered or not requiring to be explicitly stated.

(*a*) 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vii. 2 So whylome didst thou to faire Florimel; And so and so to noble Britomart. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 108 A deep sleep shall come upon you, and you shall dream so and so. 1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* 330 That..he must trust or believe..so and so, and do so and so in consequence. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxix, If you persevere in your uncivil intention, I will do so and so. 1880 MUIRHEAD tr. *Rules of Ulpian* xxiv. § 18 To that man..let my heir give so-and-so.

(*b*) 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* ii, What's his name of this, and so-and-so of t'other. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* lviii, His London Agents were Messrs. So-and-so. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 88 I've left most of them for the next time; but the So-and-so's..will be here.

(*c*) 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* i, In the year one thousand eight hundred and so and so. 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. i. 2 Number so-and-so in such-and-such a street. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* (1873) 46 Divine service will be 'performed'..at so-and-so o'clock.

B. *adj.* Paltry, worthless; indifferent; poor in health or circumstances; so-so. Now *dial.*

1655–6 DESBOROUGH in *Thurloe Papers* IV. 396, I.. acquainted him that such of his brethren..were so and so, and desired him..to advise them tacitly to resign. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 119 You see..that I am your best friend still, though to be sure you are but so and so. *Ibid.* 131 You know the Doctor died but so and so, as to circumstances. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 124 *So and so*, used for so so, paltry, feeble.

C. *adv.* **1.** To a certain number or degree.

1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* I. xxix. 44 Papists..mumbling over so and so many times the Creed.

2. In a certain manner or way.

1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* To Rdr. 12 Thinking he might have improved it so and so, much better. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 420 Vertue and Vice are nothing else but the Soul so and so affected or modified. 1726 BUTLER *Serm. Rolls Chap.* vii. 133 Things were so and so circumstantiated. 1736 — *Anal.* I. ii, Forewarning us.. that if we act so and so, we shall have such enjoyments.

3. With only moderate prosperity, success, etc.

1844 BALLANTINE *Deanhaugh* ii. 41 'How's the coal trade gaun on?' 'Just so and so.'

Soap (sōup), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1–2, 4–5 sape, *Sc.* 5–6, 9 saip, 9 saep; 5 sepe, 9 *north.* seeap, syep. *β.* 3–8 sope, 5 swope, shope, soope, 5, 7 soppe, 6 sopp, soopp, souppe. *γ.* 6–7 soape, 7– soap. [A word widely represented in the European languages. Within the Teutonic group the forms are OE. *sápe*, OFris. type **sêpe* (WFris. *sjippe*, EFris. *sêpe*, NFris. *sêp*), MDu. *seepe* (Du. *zeep*), MLG. and LG. *sêpe* (hence Da. *sæbe*), OHG. *seifa, seipha* (MHG. *seife, saiffe*, etc., G. *seife*); the ON. and Icel. *sápa* (Norw. *saapa*, Sw. *såpa*) is app. from OE. The early Teut. **saipōn-* is the source on the one hand of Finnish *saip(p)io, saip(p)ua*, Lapp. *saipo*, and on the other of L. *sāpo* (first mentioned by Pliny), whence It. *sapone*, F. *savon*, Sp. *jabon*, Pg. *sabão*, Roum. *sapun, sapon*, etc. Whether the word is of purely Teut. origin is doubtful; its occurrence in some of the Tartar languages may indicate that it was introduced by early trade from the East.]

I. 1. A substance formed by the combination of certain oils and fats with alkaline bases, and used for washing or cleansing purposes.

α. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 76 Meng wiþ sote, sealt, teoro, ..eald sape. *Ibid.* 124 Lybre mid sapan. *c* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 439 *Lumenium*, sape. 1372 in *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 9 Et in sape empto 6*d.* *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 265 Somme can with a pound of sape Gete him a kyrtelle and a cape. 1455 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 80 Wyne, sape, irne, lynnyn clayth. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* liv. 9 Scho schynes lyk ony saip. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 23 Suppoise thow wesche the self with saip. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* II. 79 Nor saip nor water e'er it fan'. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* 165/1 *Seeap*, soap.

β. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 More noise he makeð to ȝeien his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 143 Sope aboute couentre & ire at gloucestre. 1339–40 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 92 In sope empt. pro lotura albarum. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 127 Of bathing and of waisching with oyl and swope. 1499 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* (1902) 89 Paid for shope and gresse to the whyles j.d. 1515 *Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 99 He bought Soopp, Tarre, Irne,..and Retailled the same. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 158 As though oyle coulde not be wyped awaye..with sope. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 47 They make no sope in all the countrey, but..use to wash with lee made of ashes. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 156 Heer is also made Sope not inferiour for goodness to that of Castile.

γ. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 45 Most part of them would not take Money, but onely Soap, or Tobacco, and chiefly Soap. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 249 Bologna is likewise celebrated for essences,..soap, and snuff. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* vii, You'll always find a little bit of soap in the kitchen window. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 827/1 The blocks of rough soap are first cut into thin shavings.

Prov. 1592 LODGE *Euphues Shadow* G 3, Who washeth the Asses eares, looseth both his Sope and his labour. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxiii, 'Twas waste of soap to lather an ass.

b. *fig.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Monie of þas wimmen..smuriȝ heom mid blanchet þet is þes deofles sape. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 6 With þe sope of sykenesse þat seketh wonder depe. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 570 Such as by the Lather of Tears, and Soap of Repentance,..have washed away their Pollutions. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Christening* x, Washing his hands with invisible soap, In imperceptible water.

c. In the slang phrase, *How are you off for soap?* The early examples afford no clue as to the origin of the expression, and their date is against the view that the sense of 'money' (see below) was intended.

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* iv, A young lady..looked at me very hard and said, 'Well, Reefer, how are you off for soap?' 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* viii. 1886 BARING-GOULD *Crt. Royal* I. ii. 20 They..put their heads into his shop, and asked how he was off for soap.

d. *slang.* Flattery. Cf. SOFT SOAP *sb.* 2.

1859 in *Slang Dict.* 98. 1876 DIPROSE *Laugh & Learn* (Farmer), Flattery is the confectionery of the world. In polite society it goes by the name of soap.

e. *U.S. slang.* Money; now esp. that used in bribery.

1860 M. O'CONNOR *Lines to Rich Young Lady* iii. (Funk & W.), If thy father hath 'the soap', Do not wash your hands of me. 1892 *Nation* 24 Nov. 385/3 This, combined with more or less 'soap', was undoubtedly instrumental in causing his defeat.

2. With distinguishing terms, denoting a particular make or kind of soap, as *alkaline, arsenical, ball, black, hard soap*, etc.; also *soap of Alicant, lime, soda*, etc.

See also CASTILE, SOFT SOAP, and *curd, lead, marine, resin* or *rosin, soda, Spanish soap*.

1703 *Art's Improv.* I. 49 You may mix with your Gluten, either Milk, or Soap of *Alicant. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 171/1 White soda soap..in a less pure state,..is called Alicant, Venice, or Spanish soap. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 156 Then evaporating it, [I] obtained a true *alkaline soap. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 73, I..regretted much that I had no *arsenical soap to preserve the skin. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., *Ball-Soap, commonly used in the North, is made with Lyes from Ashes, and Tallow. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 Ane oyntement made of *blakke sope and poudre of bole. 1618 BRETON *Courtier & Countryman* Wks. (Grosart) II. 14/2 Tell her we haue blacke Sope enough already. 1704 *Dict. Rust.*, etc. (1726) s.v., For black Soap, 'tis made with strong Lye ..and Whale or Fish-Oil, commonly called Train-Oil. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Brick*, Some also mention.. *brick-soap, made in oblong pieces. 1882 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE in *Quain's Dict. Med.* 1046 Wash hands and nails carefully with *carbolic soap. 1704 *Dict. Rust.*, etc. (1726) s.v., Soft soap, such as are the *common soap, so called, and black soap. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 434/1 Common soap is composed of any kind of oil..with fixed alkali. 1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. i. 23 *French sope to scouer my hands. 1611 BIBLE *Malachi* iii. 2 Like a refiners fire, and like *fullers sope. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* (1657) 346 Whose drosse..is so much..as no Fullers sope can cleanse. *c* 1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 435 [Soft] soap from oleaginous seeds, called *green soaps. 14.. in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* 49 Medell it with *harde sope or tarre. 1600 PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 195 The inhabitants make great store of liquid sope, for they know not how to make hard sope. 1704 *Dict. Rust.*, etc. (1726) s.v., The other hard soap is made in the same manner. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 102 Fixed oil, in combination with soda, forms the finest kind of hard soap. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1142 According to the practice of the United Kingdom, six or seven days are required to complete the formation of a pan of hard soap. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 28 The lime..unites with the oil and tallow, forming what is called an insoluble *lime soap. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1143 Soda which contains sulphurets is preferred for making the *mottled or *marbled soap. 1704 *Dict. Rust.*, etc. (1726) s.v., That known by the name of *perfumed Soap. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 329/2 The compounds of fatty acids with potash are called *potash-soaps. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1149 The *scented soap..speedily consolidates. 1611–2 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 198 Twoe pound of *swete

sope. *c* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 76 Of which forseid [things] *white sope may euer more be necessary to a leche. 1539 ELYOT *Castle Helthe* 58 They be somtyme made..of white sope. 1725 *Family Dict.* s.v., To make White Soap, take Two Hundred Pounds of Black Saltwort [etc.]. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 812 The finest white soap grated small. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1144 Of *yellow or rosin soap.

b. *Soap of glass*, or *glassmaker's soap* (see quots.). 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 409 A mineral, called the soap of glass,..is the oxide of a peculiar metal called manganese. 1895 *Bloxam's Chem.* (ed. 8) 481 Manganese dioxide (glassmaker's soap) is often added as an oxidising agent.

c. *Rock soap*, a variety of bole. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 425 Magnesian Silicates...Bole. Earthy, in nests and veins...Stolpenite, Rock Soap, Plinthite..are varieties.

3. With *a* and pl. A kind of soap. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. (1568) 113 The wild rape..serueth for scouring oyntmentes and sopes. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 115 It's used also in powders, sopes,..and suffumigations. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 158 This Soap is very scarce in France. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 58 Common soaps are compositions of lixivial salt and oil. 1806 *Culina* 175 The yolk of an egg..is a natural soap, and in all jaundice cases, no food is equal to it. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) p. lx, Soaps are hydrates, water being always present in them as a constituent. 1842 BISCHOFF *Wool Manuf.* II. 84 It would bring to this country the manufacture of fine soaps.

II. 4. *attrib.* **a.** In misc. use, as *soap bath*, *-bell* (Sc.), *business*, *-factory*, *-froth*, *-lather*, etc. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVII. 339 *Soap baths ..always constituted the first steps of treatment in every form of eruption. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 24 As little bairns frae winnocks by Drap down *saip bells. 1862 G. WILSON *Religio Chem.* 19 A soap-bell sails through it with impunity. 1635 LAUD *Diary* Wks. 1853 III. 223 The *soap business was..settled again upon the new corporation. 1861 *Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* VII. 636 Some of the *soap-factories of the present day. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii, But Towns are not built of *soap-froth. 1832 — *Misc.* (1857) III. 48 With artificial fictitious *soap-lather. 1820 J. CLELAND *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* 87 An Act was made for encouraging *Soap manufactories. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 170/1 The *Soap Manufacture is one of considerable importance. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 952/2 Saponine, a vegetable *soap-principle. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Paper-maker* 54 *Soap size, made and used in the interior of Russia. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 28 Dec. 2/3 Ten casks *soap tallow. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 170 *Soap Trade. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 204/2 In England the soap trade did not exist till the 16th century. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The roasted *soap-waste was then withdrawn. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 41 Mingle it with the saied *Sope water. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 155/1 Injections..of soap-water and oil.

b. In the names of apparatus used in making soap, as *soap-caldron*, *copper*, *kettle*, *mill*, etc. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 19 b, It shall be good to set the saied cawdron..as *Sope cawdrons be set. 1790 in *Essex Rev.* (1906) XV. 87 The sugar-houses and soap-cauldrons. 1863 in Richardson & Watts *Chem. Technol.* I. 680 Any alkali..which may be introduced into the *soap copper. 1873 WEALE *Dict. Arch.* s. v., *Soap-engine*, a machine upon which the slabs of soap are piled to be cross-cut into bars. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. § 1. 372 It is then cleansed or transferred to the *soap frames to cool. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 660/2 *Curb*,..an inclined circular plate around the margin of a *soap or salt kettle. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1145 The *soap-pans used in the United Kingdom are made of cast iron.

c. In the sense of 'used for holding soap', as *soap-box*, *-case*, *chest*, *dish*, *tray*. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 53 In all such machines, whether called 'dye-becks', '*soap-becks', or others. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 260/1 A soap-beck contains soap-suds. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. s.v. *Boxes*, *Soap-boxes the Shock, containing three-score boxes. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6130, Sponge tray, soap boxes, and brush trays. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* viii, He came back bearing his metal *soap-case. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i, Likewise coffee-chests, *soap-chests. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlii, An old cracked basin, ewer and *soap-dish. 1851 MAYHEW *London Lab.* I. 368/1 A green and white chamber service..., with *soap trays and brush trays.

5. *Comb.* **a.** With nouns denoting persons, as *soap-grinder*, *-monger*, *-patentee*, *-projector*, *-seller*, etc., or in names of appliances, as *soap-cutter*, *-holder*. Also SOAP-BOILER, -MAKER.

(*a*) 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 687 *Hic smigmator*, a sopseler. 1549 BALE in Cheeke *Hurt of Sedition* (1641) Pref. a iv b, Some they sold to the Grociers and Sope-sellers. 1646 (*title*), A Looking-Glasse for Sope-Patentees ... making discovery of a new Project..propounded (by the Sope-Projectors) to the Parliament. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* Table, The Sope-houses at Lambeth, with the Sope Patentee belonging to them. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 337 Let the sope-mongers learn not to counteract their boasted agent. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 456 Lime is used by the soap-manufacturer to render soda caustic. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 77 Dry Soap Grinder. Soap Trimmer.

(*b*) 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 631 Space for soap-holders, brush-trays, &c. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 827/1 *Soap Cutter*, an apparatus for caking or barring soap.

b. With vbl. sbs., as *soap-barring*, *-cutting*, etc. Chiefly in attrib. use. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhibition* p. c, Soap-cutting Machine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2232/2 Soap Barring and Caking Machine. *Ibid.* 2233/1 Soap-crutching Machine. 1899 *Daily News* 23 May 10/2 Soap Stamping and Packing Departments.

c. Similative, as *soap-like* adj. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1169/1 The offensive soap-like substance. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 952/2 Trees..possessing soap-like properties.

6. Special combs.: **soap-ball**, a piece of soap formed as a ball, now esp. by the admixture of starch; **soap-cerate** (see quots.); †**soap-earth**, soapstone; **soap extract**, **-fat**, **-fish** (see quots.); **soap-house**, a soap-boiler's premises; **soap-lees**, spent soap-lye; **soap-liniment** (see quots.); **soap-lock** *U.S.*, a lock of hair made smooth by the application of soap; hence, one who wears such, a low fellow, a rough or rowdy; **soap-lye**, a caustic alkaline lye obtained by running water upon alternate layers of soda ash and quicklime, and used in soap-making; **soapman** *Sc.*, a soap-maker; **soap plaster**, a healing-plaster chiefly composed of soap; **soap powder** (see quot. s.v. *soap extract*); †**soap-scale**, a kind of clay (see quot.); **soap-test** (see quot.); **soap-work(s**, a soap-manufactory. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 420 Those *sope balls that are to polish the skin and to rid it from wrinkles. 1829 SCOTT *Doom of Devorgoil* III. ii, My soap-ball is of the mild alkali made. 1852 ROYLE *Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 540 *Ceratum Saponis Compositum*. Compound *Soap Cerate. *a* 1850 WOOD & BACHE *Dispensatory U. S.* (1865) 1044 Soap-cerate..is used in scrofulous swellings and other instances of chronic external inflammation. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 243 *Soap Cerate Plaster*. This is a mixture of lead, soap, and the acetates of lead and soda. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 228 There is a considerable natural curiosity in the Neighbourhood of Smyrna, called by the Franks *Soap-Earth. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 70 Near Smyrna there is a fine whitish soap-earth. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 204/1 'Soap powders' and ''soap extracts' are simply preparations of alkalis. 1879 WEBSTER *Suppl.*, **Soap-fat*, the refuse of kitchens, used in making soap. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 60 A ''*Soap-fish' also occurs, probably either *Rhypticus saponaceus*..or *Promicropterus maculatus*. 1648 GAGE *West. Ind.* 5 Of the *Sope-houses at Lambeth. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* I, *Savonnerie*,..a Sope-house, a Place where Soap is made. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 80 The corner of the soap house. 1854 *Hull Improv. Act* 33 Any candle-house..or soap-house. 1746 LANGRISH *Exper. upon Brutes* 19 Injecting too great a quantity of *Soap-lees. 1789 BUCHAN *Domest. Med.* (1790) 327 The caustic alkali, or soap-lees, is the medicine chiefly in vogue at present for the stone. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 169/1 The nuisance of soap-lees waggons passing through London. 1852 ROYLE *Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 540 *Linimentum Saponis*...*Soap Liniment... Stimulant Embrocation. A vehicle for Opium, &c. 1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 141/2 *Soap Liniment*, or *Opodeldoc*, the constituents of which are soap, camphor, and spirits of rosemary. 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 319 **Soap-lock*, a lock of hair made to lie smooth by soaping it. Hence also ..a Rowdy or Loafer. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* xvi, Shaking..at the prospect of..the loss of your soap-locks. 1864 T. L. NICHOLS *40 Yrs. Amer. Life* I. 173 A German Jew, with..soaplocks that would have astonished the Bowery in the palmiest days of soaplockism. 1774 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* (1776) III. 144 The *soap ley is so caustic.. that it can be taken only in the smallest quantity. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* viii. 547 It is digested in an imperfect soap ley. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 311/1 The..production of crude glycerine from spent soap-lyes. 1813 PICKEN *Poems* II. 79 In vain was fill'd the *saipman's pan. 1789 *Med. Comment.* II. 344 The.. applications were changed for a *soap plaister. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Man. Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 243 Soap Plaster. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Clay*, Cowshot-Clay, or the *Soap-scale lying in Coal-mines. 1861 *Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* VII. 637 **Soap-test*, a solution of white curd soap in proof spirit; it is used in ascertaining the amount of hardness of waters. 1649 *Sc. Acts, Chas. II* (1872) VI. II. 300/2 The preiudice whilk the decay of the *Sopeworkis has occasioned to the kingdome. 1695 *Ibid., Will. III* (1822) IX. 491/2 The said Robert Douglas his Soap work. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1143 Great waste of alkali..in many soap-works.

b. Forming names of plants or trees, or their products: **soap-apple** (see quots.); **soap-bark**, a vegetable principle obtained from certain trees, as the *Quillaja Saponaria* of Chili, the common soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis*, and allied species, and used as a substitute for soap; saponin; **soap-bulb**, the soap-plant; **soap-fruit**, = SOAPBERRY 1; **soap-gentian** *U.S.*, soapwort gentian; **soap-nut**, = SOAPBERRY; also *attrib.*; **soap-plant** *U.S.*, an American liliaceous plant, *Chlorogalum pomeridianum*, used as a detersive; also, the soapberry; **soap-pod** (see quots.); **soap-root** (see quot. 1866); **soap-tree**, one or other of various species of trees or plants (see later quots.), of which the roots, leaves, or fruits yield a substitute for soap; also *attrib.*; **soap-weed**, †(*a*) the soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis*; (*b*) a North American plant (see quots. 1884, 1890); **soapwood**, the timber-tree or shrub *Clethra tinifolia*, native to the West Indies; also, a North American plant (see quot. 1771). 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 *Soap Apple, *Sapindus*. 1864 WEBSTER, *Soap-plant*, one of several plants used in the place of soap, as the *Phalangium pomeridianum*, a Californian plant...It is called also *soap-apple* and *soap-tree*. 1861 *Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* VII. 636 A substance called **soap bark* was brought to Europe from some tropical country in 1859. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 952/2 Its bark, called Quillai or Soap-bark, is rough and dark coloured. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 130/1 An article..is brushed with a cold decoction of soap-bark. 1874 *Treas. Bot.* Suppl 1270/2 *Chlorogalum pomeridianum*...The bulbous root, when rubbed in water, makes a lather..; hence it is known as the *Soap-bulb. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 48 One fruit.. about the bigness of a small Plumb..is commonly called the *Soap-fruit. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 105 *Gentiana saponaria*, ... *Soap gentian. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Soap-nut*, a name for the seed of the *Mimosa abstergens*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 5/2 The pods of *Acacia concinna* are used in India like those of the soap-nut for washing the head. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 665/1 Soap nuts are the fruits of various species of *Sapindus*, especially *S. Saponaria*, natives of tropical regions. 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* XXV. 222 A barren rolling prairie..covered with the palmilla or *soap-plant. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 425 Soap-plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*), a plant common in California and New Mexico. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Indian soap-plant*,..the soapberry *Sapindus acuminatus*, and..the *Chlorogalum*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1068/1 **Soap-pods*, the Chinese name of the pods of several species of *Cæsalpinia*. 1891 *Cent. Dict., Soapnut*,..the fruit of..*Acacia concinna*...Also [called] *soap-pod*. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 497 *Vaccaria vulgaris*..contains Saponine, as also does the Egyptian *Soap-root. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 793/1 The Egyptian Soap-root (*Gypsophila struthium*), and the Spanish Soap-root (*G. Hispanica*),..have been employed for washing from time immemorial. 1666 J. DAVIES tr. *Rochefort's Caribby Isles* 48 There are two sorts of Trees..called the *Soap-trees from the vertue they have to whiten clothes. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 206 The Soap Tree [*Sapindus*]...The seed vessels of this plant are very detersive and acrid. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 127 In Chili there is a soap-tree called *Quillaya saponaria*. 1697 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 503 New shorn wool which is very soft, and not trimmed with *sope-weed. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 401 *Y[ucca] filamentosa*, commonly called amole or soap-weed. 1890 GUNTER *Miss Nobody* iv, Bare of everything..but gemma grasses, soap weed, and small cacti. 1732 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 450 *Soap-wood. The Bark and Leaves of this Tree being bruised and mixed with Water produce a Lather. 1771 R. F. FORSTER *Flora Amer. Sept.* 17 Soap-wood, *Rhexia virginica*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Soapwood, *Clethra tinifolia*.

Soap (sōup), *v.* Also 7 sope, 9 *Sc.* saip, saep. [f. SOAP *sb.* Cf. WFris. *sjûpje*, Du. *zeepen*, G. *seifen*, Da. *sæbe*, Sw. *såpa*.]

1. *trans.* To rub, smear, lather, or treat in some special way with soap. Also with *up*. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 58 b, After that hee hath well soaped and rubbed your bodie.. wyth a purse of Stammin,..he washeth you with very cleare water. 1611 COTGR., *Savonné*, soped, or washed in sope. 1677 *Compl. Servant-Maid* 65 If there be any dirty places soap them a little, then take a little hard brush and soap it well [etc.]. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Clear-Starching*, Take your Lace and roll it..., and between every Roll soap it with Soap. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 265 They [cambrics, etc.] should be..well soaped. *Ibid.*, Linen soaped as above..will be freed of all stains. 1802 COLMAN *Poor Gent.* I. i, Answer me,..Who have [=has] soap'd up and flower d your numskull after such a fashion? 1860 RAWLINSON *Herodotus* IX. cx. IV. 473 This is the only day in all the year on which the king soaps his head. 1875 F. J. BIRD *Dyer's Hand-bk.* 50 The pieces..are finally washed and soaped.

Comb. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, By-the-bye, she'll soap-and-water that 'ere tablet presently. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Oct. 2/1 So soap-and-watering the infant Gargantua as to fit him for a Sunday school.

2. *slang.* To address with smooth or flattering words; to flatter. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. x, The tailor and robe-maker..visibly 'soaped' our hero in what is understood to be the shop-sense of the word. 1865 DICKENS *Dr. Marigold*, These Dear Jacks soap the people shameful, but we Cheap Jacks don't.

b. With *over*: (see quot.). 1857 *Slang Dict.* 19 *Soaped him over*, humbugged him.

Soap, dial. form of SWOP *v.*

†**Soap-ashes.** *Obs.* [SOAP *sb.* Cf. Du. *zeepaschen*, G. *seifenasche*.] Ashes of certain kinds of wood used in forming a lye in soap-making. *c* 1515 *Interlude of Four Elements* (Percy Soc.) 30 Pyche, and tarre, and sope asshys. 1557–71 A. JENKINSON *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 208 Sope ashes are not here in such request that they will acquite the Chardges. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* II. 25 Of Ash and Elme they make sope Ashes. 1652 FRENCH *Distill.* vi. 194 Boyle it in a Lixivium made of sope-ashes. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 392 The great goodness there is in these Soap-ashes and all others. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 132 In the neighbourhood of towns, soap-ashes are frequently..used as a manure. 1837 R. ELLIS *Laws & Regul. Customs* III. 401 Soap Ashes are synonymous with Wood Ashes.

Soapberry (sōu·pberi). Also **soap-berry, soap berry.** [SOAP *sb.*]

1. The fruit or nut of various species of *Sapindus* (esp. *S. Saponaria*), or of *Acacia concinna*, used in certain countries as a substitute for soap; a soap-nut. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 621 The Sope-Berry, which is properly a Plumm, or between Nut and Plumm. 1819 *Pantologia* X, *Saponaria nucula*,..soap berries. A spherical fruit, about the size of a cherry. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 118/2 *Bermuda Berry*, common name for the soap-nut, or soap-berry produced by the *Sapindus saponaria*.

2. One or other of the trees bearing this fruit. 1716 *Petiveriana* I. 222 Soap-berry,..*Arbor Saponaria*. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Soap Berry, *Sapindus*. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xi, There is a young one fruiting finely in the Botanic Garden at Port of Spain..., a cousin of the Matapalos and of the Soap-berries. 1874 STEWART & BRANDIS *Flora N. West India* 108 *S[apindus] Saponaria*, ..the West Indian Soapberry, is grown in the West Indies.

3. *attrib.*, as *soapberry family*, *tree*. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 132 Sope-berry Tree. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Sapindus*, There is only one known species of this genus,..the soapberry tree. 1819

Pantelogia X, *Sapindus rigidus*, ash-leaved soap-berry tree...A native of the West Indies and America. 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds*, etc. (1860) 87 *Sapindaceæ*. Soap-berry Family...Fruit capsular or berry-like. 1866 VENESS *El Dorado* xi. 119 The root, bark, and seed covering of the huruwassa or soap berry tree is an admirable substitute for soap.

Soap-boiler. [SOAP *sb.* Cf. Du. *zeepsieder*, G. *seifensieder*.]

1. One who boils (the ingredients of) soap; a soap-maker, soap-manufacturer.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 77 A wise, wealthie, and ancient Sopeboyler, dwelling without Algate. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 80 Quench them in the strongest *Lixivium* that Sope-boylers use. 1662 EVELYN *Fumifugium* (1825) 220 Brewers, diers,..salt and sope-boylers, and some other private trades. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 488 ₱ 1, I have a Letter from a Soap-boiler, who condoles with me [etc.]. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II, A Bristol farthing, coin'd by a soap-boiler to pay his journeymen, in the scarcity of cash. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VI. iv, The whisper spread among bankers and brewers and soap-boilers and other rich people. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 331/2 There is an increasing demand for it [*sc.* caustic soda] on the part of bleachers and soap boilers.

transf. 1877 BAGEHOT *Biogr. Stud.* (1881) 316 Some of the middle-aged men of business, the 'soap-boilers', as the London world disrespectfully calls them.

b. In collocations (cf. SOAPER 1 c).

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 291 Take Soap-boylers Liquor or Lee which is very sharp and strong. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 451 The common bottle-glass is..made with..soap-boiler's waste ashes. 1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 475/2 Green Bottle Glass.. is commonly made of soap-boiler's waste and sand.

2. A pot used for boiling soap; a soap-pan.

1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 152 The only utensil we could hit upon..to cook him in was a soap-boiler. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2233/1 A soap-boiler having a large pipe which receives the vapors rising from the kettle.

Soap-boiling, *vbl. sb.* [SOAP *sb.*] The business, occupation, or process of boiling soap.

1634 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 507 The said Trade of Soap-making or Soap-boiling. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 152 Soap-boiling, grain-dying, and other trades and mysteries. 1780 *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 351 Perhaps the addition of this caustic substance would increase its..value, when employed in soap-boiling and other arts. 1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 435/1 The first portion ..is of course the strongest, and is reserved for the last operation of soap-boiling. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 203/1 The process of soap-boiling is carried out in large iron boilers.

attrib. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 827/1 The interior of a soap boiling kettle.

Soap-bubble. [SOAP *sb.*] An iridescent bubble composed of a thin film of soap and water.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 351 By means of the bladder and pipe for filling soap-bubbles with hydrogen. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* 252 Very thin films, either of a liquid (such as a soap-bubble), or of air. 1872 RUSKIN *Eagle's Nest* § 131 Can you explain the frame of a soap-bubble?

fig. 1848 EMERSON in *Life* (1888) II. 44 The talk has been mere soap-bubbles. 1861 BOYD *Recreat. Country Parson* Ser. II. 195, I have heard men, who spoke in large soap-bubbles.

Soaped (sōupt), *ppl. a.* [f. SOAP *sb.* or *v.*]

1. Impregnated with soap; soapy. *rare.*

1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 12 Bubbles of soaped Water. *Ibid.* 13 The Tenacity of common Water is very small when compared to that of soaped Water.

2. Smeared, covered, washed, etc., with soap.

1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 139 The body was well rubbed with soaped flannel. 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 8 Dec., Hunting a pig with a soap'd tail. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* v. (1872) 161 If you can climb a soaped pole. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* xx, He looked highly soaped and polished.

Soa·pen, *v.* [f. SOAP *sb.* + -EN 5.] *trans.* To smear or rub with soap. Hence **Soa·pened** *ppl. a.*

1732 FIELDING *Cov. Garden Trag.* I ix, With my own hands I'll wash thy soapen'd shirt.

Soaper (sōu·pəɹ). Forms: 3, 5 **sopare**, 4, 7 **soper**, 5 **sopere**, 6– **soaper**. [f. SOAP *sb.* Cf. Du. *zeeper* soap-boiler.]

1. †a. One who sells soap. *Obs.* b. A soap-boiler, soap-maker. Now *Hist.*

c 1225 *Ancr. R.* 152 A sopare, þet ne bereð buten sope & nelden, remð & ȝeieð lude & heie þet he bereð. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VI. 72 Sopers and here sones for seluer han be knyghtes. 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 612 *Smigmator*, a sopere. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 465/1 Sopare, marchaunt.., *saponarius*. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Xabonero*, a soaper, *Saponarius*. 1632 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 381 Divers Persons in..the Society of Sopers within the Citty of Westminster. 1641 *Short Relation conc. Soap-Business* 12 The white soape made by the Soapers of Westminster spoyled and burnt the Linnen. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 247 The waste of soapers..may be made use of in the same way. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Soaper*, a soap-boiler; Aberd[een]. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. i. 21 It was urged that barrels of the new soap had been sophisticated by the malice of the old soapers.

attrib. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 594 [For making] Green window glass, or broad glass...10 pounds of soaper salts [etc.].

c. In collocations, as *soaper's ashes, liquor, lye, waste.* (Cf. SOAP-BOILER 1 b.)

1725 *Family Dict.* s.v. *Blood-running Itch*, Others wash the Horse once or twice in Soaper's Liquor. 1766 *Museum Rusticum* VI. 309 To make a trial..betwixt these ashes.. and soapers waste. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 48 Seed steeped in Soaper's ashes. 1817–8 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 76, I see people go with their wagons five miles for soaper's ashes; that is to say, spent ashes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 331/2 The remaining liquor..is commonly called soaper's lye.

2. *techn.* (See quot.)

1909 *Cent. Dict.* Suppl., *Soaper*, in calico-printing, a machine in which the cloth is washed with soap.

Soapery (sōu·pərĭ). Also 7–8 **soaperie**. [f. SOAP *sb.* Cf. Du. *zeeperij*.] A soap manufactory.

1674 in J. Cleland *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* (1820) 88 [The premises, for the Soap manufacture, at that time termed the] Soaperie. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1830) II. 387/2 The soaperie there [at Glasgow] was guarded, and closely searched for arms and ammunition. 1775 ASH, *Soapery*, the place where soap is made. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 15 A very large soapery and sugar-refinery. 1886 *Bradford Observer* 6 Mar., To assist..in Working a Soapery on the newest lines, with specialities.

Soa·pily, *adv.* [f. SOAPY *a.*] In a soft or easy manner; smoothly.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xix, [The snake] continuing all the while..to glide soapily along.

Soa·pine. [f. SOAP *sb.* + -INE 5.] A kind of powder, used as a substitute for soap.

1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 33/1 Wash in clean water with 'soapine' in a bath of pottery or clay.

Soa·piness. [f. SOAPY *a.*] The quality of being soapy, or covered with soap.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sopiness*, a being dawbed with Sope. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 424 Magnesian minerals are characterized by giving the impression of soapiness when touched.

Soa·ping, *vbl. sb.* [f. SOAP *v.*] The action or process of smearing, rubbing, or washing with soap. Also in fig. context.

1556 in *Shropsh. Parish Doc.* (1903) 57 For sopyng of clothys, vi[d]. 1706 STEVENS *Sp.-Eng. Dict.*, *Enxabonadura*, sopeing of Linnen. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Domest. Amusem.* 150 'Bristol soap'..by its hardness enables the good wives..to perform the act of soaping more perseveringly. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 726/1 Some spot where Pleasure's tail was free from soaping, And all might seize it fast who felt inclin'd. 1879 C. MARVIN *Our Public Offices* 23 A vast amount of soaping and towelling was then called into action to remove the grime.

attrib. 1646 *Looking-Glass for Sope-Patentees* (title-p.), A new Project..to monopolize the Soping-mystery. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/2 After washing out of the dye-beck the goods [*sc.* calicoes] are passed into a soaping beck.

†**Soa·pish,** *a. Obs.*⁻⁰ Somewhat soapy.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Zeepachtigh*, Soapish.

Soa·pist. [f. SOAP *sb.*] A soap-manufacturer.

1893 L. KILLEEN *Soldiers at Sea* 29 The eminent *soapists*, whose speciality may be unrivalled in fresh water.

Soapless (sōu·plĕs), *a.* [f. SOAP *sb.*] Lacking soap; *esp.* unwashed, dirty.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, The washing-stand [was] soapless. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* II. xii. 120 The offered hand of his new friend..was of a marvellous dingy and soapless aspect. 1858 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) II. 16 Something more piteous almost than soapless poverty.

Soap-maker. [SOAP *sb.*] One who makes soap; a soap-boiler.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 318/1 A Sape maker.., *saponarius*. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 41 Take Sope makers water, and boyle it vntill it..become as it were an oyntment. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 41 b/1 Take Sope-makers lye, two pounde, Vitriol three ounces. 1634 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 506 That no Soap-maker whatsoever presume to put any Soap to sale, which shall not be so marked. 1652 (*title*), The Soapmakers Complaint for the Losse of their Trade by Reason of a double excise. 1780 *Westm. Mag.* Suppl. 730/1 John Shand, Coldbath-fields, soap-maker. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1142 Three such boils may be given in..one day's work, by an active soap-maker. 1861 *Eng. Cycl., Arts & Sci.* VII. 636 The carbonic acid is driven off for the soap-maker's purposes.

So **Soap-making** *vbl. sb.*

1603 STOW *Surv.* 253, I haue not read or heard of Sope making in this Cittie till within this fourescore yeares. 1634 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 507 Other persons.. who..have set up a Trade of Soap making as for themselves. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. § 1. 359 It is this [mucilaginous oil] which is chiefly employed in soap-making.

Soap-rock. *Min.* [SOAP *sb.*] Steatite; magnesian clay.

1746 HILL *Theophr.* (1774) 242 The Steatites of the Soap Rock of Cornwall. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 66 The most curious of all our clays in Cornwall, is the steatites near the Lizherd, generally called the Soap-rock. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 465 Steatites, or soap-rock, is generally of a greenish colour. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 456 The magnesia has obtained the name of soap-rock, and a marked variety of it steatite.

Soap-stone (sōu·pˌistōun). *Min.* Also **soap stone, soapstone.** [SOAP *sb.* Cf. G. *seif(en)-stein.*] A massive variety of talc, of which various kinds are found in several countries, having a smooth greasy feel, and used for various economical or ornamental purposes (occas. as a soap); soap-rock, steatite; also loosely applied to certain soft clays, etc.

1681 GREW *Museum* III. I. vi. 321 Soap-Stone, *Steatites*; ..seeming like hard Snet, greasie to the touch. 1778 W. PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 31 Steatites or Soap Stone, which is in such plenty. 1799 WELD *Trav. N. Amer.* 385 A stone of a very soft texture, called the soap stone, is very commonly found in the back parts of North America. 1837 DANA *Min.* 261 The soapstone..at Lizard Point, Cornwall, when first extracted, may be kneaded like dough. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 50 At Centreport these unctuous marls or calcareous clays [of the chalk formation] are called by the people soap-stone. 1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. 195 *Saponite*, Piotine, Kerolite, Soapstone (not Steatite). 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 1422/1 Chinese figures of soapstone. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Soapstone*, a variety of fireclay, sometimes applied to Bind.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2201/1 Soapstone pencils, made from a peculiar stone found near Castleton, Vt. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* XXVI. 596/2 The hearth of an open soap-stone stove. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 24 July 12/1 Works of art in Foochow soap-stone ware.

b. A slab or piece of this, fashioned for some special purpose.

1890 *Cent. Mag.* XL. 531 He..fished up a disused soap-stone.., put it on the stove.., and stood erect..till the soap-stone was warm.

Soap-sud. *rare.* [Back-formation from next.] = SOAP-SUDS. Chiefly in attrib. use.

1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I. s.v. *Eau, Eau de Savonnage*, soap-sud. *Ibid.* s.v. *Savonnage.* 1802 *Spirit Public Jrnls.* VI. 278 Your air-balloon sunk to soap-sud bubbles, when compared to it [*sc.* an eclipse]. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 74 The common soap-sud bubbles of children.

Hence **Soa·p-suddy** *a.*

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 1007 The soap-suddy waves in a wash-hand basin. 1850 S. LAING *Obs. Europ. People* xiii. 331 Its water is of a milky, greenish, or soap-suddy hue.

Soap-suds. Also **soapsuds.** [SOAP *sb.*] Water impregnated with dissolved soap, *esp.* water in which clothes have been washed.

1611 COTGR., *Savonné*,..frothie like sope-suds, or a lather of sope. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 162 For the speedie growing of hearbes,..there is nothing in the world better..than Sope suds. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Apr. 1652, It has been..spoil'd by washing it ignorantly with soap-suds. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 120 The moistning of them [*sc.* dry ashes] with..Soap-suds will add mightily to their strength. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 256 Silver-plate ought to be washed with soap-suds. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ix, A widow-lady, with her sleeves rolled up..and her arms frothy with soap-suds. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 879/2 Make a strong soapsuds, using hot water.

Hence **Soa·p-sudsy** *a.* (Cf. SOAP-SUDDY.)

1854 LOWELL *Jrnl. in Italy* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 215 A scanty rill of soapsudsy liquid.

Soapwort (sōu·pwŭɹt). Forms: 6 **sopewurt, -woort**, 7 **-worte** (**-worth**), 6–8 **-wort**, 7– **soap-wort.** [f. SOAP *sb.*, perh. after Du. *zeepkruid* or G. *seifenkraut*, in later G. also *seifenwurz*(*el.*]

1. One or other of the herbaceous plants belonging to the genus *Saponaria*, which yield a saponaceous principle; esp. the common species, *S. officinalis*; also, the genus itself.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* 66 *Radicula*,..if we had it here,..myghte be called in english sopewurt or skowrwurt. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cviii. 359 The stalkes of Sopewoort are slipperie. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 352 The ordinary Sopeworte or Bruiseworte with single flowers is often planted in Gardens. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 428 Soapwort..heals Cuts,..helps the Stone and Dropsie. *a* 1689 MRS. BEHN tr. *Cowley's Plants* C.'s Wks. 1711 III. 374 Soap-wort, tho' coarse thy Name, thou dost excel In Form and art enrich'd with fragrant Smell. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Lychnis*, The Double Sopewort is a Plant of no great Beauty. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 365 She was farther directed to apply clysters prepared with soap wort. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 952/2 Saponine, .. found likewise in plants belonging to the cloveworts, soapworts, and a few other orders.

b. As a moth-name (see quot.).

1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 69 The Soap Wort (*Hadena Saponariæ*..) appears the middle of July..; feeds on the Saponaria officinalis and other plants.

2. *U.S.* (See quots.)

1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 162 *Saponaria vaccaria*, field soap-wort. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Soap-wort*, the root of *Vaccaria vulgaris*, which, like the aril of the soap-berry, contains saponine.

3. Any plant of the order *Sapindaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 383 A very general character of the Soapworts is to have their embryo either curved, or twisted spirally. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 707 Soapworts..are well illustrated in the horse-chestnut.

4. *attrib.*, as *soapwort family, order*; **soapwort gentian,** †(*a*) = sense 1; (*b*) *U.S.*, a variety of gentian.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. 334 *Alisma siue Saponaria*, Sopewort Gentian. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 453 *Gentiana saponaria*, Soapwort Gentian. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* 381 *Sapindaceæ*, the Soapwort Family. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 481 *Sapindaceæ*.—The Soapwort Order.

Soapy (sōu·pi), *a.* Also 7–8 **sopy**, 9 *Sc.* **saipy.** [f. SOAP *sb.* + -Y. Cf. WFris. *sjippich*, G. *seifig.*]

1. Smeared with soap; covered with soap-suds or lather.

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. lix, Such watry orbicles young boyes doe blowe Out from their sopy shells. *a* 1635 RANDOLPH *Conceited Pedlar* Wks. 1875 I. 47 And were't not better to embrace this pretty shambles for beauty..than to tumble our soapy laundresses? 1747-96 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xiii. 188 Take great care the bag or cloth be very clean, not soapy. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vii, The door was opened, but nothing came in except a soapy arm.

transf. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* Gloss., *Soapy Heads*, the joints of stones, smeared with a saponaceous slippery soil.

2. Impregnated with soap; containing soap in solution.

1721 BAILEY, *Suds*, the soapy Liquor in which Clothes are washed. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 23 The caustic fixed alkalies, triturated with pus, combine with it

into a soapy fluid. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 48/3 The leaves ought to be carefully sponged over with soapy water.

3. Of the nature of soap; having the soft or greasy feel of soap; soap-like.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 26 Their chalk is of a fat soapy kind, and they call it marle. 1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Linc.* 10 They have rich loams, soapy and tenacious. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 465 Talc..is soft and soapy to the touch. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* xii. § 1. 686 Oleophosphoric Acid,..in combination with soda,.. forms a soapy compound.

4. Of appearance, feel, etc.: Resembling that of soap; suggestive of soap.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments* 301 Such Substances as are of a soapy Nature. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 493 When boiled in it a long time it gives it a soapy appearance. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 38 Most of them have a slightly soapy feel. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 261/1 Lustre soapy. Feel greasy. 1852 C. W. HOSKYNS *Talpa* i. (1854) 2 A suspicious kind of sound..which I may describe by the word 'soapy'.

b. Having a taste of soap.

1892 WALSH *Tea* 87 The lower grades are frequently 'soapy' or 'mousey' in flavor.

5. *slang.* a. Ingratiating, suave, unctuous.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Oct. 5 But why..do people call him [Bp. Wilberforce] Soapy Sam? 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 182/2 He had once been famous for his soapy manners.

b. Of fits: Simulated by chewing soap.

1886 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 5/4 He is known professionally as the 'King of the Soapy Fits Trick'.

6. *Comb.*, as *soapy-looking, -mannered, -tailed.*

a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Wedding Day* (1905) 435 Don't interfere with their soapy-tail'd pigs. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 4) II. 458 Soapy-looking compounds with resins and wax. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Apr. 6/3 The solemn soapy-mannered 'dispenser'.

Soar, obs. form of SORE.

Soar (sōəɹ), *sb.* Also 7 soare. [f. SOAR *v.*, perh. partly after F. *essor.*]

In Beaum. & Fletcher's *Bonduca* IV. iv. the second folio (1679) has 'fearless of your bloody soars'; but the reading of the first folio (1647) is 'fears', evidently a misprint for 'sears', i. e. claws.

1. The altitude attained in soaring; range of flight upwards. Also *fig.*

1596 *Edw. III*, II. i. Fly it a pitch aboue the soare of praise. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 270 Within soare Of Towring Eagles. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 361 That eye so finely wrought Beyond the search of sense, the soar of thought. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1839) 22/1 A splendid cloud appeared..; then hovering, floats, High as the soar of eagle. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 26 May 7/1 It requires the highest soar of fancy to imagine [etc.].

2. The act of soaring or rising high.

1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* ii. in *Biog. Lit.* (1882) 252 A liberated bird..who now after his first soar of freedom poises himself in the upper air. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xv, It is ill whistling for a hawk when she is once on the soar. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Ho. Life* iv, Just when at that swallow's soar Your neck turned so.

transf. 1825 BEDDOES *Poems, To Bryan Procter* 166 Wings upraise thee long In the unvacillating soar of song. 1854 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* (1864) 321 There is none of the spring and soar which one may see even in the Lombard churches. 1890 SAINTSBURY *Elizab. Lit.* iv. 102 A little later we meet with that towering soar of verse which is also peculiar to the period.

Soar (sōəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4–5, 7 sore, 5–6 sowre, 5–7 soore (6 *Sc.* soir), 6–7 soare, 6– soar. [ad. F. *essorer* (=It. *sorare*) to fly up, to soar, repr. a pop. Lat. **exaurare*, f. *aura* air.]

I. *intr.* 1. Of birds: To fly or mount upwards; to ascend to a towering height; also loosely, to sail or skim at a great height. Occas. with *up.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *Ho. Fame* I. 499 Faste be the sonne, as hye As kenne myght I with myn ye, Me thought I sawgh an Egle sore. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 25 When þai see þat fewle sore in þe aer. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* b ij, Hit may happyn that she will sowre so hegh in to the Eyre, that ye shall Nether se hir nor fynde hir. 1530 PALSGR. 725/1, I soore, as an hauke dothe. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Sabrina* vi, What birde can flye, and soare, if stormes doe rage. 1688 HOLME *Armory* II. xi. 229/2 He beareth Argent, an Eagle volant in bend, (soaring, or flying a loft). 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 500 Watchful Herons ..mounting upward with erected Flight, Gain on the Skies, and soar above the Sight. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* XXV. (1790) I. 208 It is not till the wings have acquired strength and agility, that it..dares to soar undauntedly in the fields of air. 1830 HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Philos.* 84 A flight of Condors soaring in circles in a particular spot. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii. 217 Here and there eagles and hawks soared above their heads.

b. *transf.* Of persons, etc. Chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 670, I have no cause, I wote wele, to sore, As doth an hawk. ?1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, v. i, For such outragious passions cloye my soule, As..often am I sowring vp to heauen. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. i. 105 O, in what orbe thy mightie spirit soares. 1743 C. WESLEY *Hymn,* '*Christ the Lord*' v, Soar we now where Christ has led. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 77 How oft ..We..Soar'd in the swing,..Thro' sister elms. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 265 It was said..that James had furnished the wings with which his brother had soared to a higher region. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* xii. 343 We believe ourselves to have wings, and to be soaring into heights of the spiritual life.

c. In various *fig.* and *transf.* uses.

1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* II. vi, By that argument you firmly proue honor to sore aboue the pitch of loue. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXIV. ccxii, Oft she resolved..to wait Heav'n's leisure, till her Heart might thither sore. *a* 1735 LD. LANSDOWNE *On Unnatural Flights in Poetry* 23 Rash hyperboles that soar so high. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 50 It soars above the reach of human Reason. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, On the present occasion..the wrath of good Dame Elspeth soared higher than usual.

d. To fly *away.*

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 136 Ther is no man such a Niasse, but that continuall..repulses wil make him soare away.

e. To hover *about* a place. Also, of fish: To remain at the surface of the water.

1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* II. ii, My ship shall be..blowne with sighs; So will I soare about the Turkish land, Vntill [etc.]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* 53 The Chubs..will presently rise up to the top again, and lie there soaring till some shadow affrights them again.

2. *fig.* To mount, ascend, or rise to a higher or more exalted level in some respect.

The separate groups of quotations illustrate the main variations of usage.

(*a*) 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. i. 109 How high a pitch his resolution soares! 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Vain Love*, Desires, which whilst so high they soar, Are Proud as that I lov'd before. 1811 SHELLEY *Love* 14 Each energy of soul surviving More vivid, soars above. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Victory* II. iii. 41, I don't believe that young lady's soul ever soars above laces and ribbons. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 181 His ambition did not soar high.

(*b*) 1602 BARLOW *Serm. Paules Crosse* 30 He soared in his highest pitch of fauour with her Maiestie. 1622 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 147 They are nowe aloft and soare in pride. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 211 It will depress and thrust you down below others, while you seem to be..soaring to a pitch far above them. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 157 When men of infamy to grandeur soar. 1757 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 26 From whence they soared to the most elevated heights of literary fame. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlviii, The feeling of pique..at seeing Effie.. soar suddenly so high above her in life.

(*c*) 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 173, I should desire ..To take an Eagles wing and soare farre higher, Then hitherto my weake Muse could attaine. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 146 As they think him an Orator who mounts and soars aloft (as they call it) in high-flown words. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 91 Hope humbly then; with trembling pinions soar. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 723 To be divinely free, To soar, and to anticipate the skies. 1816 SHELLEY *Dæmon* I. 206 Then has thy rapt imagination soared Where.. The temple of the mightiest Daemon stands. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Sol., Courage* Wks. (Bohn) III. 112 Poetry and eloquence catch the hint, and soar to a pitch unknown before.

3. Of inanimate objects: To ascend, rise up to a height. Also *transf.*

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 558 The boiling waters roar; And smoky flames through fuming tunnels soar. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 72 The sigh which sent forth that..word, Up tow'rds the heavens like a bright meteor soar'd. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. iii, Till man shall learn Vainly his incense soars, his victim bleeds.

b. Of a mountain, building, etc.: To rise majestically or imposingly to a great altitude. Also with *up.*

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lx, Oh, thou Parnassus! whom I now survey,..soaring snow-clad through thy native sky. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do?* I. iv, At the rear of the palace soars up the old Abbey. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 154 Soaring over the city and the intervening valley, rose the height of Penhow.

II. *trans.* 4. To exalt. *rare.*

1595 BARNFIELD *Poems, Sonnet to T. T.* iv, So those rare Sonnets, where wits ripe doth lie,..doe soare thy fame to skie.

5. To perform or accomplish (a flight) by rising high. Freq. in fig. context.

1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. 21 Here he soareth so high a flight I cannot follow him. 1745 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* (1748) IV. 71 A person of weak intellects, in attempting to soar too high a flight, not seldom shares the fate of Icarus. 1806 H. SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* I. Pref. p. xvii, Here we behold the muse of satire soaring the flights of an eagle.

6. To attain or reach (a height) by upward flight; to fly up through (the air, etc.). Also *fig.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 421 They summ'd thir Penns, and soaring th' air sublime With clang despis'd the ground. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 612 Of lavish love, stupendous heights to soar. 1765 BEATTIE *To Churchill* 34 He soars Pindaric heights, and sails the waste of Heaven.

Soarage, variant of SORAGE *Obs.*

Soarant, *a. Her.* = SOARING *ppl. a.* 2.

1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her., Soarant, Soaring*, or *Towering*, that is, flying aloft.

Soard, Soare, obs. forms of SWARD, SORE.

Soarer (sōəɹəɹ). [f. SOAR *v.*] One who or that which soars, in various senses.

1852 LYTTON *My Novel* XII. xii, Noiseless soarers into gloomy air out of Stygian deeps. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 19 Dec. 902/3 Though in eloquence a high soarer, in thought he digs deep.

Soaring (sōəɹiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SOAR *v.*]

1. The action of the verb SOAR. Also *transf.*

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 198 They [*sc.* hawks] flee up aloft upon pleasure which with us falconers is called soring. *c* 1630 *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 455 Holow! my Fancie, holow!..stay at home with me! leave off thy lofty soaring. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. v. 26 Thy love's high soaring cannot be a crime. 1722–7 BOYER *Dict. Royal* 1, *Essor*,.. flight, or soaring up. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Literature* Wks. (Bohn) II. 105 The union of Saxon precision and oriental soaring, of which Shakespeare is the perfect example. 1880 JEFFERIES *Great Est.* 132 This soaring and wheeling [of jackdaws] is evidently done for recreation.

2. An instance of this. Also *fig.* and *transf.*

1611 COTGR., *Essort*,..a soaring, mounting,..high-rising. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Opstijginge*, an Ascention, a Mounting, or a Soaring up. 1762 D. WEBB *Beauties Poetry* 14 The soarings and stoops of the Eagle. 1786 PARR *Educ.* 2 (Todd), Proverbs were ambitiously seized by the lyric and by the epic muse in..their sublimest soarings. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* IV. 80 As if the warbler lost in light Reproved his soarings of the night. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Tragedy* I. vi. 127 These irrational soarings of spirits.

Soaring (sōəɹiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SOAR *v.*]

1. *fig.* Rising to a great height, high pitch, etc.; egregious; ambitious, aspiring; sublime.

(*a*) 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 270 When his soaring Insolence Shall teach the People. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. xiii. (1848) 248 To make a Rise to their soaring flight of a Tower, whose Top should reach unto Heaven. 1687 tr. *Sallust* (1692) 33 Of soaring and egregious parts. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lix, The same soaring and ardent spirit, for whom the whole earth seemed too narrow. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 552 A bold and soaring mind. 1879 STANLEY *Manzoni's Hymn for Whitsunday*, The New World's soaring wants. 1889 *Spectator* 9 Nov. 633/1 This soaring insolence of these Christian young men.

(*b*) 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. H. Script.* 418 This Evangelist..is more sublime and soaring than the rest. 1847 EMERSON *Repres. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 351 In the heart of each maiden,..in the soul of the soaring saint, this chasm is found.

2. Rising high by means of actual flight; flying high in the air. Also *fig.* and *Her.*

This sense occurs earlier in the comb. *high-soaring.*

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* xix. (1697) 415 The soaring Wing of a Devout Meditation. 1828 [see SOARANT]. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 95 Soaring, or Volant: Flying. 1871 WHYTE MELVILLE *Sarchedon* I. 4 Those specks on the upper sky widened into huge soaring vultures. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Sept. 7/2 The wing-area of soaring birds varies from one to above two square feet per pound of weight.

transf. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 90 In reference to the soaring flight of birds.

3. Of imposing altitude; lofty, towering.

1687 tr. *Sallust* (1692) 71 They who being arriv'd to large Command, live in the soaring height of Greatness. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxiii, I have seen the soaring Jungfrau rear Her never-trodden snow.

b. *Arch.* Rising lightly or gracefully to a considerable height; characterized by loftiness and gracefulness.

1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* iii. § xxiv. 92 The soaring arches and kingly crowning of the gates of Abbeville. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 6 The solemn massiveness of the Romanesque Cathedral, the soaring majesty of its Gothic successor. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Mar. 682/1 For them no soaring nave and dimly lighted clearstory.

Hence **Soa·ringly** *adv.*

1817 BYRON *Manfred* I. i. 95 Their summits to heaven Shoot soaringly forth. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 102 How gallantly the water-jets curve soaringly!

Soather, obs. form of SOLDER *sb.*

Sob (sɒb), *sb.* Also 4–6 sobbe, 8–9 *Sc.* sab. [f. SOB *v.*]

1. An act of sobbing; a convulsive catching of the breath under the influence of grief.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 375 Among hise sobbes and his sykes sore. 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Sobbe that cometh in wepynge, *sanglout.* 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxxiii, The syghes, the sobbes, the diepe and deadly groane. 1583 W. HUNNIS (*title*), Seuen Sobs of a Sorrowfull Soule for Sinne. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 46 The rich mans reuenewes are serued in with bitter sops and sobs to. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 84 There she collects the force of female lungs, Sighs, sobs, and passions. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VI. xv, And I with sobs did pray. 1821 SHELLEY *Ginevra* 181 Some melted into tears without a sob. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* x, Her eyes had been swelling with tears again, and she ended with a sob.

b. A similar act or sound expressive of pain or exertion; an utterance resembling a sob.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Pract. Medicyne* 55 Sevin sobbis of ane selche. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 328 Detested sport,..That feeds upon the sobs..Of harmless nature. 1793 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 443 The tremulous sob of the complaining owl. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. xxv, Right up Ben-Lomond could he press, And not a sob his toil confess.

†c. An act, on the part of a horse, of recovering its wind after exertion; an opportunity allowed to it of doing this; hence *fig.*, a rest or respite. Chiefly in the phr. *to give..a sob. Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 25 The man sir, that when gentlemen are tired giues them a sob, and rests them. 1593 G. MARKHAM *Disc. Horsem.* iii. I, If your Horse..cannot runne long with a winde, but if he want staies or sobbes. 1607 — *Cavelarice* III. i. 8 These staies and recouerings of wind in the horse, my maisters, the northerne riders call Sobs. 1624 W. BROWNE *Brown's 50 Years' Practice* F 2, Euer yeeld willingly to your hand whensoeuer you see occasion to take him up to giue him a sobe, for that horse I hold to bee perfectly and truly mouthed. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *To his Hermaphrodite* 44 But was he dead? Did not his Soul ..break up House, like an expensive Lord, That gives his Purse a Sob, and lives at Board?

2. *transf.* A sound resembling that of a sob.

1765 *Compl. Maltster & Brewer* 68 The first filling should not be until the sobs are quite down at the bung. 1820 HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* vii, Goodnight to a' younger brothers, puffings o' love vows, and sabs o' wind! 1881 *Grove's Dict. Music* III. 190 That species of musical sob produced by the repercussion of a prolonged note before the final cadence. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Coming of Love* (1899) 9 With sea-sobs warning of the awakened wind.

3. *Comb.*, as *sob-broken, -like* adjs.

1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* Poems 1825 I. 197 Sob-broken words of prayer! *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 72 A voice so sob-broken, So feeble with the agony of tears. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 93 Wilson's sob-like snores shook..the canvas walls. 1895 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 571/2 It was..occasionally making a sob-like sound.

Sob (sɒb), *v.*[1] Forms: 2 sobben (5 sobbyn), 4-6 sobbe (4 zobbe), 5–7 *Sc.* sobe, 6- sob (7 sobb); 8-9 *Sc.* sab. [app. of imitative origin: cf. WFris. *sobje*, Du. dial. *sabben* to suck.]

1. *intr.* To catch the breath in a convulsive manner as the result of violent emotion, esp. grief; to weep in this fashion.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 57 Đe gastliche mann..lihtliche wepð oðer sobbeð, oðerhwile mid bitere teares, oðerhwile mid wel swete teares. 1340 [see SOBBING *vbl. sb.*]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 326 He..Swowed and sobbed and syked ful ofte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 319 Sche fond non amendement To syghen or to sobbe more. 1420–22 LYDG. *Thebes* III. 3380 He can not but sighe, sobbe, and wepe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. ii. 726 She sobbed and wepte a grete whyle. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1 The poore boye sobbed, as his herte shulde brust. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 137 See how my wretched sister sobs and weeps. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. iii. 153 Then downe vpon her knees she falls, weepes, sobs, beates her heart. 1611 COTGR., *Sanglotier*,..to sob often. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Snoffen*,.. to Sigh, or to Sob. 1727 GAY *Begg. Opera* I. xiii, *Polly*. The Boy thus, when his Sparrow's flown,..Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1786 BURNS *Tam Samson* ii, Kilmarnock lang may grunt an' grane, An' sigh an' sab [*v.r.* sob], an' greet her lane. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 225 He sank on his knees..and sobbed like a child. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ix, Both waved a farewell to him, and little Frank sobbed to leave him. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 84 Narcissa sobbed with joy and love.

fig. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xiv. 9 The wild Winds flew round, sobbing in their dismay.

b. To make a sound resembling sobbing.

1676 MACE *Musick's Mon.* 170 Cause Them to Sobb, by Slacking your Stopping Hand, so soon as They are Struck. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 76 Saugh will sob [in burning] if it was sommer sawn. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* x, In loving bleeze they sweetly join, Till white in ase they're sobbin. 1847 T. BROWN *Modern Farriery* 410 If he dances about.., sobbing, and drawing his breath quickly, this will be found an indication of his being a whistler, or piper. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3427 'Sobbing' up and down, as we say of sperm whales. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 49 The thunder..sobbing far away among the distant hills. 1893 *Tablet* 27 May 819 The great Soul Bell of St. Swithun's was sobbing in the winter wind for the death of the bishop.

2. a. To break or burst with sobbing.

1614 EARL STIRLING *Domesday* I. Poems (1637) 100 Heaven (clad with darknesse) mourn'd, th' earth sob'd asunder.

b. *refl.* To bring (oneself) *into* a certain state, or *to sleep*, with sobbing.

1658 *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 138 If you yourselfe were of such a humour that you should..sigh and sobb and pout yourselfe into a sicknesse.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., Eveline wept,..she prayed —and, finally, sobbed herself to sleep, like an infant. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 398 On starving homes! where many a lip Has sobbed itself asleep. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 191 The child could sob herself to sleep on her father's breast.

3. *trans.* a. To send *out*, bring *up*, etc., by sobbing or with sobs.

1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 419 He sobs his soul out in a gush of blood. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. 209 He sobb'd up his grief. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* V. 162 Then did I..almost sob my very soul away. 1857 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xiii, Here..you will live while there is breath in my body,—unless you wish to make me sob it out and die the sooner.

b. To utter with sobs. Usually with *out*.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* V. x, It was not without the utmost difficulty that she could sob out the cause of this fresh sorrow. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* XXXV, 'May God soften this blow for you,' sobbed the young man. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* XXII. 391 Sobbing out their entreaties on their knees.

Hence **Sobbed** *ppl. a.*; **So·bber**, one who sobs.

1894 A. MORRISON *Mean Streets* 267 His bright, strenuous eyes were on the sobbers. 1895 W. PLATT *Women* 98 Her sobbed thanks washed it as they fell upon it.

Sob, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To soak, saturate, sop. (Usually in pa. pple.)

1625 MARKHAM *Inrich. Weald Kent* 7 A purer flowre then that which is sobbed in wet. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 267 When the tree being sobb'd and wet, swells the wood, and loosens the fruit. 1679 — *Sylva* (ed. 3) 178 As the Rain sobs it too much. 1692 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 98 The meadows were so sobb'd, that it cost 15s to make the way..passable. 1725 *Family Dict.* s.v. *Sallet*, Let them be rather discreetly sprinkled, than over-much sobb'd with Spring-Water. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Sob*, to soak, to sop. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 425 The high lands are sobbed and boggy. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 154 The cloth..is all sobbed with the wet.

Hence **Sobbed** *ppl. a.*; **So·bbing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 69 Moss is to be rubb'd..off..with a piece of Hair-cloth after a sobbing Rain. 1670 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 164 For which the best cure is, the plentiful sobbing it in water. 1690 PEPYS *Mem. Royal Navy* 72 Rendred black by its long sobbing in water. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* 31 Lest the Sob'd Leaves, shut up wet, should soon become foul and squalid.

†**Sob,** *v.*[3] *dial. Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To frighten, scare.

In Milton *Rel. Engl.* I. 20 the correct reading is *fob*.

1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* s.v., To Sob one, (i. e.) *dialecto Linc.. Perterrefacere, Confundere.*

Sobbing (sɒ·biŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SOB *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of giving vent to sobs; the sound produced by this. Also freq. in *pl.*

sing. c 1300 *Havelok* 234 Per was sobbing, siking, and sor. 1340 *Ayenb.* 211 Saint gregorie zaiþ þet zoþliche bidde god is biter zobbinge of uorþenchinge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3615 þerfore sobbyng & sorow ses at þis tyme. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* (B) 151 Thar was na solace mycht his sobbing cess. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1877, I pray the, ..let be thy sobbynge. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 In vayne with sobbing was oft that od eccho repeated. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 46 Andronicus..comming vnto his presence..with sobbing and teares. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 755 He deeply groans With patient Sobbing. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) I. 211 Sobbing is the sigh still more invigorated. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph. Acharn.* 629 *note*, The act of sobbing follows that of weeping and tearing the hair. 1876 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* II. ii. (1879) 356 In sobbing a series of..convulsive inspirations follow each other slowly, the glottis being closed earlier than in the case of hiccough.

transf. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 339 The sobbing in the stomach, called the 'hicket'.

pl. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* (1897) 12 He hadde swyche sorwe, syȝhynges, & sobbynges in þe throte. 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Flowers of Sion* 26 The hoarse Sobbings of the widow'd Doue. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164 ₱ 5 His Voice, which was broke with Sighs and Sobbings. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 102, I heard the bitter sobbings of the servants. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* x, I..felt all happiness amidst my sobbings.

Sobbing (sɒ·biŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. SOB *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. Uttering, giving vent to, sobs. Also, of the voice: Broken by sobs.

a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 85 þohtes of soðe bereusinge, ðe makieð ðe herte sari and sobbiende. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 22 With ful sobbyng voys uttirryng all þese wordes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* VI. vii, God hath heard the weeping sobbing voice Of my complayning. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. i. 66 Weeping and commenting Vpon the sobbing Deere. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 455 Some struck and sobbing fawn. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. i, With a sobbing gaslight in the counting-house window. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 2/2 There were sobbing sides amongst the best when we reached the foot of the Pass.

2. The utterance of a sob or sobs.

1871 *Standard* 23 Jan., She gave a sobbing sigh, and fell ..insensible. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 209 A low sobbing sound caught my ear.

Sobbingly (sɒ·biŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a sobbing manner; with sobs.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Interruptus*, To speake sobbingly. 1570 J. PHILLIP in Farr *Sel. Poet. Eliz.* II. 527 They..sobbingly did shewe by sighes Their straunge tormenting paynes. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Grt. Brit.* IX. xxii. (1632) 1123 [He] sobbingly desired them to be content. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 717 He answered, sobbingly, 'My boy has only done his duty'. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 21 His heart arose to tell what it was then able only sobbingly to say.

Sobby (sɒ·bi), *a.* Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. SOB *v.*[2]] Soaked; saturated with moisture; soppy.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Evieux*, Sobbie earth, soyle full of springs. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 66 The sobby and waterish places of the body. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xv. 398 Lying upon the cold and Sobby Ground. 1847 in *N. Amer. Rev.* Jan. 191 Sent in their wet and sobby condition to New York. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Sob*, The land is very sobby. 1887 *Scribner's Mag.* I. 416/2 The sobby earth of the graveyard.

So being, *conj.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 6 **sa beand,** 9 **saebein**; 8 **saebeins**, 8–9 **-biens**, 9 **-bins.** [Elliptic for *it so being that*: see So *adv.* 3 d.]

1. = SOBEIT 1.

1559 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 75 For ony occasione bygane or for to come, sa beand yᵉ samyn promoif nocht of hir self. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 226 We wᵈ all buy Christ, so being we might make price ourselves. 1870 J. K. HUNTER *Life Studies Char.* 231 He would make her a lady, so-being she would join the teetotal society.

2. Seeing that; since.

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 263 As the Dragon persecuted the Womans Seed,..so being he could not hinder her going into the Wilderness. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Wha can help Misluck, Saebeins she be sic a thrawin-gabet Chuck? Yonder's a Craig. 1805 M'INDOE *Million of Potatoes* iv, But saebins this is auld term-day, The rent nae doubt ye'll gar us pay.

Sobeit (sōu|bī·it), *conj.* and *sb.* [Originally three words *so be it* (and still sometimes so written): see So *adv.* 3 d, and cf. ALBEIT, HOWBEIT.]

1. *conj.* Provided that; if; if only.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cli. 38 b, Yet doeth hee not lay them to our Charge, sobeit that wee mislike of them. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lix. (1739) 109 They might have anything, sobeit they would suffer him to enjoy his Crown. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* II. ix, The heart of his friend cared little whither he went, so be it he were not too much alone.

2. *sb.* The exclamation 'So be it' (= let it be so).

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Thou answerest me an houre after..like to a Sexton with a Sobeit or Amen.

Sober (sōu·bəɹ), *a.* Forms: 4–6 **sobre, sobur** (6 *Sc.* **sobor**), 5 *Sc.* **sobyre, -ire**, 5–6 *Sc.* **sobyr, -ir**, 4– **sober.** [a. OF. *sobre* (so mod.F., = It., Sp., Pg. *sobrio*), ad. L. *sōbrius*, which expresses the opposite of *ēbrius* drunk: the ulterior etym. is doubtful. The French word is also the source of MDu. and Du., MLG. and LG. *sober*.]

Various senses of the word tend to pass into or involve each other, and it is frequently difficult to decide which of these was principally intended by the writer.

I. 1. Moderate, temperate, avoiding excess, in respect of the use of food and drink; not given to the indulgence of appetite.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 311 Of Arthure men say.. he was..sobre & honest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 221 Sobre ine mete and ine drinke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 11 Thurgh hem that thanne weren goode And sobre and chaste. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xxii. (Add. MS.), That we be sobre in mete and drynk, that we mowe come to everlastyng mede. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Sobre of meate and drinke, *sobre*. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III, Shees as discreete a dame As any in these countries, and as sober, But for this onely humour of the cup. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1704) 246 How the sober nation many times conquers the more debauched and vicious.

b. Of diet, etc.: Moderate, temperate; characterized by the absence of excess or indulgence.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* XXXI. 37 Helthe is of soule and of body, sobre drink. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 179 You schal see veray few of sobur and temperat dyat, but they haue helthy and welthy bodys. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 35 Sober diet is good. 1629 HINDE *J. Bruen* (1641) X. 33 And many other such naturall helpes may we use for our sober refreshing and delight. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* I. XX. 4 The Vintage of the Sabine Grape, But yet in sober Cups, shall crown the Feast. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* I. 365 The sober cheer of which you have already partaken.

c. Similarly of conduct, inclination, etc.

1509 FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 293 Her sobre temperaunce in metes & drynkes. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 1 Of all Gods workes..There is no one more faire and excellent Then is mans body,..Whiles it is kept in sober gouernment. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. iii. 8 When Saturn's jovial Feast Seem'd too luxuriant to your sober Taste, Hither you fled.

2. Not addicted to the use of strong drink; habitually temperate in, or abstaining from, the use of alcoholic liquor; abstemious.

1382 WYCLIF *Titus* ii. 2 That olde men be sobre, chast. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 1533 Men moste enquere.. Wher she be wys, or sobre, or dronkelewe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 21 That the dronken men sholde be punysshyd And the sobre men preysed. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 39 He reckons a sober Chaplain in the Navy, to be a down-right Nonconformist. 1729 LAW *Serious Call* ii. (1732) 27 When she feels this intention she will find it as possible to act up to it, as to be strictly sober and chaste. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 39 They are a sober people, and have none of the vices of the Eusofzyes. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* V. 50 A sober man himself, even a total abstainer.

transf. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Conc. Weapons* Ded. 13 Archerie, which is the soberest exercise of all others to auoide drunkennes and other euills.

b. Of things: Not intoxicating.

a 1795 COWPER *Moralizer Corrected* 10 The sober cordial of sweet air.

3. Free from the influence of intoxicating liquor; not intoxicated; not drunk. Also *fig.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 443, I appele..from Alisaundre þe dronke to Alisaundre þe sobre. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. viii. (Skeat) I. 48 Right as whan any person taketh willing to be sobre, and throweth that away, willing to be dronke. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 339 Thou sobre [L. *sobrius*] hast medled not only with thy Nece, but also with thy Sister and daughter. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 93 Very vildely in the morning when hee is sober, and most vildely in the afternoone when hee is drunke. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Goodwife's Ale* in *Athenæum* (1904) 1 Oct., You easily may guesse I am not quite Growne sober yett by these poore lines I wright. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 73 They thought, their Counsels might want Vigour, when they were sober, as well as Caution, when they had drank. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. i, 'What little dog, Sir?' cried Delville, who now began to conclude he was not sober. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* XV, He is as sober as sleep can make him, after a deep drink. 1885 *Christ. World* 15 Jan. 38/5 The Heathen Chinee..is generally civil and always sober.

fig. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 16 Than schalt thou have a lusti drauhte And waxe of lovedrunke sobre.

transf. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 10 This was the sobre fulnesse of swete wine. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* V, The sober hours of the morning.

†b. Fasting. *Obs.*—[1]

1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* vi. 18 The kynge wente in to his palace, and kepte him sober all night, so that there was no table spred before him.

II. 4. Of demeanour, speech, etc.: Grave, serious, solemn; indicating or implying a serious mind or purpose.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 532 He..sayde to hem with sobre soun, 'Wy stonde ȝe ydel þise dayez longe?' 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 64 Sche him axeth..Fro whenne he cam, and what he wolde, And he with sobre wordes tolde. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* V. X. (Caxton, 1483) 101 Pacyence come pryckyng with a sobre chere and hitte Ire in the helme. *c* 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 320 Ther songe schal be sadde, sober, ande symple withe out brekyng of notes, and gay relesynge. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshman* (Percy Soc.) 16 Tell forthe thy sentence, And I shall here the with sobre pacyence. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 40 To do his message..bothe with a bolde countenaunce, and a sober demeanure. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* V. ii. 76 *Orl.* Speak'st thou in sober meanings? *Ros.* By my life I do. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* XI. ix, The Islands King with sober countenance Aggrates the Knights, who thus his right defended. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 219 He sooths with sober words their angry mood.

b. In the phrases *in sober earnest* or †*sadness.*

Skelton *Magnyf.* 682 uses *Sober Sadnesse* as a name.

1593 [see SADNESS 2 b]. 1615 BEDWELL *Moham. Impost.* III. § 108, I say..in sober sadnes, that thou and all such.. ought to observe it well. 1667 POOLE *Dial. between Protest. & Papist* (1735) 181 In sober Sadness, it is enough to make any serious Christian abhor your Church. 1836 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1893) I. xviii. 425 In sober earnest, I wish that we could have given you more time to think about it. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. 8, I have been

startled by hearing it..urged in sober earnest very far outside the range of savage life.

5. Quiet or sedate in demeanour; of grave, dignified, or discreet deportment; serious or staid in character or conduct.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 121 Þenne schaltou seo Sobre And Symple-of-speche. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Gentilesse* 9 Truwe of his worde, sobur, pitous, and fre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3791 Ulexes..was..Sad of his semblaundes, sober of chere. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 308 Perseys war trew,..Sobyr in pes, and cruell in battaill. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XVI. (Percy Soc.) 75 Be ye pacyent and sobre in mode. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 66 A yonge chylde as sober as a man of fiftye yeres. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 78 What damned error, but some sober brow Will blesse it? 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 32 Com pensive Nun, devout and pure, Sober, stedfast, and demure. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Medicus*, a Physician, a Man highly skilful in the art of Physick, modest, sober and courteous. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. ii. (1840) 43, I would have been the soberest, gravest, young fellow, that ever you saw in your life. 1783 CRABBE *Village* II. 13 Some of the sermon talk, a sober crowd. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* ix. 109 So sober in her manner, that no one set about guessing whom she would marry. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 253 Sober people predicted that a girl of so little..delicacy would not easily find a husband.

b. Of bearing, movement, etc.: Showing no trace of haste, impatience, or the like.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4988 Semblant made he sobur so as it him paide, but..in hert it liked him wel ille. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 361 Cristofore þan of sobyre wil rase, & sad þame sone till: 'frendis, tell me quhat ȝe seke!' 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 86 Our Newes shall goe before vs,..And wee with sober speede will follow you. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 380 Legions..move to meet their Foes with sober Pace. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* VI. xvi, Pacing back his sober way, Slowly he gain'd his own array.

6. Of natural forces (†animals), etc.: Quiet, gentle, peaceful.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xcix. (Bodl. MS.), Whan he is tyed to a fige tree he leueþ al his fersenes & is sodenlich sobre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2009 The se wex sober .., Stormes were stille. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1031 A sobur brook amydde or ellis a welle. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 2477 The soft dew one fra the hewyne doune valis..And throw the sobir and the mwst hwmouris Vp nurisit ar the erbis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 242 Thay sayled with a sober and safte wind. *a* 1605 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 43 (Wreittoun), The aire was sober, soft and sweet. 1662 CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 117 Sober rains are great with young of dew. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Scotch mist*, a sober, soaking Rain. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 14 As sober evening sweetly siles along.

b. Of actions: Free from harshness or violence.

1455 in *Charters*, etc. *Edinb.* (1871) 81 He salbe arrestit in sobir maner as said is. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 185 He salbe content of thair sobir and gracious governaunce. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 19 Thei by sobre meanes and gentle exhortation brought all the souldiers to the campe.

7. Of living, etc.: Characterized by temperance, moderation, or seriousness.

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Gen. Conf.*, A godly, righteous, and sobre lyfe. 1565-6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 418 Sanctandrois, quhair he wes in sobir and quiet maner, belevand to hair levit at Goddis peace. *a* 1629 HINDE *S. Bruen* iii. 10 Sober and single dancing of men apart. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. ix. (1840) 102 He led a very religious and sober life. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 129 Men..Live to no sober purpose, and contend That their Creator had no serious end. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xi. 186 A pious friend, who with the ancient dame At sober cribbage takes an evening game. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vii, The dog..looked as if he were ashamed that anything should have moved him to depart so far out of his sober self-control.

b. Of a book: Serious, moral.

1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* I. 48 Reading their Prayer Books, or some sober book from the ship's library.

8. Of a temperate or moderate disposition; not readily excited or carried away; of a calm, dispassionate judgement.

1564 *Brief Exam.* 7* The sagest and sobrest in this common wealth..conceyue a better opinion of them. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* III. iv. § 13 It is the constant acknowledgement of all sober inquirers into the original of the Greeks. 1685 WOOD *Life* 12 Aug., The phanatiques (nay, some sober men) thinke that this army..is to bring in popery. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 77, His very Attempts..are sufficient to make sober Men dread the fatal Consequences. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iv. (1869) I. 360 Sober people.. would not venture into the competition. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xi. (1857) 157 The many soberer dreamers who were led to interpret amiss a surer word of prophecy. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* ii. 38 Some of the most profound and sober intellects in Europe. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) III. v. 392 The sober and patient spirit of the English intellect.

b. Not desirous of great things or high estate; humble, unambitious.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xxxix. 7. 210 Fit to be the matter of a sober mans ambition. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 74 Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife, Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray. 1790 BURNS *Ballad Dumfries Election* 132 The Robin in the hedge descends, And sober chirps securely.

9. Of colour, dress, etc.: Subdued in tone; not glaring, gay, or showy; neutral-tinted.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 132 Now shal my friend.. offer me disguis'd in sober robes..as a schoole-ma-ster. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1621) 832 Hungarians..attired in long sober garments of very fine purple cloth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 599 Twilight gray Had in her sober Liverie all things clad. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 262 Ev'ning in her sober vest Drew the grey curtain of the fading west. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, Till the shadows of twilight melted its various features into one tint of sober gray. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. 139 This contrast between the brilliant colours of the flowers and the sober hue of the rest of the landscape. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 195 The sober tints of its feathers in winter. *transf.* 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 258 His palet is sober and clean, his pencil animated.

b. Unexciting or uneventful; dull.

1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Isab.* I. Pref. p. xiv, The many sober hours I have passed in wading through black-letter tomes. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) II. xii. 127 That life of sober week days.

10. Free from extravagance or excess.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. v. 21 With such sober and vnnoted passion He did behooue his anger ere 'twas spent. 1794 BURKE *Duration of Parliaments* Wks. II. 484 So was Rome destroyed by the disorders of continual elections, though those of Rome were sober disorders. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 164 That sober freedom out of which there springs Our loyal passion for our temperate kings. 1856 MACAULAY *Goldsm., Misc. Writ.* (1882) 303/2 The mirth of the 'Goodnatured Man' was sober when compared with the rich drollery of 'She Stoops to Conquer'.

b. Moderate, sensible; free from exaggeration; not fanciful or imaginative.

1619 GORGES tr. *Bacon's De Sap. Vet.* 141 We must therefore with a sober and humble iudgement distinguish betweene humanitie and diuinitie. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* 115 They who will speak at a soberer rate, compare the Virgin to the Moon. 1771 FLETCHER *Checks* Wks. 1795 II. 260 An expression which may be used in a sober, gospel sense of the words. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 65 Ev'n when sober truth prevails throughout, They swear it, till affirmance breeds a doubt. 1825 HORNE *Introd. Script.* (ed. 5) II. App. VI. 788 The notes..give a *sober* but practical and evangelical exposition of the allegory. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iv. 169 How much or how little of sober fact there may be in those thrilling incidents..it is impossible to say.

11. Guided by sound reason; sane, rational:

† a. Of persons. *Obs.*

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 24 They have painted mee..a mad man amongst the sober. 1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrol.* Ded., In a Bedlam-house the mad People have their sober Keepers. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxvii. (1695) 186 Humane Laws not punishing the Mad Man for the Sober Man's Actions. 1786 BOSWELL *Jrnl. Tour Hebrides* (ed. 3) 213 Mad all his life, at least not sober.

b. Of the mind, discourse, etc.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 36 If some man in Bedlam should entertaine you with sober discourse. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 22 [They are] content to think they dye in good understanding, and in their sober senses. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 86 He was..in a state of mind sober enough to consider death and his last end. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xliv, While the people in their sober senses..were taken in, the old lunatic..could look down and see [etc.].

III. 12. Of things: Small, insignificant, slight; paltry, trifling, poor. Chiefly *Sc.* ? *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 228 He wrote vnto hym & said at he had done hym a litle sober trispas. 1523 *State Papers, Hen. VIII* (1836) IV. 24 To breke the Chauncellour..fro the Governour, whiche Your Grace think wold bee doone with a sober thing. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 35 Sober goodis and geir with peace and concord growis ay mair and mair to great substance. 1602 CAMPION *Art Eng. Poesie* 27 He..only makes Th' earth his sober Inne, but still heau'n his home. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 2340 His greatest wealth a sober seamelesse coate. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. xvi, When they cannot reap the sobrest ends of being together in any tolerable sort. 1796 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XVII. 343 It requires the utmost exertion of his industry..to..afford a maintenance, *very sober indeed*, to his family.

† b. Moderate or few in number. *Obs.*

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 15 The Queenes frendes.. broughte the Kynge vppe..with a sober coumpanye. 1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* E vij, We..ar here now but with a sobre cumpenie. [*Margin.*] Sober, is the proper terme whearby the Scottes doo signifie smal, litle, easy, or slender. 1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 420 Thair being sober nowmer of personis thairon.

13. *Sc.* Of persons: **† a.** Of low degree; humble, mean; of little importance or dignity. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xvi. (S.T.S.) II. 107, I am bot ane sobir knicht of romane armye. 1565 *Extr. Burgh Rec. Aberd.* (1844) I. 361 Of euery mariage, xviij d. of honest or reche folkis, and xij d. of sobir folkis. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 87 The iniuriis done to ony of them or the soberest of theme.

b. Of little use or worth.

1808 JAMIESON s.v., *A sober servant*, a very indifferent one.

c. In poor health; not very well.

1808 JAMIESON s.v., *Very sober*, ailing a good deal. 1882 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

IV. 14. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *sober-blooded, -clad, -disposed, -hued*, etc.; also *sober-like, -sad, -wise.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 94 This same young *sober-blooded Boy doth not loue me. 1892 T. WRIGHT *Blue Firedrake* i, A replica of his own starched, sober-minded and *sober-clad self. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* xiv. (1783) I. 125 To the great annoyance of many *sober disposed people of the parish. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxxiv, To-day all *sober-hued reflections were exorcised. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 117 He..backe his fighters drue Full *soberlike rash perils to eschue. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* 77 A *sober-paced pedestrian. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1542 So *sober-sad, so weary, and so mild. *c* 1614 SYLVESTER *Micro-cosm.* 374 If sober-sad, Merry Greeks mee Meacok call. 1647 CROMWELL in Stainer *Sp.* (1901) 44 Every *sober-spirited man. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 11 Come cluill night, Thou *sober suted Matron all in blacke. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 746 The sober-suited songstress trills her lay. 1842 TENNYSON *You ask me why* 6 It is the land..That sober-suited Freedom chose. 1850 W. COLLINS *Antonina* iv, The *sober-tinted trees. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866) I. 471 He..teacheth them here not to be overwise, but *sober-wise. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Little Bartas* 1053 Wks. (Grosart) II. 94 Sound is the soule, which resteth (sober-wise) Content in Thee.

Sober (sōu·bəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4-6 sobre, 4- sober (5 soberyn), 4 sobur (5 sobor), 4-5 sobir (5 sobyr). [f. SOBER *a.* Cf. late L. *sōbrāre* to make sober, OF. *sobrier* to live soberly.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To reduce to a quiet or gentle condition; to appease, pacify.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 443 [He] gat be-for þam þat ware wrathe, & sobryt þam. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 206 Sobre and appeese suche folk as falle in furye. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 193 Sho sayd: 'Dere Son! Meng þi rightwusnes with mercie!'..And þan hur Son was soberd & sayd [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 347/2 To Sobyr, *mitigare, placare*. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 341 With Pecht and Saxone first he hes maid peice, All outwart weir to sober and gar ceiss.

b. To moderate, quieten (one's feelings), by the exercise of self-control. Also *refl.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 332 With that he sobreth his corage And put awey his hevy chiere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3379 Ses now of sorowe, sobur þi chere. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7626 Sobre youre hert, ma dame, I you besech. 1530 PALSGR. 724/1, I sober my selfe, I asswage myn anger.

c. *refl.* To keep (oneself) temperate.

1530 PALSGR. 724/2 He can sober hym selfe in his dyete the best that ever I sawe.

2. To render grave or serious.

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 322 They..sent him sober'd home, with better wit. 1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* 40 Sobered almost into a religious feeling, by the oratory and its concomitants. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* XV. (1863) 299 Sobered into silence by the mystery. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxvii. 161 Citizens who have been born to power..are sobered by their privileges.

b. To render less glaring or conspicuous.

1843 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 6 Your critic has not allowed for the effect of time on its blues. They are now, indeed, sobered and brought down.

3. To make sober; to free from intoxication.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 218 Shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, And drinking largely sobers us again. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Odes* I. XXXVII. 19 Her, with Egyptian Wine inspir'd,..Augustus sober'd into Tears. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Oct. 9 Bread and cheese and vinegar to sober A. B.

4. To bring *down* to a sober condition in some respect.

1838 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph. Clouds* 99 We shall not be surprised to find this fanciful system sobered down into the following observation. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 284 Her light mingles so with the twilight of the sun that the stars are quite sobered down. 1877 O. W. HOLMES *How not to settle it* 18 At times when..solemn speeches sober down a dinner.

II. *intr.* **5.** To become sober, in various senses. Also with *off*.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* iv, That was very natural;..but ye hae sobered since that. 1879 G. MACDONALD *P. Faber* II. i. 6 The colour sobered, but the glory grew. 1891 TUCKLEY *Under the Queen* 244 This gives the topers time to sober off after the heavy siege of the night before.

6. To settle or quieten *down* in some respect.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., The ecstasy of delight sobered down into a sort of tranquil wonder. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* viii, Merry is a little giddy, but she'll sober down in time. 1886 *Field* 4 Sept. 349/1 Many a horse who will sober down if struck severely once only, will get furious if the punishment is repeated.

Hence **So·bered** *ppl. a.*; **So·berer**; **So·bering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1794 SOUTHEY *Botany Bay Ecl., Frederic* 60 The hollow howl..Comes with no terror to the *sober'd sense. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. 109 Such a sobered high light. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 212/2 Breathless hung the sobered throng On the magic of the song. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 80 Soother and *soberer of the spirit's fever. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* 238 His wound to wesche, in *sobering of his sair. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Aug. 3/3 An enterprising American has initiated a new system of what is called.. 'sobering-up'. 1831 *Society* I. 286 The cogitations of the Countess had not been without their *sobering effect on her temper. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 146 Tidings of a very sobering nature had just reached him.

Soberize (sōu·bərəiz), *v.* [f. SOBER *a.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make sober, in various senses. Also *absol.*

1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* (1707) II. VII. 16 Nor is the Cant of Moderation Design'd to soberrize the Nation. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. XXXVI. 245 The instant I beheld her I was soberized into awe and reverence. 1798 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 176 The ensuing stanza, though soberized, is very good. 1819 CRABBE *Tales of Hall* vi. 387, I was thankful for the moral sight, That soberized the vast and wild delight. 1867 *Morning Star* 12 Mar., Much soberised in mind, most of them have returned to Cork.

2. *intr.* To become sober.

1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 67 He..emptied his bottle,.. sowed his wild oats,..soberized.

Hence **So·berized**, **So·berizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1840 LADY BURY *Hist. of a Flirt* viii, A quiet soberized look. 1860 MISS F. R. HAVERGAL *Autobiogr.* in *Life* (1880) 88 A soberizing thoughtful time.

Soberly (sōu·bəɹli), *adv.* Also 4 sobreliche, -lyche, 5 sobirliche; 4-6 soburly (4 -li), sobirly (6 -lie), soberlie (6 -lye), etc. [f. SOBER *a.* + -LY 2. Cf. MDu. *soberlike* (Du. *-lijk*),

MLG. *soberliken*.] In a sober manner, in various senses of the adj.

1. Gravely, seriously, quietly; without any sign of excitement, impatience, or other strong feeling.

(*a*) 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 256 Soberly after þenne con bo say. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 857 This Philosophre sobrely answerde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 248 When Pelleus his proses hade..soburly said with a sad wille. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 44 On be morn..he com vnto þis Crasippus & tolde hym soberlie of his anger. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 544 The man that had the hound in cuir..Than soberlie askit agane the hound. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV*, 45 The kyng of England..aunswered to his wordes so soberly, so grauely, and so princely. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 80 [He asked me] where was my money? to whom I soberly answered, I had no more then he saw.

(*b*) 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxii. 22 Whanne sobirly [L. *mature*] he was arysun. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 255 Daun Johan sobrely This chapman took on-part, and prively Sayd him thus. *c* 1425 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 802 With countenaunce demure he roode full soburly. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 186 Thai maid offer to passe sobirly and curtaisly. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 130 Ladyes to dance full sobirly assayit. 1595 *Locrine* IV. ii, My wife soberly sate rocking my little babie. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 48 So he nodded, And soberly did mount an Arme-gaunt Steede. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 206 By being acquainted with their Keeper, and being soberly handled, you may with ease remove them from one Pasture to another. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xx, Then the tale Shall move on soberly, as it is meet. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Nov. 5/3 To keep the debate soberly within narrow channels.

(*c*) 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 35 If thou wilt deale soberlie without scoffes, thou shalt be answered grauely without iests. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 519 This is a matter then of which wee must speake very soberly, and with great reuerence of God. 1684 B. HALE *Pref. Contempl. State Man* p. iii, I have soberly consider'd these Holy and Devout Contemplations. 1689 LOCKE *Govt.* II. ii, As he soberly judges the case to require. 1782 COWPER *Conversat.* 667 That disease, when soberly defin'd, Is the false fire of an o'erheated mind. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* I. 7 That they would deliberate soberly. 1841 *Nonconformist* I. 2 It becomes dissenters..soberly to set about it.

b. In all seriousness; with full conviction.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 16, H N. affirmeth very soberly as it seemeth that the Elders of his broode are illuminated. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 61 Agreeable to the faith of that age, miracles were soberly reported of him.

c. Without extravagance or excess.

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 231 The cruelties of Mary's reign..which were neither accurately nor soberly related in the popular martyrologies. 1861 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* ix. 119 But these rights [of public meeting] must be soberly and moderately exercised.

2. With moderation in respect of natural appetites; temperately.

1340 *Ayenb.* 248 Hire uor to wyne and habbe, me ssel libbe sobreliche ine bise wordle. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 þai liffe so temperately and so soberly in meet and drink. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xix. (1869) 14 Ye muste ete and drinke more sobirliche than oother folk. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 33 Yf men wold gouerne themselfe soburly by temperat dyat, then physycyonys were not to be requyryd. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will* 278 The silly beasts..will rather fall soberly to those thistles..then they will offer to breake their bounds. 1717 POPE *Iliad* IX. 290 Then each..His thirst and hunger soberly repress'd. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* 146 They were..as soberly disposed a body of young men as one would wish to see.

3. In a poor, humble, or simple manner. ? *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 79 þe childe..seide þat he coupe lyve soberliche, and þat lasse cost wolde doo his nede. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 2, I will assay How sobirly begouth þe romane blude. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 226 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 293 [That we] Sobirly our selffis dois sustene.

† 4. Quietly, gently, in respect of motion.

1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in Ashm. (1652) 85 Whereby Water maie soberly flowe, For violent Fluxes be perilous as nowe. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 251 This branch of Tacassin..towards Amina..runs soberly enough.

5. Not brightly or garishly.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 263 It was soberly lighted by a row of Gothic windows.

Sober-minded, *a.* [SOBER *a.* 14.]

1. Of a sober mind; temperate; self-controlled; rational; sensible. Also *absol.*

1534 TINDALE *Titus* ii. 4 To make the younge wemen sobremynded. *Ibid.* 6 Yonge men lykwyse exhorte that they be sobre mynded. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 279 To teach and convince the rationall and sober-minded. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. iii. 110 Women well-bred and sober-minded at the same time. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 306/1 The views of some of the modern and more sober-minded zoologists. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. xvi. 493 We will die upon the place first, declared even the sober-minded.

2. Characterized by soberness of mind.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, Her words..were..too vehement and extravagant for sober-minded communication. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life Miss Milford* I. v. 162 A purpose which, I think, was extremely soberminded and praiseworthy.

Hence **Sober-mindedness**, sobriety of mind; prudent self-control, moderation.

1767 PORTEUS *Serm. bef. Univ. Cambr.* 5 July 7 To induce habits of modesty, humility, temperance, frugality, obedience; in one word, *Sober-mindedness*. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 137 A despotism, moderated only by..the sobermindedness [1858 sobriety], and the magnanimity of the despot. 1875 FARRAR *Seekers after God* II. i. 198 Now sober-mindedness invites us.

† **Sobermood.** *Obs.* [f. SOBER *a.* + MOOD *sb.*] Sober-mindedness; sobriety of demeanour.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* III. (1558) 165 b, Semelines-se, measurekeping, sobermode, stayednesse, and temperaunce. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ii. (1900) 112 Fearcenesse seemeth the greater whan it is accompanied with sobermoode. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 295 He had..such a sober moode, as might ripen the greenest witt.

Soberness (sōu·bəɹnės). [f. SOBER *a.* + -NESS.] The state or character of being sober; sobriety:

a. In respect of the appetites.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27408 Gains glotory [is assigned] soburnes o mete. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 834 Sobrenesse also, that restreyneth the outrage of drinke. 14.. *Tyndale's Vis.* 1869 Thay..kepte hir bodyes ay fre From lechery in chastite, And thay loved soburnes ay. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 258 By sobernes subduing their sensualitie. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* 8 The soberness and chastising of the members. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sobriety* or *Soberness*, a Vertue by which one abstains from eating and drinking more than is requisite. 1780 *Mirror* No. 73, Habits of virtue and soberness. 1861 RUFFINI *Dr. Antonio* ii, Owing to the care and proverbial soberness of the postilions.

b. In respect of demeanour, actions, etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Matthew*) 444 [He] sobryt þam ..vith softnes & vith sobrenes. 1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* xii. 3 To not sauere..more than it behoueth for to kunne, but for to kunne to sobrenesse. 1463 G. ASHBY *Prisoner's Resp.* 302 With humylyte and soburnes. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilzear* 525 Lat se how we may dissever with sobernes aneuch. 1528 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 233/2 Yᵉ hole byble was long before his dayes..with deuocion & sobrenes wel and reuerently red. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V*, 1 Turnyng insolencie and wyldnes into grauitie and sobernes. 1648 FAIRFAX, etc. *Remonstrance* 6 In all humblenesse and sobernesse of minde. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 480 He would not stoop To conquer those by jocular exploits, Whom truth and soberness assail'd in vain. 1825 COBBETT *Rural Rides* 232, I.. stood still,..looking, in silent soberness, into the window.

† **Sobersault.** *Obs.* In 6 soubersawte, 7 sobresault, sobersalt. [ad. F. *soubresaut*, †-*sault*, ad. Prov. *sobresaut*, = Sp. *sobresallo*, f. L. *suprā* above + *saltus* leap.] A somersault.

c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 248 Than came forth juglers..& tomblers wyth theyr soubersawtes. 1611 COTGR., *Soubresault*, a Sobresault, or Summer sault. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* III. ii, What a sobersalt When the chaire fell she fetchd, with her heels upward.

Sobersides (sōu·bəɹsəɹdz). [f. SOBER *a.*] A sedate, serious-minded person. Also *transf.*

1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. Wks. 1716 III. 225 And he said—Nay; or, no, no, Sober-sides, no. 1824 MACIAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 430 *Sobersides*, a creature of sober habits. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Charac.* (1852) 85 The mamma naturally takes part with the Sobersides who has so much sympathy with her rheumatism. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 221 Innumerable sea-birds sat in the crevices...There was one old sober-sides with whom I passed a good ten minutes tête-à-tête. 1878 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIV. 252 They say, 'Oh, you old sobersides, how grave you are!'

Hence **So·ber-sided** *a.*

1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* x, After that sober-sided fellow..filled him with qualms that ruined his digestion.

† **So·berty.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 sobretee, 4–5 -te, sober-, sobirte (5 sobirtee) [a. OF. *sobreté*, *soberté*: see SOBER *a.* and -TY.] Sobriety.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5972 þou..madest hym drunk,..And he solde hys þyng to þe More þan he wulde yn soberte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 248 Sobrete is a traw wel precious. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 217 Þanne had pacience..Sobrete, and symple speche and sothfaste byleue. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxx. (1869) 62 Sobirtee it hatteth in this cuntre, and also ouer see. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* b vj b, Thus sobrete chaseth the deuyl fro the man.

Sobole, Anglicized form of next. *rare*⁻⁰.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1068/1.

‖ **Soboles** (sǫ·bolīz). *Bot.* Also as pl. [L. *sobolēs*, *subolēs*, f. *sub* under + **olēre* to grow.]

† 1. A shoot, a sprout. *Obs.*

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 138, I..observed a new pearly brood of soboles at the root of the said winter-shoot. *Ibid.* 245 Through the center of which tufts the new soboles are formed, and issue out.

2. A creeping underground stem.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 55 The Creeping stem..(*soboles*). [*Ibid.* 56 The term soboles is applied by Link and De Candolle to the sucker of trees and shrubs.] 1858 A. IRVINE *Handbk. Brit. Plants* 7 The soboles is entirely underground, producing roots at one end, and leaves at the other.

Soboli·ferous, *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *soboliferus*: see prec. and -FEROUS.] Bearing shoots.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Aloe*, The soboliferous American Aloe. 1857 A. GRAY *First Less. Bot.* 231 *Soboliferous*, bearing shoots from near the ground. 1879 — *Struct. Bot.* Gloss. 433 *Soboliferous*, bearing vigorous lithe shoots.

‖ **Sobralia** (sobrē·liă). *Bot.* [f. the name of the Spanish physician and botanist, F. M. *Sobral.*] A genus of orchids; a plant belonging to this genus.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1068/1 *Sobralia*, one of the genera of orchids of the tribe *Vanillidæ*. 1882 *Garden* 9 Dec. 508/3 The Sobralias are Central American Orchids.

‖ **Sobre-vest.** *rare.* [ad. Sp. *sobrevesta.*] An upper coat without sleeves.

1847 PRESCOTT *Peru* IV. ii. II. 107 The colour of the sobre-vest on his armour. *Ibid.* vi. 211 He had made himself conspicuous by a rich sobrevest of white velvet over his armour.

Sobriety (sobrəi·ĕti). Also 5–7 sobrietie, 6 sobritie (?). [ad. F. *sobriété* (= It. *sobrietà*, Sp. *sobriedad*, Pg. *sobriedade*), or L. *sōbrietas*, f. *sōbrius* SOBER *a.*]

1. The quality of being sober or moderate in the indulgence of appetite; *spec.* moderation in the use of strong drink.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 32 The freer beleeveth..chastitie, meeknesse, and sobrietie. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxii. (1880) II. 336 The auncient temperaunce and moderation in diete, called sobrietie, or, in a more general terme, frugalite. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 19 b, Sobrietie is a bridelyng by discrecion the wilfulnesse of desire. 1607 ROWLANDS *Earl of Warw.* 69 Unto licentious life they teach us run, And with sobriety associate never. 1655 S. ASHE *Fun. Serm. Gataker* 32 Let the sad consequences of Noah his intemperance give caution for sobriety unto all ancient persons whatsoever. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 807 Sobriety, perhaps, may now be found, Where once intoxication press'd the ground. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xiv. 205 Sobriety was not one of the Persian virtues. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *S. Marner* iii, The voice of the good angel, inviting to industry, sobriety, and peace.

2. Moderation in any respect; avoidance of excess or extravagance.

1582 N. T. (Rheims) *Romans* xii. 3 Not to be more wise then behoueth.., but to be wise vnto sobrietie. 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 646 There is also sobriety in the affections, when they are moderate. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 80 Thoughts evil in themselves, are such as..are contrary to Sobriety. 1779 *Mirror* No. 25, The sobriety of manners which home exhibited. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 358 Some have imputed this to the sobriety and simplicity of living. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. ii, Misfortune had not taught those exiles sobriety of life. 1884 *19th Cent.* Mar. 406 Sobriety of dress must be enforced.

b. In *pl.* Sober qualities.

1826 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Sanity true Genius*, The other to the wildest dreams gives the sobrieties of every-day occurrences.

3. Staidness, gravity, seriousness; soundness or saneness of judgement, etc.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III.*, 55 b, Of suche sobrietie that it coulde never be judged whyther he ware more dull then quicke in speakynge. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 46 Curteous country Swaines shake off this sobrietie. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. i. (1739) 1 Others of more sobriety account them no better than Lords. 1675 BAXTER *Catholic Theol.* II. ii. 33 Now whether any man should deny all our Religion,..let sobriety be judge. 1774 REYNOLDS *Disc.* vi. (1876) 384 To bring us entirely to reason and sobriety, let it be observed [etc.]. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 60 To secure any degree of sobriety in the propositions made by the leaders in any publick assembly. 1841 SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 366 He was quite unapproached in that delicacy of feeling and sobriety of judgment, which he added to his learning and invention. 1879 GREEN *Readings fr. Eng. Hist.* x. 48 He could trust his good sense and wise sobriety of mind.

‖ **Sobriquet** (sōu·brikē, ‖ *sobrike*), *sb.* See also SOUBRIQUET. [F., of uncertain origin.] An epithet, a nickname.

1646 BUCK *Rich. III*, I. 4 It is controverted amongst the Antiquaries and Heralds, which Earle of Anjou first bare the Sirname and Sobriquet of Plantagenest, or Plantagenet. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. xii. 30 This name was one of the Sobriquets, or penitential nick-names. 1757 STUKELEY *Acc. Rich. of Cirencester* 8 Most of the names then were what we call sobriquets, travelling names,..what we call nick-names. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 298 The Chronicle..gives him the sobriquet of *Annuine*. 1860 ADLER *Prov. Poet.* xvi. 364 In his verses he never designated her but by a species of poetic sobriquet. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 57 Because of this reprehensible state of the town, Whithorn got a not very complimentary sobriquet.

Hence **So·briquet** *v. trans.*, to nickname. Also **Sobriquetical** *a.*, of or pertaining to sobriquets.

1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 683 He has been sobriquetted by.. Tom Moore, as the Rev. Murtagh O'Mulligan. 1875 LOWER *Eng. Surnames* (ed. 4) II. 23 Surnames, geographical, topographical,..sobriquetical,..and historical.

Soc (sǫk). Now *Hist.* Also 3, 5–7 sok, 7 *Sc.* sock. [var. of SOKE 1.]

1. A right of local jurisdiction: (see SAC 1).

1228 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Sok, sak, tol, tem. *a* 1272 *Rolls Parl.* IV. 55/1 Entre diverses autres fraunchises, Sok & Sak, Thol & Theam. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 535 With tol and team, sok and sake,..and all other customes. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 9 Of sake and soc, tol and teme. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 177 Power to hald their courts, with sock, sack, pitt, and gallous. *c* 1657 SIR W. MURE *Hist. Ho. Rowallane* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 241 Holding in cheife of the crowne infeft cum furca et fossa, sock et sack [etc.]. 1671 F. PHILIPIS *Reg. Netess.* 175 All that had Soc a liberty of distributive Justice in their Lands or Territories, and Sac..a power to fine or punish such as were found guilty. 1749 *Hist. Windsor* 121 That they should enjoy all their lands with the liberties of Soc and Sac [etc.]. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* 180 It may be questioned if this applied to any landowner who had soc of his own. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. v. 103 The hereditary owners of sac and soc in the territory.

2. = SOKE 1 2. *rare.*

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., *Soc*,..the Shire, Circuit, or Territory wherein such Power is exercised by him indued with such Jurisdiction. 1824 MANDER Title-p., The Derbyshire Miner's Glossary; or Explanation of the Technical Terms of the Miners, used..within the Soc or Wapentake of Wirksworth.

Socade, variant of SUCCADE.

Socage (sǫ·kėdʒ). Now *Hist.* Also 4–6 sokage, 6 socadge, 6– soccage. [a. AF. *socage*, *sokage* (Anglo-Lat. *socagium*), f. *soc* SOC + -AGE.

By early writers (Bracton, etc.) supposed to be derived from *soc* plough: see Coke *Inst.* (1628) II. v. § 117. The view now generally accepted is that the original distinctive

feature of socage was attendance at the court held by the superior in virtue of his right of *soc.*]

1. The tenure of land by certain determinate services other than knight-service.

a. *a* 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 41 Þoru suuche dede sokage is ibore out in to fre tenement. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 324/1 [She] entred into the same Messes, Lands and Tenements, in the right of the same David her Son, as his Gardyne in Socage. *a* 1500 *Brome Book* 155 Þan must ȝe enquere be what seruyce he helde of this lordscheppe, whether he hylde be skwage or be sokage. 1596 SPENSER *St. Ivel.* Wks. (Globe) 674/1 By what services he holdeth his land, whether in cheif or in socadge, or in knightes service. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 86 Euery tenure which is not tenure in chiualrie is a tenure in socage. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 47 As the Tenants in Socage after the said change paid their rents yearly to the Lord. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 79 Socage, in it's most general and extensive signification, seems to denote a tenure by any certain and determinate service. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 824/1 The guardianship of a minor inheriting an estate in lands of the tenure of socage, devolves on the next of kin, on whom the inheritance cannot possibly descend. 1875 K. E. DIGBY *Real Prop.* i. ii. § 3. 47 There can be little doubt that tenure in socage is the successor of the alodial proprietorship of early times.

β. 1538 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 67 Thomas Knyght..Surrenderyth into the lord hands in Soccage..a mese. 1562 *Richmond. Wills* (Surtees) 151 Hereditamentis holden in soccage or of the nature of socage tenure. 1638 COTTON *Tower Rec.* 14 For no man will buy quillets but in soccage. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 815 Nor will We have the Wardship..of the Fee-Farm, Soccage, or Burgage. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. xi. 239 He also holds lands of the crown by soccage or any other tenure.

fig. 1658 CULPEPPER *Astrol. Judgem. Dis.* 190 Dame Nature..holds by tenure by Soccage of Almighty God. 1834 TAYLOR *Philip van Artevelde* II. v. ii, If he be not the devil's feudatory He holds in soccage of a fiend that is.

b. With distinguishing epithets, esp. *free* or *common* (also *free and common*) *socage*, the ordinary form of this tenure.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 486 There be two sortes of Socage, the one Free, the other Base..: the Free Socage descending to the eldest alone. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 31 Als meikill of his lands, halden in frie soccage; as the samine sonne will get..be reason of succession. 1671 F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 167 Before that late unhappy conversion of those Tenures into free and common socage. 1764 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* v. (1765) 447 They held their lands, as of the manor,..in free and common socage. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* I. 148 All lands in Upper Canada are to be granted hereafter in free and common soccage. 1832 C. M. GOODRIDGE *Voy. S. Seas* 255 Land thus disposed of without purchase, is to be..held in fr[r]ee and common socage. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. 607 The conversion of lands held till then in chivalry into lands held in common socage.

c. An estate held in socage. *rare.*

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 521/2 In the Maners,..Tounes, Wapentaches and Socage of Wyrkesworth. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Europe* 78*/2 At a certain small reserved rent.. viz. 50*l.* per ann. for the soccage of Carlisle.

d. A payment made to the superior by one holding land in socage. *rare.*

1859 C. BARKER *Associative Principle* i. 26 The rents and soccage of two mills were applied to the purchase of sheepskins. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* Aug. 545/1 The payment of free socage came, in time, to be attended with some ceremony.

2. *attrib.*, as *socage freehold, land, roll, service, tenant, tenure.*

1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 376 The charter of the seid cite, with the ij. Socage Rollez, shullen be putt in the comyn cofour. *a* 1500 *Brome Bk.* 155 And althow it be sokage lond, ȝet þe eyur [=heir] schall pay a releffe and do his sewte. 1562 Socage tenure [see 1 β]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 121 He may deuise by his Will all his Socage Lands. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 442 Considering the Incertainty of things under that Iron Socage Tenure. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* i. 3 Under this Term were comprehended all Socage Services. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 423 The taillages that the king had it in his power to levy upon the soccage tenants in his own demesnes. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. 203 Many of them rather answer to our socage freeholds. 1890 *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 12/2 Owners of land held in England by socage tenure.

Socager (sɒ·kédʒəɹ). Now *Hist.* Also 7– soccager, 8 sockager. [f. prec.] One holding land by socage tenure.

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* i. lxx. (1739) 187 Of these Socagers did arise..the body of English Footmen in their Armies. 1653 *Customes of Soke of Kirton-in-Lindsey, Linc.* (MS.), Upon paine of every forreyner so intruding ten pounds, and every Soccager Five pounds. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Soc*, Liberty of holding a Court of his Sockmen or Sockagers, that is, his Tenants, whose Tenure is hence called Socage. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Eron. Gt. Brit.* 4 The barons, the free tenants, the free soccagers, together with the villains, and the slaves. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. vii. 193 He was easily tempted to become a socager, paying rent or gavel, instead of a free..man-at-arms.

So-called, *ppl. a.* Also **so called.**

1. In predicative use (properly without hyphen): Called or designated by that name.

1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 304 This Company of the Haberdashers, or Hurrers, of old time so-called. 1696 PHILLIPS, *Rubrick*, a name given to a Book of the Civil Law, so called because the Heads of the Chapters were written in red Letters. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 181 The Cluniacenses, so called from their first Abbey of Cluny in France. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xix, He would find him at the Philosopher's Gardens, so called, as belonging to the sage Agelastes. 1847 HALLIW., *Patrick's Purgatory*..Its entire history is to be found in Mr. Wright's work so called. 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geogr.* 69 The Coralline Crag, so-called because it contains a large number of corals.

b. Qualified by *properly*.

1665 GLANVIL *Scepsis Sci.* v, The Soul is the sole Percipient, which alone hath animadversion and sense properly so called. 1790 [see PROPERLY 2]. 1827 COLERIDGE *Table Talk* 24 June, I do not think there is any jealousy, properly so called, in the character of Othello. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* VI. vi. § 4 V. 43 A root, properly so called, is a fibre..which secretes certain elements from the earth.

2. In attributive use (hyphened): Called or designated by this name or term, but not properly entitled to it or correctly described by it.

Rarely used without implication of incorrectness, as in (*b*). Cf. Du. *zoogenaamd, -genoemd, -gezeid*, G. *sogenannt.*

(*a*) 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. ii, The Right Side..persists..in considering..all these so-called Decrees as mere temporary whims. 1852 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) i. § 2. 39 The so-called elementary bodies being really compounds of at least two atoms of the true element. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclif* vi. 193 Their so-called poverty is nothing else but a diabolical lie.

(*b*) 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 341 The leading so-called linendrapers of the metropolis.

Soccated, obs. var. of SOCKETED. **Soccer**, var. of SOCKER. **Soccotrine**, var. of SOCOTRINE. **Soccour**, obs. f. SUCCOUR. **Socdollager**, var. of SOCKDOLAGER. **Soch(e**, obs. ff. SUCH *a.* **Sochete**, var. of SUGET *v.* (subject) *Obs.*

‖ **Socia.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *socia*, fem. of *socius* companion.] A female friend or companion.

1797 Mrs. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 25 The two socias went to the theatre. *Ibid.* IV. 52 Miss was now the most elegant entertainer, except only her socia, Mrs. Bawsky.

Sociability (sōʊ·ʃăbi·lĭti). Also 5 ? socibbilitee. [f. next + -ITY. Cf. F. *sociabilité*, Sp. *sociabilidad*, Pg. *-idade.*] The character or quality of being sociable; friendly disposition or intercourse.

a 1475 ASHBY *Poems* (1899) ii. 270 He shall appere false and sedicious, Be al quaint socibbilitees and labour. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 152 Doth he not shew forth an euident sociabilitie and likly hood, that he will be very well to be liued withall? 1594 PARSONS *Confer. Succession* I. i. 3 Sociability or inclination to liue togeather in company. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. vi. I. 275 Such then was the Root and Foundation of this Sociability of Religion in the ancient World, so much envied by our modern Infidels. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 12 Aug., We were flung, by this means, into a style of sociability we might else never have arrived at. 1812 HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 134 Civil wars which extinguish the sociabilities of mankind. 1880 FLO. MARRYAT *Fair-Haired Alda* II. v. 82 They were wofully disappointed by the results of their intended sociability.

Sociable (sōʊ·ʃăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *sociable* (=Sp. *sociable*, It. *-abile*, Pg. *-avel*), or ad. L. *sociābilis*, f. *sociāre* to unite, associate : see -ABLE.]

A. *adj.* 1. Naturally inclined or disposed to be in company with others of the same species.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 56 Euery societie or companiyng together is delitfull,..for asmuche as Nature hath ordeined vs to be sociable, frendly, and louyng together. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 459 It is a very sociable creature, for they do live together in herds above a thousand in a flock. 1672 TEMPLE *Ess. Govt.* Wks. 1720 I. 99 What it is that makes some Creatures sociable, and others live and range more alone, or in smaller Companies. 1707 HOPE *New Method Fencing* 5 Man being a sociable Creature designed not only for himself, but for..the Community wherein he lives. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 9 ¶ 1 Man is said to be a Sociable Animal.

b. In names of birds (see quots. and cf. SOCIAL 6c).

1801 LATHAM *Syn.* Suppl. II. 192 Sociable Grosbeak.—Size of a bullfinch;..general colour..rufous brown. 1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VI. 163 The Sociable Vulture, or Oricou. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes w. Hands* xxii. (1868) 416 Sociable Weaver Bird is a native of Southern Africa. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 772 The Sociable Grosbeak of South Africa. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 257 The Sociable Vulture (*Otogyps auricularis*). 1908 *Zoologist* Apr. 122 The Sociable Plovers and other rare birds which showed themselves in Kent.

2. Inclined to seek and enjoy the company of others; disposed to be friendly or affable in company; willing to converse in a pleasant manner.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 5 This is he that accuseth me of not being sociable, him self so sociable as you se. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 9 The true Phisition is sociable, and readie to communicate. 1656 DUCHESS NEWCASTLE *True Relation* in *Life* (1886) 287, I durst neither look up with my eyes, nor speak, nor be any way sociable. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 91 He e'en.. turn'd a sociable Sot, like the rest of his Brethren. 1771 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 54 We had a sociable company in the cabin. 1824 SYD. SMITH *America* Wks. 1859 II. 47/1 The great inconvenience..is one which more sociable travellers must feel less acutely. 1893 K. L. BATES *Eng. Relig. Drama* 223 Pity, Contemplation, and Perseverance, sociable old worthies.

transf. and *fig.* 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 181 Nicanor..made a vaine attempt to bring the Euxin and this sea into one, to make it sociable and navigable. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 8 This sociable evil [*sc.* the body], this treacherous Companion, is the enticer and betrayer to all sin. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Wonder-Bk.* (1868) 142 That sociablest of flowers, the little Houstonia.

b. Const. *to* a person or thing. *rare.*

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. 63 Mine eyes ev'n sociable to the shew of thine Fall fellowly drops. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 3 He was sociable only to particular friends, and to them only at particular hours.

3. Characterized by, pertaining to, contact, intercourse, or companionship with others, esp. in a friendly or pleasant manner.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 6 How sociably he hath deli bi me. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 2 Beasts and birds..stood all sociably together. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xvii. 86 Certain living creatures, as Bees, and Ants, live sociably one with another. 1755 *World* (1772) III. 294 [They] spend their evenings very sociably together. 1878 GLADSTONE *Primer of Homer* 111 Wine was sociably enjoyed, but drunkenness was abhorred.

Social (sōʊ·ʃăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 *Sc.* **sociale**, 7 **sociall.** [a. F. *social*, *-ale* (14th cent. in Godef.; =Sp., Pg. *social*, It. *sociale*), or ad. L. *sociālis*, f. *socius* friend, companion, associate.]

A. *adj.* †1. Capable of being associated or united *to* others. *Obs.*—[1]

1562 WINJET *Last Blast Tromp.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 45 The proude schismatikis and obstinat heretikis, na wayis sociale to the companie of Christiane Catholiks.

†2. Associated, allied, combined. *Obs.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 20 The former is called the Sole, solitary,..absolute Cause: the latter sociall Causes. 1645 HAMMOND *View. In/allib.* 64 'Tis strange you should

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 8 These are ther sociable and fellouli delings. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 404 The ciuil and sociable nature, in which God hath created them. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 6 Sweet and calme and sociable manners and conversation. 1661 A. BROME *Songs & Poems* 86 A sociable life and free. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 56 This was a sociable practise of that age. 1781 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 9 Dec., Comfortably situated by a good fire, and just entering on a sociable conversation. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 99 He had often similar moments of enjoyment, thanks to his sociable habits. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 506/1 The harvesting of potatoes was a sociable toil.

†b. *Sociable coach* : (cf. SOCIABLE *sb.* 2 a). *Obs.*

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing Master* v. i, I will have..a large, sociable, well painted Coach. 1772 *Town & Co. Mag.* 17 In high spirits Maria stepped into Mrs. Benwell's sociable coach.

†c. Of or pertaining to society; social. *Obs.*

1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 39 Peter explains his two sociable duties, Fear God, Honour the King. 1705 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. x. 351 Pressing Men to exercise those Graces which adorn the Sociable State.

†4. a. Capable of being combined or joined together. *Obs.*

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* (1676) I. 74 Another Law there is, which toucheth them as they are sociable parts united into one body. 1674 GREW *Anat. Pl., Disc. Mixture* (1682) 231 To render all Bodies Sociable or Mingleable. 1679 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* II. 413 There is a certain secret principle in nature, by which liquors are sociable to some things and unsociable to others.

†b. Capable of being made a companion *for* others. *Obs.*

1608 BRETON *Divine Consid.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 22/1 God ..made him like vnto himselfe.., amiable in his sight, sociable for his Angells, and coheire with his blessed Sonne.

B. *sb.* †1. A social being. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 103 One that Nature made a sociable,..and a crazed disposition hath altered.

2. a. An open, four-wheeled carriage having two seats facing each other and a box-seat for the driver. (Cf. SOCIABLE *a.* 3 b.)

1794 W. FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Carriages* (1801) II. 87 A Sociable is a phaeton with a double or treble body, and is so called from the number of persons it is meant to carry at one time. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. 122 The sociable and the travelling-carriage were driven up to the door. 1878 *Rep. Carriages Paris Exhib.* (ed. C. Saunderson, 1879) 8 This shape is becoming very fashionable in Paris, not only in Broughams, but also in Landaus, Victorias, and Sociables.

b. A tricycle having two seats side by side.

1882 *Knowledge* No. 19. 398/1 Great improvements have been made recently in double tricycles, or, as they are generally called, Sociables. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Feb. 5/1 For years..we ploughed along on sociables with a young lady at our side.

c. 'A kind of couch with a curved S-shaped back, for two persons who sit partially facing each other' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

3. *U.S.* An informal evening party; *esp.* a social church meeting. (Cf. SOCIAL *sb.* 2.)

1826 LONGF. *Life* (1891) I. vi. 74, I..went with them to a little 'sociable' in the evening, where we had dancing. 1888 T. W. HIGGINSON *Women & Men* 31 She manages the book club and the church sociable. 1895 SARAH M. H. GARDNER *Quaker Idyls* vi. 129 Some of their friends had proposed to have a series of 'sociables'.

Hence **So·ciablist**, one who rides a double tricycle.

1883 *Cyclists Tour. Club Gaz.* Sept. 343/1 Two sociablists pedalling independently.

Sociableness (sōʊ·ʃăb'lnĕs). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being sociable, in the various senses of the word; sociability.

1592 MORYSON *Let.* in *Itin.* (1617) I. 36 To which custome gentlemen for sociablenes have submitted themselves. 1613 SIR A. SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 116 Which will giue an entrance to a kind of sociablenesse, and that will proceed.. to a mutuall friendship. 1653 MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. iv. § 3 The two main Properties of Man being Contemplation and Sociableness or love of Converse. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 25 Abundance of Gentry being in the Neighbourhood, it adds to the Sociableness of the Place. 1727 [see SOCIALNESS]. 1825 COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 195 An absolute passion, indulgence in which gratified..his jovial sociableness. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. III. 50 But of this sociableness William was entirely destitute.

Sociably (sōʊ·ʃăbli), *adv.* [f. as prec.: see -LY [2].] In a sociable manner; with sociability.

couple them together as so sociall things which are so distant and separable. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* ii. 80 There may be subjoyned another social cause that may contribute not a little to the elevating Water above its own Level.

3. Of war: Occurring or taking place between allies or confederates. *rare.*

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 1, I Intend to Discourse the most famous Warre of our Times, and which may not improperly be called Sociall, or a Warre of Confederates. 1700 SOUTHERNE *Fate of Capua* I. i, Is there a worthier than a social war?

b. *spec.* (with *the*). In Roman Hist., the war between Rome and the Italian allies, 90–89 B.C. In Greek Hist., the war between the Athenians and their confederates, 357–355 B.C.

(*a*) 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 159 When, after the social war, all the burghers of Italy were admitted free citizens of Rome. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* xv. § 6 (ed. 3) 436 A much more dangerous war, called the Marsic, the Social, or the Italic, was provoked by the injustice with which the Romans treated their Italian allies.

(*b*) 1788 LEMPRIERE *Class. Dict., Chabrias*, an Athenian general,..killed in the Social war. 1808 MITFORD *Hist. Greece* IV. xxxvi. 267 The War between the Athenians and their Allies, called the Confederate or Social War. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xliii. 259 Philip seems to have kept aloof from the Social War.

4. Marked or characterized by mutual intercourse, friendliness, or geniality; enjoyed, taken, spent, etc., in company with others, esp. with those of a similar class or kindred interests.

Social evening, an evening meeting of a club, society, etc., of the nature of an entertainment; an evening on which this is held.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 429 Thou in thy secresie although alone, Best with thy self accompanied, seek'st not Social communication. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Sat.* II. vi 157 While thus we spend the social Night. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxvi, The spacious fire-places, where no mark of social cheer remained. 1810 SIR A. BOSWELL *Edinb.* Poems (1871) 50 When met to drink a social cup of tea. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Mrs. Chick and Miss Tox were enjoying a social evening. 1864 — *Lett.* (1880) II. 214 They want social rest and social recreation for themselves and their families.

† **b.** Expressive of or proceeding from sympathy; sympathetic. *Obs.*

1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 236 The prince..Hung round his neck, while tears his cheek bedew; Nor less the father pour'd a social flood! 1745 COLLINS *Ode Death Col. Ross* x, Where'er from time thou court'st relief, The Muse shall still, with social grief, Her gentlest promise keep.

5. † **a.** United by some common tie. *Obs.*

1717 POPE *Iliad* XI. 339 The social shades the same dark journey go. 1718 *Ibid.* XVI. 1022 Patroclus yields to fear, Retires for succour to his social train.

b. Inclined or disposed to friendly intercourse or converse; sociable.

1729 POPE *On General Withers* 8 Withers, adieu! yet not with thee remove Thy Martial spirit, or thy Social love! 1776 PAINE *Com. Sense* (1791) 55 A few able and social sailors will soon instruct a sufficient number of active landmen in the common work of a ship. 1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* II. 339 Sir Edward was wandering, without one social bosom to confide a thought to, through.. Sicily. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* ii, His own friendly and social disposition. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 168 Charles came forth from that school with social habits, with polite and engaging manners. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Victory* ii, He was very happy and social.

c. Consisting or composed of persons associated together in, or for the purpose of, friendly intercourse.

1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 234 The contest went on in both Houses of Parliament, in every constituent body, in every social circle. 1866 *Month* IV. 54 The social body at Balliol was strengthened between 1830 and 1840 by three important additions. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 652 The club is strictly a 'social' one.

6. Living, or disposed to live, in companies or communities; desirous of enjoying the society or companionship of others.

1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vii. 145 Man is a Social creature: that is, a single man, or family, cannot subsist, or not well, alone out of all Society. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* (1841) 62 Let this then be remembered,..that man by nature is truly a social animal. 1853 TRENCH *Proverbs* 127 Man not being merely accidentally gregarious, but essentially social. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 279 In the use of the senses, as in his whole nature, man is a social being.

b. *Zool.* Living together in more or less organized communities; belonging to a community of this kind.

1832 *Insect Miscellanies* 412/1 Social leaf-mining caterpillars..Social wasps. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 599 The Apiariæ are either solitary or social in their habits. *Ibid.* 602 The terminal subgenus of Social Bees. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 87 In social animals it [i.e. natural selection] will adapt the structure of each individual for the benefit of the community. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. (1879) 57 Bees, Wasps, Ants, and other Social Insects.

transf. 1864–5 WOOD *Homes w. Hands* xxi. (1879) 411 We now come to the Social Habitations and give precedence to those which are constructed by Mammalia.

c. In specific names (see quots. and cf. SOCIABLE *a.* 1 b).

1781 PENNANT *Quad.* II. 459 The Social Rat..inhabits the Caspian desert. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 1. 93 The Social Mouse is a native of the Caspian deserts. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 57/2 Many of them [trees] were inhabited by whole colonies of the social grosbeak. 1869 *Galaxy* Aug. 273 The social-sparrow, *alias* 'hair-bird',..is the smallest of the sparrows. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* II *Globicephalus svineval*, ..also called Black Whale, Social Whale.

d. *Bot.* Of plants: Growing in a wild state in patches or masses with other members of the same species, esp. so as to cover a large area.

1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Physical Sci.* xxvii. 274 Very few social plants, such as grasses and heaths that cover large tracts of lands, are to be found between the tropics. 1855 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 268 One of the plants which the botanist terms *social* because never found growing singly, but always in numbers.

e. Of ascidians, etc.: Compound.

1860 *Chambers's Encycl.* I. 466/2 In some kinds (Social Ascidians), the peduncles of a number of individuals are connected by a tubular stem. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* x. 610 In the compound or social *Tunicata*, many ascidiozooids..are united by a common test.

7. Pertaining, relating, or due to, connected with, etc., society as a natural or ordinary condition of human life.

1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 16 The nature of man considered in his .. social capacity leads him to a right behaviour in society. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 180 ¶ 5 He that devotes himself to retired study naturally sinks from omission to forgetfulness of social duties. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 411 The social reason quickly recals him to personal interest. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* Pref. p. xviii, The degree to which its morbid derangements undermine health, happiness, and social usefulness. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 10 Pale unshapen embryos of social sympathy.

b. Of life, conditions, institutions, etc.

Social contract, the mutual agreement which, according to Rousseau's *Contrat social* (1762), forms the basis of human society.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. 28 When we go out of this World, we may pass into..a new State of Life and Action...And this new State may naturally be a social one. 1765 AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* II. 82 Science herself: on whom the wants and cares Of social life depend. 1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 109 The old charge, that we are seeking to produce riot and confusion, and to destroy 'Social Order'! 1849–50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* I. iii. § 90. 351 Rousseau's dreams on the social contract. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* iii. 46 The social state is..so natural, so necessary, and so habitual to man. 1868 T. ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xiv. 183 The condition of social life is that different persons should be engaged in different pursuits.

c. Of rank, position, etc., or of persons in respect of these.

1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 316 Enjoying..an equality of social rank. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 273 Albert Smith..says that the colonies are only refuges for destitute social suicides. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. 78 The rulers of other European states were ready to receive him as their social peer.

d. *Social evil*, prostitution. Also *attrib.* and *transf.* (quot. 1865).

1857 (*title*), Great Social Evil—Prostitution, the greatest of our Social Evils. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 626/1 The nauseous category of social-evil literature. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 239 *Social evil*, a name beginning to be applied to street-walkers in consequence of the articles in the newspapers being so headed. 1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 323 Those slums have become a pandemonium of drunkenness and the social evil.

8. *Psychol.* (See quots.)

1785 REID *Intell. Powers* 73 The social as well as the solitary operations of the mind. 1788 — *Active Powers* v. vi. 664, I call those operations social which necessarily imply social intercourse.

9. Concerned with, interested in, the constitution of society and the problems presented by this: **a.** Of persons.

1841 C. BRAY *Philos. Necessity* II. 467 A thorough Social Reformer. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* II. 242/1 One of the most difficult topics that the social philosopher can deal with. 1898 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 4/4 The Church had always been social and humanitarian.

b. Of sciences, theories, etc.

1841 C. BRAY *Philos. Necessity* II. 404 Social Reform. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 802/1 Social Economy.—Laws which directly consult the health, wealth, convenience or comfort of the public, may properly be referred to this head. 1846 LEWES *Biogr. Hist. Philos.* IV. 249 The conception of a social science is due to M. Comte. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* vi. 239 Our linguistic researches will be bounded by the limits of social science and social archæology.

10. *Social Democrat*, a member of a political party having socialistic views.

1877 *St. James's Gaz.* 7 Mar. (Cassell), This long period of activity has enabled the Social Democrats to found no fewer than twenty-five clubs in London. 1899 *Daily News* 19 July 5/5 The Clericals did not shrink from concluding a regular pact with the Social Democrats.

11. *Comb.* with other adjs., as *social-democratic, -political, -religious.*

1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 163 At Barnstaple..the Gild Merchant seems to have been transformed into a social-religious gild. 1893 W. C. ROBINSON tr. *Ten Brink's Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. iv. 24 Many influences..worked together to produce that social-democratic rising. 1899 *Daily News* 21 June 4/3 Parliament is at last tired of social-political experiments.

B. *sb.* † **1.** A companion, associate. *Obs. rare.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 426 O Socials! we're not ignorant of losses.

2. A social gathering or party, esp. one held by members of a club or association.

1876 E. W. CLARK *Life Japan* 124 The women..keep their tongues going as briskly during the tea-picking as their sisters of other climes..do at their tea-drinking socials.

1893 *The Mouth* Aug. 157 The social given by the ladies of the Altar Society was a grand success.

Socialism (sō·ʃăliz'm). [a. F. *socialisme* (1832), or independently f. SOCIAL *a.* + -ISM. See also next.

The early history of the word is somewhat obscure. The first use of F. *socialisme* appears to have been in the *Globe* of 13 Feb. 1832, where it was employed in contrast to *personnalité*. In its modern sense it is variously claimed for Leroux or Reybaud, writing within three or four years after this. A different account, assigning the priority of this use to England, is given in the *Encycl. Brit.* (1887) XXII. 205; according to this the word originated in 1835 in the discussions of a society founded by Robert Owen.]

1. A theory or policy of social organization which aims at or advocates the ownership and control of the means of production, capital, land, property, etc., by the community as a whole, and their administration or distribution in the interests of all.

Freq. with initial capital.

Christian socialism, a doctrine or theory, promulgated about 1850 by F. D. Maurice, C. Kingsley, T. Hughes, and others, advocating a form of socialism on a Christian basis.

1839 J. MATHER (*title*), Socialism Exposed: or 'The Book of the New Moral World' Examined. *Ibid.* App. 22 To explain and expose what Robert Owen's Socialism is. 1840 *Quart. Rev.* Dec. 180 The two great demons in morals and politics, Socialism and Chartism. 1863 FAWCETT *Polit. Econ.* II. i. 181 Socialism, as first propounded by Owen and Fourier, proposed that a society living together should share all the wealth produced. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 89, I do not greatly pride myself on having outlived my belief in the fairy tales of Socialism.

2. A state of society in which things are held or used in common.

1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VI. i. (1881) 188 We have passed out of the socialism of the tribal state.

Socialist (sō·ʃălist). [Cf. prec. and F. *socialiste* (Reybaud, 1835).]

1. One who advocates or believes in the theory of socialism; an adherent or supporter of socialism.

1833 *Poor Man's Guardian* 24 Aug. 275/2 [Letter signed] A Socialist. 1833 *The Crisis* 31 Aug. 276/1 The Socialist, who preaches of community of goods, abolition of crime, of punishment, of magistrates, and of marriage. 1853 W. JERDAN *Autobiog.* III. xix. 289 He was..a Socialist in the best sense of the term. 1889 SHAW *Fabian Ess. Socialism* 182 The young Socialist is apt to be catastrophic in his views.

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or pertaining to socialists; socialistic: **a.** Of persons.

1839 J. MATHER *Socialism Exposed* 23 A socialist lecturer expressed his ideas of God. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 114 The Socialist party. 1887 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Feb. (Cassell), The torchlight Socialist procession.

b. Of ideas, theories, etc.

1848 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vii. 246 The worst of all Socialist plans I have seen is that all have within them .a damning desire to shirk work. 1850 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1883) II. 284 The poem is to the last degree Jacobinical, indeed Socialist. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. N.* 17 Aug. 152/1 Working classes..declare their adhesion to the socialist idea.

Socialistic (sō·ʃăli·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.]

1. Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, socialism; in accordance with the theory of socialism.

(*a*) 1848 *N. Y. Tribune* 25 Apr. (Bartlett *App.*), That we have..profoundly rejoiced in the Revolution itself, and more especially in its socialistic aspects and tendencies. 1863 H. SPENCER *Ess.* II. 238 And similarly with countless socialistic schemes. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. i. 104 Various socialistic experiments were made by Robert Owen.

(*b*) 1858 *Sat. Rev.* VI. 639 An elaborate system of socialistic order. 1882 FROUDE in *Fortn. Rev.* CCXXIX. 744 Socialistic equality is pretty and becoming in Utopia. 1894 *Forum* Mar. 101 In any socialistic state there will be one set of positions which will offer chances of wealth.

2. Advocating or favouring socialism.

1864 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 366/2 Fernando Garrido..celebrated as a socialistic republican. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* III. 233 Chevalier,..who from having been a member of the socialistic sect..had come to be a practical politician.

Hence **Socialistically** *adv.*

1887 *Co-operative News* July 657 An amount of saving which even socialistically disposed workmen ought not to disregard. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Mar. 6/2 The miners are ..in no wise socialistically inclined, he considered.

Sociality (sō·ʃiæ·liti). [ad. F. *socialité* (It. *socialità*) or L. *sociālitas*: see SOCIAL *a.* and -ITY.]

1. The state or quality of being social; social intercourse or companionship with one's fellows, or the enjoyment of this.

a 1649 in *N. & Q.* Ser. I. X. 357 Socialitie becometh the person of the gravest man, soe as he neglect not the due consideration of time, place, and persons. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Sociality*, fellowship, company. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iv. § 1. 420 The Pleasures of Sociality and Mirth. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 94 The Dean is a man of drollery, good humour, and sociality. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vii. The good Lord kissed the wine-cup by way of parenthesis, remarking, that sociality became Scottish gentlemen. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* Pref. p. ix, It was thought that at Oxford he gave many hours to whist and innocent sociality.

b. With *pl.* A social act or function.

1825 LAMB *Elia* II. *Wedding*, In the participated socialities of the little community, I lay down for a brief while my solitary bachelorship. 1851 GEIKIE *Ment. E. Forbes* xiv. 498 Another winter passed pleasantly away. Not, however, without its socialities, its soirées and dinners. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 358/2 The socialities of life..require for their satisfactory working a certain amount of ignorance.

c. Contrasted with *sociability*: Social intercourse in its formal or conventional aspect.

1871 Mrs. H. Wood *Red Court Farm* ix. 128 Conscious of his own deficiency on the score of sociality, (not sociability) and fashion. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Feb. 2/3 She must be content with the 'sociality'. One hopes it will not degenerate into 'sociability'.

2. The action or fact on the part of individuals of forming a society or of associating together; the disposition, impulse, or tendency to do this.

(*a*) 1775 G. White *Selborne* lxvi, There is a wonderful spirit of sociality in the brute creation. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 429 This is precisely the case with the burrowing wasps..; their sociality is of no higher order than that which exists amongst the inhabitants of the same street.

(*b*) 1839 I. Taylor *Theory Another Life* (1847) II. 22 The basis of..communion or sociality among intelligent orders. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. ix. III. 16 That regulated sociality which required the control of individual passion from every one. 1899 Fiske *Through Nature to God* II. ix. 105 As soon as sociality became established, and Nature's supreme end became the maintenance of the clan organization.

3. Companionship or fellowship *in* or *with* some thing or person.

1806 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* I. 5 My only remaining solace,—that of sociality in sorrow and complaint. 1831 I. Taylor in Edwards *Freedom Will* Pref. p. xxxvii, Fatalism..takes its place along with the truths of other exact sciences and should maintain sociality with them. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm., Gen.* xxv. 1–11, Wedlock and the Sabbath, the fountain-heads of sociality with man and God.

Socialization (sōu·ʃăləizē'ʃən). [f. next.] The action or fact of socializing or establishing upon a socialistic basis.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Sept. 11/2 The socialization of the means and instruments for the creation of wealth by the workers. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 2/2 No one could now be found to deny the possibility..of the socialisation of some services.

Socialize (sōu·ʃăləiz), *v.* [f. Social *a.* + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To render social; to make fit for living in society.

1828 [see Socializing *ppl. a.*]. 1836 Lytton *Athens* (1837) I. 382 Pisistratus refined the taste and socialized the habits of the citizens. 1846 Grote *Greece* (1862) II. 566 Socialising and improving the people. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 254 He [the wrongdoer] is imperfectly socialised.

2. To render socialistic in nature; to establish or develop according to the theories or principles of socialism.

1846 Worcester, *Socialize*,..to regulate or conform to the principles of the Socialists. 1889 Shaw *Fabian Ess. Socialism* 50 It is the municipalities who have done most to 'socialize' our industrial life. 1894 *Daily News* 4 June 7/1 They would 'socialise', as they term it, all the instruments of production, such as mines, factories, railways, and so forth.

Hence **So·cialized** *ppl. a.*; **So·cializing** *vbl. sb.*

1848 Hamilton *Sabbath* i. 11 Divine worship, among socialised men, requires social agreement. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Oct. 2/2 The second part..takes place several years later in a rural commune of Socialized England. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Mar. 353 The preliminary necessary to the complete socialising of the state.

So·cializing, *ppl. a.* [f. prec.] That socializes or renders social.

1828 *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 211 The socialising and humanising effects of a liberal commerce with other nations. 1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 562 The socializing philosophist will change the congregation of battling devils..into a conclave of serenest gods. 1890 H. H. Ellis *Criminal* vi. 260 Whatever educative and socialising influences the prison may possess.

Socially (sōu·ʃăli), *adv.* [f. Social *a.*]

†**1.** *Sc.* In company. *Obs.*[−1]

1505 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 432 Thai sale..pass tua and ij togidr socialie.

†**2.** As a member of a body or society. (Opposed to *severally*.) *Obs. rare.*

1642 Bridge *Wound. Consc. Cured* 31 The subjects are considered two waies: Socially [and] Severally. 1647 Digges *Unlaw. Taking Arms* iv. 88 Which are the acts of them not as single men, but as united bodies, and considered ..socially, not severally.

3. In a social manner; sociably.

a 1763 Shenstone *Ess.* Wks. 1777 II. 215 If the selfish passion of the rest preponderate, it would be self-destructive in a few individuals to be over-socially disposed. 1810 J. Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 421 We read socially a great deal. 1850 R. G. Cumming *Hunter's Life S. Africa* (1902) 57/2 These remarkable birds..construct their nests and live socially together under one common roof. 1891 E. Kinglake *Austral. at Home* 91 They are young barristers, doctors, or solicitors, sons of..socially minded stock and share brokers.

4. In respect of, with regard to, society.

1871 Smiles *Charac.* ii. (1876) 59 The result has been socially disastrous. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 696/2 The influence of Christianity was making itself felt morally, socially, and politically.

So·cialness. [f. Social *a.*] Social quality or character; = Sociality 1.

1727 Bailey (vol. II), *Sociableness, Socialness,* social Temper, Fitness for Conversation. 1843 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 41 There is a certainty..that the disposition to society and socialness, innate to humanity,..will have fair play. 1901 *Expositor* June 426 Sin is selfishness, and morality is socialness.

So·cialry. *U.S.* [f. Social *a.* + -ry.] Social organization.

1902 *Science* 14 Feb. 249/1 In the analogy with primitive socialry.

So·cialty. *rare*[−1]. [f. Social *a.*] Sociality.

1848 Bailey *Festus* (ed. 3) 210 Others [held]..that war and socialty Were equal evils.

†**So·ciate,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5–7 sociat. [ad. L. *sociāt-us*: see next.] An associate or colleague; a companion or comrade. Also *transf.*

a. c 1450 *Hist. & Ant. Masonry* 130 The..Alderman of the Towne in wyche the congregacions ys holden schall be felaw and sociat to the master of the congregacions. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 56 Deere sociats, . Now let vs on forward. 1621 Brathwait *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 109 Wisdome will haue sociats to frequent her. 1638 — *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 39 Night and day with sociats many Drunk I ale both thick and clammy.

β. 1523 *North Co. Wills* (Surtees) 116 To the two sociates with the prior of Horneby. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 53 He had two sociates for to helpe him. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon., Battle's* 58 Wyat and his sociates being greatly encouraged by this new supply. 1706 De Foe *Jure Divino* XI. 260 At this One Blow, the mighty Sociates fell. 1719 — *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 376 The three new Sociates began, it seems, to be weary of the..life they led. 1788 Sir B. Boothby *Elegy* 7 in *Sorrows* (1796) 41 Beloved retreat..; Sociate of joy, when Love and Hope were young.

So·ciate, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Also 6 sociat, socyate. [ad. L. *sociāt-us*, pa. pple. of *sociāre*.]

1. *pa. pple.* Associated *with* or *to* some thing or person; joined or united *together*.

a. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. xvi, Tell me this wonder, How that ȝe wretchit catiues..Ar sociat with this court souerane? 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 The actyue lyfe is ye lyfe wherby we be sociat and knytte in charite and loue to our neyghbour.

β. 1599 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 127 In him is iustice with pitie sociate. 1534 Whitinton *Pullyes Offices* I. (1540) 70 Eloquence wynneth and accompanyeth those with whome we be famylier socyate. 1895 F. Thompson *Sister Songs* 60 But you must be Bound and sociate to me.

†**2.** *ppl. a.* Associated, joint. *Obs.*[−1]

1706 De Foe *Jure Divino* II. 11 Belus and Nimrod,..Who made the patriarchal power comply, And sociate Rule submit to Monarchy.

†**So·ciate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *sociāt-*, ppl. stem of *sociāre* to unite, combine, etc., f. *socius* companion.]

1. *trans.* To associate, join, or unite together; to form into a society or association.

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 112 Of him quhome he persewit maist cruellie,..sociatit witht the commone enemeis of the realme. 1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* 90 That Government being necessary for the Churches well-being when multiplied and sociated. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 220 O let thy loines so fruitfull be To sociate all Monarchy.

2. *intr.* To associate, mix, or keep company *with* others.

1635 Shelford *Five Disc.* ii. 58 One sort will not sociate with the rest of their neighbours in the house of God. 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. 44 They seem..above all others to desire to sociate with, and to be in their Company. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 359 They would be very willing to assist and sociate with them.

b. To combine or league *together*. *rare.*

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 203/2 A Guild or Fraternity of Brothers and Sisters..are a kind of Religious Laity that Societ [*sic*] together.

†**Sociation.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *sociātio* (cf. older F. *sociation*), or f. Sociate *v.* after *association*.] Association, conjunction, union.

1681 H. More in Glanvil *Sadducismus* Postscr. I. (1726) 12 In vertue of either an express or implicit Sociation or Confederacy with some Evil Spirit. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) XI. 6 Upon the sociation of the soul with the body.

Sociative (sōu·ʃiĕtiv), *a. Gram.* [ad. F. *sociatif, -ive*: see Sociate *v.* and -ive.] Denoting or expressing association.

1871 Kennedy *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 437 From this habit of connexion by Relatives, appears to have arisen the use of *quod* before many Conjunctions as a merely Sociative Particle. 1888 — *Revised Lat. Primer* § 232 This [the Ablative of Association] includes the uses of an old case called the Sociative Case, expressing the circumstances associated with the Subject or the action of the Sentence.

absol. 1886 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVII. 79 The pure dative, the locative, and the instrumental (including the sociative).

†**So·cie,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 socy-. [ad. OF. *socier*, ad. L. *sociāre*: see Sociate *v.*] *trans.* To associate, ally, or join (a person or persons) *to* (another or others), esp. for some common purpose.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 267 Hym slowh Cyrus i-socied to his eme Darius. *Ibid.* VIII. 333 Pere he [king Edward] socied to hym þe emperour Bevarrus. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. vii. in *Anglia* VIII. 170/1 Vnwhile receyued worshypfully of þe senate of holy apostils, oþerewhile socyed to setes of aungels. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 98 To Coleyn ful fast he gan hym hye And socyid hym to that holy cumpanye.

b. To join or bind (things) *together*.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxxi. (1495) 941 All the lymmes of the body ben socied togyder by vertue of Armenye.

Soci·etal, *a.* [f. Society + -al.] Societary; social.

1903 A. G. Keller *Queries in Ethnography* 55 The Societal System.

Societarian (sōsəi,ĕtē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Society, after other words in *-arian*. Cf. F. *sociétaire*.]

A. *adj.* Societary; socialistic.

1822 Lamb *Elia* I. *Compl. Decay of Beggars,* The all-sweeping besom of societarian reformation. *Ibid.*, The..caprice of any fellow-creature, or set of fellow-creatures, parochial or societarian. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 19 He could have no sympathy with utilitarian liberaux or societarian philanthropists. 1900 *Speaker* 3 Feb. 476 The return to Greek societarian ideas is now a commonplace.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who believes in or advocates some form of socialism; a socialist.

1842 *Nonconformist* II. 809 Your communitarians, or societarians of modern days. *a* 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* iv. (1870) 62, I should myself be inclined rather to call Mr. Mill a societarian, if we must have new and sectarian words, than an utilitarian.

2. One who moves in or is a member of fashionable society.

1891 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 2/3 'Societarians' is a new term for the fashionable four hundred. 1893 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 246 Second to none in that varied knowledge required nowadays of the successful societarian.

Hence **Societa·rianism.**

a 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit Philos.* iv. (1870) 71 What I have called his [Mill's] 'societarianism' would have been superfluous.

†**Soci·etary,** *sb. Obs.*[−1] [Cf. next.] An associate.

1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 258 These four eminent Scots I have put together, because they were societaries by the name of Jesus, vulgarly called Jesuits.

Societary (sōsəi·ĕtări), *a.* [f. Society + -ary.] Of, pertaining to, concerned or dealing with, society or social conditions; social.

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 267 Small farms would also be a return to something like Patriarchalism, a past societary state. 1885 L. Oliphant *Sympneumata* 187 It should not be matter for surprise that just and truer order has so lately begun to show itself on the field of societary life. 1886 T. Frost *Country Journalist* v. (1888) 57 Men..disposed to study societary science.

Soci·etism. [f. Society + -ism.] Combination in a society or societies.

1894 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 3/6 It was a real grievance which hatched secret societism in Ireland. 1896 *Bibliotheca Sacra* July 545 As the perversion of individualism is anarchism, so would the perversion of societism appear to be socialism or collectivism.

Society (sōsəi·ĕti). Also 6 societe(, societye, 6–7 -tie, 7 socyetye, sosiety. [ad. OF. *societe* (mod.F. *société*, = It. *società*, Sp. *sociedad*, Pg. *sociedade*), ad. L. *societas*, f. *socius* companion, etc.]

I. 1. Association with one's fellow men, esp. in a friendly or intimate manner; companionship or fellowship. Also rarely of animals (quot. 1774).

1531 Elyot *Gov.* (1834) 173 Society, without which man's life is unpleasant and full of anguish. 1581 W. Stafford *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 49 To the intent men may knowe that they haue neede one of anothers helpe, and thereby loue and societie to growe among all men the more. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 305 Till now wee have not had to doe with them in matter of moment, but in friendly sosiety. 1658 T. Wall *Charact. Enemies Ch.* 59 It is separation..that makes them void of Christian society, and common Morality. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. v. 121 Want of everything of this kind..would render a man as uncapable of Society, as want of language would. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 153 As Nature has formed the rapacious class for war, so she seems equally to have fitted these for peace, rest, and society. 1861 Mill *Utilit.* iii. 47 Society between equals can only exist on the understanding that the interests of all are to be regarded equally.

b. With possessive pronoun or genitive.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 166, I do dine to day at the fathers of a certaine Pupill of mine... I beseech your Societie. 1663 S. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 35 It is a thousand to one but they will find the means..to insinuate themselves into their society again. 1779 *Mirror* No. 64, I had fancied that..the want of their society had deprived us of the ease and gaiety of discourse. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, Forced on each other's society, the two desolate women became companions, if not friends. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 473 A holy anchorite, who had been for forty years cut off from the society of men.

c. Association or intercourse *with* or *between* persons, etc. Also *fig.*

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 973/2 The societie betwixt Christ & vs, is promised to them that take bread and wyne. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 11 There was such friendship, societie, and familiarity betweene the Religious of that comtie and England, that [etc.]. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacræ* III. ii. § 5 An Island, where he may have no society with mankind. 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. ii. Wks. 1727 II. 162 One of those wild savage Beasts, with whom Men can have no Society nor Security. 1803 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 119 The members who are there are not willing to acknowledge they have any society with him. 1831 Scott *Cast. Dang.* xvii, You will..best fulfil the intentions of those by whose orders you act, by holding no society with me whatever, otherwise than is necessary.

d. With *a* and pl. An instance of association or companionship with others. *rare.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. iv. 9 Other barres he layes before me, My Riots past, my wilde Societies. 1780 *Mirror* No. 71, Renouncing a society in which the secret admonitions of his heart frequently told him he could not continue.

e. *concr.* Persons with whom one has, or may have, companionship or intercourse. Also *transf.* of plants. †In early use also with poss. pronouns or article.

In some instances the abstract sense is also implied.

1605 Shaks. *Macb.* III. iv. 3 Our selfe will mingle with Society, And play the humble Host. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 411 None are so readie to blame men therein as their Societie. 1696 *Caldwell P.* (Maitland Cl.)

I. 171, I lodged..att the 2 pigeons, where I had a most desyreable societie. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 292 Having now Society enough, and our Number being sufficient to put us out of Fear of the Savages. 1759 MILLS tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* II. ii. (1762) 260 Wheat and other plants love society. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* iii, Mr. Woodhouse was fond of society...He liked very much to have his friends come and see him. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* 256 They have plenty of society, real society. 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* 14 For all society he had two friends.

2. The state or condition of living in association, company, or intercourse with others of the same species; the system or mode of life adopted by a body of individuals for the purpose of harmonious co-existence or for mutual benefit, defence, etc.: **a.** In reference to man.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) A vj b, Long it was ere that manne knewe hymself,..so that all thynges waxed sauage, the yearth vntilled, societie neglected. 1599 *Mirrour of Policie* 120 Societie is an assemblie and consent of many in one. 1642 CHARLES I *Declaration* 12 Aug. 23 Against the Laws of Society and civill Conversation. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet* 172 A due reverence in the first place towards God.., then towards Society wherein we live. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* (1841) 62 We are fitted with powers and dispositions which have only relation to society, and which, out of society, can nowhere else be exercised. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* xvi. (1819) I. 93 Is not this system [Christianity], whether well or ill founded, friendly to society? 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* ii. 58 The inestimable advantages of living in society are unavoidably burdened with some partial evils. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* I. 5 In the earliest stages of society there are many arts, but no sciences.

b. In reference to certain animals, insects, etc.

1794 S. WILLIAMS *Hist. Vermont* (1809) I. 114 The society of beavers seems to be regulated and governed, altogether by natural dispositions, and laws. 1826 SAMOUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 39 Wasps, like bees, live in society. 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 390 Its larva lives on the same trees, and frequently in society.

3. The aggregate of persons living together in a more or less ordered community.

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 17 Where as then was no other sinne in society then lying, a genuine playnesse..were enough. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 431 In doing one action after another, tending to a Common Good, or the good of Humane Society. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 24 June, You may be busied to the benefit of society without stirring from your seat. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. I. 5 In few cases has the peace of society been so much disturbed. 1841 *Nonconformist* I. 281 The principles by which the aristocracy have gained.. their Sindbad seat on the shoulders of society. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* VI. i. 195 Society has only one law, and that is custom.

b. With defining or limiting adj.; esp. *good society* (cf. next).

1779 *Mirror* No. 13, The varied objects which present themselves in cultivated society. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 151 The wars of the period..repressed to a most deplorable degree, what is properly understood by *good society*. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xliii, There were masquerades and ridottos frequented by all the fine Society. 1893 KATE SANBORN *Truthf. Woman S. California* 40 In regard to society, I find that the 'best society' is much the same all over the civilized world.

c. The aggregate of leisured, cultured, or fashionable persons regarded as forming a distinct class or body in a community; *esp.* those persons collectively who are recognized as taking part in fashionable life, social functions, entertainments, etc. Also with *a* and *the*.

(*a*) 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xcv, Society is now one polish'd horde, Form'd of two mighty tribes, the *Bores* and *Bored*. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* 15 The press gossips for society, because society makes no secret of its love of gossiping. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xli. (1871) V. 124 Ovid is eminently the poet of society. 1893 GRANT ALLEN *Scallywag* I. 6 Who *is* Mr. Gascoyne, and who *is* Mr. Thistleton? ..Are they in society?

(*b*) 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Feb., The paragraphs in the papers about Mr. Coxe Coxe..had an effect in a wonderfully short space of time, and we began to get a very pretty society about us. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, Intelligence and courtesy in the one sex, and gentleness and natural grace in the other, making a society not to be ridiculed in the mass.

(*c*) 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, The performance over, the young fellows lounged about the lobbies, and we saw the society take its departure.

d. Personified.

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 498 Till at last Society..Shakes her encumber'd lap, and casts them out. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. vi, A huge..Apron, wherein Society works (uneasily enough). 1877 'RITA' *Vivienne* I. i, Society shrugged its shoulders. 1879 *Daily Telegr.* 15 May, He sinks, smiling, into the arms of Society, and Society..eats him up.

II. †**4.** The fact or condition of taking part with others or another in some thing or action; participation. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1383/1 The societie of al saintes in the mistical body of Christ. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 126 For the kynges societie and conjunction..they yelde him harty thankes. *Ibid.* 228 Who hath perswaded the bisshop of Rome and the French king to the Societie of this war. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. iii. I. 298 Pacorus being received into Societie of the Kingdome with his father. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* 16 The Prussians,..inspired by a society of danger with their King,..totally defeated the Austrians.

†**b.** A sharing or use in common. *Obs.*—1

1699 TEMPLE *Hist. Eng.* 14 One Custom there was among the Britains which seems peculiar to themselves,..which was a Society of Wives among certain numbers, and by common consent.

†**5.** The fact or condition of being connected or related; connexion, relationship; union or alliance; affinity. *Obs.*

a. Const. *with* or *between* (some thing or person).

(*a*) 1542 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 B iv, The sayd indication hath no maner of societe with the cause prymytyfe. 1561 DAUS *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 193 He hath the number of the name of the beast, which hath a societie wyth the beast, which societie that number bewrayeth or sheweth. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. xxv. (1639) 143 The veine in the right arme..having society with the veine which is called Vena cava. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 231 The universal Spirit is Water,..the Society of the Water with the Sun produces Animals, Vegetables and Minerals.

(*b*) 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 5 There is not..so great societie betweene heauen and vs, as [etc.]. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* 110 There is so great societie betwixt it and the heart.

†**b.** Const. *of* or *in* (something).

1562 COOPER *Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 130 You allege a perpetual society of the body and blood, which ye call *Concomitantiam*. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 16 If no writer had recorded, that we Englishmen are descended from Germanes,..the society of their tongues would easily confirme the same. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. i. (1650) 43 This is a fallacy of Æquivocation, from a society in name inferring an Identity in nature. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. iii. 90 The Consent of Vicinity makes nothing to the purpose,..nor society in the same Office. 1771 *Ann. Reg.* II. 25/2 By long society in party, the sentiments of these men in politics had come to be the same.

†**6.** The state or condition of being politically confederated or allied; confederation. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 25 b, To exhorte and requyre the kynge of Englande, to entre hys company and societee in armes. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* B vij b, Absoluing our neyghbour kinges of any auncient leage or late oth of societie. 1623 BINGHAM *Hist. Xenophon* 87 You haue now an opportunitie presented vnto you..by entring into societie of war with vs, to be reuenged. 1665 MANLEY *Low C. Wars* 974 Many Kings, Princes, and Nations, began to respect the Society and Alliance of Holland.

†**b.** A political alliance, league, or compact.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. 472 A league and societie was concluded betweene Philip the King of the Macedonians and Annibal. 1606—*Suetonius* 8 Hee entred likewise into a Societie with them both, vpon this contract, That [etc.].

†**7.** Partnership or combination in or with respect to business or some commercial transaction.

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 681 The said Johnne enterit in societie with the said abbot. 1574 *Ibid.* II. 513 Not keping societie in the furthering and furnissing of money..as the partinaris..sall appoint. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 26 Societie is a contract by consent about a thing to be had and used in common on both sides. 1650 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* (ed. 2) 10 Partner-ship or Society (as the Civill Law cals it).

†**b.** Co-operation; assistance. *Obs.*—1

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 34 As for him which ..is addicted without society, by his continuall laboure, to profit this nation.

III. 8. A number of persons associated together by some common interest or purpose, united by a common vow, holding the same belief or opinion, following the same trade or profession, etc.; an association.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII*, 28 b, The societe of sayncte George vulgarely called the order of the garter. 1581 ALLEN *Apol.* 29 b, The Seminarie of the Romane Clergie, and other Colleges of the most famous Societie of the name of Iesus. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 12 It hath divers wayes brought advantage and good to the whole Societie of Surgeons. 1637 *Decree of Star Chamb. conc. Printing* P 9 The Company or Society of Stationers. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. p. xii, Others of the same Society have not looked upon this as a pattern to imitate. 1741 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 301, I read over the names of the United Society. 1783 in Beatson *Pol. Index* (1788) II. 292 A Society or Brotherhood, to be called Knights of the illustrious Order of St. Patrick. 1832 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. vii. *note*, An old lady of the Society of Friends. 1867 RUSKIN *Time & Tide* I. § 3 All bankers should be members of a great national body, answerable as a society for all deposits. 1877 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. 77 The Church is undoubtedly in its design a spiritual society, but it is also a society of this world as well.

b. A corporate body of persons having a definite place of residence.

1588-9 *Act 31 Eliz.* c. 6 § 1 Colledges, Churches Collegiat, Churches Cathedrall, Scoles, Hospitalls, Halles, and other like Societies. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 96 In the Society of the Inner Temple, his son made a notable progress. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 98 A society of Benedictine monks was lodged in Saint James's Palace. *Ibid.* viii. 285 The society consisted of a president, of forty fellows, of thirty scholars [etc.].

9. A collection of individuals composing a community or living under the same organization or government.

a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. x. (1584) 10 A common wealth is called a society or common doing of a multitude of free men. 1639 HEYWOOD *London's Peaceable Est.* Wks. 1874 V. 358 Greeneland, Muscovy, and Turkey, of which three noble societies you are at this present governour. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. vii. Wks. 1727 II. 182 No Political Society can be, nor subsist without having in itself the Power to preserve the Property..of all those of that Society. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1851) I. 395/2 Every society has more to apprehend from its needy members than from the rich. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XI. 394 There is One great society alone on earth: The noble Living and the noble Dead. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 3 The Calvinism which in so many important societies displaced it [Catholicism].

b. In more limited sense: A company; a small party. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 16 b, Harquebuziers ..being..aduanced and retired with some societies, or *Cameradas* of loose shot, are of good effect. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 21 Therefore be abhorr'd, All Feasts, Societies, and Throngs of men. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 179 There entertain him all the Saints above, In solemn troops, and sweet Societies. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Amb.* 203 We..entred into a little society among our selves, and.. went all together in a Company. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. r. World* 50 This was not a Business that admitted giving them [i.e. mutineers] Time to club and Cabal together, and form other Societies or Combinations. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Spain & Portugal* xv, The company..making little societies of conversation till towards eleven o'clock.

fig. 1594 *Selimus* (Temple Cl.) 1984 We will have hog's cheek, and a dish of tripes, and a society of puddings..: a society of puddings? did you mark that well-used metaphor?

10. a. A number of persons united together for the purpose of promoting some branch of study or research by means of meetings, publications, etc.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 16 Printed with Licence, By John Martyn, and James Allestry, Printers to the Royal Society. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 1 A Learn'd Society of late.. Agree'd upon a Summer's Night To search the Moon by her own light. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 71 A Letter..from a Member of the Society for encouraging Arts, &c. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 731 A Society of intelligent Englishmen was formed at London.., the object of which was to prosecute scientific research. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* ii, An edition, limited according to the rules of that erudite Society [*sc.* the Bannatyne Club]. 1844 MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 386 At the time when this suggestion was made, the English Historical Society was just being formed. 1900 L. HUXLEY *Life Huxley* (1903) II. i. 4 He became President of the Geological Society in 1872.

b. A number of persons meeting together, esp. for the purpose of discussion or debate, conviviality or sociability.

1673 *Humours Town* 52 You take a wrong notion of our Societies from them; here we have always a numerous Club. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 48 ¶ 9 He always runs to a disputing society. 1777 COWPER *Lett.* Wks. (1876) 36 He did not belong to our Thursday society. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvi, He never would sit down before Sedley at the club even, nor would he have that gentleman's character abused by any member of the society. 1898 *Daily Telegr.* 6 Jan. 9/6 The association for debating all unforbidden subjects which..was known as 'The Society'.

c. *U.S.* = CONGREGATION *sb.* 7.

1828-32 WEBSTER s.v., In Connecticut, a number of families united and incorporated for the purpose of supporting public worship, is called an ecclesiastical society. 1889 MARY E. WILKINS *A Far-away Melody* (1891) 257 More people went into the Baptist Church, whose Society was much the larger of the two. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Nov. 4/2 The unit of the sect [the Methodists] is 'the Society'—composed practically of the communicants attending a particular church.

d. A commercial company or association.

1890 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 7/1 The Investors Protection Society...The society was formed to protect investors and others by advising generally free of charge.

†**11.** A meeting or gathering. *Obs.*

1712 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Am. Col. Ch.* I. 192, I can't attend the Society as I would very gladly do. 1741-3 WESLEY *Extr. Jrnl.* (1749) 18 At the society which follow'd, many cried after God.

IV. 12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** With reference to religious bodies, as *society-communion, meeting, men, people, -room*, etc.

1685 W. SMITH in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 83 [They would] rejoice with all such as are joined in this Society-Communion. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scotl.* (1831) IV. 462/2 This year [1688], I find..that the society people made a large collection of money for the relief of several of their number. 1725 P. WALKER in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 160 The..keeping up of Society-meetings for Prayer and Conference. 1744 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 38 The enlarging the society-room to near thrice its first bigness. 1828 IRVING *Last Days* 37 These texts of Scripture..will enable you to confute a whole platform of society orators. 1870 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VII. 529 The Sanquharians took also the name of 'Society men', as being distributed in 'select societies united in general correspondence'.

b. With reference to cultured or fashionable society, as *society journal, lodging, man, paper*, etc.

1693 WOOD *Life* 15 June, Peter Wood,..put aside, as 'twas then said, because he was too precise and religious and therefore not fit to make a societie man. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* I. He began to have clothes on his back, to leave the ash-hole, having gotten a society lodging. 1825 C. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 106 Society Whigs and society Tories. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, 'The best' foreigners (as the phrase is in our noble and admirable society slang). 1858 SALA *Lamb's Wks.* I. p xlii, Hook, with whom society-seeking was a vocation and a passion. 1885 *Church Times* 23 June 151 As one of the 'Society' papers suggested in its disgraceful cartoon. 1886 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 501 If society-haunting afforded the necessary relaxation.

c. With reference to societies instituted for special purposes, as *society goods, man, membership, room, secretary*, etc.; **society hand, house** (see quots. 1888).

1765-8 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* III. iii. § 27 He is..intitled, upon the division of the society-goods, to a share. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* III. 221 The Cabinet-makers.. consist, like all other operatives, of two distinct classes, that is to say, of society and non-society men. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 128 *Society hands*, those belonging to and working under the rules of a trade society. *Ibid.*, *Society houses*, establishments conforming to the rules and paying the recognized scale price for work. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.*

II. 809 Society rooms, available upon production of a society membership ticket, or an introduction from a society secretary.

Hence **Soci·etyish**, **Soci·etyless** *adjs.*

1788 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 23 Oct., Societyless, and bookless, and viewless as I am. 1863 Wilberforce *Sp. Missions* (1874) 4 The tendency of all that is to cultivate party feeling within the Church..and so by degrees to become one-sided, or what I may call societyish.

Socinian (sosi·niăn), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. mod.L. *Socinian-us*, f. *Socinus*, Latinized form of the Italian surname *Soz(z)ini*. Cf. F. *Socinien*.]

A. *sb.* One of a sect founded by Lælius and Faustus Socinus, two Italian theologians of the 16th century, who denied the divinity of Christ.

1645 E. Pagitt *Heresiogr.* Ep. Ded. (ed. 2) B 3, We have also Socinians, who teach that Christ dyed not to satisfie for our sins. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 177 The Socinians say that..the Doctrine of the Trinity is of Antichrist. 1673 Milton *True Relig.* Wks. 1851 V. 410 The Arian and Socinian are charg'd to dispute against the Trinity. 1733 Neal *Hist. Purit.* II. 99 He died a professed Socinian. 1810 Crabbe *Borough* iv. 258 True Independents: while they Calvin hate, They heed as little what Socinians state. 1866 Liddon *Bampton Lect.* i. (1875) 15 Socinians..assert that Jesus Christ is merely man.

Comb. 1698 F. B. *Free but Modest Censure* 31 It is very invidious to go a Socinian-hunting.

B. *adj.* Pertaining to the Socinians or their creed.

1694 (*title*), A Brief Account of the Socinian Trinity. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Dial. Dead* Wks. 1711 IV. 70 All the Socinian Treatises that stole into the World. 1794 Hurd *Life Bp. Warburton* 119 Next to infidels professed, there was no set of writers he treated with less ceremony, than the Socinian. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 119/2 This measure..was followed by the abolition of the two remaining Socinian schools. 1865 Pusey *Truth Ch. Eng.* 13 The infidel or Socinian press in England.

Soci·nianism. [f. prec. + -ism. So F. *Socinianisme*.] The doctrines or special views of the Socinians.

1643 F. Cheynell (*title*), Rise, Growth, and Danger of Socinianisme. 1645 E. Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 123 For Socinianisme is a compound of many pernicious and antiquitated heresies. 1733 Neal *Hist. Purit.* II. 375 The Convocation..had condemned Socinianism in general. 1819 Belsham *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 155 It differed almost as much from Socinianism as it did from Athanasianism itself. 1865 Pusey *Truth Ch. Eng.* 11 The Rationalism in Germany, the Socinianism of Geneva.

Soci·nianistic, *a.* [f. Socinian *sb.* or *a.*] Of a Socinian character.

1884 *Advance* (Chicago) 14 Feb., An icy Socinianistic form of theism.

Soci·nianize, *v.* [f. Socinian *sb.* or *a.*]

1. *intr.* To adopt or express Socinian views.

1671 Gumble *Life Monck* Pref. 7 He that doth not Socinianize in denying the Christian Religion.

2. *trans.* To imbue with Socinian doctrines; to make conformable to Socinianism.

1695 Locke *Vind. Reas. Christ* 13 He would no doubt have found them *all over Socinianized*. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Two Oxford Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 4 If I am ever so little..Socinianis'd. 1797 *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 560 Who are supposed to reject the Old and to socinianize the New Testament. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 166 This made the clandestine plan to Socinianize the church more easy.

Hence **Soci·nianized**, **Soci·nianizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1652 Sparke *Prim. Devot.* (1663) 393 Socinianized grandchildren of Arrius. 1655 J. Owen *Vind. Evang.* Wks. 1853 XII. 194 The rest of the Socinianizing Arminians. 1793 *Monthly Rev.* XII. 82 The Socinianizing divines, who are the majority. 1851 W. H. Goold in *J. Owen's Wks.* II. 276 A confused mass of Socinianized Arminianism.

† **So·cinism.** *Obs.*—[1] = Socinianism.

1645 E. Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (ed. 2) 122 Socinisme or Socin[i]anisme hath its name from Lælius Socinus.

Socio- (sō·ʃio), combining form (on Greek analogies) of L. *socius* companion, associate, etc.

† **1.** Denoting 'fellow-'. *Obs.*—[1]

1656 *New Almanac* (ed. 2) 7 His socio-forger.

2. Used as the first element in a number of hybrid formations (suggested by Sociology) having reference to the constitution, study, etc., of society, as **Socio·cracy**, government by society as a whole. **So·ciocrat**, one who believes in sociocracy. **Sociocra·tic** *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, sociocracy. **Socio·latry**, the service of society. **Socio·phagous** *a.*, preying upon society or certain parts of it. **Sociosta·tic** *a.*, tending to preserve a balance in society.

Various other formations, as *sociogenetic*, *-geny*, *-nomic*, *-nomy*, have also been recently used or suggested.

1858 R. Congreve tr. *Comte's Catal. Pos. Relig.* xiii. 401 Feudalism combined both.., so as to constitute an anticipation of the final *sociocracy. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 15 June 3 An idea which in its germ, sociocracy borrows from theocracy. 1887 *Women's Union Jrnl.* 15 Dec. 94 A School of *Sociocrats which held that Communism was impossible because gradations of rank were indestructible. 1887 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 318 This method of succession, named by Comte *sociocratic heredity. 1858 *Brit. Quart. Rev.* LVI. 441 This is an essential feature of Positivist *sociolatry. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 400 The system of sociolatry, which is..to furnish to later generations a complete and permanent religion. 1892 Spencer *Princ. Ethics* I. § 102. 472 In *sociophagous nations like ours, not much pleasure is caused by contemplating the cessation of conquests. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 195 In a society where the *sociostatic press is always at work.

3. Used in comb. with adjs., in the sense 'social and..', as *socio-official*, *-political*, *-religious*, etc.

1891 Kipling *City Dreadf. N.* 86 They are spared all *socio-official worry. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Feb. 2/1 The political or *socio-political questions of the day. 1889 *Spectator* 26 Oct., The *socio-religious life of Scotland.

Sociologic (sō·uʃiǫ·lǫdʒik), *a.* [ad. F. *sociologique*: see prec. 2 and Sociology.] Of or pertaining to sociology; concerned or connected with the organization, condition, or study of society. So **Sociolo·gical** *a.*; hence **Sociolo·gically** *adv.* **Socio·logist**, a student of sociology; one who is interested in social problems. **Socio·logize** *v.*, to make a study of social questions. **So·ciologue**, a sociologist.

1861 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 313 The discovery and verification of *sociologic laws. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* June 312/2 The antagonism felt toward the Indian seems to result..from his sociologic status which differs so widely from our own. 1885 F. Harrison *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 221 There is a..parallel between organic development in sociologic and in biologic types. 1865 Mill *Comte* 75 The peculiarly complicated nature of *sociological studies. 1867 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. 594 It embraced cosmical, but excluded sociological speculations. 1881 *Athenæum* Mar. 363 To throw some light on early Hebrew life by treating it *sociologically. 1884 *Academy* 10 May 326/3 Sociologically he is right in insisting on this distinction. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 399 Presuming these to be decided in a manner favourable to the project of our *Sociologist. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 59 But moralists, sociologists,..have slowly convinced me, that my beggarly sympathies were a sin against society. 1881 Stevenson *Virg. Puerisque* 242 We walk the streets to make romances and to *sociologise. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 23 July 106/2 The peasant who has found his *sociologue has to wait yet for his observer.

Sociology (sō·uʃiǫ·lŏdʒi). [ad. F. *sociologie* (Comte): see Socio- 2 and -logy.] The science or study of the origin, history, and constitution of human society; social science.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 397 These are to constitute a new science, to be called Social Ethics, or Sociology. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 452 The new science of sociology, as it is barbarously termed. 1873 Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* iii. 59 Sociology has to recognize truths of social development, structure and function.

‖ **Socius** (sō·uʃiŭs). [L.]

1. An associate or colleague.

1701 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 106 We were invited to Mr. Ingram's Defension of his Philosophie, & were presented with his & his Socius' Thesis. 1877 J. Morris *Troubles Cath. Forefathers* 3rd Ser. 116 During this time he was Socius to Father Henry Garnet, Vice-Prefect of the English Mission.

2. A comrade, companion.

1859 Sala *Gaslight & D.* xxv. 294 General friend, socius, and adviser of the artists.

Sock (sǫk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 socc, 4–7 socke, 7– sock (7 socque); 4–6 sokke, 5–6 sok (5 soke). [OE. *socc*, ad. L. *soccus* a light low-heeled shoe or slipper: of the same origin are OHG. *soch*, *soc* (MHG. *soc*, *socke*, G. *socke*, *socken*), MLG. *socke*, MDu. *socke*, *soc* (Du. *sok*, WFris. *sok*), OIcel. *sokkr* (Icel. *sokkur*, Norw. *sokk*, Sw. *sock*, Da. *sokke*). Also F. *soque* (1611).]

1. A covering for the foot, of the nature of a light shoe, slipper, or pump. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 394 *Soccus*, socc, slebescoh. *a* 1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 92 *Pedules et caligas*, soccas & hosan. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/2 Pynsone, sokke, *pedipomita*. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* 99 A peyre of old sokkys, or pinsones, whech our maystir had often wered. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus*, *Calcearium*, a shoe, pinson, or socke. *Ibid.*, *Calceo*,..to put on shoes, sockes or pinsons. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 621 Not being permitted to weare shooes, but in stead thereof vse sockes made of Rushes. 1663 Waterhouse *Fortescutus Illustr.* 430 A Shooe like a slipper with an heel, which we call a Sock. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 30 Their Stockins are of Cloth the length of the leg, the feet whereof are socks of yellow or red Leather..sewed to the Stockins. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 487 They have all very small feet, from inclosing them as tight as possible in socks of morocco leather. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 360 The few [Highlanders] who were so luxurious as to wear rude socks of untanned hide.

† **b.** [After It. *zoccolo*.] A sandal, patten, or clog. *Obs. rare.*

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 131 A large Convent of Religious,..called by the Italians, *Soccolanti*, because of the wooden Socks they were instead of Shoes. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Socque*, a kind of Sandal, or wooden Patin for the Feet, worn by the begging Friers.

2. A short stocking covering the foot and usually reaching to the calf of the leg; half-hose.

1327 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 330 Hii weren sockes in here shon, and felted botes above. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 961 His shon, sokkis, & hosyn, to draw of be ye bolde. 1464 *Mann. & Household. Exp.* (Roxb.) 481 Payd fore ij. payr shoes and ij. payr sokkes, xvj.d. 1531 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* (1905) VI. 19 Ane elne small canves to be the King ane pair of sokkis. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 192/2 You must..put on a clean payer of sockes. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. I. ii. (1651) 184 One pulled off his socks, another made ready his bed. 1682 Dryden *Medal* Ep. to Whigs, Even Protestant Socks are bought up among you, out of veneration to the name. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* III. i. (1762) I. 228 They use..socks of wool, which reach over the ankles. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 122 Two or three pair of woollen socks, which we have on our feet. 1842 Bischoff *Wool Manuf.* II. 311 The socks which the women there knit.

Phr. c 1520 Skelton *Magnyf.* 1362 Trymme at her tayle, or a man can turne a socke. 1538 Bale *Three Laws* iii, They may go turn a sock.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1883 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 2/3 In the sock department..there are complaints of want of business. 1899 *Ibid.* 27 Dec. 8/3 His tailoring and his sock-darning.

b. *White sock*, a white portion on the leg of a horse, extending half-way up to the knee.

1893 M. H. Hayes *Points of Horse* xx. (1897) 222 'White stocking'..might be reserved for one that comes up as high as the knee or hock; while that of a 'white sock' might be used to signify the marking when it is shorter.

3. *spec.* A light shoe worn by comic actors on the ancient Greek and Roman stage; hence used allusively to denote comedy or the comic muse. *Sock and buskin*, comedy and tragedy, the drama or theatrical profession as a whole.

1597 Bp. Hall *Sat.* I. i. 19 Trumpet,..and socks, and buskins fine, I them bequeath, whose statues [etc.]. 1626 Massinger *Roman Actor* I. i, The Greeks, to whom we owe the first invention Both of the buskined scene and humble sock. 1682 Dryden *Mac-Fl.* 80 Great Fletcher never treads in buskins here, Nor greater Jonson dares in socks appear. 1746 Collins *The Manners* iv, The Comick Sock that binds thy feet! 1783 Cowper *Valediction* 34 To live by buskin, sock, and raree-show. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* III. xi. P 1 Gentlemen of the sock and buskin are not on the best possible terms with the church. 1817 Byron *Beppo* xxxi, He was a critic upon operas, too, And knew all niceties of the sock and buskin.

† **4.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—[0]

1611 Cotgr., *Socque*, a socke or sole of durt, or earth, cleauing to the bottome of the foot in a cloggie way, or in a moist & clayie soyle.

5. *techn.* (See quots.)

1851 *Mech. Mag.* 22 Mar. 239 A method of making the 'socks' or uppers of boots. *Ibid.*, The sock is made of knitted material, with an elastic band at top. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 520/1 Varieties of socks for shoes, of cork and gutta percha covered with lamb skin. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Sock*,..an inner warm sole for a shoe.

Sock (sǫk), *sb.*[2] *north.* and *Sc.* Forms: 5 sokk(e, 5–6 sok, 5–7 soke; 6 sucke, socke, 7– sock. [a. OF. *soc* (12th cent.; so mod.F.), commonly regarded as of Celtic origin.]

1. A ploughshare.

1404 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, ij aratra cum ij sokkis. 1405–6 *Ibid.* 222 Proj sok et ploghschoue. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 348/2 A Sokk of a plughe,..*vomer vel vomis*. 1513 Douglas *Æneid* VII. xi. 79 Al instrumentis of pleuch graith,..As culturis, sokis, and the sovmis gret. 1559 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees, 1835) I. 170 A kowter, a soke. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 185/1 Ye Sucke of a plow. 1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2), A *Sock* or *Plough-sock*, a Plough-share. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. i, When such leaves..are..turned over with the sock, and mixed with the lower ground. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* II. (ed. 2) 236 The plough thus set right by the way of fitting on the sock, will be heavy to draw. 1814 Scott *Diary* 6 August in *Lockhart*, An old-fashioned Zetland plough..had..a coulter, but no sock. 1844 H. Stephens *Book Farm* I. 411 The share or sock..is fitted upon a prolongation of the sole-bar of the body-frame. 1890 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* 9 Jan. 30 A lad, whilst ploughing,..found the bronze bell wedged on to the 'sock' of the plough.

b. attrib., as *sock-guard*, *-iron*, *-plate*.

1371 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 7 Et in..j sokeiren, j pari belowes,..emptis. 1844 H. Stephens *Book Farm* I. 415 The share is always formed from a plate forged for the express purpose at the iron-mills, and known in the trade by the term *sock-plate*. 1893 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., These were wood plews,..an' hed a sock-guard to prevent t' sock comin' off.

2. *Sock and scythe*, used to denote ploughing and mowing. Also *attrib.* with *land*.

1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* M vj b, *Hvsbandland*, conteinis commonlie 6. aikers of sok & syith lande: That is of sik land as may be tilled by ane pleuch, or may be mawed with ane syith. 1824 MacTaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 26, I was fit for baith sock and sythe. *Ibid.* 412 At sock or scythe they hae nae match.

Sock, *sb.*[3] Now *dial.* Also 1 soc, 4 sok. [OE. *soc* (also *gesoc*), f. the weak grade of *sūcan* to suck, = MDu. *soc*, *zoc* suck (Kilian *sock*, WFris. *sok*, the suck of water in the wake of a ship).]

† **1.** Suck (given to a child). *Obs.*

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxi. 8 On þone dæg þe man bæt cild fram soce Sarra ateah. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 391 Sesez childer of her sok. 1382 Wyclif *Isaiah* xi. 8 [The child] that shal be taken awei fro sok, or wenyd.

2. *dial.* Wet or moisture collecting in, or percolating through, soil. (Cf. Soak *sb.* 2 b.)

1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Lincoln.* 15 The sock or soak among the silt is sometimes brackish. *c* 1818 Britton *Lincolnshire* 560 Entering the fens, it leaves a portion of its waters and sludge or sock. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Sock*, the superficial moisture of land not properly drained off. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 293 Throughout all the marshes and many of the fens are found those subterranean currents called the soak or sock. *Ibid.* 305 A sock-dyke or drain.

b. The drainage of a dunghill; liquid manure.

1790 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. 442 *Sock*, the drainage of a farm yard: hence *Sock-pit*, the receptacle of such drainage. 1896 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, There was no sock above the outlet.

Sock (sǫk), *sb.*[4] *slang.* [Cf. Sock *v.*[2]] A blow; a beating. Chiefly in phr. *to give* (one) *sock(s*, to give a sound thrashing or beating.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Tip*, *Tip the Cully*

a Sock, for they are savvey, Knock down the Men for resisting. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 240 'Give him Sock,' i.e. thrash him well. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 2/2 Hope we give these brutes socks; they are plugging us all round now.

Sock, *sb.*[5] *Eton slang.* [Of obscure origin.] Eatables of various kinds, especially dainties.

1825 C. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 39 Then, after holidays, Tom..gives sock so graciously, that he is the very life of dame —'s party. 1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 310 Sellers of 'sock', that is, eatables,—sweet mixtures generally. 1881 in Pascoe *Every-day Life*, etc. 25 The consumption of 'sock' too in school was considerable.

attrib. 1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 194 There's my old sock-shop.

Sock, *sb.*[6] [? ellipt. for SOCK-LAMB.] A pet child or young animal.

1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. 1. *Spectre of Tappington* (1905) 24 Master Neddy is 'grandpapa's darling', and Mary Anne mamma's particular 'Sock'. 1869 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. III. 500 You know you are a little sock!

Sock, *sb.*[7] *slang.* [Of obscure origin: the senses have prob. no connexion with each other.]

†1. ? A small coin. (Cf. RAG *sb.*[1] 2 c.) *Obs.*—[1]

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* 1. i, I went up to the Gaming Ordinary and lost all my Ready; they left me not a rag or sock.

†2. A pocket. *Obs.*

a 1700 in B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

3. Credit, 'tick'.

1874 *Slang Dict.* 301 He gets goods on sock, while I pay ready.

Sock, *sb.*[8] *rare*—[1]. Abbrev. of SOCKET *sb.*

1803 H. K. WHITE *Gondoline* lxv, The eyes were starting from their socks, The mouth it ghastly grinn'd.

†**Sock,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] *trans.* To sew (a corpse) *in* or *into* a shroud. Also with *up.*

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* III. ii. (1886) 33 They which socke the corps. *Ibid.* VI. vii. 99 Needels wherewith dead bodies are sowne or sockt into their sheetes. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Witch* I. ii, The same needles..That sews and socks up dead men in their sheets. 1643 *Sussex Arch. Coll.* XX. 105 Paid more for a sheet to socke her in, *2s.* 8½*d.*, and for laying her forthe and socking of her, *2s.* 2½*d.*

Hence †**Socking-sheet,** a winding-sheet.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 60 It was his custom..every night to hang his shroud and socking or burial-sheet at his beds feet.

Sock, *v.*[2] *slang.* [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* a. To beat, strike hard, hit.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Sock*, to Beat...*I'll Sock ye*, I'll Drub ye tightly. 1890 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ball., Oonts* 15 We socks 'im with a stretcher-pole. 1896 NEWNHAM-DAVIS *Three Men & a God* 30 'Sock 'em, Blackie!' said W. Smith. 'Sock the swine!' echoed his brother.

b. *U.S.* (See quot.)

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 320 *To Sock*, to press by a hard blow a man's hat over his head and face. Used in Rhode Island.

c. To drive or strike *into* something; to 'give it' *to* one.

1892 KIPLING *Barrack-room Ball., Cells* 30 'Strewth, but I socked it them hard! 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 2/1, I wouldn't have had those fangs socked into me for all the gold mines in these United States. 1901 *Cent. Mag.* May 124 We shall sock it to them, we shall indeed.

2. *intr.* To strike out, deliver blows; to pitch *into* one.

1856 *Lyrics in War Time, Orphan's Song*, I scolded and I socked, But it minded not a whit. 1864 *Slang Dict.* 240 'Sock into him,' i.e. give him a good drubbing.

Sock, *v.*[3] *Eton slang.* [f. SOCK *sb.*[5]] a. *trans.* To treat (one) to sock; to present or give (something) to one. b. *intr.* To buy or consume sock.

1850 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 44/2 That a schoolfellow would 'sock him', i.e. treat him to sock at the pastry cooks. 1883 BRINSLEY-RICHARDS *Seven Years Eton* v. 38 We Eton fellows, great and small, 'socked' prodigiously. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 65 My governor socked me a book.

Sock, *v.*[4] *south-w. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To sigh.

1863 BARNES *Dorset Gl., Sock*, to sigh with a loudish sound. 1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* II. xviii. 243 She pined and pined, and socked and sighed.

Sock, *v.*[5] [f. SOCK *sb.*[1] 2.] *trans.* To provide with socks; to put socks on (one).

1897 GUNTER *Ballyho Bey* xx. 231 How beautifully Irene has socked my feet! 1902 BARRIE *Little White Bird* xi. 107 She had trouble in socking him every morning.

Sockdolager (*sɒkdɒ'lădʒəɹ*). *U.S. slang.* Also **slock-, slog-, sog-, soc-,** and **-dologer, -dollager.** [prob. a fanciful formation.]

1. A heavy or knock-down blow; a finisher. Also *fig.*

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* 1. xi, I'll give you a sockdologer in the ear with my foot. 1838 *Ibid.* II. xix, I felt my fingers itch to give him a slock-dolager under the ear. *a* 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 425, I gave the fellow a socdolager over his head with the barrel of my gun. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 36 'Yes,—I—reckon it will be a—sockdolager!' mutters her father's friend.

2. A form of fish-hook (see quot.).

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 319 *Socdolager*, a patent fish-hook, having two hooks which close upon each other by means of a spring as soon as the fish bites.

3. Something exceptional in any respect; esp. a large fish.

1869 LOWELL *To Mr. J. Bartlett* 5 Fit for..The Pope himself to see in dream Before his lenten vision gleam, He yes there, the sogdologer. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* x. 192 The thunder would go rumbling and grumbling away,..and then *rip* comes another flash and another sockdologer. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 229 The pleasant remembrance of the capture of a real socdologer.

Socked, *ppl. a.* [f. SOCK *sb.*[1]] Wearing socks. In quot. *fig.*

1788 *Trifler* No. 2. 21 The buskin'd and sock'd inhabitants of Drury-lane and Covent-garden.

Socker (*sɒ'kəɹ*). *colloq.* Also soccer. [f. *Assoc.*, short for *Association*. Cf. RUGGER[2].] The game of football as played under Association rules. Also *attrib.*

1891 *Lock to Lock Times* 24 Oct. 13/2 A sterling player, and has the best interest of the 'socker' game at heart. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Jan. 7/1 The rival attractions of 'rugger' and 'socker'. 1895 *19th Cent.* Nov. 862 When the boat-race, sports, and 'soccer' are in most men's minds. 1899 *New Cent. Rev.* V. 118 A Methodist minister—who..doffed the Socker jersey.

Socket (*sɒ'kĕt*), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 soket, 5–6 sokett(e, 6 sokkat, sowket; 6 sockat, -itte, 6–7 -ett(e, 7 soacket, socquet, 6– socket. [a. AF. *soket*, dim. of *soc* ploughshare, SOCK *sb.*[2]]

†1. A lance- or spear-head having a form resembling that of a ploughshare. *Obs.*

[*a* 1260 MATTH. PARIS *Chron. Majora* (Rolls) V. 319 Ferrum remansit in vulnere; quod tamen excisum..inventum est in mucrone acutissimum instar pugionis,..et brevem formam habens vomeris, unde vulgariter vomerulus vocatur, Gallice soket.]

13.. *K. Alis.* 4415 (Laud MS.), He took in honde a rede pensel Wib a soket of bioun stel. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7189 (Kölbing), Gaheriet mett þe douke Fannel Wiþ a launce, þe soket of stiel. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9645 His tronchon stikked fast With the soket in mid the shelde. 1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 352 To Henry, lorymar, for sockatis and dyamandis to the speris, xiiij s. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 687 Than with the speir..He hit the king richt in at the e, The scharpe sokkat syne throw his heid is gone.

2. A hollow part or piece, usually of a cylindrical form, constructed to receive some part or thing fitting into it.

1448 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* LI. 121 Item .j. soket argenteum deauratum pro cruce argentea. *Ibid.* 122, .j. parvum soket. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 167 b/1 Another pyece wherin the sokette or morteys was maad that the body of the crosse stood in. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 21 A wedynge-hoke with a socket set vpon a lyttel staffe of a yarde longe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iii. 73 b, A socket of siluer & guilt.., within the top of which socket they set.. plumes of feathers. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 567 Into the Socket of that Iron is put a Staffe. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 97 This Iron is fastned by a Socket to a Pole about 14 or 15 Foot long. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 341 The heel of the yard is always lodged in one of the sockets. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 223 The harpoon..consists of three conjoined parts, called the 'socket', 'shank', and 'mouth'. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 349/1 The paddle-beams..pass the sides of the vessel through what may be called sockets. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 354 The camera is fitted with..sockets for use on a tripod.

fig. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 13 A vaine of lauish iangling, that hath made thy palate rise out of socket. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 52 The most part [of men] run beyond their bounds, and leape quite out of their sockets.

b. *techn.* (See quots.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Socket*, the innermost end of a shot hole not blown away after firing. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 827/1 *Socket*, a tool used in well boring to recover and lift rods out of the well.

3. The part of a candlestick or chandelier in which the candle is placed.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/1 Soket, of a candylstykke or ober lyke. *alorica.* 1477–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 81 Payd to Thomas Goldsmyth for the mendyng of..the soket of a siluer candilstike. 1537 *N. Co. Wills* (Surtees) 146, iiij candelstickes with double sowkettes. 1552 HULOET s.v. *Candle beame*, Sockettes to set candels vpon. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 31 Take a small Waxe Candle, and putt it in a Socket, of Brasse, or Iron. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 27 A small lighted wax Taper, a hole in the Cake serving for a Socket. 1760–2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xlvi, The candles were burnt to the socket. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xiii. 325 The candle was burned out in the socket of the candlestick, which stood by her. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 521 From dawn till the candles had burned down to their sockets.

b. *fig.* or in fig. context.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 36 With a wit worn into the socket, twinkling and pinking like the snuffe of a candle. 1633 LD. BROOKE *Cælica* lxxxvii. 235 When as mans life ..In soacket of his earthly lanthorne burnes. 1655 *Nicholas P.* (Camden) II. 323 My smale talent, being now burnt downe to the very socquet. 1756 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 331 In thy arms let me die, And my glory burn clear in the socket. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* i, The light of life.. was trembling in the socket. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* IV. xii. (1873) 354 Love began to burn a little low in the socket.

Comb. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 119 His socket-worne inuention.

4. †a. In allusive use. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mankind* 140 in *Macro Plays*, Yf 3e wyll putt yowir nose in nys wyffis sokett, 3e xall haue xl^ty^ days of pardon. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 109.

b. = Socket-money (see 7 c).

1818 R. JAMIESON in *Burt's Lett.* I. 194 *note*, [If they happen to see any kind of freedom between them..they.. demand the *bulling-siller*.] This tax in England is called *socket.* 1889 MARCROFT *Ups & Downs* 10 At the same stir it was arranged for the footings and sockets to come in.

5. *Anat.* A hollow or cavity in which some part or articulation (as a tooth, eye, bone, etc.) is inserted.

(*a*) 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxv. xiii. I. 239 Both of them.. serve in a collution to strengthen and keepe them [teeth] fast in their sockets. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Teeth*, In Men, the ordinary Number of Teeth is 32,..all fix'd in peculiar Sockets. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 212 Its root enters into the socket above a foot and an half. In a skull..at Hamburgh there are two teeth. 1859 J. TOMES *Dental Surg.* 4 The sockets for the first temporary molars.

(*b*) 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 546 The Membrane of their eye is very hard, and beside they stand deepe in their sockets. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* IV. vi. 341 To constitute the upper part of the Eye-hole or Socket. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. iii, Fixed in mute wonder,..her eyes almost bursting from their sockets. 1843 ABDY *Water Cure* 26 The eyes deep in the socket and feeble. 1890 W. P. BALL *Are Effects of Use & Disuse inherited?* 72 In one species of ant..the sockets have disappeared as well as the eyes.

(*c*) 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 27 Below the eyes was two crook'd horns, which..was fasten'd in two sockets at the roots. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 20 The quill thus deprived continues in its socket for some months. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 384 The socket..in which the leg is planted. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v. His arms being nearly pulled out of their sockets. 1882 PITMAN *Mission Life Greece & Pal.* 212 The little knob on the end of the hip-bone, which works in a socket in the corresponding bone.

6. Applied to parts of plants.

1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 68 Bees gather of all things that have flowers in a hose or socket. 1713 WARDER *True Amazon* 16 Many [flowers]..being kept in their Socket a long time, that should have blown. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 138 They, being grown thick and strong, open the socket of the said outward leaf. 1868 *U. S. Rep. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 262 The atocha grass..is not cut like ordinary grass, but is pulled up from its socket.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib. in sense 1, as *socket-bar, -bit, -castor, -chisel*, etc.

Many examples of this type occur in recent technical use, and are recorded in special dictionaries.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 **Socket Bar* [a hollow conical-headed iron rod for extricating boring rods from bore holes]. 1532 *Lett. & P. Hen. VIII*, V. 447 A ground auger made with a *socket bit steeled. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Socket-castor*, a metal castor which moves in a socket. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* VII. 123 *Socket Chissels..have their Shank made with an hollow Socket at its top. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Glos., *Socket Chisel*, a strong tool used by carpenters for mortising, and worked with a mallet. 1895 *Model Steam Eng.* 38 The *socket end of the rod must have a screw formed on it. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 401 The price paid for the *socket joint alone. 1895 *Arnold & Sons' Catal. Surg. Instrum.* 789 *Socket Leg, for amputation above knee, with wooden socket. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. O 3, The bearing plate of the jointed *socket-piece. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Socket-pipe*, a pipe worked in a socket. 1847 WEBSTER, **Socket-pole*, a pole armed with an iron socket, and used to propel boats, &c. 1893 *Spons' Mechanics' Own Book* (ed. 4) 80 The stems and handles of *socket spanners are made.. separate from the socket portions. 1887 J. R. ALLEN *Early Chr. Symbolism* 134 The head and part of the shaft..have been re erected in the old *socket-stone. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. N 1, The longitudinal liberty of the spindle..in its *socket tube.

b. In sense 5, as *socket-leaf, -leaved.*

c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* ix. § 85 Its Stalks red-spotted and socket-leaved. *Ibid.* § 86 Yellow Cape Dragon-Orchis, with broad, pointed Socket-leaves.

c. *Socket-money.* (See quots. and 3 b.) *slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Socket-money*, Demanded and Spent upon Marriage. 1772 T. BRYDGES *Homer Trav.* 127 We must likewise come upon ye, By way of costs, for socket-money. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Socket money*, a whore's fee, or hire, also money paid for a treat, by a married man caught in an intrigue. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 240 *Socket-money*, money extorted by threats of exposure.

Hence **So'cketful**; **So'cketless** *a.*

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 720 The eyes have long been rayless, socketless. 1867 GILFILLAN *Night* III. 53 A socketless and fiercely blazing eye. 1872 B. STEWART *Physics* 30 Water exactly equal in bulk to the brass cylinder (that is to say, a socketful).

Socket, variant of SUCKET.

Socket (*sɒ'kĕt*), *v.* Also 7 soccate. [f. SOCKET *sb.*] *trans.* To place in, or fit with, a socket.

1533 *Lett. & P. Hen. VIII*, VI. 642 For mendyng and sockettyng newe Cressytts. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 214 A Pair of Shears composed of two Masts, socketted or mortaised into a Plank. 1761 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 243 They must be socketed before he can examine [etc.]. 1823 SIR C. BELL in *Phil. Trans.* CXIII. 173 In creatures where the eye is socketed in a cup of cartilage and cannot retract. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* Pl. P 5, These dies..are ..socketed into the resisting head. 1888 *Athenæum* 16 June 764/3 Five stone bases socketed for wooden uprights.

Hence **So'cketing** *vbl. sb.*

1806 SIR C. BELL *Anat. & Phil. Expression* (1872) 41 The socketing of the long canine teeth. 1833 — *Hand* (1834) 88 The socketing of the teeth in the jaws.

Socketed (*sɒ'kĕtĕd*), *ppl. a.* [f. SOCKET *sb.* or *v.*] Fitted with or placed in a socket.

1649 in *Archæol.* X. 404 Two whyte marble colums or pillers, soccated in two foote stepps of black marble. 1713 WARDER *True Amazons* 8 His Tongue being not long enough to reach the Honey out of the socketed Flowers. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. App. x. 246 So that the socketed arrangement is not seen. 1871 *Archæol.* XLIII. 446 Two celts, one at least socketed, were found at Hagbourn,..with a socketed spear-head of bronze. 1877 ROSENTHAL *Muscles & Nerves* 95 All these tensions must combine to press together the socketed parts.

Sockeye (*sɒ'kəi*). Also **sock-eye, suck-eye, sawkeye,** etc. [ad. Amer. Indian *sukai* 'fish of fishes', the native name on the Fraser River.] The blueback salmon or nerka.

1887 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 481 On Frazer River, where

this species is the most important Salmon, it is known as the 'Suk-kegh', 'Saw-quai' or 'Suck-eye'. 1891 E. Roper *By Track & Trail* xxi. 304 It was the 'Sock-eye' salmon which was running then. 1903 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* XXVIII. 128 The sockeyes which only weigh from five to eight pounds apiece.

So·ck-lamb. [? f. Sock *sb.*3] A lamb brought up by hand; a pet-lamb. Also *transf.*

1838 Holloway *Prov. Dict., A sock-lamb*, a lamb brought up by hand and domesticated. 1880 Mrs. R. O'Reilly *Stories* III. 299 A sock lamb was nibbling the short grass. 1903 A. Austin *Flodden Field* III, All Ford hath, And all that is within it, save it be That sock-lamb, Margery.

Sockle, obs. form of Suckle.

Sockless (sǫ·klĕs), *a.* [f. Sock *sb.*1 + -less.] Without socks; wearing no socks.

1607 Beaum. & Fl. *Woman Hater* I. iii, You shall see many legs too;..one pair, the feet of which, were in times past, sockless. 1651 *Loves of Hero & Leander*, etc. (1653) 53 Whose arm-pits, and whose socklesse toes, Are not as sweet as amber.

Socky (sǫ·ki), *a. dial.* [f. Sock *sb.*3 2.] Wet, moist, soppy.

a 1825–66 in E. Anglian and Linc. glossaries.

Socle (sǫ·k'l, ‖ sǫ·kl'). Also 8 zocle, soccle. [a. F. *socle*, ad. It. *zoccolo* (also a clog or patten), repr. L. *socculus*, dim. of *soccus* Sock *sb.*1 So G. *sockel* († *socle, zocle*).]

1. A low plain block or plinth serving as a pedestal to a statue, column, vase, etc.; also, a plain plinth forming a foundation for a wall.

1704 Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zocle* is a square member in Architecture,..which serves to support a Pillar [etc.]. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 39/1 The first Groundwork of your Wall, and the Soccles, which are call'd Foundations too. 1728 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Pedestal*, In the Base are a Plinth for a Socle, over that a Tore carved. 1797 T. Holcroft tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* III. lxxxviii. (ed. 2) 455 The pillars stand upon socles. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 229/1 An order of square pillars..raised not on a stylobate but merely a socle. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 265 A high round pedestal formed by the foaming sea-water, like the socle of a monument.

2. 'One of the ridges or elevations which support the tentacles and sense-bodies of some worms' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

Socle, obs. form of Suckle *v.*

Socman (sǫ·kmăn). Also 6 sok-, 7–9 sock-. [ad. Anglo-Lat. *socmannus*, var. of *sokemannus* Sokeman.] One who holds land in socage.

a. 1579 *Termes de la Ley* 171 b, Sokmans are the tenants in auncient demesne, that held their lands in Socage. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 94 These were stiled the Kings free Sockmans. 1738 *Hist. View Crt. Exchequer* ii. 19 These Demesne Lands belonging to the Sockmen or Plowmen. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pres.* I. ix, The very sockmen with their chubby infants.

β. 1670 T. Blount *Law-Dict.* s.v., The Tenants in ancient Demean seem most properly to be called Socmans. 1747 Carte *Hist. Eng.* I. 436 How many freemen, socmen, villains,..were in each town, and manor. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. App. I. 97 The socmen, who were tenants that could not be removed at pleasure. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xx, 'You are our lord,' shouted the socmen or tenants.

Hence **So·cmanry,** = Sokemanry.

1818 in Todd.

† **Socome, socon**(e, irreg. ff. Soken. *Obs.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Bk. Surv.* 9 b, To the cornemilnes..belongeth Socone, that is to saye, custome of the tenauntes to grynde their corne at the lordes mylne. That maner of grynding is called loue Socone, and the lordes tenauntes be called bonde socon. 1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* III. 109 The tenants..are bound to grind their corne at the Lords mill: and that kind of custome is called Socome. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v., There is Bond-socome,..and Love-Socome. [Hence in Phillips, Bailey, etc.]

† **Socord,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.*—[ad. L. *socordia* and *socord-, socors.*] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Socord*, luskishness, slothfulness, negligence, idleness, sottishness. 1658 Phillips, *Socord*, sluggish, idle, slothfull.

Socorour, obs. form of Succourer.

Socotrine (sǫ·kǒtrin, sōu kǒtrəin), *a.* Forms: *α.* 5–7 cicotrine (7 cica-), 6 cycotryne. *β.* 8 succotorine, 8–9 succotrine, socotorine, soccotrine, 9– socotrine. [f. *Socotra* or *Socotora*, the name of an island in the Indian Ocean, close to Africa and Arabia. The early forms represent med.L. *cic-, cycotrinus*, whence also obs. F. *cicotrin* (Cotgr.).]

1. *Socotrine aloes*, a drug prepared from the juice of the *Aloe socotrina* (or *perryi*), and originally obtained from the island of Socotra.

a. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 90 Medle puluis of aloes cicotrine, mirre, sanguis draconis. 1545 Raynald *Womans Bk.* 131 The powder of aloes cycotrine. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 19 Mixe powder of Aloes Cicatrine with iuice of Colworts. 1602 Dekker *Satirom.* I ij b, Tis not like thy Aloe Cicatrine tongue, bitter.

β. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Succotrine Aloes*, is the finest sort that comes from the Island Succotra [etc.]. 1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 263/2 Socotorine aloes. 1799 Underwood *Dis. Child.* (ed. 4) I. 57, I would rather advise a recourse to clysters..made of succotorine aloes. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 20 The real Socotrine aloes, which are now scarce in the market. *Ibid.*, The real Socotrine extract has a peculiar..odour. 1831 Davies *Mat. Med.* 356 The socotorine aloes is obtained by cutting the leaves at their base, and keeping them in a vase with the cut side downwards. 1871 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 339 Socotrine Aloes occurs in reddish-brown masses, opaque or translucent at the edges.

2. *Socotrine aloe*, the plant yielding the drug.

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 262/2 The *vera* or socotorine aloe, hath long, narrow, succulent leaves. 1852 Johnson *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 26/2.

Socour, -owr(e, obs. ff. Succour *sb.* and *v.*

Socratic (sǫkræ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -ick. [ad. L. *Sōcraticus*, ad. Gr. Σωκρατικός, f. Σωκράτης Socrates. So F. *Socratique.*]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, Socrates the Athenian philosopher, or his philosophy, methods, character, etc.

a 1637 B. Jonson *Horace, Art Paint.* 442 Thy matter first to know, Which the Socratic writings best can show. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* (1687) III. 120 Simon..is reported the first that used the Socratick Discourses. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. ix. § 19 By questions aptly proposed in the Socratic method. *Ibid.* x. § 14 But there are three sorts of disputation,..which are distinguished by these three names, namely, socratic, forensic, and academic. 1778 Burnaby in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Revol.* (1853) II. 103 As philosophical and Socratic as ever. 1847 Emerson *Repres. Men, Plato* Wks. (Bohn) I. 307 Plato's fame does not stand on a syllogism, or on any masterpieces of the Socratic reasoning. 1874 Mahaffy *Social Life Greece* x. 294 A marked feature in the Socratic society.

B. *sb.* A follower of Socrates.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 408 To Plato we might here joyn Xenophon, because he was his Equal, and a Socratick too. 1875 Jevons *Money* 197 Aeschines the Socratic. 1886 *Athenæum* 21 Aug. 230/2 The practical agreement of Plato and Aristotle, the two Socratics, on the main problems of ethics.

Socra·tical, *a.* [f. L. *Sōcratic-us* (see prec.) + -al.] = Socratic *a.*

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xiv. (1887) 67 Our children which be no Socraticall saintes. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. 305 Yet envious readers more obserue the spotts of errours blotted out, then Socraticall sentences newely added. 1642 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* xvi. 207 And why doth he..like a Socraticall disputant put off the question with question? 1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 197 ₱ 13 This has made some approve the Socratical Way of Reasoning. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* II. xviii. (1762) I. 80 This old man was remarkable for his socratical look.

Hence **Socra·tically** *adv.*

1642 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* xiii. 154 This is to answer Socratically, and in answering not to answer. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 421 They disputed Socratically after this manner. 1686 Goodman *Wint. Ev. Conf.* III. (1705) 60 Treated Socratically and gentilely. 1751 Harris *Hermes* I. xi. (1765) 209 'Twas Socratically reasoned..; 'twas Demosthenically spoken. 1896 *Sunday Sch. Jrnl.* Mar. 140 He did this not by any statement of his own, but Socratically.

Socra·ticism. [f. Socratic + -ism.] The philosophy of Socrates or some aspect of this. Also **So·cratism** (Todd, 1818).

1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 579/1 The ultimate views of these two one-sided Socraticisms.

† **So·cratist.** *Obs. rare.* A Socratic.

1554 T. Martin *Marr. Priests* I j b, The socratistes said it was better..that al things shuld be in common. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* IX. iv. 324 He replied as Aristippus the Socratist did upon the like case. *Ibid.* 730 Both famous Socratists.

Socratize (sǫ·krătəiz), *v.* [See -ize.] *intr.* To philosophize or live after the manner of Socrates.

1847 tr. *Cesare Cantù's Ref. Europe* I. 23 He passes the day in drinking, making love, and socratizing. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 352 Men used to let their hair grow long, To fast, be dirty, and just Socratize.

Socre, Socure, obs. forms of Succour *v.*

Sod (sǫd), *sb.*1 Also 5–6 sodde, 7–8 (9 *dial.*) sodd. [app. ad. MDu. *sode, soode* (Du. *zode*) or MLG. *sode* (*sade*; LG. *sode, sudde*), = OFris. *sâtha, sâda* (WFris. *sead, saed, sâddè*), of doubtful origin.

Connexion with Seethe *v.* has been conjectured, on the supposition that the word may orig. have denoted turf used as fuel, but there is no clear evidence of this.]

1. A piece or slice of earth together with the grass growing on it, usually square or oblong in shape and of moderate thickness, cut out or pared off from the surface of grass land; a turf. Also const. *of* (grass, turf, etc.).

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 6 Yf þy dysshe metes dere ben to salt, Kerve a grene sod..þou schalt, And kover þy pot with þo gresse done. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 348/1 A Sodde, *vbi* A turfe. 1497–8 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 100 Pro cariag. xxiiij plaustr. de lez Soddez..usque Westorchard. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 57 b, His owne clergye wold scarsely suffer hym to be buryed..vnder tyrfes or soddes of the grasse. 1577 Holinshed *Chron., Hist. Eng.* IV. x. I. 61 She..mounted vp into an high place raysed vp of turfe and soddes. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. 335 Old writers witness that..for a monument they only raysed a turffe or greene Sodd of the earth. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VIII. 237 On sods of turf he set the soldiers round. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* (E. D. S.) s.v., A turf is thin and round, or oval..; a sod, thick and square, or oblong mostly. 1817 Wolfe *Burial Sir J. Moore* ii, We buried him darkly at dead of night, The sods with our bayonets turning. 1865 Swinburne *Poems & Ball., Dolores* 350 Her temple of branches and sods. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 12 Sept. 2/4 Yesterday the first sod was turned of the new school-room.

b. *collect.* as a material.

1826 Hood *Irish Schoolm.* xii, His tears shall make his turfy seat More sodden, tho' already made of sod. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* i, The walls of sod, or *divot*, as the Scotch call it, were not four feet high.

c. *Sc.* A piece of turf used for fuel; a peat.

1825 Jamieson *Suppl., Sod*, a species of earthen fuel, used for the back of a fire on the hearth. 1871 W. Alexander *Johnny Gibb* (1873) 66 [They] had availed themselves of 'a het sod' to light their pipes. 1897 D. Butler *Church & Par. Abernethy* v. 78 A lighted sod from the priest's house.

d. *dial.* and *Mining.* (See quots.)

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss., Sods*, square pieces of clay for draining, cut from ploughed land instead of turf. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Sod*, a clod: not necessarily turf. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Sods*, clay beneath coal seams.

2. *Sc.* and *north.* In *pl.*, two pieces of turf used as a substitute for a saddle or pack-saddle. Hence, a rough kind of saddle made of cloth, canvas, etc., and stuffed with straw. Freq. *a pair of sods.*

a 1586 R. Maitland in Pinkerton *Anc. Sc. Poems* (1786) 322 For thai, that had gude hors and geir, Hes skantlie now ane crukit meir: And for thair sadils thai have soddis. 1681 S. Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 27 He had a lady Del To-Bose, Who never budged from his side; Upon a pair of sodds astride. 1707 Lady Grisell Baillie *Househ. Bk.* (1911) 20 For a pair sods to Docter St Clairs lady, £1. 16. 0. 1787 Grose *Prov. Gloss., Sods*, a canvas pack-saddle stuffed with straw. 1822 Bewick *Mem.* 24, I buckled him [a dog] up in a pair of old 'sods' which covered him beyond both head and tail. 1886 W. Brockie *Leg. & Superst.* 29 (Heslop), To get her safely mounted behind him on a well girt pillion or sodds.

3. The surface of the ground, esp. when turfy or grass-covered; the sward. Freq. *poet.* or *rhet.*

(*a*) 1729 T. Cooke *Tales*, etc. 89 Here be my Dwelling on this native Sod. 1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* (1815) 255 If I had but one fair trust with him upon the sod, I'd give him lave to brag all the rest of his life! 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. xiv. 121 He bounds over the sod. 1820 Shelley *Question* 13 Tender bluebells, at whose birth The sod scarce heaved. 1833 Tennyson *Pal. Art* 261 Mouldering with the dull earth's mouldering sod. 1878 *Masque of Poets* 12 A homely product of the common sod.

(*b*) 1745 *Season. Advice Protestants* 17 The strong Sod on the Earth, made so by various Composts. 1810 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* (1839) 42/1 A..desolate plain, covered only by a thin sod, on which herds of cattle were grazing. 1838 Ld. Clements *Poverty Irel.* 25 It consists, simply, in taking one or two crops of potatoes from the ley, or grass sod.

† b. The Turf. *Obs.*

1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. xvi. 265 She had run on the Sodd several Years, had won some Plates of small Value [etc.]. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 161 He flourished at the gaming-house, and blazed on the sod.

4. *dial.* a. The spot of ground on which one stands.

1691 Ray *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 67, I will dye upon the Sod; *i. e.* in the place where I am. 1828 Carr *Craven Gloss.* s.v., I wish I may nivver stir of 't sod.

b. *The old sod*, one's native district or country.

1863 Mrs. Toogood *Spec. Yorks. Dial.* (MS.), He does not like to leave the old sod after having lived there so long. 1891 E. Roper *By Track & Trail* ii. 25 And did ye see ould Ireland lately?..And how's the poor ould sod?

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Attrib., in the sense 'made, formed, built, or consisting of sods', as *sod bank, -drain, -house, -hut, -kiln*, etc.; also in other uses, as *sod-draining, -plough, spade*; sod-worm (see quot.).

1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Lincoln.* 383 *Sod banks cost, thirty-five years ago, 1s. 2d.* a rood of seven yards. 1844 H. Stephens *Book Farm* I. 603 If the turf is tough, so much the better for the durability of the *sod-drain. *Ibid.*, An imperfect form of wedge-draining is practised in some parts of England on strong clay soils, under the name of *sod-draining. 1832 *Bubwith Inclosure Act* 38 A certain cottage or *sod-house. 1896 Howells *Impress. & Exp.* 146 The dugouts or *sod-huts of the settlers on the great plains. 1806 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 265 From these..*sod-kilns, perhaps, were copied the shallowness and width of the present stone kilns. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2238/1 **Sod-plow*, a plow long in the share and mold-board, adapted to cut and overturn sod. 1843–52 R. Burn *Techn. Dict.* I, *Revêtement en gazons*,..*sod revetment. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 120 Sod revetments form a neat-looking slope. 1793 Wordsw. *Descr. Sketches* 21 For him *sod-seats the cottage-door adorn. *a* 1835 Hogg *Tales, Wool-gatherer* (1866) 72 Jane had sat down on the sod-seat. 1619 S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scotl.* (Bann. Cl.) 1 To use the arte of delving with the *sodd spade. 1649 W. G. *Surv. Newcastle upon Tine* 2 Picts, who brake downe the *Sodd Wall. 1776 Lesly in Young *Tour Irel.* (1780) I. *209 The sod walls, about 10 or 12 inches thick. 1834–47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* (1851) 225 The earth above the pebbles is to be retained by a revetment of *sod-work. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Sod-worm*, the larva of certain pyralid moths, as *Crambus exsiccatus*, which destroys the roots of grass and corn.

b. Objective, with agent-nouns and vbl. sbs., as *sod-builder, -cutter; sod-burning, -cutting*, etc.

1796 W. H. Marshall *W. England* II. 32 Sodburning the more loamy soils..would be a ready means of meliorating the herbage. 1843–52 R. Burn *Techn. Dict.* I, *Trousse-pas*, sod-cutter's spade. *Ibid.* II. s.v., Sod-builder. *Ibid.* II. s.v., Sod-cutter, *écobue.* 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 99 If the grass and other sod-forming plants assert themselves. 1892 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 3/3 The sod-cutting ceremony of to-morrow.

c. With pa. pples., as *sod-built, -roofed.*

1814 Scott *Lord of Isles* III. i, The rye-grass shakes not on the sod-built fold. 1891 E. Roper *By Track & Trail* iii. 37 Groups of ruined shanties, sod-roofed, bark-roofed, covered anyhow.

Sod (sǫd), *pa. pple., ppl. a.*, and *sb.*2 Forms: 3–4 i-sode, 4–5 sode, 5–7 sodde, 6– sod. [Pa. pple. of Seethe *v.* Cf. Sodden *pa. pple.*, etc.]

†1. Of food, liquor, etc.: Boiled; prepared by boiling. *Obs.*

pred. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9164 Þe bones hii bere Wel iselt & isode to þe abbeye of redinge. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 1574 (W.), Barli-water, that was i-sode. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 246 Fle-h y-rostid, wych is more hottyr than..sode in watyr. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 309 Eating of those bodies which they had slaine, some sodde and some roasted. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* 1. ii. ii. i. (1651) 70 Beer, if it be..over strong, or not sod,.. frets and gauls.

attrib. c 1386 Chaucer *Parson's T.* ℙ 827 So thise shrewes ne holden hem nat apayed of roosted flessh and sode flessh. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 270 Sche let do sowe The lond with sode whete aboute. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 42 Nym sode Porke & chese. 1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* Q iij, Sodde peres releue the stomake greued. 1598 Lodge *Looking Gl. for Lond. & Eng.* B iv, Whay, curds, creame, sod milke, raw-milke. 1611 Coryat *Crudities* 373 Rost and sodde meates. 1658 Rowland tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 898 Wool wet in sod or sweet wine.

†b. *Twice sod*, stale, unpalatable. *Obs.*

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* iv. x, Is meat twice sod to you, sir? 1608 Chapman *Byron's Consp.* iv. i. 114 You make all state before Vtterly obsolete; all to come, twice sod. 1610 [see Colewort 4]. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* ii. 130 The example doth so suite the Text, that I could not pretermit it here, though it be mentioned before: neither is it 'coleworts twice sod'.

†c. Of persons: Sodden, soaked, or steeped *in* liquor. *Obs.*

1613 Beaum. & Fl. *Captain* iv. ii, All the rest..are in *Limbo patrum*, Where they lye sod in sack.

2. a. Of bread: Sodden.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 373/1 So that no part of the dough may form a sod or ill-raised bread.

b. *Sod oil* (see quots.).

1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 367/2 The oil pressed out of the fermented skins is known as 'sod oil'. 1885 A. Watt *Leather Manuf.* xxvii. 341 'Sod oil,' a greasy matter obtained in the treatment of sheep-skins.

†3. As *sb.* Boiled meat. *Obs.*

1548 Elyot, *Acapna thysia*,..spoken of a simple feast, wherin is neither bake, roste nor sodde. 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 33 b, You maye gyue hym roste and sodde with pottage of *Amylum*. 1600 Rowland *Lett. Humours Blood* iii. 9 Not that hee'le cloy him there with rost or sod. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maiden's Blush* 218 While hee is set-up with his Sod and Roast.

Sod (sǫd), *v.*[1] [f. Sod *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *soden*, *sooden*, LG. *soden*, *sōden*, to make sods, lay with sods.] *trans.* To cover or build up, to provide or lay, with sods or turfs; to turf.

1653 Blithe *Eng. Improver Impr.* (ed. 3) 55 One good substantiall Dike, well turfed (or sodded, as the Fen-men call it). 1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 42 Those Terraces must be supported..by some Banks that shall be sodded on purpose, to make them the more solid and lasting. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726) s.v. *Brick*, To sod, is to cover the Bricks. 1799 [A. Young] *Agric. Lincoln.* 259 Bind the semble into sheaves or beats. Cart it to dykes, sod it. 1839 Hood *Storm at Hastings* xxix, We snatch'd up the corse thus thrown, Intending, Christian-like, to sod and turf it. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 558/2 The slope was sodded and terraced with rows of seats.

b. Const. *down*, *over*, *up*.

1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 368 A sorry mound of sods, with some bushes sodded down on top, to keep out sheep. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 81 Made up of mud and stones and sodded o'er. 1870 *Daily News* 12 Nov., The..earthwork, so completely constructed as to have been sodded up with turf.

Sod, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* [f. Sod *pa. pple.*]

1. *intr.* To become sodden or soaked; to stick *together* through wetness.

1642 D. Rogers *Naaman* 3 The tree which hath long lien sodding in the ditch. 1644 Platres in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 218 If Sand, whence comes its clamminess and aptness to sod together? *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 146 If the hay made of it sods a little in the wet,..it becomes tasteless.

2. *trans.* To soak with wet.

1895 A. Patterson *Man & Nat. on the Broads* 125 Work on the land where wet grass an' rubbidge sod (soak) yer trowsers below.

Sod, obs. pa. t. of Seethe *v.*

Soda[1] (sōu·dă). [a. med.L. *soda* (It. and Pg. *soda*, Sp. *sosa*, F. *soude*, † *soulde*, *soulle*), of unknown origin.]

1. An alkaline substance obtained originally from the ashes of certain marine or other salt-impregnated plants, esp. species of *Salsola*, and now manufactured artificially from common salt, or occurring in a mineral state as a deposit, esp. in certain lakes, or in solution in the water of such lakes (natron); used largely in commerce, esp. in the manufacture of glass and soap; soda-ash; sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3).

Freq. used as a synonym of sodium in the names of various compounds of that element, as *muriate*, *nitrate*, *sulphate*, etc., *of soda*.

1558 Warde *Alexis' Secr.* I. iv. 78 Take an vnce of Soda whiche is ashes made of grasse, whereof glassemakers doo vse to make their Cristall). 1678 R. R[ussell] tr. *Geber* 1. iv. 245 True Salt-Alkali is made of Zoza (or Soda) dissolved. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Soda*, the ashes of the Herb Kali Burnt, whereof Glass is made. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 480 The fossil [alkali] or mineral, called likewise soda and natrum. 1706 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 19 Soda affects it but slightly. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1150 Carbonate of Soda.. is the soda of commerce in various states, either crystallized, in lumps, or in a crude powder called soda-ash. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 249 A large proportion of the plants growing on sea-coasts contain soda, whilst inland plants contain potash.

fig. 1823 Byron *Juan* x. lxxiii, Half-solved into these sodas or magnesias, Which form that bitter draught, the human species.

b. Sodium bicarbonate, used largely for domestic purposes; baking or cooking soda.

1851-4 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* I. 183/1 Mix the soda perfectly with the flour. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 5/2 A half cwt. of soda could be bought for 3*s*.

c. *Caustic soda*, sodium hydroxide or hydrate (NaOH). Cf. Caustic *a.* 1 c.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 132 A ley of caustic soda. *Ibid.*, Caustic soda ley. *Ibid.* 1150 Caustic soda is a white brittle mass,..having a most corrosive taste and action upon animal matters. 1871 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 132 Liquor Sodæ, above described, contains caustic soda.

†2. The prickly saltwort, *Salsola kali*. = Kali 1.

1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magick* vi. i. 178 The herb Kali or Saltwort is commonly called Soda.

3. *Chem.* Sodium oxide (Na_2O).

1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* I. 557 The next oxide of sodium is soda. 1856 Miller *Elem. Chem., Inorg.* 743 Oxide of Sodium, or Soda (NaO), forms the basis of the important series of salts of soda. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem., Soda*: This term, in scientific language, is applied to the anhydrous protoxide of sodium (Na^2O).

4. Soda-water.

1842 Lover *Handy Andy* i. Bang went the bottle of soda. 1864 Sala *Quite Alone* I. xiv. 220 Keep him on his soda-and-B. That won't do him any harm. 1897 Surg.-Capt. Hughes *Medit. Fever* v. 210 An occasional whiskey with water or soda..is useful.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. Misc., chiefly in sense 1, as *soda-bath*, *-compound*, *-crystals*, *-lime*, *-salt*, *soap*, etc.; *soda-carbonate*, *muriate*, *tartrate*; in *Photogr.* for hypo-sulphite of soda, as *soda developer*, *development*, *-pyro*, *-solution*, etc.; **soda-ash**, the sodium carbonate of commerce, = Soda[1] 1; **soda lake**, a natron lake; **soda-lye** (see quot. 1867); **soda-paper**, **-prairie**, **waste** (see quots.).

1839 *Soda-ash [see 1]. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 29 Soda crystals, or soda-ash,..are carbonates of soda. 1865 Princess Alice *Mem.* (1884) 99, I am taking warm *soda-baths in the morning. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1151 The crystals of *soda-carbonate..are now made altogether by the decomposition of sea salt. 1845 Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 182 Hence the albumen in the blood cannot exist as a *soda-compound (albuminate of soda). 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1155 Our commercial *soda crystals are composed of—1 atom of carbonic acid, 1 atom of soda, and 10 atoms of water. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 89 The *soda developer tends to give softer images. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* III. 65 *Soda development is apt to give a yellow image. 1864 *Reader* 24 Sept. 387 Such a light is the monochromatic *soda-flame. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1155 There are several *soda lakes in Mexico. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* i. § 1 (ed. 2) 19 A portion of this alkalized lime, or *soda-lime as it is frequently termed. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 132 Avoid lime,..but use it freely after one or two *soda leys. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 266 Soda lye, employed in the manufacture of hard soap, is a solution of hydrate of soda. *Ibid.* 572 A weak soda-ley. 1804 *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 427 The *soda-muriate of palladium is a deliquescent salt. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2236/1 **Soda-paper*, a paper made by saturating filtering paper with carbonate of soda. 1793 T. Beddoes *Calculus* p. x, His experience of the good effects of *soda pills, in cases of biliary concretion. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 426 **Soda-prairie*, a plain covered with an efflorescence of soda, elsewhere called natron. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 391, I worked always with *soda-pyro. 1836-41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 716 When magnesia is precipitated by excess of carbonate of soda, a portion of the triple *soda-salt is retained. 1834-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 434/1 Common salt..hardens and renders it equal to the *soda soaps. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 28 Soda soaps are hard; potash soaps are soft. 1809 *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 327 These parts..certainly afforded no *soda-tartrate of potash. 1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 115 Water dissolves out the soda salts, leaving the insoluble oxisulphide of calcium, known as *soda waste.

b. Connected or dealing with sodium carbonate or its manufacture, as *soda-apparatus*, *-furnace*, *industry*, *-making*, *manufacture*, etc. Also with agent-nouns, as *soda-furnacer*, *maker*.

(*a*) 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1151 Soda manufacture. *Ibid.* 1152 The draught of a soda-furnace must be very sharp. *Ibid.* 1153 In some soda-works, where the decomposing furnace is very large. 1853 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 683 The whole process of soda-making. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2234/1 Soda-apparatus. 1884 Gilmour *Mongols* 169 Particularly fatal is this rough road to the wooden axles of the soda carts.

(*b*) 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1153 The dexterous management of this transposition characterizes a good soda-furnacer. 1853 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 682 Having..obtained a quantity of sulphate of soda, the soda maker now proceeds to his next operation.

c. With the names of minerals containing soda, as *soda alum*, *-chabasite*, *-copperas*, *-feldspar*, *-lime-feldspar*, *-nitre*, *-saltpetre*, *-spodumene* (see quots.). Also *soda-granitic* adj.

Many of these terms are now obsolete.

1837 Dana *Min.* 170 Solfatarite, *alumen volcanicum*. *Soda Alum. 1876 Harley *Royle's Mat. Med.* 192 Soda alum and ammonia alum are formed by replacing the equivalent of potash with one of soda or ammonia. 1836 T. Thomson *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 335 Combinations of the common calcareous-chabasite and the *soda-chabasite of Berzelius. 1844 Dana *Mineral.* 226 A *Soda Copperas has been analyzed by Scheerer. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem., Soda copperas*, a sodio-ferric sulphate found in the alum-slate of Modum in Norway. 1863 Dana *Man. Geol.* 56 Albite or *Soda-feldspar. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* xv. 320 Mountain masses of a peculiar white *soda-granitic rock. 1867 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 6) II. 269 *Soda-lime-felspar (often containing potash); labradorite. 1896 Chester *Dict. Min.*, **Soda-nitre*, nitrate of sodium, found as a mineral. 1848 *Knapp's Chem. Technol.* I. 344 The more common salts of nitric acid ..are distinguished from each other by the addition of the name of the base as:..*soda-saltpetre (cubic nitre). 1850 Ansted *Elem. Geol., Min.*, etc. 193 *Oligoclase*, *Soda-spodumene, a mineral having the same relation to spodumene that albite has to true felspar.

6. Made with, or containing, sodium bicarbonate, as *soda-biscuit*, *-bread*, *-cake*, *-cracker*, *-scone*, etc.

1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Soda-biscuit*, a biscuit raised with soda. 1884 Mrs. Riddell *Berna Boyle* xiii, The *soda bread was rising to a satisfactory thickness. 1894 Lyttle *Betsy Gray* iii. 22 Potato cake, pancakes, *soda-cake, and other manufactures. 1873 B. Harte *Fiddletown* 53 Like an enormous japanned *soda-cracker. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Soda-mint*, a mixture containing sodium bicarbonate and spearmint. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 741 Bismuth lozenges, soda-mint tablets. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 291, I.. had taken a sip or two of tea and bitten into my *soda-scone.

7. Used for, or containing, soda-water, as *soda bottle*, *-fountain*, *tumbler*, etc.

1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. ix, Like a soda bottle when its spray Has sparkled. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2235/1 *Soda-fountain*, a vessel for containing soda-water or water charged with carbonic-acid gas under high pressure, and provided with pipes and valves for drawing it off as required.

†**Soda**[2]. *Obs.* [a. med.L. *soda*, ad. Arab. صداع *ṣodāʿ*, f. صدع *ṣadaʿ* to split.] Headache.

c 1540 Boorde *Boke for to Lerne* C iij b, The fallyng sycknes called..Appoplesia, Soda. 1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* I. i. (1639) 1 That there are onely three sundry paines in the head: wherof the one is called of the Greeks κεφαλαλγία..; the barbarous sort of Physitians call it Soda. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 97 It helpeth the soda (that is an old head ach)..With saffron and a little camphire it helps the cold soda. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Soda*, the same with *Cephalalgia*.

‖**Soda**[3]. *Obs. rare.* [mod.L. *soda*, ad. G. *sod* (*sode*), MLG. *sode*, Du. *zode*, Fris. *soad(e*, related to Seethe *v.*] A form of indigestion; heart-burn. Never actually adopted in English use.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Soda*, the same with *Ardor ventriculi* [= Heart-burning]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Soda*,..an uneasy and troublesome sensation of heat about the orifice of the stomach.

Sodace·tic, *a. Chem.* [f. Soda[1] or Sod-ium + Acetic *a.*] (See quot.)

1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 569 A crystalline mass of sodacetic ether, or acetic ether in which one atom of the hydrogen has been displaced by sodium.

Sodaic (sǫdē·ik), *a.* [f. Soda[1] + -ic. So F. *sodaïque*.] Containing soda or sodium bicarbonate.

1834 Cooper *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 248 The common sodaic powders, and the effervescing saline draught, are often relished by the patient. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 424 The most familiar example [of effervescence] is afforded in the solution of sodaic powders. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 480 Some occasion in which he had suspended the use of its sodaic waters at table for champagne.

Sodain(e, -ly, obs. forms of Sudden, -ly.

Sodainty, variant of Suddenty.

†**Sodaite**. *Min. Obs.* [f. Soda[1] + -ite[1] 2 b.] A variety of nephelite or wernerite.

c 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 489/2 *Elaolite*. Fettstein. Lythrodes. Sodaite. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 305/1 Ekebergite (Sodaite) does not occur crystallized.

Sodalist (sōu·dălist). [f. Sodal-ity: see -ist 4.] A member of a Roman Catholic sodality or religious fraternity.

1794 in *Mem. Stonyhurst Coll.* (1881) 40 No meeting of Sodalists. 1889 *Tablet* 14 Dec. 946 The handsome chapel where the Sodalists are now enabled to hold their services.

Sodalite (sōu·dălait). *Min.* [f. Soda[1] + -lite.] A vitreous, transparent or translucent silicate of aluminium and sodium containing sodium chloride, usually of a greenish blue colour and occurring in certain igneous rocks.

1810 Thomson in *Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1812) VI. 387 A Chemical Analysis of Sodalite, a new Mineral from Greenland. *Ibid.*, The mineral to which I have given the name of Sodalite. 1837 Dana *Min.* 281 Sodalite includes the white and light green crystallized varieties of this species. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 115 Sodalite mostly occurs in rocks of a syenitic character.

†**Sodali·tious**, *a. Obs.*—° Also **-icious**. [f. L. *sodalicius*.] (See quots.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Sodalicious*,..belonging to sodality or Fellowship. 1730 Bailey (fol.), *Sodalitious*, of, or pertaining to Society.

Sodality (sǫdæ·liti). [a. F. *sodalité* or ad. L. *sodālitas*, *-ātem* fellowship, brotherhood, fraternity, f. *sodālis* mate, fellow, boon-companion.]

1. Association or confederation *with* others; brotherhood, companionship, fellowship.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 168 A participation, ..combination, or sodalitie with the Iesuits to ouerthrow our countrie. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Eccl.* iv. *comm.*, If the Father, the Sonne, and the Holie Ghost come withal, this sodalitie is not soone broken. 1655-60 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* (1687) 389/1 Of Friendship there are four kinds: Sodality, Affinity, Hospitality, Erotick. 1865 *Reader* 7 Oct. 392/2 That literary social sodality by which France had been distinguished for nearly a century. 1888 *Chambers's Jrnl.* 7 Jan. 2 Massinger's claim to the sodality of the craft.. might perhaps be considered as of the genuine order.

2. In the Roman Catholic Church, a religious guild or brotherhood established for purposes of devotion or mutual help or action; the body of persons forming such a society.

(*a*) 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 25 [The secular priests] sought no establishing of houses, Colledges, sodalities, societies, or corporations. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* iii. 18 The priuiledge of this sodality is that they haue graces, rosaries,..and hallowed graines from his holinesse. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* xx. 76 By being incorporated into this or that holy Sodality or Fraternity. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 77 The Jansenistical-Romanists..have but very little to do with those little offices, or Sodalities, with their Indulgences. 1832 *Archaeol.* XXIV. 134 The monks of St. Swithin's..and those of New Minster had a sodality among themselves. 1893 J. Fahey *Hist. Kilmacduagh* 443 The extension of religious sodalities in the several parishes of his diocese.

attrib. 1882 *Mem. Stonyhurst Coll.* 41 *note*, The body of the martyr..now lies under the altar of the Sodality Chapel.

(*b*) 1628 in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* I. i. 114 The Sodalitie of the Chapelet of Our Lady. 1667 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 63 He was admitted into the sodality of our B: Lady. 1846 J. Morris in Pollen *Life* (1896) ii. 45, I should like very much to be enrolled in your Sodality of the Living Rosary. 1889 *Tablet* 14 Dec. 946 The Sodality of the Immaculate Conception.

b. A chapel set apart for or used by a religious sodality.

1667 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 66 He [was] obserued when he thought himself to be alone in the sodality to sprinkle.. water vppon the grauestones. 1679 *Trial of White, & other Jesuits* 11 To preach in the Sodality of the English Seminary. 1725 R. Plowden in Foley *Rec. Eng. Prov. S. J.* VII. Introd. p. xl, With much ado, we saved the Church, the Sodality, and that wing where the kitchen is.

3. A society, association, or fraternity of any kind.

1633 *Parthenia Sacra* 180 Sodalities of al sorts & conditions whatsoeuer either Secular or Ecclesiastical. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 262 To see with what Tenderness the Seraphick Sodality wash'd the Body. 1737 L. Clarke *Hist. Bible* viii. 572 Others hold, that they were called Herodians, because they constituted a Sodality erected in the Honour of Herod. 1805 Murphy *Tacitus* I. 184 To create this new sodality the names of the most eminent citizens..were drawn by lot. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* Introd. xiv. (1866) 46 There were also military sodalities of musketeers, crossbowmen, archers, swordsmen, in every town.

Sodamide (sōu·dăməid). *Chem.* [f. Sod-a[1] + Amide.] A substance, usually of a greenish colour, formed by treating sodium with gaseous ammonia (cf. quots.).

1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 7 Sodamide and mercuramide are amidets of sodium and mercury. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 551 When potassium and sodium were heated in gaseous ammonia, hydrogen was evolved, and potassamide and sodamide were produced.

Sodamite, obs. form of Sodomite. **Sodan**, obs. f. Soldan. **Sodan(le, -ly**, etc., obs. ff. Sudden(ly. **Sodar**, obs. f. Solder *sb.*[1] **Sodary**, obs. f. Sudary.

Soda-water. Also **soda water.** [f. Soda[1] + Water *sb.*]

1. Water containing a solution of sodium bicarbonate, or, more generally, charged under pressure with carbon dioxide (carbonic acid gas), strongly effervescent, and used as a beverage or stimulant. Cf. Soda[1] 4.

1802 W. Saunders in *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VIII. 492 The gaseous alkaline water commonly called soda water has long been used in this country. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 385 Much of the so-called soda-water found in commerce is totally devoid of soda or other alkali. 1879 L. Stephen *Hours in Libr.* III. 194 The maudlin meditation of a fast young man over his morning's soda-water.

b. *attrib.*, as *soda-water apparatus, -bottle, fountain*, etc.

1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vi, Patent soda-water manufactories. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1156 Improved soda-water apparatus. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Soda-water-bottle*, a strong oval-shaped glass bottle, the cork of which is secured by twine and wire to confine the aerated water. *Ibid., Soda-water manufacturer*, a maker and bottler of soda-water. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6246, Patent soda-water machines. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 828/1 Soda-water Fountain.

2. Water containing a solution of sodium carbonate for cooling or wetting metal-working tools.

1891 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Sodayne, -ly, etc., obs. ff. Sudden(ly.

Sodded (sɒ·dĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Sod *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]] Covered or laid with, constructed or built of, sods.

1652 Cotterell tr. *Calprenède's Cassandra* III. II. (1676) 262 Roxana sat down upon a green sodded bank. 1816 Coleridge *Lay Serm.* Introd. p. xxii, Like an aged mourner on the sodded grave of an only one. 1871 *Daily News* 11 Sept., A sodded kitchen [=stove] built and used by a couple of officers..is quite a marvel of versatility.

So·dded, *ppl. a.*[2] *rare.* [Cf. Sod *ppl. a.* and *v.*[2]] Sodden, soaked.

1627 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxix, Moorish grounds..are usually boggy and rotten, or of so cold and sodded a temper; as [etc.].

Sodden (sɒ·d'n), *pa. pple., ppl. a.*, and *sb.* Forms: α. 4–5 soþen (4 soþin, soiþen); 4–5 sothen (4 soothen, 5 sothyn). β. 4–5 sodyn, 5 sodun, sooden, 5–6 soden (5 -one, 6 -yng, *Sc.* -in); 5–sodden (*Sc.* 5–6 soddyn, 6 -in). [Strong pa. pple. of Seethe *v.* Cf. Sod *pa. pple.*, etc.]

1. Boiled; cooked or prepared by boiling. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

pred. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13373 þe folk þat dai ful fair was fedd, O bred and flexs bath soþen and bredd. 1382 Wyclif *Numb.* vi. 19 A shuldre sothen [*v.rr.* sodden, sooden, sodyn, soothen, 1388 sodun] of the wether. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xix. 208 Thei bryngen..mete alle soden. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 67 Thenne abygail hyed her & toke..v weders sothen. 1570 H. Lloyd *Treas. Health* M v, Lay a hoole egge wel sodden and the shel pylled of. 1600 Rowland *Lett. Humours Blood* i. 7 Beere he protestes is sodden and refin'd. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 385 It were good therefore to try it..with Milk Sodden.

attrib. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Sam.* ii. 15, I shal not take..sothen [1388 sodun] flesh, but rawe. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 94 þis bawme is cleped rawe bawme and the toþer is callid soden bawme. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 274 On that daye he shall serue..soden egges with grene sauce. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 217 Dronken in sodden wine it preserveth from dronkennesse. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1662) 9 They were fain to eat Dogs, Cats, Rats, sodden Leather. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 386 Mix it with thicken'd Juice of sodden Wines. 1780 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3571/1 The snails were fed with bran and sodden wine. 1829 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sodden-wheat*, furmety. 1846 Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 455 These, with bran mashes, sodden oats, and exercise, will generally effect a cure.

transf. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. i. 44 *Pa.* My businesse seethes. *Ser.* Sodden businesse, there's a stewed phrase indeede.

†b. In the proverbial phrase *coleworts twice* (etc.) *sodden*: (see Colewort 4).

c 1568 [see Colewort 4]. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* 55 b, The fourth crime..is coalewortes more than tenne times sodden. 1608 Hieron *Answ. Popish Plot* (ed. 2) To Rdr., To redoe things once done, or to oppresse mens stomachs with twise sodden Coleworts, as the prouerb is. 1614 Bradshaw *Unreasonableness Separation* 83 Some of his own cole-worts, not twice, but twenty times sodden.

2. Of persons, their features, etc.: Having the appearance of, or resembling, that which has been soaked or steeped in water; rendered dull, stupid, or expressionless, esp. owing to drunkenness or indulgence in intoxicants; pale and flaccid.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, By Hercules, I scorne him, as I doe the sodden Nymph..his mistris Arete. 1608 Shaks. *Pericles* IV. ii. 21 The stuff we have, a strong wind will blow it to pieces, they are so pitifully sodden. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burning Pestle* v. i, Now you with the sodden face, keep in there.

1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. vi, His complexion was pale and sodden. 1850 Kingsley *A. Locke* xxxv, Gaunt, ragged, sodden, blear-eyed, drivelling, the worn-out gin-drinker stood. 1896 Howells *Impress. & Exp.* 74 The soddenest *habitué* of the place brightened.

b. Characterized by heaviness, dullness, or want of vivacity.

1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* III. 86 The peculiar sodden and sensual cunning..seen so often in the countenances of the worst Romish priests. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 49 All Into dull sodden life did fall.

3. Of food: Heavy, doughy; spoiled through over-boiling or imperfect baking.

a 1800 Pegge *Suppl. Grose, Sodden*, over-boiled. North. 1862 Miller *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) ii. § 5. 143 Bread prepared from such flour is sticky, heavy, and sodden.

4. Saturated or soaked with water or moisture.

1820 Keats *Hyperion* I. 17 Upon the sodden ground His old right hand lay nerveless. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 164 Don't work the ground when it is sodden, muddy, or rendered sticky by a recent frost. 1873 G. C. Davies *Mount. & Mere* xvi. 137 The cold water was numbing his limbs and his sodden clothes were dragging him down. 1894 *Daily News* 5 June 3/5 The ground..was in such a terribly sodden condition that cricket was entirely out of the question.

b. Const. *in* or *with*. Also *fig.*

1833 I. Taylor *Fanat.* i. 6 Men..with hands sodden in blood. 1860 Smiles *Self-Help* xi. 285 Nothing can be more hurtful to a youth than to have his soul sodden with pleasure. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 104 Fungi abound, and the pavement is sodden with damp. 1904 *Field* 6 Feb. 226/2 The ground was so sodden with wet that it was quite unfit to ride over.

5. *Comb.*, as *sodden-faced, -headed, -witted* adjs.

Also as second element in *brandy-, gin-, whisky-sodden*, etc.

1589 *Hay any Work* 25 You sodden headed Asse you, the most part of that law is abrogated. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 47 Thou sodden-witted Lord! thou hast no more braine then I haue in mine elbows. 1753 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) I. 218 The sliest, sodden-faced creature I ever saw.

†6. As *sb.* Boiled meat. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13373 (Fairf.), þat folk þat day fulle faire was fed wiþ soiþen & roste & wilde bred. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law. Arms* (S.T.S.) 78 The tane lufis soddyn, the tothir rost. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 224, I hane here in my mayll, sothen and rost.

†**So·dden**, *a. Obs.*[1] [f. Sod *sb.*[1]] Built of sods.

1639 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 285 Belfort (nothing like the name either in strength or beauty, it being the most miserably beggarly sodden town, or town of sods, that ever was made in an afternoon of loam and sticks.

So·dden (sɒ·d'n), *v.* [f. Sodden *ppl. a.*]

1. *trans.* To make sodden; to soak in, or saturate with, water.

1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 502 The ground becomes compressed and soddened (to use an antiquated term) by the winter rains. 1844 Dickens *Pict. fr. Italy* (1846) 147 Your pony soddening his girths in water. 1878 *Daily News* 12 June 5 The rains have soddened the earth.

b. To render (the faculties) dull or stupid; to deprive of vivacity or freshness.

1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 431 His sensuality does not sodden and brutify his faculties, but it quickens their temper and edge. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Dec. 4/2 His soul has been deadened and soddened by ages of exclusive devotion to the question of bread and cider.

2. *intr.* a. To become soaked or saturated with water or moisture; to grow soft or rotten in this way.

1820 Byron *Mar. Fal.* II. ii. 95 The block may soak their gore; Their heads may sodden in the sun. *a* 1861 Woolner *My Beautiful Lady, Tolling Bell* lviii, I wandered wearily..Through swamps that soddened under stagnant air.

b. Of a liquid: To soak *into* something.

1881 Miss Ormerod *Injurious Insects* (1890) 345 Dressing ..of some kind which will not sodden into the tree in the heat of the sun.

Hence **So·ddened** *ppl. a.*; **So·ddening** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1845 Hirst *Poems* 18 We..laid them in the *soddened ground. 1883 *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 68/1 Soddened fruit enveloped in heavy indigestible pudding paste. 1852 Wiggins *Embanking* 96 This *soddening, or stagnation of the soil in a watery state. 1890 Huxley in *Times* 1 Dec. 13/3 The prostitution of the mind, the soddening of the conscience. 1857 T. Moore *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 28 A *soddening—continued *wetness*, as distinguished from mere dampness, of the soil.

Soddenness (sɒ·d'nˌnĕs). [f. Sodden *ppl. a.*] Sodden state, quality, or condition.

1890 *Science* XV. 230/1 The soddenness of improperly boiled or fried foods. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Apr. 4/2 The bottom of the uncultivated gardens, where the ground is kept in a chronic state of soddenness.

Sodder, obs. or dial. f. Solder *sb.*[1] and *v.*

Sodding (sɒ·dĭŋ), (*vbl.*) *sb.* [f. Sod *v.*[1]]

1. The action of covering, laying, or providing with sods.

1688 Holme *Armoury* III. 266/1 *Soding*, is the covering of little shourings and places of shade from Rain, with green Turfs or Grass Sods. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v., Sodding of brick. 1860 B. Taylor in *Life & Lett.* I. xv. 206 We have done something at clearing away rubbish, sodding, and making the surroundings fair to look upon. 1864 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* III The sodding of the roof was beautifully managed.

2. Sods or turfs as a material for forming or strengthening embankments, etc.

1852 Wiggins *Embanking* 18 But if banks of sand are attempted..the front or facing [should be] guarded with clay, turf, sodding, and stones. 1867 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* III. II. 664 A good sodding..might be made from the marram.

3. *attrib.*, as *sodding-implement, -mallet, -spade*. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2237/2 *Sodding-implements*, tools for cutting sods and laying them down. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Sodding-mallet. *Ibid.*, Sodding-spade.

Soddy (sɒ·di), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Sod *sb.*[1] + -y.]

A. *adj.* Abounding in sods; consisting or composed of sods; of the nature of a sod.

1611 Cotgr., *Motteux*, cloddie, turfie, soddie. 1778 [W. H. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 98 By burying the soddy edge of the Plit, they are now less grassy than the Leys were before plowing. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. I. 168 Reduce the soddy texture of the soil.

B. *sb.* A sod-house. *U.S.*

1893 *Pilgrim Missionary* June 8/1 Brother T— has a large circuit of three churches, and lives in a 'soddy'.

Sodear, obs. f. Soldier. **Sodein, -eyn(e**, obs. ff. Sudden *a.* **Sodekene, -dene**, obs. ff. Subdeacon, -dean. **Soden**, obs. f. Soldan; Sudden *a.* **Soder**, obs. f. Solder *sb.*[1] and *v.* **Sodewe**, obs. f. Subdue *v.* **Sodger**, obs. or dial. f. Soldier.

Sodic (sōu·dik), *a. Chem.* [f. Sod-ium + -ic. Cf. F. *sodique*.] Of, containing, or composed of sodium.

1859 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1170 The only combination known of sodium with sulphur, or—sodic sulphur. 1869 J. Phillips *Vesuv.* iv. 121 Examining..these hollow canals, ..we find sublimed salts, especially ammoniac and sodic chlorides with free sulphur. 1878 Hamilton *Nervous Dis.* 329 As regards the variety of bromide, I think the sodic is the most reliable and stable.

Sodier, obs. form of Soldier.

Sodio- (sōu·diо), comb. form of Sodium, denoting the presence of that substance or its salts, as *sodio-aluminic, -aurous, -hydric, -platinic* adjs.; *sodio-salicylate*.

1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Sodium*, Sodium occurs as sodio-aluminic fluoride in cryolite. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 421 A sodio-aurous hyposulphite..is prepared by mixing the concentrated solutions of auric chloride and sodium hyposulphite. *Ibid.* 347 A sodiohydric pyrophosphate has been obtained. 1876 Harley *Royle's Mat. Med.* 308 Sodio-platinic chloride..is soluble in water. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 991 Theobromine, in the form of the sodio-salicylate (diuretin), may be substituted for caffein.

Sodioure, obs. form of Soldier.

Sodium (sōu·diŏm). *Chem.* [f. Sod-a[1] + -ium. Named by Davy (1807).]

1. An elementary alkaline metal (isolated by Davy in 1807), forming the basis of Soda, closely resembling potassium in its appearance and properties, and occurring most commonly in the chloride (common salt). Symbol Na (for Natrium).

1807 Davy in *Phil. Trans.* (1808) I. 32 Potassium and Sodium are the names by which I have ventured to call the two new substances. 1812 —*Chem. Philos.* 331, I discovered sodium a few days after I discovered potassium, in the year 1807. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 395 Sodium has a much higher point of fusion than potassium. 1858

MILLER *Elem. Chem., Inorg.* 743 Sodium has a bluish white colour; in appearance and properties it much resembles potassium, but is somewhat more volatile. 1879 PROCTOR *Pleas. Ways Sci.* i. 1 A certain double dark line in the solar spectrum is due to the vapour of sodium in the sun's atmosphere.

2. *attrib.* **a.** In the names of chemical compounds or groupings, as *sodium-alcohol, -amyl, bicarbonate, bromide, carbonate*, etc.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 150 If iodide of amyl be made to act upon the sodium-alcohol. 1862 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 222 When sodium-ethyl is formed from zinc-ethyl by the action of sodium. *Ibid.* 225 Sodium-amyl would probably furnish caproate of soda. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 337 Sodium Chloride, when pure, is not deliquescent in moderately-dry air. *Ibid.*, Sodium Hydrate, or Caustic Soda. *Ibid.* 338 Sodium Carbonates. *Ibid.* 345 Sodium Hyposulphite..is now used in considerable quantity for photographic purposes. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 105 The potassium and sodium phosphates form three varieties of salts.

b. Misc., as *sodium-compound, -flame, -light*; **sodium-amalgam**, a compound of mercury and sodium; **sodium soap**, soda soap.

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 219 The potassium and sodium compounds are more energetic than those of zinc. 1866 W. ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 138 Uric acid, by deoxidation with sodium-amalgam, yields a mixture of xanthine and hypoxanthine. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. xiv. 391 We send our beam of white light through a sodium flame. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-forming Min.* 128 The refractive index of quartz..in sodium-light.

So·dless, *a.* [f. SOD *sb.*[1]] Devoid of, not covered by, sods.

a 1847 ELIZA COOK *Poor Man's Grave* i. 12 He..will not leave the sodless heap.

†**Sodlet.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 sowdel-; 4, 6 soud(e)let, 6 sodelet(t, sodlett. [? f. OF. *souder* to solder.] A saddle-bar for a window.

1332 in J. T. Smith *Antiq. Westminster* (1807) 196 [Nine small bars of iron, called] soudlets, [to hold the glass in the said windows]. 1339–40 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 96 Item in Sowdelibus faciendis per eundem de vj peciis ferri. *Ibid.* II. 97 In diuersis sowdelibus fact...pro fenestris superioris istoriæ Noui Operis. *Ibid.*, Barris et sowdelibus reparand. 1532–3 in E. Law *Hist. Hampton Court Pal.* (1885) 349 For 295 sodlettes servyng the syde wyndows. *Ibid.* 350, 40 sodletts for the harnessyng of the Greatt Wyndow.

attrib. 1533 *MS. Rawl. D.* 776 fol. 175 For xxj Fott off sodlett barres. 1536 *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 fol. 59, xxxij[li] fote of sodelett barrs spent by the glasyers.

Sodom (sɒ·dəm). [The name of the early city beside the Dead Sea, the wickedness and destruction of which are recorded in Gen. xviii–xix.

The Hebrew form of the name is *Sʿdōm*; the Sept. has Σόδομα, the Vulg. *Sodoma*, neut. pl. and fem. sing.]

1. An extremely wicked or corrupt place.

1649 C. WALKER *Relat. & Obs.* II. 257 To the prejudice of our other New States-men, and their New erected Sodomies and Spintries at the Mulbury-garden at S. James's. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk r. London, A Tavern* Wks. 1709 III. 111. 3 A Tavern is a little Sodom, where as many Vices are daily practic'd, as ever were known in the great one. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* v. iv. 461 How could he dwell in a dead carcase, a Sodom of filthiness? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 8/1 Two, even in this military Sodom, had the courage to proclaim Dreyfus innocent.

2. *Sodom apple.* **a.** Apple of Sodom (see APPLE *sb.* 3). So † *Sodom-fruit.* Also *U.S.*, the horse-nettle, *Solanum carolinense.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 48 See painted Sodom-apples faire to th' eye, But being tutcht they perish instantly. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 237 They are Sodome Apples, enduring the Eye, not the Touch. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). [1736 J. BANCKS *Young's Last Day* 12 Through life we chase, with fond pursuit, What mocks our hope, like Sodom's fruit.] 1738 M. GREEN *Spleen* 33 And Sodom-fruit our pains deceives. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* iv, The mocking way in which over-fond wishes are too often fulfilled—Sodom apples as they are. 1905 W. J. ROLFE *Shaks. Sonn.* 19 The ashes to which the Sodom-apples of illicit love are turned in the end.

†**b.** A variety of cider-apple. *Obs.*

1676 WORLIDGE *Cydar* (1691) 212 The Sodome-apple or Bloudy pippin is a fruit of more than ordinary dark colour.

3. *Sodom egg-plant* (see quot. and cf. 2 a).

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 196/1 *Solanum Sodomeum*, Sodom egg-plant, or apple of Sodom.

†**Sodometrous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. *sodometry* SODOMITRY.] Sodomitical.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. A ij, The Sodometrous vow of chastyte agaynst Gods fre instytucyon. 1572 R. T. *Discourse* 39 The Church of Christ is holy Hierusalem: The Popes is adulterous Babylon, and Sodomitical Rome. 1600 O. E. (M. SUTCLIFFE) *Repl. Libel* II. ii. 32 To creepe into a Sodomiticall cloister of monkes. 1632 W. LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 76 If all the Priests..were thus handled .., what a sea of Sodomiticall irreligious blood would ouerflow the halfe of Europe.

Hence **Sodomi·tically** *adv.*; **Sodomi·ticalness.**

1602 SIR A. SHERLEY *Trav.* (1863) 41 Which if he wanted hee would hire a boy sodomitically to use. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. xii. 232 Two Noble youths..being Sodomitically abused by this Infernal Goat. 1718 PHIDEAUX *Connex. O. & N. T.* II. II. 74 Agathocles, being Sodomitically given, fell in love with a beautifull young Man. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sodomiticalness*, Guiltiness of Sodomy.

So·domitish, *a. rare.* [f. SODOMITE + -ISH. Cf. O.E. *Sodomitisc.*] Sodomitical; of Sodom.

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†**So·domitry.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 6–7 sodomitrie, -itry, 6 -itrye, sodomytrie. *β.* 6 sodometrye, 6–7 -etrie, -etry. [f. SODOMITE + -RY. Cf. OF. *sodomiterie.*]

1. = SODOMY 1. (Common *c* 1540–*c* 1650.)

2. One who practises or commits sodomy.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 55 Þat prelatis..ben gostly sodomytis worse þan bodily sodomytis of sodom and gomor. *a* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 55 Are þei not..werr and abhominabler þan carnal sodomits? 1477 CAXTON *Dictes* 11 b, Bren the Sodomytes and punysshe the men taken in fornicacion. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 527 Deuill, dampnit dog, sodomyte insatiable. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 231/1 Whores as they are, yea..vile and shamefull Sodomites, committing suche heinous and abhominable actes, that it is horrible to thinke of. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 409 An open Sodomite, and horrible blasphemer. 1682 SHADWELL *Medal* 42 He boasts of Vice (which he did ne'r commit), Calls himself Whoremaster and Sodomite. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. v. 49 An Adulterer, Simonist, Sodomite, Murtherer, Arrian.

b. *attrib.* Sodomitic, sodomitish. *rare.*

13.. *Seuyn Sages* 1564 (W.), Wimmen he louede swithe lite, And usede sinne sodomighte. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 510 That Sodomite Page.

3. An inhabitant of Sodom.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vi. (1883) 134 The..vnnaturell synne of lecherye of the sodamites. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1532) 105 b, Thus lyued y[e] vertuous man Loth amonge the Sodomytes. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 212 When he fought against the Sodomites, the fire took his part. 1643 CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 1752 The Sodomites were surprized, when destroyed; they expected it not. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antig.* I. xi, About this time the Sodomites grew proud, on account of their riches and great wealth. 1865 R. MORRIS *Gen. & Ex.* 31 *marg.*, The wicked Sodomites beset Lot's house. 1876 B. MARTIN *Messiah's Kingdom* VI. iii. 331 The unnatural lust of the Sodomites.

Hence † **So·domiter,** a sodomite; † **So·domitess,** a woman sodomite. *Obs.*

1523 COVERDALE tr. *Dulichius' Of the Olde God* R, Arystotle the murtherer, Auerrois the sodomyter, Plato the traytour. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xxiii. 17 There shalbe no whore [*marg.* sodomitesse] of the daughters of Israel.

Sodomi·tic, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *Sodomītic-us.* Cf. F. *sodomitique.*] = next.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* III. 137/1 The Pope then caus'd all Priests to leaue their wiues, To leade foule Sodomiticke single liues. 1885 *Cyclop. Sci.* VI. 471 Men and women indulged in unnatural and sodomitic commerce.

Sodomitical (sɒdəmi·tikăl), *a.* [f. L. *Sodomītic-us* (cf. prec.) + -AL.]

1. Of persons: Guilty of, committing, or practising sodomy.

1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 75 The outragiouse belowing of a sorte of sodomiticall buls. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 4 b That Sodomiticall swarme or brode of Antichrist. 1605 M. SUTCLIFFE *Brief Exam.* 53 Enemies to all lecherous and Sodomiticall Friars. 1667 *Termes de la Ley* 407 By the Common Law..sodomiticall persons, and hereticks, should be burnt. 1687 SHADWELL *Tenth Sat. Juvenal* 49 A filthy Sodomitical Schoolmaster.

† **b.** With whom sodomy is committed. *Obs.*

a 1555 BRADFORD *Hurt of Hearing Mass* (1558) D j b, So are the hartes of our popishe protestaunts..hardened..in that they looke, yea, go backe agayne to theyr sodomiticall minion. 1612 *Trav. Four Englishm.* 83 If they haue no beards at all, they call them (if they be yong)..Sodomiticall boyes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 87 Hither sometimes the King repaires, and sees the Sodomiticall Boyes and Wenches dance.

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, consisting in, or involving sodomy.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 21 b, Their sodomytycal chastyte agaynst Gods fre instytucyon. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 149 Quhat is writtin of ye Sodomiticall sinne. 1629 L. O[WEN] *Spec. Jesuiticum* 26 Wherein hee shewed his Sodomiticall affection, and diabolicall desire. 1645 E. PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 225 Their Idolatries and Sodomitical uncleanness they will defend and maintain. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 31 To carry on a Sodomitical Intrigue. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 386 A clergyman..convicted for a Sodomitical attempt. 1864 tr. *Caspar's Forensic Med.* III. 336 *note*, In regard to the question whether such a sodomitical coitus could have taken place.

† **3.** Of places, institutions, etc.: Polluted or infected by sodomy. *Obs.*

1550 BALE *Apol.* 19 Than were they allowed for a spyrytuall religion in that Sodomiticall churche of Antichrist. 1572 R. T. *Discourse* 39 The Church of Christ is holy Hierusalem: The Popes is adulterous Babylon, and Sodomitical Rome. 1600 O. E. (M. SUTCLIFFE) *Repl. Libel* II. ii. 32 To creepe into a Sodomiticall cloister of monkes. 1632 W. LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 76 If all the Priests..were thus handled .., what a sea of Sodomiticall irreligious blood would ouerflow the halfe of Europe.

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1. = SODOMY 1. (Common *c* 1540–*c* 1650.)

a. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* III. xiii, It..permitteth to abuse men's wives, and suffereth sodomitry. *a* 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) C vj b, The shamfull sodomitrye of the Trybe of Beniamin. 1577 VAUTROULLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 229 Simonie,..voluptuousnes, whoredom, sodomitrie and such other infinite abominations. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 196 The women are not ashamed here (the better to illure the men from Sodomitry) to goe naked. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* K 7 The abominable vice of Sodomitry.

β. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* Pref. 23 Corrupteth with ydolles, and stynkynge Sodometry. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 Whoredome, sodometrie, theft, and all other..vices. 1614 BOYS *Wks.* (1630) 256 If there were no stewes, all the world would be full of adulterie, rape, Sodometrie. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. 19 That the sin of Sodometry..should be punished with heavy Censures.

2. = SODOMY 2.

1592 TIMME *Eng. Lepers* D iij, All offences, even to murthers, incests, Sodomitries, were taxed. 1606 *Rep. Disc. Supreme Power* 49 The blasphemies, the adulteries, the Sodometries..of diuers other Bishops of Rome.

Sodomy (sɒ·dəmi). Forms: 3–5 sodomye (5 zodomye), 4, 6–7 -ie, 6 -i, 5– sodomy. [a. OF. (also mod.F.) *sodomie*: see SODOM and -Y.]

1. An unnatural form of sexual intercourse, esp. that of one male with another.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9038 Mid þe vile sunne of sodomye yproued hii were echon. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 5 Mempricius..forsook his wyf at þe laste, and vsede sodomye as a schrewe schulde. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 162 þe xiiij. fote depth is sodomye, þat is, synne aȝens kynde. 1536–40 *Pilgr. Tale* 407 The prophet..which knew before of there sodomi. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 236 The abhominable sinne of Sodomie..is plainly forbidden. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 198 Wicked Sodomy, a sin so hateful to Nature it self that she abhors it. 1727 SWIFT *Poisoning E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 151 Heaven pardon me for publishing the Trials of sodomy. 1782 J. BROWN *Nat. & Revealed Relig.* I. i. 23 Polygamy must occasion..sodomy, bestiality, or the like. 1864 tr. *Caspar's Forensic Med.* III. 336 It is no secret that the unnatural connection of men with animals, sodomy in the restricted sense of the word, still sneaks about. *fig.* 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 7 Symonie is gostli sodomie and eresie.

2. An act or instance of this.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 271 Agrippa detesteth his monstrous veneries, and execrable Sodomies. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. iv. (1651) 205 Those rapes,..Sodomies, buggeries of Monkes and Friers.

Sodyak, obs. form of ZODIAC.

Sodyour, obs. form of SOLDIER.

Soe (sōu). Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 saa, 5 sa, saae, 4–5, 9 sae, 8 cea (see also SAY *sb.*[3]). *β.* 4, 7–9 so, 5–6 soo (6 swoo), 5– soe (6 soo8, sowe, 8 sow), 7–8 soa. [a. ON. *sá-r*: see SAY *sb.*[3]] A large tub.

α. 1377–8 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 387 In uno sae empt. pro vitriario. *c* 1425 in Wr.-Wülcker 662 *Hec tina*, sa. 1459–60 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 152 Pro j saa pro aqua portanda. 1480–1 *Ibid.* 97, j sae;..ij saez. 1752 *Rec. Elgin* (1903) I. 446 All tubs, ceas,..and other cooper work. 1889 ELLIS *Pronunc.* v. 799 [In Orkney] *sae* is a pail or bucket.

β. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 933 He kam to þe welle, water up-drow, And filde þer a michel so. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/1 Soo, or cowl, vessel, *tina.* 1459 in *Kipon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 86 Tubbes, soes, alepoittes. 1541 *Hist. MSS. Commiss., Rutland MSS.* IV. 352 For one soo to the stable. 1578 *Richmond. Wills & Inv.* (Surtees) 282 A swoo with other smole tryfles. 1580–1 *Reg. St. Michael-le-Belfrey, York* (Surtees) I. 33 [A child] by misfortune drowned in a soo of water. 1611 COTGR., *Tine*, a Stand, open Tub, or Soe. 1679–80 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 352 The child was drowned in a little water in ye bottom of a soa. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (ed. 2) 66 A *So* or *Soa*, a Tub with two Ears to carry on a stang. 1866– in Linc. glossaries.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *soe-ful, -staff, -tree.* (See also SASTANGE.)

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 725 *Hoc tinarium*, a so-tre. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 466/1 Soo tre, or cowl tre, *falanga.* 1611 COTGR., *Tinée*, a Stand-full, or Soe-full. 1623 F. ROBARTES *Revenue Gospel* 49 One cluster thereof is carried between two vpon a soa-staffe. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vi. § 2 For one Bason-full you may fetch up so many Soe-fulls.

Soeffre, obs. var. SUFFER *v.* **Soel(l,** obs. ff. SOLE *sb.*[2], *a.*, and *v.*[1] **Sœmeterie,** obs. f. CEMETERY. **Soerty,** obs. f. SURETY.

Soever (sō(e)vəɹ), *adv.* Also *poet.* soe'er. [See So *adv.* and EVER *adv.* 8 e.]

†**1.** Whenever. *Obs.*[–1]

1527 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 27 And so ever ony Sarazin comyth by that Sepulcre he cast a stonne ther att.

2. Used with generalizing or emphatic force after words or phrases preceded by *how, what, which, whose*, etc. (Cf. HOWSOEVER, etc.)

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* IV. xix. (1568) 170 How great a frend..so euer hee bee to them. 1580 CAMPION in Allen *Martyrdom* (1908) 23 The feare of what punishment temporal soever. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 91 Whose tongue so ere speakes false. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 569 How great, or how faire soever it hath been. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1015 Which way soever men refer it. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* V, I conceive it far below the Dignity..of human Nature..to be engaged in any Party, the most plausible soever, upon such servile Conditions. 1779 *Mirror* No. 24 What pencil, how animated soever, can equal the glories of the sky at sun-set? 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. 267 To all who are perplexed in any way soever. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Ang. xxvii, By which law all things soe'er Are..held.

Sofa (sōu·fă). Also 7 soffa, 7–9 sopha; 8 sophee, sophy, 9 *vulg.* sofy. [= F. *sofa, sopha*, It., Sp., and Pg. *sofa*, ad. Arab. صُفَّة *ṣuffah.*]

1. In Eastern countries, a part of the floor raised a foot or two, covered with rich carpets and cushions, and used for sitting upon.

α. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. IX. 1581 A Sofa spread with very sumptuous Carpets of Gold,..vpon which the Grand Signior sitteth. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1683/3 The Grand Vizier came thither soon after, and sate down on a Stool placed on the Sofa. 1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1893) I. 284 The next room is a very large one paved with marble, and all round it, raised, two sofas of marble, one above another. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 104 He..beheld ..a young man sitting on a sofa raised to the height of a cubit from the floor.

β. *c* 1637 SIR G. COURTHOP *Mem.* 124 A Sopha, which is a place raised from the floor about a foot to sit on. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* v. 350 Making us sit upon a Sopha, and drink Coffee with him. 1808 PARSONS *Trav. Asia*, etc. ii. 22, I paid a visit to the pasha..and found him sitting on his sopha.

transf. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., The Grace*, The old man and his wife.., placing me betwixt them, sat down upon a sopha of turf by the door.

2. A long, stuffed seat with a back and ends or end, used for reclining; a form of lounge or couch.

α. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 530 The bridegroom sits on a very low sort of seat not unlike an oriental sofa. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 88 Convenience next suggested elbow-chairs, And luxury th' accomplish'd Sofa last. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* v. 530 The splendid sofa, which, though made for rest, He then had thought it freedom to have press'd. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 47 Sofas, rocking chairs, tables, and a stove are placed in this room. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 275 She makes him lie on a sofa near the open window.

transf. 1864 E. BURRITT *Walk* 313 A row of flower sofas reaching round the garden.

β. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* v. 135 On her sophee she sits, Vouchsafing audience to contending wits. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) V. xxiv. 146, I threw myself on a sopha. 1806 BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xxxiii, After having..diffused yourself on the sopha. 1832 *Country Houses* II. xii. 10 On a sopha in the green-room.

3. *attrib.*, as *sofa-corner, -cushion, -pillow*, etc.

1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* III. 139 A circular pavilion, elegantly fitted up with cushions and sopha seats. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* v, On the opposite side of the sofa table. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* vi, That well-known sofa-corner. 1848 — *Van. Fair* xxi, It was all I could do to prevent myself from throwing the sofa-cushion at her. *α* 1848 MARRYAT *Valerie* viii, The bottle..which I had..left under the sofa-pillow.

b. Objective, as *sofa-maker, -stuffer*.

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* (1850) I. iii. 43 My friend, the sofa-maker, never troubled himself to inquire after me. 1859 J. C. ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 4 A beard that would have been a small fortune to a sofa-stuffer.

4. Special combs., as **sofa-bed, -bedstead**, a piece of furniture so constructed as to form a sofa or bed as required; **sofa-carriage**, a carriage having the seat made like that of a sofa; **sofa-ridden**, confined to a sofa (*nonce-wd.*); **† sofa stall**, a seat in a hall or theatre made like a sofa.

1816 REPTON *Landsc. Gard., Fragm. on Theory* (1840) 585 To have dressing-rooms, in which *sofa-beds may..be used. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Incognito* Wks. 1862 X. 9 Down went the little sofa-bed in a closet. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxxvii. (1900) 92 She induced him to lie down on his own sofa bed. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 650 We shall give some Designs..for *sofa-bedsteads. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, A little dusky sofa-bedstead (woe betide him who has to sleep on it!). 1822–29 GOOD *Study Med.* III. 234 The use of his easy and convenient *sofa-carriage. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5686, Sofa carriages, especially constructed for spinal complaints. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 496 There she sat, *sofa-ridden. 1862 *Notice Mason Jones' Oration on Garibaldi* 8 Apr., *Sofa Stalls. Four Shillings.

Hence **So·faed** *ppl. a.*, seated as on a sofa. **So·fane** *a.*, pertaining to a sofa (*nonce-wd.*).

1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. (1791) 69 Sopha'd on silk, amid her charm-built towers,..In sullen apathy Papaver nods. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vi, A sofa, of incomprehensible form regarded from any sofane point of view.

Sofee, variant of SUFI.

Soferand, obs. form of SOVEREIGN *a.*

Sofett. *rare* —°. [f. SOF-A + -ETT(E.)] 'A small sofa' (Webster, 1828–32).

Soffit (sɒ·fit). *Arch.* Forms: *α.* 7–8 soffita, 8 sofita; 7 soffeta, 8 sapheta. *β.* 7 suffito, 7–8 soffito, sofitto; 8 soffeto. *γ.* 8 schofeet, sopheit, suffete, 8–9 sofite, soffite. *δ.* 8 sofit, 8– soffit (9 soffet); 8–9 suffit. [In the *α* and *β* forms directly a. It. *soffitta* fem. and *soffitto* masc., f. *sof-* (L. *sub*) under + pa. pple. of *figgere* to fix. The later forms are prob. after F. *soffite*.] The under horizontal face of an architrave or overhanging cornice; the under surface of a lintel, vault, or arch; a ceiling.

α. 1623–39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 39 The Soffita of the Corona of the Cornice. *α* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 103 The *Soffita* or roof of this Church most richly guilt. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 236 *Sapheta's*, the Boards over the tops of Windows, opposite to the Window-boards at the bottom. 1703 in *Jrnl. Derby. Archæol. Soc.* III. 33 For carving 16 roses in the Sofitas of the hanging square of the Capitalls.

β. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* v. 20 Those great Roses of the Sofitto or Eves of the Corona. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Sofitto*, is the Italian Term in Architecture, for the Eaves of the Corona of the Capital of a Column. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 67 Five Feet from the Soffeto of the Center Arch. *Ibid.* 107.

γ. 1725 W. HALFPENNY *Sound Building* 13 To draw the two different Edges of a Twisted Schofeet. 1739 C. LABELYE *Piers Westm. Bridge* 77 The chamfered Joints in the Suffetes of the Arches. 1751 — *Westm. Br.* 77 Some of their Stones both in the Fronts and their Sopheits were split. 1755 T. H. CROKER *Orl. Fur.* XLII. lxxvii, The lofty columns.. Which the soffites with gems adorned upheld. 1823 RUTTER *Fonthill* 71 The lower part or soffite of the Oriel is exquisitely finished. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. Archit.* § 2285 Backs, elbows, and soffites to windows. *α* 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 280 A rib dropping down a little from the arched soffite.

δ. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Soffito*, or *Sofit*, in Architecture, any Plafond or Ceiling, form'd of cross Beams, or flying Cornices. 1751 J. STUART in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 389 The Suffit of the Architrave, and Base of the Pilasters. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* (ed. 5) II. 88 The window cills or seats, and the soffits above. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 428 The section of the soffit..is some part of a circle. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Christian Art* I. 124 The first cupola and the suffits of the two arches intervening between it and the second. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 3 In the arches the soffit is to be pointed with the best Portland cement.

attrib. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 755 The soffit boarding. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. xxviii. 326 We do not look for the soffit decoration.

Soffraunce, obs. f. SUFFERANCE. **Soffre, Soffri**, obs. ff. SUFFER *v.* **Soffym(e**, obs. ff. SOPHISM. **Sofi**, obs. var. SOPHY, SUFI. **Sofice**, obs. f. SUFFICE *v.* **Sofism**, var. of SUFISM.

So-forth. *rare*—¹. [See FORTH *adv.* 9 b.] Such and such a thing.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 218 They're here with me already; whisp'ring, rounding: Sicilia is a so-forth.

Sofre, Sofry, obs. forms of SUFFER *v.*

Soft (sɒft), *sb.* Also 3, 5 softe, 8–9 *Sc.* and *north.* saft. [f. the adj.]

1. That which is agreeable, pleasant, or easy; comfort, ease. *rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3647 Dis folc is after softe to3en, And hauen swinc in weiȝe drozen. *α* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15564 Bot sal we elles suffre samen, bath soft and sare. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3446 For though thou love thus evermore, To me is neither softe ne sore. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 112 They are afraid it..will discompose them in their golden dreams, drive them from their softs and ease.

2. That which is soft or yielding; the soft part *of* something; softness.

1593 R. BARNES *Parthenophil* III. 83 O Love's soft hills! ..How much, at your smooth soft, my sense amazed is! *Ibid.* 119, I might work miracles to change again The hard to soft! 1611 FLORIO, *Mollo*,..the soft or spunginesse of any thing, as of crummes of bread. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 63 All this enclosed space is commonly called the soft of the Thumb. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 130 His two forefeet, which he had thrust so into the soft of her sides, as to make two deep doaks there. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 417 Nor does he spare the soft And succulent, that feeds its giant growth.

transf. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 120 Not to a grandsire old.., so lovely the grandson One dear daughter alone rears i' the soft of his years.

b. *Cant.* Bank notes.

1864 in *Slang Dict.*

c. *pl.* Soft coal; also, soft woollen rags.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.* 229 *Softs*, coals which easily break up. 1894 *Times* 17 Apr. 4/5 The best demand was for nuts,..but Barnsley softs were again to be had at from 7s. 6d. to 8s.

3. *Phonetics.* A soft or voiced consonant.

1846 M. WILLIAMS *Sanscr. Gram.* 10 The soft is changed to its unaspirated hard. 1871 ABBOTT & SEELEY *Eng. Lessons* 43 Aspirates and softs..are modified in a corresponding manner.

4. *U.S. political slang.* **a.** A member of a local party which advocated a 'soft money' or paper currency. b. A member of one or other party holding moderate views. Cf. SOFT-SHELL *sb.*

1847–54 in R. H. Thornton *American Gloss.* (1912) s.v. *Hard.* 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 426 *Soft-shell democrats, Soft-shells*, or *Softs*, the less conservative division of the New York Democrats. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. ii. xlvi. 203 The Hunkers and Barnburners who divided the Democratic party forty years ago, and subsequently passed into the 'Hards' and the 'Softs'.

5. A soft, simple, or foolish person; a 'softy'. Chiefly *dial.* or *colloq.*

1854– in dial. glossaries and texts (Northampt., Linc., Lanc., Berks., etc.). 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* ix, It'll do you no good to sit in a spring-cart o' your own, if you've got a soft to drive you. 1864 E. SARGENT *Peculiar* III. 72 If the world were in the hands of such softs the old machine would be smashed up in universal anarchy.

Soft (sɒft), *a.* Forms: *α.* 1–6 softe (4–5 soffte, 4 soffte), 4– soft. *β.* *dial.* and *Sc.* 6–7 safte, 6–saft (9 *dial.* zaft). [OE. *sófte* or *sóft*, var. of the more usual *séfte*, which corresponds to WFris. *sêft*, *seaft*, OHG. *semfti* (*samfti*), *semfte*, MHG. *senfte*, obs. G. *senft*. The form without umlaut (probably due to the influence of the adv.) has parallels in MDu. *soft* (*zoft*), *saft*, and *sacht* (Du. *zacht*), MLG. and LG. *sacht*, MHG. and G. *sanft* (dial. *saft*, *sâft*). The relationships of the stem are doubtful.]

Many of the senses tend to involve or pass into each other, esp. in poetic use.

I. 1. Producing agreeable or pleasant sensations; characterized by ease and quiet enjoyment; of a calm or placid nature.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 566 Ic softum slæpe me ȝereste, swa swa ðu me forlete. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Hit walð me þunchen þet softeste beð [= bath] and þet wunsemeste þet ic efre ibad. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2412 Pharaon bad him wurðen wel in softe reste and seli mel. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 312 It hath be sen and felt ful ofte, The harde time after the softe. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 45 b, Certes the time must be taken as hit cometh, is hit hard or softe. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 9 For weirines on me ane slummer soft Come. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 13 Whiles euery sence the humour sweet embayd, And slombring soft my hart did steale away. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 114 Till that the conquering Wine hath steep't our sense, In soft and delicate Lethe. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 1001 Where young Adonis oft reposes, Waxing well of his deep wound In slumber soft. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xvi. 21 This pleasing, this delicious soft Retreat In Safety guards me from September's Heat. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxx, Many a joy could he from Night's soft presence glean. 1865 CONINGTON *Hor., Odes* IV. v. (ed. 3) 112 Sweet Peace, soft Plenty, swell the golden grain.

† b. Pleasing *in* (or *of*) taste; free from acidity or sharpness. Also of odour: Not pungent. strong, or heavy. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. vii. (W. de W. 1495) 89 Blood is swete and softe in taast and in towche. *Ibid.* XVI. xciv. (Bodl. MS.), In some place it is softe in sauoure, and in some place moste salt: and in some place moste bitter. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 His seed ys reed, his odour softe, of good effect. *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S.T.S.) III. 152 With ane brewing caldrun full of hait caill, For it wilbe þe softar and sweittar of þe smak. 1797 *London Art of Cookery* 216 Malt is a wholesome nutritious grain, containing a soft, balsamic, oleaginous essence. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 101 Preserving the sweet flavour of the malt.., and the soft richness.

c. Pleasing to the eye; free from ruggedness or asperity. Also of colour, or with reference to this: Not crude or glaring; quiet, subdued.

1702 POPE *Sappho* 15 Soft scenes of solitude no more can please. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 67 There the soft emerald smiles of verdant hue. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 766 We can spare The splendour of your lamps; they but eclipse Our softer satellite. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 770 This mode of engraving.., when carefully executed, has a soft and pleasing effect. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 228 The tissue of the liver is pale, and..of a soft buff colour. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 201 Following its stream..through softer scenery. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 718 This [Bromide] Paper is very Rapid, and gives very soft and beautiful results.

2. Causing or involving little or no discomfort, hardship, or suffering; easily endured or borne.

c 1205 LAY. 16109 Soð ich habbe þe iseid, ah nis þe na þe softre. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2057 Queðer-so it wurðe softe or strong, ðe reching wurð on god bi-long. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 957 Mi 3ok is softe i-nowh to weren. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 367 For Crist hymself seys þat his 3ok is soffte, and his charge is light. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 41 b, He hydeth the ferefull scourge of greuous correccyon, and sheweth vs somtymes the softe rodde of his swete disciplyne. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Worc.* III. (1661) 169 After ten years soft durance in all plenty,..enjoying a great temporall Estate left him by his Father, He dyed 1569. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 24. 130 Besides his soft death, the incurable state of his disease might somewhat extenuate your sorrow. 1700 LAW *Council of Trade* (1751) 118 Altho' ..this act be a monopoly,..yet was it incomparably more soft and easy, than those barbarous monopolies of the Kings, James the V and VI.

b. Involving little or no exertion or effort; free from toil or labour. Now chiefly *colloq.*, easy, lazy, idle.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xl. (1840) 104 They were bred in such soft employments, that they were presently foundered with any hard labour. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 267 Iff I did not know how much hee is devoted to his ease and a soft kinde of life. 1690 TEMPLE *Ess. Poetry* Wks. 1720 I. 249 Among the Romans, the last..Scipio passed the soft Hours of his Life in the Conversation of Terence. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* 146 A soft and easy life these ladies lead! 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. vii. (1872) III. 128 He led a soft and tranquil life with his Regiment at Ruppin. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Oct. 5/1 People crowd into literature, as into other 'soft' professions, because it is genteel. 1894 *Ibid.* 2 Oct. 6/1 The popular idea that romance is 'a soft job'. 1905 VACHELL *The Hill* viii. 181 You have deliberately taken things easy, because you wanted a soft time of it during the summer term.

3. Of a sound, the voice, etc.: Low, quiet, subdued; not loud, harsh, or rough. Also, melodious, pleasing to the ear, sweet.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 6 þat playd wes stif & starc & strong, Sum hwile softe & lud among. *α* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1030 Þar sune es soft and suet sang, Sune of sautes þat þar singes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IX. 122 He was..to loken on ful symple,..Sad of his semblaunt and of softe speche. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 745 *Thisbe*, And with a soun as softe as ony shryfte, They lete here wordis thour the cliffe pace. *c* 1400 LYDG. *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxvii. (1859) 41 Thenne held they a counceyl so softe and so stylle that I nomore herd for a good space. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 177 He lyght fro his hors and in softe laghynge sayde [etc.]. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 519 The soft souch of the swyr. 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xii. (1887) 60 Of loude and soft reading. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* V. iii. 273 Her voice was euer soft, Gentle, and low, an excellent thing in woman. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* v. 128 The soft Whispers of the Southern Wind. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* iii. 2 Whence the soft strain and ever-melting verse? 1779 WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 263, I dealt only in the softest inflexions of voice, though with you..I should have been angry. 1817 KEATS *I stood tip-toe* 95 The soft rustle of a maiden's gown. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xii, There came a soft tap at the door. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 602 A soft systolic murmur is frequently to be heard.

b. *spec.* in *Phonetics.* (Opposed to HARD *a.* 16.) Jonson and Ainsworth employ the term in the contrary ense to that now usual.

1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* iv. Wks. (Rtldg.) 772/2 The ore general sound [of *f*] is the softest and expresseth the reek *φ*. 1668 O. PRICE *Eng. Orthogr.* 24 Except..the soft, in concision, circumcision. *Ibid.*, But, th, makes a softer ound..in worthy, father. 1736 AINSWORTH *Dict.* II. s.v. *T*, ' is only a softer *b*, and *b* an harder *p*,..the harder mute efore a vowel passing into the softer before a consonnt. 1775– [see HARD *a.* 16]. 1827 HEARD *Gram. Russian ang.* 4 There are eleven vowels in the Russian alphabet, hich are divided into hard and soft. 1845 *Proc. Philol. oc.* II. 90, *S* is always hard, the soft sound of this letter eing invariably represented by *z*. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. 128 The Etruscan rejects the soft mutes *b*, *g*, *d*, and etains the aspirated mutes *th*, *kh*, *ph*.

c. Of musical instruments: Making or emitting soft sound.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* i. (1900) 90 The Cretenses used harpes and other softe instrumentes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 86 With his soft Pipe, and smooth-dittied Song. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 551 Anon they move..to the Dorian mood Of Flutes and soft Recorders. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 82 Thee the softer Lyre Delights. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xv, Their voices accompanied by a few soft instruments.

4. Of weather, seasons, etc.: Free from storms or rough winds; genial, mild, balmy. (Cf. 26.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3061 Dis weder is softe, And dis king hard. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 181 Vppon softe sonenday ..Hungur hem belede wiþ an hot Cake. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 14837 (Fairf.), þe weder soft in somertide sone be-gan to ugg & ride. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 58/2 Calme or softe, wythe-owte wynde, *calmus.* *c* 1475 HENRYSON *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 93 The nicht is soft and dry. *a* 1505 KINGSFORD *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 261 This yere was a wonderfull easy and soft wynter, without stormys or frostes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 457 In this soft Season,..In prime of all the Year, and Holy-days of Spring. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 219 In a soft Air and a delicious Situation. 1822 [M. A. KELTY] *Osmond* III. 207 It was a soft, early summer's morning. 1852 CARLYLE *Y. Sterling* I. ii, The climate of Bute is rainy, soft of temperature...In that soft rainy climate [etc.]. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 401 It is such a soft spring-day.

b. Of the sun, rain, wind, etc.: Shining, falling, or blowing gently; not strong, violent, or boisterous.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 1 In a somer sesun whon softe was þe sonne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6066 Erly at Morne, When the sun vp soght with his softe beames. 1549 *Compl. Scotl.* vi. (1872) 61 The..southyn vynd..generis thondir, fluddis, and smal soft ranis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 [He] prosperouslie landes at Leith .. with a safte winde the xix day of maii. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een soesinge*, a soft or a gentle Gale. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 127 Soft airs and gentle heavings of the wave Impel the fleet. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 12 A soft breath of wind spread its folds, and floated it gently in the air. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 206 The beautifullest soft rain to make all fresh again. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 454 The soft river-breeze, Which fann'd the gardens. *fig.* 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. vii, Wild bursttings of affection were in this great heart; of fierce lightning, and soft dew of pity.

c. Of the sea, streams, etc.: Free from rough waves or turbulence; smooth, calm· running calmly or gently.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 626 þe se was soft, þe wawes were stille. 1543 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 153 There is no shippe better than Gallies be, in a softe and a caulme sea. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 223 From thence with a soft streame, and gentle fall, Thone runneth by..Taunton. 1648 MILTON *Ps.* LXXXVII. 27 In thee fresh brooks, and soft streams glance. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 64 Rills of oily eloquence in soft Meanders. 1814 SCOTT *Diary* 2 Sept. in *Lockhart*, We here only feel them as a large but soft swell of the sea. 1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* III. 1311/2 It [Siloah] is not now, nor was it in the days of Isaiah, anything but a very soft and gentle stream.

5. Of pace, progression, or movement: Leisurely, easy; slow; not hasty or hurried. Now *arch.*

The adverbial phrase (to go, ride, etc.) *a soft pace* appears very frequently from *c* 1370 to 1560.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 297 He ne made no softe pas, Ake wende him þudere ful hastifliche. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 468/2 Softe, in mevynge, *lentus. Ibid.* 472/1 Stalkynge, or soft and sly goynge, *serpitura.* 1511 *Guylforde's Pilgr.* (Camden) 77 We made sayle with right softe spede. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. XXVIII. 493 Circles..wherein the Auntients and Noblemen did sing and daunce with a softe and slowe motion. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* XXVII. (1687) 313 A soft pace goes far. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 164 The Dromedaries have ..a good soft trot, and will travel with ease forty Leagues a day. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *To Belinda* ii. Wks. 1711 IV. 100 Love is all Gentleness and Joy, Smooth are his Looks, and soft his Pace. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Matilda* 5 With slow, soft steps leaving the mountain's steep. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Dante at Verona* XXI, A lady..at a soft pace Riding the lists round to the dais.

b. Having a smooth easy motion. *rare.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XX. XXVIII. 458 Whanne he vnderstood that Kynge Marke had sente for hym, he mounted vpon a softe ambuler and rode to Kynge Marke. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 165 The Earth..that spinning sleeps On her soft Axle, while she paces Eev'n.

†c. Of a journey: Performed leisurely. *Obs.*—1

1606 HOLLAND *Suetonius* 75 The Journeyes that he made were soft and small; so that if hee went from Rome but to Tibur or Praeneste, he would make two daies of it.

†6. Of a fire: Burning slowly or gently; moderate or gentle in heat or intensity; slow. *Obs.*

Common in the 16th and 17th centuries.

1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 85 After be it put vpon a softe fyr. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 31 Sebe þam on a softe fyre vnto þey be made oon body. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* H iij, The fyre must be very softe in the begynnyng. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 157 The more the barleie be dried (yet must it be doone with soft fire) the better the malt is. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 453 Redde fillets of Saffron..are dried at a soft fire. 1689 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 620 Some French incendiaries..were adjudg'd to be fastned to a stake, with a soft fire round them. 1718 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* ii. (1720) 22 Some others roasted the King's Picture by a soft Fire. 1738 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Balsam of sulphur*, Boiling the two together over a soft fire the space of an hour.

Prov. *a* 1536 *Proverbs* in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 128 A softe fire makith swete malte. 1564 BULLEYN *Dram. Dial.* (E.E.T.S.) 6 Softe fire maketh swete Malte. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1251 Soft fire, they say, does make sweet Malt. Good Squire. *Festina lente*, not too fast.

7. Of a slope, ascent, etc.: Gentle, gradual.

1659 W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharonnida* II. 147 The stately Mount .. to meet the Vale stole down On soft descents. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 333 Neither heathy wilds..Nor soft declivities with tufted hills. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXVI, The strain..rose, by soft degrees, till the high organ and the choral sounds swelled into full and solemn harmony. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* XLIII, It occupied the brow of a soft and gentle eminence.

II. 8. Of persons: Gentle or mild in nature or character; inclined to be merciful, lenient, or considerate in dealing with others; free from harshness, severity, or rigour; compassionate, kind, tender-hearted.

Passing into, or not always clearly distinct from, sense 13.

a 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1114 (Laud MS.), He wæs swiðe god & softe man & dyde mycel to gode. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137, He milde man was & softe & god. *c* 1200 ORMIN 6670 Godess enngell iss full meoc, & milde, & soffte, & bliþe. *c* 1205 LAY. 18775 Þa wes Vðer Pendragun þa softer an his mode. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Abuuen us [will be] þe eorre Demare, vor ase softe as he is her, ase herd he bið þer. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 991 Als he was strong, so was he softe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 371 Thou schalt be soft in compaignie, Withoute Contek or Folhaste. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. XV. (1869) 10 Softe he shulde be that hath it, For of to gret rudeshipe mys befalleth. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xi. (S.T.S.) I. 68 Na pepill was sa gracius and soft in pvnissing of þare transgressouris or subdittis as þai wer. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 223 This king..saw that as seueir punisment drewe vicious persounis frome vice; sa to be saft, and ouersie, prouokes thame daylie mair. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 2 A soft man is..one that will not be so hard in his dealing, as sometime by strict lawe he might. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 776 The soft Napæan Race will soon relent Their Anger, and remit the Punishment. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* ccxlv. (1792) III. 125 At the first impulse of passion be silent, till you can be soft. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXVII, The law being hard upon us, we're not exactly soft upon B. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiv, He..was very soft and gentle with the children. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Colonial Reformer* (1891) 314 They now began to consider that..Neuchamp had been considerate, or, in their phraseology, 'soft,' to an extent altogether unprecedented.

b. Of animals: Gentle, docile; lacking in spirit.

c 1200 ORMIN 1312 Forr lamb is soffte & stille deor, & meoc, & milde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. c. (W. de W. 1495) 846 Whan he [a bull] is tyed vnder a fyg tree he lesyth and leueth all his fyersnesse and is sodenly sobre and softe. [*c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 1 She is as softe as a lamme yf one do her meue.] 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Sept. 2/3 An English jockey speaks with contempt of 'a soft brute'; when a toreador..speaks of a soft brute, he says it has 'drunk mud'.

c. Gentle *in* speech or looks.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24078 (Edinb.), Fair he wes and fre,.. Soft in speche. 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 117 Þat man ys..wel dysposyd in kynde, þat..ys..softe yn lokynge. 1422 *Ibid., Priv. Priv.* 139 A kynge sholde be good of Speche and Softe in worde.

†d. Quiet; not making a noise. *Obs.*

a 1430 *Stans Puer* 55 in *Babees Bk.*, At mete & at soper kepe þee stille & softe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/2 Softe, or esy wythe owte grete dene, *..tranquillus. a* 1536 *Proverbs* in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 130 Besy in stody be þou, child,..& at bedde, softe & sadde.

e. Not rigid or severe; lax, yielding. Cf. 11 b.

a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1734) II. 29 Lord Ancram said I might be what I pleased, if I would be a little softer in the points of religion. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *Kettlewell* III. I. 315 Some..think him herein too Rigid:..Others have censured him for being too Soft.

9. Of disposition, look, etc.: Gentle, mild; indicative of a mild or gentle character.

c 1200 ORMIN 1461 3iff þin herrte iss arefull, & milde, & soffte, & nesshe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VIII. 117 Sadde of his semblaunt and of soft chiere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 83 For feigned semblant is so softe, Unethes love may be war. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xi. (S.T.S.) I. 169 Seruilius.., ane man of mare soft Ingyne, said þe myndis of pepill mycht be mare eselie bowit þan brokin. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* X, A flush of less soft expression..resumed predominance when he mentioned how meanly he was provided for the entertainment of his guests. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* V. L 591 Those soft and pleasing features which had won so many hearts. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* 280 She found his soft, pensive eyes looking at her.

b. Of qualities, feelings, etc.: Characterized by gentleness or tenderness.

c 1200 ORMIN 2899 Swa batt te millce nohht ne be To soffte, ne to nesshe. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 595 Soft pity enters at an iron gate. 1723 RAMSAY *Fair Assembly* X, Belinda..strikes with love and saft surprise, Where e'er she turns her een. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 147 A heart susceptible of the softest, most compassionate emotions. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 484 If human woes her soft attention claim.

10. Of words, language, etc.: a. Ingratiating, soothing, bland; tender, sentimental.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XLV. (*Christina*) 45 Pane hir fadire kissit hir ofte & gluthryt hir with vordis softe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 72 He with softe wordes milde Conforteth hire. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* V. 3 For the lippes of an harlot are a droppinge hony combe, and hir throte is softer then oyle. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* 193 b, Is it not a woorde softer then honey, to saie haill maister? 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iv. 45 No visor does become black villany So well as soft and tender flattery. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 118 ¶ 2 The Huntsman..whispered the softest Vows of Fidelity in her Ear, and cried [etc.]. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II, What soft things are you saying to your cousin? 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. iii, Can you conjecture who was making these soft speeches? 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* XXXIV, The coaxing tones of Bridget's voice, inviting Andy, in the softest words, to go to bed. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* IX. 94 He was fond of saying soft things which were intended to have no meaning.

b. Free from roughness or harshness; tending to tone down or minimize something unpleasant.

1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* XV. 1 A soft answere brekith ire. *c* 1446 LYDG. *Two Nightingale Poems* 25 Whan he was brought to examynacioun: A soft Aunswere without rebellioun. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 350 þe bischope mode was all mesyd, þe whene with soft wordes he plesyd. 1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 38 'Tis very convenient to use a soft Pen, and to offer probable truth with no dictator-like confidence. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Examiner* No. 5 ¶ 3 They have stated this case in the softest and most palatable terms it will bear. 1753–4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. XXVII. 286 You have soft words for hard meanings. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 161 Ambassadors were sent to Agis, to propose alliance with Sparta—a softer term for subjection. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew*, etc. XXXII. (1878) 183 If there was anything in what your wife did to offend you, a soft word from you would have put it all right.

c. Expressive of what is tender or peaceful. Also *transf.* of a writer.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 37 Anacreon was famous for a bottle, as he was soft and pleasing in his poetry. 1712 ADDISON *Spectator* No. 369 ¶ 19 Some Passages are beautiful by being Sublime, others by being Soft. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* I. XVI. 26 Shall the Muse again To softer Numbers tune her melting Strain.

11. Of actions, means, etc.: Gentle or moderate in character; carried on, performed, etc., without harshness, severity, or violence.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 Preamble, Of his pitie intending to reduce theym therunto by softer meanes then by such extreme rigour. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 260 To aduise thee..not [to] bring them vp vnder so soft and easie discipline as they become..milke sops. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 82 Thou,..being bred in broyles, Hast not the soft way, which..Were fit for thee to vse. 1670 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 605 Since they will not entertain that soft approach of his grace towards their conversion, he hath a rougher remedy to apply. 1742 GRAY *Propertius* i. 3 Still may his Bard in softer fights engage. 1754 — *Progr. Poesy* 16 The..Frantic Passions hear thy soft controul. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 510 When the temper'd heat..may afford Soft fomentation, and invite the seed. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. V. i, The two fly-wheels whirl in the softest manner. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. LXXXVII. 161 They are disposed to try soft means at first.

b. In comparative use: Less rigid or strict.

1718 HICKES & NELSON *Kettlewell* III. LXXIV. 388 He had been prevailed upon..to take the New Oath according to the Softer Sense.

12. Of the hand, etc.: Touching lightly or gently. Sense 19 is also implied.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* I. 24 An incision pains the less when made by a soft hand. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 471, I will bring thee where no shadow stayes..thy soft imbraces. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* I. XXIV. 22 What though you can the Lyre command, And sweep its Tones with softer Hand Than Orpheus. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* XXV, Right through the temple.. He went with soft light feet. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 162 The soft hand of the Americans is not as good as the mailed fist of the Germans.

III. 13. Yielding readily to emotions of a tender nature; easily affected or moved in this way; impressionable. Also *absol.* of persons.

c 1205 LAY. 24220 Per custe uader þene sune,..suster custe suster; þa softere heom ves an heorten. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* IV. 127 His herte wexed softe, & began to wepe full sore. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 337 Loues feeling is more soft and sensible, Then are the tender hornes of..Snayles. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 17 ¶ 7 Concerning the Soft disposition and generosity of his master. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 194/1 The soft lamented, and the brave approv'd. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. II. i, The soft young heart adopts orphans. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VIII. II. 320 His graceful manners,..his soft heart, his open hand, were universally praised. 1880 MRS. L. B. WALFORD *Troublesome Daughters* I. IX. 187 He found himself quite soft on the subject.

b. In figurative expressions.

1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* II. VIII. 361 A tender-Conscienced Person is one that has a Soft place in's Head. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* II. iii. (1811) 135 The man who has a soft place in his heart. 1885 *Cent. Mag.* XXX. 380/2 [He] had rather a soft spot in his heart for Violet. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 30 Sept. 8/2 Cave..had got the softer side of some of the doorkeepers of the House of Commons.

c. *To be soft on* or *upon* (a person), to be in love with; to regard amorously or sentimentally.

1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Jan., Orlando and my girl, who were mighty soft upon one another. 1860 — *Lovel* VI, I was not a little soft upon her myself, that's the truth. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* II. IX. 157, I always thought she was rather soft on Jim.

14. Easily influenced or swayed; having little

power of resistance to the influence of other persons or things; facile, compliant. Also *absol.* of persons.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1350 Þah sum wif beo of nesche mode, For wummon beoþ of softe blode. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxiii. 16 For in so moch as he is God, he maketh my herte soft: and seynge that he is Allmightie, he putteth me in feare. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 24 Womankinde is imprudent and soft, (or flexible),..because she is easelie bowed. 1639 SALTMARSH *Policy* 178 In a businesse of passion and affection be suspitious of yourselfe and company, for in such cases you are most open and soft to advantages. 1648–9 *Eikon Bas.* 116 Divines, (of so soft and servile tempers, as disposed them to so sudden acting and compliance). 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 162 ₱ 5 Many..who select for friendship and confidence not..the virtuous, but the soft, the civil, and compliant. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xxiv, A heart too soft from early life To hold with fortune needful strife. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 543 His soft mind had, as usual, taken an impress from the society which surrounded him.

b. Weak, effeminate, unmanly.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 57 Cheere vp your spirits, our foes are nye, And this soft courage makes your Followers faint. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subsec.* 82 In women, and men of soft and effeminated affections. 1628 HOBBES *Thucydides* (1822) 94 The Lacedemonians..ever looked sourly on soft and loose behaviour. 1663 S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 487 [To] keep our selves above the soft pleasures of the flesh into which we are apt to sink. 1716 POPE *Iliad* VI. 362 Sidonian maids..Whom from soft Sidon youthful Paris bore. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. (1782) I. 413 He was soft yet cruel; devoted to pleasure, but destitute of taste. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Introd. p. xi, Violent exercises ..grew out of fashion.., and the education..became proportionably more soft and delicate. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 455/1 It looks so soft to say you won't fight.

c. Refined, delicate. *rare.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 331 For your seruice done him,..So farre beneath your soft and tender breeding. 1604 — *Ham.* v. ii. 112 (Q.²), An absolute gentleman,.. of very soft society, and great showing. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 58 They say in a pretty popular manner, that..it is impossible to afford them too much Kindness, which is the soft and sparkish Expression they use in speaking of what we vulgarly call Dung.

†15. Lax or slack in duty. *Obs.*–¹

c 1386 CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 101 Under a shepherd softe and necligent, The wolf hath many a schep and lamb to-rent.

16. Of a weakly or delicate constitution; not strong or robust; incapable of much physical endurance or exertion.

[1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 165 Why are our bodies soft, and weake, and smooth, Vnapt to toyle and trouble.] 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge c b, Soft and sedentary men must abstaine from it, it being fit only for porters, ploughmen, and mariners. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 685 There Euphrates her soft Off-spring arms. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 177 She, regardless of her softer kind, Seiz'd fast the saddle. 1842 COMBE *Digestion* 294 If the individual..is of a soft, sluggish, lymphatic temperament, which stands in need of a healthy stimulus. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Orders* (1863) 46 In those days the coasts of England were, to the soft Italians, a kind of Siberia for distance and desolation. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* I. xi. 135 Our horses had been doing nothing lately, and..had, of course, got fat, and were rather soft.

b. *colloq.* (See quot.)

1898 SIR G. ROBERTSON *Chitral* xxxii. 352 The conviction that our troops were broken in spirit—what in India is expressively called soft.

17. *The soft(er) sex*, the female sex.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIV. l, The softer sex, attending Him And His still-growing woes with tenderer eyes. 1716 POPE *Iliad* v. 435 The king insults the goddess as she flies: .. 'Go, let thy own soft sex employ thy care'. 1724 SWIFT *Acc. Wood's Exec.* Misc. 1735 V. 317 Those of the softer Sex who attended the Ceremony. 1833 RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 128 That sex, which men call the softer, will dare the very devil, when occasion calls. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* 157 In addition to those qualities which please the softer sex, Legard was a good whist player.

18. More or less foolish, silly, or simple; lacking ordinary intelligence or common-sense; easily imposed upon or deceived. Also *dial.* or *colloq.*, mentally deficient, half-witted.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. XV. (1651) 130 Your greatest Students are commonly no better, silly, soft fellows. *Ibid.* IV. iv. 149 He made soft fellows stark noddies, and such as were foolish quite mad. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Soft*, foolish. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 277 This is the only Thing that he's soft in; he's sharp as a Needle in anything else. 1775 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 124 He looks very soft, in the most extensive meaning of the word; *c'est à dire*, in temper, person, and head. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* XXV, A good sort of chap enough, but rather soft in the upper-works. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. 12 One of the Grantlys was, to say the least of it, very soft.

b. *dial.* Stupefied or muddled with drink.

1836– in dial. glossaries and texts (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

c. *colloq.* Foolishly kind, benevolent, considerate, etc.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 261 Helping other people along the road of life..a thundering soft thing it is, in a general way. *Ibid.* 315 He..did a soft thing in bringing these chaps here.

IV. 19. Presenting a yielding surface to the touch; not offering absolute resistance to pressure.

a 1240 *Ureisun* in *O. E. Hom.* I. 187 Hwet deþ þenne þi blod isched on þe rode, hwet deþ þenne þe large broc of þi softe side? *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 335 Þannе is tis fruit wel swiðe good, fair on siȝðe and softe on hond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25491 Iesus, þat wald..suffer..Boffetes on þi soft chin. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 556 Ther nis a fairer nekke, y-wis, To fele how smothe and softe it is. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 462/2 Softe and smothe, *lenis, planus*. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 28, I saw thre gay ladeis,..Quhyt seimlie, and soft, as the sweit lillies. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 61 Touch her soft mouth, and march. 1637 BP. HALL *Remedy Prophanenesse* ii. § 13. 178 The hand that was at the first soft, and tender, after it hath beene inured to worke, growes brawned, and impenetrable. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met., Acis, Polyph. & Galatea* 75 More sleek thy Skin,..And softer to the touch, than down of Swans. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrip.* 95 Knows his soft ear the trumpet's thrilling voice. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 121 Softer all her shape And rounder seem'd. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 229 The legs arise..from the soft, lateral portions of the segment.

b. Of the pulse. (Cf. HARD *a.* 3.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pulse*, A hard Pulse signifies, 1. That the Membrane of the Artery is dryer than ordinary: ..3. That the Arteries are full [etc.]. A soft Pulse denotes the contrary to all these. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 545 If a pulse be small and soft together, then it must be considered as weak. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* x. 113 A soft slow pulse.

20. Of cloth, hair, or similar substances: Of a yielding texture, pleasant to the feel or touch; also, capable of being easily folded or put into a different form; flexible.

c 1205 LAY. 22763 Water me brohte.., seoððen claðes soften al of white seolke. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xi. 8 Loo! thei that ben clothid with softe thingis [1388 softe clothis] ben in housis of kyngis. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1721 *Lucretia*, This noble wif sat by hire beddys side..And softe wolle..she wroughte. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 39 And the heer be fulle and softe, that man is deboner. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 96 Soft and soupill as the silk. 1567 *Gude & Godlie Ball.* (S. T. S.) 196 Preistis, leif 3our pryde, 3our skarlet and 3our veluote soft. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 15 A white soft Bombast intermixed with seeds. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Hair*, If you would have the Hair grow long and soft. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 11 Satin smooth, Or velvet soft, or plush with shaggy pile. 1788 — *Gratitude* 17 These carpets, so soft to the foot. 1879 F. POLLOK *Sport Brit. Burmah* I. 234 Leather..which must be kept soft by oil and elbow grease. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy* 34 [To] walk along Piccadilly at the height of the Season in a soft hat.

fig. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 313 Caught in a delicate soft silken net By some lewd earl.

b. *Soft wares*, or *goods*, woollen or cotton fabrics, such as cretonne, chintz, lace, muslin, velvet, etc., or articles made of these.

1851 MAYHEW *London Labour* I. 378 The most primitive kind of packmen, or hawkers of soft-wares. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 8/2 Lectures intended for those engaged in the soft goods trade. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 7/3 A traveller in soft goods for an old-established London firm.

c. *U.S.* Of paper money. (Cf. HARD *a.* 2.) Also *attrib.*

1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* xi, The notes of Touchandgo and Company, soft cash, are now the exclusive currency of all this vicinity. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 103 A Western Democrat on a soft-money platform. 1893 *Daily News* 16 June 2/3 Mr. Cleveland..found himself compelled to give the hot-headed partisans of 'soft' money a sharp lesson.

21. Of a bed, pillow, etc.: Readily yielding to the weight of the body; into or upon which one sinks or settles down comfortably.

c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 644 Mi nest is holeuh & rum amidde, So hit is softest myne bridde. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 284 in *O. E. Misc.*, Ye me fedde..And leyden in softe bedde þo ic a-mong eu eode. 1340 *Ayenb.* 47 Þe zofte bed cloþes, ..and alle manyere eyse of bodye. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 284 There in a very soft bed I bequeathed my bones to rest. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 14 A good soft Pillow for that good white Head. 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 53 With no softer Cushion then the Flint I kneele before thee. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 334 As they sat recline On the soft downie Bank. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 678 He laid his head in luxury's soft lap. 1784 — *Task* I. 75 Ingenious fancy..devis'd The soft settee. 1830 TENNYSON *Merman* iii, Soft are the moss-beds under the sea. *c* 1885 ROSSETTI *Sick Child's Medit.* ii. Poems (1904) 263/2 Thou, O Lord, in pain, hadst no pillow soft.

transf. 1450–80 *Secreta Secret.* 29 Thingis that makith the body fatte,..as wyn that is dowsett,..and slepe aftir mete, soft liyng, and alle good odoures. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 82 By soft recumbency of outstretch'd limbs. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* ii, If the reverend fathers..loved good cheer and soft lodging.

22. Of ground: a. Yielding agreeably to the feet.

c 1200 ORMIN 9656 Þær shall nu newenn greȝbedd beon Full smeþe & soffte weȝȝe. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 128 The medewe softe, swote, and grene, Beet right on the water-syde. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 448 Soft mossy lawns Beneath these canopies extend their swells.

b. Insufficiently hard; allowing a vehicle, person, etc., to sink in, esp. through excess of wet.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 On marreis ground and soft ground the other wheles be better. 1765 DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 73 The pasture of plants is enlarged, both in hard and soft land, by stirring and turning it over. *Ibid.* 74 Soft marshy land, by being frequently ploughed, becomes more firm and solid. 1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 98 In soft boggy situations. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii, The bog is no abune knee-deep, and better a saft road as bad company. 1872 'IDSTONE' [T. Pearce] *The Dog* vi. 58 When the track was plain upon mud or soft ground.

c. Of a fall: Made on a soft substance, or in such a way as to escape injury. In quots. *fig.*

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Rudacke* x, Who climeth so highe, his fall is not soft. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. VIII, Remains only that the Court..shall make his fall soft.

23. Of a yielding consistency; composed of, or forming, a substance which may easily be moulded or compressed without disintegration.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 68 And whenne a body ys picke and drye, softe metys and moyste er goode þerto. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 60 Blode is norischyng of al membrez, als wele of sadde as of softe. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 123 For the women ben likened vnto softe waxe or softe ayer. *a* 1536 *Proverbs* in *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 132 Whote wortis make softe crustis. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 100 b, Whose flesh so soft and morsell sweete in all feastes is the hed. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 424 Spirits..Can either Sex assume, or both; so soft And uncompounded is their Essence pure. 1687 PRIOR & HALIFAX *Hind & Panth. Transv.* P.'s Wks. 1892 II. 321 A milk-white mouse.. Fed on soft cheese. 1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 123 A soft Body, which seems to be of a middle Nature betwixt a hard and a liquid Body. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 66 To suppose that they entered the rock while it was yet in a soft state. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 415 By exposure to heat, potass becomes soft, and..melts into a transparent glass. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 48 The snow..was moist and soft. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 581 For the scalp..a soft ointment.. answers well.

b. In more or less specific uses (see quots.).

Soft roe: see ROE² 1.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 332 Those in the sea which we call Soft-fishes, although they haue no bloud at all, as namely the Pour-cuttles or Polypes. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 30 A Copper Oven..for baking Soft-Bread. *Ibid.* 145 The Officers had always soft Bread new baked, which was much better than the Biscuit. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 168 If these be the causes of hard and soft cataract. 1889 *Pall Mall. G.* 28 May 3/1 All 'soft meat birds' are observant. I mean by soft meat—which is a birdcatchers' term—the feeders on grubs and worms and flies, rather than on seeds. 1899 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 11/1 The foggy weather had an effect on the carcases in general, rendering them what is called 'soft'.

c. Of a semi-fluid consistency.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 262 In Summer time use your Morter as soft as you can, but in the Winter time pretty stiff or hard. 1791 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 174 Workman keeps stirring and turning over the metal; in 3 m. it becomes soft and semi-fluid. 1898 BOLAS *Glass Blowing* 132 An iron rod called a punty.., on the end of which is a mass of soft glass, is now attached to the elongated bulb.

d. Of oil: (see quots.).

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 242 The several kinds of crude paraffin..are classed as 'hard scale' or 'soft scale', according to their fusing points and consequent degrees of hardness at ordinary temperatures. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 43 In the trade it [palm-oil] is called 'hard' when it contains a larger proportion of 'stearine', 'soft' when it contains a smaller proportion.

24. Relatively inferior or deficient in hardness.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 253 Where there is a great market kept of Diamants, Rubies, Saphires, and many other soft stones. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 5 And in these Veins of Metals and Minerals are often found Loadstones,..Rough pearl and Soft diamond. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 4 But if heated and cooled gradually, it becomes nearly as soft as pure iron. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 216 The carbonates of iron, lime, and manganese are so dissolved, that the rock is rendered soft. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Church* xii. 140 A head and face rudely carved in a soft stone. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Min.* 145 So far the mines have been easily worked, the gangue being as yet comparatively soft.

b. In specific uses, as *soft bast*, *brass*, *burr* (see BURR *sb.*⁵ 3), *coal*, *iron*, *metal*, *paste*, *porcelain*, *steel*, *stuff*. (See also SOLDER *sb.*¹ 4.)

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 101 These cell-formations (cambiform, latticed cells, sieve-tubes) may, in combination with the phloëm-parenchyma in which they are imbedded,..be included in the term **Soft-bast*, in opposition to the true bast. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 128 **Soft brass*, brass rule which can be easily manipulated, specially manufactured for fancy work. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 232 Sometimes you can judge pretty near the crop or surface whether it will be a hard or *soft coal. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 190 'Soft' coal, where the cleat fissures are numerous and broken by cross cleat. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 259 If a bar of *soft iron be bent in the shape of the letter U. 1873 J. C. MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) II. 44 If the magnetic properties of the iron depend entirely on the magnetic force of the field in which it is placed..it is called soft iron. 1869 RANKINE *Machine & Hand-tools* 63 **Soft metal*, for the bearings of shafts, consists of 50 parts of tin, 1 of copper, and 5 of antimony. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 828/2 **Soft Paste*, (Ceramics), a name applied to the material of porcelain, which is semi-hard only. 1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 92 The English porcelain is, what is called, *soft porcelain, and is composed of three elements, Kaolin and Cornish China stone—with bone ashes. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 90 For *soft-steel, less than 1 per cent. [of charcoal] being required. 1827 FITTON in *Zool. Jrnl.* III. 416 The 'soft-stuff' [of the Stonesfield slate-beds], occupying about six inches, consists of yellowish very sandy clay, including thin courses of fibrous transparent gypsum.

25. a. Applied to water, such as rain or river water, which is more or less free from calcium and magnesium salts. (Opposed to HARD *a.* 14 a.)

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 361 Keep this bason constantly filled with soft water. 1805 SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 3 River Water..is in general much softer and more free from earthy salts. 1878 RAMSAY *Phys. Geogr.* xxxii. 553 The water from the Welsh mountains is also in great part soft.

b. *dial.* and *U.S.* Of beverages: Non-alcoholic, non-spirituous.

1880 in *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 95. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 236/2 Each regiment had a 'canteen' of its own, where the men could buy..soft drinks, beer, cigars, pipes, etc.

26. Of the weather, a day, etc.: Rainy, wet. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. Add. 11 If they [slugs] be attacked when on the surface of the ground,

where they are every soft morning in search of food. 1828– in many dial. glossaries, etc. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 12 July, The day excessively rainy, or, as we call it, soft. 1874 MRS. OLIPHANT *For Love & Life* (1880) 68 The day was fine, notwithstanding the prophecy of 'saft weather'.

V. 27. Special collocations (see also 23 b, d, and 24 b):

Soft corn, plausible speech or language; flattery (Bartlett, 1859). *Soft-horn*, a simple or foolish person (*slang*). *Soft mouth*, a flatterer, smooth speaker. *Soft plank* (see quot.). *Soft pull*, in Printing (see quots.). *Soft snap*, an easy, pleasant job; a profitable business or undertaking (*colloq.* or *slang*). *Soft sugar*, moist sugar. *Soft tack*, among sailors, bread as distinct from ship's biscuit (see TACK *sb.*[3]). *Soft tommy* (see TOMMY). *Soft vat, woodlands* (see quots.).

1837 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* I. xxxi, I allot..that the bluenoses are the most gullible folks on the face of the airth,—rigular *soft horns, that's a fact. 1865 *Slang Dict.* 240 *Soft-horn*, a simpleton, a donkey. 1882 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xxxi, Mrs. Tubbs liked them, because they were gentlemen; not such *soft-mouths as you see now. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Soft-Plank*, Picking a *soft plank in the deck, is choosing an easy berth. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* § xxiv. P 5 A long or a Soaking or Easie Pull;..this is also call'd a *Soft Pull; because it comes Soft, and Soakingly and easily down. *1787 Printer's Gram.* 328 That which causes a Soft Pull is putting in pieces of felt or pasteboard. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 128 *Soft pull*, an easy pull over of the bar-handle of a printing press. 1887 FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* xii. 227 I've got a '*soft snap' on—can't miss it. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiii, A drap brandy to burn, and a wee pickle *saft sugar. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 674 A *soft vat..is that which contains too much copperas. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 427 *Soft woodlands*, a term applied, in the British Provinces, to the districts or intervals covered with various species of pine trees.

b. In the names of plants or trees, as *soft brome, grass, maple, rush* (see quots.).

1817 W. H. MARSHALL *Review* V. 489 The *soft brome, or smooth stalked meadow, smaller fescue, and yellow oat, are partial to dry soils. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. 1794) 151 Several genera; of which the Holcus or *Soft grass is most likely to come under your observation. 1796 WITHERING *British Pl.* (ed. 3) II. 135 *Holcus lanatus*,.. Meadow Soft-grass...*H. mollis*,..Creeping Soft-grass. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* (ed. 2) 143 *Holcus lanatus* (Woolly Soft Grass). 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 264/2 The natives of Africa also make a beverage from the seed of the spiked or eared soft-grass (*Holcus spicatus*). 1855 J. DARBY *Bot. S. States* 65 *A[cer] dasycarpum*,..*Soft Maple. 1891 E. ROPER *By Track & Trail* xv. 220 Against this rose the giant cedars, pines and hemlocks, the soft and vine maples [etc.]. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 285 *Juncus effusus* (*Soft Rush) is a common Rush of marshy lands.

c. In the names of animals, esp. reptiles or fishes, as *soft-back, clam, crab, tortoise*, etc.

1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 388 Another tortoise of greater size and equal ferocity is the *Softback (*Trionyx ferox*). 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 707 The *Soft Clam', 'Long Clam', or 'Nanninose' (*Mya arenaria*). 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 398 Shedder-crab, a crab which has recently cast its shell, also called a *Soft Crab. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 776 The terms 'Soft Crab', 'Paper-shell', and 'Buckler' denote the different stages of consistency of the shell. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 376 Of these two unimportant families, the first is represented solely by the *soft-spines (*Malacanthus*). 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 303 The *soft tortoise (*Trionyx*). *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 256 The Trionyides. The Mud or Soft Tortoises. 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 98 The most striking peculiarity of the soft-tortoises is to be found in the nature of their shells.

28. a. Used with sbs. to form an attributive (or objective) comb., as *soft-bill, -coal, -foot*, etc.

1829 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* VIII. 617 *Soft-bill Duck,...*Anas Telanorhynchos*. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 828/1 *Soft Center Steel*, a composition of iron and steel...Used for safes, plows, etc. 1885 W. D. HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) II. 57 The *soft-coal fire in the grate. 1598 MARLOWE & CHAPMAN *Hero & Leander* v. 3 Sol, and the *soft-foote Powrs hung on his armes. 1858 *U. S. Rep. Munit. War* 65 A hooped, *soft-steel gun. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 49. 32 Of the *soft-water-drinking towns already named, Lancaster gets water..from millstone grit. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Jan. 7/3 The tallest people in Great Britain are to be met with in soft-water districts.

b. In comb. with adjs. *rare.*

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 95/2 Yea, smoothlie iest at their soft-silken Happe. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 450 The first solder is called by the pewterers hard-pale, the last soft-pale.

29. *Comb.* Forming parasynthetic adjs., as *soft-brained, -coated, conscienced, -fingered*, etc.

Only the more important or earlier examples of this type are here illustrated.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., *Soft-brained, or Softated, *qui est un peu fou*. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xxxvii, The luxurious nature of a round, *soft-coated pet animal. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 4 Pardon that thy secrets should Be sung Even into thine own *soft-conched ear. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. i. 37 Though *soft conscienc'd men can be content to say it was for his Country. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 190 Weavers, barbers, and such like *soft-fingered gentry. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. v. I do not like these phlegmatic smooth-skinned, *soft-fleshed fellows. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 195 Dogs...of every size and colour, rough and smooth-coated, *soft and hard haired. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 277 *Soft-handed Hope, whose soothing touch makes the possessor easy in himself. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 28 Their lips touch'd not, but had not bade adieu, As if disjoined by soft-handed slumber. 1842 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* III. xvii, 24 Soft-handed Silence near stands looking calmly on. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* V. ii, Amiable and brave, trustworthy and *soft-mannered. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. Why, this would steale *soft metled cowardice. 1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Lessons* i, Quiet, mild, *soft-minded, tractable, and meek. 1648 HEXHAM II. *Weeck-zinnigh*, Soft-minded, or Enraged. 1564 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 214 A good, *soft natured gentleman. 1619 FLETCHER *Wild-Goose Chase* I. ii, We'l provide thee some soft-natur'd wench. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 2/3, 200,000 rounds of ammunition, made up with *soft-nosed bullets. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* IV. 6 The dawn..With *soft-paced ray dispels the shades obscene. 1857 MISS WINKWORTH *Tauler's Life & Serm.* 164 A soft-paced horse would be much easier for him to ride. 1680 C. NESS *Church Hist.* 179 Ahaziah..was a *soft-pated prince and low spirited. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 94 *Physostomi*, (The *Soft-rayed Fishes). 1612 CHAPMAN *Widdow's Tears* v, A Souldier and afraid of a dead man? A *soft-rode milk-sop? 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 807 Those, that..chase The *soft-skind Martens, for their precious Cace. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 111 Making loue to those soft skind soules & sweete Nymphes of Helicon. 1896 tr. *Boas' Text-bk. Zool.* 225 Thin plates separated by large soft-skinned interspaces. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 *Softespyrited, *modeste*. 1585–6 LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 273 The audytors here be so soft-spryted men as I dowbt [etc.]. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 186 Thus much..in favour of the softer spirited Christian. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* v. ii, My *soft-spleen'd seruants ouerrule and curb me. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VII. 5 The eldest..seems to have been a very *soft-tempered youth. 1878 JOAQUIM MILLER *Songs of Italy* 45 When the stars in the soft-tempered breeze Glowed red. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 261 'Lamia!' he cried—and no *soft-toned reply. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 488 A concert of soft-toned flutes, hautboys, lutes. *a* 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* 78 It goes hard with my pride..to make equals of this *soft-tongued race. 1847 WEBSTER, **Soft-voiced*, having a soft voice. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 63 The remembrance of a soft-eyed, soft-voiced little woman. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 117 The singing-birds are the best for destroying *soft-winged insects such as moths and butterflies.

b. In the specific names of animals, birds, plants, etc.

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. II. 517 *Soft-backed Labrus, *Labrus Malapteronotus*. 1837 SWAINSON *Classif. Birds* III. iii. II. 16 The soft-backed shrikes, or *Malaconoti*. 1678 RAY tr. *Willughby's Ornith.* III. ii. § 1. 362 Wormius his Eider or *soft-feathered Duck. *c* 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VI. § lviii, Soft-feathered Cape Coralline. 1833 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 29 *Hieracium molle*—*Soft-leaved Hawkweed. 1840 HODGSON *Hist. Northumb.* III. II. 361/2 *Byrum carneum*, Soft-leaved Thread-moss. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 417/2 The soft-leaved Rose (*Rosa mollis*). 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 136 The soft-leaved cranesbill (*Geranium molle*). 1801 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* Suppl. II. 224 *Soft-tailed Flycatcher.

30. With vbs., as *soft-board, -boil.*

1832 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 327 Now just reflect,—meditate for as long time as would soft-boil an egg. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 828 *Soft-boarding*, boarding or bruising the leather on the flesh-side. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) xxvii. 417 Then the leather is taken down and soft-boarded and hung up to thoroughly dry.

Soft (sɒft), *adv.* Forms: 1, 3–6 softe (5 soffte, 6 safte), 4– soft. [OE. *sófte*, = OS. *sôfto*, OHG. *sanfto, samfto* (MHG. *sanfte, samfte*, G. *sanft*): see prec.] Softly, in various senses.

I. 1. In a quiet or peaceful state; in a comfortable or easy manner; on a soft bed, couch, etc.; †luxuriously. Now *poet.* or *arch.*, esp. in *to sleep soft.*

a 1000 *Genesis* 179 He..softe swæf. *c* 1000 *Saxon Leechd.* II. 292 Reste [*he*] hine softe. *c* 1205 LAY. 4004 Þer he læi softe &..slepte. *Ibid.* 6346 He wes a wel god mon & softe he wolde libben. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3796 (Gött.), Wele was he gladid of þat sight, Soft him thoght he slep þat nyht. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lviii. (Bodl. MS.), Þis yuell bredeth in ham þat leue esilich and softe, and trauayleþ butte litel. *c* 1400 *Brut* lxvii. 63 Y shal ȝeue ȝow soche a medecyne þat ȝe shulle swete anone ryȝt, and softe slepe. 1601 SHAKS. *All's W.* IV. iii. 368, I will..sleepe as soft As Captaine shall. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 206 Thy Flatterers..drinke Wine, lye soft. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 254 Soft on the flourie herb I found me laid. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 8 Fancy..laid her soft in Amaranthine flow'rs. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* ix, The riches of the East expended that they might sleep soft and wake in magnificence. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *The Sleep* iv, Sleep soft, beloved!

b. In soft wrappings, surroundings, etc.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2401 þat Iowell..þat was full sekirly & soft all in silke falden. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 196, I pray þe.., happe hym warme, And sette hym softe. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 39 They were smoothly appareled, soft lodged, daintely feasted.

2. In a gentle manner; without harshness, roughness, severity, or violence.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 7 Ðu..ȝesewenlicra softe wealdest scirra ȝesceafta. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3874 An oðer siðe he went is ðoȝt Betre and softere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 58 Wyt chaunce of ded,..þat soft began has endyng smart. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 311 Ther is a surgiene in þis sege þat softe can handle. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2708 *Hypermnestra*, And hym she roggith & a-wakyth softe. 14.. *Sir Beues* (M) 605 With drinke and salfe she helid hym softe.

b. Without much force, intensity, or vigour; lightly, gently.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Stere it soffter an softtere, tylle it come to-gedere; þan gader it to-gederys with a ladelle or a Skymoure, softe, tille it be round to-gedere. *Ibid.* 22 Wrynge it soft þorw a straynoure. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 241 Silky-soft Favonius, breathe still softer, or be chid. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 71 Fair laughs the Morn, and soft the Zephyr blows. 1793 WORDSW. *Descr. Sk.* 14 Nature loves to show'r Soft on his wounded heart her healing pow'r. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos-Eaters* Choric Song 1, There is sweet music here that softer falls Than petals from blown roses on the grass. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 175 'I fall soft,' he said.

3. With gentle movement; unobtrusively; without (much) noise or sound; quietly.

c 1205 LAY. 26614 Þæs cnihtes siȝen þurh þene wude wunder ane softe. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 75 Þis holie Man wende forth a-mong heom alle wel softe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288+127 For drede þai stynted oft For ferd of þe Iews, and sithen welk ful soft. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1535 He softe into his bed gan for to slynke To slepe longe. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xi. 33 Him follow'd Yar, soft washing Norwitch wall. 1742 COLLINS *Passions* (1807) 141 [Runnels] Dashing soft from rocks around. 1820 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxix, Then by the bed-side..soft he set A table.

b. With or at a slow or leisurely pace; not hastily or hurriedly.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 100 He set hire on his hors tofore And forth he takth his weie softe. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2982 Polidonias Come afftirward with qwene Eleyne, Rydyng softe vpon the pleyne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXI. 211 All soft may men go far. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump* 895 Thou hast forgotten to go soft, thou art so hasty on thy way. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxi, Or where old Cam softpaces o'er the lea In pensive mood.

4. In a low voice or tone; with a soft, melodious, or pleasing sound; not loudly or harshly.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 232 þis Monekes beden seint Brendan, þat he softe speke. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9769 Þis godeman sat adoun akne..& wel softe..sede þis orison. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 187 The wys man wenethe he Softe laghyth. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. v. 167 She..sayd Syre knyghte speke softe, for yonder is a deuyll. *a* 1536 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 118 Sying softe, I say, leste yowr nose blede. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 71 The waters fall with difference discreet, Now soft, now loud. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. i. 69 Little haue you to say When you depart from him, but soft and low, Remember now my brother. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Nancy of Vale* iii. Wks. 1777 I. 128 When from an hazle's artless bower Soft warbled Strephon's tongue. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 779 And streams..Now murm'ring soft, now roaring in cascades. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 199 Soft went the music the soft air along. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* lii, The wanderer ..Halts on the bridge to hearken How soft the poplars sigh.

†**5.** Sweetly, odorously. *Obs.*—[1]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9357 Sco smelles better þen piment, And wel softer [*Fairf.* soter] hir uestement þan ani recles þat es brent.

6. To a slight degree or extent; slightly. *rare.*

13.. *Minor Poems Jr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 371 For muche to bi-hote & ȝiue but softe, Makeþ mon to be chalanged ofte. 1812 *New Bot. Gard.* I. 46 The leaves are spear-shaped, soft waved and entire.

†**7.** *Soft and fair(ly)*, softly, gently, leisurely. *Obs.* (Cf. 8 b and FAIR *adv.* 7.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 194 Thus have I told thee softe and faire Mi feith. 1530 PALSGR. 842/1 Softe and fayre, *tout bellement*. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* xi. 3 Let the husholde with thy wife and yᵉ catell come soft & fayrly after vs. 1565 COOPER *Thes., Cunctanter*, slowly; safte and fayre; leasurely. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgr.* II. 1104 That the Queen should follow soft and fair. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 29 The Arts..are in processe of time soft and faire forged by a continuall meditation.

Prov. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 208 Soft and fair goes far in a Day. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v. *Fair*, Soft and Fair goes far. 1736 AINSWORTH I. s.v., Soft and fair goeth far, *festina lente*.

8. Used as an exclamation with imperative force, either to enjoin silence or deprecate haste. Freq. preceded by *but*, and sometimes followed by *you*. Now only *arch.*

(*a*) *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* XXVII. 49 And yᵉ resideu said, Soft, let vs se whiyer helias com to save him or no. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* ix, Soft, sir; a word with you. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 312 Not too fast: soft, soft. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 402 Soft, Swaine, a-while, beseech you. *a* 1822 SHELLEY ''*Tis midnight now*' 82 Soft, my dearest angel, stay. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Iseult* I. 7 Soft —who is that stands by the dying fire?

(*b*) *a* 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1754) I. 241 But soft, sirs, I pray you huysh. 1589 [? LYLY] *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 22 But soft, I must now make a graue speach. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 8 But soft, wee take nothing from Pagans. *a* 1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 179 A night..All black, and terrible! but soft! stand close. 1782 HAN. MORE *Moses* III. 14 No one sees me. But soft, does no one listen! 1820 BYRON *Blues* II. 24 A rabble who know not—But soft, here they come!

(*c*) 1599 *George a Greene* Greene's Wks. (Rtldg.) 256 Nay, soft you, sir! you get no entrance here. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 88 Soft you now, The faire Ophelia! 1635 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 836 But soft you there, I like not that Method.

†b. So *soft and fair, soft and peace. Obs.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 69 Cruel? nay iust, (yea softe and peace good sir) For Iustice sleepes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 72 Soft and faire Frier, which is Beatrice? 1611 COTGR., *Tout beau*, take your leisure, soft and faire, not too fast. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1727) 63 Soft and fair, gentlemen, quoth I; my mother's my mother.

II. *Comb.* **9.** With pres. pples. (or advs. from these), as *soft-brushing, -circling, -ebbing*, etc.

Similar examples, but unhyphened, are freq. in 18th cent. poetry.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 11. *Magnificence* 701 One, in the fresh shade of an Apple-Tree, Lets hang its Quiver, while soft-pantingly 'T exhales hot Vapour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 300 Wave rowling after Wave,..If steep, with torrent rapture, if through Plaine, Soft-ebbing. 1710 PHILIPS *Pastorals* ii. 6 Their Notes soft-warb'ling to the gladsome Spring. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 310 They heard, soft-circling in the sky, Sweet Airs ascend. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xi. 18 The Dog of Hell, Immense of Bulk, to Thee soft-soothing fell. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 43 The God..soft-brushing, in his speed, The taller grasses. 1873 LONGF. *Hanging of Crane* iv. 22 Limpid as planets..Soft-shining through the summer night.

b. In attributive use.

Freq. in 18th cent. poetry; many examples are given by Jodrell.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* III. 401 As some soft-sliding rill ..Extends itself at length unto a goodly stream. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IV. ccxlv, By the side Of some soft-murmuring Current. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* III. xix. 20 The soft-swelling Pipe, and the Hautboy sonorous. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 263 Benign, soft-shining goddess! [Hope]. 1791 COLERIDGE *Mathem. Problem* iii, The soft-flowing daughter of fright. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* Poems 1825 I. 299 Sinking down As through soft-yielding waters murmuring round me. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year, Visitation Sick*, The light from those soft-smiling eyes. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* II. xiii, The silence left By that soft-throbbing speech. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* (1893) 13 Here a soft-treading waiter knucks upon the door.

10. With pa. pples., as *soft-bedded, -extended, -roast'ed*), etc.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 26 b, A new laied Egge, soft roste. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VII. 435 There, soft-extended,.. Ulysses sleeps profound! 1726 *Ibid.* XIX. 119 A seat soft spread with furry spoils prepare. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 654 Their distant strain,..Soft wafted on celestial pity's plume. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix, Not sufficiently honoured,..soft-bedded, and lovingly cared-for.

b. In attributive use.

Other examples are given by Jodrell.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/1 We must first let him suppe in a soft-dressed egge. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XX. ccxciii, Those lusty Thoughts which in a soft-lay'd Dream [etc.]. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccxlviii, Spred the feild ore with Soft-Spun Carcasses. 1682 MRS. BEHN *City Heiress* 8 The stealths of Love, the soft-breath'd murmuring Passion. 1748 THOMSON *Castle Indol.* I. xx, The soft-embodied fays through airy portal stream. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 122 They have shoes of soft-tanned moose skin. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mech.* 481 This soft and soft-glazed pottery is easily scratched by a knife. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *To the New Born* Poems (1875) 502 Bending o'er thy soft-seal'd eyes. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 123/1 The soft-finished, braided raw-silk line.

11. With adjs., as *soft-bright, -lucent, -slow.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 1220 Her mistress she doth give demure good-morrow, With soft-slow tongue, true mark of modesty. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. iv, Light Apollo, so clear, soft-lucent. 1863 LD. HOUGHTON *Sel. fr. Wks.* 216 Disparted all those soft-bright diadems.

† **Soft,** *v. Obs.* [I. the adj.]

1. *trans.* To render (a person, the heart, etc.) less harsh, severe, or obdurate; to mollify, appease, pacify.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Eadie bonen softeð & paieð ure Louerd. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 318 Witt and resoun conseilen ofte That I myn herte schulde softe. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. iii. (1869) 31 Whan it is fulfilled with olde sinne, and harded, j softe it, and make it weepe. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 47 b, Ther is no herte of lady so hard but by the vertu of youre requestes muste nedes be softed and molefied. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* V. xiii. (S.T.S.) II. 194 The distributioun of þir landis softit..þe myndis of small pepill. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* xxxii, Yet cannot all these flames..her hart more harde then yron soft awhit.

b. Const. *to* and inf.

c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 90 But anoon porphyry softed þe keepers to consente.

2. To allay, abate, or assuage the heat, intensity, or pain of (an injury, sore, etc.). Also with double accusative.

(*a*) *a* 1200 *St. Marher.* 5 Lauerd loke to me, ant haue merci of me, softe me mi sar. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVIII. (*Adrian*) 295 With a faire clath scho clengit þare bilis, & softyt hurtis þat ware sare. 14.. *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 5 Canste þou any..craft vpon erþe To softe þe grete sore þat sitteþ on my cheke? *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/1 Softyn, or esyn of peyne,..*mitigo, allevio.* 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* C iv, It softeth the goute podagra in the fete.

(*b*) *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/1 Softyn, or comfortyn yn sorowe and mornynge, *delinio.* *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1055 Wes nowthir solace nor sang thair sorow to soft.

3. To mitigate or moderate, to lower or reduce the intensity of (a passion, emotion, etc.).

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 112 Wat þat is offrid in felony in þe sacrifice of God it softiþ not, but steriþ his wraþe. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & P.* (W. de W. 1496) VI. x. 380 The Iacke is softe & nesshe and by his softenesse..softeth & feynteth all strokes þat cometh there ayenst. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. iv. (S.T.S.) I. 30 Providing so þai wald soft þe Indignacioun of þare myndis. *Ibid.* III. xi. 293 His collegis..set þame þe maist presand way þai mycht to soft his preiss.

4. To make (words) plausible or specious.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* liv. 22 Softid ben the woordis of hym vp on oile; and thei ben speris. — *Prov.* ii. 16 That thou be take awey fro an alien womman, and fro a straunge, that softeth [L. *mollit*] hir woordis.

5. To render physically soft. Also in fig. context.

a 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 60 Whe þer þou hast not softid me as mylk; and hast cruddid me to-gideres as chese? *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 52 The erthe also is softed wyth rayn and ageynward made hard wyth froost.

6. *refl.* To calm or restrain (oneself). *rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Fox, Wolf & Husbandman* xxiii, Schir,..we ar at it almaist; Soft 3ow ane lytill, and 3e sall se it sone.

7. *intr.* To become or grow soft in various senses.

c 1275 LAY. 12042 Þe wind gan a-legge an þat weder softi. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxiii. 2 My hert softid in swetnes of luf.

Hence † **Softing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. xlvii. (W. de W. 1495) 890 Bi grete drynesse they be made smothyng and softynge. 14.. *Siege Jerus.* (E. E. T. S.) 6 þer is a warlich wif..þat haþ softyng & salue for eche sore out. 1611 COTGR., *Amollissement*, a softing, mollifying, making tender. *Ibid., Amollissant*, softing, mollifying.

‖ **Softa** (sɒ·ftä). Also sophta. [Turk. سوفته *sōfta*, ad. Pers. سوخته *sūhtah* lighted, set on fire (by the teacher, or by zeal for study).] In Turkey, a Moslem theological student; also generally, a pupil engaged in professional studies at a secondary school.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 315 Thus haue we taken a leisurely view of the Turkish Hierarchy from the poore Softi to the courtly Cadilescher and pontifical Mufti. 1880 MENZIES *Turkey Old & New* II. 249 The Softas..were angry with the Government, and threatened the Sultan with deposition. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Oct. 5/1 The Softas, or Mussulman theological students.

Soft-billed, *a. Ornith.* [SOFT *a.* 29.] Having a soft bill. Also in specific names.

a 1705 RAY *Synop. Avium* (1713) 68 In *Tenuirostras*, Soft Bil'd Birds..and *Crassirostras*, Hard Bil'd Birds. 1771 G. WHITE *Selborne* xliii, Many of our soft-billed summer birds of passage. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* III. II. 522 Soft-billed Duck..inhabits New Zealand. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 97 A soft-billed bird, that requires as much care as a nightingale! 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xvi. (1890) 490 Many of the soft-billed birds are songsters.

Soft-board(ing: see SOFT *a.* 30.

Soft-bodied, *a. Zool.* [SOFT *a.* 29.] Having soft bodies.

1782 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6617/2 These tender and soft-bodied animals [*sc.* frogs]. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 655 In soft-bodied insects they [the legs] seem usually more firm and unbending. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 27 The molluscous or soft-bodied animals, which are known as shell-fish. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* 59 No trace of the past existence of which has yet been obtained, or, from their soft-bodied nature, is ever likely to be.

Soften (sɒ·f'n), *v.* Also 4–5 softne, 5 *Sc.* softine, 9 *Sc.* saften. [f. SOFT *a.* + -EN. Cf. SOFT *v.*]

I. *trans.* **1.** To mitigate, assuage, or diminish; to render less painful or more easy to bear.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 50 That blisful sight softeneth al my sorwe. *c* 1415 HOCCLEVE *Min. Poems* 62 Let your hy worthynesse Oure indigences softne, & abate! 1708 POPE *Ode St. Cecilia's Day* vii, Music can soften pain to ease. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 13 It would very much soften those apprehensions. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xxxii, His lady, who..shared and softened his imprisonment. 1823 — *Quentin D.* x, All who had contributed to soften the term of his exile. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xlix, After the lapse of a few days had softened the bitter grief.

absol. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 149 Godis angele..vith dew of hewine ma softine sa, þat þi fyre sal me do na wa. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1925 It softned heere, and prikkith there.

b. Similarly with *off.*

1790 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Jan., To soften off, by the air, a violent headache, I determined upon walking to Chelsea. 1849 FROUDE *Nemesis of Faith* 224 All that woman's care..could do to soften off her end was done.

† **c.** With personal object: To relieve from pain. *Obs.*—1

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2601 This prissonere syr Priamus.. Sais that he has saluez salle softene vs bothene.

2. a. To render more impressionable or tender; to affect emotionally.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 102 þe saule softynand þer þou.. þi tempyll has ordand. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 110, I behold them soft'nd and with tears Bewailing thir excess. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 7 Nov., I..fairly softened myself like an old fool, with recalling old stories till I was fit for nothing but shedding tears. 1874 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ix. (1877) 195 Misfortune, adversity, soften the human heart.

b. To enervate, weaken, render effeminate.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 51 Howe.., before Poets did soften vs, we were full of courage, giuen to martiall exercises. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XII. 64 The Sirens will so soften with their song..His loose affections. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. III. 104 A negligent and voluptuous Prince, whose nature being softned, and unnerv'd by ease [etc.]. 1780 *Mirror* No. 94, Softening too much the mind of a young girl, who has to struggle with the difficulties of life. 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., Troops softened by luxury.

c. To make more gentle, delicate, or refined. Also with *into.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 10 ¶ 2 Every Temper..is to be animated and softned by the Influence of Beauty. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 96 This genial intercourse..softens human rock-work into men. 1831 SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 370 Attention to music..softens the temper. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 249 This mixture probably softened the manners of the people from the first. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 112 Though some divine thought softened all her face.

3. To mollify or appease; to render less harsh or severe.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 128 Bot marie softnys his ire als oure best mediatrice. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 591 All which together..Beat at thy rocky..heart, To soften it. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* I. v. 70 All hope is gone, Vnlesse you haue the grace by your faire praier To soften Angelo. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. r. World* (1840) 342 To soften them a little, and in some measure to please them. 1780 *Mirror* No. 101, Nor was his resentment softened even by her husband's leaving the army. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 199 When the sacrifice was designed to soften the anger of an offended deity. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I 637 That good prelate used all his influence to soften the gaolers. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* XV. (1875) 243 It still appeared possible to soften, if not to overcome, their antagonism.

4. To make physically soft or softer; to lessen the hardness of (a substance).

1530 PALSGR. 724/2 It is harde yet, but I shall soften it well ynoughe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* III. ii. 79 Orpheus Lute,..Whose golden touch could soften steele and stones. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. iii. 47 Her salt teares fell from her, and softned the stones. 1656 *Verney Memoirs* (1907) II. 51, I see the same sunn that softens Wax, hardens clay. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 227 Sometimes deceivers will soften the amber and put into it some extraneous matter. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 53 With Fire he..hardens clay, softens iron. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 288 They were first softened in milk and honey.

absol. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 484 Armoniacke drieth, cooleth, softneth, and draweth.

b. To make (water) soft.

1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 267 Hard water may be softened by laying chalk in the bottoms of the wells or ponds. 1867 BLOXAM *Chem.* 43 Clark's process for softening waters.

5. To modify or tone down; to render less pronounced or prominent.

In certain contexts there is implication of other senses.

(*a*) 1670–1 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 382 The clause that makes them riots is thrown out, and severall other clauses softned. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 399 ¶ 5 They ..do not see our Faults,..or soften them by their Representations. 1714 POPE *Lett.* Wks. 1736 V. 216, I know you will think fit to soften your expression when you see the passage. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* liii. V. 422 Their stern enthusiasm was softened by time and prosperity. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xvii. 153, I in vain had tried To soften crime, that cannot be denied. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. 463 The scarcely ambiguous answer was something softened the following day. 1879 — *Cæsar* xx. 346 Others proposed to send a deputation to soften the harshness of his removal.

(*b*) 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ii. 41 For time has soften'd what was harsh when new, And now the stains are all of sober hue. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 159 There was a smoky haze in the atmosphere.., softening the features of the landscape. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Sept. 5/4 An awning ..softened the light and hid the bare rafters.

b. Const. *into* or *to.*

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vi. 29 Horror is softened into reverence. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 365 'Tis the primal curse, But soften'd into mercy. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 725 These shades, duly softened into each other, will give the idea of a round body. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay of St. Cuthbert* iii, And he utters— a word which we'll soften to 'Zooks!'

c. With *down* (or *away*).

1799–1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* XIV. 246 Thou didst soften down This over-sternness. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. iv. ¶ 3 Throughout my narrative I softened down the passages likely to give umbrage to my patron. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* iv, Mrs. Hamley tried sometimes to..soften away opinions which she fancied were offensive to the doctor. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 Inconsistencies ..are modified and softened down.

6. To make softer in sound.

For Ainsworth's use see the note to SOFT *a.* 3 b.

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *D*, This letter..is a *t* hardned, as *t* is a *d* softned. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXVI, He spoke to her in accents somewhat softened from their usual harshness. 1824 BYRON *Def. Transf.* I. ii, How the soldier's rough strain seems Soften'd by distance to a hymn-like cadence! 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 17 In our modern word *ditch* the final letter has been softened or weakened.

II. *intr.* **7.** To become soft or softer in various non-physical senses; *esp.* to become more gentle, tender, or emotional; to grow fainter or less pronounced.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. ii. 40 We do not know How he may soften at the sight o' th' Childe. 1722–7 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *S'adoucir*,..to soften, to grow soft. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* I, The terror of La Motte began to subside, and the grief of Adeline to soften. 1794 — *Myst. Udolpho* III, Its savage features gradually softened. 1838 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph. Clouds* 31 The scholar..gradually softens at this submission, and becomes sociable and communicative. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. VIII. (1872) X. 163 His eyes..softened finely in hearing, or telling, some trait of nobleness. 1877 MRS OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* VIII. 212 Never was heart so hard but it softened before so much gentleness.

b. Const. *into.*

1730 THOMSON *Hymn* 25 Shade unperceived so softening into shade. 1771 *Junius' Lett.* liv. (1788) 296 By what gentle degrees the furious, persecuting zeal of Mr. Horne has softened into moderation. 1840 L. HUNT *Indicator, Deaths Little Children* 203 The pain that is in it softens into pleasure.

c. With *away, down,* or *off.*

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Ital.* XII, The responses softened away in distance. 1833 RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 122 The rocks soften down on the right, and the village of Bouchemain appears. 1840 DICKENS *Master Humphrey's Clock* (Tauchn.) III. 285 A crowd, which..softened off in a confused heap of faces. 1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 6 Most wildness by degrees Softens away!

8. To become physically soft.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 840 Many of those Bodies, that will not Melt,..will notwithstanding Soften. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* I, *S'amo'llir*,..(*perdre sa dureté*), to grow soft, tender or pliant, to soften. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 182 When heated it softens at 300°. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 7 The acetate..does not begin to soften below a temperature of 150° C.

Softened (sɒ·f'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. SOFTEN *v.*]

1. Made or rendered physically soft or yielding.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* 95 Mixing..the powder of a softned bricke in her meate. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* IV. 191 To..make a Second Attrition of their already much Softned Aliments. 1830 KNOX *Beclard's Anat.* 340 The softened nervous substance is sometimes at the point of being liquid. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 871 The softened central area of the tumour.

b. Characterized by softening or softness.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 720 B, The softened condition of the brain is doubtless due to a similar cause. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xv. 183 Certain phenomena ..indicate a softened state of the heart.

2. Rendered soft or softer, in other senses.

1716 Pope *Iliad* VI. 622 The soften'd chief .. dried the falling drops, and thus pursued. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxii, Then .. her softened thoughts returned to Valancourt. *Ibid.* xxxviii, The softened music, floating at a distance, soothed her melancholy mind. 1829 Scott *Rob Roy* Introd., A softened account of this anecdote. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvii, 'Get up, child,' said Miss Ophelia in a softened voice. 1873 Symonds *Greek Poets* xii. 404 Its pearly greys and softened greens. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* (1899) 311 She..saw that new softened look in his eyes.

Softener (sɔ·fnəɹ). [f. as prec.]

1. One who or that which softens, in various senses; a mollifier. Also with *down*.

1608 Hieron *Wks.* I. 722/1 Whose blood is..the principall softner of the heart. 1611 Cotgr., *Mollifieur*, a mollifier, softener. 1668 Charleton & P. M. *Ephes. & Cinnm. Matrons* 72 You are..the obstacles to honour; the softners of courage. 1743 Francis tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xxxii. 20 Thou Softner of each anxious Care. 1839 Dickens *Nicklelby* viii, One of the best softeners of a hard bed. 1894 H. Nesbit *Bush Girl's Rom.* 27 A true helpmate and softener-down of the rough edges.

2. *spec.* A painting-brush of soft hair.

1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 305/1 Passing a dry brush, called a 'softener', lightly over it. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Rec.* I. 6/2 For shading, camel or sable hair brushes, called Softeners, are generally used.

Softening, *vbl. sb.* Also 6 soughtening, 6, 8 softning. [f. as prec.]

1. The action of making soft, in various senses of the adj. Also with *a* and pl.

1568 Turner *Herbal* III. 21 It purgeth..gently by soughtening of the belly. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Mollification*, softning. 1611 Cotgr., *Attendrissement*, a softening, mollifying. 1719 Waterland *Vind. Christ's Div.* 223 After the Disguises and Softenings, and Colourings had been carried on so long. 1744 H. Brooke *Love & Vanity* 124 O such a pretty knack at painting! And all for soft'ning and for sainting! 1802 D. Stewart *Life & Writ. Robertson* I. 42 To unite in his portraits the truth of nature with the softenings of art. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* Ser. II. I. iii. 105 When their strength declines..there is no softening, no misgiving. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 203 After this a general softening (that is to say, the graduating of light into shade).

b. *Path.*, esp. in *softening of the brain.*

1830 R. Knox *Béclard's Anat.* 340 The softening is a very frequent alteration of a part of the central nervous mass. 1835 *Cycl. Pract. Med.* IV. 5/1 When softening of the brain is accompanied by an increase of bulk. 1843 Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xv. 184 Softening of the heart exists in typhus fever. 1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 74 This state of yellow softening. *Ibid.*, Red softening. 1854 Jones & Sieveking *Pathol. Anat.* 250 White softening..is chiefly met with in the parts most remote from the grey matter.

2. *spec.* (See quots.)

1728 Chambers *Cycl., Softening*, in Painting, the mixing and diluting of Colours with the Brush or Pencil. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Softening*, of lead, the removal of antimony and other impurities.

3. *attrib.*, as *softening disease, tool*; **softening iron**, in leather-working, an iron plate upon which the wetted hides of animals are stretched; **softening-machine** (see quot. 1875); **softening works**, works for softening drinking-water.

1834 Cooper *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 368 *note*, In the *ramollissement*, or softening disease, the spleen never becomes so large as when it is indurated. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 767 They would not bear working upon the softening iron. *Ibid.*, The softening tool is an iron plate [etc.]. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2238/1 *Softening-machine*, (Leather,) a machine..for beating the hides in water to saturate them. 1888 *Daily News* 7 June 6/7 A pumping station and softening works. *Ibid.*, The softening plant.

Softening, *ppl. a.* Also 7–8 softning, 8–9 *Sc.* saftening. [f. as prec.]

1. Causing to become soft, tender, etc.

(*a*) *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 353 Of mollificatif medicyns or softenyng. 1631 Widdowes *Nat. Philos.* 36 His oyle for hot and softning nature helpeth diseases of the brest. 1735 Bracken *Gentlem. Pocket Farr.* II *note*, You ought to keep the Foot..covered with any softning Poultice. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 151, I got some softening cream, and spread it over the burn. 1861 Paley *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Prometh.* 388 *note*, Reducing a swelling by softening applications.

(*b*) 1643 Milton *Divorce* viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 39 To unsettle our constancie with timerous and softning suggestions. 1668 Davenant *Man's the Master* v. i, [Do you] yet strive, with softning pity, to allay that courage? 1729 Law *Serious Call* xvii. (1761) 293 We may deceive ourselves.. with vain and softening comments upon these words. 1794 E. Williams *Poems* II. 4 He..blended with her glaring hues The soft'ning tints of Art. 1847 Prescott *Peru* IV. iii. (1850) II. 300 When..time had..thrown its softening veil over the past. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *Man's Keeping* II. 126 Under the softening shade of her parasol.

2. Becoming soft, gentle, tender, etc.

1730 Thomson *Hymn* 5 Wide flush the fields; the softening air is balm. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exped.* xviii. (1856) 140 With a gradually softening tint. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, 'I can believe that,' said Miss Abbey, with a softening glance at the little creature. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 250 Occasionally the enlarged and softening glands adhere to a contiguous organ.

Soft-eyed, *a.* [Soft *a.* 29.] Having soft or gentle eyes; tender-eyed.

1735 Pope *Prol. Sat.* 286 The verse..That tends to..Give ..Innocence a fear, Or from the soft-eyed Virgin steal a tear! 1777 Potter *Æschylus, Supplicant's* 109 Soft-ey'd Humanity dwells here. 1859 Ld. Lytton *Wanderer* (ed. 2) 239 She is meekness itself, my soft-eyed little cousin. 1897 Mamie Dickens *My Father as I recall him* 82 The latter, a soft-eyed, gentle, good-tempered St. Bernard.

Soft-finned, *a. Ichth.* [Soft *a.* 29.] Having soft fins.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 60 The fish..that have soft or cartilaginous fins, are called Soft-finned Fish. 1851 Gosse *Nat. Hist., Fishes* 200 The Soft-finned Fishes are, in general, inferior to the Spinous-finned in [etc.]. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 395 These spiny-finned eels are an exact analogue of the true soft-finned eels. *Ibid.* 430 The Soft-finned Fishes,—Suborder *Anacanthini.*

Soft-footed, *a.* [Soft *a.* 29.] Having feet which tread softly. In early use *fig.*

1612 Chapman *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* v. iii, The black soft-footed hour is now on wing. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, and Olympique* viii, Soft-footed Winds..Dance through the perfum'd Air. 1736 Ainsworth I. s.v., Soft footed, *mollipes.* 1894 *Outing* XXIII. 346/2 The soft-footed maid had just left them.

Hence **Soft-footedly** *adv.*

1834 Lytton *Pilgr. Rhine* xi. (1840) 139 He [the fox] walked very soft-footedly.

†**Softhead.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 soft-, zofthede, 5 softhed. [f. Soft *a.* + -head.] Softness; gentleness; delicacy.

c 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxliv. 7 Þe mynd of Þe haboundaunce of Þi softhede Þai sall rift. 1340 *Ayenb.* 267 Of alle zofthede and nesshede. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 In valeys of lownes be..moysture,..softhed & neschhed.

Soft-head. [f. Soft *a.* + Head *sb.*] One who has a soft head; hence, in mod. use, a silly or stupid person; a simpleton. (Cf. next.)

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 22 The Brasilians' Heads.. are as hard as the wood that growes in their Country,.. and when they will injure any white Man, they call him soft-head. *c* 1872 *Hartley's Yorks. Ditties* Ser. II. 64 Shoo must be a poor little softhead. 1892 Manning *Pastime Papers* 86 To be treated as dreamers, enthusiasts or soft-heads.

Soft-headed, *a.* [Soft *a.* 29.] Weak in intellect; foolish, silly, stupid.

1667 Dryden & Dk. Newcastle *Sir M. Mar-all* III. i, Adieu soft-headed Sir Martin. 1721 Bailey, *Cully,..*a Fool, a soft headed Fellow. 1782 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 4 Nov., This young man is very..good, and soft-hearted; but alas! he is also soft-headed. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xxxii, He is a strange, soft-headed, sleepy sort of man. 1884 *Christian World* 21 Feb. 139/4 Large numbers of deluded women and soft-headed men.

Hence **Soft-headedness.**

1862 Whyte Melville *Inside Bar* iii, Probably he was making a mental computation of my soft-headedness.

Soft-hearted, *a.* [Soft *a.* 29.] Having a soft or susceptible heart; tender-hearted.

1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 307 Fye Coward woman, and soft harted wretch. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 17 Why weepes soft hearted Florisell? 1648 J. Beaumont *Psyche* xviii. ix, Hear then, O all soft-hearted Turtles. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. x, The soft-hearted Mr. Arnott. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xiv, He was only a soft-hearted grateful fellow. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. 195 Do not be soft-hearted at the sight of their distress.

Hence **Soft-heartedness.**

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Mercy*, pitie, mercie, softhartednesse. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 273 A sort of soft-heartedness towards the sufferings of individuals. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 711 A reputation for soft-heartedness goes far with the crowd.

Softish (sɔ·ftiʃ), *a.* [f. Soft *a.* + -ish.] Somewhat soft; rather tender.

Also *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, somewhat wet or rainy.

1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* v. 14 To wind..the limber speares about with softish leaues. 1656 W. Du Gard tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 29 A round lump, softish, beneath chamfered. 1682 Grew *Museum* III. I. ii. 268 'Tis softish, and somewhat brown. 1766 J. Bartram *Jrnl.* 4 Feb. 60 A softish rock full of sea-shells. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXV. 309/1 A little hair softish and curling. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xvi. 271 A bed of softish limestone.

transf. 1736 Ainsworth I, Softish (silly), *ineptus, stupidus.*

Softling (sɔ·ftliŋ), *sb.* Also 6 saftlynge. [f. Soft *a.* + -ling 1.]

1. An effeminate or unmanly person; a weakling.

1547 *Homilies* I. *Agst. Adultery* (1559) Y j, Nor adulterers, nor saftlynges, nor sodomites. 1576 Br. Woolton *Chr. Man.* L 6 b, Effeminate men and softlings cause the stoute man to waxe tender. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captaines* 983 Ador'd of Flatterers, Of Softlings, Wantons, Braves, and Loyterers. 1605 I. Taylor *Restoration of Belief* 40 This Emperor—no softling himself.

2. A soft little hand, mouse, etc.

1817 Keats *Endym.* IV. 316 This cannot be thy hand, and yet it is; And this is sure thine other softling. 1855 Browning *Fra Lippo Lippi* 10 And nip each softling of a wee white mouse.

3. *attrib.* Of a soft nature.

1732 Webster *Wks.* (1797) 198 A softling head! that spleeny whims devour. 1874 D. Gray *Poet. Wks.* 137 With her softling finger tips She touched my hand.

Softly, *a.* Now *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. Soft *a.*]

1. Of sound, etc.: Quiet, gentle, soft.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Ep.* 276 Out of the hill ranne a pleasant spring, which made a gentle and softly sounde. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius, Gothic Wars* IV. 141 They.. heare a softly voice calling them to the businesse. 1859 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) II. 291 Their decorous and softly steps.

†**2.** Soft; yielding to pressure. *Obs.*

1589 Fleming *Virg. Georg.* III. 39 The fole or colt..laies down to rest his softly legs.

†**3.** Of pace: Easy, slow, gentle. *Obs.*

1572 Lavater *Ghosts* 59 The image goeth before with a softely pase. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. vii. 6 The gentle Prince ..they spyde, Ryding a softly pace. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* VI. lxxvii, The stealing night with softly pace. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Epist.* 671 When God came to punish Adam he came slowly,..with a softly pace and still voice.

†**4.** Characterized by gentleness, weakness, simplicity, or effeminacy. *Obs.*

1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* H h 4 This was a prince of a softly wit. 1643 Baker *Chron.* (1653) 46 The softly disposition of his son Robert. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 83 A Person, as he saith himself, of such a tame and softly humour. 1740–42 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 258 The Viscount, whose softly Character, and his Lady's ..respectful Conduct to him, notwithstanding that, are both so well known.

5. Of persons: a. Slow in action; lacking in energy or enterprise.

1664 *Verney Memoirs* (1899) IV. 74 Many of them are very slow, and (as we call them) softly persons. 1687 Miége *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., A softly man, a Nidget, or Ninny. 1715 Jane Barker *Exilius* I. 101 If woman did not moderate his Rule, He'd be a Tyrant, or a softly Fool. 1883 *Almondbury Gloss.* 124 *Softly*, soft-headed; foolish.

Softly (sɔ·ftli), *adv.* Forms: α. 3–5 softeliche (4 -lyche), 4–5 softliche (4 -lich). β. 4 softili, 4–6 softely (5 -lie); 4 softli, 4– softly (5 sofft-, 6 soughtly), 5–6 softlie (6 -lye); 6 saftlie, saftely, 8– (*Sc.* and *dial.*) saftly. [f. Soft *a.* + -ly 2. Cf. Du. *zachtelijk*, G. *sanftlich, sänftlich.*]

1. Gently, carefully, tenderly; in such a manner as to avoid causing pain or injury; without force or violence; with gentle action.

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Ne gropie hire non to softeliche. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A) 1614 And so he dede sikerliche, & sepþe he was heled softliche. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 7, I sat Softeliche a-doun and seide my beo-leeue.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8043 Quen þe kyng come ner þaa tres, ..He drou þain softili vp i-nogh. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 98 Into hire bedd myn herte goth, And softly takth hire in his arm. 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 85 Sethe hem softly to þe half. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* II. xxiii. (Addit. MS.), The Fadir..had lever slee him softly than he shuld so rente hym self. 1545 Raynald *Byrth Mankynde* 65 Then must ye fayre and softely thrust it backe agayne. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* III. vi, Then softly drawes she foorth her handkercher. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* P 13 Who gladly would heale the soare..softly and sleightly. — *Acts* xxvii. 13 And when the South wind blew softly,..they sailed close by Creete. 1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* III. 151 It is then the Sovereign Good which ruleth all things powerfully, and disposeth them softly. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 762 The moon-beam, sliding softly in between The sleeping leaves. 1816 J. Wilson *City of Plague* II. ii. 219 How softly on the dreamer's head They lay their..hands. 1841 James *Brigand* xxiv, Meyrand will treat you tenderly and softly.

2. With a soft or subdued voice or utterance; in a low or gentle tone.

13.. *Cursor M.* 5140 (Gött.), Þer cam to him a messager, And tald him softli in his ere. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 38 Þenne com þer a Confessour..And seide ful softely in schrift as hit weore. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxi. (1869) 41 Serteyn, quod j softeliche, ynowh me lakketh. 1544 *Litany* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 570 Such among the people as have books..may read them quietly and softly to themself. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. ii. 5 Thereat she sighing softly, had no powre To speake a while. 1614 Donne *Lett.* (1631) 196 One thing I must tell you, but so softly, that I am loath to hear myself. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 49 They that are present say softly, or aloud, if they please [etc.]. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 447 Some [words] he spoke softly, and I could not well hear, others audibly. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, Emily sighed softly, and bowed her thanks. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 574/1, I must come behind your chair and whisper softlier. 1894 H. Gardener *Unoff. Patriot* 314 They shook hands over the situation and both fell to crying softly.

3. With a slow, easy, or gentle pace or motion.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 135 On a sysoures backe þat softly trotted. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xvi. 29 We reuerencede reson, and romed forth softeliche. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6088 On a staffe he leend, he went forthe softely. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 78 b/2 Late thy famylye come softly after with thy wif. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* (1534) 92 b, As farre or nyghe the marke is his arowe whanne he goeth softly, as whan he renneth. 1560 Bible (Geneva) *Isaiah* viii. 6 This people hathe refused the waters of Shiloah that runne softely. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 268 Surcharged ..with the spoile, he was glad to march softlier. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xxiv. 282 Jaques spurr'd and spurr'd, and switch'd, Ride softlier Jaques, shee beseech'd. 1721 Swift *Let. to Stella* 30 Apr., He could easily have overtaken me; for I walked softly on purpose. 1759 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* 13 Ride him half an hour softly. 1822 Shelley *Faust* I. 75 You give me full permission To lead him softly on my path.

†b. In a leisurely manner. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 186 He began to syng þis antem,..and sang it softlie vnto þe end. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 128 b, Looke besides that they be..great feeders, but softly, and not ouerhastily.

c. *Fair and softly*: see FAIR *adv.* 7, and sense 10 below. (Cf. SOFT *adv.* 7.)

4. Quietly, silently, noiselessly; lightly.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 138 Out at the dore he gooth.., Whan þat he saugh his tyme, softely. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 698 He..Sylis softely him selfe þe cite with-outen. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 152 And up they thrust the same [*i.e.* the door], And softly entred in. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 194 Pray you tread softly, that the blinde Mole may not heare a foot fall. 1681 GLANVILL *Saduc. Triumph* Pref. F iv b, Therefore not to make much noise to disturb these infallible Huffers.., I softly step by them. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 207 When the cat walks, it treads very softly, and without the least noise. 1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 274 Coming down stairs very softly, for fear of waking me. 1902 R. HICHENS *Londoners* 5 She withdrew from the room as softly as a cat.

b. So as to avoid observation or notice; unobtrusively.

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 389 We next inquire, but softly and by stealth. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. vi, Necker sees good..to withdraw softly, almost privily. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 253/1, I lay stirless, softly sneaking my right hand to the pistol.

5. In ease or comfort; so as to be soft or comfortable; luxuriously.

a 1400 N. T. *Prol.* (Paues) 6 Bote he seiþ þat þis wysdom ne is noȝt y-founde in þe lond of men þat lyfeþ softelyche. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 Etyng and slepyng more swetely or softely. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Recubare mollius*, to lie more softely. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Zachtelich slapen*, to sleepe Softly or Quietly. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 80 They endured great hardships; for those parts were not fit to entertain men that had been accustomed to live softly. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vii, His couch was trimmed more softly than his master's. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 5 Whom nor softly to rest love's tender sanctity suffers. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 75 When You make your nest here.., 'Twere well to feather it softly.

b. With or in soft surroundings.

1567 MAPLET *Greene Forest* 46 It groweth in waterie places and those softlye dighted and banked about. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. vi, Beautiful all; softly embosomed; as if in sadness, in the dim moist weather!

† **6.** With quiet resignation. *Obs.*—1

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 45 Sho sal recaiue þe cumandement softelie and wid mekenes.

† **7.** In small quantity. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1610 Þarfor es wit..Wine or aile softly to tast.

8. Gradually; gently.

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 629 The shapely knoll, That, softly swell'd and gaily dress'd, appears A flow'ry island. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VI. iii, A high but softly sloping and verdant hill. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 269 Hills which round softly upward to Monte Cavi.

9. In a subdued manner.

1817 SHELLEY *Pr. Athanase* I. 63 A cloud..Through which his soul..Shone, softly burning. 1882 SHARP *Rossetti* iii. 184 Behind..is a figure, also softly aureoled.

10. Used interjectionally: = SOFT *adv.* 8.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* I. ii. 238 Softly my Masters. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 76 Softly, deere sir: good sir, softly. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 115 Softly a while, Let us not break in upon him. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvi, 'Fair and softly,' replied the officer. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii, 'Softly, softly; don't thee snap and snarl, friend,' said Phineas.

11. *Comb.* **a.** With ppl. adjs., as *softly-hinted*, *-shadowed*, *-sprighted*, etc.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 25 A softly-sprighted man, is he not? 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream* 89 Glows forth each softly-shadow'd arm. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxiv, He sent me a softly-worded message. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. ix, His softly-slippered feet made no noise. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* ix. 249 Making the trifle the medium of a softly-hinted tenderness.

b. With ppl. adjs. and pres. pples., as *softly-breathing*, *-gliding*, *stealing*, etc.

1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* v. i, I..listned to each softly-treading Step. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. i, The sprightly String and softly-breathing Flute. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 390 The softly-stealing pace of Time. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. 62/1 Thames does, by Oxford, softly-pacing, run. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 168 The softly-gliding magical motion.

c. With adjs., as *softly dark*, *-strong*, *sweet.*

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XV, A single note.. That, softly sweet, at distance dies. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. V. ii, Parliaments..which..were to follow in softly-strong indissoluble sequence. 1898 H. NEWBOLT *Admirals All* 31 The Norman arch, the chancel softly dark.

Softness (sǫ́ftnĕs). Forms: 1 softnys(se, 4 softnis; 2–7 soft-, 4–7 softenesse, 4, 6 softe-, 4–7 softnes, 7– softness; 6 saft(e)nesse, 8– *Sc.* saftness. [f. SOFT *a.* + -NESS.] The state or quality of being soft, in various senses.

I. 1. Ease, comfort; delicacy, luxury; easy or voluptuous living.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* ii. 59 Under Moyses laze men moston lybban on maran softnysse..þonne nu. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Þet flesch put propremen touward swetnesse & touward eise, & touward softnesse. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 9, I sall slepe..with all softnes. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xvi. 86 To take hardnesse for softnesse, labour for ese. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 36 A Satyre against the softnesse of Prosperity. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 181 If he live in the softness of Plenty, and a peaceful Estate. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 389 He spent the next year in Softness and Luxury. 1766 *Ann. Reg.* II. 10 The French noblesse..spend their lives in indolence, softness, and dissipation.

2. Mildness, gentleness; tenderness of character or disposition.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxliv. 7 Minde of mighthed of þi softnesse Sal þai rift. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xlv. 4 In feith and softenesse of hym [Moses], he made hym hoely. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/1 Softenesse, or myldenesse, *mansuetudo*, *benignitas*. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iv. 5 Lette youre softenes be knowen unto all men. 1563 BP. SANDYS in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) xxxv. 356 My lenity and softness was such, that I was not willing to touch him. 1639 SALTMARSH *Policy* 239 As though it were more out of regard than your owne softnesse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 298 For contemplation hee and valour formd, For softness shee and sweet attractive Grace. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXIII. 105 To softness lost, to spousal love unknown. 1779 *Mirror* No. 22, Sometimes..I have thought she breathed a softness of soul that tempted me to believe her generous. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xviii, Are we to be slain in our own streets for the King's softness of heart? 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. i, With her softness and musical speech. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lxii. 193, I found with him..a softness of heart for which I had not looked.

b. A display or instance of gentleness or tenderness; a soft word or speech.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxiv. 3 And hir [*sc.* Dinah] sory he swagide with softnessis. *a* 1637 JONSON *Horace Art Poet.* 326 The free spectators..Were to be staid with softnesses. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* 10 Whispering his softnesses and making his vowes. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* I. i, O how unlike the softnesses of love! 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng. 1790–1825*, I. 4 The rude and homely life, in which few softnesses existed.

3. Weakness of character or disposition, effeminacy; lack of firmness; timidity, pusillanimity.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. ii. § 6 From some weakness of body or softness of spirit. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* II. 27 By shunning death, he confesseth his weaknesse (or softnesse) of spirit. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 247 One great Design is to break the softness of a Nature, too indulgent to Flesh and Blood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiv. 288 The timidity and softness of our enemy. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. ii, In Bertram There is a hesitating softness, fatal To enterprise like ours. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xxii, A certain gentle indifference she showed to things considered important, the neighbours attributed to weakness of character, and called *softness*.

II. 4. The state, quality, or property of being soft to the touch, of yielding to pressure, of lacking hardness, firmness, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Oli haueð huppen him lihtnesse and softnesse and hele. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), By smeþenes and softenes and nasschenes of grustel. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/1 Softenesse, or smothenesse, *lenitas*. *Ibid.*, Softenesse, yn towchynge, *mollicies*, *mollicia*. 1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 24 In saftnesse of skyn, and plumpnesse of the body fatter and rounder. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 67 b, The ripenesse whereof is deemed by..the softnesse of the berrie. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. ii, Those now lawne pillowes, on whose tende softnesse [etc.]. 1673–4 GREW *Anat. Pl., Anat. Trunks* (1682) 138 Its Softness, depending on the numerousness..of the Aer-Vessels. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 39 Hardness or softness in stones proceeds from two causes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 355 All that warmth and softness which are so much valued in the furs of the northern animals. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 5 In Organized structures, softness (resulting from the large proportion of fluid components) may be considered the distinctive quality. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* II. 56 One would mistake it..for a kitten, from..the softness of its fur.

transf. 1877 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 846 An adaptation to the hardness of their hearts, or..the softness of their brains.

† **b.** Smoothness, calmness. *Obs.*—1

c 1205 LAY. 25549 For þere softnesse [of the sea] Ardur gon to slæpen.

c. *Softness of the pulse*, the state when the blood-tension is low, so that the artery feels soft and easily compressible.

a 1793 HUNTER *On Blood* II. iii. (1794) 318 Softness is not to be depended on as a mark of health. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 73 A softness and fullness of the pulse. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) II. 45 Hardness and softness of the pulse, together with..wiriness, are not quite so easily learnt as its fulness and smallness.

d. The property or quality (in water, etc.) of being soft.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 487 All these waters, however, possess the property called softness, that is, they will dissolve soap. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 34 Beers..attenuated so low as to insure transparency and softness.

5. Freedom from harshness; mellowness.

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 351/1 To hear the softness of Italian song. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* III. xiii. II. 266 One sung a very agreeable air, with a degree of softness and melody which we could not have expected. 1840 *C. O. Müller's Hist. Lit. Greece* iv. § 5 That softness and flexibility [of Homer's language]. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* I. I. 22 She pronounced the last word with peculiar softness.

6. Mildness, balminess.

1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 181 The air, though cold, had somewhat of softness in its temperature. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* V. x, The softness and the splendour of the morn. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxi. (1872) 182 The climate had the softness of the south of France.

7. Absence of hard or sharp outlines.

1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 186 The characteristic of this scenery will be softness of outline. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 711 In collotype work the especial aim..is to get softness with plenty of detail rather than hardness.

Soft-sawder (sǫftsɔ̄·dəɹ), *v. colloq.* [f. *soft sawder*: see SAWDER *sb.*] *trans.* and *absol.* To flatter; = SAWDER *v.*

1843 HALIBURTON *Attaché* ii. 46, I don't like to be left alone with a gall, it's plaguy apt to set me a soft sawderin' and a courtin'. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1887) I. 26 As often as any one soft-sawdered you. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 5 When the Irish electors were to be soft-sawdered.

Hence **Soft-saw·derer.**

1851 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 714 The highest law officer of the State..condescending to enact the part of a 'soft-sawderer'.

Soft-shell. Also soft shell. [f. SOFT *a.*]

1. *attrib.* In the specific names of animals: Provided with a soft shell; = SOFT-SHELLED I.

1860 MAYNE REID *Hunter's Feast* xii, The 'soft-shell' crabs and small tortoises common in the American waters. 1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 152 The food of the Soft-shell Turtles consists of small fishes, snails, and other small animals. 1891 WEBSTER (1897), *Soft-shell clam*,..the long clam.

transf. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Indust. U.S.* 51 This Crab is eaten in both the hard and soft shell condition.

2. *attrib.* That adopts or advocates a moderate or temperate course or policy. *U.S.*

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 426 *Soft-shell democrats*,..the less conservative division of the New York Democrats. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 1 The type of what the Americans might call the 'soft-shell' Radicals. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 241 Such are the Soft Shell Baptists, so called on account of their less stern manners and less rigid principles.

3. *ellipt.* **a.** = SOFT *sb.* 4 b. *U.S.*

1853 *N. Y. Tribune* 2 Apr. (Bartlett s.v. *Hard-shell*), The difference between a Hardshell and a Softshell. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 201/1 The 'Soft Shells' were 'Free-soil' Democrats.

b. A soft-shelled lobster. *U.S.*

1884 GOODE *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 783 'Black Lobster,' 'Soft-shell,' 'Berried Lobster.'

Soft-shelled, *a.* [SOFT *a.* 29.]

1. Having a soft shell. Chiefly in specific names of animals.

1611 COTGR., *Harde*, a soft-sheld egge. 1771 *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 267 We call it the soft shelled Turtle. *c* 1880 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* IV. 256 The other Soft-shelled Tortoise (*Trionyx ferox*)..is a voracious animal. 1883 GOODE in *Fisheries Exhib. Lit.* (1884) V. 15 Soft-shelled clam, *Mya arenaria*. 1884 — *Nat. Hist. Aquat. Anim.* 152 The species of Soft-shelled Tortoises, *Trionychidæ*. *Ibid.* 776 The common edible Crab or Blue Crab—*Callinectes hastatus*...These 'soft-shelled Crabs' are much esteemed by many.

2. *transf.* (Cf. SOFT-SHELL 2.)

1890 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 5/3 Dissentient Liberals of the soft-shelled species.

Soft soap, *sb.* Also soft-soap. [f. SOFT *a.*]

1. A smeary, semi-liquid soap, made with potash lye; potash soap.

1634 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 567/1 That no soft Soap be sold..for above three pence the pound. 1641 *Short Relation conc. Soap-Business* 4 To make soft soape with Berilla. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Soap*, The Soft Soap..is either White or Green. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 331 Potassa enters into the composition of soft soap. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 11 In drilling the holes no oil is to be used, but only soft soap and water.

b. With pl. A make or kind of this.

1783 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) X. 8196/2 In soft or liquid soaps,..cheaper oils are employed. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. § 2. 371 The base of the soft soaps is potash. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 357/2 The hard, the soft, and the marine soaps.

2. *slang.* Flattery; blarney; 'soft sawder'.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 320 *Soft soap*, flattery; blarney. A vulgar phrase, though much used. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxford* xxxiii, He and I are great chums, and a little soft soap will go a long way with him. 1901 DELANNOY *£19,000*, xxxix, 'You're the most sensible woman I've ever met.' 'None of your soft-soap, now!'

Soft-soap, *v.* Also soft soap. [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To flatter, 'soft-sawder'. *slang.*

1840 [MRS. WHITCHER] *Widow Bedott Papers* XXV. (1883) 114 Ye don't ketch me a slanderin' folks behind ther backs and then soft-soapin' 'em to their faces. 1843 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (1848) 320, I am tired of this system of placemen soft-soaping the people. 1883 A. K. GREEN (Mrs. Rohlfs) *Hand & Ring* XXV, I am not a clumsy fellow at softsoaping a girl.

2. To treat or coat with soft soap.

1900 *Daily News* 7 Aug. 3/4 Long poles..plentifully soft-soaped.

Hence **Soft-soaper; Soft-soaping** *vbl. sb.*

1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* II. 7 Zach, therefore,.. set up in the soft-soaping and deceiving line of business. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* May 619/2 There are some soft-soapers who never advance and never aspire.

Soft-solder, *v.* [f. *soft solder*: see SOLDER *sb.*1 4.] *trans.* To unite, mend, etc., with soft solder. Hence **Soft-soldered** *ppl. a.*

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 433 Copper, brass and iron are soft-soldered. *Ibid.* 444 It is very essential that all soft-soldered joints should be particularly clean. 1900 HASLUCK *Model Eng. Handybk.* 122 The flue and both ends of the boiler should be brazed in their places, not soft-soldered.

Soft-spoken, *a.* Also 9 *Sc.* saft-. [f. SOFT *adv.*]

1. Of persons: Having, or speaking with, a soft or gentle voice; plausible, affable.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. ii, One..who is exceedingly soft-spoken; thrifty of her speech. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 375 George Gosseltine, a sleek, smooth, silky, soft-spoken person. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xix, In gorgeous liveries as soft-spoken servants at gambling booths.

2. Of words: Spoken softly, gently, or affably; persuasive.

1887 Morris *Odyss.* x. 70 So I spake, and with words soft-spoken besought them thereunto.

Soft wood, soft-wood. [Soft *a.*]

1. Wood which is relatively soft or easily cut.

1832 *Planting* (L. U. K.) 77 The...discriminating characters of hard and of soft woods. 1857 Gray *First Less. Bot.* 147 In soft woods, such as White-Pine and Basswood. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 478 Of the forms of vessels...the reticulately thickened are present exclusively or principally in succulent soft woods.

b. Sap-wood, alburnum.

1842 Loudon *Suburban Hort.* 21 In woody stems of several years' growth...the more recent exterior layers are known as soft wood or alburnum.

2. A species of the West Indian bully-tree.

1864 Grisebach *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Soft-wood, black, *Myrsine lætа.*

Soft-wooded, *a.* [Cf. prec.] Having relatively soft wood.

1827 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 41 The soft-wooded Trees, such as the Lime and the Horsechestnut. 1851 *B'ham & Midl. Gardeners' Mag.* Aug. 134 Every description of soft-wooded plant should be tied to sticks as they grow. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 91 A forest of soft-wooded plants and palms.

Softy (sǭ·fti). *dial.* or *colloq.* Also softie, *Sc.* safty, saftie. [f. Soft *a.*] A weak-minded or silly person; a simpleton, noodle, gull.

1863 Mrs. Gaskell *Sylvia's Lovers* II. 21 She were but a softy after all, for she left off doing her work in a proper manner. 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *R. Elsmere* 33 He is a kind of softie. 1897 P. Warung *Old Regime* 170 He was a softy then,...and being afraid of the rest of us, we put upon him.

† **Soft-ȝern,** *a. Obs.* [f. Soft *sb.* + Yearn *a.*] Desirous of ease or luxury. Also † Soft-ȝerne, love of ease. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 Þe softȝerne fedeð hem seluen helle fur to honde and fote. *Ibid.*, Softȝerne and ednesse letteð þe mannes shrifte þe þinċheð þat he ne mai polen hunger ne þirst ne oðer pine.

Sofyme, Sofyr, Sofyster, -try, Sofysyn, obs. varr. Sophism, Suffer *v.*, Sophister, -try, Suffice *v.*

Sog (sǫg), *sb.*[1] Now *s w. dial.* Also 6 sogge, 9 zog. [Related to Soc *v.*] A soft or marshy piece of ground; a swamp, bog, quagmire.

1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) V. 86 The Pastures...rottith on the Ground, and maketh Sogges and Quikke More. 1805 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. W. Eng.* (ed. 2) I. 398 *Sog*, a quagmire. *a* 1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1892) 275 The 'sog' or peaty place where the spring rises.

Sog (sǫg), *sb.*[2] *dial.* and *U.S.* Also zog. [Of obscure origin.] A drowsy or lethargic state; a sleep, doze, stupor.

1874 S. P. Fox *Kingsbridge* (ed. 2) 268 A bit of a zog. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* 53/1 She is in a sweet sog. 1887 *Scribner's Mag.* II. 738 Ezra...waved a limp hand warningly toward the bedroom-door. 'She's layin' in a sog,' he said.

Sog, *sb.*[3] *rare*—[1]. A large whale.

1850 Scoresby *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xii. 164 There she blows! Oh, she's a beauty! A regular old sog! A hundred-barreler!

Sog (sǫg), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 zog. [Of obscure origin: cf. Soc *sb.*[1] and Norw. dial. *soggjast, seggast*, in sense 1.

The *Promp. Parv.* has the comb. *water-soggon* 'aquosus'.]

1. *intr.* a. To become soaked, or saturated with wet.

1538 [see Sogging *ppl. a.*]. *a* 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 55 The sword of the ground being turned in when wet, lies here sogging. *Ibid.* 169 Nothing makes peas more subject to open the kids than lying sogging in the wet.

b. To sink or soak in. Also with *in.*

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 264 If you don't make the roof pretty steer for thatching, the wet will sog in. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.* 249 The summer wet doon't sog in deep.

2. *trans.* To steep, soak, or saturate.

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 264 Shoes are zogged, when they are soaked through with wet and mud. 1860 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* i. 15 The unwieldy caddis-worms are lazily dragging about their curiously-built houses over the sogged leaves. 1888 *Berks. Gloss.* 197 The clo-aths as I hung out to dry be all zogged wi' the raain.

Hence **Sogging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1538 Leland *Itin.* (1769) V. 15 After the Trees wer cut doune sogging Yerth and Mosse over-coverid them. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-Bk.* 397, I got a pretty sog-gen [in the thunder-storm]. 1910 M. Hewlett *Rest Harrow* III. iv, Through the sogging rains of Christmas.

‖ **So·ga,** *sb. Amer.* [Sp. (also Pg. and It.), of doubtful origin.] A rope of esparto grass or other material. Also *attrib.*

1860 Mayne Reid *Hunters' Feast* xvii, He is exposed...to the perils of...the creaking 'soga' bridge. 1910 *Blackw. Mag.* June 842/2 Gnawing through the sogas of the horses.

Hence **So·ga** *v.*, to tie *up* with a soga or sogas.

1902 Hesketh Prichard *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* xi. 171 The next morning we *sogaed* up the horses and set out.

† **Sogate,** *adv. Obs.* Forms: *α.* (*north.* and *Sc.*) 4 squagate, 4–5 suagat, 5 swa-, sagat. *β.* 5–6 sogate, 5 sogat (-get). [f. So *adv.* + Gate 2. Cf. Thus-gate *adv.*

In MSS. freq. written as two words, and sometimes hyphened in printed texts.]

In this or that manner; in such wise; so, thus.

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 2750 Sal þou þine auin sua-gat for-þe? *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 146 Suagat spil mi corn ye maye. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bartholomew*) 92 Quhene þe ange...herd þat þe apostil sagat ferd.

β. 1338 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 63 Þei said, þat...Edward ..had þam so gate awed. *a* 1352 Minot *Poems* (ed. Hall) viii. 96 God saue þam þat it so-gat wan. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5207 A cite in the same lond so gat was cald. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 39 Sogate, thus, *sic ita, isto modo.*

† **Sogates,** *adv. Obs.* Also 5 swagatis, swagates, sagates. [f. as prec. + -s.] = prec.

13.. *Seuen Sages* 2855 (W.), When that thai had so-gates done. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xix. 253 And swagatis furthward can thai fair. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 250 Whenne that thay herde hym swa gates crye. *c* 1400 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 267 This is a quaynt custome...That frers shal...so gates selle ther song.

† **Sogbote.** *Obs.* (? Error for *cogbote*, Cog *sb.*[1] 3.) *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 805 *Hec facelus*, a sogbote.

Sogeare, Soger, -ing: see Soldier(ing. **Soget, -ette,** var. Suget (subject) *Obs.* **Sogetly:** see Sugetly *Obs.* **Soggamore,** obs. f. Sagamore.

Soggarth (sǫ·gärtʰ). *Irish.* Also sogarth, saggart. [ad. Ir. *sagart*, OIr. *sacart, -ard*, ad. L. *sacerdōs*: see Sacerdotal *a.*] A priest.

1836 Carleton *Fardorougha* xvii. (1848) 246 What if you axe to see the Bodagh's son, the young sogarth. 1851 Borrow *Lavengro* x, To send me to school...that I might be made a saggart of. 1898 R. Buchanan *Father Anthony* xviii, Can't the soggarth visit a dying man without being followed and spied upon?

Soggy (sǫ·gi), *a.* Chiefly *dial.* and *U.S.* Also 9 *dial.* zoggy. [f. Sog *sb.*[1] or *v*]

In B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. ii. [viii.] ('this greene and soggie multitude') the correct reading is prob. 'foggie', a common word at that date.

1. Of land: Soaked with water or moisture; boggy, swampy, marshy.

a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 49 If the ground falls small, then it may lie soggy and spungy. 1805 W. H. Marshall *Rur. Econ. W. Eng.* (ed. 2) I. 398 *Zoggy*, wet, boggy. 1869 B. Taylor *Byeways of Europe* I. 247 The soil...already looked soggy and drenched. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 351/2 These country roads are...frost-laden and wet, and soft and soggy.

2. Of things: Saturated with wet; soppy, soaked.

1863 B. Taylor *H. Thurston* xii. 155 He looked out on...fields of soggy, soaked snow. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 98 Crumbly, soggy timber. 1897 Kipling *Capt. Cour.* 19 All he brought up was a soggy packet of cigarettes.

b. Resulting from, caused by, moistness or wetness.

1876 Duhring *Dis. Skin* 126 The skin is observed to be of a whitish or yellowish color, and to have a soggy appearance. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 650 Every footstep giving out a soggy wheeze from his old wet boots.

3. Of bread: Sodden, heavy.

1868 Whymper *Alaska* v. 61 We varied a diet of soggy bread with a kind of thin paste or soup. 1903 *T. P.'s Weekly* 4 Sept. 436/1 Bread is burnt and soggy.

4. Of persons: Dull, spiritless.

1896 *Advance* (Chicago) 16 July 88/1 The Slavs are a passive, gregarious, soggy race. 1911 Galsworthy *Patrician* II. xxi. 277 The passers-by...looked soft, soggy, without pride or will.

5. Moist, close, sultry.

1896 Baden-Powell *Matabele Campaign* xix, We rattled along through the bush,...all the time in deep, soggy heat. 1902 W. Churchill *The Crisis* II. xiv, The day had been soggy and warm.

Hence **So·gginess.**

1884 Bourke *Snake Dance of Moquis* xv. 173 The sogginess of the roads made slow marching necessary. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 5/3 The sogginess of the ground.

Sogh, obs. 2nd sing. ind. pa. t. See *v.* **Soght,** obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. Seek *v.*; var. Sought *sb. Obs.* **Sogorner,** obs. f. Sojourner.

Soh (sō), *int.* [var. of So *adv.* 5 c, or simply of exclamatory origin. Cf. Soho 2 and 3.]

1. An exclamation denoting anger, scorn, reproof, surprise, etc., on the part of the speaker.

a 1814 *Sixteen & Sixty* I. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 391 Soh! niece, I am informed that even the presence of.. Violet is to be dispensed with. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xvi, 'Soh!' replied the Queen; 'and what was your right' [etc.]. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* xxi, 'Soh!' thought the Emperor, 'this difficulty is over'. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* Concl. ii, Soh! how still the lady standeth!

2. Used in soothing or quieting a restive horse, = Gently! Softly! Easy!

1820 Scott *Monast.* xv, Be quiet, Benedict, there is a good steed—soh, poor fellow! 1850 W. S. Mayo *Kaloolah* 12 [Saying] 'Soh! whow!' to his restive horses.

Soho (sǫhō·), *int.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 sohou, 5 sohowe, 5, 7 sohow; 5 so how(e, hoowe, 6 sa how, so-, soa hough. *β.* 4, 7– so ho (5 hoo), 6–7 sohoe, 7– so-ho, soho. [An AF. hunting call, prob. of purely exclamatory origin.

In the *Master of Game* xxxiv. the simple *howe* also occurs, as well as *he howe, here howe*, and *howe here.* The early examples do not support the suggestion in quot. 14.. that the proper form would be *sa how.*]

1. A call used by huntsmen to direct the attention of the dogs or of other hunters to a hare which has been discovered or started, or to encourage them in the chase; hence used as a call to draw the attention of any person, announce a discovery, or the like.

α. 1307 in Bain *Calendar* (1884) II. 539 [On a seal, a hare in her form, with motto] Sohou, Sohou. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* xxxiv. (MS. Digby 182), And penne he shall say thryes, so howe, and no more. 14.. *Venery de Twety* in *Reliq. Antiq.* I. 154 Sohow is moche to say as sahow, for because that it is short to say, we say al wey sohow. *c* 1485 *E. Eng. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 44 The furst mane that me doth fynde, Anon he cryit,—So howe! So hoowe! Lo! he sayth, where syttyt an haare! 1576 Turbery. *Venerie* 177 *Sa how* sayeth one, as soone as he me spies. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gentl.* III. i. 189 *Lau.* So-hough, Soa hough. *Pro.* What seest thou? *Lau.* Him we goe to finde.

β. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3712 (Laud MS.), So ho! so ho! We ben awroke of dogges two! *c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 133 (W.), The yomon rode and cryed: 'So hoo!' And putte the hare vp with his hoo. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e v b, And then So ho so ho, thries and no mo. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 136 *Mer.* A baud. So ho. *Rom.* What hast thou found? *Mer.* No Hare sir. 1629 Massinger *Picture* v. i, *Hilario* (holds up a piece of bread). So ho! birds! 1684 Bunyan *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 279 Mr. Great-heart called after him, saying, Soho, Friend, let us have your Company. 1740–2 Richardson *Pamela* III. 312 He ran to the Window, and..said Hollo—So-ho—Groom—..Get me my Horse! 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 142 The hills shall re-echo—Soho! 1822 Shelley *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* I. 48 Soho! Livia, I come; good sport, Livia, soho! 1859 Dickens *T. Two Cities* I. ii, 'So-ho,' the guard sang out, as loud as he could roar.

b. As *sb.*

a 1572 *Dk. Norfolk's Laws Coursing* in Markham *Country Contentm.* I. vii. (1664) 43 The hare-finder should give the hare three so-hows before he put her from her Lear. [Hence in Holme and later works.] *c* 1589 *Whip for an Ape* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 418 Such sohoes, whoopes and hallowes. 1611 Cotgr., *Reclame*, a Sohoe, or Heylaw; a lowd calling, whooting, or whooping to make a Hawke stoope vnto the Lure. 1834 Thacker *Courser's Comp.* I. 167 The person who finds the hare sitting should give a clear so-ho.

2. = Soh *int.* 1.

1825 Scott *Talisman* ix, So ho! a goodly fellowship come to see Richard take his leap in the dark. 1885 Bompas *Frank Buckland's Life* 330 'So ho,' I said, 'my theories are right'.

3. = Soh *int.* 2. (See also quot. 1833.)

1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* III. iii, Soho, Jacobina, soho, gently, girl, gently. 1833 in Youatt *Dog* iii. (1845) 96 When the old dog makes a point, the master calls out, 'Down!' or 'Soho!' and holds up his hand.

Soho', *v.* Also so-ho. [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To shout or cry 'soho!' Hence **Soho'-ing** *vbl. sb.*

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingt.* IV. iii, Here's so-ho-ing with a plague! 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 186 Even May, the most sagacious of greyhounds,..would as soon listen to Tom sohoing as to old Tray giving tongue.

2. *trans.* To announce the discovery or starting of (a hare) by this shout.

1834 Thacker *Courser's Comp.* I. 150 When a hare is found sitting, she ought to be so-ho'd. 1887 *Field* 5 Feb. 160/3 A third hare was sohoed near the river-side.

‖ **Soi-disant** (swadizaṅ), *a.* [F., f. *soi* one-self + *disant*, pres. pple. of *dire* to say.]

1. Of persons: Calling oneself; self-styled, would-be. (Usually with implication of pretence or deception.)

1752 Chesterf. *Lett.* ccxcii. (1792) II. 339 The pious Æneas, who, like many *soi disant* pious people, does the most flagrant injustice and violence. 1794 Scott *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) I. vii. 220 The *people*..seem to interest themselves very little in the fate of their *soi-disant friends.* 1818 *Art Pres. Feet* Pref. p. x, The difference between the ..skilful practitioner, and the soi-disant corn doctor. 1874 Ld. Lennox *Recoll.* I. 273 My *soi-disant* constituent administered a pretty strong dose of soft-sawder. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 545 Is there any society..where such a piece of snobbism could be represented as possible in a *soi-disant* gentleman?

2. Of things: Said or claimed to be such, without really being so; pretended.

1845 J. W. Croker *Ess. Fr. Rev.* I. (1857) 4 Circumstances which appear to have influenced his *soi-disant* historical labours. 1860 Ruskin *Unto this Last* i. § 1 The modern *soi-disant* science of political economy. 1867 Augusta Wilson *Vashti* xxii, A *soi-disant* 'resignation' that draws honeyed lips to the throne of grace.

Soiet(te, variants of Suget (subject) *Obs.*

Soietable: see Sugetable *Obs.*

Soife. [Local var. of Swarf *sb.*] (See quots.)

1866 J. Chamberlain in *Birmingham & Midl. Hardware Distr.* 608 The 'soife', or iron cuttings from the nicks and threads of the screws, average about four tons per day. *Ibid.*, This 'soife' is bought up and melted down with other iron.

† **Soign,** *sb. north. Obs.* In 4 soigne, soy(g)ne, soyny. [a. OF. *soigne, soine*, etc.: see Essoin *sb.* For Sc. examples see Sonyie *sb.*] Excuse, esp. for wrong-doing or the like.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2266 For-þi þat tour hatt babilone, þat schending es wit-outen soyne. *Ibid.* 16395 Quen he [Pilate] sagh þat al his soigne þat tok it al to ill. *Ibid.* 26691 þat þou sa wrei þin aun dede, þat [þou] na soigne [*Fairfax* soyny] be-for þe lede.

† **Soign,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 4 soigne, 4–5 soyne (4 soyny, 5 soynyn), 5 sonyon. [Cf. prec. and Essoin *v.*] *trans.* To excuse or exculpate for transgression, etc.; to essoin.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26717 He þat nu him-seluen wreis þan, Vr lauerd-self sal soigne [*Fairfax* soyny] þat man. *Ibid.* 29437 Þof þou wit cursd man commun, þou sal be soyned wit resun. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1464 He soyned him be his sorement þat sare him forthinkis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 464/2 Sonyon, *idem quod* soynyn.

Hence † **Soi·gning** *vbl. sb. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28123 Quen þat i to scriueyng yede, I wald oft songyng for my lede.

† Soignous, *a. Obs. rare.* In 4 soigneus, 5 soygneus, -ous. [a. OF. *soigneus* (mod.F. *soigneux, -euse*), f. *soign* (mod.F. *soin*) care, heed.] Careful, heedful.

1340 *Ayenb.* 155 [Seneca says] þet of þe parties of þe liue ech þenche and is soigneus, ac of al þe liue to ordayny non ne þencþ ne studeþ.

Hence **† Soignously** *adv. Obs. rare.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 76 [Apollo] founde under his hede the bille afore said whiche he kepte soygneusly. 1481 — *Godfrey* cciv. 299 To kepe soygnously and defende the turkes fro thyse two Cytees.

Soik, obs. Sc. form of SUCK *v.*

Soil (soil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–8 soyle (5 soylle), 5, 7–8 soyl (6 *Sc.* soyll), 5–7 soile, 6– soil. [a. AF. *soil, soyl* in sense 2 b (1292–1305), app. representing L. *solium* (whence also OF. *soil, suel*: see SOIL *sb.*[2]), taken in the sense of L. *solum* (F. *sol*) ground. For Sc. forms see also SULYIE.]

I. 1. The earth or ground; the face or surface of the earth.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1387 Vch a syde [of the city] vpon soyle helde seuen myle. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1252 It was semand to siȝt as all þe soyle trymblid. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4383 Boþe tour & wal [was] with þe soil made pleyn. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. Civ, I saw.. Neptunus town clene razed from the soil. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 7 The face of *Terra*, the soyle, the land, the earth. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 372 The Countrey voyd of Villages, Riuers, or Cultiuage: but the soyle rich in Bestiall. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* 18 With the Prophet ..to tell the verie soil it self what God hath determined of Coniah and his seed for ever. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 21 In cases of copyholds, a lord may have a right under the soil of the copyholder. *a* 1838 in Murray's *N. Germ.* 90 The precise spot where his foot first touched the soil. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* lxxv, I flung myself on the soil, and kissed it.

† **b.** The lower ground, the plain. *Obs.*–[1]

1594 NASHE *Dido* III. iii. 976 Æneas, leaue these dumpes, and lets away, Some to the mountaines, some vnto the soyle, You to the valleys.

2. A piece or stretch of ground; a place or site. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2078 He þat set is full sad on a soile euyn, And pight has his place on a playn ground. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* II. xiii. (1554) 51 b, A soyle she found ful delectable of sight. 1470 in Aungier *Syon Mon.* (1840) 72 A soyle and a grownde of wode callid Blakeley. 1547 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. III. i 131 The Sightes or Soyles wheruppon the same ij churches Are..buyldyd. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 205 Hauing forgotten the situation of the soyle where he was resident,..he fell into a ditche. 1647 HEXHAM I. (Hunting), The ground or soile where a Deere feeds. 1797 T. WRIGHT *Autobiog.* (1864) 89 If I could purchase a soil anywhere nigh..he would give me the stones..to build the house.

† **b.** With poss. pron. or genitive. *Obs.*

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 529/1 CC acres of wast of oure soile within the Forest. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 371 That euery man kepe his soyle clene and his pavyment hole. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 459 þe place of the seid weysshyng ys þe soyle of þe hospitall.

† **c.** An estate or property. *Obs. rare.*

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 138 They went towards Seatton,..where the lady of that soyle..presented the keyes ..to the generall.

3. A land or country; a region, province, or district. Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3161 þe sceptoure & þe soile sesid am [I] of Persy. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXXV. (1811) 271 Vᵉ kyng..gaue yᵉ moytie therof to yᵉ duke of Burgoyn, as chefe lorde of yᵗ soyle. 1577 *St. Augustine's Man.* 26 There the daysunne of righteousnesse .. inlighteneth all the Citizens of the heavenly soyle. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xiv. 250 There is towardes that place a soile which they call, the Land of Emeraldes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 242 Is this the Region, this the Soil, the Clime,..That we must change for Heav'n? 1727 GAY *Fables* I. x. 2 The man who with undaunted toils Sails unknown seas, to unknown soils. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 192 Lords of the conquered soil,..In peace possessing what they won by war.

4. a. The place of one's nativity; one's (native) land or country.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1724 þe souerayne sire of my soyle þat sittis in my trone. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 51 His soyle also (where he was borne) geveth him to be an evill man. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxviii. § 1 When hunger caused them to leaue their naturall soyle, and to seeke for sustenance in Egypt. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7, I choosed..to seclude my selfe from my soyle. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Past.* x. 70 You..To shun my sight, your Native Soil forego, And climb the frozen Alps. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 87 The manners speak the idiom of their soil. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. 1st* II. 211 Your Majesty has ever interposed, In lenity towards your native soil [etc.]. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 155 The outcasts whom the cruel policy..of the Athenians had at various times deprived of their native soils.

† **b.** One's domicile or place of residence. Freq. in *to change one's soil. Obs.*

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 91 Because thei cary great droues of catteill with them, they chaunge their soile often. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1066/2 Such as could make shift..changed their soile. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Wks. 1851 III. 96 Some of our Prelates in all haste meant to change their soile. 1643 BAKER *Chron., Eliz.* 50 His father,..being persecuted for a Protestant, changed his Soyl.

5. In phrases: **a.** *Lord of the soil*, the owner of an estate or domain.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 26 Heere's the Lord of the soile come to seize me for a stray. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 53 A class of people in a condition of downright servitude, belonging..to the lord of the soil.

b. *Child* (*son*, etc.) *of the soil*, a native of a place or country; also, one closely connected with or engaged in the cultivation of the ground.

1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* I. 7 A yoke galled..the children of the soil. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages England* I. 1 The sons of the soil, whom invasion had dispossessed of their homes. 1882 KEARY *Outl. Prim. Belief* 105 Some have believed themselves *autochthonous*, or children of the soil! 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 133/2 Don't, Angel, be so anxious about a mere child of the soil!

II. 6. The ground with respect to its composition, quality, etc., or as the source of vegetation.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1039 þe clay þat clenges þer-by arn corseyes strong,..& suche is alle þe soyle by þat se halues. *Ibid.* C. 443 þe whyle God of his grace ded growe of þat soyle þe fayrest bynde hym [*sc.* Jonah] abof þat euer burne wyste. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2606 þe bareyn soyl to clothen and amende. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 54 Most subiect is the fattest Soyle to Weedes. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vi. 219 The ground and soile of this mountaine is drie, cold and very vnpleasant. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 71 Goad him.. Till the bright Share is bury'd in the Soil. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vi, I dwelt long upon the fertility of our soil and the temperature of our climate. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 6 The soil, tho' fertile, will not teem in vain. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* 101 The soil is excellent, being composed of clay and sand. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. vi. 154 Primarily the character of the soil is determined by that of the subsoil.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (or in fig. context).

1575 G. W. in *Gascoigne's Wks.* (1907) I. 24 Whereof if some but simple seeme, consider well the soyle. They grew not all at home, some came from forreyne fieldes. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LII. viii, Gods house the soile shall bee My rootes to nourish. 1824 LAMB *Elia* II. *Blakesmoor in H—shire*, These were..the wholesome soil which I was planted in. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turk.* II. 277 This popular literature is found over the whole face of Europe. Turn the soil where you will, and a plentiful crop at once springs up. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 838 These agents.. in some way make the soil [*sc.* the skin] unsuitable for the growth of the fungus.

7. Without article: Mould; earth.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 342/1 Mould, or soyle of erthe, *solum, humus*. 1530 PALSGR. 272/1 Soyle of grounde, *terrouer*. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 31 It stied was in fruitfull soyle of old. 1648 MILTON *Psalm* lxxxi. 23 His hands from pots, and mirie soyle Deliver'd were by me. 1685 TEMPLE *Gardens* Wks. 1720 I. 183 Of all sorts of Soil, the best is that upon a Sandy Gravel. *a* 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 65 Many beds of excellent soil. 1774 BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 214 When the birds were found to return with their feet stained with soil. 1855 DELAMER *Kitchen Gard.* 2 Though the Flemings have, mostly, everything that can be wished for as to soil. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* IV. 187 The layer of soil on which the plants grow.

8. With *a* and pl. A particular kind of mould or earth.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ezek.* XVII. 8 It was planted in a good soile by great waters, that it shulde..beare frute. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 64 The variation of each soyle, Betwixt that Holmeden, and this Seat of ours. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. VIII. 99 The rest is a sandie and barren soile. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv. (1905) 46 But this is a hungry soile, And must be helpt. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 154 Nor ev'ry plant on ev'ry soil will grow. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 109/1 There were as many different sorts of wines, as there were of different soyls wherein the vineyards were planted. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 140 On three different soils (very light—rich—and very heavy). 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* i. (1814) 12 Soils in all cases consist of a mixture of finely divided earthy matters. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 171/1 Sandy and peaty soils and marls are in general deficient in this alkali.

fig. 1631 BOLTON *Comf. Affl. Consc.* iv. (1635) 197 There is but one good soile, upon which the seed of the Word falls prosperously. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 363 No soil like poverty for growth divine. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 352 Infidelity is the hardest soil which the propagators of a new religion can have to work upon. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 39 In no religion was there a soil so well prepared.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *soil-breaker, -pulverizer*; *soil-draining, -supporting*, etc.

1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 101 What we term soil-draining, is most frequently resorted to in swamps and low lands. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2238/2 *Soil-pulverizer*, a machine for breaking clods. 1876 *Nature* 13 Jan. 215/2 Disintegrated rocks form soil-supporting vegetation. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 25 June 3/1 The same may be said of harrows and soil-breakers.

10. Special combs.: **soil-bound** *a.*, (*a*) clagged, clodded (cf. *sole-bound* s.v. SOLE *sb.*[1] 9 b); (*b*) bound or attached to the soil; **soil-cap** *Geol.*, a layer of soil and detritus covering strata or bed-rock; **soil-creep**, the slow creeping or sliding movement of surface-soil down a slope; **soil-map** *U.S.*, a map showing the distribution of various kinds of soil; **soil-pipe** (see quot.).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/2 *Crust Clung* or **Soil Bound*, is an hard, sticking together of the Earth, that nothing will grow on it. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. viii, That morning he had freed the soil-bound slaves. *c* 1875 WAUGH *Heather* II. 151 As I get owder, I get more soil-bund. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. III. 511 Mere gravitation aided by the downward pressure of sliding detritus or '*soil-cap' suffices to bend over the edges of fissile strata. 1897 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Dec. 374 The *soil-creep is slow and the surface soils are of great antiquity. 1899 *Yearbook U. S. Dept. Agric.* 345 In 1892 the first *soil map, based upon the texture and physical properties of soils, was issued. *a* 1864 GESNER *Practical Treatise on Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 27 The driving of the *soil-pipe..is the first thing done. This pipe is four inches in diameter,..and driven by a heavy block of wood, as in pile driving.

† Soil, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6–7 soyle. [a. OF. *soil*, also *soel, suel, sueil* (mod.F. *seuil*) sill, threshold :—L. *solium* seat.]

1. = SILL *sb.*[1] 2, 3.

1447 *Will of Hen. VI*, in Carter *King's Coll. Chapel* 12 A closette..unther the soil of the yle windows. 1533 in Bayley *Hist. Tower* App. I. xvii, There ys wrought all the soyles and jawmes of twoo greate wyndowes. 1637 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 194 Raysing the 4 chappell windows..and putting in soyles of freestone. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 77 Door cases, the Post..being six and five Inches head and soyle. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 172 Soils..are either Ground Sells..or Window Sells.

attrib. 1634 in *Archæologia* XXXV. 197 In the kitchen.. two soyle bords for wyndowes.

2. A lintel of a door or window.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 138, I hytte my heede ageynst the soyle or transumpt.

Soil (soil), *sb.*[3] Forms: α. 5–7 soyle, 6 soyl(l); 5–7 soile, 6– soil, 7– *dial.* sile. β. 5 soule. [Partly a. OF. **soille, souille* (mod.F. *souille*, also dial. *soille*) fem., or *soil, souil*, etc. (mod. dial. *souil, sout*) masc., verbal sbs. from *souiller* SOIL *v.*[1]; in part directly from the vb.]

I. † 1. A miry or muddy place used by a wild boar for wallowing in. *Obs.*

So F. *souille*; the phrase 'to take soil' corresponds to F. *prendre souille*. The forms *soueil* and *seulg* occur in OF. in the same sense, and Cotgrave gives *soil, soeil, sueil*.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) V, Whan men hunteth þe boore, communlich þei go to þe soyle and soileth hem in þe dryttе. And if þei be hurte, þe soile is hir medicyne. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 154 At his departure from the soyl, you may perceiue it where he hath gone..: for he goeth out of the soyle all myerie and dyrtie. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* VII. XXVII. 853 The soile of the wilde bore being long, large, and great, doth note and argue the bore to bee great. 1611 COTGR., *Se souiller* (of a swine) to take soyle, or wallow in the mire. *Ibid., Sueil*,..the soyle of a wild Bore; the mire wherein hee commonly walloweth.

2. A pool or stretch of water, used as a refuge by a hunted deer or other animal. Freq. in the phr. † *to go*, or *come, to soil*; *to take* († *the*) *soil.*

(*a*) *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) XXXIII, When he..seeth þat betynge vppe þe ryueres and brokes,..nor goynge to soyle,..ne may not helpe. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. XXI. 764 Whan the hynde came to the welle, for hete she wente to soyle. *c* 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 441 As an harte, whan he is chased,..coueteth to come vnto the soile. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 When an Hart or any Deare is forced to the water, we say he goeth to the Soyle. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* XXVI, Looking round him as a buck or stag looks when run to soil.

(*b*) 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 1 b, It is not unlikely that the Stagges or buckes wounded, would take soyle ther. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 148 There are some lustie yong houndes which will neuer giue ouer a Goate nor suffer him to take Soyle. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv, Fida went..to seeke the Hinde; And found her taking soyle within a flood. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 546 He..Then takes the Soil, and plunges in the Flood Precipitant. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 87 Previously to his taking soil, he lay down under the same tree. 1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Wanderings in Highl. & Isl.* I. iii. 97 Last Tuesday a fox took soil; I swam the river, got the brush [etc.]. 1885 *Field* 4 Apr. 427/1 The hounds working up to their deer, he..crossed..to the brook, where he took soil.

(*c*) 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E vij b, At that oder side of the water iff he vp sterte, Then shall ye call hit the soule of the hert. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. cix, A chased hinde her course doth bend To seeke by soile to finde some ease or good. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 137 The noble, stately deer.. Doth beat the brooks and ponds for sweet refreshing soil. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Poet. Misc.* 86 As an hart with sweat and bloud embrued..thirsts in the soil to be. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* (1677) I. 78 The last Refuge of a Hart sorely hunted is the Water (which, according to Art, is termed the Soil).

† **b.** In fig. use. *Obs.*

1592 LYLY *Midas* IV. iii, There was a boy leasht on the single, because when he was imbost, he tooke soyle. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. iii. (1904) 15 O Sir, ha' you tane soyle, here? it's well, a man may reach you, after 3 houres running, yet! 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* lix. (1651) 178 The King..singles out the Archbishop, and hunts him to soil at Rome.

II. 3. Staining or soiling; the fact of being soiled or stained; a stain or discolouring mark.

1501 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 83 A cloth bougth to saue the sayd tabernacle from soyle. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 409 By the fowlnes bothe of the weye and wether and soyll of the wereres. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. ii, Twere best you..lay in private till the soile of griefe Were cleard your cheeke. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* Ded., As a dark soil in a well drawn picture. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 35 That is always best which,..laid upon a white Cloth, makes the least Soil. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 316 *note*, The burning of the lamps was found to produce a greater Soil upon the inside of the glasses, than candles. 1816 JANE TAYLOR *Contrib. by Q. Q.* (1855) III. 15 This dress is less liable to take a soil than any other material. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 318/2 The very garments of a Quaker seem incapable of receiving a soil.

b. *spec.* (See quot.)

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 445 Lead works are first smeared or soiled around the intended joints, with a mixture of size and lamp-black, called soil.

4. *fig.* Moral stain or tarnish.

Frequent from *c* 1600 to 1650. An example of OF. *souille* in a similar use is given by Godefroy.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 190 For all the soyle of the

chievement goes With me, into the Earth. 1602 MARSTON *ntonio's Rev.* II. iii, If the least soyle of lust smeers my re love. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 44 With m shee found the purest, and quietest retreat, as being ost remote from soile, and disturbance. 1756 JOHNSON in *swell* (Oxf. ed.) I. 203 To wear off by meditation any oridly soil contracted in the week. 1770 FOOTE *Lame over* III. Wks. 1799 II. 91 There is not a soul..that can y the least soil, the least spot, on my virtue. 1858 HAWTORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 183 Disburdening herself of e soil of worldly frailties, and receiving absolution. 1888 RS. OLIPHANT *Joyce* I. 174 He was good as an angel or a ild—there was no soil in him.

III. †**5.** Sexual intercourse. *Obs.*

n quot. 1603 perh. a misuse of SOIL *sb.*[4]: cf. Markham *wal.* (1607) I. vi. 37 where 'soyle and couering' are menoned together.

1555 WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xi. 251 Specially, if haue been late at the soile with a woman. 1603 FLORIO *'ontaigne* II. xv. (1632) 346, I have..put forth an old alion to soile [F. *au haras*], who before did no sooner see smell a Mare [etc.].

IV. 6. Filth; dirty or refuse matter. Also *fig.*

1608 A. WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 626 The lampes were.. ensed from the soile..gathered in the night. 1611 J. AVIES (Heref.) *Wit's Pilgr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 32/2 Wee ould not then lie soaking in shames Soile. 1688 BUNYAN *'ater of Life* Wks. 1855 III. 554 Whatever it be that this ater of life washeth not, it is soil and given to the curse. 91 RAY *N. C. Words, Sile*, filth. [Hence in Bailey, ose, etc.] 1736 PEGGE *Alph. Kenticisms, Soil*, filth and rt in corn; as, the seeds of several sorts of weeds, and e like.

7. Filth and other matter usually carried off by ains; sewage.

601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 69 Strabo iteth that the Romans excelleth the Grecians in cleniesse of their cities by reason of their channels to conuay ay the soyle. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 360 e Use of these Conduits was..to receive and discharge Urine and other Soil. 1778 *England's Gazetteer* (ed. s.v. *Bristol*, Gutters that are made under ground for rrying off the soil into the rivers. 1842 GWILT *Encycl. chit.* § 2215 Those [pipes]..for carrying away the soil m a water closet. 1868 A. DAWSON *Rambling Recoll.* 6 e domestic soil was discharged *via* the window.

b. Ordure, excrement; the dung of animals used a compost; manure. Cf. also NIGHT-SOIL.

607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 106 A good woodman must stick to gather up the deers excrement or soil. *a* 1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 30 The profitable ep is..beneficial..also for her soyle. 1670 J. SMITH *g. Improv. Reviv'd* 12 Great Rains will wash down the ng or soyl therefrom, and much enrich those grounds it is into. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 340 To extirpate heath, by means of water and the droping soil of cattle, ecially of sheep. 1817 [R. D. C. BROWN] *Lintoun een* II. xli. 32 To his waist..'Midst muck and soil. 1823 MOOR *Suffolk Words* 350 *Sile*, soil, night soil. 1848 VIN *Sanitary Romb.* 12 The soil, itself, is removed from se [privy-] holes, and is dug into the ground to promote fertility.

b. (See quots.)

379 *Good Words* 740/1 Here are carts laden with sifted il', so much like gunpowder...The fine dust or 'soil' is d for manure. 1883 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 178/2 *Soil*: s term is used for the fine ashes screened out from the eze.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *soil-carrier, -hole, -man*; il-pipe, a sewage or waste-water pipe; soil-ak (see quot. 1851).

737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. 224 King's Privy-hen: Vincent Bene, Soil Carrier. 1810 *Hull Improv.* 50 No scavenger or dustman, soilman or other person. 5 *Beverley Lighting Act* ii. 21 Regulations as to privies soil-holes. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* § 490 A basin h a soil pipe. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Lab.* (1864) II. 495/2 il-tanks' were the filth receptacles of the larger houses, sometimes works of solid masonry. 1879 *St. George's sp. Rep.* IX. 602 She was living in a house where the -pipe of the water-closet was defective.

oil (soil), *sb.*[4] Now *local.* Also 7 soyl(e, le. [Cf. SOIL *v.*[4]]

1. The feeding of horses on cut green fodder, so to cause purgation. *Obs.*

607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 358 If the Horse go to in April, after five days..wash him all over with water. 7 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. vii. 42 Of the soile, or scowring es with grasse...I wold haue you onelie to put him to soyle within the house: that is to say, you shal..feede r horse onely with grasse.

2. Fresh-cut meadow-grass or other green fodder. 868 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. II. 30/2 His [a horse's] rack was ry morning filled with what was called *soil*, that is,.. h growing meadow-grass. *Ibid.* 308/2 To grow a crop soil or soiling.

Soil, *sb.*[5] In 6 soyle. [f. SOIL *v.*[2]] The ution of a problem.

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxix. 14 Why thy odor matcheth not show, The soyle is this, that thou doest common grow.

Soil, *sb.*[6] *Obs.*[-1] In 6 soyle. (Obscure.) ssibly an error for *spoyle*, although this is the rime d in the second line of the stanza.

96 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 16 As when two Tygers..cruell ell twixt themselues doe make, Whiles neither lets the r touch the soyle.

oil, dial. variant of SILE *sb.*[1]

62 *Phil. Trans.* LII. 513 A round hole..was pierced ugh the carved oak,..and a piece of the main soil.. ck off. 1770 *Ibid.* LXI. 75 Upon this pillar rested a e oak soil. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. 1033 *Soils*, a incial term, chiefly..used in the north, signifying the cipal rafters of a roof.

oil, dial. variant of SILE *sb.*[3]

97 HALLIW., *Soil*, the fry of the coal-fish. *Cumb.* 1881 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 295 The fry are called..soil, poodler, billets or billiards up to one year of age.

Soil (soil), *v.*[1] Forms: 3 suilen, 5 suyle, sule; 3–4 soilen, 4–7 soyle, 5–7 soile (5 sole); 6–7 soyl, 7– soil. [ad. OF. *suill(i)er, soill(i)er*, etc. (mod.F. *souiller*), = Prov. *sulhar*, app.:—pop. Lat. **suculāre*, f. L. *suculus* or *sucuia*, dim. of *sus* pig.]

I. *trans.* **1.** To defile or pollute with sin or other moral stain. Also *absol.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Oðer speche soileð & fuleð. *Ibid.* 158 Men þet suiled here lippen mid misliche spechen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7209 Prustes..mid lechors mod Al isoyled. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 336 Alle manir þingus þat mihte vs soile wiþ sinne. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 985 Thow art soyled..Off the synne orygynal. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 62 My soule was soyld with foule iniquitie. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. iv, The instruments he must use soil himself:..the times will corrupt the reformer. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) I. 5 The lusts of the flesh soiled his spiritual being.

2. To make foul or dirty, esp. on the surface; to begrime, stain, tarnish.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8971 Wanne he þi mouþ cusste þat so villiche isoiled is. *c* 1305 *St. Edmund* in *E. E. P.* (1862) 71 So drie þat no cloþ..noþing isoilled nas. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 458 Thus haukyn ‖ e actyf man hadde ysoiled his cote. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* (E.E.T.S.) 11383 With his sword on honde, that soyled hit was with hors blood & mennes. 1530 PALSGR. 724/2, I soyle, I fyle a thynge with wearyng so that the glosse of it dothe fade, *je salle.* 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 125 That our kingdomes earth should not be soyld With that deere blood which it hath fostered. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 229 Much handling soileth things and maketh them lose their brightnesse. 1687 MIÈGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To soil (or slur) his Clothes, *salir ses Habits.* 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 555 The stain Appears a spot upon a vestal's robe, The worse for what it soils. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 360 Instead of it we have an earthy opaque powder which soils the hands. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 337 At any time the covering gets soiled or damaged, a fresh one can be attached.

absol. 1805–17 JAMESON *Char. Min.* 257 When a mineral taken between the fingers, or drawn across another body, leaves some particles, or a trace, it is said to soil or colour. 1821 — *Man. Min.* 85 It is composed of dull dusty particles, which are feebly cohering. Soils feebly.

b. *fig.* and in fig. context.

a 1623 PEMBLE *Grace & Faith* (1635) 48 This water was much soyled by them with the mudde of many idle fables. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. iv, You have soyl'd this Gem, and taken from its value. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xx. 15 But soon as vulgar Hands thy Beauty soil, The Moth shall batten on the silent Spoil. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* V. xx, Foul treason's stain, Since he bore arms, ne'er soil'd his coat.

c. To treat by smearing.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 445 Lead works are first smeared or soiled around the intended joints, with a mixture of size and lamp-black, called soil.

3. *fig.* To sully or tarnish; to bring disgrace or discredit upon (a person or thing).

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 23 Either I must, or haue mine honor soyl'd With th' Attaindor of his sland'rous Lippes. 1596 *Sir T. More* (Malone Soc.) 1220 The good Emperour .. will not soyle his honor with the theft of Englishe spoyle. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* V. Wks. 1856 I. 64, I am come To soyle thy house with an eternall blot. 1678 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 604 Angel hath so soiled you by representing some very late treating..that it will be difficult to wash off those suggestions. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Black falsehood has ineffaceably soiled her name. 1891 *Spectator* 29 Aug., Subjects that have been much soiled and confused by the host of impostors.

†**b.** To charge (a person) falsely *with* something; to asperse. *Obs.*[-1]

1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* I. XVIII. 122 They brought in the arme of a dead man, with intention to soyle him with murther and sorcerie.

4. *intr.* To become dirty or stained; to take on a stain or tarnish.

1530 PALSGR. 724/2, I love to weare satten of Bruges, but it wyll soyle anone. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 35 To lifte the Gentlewomens roabes from the grounde, for soyling in the duste. 1882 *Imperial Dict.* IV. 127/2 Silver soils sooner than gold.

II. 5. *intr.* and †*refl.* Of a wild boar or deer: To roll or wallow in mud or water.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, Penne he will go into þe stanke and shalle soile hym þer. *Ibid.* v, Whan men hunteth þe boore, communlich þei go to þe soyle and soileth hem in þe drytte. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 214 To soyle as a sowe, *luto volutare.* 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* vi. 102 A stag generally drinks before entering the cover, and afterwards 'soils', that is, lies down and rolls in the water.

6. Of a hunted stag: To take to water or marshy ground; †to swim *down.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) ii, Somtyme he shall soyle downe with þe water halfe a myle or more or he come to londe. *c* 1470 *Hors, Shepe & G.* (Roxb.) 29 Assone as he [a hart] taketh the Riuer, he suleth. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Soyl*, when any Deer is hard Hunted, and betakes himself to Swimming in any River. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* viii, The stag made for a swampy ground..and stood at bay...'He has soiled,' said Edward. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 4/3 The pack streamed away..to Chalk Water, where the stag soiled.

III. †**7.** To cohabit *with.* (Cf. SOIL *sb.*[3] 5.) *Obs.*

1722 STEELE *Conscious Lovers* IV. ii, Such a Husband soils with his Wife for a Month perhaps—then Good b'w'y' Madam—the Show's over.

†**Soil,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–7 soyle, 5–6 soylle, 6 soyl; 4–7 soile, 4–5 soill, 6 soil, *Sc.* soil3e. [ad. OF. *soille* pres. subj. or *soil* pres. ind. of *soldre, soudre*;—L. *solvĕre* to release, loosen: see ASSOIL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To absolve (a person) from sin, etc.; = ASSOIL *v.* I.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29379 þe man þat has þam for to yeme Mai soill þam and bair mendes deme. ?13.. *Incestuous Daughter* 127 in Herrig *Archiv* LXXIX. 422 þe prest soylyd hyme of his synnys. 13.. *K. Alis.* 7926 (W.), So God me soile, Thou schalt have Calabre and Poyle. *c* 1400 *Ploughman's T.* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 333 Of the bishop he hath powere To soile men or els they been lore. 1530 PALSGR. 724/2, I soyle from synne, *je assouls.*

2. To set free *of*, release from, an obligation, etc. Cf. ASSOIL *v.* 3.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* x. 33 Eche soule..Y leue wilfully with out money; that alle be soiled of her tributis. 1402 *J. Upland* 427 in *Skeat's Chaucer* VII. 203 Whan ye han assoiled me that I have said,..I shall soill thee of thyne order, and save thee to heven!

3. To resolve, clear up, expound, or explain; to answer (a question).

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xiv. 12 Y shal purpose to 3ow a dowtous word, the which if 3e soylen to me [etc.]. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xciii. 127 b/2 Thy questyons ben lyghte to soylle, and lyghte to be answerde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xviii. (S.T.S.) II. 21 To soil3e this questiоun ane law was promulgate in comites centuriat. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 309, I have not learned to soyle no riedles. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 77 Now a few questions I must soyle, and then I wil proceede to your holy geare. 1611 COTGR., *Souldre*, to..cleere, or soile, a doubt.

4. To refute (an argument or objection); to overcome by argument; = ASSOIL *v.* 7.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 432 Herby Aristotle soylip an argument, bi whiche it myʒte seme to folis þat kynde failip to man. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 660/1 It is impossible..for Tyndall..to soyle the reason and auoyde it. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* IV. i. 359 To avouche and proue the Truthe: After that to soile the obiections brought againste the Truthe.

†**Soil,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* Also 6–7 soyle, 7 soile, soyl. [f. SOIL *sb.*[3] 9.] *trans.* To supply or treat (land) with dung or other fertilizing matter; to manure.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., M'sex & Herts.* II. 18 About the towne is a kinde of chalke,..a stonie Marle, more fit to make lime then to soyle the grounde. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art Surv.* I. x. 24 Brittle and fickle Mould..is best soyled with well rotted horse-dung. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxi. 123 The distribution of this goodly commodity ..to manure their ground, which soyled with it, bears three crops in one year. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 395 Just as they Soyl their Ground, not that they love the Dirt, but that they expect a Crop.

Soil (soil), *v.*[4] [? f. SOIL *sb.*[3] 8.]

1. *trans.* To feed (horses, cattle, etc.) on fresh-cut green fodder, originally for the purpose of purging; † to feed up or fatten (fowls).

1605 [see SOILED *ppl. a.*[2]]. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iii, I'le..send you Brawn and Bacon, and soil you every long vacation a brace of foremen, that at Michaelmas shall come up fat and kicking. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5325/1 He designs..to stay about three Weeks at Perez., to Soil his Cavalry according to the Customs of the Turks. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* (E.D.S.) s.v., To *soil* horses, is to scour or purge 'em, by giving 'em green meat, as tares, green clover, and the like. 1776 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* (1780) I. 172 A few sow clover, which increases, to mow for soiling their cows. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 352 Milch cows give more milk when soiled than when pastured. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 192/2 The great advantage of soiling cattle is the increase of manure of the best quality, which is thereby produced. 1868 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. II. 308/2 To soil a horse with clover or vetches.

2. With *off*: To employ, make use of, as fodder for soiling cattle, etc. ? *Obs.*

1778 [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 30 This part was soiled-off or plowed-in. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 155 Vetches, which were soiled, or fed off, with sheep.

Soil, *v.*[5] [f. SOIL *sb.*[1] 7.] *trans.* To earth *up.*

1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 92, I soiled the drills up again.

Soil, obs. var. SILE *v.*[2]

†**Soilage.** *Obs.* Also 6–7 soylage. [f. SOIL *sb.*[3] or *v.*[1] + -AGE.]

1. ? A charge or toll for depositing filth or refuse.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 98 Salt-ashe,..a pretye market towne..It hath anchorage and soylage of all straunger ships, and the profit of a passage betwene it and Deuon. [Hence in later topographical works.]

2. Rubbish, dirt, filth; manure.

1598 STOW *Surv.* iii. (1603) 14 Casting of soylage into the streame. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 379 Moorish ground; in short space raised, by soilage of the Citie vpon them. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* IV. xiv. 93 Apply the Pomegranate-tree roots with this kind of soilage or dunging. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 49 Your proper Steps from Mire obscene defend; And leave the Dirt and Soilage to your Friend. 1758 BINNELL *Descr. Thames* 166 Where the common Rakers of the City use to repose and lay all their Soilage.

Soil-dish, variant of SILE-DISH, strainer.

1796 *Hull Advertiser* 24 Sept. 4/3 When the curd is come..take it out with a soil-dish altogether.

Soile (soil). *Cornish dial.* Also 7–9 soil, 7–8 soyle, 9 soyl. [? An irregular local variation of SEAL *sb.*[1]] The common seal.

1602 CAREW *Cornw.* I. 34 b, The Seale or Soyle, is in making and growth, not vnlike a Pigge, vgly faced, and footed like a Moldwarp. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities*

34 The Soile or Sea Calf, a Creature that brings forth her young ones upon dry land. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Fishes* 107 On the Rocks near the Lands end they often find the *Phocæ* (which they call Soils) sleeping. *Ibid.*, They distinguish between Soils and Sieles: the Siele they affirm to be a Fish..much less then the soile, and not taken upon our Coasts. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 284 Among the quadruped reptiles we may reckon the seal or sea-calf, vulgarly called in Cornwall the Soyle. *a* 1863 TREGELLAS *Cornish Tales* (1868) 61 Haling the soils up from the say. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.* 53/1.

Soile, obs. Sc. form of SOLE *sb.*[1]

Soiled (soild), *ppl. a.*[1] Forms: 3 suiled, 6–7 soyled, 7 soild, 6– soiled. [f. SOIL *v.*[1]] Defiled; stained, dirtied. Also *fig.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Ich am a man mid suilede lippen. 1530 PALSGR. 324/2 Soyled, *ord.* 1588 KYD *Housek. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 272 In the Kitchin, or other soyled places which may spoile or ray her garments. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 41 Vpon the soiled gras The dead corse of an armed knight was spred. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 123 In slavish habit, ill-fitted weeds O're worn and soild. 1693 DRYDEN, etc. *Juvenal* xv. (1697) 373 One..Licks the soil'd Earth,..While reeking with a mangled Ombite's Blood. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 425 It may be conveniently used for whitening soiled books and prints. 1883 THOMAS *Mod. Housewife* 22 That cracked mirror, spoiled carpet, and soiled sofa.

Comb. 1905 M. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacill. Hazel* 59 A soiled-looking man turned the corner of the lane.

Soiled, *ppl. a.*[2] *rare.* [f. SOIL *v.*[4]] Fed with fresh-cut green fodder.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 124 The Fitchew, nor the soyled Horse goes too't with a more riotous appetite. 1811 *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 393/1 The condition of the soiled cattle and milch cows, surprized even those most convinced of the advantage of the system.

Soiled, *a.* [f. SOIL *sb.*[1]] Having a particular or specified kind of soil.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. II. xv. (1655) 89 The Province..is far greater, more populous, better soyld, and more stor'd with Gentry. 1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Linc.* 9 This sinks again into another part of the various soiled vale to the Wolds. 1815 M. BIRKBECK *Journ. thro' France* 68 A surface..as fruitful as a well-soiled plain.

Soiler: see FREE-SOILER.

Soilie, variant of Sc. SULYIE *Obs.*

Soiliness. *rare.* [f. SOILY *a.*[1]] The state or condition of being soiled; soiled or dirty matter.

a 1626 BACON *Physiol. Rem.* in *Baconiana* (1679) 98 To make proof of the Incorporation of Silver and Tin,..and to observe..whether it yield no soiliness more than Silver? 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. iv. iv. 70 Whether the Priests.. made use thereof [*sc.* a laver] to discover all soiliness in them before they washed.

† **Soiling,** *sb. Obs.*[-o] [app. for *siling,* f. SILE *v.*[1] 2.] (See quot.)

1573–80 BARET *Alv.*, A *Soiling,* a great opening, or gaping of the earth, as it were a deepnesse without bottome.

Soiling (soi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. SOIL *v.*[1]]

1. The action of making or becoming dirty, tarnished, or stained. Also *fig.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Salissure,* fouling, soyling. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* iv. (1627) 29 To keepe their bookes from soyling, or marring under their hands. 1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 871 Thus Souls live cleanly, and no Soiling fear. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. xix, Which ..is rather a soiling then a fulfilling of mariage-rites. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXII. 277 To remove any soiling it might have received. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 530 Thus avoiding soiling of the glass.

2. *spec.* (See SOIL *v.*[1] 5 and 6.) Also *attrib.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Peter* II. 19 The sowe hath washed..in vayne, if she by and by after she is washen, returne to the soylinges that she had gone from. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 82/2 The deer's haunt is called his lair;..where he rolls, his soiling-pool. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* vi. 102 They have their regular 'soiling-pits'—watery places or shallow ponds. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 3/1 'Soiling,' or taking water, less frequently results in throwing hounds off the scent.

† **Soi·ling,** *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* [f. SOIL *v.*[2]]

1. Assoilment, absolution.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29535 Gain cursing gode all es be-warr, And if þou wat þou ert þair-in His soilling seke wit-vten blin. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 481 Whanne þer soyling & þer bynding acordide wiþ god in heuene. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 67 þerfor þe causis are to be peysid, and þan power of bynding and soilling is to be vsid. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Souls* Wks. 290 Blessing and cursing, cyting, suspending and soyling.

2. Solution, explanation, answering.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 386 þanne he putte in dede soilyng of þis questioun. 1388 — *Dan.* iv. 3 Thei schulden schewe to me the soilyng of the dreem. *c* 1500 *Three Priests Peblis* in Pinkerton *Sc. Poems* (1792) I. 11 Desyrand for to wit the solyeing Of this questioun, this probleame; and this dout. *c* 1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 64 Confutacion is the soilynge of suche argumentes as maye be induced agaynste our purpose. 1548 GESTE *Priv. Masse* 113 The soylyng of these two last recited scryptures.

Soi·ling, *vbl. sb.*[3] ? *Obs.* [f. SOIL *v.*[3]]

1. The action of treating land with manure or compost; manuring, dunging.

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 112 Any Tin-mines,..Marle, or Chalke-pits, slimie or moorish earth, fit for soyling of land. 1665 *Voy. E. India* 362 Which..doth so enrich their Land, which they never force..by Soyling of it. 1696 J. CARY *Ess. Coyn* 28 Well manured Lands, whose plentiful Crops do soon repay the Charge of Soiling laid out on them.

2. Manure; droppings of animals.

1610 FOLKINGHAM *Art Surv.* I. x. 26 Plinie reports that Ashes are in such request for soylings neere vnto Po, that they burne their Horse-dung to make them. 1626 BACON *Natural Hist.* § 666 That Powdring [*sc.* dust], when a Shower commeth, maketh a kinde of Soyling to the Tree. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 148 All of these, together with the subsequent soilings of the sheep, left the land in admirable condition.

Soi·ling, *vbl. sb.*[4] [f. SOIL *v.*[4]]

1. The action or practice of feeding horses, cows, etc., on fresh-cut green fodder, originally in order to cause purgation.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 330 For this purgation is most necessary for Horsses, which is called soyling, and ought to continue ten daies together, without any other meat. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 48 They [*sc.* Persian horses] are fed with chopped straw,..and instead of soiling, are fed with new-eared or green barley. 1799 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 225 For spring, summer, and autumn, it is expected, that soiling of them on green food..will enable them to perform their work. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 27 in *Husb.* (L. U. K.) III, By the practice of soiling, an arable farm may be made to support as much live stock as a grazing one. 1893 *Times* 11 July 4/1 Oats put in [among rye] promptly would give food for soiling or cutting in the autumn.

attrib. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 193/1 Those countries where the soiling system is most universally adopted.

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Soiling,* the last fattening food given to fowls when they are taken up from the stack or barn-door, and cooped for a few days.

Soi·ling, *vbl. sb.*[5] [f. SOIL *sb.*[1]] The action of covering with soil. Also *techn.* (quot. 1876).

1794 WEDGE *View Agric. Cheshire* 21 Soiling with the plough is thus performed:..the ground..is split, or turned both ways upon the young plants. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 280/2 A thin layer of ashes..is spread over the surface [of the hardened malm in brick-making] (this process being technically called *soiling*).

Soiling (soi·liŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. SOIL *v.*[1]] That stains or soils; polluting, defiling.

1812 CARY *Dante, Purg.* XXX. 52 To save My undew'd cheeks from blur of soiling tears. 1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* (ed. 3) 120 From soiling dew the butter-cup Shuts his golden jewels up. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxvii, Dreading the soiling inferences of his mind.

† **Soiling,** *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.*[-1] [f. SOIL *v.*[2]] Of the nature of a refutation; confuting.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xviii. 255 To make a cleer soiling answere to the xiij[e] argument.

Soill, obs. Sc. variant of SOLE *v.*[1]

† **Soillart.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. SOIL *v.*[1]] A name given to the hare.

13.. *MS. Digby 86* fol. 168 b, He shal saien on oreisoun In þe worshipe of þe hare.., þe go-bi-dich, þe soillart.

Soille, obs. Sc. form of SOLE *sb.*[1]

Soilless (soi·l,lès), *a.*[1] [f. SOIL *sb.*[1]] Destitute or devoid of soil or mould.

1828–32 in WEBSTER (citing Bigsby). 1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. I. 19 The steep, rugged, and nearly soilless sides and crags of the limestone. 1865 SPRATT *Crete* I. 20 A bared and almost soilless part of the mountain-face.

Soi·lless, *a.*[2] [f. SOIL *sb.*[3]] Free from soil or stain.

1868 GEO. ELIOT *Spanish Gypsy* I. 61 As innocent as opening flowers,..soilless, beautiful.

† **Soi·lness,** var. of (or error for) SOILINESS.

a 1626 BACON *Physiol. Rem.* in *Baconiana* (1679) 95 It will be sweeter and cleaner than Brass alone, which yieldeth a smell or soilness.

Soil-pipe: see SOIL *sb.*[1] 10 and SOIL *sb.*[3] 9.

† **Soilth.** *Obs.*[-1] [f. SOIL *v.*[1] + -TH[1].] An act or instance of soiling or staining.

1581 MULCASTER *Posit.* xl. (1887) 225 At home spoiles, soilthes, twentie things, are nothing in the parentes..eye.

Soilure (soi·liŭr). Also 4, 7 soylure. [a. OF. *soilleure* (mod.F. *souillure*), f. *soillier* SOIL *v.*[1]] The currency of the word in the 19th cent. is prob. altogether due to the instance in Shakspere.

1. Soiling, sullying, staining.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8501 þe bodies hii gaderede & vorbarnde hom echon,..so þat hii were Wiþoute soylure in clannesse al out maisters þere. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 7 Elaine..Guarded the sacred shield.., Then fearing rust or soilure fashion'd for it A case of silk. 1893 J. K. INGRAM *De Imitatione* Pref. p. viii, The writing has..suffered from friction or soilure.

b. *fig.* (Common in recent literary use.)

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. i. 56 He merits well to haue her, that doth seeke her, Not making any scruple of her soylure, With such a hell of paine. 1873 ALICE CARY *Last Poems* 114 Soilure of sin..Cannot harm thy hand so pure. 1888 G. GISSING *Life's Morning* I. iii. 110 With minds disengaged from anxiety of casual soilure. 1890 W. WATSON *Poems* (1906) I. 29 From soilure of ignoble touch Too grandly free.

2. A stain, blot, or blemish.

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 235 He did not conduct him amid flowers and herbage, where a fall would have only been a soilure to our frail human nature. 1895 ZANGWILL *The Master* III. viii, Why had people besmirched the Creation with soilures of cynicism.

Soily (soi·li), *a.*[1] Also 6 soilly, 7 soylie. [f. SOIL *sb.*[3] or *v.*[1]]

† 1. Apt to soil or stain. *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 40 A substauns..nether so.. brittl to manure az stone, nor yet so soily in vse. *Ibid.* 50 Fayr alleyz..with sand, not light or to soft, or soilly by dust, but..pleasaunt too walk on. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla in Gen.* 215 The goodly outward rine or skinne onely doeth keepe in the filthie soylie embers.

2. Of the nature or character of soil or tarnish.

1631 FULLER *Joseph's Coat, David's Sin* xxxii, So spots of sinne the writer's soule did staine, Whose soylie tincture did therein remaine. *Ibid.*, *David's Repentance* iv, I desire His soylie sinnes with deluges to scoure.

3. Soiled, stained, dirty.

1631 W. B. *Touchstone Gold & Silver Wares* 36 When your Touch-stone is..foul or soily, it may be taken off, by wetting it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 151 Methinks ..you are a little soily, to what we have seen you. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 214 White sprigg'd muslin,..now so soily, and hung in such a manner,..as made her indeed a strange figure. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 2/1 A case..in which are packed..three or four damp, hot, and soily figures.

Soily, *a.*[2] Also 8 soiley. [f. SOIL *sb.*[1]] Of the nature of soil; like that of soil or mould.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Q 3, Veins Strick into this Rachill..in a confused manner, being throne into Joynts, but they are Soiley. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XVI. 684/2 Away they went, mare and man,..with a decided soily aroma following them.

Soilyie, variant of Sc. SULYIE *Obs.*

† **Soind,** obs. variant of SCHYND.

1774 G. GIFFORD in Low *Orkney* (1879) 143 Property transmitted by a Deed called a Soind bill. *Ibid.* 144 The disponer delivered the Soind bill to the purchaser.

Soiour, obs. f. SOLDIER. **Soiour(e, Soiowryn,** varr. SOJOUR *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

Soir, obs. Sc. f. SOAR *v.*, SORE *a.* and *adv.*

‖ **Soirée** (sware), *sb.* [F. *soirée* evening, evening party, f. *soir* evening:—L. *sērum* late hour, neut. of *sērus* late.] An evening party, gathering, or social meeting. (See also SWARRY.)

1820 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 190, I had a soirée last night. 1836 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 107 We had a regular merry soirée on board, and did not leave till past nine. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 391 For exhibition in my drawing-rooms On zoologic soirées. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 621 Friends' Photographic Society...A *soirée* is held each winter.

Hence **Soirée** *v. trans.*, to entertain at an evening party or parties. Also **Soiréean** *a.*, **Soiréety** (*nonce-words*).

1826 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 397 It has been hard work to dine and soirée all the people. 1834 JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 328 This bustle and the eternity of parliamentary sittings keep London in a state of interest and soiréety. 1853 JERDAN *Autobiogr.* IV. 72 To be in readiness for the reception of the soiréean guests.

Soirn, Soit, obs. Sc. ff. SORN *v.*, SUIT *sb.*

‖ **Soixantine.** *rare*[-1]. [ad. F. *soixantaine,* f. *soixante* sixty.] A period of sixty days.

1722 DE FOE *Hist. Plague* (1756) 235 Then a body may be capable to continue infected..not a Quarentine of Days only, but a Soixantine, not only 40 Days but 60 Days or longer.

'Soize, dial. form of SIZE *sb.*[1]

Sojar, obs. Sc. variant of SOLDIER *sb.*

Sojer, dial. or colloq. form of SOLDIER *sb.* and *v.*

Sojett, variant of SUGET (subject) *Obs.*

† **Sojour,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 soiur, 4–5 soiour(e; 5 surioure. [a. OF. *sojur, sujur,* etc. (later *sejor, sejour,* mod.F. *séjour* SÉJOUR), shortened form of *sujurn* SOJOURN *sb.*] Sojourn.

13.. *Sir Beues* 3435 Þanne anon, wiþ oute soiur, A wente to þat emperur. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 274 þe Scottis þat were with inne..þe Baliol suld þam wynne out of þat soioure. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 721 In þe sammyne toure, quhare his wif mad surioure. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4282 The which is shette there in the tour, Fulle longe to holde there sojour. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 246 Skarsly thre monethys he holdith heer sojour. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxii. 398 The kynge Ban and the kynge Bohors were nothinge at soiour.

† **Sojour,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 soioure, -en, 5 soi(o)wryn. [ad. OF. *sojur-,* shortened stem of *sojurner* SOJOURN *v.*] *intr.* To sojourn.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7269 (Kölbing), Lete we hem here soiouringe & speke of þe oþer kinge. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 129 But iordis, & ladies namely, schullen soiouren amongis hem many 3eris. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4183 (Petyt MS.), Long ne wald he soioure ne rest. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 7 Isaac and Jacob sojoured as strangers and peregrines in the land of Canaan.

† **Sojourant.** *Obs.*[-o] = SOJOURNANT.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) P ij b, Soiorraunt.

Sojourn (*sɒ·-, sǫ·-, sǫu·dʒəin*), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 surgerun, suriurn, 3–4 suriuren. *β.* 4 soiorn(e, 4, 7 soiourn(e, 5 soiurne, sojorne, 7– sojourn. *γ. Sc.* 5 su(d)iorne, 6 su(d)georne. [a. OF. *surjurn, sujurn, sojorn,* etc. (= It. *soggiorno,* Pg. and obs. Sp. *sojorno*), vbl. sb. from *surjurner,* etc.: see SOJOURN *v.*

The stressing *sojou·rn* occasionally appears in poetry.]

1. A temporary stay at a place.

α. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2696 Đo3 was him ðat surgerun ful loð. *Ibid.* 3308 He maden siðen, fro elim, Mani suriuren in ðe desert sin.

β. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2770 Anon after þe tende day Of her soiourn..Gij is to þe douke y-go. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 385 That he to Carleill than vald ga, And a quhill thar-in soiorn ma. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, In longe soiourne þei leseth her clees and hir feet. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 363/1 The seid Prince shuld be in sojorne with the Kyng. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 48 The Princes, France & Burgundy,..Long in our Court haue made their amorous soiourne. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 235 Scarce view'd the Gallilean Towns, And once a year Jerusalem, few days Short sojourn. 1814 WORDSW. *Laodamia* 78 Meekly mourn When I depart, for brief is my sojourn. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* VI. iii. 276 Here..he made a sojourn of sixty days.

FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. 215 The Normans tired of Lewis's prolonged sojourn.
1804 H. K. WHITE in *Rem.* (1825) 270 Your friend, fellow-traveller in the Tearful sojourn of life.
1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XX. 356 A weill gret sudiorne thair ad. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katherine*) 4 He..to þe was cumyne,..& suiorne mad. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* In tyll ane volt, abone that place of paine, Vnto the lk, but sudgeorne, we ascendit.

b. A delay; a digression. *Obs.*
130 *Arth. & Merl.* 6977 (Kölbing), Lete we now be þis irne & speke we of Oriens wrop. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua iit Wemen* 176 Wes neuer sugeorne wer [= worse] set n that snaill tyrit.

A place of temporary stay. Also *fig.*
150 *Will. Palerne* 3155 He..wasteþ al my londes, saue he in þis cite where soiourne wot i neuer. *a* 1400 *or Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxviii. 23 Heil soiourne þat us sone to sent. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxiii, There as luelling is and hir soiurne. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 15 e I re-visit now.., Escap't the Stygian Pool, though long in'd In that obscure sojourn. 1768 BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. , Let those deplore their doom, Whose hope still governs his dark sojourn. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* XXII. iv, This my bourne, The dread sojourn Of Guilt and twin-born ishment and Woe. 1858 RAWLINSON tr. *Herodotus* II. ciii. II. 210 Visiting all the places that he had heard e agreeable sojourns.

ojourn (*sɔ*ʳ-, *sɒ*ʳ-, *sōu*ʳdʒəm), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 iourni, 6 sourgorne. *β.* 3–4 soiorni, 4–6 soi-, orne (6 -eorne), sui-, sujorn(e; 3 soiourny, soi-, sojourne (5 souj-), 4–5 soiurne, 4–urn. *γ.* 4 suggeorne, 5 -eourne, 5–6 so-urn(e; 5 suggourne, sugiorne; 4 sugerne, iggerne. *δ.* 5–6 sudiorn(e, 6 sudjourne, georne; 5–6 sudgern(e. [ad. OF. *surjurner, orner*, and *sujurner, sojorner, -journer* (also *rner, -journer*, mod.F. *séjourner*) in the same se. The forms in *su-, so-*, like It. *soggiornare*, resent a pop. L. **subdiurnāre* (cf. med.L. *subiare, subjurnare*), f. *diurnum* daily, day; those *sur-, sor-* either represent a form with *super-* med.L. *superdiurnare*) or have been assimil-l to other words with this prefix.]

intr. To make a temporary stay in a place; remain or reside for a time.
c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 147 To þe grete Abbeie to poun-e forto soriourni þere, he sende þis holi Man. 1513 VAN *Chron.* VI. CCIV. (1811) 214 Whanne kynge Ed-ide hadde a season sourgoyned [*sic*] at London, he than le towarde the Danys.
c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 114 Þe king wende in-to Norman-for-to soiorni þere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3771 Sco send son in-til aran,..þar-to suiorn for hir sake. *c* 1340 MPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1374 For als gestes we here soiourne hile, til we sal hethen tourne. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* rcy Soc.) 156 Whan watry Phebus had his purpoos take a sesoun to sojourne in Aquarye. 1470–85 MALORY *thur* IV. xix. 143 They soiourned there a vij nyghte. 5 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 133 Valladoleto where we nowe orne. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 81 There we al soiourne two dayes. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* iii. 201 All the Papists which inhabited, or sojourned hin the said limits. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VII. 122 He ir'd leave to sojourn a month. 1781 COWPER *Converset.* The night, they said, is near, We must not now be ted, sojourn here. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. ii, Several aths ago I was sojourning at Neapolis. 1865 TROLLOPE *ton Est.* xiv, He was sojourning at an hotel in Bond eet.
ft. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 3 The Englis kynges ied, þei mot do nomore, Bot soiorned þam a while in at Bangore.
c 1325 *Orfeo* 47 Orpheo sugerneth in Crassens, That is rte of noble defens. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXX. 136 e he suggeournes when him list. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 572 ger ther he thought not to sogeourne. 1530 RASTELL *Purgat.* II. XX. 4 I was in dyvers cytees..longe tyme dyng and suggernyng. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xiv. 7 A unger, that sogeourneth in Israel.
1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 47 Thai sudiornyt thair dayis e in gret myrth and in rialte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* iii. 182 He..sudgerned there a tyme. 1513 DOUGLAS *neid* XIII. xi. 80 Indigites, quhilk is als mekill to say As d indwellar at thar sudiornis ay.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* of things.
1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 160 Vn-to þat court þou me urne, .. per as þat merci euere shal soiourne. 1587 RBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 26 Thus divers thoughts did ourne in his brest. 1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* vi. 13 Mirth is farre ay, Nor may it soiourne with sad discontent. 1796 KIR-N *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 206 Iron in its metallic state, ourning with water always extricates inflammable air.

† **c.** To be a lodger in another's house. *Obs.*
573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 19 Once charged with children, ikelie to bee, giue ouer to sudgerne, that thinkest to thee.

2. To make stay; to tarry, delay. *Obs.*
377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 83 Whan I seyȝ þis, I soiourned ȝte but shope me to renne. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* 9, I wil no longer make digressioun, Nor in fables no re as now soiourne. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 36 b, Hit ouȝth no lenger to soiourne, for ye muste go or sende o him with alle diligence. 1594 *Dr. Faustus* in Thoms *Eng. Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 403 Because the matter s as strange as true I have soiourned a little too long in it.

3. *trans.* To lodge; to rest or quarter (horses); have as a lodger. Also *transf. Obs.*
190 GOWER *Conf.* III. 41 Whan thei weren thus so-ȝed,..Nero..The men let come in his presence. *Ibid.* And ek it [i. e. rain] may be so sojorned In sondri ces up alofte, That into hail it torneth ofte. ? *a* 1400 *Morte r.* 253 For-thi salle thow lenge here,..This seuenyghte solace, to suggourne ȝour horses. 1424 *Sc. Acts, Jas. I* (1814) II. 4/1 Þe kyng forbiddis þat ony cumpanyis..thig or soiorne hors..on kirkmen. 1631 *Archdeaconry of Essex Minute-bk.* fol. 199 b, Enterteyninge and soiourninge in his howse..a fellowe verie negligent in cuminge to divine service. 1690 WOOD *Life* 30 April, [They] are sojourned there by one Thomson for 10*s.* a week each.

† **4.** *intr.* To travel, journey. *Obs.*—[1]
1608 SIR J. HARRINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 381, I did once relate to your Highness e after what sorte his tacklinge was, wherewithe he did sojourn from my house at the Bathe to Greenwiche Palace.

Hence **So·journing** *ppl. a.*
1645 J. BOND *Occasus Occid.* 19 Sarah..the Patriarchesse, who willingly followed her sojourning husband up and downe in strange Countries. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm. 1 Peter* Wks. (1868) 50 It continues all the time of this sojourning life.

† **Sojournant,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 5 sojournaunt(e, -nante, soiur-, sojornaunt, 6 sudjournente. [a. OF. *sojournant*, etc., pres. pple. of *sojourner* SOJOURN *v.*]

A. *sb.* A sojourner; a visitor or guest.
c 1400 *Plowman's Tale* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 327 Alas! the devill hath cleane hem blent, Soche one is Sathanas sojournaunt. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 186/2 The abiders and sojournantes of the same [town]. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 219 Your dought of Sweynsthorpp and hyr sojornaunt E. Paston recomandyth hem to yow. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 140 The gentlemens children and sudjournentes that ther doo lif.

B. *adj.* Sojourning; residing for a time.
1439 in Dugdale *Monasticon* (1823) IV. 553/2 Admitte noone sojournaunte wymment with owte lycence of us. 1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. 63 The Chronycles all agre..that she was no nonne but a wenche soiornaunt in the nondrye.

Sojourner (*sɔ*ʳ-, *sɒ*ʳ-, *sōu*ʳdʒəmə). Forms: 5 sogorner, 5–6 soiorner, 6–7 soiourner, 6– sojourner, 7 sojourno(u)r. [f. SOJOURN *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who sojourns; a temporary resident.
14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 689 *Hic perhendinator*, a sogorner. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 348/2 A soiorner, *perhendinator*. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* XXV. 40 As an hyred seruaunte and as a soiourner shal he be with the. 1539 BIBLE (Great) 1 *Chron.* XXIX. 15 We be but straungers before the, and sogeourners, as were all oure fathers. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. To King § 1 Queene Elizabeth was a soiourner in the world in respect of her vnmarried life. 1662 *Act 14 Chas. II*, c. XII. § 1 A native Householder, Sojourner, Apprentice, or Servant. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 113 Whoe'er thou art, a native, foreigner, or sojourner. 1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. VI. 193, I replied that, being merely a sojourner in Egypt, I did not like..to take a wife. 1870 R. ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Board* III. 422 They were residents and not sojourners.
transf. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 157 The Scarlet Fever and Sore Throat, which has for some time been an unwelcome sojourner in our neighbourhood.

2. A guest or lodger; a visitor.
1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. ii. 149 Report what a sojourner we have. 1623 MIDDLETON *Women beware Women* II. ii. 176 We've no strangers, woman, None but my sojourners and I. 1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* I. 25 Mr. John Huddleston (a sojourner at Mr. Thomas Whitgreaves).

† **b.** A boarder living in a house, school, or college, for the purpose of receiving instruction.
a 1629 HINDE *J. Bruen* XXXVI. (1641) 114 [He] was very desirous to place them both as sojourners for a season in this gentlemans house. *c* 1672 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 108 Having..obtained a comfortable estate by the great pains he took in pedagogie, and by the many sojournours that he alwaies kept in his house. 1691 — *Ath. Oxon.* I. 13 He [Grocyn] became a Sojournor in Exeter Coll. 1785 *Gentl. Mag.* LV. I. 13 From thence to Oxford, where he [F. Nicholls] was admitted a commoner (or sojourner) of Exeter College [in 1714].

† **Sojourness.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 sojornesse. [f. as prec. + -ESS[1].] A female sojourner.
1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* (1837) 120 That through three months, this Ladie hath been sojornesse with me.

† **Sojourney,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Alteration of SOJOURN *v.*, after *journey.*] *intr.* To sojourn.
1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 170 Both of us sojourneyed with him at that very time. 1674 MARSDEN in W. Wilson *Hist. Dissent. Ch.* (1808) II. 466 O my soul, what a sojourneying state hath thy life been.

Sojourning (*sɔ*ʳ-, *sɒ*ʳ-, *sōu*ʳdʒəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SOJOURN *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action or fact of staying temporarily in a place.
c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 151 Þare he bi-lefde in soiourninge al þe ȝwile þat he wolde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 386 He thocht he to Kyntyr wald ga, And swa lang soiowrnyng thar ma, Till wyntir weddir war away. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 9 b, Peleus on the morne callid Jason and sayd that their long sojournyng displaisid him. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dreme* 470 This Iupiter, withouttin sudgeornyng, Passis throw all the twelf planetis, full ewin, In ȝeris twelf. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxix. 35 Quiete continewance is matched ageinste soieorninge for a tyme. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXVIII. 4 The lande wherein thou art a stranger [*marg.* of thy soiournings]. 1701 STANHOPE *St. Augustine's Medit.* III. IV. 251 Let my present sojourning tend ever to thee.

† **b.** A place of temporary stay. *Obs.*—[1]
13.. *K. Alis.* 5209 (Laud MS.), Pennes hij wenten wiþ-outen duellyng, And souȝten better soiournyng.

c. The time of temporary stay.
1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xii. 40 Now the soiourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was foure hundred and thirtie yeeres. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* cxliv. (1819) III. 131 Unfortunate boy [Chatterton]! poorly was thou accommodated during thy short sojourning among us. 1825 HORNE *Introd. Script.* (ed. 5) III. II. I. 80 During the sojourning of the Israelites in the wilderness, Moses established [etc.].

† **2.** Delay, respite. *Obs. rare.*
1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 96 Haid ȝe tane keip how at that king Alwayis, for-owtyn soiournyng, Trawayllyt for to wyn senȝhory. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6022 Gregeis were fayn of that grauntyng [of truce], For thei hadde nede of soiornyng.

Sojournment (*sɔ*ʳ-, *sɒ*ʳ-, *sōu*ʳdʒəmmĕnt). [ad. F. *séjournement* (OF. *sojorne-, sujurnement*), after SOJOURN *v.*] The action of sojourning; a temporary stay.
a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 May 1644, Tours, where we were design'd for the rest of the time I had resolv'd to stay in France, the sojournment being so agreeable. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) I. 73 Was it possible for Abraham, during his temporary sojournments among them,..to persuade so many tribes to quit their dialect. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 239 After a sojournment of two months, she continued her route towards Paris. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* Ser. II. I. i. (1873) 7 A constant motive for them to seek out..places of sojournment elsewhere.
transf. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 178 Mercury.. makes a longer sojournment in the body than is generally judged. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* II. 169 The sea announces every where, its different sojournments.

Sokare, obs. form of SUCKER.

Soke[1] (*sōu*k). Now chiefly *Hist.* Also 4 sok, 6–7 soake, 7–9 soak. [ad. med.L. *soca*, ad. OE. *sōcn* SOKEN.]

1. A right of local jurisdiction; = SOC 1, SOKEN 3.
[*a* 1086 *Domesday Bk.* I. 225 b/2 Gitda tenuit cum saca & soca. *Ibid.* VI. 275/2 Abbas clamat socam huius ville. 1114–8 *Laws Hen. I*, IX. 11 (Liebermann), Soca..alia pertinet baronibus socam et sacam habentibus.]
1598 STOW *Surv.* 36, I..will and command, that they shall inioy the same well and quietly and honourably with sake and soke [etc.]. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. 12 My [i. e. King Stephen's] Demains with Sake, and Soke, and Toll, and Theam. 1809 BAWDEN tr. *Domesday Bk.* 460 Half a carucate of land..with sac and soke. 1859 C. BARKER *Associative Principle* I. 27 Manorial privileges, such as soke, stallage, or tolls of markets and fairs.

2. A district under a particular jurisdiction; a local division of a minor character.
[*a* 1086 *Domesday Bk.* I. 324 Ad hoc manerium pertinet soca haec. 1147–50 *Reg. de Dunfermelyn* (Bann. Cl.) 8 Donauit..eidem capelle decimas dominiorum suorum in soca de Striuelin. 1200 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 38/1 Do..decem libratis terre in soka nostra de Eyllesham.]
a. c 1350 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 350 To don here Offys al-so wel in þe sok as in þe Citee a-fore y-seyd. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 58/2 The Maner of Snayth, and the Soke of Snayth, in the Schire of Yorke. 1482 *Ibid.* VI. 200/2 Within the said Cite, the Soke of the same, and the Shere of such or any of them. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII*, c. 15 Dioceses..ben deuided into seuerall riddinges, wapentakes, and sokes. 1627 SPEED *England* XXVIII. § 7 It [Somersham] is the head of those fiue Townes, of which the Soke is composed. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 9 Coningsburg in Yorkshire..had twenty eight Towns and hamlets within its soke. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 305 Certain burgesses.. gave to the..church..all the lands and soke, called.. Knighten Guild. 1799 [A. YOUNG] *Agric. Lincoln.* 231 A difference in the rights between the Soke of Bolingbroke and Holland Town, have hitherto protracted the proceeding. 1833 *Rep. Comm. Municipal Corporations* 333 Is it the practice to charge the Soke of Grantham with the maintenance of prisoners? 1873 J. LEWIS *Census 1871*, 174 Lincolnshire..comprises 31 wapentakes, hundreds, liberties and sokes. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 556/2 The liberty or soke of Peterborough.
β. 1591 FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 50 An ordinarie rent of money imposed upon everie soake or hundred within the whole realme. 1613 in *Scott. Hist. Rev.* Oct. (1910) 12 Being about to take a lease of the soake of Horncastle. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4067/2 Your Majesty's ancient Borough and Soak of Doncaster.

3. (See quot. 1788 and SOKEN 2 b.)
1609 in *Act 5 Geo. III*, c. 26 Preamble, Suits, sokes, multures, and also all and singular profits. 1638 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 22 Ye Mills were worth a great deal more if they had had ye same soak, which..they had, but now ye soak is bought and sold. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 354 *Soke* (vulg. *sooac*), an exclusive privilege claimed by a mill, for grinding all the corn which is used within the manor or township it stands in.

4. *attrib.*, as *soke-fee, -land, -mill, -reeve.*
c 1290 *Fleta* II. lv. (1647) 119 Quod fieri potest per Sokereves eorum in hustengo. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gæwelkind* v. 85 A Man seised of Land in Soke-Fee. 1858 HOGG *Shelley* II. x. 345 The proprietor of a large soke-mill. 1882 ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 192 In some places..there are two kinds of copyhold land, the one called 'Bond-land' and the other 'Soke-land'. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Cheap Jack Zita* II. 46 You send a sack of corn to the soak-mill, and you get back half a sack of flour.

† **Soke**[2]. *Obs.*—[1] = SOCK *sb.*[2] 1.
The passage is translated from Littleton (II. v. § 119), who says above 'soca idem est quod caruca, s. vn soke ou vn charue': cf. the note on SOCAGE.
1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 47 A great part of those Tenants which held of their Lords by Socage, did come with their Sokes (their Ploughs) certain dayes in the year to plough and sow the Demesnes of the Lord.

Soke, obs. form of SOAK *v.*, SUCK *v.*

Sokel, obs. form of SUCKLE.

Sokelyng(e, obs. forms of SUCKLING.

Sokeman (*sōu*kmæn). Now *Hist.* Also 6–7 *erron.* -mayn, -main. [a. AF. *sokeman* or ad. Anglo-Lat. *sokemannus* (also *sok-, socke-, sochemannus*), f. the OE. word represented by SOKE[1] and SOKEN + MAN *sb.*[1]] A tenant holding land in socage; a socman.
[*a* 1066 *Laws Edw. Confess.* XII. (Thorpe), Manbote in Danelaza, de vilano et socheman XII oras. *a* 1086 *Domesday Bk.* I. 273/2 Ibi apposuit Rex W. sex sochemanos per-

tinentes at Rapendune. 1235-59 BRACTON II. xxxv. (Rolls) I. 614 Tenentes, qui tenent sockagio, sockemanni dici poterunt. *Ibid.* IV. xxviii. III. 378 Et hujusmodi villani sokmanni, proprie dicuntur glebæ ascriptitii. *c* 1290 BRITTON (1865) II. 13 Ceux sount proprement nos sokemans et privelegez en ceste manere. 1367 in Vinogradoff *Villainage in Eng.* (1892) 116 *note*, Teux services comme gents de petits sokemans fierent en auncien temps. *a* 1399 *Ibid.* 91 *note*, Item sokemanni predicti filias suas non possunt maritare sine licencia domini. 1413 14 *Hen. IV*, f 34 in *Year Book* (1605) Hhh vj, Et auxy il ad diuersitie parenter sokeman de franktenure, et sokeman de base tenure. 1567 FITZHERBERT *Nat. Brev.* 14 Quar les tenantz en auncien demesne sont appelles Sokemans, s. tenants del carue, anglice, le plough. 1581 KITCHIN *Court Leet* 87 b, Mes est diuersitie enter Sokemaynes de franke tenure, et sokemaines de base tenure.]

1603 STOW *Surv.* vii. 64 The said Robert [Fitzwalter] ought to haue a sokeman. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 100 There is also a copy-hold estate, called ancient demeisne, and the tenants, Sokemains. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 334 Sokemans were but Tenants in socage. 1749 POTE *Hist. Windsor Castle* 2 Together with fourteen sokemen and their lands. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 87 The statute 28 Edw. I. c. 1, declares, that a free sokeman shall give no relief. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 245/2 No one was to be distrained..on account of land which he held in manors of the antient demesne of the crown as a sokeman. 1897 MAITLAND *Domesday Bk.* 142 The sokeman's hide or virgate..is composed of many scattered strips.

b. *attrib.* in † *sokeman-mote.*

13.. *Rotuli Hundredorum* (1818) II. 143/1 Item dicunt quod Ermoldus de Boys..solebat facere sectam ad Boxford ad sockemanemot pro terra Ricardi Serle.

Sokemanry (sōu·kmänri). Now *Hist.* [ad. prec. and -RY.] The tenure of land by a sokeman; also, the sokemen collectively.

[*c* 1290 BRITTON (1865) II. 11 Sokemaneries sount terres et tenementz, qe ne sount mie tenuz par fee de chevaler, ne par graunt serjaunties, ne par petites, mes par simples services. *a* 1399 in Vinogradoff *Villainage in Eng.* (1892) 116 *note*, Quidam tenentes eiusdem manerii tenent terras et tenementa sua in sokemanria.] 1603 STOW *Surv.* vii. 64 What sokeman he will, so he be of the sokemanrie. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 119 If any of the Sokemanry shall be impleaded. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. vi. 100 BRITTON also, from such their freedom, calls..their tenure sokemanries. 1865 NICHOLS *Britton* II. 5 *note*, Burgages and sokemanries are changed for such villenages into free tenure. 1896 PEARMAN *Manor of Bensington* 38 There were about forty four sokemanries.

Soken (sōu·k'n). Now *Hist.* Forms: 1 (9) socn, 3 socne, sockne, 6 socon(e; 4 so(o)kne, and Icel. *sókn* (Norw. *sokn*; Sw. *socken*, Da. *sogn sôhni*), f. *sōk-* stem of OE. *sécan*, ON. *sækja*, etc., to SEEK. See also the comb. CHURCH-SOKEN.]

† **1.** An attack or assault. *Obs. rare.*

Beowulf 1777 Ic þære socne singales wæg modceare micle.

† **2.** Resort to, or visiting of, a place; habitual going or haunting. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 508 Ða towende se biscop þæt weofod, and þa dwollican socne mid-ealle adwæscte. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 134 We..ure synna..ȝeorne betan þat inne swiðe feire stude from socne þes folkes. *c* 1205 LAY. 2365 mid..ælmessan & mid ciriclicere socne. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 261 Heo þouȝte, for heo was so i-knowe,.. þe lasse sockne heo hadde [= would have] of hire folie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 463/2 Sookne, or custome of hauntynge.., *frequentacio, concursus.*

† **b.** *spec.* Resort of tenants or others to a particular mill to have their corn ground; the right of the mill to such custom. (Cf. SOKE 1 3.) *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 67 Gret soken hath this meller, out of doute, With whete and malt, of al the lond aboute. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 9 b, That maner of grynding is called socon. 1591 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 175 Dareley loue Socone, and the lordes tenauntes be called bonde mylne, with the soken and suite there to belonginge.

† **3.** Right of prosecution, legal investigation, or jurisdiction. Cf. SOKE 1 1. *Obs.*

a 1012 *Laws of Æthelred* III. xi, Nan man naȝe nane socne ofer cynges þeȝen buton cyng sylf.. *a* 1066 in Kemble *Codex Dipl.* IV. 200 Swa ðæt nan scyrȝerefe oð e motaȝen hæse. [1114-8 *Laws Hen. I*, XIX. 2 (Liebermann), Omnium terrarum, quas rex in dominio suo habet, socnam pariter habet.] 1155 in *Anglia* VII. 220 Þæt ic hæbbe heom ȝeunnon..saca & socne..ofer heore aȝene men.

† **b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*—1

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Soka, sute of court, and perof comeþ Sokene, but Sokene oþerwhile is forto aske lawe in þe gretter court.

4. = SOKE 1 2.

c 1030 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Jan. 15 Ðis is seo socn into Scyre-burna, mid folc-rihte. [*c* 1133-54 *Libertas Lond.* 4 Donec custos illius socne, in qua manserit, de recto tenendo þe Reue of Rotelondes sokene. 1393 *Ibid.* C. III. 111 Bette Yt ys told me that ȝong Heydon reysyth mych pepyl in the sokyn. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 284/1 The Castell, Manoir and Lordshipp of Kimbalton, with the Sokyn of the same. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 585 About Venice and all that tract, the Willowes serue the turne and none else, by reason that the whole soken standeth so much vpon water. *a* 1670 in Blount *Law Dict.* s.v. *Rinc*, In the Countrey hard was we That in our Soken shrews should be. 1861 HOOK *Lives Abps.* I. v. 245 By his right of lord of the socn he could try and execute thieves found upon any of his estates. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1875) I. v. 80 The lord of a soken and patron of hundreds of servants and followers.

Soken, obs. f. pa. pple. SOAK *v.*; var. SOAKEN *v. Obs.* **Soker,** obs. form of SOAKER. **Sokere, Sokerel,** obs. ff. SUCKER, SUCKEREL. **Soket,** obs. f. SOCKET *sb.*; var. SUCKET *Obs.* **Sokey:** see WATER SOKEY. **Sokil blome:** see SUCKLE-BLOOM. **Sokkat,** obs. f. SOCKET *sb.* **Sokket,** var. SUCKET *Obs.*

‖ **Soko** (sōu·kōu). [Native African name.] A species of anthropoid ape discovered by Livingstone near Lake Tanganyika.

1870 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnl.* 24 Aug., The soko, if large, would do well to stand for a picture of the Devil. 1875 *Zoologist* X. 4359 The soko is so cunning, and has such sharp eyes, that no one can stalk him in front without being seen. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* ix. 343 Some species of monkeys, like the chimpanzees and sokos, get up concerts of their own.

Sokour(e, obs. forms of SUCCOUR *sb.* and *v.*

Sol (sǫl), *sb.*[1] [L. *sōl* (for earlier **sāol*, **sāwol*), = Gr. ἥλιος (Homeric ἠέλιος, Cretan ἀβέλιος), Skr. *suvar*, Lith. *sáule*, Goth. *sauil*, ON. and Icel. *sól* (Norw., Sw., Da. *sol*), Welsh *haul.*]

1. The sun (personified).

Used without article and written with capital S.

c 1450 *Treat. Astrol.* (MS. Ashm. 337) 2 Sol is hote & dry but not as mars is. 1592 KYD *Span. Trag.* I. i. 23 Ere Sol had slept three nights in Thetis lap. 1593 PEELE *Poems* Wks. (Rtldg.) 601 More beautiful..Than Sol himself amid the Planets seven. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, His smile is like the Meridian Sol Discern'd a dauncing in the burbling brook. 1670 D. DENTON *Brief Desc. New York* (1845) 19 The Vines..doth shelter them from the scorching beams of Sols fiery influence. 1712-4 POPE *Rape Lock* I. 13 Sol thro' white curtains shot a tim'rous ray. 1791 COWPER *Retired Cat* 62 Till Sol, declining in the west, Shall call to supper. 1820 COMBE *Syntax, Consol.* V. (Chandos) 203 In bright Sol's diurnal round, No such delightful place was found. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 277 Clytie, inconsolable for the loss of the affections of Sol,..is represented as brooding over her griefs in silence and in solitude.

† **2.** a. *Alch.* Gold. *Obs.*

a 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 273 Sol gold is, and Luna silver we threpe. [1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* I. (1866) 3 Good gold naturel..is clepid of philosophoris sol in latyn.] 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* iii. in Ashm. (1652) 41 Sol by it selfe, or Mercury alone, Or Sulphur with them. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 400 Pure goldy-locks, Sol, States'-friend, Honor-giver. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 45 Zeuxis his painted dogge shal barke and whine When Ioue they turne to Sol or Luna fine. 1606 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Select Husband* Wks. (Grosart) II. 7/1 Though Beauty then seem Sol, at least as rich, It wil be found but Lune, on Tryalls touch. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, Bright Sol is in his robe. 1651 [see SOLARY *a.* 2]. 1758 [see JUPITER 2 b].

† **b.** *Her.* (In blazoning by planets instead of metals) = OR *sb. Obs.*

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* 83 Hee beareth Luna, on a Chiefe Iupiter, a Cherub displaied, Sol. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma, Assyrian Monarchie* (1650) 235 Emperors and Kings ought to bear Gold in their Arms, and then it might bee thus; The Field is *Sol* a Dove volant proper. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sol*..is taken..in Heraldry for the Gold Colour, in the Coats of Soveraign Princes. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 6 Nov., Canterbury bears a Staff in Pale Sol. [1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 691/2 Or, Yellow, Topaz, Sol.]

† **c.** ? The topaz. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Greene Forest* 21 Sol the Precious stone, is in colour like to the Sunne, and is called Sol, for that it giueth reflexions of Sunne beames.

Sol (sǫl, sōul), *sb.*[2] *Mus.* Also 6 soule, 7 soll. [The first syllable of L. *solve*: see GAMUT.] The fifth note of Guido's hexachords, and of the octave in modern solmization; the note G in the natural scale of C major.

c 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 292 Sol and ut and la, And that froward file that men clepis fa. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 258 Wolde to God, it wolde please you some daye.. to..lerne me to synge, Re, my, fa, sol! 1565 *Kyng Daryus* 739 (Brandl), La, soule, soule, fa, my. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. i. 77 D sol re, one Cliffe, two notes haue I. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* v. ii, You shall never talk your voice above the key sol, sol, sol. 1662 PLAYFORD *Skill Musick* (1674) 1 Ut and Re are now changed into Sol and La. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Sol-fa-ing*, From *fa* to *sol* is a Tone; also from *sol* to *la*. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 547/2 From the adjuncts of the mode, that is to say, the modes of its two fifths, which for *ut* are *fa* and *sol*, and *re* and *mi* for *la*. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 194/1. 1873 H. C. BANISTER *Music* 32 The lowest note, Sol, or G.

Hence **Sol** *v.* (in nonce-use).

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 121 (Q.[1]), Ile re you, Ile fa you, Ile sol you.

‖ **Sol** (sǫl), *sb.*[3] Now *Hist.* Also 6 soul. [Older F. *sol* (now *sou* SOU), = Prov. *sol*, Pg. and It. *soldo*, Sp. *sueldo* :—L. *solidum*, acc. of *solidus* (sc. *nummus*) a gold coin.] A former coin and money of account in France and some other countries, equal to the twentieth part of a livre, but varying in actual value at different times and places.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 87 A pot of sweete mylke, a groat and an halfe, and a pounde of butter two souls. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. ii, This fellow, For six sols more, would plead against his Maker. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 250 Every Chiquinie containing eleven Livers and twelve Sols: the Liver is nine pence, the Sol an halfe-penny. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 352 He put his hand into his pocket, and thinking to draw out a Sol, which is little more than an English penny,..gave it him. 1748 SMOLLETT *R. Random* xliv, My pay..amounted to five sols a day. 1789 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 122 A new paper-currency..which is to bear an interest of one sol in the livre. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 54 In this exchange, a pound of beaver-skin is reckoned at sixty sols. [1873 HALE *In His Name* i. 2 He would relax his hold on the odd sols and deniers as if he had never clung to them.]

† **Sol,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [Abbreviation of *solution*: see OB *sb.*[1]] The solution of a scholastic problem.

1588-1678 [see OB *sb.*[1]].

‖ **Sol** (sōul), *sb.*[5] Pl. **soles.** [Sp. *sol* sun: see SOL *sb.*[1]] A Spanish-American (now Peruvian) silver coin worth about two shillings.

1884 BEDFORD *Sailor's Handbk.* 126 Peruvian Gold: 20 Sol Piece, £3 18 6. *Ibid.*, Peruvian: Soles, £0 3 6. 1894 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/2 The United States dollar being substituted for the Central American silver dollar or sol as the standard of value. The value of the sol is about 50 cents. (U.S. currency).

† **Sol,** *a. Obs.* Also sole. [Related to SOLE *v.*[3] Cf. SOLWY *a.*] Soiled, dirty.

c 1200 *Trin. Hom.* 57 Sume bereð sole cloð to þe watere forto wasshen it clene. *Ibid.* 163 His alter cloð [is] great and sole, and hire chemise smal & hwit, & te albe sol, & hire smoc hwit. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Wule a weob be cn..mid one watere wel ibleched, oðer a sol cloð hwit iwaschen?

‖ **Sola** (sōu·lă), *sb.* Also solah, and *erron.* SOLAR. [Urdū and Bengālī *solā* = Hindī *sholā*: see SHOLA.] A tall leguminous swamp-plant (*Æschynomena aspera* or *paludosa*) of India; the pith of this employed in making light hats. Used *attrib.* with *hat, helmet, topee.*

(*a*) 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. vii. 248 With only a shirt and a '*solah*' hat. 1857 LADY CANNING in Hare *Two Noble Lives* (1893) II. 255 [The mounted volunteers] with sola helmets on their heads. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 4/5 Instead of the uncomfortable regulation helmet they are provided with Sola hats.

(*b*) 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 92 It will be prudent to wear a sola topee, or hat composed of the soft pulp of a tree. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life India* ii. 20 [Where the trees] pour down richly-scented blossoms upon his sola topee. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 516/1 A solah topi with a green-lined rim.

‖ **Sola** (sōu·lă), *a.* [L. *sōla*, fem. of *sōlus* SOLUS, and It. *sola*, fem. of *solo* SOLO.]

1. Of females: Sole, solitary, alone.

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) V. xxi. 137 Aunt Nell would not have descended *sola* into her greys, nor Cicely Badger neither, if they might have obtained the men of their choice. 1768 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 10, I should be content to love *Sola*—and let *Dueto* be reserved for those who have a proper sense of their superiority. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* I. 39 James..found the matron *sola*, and evidently prepared for a solemn discussion of the weighty affair.

2. *techn.* Of bills: (see quot.).

1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 101 A 'sola' bill of exchange is a single bill, as distinguished from bills drawn in 'sets'.

† **Sola,** *int. Obs.* Also sowla. [Cf. SOHO *int.* and *hola* HOLLA.] A call or cry to attract attention or notice.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 151 Ah heauens, it is most patheticall nit. Sowla, sowla. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 43 *Loren.* Who calls? *Clo.* Sola, did you see M. Lorenzo?

† **So·lable,** *a. Obs.*—° [f. L. *sōlārī* to comfort.]

1623 COCKERAM I, *Soleiable* [sic], which may be comforted.

Solace (sǫ·lĕs), *sb.*[1] Forms: α. 3-6 solas, 5-6 solasse, 6 *Sc.* solaes, soles. β. 4- solace, 4-6 sollace. (See also SOLANCE *sb.*) [a. OF. *solas*, later *soulas* (now dial.), = Prov. *solatz*, Sp. *solaz*, It. *sollazzo* :—L. *sōlācium, sōlātium*, f. the stem of *sōlārī* to comfort, console. Cf. MDu. and MLG. *solaes.*]

1. Comfort, consolation; alleviation of sorrow, distress, or discomfort.

α. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 220 Hidere þou come for ovre solas, and nouȝt suych deol to make. *c* 1300 *Life of Beket*, etc. (Percy Soc.) 138 Vourty dawes he was, In a chaumbre al one withoute eni Solas. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2789, I shalle yeve thee..Three other thingis, that gret solas Doith to hem that be in my las. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* v. 13 (Harl. MS.), I pray þe, wepe not, but make me solas and comfort, and chere me. 1530 PALSGR. 272 Solasse, comforte, *solas, recomfort, solace.* 1535 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 252 His solace was alle reft, | at scho fro him was gon, Ne no sonne him left. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* xiii. 22 Forsoothe, britheren, I preie ȝou, that ȝe suffre a word of solace. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 þeroff þai hafe grete solace and comforthe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 203/2, I am with the and shalle gyue to the solace of my seruaunt paule. 1575 *Mirr. Mag., Hen. VI*, xvii, The solace of my soule my chiefest pleasure was. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, II. iii. 21 Sorrow would [have] sollace, and mine Age would ease. 1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* I. i, I'le warre with comfort, be at oddes with solace. 1677 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 560 You will..have the usual solace of those who goe to law, that your adversary hath been at no lesse charges. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 653, I want to lay in a stock of solace which shall not fail me in time of need. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iv, She wept also that she could no longer seek solace in the friendship of Adeline. 1839 JAMES *Louis XIV*, III. 143 Though the relief of reading was allowed as some solace to his overloaded heart. 1879 W. H. DIXON *Royal Windsor* II. xvii. 182 Time brought no solace to her widowed heart.

† **2.** Pleasure, enjoyment, delight; entertainment, recreation, amusement. *Obs.*

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 370 To honti & to winne is mete & to abbe solas & game. *a* 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 2856 þer was miche solas Of alle maner soun And gle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 74 He goth to his cuntre,..Wher as he lyveth in

and in solas. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Minor Poems* (Percy Soc.) us thay songe..This melodious ympne withe grete
1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* iv. [Hunting and ng] ought not to be done ful ofte, but somtyme for e disporte and solas. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. '8 b, For he kepte reuyll, daunsyng, and solas: and daye it was newe to begyn. 1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *s Utopia* I. (1895) p. xciv, An yle..Ful fraight with ly welth, with pleasure and solas.
1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxvi. 3 He amonestis vs to ra erthly solace and gern anly delit of heuen. 1377 L. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 217 God of his goodnesse..Sette hym ace & in souereigne myrthe. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* IV. xton, 1483) 58 Hym nedeth of solace and disport wher to appesen his herte. 1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. iii. 67 is a place whiche is ful of solace, of playsances and of es. 1519 *Interlude Four Elements* (Percy Soc.) 45 s go to the taverne agayn, And make some mery solace. SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 3 And therein sate a Ladie fresh aire, Making sweet solace to her selfe alone. 1615 G. vs *Trav.* 176 Sundry smal turrets are dispersed about, h serue for solace as well as for safe-guard. *a* 1629 DE *J. Bruen* xxix. (1641) 90 O how great was his re- ng, and solace, when..he might rejoyce the soules of people. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 844 Great joy he is'd to his thoughts, and new Solace in her return.

That which gives comfort or consolation, ings pleasure or enjoyment, etc.

90 *Beket* 178 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 111 For he scholde hire beo, and speke to hire with mouþe. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *ter* xxxvii. 11 In þere twa solaces man ioyes. *c* 1400 NDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 88 He hase forsaken..all þe ricches solacez of þe werld. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. v. 45 allone.. is þe solace of mannys soule & very gladnes rte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 8 All which es and comforts of this our vnquiet life it pleaseth oftentimes to bestow. 1597 BACON *Ess., Of Honour & station* (Arb.) 74 Fauorites, such as exceede not this lling to bee sollace to the Soueraigne. 1667 MILTON . IV. 486 To have thee by my side Henceforth an ridual solace dear. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. þho* xxxiv, Tell your lady..that this [picture] has my companion and only solace in all my misfortunes. ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. viii. 125 He had cut himself om the solaces of life.

Printing. (See quot. 1683.)

3 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 357 The Penalty lie breach of..these Laws and Customs is in Printers guage called a Solace. 1683 [see SOLACE *v.* 4]. 1888 BI *Printers' Vocab.* 128 *Solace*, a penalty imposed by chapel for the infringement of any of its rules.

5. *Rose of solace*, = ROSA SOLIS 2. *Obs.*—1

4 *Meet. of Gallants at Ordinary* C j b, To the comfort- of his poore heart, he powrde downe a leauen shillings ose of Solace.

Solace, *sb.*2 *Obs.* Also 6 sollace. [Of obscure gin.] Some substance used for dressing cloth.

32 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § xiv, Whether the same Clothe lothes be well and sufficiently dressed and pressed withe colde presse, without puttinge therto flox, solace, chalke, er, or any other deceiptfull thinge. *c* 1560 *Maldon Liber* fol. 56 (MS.), Without puttinge therto flocks, sollace, lke, flower, heare, or any yearne made of lambes wooll. 3 MAY *Decl. Est. Clothing* v. 29 Flox of the same coulour hich they can sheare as small as dust, which mixt with ce, they spread vpon the musters, and where the cloth bee seene.

olace (sɒ·lɛ̇s), *v.* Forms: 3-4 solaci, -cy, 3- ace, 4-5 solas(e, 5 solais, 6 solles, 8 solless. e also SOLANCE *v.*) [ad. OF. *solacier, solasier*, ., later *soulacier* (now arch.), f. *solas* SOLACE Cf. Sp. *solazar*, It. *sollazzare*, med.L. *solati-*, *-are*; MDu. *solasen, -acen.*]

trans. To cheer, comfort, console; † to enter- n or recreate.

97 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11521 Sir simon de Mountfort out warde nom Sir edward him to solaci. 13.. *Sir Beues* So him solaste þat mai, þat al is care went e awai. *c* 1380 CLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 226 Crist tauȝte men to suffre..and te hem in hope þerfore to be solasid of God. *c* 1400 *tr. Troy* 1620 Mony gaumes were begonnen þe grete to solas. *Ibid.* 13984 Myche solast hir the sight of hir e þan, To se the lede vppon lyue, þat ho louet most. 175 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 456 Thei de- yyede a newe maner made..by that prior..for to solace n and his breþer þer. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 377 will with some strange pastime solace them. 1706 LLIES (ed. Kersey), To *Solace*, to afford Solace or Com- t. 1790 COWPER *On My Mother's Picture* 4 Thy own eet smiles I see, The same that oft in childhood solaced 1822 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 506 And it may be h dreams are given..To solace them that mourn. 1868 EEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. 86 They were often solaced the company of wives and children.

bsol. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 32 Thy simple k once solaced, now delights.

b. To make (a place) cheerful or pleasant.

567 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 434 From Branch to Branch the aller Birds with song Solac'd the Woods. 1746 J. HERVEY *ditt.* (1818) 186 Ye Birds..who wake the morn, and solace groves with your artless lays. 1875 GRINDON *Life* I. 8 e walls of old castles and abbeys, which..ivy and the hful wallflower alone have solaced.

c. To allay, alleviate, assuage, soothe.

567 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 419 The cause of his desire By iversation with his like to help, Or solace his defects. 3 BLACKMORE *Creation* v. 60 A Cause Supream,..Who, en implor'd, might timely Succour give, Solace our guish, and our Wants relieve. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *dian* xvii, Paulo was contented to solace his conscience. 9 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 311 We sate sad together Solacing despondency with tears. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* A little hint to solace woe.

† *refl.* To give (oneself) comfort or consolation, ntertainment or amusement.

1340 *Ayenb.* 213 þer-huile þet ich me solaci an playe, iche ne enche none manne kuead. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1752 Siker were to sit and solas vs here. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 217 Thus thay solaist thame selvin. suthly to say. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 107 Solacyng himselfe with Musicall instrumentes & songes. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 314 We dare solace our selues in soft beddes too long for our constitutions. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xv, Henry king of Ierusalem, as he was walking in his palace to solace himself, fell down..and brake his neck. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1704) 464 With the Thoughts and Expectation whereof he solaces himself. 1746 J. HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 21 He solaced himself with the prospect of a long, long series of earthly satisfactions. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. v. 283 Duplessis-Mornay often solaced himself by distant communion with that kindred and sympathizing spirit. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 231 He solaced himself by making a careful collection of all the Florentine wild-flowers for me.

† **3.** *intr.* To take comfort or consolation, recreation or enjoyment. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 213 Huet kuead is hit yef ich guo playe and solaci. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 447 Thei brente þeire faces with yrne that thei scholde not be knowen, and þat Ynglische men scholde not solace of þeire dethe. 1530 PALSGR. 724/2, I am werye of studyenge, I wyll go solace a lytell. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* 63 Friends do solace and joy togither in honest and godly mirth. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 313 He,..surprised with the love of Queen Cleopatra, solaced on her bosome. 1673 *Lady's Calling* I. iii. § 6 Let him stand naked and hungry, whilst they are solacing with that which would relieve him. 1728 VANBR. & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* I, She herself is solacing in one continual round of cards and good company.

4. *trans.* Of printers: To punish (one) corporally for non-payment of a 'solace'. Also *transf.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 357 If the Delinquent ..would not pay his Solace..they Solac'd him. 1784 B. FRANKLIN in *Ann. Reg., Chron.* (1817) 385 This foolish letter is mere chit-chat between ourselves... If, therefore, you show it to any body,..I will positively solless you.

Hence **So·laced** *ppl. a.*, comforted, consoled.

1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* II. ii, The solaced friends.

Solaceful (sɒ·lɛ̇sfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. SOLACE *sb.*1 + -FUL 1.] Full of solace; pleasant, agreeable.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Job Triumphant* IV. 687 The Lord accepted Job, and staid His Thrall-full State,..And turned it to Solace-full, from sad. 1884 J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 225 How joyous and how solaceful was life in them whilere!

Solacement (sɒ·lɛ̇smĕnt). [f. SOLACE *sb.*1 + -MENT. So OF. *sollace-, soulacement.*] Solace, solacing, consolation.

1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* xviii. 253 Being disappointed in thy outward Solacement. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 545 Discovering daily new sources of solacement we had not discerned before. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* (1830) II. xix. 214 That..was a solacement of his feelings which was not at the moment to be thought of. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* I. 370 Rather as in duty bound than with much hope of solacement.

Solacer (sɒ·lɛ̇sər). [f. SOLACE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who, or that which, solaces.

1611 COTGR., *Consolateur*, a consolator, solacer, comforter. 1803 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* in *Final Mem.* iv. 225 A pipe and some generous Port, and King Lear..had their effect as solacers. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Lucius Davoren* I. Prol. i. 7 Tobacco, that sweet solacer of weary hours.

Solacing (sɒ·lɛ̇sĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. SOLACE *v.*] The action of the verb in various senses; † the fact of taking enjoyment or recreation.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6746 (W.), Now rideth Alisaunder,..with muche syngyng, In gret delit and solasyng. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xiv. 3 He..spekith to men, to edificacioun,..and comfortynge, or solasynge. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1549) 81 In this solacyng he hunted the harte. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xviii. 43 Adew,..My mirth and sollesing Of erdly gloir. 1631 N. HUNT (*title*), New Recreations, or The Mindes release and solacing. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 357 The manner of Solacing, thus.

So·lacing, *ppl. a.* [f. SOLACE *v.*] Conveying solace; consoling.

1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis, Solil. Soul* x. 179 The solacing Joy of the Spirit. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. vii, For wrath is contagious, and to paint Bodyguards is so solacing. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* I. v. § 32 (1875) 115 The beliefs..were highly solacing ones. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Jan. 6/3 Miss Fowler received these solacing remarks with quiet serenity.

† **Sola·cious,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 solacius, 5–7 solacious; 5 solacyose, 5–6 -ous, 6 -ouse, *Sc.* -us; 6–7 solatious. [a. OF. *solacieus* (*soulaceus*, etc.), f. *solas* SOLACE *sb.*1 So Sp. *solazoso.*] Affording or giving solace, in various senses of the sb. (Common *c* 1500–1650.)

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 290 In cumpany solacius He wes, and thar-with amorus. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxiii. 92 þou allone art hiest,..þou allone most swete & most solacious. 1452 CAPGR. *Life St. Gilbert* 70 He talked mor þan e.e, and with solacious countenauns wold he glade his gestis. *a* 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) III. xvii. 153/1 The holy daye hath ben solacyous..both for soule and bodye. 1503 HAWES *Exampl. Virt.* II. xxvii, For they be so fayre and wounderous That theym to se it is solacyous. 1546 BALE *English Votaries* I. 18 b, Women greuouse and solacyouse. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1164 Delicious it is in aduersitie, & solatious in all weaknes. 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Sco. Folly* xliv, Fountaine of Conceits acute and solacious. 1641 SYMONDS *Servt. Ho. Comm.* P 3 What can be more solatious to a Christian Spirit? 1675 COCKER *Morals* 41 Old Friends to trust, old Gold to keep, old Wine To drink; are a solacious good old Trine. [1826 GALT *Lairds* xiii, Such solacious participation in the influences of the season, as he called it.]

Hence † **Sola·ciously** *adv. Obs.*

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2395 Prosperyte to hym is gyuen solacyusly to man.

† **Solacy.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. L. *solaci-um*: see SOLACE *sb.*1] Solace.

1533 tr. *Erasm. Comm. Crede* 13 That labouie..the spyryte doth make dulcete and swete with so many solacyes and coumfortes.

† **Solagement.** *Obs.*—1 [ad. F. *soulagement*, † *sollagement*, f. *soulager* to relieve.] Relief.

1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Holy Rood* F b, That in the Lab'rinth of his Languishment We may..find solagement.

Solah, variant of SOLA *sb.*

† **Solaire,** var. (after OF. *solaire*) of *salaire*, obs. f. SALARY *sb.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxvii. 48 b/2 He wold haue gyuen to the Maronner for his solaire a boke of the gospellis.

‖ **Solak.** *rare.* Also 6 sola (?), 7 solach, solaque. [a. Turkish صولاق *sōlāq.* So F. *solak.*] (See quots.)

The identity of the word in the first quot. is doubtful.

1520 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* VII. 141 b/1 In yᵉ iiij yeare of kynge Henryes reygne came yᵉ Emperour of Constantynople with many greate solaes [*Brut and Caxton* lordes] & knyghtes. [1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 75 The Pretorian footmen called the *Solacchi*, whereof there be in number three hundred.] 1678 PHILLIPS, *Solachs*, those of the Grand Seigniors Foot-guard, who are about three hundred, attending upon him with Bows and Arrows. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 69 The Solaques are also of the Infantry, and are the Grand Signior's..Life-guard, for they attend the Grand Signior when he goes abroad in the city. 1802 JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Solaks*, bowmen or archers belonging to the personal guard of the grand signor.

Solan (sōu·lăn). Forms: *α.* 5- soland (7 sorland), 6 solande, -end, 7–8 solund. *β.* 6 solane, 7- solan; 8 sollen. [f. ON. and Icel. *súla* (also Icel. *hafsúla*, Norw. *havsula*) gannet; the second element may be ON. *ǫnd, and-* (Norw., Sw., Da. *and*) duck. Originally Sc., but known to English writers from the middle of the 17th cent.]

1. The gannet (*Sula bassana*), a large sea-fowl resembling a goose, which frequents a few rocks and small islands of Britain, the Færöes, Iceland, and Canada.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 700 The Soland [as] stewart was sent; For he couth fro the firmament Fang the fische deid. 1749 COLLINS *On Popular Superstit.* x, Along the Atlantic rock, undreading climb, And of its eggs despoil the solan's nest. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. iii, The rafters..Bore wealth of winter cheer; Of sea-fowl dried, and solands store. *a* 1851 MOIR *The Bass Rock* ii, At times the solan's wing..Brushed near us. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* III. ix. 285 A white solan ..struck the water as he dived.

2. *attrib.* with *goose*, = sense 1.

α. 1536 BELLENDEN *Chron. Scot.* ix. (1541) B vj b, In it [the Bass Rock] ar incredible noumer of soland geis; ..And ar sene in na part of Albion, bot in this crag and Ailsay. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 55 The neist Ile named Elza..abundes in Solend geis, and monie vthiris sey foulis. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 37 A Scot, when from the Gallow-Tree got loose, Drops into Styx, and turns a Solund-Goose. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. II. 655 As Barnacles turn Soland-Geese In th' Islands of the Orcades. 1694 FALLE *Jersey* ii. 73 Here are to be seen the famous Sorland Geese, whose Equivocal Generation..is received by many amongst Us for Truth. 1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife* II. 45 The Fowls which most frequent the Bass, are the *Anseres Bassani* or Soland-Geese. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. Pref. p. v, The clouds of Soland geese which breed on the Bass island. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 191 A Soland goose or gannet was shot by a fisherman of Southampton. 1843 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* III. 381 The Gannet, or Soland Goose.

β. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 624 To draw and alluir the auld solane geise to the boittis. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 95 *Anser Bassanus*,..the Solan Goose. 1698 M. MARTIN *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 4 A prodigious number of Solan Geese hatching in their Nests. 1725 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 111 The Bass..I think has no inhabitants but the Solan geese which breed there. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vi, There was the relishing Solan goose, whose smell is so powerful that he is never cooked within doors. 1863 *Intellect. Obs.* Sept. 118 The Solan Goose is not so numerous upon Ailsa as the puffin.

Solanaceous (sɒlănē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Solanace-æ*, f. L. *sōlānum* nightshade.] Belonging to the *Solanaceæ*, an order of gamopetalous plants which includes the genera *Solanum, Capsicum, Atropa, Hyoscyamus*, etc.

1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 519 The fruits of several solanaceous plants, as the pseudocapsicum, and the common capsicum. 1822–7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) III. 309 The remark will apply to most of the narcotics, whether of the umbellate or solanaceous order. 1875 *Athenæum* 24 July 123/3 The influence of poisonous solanaceous plants,—especially belladonna,—on certain rodents and marsupials.

Solanal (sōlā·năl), *a.* and *sb. Bot.* [f. L. *sōlān-um.*] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to, related to, *Solanum* and other genera according to Lindley's classification. **b.** *sb.* A genus or plant related to *Solanum.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 615 The Solanal Alliance... Natural Orders of Solanals. *Ibid.* 616 Solanal Exogens.

† **Solance,** *sb. Obs.* [Alteration of SOLACE *sb.*1, after forms in *-ance.*] Solace.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 728 As 3ung men wil do for solance, & als to mak þar acquaintance. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 357 Ne hope 3e noghte..þat ne we sall solance see. *Ibid.* 831 Thay crowniede þe Sowdane.., þat Solance was to seene.

So †**Solance** *v. Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* 4293 Gij bileft in court atte mete, Him to play & solanci. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 9 Þe third es, to solance [*printed* solauce] thaym þat er sorowefull.

Solander (sŏlæ·ndəɹ). [From the name of the Swedish botanist D. C. *Solander* (1736–1782).] A box made in the form of a book, used for holding botanical specimens, papers, maps, etc.

1788 COWPER *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 5 July, I shall be as happy in the arrival of my Solander as he whose name it bears, was to arrive once more in England after his circumnavigation. 1877 W. JONES *Inaugural Address London Conference of Librarians* 15 Maps should be placed in Solander cases.

Solander, obs. form of SALLENDER.

Solandra (sŏlæ·ndră). [mod.L.: see SOLANDER.] A genus of tropical American shrubs belonging to the *Solanaceæ* (sub-order *Atropeæ*); also, a plant belonging to this genus.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 597/1 The genus was first named *Solandra*, in honour of Dr. Solander, by Murray in the 14th edition of the *Systema Vegetabilium*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1179/2 Large tubular flowers, as those of *Bignonia*,.. *Solandra*, &c. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 226/1 A large solandra of great age bearing yellowish trumpet-shaped flowers.

Solania (sŏlē·niă). *Chem.* [f. SOLAN-UM + -IA.] An alkaloid found in the woody nightshade.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 233 The active principle of Solanum Dulcamara is an alkali, called Solania. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 499/2 It [*S. Dulcamara*] owes its medicinal activity to a bitter principle yielding..the alkaloid 'solania'.

Solanicine (sŏlæ·nisin). *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IC + -INE 5.] (See quot. 1868.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Solanicine*,..a base produced by the action of hydrochloric acid on solanine. *Ibid.* 345 Solanicine..may be obtained by slow evaporation of its ethereal solution. 1876 HARLEY *Royle's Mat. Med.* 500 Strong hydrochloric acid converts this into an amorphous basic substance, *solanicine*.

Solanidine (sŏlæ·nidin). *Chem.* [Cf. prec.] (See quots.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Solanidine*,..a base produced ..by the action of acids on solanine...Solanidine dissolves easily in alcohol and in ether. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 682 It [solanine] is resolved by boiling with dilute acids into glucose and solanidine.

Solanine (sō·lănin). *Chem.* Also **solanina, solanin.** [a. F. *solanine* (Desfosses, 1821), f. SOLAN-UM + -INE 5.] A poisonous alkaloid, or a compound containing an alkaloid, found in various plants of the genus *Solanum*.

a. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 264 Solanina was discovered by M. Desfosses in the berries of the *solanum nigrum*, and in the fruit of the common potatoe. *Ibid.*, Solanina is a white powder, having a pearly lustre. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 195/2 The hydrochlorate and acetate of solanina have a gummy appearance when evaporated to dryness.

β. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 841 Baup informs us, that potatoes, after they begin to grow, contain a small quantity of solanin. 1859 FAIRHOLT *Tobacco* (1876) 2 The Potato fruit and leaves give us Solanine. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 91 According to Grasset, solanine diminishes the amount of tremor.

‖ **Solano** (sŏlā·nŏ). [Sp.:—L. *sōlānus*, f. *sōl* sun.] In Spain, a hot south-easterly wind.

[1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ii. 120 The Solanus or Easterne winde is commonly hote and troublesome in Spaine.] 1792 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. thro. Spain* II. 360 Whenever they have the Solano wind, that is, whenever the wind blows from Africa, they become liable to pleurisies. 1834 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXII. 343 The heat in Summer is very great, and, when the Solano or South wind blows, nearly insupportable. 1881 *Standard* 14 July 5 'Ask no grace in the Solano.' So runs the Spanish proverb.

Solanoid (sŏ·lănoid), *a. Path.* [f. SOLAN-UM + -OID.] (See quot.)

1851 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sci.* (ed. 4), *Solanoid*, resembling a potato...An epithet applied to a form of cancer, which appears to be intermediate between scirrhus and encephaloid.

‖ **Solanum** (sŏlā·nŏm). [L. *sōlānum* nightshade.] A plant of the nightshade family, or the genus of gamopetalous plants of which this is the type; some amount or preparation of the plant used for medical purposes. Also *fig.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 447 This *solanum* cooleth .. more strongly than the Common Nightshade. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. v. i. vi, Simples, as poppy, nightshade or solanum. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* i. 7 That venemous solanum, that deadly nightshade, that drives its cold poison into the understandings of men. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 145 Apothecaries, when dispensing a recipe wherein antimony, solanum, laudanum, or mercury is an ingredient, are extremely careful. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* i. (1818) 22 Some herbaceous plants, particularly a convolvulus,..a solanum, a lotus, an aloe, &c. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 123 A dense growth of bright-yellow compositæ, and solanums with a purple flower. 1884 tr. *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 49 The abundance of tuberous solanums growing in the temperate regions of America,..confirms the fact of an American origin.

attrib. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1269/1 Some of the Solanum tribes. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 598 *Solanaceæ*.—The Solanum or Potato Order. 1884 tr. *De Candolle's Orig. Cultivated Pl.* 53 The sweet potato belongs to the Convolvulus family, the potato to the Solanum family.

Solar (sō·ulăɹ), *a.* and *sb.*1 [ad. L. *sōlār-is*, f. *sōl* sun. Cf. F. *solaire*, Sp. *solar*, Pg. *solar*, It. *solare*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the sun, its course, light, heat, etc.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 31 Under the Cirkill solar thir sauoruss seidis War nurist be dame Natur. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Solar*, of or belonging to the Sun. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. Augustæ.* xii, Our Isle..lay Out of the Solar walk and Heavens high way. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 102 His soul, proud Science never taught to stray Far as the solar walk, or milky way. 1754 GRAY *Progress Poesy* 54 In climes beyond the solar road. 1769 [see DISK 4]. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 331 In the solar spectrum.. heat and light are not present in correspondent degrees. 1863 NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 221 Our solar universe subsists, through the opposition of the light-and-heat-receiving circumference to the light-and-heat-imparting centre. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* ii. § 73. 85 The spots were unmistakably solar phenomena.

b. Of time: Determined by the course of the sun; fixed by observation of the sun.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. i. xiv. (1636) 358 The Month Solar is that space of time which the Sunne spendeth in passing thorow any one of the twelve signes. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacræ* I. v. § 1 If years be sometimes Lunar, sometimes Solar. *Ibid.*, The Solar moneths were either naturall..or civill. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Solar Cycle. 1725 WATTS *Logic* (1736) 47 A Solar Year of three hundred sixty five Days. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* Introd. 44 To be daily delivered fresh, in every company, for twelve solar Months. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 81 The mean interval of time between the sun's passing the meridian one day, and his passing it the next, is called a mean solar day. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 450/1 The perpetuity of the solar cycle..is destroyed by the new style. 1855 LARDNER *Mus. Sci. & Art* V. 139 The time of 60 swings will be a mean solar minute, and the time of 3600 will be a mean solar hour. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 437 The period that elapses between two successive passages through the vernal equinox..is called the solar, or tropical year.

c. Indicating time in relation to, or by means of, the sun.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Dial*, To use a Solar, as a Lunar-Dial, *i.e.* to find the Hour of the Night by a Sun-Dial. 1829 W. PEARSON *Pract. Astron.* II. 314 Besides two good sidereal clocks, a well furnished observatory ought not to be without a good solar clock. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2238/2 *Solar Chronometer*, a sun-dial adapted to show mean instead of solar time. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 138 Beginning with the Solar Calendar, which is the simpler.

d. Of mechanism, etc.: Operating by means of, or with the aid of, the light or heat of the sun.

1740 [see MICROSCOPE 1 b]. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xli. 346 The solar microscope is nothing more than a magic lantern, the light of the sun being used instead of that of a lamp. 1875 VOGEL *Chem. Light & Photogr.* x. 95 To produce photographic images life size, the magic lantern is not used, but the solar camera. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2239/1 Solar Engine. *Ibid.*, Solar Telegraph. 1877–82 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* Suppl. 36/2 During the late campaign in Affghanistan, Solar Telegraphy was much resorted to. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 828/2 *Solar Boiler*, an apparatus intended to utilize the heat of the sun's rays.

2. a. *Astrol.* Subject to the influence of the sun; having a nature or character determined by the sun.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 493 They haue denominated some Herbs Solar and some Lunar. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* lxxiv. 424 The benefit he expects..shall be by the King, a Magistrate,..or by a Solar man of noble disposition. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 652 The cock was pleas'd.., And proud beside, as solar people are. 1845 *The Theologian* II. 41 When well dignified, the solar man is..splendid and sumptuous. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 294/1 The solar man is grand and generous, the lunar man unsteadfast.

b. Sacred to the sun; connected or associated with the worship of the sun.

1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 66 It was at first only a mark of reference, and betokened a solar animal, specifying the particular Deity to whom it was sacred. 1820 W. TOOKE *Lucian* I. 554 The miracle..which Homer relates of the solar-oxen. 1877 W. R. COOPER *Egypt. Obelisks* ii. (1878) 6 In Ra, according to the solar litanies, were combined all the attributes of power and wisdom. 1906 LOCKYER *Stonehenge* v. 51 The assumption of Stonehenge having been a solar temple.

c. Representing or symbolizing the sun.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 531 Meantime the solar king collects from far His martial bands. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* II. 106 The solari-tauric Mithras is therefore evidently the solar man-bull Taschter. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* vi. 311 Hence few mythologies are altogether free from the loves of solar heroes and dawn maidens.

d. Sprung or descended from the sun.

1788 SIR W. JONES in *Asiatic Researches* (1790) II. 136 The time, when the Solar and Lunar dynasties are believed to have become extinct. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 259 The lunar race has but forty-eight names in the same period, in which the solar has ninety-five.

†**3. a.** *Solar earth, metal*, gold. (Cf. SOL *sb.*1 2.)

b. *Solar metal*, a coloured metal. *Obs.*

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cxxix, Wee..need not feare an Asse's Load Of Solar Earth can force the Gates vnshutt. 1666 J. SMITH *Solomon's Portraiture Old Age* (1752) 92 By the help of fire, and possibly some specific menstruum as a proper key for that solar metal. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 352 The alchemists gave the name of Solar Metals to those which are coloured; and that of Lunar to those which are white.

4. Of light, heat, etc.: Proceeding or emanating from the sun.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 242 We had our Skins flead off of those Parts exposed to the Solar Rays. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 515 Nor winter's boreal blast,..Nor solar ray, could pierce the shady bower. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 125 By concentrated solar heat. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 289 The light derived from such sources differs from the solar light in being accompanied by free radiant caloric. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 41 The solution..offers a means of filtering the solar beam.

b. Warmed by the sun; sunny.

1821 BYRON *Sard.* I. ii. 127 Semiramis..led These our Assyrians to the solar shores Of Ganges.

5. Resembling that of the sun; comparable to the sun. Also *fig.*

1754 YOUNG *Centaur not Fabulous* Wks. 1762 IV. 260 They only have solar or self-born light who live up to the dignity of their nature. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvi. 402 Solid bodies of a solar nature. 1839–48 BAILEY *Festus* viii. 87, I saw,..Blazing aghast in solar solitude, A panting shadow. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 62 He was in this respect a solar man: he drew after him his own firmament of planets.

6. In Arabic grammar, the epithet of the class of consonants before which the *l* of the article is assimilated; so called because including *sh*, the initial letter of *shems* 'sun'. Opposed to *lunar*.

1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* iii. 8 The dentals and linguals are called solar letters. 1855 DAVIS & DAVIDSON *Arabic Reading Less.* p. xxxii, The influence the solar letters exercise upon the article. 1905 *N. & Q.* 30 Dec. 534/1 One of the fourteen solar letters.

7. Special collocations:

Solar apex, the point in space, situated in the constellation Lyra, toward which the sun is moving; the apex of the solar way; †**Solar comet** (see quot. 1704). **Solar compass,** (*a*) a magnetic instrument turning under the influence of the sun's rays; (*b*) an instrument used in surveying for easy determination of the meridian. **Solar constant** (see CONSTANT B, quots. 1869, 1890). **Solar eye,** *fig.* (see quot.). **Solar eye-piece**, a device used in observations of the sun to diminish the light and heat of this (Knight, 1875). **Solar ganglion,** = *solar plexus*. **Solar lamp,** (*a*) an argand lamp; (*b*) a grade of electric lamp. **Solar myth,** a myth resulting from a personification of the sun and describing its course or attributes as those of some god or hero. **Solar oil** (see quot. 1868). **Solar phosphorus,** a substance which emits light as the result of exposure to sunlight. **Solar plexus,** a complex of nerves situated at the pit of the stomach; the epigastric plexus. **Solar print,** a photograph made by sunlight. **Solar reflector** (see quot.). **Solar spot,** a sunspot. **Solar stearin,** a substance obtained from lard. **Solar system,** the sun together with all the planets and other bodies connected with it. **Solar tables,** tables by which the position of the sun may be ascertained. **Solar wheel,** a wheel in a clock serving to show the apparent daily motion of the sun.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 819 Whose various determinations of the *solar apex are shown in fig. 52. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Argyrocomus*, a Silver-coloured Comet differing very little from the *Solar Comet, except that it is of a brighter Silver colour. 1833 T. BROWN *White's Selborne* 227 *note*, Mr. Mark Watt has invented a very..interesting instrument, which he calls the heliastron, or *solar compass. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. i. i, We must,..as Ficinus aduiseth us, get vs *solar eyes, spectacles as they that looke on the Sunne. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 57 This great *Solar Ganglion. 1841 *Mechanics' Mag.* 16 Jan. 34 The invention of the '*Solar Lamp' is due to Mr. Jeremiah Bynner, of Birmingham, by whom it was patented in 1837. 1887 CAROLINE HAZARD *Mem. J. L. Diman* iii. 54 A bright solar lamp shedding its rays around the room. 1870 G. W. COX *Myth. Aryan Nations* I. iv. 53 Of this vast mass of *solar myths, some have emerged into independent legends, others have furnished the groundwork of whole epics. 1864 *Intell. Obs.* IV. 91 The more volatile [portion] being set apart as *photogen*, and the less as *solar oil. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem., Solar Oil*, a name applied in commerce chiefly to the heavier portions of petroleum and shale-oil. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 184 They yield a *solar phosphorus, called, from its discoverer, Homberg's phosphorus. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 331 The phenomena of the solar phosphori seem to militate against this idea. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 234/2 Branches of the *solar or cæliac plexus, formed by the eighth pair and intercostals. 1830 R. KNOX *Beclard's Anat.* 346 The union of the nervus vagus of the right side and the solar plexus. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* x. (1879) 404 The solar plexus..behind the stomach. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 281 The two first *solar prints that were made in New York in 1853 or 1854. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 275 The *Solar Reflector..enables us to reflect the solar ray into any piece of apparatus or room, suitably situated. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Solar Spots.* See *Spots of the Sun.* 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* v. 96 The solar spots, which are now universally admitted to be openings in the luminous stratum. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 312 A solid, glistening, and crystalline residue, known in commerce as '*solar stearin', which is useful in candle making. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Elem. Nat. Phil.* iii. (1754) 8 Our *solar system consists of the sun, and the planets, and comets moving about it. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 132 The common Centre of the Solar System. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 197/1 We are now to state the relative dimensions of the Solar System in a rough manner. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* viii. 55 The *Solar Tables give the Sun's longitude. 1819 *Rees's Cycl.* VIII. 3 U, The remedy we have proposed for the inaccuracy of Mr. Ferguson's *solar and lunar wheels.

8. *Comb.*, as *solar-diluvian, -form, -spotted* adjs.; *solar-microscope* vb.

1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* (1792) II. 271 When she proceeds from reason to the object of imagination, she naturally obtains a solar-form body. 1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 249 Ogygi-San is equivalent to the solar-diluvian god. *a* 1849 POE *Mrs. Browning* Wks. 1864 III. 403 A nature..solar microscoped into poetry. 1881 *Nature* XVIII. 237 The curve of solar-spotted area.

3. *sb.*1 *Photogr.* A solar print.
1879 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 281 Each unbeknown ie other was making life size solars for the American itute Fair.

olar, *sb.*2 Alteration (after prec.) of SOLA *sb.*
1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 332 A large Stock of ir Hats, suitable for Port Curtis. 1859 J. LANG *Wand. Va* 183 He was dressed in a pair of large jack-boots, luroy breeches, a shooting-coat, and a solar helmet. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 20 One ir topee pith hat.

olar(e, variants of SOLLAR *sb.*1

ola·ri-, combining form of L. *sōlāri-s* SOLAR *a.*
1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 204 The solari-diluvian Noah. 1. II. 369 The solari-agricultural patriarch. 1816—*Orig. gan Idol.* II. 106 The solari-tauric Mithras.

olarism (sō·ulărizm). [f. SOLAR *a.* + -ISM.] ie theory of solar myths; excessive use of, or herence to, this theory.
1885 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* XVIII. 700 Solarism—a sys- a which prides itself above all things on its exhibiting the mitive state of things. 1885—*Ibid.* XIX. 21 It is to this nopolising pretension that I seek to apply the name of arism. 1889 MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* xiii. 349 Fetish- n, totemism, animism, solarism, shumanism.

Solarist (sō·ulărist). [f. SOLAR *a.* + -IST.] One 10 holds the theory of solar myths, esp. to an cessive degree.
1885 *Standard* 30 Oct. 3/1 The use made by the solarists far-fetched etymologies. 1895 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* IV. ef. p. xiii, I have been represented again and again..as Solarist, as teaching that the whole of mythology is solar.

Solarium (sŏlēə·riŭm). Pl. **solaria**. [L. *lārium*, f. *sōl* sun. Cf. SOLLAR *sb.*1]
.. A sun-dial.
1842 *Smith's Dict. Gk. & Rom. Antiq.* 487/2 This solarium ing made for a different meridian. *Ibid.*, The number of laria which have been discovered .. in Italy. 1880 L. ALLACE *Ben-Hur* 142 Lifting his eyes from the solarium t under the aplustre for reference in keeping the course.
2. A terrace, balcony, or room exposed to the ys of the sun, now *spec.* one used for the purpose treating illness by means of sun-baths. Also *fig.*
1891 E. EGGLESTON *Faith Doctor* xxvi. 289 My brother pt a health-lift a few years ago .., and then he had a blue- ass solarium. 1894 *The Voice* (N.Y.) 20 Sept., The solariums the roofs of the houses of the ancient Greeks and Romans stify to the benefits obtained by them from sun baths. 1904 WELLS *Life J. H. Wilson* xvi. 139 The Church was a sort spiritual solarium.

Solarization (sō·ulărəizē·ʃən). [f. SOLARIZE + -ATION.]
1. *Photogr.* The injurious effect produced by over-exposing a negative to the action of light, resulting the reversal of the image; a similar effect pro- uced by over-printing sensitized paper, etc.
1853 R. HUNT *Man. Photogr.* 149, I have been enabled to iscover at what degree of intensity of light the effect called olarization is produced. 1854 HADOW in *Jrnl. Photogr. oc.* I. 191 My pictures were constantly liable to solarization or darkening of those parts that ought to be whitish). 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bulletin* II. 267 Their entire freedom rom halation or solarization.
2. (See quot.)
1882 *Nature* 13 July 246 On the instant after the exposure f the eye to strong light,..—solarisation I will call it.

Solarize (sō·ulărəiz), *v.* [f. SOLAR *a.* + -IZE. So *. solariser.*]
1. *trans.* To affect or modify by the influence of he sun or the action of its rays; *spec.* in *Photogr.*, o injure by over-exposure to light.
1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 13 Then, solarized, he pressed onwards o the sun. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 74 An exposure to bright sunlight, sufficient to solarise the [film].
2. *intr.* To be affected by solarization.
1868 M. C. LEA *Photography* 137 (Cent. Dict.), It is a familiar fact that iodide of silver solarizes very easily. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Oct. 14/2 There is a tendency on the part of the paper to solarise when printed by direct sunlight.
Hence **So·larized**, **So·larizing** *ppl. adjs.*
1870 *Eng. Mech.* 18 Mar. 661/2, I..find..more than one solarised place. 1882 *Nature* 13 July 246 Portions of the solarised eye that had escaped the solarising action. 1890 PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 188 Much in the same way that the solarized atmosphere of our world becomes inbuilt ..in the trunk and branches of a tree.

†**So·larly**, *adv. Obs.*−1 [Irreg. f. L. *sōl-us* alone.] By itself, without addition.
1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 392 The Succe of Liquorice is ..successfully assumed solarly for the affections of the lungs.

†**So·lary**, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *sōlāri-s*: see -ARY2 and cf. SOLAR. *a.*]
The various senses of the *sb. solary* given by Blount *Glossogr.* (1656) are merely copied from Cooper's *Thesaurus* s.v. *Solarium* (two entries). In the second ed. of Sir T. Browne's *Pseud. Ep.* VI. XII. *solary* is a misprint for *salary.*
1. Of or belonging to, pertaining to, connected with, the sun.
1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 117 The euent of the said Solarie defect shal be but according to the quantity of the Eclipse it self. 1602 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 721 So likewise doth the shadow of the earth hinder the moone of the solary illumination. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 345 Beside the solary Iris which God shewed unto Noah, there is another Lunary. 1664 POWER *Exp. Phil.* Pref. 16 The Solary Atoms of light. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physic* 29 Their Statues were..adorn'd with Solary Rays, and crown'd at last with Celestial Beams.
b. Of time: = SOLAR *a.* 1 b.
1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. iii. § 6. 255 Ve Adar was an intercalarie Moneth, added..to make the Solarie and Lunarie yeare agree. 1625 H. CROOKE *Body of Man* 336 That is called a Solarie moneth wherein the Sunne runneth through thirty degrees of the Zodiacke. 1697 PRIDEAUX *Life Mahomet* (1716) 73 The Mahometan Year falling eleven Days short of the Solary.
c. (See quot.)
1651 FRENCH *Distill.* vi. 189 There is found a certaine stone in Bononia, which some call a golden Marcasite, some a Solarie Magnes, that receives light from the sun in the day time, and gives it forth in the dark.
2. *Alch.* and *Astrol.* Of the nature of the sun; subject to the influence of the sun.
1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xi. 47 There are starres which haue their most colde and moyst spirites;..others, most hote and drie, as the Solarie, and Martialls. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. 114 That mysticall mettle of gold, whose solary and celestiall nature I admire. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* VI. 189 Crude gold .. is by them not only called Solary but Sol..it selfe. 1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Pract. Phys.* 156, I do usually cause the patients to wear a select number of solary herbs gathered at the hour of the Sun.
3. Pre-eminent like the sun.
1651 FRENCH *Distill.* Ded. A iij b, This Art of Alchymie is that Solary art, which is more noble then all the other six arts, and sciences.

Solaster (sŏlæ·stəɹ). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *sōl* sun + *aster*, Gr. ἀστήρ star.] A genus of star-fishes, typical of those having more than five rays; a member of this genus, a sun-star.
1841 E. FORBES *Brit. Star-fishes* 110 The Solasters are suns in the system of sea-stars. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 17/1 Those which have the body radiated,..comprising the genera *Solaster* and *Pentaster* of De Blainville. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* ix. 224 The Solasters, or Sun-stars, have only two rows of suckers in each furrow.

†**Sola·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *solacion, solation*, or ad. L. type **sōlātio*, f. *sōlārī* to console.]
a. Rejoicing, joy. b. Consolation.
1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 436/3 In thys tyme of pasque our moder holy chyrche..maketh Solacyon for the resurrexyon of Jnesu cryste. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) I. 21 Now sithe I am thus..set in my solation, a biglie blisse here will I builde. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 10 There are pleasures and solations indulged by Providence to every stage of life.

‖ **Solatium** (sŏlē·ʃiŭm). [L. *sōlātium, sōlācium*, related to *sōlārī* to console: cf. SOLACE *sb.*1]
1. A sum of money, or other compensation, given to a person to make up for loss or inconvenience.
1817 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 27 May, It was a *bonus* or *solatium* paid to them by the gentry, to prevent their rising and righting themselves at the expense of the aristocracy. 1853 W. JERDAN *Autobiog.* III. 81 A weekly solatium was arranged to the extent of the author's own suggestion. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 8/2 Another offered by way of a solatium in the hour of his disappointment the vacant trusteeship of a well-known charitable institution.
2. *spec.* in *Law.* A sum of money paid, over and above the actual damages, as a solace for injured feelings.
1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. xv. 397 The ground of action being not only indemnification for damage, but also solatium for bereavement. 1863 *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Aug. 103 [A] traveller for a firm of Staffordshire china merchants obtained £500 damages and £300 solatium at a jury trial.

Solay, error for SPLAY *v.*
1726 *Gentl. Angler* 156 *Solayed*, a Technical Term for a Bream being cut up. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 169 *Solay a bream*, cut him up. 1853 BADHAM *Prose Halieut.* (1854) 343 He gobbets trout,..solays bream, and sides haddock.

‖ **Solazzi** (sola·tsi). [The name of the Italian maker.] *Solazzi juice*, a kind of liquorice.
1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 527 Various preparations of liquorice are commonly kept in the shops, and sold under the names of..extract of liquorice, Solazzi juice, &c. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 688/1 The quality best appreciated in the United Kingdom is made in Calabria, and sold under the names of Solazzi and Corigliano juice.

†**Sold**, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–5 soude, sowde, 5 sood-, sowede; 4–5, *Sc.* 8–9 sould, sowd. β. 5 sawd(e. γ. 5–6 sould(e. δ. 5–7 sold, 6 solde. [a. OF. *soude, soulde* (more commonly *soudee, souldee*, etc.), = It. and Pg. *soldo*, Sp. *sueldo*:—L. *solidum*, acc. sing. of *solidus*: see SOL *sb.*3 and SOU. (The mod.F. *solde* is due to Italian influence.) Cf. MDu., MLG., MHG. *solt*, Du., G., Da., Sw. *sold.*]
1. Pay (esp. of soldiers), wages, salary.
α. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14234 Payen & Cristen knyght..at soud he held. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 146 Fle covetise of godis, and be payed wiþ 3oure sowdes. 1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 41 My Lord Tresorer graunted the seid vij c. marc to my Lord of Norffolk, for the arrerag of hys sowde qwyl he was in Scotland. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 31 That the said chieftein must pay his men of soude.. justly. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* (1811) 519 For the wage & sowde of the Nauaroys and Englysshemen.
β. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 94 These paroche preestes that ministren the sacramentis, for a certen sawd bi 3eer. *c* 1450 *King Ponthus & Fair Sidone* I. (1897) 1, I schal paye their sawde for thre yer.
γ. 1429 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees, 1835) 79 Ilk preest hauyng for his sould by yeer viij mrc'. 1473 Edw. IV in *State P. Hen. VIII*, VI. 8 For contentation of a yerely soulde. 1542 PAGET *Ibid.* IX. 198 He myndeth..to borowe the sould of 20000 men for a yere, if He canne obteyne it. 1550 T. NYCOLLS *Thucidides* 216 To paye the soulde or wages of the sayd armye.
δ. 1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann. Cl.) 61 Serue 3our soldis of the King. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 209 Thi worthi kyn may nocht the saiff for sold. 1544 HARVEL in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 619 For lacke of payment of his solde. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 6 Were your will, her sold to entertaine, And numbred be mongst knights of Maydenhed. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 131 Lying in campe under sold and pay, fighting as souldiers. 1630 *K. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 163 Lastly, there is the Sold, or pay of 50000 foot.
2. *Sc.* A sum or quantity (orig. of money or gold).
1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. i. 91 With a grete sold of gold fey Priamus Secretlie vnquhile send this Polidorus .. to Polymnestor. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s.v. *Sold*, Scot. *Sowd*, as a sowd of money, *i. e.* a great sum. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIV. 74 *note*, The tradesmen are paid..with a certain sum or quantity of victual annually agreed on, called *soud.* 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* ii, A sowd of toddy was swallowed. 1845 STILL *Cottar's Sunday* 172 They wha grip Great souds o' hidden treasure.

†**Sold**, *sb.*2 *Obs.*−0 In 5 sowde. [? a. OF. **soude* (Pg. *solda*):—L. *solida*: cf. prec. and SOLD *v.*2] Solder.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 466/1 Sowde, metel, *consolidum solidarium.*

†**Sold**, *sb.*3 *Obs.*−1 In 6 soulde, 6–7 solde. [ad. It. *soldo*: cf. SOLD *sb.*1 and SOL *sb.*3] A sol or small coin.
1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xx. 171 They haue myttes, duccates, & soldes [in Hungary]. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 216 In syluer they haue [in Turkey] Aspers and Souldes; and ther be som Souldes that be brasse. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 108 Their horsemen haue onely sixe soldes Venetian a day.

†**Sold**, *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: α. 4–5 soud-, 5 sowd-, sawd-. β. 5–6 sould(e. 6 sowld-, sold-. [f. SOLD *sb.*1: cf. OF. *soud-, soldeier.* But perh. partly due to OF. *soudre, saudre, souldre, soldre*:—L. *solvĕre* to pay.]
1. *trans.* To pay; to enlist or retain for service by payment. Also *fig.*
α. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress's T.* 128 O martir soudit to virginite. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXII. 431 Imparfit is þe pope þat..soudeþ hem þat sleep suche as he sholde saue. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 53 He fand..grete quantitee of gold.., With the quhilk he sawdit grete nowmer of men of armys. *a* 1470 GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 106 To have men sowdyd with hym ayenst the Duke of Orleans.
β. 1418 in Riley *Lond. Mem.* (1868) 665 Normandye, here to be soulded or waged wiþ þe Kyng. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Armis* (S.T.S.) 143 [He sent] gold in Almayne for to soulde men of armes, for the space of ane 3ere. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 37 The harmys whiche we ourselffes showld susteyn in sowldyng of so great an army. 1550 T. NYCOLLS *Thucidides* 221 b, Who..soulded or waged aboutes three houndred souldyars.
2. *intr.* To serve as a paid soldier or mercenary.
1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* I. 9 Virginius at that time soulded for honest wages..againste the Latines.
Hence † **So·lding** *vbl. sb.*1 *Obs.*
1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 29 For lak of good provisions bothe of artillery and ordenaunce for the werre and soudeyng to be made in dew season. *Ibid.* 83 Whiche..were not usid of custom nothing to pay..to the souding of men of armes.

†**Sold**, *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms: α. 4 soud-, 4–6 sowd-; 4–5 sawd-. β. 5 sould-, 5–6 sold-. [ad. OF. *souder, sauder, soulder*, = Prov. *soudar, soldar*, Sp. and Pg. *soldar*, It. *sodare*:—L. *solidāre* to make solid or firm, f. *solidus* SOLID *a.*]
1. *trans.* To solder; to fasten with solder; to unite (metal) by soldering († or welding).
c 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 77 Dauid made A serkell al of siluer brade, And bad þat it suld sawded be All obout þe haly thre [= tree]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xciii. (Tollem. MS.), Leed may not be sone soudid to leed noþer to bras, noþer to yren with oute tyn. *c* 1425 *Seven Sages* (P.) 2023 Than thay sayen at the laste How the piler stode in bras, And with sowdyng sowdyt faste. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 103, xxx arches of marble,..whyche ben soulded wyth leed and cyment. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 350 Item, to..ane man that sowdit ane gwn of the Kingis schip, xiiij s.
2. *transf.* To unite firmly or closely; *spec.* in medical use (see SOLDER *v.* 2).
1388 WYCLIF *Acts* iii. 7 And anoon hise leggis and hise feet weren sowdid togidere; and he lippide, and stood. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxxi. (Bodl. MS.), The couge suffreþ not þe wounde to be closed and isawded. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 45 She trowed..for to haue souded þe place of þe fynger in whiche þe bone..stode bifore. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 170 Som men late the roete end of the vyne be vncutt..til it be sowded with the chiri tree.
b. *intr.* To close or heal. (Cf. SOLDER *v.* 6.)
a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 46, I putte to vnguentum viride vpon stupes, and þe fynger bigan for to soude. *Ibid.* 84 þe sidez of þe wounde byganne for to soude or congluinate.
Hence † **So·lding** *vbl. sb.*2 *Obs.*
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xix. (Bodl. MS.), [Glue] haþ vertu of drawinge & sowding. *c* 1425 [see sense 1 above]. 1447–8 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 275 Pro..le sowdyng unius olle eree. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 137 Item, for solding..of the Kingis salt fat, ij s. 1533 *Dunmow Churchw. MSS.* fol. 17 b, To the makyng or sowdyng of the bell.
attrib. 1341–2 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* II. 117 In factura..soudinghirnes pro fabricacione vitri. 1399 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 18 Item ij soudyngirens et j helme ferri.

Sold (sōuld), *ppl. a.* Also 6 solde, *Sc.* sauld. [pa. pple. of SELL *v.*]
1. Disposed of by sale. Also *fig.*
1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xviii. 8 Besydes that which he

hath of the solde good of his fathers. 1591 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 162 Thair is to be deducit the rest restand upoun the comptar at the fute of the sauld victuellis. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* clxv. (1862) V. 384 Except that Christ's grace hath bought such a sold body, I know not what else any may think of me. 1652 in Miss Hickson *Ireland 17th Cent.* (1884) I. 298 As the exam't.'s husband told her when he came home next day, and withal said we were 'a sold people'. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* xi, The very same low distressed condition as he was in, I mean a sold servant. 1853 FAIRBAIRN *Typology Scripture* I. 339 The sold, hated, and crucified One. 1862 THORNBURY *Life of Turner* I. 271 A volume of sketches of sold pictures.

2. Denoting a sale effected.

1862 *Parthenon* 16 Aug. 497/1 Those pictures which have 'sold' tickets. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 193/1 There was no clause about arbitration on the sold note sent by the brokers to the plaintiffs.

† **Soldad(e,** Anglicized forms of next. *Obs.*

1634 SHIRLEY *Example* III. i, He's marching up the stairs, with another soldade. *Ibid.* IV. i, I do not like this soldad's embassage. 1652 — *Doubtful Heir* v. E vij b, This 'tis to deal with Soldades.

‖ **Soldado** (sŏldā·dŏ). Also 6–7 **souldado,** 9 *erron.* **soldada.** [Sp. (and Pg.), = It. *soldato* (whence F. *soldat*), f. *soldo* (Sp. *sueldo*) military pay: see SOLD *sb.*1]

1. A soldier. Also *attrib.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 105/2 This roisting Rutterkin wholie then standing on the soldado hoigh. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 247 To be terrible like a warrior and a Soldado. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widdowes T.* v. i, [Will] No bootie serue you sir Soldado But my poore sister? 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 142 Seizing it by Force with Three Files of Soldadoes. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* ii, Neither Wallenstein nor Pappenheim..would likely listen to the objurgations of boors or burghers against any commander or soldado. 1840 HOR. SMITH *Cromwell* I. 268 Sad-visaged and morose soldadoes in suits of buff tarnished and soiled by service. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 136 The otherwise single-minded and honourable soldado.

2. The South American heron.

1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xx. 255 On the summits of those [rocks] situated near the Orinoco, flamingos, soldados, and other fishing birds perch.

3. The squirrel-fish (*Holocentrus ascensionis*) of the West Indies, etc. (*Webster's Suppl.* 1902.)

Soldan (sŏ·ldăn). Now *arch.* or *Hist.* Forms: *α.* 3–7, 9 soudan (4 -en, -on, 6 -ane), 4–6 sowdan (4 -ane, 5 -on, 6 -en, -own), 6 sowdeyn, 6–7 -aine (7 -ayne). *β.* 4, 6 saudan (4 -ayn, 6 -ant), 4 sawden, 5–6 sawdon, 6 -ant, -an, sodan, -en. *γ.* 4, 6–7 souldan (5 -one, 7 -en), 6 sowldan, 7 sauldan, suldan. *δ.* 4– soldan (6 -ane, 7 -ian). [a. OF. *soudan, sodan, souldan, soldan* (also *-ain, -ant*), = Prov. *soudan, saudan,* Cat. *soldá,* Sp. *soldan,* Pg. *soldão,* It. *soldano* (med L. *soldanus*), ad. Arab. *sulṭān*: see SULTAN.]

1. The supreme ruler of one or other of the great Mohammedan powers or countries of the Middle Ages; *spec.* the Sultan of Egypt.

The *Soldan* is sometimes contrasted with the (*Great*) *Turk* and with the *Sophy* of Persia.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10901 þe soudan somdel uor fere Triwes wiþ him nom. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 140 Bode coni..How þe fals soudan destroied alle þe lond. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 375 þei harmen Cristen men more cruely þen þo Soudon of Sarazenes. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 3942 The Sowdon went aveyn to his disporte. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 174 With hym he fond slayne the Sowdan of Surrey. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 79 In a stage play all the people know right wel that he that playeth the sowdayne is percase a sowter. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 87 Feare of treason..to be wrought betwene Saladine the Soudane and king Richard. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xi. 257 James, who, with the aid of the soudan of Egypt,..seized the crown from his sister and the duke.

attrib. 15.. *Droichis Part of Play* 5 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 314 A sargeand out of Sowdoun land.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1323 Emperour of alle þe erbe & also þe saudan. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 43 The Sawden and duke of Turkes, the grete malle of Cristen peple. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 275 My right redoubted lordes the Sawdants of Barbarye & of Damaske. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/2 As the[y] wryte to the Sodan, than gyueth he them that they dyssyre.

γ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 180 Thei gon to Barbarie ayein, And thier the Souldan for hem sente. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* 11 The souldone of Babiloyne had waged hym to doo it. 1587 GREENE *Penelope's Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 181 That Saladyne the mighty Souldan of Ægipt. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xliii. 207 Richard..wonne Cyprus, Syria, and Ierusalem, debelling quite the Sowldan from his land. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 364 This is all that Souldan Saladine hath left of all his ensignes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 321 The Mamaluks..were the guard of the Suldans, as the Iannizaries are to the great Turke.

δ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 245 The grete Soldan thanne of Perse. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 313 The Soldan of Babilony. 1562 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiers* 98 The Turke by meanes of artillerie, againste the Sophi and the Soldan, hathe had victory. 1594 GREENE *Selimus* 566 Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 216 We that haue..stript th' Egyptian soldan of his camp. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. 199 He plainely shewes, that the Soldans of Egypt were not Lords of the Countrie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 764 Where Champions bold..at the Soldans chair Defi'd the best of Panim chivalry To mortal combat. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 83 The Soldan, as he fled, Oft call'd on Alla. 1742 HUME *Ess. & Treat* I. iv. (1777) I. 29 The soldan of Egypt, or the Emperor of Rome, might drive his harmless subjects..against their sentiments and inclination. 1849 J. A. CARLYLE *Dante, Inf.* v, She held the land which the Soldan rules. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xii. (1889) 182 It [a letter] bids the Soldan withdraw at once from the dominions of Rome.

† **b.** The governor of a town. *Obs.*—1

1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 16 A little turret.. where the treasure belonging to the Soudan or Governour of the Town is kept.

2. With *a* and pl. A Mohammedan ruler; one having the rank of sultan.

α. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1781 (W.), Darie..holdith riche gestnyng, Of dukes, eorles, amiraylis, And of soudans. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 98 More [harm] þan ony soudon or sarsyn or oþer men of wrong bileue. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xxii (1554) 29 Mightye princes Soudans twayne. *c* 1470 *Rauf Coilzear* 898 Thow slane hes oft,..of my Counsingis, Soudanis and sib men. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 108 The malignitie and cruell attemptates of the deuelishe rablement, and wicked sowdanes.

γ. δ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 145 A Soldan whilom was of Perce. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 348/2 A Soldan, *soldanus.* 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 55 We saw in the Emperours court..many great Soldanes receiuing no due honour. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 195 Who..made paiment to his souldans and soldiers. 1611 COTGR., *Sultan,* a Sultan, or Souldan. 1795 SOUTHEY *Maid of Orleans* II. 337 Cæsars and Soldans, Emperors and Kings,..here they were all. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke's Hist.* (1851) II. 136 He could no longer hope to strike down gigantic soldans. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* IV. ii, I had it from an Arab soldan.

So·ldanate. [ad. It. *soldanato* (med.L. *soldanatus*): see prec.] The power of the Sultan.

1878 tr. *Villari's Machiavelli* I. vii. II. 191 There is no longer any difference between the Papacy and the *Soldanate.*

† **Soldanel, -ell,** Anglicized forms of next.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* (1568) 72 Brassica marina..may be called in englyshe, soldanell, or see folefot. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Soldanel, *Soldanella. Ibid.,* Soldanel of the Shops, *Convolvulus.* 1786 J. ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem. in Gard. Assist.* 54/2 *Convolvulus,* or bindweed.., (*Soldanella*) or sea soldanel minor.

‖ **Soldanella** (sŏldăne·lă). *Bot.* Also 9 *erron.* **soldinella.** [mod.L., a. It. *soldanella* of obscure origin; hence also Pg. *soldanella,* F. *soldanelle* (16th cent.). Cf. prec.]

† **1.** A species of convolvulus or bindweed, *Convolvulus soldanella. Obs.*

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 607 Soldanella purgeth downe all kind of watrish humors. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxciii. 631 Soldanella hurteth the stomacke, and troubleth the weake and delicate bodies which do receiue it in powder. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 51 The sea Colewort (otherwise named Soldanella) of all others purgeth most forcibly. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* II. 629 On the Bay-side, Soldanella or Sea-Scurvygrass [grows] in great plenty. 1697 *Ibid.* XIX. 397 Two Purging Sea Bindweeds, call'd in our Shops Soldanella. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 89 Soldanella..is a Species of Bindweed or a small Plant that sends forth slender, winding, reddish Stalks.

2. A primulaceous plant of the genus *Soldanella,* native in Alpine districts.

1629 [see MOONWORT 5]. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 111/2 Mountain Soldanella is a bell-flower..of a fair blew. 1867 *Cornhill Mag.* Jan. 54 Masses of purple primulas, yellow pansies, and delicate little soldinella. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 385/3 Soldanellas in leaf soil..have grown well.

‖ **Soldanelle.** [Fr. *soldanelle.*] = prec. 2.

1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 190 The ledges of the Salève, all aglow with primrose and soldanelle.

† **Soldaness.** *Obs. rare.* In 4–5 **sowdones,** 7 **souldannesse.** [f. SOLDAN + -ESS 1.] A sultaness.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 274 This sowdones, whom I thus blame and warry, Let pryvely hire counseil gon his way. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Lib.* IV. i. 222 The Souldannesse, wife to Amurath the third.

Soldanrie. *arch.* [f. SOLDAN + -RIE, -RY, perh. after OF. *soudanerie.*] Sultanship.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XX, You might learn to lay aside this scorn of Soldanrie.

† **Soldat.** *Obs.* Also 7 **soldatt, soldate.** [a. F. *soldat*: see SOLDADO.] A soldier.

α. 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* 452 Alarm, soldats, alarme. 1591 JAS. I *Lepanto* 664 There a Chieftaine shrillie cries, And Soldats doth command. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 127 Within the Castle wall are raisd a hundred houses, stored with men, most part soldatts. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* V. (1702) 117 Every little Whore takes upon her to be a great Lady;..every Huff, to be a Soldat.

β. 1652 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 479 A Soldate on a bench sleeping. 1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* IV. iv, By the faith of a Soldate, and a man of Arms, I will.

Soldatesque (sŏldătе·sk), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *soldatesque* (see prec. and -ESQUE), ad. It. *soldatesco* military, *soldatesca* soldiery.]

† **A.** *sb.* The military. *Obs.*

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 618 The legates in Trent (now free from the Soldatesque) advised how to delay the time. *Ibid.* 635 The Gentry and Soldatesque of the Kingdom.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to a soldier; soldier-like, soldierly.

1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 417 There was more fire and genuine soldatesque Burschicosity about this old cavalry officer than in any mad French conscript. 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages* 31 They were subject only to their own tribunals, and encouraged by these in a soldatesque license against civilians.

‖ **Solde.** *rare.* [F. *solde*: see SOLD *sb.*1] Pay.

1852 *Tait's Mag.* XIX. 549 The Mansfeld is riding by wood and by wold And his troopers take service that's better than solde. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* XIX, The fellow may well be a faithful soldier and stick to his post, if he receives promise of such a solde.

Solde (small coin): see SOLD *sb.*3

Soldear, obs. form of SOLDIER *sb.*

Solder (sŏ·ldəɹ, sɒ̃·dəɹ), *sb.*1 Forms: *α.* 4–5 soudur, 5-ure, -our, sowdur, -owre; 4–5 soudre, 5–6 souder, 5–7 (9 *dial.*) sowder (5 -ere, 6 sowder); 9 *dial.* sowther. *β.* 5 sawdur, -yr, 6 -yer; 5 sawd(e)re, 6 sawder (7 -ter), 6–7 saudre, 7 sauder. *γ.* 6–8 soder (7 soader, sodar), 7–sodder; 6 sother, 7 soather. *δ.* 5 souldour, 6–7 soulder (6 sowl-). *ε.* 7 soldure, 7– solder. [a. OF. *soud-, saud-, soldure* (cf. It. *saldatura*), f. *souder,* etc., SOLD *v.*2

American dictionaries favour the pron. (sŏ·ldəɹ). Smart (1836 and 1840) gives only (sŏ·dəɹ).]

1. A fusible metallic alloy used for uniting metal surfaces or parts.

Various kinds are distinguished by specific names, as *hard, soft* (see sense 4), *white, copper, gold, silver, pewterer's, plumber's solder.*

α. 1374 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 581 In stangno emp. pro soudur, vi. *s. c* 1400 *York Minster Fabric Rolls* (Surtees) 20 Et in iij dos' tyn emptis pro soudre, viii. *s.* viii. *d. c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 82 To make sowder of tynne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VIII. vii. 140 Thai mydlit and thai mixt this feirful souder. 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 137 To the plomer for xxx. lb. of soweder. 1603 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 52 For five pounde and a half of sowder to mende the leads. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sowther,* solder.

β. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 323 Item, for ij. li. saw[d]ere, xij. d. 1492–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 187 For a li. di. of sawdyr to sowdyr þe same pype, xij d. 1539–40 in *Devon N. & Q.* Oct. (1903) 238 Payed for xv. li. of sawdyer for the worke, v. *s.* 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 141 An old crwet whearof was made sawder for the glass windowes. 1602 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham) 143 To the plumber, for xx pound of pewter to be sawter,..x*s.* 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 70 Sawder is about eight pence or nine pence a pound.

γ. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Wks.* (1587) 308 When cutlers..hide no crackes with soder nor deceit. 1576 *Act* 18 *Eliz.* c. 15, No Goldsmith..shall..use noe Sother..more then ys necessarie. 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* (1854) 36 All compounded mettles of the same kind, as, Pewters, Belmettles, Sodars. 1637 in *Parish Bks. St. Julians, Shrewsbury* I. 27 (MS.), Received for 9 lbs. of Sodder, 3*s.* 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XX. 146 We caus'd a skilful Pewterer..to close it up..with Soder. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 17 b, The cramps..must be fastened into the sheets with hot sodder. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 155 Sodder, used by the Plumber for soddering of Pipes.

δ. 1428 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 1 þat nane of þat crafte wirke any lede amang other metaill, bot yf yt be in souldour. 1530 PALSGR. 725, I sowder a metall with sowlder. *je soulde.* 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 242 For Leade and sowlder with woorkmanshipp. 1611 COTGR., *Souldure,* ..the knot of soulder which fastens the lead of a glasse window. 1685 BOYLE *Effects of Motion* viii. 99 A gaping crack, which he was fain to fill up with soulder.

ε. 1724 SWIFT *Prometheus* Wks. 1751 III. II. 150 Goldsmiths say, the coarsest stuff Will serve for solder well enough. 1756 LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 50 He..assured himself by..closing it well with solder. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 400 Lead is used as an ingredient in various solders. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 432 The solders must be necessarily somewhat more fusible than the metals to be joined. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 364/2 The solder will run into the places which have been touched by the spirit of salt.

2. *transf.* Any binding or uniting substance. *rare.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis,* etc. (Arb.) 136 Theare chariots doe trauayle..By reason of the riuer knit with a frostye soder. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 699 The limestone which is the very soader and binder of all morter.

3. *fig.* A quality, principle, etc., which unites in any way; a bond or means of union.

γ. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 45 This [being] the end of strifes particular, this the soder of publike peace. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 43. 151, I am at my wits end..to find some glue, or sodder,..to tye this antecedent and this consequent together. 1652 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* II. 149 The ground or band of the union, the sodder that knit them together.

ε. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiv. § 38. 757/2 Money the Cement and soldure of all such actions,..vtterly fayles. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV,* ccxviii, This Prodigie to Sence, when Elements (The Solder of the World) combat themselues. 1742 R. BLAIR *Grave* 89 Friendship!..Sweetener of life, and solder of society! 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* I. 8 Illustrating a principle which forms the very solder of Nature.

4. *Soft solder*: **a.** A common kind of solder, usually made from tin and lead.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 1 Sodered verie close with safte Soder. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 616 2 Take silver, five penny-weight; brass, four penny-weight; melt them together for soft solder, which runs soonest. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 406 The solder generally made use of by the plumber is called soft solder. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 434 The soft-solder mostly used, is 2 parts tin and 1 part lead. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 207 More than five thousand pairs of barrels made and put together with soft solder only.

b. Flattery; = *Soft sawder* (see SAWDER *sb.*).

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. Wks. (1884) 226 The people [get] their annooal soft-sodder an' taxes. 1863 READE *Very Hard Cash* xliii, She..sent in a note explaining who she was, with a bit of soft solder. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Sept. 3 It is so evident..that a square-jawed ruffian..will yield like a cherub to soft-solder and coaxing.

5. [From the vb.] An act of soldering.

1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* I. x. (1734) 97 A Tinker can mend a Hole in a Brass Pot..by a Soder or Patch.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (see quots.).

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Solder-manufacturer*, a maker of cement for metals. 1873 RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 123 For solder joints the silver solder of jewellers is convenient. 1875-84 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., Solder-casting, -cutter, -cutting, -mold. 1895 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 7/1 A powerful solder-pounding machine.

† **Solder,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.*—[1]

Perh. for *soldier* in sense 4 of that word.

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* vii. 187 That out of wheat there should spring vp darnell, solders, and smuttie geare.

Solder (sɒ·ldəɹ, sōə·dəɹ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 5-6 (9 *Sc.*) souder, 5-7 soudre; 5-6 (9 *Sc.*) sowder (5 -yr, 6 sowdr-); 8-9 *north.* and *Sc.* sowther, 9 souther. *β.* 6-7 sauder (6 savdr-), 6-7 (9) sawder (7 sawdr-). *γ.* 5-8 soder (7 sodr-), 7 (9 *dial.*) soader (7 soadr-), 7-8 (9 *dial.*) sodder (7 soddr-); 6-8 (9 *dial.*) sother. *δ.* 6-7 soulder. *ε.* 6- solder (6-7 soldr-). [f. SOLDER *sb.*[1] Cf. SOLD *v.*[2]]

1. *trans.* To unite or fasten by means of a metallic solder. Also with *in, on, together, up,* etc.

a. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1447 And alle þe mynyssionys of þat nayle..Weron soudryd fast aʒayne without ony fayle. 1492-3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 187 All. di. of sawdyr to sowdyr þe same pype, xij*d.* 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xcii. (W. de W.) 584 Leed may not be sone soudryd to leed nother to brasse. 1530 PALSGR. 725/2, I wyll sowder this pipe of leede. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 59 These plates..shoulde haue bothe the endes soudred together. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 85 As though they were tied, glued, and soudred together. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, It's best to say ye're an auld tinkler,..for maybe the gudewife will hae something to souther. 1829 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Sowther,* to solder. 1882 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* IV. 352/2 *To sowther, souther,* to solder.

β. 1511 [see the *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1560-1 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 628 For mendinge and sawderinge the cunditte pipe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 78 To Sau[d]er, *conferruminare.* 1605 [see the *vbl. sb.* 1].

γ. 1561 EDEN *Arte Navig.* II. xx. 41 b, A..wyre..made fast or sothered in it. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* 513 As tin doth soder and join togither broken copper. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 11 There was soder'd on to the shank of the Cock..a Plate of Tin. 1684 R. WALLER *Nat. Exp.* 51 When we had first put it through the Ring M, sodered to a small Iron Rod. 1743 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 296 To George the goldsmith ..for sothering on a pece of brass. 1769 *Phil. Trans* LIX. 70, I then soddered the wires of each jar to the rod which connected them.

δ. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* ii. 43 Like as yron wil not be souldered with a potsherde. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Agglutino,*..to soulder together. 1659 LEAK *Water-wks.* 7 Let the pipe DC be souldered to the bottom passing through it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 39 Having most exactly bent the Ring, they Soulder the two ends of it togethrer.

ε. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 59 Y^e^ tail of the siluer pipe stretcht it selfe into the mouth of a great paire of belowes, where it was close soldered. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Sept. 1678, A plate of brasse soldered thereon. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 200 To the Conduit-Pipe is soldered an upright Pipe,..and at the End of this Socket is likewise soldered the Brass-Nut. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Lupulus* 4 G, This Bed is to be cover'd with large double Tin, solder'd together at each Joint. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 11 The end..of the stop-cock, is soldered or screwed into the end of the tube. 1858 LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 307 In this hole is soldered the mouth of another tin bucket. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 6/7 One of the difficulties in the use of aluminium has been the trouble of soldering it.

b. *transf.* To unite firmly or closely, to cause to adhere strongly, by means of some substance or device.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 594 The mortar..hath not that binding as it ought, and so the walls built therewith are not sodred accordingly. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 32 As if the world should cleaue, and that slaine men Should soader vp the Rift. 1664 POWER *Exp. Phil.* I. 5 The Common Fly..can at pleasure..sodder and be-glew herself to the plain she walks on. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 243/2 Instances of the toes soldered together, as in the Horse. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 158/1 The parietal bones are early soldered to the occipital.

†**2.** *Med.* To cause (wounds) to close up and become whole; to reunite (tissues or bones). *Obs.*

a. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xix. (Caxton) 559 Glewe hath vertue..to soudre [*Bodl. MS.* soude] woundes and blotches. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23 b/1 The foresayed suture is commonlye healed together the seaventh day, and soudered.

γ. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* III. (1596) 94 Put into Sores, it healeth and sodereth them forthwith. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 341 The iuyce of salendine will conglutinat and sodder the tongue together being cut or wounded. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 172 A Plaister of Ivy Gum sodders bones wonderfully. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* I. x. (1734) 98 The Fluids..to soder and repair their Wounds.

δ. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 262 The leaues thereof are good to conglutinate and soulder togither both outward and inward wounds. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* 35 The juyce put into fresh or green wounds doth quickly 'soulder' up the lips of them together.

ε. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* I. ii, As the one patches our tattered clothes, so the other solders our diseased flesh. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 395 Inflammation solders up the mouths of these little vessels. *a* 1788 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 208 With a view to closing or soldering broken lymphatics.

3. *fig.* To unite, to cause to adhere, in a close, firm, or intimate manner.

γ. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvi. § 9, I could easily declare, how all things which are of God, hee hath..sodered as it were together with the glue of mutuall assistance. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 83 These carnall worldlings which are fast sodred to the earth! 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 133 Selfe soders matters of all sorts together. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 39 'Tis..Soul and Body Soder'd into one Compositum that sins. 1708 SWIFT *Sent. Ch. Eng. Man* Wks. 1751 IV. 66 The Presbyterians, Anabaptists, Independents, and other Sects did all..unite and sodder up their several schemes to join against the Church.

δ. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 388 Thou visible God, That souldrest close Impossibilities, And mak'st them kisse. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 166 That Power and Frame, which in a Monarchy hath been joined and souldered together many Ages.

ε. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* E iij, To the foure & twentie orders of knaues, thou maist solder the foure and twentie orders of fooles. 1646 J. HALL *Hora Vac.* 98 Friendship ..of equalls is ever best soldered. 1744 E. MOORE *Fables for Ladies* xxii. 58 And, haply, use that precious metal To solder sexes, like a kettle. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 383 We have abdicated the crown of Corsica, which had been newly soldered to the crown of Great Britain. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 62 To permit his Royal Patronage to be soldered on to the Bible-Society. 1862 LYTTON *Strange Story* I. 135, I clamped and soldered dogma to dogma in the links of my tinkered logic.

† **b.** To close or block *up* (the ear). *Obs.*—[1]

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. ii, No wretched Adder ever soder'd up His wilful ear with trustier cement.

† **c.** *absol.* To remain obdurately deaf. *Obs.*—[1]

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 865 That paddle and adoe which you have made to soder and play the Hypocrite.

4. *fig.* To bring or restore to a sound or unimpaired condition; to repair, mend, patch up again.

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 471 The more tender the loue, the more hard to be sodered, when it hath receiued a cracke. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 161 This peace was not so soundly on each part sawdred, but that afterwards it leaked at certaine crannells. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 179 Thou..seek'st to sodder their Leaky Infallibility, that thou may'st Inherit it. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* ix, An art to sodder and patch up the flaws and imperfections of nature. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 216 The Men cast out in party-matches, Then sowther a' in deep debauches. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvii, Under pretence that they have southered sin wi' marriage. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. iii. 8 Fourteen thousand men are on their way to solder with slaughter what must have been the misdoings of somebody.

b. Similarly with *up.*

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Ep. Ded., Pale penurious beautie, which giues dull Painters store of gold to solder vp their leane dints of deformity. 1607 MARSTON *What You Will* I. i, A rout of crased fortunes, whose crakt states Gape to be sodderd up. 1699 GARTH *Dispensary* II. 20 And some would know the issue of their Cause, And whether Gold can sodder up its flaws. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 58 She must therefore choose to be mine, for the sake of soldering up her reputation. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, But it was a' sowdered up again some gait, and the bairn was sent awa. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, The sad Varennes business has been soldered up.

5. *absol.* To perform the operation of uniting with solder.

1588 PURFOOTE (*title*), Howe to Gylde, Grane, Sowder, and Vernishe. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 35 Handy-worke is to heat the iron well, to sodder well. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* II. vii. 316 One kind of it [mineral] is called Borax, or Green Earth, which the Goldsmiths solder with. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 616/2 To solder upon silver, brass, or iron. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* IV. 4 Begin to hammer at it, solder at it,..it will fall to sherds, as sure as rust is rust. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 62/2 The Egyptians soldered with lead as long ago as the time of Thothmes.

† **b.** Of substances: To promote or cause close union; to serve as solder. *Obs.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (Caxton) 275 Medycynes that close and soudre and brede good flesshe. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 69/1 Surgions Bands doe pinch, to solder so. 1645 CALAMY *Indictment* 7 These are the glew that soders; these are the nerves and sinews that joyne a Kingdome together.

6. *intr.* To adhere, unite, grow together. Also *fig.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. iv. 695 He took the suerd and sette the pecys to gyders and they soudered as fayr as euer they were to fore. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 12/1 They [bones] ioyne, and soulder (as it were) together agayne. *Ibid.* 23/1 If they [split lips] can not souder and ioyn, the one with the other. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 322 If the sinew or artery be broken,..to cause it to soder or joyne againe. 1653 BLITHE *Engl. Improver Impr.* 121 Nor [will] the Turf have fitting time to sodder and work together before the dry weather comes. 1737 RAMSAY *Prov.* (1750) 126 Youth and eild never sowder well. 1776 G. WHITE *Selborne* lxx, The tree in the suffering part was plastered with loam..If the parts coalesced and soldered together..the party was cured. 1897-1901 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

b. Const. *with* (a person or thing).

1641 MILTON *Pret. Episc.* 22 Wee..take up there those cast principles which will soone cause us to soder up with them againe. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* xlvii. 125 The Tripple Crown could never solder with the English, nor it with that. *c* 1680 R. MACWARD *Contend.* (1723) 4 Others also, with whom we must likewise souder, have been encouraged to repeat..the same disloyal Practises.

Soldered, *ppl. a.* [f. SOLDER *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Joined by means of solder. Also with *up.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. ii, Hee will not depart with the waight of a sodred groat. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Reservatory,* Solder'd Pipes are no other than Sheets of Lead, which they bend and solder together at the Junctures. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 210 In a well-soldered tin or iron case. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 433 All soldered works should be kept under motionless restraint for a period. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 240/2 Secured in closely fitting soldered-up tinned-iron boxes.

2. *fig.* and *transf.* Patched up; closely united.

1623 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* II. i, A soder'd friendship Piec'd out with promises. 1667 MARVELL *Poems* (Grosart) I. 218 He felt His alt'ring form and soder'd limbs to melt. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xii. (1860) 392 The shrivelled wings under the soldered elytra of many insular beetles. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ball. & Poems* 19 A rough ill-soldered scar..on his cheek-bone.

So·lderer. Also 6 soudrer. [f. SOLDER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who solders.

1530 PALSGR. 273/1 Soudrer of metalles, *soudeur.* 1611 COTGR., *Souldeur,* a Souldarer. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 95 Smelter, Solderer. 1896 *Daily News* 6 July 2/6 Strike of Sardine Box Solderers.

So·ldering, *vbl. sb.* [f. SOLDER *v.*]

1. The action of joining or mending with solder.

1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 268 To the glaser for takyn owte of ii. panys of the wyndows..and sowderyng new of the same, xx*d.* 1472-3 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 247 Pro sowderyng unius le gutter plumb. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xvi. xix. (Caxton) 559 Glewe hath vertue of drawynge and soudrynge. 1511 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 335 Paid to Thomas Illyngworth for sawderyng of a gutter. 1580 FRAMPTON *Dial. Yron & Steele* 148 b, I doe not speake of the finenesse and delicatenesse that there is in sodering of it. 1605 in W. Kelly *Notices Illustr. Drama* (1865) 246 For sawderinge of other panes of glasse in the Halle. 1658 MANTON *Expos. Jude* 2 Wks. 1871 V. 69 But our reconciliation with God, it is like the soldering of a vessel, which is strongest in the crack. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., In the Soldering of all these Metals, they generally use Borax in Powder. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 566 Its great use is to facilitate the soldering of the more precious metals. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2240/1 Soldering was apparently unknown in Greece in the time of Homer.

b. With adjs., as *hard, soft.*

1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xv. (ed. 3) 143 Hard soldering gives a better coat of silver. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 433 In soft-soldering, the binding wire is scarcely ever used. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 350 The one method is called *hard* and the other *soft* soldering.

2. The action of uniting or joining closely; an instance of this.

1550 BALE *Apol.* 17 All the unsounde sowderinges of Alyngtons sophistry, wyll not be found able workmanly to clowte up thys foule broken hole. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 226 The commixture and sodering (as it were) of good will and kinde affection. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 835 All mixtures of selfe, and soderings against the Word. 1728 *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 634 To steep them in Clay or Fuller's earth..before you heat them, to prevent their soldering with one another. 1857 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* (1869) i. 104, I assert a real union, yet it is not by conclusion or soldering, but Sacramental.

3. Solder; material used for soldering with.

1648 HEXHAM II, *Loot-metael,* Lead-mettall, or Saudering. *a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 4 Refining, Sodering, Dross, Nitre. 1880 *Daily News* 7 Oct. 6/7 A portion of the metal from the tin or from the soldering had become absorbed by the meat.

4. A soldered place or part.

1889 *Telegr. Jrnl.* XXV. 349 Even the delicate solderings of the ends of these wires to the copper clips were apparently the same as ever.

5. *attrib.*, chiefly in the names of tools or apparatus used in soldering, as *soldering iron.*

Descriptions of many of these are given by Knight *Dict. Mech.* (1875 and 1884).

1675 BAXTER *Cath. The.* II. i. 280 A man that is set on a sodering design may palliate any Heresie in the world. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 307/1 These Sodering Irons are only used about Lead Workings. *Ibid.,* Other Soddering Irons there are used by other Trades. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 633 It is smoothed and finished by rubbing it about with a red-hot soldering iron. 1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 446 The soldering-tool is then thin and keen on the edge. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 366/1 See that the soldering iron..is well tinned. 1893 *Spons' Mech. Own Book* (ed. 4) 101 A soldering bit may be made by taking a piece of stout brass wire..about 6 in. long [etc.]. 1900 HASLUCK *Mod. Eng. Handybk.* 139 For soft solders, the best flux is a soldering fluid which may be prepared by saturating hydrochloric acid with zinc.

So·ldering, *ppl. a.* [f. SOLDER *v.*] That solders or unites.

1599 BUTTES *Dyets Drie Dinner* To Rdrs., Of a stiffening and soddering nature. 1652 BLITHE *Engl. Improver Impr.* 110 There are some Lands, so Binding, so Tough a Sodering Clay.

† **Soldery.** *Obs.*—[1] In 6 souldery. [f. SOLD *sb.*[1] + -ERY: cf. OF. *souldoierie.*] Pay, payment.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 38 As it is wryten and regystred in y^e^ wages and souldery of y^e^ holy kynge of glory.

Soldier (sōu·ldʒəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4 saud-, sawder, 5 sauldyer; 4 sawdour, sawgeoure, 5 saud-, sawdiour, 5-6 sawdyour (5 -yor). *β.* 4 souder, 5 sowder(e, 6 -eer; 5 soudyre, 5-6 sowdier, 6 soudyer; 5 sowdear, 6 -iar, -yare, soudiar; 4 soudior, 5 -eor, sowdior, -yor(e; 4 soudour, 4-5 soudyour(e, 4-6 soudeour, -iour (4 -ioure), 6 soudgour, 7 soujour; 4 sowedeur, 4-5 sowdeour, -iour, 4-6 -your (5 -yowre). *γ.* 4-5 souldeour, 4-6 -your, 4, 6-7 -iour (6 sowldiour, soulddour); 6 souldiar, -yar, -yer, 6-8 souldier (6 -iere), 7-8 souldjer, 7 soulder. *δ.* 5-6 soldiour, 6-7 soldior, 6 soldear, -iar, 6- soldier (6 soilder, 7 soldjere). *ε.* 4 sodiour, -your, 6 sodioure, -ear, -ier. *ζ.* 6 sogear, -eour, soygear, soi-, sojour, -ar, 7 sojor, 7- soger, sodger. [a. OF.

soud(i)er, saudier, sodyer, soldier (also with different ending *soldeier, -oier*, etc.), f. *soude* SOLD *sb.*1 (cf. med.L. *solidārius*). The obs. forms in *-eo(u)r, -io(u)r*, etc., correspond to the OF. variants *soudiour, souldiour, -eour, soldiour*, etc. Owing to the variation in both stem and termination, and the reduction of the *di* to *j* (*g*), the number of former spellings is unusually large.]

1. One who serves in an army for pay; one who takes part in military service or warfare; *spec.* one of the ordinary rank and file; a private.

Common soldier: see COMMON *a.* 12 b. *Private soldier*: see PRIVATE *a.* 2 b. *Foot-soldier*: see FOOT *sb.* 34 c. *Soldier of fortune*: see FORTUNE *sb.* 1 e.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24789 He gadird sauders her and þar, To strenth his castels. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1399 (Laud. MS.), And seuen & tuenty hundreþ sawders, Stronge in felde, vpon destrers. *c* 1440 *Contin. Brut* 538 Caleis..was þat tyme kept with saudiours. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 222 Thou art the best sawgeoure that euer had I any. 1465 *Paston Lett.* I. 133 The olde sawdyors of Normaundy. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 70, I am a sauldyer with Reynawde. [*c* 1500 *Melusine* 208 Your peple that be come hither to take your wages as sawdoyers.]

β. 13.. *Guy Warw.* 5329 Wiþ þat come anoþer knist..: Douke Otus soudour was he. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 109 Aniowe with þer souders was alle biseged & set. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3954, I sette 30u for no soudiour but for souerayn lord. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 255 In þe secounde fyve 3ere þey hadde silver for to paye knyȝtes and soudeours. 1421 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 159/2 The pore liege men and Soudeors in the Town. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xii. 174 Lete vs geder oure kyn and oure frendes and sowderes out of alle londes. 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 12 P 11 Callyng hymself a Sowedyer, Shipman, or Travelyngman. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* (1893) 2 Amonge soudyours that were under the capytane & prynce Licyne. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* iv. 2 There were two men captaynes ouer the soudyers. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 3 He was.. neuer gud capitayne that neuer was soudiar.

γ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 358 How thei stonde of on acord, The Souldeour forth with the lord. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 38 Als moche takethe the Amyralle be him allone, as alle the other Souldyours han undre hym. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 49 Whan the souldyours see that they [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 273/1 Souldier of a strange lande, *auxiliaire*. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 141 He maintained a great number of Souldiours within the Castle. 1625 TUKE *Holy Eucharist* A iij b, How that noble Worthy made them bee Destroyed of his souldjers presentlie. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbright War-Committee's Minute Bk.* (1855) 152 To mak present provisione..for clothes and schooes to thair awn souldiors. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. iii, Young Souldier, you've not only study'd War.

δ. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 641 Soldiouris and sumptermen to thai senȝeouris. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 11 What Myrmidon:..What stern Ulysses waged soldiar? 1557 *Anc. Rec. Dubl.* (1889) 468 Every freman becomyng a soilder. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 16 b, Such Officers.. cannot faile to make good soldiers. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 339 As he is a Gentleman and a Soldiour. 1628–9 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 16 The gran Hogi (that is secretarie) paying the soldiors. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* IV. 254 Of boasting more than of a bomb afraid, A soldier should be modest as a maid. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 275 A continual succession of wars makes every citizen a soldier. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxiv, The sight of your lordship..has waked the old soldier in myself. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 623 The trade of the soldier is war.

ε. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 20 Pure knyghtes and sodyours selles þaire hernays. 1489 *Barbour's Bruce* v. 205 (Edin.), It wes all to gret perill Sa ner thir sodiourys to ga. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 108 And wyth new sodears..gave to Arthur anewe battell. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 16 The morrow after there ware sodiers arestyd & prisond. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 223 A sodioure, *miles, bellator*.

ζ. 1532 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 214 These be the charges for the fyrst Soygears. 1559 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 253 The inqueist ordanis the sojarris and allegit men of weir to depas incontinent of the tovne. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 118 With certane Soiouris of the garysoun. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbright War-Committee's Minute Bk.* (1855) 9 The sogers, both the foote and horss. 1650 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 48 Divers sojours did sing with us. 17.. RAMSAY *Soger Laddie* ii, My doughty laddie..can as a soger and lover behave. 1782 BURNS *I'll go and be a Sodger* 4 I'm twenty-three, and five-feet-nine,—I'll go and be a sodger! 1838 JAS. GRANT *Sk. London* 219 Hollering aloud that he had been a sodger before, but that he was a gentleman now. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv, You're neither man, boy, soger, nor sailor!

b. A man of military skill and experience.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 155 Hee shall appeare to the enuious, a Scholler, a Statesman, and a Soldier. 1603 MOUNTJOY in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 284 Howsoever he be no Souldier, yet is[he] well acquainted with the businesse of the warre. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Dk. Wellington* 131 So great a soldier taught us there, What long-enduring hearts could do. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ii. III. 181 There is Count von Roth, Silesian Lutheran, an excellent Soldier.

c. A small image of a soldier, intended as a child's toy.

1878 H. S. LEIGH *Town Garland* 56, I will treat her young brother, methinks, To a boxful of soldiers instead.

2. *fig.* (usually with ref. to spiritual service or warfare). Also const. *to* (a purpose, etc.).

1340 *Ayenb.* 146 We byeþ alle uelazes ine þe ost of oure lhorde and his knistes and his soudeurs. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 149 þey name them self sawdyours of our lord Jesbu criste. 1549 *Bk. Common Prayer, Publ. Bapt.*, To continewe his faythfull soldiour and seruaunt unto thy lyfes ende. 1580 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 25 Very many..being restored to the Church, new souldiars geve up their names.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 8 Nor let pity..melt thee, but be A soldier to thy purpose. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. iv. 186 This attempt, I am Souldier too. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* ii. 74 Such an oath have all Christ's Souldiers taken. 1737 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* (1753) 20 To make them Soldiers of Christ, and perfect Christians. 1810 SHELLEY *Tremble Kings* 5 We all are soldiers fit to fight. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 466 No mean soldier of the Church Militant here on earth.

b. *To come the old soldier over one*, to take one in, impose upon one. (See COME *v.* 28 b.)

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xviii, I should think he was coming the old soldier over me, and keeping up his game. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* II. xvii. 331 But you needn't try to come the old soldier over me. I'm not quite such a fool as that.

3. *transf.* Used as a name for various animals, fishes, etc.

†**a.** A turtle. *Obs.* **b.** The soldier-crab or hermit-crab. †**c.** = *soldier-insect* (see 8). †**d.** A Brazilian fish, of which the native name is *camboatá*. *Obs.* **e.** A fighting ant or termite; also *Austr.*, a species of large red ant. **f.** The red gurnard. **g.** *slang.* A red herring. **h.** A red spider; a small red beetle; a ladybird. **i.** *Austr.* (See quot.) **j.** *U.S.* (See quot.)

a. 1603 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 798 This Sea-tortoise.., which the common fisher-men call 'the Soldier', because his back seemeth to be armed and covered with a shield and helmet.

b. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 78 There is a kind of Snailes, called by the French *Soldats* that is *Souldiers*, because they have no shells proper and peculiar to themselves. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 39 Under those Trees we found plenty of Soldiers, that live in Shells,..and have two great Claws like a Crab. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 272 This small Lobster or Crab differs in very little from the European Souldjer or Hermit-Crab. 1782 P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 424 Their shell-fish are conques, perriwinkles, coneys, sogers, wilkes, etc. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* vi, The amphibious little creatures, half crab, half lobster, called soldiers.

c. 1699 WAFER *Voy.* 110 If these Soldiers eat of any of the Manchineel-Apples.., their Flesh becomes..infected with that virulent Juice.

d. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) III. i. 416 The River Souldier. It's mail'd somewhat like a Sturgeon, the Meat good; they say it gets on Land to seek for Water when the Rivers are near dry.

e. (*a*) 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 145 Of every species there are three orders; first, the working insects,..next the fighting ones, or soldiers. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* viii, The workers and soldiers, I believe, without exception, are blind. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* vi. 210 The soldiers may be undeveloped males, although this is by no means certain. (*b*) 1854 G. H. HAYDON *Australian Emigrant* 59 It was a red ant, upwards of an inch in length—'that's a soldier, and he prods hard too'. 1881 *Chequered Career* 324, I was bitten once by a 'soldier', and for ten minutes was in frightful agony.

f. 1846 *Zoologist* IV. 1402 The Red Gurnard, *Trigla cuculus*. This species is frequently called 'soldier'. 1905 HASLOPE *Pract. Sea-Fishing* 97 Small Pollack sometimes acquire a bright red colour, and then are termed 'soldiers' in Cornwall.

g. 1811 *Lexicon-Balatronicum, Soldier*, a red herring. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* x, He returned, bringing half a dozen red herrings. 'Here, Tom, grill these sodgers.' 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 210 A red herring..sailors usually designate..as a sodger, or soldier.

h. 1848 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. vi. 290 This insect is called a Tant in England...Our children call it the Soldier, from its scarlet colour. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Soldier*, the small beetle known to entomologists as the *Cantharis livida*. 1858 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 189 The soldier, the soft-winged reddish beetle which haunts the umbelliferous flowers. 1863 [see SAILOR 3 b].

i. 1898 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Rom. Canvas Town* 76 They rode on,..seeing nothing living save..four 'soldiers' or forest kangaroos.

j. 1904 P. FOUNTAIN *Great North-West* xix. 224 A bird known locally [in Ohio] as 'the marshal', and sometimes 'the soldier'...It is a very gaudy woodpecker with a great deal of scarlet in the colour of its plumage.

4. *dial.* As a plant-name (see quot.).

See also *Fresh-water* and *Water soldier*.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Soldier*, another local name for the field poppy, *Papaver Rhœas*.

5. A disease of swine characterized by red patches on the skin. (Cf. *soldier-disease* in 8.)

1882 F. VACHER *Transmiss. Disease by Food* 4 Erysipelas is far from rare among cattle and swine; and passing under such names as..'soldier' is often counted but a trifling ailment. 1890 *Lancet* 2 Aug. 217/2 A disorder affecting pigs, called..in Ireland 'red soldier', from the red patches that appear on the skin in fatal cases.

6. A soldier-line (see 8).

1865 WILCOCKS *Sea-fisherman* (1875) 82 The tide now began to run considerably stronger, and more length on the lines was requisite: I therefore prepared to 'rig a soldier'.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Appositive, as *soldier-colonist, -hero, -laddie, -man*, etc.

1858 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 196 The attempt to make the *soldier-colonist a landed proprietor. *a* 1892 TENNYSON in *Q. Rev.* Oct. (1897) 524 Our great, simple *soldier-hero Gordon. 17.. RAMSAY *Soger Laddie* i, My *soger laddie is over the sea. [1786 *Har'st Rig* xcviii, The Grey Breeks next, and then she'll try The Sodger Laddie. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Prol. 86 While the twangling violin Struck up with Soldier-laddie.] 1801 R. L. & MAR. EDGEWORTH *Irish Bulls* (1803) 153 Some of his *soldiermen being of the company. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxx. 354, I went among soldier-men to their big dinners. 1894 H. SPEIGHT *Nidderdale* 187 The original house of the old *soldier-monks at Ribston. 1823 W. ROBINSON in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipman* vi. (1837) 101 In a race we had..against the *soldier-officers ..there was a capsize. 1808 MITFORD *Hist. Greece* xxviii. § ix. III. 549 [Xenophon] the *soldier-philosopher-author. 1830 TENNYSON *To J. M. K.* 2 A latter Luther, and a *soldier-priest. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 35 The old *soldier-robber remaining doggedly at bay. 1892 T. A. COOK *Old Touraine* I. 10 If there is one thing for which Tours is famous it is for its *soldier-saint. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Blessed among Women* 11 A godlike *soldier-saviour. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 186/2 An awkward *soldier-servant.

b. Attributive, as *soldier-caste, -city, -class, -craft*, etc.

1847 MRS. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 455 The immediate domination of the *soldier-caste. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 7 Threading the *soldier-city. 1847 MRS. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 160 There was no *soldier-class in Servia. 1855 S. PALMER in Gilchrist *Life Blake* I. 303 That we heard so much of priestcraft, and so little of *soldiercraft and lawyercraft. 1844 LEVER *T. Burke* II. 163 Even there, again, I but showed my *soldier education. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* III. v, Then do me but the *soldier grace, This glove upon thy helm to place. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Burial in the Desert* Poems (1875) 517 With a few brief words of *soldier-love. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. ii, How these things may act on the rude *soldier-mind. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* VI. ii, At dawn the towers of Stirling rang With *soldier-step and weapon-clang.

c. Miscellaneous, as *soldier-breeder*; *soldier-hearted, -mad* adjs.; *soldier-wise* adv.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 219 Thou must therefore needes proue a good Souldier-breeder. 1824 MEDWIN *Conversat. Byron* II. 206 Lord Byron..became, as one of the letters from the place..expresses it, soldier-mad. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. xi, They have shouldered, soldier-wise, their shovels and picks. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 353 They were buried soldier-fashion in the same grave. 1849 [W. M. W. CALL] *Reverb.* II. 5 Be thou wise and earnest, good and brave, Soldier-hearted.

8. Special combs., as **soldier-ant**, = sense 3 e; **soldier-beetle**, = sense 3 h; (old) **soldier bird**, an Australian bird, *Myzomela sanguinolenta*, with bright red plumage; **soldier-bush**, = *soldier-wood*; **soldier disease**, = sense 5; †**soldierfare**, military service or experience; **soldier-fish, -flies**, *U.S.* (see quots.); †**soldier-insect** (see quot.); **soldier-line** (see quot. and cf. sense 6); †**soldier money**, ? money spent in assisting poor soldiers; **soldier-moth, -orchis** (see quots.); **soldier palmer**, an artificial fly used in angling; **soldier-pink** *dial.*, a minnow; **soldier-plant, -thighed** *a.*, **-wood** (see quots.).

1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xxvii. 537, I observed many regiments of black *soldier-ants. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Soldier-beetle*, a name given to coleopterous insects of the genus Telephorus. 1883 W. SAUNDERS *Insects Inj. Fruits* 185 The larva of the soldier-beetle, *Chauliognathus Americanus*.., is also a useful agent in destroying the curculio. 1857 D. BUNCE *Australas. Rem.* 62 The notes peculiar to the..leather-head or old *soldier bird, added in no small degree to the novelties. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 139 The males are recognizable by a gorgeous display of crimson or scarlet, which has caused one species..to be known as the Soldier-bird to Australian colonists. 1878 *Typhoid Fever Order* (Privy Council), Typhoid fever of Swine (otherwise called *Soldier disease or red disease). 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Sertorius* (1612) 584 The first time of his *souldierfare was, when the Cimbres and Teutons inuaded Gavle. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 43 Whatsoever by their souldier-fare in this expedition, they shall win. 1882 JORDAN & GILBERT *Syn. Fishes N. Amer.* 517 *Pœcilechthys cæruleus*, Blue Darter; Rainbow Darter; *Soldier-fish. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Soldier-flies*, a name given in the United States to flies of the family Stratiomydæ. 1699 WAFER *Voy.* 110 There is a sort of Insect like a Snail in great plenty among the Samballoe's, which is call'd the *Soldier-Insect.., because of the Colour. 1865 WILCOCKS *Sea-fisherman* (1875) 82 A *soldier-line is one of two-stranded hemp twine, having for a sinker a two-pound Mackerel plummet, and is made fast to a strong flexible stick [etc.]. 1593 *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 35 Item given to Roberte Morie for *Soldier monie (as he cald it) the xxiiij of November, xiij d. 1603 *Ibid.* 52 Item given to Thomas Kinge for Souldere monie the last day of March, viij s. viij d. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 67 The *Soldier Moth (*Euschema militaris*) is the commonest. 1863 PRIOR *Plant-n*, *Soldier-orchis*, from a fancied resemblance in it to a soldier, *Orchis militaris*. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* xi. (1841) 164 The house fly and small *soldier palmer. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 245 Soldier Palmer. A capital fly in warm weather. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Soldier pink*, the minnow, called by ichthyologists the *Cyprynus Proxinus*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora Brit. W. Ind.* 787/2 Soldier-plant, *Calliandra purpurea*. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Sodger-thee'd*, having little or no money in one's pocket. [Cf. *soldier's thigh* in 9.] 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* II, *Soldier-wood, ..the *Mimosa purpurea* of Linnæus. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 1223/1 Soldier-wood, *inga purpurea*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1071/2 Soldier-wood, *Calliandra purpurea*.

9. Possessive combs., as †**soldier's bottle**, a bottle of extra size; †**soldier's boy**, a camp-follower; †**soldier's cloth**, coarse cloth; **soldier's heart**, *Path.*, a diseased state of the heart, characterized by a throbbing sensation in the chest and a difficulty in breathing; †**soldier's mawnd**, *slang* (see quots.); **soldier's spots**, *Path.*, a variety of macula; **soldier's supper**, a smoke and a drink of water; **soldier's thigh**, *dial.* (see quot., and cf. *soldier-thighed* in 8); **soldier's wind**, a wind which serves either way.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Soldier's-bottle*, a large one. 1731–8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* 177, I hope, you'll give me a Soldier's Bottle. 1611 COTGR., *Goujat*, a *Souldiors boy. ..*Goujaterie*, Souldiors boyes, or the young rakehells that follow a Campe. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* II. II. xxvi. 156 The advantage in favour of the British subjects in Russia..is

about one third part in the customs of *soldiers cloths. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 851 **Soldier's heart.*—I venture to give this name to a disease well-known to physicians in the army. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Souldiers-Mawn'd*, a Counterfeit Sore or Wound in the Left Arm. 1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Soldiers mawnd*, a pretended soldier, begging with a counterfeit wound. 1873 *Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.*, *Soldier's spots, Maculæ albæ. 1893 J. A. Barry *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 31 A bite o' rotten bread for breakfus, ditto for dinner, an' a *soldier's supper. 1841 Hartshorne *Salop. Ant.* Gloss., **Soldier's thigh*, a slang term for an empty pocket. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xvi, The wind was what is called at sea a *soldier's wind, that is, blowing so that the ships could lie either way, so as to run out or into the harbour. 1893 H. M. Doughty *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 312 Thence down the Schwielow See, with a light soldier's wind, we crept contentedly to past the Gänse horn.

b. In various plant-names, as **soldier's cap, cullion, herb, tea, weed, woundwort, yarrow.**

1854 Miss Baker *Northampt. Gloss.*, **Soldier's caps*, the flowers of the monkshood. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. ci. 166 *Souldiers Cullions hath many leaues spred vpon the ground, but lesser than the Souldiers Satyrion. 1760 J. Ler *Introd. Bot.* App. 327 Soldier's Cullions, *Orchis*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 204 The herb which they cal Militaris [*marg.* The *soulders hearbe]. 1611 Florio, *Herba militare*, the souldiers hearbe. 1893 *Dunglison's Dict. Med. Sci.*, *Matico*, *Soldier's tea or herb; South American herb, order Piperaceæ. 1851 Dunglison *Ibid.* (ed. 4), *Soldier's weed [1893 wood], *Matico*. 1866 *Sowerby's Eng. Bot.* V. 58 It [yarrow] was formerly esteemed as a vulnerary, and its old names of '*soldier's wound-wort' and 'knight's milfoil' bear witness to this. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* 143 The second is called .. in English .. *Souldiers yerrow. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxxv. 677 *Militaris aquatica*, and *Militaris Aizoides*, or Soldiers Yarrow.

Soldier (sōu·ldʒəɹ), *v.* Also 7 souldiour, 8–9 *Sc.* and *dial.* sodger, 9 soger, sojer. [f. the sb.]

1. *intr.* To act or serve as a soldier. Also with *it*.

a. 1647 Gentilis tr. *Malvezzi's Chiefe Events* 187 If I souldiour it with so great a souldiour. 1815 *Ann. Reg.* *Chron.* App. 307, I will soldier it with anybody, but I will not go to school. 1825 in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 287 Too busy soldiering to think of phea-sant shooting. 1867 *Morning Star* 30 Jan., I have soldiered for six months at a stretch on a penny a day. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 319/1 They soldier as if their very lives depended on it.

β. 1828 Scott *Rob Roy* xviii, Thae paipit cattle that hae been sodgering abroad. 1852 J. Fraser *King Jas. V*, III. ii, He..said he would sodger nae mair.

b. In phrase *to go* (*a-*) *soldiering.*

1756 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) III. 229 If you think of conveying them through Moreland, he is gone a soldiering. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* vi, This comes o' letting ye gang a-sodgering for a day. 1845 James *Arrah Neil* vii, It does not do to go soldiering in these times without money in one's pocket. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Dec. 458 It was my mother's name, and good to go soldiering with.

c. *dial.* To bully; to hector. (Halliwell, 1847.)

d. To feign illness, to malinger; to make a mere show of working, to shirk.

1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* iv, There is no time to be lost,—no 'sogering', or hanging back then. 1896 C. D. Warner *Winter on Nile* 248 They stretch out..so far that it needs an opera-glass to discover whether the leaders are pulling or only soldiering. 1830 Clark Russell *My Shipmate Louise* I. vi. 119 Finding fault with some fellow for 'sogering', as it is called.

e. *Mil. slang.* To furbish up accoutrements, etc.

1885 Mrs. J. H. Ewing *Story Short Life* 35, I was busy soldiering till too late; so I come in this morning.

2. *trans.* a. ? To drill or train.

1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) I. 107 Confess, that I am sufficiently soldier'd; for I can hold the pen, and impress the quiet-seeming sentiment.

b. To serve *out* one's time as a soldier.

1873 *Daily News* 21 May 5/6 A man may soldier out his term in the British cavalry [etc.].

c. *Austr. slang.* To make temporary use of (another man's horse). 1891 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence **So·ldiering** *ppl. a.*

1607 Middleton *The Phœnix* I. ii, Enter the Captain with soldiering fellows. 1795 Burns *'Fy, let us a'* x, The wild Scot o' Galloway, Sodgerin gunpowder Blair.

Soldier-crab. [Cf. Soldier *sb.* 3 b.] The hermit-crab.

1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 177 *Cancellus*,..the little Souldier-Crab. 1682 Grew *Museum* I. v. iv. 121 The Naked-Shrimp, commonly called The Souldier-Crab. 1735 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 115 Others call them Soldier-Crabs, resembling them to Soldiers in Centinels Boxes. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1790) V. I. 370 The animal I mean is the Soldier Crab, which has some similitude to the lobster, if divested of its shell. 1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 92 Termed indiscriminately Soldier-crabs and Hermit-crabs. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 204 The friendship..between Soldier Crabs and Sea Anemones is very remarkable.

So·ldierdom. [f. Soldier *sb.*] The quality or nature of a soldier.

1870 *Daily News* 27 Sept., Men whose soldierdom is neither spontaneous nor mercenary. 1888 *Our Corner* Feb. 68 At the base is soldierdom, pure and simple, the merely dominant and fighting man.

Soldieress (sōu·ldʒərés). [f. Soldier *sb.* + -ess.] A female soldier.

1612 *Two Noble K.* I. i, Honour'd Hypolita, Most dreaded Amazonian t..Soldieress. 1864 R. F. Burton *Dahome* II. 63 In Dahome the soldieresses have two titles.

So·ldierhood. [f. Soldier *sb.* + -hood.] The essential qualities of a soldier or soldiery; the condition of being a soldier.

1846 H. W. Torrens *Rem. Milit. Hist.* 314 A military power, which has passed from serfdom to national soldierhood. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* III. 325 It was hard indeed to be pre-eminent..amidst that flower of soldierhood. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Oct. 5/1 He will have come face to face with an almost ideal incarnation of Russian soldierhood.

Soldiering (sōu·ldʒəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. The action of serving as a soldier; the state of being a soldier; military service.

1697 J. Lewis *Mem. Dk. Glocester* (1789) 59 On a sudden he left off his soldiering, and must needs take to managing a wooden horse. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 199 This was my second essay at the trade of soldiering. 1806 *Ann. Rev.* IV. 244 The resistance of the quakers to soldiering and to tythes. 1857 Sherard Osborn *Quedah* xvii. 227 He could handle a musket with all the innate love of soldiering of an Irishman. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 372/1 His trade was soldiering, and..he has distinguished himself in his profession.

attrib. 1643 [Angier] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 11 God kept up the Souldiering spirit, by Prayers and Psalms. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Aug. 4/2 Setting down his soldiering experiences with his old corps. 1888 Henty *Cornet of Horse* xvi. 161, I think this soldiering life makes one restless.

2. Malingering, shirking.

1894 *Forum* (N.Y.) June 504 There could be no 'sojering'. Inattention and neglect were at the expense of the worker.

Soldierize (sōu·ldʒəroiz), *v.* Also 6 souldiour-, 7 souldierize, 9 *Sc.* sodgerise. [f. Soldier *sb.* + -ize.]

1. *intr.* To serve as a soldier. Also with *it*.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 93 What Gentleman hath been cast away at Sea, or disasterly souldiouriz'd it by Land, but they [usurers] haue enforst him thereunto. 1611 Cotgr., *Militer*, to warre, goe a warfaring..; to souldierize it. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 77. 2/1 We do..think it lawful for you to Soldierize. 1836 J. Mayne *Siller Gun* iv, Marching wi' drums and fife for ever—A' sodgerising!

2. *trans.* To make into a soldier.

1611 Cotgr., *Soldatisé*, souldierized, made a souldier. 1798 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 143 The male youth and middle life of England are, you know, all soldierized and gone to camps and coasts. 1843 J. J. Gurney *Mem.* (1854) II. 369 All the male inhabitants are for a time soldierized when young.

3. To alter after the manner of soldiers.

1891 S. Mostyn *Curatica* 130 The dog, Fidèle by name —soldierized into the Fiddler—had come to my cousin from a brother officer.

So·ldierlike, *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 souldiour-, -ior-, 6–7 -ier-, -yer-; 6 soldior-, -iar-, 7 -jere-. [f. Soldier *sb.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Having the character or bearing of a soldier. (Cf. Soldierly *a.* 2.)

1542 Udall *Apophthegmes* (1877) 53 One of the passingers, a grosse carle, and soldiarlike felow. *a* 1586 Sidney *Apol. Poet.* (Arb.) 46 Which that right Souldier-like Nation thinck the chiefest kindlers of braue courage. 1757 Washington *Writ.* (1889) I. 468 You are also to be vastly careful..to make them appear always neat and clean, and soldier-like. 1774 in Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 513 Now every peasant..is erect and soldier-like in his air and gait. 1833 Ritchie *Wand. Loire* 22 A fine, frank, high-spirited, soldier-like, young fellow. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Nov. 5/6 They..looked quite soldierlike in their white tunics.

2. Appropriate to, worthy of, becoming or befitting, a soldier. (Cf. Soldierly *a.* 1.)

1553 Ascham *Disc. Germany* Wks. (1904) 147 His apparell is souldier like, better knowen by hys fearce doynges then by his gay goyng. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 25 Rather vpon fancie than vpon anie souldiourlyke reasons and experience. 1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 359 To releeue a souldier..is an act of souldierlie, because done for consideration of his souldierlike exploits. 1670 Covel in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl.) 136 Two of our seamen..who made a very soldjere-like retreat. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 136 ¶ 3 He was the Occasion that the Muscovites kept their Fire in so soldier-like a manner. 1779 *Mirror* No. 11, Officers of the most soldier-like appearance and address. 1813 Southey *Nelson* vii, A soldier-like and becoming answer. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* I. 123 As they rode along, they made their wills in soldierlike style. 1872 Cunynghame *Trav. Caucasus* 7 The dress of both officers and men was sensible and soldierlike.

B. *adv.* In a manner befitting a soldier.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 38 Althowgh he seeme to speake to souldyerlyke, when he sayeth, he will make none end of slaughter. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. I. 35 Hauing done the which, to retire soulidier-like, and charge againe. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrowes* V. Ded. 406 Among Souldiers I endeavoured to speake Souldier-like. 1705 I. Robins *Hero of the Age* II. vii, How Martially they charge! how Soldier-like they ride! 1706 J. Gardiner *Rapin on Gardens* I. 36 Valiant Halesus..Soldier-like disclos'd his bolder Flame. 1825 Scott *Talism.* xxvii, Form yourselves around the ladies soldier-like and firmly. 1881 Swinburne *Mary Stuart* I. i. (1899) 29 Why, this rings right Well said, and soldierlike.

So·ldierliness. [f. next.] The quality of being soldierly.

1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 Sept. 330/3 Of gentle birth and handsome soldierliness. 1892 Peyton *Memorabilia Jesus* xv. 418 The action, the chivalry, and the soldierliness of being is the man's.

Soldierly (sōu·ldʒəɹli), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6–7 souldier-, 7 soldiour-, 8 *Sc.* sogerly. [f. Soldier *sb.* + -ly.]

A. *adj.* 1. Becoming or appropriate to, befitting, a soldier or soldiers. (Cf. Soldierlike *a.* 2.)

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 50 Varro maketh mention of foure kindes of enclosure, the fyrst naturall, the second wylde, the thirde souldierly. [*Ibid.*, The third the Souldiers fortefying.] *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. vi. P 2 They had fought rather with beastly furie, then with any souldierly discipline. 1631 Chapman *Cæsar & Pompey* II. 1, Can I hope..to raise my fortunes By creeping up in soldierly degrees? 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 724 They published an answer filled with many souldierly taunts. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* V. (1778) II. 4 The impetuosity of his temper..mellowed into a cordial soldierly frankness. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* V. i. P 21 It is not soldierly to shrink from the perils of the field. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 3. 176 The rough soldierly nobleness of his nature breaks out at Falkirk.

2. Having the qualities of a soldier. (Cf. Soldierlike *a.* 1.)

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 450 Some of his kinde souldierly followers founded a Chanterie at Castle Henningham. 1675 Traherne *Chr. Ethics* 325 Little better then a souldierly ruffian. 1763 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1891) IV. 68 My nephew..is very soldierly and lively. 1770 Bp. Forbes *Jrnl.* (1886) 288 In order to seige, or rather murder, the sogerly Shaw. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* xvii, Colonel Dent is a fine soldierly man.

3. *Comb.*, as *soldierly-like, -looking.*

1601 in *Sydney Papers* (1746) II. 240 My Lord smootheth over the vncivill Entertainment with..soldiourly-like excuses. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xvii, A tall, stout, soldierly-looking man.

B. *adv.* = Soldierlike *adv.*

1585 Sidney *Lett.* Misc. Wks. (1829) 309 The companies heer.., whome he had very well and souldierly gou[e]rned. 1611 Cotgr., *Soldatesquement*, souldierly, souldier-like. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Wars* x. 8 Never without losse did any army fall off,..though never so skilfully and souldierly. 1886 *St. James' Gaz.* 16 Oct. (Cassell), His warlike daughter smites them hip and thigh, using her sword right soldierly.

Soldiership (sōu·ldʒəɹʃip). [f. Soldier *sb.* + -ship.] The state or condition of being a soldier; the qualities of a soldier; military experience or skill. Also *fig.* (quot. 1561).

Common *c* 1600 and in the 19th century.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 85 There is..most haynous wrong done..if forsakers of monasteries be chosen to the soldiorship of the clergie. 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 153 What his Soldiourship is I cannot iudge. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* V. iv. 16 Put we on Industrious Soulidiership. 1658 *Domestic State Papers* 351 He fears his want of experience in soldiership. 1754 P. H. *Hiberniad* III. 24 A String of Absurdities, relative to the Soldiership of the Irish. 1813 *Examiner* 11 Jan. 17/1 We do not mean to under-value a true spirit of soldiership. 1887 *Spectator* 30 July 1023/2 Soldiership is effectively and systematically taught.

Soldiery (sōu·ldʒəri). Forms: *a.* 6 souldiary, 6–7 -iarie; 6–7 souldiourie (7 -ioury, -orie); 6–7 souldierie, -iery (7 soulgiery), 7 sould-(e)rie, -ery. *β.* 6 soldiorie, -iourie, 6–7 -iarie; 7– soldiery. [f. Soldier *sb.* + -y, or ad. OF. *souderie, soud-, souldoierie*, etc.]

1. Soldiers collectively; the military; a military class or body.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 106/2 Soldiourie, *militia*. 1580 Sidney *Let. Q. Eliz.* Misc. Wks. (1829) 245 Of the most popular nation of the world, full of soldiery, and such as used to serve without pay. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 54 The Souldiery..all flockt unto him. 1678 Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* V. ii. § 11. 469/2 Leo, a Thracian, elected [Emperor] by the joint consent of Senate and Souldiery. 1745 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 173 Do the soldiery walk as those who see themselves on the brink of eternity? 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xvii, These mercenaries were, of course, a fierce and rapacious soldiery. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* Introd. p. xix, The fighting men grew more and more into a soldiery, or a class following the profession of arms for pay.

2. Military training; knowledge or science of military matters.

1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 140 Sundry other principall poyntes of Souldiourie. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 13 Vnder the pretence of souldiorie, and warlike Discipline. 1620 J. Ford *Line. Life* (1843) 56 That were..to read a Lecture of souldierie to Hannibal, the most cunningest warriour of his time. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* I. (1690) 17 For Training and Drilling is a small part of Soldiery, in respect of this last mentioned Qualification. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 204/1 If a Genius had attempted to write on such a Subject as Soldiery. 1901 'Linesman' *Words Eyewitness* iii. (1902) 53 Waiting in the truest spirit of soldiery.

3. *attrib.*, as *soldiery custom, discipline*, etc.

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* II. I. 24 To bring our people to more perfection in soldiarie points. 1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xxiv. 9 According to a Souldery custome in cases of extremity. 1658 Cokaine *Trappolin* I. i, I should never digest the souldiery life. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. § 36 The Heroical vein of Mankind runs much in the Souldiery, and couragious part of the World. 1798 W. Hutton *Family of Hutton* 98 Some soldiery jokes ensued, when our trooper dismounted, and cast a large stone with design to splash her.

Solding (iron) : see Sold *v.*[2]

‖ So·ldo. Pl. **soldi** (also 7 **souldyes**). [It. :—L. *solidum*: see Sol *sb.*[3]] An Italian coin and money of account, the twentieth part of a lira, now equal in value to an English halfpenny.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 110 You may buy them for 10. *Carchies*, which coine are 4. to a Venetian *Soldo*, which is peny farthing the dozen. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 256 A Pigion for 7 soldi;..one soldo contents a Porter for bringing your victuals from the market. 1636 *Records Ground Arts* 133 A shilling, which is 2 Souldyes, and 20 Souldyes a Lieure of Venice, which is a pound sterling. 1787 Beckford *Italy*, etc. (1805) I. 124 Four soldi a day, when the Duomo was built, were equal to twenty at present. 1841 Browning *Pippa Passes* iv. Poems (1905) 187 Not one *soldo* shall escape me. 1883 tr. *Villari's Machiavelli* II. v. IV. 4 The crowd of Florentines..stripped him of every soldo.